

Heart of Missouri Master Gardeners August, 2009 Meeting Minutes

8/18/2009 at the Extension Center

33 members in attendance

Chairperson: Laura Redfield-Jacobs, President

Announcements:

- Laura Redfield-Jacobs requested that old newsletters and photos from our HMMG meetings and activities be sent to her, to begin creating a history of our group.
- Immediately before the next monthly meeting (starting at 5:00 pm) everyone is invited to participate in a fall cleanup at the Extension Office. We will be weeding and trimming bushes; bring gloves, clippers, etc. and join the effort.
- Three committees plan to meet tonight during the meeting: Advanced Training, Mizzou Botanic Garden, and Hotline.
- Educational displays (Peggy Eichen, chair) still needs help preparing for the Chestnut Roast event in October.
- Plant-a-row for the Hungry has donated 364 pounds of food to the food pantry. The food pantry is currently located on Indiana Avenue, behind the old Perry Chevrolet, but it may be moving in September.
- Marie Pasley announced that the Farmer's Market committee is done for the season. They had 10 volunteers, made 140 contacts, and totaled 28 volunteer hours. They handed out guide sheets and hotline information, and talked with folks about gardening at both of the local farmer's markets.
- Julie Fisher reminded the group of the Advanced Training opportunities on Friday during the State Conference. 1 contact hour = 1 credit.
- Emily Bonwich said the Hotline has been going well this year, but they don't have any stats yet. There have been 12 volunteers, who each covered the hotline from home for at least a week. However, she still needs volunteers for the week of August 24th, and the last week in August/first week in September.
- Volunteer Opportunities:
 - The Nominating Committee still needs 2 more volunteers. Contact Betty Gayle if interested.
 - The HMMG Newsletter is in need of a new editor. Contact Linda Christensen if interested.
 - Barb Kribbs has volunteered to coordinate a Haydite order for the group. We could have it delivered to the Extension parking lot, but Barb wants commitments before placing an order.
- The State Master Gardener conference is Sept. 18-20.
- Remember you can fill out your HMMG volunteer and training hours online.
- Laura Redfield-Jacobs requested volunteers to help at Lee Elementary School, to pull weeds, spread mulch, etc.
- Next year, in lieu of a statewide Master Gardener conference, there will be Advanced Master Gardener College June 25-26, 2010. Classes will be held at Bradford Farms and the MU campus. The HMMG group will be "hosting" the event.
- Bradford Farms has several native plant gardens and needs 6-8 people to help get the gardens in shape this fall and next spring. Volunteers would be able to take extra plants, collect seeds. Contact Leslie Shaw at 424-1229 (cell) or 882-1614 (work), shawlj@missouri.edu.
- There are more buckets available for sale, 2-gallon size, for 50 cents each.
- On Saturday October 10th, Phyllis Barks needs volunteers to assist with a planting for Habitat for Humanity families in Norbury Estates.
- Elizabeth Hoyos said that 4-H needs volunteers to give presentations next March and April.

- On September 5-7, the Japanese Festival is at the St. Louis Botanic Gardens. It is a fun event to attend, or to volunteer. Norma Fraser is the contact person if you'd like to volunteer. 314-577-0278, norma.fraser@mobot.org.

“Fall Wreath Arrangements from Missouri Gardens”, presented by Phyllis Barks

You can make wreaths for any season, using materials that are easily found around you. Collect dried seed heads, cones, grasses, etc. In fall, many of these can be found dry along the roadside. Be sure to wear gloves when assembling your wreath! Add greenery and other items one handful at a time, overlapping the clumps as you go. Wrap each clump with wire 3 times (she recommended 22 gauge green wire.) To make a 12-inch wreath, you will need about 2 fully packed paper grocery bags of cedar clippings, about 5-8 inches long. Make the wreaths outside, to keep any bugs out of your house. We received a handout listing decorative materials that Phyllis has found work well in a wreath, and in the group discussion that followed Phyllis' demonstration, we added to it with Buck Brush/Coral Berry, Sweet Annie, and Dusty Miller.

Old Business:

- The minutes from the July meeting were approved by the group.
- Cindy Deegan said the Treasurer's Report would be the same as last month, because we had not spent any money.
- The HMMG t-shirts are not done yet. Laura will make sure we have them in time for the state conference.
- The next Master Gardener class will be on Monday nights, starting September 14th.