

St. Charles County Master Gardeners Association
General Membership Monthly Meeting Minutes
August 28, 2025

**If you have any questions, comments or corrections before these minutes are approved,
please contact your MG secretary Sandra Newsom at sandra.newsom@gmail.com**

Social Time: 6:00 p.m. (Arboretum Tour and samples of fruit harvested from the arboretum)
Program: 6:30 p.m. | Ellen Sulser, Volunteer and Engagement Manager, **Forest ReLeaf of Missouri**, an organization dedicated to planting and growing a resilient tree canopy across Missouri, to support healthy people, healthy habitats, and a healthy planet.

A Zoom link was provided for the meeting.
Program does count for Continuing Education credit.
Business meeting counts toward Vol Hours, Master Gardener Meeting

President Laura Steimel welcomed the attendees at 6:30 p.m. and introduced Ellen Sulser, Volunteer and Engagement Manager for Forest ReLeaf of Missouri.

Business Meeting: President Laura Steimel called the business meeting to order at 7:45 p.m.

Extension Master Gardener Program Coordinator: Eli Isele | No report.

Secretary's Report: Sandra Newsom | The minutes of the July 24, 2025 General Membership meeting were posted in the 8/25/25 *Monday Blooms* newsletter and made available at the meeting. A motion to accept the minutes as presented was seconded and unanimously approved.

Treasurer's Report: Mary Coyle | The June 2025 and July 2025 financial reports were posted in the 8/25/25 *Monday Blooms*. The June 2025 Month Closing reported a beginning balance of \$47,938.90 and ending balance of \$47,489.60. The July 2025 Month Closing reported a beginning balance of \$47,489.60 and an ending balance of \$46,359.77. A motion to accept the June and July 2025 Treasurer's Reports was made, seconded and unanimously approved.

President's Report: Laura Steimel | October is election time. Both the Vice President and Treasurer positions are open for election. Jackie Johnson (vice president) and Mary Coyle (treasurer) have indicated they would run again. If anyone else is interested in running for the office of vice president or treasurer, contact Laura at laurasteimel54@gmail.com.

Important reminder regarding reporting volunteer hours: Hours worked in 2025 must be reported into the Reporting System by December 31, 2025. Try to enter your volunteer hours monthly. If you need assistance, contact Laura.

The Steering Committee has decided to permanently move the Annual Awards Meeting to February. A speaker will be planned for the January meeting.

Effective 2026, active Extension Master Gardeners are required to have 10 hours of volunteer time in the Demo Gardens. The current requirement is 5 hours.

Committee Reports/Updates

Membership Committee: Kevin Lynch | Membership badges were presented to Jane Doll and Janet Head. Kevin is working to clarify language in the reporting guidelines for work done in off-site gardens. He will be looking for input from MGs who are currently doing volunteer work in off-site gardens.

Continuing Education/Advanced Training: Bonnie Winkeler | Continuing Education and Advanced Training opportunities are reported weekly in the *Monday Blooms*. Advanced Training Guidelines have been updated in the Members Only section of the SCCMGA Website under Continuing Education Guidelines.

Public Education: Patti Kolek | Volunteers are needed to work the table at the 9/6/2025 St. Charles Market and the 9/27/25 Pollinator Palooza. Please sign up on the sheets available at the check-in table.

A good turnout is expected for the In the Garden Class scheduled for September 13th from 9-noon. Presenters include Candy Boyle – flower bulb planting and care; Kevin Minard – garlic bulb planting; Chuck Baur – fall lawn renovation and care. The class fee is \$20 and registration will open to the public on August 1st. Registration for the MGs will be in September depending on openings. A limited number of volunteers are needed to prepare for this event. Contact Patti if you are interested in volunteering.

Volunteers are needed to do new presentations on various topics of interest for the Speakers Bureau, particularly on herbs and tool sharpening and maintenance. If anyone would like to shadow a current presenter to learn the ins and outs of speaking before an audience, please contact Patti.

Farmers Markets: Master Gardeners will participate in local farmer's markets including:

St. Charles Market (Main St. between Clark and Monroe) – 1st Saturday: May 3 - September 6

Volunteers are needed for the September 6th market from 7:30-noon.

Pollinator Palooza, Weldon Springs, volunteers for the MG booth are needed on 9/27/25 from 10 – 3.

The Education Committee will meet on 9/25/2025 immediately prior to the General Membership meeting.

Upcoming Speakers: Val Mertz | Val appreciates all the speaker suggestions from the members.

September 25 Amy Nall will update us on her work and success at **Pearce Hall (Wentzville)**. She is doing phenomenal things through gardening with the students.

October 23 **Our Missouri Native Hollies and More** presented by Joe Corio, an active Emeritus Gardener in Jefferson County. Joe is currently the board chairman of Kress Farm Garden Preserve where he has volunteered since 2005.

November No monthly membership meeting.

December 5 Holiday Party

Plant Sale: Donna Lindsey, Catherine Ebone, Cindy Heider

Greenhouse: Jeanne DeBold, Nancy Torke

Hoop House: Donna Lindsey, Cindy Heider

Check your *Monday Blooms* emails for upcoming dates and times for The Great Divide. We will start digging and dividing in

mid-September on Wednesdays and Saturdays throughout the fall. The native perennial seeds were planted in December 2024 and transplanted into beds in May 2025. Many are now blooming! Please visit the propagation area to check out some of these plants. Once dug in The Great Divide, they will be overwintered in pots and sold at the April 2026 Plant Sale.

The Plant Sale Team will meet on Wednesday, September 10 at 1:00 p.m. at MU Extension Room B. Anyone who is interested in joining the team or would like to be a mentee is welcome to attend.

Demo Gardens: Cindy Platzer, Beka Davis | The Herb Garden renovation is complete. A shade top has been added along with benches and paving stones. Kristine Freschi's very hard work has been much appreciated. Phebe has purchased two benches for the area. Pantry garden vegetables totaling 933 lbs. have been donated to the community. All the beds have had good production. The next *Eating What We Grow* event is scheduled for the first week of October.

New Business: Laura is looking for volunteers to coordinate plans for the Annual Holiday Party scheduled for December 5. She is also thinking about a chili cook-off for the October meeting and asked for volunteers for that effort.

Old Business: None

Good of the Order: St. Louis Community College is hosting a Horticulture Exchange and Open House on October 10-11, 2025. Details and registration are available at stlcc.edu/exchange. The sessions are being evaluated for MG continuing education credit, so stay tuned.

The next Steering Committee meeting is 9/12/2025 at 9:00 a.m. in Extension Room B. All are welcome to attend.

Please help with meeting room clean-up following adjournment.

Adjournment: A motion to adjourn the membership meeting was unanimously approved at 7:57 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,



Sandra Newsom

Meeting Resources: July 24, 2025 General Membership Meeting Minutes
 Treasurer's Report – June 2025 and July 2025
 Answer Key for August Continuing Education Quiz (also available in the *Monthly Blooms*)

University of Missouri (MU) Extension Volunteer Annual Code of Conduct
https://missouri.qualtrics.com/jfe/form/SV_3XcCMH9n9Og9M6F

Steering Committee for 2025:	Laura Steimel, President	laurasteimel54@gmail.com
	Jackie Johnson, Vice-President	southerngirl9308@yahoo.com
	Mary Coyle, Treasurer	coylemp3425@gmail.com
	Sandra Newsom, Secretary	sandra.newsom@gmail.com
	Cindy Platzer, Demo Garden Co-Lead	cineater@aol.com
	Beka Davis, Demo Garden Co-Lead	rdbirds19@yahoo.com
	Patti Kolek, Education Committee	patti.kolek@gmail.com
	Donna Lindsey, Plant Sale Liaison	dlind0@hotmail.com

St. Charles County Master Gardeners Association

General Monthly Meeting Attendance

August 28, 2025

Laura Stenmel
Joe Walker
Jackie Johnson
THERESA GOLDKAMP
Maggie Huggard
Jane Doll
Mary Coyle
Kevin Minard
Cindy Heider
Kasals
Jared Head
Elizabeth Orf
Paul Orf
Joann Jungermann
D. Sutcliffe
Debbie Hedges

Joan Wagon
Sharon Hedges
Sarah Szachnieski
Sandra Newson
Barbara Bauer
Tom Culy
D. Rhinesmith
B. Rhinesmith
S. Booker
K. Fresch, (Kristine)
Karen Grooms
Neal Menscher
Dutt Koeck
David & Mary Prince
Catherine Eber
John Fazio

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Joan Koder-Pentlin

Carol Niederschmidt

Bonnie Winkler

Al Winkler

Libby Wilson

Daniel Moehunpoh

Patti Baratta

Chaz Baff

Linda Lott

Pat Ols

Chari Margale

Kim Banylski

~~Steve Hahne~~

Deb Verkeg

Meg Eaton

Paula Matousek

Donna Lindy

Jim Stillern

Jo Ann Shew

Cynthia Menscher

Phoebe Martin

Keslie Mitchell

Kevin Lynch

Amy O'Brien

Cindy Platter

Geggy Hammond

Rebekah Davis

Resner Zoller

Steven L. Hahne