

Council of Rockford Gardeners, Inc.

Organized 3/21/1980

E-Issue V2 Issue 6
Editor: Shirley Wiklund

CRG Clubs:

No. IL Daffodil Society
Plantaholics
Potpourri
Seedlings
Wildflowers

Council Motto:

"Enjoy nature's bounty and
beauty through work and
creativity."

Council Website:

[http://councilofrockfordgardener
s.org/](http://councilofrockfordgardener
s.org/)

Upcoming Meetings:

Plantaholics
8/1/17

Midway Village Heritage
Gardens

Potpourri
8/15/17
Indian Hills Manor

Seedlings
8/21/17
Garden Walk @
Pam Loria's

Wildflowers
8/24/17
Potluck & Tour @
Joyce Lillie's Garden

ENJOY!



From the President's Pen

Co-Presidents: Ann Somers & Sarah Britton

What do you say about the 2017 Council of Rockford Gardeners FREE Garden Walk? Well, you begin with "WOW!" and end with "WOW!" It was fantastic! Thank you, Jan and Lorraine and your committee and all those who volunteered to be a garden rep or a greeter or spread the word about the walk. Thanks to Arch who succeeded in not only getting Dorothy Schneider to include the walk in her Sunday column of the *Rockford Register Star*, but in getting the paper to include it in two separate calendars! Our FREE Garden Walk is an amazing gift to our community. We should all be proud!

Ran across this the other day... "I want to grow my own food. But I can't find any bacon seeds." And this, "Knowledge is knowing a tomato is a fruit; Wisdom is not putting it in a fruit salad."

Keep playing in the dirt,
Sarah & Ann

Be sure to check out the last page of this E-News to view
photos from the CRG Garden Walk.
Thank you to Arch & Charlie for sharing the great photos!

July
2017
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SUBMIT questions or
comments to:
CRGnews4u@gmail.com

REMEMBER to keep your
e-mail address current
with your individual club
and the Council.



Winnebago Garden Walk this Sunday!

The gardens on the tour are:

Myers garden, 309 S Seward St,
Winnebago

Fitz garden, 283 Westfield Rd,
Winnebago

Edson garden, 7378 Montague Rd,
Rockford

Deschepper garden, 5754 Tipple Rd,
Rockford

Rittmeyer garden, 5685 Wheat Dr,
Rockford

July 16, 2017

**NEW!
WEBSITE!**

Take a few minutes to check out our updated website at:
<http://councilofrockfordgardeners.org/>

Club presidents: If you would like photos or information uploaded
to your club page on the website, please contact Kathy Batzkall
at katbat2009@gmail.com. Updates may also be made to your
meeting/trip schedules when needed.



Photo submitted by Kathy Batzkall



Heritage Garden Tours

PRESENTED BY Midway Village Museum
LOCATION Midway Village Museum
 6799 Guilford Rd.
 Rockford, IL 61107
PHONE (815) 397-9112
DATE July 20, 2017
TIME Thursday 10:00am, 2:00pm and 6:00pm
PRICE \$7 adults | \$5 children age 3-17 | Not recommended for children under age 3 | Free for museum members

Summer is in season at Midway Village Museum and visitors can register for a one-hour guided tour of the museum's Victorian Village gardens.

Visitors will walk and tour vegetable gardens, "carpet" bedding gardens, a Grandmother's Garden, a Moonlight Garden (white flower), a Blue Garden, and a front-yard garden. The guided tour is approximately 1 hour long.

During the tour, learn about each garden and how these relate to the type of architecture nearby. Also, learn how gardening grew so rapidly in popularity during the Victorian Era (1830-1900) and how difficult it is today to find heirloom Victorian plants. The tour ends highlighting the museum's ideas for future growth of the Heritage Garden program.

Visitors will meet in front of the Old Dolls House, far southside of the parking lot adjacent to the Main Museum Center.

RSVP in-advance with payment by Monday, July 17 by calling the front desk at 815-397-9112.

MORE INFORMATION LOCATED AT:

<https://www.gorockford.com/event/heritage-garden-tours/14225/>

Garden Gab Question:

Is there anything that can be done to deter those adorably cute, but pesky chipmunks from digging tunnels in the yard?

Any ideas other than trapping or the dreaded bucket of water?

Email: crgnews4u@gmail.com with any suggestions.



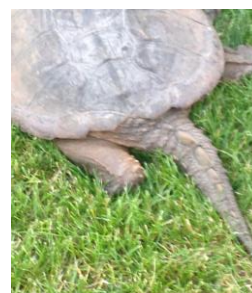
Rockford Rocks!

Submit a photo of one of favorite places to visit in the area, or a "nature" photo y taken in the Rockford area. Complete the Photo Submission Form at:

[PHOTO SUBMISSION FORM](#)

After submitting the form, e-mail the photo to CRGnews4u@gmail.com

Snapping turtle cruising through the neighborhood 6/2017



Garden Gab:



Welcome to Garden Gab!

Do you have a question, comment, concern or gardening issue that you would like to share with the members of CRG?

Complete the form
[BY CLICKING HERE](#)

Horticulture Happenings

Gina Ross, University of Illinois Extension Master Gardener, Winnebago County

Summer Nights Light Up with Fireflies!

As a youngster, a summer evenings in the yard, watching fireflies was a delightful experience I'll always remember. As adults, learning more about our bioluminescent neighbors can only enhance the experience. Here are some facts about fireflies I'd like to share with you:

Fireflies are beetles, not flies. They are nocturnal members of *Lampyridae*, a family of insects within the beetle order Coleoptera, or winged beetles. There are about 2,000 species firefly species, living in a variety of warm climates and in more temperate regions. Fireflies are found in humid regions: Asia and the Americas. There are fireflies in the western US but they lack bioluminescent capability.

How it works: They get their "glow" from a dedicated light organ located under their abdomens. The insects take in oxygen and, inside specialized cells, combine it with a substance called luciferin to produce light with almost no heat.

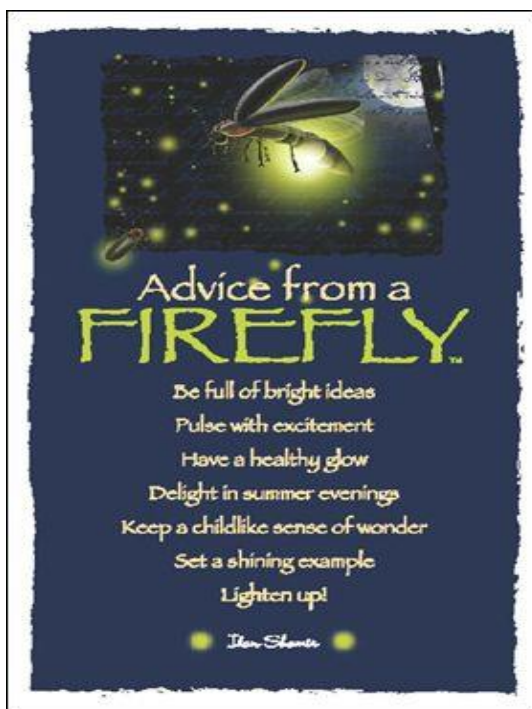
Ever wonder why the firefly lights up? Firefly light is usually intermittent, and flashes in patterns that are unique to each species. Each blinking pattern is an optical signal that helps fireflies find potential mates. The female will respond with her own species-specific flash. Let the fireworks begin!

Firefly larvae hatch underground and prefer moist, chemical-free areas. Wet meadows, forest edges, farm fields, wild bog, marsh, stream and lake edges are especially appealing. Young fireflies feed on worms, grubs and snails. Mature fireflies live on pollen and nectar. A variety of shrubs, tall grass and low-growing plants will provide daytime shelter for these nocturnal neighbors.

Here is a link to a series of videos about fireflies:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=0BOjTMkyfIA>

Enjoy your summer nights with a cool drink and delight in the glow of the light show that the fireflies provide!



REPORTS FROM JULY 10, 2017 COUNCIL MEETING

TREASURER'S REPORT

Balance as of June 1, 2017.....	\$5,474.35
Receipts.....	<u>0.00</u>
Balance.....	5,474.35
Total disbursements.....	<u>632.48</u>
Ending Balance as of June 30, 2017.....	\$4,841.87

Disbursements were for the website management and for garden walk expenses.
Submitted by **Becki Dennis**, Treasurer

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Programs – No report.

Publicity – Council members all agreed that **Arch Smith** did a great job with publicity! Arch said that next year he will come up with something even better. Deb Bieschke reported that she talked to people at all the TV stations but didn't hear back from any of them.

Awards – No report.

Civic and Conservation – **Sarah Britton** reported that the planter has been delivered from Wildflowers to the Habitat for Humanity house at 3502 Sunnyside. It had dumped out and had to be replanted before delivery. Sarah wanted to remind the other clubs about doing a planter. Ann Somers reported that Plantaholics has their planter ready. Lora Prochaska of Seedlings is not here today. Arch Smith of Potpourri reported that their planter is also done. She will contact each club with the date for delivery. It needs to be dropped off, and then watered (take a gallon of water).

Sarah also reported that she talked to Diane Fitz who wanted to share information with the Council about the Winnebago Garden Walk on July 16th from 10-5. Cost is \$5 in advance or \$6 the day of the walk. A map will be included when tickets are purchased. This information will be sent from the club presidents to all club members.

Garden Walk – **Ann Somers** thanked the Garden Walk Committee for a great job.

Lorraine White reported that a thank you was received from Lori and Tom Walsh, and Lorraine passed the picture and note around for members to see.

Lorraine reported that attendance at the Garden Walk was good. The weather was perfect on the day of the Garden Walk. The gardens had between 400 and 825 visitors. The west side gardens had lower attendance.

The sign-up sheets for joining a garden club had 14 people sign up. Lorraine and Jan Duncan have talked to 6 prospective members, and messages were left with call back numbers for the others. Lorraine also reported that 5 people signed up to "share their garden" on future garden walks, 2 have sent emails with interest in being on a garden walk, and we have other suggested gardens from club and Council members. The selection process will begin soon. If you have an interest in sharing your garden on a garden walk, please contact Lorraine White or Jan Duncan.

It was also suggested that we might go ahead and order the rocks now for the 2018 garden walk. Expenses for the Garden Walk totaled \$657.86, which included printing the bookmarks and the brochures, the garden stones, and miscellaneous expenses.

REPORTS FROM JULY 10, 2017 COUNCIL MEETING CONTINUED

Garden Walk (Continued) Lorraine said that the Committee thought it would be a good idea to give a check to Charlie Refol for his services photographing the gardens. He and Arch Smith took pictures of each garden and are going to do a DVD for each garden owner. She said he deserves it. Arch said we don't have to do it, but members thought it should at least cover their costs. Arch said they enjoyed doing it and made a lot of new friends. It was suggested that a \$150 check be given to Charlie. A motion was made, seconded and passed to pay Charlie Refol \$150 for his services photographing the 7 gardens.

Horticulture – Ann Somers reported that Gina wrote an article for the newsletter and probably already sent it to Shirley.

Hospitality – Alice Moczynski reported that there is no Council meeting in August. We will be coming back to Mary's Cafe on September 11th at 9:00 A.M. for our meeting.

Membership Book – No report.

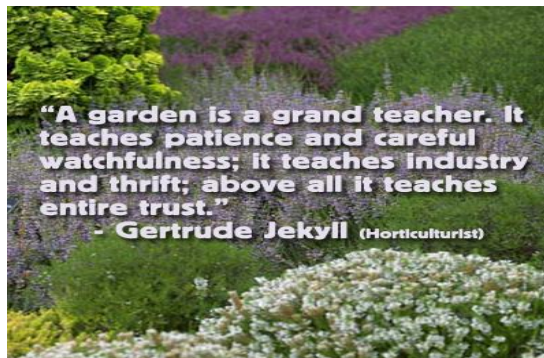
Newsletter – Shirley Wiklund reported that she would like to send the newsletter out this weekend, so we should get all information to her as soon as possible. Ann Somers said we should send Shirley any questions for the Garden Gab section soon.

Parliamentarian – Mary Pinter said that everything is OK.

Sunshine – No report.

Ways & Means – No report.

Website – No report. **Ann Somers** reported that Kathy Batzkall has changed some of the pictures on the website. Ann said that the website is really good and interesting. **We still need someone to be Kathy's co-partner on the website.** If you are interested in websites or know of anyone who might be interested, please let Kathy know.



**Which Garden Club will have a member submit a photo
to be included in the next CRG E-News?**

Plantaholics?? Potpourri?? Seedlings?? Wildflowers??

Also – be sure to submit your questions for 'Garden Gab'!

Photos from the 2017 CRG Free Garden Walk

