



## October 2023

### Greetings from Our President

"And all at once, summer collapsed into fall." —Oscar Wilde

If you are feeling anything like me, fall snuck up on me once again! Suddenly I'm looking at what to mulch, what needs to be covered overnight to get a few more weeks out of and what I want to dig up and bring in to over winter. Club outdoor activities are winding down and we look to transition to our monthly programming and the start of planning for the coming year. There are many opportunities for you to get involved and learn something new. We are still looking for a Vice President, a Co-Chair for the Garden Walk, a Co-Chair for Programs and committee members for Garden Walk. The annual tree decorating at the Senior Center, Library and Village Hall will take place in November, and many hands make fast work. Please consider signing up for these activities at the October Club meeting. We will also be adding volunteer sign up opportunities to the website over the next few weeks, so keep an eye out for those!

I look forward to our next member meeting on Monday, October 23rd. Reminder that social time is 6:30-7pm, business meeting at 7pm and our program presentation starts at 7:30pm.

From my garden to yours,

*Beth*

### Fall / Winter Meetings

- October 23
- November 27
- December 11<sup>th</sup> Holiday Party

*See page 2 for meeting details*

### Inside This Issue

Presidents Message .....	1
Can You Name This Plant .....	2
Monthly Meeting .....	2
Pet & Earth Blessing .....	3
Pumpkin Smash .....	3
Free Oak Saplings .....	3
Victorian Giving Project .....	4
Lake Arlington.....	5
Check for Jumping Worms.....	5
Hydroponic Gardens Tour.....	6
Conservation Corner .....	7
Leave the Leaves .....	8
Prairie Plants Webinar .....	9
Education .....	11-13
Treasurers Report .....	14
Board Meeting Notes.....	15

## October Program

October 23rd @ 7:30 PM, St. Simon's Church

### Japanese Gardens

Presented by Ken Benson

Ken Benson has a master's and a bachelor's in horticulture from the University of Illinois, Champaign. He is a landscape architect and was the host of cable TV's Landscaping with Ken Benson 1992 – 2000. He was a board member of the Chicago Flower and Garden Show 1998 -2008 and a founding board member of MELA (Midwest Ecological Landscapers Association). Ken is a past member of the Men's Garden Club of Villa Park and has been presenting programs since 1972 to garden clubs throughout the area.

Let's explore Japanese gardens! In this presentation we're going to look at the history behind Japanese gardens, the meanings behind characteristics of the Japanese garden and various garden styles. Ken will also expand on one of his favorite aspects of the Japanese garden – the use of sand, which is applied and raked in a specific direction with the purpose and meaning of serenity. Learn about the spiritual purpose and benefits of the Japanese style garden.



## About Our Monthly Meetings

Our monthly general meetings are held on the fourth Monday of each month, September through May.

During the summer, June and July Meetings are held in Members' Gardens.

### Meeting Agenda *(NOTE: time change below)*

6:30-7 PM Social time

7-7:30 PM Business meeting

7:30 PM Speaker program begins

### Meeting Location

Our meetings are held at [Saint Simon's Episcopal Church](#) in their basement meeting space.

Saint Simon's is located at 717 West Kirchoff Road, Arlington Heights, IL 60005, and is right next to NW Community Hospital. There is ample parking next to the building. Enter the large west side parking lot and proceed to the west side of the building. You will see a sign, "Parish Hall," next to the stairs. Take the stairs down to the basement entrance. For those who are "stair challenged," you will enter at the parking level entrance to the right of the stairs and take an elevator down to the basement. There is a sign outside indicating the West elevator entrance. A club member will be there to assist you with the elevator. Click on [map](#) for directions.

We look forward to seeing you at our next meeting.

### Can You Name This Native Plant?

( Answer can be found on [page 13](#) )



Photo taken by June Miller



## Pet and Earth Blessing

The AHGC joined St. Simon's Pet and Earth Blessing on October 9th. As you know, St Simon's hosts our monthly meetings and we are both grateful for a fruitful partnership.



June Miller and Juli Cicarelli



## Free Oak Saplings

The Metropolitan Water Reclamation District is offering free red, pin, bur, black or swamp oak saplings which are available at their water reclamation plants. Who knew there were that many kinds of oaks! The samplings come in one gallon pots or as bare roots in bags of 100.



Click [here](#) to learn more..

## Pumpkin Smash 2023

First Presbyterian Church of Arlington Heights is hosting their Pumpkin Smash on Saturday, November 4, 2023 from 9:00-2:00, located at 302 N. Dunton Ave., Arlington Heights. Please join them to help keep pumpkins out of landfills and into compost piles. This event is open to the entire community. Pumpkins must be free of candies, stickers, glitter, yarn and synthetic decorations.

For more information click [here](#).





## Victorian Giving Garden Project

Dee Schurman | Civics

This year we expanded to two plots at the Giving Gardens. Vegetables we planted include:

- Several types of tomatoes: Beefsteak, Roma, San Marzano and Orange Cherry
- Both bush and pole green beans
- Cucumbers, zucchini, basil, green and yellow peppers as well as jalapeno peppers

Lew and Sheila made a wonderful trellis for the pole beans and added more squash plants, cucumber plants and second sowing of green beans. Harvesting began in July with the garlic planted in 2022. As of the end of this week we have donated about 135 pounds of produce to local food pantries. The jalapeno peppers were well received at the Wheeling Food Pantry. We still have tomatoes and green beans growing in the garden. Once we get a frost at the garden we will schedule a cleanup day and mulch the garden down for the winter. Thanks to everyone who volunteered.





## Happy Bees and Trees: Lake Arlington

Juli Cicarelli | Horticulture

I encourage all of our club members to take the time this fall to visit Lake Arlington. It's a lovely time of year to visit, and while you are there you can see the natural area planted by our garden club volunteers. The plants were selected to attract wild bees which are in serious decline.

Many wild pollinators, thousands of species of bees, butterflies and moths, are also threatened. Their decline could affect not only our food supply, but the very essence of our landscapes. (Source: Science May 6, 2014)

When you visit Lake Arlington be sure to check out the signage at the bee site that recognizes our wonderful club volunteers who worked on this project.



## There is Still Time

Be Sure to Have Your Garden Checked for Jumping Worms This Fall



Bob Bruett and his crew have been busy checking for jumping worms in members' gardens. This soil assessment can be requested by any club member.

**Asian Jumping Worms** can dramatically change soil texture into something similar to coffee grounds. Jumping worms feast on mulch and strip vital nutrients from topsoil. Jumping worms do not survive our winter weather because they only burrow in the upper three inches of soil; however in the fall, jumping worms produce eggs which over-winter emerging in the spring. The time is **NOW** to identify these worms IF YOU WANT TO DONATE GARDEN PLANTS FOR THE 2024 PLANT SALE IN JUNE.

If you would like your garden checked for these worms, please contact [Bob Bruett](#).



# Hydroponic Wall Garden & Rooftop Gardens Tour

*June Miller / Conservation*

On September 27<sup>th</sup>, eight garden club members participated in an interesting and unique tour at Stevenson High School in Lincolnshire. This tour was guided by 13 Horticultural Club students and their Sponsor, Amy Inselberger, SHS Biology Teacher. We viewed three 2-story high hydroponic wall gardens, two roof top gardens with numerous flowers and grasses, and a working greenhouse. The students were very knowledgeable on the hydroponic process and enjoyed showing us the many tropical plants such as Monstera, Croton, Palms, and Anthurium that the wall pockets held. It was wonderful to meet with students so enthusiastic about gardening and environmental science!



*AHGC Members*



*Stevenson High School Students and Teacher*





# Conservation Corner

June Miller | Conservation



## Recycling Tip from SWANCC

Plastic bags and wraps **DO NOT** go in the recycling bins but **DO** go in participating retail store recycling bins.

**Why?** They clog up the sorting equipment which is time consuming for the workers to have to fix. SWANCC wants all recyclables to be loose in the bin and not in plastic bags OR paper bags. If you collect the recyclables in a plastic or paper bag, dump the contents and reuse the bag if you can!

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## Village of Arlington Heights Fall Leaves 2:1 Program

October 16th through December 15<sup>th</sup> residents need to only place 1 sticker for every 2 bags of leaves set out for collection. Many local stores sell the landscape waste stickers. Stickers are also available at Village Hall and the Arlington Heights Senior Center.

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## Bringing Nature to Life by Preserving Healthy Ecosystems

Nature is a wonderful teacher. Join us as we explore three of the main ecosystems of northern Illinois. Our speakers will summarize characteristics of each area and ecological functions including support of pollinators and wildlife. As we learn about the natural world around us, we can use that information to create beautiful and natural landscapes within our own properties and communities.

Saturday November 11, 2023 @ 8:30am – 1:00pm  
Round Lake Beach Cultural and Civic Center  
2007 North Civic Center Way  
Round Lake Beach, IL  
Phone: 847-812-8105  
[Website](#) for more information



National Garden Clubs

## Environmental School

The mission of the Environmental Schools is to teach environmental literacy in order to cherish, protect and conserve the living earth. Participants learn about the environment, gain an appreciation of the natural world, encourage action for sustainable development and appreciate the interrelation of all natural things. Emphasis is placed on land conservation, water conservation and air quality.

October 30-31, 2023 Series Z-001, Course 1

Presented virtually via Zoom  
Course Fee \$55.00  
Register [Online](#) at NGC

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## University of Illinois Lake County Extension Class

### Starting Native Plants From Seeds

Wednesday, November 8<sup>th</sup> 6 PM Zoom  
Starting native plants from seeds can be challenging until you know the tricks to sparking germination. Discover what it means to stratify and scarify seeds and which species need which treatment.

Register [here](#)



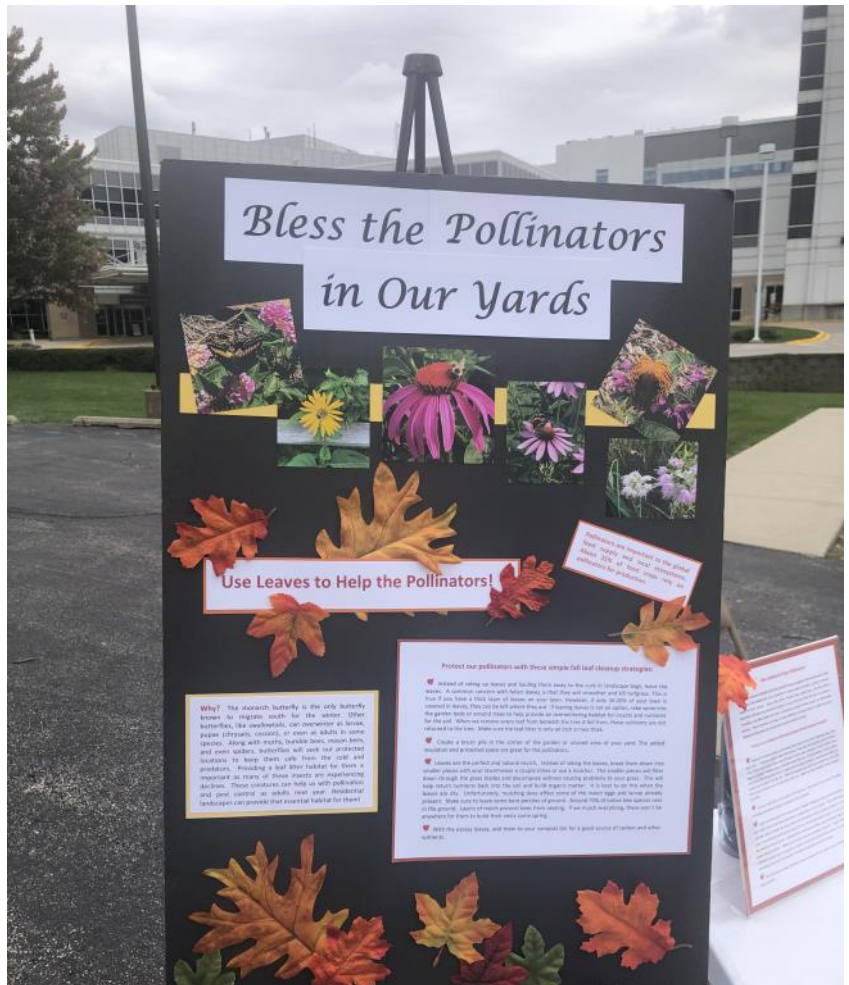
# LEAVE THE LEAVES: *Your Leaves Can Help Protect Pollinators*

June Miller | Conservation

The monarch butterfly is the only butterfly known to migrate south for the winter. Other butterflies like swallowtails can overwinter as larvae, pupae (chrysalis, cocoon), or even as adults in some species. Moths, bumble bees, mason bees, spiders, and butterflies will seek out protected locations to keep them safe from the cold and predators. Providing a leaf litter habitat for them is important as many of these insects are experiencing declines. These little creatures can help us with pollination and pest control as adults next year. Residential landscapes can easily provide that essential habitat for them!

You can protect our pollinators with these simple fall leaf cleanup strategies:

- Instead of raking up your leaves and hauling them away to the curb in landscape bags—leave the leaves. A common concern with fallen leaves is they will smother and kill turf grass. This is true if you have a thick layer of leaves on your lawn. However, if only 10-20% of your lawn is covered in leaves, they can be left where they are. If leaving leaves is not an option, rake some into the garden beds or around trees to help provide an overwintering habitat for insects and nutrients for the soil. When we remove every leaf from beneath the tree it fell from, those nutrients are not returned to the tree. Make sure the leaf litter is only an inch or two thick.
- Create a brush pile in the corner of your garden or unused area of your yard. The added insulation and protected space are great for the pollinators.
- Leaves are the perfect natural mulch. Instead of raking your leaves, break them down into smaller pieces with your lawnmower a couple times or use a mulcher. The smaller pieces will filter down through the grass blades and decompose without causing problems to your grass. This will help return nutrients back into the soil and build organic matter. It is best to do this when the leaves are dry. Unfortunately, mulching does affect some of the insect eggs and larvae already present.
- Make sure to leave some bare patches of ground. Around 70% of native bee species nest in the ground. Layers of mulch prevent bees from nesting. If we mulch everything, there won't be anywhere for them to build their nests come spring.
- With the excess leaves, add them to your compost bin for a good source of carbon and other nutrients.







# The Gardener's Guide to Prairie Plants

with Neil Diboll & Hilary Cox  
16 NOVEMBER 2023  
6:00 PM CT

Hosted by Doug Tallamy



## The Gardener's Guide to Prairie Plants

With Neil Diboll and Hilary Cox  
November 16 @ 6pm

**About the Webinar:** Join us for an enlightening 90 minute webinar featuring authors, Neil Diboll and Hilary Cox, as they present their latest book, "The Gardener's Guide to Prairie Plants." This comprehensive compendium is a treasure trove of knowledge for gardeners looking to incorporate native prairie plants into their landscapes.

Click [here](#) to register

The Village of Arlington Heights invites residents to participate in an upcoming

## LATEX PAINT COLLECTION

BY APPOINTMENT ONLY  
October 17 & November 14, 2023- 4-6 pm  
Public Works Building, 222 N. Ridge Avenue

### ONLY LATEX PAINT WILL BE ACCEPTED

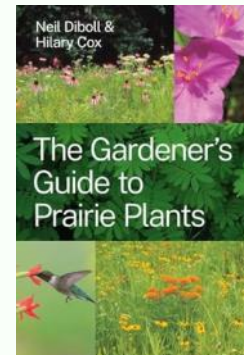
- aerosol cans will be accepted
- no oil based paints will be accepted
- no mixing of paints
- keep paint in original containers
- open to Arlington Heights residents only (will be checking IDs or Village vehicle stickers)
- not open to businesses
- 15 gallons may be collected at no cost
- by appointment only- call Health and Human Services Department at 847-368-5760

This event is in partnership with Groot Industries, Inc. and EarthPaint at [www.earthpaint.org](http://www.earthpaint.org).



#### Looking to dispose of other items?

Household Hazardous Waste (HHW) collections, including oil based paints, are conducted by the Illinois Environmental Protection Agency and are available to all Illinois Residents. Visit [www.swancc.org](http://www.swancc.org).



*A comprehensive and beautifully illustrated reference for all gardeners passionate about native plants and prairie restoration.*

*The Gardener's Guide to Prairie Plants* is the one-stop compendium for all gardeners aspiring to use native prairie plants in their gardens. Neil Diboll and Hilary Cox—two renowned prairie gardeners—compile more than four decades' worth of research to offer a wide-ranging and definitive reference for starting and maintaining prairie and meadow gardens and restorations. Alongside detailed synopses of plant life cycles, meticulous range maps, and sweeping overviews of natural history, Diboll and Cox also include photographs of 148 prairie plants in every stage of development, from seedling to seed head.



## Did you Know?

Our garden club is growing and we could always use your help.

- Our club currently has 142 members
- Our members represent 12 different Chicagoland area suburbs
- We have 22 members serving board and committee (and co-chair) positions in addition to a dozen more members serving on smaller sub-committees
- We have a few positions that are still open. Please let [Beth](#) know if you would like more information.
- Volunteers are always needed to help out on projects and special events.



### Officers

President	Beth Ligenza
Vice President	( open position )
Secretary	Halina Zbilski
Treasurer	Sharon Rudy

### Committee Chairs

Artistic	Gail Abbott
Civics	Mike Relaz Dee Schurman
Club Awards	Kathy Hendricksen
Conservation	June Miller
Garden Walk	Jean Kengott ( co-chair open position )
Horticulture	Juli Cicarelli
Hospitality	Cathy Kostal
Membership	Sheila Coffin Lew Coffin
Newsletter	Mona Frisbie
Plant Sale	Bob Bruett
Programs	Nancy Asquini-Dean ( co-chair open position )
Publicity	Connie Landwehr
Scholarship	Sheila Coffin Emma Visee
Website	Rose Marie Lesniak-Mendez

### Project Coordinators

Lew & Sheila Coffin	Northwest Compass Garden
Claudette Norwell-Philipp	Student Partnership
Brenda Catardi	Parade





# Gardening Knowledge

Bev Krams

## EDUCATIONAL OPPORTUNITIES

### ARLINGTON HEIGHTS MEMORIAL LIBRARY

MUSEUM AND GARDEN PASSES

AHML provides you with passes to Museums and Gardens in our area

[CHECK IT OUT](#)



### MORTON ARBORETUM

OF THE EARTH..... New exhibition of Large Scale Sculptures

Visit [website](#) for more information



### COMMUNITY EDUCATION: High School District 214

Click [here](#) for fall course listing



### CHICAGO BOTANIC GARDEN

Horticulture Courses Offered at the Regenstein School

Visit [website](#) for list of courses

FINE ART OF FIBER EXHIBIT

Trees: Habitat, Roots Growth | November 4-6 @ 10am-5pm

Visit [website](#) for more information



### CHALET

EVENTS + CLASSES

[Register](#)



### LURVEY

Upcoming Events

Click [here](#) for more information





# Gardening Knowledge

Bev Krams

## SCHWEIKHER HOUSE TOUR

### TAKE A TOUR

Take a tour of the Schweikher House, on the National Historic Register in Schaumburg. It will provide you with history, architectural design and a tranquil landscape all hidden off a wooded stretch on Meacham Road in Schaumburg. It is a gem! Visit their [website](#) for more information



## WILD ONES

Fireworks and Symphonies:  
Conservation of Singing Insects & Lightning Bugs  
November 19 @ 2:30-4pm Zoom  
Visit [website](#) for more information



## FOREST PRESERVES OF COOK COUNTY

[River Trails Nature Center](#) | Northbrook  
[Busse Woods](#) | Take a Hike in Ned Brown Preserve  
[Crabtree Nature Center](#) | Barrington



## OLBRICH BOTANICAL GARDENS

Located in Madison, WI  
Free and open daily  
[www.olbrich.org](http://www.olbrich.org)



## NATIONAL GARDEN BUREAU

Great Garden Webinars  
[Register](#) for upcoming programs | Review past programs



## McHENRY COUNTY CONSERVATION DISTRICT

Browse the [Fall 2023 Landscapes](#) Magazine



McHenry County  
CONSERVATION DISTRICT

## SPRING VALLEY NATURE BOOK CLUB THROUGH HARPER COLLEGE

Join a group of nature enthusiasts for an evening of books.  
November 30 @ 7:00-8:30pm Register [here](#)



SCHAUMBURG  
PARK DISTRICT



## Gardeners Corner Fall 2023 [Read the Fall issue](#)

- Butterflies can eat to live, live to eat in a balanced garden
- Ideas for youth to explore and connect with nature
- Reap the benefits of intergenerational gardening
- Build drought-tolerant gardens this fall for next summer's blooms
- Tips for extending the garden's growing season
- Consider pollinators during fall garden cleanup
- Keep growing with herbs indoors this fall and winter
- Don't dump Halloween pumpkins, donate or compost them
- Podcast: More than just mums: Fall blooming plants for the garden

## Prairie Ironweed

*(Veronia fasciculata)*

*June Miller / Conservation*

The prairie ironweed is a perennial wildflower in the Aster family and is native to North America. Tall clusters of dark purple to pink hue flowers give this plant a striking appearance in the garden. The flowers bloom for 4 to 6 weeks from late summer to fall. It is an ecologically important plant as its production of significant amounts of nectar attracts numerous native bees, hummingbirds, and butterflies, especially swallowtails and monarchs. The name, ironweed, refers to the toughness of the straight and fibrous stem, tough root system, and flexibility to withstand severe weather. Prairie ironweed can be found in fields, meadows, open woods, and ditches, is drought tolerant, and deer resistant. This is a great back border plant for your garden!



Growth	4-6" tall
Sun Exposure	Full sun
Hardiness	Zones 4-8
Soil	Moist soil or sandy loam
Invasive	No, though it does spread via fibrous rhizomes and by windblown seeds. Deadheading the flowers will reduce any unwanted spread.



# Treasurer's Report

Sharon Rudy | Treasurer

Arlington Heights Garden Club  
Treasurer's Report  
September 2023

			Checking	Savings	
<b><u>Account Balance 8/31/23</u></b>		<b><u>Stmt Date</u></b>	\$ -	\$ -	
<b><u>Receipts:</u></b>					
Transfer in from old checking		9/7/2023	1,800.00	13,000.00	
Interest Income				33.57	
less: Credit Card Fees			-		
Total receipts			1,800.00	13,033.57	
<b><u>Disbursements (cleared):</u></b>		<b><u>Check #</u></b>			
		<b><u>Ck Date</u></b>			
Sharon Rudy - checks and postage	2	9/11/2023	45.38		General
Troop 37 Elliot Chung	3	9/11/2023	150.00		Eagle Project grant
Total Disbursements			195.38	-	
<b>Checking Account Balance 9/30/23</b>	<b>Per Bank</b>		<b>\$ 1,604.62</b>	<b>\$ 13,033.57</b>	
<b>Receipts to be deposited</b>					
Total undeposited receipts			\$ -	\$ -	
<b>cleared</b>		<b><u>Check #</u></b>			
		<b><u>Ck Date</u></b>			
Jim Spannagel - water wand	1	9/11/23	13.99		Civics
Total outstanding checks and invoices			\$ 13.99	\$ -	
<b>ADJUSTED CASH POSITION NFP</b>	9/30/2023		\$ 1,590.63	\$ 13,033.57	
<b>ADJUSTED CASH POSITION Old acct</b>	9/30/2023			\$ 970.43	
Total Adjusted Cash at	9/30/2023			<b>\$ 15,594.63</b>	

# AHGC Board Meeting Notes - October 9, 2023

Halina Zbilski | Recording Secretary

## President - Beth Ligenza

- Beth thanked members who attended the St. Simon Animal Blessing.
- "Volunteer Signup" will continue to be done at general meetings in a specific location, and on the website. Beth will transfer the printed sign ups to the website.
- Standardized email addresses for board positions were presented in an Excel spreadsheet by Rose Marie. New addresses perhaps will be added for a few more committees, such as Artistic, Civics, and Conservation in addition to Scholarship, Garden Walk, and Programs. There is presently a separate email for Website, Membership, and Treasurer. A listing of these Gmail accounts will be posted on the website, and will be listed in the November newsletter, as well as in the Membership Brochure.

## Treasurer – Sharon Rudy

- Sharon presented the Treasurer's Report, which was approved.
- Sharon also presented the revenue and expense reports, and the proposed budget for each category, explaining in detail the final proposed expense. The budget was approved by the board.
- The Discretionary Donation meeting will be held at Beth's house on Oct. 17<sup>th</sup>, at 7 PM.

## Civics – Mike Relaz and Dee Schurman

- There still is a need for volunteers to help with fall clean up at the Viatorian garden, clean up at the Post Office, and possibly clean up at Clearbrook.

## Conservation – June Miller

- Eight garden club members toured the Stevenson High School Horticultural Gardens on Sept 27<sup>th</sup> with 13 student tour guides. June will recap the tour in the newsletter.

## Garden Walk –Jean Kengott

- We are seeking a Garden Walk co-chair strong in meeting presentation to assist Jean Kengott. A plus is that the new co-chair will have an experienced chair by her side in their first year. Jean has computer knowledge, so will handle that side. The date of the Garden Walk is usually the 4<sup>th</sup> Sunday in June.

## Hospitality – Cathy Kostal

- A sign-up sheet for Holiday Party attendance will be started at the October meeting. A suggestion was also made to possibly decorate the available sleighs as centerpieces.

## Membership – Sheila Coffin and Lew Coffin

- Our count of GCI members is now 142 members as of October.

## Plant Sale – Bob Bruett

- Two more backyards are still scheduled to be checked for the Asian jumping worm. Bev is waiting to hear from the Extension office after the suspected worms were submitted for analysis.

## Programs – Nancy Asquini-Dean

- Thank you to Pete for gifting us with the September program "Landscaping with Natives" which was so informative. 81 participants attended the September program. The Oct 23rd program is "Japanese Gardens" by Ken Benson.

## Business/Old Business/Announcement

- The Blue Star Memorial marker was received, but we are still waiting for IDOT approval. Chester Gorecki is following up with IDOT. It was suggested that the dedication ceremony could be held on Nov 11 (Veterans Day), but with all the planning necessary, it would be better to defer it to spring. Jim will be getting the Veteran groups together for the ceremony.

**Next Board Meeting:** Nov. 13, 2023