Extension Master Gardeners of Platte County
Wednesday, July 16, 2025 - Chapter Meeting 5:30 pm
Susie Ahearn's Home

In Attendance:

Andres Dominguez	Mary Jane Kuehn
Sherry Holland	Shirley Curtis-Klein
Stacy Orr	Scott Wilkerson
Susie & Dan Ahear	Carolyn Vellar
John & Sandy Smith	Debbie Johnston

We started our meeting by doing our second garden tour at Susie and Dan Ahearn's home. Unfortunately, the heat/rain had other ideas so we didn't get to finished our tour, so we are going to try again in the fall! We enjoyed yummy appetizers!
Carolyn started the meeting by stating the person who gave our Chapter ruffled iris bulbs in the spring has more bulbs to share. Several people mentioned that rather than letting the older woman dig them up maybe we could coordinate a time and do the digging for her. Carolyn will reach out to her with our interest and let us know when we can meet to dig.

Carolyn also shared that she and Scott participated in an interview with the Platte County Citizen newspaper regarding our new Chapter. Todd Higgins also provided input via an email. If you would like to read the article, you can pick up a copy of the newspaper in Platte City at Dollar General, Platte County Citizen Office, Price Chopper and Hillcrest. In addition, in Weston they are available in Sharp's Market and in Parkville at McKeever Price Chopper. Once the article is available, Carolyn will coordinate with Jill Ballard to get the article on our website. It will be good PR for the people who visit our website.

EMG Training -

- The next EMG training class will be Sept 4 - Oct 14 6pm to 8:30 (Tues/Thurs) at Metropolitan Community College-Maple Woods. The students may be from several counties. Hopefully some of them will join our Platte Chapter!
- We have several volunteers who will be participating in presenting several sections of the training program. John Smith and Melissa Cunningham (vegetable gardening), Glenn Reinhart (plant propagation), Cindy Boersma and Carrie McCarthy (herbaceous plants).
- These people will be invited to the train the trainers classes being held.

- If you are available, please drop into the training classes and meet the trainee's. This is a good way to meet people and talk about what our chapters have accomplished.

EMG Garden Tours -

- Garden tour #3 will be at Carolyn and Scott's home on Sunday August 10th - time TBD. Mark your calendar!
- Garden tour #4 will be at Mary Jane's home on September 17 (date reserved for our next chapter meeting) - time TBD.

Fall Native Plant Sale -

- The date will be Saturday, September 13 (mark your calendar). The sale will only be on Saturday since we have a much smaller number of native plants there isn't a need for a 2 day sale.
- Mary Jane has developed a list of native plants that will be offered at the sale.
- We are looking for volunteers to research the plants for signage in the greenhouse (good learning opportunity). Those interested, that were in attendance at the meeting selected plants they would research from the list. If you are interested in helping (see attachment in the email), please reach out to Mary Jane at 703-338-9076 (please call so she can further explain what we need - research should not take more than 20-30 min per plant). We definitely could use more volunteers!
- The information we are looking for is pretty basic; Picture of the plant, Sun, Moisture, Bloom Time, Size H x W, Deer Resistant, Other important plant information and the source (URL) of the data. Mary Jane suggested using https://grownative.org/native-plant-database/
- Mary Jane will review the research and once she approves that its accurate/complete she will work with Debbie to create the signage needed for the greenhouse.
- In addition to the signage in the greenhouse for the sale, we will use this information as "teasers" on our website and Facebook page. Therefore, we need to get the research complete ASAP.

Platte Community Garden -

- Mary Jane has a metal box (like a realtor flyer box) that she will be putting in the Platte Community Garden by the Native bed this week. We would like to use this box to highlight a garden topic at least monthly for visitors

to review. We are thinking about a title like “What’s the buzz in July”. If you have an idea that you would like to research/highlight let us know. Keep in mind the community garden closes in October, so this is a spring summer project not all year.

Next Chapter Meeting - **September 17** at Mary Jane Kuehn’s home 9751 NW Promenade Drive, Parkville, MO 64152 - time TBD.