

Award # 22

Award Name: **Myrtle R. Walgreen Memorial Award for Civic Project**

Submitted by: **Anna-Jo Garden Club**

Number of Members in Club: **36**

1. New Project: **YES**

Beginning Date **May 2020** End Date **May 2021**

2. Brief Summary of objectives of project

On April 21, 2020, Linda Clutts, one of our member's passed away. Linda serviced as the club's president twice during her time with the club. She also service at the district level for District VII. Her family asked that donations be made to the Anna-Jo Garden Club. Linda had been involved in the workings of the Anna-Jo Garden Club Park since the club's involvement in the city park dating back to the 1990s. It was decided by the committee, that another picnic table area in the park would be a fitting tribute to our passed member. The new picnic area would help accommodate more visitors to the city park. The Anna-Jo Garden Club Park (also known as Hindman Park) is located across the parking lot from McDonald's restaurant. With the occurrence of the pandemic, the restaurant has been closed to inside dining, and many more people are using the park to eat lunch and enjoy the pleasant atmosphere available in the park. We witness senior citizens meeting daily for coffee and fellowship in the park. The park currently had two picnic tables under the park's pavilion. The new picnic area is located under the pines and near the butterfly garden.

3. Involvement of club members and other organizations, etc.

Ten members of the park committee planned the project which included an industrial quality picnic table to be permanently mounted on a concrete pad. The picnic table would be purchased with donations from the Linda Clutts memorial fund. In November 2020, the city of Anna approved the plan and agreed to provide the labor for preparing the concrete pad. The concrete was donated and poured. In the spring of 2021, donations of dirt, large rocks, and perennials were used to landscape the slopping area. Some shrubs were purchased to complete the landscaping design. The large stones were used for landscaping around the new picnic area and other places in the park. The picnic area was dedicated at the May 2021 Garden Walk. Linda Clutts' family, city workers, concrete contractor, club members and the community attended the dedication and music was provided by the Back Porch Company.

4. Project Expenses and means of funding

Funding for the project came from memorials and the Anna-Jo Garden Park yearly budget.

- Linda Clutts memorial fund, Anna-Jo Garden Club received \$725.00
- Bud Nevles memorial fund, Anna-Jo Garden Club received \$95.00

Expenses were held to a minimum, due the generosity of our community.

- Industrial Picnic Table, cost of \$779.00.
- Plaque in honor of Linda, cost of \$161.26
- Bushes, Shrubs, and pine mulch around the new picnic area, cost of \$195.00

Donations were valued at:

- City of Anna provided the Labor and supplies needed at a cost of more than \$1500.
- Ready-Mix Solutions, donated the concrete pad at a cost valued at \$400.00
- Housman's Landscaping provided fill/dirt at a cost value of \$175.00
- Landscaping rocks, donated by a local family at a cost value of over \$1000.00
- Many plants around the picnic area came from member's gardens, priceless.

Continuing involvement, follow-up, and maintenance

The new picnic area will be maintained during the regularly scheduled park workdays. Watering, weeding, pine mulch will be maintained by the Anna-Jo Garden Park Garden Committee. This committee has two scheduled workdays per

month (April-Oct). Averaging 8 members per workday, for a total of 48 hours per month. Since, the park belongs to the city of Anna, IL. The Anna city workers, mow the park every week, for a total of (3hour x 4 weeks) 12 hours a month.

Deciding on the perfect spot for the Linda Clutts picnic table area with members of the club and city manager.



City works and a local concrete company donated the pad.

Picnic Table arrived



Fill and Rocks added to landscaping around the picnic area. Both were donated in honor of Linda Clutts.



Planting Day



Dedication of the Linda Clutts picnic area was held during the annual Garden Walk on May 20th, 2021



Dedication ceremony

A large crowd was on hand for a garden walk and dedication ceremony Thursday evening, May 20, Anna. The walk and a ceremony to honor the memory of Linda Clutts were held at the Anna-Jo Garden Club Park



Dedication of the Linda Clutts memorial at the evening Garden Walk at Anna-Jo Garden Club Hindman Park in Anna. left sitting at picnic table Linda's son Konny Clutts, friend of the family Martha Ann Webb, Linda's daughter-in-law Nattie Clutts, Linda's son Tom Clutts. Left standing: Linda's son Ben Clutts, Linda's sister-in-law Lois Clutts, Lincia's grandson Chris Clutts.



A special thanks to Back Porch Company who entertained at the Evening Garden Walk at the Anna-Jo Garden Club at Hindman Park Thursday, May 20, and for the dedication of the Linda Clutts memorial. Richard Johnson, Carla Anderson, Warren Anderson, Stuart Anderson.



A special thanks to Anna City employees Mr. Safety Rev. Lonnie Lewis and public works manager Gary Dahmer for putting the Linda Clutts memorial sign at the Anna-Jo Garden Club Hindman Park last week.

