



THE GARDEN DIRT

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

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Guest Columnist Nancy Zitkus, President for December

Dear Garden Members, today is such a beautiful and cold day. My leaves have all fallen, like the song says: "The falling leaves drift by my window."

Since the founding of our club, in 1995, we have come a long way, from maintaining one garden, the Berm, to four gardens. I have met so many new members, and many are still with our club today.

It was quite scary when I was asked to be vice president and then president in 2001 to 2003. With the help of everyone, we continued the work of the club, and now we have ventured out to social media and have a great website and a wonderful newsletter that keeps us informed of the workings of our club.

I'm especially proud of the Blue Star Memorial. I wish our military organizations would use it more for their Veterans Day ceremonies.

Fellow gardeners, we need a vice president and president to help us maintain order and for keeping us

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Happy Birthday!

- ◇ **Dec. 2, Jennifer Wittenberg**
- ◇ **Dec. 6, Betty Sprovieri**
- ◇ **Dec. 15, Mary Priller**
- ◇ **Dec. 25, Holly Markwart Swehla**

December Program

Holiday Plants will be presented by Floral Acres. Plant breeders have created a gorgeous selection of more than 180 varieties of cultivated euphorbia pulcherrima (poinsettias) in various shades, and schulmbergera (Christmas cactus), a small genus of cacti with six to nine species found in the coastal mountains of Southeastern Brazil. Find out what you should know about these beautiful holiday plants. **NOTE: Time and location has changed to 2 p.m. at the United Methodist Church, 848 Main Street.**

Hostesses: Mary Priller, Chong Li, Barb Gollwitzer

CALENDAR

Dec. 11—General Meeting., 2 p.m., Methodist Church

Feb. 23, 2022—Board Meeting, 6:30 p.m., Antioch Senior Center

March 12, 2022—General Meeting, 1 p.m., Antioch Senior Center

March 23, 2022—Board Meeting, 6:30 p.m., Antioch 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/newsletters>

Bats, Sugar Gliders & Skunks Oh My!

“Incredible Bats” makes for incredible program

Antioch Garden Club members got to pet the program guests at the November meeting. At the end of a very informative presentation by Sharon Peterson about the bats of the world and their jobs as pollinators, members had the opportunity to see up close and touch bats, sugar gliders, a possum and even a very large skunk. Members took turns holding the skunk (de-scented) in their laps and posing for photos. Also during the meeting, membership Chair Jackie Horneck inducted new members Donna Rieter and Laura Vertz, who recently joined the club. Welcome Donna and Laura!

See more on the ACG website: <http://www.antiochgardenclub.org/agc-news>



Above, a possum made an appearance. Above right is a sugar glider. Bottom left is a bat, and in the bottom right photo, member Betty Sprovieri poses with a skunk so she can show her grandchildren the photo.



Antioch Garden Club General Meeting Minutes Nov. 13, 2021

WELCOME: Linda Fox **CALL TO ORDER:** 1 p.m.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE AND GARDEN CLUB PLEDGE

Program: “Incredible Bats,” by Sharon Peterson and her assistant Kim White.



Secretary’s Report: \$1,500 under Ways and Means correction to Oct. minutes; Will be filed with the change.

Treasurer’s Report: Correction \$647.50, typo. Rest of figures are correct.

Correspondence: Note card from Paul Howard, Senior Center, thanking us for the work outside on the landscaping.

Committee Reports

Audit: No report.

Bylaws: Cheryl reported on the changes her committee proposed. Annette and Kendall were on the committee. Board approved them. Club needs to approve now. Changes are in the November newsletter.

Quorum – change to “51 percent of the members present at a meeting” for board and general meetings.

Change to committee structure to decrease the number of committees, at least three people on each. Standing committees are the groups needed for day-to-day operations of the club. Rest are “areas of interest.”

Scholarship – “select a qualified student.”

Motion to accept changes – Jennifer; Second the motion – Cindy

Discussion – Vote is on the changes as written in the newsletter.

Linda suggested that we add something about voting by proxy, and/or digitally. Nancy and new committee will take that on.

Changes were approved by general membership.

Historian: Keep giving Joyce photos, etc.

Horticulture: Closed up for the season. Fall cleanup went well. Fourteen members showed up and three NHS members from high school. All gardens got put to bed. She’s taking suggestions for next year.

Holly is looking for more color in mini-park, and another planter with brilliant shade color. Email ideas to Holly. Stone path was removed.

Barb - Antioch mayor posted about proposal for Pittman Property on Facebook. She recommends we look at it.

Hospitality: Betty thanked hostesses – Donna, Judy and Karen. “We now know it works here (at the Senior Center).” Next month it is Barb, Mary and Chong.

Membership: New members Donna Reiter and Laura Vertz were installed. Madeline and Jessica have been very active members but haven’t been able to come to Saturday meetings. Jackie would like to invite them to a board meeting to install them, or call them and install them. We have 21 members here today and one guest.

Nominating: We still need a president and vice president.

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Treasurer's Report as of Oct. 29, 2021



Beginning Bank Balance	\$11,467.83		
Disbursements Cleared			
8/25 Linda Fox	Horticulture	82.04	
	Total	\$82.04	
Deposits			
10/26 October raffle		10.00	
10/26 New member dues		60.00	
	Total	70.00	
Ending Bank Balance 10/29	\$11,455.79		
Disbursements Outstanding			
10/30 Cindy Cartner	Horticulture	53.39	
Ending Book Balance	\$11,402.40		

Respectively Submitted, Treasurer Lana Svitak

Next Meeting: March 12, 2022

We will not meet again until March of next year! At 1 p.m., Saturday, March 12, the program will be "Let's Get Growing: Vegetable Gardening." U of I Master Gardeners of Lake County will present. Looking to start a garden? This will cover the basics, including planning the garden (e.g. site selection, vegetable selection and supplies), preparing the soil, proper planting techniques, and caring for the established garden. Planting times for warm and cool season vegetables will be discussed as well. See you then!

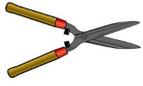
President of the Month's column (cont.)

Guest Column, from page 1

in contact with our "Mother" clubs, NGC and GCI. We have wonderful committee chairwomen who help us go forward with the workings of the club. Merry Christmas, and I wish you a New Year filled with happiness and good health.

-Nancy Zitkus, Past President, 2001-2003





Horticulture Committee Report

Penny Pines

Greetings! I want to tell you a little about Penny Pines, which the club supports. As a member of The National Garden Clubs, Inc. and The Garden Clubs of Ill., Inc., we have participated in the Penny Pines project for many years.

Each year we donate \$68. In conjunction with federal funds, the donations are used by the USDA Forest Service or the state forester to replant burnt or otherwise damaged trees. This donation is included in our annual budget. We are happy to participate in this very worthwhile cause.

For more information about Penny Pines, go to: <https://gardenclub.org/penny-pines>

- Chairwoman Holly Markhart Swehla

Holiday Wreath Decorating, Nov. 20



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



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Philanthropy: No report.

Programs: Dec. program is Floral Acres, holiday plants. Marianne and Jane will take over with programs. They will be researching for next year.

Publicity: If you go to village website, under “Visitors,” they talk about the chamber, parks, etc. Mary wants to see if they will directly link to our site from theirs. We’re competing for people’s time. It will get us more attention.

Newsletter – Nov. 30 is deadline for next newsletter. Cindy suggested we should put some out at the library again. Newsletter is sent one week prior to meetings. Mary suggested we set up a way to get outside people to sign up for it, in the future.

Yearbook – Change plant sale to 2022 in yearbook.

Website – Everyone take a look at the new website! Thank you to Lana and Chong! If you have suggestions, let us know! Eventually we want to put our social media sites on the website, and link people to them. We should get an Instagram account in the future.

Club needs to update our information with the Chamber of Commerce. As a member, we have an account with them.

Chong updated us as a business with Google.

Scholarship: Committee will meet after Christmas. Mary asked about homeschooled students. Answer was they are able to apply as well.

Special Projects:

Wreath-decorating – Sat. Nov. 20 at Senior Center, 9:30 a.m. Bring your ornaments.

Monarch – all is growing at Osmond Park.

Ways and Means: Nothing to report. Barb is going to keep in touch with the National Honor Society (NHS) at the high school to see if they will help with the plant sale.

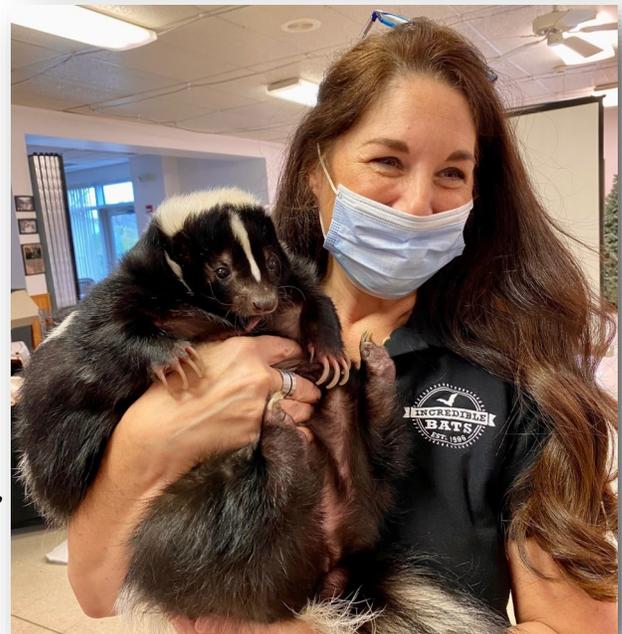
Old Business: Gail’s info needs to be printed on stickers and distributed to members. Membership will do this.

New Business: After the fall cleanup, some members went to the Art Foundation art gallery. It is highly recommended.

Announcements: Village is doing “Santa at the Sawmill” this year.

Raffle, Meeting adjourned.

Respectively Submitted, Jayna Legg, Secretary



Sharon White holds a skunk at the Nov. meeting.

THE GARDEN DIRT

ANTIOCH GARDEN CLUB

Jayna Legg, Editor

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December