



THE GARDEN DIRT

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<https://www.facebook.com/>



President's Message

Happy Cold Spring! At least this spring, the sun is out. I believe, if I recall correctly, last spring was cold *and* cloudy.

I had the pleasure of attending my first District IX annual luncheon on March 14. Marianne, Nancy, Jane, Betty Collins and Barb Gollwitzer also attended. We had a fantastic time. So great to be among ladies and gentlemen happy to get dirt under their fingernails. We watched as a professional floral designer made these INCREDIBLE arrangements.

As an aside, our member Betty Collins ALWAYS goes, because she ALWAYS wins something. This year, however, you can see by the look on her face, she won NOTHING. I felt badly for her.

I'm sorry the weather didn't cooperate for spring cleanup of our gardens in town! Mother Nature played an April Fool's joke on us! Watching the snow squalls and listening to the wind howl around the house, I'm happy to be inside. Stay-tuned for a new date from the Horticulture Committee.

Our club is on an upward trajectory for members, and we are all really happy to reach more gardeners in and around our

- *President's Message, cont. p. 5*

Birthdays

4/15—Susan White

4/16—Natalie Barlow

4/20—Joyce Kufalk

April Program

Beekeeping. Frank Moriarty is a past president and current board of directors member of the Lake County Beekeepers Association, Illinois. The purpose of the LCBA is to promote interest in honey bees and beekeeping and the utilization of honey bees for pollinations of agricultural crops. He will be speaking about honeybees, bee evolution, and the practice and enjoyment of beekeeping. He will have some of his products to sell, so bring some extra cash!

New Members! We are happy to welcome Lori Linck, Bonnie Garfinkle and Elizabeth Vogt to the club! Say hi at the meeting if you haven't met them.

Hospitality & Raffle

Hostess Betty Sprovieri: Jayna Legg, Jennifer Wittenberg

CALENDAR

April 8—General Meeting, 1 p.m., Antioch Village Center; doors open 12:30 p.m.

April 26—Board Meeting, 6:30 p.m., Antioch Village Center

May 6—Spring Planting, 9 a.m., Meet at Mini-Park next to Vintage Mercantile downtown

May 20—Annual Plant Sale, all members, 10 a.m., Williams Park Pavilion, Antioch

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.

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Plant Sale

Saturday, May 20, 2023

Plant Sale is Primary Fundraiser

The Club's Plant/Perennial/Bake Sale is on Saturday, May 20th from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. at the Williams Park pavilion, 741 Main St in Antioch (behind the library).

We'll need donations from all club members in the form of annuals, perennials, herbs, indoor houseplants, baked goods, preserves, books, garden-related items, and volunteer time.

I'd like to know what you'll be bringing so that I can make-up colorful plant ID's. Send me an email with details/names of what you'll be bringing once you know. I'll bring clean pots, trays and craftstix for you to label your plants. If someone you know has plants to divide, give them pots and arrange for them to bring to bring the potted plants to our sale.

Think about dividing and propagating houseplants, starting seedlings and those perennial beds of yours in need of thinning. Try to get your plants into pots by April 20 or so, so they can be established and fill their containers. Pack & label baked goods in smaller servings. (Clear deli boxes work well.) Pies and 1/2 cakes sell fast! Pricing will be done sale morning.

On Saturday, help is needed for set-up, starting at 8 a.m. You'll deliver the plants at the north side of the pavilion, where you can park your vehicle. The plants then get priced before being sent to the appropriate tables. When the sale begins at 10 a.m., it's a madhouse for an hour, with buyers asking about our plants and seeking advice. We'll tidy and condense tables as the plants disappear. Barb has arranged a lunch to be delivered during the lull before we wrap it up around 1 p.m. and tidy the pavilion. And then we call it a day!

Local beekeeper Peter Poli will have a display of his organic honey, soaps, and scented wax products. We receive 10 percent of his profits that day. Please support him, by buying local, and getting the advantage of the kickback to our club. A local knife/tool sharpener will also attend.

When you help, you're bound to pick-up new horticulture info and have fun too! Tell your friends. There's loads of competition in May for plant-sale buying. We know locally-nurtured plants will survive and thrive in our "challenging" soil and climate. Save some planting dollars for the sale and for the club's financial health. Please contact me to volunteer or if you have questions .

**-Cindy Cartner sedani@msn.com,
847-395.8902.**



"April Hath Put A Spirit Of Youth In Everything" William Shakespeare

Antioch Garden Club, General Meeting, March 11, 2023



WELCOME: Holly Swehla, President **CALL TO ORDER:** 1:05 p.m.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE AND GARDEN CLUB PLEDGE

President Holly introduced one of our 6 guests, Renee Mehring, Director of Community Senior Services.

President Holly paused our meeting for our program. Vice President, Marianne Peters, introduced our program, **Edible Flowers** given by Marcy Lautanen-Raleigh. She is the creator and owner of Backyard Patch Herbs. She speaks and shares herb information at The Morton Arboretum, Chicago Flower & Garden Show, and online on the Backyard Patch Herbal Blog.

President Holly brought the meeting back to order.

Treasurer's Report: Lana Svitak. The reports were published in the Newsletter. Balance on Hand - \$11,081.80, Disbursements - \$83.45, no Receipts - Balance on Hand as of January 31, 2023, \$10,254.26. Outstanding checks total - \$744.09. No additions or corrections, the report was accepted for audit.

Secretary's Report: Nancy Zitkus. Minutes were published in Newsletter. They were accepted with no corrections.

Committee Reports:

By Laws: Nancy Zitkus. No report.

Historian: Joyce Kufalk. A reminder to the members for any photos, etc. about the club should be given to Joyce for our History Books that are in the Antioch Library.

Conservation/Horticulture: Collette Monahan. Collette announced April 1 will be the Spring Cleanup; meet at the Mini Park. The summer maintenance schedule will be passed around for sign up. The Village will be delivering the mulch for the gardens.

Hospitality: Betty Sprovieri. Betty read the Hostess Committee for the day. She will be contacting members for signing up for the various Hostess Committees for the club year. She read the Hostess Committee for next month-April.

Membership: Jackie Horneck. Jackie reported 25 members and 5 guests were in attendance. She inducted Lori Linck as a new member. Welcome.

Nominating Committee: Betty Sprovieri. Betty announced that Mary Yott will be the chairman of the Wreath Decoration committee. Thank you Mary.



Marcy Lautanen-Raleigh presented "Edible Flowers"

—March Minutes, continued on p. 6

AGC Treasurer's Report

Respectively Submitted by Lana Svitak, Treasurer

Feb. 2023

Beginning Bank Balance				\$ 10,998.35
Disbursements Cleared				
	Check #	Paid to	Committee	
1/21/2023	1155	Antioch Chamber	Antioch Chamber Dues	50.00
1/21/2023	1157	Floral Acres	Wreath Decorating	644.09
			Total	\$ 694.09
Deposits				
		From		
2/2/2023		Heartland Bank	Plant sale donation	750.00
2/13/2023		Amazon Smile	Donation	13.28
2/28/2023		State/Dist meetings	Dist IX Luncheon	245.00
2/28/2023		New Member Dues	Sharon Pendergast	30.00
2/28/2023		December Raffles		147.00
			Total	\$ 1,185.28
Ending Bank Balance 2/28/23				\$ 11,489.54
Disbursements Outstanding				
1/21/2023	1156	Lake County Extension	Seed Expo, 2 tables	50.00
2/27/2023	1158	GCI Dist IX	State/Dist meetings	294.00
			Total	\$ 344.00
Ending Book Balance 2/28/23				\$ 11,145.54

News from the Vice President

Check out all that's available via Lake County Forest Preserves' website, <http://www.lcfdp.org>, including their calendar of events. Many tours, classes, activities, and resources are available, including a Native Gardeners Club that meets monthly online.



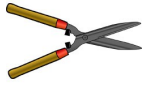
Lake County
Forest Preserves

Yearbook Updates: New Members - Please email me a photo headshot of yourself for next year's yearbook directory. Note that this is not mandatory.

Current Members - Please email me any corrections to your directory information.

All Members - I am making up a "New Member 101" page which will give helpful information for new members.

Send emails to Marianne Peters at ms.map79@yahoo.com. Thank You!



Horticulture Committee Report

A quick update on the “hort group.” Our committee leader, Laura, has a bran spanking new knee! She is on a great rehabilitation track and is looking to be out and about soon. Laura has set up our work schedule to begin mid April at 10 am on an every other week basis.

The area of our efforts will be changing as the need arises. I look forward to meeting some ‘newbies’ and catching up with some old friends.

Please take time to sign up for a maintenance week during this summer season. Your participation is essential to maintaining the glory of our village gardens.

I remind all to review our award winning handbook for details on water sources to garbage disposal. It is a wealth of knowledge!

I am keeping fingers crossed for the new perennials in the adjacent parking lot to over winter well. This will be a welcome addition to flower lovers and our village.

Happy spring everyone!

— Judy Caldwell

—President’s Message, continued from p. 1

Invite a friend to garden club!

community. Bring a friend! Tell your neighbors about us. The more the merrier!

There are still a number of empty slots on the signup sheet for summer maintenance. Please see our Hort Committee for more info. And, please, please, please, feel free to express your thoughts and questions to us. My goal as president is for everyone to know everything about this great club. We want to be more visible in the community, and that doesn’t happen without all of our pieces of the pie. Here’s to a beautiful season!

- Holly Markwart Swehla

District IX Annual Luncheon Snapshots

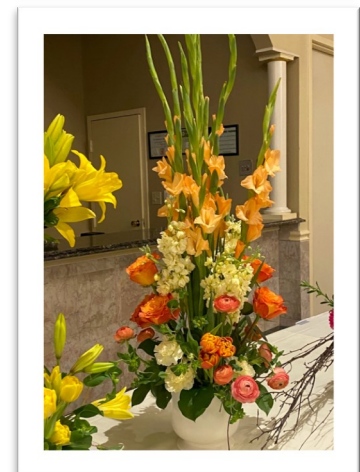
Six club members attended the District IX annual luncheon in March.

Congratulations to Marianne Peters and the Yearbook Committee for receiving **first place** for the yearbook, in the medium club division!

Members enjoyed seeing the floral arrangement presentation. But disappointingly, no one won a raffle prize.



Pictured left to right, front row: Holly Markwart Swehla, Jane Buck, Nancy Zitkus and Betty Collins. Back row, left to right: Barb Gollwitzer and Marianne Peters. On the right is one of the flower arrangements. Photos by Holly Markwart Swehla.



—March Minutes, continued from p. 3

Program suggestions sought for next year

Philanthropy/Arbor Day. President Holly announced that Jane Buck will be the chairman, along with Joanne Dugenske.

Programs: Marianne Peters. Marianne was thanked for today's great program. She will be lining up the programs for the club year 2024-2025 club year. If you have any suggestions please contact her.

Public Affairs: A chairman for this committee is still needed.

Publicity:

Newsletter: Jayna Legg. Please have your articles to Jayna the last week of the month.

Website: Lana Svitak. Lana asked members for pictures of their gardens. She will be updating the site.

Yearbook: Marianne Peters: Members are asked to make sure their address, etc. are correct for the next yearbook.

Facebook: Barb Gollwitzer: She will be promoting our meetings and our upcoming plant sale.

Scholarship: Cheryl Hoke: Cheryl announced there were no submissions at this time.

Special Projects:

Monarch Butterfly Initiative: Barb Gollwitzer. Her committee has met and will bring us their plans.

President Holly announced that the new socks project for Open Arms Mission, festival of trees, and our wreath decorating will come under special projects. The Chamber of Commerce also has a tree-decorating contest.



Ways and Means: Cindy Cartner. Cindy provided information on our Plant Sale. She has the fliers that will be put out at the various businesses. She gave the information on how to mark the various plants that will be brought to the sale, and the responsibilities of each member to participate. A donation from the Heartland Bank of \$750.00 was received for the sale; the Bee Keeper will be there with his honey and possibly the man who would sharpen your tools.

Announcements: Judy Caldwell talked about the Garden Conservancy. The book on Diverse Gardening is in the library. If you would like to join this group, you can go on their Website - \$50.00 membership fee. She also brought us up to date on the Toft Street beautification and all the different plantings done around the village. She urged the committee to employ an Arborist for the care of the various trees around the village.

Barb Gollwitzer will be securing some Proven Winners pamphlets – Gardener Idea Book. Raffle was held. No further business, the meeting was adjourned at 3 p.m.

*Respectfully submitted,
Nancy Zitkus, Secretary*

~ANTIOCH GARDEN CLUB ANNUAL MEMBER DUES~

2023-24

Individuals \$30; Couples \$50

Membership dues apply June to following June and are due by April 1

Make checks payable to: Antioch Garden Club

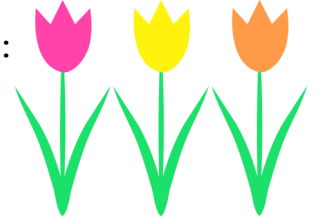
Membership includes: Garden Clubs of Illinois Central Region District IX
and National Garden Clubs, Inc.

Please fill out the following information return to:

Treasurer, Antioch Garden Club

P.O. Box 4283

Antioch, IL 60002



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NAME: _____

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CITY: _____ STATE: _____

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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