

Mississippi Valley Garden Club

November/December 2022

www.mvgclub.weebly.com

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Save these dates:

No meeting in November

**Out and About,
Tuesday, November 15 ,
12:00**

Lunch at
Laux Brickhouse Grille
212 N Prairie St, Bethalto, IL

**Out and About
Tuesday, December 6
12:00**

Cookie Exchange
Dottie Roger's home
1712 Aster Dr
Godfrey, IL
917-4730

**Thursday, December 8,
gather 5:30, serve 6:00**
Christmas celebration at
Castelli's Restaurant at 255
3400 Fosterburg Rd
Alton, IL

**RSVP by Dec 5 to Susan R
(618-917-5853)**

**Thursday, January 19, 2023
7:00 pm
TBD
2023 Dues \$10**

This newsletter will be covering November and December. Please keep an eye on your email for changes. Please keep member roster handy in case of bad weather. You may be called on to help with telephone calls.

Welcome back to Gloria Gowin, Bev Goans, Carol and Larry Morris. Its always nice when members return.

Condolences to family of Richard Hancock, former member. Please keep Kay Hancock (spouse and former member) and Velda Martin (niece and present member) in your thoughts and prayers.

Out and About (November): The plan is to meet at Laux Brickhouse Grille in Bethalto for lunch around 12:00 on Tuesday, Nov 15. Hopefully you can join us. It is just a chance to meet with fellow members to visit and get to know each other. If you are planning on going let Dottie(917-4730) or Paula (567-1703) know, just to give an idea of how many seats will be needed.

No club meeting in November

Out and About (December): There will be a cookie exchange for the December activity. Number of cookies will be dependent on how many participate. The cookies are to be home baked. It will be Tuesday, Dec 6 at noon. It will be at Dottie Rogers' home. A light lunch will be served. Please contact Dottie if you are interested in participating.

Christmas Celebration: We will be celebrating Christmas at Castelli's Restaurant. We will gather at 5:30 and dinner will be served at 6:00. Members attend for free. Guests will be \$24, Susan Hiller will be collecting payment for guests. We need a count to turn into the restaurant. Please contact Susan R by Monday, Dec 5. We are not able to take an add on after Dec 5, you would be placed on waiting list in case of a cancellation. If you need to cancel please do so as early as possible. We have to pay for no shows.

This is an opportunity to celebrate the Christmas season and the end of another gardening season with friends and family. We will have a return performance by Caleb Ready, musician to get us in the Christmas spirit.

Out and About: A group of 7 members met at Eckert's in Grafton. Paula, Dottie, Linda, Sue E, Sue H. Adriana and Susan. It was a beautiful autumn day, except for the wind. We checked out the different kinds of pumpkins (cucurbits): pie making, acorn, white acorn, big and little ones and different gourds. It was all very colorful with all the different color mums. You could see the fields with all the pumpkins waiting to be picked by the visitors on the wagons. There were activities for the kids. There was one group of school kids coming back from the field carrying their pumpkins with grins on their faces.



We did check out the country store. There were all kinds of jelly, jams, apple and peach butter, ciders, salsa. There were gifts and gadgets. They had several varieties of apples. Most of us went home with a bag of apples to cook up into tasty dishes.

From Eckert's we went to the Oyster Bar,. The food was very good. Some of us fish tacos, shrimp and calamari. The service was good. We got there at the right time it wasn't too busy. It was a good day with good friends. Hopefully more of you can attend next month's activity.

October meeting: Thursday was our first meeting back inside. It's always nice to get back together. It is sad also because we are coming to the end of another gardening season. We had 36 members, including 3 former members that rejoined. We had a brief business meeting presented by Dottie. Reviewed upcoming events. Paula talked about the November Out and About for lunch, the Flapjack kalanchoes that she divided and the podcast (about the garden club) on the Daily Show on Riverbender.com. It is posted on our Facebook page. if you want to watch it. Thank you for decorating for fall. Thank you Paula for everything you do. Thank you for members that brought canned goods for the Community Hope Center. Dottie has since received a thank card from them. Thank you, also to all that brought refreshments, its always a treat.

Betsy Alexander, master gardener, our guest speaker presented the Dark Side of Our Garden. In addition to thorns and sticky surfaces there is chemical toxins contained in the different parts of the plants. We decided that most of the plants that we have in our gardens contain toxins. To mention several: yews, hyacinth bulb, stinging nettle, iris, hydrangea, taxus, lily of the valley, monkshood, oleander, azalea (nectar toxin called " mad honey"), hellebore, castor beans, lantana, pokeweed and many more. Many of the toxins were also used as medication. Take away from presentation, monitor children and pets around plants. Be careful handling your plants.

Board Meeting:

Memorials: A change in memorials was decided We will no longer be purchasing memorial trees. The price of trees has increased to \$175. Consensus was for present members ,there will be a \$75 donation to designated charity. For former members the family will receive a sympathy card.

Donation: It was voted to make a donation of \$150 to the Community Hope Center.



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

Board members

Vernice Allen
Rosemary Bauer
George Kahl (past president)
Eunice Weber

Committee chairs

Christy Butler— trips, Facebook
Jerry Linker— photos, historian,
community projects
Adriana Marcuzzi — plant sale
Debbie Winship — hospitality
Edith Reed — hospitality