

# Council of Rockford Gardeners, Inc.

Organized 3/21/1980

E-Issue V2 Issue 5

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<br/>s.org/)

## Upcoming Meetings:

Plantaholics  
7/5/17

Fabian Japanese Garden  
Geneva, IL

Potpourri  
7/11/17

Tour Jung Seed Company  
Richmond, WI

Seedlings  
7/17/17  
Garden Walk @  
Cindy Flickinger's

Wildflowers  
7/27/17  
Tour of Wildflower  
Members' gardens

ENJOY!



## From the President's Pen

Co-Presidents: Ann Somers & Sarah Britton

We spent May wondering if it would ever stop raining and warm up. June has been ample in the heat department, not so much with the rain. Fingers crossed we have adequate amounts of each in order for our gardens to thrive.

Congratulations to Jan Duncan who was the recipient of the V.I.P. Award at the spring luncheon! Jan goes "beyond the call of duty" and for that we are grateful.

June 21 is just around the corner. Our recommendation is that you grab a friend or spouse, your neighbor or grandchildren or anyone you know and check out the gardens on the CRG FREE Garden Walk. Jan & Lorraine and their committee have put together a walk that will thrill and delight your senses. A special thank you to Monica Gibbons for designing the beautiful brochure! And to Jon Carlson of J. Carlson Growers who paid for the printing of the brochure. See you in the gardens!

Keep playing in the dirt,  
Sarah & Ann



Our sincere condolences to:  
the family of long time Potpourri member,  
Peggy Moline, who died this month.  
and also to:

former Seedlings member, Sue Lacerra  
on the recent passing of her husband, Edward.

June  
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.



# CRG Free Garden Walk

Wednesday, June 21<sup>st</sup>  
Noon to 8:00 PM

For additional information - visit:  
<http://councilofrockfordgardeners.org/garden-walk/>



Council of Rockford Gardeners has a new website!

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



University of Illinois Extension

## Plant-a-Row 2017

Share your Harvest with the Hungry



### Year Round Drop-off Sites in Rockford

**University of Illinois Extension**  
1040 North Second Street  
Monday-Friday, 9am to Noon

**Rock River Valley Pantry**  
421 South Rockton Street  
Monday-Friday, 8:30am to 3pm

**Winnebago-Boone Farm Bureau**  
1925 South Mendota Road  
Monday-Friday, 8:30am to 4pm

### Seasonal Drop-off Sites

mid-July — September

**NE Corner of Durand Town Square**  
(adjacent to the Hearth and Candles coffee shop)  
Mondays, 11am to Noon

**Cherry Valley Public Library**  
755 East State Street, Cherry Valley  
Tuesdays, 3:30 pm to 5:30pm

**O&E Saint Anthony**  
566 East State Street, Rockford  
(State & Rockbury Center)  
Tuesdays, 5pm to 7pm

**Edgebrook Farmers Market**  
(Edgebrook Shopping Center, corner of North Alpine and Highway Roads, Rockford)  
Wednesdays, 11am to Noon

**The Landscape Connection**  
4472 South Mallard Road, Rockford  
Monday-Saturday, 9am to 6pm  
Sunday, 11am to 3pm

### What is Plant-a-Row for the Hungry?

University of Illinois Extension-Winnebago County Master Gardeners work to raise awareness about the issues surrounding hunger in our community.

Plant-a-Row for the Hungry provides a much needed outlet for vegetable gardeners to donate their over-abundance of produce, which helps to meet the increasing demands on local food pantries.

U of I Extension inspires gardeners to "plant an extra row" of veggies in their gardens with the intent of donating that extra produce to help end hunger.



**UNIVERSITY OF ILLINOIS EXTENSION**  
Extending Knowledge Changing Lives

**QUESTIONS?** Contact  
University of Illinois Extension-Winnebago County  
1040 North Second Street, Rockford, Illinois 61107  
(815) 986-4357

(visit our office on the Rock River—access via Ethel Avenue stoplight—south of the Nicholas Conservatory)

<http://web.extension.illinois.edu/jsw>

University of Illinois—U.S. Department of Agriculture—Local Extension Councils Cooperating  
University of Illinois Extension provides equal opportunities in programs and employment.



### Rockford Rocks!

Submit a photo of one of your favorite places to visit in the Rockford area, or a "nature" photo you have 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](mailto:CRGnews4u@gmail.com)

### 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](#)



### "Happy Birthday Bull Valley" Flower Show (June 28)

*Loyola University Retreat and Ecology Campus  
Woodstock, Illinois*

The Bull Valley Garden Club invites the public to "Happy Birthday Bull Valley," A Standard Flower Show Celebrating the 40th Birthday of the Village of Bull Valley on Wednesday, June 28, 2017, 1:00 PM to 7:00 PM at Loyola University Retreat and Ecology Campus, 2710 S. Country Club Road, Woodstock, Illinois 60098 with free parking and free admission.

### ART IN BLOOM @ Rockford Art Museum 711 N. Main Street

Tuesday, June 27 – Thursday, June 29

10 AM – 8 PM

Additional information/pricing [Click Here](#)

# Horticulture Happenings

Gina Ross, University of Illinois Extension Master Gardener, Winnetka

## *Tips for repelling mosquitoes and the invasion of the jumping worms!*

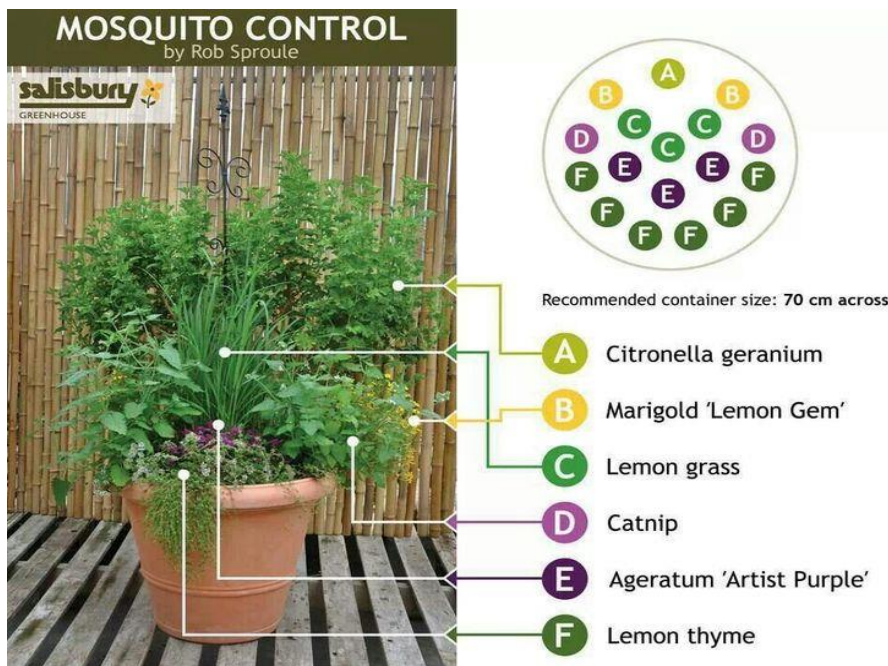
Our mild winter might have seemed pleasant at the time, but this spring and summer, we are likely to pay a price in terms of mosquito control challenges. Fortunately, we can get some assistance from some common plants. Peppermint, Basil, Sage, Catnip, Lavender, Marigold, Sage and Lemon Balm plantings are effective in repelling mosquitoes.

Here's a recipe for a natural repellent for personal use:

### Lavender Vanilla Mosquito Repellent

- 15 drops of lavender essential oil.
- 3-4 Tbsp of vanilla extract.
- 3-4 Tbsp lemon juice.
- Distilled water.

Directions: Pour first 3 ingredients into an 8 oz spray bottle. Finish filling bottle with distilled water. Shake to combine ingredients. Spray on skin or clothing.



**Jumping worms** are the new threat to northern forests! Jumping worms are non-native species that have become established in several eastern and southeastern states. These worms were confirmed for the first time in the Upper Midwest at the University of Wisconsin-Madison Arboretum in 2013 and have been spotted here. Jumping worms live in the topmost layer of the forest floor, among the fallen leaves. The threat this worm poses is that it eats organic material. The fallen organic material is what nourishes the forest floor and trees depend on the nutrients of fallen leaves. Jumping worms quickly turn the leaves into loose soil. The altered soil is unwelcoming to many native plant species.

The worms have an annual life cycle and can reproduce without fertilization. They die in the fall, but leave tiny cocoons that spend the winter in the soil. When we rake in the fall or mulch, the worms or cocoons are dispersed. Also, look for them in potted plants, on your clothes and garden equipment. At this time, there is no good control for them. If you spot one however, report it to the U of I extension or send a picture of it to [plantclinic@illinois.edu](mailto:plantclinic@illinois.edu)



A special thanks to E.J. Rebman for suggesting we become aware of jumping worms!

# REPORTS FROM JUNE 5, 2017 COUNCIL MEETING

## **TREASURER'S REPORT**

<b>Balance as of May 1, 2017</b> .....	<b>\$6,653.85</b>
<b>Receipts</b> .....	<b><u>450.00</u></b>
<b>Balance</b> .....	<b>\$7,103.85</b>
<b>Total disbursements</b> .....	<b><u>1,629.50</u></b>
<b>Ending balance as of May 31, 2017</b> .....	<b>\$5,474.35</b>

Becki reported that donations were made to:

The City of Gardens for 2 hanging baskets - \$280. Tinker Swiss Cottage, Natural Land Institute, Klehm Arboretum, Severson Dells, Midway Village Museum Gardens, and Rock River Food Pantry each received \$200. Becki also reported that we have received 3 very nice thank you notes for the donations.

Submitted by **Becki Dennis**, Treasurer

## **COMMITTEE REPORTS**

**Programs** – No report.

**Publicity** – **Arch Smith** reported that he has sent out things 3 times to his contacts. Arch also reported that Deb Bieschke is working on contacting the TV stations to get the garden walk information on TV. Information is going out today to the Master Gardeners in Winnebago, Ogle, and Stephenson counties. It is also going out to the District 1 garden clubs.

**Awards** – **Mary Pinter** reported that in August they will contact Kishwaukee College to get started for the scholarships for the December luncheon.

**Civic and Conservation** – **Sarah Britton** reported that she will do it again this year. Last year there were 4 Habitat houses, and there are 4 this year. Sarah will call today. The first house dedication is this weekend, and Jan Person has a planter ready from Wildflowers. Sarah will pick it up from Jan Person. The last planter will be needed in August. Arch Smith volunteered to do the one from Potpourri, and Sarah will call Arch and let him know the date it is needed. Lora Prochaska said that Seedlings will do one, and Ann Somers will do the planter from Plantaholics. Sarah will call and give them the dates and addresses.

Sarah reported that the Habitat dedications are on a Sunday, and the planters should be dropped off a few hours before the dedication. The planters should include a card from CRG

**Garden Walk** – **Lorraine White** reported that the brochures are here and ready to be distributed to the local garden centers by Council members. A BIG THANK YOU TO MONICA GIBBONS FOR PREPARING THE GARDEN WALK BROCHURE.

The garden walk stones are still in progress. Lorraine reminded the representatives to contact their garden owner to set up a meeting to review garden walk day. Charlie Refoll will be taking pictures of the gardens, and Arch will be going with him. If any questions regarding taking pictures of the gardens, contact Arch Smith (815) 501-1640.

EJ Rebman reported that Lori Walsh was interviewed for an article about Rockford gardens for the 815 Magazine, which will be coming out just before the garden walk.

# REPORTS FROM JUNE 5, 2017 COUNCIL MEETING, Continued

Arch Smith reported that he will try to get the garden walk information into the GO Section of the Rockford Register Star, but it has been reported that it is very difficult to get information into the GO section.

Lorraine also reported that she and Jan have the folders for the representatives to take with them for their meeting with the garden owner.

**Horticulture** – **EJ Rebman** reported that she contacted Gina about writing an article on volcanoing around trees. “High die, Low grow.”

**Hospitality** – **Sarah Britton** reported that we will be coming back here next month for our meeting. We need to have 10 people in order to get the room.

**Membership Book** – **Kathy Batzkall** reminded us to please use the coupons in the booklet (The Landscape Connection and Hidden Timber Gardens).

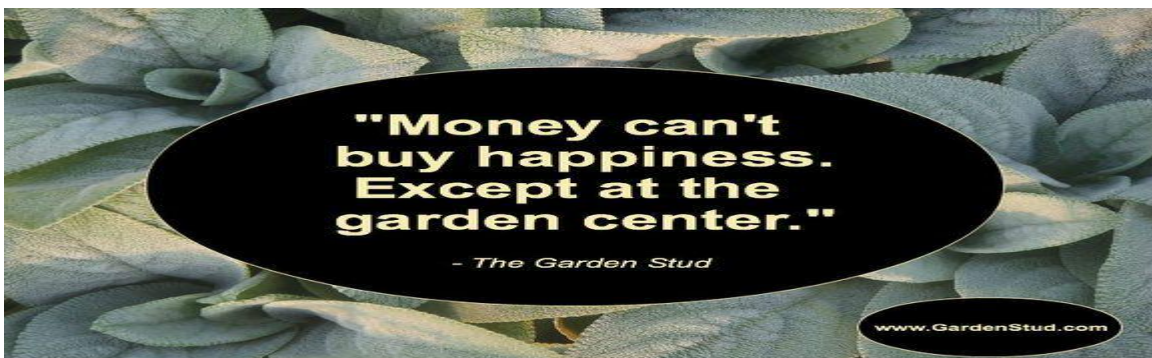
**Newsletter** – **Ann Somers** reported that we should get information to Shirley Wiklund by Friday.

**Parliamentarian** – **Mary Pinter** said that “so far so good.”

**Sunshine** - **Peg Goral** reported that she sent a “cheer” card to Cindy Piper and sent a “thinking of you card” to Alice Moczynski. It was suggested that Peg send a sympathy card to Sue Lacerra. She just lost her husband.

**Ways & Means** – No report.

**Website** – **Kathy Batzkall** reported that the website is up and running: CouncilofRockfordGardeners.org Kathy also reported that the president of each club should get the message out.



**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’!**