



# Arlington Heights garden club

September 2018

Growing Together

Carol Elliott, Editor

## The Love of Spring Ephemerals September 24th, 7:30, Village Hall Speaker: Ed Max of Max's Greener Places, Winfield

Ed Max is a Landscape designer with over thirty years' experience, certified naturalist, and the owner of Max's Greener Places for twenty-three years, located in Winfield, Illinois. Max has expert knowledge of the flora, native and invasive of the Northern Illinois area. He has received certification in the Naturalist program at Morton Arboretum.

Max will show us photos of Spring ephemerals. These are very early flowers that bloom first thing in spring and you can even see them in the snow! He will advise us when to plant these in our gardens. He has lent his skills to programs on the Audubon Society and the Sierra Club. He continues as a docent on nature excursions for a variety of groups, including people with special needs.



## Greetings from Our President

"No occupation is so delightful to me as the culture of the earth . . . and no culture is comparable to that of the garden . . . But though an old man, I am but a young gardener."  
(Thomas Jefferson 1743-1826 )

These words of our third President seem timely as we begin our new Garden Club year filled with informative programs and enriching activities. Who among us hasn't thought, "I wish I knew more about\_\_\_\_\_." Through our club, we have the opportunity to be that "young gardener", full of curiosity to improve our gardening skills.

In our Club we are surrounded by gardeners that know so much and who are a constant source of information. All you have to do is ask a question or bring up a garden issue. At a Board meeting in the spring, I learned that petunias like acidic soil! While digging and dividing iris recently at the Post Office, someone said that super-phosphate really makes the iris blossom pop!! I came to help and learned something I can use in my own garden.

There are unlimited possibilities to learn when you garden. I believe Jefferson had it right. Someone with a young gardener's approach is open to learning something new every day. I urge all of our members to renew their commitment to learning by coming to our meetings and getting involved with our activities. If our minds are open, we can learn new things that will excite us, inform us, and help us with our gardens!

Jim Spannagel, President

## BOARD OF DIRECTORS

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**Jim Spannagel**

**Secretary**  
**Nancy Asquini-Dean**

**Treasurer**  
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## COMMITTEE CHAIRMEN

**Artistic**  
**Barb Franks**

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**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)

## September Hostesses

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

*Pat Dennehey and Aggie Prochaska*

## Summer Meetings and August Picnic

Thanks to our summer hosts (Dale Craig in June and the Denneheys in July), to Aggie Prochaska and Joe and Marilyn Weber, and to everyone who brought food for our wonderful August picnic!

Here is a recipe from Maryann Baker for her delicious dip that we enjoyed at the picnic:

### MEXI CORN DIP

- " 1 (14 ounce) can yellow & white corn, drained
- " 1 (11 ounce) can Mexican-style corn, drained
- " 1 cup sour cream
- " ½ cup mayonnaise
- " 1 cup chopped green onion
- " 1 (4 ounce) can diced green chilis, drained
- " 1 teaspoon adobo seasoning
- " 1 teaspoon seasoned salt
- " 1 teaspoon chili powder
- " 1 tablespoon minced garlic
- " 1 (8 ounce) package shredded Mexican cheese blend

1. Stir the yellow & white corn, Mexican-style corn, sour cream, mayonnaise, green onion, green chilis, adobo seasoning, seasoned salt, chili powder, and minced garlic together in a bowl. Add the Mexican cheese blend, & stir until evenly mixed. Cover with plastic wrap. Refrigerate overnight before serving.

## Butterflies

Club members raised and released (or soon will release) approximately 270 monarchs and 40-50 swallowtail butterflies this summer! Let's keep that number growing!

# Lackluster Peonies May Need to Be Divided in September

Peonies are one of the few perennial flowers that prefer transplanting in the fall, and September is the best time!

Peonies are a common Midwestern plant. Their history goes back to cultivation in China over 2,500 years ago. Through continued breeding programs, peony popularity has blossomed to include hundreds of improved cultivars, which have stouter, sturdier stems that do not require staking and many show good disease resistance. How often should peonies be divided? Peonies don't require regular division for successful blooming the way many other perennials do, but there are several reasons to divide and transplant peonies.

If peonies exhibit a continued lack of flowers over several years, the cause can be too much shade as tree growth overtakes what used to be a sunny garden. Peonies are sun lovers and require six to eight hours of sun a day. Without it, the plants survive, but do not thrive. Plants may also struggle if the soil is too moist. Peonies prefer a sunny, well-drained area in your garden. Also avoid mulching peonies as it will make the soil on top of the "eyes" too deep and they will not bloom.

Begin by cutting back the stems as you would do for fall cleanup. To divide peonies, grab a spade to first dig the hole where the peonies will be placed. With a garden fork, trench around the plant at least 10 inches away from the perimeter stems of the clump. Depending on age of the plant, the roots may be quite large and woody. With a garden hose wash off the dirt from the clump and gently use the spade or a heavy knife to divide. Make sure each division contains three to five eyes; fewer eyes may cause plants to need three to five years to bloom. The eyes actually look more like pink "noses," which are the shoots for the next season.

Plants should be planted away from competition with trees and shrubs. To encourage air circulation, leave sufficient room between plants, allow at least 3 feet between plants on center.

The eyes should be planted only 1 to 2 inches deep, making sure the pink eyes are pointing up. If planted too deep, the plant will produce foliage and no flowers; if planted too shallow, the eyes will freeze and die back in the winter.

Press down on the soil to remove any air pockets. After planting, water well, every two weeks to allow the root system to develop before winter.

By selecting early and late season peonies, the flower period can be extended to six weeks. Peonies are long-lived plants and multiple divisions is a great way to share them with your friends and neighbors.

--*Terri Passolt*, Master Gardener  
University of Illinois Extension

9/7/2018 e-edition.dailyherald.com/infinity/  
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# Gaining Garden Knowledge Fall 2018

Sept. 2 thru Oct. 21 - "Drawn From Nature" - artwork by students and instructors of the Joseph Regenstein, Jr. School - at Chicago Botanic Garden in Glencoe, Ill

Thru Oct. 1 - "2018 Quilt Gardens Tours" - various locations in Northern Indiana. See [www.quiltgardentour.com](http://www.quiltgardentour.com) for details.

Thru Oct. 28 - "Landmarks of America: Model Railroad Garden" - at Chicago Botanic Garden in Glencoe, Ill.

Sept. 19 - "Dist. IX Flower Arranging Workshop" - in Northbrook, Ill.

Sept. 20 - "Monarch Butterfly Tagging" - at Cantigny Park in Wheaton, Ill.

Sept. 21-23 - "26th Annual Chicagoland Orchid Fest" - at Orchids by Hausermann in Villa Park, and at Natt's Orchids in Naperville, Ill.

Sept. 24 - "Cantigny Park Golf Cart Tour" - see the rarely seen gardens and plantings at the golf course at Cantigny Park in Wheaton, Ill.

Advance registration required. For reservation, contact the golf course.

Sept. 25 - "Fall Fest at Rehm Park" - horse-drawn hayrides, pumpkin patch, train rides, animals, foods, and games & activities - at Oak Park Conservatory in Oak Park, Ill.

Sept. 29 - "Triton Family Fall Fest" - Botanic Garden at Triton College in River Grove, Ill.

Sept. 29-30 - "Harvest Weekend" - at Chicago Botanic Garden in Glencoe, Ill.

Sept. 29-30 - "Dahlia Exhibition" - at Cantigny Park in Wheaton, Ill.

Sept 30 Sunday Farm Stroll <http://mchenrycfb.org/sites/default/files/farm%20stroll%20brochure%202018%206-15-18.pdf>

Oct. 5-7 - "Fall Bulb Festival and Sale" - at Chicago Botanic Garden in Glencoe, Ill

Oct. 6-7 - "Arboretum Art Festival" - in South Barrington, Ill.

Oct. 6-7 - "Pumpkin Palooza" - family fun at The Growing Place in Aurora, Ill.

Oct. 7 - "The Grove Fall Fest - folk music, square dancing, hay rides, food, and gift & craft items - at The Grove in Glenview, Ill.

Oct. 12 - "Fleurotica" - an innovative floral fashion show fundraiser for the benefit of Garfield Park Conservatory - at the conservatory in Chicago, Ill.

Oct. 13-14 - "Illinois Orchid Society Fall Show & Sale" - at Chicago Botanic Garden

Oct. 13-14 - "Open House Chicago" - free behind-the-scenes access to more than 200 historic buildings in the Chicago, Ill. area.

Oct. 14 - "Cantigny Fall Festival" - pumpkin decorating, hay rides, petting zoo, craft fair, book sale, food, and live entertainment - at Cantigny Park in Wheaton, Ill.

Oct. 14 - "Autumn @ The Arb" - scarecrows, pumpkins, wagon rides, magic shows, at Klehm Arboretum and Botanic Garden in Rockford, Ill.

Oct. 15-16 - "Landscape Design School, Course 4" at Journey Care Center in Glenview, Ill.

Oct. 18 - "Urban Wild" - a harvest festival with farmers, beekeepers, and artisans - at Lurie Garden in Chicago, Ill.

Oct. 20-21 - "Wisconsin-Illinois Lily Society Lily Bulb Sale" at Chicago Botanic Garden in Glencoe, Ill.

Oct. 20-21 - "Midwest Fruit Explorers Show & Sale" - at Chicago Botanic Garden in Glencoe, Ill.

Oct. 20-21 - "Midwest Daffodil Society Bulb Sale" - at Chicago Botanic Garden in Glencoe, Ill.



## TREE Fund honors Thom Kraak with 2018 Ken Ottman Volunteer Award

Please join us in congratulating **Thom Kraak** (WI), our 2018 Ken Ottman Award recipient. This annual award honors sustained high-level volunteer commitment to TREE Fund's mission and work.



Thom is the Support Team lead for the Tour des Trees, working tirelessly day and night throughout the event to make sure cyclists have the necessary food, water, and medical attention to complete the challenging ride. Thom's behind-the-scenes organization, vast knowledge, and quick problem-solving abilities keep the Tour running smoothly, and his friendly, fun-loving personality keeps things positive no matter what we might face. Thom has spent an incredible 19 years on the road with us – first as a rider and then as support. We are grateful for all his contributions and congratulate him on this well-deserved honor!

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## The Post Office

The Post Office is looking good thanks to our garden club volunteers!



## Three \$1,500 AH Garden Club Scholarships Awarded for 2018/19

Each year the Arlington Heights Garden Club awards one or more \$1500 academic scholarship to assist local students. Our club has now awarded 28 academic scholarships to outstanding students since 2003. Applications were received from students living in Arlington Heights and adjoining communities. Proceeds from the annual Garden Walk are used to fund this scholarship program. Details on this program are available on the club's website: [www.ahgardenclub.com](http://www.ahgardenclub.com).

This year a Wendy Landwehr Memorial Scholarship, which is administered by the AH Garden Club, was added to the program. In memory of Marolyn Bina, a long time Garden Club member, one of our two scholarships will be awarded in her name.

The AHGC Scholarship Committee has proudly awarded three \$1500 Scholarships to students for the 2018-19 school year. We wish them success in their college experience.

### **\$1,500 Marolyn Bina Memorial Scholarship -- Ashley Roscoe**

Ashley graduated from Hersey High School with a 3.7/4.0 GPA in 2017 and was awarded a \$1,500 scholarship last year. She attended the University of Wisconsin at Whitewater for her freshman year. Her goal is to become a Fish and Wildlife officer and she is well on her way with a 3.334/4.0 GPA last year. Ashley is majoring in Environmental Science with a Certificate in GIS



Ashley has worked as a research assistant for the Undergraduate Research Department. She also volunteered with the Sustainability Office at the university where she monitored local streams performing tests such as the oxygen levels, turbidity tests, and flow tests in streams. All of this information was sent to the Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources and used to monitor stream health throughout Wisconsin.

### **\$1,500 AH Garden Club Scholarship -- Matthew Hoffman**

Matthew graduated from Wheeling High School where he earned a 5.47/5.0 GPA. He also was awarded a \$1,000 scholarship last year. Matthew is majoring in Biological & Agricultural Engineering at Texas A&M. In his freshman college year Matthew earned a 3.86/4.0 GPA.



Along with a full college class load Matthew's GPA positions him as an Engineering Honors student. He also is involved in several extra-curricular activities: Howdy Farm Volunteer, Piano player for college church, member of the Pharmaceutical and Biotechnology Student Association, Texas A&M Gymnastics Club, and is a Pro-Life Aggies Member.

### **\$1,500 Wendy Landwehr Memorial Scholarship - Alexis Opperman**

The Wendy Landwehr Memorial Scholarship is a new \$1500 scholarship to assist a student living within 20 miles of Arlington Heights. This scholarship focuses on an academic/vocational educational approach. It differs from the AHGC Scholarship in that students who assist other students or participate in a mentoring program are specifically credited for these efforts. Student financial need is also considered. Martin Landwehr, Wendy's husband, funds this scholarship and has the responsibility for the final selection of the awardee assisted by the AHGC Scholarship Committee.

Alexis graduated from the Buffalo Grove High School with a 4.3/4.0 GPA. She will be studying Environmental Engineering at the University of Alabama. During her high school career, she has assisted others as a Lit Lab tutor and a Lighted School House assistant. In Calculus she assists others with their homework. She ascribes to the idea that helping others reinforces her own understanding of a subject. Lexi is a well-rounded student who has participated in a variety of clubs, sports, show choir, and symphonic, concert, and jazz band; winning many awards and honors in these activities.



# The Garden Clubs of Illinois (GCI) Pocket Calendar Starring Our Own Aggie Prochaska!

A friend of Clara Stone wrote to her:

Remember when I went to the unique boutique? I took a picture of one of your members and it is in the GCI Calendar that is for sale as a scholarship fundraiser. Cost \$10. It's a 18 month calendar starting this month with many important club dates included and gardening tips. Do you think any of your members would want to buy one? If so, let me know. It is a pocket-sized calendar to fit in a purse or a pocket.

Below are some pictures of it including the picture of Aggie! Let Clara know if you want one! Clara's email is [clarefire@hotmail.com](mailto:clarefire@hotmail.com). Or go to the GCI website to order one: <https://www.gardenclubsofillinois.org/scholarships>



# STAMP COLLECTING NOT JUST FOR THE PHILATELIST!

The AHGC has been collecting stamps for years, and that is what this pretty Little Black Box that you see at our meetings is for.

We donate the stamps to the Lincoln Land Association of Bird Banders. They are a not-for-profit 501c (3) organization that has a two fold function. To use bird banding as a tool to monitor resident and migratory populations and to provide educational opportunities and training for persons interested in birds and the environment.

Some of the habits they track are: migration, species population changes, and life span. This is accomplished by placing a lightweight aluminum leg band inscribed with a unique number and showing the birds age, sex, and measurements.

If you're interested in saving and donating stamps, CUT the stamp from the envelope leaving approximately 1/8th" margins. All stamps are accepted including postcards and stamp collections. Simply remove the stamps, bring them to our monthly meetings, and put them in the Little Black Box!!!!

