



# Arlington Heights garden club

January 2020

Growing Together

Carol Elliott, Editor

January 27, 2020,  
Village Hall  
Keeping Your Evergreens Green  
Brad Baker  
Social 7:00-7:30  
Meeting 7:30-9:00



Brad Buker is an Arborist representative with Bartlett Tree Experts. Brad started his career in arboriculture as a Plant Healthcare Technician. He worked his way through the industry as a Grounds-person, Climber, Crew-leader, Foreman, Sales Arborist and Division Manager. Brad is a member of the Illinois and Wisconsin chapters of the International Society of Arboriculture (ISA) and is both a Certified Arborist and a Certified Tree Care Safety Professional.

Join us this evening to learn how to protect your investment in beautiful evergreens, trees and shrubs with pro-active preventative care. The presentation will cover winter tree and shrub maintenance. Learn how you can treat your trees and shrubs right, so they will beautify your landscape for years to come!

## Greetings from Our President

*Remember the story about the chicken and the pig talking about how they wanted to do their part to help the farmer with his breakfast so he could go out and feed the world? The chicken said she would provide a dozen eggs, and asked if the pig would provide a pound of bacon. The pig thought a moment and then responded, "that dozen eggs. . . that represents a contribution, but the pound of ham. . . for me, that's total commitment!"*

It's a cute fable, but it makes a powerful point. It does take more to make a commitment- more time, more thought, more effort, more giving! Your Arlington Heights Garden Club is asking you, especially recent new members, to consider a little larger commitment. When you completed your membership form, you were asked what committees you might have interest in helping. Now we are ready to ask you to step forward and make a commitment of your time, thoughts and energy, to help the Club.

Presently, most Club committees consist of the Chair. That's all. When approached by committee chairs, please consider saying, "Yes", to serving on a committee, or even being a "co-chair" of a committee. What a wonderful way to learn the specific responsibilities of a committee without having to jump into deep waters with both feet alone. We never want to hear, "It's always the same people that get to do everything!"

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## BOARD OF DIRECTORS

President  
Jim Spannagel

Secretary  
Nancy Asquini-Dean

Treasurer  
Pete Landwehr

## COMMITTEE CHAIRMEN

Artistic  
Barb Franks

Civics  
Kathy Wolan and Mike Relaz

Conservation  
Diane Culhane

Horticulture  
Bev Krams

Membership  
Renie Norkiewicz and  
Shelley Plischke

Program  
Val Solaski

Publicity  
Clara Stone

Social  
Marilyn and Joe Weber

Ways and Means  
Kathy Hendricksen

## SPECIAL COMMITTEE CHAIRMEN

Newsletter  
Carol Elliott

Scholarship and Website  
Mike Dennehey

[www.ahgardenclub.com](http://www.ahgardenclub.com)

## January Hostesses

A reminder and thank you from Marilyn and Joe Weber, our Social Chairs, to those bringing treats to the January meeting.

*Daniella Sents*

*Karen Reeb*

*Emma Vissee*

## Greetings from Our President, cont.

The Board of Directors, would like to encourage minimally 3-5 members to be a part of each committee. Members will bring new ideas, new energy, and new suggestions to make the committees and the club better. Please be ready to learn what each committee is all about at upcoming meetings and be ready to make a "commitment" when asked! Read further in this Newsletter to learn of committees seeking members. Thank you in advance.

*Jim Spannagel, President*

## Garden Walk and Unique Boutique

Our biggest fundraiser will be Sunday, June 28th, from 10 am - 4 pm, so be sure to have your calendar marked! We will need everyone's help and for you to promote it to friends and family. We have 5 gardens confirmed at 4 homes and The Moorings. This year a ticket is \$15 before the walk and \$20 the day and our web site already has the link to sell tickets. Our core planning committee had their first meeting last week, and we are excited to have some new members join us.

If you have any ideas of businesses to contact or a personal relationship with them, please let Pat or Kathy know as we will be preparing the solicitation list in February. We will have a letter stuffing party on March 7th starting at 10:00 at Kathy's house at 1319 N. Dunton with lunch served so sign up to help. Please also give any baskets or new items that could go into a basket as a filler to Pat.

*Kathy Hendricksen, Garden Walk & Unique Boutique Chair  
Pat Dennehey, Solicitation Co-Chair*

## Committees Seek Members-Call It A "Job Fair"

When reviewing the tremendous amount of talent, skill and wisdom in the Arlington Heights Garden Club, it is a shame that more of it is not used! Many of you bring exceptional gifts that could be shared with our community. Your Board of Directors believes it is time to reach out and invite more participation. Would you be willing to serve for one year on a committee with several other members?

Some committees involve a short time commitment (months of May & June) such as the new "Plant Sale" committee. Hands are needed to plan and carry out this annual event (June 6th). What types of help is needed? Members would dig and pot plants, care for plants until the sale, set up and arrange plants for day of sale, put labels on each plant, work at the sale, and clean up after the sale. Some people might enjoy answering questions about care of the plants, others might enjoy helping people by carrying plants to the car. Very importantly, you might just have an idea that might improve our sale!

Sometimes we just need a few extra hands to make things go smoother and faster. Committee chairs will be contacting members soon, especially new members, to see if you can make a commitment of a year serving on one of our 12 Standing Committees (Artistic, Civics, Conservation, Horticulture, Membership, Newsletter, Program, Publicity, Scholarship, Social, Ways and Means, and Website) or 5 Special Committees (Bylaws, Garden Walk/Unique Boutique, Nominating, Special Events, and Plant Sale).

Some may be saying, "I'd love to get involved, but I don't know what these committees do!" That is a fair question. We hope to have a "Job Fair" during the social half-hour (7-7:30 PM) of the February meeting. Chairmen/women will be stationed around the meeting room so they can tell you a little more about what they do and what their plans are. Please ask your questions and determine if you have an interest in getting more involved. And "Yes", you can serve on more than one committee.

It is the sincere hope of the Board of Directors that every member, especially our new ones, enjoy the Club and feel they are an active part of the Club. Getting involved is the best way to meet new people and feel satisfaction in what you are doing. Over the past glorious 65 years of our existence, our Club has done some amazing things. Everything accomplished was completed only with the involvement and commitment of many people. Please say, "Yes", when someone asks you join their committee!

# Holiday Tree Trimming Photos



# AHGC Gaining Garden Knowledge January/February 2020

**Chalet Nursery Register** on Line <https://chaletnursery.com/pages/events>

January 24-10-11:30am Forest Terrarium Workshop \$60 Chalet Nursery

January 25-1pm-2:30pm Forest Terrarium Workshop \$60 Chalet Nursery

January 25 Sat 8-4pm **Annual Gardening Show of the Porter County**, Indiana, Master Gardeners Porter County, Indiana, Expo Center. \$10

January 29-31 **iLandscapeshow.com @ Schaumburg Convention Center**....check out the website!

Feb 1- 8:30-4pm **Midwest Perennial Plant Association Symposium: Garden Companions @ Morton Arboretum** Register with Morton Arboretum Education

February 16-2:30-4:30pm **Ecological Landscaping @ Oak Park Main Library**  
<https://westcook.wildones.org/events/ecological-landscaping-with-alexia-paul/>

Feb 22-7:30-2:30pm **Gardener's Pathway Seminar** Kiswaukee College \$50  
<https://extension.illinois.edu/events/2020-02-22-gardeners-pathway-2020>

Feb 22-9:30-11:30am **CFC Citizens for Conservation** "The Battle for Our Wetlands with Kevin Scheiwiller", Barrington Village Hall \$10 nonmembers  
<https://citizensforconservation.org/education/community-education/>

February 29 8-4pm **Natural Landscaping Seminar @ McHenry College** [www.thewppc.org](http://www.thewppc.org) \$40

**Friendship Park Conservatory:** 847-298-3500, 395 W. Algonquin Road, Des Plaines  
Register @ [mppd.org](http://mppd.org)  
Check out the website for MANY nature Programs for you, your kids or Grandkids!!

Jan 23-7-9 pm **Orchids-Simple and Special** \$40-45 Code 38200  
Hands on information with a choice of orchid from the greenhouse!!

Jan 29-7-8:30 pm **Succulent Planter** \$40-45 Code 38198 Create your planter but call by Jan 24 to reserve supplies!!

Feb 1-10:30-12N **Succulent Planter** \$40-45 Code 38199  
Create your planter but call by Jan 24 to reserve supplies!!

Feb 8-10:30-12:30pm **Kokedama Hanging Planter** \$40/45  
Code 38189 A Japanese style of bonsai gardening!!  
Materials supplied for TWO!!

Feb 11-7-9pm **Orchids-Simple and Special** \$40-45  
Code 38201 Hands on information with a choice of orchid from the greenhouse!!



## Gardening Knowledge cont.

Feb 26-Wed 9-3:30pm VISIT TED'S GREENHOUSE in Tinley Park for a behind the scenes tour of a commercial grower, plant shopping and lunch at a local eatery \$45/50 Code 38191

**Chicago Botanical Garden** Continuing Education Opportunities  
<https://www.chicagobotanic.org/education/adulted>  
January 25/26 Super Seed Swap Weekend @ Chicago Botanic Gardens

January 26 1-3pm Flowers for Brides @ CBG 32\$

February 1 10-12n Welcome to Your Midwest Garden @CBG \$32

February 4 Tues 6:30-8:30pm Introduction to Garden Design Principles @ CBG \$32

February 8-March 22 Saturday/Sundays 10-4pm Orchid Marketplace @ CBG

February 11 Tues 6:30-8:30pm Foundation Planting Designs @ CBG \$32

February 15 Sat 9-11am Houseplants @ CBG \$32

February 15 Sat 12n-2pm Succulents 101 @ CBG \$32

February 8-March 22 ChicagoBotanicGarden ORCHID SHOW 10,000 Orchids blooming @once!!

Feb 18 Tues 6:30-8:30pm Front Yard Design @ CBG \$32

Feb 22 Sat 11-1pm Poisonous Mushrooms of Illinois @ CBG \$32

### D214 Community Education

register online: [ce.d214.org](http://ce.d214.org) Check out Home/Garden for MORE CLASSES Ask for the Gold Card Price!

Fun with Herbs Saturday Feb 22@ 9-11am at Forest View \$25

Planning Your Garden Thursday Feb 20@ 6-7pm at Forest View FREE

**Morton Arboretum** 4100 Illinois Rt 53, Lisle IL Continuing Education Opportunities <http://www.mortonarb.org/learn-experience/adult-programs>

Now thru MAY: **Birds of the Fox River Valley** photographed by Ira A. Marcus. The collection includes 30 framed photos. Each photo represents a special moment with the bird, but when viewed all together as a collection, the beauty and strength of these majestic creatures shines through. A must see for any bird lover! ELGIN HISTORY MUSEUM



# Holiday Cactus

## WHAT'S THE DIFFERENCE?



*Schlumbergera truncata*  
Thanksgiving



*Schlumbergera bridgesii*  
Christmas



*Rhipsalidopsis gaertnerii*  
Easter



Illustration from Iowa State University Reiman Garden Pamphlet RG 308 T



Truncata Group have pointerd teeth



Buckleyi Group have rounded teeth

## How to get your holiday cactus to flower

1. Limit the amount of water that the plant receives during the fall, end of October/beginning of November
2. Water only enough to keep the soil slightly moist
3. Move it to a spot where it receives 12-14 hours of darkness, with bright indirect light during the day
4. They need cool temperatures and conditions, keep the cactus at about 50-55 degrees F
5. Buds will form after about 6-8 weeks
6. After buds form, move to a sunny location (indirect light NOT direct)
7. Watering can be increased after buds form and during flowering
8. Keep in a draft free area and enjoy your flowers

## Yearly Schedule for Holiday Cactus

**Spring:** fertilize after flowering

**Summer:** move outdoors to a shady area. Maintain water and fertilizer.

**Fall:** move indoors before frost. Maintain drier soil. Start the budding regimen in September.

**Winter:** put in a location where it will get four to six hours of indirect sunlight. Keep soil moist. Do not let the air get too dry.



## Arlington Heights Garden Club Polo Shirts

Please find attached to this newsletter a flier to order a Navy polo shirt with the Arlington Heights Garden Club logo. We wanted to offer a shirt so members could represent the club at events if they desire and/or share their pride in being a member. This is optional and not a requirement. We chose the navy color to compliment our green aprons. If you are interested in purchasing a shirt, please fill out the form and have a check or cash. I will have this at the January and February meetings and will plan on submitting the shirt order by March 1st. If you have any questions, you can contact me at kshend@aol.com or (847) 514-0414.

### How accurate are expiration dates on seed packets?

*Barbara Armstrong, IA*

Seeds don't technically go bad. An expiration date tells you the likelihood seeds will be viable. Storing them in a dark, dry, cool spot helps prolong seeds' lifespan, but germination rates usually decline with every year in storage. Some seeds (cucumbers, beans) have high germination rates for five years or more, but others (corn, peppers, spinach) lose vigor after even one year.

Garden Gate  
December 2019

## Snow Sowing

Even if the snow is covering your site, winter is a GREAT time to sow NATIVE SEEDS! The seeds will have time to STRATIFY through a natural freeze-thaw cycle. This stratification process is needed for most native seeds to germinate in the SPRING. Start SNOW SOWING!! Don't put off your seeding until next year. DO IT NOW!!

(The photo on right is after one hour of SNOW SOWING, Prairie Moon Nursery)

