

Chicago Community Gardeners Association Resources Committee 2018 Annual Report

First, a big thank you to all the donors who gave plant material and garden supplies that made many of our distributions possible. They include:

Nick Michaud and Westover Farm: thousands of seedlings, as well as seeds, shrubs, seed potatoes, garlic, and garden supplies.

The Contained Garden: ornamental annual and perennial plants, seasonal plant material, decorative items for containers and containers.

Lowe's: sold us tools at a significant discount.

Scott Byron & Company: donated plant material and also solicited plant material from other area businesses, sorted and delivered all of it to us—a flatbed truck, piled high.

Elite Growers: donated thousands of perennials for three distribution events.

The Garden Shed: sold us annuals at a significant discount.

Hoffie Bros., Intrinsic Perennials, Mariani Landscape, Montale Gardens, and Midwest Groundcovers: contributed considerable plant material for the fall distribution.

Metropolitan Water Reclamation District: donated 50 saplings.

Muddy Boots: ten large boxes of evergreen boughs

Omni Ecosystems: 200 tropical plants suitable for use as houseplants.

Dan Gibbs, Austin Green Team president and expert grower who gave a presentation on vegetable growing; **Edde Jones**, former Director of GreenCorps, who gave a master class in tool safety; and **Paul Krysik**, who gave a presentation on tool maintenance.

Andrew and Mike: scoured garage and estate sales for used tools which they donated.

Anonymous Chicago residential gardeners: hundreds of perennials.

Thank you to the members of the Resources Committee, who grew 7000+ vegetable and ornamental seedlings at the Center for Green Technology and Austin High School greenhouses and did all the plant distributions and sales. They also collected plant material from the Chicago Garden Show and scavenged for containers and tools in alleys and yard sales.

Because of the preceding, the Resources Committee was able to hold the following events in 2018:

Seven major distributions, including the March Tool Workshop (64 community gardeners); Spring Distribution in April (76 community gardens, 1700 plants); May Distribution (100 community gardens, 3500+ vegetable and ornamental seedlings); July Perennial Distribution (96 community gardens, 3000 plants); August Perennial Distribution (65 community gardens, 3000 plants); September Perennial Distribution (70 community gardens, truckloads of plants); and October Bulb Distribution (50 community gardens, 5000 bulbs).

Several “Mini Distributions” last minute events to distribute plant materials unexpectedly made available to the Resources Committee.

Three Plant Sales for unusually fine plant material received from The Contained Garden, Westover Farm, Omni Ecosystems, and anonymous donors; these included a March houseplant sale, September tropical plant sale, and the Holiday Plant Sale.

The Resources Committee also grew the plants for, and created 24 centerpieces which it contributed to the 2018 CCGA Annual Conference, and obtained and distributed door prizes for this event.

Resources Committee revenue in 2018 of \$5210 came from the registration fees at distribution events and from plant sales. 2018 expenses included soil for greenhouse work, pots for vegetable seedlings, bulbs, tools, 100 native (calamintha) plants for the community gardeners, onion sets and seed potatoes for distribution, seed shipping fees and material for the Holiday Plant Sale. We began 2018 with a surplus of \$1581 and ended with a surplus of \$952.

Thank you to all the volunteers who helped in this year’s events and activities, as well as the community gardens who participated in them. As always, our mission is to obtain and distribute useful garden materials to community gardens. We try to ensure that the money we receive is spent for the same purpose. Thank you for your support!

Patricia Jackson Hart
Chairman, CCGA Resources Committee
Chicago Community Gardeners Association

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