



# THE GARDEN DIRT

Find out how to join and see more stories, photos, past newsletters, and much more:

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

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



## President's Message

**A**s the daylight hours get longer again, my gardening thoughts are going strong! Soon, we will spring forward and really enjoy the longer daylight hours!

Our club was nicely represented at the Seed Expo sponsored by the Round Lake Area Garden Club, and this year, for the first time, the University of Illinois Master Gardeners, Feb. 4. Thanks to Dee Obrochta and Mary Yott for "manning" our table. A really great time was had by all! Several club members also attended, and I'd love feedback about likes and dislikes.

We planned for about 400 attendees, and a whopping 1,200 folks attended. Dee brought Hershey's Kisses, and Mary brought her incredibly organized seed list. I'm not sure how many seeds were given away, (I didn't count), but I know many, many were distributed. There is a NEW seed library at the extension office in Grayslake, and the Round Lake Library continues to stock their seeds. Seeds are donated by folks like Mr. Lashkowsky at the Round Lake Ace Hardware. I would like to see this be an annual event our club participates in.

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

## Birthdays

2/9—Nancy Zitkus

2/10—Cherry Garrity

2/16—Cindy Cartner

3/15—Marianne Peters

## March Program

**Edible Flowers.** Marcy Lautanen-Raleigh is the creator/owner of Backyard Patch Herbs, an online purveyor of salt-free, gluten-free, preservative-free herb cooking and tea products. She shares herb information at The Morton Arboretum, Chicago Flower & Garden Show and online on the Backyard Patch Herbal Blog.

She will discuss a wide variety of edible flowers and flowering herbs. More than 20 flowering plants will be discussed and shown with information on harvesting, preserving and preparing.

## Hospitality & Raffle

**Hostess Annette Lubkeman:** Cheryl Hoke, Judy Caldwell

## CALENDAR

**March 11 — General Meeting, 1 p.m., Antioch Village Center, doors open 12:30 p.m.**

**March 22 — Board Meeting, 6:30 p.m., Antioch Village Center**

**April 1— Spring Cleanup, 9 a.m., Meet at Mini-Park next to Vintage Mercantile downtown**

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

**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](https://antiochgardenclub.org).

M  
E  
M  
B  
E  
R  
S  
E  
W  
S

# Plant Sale

Saturday, May 20, 2023

## Plant Sale is Primary Fundraiser

**M**ark your calendars for Sat., May 20, our annual AGC plant sale is on its way! We'll again be at the protected Williams Park pavilion, 741 Main St., Antioch (behind the library, near the train depot) from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m.

Your donations of time, baked goods, established perennials, annuals, and garden-related items/decor will be needed for this to be successful as our only fundraiser. I realize that most of us can't think past all that white stuff covering our flower beds; however seed-starting and houseplant divisions can take place soon. Please think about what you can contribute and how you can volunteer.

Find what's comfortable for you among these positions:

1-2 volunteers needed to organize/price the Bake Sale

1-2 volunteers to tape sale posters in windows of Antioch businesses

2 cashiers (bring cashbox of small bills and change)

Coffee for volunteers

Dig/pot plants for members unable to themselves

Place signs & balloons on sale morning; pick up same after sale

I'll be bringing pots with trays & craftstix (for you to label your plants) to future meetings. However, please remember to save your pots from season to season. Later this spring, please let me know of the variety of perennials you might bring. I can then make-up a colorful horticulture ID with photo.

We always have fun and learn more about horticulture. Mark your calendars, tell your friends and save your purchasing dollars! Thanks, in advance, to all those who make my job easier. I'm proud to be part of such a hard-working bunch! Please contact me to volunteer or if you have questions about the positions.

*-Cindy Cartner*

[sedan1@msn.com](mailto:sedan1@msn.com), 847-395.8902.



2022 Plant Sale Crew

## Antioch Garden Club, General Meeting, Dec. 10, 2022



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

### PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE AND GARDEN CLUB PLEDGE

President Holly paused our meeting for our program. Vice President, Marianne Peters, Program Chairman, introduced our Program, **Holiday Succulent Make & Take**, given by our friends from Floral Acres. Refreshments followed.

President, Holly, brought our meeting back to order.

**Secretary's Report: Nancy Zitkus.** The minutes were published in the Newsletter. No corrections, they will be filed.

**Treasurer's Report: Lana Svitak.** The treasurer's report was published in the Newsletter. No corrections, it will be placed on file for audit.

### Committee Reports

**Conservation/Horticulture:** Collette Monahan worked in the Mini Park, Jessie Szmegalski and Laura Vertz cleaned up the pots. The club entered in the "Festival of Trees" at the Hiram Buttrick Sawmill. We decorated the tree with freeze-dried oranges, pine cones with peanut butter with seed and many more natural things. Susan White donated the lights for the tree.

**Hospitality: Betty Sprovieri.** Betty reminded the new members to get involved.

**Membership: Dee Obrochta.** Dee announced we had 27 members and 8 guests present. Nancy Colby was initiated, and Sharon Pendergast signed an application for membership.

**Nominating Committee: Betty Sprovieri.** Betty reminded the membership that the Holiday Wreath committee needs a chairman.

**Publicity: Newsletter: Jayna Legg.** February 20—deadline for March Newsletter.



Dee Obrochta with new members Nancy Colby and Sharon Pendergast.



A team of members decorated a tree for the village's Festival of Trees at the Hiram Buttrick Sawmill.

—December Minutes, continued on p. 6



# AGC Treasurer's Reports

Respectively Submitted by Lana Svitak, Treasurer

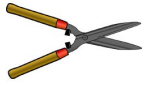
**Jan. 2023**

|                                    |                |                       |                      |                     |
|------------------------------------|----------------|-----------------------|----------------------|---------------------|
| <b>Beginning Bank Balance</b>      |                |                       |                      | \$ 11,081.80        |
| <b>Disbursements Cleared</b>       |                |                       |                      |                     |
|                                    | <b>Check #</b> | <b>Paid to</b>        | <b>Committee</b>     |                     |
|                                    |                |                       | New Member Dues      |                     |
|                                    |                |                       | - Nancy Colby        |                     |
|                                    |                |                       | - Laura Skender      |                     |
|                                    |                |                       | - Sharon Pendergast  |                     |
| 1/8/2023                           | 1153           | GCI                   | Horticulture         | 18.00               |
| 1/8/2023                           | 1154           | Laura Vertz           | Horticulture         | 65.45               |
|                                    |                |                       |                      |                     |
|                                    |                |                       | <b>Total</b>         | <b>\$ 83.45</b>     |
| <b>Deposits</b>                    |                |                       |                      |                     |
|                                    |                | <b>From</b>           | <b>Committee</b>     |                     |
|                                    |                |                       |                      |                     |
|                                    |                |                       |                      |                     |
|                                    |                |                       | <b>Total</b>         | <b>\$ -</b>         |
| <b>Ending Bank Balance 1/31/23</b> |                |                       |                      | <b>\$ 10,998.35</b> |
| <b>Disbursements Outstanding</b>   |                |                       |                      |                     |
| 1/21/2023                          | 1155           | Antioch Chamber       | Antioch Chamber Dues | 50.00               |
| 1/21/2023                          | 1156           | Lake County Extension | Seed Expo, 2 tables  | 50.00               |
| 1/21/2023                          | 1157           | Floral Acres          | Wreath Decorating    | 644.09              |
|                                    |                |                       |                      |                     |
|                                    |                |                       | <b>Total</b>         | <b>\$ 744.09</b>    |
| <b>Ending Book Balance 1/31/23</b> |                |                       |                      | <b>\$ 10,254.26</b> |

**Dec., 2022**

|  |                |                    |                                      |                     |
|--|----------------|--------------------|--------------------------------------|---------------------|
| <b>Beginning Bank Balance</b>          |                |                    |                                      | \$ 11,904.74        |
| <b>Disbursements Cleared</b>           |                |                    |                                      |                     |
|  | <b>Check #</b> | <b>Paid to</b>     | <b>Committee</b>                     |                     |
|  |                |                    |                                      |                     |
| 12/11/2022                             | 1149           | Laura Vertz        | Horticulture                         | 40.62               |
| 12/11/2022                             | 1150           | Floral Acres       | December programs                    | 360.00              |
| 12/1/2022                              | 1151           | Village of Antioch | Festival of trees entry fee          | 50.00               |
|  |                |                    | Website renewal \$191.88             |                     |
|  |                |                    | PO Box renewal (Operations) \$166.00 |                     |
| 12/11/2022                             | 1152           | Lana Svitak        | Office Supplies (Operations) \$14.44 | 372.32              |
|  |                |                    |                                      |                     |
|  |                |                    | <b>Total</b>                         | <b>\$ 822.94</b>    |
| <b>Deposits</b>                        |                |                    |                                      |                     |
|  |                | <b>From</b>        | <b>Committee</b>                     |                     |
|  |                |                    |                                      |                     |
|  |                |                    |                                      |                     |
|  |                |                    | <b>Total</b>                         | <b>\$ -</b>         |
| <b>Ending Bank Balance 12/30/22</b>    |                |                    |                                      | <b>\$ 11,081.80</b> |
| <b>Disbursements Outstanding</b>       |                |                    |                                      |                     |
|  |                |                    |                                      |                     |
|  |                |                    |                                      |                     |
|  |                |                    | <b>Total</b>                         | <b>\$ -</b>         |
| <b>Ending Book Balance 12/30/22/22</b> |                |                    |                                      | <b>\$ 11,081.80</b> |

—Treasurer's Reports continued on p. 6



# Horticulture Committee Report

## Your help needed for village garden maintenance

**W**elcome back everyone! While spring is in the air, so is the summer maintenance schedule signup sheet.

Oh no, you say! I can't do this. I am too old, my back hurts, or I am too busy. Well, have no fear. We are not asking you to go every day or spend the whole day out in the hot sun. The week goes from Sunday to Saturday, and we ask that you try and make it out as often as you can and spend as much time as you like.



Also, you will not be alone unless you choose to be. We usually have two people a week. So pick your buddy and sign up together or the horticultural chairs can help find a great partner for you.

Starting on page 28 in your Antioch Garden Club yearbook, you will find what needs to be done each month. It also tells you what to do with the trash, clippings and where the hoses are for watering. We would also appreciate it if you could send us a quick text or email at the end of your week, and let us know what was accomplished during your week.

So let's all join together and do what we do best. Keep the gardens in Antioch looking beautiful. Thank you all for being a part of this club and for signing up. We will have the sign up sheet at the March and April meetings.

— Jennifer Wittenberg

---

—President's Message, continued from p. 1

## Seed Expo great success

I met the outgoing president of the Wauconda Garden Club, and we had a wonderful visit. She was there with the Milkweed for Monarchs table. I garnered a great resource for our own monarch initiative. We had 10 folks sign our sheets for more information.



District IX luncheon is March 14. It's my first time going, so I will report back to you next month. As this goes to press, we are preparing for the general meeting. Bring a friend! Program is "edible plants." Think Spring, sunshine, blue skies and gardens of flowers and weeds!

- Holly Markwart Swehla

---

## News Briefs

- ◇ **Socks for Souls:** In December, AGC donated almost 90 pairs of socks to Open Arms Mission! They were very appreciative, as we are of them. A big thank you goes to all who donated! This is ongoing, so please continue to donate by bringing new socks to our general meetings.
- ◇ **Garden Clubs of Ill. 96th Annual Convention** will be April 16-17 at the Chicago Marriott Naperville Hotel. The annual business meeting will be Monday. Details and a registration form are in the Winter 2023 edition of *Garden Glories* and on the GCI website. This is a nice chance to gather with members of other clubs. The fee includes one each dinner, breakfast and lunch. You don't have to attend both days. If needed, hotel reservations should to be made by March 24.

—Treasurer's Reports continued from p. 4

## AGC Treasurer's Report November, 2022

|  |                |                 |   |              |
|--|----------------|-----------------|---|--------------|
| <b>Beginning Bank Balance</b>          |                |                 |   | \$ 12,326.36 |
| <b>Disbursements Cleared</b>           |                |                 |   |              |
|  | <b>Check #</b> | <b>Paid to</b>  | <b>Committee</b>                          |              |
|  |                |                 | Hospitality (November) = \$14.04          |              |
|  |                |                 | Horticulture = \$53.46                    |              |
| 11/5/2022                              | 1146           | Laura Vertz     | Booklets produced by hort cmte = \$253.32 | 320.82       |
| 11/12/2022                             | 1147           | Cindy Crosby    | November programs                         | 322.54       |
|  |                |                 | Dec program supplies = \$94.92            |              |
| 11/12/2022                             | 1148           | Marianne Peters | Membership, pens and buttons = \$112.34   | 207.26       |
|  |                |                 |   |              |
|  |                |                 |   | Total        |
|  |                |                 |   | \$ 850.62    |
| <b>Deposits</b>                        |                |                 |   |              |
|  |                | <b>From</b>     | <b>Committee</b>                          |              |
| 11/14/2022                             |                | Deposit         | October Raffles                           | 85.00        |
| 11/14/2022                             |                | Deposit         | November Raffles                          | 84.00        |
|  |                |                 | Donation from Dennis Downes \$200         |              |
| 11/26/2022                             |                | Deposit         | New member dues \$60                      | 260.00       |
|  |                |                 |   |              |
|  |                |                 |   | Total        |
|  |                |                 |   | \$ 429.00    |
| <b>Ending Bank Balance 11/30/22</b>    |                |                 |   | \$ 11,904.74 |
| <b>Disbursements Outstanding</b>       |                |                 |   |              |
|  |                |                 |   | Total        |
|  |                |                 |   | \$ -         |
| <b>Ending Book Balance 11/30/22/22</b> |                |                 |   | \$ 11,904.74 |

—December Minutes, continued from p. 3

## Succulent 'make & take' big success

### Announcements:

- St. Rafael's sale – December 10
- St. Peter's Community Christmas Concert – December 18
- Round Lake Culture Center-seed exchange-February 4, 2023
- Start saving gallon jugs, paper rolls for Holly.

Raffle was held.

No further business, President Holly adjourned the meeting at 2:25 p.m.

*Respectfully submitted,  
Nancy Zitkus, Secretary*



# Arbor Day History

When pioneers began moving into the Nebraska Territory, they noticed the lack of trees. Because of this, the new residents were without the benefits of trees to which they had been accustomed, including trees used as windbreaks, building materials, fuel and shade.

Nebraska newspaper editor, J. Sterling Morton and resident of Nebraska City, NE had an enthusiasm for trees and advocated strongly for individuals and civic groups to plant them. Once he became secretary of the Nebraska Territory, he further spread his message of the value of trees within Nebraska. On January 4, 1872, Morton proposed a tree planting holiday to be called “Arbor Day” at a meeting of the State Board of Agriculture. The celebration was set for April 10, 1872. Prizes were offered to counties, and individuals for the largest number of trees properly planted on that day. It was estimated that more than 1 million trees were planted in Nebraska on the first Arbor Day.

Today, Arbor Day is celebrated in all 50 states. The most common date for the state observance is the last Friday in April — National Arbor Day. Some states celebrate Arbor Day at other times to coincide with the best planting weather for their region. We’ll celebrate it **April 28, 2023**.

Arbor Day represents hope for the future. The simple act of planting a tree creates the expectation that the tree will grow to provide us with clean air and water, cooling shade, habitat for wildlife, healthier communities, and endless natural beauty — all for a better tomorrow.

Cities and towns across Illinois are earning Tree City USA recognition. Nearly 200 communities were recognized last year, with more than 60% of the state’s population living in a Tree City. But the dedication to trees doesn’t stop there! Approximately half of these Tree Cities also earned a Growth Award. (What is the Growth Award, what are the criteria and what does it represent?) Go to [https://www.wikiwand.com/en/List\\_of\\_Tree\\_Cities\\_USA](https://www.wikiwand.com/en/List_of_Tree_Cities_USA) to see listing of cities in Illinois and other states. Illinois has 30 cities listed but Antioch isn’t a Tree City USA.

Perhaps we, as the Antioch Garden Club, should consider helping Antioch become a Tree City USA. <https://www.arborday.org/programs/tree-cities-of-the-world/become-a-tree-city.cfmaccept>

Our club has donated trees since 2002. See our yearbook for more information on the those trees. Disease, old age, storm damage, construction and renovation all contribute to the loss of trees. We need to keep planting trees to replace the ones we lose, and this is something we can do, not only as a club, but also as individuals. As Arbor Day comes around again, let's look for places we can spread the natural beauty and functional value of living trees in our community!

— Jane Buck



Secretary of Agriculture Edwin T. Meredith and the District Federation of Women’s Clubs plants a tree in honor of J. Sterling Morton in May 1920.

Photo courtesy of The Library of Congress

~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

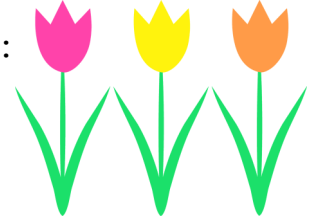
Membership includes: Garden Clubs of Illinois Central Region District IX  
and National Garden Clubs, Inc.

Please fill out the following information return to:

Treasurer, Antioch Garden Club

P.O. Box 4283

Antioch, IL 60002



-----detach-----

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



**March**