

## Message from The President



It's May and the weather is warming up enough to get out and weed the garden to make room for all the plants purchased from our Fundraiser Plant Sale. I trust we'll be sharing our experiences including our challenges, triumphs and failures as spring and summer come along. For my part, I have the perfect area for a Pollinator Pocket in an area that seems out of control but also has some beautiful plants to tend to. Currently the spring beauties are blooming and the false Solomon Seal, red trillium and peonies are starting to emerge. I am determined to reclaim this area, install a new path for access and plant the new Plant Sale acquisitions. Luckily there will be extra plants available to purchase at the Plant Sale to fill in any holes.

Recently Mary Ainger, Nancy Slatin and I, accompanied by spouses, went to Springfield, IL to attend the Garden Clubs of Illinois State Convention. It was enjoyable sightseeing and an inspirational two days of networking with other Garden Clubs. We learned that the Libertyville Town and Country Garden Club has 100% percent of their 32 members participating in their Hidden Gems Garden Walk. That is such an admirable feat that I'd like to challenge us to match this record for our May Plant Sale and the July, "A Walk in The Shire" garden walk. For the Garden Walk we will need docents at each of the houses throughout the day, so please reach out to Jana Wagner help. Remember that the proceeds fund our Allocations every year, our new Scholarship Allocation is one in particular of which I am very proud.

(Continued on Page 2)

## May Meeting

Thursday, May 16, 2024

"Dahlias—Living Fireworks"



Continental Breakfast – 9:30 AM

Business Meeting – 9:45 AM

Program – 10:30 AM

Carol and her husband Mike 'found' dahlias 20 years ago and their life has not been the same since. They plant tubers in the basement in February and grow 200-300 plants each year, with 65 of them going to their own garden.

Carol has spoken at the Chicago Flower and Garden Show and managed their seminars on-site during the show. Carol is past president of the Elk Grove Village Garden Club

Mike is past president of the Central States Dahlia Society, while Carol loves to share their dahlia passion and let you know how you can grow dahlias too.

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## Message from The President

(Continued)

Speaking of Garden Clubs of Illinois, I hope that you are enjoying the recent edition of the Garden Glories mailed out to everyone. This is a GCI member benefit. The newsletter and their website is a great resource. GCI offers classes on Flower Shows, horticulture, arboriculture and webinars just for interest and education.

If you're looking for more ways to get involved in LGC, a couple Standing Committee positions are available, these positions can easily fit into a busy schedule. Please especially consider leading the Hospitality, or Women's Residential Services (WRS) standing committees and ask a friend to co-chair for more fun and camaraderie. Also, Nancy Slatin is looking for an apprentice to assist compiling the articles then take over the newsletter after a year. Joining the board and leading one of these standing committees brings fresh ideas and is a great way to help make our LGC a better organization to provide community service, and foster new friendships. Please step up— we'll help you transition in.

Looking ahead in May, I hope that you will enjoy Cinco de Mayo, Mother's Day and Memorial Day with family and friends.

In friendship,

Kathleen Abdo



## Where to Locate a Birdhouse

George Harrison—Birds & Blooms



There are few bird-watching experiences more rewarding than setting up a birdhouse and having a pair of birds select it as their home to raise young. Get ready for an adventure as you witness the awe-inspiring life cycle of birds. But setting up a successful birdhouse isn't as simple as "build it and they will come." There are several key factors to consider as you choose a birdhouse.

Many backyard birds will not use a birdhouse or nest box, including species like cardinals, orioles and goldfinches. But enough birds do nest in birdhouses to make it worthwhile to set up a few to see what happens.

About 30 bird species in each region of the country are so-called cavity nesters, which means that most of them will also use a birdhouse. Bluebirds, purple martins, house wrens, chickadees, tree swallows and house sparrows are the most common birds that nest in houses. Attracting birds like wood ducks, screech-owls, woodpeckers, titmice and nuthatches may also be possible.

When birds nest on your property and raise their young, it's so gratifying. "It's the ultimate standard of success," said Robyn Bailey, project leader of the Cornell Lab of Ornithology's NestWatch program. "And it brings a greater diversity of birds to your backyard."

Birdhouses should hang in the habitats the birds like most. Each species has different habitat requirements, and this includes the environment they'll choose for nesting. For example, the best location for a bluebird house is an area facing or surrounded by open fields, where the insects they eat and feed to their young are plentiful. They prefer nest boxes with a clear flight path. Chickadees are just the opposite. They prefer houses in a thicket or a stand of small trees and shrubs. House wrens like to choose a home near woody vegetation. Purple martins select apartment houses placed on a tall pole in the middle of a lawn or open field. And tree swallows want to be close to water where they can find aquatic insects to eat and feed to their young. Try not to place the house too close to bird feeders.

# Allocations Report—2024

In keeping with the objective of our Mission Statement, the following organizations received funding totaling \$10,000.

## ***Beautification***

Village of Lincolnshire **\$1,000**  
Funding to replace lost/damaged plants at Memorial Park, located at the corner of Half Day Road and Riverwoods Road. The Village will match our donation.

## ***Community Gardens & Food Pantries***

Freemont Township Garden & Food Pantry **\$ 400**  
Funding for plantings and necessary gardening materials, such as soil and mulch, to continue to maintain their three gardens.

Roberti Community House **\$1,700**  
Funding to be used to maintain, repair or replace the 30 raised beds, soil for beds, and seasonal plantings.

Vernon Township Food Pantry **\$ 700**  
Funding to be used to purchase plants and seeds for their annual plantings.

## ***Educational Programs***

College of Lake County (CLC) **\$1,000**  
Funding for a CLC Horticultural Scholarship to promote the education of a qualifying student.

Lake County Forest Preserves—Preservation Foundation **\$ 500**  
Funding to provide the educational materials for learning at “CICADAFEST” to be held at Ryerson Woods on June 9, 2024 at noon.

University of Illinois Extension (UIE) Lake County Master Gardeners **\$1,000**  
Funding to expand the Sustainable Edible Educational Display Garden (SEED) and build two new 4’ x 8’ x 1’ raised beds.

## ***Gardening & Garden Therapy***

Center for Enriched Living (CEL) **\$1,500**  
Funding for new raised beds and indoor grow carts equipped with specialized lighting. Funds would also support seasonal plantings and supplies.

Equestrian Connection (EC) **\$1,500**  
Funding would expand and enhance their Sensory Garden Project for special needs adults and youth.

Riverside Foundation (RF) **\$ 700**  
Funding to replace rotting wood at raised vegetable beds and replacement of planters..

**Respectfully Submitted at the April 4, 2024 Board Meeting:**

Trish Hughes, V.P. Allocations

Committee Members: Dawn Fleischman, Joann Schwarcz, Jana Wagner, Hazel Weaver

## Perennials



### What to do with daffodils after flowering to ensure generous returning blooms next spring— woman&home

Daffodils are an iconic symbol of spring, as their stunning display of yellow petals and trumpets create a canvas of uplifting sunny color to revive post-winter gardens.

These signature yellow flowers are a timeless garden trend that signifies the first signs of spring. These gloriously low-maintenance showstoppers flower between February and May, depending on the weather, and will flower for up to 6-8 weeks – adding vibrant color to your garden beds, borders and pots. But what do you do with daffodils after flowering?

Should you cut them back or does this damage the prospect of them flowering next year, similar to when pruning roses?

To gain better insight we've consulted leading gardening experts to obtain the best advice on what to do with daffodils after flowering to ensure they return year after year more glorious than the last. Once the yellow flowers begin to wither the best option is to deadhead them but keep the foliage. TV's gardening expert Alan Titchmarsh explains how to do this in his advisory Instagram video.

"Daffodils are lovely when they're in bloom but when they go over they do look rather sad and tatty, and they make the garden look messy and not very nice," Alan explains. "The easiest thing to do, with your thumb and your finger, pinch off the heads with the seed pods to save the plants energy and bung them on your compost heap."

Alan then goes on to say that under no circumstances should you chop or tie the remaining leaves. In agreement with this is gardening expert Sarah Raven, who says: "To effectively deadhead daffodils, make sure you cut the stem above the leaves. **Don't remove the foliage immediately; leave it for at least six weeks after flowering** as this will help next year's flowers."

## Community Outreach

### Area Farmers Markets



If you are not aware of it, the Lincolnshire Garden Club participates at local Farmers Markets in the summer and fall to share information on education to protect pollinators.

The following are the Libertyville Farmers Market days for LGC: 6/20, 7/25, 8/15, 9/12, 10/10.

If any members would like to help man our booth, please contact Marj Lundy.

The time is 7:30 am to 1:00 pm but we can decide to come/go at different times if we like. It is a great way to introduce the Lincolnshire Garden Club and raise awareness about pollinators in our community.

## Science

### Hope for the Cilantro-Averse

Cook's Illustrated



The distinctive soapy taste that 12 percent of European-descended people identify in *Coriandrum sativum* is primarily due to the aldehydes decenal, (E) -2-tetradecenal, and (E) -2—decenal, which can also be present in actual soap.

However, during cooking, the problematic aldehydes are converted by enzymes to inoffensive alcohols, causing the disagreeable taste to disappear.

So if you think you don't care for cilantro, there's no need to get into a lather. Try cooking it.



## The Garden Clubs of Illinois Annual Meeting Highlights

Nancy Slatin



Mary Ainger, Kathleen Abdo and I attended our second GCI Annual Meeting on April 21-22, 2024 in Springfield, IL. I had not been to Springfield since the 6th grade. On Sunday, April 21, we toured the Governor's Mansion. We met Harry Lewis, Horticulturalist for the Mansion. He is pictured in the upper left with Kathleen and Suheil Abdo. Harry is responsible for the one city block of grounds surrounding the mansion. The grounds are comprised of turf, mature trees, ground cover, formal gardens and country-style gardens. Harry has help three days a week when a guard brings two state Department of Corrections inmates to the grounds to assist him. Landscape Architect, Craig Bergman was brought in by MK Pritzker to improve the grounds.

We toured the public rooms in the Governor's Mansion (where photography was not allowed) which were exquisitely decorated. I highly recommend taking a tour to see the lovely rooms, the architectural details, interior decorating, paneled library, spectacular chandeliers, silver service in the dining room (with the largest dining table you have every seen), and so much more. It's a wow!

On the morning of the Annual Meeting, we were delighted to meet an Abe Lincoln impersonator. We are pictured above on the right. The keynote speaker, Guy Sternberg, spoke on 'The Artistic Morphology of Trees'. He is a world-renowned tree expert and his photographs were breathtaking. After his presentation Kim Atkins, Awards Chairman announced the State awards. LGC won awards, whose details and photos will be featured in the June issue of the Flower Press.

At lunch, we sat with the President and Garden Walk Chairman of the Town & Country Garden Club of Libertyville. They shared some of their best practices, including signage, their member volunteer policy, maximum attendance and a letter they place on door handles of homes they would like to feature in the next year. By recruiting homes the year prior, photos of the gardens may be taken in the height of summer, which they use on their website to generate interest in the next year's garden walk.

After lunch there was a floral presentation. In an effort to save time, Kim Brannon, an award winning floral designer pre-made some centerpieces which she described and unveiled. They were gorgeous. A few photos appear below. In closing, it was a worthwhile two days for us to reconnect with the GCI Officers, Directors and fellow Garden Club Directors and celebrate all we love about our shared passion of gardening, while doing good for our communities and the planet.



# Conservation



## RECYCLING

### Myth or Reality

Donnie R. Dann

The conscientious consumer faithfully puts the plastic container in a bin with every expectation that it will be recycled. Will it or won't it? It depends.

At the bottom of that and other similar plastic containers is a triangle with a number inside, from #1 through #7, reflecting the 7 types of plastics. Plastics numbered #1 and #2 will probably get recycled. Those numbered #3 through #7 are more challenging to recycle and most end up in a landfill.

Will recycling happen when it comes to materials like paper, newspapers, cardboard and cans? What about glass bottles? They can be recycled indefinitely. But it's metal cans that have the highest rate, at 88%. The American Forest and Paper Association urges recycling of the following (a partial list):

Stationery

Newspaper

Magazines

Catalogs

Phone books

Paperboard boxes

White office paper

Receipts

Writing paper

Padded (non-plastic) mailers

Cardboard boxes

(clean) Pizza boxes

Envelopes

Milk and juice containers

Frozen food boxes

Acceptable take-out food containers

Candy boxes

Cereal boxes

Over the counter medicine boxes

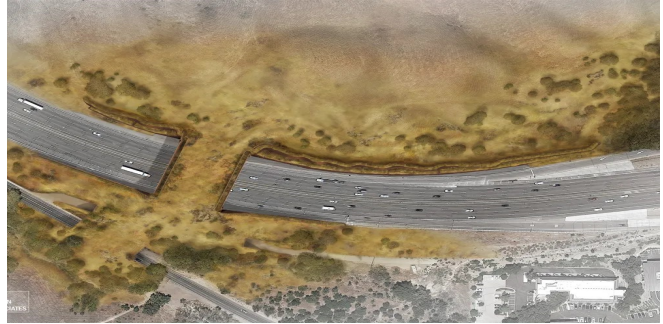
Thus our environmentally mindful consumer can take pride in his/her conscientiousness. It all depends on what he/she puts in that bin.

The take-home message is wherever possible limit what you buy that is encased in plastic (other than #1 and #2). and be sure to clean and recycle everything from the list shown.

## Conservation

### “World’s Largest Animal Crossing” Being Built In Los Angeles

Sara Kuta—Smithsonian Magazine



When freeways are built through their natural habitats, animals often end up suffering—and so do humans on the road. Every year, more than one million wildlife-vehicle collisions occur across America, resulting in 200 deaths and 26,000 injuries to drivers and passengers.

Now, an ambitious project in California aims to help address this problem. Crews are building the “largest wildlife crossing in the world of its kind” over Highway 101 in Los Angeles County.

When the project is finished in 2025, the manmade crossing should provide safe passage for mountain lions, bobcats, deer, lizards, coyotes, snakes and ants as they move between the Santa Monica Mountains and the Simi Hills of the Santa Susana mountain range.

Called the Wallis Annenberg Wildlife Crossing, the project will cost \$92 million. It’s being funded via a public-private partnership between numerous collaborators, including Caltrans, the National Park Service and the National Wildlife Federation.

Crews broke ground on Earth Day two years ago. Last week, the project hit a major milestone as the first horizontal section was lowered into place above the freeway. In the coming months, crews will install more than 80 of these concrete girders, each weighing between 126 and 140 tons.

The 210-foot-long crossing will form a bridge over eight lanes of traffic. It will eventually be covered in vegetation, including more than a million native plants, to make it more appealing to wildlife. Landscapers will also plant trees and vegetation on 12 acres on either side of the crossing to make it feel “more like walking over a hill than crossing a bridge,” as Jeanette Marantos wrote for the *Los Angeles Times* last year.

### Leopard’s Bane

Jana Wagner



### Lovely Dragonfly

Jana Wagner



## Fundraising



Our Plant Sale will be on May 18 at 28 Fox Trail in Lincolnshire between 9:00 AM and 1:00 PM. Pre Ordered plants will be picked up in addition to over 350 extra perennials and annuals that will be available. Stop by to browse the selection and be sure to bring a friend along.

Plans are in the works for our 2nd annual A Walk in "The Shire" Garden Walk on July 20. Advance tickets will be on sale for \$20 and they will cost \$25 that day. Plan to attend the Garden Walk with your friends and family or work with other volunteers. We look forward to the event being another huge success.

Sincerely,  
Jana Wagner  
VP Ways and Means

## Inspirations

Jan Edelson



## Community Involvement

### Boys & Girls Clubs of Lake County

On Saturday, April 13th, at Independence Grove in Libertyville, members of LGC volunteered to assist the Boys & Girls Clubs of Lake County by making 20 floral arrangements for their benefit. We had a great time helping this organization.



Volunteers from left: Judy Jenner, Mary Ainger, Helen Wilson, Jana Wagner and Nancy Slatin.

### Blue Star Memorial Garden

On Tuesday, April 30, our Spring Cleanup was done at the Blue Star Memorial Garden at Spring Lake Park in Lincolnshire. In about 1 1/2 hours the beds were looking manicured. A friendly couple stopped to take our photo when we were finished.



Volunteers from left: Jan Stefans, Jana Wagner, Judy Jenner, Gary Jenner, Mary Ainger, Alan Slatin, Kathleen Abdo, Nancy Slatin, Meg Zimmermann.



# DOES SALT KILL WEEDS?

Julia Jossen



**Absolutely, but gardening experts urge you to take note of these key considerations first.**

Weeds have been a hot topic lately, so naturally we've been on the hunt for the best ways to get rid of weeds in the garden. While there's always the option of using dedicated weedicide for the job, if there's a hidden gem in our kitchen cupboards that'll do the trick, we're all ears. This has led us to wonder whether salt kills weeds.

In case you don't know, we're currently on a bit of a journey at *Ideal Home* to find the most effective ways to kill weeds. From using white vinegar to clueing ourselves up on the reasons why we shouldn't use bleach to kill weeds, we're learning more every day to finally tackle the job of successfully removing these unwanted plants surrounding outdoor spaces.

In an ideal world, being able to use something as accessible as salt to get rid of weeds is the best-case scenario. You've always got it on hand in your kitchen cabinets, and it's affordable enough to buy in bulk. Thankfully, gardening experts have revealed that salt *is* an effective method but, as with anything, it comes with a couple of caveats...

Yes, salt does kill weeds. Jane Dobbs, team lead of gardening at *Allan's Gardeners*, explains that salt kills weeds by drawing moisture from them and disrupting their water balance. 'Salt, particularly sodium chloride, is a cost-effective and natural weed killer. As salt is applied to soil, it pulls moisture out of plant cells, causing dehydration and eventually plant death.'

'The salt method also prevents further growth of weeds,' adds Harry Bodell, garden expert at *PriceYourJob*. 'There are certain ions present in salt which can be toxic to plants when accumulated in high concentrations, interferes with natural processes such as photosynthesis, leading to cell damage and dehydration of the plant.'

However, although salt is an effective weed killer, it still comes with downsides and key things to consider before you use it in your garden.

'Salt still has a few risks and it has some environmental consequences,' explains Jane. 'Salt accumulation in the soil can disrupt soil structure, stunt plant growth, and impact the environment.'

'Leaching salt into groundwater or nearby water bodies can also harm beneficial salt microorganisms. In the long run, salt can lead to barren spots that don't grow most plants, which is counterproductive for gardening.'

It's not all doom and gloom though. Although there are some issues that salt can cause to the soil and surrounding plants and flower beds, so long as you're using it in small, diluted quantities, you won't find yourself with a garden nightmare.

'It's best to make a very weak salt and water solution for a start and only use it at spots where soil health won't be an issue in the future,' advises Petar Ivanov, gardening and plant expert at *Fantastic Gardeners*.

'I'd suggest mixing 3 parts water and 1 part salt for the solution and applying it to the very base of the weed using a funnel and being very careful. After that, you can increase the amount of salt in the solution a little bit every day until you start seeing the weed is being affected.'

If you choose to try out this method, Jane says that any nearby plants need to be watered after you apply the solution. 'It will prevent damage and allow the salt to leach below the roots.'

## Education Report



### Best New Plants (And Tried and True)

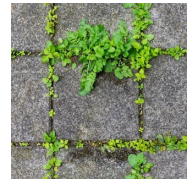
One of our favorite speakers spoke about the Best New Plants for 2024. One of the finest takeaways was Kim's reminders about how to best tend our existing plants. And, by the way, Kim gave away all of her new plants to members who attended the meeting. What a pleasant surprise!

#### Key Takeaways

- Cut off hydrangea canes to 4-6" from the ground.
- Install fencing in the ground around coneflowers to keep them safe from bunnies.
- If wanting a newly purchased blue hydrangea to stay blue, add sulfate. The new variety of hydrangea "Eclipse" likes full sun. Eclipse planted with blue Nepeta or white flowers would be stunning.
- Spirea should be cut to 6" from the ground. If you missed the trimming window in the spring, you will have leaves but not too many flowers.
- For the number of annuals you need for a container, divide the width or the pot by two, and plant that quantity.
- Some fun new varieties are: Heuchera Smoke and Mirrors; Heath Aster; Delaware Valley White Rhododendron; Hydrangea Berry White; Rosa Oso Italian Ice Shrub Rose.

## DOES SALT KILL WEEDS? -

Julia Josen



For areas with concrete, Petar assures you can use this salt water solution a lot more freely as there's no risk of causing harm to other desirable plants. This includes getting rid of weeds in gravel and stopping weeds from growing in block paving.

'It's important to do this on a particularly dry day so humidity and rain don't wash away the solution,' adds Harry. 'Overnight, the solution will work on drying out the plant to the root, making the weed easy to remove the next day.'

Salt can kill weeds naturally, but it won't solve any larger weed problem permanently. In the case you're dealing with a lot of weeds, you'll likely need to opt for a more comprehensive weed control strategy, recommended and carried out by professionals.

'It'll take up to 10 days for the weed to properly absorb the salt in the water and it mostly only works on smaller and young weeds,' explains Petar Ivanov at Fantastic Gardeners.

'Besides that, you won't be able to plant anything in the spot which you've treated with salt because sodium chloride doesn't break down and it'll take up to several years to be entirely washed away.'

So, the verdict? Salt is definitely an effective way to kill weeds naturally, but should only be used sparingly and carefully, keeping the

## Eggplants

Ellen Strauss



## Plant Education

Kay Siess



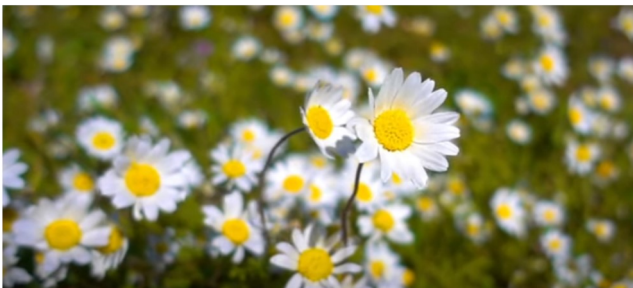
### Heliotropism

he·li·ot·ro·pism  
[,hēlēə'trōpizəm]

The directional growth of a plant in response to sunlight.

Origin: Ancient Greek meaning "sun turn".

- Every day sunflowers do a dance called heliotropism.
- They trace the sun's movement across the sky, turning their faces from east to west.
- They trace the sun's movement across the sky, turning their faces from east to west.
- Their increased exposure to sunlight makes their colors more visible to insects like bees.
- A study found that east-facing sunflowers attracted 5x more than pollinators as west-facing sunflowers.
- Warmer sunflowers are better at producing and releasing pollen.
- By having their flowers and leaves move, they capture as much light as possible, and that's going to increase their growth.
- Many flowers, including daisies & buttercups, are heliotropic.



## Message from The Editor

Dear Friends,

Much thanks to this month's contributors: Kathleen Abdo, Mary Ainger, Jan Edelson, Judy Jenner, Marj Lundy, Kay Siess, Ellen Strauss, Jana Wagner and Meg Zimmermann. I appreciate you taking the time to send me your content.

I plan to attend the GCI Summer Meeting on Monday, July 22, 2024. 8:30 am—2:30 pm at Cantigny in Wheaton. The day will consist of garden tours, award presentations, lunch and a presentation by Mike Nowak, the radio guy. If you would like to drive together, please give me a call.

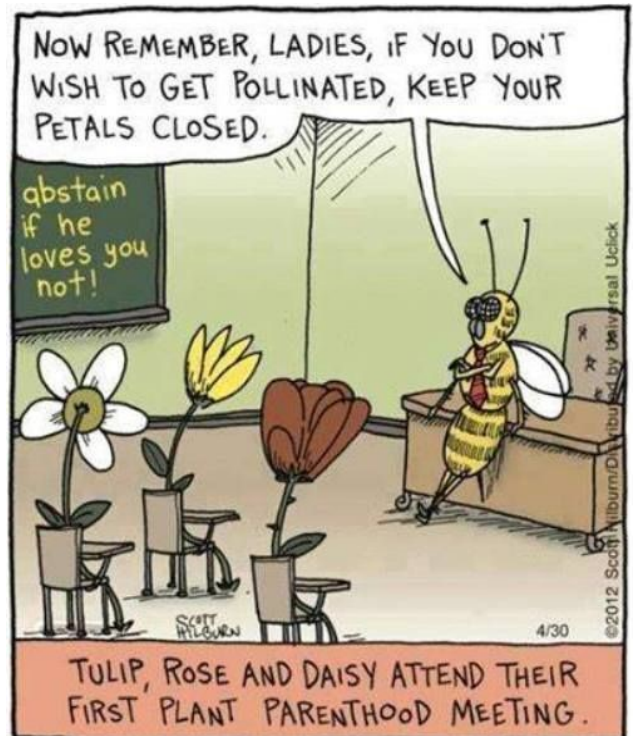
The Flower Press continues to look for an Assistant Editor to initially work with me, then produce the newsletter.

If you enjoy writing and would like to share our stories, please contact me for more information (847) 514-1122 or [nancy@slatinassociates.com](mailto:nancy@slatinassociates.com).

Thanks!

Nancy Slatin

## Plant Humor



## Trillium at Daniel Wright Woods



## LGC Board of Directors

2023-24

### Officers

President	Kathleen Abdo
VP Ways & Means	Jana Wagner
VP Programs	Helen Wilson
VP Allocations	Trish Hughes
Recording Secretary	Meg Zimmermann
Corresponding Secretary	Nancy Slatin
Treasurer/Asst. Secretary	Carey Lyman-Cordes

### Standing Committees

Community Beautification: Mary Ainger, Jan Stefans  
Depke: Ann Maine (head), Jan Stefans  
Environmental Awareness: Ann Maine  
Field Trips: Kay Siess  
Garden Therapy: Kathleen Abdo, Meg Zimmermann  
Garden Clubs of Illinois Liaison: Nancy Slatin  
Historian: Barb Gilman  
Hospitality: Jan Stefans  
Membership: Lori Hartnett, Jan Shapiro  
Newsletter: Nancy Slatin  
Parliamentarian: Helen Wilson  
Plant Education: Kay Siess  
Pollinator: Marj Lundy  
Social Media: Lorrie Hardy  
Web Site: Lorrie Hardy  
Weed and Wine: Mary Ainger  
Women's Residential Services: Judy Jenner  
Yearbook: Meg Zimmermann

### Social Media

Website: <https://lincolnshiregardenclub.com>  
Facebook: <https://facebook.com/LincolnshireGardenClub>

### OUR MISSION

The mission of the Lincolnshire Garden Club is to provide financial support to promote community beautification, nature restoration, environmental responsibility and to further the education of members and the public in the fields of ecology and conservation, home gardening, horticulture, landscape, and floral design.



## GCI Summer Meeting

Monday, July 22, 2024

Cantigny

1S151 Winfield Road  
Wheaton, Illinois

“Landscaping for the Future’ Sustainable  
Gardening for a Changing Climate”



To access the Members Only Page  
on the GCI Website

Go to the Member Information Tab and enter the  
Password: **GardenClub22**