



# WE GO GARDENING

## Newsletter of the West Chicago Garden Club

Volume 8 Issue 7 July 2005

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### June Program – Japanese Gardens

by Edie Streams

The June meeting featured a talk on Japanese gardens by Diane Hunter. To help create the tranquil feel of a Japanese garden, music of a shakuhachi flute was played during the presentation.

Japanese gardens are eastern and old (as much as 2500 years old). Garden design is not left to amateurs and is considered an art. Every garden has Buddhism at its base. The goal is to provide a space for meditation and spiritual growth.

Japanese gardens are designed to be visited in all four seasons. Because of space constraints miniaturization is a staple of these gardens, as are designs that provide the illusion of distant and spaciousness—often in a very small space. One way to view a Japanese garden to make a circle of your

fore-finger and thumb and look at various features of the garden through that small “glass”. To achieve spiritual oneness with the world, the Japanese may sit for hours slowly shifting their focus from one element of the garden to another.

Ms. Hunter’s used slides to illustrate Japanese garden design features: how large rocks in the foreground in a pond give the illusion of a much larger space and how aspects of the landscape (distant mountains, for example) are incorporated into the garden design so they seem to be part of the garden. Rocks, water features, and raked gravel, offer elements that provide interest in any season.

The talk gave those who went on a the field trip to the Andersen Japanese Garden some ideas about how to appreciate those gardens.

### July Meeting—President’s Potluck at Childress’

#### and Making Japanese Lanterns

Thursday, July 28 — 29W385 Glen Drive—West Chicago

Family members are welcome. Bring a dish to pass, something for you and your family to cook on the grill (if you want to grill.), and your favorite lawn chair.

Drinks and utensils will be provided. There is always plenty of great food!

Arrive as early as 6:30. This is a social, get-together. There will be an opportunity to make a Japanese Lantern to take home with you (for those who want to) and view Sam and Billie’s wonderful gardens. There will be no speaker.

From 59 take Waynewood west to Glen. From 64 take Waynewood south to Glen. Glen is a dead-end street and the Childress’ are at the end of the street.

If you need further directions to their home, please call Sam or Billie Childress at 231-1791.

## Chicago Area Gardens

The Chicago Tribune's July 3 issue had an article by Beth Botts that listed Chicago area gardens. The list included both the obvious... and some not-so well known gardens. For those of you with missed the article the gardens were:

**Chicago Botanic Garden** - Glencoe. [Www.ohwow.org](http://www.ohwow.org)

**The Morton Arboreteum**—Lisle [www.morton.org](http://www.morton.org)

**The Gardens at Ball**— West Chicago—open to the public Fridays in August from 9am-3pm.

**Garfield Park Conservatory**-300 N. Central Park, Chicago.

**Chicago Flower & Garden Show**—Navy Pier in March. [www.chicagoflower.com](http://www.chicagoflower.com)

**Bahai'I House of Worship**—Wilmette [www.us.bahai.org/how/default.htm](http://www.us.bahai.org/how/default.htm)

**Millennium Park**— Columbus and Monroe, Chicago [www.millenniumpark.org](http://www.millenniumpark.org)

**Midewin National Tallgrass Prairie**—south of Joliet. [Www.fs.fed.us/mntp](http://Www.fs.fed.us/mntp)

**Cuneo Museum and Gardens**— Vernon Hills [www.cuneomuseum.org](http://www.cuneomuseum.org)

**Osaka Gardens**—Wooded Island behind the Museum of Science and Industry  
[www.hydepark.org/parks/osaka2.htm](http://www.hydepark.org/parks/osaka2.htm)

**Chicago Woman's Park and Garden** at Clarke House Museum— 1827 S. Indiana Ave,  
Chicago. [Egov.cityofchicago.org/city/webportal/home.do](http://Egov.cityofchicago.org/city/webportal/home.do) and search under Clarke House

**Cantigny**—Winfield [www.rrmtf.org/cantigny](http://www.rrmtf.org/cantigny)

**Oak Park Conservatory**—Oak Park [www.oprf.com/conservatory](http://www.oprf.com/conservatory)

**Music played  
by June  
speaker**

**Stan Richard-  
son**

**Shakuhachi—  
Meditation  
Music**

**Sounds True  
By Riley Lee**

**Give a weed an inch  
and it will take a yard.**  
- Author Unknown

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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](http://www.bwdarra.com/wcgarden)

### Membership information

Dues for 2005:

Individual: \$15

Family: \$25

### 2005 board

President:

Linda Harlson (630) 293-1057  
[ashengal@prodigy.net](mailto:ashengal@prodigy.net)

Vice President:

Billie Childress (630) 231-1791  
[billiec@covad.net](mailto:billiec@covad.net)

Treasurer:

John Warbiany (630) 293-5795  
Fax: (630) 293-5794

Secretary

Angie Sadauskas (630) 231-5851

Information Director

Edie Streams (630) 231-4821  
[westreams@hotmail.com](mailto:westreams@hotmail.com)

Plant Sale Chair

Dick Darrah (630) 584-1900  
[info@bwdarra.com](mailto:info@bwdarra.com)

Garden Walk Chairs

Lou Horton (630) 293-7735  
Sam Childress (630) 231-1791

Madeleine Bartsch (porch chair)  
(630) 231-3217

## Calendar of events 2005

Date	Speaker	Topic
July 28		President's Potluck and making Japanese Lanterns (at Billie's)
August 25	Connie and Carole	Making Decorative Concrete Leaves (at Carole's)
September 22	Nancy Carroll	Fall Interest in the Garden
October 27	Sandy Klausman	Spring Bulbs
November 17		Potluck and Elections

### 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.



Lunch during Klehm Arboretum Field Trip—we eat well!

**we go**  
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# ASK our Gardeners

**Members** at the June Meeting asked for Sandy Saad's Rhubarb cake recipe.

## Outrageous Rhubarb Coffee Cake

- 1 Cup buttermilk
- 1/4-1/2 cup melted butter or margarine
- 1 egg
- 1 teaspoon vanilla
- 3 cups chopped rhubarb
- 2 3/4 cups flour
- 1 cup sugar
- 1 teaspoon baking soda
- 1/2 teaspoon salt
- 1 cup brown sugar
- 1/2 cup chopped nuts

### Topping

- 1/2 cup butter
- 1/2 cup light cream, half-and-half or evaporated milk
- 1 cup sugar
- 1 teaspoon vanilla

1. Heat oven to 350 degrees. Grease a 9 by 13 inch baking pan.
2. Mix buttermilk, melted butter, egg and vanilla. Stir in rhubarb. In a separate bowl mix flour, white sugar, baking soda and salt. Stir the wet ingredients into the dry until just combined.
3. Spread batter in pan; sprinkle brown sugar and nuts on top. Bake 45-55 minutes, until toothpick inserted in center of cake comes out clean.
4. Meanwhile, stir and heat the topping ingredients in a small saucepan. When coffee cake comes out of the oven, poke deep holes over the entire surface with a meat fork or skewer. Drizzle the warm sauce over the cake. Cool and serve.

Note: Sliced strawberries or pitted tart cherries could be substituted for, or added to, the rhubarb.

If you want to watch the fat content, you could use the smaller amount of butter and half the topping.

**Kruse House  
Work Day  
Sunday  
August 7  
1-4**



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## Klehm Arboretum and Anderson Garden Field Trip

Nearly 25 garden club members and families went on the Club's field trip to the Rockford area to visit two very different gardens. The first stop was the Klehm Arboretum where members could wander on the walking paths, visit the fountain garden or the collections of hostas, daylilies, or ornamental grasses. We had lunch in the picnic grove, feasting on sandwiches and a wonderful collection of salads and desserts provided by members. After lunch, the bus took the group to the Anderson Japanese Gardens. Another couple hours was spent wandering through the gardens or sitting and viewing portions of the garden from strategically placed benches. This was a very successful trip and there already have been discussions about where the Club might go next year.



Two beautiful vistas from the Anderson Japanese Garden



Club Members at Klehm Arboretum



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## **MASTER GARDENING: Expanding, Exploring and Enriching Our Knowledge of Gardening Through Learning and Volunteering**

**By Michael Horsley, Master Gardener**

During the past year, I have been participating in the master gardening program offered by the University of Illinois Extension Office/DuPage County in Wheaton Illinois. The Master Gardening Program trains adult volunteers to help disseminate up-to-date, research-based horticulture information to home gardeners. The program is sanctioned by Land Grant universities in all 50 states. The DuPage Master Gardening Program has approximately 120 Master Gardeners from all parts of the County.

I had to take a series of classes in all the key areas of gardening. This included 66 hours of basic botany, soils, turf management, insects, integrated pest management, vegetables, trees, bulbs, flowers, roses and landscaping. The courses were taught by University of Illinois Extension educators and other horticultural experts. An online version of this program is now available. An exhaustive list of publications on gardening is made available to students as well as key reference web sites. In addition to formal class room study, I had to complete a minimum of 60 hours of volunteer services. I have volunteered time in the Extension Office in Wheaton manning the Master Gardener Hot Line and helping with the Plant Clinics that are held on certain days of the week. I also volunteer maintaining the gardens at Kline Creek Farm in Winfield and the Butterfly Garden at the Willowbrook Wild Life Center in Glen Ellyn. I also conduct plant therapy at The Terrace Nursing Home in West Chicago.

There are numerous other master gardening projects and programs within the county along with a speakers bureau and an information desk program such as was provided at the West Chicago Blooming Festival this past May. I have found the master gardening experience very enriching by providing expanded knowledge of gardening and many opportunities to explore new avenues of gardening expression. If you have any questions about the Master Gardening Program, please contact me at [horsley203@comcast.net](mailto:horsley203@comcast.net) or you can call the Master Gardener Hot Line directly at 630-653-4114. You will also find an abundance of gardening information at the University of Illinois Extension Web Site at [www.urbanext.uiuc.edu/hort](http://www.urbanext.uiuc.edu/hort) and then select Hort Corner.

*Editors Note: Michael Horsley joined the West Chicago Garden Club this year. Thanks to Michael for giving members an overview of what is involved with becoming a Master Gardener*

**All gardeners  
live in beautiful  
places because  
they make them**

**so.**

**- Joseph Joubert**

## **KRUSE HOUSE**

**Work Date — Sunday August 7 (1-4)**

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