

The Garden Club of Indiana, Inc.



Indiana Gardens

August Vol. 87 Number 4 - 2024

2023-2025



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Theme: Plant Trees for Hope

Mission Statement

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

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Cover photo submitted by Kathy Vermilion
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Indiana Garden Notes

Dear Reader,

What I've always loved about garden club is the many opportunities I have had to meet people and make friends. Since joining in 2009, I have been fortunate to become acquainted with dozens of lovely people who also love gardens. One of these was Gloria Notaro, who I have long admired. Thank you Gloria for giving me this opportunity. I will do my best to produce a newsletter everyone will look forward to reading.

Editorial guidelines going forward:

☼ I prefer all Indiana Gardens submissions to be sent via email (crazycat66@gmail.com) in either a Microsoft Word document or a text only format. For clubs without access to email, please mail submissions to:

**Indiana Gardens
c/o Cathy Weber
11105 Wood Ct
Carmel, Indiana 46033**

☼ I prefer people would use "Indiana gardens" in the subject line to help me keep things sorted, but if people forget it's no big deal.

☼ If you have images, please attach them to the same email as the text document.



☼ Submission dates will remain the same:

January 1	March 1	May 1
July 1	September 1	November 1

**Next Indiana Gardens Deadline:
September 1st**

If clubs have information they would like included in Indiana Gardens, but need help with writing it up, please let me know.

Nothing is too big or too small for my attention. If you have questions or concerns, please contact me via email (crazycat66@gmail.com) or for a faster response text (317-606-0553).

Cathy Reed Weber
Editor

How Do I Do That

... print this issue in black & white?

Select *PRINT*. Look for *COLOR MODE*. Select *GREYSCALE*. *PRINT*.

...print only the page(s) I want?

Select *PRINT*. Look for *PAGES* and select *CUSTOM RANGE*. Use keyboard to enter the page numbers you wish printed, separated by commas.

...share this with my club/friends?

DOWNLOAD the Indiana Gardens pdf. *CREATE* new email. Attach pdf to email using *ATTACH FILES* (sometimes looks like a paperclip). *ADD* email addresses. *SEND*.



Letter from the President

“A Garden is a grand teacher. Its teaches patience and careful watchfulness; it teaches industry and thrift; above all it teaches entire trust.” – Gertrude Jekyll

information about our national and state activities and recognize the awards and honors our clubs have earned in the past year.

One of the highlights of being president is meeting new people and enjoying what brings them happiness. I daily check Facebook to see what pictures are posted from our clubs using this social media. If your club hasn't engaged in this option, I suggest you find someone who can get you going to share the activities and accomplishments of your club. You can reach hundreds of people and find solutions and ideas for gardening problems the club may be facing.

Central West District hosted a *A Tree...Mendous* learning opportunity for The Garden Club of Indiana in beautiful Turkey Run State Park. I know this enthusiasm will carry over into our Wildflower Workshop and District Meetings. My calendar is filled with upcoming garden walks, anniversary parties, Blue Star dedications, club visits and Central Region and NGC meetings, but I will always work to make room for one more activity if invited to a meeting or event that you want to share.

Let me share one more quote this time from Celia Thaxter. “Often I hear people say, ‘How do you make your plants flourish like this?...What is your secret?’ And I answer with one word, “Love.”

I very much enjoy representing you, and I hope I convey the love and gratitude we have as a state organization to our members and clubs.

Jayne Kesler
President

The Garden Club of Indiana

Gertrude Jekyll stated that, “A Garden is a grand teacher. Its teaches patience and careful watchfulness; it teaches industry and thrift; above all it teaches entire trust.”

Those lessons that our gardens teach us also should be used in our Garden Clubs. It takes patience, watchfulness, industry, thrift and trust to have a successful garden club. This reaches from our individual clubs through our state and on to the region and national federations.

And from these we give back creating beautiful communities and friendships. Right now we are in the blooming time of our gardens, and I know projects are blooming also...which can make it a bit stressful. Especially with the watering needs our temperatures have brought. What makes our plants flourish makes our clubs flourish. We are celebrating the gorgeous colors in our community gardens and share our gardens with walks to promote the beauty, inspire the guests and find others interested in joining in the activities of our garden clubs.

June has brought the National Garden Clubs Convention in Denver, CO. where I attended meetings learning about national and regional concerns. Our TGCI, Inc. June meeting was a chance to share

Recycling/ Reclamation

Wabi Sabi Chic

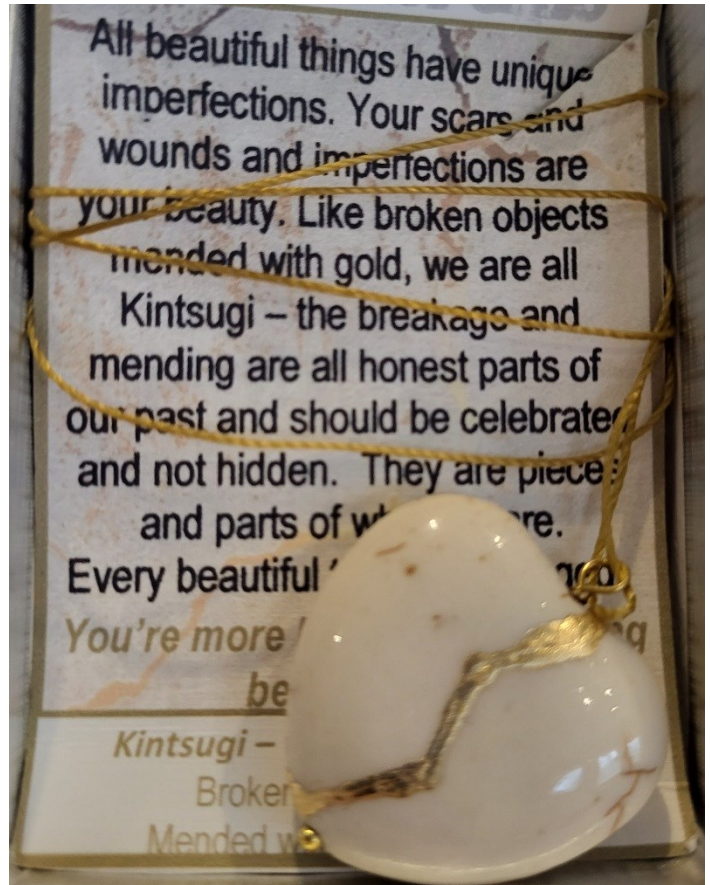
Kintsugi is the art of restoring broken ceramic pottery and transforming it into a beautifully restored masterpiece. It's believed to have started when a 15th century shogun broke his favorite tea bowl. He sent it to China to be repaired and was so disappointed when it came back with unattractive staples holding the broken pieces together. This was a standard way of repairing pottery at the time. So, the shogun asked local craftsmen to find a more satisfactory way to mend his bowl and they came up with the idea to fill the cracks with gold lacquer.

It is a very involved art form requiring a lot of skill and patience. Multiple layers of urushi lacquer, which is derived from the sap of a Chinese lacquer tree, are applied to each crack, each layer dried thoroughly before applying the next, then smoothed and polished. The final layer is coated with gold, silver or platinum dust and burnished to result in a beautifully repaired unique piece. This process can take 1-3 months.

I was thinking of the reuse aspect of kintsugi to use this as a topic for our conservation report. When I break a bowl or plate, chances are I throw it away. If it was a meaningful piece, I regretfully throw it away. The idea behind kintsugi is two-fold. First of all, put the bowl back together to enhance the breaks with gold, and secondly have it look even more stunning than before. It can also apply to us as people, flaws and all.

There is a Japanese philosophy called wabi-sabi, in which we not only embrace imperfections, but see the beauty in the imperfect. Kintsugi is a part of wabi-sabi and maybe can be seen as a metaphor for embracing our flaws and imperfections and that we can learn from mistakes or painful or difficult times in our lives - these becoming the beautiful gold repairs, making us even more beautiful and stronger people.

I have to tell you that I only look Japanese.



None of this Japanese Zen philosophy or wabi-sabi comes to me instinctively at all. My granddaughter, who is 8, brought up kintsugi to me a couple weeks ago and after being blown away by her knowledge of such a thing, I started looking up all about kintsugi. I look at it as reusing and recycling an object, but it also can apply to taking a look at myself and making repairs on myself, and making myself a better person. Candace Kumai is the author of a book on Kintsugi Wellness and she says "Wellness is about the practice of resilience, overcoming challenges and being a better version of yourself with all of your golden cracks."

by Dinah Montgomery
Hillcrest Garden Club

Youth Activities



Youth Poetry Contest: I am pleased to that our two state winners of the 2023 Youth Poetry Contest were also winners at the national level.

Lucas W. (sponsored by **Sages Garden Club**) won 1st place for third graders with his poem, "*Al, the Alligator.*"

Al, The Alligator

*Al, the alligator, is a very fine fellow.
His eyes are red.
His belly is yellow.
He lives in Florida
In the lake by Pa's house.
He crawls up the bank
As quiet as a mouse.
He suns himself for an hour or two.
He dips back in and has a great Waterloo!*

Emma B. (sponsored by **Hendricks County Garden Club**) won 3rd place for sixth graders with her poem, "*Colors in Nature.*"



Goldfinch photo by Rodney Campbell via Wikipedia

Colors In Nature

*I spy with my eye
Something that is green.
A tree with big leaves
Is what I have seen.
I spy with my eye
Something that is white.
Big, fluffy clouds
That I see take flight.
I Spy with my eye
Something that is yellow.
A goldfinch sitting on a branch
Being a cute little fellow.*

You can view all of the national winning poems in their online booklet using this link [NGC Poetry Contest Winners](#) (pdf) or by

visiting this web address: <https://gardenclub.org/sites/default/files/2024-05/poetry-contest-winners.pdf>

We also announced these winners on the TGCI Facebook page. Please like and share.

The 2024 contest theme has just been announced – “My Garden Has Vegetables to Spare that I Can Share – Helping Fight Hunger by Sharing Vegetables from Our Garden.” I plan to contact all of the club presidents to share the information and guidelines. We will also announce on TGCI’s Facebook. All details are online at: <https://gardenclub.org/poetry-contest>. This year, the contest is expanded to K-12 students.

Youth Sculpture Contest: Two garden clubs sent in entries for the state youth sculpture contest of NGC (Hobart Garden Club and Sages Garden Club). The theme for the 2023 contest was: Encouraging Youth to Keep Our Planet Green. We selected our winners and our State Awards Chair sent them on to the region contest. I have yet to be informed how they placed at national. Stay tuned. (There is no information online yet.)

Youth Essay Contest: NCG has reestablished a Youth Essay Contest. We don’t know the theme or details yet. I will share them once I know.

The Hobart Garden Club was awarded a Youth Garden Club award at the NGC Convention. The details are also not online yet. Once they are, we will recognize them with a Facebook post

By Susan E. Yoder
Youth Activities Chair



YOUTH POETRY CONTEST 2024

My Garden Has Vegetables to Spare That I Can Share -

Helping Fight Hunger by Sharing Vegetables From Our Garden

Excite and encourage youth to express and explore their creative thoughts through different types of poetry. NGC's Poetry Contest enables youth to embrace their creativity through the art of writing.

Eligibility and Categories

Youth in grades K-12 compete by grade-level in one of three categories: General Education, Special Education or English for Speakers of Other Languages (ESOL).

Submissions and Deadlines

All poems are submitted to a local garden club affiliated with National Garden Clubs, Inc. Local clubs send their winning poems (1 per grade-level in each category) to their State by the published State deadline. State winning poems are sent to their Region Contest by 2/1/2025. Region winners are sent to the National Contest by 3/1/2025. National winning poems are announced in May 2025, and published online in a free digital poetry booklet.



Complete Guidelines

gardenclub.org/poetry-contest

Creepy worm found in Indiana

Invasive Species

A carnivorous worm described as a cross between a Hammerhead Shark and a leech may sound like science fiction, but it exists and has been found in thirty states, including Indiana. In April this year, a man in Posey County shared photos of these worms which he found in his yard.



The Posey Hammerhead Worm

Hammerhead Worms are native to Southeast Asia and probably entered the US decades ago by hiding in the dirt of potted imported plants. Their inconspicuous eggs continue to spread this way in potted plants unknowingly sold by landscapers, garden centers and other retailers.

These worms can be found in shades of gray, yellowish brown and green, have flat bodies that range from 8 to 15 inches, and a half-circle, shovel-shaped head. They often appear on top of the soil after a rain the same way earthworms do.




Hammerhead Worm (Bipalium strubelli) By Eduard Solà

Earthworms, which are essential to a healthy soil, are eaten by Hammerhead worms. The Hammerhead has no known natural predator. They secrete a neurotoxin to immobilize their prey, which can irritate the skin of humans and cause nausea and vomiting if ingested by pets.

If you find one worm, there are probably more. Report your discovery to your local Purdue Extension and destroy the worms. Wear gloves or use tweezers to pick up the worm. Place in a sealable plastic bag or container, sprinkle with salt and vinegar. Make sure it is dead before disposal in the sealed container. Do not squish or cut the worm as they regenerate themselves. Each cut will develop a head and a new worm.

by Sharon Baldwin
Native and Invasive Species Chair

 [Click here for more information](#)
[Hammerhead Worms](#)

Endangered Species



☆ **Karner Blue Butterfly:** Once abundant across the Midwest, the Karner Blue Butterfly is now listed as endangered due to habitat loss, particularly the decline of its specialized habitat, oak savannas. *(photo left)*

☆ **Hine's Emerald Dragonfly:**

This striking green dragonfly is endangered primarily due to habitat loss and degradation of its wetland habitats.



☆ **Eastern Massasauga Rattlesnake:**

This venomous snake is listed as threatened in Indiana due to habitat loss, fragmentation, and persecution by humans.

☆ **Northern Wild Monkshood:**



A rare plant species found in moist woods and along streams, the northern wild monkshood is threatened by habitat destruction and invasive species.

Indiana, despite its largely agricultural landscape and urban development, is home to a diverse array of plant and animal species. Like many other regions across the globe, Indiana faces challenges related to habitat loss, pollution, climate change, and other human-induced factor which threatens the survival of various species. This report aims to provide an overview of endangered species in Indiana, highlighting the importance of conservation efforts to protect biodiversity in the state.

Indiana's endangered species list includes a variety of plants, animals, and insects. Some notable examples are:



☆ **Indiana Bat:** The Indiana Bat is a small, federally endangered bat species which hibernates in caves and mines during the winter months. Loss of habitat and disturbance during hibernation are significant threats to their survival.

In response to the declining populations of endangered species, various conservation efforts are underway in Indiana:

Conservation organizations and government agencies are working to restore and protect critical habitats for endangered species. This includes preserving forests, wetlands, and prairies, as well as managing invasive species.

Scientists and conservationists conduct regular surveys and research to monitor the population trends of endangered species. This data informs conservation strategies and helps assess the effectiveness of management efforts.

Outreach programs and educational initiatives aim to raise awareness about the importance of

(Continued on page 36)

Photo credits: Karner Blue Butterfly photo by J & K Hollingsworth /Indiana Bat photo by Andrew King /Hine's Emerald Dragonfly photo by Ken Mierzwa/ Northern Wild Monkshood photo by Aaron Carlson

An All-Star Tribute to Defenders



Blue Star/Gold Star Memorial

The Blue Star Memorial Markers are in recognition of servicemen and women who have served, are serving or will serve in our nation's armed forces. Clubs desiring to establish, restore or rededicate a site should ask for guidance and assistance from the State Blue Star Chairman. Any clubs or districts interested in placing Blue/Gold Star Memorials please contact me at tgcibluestar@gmail.com

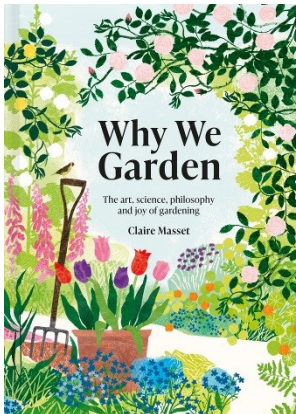
Save the dates for these upcoming Blue Star Memorial dedications.

- ☆ TGCI Central District in cooperation with the Holliday Park Foundation will dedicate a Blue Star Memorial By-Way Marker on August 20, 2024, at 1:00 pm in Holliday Park.
- ☆ North West District Director, Mariellen Smith, states that a rededication of the Blue Star Memorial at the new Kankakee Rest Area on I-65 near US 10 is being planned for September 25, 2024.
- ☆ All Thumbs Garden Club of the South East District is planning a Blue Star Highway Memorial dedication on October 12, 2024, at Crossroads Community Park in Seymour, IN.

Submitted by Chris Seal
Blue Star/Gold Star Memorial

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☆☆ Blue Star By-Way Marker	☆☆ Blue Star Memorial Highway	☆☆ Blue Star Memorial Highway	☆☆
☆☆ Dedication	☆☆ Marker Dedication	☆☆ Marker Dedication	☆☆
☆☆ Indianapolis, Indiana.	☆☆ Roselawn, Indiana	☆☆ Seymour, Indiana.	☆☆
☆☆	☆☆	☆☆	☆☆
☆☆ Tuesday, August 20, 2024	☆☆ Wednesday, September 25, 2024	☆☆ Saturday, October 12, 2024	☆☆
☆☆ at 1:00 in the afternoon	☆☆ To Be Announced	☆☆ at 10:00 am	☆☆
☆☆	☆☆	☆☆	☆☆
☆☆ Holliday Park	☆☆ Kankakee Rest Area	☆☆ Crossroads Community Park	☆☆
☆☆ 6363 Spring Mill, Indianapolis	☆☆ (south bound) I-65 near US 10	☆☆ 101 E Tipton St, Seymour	☆☆
☆☆	☆☆	☆☆	☆☆
☆☆ Organized by	☆☆ Organized by	☆☆ Organized by	☆☆
☆☆ TGCI Central District	☆☆ TGCI North West District	☆☆ All Thumbs Garden Club	☆☆
☆☆	☆☆	☆☆	☆☆
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Book Looks



I am a reader who reads the “how to” gardening books, but really enjoys the “why” gardening books. A favorite of this retired literature teacher is **Why We Garden: The art, science, philosophy and joy of gardening**, by Claire Masset.

In her introduction Masset sets up the questions that are explored in the book. “What is this strange pull that draws us to the soil?” “Why are we so keen to get our hands dirty?” She states her motivation as, “I wanted to explore the enigma that is our obsession with growing things: this deep earthy passion that binds us as human beings, this unbroken thread that connects us to our ancestors.”

She does this in chapters on Beauty, Order, Nature, Sanctuary, Therapy, Growth, Spirit, Love and Happiness. She explores famous gardeners and designers and famous people that we don’t necessarily associate as being gardeners. Sigmund Freud is quoted in the Therapy chapter as writing, “Flowers are restful to look at. They have neither emotions nor conflicts.” She shares Voltaire as saying, “I have only done one sensible thing in my life - to cultivate the

ground.”

Psychoanalyst Melanie Klein believed that part of the process of mourning is the ability to regain a sense of goodness in the world that can come from nature. She feels that Nature mourns with us. She writes, “The garden is there, anchoring us, enveloping us, restoring us, restoring frayed nerves, bringing back memories, rebalancing our outlook.”

Having taught George Orwell’s Animal Farm to 8th graders for many years, I was delighted to read that his gardening anchored him when his world was falling apart as he mourned the loss of his health and his wife’s death. He created his garden while looking after his young son and miraculously also wrote 1984. In his domestic diary he said, “Outside my work the thing I care most is gardening.” It gave him purpose, provided focus and yielded tangible results. I think my Tipton farm students would have enjoyed learning that Orwell valued gardening just as they did!

Why We Garden is an easy read that will have you thumbing back through it later to enjoy ideas and explanations. It will give you a thoughtful guide as to what gardening brings to us and will provide uplifting insights from gardening greats and famous people.

By Jayne Kesler

Do you have a garden-themed book title to recommend? Send Indiana Gardens the title and a 50-200 word review and we may use it in a future issue!



Elkhart County
2024 Quilt Gardens
& Murals Tour

QuiltGardens.com



The Garden Club of Indiana
2024 Wildflower Workshop
September 12, 2024
Matter Park Garden in Marion, In.
(Click link here for video of garden)



Doors Open 8:15 am The Garden House Bring your own coffee

Welcome 9:00 am District Director, Joyce Bulington
TGCI President, Jayne Kesler

Introductions Kathy Vermilion, Workshop Chairman

Conservation Pledge Barb Gill, Wildflower Chairman

Anne Maddox 9:15 **"The Interconnectedness of Nature"**
[Anne Maddox, Fine Artist, Writer & Social Advocate | Facebook](#)

Commercial Break Jodi Meyer, Backyard Habitat Chairman

Taylere McCoy 10:30 am **"Growing Native Plants at Home"**
Degree in Forestry and Wildlife Management and
passionate about Native Plants

Lunch

Commercial Break 1:00 pm Sue Rosiak, Pollinator Chairman
Barb Gill, Wildflower Chairman

Dugan Julian 1:10 pm **"Choosing the Better Natives"**
Northeast Regional Specialist at Southern Indiana
Cooperative Invasives Management

Commercial Break Cathy Weber, Butterfly Chairman

Cheryl Bell 2:10 pm **"Tour of Formal Butterfly Garden"**
Maintains Matter Park butterfly garden with husband Tom

"Even the smallest patch for wildlife in our yards can be a stepping stone to a brighter future for the local ecosystem"-Edward West, Ecologist

September 11, 2024

Stroll the large Garden Park Any time
Dinner will be available at 5:30 pm
Party/Playtime 6:30 pm
Bedtime Optional



Container Gardens

Summer is such a wonderful time in Indiana. Our plants are in, and our container gardens are flourishing. But every gardener is always on a search for ways to improve “next year”. Take advantage of the season to explore other growing possibilities. Start as close as your own town. Many municipal, government and private businesses have lovely outdoor planters. Even restaurant parking lots may have large containers of beautiful flowers with unique color schemes. Capture these beauties with your cell phone camera for a visual record. It’s helpful, too, to load a plant identifying app in your phone before you leave your house. Unsure of how to do that? Ask a younger family member or neighbor! Most of these apps are free and some even ID insects pests.

The following are some suggestions for gardens to explore in your area.

Central District: Marion County Master Gardener Demonstration Garden (phone 317-275-9292) on the northwest side of the Indiana State Fairgrounds, Indianapolis. A great place to view lots of examples of different container gardens such as elevated garden troughs, raised beds, hanging baskets, and wall gardens. Admission is free except during the Indiana State Fair.

Also in the Indianapolis area are the White River Gardens and the Indianapolis Zoo. Make a day visiting both. You’ll see many pretty planters and garden plots.

North Central District: Wellfield Botanical Gardens (574-266-2006) in Elkhart. On 36 acres and a working source of hydropower and drinking water. Updated each year is the Quilt Garden with flowers beds and greenery designed to represent a quilt square.

North West District: Historical [Friendship Botanical Gardens](#) (219-878-9885) in Michigan City has 105 acres of walking trails and gardens patterned after the 1933 Chicago World’s Fair. Here you’ll find a



The Native Plant Garden at Gabis Arboretum is certified and registered by Monarch Watch as an official Monarch Waystation.

children’s and wellness garden.

Central East District: Master Gardeners’ Display Garden of Allen County (260-481-6826) in Fort Wayne. Located on Purdue University Fort Wayne Campus. Began in 1989. All species are labeled and there is no admission charged.

South West District: Southwest Indiana Master Gardener Display Garden (812-435-5287) in Evansville. Many different themed gardens including a rain garden, cottage garden & a berry patch. Located on 1.5 acres, is handicapped accessible & free admission.

South East District: [Indiana University Bloomington Jordan Hall Greenhouse](#) (812-855-7717) on the IU Bloomington Campus. Built in 1955, it is home to the IU Dept of Biology “lab”. The greenhouse (the largest container ever!) contains more than 800 plants, including a Sago palm rumored to have been growing in a former greenhouse on IU Bloomington campus since 1910! Also free admission.

Central West District: [Gabis Arboretum at Purdue Northwest](#) (219-462-0025) in Valparaiso. Home to a railway garden, which consists of an outdoor G gauge model train. Also, there is a rose garden & an adventure garden that explores raised bed gardening, green roofs and composting.

Happy summer gardening and exploring!

Submitted by Colette Bracken
Container Gardening Chair

Pollinators

I just love to look at pictures of bees covered in pollen. Just one look and you will understand what bees are worth monetarily. Fifteen



billion Dollars as a start, this doesn't account for inflation and is only an estimate. There are native bees on every continent, except Antarctica. There are some 20,000 native bee species worldwide and at least 4,000 distinct species in the United States. Native Bees are especially important to our native fruit crops. (Cherries, Blueberries, and Cranberries) My blueberries are just outside my front door and the bees that come in the spring pollination are not honeybees. They are better and more efficient pollinators. They are better able to work in cooler weather than honeybees.

Bees are vegetarians who descended from wasps over 125 million years ago. Vegetarians? Think Pollen and Nectar! Where wasps encapsulate another insect in a cell with an egg or lay the eggs in or on another species of insect. Bees may be smaller than a grain of rice or large carpenter bees. Approximately 10% of native bees in the United States have never been named or described. That does not mean that they are not in danger. The same old suspects, pesticides, habitat loss or fragmented habitat.

Since they have co-evolved with native plants, native plants play an important part in their substance. Since collectively they have a longer life span you need to plant to provide nectar and pollen from early spring to late fall.

By Sue Rosiak
Pollinator Chair



Bee photo by Jon Sullivan via Wikipedia

Trees

Most of the general-public associate the Spring Season with planting trees and, traditionally, it's definitely the most popular time. Planting in the Fall gives trees an extra growing season before the stress of summer weather. Fall is not the end of the growing season!!!

“Fall is not the end of the growing season!!!”

Cooler, wetter weather is the perfect time for tree planting! Trees require less water, air temperatures and still warm soil promote rapid root growth and trees require less maintenance.

September through November is the ideal time for tree planting because it allows the roots to become established before the ground freezes and winter weather with freezing temperatures sets in. However, it is highly recommended that you do not continue planting trees too late into the Fall because this can have a negative impact on plant health.

by Laura Kearby
Tree Chair

References: Sav A Tree /Arbor Day Society / Eco Tree Company

PRESIDENT'S PROJECT 2023-2025

Plant Trees for Hope



Tree art by Sasha Willins from Noun Project

Birds & Butterfly

Be Native Bird Friendly

Summer is here and you can help Indiana native birds thrive right where you live by making your garden more bird friendly.

Garden with native plants.

The plants you select to grow in your garden will also impact visiting birds, both the locals as well as any migrants that may stop in. Studies have shown that native plants provide more food for insects than non-native plants. When insects thrive, birds benefit by having a natural food source. By choosing native instead of nonnative fruiting shrubs, you can offer birds a natural food source without spreading invasive species across the landscape.

Avoid pesticides.

Pesticides which are toxic to birds can harm them directly through contact, but it is important to note birds are also harmed if they eat contaminated seeds or prey. Pesticides can also harm birds indirectly by reducing the number of available insects, which birds need to survive.

Provide a feeder station.

If you want to see more birds in your garden, set up a feeder station. Make sure your station is over five feet high to keep it out of reach of predators and pets. If you decide to hang it from a sturdy branch, be aware that squirrels, raccoons, and mice may make it their #1 snack stop. Consider using a baffle, seed tray, or tube feeders which make it easy for birds and difficult for local mammals.



If you're going to feed with seed, make sure that the seeds are formulated for wild birds, but consider supplementing bird seed by offering cut fruit. You can hang pieces of fruit on a wire or nail pieces of fruit onto an old board. During the winter provide high-energy suet or lard blocks for non-migrating birds.

Remember, keep your feeding station clean to minimize the spread of disease.

Provide water.

When creating a bird friendly habitat, having a source of clean water is often overlooked. Birds need water year-round (yes, even in the winter). There is an assortment of man-made bird bath for birds to drink and bathe in, but you can also consider providing a simple basin or shallow dish.

Make windows safer.

At night, lighted windows can attract and kill migrating birds, so make a point of turning off lights or closing the curtains during periods of high migration. During the daytime windows reflect foliage or sky, encouraging birds to fly into them, so consider options like window tape or zen wind curtains to keep birds in the sky where they belong.

Keep cats indoors.

Bird enthusiasts are not anti-cat—I have two

(Continued on page 36)

Club News



*Does your club do an annual Garden Tour?
Let Indiana Gardens know!*

Irvington Garden Club

24th Annual Irvington Garden Tour

Did you know that grass can rust? Did you know that smoke “bush” can grow up to a 15 feet tall tree and that its smoky nature come from wispy panicles on stems that remain all summer, rather than from its small hidden yellow flowers? Did you know that you can use willow branches to make a living fence that will keep growing? These were tidbits gathered on the 24th Annual Irvington Garden Tour presented by the 90 plus member strong Irvington Garden Club on Sunday, June 30, 2024, 1 to 5 pm.

Soft sun, low humidity, comfortable temperatures, and a slight breeze brought out a record-breaking crowd. While not having the final tally, we did run out of our 600 tickets towards the end. However, we did not run out of our free plants for the giveaway thanks to the generosity of our members and a homeschool group who shared their leftovers from a native plant sale.

It was a great day in our friendly, historic Irvington community and an opportunity to show off some beautiful yards. If you were at the tour and have any photos to enter into the poster contest, send them before July 30, 2024 to rdlowry25@gmail.com with your info .

Submitted by Ronna Brown
Vice President



Awards

2024 Awards

For work done in 2023
National Garden Clubs, Inc.
& Central Region Awards
Given out at NGC, Inc. Convention
Denver, Colorado
June 4, 2024

INDIANA WINNERS

- SR-4 Member of Honor – Central Region – **Wanda Zahrt - North Central District**
- YW-8 Horticulture Education for Youth – 1st place overall Certificate of Merit and \$100 **Hobart Garden Club – North West District**
- Katherine Henby Hedley \$4,000 Scholarship – **Rachel Zelt**
- NGC, Inc. Certificate of Merit for 4 star Member (taken all 4 NGC Schools – Environmental, Flower Show, Garden, Landscape Design) - **James Pavelka - North West District**
- MAE-1 Membership Awareness – Certificate of Commendation (1st place in size category) **Henricks County Garden Club - Central West District**
- MAE-5 National Garden Week – Certificate of Commendation (1st place in size category) **Shamrock Garden Club & Fort Benjamin's Garden Club – Central District**

CE-2 Permanent Community Improvements – Cert. in Appreciation of

Fall Creek Garden Club

“We love to be out and about seeing gardens for our summer meetings.”



Fall Creek Garden Club member Dottie Miller enjoying a tour of the Bill and Elizabeth Eagleson Gardens in June. Photo by Tess Park

In June, Fall Creek Garden Club headed north of the city to visit one of our members’ gardens filled with hostas, conifers, Asiatic maples, perennials, and even a cut flower farm. It was both amazing and inspiring to see how much can be done to create a garden from a blank slate in nine years.

In July, we visited another member’s garden to see both sun and shade gardens planted in the last five years. This garden will undoubtedly also give us many ideas and lists of new plants to grow. Rumor has it they have planted hundreds of different hosta varieties.

Then in August, we’ll gather at Coxhall Gardens in Hamilton County to tour their gardens and learn about their future plans.

Submitted by Carol Michel
Club Secretary

award participation Shamrock Garden Club – Central District

- CE-6 Community Project with Native Plants/Wildflowers – Cert. in Appreciation of award part **Monticello Garden Club - North Central District**
- CE-7 Blue Star/Gold Star Marker Landscaping - Cert. in Appreciation of award participation **Hendricks County Garden Club – Central West District**
- CE – 9 Landscaping of Historic Areas - Certificate in Appreciation of award participation **Crown Point Garden Club – North West District**
- EC-4 Water - Certificate in Appreciation of award participation **The Garden Club of Indiana, Inc.**
- MAE-1 Membership Awareness - Certificate in Appreciation of award participation **Hobart Garden Club – North West District**
- MAE-4G Publications - Certificate in Appreciation of award participation **Hendricks County Garden Club - Central West District**
- MAE – 5 National Garden Week - Certificate in Appreciation of award participation **Hendricks County Garden Club – Central West District**
- NGC Poetry Awards – 1st place 3rd- grade – **Lucas W.** – sponsored by Hendricks County Garden Club

Vale of Paradise Garden Club



Summer is here and our garden club is busy. The weeds in the gardens we maintain seems to be quicker than we are.

We held our plant sale in June, natives and more from our gardens. One of our members brought dahlias from her garden. They were a hit with everyone.

Planted the library planters at the front entrance and the window boxes in the libraries Rotary Garden. June continued with an interesting hands-on presentation about plant propagating. We gave a planter full of summer flowers to our local YMCA to promote “National Garden Week”.

July visited members gardens, garage sale (fundraiser) and decorating the display window at the Valparaiso library.

In August we will sharing the gardens we maintain with the other gardens clubs in our district, “Summer Walkabout” at Sunset Hill Farm County Park.

Submitted by Linda Dingee,
President

*Did your club do something special
for National Garden Week?
Let Indiana Gardens know!*

www.gardenclubofindiana.org

- 3rd place 6th grade– **Emma B.** – sponsored by Sages Garden Club

Central Region Poetry Awards

- 1st place 3rd- grade – **Lucas W.** – sponsored by Hendricks County Garden Club
- 1st place 6th grade– **Emma B.** – sponsored by Sages Garden Club

Central Region Sculpture Awards

- 1st place 8th grade Madison B. – Sponsored by Sages Garden Club
- 1st Place 6th grade Miantso R. – Sponsored by Hobart Garden Club
- 1st Place 5th grade Josiah S. – Sponsored by the Hobart Garden Club



National Garden Club
Fall Meeting
 Sept 18-19, 2024
 St. Louis, Missouri

Monticello Garden Club



The Monticello Garden Club enjoyed a program given by North Central Environmental Concerns and Conservation Chair Pam Schumm on May 16th. Pam provided a handout with the lengths of a variety of native plant roots listed. Using yarn, members measured out the root length for each of those plants and pasted them onto the handout. Conclusion: native plants have incredibly LONG roots!

Carla Bishop, Linda Maudlin, Sue Schlimme, North Central District Director Linda Harkleroad, Rich Smith, Linda Moncel, Nancy Jordan, and Marianne Janesku stretch out their root comparisons.

North Harbour Garden Club

The North Harbour Garden Club begins our year with several fundraisers: a March mulch sale and perennial plant sale. We usually sell over 500 perennial plants during the first weekend in May. Also, during May we plant flowers at the two entrances of the subdivision to be enjoyed by over 600 homeowners and maintain the entrances throughout the summer.

We enjoyed a catered Italian dinner, planning meeting and induction of officers at our first meeting in March. Phyllis Grzeskowiak was our guest and led a moving ceremony for the induction of officers.

Multiple field trips are planned for the members, such as a tour of Acorn Farm Store and Jay and Tess Park’s gardens, Ray Fitzpatrick’s gardens and a tour of our North Harbour Garden Club members’ gardens. Ray Fitzpatrick also demonstrated the variety of ways to propagate plants and save many for next season. Our future speakers will include an arborist, entomologist and a master gardener.

We look forward to Christi Oakes’ presentation that will educate us on culinary and medicinal herbs.

(Continued on page 20)

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Yearbook/ Scrapbook

Several district directors have already collected their clubs' yearbooks and given them to me. Thank you.

Remember, the deadline for books wishing to be considered for a Central District award is now September 10. This is why I need the yearbooks by the end of June.

Scrapbooks are still not due until the December Board meeting.

Both yearbooks and scrapbooks can be either digital or printed.

Submitted by Linda Harkleroad
Email: lindaharkleroad@gmail.com

Member Services

Sue Fuhrman encourages all members to investigate the [NGC website store](#) to view products available. Some items include **Plant America and NGC**



coffee mugs (\$10), a Plant America canvas tote (\$12), a Plant America license plate

frame (\$10), a Plant America garden apron (\$35), and an NGC sunglass strap (\$5). Also available are 10 Certificates of

(Continued on page 21)

This year we will again donate \$150 and gift cards to the O'Conner House to support single, young mothers. Our new project involves collecting flower vases and making a monetary donation to Random Acts of Flowers, which gifts flower arrangements to nursing homes and hospice centers. The North Harbour Garden Club also donates annually to the Indiana State Garden Club for the following funds: Blue Star Memorial, Scholarships, World Gardening and the Indiana Land Trust.

Submitted by Gina Maddy
North Harbour Garden Club

Syracuse-Wawasee Garden Club



Pam Schumm, Toby Oswald, Melanie Mason, Cindy Curtis, Sue Kraft, Julie Kline, Elaine Bokhart, Lynn Bures, Pam Dwyer, Kathy Tittle Nan Phillips, Connie Anthony, and Pam Unruh proudly display their designs.

After learning a few basics of design at their May meeting, Syracuse-Wawasee Garden Club members had a chance to practice in June. Using flowers from their gardens along with weeds and materials supplied by officers, members enjoyed creating their own designs. The meeting was held at the pavilion on the beautiful Wawasee Area Conservancy Foundation grounds.

Submitted by Linda Harkleroad
North Central District Director

*Did your club do a cool project?
Let Indiana Gardens know!*

Commendation in a package for \$7.50. These items could be used to present to guest speakers or as a thank you to members for special service. Members are urged to save receipts to send to this chairman to qualify for the Member Services Sales Award.

Landscape Design



The National Garden Club Inc. Landscape Design School is an excellent way

to learn all about landscaping. During upcoming months there are many opportunities to attend either virtual or in-person Landscape Design School courses throughout the country. Look for courses available on the [NGC website](#), and on the NGC Calendar page. If you are already a Landscape Design Consultant, check out Multiple Refreshers on the NGC website.

Landscape Design Consultants who have let certification laps in the last year or so have opportunities to recertify without re-doing a complete Landscape Design Course. Check the [NGC website](#) for details.

If a Landscape Design School does not fit into your schedule

(Continued on page 22)

Munster Garden Club



“It is always a pleasure to share our gardening knowledge with others.”



The Munster Garden Club kicked off their Spring activities with their annual Plant sale. Members donated an abundance of plants from their gardens for the sale and customers were thrilled with the prices and the variety. Many members volunteered that day, and a

(Continued on page 22)

(Continued from page 21)

this year you can still learn a lot about landscape design through our organization. All garden club members can look for landscape design information in each issue of the National Gardener. It is a valuable resource, available to garden club members.

Another landscape design resource is the bi-annual NGC Schools' newsletter, [Newscape](#). It is published early spring and late summer and is available on the NGC website. Each issue contains news, tours, projects and other activities of schools and councils throughout the country. Look for archived issues available on the NGC website under the Newscape link.

Another way to learn more about landscape design is to schedule program speakers, go on tours, or do topics of interest in your local garden club meetings.

By Judy Wessel
Landscape Design Chair

Civic Development

Clubs around the state are doing some form of civic development in their communities. They are making contributions to improve, beautify and instill the love of gardening.

Congratulations to the clubs that participated in 2023. Out of 53 clubs, there were only four clubs

(Continued on page 23)



(Continued from page 21)

great time was held by all. It is always a pleasure to share our gardening knowledge with others.

In May, we saw the completion of our landscaping project at the historical Kaske House. The once weed covered area was cleared out and new native plants and shrubs were planted. The community service committee will be maintaining the area throughout the summer. Also this Summer, several members have opened up their own gardens for members to tour, and three summer potlucks will be planned for members to get together.

Submitted by Mariellen Smith
President

Boonville Garden Club

Began the year with our annual flower sales in March. Another good year for sales as we ordered extra and sold on the day of delivery. April, we traveled to Lyles Station Historic School and Museum, for a work and learn day with the Green Thumb Garden Club of Princeton. We seeded vegetables before going on tour of garden, given by Jodi Meyer and historic school tour by Stanley Madison, Founder and President. Truly amazing the learning days afforded local schools that travel to Lyles Station. Three members attended annual State Convention at Turkey Run.

Held our May meeting at club member, Mary Pate's home. She received the Yard of the Month recognition for her beautiful gardens, and it was very interesting to learn why she had chosen

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that turned in applications. That is only 8% of clubs from across the state. I know that there are clubs that are doing great things for their communities. Please be recognized for your endeavors.

Now is the time to document your club's projects whether they are new or on-going. Projects may consist of landscape improvement through the planning and planting of parks, civic centers, libraries, schools, hospitals, etc. Write out a description, including landscape diagrams, photos, funding, involvement by members & maintenance. Be proud of your endeavors and instill this pride in your members. Applications are due by December 1st.

By Kathy Vermilion
Civic Development Chair



**Central Region
Convention**
October 17-19, 2024
O'Fallon, Illinois



(Continued from page 22)

certain perennials.

June, we prepared bud vases for two long-term facilities in Boonville. July, we begin preparing for October's Flair on the Boonville Square event. Still feel a way to recruit potential new members.

Submitted by Thelma Whoberry
President

Flower Lane Garden Club



Youth Camp children planting pollinators.

The Flower Lane Garden Club kicked off the month of May by holding its annual plant sale. Along with a variety of plants and garden supplies provided this year, the members added baked goods and garden themed crafts. Mother nature provided a deluge of rain for the first hour of the sale, but the sun came out and so did our loyal customers. The sale was an enormous success despite the weather.

Patsy Schooler, our president was approached by a member of the Columbus Chamber of Commerce requesting we provide a

State Meeting Liaison

I want begin by congratulating Central West District on a wonderfully successful State Convention in April at Turkey Run. Being given the opportunity to be outdoors amongst trees is always a winner.

I have attended a planning meeting of Central District's hosting of the 2025 state convention. I want to pass along a successful workable hint for your future reference concerning any type of district or club first planning session. To be fair and impartial, this planning committee had all presidents draw a number before the start of the meeting. Then when committee assignments were ready to be chosen, the representative with number 1 had first choice, then went through numbers until all positions were assigned. This can be used with any club and many situations while preventing chaos or hurt feelings.

I have also had conversation with the North West district (hosting in 2026) and shared more written details with them.

I will always be available for questions and will to find solutions.

Joyce Bulington
State Meeting Liaison

Email: zjbulington@yahoo.com



*Bartholomew County 4-H Fair - The Registration and Set Up Flower Lane members:
Back Row: Pam Thayer, Paulette Balmer, Patsy Schooler, Claudia Castleman and Eve Henry. Middle: Carol Clark. Front Row: Lisa Dailey, Sharon Follendorf, Kelly Vogt, Diane Linke and Teresa Reynolds.*

speaker for the "Sip, Garden and Grow Together" event planned for June. Paulette Balmer (our former President and Master Gardener) was the perfect speaker for this event providing an informative presentation.

In May, camp counselor Molly Ziegler of the Youth Camp in Columbus asked the club to provide a program about Pollinators for children. On June 18th members of the club supplied flowering plants that attract pollinators and brought information regarding invasive plants. A group of 7- and 8-year-old children participated in a discussion about pollinators led by club President Patsy Schooler, and they planted the flowers and watered them. The group even saw bees land on the newly planted flowers. All had a fun time.



On June 26th, the club sponsored and participated in the Open Class Flower Entries Division at the Bartholomew County 4-H fair. As usual, this year's event had participants from within the club as well as participants not associated with the club. There were beautiful horticultural specimens as well as creative artist design arrangements. The Grand Prize - Best in Show went to a beautiful purple *Lisianthus* – *Prairie gentian*.

Membership

*The Garden Club
of Indiana
has 1,008 Members!*



Membership Matters!

*Keep your current
members satisfied and
involved!*

- ☆ Go public with local media and social networking!
- ☆ Look up old friends and former members!
- ☆ Plan a fun event!

Laura Kearby
2nd Vice-President
Membership Chair

Broad Ripple Garden Club



The Blue Star Memorial maintained by Broad Ripple G. C. located near the corner of College & 106th Street in Carmel.

Our club has been active this year with a planning session, lectures on Cacao plants, making soap & native plants. In May we had our annual plant sale. We plan to visit Coxhall Gardens in July and Eagle Creek Park in Sept. In August we will hear from Cathy Weber on Milkweed & Monarchs along with celebrating our 75th anniversary of Broad Ripple Garden Club.

Submitted by Collette Bracken
President

Crown Point Garden Club

Crown Point G.C. continues establishing their Pollinator Garden in its new location at the County Fairgrounds. They recently planted an additional 125 plants. At the Courthouse, they are planting more drought resistant plants and put in 55 of these. They also recently participated in a YMCA program at their Adventure Camp where 55 girls and their mothers planted seeds and decorated pots. They will hold three fundraisers this year. Their Mother's Day weekend plant sale was very successful and for the first time took credit cards which increased the amount certain customers spent.

District Meeting Dates



South East District

Thursday, September 5, 2024

Central West District

Monday, September 30, 2024

South West District

Wednesday, October 9, 2024

North West District

Tuesday, October 22, 2024

North Central District

Wednesday, October 23, 2024

Central District

Tuesday, October 29, 2024

Central East District

Thursday, October 31, 2024

Hillcrest Garden Club



Hillcrest Garden Club hosted Mark Fields and his collection of award-winning bonsai trees. From left: Kathy White, Jo Plant, John Smith, and Mark Fields

Come Into the Garden Club



Our May meeting of Come into the Garden Club (photo) found us at member Pam Bollman's home for a pitch-in dinner with a tour of her gardens along with lots of plant questions and plant ID discussion.

In June members and a guest met at the home of member Jane Black for another pitch-in dinner during which we observed a variety of wildlife (wild turkeys, ducks, birds and hummingbirds) snacking at her feeders followed by a tour of her gardens where she shared plants for us to take home to our own gardens.

Submitted by Laura Kearby
Come into the Garden Club

Hobart Garden Club

Hobart Garden Club National Garden Week display featured 3 tiers. The top tier had plants and photographs of horticulture-NGW proclamation for Indiana and brochures of the Hobart Garden Club and advertisement for the Club plant sale. The middle tier featured Ken & Barbie having fun with raised garden bed and NGC national garden week proclamation with an invitation to join the Hobart Garden Club. Side shelves had pictures of the HGC activities from working with youth, garden therapy, landscaping historical center, chamber of commerce, rest stop memorial garden and senior center entrance and brochures to join the club. The bottom tier featured the children's garden books that NGC has to offer. The books were donated to the School City of Hobart Early Learning Center. A successful flower show was held along with a plant sale also

Submitted by Jim Pavelka
Hobart Garden Club



The Duneland Garden Club



*Clockwise from left :
Victoria Konopacki with a
former member Evie
Edborg. State President
Jayne Kesler with club
president Vicky Phillips.*



Duneland Garden Club celebrated thirty years of nurturing gardens, serving the community and making friends with a luncheon on July 11. Jane Kessler, President of the Garden Club of Indiana came for the festivities and awarded the club a certificate honoring their contributions over the past thirty years. Other dignitaries in attendance were Maryellen Smith, President of the Northwest District of the Garden Club of Indiana, Reggie Korthals, past President of the district and Chuck Roth, owner of Chesterton Feed and Garden Center, who is a major contributor and supporter of the Duneland Garden Club.

Club members Victoria Konopacki, Vicky Phillips, Theresa Buehler, Annmarie Riley, Gail Murawski, Nancy Anderson, Marian Wray, and Anne Vassal worked tirelessly, arranging the catered luncheon, creating centerpieces and planning the program. Lots of memories were recalled, successes highlighted and laughs shared with friends over the years. Dawn Duty photographed the event capturing the fun and friendships.

Duneland Garden Club volunteers in the community, beautifies the town and holds field trips and socials for members to expand their horizons and make new friends.

Submitted by Karen Davis
Duneland Garden Club

www.gardenclubofindiana.org

Terra Verde Garden Club



Terra Verde Garden Club members, Sue Pelkey and Sue Wolf, participated in our local YMCA Youth Summer Camp program. On July 3 the program included information on what is needed for plants, roots, soil and a variety of other topics. The children then planted seeds in raised planter boxes. On July 15 our members returned to the Summer Camp and presented information about the life cycle of butterflies with an emphasis on the Monarch and also the Mason Bee. Members will return to help the children weed their flower beds before the end of Summer Camp. The camp director said the children were thrilled to watch the seeds they planted pop out of the ground. Terra Verde Garden Club has been invited to return next summer to provide a more involved gardening program to the YMCA Summer Camp.

Submitted by Frances Raderstorf
Terra Verde Garden Club

Did your club do a project with kids? Let Indiana Gardens know!

Faith plants
the seed.
Love
makes it grow.

Seed Your Future is the movement to promote horticulture and inspire people to pursue careers working with plants. The next generation is losing touch with the plants growing all around them. We can't let their connection with nature slip away. To learn more about programs that are keeping plant education alive for future generations.

www.seedyourfuture.org



North West District

Crown Point Garden Club

Crown Point Garden Club continues establishing their Pollinator Garden in its new location at the County Fairgrounds. They recently planted an additional 125 plants.

At the Courthouse, they are planting more drought resistant plants and put in 55 of these. They also recently participated in a YMCA program at their Adventure Camp where 55 girls and their mothers planted seeds and decorated pots.

They will hold three fundraisers this year. Their Mother's Day weekend plant sale was very successful and for the first time took credit cards which increased the amount certain customers spent.

Duneland Garden Club

Duneland Garden Club members planted geraniums in town planters along Chesterton's downtown district. They recently took a guided tour of Friendship Gardens in Michigan City learning about the gardens' history, struggles and vision which was followed by lunch at the Hacienda. In early Spring, they held their popular transplant clinic where people could bring their root bound houseplants in for repotting. Last week, they held a Family Nature Night for Garden Club week where children from 3-10 could plant their own pollinator garden and take home a butterfly. Lastly, the Duneland Garden Club awarded a \$1000 scholarship to a student in a college program geared to environmentalism.

For Garden Club week, the club helped on a trail beautification project by planting a tulip tree, planting peonies and mulching on the Duneland Prairie Trail.

In July, the club will be celebrating their 30th anniversary with a luncheon.

Hobart Garden Club

Hobart Garden Club had an Easter Event where the Easter Bunny was available for photos. They also gave out 100 seed packets and provided information about the garden club.

The Hobart Garden Club held a Mother's Day luncheon for 93 mothers. They had box lunches from Subway and had a contest for the most beautiful hat.

They continue to work on the landscaping at the historical society.

Munster Garden Club

The Munster Garden Club participated in the annual Earth Day event in town and had an art activity for children to complete. They also saw the completion of their landscaping project at the town historical museum. The messy, weedy former landscaping was removed, and new native plants and shrubs were planted. It has transformed the home and brought its outside back to its former glory. We also continue to maintain our garden projects at White Oak Park and the Humane Society.

The club also participated in the town rummage sale for a fundraiser. The following weekend, the annual plant sale was held. Despite changing its location after 15 years, it was a success. Customers adapted to the new location and our sales doubled the usual profit. Customers loved the reasonable priced plants coming from members' gardens.

Vale of Paradise Garden Club

Vale of Paradise members participated in an Earth Day event at the Porter County Expo Center. They shared information on "Helping All Pollinators" and

(Continued on page 30)

(Continued from page 29)

the club gave away flower and vegetable seeds.

After the May meeting, one of our new members took the club on a wildflower walk at the Meadowbrook Preserve.

This June had they held a plant sale, as well as a rummage sale. For garden week, they will be planting the planters at the YMCA where the organization has also asked for help with their landscaping.

Submitted by Mariellen Smith
Northwest District Director

North Central District

The seven clubs in the 13 counties of the North Central District have had a busy spring.

- Michiana, Syracuse-Wawasee, 4 Winds, and Monticello all held successful plant sales with Michiana realizing a profit of \$3,000. This money will be used for scholarship and their local not-for-profit gardens.
- Monticello and Terra Verde increased membership by participating in local garden shows.
- Iris-Elm, and Peru celebrated National Garden Week with displays in their communities.
- 4 Winds, Syracuse-Wawasee, Terra Verde, Monticello and Iris-Elm all planted containers, hanging baskets and flower beds in town parks.

- Terra Verde and Monticello visited local nurseries.
- Michiana and Terra Verde visited private gardens as well as a Japanese Garden, a conservatory, and a community garden.
- Programs covered a variety of topics: roots, phosphates, herb containers, propagation, fertilizer and soils, flower design, roses, bluebird habitats, garden therapy, and recycled garden art.

It's been a busy spring in the North.

Submitted by Linda Harkleroad
North Central District Director

National Honey Bee Day



Sat, Aug 17, 2024

Dates to Remember

Monarch Awareness Month



September 2024

Central West District

I want to thank all members who attended the 2024 Convention at Turkey Run. You helped to make the Convention a success. We were able to put on the Convention with the hard work of all of our members.

for another pitch in dinner. Since she lives in the country, they were able to enjoy a large variety of wildlife and especially the humming birds. They toured Jane’s gardens, and the members were given plants to take home.

Come Into the Garden Club

Come into the Garden Club met in April at the assisted living apartment of Mary Ann Banks for a planning meeting and a plant themed discussion during a heavy rain storm which kept them from touring the garden. In May, they met at Pam Bollman’s home for a pitch in dinner and a tour of her gardens and a discussion on plant ID. In June, members and a guest met at the home of Jane Black

Hendricks County Garden Club

Hendricks County Garden Club had their plant sale at the 4-H fairgrounds in Danville on April 27, 2024. As usual, members worked hard digging and preparing plants for the sale. The May meeting was a trip to the McCloud Nature Park, with members bringing a picnic lunch. There they heard the park naturalist, Amber Gideon, give a program. Work on the I-70 rest stop is already in full swing. In June, they had their progressive garden tour of members’ homes.

Sullivan County Garden Club

Sullivan County Garden Club had their annual trip to the Amish Green Houses in April. Of course, there was a stop at an Amish Buffet for lunch and a brief business meeting. They planted a tree for Arbor Day. In May, on a very warm day Edie Dyer-Wilson gave a demonstration on how to create yard decorations. Lots of water was involved. The June meeting had a program on Aquaponics by Jennifer Nettles, a local business owner from Oaktown. They grow 3 types of lettuce and tilapia organically. On, June 5th a special trip was take to French Lick/West Baden for a historical tour and tea.



Sullivan County Garden Club’s 2024 Arbor Day tree planting an apple tree with Northeast East Elementary third grade class. Garden Club members participating included Shar Strahle, Pam Irvin, Becky Cole, Mary Lou Chapman and Donna Cox.

Submitted by Sue Rosiak
Central West District Director

Central East District



Plant sales, garden tours and the Wildflower Workshop have been getting a lot of attention and now I hope I have your attention as I am, as always, proud to share the happenings in our district.

Petal & Stem Garden Club have been busy planting, cleaning and weeding in their project areas of Richmond. Many members volunteer in the Richmond Rose Garden fund raiser by claiming a bed space and maintaining it, as well as some volunteer their talents throughout the Garden. The money raised for Bloom and Glow was a record \$35,000. You may consult with Ann Herrman on how this was done and then use this knowledge on a smaller scale with your clubs. Petal & Stem had a plant sale and is holding a flower show this weekend per request of members.

All clubs are watering and weeding public spaces except for Creative Hands and the **Twin City Garden Club**, formerly known as Gas City GC. However, Twin City has had a program about Spring Surprises in May and went to a presentation this month at Wasson's Nursery.

Garden Club of Marion is holding their plant sale and garden tour this weekend. They want to a you pick flower farm and shared photos of their personal gardens at the May meeting.

Pendleton Garden Club held their plant sale; Summitville is working all over their community and Smalltown is holding programs and not stressing their bodies.

Creative Hands Garden Club is growing in membership and are sharing horticulture knowledge, plant material, and laughs.

The district held a presidents/executive board meeting at Matter Park with great results. Much was discussed about club business in general, awards were passed out, lunch was eaten, and happily the fine points of the Wildflower Workshop were set into place.

We are so excited to be offering this opportunity to all members and know that their time will be well spent along with knowledge, smiles shared and of course a tad bit of money spent. Please make plans to attend, bring guests, walking shoes, and willingness to learn.

Thank you for your attention, thank you for your registration which is in Indiana Gardens, and thank you Kathy Vermilion. for being the chair! We represent TGCI at work and play in the best of ways.

Submitted by Joyce Bulington
Central East District Director

www.gardenclubofindiana.org

Central District

Central District has had a busy spring, beginning with the Spring Central District meeting on May 16, 2024. The district meeting was well attended with 38 officers from the 11 garden clubs in Central District. Timely presentations from Cynthia Wright on the Annual Civic Fund and it's importance to our district, as we are hosting the 2025 State Convention and also a presentation from Cathy Weber on the Blue and Gold Star Memorials, including our plans for our August 20 dedication of the Blue Star By-Way Marker Dedication were well received by the attendees.

The 2025 State Convention Chairman Cathy Weber, co-chairman Cynthia Wright and Co-chairman Phyllis Grzeskowiak, along with the TGCI State Convention Liaison Joyce Bullington, held a meeting on June 4 at Embassy Suites, the location of the 2025 State Convention, and invited all presidents of the Central District Garden clubs to attend. Preliminary plans for convention committees were discussed and future meetings and dates Information will be emailed to club presidents.

Arbutus Garden Club

Arbutus Garden Club will be celebrating its 90th Birthday this year. Their major civic project involves the gardens at the Benjamin Harrison Presidential site in Indianapolis. They support the gardens both financially and with many hours of Arbutus volunteers in planting and maintaining the gardens. A late member recently bequeathed a generous donation to be used in the gardens and enabled them to completely update and replace the irrigation system throughout the grounds. The members enjoy touring local gardens and will hold meetings at the Governor's Residence and Benjamin Harrison's Presidential Site.

Ft Benjamin Blossom Garden Club

Fort Benjamin Blossom Garden Club held its Annual Plant Sale in May at the YMCA. In June, their speaker

was Shirley Vargas from the Herb Society, talking about her eight favorite herbs. Their meeting in July will take place at Sargent Road Nature Park and for their August meeting they will travel to the Medicinal Plant Garden in Indianapolis.

Friendly Garden Club

Friendly Garden Club membership is currently at 40 members, (they have added six since August 2023) and Sixteen members are active PE Master Gardeners. Current Projects include Brownsburg Public Library (plantings at the gazebo, library pots, and maintaining the seed library, Oinking Acres Farm Rescue & Sanctuary, Brownsburg Parks, maintaining a Culinary Garden and a Trailhead at Maple Ridge. They are working toward planting native trees in park areas. Garden tours in summer months will include members home garden tours, a trip to Avon Gardens and a program on Dahlias in August.

Green Thumb Garden Club

Green Thumb Garden Club's members hosted a luncheon at Kopper Kettle for their June meeting. They next meet in August and will enjoy a program of preparing and arranging garden flowers. Upcoming tour to Crown Hill Cemetery in October, concentrating on trees.

Sages Garden Club

Sages Garden Club is very active club and maintains the Pollinator Garden at OrthoIndy Foundation YMCA. They also had a huge plant sale in May, which usually generates well over \$1000. In June, they toured the Medicinal Plant Garden at the Indiana Medical Museum. In July they will tour the gardens of the president of the Hosta Society's home. In September, they have been invited by Shamrock Garden Club to join their tour of the Purdue test gardens at the Indiana State Fair. Sages Garden Club

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has partnered with New Hope of Indiana, working with the 6 young male residents and encouraging them to live a more independent life by teaching them gardening and landscaping skills.

Shamrock Garden Club

Shamrock Garden Club is guided by the goals of National Garden Club: to promote the love of gardening, floral design, and civic and environmental responsibility and help coordinate the interests and activities of state and local garden clubs in the U.S. and abroad. The club will plant and tend a garden at Still Water Adult Day Care. Clients will help select the

plants, maintain the garden, and enjoy the harvest. At Westminster Village, the club invites residents to join them in making a winter bird feeder to be placed in their memory garden. Club members will grow the herb of the year, yarrow, and the vegetable of the year, purple sweet potato, and in August have a tasting using their results. For those members wishing to express their creative side, they offer garden ornament and edible floral appetizer workshops. Sages Garden Club will join them in September for a tour of the Purdue Test Garden at the Indiana State Fair-grounds. Also, there are optional garden walks and hikes they can enjoy throughout the year.

Submitted by Phyllis Grzeskowiak
TGCI Central District Director

South West District

The clubs in the South West District of The Garden Club of Indiana had 15 members attend the TGCI State Convention at Turkey Run State Park.

Each individual club continues to stay busy in their respective areas with the yearly commitments to beautify the world they live in. We have experienced some growth in each club.

Earth Day Celebrations were observed in numerous ways. **Arts & Flowers** once again gave away more than 100 trees. New Harmony donated children's picture books to all Posey County elementary schools and libraries.

Mother's Day was observed with flowers. Plant sales galore. Yard of the Month.

Each club celebrated National Garden Week in various ways. The proclamation from Governor Holcomb was published in weekly newspapers. Flower vases were designed and delivered to area nursing

homes and assisted living facilities. Members who are no longer able to attend meetings received bouquets. Clubs participate in "Clean Sweep" programs sponsored by area banks. County fairs and celebrations are being used as opportunities to meet and greet, share information, and fellowship.

2026 will be the 250th birthday of our great nation and many projects are already in progress.

Submitted by Linda Cornelius
South West District Director



Consider applying for an NGC Community Grant in support of your organization's project to [PLANT AMERICA](#).

South East District

It's been a hot one this summer so far but clubs are doing a great job keeping their plant projects watered!

All Thumbs Garden Club

All Thumbs G.C. their first plant sale this spring and did very well. They worked on their community project and planted flowers at the Art Center. They finished up their transfer of the South East District Blue Star and there will be a Rededication in October. Recently they had Cathy Weber come speak on Rachel Carson's book Silent Spring. I attended this talk and Cathy did a great job. They are also celebrating their club's 60th year as a club.

Cultivating Garden Club

Cultivating G.C. had their plant sale in May. They had a meeting about Ferns by Michael and Barbara Homoya. They worked on their plant project at St. John Church Courtyard.

Fayette Garden Club

Fayette G.C. had a class on making a birdhouse or painting a garden stepping stone to take home. They toured the historic Bed and Breakfast Hotel known as The Hermitage in May. They are visiting Soules Garden Center in Noblesville this month. Their big project is planting the town planters in Connersville. They are also celebrating their 95th Year as a club.

Give -N-Take Garden Club

Give-N-Take Garden Club recently did a tour of Linda and David Frys home and David even encouraged folks to join the club on Facebook! They are finalizing up their program book. They are also hosting the September South East District meeting.

Mudlark Garden Club

Mudlark G.C. spent March and April cleaning up the Courtyard flower beds and then planting in May. They had accredited judge Suzanne Potts come and guide them in improving their skills as artistic flower designers to get ready to host the Bartholomew County Fair Open Flower Show.

Greensburg Night Bloomers G.C

Greensburg Night Bloomers G.C. continue to meet with the hostess doing both hosting and providing a program. Seems to be working well.

Terrace Garden Club

Terrace Garden Club worked on their pollinator garden at The Falls of the Ohio. They had a class on Making Bee Hotels. They had a tour of a member's garden.

Submitted by Diane Hurless
South East District Director

Need a Speaker?



*I love to
talk!*

Cathy Weber
Birds & Butterfly Chair
email me:
crazycat66@gmail.com

(Continued from page 9)

biodiversity conservation and the threats facing endangered species. Engaging the public in conservation efforts is crucial for fostering a culture of environmental stewardship.

•Endangered species in Indiana are protected by **state and federal laws**, such as the Endangered Species Act, which prohibits the harming, harassing, or killing listed species and their habitats.

Despite ongoing conservation efforts, Indiana's endangered species face numerous challenges, including habitat loss, climate change, pollution, and human-wildlife conflicts. Additionally, limited funding and resources constrain conservation initiatives, highlighting the need for increased investment in biodiversity conservation.

Looking to the future, collaborative efforts involving government agencies, conservation organizations, scientists, and local communities, including our garden clubs is essential for protecting Indiana's endangered species and preserving the state's rich natural heritage for future generations.

The conservation of endangered species in Indiana is a challenge which requires action at local, state, and national levels. By prioritizing habitat protection, conducting research, raising public awareness, and implementing effective conservation measures, we can work towards ensuring the survival and recovery of Indiana's threatened plant and animal species.

By Kimberly Jackson
Endangered Species Chair

(Continued from page 15)

cherished companions of my own—but keeping them inside is good for the cat and good for the local wildlife.

Ways to Share this Information

...with your Club

•Organize a speaker from your local Wild Birds Unlimited to talk about implementing a bird habitat in your garden. Alternately you can contact [Purdue Extension Program](#) or [Indiana Department of Natural Resources](#).

...with your District

•Create a poster or display using this list as a starting point to display at your District meeting. You can also create a simple handout to give to other clubs.
•Direct other clubs to check out [Indiana Audubon](#) for upcoming events.

...with your Community

•Check with your local library about celebrating World Migratory Bird Day on October 11, 2024 with a “read-in” where adults and children share books about birds.
•Organize a bird “talk and walk” with your local parks department or wildlife authority.

By Cathy Reed Weber
Birds & Butterfly Chair



www.gardenclubofindiana.org

PRESIDENT'S PROJECT 2023-2025

PLANT TREES FOR HOPE

Climate change and the warming planet threaten our way of life. Carbon dioxide, the primary driver of global warming, has played a crucial role in shaping our Earth's climate.








"As an efficient, inexpensive source of carbon capture, trees can be a major part of the solution to mitigate the effects of climate change." (www.arborday.com)

Trees can be the solution to support communities providing calming canopies and a sense of well-being; trees can provide hundreds of species which nurtures biodiversity for forests, and they can absorb carbon dioxide and produced approximately 260 pounds of oxygen per tree per year. (Utah Forest Facts: "Trees and Climate Change" by Megan Dettenmaier, Michael Kuhns, Bethany Unger, Darren McAvoy)

With increasing concern about climate change, Jayne Kesler chose **Plant Trees for Hope** as her President's Project to challenge The Garden Club of Indiana, Inc. clubs to take a part in providing Hope by Planting Trees.

Lucy Larcom captures it by saying, "He who plants a tree, plants a hope."

General Guidelines:

-  Provide an actual in-kind value donation of at least \$100 by the sponsoring club for the project. This could be from the club treasury or be a labor or material donation from an outside party.
-  Plant in a public space or private property dedicated to public use.
-  Define how the tree will benefit the public and site.
-  Explain why the particular location was chosen and what significance does it hold.
-  Host a public "Tree Dedication" coinciding or coordinated with Arbor Day or any other public educational program.
-  Acknowledge The Garden Club of Indiana, Inc. as a sponsor and partner in all events, articles, promotional and print materials.
-  Provide and explain on-going tree maintenance and public educational programs on tree issues and care.



PLANT TREES FOR HOPE

Date of Application _____ Club _____ District _____ Tax EIN _____

Name & Title of person submitting grant application _____

Address _____ Email _____ Phone _____

Type of Tree (native species preferred) _____

Nurseries/Businesses/other Organizations involved _____

Club in-kind donation (\$100) _____ Amount requested (up to \$100) _____

Tree placement – where & why (significance/benefit/visibility) _____

Correlation to promotion of overall club/district/state organization mission _____

Dedication/Public Event(s) held/planned _____

Education programs (organization & public) held/planned _____

On-going maintenance plans _____

Member involvement _____

Acknowledgement of TGCI _____

Additional information (please provide as much information as possible to assure your serious consideration for this grant) _____

Attach copies of receipts, photos, publicity, other verification

The Garden Club of Indiana, Inc. reserves the right to review or reject any application deemed ineligible. Decision of The Garden Club of Indiana, Inc. is final. This organization does not discriminate against any person based upon race, gender, age or sexual preference.

Direct questions to: Jayne Kesler 765-461-5017 kjkesler@comcast.net
Laura Kearby 317-946-0789 laurakearby@hotmail.com
Rita Hummel 317-875-8388 rithum1970@comcast.net

Email or mail completed form to: Laura Kearby
8659 N Baltimore Rd
Monrovia, IN 46157-9028



Mission Statement: The Garden Club of Indiana, Inc. promotes interest and education in horticulture, landscaping, floral design and environmental concerns. www.gardenclubofindiana.org

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