## Garden Club Presentation

March 8, 2016

Steve Pieh invited the community to start a garden club in 2007. Six people came. During the first year a schedule was prepared and adopted for 2008.

During 2008 the garden club grew to 20 members. Tours of members gardens were started this year and they continue to be enjoyed by the members.

During 2009 the garden club grew to 32 members. The club started to raise funds by selling member's plants at the farmers market for 2 Tuesday nights in mid-summer. The club decided the first year to give all of the earnings (\$700) to the Community Center. During 2009 the members started planting and caring for the city flowers. At the end of 2009 the first president of the club was elected – Irene Kostka.

During 2010 the garden club grew to 40 members. The club again sold member's plants at the farmers market for 2 Tuesday nights in mid-summer. Again the club decided to give all the earnings (\$800) to the Community Center. Again the members planted and cared for the city flowers during 2010. Irene was re-elected president for 2011.

During 2011 the garden club grew to 44 members. The club again sold member's plants at the farmers market for 2 Tuesday nights in mid-summer. The club decided to give all of the earnings (\$1000) to the Community Center. Karen Bechthold was elected president for 2012. Again the members planted and cared for the city flowers for 2011.

During 2012 the garden club grew to 45 members. The club again sold member's plants at the farmers market for 2 Tuesday nights in mid-summer. The club decided to give one half of the earnings (\$600) to the Community Center and save the rest for club expenses. Again the members planted and cared for the city flowers for 2012. Karen Bechthold was re-elected president for 2013.

During 2013 the garden club grew to 46 members. The club again sold member's plants at the farmers market for 2 Tuesday nights in mid-summer. The club decided to give one half of the earnings (\$766) to the Community Center. Again the members planted and cared for the city flowers for 2013. Charlie Marini was elected president for 2014.

During 2014 the garden club grew to 48 members. The club again sold member's plants at the farmers market for 2 Tuesday nights in mid-summer. The club decided to give one half of the earnings (\$1082) to the Community Center. The club also donated \$1000 to the Marge and LeRoy Frankenstein's Memorial. Again the members planted and cared for the city flowers for 2014. Charlie Marini was re-elected president for 2015.

During 2015 the garden club grew to 49 members. The club again sold member's plants at the farmers market for 2 Tuesday nights in mid-summer. The club decided to give \$1500 to the Community Center. Again the members planted and cared for the city flowers for 2015. Since Bob Hill was unable to help with the planting the garden club assumed that responsibility for 2015. Shirley Greenwood was elected president for 2016.

Summary of funds donated to the community center: 2009 \$700, 2010 \$800, 2011 \$1000, 2012 \$600, 2013 \$766, 2014 \$1082, and 2015 \$1500 = Subtotal \$6448 + \$1000 to the memorial = \$7448.

During 2016 the garden club has participated in the planning for the flowers for 2016. Perennials are incorporated into some of the garden areas, which should help save some money on the flowers for the city. This year we are helping to grow some of the flowers for the city this year.

Through the past few years the garden club has had many presentations on flowers, vegetables, bugs, bees, soil, fertilizers, wild flowers, raising plants from seeds, transplanting, artwork, planters, and pesticides. The club has made several tours of nurseries, arboretum, conservatory, non-member gardens, and other city (Eden Prairie, Wazata, Plymouth, St Cloud) gardens/parks. Some of the members raise food for ICA. The garden club has always responded when help was needed for the city flowers & farmer's market.





