

APRIL 2025



What's Growing On!

at Central Gardens of North Iowa

THANK YOU, MEMBERS

Our deepest thanks for all the individuals and businesses that have renewed or established memberships with Central Gardens for 2025! Memberships make it possible for Central Gardens to keep the gates open May through October, offer free admission, purchase plants and flowers, and provide free programs and events each year.



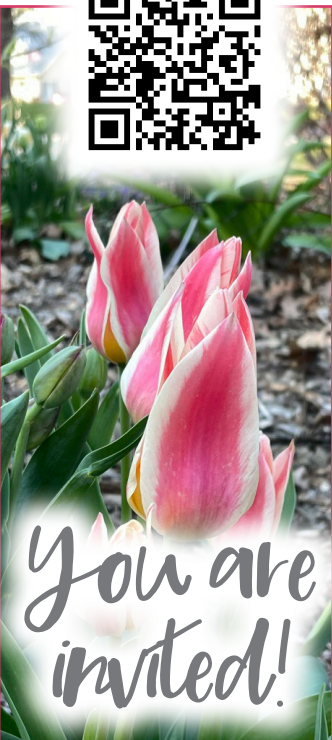
As opening day approaches, volunteers prepare the grounds and plot plans conceived of this winter. Won't you help keep the spring momentum going at the Gardens by establishing or renewing your membership today? As a member, you will receive the following:

- Exclusive** 20% discount on bricks and pavers*
- Free admission** to over 380 American Horticultural Society (AHS) gardens and arboretums in North America and the Caribbean*
- Newsletters** to keep you informed about what's happening at Central Gardens
- Recognition** in the Annual Report
- Pride** in supporting the quality of life in north Iowa



**Does not apply to corporate memberships.*

Corporate members enjoy free publicity in each newsletter as well as up to 4 sponsorship opportunities at no extra charge. To join us today, simply scan the QR code or mail your payment to Central Gardens PO Box 735 Clear Lake, IA 50428.



VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES IN CENTRAL GARDENS

Please join us on **Sunday, May 4, 2 PM – 4 PM** in the Nature Education Pavilion for a volunteer open house. Whether you find glory digging in the dirt or helping with events, there's a place for you at Central Gardens. Volunteers are needed for gardening as well as in marketing, finance, maintenance, and in the office. We need people of all ages and abilities, with varied interests and skills, to serve Central Gardens in a variety of ways.

Volunteers are needed right now to prepare for opening day on May 1 and to maintain and beautify the grounds throughout the season. Immediate help is needed to clear winter debris, uncover planters, urns, and spigots, and to fire up the watering systems and fountain. Soon, hundreds of plants and flowers will arrive that need to be planted as well. And there will be truckloads of mulch to spread around the beds.

Join May 4th to learn more about Central Gardens volunteer opportunities. Refreshments will be served and volunteers will be on hand to answer all of your questions. Come and find your place in Central Gardens!

CENTRAL GARDENS WELCOMES RANAE LONG

Watching something grow is good for morale. It helps us believe in life. -Myron Kaufmann

Ranae Long has joined Central Gardens as the 10th member of the board of directors. She will serve as chair of the Events and Programs Committee. Welcome to Central Gardens Ranae! We're glad you're here!

Ranae grew up in rural Latimer and graduated from CAL Community School. In 2002. She married Derek Long and moved to Key West, Florida after reenlisting in the Coast Guard. The couple spent the next 5 years in Key West where Ranae worked as a banquet captain for the Casa Marina and Westin Resorts planning and organizing weddings and large group events. Ranae and Derek spent the next 4 years in Harlingen, Texas where Ranae was the Food and Beverage Director for Valley Race Park, managing daily operations for the restaurant, bars, and banquet facilities.

In 2011, Ranae and Derek along with their two sons; Reese and Christopher, moved to Clear Lake. Since moving back to Iowa, Ranae has worked as the Dietary Manager at the Sheffield Care Center and the Kitchen Manager at Prairie Ridge in Mason City. Ranae is currently working with Mason City Schools as a paraprofessional and a substitute teacher at Pinecrest Center. In her spare time Ranae enjoys spending time with her sons and her four grandchildren Luna, Elijah, Logan, and Lyla. She also loves to travel with her husband, Derek, and spending time with her friends.



Save The Date! SUMMER GARDEN PARTY IS COMING SOON!

Reserve your place at the 2025 Summer Garden Party on

SUNDAY, JUNE 22 AT NOON

by scanning the QR code and purchasing tickets. This year's Garden Party has a little something for everyone with live music, fresh food and beverages, and a fun, live auction filled with one-of-a-kind treasures.

The Summer Garden Party is Central Gardens' principal fundraiser, generating revenue to maintain and beautify the buildings and grounds, provide programs and events for generations of visitors, and run the business. It is, simply put, mission critical. Please support Central Gardens and plan to join us for what promises to be a fun and festive afternoon!



CENTRAL
GARDENS
of NORTH IOWA



2025 Corporate Members



DESIGNER (\$2,500 + UP)



GARDENER (\$1,000 - \$2,499)



CARETAKER (\$500 - \$999)

Bombie, Inc. (Bonnie Hall)

Clear Lake Bank & Trust

Sail Inn

Steve Wright Outdoor Lighting

PLANTER (\$250 - \$499)

Bergland + Cram Architects

Brother's Ace Hardware

Clear Lake Arts Center

ControlPrint Creative

Glen's Tire Service

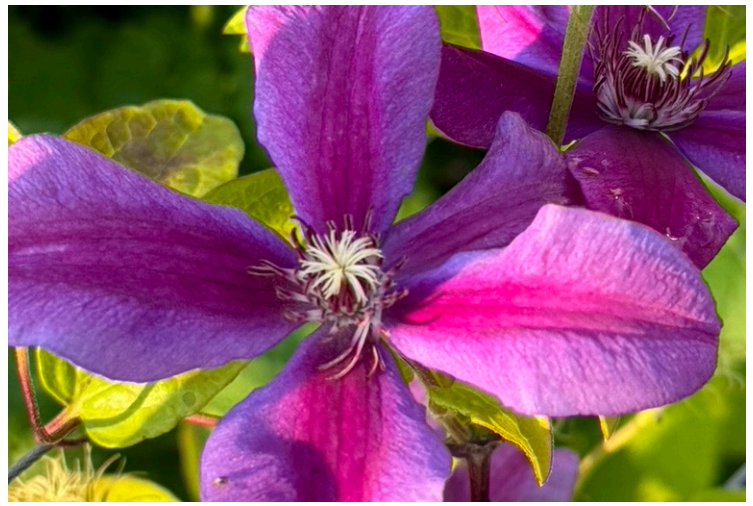
Holdredge Construction

Jane Fischer & Associates

Lake Liquors

Metalcraft, Inc.

Pla-Ground Family Farms





Central Gardens of North Iowa
P.O. Box 735
Clear Lake, IA 50428

Address Service Requested

2025 ACTIVITIES & EVENTS

Follow us on Facebook or visit our website at www.centralgardensnorthiowa.com for information on activities, events, and programs coming up at the Gardens in 2025!

THURSDAY, MAY 1, 2025

Gates open at dawn for the 2025 season.

SUNDAY, MAY 4, 2 PM - 4 PM

Volunteer Open House. Free.

SATURDAY, MAY 17, 8 AM - 12 PM

Plant Sale and Gardening Fair.

FRIDAYS, JUNE 6 - AUGUST 15, 9 AM - 11 AM

Garden Explorers. Free.

FRIDAYS, JUNE 6 - AUGUST 29, 9 AM - 11 AM

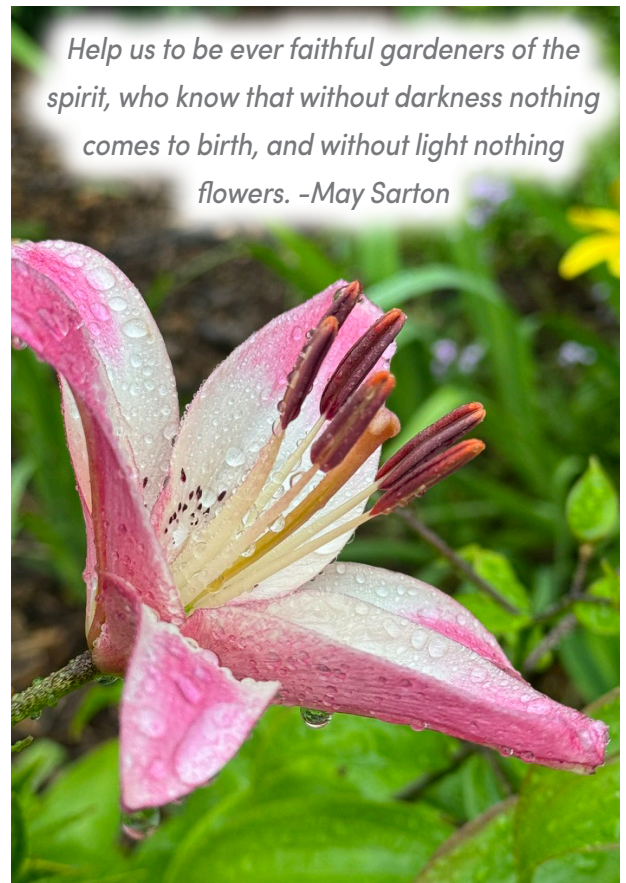
Fresh on Friday Bouquet Sales and Refreshments.

SUNDAY, JUNE 22, 12 NOON

Summer Garden Party. Ticketed event.

SUNDAYS, JULY 20 - SEPTEMBER 7, 5 PM - 6 PM

Picnics & Performances. Free.



Help us to be ever faithful gardeners of the spirit, who know that without darkness nothing comes to birth, and without light nothing flowers. -May Sarton