



**JANUARY 2023**

***THE WEEDERS DIGEST***

**GARDEN CLUB MEETING JANUARY 11, 2023**

**Community Center**

**Social time 6:00 pm**

**Meeting 6:30 pm**

[www.rollingmeadowsgardenclub.org](http://www.rollingmeadowsgardenclub.org)

<https://www.facebook.com/rollingmeadowsgardenclub.org>



**OFFICERS:**

PRESIDENT – Carol Ohrn

VICE-PRESIDENT – Marie Soyka

SECRETARY – Jennifer Karls

TREASURER – Ron Willer



**ROLLING MEADOWS GARDEN CLUB**

The purpose of this Club is to share our knowledge and love of gardening through educational meetings, contributing to the community, civic beautification, and annual events.

**JANUARY BIRTHDAYS**

Karen Nottoli 1/2

Yolanda Laboy 1/4

Beth Boudreau – 1/10

Janice Babiarz 1/11

Laura Hathcoat 1/13

Sherry Kyle 1/16

Betty Anderson 1/20

John Glow 1/21

Jennifer Karls 1/25



**“MONEY CAN’T BUY HAPPINESS EXCEPT AT THE GARDEN CENTER.”**

**UNKNOWN**

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**PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE**

**JANUARY 2023**

Dear Garden Club Members & Friends,

What a banner year we had in 2022! A tremendous growth in membership due to our Membership Chair, Sal! Great job Sal & thanks to everyone who helped her. Wonderful programs thanks to Heidi! Thank you, Heidi. for all you do! This newsletter – thanks to Shirley for a diligent and accurate job each month! Of course, our wonderful Plant Sale, thanks to Sharon and all of the key people pitching in. And thank you to all members who have stepped up to make our Club the Best it can be! And speaking of that, that's what makes a club a club! All of us working together, even if it's just a little. So please think about what YOU can do to help keep our club a GREAT club!

I'm looking forward to another great year with good friends, exchanging stories, sharing garden dilemmas, solving problems and learning new things. Let's all help to make this happen!

I sincerely wish you the happiest & Healthiest NEW YEAR! Are you dreaming about spring's buds & blooms in your garden yet??

**Carol O.**

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**Garden Club Christmas Party**

The Holiday Party was great, in spite of the pouring rain. Juggling food, a gift and an umbrella was quite a challenge for most!

A nice variety of food & drink was plentiful and enjoyed by all. About 30 members, along with 4 guest or spouses attended.

The grab-bag game was a big hit, with lots of fun & stealing! Thanks to all who attended and helped make this a festive affair!

**Carol Ohrn**

## MONARCH BUTTERFLY NEWS



In an article in Journey North, Jane Goodall, who spent her life studying chimpanzees, was asked how she maintained hope in the face of environmental challenges. Her response was “Stop looking all around the world, just think about where you are, or some project that you really care about, and roll up your sleeves and do something about that.”

Well, I care about the environment and the pollinators especially the Monarch butterfly, but I cannot commit to the time and energy like Jane Goodall. Planting flowers for nectar and milkweed for the Monarch caterpillar will help. Not using any pesticides and using only natural compost will keep my soil free of chemicals. Educating not criticizing people who are interested will hopefully also encourage them to do the same and then things may begin to change slowly. That is what I intend to do in 2023 and maybe it will make a small difference.

**Shirley Weismann**

## Benefits of Native Plants in Your Gardens

**By Debbie Danek**

Happy New Year! Even in this cold weather we can think about the garden and any changes you might want to do this year. If you would like to enjoy your garden that is filled with butterflies, pollinators, songbirds and wildlife, native plants are the way to go.

Native plants require no pesticides and no fertilizer. These plants have root systems that prevent soil erosion and increase the soil's capacity to hold water. Because of their extensive root system they do not need additional watering once the plant is established.

They provide food and shelter to our wildlife (if you do not do a fall cleanup). Non-native species DO NOT support local pollinators because they have not evolved together.

Here are some top native species to plant this coming spring!



Coreopsis lanceolata



Echinacea purpurea



Echinacea pallida



Asclepias tuberosa



Rudbeckia fulgida



Penstemon hirsutus



Monarda bradburiana



Agastache foeniculum



Sporobolus heterolepis

## Resolutions, Garden Variety

By Becky Booth

Here we are, folks, with calendars flipped into a new year and all around us, suggestions for a fresh start in some area of our lives. So how about some 'Gardening Resolutions'? Here are my own Top 20...

Order seeds yesterday.

Do More of what you really enjoy...starting seeds indoors, trying new annuals, dividing perennials, pruning roses?

Do Less of what you do NOT enjoy...starting seeds indoors, trying new annuals, dividing perennials, pruning roses?

Remove 'water hog' plants...and use larger containers. (Two-fer)

Investigate Xeriscape gardening.

Get (or keep) in shape for upcoming garden demands. Build more muscle!

Organize garden storage in shed or garage.

Don't shop for annuals too early...that cold snap will mean they have to stay inside.

Don't shop for annuals too late...so much less selection!

Hold off on spring garden exploration till night temps are 50 for several days to give insects time to appear and avoid trampling them. Yes, you can do this!

Let spring bulbs ripen before removing tops...arrgh. So hard.

Do the late May 'Chelsea chop' of summer or fall-blooming perennials (Asters, sedum, etc.) that tend to flop otherwise.

Install plant supports Before plants begin to sprawl.

Keep a garden log. Don't assume you'll remember!

Plant more zinnias! Easy Peasy and so long-blooming and pollinators love them.

Spray pruner with alcohol between cuts, like the pro's do.

Save labels from plants purchased...and organize them!

Wear garden gloves Every Time you weed!

Hang colored ribbon onto tool handles for quicker finding when lost.

Don't miss a garden club meeting!

Well, there you have it. Enjoy this restful time and remember to be grateful for no mosquitoes, ticks, or other pests of the garden season! Catch up on your garden podcast listening or enjoy a great gardening book. And don't forget to look at all the great pics you shot of beautiful plants!

And finally, have fun making some resolutions of your own!



## **ROLLING MEADOWS GARDEN CLUB COMMITTEES**

### **ROLLING MEADOWS GARDEN CLUB COMMITTEES**

#### **COMMUNITY SERVICE – Carol Ohrn (ohrncc@aol.com)**

Work with the City of RM to participate in events hosted by RM, such as: 4th of July Parade  
Maintain public grounds, where available  
Interested in the Community Garden???

#### **MEETINGS & EVENTS- Heidi Wesner (heidiwes@aol.com)**

Arrange for speakers or workshops at most meetings.  
Plan outings such as dinners or breakfast get-togethers outside of regular meetings.  
Picnic, Christmas party, or any day trips.

#### **MEMBERSHIP & HOSPITALITY- Sal Willer & Mel Tatara (willerdan65@gmail.com)**

Collect applications & dues from new members and yearly renewals.  
Forward new member info to GCI.  
Prepare and distribute to new members a “welcome” packet and engage with new members at first several meetings.  
Keep membership roster up to date.  
Arrange for volunteers sign-up of snacks & beverages at “in person” meetings.  
Send greeting cards as appropriate: Birthday, get well, sympathy.

#### **NEWSLETTER- Shirley Weismann (swshirley4@yahoo.com)**

Create monthly newsletter based on info submitted by members.

#### **PLANT & CRAFT SALE- Sharon Florey (s\_florey@yahoo.com)**

Chair & Co-Chair - to oversee all aspects of the sale.

Core Committee members – obtain vendors, flyers, plant selection, pricing, vendor layout, sign placement, and all aspects of the event.

All other Members – organize plants, water plants, collect boxes, cashier, holding, general helpers where needed, be available day of sale.

#### **PUBLICITY & MARKETING – Kelly Hill (km.hill@comcast.net)**

Contact at appropriate time - City electronic sign, City newsletter editor, Park District Brochure, Senior Newsletter, and any free advertising in newspapers.  
Any paid “AD” when approved by president.

#### **SCHOLARSHIP & YOUTH INVOLVEMENT- NEW Beth Boudreau (bboudreau76@gmail.com)**

Research candidate for scholarship from Senior in HS entering college majoring in Horticulture or related field. Research HS volunteer students to help at plant sale or needed gardening projects.

#### **SOCIAL MEDIA- Jennifer Karls (jkarlsfam@hotmail.com)**

FaceBook, and any web-based media, keeping up-to-date info available to readers.

#### **Website - Sharon Florey ([s\\_florey@yahoo.com](mailto:s_florey@yahoo.com))**

