



THE GARDEN DIRT

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[www.https://antiochgardenclub.org/](https://antiochgardenclub.org/)

<https://www.facebook.com/profile.php?id=100092185695347>



President's Message

I refuse to say the gardening season is winding down! Our gardens are looking green and lush. Each day, a new flower petal shows its glory.

I'm sure if our gardens could talk, their words would be very kind to us, as we have taken the BEST care of them.

We had the best time at the ice cream social hosted by Nancy Colby and Judy Caldwell. It will be one for the record books !

In club news, our Horticulture Committee has done a tremendous job with the village gardens, and also bringing our club up to "snuff" with gardening questions and answers and all things gardening. Stay tuned for more info on that.

It seems to me that clubs such as ours ebb and flow with the times. We are currently expanding the number of members, which is the best news! Along with that, we must be mindful of being kind to each other. If you can be anything, be kind. I read that somewhere, and I love it.

We do not have a complete program schedule for the year 2024.

- *President's Message, cont. p. 4*

Birthdays

7/5—Bonnie Garfinkle

7/7—Elizabeth Vogt

7/11—Annette Lubkeman

7/21—Jane Buck

8/13—Laura Skender

8/16—Sharon Pendergast

8/27—Jayna Legg

9/12—Carolyn Yoakem

9/17—Lana Svitak

9/19—Norma Lucansky

9/30—Laura Vertz

Sept. Program: "Mrs. Mushroom" & Potluck. Bring a dish. Hospitality will provide desserts. "Mrs. Mushroom" (Lindsay Schwartz) went from a Master's in Applied Nutrition to operating a gourmet mushroom business.

Hospitality: Hostess Colette Monahan, with Cindy Cartner, Karen Coulter and Norma Lucansky

CALENDAR

Sept. 9 — General Mtg., 1 p.m., Village Center, doors open 12:30 p.m.

Sept. 27 — Board Mtg., 6:30 p.m., Antioch Village Center

Oct. 14 — General Mtg., 1 p.m., Village Center doors open 12:30 p.m.

Oct. 25 — Board Mtg., 6:30 p.m., Village Center

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-Vacant, 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.

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Christmas in September?

No, we didn't move the date of Christmas but we do want to *talk* about Christmas.

This year, the garden club will be in *two* Christmas Tree Decorating Contests! We will participate for the second year in the village tree decorating at Hiram Buttrick Sawmill. This year we will be well prepared, and we'll be spectacular!

For the first time, we will have a tree at Kringle's Christmas Village. Kringle's Christmas Village, sponsored by the Antioch Chamber, is an indoor event. That makes it easier to decorate, since we won't have to consider the weather.

Both events are already paid for, and the garden club is on the schedule. Please be thinking about what we can do to have winning trees in both places. We could also use donated decorations if you have any extra you aren't using.

The outdoor tree should be environmentally and bird-friendly, so save your dried hydrangea blossoms, other flowers, berries and other fruit.

If you would like to donate items, volunteer to help, or have some great creative ideas, please let me know. The time to prepare is now before we all get too busy. Christmas season will be here before we know it!

-Nancy Colby, Publicity



Antioch Garden Club, General Meeting, June 10, 2023



WELCOME: Holly Swehla, President

CALL TO ORDER: 1 p.m.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE AND GARDEN CLUB PLEDGE

Secretary's Report: Nancy Zitkus. The report was published in *The Garden Dirt*. There being no corrections, the report will be filed.

Treasurer's Report: Lana Svitak. The report was distributed. There being no corrections, the report will be filed for Audit. Cash on Hand as of April 28, 2023 - \$10,932.34; Disbursements - \$330.17; No Receipts; Outstanding Checks - \$185.14; leaving a Balance on Hand - \$10,417.03.

Correspondence: None

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Audit: Norma Lucansky. The audit will be July 10. Budget meeting will be scheduled. Committees that require monies in their budget amounts should contact Lana before budget meeting.

Bylaws: Nancy Zitkus. No Report

Historian: Joyce Kufalk. Members should get articles, pictures, to Joyce for our History Book.

Conservation/Horticulture: Laura Vertz. Laura recognized several of the new members on the committee. She reviewed the spring cleanup and spring plantings. There were still openings on the summer maintenance schedule. District IX will be forming a "learning group" for those who wish to participate to learn more about horticulture issues, fundraising, etc. Those who wish to participate, please see Laura. Please get your volunteer hours to Laura, they help in being eligible for the various District IX awards. **Cindy Cartner** reported the roses at the Blue Star Memorial have a disease on them. She has approached this problem with a particular spray and hopes it will help them.

Hospitality: Betty Sprovieri. No report.

Membership: Jackie Horneck. We have 34 paid members, 24 members present, three guests. Jackie initiated the two guests who joined: Caitlin Prewitt and Carol Zwiazek. Welcome ladies!

Philanthropy/Arbor Day: Jane Buck. No Report

Programs: Marianne Peters. No report.



Jackie Horneck initiated two new members: Carol Zwiazek and Caitlin Prewitt. WELCOME!

April 2023 AGC Treasurer's Report

Respectively Submitted by Lana Svitak, Treasurer

April 28, 2023

Beginning Bank Balance					\$ 10,932.34
Disbursements Cleared					
	Check #	Paid to	Committee		
1/21/2023	1156	Lake County Extension	Seed Expo, 2 tables	50.00	
3/11/2023	1165	Annette Lubkeman	March hospitality	16.49	
4/12/2023	1167	Penny Pines	Philanthropy	68.00	
4/12/2023	1168	Cindy Cartner	Ways and Means (plant sale)	81.93	
4/12/2023	1169	Carol Sackschewsky	Wreath Decorating	113.75	
			Total	\$ 330.17	
Deposits					
		From			
			Total	\$ -	
Ending Bank Balance 4/28/23					\$ 10,602.17
Disbursements Outstanding					
4/26/2023	1170	Marianne Peters	Programs \$50.00 Publicity \$92.80	142.80	
4/26/2023	1171	Lana Svitak	Website domain renewal (good for 2 years)	42.34	
			Total	\$ 185.14	
Ending Book Balance 4/28/23					\$ 10,417.03

—President's Message, continued from p. 1

Share your ideas for programs with us!

Please let myself or any board member of ideas you may have. Thanks in advance.

Lastly, this is a volunteer organization. It does require people to fulfill the various positions. If you feel you would just love to be a board member, please let us know! It's always great to have fresh ideas.

Bloom where you are planted!

REMINDER from the Hort. Committee to Save the Date for Fall

Cleanup Nov. 4: Meet at the Mini Park garden in town, at 9 a.m.

Bring your gardening gloves, tools, a smile and your enthusiasm!

- Holly Markwart Swehla



Hort. Committee Report

by Laura Vertz



I am proud to report that the gardens we nurture are doing exceptionally well. Our committee receives constant praise from our fellow citizens as they experience our gardens. I wish to thank all the committee members for their hard work, especially through drought and excessive heat. I also wish to thank ALL members of the AGC who signed up for maintenance and for doing great work! It is this collective effort that leads to positive results.

As we look to the future of our gardens, we continue to move toward incorporating an appropriate number of native plants, while maintaining ornamental appeal and compelling design. I recently read an article that argues this type of balanced approach is probably the best. (The title is “Native Versus Non-Native: Which Plants Are Best for Biodiversity” by Lincoln Garland, May 2020.) Garland is a proponent of native plants, but raises some important points about non-native plants.

One of the biggest issues with non-native plants is that they may become invasive. He suggests that while this is certainly true and is a real problem, only a few non-native plants are invasive. (Please see our resident expert Jane Buck on this topic!)

With climate change, there is an ongoing question about how well native plants may thrive.

Their geographical location is authentic, but some natives may not do as well with a warming climate.

As pollinators, some non-native plants also perform well.

In short, Garland argues that it is important that gardeners do not become too polarized on the issue of native versus non-native plants, that we continue to add native plants to our ornamental gardens as we deem appropriate, and that we continue to learn about how our gardens are evolving in reaction to climate change.

Ice Cream Social Snapshots

Attendees gave much thanks to the ice cream social hostesses Judy Caldwell and Nancy!



Lana and Holly mastered the nature-themed quiz, and they were very excited to win original paintings done by Nancy Colby and donated for the event.

—June Minutes, continued from p. 3

Publicity: Nancy Colby. Barb Gollwitzer has met with Nancy and Lori Linck (Facebook), and they have many ideas for these committees.

Newsletter: Jayna Legg. Deadline will be August 23 for our next newsletter.

Website: Lana Svitak. She has updated with many pictures of the plant sale, etc.

Yearbook: Marianne Peters. She needs information for the new yearbook.

Facebook: Lori Linck. No report at this time.

Scholarship: Cheryl Hoke. Our scholarship winner, Riley Nebel, could not be with us.

Special Projects:

Wreaths – Mary Yott. – No report.

Monarch Initiative – Barb Gollwitzer. – No Report.



Ways and Means: Barb Gollwitzer, Cindy Cartner. Cindy reported \$3,597.00 was raised from the Plant Sale. A check from Dennis Downs, artist of the Trail Marker in the Mini Park, was given to the club - \$250.00 in his appreciation. Next year's plant sale date – May 18, 2024.

New Business: Holly reported the Lion's Club has approached us for ideas for beautifying the Williams Park Pavilion, where we hold our plant sale. No further information.

Announcements: GCI Districts IX and II will be hosting the Garden Clubs of Illinois, Inc. flower show at the Chicago Botanical Gardens on August 5 and 6. More info, go to www.districtIX-gci.org under events.

Next Board Meeting-June 28, 2023-Antioch Village Center. 50/50 Raffle was conducted, and we enjoyed a wonderful potluck lunch. No further business, the meeting was adjourned at 1:45 p.m.

Respectfully submitted, Nancy Zitkus, Secretary

2023 Plant Sale Crew



May 2023 AGC Treasurer's Report

May 31, 2023

Beginning Bank Balance				\$ 10,602.17	
Disbursements Cleared					
	Check #	Paid to	Committee		
4/26/2023	1170	Marianne Peters	Programs \$50.00 Publicity \$92.80	142.80	
4/26/2023	1171	Lana Svitak	Website domain renewal (good for 2 years)	42.34	
5/2/2023	1172	American Family	Operations (liability insurance)	231.00	
5/6/2023	1175	Garden Clubs of Illinois	Annual dues	182.00	
5/6/2023	1176	Garden Clubs of Illinois	New member dues	18.00	
5/9/2023		Deluxe Checks	Operations, checks	27.75	
5/19/2023	1177	Betty Sprovieri	Hospitality	16.35	
5/19/2023	1178	Laura Vertz	Horticulture	309.74	
5/23/2023	1180	Cindy Cartner	Plant Sale	68.84	
				Total	\$ 1,038.82
Deposits					
		From			
5/2/2023		Deposit	Yearbook Award	50.00	
5/2/2023		Deposit	April Raffles	57.00	
5/2/2023		Deposit	Membership Dues	330.00	
5/4/2023		Deposit	Amazon Smile donation	6.23	
5/22/2023		Deposit	Amazon Smile donation	19.92	
5/23/2023		Deposit	Plant Sale	2970.10	
5/23/2023		Deposit	Membership Dues	90.00	
				Total	\$ 3,523.25
Ending Bank Balance 5/31/23				\$ 13,086.60	
Disbursements Outstanding					
5/6/2023	1173	Illinois State University	Scholarship	1000.00	
5/6/2023	1174	Antioch Public Library	Annual Book Donation	18.17	
				Total	\$ 1,018.17
Ending Book Balance 5/31/23				Total	\$ 12,068.43



June 2023 AGC Treasurer's Report

June 30, 2023

Beginning Bank Balance				\$ 13,086.60
Disbursements Cleared				
	Check #	Paid to	Committee	
5/6/2023	1173	Illinois State University	Scholarship	1000.00
5/6/2023	1174	Antioch Public Library	Annual Book Donation	18.17
6/10/2023	1181	Jackie Hornek	Membership	6.35
6/10/2023	1182	Marianne Peters	Programs \$40.41 Operations \$53.14	93.55
6/10/2023	1183	Joyce Kufalk	Historian	34.24
6/26/2023	1185	Laura Vertz	Horticulture	24.79
				Total
				\$ 1,177.10
Deposits				
		From		
6/14/2023		Deposit	Plant Sale \$400 June Raffles \$75 Member dues \$90	565.00
6/26/2023		Deposit	Member Dues - Donna Rieter	30.00
				Total
				\$ 595.00
Ending Bank Balance 6/30/23				\$ 12,504.50
Disbursements Outstanding				
6/26/2023	1184	Colette Monahan	Horticulture	64.17
6/26/2023	1186	Garden Clubs of Illinois	New member dues - Susan Serowicki - Caitlin Prewitt - Carol Zwiazek - Donna Reiter	24.00
				Total
				\$ 88.17



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ANTIOCH GARDEN CLUB

Jayna Legg, Editor

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