



Charlevoix Area Garden Club

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Editor: Sarah Leonard

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Community Garden Spotlight

Pere Charlevoix Garden

On July 20, 1977 a mini-park, located at the end of West Dixon overlooking Lake Michigan, was dedicated. The park was named Pere Charlevoix Memorial Park. The Charlevoix Area Garden Club adopted the park as a Bicentennial project.

This park honors the French missionary, historian, and explorer, Father Pierre Francois Xavier de Charlevoix (1682-1761) for whom the city was named. Though the missionary never visited this spot, he did pass this way on his exploration of the New World.

The park is located on the bluff overlooking the lake with a view of the offshore islands and the points to the north and south in Lake Michigan. The lakeside area features a low fence and a grass covered area with benches for those who wish to watch the sunset or the changing moods of the big lake. There is also a stairway from this public park that leads to a public section of Lake Michigan beach!

At the southwest corner of the park is a large boulder bearing the commemorative plaque and smaller boulder surrounded by low plantings.

-Submitted by Shari Haynes



Garden Walk 2016

Mark your calendars and plan to be part of our biggest annual fundraiser! Wednesday, July 13th is the day we make garden magic for 500 to 600 people.

This year's theme is: "Gardens...Where Magic Happens". We are referring to the magic of seedlings and nurturing our gardens. Let's share our love and knowledge of plants. Call Joyce Herbert to sign up to be a Hostess or Docent. Call Charlotte Koger or Mary Lynn Heid to see what else needs to be done.

Remember – this year especially – we work together to grow and nurture friendships forever. Grab a friend and sign up to be a part of Garden Walk 2016.

-Submitted by Mary Lynn Heid

Flower Show

Charlevoix: Where Magic Happens

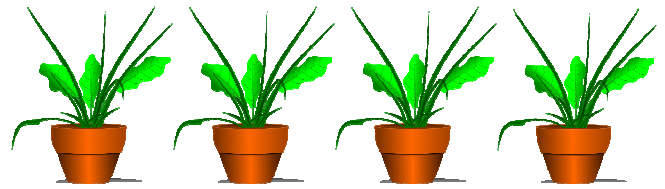
This is the title of our July 13th Flower Show and work on it is well underway.

Barb Clagett and Joan Nowak will be urging you to participate in the design section. There are 24 openings to do a design of a breakfast tray for one, a Venetian Festival table, and many many more. Do say yes to this exciting opportunity.

Patti Aikin is working on the beautiful schedule that you will receive in April that lists all the rules for Horticulture entries (Lois Lewis and Marsie Gowdy will be coordinating these entries), Design, and our Special Exhibits. Bev Ruldolph has secured entries in Special Exhibits from The Library (one of the very special things about Charlevoix), the Photography Club, the Lake Charlevoix Association and our own Downtown Beautification Committee. We need help from club members on putting the last one together. Call Bev if that is something you would like to assist with.

The garden walk and flower show are major projects of our club for which we are rightly famous. Let's all work together to make this year another outstanding success.

-Submitted by Audrey Etienne



CAGC Annual Plant Sale

Spring is just around the corner and we are anxiously awaiting the first sighting of our garden plants peeking out for a bit of sunshine. It is time again to be thinking of our CAGC Plant Sale coming up on Memorial Day weekend. The Plant Sale Committee is asking you to please consider sharing some of your wonderful plant specimens to support our first fundraiser of the year. Thank you for your help in making this year's sale the most successful ever. Please contact Cecilia Bustos at 636-295-0789 or ceciliabusto62@hotmail.com or Janet Gilbert at 734-635-0580 or janet.gilbert@sbcglobal.net.

-Submitted by Janet Gilbert

Think Plant Sale!



Coleus have been purchased from the Farm and Garden store in Florida. Rhea will root cuttings for the plant sale. Think Spring!

-Submitted by Rhea Dow



Conservation Hint

When spring cleaning and getting ready for summer, keep in mind that many things, such as straw baskets or basket style handbags, can be used as planters or for floral arrangements to reuse and instead of discarding.

-Submitted by Carrie Minch



March Meeting

March 8, 2016

1:00 PM

Pollinators

Cindy Roach of T.C. Butterfly House and Bug Zoo will tell us all we need to know to encourage pollinators to visit and stay in our gardens. (Rescheduled from February)



April Meeting

April 12, 2016

1:00 PM

Fungi Aren't Just for Eating

Marilynn Smith, "the Mushroom Lady", will discuss the role of fungi in our ecosystem and how they impact our gardening.



April Newsletter Deadline

Submission deadline for the April issue of the CAGC newsletter is March 26th. Send your information and articles to: sawleonard@gmail.com.

A Little "Mature Gardener" Humor...



-Submitted by Rhea Dow



Design Study Group News

The Club's NGC Design group met in January. The assignment was to present a tray that would reflect "Breakfast at Grandma's Cottage." Several members presented their tray at the meeting. Shirley Polakowski sent a photo of her tray via email from S. Carolina. That inspired Rhea to also send a photo of her tray via email from Florida. Ingrid was making cookies with her granddaughter in Alaska and they were inspired to also present a tray. Ingrid and her granddaughter's tray is entitled, *Lunch with Karabell*. Plant material is Hoya and Juniper. What a nice surprise to have designs coming from members at three different locations. Many thanks to those out-of-towners. Your designs were a great contribution to January's class. The January and February design class photos can be found at <http://cagcdesign.wordpress.com> Check it out.

-Submitted by Joan Nowak, Design Committee

DONATIONS

The Garden Club has transferred \$25 to the Memorial Garden in memory of Gary Schmidtke, husband of Kathleen.

The Meditation Garden has received a donation from Jeanne and George Schaller in memory of Gary Schmidtke.