



THE GARDEN DIRT

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Guest Column by Horticulture Chair Holly

Markwart Swehla

Batter up! This was the subject of the email I sent out each week notifying you it was your turn to maintain our village gardens.

Well, this month, it is my turn to “batter up!” Since we do not have a permanent president, the board decided to have each committee chair do the honors for each month. I was President of the Month for the September board meeting, the October general meeting, and now, my last “task” is writing the President’s Message.

I was pretty nervous, just joining the club last year, and signing up to dig in the dirt! To my surprise, I’ve really enjoyed “being in charge!” It really has allowed me to find out how the club functions. I am here to tell you, we function like a well-oiled machine.

I want to thank you all for welcoming me to the club. I have enjoyed each and every one of you, and what you have to teach me. Together, we make up a nice apple pie ... divided into pieces.

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November Birthdays:

11/6 — Linda Fox

11/10 — Judy Caldwell

11/14 — Betty Collins

11/16 — Antony White

11/29 — Jackie Horneck

Nov. Meeting: Collecting and storing seeds — program will be presented by member Holly Markwart Swehla, who has been saving seeds since 1993.

Hospitality & Raffle: Carolyn Yoakem is hostess, with Joyce Kufalk, Joanne Dugenske and Nancy Bilsborrow.

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-Linda Fox, Secretary-Cheryl Hoke, Treasurer-Laura Paukner

The Garden Dirt is published electronically nine times a year, emailed to members and posted online at: antiochgardenclub.org.

CALENDAR

Nov. 2 — Fall Cleanup, 9 a.m., Minipark, next to J.J. Blinkers

Nov. 4 — General Meeting 7 p.m., Methodist Church, doors open 6:30 p.m.

Nov. 9 — SATURDAY Board Meeting 1 p.m., Café Book

Nov. 23 — NEW DATE Wreath Decorating, 9:30 a.m., Senior Center

Dec. 1 — SUNDAY General Meeting, 3-5 p.m., Methodist Church



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We each have a piece or two to complete it! Some are good at being lead hostess, some at raising money, others are weeding extraordinaires, webmasters, editors, the list goes on!

We welcome you and please feel free to step up and offer your piece of the pie, whatever it may be! We welcome your ideas!

Whenever I am in any of our gardens, people are ALWAYS stopping to tell me how beautiful the gardens are. This year (in my humble opinion), they have been the prettiest, thanks in large part to our new sprinkler system. I always tell them it is the work of the Antioch Garden Club.

Yours Truly, Holly Markwart Swehla

November Gardening To-Do List:



Outdoors

- ◆ Mound soil around base of rose bushes.
- ◆ Wait for ground to freeze before you mulch.
- ◆ Harvest broccoli, cauliflower, kale, Brussels sprouts, celery, collards, leeks lettuce, potatoes, radishes and rutabagas.
- ◆ Continue planting fall bulbs until ground freezes.
- ◆ Plant garlic cloves 2 inches deep and 5 inches apart, mulch well.
- ◆ Wrap trunks of young, smooth bark trees to prevent deer or rodent damage.
- ◆ Plant or transplant deciduous trees and shrubs. Once their leaves drop they are dormant and can be planted until the ground freezes.
- ◆ Mulch around trees and shrubs; especially young or newly planted ones.
- ◆ Continue to feed the birds. Install birdbath heating device for the winter.
- ◆ Remove leaves that fall into your pond.
- ◆ Place hardy pond plants deeper in the water.
- ◆ Bring fish indoors before temperatures go below 50°.

Indoors

- ◆ Groom houseplants regularly.
- ◆ Reduce water & fertilizer for most indoor plants.

AGC General Meeting Minutes Oct. 7, 2019

Holly Markwart Swehla was the president for the meeting. The meeting started at 7 p.m., and Holly led the members through the pledges.



Secretary's Report: Notes taken by Lana Svitak in Cheryl Hoke's absence. Minutes of the Sept. 9 meeting were published in the newsletter. Since there were no comments, minutes were filed as presented.

Treasurer's Report: Given by Laura Paukner. There were questions regarding the payment made to the for the post office box in time to avoid the late fee. Payment to Lana Svitak was reimbursement for hostess gift for our summer garden party, and for new member honey.

Additional question about why we needed to close our old bank account and open a new one. This is due to our obtaining a 501C3 tax status. We were required to close the old account and open a new account.

With no more questions, the report was filed.

Correspondence: Nothing to report

Committee Reports

Bylaws: Nothing to report

Historian: Nothing to report

Horticulture: Holly thanked everyone for their hard work for the year. The gardens look beautiful.

Fall Cleanup will be Saturday, Nov. 2, 2019. Everyone will meet at the mini park at 9 a.m.

Hospitality: Barb presented in Betty's absence. Barb thanked Carrie Hagy, Jayna Legg and Laura Paukner. Betty Sprovieri was substitute hostess for Jim Fay. Jim made a donation. Next month's lead hostess will be Carolyn Yoakem.

Membership: 18 members present tonight. No guests were present.

Nominating: Nothing to report

Philanthropy: Nothing to report

Programs: Tonight's program was presented by Laurie and Emily from Floral Acres. The program was Basic Rules of Flower Arranging (**see picture above**). Next month's program will be presented by our own Holly Markwart Swehla. She will be giving a presentation on collecting and storing seeds.

Publicity: Cynthia Stepanek presented an idea to have our rack cards on display at local businesses. She will present this proposal at a future board meeting.

Newsletter:

Jayna Legg reported the deadline for submitting articles for the next newsletter is Oct. 17.

Yearbook: Nothing to report

Website: Nothing to report

Scholarship: Nothing to report

Special Projects:

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News Briefs

- ⇒ We need nominees for president, vice president, treasurer and membership for next year.
- ⇒ Treasurer's report will be available at the meeting.
- ⇒ **DATE change for Wreath Decorating.** The date has been changed to Nov. 23 because we've been notified the greenery will be delivered later this year. The start time, at the Antioch Senior Center, is 9:30 a.m.; however, the committee will be there by 9 getting set up. The club has purchased some glue guns for members' use this year. Please bring ornaments and decorations to donate.



Basic Rules for Flower Arranging

Credit: Floral Acres

Emily and Laurie from Floral Acres presented the October program on the basics of floral arranging and donated their beautiful creations for the raffle. Their handout covered basic rules for arranging, paying attention to proportion, balance, harmony, rhythm, color and texture.

A few tips:

- Size of the flowers, foliage and container should be in proportion to each other, and the surroundings,
- The height of the arrangement should be at least one and a half times the height of the container.
- Start with the heaviest flowers first.
- The eye should be initially attracted to the overall design and then move from flower to flower.
- Flower heads should be on multiple different levels. Flowers all placed on one level will look dull and uninteresting.
- Aim for a three-dimensional look in your designs. This enables the eye to travel from the largest feature flowers in the center, through to the medium-sized flowers, then to the smallest flowers or buds that are placed around the edges.
- The choice of color should be chosen to suit the occasion and the surroundings. Think of the color wheel and what colors complement each other. Yellow is the color of the sun and is bright and cheerful. Blue and green are cool and soothing. Pink is feminine and uplifting. Orange and gold are warm and mellow. Red is associated with love and is vibrant and exciting. Purple is a symbol of royalty and is rich and dramatic.
- Use different textures that go well together to give variety to your designs.



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Wreath Decorating: Carol Sackschewsky thanked everyone who signed up for wreath decorating, and will bring the sign-up sheet to the Nov. general meeting for those who did not get a chance to sign up. The date for decorating wreaths has changed to Nov. 23 due to the supplier of our wreaths will not have them available until the 18th. A total of 24 wreaths will be decorated. Members will meet at the Antioch Senior Center at 9:30 a.m.

Monarch butterfly: Joyce Kufalk reported this was a bad year for planting with all the rain we had. No zinnias were planted in the township garden. Milkweed aphids were terrible this year.

Ways and Means: Cindy Cartner announced the next plant sale will be Sat. May 16, 2020. Mark your calendars!

Old Business: Barb Gollwitzer is collecting items for our 25-year anniversary. She will submit an article for the next newsletter.

New Business: Judy Caldwell is our leader for November. October board meeting is Oct. 17th at Café Book. Next general meeting will be Nov. 4.

Announcements: Member Antony White is moving to Wales. He would like seeds from all our gardens to plant in his new home.

Antioch Fine Arts Foundation is holding a fundraiser on Friday, Oct. 11 at Anastasia's in Antioch. There will be a raffle and a live auction.

Our club will reduce the amount of disposable plastic on the refreshment table. Carol Sackschewsky has donated reusable plates, cups and cutlery to the club. Members will volunteer to take home the dishes after the meeting and be responsible for washing them and getting them to the next general meeting.

Raffle was held and meeting was then adjourned. *Respectfully submitted, Cheryl Hoke, Secretary*



Horticulture Report

This month's Hort Report is short! I had planned on giving a report on Asian jumping worms, but that will wait for another month. This month, I will say a few words about the woolly (spelled correctly!) bear caterpillars that we are seeing now in our outdoors - the brown and black fuzzy caterpillars. They are the larval state of the pyrrharctia Isabella "the Isabella tiger moth."

They over-winter, and in spring, they form a fuzzy cocoon.

The old wives tale that they predict the severity of the winter is somewhat true!! The more black there is, the more severe the winter will be! This (to date) has not been proven scientifically!

- Chairwoman Holly Markwart Swehla

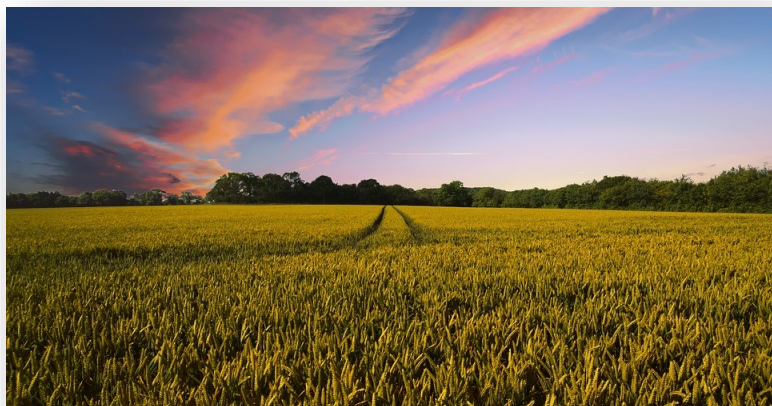
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ANTIOCH GARDEN CLUB

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November