



# Naperville Community Gardeners

Kris Siuciak, Editor  
Mary Wright, Distribution

**October 2008**  
Established 1980

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

## Next Meeting

January 5, 2009, 7 p.m.  
Monday

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>Bob Elvert</b>
<b>Secretary</b>	<b>Barbara Jones</b>
<b>Treasurer</b>	<b>Tom Campbell</b>
<b>Past President</b>	<b>Lind Thompson</b>

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## From The President:

It's October 14<sup>th</sup> as I write this letter and we have yet to have a frost or freeze and looking out on the weather map, one is not coming in the next several days. I think of the average first frost date as being the 15<sup>th</sup> but on the Victory Seed Company web site they have it for the Chicago area as the 22<sup>nd</sup>. In any case, it is garden clean up time of the year, and, if you are into garlic, it is getting close to planting time for that. Needless to say this is a busy and important time of year for gardeners. And, one couldn't ask for more perfect weather to be outside. Enjoy it for while it lasts.

Another big event for gardeners this time of year is our Fall Dinner. Wanda Wohead agreed to do the event again this year. Thank you Wanda for all the work and the excellent results that you have put into this event for the past few years. We are meeting at Mimi's Restaurant on Rt. 59 in Naperville on Sunday, November 2<sup>nd</sup>. This event is in lieu of our normal Monday night meeting and will be the last time we get together in 2008. I hope everyone can make it.

We had officer elections at our October meeting so I want to thank Bob Elvert for agreeing to serve as President, Patti Thompson as Vice President, Tom Campbell as Treasurer, and Barbara Jones as Secretary. Please go out of your way to thank them for agreeing to do this. In addition, Linda Thompson agreed to be the Refreshments Chair person. Thank you Linda. With that, all committees are staffed with the exception of the Plant Sale committee. We still have a need for someone (or two) to chair our Plant Sale committee. If you would like to nominate someone, please give me or one of the officers their name so we can contact them.

I would like to thank everyone who contributed to the success of the club this past year. Without exception all the committees did their job very well. The committees are the wheels of the organization, without which we couldn't move so if you would like

to be a (big) wheel, volunteer to serve on a committee.

Looking forward to seeing you at our Fall Dinner,

Rod Beary

**Naperville Community Gardeners  
Committee Chairs 2008**

- Annual Plant Sale.....Mary Wright
- MemberPlants.....Betty Ference
- CommunityProjects:
- ..Benton Street And Ogden Ave Post Office Gardens
- Sunshine Lady .....Carolyn Finzer
- Gardening Workshops.....Ron Ory
- Garden Plant a Row.....Ben Calvert
- Garden Plot Kiosk.....Eleanor Holt
- Garden Plot Judging.....Wanda Wohead
- High School Liaisons 204.....Wanda Wohead
- .....203.....Kristie Siuciak
- Naper Settlement.....Eleanor Holt
- Naper Settlement Rose Garden.....-Brian Bell
- River Walk Cleanup.....Linda Thompson
- Riverwalk Gardens.....Joe Pope
- Flower and Garden Show.....Tom Campbell
- Harvest Banquet.....Wanda Wohead
- Historian.....Carolyn Finzer
- Library.....Ben Calvert
- Membership.....Betty Ferrance
- Meeting Refreshments.....Linda Allison
- Mini Show.....Beth Engle
- Newsletter.....Kris Siuciak
- Mail distribution.....Mary Wright
- Officer Nominating Committee... ..Jill Borlick
- Organic Gardening Sub Group.....Betty Ferrance
- 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

**Garden Plot Meetings**

*Community Engagement Meetings regarding  
Garden Plots property on West Street*

Naperville Community Unit School District 203 and the Naperville Park District will be hosting three community engagement meetings to gather public feedback on site concepts for the proposed future use of the Garden Plots property along West Street.

As we realize these discussions involve several different community stakeholders including Park District participants, Garden Plots users, high school athletes, and many others. We encourage the involvement of as many people as possible.

Each of the three meetings will be identical in format, with staff from both School District 203 and the Naperville Park district in attendance.

Attendees can expect an open house format beginning with a brief overview presentation to outline the issues, concept drawings displayed, options outlined, and participant feedback taken for further consideration.

Please join us for one of the following Community Engagement Meetings.

Each will be held from 7:00 p.m.-8:30 p.m.:

Wednesday, October 29  
District 203 Administrative Center  
203 W. Hillside Avenue

Monday, November 10  
Alfred Rubin Riverwalk Community Center  
305 W. Jackson Avenue

Wednesday, November 12  
District 203 Administrative Center  
203 W. Hillside Avenue

Those who are unable to attend any of these meetings are encouraged to provide their comments via e-mail to School District 203 at [athleticfields@naperville203.org](mailto:athleticfields@naperville203.org) or to the Naperville Park District at [info@napervilleparks.org](mailto:info@napervilleparks.org); please type "Garden Plots" in the subject line.

Additionally, the Park District invites all interested individuals to learn more about the Garden Plots on West Street at [www.napervilleparks.org](http://www.napervilleparks.org).

Additional information will be available on both the Park District website and the School District 203 website beginning late in the week of Oct. 20 at [www.naperville203.org](http://www.naperville203.org).

Information will include:

- A whitepaper outlining options
- An Informational brochure
- FAQ's

Please note that all Naperville Park District gardeners will receive this information in a mailing, also to be sent late in the week of Oct. 20.

#### Next Steps in the process-

Following the community engagement meetings, School District 203 and the Naperville Park District will work cooperatively to compile community feedback

The Naperville Park District will conduct a survey of Garden Plots participants and subsequently analyze the data received.

Both School District 203 and the Park District will engage their respective boards to come to a decision of what course of action to take. These boards will make the determination whether or not any recommendations will be made to City Council for their consideration and action.

Naperville Park District 630/848-5000  
mailto: [dshomper@napervilleparks.org](mailto:dshomper@napervilleparks.org)

## **October Minutes**

### **Naperville Community Gardeners Meeting Minutes, October 6, 2008**

**Call to order:** Meeting called to order by Laurel LaLonde at 7:05 pm.

**Welcome:** Rod Beary welcomed our members and guests Lee Ann Rockershousen, Kathy Hoffman, Elaine Fisher, Doug Dallmer.

**Minutes and Treasurer's Report:** No Treasurer . Barbara Jones presented the September meeting minutes. Bob Elvert accepted the meeting minutes, 2nd by Patti Thompson

#### **Committee Reports:**

- **Fall Dinner** - Wanda Wohead - banquet is at Mimi's at Rt 59 and 95th St on November 2nd starting at 5:30 pm. There will be wonderful prizes. Invitations have been mailed. Contact Wanda if you didn't get an invitation.
- **Post Office Gardens** - Carolyn would like to have the plants left tall for the winter. She has a committee of 10 club members who are working on these lovely areas.

#### **Announcements:**

- Elaine Fisher and Doub Dallmer from the "Save The Garden" local group spoke to the club. They are concerned about the Naperville Park District's current proposal to turn over some of the garden plots to become sports fields. Visit their web site at [www.NaperGardens.com](http://www.NaperGardens.com) or email them at [info@NaperGardens.com](mailto:info@NaperGardens.com). There are currently ~ 558 garden plots. The Park District would like to take about 330 plots and convert these to become sports fields. They would like to put ~100 plots in a designated wetlands area to the west of the current garden plots. They would also like to put more plots at the park area at Naper and Royce Rd.

**New Business:**

- Patti Thompson was approved for next year's Vice President. Bob Elvert will be our new President, Barbara Jones will continue as Secretary, Tom Campbell will continue as Treasurer. We have several chair positions available for plant sale positions and refreshments. Please contact Bob Elvert if you're interested in any of these exciting opportunities.
- Linda Thompson made a motion to re-affirm our by-laws as printed as written. Bob Elvert 2nd the motion.

**Mini-Show:** Nancy Carroll presented the mini-show. Many gorgeous dahlias. Ollie Burrows and Nick Papadolias had an amazing collection of all different types of dahlias. Swan Island Dahlias is a great source for them. Laurel LaLonde brought in some herbs; stevia which is used as a natural sweetener in Japan. Eleanor Holt brought in a Double Knock Out Rose. Rosemary Stelter brought in a highly scented pink rose. Nancy Carroll brought in some dahlias and a dark purple aster. Ollie Burrows was the winner of the \$5 raffle.

**Adjournment:** Patti Thompson motioned to close the meeting, Linda Thompson 2nd.

**Speaker:** Bob Elvert introduced our speaker, Mary Saba, from The Growing Place, who spoke to us about Four Season Interest in the Garden. Consider: Form, Texture, Color. Start by looking at the overall structure of the area and the hardscape, as this can add all season interest. Examine the paths, benches, trellises, stepping stones. Think about what it looks like in winter. A good trick is to take a digital picture of your garden, put it on your computer and convert it to black and white. This will show you the "bones" of your garden. Here are some plants that Mary likes for the Four Season Interest:

- Plants with berries/fruit can provide great winter interest, for example roses, holly, viburnum.
- Twigs such as from Japanese Maple, dogwoods, ninebark, Harry Lauder's

Walking Stick provide interest when not in leaf. Only the juvenile branches turn red on Red-Twig Dogwood, so prune them in the spring and cut out all brown, older growth, to the ground.

- Evergreens, yucca, mixture of needle textures, grasses.
- Witchhazel 'Jelena',
- Cornelian Cherry Dogwood (Cornus mas),
- Redbud 'Forest Pansy' and 'Lavender Twist' (Cercis canadensis), will like a little afternoon shade.
- Oregon Grapeholly/Mahonia,
- Cotoneaster hessei.
- To acidify the soil for things like Rhododendrons, fertilize with cheap Coke (as in soda) in the spring.
- Serviceberry (Amelanchier).
- Hawthorne/Crataegus.
- Viburnum Blackhaw 'Knighthood'
- Viburnum 'Summer Snowflake'
- Crabapples: 'Sargent', 'Sargent Tina', 'Golden Raindrops', 'Royal Raindrops', 'Adirondack', 'Red Jewel'
- Ninebark (Physocarpus)
- Chokeberry (Aronia) 'Iroquois Beauty'
- Magnolia virginiana - blooms in June so frost doesn't hit the blooms. Will do well in a wet site, nice fall seed pods. Many other varieties are very susceptible to scale.
- Shrub roses, Rugosa roses, Moss roses.
- Sumac Rhus 'Tiger Eye', 'Morton', 'Grolow'
- Hydrangea 'Pinky Winky', 'Quick Fire', 'Annabelle', 'Limelight'
- Hydrangea Oakleaf (quercifolia)
- Paperbark Maple (Acer griseum)
- Grasses: Panicum 'Northwind', Pennisetum, Little Blue Stem, Prairie Drop Seed 'Tara'
- Perennials: Stachys minima, Iris siberica, Beautyberry/Callicarpa, Sedum, Ajuga 'Black Scallop', Hellebores