

Mississippi Valley Garden Club

January 2018

www.mvgclub.weebly.com

Save these dates:

January 18, 7pm

Thursday

Bethalto Senior Center

100 E Central St

Bethalto, Il 62010

“Water Gardening”

Dave Stahre, President,
St Louis Water Gardening
Society

Dues for 2018

January 29, Monday, 7 pm

Board meeting at

Susan Ruckman's,

2716 Ridgedale Dr

Godfrey, 62035

February 15, Thursday

7 pm

Bethalto Senior Center

“Moles, voles and other
critters”

Ron Scherer

Welcome: to Steve. You probably saw Steve around throughout the year, he would come with friend, Anne Glad you decided to make it official. Hope to see you often.

2017/2018: It is another year coming to an end and starting a new one. Time for a fresh start, new year's resolutions and new ideas for the gardens. Gardening is always an ongoing process. 2017 was a great year for the club. We had record number new members/returning members,13. We had some new activities; including removing large hostas to repurpose, donating to school program and increased the sharing of donations to programs throughout the community.

We are starting a new year/gardening season, consider inviting friends to the meetings. We need to spread the word about the informative programs and good gardening friends. It will be our kick off for the new season so be thinking about ideas for program topics and possible speakers. Also, consider adding your own garden to our summer visit schedule. *Carole*

Dues for 2018: Gloria Gowin will be collecting dues for 2018, at the January and February meetings. Dues for returning members is \$10, new members is \$17, this includes their name pin. If you are going to be out of town, Jan and Feb, please mail your dues to: Gloria Gowin, 242 S. 9th St, Wood River, IL 62095. Late dues will be \$15 after Feb 15.

Inclement weather: With the chance of inclement weather the next couple of months, if you normally receive your newsletter by email, you will be notified by email if there is a cancellation. Please check your email. Otherwise you will receive a a phone call. If any concerns the day of the meeting contact Carole Baker or Susan Ruckman.

School programs: Last year we made a donation to a school science project regarding plants and their growth. We would like to continue this program. If you know of a class or teacher that will doing some type of plant project please let a board member know or contact Susan Hiller, 466-4942

Favorite pictures 2018: For several years Jerry Linker has been keeping an album of member's favorite gardening pictures. It may include insects, bird or grandchild as long as it is flower or garden related. If you want to share the picture with the members please forward to Jerry , by mail, email or in person.

January meeting: To start off the new year our January speaker will be Dave Stahre. Dave is the president of the St. Louis Water Gardening Society. SLWGS is the organization that sponsors the “Pond O Rama” in St. Louis. Their volunteers also design and care for the water lily pool at the Jewel Box in Forest Park.

Dave is a graduate of the University of Florida, where he studied geology and graduated with a bachelor of science degree in 1974. He has a master of arts degree from Webster University in computer resources and information management. He spent 20 years in the Air Force as a C-141 instructor pilot and staff officer. After the Air Force he worked for the State of Illinois as an Employment Security Service Representative. He retired in 2014. He has been active in water gardening since 1993. He has built 2 ponds of his own, the current one is approximately 4,000 gallons and has 30 koi fish. He is currently president of the water gardening society, starting his 4 th year in that position. He had previously served another 4 year period in that position. “ I enjoy drinking coffee next to the pond in the morning and wine in the evening.”

Directions to Susan Ruckman’s house: The board meeting will be at Susan’s house. 2716 Ridgedale Dr, Godfrey, 62035. Go west on Homer Adams Pkwy/IL-111/IL-3. Continue to follow Homer Adams Pkwy/IL-3. Get in left lane for the light, do not veer right. Stay straight to go onto Ridgedale Dr. My house is the 8th on the right side, stay to the right of the little circle. White house with blue shutters.

Christmas banquet: We had another great Christmas celebration at Castelli’s. There were 60+ members and guests that attended the dinner and participated in the gift exchange. The food was good as usual and plenty of it. Vernice arranged for cake from Duke’s Bakery. She tried a couple of different kinds. My favorite was the white cake with the raspberry sauce between the layers. The gifts were unique as always. Everyone looked nice dressed up in their holiday outfits. Sorry if you missed it, maybe you can make it next year.



Things to do:

Feb 3– Mar 25: Orchid Show 2018, Missouri Botanical Gardens, www.mobot.org or check out www.gatewaygardener.com/upcoming-events

Hospitality — The following members have volunteered to bring desserts and drinks for the January meeting. Thank you in advance.

Desserts– Karen , Sharon , Carolyn , Helen , Sharlotte , Christy

- 1 large bag of ice —Frank
- (1) 2 liter regular cola — Edith
- (1) 2 liter white soda — Carol
- (1) 2 liter diet soda— Linda
- 1 gal unsweetened tea—Susan

President: Carole Baker, 4667718

VP/Secretary: Susan Ruckman, 466-5892
or gardenfriends@hotmail.com

Treasurer: Gloria Gowin, 550-9923

Board members

- Vernice
- Christy
- Gail
- George
- Jerry
- Dottie

Committee chairs

- Christy Butler—trips
- Susan Hiller– community projects
- Jerry Linker– photos & historian
- Edith Reed - pant sale
- Debbie Winship - hospitality