



Mississippi Valley Garden Club

March 2023

www.mvgclub.weebly.com

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Save these dates:

Thursday, March 16, 7pm

Bethalto Senior Citizen Center
Carol Cravens,

St. Louis Master Gardener
Top 10 Orchids for the Home

2023 Dues, \$10

**After today's meeting, late
renewal is \$15**

Monday, March 27, 6:30 pm

Board meeting at Dottie's home

Thursday, April 20, 7 pm

Bethalto Senior Citizen Center
Plant Exchange

Monday, April 24, 6:30 pm

Board meeting at Dottie's home

Friday, May 12, TBD

Alton Wood River Sportsmen's
Club
Pricing plants, set up

Saturday, May 13

Plant Sale
Alton Wood River Sportsmen's
Club

Welcome new member: Mark , spouse to Sharon . They had recently moved from Nebraska. Mark is a newbie gardener, but willing to learn. He likes to watch the seeds grow into something to eat. Before retiring Mark was an auto sales manager for Cadillac. He got board being retired, so he is now a full time bus driver. Does the school route and field trips. He has volunteered to be chairman for the community garden at the Resurrection Lutheran Church. In his free time he enjoys fishing. Hope to see you frequently.



2023 Dues: Susan H. will be collecting dues at the March meeting. Dues are \$10. The board has reinstalled the late renewal, renewal will be \$15 after March meeting. Please come a little early if you will be paying dues. The collection will be stopped 5 minutes prior to the meeting starting.

March meeting will be presented by Carol Cravens, St Louis Master Gardener. Carol, retired from a professional career as a microbiologist, she is an Advanced Level St. Louis Master Gardener. She became a Master Naturalist in 2007 and has an AAS in Horticulture. She has volunteered at the Kemper Center for Home Gardening and the MBG orchid range. She has been involved in the Master Gardener Advisory Committee, and the training coordination team. Carol offers 12 programs for the Master Gardener Speakers Bureau.

Carol will be sharing her top 10 favorite orchids. Growing orchids in our homes has become widely popular, and although perceived as exotic, most are inexpensive and easy to care for by following a few simple rules. Carol will be sharing these rules.

Garden Club Apparel: B & B Custom T's and Gifts in Alton has the club logo decal to apply to shirts, sweat shirts, vest , jackets, etc. There are 3 different size decals: small, medium and large. The decals are already paid for by the club. You can purchase apparel at the shop or bring your own item . It cost me \$3 to have a decal applied to a shirt that I brought. The club apparel is great to represent the club when out and about or at club functions like the plant sale. B&B Custom T's and Gifts, 2714 Corner Court, Alton. 618-463-0443

April plant exchange: When out checking your gardens to see what is getting ready to bloom also keep in mind what can be divided not only for the plant sale but the plant exchange. You can exchange up to 3 plants. Bring up to 3 potted plants and take home 3 different ones. Please have care information attached. Potted and in a bag. The bag keeps clean up to a minimum. Please do not water prior to meeting. This is a chance to share your favorite plants.

May Bus Trip: We will start signing up for the spring bus trip. It will be Saturday, May 20. We will be leaving from the Godfrey Walmart parking lot at 8am. We will be going to garden nurseries in the St Charles, MO area. The route has not been confirmed yet. The cost is \$ 15 per member/ guests.

Thursday, May 18, 6:30 pm
Home garden visit

Brenda Casey

Saturday, May 20
Bus Trip

8: 00 am—4:30 pm

Missouri nurseries

February meeting: Emily Ehley was our speaker. She works for Trees Forever. She has worked on projects in Alton and Granite City. There are grants available for the planting of trees. Emily's talk was about Spring ephemerals. Ephemerals are short lived. They bloom, produce seed and wither away. They take advantage of the sunlight before the tree leaves form a canopy of shade. Another new word is myrmecochory, seeds that are dispersed by ants. They get deposited about 2 meters, not far when transported by ants. Emily shared pictures of many ephemerals. Shooting star, Dutchman's breeches, hepatica, wild ginger, trout lily, woodland phlox, May apple, trilliums, wild geranium, and bloodroot. It was fun to hear Helen and Barb's story of using the bloodroot juice as nail polish, when they were young girls.



Things to do:

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>

March 3-5, St Louis Art in Bloom, <https://www.slam.org/event/art-in-bloom-2023/>

March 10-11, Midwestern Herb and Garden Show, Mt Vernon, IL.
<https://www.facebook.com/midwesternherbandgardenshow/>

April 20-22, SWIC Horticulture annual plant sale, <https://www.bnd.com/news/local/article209280719.html>.

March Hospitality: The following members volunteered to bring refreshments for the meeting. Thank you in advance. Thank you to everyone that brought refreshments for the February meeting. If you sign up to bring something please mark it on your home calendar. Thank you Bill for going to get some drinks for the evening. If you aren't able to attend, please let me know.

Dessert/Appetizer: Brenda Casey, George Kahl, Helen Fulks, and Edith Reed

- One large bag of ice: Gloria Gowin
- 2 liter regular cola: Susan Edwards
- 2 liter white soda: Judy Hodapp
- 2 liter diet soda: Paula Zugmaier
- Gallon unsweetened tea: Carole Baker

Executive Committee

- President:** Dottie Rogers,
917-4730
- Vice President:** Paula Zugmaier,
567-1703
- Secretary:** Susan Ruckman,
(618) 917-5853 or
gardenfriends@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