

# Mississippi Valley Garden Club

November/December 2018



## Save these dates:

**November, no meetings**

**Christmas dinner and gift  
exchange**

Thursday, December 6, 2018  
5:30 arrival, 6:00 dinner

Castelli's Restaurant at 255  
3400 Fosterburg Rd, Alton

Gift exchange, optional

**R.S.V.P.** by Thursday,  
November 29

**January meeting**

Thursday  
January 17, 2019, 7 pm  
TBA

**Dues for 2019**

**January board meeting**

Monday, January 28, 7 pm  
TBA

**Welcome back:** Welcome back to Alicia Davis. Alicia was a former member, glad she is coming back.

**Thank you:** Thank you to everyone that helped during the year. Whether it was providing food for the meetings, helping on dig days or any other activity. The club could not exist without its volunteers. The hosta we dug last fall did well thru the winter and looked great for the plant. We once again had a successful plant sale.

Thank you, again and happy holidays. *Susan*

**Christmas banquet:** We will be celebrating the end of another gardening season at Castelli's restaurant. There are many things to celebrate at this time of year. Arrival time will be 5:30, dinner will be served at 6:00.

Guests are invited, \$20 per guest. Members are free. Cake from Duke's Bakery will be provided by the club, for dessert. We ask that you rsvp by Thursday, November 29. Please contact Susan Ruckman, email [gardenfriends@hotmail.com](mailto:gardenfriends@hotmail.com) or call (618)917-5853. We would like to have as accurate a count as possible. We do have to pay for the count that we turn in. If you have to cancel please call as soon as possible. Payment for guests need to be made prior to November 29. Payment can be mailed or dropped off to Gloria Gowin, 242 S. 9th St, Wood River, 62095

We will be having a gift exchange at the dinner, for anyone who would like to participate. The recommended price is \$15. Preferably a gardening item. If it is gender specific please mark it as such. Please make sure you get a ticket for the drawing for the gift that you bring.

**Dues for 2019:** It will soon be that time of year, again. Dues for 2019 will need to be paid by February 21, to avoid late fee. Dues are \$10 for renewing members. \$17 for new members, a name tag will be obtained. Gloria Gowin will start collecting dues at the January meeting. If you are going to miss the January and February meetings please mail your dues to Gloria Gowin: 242 S. 9th St, Wood River, IL, 62095.

**Donations:** The board members agreed, once again for end of year monetary donations. They took into consideration the time working on their landscaping, money spent for plants and mulch and canned goods collected that are donated to the Community Hope Center. There was discussion of other organizations in need of help. Many have been affected by budget cuts. The board decided on the following donations: \$100 - Community Hope Center, \$100- Senior Service Plus, to be designated for the Meals on Wheels program, \$100 - Bethalto Senior Service, to be designated to the drivers for medical appointments and transportation, and \$100- to Operation Blessing in Wood River.

We had also collected canned goods at the October meeting for the Community Hope Center. Jerry Linker delivered them for us.

**October meeting:** It was the last presentation for the season. John Lewis, St Louis master gardener was our speaker. John shared some tips about growing roses. He spoke about only 2 kinds: hybrid tea roses and knockouts. He feels the hybrid tea roses are some of the most difficult plants to grow. They require weekly treatment with a fungicide to prevent black spot. They also require regular feeding with fertilizer, they are heavy feeders. They need full sun, at least 6 hours, regular watering and should be pruned.

Knockout roses are easier to care for, but the flowers are not as pretty. They are said to be pretty from a distance. Knockouts are not as susceptible to fungus, more winter hardy, doesn't need much fertilizing and more drought tolerant. They don't need deadheading if you can tolerate them looking messy. If you want a plant that will be a challenge, sounds like the hybrid tea rose is the one.



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

**Refreshments:** Susan Hiller, Edith Reed, Karen Cairns, Gloria Gowin and Mary Bernt

**1 large bag of ice:** Susan Ruckman

**(1)2 liter white soda:** Anne Carrera

**1 gallon unsweetened tea:** Paula Zugmaier

**(1) 2 liter regular cola:** Debbie Winship

**(1) 2 liter diet soda:** Jaci Sweetman

**President- Carole Baker, 466-7718**

**VP/Secretary— Susan Ruckman,  
(618) 917-5853 or  
[gardenfriends@hotmail.com](mailto:gardenfriends@hotmail.com)**

**Treasurer— Gloria Gowin, 550-9923**

#### **Board members**

Vernice Allen  
Christy Butler  
Gail Clarkson  
George Kahl  
Jerry linker  
Dottie Rogers

#### **Committee chairs**

Christy Butler — Trips  
Susan Hiller— Community Projects  
Debbie Winship — Hospitality  
Edith Reed — Plant sale  
Jerry Linker — Historian & photos