



Save these dates:

Vietnam Memorial Wall

Thursday, Sept 8— set up
Displays open Friday, Sept 9—
Sunday, Sept 11, 1:00 closing
ceremony

Thursday, Sept 15

Christy Butler's garden
6:30 pm
827 Douglas St
Alton

Saturday, Oct 15

Bus trip
Lunch with Amish family/ pump-
kin patch
Depart Alton Square Mall
8am

Thursday, Oct 20
7pm

Senior Service Center
Patti Brown
Education Director
"The Nature Institute"
canned goods

Saturday, Oct 29

Bonfire at Gail Clarkson
details at later date

No November meeting

Thursday, Dec 8

Christmas banquet
Castelli's Restaurant at 255

September garden visit: Well we have seen a couple of gardens in the country. Now its time to come back to the city. We will be going to Christy Butler's garden, in Alton. Christy moved to Alton in February 2014, to be closer to family. In spring, she found yews, an azalea bush and vinca vine in the front yard. In the back yard she found some peonies and lily of the valley. She has added a patio and deck since moving here. Christy has been planting drought tolerant plants, such as sedum, coneflowers (her favorites), black eyed Susan, and irises. Of course there are hostas. She started sunflowers and zinnias by seed for the summer. Gardens are always work in progress. Presently, Christy is in the process of edging, to stop the zoysia grass from taking over the front garden.

Directions: From Alton Square Mall, go west on Homer Adams Pkwy 111/IL-3. Turn left onto Godfrey Rd, which changes into State St. Keep to the right at the fork to continue on State St. Turn right onto Douglas St. Christy's house is on the right. On street parking, will be tight, may want to carpool.

Vietnam Memorial Wall : The Wall will be traveling from Greenville, IL on Sept 7, accompanied by the Patriot Guard. Set up will be Thursday, Sept 8, starting at 7am until everything is done for opening day, Friday, Sept 9. There will be several displays, in addition to the wall. The War Dogs Memorial will be present. Also, Agent Orange Quilt of Tears- 35 quilts containing blocks honoring our Vietnam Veterans impacted by the agent orange chemical. There will be POW/MIA hot air balloons. They have asked for volunteers, on set up day, mostly lifting and placing the wall, some hospitality to keep the workers going. Hospitality is also needed for the other days. There are a few of us planning on going, Thursday. If you are interested let me know or contact them on your own. Kimberly Campbell, 618-288-1406 or sales@cambridgehouse-maryville-slf.com . More info, www.facebook.com/2016VietNamMemorialWall

Fall Bus Trip: It's time to get signed up for the fall bus trip. We will be headed for Amish country. First on the agenda will be the working Amish farm of Sarah and Marvin Helmuth. We will also be having lunch in there home. I hear the food is great. They will share with us information about the Amish, questions are welcomed. From the farm , we will head to the pumpkin patch. There you will see many different kinds of pumpkins, gourds and squash. If you are interested they also have a bakery and seed shop. **Cost** for members and guests will be \$21 (\$18 for lunch, \$3 for the pumpkin patch. The bus fee for guests is being waived , this trip. Please contact Judy Dare (258-7098) to save a seat on the bus.

October meeting: The October meeting will be back inside at the Bethalto Senior Service Center. We asked that you bring in canned goods, that you normally would have brought to the Christmas banquet. By collecting them early, the Hope Center can distribute them to their clients in time for the holidays. We will also give them our donation at this time.

Community Hope Center: A small group of members did some clean up at the center. Earlene Harrison, Susan Hiller, Jerry Linker and Susan Ruckman spent part of the morning, weeding and cleaning up the beds. The beds look much better and the perennials are doing well. Some vinca annuals had been planted and they are looking really good, maybe they will reseed. Cone flowers in the back bed were left for the finches to enjoy the seeds. The beds are cleaned up for another couple months.

August garden visit: This month we went to Janice Van Meter's garden, in Dow. It's out in the country, very peaceful. Janice brought 500 plants with her to get started. She adds whatever she happens to like. Janice also likes crafting and sewing. You can see her creative side in her gardening also. You might find a pair of old shoes tucked in with the plants. On the back of a shed, facing the house is a mural painting that Janice has done herself. It has a tree with blooming flowers. There are bird houses and knick knacks scattered throughout the yard. She likes chives and has let them spread, they have made a fragrant path to wander through. There is an archway when you enter the backyard with clematis. The border beds she has kept widening, to add more plants. Janice has done her own stone work for the patio. Very comfortable and relaxing area. Janice has beds that wander around the side of the house and across the front yard. The evening was warm but very enjoyable. Thank you Janice for sharing your garden.



Keeping up: **Minnie Dooley** recently had back surgery. From the way she looked at our last meeting, she is well on the road to a speedy recovery.

John Gowin was hospitalized for quite some time and was at Rosewood Care Center for a few days. He told his doctor he is going home — so that's where you will find him now as he continues his recovery.

George Kahl is recovering from recent knee surgery and is receiving physical therapy. Plans are to have the second knee done sometime in October. While undergoing therapy, George is staying with his son, Chris. Cards may be sent to George, c/o his son Chris Kahl at 25552 Bethel Lane, Dow, IL 62202.

Minnie Retzer had surgery a few days ago and will be released soon. Please keep her in your thoughts and prayers.

If you are interested in a free cactus or two — give Marlene (254-5265) a call. She lives in Wood River and wants to find a good home for some of her cactus. She keeps them outside in the summer but has difficulty bringing them back inside as they are too heavy for her to handle. She has two Noto cactus (bloomers) and one cypress tree about two feet tall. I have been to her home and she has a lot of beautiful cacti.

Remember to let me know if you have any news about our members. Thanks again! Vernice (259-6726)

Carolyn James has requested that if you have jeans that have been outgrown, but still decent she would like to have them. Men or women's. She is delivering them to the Church on the Streets. They deliver supplies to the street people.

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