



WE GO GARDENING

Newsletter of the West Chicago Garden Club

Volume 9 Issue 4 April 2006

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The 3 F's!!! (Fenonmenal Fall Foliage!)

by Edie Streams

In March a large group of Club Members were treated to Master Gardener Ed Max's program highlighting bushes and trees and plants that make fall a riot of color. His slide show moved from trees to shrubs to perennials and was accompanied by a detailed handout that was a valuable accompaniment to the beautiful slides.

Trees are the ultimate perennial, so it is important that they be sited in a place where they can grow and thrive for decades. Maples (sugar and Japanese) and ashes were joined by slides of less common trees: liquidamber (sweet gum) Gingko, and Eone of Ed's favorites the Serviceberry. Just when the color would be too much to bear, Ed would throw in a slide of the dreaded Buckthorn, reminding us all how great the threat to diversity this evil invasive is.

Bushes Here many of the offerings were less

familiar. There was an Eonymous (aka Burning Bush), but Ed also shared slides of witch-hazel and winterberry and high bush cranberry. Most colorful of all were the sumacs (cut leaf and stag horn and shining).

Perennials The inclusion of mums was expected, but the variety of fall colors for hostas were not. Ed also featured some grasses whose visual interest continues long after the color has faded. Finally, he recommended asters which we can find in member Chris Gisela's garden "wood's Pink" and Wood's Purple".

Ed Max of Max's Greener Places specializes in custom landscapes, naturalized designs, and natives. To learn more about his designs, visit his web site www.maxlandscape.com or call (63) 628-6695.

Next Meeting: Thursday, April 27

Companion Shade Plants for Hostas

**Speaker: Lou Horton, President of the Illinois Hosta Society
And West Chicago Garden Club Member**

Lou will be sharing his extensive knowledge of hostas and other plants that look beautiful with them.

6:45—Sharing time, conversation and refreshments

7:15 —Brief business meeting

7:30 Speaker



Upcoming events (outside the club)

The Growing Place — Saturday, 4/29 10 am "Fragrant Plants... Memories of Grandma's Garden" - Naperville location; Saturday, 5/6 10 am "Edible Gardens...Then and Now" Naperville; Sunday, 5/14 **Mother's Day.. Free gift for Mom** - Naperville and Fox Valley; Saturday and Sunday 5/20 and 5/21. Water Garden Weekend (Fox Valley) Free programs both days, visit www.thegrowingplace.com for details.

Platt Hill Nursery— Saturday 5/6 10 am "Create a Mother's Day Planter" Fee \$45.; Saturday 5/27 10 am "Fall Color & Winter Interest" Free.

Heinz Brothers Greenhouse Garden Center — Thursday 5/4 and Thursday 5/18 "Summer Container Planting Demonstrations!" 6-6:30 pm Free but RSVP. Tuesday, 5/9 and Saturday 5/20 "Summer Container Planting Party" Fee \$15, plus materials which vary by container size. Register by calling 377-6288 or emailing Heinz at: info@heinzbrothers.com. Visit their website at www.heinzbrothers.com to learn more about these and other classes.

Wild Ones Annual National Conference: Native Plant Landscaping, More than a Garden, It's a Lifestyle. July 14-16, 2006 in Naperville. Six program tracks, speakers. For more information or to get early bird pricing, go to <http://www.for-wild.org/conference/2006/>

RIDES!!!

Need a ride to the meeting?

Call

Linda Harlson

293-1057

By the Wednesday before the meeting.

JEFF HANDEL's Painting with Crocuses was featured in the Daily Herald!

For those of you who may have missed it, there were two pictures of Garden Club member Jeff Handel's creation of a dove (white crocuses) in the center of a purple circle (purple crocuses). One picture showed the full effect of the flower portrait, while the other view gave a closer view of Jeff picking spent blossoms. Look for a copy of paper from the Wednesday, April 19 Daily Herald at our April meeting.

Thanks to Bernice McFarland for making this editor aware of the article and sharing of a copy of it.

Sweet April showers
Do spring May flowers.

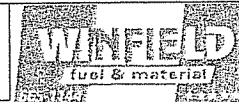
- Thomas Tusser, *A Hundred Good Points of Husbandry*, 1557

You're invited to come explore, get inspired, learn and add some beauty to your garden at

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Club information

West Chicago Garden Club
P. O. Box 313
West Chicago, IL 60186

(630) 585-4005

www.bwdarra.com/wcgarden

Membership information

Dues for 2006:

Individual: \$15
Family: \$25

2006 board

President:

Linda Harlson (630) 293-1057
ashengal@prodigy.net

Vice President:

Billie Childress (630) 231-1791
billiec@covad.net

Treasurer:

John Warbiany (630) 293-5795
Fax: (630) 293-5795

Secretary

Angie Sadauskas (630) 231-5851

Information Director

Eddie Streams (630) 231-4821
westreams@hotmail.com

Plant Sale Chair

Dick Darrah (630) 584-1900
info@bwdarra.com

Garden Walk Chairs

Lou Horton (630) 293-7735
Sam Childress (630) 231-1791
Madeleine Bartsch (porch chair)

Calendar of events 2006

Date	Speaker	Topic
April 27	Lou Horton	Companion Shade Plants for Hostas
May 20	PLANT SALE!	
May 25	Jan Calhoun—Ball Seed	New Annuals
June 3	FIELD TRIP	Khlem's Song Sparrow Farm & Nursery Northwind Perennial Farm
June 22	Joel Barezak	Blumen Gardens (meeting there)
June 25	GARDEN WALK	
July 27	President's Potluck & Woody Imberman	Food and Company Lilies
August 24	Kathy Thomas	Container Water Gardens for Indoor or Outdoor Use
September 28	Susan Grupp	Integrated Pest Management
October 26	Sam the Tool Man	Caring for your Tools
November 16	Elections & Potluck	Member Sharing

Reminders

Babysitting—The Club provides babysitting during its regular monthly meetings when held at First Congregational Church. There is no fee to us the service, but if you plan to use it, please call **Linda Harlson** at 293-1057, so we can plan for the right number of children.

Guests and Visitors are always welcome. Members are encouraged to bring a friend or neighbor.



1055 W. Washington St., West Chicago, IL 60185

~Annuals & Perennials ~Vegetables ~Hanging Baskets
~Poinsettias ~Mums & Kale ~Balsam Reindeer

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Announcements and Notes

Time is running out of time to sign up for the June 3 Field Trip to Songsparrow Farm and Northwind Perennial Farm. Space is limited. There will be a charge of \$10 for members, \$15 for non-members. You can sign up at the April meeting or if you cannot attend the meeting, be sure to call Linda Harison 293-1057 to reserve your place.

Keep saving box tops. These make great containers for our Plant Sale customers. Plan to bring them to the Fox Center the day of the sale, since we have nowhere to store them.

Remember to pot up your plants as you do your spring clean up. Daylilies and hostas are always popular. We are often asked for herbs, and plants like yarrow and coneflowers will sell as well. Every year we are amazed at how quickly some fairly common plants are sold. So don't compost those perennials, POT THEM.

Interested in Low Pressure Watering? There are several members who are planning on purchasing components for a **low pressure watering system**. If you would like to be part of this group order (which should save everyone money), please contact Dick Darrah at (630) 584-1900 or info@bwdarrah.com

Save your stamps. Save commemorative, large denomination and foreign stamps. Leave a good border around the stamp and bring them to a meeting.



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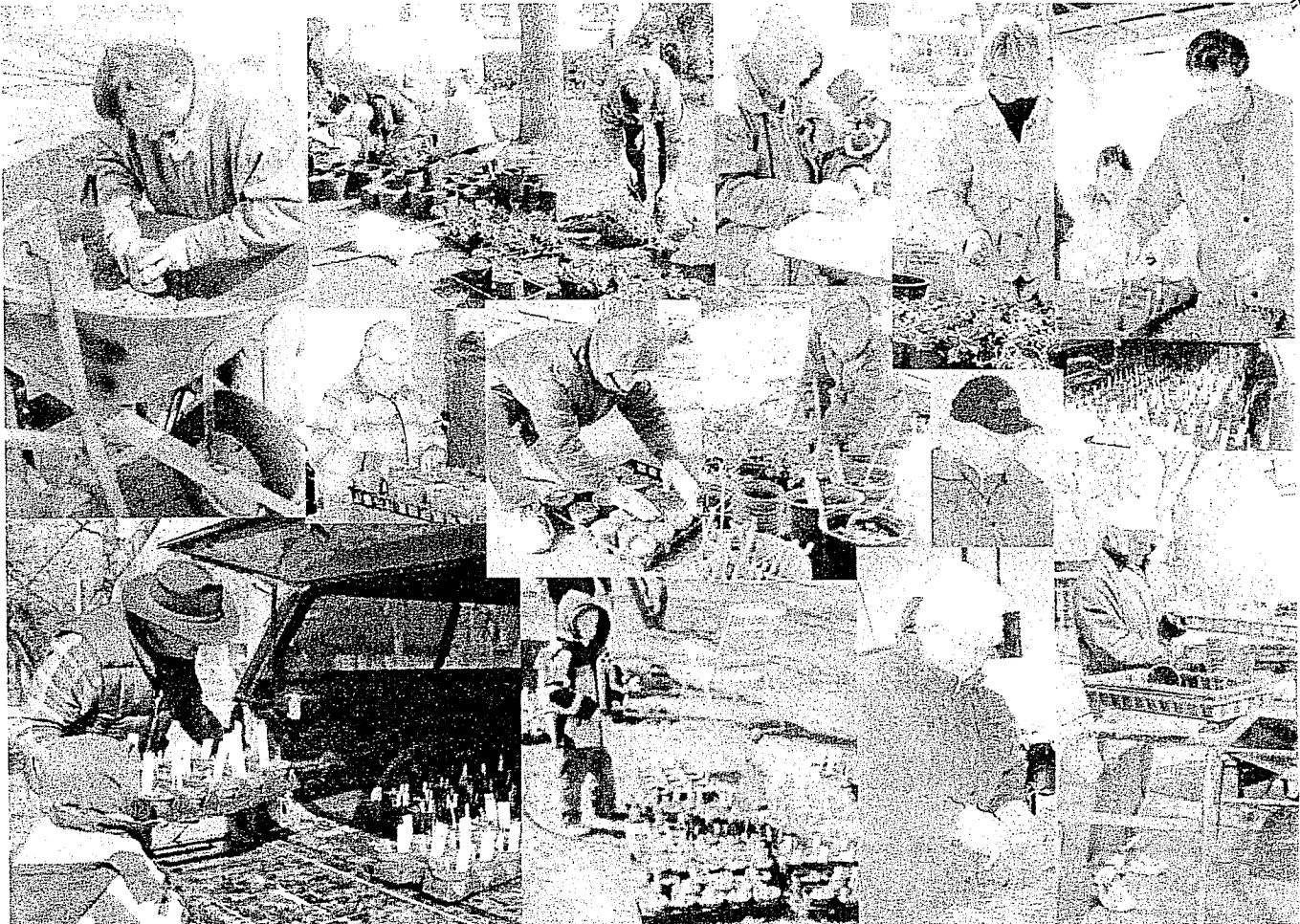
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At the April 7 Potting Party, members got hundreds of plants ready for our sale.

Has the Calling Post Been Calling YOU?

The Calling Post is an automated system that calls members to remind them of upcoming events such as the next meeting, a potting party, a Work Day at Kruse house, or the members pre-sale for the Plant Sale. Not everyone chooses to receive these reminders. If you would like to be called but have not been receiving Calling Post messages, please let Pamela Darrah know.

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PLANT SALE DATES and TIMES

May 12-13—Plant drop off at Pamela and Dan’s— 479 Colford Ave. (call 231-4745 for directions.) PLEASE plan to bring your plants this weekend so they can be priced. Make sure the plants from your garden are labeled. If you need help unloading, plan to come after 6:30 pm on May 12 or most anytime on May 13.

May 18 (Thursday) - Members pre-sale. You can pick up plants at any time, but no one will be there until 6:00 pm. If you come earlier, please keep track of what you owe.

May 19 - Friday evening, plants are moved from Pamela and Dan’s to Fox Center. Volunteers, especially those with vans, are needed, but we also need volunteers to load up at Pamela and Dan’s and to unload at Fox Center..

May 20—PLANT SALE DAY!! Set-up begins at 7:00 am. Sale runs from 9:00am to 2:00 pm. We need help from everyone some of the day. The set-up crew begins at 7:00 putting out plants. During the sale we need members to walk around and help people find what they want. There are also a couple of sit-down jobs taking cash. And then there is the clean-up. Jim Hilsenbeck is coordinating volunteers so let Jim know michred89@sbcglobal.net if you want a particular job.

NEEDED FOR PLANT STAGING AT PAMELA AND DAN’S

Pairs of saw horses and wood sheets (2x4). If you have either, please get them their house before May 12, so they can be set up before plants are dropped off. PLEASE label anything you bring so it can be identified. Plan to pick them up following the plant sale.

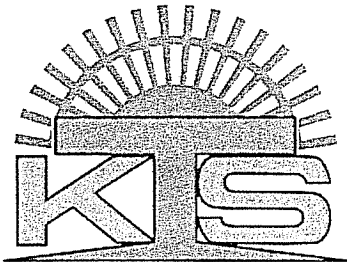
KRUSE HOUSE WORK DAYS

Keep these dates on your calendar to join other members in working at Kruse House. This is a great chance to work alongside and learn from other gardeners. Learning, service and FUN... hope to see you there.

Sat. April 29 1-4 pm & Sat. May 13 9-12 am

Sat. July 29 1-4 pm & Sat. August 26 9-12 am

Sat. September 30 1-4 & Sat. October 28 9-12 am



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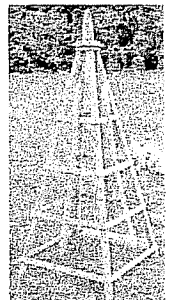
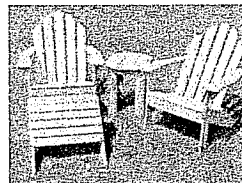
70 years - Celebrating all season!

Free garden gloves for moms on Mother’s Day
Water Garden Weekend, May 20 & 21
Fragrant Plants talk, April 29
Edible plants talk, May 6
Landscaping for DIY’s, 2nd & 4th Saturdays
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