

# Mississippi Valley Garden Club

March 2022

[www.mvgclub.weebly.com](http://www.mvgclub.weebly.com)

Visit MVGC on [Facebook](#)

**Save these dates:**

**Thursday, March 17, 7 pm**

Betsy Alexander  
St Louis Master Gardener  
"A Dark Side to Your Garden"  
Bethalto Senior Citizen Center  
100 E. Central St. Bethalto

**New start time**

**Dues 2022, No late fee**

**Monday, March 28, 6:30 pm**

Board meeting at Dottie's

**Thursday, April 7, 8:30 am**

Clean up day at Community  
Hope Center

**Thursday, April 14 (rain date)**

**Thursday, April 21, 7 pm**

Plant Exchange  
**Dues 2022**

**Monday, April 25, 6:30 pm**

Board meeting at Dottie's

**Friday, May 6, TBD**

Pricing/set up at Sportsmen's Club

**Saturday, May 7, 8-noon**

Plant Sale  
Sportsmen's Club

**Thursday, May 19, 6:30 pm**

Garden visit Rosemary  
Wood River

The February meeting was cancelled due to frigid weather. I'm ready for spring.

**Dues 2022:** Susan will be collecting dues at the March and April meetings. Deadline will be April 30, 2022. Renewal will be \$10 per member. New members will be \$17, which includes the name pin. Late fee has been eliminated

**White elephant exchange:** If you have gently used gardening related item/ garden club apparel be sure and bring them for the exchange. Its always surprising what is brought in for trade.

**March presentation: New start time—7 pm.** We are lucky enough to have Betsy Alexander returning for a visit. Betsy is a St. Louis Master Gardener, she was last here in Feb 2020. Her topic at that time was "Chocolate".

Betsy's topic for this visit will be "A Dark Side to Your Garden". There are plants that have prickles or poison, that could be hanging out in your garden. Over the years some plants develop these defenses to protect them selves. How many do you have in your garden and are they safe to keep? It sounds interesting.

**Community Hope Center work day:** Its time for a work day at the Community Hope Center. It shouldn't take to long. Cleaning up the old flowers, planting a couple of lantana, just general clean up. It will be Thursday, April 7 about 8:30. Thursday, April 14 will be the rain date. Please come out and give a hand. More hands make the work go quicker. Also, if possible please wear your garden club apparel. Especially if we go out for brunch. It will help promote the club.

**Recruiting New Members:** We had a discussion about recruiting new members for the club at the board meeting. Some ideas that were presented.

**All club members are ambassadors.** Everyone should be talking and inviting potential members to the activities. Invite family, friends, neighbors, fellow church members and people walking down the street.

**Invite, Invite, Invite**

**Advertise:** website, Facebook, newspaper— community calendar, flyers to put up at your church or other places you visit.

**Garden club apparel,** wear your t-shirts when you are out and about, shopping, work days. When you go to community activities— farmer's market, festivals. ( Information to obtain t-shirts on back page).

**When guests** do come to activities introduce yourself, ask about their interests. Make them feel welcome. Make sure they have a name tag.

**When a member** hasn't attended for awhile, someone call and follow up with them. Let them know that they are missed.

Any other ideas and suggestions would be appreciated.

**April meeting:** will be our plant exchange. Each member can bring up to 3 plants. They should be potted, labeled with name and care of plant. We will use the attendance tickets to rotate thru club members. You pick only 1 plant at a time. We will go thru the rotation 3 times.

**Plant Sale:** It is time to start thinking about the sale. Do you have plants to divide and share for the sale. Go thru your pots. Do you have enough pots or extra pots. Plan on bringing extra pots to the meetings. Jerry needs 4" pots.

We have the pavilion reserved for the sale on Saturday, May 7. It is also reserved for Friday for the pricing and set up. It definitely made it easier last year not having to transfer plants.

**T-shirts, club logo:** Several years ago, the club purchased the logos at B & B Custom T's. Located at 2714 Corner Ct, in Alton. The logos are free to members. If you have a shirt you like, you can take it to the shop and they will place the logo on the shirt for you, it will cost \$3.00. If you purchase a shirt from their shop they don't charge for pressing the logo on.

**Spring Garden Nursery Trip:** For members that are fairly new to the club, the spring bus trip was something members looked forward to every year. We visit garden nurseries, alternating between Illinois and Missouri. This year is Illinois. This gives us a chance to see new plants/ new varieties that aren't available in our local nurseries. You are traveling with members who may have experience with the different plants. Plus the experienced nursery staff. We stop for lunch at local eateries. We usually meet the bus at the Godfrey Walmart.

The plan is to visit the nurseries that were originally scheduled in 2020. We would be going to Hilltop Nursery and Garden in Sherman, ILL, Greenview Garden Center in Springfield, lunch, Pleasant Nursery Inc, and Buckley's Prairie Landscaping. Last will be Kahl's Greenhouse and Landscaping, George and Edith brother's nursery in Carlinville (one of our favorites).

It was decided at the board meeting to have the bus trip. Cost will be \$15 for members, this will **not be refundable**. There has been increase in price for the bus, in general but also the price of gas has taken a big jump. Guest will also be \$15,( also non refundable) we want to encourage potential new members.

We did go with the Vandalia bus lines. We will have plenty of space for plants.

We don't have a date, yet. Hopefully by the meeting we will. Christy is checking if a day during the week will be any cheaper, hopefully this will work for members.

If we have a date we can start signing up, so bring your calendar. We have talked about opening the trip up to other garden clubs.

#### **Refreshments/drinks for March meeting:**

Drinks:

1- 2 liter cola - Paula

1- 2 liter white soda- Debby

1- 2 liter diet cola—Christy

1- gallon unsweetened tea— Vernice

1- large bag of ice — Susan

4- desserts/ appetizer : Dottie , Susan , Susan and Helen (Maybe something green for St. Patrick's Day).

We will be signing up for refreshments for April at the meeting. The board did agree to cut back on the number of refreshments since we have had a decreased number of members. Hopefully members won't need to sign up as frequently. Please be mindful of the decreased servings when going through the line.

#### **Things to do:**

**Art in Bloom**— Virtual, March 1– March 31, <https://www.slam.org/event/virtual-art-in-bloom-2022>

**Missouri Botanical Gardens-** classes, workshops, tours- <https://www.missouribotanicalgarden.org/learn-discover/adults/classes-tours-workshops.aspx>

**President:** Dottie Rogers, 917-4730

**Vice President:** Paula Zugmaier,  
567-1703

**Secretary:** Susan Ruckman,  
(618)917-5853 or [garden-friends@hotmail.com](mailto:garden-friends@hotmail.com)

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

#### **Board members**

George Kahl, past president

Vernice Allen

Rosemary Bauer

Eunice Weber

#### **Committee chairs**

Christy Butler, trips/ face book page

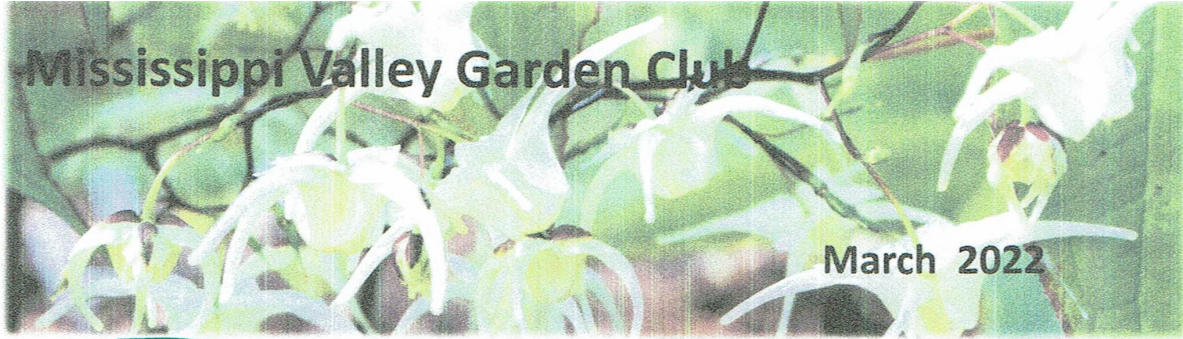
Jerry Linker — historian/ photos  
community projects

Adriana Marcuzzi — plant sale

Debbie Winship — hospitality

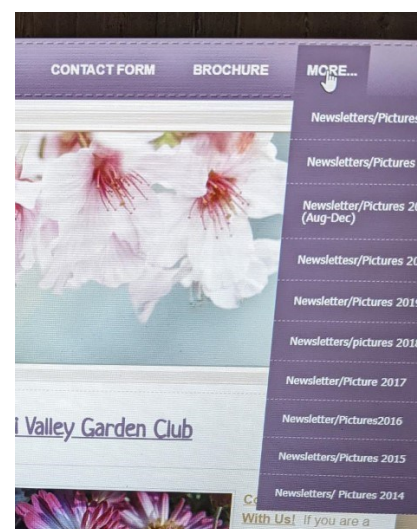
Edith Reed— hospitality

**Links to website and Facebook:** Just wanted to make sure everyone knew they have access to the club website and Facebook page, when using the file that is sent to you. By clicking on the blue link, ( circled in green) It will take you directly to the Mississippi Valley Garden Club web page. Here you can see the club schedule, contact form ( people can let us know they are interested in the club). You have access to the club brochure. The last column is a dropdown, all the pictures that I have received and the newsletters going back to 2014.

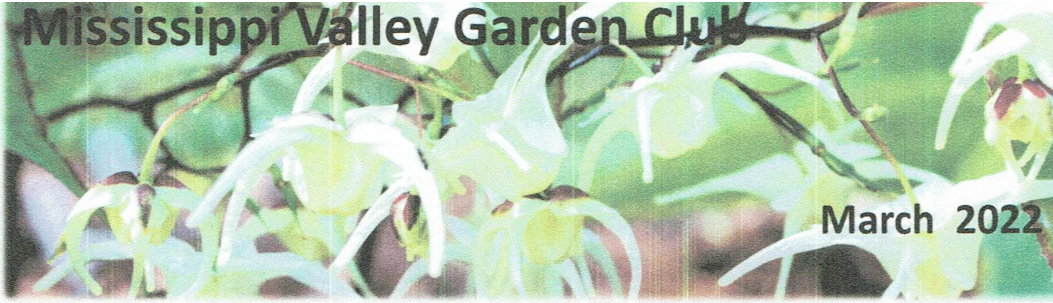


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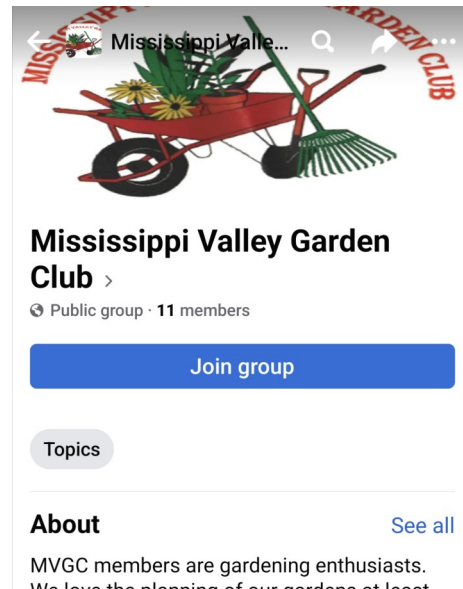
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By clicking on the blue Facebook link, at the top left of the front page of the newsletter it will take you to the new Facebook page. Clicking on the join group will initiate getting access to the page. We have had discussions about mysterious plants, board meeting reminders, etc. on the page. Any questions or concerns please contact Christy Butler.

By clicking on the blue links under Things to do it will also take you to the website, such as the Missouri Botanical Gardens.



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**March 3-6, St Louis Home and Garden Show** - <https://www.stlhomeshow.com/HomeGarden/>