



WE GO GARDENING

Newsletter of the West Chicago Garden Club

Volume 10 Issue 5 May 2007

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Plant Sale

Saturday, May 19, 2007

May 17th (Thursday)

Member only pre-Sale. Come to Pamela and Dan's and look over what we have for sale. Pick out what ever you want for your own gardens and pay the club. This officially starts at 3:00 PM, but if you must come earlier you can do so. Just keep track of what you take and pay the club on Sale Day. We discourage members buying the day of the sale.

May 18th (Friday)

At 6:00 PM sharp we start the big move of plants from Pamela and Dan's to the Sale Site. We will need a crew to load vehicles at Pamela and Dan's and we will need another crew to unload vehicles at the Sale Site. We need pickup trucks, vans, big, cars, etc. to drive back and forth.

May 19th (Saturday)

Sale Day! We'll start setting up about 7:30 and we plan to open the register about 8:30, but the Sale really doesn't start until 9:00 – we just like to get a running start. The Sale officially closes at 2:00 PM, but if we still have plants and customers we'll extend the time as needed.

Next Meeting: Thursday, May 24

HOUSE PLANT CLINIC

Speaker: Ken Benson, Director of Horticultural Education at Triton College

Bring your sick house plants! REALLY—Ken Benson will diagnose and advise!

Join us at the Faith Community Church at 910 Main Street in West Chicago

6:00pm - sharing time, conversation and refreshments

7:15 - brief business meeting

7:30 - speaker

And, MEMBER PLANT EXCHANGE takes place at 6 pm tonight—come early!



Upcoming events (outside the club)

Morton Arboretum: June 2nd and 3rd from 9am-4pm both days—The Northern IL Hosta Society will hold a Judged Cut Leaf Show and hosta display. There will be demonstrations on how to divide hostas and hybridize them. Also, vendors will have hostas for sale. For more information call (630)968-0074 or visit www.mortonarb.org.

Heinz Brothers Greenhouse and Garden Center in St. Charles: Call (630) 584-0473 for more information or e-mail info@heinsbrothers.com for class schedules.

Strawberry Jar Planting Demonstrations: Tuesday, May 15 from 6-6:30pm—Free but RSVP.

Wire Container Planting Demos: Thursday, May 17 and Monday May 21—6-6:30pm—Free/RSVP

The Growing Place: Saturday, May 26—Build A Fountain Day—10am Fox Valley, 1pm Naperville
Watch creative staff members (Kathy Thomas of TGP was our August 2006 speaker demonstrating her passion for everything to do with water.) build unique fountains from a variety of materials. Learn the basics of maintaining fountains also.

Gardener's Art Festival: Garden Rooms 6/16, 9am – 5pm Naperville

Over 20 Garden Artists will display and sell their work. Live music and garden talks throughout the day. Refreshments will be served. Watch www.thegrowingplace.com for a listing of talks.

Lilacia Park in Lombard: Lilac Time festivities will continue through May 20—Cost:\$2, \$1 for seniors and kids—1,200 lilacs and 25,000 tulips in this 8.5-acre park—lombardparks.com.

The Garden Club of Downers Grove: A National Garden Week Program at 7pm on June 7 at the Downers Grove Library, 1050 Curtiss St. presents "Dazzling, Delightful, Delicious Daylilies" with Greg Bartoshuk, award-winning Daylily Hybridizer. FREE—Registration required. Call (630)960-1200.

The Garden Club of Oak Park and River Forest: presents "What a Wonderful World" A Standard Flower Show featuring Horticulture, Design and Special Exhibits at the Oak Park Conservatory, 615 Garfield Street (708) 386-4700—Saturday, June 2—2pm to 4:30pm and Sunday, June 3—10am to 4pm.

The Garden Club of Oak Park and Rive Forest-Friends of the Oak Park Conservatory: Saturday, June 23 presents A Garden Walk—Eleven Inspiring Gardens—\$15 in advance and \$18 on the day of the walk. For advance tickets, send check made payable to GCOPRF at P.O. Box 5633, River Forest 60305 or online at gardencluboprf.org.

Wayne Countryside Garden Club: presents Inaugural Garden Walk 2007 on Saturday, June 30th—10am to 4pm. Six gardens on tour from the historic district and the outlying estates. Tickets: \$12 in advance and for GCI members—\$15 day of event. Refreshments—local vendors will be showing and selling. The garden club will be offering specialty daylilies. For information, call: Barbara at 630-497-0186.



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Club information

West Chicago Garden Club
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www.westchicagogardenclub.org

Membership information

Dues for 2007:
 Individual: \$15
 Family: \$25

2007 board

President:
 Mark Luther (630) 876-1296
 mark@markluther.com

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 Mike Saad (630) 653-1350
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Plant Sale Chair:
 Dick Darrah (630) 584-1900
 info@bwdarrah.com

Regular meeting location

Faith Community Church
 910 Main Street
 West Chicago

Calendar of events - 2007

Date	Speaker	Topic
May 19	PLANT SALE!	Blooming Fest 2007
May 24	Ken Benson	House plant clinic—members are invited to bring sick house plants. Member plant exchange prior to the meeting. 6PM
June 9	Field Trip—10 a.m.	Rich's Foxwillow Pines
June 28	Jan Calhoun	What's new from Ball Seed
July 26		Picnic and potluck and socializing
August 2	Field Trip	Ball Seed Gardens
August 23	Mark Luther	Pond construction: step-by-step
September 27	Lynn Bement	Healthy gardens by "The Compost Queen"
October 25	Bill Scheffler	Organic lawn, tree and shrub care
November 15	Elections, Potluck and Nora Liu	Ornamental vines

Reminders

Babysitting—The Club provides babysitting during its regular monthly meetings when held at Faith Community Church. There is no fee to us for the service, but if you plan to use it, please **call Linda Harlson** at 377-5750, 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.

Rides— Need a ride to the meeting? Call **Billie Childress** at 231-1791 by the Wednesday before the meeting.



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News and Announcements

In Memory of Margo Roxanne Ham. Her mother, Linda Ham, has been very generous to our garden club and we have sent a Sympathy card to her. Margo lived her 27 years loving and being loved with Tuberos Sclerosis. A Celebration of her Life will be held at St. Mary's Church in West Chicago on June 9.

New Members: Our new member in April is Jesse Felix. Seek out our new members and introduce yourself—welcome them—let them know you're glad to have them with us.

Calling Post: Gotta Thank Her!!!!!! Pamela Darrah sets up and writes these Calling Post Messages. She does an amazing job—she speaks clearly and gives all the important information we need, as club members, on Plant Sale doings, Kruse House work days, etc., etc. As of Friday afternoon, May 11, I think I've just received the third Calling Post message this month. Great job, Pamela.

Our Very Own Plant Sale: Did you check out the very important dates concerning Our Very Own Plant Sale on Saturday, May 19 on the FRONT PAGE!!! I've been amazed at the respect we have as a garden club. People know about our Sale and put it on their calendars. Come and support your own garden club on the important dates and times on the FRONT PAGE. If you can, please come to help us move the plants over to Galena Street tent the night before the Sale—you'll be glad you did. It's definitely a feel-good thing.

Speaking of the Sharing Table: I picked up the loveliest small book entitled "The Country Diary of an Edwardian Lady". Thanks to whoever brought it to the sharing table—I love it. Also, I picked up a packet of radish seeds and the April issue of Fine Gardening. What a great deal!!!

HELP: What do you like or not like about this newsletter—I will accept anonymous! I enjoy having this outlet to blab, but it's a bit selfish if no one else gets to say their piece. Hey, how about a photo of your garden or your favorite peony bush (the ants are so busy on ours—which is good, right!). OK, I'm done!.



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Quote from the Daily Herald-dateline March 28, 2007 in the Fence Post Section: Club member Lorraine Biang wrote to the editor. "Garden has no place in forest preserve." The Daily Herald headline read, "Forest board is not ready to kill garden." (at Danada Forest Preserve). I didn't think it was possible to kill something that doesn't exist. Webster defines forest as a dense growth of trees and underbrush. Webster defines preserve: to keep safe from injury, harm of destruction. How this can be stretched to include installing formal gardens is hard to understand. We are fortunate in having beautiful formal gardens in the county at Cantigny a no cost to taxpayers. To use the excuse that staff has already put so much time into it seems to indicate a misuse of time. An earlier announcement suggested that volunteers would maintain the gardens. Anyone who has worked in gardens knows that it takes a well-trained staff to direct volunteers.

Lorraine Biang
West Chicago

Meeting notes from April 26:
Raffle prize: Member, Barb Darrah won the raffle prize of a \$10.00 gift certificate for Prosek's Greenhouse in Winfield and a lovely basket of other garden goodies. A big thanks to all the contributors. All these nice items show up for the raffle and I really don't know who to pat on the back. However, if this continues, we do need to pull two or three names out of the hat for raffle prizes.
Jesse Felix, Manager of Maintenance for the West Chicago Park District: He discussed with us his desire to begin a grass-roots volunteer program to benefit

Club member, Lou Horton, wants us all to know that he is again having his annual plant sale at his home on May 26th

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Jim Schuster, He is "The Man"!

By Sandy Saad

Perhaps you'd say that our speaker at last month's meeting doesn't deserve the last page but I know he'd understand. The Plant Sale needed that first page.

Perhaps you would agree that this knowledgeable man knows a heck of a lot about bugs and the thing he would truly wish to know is how to get rid of the destructive EAB (emerald ash borer), the Asian Long-Horned Beetle, Gypsy Moths and the light brown apple moth (San Francisco infestation). Speaking again about "God's World", could all of these nasty creatures be a way of reminding us just how precious our trees and such are to us. We humans tend to take things like that for granted—like it will always be there for us. I pray that we are all thinking about

being better stewards of this beautiful world we inhabit.

I will admit that I did not get every word this great man (Can you tell that I think a lot of Jim?!) spoke as he has this midwestern nasal tone to his voice but his pass-arounds more than made up for it. I hope that you all got to hold each and every "rather gross" sample he brought for us to see. Each piece of bark and photo spoke volumes on the destruction these bugs do!!

Now these red-eyed Cicadas, which we'll be seeing and hearing from soon—forgive me, but I do not feel as threatened by them. Microwaved, they will smell and taste like roasted almonds. Lots of protein! My daughter's dog, Bailey, will love them!

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