



Mississippi Valley Garden Club

mvgclub.weebly.com

Save these dates:

Saturday, June 8,

8am –12pm

Alton Farmer's Market

Thursday, June 20

6:30 pm

Carmen & Bob Vercoglio

12168 Deer Rd,

Palmyra, IL 62674

Bee presentation

Monday, June 24

6:30 pm

Board meeting

Dottie Rogers' home

Thursday, July 18,

6:30 pm

Alicia Davis' garden

26501 Lockhaven Hill

Godfrey, IL 62035

Alton Farmer's Market: With the rainy weather the day of the plant sale there were quite a few plants left. It was decided to set up a booth at the Alton Farmer's Market, June 8, 8 am-12 pm. Several members were available to man the booth: Edith Reed, Jerry Linker, George Kahl, Christy Butler, Dottie Rogers, Gloria Gowin, Sue and Bill Hiller.

It was a nice day for a market. Sprinkled about 7:15, otherwise a cool breeze. \$134 was made after expenses. \$12 for the booth. Thank you for giving your time.

June's Garden Visit: The club has been invited back to Carmen and Bob Vercoglio garden. We were at their place last year but this will be a different time of the season. For those who recently joined us or you weren't able to make the visit, Carmen has lived on the 80 acre farm for 50 years. Bob became part of the history when they were married in 1996. They no longer raise cattle, that is rented out. Carmen's favorite flowers are: peonies, tree peonies, irises and daylilies. She also has a few hydrangeas. Bob has an orchard and vegetable garden.

As an added bonus, there will be a couple of their friends making a presentation about beekeeping and honey. Randy Christie and Larry Roth will be our presenters. They will talk about beekeeping and the honey making process. Larry has been a judge at the Illinois State Fair.

Driving directions: From Carlinville travel 6 miles North on RT 4 to Richie Road. Turn left (west) on Richie Road and travel approximately 2.5 miles to Quarton Road. Turn right (north) on to Quarton Road and travel exactly 1 (one) mile to Deer Road. Turn left on Deer Road (west) and travel approximately 1.5 miles to gray house, gray barn on right at destination.

For the adventurist coming from the Alton area, : Rt 67 North to Medora, ILL, turn right onto Rt. 111 at Medora. Follow Rt 111 through Summerville and Chesterfield heading North to Hettick, IL. Follow Rt 11 through Hettick and travel approximately 4 miles North to Richie Road. Turn right on to Richie Road (East) and travel approximately 7 miles to Quarton Road (North) and travel exactly 1 (one) mile to Deer Road. Turn left on Deer Road and travel 1.5 miles, the gray house and gray barn is your destination.

Either route will take you approximately 50 minutes from Alton. My phone number is 217-556-4874 if you get lost. **Bob Vercoglio**

It was suggested to meet at 5:30, at the Godfrey Walmart if you wanted to car pool. If interested please respond to this email or call Susan at 618-917-5853

Welcome to new members: Chris Dreith, a friend of Paula Zugmaier. She has recently retired from the Alton school system where she taught social studies. She has downsized to a smaller home in Godfrey, but it has a large yard. The previous owner was a gardener, but the plants are older. She is in the process of replacing them. She has had a vegetable garden for 2 years and enjoys her flower garden.

Chris has been a widow for about 4 years. She has a son in Alton and a daughter in St. Louis. She has 3 grandchildren that she enjoys spending time with.

Chris' other hobbies are crafts, listening to music and traveling. She has traveled to Europe, Canada, Mexico and throughout the states. As this newsletter is being written, Chris is on her way to Michigan and later this month she will be visiting the Carolinas.

Chris joined the club wanting to learn more about gardening and the plants. She would like to learn more about composting and give it a try.

Welcome also to Adriana Marcuzzi. Adriana attended the plant sale, was interested in the club. She visited us at the Gowin's garden visit. She decided we were an ok bunch and joined that evening.

Adriana has also recently retired from SIUE Dental School. Adriana is originally from Argentina. She came to the US to go to school in Iowa City., she was there 6yrs. She moved back and forth across the states. California to New York and back to California, she did not care for Florida. She eventually ended up in Springfield, IL. Then on to Alton, and has been there for 11 years.

Adriana is married to Ken, he just looks at the garden. They have 1 son in Springfield, who has 5 children. They spend as much time with them as possible.

Adriana's other hobbies besides gardening are genealogy, art, she plans to take classes during the winter, she likes painting in particular. She also likes antiques and estate sales.

She used to do vegetables but got tired of feeding the squirrels and rabbits. So now she just feeds the deer. Her gardening skills have improved, she says she now has a "muddy" thumb, not quite green yet. Adriana joined the club to learn what to do or not do with plants, and which can be invasive. She enjoys all plants and enjoys looking thru the plant catalogs.

Please welcome Chris and Adriana to the club. Take a few minutes to get to know them and share your knowledge.

May activities: May was a very busy month, especially getting ready for the plant sale. We had many members digging and dividing plants. It can be very time consuming and messy work, especially with all the rain we had been having. After the potting, the plants were priced. A evening was spent getting all the plants priced. Couple of members did their own pricing since they had so many plants at their home.

Plant sale- Saturday morning everything started coming together. Plants began arriving at the Sportsmen's club, at 5:30 in the morning. As plants were being pulled out of trailers, they were sorted into groups: hosta, daylilies, shade, groundcovers, etc. As usual, customers are lined up at the perimeter. It was starting to rain, the customers didn't seem to mind. The sale went smoothly other than being rainy. We did not sale all of the plants. It was decided to save them and take them to the Alton Farmer's Market. Financially, it was a good sale, total was \$2825. Thank you everyone for all the help. Good job, Edith Reed.

Community Hope Center: On May 16 a group of members spent some time cleaning up at the center. The daffodils were cleaned up, annuals were planted and the mulch were fluffed up. Thank you to the members that spent their time working.



Spring bus trip: On May 18, 22 members and a couple of guests traveled to nurseries in Missouri to do some plant shopping. The day was sunny and eventually got pretty warm. All the nurseries were good. Each seem to have their own specialty. The bus storage was loaded up like usual, no trees this year. 3 nurseries were visited before lunch. Christy kept us on schedule. For lunch there was a choice of several places to eat. First Watch, Qdoba and French Café, seemed to be the favorite choices. After lunch there were 2 more nurseries. Then it was back to Godfrey. It was a great day, everyone seemed to enjoy it. Thanks, Christy for setting up the adventure.

May garden visit: As another activity we had a garden visit to Gloria and John Gowin's garden. This is an awesome garden. There were several large beds filled with plants: hosta, lilies, daylilies. There were huge shade trees of different varieties. Pots of hosta decorated the front steps. An old rocking chair seat was planted with plants. Gloria and John did the majority of hardscaping themselves. Gloria and John also treated us to a light dinner of hotdogs(John's unique cooking technique) , hamburgers, chips and brownies. Thank you Gloria and John for sharing your garden with the club members.



Things to do: Check out the garden show at Lewis and Clark Community College. SenseSational Blooms will be a Feast for the Senses. Explore and engage all five senses during the 2019 interactive summer garden show. Nearly a dozen pocket gardens spread across the Godfrey Campus will invite a different experience—some interactive and some more passive—representing touch, sight, sound, smell and taste..

www.lc.edu/News_Story/Garden-SenseSationalBlooms/

Members update: Just wanted to catch up with members that have been under the weather, this summer.

Gail Clarkson, has returned home after rehab from a stroke.

Jan Maxiener, is now home after having surgery.

Kay Hancock is recovering at home after having a total shoulder replacement.

If you could take a few minutes and give them a call or send a card, I'm sure they would appreciate it.

Board members

President: George Kahl, 498-5789

Vice President: Dottie Rogers,
917-4730

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

Treasurer: Gloria Gowin, 550-9923

Vernice Allen

Carole Baker

Christy Butler

Gail Clarkson

Jerry Linker

Dottie Rogers

Committee chairs

Christy Butler — Trips

Susan Hiller — Community Projects

Jerry Linker—Photos & Historian

Debbie Winship — Hospitality

Edith Reed — Plant sale