



# Arlington Heights garden club

January 2018

Growing Together

Carol Elliott, Editor

## Fun with Herbs

Monday, January 22, 2018  
7:00 pm social, 7:30 meeting

Come out of the cold and enjoy the fragrant smells of those fresh summer herbs we are all dreaming about as we begin to plan our summer gardens. This program will discuss growing, care and harvesting of our culinary and aromatic herbs with hands on demonstrations and instructions. If you are curious about herbs and do not know where to start this is the program for you!

Marcy Lausanne-Raleigh owns BLOG <http://backyardpatch.blogspot.com/p/programs.html> She has been passionately growing herbs for more than 20 years. The Backyard Patch is her herb business, which was started in 1995. She specializes in fresh, amazing, organic blended herbs for cooking, tea and bath and they are all home grown and hand blended. In the last 20 years she has gained a knowledge of herbs and their flavors which she will share with the AH Garden Club!



## Greetings from Our President

Happy New Year!

Every season in the garden has something unique and special to offer the garden enthusiast. Winter is wonderful in that we have few outdoor activities other than removing the greenery from our wreath forms and dragging the Christmas tree out to the curb. So we turn our attention to more relaxing and renewing activities indoors like evaluating how our garden grew last year and planning for the upcoming year.

One of my favorite past times right now is looking through the many seed catalogues which are arriving, and determining which seeds/strawberry varieties are must orders for spring. Another involves planning and working out the details for that small new secret garden area my wife, Patty, wants under our flowering plum tree, and figuring out how much sod to remove in expanding the vegetable garden.

Another wonderful indoor activity is attending the "Arlington Heights Hearts of Gold Award Dinner" on February 17th, when our own Kathy Wolan will receive the Kenneth Bonder Beautification Award for her tireless gardening efforts around our community. Congratulations, Kathy! Well done! We are very proud of your many tireless hours at the Historical Museum, the Post Office, your church and other spots throughout our village. See inside this newsletter for more info on this event.

Jim Spannagel, President

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**Program**  
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## 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 Aggie Prochaska, Social Chair, to those bringing treats to our January meeting!

*Marie Berhinig,*

*Kathy Hendricksen,*

*Bev Krams*

## February Program at the Library - Register Now!

To those members wishing to attend the February 26th "Rachel Carson" program being presented by Leslie Goddard at the Arlington Heights Library, you will be able to REGISTER at the January 22nd meeting.

IF YOU WILL NOT BE AT THE JANUARY AHGC MEETING, please email Val Solaski at [solaski@us.ibm.com](mailto:solaski@us.ibm.com) for a reservation.

After January 22 you will need to wait until February 1 and register on the AHML website. This should be a great opportunity to hear about a great conservationist presented by a wonderful historian.

## Hearts of Gold Award Dinner

Members of the AHGC Board will be attending the dinner to support Kathy, but any one is welcome to come and celebrate Kathy's accomplishments. Come join us in celebrating Kathy Wolan's "golden heart," recognizing her many efforts to beautify our community on Saturday, February 17th beginning at 5:30 PM at the Rolling Green Country Club, 2525 East Rand Road, Arlington Heights. Cost is \$60 per person. The Cash Bar begins at 5:30 PM, with dinner at 6:30 PM and the Awards at 8:30 PM. For seating form and more information visit [mitchelllaurie@Comcast.net](mailto:mitchelllaurie@Comcast.net).

Checks should be made out to VAH-Special Events Commission, and mailed with seating form to Special Events Commission, Laurie Mitchell, 203 West Emerson St., Arlington Hts, IL 60005. The deadline for making reservations is February 9, 2018.



# Crank up that Humidity during the Winter Months!

The furnaces are up and running and that will take down the humidity in your home to an unsatisfactory level. Often in the winter, the average home is drier than the desert. Even if you have a humidifier, most often the humidity is too low for many of your houseplants (and for you)! Also fabrics, wood furniture, walls and even the structure of the home can become too dry and begin to shrink. You can supplement the humidity and help your indoor environment in several ways:

Cluster the houseplants together so the humidity in that area is higher.

Set pots of plants in trays filled with gravel that are kept constantly filled with the water. Make sure the pots sitting on the gravel are up and out of the water so the roots do not rot.

Make cones out of an entire newspaper. Tape it so it will keep its cone shape. Set it in a pan of water so the newspaper will act like a wick and add humidity to the area.

Set the humidity level on your humidifier as high as you can but without making the windows "weep" as it can damage the paint and windows in your home.

Put bowls of water near the floor heat registers or on top of radiators so the water will evaporate and increase the humidity.

Turn off the vent fan in the bathroom when you shower and open the door to let the humidity radiate throughout the home.

*Bob Nicholson,  
Master Gardener*

Provided by Master Gardeners through the Master Gardener Answer Desk, Friendship Park Conservatory, Des Plaines. For more details on any of the ideas presented here, visit our website at <http://web.extension.illinois.edu/mg> or call the Master Gardener Answer Desk at (847) 298-3502 on Wednesdays.



# Garden Knowledge Jan/Feb 2018

Thru Mar. 18, 2018 - "Making Memories: Quilts as Souvenirs" - at The Art Institute in Chicago, Ill.

Jan 20, Saturday @ the Barrington Village Hall \$10 for "Barrington Area Birds-from Natural Areas to Your Backyard" <http://citizensforconservation.org/educational-programs/community-education/>

Jan. 21 - "Native Edible Plants" - program hosted by West Cook Wild Ones at Maze Library in Oak Park, Ill.

Jan 23, 7pm @ Prospect Hgts Library Nature Speaks: Rare animals, Rare Plants, Rare People, Adventures in Chicagoland

Jan. 27 - "15th Annual Gardening Show" - sponsored by the Porter County, Ind., Master Gardeners - at Valparaiso, Ind.

Jan. 27 thru Feb. 4, 2018 - "2018 Winterfest" - in Lake Geneva, Wisc. area

Jan. 31-Feb. 2 - "iLandscape: the Illinois and Wisconsin Landscape Show" - at Renaissance Schaumburg Convention Center in Schaumburg, Ill.

Feb. 3 - "2018 Midwest Perennial Plant Association Symposium: Plants for Pollinators" - at Morton Arboretum in Lisle, Ill.

Feb. 3 thru Mar. 11 - "In Full Bloom: the Orchid Exhibit" at Nicholas Gardens and Conservatory in Rockford, Ill.

Feb. 9-11 - "Garden Expo 2018" - at the Alliant Center in Madison, Wisc.

Feb. 10 - "Concrete Day: Make a Hypertufa Container" - at The Growing Place in Aurora, Ill.

Feb. 10-12 - "The Old House-New House Home Show" - at Pheasant Run Resort in St. Charles, Ill.

Feb.17 Saturday @ the Barrington Village Hall \$10 for "Become a Citizen Scientist" <http://citizensforconservation.org/educational-programs/community-education/>





# Beautiful Christmas Trees!



Elves and Company hope that club members had the opportunity to view the Holiday Trees this year.

The library tree theme was "Make A Joyful Noise" and was decorated with miniature musical ornaments that were collected over the past year by elves who enjoy hunting in resale shops and sales. It was on display near the check out desk and was discovered by many children. My understanding is that children tried to make a joyful noise by blowing into some of the toy instruments. There was also a decorated tablet top tree on the second floor next to the lobby desk.



The Senior Center lobby tree "Walk in the Winter Woods" was white, silver and blue colored representing a woods after a snow storm. It was covered with snowflakes, icicles, white pine cones, glass balls and many other items. It received many compliments.

The Village Hall's new 9 foot tree was called "Have a Beary, Beary Holiday". It was so packed with stuffed bears that there was no room for any other types of ornaments. As the Elves decorated the tree, staff and residents stopped by and voiced how much they enjoyed the tree and looked forward to it each year.



Elves and Company members are Marie Berhning, Pat Dennehey, Helen Dawley, Mary Jo Gotham, Claudia McGrath, Aggie Prochaska, Jo and Perry Perez, Mike Relaz, Jim Spannagel, Sue Taflinger and Kathy Wolan.

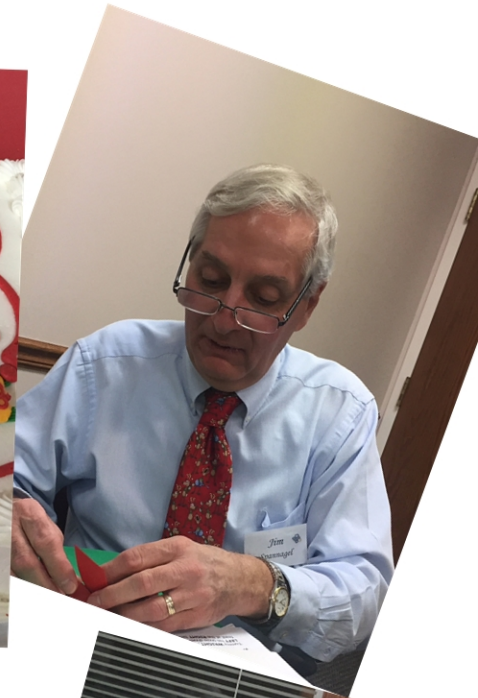
Wishing you all a Happy New Year and Good Gardening.

Onward to 2018 Holiday Tree decorating.



# Photos from a Wonderful Holiday Party!

Thanks to Aggie Prochaska and the Webers for all their work!





# YOUR JANUARY GARDEN 'TO DO' LIST

## General Garden Care

Order seed, bulb, and nursery catalog to get started on this year's garden.

Recycle Christmas tree branches by cutting them into 2-3 foot sections to use as mulch for garden and perennial beds.

During winter thaws, water garden beds, turf and plants that have received salt spray from roads.

Monitor plants for signs of damage from animals, ice, snow, or wind.

If it snows, avoid using salt-based de-icing products in or around garden areas.

Shovel snow before it freezes on sidewalks and sprinkle sand on sidewalks for traction.

When shoveling, try to distribute snow equally on garden plants instead of piling it all against foundation planting or in the root zone of only one tree.

Maintain a supply of water for the birds.

Clean and refill bird feeders.

## Trees

LIGHT pruning of deciduous trees and shrubs can be done this month.

Ice accumulation on tree branches should be left to melt.

Immediately prune back branches damaged by snow and ice.

## Indoor Plants

Houseplants require less water and much less or no fertilizer because of their slow growth at this time.

<https://www.chicagobotanic.org/plantinfo/checklist/january>