



## Mississippi Valley Garden Club

June 2015

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

### Save these dates:

#### Thursday, June 18

Carol's garden

Troy, IL

**Potluck**

**New member:** Welcome to Ron , who joined in May. Ron resides in Godfrey. Hope to see you often.

**Bereavement:** We recently lost a long time member, Herb. He will be greatly missed. I have been hearing some Herb stories, he was a character. Please keep Jan and their family in your thoughts and prayers.

**June garden visit:** The club has been invited to Carol's garden. Carol says her yard is shady with an assortment of Japanese maples, dogwood, hosta, hydrangeas and a myriad of volunteer trees. The home is on a cove of the lake, making for a peaceful setting. She guarantees it is not perfectly manicured, it is very natural and never weed free. Carol would also like to have a potluck. She will provide the meat and drinks. She ask that members provide a side dish or dessert. Also, please bring a chair. We will plan on eating around 6:30(for the working members), but you are welcome to arrive anytime after 5:30.

**August trip:** In lieu of the August garden visit we will be taking a bus trip to the Lantern Festival at the Missouri Botanical Gardens. It will be Thursday, August 20.

#### Thursday, July 16

Dottie's garden

Alton

We will be departing from Alton Square Mall by bus at 5pm and return around 11pm. Cost will be \$24 for the ticket. Bus will be \$0 for members and \$10 for guests. Please contact Carolyn James or Susan Ruckman as soon as possible if you are interested in going. Payment will be due at the June 18 meeting. If not able to attend please mail payment to: Susan , Godfrey, IL 62035

#### Thursday, August 20

Bus trip

Missouri Botanical Garden

Lantern Festival

Depart Alton Square Mall

5 pm

Return 11 pm

**Plant sale 2015:** We had another successful plant sale. The weather held out for us. Customers were great. Majority of the plants were sold. Some plants were set aside for the Farmer's Market in June. We made \$2957. This will provide us with funding for our speakers, community service and bus trips. Would like to thank everyone who provided plants, worked dig days, gardening items. Thank you to all that worked at pricing, setting up, working the sale and cleaning up. Thank you also to Delmar Dooley and Jerry Linker for donating raffle prizes: carved mushroom and bird feeder. We sold 117 raffle tickets. Our raffle prize winners : fairy garden- Rochelle , carved mushroom- Carol and bird-feeder- Barb were pleased with their prizes.

**Spring bus trip:** With the plant sale history, 25 to 30 members and guests went on our annual spring bus trip to gather ideas and plants for their own gardens. Rain threatened to put a “damper” on our trip, but the gardener in us, put that threat aside, and we took in four nurseries. We never got rained on except when we were going in Ruby Tuesday’s for lunch, and at that point, we didn’t care. Food! Most agree that the first stop, Lake St. Louis Garden Center, was the best with amazingly different plants, great arrangements and a very large place. The other nurseries: Daniel’s, Ann’s and Mansfield were great too, with one boasting 15 green houses. A+ once again for Carolyn James for planning another fantastic trip.  
*Jerry, Historian*

**Community Hope Center** - Great day to spread mulch at the Hope Center as the weather was partly cloudy, but not too hot or cold for the job at hand. The work was a lot easier as Earlene brought 2 young volunteers that did most of the wheelbarrow work and shoveling from Dottie Rogers’ pickup. I brought my tractor with a front end loader, which eliminated lot of leg work. We finished up at about 11:00 and headed to our own gardens.

Those that assisted in the second phase of our community project: Earlene (chairman), Sue , Bill , Judy , Dottie , Kay , Richard , Judy , Paula, and Vernice . Also, our two young helpers: Carter and Andrew . *Jerry, Historian*

**May home garden visit:** We were invited to the home of Kris , in Godfrey. They have lived in the home for 27 years. The property was nothing but dirt when they moved in. Kris is the gardener in the family. Over the years she has added perennial beds in the front yard. She brought home a tree that a friend had given up on. It has since turned her sun bed into shade. She won’t remove the tree because the friend has since passed away. There is a path through the wooded area, a fire pit. She had tried a large vegetable garden in the past, but the kids decided it was to much like child labor. She has a herb garden within easy reach of the house. There is an unique water feature, a lap pool which gets used everyday. Kris bought her own chain saw to trim back the trees. It was a relaxing evening, the company was good and the scenery was beautiful.



### **SIUE Gardens:**

There were 5 members who went to SIUE to plant containers. Earlene , Sue , Linda , Carol and Susan . It was a sunny day, in fact a little warm. It was our chance to be creative and design the planters. Plants for shade and sun were provided. We were the designers. 40 pots were done and placed along the paths. Thank you for giving your time.

### **Member updates:**

Paul recently suffered with pneumonia. Fortunately he has recovered. It was good to see him and his wife, Faye at our meeting in May. Stay healthy Paul!

Mary is now at Jerseyville Nursing and Rehabilitation Center. Cards can be sent to her at 1001 South State Street. Jerseyville, IL 620252

Joyce is receiving therapy at Rosewood Care Center in Alton. She looks great and has a very upbeat attitude!. She misses the garden club meetings and hopes to get back with us soon.

Frank is undergoing therapy for his broken shoulder. He hopes to get an okay to drive soon.

Sadly Linda’s husband , Jim passed away May 23rd. Do keep Linda and her family in your thoughts and prayers. Jim will be missed as he was loved by many.

Jayne is looking forward to her forth coming move. Her home is up for sale and she is busy with those tough decisions on what to save and what to discard. After the first week in June, her new address will be at the United Methodist Village,

Give me a call or an email if you have information that can be shared. Thanks, *Vernice Allen*—