



**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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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

As I write this in November, I am still recovering from the whirlwind itinerary of September and October: the NGC Fall Board Meeting in St. Louis, the Wildflower Workshop, 7 district meetings, and the Central Region Convention in Minneapolis. I truly enjoyed meeting and reconnecting with garden club members throughout the state and the region, but there was much I learned from the variety of speakers as well.

Such as.....

- Farmers who grow pumpkins for retail sales must make certain the pumpkins are washed, have no blemishes, and have at least a 2-inch stem.
- Central West and South West Districts at one time were the reason Indiana was the #4 supplier of coal in the U.S. Thousands of acres of those wastelands left behind are being reclaimed by the DNR to create recreation sites.
- New Harmony remains one of the coolest towns in Indiana.
- Indiana's newest and only National Park is a patchwork of locations facing multiple private neighbors as well as piers that encourage beach erosion.
- South Bend's Unity Gardens provides barrier free food to everyone. Residents of the low-income neighborhood simply walk in and pick whatever they need. Comfort food crops have been purposely planted to match their preferences.
- It's against the LAW to take a raccoon or other pest you trap in your yard and release it in a new location without the landowner's consent! That includes the farmer who owns those woods down the road.
- Forest bathing is all the rage. There are even BOOKS on it. Supposedly it eases anxiety. Let me know the results if you give it a try.
- Environmental Justice Divisions are working to eliminate the tree deserts that exist in low-income housing developments. I never consciously compared the photos of treeless inner city apartment complexes with the tree lined streets of suburbia. Trees provide a host of positive effects in a neighborhood - every neighborhood.

However, as you read this in December, I hope your Thanksgiving was filled with lots of family gatherings and excellent food. Ahead of us lie the holidays. I love shopping for presents, decorating the house, and baking cookies while playing Christmas music or watching a Hallmark Christmas movie. I help host a Christmas party with my husband's family, attend a holiday party with my family (half of whom celebrate Hanukkah), and spend Christmas Day with my son and his family.

Whatever traditions and events are part of your December schedule, I wish you a month filled with family, friends, food, and fun.

I will embrace the chaos that December brings and anticipate the calm that January promises.

Happy Holidays!

Linda

Horticulture Questions

A few members have contacted me about fertilizer and planting questions this season.

One asked: **How long is fertilizer viable?** She had cleaned out her deceased father's unheated garage and found 3 big containers of granular that she wanted to use, if it was still good. **Answer:** If the container remained closed (not necessarily sealed), the contents were fine to use, even if several years old. Check Miracle-Gro website for details.

For those who need to **grow food organically**, there are now several brands of fertilizers that can help deliver nutrients and micronutrients to those plants. Check your local nurseries, Menards, Lowes, Home Depot, or Amazon.com. for to-your-door delivery. Recommended brands include: Dr. Earth, Fox Farm "Happy Frog," Espoma, Jobe's, Miracle-Gro, Schultz, Scott's, Neptune Harvest, Mittleider Magic, and others.

Remember:

N= Nitrogen, for leafy growth (spinach, lettuce, cabbage, etc.)

P= Phosphorous, for strong roots (potatoes, carrots, beets, radishes, tubers, rhizomes, bulbs, etc.)

K= Potassium, for vigorous growth, hardiness.

Potassium helps plants use water efficiently and be more drought tolerant, fight off diseases, resist pests, and produces more crops. If your vegetable garden was lagging this year, it's likely that low potassium was a possible culprit. Compost banana peels to add potassium naturally. All plants in your Indiana landscape could use this nutrient.

Question: Due to a project with young grandchildren, I have an abundance of acorns, heart nuts, and buckeyes. Can I start nut trees for my garden club sale next spring?

If squirrels can do it, so can we. But this may be a big commitment, as some nuts take 2 years to grow a seedling. In Indiana, we have a State Nut Growers Association. Contact them for specifics on types of nut producing trees. Some nuts/seeds require "scarification" to cut superficially the seed coat or hard shell for easier germination. The squirrels just lightly bite the nut before planting! This also sounds like a great science project for 5th through 8th graders!

Make sure that you identify the type of tree by its nut. White oaks have longer acorns. Red oaks have rounder, fatter acorns. For the sale, on the identifying tag, list the **mature** height and width (shade span) of these seedling trees, how long until they start producing nuts. We don't plant these for our benefit, but rather for two and three generations in the future. Plant them in city parks, school playgrounds, or open fields where they have lots of room to grow, produce shade and feed and shelter wildlife. If you have discards, hot glue them to a wreath form and add pinecones.

Ruth Moorhead
Horticulture Chairman

Vegetables/Herbs/New Cultivars

When deciding what to grow, you have the option of choosing “heirloom” or “hybrid.” “GMO” or “Non-GMO” seed varieties. Many people feel strongly about this. But what exactly is an heirloom vegetable, and why is it more desirable than a “hybrid” plant? What about GMO’s?

Plant hybridizing is the process of inventing new plants by combining the best qualities of other plants. Hybridization has been going on for centuries, and helps support increasing numbers of people. New varieties can also occur naturally by cross-pollination. “Sports” (non-matching branches or fruits) sometimes appear on plants by genetic mutation, creating entirely new varieties “naturally.”

Breeders cross-pollinate under controlled conditions, or reproduce young plants from sports, to get predictable offspring. Hybridizers patent their varieties for a certain period of years from when the plant is introduced, charging “royalties” to pay for their work. They constantly introduce and promote new varieties in order to increase their royalty income.

Seeds from some hybrid plants produce plants that are different from the parent. Generally accepted definition of an heirloom plant is one that is no longer patented, with seed that will produce the identical plant if you save it from year to year. Some heirloom plants are patented hybrids whose patent has expired, which reliably produce seedlings identical to the parent. The important thing is that you can save the seed and get the same plant from it.

Some people believe that’s a realistic possibility, so saving heirloom seeds is a key to preparing for a world food crisis. For others, simply preserving the diversity of interesting and unusual plant varieties is an important priority.

There are good and not-so-good heirlooms. Heirloom varieties can taste better or different, but heirloom plants generally yield about half as much fruit with the same amount of fertilizer, water, and space. One reason to grow them is that the more diverse our selection of food plants, the less risk from new pathogens wiping out an entire crop.

The argument for patented hybrids is that breeders may have improved the disease resistance, yield, taste, attractiveness of the fruit, growth habit, drought tolerance and other traits. There are hybrids that are terrific for home gardens, and some that are better for commercial growers and shippers.

GMOs, or “genetically modified organisms,” are plants or animals that have been genetically engineered with DNA from bacteria, viruses or other plants. These combinations of genes cannot occur in nature or with traditional breeding methods. GMO food crops can be engineered so that weed killers won’t kill them, or with ingredients that will poison specific insects. This makes these crops much cheaper to grow commercially. The main consumer benefit of GMO’s is to reduce food prices by making farming more efficient.

Experts disagree about GMO safety. Many countries have restrictions or outright bans on the production and sale of GMOs. Increasingly, Americans are taking a cautious approach and seeking out non-GMO seeds, plants and foods. Most plants and seeds for home gardens are not GMO’s—you have a choice.

Info from Steve Boehme, landscape designer/installer. “Let’s Grow” is published weekly; more

Vegetables/Herbs/New Cultivars

HERBS

In taking a look at a couple of herbs with some of their uses, this might encourage you to plant them in the spring.

Ginger – 2023 herb of the year as declared by International Herb Association

People have been using ginger for thousands of years as a remedy for nausea and gastrointestinal issues. Today, people primarily use the ginger root as a spice, or as a supplement to treat digestive problems. Closely related to turmeric, ginger also contains a very high level of total antioxidants.

Only pomegranates and certain types of berries contain more. As an antinausea agent, several controlled studies have proven that ginger is effective as an antiemetic. People can use it for seasickness, motion sickness, and morning sickness.

Some studies have demonstrated that ginger may have anticancer effects. This is largely due to ginger's high antioxidant levels. It can also slow down cells reproducing, cause cells to stop dividing, and stop certain activator proteins and signaling pathways that contribute to cancer.

PEPPERMINT

An extremely popular herb that is commonly used as a flavoring agent, peppermint is native to Europe and Asia. In these regions, people used it before the advent of modern medicine for its cooling effects, antibacterial properties, and to improve digestive health.

Research shows that as a holistic remedy, peppermint is also effective in improving cardiovascular (heart) and pulmonary (lung) health by acting as a bronchodilator. By inhaling the smell of peppermint, a person will also increase their nasal air force, in turn supplying more air to the lungs.

In addition, some studies show that peppermint is an effective muscle relaxer thanks to its cooling menthol compound, which is why menthol is often an active ingredient in ointments and creams that target muscle pain.

IMPROVED CULTIVARS

This is part of the Star Roses and Plants family, the gold standard in Rose breeding. It will be one of the improved cultivars presented at the Cultivate '22 in Columbus, OH July 16-19, 2023.

Napoleon™ Prunus: This compact variety displays deep green, glossy foliage on a versatile plant. The well-behaved habit and low-maintenance requirements make Napoleon™ perfect for use as a small hedge and in patio containers. In spring, clusters of pure white flowers are produced in abundance. It likes full sun to partial shade and grows in zones 6-8. It also is fragrant, easy to grow and low maintenance.

Shirley Vargas
Vegetables/Herbs/New Cultivars Chairman

Wildflower Workshop



Botanist Nathanael Pilla



Munster



Wildflower Workshop

The NW District hosted the Wildflower Workshop that was held on September 29, 2022. We had four speakers, great food, live plants that were given to everyone, beautiful center pieces that were unique, and very impressive raffle items.



Crown Point Group



Munster Group



Sue Fuhrman, Jodi Meyer, Chris Seal and Linda Cornelius represented the South West District at the recent Wildflower Workshop held at Porter, Indiana. The speakers were top notch and it was a great time of fellowship.



Vale of Paradise members.



The Garden Club of Marion - Founding Member Spotlight

For as long as Sue McVicker can remember, her two passions have been gardening and travel. Inspirations for both came from her mother, who was an avid gardener, and one who loved traveling, and vicariously traveled through Sue's trips to all seven continents.

Sue's mom belonged to a group of neighbor ladies, who shared an interest in flower and vegetable gardening. She remembers them talking about their roses, the size of tomatoes, and how to keep the rabbits out of their gardens. Sue was always "teacher's pet" when taking weekly bouquets to grade school. What a great group of friends her mom had and what a better tribute to her mom than to become a charter member of a garden club!

Sitting on the floor of Joyce Schick's family room in the early 80's, several ladies discussed the possibility of forming a garden club in Marion to be affiliated with the National Garden Clubs. In 1982 The Garden Club of Marion became a reality.

Garden Club has afforded Sue an opportunity to develop new friendships, gain knowledge of horticulture, environmental concerns, and floral design as well as giving back to the community, through the garden club's work in Matter Park.

Through Sue's interest in garden clubs, she has become an Advanced Master Gardener, belongs to the Indianapolis Hosta Society, and a former member of Creative Hands Garden Club, Westbay Cove Garden Club in Florida, and the Indiana Native Plant and Wildflower Society.

Sue continues to be an active member of The Garden Club of Marion. She has chaired and been involved in many projects over the years, including chairing our beautiful Blue Star Memorial Byway Garden, in the Gardens of Matter Park, as well as participating in many plant sales and tea party fund raisers to name a few.

We are honored and delighted Sue has committed the past 40 years to The Garden Club of Marion.



Kimberly Jackson
Vice President

The Garden Club of Marion - Founding Member Spotlight



Ruth Moorhead is one of the three remaining charter members of The Garden Club of Marion. She has served in many capacities since the club's inception in 1982, including the role of President over the years, including 1984, 1991, 1996, 1997, 2003, 2013, 2020, and 2021. Ruth has chaired many committees and projects.

Once the club was founded, Ruth was very impatient in wanting to become more educated and credentialed. She couldn't wait for the club to learn about irises, peonies, or landscaping. She wanted top-notch information and connections and wanted it now.

She joined national and state plant societies: daffodil, rose, iris, Siberian iris, daylily (*Hemerocallis*), holly, dahlia, gourd, and chrysanthemum, for starters. She had access to the newest cultivars, best plant catalogs, and Midwest experts on growing these plants to blue ribbon distinction. She became active in the iris and daylily state groups and participated in many flower shows in the 80s and 90s, learning the ins and outs of grooming and exhibiting show-winning specimens. She became the presi-

dent of the Eastern Indiana Iris Growers group in Muncie and remained in that capacity for nine years.

When she wanted information on landscaping, she took the TGCI (The Garden Club of Indiana, Inc.) Landscape Design Course, taught by Purdue and Ball State landscape professors. At the same time, she took the TGCI Flower School course. Becoming a judge was not her beginning interest; she wanted to know as much about flower arranging as possible. She took the tests in both schools and became a Landscape Design Consultant and an Accredited Flower Show Judge. At that time, each school took 2 1/2 years to complete to reach the first level. Not only were there textbooks to read, but projects to prove your knowledge. She continued learning, became a Life Judge, and then reached a Master level over four more years. Ruth served as president of The Garden Club of Indiana, Inc. from 2005 - 2007.

She took the landscape course after moving fruit trees and shrubs several times, finding the best home both in the landscape and for the trees.

She is now a Master Flower Show Judge, a Master Landscape Design Consultant, an American Gourd Society Master Judge, and A Honeywell Horticultural Award winner.

So, if you are an impatient club member, you can now take these courses online and learn whatever you wish on your schedule.

Ruth remains an active member of The Garden Club of Marion to date. Her commitment to the club and her knowledge and imparted skills are a blessing as she can mentor newer members and club officers. The club is appreciative of all of her years of service.

Kimberly Jackson
Vice President

Boonville Garden Club

BGC had a busy quarter beginning June and National Garden Club Week by attending SW District meeting in Washington hosted by Arts and Flowers Garden Club.

We assembled and delivered bud vases for Woodmont Nursing Center. They were so appreciative as they brought many smiles following the pandemic.

For July we visited Evansville Mesker Zoo and Botanical Gardens. It's always fun to identify plants and who doesn't love the animals.

August meeting we had Whitney Buechler, Warrick Extension Office, speak about rain gardens. Our newly formed committee, Yard of the Month, is staying on top of recognizing and awarding families in the Warrick County area for keeping their lawns and gardens maintained and beautiful. Hopefully, our signs will bring recognition to the club. The Boonville View featured us in their July/Aug. issue.

Thelma Whoberry President BGC

Ladies watching Jaguar/July recipients Yard of the Month/Ladies enjoy one of "YOM" gardens.



Cultivating Garden Club



Group Photo from left: Diane Hurless, Wanda Zahrt, David Zahrt, Linda Harkleroad, Jayne Kessler, Sarah Nahmias, Mary Dalton, Donna Scott.



SE District hosted by Fayette Garden Club.



SE District Director Diane Hurless.



Fayette Garden Club gives Diane a beautiful mum.



TGCI President Linda Harkleroad wins a nice prize.



Part of mansion tour.



"The Group"

Duneland Garden Club

The Duneland Garden Club enjoyed a visit to a lavender farm and the lush gardens of member Theresa Buehler. Members showed up in droves to view Theresa's plantings and garden décor and were inspired by her creativity and enjoyed a memorable evening sipping wine in her screened porch. Educational programs were presented on rain gardens and another on micro-prairies for pollinators by Pheasants Forever, which supplied each member with enough seeds to plant a 10' x 10' plot to attract bees and butterflies.

With the help of some local children, we removed years of branches and other yard waste that had accumulated along a fence line in Thomas Park where we maintain gardens for the Town of Chesterton. These kids were a joy to be with and worked hard to remove the detritus. Lunch at a local sandwich shop was enjoyed by the group as a thank you for their service.



New member, Hortencia Moreno, created a Facebook page for the Duneland Garden Club so we can keep up with the times. We are in the process of building our pages with information about our club, gardening tips, and inspiring pictures and ideas. Check out our new pages at: [The Duneland Garden Club](#).

Club member, Nancy Anderson, donated a garden cart to the club in memory of her loving mother Theresa Olszewski. Pictured are Theresa Buehler and Janet Williams having just cut back the park plantings so the town Christmas Tree can go up.



Karen Davis
Club President

Friendly Garden Club

In recent months, the Friendly Garden Club has been busy with community projects, club activities and meetings. In May, the annual plant auction occurred with a variety of beautiful plants and flowers from members' gardens. The auction was very successful with proceeds for use with many garden related projects.

Projects in Brownsburg parks include: the creation and maintenance of a culinary garden and, planting bulbs and perennials in a trailhead for enjoyment throughout the seasons. Another project is ongoing landscaping in a section of the B&O Trail. In addition, the club maintains pots with seasonal plants at the Brownsburg Library. All involved can agree that Indiana clay and crazy weather are always a challenge, but members persevere!

In June, members enjoyed a tour of the gardens at the Governor's residence. Despite the very hot day, all enjoyed the beautiful flowers, shrubs, and trees. A couple of highlights were the fancy henhouse, complete with a chandelier. The henhouse was built by first lady, Janet Holcomb, during the pandemic shut down. The group also toured the first floor of the mansion, with artwork and dishes by Indiana artists.

One of our members, Sally Michael, treated the group to a tour of her gorgeous gardens. The time, hard work, talent, and love, Sally and her husband put into their gardens is inspiring. There was so much to see, with a delightful balance of perennials, exotics, vegetables, interesting landscaping, and garden décor. After a leisurely stroll, members relaxed in the beautiful gazebo.

The club members are already planning for the always fun and delicious "Make, Bake, Sew and Grow" auction in November. Many of the homemade goodies are coveted and will bring some high bids! Funds raised will help with various needs, including assisting local organizations providing holiday assistance for families in need.



Culinary Garden at Williams Park.



**Pots at
Brownsburg Library.**



Tour of gardens at the Governor's residence.



**Relaxing at the gazebo at Sally
Michael's gardens.**

Garden Club of Marion

The Garden Club of Marion has had a very exciting year so far. We began our year in April with 25 members. Over the last few months, we have added 10 new members. Wow! This is due largely in part by the creation of our club's Facebook page. It was created by Kimberly Jackson, our Vice-President. Club members and Facebook members have enjoyed the information, photos, and updates on meetings that she provided. Check us out on Facebook under Garden Club of Marion.

In April the club participated with a booth at Earth Day in Matter Park. Ruthanne Sumpter, Christina Rowland, and Jennifer Taylor represented our club. Attendees were given wildflower seed balls to take and plant in their gardens. The children attending could even make their own seed ball with the materials provided. It was a big hit!

May was a very busy month for us. We showcased our club at our local library with a case display of "Books Make Your Mind Bloom" done by Paula Buteau and Kathy Vermilion. Members began preparing and planting our Memorial Garden and our Blue Star Garden at Matter Park with supervision given by Sue McVicker and Jane Jones.

We took a field trip to Garden Gate greenhouse in Peru, Indiana. After a brief meeting, the members were given the chance to explore and go shopping. We also held our annual plant sale at Matter Park. Jane Jones and Darlene Carper were instrumental in organizing and setting up for that day. It was a huge success with most items sold in an hour of opening.

In June, July and August members enjoyed learning how to make their own personal garden journal, enjoyed a day at Matter Park for a picnic, and learned about the history of "Gnomes and the Garden." In September we traveled to the Salamonie Interpretive Center to learn about backyard habitats. A brief meeting was held, and members then enjoyed a picnic lunch on a beautiful fall day.

Kathy Vermilion Club President



www.gardenclubofindiana.org

Irvington Garden Club

When I moved to Irvington, I wondered what the strength of this community was. I decided that the garden club was one of the real secrets to Irvington's success. The club pulls the community together with our annual tour and monthly market. I credit the first people who began the club. One was strongly community minded and continues with the historical and economic organizations in the community. And another one has been an indefatigable worker.

There has been a very strong but small longtime member core in the garden club, but there was one lady who took me under her wing when I first joined and another who was very personable, or I may have felt excluded and not stayed. My goal now is to be that person for every new attendee. This has really increased our numbers this year and happily, we are getting more young people in, so new things are happening. I hope we can keep the good of the old but freshen with the new. I think the key is to make people feel valued, appreciated and that they can contribute. Our group is very diverse, but each one can contribute in some way.

Ronna Brown
Vice President

Syracuse - Wawasee Garden Club

Garden Art Personalized!



Kathy Tittle provided large rocks painted orange, and as members arrived at the WACF office, they selected a rock, some colored sharpies, and created Halloween/Fall themed rocks with a variety of designs. The polished rocks were purchased at Knepp Sand & Stone, New Paris, IN. at \$.50 each.

Kathy, our club artist and teacher, has been our support for design and artistry in the garden. The decorations are weather proof; first an undercoat of Rust-Oleum Primer, and then protective top coat of Rust-Oleum Protective Enamel. This craft may be applied to all seasons with a variety of rocks to paint. Happy Painting to All!



Joyce Arleen Corson
Historian Chairman

Garden Club of New Harmony

Winter is just around the corner and we are ready to say good-bye to the challenges of another year's growing season while we celebrate our successes! Our gardens grew in spite of heat, humidity, drought and a few deer munches. We counted 13 monarch caterpillars in our butterfly bed one September morning, which we include among our wins!



SW District meeting program.

We were pleased to finally host the 2020 SW District Meeting on October 12th – only two years later than originally planned, thanks to COVID. It was a typical autumn day: mild with some drizzle, some sunshine, but nothing could dampen the spirits of the 44 ladies and gentlemen gathered in New Harmony. *The Apple* was our theme, making for bright tables and even brighter conversation and companionship. Addie Robinson presented a detailed program on floral design and one lucky member went home with a beautiful arrangement, as one of the door prizes!

Reviewing some of this year's highlights: our February field trip to enjoy the Orchid Escape exhibit at Evansville's Mesker Park Zoo, visiting the penguins and coffee in the zoo café was a fun kickoff to the year. We presented the children's picture book, Spring After Spring: How Rachel Carson Inspired the Environmental Movement, to 14 Posey County elementary schools and public libraries on Earth Day. In June we ventured into hosting an Invasive Plant Workshop for the public, co-sponsored with Working Men's Institute, and Posey Invasives Partnership -- another new experience. Following a power point presentation at WMI, we all took a golf cart tour to identify invasive species in field edges and along the river and trails. Identifying the plants where they grow provided some "eyewitness" eye-openers to all of us and made us aware that many invasive species display deceptive beauty. We participated in two special New Harmony projects as part of the Posey County United Way Day of Caring in September. We've learned a lot and have ample opportunity to apply that knowledge as we work together keeping our community in bloom.

2022 has seen us welcome some new members and sadly, say good-bye to others. While winter provides a break from the weekly work in the gardens, we will continue to meet each Tuesday morning in winter for coffee, to stay in touch, to plan and to enjoy the friendships that have been forged by our shared love of gardening, nature and community service. Each new day brings us closer to spring and before we know it, we'll be involved in new adventures for a new year.

Marlene Huffaker
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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www.gardclubofindiana.org



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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