Extension Master Gardeners of Platte County
Wednesday, September 17, 2025 - Chapter Meeting 6:00 pm
Mary Jane Kuehn's Home

In Attendance:

Andres Dominguez	Mary Jane and Eric Kuehn
Amy Heithoff	Claire Bowers
Sherri Holland	Scott Wilkerson
Susie Ahearn	Bryan Woodring
Beth Windsor	Victoria Hillstrom
Cindy Boersma	Glenn Reinhart
Laura and Matt Reinschmidt	Kristey Andrews
Sheila Will	Carolyn Vellar
John Smith	Debbie Johnston

We started our meeting by doing our fourth garden tour for 2025 at Mary Jane and Eric Kuehn's home. Mary Jane has beautiful natives throughout her yard. We learned a lot about the importance of planting the right native in the right spot, also height and spacing are important. We would love to come back and visit again when the plants are in bloom. We enjoyed yummy appetizers and great company! We already have volunteers for garden tours in 2026 …. Kimberly Reid**,** Laura Reinschmidt, Kristy Andrews, Sandy Jacobs, and maybe Claire Bowers. Can't wait to see their gardens too!

Fall Native Plant Sale -

- We cleared $857 at the sale on Saturday. Unfortunately other native plant sales were going on at the same time so our attendance was low. The plants/soil/pots were over $1000 so we were short about $200.

Election of Officers -

- At the November 19th meeting it will be time to elect new officers. Carolyn Vellar nominated Glenn Reinhart to work with Susie Ahearn and Claire Bowers to come up with nominations.
- Carolyn (Pres), John Smith (VP) and Debbie Johnston (Secy/Treas) will provide Glenn an outline of what their duties have entailed since the chapter began almost 2 years ago.
- For those in attendance at the meeting, we asked that everyone jot down what they would like to be involved in i.e, Greenhouse, Platte Community Garden, KC Mini Railroad project, garden helpline, coaching interns, planning future

programs, teaching programs/EMG classes etc. **If you were not in attendance, please provide Carolyn, John, or Debbie ideas of topics that interest you. This will help us plan for 2026!**

- Glenn Reinhart had suggested in Nov of 2024 that we needed to develop a Mission Statement, Leadership Plan, 1-3 year Master Plan/Strategy, Chapter Objectives, Chapter Function and Membership Development Goals.
- In addition we need to define specific goals for 2026 and beyond for the Greenhouse, Platte Co Community Garden, KC Mini Railroad Project, EMGPC website/newsletters/Facebook/Instagram. This is quite a lot to tackle but now that our membership is growing (we are up to 39 people) it's time to begin this discussion.

Master Gardener Training -

- In person training began on September 3 and meets on Tuesday/Thursday at the Metropolitan Community College. Their last class will be October 14 where they will present their projects with graduation on October 16.
- We have 7 new Master Gardeners Trainees so far from the in-person class. Andrew Champlain, Kimberly Oxley, Lesley Rausch-Derra, Laura Reinschmidt, Scott Wilkerson, Beth Windsor and Bryan Woodring. We are up to 39 members to date. YIPEE!
- Todd Higgins asked for volunteers to assist with the EMG training. Glenn Reinhart volunteered to train on plant propagation; Melissa Cunningham and John Smith on vegetable gardening; and Cindy Boersma and Carrie McCarthy the establishment and care of woody ornamentals.
- On September 27 the trainees will take a field trip to the Kansas City Mini Railroad property. Our plan is to build a sensory children's garden, training on how to grow in your own yard and the value of native plants. They will also visit the Platte Co. Community garden in Parkville.
- Todd hopes to get more volunteers to train in future classes so that we can offer more classes in the future to continue grow our Chapter.

Spring Plant Sale -

- Mark your calendar - the spring plant sale will be May 2 -3.
- We plan to start the cold stratification of the native seeds that Mary Jane Kuehn has identified soon so that the plants can grow in the greenhouse all winter.
- Amy Heithoff volunteered to identify perennial plants (may require cold stratification too), Carolyn Vellar and Victoria Hillstrom will identify herbs and John Smith will identify tomatoes and peppers. We will not be growing annuals this year.

- We will be growing everything in 4” pots.

Next Chapter Meeting - **November 19th** at the Mid-Continent Library in Parkville - 8815 Tom Watson Parkway, Parkville Mo 64152 - 6pm to 7:30 (Library closes at 8).