



Mississippi Valley Garden Club

April 2016

Save these dates!!!!

Thursday, April 21

PLANT EXCHANGE

& 2 short topics

7pm

Bethalto Senior Center

Sign up for bus trip

Saturday, April 23

Dig day at Carole

9am— ??

Monday, April 25

7pm

Board meeting

Frank's Restaurant

Friday, April 29

**Memorial Tree Dedication
Ceremony**

6pm

Arbor Day Celebration

Glazebrook Park

Thursday, May 5

Pricing at Jan's

Godfrey

4 pm

Saturday, May 7

**Plant Sale
Sportsmen's Club**

8am—noon

Set up 5am

Saturday, May 21

**Bus Trip
Springfield, IL**

Saturday, June 11

Alton Farmer's Market

TBA

Welcome back to Alicia Davis. Always good to have former members return to the club. I'm sure you will have lots of ideas to share with us.

Plant Exchange: The April meeting is our plant exchange. Bring 3 potted plants and take 3 different plants home. Please label them with their description and requirements. If you have extra plants please save them for the plant sale. This is a chance to share your favorite plant with other members. We will also have 2 speakers that will present short topics. Jan will share her fondness for daylilies. Susan will present one of her favorites, hellebores.

Dig day: Volunteers are needed for the dig day at Carole Baker's. Carole's gardens are a great source of plants. We will need folks to dig and pot. In the past we have gotten over 300 plants from Carole's. The more help we have the more we can accomplish and this helps the club. Please bring shovels and trowels. If you are able, bring a wheelbarrow. Pots and flats will be needed. Don't forget to bring buckets or containers to get compost for your plants.

Memorial Tree Dedication Ceremony: This will be the ceremony dedicating the trees that we purchased for Herb and Joyce. It will be Friday, April 29 at 6 pm. There will be bleacher seating available, but you are welcome to bring lawn chairs. The Arbor Day Celebration will begin at 4 pm if you wish to go for the evening.

Bus trip: We will be headed to the Springfield, IL area to visit some nurseries. We will leave Alton Square Mall at 8 am. First on the agenda will be Hilltop Gardens in Sherman, IL. They offer a large selection of plants ranging from the newest to everyone's old fashioned favorites. www.hilltopgardens.com Next we will be going to Greenview Garden Center. The center was opened in 1984, it was the 4th location for the company, which originated in 1955. www.greenview.com. Lunch will be at some of the local establishments: Red Robin, Arby's, etc. After lunch we will head to Buckley's Prairie Landscaping. They brag to having the freshest and largest selection of annuals in the Springfield area. They also have 10,000 square feet of greenhouse space. They also have a large selection of fountains (1 or 2 will fit on the bus) and ceramic and glazed pottery.

www.buckleysprairielandscaping.net. Last stop for the day will be Pleasant Nursery. They carry annuals, perennials, shrubs and trees. They also have a gift shop to find unique gifts. www.pleasantnurseryinc.com. We will return to Alton Square Mall around 5:30 pm. Members cost will be \$10 and guests \$18. Be sure and get signed up at the April meeting.

PLANT SALE: It is that time again. Time to be getting ready for the plant sale. The sale will be Saturday, May 7. It will be held at the Alton-Wood River Sportsmen's Club on Godfrey Road. The morning of the sale we will be starting at 5 am to transport plants and set up. The sale will be from 8 am—12 pm.

Plants — Start thinking of plants that you can divide and share. Please dig and pot about 2 weeks ahead of time, this will give the plants time to recuperate. Compost is now available at Carole's and Jan's homes, for plants being dug for the sale. (At Jan's its in the alley behind her house.)

Need donations of gently used gardening items: tools, nice pots, decorations, etc.

Raffle: Linda will be donating a fairy house for the raffle. Edith is donating a water feature and a gardening tool bag. Thank you Linda and Edith.

Pots : If you have extra pots and flats please bring them to the April club meeting. Recommended sizes are: approximately 6" tall and 5" wide or 5" tall and 10" wide for spreading plants. We will need approximately 275 pots. Flats with fairly solid bottoms work well for groundcovers.

Advertising: Flyers can be posted after the April meeting. Please check back to make sure flyers remain posted, sometimes the stores clean off the boards. Also remove them from the boards when the plant sale is over. Contact banks and businesses with a marquee, request that they post the plant sale on their marquee.

Markers and pictures: Venetian blind markers will be available at the April meeting. Please mark it with information regarding the plant. If you have pictures of your plants, especially the bloomers, it helps to have them available. Attach them to a stake in the plant. Tally staff will pull the pictures for future use.

Sign up sheets: There will be sign up sheets for different activities at the April meeting. Please sign up for something. Help will be needed with setting up, transporting plants, sales, tallying, clean up, etc.

Pricing: will be at Jan Maxeiner's, Thursday, May 5, at 4pm. Please do not take plants to Jan's before Wednesday. Friday, May 6 at 4 pm will be the rain date for pricing.

March meeting: The March meeting was our anniversary celebration. We shared a nicely decorated bakery cake, and other goodies and drinks brought by members. Thank you. Lisa Dean was our speaker, from the Illinois Master Gardeners. Her topic was " 20 Reasons to Garden". Some of the reasons made you laugh and some to reminisce of the good times had. Gail had edited a disk with pictures of past activities, that was played while eating our dessert. Thank you, Gail. Certificates were presented to the five founding members that have been with the club for 20 years: Judy , Gail , Carol , Jan and Jerry . Thank you for your time and service. Group photographs were taken of the founding members and the membership. We had 4 guests, one rejoined. Alicia had been a member in the past and has come back to join us. Since it was also St. Patrick's day, small pots of shamrocks were given to our guests and extras on the white elephant table. Thank you to Susan for making the pots of shamrocks. Also, thank you Bill for keeping them watered while Susan was out of town. Since it was St. Patrick's day, many members had their green on. As you can see in the membership photo (if you get this via email) we have some very enthusiastic members. Happy anniversary Mississippi Valley Garden Club, and I hope your around for another 20 years.

Keeping Up: Since I have no news about our members, hope everyone is doing well. If something comes up that can be shared please let me know. Thanks, Vernice 259-6726

Hospitality: Thank you to the folks who brought goodies for the March meeting, it was appreciated. The following members have volunteered to bring dessert and drinks for the April meeting:

Desserts— Gail Clarkson, Dottie Rogers, Susan Hiller, Carolyn James, Karen Cairns and Juanita Cox

2 bags of ice — Nancy Shipman

2 liters regular cola — Jan Maxeiner

2 liters white soda — Bill Hiller

2 liters diet soda — Earlene Harrison

1 galloon unsweetened tea — Sharlotte Bryant

President: Susan Hiller 466-4942

Board Members

Committee Chairs

VP/ Secretary: Susan Ruckman
466-5892

Vernice Allen

Carolyn James— Trips

Carole Baker

Earlene Harrison — Community Projects

George Kahl

Joanne Bottens — Hospitality

Jerry Linker

Debbie Winship — Hospitality

Dottie Rogers

Jerry Linker— Historian & Photos

Paula Zugmaier

Edith Reed — Plant Sale

Treasurer: Judy Dare 979-0237

Directions to Carole Baker's:

Go **North** on Humbert Rd towards Brighton.

Turn **Right** on Straube Lane –Straube Lane is just past Tremont Dr.

Go 1.6 miles, turn **left** onto Whistling Winds Lane, 0.2 miles past Cope Ln.

If you reach Straube Ridge Rd you've gone about 0.4 mile to far.

Directions to Glazebrook Park, Godfrey, IL— 1401 Stamper Ln:

From Alton, go **north** on US-67 (Godfrey Rd).

Turn **left** on to Stamper Ln, North Elementary School will be on the corner.

Glazebrook Park will be on the **left**. (0.80 miles)

Seminars/ Workshops:

April 26, 1:30 & April 28, 6:30 pm — Water-Smart Gardening

May 10, 1:30 & May 12, 6:30 pm — Containers & Raised Beds to Grow Vegetables

May 24, 1:30 & May 26, 6:30 pm — Backyard Green house Basics

Attend in person at Collinsville or Waterloo, IL.

Attend online from the comfort of your home.

Please call to register: 618-939-3434

University of IL Extension, <http://go.illinois.edu/4seasons>