



THE WEEDERS DIGEST

ROLLING MEADOWS GARDEN CLUB NEWSLETTER

JANUARY 2021

GARDEN CLUB – SEE PRESIDENT’S MESSAGE
SOCIAL TIME
MEETING

GARDEN CLUB WEB SITE

www.rollingmeadowsgardenclub.org



OFFICERS:

PRESIDENT – Carol Ohrn

VICE-PRESIDENT – Marie Soyka

SECRETARY – Carol Flemming

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.

JANUARY BIRTHDAYS

Karen Nottoli 1/2
Janice Babiarz 1/11
Sherry Kyle 1/16
John Glow 1/21
Jennifer Karls 1/25



“LET NATURE BE IN YOUR YARD”

GREG PETERSON

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

JANUARY 2021



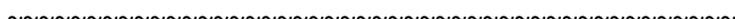
Dear Garden Club Members & Friends,

HAPPY NEW YEAR! Let's start the year out hoping it will be happy. We've all faced unprecedented challenges this past year that we've never imagined, making us realize the importance of friendship, kindness, strength and resilience. So let's put 2020 behind us and look forward to a brighter 2021!

At our January Zoom meeting, I will be drawing the winners of the photo contest we've been playing all year. We will then discuss going forward with another type of contest you'd like to see in the 2021 newsletter. Details will be coming to you in early January regarding Zoom. If you've never done it, we will guide you through step by step. We will learn this together, so don't be afraid!

During the "stay at home" month of January, hunker down by the fireplace, snuggle with your favorite blanket or pet, and read a good gardening book. Spring will be here before you know it – the seed catalogs are coming!!

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

FROM MARCY MOLGE'S FAMILY

Marcy Molge passed away last Fall and had been an early member of the Garden Club, however, she was more involved and active with the Senior Center. During the time she was a RMGC member, she helped at the Plant Sale with the pre-ordered distribution of mulch. Marcy's dry sense of humor was much appreciated. As age crept up on her, she no longer renewed her membership with the club and was missed by all.

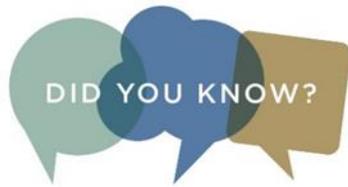
This card was sent to Mel Tatara who is in charge of sending out cards for special occasions. She was holding it until we had a meeting but that is not going to happen for a while.

Dear Rolling Meadows Garden Club,

Thank you for your kind card. Our mom always enjoyed her time with the garden club. Your support means more to us than words can express!!

Sincerely,

The Molge Family



John Glow

*Joined the Garden Club the year he was on our Garden Walk, maybe 2013?

*Has lived in Rolling Meadows for 44 years

*John had worked for Delta Airlines for 48 years, until his recent retirement in August! What an accomplishment. He enjoys pheasant hunting, but probably working in his yard more! Always separating, planting, transplanting, and selling his plants – seems like his hands are always in dirt! He is enjoying retirement tremendously.

Katie Schroeder

*Joined the Garden Club in 2016

*Has lived in Rolling Meadows for 2 ½ years, but now residing in Wheaton!

*Katie majored in Architecture at UIC. Her Grandma was a draftsman and as a child, Katie would draw with her on machines – not computers! She is currently Project Manager for a company that manages and maintains floorplans for hospitals and schools. Katie also just acquired her real-estate license!

Heinz Wesner

*Joined the Garden Club in 2012

*Has lived in Rolling Meadows for 26 years

*Even though we don't see Heinz too often, Surely you are aware that he is married to our lovely Heidi! Heinz worked for the German Railways for 18 years before leaving in 2002 to pursue working in the Tahiti / French Polynesian travel industry. Recently retired, Heinz still travels back to Germany occasionally to help with family matters.

MEMBERS NEWS

Debbie Danek is still in therapy after her hip replacement. She said she is getting stronger every day.

SPRING IS COMING



As I say every year, January is my favorite time because it is garden planning time. It doesn't matter if you can't buy or have the room for everything you want. It doesn't cost anything to look and make lists. Then there is the process of elimination because the location is not right because of the light or soil requirements. I usually wind up with my old favorites and a few new varieties, but I have fun looking.

MONARCH BUTTERFLY NEWS



For many years people have suspected that the Monarch butterfly in the warmer states did not migrate because the milkweed grew year-round. Journey North has members that register their sightings of Monarchs, eggs, caterpillars, and milkweed in every state. In the month of December this year there were sightings of all four in Texas, North Carolina and Florida which meant they do stay in the warmer climates. The butterflies may move on to Mexico after laying their eggs, but it will take a month before the butterflies from those eggs will be ready to migrate. Migrating butterflies here do not mate because they have a different life span. They mate in the spring after they leave Mexico. If there are more eggs laid in January and February in those states, it would probably suggest that they don't migrate.

Our current administration just admitted that Monarch butterflies are threatened with extinction, but it still won't give them Endangered Species Act protections. Its reasoning? Too many species are already endangered.

SPARROWS ARE CLEVER

I love watching the birds in my yard. Knowing that robins will build a nest on a shelf, I made one and attached it to my garage under the overhang. What I got was a sparrow and it quickly stated building its nest. After a couple of days and a lot of hard work, a grackle took over the nest and the sparrow had a fit. It flew at the grackle every time it came around, but the grackle kept adjusting the nest to fit its size. Then I noticed that the sparrow changed its tactics and only came when the starling wasn't there. It starting pushing nesting material under the nest. Within a few days the nest was so tall that it was too close to the soffit for the grackle to use it. I thought that was so clever but after all that work, the sparrow didn't want it either. I took the shelf down and put up a bird house.

Shirley

HONEYBEES



All the bees are down in Florida now for the winter. Still dealing with losses from colony collapse disorder. I lost my remaining hive in the Meadows a couple weeks ago. Full of honey and resources, all of a sudden empty of bees. I think there are about 60 hives in Florida counting for all the losses, but we will be splitting them down there and bringing, hopefully, double that amount back.

Jackson Banger

Plant Ideas by Debbie Danek

Happy New Year Everyone! Looking forward to a much better year than last! Continuing on the series of winter interest in bark, here are a few more trees to consider.

London Plane tree or *Platanus acerifolia*. Some of you may have this as a parkway tree. This is a very tough tree that can handle almost anything. Salt, clay, drought, and wet soils to name a few. If you are visiting the Chicago Botanical garden there is an elegant allee of these trees leading to the Plant Science center. The peeling bark in shades of cream, tan and warm brown lend it a camouflage look. They grow 55-65 ft tall and 40-50 ft wide with an oval canopy spread.



Lacebark elm or *Ulmus parvifolia*. Not to be confused with the London Plane tree it has a similar camouflage bark look. More rich in colors of brown, cream, and grey. Another parkway tree because of its toughness to dry soil, clay and road salt. Height and width is 40-50 ft. It also has beautiful fall foliage.



Swamp white oak or *Quercus bicolor*. If you have a very wet spot in your yard, this is the tree for you. This is one of our native oaks that love wet feet. It has thick dark green leaves that are white on the underside. These leaves will stay on all winter. The bark is flaky and peeling with age and reveals an orange inner bark. Height and width 50-60 ft.

