

**Heart of Missouri Master Gardeners
Minutes of Meeting
February 21, 2006**

The meeting was called to order at 7:00 p.m. at the Unity Center, Columbia, MO, by president Phyllis Barks. There were 41 members and 1 guess present.

Chris Starbuck, associate professor of Ag Extension-Plant Sciences, gave a program on the Plants of Merit, with information on the origins and implementation. He encourage master Gardener help and participation in disseminating information and encouraging participation in the mid Missouri region.

The minutes of the previous meeting were approved as printed.

The Treasurer's report showed a balance of \$1149.24 in the Master Gardener account, \$2,493.13 in the 2004 State Conference account, and \$3,020.69 in the CDs at Shelter Bank, established with conference funds.

Committee reports were as follows.

Hotline – Emily Bonwich needs a co-chair as she will be out of town a couple weeks this summer. The co-chair will help ensure the hotline is staffed with 2 members per time slot.

School Gardens/Jr. Master Gardeners – president Barks suggested these two programs be combined and renamed Gardening with Youth. The suggestion was approved by the membership. A chair is needed; please contact Phyllis Barks if interested.

Extension Grounds – Carolyn Doyle rescheduled spring clean-up work days to Saturday, March 4 from 1:00 – 3:00 p.m. and Thursday, March 23, from 5:00 – 7:00 p.m.

Advanced Training – Vera Gelder announced that Phyllis Barks and Don Day would provide training on giving presentations sometime in April. There will be a survey in the March newsletter on times and topics for future advanced training. The committee is also developing a form for recording advanced training hours.

Other Business

Celeste Mazzacano announced the seed exchange as a success.

Golden Trowel Award – Barb Kribbs gave a brief history of the award. Melissa Hough, last recipient, presented the coveted award to Art & Vera Gelder in appreciation for their past and continued work. Art's presidency with Vera's help and their work with children at Walkabout Acres, their farm, were just a few accomplishments mentioned.

Janet Jackson asked for volunteers to assist her with developing an Adopt-a-Spot area in her neighborhood.

Barb Michael invited all interested in the Community Garden Coalition to their annual spring fling, Sunday, March 5 from 1:00 – 3:00 p.m. at Shakespeare's Pizza on 9th Street. There is a requested \$5.00 donation.

Sue Popper invited Master Gardeners to a kick-off reception at Oak Towers for their gardening program, which will be held March 20, 9:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.

Don Day announced the Heart of Missouri Master Gardeners turned in 1800 hours for 2005. He thanked all who turned in their hours. Mary Kroening had reported 100,000 plus hours statewide.

Don also announced plans for a garden tribute to Doris Chiles, former director of the Columbia Housing Authority. It is to be dedicated in May. They need a few master gardeners right away to help design the beds representing each decade.

The meeting adjourned at 8:45 p.m.

Respectfully submitted by Carolyn Doyle for Mary Jane King, Secretary