

*Florets*  
*Twin City Garden Club*  
*April 2024*



**Announcements**

**Spring Luncheon** Tuesday April 16<sup>th</sup> at **12 noon**

Manzella's Italian Patio, 115 South First, Champaign

Join us for food and friendship

**Note:** very good presentation in March by Becky Prather on composting. Any further questions can be sent to her at [1959gardenlady.com](mailto:1959gardenlady.com)

**Membership:** Welcome our newest members Erin Hardway and Susie Kautzer, please add their contact info to your yearbook:

Erin Hardway  
2128 Ivy Ct Champaign IL 61821  
(563) 340-3608  
[erinhardway23@gmail.com](mailto:erinhardway23@gmail.com) Birthday 5/23

Susie Kautzer  
1017 Lincolnshire Dr Champaign IL 61821  
(618) 567-8310  
[funscience@hotmail.com](mailto:funscience@hotmail.com) Birthday 5/31

**April birthdays:** Lisa Sur, 4/3; Cheryl Weber, 4/8; Dottie Frye, 4/17; Donica Halcom, 4/17

**TCGC annual plant sale Saturday May 4 8 a – 12 noon**

Reminder from Nicole Miller and Martha Tinsley:

The highlight of the sale are perennial plants that we share from our own gardens, but we will also have a "garage sale" where you can donate garden items you no longer use anymore (examples but not limited to: tools, pots, lawn ornaments, etc.).

Potted plants should all be labeled, in good shape, and may be dropped off at the front of the church on Friday May 3rd at any time. Leave them to the left of the air conditioners/right along the building to the south of the walkway. Please try to use quart sized pots or larger, because we have trouble selling anything smaller. **If you need assistance with lifting plants during the week before the sale, please contact Martha (716-785-4828) or Nicole (217-621-9994) to schedule this well in advance.**

## Events of Interest

**Delight Flower Farm:** Spring Flower Sale **April 20<sup>th</sup>, 12 – 3 p**  
(special event and open to the public) Location 1472 CR 500E Champaign;  
accepting pre-orders for this sale – details at [delightflowerfarm.com](https://delightflowerfarm.com)

**Country Arbors Nursery:** Annual Garden Party **April 20<sup>th</sup> 10a-4p**  
A celebration of nature and community with live music, food trucks, and unique artisanal goods

**Best Perennials for 2024** Champaign County Master Gardeners **April 23<sup>rd</sup> 7p**  
801 N Country Fair Drive Champaign  
Program is in person only and do need to register at  
<https://registration.extension.illinois.edu/start/ccmg-best-perennials-for-2024>

**Parkland Horticulture** Spring Plant Sale **April 29 – May 3, 9a-3p**  
Building W 2400 W. Bradley Champaign

**Native Plant Festival and Sale May 4<sup>th</sup>, 9a-3p** at Parkland College  
Informational booths and vendors

**Grand Prairie Friends:** 2024 Plant Sale Online ordering starts **May 5<sup>th</sup>** Visit their website,  
[grandprairiefriends.org](https://grandprairiefriends.org) to view their catalog

**CU Herb Society** Annual Herb Sale **May 11<sup>th</sup> 8a-12n** (or until sold out) inside Lincoln Square  
Urbana  
List of plants: <https://cuherbsociety.org/plantsale/list2024.pdf>  
(pot size: 3.5 inch, and most are only \$3)

**Sola Gratia** Annual Spring Plant Sale open each day **9a-5 p May 10-19<sup>th</sup>** 2200 Philo Rd Urbana  
Organically grown vegetable, herb and fruit starts, as well as perennials and annuals from  
Country Arbors

## IN THE GARDEN

### naming flowers

a rose is a rose is a....

Before AI, and before computers, human brains found a way to sort the array of objects in their environment, by applying a naming system that could be shared. We know it when we see it, but then how to share this information and share it quickly – not pointing and saying “five red petals on thorny, woody shrub that dies in the cold but comes back when sun rises again in the northeast”. There is evidence that this “five red petaled perennial woody shrub” is one of the oldest flowers in the plant kingdom, dating to thousands of years ago, with its point of origin in the area of Persia. As humans migrated, so too did this plant: each language modifying the Persian name until what we have now: rose from the Old English, after the word *rosa*, from the Romans.

With those migrations and changing growing conditions, new types of roses formed – not just a red color, but also yellow and pink plus size and shape changes. At last count there are 300-350 species of wild roses, Old World roses, and modern roses. How to sort these?

Previous efforts by Greek and Egyptian scholars had worked at classifying the vast array of living entities but were incomplete and abandoned. Not until Carl Linnaeus working in the early 18<sup>th</sup> century and continued through many long years with continued input by the naturalist community was a rigorous classification system developed that produced the now universally accepted ranking of Kingdom, Phylum, Class, Order, Family, Genus, Species.

Being Eurocentric during this period of intense knowledge gathering, Latin became the preferred language and this has been honored to modern times, retaining the Latin form for naming the genus and species of all life forms. The common name does still remain but for botanical identification, the genus and species is the *specific name*.

Fortunately, now in this advanced informational age, these Latin names, when needed, are readily accessible via the internet. Wanting to know the botanical name for a particular rose in my garden and left with only a bill of sale that just noted this was a “Magnifica Shrub Rose”, was able to quickly find that it is a *Rosa rugosa*. Knowing this specific name was then able locate more info on its growing characteristics: water and fertilizer needs, etc.



Lost that name tag or never even had one? Searching images has become possible now with Google Lens. There are also other apps such as Plant Snap or PlantNet that are available but have limited success due to their low inventory. Facebook groups such as the local CU Plant People and a worldwide group, Addicted to Gardening can be very helpful.