



THE GARDEN DIRT

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



Guest Columnist Carol Sackschewsky

Antioch Art Center would like to extend a very special invitation to the Antioch Garden Club this spring — you are invited to participate in the center's first annual Art and Bloom collective showing. Here are some ideas of blooms you could share:

- Spring planters ready for summer
- Blooming house plant, e.g. blooming orchid
- Arranged flowers from garden, or purchased and designed by participant
- Designer object/flower arrangement

If you want to submit something, here are some important dates to remember in May:

-First weekend of the new show is Friday, April 28 through May 1 (Mayday). Arrangements are to be picked up 10 a.m.—2 p.m., May 2 (anything displayed this weekend could advertise the plant sale.)

-Mother's Day, May 8. Work would brought in on Thurs. the 5th (after 4 p.m.) and picked up Monday, May 9, between 10 a.m. and 2 p.m.

—Guest Column, cont. on page 5

Birthdays:

4/20 — Joyce Kufalk

April Program

Dividing Perennials. Our fellow AGC member Cindy Cartner will give a presentation on dividing perennials. She is going to discuss the do's and don't's of dividing our prized plants, meanwhile showing her video "Transplanting 101."

Invasive Plants of Illinois. This program will be presented by AGC member Jane Buck, a master gardener and flower show judge. She will do a slide presentation of invasive plants of Illinois.

Gourd challenge. We will be having a gourd presentation in the Fall. Let's see how we do this growing season by growing our own for decor items or birdhouses. Birdhouse gourd seeds will be available at the April meeting if you are interested. Perhaps we could have a "show and tell" come Spring with our creations.

Hospitality & Raffle

Cindy Cartner, hostess: Jennifer Wittenberg, Dee Obrochta

CALENDAR

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

April 27 — Board Meeting, 6:30 p.m., Antioch Senior Center

May 14—Annual Plant Sale (NOTE there is no May meeting), 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. Williams Park

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 Countdown!

Yikes, our Plant Sale on Sat, May 14, is right around the corner now. Snow shovels have been replaced with hoes and trowels. Finally, let's get into the fresh spring air and do some diggin'! I'll bring pots and craftstix to April's meeting for you to fill, but please keep collecting them yourselves for future sales.

Bring your potted houseplants, herbs, veggies and perennials in containers wiped-clean. ID craftstix labeled on one side with ultra-fine markers should include:

- Name of plant, common and/or horticulture
- Sun requirements (full sun, part shade, shade)
- Color and height of plant and bloom time



IMPORTANT: If you suspect/know that your soil has jumping worms, please do NOT bring plants to our sale! AGC cannot be the source of this invasive pest to our buyers.

Baked goods can be packaged in smaller lots, possibly plastic deli boxes. Consider donating clean, gently-used garden-related books, planters, and garden décor (no plastic pots).

We'll need "all hands on deck!" You may select plants to purchase for yourselves. Store them in your vehicles, and be trusted to pay the cashier once the big rush subsides. (Please pay full price if taken before noon, when ½ price takes effect.) Do not walk past the public with purchases as they wait in line for us to open at 10.

The order of events is - we'll cover the picnic tables with tablecloths first, then ID signs will be attached to the tables (sun, hostas, etc.). Plants will be priced (prices written on the open side of the craftstix) and delivered to the proper tables. Plant ID descriptions will be placed into pots. A brief meeting/group photo takes place at 9:50 a.m. I'll have green aprons available to wear. Volunteers, bring your wagons/carts to assist buyers. (Sort of like a purse, the more room you have, the more you'll stuff into it!) Wagons are needed to transport plants from arrival to the proper tables, and to buyers' cars. The plants come from our local soil and growing conditions. They will more easily adjust in new homes. Save YOUR plant dollars for our sale! Tell your friends! Come enjoy the camaraderie, knowledge, and enthusiasm of your fellow gardeners! Chair Cindy Cartner, 847-395-8902.

"A Garden is a Grand Teacher," Gertrude Jekyll

Antioch Garden Club

General Meeting Minutes March 12, 2022

WELCOME: Lana Svitk & Jayna Legg, Co-presidents **CALL TO ORDER:** 1 p.m.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE AND GARDEN CLUB PLEDGE

Program: Marianne - Seed Exchange, some new seeds were donated.

Treasurer's Report: No additions or changes, will be filed.

Secretary's Report: No additions or changes, will be filed.



Committee Reports:

Audit – No report

By-laws – No report

Historian – Joyce, just finished putting in pictures for Dec., still need minutes.

Horticulture – Spring Cleanup is Sat. April 23, meet at mini-park at 9 a.m.

Hospitality – There are several changes. We will do meetings auditorium style, not sitting at tables. Chairs will be set up facing the windows, with presenter in front. This will give presenters 100 percent of our attention. We're guests of the senior center. We can use their coffee maker. We have a cupboard. The instructions will be there. Thank you! Hostesses will set up.

Hostesses next month: Cindy, Jennifer and Dee

Membership – Four guests – Colette Monahan, Natalie Barlow and Susan White (joining), and Audrey Hanson; total of 24 in attendance.

Dues is due. Please fill out form. It can be paid in April. It can be sent to the post office box on the form. Rates have not changed.

Nominating – We need a secretary. Rest of slate is named.

Philanthropy/Arbor Day – No Report

Programs – Marianne is starting to work on programs for next year. She is taking ideas for programs. "We hope you enjoy the seed swap today."

Publicity – No report

Newsletter – Deadline is March 30.

Website – Chong, still need photos of home gardens.

Yearbook – No report

Scholarship – No report

—Minutes, cont. on page 6

AGC Treasurer Report

Respectively Submitted by Lana Svitak, Treasurer

February 2022

Beginning Bank Balance				\$10,365.08
Disbursements Cleared				
	Check #	Paid to	Committee	
1/28/2022	1106	Antioch Chamber	Chamber Dues	50.00
			Total	\$ 50.00
Deposits				
		From	Committee	
2/11/2022		Deposit	Donation (Dennis Downes)	250.00
2/25/2022		Deposit	Donation (Heartland Bank)	750.00
			Total	\$ 1,000.00
Ending Bank Balance 2/28/22				\$11,315.08
Disbursements Outstanding				
			Total	\$ -
Ending Book Balance 2/28/22				\$11,315.08

AGC Yearbook awarded third place in District IX contest

Congratulations Chong Li, editor of the Antioch Garden Club Yearbook! The yearbook recently won third place, for medium-sized clubs, in District IX, Garden Clubs of Illinois.

Chong has been designing and editing our yearbook for many years and has consistently won awards in this category. We thank her for her awesome work on the yearbook! Every member receives a yearbook. It is chocked full of information about the club, the programs for the year, and descriptions and photos of the Antioch gardens we maintain.

It is also a reference for members containing instructions for summer maintenance, the club bylaws, a club directory, and it contains information about the district, state and national garden clubs, including their meetings (which all are invited to). **Congratulations Chong!**



Chong Li is pictured in the center, with Dee Obrochta, left, and Marianne Peters, right, at the March meeting, at the seed exchange table. *Photo by Carolyn Yoakem*

Horticulture Committee Report

Coffee Grounds New and Used

Used coffee grounds are an excellent source of organic matter. Coffee grounds are a green source of material for your garden, meaning an item that is rich in nitrogen, and coffee grounds are about 1.45% nitrogen.



They also contain magnesium, calcium, potassium and other trace minerals. Add used grounds directly to the soil. You can scratch it into the top couple inches or just sprinkle on top and leave it alone. When mixed with brown material, such as leaves and dry grasses, grounds will give up their nitrogen. Used grounds are actually nearly neutral in pH, so there should be no concern about acidity. Don't use too much in one space so they don't get clumpy. You also can make coffee grounds tea: 2 cups of used grounds mixed with 5 gallons of water. Let it steep for a few hours or overnight. Use this concoction as a liquid fertilizer for gardens and containers. It also makes a great foliar feed. You can spray directly on the leaves and stems of your plants. Create a slug and snail barrier - coffee grounds are abrasive so placing a barrier of grounds around slug-prone plants may just save them. Many researchers quibble about this method. Also, cats dislike the smell of grounds and may avoid using your garden as a litter box if you mix grounds in the soil. Used grounds are only slightly acidic. Fresh grounds have a more acid base. Your acid-loving plants such as hydrangea, rhododendrons, azaleas, lily of the valley, blueberries, carrots and radishes can get a nice boost. Tomatoes, seedlings and young plants do not like grounds. The caffeine can stunt their growth. Also use caution around pets as they may become wired on the caffeine.

Info from an online source called "The Spruce"

- Chairwoman Holly Markwart Swehla

Art and Bloom, guest column, *cont.*

—Guest Column, from page 1

- **Reception is May 14** (also day of Garden Club plant sale). Plants/arrangements would be brought in on Thurs., May 12 (after 4 p.m.) and picked up Mon., May 16th, between 10 a.m. and 2 p.m.

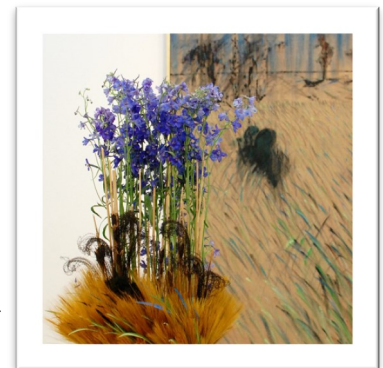
- **Marbled Silk Scarf Workshop** is May 21. Bring in plants/arrangements on Thurs., May 19, and pick up Sun. after 4 p.m. or after 4 p.m., on Mon., the 23rd, between 10 a.m. and 2 p.m.

- Our last weekend for the Art in Bloom will be Fri., May 27 through Sun., May 29. Bring arrangements on Thurs., May 26, after 4 p.m., and pick up Mon., May 31, between 10 a.m. and 2 pm.

The plants/arrangements may be brought in for each weekend on Thursday afternoon after 4 p.m. and picked up after 4 p.m. Sunday, or Monday between 10 a.m. and 2 p.m. The gallery will not be responsible for watering plants. Call me for special arrangements for pickup and delivery. The gallery, 952 Main St., is open noon to 6 p.m. Fri., 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. Sat., and noon to 4 p.m. Sun.

We hope you will all consider participating! Come on by the gallery starting April 28 and see the new show to get ideas for your arrangements. Maybe you'll find a piece of art you'd like to pair your arrangement with to create a stunning display. I look forward to the two organizations coming together to make something beautiful!

- Carol Sackschewsky

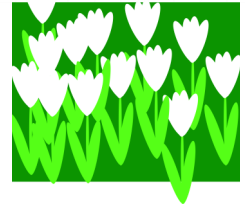


—Minutes, continued from p. 3

Special projects:

Wreaths – No report

Monarchs – Looking for more people to join the group – see Holly



Ways and Means – Cindy - primary fundraiser is plant sale, May 14, 2022; Bring your plants potted and tagged, popsicle stick with one side open for the price. Details go on the other side. Sale is at Williams Park Pavilion. Start bringing plants at 8 a.m. It's fast and furious. We usually generate about \$2,000. Heartland Bank donated \$750 and they will have a popcorn machine. There will be a display table in their lobby for two months. Also, there is a table at State Bank of the Lakes. There are volunteer positions available – 2 people for bake sale (Nancy and Betty); 2 people to hang signs in town (Donna and Judy); Linda Fox has arranged for a person to sharpen tools; 2 people to place signs day of sale throughout town starting at around 8 a.m. (Holly and Jennifer); 1 person to bring coffee for volunteers (Karen); 2 cashiers (Betty S. and Jennifer); members can have “first dibs” but we don't want members with plants walking past people in line, so set them aside and take care of it discreetly; all members are expected to walk around and assist customers during sale. There will be a table for donated pots, tools, etc. (clean, no plastic pots).

May meeting is the plant sale. Cindy will present “Transplanting 101” next month.

Old Business – None

New Business – None

Announcements – None

Raffle - \$58

Meeting adjourned for program – 1:47 p.m.

Respectively Submitted,

Jayna Legg, Secretary



Co-presidents for March were Jayna Legg, left, and Lana Svitak. In the left photo, Betty Collins looks at the seeds. Below, Jane Buck, left, and Marianne Peters, organized the wonderful seed exchange.



Photos by Carolyn Yoekem, more on club website:
<https://antiochgardensclub.org/agc-news>



~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

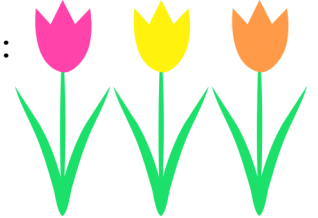
Membership includes: Garden Clubs of Illinois Central Region District IX
and National Garden Clubs, Inc.

Please fill out the following information return to:

Antioch Garden Club, Attn. Lana Svitak

PO Box 4283

Antioch, IL 60002



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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



April