

Council of Rockford Gardeners, Inc.

Organized 3/21/1980

E-Issue V4 Issue 2
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:

(Per website,
check with club to verify)

Plantaholics

4/2/19

Topic-Margaret Roach's Garden
@ Mary Ann Miller's

Potpourri

4/16/19

Fresh Easter Arrangement \$40
@Event Floral Loves Park

Seedlings

4/15/19

Anderson Gardens Tour
6 PM

Wildflower

4/25/19

Country Side Nursery
Crystal Lake, IL

Additional information regarding all clubs can
be found at: <http://counfogardeners.org/>

March 2019



From the President's Pen

Co-Presidents: Ann Somers & Sarah Britton

Spring! Seems it is a long time coming... though I suspect
we think that every year!

Mark your calendars for April 24! Deb Bieschke has been
hard at work planning our CRG Spring Luncheon and
Scholarship Fundraiser. The flyer with all information can
be found in this newsletter, on our website
<http://councilofrockfordgardeners.org> and coming soon
to your email inbox. We hope you'll join us! If unable to
attend please consider making a donation to our
scholarship fund. The proceeds from our luncheons fund
our scholarships and our FREE Garden Walk. Help us keep
those great traditions going!

Keep playing in the dirt,
Ann & Sarah



**MARCH
2019**

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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.



Council of Rockford Gardeners
Spring Luncheon & Scholarship Fundraiser
Wednesday, April 24, 2019
Maah-Nah-Tee-See Country Club
5151 Guilford Rd, Rockford, IL 61107

Social Hour: 11:00 a.m.
Lunch: 12:00 p.m.
Program: 1 p.m.

Phil Rezin, owner, Wild Birds Unlimited
"Birds, Butterflies & Native Plants"

Menu Selections:
Honey Roasted Pecan Chicken Salad
Mixed greens tossed with honey roasted pecans, grilled chicken, mandarin oranges, cucumbers, tomatoes, feta cheese, with a berry vinaigrette dressing
Chicken Monterey
Breast of chicken stuffed with Monterey cheese and prosciutto ham wrapped in a pastry and topped with sage sauce
Pesto Pasta
Penne pasta, grape tomatoes, seasonal vegetables and shaved parmesan cheese
Dessert
Chocolate Espresso
Rolls, coffee & tea

Early bird price \$40 before April 19, after \$45

Proceeds Benefit Council of Rockford Gardeners Scholarship Fund

Name: _____ Phone: _____
Menu Choice: _____ Check #: _____

____ I am unable to attend the luncheon but would like to make a donation to the CRG Scholarship Fund.

Seating for this luncheon is on a first come basis. There is no assigned seating.

Please return completed form with check payable to CRG to:
Ann Somers 5412 Gingeridge Ln, Rockford, IL 61114

Please RSVP using the form above, or the form on the Council of Rockford Gardeners website. If you are unable to attend and would like to donate to this great cause, please make that selection on the form as well.

WEDNESDAY, APRIL 24, 2019



Our sincere condolences to the Lightcap family on the death of Lorraine Lightcap.

Lorraine was a founding member of Potpourri Garden Club.

Our thoughts and prayers are with the Lightcap family.

Volunteer Visions & Voices:

Our individual garden clubs and members are constantly supporting local agencies and people with their time and talents.

If you &/or your individual club have a volunteer event or opportunity you would like to share, please email information to crgnews4u@gmail.com

Below is a photo of the thank you letter I recently received from Cards for Hospitalized Kids. I pick up supplies at the dollar store. Such an easy, inexpensive way to brighten someone's day!

<http://www.cardsforhospitalizedkids.com/>



EARTHMATTERS: EARTH DAY CELEBRATION: PROTECT OUR SPECIES (EM18-24)



Monday, April 22nd

6:00-7:30pm

All of our plants and animals have value and are part of the web of life. Our lives and theirs are linked together — without them, our own species might not survive.

Land-dwelling wildlife species have declined by 40% since 1970. Birds populations have been reduced by about 20-25%.

HoneyBees and butterfly populations are dwindling.

We need to do better. That is why Earth Day Network is undertaking a campaign to elevate understanding and foster action to stop the decimation of species around the globe.

Come learn about the plants and animals who are in our natural habitat and what we can do to help them. Find out more about the gardens, forest, and prairie land right here on Womanspace grounds. The evening will be a combination of education with craft stations and ideas of ways to contribute to a healthy Earth at Womanspace or in your backyard.

The evening will conclude with a walk at the labyrinth to honor Mother Earth! This is a FAMILY event for all ages!

Advanced registration is appreciated. Walk-ins welcome.

Kathy Batzkall shared the above information regarding an event in celebration of Earth Day which is being held at Womanspace. Please use this link for additional information and to register: [Womanspace - EarthMatters: Earth Day Celebration: Protect Our Species \(EM18-24\)](#)



Please share information you have regarding upcoming events by e-mailing the information to CRGnews4u@gmail.com

Horticulture Happenings

Horticultural Happenings

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

Introducing the Plants of 2019 for your Garden or Containers



Stachys ~~monieri~~ 'Hummelo' is the 2019 Perennial of the year and is related to Lamb's-Ears. It is clump-forming, and in early summer upright spikes of purple flowers appear, attracting bees to its nectar. Dead-heading the flowers once they fade will encourage new blooms. This plant is hardy to zone 4, prefers a sunny location and is easily divided in spring. ~~Stachys Hummelo~~ can grow to 20" tall with a 14" spread.



Lemon Coral Sedum is the 2019 of the Annual of the Year. This sunny plant looks so happy in a garden or container with its bright succulent foliage. Lemon Coral is a great addition to containers or the garden since it doesn't take over, it grows in full to part sun and needs very little water. It's hardy in zones 7-11 and grows 3-10" tall with a 10-14" spread.



I was excited about this 2019 New Annual. It's the Zinnia Holi Scarlet which grows *in the shade* as well as the sun and if that isn't enough it's mildew resistant in wet weather. Holi Scarlet grows to 18" tall.



The 2019 Vegetable of the year is Mixed Carrots.

Carrots grow best when planted in early spring in sandy soil. They germinate in 2 weeks and are really to harvest in 60 days. Rainbow carrots are vitamin packed and can be eaten raw to baked! How to grow rainbow carrots:

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=mql1w3f1_WY

Recipe for rainbow carrots. <https://www.fiveheartshome.com/roasted-rainbow-carrots-with-thyme-spring-easter-side-dish-recipe/>

The love of gardening is a seed once sown that never dies. – Gertrude Jekyll



**Information regarding the 92nd Annual Convention
of the
Garden Clubs of Illinois, Inc.
can be found on the next page of this newsletter.**

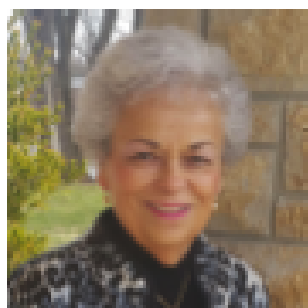
**Please visit their website at
<https://www.gardenclubsofillinois.org/event-information>
to read up on this and other events of the GCI.**



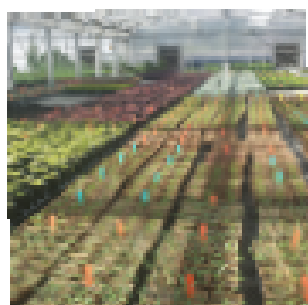


Gardens Talk,
Take Time to Listen

Please join us for GCI's
92nd Annual Convention
Gardens Talk - Take Time to Listen
Sunday, April 7 - Monday, April 8, 2019



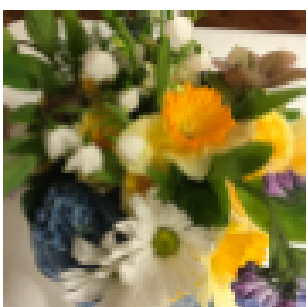
Fran Stueck, Central Region Director of GCI, will be our honored guest. Active in garden clubs for more than 43 years including the Vinton Garden Club and Cottage Garden Club Society, she has served on State boards—President of Iowa (2001-2003), Central Region Director (2017-2019) and National Board Executive Committee (2017-2019). Drawing on her theme "Partners in Planting America", Fran has reached out to Master Gardeners, garden clubs, church and youth organizations to encourage the youth to get involved at a young age. "They are our future".



Join us for a tour of Cantigny's Greenhouse. Cantigny Park is the 500-acre Wheaton estate of Colonel Robert R. McCormick (1880-1955). It is home to the McCormick House, First Division Museum, formal gardens, picnic grounds, walking trails, and a Visitor Center. Cantigny's greenhouse is an 18,000 square foot glasshouse that produces 250,000 plants a year. The plants grown are solely for the display gardens of Cantigny Park and Golf. The plants include 3 seasonal changes in the annual garden beds, herbaceous perennial plants, interior tropicals, and a variety of Illinois native plants for their restoration projects and native areas. Growing well over 300 varieties and species of plant material, they offer a great chance to find your next planting inspiration.



Laura Christensen, ASLA, is an experienced landscape designer and public speaker. Holding a bachelor's degree in Landscape Architecture and master's degree in City Planning, she is a 36-year member of The American Society of Landscape Architects. Laura has had her own landscape design business, Design With Nature, in Wheaton for ten years. She will present 'The Lyme Disease Epidemic and What Gardeners Need to Know'. Lyme disease is known as the great imposter. Learn why Lyme disease has become so widespread throughout the U.S., how to best protect yourself, symptoms of Lyme disease, how to get an accurate Lyme test, and about the very promising prognosis with proper and timely diagnosis and treatment.



Dennis Kovar is a professional floral designer and avid gardener who resides in Attica, Indiana. His credentials include an Associate's Degree in Horticulture, Bachelor's Degree in Education and certification as a Master Gardener. Having been in the floral design and retail business since 1985, including five years as the owner of his own shop, Dennis continues to be challenged and invigorated by his career. His floral design skills are inspired by the beauty that nature displays in his garden, the adjacent wooded ravine and any outdoor space he passes through. Dennis is happiest when he is in his garden or when he has the opportunity to share his passion for flowers or gardening.

REPORTS FROM 3/4/19 COUNCIL MEETING

TREASURER'S REPORT

Balance as of December 31, 2018.....	\$1,691.81
Receipts.....	<u>1,150.25</u>
Balance.....	2,842.06
 Total disbursements.....	 <u>72.00</u>
Ending Balance as of February 28, 2019.....	\$2,770.06
Submitted by Becki Dennis , Treasurer	

Programs – **Ann Somers** reported that our Spring Luncheon will be held on Wednesday, April 24th at Mauh-Nah-Tee-See Country Club. The speaker is Phil Rezin, owner of Wild Birds Unlimited, and he will speak about “Birds, Butterflies & Native Plants”. Ann will send the flyer out to the club presidents, and it will be in the newsletter.

December 11th is the date for our Holiday Luncheon.

Publicity – Ann Somers reported that we need someone to take over Publicity. Arch Smith will do the publicity for the Garden Walk. Meghan Bowe will write an article for Chicagoland Gardening.

Awards – **Elaine Parrovecchio** reported that if anyone would like to nominate a member who has gone above and beyond helping with their club or Council, please let Elaine know.

Civic and Conservation – **Diane Donze** had no report.

Garden Walk – **Arch Smith** reported the Garden Walk will be held on Wednesday, June 19th from 1 – 8 P.M. He contacted Monica Gibbons who said she would be willing to do the brochure but couldn't do it till sometime in May. He is working on other options for the brochure.

Arch had samples of the Garden Walk bookmarks and flyers with him but has not had them printed yet. He is working on having them printed for free.

He also has the Garden Walk representative folders with him today and will hand them out to the representatives.

Horticulture – Ann Somers reported that **Gina Ross** will write a Horticulture article.

Hospitality – **Mary Pinter** reported that our next meeting will be on Monday, April 1st. Mary questioned whether we would like to keep our meetings as breakfast meetings or have a mix of breakfast and lunch meetings. After discussion and vote, we will continue having breakfast meetings, except for the March installation of officers meeting which is a lunch meeting.

Newsletter – Ann Somers requested that we send any information to **Shirley Wiklund** by Monday.

Parliamentarian – **Mary Pinter** reported that all is OK.

REPORTS FROM 3/4/19 COUNCIL MEETING CONTINUED

Sunshine – **Peg Goral** reported that she sent a card to Martha Bauch. She will send a card to Lorraine White. Peg said that she saw Martha, and she is doing well but will have more surgery. Ann reported that she saw Ginny Hatwich, and she was walking with a cane but out by herself and driving.

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

Website – Ann Somers reported that the orchid pictures on our website are beautiful. She requested that the club presidents proof their page on the website for any errors. Contact **Kathy Batzkall** if there are any questions.

Council of Rockford Gardeners

FREE Garden Walk

Wednesday, June 19, 2019

1 pm – 8 pm

www.councilofrockfordgardeners.org