

# Mississippi Valley Garden Club



[www.mvgclub.weebly.com](http://www.mvgclub.weebly.com)

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## Save these dates:

**Wednesday, February 8, 11:00**

### **Out and About**

Brunch at Cracker Barrel  
2421 Old Country Inn Dr.  
Caseyville, ILL 62232

**Thursday, February 16,**

**Bethalto Senior Citizen Center**

7:00 pm

Emily Ehley

with "Trees Forever"  
Woodland Wildflower  
Identification.

**Dues \$10, Late fee after  
March 16, \$15.**

**Please mail your dues if you  
can't make the meeting.**

**Monday, February 27, 6:30 pm**

Board Meeting at Dottie's home  
1712 Aster Ln, Godfrey

**Thursday, March 16, 7pm**

**Bethalto Senior Citizen Center**

Carol Cravens,

St Louis Master Gardener  
Top 10 Orchids for the Home

**Thursday, April 20, 7 pm Plant  
Exchange**

**Friday, May 12**

**Pricing plants/set up**

Alton Wood River Sportsmen's  
Club

**Welcome :** to several returning, former members. Judy , Wendy , Tena and Nelson . Welcome to Daisy and Janis , as new members. Also belated welcome to new member Mary . More information on back page.

**February Out and About:** You are invited to brunch at Cracker Barrel on Wednesday, February 8, at 11:00. You can come earlier or stay later if you want to do some shopping. Please let Paula know if you are interested in going. She will let the restaurant know that there is a group coming. Paula, 567-1703 .

**February meeting:** Our speaker will be Emily Ehley . Emily is the Southern Illinois Field Coordinator for Trees Forever. She is responsible for assisting in tree planting efforts in the area, including the Alton Native tree planting initiative and the Granite City reforestation project. Emily has bachelor's degree in Environmental Education, she is an ISA certified arborist, a certified interpretive guide and a Master Naturalist. She helps children and adults find joy in exploring the natural world around them. In her free time, she tends her garden and practices tree ID while hiking with her dogs. Emily recently received the Confluence Conservation Leadership Award from The Sierra Club Illinois, Three Rivers Project and Alton Main Street, in addition to two other local activists. For their work in environmental conservation in the Riverbend area.

Emily will be doing a woodland wildflower identification presentation for us. If you are looking forward to spring and all the new blooming flora, this is a chance to get to know our area's wildflowers and how to recognize them.

**2023 Dues:** the renewal dues is \$10. The new member price is increased to \$18 due to the increase in the price of purchasing the name pins and administrative fee. Please come a little early to pay your dues. Dues collection will be paused 5 minutes prior to the meeting starting. Please review your information on file to make sure it is up to date.

If you can't make the meeting please mail your dues to Susan H. The Board is reinstating the late fee as of March 16th, the March meeting. After this date the renewal fee will be \$15.

**White elephant drawing;** Please bring a gently used gardening item that you no longer have a use for the white elephant drawing. Tools, glove, gardening club apparel, etc.

**Hospitality:** Thank you to the members that brought refreshments for the January meeting. Also, thank you to the members that brought refreshments that weren't signed up. It was nice ,since we had such a good attendance.

**Saturday, May 13**

**Plant Sale**

Alton Wood River

Sportsmen's Club

8-noon

**Thursday, May 18**

**Home garden visit**

Brenda Casey

**Saturday, May 20**

**Bus Trip**

8: 00 am—4:30 pm

Missouri nurseries

**Donations:** The Board voted to make donation of \$200 to Lewis and Clark Community College for the Summer Garden Show. Also, to donate \$100 to the Bethalto Senior Citizen Center. In October, we had donated \$150 to the Community Hope Center.

**January meeting:** There was a great attendance. 25 members, 4 former members, 2 new members and 2 guests. Pleasant surprise to have so many former members return. Welcome back to : Judy Hodapp, Wendy Reinbold, Tena and Nelson Jones. Welcome to new members Daisy Eichen and Janis Stephensen. We also had 2 guests, hope they return.

There was a brief business meeting, led by Dottie, our president.

Katie Piper is the head garden designer and horticulturist at Lewis and Clark Community College. She is originally from Ohio, IL. Eventually worked at Blumen Gardens in Sycamore, IL. She had the chance to work with husband and wife, Joel and Joan Blumen. They changed her life. She learned about landscaping and designing. They believed in doing hand drawings for their landscape designs.

Katie met a fellow and they moved to Edwardsville, IL. There she ran her own landscape company. She was doing a lot of the manual labor. She had many adventures and learned a lot.

2018 she took the job at Lewis and Clark Community College as designer and horticulturalist. She and one other horticulturalist do all the hands on planting, weeding and watering of the beds. Katie eventually was designing the summer gardens. The college stopped using an outside company for the designing. The summer gardens were themed and incorporated the sculptures. One year they had a area that the plants were based on Claude Monet water lilies color. She described the Living Wall. She shared many pictures of the gardens.

Katie is the advisor for a group of students, the College of Life. The students start vegetable seeds in the green house. They transplant during the season and watch them grow. At the end of the season they cooked the vegetables and had a meal.

After work Katie goes home and works in her own gardens.

We thank Katie for spending her evening with us and sharing her story. Maybe we can visit the summer garden as a group or go on your own. They have guided tours and self guided tours. <https://www.lc.edu/gardens/>

It was a very enthusiastic group for the evening. Katie Piper, was also energetic and loves what she does.



**By Laws:** The Executive Committee and board members are reviewing and updating the club's by laws. Apparently it been a while since it was done. If you have any comments, concerns or suggestions please let someone know. They will be shared with membership once they are completed.

**Things to do:** The Orchid Show, January 27—February 26, Missouri Botanical Gardens. <http://www.missouribotanicalgarden.org/>

Missouri Botanical Garden—Spring/ Summer classes, events schedule is now available. February 1– Aug 31, 2023. <https://www.missouribotanicalgarden.org/springsummer-class-registration-open-3322>

February 11, 2023 Eagle Day Festival, <https://greatdriversgreenway.org/eagleday>

Welcome to new members and former members:



Belated welcome to Mary . Mary actually joined us in 2022. Mary has been into gardening for many years. She grew up watching and helping her mother . Mary started with annuals. Switching over to perennials. She likes container gardening, herbs. Has also done vegetables in the containers. Mary enjoys all plants, doesn't really have a favorite. Mary, husband Eric is the muscle for the projects. He does help with weeding and watering when needed. They have 2 kids, a boy and girl, that are pretty well on their own. Mary works full time from home. In her spare time she enjoys spending time with family, kids, 3 dogs. She likes working jigsaw puzzles and reading in addition to her gardening.

Welcome to Daisy E. She is presently a stay at home mom. Daisy spent time with her great grandmas when she was young. She was lucky enough to have two of them. They both gardened and taught her different ways to go about same things. Daisy enjoys all types of gardening, Lately edible gardens; teas, herbs, vegetable. Also, native plants. Some of her consistent favorite plants are snapdragons, water lilies and fuchsias. Daisy is presently a stay at home mom. She has 6 kids, ages 20 down to 12 and a husband. They do help with the gardening. At times her husband gets a little too helpful. He expanded the front veggie garden before she was ready for it, because she mentioned wanting something bigger. Daisy is not afraid to try different activities. She likes to sew, make soaps, dabble with woodworking and just about anything else that interests her.



Welcome to Janis . Janis also grew up gardening with grandparents and neighbors. She learned a lot from them but also helped with picking the harvest. She enjoys growing vegetables and some flowers, perennials. Janis has a lot of hosta but lost a tree, therefore lost the shade. The hosta are having a hard time adapting to the sun and heat. She plans to replace them with perennials. She enjoys the time with her Crocker spaniel. She is long time friend of Susan Hiller. Janis is retired from the medical field, as a lab technician. She enjoys plants that attract hummingbirds: honeysuckle, petunias, and hummingbird vine. She had a Mandeville vine that the hummingbirds really liked. Janis also enjoys yoga, water aerobics, reading and traveling. She likes to travel in the states and out of the country.

Welcome back to Wendy . Its been a few year but we are glad you are back. Wendy got interested in plants by helping her parents with a vegetable garden and maintaining their yard. She was also interested in indoor plants. She enjoyed caring for the plants and seeing them bloom. Wendy enjoys learning everything about plants and observing the plants in their habitats by visiting the botanical garden and garden tours. She likes other people's gardens. She keep her landscaping simple due to some health limitations. Some of Wendy's favorites plants are flowering shrubs, perennials and annuals, especially if they have blue or yellow flowers . Wendy enjoys her work as a veterinarian. In her spare time she enjoys reading and time with friends and family.



Welcome back to Tena and Nelson . It has been quite awhile since we saw you. When chatting with Nelson and Tena, they shared that Nelson has the green thumb and Tena is the assistant. Nelson enjoys the challenge of propagating plants/shrubs. When he was growing up, his mom worked in a nursery, her job was propagating the plants. Nelson, also learned grafting.

They have a lot that they have been growing perennials and vegetables, such as forsythias and germaniums.

Tena and Nelson have two daughters and two grandsons that they enjoy spending time with.

**February Hospitality:** The following members volunteered to bring refreshments for the February meeting. Thank you in advance.

**Appetizers/Desserts:** Edith Tammy , Tena , Julie

**1– large bag of ice:** Bill

**1– 2 liter regular cola:** Barbara

**1– 2 liter white soda:** Vernice

**1– 2 liter diet soda:** Christy

**1– gallon unsweetened tea:** Carole

#### **Executive Committee**

**President:** Dottie Rogers,  
917-4730

**Vice President:** Paula Zugmaier,  
567-1703

**Secretary:** Susan Ruckman,  
(618) 917-5853 or

[garden-  
friends@hotmail.com](mailto:garden-friends@hotmail.com)

**Treasurer:** Susan Hiller, 466-4942

**Past President:** George Kahl

#### **Board members**

Vernice Allen  
Rosemary Bauer

Christy Butler

Jerry Linker

Adriana Marcuzzi

Edith Reed

Eunice Weber

#### **Committee chairs**

Christy Butler— trips, Facebook

Jerry Linker— photos, historian,  
community projects

Adriana Marcuzzi — plant sale

Debbie Winship — hospitality

Edith Reed — hospitality