

St. Charles County Master Gardeners Association
General Membership Monthly Meeting Minutes
October 1, 2025 [rescheduled from 9/25/2025]

**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. (Garlic Bulbs grown in the SCCMGA garden were available for sale prior to the membership meeting on a first-come basis. Detailed instructions for “Garlic Planting and Harvesting” were provided.

Program: 6:30 p.m. | Amy Nau could not reschedule for the 10/1/2025 meeting date.
Attendees enjoyed an **Ice Cream Social** during the program hour.

President Laura Steimel welcomed the attendees at 6:00 p.m. and encouraged everyone to enjoy the ice cream and treats provided.

Business Meeting: President Laura Steimel called the business meeting to order at 6:30 p.m.

Extension Master Gardener Program Coordinator: Eli Isele | Laura reported for Eli that the University of Missouri had approved the SCCMGA application to become registered with MU as an affiliated organization. SCCMGA will maintain the 501(c)(3) status and operate under an affiliation agreement with MU.

Secretary’s Report: Sandra Newsom | The minutes of the August 28, 2025 General Membership meeting were posted in the 9/22/25 and 9/29/25 *Monday Blooms* newsletter and made available at the meeting. A motion to approve the minutes of the August 28, 2025 General Membership Meeting as presented was seconded and unanimously approved.

Treasurer’s Report: Mary Coyle | The August financial reports were posted in the 9/22/25 and 9/29/2025 *Monday Blooms*. The August 2025 month ending balance in the operating account is \$43,332.82. The August 2025 month ending balance in the savings account is \$11,099.81. A motion to accept the August 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.

The October 23rd General Membership Meeting will include a Chili Cook-off during the 6:00 p.m. social time. Bring your chili or cornbread for everyone to try. If you don’t want to bring chili or cornbread, you can bring crackers, Fritos, cheese or sour cream. A sign-up sheet was available and more details will be available in the *Monday Blooms*. DJ Sutcliffe limenator@charter.net will coordinate arrangements.

Details of the December 5 Holiday Party were discussed. Laura is coordinating decorations. Phebe Martin is handling the menu and games. A silent auction will be offered, and items will be accepted for donation to a non-profit organization. Watch the *Monday Blooms* for updates.

Committee Reports/Updates

Membership Committee: Kevin Lynch | A membership badge was presented to Jeanne Truglio and certificates were presented to Sonya Strozier and Deb Hedges.

Important Reminders related to reporting volunteer hours:

All hours must be entered into the reporting system by the end of the year, December 31, 2025. Try to enter your hours monthly.

When you enter your driving time for any project, be sure to record it under **VOL** (just volunteer hours). **Never** put it under EDU Hrs., or ADV Hrs. Any questions contact Kevin Lynch or Laura Steimel.

Volunteers are needed to help divide daylilies. Work will begin depending upon rain necessary to soften the ground. Bulbs may be available for volunteers after the work is completed. Check the pergola for free daylilies for your home garden.

Kevin is working to clarify language in the reporting guidelines for work done in off-site gardens. He stressed that work with off-site gardens must be educational in nature and not just manual labor. He will solicit 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 | An Education Committee quarterly meeting was held prior to the 10/1/2025 membership meeting. The Hort Line volunteers will enjoy an appreciation luncheon on October 13th that will include discussion and review of 2025 efforts. The Hort Line team is transitioning to a winter schedule. Patti encouraged attendees to promote the Speakers Bureau.

The final **Eating What We Grow** class is scheduled for Wednesday, October 8 with a focus on fall veggies – winter squash or pumpkin and sweet potatoes. Sign-up is requested.

The **In the Garden** class held on September 13th went well with 19 paid attendees. Three surveys were completed with a 100% rating.

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

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
January	TBA
February	Annual Awards Program

Plant Sale: Donna Lindsey, Catherine Ebone, Cindy Heider	The Great Divide continues every Wednesday and Saturday from 9 a.m. to noon. All MGs and trainees are invited to join the propagation team to learn about digging and dividing perennials. Over 200 perennials have been potted up as of 9/27/25 and there is lots left to do. Once dug in The Great Divide, the pots will be overwintered and sold at the April 2026 Plant Sale. Questions can go to Donna Lindsay at dclind0@hotmail.com.
Greenhouse: Jeanne DeBold, Nancy Torke	
Hoop House: Donna Lindsey, Cindy Heider	

The Greenhouse will undergo annual cleaning and sanitizing on October 18, 2025 (weather permitting) starting at 9:00 a.m. Wear old clothes and gloves as we will be using a chlorine bleach solution outdoors. Watch for more details in the *Monday Blooms*.

The Plant Sale Team met on Wednesday, September 10, 2025.

Demo Gardens: Cindy Platzer, Beka Davis | Save the date of November 1, 2025 for a tool sharpening class, weather permitting. More details to come in the *Monday Blooms*.

The garden leads have elected two new overall leads – Beka Davis and Kim Baryliski – to serve for 2026. Big thanks to Cindy Platzer for all her hard work and dedication as overall lead for the past six years.

Cindy Platzer reported on results of the flower show sponsored by the National Garden Clubs, Inc. at the Builders Home & Remodeling Show on 9/18-20/2025. SCCMGA submitted 43 plant/veggie specimens and earned 39 awards. All the ribbons made an impressive display. The Chocolate Covered Cherry Tomatoes won the Special Award of Merit.

New Business: Ameren has provided notice of scheduled, periodic work in the area of the MU Extension: "To minimize power outages and safety hazards, Ameren will soon be in the area to manage vegetation growing near power lines or other energized equipment. This work might include: aerial, manual or mechanical pruning, removal of incompatible vegetation, brush mowing, applying environmentally safe herbicides and inspections as necessary." MGs should stay out of way of Ameren crews and should refer any questions received to the Extension Office.

Old Business: None

Good of the Order: The next Steering Committee meeting is 10/10/2025 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 at 6:52 p.m. was seconded and unanimously approved.

Respectfully submitted,



Sandra Newsom

Meeting Resources: August 25, 2025 General Membership Meeting Minutes
 Treasurer's Report – August 2025
 Answer Key for September 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

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Laura Schmid

Cindy Pletcher

Rebekah Davis

Melanie Eldred

Chuck Bauer

Bill Rhinesmith

Steve Martinez

Kevin Lynch

Ann Stroer

VALERIE BYRNE

John Faiza

Neal Menschen

Cynthia Menschen

Greg Eaton

Sandra Newsom

Andy Ascher

Susan Ascher

Andy Ascher

DJ Sutcliffe

Patti Kelen

Tom Cudry

Debbi Wedges

Sharon Booker

Sydney Turner

Maggie Huggan

Peggy Hammond

Candy Boyle

Lilley Wilson

Bonnie Winkler

Al Winkler

Kristen French

Gabi Griffiths

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Linda Sutton

Theresa Goldkamp

Sonia Clay Shroyer

Cheryl Barlett

Rebecca Poon

Catherine Stone

Kevin Minard

JEAN TRUGLIO

LeAnn Grimshaw