

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://councilofrockfordgardeners.org/>

Upcoming Meetings:

Plantaholics
Peace Plaza
Ciao Bella Restaurant
Planning Meeting

Potpourri
Aquaviva Winery
Maple Park, IL

Seedlings
Planning Meeting
Hoffman House

Wildflowers
Nick's Grandview Folk Art
Hollandale, WI
Lunch in
New Glarus

ENJOY!



September 2017



From the President's Pen

Co-Presidents: Ann Somers & Sarah Britton

Summer is winding down. The mornings are brisk, the leaves crunch under our feet and apples are taking the place of tomatoes in our diets. Even those who dislike fall because it leads to winter, can hopefully appreciate the beauty and bounty of the season. Get out and enjoy it!

Summer's over,

Now it's fall;

Just the nicest

Time of all. -Lois Lenski

Keep playing in the dirt,

Sarah & Ann

E-News Delay...

The E-News was delayed this month due to the fact that my husband, Kevin, had a stroke on 8/13 and has also had a few set-backs with his recovery.
Hoping for healthier days ahead.

Shirley Wiklund

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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.



For Sale:

Hydroponic Garden
Enjoy greens all year round
without fighting weeds, weather
or insects!

Included are 15 pots hence 15
plants at one time or stager
plantings. All lights, parts and
essentials are included.

\$75.00 or best offer - call EJ
Rebman at [815-494-6986](tel:815-494-6986)

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.



Celebrity Corner

Celebrity Corner

Lori Walsh, a member of Plantaholics, a Master Gardener and a garden owner on the 2017 CRG Free Garden Walk, had not one, but two tips included in the July/August and October 2017 issues of *Fine Gardening* "Reader's Tips."

Congratulations, Lori!

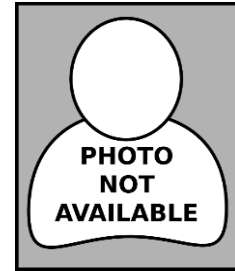


Garden Gab Question:

Do you have a "hit or miss" to share?

I grow a few plants in containers... ok, maybe more than a few. When I hit upon a combination I really like, I add it to my annual garden notes. It's fun to look back through the years and see where I've been in plant selection. This year the plant that got a "BUY MORE!" rating was cordyline fruticosa. A member of the Asparagus family it is commonly known as ti plant, palm lily, good luck plant. It's big bold deep red leaves, under planted with bright pink dipladenia and coleus 'Trailing Rose' created a striking display all summer.

annsomers@comcast.net



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



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

Autumn and Apples!!

Mention autumn to me and my thoughts turn to colorful foliage, cool evenings and apples everywhere I turn! Autumn is the time when apples are plentiful, juicy and crisp.

Originating in the mountains of Kazakhstan millions of years ago, this nutritious and delicious fall staple, *Malus sieversii*, has been part of the human diet for thousands of years. In Latin *malus* means both “apple” and “evil,” which might be why it was called the “forbidden fruit”. Apples are members of Rosaceae, (the Rose family) along with pears, peaches, plums, cherries, strawberries and raspberries.

They were cultivated in Jamestown—but not for eating. North American apple harvesting began in 1607 when English settlers brought seeds and cuttings from Europe to Jamestown. Their seeds began to produce all-new varieties of American apples. Many of these apples were bitter, but they had an important purpose in colonial society: *cider*. Due to sanitation concerns, settlers often served a fermented cider at meals instead of water. A diluted cider was prepared for the children.

Thomas Jefferson was also a founding father of the Fuji. Jefferson received a gift of apple seeds from a French minister. He, in turn, donated these seeds to a Virginia nursery which cultivated a variety known as Ralls Genet. In 1939, Japanese apple breeders crossed the genes from the classic Red Delicious apple variety with those of Jefferson’s Ralls Genet apple, resulting in the Fuji apple.

John Chapman of Leominster Massachusetts, better known as Johnny Appleseed, was an American pioneer nurseryman who introduced apple trees to large parts of Pennsylvania, Ontario, Ohio, Indiana, and Illinois, as well as the northern counties of present-day West Virginia.

An apple a day really keeps the doctor away. Apples are low in calories, sodium, cholesterol and are fat free. They are rich in fiber, disease-fighting anti-oxidants and a variety of vitamins and minerals including potassium, folate, niacin and vitamins A, B, C, E and K. Eating apples has been associated with lower risk of a variety of cancers, stroke and diabetes and even lower a person’s risk of tooth decay.

7,500 varieties of apples are grown throughout the world. **2,500 varieties** of apples are grown in the United States. **100 varieties** are grown commercially.

Apples are propagated by two methods: grafting or budding. Most dwarf and semi-dwarf trees are grafted on a rootstock which keeps them small. The apple tree is a deciduous woody perennial. Apples grow in Zones 3 to 9. They can tolerate winter temperatures as low as -40°F.

More Apple Facts

<https://extension.illinois.edu/apples/facts.cfm>

This sounds good!!!! Samoa Apple Slices

<http://www.delish.com/cooking/g1968/easy-apple-recipes/?slide=13>



I wish there was a taffy apple tree!

REPORTS FROM September 11, 2017 COUNCIL MEETING

TREASURER'S REPORT

Balance as of June 30, 2017.....	\$4,841.87
Receipts.....	<u>0.00</u>
Balance.....	4,841.87
Total disbursements.....	<u>160.00</u>
Ending Balance as of August 31, 2017.....	\$4,681.87

Disbursements were to Charlie Refol for the garden walk pictures and to the Secretary of State of Illinois for the non-profit annual report.

Submitted by **Becki Dennis**, Treasurer

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Programs – **Sherry Seaver** reported that our December 6th luncheon will be at Mauh-Nah-Tee-See Country Club. Six long tables are included with the rental, but the vendors will pay \$10 for a table. She has the menus and will make a decision for menu choices. There will be a cash bar. They have no table decorations, so Sherry contacted Melody from Petals & Pickins, and she will do the table decorations. Sherry has also started the favors and needs someone to do the reservations. Mary Pinter volunteered to do the reservations, together with Sarah Britton and Jan Person. Ann told them that they can do the reservations however they want.

Sherry is working on having a program on how to save the bees. She is contacting Philip Raines to come speak at the spring luncheon.

A discussion was held regarding raffle items - gift cards vs. good raffle items. Many members enjoyed the gift cards – which need to include a small item with the gift card. The 50/50 raffle was also discussed, and **Karin Emery** reported that everyone likes to receive money. Ann suggested that whoever is in charge of the raffle can decide how to do it.

Regarding the vendors, there is a flight of stairs up to the dining room. There is a small elevator, but it is not a freight elevator. So, vendors would have to get their items up the stairs. It was also discussed that maybe we should open up the vendor spots to only garden club members. Sherry will contact Shirley Wiklund regarding having a note in the newsletter. We would be looking for members who might be interested in being a vendor at our luncheon at \$10 per table.

Publicity – **Arch Smith** reported that he is trying to have an article in the newspaper regarding the Habit For Humanity planter donations.

Awards – **Mary Pinter** reported that they have 2 freshmen boys from Kishwaukee College who will be the recipients of our 2 scholarships. They are graduates of Rockford East High School. Their professor said that they are really good kids. We will award 2 \$1,000 scholarships – or we could do 3. A discussion was held regarding changing the amount to \$1,500 instead of \$1,000.

A motion was made, seconded, and passed to increase the scholarship amount to \$1,500 and keep it at 2 recipients.

REPORTS FROM September 11, 2017 COUNCIL MEETING

Continued

Arch Smith said that he will also work on doing an article about the scholarships for the paper. **Mary Pinter** will ask the recipients if they can be named in the article.

Civic and Conservation – **Sarah Britton** reported that we were going to do 4 planters for Habitat for Humanity, but they gave us 5 to do. She has a list of where the houses are. Sherry Seaver will do the one from Potpourri on September 17th at 3093 Holiday Drive. Ann Somers will do the planter from Plantaholics on September 24th at 3428 Blackstone. Lora Prochaska of Seedlings will do one, and Sarah will do the 5th one.

Garden Walk – **Lorraine White** reported that at the present time we have 4 confirmed gardens for the June 20, 2018 Garden Walk and are waiting for answers on a couple more gardens. We do need other gardens in the areas of these gardens.

Ann Somers began a discussion regarding the date of the garden walk. Right now the 2018 Garden Walk is set for June 20, 2018. She said nothing about the date is set in stone, there is nothing in our bylaws setting the date, and that it should be up to the Garden Walk Committee to set the date.

Horticulture – **Ann Somers** reported that Gina Ross is still writing an article for the newsletter. We can send suggestions to Gina for future newsletters.

Hospitality – **Alice Moczynski** reported that we will be coming back to Mary's Cafe on Monday, October 2nd at 9:00 A.M. for our meeting.

Membership Book – Kathy Batzkall reported that if we are going to have a membership book, then we need advertisers to help cover the cost. She does not want to go out again to secure advertisers. Maybe we have to do something different. A discussion was held about having a booklet – maybe having a “no frills” booklet with the basic information. Ann said that Council does need to provide something – officers, the full year schedules, etc. Then we would not need advertisers. Each member could self-print, but we would have to print off the information for those without email. The discussion was tabled till next month.

Newsletter – **Ann Somers** requested that we get any information for the newsletter to Shirley Wiklund by Friday. Lori Walsh has agreed to write articles about Rockford's public art. It was suggested that each member of Council submit an article or two for the Garden Gab section of the newsletter.

Parliamentarian – **Mary Pinter** said all is well.

Sunshine – **Peg Goral** reported that she sent a thinking of you card to Shirley Wiklund. She will send a card to Joyce Graczyk who had a fall.

Ways & Means – **Karin Emery** had no report.

Website – **Kathy Batzkall** is working on it.