

March 2020 Growing Together Carol Elliott, Editor

# Please note: the March 23 Garden Club meeting has been CANCELLED

The village has limited access to public buildings for the time being, and we have no place to meet for this month. Hopefully, we can reschedule our March speaker for next year.

Also the Georgia O'Keefe program on March 28th at the library has been cancelled. This program was in partnership with Arlington Heights Memorial Library and will be rescheduled at a later date.

## Greetings from Our President

Attached to our monthly Newsletter, you will find the suggested changes to our "Arlington Heights Garden Club Bylaws". Please read them over carefully before coming to our March 23 General Meeting where we will address any concerns from the membership. Some changes are minor, such as changing the "Purpose" of our club, to its "Mission". Another small suggestion is to change "Social Committee" to "Hospitality Committee" to better reflect what this committee actually does for us. We also needed to update the fact that we now meet (and have for many years) on the "fourth Monday" of each month and not the "third Monday" of each month. (Bet you didn't know we weren't meeting on the correct dates for the past c. 6-7 years!!)

Probably the major changes made show the current reality of our club. For example, the Board decided to drop the "Ways and Means Committee" from our list of "Special Committees", and replace it with "The Garden Walk/Unique Boutique Committee" on our Standing Committee list. Also, the plant sale has become a major fund raiser for us and we have added "Plant Sale Committee" to our list of Standing Committees. The Scholarship Committee has also been moved from the "Special Committee" list, to be a "Standing Committee" to reflect the wonderful scholarships we now offer.

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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

## Dues are due by May 1st

We will begin to collect dues at the April general meeting. It is important to have your dues paid by May 1st given that we need to register with the Garden Clubs of Illinois in May.

For your convenience the Membership Form is provided at the end of this newsletter, or you can pick up a form at the April meeting. The form with payment can be mailed to: Renie Norkiewicz, 110 N Kaspar Avenue, Arlington Heights, IL 60005

Renie Norkiewicz & Shelley Plischke, Membership Co-chairs

## Greetings from Our President

(continued from page 1)

A "Special Committee" does not have a vote on our Board of Directors and is designed for occasional use on an as needed basis, such as the "Bylaws Committee". A "Standing Committee" is an ongoing committee with responsibilities over many months and it also is of such importance that it's Chair has a vote on the Board of Directors. Suggested changes are viewed in red. Please be prepared to discuss and vote on the proposals. Two thirds of the members present at the March meeting must approve the guidelines that we will be following for the near future.

Jím Spannagel, Presídent

## Plant Sale on 6/6/20

We will be holding our annual plant sale fund raiser at the Arlington Heights Historical Society on Saturday, June 6, 2020. Each year about this time, garden club members and friends that have perennials needing division or have extra plants to share dig and pot them up. You can tell if perennials need dividing if they bloom less than normal or have a hollow center. It is important to pot them 4-6 weeks beforehand so the plants get settled and recover before the sale date.

If you need pots, contact Pete Landwehr or Jim Spannagel. If you need help digging, contact Pete Landwehr or Bob Bruett. Also, please let Pete or Bob know the quantity and description of the plants ahead of time so we can generate labels for them. So pot them up as soon as you can find them.

## Garden Walk and Unique Boutique Update

The Garden Walk & Unique Boutique planning committee has been busy planning this year's event which will be Sunday, June 28th from 10 a.m. - 4 p.m. We had one of our 4 residential gardens recently drop out, so we are down to 3 residential gardens and The Moorings. If any of you know of a garden or are willing to open up your garden to our walk, please contact Pete Landwehr (pctl9061@gmail.com) or Jim Spannagel (spannagel66@hotmail.com) as we really need 1-2 more residential gardens to make the Garden Walk complete.

A big thank you to Nancy Asquini-Dean, Debbie Borales, Dale Craig, Diane Culhane, Helen Dawley, Pat Dennehey, Josephine Perez, and Marilyn Weber who came to my house to stuff 385 letters to solicit donations for our raffle. We got the job done in about 90 minutes and then had fun enjoying lunch and great conversation. If you have any personal connections with businesses to help us secure donations, please let Pat Dennehey or me know. If any of you have sporting event tickets or other subscription tickets that would happen after June 28th, please let us know as that would make a popular prize. Pat has received several baskets and new or like new items to put as fillers, so please continue to bring those to her at our general meetings or you can make arrangements to drop them off at her house.

We have 13 vendors signed up so far for our Unique Boutique and hope to get several more in the next month before our deadline. If you are aware of a crafter that might have an interest in having a booth at our Unique Boutique, please let Barb Franks know (barbarafranks908@gmail.com), or you can direct them to our web site of ahgardenclub.com to access the vendor application.

Clara Stone is going to be assisted by Leslie Meredith to publicize the Garden Walk & Unique Boutique, so watch for an upcoming ad in Garden Glories as well as other postings and an ad in the Daily Herald as the event gets closer. Attached with your newsletter is an electronic flier that lists both our plant sale and garden walk that you could pass on to friends and neighbors. We will have hard copies to hand out at upcoming meetings.

We appreciate everyone's participation to make our largest fundraiser a success, so please be on the look out for the volunteer sign up sheet that Renie and Shelley will be passing around at the next few meetings to help out with the various aspects of this event leading up to it and the day of. Please let me know if you have any questions or suggestions.

Kathy Hendricksen, Garden Walk & Unique Boutique Chair kshend@aol.com (847) 514-0414

## **Eggshell Gardening**

Give those egg shells and empty egg cartons a second chance to bring life into your garden. Use them for starting your garden seeds! Fill the individual sections of the egg cartons or the cleaned eggshells with a sterile well-drained potting or seed starting mix. Plant the seeds, moisten the soil and put the containers in a warm sunny location or under grow lights. Watch them grow!

When you are ready to transplant or plant, separate the paper egg carton cups and slice through the sides and bottom just before planting them into larger containers or into your garden. Crack the eggshells just prior to transplanting seedlings making it easier for the roots to expand into the surrounding soil.

Plant the seedlings in the garden when the weather is right for the plants you have grown and after the transplants have been hardened off. Using these biodegradable containers reduces transplant shock. Paper carton and eggshells will disintegrate adding organic matter and nutrients to the soil.

In addition many fast food containers provide a tray for starting seeds and a clear plastic top that can be used to create a mini greenhouse. Just vent the covering if condensation forms or as the seedlings begin to grow. Give it a try and enjoy the wonder of growing seeds!!!



## January and February Presenters





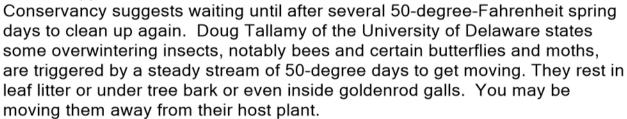
## **YOUR Earliest Spring Chores**

Hours of spring cleanup can take a toll on muscles and bones not used to gardening. Don't get overwhelmed. START your CLEANUP near the house and work out from there. It's GREAT to see PROGRESS up-close where you probably spend most of your time. What to start with to do the LEAST

- AMOUNT OF DAMAGE!

  1. Rake heavy debris carefully off beds that hold earliest bloomers first, which would be your tiny bulbs that are trying to push up through piles of leaves or where your ephemerals are growing. (Don't rush! Nature may FOOL YOU and dump another load of snow on the ground! We can probably
- 2. DELAY RAKING/CLEAN UP a week or two, to support beneficial insects. The Nature

count on it!)



- 3. Target earliest bloomers like Euphorbia for immediate cutbacks. Nudge them with a severe end-of-winter haircut. Late bloomers such as Sedums will be easier to clean up now than once they start to push through the soil.
- 4. Cut back evergreen or otherwise-persistent perennial foliage. Leaves of European ginger, Helleborus and Epimedium will soon be replaced with a fresh flush of foliage.
- 5. Cut down ornamental grasses. Off with their heads (the grasses', that is), right by the base, ASAP.
- 6. Empty bird boxes. Time to CLEAN HOUSE. Bluebirds won't accept a dirty box. Wear gloves when you do this task.
- 7. Consider ordering bulk mulch from a local source for delivery-skipping all those plastic bags, and all that fuel used for trucking bark chips across America. Keep your footprint small!

Bev Krams Master Gardener North Cook County https://awaytogarden.com

## NEW FOR YOU TO DO PART II

The trip to DERBYLINE GARDENS in Genoa was such a success last year that we have planned to do it again on Wednesday April 22.

If you have been busy planning your gardens and containers this is for you!!! So plan to spend a wonderful morning wandering the greenhouses filled with the most beautiful annuals of highest quality and great prices too, then join us for lunch if time permits.

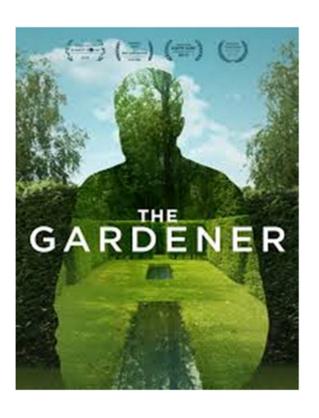
We will meet at 714 E Mayfair Rd. at 9:00am and caravan to Derbyline Gardens. RSVP at tplischke@comcast.net or call 847-204-4929 so we don't leave without you.





### HAPPY BIRTHDAY! ENJOY YOUR SPECIAL DAY!

Claudia Coffey Mary Jo Gotham Mary Jo Pedersen David Von Bergen Dale Craig Pam McVoy Shelley Plischke Martha Wicker



Take a visual tour of a fabulous 20 acre English style garden and summer estate of Frank Cabot which took him over 75 years to create. Let him take you through Les Quatre Vents (The Four Winds) which is nestled in the rolling hills of the Charlevoix County in Quebec and only opened to the public four Saturdays a year. Come exercise your emotions in the Garden Theatre and see the beauty of his creation. Sponsored by the AHGC/AHML. Thursday April 16th 7-8:30pm @ the AHMLibrary Contingent on library opening



## AHGC Gaining Garden Knowledge March/April 2020

## PLEASE check to see if these venues are still being held with COVID19 restrictions

Chalet Nursery Register on Line https://chaletnursery.com/pages/events March 21 Saturday 10am AND March 22 Sunday 1pm Garden Essential Must Haves (Gear & Tools)

District 214 Community Education ce.d214.org for registration March 19 Thursday 6-7pm Seed Starting@Forest View FREE April 23 Thursday 5-6pm Planting Your Garden@ Forest View FREE

#### Friendship Park Conservatory: 847-298-3500

395 W. Algonquin Road, Des Plaines mppd.org for registration

March 17 Tuesday 12-4pm Farm on Ogden Trip \$35/40 Code 38847

March 19 Thursday 7-8:30pm Succulent Bouquet \$40/45 Code 38839

April 2 Thursday 7-8:30pm Salad bowl Favorites \$30/35 Code 38852

April 8 Wednesday 6:30-8:30pm Spring into Gardening \$25/30 Code 38851

April 14 Tuesday 10-11:30am and 7-8:30pm Cool Season Planting Fun \$35/40 Code 38848/9

April 25 Saturday 10:30-12N Herb Trough \$40-45 Code 38725

April 27 Monday 7-8:30pm Herb Trough \$40-45 Code 38726

Chicago Botanic Garden 1000 Lake Cook Rd, Glencoe, IL Continuing Education Opportunities https://www.chicagobotanic.org/education/adulted

Mar. 21-22 - "Northern Illlinois Gesneriad Society Show & Sale"

April 25-26 Midwest Daffodil Society Show

#### HARPER College NATURE CLASSES CE.HARPERCOLLEGE.EDU

April 4-10-12N MONARCH BUTTERFLY REARING WORKSHOP @ Spring Valley Nature Center \$79

April 25-1-2:30pm GARDEN BENCH WORKSHOP @ Spring Valley Nature Center \$99 May 16-10-12N ILLINOIS HEIRLOOM GARDENING @ Spring Valley Nature Center \$84

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

April 29 Wednesday 7-8:30pm Coping with Climate Change: How Plants and People Respond to Our Rapidly Changing World \$20/25

#### AND THERE'S MORE!!!

March 17-7:30-9pm Preserving Protecting and Promoting the Monarch Butterfly@ the Mt. Prospect Library

March 21 Saturday Michigan City High School "Spring Garden Show by the Master Gardeners" \$10 lpmastergardener.com



March 22 Sunday 2-3:30pm "The Invention of Nature: Alexander von Humboldt's New World" Meet the author @ Fernwood in Niles MI register.

March 22 Sunday 2-4pm CFC Citizens for Conservation Tower Lakes Stormwater Management Success with Andy Hay Project Manager Barrington Village Hall \$10 nonmembers

https://citizensforconservation.org/education/community-education/

March 31-7:30-9pm The Joys of Backyard Bird Feeding@ the Mt.Prospect Library

Apr. 4- 7:30-4pm "Gardenfest 2020" - hosted by the McHenry County Master Gardeners - at McHenry County College in Crystal Lake, III. www.mchenry.edu/gardenfest

April 4 Saturday 10-12N **Natural Lawn Care** Sagawau Environmental Learning Center Registration https://go.illinois.edu/NaturalLawnCare

April 11 Saturday 10-12N Natural Lawn Care Crabtree Nature Center Registration https://go.illinois.edu/NaturalLawnCare

April 16 Saturday 10-12N **Natural Lawn Care** Trailside Museum of Natural History Registration https://go.illinois.edu/NaturalLawnCare

April 18-9:30-11:30am CFC Citizens for Conservation Living with Beavers with Chris Anchor Barrington Village Hall \$10 nonmembers https://citizensforconservation.org/education/community-education/

April 18 Saturday 11am Vegetable Gardening @ Countryside Nursery FREE

April 26-April 27 Climate Change: GCI 93rd Annual Convention@ Doubletree in Lisle IL, Topic See your Garden Glories or https://www.gardenclubsofillinois.org/event-information

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



OPENING OF THE GREENHOUSE!! 10-2pm Saturday March 21 Come See all the Vendors!! Don't forget to support one of our biggest Garden Walk Sponsors!!!

### 2020 - 2021 AHGC MEMBERSHIP FORM

#### RENEWAL DUE DATE MAY 1st

	ership Renewal In une thru May \$25.00	dividual \$25.00 C	Couple \$40.00 ry thru May \$12.50
Name(s)			
Address			
City		Zip code	
Home Phone(s)		Cell Phone(s)	
Email Address(es) _			
		_	areas of interest. Please share
_	ed and meet people, we recomm mittee(s) of interest and a chair  Civics (Community Beautification)  Membership (Process Members)  Scholarship (Students/Members)  If you wish to serve as a chair	Conservation (Environmental Issues) Newsletter (Monthly Newsletter) Social (Organize Refreshments)	Garden Walk (Club's Main Fundraiser) Program (Select Meeting Programs) Plant Sale (Annual Plant Sale)
Sept Oct Oct Grant the AHGC p events to be used in AHGC."	treats to the general meeting.  Nov Jan Feb  ermission to use photographs whole or in part for the purpo	March April Ma taken of me or including me se of promotion, social medi	y June July at Garden Club meetings and a and art for the sole use of the

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(847) 394-5145
laren4@att.net

