



March 2024

Greetings from Our President

Hooray for AHGC!

The annual Garden Club of Illinois District IX meeting was held on March 12th. I had the honor of representing our club, along with several other members. During the business meeting, several awards are given out by the district officers to recognize the clubs for the work we do. I am proud to share that the Arlington Heights Garden Club won not one but TWO 1st place awards for *Ongoing Civic Projects* and the *All-Star Award!* These awards acknowledge the work we do in the community as well as the strength of offerings the club provides to the members. We should all be very proud of and each take a little credit for winning these awards.

I'd also like to give Kathy Hendricksen a shout out for her work completing these award nominations for the club. The club continues to have a lot going on as we get ready for all the activity warmer weather brings. Updates on events and opportunities to get to know other club members will be shared on our website, in this newsletter and in emails.

Again, I am so proud of all that the club continues to accomplish and sincerely thank everyone for being part of a wonderful organization.

Beth

Spring Meetings

March 25
April 22
May 20 *

See page 2 for meeting details

* Third Monday of the month

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March Program

March 25 @ 7:00 PM

LOCATION: [Arlington Heights Memorial Library](#)

Leslie Godard as Lady Bird Johnson

Our March program will be hosted by the Arlington Heights Memorial Library, who is our partner for this event. Registration for this program is required. Click here to [register](#).

Leslie Goddard, Ph.D., is an award-winning historian, author, actress and lecturer who has been presenting on topics in American history and women's history for twenty years. She holds an interdisciplinary Ph.D. from Northwestern University as well as master's degrees in both museum studies and in theater. A former museum director, she currently works full-time as a public speaker and author. Her presentations have been seen by audiences in more than thirty states, including scores of universities, museums, libraries, festivals, and civic organizations. She has written three books on Chicago history and has been presenting programs on topics in history for more than fifteen years.

It is 1969 and Lady Bird Johnson has just returned to Texas at the end of her husband's presidency. As she welcomes visitors her home, she reminisces about her years in Washington, the life changing experiences that brought her to the White House, and how she forged her own path as first lady as an advocate for the environment, civil rights and her beloved husband. In this humorous, poignant and insightful historical portrayal, actress and historian Leslie Goddard brings the gracious Lady Bird to life.



Leslie Goddard

Colours

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

- 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 16](#))



Photo by Prairie Moon Nursery

Save the Date — Trip to Derby Line Greenhouse on April 25th

Shelley Plischke | Trip Coordinator

It must be Spring because we are going back to Derby Line Greenhouse. I hope you can join us this year as we make our annual trip to the Derby Line Greenhouse on Thursday, April 25th

Kathy Gerault and her family have created a little jewel of a nursery located in the rolling meadows east of Genoa Illinois, where they hand plant and lovingly care for thousands of the most beautiful annuals you will ever see. The AHGC will again have early and exclusive access to the plant selection that morning. The nursery is located at 16061 Derby Line Rd. Genoa, IL. It's about a 45-minute drive from Arlington Heights. We plan to meet there at 10:00, shop till we drop or the car is full, then stop for lunch on the way home to share our treasures as well as this year's garden plans. It is a fun morning, so if you haven't joined us in the past clear your calendar for a road trip to Genoa. I promise you won't be sorry!



Please note: Derby Line Greenhouse is not equipped to accept credit cards, so payment must be cash or check. Mark your calendar, make a list, and prepare yourself for a gardeners dream! If you have any questions please contact [Shelley Plischke](#).



Our club was awarded two first place certificates at the District IX [Garden Clubs of Illinois](#) annual meeting! One award was for 2023 ONGOING CIVIC PROJECTS, and second award was the 2023 ALL-STAR AWARD.

Thank you for all you do to keep the club strong.



Kathy Hendricksen Receives the Hearts of Gold Award

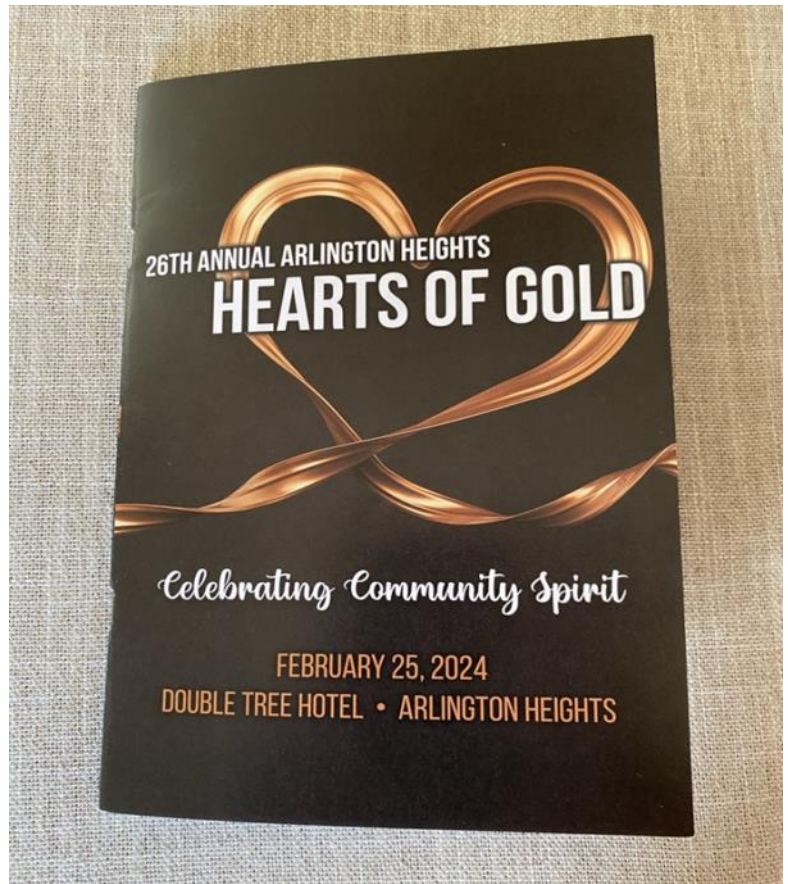
This year's Kenneth M. Bonder Beautification [Hearts of Gold](#) award winner is Kathy Hendricksen.

Kathy has lived in Arlington Heights since she was 8, residing in the house she grew up in, and has been a member of the AHGC for over 25 years. Kathy was always interested in gardening, but says her love for it blossomed due to her job at the Care of Trees (now the Davey Tree Expert Co.) and her husband, Thom Kraak. Thom is her partner for most projects and Kathy says he deserves as much recognition as she does for this award.

Kathy served in a number of different roles in the Arlington Heights Garden Club, including being the group's President from 2013-2017 and chairing the Garden Walk from 2015-2022. Her work doesn't stop there. Kathy serves on the our Saviour's Lutheran Church Green Team and Landscape Committee. She was instrumental in improving the landscaping on the grounds of the Arlington Heights Historical Museum. In the late 1990's and early 2000's Kathy helped plant 800 daffodil bulbs on the museum grounds, researched historically appropriate plantings and helped organize the planting of trees in honor of Arbor Day.

Perhaps the project that Kathy is best know for is the Butterfly Garden at our Saviour's Lutheran Church. The garden features a gravel path, benches and a small pond that includes a solar powered pump to attract wildlife and provide rocks for resting butterflies. The garden has over 50 different varieties of native plants and cultivars selected to bloom at various parts of the season and to attract pollinators and butterflies.

Congratulations, Kathy! We are fortunate to have you in our garden club.



Kathy with her daughter, Amy and her husband, Thom



Cicadas

Bev Krams



Yes, it is the year of the CICADA. THEY will be arriving in late MAY, not just ONE brood (XIII) but TWO (XIX)!!! It appears that Brood XIII will be in the Chicago area while Brood XIX is more in Central Illinois. Scientists tell us they will start emerging when the soil temperature is 65 degrees, 7 inches below the surface. With the weather being so warm this winter they may make an early arrival!

This is going to be an extravagant feeding frenzy for the wildlife in our area! Birds, mammals, wasps, spiders, bats, fish and reptiles will be foraging for these feasting on these delightful creatures. You may also want to try one yourself!! If you don't want to eat one, you will be glad that all those rotting carcasses are rich in Nitrogen fertilizer for your garden.

CICADAS won't harm garden flowers, vegetables and they leave lawns alone. They may even provide aeration to your lawn!

CONSIDER:

- Delaying any new planting of trees.
- Put up physical barriers to young trees and shrubs wrapping them with fine mesh inset netting.
- SKIP CHEMICALS as it will only kill beneficial bees and insects.
- Water and Mulch to keep your trees and woody plants healthy.

Additional resources:

- Review the great in-depth [Cicada article by Ken Johnson](#) of the University of Illinois.
- [Cicada Mania](#)

Native Plant Acts Under Consideration in the Illinois General Assembly

Bev Krams

[ILLINOIS NATIVE LANDSCAPES ACT](#)

Provides that local governments may not enact or enforce an ordinance or resolution that prohibits or unreasonably restricts an owner from growing or maintaining Illinois native species in a managed landscape on their premises.

[DNR-MONARCH ACT](#)

"Creates the **Mobilizing Our Neighborhoods to Adopt Resilient Conservation Habitats (MONARCH) Act**. Authorizes the Department of Natural Resources to provide financial and technical assistance for the planting of native and pollinator-friendly plants..."

Submit witness slips to support the bills above at the [House Conservation and Agriculture Committee Details page](#). Find the acts among the list and click the witness icon to the right of their names. More information on witness slips at the [Better Government Association](#).

[DNR-PRAIRIE LAWNS](#) (Referred to the Rules Committee)

Establishes "the Prairie Lawns Program, which requires the Department of Natural Resources to provide assistance for installing pollinator-friendly native plants in residential lawns to protect and support native species of pollinator. The act also includes:

- The Department adopts rules for the Program,
- Individual support grants to reimburse Illinois residents for up to \$400, subject to appropriation and other requirements,
- Homeowners associations and common interest communities may not prohibit the planting of pollinator habitats.

Call or email your [state representative](#) and urge the legislator to sponsor or support these acts.

**Thank you to the [West Cook County Wild Ones](#) for putting this together!



Amaranth

AHGC Membership Report

Lew and Sheila Coffin | Membership

One individual joined the club in March and five new members have joined the club through the trial membership option, bringing the club membership to 149. We're asking all club members to share this free trial opportunity with friends and family. Anyone can join the club without cost, attend meetings and events and receive the club newsletter until May 31st to check out the club. Individuals taking advantage of the trial membership will also receive a free plant at the 2024 plant sale.

The Garden Club Membership survey submissions were compiled and reviewed in the March Board meeting. We are currently finalizing a report to provide interpretation of the data, with action items. The report will be shared in the April newsletter and at the April general meeting. The full survey responses will be posted to the website in April for anyone interested in viewing the results.

As always, any other questions about Membership can be directed to [Lew and Sheila Coffin](#).

The Arlington Heights Garden Club functions through the activities of many committees and volunteers. We have a very vibrant and well-organized club due to the leadership, diverse talents, and contributions of our club members.



Illinois Extension
UNIVERSITY OF ILLINOIS URBANA-CHAMPAIGN



Gardeners Corner Spring 2024 [Read the articles](#)

The Spring 2024 Gardening Guide from the University of Illinois Extension includes:

- Cicadas
- All American 2023 Flower/Vegetable Winners
- Composting in Spring
- Planting Windbreaks
- Replace those Callery Pear Trees
- Adding herbs to floral bouquets
- Recognizing heat-related warnings signs while gardening
- PLUS the Podcast Grow something new with us

Conservation Corner

June Miller | Conservation



Recycling Tips from SWANCC

SWANCC and other partner agencies produced this awareness campaign for proper battery care and management. For more information on battery recycling visit the Illinois Battery Awareness [website](http://www.illinoispsc.org/batteries).

Arlington Heights Groot Landscape Waste Collection

Landscape waste collection season begins the week of Monday, April 1st. The **FREE** spring bag/bundle collection is the third week of April (15th – 19th). That week, Groot will collect from each household five unstickered landscape bags or bundles.

Save the Date! Arlington Heights Public Works Compost Giveaway

Saturday, April 20th 9am-11am | 222 N. Ridge Avenue, Arlington Heights
In celebration of Earth Day (which is officially April 22nd), the Arlington Heights Public Works Building will be giving away free compost. AH residents only. You will need to bring your own buckets or containers (no bags). This will be done in partnership with the Arlington Heights Garden Club.



Landscaping with Native Plants Class

If you are unable to attend the Arlington Heights Memorial Library program on March 28th, *Native Landscape Design*, the UI Extension is offering a free zoom class on *Landscaping with Native Plants* on Wednesday, April 10th 6pm-7:30pm. To register click [here](#).



Citizens for Conservation's Native Plant, Shrub, and Tree Sale

Saturday and Sunday, May 4th and 5th, 9am-3pm
Hill 'N Dale Preserve W County Line Rd and Ridge Rd, Barrington Hills
Visit [Website](#) to pre-order.



UI Extension Master Gardeners Lake County Plant Sale

Saturday, May 18, 9am-2pm
Extension Grounds, 100 South US Hwy 45, Grayslake
For more information: 847-223-8627 or visit [website](#)



Plant Sale Update

Bob Bruett | Plant Sale Chair

Our Annual AHGC Plant Sale is June 1st

We will be holding our annual plant sale at the Arlington Heights Historical Museum on Saturday, June 1, 2024 from 8:00 AM to 12:30 PM.

This year we will again be selling plants dug up from our yards (for those who had their gardens checked for jumping worms last year) and seedlings we start from scratch. Please let me know what you are planning to dig up or grow so we have an idea ahead of time. I will send a note out to those who are approved for digging up from their back yard. If you are not one of those folks you can still dig up your plants but you need to prepare them as described below.

Please plan on digging up plants early enough so they can adjust to the transplanting shock. If you need help with digging plants we will look for volunteers to help you, just give me or Pete Landwehr a call as soon as you know.

For those who would like to dig up perennials from their yard you will need to follow a procedure which should eliminate any transferring of the worm eggs with the plants. This involves digging up the plants, washing the dirt off the roots with a hose and replanting in sterile potting soil at least a month before the sale. These should not be kept on the ground to avoid any new worms from crawling in. Our Plant Sale will include the donated plants and vintage garden items. I will send out more information next month on the sale logistics.

Bob Bruett
847-702-3124



Pussy Willow



Magnolia

Nominating Committee

Lew Coffin | Nominating Committee Chair

Every year the Garden Club forms a nominating committee to fill open club positions. We have a great club because of the enthusiastic volunteers and leaders, past and present, who have shared their skills and time.

We enjoy informative meetings, presentations and newsletters, fun social gatherings and perform valuable community service; growing food for pantries, promoting beautification of our community, and providing scholarships that help three students per year pursue careers in gardening, horticulture and environmental preservation.

The following table identifies the open leadership roles. Keep in mind that as a leader of these teams, you coordinate volunteers from the team and/or general membership and have support from outgoing leaders and the garden club president and board on an ongoing basis. There is plenty of documentation and support for anyone taking on a new role. New position leaders may choose to volunteer with a friend or another club member.

Please consider where your skills and interests lie and commit to serving the club in one of these important capacities if you can. We need volunteers to lead our activities and keep our healthy club moving forward.

Available Roles September 2024 – September 2026

| Position | Brief Description | Status |
|----------------|---|-------------------------|
| Artistic | Plan 1-3 club workshops per year and co-ordinate holiday tree decoration and take down. | Open |
| Civics | Coordinate volunteers for civic beautification projects (Post office, Clearbrook House, Viatorian Garden, and the Historical Museum) | 1 of 2 spots Open |
| Garden Walk | Coordinate volunteer teams, to plan and run the annual garden walk fundraiser. There are a large number of experienced volunteers on the support committees. | 1 or 2 spots Open |
| Newsletter | Compile submissions each month (excluding summer) to publish the electronic club newsletter. Transition and training help will be provided by the outgoing publisher. | Open |
| Vice President | This is a development role, working with the president to learn all functions of the club. Has intent to become a future president. | Open |
| Programs | Obtain program speakers for the general meetings. There is an active team that contributes to the programing. In search of a leader to coordinate the efforts. | Open |
| Secretary | Record minutes of monthly board meetings. Provide a summary for publication in the monthly newsletter. Issues occasional correspondence on behalf of the club. | Open |
| Scholarship | Promote the scholarships to area school contacts, coordinate a team of club reviewers to select scholarship nominees, communicate with applicants at various stages of the process. | Open |
| Conservation | Educate the club on conservation activities in the area. Represent the club at Earth Day programs and tree planting ceremonies. | Open |
| Plant Sale | Coordinate a team of volunteers to plan and operate the clubs plant sale fundraiser. | Filled by Pete Landwehr |

If you have an interest in any of these roles, please reach out to Lew Coffin, Nominating Committee Chair. Feel free to [email](#) Lew or call him at (847) 917-1437.

As part of our process, the nominating committee will reach out by phone, text, or email to our club members. We look forward to connecting with you to ensure that all members are aware of these opportunities (no pressure – we promise).

What is Happening in the Woodlands this March?

June Miller / Conservation

Late winter and early spring is a time you may notice more prescribed burn signs popping up along a forest preserve or woodlands. Prescribed burns is a common practice used to maintain and restore healthy landscapes. There are so many benefits for it which includes limiting the growth and spread of invasive species, returning nutrients back into the soil more quickly, and increasing the health of native plants. However, a prescribed burn is pre-planned and very weather dependent. Certain conditions must be considered before conducting the burn such as soil moisture, wind speed, wind direction, fuel load, temperature, and relative humidity. This ensures the fire will burn hot enough to be effective and easy to control. Having the optimal conditions for a prescribed burn can be challenging to schedule. There are many types of equipment needed for a burn but a unique one used recently is a “fire broom”. This broom is used to help control the line of a low intensity fire. These brooms have treated bristles that are coarse, are fire resistant, and they actually work well.



Prescribed Burn



June Miller with a fire broom



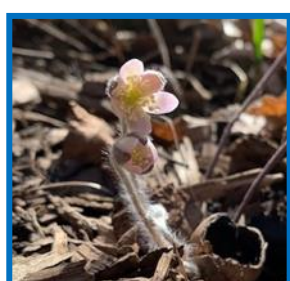
Brush Fire

March is a great time for continuing the fight against invasive trees and plants such as honeysuckle, buckthorn, and multiflora rose. You may see many brush piles burning in the woods containing these invasives with the purpose of clearing more open areas and increasing light levels for native plants. Once these trees and plants are removed, the next task is to herbicide the stumps and stems to prevent regrowth.

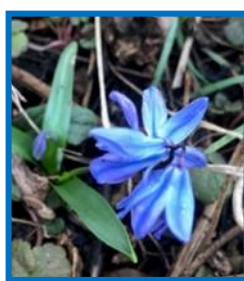
If you look closely, there are many flowers beginning to poke up from the ground. Native plants such as Virginia blue bells, hepatica, and rattlesnake master are emerging. Non-native plants such as Siberian squill, daffodils, and snow drops are actually blooming. Sadly, invasive plants such as dame’s rocket, garlic mustard, and lesser celandine are also growing and will need to be controlled in the future.



Virginia Bluebells



Hepatica



Siberian Squill



Daffodils

If you listen carefully near a woodland pond, the chorus frogs are all singing in a delightful musical unison. There are also sightings of tiger salamanders!

It will be worth the time and effort this March to work on the restoration in the woodlands. The best reward will be enjoying the beauty of more native flowers!

* All photos were taken this month at [The Grove in Glenview](#).



Civics Spotlight

THE CIVICS COMMITTEE

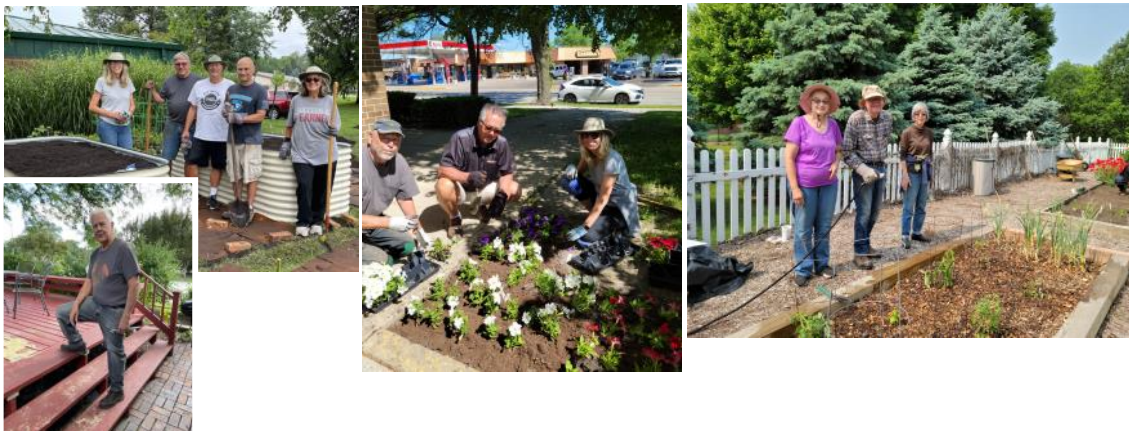
The Civics Committee coordinates teams of volunteers to fulfill the community beautification goal, of our club mission.

Co-chaired by Dee Schurman and Mike Relaz, the civics committee looks after the gardens at the Post Office, Viatorian Garden (vegetables for food pantry's), Clearbrook House (Mt Prospect), the Historical Museum Grounds (coordinated by Kathy Wolan) and this past year the installation of a teaching garden at Northwest Compass (food pantry and social services agency).

The role of the chairs is to identify site project needs and coordinate volunteers for spring clean-up, planting and fall clean-up. In addition, schedules are assembled to coordinate the maintenance of these sites and include light activities like watering and light weeding. Many new members have shared that they don't feel they know enough when they first join the club. Don't be nervous. There are always lots of people of all skill levels, who are friendly and helpful, at these events. If you're new to the club, this is an excellent way to meet new members and you're guaranteed to get some hands-on practice and learn something new, almost every time you come out. You can go to one outing or as many as your schedule permits. If you sign up for a watering assignment at one of the locations and have a conflict, it's easy to switch schedules. Please consider joining the team of volunteers on the Civics Committee.

This year there is an opening for a Co-Chairperson to join the team. It's a rewarding role with lots of experience from members who know these sites and the routines very well. Please consider this spot if you have a little time to contribute your leadership talent. It's what makes our club great.

If you are interested in this committee, please contact [Mike Relaz](#) or [Dee Schurman](#).



Hummingbirds

Juli Cicarelli | Horticulture



What bird can hover, fly backward and dart straight ahead at speeds of 20 to 30 miles per hour? Why hummingbirds of course. These tiny and beautiful creatures are truly magical. Like all birds they need food, water, and protection. By helping to understand hummingbird's particular needs, we might be able to attract these remarkable birds into our yards.

Hummingbirds migrate hundreds of miles every spring and fall in search of food. Like insects, bees, and butterflies, hummingbirds need native plants for food. In our area these plants are natives like bee balm, columbine, butterfly weed, delphinium, purple coneflower, and rose of Sharon. Hummingbirds feed often on tubular flowers, and generally seek flowers that match the lengths of their bills.

Hummingbirds like to have perches. Select an attractive and functional sugar-water feeder. Fill it with 1 part refined white sugar to 4 parts water. Just shake the mix, boiling is not necessary. Adding other ingredients or commercial mixes can be harmful to the hummingbirds.

Keep feeders away from bird feeders because larger birds intimidate hummingbirds. Placement is important: at least 5 feet off the ground and 15 feet away from a shrub or tree. They do need our protection.

Most common hummingbirds weight 3 to 4 grams, which is a little more than the weight of a penny. They need to consume up to three times their weight in food daily. Ruby-throated hummingbird's heart rate tops 1,000 beats per minute in flight. Their wings flap around 50 times per second, so if you hear a buzzing hum as one flies into your glorious native filled yard; know that you have fed and given sustenance to a tiny miracle of nature.

Sources:

[Birds & Blooms](#) Hummingbird Facts

[Birds & Blooms](#) [Stunning Photos](#)



Officers

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

Committee Chairs

| | |
|--------------|--|
| Artistic | (open position) |
| 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 | Emma Viseo |
| 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 PASS

The library provides you with passes to Museums and Gardens in our area

[Check it out](#)



ARLINGTON HEIGHTS MEMORIAL LIBRARY in partnership with the AHGC

LADY BIRD JOHNSON BY Leslie Goddard

In conjunction with the AHGC

Monday, March 25th (see [Page 2](#) for details on this presentation)



CHICAGO BOTANIC GARDEN

ADULT EDUCATION

Visit [website](#) for details



CITIZENS FOR CONSERVATION

BUMBLEBEES OF BARRINGTON

April 13th 10-11:30am

Visit [website](#) for details



THE MORTON ARBORETUM

ADULT EDUCATION PROGRAMS

Visit [website](#) for details



NICHOLAS CONSERVATORY in ROCKFORD

SECRET LIFE OF BUTTERFLIES

March 23 thru May 26 [website](#)



AHML WORKSHOP: NATIVE LANDSCAPE DESIGN

This workshop presented by local Master Gardeners from University of Illinois Extension

Arlington Heights Memorial Library

March 28 7-8:30pm Registration [required](#)



Gardening Knowledge

Bev Krams

EDUCATIONAL OPPORTUNITIES

CHALET

EVENTS & CLASSES

Click [here](#) for more information



UNIVERSITY OF WISCONSIN

FREE ONLINE PROGRAMS

Visit [website](#) for more information



COMMUNITY EDUCATION DISTRICT 214 COURSES

INTRODUCTION TO OHARA IKEBANA

Mondays April 29-May 20 @ 6-7pm ONLINE \$49 fee [Register](#)

POWER VEGETABLE GARDENING

May 3 @ 7-8:30pm \$49 Fee [Register](#)

PLANT YOUR OWN HERB GARDEN

May 8 @ 7-9pm \$79 Fee [Register](#)

UNUSUAL, EXOTIC & MEDICINAL HERBS

May 15 @ 7-9pm \$25 Fee [Register](#)



THE GREAT GROW ALONG

FREE VIRTUAL GARDEN FESTIVAL

March 16-31

[Register](#)



AMERICAN HORTICULTURE SOCIETY

LIFELONG LEARNING PROGRAMS

[Website](#) for more information



Gardening Knowledge

Bev Krams

EDUCATIONAL OPPORTUNITIES

ARLINGTON HEIGHTS MEMORIAL LIBRARY: SPRING CLEANUP

YOUR LANDSCAPE IN THE SPRING: CLEANUP/PREPARATION FOR GROWING SEASON

Tuesday, April 30 @ 7-8:30pm

AHML [registration required](#)



WILD ONES

INDIGENOUS WISDOM, SCIENTIFIC KNOWLEDGE AND THE TEACHING OF PLANTS

March 19 @ 5-7pm Virtual

[Register](#)



MISSOURI PRAIRIE FOUNDATION

GARDENS OF EXCELLENCE: URBAN NATIVE LANDSCAPE

March 27 @ 4:00 pm - 5:00 pm

Free Webinar: GROW NATIVE!

[Register](#)



GCI ANNUAL CONVENTION

"IT'S OUR WORLD TO GARDEN"

April 21 - April 22, 2024

Crowne Plaza Convention Center Springfield, IL

[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



SUPPORT OUR GENEROUS SPONSOR!



Dutchman's Breeches

(*Dicentra Cucullaria*)

June Miller / Conservation

Dutchman's Breeches is a well-known spring ephemeral wildflower native to Illinois. This plant is from the same family as last month's Wild Bleeding Heart. The flowers are pendent, inflated, and translucent in shades of white, whitish-pink, or whitish-yellow with tiny yellow or white spur-like pedals underneath. Multiple flowers line up along a leafless pink stalk. They have uniquely-shaped flowers that form a "V" and are named for looking like a pair of colonial Dutch pants (pantaloon) drying upside-down on a clothesline. The delicate green foliage has fern-like, basal leaves. Dutchman's breeches will bloom for about two weeks from April to May. After blooming, the stems and leaves will drop and the plant will go dormant until the following spring. This actually clears the area for other late spring flowers to fill in. Because the flowers will wilt soon after being picked, they should not be collected in the woods. This plant would be an attractive addition to any shade or woodland garden.

| | |
|------------------|---|
| Growth | 12" in height and 6-12" in spread |
| Sun Exposure | Partial to full shade |
| Hardiness | Zones 3-9 |
| Soil | Moist, well-drained humus-rich soil. Usually found in shaded woodlands or along streams. |
| Invasive | Non-invasive, however it spreads easily through corms (similar to bulbs) underground when grown in ideal conditions. |
| Wildlife Benefit | This flower is an essential early spring source of pollen and nectar for bees and butterflies. It is deer and rabbit resistant. |
| Note | This plant can be toxic to humans when ingested and can cause dermatitis with contact to some gardeners. |



Photos taken at the Grove by June Miller

Treasurer's Report

Sharon Rudy | Treasurer

Arlington Heights Garden Club Treasurer's Report

| | | | Checking | Savings | |
|---|-----------------|------------------|--------------------|--------------------|------------------------------------|
| Account Balance 1/31/24 | | Stmt Date | \$ 3,855.48 | \$ 4,639.15 | |
| Receipts: | | | | | |
| WIX: | | | | | |
| Memberships; Lesniak, Landwehr, Hellstrom, Coffin | | | 145.00 | | |
| UB Vendor; Chase, Liza, Poulet, Kabat, Sandner, Jansen, Pitts | | 2/20/24 | 337.75 | | |
| UB Vendor; Maier | | 2/26/24 | 50.00 | | |
| GW Tickets; Johnson | | | 15.00 | | |
| Deposits: | | | | | |
| Helen Dawley memorial donations | | 2/20/2024 | 455.00 | | |
| Helen Dawley memorial donations | | 2/21/2024 | 175.00 | | |
| GCI District IX meeting (member payments) | | 2/21/2024 | 220.00 | | |
| UB Vendor; Thompson, Rowan | | 2/29/2024 | 100.00 | | |
| Transfer of funds | | | | | |
| Interest Income | | | | 14.48 | |
| less: Credit Card Fees | | | (8.87) | | |
| Total receipts | | | 1,488.88 | 14.48 | |
| Disbursements (cleared): | | | | | |
| | Check # | Ck Date | | | |
| Etienne Sirois | 1030 | 1/7/2024 | 2,000.00 | | Scholarship |
| Secretary of State Annual Report | 1033 | 2/1/2024 | 10.00 | | Admin fees |
| Sharon Rudy Reimbursement | 1034 | 2/2/2024 | 133.20 | | 120 website, 13.20 admin postage |
| Auto-Owners Insurance | 1035 | 2/6/2024 | 376.00 | | Admin - insurance |
| The Garden Clubs of Illinois | 1036 | 2/16/2024 | 10.00 | | Admin - Book of Honor Helen Dawley |
| Jackie Kosbab | 1038 | 2/26/2024 | 200.00 | | Program on Roses |
| Sharon Rudy Reimbursement | 1039 | 2/26/2024 | 250.00 | | Reimb for NGC Paver |
| Total Disbursements | | | 2,979.20 | - | |
| Account Balance 2/29/24 | Per Bank | | \$ 2,365.16 | \$ 4,653.63 | |
| Receipts to be deposited | | | | | |
| Total undeposited receipts | | | \$ - | \$ - | |
| Open checks written but not cleared | | | | | |
| | Check # | Ck Date | | | |
| Illinois Charity Bureau Fund | 1024 | 11/27/2023 | void | | |
| GCI District IX annual meeting for 4 | 1037 | 2/21/2024 | 220.00 | | Registration for 4 members |
| Cathy Kostal Reimbursement | 1040 | 2/26/2024 | 17.57 | | Reimb for coffee for meeting |
| The Garden Clubs of Illinois | 1041 | 2/27/2024 | 100.00 | | Advertising - Plant Sale, GW & UB |
| Total outstanding checks | | | \$ 337.57 | \$ - | |
| ADJUSTED CASH POSITION NFP | 2/29/2024 | | \$ 2,027.59 | \$ 4,653.63 | |
| Total Adjusted Cash at | 2/29/2024 | | | \$ 6,681.22 | |

AHGC Board Meeting Notes - March 11, 2024

Halina Zbilski | Recording Secretary

President - Beth Ligenza

- Several Chair and executive positions are open. We are in the process of forming a nominating committee, and are currently requesting volunteers to be on that committee.

Treasurer – Sharon Rudy

- Receipts are coming in from membership dues, Unique Boutique vendors, and even one Garden Walk ticket. Between our savings and checking accounts, the total adjusted cash at the end of February is \$6681.

Civics – Mike Relaz and Dee Schurman

- The Civics committee had a kickoff zoom meeting on March 4th. There are approximately 12 volunteers so far on call for various locations. VFW will do a spring cleanup at Clearbrook on May 4th. Garden Club will continue to maintain and water at Clearbrook

Conservation – June Miller

- June emailed the President and president elect of PTA, and is still awaiting a response concerning Earth Day at Olive School, which is usually scheduled at the end of April.
- June checked Juliette Low School for tree space, and did spot a potential space. She would like to keep Davey Tree to do the tree planting, because they make it so educational for the children, and even provide gifts such as pencils and wristbands.

Garden Walk –Jean Kengott

- Payment has been received from 16 U/B vendors so far.
- Decision was made to not send out physical letters to sponsors this year, but instead we will do an email blast to a larger list. Notifications from sponsors will go to Kathy and Jean.

Membership – Sheila Coffin and Lew Coffin

- Membership survey results will be presented at the April general meeting.
- 6 new members were welcomed, with a free trial membership from March to May.

Plant Sale – Bob Bruett

- Bob is looking for volunteers to help dig up plants for those members who could use help in digging up plants from their gardens for the Plant Sale.

Programs – Nancy Asquini-Dean

- In response to Beth's email requesting volunteers to join the Programs committee to find program speakers for next year, 4 members have expressed an interest in helping. Thanks to Sheila the contract form for speakers has been automated.
- The March library program "Lady Bird Johnson" by Leslie Goddard is live to the public with 250 people max. Registration via the library website starts March 1st.
- There are 2 additional library programs that may be of interest to garden club members. On March 28th, the topic is Native Landscape Design, and on April 30th, the topic is Spring Landscape Clean up and Preparation.

Publicity – Connie Landwehr

- The March library program is not being published in the Daily Herald, but Connie will contract the library to find out how many people have registered for the program
- Connie will contact Judy Otis regarding distributing signs at the April meeting to members who have signed up to post signs for the Plant Sale and Garden Walk

Scholarship – Emma Visee

- Lew reported that 6 student applications have been received electronically online, which makes the process easier for those on the scholarship committee.

Website – Rose Marie Lesniak-Mendez

- The new membership google form and WIX payment will require members to provide their full zip code containing zip5-zip4 format.

Business/Old Business/Announcement

- Anyone who has registered to attend the April 11th Chicago Botanic Garden presentation on trees and cannot attend, please contact Sharon Rudy

Next Board Meeting: April 8, 2024