www.mvgclub.weebly.com

Happy Holidays

Upcoming Events:

Christmas Dinner
December 4, 2014
Julia's Banquet Center
East Alton
Doors open: 6:15 pm
Start time: 6:30 pm
Gift exchange: $10-$15
(Please bring canned goods for Hope Center)

January 15, 2015
Bethalto Senior Center
TBA
7 pm
(Dues for 2015)

January 26, 2015
Board Meeting
TBA
7pm

February 19, 2015
Bethalto Senior Center
TBA
7 pm

WELCOME NEW MEMBERS: We would like to welcome new members, Sharon and David . We look forward to seeing you at the dinner and in 2015.

CHRISTMAS DINNER: We will be returning to Julia's for our Christmas Dinner. It will be Thursday , December 4. Doors will open at 6:15 pm. Meet and greet at 6:30 pm. Members are free, guests are $18.00. If you have not signed up, yet , contact Susan Ruckman, 466-5892 or gardenfriends@hotmail.com. We will need an accurate count by November 20. If you find that you are not able to attend please let us know. We do have to pay for members who do not show up. There will be a gift exchange, $10-15 garden related item. We will also be collecting *canned goods for the Hope Center,* this is a chance to help someone else.

NOTE FROM PRESIDENT: I have enjoyed being president of the garden club for the past two years. It is always enjoyable to come together with people who enjoy the same hobbies. The past two years have been a challenge to me as I still work full time but the people who have been officers and board members for this time have been very helpful. As we go into the new year the club will have a new voice and new direction. Thanks for allowing me to be a part of It. *Debbie Fleetwood*

ELECTIONS FOR 2015: These are the members that will be elected at the dinner. President- Sue Vice President– Susan , Secretary– Susan , Treasurer– Judy . Board members: Dottie , Vernice , Carole , George , Jerry , Richard .

COMMITTEE CHAIRPERSON : still needed for Community Projects. They will coordinate activities with the Hope Center and SIUE Gardens. Please consider stepping up and taking a turn at a position.

THANK YOU: Just wanted to say thank you to the members that have worked behind the scenes. Linda for doing the membership cards and taking care of the memorial tree. Judy for help picking up plants for SIUE. Vernice for keeping us up to date in the Telegraph. Teresa for managing the web site. Carole and John for getting mulch for Hope Center and the plant sale. Debbie for the bird bath class. Thank you also to the chair persons and board member for their extra effort and time. Thank you to the members that opened their home and gardens to the club, they were awesome. Also, thank you to Debbie for giving her time as president and trying to keep us on a positive direction. Its been a pleasure working and getting to know you. *Susan*

OCTOBER MEETING: The evening of the club meeting was enjoyed by many. The food was awesome and plentiful. Nobody should have gone away hungry. The meat from Carver's was great. There was only a small amount of meat left, it was packaged up and added to the table for the white elephant exchange. There were many interesting items for the exchange. We had a short game of garden trivia. I think we still have a lot to learn about plants. There were several brain teasers and even a lesson in pronunciation. It was a good evening with good company. See you in December.

DUES FOR 2015: If you want to beat the January rush or if you are going to be out of town, you can mail your dues. Dues for returning members is $10, new members $17. You can mail your dues to Susan Ruckman, 2716 Ridgedale Dr, Godfrey, IL 63035. Final dues date is February 19, this will give you 2 club meetings to pay your dues. After this date , the late dues is $15.

MISSOURI BOTANICAL GARDENS: The gardens will be having some special events for the holiday season. If you need some holiday spirit or activity for the kids / grandkids, check out the gardens. www. missouribotanicalgarden.org

The Gardenland Express: Nov 22– Jan 4, 2015. 500 colorful poinsettias and other flowers. G-scale train display. The picture on the newsletter banner is from the display. Notice the model train in the background.

The Garden Glow Holiday Light Exhibit: Nov 22-Jan 4,2015 Stroll through the garden at night. Check their website for nightly schedule.

FAVORITE PHOTOS FOR 2014: Jerry is still accepting your favorite photos for 2014 favorites album. Any subject, any theme, just what you deem to be a favorite in your garden and a brief comment about the photo. You can mail them to Jerry at Bethalto, or you can e-mail them to jerrylinker@att.net or just hand them to him at a meeting. *Thanks*

President- Debbie Fleetwood 531-9655

Vice President— Gloria Gowin 550-9923

John Gowin 304-3437

Secretary— Susan Ruckman 466-5892

Treasurer—Susan Ruckman 466-5892

Note from Hospitality: The following members have signed up to bring goodies for the January meeting.

Dessert: Carol, Paula , Debby , Joyce B

2 liters regular cola: Anna

2 liters white soda: Bill

2 liters diet soda: Minnie

Board

Shirley Means
Anna Potter
Richard Hancock
George Kahl
Jerry Linker
Linda Votaw

Committee Chairs

Carolyn James, Trips
Earlene Harrison, Community Projects
Karen Fitzgerald, Hospitality
Mary Scates, Hospitality
Jerry Linker, Historian & Photos
Phil Embree, Plant Sale