

**PEORIA GARDEN CLUB OFFICERS
2010-2011**

OFFICERS

Presidents Fran Kepler
President Elect (open)
1st Vice Presidents Lori Gangloff
& Lynn Heath
2nd Vice Presidents Susie Gauwitz
& Rita Lynn
Treasurer
Recording Secretary Gayle Mirande
Corresponding Secretary Dorothy Wilson
Past President Fran Kepler

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Workshop Co-Chair Nancy DeLathouwer
Social Chairs Jackie Colgan,
Karen Scott & Jane Velazquez
Publicity Lynn Moletti
Civic Projects Pat Thomason,
Susan Naschert & Kathy Kohhase
Newsletter/Editor Melanie Martin
Bulk Mailing Phyllis Baylor
Ways & Means Neita Volz

Program Chairs:

Lori Gangloff - (309) 444-4563
Email: lorigangloff@hotmail.com
1206 Hillcrest Dr, Washington Il 61571
Lynn Heath - (309) 697-2195
Email: lheath1@minspring.com
4914 Wanda, Peoria, Il 61607

Corresponding Secretary:

Please notify **Dorothy Wilson** if you know of any club members who are ill or bereaved. She will send a card from the Peoria Garden Club.
Phone: (815) 882-2695 or
Email: djwilson@nabbnet.com

Green Thumb Editor:

You may send your contributions to **Melanie Martin** by either:
Email: melaniehg@yahoo.com
Phone: (309) 249-4409
Mail: 315 E Santa Fe Road
Chillicothe, IL 61523-9383
(See newsletter deadlines on "Calendar-At-A-Glance" on the back side of each newsletter)

Membership:

Please notify **Rita Lynn** to pay dues, or have an address or phone no. change:
20864 Townline Road, Peoria 61568-8881
Phone: (309) 925-5466
Email: rlynnrcl@verizon.net

Mailing Director:

Please notify **Phyllis Baylor** for your "snowbird" mailing address/instructions
9028 W Farmington Rd, Hanna City IL 61536
Phone: (309) 673-1098
Email: phbaylor@comcast.net

Peoria GC Website:

Address: www.peoriagardenclub.com
Webmistress: **Rose Marie Bantz**
Email: flower1945@comcast.net

APRIL 2011



General Meeting & Program: Thurs. April 7th

Place: Weaver Ridge Golf Club, 5100 Weaverridge Blvd., Peoria, IL
Time: 11am Check-in • 11:45am Luncheon, Meeting, Program
Program: "Garden Club Members Do It...As an Art From"
Floral Designs That We All Can Do
Speaker: Claudia Buchanan, Peoria Garden Club member, Master Flower Show Judge

Peoria Garden Club is hosting the annual spring meeting of District III. Come celebrate with us the 50th anniversary of District III and the 80th Anniversary of Peoria Garden Club!!! Bring a friend. The cost of the luncheon is \$25. You may send a check made out to Peoria Garden Club to Kathy Kohlhase, 6004 N. Briarwood Lane, Peoria, IL 61614-4235. **Deadline for making reservations is March 24.** No refunds after March 28. *There will be no tickets sold at the door.*

The menu was printed in last months Green Thumb but we have added cake to our caramel sundae for dessert.

Come early and see the pretty centerpieces made by our members, buy yourself a glass of wine, visit with friends and get your raffle tickets. There will be many floral designs raffled at the end of the program. Everyone takes home a favor. We ask those bringing centerpieces to have them in place by 10:45am.

Ways and Means: It is customary that the club that hosts the district meeting, has a Ways and Means table with the proceeds going to the district. This year we will be selling inexpensive small fresh flower arrangements. These can be small arrangements that could fit on a windowsill or side table. Any container will be fine, a cup no longer needed or wanted, or even a small plastic container. Please help our Ways and Means table by bringing an arrangement to the luncheon.

Any questions call Lynn Heath 697-2195 or Lori Gangloff 444-4563

April Workshop:

Time/Date: 9:30am, Tues. April 19th
Location: Lakeview Museum Auditorium
Topic: "Celebrating the Seasons"
Description: This program will be lots of fun and full of inspiration. Four talented members from our club will be presenting menus, decorating tips, a recipe booklet and food samples. The cost is \$5.00. If you didn't sign up at the March meeting, and would like to attend, mail your check for \$5.00, made payable to the Peoria Garden Club to Nancy, see address below. *We will not have a sign-up table at the April luncheon meeting.*

MAY WORKSHOP: Bus Trip to Trudi Temple's Garden, Tues. May 17th

If you are interested in the May bus trip to Trudi Temple's garden, mail Nancy your check for \$65.00 made payable to the Peoria Garden Club. The cost covers your bus fare and drivers tip, gratuity and lunch at the Piazza Restaurant in the Hyatt at McDonald's Campus. After lunch we will go to Trudi's favorite garden center, "The Hidden Gardens". The garden center owner has generously offered to contribute a door prize. The bus trip to Trudi Temples will depart Lakeview Museum parking lot at 7:00am sharp. Also those attending may bring their own coffee, water, etc.
— Workshop Chair, Nancy Delathouwer (309) 852-4498 • ndelathouwer@frontier.com
Address: 631 N. Adams St., Kewanee, IL 61443

Nancy's Notions for **APRIL**

- Feed tree peonies with fish emulsion fertilizer.
- Sprinkle sulfur around your hydrangeas, and anything else that needs an acidic soil. Best to work gently into soil. Sulfur can be applied at anytime of the year.
- Put support rings around those peonies that need tend to flop over...which is usually the older varieties. The new varieties have only 1 bloom per stem, and thus don't flop as easily.
- When the soil has dried out and become workable, this is the best time to divide and plant perennials. If you are transplanting a plant that has been grown in a soil less mix, shake off much of the "soil" before planting. Mix this with the garden soil and plant.
- This is the time to plant seeds of carrots, beets, radishes, turnips, spinach and leaf lettuce directly in the prepared soil of your garden. I usually sprinkle a half inch of soil less mix on top of the area where I plant the seeds. After planting, I cover the area with white row cover cloth anchored with garden staples. This helps prevent seeds from being washed away if there is a heavy rain, or getting dried out with the windy days of spring. Remove the row cover after most of the seeds have germinated. If you are growing members of the cabbage family, this row cover keeps insects from laying eggs.
- Apply Preen where you do not wish weeds to germinate. (I have special problems with thistles sprouting near any "structure" in my garden where birds alight.) Pull or hoe any weeds that have sprouted. It is easiest to deal with weeds when they are small and shallow rooted.
- This is the best month to plant bare root plants. The soil temperature is just right for root formation.
- This is the time to do major pruning of roses. Cut out dead wood and any stems that are too long and destroy the symmetry of the rose. Don't be afraid to prune severely. A climbing rose will have more bloom if the laterals are cut back.
- Pot dahlias, tuberous begonias, cannas, and caladiums to later transplant to the garden when the chance of frost is past.
- If you had a crab grass problem last year, apply a preventive the first two weeks of April. (Often crab grass seems to grow near a sidewalk as the grass often dies there in the summer from heat and lack of moisture)

— Nancy Crawford

PRESIDENT'S REPORT:

Since we had to cancel February's meeting and our March meeting was quite busy as a result, I will use my space in this newsletter to give the President's Annual Report to the general membership.

The 2010-11 Peoria Garden Club year has been a very active and eventful one. The Board of Directors have been active, efficient and effective in their positions and pursuits on behalf of the club.

Programs for 2010-11 have showcased the talents of our own membership; explored the magic wonder and culinary creativity of the fall season; learned about the habits of Illinois native coyotes; treated the membership to a Holiday Tea and explained the "English" way of it; discussed maple syrup making and the best wildlife habitat plantings; and learned about the propagation of "Buck's" roses.

Peoria Garden Club celebrated its 80th Anniversary in the spring along with hosting the 50th Anniversary of the Dist. III of the Garden Clubs of Illinois with a program presented by our own talented designer Claudia Buchanan.

Workshops consisted of trips, demonstrations and learning sessions on poison plants, seeds, garden books and celebrating the seasons.

The Garden Walk in 2010 and the Green Acres plant sale each spring remained our very best fund raisers. The many and varied civic projects of the Garden Club have let the Garden Club have entry into many segments of the community from schools, community groups and nonmembers. Garden Club members continue to be of service to the Peoria community through Civic Center plantings, maintenance of the back garden at Morron House, and through the Operation Sunshine project.

I have been both humbled and gratified to be allowed to preside at this dynamic organization of creative, active, conscientious and patriotic members.

— *Respectfully submitted, Fran Kepler*

*YEA...Spring
is finally here!!!*

*Don't forget
Arbor Day is
Friday, April 29th*



Editor's Comment: This is the newsletter for all the members of Peoria Garden Club. If you are involved in a PGC club event and need to put some sort of announcement about the event in the newsletter, please don't hesitate to send me an email to let me know your e-address and I will include you on this reminder list. Just announcing things at the meetings doesn't always get to everyone... especially those who aren't there, aren't able to hear your announcement, come too late or leave too early! Plus a written reminder is always nice.

Also, if you send items via email, if you can copy/write them in an email instead of an attachment it's a lot more reliable for me being able to open them, and saves me an extra step. Thank you!

— *Melanie Martin, Green Thumb Editor*

COMMITTEE REPORTS

MEMBERSHIP NEWS...

Please make these additions/corrections to your membership directory:

Virginia Elliott

6729 N. Vander Schaaf Dr., Peoria, IL 61614-3125

Audrey Canterbury

116 E. Coventry Ln., Peoria, IL 61614-2104

Fran Kepler

9417 W. Lake Lancelot Dr., Mapleton, IL 61547-9593

Membership dues for 2011/2012 are being collected. Please send your dues this month to Susie Gauwitz, 1817 W. Baywood Ave. Peoria, IL 61614. Make checks payable to "Peoria Garden Club" for \$25.00

— Thank You, Rita Lynn & Susie Gauwitz, Membership Co-Chairs

GREEN ACRES PLANT SALE

We still plan to have our annual plant sale but at this time we do not have a date (Saturday, May 7, as indicated in previous newsletters is incorrect). Once we receive notification from Metro Centre we will notify members. Please be generous with your time and your plant donations.

If you can lend a hand please call; or if you need assistance with digging and potting your plants please contact me. — Rita Lynn (309-925-5466)

CIVIC PROJECTS:

Civic Center Planting:

Garden club members are needed to assist at the Civic Center which will tentatively be set for May 10th (weather permitting) or a May 12th (rain date). We will begin at 9am. Bring gloves and a small shovel/trowel.

Please call me at 243-8248 home phone or 573-5846 cell id if you have questions. Thank you very much. I look forward to seeing you there!

— Letitia Algrain

Operation Sunshine: Requests due by April 27

Help PGC spread a little sunshine!! The week before Mother's Day, pots of flowers are given to families of men and women CURRENTLY serving in our armed forces *outside* the USA. The service person could be a family member, neighbor, friend, or relative of a Peoria Garden Club member. This is the fourth year for this program, and it brings many sunny smiles to family members. If you wish to submit a name, please include the following information:

- Your name and phone number
- Recipient's name, phone number, and address
- Service person's relationship to recipient (i.e. son, daughter, grandson, husband, etc.) and the country where service person is serving.

You may either call us or e-mail us with the information There will also be a signup sheet at the April meeting. Since there may be a limited number of these pots given, be sure to get your request in soon.

—□Thank you, Civic Projects Co-Chairs,
Susan Naschert and Pat Thomason (see contact info below)

Landscape Improvement Donations

The Peoria Garden Club is offering donations to a limited number of secular, not-for-profit organizations and associations. These would be used for landscape improvement. Application forms can be obtained by calling Pat Thomason at 697-2327 or Susan Naschert at 693-8304.

All applications must be submitted by April 13.

—□Thank you, Civic Projects Co-Chairs
Susan Naschert 693-8304, ihsinc@mtco.com
Pat Thomason 697-2327, patricia.thomason@sbcglobal.net

MORRON HOUSE SPRING CLEAN UP: Volunteers needed

Thurs. April 31st, starting at 10am.

Want to start gardening chores early and make a big difference and contribution??? Bring pruners and pruning saws...we need to "re-fresh" the yews by cutting them way back. Many hands will make this job go so much easier and quicker. Also bring water to drink and your gardening gloves! More info? Contact Phyllis Baylor, 309 696-0696.

BOOK OF REMEMBRANCE:

Many memorials were sent to Peoria Garden Club to honor JoAnn Blank. The total for the memorials is \$400. The following names will be listed in the Book of Remembrance as honoring JoAnn Blank.

Baker, Karen,	Keller, Brenda
Baylor, Phyllis,	Lynn, Rita
Brown, Eleanor	Moletti, Lynn
Christiansen, Mary	Nolan, Bernadine
Coogan, Joanne	Olejniczak, Barbara
Dimond, Ada	Phillis, Anne
Gangloff, Lori	Quell, Beverly Ann
Gerontes, Judith	Riffle, Rosemary
Heath, Lynn	Rock, Doris
Hertz, Sue	Thomason, Patricia
	Friends of Jo Ann Blank

EXTENSION TELENET GARDENING CLASSES - PUBLIC IS INVITED...

Tues. April 12, 1pm "RAIN BARRELS"

Tues. April 26, 1pm "SUMMER VEGETABLE GARDENING"

Tues. May 10, 1pm "INVASIVE TREES AND SHRUBS"

Free for MGs, others are \$5. Pre-registration needed by the Friday prior to each event. Contact local Peoria office to RSVP:

4810 N. Sheridan Rd. Peoria • (309) 685-3140

e: peoria_mg@extension.uiuc.edu

Free for MGs, others are \$5. Pre-registration needed by the Friday prior to each event through local U of I Extension website or contact local office. Arrive 15 minutes early to get printed materials and so as you don't interrupt the class.

IT'S SPRING, IT MUST BE GARDENING TIME AGAIN...WELL ALMOST!

The calendar says it's Spring, and the daffodils and crocus are blooming. The woodies are budding out, and everywhere you look, little green and burgundy sprouts are popping up from under the mulch. Time to start planting up those window boxes and flower beds, right? Well, not so fast. If your long-term memory bank hasn't emptied yet, you will recall many an April when the temperatures fluctuated wildly, when frosts came upon us willy-nilly, and when we awoke to find snow covering the tulips. Be patient and rest up, the work is about to begin!

Once April is finally here in earnest, you can plant a number of plants that will tolerate cool weather. Besides pansies, violas, primroses, and ranunculus, try annual flowers such as snapdragons, sweet peas, bacopa, nasturtiums, zinnias, calendula, and sweet alyssum. Certain vegetable crops actually should be planted at this time, including peas, carrots, radishes, beets, lettuces, spinach, cool-weather greens such as chard and kale, and the various hardier Asian greens like mustard and mizuna.



Anxious to do some gardening right now??? Go pull weeds...you know you have them, and getting rid of them now when they are small and just starting out is a whole lot easier than later and oh so satisfying!

Happy Gardening season...but again,
be patient!

1125 WEST LAKE

PEORIA, IL. 61614

Change Service Requested



March 2011

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PEORIA GARDEN CLUB 2011

Calendar At-A-Glance

PEORIA GARDEN CLUB ACTIVITIES:

April 7	Thurs.	PGC's 80th Anniversary and District III 50th Anniversary Meeting - "Garden Club Members Do It...As an Art Form" Floral Designs We Can All Do Weaver Ridge Golf Club, Peoria <i>(see details on page 1)</i>
April 10	Sun.	Green Thumb Deadline
April 19	Tues.	Workshop - "Celebrating the Seasons" <i>(see details on page 1)</i>
April 27	Wed.	Operation Sunshine - deadline for submitting names <i>(see details on page 3)</i>
May 5	Thurs.	PGC Meeting - "Dad and His Roses"
May TBD*	Sat.	Green Acres Plant Sale - Metro Center <i>(* Date to come)</i>
May 10	Tues.	Civic Center Planting <i>(alternative date if it rains on the 10th is Thurs. May 12th)</i>
May 17	Tues.	Workshop/Bus Trip - To Trudi Temple's Garden near Chicago!!! <i>(see details on page 1)</i>

EXTRA IMPORTANT GARDEN CLUB RELATED ACTIVITIES:

- April 17 & 18 - GCI State meeting, North Shore Renaissance
- May 20 - Dedication of Dist II Blub Star Marker
- July 18 - GCI Summer meeting, Cahokia Mounds, Collinsville, IL.
- Sept. 14 - Dist. III Fall meeting, Kewanee