

# WE GO GARDENING

Newsletter of the West Chicago Garden Club

[www.westchicagogardenclub.org](http://www.westchicagogardenclub.org)

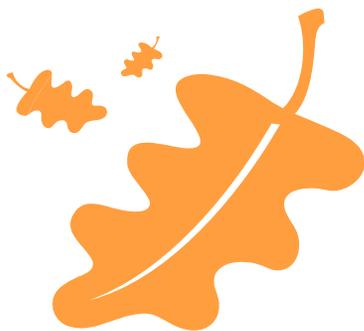
Volume 13 Issue 10 October 2010

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**Babysitting**—The Club provides babysitting during its regular monthly meetings when held at Faith Community Church. There is no fee to you for the service, but if you plan to use it, please call **Linda Harlson** at 377-5750, so we can plan for the right number of children.

**Rides**— Need a ride to the meeting? Call **Billie Childress** at 231-1791 the Wednesday before the meeting.



## October 28th Meeting : "Bulbs from A to Z"

Just in time for fall planting, Joannie Rocchi will improve our understanding of the selection, care and planting of many kinds of bulbs. Joannie is the perennials manager at the Growing Place.



**Faith Community Church at 910 Main Street in West Chicago.  
7:00 refreshments, 7:15 brief business meeting, 7:30 speaker**

**Next Meeting: Thursday, November 18th at 6:30 p.m.:  
"Potluck, Election, and Garden Dollar Auction"**

**Come for one of the most entertaining events of the year.  
Bring a side dish, salad, or dessert, plus your Garden Dollars to get fabulous prizes!**

We're looking for **donations for the auction**. These can be hand-crafted items, artistic garden accoutrements, garden-related miscellany. Gently used items are fine. If you have something, **bring it to the October meeting** and leave it with Jeff Handel. Otherwise, plan to bring it early to the November meeting, and let Jeff know what it is.



### Upcoming events (outside the club)

**Platt Hill Nursery:** Container Gardening Workshop for Winter: Nov 13, 10 a.m. & 1 p.m. To register, call 630-529-9394.

**Heinz Brothers Greenhouse:** Pruning Trees & Shrubs. Nov 6, 10 a.m.-11 a.m.. \$10 program fee, please call 630-377-6288 to register.

**Growing Place:** Holiday Event. Free! Nov19 & 20, all day, both locations

**Cantigny:** Christmas Holly Daze Workshop: Tips and techniques, with hands-on projects to take home. Lunch and all materials provided, \$100 fee, advanced registration required. Visit [www.cantigny.org](http://www.cantigny.org) for more details, or call 630-260-8162.



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### Plant Sale 2011 Preparations by Billie Childress

We aren't really thinking about next year's plant sale already are we?! Well, Tom is! He said we really needed to get all those donated pots/containers sorted and organized.....ready for the April potting parties.

This year the WC Park District (Jesse Felix) generously let us use space in the anteroom between the barn and silo at Manville Oaks farm to store our pots so they would be on site to grab as we potted up all those plants in April. That was a grand arrangement and the room was pretty empty as we finished our potting for the sale. We use tons of 'trade gallon' pots and plenty of other sizes too as we pot up plants for the sale. Well, since the plant sale we ran out of room at the farm. Jesse again came to the rescue with a bigger spot for us. **Thank You Jesse!**

The pots are now sorted and neatly stacked in their new home. **Please keep saving your empty containers for us. Bring them to meetings or drop them off at Bernice McFarland's house.**

Even though Bernice isn't storing the pots anymore she will continue to serve as a drop off site. For many years Bernice McFarland has kindly let us use her shed to store our containers. She spent hours sorting and stacking them for garden club. **Bernice, thank you for all the work you put into this and letting us use all that space in your shed these many years!**





# Calendar of events - 2010

Date	Speaker/Organizer	Topic/Event	Date	Speaker/Organizer	Topic/Event
October 28	Joannie Rocchi	Bulbs from A to Z	November 18	All Club Members	Potluck Dinner Garden Dollar Auction

October gave a party;  
 The leaves by hundreds came -  
 The Chestnuts, Oaks, and Ma-  
 ples,  
 And leaves of every name.  
 The Sunshine spread his carpet,  
 And everything was grand,  
 Miss Weather led the dancing,  
 Professor Wind the band.

George Cooper, "October's Party"

For man, autumn is a time of har-  
 vest, of gathering together.  
 For nature, it is a time of sowing, of  
 scattering abroad.

Edwin Way



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## Club information

[www.westchicagogardenclub.org](http://www.westchicagogardenclub.org)  
 West Chicago Garden Club  
 P. O. Box 313, West Chicago, IL 60186  
 (630) 585-4005

### Membership information

Dues for 2009:  
 Individual: \$15 Family: \$25

**Board Meetings: 2nd Thursday each month at 7 p.m.**

### Regular meeting location

Faith Community Church, 910 Main Street, West Chicago

## 2010 WCGC BOARD:

President: VACANT

Vice President:

Jeff Handel (630) 231-6765, [jjhandeldds@yahoo.com](mailto:jjhandeldds@yahoo.com)

Treasurer:

Barb Darrah (630) 584-1900, [info@bwdarrah.com](mailto:info@bwdarrah.com)

Secretary:

Dee Soustek (630) 393-0652, [dsoustek@aol.com](mailto:dsoustek@aol.com)

Program Chair:

Lou Horton (630) 293-7735, [lehorton85@ameritech.net](mailto:lehorton85@ameritech.net)

Information Director:

Elaine McCluskey (630) 293-4773,  
[emcluskey@sbcglobal.net](mailto:emcluskey@sbcglobal.net)

Plant Sale Co-Chairs:

Dick Darrah (630) 584-1900, [info@bwdarrah.com](mailto:info@bwdarrah.com)  
 Tom Fessler (630) 231-0535, [fess2000@aol.com](mailto:fess2000@aol.com)



**News from Kruse** by Angie & Billie, Garden Coordinators

"October is nature's funeral month. Nature glories in death more than in life. The month of departure is more beautiful than the month of coming - October than May. Every green thing loves to die in bright colors." - Henry Ward Beecher

"Just before the death of flowers,  
And before they are buried in snow,  
There comes a festival season  
When nature is all aglow."  
- Author Unknown



The end of the growing season...already! Well, Jack Frost (as of this writing) hasn't marked the official end yet but it's close and inevitable. However, we have been so pleased with the fall garden delights. The reblooming lemon yellow iris was an especially nice sight. You have to wrap your head around the sight of a bearded iris in October but it's a treat to be revisited by this beauty! **Pauline Briggs** donated this lovely plant. Thanks again!

These last work days have been a relaxing time for us to walk about and enjoy the fruits of our labors. Of course there is work to be done....tidying up, renovating the east corner of the back garden, etc but the work sessions are definitely shorter than this spring. There is nothing wrong with intense 'gotta get it done' gardening of spring and summer, but there certainly is contentment with the natural order of things as the season winds down. Presently we are more apt to gaze at the intense blue skies, feel the crisp coolness of the air, and marvel at the brilliant gold of the heart shaped leaves of the redbud tree. We tour the garden, evaluate and talk next year. TAB (aka **Tom, Angie, Billie**) have enjoyed the year in the garden and thank you all for your support of this project.

- There are a couple of specific recognitions to highlight....
- **Jennifer Doles, and her son and daughter** came to help us one morning in the garden. They dead headed, spread mulch, and pulled weeds....big help! Thanks a lot! Looking forward to seeing you again!
  - **Chuck and Shirley Schramer** donated the lovely pink geraniums. Nice spark of color. Thanks!
  - **Amy Townsend** brought **her grand daughter** over to visit with us one workday. Pleasure! Thanks!

We sincerely appreciate any interest you have in the garden. We look forward to next year and with warm thoughts of the 'off season' NFK goes dormant for 2010. ....A&B

**"He hath made everything beautiful in his time" Eccles 3:11**





## Garden Dollars - remember to collect them!

WCGC distributes tokens (Garden Dollars) to members who participate in club activities. At the **November meeting**, you will be able to use them at the **auction to bid on fabulous prizes**.

Volunteer for workdays, plant sale or garden contest (1 to 4 hrs , >4hrs)	75 - 150	Donate plants for the sale <50, 50-149, ≥150	75, 200, 300
Donate pots	50	Write newsletter article	100
Donate snack for meeting	75	Donate door prize	50
Set up or clean up meeting	25	Meeting attendance	25
Trip attendance	25	<b>Pay dues before Nov 18, 2010</b>	<b>75</b>
Donate to Kruse House	50	<b>Pay dues before February 2nd</b>	50

To receive your Garden Dollars after earning them, pick them up at special events from the event organizer, or see club officers at the information table at any meeting, and let them know what you've earned. Contact Jeff Handel for more information, 231-6765.

**Pick up the Garden Dollars you've earned at the October meeting!**



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## WCGC Board - Open Positions for 2011

The board for 2011 will be needing some new leadership. Please read the information below about the upcoming open positions and see **where you can help out**.

**Vice-President:** **No pre-determined tasks go with this job.** The president will make special assignments as things come up. This is a great way to get involved without knowing a lot of people or taking a whole lot of time.

**Programs:** Lou Horton has been our program chair for many years and is stepping down after 2010. This position could be filled by one energetic individual or a **small committee**. **Tasks include** finding and scheduling speakers for the months for club meetings for February, March, April, May, June, August, September, and October. Lou will take care of January this year. **Speaker resources are available.** Another task is to welcome the speaker to the meeting and introduce him/her. Can you do part of this?

**Publicity:** This position is open right now. The job entails **finding ways to make WCGC known in the community**. This might include posting meeting dates to the TribLocal, making use of an existing contact list for other media outlets, and helping with special event publicity. This also includes recording the Calling Post message that reminds us to come to meetings!

We hope you will consider one of these - please contact any board member (see page 3 for the list) for more information. **Elections will be at the November meeting.**

## Containers into Fall and Winter

*by Heather Prince of The Growing Place*

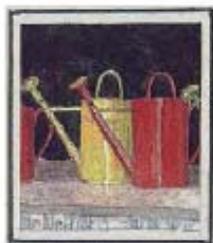
As temperatures cool and the days shorten, container displays can be changed out into fall colors and textures. Now is a great time to think about how to dress up your containers for fall and winter. There is still a broad selection of plants, gourds, pumpkins, cornstalks, cabbages, and more to capture the essence of the harvest.

The most important thing to think about as you prepare your containers for winter is water. Not every container is suitable for our Chicago winters, so plan to bring in to the garage or basement most glazed ceramics and terracotta as our temperatures dip below freezing.

Thick-walled, high-fired ceramics, cast iron, and concrete will do just fine if prepared. Make sure these types of pots are raised and have drainage holes. Empty out some of the old soil and add with foam blocks or peanuts, bubble wrap, bark - anything that can contract and expand with ice and snow. Check for areas in your containers that collect water such as lips, curves, or depressions. Water will freeze and can cause cracks or chips. For containers that collect water, dry them thoroughly and make sure they are protected from the winter weather, for example under eaves or on the porch.

As winter beckons, plan on adding winter greens, red dogwood stems, curly willow, berry branches and many more types of greenery found at The Growing Place to bring a taste of Christmas to your containers.





# West Chicago Garden Club Membership Application - 2011

Our club year runs from January 1<sup>st</sup> through December 31<sup>st</sup>. Membership dues for 2011 are due by the February meeting and will be considered over-due as of February 28th. The board would appreciate receiving dues as soon as possible

With your paid membership you receive a copy of the monthly newsletter and membership in the Garden Clubs of Illinois, which includes the quarterly publication Garden Glories.

### Individual Membership:

**\$15 per year**

### Family Membership:

**\$25 per year**

(For multiple members at a single address)

Our meetings in 2011 will be held on the 4<sup>th</sup> Thursday evening of each month from January through October and the 3<sup>rd</sup> Thursday of November (no meeting in December).

Please make checks payable to the West Chicago Garden Club. You can bring this form and your check to a club meeting or mail both to:

West Chicago Garden Club  
c/o Mike Saad  
27W206 Manchester Rd.  
Winfield, IL 60190-1440

**Members paying dues early will receive Garden Dollars!**

**By Nov 18, 2010 - 75 GD**

**By Feb 2, 2011 - 50 GD**

### Application

type:  New or  Renewal  
class:  Individual or  Family

Name(s): \_\_\_\_\_  
(Print)

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

City/ZIP: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone Numbers: (include area code)

Home: \_\_\_\_\_

Work: \_\_\_\_\_

Cell/other: \_\_\_\_\_

### E-Mail Address(es):

Note: e-mail addresses may be shared with garden club members.

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

Send newsletters via:  E-mail or  Mail

Please do not add my phone number to the Calling Post. (Note: if you check this box, you will not get phone reminders of any garden club events.)