



THE GARDEN DIRT

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President's Message

Greetings my fellow gardeners! Here it is October 8th!

Now is the time to plant pansies and violas! They love cool weather and will pop back up first thing next spring.

Our gardens in down town Antioch look fabulous. Thank you to EVERYONE who pitched in and helped with garden maintenance over the summer months.

Now that the pandemic is over for the most part, we will be getting back to sharing more of the maintenance of said gardens. Sad time of year as the perennials head south for the winter !

Starting with the next *Garden Dirt* newsletter, we are going to have a little quiz. Strictly for fun.

We will also be inducting new members at our general meeting.



Check out our programs for the upcoming year, and if a program makes you think of a friend who may enjoy it, invite them!

Yours truly,

The Prez, Holly Swehla

Birthdays:

10/1—Cheryl Hoke

10/25—Lesia Semitka

October "Gourds!"

Marlene Maroff grew up in a family of gardeners in New Jersey. She served in the U.S. Marine Corps, settled in Davenport, Iowa, and became an active member in garden clubs. She is a Master Flower Show Judge and a Rose & Rose Arrangement Judge. She has raised many types of gourds over the years and is currently president-elect of the Federated Garden Clubs of Iowa, Inc. She will share her love of gourds—growing, harvesting, drying and decorating.

Oct. Hospitality & Raffle:

Cindy Cartner, hostess, with Dee Obrochta and Colette Monahan

Nov. Hospitality & Raffle:

Laura Vertz, hostess, with Natalie Barlow, Donna Rieter

CALENDAR

Oct. 8—General Mtg., 1 p.m., Antioch Village (Senior) Center, doors open 12:30 p.m.

Oct. 26—Board Mtg., 6:30 p.m., Antioch Village (Senior) Center

Nov. 5—Fall Cleanup, 9 a.m., Mini Park, next to Vintage Mercantile, Antioch Main St.

Nov. 12—General Mtg., 1 p.m., Antioch Village (Senior) Center, doors open 12:30 p.m.

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-Holly Markwart Swehla, Vice President-Marianne Peters, Secretary-Nancy Zitkus, 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.

Fall Gardening “To-Do” List

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- ◇ Clear away spent plants and continue dead-heading.
- ◇ Plant evergreens, garlic, rhubarb and shallots.
- ◇ Transplant strawberries.
- ◇ Divide and plant peonies.
- ◇ Harvest cauliflower, potatoes, radishes, rutabagas and tomatoes.
- ◇ Prepare forced hyacinths and tulips.
- ◇ Winter over begonias and chrysanthemums.
- ◇ Plant fall bulbs: tulips, crocus, daffodils and hyacinths are just a few!
- ◇ Wrap trunks of smooth-barked and young trees with heavy paper or burlap to prevent sunscald and rodent damage.
- ◇ Plant or transplant deciduous trees and shrubs; once their leaves have fallen, they're dormant and ready to be planted.
- ◇ Protect tender plants from light frosts by covering them overnight with sheets or plastic. Be sure to remove covers very shortly after the sun comes up the next day.
- ◇ Put up a birdfeeder for winter so birds will have time to find it before it snows.
- ◇ Use a low-voltage electric heater to keep your bird bath “open” all winter.



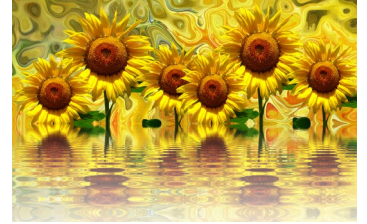
Zinnias continue to bloom in our Mini-Park garden in October! Now is a good time to collect seeds from spent blooms.



- ◇ After the first killing frost, remove all dead plant debris from the annual beds. (NOTE: See Cindy Cartner’s article on page 5 about leaving leaf litter for overwintering pollinators.)
- ◇ Also after frost, dig up dahlia tubers, dry and store in a cool, dark place over the winter.

Roses in our Mini-Park garden are blooming for probably the last time before frost. Deadhead roses in October but, in general, it’s best to wait until late winter or early spring to prune so there is no new growth as the snow flies.

AGC General Meeting Minutes Sept. 10, 2022



WELCOME: Holly Swehla, President **CALL TO ORDER:** 1:15 p.m.

Moment of silence for Sept. 11, Death of Queen Elizabeth, Antioch murder

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE AND GARDEN CLUB PLEDGE

Holly introduced our 3 guests: Lesia Seuitka, Susan Serowicki and Mary Yott.

Nominating Committee: Betty Sprovieri announced that Judy Caldwell would be joining the Bylaw committee.

Secretary's Report: Nancy Zitkus. The minutes were published in the newsletter. No additions or corrections; they were approved.

Treasurer's Report: Lana Svitak. The report was published in the newsletter; balance on hand as of July 29, 2022—\$11,803.08. No additions or corrections, the report was approved and filed for Audit.

Correspondence: Nancy read a Thank You note from Linda Fox for the Gift Certificate to Horvats Garden Center. She will be moving and leaving our club. You will be missed.

Committee Reports

Audit: Norma Lucansky read the report from the Audit Committee. All records were found to be correct. Barb Gollwitzer moved and Linda Fox seconded that the report be accepted; motion carried.

Bylaws: Nancy Zitkus. No report.

Conservation and Horticulture: Linda Fox. November 5, 2022 will be the Fall Clean-up. They still need members to fill in spots for the Summer Maintenance schedule.

Hospitality: Betty Sprovieri thanked today's Hostesses: Barb Gollwitzer, Karen Coulter and Linda Fox. October Hostesses are Cindy Cartner, Dee Obrochta and Carolyn Yoakem. Collette Monahan and Barb Gollwitzer will take Carolyn Yoakem's place.

Membership: Jackie Horneck. She announced 20 members and 4 guests were present. A thank you to Marianne Peters, Vice President, for redoing our Pledge Cards.

Programs: Marianne has all the programs in place for the club year. The October program will be on Gourds.

Publicity:

Newsletter: Jayna Legg. The deadline for articles for the Newsletter, September 20, 2022.

Website: Lana. Updates and pictures of member's gardens will be done.

Yearbook: Marianne was thanked by the members for a wonderful Yearbook.

Special Projects:

Monarch Initiative: Barb Gollwitzer had no report. She will be taking over from Holly.

Ways and Means: Cindy Cartner. No report.

Old Business: Judy Caldwell gave us a report on the renovation of Toft Street parking lot. The Village has asked us for advice on the cleaning up of the area. The Village has purchased several plantings with Judy's help.

New Business:

Norma Lucansky gave us a report from the Lake County Recorder of Deeds. They have imple-

—Minutes, cont. on page 6

AGC Aug. 31 Treasurer's Report

Respectively Submitted by Lana Svitak, Treasurer

Beginning Bank Balance					\$ 11,803.08
Disbursements Cleared					
	Check #	Paid to	Committee		
8/19/2022	1134	Biller Press	Yearbook		559.00
8/19/2022	1135	Marianne Peters	Yearbook		265.97
				Total	\$ 824.97
Deposits					
		From	Committee		
				Total	\$ -
Ending Bank Balance 8/31/22					\$ 10,978.11
Disbursements Outstanding					
7/10/2022	1133	Linda Fox	Hospitality = 58.81 Horticulture = 246.88		305.69
8/19/2022	1136	Dist IX, GCI	District Dues		10.00
8/28/2022	1137	Laura Vertz	Horticulture		38.51
				Total	\$ 354.20
Ending Book Balance 8/31/22					\$ 10,623.91

News briefs

- ◇ **Sock Donation Drive**—The club will continue collecting socks to donate to Open Arms Mission's *Socks for the Soul*. Donate **new** socks in original packaging for adults & children, to this worthy cause. Please help, as Open Arms states, to "Warm the hearts & feet of our neighbors."
- ◇ **Track your hours**—Remember, if you are putting in time working in the club's gardens, manning a Antioch Garden Club table at an event, and/or representing the club at a community activity, keep track of your hours. The club can get an award based on the number of volunteer hours members put in.
- ◇ **Fall Cleanup is Nov. 5. All members.** We'll start at 9 a.m. in the Mini Park on Main St., next to the Vintage Mercantile. Bring your garden gloves and tools and enthusiasm. More hands will make the job go quicker. See you there!



Horticulture Committee Report

Fall is upon us. Soon we'll be readying our gardens for their winter rest.

A warm blanket of leaves will help newly-planted and established perennials survive drying winds and severe cold temps.

LET'S LEAVE the LEAVES!

Leaf litter and spent material play an important role in the life cycle of butterflies, moths, bees and birds. Many pollinators over-winter in leaf litter, and some use hollow plant stems as nesting sites.

Clearwing moths and **Luna moths**, climb down from their host plants and pupate in the soil, forming sturdy cocoons that blend in with the leaf litter. Individuals that pupate late in the season will over-winter beneath the leaves and emerge as adults the following spring.

The **Baltimore Checkerspot** caterpillar over-winters in leaf litter. Near the end of October, fully grown caterpillars that have not yet entered the pupal stage move out of their web and into the leaf litter, where they roll up in leaves and debris to hibernate through the winter.

Mason and **Leafcutter bees** use the hollow stems of previous year's plants, such as Joe Pye Weed for their nests. The solitary female bee provides food in her nest with food for the offspring.

Some can't get past the untidy, yet natural, appearance of leaving the leaves. Those might consider a compromise by clearing debris just from the front yard area gardens, while leaving unseen backyard areas natural.

Mother Nature has a plan, and it's been working fine since day one. Let her work her magic!

- *Cindy Cartner*



Cleanup in the Mini Park garden will include hostas and annuals zapped by first frost.

Welcome new members!

We welcome the newest members of our club! The Membership Committee will formally induct them at our October general meeting.

Lesia Semitka, Salem, joined because she wants to learn about new plants and gather gardening ideas. Happy Birthday Lesia, Oct. 25!

Susan Serowicki, Fox Lake, is interested in all types of flowers and plants, trees, composting, floral design, landscaping, you name it (according to her membership application). We hope you'll enjoy the wide variety of programs available at our meetings.

Mary Yott, Antioch, hopes to make like-minded friends and looks forward to learning opportunities. Her interests include trees, perennials, and natives. WELCOME ALL!

mented an additional service for homeowners to fight against identity theft and mortgage fraud, called “Property Check”. This new 24/7 service is free to use and allows residents to sign up on the Recorder’s website, alerting them whenever a document has been recorded against a specific name or property address. Users create and maintain their own name list that is cross-checked as each document is recorded in their office. If a matching name entry is found, an email and/or text message is sent out immediately. Recorder’s Website at Lakecountyil.gov/Recorder/PropertyCheck.



Antioch First Fire Protection District, Antioch Township, and the village of Antioch have partnered to bring a free emergency alert system to residents: Hyper-Reach. This telephone-based mass notification system will be used to inform Antioch residents about local emergencies, hazards and other threats: Hyper-Reach is fully operational and ready for Antioch residents to enroll. There are five simple ways to activate Hyper-Reach, Visit hyper-reach.com/ilantiochfiresignup.html.

Norma reminded us to always be alert in the mall parking lots. Never go to your car if you see a van parked close to your car. Go back into the store and ask for security to take you to your car; they may be hijackers in that van.

Announcements:

- Marianne attended the GCI Flower Show that was held at the Chicago Botanical Gardens. She also visited the garden presentation at the Milwaukee Fair.
- President Holly read several reminders from the Newsletter.
- Holly also announced that in the future the members will be asked to keep track of their “working hours” in the gardens. There are awards for that.
- The *Garden Glories* new Password to the Members Only portion is *GardenClub22*. The members were asked to start saving the empty toilet and paper towel rolls; more to come.
- Barb Gollwitzer brought to the members’ attention all the brochures that are available at the Senior Center. There will be a referendum on the upcoming November ballot to build a new Township Building (Community Center) on North Avenue, Antioch.
- The next Board Meeting will be September 28 – 6:30 p.m. – Antioch Village Center.



“Ms. Karen” Firelight Hydrangea shows off recently in the Mini Park, named after long-time Horticulture Committee Chair Karen Coulter.

No further business, the meeting was adjourned at 2:10 p.m. to enjoy our Pot Luck.

Respectfully submitted, Nancy Zitkus, Secretary

THE GARDEN DIRT

ANTIOCH GARDEN CLUB

Jayna Legg, Editor

577 Plum Tree Lane

Antioch, Il 60002



October