

Heart of Missouri Master Gardeners April, 2009 Meeting Minutes

4/21/2009

34 members in attendance

Chairperson: Laura Redfield-Jacobs, President

Announcements:

- Members were asked to sit with their primary committee, for ease of discussion and for visiting the hydroponics shop in manageable groups.
- Thanks to the group's generosity, HMMG was able to give Kent Shannon a nice gift card and diapers for their new twin boys, who were born on March 27th and weighed 6 lbs, 11 oz and 7 lbs, 5 oz. Congratulations to the proud parents!!
- Thanks for purchasing items at the March HMMG meeting in support of the Lee Elementary school library. We raised \$118 to purchase youth gardening books.

"Introduction to Hydroponics" presented by Chris Daly, Heartland Hydrogardens

Hydroponics refers to the technique of growing plants in soil-less media and providing all nutrients via the water supply. Hydroponics produces higher yields more quickly than traditional agriculture and eliminates the need for most pesticide use. It allows the gardener to have more precise control over the plants during each stage of development. Lighting, air flow, planting medium, water, and nutrients are the key variables in indoor hydroponic gardening. While the details can seem daunting at first, you can start small with a few plants and experiment with different approaches. The staff at Heartland Hydrogardens will be happy to provide you with all the information and support you need to start gardening hydroponically.

Committee breakout sessions were alternated with tours of the Heartland Hydrogardens store, next to our meeting location.

The minutes and treasurer's report from the March meeting were approved by the group (initial motion by Karen Blackmore, seconded by Debbie Scholes).

Treasurer's Report:

Balance on 4/1/2009	\$ 891.27
State Conference Account	\$2189.13
Shelter Bank CDs	\$1122.51

Total Assets	\$4202.91

Committee Updates:

- **Community Gardening:** Betty Gayle Smith told the group that the event at Unity Church on April 4th went well, with an excellent speaker from Iowa who was an expert on local foods. However, turnout was not great; probably needed more publicity.
- **Educational Displays:** Peggy Ann Eichen said that people were still needed to assist with the HMMG booth at Earth Day, which was moved to the rain date of 4/26.
- **Advanced Training:**
 - Julie Fisher informed the group about the advanced training session "Powerful Presentations". It will be taught by members of Toastmasters, and will be about a 4 ½ hour class in 2 sessions. Please email Julie Fisher at

- julie8401@tranquility.net if you are interested in taking this class at a later date. She will try to reschedule it for Fall (October – early November).
- Julie also reiterated the importance of tracking and reporting both your volunteer hours and your training/continuing ed hours, to prove our relevance to the MU Extension Service and the community.
 - Don't forget the Composting workshops put on by the City of Columbia, on May 23, June 13. These count for 1 hour of Advanced Training.
 - There will be a series of advanced training classes on food preservation techniques soon – see the May newsletter for full info.
- **Leadership Committee:** We still need people to sign up for snacks/beverages at the upcoming HMMG monthly meetings.
 - **Farmer's Market Committee:** They still need 1-2 volunteers for the HMMG booth at the Boone County Farmer's Market on May 2nd, from 7:30 am to 11:00 am. Contact Marie Pasley for more info or to volunteer.
 - **From Jim Wilson:** the community garden on Windsor Street needs fencing to keep people from walking through the garden. At the meeting, Debi Ball said she has fencing that she can donate. Thanks, Debi!!
 - **From Linda Christensen:** she will host a "**Gardener's Grub and Gab**" Potluck dinner at her home on Thursday, May 7th, from 6:00 to 8:00 p.m. If you would like to come, please RSVP by May 5th by email christe@columbia.k12.mo.us or phone (573) 514-4408. Be sure to let her know what you plan to bring. Come and join the fun! This may become a regular monthly gathering, just to get to know your fellow HMMGs better.
 - **Sandy Deraps** told the group about a 5 Mile Walk/Run/Ride on Saturday May 9th, at 9:00 a.m., in support of the LCpl. Leon Deraps Memorial FFA Scholarship Fund. It will start in Jamestown, MO at the corner of Hwy 1-79 and Hwy 87, and will end at Assumption Catholic Church in Cedron. For more information, contact Dawn Cassil at (573) 823-4813 or tcassil@c-magic.com.
 - **Rose Mayfield** said that volunteers are still needed on June 13th, to assist the Tiger Pilot group with their "Blooms and Benevolence" garden tours. Contact Rose at mayflower812003@yahoo.com for more info about the volunteer opportunity, or to get tickets to the event (tickets are \$10).

Reminder: TRACK YOUR HOURS for state reporting.

Next Meeting will be on May 19th at 6:30 pm (note earlier time) at Carolyn Oates' home. Please BRING YOUR OWN CHAIR. Directions to Carolyn's house will be in the May newsletter.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:35 pm.