Minutes of the Town and Country Garden Club of Libertyville May 1, 2019 “Pollinator Pockets: Creating a Pollinator’s Environment”

Presenter: Master Gardener Linda Mackey and trainer of presenters from the University of Illinois Extension Lake County. The program began with Linda Mackey giving the members information from the University of Illinois Extension Lake County regarding an up and coming plant sale May 18 9am-2pm at the Extension located at 100 South US Hwy 45 in Grayslake. Linda had numerous hand-outs to support her presentation. Additionally, Garden design that would benefit our native bees, butterflies, hummingbirds and other pollinators can be found on the website web.extension.illinois.edu/state/programs.php. A book that was recommended is Bringing Nature Home – How You Can Sustain Wildlife with Native Plants by Douglas W. Tallamy. Utilizing Information services from the Chicago Botanical Gardens ([www.ChicagoBotanic.org/plantinfo](http://www.ChicagoBotanic.org/plantinfo)) as well as from the Missouri Botanical Garden’s Extensive Directory of Perennials, Shrub, Trees, etc (http: [www.missouribotanicalgarden.org/PlantFinder](http://www.missouribotanicalgarden.org/PlantFinder). was highly recommended by the presenter. During Linda’s program she informed members of three general topics. 1) What kind of pollinators are in our area 2) What pollinators do and 3) What we as gardeners can do. Pollinators range from flies, moths (attracted to white blossoms), butterflies, and several bee species. Linda discussed the many ways the pollinators gather the nectar. Many pollinator populations are in decline which is attributed to the loss of feeding and nesting habitats. We as gardeners can take several steps to aid in pollination. Gardeners should plant native plants that have higher pollen and nectar reserves. Plant a variety of flowers over all the seasons. 3 types of flowers per season early April, to end of October. Plant in clumps because bees forage the same flower types. Scatter logs for nesting and provide a water source for bees with gravel, mud, water and rock. Rethink use of pesticides.

**The meeting** was held at Holy Cross Lutheran Church. The business meeting was called to order by President Julie Eberspacher at 12:17. Julie thanked the Hostess Patrice Rehm and Co-Hostesses: Linda Bousson, Pat Christensen and Marlene Elkins. 24 Active Members were present; four Associate Members present as well as guest and former member B.J. Bauer.

**President’s Report:** Julie called for a moment of silent for Mary Carter, our dear member who passed away on April 24. Members shared fond members of Mary. She will be greatly missed.

**1st Vice-President Report:** Ann Baker reported that at present membership: 28 active members and 10 associates. We are looking to add 6 new members.

**Treasurer Report:** Sally Reported Money Market Account Balance $5,028.89. Checking Account Balance of $10,525.53 and Total Account Balance $15,554.42. All submitted bills have been paid. It was duly noted that there will be expenditures in the next few weeks from the plantings

**Secretary Report:**  Minutes of the last meeting of May 3, 2019 were corrected with respect to information on Roundup application. Correspondence received was shared from District IX co chair garden club Buffalo Grove thanking club members for the raffle donation of the “…lovely wheel barrel chockfull of wonderful gardening goodies.” Another “Thank You” note was received from The Garden Clubs of Illinois, for our …”generous donation of $280 to designated GCI funds.”

**2nd Co- Vice Presidents Report/ Programs:** Anne reported that the next meeting will be held at her house on June 5, 2019 11 am. Apron Decorating. Anne presented samples of aprons and expressed if members want to bring in a hat, gloves or shoes to personally decorate you are welcomed. The aprons will be provided for each member. A group of members will pre stencil the flower on each apron that represents our club logo. It will be an enjoyable event. Paula reviewed information for our November 6, 2019 guest speaker Mike MacDonald author of My Journey into the Wilds of Chicago a photographic representations of Chicago’s wilderness. It will be an exciting event with vendors in the morning, our guest speaker, raffle baskets and a luncheon served at White Deer Run Golf Club. The ticket to the event is $50 and will go on sale in July. The capacity is 100. The book will be sold beginning in July. Additional information will be forthcoming.

**Civic Report:** Laura reported that the civic planting groups are in place and the individual team leaders will be contacting the team members. Some information shared from Laura: Author of Grumpy Gardener in “Southwest Living Magazine” mentioned that Bradford pear trees are invasive. The seedlings are thorny and the flowers smell. From Peoples Pharmacy article in the newspaper honey is good for acid reflex. Laura also shared “Thank You” notes from schools for the donations to purchase books on nature for their school library. Roundout School note was read by Laura.

**Horticulture Report:**  Donna mentioned two events that would be of interest to members: Saturday May 4th. Breakfast with Birds at Spring Valley Nature Sanctuary 1111 East Schaumburg Road in Schaumburg observe migratory birds. On July 28 10 am -4 pm The Garden Conservatory is sponsoring an event at the property of Bill Kurtis on St. Mary’s Road just south of Rt. 60. Check on line for more specific information.

**Historian/ Publicity Report:** Peg reported she recently met with Cynthia Dane to transition into her new role. With regard to the raffle basket donations for the November 6th event please contact Peg with regard to updates. She will provide assistance as needed.

**Sunshine Report:** Linda sent a card(s) to Mary Carter’s family. Julie sent a beautiful flower arrangement that she personally designed from the florist to be present at Mary’s wake. A card was sent to Paul whose father is in failing health.

**Old Business:**

**Stamp Collection:**  Marlene got a well appreciated “Thank You” for all the stamps which go towards bird banding. Please continue to save your stamps. Marlene sends them in annually./

**Garden Walk Report:**  Mary Gay discussed the Garden Walk of June 29,2019. Sign up sheets were passed around for members to sign up for a shift and or pass out posters to the community. There are two shifts at each of the five houses. 9:30- 12:30 and 12:15 – 3:15. . Members who are on the first shift are responsible to purchase small water bottles to hand out free to guests of the Garden Walk. Host houses of the Garden Walk will provide ice, a cooler, a table and two chairs. Members on the second shift are responsible for money collected and extra tickets. Those parties that purchase tickets on line are directed to go to the house on Broadway where Ann Baker will be specifically working to check those people who pre purchased tickets on line. Any member available to man a table at one of three days for the Libertyville Farmers’ Market for the purpose of selling tickets contact Mary Gay. This year there will not be a sale of flowers as decided by the members.

Secretary’s footnote: Jennifer is still collecting baskets for the Nov. raffle 3-4 are still needed. Thank you goes out to Norma Seymour and Ann Baker who recently donated baskets and to Midge and Marlene who provided baskets last month.

**Next meeting: June 5, 2019 at 11 am. Apron Decorating (the apron and painting supplies will be provided for members in attendance)**

**At the home of Anne Stranberg 1288 Concord Lane** Respectfully submitted,

Jennifer Rielly