

Mississippi Valley Garden Club



www.mvgclub.weebly.com

Save these dates:

Thursday,

January 21, 2016

7pm

Bethalto Senior Citizen
Center

100 East Central St
Bethalto, IL
62010

“Winter Damage”

Betsy Alexander

St. Louis Master Gardener

Dues for 2016

Monday,

January 25, 2016

7pm

Board Meeting
Frank's Restaurant
132 W. MacArthur
Cottage Hills, IL

Thursday,

February 18, 2016

7pm

Bethalto Senior Citizen
Center
“Vegetable Gardening 101”
Erica Siddle
Illinois Master Gardener

We have wrapped up 2015, the gardens have been put to bed for the winter. Now we can relax and enjoy the catalogues. We can make plans for our gardens for the future. It was a good year, we have several new members/returning members: Gail, Kim, Teena, Ron, Alicia, Monte, Julie, Don and Nancy. We tried a couple of new activities to promote the club in the community; open house in Feb and the Alton Market in June. We had some crazy weather, so much rain in June we had to cancel a garden visit and flood in December. But we had wonderful weather for the plant sale which was a great success. We did experience loss of some good friends: Julia, Herb and Joyce. Some members have lost loved ones, hopefully as they heal they will return to the club.

My wishes for 2016: that our families remain healthy and our gardens do well. I hope we can continue to promote the garden club and the health benefits of gardening.

20th Anniversary: 2016 is the 20th anniversary for the garden club. There were some organizational activities in 1995. It was interesting, there were 5-6 members on each committee. Jim Gregory, Judy Dare's son, was president. The meetings were held at the Bethalto Senior Center. We hope to have some special activities throughout the year. We are tentatively planning an open house in March. Any ideas please share with someone or a board member. If you have any pictures or stories to share please bring to a club meeting.

Dues for 2016: Judy Dare will be collecting dues at the January meeting. The dues remain \$10 for the year. If you are going to be out of town January and February, please mail the dues to Judy Dare, 108 Cedar Ln, East Alton, IL 62024. Late dues will be \$15, after Feb 18, 2016. Dues for new members is \$17, that includes their name pin.

2016 Favorite pictures: As in years past, any favorite picture of your flowers or garden please send or give to Jerry Linker. Jerry would like to add them to the picture album for the new year.



January meeting: Winter Damage—While you are snug in your home on a winter evening, there are several types of damage that can be happening outside in your garden. Winter can be a devastating season for your garden. There are several type of damage that the frigid weather can cause. Learn what these problems are, how to identify them and to prevent or fix them. Betsy Alexander will be our speaker for the evening. She is from the St. Louis Master Gardener program. Betsy has been a Master Gardener since 2005. She volunteers at the Kemper Center reception desk, the outside Kemper gardens and the Litzinger Road Ecology Center. She is on the Master Gardener training committee and is the chair of the Master Gardeners Speakers' Bureau. She is an avid daylily gardener.

Keeping Up: Condolences to Kay and Rich Hancock. Their daughter in law, Rebecca Hancock, passed away unexpectedly, Dec 30. Rebecca was 57 years old. We need to keep the Hancock family in our prayers.

Remember to give me a call if you have any news, that can be shared, about our members. Thanks so much,

Vernice Allen, 259-6726.

Christmas Banquet 2015: Once again it was another jovial evening. The company was good and the food was good. Hopefully the gifts were gender appropriate. There seemed to be plenty of food. The sheet cake from Duke's was delicious. As always the gifts where great, some unique.



Hospitality: The following members volunteered to bring goodies for the January meeting:

Desserts: Helen Fulks, Edith Reed, Alicia Hill,

Jan Maxeiner, Gail Clarkson and Carol Morris

2 bags of ice: Nancy Shipman

2 liters regular cola: Don Scott

2 liters white soda: Bill Hiller

2 gallons tea: Carole Baker

Things to do:

Feb 6– Mar 27— Orchid Show, Where Wild Things Grow, Missouri Botanical Gardens.

Feb 12-14 — 28th Anniversary Midwestern Herb and Garden Show, Mt. Vernon, www.midwesternherbandgardenshow.com

President: Sue Hiller 466-4942

VP/Secretary: Susan Ruckman 466-5892

Treasurer: Judy Dare 979-0237

Board Members

Vernice Allen

Carole Baker

George Kahl

Jerry Linker

Dottie Rogers

Paula Zugmaier

Committee Chairs

Carolyn James — Trips

Earlene Harrison —

Community Projects

Joanne Bottens—Hospitality

Debbie Winship -Hospitality

Phil Embree— Plant Sale

Jerry Linker—Historian &

Photos