

MISSISSIPPI VALLEY GARDEN CLUB

March 2014

www.mvgclub.weebly.com

UPCOMING EVENTS

March 20, 2014

Board Meeting

5 pm

Bethalto Senior Service
Center

March 20, 2014

Bethalto Senior Service
Center
7:00pm

Speaker: Bill Ruppert
Sustainable Perennials for
Sustainable Landscaping

April 17, 2014

Board Meeting 5pm

Bethalto Senior Service
Center
7 pm

Plant Exchange

April 26

Dig Day
Carole's home
8:00 am

May 10, 2014

Plant Sale
Alton-Wood River
Sportsmen's Club
Godfrey

BOARD MEETINGS

The board members will be trialling a new day and time for their meetings. It was suggested to have the board meeting prior to the club meeting. This would be less days involved for the members and decrease gas usage. The board meeting will be at the Bethalto Senior Service Center. All members are welcomed to attend the meeting.

ANNUAL PLANT EXCHANGE

April meeting will be our plant exchange. This is your chance to share your favorite or extra plants. It is suggested to bring 3 items, this includes plants or gently used garden items. It will be a random drawing using your attendance ticket. You will then receive 3 items.

PLANT SALE

Our sale will be Saturday, May 10 at the Sportsmen's Club in Godfrey. It is suggested that plants be potted 2 weeks in advance to give them time to recuperate. If you have pictures of them in bloom or full grown please have them available. Please be thinking of plants to share.

Needed : Pots and flats for dig days. 6 inch/1 qt pots. Please start bringing them to the March meeting. Boxes will be needed for sale day, for example soda boxes.

Sign up sheets for volunteers will be passed around at the meeting. Hopefully we will have good weather for all of our activities.

NAME TAG

Anyone that would like to order a replacement name tag, please let me know. I will be calling in an order soon. The cost is \$6.70. Susan

MVGC APPAREL

Anyone interested in apparel with the MVGC logo can purchase them at B & B Custom T-shirts. They are located at 2714 Corner Ct, Alton.

February speaker was Julie Farris. She is a Master Gardener, associated with the University of Illinois extension. Her topic for the evening was Container Gardening with Annuals. Julie had many suggestions for a successful container. Water is the most important, may even need



to water twice a day when the weather is hot. Can use water crystals to help hold moisture. For hanging baskets try lining with landscape fabric or coffee filters. Scrub previously used pots with 10% bleach, don't want to share germs. Use both slow release and quick acting fertilizers. Aerate the soil, use potting soil not garden soil.

Pick your container carefully. Terra cotta pots dry out quickly. Make sure it has a drainage hole. Don't use rock for drainage, makes pot too heavy.

Julie suggested using a color wheel to help pick plant colors. Know the light available in the area you want to decorate. Use plants with like light/water requirements.

What it really comes down to is trial and error. Learn what works for you and your yard. But have fun!

See attachment for Julie's suggested websites for further information.

MEMBERSHIP CARDS

Thank you to Linda for providing the membership cards. If you have not received one please see me. We have some that have not been delivered yet.
Susan

Note from Hospitality: Thank you to the members who brought food for the February meeting. The following members have signed up to bring goodies for the meeting.

Dessert: Debbie, Sharlotte, Joyce, Edith, Helen

Ice: Edith

Regular cola: Susan

White Soda: Jane

Diet soda: Paula

Tea: Linda

The sign up sheet for future meetings is posted on the website, if you want to check what you have signed up to bring. www.mvgclubweebly



President - Debbie Fleetwood 531-9655

Vice Presidents- Gloria Gowin 550-9923
John Gowin 304-3437

Secretary - Susan Ruckman 466-5892
Linda Votaw 377-0506

Treasurer - Susan Ruckman 466-5892

Board

Shirley Means
Anna Potter
Richard Hancock
George Kahl
Jerry Linker
Linda Votaw

Committee Chairs

Carolyn James, Trips
Earlene Harrison,
Community Projects
Karen Fitzgerald, Hospitality
Mary Scates, Hospitality
Jerry Linker, Historian & Photos
Phil Embree, Plant Sale