



For Immediate Release

Contact: Joanne Stratton 312-543-1561

## **“FAITH ‘N BEGONIA”**

### **MILLER GARDEN CLUB TO CELEBRATE 20 YEARS SINCE FOUNDING**

**SATURDAY, MARCH 17, 2018**

The Miller Garden Club will be celebrating their 20<sup>th</sup> Anniversary, on Saturday, March 17, 2018, at the Marquette Park Aquatorium at 6918 Oak Avenue, Gary, IN 46403. This is the Garden Club’s first meeting of 2018; members and friends will gather for a very brief business meeting beginning at 10:00 a.m. followed by a special narrative program detailing the history of the club and its efforts --- “Faith ‘n Begonia: how a bunch of Miller mavericks formed a garden club twenty years ago and lived to tell the tale.”

Briefly, the Miller Garden Club began with a meeting at the then Wildermuth branch of the Gary Public Library in March 1998. About twenty Miller gardeners along with founder and first president, John Nickerson, (currently residing in Florida) met to get organized. Many of these original mavericks are still members and/or officers of the club. They have “lived to tell the tale” of the club’s founding. Following the program there will be more Irish entertainment and, a complimentary light buffet of Irish fare. The meeting and celebration is complimentary and open to the public and members. The members are encouraged to dress in their best green outfits for judging.

The Miller Garden Club currently has over 200 members and plans three major fund-raising events per year beginning with the Spring Plant and Rummage Sale, Sat May 12; the Summer Secret Gardens Walk, date TBA, and the Fall Brats & Bulbs Sale Sat Oct 20. All of these events take place at the Aquatorium building in Marquette Park, Gary, IN and are free and open to the public. Funds generated by the sales support the efforts of the garden club.

Garden Club meetings take place on the third Saturday of the month from March through October, and feature speakers of interest on subjects ranging from gardening to ecology to stewardship of our natural resources. Outings to various local environmental locations take place throughout the year. Membership dues are \$20 per year. Members received a periodic newsletter with information about events and other gardening information.

The Miller Garden Club’s mission is to provide gardening education on all levels; to protect native trees, plants and wildlife; and to beautify the Miller Beach community in Gary, Indiana. The club is a 501(c)3 organization founded in 1998. Club members work tirelessly tending to

gardens along the Lake Street Business district, the South Shore train station, the Woodson Branch library, the Aquatorium and many other locations throughout the Miller Beach community.

For further information contact Joanne Stratton 312-543-1561 or [jmstratt@sbglobal.net](mailto:jmstratt@sbglobal.net) or Miller Garden Club.org or Facebook.