



# Naperville Community Gardeners

Kris Siuciak, Editor  
Mary Wright, Distribution

August 2008  
Established 1980

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

## Next Meeting

September 9, 2008  
(Tuesday)

John Greene Realty  
1311 S. Highway 59, Naperville  
(Hwy 59 and Montgomery Rd/83<sup>rd</sup> St)

**Speaker:** TBA

**Topic:**

## 2008 Officers

<b>President</b>	<b>Rod Beary</b>
<b>Vice President</b>	<b>Logan Wasson</b>
<b>Secretary</b>	<b>Barbara Jones</b>
<b>Treasurer</b>	<b>Tom Campbell</b>
<b>Past President</b>	<b>Linda Thompson</b>

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## From The President:

As I write this letter it is drawing very close to our Plant Show on August 23<sup>rd</sup>. It could be a bigger event this year, even though some of our most prolific contestants will not be participating this year due to vacation plans. But, Barbara Jones has sent out an invitation to other local area clubs for them to join us. I hope you all are looking over your garden and making many entries. It always surprises me how much you can get out of a garden, whether to eat or display.

The Japanese Beetles (JB's) were quite a scourge this year for many of us but it seems they are on the wain now. This is the first year I can think of that JB's so aggressively ate fruit as well as the leaves of plants. They went from the normal rose, grape, asparagus leaves to devouring early apples and peaches. It is not a pretty sight to see 30 or so JB's eating away at what was a perfectly good apple. Actually, it's pretty disgusting. They all but denuded our Linden, climbing hydrangea and plum trees. I took little comfort in vacuuming them and hand scooting them into a pail of water. But, it was psychologically important, if you know what I mean. JB control could be an interesting topic to our members. Maybe someone would like to put a memo on our website on how to best control JB's chemically and organically?

Other than the problem with JB's it has been an exceptionally good year for gardening...just the right amount of rain, not too many hot days and nice temperatures in general. There should be a lot of beautiful and interesting entries in the plant show this year.

This is the time of year we need to think about club elections. We specifically need a new vice president. If you are interested in serving in any capacity please let me or one of the other officers know what you would like to do. We have elections at our October meeting for officers. We also need position chair persons for next year's plant sale. And, don't forget to help with this year's plant show.

Our September meeting is on a Tuesday...Tuesday, September 9<sup>th</sup>. Please make a note of it and plan to attend. I look forward to seeing everyone there. Beth Engle is coordinating our member plant swap at this meeting. Bring a plant in, take a plant home...what a deal!

Best regards,

Rod Beary

**August Minutes  
Naperville Community Gardeners Meeting  
Minutes, August 4, 2008**

**Call to order:** Meeting called to order by Linda Thompson at 7:00 pm.

**Welcome:** Marilyn Mills, Mary Gannon, Nancy Pope, Helen Grassington and Marilyn Krueger attended as guests. Marilyn Krueger brought several issues of the Positively Naperville where she pointed out a column that she wrote

about our club. Rod Beary reminded us that next month's meeting is **Tuesday September 9th**.

**Minutes and Treasurer's Report:** Tom Campbell presented the July Treasurer's Report. Bob Elvert motioned to approve the Treasurer's report, Betty Ference 2nd, and membership voted to approve.

**Committee Reports:**

- **June Newsletter** was approved.
- **Bus Tour** - We had a great bus trip to three wonderful gardens. Thanks to Betty Earl for all the hard work in planning this for us.
- **Picnic** - we had a nice turnout, great weather and great food. Thanks to the members who let us view their gardens.
- **Fall Dinner November 2nd.** - Wanda Wohead - Jimmy's Charhouse closed for remodelling. Wanda will finalize the menu/prices with them and get back to us.
- **Elections:** Rod Beary said we have elections this fall. Openings exist for Plant Sale Member Plants (formerly Betty Ference), Vice President (formerly Bob Elvert), Plant Sale Chairperson (formerly Logan Wasson). Please contact Rod if you're interested.
- **Garden Show Saturday August 23rd.** Signup is available for helpers setting up on Friday evening, Saturday: staging, clerks to help the judges, greeters and cleanup at 3:00 pm. Contact Tom Campbell if you can help, if you have any questions or to get a show guide. Thanks to new member Laurel LaLonde for doing a beautiful job with the 2008 show guide. Tom has the flower show guides, and he talked about show rules and how to fill out the Plant Identification Tag. The Registration Number will be based on the list of members in the club. Refer to the show guide for explicit requirements on all entries. All members are encouraged to participate in and help with the show, and to publicize the show to friends, family and members of the community.

- **Garden Plot judging** - Wanda Wohead reported on the garden plot judging.
- **Plant Swap Tuesday September 9th** - Beth Engle. Our plant swap will be at the September meeting. Bring any plants and meet in the parking lot before the meeting. Please label your plants as best as you can.

#### Announcements:

- Mary Smedegard - Her church donates extra produce to PADS. Contact her if you have produce to donate.
- Ollie Burrows - has Lions Club raffle tickets.
- Marilyn Krueger - thanked members for attending the Naperville Garden Club Bluestar Memorial Marker dedication and their Flower Show.
- Barb Bozek has handouts from the Illinois Extension master Gardeners on Butterfly Gardening.
- Eleanor Holt - the Illinois Master Gardener Conference will be held on September 11-13 at the Westin Hotel in Lombard. Go to [www.extension.uiuc.edu/mg](http://www.extension.uiuc.edu/mg) or contact Monica David at 217-265-5256 or [modavid@illinois.edu](mailto:modavid@illinois.edu) for more information.

#### New Business:

- Tom Campbell and Ben Calvert have taken over 400 lbs of produce over to Loaves and Fishes from the Plant a Row for the Hungry plot.
- Barbara Jones reminded members to refrain from wearing cologne/perfume to our meetings and events.
- Betty Ference has new member name tags and club tee shirts. Contact her for orders.
- Carolyn Finzer talked about the post office plantings and coverage of this activity from the local newspapers. Club members have donated many rocks and plants. Ollie Burrows made her a photo album of the plantings. She brought in a silk jacket with butterflies to show, and a craft for making butterfly bookmarks.

**Mini-Show:** Beth Engle presented the many entries. Rosemary Stelter brought in a ruffled red Hollyhock. Betty Ference brought in a mixed bouquet with a Dahlia (she purchased this at the plant sale from Freda Haller), Hosta and scented Geranium. Ron Ory brought in Onion 'Candy' Rosemary Stelter had a bouquet of snapdragon, echinacea and pansy. Carolyn Finzer brought in a very large weed called Velvet Leaf. JoAnn Monge brought in a lovely Dahlia 'Unforgettable', Euphorbia, Nodding Wild Onion, and Mountain Mint. Wanda Wohead brought in a beautiful basket of vegetables. Laurel LaLonda brought in some Thai Basil. Rod Beary brought in tomato 'Opalka', apple 'Pristine', and garlic 'Chestnut Red'. Betty Ference won the mini-show prize.

**Adjournment:** Judy Kanarek motioned to close the meeting, Rosemary Stelter 2nd.

**Speaker:** Bob Elvert introduced our speaker, Kane County Master Gardener, Rose Johnson who gave a delightful presentation on gardening to attract butterflies to your garden. Butterfly gardening is a wonderful way to connect us with the cycle of life. Many butterfly plants are great garden plants and have terrific ornamental value. Many of these same plants also attract birds.

- **Butterfly Basics.** They undergo complete metamorphosis, changing from egg, caterpillar, pupa, then adults. The pupal stage is a cocoon for a moth, and a chrysalis for a butterfly. Dill is an excellent host plant for Black Swallowtail butterfly caterpillars.
- Butterflies have specific habitats, and they use plants native to Illinois.
- Good books - Field Guide to the Butterflies of Illinois and Field Guide to the Silkmoths of Illinois. [www.butterfliesandmoths.org](http://www.butterfliesandmoths.org) is a great website that has info for every county in the US.
- Butterflies need: sun, shelter, water, good habitat for all stages and food. To attract butterflies you should provide for all their needs for all their stages - not just plants with nectar. Do not use

pesticides in the area as this will kill them. (Pesticides do not differentiate between good and bad insects).

- Shelter should be provided to protect them from the wind.
- Butterflies need water - a dish of moist sand or rocks, or damp soil are good ways to provide this. You don't need a deep puddle as this might attract mosquitoes. Male butterflies often congregate in moist areas to get salt. Females don't "puddle" in this way.
- Female butterflies search for specific plants for egg laying. Eg Monarchs depend specifically on milkweed plants (eg Asclepias) for their caterpillars.
- Good caterpillar plants: carrot, parsley, violets, thistles, dill
- Most butterfly adults drink nectar and some drink from rotting fruit such as watermelon pieces or cantaloupe rinds. Try to have nectar sources available all spring, summer, fall, and use masses of flowers to attract them, rather than single plants. Make sure to have a lot of late blooming flowers. Many good flowers have small tubular flowers, "landing pads" are nice for them such as daisies. The colors of the flowers don't seem to matter much.
- Good annual plants: Mexican sunflower, globe amaranth, zinnia, Black-eyed Susan, Verbena, pentas, lantana, marigold. Good perennials include catmint (nepeta), anise hyssop (agastache), New Jersey Tea shrub (ceanothus), salvia, beebalm (monarda), blazing star (liatris), sedum, asters, butterfly bush (buddleia), purple coneflower, (echinacea), pincushion flower (scabiosa), butterfly weed (asclepias), ironweed (veronica), goldenrod (solidago), joe pye weed (eupatorium).

#### Common butterflies in Illinois

- Great Spangled Fritillary - the young eat violets.
- Red Admiral - often the first butterflies of the season. Males are territorial and very aggressive.
- Comma - early butterfly. The butterflies prefer rotten fruit and tree sap for food.

- Orange Sulfur - males are often found in large groups. Caterpillars eat legumes.
- Red Spotted Purple - The butterflies prefer rotten fruit.
- Snout Butterfly
- Painted Lady - has a greater world distribution than any other butterfly. Migrates great distances.
- Buckeye - migrates. Caterpillars like snapdragons.
- Northern Pearly-eye. Found primarily in the shade. The butterfly prefers rotten fruit, animal dung, tree sap.

#### Butterfly Conservatories:

Butterfly World - Coconut Creek, FLA

Callaway Gardens - Pine Mountain, GA

Cockrell Butterfly Center - Houston, TX

Sophia Sachs Butterfly House - Chesterfield, Missouri

Peck Farm - Geneva, IL

#### Good reference books:

Butterfly Book - Donald and Lilian Stokes and Ernest Williams

Butterfly Gardening by the Xerces Society

Garden Butterflies of North America - Rick Mikula

Field Guide to the Butterflies of IL - Bouseman and Sternburg

Field Guide to the Silkmoths of IL - Bouseman and Sternburg

The Family Butterfly Book - Rick Mikula

(available at the Naperville Public Library)