

Members of our club have chosen to nominate Cathy Streett for the **STEPHANIE GREENE MEMORIAL AWARD**. Cathy was an original member of the Darien Park District Garden Club – now the Darien Garden Club. She has been a member of our club for twenty years. Instead of losing her interest and dedication, she keeps going stronger and stronger.

In the early years Cathy served as president and became one of our first fundraising chairs. In those years we hosted an annual plant sale. While many people viewed the plant sale as merely a one-day commitment, those of us involved knew that it was a multi-month commitment. Cathy was instrumental in planning, digging, tending, labeling, researching and transporting plants. She contributed more time and effort than anyone. She serves as our “sunshine” chair, purchasing a perennial plant or house plant for members for their birthday each year keeping track of details – birthdates and plant preferences. She consistently spearheads many local garden tending endeavors including the Veteran’s Memorial at Darien Community Park, Aspired Living gardens, and numerous Darien public parks. She volunteers at the Indian Prairie Public Library in the STEM program with children and the Prairie Patch – a pollinator garden that we helped establish at the library. She maintains the planters at the entrance of the library and around the reading garden with seasonal appropriate planting, using natives and pollinators as much as possible. In 2015, continuing on as our fundraising chair, Cathy was the mastermind behind our new annual fundraiser – Spring Gardening Inspiration. Within five years it grew to a sell-out event that was attended by many members of other garden clubs through GCI and local residents. Cathy actively participates in pollinator projects including DuPage Monarch Project, Illinois Monarch Project, IDOT and the Flyaway project along Route 66 which passes through our town. She currently serves in the role of Community Service and Community Outreach chair. Externally she has been an ambassador for our club, helping build relationship with the City of Darien, the Darien Park District, Indian Prairie Public Library, Darien Historical Society, Darien Women’s Club, and local schools. Internally she has been a consistent force within our club, always seeking new opportunities for us to spread our influence while welcoming members to participate. Cathy has excelled in cultivating her photography skills and shares her amazing photos in many of our community outreach events. Cathy creates a significant presence for our club on social media. She remains striving and humble in all her endeavors and is always pleasant to work alongside. Many of our members agree that we owe much of the success and growth of our club to Cathy’s consistent work and dedication. She has received our VIP award in the past and we enthusiastically nominate **CATHY STREETT** for the **STEPHANIE GREENE MEMORIAL AWARD**.

Respectfully submitted,

Yvonne Mlynarczyk