



# THE GARDEN DIRT

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

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## Guest Columnist Barb Gollwitzer

**O**n Sunday, Oct. 24, Antioch Garden Club members Barb Gollwitzer, Cheryl Hoke, Linda Fox, Chong Li, Marianne Peters, Jessie Szmergalski, Maddie Szmergalski and Gail Szulc met at the Antioch Senior Center to clean up the landscaping surrounding the building. Prior to that day, the public works department of the Village of Antioch came out and cut back and removed some of the more overgrown weeds, etc. Janie Gandolfini, who is not only a volunteer but a member of the board for the Antioch Senior Center, came out and worked for several hours prior to our get-together to avoid the inclement weather.

We appreciate and thank the following Antioch High School students, under the leadership of Nina Albertini and Ashley Lubkeman:

Bella Bussone, Josh Frye, Jamie Gale, Camden Gugel, Jack Lanck, Kelsie Macmillan, Kaitlyn Osborn, Emma Poklop, Braxton Schieler, Nathan Shipman, Mollie Tubbs, Alex Ware.

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## Happy Birthday!

- ◇ **Nov. 1, Donna Rieter**
- ◇ **Nov. 6, Linda Fox**
- ◇ **Nov. 10, Judy Caldwell**
- ◇ **Nov. 14, Betty Collins**
- ◇ **Nov. 29, Jackie Horneck**

## November Program

**Incredible Bats.** Sharon & Daniel Peterson have promoted bat education since 1996. Sharing her experiences, Sharon will inform us about the many benefits of this misunderstood creature. She is a grade school teacher/librarian and is trained by Bat Conservation International. Daniel Peterson is a bat naturalist. **Hostesses:** Donna Rieter, Judy Caldwell & Karen Coulter

## Special Project

**Wreath Decorating** — Nov. 20, at 9:30 a.m., at the Antioch Senior Center, wreath-decorating, led by Carol Sackschewsky. Bring ideas, tools, holiday decorations to donate, and holiday spirit!

## CALENDAR

- Nov. 6 — Fall Cleanup, 9 a.m., Mini-Park
- Nov. 13 — General Meeting, 1 p.m., Antioch Senior Center; Doors open at 12:30 p.m.
- Nov. 17 — Board meeting 6:30 p.m., Antioch Senior Center
- Nov. 20 — Wreath Decorating, 9:30 a.m., Antioch Senior Center
- Dec. 11—General Mtg., 1 p.m., Senior 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-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: <https://antiochgardenclub.org/>

# Members tour Osmond Park

## Club's handiwork on display

**A**ntioch Garden Club met at the new Osmond Park on Depot Street in October and enjoyed the beautiful fall weather as well as a tour of the park. "We're in this beautiful park, 78 acres," said Horticulture Chair Holly Markwart Swehla, gesturing at the expansive grounds behind her. The park is maintained through the joint efforts of the Antioch Township, the village and Antioch High School, she explained. The Antioch Garden Club collaborated on the Monarch Initiative. The monarch waystation previously located at the township offices was dug and carefully replanted at the park. The upgrades to the park include a bluebird meadow and redesigned disc golf course. More than 100 mats of native plants were placed. An interpretive trail was installed. Even the Audubon Society helped. Garden club members were consulted on the types of native plants and trees to plant. The result, after months of work overseen by the township, is stunning.

The club was pleased to host Garden Clubs of Illinois District IX Director Barbara Gilblair, CGI 1st Vice President Carol Ohrn and District IX Corresponding Secretary Gail Szulc, who just moved to town and joined the garden club! Gail and another new member Cherry Garrity were inducted by Dee Obrochta during the meeting. **Welcome to you both!**





## Antioch Garden Club General Meeting Minutes Oct. 9, 2021

**WELCOME:** Holly Markwart Swehla, President of Month **CALL TO ORDER:** 1:10 p.m.  
**PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE AND GARDEN CLUB PLEDGE**

**Secretary's Report:** Minutes of last meeting included in newsletter. No changes. It will be filed.

**Treasurer's Report:** Last report sent by email. No changes. It will be filed.

**Correspondence:** None

### Committee Reports

**Audit:** No report.

**Bylaws:** No report, ongoing. (**Editor's Note:** On page 6, see proposed changes to be voted on at Nov. meeting.)

**Historian:** Joyce Kufalk explained to new members and guests what she does with articles, photos and anything else she collects about club activities. The items are added to scrapbooks that are archived at the Antioch library. They can be viewed at the library.

**Horticulture:** Holly Markwart Swehla provided a history of how the club has been involved in the renovations to Osmond Park, where the meeting was located. (See story on p. 2.) Antioch Township Supervisor Tom Shaughnessy is a "yes" person and a pleasure to work with, she said. "He always says, 'whatever you need.'" All the plants, flowers and trees in the park are natives. Holly has a list if anyone is interested. More than 100 mats of native plants have been planted.

The committee met and has begun mapping all the plantings the club maintains in Antioch. The annual fall cleanup will be at 9 a.m., Saturday, Nov. 6, starting at the mini-park.

**Hospitality:** No report.

**Membership:** We had 13 members in attendance and five guests. Guests included Garden Clubs of Illinois District IX Director Barbara Gilblair, CGI 1st Vice President Carol Ohrn and District IX Corresponding Secretary Gail Szulc. Gail and another new member Cherry Garrity were inducted by Dee Obrochta during the meeting.

**Nominating:** No report. We need a President, Vice-president. Board will continue with "President of the month." Mary Prillar is the next president for the November meeting.

**Philanthropy:** No report.

**Programs:** November will be "Incredible Bats." Speaker is bringing bats and other pollinators.

### **Publicity:**

Newsletter - Deadline for next newsletter is Nov. 10

Yearbook - Let Chong know of any errors in current yearbook.

Website - Chong and Lana Svitak have been working very hard to transition our website to another platform. More than a thousand photos and many videos have to be moved, just as an example of what work is involved. They have been working on it weeknights and on weekends.

**Scholarship:** No report. There was some discussion about the club paying Master Gardener program fees.

### **Special projects:**

- Continued on page 6

## Treasurer's Report as of Sept. 30, 2021



Beginning Bank Balance		\$10,107.86	
Disbursements Cleared			
9/10	Garden Club of Illinois	Membership dues	13.00
		Ways & Means	
		(\$10.50)	
9/16	Biller Press	Yearbook (\$637.00)	647.00
9/26	Chong Li	Yearbook Awards Postage	9.65
9/26	Chong Li	Website renewal	125.88
		Total	\$796.03
Deposits			
9/3	Ways and Means (fall plant sale)		106.00
9/11	September raffles		50.00
9/23	Donation from Lion's Club		2,000.00
		Total	2,156.00
Disbursements Outstanding			
8/25	Linda Fox, Horticulture		82.04
Ending Book Balance		\$11,385.79	

*Respectively Submitted, Treasurer Lana Svitak*

## High school students help at Senior Center (cont.)

*Guest Column, from page 1*

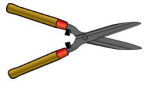
These National Honor Society students came out in drizzling rain to assist Antioch Garden Club in cleaning up. They picked up, weeded, raked, and filled approximately one bag per volunteer.

A special shout out goes to Sherry Hoban and Lori Romine for all of their assistance in gathering materials for us. Both these village employees not only showed up on the 24<sup>th</sup> but also for the previous scheduled date that was cancelled due to inclement weather. Sherry and Lori arranged for the perennials to be secured for future planting in another village garden.

As a resident of the Antioch community, it makes me proud to see these young adults come out and work so tirelessly to clean up and beautify a building being used primarily by their grandparent's generation. Kudos to them, their parents, Mr. Loffredo, and the other mentors guiding them. You can all be proud of the citizens they are becoming!



*- Barb Gollwitzer*



# Horticulture Committee Report

## Committee is mapping club gardens

**G**reetings and salutations from your horticulture committee. The last few weeks the committee has gathered at all of our gardens to create new maps and legends of the plants we have currently. The current maps we have are from 2013, and we thank Karen Coulter and Susan Mentgen for their efforts.

Hopefully soon we will have the maps ready. We plan to keep them up-to-date, and as time goes on if we find errors and omissions or additions we missed, we will happily make corrections! (Probably through this column.) We hope you enjoy them and use them to identify plants you may want to put in your own gardens.

- Chairwoman Holly Markhart Swehla



For more photos of the gardens, go to the Antioch Garden Club website: <https://antiochgardenclub.org/village-gardens>



- Minutes continued from page 3

Wreaths – Nov. 20 at the Antioch Senior Center

Monarch butterfly – Holly pointed out the waystation that was moved from the township to Osmond Park. It is 220 by 30 feet approximately, “the largest in the county,” Holly said.



**Ways and Means:** Next plant sale is May 14, 2022. Cindy Cartner explained how it works. Members donate approximately 800 to 1,000 plants; it’s one day and sponsors donate \$2,000 to \$3,000. She urged members to think about what they want to divide now, peonies for example. Fall is a good time. Cindy divided peonies and heeled them into her veggie garden for the winter.

There was discussion at this point about “Garden Glories,” and the fact that District IX has two to three pages to fill in “Garden Glories” so the district is always looking for submissions.

**Old business:** Linda Fox said the club gave previous co-president Betty Sprovieri her gift card at the previous board meeting. It was overdue to go to her, because of the pandemic.

**New business:**

New members were inducted. See “Membership.”

Cindy Cartner said artist Dennis Downes is paying for a new sign by his tail marker sculpture in the mini-park. A thanks to our club appears on the new sign.

**Announcements:**

The Antioch Senior Center project Oct. 24 had to be rescheduled due to weather.

Meeting adjourned for tour of park, approximately 2:15 p.m.

*Respectively Submitted by Jayna Legg, Secretary*

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## **Proposed AGC Bylaws changes to be voted on at November Meeting** *(Per previous Bylaws Committee and approved by the board)*

ARTICLE III: MEMBERSHIP, Page 39

Section 3

Reads: *Members must attend meetings. We encourage participation one or more committees each year, and members must pay their dues to remain active.*

**ADD: After “participation,” the word “ON” one or more committees, etc.**

Section 4

Reads: *Membership shall be required after attending two (2) meetings as a guest.*

**ADD: After “guest.” Membership would then be required for attendance.**

ARTICLE VI: EXECUTIVE BOARD, Page 41

Section 1

- Bylaws continued on next page

- Bylaws continued from page 6



Reads: *Members of the Executive Board shall consist of the elected Officers. The majority of voting members shall constitute a quorum.*

**DELETE:** The majority of voting members shall constitute a quorum.

**ADD:** After “quorum.” The President is a non-voting member of the Board, except in the case of a tie vote. See Article XI for definition of quorum.

ARTICLE VII: BOARD, Page 41

Section 4

Reads: *Two-thirds (2/3) of the Board shall constitute a quorum.*

**DELETE:** Omit entire section.

**ADD:** New Section 4 – See Article XI for definition of a quorum.

ARTICLE VIII: MEETINGS, Page 41

Section 1

Reads: *Meetings shall be held on the first Monday except January, February and August. If a holiday falls on the first Monday, the meeting shall be held on the second Monday. The nominated slate of officers and chairmen shall be presented in April and voted on in May.*

**DELETE:** Omit entire section.

**ADD:** New Section 1 – Meetings shall be held on the second Saturday of the month, except January, February, July and August. Any changes require advance notice and club approval.

ARTICLE IX: DUTIES OF STANDING COMMITTEES, Page 42

Section 1

Reads – *Program: Vice President(s) selects, organizes and prepares programs.*

**CHANGE TO:** Vice President/Program Chair selects, organizes and prepares programs.

Section 3

Reads – *Publicity: It shall prepare the trifold. Each committee is responsible for their own publicity. Facebook, Newsletter and Website are sub committees of Publicity and shall report to Publicity Chairman.*

**DELETE:** It shall prepare the trifold. (There is no longer a trifold).

Section 4

Reads – *Yearbook: Gather, organize and publish the yearbook (member list, programs, bylaws, etc.) for all members and distribute at the beginning of the club year. Committee is to consist of the Program, Hospitality, Membership Chairs and Treasurer.*

**ADD:** After “club year.” Committee is to consist of standing committee chairs to assist with proofreading.

Section 8

Reads – *Scholarship: Promote interest in the scholarship program, select qualified students and present awards. Promote Youth Education and awareness.*

**CHANGE TO:** Promote interest in the scholarship program. Promote youth education and awareness. Club awards scholarship in the amount of \$1,000. Select qualified student and present award.

Section 10, Page 43

Reads – *Conservation and Horticulture: Direct club members in the maintenance and planting of the club*

- Bylaws continued from page 7

tended Antioch Village gardens ...

**Grammar:** Direct club members in the maintenance and planting of the club-tended Antioch Village gardens.



#### Section 12

Reads – *Audit Committee: Be responsible for an annual audit of the books for the fiscal year.*

**CHANGE TO:** Conduct annual audit of the books to be completed before the Annual Budget meeting, which is held in July.

#### ARTICLE X: ELECTIONS, Page 43-44

##### Section 1

Reads – *A Nominating Committee shall consist of three (3) previous presidents. They shall serve for two (2) consecutive years. No member shall serve on two (2) consecutive Nominating Committees.*

**CHANGE TO:** A Nominating Committee shall consist of three (3) members. (Not necessarily previous presidents).

##### Section 3, Page 44

Reads – *If there is more than one candidate for the same office, election shall be by ballot. A majority vote shall elect. If there is only one candidate for each office, election can be by voice vote. The installation shall be held at the Annual Meeting.*

**ADD:** If the Nominating Committee cannot fill a position, it can suggest non-traditional methods.

#### ARTICLE XI: Quorum, Page 44

Reads – *A quorum for a general meeting of the club shall be 51% (fifty-one percent) of the paid membership.*

**CHANGE TO:** Quorum – Majority required for vote to carry for all meetings (Executive Board, General meetings) will be 51% of voting members present.

**STANDING COMMITTEE CHANGES:** Historian, Travel, Special Projects (Monarch Initiative, Holiday Wreath Decorations, Flower Shows and Special Events such as Arbor Day) will be listed as “areas of interest” and not standing committees.

In addition to Special Projects, the following standing committees also will be removed: Philanthropy, Scholarship, Bylaws and Auditing. The functions are not going away, but the person in charge of these duties will not have board meeting voting rights.

There are then nine standing committees:

- Programs
- Membership
- Publicity
- Yearbook
- Hospitality
- Historian
- Conservation and Horticulture
- Ways and Means
- Nominating



**THE GARDEN DIRT**

**ANTIOCH GARDEN CLUB**

Jayna Legg, Editor

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Antioch, Il 60002

**November**

