



## February 2023

### Greetings From Our President

“There are 3 kinds of people: Those who make things happen, those who watch things happen, and those who say, “what happened?”

---Casey Stengel

A smile comes to my face every time I think of this quote. Knowing its author, you can be sure there is a grain of truth in it! I am happy and proud to say that our club is made up mainly of those who make things happen. It is a blessing that we have so many volunteers who are willing to step up and be willing to take on the many tasks that make our Garden Club so successful.

Right now, Lew Coffin, our Nomination Committee Chair, is asking you to consider taking on a role as a committee chair or officer. We both hope you will consider a role to “make things happen.” Volunteering is a most rewarding activity, and our club is filled with good hearted people who will lend their hands, their talents and time to help and support those who take on leadership positions. Please never underestimate what you can do. And as the saying goes, “if you want something done, ask a busy person.” We are all busy people. Hopefully we all take something away from our club, but we have to give back if it is going to continue to be the excellent educational and social organization it is. Keep in mind the words of the late Muhammad Ali, “Service to others is the rent you pay for your room here on Earth.” Say, “yes” when Lew and his committee come calling!

*Jim Spannagel*

### 2023 Winter/ Spring Meetings

- February 27
- March 27
- April 24

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## February Program

February 27th @ 7 PM

### The Value of Ants – Living With and Loving Them

Presented by Sean Menke, PhD  
Associate Professor of Biology  
Lake Forest College

Sean Menke is an Associate Professor of Biology at Lake Forest College in Lake Forest, IL. He received his biology degree from the University of Minnesota, attended the University of Oklahoma for his Master's Degree in Zoology and his PhD in biology is from the University of California, San Diego. His dissertation involved "Predicting Argentine Ant Invasions at Multiple Spatial scales: The Relative Importance of Abiotic and Biotic Factors". He has published extensively, presented at numerous seminars across the country and served as a mentor for a large collection of students! Dr. Menke has been interviewed by WTTW's Chicago Tonight for his opinion on the movie "Ant Man", the Chicago Tribune for his work with the Urban Wildlife Institute at the Lincoln Park Zoo and the Chicago Reader on urban ants.

Ants are found on every continent except Antarctica, can lift up to 100 times their own body weight, communicate mostly by smell and play such an important role in the environment that they are considered an indicator species for the restoration success in grasslands and savannas and even in your backyard. Lake Forest College's Sean Menke will fill us in on these often-overlooked insects.



*Did you know the AHGC  
now has 126 members!*

## 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

- 7-7:30 PM Social time
- 7:30 PM Business meeting begins
- 8:00 PM Speaker program presentation begins
- 9:00 PM Presentation and questions wraps up

### 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 Red Native Plant?

( Answer can be found on [page 15](#) )



Photo taken at the Prospect Heights Slough by June Miller

## Arlington Heights Garden Club Awards Three \$2,000 Scholarships

Each year, the Arlington Heights Garden Club awards one or more \$2,000 academic scholarships to assist local students. The club has awarded 45 academic scholarships to outstanding students since 2003. Students living in Arlington Heights and adjoining communities are eligible to apply. Proceeds from the annual Garden Walk are used to fund the scholarship program.

Please see article on page 5 to read about our 2022 scholarship recipients.

## Promoting Scholarship Opportunities in the Community

The Arlington Heights Garden Club has three, \$2000 scholarships available for students interested in pursuing courses of study in Horticulture, Environmental Science, Sustainability, Conservation, Arboriculture, and similar topics. The deadline for submitting applications is March 15th.

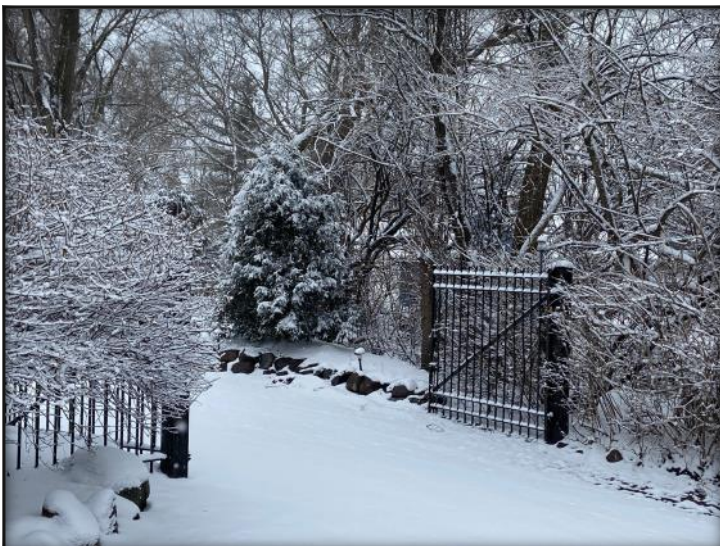
Applicants can access the full scholarship requirements on the [AHGC website under the Community](#) tab.

All AHGC members are asked to encourage students in the community to apply. Any questions may be directed to the Scholarship Committee Co-Chairs:



[Emma Visee](#)  
847-306-8614

[Sheila Coffin](#)  
847-917-1436





## House Plant Exchange

A special thank-you to everyone that had a part in our January 23rd House Plants by Tovah Martin and plant swap. Whether you watched Toyah's presentation on ZOOM, participated in the WATCH party, donated plants, helped Pete with the plant SWAP, or helped set up and take down the great display window at the library, your participation was truly appreciated! The attendance was reported by the library as 73 in person plus 75 via zoom for a total of 148.

The program was a tremendous success!





In 2022 the Arlington Heights Garden Club Awarded Three Scholarships  
of \$2,000 Each to the Following Students



*Carolina Szoepe*

**Carolina Szoepe**

Carolina now attends Carthage College, Kenosha, WI. She attended Harper College where she studied Global Information Systems, Geo Science, Environmental Studies and Data Sciences. She earned a certification in Drone technology to use for research and analysis of vegetation and waterways. She sees her passion and skill for photography to help document and analyze Earth's ecosystems.



*Etienne Sirois*

**Etienne Sirois**

Etienne was accepted as a freshman into the Landscape Architecture program at the University of Illinois, Champaign-Urbana. He graduated from Prospect High School in 2022 where he was a member of the band, instrumental ensemble, and ROTC. Etienne is a member of the National Honor Society and is an AP scholar with Distinction. His career goal is to advance the ideas and practices of sustainability in the design and function of gardens.



*Jennifer Suszek*

**Jennifer Suszek**

Jennifer Suszek was the 2022 recipient of the Wendy Landwehr Scholarship for \$2,000. She is currently a student in the Horticulture Program at College of DuPage in Glen Ellyn, IL. She earned an undergraduate degree in Biology from the University of Illinois, Chicago. Her area of interest is in landscape, specifically in Arboriculture with goals to work in the tree care industry and ecological restoration.

# Conservation Corner

June Miller | Conservation

## February Recycling Tip

There have been recent news articles on electronic recycling. In case you missed seeing them, here are a few tips. As the Daily Herald reports, it is illegal in Illinois to throw any electronics in the trash. These include cell phones, iPads, computers, computer monitors, electronic keyboards and mice, fax machines, printers, DVD players, TVs, cable receivers, and video game consoles. Fortunately, there is a statewide system for recycling and reusing the parts of the unwanted electronics such as metals, plastics, and glass for possibly repurposing the devices. The recycling company will shred the hard drives and the hazardous materials in the devices, (such as mercury, cadmium, lead, printer toner) and safely dispose of these items. If these materials are thrown into the landfill, damage to the soil and ground water could occur. **How can you dispose of these electronics?** [Arlington Heights \(Groot\)](#) provides a free curbside electronic collection for up to 2 items that are less than 50 pounds, if scheduled in advance. Also, there is a free weekly electronics drop site at the [Glenview Transfer Station](#) in Des Plaines (3 Providence Way) on Saturday mornings from 9 am to 11:30 am year round.

## Mark Your Calendars for the University of Illinois Lake County Master Gardener's Plant Sale

Many native plants will be available at this plant sale. Rain or shine. Cash/check/charge

**Date:** Saturday, May 20th @ 9am-2pm

**Location:** Grayslake, IL

Click [here](#) for details

University of Illinois Lake County Extension Master Gardeners **PLANT SALE** Saturday, May 20, 2023 9:00 am - 2:00 pm

**WE ARE OFFERING**

A beautiful selection of nursery grown plant varieties not readily available in garden centers.

- Natives, Perennials, Pollinator-Friendly Plants
- Vegetables, Herbs
- Garden Treasures
- Gardening Advice from Master Gardeners

Rain or Shine  
Cash. Check. Charge

University of Illinois Lake County Extension  
100 South US Hwy 45 Grayslake IL 60030

University of Illinois Extension provides equal opportunities in programs and employment. If you need a reasonable accommodation to participate in this program, please contact our office at 847-223-8627. Early requests are strongly encouraged to allow sufficient time for meeting your access needs.

## Maple Syrup Festival

Sugar maple trees are native to Illinois

**Date:** Sunday, March 19th @ 11am - 3pm

**Location:** River Trail Nature Center at 3120 Milwaukee Ave, Northbrook, IL 60062

**Description:** Celebrate the arrival of spring with a special day of activities including crafts, games, tree tapping and maple syrup history with syrup samples to taste. **Free!**

Click [here](#) for more information.



# Request for Committee Leaders

Lew Coffin | Nominating Committee Chair

**Can you serve in one of the AHGC roles?** 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 table below 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.

## Available Roles May 2023 – May 2025

Open Position	Description
Artistic	Plan 1-3 club workshops per year and co-ordinate holiday tree decoration and take down.
Horticulture	Update club on interesting horticulture events and/or discoveries. Bev Krams will remain on in this role if no replacement is found.
Hospitality	Attend to social duties at the club meetings, setting up the room and coordinate volunteers for provision of refreshments. There is an active volunteer group supporting this function. A good role for an individual, or a pair of co-leaders.
Membership	Recruit, welcome and introduce new members at the club meetings. Manage dues and register members to receive Garden Club of Illinois publications. Familiarity with excel a plus.
Vice President	This is a development role, working with the president to learn all functions of the club with the intent to become a future president.
Programs	Obtain a place and a program for the general meetings. Nancy Asquini Dean is looking for a co-leader to join this active team.
Website	Manage and maintain the website. Utilize Wix software, a very easy software for non-web developers to manage websites. Does not require prior web experience. The incumbent will overlap for several months to provide support/training.

## Nominating Committee:

[Lew Coffin](#)  
847-917-1437

[Gail Abbott](#)  
847-606-3009

[Sheila Coffin](#)  
847-917-1436

[Ingrid Erickson](#)  
224-715-8979

[Barb Franks](#)  
847-612-8892

If you have an interest in any of these roles, please reach out to one of the Nominating Committee members listed above.

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



## Member Profile

Lesley Jackson | Contributing Editor

### Meet Our 100th Member — Juli Cicarelli

Juli Cicarelli moved to Arlington Heights 30 years ago with her family when her husband, Jim, transferred for a new job opportunity where he was appointed Dean of the Business School at Roosevelt University. Prior to settling in Arlington Heights, their family moved 14 times to small college towns. Juli was very happy to put down some roots.

Born and raised in Connecticut, she had a part time job in early childhood education. They have two children, Jill and David. Jill lives in Columbus, Ohio and has one son, who is now in college. David is intellectually challenged and lives in a Clearbrook home nearby.

Juli admits that she was never the best gardener! But in spite of that, she has always enjoyed gardening, often growing perennials. She hated having to prep the soil properly, so her plants didn't always grow as healthy as they should. She does love perennials, and in her last house had a beautiful display of hostas along the side of her house. She always enjoyed receiving plants from friends, as they meant so much to her. However, she does have a real love of houseplants. She has many houseplants, including a Norfolk Pine. When they moved a few years ago, she was very happy that all her houseplants could move with her, as they are like her two cats, members of the family and make her home complete.

Juli decided to join the Garden Club after visiting Renie Norkiewicz's garden with a friend, who was also a member. They both suggested she join the club and she decided to attend in August. Juli was looking forward to learning more about gardens and to getting know more like-minded people. She really enjoyed the recent meeting and house plant swap. It is one of her favorites. She came home with a small African Violet plant, which she thinks is quite unusual and would appreciate some advice on how to look after it. One of her favorites is the four-blossom amaryllis pictured.

She received a round of applause from members at her first meeting, when it was announced she was the club's 100<sup>th</sup> member! She would like to thank everyone for their kindness to David, and her late husband, Jim. David was excited to come to the October AHGC meeting, and especially happy because he won a raffle prize – a beautiful gift basket. She enjoys volunteering, and has helped with the Christmas party and the Garden Walk. She stresses how much the welcome and friendship from club members has meant a lot to her.



### The Garden Clubs of Illinois (GCI) Annual Convention

April 16-17 at the Chicago Marriot in Naperville, Illinois

Click [here](#) for more details.



## Let's Start Talking Spring!

Bev Krams | Horticulture

### Rudbeckia, American Gold Rush 2023

Since 1990 the Perennial Plant Association annually designates a perennial that is a standout among its competitors. This year they have chosen Rudbeckia 'American Gold Rush.' She is also known as a Black Eyed Susan!

It's height is 22"-27" with a 40 width, if given the room, making it a naturally compact and rounded habit. It is full sun to partial shade, good heat and drought resistance and reseeding does occur but it is considered a low maintenance plant. Growers have also observed good resistance to downy mildew.

The plant originated from seed sown from the parent plant Rudbeckia fulgida var. deamii which is a native plant to central Illinois, Indiana and Ohio. This plant was also a 2020 All-America Selections Winner.

Gardeners are going to love this plant for its beautiful lighter golden yellow flower color and a LONG bloom time. It will stand out in the garden from July to October.

I heard from a very reliable source, PESCHES will have this plant in stock in the spring!



## Perennial Plant of the Year®



Richard Hawke, CBC Photo Credit

## 36th Annual Mayor's Prayer Breakfast, February 2023

Community leaders gathered in a spirit of prayer for the Mayor and Village officials. The main speaker, Bill Kmiecik, Rotary International District Governor, stressed the importance of volunteering in your local community where there are many needs. Building community by reaching out to others was a theme running through the readings and prayers.

Representing the Arlington Heights Garden Club were Sharon Rudy, *nominee for Treasurer*, Beth Ligenza, *Vice-President*, Halina Zbilski, *Secretary*, and Jim Spannagel, *President*.



# Gardening Knowledge

Bev Krams | Horticulture

## UPCOMING EDUCATIONAL OPPORTUNITIES

### CITIZENS FOR CONSERVATION

Ecologically Safe Ways to Control Mosquitos  
Saturday, March 18 @ 10-11am | Barrington Village Hall

Click [here](#) for more information



### KERRY ANN MENDEZ WEBINARS

Remarkable Natives for Beautiful, Planet-Friendly Gardens  
Saturday, February 25 @ 10am CT  
Click [here](#) to register

Clever Design Tips for Ever blooming, Low-Maintenance Gardens  
Saturday, March 18 @ 10am CT  
Click [here](#) to register

Time-saving, Sustainable Maintenance Strategies for Lush Flower Gardens  
Saturday, April 1 @ 10am CT  
Click [here](#) to register



### McHENRY COUNTY CONSERVATION DISTRICT

Festival of Sugar Maples | Coral Weeds Conservation Area in Marengo  
March 4-5-6 and March 11-12-13 @ 10am-3pm  
Click [here](#) to register



### CHICAGO BOTANIC GARDEN

[Calendar of Events](#) and Programs

February 11-March 26 | [Orchid Show](#)



### MORTON ARBORETUM

Classes and Programs  
Click [here](#) for more information





# Gardening Knowledge

Bev Krams | Horticulture

## UPCOMING EDUCATIONAL OPPORTUNITIES

### FERNWOOD Events & Programs

Click [here](#) for information



### PLATT HILL NURSERY Workshops & Seminars

Click [here](#) for information



### HARPER COLLEGE Courses

March 9 @ 7-8pm Rewilding: Prairie Garden Online \$30

April 13 @ 7-8pm Rewilding: Creating Backyard Wildlife Habitats Online \$30

Click [here](#) to view course schedule



### SCHWEIKHER HOUSE TOUR

Looking for something to enjoy and learn from this winter/spring season? Take a tour of the Schweikher House, on the National Historic Register in Schaumburg. It will provide you with history, architectural design and a tranquil landscape all hidden off a wooded stretch on Meacham Road in Schaumburg. It is a gem! Click [here](#) for more information.



### WILDTHINGS CONFERENCE

Saturday, February 25 @ 9am-6pm

Donald E. Stephens Convention Center | Rosemont

Click [here](#) for information



### McHENRY COUNTY COLLEGE

Gardenfest

Saturday, April 15 @ 7:30am-4pm

Click [here](#) 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



### PURDUE UNIVERSITY EXTENSION

Home Vegetable Gardening Series

April 13, 29, and 27 @ 5:30-7:30 CT (3 sessions virtual/onsite)

Click [here](#) for information



# Gardening Knowledge

Bev Krams | Horticulture

## UPCOMING EDUCATIONAL OPPORTUNITIES

### Your Winter Gardening Guide from the University of Illinois Extension



**Illinois Extension**

UNIVERSITY OF ILLINOIS URBANA-CHAMPAIGN

#### Gardeners Corner Winter 2022-23 [Newsletter](#)

- Protect trees from winter's wrath with a few preventive steps
- Indoor gardening can brighten winter doldrums
- Burning local firewood this winter can save forests
- Give someone a green holiday season with the gift of plants
- Planning a new perennial garden? Plant for the whole garden ecosystem
- Fruit trees need an annual trim to bear best fruit
- Flowers are a forgotten love language
- Tree bark adds visual bite to winter landscapes
- Sow seeds of change, learn how to save garden seeds

#### Indoor Plants with Andrew Holsinger

Tuesday, February 28 @ 1:30pm

Click [here](#) to register

#### Basics of Home Composting with Nancy Kreith

Tuesday, March 7 @ 1:30 pm

Click [here](#) to register



# Managing and Restoring Prairies with Prescribed Burns

June Miller | Conservation

Though most of Illinois' original prairies no longer exist, there are still many prairie areas needing to be maintained or restored to keep them healthy and to allow for plant diversity. In early spring or fall, prescribed burning is used as an ecological tool for prairie management. The **goals of this controlled burning** is to:

- 1) suppress or kill weeds and species *not* native to the prairie which out-compete with the native plants
- 2) reduce accumulated plant litter (thatch) to restore nutrients back into the soil
- 3) increase light levels for native plants like wildflowers, sedges, and grasses to help them thrive
- 4) maintain a grassy environment where invasive woody trees shrubs could takeover
- 5) reduce the likelihood of wildfires by reducing available fuel loads such as the dead, dry plant and grass matter

Most native prairie plants become dormant in the fall with deep roots underground so they will regrow after the burn.

A prescribed burn is usually performed every 2 to 3 years with much planning done beforehand. First check the operation of needed equipment such as handheld torches for starting the fire, preparing "firebreaks" to contain the fire burn by mowing areas around the prairie unless bordered by a stream, road, or pathway. Have available water sources such as water pumps and hoses and water backpacks with sprayers to control the spread of the fire. Insure there are enough trained helpers with proper fire resistant clothing available along with a "burn boss" providing direction. Have necessary tools such as rakes, fire flapper, and prescribed burn signs for public viewing. Coordinate with the local fire department with possible need for a burn permit, and notifying any neighboring homes and businesses near the burn site of the actual burn date.

Prescribed burns are only conducted under precise weather conditions as safety is a top priority. These conditions include **air temperature** (35-60 degrees F), **wind speed** (5-12 mph is recommended), and **relative humidity** (35-55%) as more moisture in the air will slow the spread of the fire. Other factors include the **amount of fuel load** and the **soil moisture** which determines the rate of advance of the fire and also protects the animals that have burrowed into the ground. Once all conditions are met, the prescribed fire will be initiated.

Typically, there are 2 types of prescribed fires conducted: **back fires** and **head fires**. Back fires burn "slow and low" and *into* the wind and are more effective in creating higher temperatures and intensity near the ground where the targeted plant growth is. Head fires burn "high and fast" and *with* the wind spreading up and away from the ground. Whatever burn choice is made, remember, it is an environmentally-sound tool for good prairie land stewardship!



Placing sign for prescribed burn



Checking water sprayer equipment



Using fire torch to initiate the burn



Monitoring the burn process at the Grove in Glenview, IL

## District 25 Youth Garden Grants

Kathy Hendricksen

In 2022 the Arlington Heights Garden Club started a District 25 Youth Garden Grant program with a \$150 awarded to Ivy Hill for their program last spring. They submitted this report to us last fall of how they used the funds. One of the Ivy Hill Garden Club Co-Chairs, Michelle Deroschowski, is the 2023 recipient of the Kenneth M. Bonder Beautification Heart of Gold from the Village of Arlington Heights.

We are pleased to share that we have awarded (3) \$150 District 25 Youth Garden Grants for 2023:

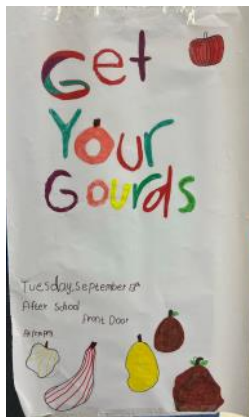
- Greenbrier Elementary School will be creating a courtyard sensory garden project that will include 5 elements of touch, sound, smell, sight, and taste.
- Olive Mary Stitt Elementary School will create a garden club to germinate and plant in an existing garden this spring, take care of the garden over the summer and fall with produce donations given to the Wheeling Township Food Pantry.
- Westgate Elementary School will plant produce and crops to an existing garden and have an expansion of their seasonal farmer's market.

The applications mentioned how they will incorporate these projects into learning for the students. We will share their year end reports with the club when they are submitted at the end of the growing season.

I'd like to thank Emma Visee and Shelia Coffin for assisting me with the grant approval process.

You can read the *Youth Garden Grant Final Report* on the Ivy Hill Elementary Garden Club on [page 15](#).

### Harvest Time & the Gourd Sale September 2022





# 2022 Youth Garden Grant Final Report: Ivy Hill Elementary Garden Club

Kim Eckert and Michelle Derochowski | Ivy Hill Garden Club Co-Chairs

The goal of our Ivy Hill garden program is to introduce and provide hands-on experience of gardening for the children at Ivy Hill Elementary from planting to actually seeing and possibly tasting the vegetables from the garden.

A majority of the students were given an opportunity to participate in planting of the garden in at least one of the following ways: digging holes, planting, marking, watering, etc. Over the summer, families were encouraged to volunteer to help take care of the garden, a different family each week. This was great for families that wanted to try out gardening for the first time, and also with families who are already established gardeners.

Since the school's food services were not able to assist us due to staffing, and food safety precautions limit us to not being able to prepare anything outside of the school kitchen, we were not able to have our garden tasting this year. We also had a hard time with harvesting our tomatoes, as a lot of them were too ripe for harvest at the end of the summer. The peppers had a similar problem and our onions and garlic were taken over by the gourds. Our gourd patch was amazing, however, and we were able to harvest a bunch of small gourds to donate a few to each classroom for the students to look at and feel, and then also have a gourd sale for the parents and kids to pick from a variety of gourds and donate to this next year's PTA Garden Club, to help fund the garden plots for this upcoming spring. We will be re-working some ideas of what we can plant together for next spring's garden, as the tasting would be a great experience, but is probably no longer possible. Growing something long-term over the summer, like the gourds, was a fantastic use of our space and timing of plant to harvest situation, since school is on a break over the summer. Should we still plant things that can be harvested in shorter amounts of time, we will be looking into a more regular place to donate veggies for families in the community as the summer goes on, or maybe even announcing a few summer harvesting dates for Ivy Hill families to come and see the gardens and harvest some of the bounty! Gardening is a life skill that all people can enjoy. In many cases, some of our students have never planted a vegetable and seen the end product after watching it grow. Being given this opportunity at school, as well as being able to see the vegetables that came from their Ivy Hill garden, is a wonderful and unique experience for them.

Our approximate budget for this past year was based on planting day in the spring, so we spent the grant money, as part of that budget, on plants and seeds for the tomatoes, peppers, garlic, onions, gourds, marigolds, and sunflowers (\$100), soil (\$30), gardening tools: buckets, trowels, diggers, watering cans, hose wand, plant markers, tomato cages (\$50). In the next year, we are hoping to also add a hose reel and reconstruct a few of the garden beds, as they are worn out in some places.

As we moved into this new school year, our Garden Club leadership graduated with her daughter to middle school, so we are trying to keep up with the amazing example she has set the past few years, as well as move into the new, post-Covid era. We will be keeping some things that have worked well, but updating some things that have had to change with changing situations in staffing, etc. We will also need to fix a few of our garden beds, as the surrounding wooden structures are getting older and worn from weather and years of being loved.



Planting Day  
2022

# Cardinal Flower

(*Lobelia Cardinalis*)

The **Cardinal Flower** is a native plant known for being a brilliant deep red wildflower that blooms from late July to September. These plants are pollinated chiefly by hummingbirds due to their long, tubular flowers. They provide a good source of nectar for these hummingbirds and also for swallowtail butterflies and larger bumblebees. The cardinal flower is usually seen in wet prairies, open woodlands, marshes, or wherever rainwater collects.

**Name association?** Either with the Northern Cardinal bird or to the bright red robes worn by the Roman Catholic Cardinals



**Growth:** 2-4 feet

**Sun Exposure:** Full sun or partial shade

**Hardiness:** Typically seen in zones 4-9 and found in most Illinois counties

**Soil:** Moist soil, plant in a rain garden or along ponds

**Invasive?** Self-sows but is not invasive

**Caution:** Very toxic to children and pets. May want to take a heart-healthy trail walk to admire them!



## Board of Directors

President	Jim Spannagel
Vice President	Beth Ligenza
Secretary	Halina Zbilski
Treasurer	Pete Landwehr

## Committee Chairs

Artistic	Barb Franks
Civics	Mike Relaz
	Dee Schurman
Club Awards	Emma Visee
Conservation	June Miller
Garden Walk	Linda Heller
	Karen Reeb
Horticulture	Bev Krams
Hospitality	Marilyn Weber
	Joe Weber
Membership	Renie Norkiewicz
	Shelley Plischke
Newsletter	Mona Frisbie
Plant Sale	Bob Bruett
Programs	Nancy Asquini-Dean
Publicity	Lesley Jackson
	Connie Landwehr
Scholarship	Sheila Coffin
	Emma Visee
Website	Denise Nowak

## Project Coordinators

Blood Drive, Lew Coffin  
Emma Visee, Garden Club Awards  
Claudette Norwell-Philipp, Student Partnership

## Club Website

Have you visited the AHGC [website](#) recently? If you are not familiar with the AHGC website, be sure to take some time to check it out.

Some of the information you will find on our website Includes:

- \* Newsletter archives
- \* Upcoming events
- \* Membership only section (password required) to access our membership list, sign up to volunteer
- \* Our club history including past club presidents
- \* Bylaws
- \* Scholarship program
- \* Gardening resources/tips on:
  - ◇ Midwest Milkweed
  - ◇ Gardening with Children
  - ◇ Native Pollinators in the Midwest
  - ◇ How to Build a Pollinator Garden
  - ◇ Selecting Trees for Your Home
  - ◇ Selecting a Shrub for Your Home
  - ◇ Planning a Garden
  - ◇ Composting

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

# Treasurer's Report

Pete Landwehr | Treasurer

ARLINGTON HEIGHTS GARDEN CLUB TREASURER'S REPORT January, 2023
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**Checking Account Balance 12/31/22** Stmt Date \$ 7,766.21

**Receipts:**

2 AHGC polo shirts	1/11/23	48.00	Ligenza, Miller
Half price couples membership	1/9/23	20.00	Kostal
Half price membership	1/18/23	12.50	Kengott
Reeb	1/18/23	15.00	GW stone stand
Jagilski shirt purchase on website	1/31/23	24.00	reversed in February
less: Credit Card Fees		\$ (2.54)	
Total		116.96	

**Disbursements (cleared):**

	<u>Check #</u>	<u>Ck Date</u>		
Bev Krams	1582	1/10/23	35.00	Dennehey GW stone
Sherri Martin	1583	1/10/23	180.00	4 GW stones & stands
Karen Reeb	1584	1/18/23	180.00	GW donation letter stamps
Auto Owners Insurance Co	1585	1/24/23	364.00	Insurance Policy renewal
Renie Norkiewicz	1587	1/24/23	75.48	membership badges
GCI	1588	1/24/23	6.50	new members - 2 Kostals, Kengott
Total			840.98	

**Checking Account Balance 1/31/23** \$ 7,042.19

**Receipts to be deposited**

Receivable for Holiday workshop	30.00	Marty Landwehr
Receivable for stone stands - 3 @ \$15	45.00	Dingboom, Bruett, Plischke
Refund of Jatielski	(24.00)	charged back 2/8
Total undeposited receipts	\$ 51.00	

**cleared**

	<u>Check #</u>	<u>Ck Date</u>		
BSA Troop 37	1540	10/16/22	150.00	Zac Nesvacil Eagle Project
Volo Bog	1542	11/1/22	200.00	Discretionary Donation
New Salem Lincoln League	1568	11/7/22	100.00	Discretionary Donation
Cate Doane	1579	12/19/22	17.88	Holiday Party centerpieces
Denise Nowak	1586	1/24/23	167.88	WIX website tools

Total outstanding checks and invoices \$ 635.76

**ADJUSTED CASH POSITION 1/31/23** \$ 6,457.43



# AHGC Board Meeting Summary - February 13, 2023

Halina Zbilski / Recording Secretary

## **President - Jim Spannagel**

The Nominating Committee will be working to fill 6 open spots for Horticulture, Hospitality, Membership, Vice President, (Beth will be transitioning to President), Programs Co-Chair, and Website.

## **Treasurer – Pete Landwehr**

- We are seeking registration as a 501(c)(3) NFP (not for profit) organization. A raffle will not be part of our Garden Walk this year since the NFP status change and raffle license application with the Illinois Gaming Board cannot be completed before the Garden Walk.
- A discretionary donation to the Historical Society (Farmer’s Market sponsor) of \$1250 will make the Garden Club a sponsor. A donation to the Historical Museum of \$750 for an exhibit (“Arlington Heights: A to Z”) will enable us to be a sponsor for the next 3 years.
- The School Grant Project was given approval for granting three \$150 awards to go to Greenbrier, Olive, and Westgate elementary schools.

## **Conservation – June Miller**

- Ivy Hill School is the recipient of our annual tree which will be a memorial for a student who passed away.
- We will be supporting and participating in the Village’s activities on or near Earth Day, Sat April 22. Members will assist with compost and mulch distribution. A future Village project is planting a nature garden in front of the public works.

## **Garden Walk – Karen Reeb and Linda Heller**

Garden stones will be presented at the February meeting to those garden club members who hosted garden walks in the past. Garden stones are being ordered for 5 households in this year’s Garden Walk.

## **Horticulture – Bev Krams**

Old newsletters dating back to 2001 were taken to the library for help in converting them into a digital format. The only cost was \$18 for the USB drive.

## **Membership – Renie Norkiewicz and Shelley Plischke**

Current membership is 126 members.

## **Plant Sale – Bob Bruett**

Our plant sale is scheduled for June 3, 2023. There will be a meeting with Museum staff to discuss availability of tables, in addition to other details. This year we need more people to help with digging up plants for those members who need this help.

## **Programs – Nancy Asquini-Dean**

Attendance at the January Library Program “Easiest Houseplants Ever, with Style” by Tovah Martin totaled 145.

## **Publicity – Lesley Jackson and Connie Landwehr**

Programs are listed in the Garden Section in the Sunday Daily Herald, as well as garden clubs offering scholarships.

## **Scholarship – Emma Visee and Sheila Coffin**

Scholarship applications deadline is March 15th. All members will be asked to promote scholarship awareness among their families, friends, and community.

## **Business/Old Business/Announcement**

A motion was approved that the AHGC create a Blue Star Memorial in Arlington Heights along Northwest Highway, with the support of our local VFW, American Legion, and Marine Corp. It will be installed along the parkway on the south side of Northwest Hwy between Dunton and Evergreen, the location recommended by the Village and supported by the veterans. The dedication ceremony will be organized after the Blue Star Memorial is set up.

**Next Board Meeting: March 13, 2023**