



THE SILVER LINING OF WEEDS

Jim Spannagel, President

As gardeners or former gardeners, we have all spent countless hours fighting the constant nuisance of weeds among our flowers and vegetables that we want to flourish without unneeded competition. With rain being plentiful during the early part of the summer, I found it necessary to give my gardens a good weeding every few weeks. This meant much time getting tanned in my front yard.

One of the surprise benefits of all this time close to my front sidewalk, was meeting and speaking with walkers, strollers, dogs and friendly neighbors. There have been several times the normal traffic past our house. The virus has caused us to become a nation of walkers again, just to get out and get some fresh air and exercise. Dogs have never had it so good with their owners home all day to give them regular outings. (Someone told me that as soon as people go back to work, our dogs are going to need counseling!)

What a wonderful unexpected plus, to be able to chat with neighbors, whom I have never met before, learn their names, where they live, and something about them! And dogs, I never knew we were surrounded by so many. I must confess, I find it easier to remember dog names (like Coco, Rocky, Rosie, Scruffy, etc.) rather than my newly met neighbor's names. It has been delightful to see who makes up our neighborhood and how friendly people are when we have the time to speak with them and share our common experiences of dealing with the virus. Yes, it is not all bad.

Jim

General Meeting on Sept. 28th

Monday, September 28th @ 7 PM is our next meeting and all Garden Club members are encouraged to attend.

This meeting will be virtual using Zoom, a web-based video conferencing tool.

A Zoom invite will be emailed to all members with instructions on how to sign into the September 28th meeting. See you on Zoom!

More information about this meeting can be found on page 4 .

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Financial Update

Pete Landwehr, Treasurer

When we were able to meet in person, I would give the monthly Treasurer's Report and Annual Report at those meetings. Since we are unable to do so at present, I wanted to give the membership a quick update of our current financial position in the newsletter.

Below is a summary financial statement for the fiscal year just ended. Obviously, COVID 19 has significantly affected our operations and the related income and expense items. Our income was much less due to cancellation of the Garden Walk, Unique Boutique and Raffle fundraisers. We were fortunate to put together a smaller Plant Sale at the last minute that netted almost \$3,000. Also, we have spent much less on program fees and other expenses due to cancelled meetings, speakers and the BBQ.

Of the \$12,380 cash balance at the end of August, we have allocated \$4,000 for scholarships already awarded for the 2020-21 school year as well as a total of \$4,000 in discretionary donations that we have approved and communicated but not yet paid out to the Historical Society, Park District and Village. This leaves us with \$4,380 to cover programs, any meeting fees we do have and other expenses until next spring when we start receiving revenue for next year's Garden Walk (here's hoping we will have one).

If you have any questions, please contact [Pete](#).

Arlington Heights Garden Club			
Financial Report for the Fiscal Year			
September 1, 2019 - August 31, 2020			
	<u>Income</u>	<u>Expense</u>	<u>Net Income</u> <u>(Expense)</u>
Membership Dues	\$ 1,517.50		\$ 1,517.50
Meeting Sales			-
Tours & Workshops	-	60.00	(60.00)
Unique Boutique	915.00	489.33	425.67
GW/UB Sponsorships & Ads	100.00	-	100.00
Garden Walk	-	83.33	(83.33)
Plant Sales	3,085.50	104.95	2,980.55
Raffle	-	282.67	(282.67)
Artistic		-	-
Meeting Presentations		350.00	(350.00)
Social	-	415.55	(415.55)
Newsletter & website		-	-
Donations	-	1,500.00	(1,500.00)
GCI / CBG Dues		869.00	(869.00)
Scholarships & Tuition Reimbursements	2,000.00	6,000.00	(4,000.00)
Conservation/Civic		137.29	(137.29)
Insurance		309.00	(309.00)
Garden Walk Meeting dinners		35.56	(35.56)
Polo shirts + aprons	538.00	941.24	(403.24)
Finance		225.77	(225.77)
General	25.00	306.41	(281.41)
Money Market	50.37		50.37
Totals	<u>\$ 8,231.37</u>	<u>\$ 12,110.10</u>	<u>\$ (3,878.73)</u>

Gardening Tips

Bev Krams, Horticulture

How are those September Garden Chores coming along?

Wow! It's September already.....how did those COVID-19 quarantining months fly by so fast? I must have been out gardening and now it is almost time to put the garden 'away'.... but wait. SEPTEMBER is a great time to:

Attend to those trees and shrubs you have been wanting to add to the yard. With this summer having had more than 30 days of over 90 degree temps, it made it difficult to even think about planting anything! But now is the time to get those new shrubs and trees into your yard. Most importantly, when you do put them in, water them and water them again!

You must have noticed while taking all those long COVID-19 walks that it looked more like October than August. The trees have been dropping leaves like crazy. It's dry out there and the trees are EXHAUSTED, STRESSED and TIRED. Did I mention water them....and water them again.

Divide and add perennials to your garden bed. Time to take inventory and fill in those spaces where the weeds were growing with your divided perennials. What a great idea! Also don't forget to save some room for your bulbs which you will be planting next month. Now, how many late great blooming perennials do you now have in your garden? Do you need more?

Fight next years weeds. Yes, those perennials you were going to dig up are going to replace where the weeds were growing. In addition you can add ground cover to choke out the weeds and don't give them the room to grow. Now is a great time to get them planted. If all else fails, chop off their heads! Getting rid of weed seed heads is the best way to stop them from scattering into your yard and the neighbors. Don't let them set seed.

Repair and refurbish your lawn. Core aerating, top dressing the lawn with compost and over seeding can be the best thing you can do to give your lawn a facelift. Now is the time to make it happen.



"The best time to plant a tree was twenty years ago. The second best time is now."

— Chinese proverb

September Program

General Meeting on September 28th

Val Solaski, Programs

Dress Up Your Home in Autumn

September 28, 2020



The first program of the Arlington Heights Garden Club season 2020-2021 will feature Kim Hartman. Kim is a farm girl and a University of Illinois graduate. She's been a Communications consultant for 20 years and a Landscape Designer and Horticulture Educator for 15 years. Kim is a mother of 3 and a recent grandmother of one. She is passionate about nature, plants and travel and is intrigued by exploring, learning and growing.

Want to extend your garden's season deep into fall? This program will highlight plants and combinations for the landscape and containers that have striking fall color, fruit and form for the autumn months. It will also highlight the best practices for keeping our landscapes looking good in the fall months while getting them ready for winter.

Join Our Virtual Meeting Programs

On Monday, September 28th, grab yourself a glass a wine (something we couldn't do if we were meeting in person), a cup of coffee, a coke, or whatever you like, and join us from home for an interesting program presented by Kim Hartmann of Countryside Flower Shop & Nursery. This will be our first general meeting in 7 months and we will **begin a little before 7 PM** to allow members to sign into Zoom and then we'll have a brief business meeting to bring all members up to date on what has been happening with your Garden Club. At approximately 7:15, Kim will begin her presentation "Dress Up Your Home in Autumn". She will present until about 8:15 and take your questions.

Each member will receive an email invite ahead of time and it is very easy to join our Zoom meeting. Simply, click onto the link which should be highlighted in color and you should be admitted to our meeting. Be sure to have your speakers and video/camera turned on. You can choose to have only your name only displayed on the Zoom screen, or your face (uses your computer camera). Please join us. I know it is not the same as seeing each other in person, but your Board is trying to continue to provide excellent educational opportunities and valuable information to all members.

If you have never used Zoom meetings before, or if you feel unsure of using Zoom, we will have a trial/practice meeting on Sunday evening, September 27th at 7 PM. An invitation to the Sunday evening "practice" Zoom session will be sent to all members and if you want to do a trial run of using Zoom, just click on the colored portion of the invitation and you should be admitted to the meeting. Be sure that your video camera and your speakers are turned on.

IMPORTANT: You Must Register for our October Program

Our October program will also be virtual but will be in partnership with the Arlington Heights Memorial Library. Kim White will present a fascinating program, "Biomimicry: Looking to Nature to Solve Today's Problems". The program will be a Library Zoom event on Monday, October 26, from 7:30 pm to 8:30 pm. As this is in partnership with the Library and open to the public, you will need to [register in advance to attend this event](#). You will find the link to register on the Arlington Heights Library Programs calendar for October 26th. Registration is now open for this event.

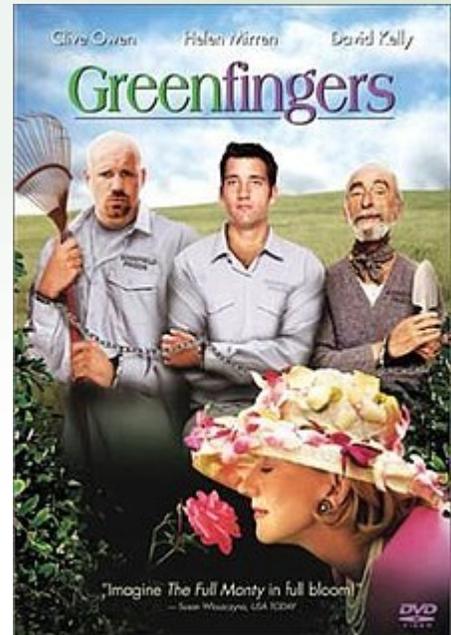
Movie Recommendation: GREENFINGERS

Bev Krams, Horticulture

More than anything, my garden gives me hope, gives me purpose and provides a sense of connection to something bigger than myself.

—Hollie Niblett

This R rated 2000 British comedy is 'loosely' based on a true story that occurred in a minimum security prison in the Cotswolds in England. You will recognize the name Helen Mirren who stars as Georgina Woodhouse, the gardening expert. Clive Owen and David Kelly are two of our convicts.



The 'open' minimum security prison houses long term convicts with good behavior records to provide a trade or craft for their future release. The warden decides one convicted murderer (Clive Owen) has a Green Thumb as we would call it in the States. However, the film being set in England, the appropriate term is 'GREEN FINGER'!

A number of prisoners become extremely knowledgeable gardeners, landscapers and talented enough for Ms. Woodhouse to encourage the group to enter their 'Junkyard in Bloom' into the Hampton Court Garden Show. Setbacks, romance and illness fill this light gardening comedy.

You will love this movie! It is right up a gardener's path for entertainment! It is not only funny but it touches the soul and you may even shed a tear, I did.

Board of Directors

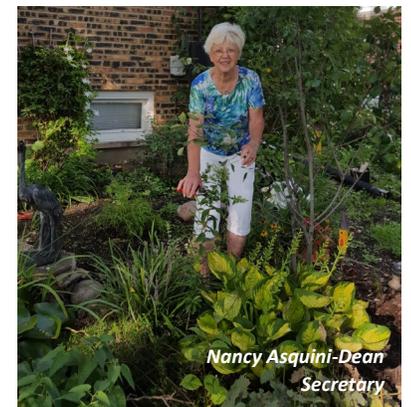
President	Jim Spannagel
Secretary	Nancy Asquini-Dean
Treasurer	Pete Landwehr

Committee Chairs

Artistic	Barb Franks
Civics	Kathy Wolan Mike Relaz
Conservation	Daniella Sents Christina Preston (co-chair)
Garden Walk	Kathy Hendricksen Aileen Koeppen (co-chair)
Horticulture	Bev Krams
Hospitality	Marilyn Weber Joe Weber
Membership	Renie Norkiewicz Shelley Plischke
Newsletter	Mona Frisbie
Plant Sale	Bob Bruett
Programs	Val Solaski
Publicity	Leslie Meredith
Scholarship	Mike Dennehey
Website	Mike Dennehey

Aloe There! Long Thyme, No See! Our Board is Composted of:

(not all of our board members are pictured)



Gardening Events | Webinars & Workshops

Bev Krams, Horticulture

Chalet Nursey is hosting several virtual learning events and online workshops.

Transform your Landscape with Outdoor Structures.

Learn from Chalet Landscape's Director of Design, Eric Braun, on how you can transform your outdoor space while incorporating outdoor structures. Our expert, Eric, will cover everything from fire fixtures, fences, gates and pergolas to mailboxes and light posts. Whether you are looking to define an entranceway or walkway or create some privacy, we will inspire you to make your outside space your favorite room in the house!

Friday, September 18th @ 10AM. Webinar is free but you need to [signup online](#).

Maintaining the Fall Garden and Fall Gardening Ideas

In this educational webinar, Tony Fulmer, Chalet's Chief Horticultural Officer, shares key tips to maintaining the beauty and vigor of your fall landscape – from trees and turf to bulbs and perennials, and everything in between.

Friday, September 25th @ 10AM. Webinar is free but you need to [signup online](#).

Scarecrow Building Event

Our popular fall family event is back - in a socially distanced format! Enjoy quality time with your family at Chalet and build a scarecrow for free. Bring along some old clothes and accessories to dress your scarecrow and we'll provide the head and straw. We will also have our resident beekeeper on site providing honey demos.

Saturday, October 3rd and Sunday October 4th from 11-4PM. [By appointment only](#). This event is free.



Native Plant Quiz

The University of Michigan Matthaei Botanical Gardens & Nichols Arboretum published a quiz to see how well you know your Native Plants. [Take the QUIZ](#) and find out!



Civics Update

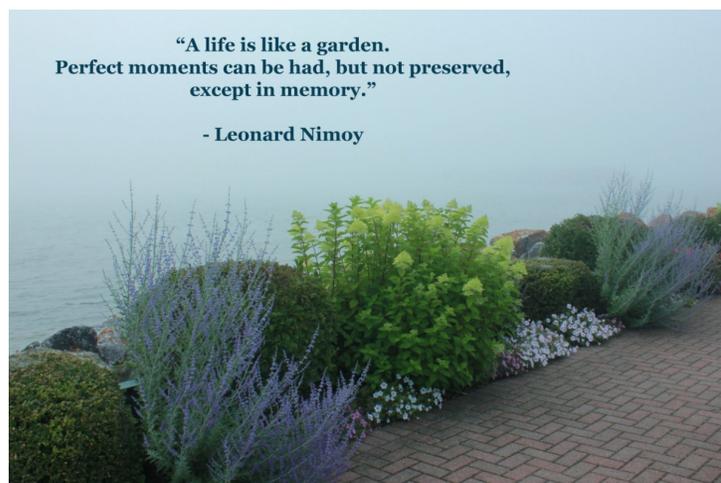
Kathy Wolan and Mike Relaz, Civics

It has been a quiet spring and summer for the Civics committee. Since gathering in groups has been forbidden, after sheltering in place both Mike and I decided to do a little needed work at the Historical Society garden. Public Works mulched the entire garden in at least three inches of mulch so much had to be removed so plants could get through. We also removed about 70' x 3' of mulch on the west side of the museum where we like to have clean landscape fabric along the bed of hostas. This has been our solution to the many weeds that always popped up on that part of the property. When mulch was put on top of the fabric it turned to the best ever soil and was fabulous for those weeds. Some of the removed mulch has been installed at the Post Office in the hosta garden on the east side of the building. As for weeding at the Post Office. I got some weed killer and put it on the many dandelions that flourish there. Mike asked me to help him install a garden at the west end of Sigwalt Street where he had Public Works remove a Buckthorn forest. The nearby neighbors cooperate in watering all the many plants we installed and it is thriving. The gardens at the Historic Society are now hosta gardens that don't require weeding. We'd like to invite you to enjoy this garden, as it is available to the public but is a well kept secret.

Scholarship News

Mike Dennehey, Scholarships

The Garden Club received a note from Matthew Hoffman, one of our scholarship recipients.



Arlington Heights Garden Club Board Meeting September 14, 2020 (Submitted Notes)

I. President – Jim Spannagel

- A. Opened meeting with welcome to all attendees.
- B. Announced that we have our own Zoom account now and don't have to limit meetings to 40 minutes or less.
- C. American Heritage of Prospect Hts. needed tomato plants. Jim donated 150 plants that had been home grown.

II. Secretary – Nancy Asquini Dean

- A. July 27th board minutes motion to approve made by Kathy H and seconded by Barb F. Board approved.

III. Membership – Renie Norkiewicz, Shelly Plischke

- A. Membership analysis sheets for 2018/19 and 2019/20 were distributed to Board. Shows increase in membership to 81 for 2019/20 but May 2020 figures are 64 (down-with some members say they will join when meetings begin again.)
- B. Will virtual meetings entice more people to join based on the content of the presentation.
- C. Current 2020/21 membership list enclosed with report.
- D. Committee Interest Report Sheet included with report.

IV. Treasurer – Pete Landwehr

- A. August treasurer's report reports no transactions. Current cash on 8/31 was \$12,380.24. September expenses to date were \$2,000 scholarship paid (Hoffman) and \$150.00 for Zoom membership and several small expenditures. Shelley made motion to approve, Nancy seconded. All approved.
- B. Donations that Board has previously approved are \$4,000: \$2,000 Historical Society, \$1,000 Park District, and \$1,000 Village and to be paid now. Pete will issue checks and give to Jim S. to send with cover letter. District 25 \$500 (tree) donation not being made at this time.
- C. Pete provided fiscal year report and proposed Budget 2020/21 for review by Board members. Have ideas and suggestions ready for discussion at agreed Budget meeting on Monday, September 21st at 7:00 PM. Jim to send out invitation.

V. Artistic – Barb Franks

- A. No report. No activities planned.

VI. Civics – Mike Relaz, Kathy Wolan

- A. Mike gave thanks to all who helped at Post Office (says weeding is still being done but beds are ready for winter). Also, Forest View Academy where Mike and Marilyn report that there were lots of donations given from the produce grown.
- B. Thank you email from Forest View for Mike's growing light improvement.

VII. Conservation – Daniella Sents, Christine Preston

- A. No report.

VIII. Horticulture – Bev Krams

- A. Suggests as club motto: "Friends are like flowers. We look forward to the new annuals and cherish the perennials!" Seen on a Thornton Oaks brochure and Bev checking with them to see if there are any restrictions or reasons we could not use.
- B. Bev started a collage for newsletter of Board Members' shown in their garden.

IX. Garden Walk – Kathy Hendricksen, Aileen Koeppen (co-chair)

- A. Have January meeting as scheduled and assess event future at that time. Jim says he still has homeowners' letters and they are agreeable.
- B. Kathy to check on Nancy and Leslie's input on current art fairs taking place now where they do time slots and distancing with fewer vendors allowed to participate. Articles have been available in the Herald on these current fairs, and Leslie gave Kathy some further sources to contact to check details on process.

X. Newsletter – Mona Frisbie

- A. Reminded everyone items are due by September 15th for inclusion in newsletter.

XI. Program – Val Solaski

- A. No in person meetings at this time. No facility has open spaces now.
- B. September will be a Zoom meeting. Brief business (10-15 minutes) meeting prior to presentation. Being presented from Countryside location. Will be a **members only** and a password will be needed.
- C. **October 26th** meeting will be thru the Library. Our Club will be mentioned as involved with the program. (Kathy glad for the Club exposure.)
- D. **November** is a virtual presentation by speaker Berman "Soaring With The Birds"
- E. **No December, January or February meetings.**
- F. Val to send Pete addresses of presenters so he can mail them their check.
- G. Val is wanting to keep our members informed during this pandemic.

XII. Plant Sale – Bob Bruitt

- A. Jim reports that the Village has given us permission to divide plants in Friendship Park.
- B. Are we interested in the millennial daylily that was created for A.H. years ago? Nancy says that president of Prospect Hts. GC has this perennial growing in her yard. May be able to share some with us. Nancy will check with her.

XIII. Hospitality – Marilyn and Joe Weber

- A. Asked for thoughts on Holiday party which will be a virtual occasion. Pete says District 214 could present a concert by the high school concert band. There is a Master Gardener who can present a Christmas cactus program.

XIV. Scholarship/Website – Mike Dennehey

- A. Thank you email from Marilyn Krueger, GCI President, for the scholarship assistance our club provides-over 5% of all state scholarships granted.

XV. Publicity – Leslie Meredith

- A. Mentioned recent Herald article about Susan B. Good who was a member of AHGC years ago and wrote for the Herald many years. She was honored with an award.

(Meeting Notes continued on next page)

Arlington Heights Garden Club Board Meeting September 14, 2020 (Submitted Notes)

NEW BUSINESS, OLD BUSINESS/ANNOUNCEMENTS

- A. Blue Star Memorial Marker. Carol Ohrn, District IX, Blue Star Committee would like to address our club on this topic. Which meeting? Jim is going to invite her for November.
- B. WINGS landscaping project request. Waiting for Bruna Srb to get back to us with a date for the next meeting and which will include other organizations in the community.
- C. Gerry's Café update. No known information at this time.
- D. Still open for suggestions on how to show our appreciation for our local hospital teams and first responders for their efforts during the COVID-19 virus.
- E. No other items brought up.

Meeting ended at 8:40 PM. Motion made by Pete, seconded by Mike

NEXT BOARD MEETING: October 12th

Nancy Asquini Dean, Recording Secretary, September 16, 2020