



THE GARDEN DIRT

Find out how to join and see more stories, photos, past newsletters, and much more:

www.https://antiochgardenclub.org/

<https://www.facebook.com/>



Acting Co-President's Message

Despite the pandemic, the Antioch Garden Club has endured and even grown in the past year! That's what makes this coming spring so exciting.

We have momentum going into 2022, and it's going to carry right into spring cleanup and planting in our community gardens, our annual plant sale May 14, our ongoing efforts to bolster the local monarch butterfly population, our assistance with Osmond Park native landscaping, and we hope participation in the Antioch Tractor Supply Farmers Market. This list isn't even everything going on with our club!

Our Scholarship Committee is actively recruiting applicants, Horticulture Committee members are planning flower beds, and members are branching out in new ways to include going to local seed exchanges and joining plant swap social media pages.

Speaking of seed exchanges, our club will hold a seed exchange at our March meeting! This is a change to the program. Please take some time and inventory your seeds. Most of us have seeds we've collected we can share, whether purchased or from our own gardens. Please package and label them and bring them March 12!

- Jayna Legg

Birthdays:

- 1/13 — Barb Gollwitzer
- 1/23—Joanne Dugenske
- 1/16—Cindy Cartner
- 2/9—Nancy Zitkus
- 2/10—Cherry Garrity
- 3/15—Marianne Peters

March Program

Let's get growing and welcome Spring by getting our seeds started! For this meeting, we will have a **seed exchange**. Bring seeds you don't need to swap for those you do! Seeds must be clean, whether purchased or from your own garden. Be able to provide information about them. Share tips as well as successes or failures. There also will be a display of seed-starting materials, tools, and DIY information. Seed exchanges promote biodiversity in our gardens and can offer a chance to try something new!

Hospitality & Raffle

Holly Markwart Swehla, hostess: Betty Sprovieri, Lana Svitak

CALENDAR

March 12 — General Meeting, 1 p.m., Antioch Senior Center, doors open 12:30 p.m.

March 23 — Board Meeting, 6:30 p.m., Antioch Senior Center

April 9—General Meeting, 1 p.m., Antioch Senior Center; doors open 12:30 p.m.

April 23— Spring Cleanup, 9 a.m., Meet at Mini-Park next to Vintage Mercantile downtown

Antioch Garden Club is a member of Garden Club of Illinois, Inc.; Central Region Garden Club, District IX and National Garden Clubs, Inc.

Officers: President-Vacant, Vice President-Vacant, Secretary-Jayna Legg, Treasurer-Lana Svitak

The Garden Dirt is published electronically nine times a year.

The Garden Dirt is emailed to members and posted online at: antiochgardenclub.org.

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Plant Sale

Saturday, May 14, 2022

Annual Fundraiser Plant Sale Heads-Up!

Mark your calendars for Sat, May 14, our annual AGC plant sale is on its way! We'll again be at the protected Williams Park pavilion, 741 Main St., Antioch (behind the library, near the train depot) from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m.



Your donations of time, baked goods, established perennials, annuals, and garden-related items/decor will be needed for this to be successful as our only fundraiser. I realize that most of us can't believe it's March already; however, seed-starting and houseplant divisions can take place soon. Please think about what you can contribute and how you can volunteer.

Find what's comfortable for you among these positions:

- 1-2 volunteers needed to organize/price the Bake Sale
- 1-2 volunteers to tape sale posters in windows of Antioch businesses
- 2 cashiers (bring cashbox of small bills and change)
- Coffee for volunteers
- Dig/pot plants for members unable to themselves
- Place signs & balloons on sale morning; pick up same after sale

I'll be bringing pots with trays & craftstix (for you to label your plants) to future meetings. However, please remember to save your pots from season to season. Later this spring, please let me know of the variety of perennials you might bring. I can then make-up a colorful horticulture ID with photo.

We always have fun and learn more about horticulture during this event. Thanks, in advance, to all those that make my job easier. I'm proud to be part of such a hard-working bunch! Please contact me to volunteer or if you have questions about the positions - Cindy Cartner, sedan1@msn.com, 847.395.8902.

"All through the long winter, I dream of my garden. On the first day of spring, I dig my fingers deep into the soft earth. I can feel it's energy, and my spirits soar." - Helen Hayes

Antioch Garden Club General Meeting Minutes Dec. 11, 2021



WELCOME: Nancy Zitkus, President of the Month **CALL TO ORDER:** 2 p.m.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE AND GARDEN CLUB PLEDGE

Program: Holiday plants was presented by Floral Acres. Lori Dupont talked about the most popular holiday plants: poinsettias and holiday cactus, from the history of the plants to varieties and caring tips for them.

Introduction of Past Presidents

Recognition of member Holly Markwart Swehla, who achieved the status of Master Gardener. Other master gardeners in the club were recognized.

TREASURER'S REPORT: Published in the newsletter, no questions? Report will be filed.

SECRETARY'S REPORT: Minutes published in *The Garden Dirt*. Hearing no corrections, report will be filed.

COMMITTEE REPORTS: The question was asked if there were any chairmen who had to report and if not, a motion was made and approved to dispense with the rest of the business meeting.

Refreshments were served. Raffle was conducted by Carolyn Yoakem

No further business; the meeting was adjourned. The next board meeting will be Feb. 23. Next general meeting will be March 12, co-presidents will be Lana Svitak and Jayna Legg.

Respectfully submitted, Jayna Legg, Secretary

Master Gardeners Cheryl Hoke & Holly Markhart Swehla are recognized by Barb Gollwitzer, left



AGC Treasurer's Reports

Respectively Submitted by Lana Svitak, Treasurer

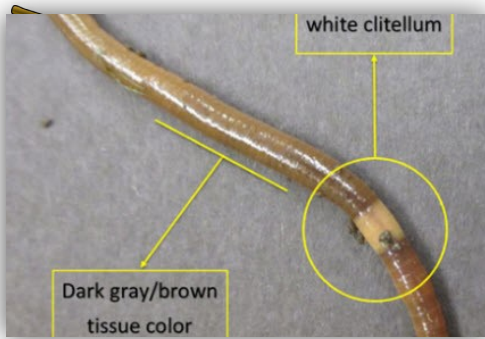
Jan. 2022

Beginning Bank Balance				11,039.04
Disbursements Cleared				
	Check #	Paid to	Committee	
12/11/2021	1100	S&S Landscaping	Wreath Decorating	703.00
12/11/2021	1103	Marianne Peters	Programs	50.00
1/5/2022	1104	Cheryl Hoke	Scholarship	6.96
1/5/2022	1105	Barb G	Hospitality (December)	15.00
			Total	774.96
Deposits				
		From	Committee	
1/5/2022		Deposit	December Raffles	101.00
			Total	101.00
Ending Bank Balance 1/31/22				10,365.08
Disbursements Outstanding				
1/28/2021	1106	Antioch Chamber		50.00
			Total	50.00
Ending Book Balance 1/31/22				10,315.08

Dec. 2021

Beginning Bank Balance				11,146.57
Disbursements Cleared				
	Check #	Paid to	Committee	
11/13/2021	1096	Linda Fox	Horticulture	32.22
11/23/2021	1099	Laura Vertz	Horticulture	38.78
12/11/2021	1101	United Methodist Church	donation for December meeting	25.00
12/11/2021	1102	Betty Collins	Hospitality	11.53
			Total	107.53
Deposits				
		From	Committee	
			Total	-
Ending Bank Balance 12/31/21				11,039.04
Disbursements Outstanding				
12/11/2021	1100	S&S Landscaping	Wreath Decorating	703.00
12/11/2021	1103	Marianne Peters	Programs	50.00
			Total	753.00
Ending Book Balance 12/31/21				10,286.04

—Treasurer's Reports continued on p. 6



Horticulture Committee Report

Invasive Asian Jumping Worms are Here!

These worms have arrived in the Midwest ! They have been here in the country since the mid nineteenth century. They have now been found throughout the Midwest. They look similar to the worms we are familiar with, with the exception of the band. Jumping worms have a white band completely encircling their body.

Unlike the earthworms we are familiar with, these stay on top of the soil, or if there is a layer of compost, that's where you will find them. The bad news about them is they release their castings very rapidly, and the nutrients do not stay around very long. They rob the soil of the nutrients, allowing invasive plants to sneak in! They are tiny in early spring, and are thriving in late summer. Plants (perennials) at that time in the season are working on storing nutrients for the winter. Plants are not interested in being fertilized at this time.

Over-wintering comes in the form of cocoons. It has been determined that heat kills the embryos, so it's best to get your compost pile up to a temperature of at least 104 degrees, for at least 3 days.

Stay tuned for information on how to determine if you have them, and how to get rid of them!

Happy Gardening !

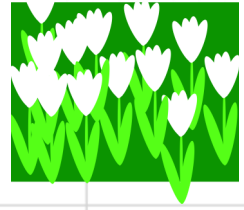
— Chairwoman Holly Markwart Swehla

We can all do our part to create a healthier planet in 2022

Antioch Garden Club member Nancy Zitkus would like to share this valuable information she learned from a Jan. 19 *Hi-Liter* article by Solid Waste Agency of Lake County (SWALCO) employee Merlanne Rample. Rample recently published some important tips for all, to make their home and world a better place to live. Rample compiled a list of 11 things we can all do to make a difference. For details, go to the SWALCO website: <http://swalco.org/>

1. Fight food waste. Roughly 25 percent of the food wasted in the U.S. comes from our homes.
2. “Just say no” to balloons and other plastics. Released balloons, even those falsely marked as “bio-degradable, return to earth as litter and kill wildlife.
3. Give green gifts. Give the gift of time, attention and experience.
4. Replace household cleaners and fragrances with healthier, more eco-friendly ones.
5. Practice FIFO. FIFO stands for First In, First Out. Move older groceries to the front of the fridge/freezer/pantry and put new products in the back.
6. Support local programs. Deter materials from the landfill responsibly. Participate in SWALCO’s sustainability programs: Clothing & Textile Collection and Resuse-A-Shoe.

—SWALCO continued on p. 6



AGC Treasurer's Report November, 2021

Beginning Bank Balance				11,455.79
Disbursements Cleared				
	Check #	Paid to	Committee	
10/30/2021	1095	Cindy Cartner	Horticulture	53.39
11/13/2021	1097	Joyce Kufalk	Historian	15.83
11/13/2021	1098	Incredible Bats	Programs	300.00
			Total	369.22
Deposits				
		From	Committee	
11/17/2021		Deposit	November raffles	60.00
			Total	60.00
Ending Bank Balance 11/30/21				11,146.57
Disbursements Outstanding				
11/13/2021	1096	Linda Fox	Horticulture	32.22
11/23/2021	1099	Laura Vertz	Horticulture	38.78
			Total	71.00
Ending Book Balance 11/30/21				11,075.57

Help the environment (cont.)

7. Let the dandelions be. They grow in the spots they do because the soil needs their help. They aerate and prevent erosion. Their flowers are some of the first food for insects and pollinators.
8. Grow a garden. Grow veggies (from plants and seeds) and plant native flowers, shrubs, trees to landscape your home.
9. Compost at home and mulch. The earth's oldest form of recycling—composting—is one of the greenest things we can do. Landfills won't fill up as fast. It turns food scraps into healthy soil, helps decrease plant diseases, conserves water, and reduces greenhouse gas emissions.
10. Replace paper towel and napkins with reusable cloths and fabric napkins.
11. Rethink consumption: Reuse, Reduce and Reuse. Before you buy, consider if you need it. Consider the cost in time and money to maintain it. Think about what you'll do with it when you're done with it. Consider buying used items. Rent or borrow. Repurpose items. Make use of your reusable items. Remember your shopping bags, water bottles, mugs, napkins, towels and food containers to cut down on waste. Visit swalco.org for more information on programs and resources.

~ANTIOCH GARDEN CLUB ANNUAL MEMBER DUES~

2022-23

Individuals \$30; Couples \$50

Membership dues apply June to following June and are due by April 1

Make checks payable to: Antioch Garden Club

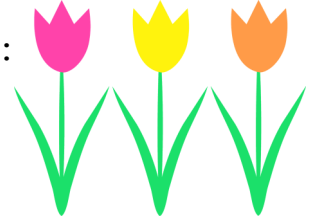
Membership includes: Garden Clubs of Illinois Central Region District IX
and National Garden Clubs, Inc.

Please fill out the following information return to:

Lana Svitak

138 Longwood Drive

Ingleside, IL 60041-8930



-----detach-----

NAME: _____

ADDRESS: _____

CITY: _____ STATE: _____

ZIP CODE + 4 DIGITS: _____ + _____

HOME PHONE: _____

CELL PHONE: _____

EMAIL: _____

BIRTHDAY: _____

(leave blank) Paid _____ Date _____

THE GARDEN DIRT

ANTIOCH GARDEN CLUB

Jayna Legg, Editor

577 Plum Tree Lane

Antioch, IL 60002



March