

WE GO GARDENING

Newsletter of the West Chicago Garden Club

Volume 9 Issue 1 January 2006

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Membership Dues are Due... and the Benefits of Membership by Billie Childress

Since you are reading this you have probably been a member of the Garden Club or crossed paths with the Club during the past year. It is time to renew your membership (\$15 for an individual and \$25 for a family). Just complete and return the enclosed form.

I'd like to point out a few reasons why you would want to be a member. Receiving this informative newsletter and hearing the wonderful speakers might be reason enough to join. Beyond that you have the opportunity to mingle with kindred spirits and share your garden dreams, ambitions, mistakes and successes. Often the things we learn from fellow gardeners are the most valuable lessons of all!

We accept that evolution and change are part of gardening. The monthly

programs help us keep updated on topics that club members tell us they are interested in (see page 3 for the 2006 programs). Also, you are entitled to participate in the member's presale for our annual Plant Sale (this is my personal favorite), join others working in the Kruse Garden and at the annual plant sale and take part in the field trips sponsored by the club.

There are many benefits to membership. We value each and every member. Please join us for another year of fun, fellowship, learning, and GARDENING.

Now, fill out that form and write that check! Send or give to Linda Harison, 29W 210 Ray St, West Chicago.

First Meeting of 2006, Thursday, January 26

Speaker—Eila Grahn – "Photography in the Garden"

6:45 Sharing Time; 7:15 Business Meeting; 7:30 Speaker

Eila Grahn was a photographer for Ball Seed for seven years. Now she is a free lancer. Her photographs have appeared in Better Homes and Gardens. This will be a great kick-off for the year

Doors open at 6:45 for refreshments, sharing table and conversation. A brief business meeting begins at 7:15, followed by the speaker at 7:30. Hope to see you there.



Upcoming events (outside the club)

The Growing Place — Thursday, 2/16 — "Make a Trough" 9:30-11:00 am Naperville location. Fee: \$35. Call 630 355-4000 to reserve a space.
 Thursday, 2/23 — "Garden Travelogue" 9:30-11:00 am Free.

Platt Hill Nursery— Saturday, 2/11 "Starting Seeds Indoors" 10 am Free. Saturday, 2/18 "Perennials A-M" (Part 1) 10 am Free. Saturday, 2/25 "Perennials N-Z" (Part 2) 10 am Free.

Heinz Brothers Greenhouse Garden Center —Saturday, 2/4 "Plant Up Your Own Unique Terrarium or Conservatory" 10-11 am \$10 Fee. Saturday, 2/4 "Weird, Zany and Interesting Houseplants" 1-1:30 pm Fee \$5. Saturday, 2/4 "Houseplants for Your Home" 3-3:30 FREE. Saturday 2/11 "Brighten Your Winter Days with Blooming Plants" 11-11:30 FREE. Saturday, 2/11 "Orchids for Beginners" 10-10:30 am Fee \$5. Saturday 2/18 "Make a Floral Bookmark" 3-3:30 pm Fee \$5. Saturday, 2/18 "Make a tiny Birdbath" 11-11:30 Fee \$5. Register by calling 377-6288 or emailing Heinz at: info@heinzbrothers.com

RIDES!!!

Need a ride to the meeting?

Call

Linda Harlson

293-1057

By the Wednesday before the meeting.

The love of gardening is a seed that once sown never dies.
- Gertrude Jekyll

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 2005:
Individual: \$15
Family: \$25

2005 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
Edie 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
January 26	Eila Grahn	Photography in the Garden
February 23	Greg Bartoshuk	Perfect Perennials for Perpetual Color for Real Lazy Gardeners
March 23	Ed Max	Landscaping for Fall Foliage
April 27	Lou Horton	Companion Shade Plants for Hostas
May 20	PLANT SALE!	
Many 25	Jan Calhoun—Ball Seed	New Annuals
June 3	FIELD TRIP	Songsparrow 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		To be determined
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.

We Grow Dreams

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ASK Our Gardeners

At our November meeting, Dorothy O'Connor charmed us by reading selections from several of her favorite books related to gardening. Several Members asked that we list the books for the newsletter. So here they are:

The Essential Earthman by Henry Mitchell

One Man's Garden by Henry Mitchell

Men and Gardens by Nan Fairbrother

Dorothy also recommended: **Green Prints** a Quarterly Magazine of Essays

The Gardener's Gripe Book by Abby Adams

Sleeping with a Sunflower—A Treasury of Old-Time Gardening Lore by Louise Riotte

Note: Many of these books are available, used, on www.amazon.com

If you've never started seeds, don't worry too much about it. Remember, nature has designed them to grow. You and the garden seeds have the same goal.— what could be more reassuring?

- Ruth Page from Green Prints

SAVING STAMPS = Acres for Wildlife

The Illinois Audubon Society has a project that collects canceled stamps, stamp collections and unused old stamps. The focus is on commemorative stamps. Cancelled stamps should have a 1/4 inch or larger border on all sides. The money generated from the stamps goes toward the purchase of land to protect Illinois wildlife. The Club will talk about participating in this project. For more information contact Kay MacNeil at [REDACTED]



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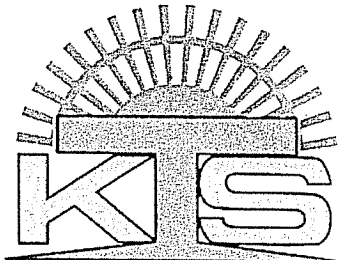
2005 Captured in Pictures by Pamela Darrah



Did we have fun?
You bet!

From the Plant Sale to two great field trips. Kruse House work days and creating concrete leaves. Learning from other members and sharing plants. Gardeners eat well too! And then there were the programs... great speakers. 2006 promises to be more of the same.

Won't you join us?



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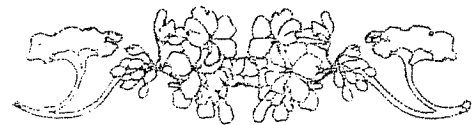
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PLANT SALE 2006

DATE: SATURDAY, MAY 20, 2005 – 9:00AM – 2:00PM

It's time to start thinking about the Plant Sale!

As always, we need LOTS of Volunteers.

We hope you will help out?

We need people for:

- **Potting parties** **Plant labeling** **Plant sitting**
- **Transport** **Plant Sale set-up** **Plant Sale selling**
- **Plant Sale cash receipts** **Plant Sale clean-up**

If any or all of these seem like something you might be willing to do, please call either Dick or Pamela at 584-1900 during the day or email to info@bwdarrah.com

Please remember to:

1. Save box tops for customers to use to accumulate plants at the Plant Sale
2. Save old Venetian blinds that we cut up for plant labels.
3. Pot up plants early in the spring for the Plant Sale.
4. Start seeds for the plant sale. If you are starting seeds for your own use, plant a flat for the sale as well.

The Plant Sale is a lot of fun. It's a great way to get to know new members, meet other gardeners and to interact with the whole club.
So SAVE THE DATE!!!



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