

**ILLINOIS DUNESLAND GARDEN CLUB  
GENERAL MEETING  
October 11, 2016  
Zion-Benton Public Library, Zion, IL**

The meeting was called to order by Co-President April Meyers at 1:00 p.m. She led the group in the Pledge of Allegiance. There were 58 members and 4 guests present at the meeting.

**Speaker:** Donna Saalfeld introduced Becki O'Brien, who presented "Straw Bale Gardening". Following the presentation, Becki answered questions, and, assisted by her husband Jim, demonstrated how to plant in straw bales.

**BUSINESS MEETING**

**Roll Call:** April Meyers reminded everyone to sign in and pick up their nametags and yearbooks if they haven't received it.

**Birthdays:** April invited the October birthday members to stand to be acknowledged: Deborah Ann Rogers, Judy Wilkes, Naomi Friedrich, Carolyn Bergman, Judy Stalder, Shirley Mintern and Helen Koetz.

**Approval of Minutes:** The minutes from September 11, 2016 were posted, the required signatures obtained and were accepted.

**Treasurer's Report:** Cheri Florczyk presented the Treasurer's Report, which was posted with a combined final balance of \$9,023.76 for both the checking and savings accounts.

**COMMITTEE REPORTS**

**1st Vice-President:** Donna Saalfeld reported that Co-1st Vice-President Wendy Driver has resigned. Donna stated that Wendy started a new job and would still remain a member in the Garden Club.

**2nd Vice-President:** Carol Behm reported that the Zion-Benton Library has agreed to let the Garden Club book its meetings for the whole year. Carol reminded members that Marty Butler and Sandi Shea had appeared before the Library Board to make a request on the Garden Club's behalf. Carol recently learned the request had been granted by the Library Board.

**Sunshine:** Helen Koetz reported a card was sent to Deb Rogers. She also informed the members she had an accident while on a canoe trip in July and dislocated her shoulder. She is currently doing physical therapy.

**Garden Gloves:** Helen Koetz reminded the members that she has garden gloves available for \$4 a pair.

**Workshops:** Beth Dermody reported a coleus exchange and the concrete leaf workshop were held. She also stated a concrete mushroom workshop took place over three sessions. She was considering a winter workshop, but details are pending. A stepping stone workshop may be held in the Spring.

April Meyers stated there was a sign-up sheet for a Fall Garden walkthrough at her house this month. If enough members are interested it will take place on either October 18th or October 25th. She will talk about preparing your garden for winter and next season's garden.

**July Garden Walk:** Lori Coady reported at this time there are no gardens selected for the Garden Walk. April Meyers said Garden Club member Mary Otahal and local resident Michele Batz might participate this year. In addition, Beth Dermody said there is a railroad garden in Beach Park and she will give that information to Lori as another garden.

**Activities:** Darlene Robinson reported that 33 members attended the tour of the Volo Bog on October 5th.

**Monarch Butterfly Station:** Donna Saalfeld reported that the garden is growing back and is about 75% weeded. The new plants are doing well.

### **NEW BUSINESS:**

**Illinois Garden Club Request:** April Meyers reported that the Illinois Garden Club has a new initiative - seeking an Illinois Monarch Butterfly license plate from the Secretary of State Driver's License office. Members can participate by filling out a request form with \$10 (non-refundable) so the License Office will consider issuing the license plate. If 2,000 signatures are obtained they will issue the license plate. She stated that information and applications are available to members. She also informed the members that State Senator Melinda Bush and Zion Township Supervisor Cheri Neal are supporting this initiative.

**December Christmas Luncheon:** Carol Behm reminded the members the Christmas Luncheon will be held on December 13th at Shepherd's Crook, along with the centerpiece workshop with Gale Dulian. The fee is \$15 for the luncheon and \$15 for the workshop. Carol reported that the menu includes chicken with a wine and mushroom sauce, parselied potatoes, green beans, three different salads, rolls, and pumpkin bars for dessert. Members can submit their payments to Cheri Florczyk by the November meeting.

**New Member Induction:** April Meyers welcomed returning member Joyce Frederick back to the club. She then inducted new members Sue Raiden, Linda Janicki, Patricia

Campanella, Pat Doles, and Fred Pitts. New Members Jerry Hufendick, Jan Melin and Diana Gonzales were not present and will be inducted at the next meeting.

**Tip of the Month:** Beth Dermody shared Marty Butler's tip to use coffee filters to clean car windows. Beth also demonstrated using an antique can (or coffee can or bucket) and decorating it with seed packages for displaying your fall flowers. She then gave the arrangement as a thank you to our speaker Becki O'Brien.

**Donated Books:** Joyce Lomonaco informed members that there were two letters posted on the bulletin board from the Zion Library thanking the Garden Club for its donation to purchase books for the library in memory of members Susan Poyer and Connie Reynolds.

**Miscellaneous:** April Meyers informed the members that there was fresh rosemary available for the taking. She also stated that there were pamphlets about summer plants and bulbs available.

Gale Dulian informed the members that Stadel's Farm in McHenry invited Garden Club members to tour the farm, which includes vegetable gardens and fruit orchards. If interested, please contact Gale.

Judy Leonard commented that she uses her dried flowers for Halloween decorations.

## **ANNOUNCEMENTS**

**October's Refreshment Committee:** April Meyers thanked Lead Linda McKinney, Greeter Liz Grulke, and Members Gloria Askew, Ruth Hens, Jerry Hufendick, Helen Koetz, Kathy Knutell and Shirley Solberg for providing the delicious refreshments following today's meeting.

**November's Refreshment Committee:** April Meyers announced that next month's committee is Lead Joni Marlowe, Greeter Lori Coady, and Members Claire Erickson, Peggy Evans, Mary Gustafson, Linda Janicki, Judy Wilkes and Lauren Yahiro.

**Next Month's Program:** April Meyers announced the speakers for the November meeting. Charlotte Adelman, who wrote several books on native plants, will speak on the best native plants to attract pollinators, and Monica Buckley, owner of Red Stern Native Landscapers, will speak on projects to attract those pollinators.

**Reminder:** April Meyers reminded members to leave their nametags and to sign up for any workshops or trips. She also stated that there are apples available for the members.

## **Adjournment:**

A Motion was made by Ludwina Homer and seconded to adjourn the meeting. Motion passed and the meeting was adjourned at 2:28 pm.

Mary Otahal, Co-Secretary