

GARDEN CLUB EVENTS



PLANTAHOLICS HAD A EVENING OF PARTY AND NATIVE GARDEN TOUR AT SCOTT & ROY'S HOME.



SORRY ALL - I HAD TO GET ALL THE FUR BABIES IN THE PICTURES TOO.



GARDEN CLUB EVENTS



PLANTAHOLICS TOURED THE BEAUTIFUL GARDEN'S OF STEVE AND JUDY PENTICOFF.



LICHENS

ONE OF THE OLDEST ORGANISMS ON EARTH

Pat Belezza, Wildflower member and Horticulture Co-chair

MAGIC MUSHROOMS

Danielle Stevenson, 37, is an ecologist working at U C Riverside, CA. Her projects involve restoring “brown fields”, contaminated land left behind by industry, mining operations, oil refineries, and old rail yards. The ground abandoned is toxic from heavy metals, petrochemicals, or other poisonous waste.

Stevenson and her team chose an abandoned Los Angeles rail yard for their pilot project. They used mushrooms and native plants to clean the soil. She knew that fungi can consume toxic chemicals, even petroleum products—materials normally toxic to plants. To a mushroom, these materials are just like regular carbon. As it turns out, mushrooms can break down several categories of toxic waste with the same enzymes they use to break down a dead tree. In addition, they can also break down plastic and other materials made from oil such as agrochemicals.

In the Los Angeles rail yard, her team planted a variety of native grasses and flower species next to dead wood. The wood acted as an incubator for “arbuscular mycorrhizal fungi”, a species that helps plants extract heavy metals such as arsenic and lead from the soil.

The combination of decomposer fungi and native plants and grasses produced astonishing results. “In three months, we saw more than a 50% reduction in all pollutants; by twelve months, they were almost undetectable.” The typical method of decontaminating soil involves using a bulldozer to dig up the entire area and trucking it to a landfill. This is very expensive and dangerous as the polluted soil can fall from the back of the truck or scatter from wind. In the landfill the soil remains toxic.

In Stevenson’s method using fungi and plants, a process she calls “bioremediation”, the plants are removed and burned to ash. The very small remainder is easily and cheaply moved to a hazardous waste facility. She has also used this process to safely break down bags of lubricant soaked rags from bicycle shops. “Mushrooms help turn toxic brownfields into blooming meadows”. Stevenson says, “ People who live in places impacted by pollution need to have a say in how their neighborhood is being cleaned up. We need to empower them with the tools to do this.”

Think about their “magic” pollution-cleaning abilities the next time you are tempted to kick over a helpless mushroom growing in your ground.



SEPTEMBER 9, 2024 COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES

Balance as of July 1, 2024	\$6,653.70
Receipts: Garden Walk donations	<u>253.10</u>
.....	<u>\$253.10</u>
.....	\$6,906.80
Disbursements: Debbie Kozak- stone- gardens.....	40.00
Mary Straton- Stones Garden Walk	280.00
Two new members- Plantaholics	<u>12.00</u>

Ending Balance as of July 31, 2024	\$6,574.80
Balance as of August 1, 2024	\$6,574.80
Receipts: None	0.00
Disbursements: None	0.00
Ending Balance as of August 31, 2024	\$6,574.80

TREASURER'S REPORT

Submitted by **Mary Ann Miller**, Treasurer

Committee Reports

Awards - Elaine Parrovecchio - reported that she will be getting in touch with Kishwaukee College for a scholarship recipient.

Civic Conservation - Diane Donze - No report.

Programs - Arch Smith said a big "Thank You" to the Flanarys for their Garden Tour. We gave them a garden stone, and the plaque is being redone.

Arch Smith reported that CRG will have a Christmas gathering at the Landscape Connection on Wednesday, December 11, from 5:30pm—8:00pm Michelle Cox has agreed to let us use the upper loft area and downstairs for our gathering, and she will donate some raffle items. We can do food and drinks. The event will be open to each member and a guest. We will also have a donation drive.

Arch reported he is working on getting a garden lined up to do the CRG Garden Tour since the previously planned garden's owner decided she didn't want to do it. One garden is on Harlem Boulevard. The other garden is on the southwest side of Rockford. Both gardens had been on the Garden Walk in the past. Arch said that maybe we'll do two gardens.

Publicity - Susan Schumacher - No report.

Garden Walk - Arch Smith reported that the Garden Walk went well. Average attendance per garden was about 600. The donations to the scholarship fund totaled \$253.10. Arch had ordered promo cards and has plenty for next year. New signs were also ordered for this year. Arch reported that he has almost all the gardens lined up for next year, They are pretty spread out across the city.

Horticulture - Pat Bellezza - No report.

Hospitality - Bev Larson again requested that members please respond to her as to whether or not you will be attending.

Newsletter - Karla Hardman reported that things are good. Karla said that this month she has a lot of pictures for the Newsletter. She needs all information by Friday. Karla then had a few questions about the new members, and a brief discussion was held regarding when to list new members.

Parliamentarian - Sarah Britton said all is OK and that we have a nice group here today.

Sunshine - Cindy Rittenhouse - No report. Arch reported that he had ordered 60 cards for Cindy.

Ways & Means - Lynne Franzene - no report. Lynne did say that we received the \$253.10 in donations from the Garden Walk.

Website - Arch Smith reported that we will have a new person taking over the website. Andrew Quintanilla, a Plantaholics member, will take over the website from Kathy Batzkall.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS - None

NEW BUSINESS - Karla Hardman had questions regarding membership. A discussion was held regarding any cut-off dates for paying dues for the current year, and we will discuss this matter further when our Treasurer, Mary Ann Miller, is in attendance.

Our next meeting will be on Monday, October 7, 2024, at Mary's Market at 9:30am.

Respectfully submitted,

Jan Duncan, Secretary

GARDEN HINTS / MISCELLANEOUS

CRG FALL FROLIC

Gathering of Clubs

Tue Sept 24th 530pm-8pm



**members & guests
bring dish to share
drinks provided
bring chairs**

RAFFLES

Hosted by Plantaholics

RSVP BY 9-21 to Cindy
815-977-2090
cdy1ritt@gmail

THE GRANGETTE
1764 Squaw Prairie Blvd. IL

GARDEN HINTS / MISCELLANEOUS



District 1 Fall Meeting
October 17, 2024
Hosted by Woodstock Garden Club
Celebrating 100 Years
Woodstock Country Club
10310 Country Club Rd, Woodstock, IL

Presidents - please arrive by 10:15
General members - please arrive by 11:30

Mail \$45 per person check made out to GCI Dist. 1 by Sept. 25
to
Brenda Dahlfors
2625 Verdi St., Woodstock, IL 60098
Please include 1 slip (below) per person
Questions? email bdahlfors@sbeglobal.net

Name _____

Club Name _____ (or are you a)Guest? Y N

Email _____ Phone _____

Meal Choice:
_____ Braised Chicken thigh with Butternut Squash Puree and Crispy Brussel Sprouts OR
_____ Wild Mushroom and Parsnip Ragout with Cheesy Polenta



BISON TOURS
September 21, 2024

10:00 AM - 4:00 PM
Parking: \$5 per vehicle
Nachusa Grasslands
2075 Lowden Road
Franklin Grove, IL
nachusagrasslands.org

AUTUMN ON THE PRAIRIE

The Nature Conservancy
Photo: Charles Larry

Winnebago Public Library Friends of the Library Annual Quilt Show

Dates:

Sat. Sept. 28th

9am-3pm

Sun. Sept. 29th

12pm-3pm

Bed Turning:

Sat. Sept. 28th

11am & 1pm

Sun. Sept. 29th at 2:30pm

The Annual Quilt Show displays quilts created, collected, & inherited by members of local communities.

****No admission charge****

Free quilting books & patterns to take home.

If you have a quilt you'd like to add to the quilt show, contact Paulette West at (815)-335-2536.

210 N. Elida St.

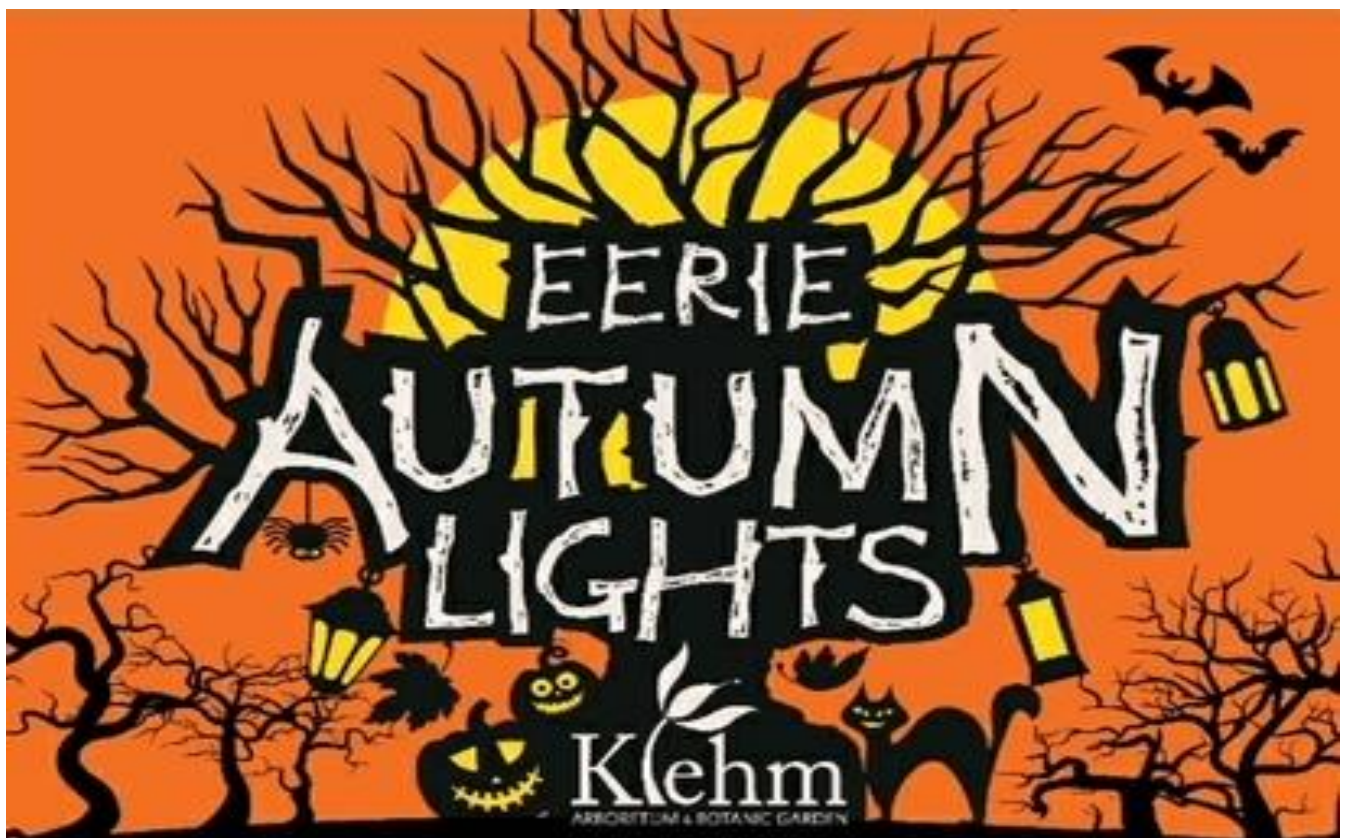
Winnebago, IL 61088

815-335-7050



[winnebagopubliclibrary.org](https://www.facebook.com/winnebagopubliclibrary)





AN ENCHANTINGLY IMMERSIVE HALLOWEEN EXPERIENCE!

Explore Klehm as never before on this half-mile journey through spookily lit landscapes and not-so-scary, family-friendly displays and activities!

See Rockford's **BIGGEST Pumpkin!**

Get lost in the massive Children's **Spooky Straw Bale Maze!**

Shop our **Ghostly Market** and enjoy themed food and drink offered by The Vintage Goose!

View **Haunted Balloon Creations** crafted by Ms. Twisty Pants on Wednesdays!

OCTOBER 3-31, 2024

Wednesdays thru Sundays

NOTE: Open every day Oct. 27-31!
Event begins at 5PM



John & Anita Richards
Brubaker Charitable Trust



Klehm Arboretum & Botanic Garden | 2715 S. Main St., Rockford, IL, 61102 | 815.963.8146 | www.klehm.org

TICKETS

Adults: \$12 / Youth (12 and under): \$6

Tickets are time-entry and can only be purchased online. No gate sales.

Buy tickets here:



MARK YOUR CALENDAR FOR THESE GARDEN EVENTS

KLEHM ABORETUM & BOTANIC GARDEN

2715 S. Main St, Rockford, IL

www.klehm.org | 815-965-8146 | info@klehm.org

Registration may be required for events. See website.

Eerie Autumn Lights

October 3rd – October 31st (Select Dates)

Eerie Autumn Lights is a new family-friendly October evening event that transforms Klehm Arboretum & Botanic Garden into an enchantingly immersive Halloween experience!

Available Now // Timed Entry // Online Only!
\$12 Adults / \$6 Children (Under 12)

Incredible Bats & Other Spooky Animals

Included with Eerie Autumn Lights tickets for 5PM
Wednesday, October 23rd, 2024

Incredible Bats will hold a program on their awesome bat education organization and will bring a variety of other spooky animals as well!

NICHOLAS CONSERVATORY

1354 N. 2nd Street, Rockford, IL

<https://nicholasconservatory.com/>

Glow in the Garden Festival

September 20 - 6:00pm- 9:00pm

See the website regarding ticket prices

SEVERSON DELLS NATURE CENTER

8786 Montague Road, Rockford IL

seversondells.com

Full Moon Hike

09/17/2024 06:30 PM - 08:00 PM CT

You won't want to miss this rare opportunity to wander our woods after dark and engage your nocturnal senses on this hike lead by Severson Dells Nature Center staff. Along the way we'll learn about- and hopefully encounter- nocturnal wildlife, constellations, and the full moon!

\$3.00 - Member

\$5.00 - General Admission

ANDERSON JAPANESE GARDENS

318 Spring Creek Road, Rockford

andersongardens.org

Please check the website for September events.

WILD ONES

<http://wildonesrrvc.org/>

Monthly Zoom meetings, replayed on YouTube:

<http://wildonesrrvc.org/Monthly Meetings.html>

Please check the Wild Ones website for September events.