

MISSISSIPPI VALLEY GARDEN CLUB



March 2015

www.mvgclub.weebly.com

Save these dates:

Thursday

March 19

7pm

Bethalto Senior Center

Soil 101

William Klopfenstein

Sign up for bus trip

Monday

March 30

7pm

Board Meeting

Sue Hiller's home

April 16

**Winter Sowing
presented by Christy B.**

Plant exchange

May 9 — Plant sale

May 16— Spring bus trip

February open house: Just want to thank everyone that participated with the open house. We had 4 guests, which is good considering the extremely cold weather. The speaker was excellent and the food was great. The ad with the Telegraph was what was requested. Hopefully we can try it again next year, maybe a warmer month.

Thanks, Susan

New members: A belated welcome to the new members that joined or rejoined in January: Teena, Monte and Erv. Again welcome and hope to see you often.

March presentation: Our speaker will be William "Bill" Klopfenstein. Bill grew up on a small farm in Pennsylvania. He taught chemistry and biochemistry classes at Kansas State University and Western Illinois University. He has been involved with gardening most of his life. Bill has been an University of Illinois Extension Master Gardener since 2003. The topic will be soil preparation. Learn about selecting a planting site. How to determine what the soil might need to grow plants well. How to make any necessary modifications.

Plant exchange: Just a quick review for the plant exchange. It is recommended to bring 1-3 plants to share with your co-members. It will be a random drawing using the attendance tickets. Everyone should take home the number of plants that they brought.

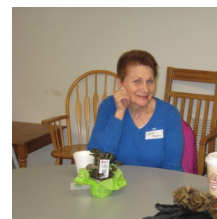
Spring bus trip: The spring bus trip is scheduled for Saturday, May 16. We will be headed to Lake St. Louis Garden Center, Wiese Nursery, Tom Mansfield Nursery and Annie's Gardens and Gifts. Lunch will be at Ruby Tuesday's. Sign up will start at the March meeting. Check your schedules and invite your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

February meeting: Phil Embree reviewed different areas of activities for the preparation of the plant sale and the actual day of the sale. Help is needed for dig days, publicity, hauling compost, transporting and pricing plants. Help is also needed on sale day: setting up, tallying, cashier, carrying plants for customers, assisting customers, and clean up afterwards.

Sue gave descriptions of the different community projects that the club is involved with. SIUE gardens we plant 70 pots. Community Hope Center we do clean up, planting, and mulching.

Please consider giving a few hours of your time to support your club and your community.

February Presentation: Ned Seigel returned to give us another enlightening presentation. Ned first visited us in 2010. The rain gardens evolved from the efforts of the Clean Water Act of 1972. Gardeners were looking for ways to channel and capture the rain water from impermeable surfaces such as your house roof. Either a natural or man made depression will capture the rain water. Native plants are recommended, their roots grow deeper and absorb the rain water. These are the same plants that attract birds, butterflies, bees and other wildlife. These gardens can prevent erosion and flooding of local drainage systems. If you have a wet area in your yard a rain garden may be the answer.



Area events:

Jan 31—Mar 22 Annual Orchid Show, Missouri Botanical Gardens

Missouri Botanical Gardens, Spring –Summer 2015 classes, available . www.mobot.org

[www.gatewaygardener.com/upcoming events](http://www.gatewaygardener.com/upcoming_events)

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

Dessert: Mary , Dottie , Minnie , Karen , Frank and Susan

2 bags of ice—Edith

2 liters regular cola — Helen

2 liters white soda— Linda

2 liters diet soda — Vernice

2 gallons tea —

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