

Award: #30

Award Name: Garden Club of Downers Grove Military Memorial Award

Submitted by: Cress Creek Garden Club

1. New project: Yes__ No X This project was started in 2018 for our club and has become one of our permanent projects.

2. Brief summary and objectives of project.

This is the fourth year for this project for our club and all members working on this project enjoy making this area look fresh and appealing for all in the community who take the time to stop, enjoy it and remember a loved one. Forty geraniums, 16 grasses and other annuals were added on planting day, May 20, 2021. We have three co-chairs for this project and two of them are Master Gardeners.

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

Fifteen of our members showed up for Planting Day and on such a warm day early in May, we weren't required to wear masks. A crew from the local area Parks department were also on site (as this location does not have a water source) so their tanker of water was greatly appreciated and they also provided the mulch used at this site. Our club brought all the plantings and newspapers (to place down before applying the mulch).

4. Project expenses and means of funding.

CCGC has a \$200.00 budget line item for this project which covers the purchase of all plants. All of our budgeted funds for this project are covered by our annual Plant Sale and typically our fall bazaar MIBI (Make It Bake It) which had to be canceled in 2020 but an on-line auction was held to help offset these costs.

5. Continuing involvement, follow-up, maintenance.

Throughout the summer, our members water the flowers in this area and do necessary weeding if needed. There are no sprinkler systems nor available watering connections at this site so everything has to be brought in containers for all the plantings. Another member made a new wreath that is displayed at this site too. We also brought several small flags to display around the flowers. Our club continues to support this project making it a welcoming spot for all who stop for a visit and is very proud to participate in this project. Engraved in the concrete reads: ***"Veterans Park Let Peace and Beauty Be Found Here: Remember Those Who Have Served Us Well."***

6. Included in this application are photos of the plantings and our members participating in the 2021 day of planting Veterans Park (5/20/2021).



Before pics with weeds and other items needing attention



Before pic with fewer weeds but still more to remove



Plant color scheme has a patriotic theme



Parks employee delivering mulch once newspaper is in place



Geraniums in place getting ready for watering.



All plants in the ground and clean up is next up.



Engraved sign displayed at this site.



New wreath on display for visitors.



Engraved in concrete reads: *"Veterans Park...Let Peace and Beauty Be Found Here: Remember Those Who Have Served Us Well."*