



June-July-August 2021

Greetings from Our President

My wife, Patty, and I just finished reading a thought provoking book entitled, *The Midnight Library*, in which is found the line, “Never underestimate the significance of small things.” It refers to unimportant happenings in life, decisions we make which we never give a second thought to or routine things we do because we should, or just serendipitous things that happen in our lives every day.

Special thanks go to every club member who helped make the plant sale a huge success! We had great participation. You may not think that digging up and potting a few plants is all that earth shaking. Or just volunteering to help someone take plants they have just purchased to their car may seem of little importance. You may give no thought at all to answering a plant question for a new gardener. BUT, all these small and insignificant little pieces make one beautiful puzzle. The compliments I heard about our plant sale were very touching and rewarding—so well organized—great selection of plants—plants look so healthy—everyone so friendly and helpful. You have every right to feel proud of the annual plant sale and its record amount of revenue that we earned no matter what your small part might have been!

Jim Spannagel

Summer Meetings

June 28 @ Aileen’s Garden
July 26 @ Renie’s Garden
August is our annual BBQ

(See page 2 for more information)

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Summer Meetings

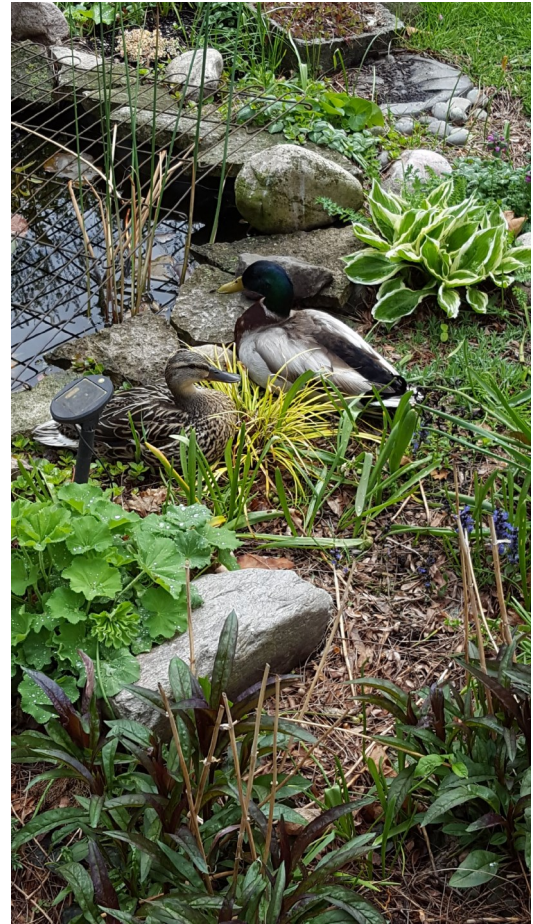
During the summer months, the Garden Club holds informal meetings in the gardens of our members. We meet from about 7-8pm. Please bring a lawn chair to each of these meetings. Although we do not have a program at our summer meetings, these garden meetings are a great opportunity to socialize, meet our new members, visit another member's garden and get some of your gardening questions answered.

On **June 28th**, at 7pm we will meet in Aileen's garden in Arlington Heights. Refer to the membership directory for location of Aileen's garden.

On **July 26th**, at 7pm we will meet in Renie's garden in Arlington Heights. Refer to the membership directory for location of Renie's garden.

Our August meeting is our annual BBQ at the Historical Society across from the library. Specific details about this event will be emailed to all our members.

Looking forward to seeing everyone at the summer get-togethers.



Mallard ducks have been visiting Nancy Asquini-Dean's pond for many years

Happy Birthday and Best Wishes

JUNE BIRTHDAYS

Bob Bruett
Helen Dawley
Martin Landwehr
Leslie Meredith
Denise Nowak
Jesse Olson
Jim Spannagel

JULY BIRTHDAYS

Dilyanka Chardaklieva
Mike Philipp
Christina Preston
Joe Weber

AUGUST BIRTHDAYS

Adriana Bell
Rob Bell
Terri Passolt
Sharon Paluch
Claudette Nowell-Philipp
Barbara Scullion
Patty Spannagel
Mary Weber
Cary Wicker



University of Illinois Extension
in North Cook County

**Have a plant question?
Ask a Master Gardener!**

We are here to help you with your gardening questions!

How to Reach Us

Email : NorthCookMG@gmail.com

Phone : (224) 347-1089

Before you contact us, please be prepared!
Please provide as much detail as possible.

This might include;

- Site conditions (sun, drainage, soil)
- Describe the issue
- Include pictures (if applicable)

We are here to help YOU learn to grow!

Learn about us: Go.Illinois.Edu/LearnMoreMG

 [NorthCookMasterGardeners](https://www.facebook.com/NorthCookMasterGardeners)  [illinoismastergardeners](https://www.instagram.com/illinoismastergardeners)

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

WINGS Project Completed

Pete Landwehr

Last year, the not for profit organization, WINGS, approached the garden club requesting help in beautifying their corporate headquarters in Rolling Meadows. Their relatively modern building lacked any character in their landscaping – mostly lawn. We accepted the challenge and started by killing the lawn over the winter in four areas destined to be new perennial gardens. This spring, we brought in six yards of top soil and compost mix and tilled it into the new beds to improve the soil. Various members donated 86 plants from their own gardens. One of the four gardens was selected by a Girl Scout working on her service project to plant a pollinator garden. The final step was to apply mulch to all of the new gardens. I am happy to report that the project is now complete and WINGS is very pleased with the results. Thank you to **Jim Spannagel, Mike Relaz, Terri Passolt and Marty Landwehr** for all of their help in making this happen. Thanks also goes out to Sherwin Ace Hardware for their many donations of supplies for the project



2021 Plant Sale

Bob Bruett

This year's plant sale exceeded all of our expectations. Our members donated 1,269 plants and we recorded over \$5,000 in sales! Members showed up to help even when they didn't sign up to volunteer.

On behalf of myself and the board I'd like to thank everyone who participated in this year's plant sale. The success of our 2021 plant sale is a result of a team effort by many members that volunteered to dig up plants, donate plants, donate garden knick-knacks, help with plant sale prep-work, set up the tents and tables, unload and setup inventory, and volunteered as cashiers.

The set-up and clean-up was so efficient fast due to the outstanding participation of our members. THANK YOU ALL !!!!!

A special thank-you to all the new members that helped with the plant sale; you are the future of our club and it appears to be in very good hands.



Making Your Garden a Waystation for Monarchs

Carol Elliott

As a gardener, you probably know that our pollinator populations of bees and butterflies are in trouble, and without them our gardens will be in trouble. So let's help our pollinators so they can help us. Two of the best ways to help our bees and butterflies are by planting native flowers and not using herbicides and pesticides in your garden.

One of the most beautiful pollinators is the monarch butterfly. The monarch is truly remarkable for its annual migration from Mexico to Canada throughout the summer and back to Mexico in the fall. The summer migration involves 3-4 generations of butterflies, but the final generation of the year flies the entire trip (around 2,000 miles) back to Mexico.

Wildlife groups track the monarch population by estimating the number of monarchs that overwinter in large clusters in Mexico. Unfortunately, that population has been plummeting in the past 25 years, as you can see in the chart below, kept by the group Monarch Watch.

Monarch Population Status

Thursday, February 25th, 2021 at 3:30 pm by Jim Lovett

World Wildlife Fund Mexico in collaboration with CONANP and the Monarch Butterfly Biosphere Reserve (MBBR) announced the total forest area occupied by overwintering monarch colonies today. Nine colonies were located this winter season with a total area of 2.10 hectares, a 26% decrease from the previous season (2.83 ha).

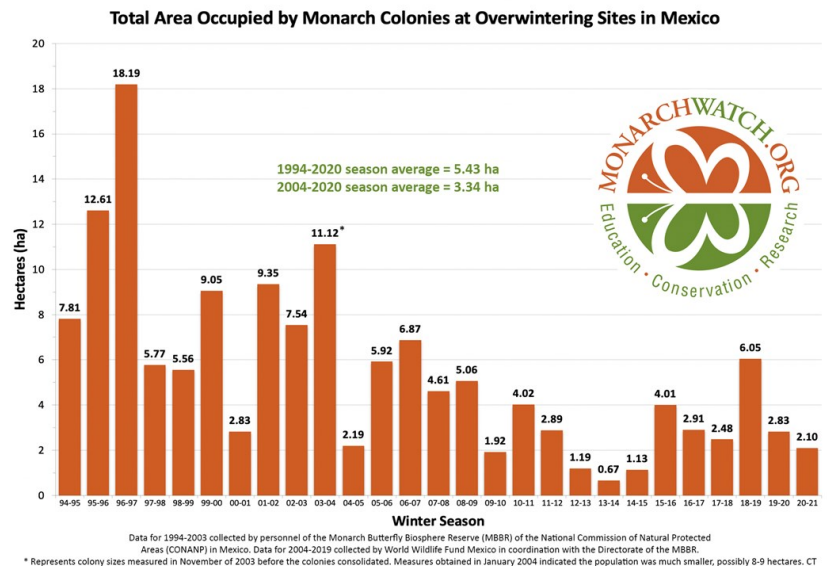
One of the main reasons for the decline in the monarch population is the steep decline in milkweed plants that people have decided to eradicate. Milkweed plants are the only plants the monarch butterfly will lay its eggs on, and the only plants that monarch caterpillars will eat. Since farm fields have replaced most of the prairies where milkweed plants once grew, home gardens have become key places to grow milkweed. As gardeners, it is important to know that there are many types of milkweed, not just common milkweed. Swamp milkweed, red milkweed, prairie milkweed, and butterfly weed are all types of milkweed that are not invasive and are perennials that grow well in Illinois. Swamp milkweed and red milkweed grow well in large pots as long as you keep them watered well. They will not survive the winter in the pot, but you can transplant them into the garden in the fall if you want to keep them alive for next year.

Monarch Watch has a program that will certify your garden as a Monarch Waystation if you have nectar flowers that bloom throughout the summer and fall for the butterflies and milkweed plants for the caterpillars. My yard is a registered waystation, and it is not difficult to maintain. For information on the program, [click here](#).

The butterflies will be attracted to your yard by the flowers, and when they find the milkweed, they will lay eggs on the milkweed. The caterpillars that hatch from the eggs will eat the milkweed. You are planting the milkweed to be eaten. I heard of one gardener who planted milkweed for the butterflies, but squashed the "worms" that kept eating it. That would not help increase the butterfly population.

Some gardeners are discouraged because they never see any caterpillars on their milkweed. Many predators prey on the monarch eggs and the small caterpillars. Sources say that only 1 or 2 out of 100 monarch eggs in nature will make it to butterfly. That's why some people, including myself, raise caterpillars inside.

If you would like more information about monarchs and creating a monarch waystation in your yard, please contact [Carol Elliott](#)



Garden Walk and Unique Boutique

Kathy Hendricksen and Aileen Koeppen | Garden Walk & Unique Boutique Co-Chairs

The preparations are being completed for our Garden Walk & Unique Boutique that will be held on Sunday, June 27th from 10 a.m. - 4 p.m. at the Arlington Heights Historical Museum. The Garden Walk [features four residential gardens and the Moorings](#). Please pass on information about this event to your friends, associates and neighbors. Advance discounted tickets can be purchased [online](#) or from the Village Bank, or Farmers Markets on June 26th. Please be sure to report to the volunteer opportunity that you signed up for on-time. There are a few volunteer positions we still need help with so if you have not yet signed up for one of our volunteer job/shifts, please do so ASAP. We need everyone's help to take a shift, which enables you to a free ticket to visit the gardens!

We have over [25 Unique Boutique vendors](#) signed up, community booths of Ask an Arborist, Ask a Master Gardener, Ask Emerald Lawn Care, the Village of Arlington Heights and the Arlington Heights Library. Enjoy food from [Lolas' Pizza Palace](#) and soda pop from the Historical Museum as well as performances from three [live music groups](#).

Thank you to the members that helped put together raffle baskets on June 19th and everyone that either donated or helped to secure prizes from businesses. Please review our [list of sponsors](#) and be sure to thank them for their support.

We look forward to having a successful event to fund our club's scholarships, community projects and programs. Everyone's help is needed to make this event successful.



Arlington Heights
garden club

5 Inspiring Gardens!

Garden Walk

2021

& Unique Boutique

Sunday, June 27
10am-4pm

Garden Walk
\$15 at ahgardenclub.com
\$20 on June 27 at AH Historical Museum

Unique Boutique
Free on the museum grounds

Booths with arts, crafts, products & plants, Master Gardeners, Ask the Arborist, Arlington Heights Memorial Library, Raffle with GREAT Prizes, Food & Live Music

Signs of a Serious Gardener

You know far too much about manure and you insist on sharing that information with your friends during dinner parties.

You never have dinner before sunset during the summer.

You delight in the harvest of the first carrot. The \$25 and twenty hours of work to produce it seems irrelevant.

Your neighbors don't recognize your face because that's usually not the end they see.

Gardening Knowledge

Bev Krams, Horticulture

UPCOMING EDUCATIONAL OPPORTUNITIES

Chalet Weekly Garden Coach Webinar

When: Every Thursday (thru August) from 10-11am
Jennifer Brennen will address your gardening questions!
Click [here](#) to register



Olbrich Botanical Gardens

When: June thru December 2021
University of Wisconsin's Olbrich Gardens Education for the summer
Lots to offer virtually and some classes are free.
[Registration required](#).



Arboretum Human+Nature Exhibit

When: Now open
Where: Morton Arboretum in Lisle, IL
[Overview of exhibit](#)
[Registration required](#) to see exhibit



Artist Daniel Popper presents 5 large scale artwork between 15-26 feet tall allowing you to connect with the trees and people. The sculptures can be found throughout 1,700 acres of landscape.

Nature Speaks: Wilderness Conservation, Natural Resource Management and Harmony with Nature

By professor Stanley Temple from the University of Wisconsin

When: June 24, Thursday @ 7-8:30pm
Where: Zoom/Live

[Registration required](#)

Hosted by the Prospect Heights Public Library



Workshop: Plant for pollinator Container Lurvey Home & Garden

When: June 26 @ 11 AM
Fee \$60 for materials
[Registration required](#)



Palatine Historical Society Garden Tour

When: June 27 @ 12pm--4pm
Tickets are \$20 in advance and \$25 day of tour
Call for tickets (847) 991-6460
Click [here](#) for more information

Palatine Historical Society

Native Predatory Wasps by Heather Holm | WildOnes

When: July 18th @ 2:30pm
Where: Zoom
Free. Click [here](#) to register



It's Going to be a LONG—HOT—SUMMER

Bev Krams | Horticulture Chair

You want happy plants? Everyone wants happy plants. What can you do this summer to ease the stress of hot weather on your lawn, plants and the environment?

CHOOSE NATIVE

Selecting Illinois native plants means they can adapt to the long, hot summers. Many of them have beautiful blooms, minimize water usage due to their very long root systems and serve as pollinators. Swap some of your non-natives out for the drought tolerant natives.

WATER AS NEEDED

No regular water schedule needed here! See if your plants need water first. Get those fingers into the soil. If the bed is dry, time to add water. The nurseries have a great inexpensive device for monitoring water in the soil. Stick the probe in and get your reading: DRY/MOIST/WET. How easy is that!

You know your lawn needs water when visible footprints are present when you walk on it. This summer you may need to make a decision to let your lawn go dormant when the weather gets really hot and dry. However switching between dormancy and green grass puts more stress on your lawn by draining large amounts of food reserve from the grass root. University of Illinois recommends 1 1/2 inches of water as a weekly allotment and mowing high. Remember, infrequent lawn watering will promote grass root growth.

WATER IN THE EARLY MORNING

Get out there before the heat of the day sets in. When you water, keep the water in the soil and not on the foliage. This allows the plant to take in more water and lose less through evaporation. This water early rule also applies to lawn watering. And most important, do not water concrete.

MULCH IS YOUR FRIEND

Mulch minimizes evaporation, helps prevent weeds, and eventually breaks down adding organic matter to your garden bed.

ADD ORGANIC MATTER

Organic matter improves your soil and its water holding capacity over time. Add that leaf litter and compost to your garden beds in the fall.

BE A 'GROUPIE'

Is it sun/shade or dry/moist? All plants have requirements. Read the labels, then form your 'groups'. Plants like peonies and natives do not have high water requirements. Group them together vs your annuals and hydrangeas which have high moisture needs.

INSTALL A RAIN BARREL

Catch that water running off your roof! Not recommended for edible gardens but oh those shrubs, ornamentals and lawns will love you.

Enjoy your summer and STAY COOL!

Conservation@Home Cook County Newsletter Spring Issue



Board Elections

The Results of the May 2021 AHGC Board Elections

- President - Jim Spannagel
- Treasurer - Pete Landwehr
- Artistic - Barb Franks
- Civics - Mike Relaz
- Horticulture - Bev Krams
- Hospitality - Marilyn and Joe Weber
- Membership - Renie Norkiewicz and Shelly Plischke
- Scholarships - Mike Dennehey

Congratulations to all of our newly elected Board Members. Let's all thank them for volunteering to help make our Garden Club one of the best in the state!

The members of the Garden Club who agreed to accept another two year term and who were re-elected on May will be installed at the June 28th monthly meeting in a brief ceremony.

The only committee chair not returning will be Kathy Wolan who has graciously served as Civics Chair for the past four years. Kathy has guided our community beautification projects and will continue to care for the Historical Museum grounds. Please take a look at the wonderful grounds of the Museum which display just some of Kathy's efforts, the next time you are near the Museum. Thank you, Kathy for the hours you have given. Great job!

Board of Directors

President	Jim Spannagel
Secretary	Nancy Asquini-Dean
Treasurer	Pete Landwehr

Committee Chairs

Artistic	Barb Franks
Civics	Mike Relaz
Conservation	Daniella Sents Christina Preston
Garden Walk	Kathy Hendricksen Aileen Koeppen
Horticulture	Bev Krams
Hospitality	Marilyn Weber Joe Weber
Membership	Renie Norkiewicz Shelley Plischke
Newsletter	Mona Frisbie
Plant Sale	Bob Bruett
Programs	Val Solaski
Publicity	Lesley Jackson Connie Landwehr
Scholarship	Mike Dennehey
Website	Denise Nowak

Win a One Year Individual Membership to Cantigny Park

The AHGC has the opportunity to provide, to one lucky member, a free one year individual membership to Cantigny Park. The Park, located in Wheaton Illinois, is the former estate of Joseph Medill and features formal and informal gardens.

If this membership is something you'd enjoy using, please send your name, mailing address, email address and contact phone number to [Val Solaski](mailto:Val.Solaski@ahgardenclub.com).

The winner's name will be drawn at our June meeting. You do not need to be present at the June meeting to win.

Arlington Heights Garden Club Awards two \$2,000 Scholarships

Mike Dennehey

Each year, the Arlington Heights Garden Club awards one or more \$2,000 academic scholarships to assist local students. The club has awarded 39 academic scholarships to outstanding students since 2003. Students living in Arlington Heights and adjoining communities are eligible to apply. Proceeds from the annual Garden Walk are used to fund the scholarship program.

The \$2,000 Gilbert Krohn Memorial Scholarship awarded to Alexis Opperman.

Alexis graduated from Buffalo Grove High School in 2018 and was awarded an AHGC scholarship for her first year of college. She is now a senior majoring in Environmental Engineering with minors in German and Mathematics. She has maintained a college 3.7 GPA over her three years of college. Alexis took many AP classes in high school which allowed her an advanced start with her University of Alabama class schedule and has maintained a 3.7 GPA even through the Covid-19 school year.

Alexis has experienced a variety of travel which has help developed her interest in the environment, starting with the Galapagos Islands and even taking a summer course in Belize to studying ocean life and coral reefs.

During the school year, Alexis has a job as student engineer with the Alabama Industrial Assessment Center working with companies on ways to reduce energy usage and environmental emissions. While at school, she is the corresponding secretary for her Theta Tau engineering fraternity.



Alexis Opperman

The \$2,000 Wendy Landwehr Memorial Scholarship awarded to Marlena Kot.

Kot graduated from John Hersey High School in 2019; this is the third year she has been awarded the Wendy Landwehr Memorial Scholarship. During high school, she completed 10 Advanced Placement classes which provided her with a considerable advantage picking up a two-year class advantage in her major of Nuclear Engineering and Physics at the University of Michigan, where she is maintaining a 3.37 GPA while taking advanced classes.

Marlena is very interested in cleaning up the environment by using nuclear fusion instead of coal to generate electrical energy. Fusion is a clean method for generating energy where the current process of fission produces radioactive by products. She is taking a plasma physics research course this year that is usually taken by advanced students in their senior year. Kot has held a variety of jobs during her years at school both academically and non-academically oriented. Playing basketball has been a continuous hobby and interest for her from age 6 to 16 and she is now transitioning into coaching.



Marlena Kot

Marlena has been studying online this last year and is anxious to get back to campus. She is tired of the pandemic isolation and the lack of direct contact with her instructors.



Black Iris, Nancy Asquini-Dean's garden

Clara Stone awarded a Personal Development Award

Clara Stone took advantage of the pandemic shutdown to take Course 3 of The Garden Clubs of Illinois, Landscape Design Course. She took and completed the course by passing the test on March 30 & 31. The Zoom format of this class was perfect for the shutdown. Half the cost of Clara's class was paid by the AH garden club.

Personal Development Award Background

Club Members are eligible for this award after one year of membership. The personal development award is a program to encourage gardening and horticultural training to our garden club members and assist with the cost of the class. Awards are for 50% of class or program registration/ tuition with a maximum of a \$200 per grant per application. Only one award per year per individual shall be granted. Personal Development applications may be submitted at any time throughout the year.



Keeping Your Nails Clean While Gardening

Before you put on your gardening gloves be sure to scrape your nails over a bar of hand soap. The area between nail and flesh will fill with soap and 'low and behold' there is no room for the dirt that sneaks into the gloves. When it's time to wash your hands, the soap is already on your hands.



What's a new tool to add to your garden bag?

Bev Krams

You need a can of spray paint! Choose your favorite color and enjoy extending the life of those beautiful allium flowers into late June. After the color of those spring bulbs fade, the peonies need to be deadheaded; we then wait in anticipation of those summer flowers. Why not go ahead and add some needed color as we wait for those summer blooms. Get your cardboard out, can of paint and garden gloves. Start spraying the allium at the back of the garden and work your way forward. Yes, it may get a little messy. But look at those 'new' blooms, pink, red, white. Oh, and check out one of the gardens in Old Orchard in Mt. Prospect. What a whimsical display of purples, pinks, and blue! Try out your favorite color and have fun!! For more information [click here](#).



Treasurer's Report

ARLINGTON HEIGHTS GARDEN CLUB Treasurer's Report May, 2021

<u>Checking Account Balance 4/30/21</u>	<u>Stmt Date</u>	\$	4,521.21
<u>Receipts:</u>			
13 single member dues	5/3/21		325.00
4 couples member dues	5/3/21		160.00
Plant Sale proceeds - Koeppen	5/3/21		30.00
Hawthorne Gardens GW sponsorship			200.00
Tammy Joy Matheson	5/10/21		50.00 UB Vendor fee
Total			765.00
<u>Disbursements (cleared):</u>			
	<u>Check #</u>	<u>Ck Date</u>	
Total			-
Checking Account Balance 5/31/21		\$	5,286.21
Savings Account Balance 3/31/21			-
Interest Income @ 0.02%			
Transfer to checking			
Savings Account Balance 4/30/21		\$	- Closed 3/1/21
CASH IN BANK 5/31/21		\$	5,286.21
<u>Receipts to be deposited</u>			
Total undeposited receipts		\$	-
<u>Open invoices and checks written but not cashed</u>			
	<u>Check #</u>	<u>Ck Date</u>	
Bev Krams	1412	3/23/21	50.00 Platt Hill Nursery gift cards in lieu of program costs
Meredith Schnelle	1413	4/26/21	75.00 April presentation
Total outstanding checks and invoices			\$ 125.00
ADJUSTED CASH POSITION 5/31/21		\$	5,161.21

AHGC Board Meeting Notes

Nancy Asquini Dean, Recording Secretary

AHGC Board Meeting | June 14, 2021 7:00 PM

President - Jim Spannagel Welcome and opening of meeting.

The May secretary's board minutes and May treasurer's report approved.

Artistic – Barb Franks said we need someone to take charge of the Holiday Trees.

Civics – Kathy Wolan and Mike Relaz. Thanks to those who came to the Senior Center and helped plant the containers there. Also, thanks to those who came to the Arlington Heights Post Office and helped plant the flower beds and containers. Pete reports that the Wings planting project is finished. All beds are completed and mulched. Considering a shade garden on west side of building next year.

Garden Walk – Kathy and Aileen will hold the final Zoom meeting Monday, June 21st at 7 PM. Saturday the 19th will be the raffle basket wrapping event at Pat Dennehey's home.

Membership – Renie is getting the Greeters needed for the Saturday Farmers Markets.

Plant Sale – Sale began Saturday, June 5th at Historical Museum starting at 7:30 a.m. with customers lined up prior to opening. Sales of \$5,000+ reported on approximately 1,200 donated plants! More members than signed up to work volunteered their time.

Programs - May 24th program "Growing Edibles in Containers" with Lisa Hilgenberg of Chicago Botanic Garden had technical difficulties and is being rescheduled. Backyard meetings begin on June 28th at Aileen Koeppen's garden and July in Renie Norkiewicz garden. June meeting will hold the raffle for the Cantigny membership donation.

Publicity - All Garden Walk publicity has been submitted to newspaper, etc.

Scholarship - Mike D. held scholarship meeting Thursday, May 20th Selected one candidate for the club award and one recommendation for Wendy Landwehr Memorial. Mike to do publicity and invite to summer meeting. Sending info to Connie

Website - Mike to provide Denise with info on scholarships. Pete/Denise to work on electronic payment feasibility.

Old/New Business – Install new officers at June meeting.