



THE GARDEN CLUB OF INDIANA, INC.

December VOL. 85, Number 6, 2021

Check out the New TGCI Website:

www.gardenclubofindiana.org



2021-2023

The Garden Club of Indiana, Inc.
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Theme:
"Plant America in
Colors of Hope"
For Cancer Awareness

2021-2023

National Garden Clubs, Inc.
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Theme:
Plant America-Play Outdoors

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Theme: Plant America:
Sow the Seeds and Keep Growing

Jan 2	Mar 1	May 1
July 1	Sept 1	Nov 1

ISSUE DEADLINES

In This Issue

Letter from the State President	3
North Central District News	4-5
Garden Clubs Activities	6-11
Facebook Pages	12
Bookmark	13



www.gardenclubofindiana.org

Mission Statement

The Garden Club of Indiana, Inc.
Promotes
Interest and Education
in
Horticulture,
Landscaping,
Floral Design,
and
Environmental Concerns



From our President

'TIS THE SEASON FOR... GIVING

Once November and December roll around, the joy of giving intensifies. This is true of not only in our individual lives, but garden clubs around the state as well. Clubs take a look at their financial health and donate what they can give to TGCI's many projects.

I urge your club to consider **GIVING** to the following—if you haven't already:

- ◆ **Blue Star**—National Garden Club and thus TGCI are the sole sponsors of this most important program. It honors those who have served in the Armed Forces in the past, the present and the future. In November, Indiana will install its first **Gold Star** marker in Carmel, sponsored by the Broad Ripple Garden Club. That marker honors all of those who have given their lives in the defense of our country. This is a program in which every garden club member in Indiana should take great pride.
- ◆ **Scholarship**—TGCI awards thousands of dollars every year to students of horticulture or landscape design in the state of Indiana. I have been privileged to be a part of the interview team for 2 years and in that time we have awarded over \$30,000 to deserving students. Many clubs throughout the state hold fundraisers with the sole purpose of donating to the scholarship fund.
- ◆ **Land Trust**—At the September Board meeting a new project was selected: Bats, Bluffs and Barrens. In conjunction with The Nature Conservancy, TGCI has pledged \$10,000 to the restoration of Wallier Woods in Harrison County. This 900-acre preserve has over a mile of Ohio River frontage with 200-foot bluffs. Several federal and states listed bat species are supported in this area. Trees will be planted and invasive species managed.
- ◆ **Annual Civic Fund**—This fund is used to reward the district that hosts the annual state convention. The district is charged with finding one or more civic projects in its geographical area on which to spend the money.

And in return TGCI GIVES to your clubs:

- ◆ Financial help is available for sponsoring a **Blue Star** or **Gold Star** memorial on a highway, highway rest area or other appropriate civic location. Contact Blue Star Chairman Chris Seal to see how TGCI can help make the memorial a reality for your club.
- ◆ If you know a deserving college student who fills the requirements for a TGCI **scholarship**, encourage him/her to apply. It is NOT a requirement the student attend Ball State or Purdue. Information is on the TGCI website.
- ◆ Take a trip to the Kankakee Sands Nature Preserve. Walk on the butterfly trail that TGCI helped build. Try to pick out the 6 bison TGCI purchased in the current herd of 50+. These are just 2 of the various **Land Trust** projects TGCI has sponsored in partnership with The Nature Conservancy.
- ◆ TGCI realizes the effort and time that each district expends in planning for and hosting a state convention. In return TGCI's **Annual Civic Fund** gives money back to the host district so they can fund a worthwhile project(s). Any money clubs donate is given back when their district hosts the convention.
- ◆ **President's Project**—If your club participated in the Plant America with the Colors of Hope for Cancer Awareness this summer/fall, you need only apply for a \$25 grant in recognition for your efforts. Go to the TGCI website for the form.

Enjoy the season of **giving** in relation to TGCI and more importantly in your personal lives.

Linda



North Central District

North Central District had its annual district meeting via Zoom this year and I was very impressed with the resilience and creativity all of the clubs have shown with their projects, meetings, and field trips while dealing with the limitations placed on all by the COVID-19. Positivity came through in their attitudes and reports. We have used this time to adapt and make changes in how we meet and share information.

Enter the Garden is now Monticello Garden Club with their new signage promoting their many garden projects. With two \$1,000 grants, one from National Garden Club's Plant America and one from White County Community Foundation's Women Giving Together, they were able to replant and manage the Railroad Street medians which were destroyed by a state construction project in the fall of 2020. They "fostered" many of the plants from the median as well as many from their other gardens and members' homes. Four thousand daffodil bulbs made a fund raiser of almost \$1,000.00. A dedicated group of members finished the restoration in mid-July, 2021. The miles long median was able to be accomplished by being redesigned and replanted on a budget of \$2,332.74. They also enlisted the help of the local high school students to help with the mulching of the project.



Another NCD club enlisting the help of young people was Iris-Elm Garden Club. Boy Scout Troop 229 helped plant the dogwoods around the Blue Star Memorial marker at the historic Freight Depot in Winamac. Twelve large native white-blooming dogwoods (*corpus florida*) were planted using the money received by a National Garden Club Community Project Grant and North Central District World Gardening money to fund their project. Iris-Elm worked with the town park system on their long-range plan, inspired by the 1944 original Blue Star Memorial of 8,000 dogwoods, to plant dogwoods around their Blue Star By-Way Memorial at the historic Freight Depot. It was a 3-phase program started in 2016 with the setting of their Blue Star Memorial. Fall centerpieces with pumpkins, and winter containers at Winter Wonderland, were club projects that helped to complete their project. Kudos to long planning and persistence in staying the course!

Students helping with mulch.

Annual plant sales contributed to the financial well being of Four Winds Garden Club, Peru Garden Club, Monticello Garden Club, and Michiana Garden Club, in supporting their community projects. Four Winds also hosted the annual Scholarship Auction fund raiser and Monticello hosted a Garden Walk. All of the NCD clubs have maintained activities.

Peru Garden Club once again contributed to the student "iGrow" 6-week summer gardening program at Garden Gate Greenhouse. This year they added a teaching program of Four Learning Stations on The Ways Animals Recycle. It gave the club a wonderful opportunity to connect with and enjoy the children.

Our clubs have taken the opportunity to travel to various gardening spots, and places of interest around the state. Peru Garden Club traveled to Gene Stratton Porter's home in Geneva after reading *Freckles and the Girl of the Limberlost*. What fun they had discussing the books while picnicking in the Limberlost yard. Syracuse-Wawasee Garden Club participated in a Make-it-Take-it meeting at Made on Main, and Norway Garden Center was the destination for Monticello Garden Club members to create an Advent wreath.

North Central District garden clubs have learned to make the most of a new way of thinking and problem solving. Some clubs have used Zoom for their meetings, and all have managed to keep their clubs active in their communities while having fun in the process.

Jayne Kesler
North Central District Director

North Central District



The Syracuse Wawasee GC members were busy at the "Make it-Take it" meeting.



At the September 27th Wildflower Workshop, speakers Kevin Allison of Marion County Soil and Water Conservation District, and Dylan Allison the interpretive naturalist at Fort Harrison State Park, pose together.



Gourd painting under way!

Check out our website.
www.gardenclubofindiana.org

Boonville Garden Club

In July we walked our local 4-H Fairgrounds Rain Garden. We identified local plants as well as discussed bee habitats observed, all of which were naturally made. A local retiree was there enjoying the cool morning, so we invited her to walk along. Club information was shared with her.

September took us to the Western Kentucky Botanical Garden, Owensboro's Hidden Treasure. Local Master Gardeners help to maintain the gardens, as well as various civic groups and volunteers. We enjoyed a picnic lunch in the garden.

The November meeting is our annual guest luncheon day and we are grateful to resume this activity. The Main Street United Methodist Church ladies prepared a lovely and tasty salad luncheon for our members along with nine guests, of which included our SW District Director Linda Cornelius.

We will decorate a "Birds and Butterflies" Christmas Tree in the Warrick County Museum for display during the Christmas Holidays.

Thelma Whoberry Vice-President



Rain Garden Walk
Warrick Co. 4-H Fairground



Picnic lunch with Joni,
Thelma, Lynne, Mary,
and Judy.



Inside greenhouse
WKY Botanical Garden



July 4, 2021 Boonville Courthouse
Square. Blue Star Memorial Marker
surrounded by flags.



Metal Sculpture WKY
Botanical Garden

Broad Ripple Garden Club

Broad Ripple Garden Club, with the City of Carmel, dedicated a Gold Star Families Memorial Marker at the Gazebo at Carmel City Hall. This memorial is dedicated to Gold Star Families whose family member has paid the ultimate price and lost their life in the defense of the United States. We honor the Gold Star Families as they carry their grief and this memorial will stand as a testament to their sacrifice.

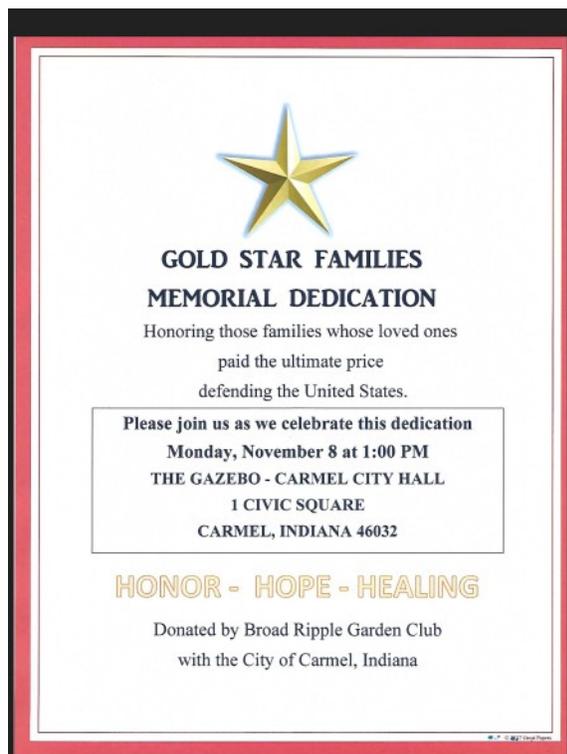
National Garden Clubs, Inc., sponsors this program with Gold Star Families. During World War I, families who had a loved one serving in the Armed Forces, hung a small banner with a Blue Star on it, in their front window. If the service member died in service, the family replaced the Blue Star with a Gold Star.

TGCI State President Linda Harkleroad spoke at the dedication ceremony about the history of the Gold Star Families Memorial. TGCI Past President Betty Leverett also shared a greeting at the ceremony. Unfortunately, TGCI Blue Star Chairman Chris Seal was not able to join us for the occasion, but we are grateful for the assistance she provided as we went forward with our plans for the ceremony. Carmel Mayor Jim Brainard helped unveil the marker, along with Phyllis Grzeskowiak, Jane Jerman, and TGCI State President Linda Harkleroad.

Mayor Brainard then took the podium and accepted the Gold Star Families Memorial By-Way Marker for the City of Carmel. We had a beautiful program planned, along with VFW Post 10003, who led the Honor Guard, singer Blair Clark performed, as well as the Carmel Symphony Brass Quintet.

Today, there are more than 60 Blue Star Memorials in the State of Indiana. In August 2019, Broad Ripple Garden Club was honored to dedicate a Blue Star Memorial at the John W. Hensel Government Center on College Avenue in Carmel, Indiana. The Gold Star Families Memorial, dedicated at the City Hall in Carmel by Broad Ripple Garden Club, is the first Gold Star Families Memorial in Indiana to be dedicated!

Broad Ripple Garden Club members wish to thank Mayor Jim Brainard and the city of Carmel for their generosity in letting us place the Gold Star Families Memorial at City Hall, and for their generous gift of the four-ton white Indiana limestone boulder from Bedford, Indiana. The City of Carmel staff has given their time and talent to help us with the dedication. Also, we want to thank Carmel VFW 10003 for their generous monetary donation to help defray some of the cost.



Phyllis Grzeskowiak
Club President

Crown Point Garden Club

Here's a picture of our finished product this year. We made 72 large coffee mug bouquets and 4 large vase bouquets this year. Strack and Van Til's generously donated the flowers. 71 of the cups were delivered by Meals on Wheels to their clients. 1 cup and the 4 large arrangements went to Colonial Nursing Home here in Crown Point.

Nearly all our members say this is their favorite project. I am convinced that we get as much enjoyment from the doing of it, as the people who are on the receiving end!

Amanda White
Club President



Duneland Garden Club

The Duneland Garden Club presented a fun and educational program open to the community on foraging and cooking mushrooms. The presenter, club member and mushroom enthusiast Victoria Phillips, brought samples of edible mushrooms found locally and gave tips on how to hunt, cook and propagate those fantastic fungi. Victoria brought along mushroom appetizers made with her bounty to further amaze and impress the group. What she did not share were her secret spots... evidently keeping locations confidential is typical of foragers to assure their continued supply.



The next month starts a very busy holiday season beginning with cleaning up the downtown park and street planters that are maintained by the Duneland Garden Club. Work is also scheduled to plant hanging baskets and street planters to beautify downtown Chesterton for the holidays and to decorate the library for Christmas.

Members will be baking Christmas cookies for the local Westchester Meals program and will enjoy a potluck lunch when they gather to package cookie boxes for the seniors. Lastly, the Chesterton High School Horticulture Club has invited us to a meeting to speak and share our purpose and the value of being involved in gardening and civic beautification. The Duneland Garden Club will present them with a check to advance their programs.

Karen Davis
Club President

Fall Creek Garden Club

Members of the Fall Creek Garden Club met in September and were delighted by a program on Bonsai Trees, Pots, and Tools presented by Scott Yelich of Eagle Creek Bonsai, LLC. Mr. Yelich is a member of the American Bonsai Society and the Indianapolis Bonsai Club. He discussed both tropical bonsai and bonsai using junipers, elms, pines, and maples.

In October, several club members met at Holliday Park before the monthly meeting to do a final fall sprucing up of the garden beds around the children's play area. It was a beautiful fall day in the midst of fall break, so we were able to see how well-used the play area is. While there, we received several compliments on the gardens, answered questions, and possibly recruited a few new members!

After the cleanup was complete, we gathered for lunch and then proceeded to learn more about Holliday Park by walking some of the trails down to the White River and back. Along the way, we identified both native and invasive plants.

Carol Michel Club President



Fall Creek Garden Club October Meeting. Members of the Fall Creek Garden Club prepared for a hike after completing garden clean up. (L to R—Tess Park, Carol Michel, Gayle Sanders, Peg Powers, Sara Zeckel, Jerilyn Roy, Rosie Springer, Pat Reed, and Kim Reed.

Fall Creek Garden Club Bonsai Meeting – Members of the Fall Creek Garden Club learned about bonsai from Scott Yelich.



Monticello Garden Club

After months of creative thinking as to how to function, the Monticello Garden Club (as Enter the Garden Club is now known), got creative visually. In October, the members shared the products of their gardens and made fall arrangements using fresh and dried plants with beautiful results.

For our November meeting, two of our members presented a hands-on program of gourd painting.

For the December holiday meeting, we are heading to Norway Gardens, a local garden supply store, for a workshop on making fresh Advent wreaths. Each member will take their own wreath home to enjoy for the holidays.



Sue Schlimme Club President



Syracuse - Wawasee Garden Club



Our garden club traveled to Peru, IN to see the Seven Pillars. We had a very informative talk given by the secretary of the Miami Nation on the sacred grounds which are across the Missis-sinewa River. She gave us the history of the native Americans of Indiana.

Prior to the tour we visited the Peru Garden Club president's home and enjoyed her hospitality. Another Peru Garden Club member led us to the Seven Pillars. Thank you Peru Garden Club for your hospitality!

Pam Schumm



Vale of Paradise Garden Club

We have one more meeting for the year. It will be a luncheon at Martini's restaurant. We will also have a guest speaker, Purdue Extension Educator Nikky Witkowski.

On November 11th, Veteran's Day, we put a wreath at our Blue Star Memorial. We shared a poem expressing our gratitude to all service members present and



“Plant America in Colors of Hope”

“Plant America - Play Outdoors”



Summer is over and our gardens are at rest now.



Each year we decorate the inside window at the Valparaiso Public Library to promote our garden club.

**Linda Dingee
Club President**

May everyone's holidays be full of warmth and cheer!

Facebook Club Pages

Boonville Garden Club

Broad Ripple Garden Club

Crown Point Garden Club

Duneland Garden Club

Enter the Garden Club

Flower Lane Garden Club

Friendly Garden Club

Garden Club of Michiana

Gas City Garden Club

Green Thumb Garden Club

Hendricks County Garden Club

Hobart Garden Club

Indianapolis Shamrock Garden Club

Iris-Elm Garden Club

Irvington Garden Club & Farmers Market

Lowell Garden Club

National Garden Clubs, Inc.

Pendleton Garden Club

Peru Garden Club

Petal and Stem Garden Club

Sages Garden Club

Spring Green Garden Club

Sullivan County Garden Club

Syracuse-Wawasee Garden Club

Your club here.

The Cultivating Garden Club

The Garden Club of Indiana, Inc.

The Munster Garden Club

Vale of Paradise Garden Club

Washington Arts & Flowers Garden Club



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Member of National Garden Clubs, Inc., the largest volunteer gardening organization in the world. www.gardclub.org



Membership is an opportunity...

- to improve your gardening skills
- to meet new friends and exchange experiences in growing
- to exchange seeds, cuttings and plants
- to serve your community by planning and implementing beautification projects
- to develop a deeper sense of pride in the resources of our land and its preservation
- to attend schools in horticulture, flower arranging, landscape design and environmental education
- to receive our state publication, *Indiana Gardens*
- to attend district meetings and annual state, region and national conventions

The Garden Club of Indiana, Inc. has...

- provided over \$500,000 in scholarships to Indiana students studying horticulture, landscape design or related subjects
- supported The Nature Conservancy with contributions of over \$125,000 to protect and preserve Indiana's lands and waters
- installed over 50 Blue Star Memorial Markers statewide to honor those who have served, are serving, or will serve in the Armed Forces of the United States
- beautified public areas, such as libraries, churches, schools, parks

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