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Save these dates:

**25th Anniversary
Celebration**

**Thursday, Sept 17,
arrive 5ish, eat around 5:30**

Carole and John
Brighton, IL 62012

**R.S.V.P. by Thursday,
Sept 10**

**Bring canned goods for
Hope Center**

Monday, Sept 28, 6:30

Board Meeting
Dottie home

October meeting cancelled

No November meeting

Thursday, Dec 3

Christmas dinner & gift
exchange
Castelli's Restaurant

Welcome to new members: Jennifer, Brenda , and Barbara . Glad you could join us. Hope to see you soon.

September meeting: has been designated as our 25th Anniversary Celebration. 25 years ago a group of people came together that had something in common. A love of gardening and sharing their experiences. They did community service to help beautify their community. They worked downtown Alton, and Community Hope Center. Below is a note from a long distance member, with a few words to say.

Hello all. The Mississippi Valley Garden Club was originally my idea, but I am not the founder. I wanted to meet like minded people and trade plants which I had too many of. This great bunch of people just appeared out of nowhere to help put it together. The original group was just too good to be true. Everyone brought something useful and turned the club into more than I ever thought it could be. And that is what you all are still benefitting from now. It was gardening that brought us together, but it was the people that made it great. I won't name names for fear of leaving someone out, but I can't express the gratitude I have to so many for all they have done and how proud I am of what you all have accomplished. I moved to Colorado 14 years ago, and have failed miserably to recreate here what you still have in Illinois. Cherish the friendships you have made and remember that this is the whole point of your club. Jim

September will be our 25th Anniversary Celebration. We have been invited to Carole and John garden. We have been to their garden several times but it is always changing, gardens are always a work in process.

We will be taking precautions due to the covid virus.

Please rsvp by Sept 10, contact George or Susan . A light meal will be provided. Would like a count of members and guests that will be attending.

Bring your own drinks, chair and wear a mask.

Carole and John will be providing bratwursts, hot dogs , buns and Moonlight salad.

Individual packs of chips, sides will be provided by designated board members. Cupcakes for dessert.

Designated members will serve the food.

Please bring canned goods, non perishable food for the Community Hope Center. Will make our donation early since our meeting is cancelled for Oct.

Plants need a new home: If you need some plants, Carole has plants that need a new home. Please come early, 5 ish to the celebration. Bring a bucket of compost, to fill in the holes that your dig for the plants. Carole has crepe myrtles, butterfly bushes, impatiens, ground covers and assorted other plants. Bring a second bucket for some old horse manure, if you want some.

August garden visit: This month's outdoor meeting was held at JoAnn home and garden, East Alton, Illinois. The meeting was attended by 19 members and 7 guests, 2 of which joined that evening. Weather was cooler at 82 degrees, and lower humidity. Shade from 3 large maple trees helped.

Being our second visit to JoAnn's garden, it was interesting to see the additions to her gardens. The largest being added about 3 years ago along the back deck (pictured below).

The Bishops had moved into the house in 1981. The yard only contained an Azalea bush. Expansion began with pots, plants here and there, and then pathways. Lloyd Bishop, JoAnn's husband passed, many years ago.

Along with her yard, JoAnn spoke on her three, must have and useful garden tools, and soda bottle/milk jugs spring solar planters.

JoAnn is a container gardener, she has many pots containing annuals all around the house and garden. Her other gardens contain yard ornaments as well as perennials and annuals. Following is a short list of plants: iris, tulips, purple fountain grass, hosta, coleus, impatiens, ajuga, vinca, sedums, ornamental sweet potato vine, roses, Japanese maple, euonymus, evergreens, snow ball bush, ferns, petunia, and other perennials and annuals. *Jerry Linker, Historian*

Thoughts and prayers to our members that are sick and/or having health issues, Jan, Carolyn and Charlotte. Send them a card, let them know we are thinking about them.



President: George , 498-5789

Vice President: Dottie ,
917-4730

Secretary: Susan,
618-917-5853 or
gardenfriends@hotmail.com

Treasurer: Susan , 466-4942

Board members

Vernice

Carole

Christy

Jerry

Eunice

Committee chairs

Christy — Trips

??? — Community Projects

Jerry —Photos & Historian

Debbie — Hospitality

Edith — Plant sale