



"Let's Talk Dirt"

Newsletter of the Silvis Garden Club

"Fellowship and Education Through Gardening"

April 2017

<http://www.silvisgardenclub.org>

Established 2001

Presidents Corner – Bonnie Ague and I attended the Silvis Business Association Banquet on March 16th. It was held at TPC Deere Run. Dr Bobb gave a presentation on how 1st Avenue looked through the decades. Did you know that 1st Avenue is owned by the State of Illinois? That meant the new street lights had to be approved by the Illinois Department of Transportation. May all of you have a Happy Easter.

April Meeting – Will be held on Thursday, April 13th at 6:30 PM. Jane Arnesdorf, a Master Naturalist will be the guest speaker at the general meeting. Jane has established a pollinator garden and a monarch butterfly center in Riverside Park, Moline, Illinois. She will be sharing her findings and perhaps get someone interested in establishing a monarch butterfly center.

Treats will be provided by Joe and Sue, and Kathy Hall.

Greenhouse - Propagation is just about done at the greenhouse and club volunteers are getting ready for opening day on Saturday April 15th. Be sure to come to the greenhouse to get your pick selection of over 500 tomatoes and 600 geraniums before they are gone. And don't forget we have peppers, herbs, and other annuals as well as Kwik Kombo hanging baskets. A big "Thank You" to all members who helped this year. Your time given is much appreciated.

Opening Day – Opening day for the greenhouse will be April 15th. Spread the word! The pots will be ready for the opening. Let the planting begin.

Watch for News- Kathy Hall met with the National Cemetery for Veterans Committee last week. The SGC will be donating to that organization for their bedding plants. The Botanical Center was also in attendance and is also making a similar donation. Both clubs may be featured in a news article soon. Watch the papers!

Wishing everyone a happy and blessed Easter.

I for one am looking forward to being in attendance for Jane Amesdorf's presentation this month's general meeting. Three items presented themselves to me during the last couple of weeks in regards to butterflies. Following is some butterfly information to add to Jane's knowledge and presentation.

Butterfly Gardening

Butterflies are some of the most beautiful and interesting creatures on Earth. A butterfly garden is an easy way to see more butterflies and to help them, since many natural butterfly habitats have been lost to human activities like building homes, roads and farms. It is easy to increase the number and variety of butterflies in your yard. Simply grow the plants the caterpillars like to eat, and plants that adult butterflies feed on.

Simply find which butterflies are in your area, grow the plants the caterpillars like to eat, and plants that adult butterflies feed on! You can prolong the butterfly's stay in your garden and draw in others by providing both the food and shelter they need. - See more at:

<http://www.thebutterflysite.com/illinois-butterflies.shtml#sthash.dSmuNY7A.dpu>

See informative articles to help you at:

<http://www.thebutterflysite.com/gardening.shtml#sthash.mS3qP4rQ.dpuf>.

You can add some butterfly garden accessories like a [Butterfly House](#), which has slots the ideal size for keeping birds out while giving butterflies protection from the wind and weather, and are beautiful garden decorations. You could offer an additional [nectar source](#) close by to supplement your flowers. By providing both the [food](#) and shelter butterflies need you can prolong the butterfly's stay in your garden and draw in others.

Once you have designed and started your butterfly garden, you can be proud that you have made a habitat for butterflies in your own yard, which helps with the conservation of the many species of quickly disappearing butterflies today. You will certainly want to place your favorite outdoor furniture near so that you can enjoy all of your visitors day after day. - See more at: <http://www.thebutterflysite.com/gardening.shtml#sthash.Up8YvmC8.dpuf>

A Butterfly Gardening article by University of Minnesota

Garden asparagus Vegetable

Asparagus, or garden asparagus, scientific name *Asparagus officinalis*, is a spring vegetable, a flowering perennial plant species in the genus *Asparagus*. [Wikipedia](#)

Q. How soon after planting can newly established asparagus be harvested?

A. A limited harvest of asparagus can be made the second year after planting, for about two weeks. The third and fourth years after planting, harvest can be done for three and four weeks. Five years and more after planting, harvest can occur for six to eight weeks. Overharvest during establishment can decrease yield and stand longevity in the future. Harvest is best when the spears are 6 to 8 inches and while the tips are still tight.

WSU Extension

Butterflies are self propelled flowers. ~R.H. Heinlein

The caterpillar does all the work but the butterfly gets all the publicity.

~Attributed to George Carlin



“Flowers... are a proud assertion that a ray of beauty outvalues all the utilities of the world.” ~Ralph Waldo Emerson, 1844

I hope this Easter holiday fills your home with peace, joy, and plenty of colorful Easter eggs.

SPRING FEVER. 1. the wanting the present to become summer 2. the wanting to be outside . The Urban Dictionary

SILVIS GARDEN CLUB

PO Box 71

Silvis, IL 61282



ASPARAGUS QUICHE

(prepare as you normally do a pie cust)

8 -10 oz asparagus spears cut ¼ cup mushrooms

1 cup shredded swiss cheese 2 Tbl. Flour

3 eggs slightly beaten ½ cup half n half

Salt , pepper, dash of nutmeg to taste

Place crust in 9in pic plate, place mushrooms and asparagus in bottom of crust. In a large bowl toss cheese with flour. Stir in eggs and half and half, salt, pepper and nutmeg. Pour over asparagus and mushrooms.

Bake at 350 degrees for 55-60 minutes or until knife in center comes out clean. Let stand 5 minutes before serving

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P.O. Box 71

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President: Wanda Adam

Vice President: Linda Soderholm

Treasurer: Bonnie Bull

Secretary: Eileen Benhart

Member-at-Large: Bonnie Ague

Meetings: 2nd Thursday of each month, 6:30pm @ McGehee Center, Schadt Park, 4th Ave. and 12th St. Silvis, Illinois.

Board Meeting held every 1st Wed of the month, 5:30 @ the Silvis Library.

Annual membership dues: Individual - \$7, Couple - \$11