



**Save these dates:**

**Thursday, Aug 18**

6:30 pm

Jan Van Meter's garden  
23323 Joe Knight Rd,  
Dow, IL

**Monday, Aug 29**

7pm

Board meeting  
Frank's restaurant

**Vietnam War Wall Replica**

Troy, IL

Sept 8, Thursday, set up

Sept 9-11 visitation

Sept 11, Sunday, 3 pm take  
down

**Thursday, Sept 15**

6:30 pm

Christy Butler's garden  
Alton

**Saturday, Oct 15**

Bus trip

Lunch with Amish family/  
pumpkin patch

**Thursday, Oct 20**

7 pm

TBA

**Thursday, Dec 8**

Christmas banquet  
Castelli's Restaurant at 255

**August garden visit:** This month garden visit will be to Janice Van Meter's. Janice lives on a couple of acres in Dow, IL. When she moved to this property she brought 500 plants with her. She is surrounded by corn fields. She enjoys her gardening, crafting and sewing. Believe it or not she enjoys mowing. Some of her favorite flowers are dahlias. To avoid having to dig up the plants for winter, she plants them by her dryer outlet to help them survive the cold. Janice is presently trying to clear out so more aggressive plants- looestriife. I hope to see all of you at Janice's. Don't forget your drink and a chair.

**Directions to Janice's:** In Godfrey, take Rt 3 towards Jerseyville. When RT 3 intersects with RT 109, stay straight to go on RT 109. Turn left off RT 109, Joe Knight Rd, Janice's house is the last house on the left, 23323#. If you get to Salem crossroad you've gone to far, turn around then she will be the 1st house on right.

**Vietnam War Wall Replica:** We were contacted for volunteers for helping with the Vietnam War Wall Replica. Troy, IL will be sponsoring the event. Thursday, Sept 8 will be their work day/setup, starting at 7 am. Their other big day for assistance will be Sunday, Sept 11 for taking down the wall and displays. This will be after the closing ceremony, approximately 3 pm. Closing ceremony will begin at 1 pm. They also ask for help during the event, Sept 9-11. It would be helping with hospitality and to assist at the displays. I am trying to get more information for what is actually needed for setting up, not sure it is gardening related. There are a couple of members who have already volunteered. If you are interested let me know, I will give you any updated information that I receive.

**Directions:** From I-55, take Troy exit east, to the 4th stop light, at Casey & Troy bank. Turn right onto Riggins Road, one block to park.

**Fall bus trip:** Time to get signed up for the fall bus trip. Will be going to Amish country. Lunch with Amish family and visit the pumpkin farm. Lunch will be \$18, we have been informed that there is a \$3 entrance fee for the pumpkin farm. I hear they have blue pumpkins. Bus for members is \$0, guests is \$10. Contact Judy Dare ( 979-0237) for signing up and payment.

**July garden visit:** We were invited to Susie Campbell's garden, in Dorchester, IL. Susie and her husband, Wes, have lived on this property for 20+ years. It was originally a cow pasture. The soil appears to be very fertile. Susie did share that she likes fish emulsion for fertilizing. Wes did some of the buildings himself, had help with others. They have a pergola, shed, potting shed, and chicken coop. Their creativity carried over to the hardscaping. They have a lot of knick knacks that look right at home. They also turned a swimming pool into a water fall. Susie's plants all looked very lush, she definitely has a green thumb.



**Alton Main Street:** This is the organization that sponsors the Alton Farmer's Market. Their other activities include the gardens in the downtown area. We received their email on short notice. Susan and Bill Hiller and myself went and checked it out. They were working on the pocket park by the Jacoby Arts Center. There were a handful of their volunteers. One young man had no clue what a hosta or daylily were or how to care for them, but he was a worker. Some liriopie had to be replanted, it was mistaken for regular grass. We deadheaded the knockout roses and trimmed the unruly Russian sage. They have a small budget for the gardens. Most of the plants in this park were donated by their members. They normally meet the 1st Thursday of the month, from 5:00– 6:30. Not always gardening related. Next time we receive an email, I will send it out. It may be short notice.

[www.DowntownAlton.com](http://www.DowntownAlton.com) or [www.facebook.com/AltonMainStreet](http://www.facebook.com/AltonMainStreet)

### Keeping Up

Judy Dare's step father, Kenneth Cochran, passed way August 3. Please keep Judy and her family in your thoughts and prayers.

Linda Eisenreich continues to keep busy designing and assembling beautiful vintage solar lights from leaded cut crystal. If you would to see some of her creations, check out Etsy.com. Under Outdoor and Gardening, you can get to her page by typing in lindys garden décor. Take a look!

Sue and Jay Reed will not return to this area until late November. Sue is enjoying her temporary transfer to the Branson Hill Walmart so much that she has extended her assignment there. We still miss them at our meetings but will no doubt see them at our Christmas dinner this December.

Let me hear from you if you have any news about our members. Thanks, Vernice 259-6726

**President:** Susan Hiller, 466-4942

**VP/ Secretary:** Susan Ruckman  
466-5892

**Treasurer:** Judy Dare, 979-0237

### Board members

Vernice Allen  
Carole Baker  
George Kahl  
Jerry Linker  
Dottie Rogers  
Paula Zugmaier

### Committee Chairs

Carolyn James — Trips  
Earlene Harrison — Community Projects  
Joanne Bottons — Hospitality  
Debbie Winship — Hospitality  
Jerry Linker — Historian & Photos  
Edith Reed — Plant Sale