

MISSISSIPPI VALLEY GARDEN CLUB

FEBRUARY 2015

www.mvgclub.weebly.com

Save these dates:

OPEN HOUSE

Thursday
February 19

7 pm

Bethalto Senior Center

Ned Seigel

Rain Garden

2015 Dues

Monday

February 23, 2015

Board Meeting

7 pm

Sue's home

Thursday

March 19

7pm

Bethalto Senior Center

William Klopfenstein

Soil Preparation

April 16— Plant exchange

May 9 - Plant sale

May 16— Spring bus trip

FEBRUARY MEETING: It was suggested, at the board meeting to make use of our February meeting as an open house. It will be low key since it is short notice. There will be ad in the newspaper. We have plenty of members signed up for hospitality. We have an excellent speaker and topic. Please wear your club name pins. If you have the chance to interact with guests, please make them feel welcomed. We will be giving out a limited supply of small plants to the guests. If you know someone who has an interest in gardening be sure and invite them, this will be their chance to check us out.

FEBRUARY PRESENTATION: Our February speaker will be Ned Siegel. Ned was a speaker for us in 2010, he will be updating us on rain gardens. After receiving a B.S. degree in Biology and a M.S. degree in Botany from the University of Illinois, Ned spent over thirty years in the scientific research community, first at Monsanto Company and ultimately with Pfizer, Inc. He retired early in 2006 in order to pursue other interests and hobbies, whereupon he became a St. Louis Master Gardener in 2007 and was subsequently certified as an Illinois Master Naturalist in 2010. Ned served previously as a member of the St. Louis Master Gardener Advisory Committee and currently serves on their Speakers Bureau and Community Outreach Committee.

Rain gardens can be created by capturing rain water from rooftops and downspouts, from parking lots and roadways, or simply by taking advantage of natural drainage depressions. While providing wildlife habitat and beautiful landscaping possibilities, rain gardens also provide benefits that include pollutant filtration and reduced erosion. This presentation will discuss not only the importance of rain gardening but also some of the considerations that go into planting your own personal rain garden.

Dues for 2015: Dues will be collected at the February meeting. \$10 for returning members, \$17 for new members. After the 19th the late dues will be \$15. Please remind your friends to renew. Give your money to Judy Dare. If you are not able to attend the meeting, mail the dues to Judy Dare, 108 Cedar Ln, East Alton, 62024.

Future activities: Dates have been set for the plant sale and the Spring bus trip. Please check these dates, listed on the front page. Keep them in mind when making your plans. Also keep in mind that there will be dig days, approximately 2 weeks in advance of the plant sale. There will also be work days for SIUE and Hope Center. Please try to attend these, we are in need of help. There will be sign up sheets for the different activities, please sign up to help.

Spring bus trip: The Spring bus trip is scheduled for May 16. We will be headed to Lake St. Louis Garden Center, Wiese Nursery, Tom Mansfield Nursery, and Annie’s Gardens and Gifts. Lunch will be at Ruby Tuesday’s. Sign up will start at the March meeting. Check your schedules and invite your friends. Members will be \$10 and guests \$18.

January Presentation: John Hensley, Missouri Master Gardener, took us back to the time of the Old Testament. He reminded us of the readings and the plants that were included. References were made to what was probably an apple tree, date palm, fig trees, grapes, pomegranate. Noah made the ark of gopherwood, which was thought to be Italian cypress. There were olive trees. There were also lentils, wheat, barley, rye, etc. Included in the New Testament were: myrrh tree, mustard seed, grapes, crown of thorns. Gall was thought to be opium from poppies. John helped us to realize how long some plants have been around.



Jan 31– Mar 22— Annual Orchid Show: Orchids and their Pollinators, Missouri Botanical Gardens

Feb 13-15 — 27th Anniversary Midwestern Herb and Garden, Mt Vernon, IL . www.midwesternherbandgardenshow.com

Feb 21 — Weekend Gardener, Shrine of Our Lady of the Snows, Belleville, IL University of Illinois Extension

Feb 26– Mar1— 38th Annual Builders Home and Garden Show America’s Center, St. Louis, MO

Note from hospitality: The following members have volunteered to bring goodies for the February meeting. Thank you to the members who brought the food for the January meeting.

Dessert: Edith Reed, Linda Ahrling, Juanita Cox, Debbie Winship, Charlotte Bryant, Janice Fay, Julia Thien, Joanne Bottens

2 bags of ice: Bill Hiller

2 liters regular cola: Carole Baker

2 liters white soda: Ron Bottens

2 liters diet soda: Linda Votaw

2 gallons tea: Gloria Gowin

President—Sue Hiller 466-4942

Vice President- Susan Ruckman 466-5892

Secretary— Susan Ruckman 466-5892

Treasurer— Judy Dare 258-7098

Board Members

Vernice Allen

Carole Baker

George Kahl

Jerry Linker

Dottie Rogers

Paula Zugmaier

Committee Chairs

Carolyn James, Trips

Karen Fitzgerald, Hospitality

Mary Scates, Hospitality

Phil Embree, Plant Sale

Jerry Linker, Historian & Photos

Earlene Harrison, Community

Projects