



The Spade & The Hoe

Volume 2 Issue 8

August 2004

August Prairie Walk

The August meeting will be a guided tour of our very own Glen Prairie by none other than the prairie meisters themselves: Kent and Jerry Fuller. To get there, drive north on Patriot Blvd. to Compass Rd. on the north end of the Glen, then turn east and follow the road as it turns south. You will see a small parking area on the west side of the road. If you have never been to the prairie before, you are in for a great treat. They will point out all of the native prairie plants and a few of the non-native invasive plants that need to be pulled. You may even find yourselves volunteering to pull those nasty plants. Remember to dress for the weather, and also for a walk through a prairie. Enjoy!



The July Garden Walk was a huge success, with about 25 visitors to our gardens.

Everyone, members and guests alike, viewed all the flowers, shrubs, and plants on display and asked many questions of our host gardeners. And, to top it off, the refreshments were plentiful and ever so delicious. Many, many thanks to John Martin, Joan Ruehmund, Brigitte Steinforth, and Marina and Charles Wynn.

A Street Sale Report

The street sale this year was very disappointing. Only one of the houses sold, a few of the wind chimes, some baskets, some plants. Our profits to date are less than \$50. Holly Jansen has graciously offered to take the houses and wind chimes to her craft fairs. There were a number of reasons we did so poorly, but the main reason, we think, is that it no longer is a street sale but an entertainment venue. A meeting was held between the treasurer, sale chair and president and some good suggestions will be proposed to the members.

Through the Garden Gate

Finally, I can sit back and relax! Not that June was hectic with 2 grandchildren's graduations and parties, Father's Day, and the street sale, nor July with the 4th celebrations, our garden walk, the Sheffield Garden Walk, and Dan's birthday! I have also been doing major renovation work on my gardens, thinning out plants that until now have had free rein to grow and expand, plus moving some that didn't like where they were. I even put a huge carton of irises out at the street with a FREE label on it and darned if a woman didn't stop and take the box, thanking me for it. My neighbor was comparing our tomato plants and bemoaning the fact that mine were bigger. He conceded the race to me. I told him to dig in banana peels between his plants. They do love the discomposing peels! I still have a lot of beds to work on and I am ruthless in discarding too many of some species. The beds I've finished look so much better, with paths between the plants.

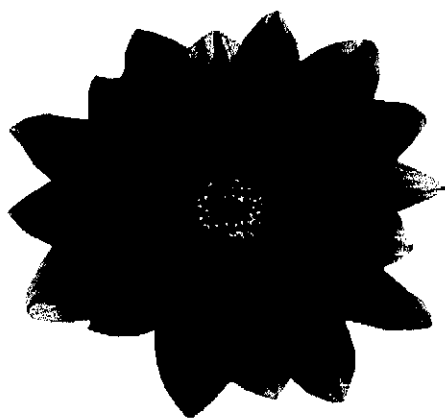
Suggestions from Your Officers:

The following suggestions will be open for discussion and voting at the September meeting.

Please study them carefully and feel free to bring other suggestions to the September meeting.

1. no street sale next year
2. charge a fee (\$5) for visitors to view our garden walk. Tickets would be stamped at the first garden and used for admission to the other two.
3. each garden would be open all afternoon so people could go to them in any order. The garden owners will remain with their gardens throughout the afternoon. This is done by every other garden club.
4. have a few potted plants for sale at each garden. This is also done by other garden clubs.

These suggestions will minimize the amount of work that falls on a few members (read: street sale) while maximizing the club's exposure. The ball is now in your court. How will you run with it?



Many, Many Thanks to the members who worked at the sale booth in June. Your efforts are greatly appreciated. Thanks also to everyone who donated potted plants from their own gardens. You are a great bunch of people!

Survey, Survey

We are conducting an informal survey of members regarding our meeting place. Some members want to go back to holding the monthly meetings in members' homes (free), while some want to keep the meetings at the Park District building in the Glen (\$\$). Which way do you lean? Please call (498-4178) or email me (eabehnke@earthlink.net) your preference. We've heard already from 7 members (and, no, I will not divulge how the poll is running!). So if you want your opinion noted, respond. Otherwise, you will have no basis for complaining later on.

In August, remember to:

- ✓ prepare and preserve gourds for a fall display as well as for next spring's houses for birds;
- ✓ continue to deadhead annuals, perennials, and roses;
- ✓ plant pansies for late fall color;
- ✓ divide peonies and daylilies now through October;
- ✓ pick new blooms early in the morning for drying;
- ✓ water shrubs, trees, and new plantings during dry spells;
- ✓ pick off Japanese beetles from roses, mountain ash, hollyhocks, mallows, and a host of other plants and drop them in a coffee can of ammonia, vinegar, or gasoline;
- ✓ water tomatoes, zucchini, and other vegetables as they cannot produce regularly if stressed by drought
- ✓ stop fertilizing perennials after mid-August
- ✓ begin potting up daffodils, crocuses, narcissi and other bulbs for winter forcing
- ✓ treat the lawn and flower beds for grubs now as they attract skunks, raccoons, and birds
- ✓ plant cool weather crops now, such as, lettuce, spinach, radishes, snow peas, and snap beans.

- with help from Chicagoland Gardening,

July/August 2004

The enjoyments of a garden being so manifold and continuous, bringing brightness to the home, health to the body, and happiness to the mind, it is for us, who have proved them, whose daily lives are made more cheerful by their influence, to invite and instruct others, that they may share our joy.

- S. Reynolds Hole

By-Laws Reviewed and Updated:

In this issue, those articles that must be revised will be printed for a vote at the September meeting.

Article 1 - The name of this organization is the Glenview Gardeners.

Article 4, Section 2 - Annually, in September, a nominating committee of 3 members shall be appointed by the President. This committee shall report its nominations to the membership at the October meeting and shall be published in the November Spade and Hoe. Nominations may also be made from the floor. Elections shall be held by a voice vote at the November meeting.

Section 3 - The officers of the Board are the President, the Editor, the Treasurer, the Program Chair, the Publicity Chair, the Circulation Chair, the Sale/Garden Walk Chair, and the Hospitality Chair.

Section 4 - The officers will serve a term of 2 years beginning on January 1st.

Section 6 - The President shall preside at all meetings of the Club, shall prepare an agenda for each meeting, shall keep a record of attendance at the meetings, shall keep current the membership list, and shall actively solicit new members.

The Editor shall produce The Spade and The Hoe monthly.

The Circulation Chair shall mail these

newsletters for receipt prior to the monthly meetings.

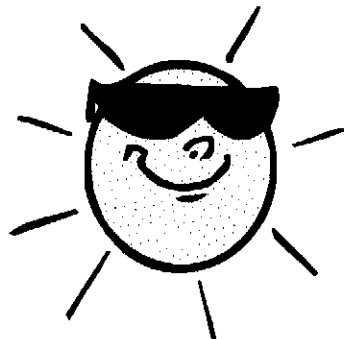
The Program Chair shall contract with speakers for monthly programs, shall provide the President and Editor with the Calendar of Events and shall give to the Treasurer a copy of said contracts with speaker fees for payment.

The Sale/Garden Walk Chair shall solicit open gardens from members, hostesses to provide refreshments at each garden, and coordinate the publicity of the Garden Walk with the Publicity Chair, the President and the Editor.

The Hospitality Chair shall solicit a hostess for each monthly meeting indoors.

Article 7, Section 1 - Regular meetings of the Club shall be held on the second Thursday of each month, except July, December, and any month in which there is a field trip instead, at such places and times as the program dictates. Club business shall be transacted at these meetings.

The rest of the current By-Laws are not in need of updating. Upon the vote in September, the new By-Laws will be printed and distributed to membership.



What's Blooming Table

Beginning with the September meeting, we will once again have a What's Blooming table set up. Remember to bring in your blooms, plants, or flowering branches.



Questions, comments, payment of dues?

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www.NorthStarNet.org, then click on Community, then on Glenview Gardeners.

Gardening gives me fun and health and knowledge. It gives me laughter and colour. It gives me pictures of almost incredible beauty.

- John F. Kenyon