

## Pulaski County Master Gardeners General Meeting

February 15, 2022

Hybrid Meeting

Welcome: President Cindy Strauss called the meeting to order at 11:30 a.m. She welcomed all new master gardeners to the hybrid meeting.

A Moment in history: Cindy noted that there was no moment in history planned.

Speaker: Members at Large Pam Abrams and Jan Brandeburg oversee speakers for 2022 general meetings, and they plan to highlight various master gardener projects. Today the focus is on Maumelle Community Center. Cindy introduced chair Amy Hatfield and co-chair Anne Mitchell, the "A Team" who leads the 23 project members. Meeting twice a month members care for multiple garden beds including shade garden, daylily bed, and rock garden. In 2021 they received a Monarch Waystation designation for working to invite all pollinators to the garden. They regularly reevaluate their goals to work smarter not harder. They have established community service goals such as celebration of Earth Day, public education, and youth programs.

Cindy asked the Maumelle project members to stand and be recognized.

Randy Forst voiced praise for Maumelle Community Center and all other projects for the work completed in difficult times.

Announcements: Dues are due and payable to Pulaski County Master Gardeners by check mailed to Susan Stewart, Assistant Treasurer. The amount is \$20 currently and will increase to \$30 on May 1, 2022.

Cindy praised St James United Methodist for allowing PCMG to use the facilities for our regular meetings. She said that the organization will offer services to work on flower beds at the church.

Cindy voiced special thanks to Randy Forst for all he does for our master gardener program.

Stuff Committee Chair Cory Fetters announced that the committee will be selling t shirts this meeting and next. A larger sale is planned for fall. A new printer has been found. The t shirt colors are green or blue. They will offer short sleeve for \$9 and long sleeve for \$12.

Photos are needed for the PCMG Directory. Those who do not have a picture in the online directory are invited to email a headshot to Paul Nolte. Paul has notified those members.

Members are reminded that State Master Gardener Conference registration is open. Visit the website for more information.

An update was given on the master gardener site for reporting hours. It is not yet functional as it is being tested. Members are encouraged to keep written records until the site is operational, and to regularly update the system when available.

Vice President Carol Mendel announced the in-person project chair and cochair training meeting March 10 9:00-11:00 at State Office. She urged all projects to be represented as they will discuss procedures

that affect all members. For example, she emphasized that projects should make requests to PCMG for money spent on the projects and not spend money from their own pocket.

Cindy announced that Busy Bee Awards would be distributed through the projects this year instead of in the Jones Hall after the meeting. This accommodation was needed to limit social contact of members due to the pandemic. The packets of bee awards will be available for chairs or co-chairs in the lobby after the meeting. We want the projects to handle the distribution of awards in the individual projects. She read the list of deserving award winners. In all 94 bees were awarded for project work in 2021. Cindy thanked the Busy Bee Committee for working on this distribution.

The next meeting will be March 15.

Ramblings with Randy: Randy again thanked all the master gardeners for dedication to the work on the projects and committees in the difficult past year. Randy commented about how good it is to meet in person again. He gave an update on spring at the farm including the birth of 76 lambs.

The meeting was adjourned at 12:32.

Respectfully submitted,

Deeana Montgomery, Secretary