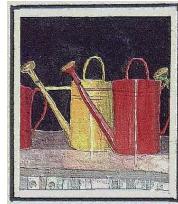


We Go Gardening

Newsletter of the West Chicago Garden Club

Volume 21 Issue 6 June 2017



Meeting Date: June 22

Meeting Location:

**Kruse House Garden
527 Main St, West Chicago**

Meeting Time:

6:30PM Arrive @ Kruse House

7:00PM Floral Centerpieces

(bring a chair if you need one!)

June 22 Program: Tool Sharpening and Floral Arranging at the Kruse House!

"John the Sharpening Man"

Bring your gardening tools (up to three) and get a new edge applied.
He has a truck now for his operation.

Floral Designer, Tracy Atkinson, will also be back this year but this time you will create your own floral centerpiece with her guidance.

More details on what to bring on page 3!

Refreshments will be available. Always a highlight for me!

Please take a look at the gardens. The gardeners will be on hand to answer questions.....and receive praise (sincere only, of course!).

At 7pm we will get started with our floral centerpieces. Please bring a chair if you need one. Park at City Hall which is just a bit west of the Kruse House. In case of inclement weather, we will meet at the church.

-Billie

Next Month:

*July 27 Program: Annual Picnic
Details to follow*



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SPRING HOURS
MON-SAT: 9-5
SUN: 10-4 (4/15-6/30)

Club Information

www.westchicagogardenclub.org
West Chicago Garden Club
P. O. Box 313, West Chicago, IL 60186
westchicagogardenclub@gmail.com

Membership Information

Dues for 2017: 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

2017 WCGC BOARD:

President:

Dick Darrah, 630-584-1900, info@bwddarrah.com

Vice President:

Keith Letsche, 630-293-0192, keithletsche@aol.com

Treasurer:

Barb Darrah, 630-584-1900, info@bwddarrah.com

Secretary:

Annette Wulffe, 630-462-0208, annettewulffe@yahoo.com

Program Director:

Billie Childress, 630-231-1791, billiedc@sbcglobal.net

Newsletter:

Melissa Ferguson, 630-621-0128, melissabirch@gmail.com



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WCGC 2017 Calendar

Date	Speaker/Organizer	Topic/Event	Date	Speaker/Organizer	Topic/Event
20 May	ALL MEMBERS!	PLANT SALE!	24 Aug	TBA	TBA
25 May	Touring 4 Gardens	Posey Mosey!	28 Sep	TBA	TBA
22 Jun	AT KRUSE HOUSE	TBA	26 Oct	TBA	TBA
27 Jul	Annual Picnic	Marcy's House	16 Nov	All members	Dinner & Garden Dollar Auction

What to bring to create your floral centerpiece:

- Tool for cutting stems... a small sharp knife or snippers
- A waterproof container for your arrangement that is approximately 6-8 inches in diameter and about 4 inches high. It can be as small as a teacup and saucer. Look for something special to you.



I found a milk glass hobnail bowl in my cupboard that I've had for years. I've always liked it. Now is my chance to use it.

- Flowers and greenery. Try to bring 6-10 blooms of each type of flower. I'm suggesting three different flowers. Sturdy stems are recommended. Don't be concerned if you think you don't have enough.

There will be supplemental flowers and greens on a back up table.

We will provide:

- Oasis foam and floral tape to secure it in your container (this first step we will do together with Tracy's instruction).
- Supplemental floral materials
- Written instructions on how to create the centerpiece and professional guidance throughout the process.

Recap of May Meeting (Posey Mosey!)

It couldn't have been nicer! The weather cooperated...sunshine and light jacket weather which was a relief after all the rain. The four gardens we visited were each a delight! The glowing program evaluation comments were all about the beautiful gardens. And all (38 of us) ended up in Kerry's kitchen. As we ate snacks (dirt pudding was my favorite)and reviewed the results of the Plant Sale I looked around me and I saw good people. People that I'd had the opportunity to work with on Plant Sale preparation and enjoyed! I felt such a sense of camaraderie! I was so glad to be done with the Plant Sale and very proud that we had done such a good job! It was a lovely evening. I will remember it fondly. Many thanks to our Garden hosts, and Kerry's hospitality.



What a difference a few months makes!

At left: Rosa glauca, also known as "redleaf rose," is an old rose that became very popular in gardens at the end of the 19th century.

From the bareness of January and February to May abounding with mid-spring blooms—purple, blue, and pale lavender bearded iris, and roses, the old rosa glauca and the profuse William Baffin trellis rose.

And, of course, WEEDS—gargantuan clumps of wild violet, creeping charlie, and, perhaps the most obnoxious of all, gallium aparine (commonly known as "cleavers" or "goose grass"), which is slightly sticky with small, burry seed pods and clammers up, over, around, and down the front of everything.



Gallium aparine,
but, let's call it what
it is: A WEED!

Above: the William Baffin rose, is a cultivar with a profuse first bloom that was developed in the 1970s in Canada to withstand the ex-

Beginning the Wednesday after the plant sale, your Kruse House crew (Tom, Billie, Kerry, Jan, Billie, Angie, and Keith) emerged from hibernation and have been diligently readying the garden for our annual night-at-Kruse June members meeting. The iris and the roses will be gone, but others will be flowering in their place—shirley poppy, wisteria, and a variety of lilies. So be sure to come June 22nd to see the Kruse House garden at the height of its glory.

-Keith



Plant Sale Thank You

We had a great plant sale last month and considering the weather and the cancellation of Blooming Fest we did an amazing job. Everyone deserves a big pat-on-the-back.

It is truly wonderful how many club members participated in the plant sale.

Members helped with digging plants, starting seeds, participating in potting parties, watering and caring for plants, moving plants to the tent on Friday, joining in the sale itself, and finally cleaning up. I don't know what exact percentage of our membership pitched in to help with this sale, but I bet it was a very high number.

I can't list every name here so I won't list any, but each of you knows what you did and I'm sure you recall many, many members who worked alongside of you to make this a success.

Our club is solvent, our club is strong, and it's due to the efforts of all of our members.
Thank you again, Dick Darrah

Community Event: Art in the Garden Saturday, June 24 2:00-4:00 p.m.

Join Gallery 200, People Made Visible, and the West Chicago Historical Society for an afternoon of "Art in the Garden" at the Kruse House Museum, 527 Main Street in West Chicago.

The beautiful historic gardens which are tended to the by the West Chicago Garden Club will be on display; music will be provided by ZAZZ, a local jazz group; a live painting of the gardens and the historic four square home will be done by Maggie Capettini; a fiber demonstration will be done by Gallery 200 artist Sharon Malec. Both artists will also have work for sale, and a silent auction of other artist pieces will be available. Complimentary wine, cheese and desserts will be available.

All proceeds benefit the West Chicago Historical Society and Gallery 200/People Made Visible. Tickets are \$12 a person, or \$20 a couple and can be purchased at the City Museum (132 Main Street), or at Gallery 200 (103 W. Washington Street). Tickets can also be reserved by emailing gallerytwohundred@gmail.com.



West Chicago Garden Club Needs YOU

We have a great club with great members. The club is well financed and runs smoothly throughout the year. And yet, we need new leadership. The current Board has been serving for a number of years and it's time for other club members to step up and do their part.

This is my third year as President and I've either managed or co-managed the Plant Sale for over a decade.

Our Vice President, Keith Letsche, served as President for three years and is in his third year as Vice President.

Barbara Darrah has been Treasurer for as long as I can remember, years and years.

Billie Childress has been President and recently Program Chairman.

Barb Melville will be taking on Program Chairman this coming year.

So, at least three positions need a club member to step up and fill them. You won't be on your own, we'll all be happy to mentor as needed. But we do need club members to volunteer to help run and manage the club.

Please contact me (630-584-1900 daytime) (630-231-4745 evenings – leave a message if I don't answer) or email (info@bwdarrah.com) and let me know if you're willing to help the club continue.

The down-side is, if we can't get members to become officers, then there won't be leadership and planning and our great club will dwindle away. Please don't let that happen.

Thank you
Dick Darrah