



Naperville Community Gardeners

Kris Siuciak, Editor
Mary Wright, Distribution

April 2009
Established 1980

Purpose: To nurture the gardening interests of its members and the community through educational programs and community service projects.

Next Meeting

May 4, 2009 7:00 PM

**John Greene, Realtor, 1135 S.
Route 59, Naperville**

**Speaker: George Janowiak from
Gem Ponds of West Chicago**

**Topic: Garden Ponds: Creating
ponds using recycled rain water**

2009 Officers

President	Robert Elvert
Vice President	Patti Thompson
Secretary	Barbara Jones
Treasurer	Tom Campbell
Past President	Rod Beary

LOOK INSIDE FOR:

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From the President

Thanks to everyone who was able to volunteer their time to help the Naperville Park District mulch the huge area from the Grand Pavilion to Centennial Beach. While a new area for us, it didn't slow us down. We had a great turnout and along with some assistance from the boy scouts surprised even the NPD supervisor how much we did. Because it was a popular walking area, we got a lot of great compliments from people, even a group of tourists. Also thanks to Linda Thompson for ordering beautiful weather, along with bringing coffee and donuts to keep us on task.

Now that we got our feet wet with our first volunteering effort for 2009, we can put our full effort in putting together a great plant sale on Saturday, May 9th. As in the past, it takes a huge effort from many to organize, but takes a bigger effort from everyone to make the sale a success. Please make sure that you attend the May 4th meeting to get all the information, as well as make sure you're on a volunteer list for either Friday the 8th set-up or the 9th sale. You'd be surprised that even a couple of hours will have a huge impact.

A big part of the sale, as well as a money maker for the Club are the member's plants brought to be sold. It's important not to wait until the day before the sale to dig them up, so plan ahead to dig and label the plant for an easier sale. If you need plastic pots to put them in, Ron Ory volunteered some at the April meeting which he would leave on his driveway.

Also by the May meeting, we'll know whether or not the NCGC won the Jaycees Distinguished Service award. Even if we don't win, being a finalist is a great honor and recognition for all the great activities we do to help educate and beautify the City of Naperville.

I hope everyone was able to get outside for at least a little while this past weekend to enjoy the weather and get their hands dirty.

Looking forward to seeing as many of you as possible at the May meeting.

Bob

Naperville Community Gardeners,

I think I can say that spring is moving forward, despite or because of the weather. Just look back in your garden journals and see that the cool, wet weather is not all that different from some past years.

My woodland garden is progressing from its spring beauty through bloodroot and on to Map apples and trilliums. So if you're looking for a refuge from a busy world PLEASE stop by and enjoy the refuge of Arbor Harbor .

You're welcome during day-light to stop by and wander. No need to call. The garden is at 445 S Julian St., Naperville.

That's just south of Chicago (Maple), east of downtown. Julian is the first street east of the four way stop at Columbia, or the first left turn street west of the fire station just east of Columbia. From the south you can come across Gartner and then north on Julian, and even be on the correct side of the street for parking.

Please park on the east side of the street opposite of the garden, there is no parking on the west side of Julian in our block. OR you may pull into the drive way and park there.

I look forward to seeing some of you

.Peter Klassen

Plastic 6 Packs

We are still looking for plastic 6 packs for our seedlings for the plant sale. We need ones with cells at least 3" size or larger.

Thanks!

Barbara Jones

Yard Signs

We have a limited number of yard signs for our plant sale this year.

I would like have people collect any that they put up, after the sale and will make arrangements to get them from you. Let's strategically place them so that they're in very visible places and cover as many of

the main thoroughfares and busy streets as possible throughout the town.

Feel free to ask good friends, or family members if they'd let you put a sign

in their yard if they live on a busy street..

I'll be bringing the signs to the May meeting before the plant sale.

If you will not be at that meeting, and can help with a yard sign please let me know. Barbara Jones

Naperville Community Gardeners,

I will be painting up the yard signs for the plant sale in the next few weeks.

If you have any white latex paint or any colored spray paint you'd like to donate, please let me know.

Thanks

Barbara Jones

Campbell Soup Fundraiser

I see that Campbells soup is sponsoring free seeds to the Future Farmers of America. Campbells' is also giving away free seeds when completing their website with the UPC code from their soup cans.

This information would be perfect for our club.

Here's the website:

<http://www.helpgrowyoursoup.com/default.aspx>

Check it out!

I'll share with the Park District program tonight.

Barb Bozek

Cherries

Would anyone like to do something with some pie cherries frozen from last year? We have a fair number and probably will not get around to using them.

Rod Beary

Annual Plant Sale	OPEN
Member Plants	Betty Ference
Community Projects	
Benton Street Post Office	Carolyn Finzer
Gardening Workshops	Ron Ory
Garden Plant-A-Row	Ben Calvert
Garden Plot Judging	Wanda Wohead
Garden Kiosk	Eleanor Holt
High School Liaisons	
District 204	Wanda Wohead
District 203	Kris Siuciak
Naper Settlement	Eleanor Holt
Naper Settlement Rose Garden	Brian Bell
River Walk Clean Up	Linda Thompson
River Walk Gardens	Joe Pope
Flower and Garden Show	Tom Campbell
Harvest Banquet	
Historian	Carolyn Finzer
Library	Ben Calvert
Membership	Betty Ference
Meeting Refreshments	Linda Thompson
Mini Show	OPEN
Newsletter	Kris Siuciak
Mail Distribution	Mary Wright
Officer Nominating Committee	Jill Borlick
Organic Gardening Sub Group	Betty Ference
Photography	Patty Thompson
Picnic	Linda Thompson
Publicity	Linda Thompson
Programs	Bob Elvert
Shop and Share	Jill Borlick
Show Director	Rosemary Holdredge
Special Events	Betty Earl
Special Correspondence	Eleanor Holt
Website	Peter Klassen

Club members.....Last Night I got the following message from Steve Tiwald of the Green Earth Institute seeking a couple of volunteers to work a two hour shift at their May 3rd Green Earth Fair answering questions to purchasers of seed packets they will be selling.

Let me know if anyone is interested. A few of us will already be there working the NCGC exhibit.

Thanks.....

Bob

Plant sale at Garden Clubs of Illinois Annual Convention at the Naperville/Lisle Hilton

[W&M Land Corp Organic Nursery & Market Garden](#) -
(Woodstock, Illinois)

Come visit us at our fundraising plant sale for the Garden Clubs of Illinois. We will be selling our certified organic seedlings on Sunday, April 26th from noon to 5pm, and on Monday April 27th from 8am-noon. The sale is part of the annual convention held at the Naperville / Lisle Hilton, and 20% of all sales will be donated to the Garden Clubs of Illinois.

Start Date: Apr 26, 2009

End Date: Apr 27, 2009

Organized by: W&M Land Corp Organic Nursery & Market Garden & GCI

Web site: www.wmlandcorp.com

Address: 3003 Corporate West Drive
Lisle, IL 60532

[EMAIL US](#)

Phone: 815 355 4534

April Minutes Naperville Community Gardeners Meeting Minutes, April 6, 2009

Call to order: Meeting called to order at 7:09 by Bob Elvert.

Welcome: We welcomed several guests and new members.

Treasurer's Report: Tom Campbell presented the Treasurer's Report.

Minutes: Eleanor Holt motioned to approve the last month's minutes, Esther Prock 2nd.

Announcements:

- Linda Thompson – Saturday April 18th is the Riverwalk Mulching. Meet between Brown's Chicken and the funeral home on S. Washington St. Drive behind the buildings and look for the group. Bring your own rakes, gloves. Meet at 8:30 am. Betty Ference talked to Chuck at the Park District about our plants on the Riverwalk and improving/enhancing what we have there. Ron from the Park District will meet us there on April 18th to talk about this.
- Linda Thompson got a phone call from the person who bought Chuck Baumrucker's house and he wants to get rid of his roses. Contact Linda at 548-2969 if you want to help dig these - either for yourself or for the plant sale.
- Ron Ory said the second free gardening workshop is April 21st 7-9 pm at Sportsman Clubhouse behind the garden plots. The organic workshop with Vicki Nowicki is on May 5th. Sign up on the Park District website www.napervilleparks.org or call them at 848-5000.
- Naperville City Arbor Day Tree Sale is on Saturday April 25 from 8 am - noon at the new Public Works Service Center, 180 Fort Hill Dr. See www.naperville.il.us/arbordaytreesale.aspx for the Plant List. They have great prices on excellent trees!
- Wheaton Park District Native Plant Sale is Saturday April 25 from 8:30 am to Noon at the Wheaton Public Works Building on Liberty Street across from the Wheaton Police Station. See www.wheatonparkdistrict.com/pgs/general/specialevents.html#nativeplantsale
- Esther Prock is in charge of the Fall Banquet passed out a questionnaire on people's preferences to see if people wanted a dinner or brunch, or if people had a specific location they'd like to go to.
- Betty Ference is selling club tee shirts - both short and long sleeved. Get yours today!! Prices range from \$12-\$16.

- Carolyn Finzer purchased a bunch of small work aprons that can be used at the Plant Sale.
- Mary Smedegard went to a seminar from the Growing Place about Growing Vegetables in Containers. She had handouts.
- Marilyn Krueger invited club members to their field trip on Tuesday May 19th 9:00 am - 3:00 pm to Hornbakers in Princeton, IL. Cost is \$25. Contact Nancy Carroll at 416-1022 if you want to go. Reservations are due by May 5th.

Old Business:

- **Budget Audit - Tom** Campbell and Judy Kanarak are working on this.
- **Plant Sale:** Sign ups went around for the Plant Sale. The Plant Sale is Saturday, May 9th. Logan has purchased \$6000 worth of annuals from Shafer's, Shady Hill and Lizzi's. They will be there Friday afternoon between 2:00 - 4:00 pm. All members need to be there to help unload the trucks and set up the tent. Linda Allison is in charge of members plants. Linda is sending out a list of plants that members might have in their yards that they can dig for the plant sale. Please let her know roughly what you will bring, and how many. She needs to know this in advance so she can make labels. On April 26th she will be having a potting-fest in her garage where they will be making up mixed Mother's Day containers. For the folks in the Seed Starter's group, contact Linda. The label-making (aka wine drinking) party is on May 6th. 6:00 - 9:00 pm. Contact Linda as soon as possible with what you will bring. If anyone has any question on the plant sale, contact Logan Wasson or Barbara Jones. Make sure you publicize the event to your friends etc. Mary Wright will email members and bring flyers to distribute/post. If anyone needs help digging up anything from your yards, contact Linda Allison.
- Wanda Wohead has large containers and pots. Ron Ory has pots that he will put on his driveway if you need any.
- **Mini Show** - We need a chairperson. This is an easy position where you just present

the items folks bring in to the meetings. Talk to Bob Elvert if interested..

- **Seed Starters:** Members are having a great time starting seeds and will have many for sale at the Plant Sale.
- Carolyn Finzer entered our club for the Jaycees Community Service Award. If you are interested in attending the banquet on Friday April 24, contact Carolyn. The banquet is at Hotel Arista on City Gate Lane in Naperville. There is a 6:00 pm cocktail hour and 7:00 pm awards/dinner. Linda Thompson made a motion for the club to pay for 2 additional people to attend. Peter Klassen 2nd.

Mini-Show:

- Marilyn Krueger brought in a lovely Red Peacock Amaryllis. Wanda Wohead brought in Gerbera daisy flowers that she over wintered, and are flowering. Ester Prock had 2 kinds of patio tomatoes. Laurel LaLonda had a beautiful photo of the plants that she started at home for the plant sale. Eleanor Holt had Black Pearl peppers that she started from seed that she saved. Esther Prock brought in moonflower seeds. Rosemary Stelter brought in a huge bouquet (pre-snow) of daffodils. Eleanor Holt was the winner of the \$5 raffle.

Adjournment: Barbara Jones motioned to close the meeting. Betty Ference 2nd. Next meeting will be on May 4th. This is our last meeting before the Plant Sale, so please try to attend.

Speaker: Patti Thompson introduced our speaker; Master Gardener, Stephanie Dalton who spoke to us on "Color in the Yard". She told us of several upcoming events at the University of Illinois Extension for April on gardening. Planter's Palette is having a benefit garden walk of 13 gardens in Wheaton, Glen Ellyn, Bartlett, St. Charles. Tickets are \$15 for one day, \$25/two days. June 27-28. More information will be on the Planter's Palate web page.

20 Top Trees and Shrubs for All-Year Interest, which will bring tremendous, curb appeal. When

you buy a tree, try to determine where it was grown, if it was grown in a warmer area, it may have a hard time adapting to our Zone 5 climate.

1. Paperbark Maple (*Acer griseum*) is a small tree with gorgeous cinnamon exfoliating bark. Makes a wonderful specimen. It likes full sun and moist, well-drained soil
2. Japanese Maple (*Acer palmatum* 'Bloodgood'). These can be tricky growing these in this area, 'Bloodgood' is one of the more reliable. They are a small tree with lovely red leaf color. 'Crimson Queen' is another popular variety.
3. Serviceberry (*Amelanchier* 'Autumn Brilliance') - multistemmed shrub or small tree with small white flowers in May and edible blue berries in June, that are very attractive to birds and wildlife. It also has excellent fall color and works well in full sun or an understory tree.
4. Chokeberry (*Aronia arbutifolia*) is an upright shrub 6-10' tall. It has white flower in May and red or black berries in the fall and winter. It is a native plant with good fall color. It is a little leggy so is good in the middle or back of a setting, rather than a specimen tree. Will tolerate a wet site.
5. Crimson Frost Birch (*Betula* 'Crimson Frost') is a 35' tall tree with dark purple-burgundy foliage and interesting exfoliating cinnamon bark. Makes a nice specimen tree or good in shrub border.
6. Redbud (*Cercis canadensis*) - a small single or multi-stemmed tree that will do well as an understory tree. Has brilliant magenta flowers in April, all along the branches.
7. Redbud 'Forest Pansy' (*Cercis canadensis*)
8. Pagoda Dogwood (*Cornus alternifolia*) - interesting horizontal branching, small tree with creamy white fragrant flowers in May, fruits in July-August. An interesting specimen tree that works well in a naturalistic setting, especially with a home with strong horizontal features 'Elizabeth Lundsgarten' is a weeping dogwood 7-8' tall.
9. Redtwig Dogwood (*Cornus sericea*) - should clean out the old brown dark wood every few years to encourage the red growth. Will do well in a wet site, in full sun or part shade. Some varieties have variegated foliage.
10. Smokebush (*Cotinus coggygia* 'Nordine') - grows 10-15' high. Has purple/red foliage with a

very irregular habit that looks best in a shrub border. The purplish red flowers in June July give the appearance of smoke. Looks really well with Joe Pye weed (*Eupatorium*).

11. *Fothergilla* (*Fothergilla gardenii*) - There is a dwarf variety 2-3' tall, the 'Mt. Airy' will get 3-5' tall. It has white fragrant flowers in the spring, and spectacular fall color. This is a 4 season plant. Rabbits will nibble on the bark so you can protect the bottom of it with caging. It will work in full sun or part shade

12. Vernal Witchhazel (*Hamamelis vernalis*) grows 6-10' tall and wide. Has small yellow flowers in spring, and yellow to red fall color. It is very tolerant of shade and wet soil conditions. The Common Witchhazel (*Hamamelis virginiana*) will bloom over the winter! It has a highly textured leaf. Good as a specimen or with other shrubs like *Fothergilla*, or *Itea*.

13. Annabelle Hydrangea (*Hydrangea aborescens* 'Annabelle') grows 3-5' tall is fast growing with dark green leaves in the summer. Best in some shade

14. Endless Summer Hydrangea (*Hydrangea macrophylla* 'Endless Summer') blooms on both old and new wood. It may be difficult to grow in this area. May take a few years to get well established and to bloom again. In December, you can cut it back to 6-9" and mulch well with newspaper and leaves. Remove these in April.

15. Limelight Hydrangea (*Hydrangea paniculata* 'Limelight') is a shrub 6-8' tall. Has large lime green flowers in July and August, that doesn't require any pruning. The flowers are also beautiful dried.

16. Pink Diamond Hydrangea (*Hydrangea paniculata* 'Pink Diamond') - an Upright shrub 6-8' tall with an open habit that requires no pruning.

17. Oakleaf Hydrangea (*Hydrangea quercifolia*) - wide offering of cultivars from dwarf to upwards of 10' - may be slow to establish itself. Cone shaped flowers appear in July. The Oak shaped leaves turn a mix of red, orange and purple. Part shade.

18. Virginia Sweetspire (*Itea virginica*) is a small shrub 3-4' tall and wide. It has 6" long white raceme flowers in June/July with brilliant purple-red fall color. Is a good addition to a shrub border.

19. Coppertina Ninebark (*Physocarpus opulifolius* 'Coppertina') grows to 8-10' high. 'Diablo' is more prone to powdery mildew and a leaf mite.

Coppertina has a coppery foliage in spring which turns a rich red in summer.

20. Summer Wine Ninebark (*Physocarpus opulifolius* 'Summer Wine') Compact branching shrub growing 5-6' tall with a lesser spread. Good with *Sedum* 'Matrona'. Has dark purple foliage all summer.

21. Gro-Low Sumac (*Rhus aromatica* 'Gro-low') very low variety good on banks and slopes

22. Tor Spirea (*Spirea* 'Tor') lasts longer than regular Spirea. Is compact, rounded 3' tall. Flat topped white flowers in May, yellow, bronze and red fall color

23. Stephanadra (*Stephanadra incisa* 'Crispa') a small arching shrub 1-3' tall and wide. Leaves are red tinged when unfolding, bright green summer to red-purple red orange in fall. Small white insignificant flowers. Likes full sun and tolerant of part shade, best in a moister area.

24. French Hybrid Lilac (*Syringa vulgaris*) fragrant flowers in a range of color. Good in a mixed shrub border. Susceptible to powdery mildew. Responds well to rejuvenation pruning.

25. Miss Kim Lilac (*Syringa patula* 'Miss Kim') shrub 4-6' tall. Purple buds open to fragrant blue-purple flowers. May be susceptible to some sort of fungal blight which may defoliate it.

Best in full sun and with good air circulation. Prune immediately after flowering.

26. Palabin Lilac (*Syringa meyeri* 'Palabin') Dwarf Korean Lilac with a rounder leaf shape.

27. Korean Spice Viburnum (*Viburnum carlesii*) - very fragrant flowers, 4-5' tall. Rose colored buds open to white flowers in April-May. Has a nice wine-red fall color.

'Judii' and 'Cayuga' are other good varieties.