



**The Garden Club of Indiana, Inc.
October Vol. 86 Number 5, 2022**



2021-2023

The Garden Club of Indiana, Inc.
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Theme:
"Plant America in
Colors of Hope"
For Cancer Awareness

2021-2023

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Plant America-Play Outdoors

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Theme: Plant America:
Sow the Seeds and Keep Growing

Jan 2	Mar 1	May 1
July 1	Sept 1	Nov 1

ISSUE DEADLINES

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Mission Statement

The Garden Club of Indiana, Inc.
Promotes
Interest and Education
in
Horticulture,
Landscaping,
Floral Design,
and
Environmental Concerns



From our President

I've attended club meetings, district meetings, state meetings, and national meetings over the last 18 months, and two topics are a constant concern: How do we recruit new members and How do we find volunteers for club officers?

NGC has heard these concerns and last fall started a series of Zoom meetings called Membership Mondays where the NGC membership committee presented monthly programs geared towards recruiting new members. Using the theme Recruit, Retain, and Revitalize, hundreds of garden club members from all over the United States, Mexico, and Central and South America attended these sessions, including 4 or 5 of us from Indiana. A concise and very helpful summary of these three R's has been included in the new President's Manual which is posted on the TGCI website. The ideas are specific and basic. Take a look. It's in the Members Only section.

The Membership Mondays resumed this August after a summer hiatus and began with a quick review of some of the salient points of the 3 R's:

- Have club members wear nametags
- Post signage at the site of the meeting—both outdoors and indoors (if needed)
- Provide a greeter at the door—for both current and prospective members
- Post date, time, location, and program of every meeting on club's social media site
- Present a meeting that provides something to learn

During the summer I was a guest at a club meeting where they felt their membership chair had done an excellent job of recruiting new members. She attributed it to the posting of their meetings on social media as well as the sense of welcome newcomers felt at their first meeting. However, the club also recognized the need to retain current members. Try to make personal contacts (phone calls) to members who have not attended meetings for several months. All clubs have members who do not have internet for whatever reason, and we need to continue to keep in contact with them in the more traditional ways.

The best solution for the lack of volunteers to fill club officer positions is one that many clubs have already utilized: two members who share the position. Many clubs have used this technique for years (my own included) and though it sometimes presents small challenges, they can be overcome. For some reason, filling the position of president is the most difficult. Having two people share the responsibilities of creating an agenda and running the meeting has many advantages. There's someone there to run a meeting if you are on vacation or otherwise can't be there that month; there's someone there to bounce off ideas; there's someone there to help when thorny issues arise. However, it is vital that all club members let the president(s) know that they are there to support and help in whatever ways are needed. The role of the president is to conduct business in an orderly fashion. It is the club members who decide what that business is to be.

September with the NGC Fall Board Meeting, Wildflower Workshop, and one district meeting is behind me. October and November bring the Central Region Convention in Minnesota and 6 more district meetings. I am looking forward to meeting you at your district meetings.

FOUNDING MEMBER SPOTLIGHT

Lila Milford is one of 3 founding charter members of The Garden Club of Marion.

Lila was born in Detroit, Michigan on December 29, 1926. The Garden Club was founded because of a new Marion resident who had been involved in a garden club, in a different location. She enjoyed it so much that she wanted to start one in Marion; therefore, Lila became one of its founding members 40 years ago, in 1982.

Lila has enjoyed gardening because it's helped her to learn more about her surroundings and allowing her to help improve them. Some of Lila's favorite memories include serving on The Garden Club of Indiana, Inc. state board for 30 years, meeting many impressive people, and hearing so many well-versed speakers, along with regular participation in local garden club activities.

As an older gardener now, she recommends cutting back your garden, but still growing a version of fresh vegetables and herbs in a handicap object, near a convenient and accessible location. She says we should try to always have fresh flowers, and always learn more about gardening.

Lila has continuously been involved in our community. A couple of highlights are that she presented the poem, "High Flight", by John Gillespie Magee during the unveiling of the beautiful Blue Star Byway Memorial Garden, marking tribute to the U.S. Armed Forces. The National Council of State Garden Clubs, now known as National Garden Clubs, Inc., started the program in 1945 after World War II.

Lila was also one of Grant County's Bicentennial Torchbearers during the bicentennial celebration, by "passing the torch" connecting generations to IGNITE our future.

Lila is a true gem and a blessing to everyone. Her wisdom and years of service are greatly appreciated, honored, and recognized.



Broad Ripple Garden Club

The members of Broad Ripple Garden Club have been enjoying the lovely weather this summer. A few of our meetings revolved around outings to lovely gardens in the area.

In May we held our annual plant sale at Nora Library. Money raised will go to the scholarship fund. At the May meeting we had guest speakers Wanda and David Zahrt. They showed our club the video on The Garden Club of Indiana, Inc's 90th Anniversary. They also spoke about the Scholarship program of TGCI and State President Linda Harkleroad's program of Plant America in the Colors of Cancer.

In June, ten of our members went to Avon Gardens where they walked through the lovely gardens and enjoyed the beautiful plants. Afterwards, they enjoyed a delicious lunch at Charbonos.

Bloom-struck at Newfields was our program for August. We enjoyed a lunch at the cafe in the museum, followed by a business meeting. Afterwards, we walked through the lovely gardens. A photo of (left to right) Janet Kuebler, Dorthy Pratt and Colette Bracken enjoying the beautiful planters at Newfields is attached.

We are now planning our September meeting, where we will visit the Governor's residence in Indianapolis. We will eat lunch on the property and then have a guided tour of the gardens and home.

We keep busy between meetings by maintaining our planter at Nora Library, the little flower bed in Broad Ripple in front of the Monon Coffee Company and at the Blue Star Memorial at the John W. Hensel Government Center. The marker for Gold Star Families looks beautiful, no matter what time of year. Photos of these projects are in this article.

We are looking forward to our Fall meetings. Our November meeting will be a "Friends-giving" theme, with a pitch-in lunch. Our guest speaker is Jo Ellen Meyers Sharp. She will do a question and answer hour with our club. In the spirit of friendship, if you would like to join us at this meeting, we would love to have you come. We can accept ten more people into this meeting. Contact me at mustang-phyllis@gmail.com if you want to attend.

Stay well and healthy!



Gold Star Memorial By-Way



Blue Star Memorial

**Phyllis Grzeskowiak
Club President**

Broad Ripple Garden Club



A photo (left to right): Janet Kuebler, Dorothy Pratt and Colette Bracken enjoying the beautiful planters at Newfields.



Flower bed that we maintain.

Just a reminder to get your grant application submitted for the 2022 President's Project Award. The form is on the website under **Linda's Project Application.**

Complete the form, email or mail along with pictures to gardenclub.zahrt@gmail.com or Wanda Zahrt-1247 N Links Rd-Winamac, IN 46996-8604

Peru Garden Club has submitted their application and pictures and will be receiving a grant. Congratulations.

Cultivating Garden Club

The Cultivating Garden Club enjoyed a demonstration on making concrete leaves and hypertufa planters at their August 18th meeting at the home of President Diana Williams. Nela Wagner, a member of the Cultivating Garden Club, shared her experiences with making concrete leaves using Hosta, rhubarb and poke-weed leaves as the molds. She brought several examples of finished leaves with a variety of designs using either outdoor or indoor acrylic paints. Nela's two daughters, also members of the club, brought decorated leaves to give examples of painting the cured leaves. The finished leaves can be used outdoors as bird seed holders, shallow bird baths, or as an artistic addition to your landscaping.

On the inside, the leaves can be used on a coffee table or hung on a wall. The hypertufa planters can be molded on the inside or outside of plastic bowls. Nela shared the recipes for the various types of hypertufa or concrete, and answered questions as she worked. Several members volunteered to engage in a hands-on lesson on making the leaves and planters, and will enjoy their finished projects in their gardens or homes.

Nela has been a member of the Cultivating Garden Club since the early 1990s, has been making hypertufa planters, and concrete leaves for many years, and they can be seen both in her garden and in some of her fortunate friends.

Linda Stemnock and Jennifer Leyba



Fall Creek Garden Club

After meeting in July at the Garfield Park Conservatory, which is filled with beautiful tropical plants, we returned to Holliday Park in August to enjoy a presentation on native plants by our own member Sarah Gray.

Sarah gave a wonderful talk about using native plants in our gardens and landscapes. She shared pictures of private gardens and public areas with and without native plants to show the differences in how they thrive and how native plants support many of the pollinating insects that are struggling in areas where there is little plant diversity.

Sarah also brought in samples of many of the native plants blooming in her own garden, a show and tell to please the senses.

We'll continue our discussion about native plants in September when we meet for our monthly meeting at the Mud Creek Conservancy located on the northeast side of Indianapolis.

Carol Michel

2021 TGCI SCHOLARSHIP PATRONS



At the 2022 TGCI State Convention in Edinburgh, IN the following members were recognized as TGCI Scholarship Patrons.

Marlene Elliott of Southwest District's Christmas Lake Garden Club
Joyce Schwuchow of Northwest District's Hobart Garden Club

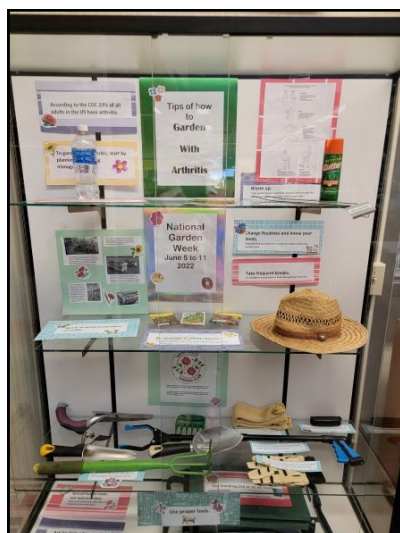
Monticello Garden Club

The Monticello Garden Club has completed installing “The Colors of Hope” display in the Railroad Street Medians Garden in downtown Monticello. Club members Richard Smith created the wooden cut-out ribbons and Paula Botzum labeled them. There is a total of 27 ribbons along the median gardens.

These 2 gardens were redone last year after a construction project destroyed them. This was accomplished in part with a grant from the “Plant America” program. The club maintains 8 gardens in the Monticello area and helps with the Jordan Community Garden.

Club activities this year include a successful plant sale in May, creation of a free seed program in cooperation with White County Master Gardeners and the Monticello Public Library. The library was the site of a “Gardening with Arthritis” display in conjunction with National Garden Week in June.

Sue Schlimme



Library Window Display



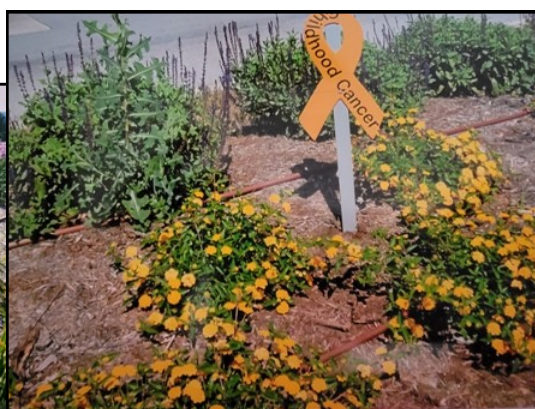
Seed Library Program



Newspaper article on “Colors of Hope.”



Kidney Cancer



Childhood Cancer



Leukemia Cancer

Mudlarks Garden Club



Mudlarks held their August meeting at The Little Lavender Place, located in the scenic rolling-hill farm country southwest of Columbus. Owner Tina Hoene maintains over 1000 lavender plants, plus a wildflower garden, sunflowers, and zinnias for cutting. Her husband Tom converted an old smoke-house into a gift shop where Tina sells a variety of lavender-related products and gifts, including lavender honey from beehives also on their property.



www.gardenclubofindiana.org

Garden Club of New Harmony



As summer winds down, we are looking forward to some relief from the heat and humidity! Despite the high number of 90°F+ days and mild drought, we faithfully maintained our garden spots in Utopia and they are looking nice going into fall. Here are Kelsey, Jean, Barb, Patti (hiding) and Gail, hard at work back in June working on one of the golf cart trailheads.

The hot summer days caused us to rethink our field trips, however, so we're hoping to re-schedule in cooler weather. Our July meeting was hosted by one of our members who has a lovely garden of perennials, shrubs, vegetables and small fruits. We enjoyed our tour of her property very much and thank her for graciously inviting us. She and her husband have created a lovely haven with heirloom plants from past generations, comfortable sitting nooks overlooking their pond, pollinator plants, and special memory pieces to remind them of loved ones.



We have revived our golf cart tours now that COVID seems to be allowing more folks to get out and about. Contact us to arrange for your visit. Every season in New Harmony is lovely and we love showing it off! Here is a group who visited in July from Mt. Carmel, IL. When will we see you in New Harmony?

Next up on our fall agenda is hosting the SW District meeting, which we've had to postpone twice due to pandemic numbers. We are full-speed ahead with our plans and happy that THIS YEAR it is going to happen! We are excited to welcome SW clubs and guests back here on October 12th for some fall fun & fellowship.

Proof that we do more than just play in the dirt, here's a picture from our coffee time reward for a good morning's work! We are more than just a community of gardeners; we are a community of friends and it's a treat to enjoy time together after our gardening work and before we all go about our day!



Marlene Huffaker
Club President

Shamrock Garden Club

It's summer and the Shamrock Garden Club in Indianapolis is taking full advantage of some wonderful opportunities to explore nature. In June some of the group took a tour of the Governor's residence and grounds. In addition, our group attended a Hosta Tour with the Sages Garden Club. In August we visited Indy Urban acres, an organization that gardens to feed the hungry. What a fantastic program! I would like to report on our July meeting, Bee Keeping with Pat Solenberg of Geist Valley Bees. Pat opened the meeting by introducing herself and explained her history with bee keeping.

12 Interesting Things That We Learned About Bees and Bee Keeping

- Bee keeping has been around for about 9000 years and honey bees are a native of Europe and the Middle East.
- The Queen has one job in the hive and that is to lay eggs. We can spot her because her abdomen is longer, which allows her to hold more eggs.
- Bee keepers can mark the queen by placing a small dot of safe paint on her back. The paint is a special type of paint that will not harm her.
- The queen places the eggs in the hive by their jobs. All of the workers are placed together and all of the drones are placed in another area before they hatch. She can identify them before they are born.
- The queen will go on one flight to mate and she may mate with 1- 40 drones but typically it would be around 12. This happens on the same day. She will store this semen the rest of her life, which is usually 2 years.
- There are approximately 60-80 thousand bees in a hive.
- Each bee pollinates the same type of flower each day and they store the pollen in saddle bags that hang off their hind legs.
- The frames of the hive have specific size spots of 1/4 to 3/8 inch for the eggs.
- The queen gives off chemical signals that prevent the worker bees from raising another queen in the colony.
- 7 benefits of bee keeping are ... Just about anyone can keep bees; be part of an active bee keeping community; bee keeping helps you become a better gardener; urban bee keeping impacts the neighborhood ecosystem; harvest beeswax and other products of the hive; and the most popular benefit of keeping bees is the honey.
- At the end of the season the worker bees kick the drones out of the hive and they are no longer allowed to eat.
- Pat has 6 hives that produce 400 lbs. of honey each year.

Danita Crickmore
Publicity Chairman

Visit our website at:
www.gardenclubofindiana.org

Syracuse - Wawasee Garden Club

We took a step back in time and experienced a relaxing Victorian tradition when we visited the Kimmell House and Inn, at Kimmel, Indiana. Under a canopy of maples lies the stately Inn and Tearoom which evoke charm and comfort. High tea evolved from the custom of Victorian-era ladies taking a mid-afternoon respite, to an elegant and formal excuse to show case ones finery while entertaining friends. Today's high tea features dainty tea sandwiches, delicious sweets, scones, and specialty teas. It is an opportunity to pull out the dainty china tea-cups and pull on grandma's fine gloves and hats. It's a time to slow down and focus on one's family, friends and enjoy some British customs.



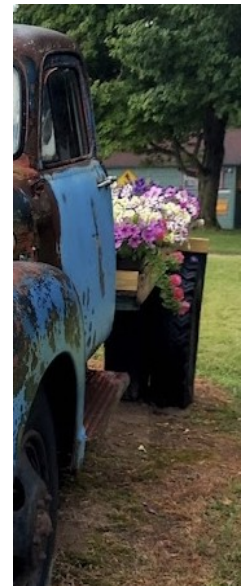
It was a charming setting for us to discuss and plan the TGCI September Seminar 2023, followed by NC District meeting a month later at Oakwood Inn, Syracuse, on Lake Wawasee. I'm excited to have the Water Theme seminar near this beautiful lake. It is the largest body of natural water in Indiana.



We feel blessed to live in this beautiful setting welcoming new members, young and old to our club. Today, special guest Alison Harkleroad, Linda's granddaughter, joining us for delicious treats!



Those attending were: Sue Kraft, Pam Schumm, Linda Harkleroad, Alison Harkleroad, Arleen Corson, Martha Stoelting, Diane Clough, Julie Walters.



Joyce Arleen Corson
Club President

Vale of Paradise Garden Club

This year our club has spent a lot of time enjoying each other's company after 2 years of distancing and Zoom meetings.

The members of the Vale of Paradise Garden Club have had a busy spring/summer. We've always got something going on in the gardens that we maintain at Sunset Hill Farm County Park.

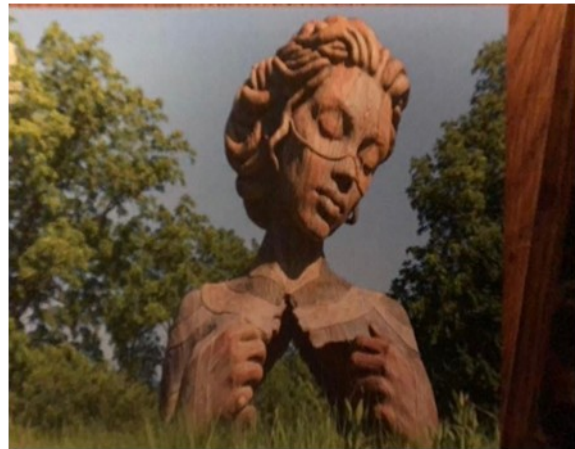
In June we had the pleasure of visiting Hamstra Gardens in Wheatfield with a guided tour led by the head-grounds keeper. In July we held a members' plant auction. It was enjoyable and profitable. So many wonderful plants to bid on!

In August, our garden club took a road trip to Morton Arboretum in Lisle, IL. The sculptures, the trees, the history is all amazing. It was a great day.

In September, we shared our gardens with members who are not always able to participate in our outdoor activities. The horticulturist and naturalist from Sunset Hill Farm County Park took us on a wagon ride so we could all enjoy the beauty of the park.



Vale of Paradise Group



A sculpture at Morton Arboretum.



Entrance to Hamstra Gardens.



The club auction.



Pathway at Sunset Hill Farm.

**Linda Dingee
Club President**

Facebook Club Pages

Boonville Garden Club

Broad Ripple Garden Club

Crown Point Garden Club

Duneland Garden Club

Enter the Garden Club

Flower Lane Garden Club

Friendly Garden Club

Garden Club of Michiana

Gas City Garden Club

Green Thumb Garden Club

Hendricks County Garden Club

Hobart Garden Club

Iris-Elm Garden Club

Irvington Garden Club & Farmers Market

National Garden Clubs, Inc.

Newburgh Garden Club

Pendleton Garden Club

Peru Garden Club

Petal and Stem Garden Club

Sages Garden Club

Shamrock Garden Club

Spring Green Garden Club

Sullivan County Garden Club

Syracuse-Wawasee Garden Club

The Cultivating Garden Club

The Garden Club of Indiana, Inc.

The Garden Club of New Harmony

The Munster Garden Club

Vale of Paradise Garden Club

Washington Arts & Flowers Garden Club



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Member of National Garden Clubs, Inc., the largest volunteer gardening organization in the world. www.gardclub.org



Membership is an opportunity...

- to improve your gardening skills
- to meet new friends and exchange experiences in growing
- to exchange seeds, cuttings and plants
- to serve your community by planning and implementing beautification projects
- to develop a deeper sense of pride in the resources of our land and its preservation
- to attend schools in horticulture, flower arranging, landscape design and environmental education
- to receive our state publication, *Indiana Gardens*
- to attend district meetings and annual state, region and national conventions

The Garden Club of Indiana, Inc. has...

- provided over \$500,000 in scholarships to Indiana students studying horticulture, landscape design or related subjects
- supported The Nature Conservancy with contributions of over \$125,000 to protect and preserve Indiana's lands and waters
- installed over 50 Blue Star Memorial Markers statewide to honor those who have served, are serving, or will serve in the Armed Forces of the United States
- beautified public areas, such as libraries, churches, schools, parks

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