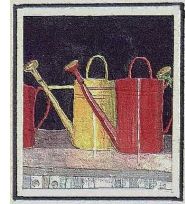


We Go Gardening

Newsletter of the West Chicago Garden Club

Volume 21 Issue 10 October 2017



Meeting Date: October 26

Meeting Location:

Faith Community Church

910 Main St, West Chicago

Meeting Time:

6:45PM Refreshments

7:00PM Business Meeting

7:15PM Program

October 26 Program: Plantscaping for Fall

Don't miss it! Kim Hartman will present *"Plantscaping for Fall"*

We will have several fantastic giveaways.

Put your name in the hat. It may be your lucky night!

September Program Recap

"Laura From Lurie" gave a great program about the history and plants of Lurie Garden located in Millennium Park. She had pictures from way back when it was a parking lot. The Garden is about 3 acres with an amazing plant diversity. It contains over 222 types of plants. You will find 20 types of grasses, 26 types of trees and shrubs, 34 types of bulbs, and 142 types of perennial herbaceous plants within the borders of Lurie Garden. Ninety (40.5%) of these plants are native to North America and 26.1% (58) are native to Illinois. Four million visitors come to the garden in a year and it's likely many of the audience put a Lurie Garden visit on their "to do" list. We were pleased that many members of the Winfield Area Gardeners were able to join us for the presentation.

Silent Auction Items Needed for November!

New or gently used items are needed for our annual Silent Auction, which will be held along with our Pot Luck dinner at the November members meeting. Smaller items maybe dropped off at Keith Letsche's, 215 East Washington Street, West Chicago, beginning November 13, 2017 (not before that time, please!).

Larger should be brought the night of the meeting.

Next Month:

November 16 Program: Annual Dinner & Garden Dollar Auction



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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@bwdarrah.com

Vice President:

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

Treasurer:

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

Secretary:

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

Program Director:

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

Newsletter:

Melissa Ferguson, melissabirch@gmail.com

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News from Kruse

Tom Fessler



Here we are again Folks, almost the middle of October and my second favorite time of year. We at the Kruse House are cleaning things up and putting things away until next year. In other words, there is not much happening here. But not to worry, I have decided to take this opportunity to give our members some great information about one of my favorite things, Pumpkins. I used to think that I knew all about them, But I was wrong.

I was wrong right out of the box, because I thought that the Pumpkin was a vegetable. It's not, it is a fruit. It's in the same family as the squash, cucumber, watermelon and cantaloupe. This is kind of ironic as a lot of people think the cucumber is a vegetable also, it's not it really is a fruit.

Pumpkins are grown in all the 50 states which includes Alaska. They are grown on six continents with the exception of Antarctica. Pumpkins have been around the United States for almost 5,000 years. It was a Native American crop picked up and renamed by the colonists. The first pumpkin pie was made just a little differently than it is today. Back in the day they used to bake a Pumpkin that had been filled with honey, spices and milk. That doesn't sound too bad.

Pumpkins are actually very good for you. They provide fiber, Vitamin A, Vitamin B, iron, protein and Potassium. And they are very low in fat. Not to mention that the seeds are also very good to eat and are also good for you. And each Pumpkin has about 500 seeds in them.

New Englanders thought that Pumpkins could cure snake bites, freckles, facial wrinkles, diarrhea in cats and dogs, and constipation in dogs and cats. I am not quite sure about all this interest in making your pets regular, but I guess it was more important than it is today. I am not sure just what effect Pumpkins have on other animals but I have noticed that there is a squirrel in our yard that is eating the two Pumpkins on our porch. I have seen him (or her) putting walnuts in the storm sewer. This may be a new way to store nuts for the Winter but I think there is going to be one hungry squirrel around my yard.



That's about all for now Folks, so enjoy your Pumpkin this year. Whether you eat it in a pie, or carve it as a Jack-O-Lantern, or if you give it to your dog or cat, just have a good time. Happy Halloween.

Tom



Club Officer Openings for 2018

President	Treasurer
Vice-President	Director-at-Large
Secretary	Newsletter Editor

Please contact Dick Darrah if you are interested in serving our Garden Club as an officer next year!

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**. Here's how to earn them:

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.

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	Pay dues before Garden Dollar Auction in Nov 2017	75
Donate to Kruse House	50	Pay dues before February 2nd	50

Pick up the Garden Dollars you've earned before the auction in November!