



Naperville Community Gardeners

Kris Siuciak, Editor
Mary Wright, Distribution

Sept 2008
Established 1980

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

Next Meeting

October 6, 2008
(MONDAY)

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

Speaker:: Mary Saba of The Growing Place
Topic: Four Season Interest
Gardening

2008 Officers

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

BE SURE TO FIND:

From The President:

In last month's letter, I wrote..."exceptionally good year for gardening...just the right amount of rain..." If that was true then, after getting seven plus inches this past weekend, maybe now we have had a little more than "just the right amount". In any case, things are pretty soggy in the garden this week. The tomatoes are bursting, the beans are getting rust, but for the most part plants like rain so one can't complain too much.

Our October meeting is a very important one for the club. We elect new officers for next year and should fill any committee chairs to make sure we accomplish our goals for the year. Please thank Patti Thompson for agreeing to serve as Vice President next year and thank Linda Allison for agreeing to handle club member plant sales. We still need volunteers for the Refreshments position to replace Linda and we need someone (or two) to chair the plant sale. Thank you, Mary Wright and Logan Wasson for giving so much in this area for the last two years. The plant sale is very (very) important to the club. Without the plant sale, we have no budget to fund our club's activities. Although many people give so willingly to make our sale a success, the chair position is very important.

John Greene Realty has again so graciously confirmed meeting space for our meetings next year:

September 2008

January 5	June 1
February 2	August 3
March 2	September 14
April 6	October 5
May 4	

Wanda Wohead is working to confirm our fall dinner. The date and location are to be finalized since the place we had scheduled is not available due to construction activity. Please plan to attend. It has always been a very nice affair to wind up our gardener fellowship year.

I look forward to seeing everyone at our October 6th meeting.

Best regards,

Rod Beary

**Naperville Community Gardeners
Committee Chairs 2008**

Annual Plant Sale.....Mary Wright
 Member Plants.....Betty Ference
 Community Projects: Benton Street Post Office.....
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

**September Minutes
Naperville Community Gardeners Meeting
Minutes, September 9, 2008**

Call to order: Meeting called to order by Linda Thompson at 7:05 pm.

Welcome: Rod Beary welcomed our members. Lee Ann Rockershousen, Mary Teager, Tiffany Lan, Dave Beary, Marilyn Krueger attended as guests.

Minutes and Treasurer's Report: Tom

Campbell deferred the August Treasurer's Report to next month. Barbara Jones presented the August meeting minutes.

Committee Reports:

- **Garden Show Saturday August 23rd - Tom Campbell.** The 28th Annual Flower/Garden Show was very successful. We had roughly 30 members participate, 12 non-members (3 youth). Some winners from the club were Sherry Jopp, Beth Engle, Rosemary Stelter, Nick Papadolias, Carolyn Finzer, Nancy Carroll, Rod Beary, Ben Calvert. Thanks especially to everyone who helped set up and clean up.
- **Fall Dinner** - Wanda Wohead is looking at Mimi's Café on Rt. 59 (at 95th St). The date will be either November 2nd or November 16th.
- **Plant a Row For The Hungry - Tom Campbell** - We're up to 765 lbs of produce that was donated.

Announcements:

- Carolyn Finzer - Kathy Millen from the Naperville Sun is looking for pictures of weird or unusual vegetables. Email them to kmillen@scn1.com
- Betty Ference - our little garden area on the Riverwalk is looking very sad. She was wondering if anyone had anything to plant there, that might flower in the fall. Joe Pope said the Riverwalk Commission had restrictions on what could be planted there. Betty said she would contact the Park District to see if anything could be done.

New Business:

- Nancy Carroll presented a catalog to Seed Savers, a world renowned seed bank. They have many different interesting seeds and heirlooms. She also passed around pictures of our club field trip. They also extended an invitation from the Naperville Garden Club for Tuesday September 30th. They will visit with a bee keeper, beautiful gardens, cooking demonstration, apples from Keipers Orchards, visit to a large farmers market. Contact her if interested.

- Barbara Jones reminded members to refrain from wearing cologne/perfume to our meetings and events.
- Rod Beary nominated Patti Thompson 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, refreshments. Please contact Bob Elvert if you're interested.

Mini-Show: Nancy Carroll presented the mini-show items. Nancy brought in several different caladium leaves. They need warm soil to grow and the bulbs can be overwintered. Rosemary Stelter brought in anemone, mini-rose and physostegia (obedient plant). Brian Bell brought in several roses: Nicole, Pristine, Mr. Lincoln, . He lives off Modaff and 75th St. Address is 418 Sagebrush Rd. - feel free to stop by any time to see his roses. Laurel LaLonde brought some catmint. Patti Thompson brought in anemone, physostegia, and dagger fern. Brian Bell was the winner of the raffle.

Adjournment: Ollie Burrows motioned to close the meeting, Betty Ference 2nd.

Speaker: Bob Elvert introduced our speaker, Kristin Adams, speaking on Spring Bulbs. There are four kinds of bulbs. 1) True bulbs - tulips, daffodils, allium, 2) Corm - gladiolus, crocus, elephant ear, 3) Rhizomes - Iris, cannas, calla lilies, 4) Tuberous Roots - dahlias, daylilies.

Fall Planting: Its still a little early to plant fall bulbs, because its still too warm. If you buy bulbs now, keep them in a cool place until fall planting. (especially for tulips).

Soil Conditions: Clay soil is sometimes difficult for bulbs. It contains a lot of nutrients, but retains a lot of moisture, which may be too wet for bulbs. Tulips and hyacinths like to be in dry soil after they flower. So good drainage is very important. Addition of compost, leaf mold, blended mushroom compost, is good.

Fertilizer: Bulbs benefit from application of some fertilizer in the fall. A 10-10-10 fertilizer is good. The Growing Place organic fertilizer is timed release 10-10-10. Its good to broadcast some on the ground then scratch it in a little.

Daffodils: Good, reliable bulbs. They are native to the Mediterranean, and were used by the Egyptians and the Greeks. The English have cultivated over 6000 varieties.

Tulips: Native to Turkey. The stripes and ruffles on some varieties, are actually mutations based on viruses. Some tulips perennialize (single early, single late and old varieties). The ruffle and double ones don't generally perennialize.

Hyacinths: Native to Turkey. Good for early forcing (pre-cooling them to bloom early).

Kristin demonstrated various tools that can be used for planting. Plant bulbs with the pointy side up. If you can't tell which is the pointy end, plant it on its side. It is ok to cut the flower stems off after flowering, but you must leave the foliage on so that it'll continue to photosynthesize and provide food for the bulb for next year. Bulb lasagna is a way of planting bulbs in a pot or in the ground. Bigger bulbs get planted first, then put some soil in and plant progressively smaller bulbs, layered with soil. This also gives you a very nice progression of blooms, especially if you use different types of bulbs. If you are planting them in a pot, put the container in a cold cellar or garage that won't get below freezing, for at least 12 weeks. Take the pot out in the spring and warm up gently.

A good website is www.oldhousegardens.com. They specialize in heirloom bulbs, and they tell you how easy or difficult it is to perennialize the bulb. There are some products that you can apply to bulbs to repel rodents that eat some bulbs, like tulips.

Woody plants and large leaf perennials are good to camouflage the withering foliage of bulbs. The

foliage can be tucked under the perennial leaves (like hostas).

Some nice varieties: Daffodil Tahiti, Allium Christophii, Daffodil Rip Van Winkle, Tulip Red Impression, Daffodil Dutch Master. Dee Dobberstein, Marilyn Krueger Linda Thompson were winners of bulbs.