

We Go Gardening

Newsletter of the West Chicago Garden Club

Volume 23 Issue 6 June 2019



The purpose of the West Chicago Garden Club shall be to increase interest in gardening through sharing our ideas and knowledge, promoting and participating in community beautification and protecting and promoting a clean environment in which we live.

Meeting Date: June 27

Time: Gardens Open at 6:45PM

Meeting Location: Member Gardens

Posey Mosey: Visit 3 Gardens

Barb Melville



Come out and spend an evening viewing the beautiful gardens that will be open to club members on Thursday, June 27th starting at 6:45pm. All 3 gardens are located in the

subdivision just North of Roosevelt Rd and East of Rt 59.

The suggested order may be easiest, but feel free to visit the gardens in any order. Try not to miss any of these spectacular locations.

Refreshments will be available at Garden #2.

This event will be held Rain or Shine, so bring your umbrella if needed!

[Google Map for Gardens](#) (See page 7 for map)

1) **28W614 Washington Ave West Chicago**
Pam Caligiuri, a member of our club, and her kind husband, have invited us to see their gorgeous property at the end of Washington Ave. When you pull up to this gorgeous house, surrounded on both sides by beautiful gardens, you have no idea what awaits you in the back. There are acres of beautiful rolling hills and almost a thousand hostas consisting of 700 different varieties. When you stand at the top of the hills you can't believe something this beautiful exists almost around the corner from many of us! You'll also be viewing four types of Red Buds, Red Oak, White Oak, Burr Oak, a Tulip Tree and many other varieties of spectacular flowers.

2) **28W550 Washington Ave., Winfield**
Pam's neighbors, Evellyn Ennsmann and her husband, have graciously invited our club to walk their spectacular 3 acre property. Evellyn lives down a short path from Pam, however you can either walk the path or drive your car around the block (if you choose to walk it, please make sure you bring bug spray). This property is unbelievable too! All different types of flowers, trees, shrubs surround this home and pond. Evellyn has also invited us to enjoy her homemade baking which we will add to our refreshments from the club and enjoy them while we take in the beauty of this spectacular residence.

3) **28W734 Childs Street, West Chicago**
David & Daniel Wilcox live about 1 min from the other two homes. They have invited us to come and take in the beauty of their natural prairie! The Wilcox brothers started their prairie and native plantings about 20 years ago, so it is now quite mature and includes both tall grass areas and short grass areas as well as woodland plantings. About an acre is in natives with flagstone paths to make viewing more enjoyable. In the last 10 years they have added about 1000 feet of right-of-way plantings that include their yard and a couple of willing neighbors' properties, too. David said be prepared to spend some time if you wish to see it all.



Notes from Barb Bizzarri

THANKS

It's a wrap ! Another Bloomingfest has come and gone. The thanks, however, continue.

Thanks to Dan Beebe, who not only is your WCGC Board VP but also the Bloomingfest Committeeman. Dan worked tirelessly on the coordination and communication of this annual event and heck, he even grew some of the plants! As we all know, behind every successful man is one organized and hardworking partner. Shout out to Pamela....thank you ! Dan was the one solely responsible for asking you (pleading to you at times!) to donate your plants, join the "Potting Parties" and work not only on the annual day of the event but also to assist with watering the potted plants, moving the potted plants and helping out at the pre-sale. To all of you who answered this call to action, THANK YOU! Many hands did make this sale, once again, successful !

Thanks also to Billie Childress and Kerry Perry. These were the two women in charge of the Butterfly Project from start to finish. I know by now that you've seen so many of the butterflies around town but if you haven't made the time to visit the Kruse House Garden please do so. The butterflies flying around there were created by our own creative West Chicago Garden Club members.

Thanks to Barb Melville, our Board Member Program Director. Barb has arranged for all our speakers and events this year and she has more fun in store. She's arranged for the 3 private garden tours we will enjoy on June 27th. You won't want to miss this garden walk.

President's Picnic

Mark Your Calendar for the annual President's Picnic, Thursday, July 25th . Join us for an Old Fashioned American Picnic. This year's Presidents Club Picnic will be held at 6:30 pm in the Central Pavilion, in Reed Kepler Park. Enter on Arbor, west side of the street, at the first driveway, NORTH of where National St heads into the ARC Center and pool. There is a parking lot there with a Porta-Potty in view so you won't miss it !

RSVP to Barb Bizzarri, **text preferred** at 630-780-7334 or feel free to leave a voice mail message at this number

***RSVP for this event by
July 14th.***



Getting to Know ...Cherie Kraft

Resident of West Chicago, 2½ yr
West Chicago Garden Club
Member: Since 2018. I joined at
the BloomingFest Plant Sale!

Hobbies: Gardening and home
improvement projects.

My Favorite Flower: Tulips.

Past/Present Career: Accountant
and now a stay at home Mom

Favorite Restaurant: Panera

Favorite Vacation: : Turks & Caicos .

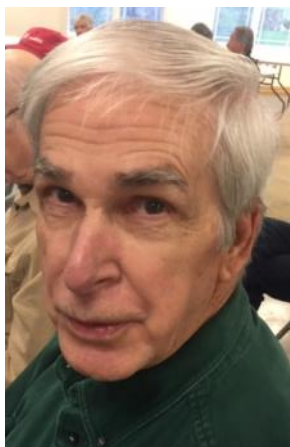
What's New in Your Garden? We're planting new
bushes because our spirea and boxwoods on the north
and west side didn't make it after the cold Winter we
had.

Why should someone join the WCGC? The people are
wonderful and you'll get new ideas!

More Notes from Barb Bizzari

MEET YOUR BOARD/COMMITTEE

MEMBER: Tom Fessler



Resident of West Chicago since: I've lived here my entire life.

West Chicago Garden Club Member: 6 years

Favorite Vacation: Coco Beach, Florida

Past Career: West Chicago Police Officer for 34 years.

Favorite Restaurant: Culvers

Hobbies: I collect old toys. I also paint furniture and model soldiers. I enjoy garage "sailing", estate sales and auctions. '69 Corvette

The Garden Tool I Can't Live Without: Grass Clippers

Favorite Flower: The Peony

Favorite Bird: Cardinal

Any Lessons For New Gardeners? Join the Garden Club! The Members share and are very generous with their advice and plants

The Hummingbird

Oh Little bolt of iridescent hue,
Oh tiny darting thief from out the blue
While flashing red and green, you stop and go,
A-pilfering my garden row by row.

You steal the bloom's sweet heart, but cannot know,
The greater gifts of joy that you bestow.
Among the best are flowers fresh and new,
A gift of rain and pollen brought by you,

Your wings are both a passport and a key
To all the world and sky that you can see.
Yet in my yard you choose to make your home,
And from its bounds I doubt you ever roam.

Why should you roam, when all you need is here?
My tree, my patch, my feeder hanging near.
You show me, busy friend with wings,
Contentment springs from simple things,

So all in all it's plain to see
I owe you more than you owe me.

~~~~~Julie Zickerfoose



JULY 25TH MEETING

**President's Picnic**  
**See Page 2**

## Plant Sale 2019

Dan Beebe

Despite the extremely slow start to Spring this year, a late April snowstorm, May hailstorm and an early Blooming Fest closing time due to incoming storms, we had another successful plant sale last month.

As I have mentioned before, this is your sale... we could not have done what we did without the support of our members, your families and your friends. I want to thank everyone who helped by providing plants, starting seeds, obtaining plant donations, participating in potting parties, watering and caring for plants, putting up yard/road signs, helping manage the member sale, moving plants to the tent on Friday, providing security, helping in so many ways during the sale itself, and finally cleaning up after the sale. To all of the volunteers who helped in so many ways, Thank you... Thank you... Thank you.



I also want to thank the businesses that contributed money to help offset the cost of our sale tent this year.

I look forward to next year's sale and welcome your thoughts on ways we can continue to improve future sales. One last note... in two years... 2021... I will not be able to attend Blooming Fest and am looking for someone to help run the Plant Sale in 2020 so that the 2021 sale will be easier on everyone. — Dan Beebe

### Keep track of your Garden Dollars

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 **Silent Auction to bid on donated items and gift cards**. Here's how to earn them:

See the chart below for the amount assigned for each activity and come out to volunteer and keep our club going strong. **Keep track of your dollars earned**. Near the end of the year, we will have dollars available at the meetings to pickup and then use for the auction at the November meeting.

|                                                    |                |                                                        |               |
|----------------------------------------------------|----------------|--------------------------------------------------------|---------------|
| Volunteer for workdays, plant sale or other events |                | Donate plants for the sale                             |               |
|                                                    | 1 to 4 hrs     | 75                                                     | Less than 50  |
|                                                    | More than 4hrs | 150                                                    | 50-149        |
|                                                    |                |                                                        | More than 150 |
| 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            |
| Field Trip attendance                              | 25             | Pay 2020 dues before Garden Dollar Auction in Nov 2019 | 75            |
| Donate to Kruse House                              | 50             | Paid 2019 dues before February 4th                     | 50            |



## May Meeting Recap

Barb Melville

May 23th was a perfect spring evening for our garden club members. Many flowers were just starting to bloom, the temperature was around 70 degrees with a slight breeze and Marcie's two horses were outside eating carrots and apples. The barn was the perfect place to make our hypertufa...everyone got busy mixing the cement and pressing it into their individual molds. We have many creative members: some made round bowls, some made square containers, and Barb B. made a cement pumpkin candle holder. A big "thank you" goes out to Marcie for hosting the club at your beautiful property!



### November Auction

Remember to be on the lookout for garden items that you can donate for our November Auction. Remember, we are looking for new or very "gently used" items. We are particularly hoping for items related to gardening or that we can use in our yards.



*June is not for reading or writing or cleaning the house. It's for being outside in the garden every minute possible.*

**Help Wanted.** I love working in the garden. It's so satisfying to work with other gardeners and seeing the difference we make there is also satisfying. Two more members have joined us, Chris Gicela and Shirley Schramer. Thanks for your interest and fine work ladies! We are fortunate indeed to have all the volunteer hours we have AND YET we could use some more help. I'm sincerely asking each of you to consider donating an hour or two each week, or once a month. Each of us set our own schedule and not everyone comes every week. Our standard work day is Wednesday morning however I'm open to a standard evening work schedule as well. Please contact me if you're interested. Thanks for considering this request!



**Tree Gone.** The big maple from in front of the house had a diseased core and was removed in April. That changed the front flower bed from shade to sun and we have been busy moving Hosta and ginger out and sun plants in. Herb stone rudbeckia, tall garden phlox, and purple cone flower have been added and we filled in with perky bright annuals. All the annuals planted were plugs so it's taking them awhile to take hold but they're doing well.

**Thanks Jeff.** Got some nice plants from Jeff this year that he started from seed. The bed under the sign out front is packed with marigolds from Jeff. Thanks also to Chris G. Who edged and planted that bed. Jeff also gave us zinnias, a giant California mix, and red geraniums.

**Thanks Gardeners and Butterfly Artists.** Kerry Perry, Barbara Darrah, Keith Letsche, Jan Grismore, Chris Gicela, and Shirley Schramer have all donated many hours in the garden. Many thanks to you! The garden is looking great! The Butterflies are an outstanding addition to the garden! Thank you Butterfly Artists!!! We are enjoying your work!



Join the West Chicago Historical Society and People Made Visible/ Gallery 200 for an afternoon of [Art in the Garden](#) at the Kruse House Museum, 527 Main Street, Saturday, June 29th 1:30-4:30pm.

## Upcoming Programs for 2019

These are the tentatively scheduled programs for the year. If there are any changes we will update this information in future newsletters.

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|                |                 |                    |
|----------------|-----------------|--------------------|
| July 25th      | Barb Bizzarri   | President's Picnic |
| August 22nd    | Carol Cichowski | Glorious Dahlias   |
| September 26th | Pauline Briggs  | Bulb Bingo         |
| October 24th   | TBD             | TBD                |
| November 21st  | Silent Auction  | Pot Luck Dinner    |

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## Posey Mosey Map

Colored flowers mark the 3 gardens.

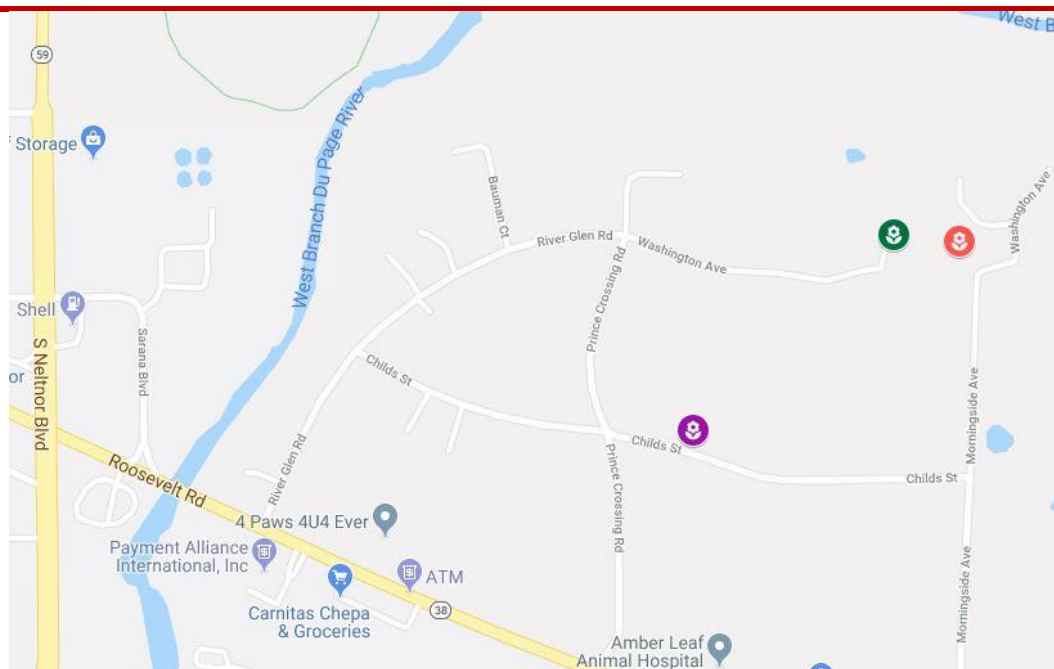
**Green:** Pam Caligiuri

**Orange:** Evellyn Ensmann

**Purple:** David & Daniel Wilcox

**Web Link:**

[Google Map for Gardens](#)



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## Local Events for Gardeners

July 2: **Cantigny Hosta Garden** Visitors Center, 11 am. Cantigny and the Northern Illinois Hosta Society have created an impressive landscape with more than 300 hosta varieties. Newly installed pathways of crushed stone guide visitors through the plantings. Tour departs from Visitors Center at 11 a.m. Free with parking (\$5).

July 14: **Elmhurst Garden Walk and Faire** Garden Tours 10am-3pm, Faire in Wilder Park 10am-4pm. For tickets and more information, visit [www.elmhurstgardenclub.org](http://www.elmhurstgardenclub.org).

July 13: **Tri-Village Benefit Garden Walk**, Featuring six beautiful gardens in Bartlett. Tickets will be \$15 the day of the walk but you can purchase your \$12 discount tickets now. Proceeds to benefit We Grow Dreams. For more information visit us at [www.trivillagegardenclub.org](http://www.trivillagegardenclub.org)

July 18: **Garden Walk on the Wild Side** Visitors Center, 1 pm. New for 2019, this tour by Cantigny Horticulture takes place monthly through October, on the third Thursday. Staff members will choose personal favorite plants and share information about them—a bit of science, growing advice and perhaps a fun fact. Register at [Cantigny.org](http://Cantigny.org) or 630.260.8162. Free with parking (\$5).

July 18: **Cantigny Summer Evening Stroll**. Visitors Center, 6 pm. Enjoy a one-hour summer garden tour, conducted by the park's Master Gardener docents. Walk begins at the Visitors Center. Free with paid parking (\$5).

July 29: **Perennial Plant Association 2019 National Symposium Pre-Conference Lectures**. Monday's education is open to the public (interested home gardeners as well as professionals) The event will be taking place in Rosemont, IL. <https://perennialplant.org/page/MondayEducation>



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### Club Information

Website: [www.westchicagogardenclub.org](http://www.westchicagogardenclub.org)  
West Chicago Garden Club  
P. O. Box 313, West Chicago, IL 60186  
E-mail: [westchicagogardenclub@gmail.com](mailto:westchicagogardenclub@gmail.com)

### Membership Information

Dues for 2019: Individual: \$15 Family: \$25 (2 people)

### Board Meetings

2nd Thursday each month at 7 p.m.

### Regular Meeting Location

St Andrew Lutheran Church  
155 N Prince Crossing Rd, West Chicago

### 2019 WCGC BOARD:

|                   |               |
|-------------------|---------------|
| President:        | Barb Bizzarri |
| Vice President:   | Dan Beebe     |
| Treasurer:        | Kerry Perry   |
| Secretary:        | Pamela Darrah |
| Program Director: | Barb Melville |
| Plant Sale Chair: | Dan Beebe     |
| Newsletter:       | Pamela Darrah |
| Director at Large | Chris Gicela  |

To Contact any Board Member, please send email to [WestChicagoGardenClub@gmail.com](mailto:WestChicagoGardenClub@gmail.com)

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