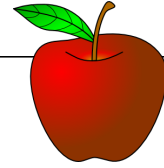


The Trowel



Volume 7, Issue 3

President's Prose

Hello dear members and friends,

What a strange summer this has been - first too cold and rainy, then waaay tooo hot and steamy, and now (as I write this) colder than usual! Oh well, this is after all Chicago and I guess if we just wait a day or two, it will surprise us once again.

I do hope that all of you have had an enjoyable summer and that your gardens have been productive regardless of the weather. I have enjoyed seeing many of you at the meetings and have been delighted at the number of guests we have had! We really have had some remarkable speakers - thanks so much Laurie!

As most of you know, I have moved from Bloomingdale! I still cannot believe it, I have as I lived there for fifty years!! I am now a resident of Carol Stream! I know that I do not have another fifty years ahead of me, so this is my transition before I eventually go to Indiana to live closer to my daughter Nikki and grandsons. But not yet!!! I still have more to do at work and at our wonderful club.

And speaking of our club - I hope that you are all looking forward to the Fall season as I am. Beautiful colors, pumpkins!! sweaters!! the fun of Halloween and family time at Thanksgiving! And the end of the season for our Community Garden which has done so well this year - thanks to Gail and her Committee and all of you who have contributed time and effort in watering and weeding.

Although I have done this already, I want to once again thank each and every one of you for your cards, calls and lovely words of condolence at the passing of my dear sister Paddy in South Africa. It happened just before my move and really made the weekend very difficult and very sad for me. Your friendship and all the help I received - all the love I felt - made such a difference. Thank you so much!

You are truly a wonderful group
Joyce



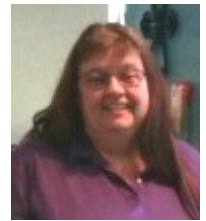
"Everything that slows us down and forces patience, everything that sets us back into the slow circles of nature, is a help. Gardening is an instrument of grace."

—May Sarton

Summer Meetings

June — Sharon Yiesla — Hydrangeas are Hot

Sharon presented a great program on Hydrangeas, pointing out the differences in the species, specific pruning requirements and the best places to plant your Hydrangea.



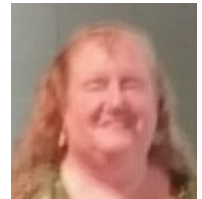
July — Mike Nowak — That Ain't No Way to Treat a Tree



Mike entertained us with his knowledge of how we should plant and landscape around our trees. Do mulch around them, but be sure to keep the mulch pulled away from the trunk of the tree. Mike informed us of the Ramorum Blight which can cause sudden death of Oak trees. Chicagoland is full of Oaks so we need to be vigilant.

August — Marcy Lautanen-Raleigh—Be a Herbal Gourmet

Marcy gave an outstanding presentation on how to grow and use our herbs. Her sense of humor was a delight.



Fruit Ripening Tips

*Mangoes buried in a bag of rice will ripen far faster. That's because mangoes—and many other fruits—produce a gas called ethylene that causes ripening, and the rice traps the gas. The same chemistry explains why ripening accelerates when ethylene-sensitive fruits are stored in a paper bag. The trick works on peaches, pears, plums, tomatoes, and avocados, but not on berries, oranges, or pineapples. Add a banana to the bag to speed the process.



*Avocados don't ripen when warmed in the oven. The flesh will soften but turn slimy. Instead, use the rice or bag method and place in a warm part of the kitchen.



*Bananas often come with their stems wrapped in plastic, ostensibly to slow the ripening process. We found, though, that ripening isn't affected by the plastic or by separating the bananas. To stop ripening, refrigerate them instead.



*Apples Store apples separate from carrots and other veggies. They produce ethylene gas, which affects the quality, longevity and flavor of "neighbors."



Submitted to Joyce Basel by Mark Rosenthal, via Real Simple.com

Correspondence

May 30, 2019

Dear members of the Bloomingdale Garden Club,

Thank you for your generous donation of flowers. We have used them to fill the planters at the entrances to our church building and parish center. They provide a bright welcome to all who enter.



The members of St Luke Catholic Church, Carol Stream

June 19, 2019

Dear Ms. Basel,

On behalf of the DuPage Care Center Foundation, thank you for continued support of our resident gardens.

Your generous yearly gift of flowers for our in-ground beds and resident gardeners' plots is very much appreciated. Also, we are very grateful for the Bloomingdale Garden Club members' gifts of time and talent to plant the in-ground beds and containers.

Your support helps us to achieve our mission to enhance the quality of life programs and services offered to the residents of the Center. We count ourselves fortunate to have you as an integral part of the resident gardens. Each and every member of the Bloomingdale Garden Club truly makes a difference in the lives of the Care Center residents.

Once again, thank you for your continued generosity.

Sincerely, Ray Valadez, Foundation Board President

June 25, 2019

Dear Joyce and Members of the Bloomingdale Garden Club,

The Memorial Day Remembrance Committee would like to express its appreciation for your donation of carnations for this year's Memorial Day event. It is so much larger than when we started 20 years ago, but we feel it is even more important today than it was back then. The flowers you provide give the attendees an opportunity to participate in the morning's program, and we owe you a huge thank you for being so generous throughout all twenty years.

Your organization has our deepest gratitude.

Sincerely, Kandy Jones, Memorial Day Remembrance Committee

Upcoming Craft Project

The club will be making Snowmen Centerpieces for the West Suburban Care Center for their dining room tables this upcoming holiday season. This will happen at the November 12 meeting. Please plan on attending to help out with this project. It is fun and members will be able to make one for themselves. Please save 3" jar lids for this project.



Upcoming 2019 Programs

September 17

**Kay McKeen
SCARCE**

Founding Gardeners,
Sustainability & Recycling

October 15

**Cindy Tyley
Tips for the Lazy Gardener**

November 12

**Holiday Nursing Home Craft
Snowmen Centerpieces**

December 10

Club Christmas Party
Details will come later in the fall.

Meeting Reminders:

We start with a social time at 6:15 PM,
followed by a business meeting.
Programs will begin at approximately
7:00-7:15 PM.

Cantigny Garden Events

Wednesday, September 11

Gardens Bike Tour, Visitors Center, 5:30 pm

Cyclists from Cantigny Horticulture will escort visitors on a leisurely ride with plenty of stops at different areas of the gardens and other park attractions. Adults and children ages 10 and up welcome. Group size is limited. Advance registration required at Cantigny.org or 630.260.8162. Free with paid parking (\$5).

Thursday, September 12

Monarch Butterfly Tagging, Pollinator Garden, 1 pm

Assist the Monarch Watch organization in tracking these fascinating and beautiful insects on their migration journeys! All ages welcome. Free with paid parking (\$5).

Sunday, September 15

Jewelry & Accessories Show, Visitors Center, 10 am to 4 pm

Cantigny's annual Jewelry & Accessories Show showcases an array of handcrafted items from local artists. Free with parking (\$10).

Thursday, September 19

Garden Walk on the Wild Side, Visitors Center, 1 pm

New for 2019, this tour by Cantigny Horticulture takes place monthly through October, on the third Thursday. Staff members will choose personal favorite plants and share information about them—a bit of science, growing advice and maybe a fun fact. Register at Cantigny.org or 630.260.8162. Free with parking (\$5). Note: this is a monthly event on the third Thursday.

Evening Garden Stroll, Visitors Center, 5 pm

Enjoy a one-hour summer garden tour, conducted by the park's Master Gardener docents. Free with paid parking (\$5).

Saturday, September 21

Putting Your Garden to Bed, Visitors Center, 9 am

Learn how to prepare your garden for winter at this two-hour outdoor session. Cantigny Horticulture's Samantha Peckham will offer advice on what needs to be pruned, cut-back, mulched, watered, rodent-proofed and more. Free with paid parking (\$10).

All but the jewelry show require registration at Cantigny.org

Birdbath and Butterfly Sipping Station Photos....



Carole Lockerbie



Both from Susan Glick-Shore



Both from Linda Kunesh



All 4 Above from Jennifer Moore



Both from Cheryl Svec

SAND-CAST BIRDBATHS & BUTTERFLY SIPPING STATIONS

Earlier this summer about a dozen club members got together to make sand-cast birdbaths & sipping stations out of concrete. Here are pictures of some of their accomplishments. Even the ones that broke were put to use in gardens with planting of hens & chicks between the "breaks." We had a lot of fun & hope to do this project again sometime next year.

Member Garden Photos



Teddy Bear Sunflowers: l-Cheryl Svee, r-Joan Skotleski



Rockin' Fuchsia & SunPatiens: Cathy Kreis

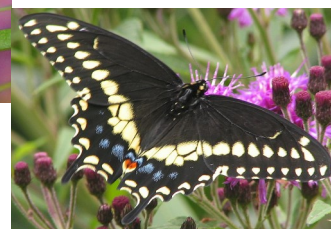


I wish to thank Linda Kunesch for bringing an infestation problem to my attention early in the season. I was able to correct the issue right away, so this beautiful yield of Better Bell peppers and Big Beef Tomatoes was possible. Laurie & Steve Dring



“There is nothing in a caterpillar that tells you it’s going to be a butterfly.”

—R. Buckminster Fuller



Plot-to-Plate Garden

Despite a wet and cool Spring and early Summer, our plants are growing well in the Plot-to Plate Garden. Like everywhere else, we have had problems with Japanese beetles, flea beetles and powdery mildew. Despite all of that, by the end of August we have been able to donate 236 pound of produce to the Bloomingdale Township Food Pantry. This would not be possible if it was just up to the committee to help. One of the stars this year were our onions. I planted from the same order and mine were not nearly as big. It must be all the care give by our garden volunteers.

Twenty garden club members have (will) help with the garden this year. Some have committed to several weeks. Thank you to Joyce Basel, Jeff Dengler, Laurie Dring (4), Cathy Gall, Susan Glick-Shore (3), Cathy Kreis (2), Linda Kunesh (2), Carole Lockerbie, Chris Magnatowski, Mike McElroy, Akhila Meda (3), Kathy Mikutis*, Jennifer Moore (2), Gail Sanders* (2), Jamie Schenk (3), Joan Skotleski (2), Eileen Spaman*, Henia Sullivan (2), Cheryl Svec* (3), and Barbara Weisenburger. Through the work of all of these people fresh organic produce was made available to many of our neighbors.

*indicates committee members



CORNERSTONE FAITH COMMUNITY CHURCH

NOV-TOBER FEST

Official RE-LAUNCH Celebration

DINNER INCLUDES:
PULLED PORK SANDWICHES, BRATWURST,
GERMAN POTATO SALAD, SAUERKRAUT, CHIPS
FRESH SLICED APPLES WITH CARMEL

FUN FOR THE WHOLE FAMILY:
OLD FASHIONED CAKE WALK
LIVE MUSIC PROVIDED BY "THE MOCKERS"
FACE PAINTING
CORN-HOLE TOSS

SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 02, 2019
DINNER: 4:30-6:30 LIVE MUSIC: 5:15-8:00
ADULTS: \$12 CHILDREN (3-11): \$7
FOR TICKETS CALL 630-980-9196



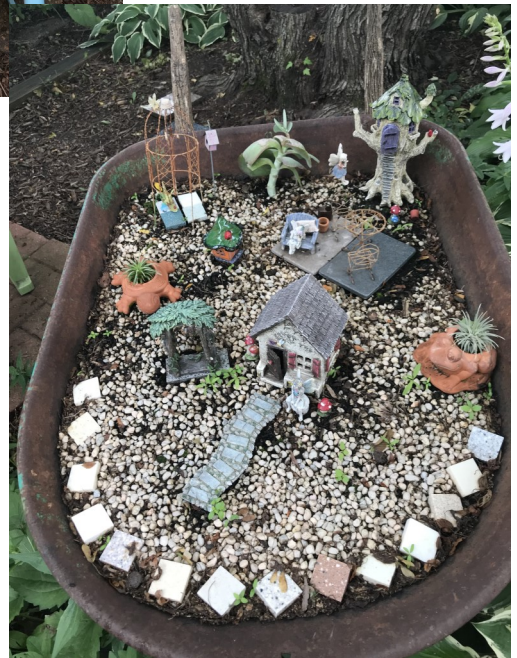
**CORNERSTONE FAITH COMMUNITY CHURCH**
118 S. First Street Bloomingdale, IL 60108
Know. Serve. Grow.

Tri-Valley Garden Walk Photos

Several members attended this garden walk.

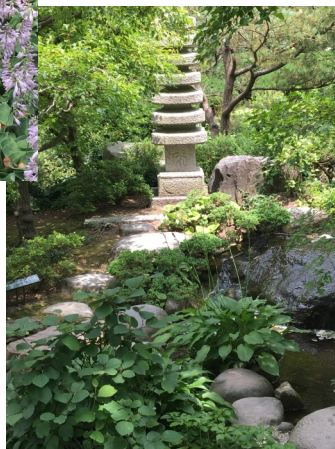
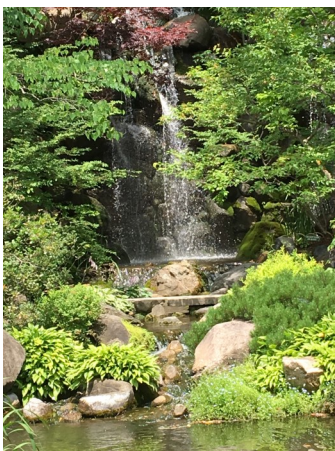


L-r: Kathryn Kacalo, Jennifer Moore, Linda Kunesch, Henia Sullivan, Akhila Meda and Joan Skotleski



Photos from the Anderson Japanese Gardens

On July 9, a bunch of us went to tour the Anderson Japanese Gardens in Rockford, Illinois. Thank you Jamie Schneck for organizing this outing. It was fabulous. We enjoyed a delicious brunch in their café before we headed out to walk the gardens. Here are some of the photos from the outing.



St Paul Church Changes Its Name!

Many of you have inquired about “why did the church change its name?”, so I asked Pastor Jeremy to explain it.

Cornerstone Faith Community Church prepares for launch of new ministry season with intentional focus on its local community.

Part way through the year of 1878, a group of German farmers and shopkeepers set about the work of establishing a thriving and growing evangelical Christian church in the quiet country village of Bloomingdale. With the development of railway transportation, and an ever increasing population of immigrant farmers, came a need for more local churches. Seven men from Bloomingdale, seeking to meet the call of their community, soon charted the German United Evangelical Lutheran St. Paul's Church of Bloomingdale.

141 years later, there isn't much that remains from 1878. The original St. Paul Church building was lost to a fire in late 1916. The current building, which stands at 118 S. First Street, was erected in 1917, with additions in 1957 and 1987. The Church maintains record books dating beyond the turn of the 20th century, and the front facade of the Sanctuary is engraved with "*EVG ST. PAUL'S KIRCHE*" or Evangelical St. Paul's Church.

Gone are the days of worship services lead entirely in German, and organ-led singing. So too, the need for hitching posts, wood or coal fired furnaces, gas powered lamps, and, of course, the old outhouse. Throughout the years there have been many noticeable changes to this historic Bloomingdale community church. 2019 has been no exception.

Perhaps you've noticed as you drive along Bloomingdale Road that the church sign looks a little different. Perhaps, as you have entered the West vestibule of the church, you've noticed new lettering on the windows. The congregation has a new name, but Senior Pastor Jeremy Heitkam insists, "you'll find the same friendly, welcoming faces, caring and compassionate hearts, and passion for the Bible that has been a part of this Bloomingdale congregation for nearly a century and a half."

"We've taken about two years to slowly work through a variety of concerns facing our congregation and every congregation these days: decreasing attendance, decreasing giving, increasing operational expenses, and ever increasingly complex family schedules," remarks Pastor Heitkam. The congregation has decreased in size over the last fifteen years, but Pastor Heitkam suggests, "that's where the decreases stop." "We've come together as a congregation--a church family--to bolster our presence in the community, with an increased desire to serve the people we are blessed to share as neighbors."

The refreshed mission statement of Cornerstone Faith Community Church asserts that the congregation, "prays for endless opportunities to engage with those around us, our community, and for bold, willing hearts to speak the name of Jesus, clearly. Whether we are serving, speaking, praying, or giving, we seek to be bearers of the Gospel of Jesus Christ."

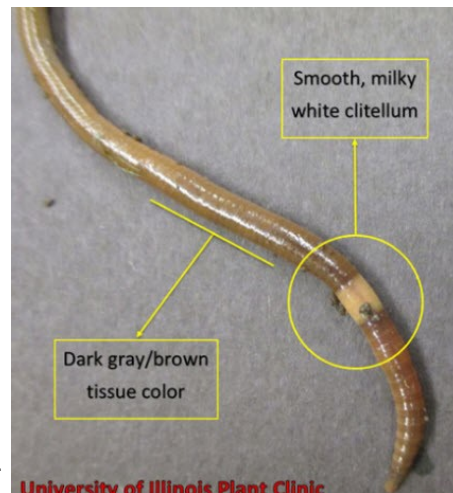
The new name and refocused mission is part of a comprehensive plan to re-plant the congregation in the Bloomingdale community and position the congregation for the future generations of its ministry. Pastor Heitkam added, "We've adopted a new name, re-focused our mission to share the Good News of Jesus with our community, and as we re-launch the congregation into the community we hope to have new opportunities every day to serve our neighbors."

Jumping Worms Invade DuPage Care Center Gardens

By Linda Kunesch

A few years ago, Master Gardener, Nanette Kalscheur, presented a program to our Club on invasive species that were threatening gardens. Unfortunately, Jumping Worms, one of the invasive species she talked about, have invaded DuPage Care Center Gardens.

Jumping Worms resemble our common earthworms, however, these Asian invasives are altering the soil structure and chemistry of our forests. They consume the critical layer of organic matter that supplies vital nutrients for plants... Jumping worms grow twice as fast, reproduce more quickly, and can infest soils at high densities and can severely damage roots of plants in nurseries, gardens, forests, and turf while altering water holding capacity of the soil. While the adults die in our climate in the winter, their eggs survive and new populations appear the next spring.



Jumping worms were found in the DPCC Gardens in late August, under the newly delivered mulch from the County Grounds Department. In less than an hour, six Master Gardeners raked a small area of about 3' x 4' and hand-picked more than 200 worms!

They are being found throughout DuPage County and northeastern Illinois. ***If you order mulch, compost, etc., be sure to find out if it has been heat-treated. These worms and their egg cases usually do not survive temperatures above 104 degrees.***

There is no known pesticide or remedy for these invasive creatures. Master Gardeners and garden volunteers are taking as many precautions as possible to minimize the spread of these worms, including dipping the soles of their shoes into a bleach/water solution upon entering and exiting the garden, using disinfecting wipes on all tools and gloves, not using the same tool in the in-ground beds and then moving on to the raised beds, and dedicating a pair of shoes, gloves, and tools to use ONLY at DPCC and not in their own gardens.

The egg sack, about the size of a poppy seed, can inadvertently attach to the sole of a shoe and then be moved to another location in the DPCC garden or to home gardens.

For more information about this invasive creature, see the Technical Forestry Bulletin from University of Illinois Extension elsewhere in this newsletter.



Invasive Species Alert: Jumping Worms

Christopher W. Evans, Extension Forestry and Research Specialist
Department of Natural Resources and Environmental Sciences

Diane E. W. Plewa, Plant Diagnostic Outreach Specialist
University of Illinois Plant Clinic



Counties with
documented
populations (as of
January 2017)

Jumping worms, (*Amyntas* spp.) have recently been discovered in Illinois. This new invasive species was first identified in Illinois in 2015 in northern Illinois and in 2016 in southern Illinois. Jumping worms are earthworms native to East Asia. They also have been called crazy worms, Alabama jumpers, and snake worms.

Jumping worms are voracious consumers of organic material, which can affect soil quality. They breed quickly and eggs survive Illinois winters. Adults reach maturity in approximately 60 days, allowing populations to grow exponentially during the growing season. These worms are also capable of reproducing without mating.

There are concerns about the effects these worms will have on forests and other natural areas as well as agricultural and landscaped areas. Populations of jumping worms have the potential to change the soil structure, deplete available nutrients, damage plant roots, and alter water holding capacity of the soil.



Adult jumping worm



Amyntas spp.

Wisconsin DNR

Report suspect populations of
Jumping Worms in Illinois!

Populations of jumping worms are known from other states, where they are considered to be highly invasive and detrimental. Investigations are still ongoing in Illinois and a project is underway to locate new populations of this species in Illinois. If anyone suspects they have a population of jumping worms, please contact Extension Forester Chris Evans (cwevans@illinois.edu or 618-695-3383) or the Plant Clinic (plantclinic@illinois.edu or 217-333-0519).

Technical Forestry Bulletin Continued....

Key Identification Characteristics

- **Large Worm (4-8 inches)**
- **Generally darker on top than the bottom**
- **Smooth, milky white clitellum (colored band) that completely circles the body and is not raised.**
- **Skin glossy or iridescent**
- **Thrashes wildly when handled or disturbed**
- **Can shed tail in defense**
- **Found in leaf litter and top 304 inches of soil**
- **Adults usually seen from mid-summer through first hard freeze**
- **Established populations can produce a unique soil signature that resembles coffee grounds.**

Prevent the spread of jumping worms and their eggs by cleaning equipment before moving to another site, reducing the transportation of mulch and soil, and carefully inspecting nursery plants before installing them in a new landscape.

Authors:

Christopher W. Evans, Extension Forestry and Research Specialist, Department of Natural Resources & Environmental Sciences, University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign.

Diane E. W. Plewa, Plant Diagnostic Outreach Specialist, University of Illinois Plant Clinic, University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign.

Websites related to current topic:

Illinois Plant Clinic

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

Wisconsin DNR Jumping Worm page

<http://dnr.wi.gov/topic/invasives/fact/jumpingWorm/index.html>

Good Cheer-Member Concerns

Remember our Shut-Ins with a phone call, note or a visit: George Holtz, Jane Czyzewski and Vivian Krotz

New Address: Joyce Basel, 1018 Rockport Drive, Carol Stream, IL 60188

Our deepest sympathies go out to Joyce Basel on the recent loss of her sister, Paddy, and to Helen Price on the passing of her husband, Richard, and to the family of Delores Franson, a long-time member, who passed away in June.

****I count on you, the members, to be the eyes and ears. Do not assume that I or others know of problems. We are not gossips but caring friends. Keep each other aware and help where you are able.**

Thank you!

Jennifer Moore, Good Cheer



There is nothing in which the birds differ more from man than the way in which they can build and yet leave a landscape as it was before."

—Robert Lynd

Travel News

What's 'hot' this year!

It has been Greece!!! Lots of bookings for Greece -- the romantic islands and of course the ancient sites of Athens! Most clients will request 4 Star Hotels, however, in Greece, you can easily get by with a 3 Star Hotel! Whether you stay in a 3 Star Hotel, or a 5 Star Hotel, you will have private facilities in your room.

Generally, all over Europe, breakfast, will be included in your hotel costs....and it is usually a very ample breakfast! What is not included in your hotel costs, and will be listed as a separate item, is the 'city tax' imposed on a per room, per night stay! A 3 Star property will experience a cost of EURO1.5 - a 4 Star property a EURO charge of 2.5, and a 5 Star property an EURO3.5 charge. It's a modest tax system that all of Europe has adopted to impose on their visiting guests. The location of your hotel should always be taken into consideration....how far will you be from the sites that you want to see?

The other important issue - should you choose to visit Europe - is the recommendation that you opt for private airport transfers. This allows you to be met at the airport, by your driver, holding a sign with your name on it....and that driver will get you through the airport and on your way, very quickly, as compared to waiting for a bus load of travelers to sort out their luggage, get on board the bus....and unfortunately, when using a bus transfer, you may have to wait for someone who had to use the facilities!!! When you compare the cost of a bus transfer and a private transfer....the difference can be as little as \$15 to \$30 - each way - but truly worth it! Using a private transfer, you will get to your hotel about 1 hour or more, ahead of the crowd!

Marilyn Dattilo - Travel Techniques—IATA 14-535894



Bloomington Garden Club

Meeting Location:
Cornerstone Faith Community Church
118 S First Street
Bloomington IL 60108

Newsletter Published by Catherine Kreis
Email: cathyjk@sbcglobal.net
Phone: 630-351-9336

We're on the Web!

www.bloomingtongardenclub.org

2019 Club Officers/Committees

*President.....Joyce Basel
*1st Co-Vice Presidents.....Cathy Gall &
(Membership) Henia Sullivan
*2nd Vice President.....Laurie Dring
(Programs)
Program Committee....Joan Skotleski, Deb Dolphin
*Publicity.....Jamie Schneck
Publicity Committee
Newsletter.....Cathy Kreis
Website.....Dan Vitacco
*Treasurer.....Cheryl Svec
Good Cheer.....Jennifer Moore
Hospitality.....Chris Magnatowski
Hospitality Committee.. Kelly Vitacco, Akhila Meda
*Recording Secretary.....Cathy Kreis
*Ways & Means.....Linda Kunesh
*Corresponding
Secretary.....Joyce Basel
Plot-To-Plate.....Gail Sanders
Photo Contest.....Carole Lockerbie
Memorial Garden.....Joyce Basel
Farmer's Market.....Carole Lockerbie
Market Cancelled for Summer 2019

*Denotes Executive Board

The Bloomington Garden club was formed to encourage the advancement of gardening, development of home grounds and civic beautification. To stimulate interest, knowledge and love of gardening among amateurs. To aid in the protection of native trees, flowers and birds. To further the extermination of noxious weeds and to cooperate with other organizations in the beautification of the community.

Membership is open to all persons at his or her request of application regardless of residence. Annual dues for a single new member are \$20 and \$25 for a couple, when paid January 1-June 30. Half year dues for a single new member are \$10, and \$12.50 per couple when paid July 1 thru December 31.

Visitors are always welcome, but we encourage them to join the club after 3 visits in order to help out with the costs of our monthly programming.



*“Kind hearts, like garden flowers,
bring grace and beauty to our
world.”*