



THE WEEDERS DIGEST

ROLLING MEADOWS GARDEN CLUB NEWSLETTER JULY 2018

GARDEN CLUB MEETING – JULY 11
SOCIAL TIME 6:00 pm
MEETING STARTS AT – 6:30 pm
ROLLING MEADOWS GARDEN CLUB WEB SITE –
www.rollingmeadowsgardenclub.org.



OFFICERS:

PRESIDENT – Carol Ohrn
VICE-PRESIDENT – Marie Soyka
SECRETARY – Katie Lukowski
TREASURER – Ron Willer



ROLLING MEADOWS GARDEN CLUB

Our mission is to encourage the knowledge and love of gardening through educational meetings and field trips, and to contribute to the community through civic beautification, awards and annual events.

JULY BIRTHDAYS

Katie Lukowski 7/14
Joanne Wentz 7/21
Chuck Ohrn 7/27
Laurie Houldsworth 7/31



**“GARDENING IS A MATTER OF YOUR ENTHUSIASM HOLDING UP UNTIL
YOUR BACK GETS USED TO IT.” AUTHOR UNKNOWN**

JULY SPEAKER – We may have a speaker on nutrition “From Garden to Table”.

UPCOMING TRIPS & EVENTS

JULY 10, PIZZA NIGHT at MORETTI’S at 6:00 pm.

The hot and humid days of summer have arrived! Not in the mood to cook? Dinner is being served at Moretti’s in Schaumburg, take advantage of Tuesday’s half price offer and enjoy the company of fellow GC members!

JULY 25, WANDERING TREE ESTATE in Barrington - leaving approx. at 9:30 am, returning in the afternoon.

Elaine Silets, also known as the “train lady”, is the proud owner of the Wandering Tree Estate, which the family purchased in 1971. On 5 acres, Elaine and her husband Harvey pursued their dreams – planting rare trees and designing a miniature botanic garden. Over the past 40+ years the gardens have evolved and include now the Garden Railway, the Japanese-, dooryard-, swimming pool- and sunken vegetable garden, among others. After an introduction, we can explore the grounds at our own leisure. Cost p.p. \$ 25.00. Lunch is planned at a local restaurant.

PRESIDENT’S MESSAGE



The Garden Walk is behind us now and what a beautiful day we had. Couldn’t have asked for any better weather. Thank you to all who helped make it a success, from hunting for houses to preparing the program to sign placement, sitting at a home or soliciting sponsors. Everyone that was involved – I thank you!

Our 2 City Markets in June were also a big hit. We had lots of plants to sell and most of them went to good homes. On that note, please remember to donate any unwanted garden related items for the remaining 3 Markets. We don’t want it to look like a flea market, but if you have something nice that you just don’t want anymore, we sure could try to sell it!

Let’s talk about “speakers”. We really need someone to jump in and help find some good speakers. Working with another member or two would be ideal. Speakers can be scheduled up to a year in advance, so we should already be looking at possibilities for 2019. I’m sure someone wants to try their hand at this – you just haven’t told me yet!

As I’m writing this, it’s raining again. Everything is so lush from all this rain, including the weeds, but enough is enough! Here’s hoping for perfect summer weather in July!

Wishing you a safe & fun 4th of July celebration...



Carol O.



COMMITTEES:

COMMUNITY SERVICE –

Includes but not limited to:
Farmers Market, Welcome Planters,
Mary's Garden, 4th of July Parade

EVENTS –

Outings, dinners & any other social event
other than regular meetings.

GARDEN WALK

COMMITTEES CONT:

HOSPITALITY

Refreshments & greeting cards

MEMBERSHIP

NOMINATING

PLANT & CRAFT SALE

PROGRAMS –

Monthly speakers or activities

PUBLICITY / MARKETING

OPINIONS

Your opinions are most welcome. If you would like your opinion or article in the newsletter, just send it to me or give me a call.

Shirley

JULY GARDENING

- Vegetables that can still be planted: basil, beans, beets, Brussel sprouts, carrots, kale, kohlrabi, leeks, turnips and winter squash.
- Add compost or give plants mid-season feeding. With the dry days of summer coming, fresh cut grass can now be used as a mulch. It will also provide natural nitrogen to the soil.
- Water as needed. Needs at least, 1 in. a week.
- Stay ahead of the weeds. (Too late. I made them part of my garden)
- Deadhead flowers for more blooms.
- Mid-July do a final pinching on mums and asters.
- Divide iris

SAFE OUTSIDE ANT KILLERS OR REPELLENTS

Dried bay leaves ground up in a blender until nearly a powder can be used to keep the ants away from a hummingbird feeder. Just sprinkle it on the ground around the pole. It does not kill the ants. It just drives the ants away and lasts for months. It can also be used safely in the house but it does not get rid of the nest. You can find an inexpensive supply on Ebay.

Very hot soapy water poured over the ant hill will kill any ant that it contacts.

A mix of sugar and talcum powder sprinkled liberally over the ant hill will kill the ants in time. The ants will go after the sugar and also ingest the talcum powder. They will also feed it to their eggs and in time will kill the whole nest. Of course it will have to be reapplied every time it rains.

Wiping vinegar on an area will keep the ants away but it will not kill them. It also does not last if you apply it thinly and will have to be frequently reapplied. It is also good to use in the house to wipe out the trail left by the ants so they don't find their way back.

Diatomaceous Earth is a ready-made product that also works by liberally sprinkling it over the ant hill. The ants have to travel through it and carry the powder down to their nests. They ingest the powder when they preen themselves and eventually feed it to the eggs. It is a "natural product made up of fossilized remains of tiny, aquatic organisms called diatoms." The Sicilia powder kills insects by dehydrating them.

Note: Using any outdoor products indoors may not be safe because of children, pets and food contamination. Organic pesticides are better because they are made from natural products and not toxic chemicals but they still kill. Neem oil, for instance, is an organic pesticide but it is deadly for butterflies.

MONARCH BUTTERFLY NEWS



1st releases

June 19 - Janice released 2 Monarchs 1 male 1 female.

June 24 Janice collected 97 Monarch eggs in her yard.

Total June Monarch butterfly releases for our group – 35

Laurie Houldsworth is now the 4th member in our Garden Club to raise Monarch Butterflies. We are off to a good start in spite of the weather.



From Rob Banger

All four of our hives around town are doing great. Jackson is inspecting weekly and has located the queen in each hive several times. There is brood comb (developing bees) present and we'll post some videos of emerging bees on Facebook later in the summer. Heidi and Jennifer's hives are doing so well that we added a honey super this week, and the bees haven't hit the peak of the nectar flow yet! We also welcomed a new pollinator to our back yard- carpenter bees that are taking up residence in our backyard shed. Don't quite know how I feel about that.

From Ron Willer – Besides raising Monarchs, Ron and Sal Willer now have their very own bee hive after trying one of Rob's. They are going to have a very busy summer.



POLLINATORS NEWS

From Garden Clubs of Illinois (GCI):

Update on Butterfly License Plate Decal

Of the 2000 requests (& \$10.00 fee) needed by the state, only 525 responses have been received. If you have an interest in this license plate decal, please download the application at www.ilenviro.org/monarch/. Project will close in September.

COMMUNITY CALENDAR

Tuesday, July 3rd Environmental Committee meeting 6:30pm in City Hall Room 230

Wednesday, July 4th Fourth of July Parade 11:30 down Jay Lane

Wednesday, July 4th Fourth of July Fireworks 9:15pm Community Center

Friday, July 6th Fridays Rock & Roll in Meadows, 7-10pm in Kimball Hill Park

Saturday, July 14th Parking Lot Party, 3-11pm Community Center, 3705 Pheasant Drive

Saturday, July 21st Farmers & Food Trucks City Market, 10-2pm Comm. Church 2720 Kirchoff Road

Friday, July 27th Park District Camping Under the Stars in Kimball Hill Park

ROLLING MEADOWS ENVIRONMENTAL COMMITTEE

Meeting every first Tuesday of the month at 6:30 pm on the second floor of City Hall. You do not have to be a member to attend and all ideas are welcome. You can also visit them on Facebook.