

## **Pulaski County Master Gardeners General Meeting**

**September 17, 2024**

**Call to Order:** The meeting was called to order by President Sara Jordan at 11:30 a.m. Sara welcomed members after the summer break.

**Program:** Board member Ann Griffin introduced the speaker on the topic of personal safety, Lt. John Trent from Special Investigations with the Little Rock Police Department. He offered many suggestions, including being alert and aware. He took questions from the members.

**Announcements:** The new printed directory update has been postponed until January 2025.

PCMG has a new email address, [pcmg.update@gmail.com](mailto:pcmg.update@gmail.com). It was created to simplify updates such as furnishing new member data. Examples are new email, home address, phone contact, or changes in project and committee assignments. Project chairs and co-chairs may make assignment changes. A confirmation email will confirm the changes.

Sara announced upcoming events for members. On September 26, 2024, a class on "Growing with Aquaponics" will be offered at Green Thumb Garden Center. The class is free, and registration is through the Pulaski County Extension Office.

A luncheon at the 4-H Vines Center in Ferndale on October 7, 2024, at 11:00 a.m. is a tribute to Kathy Ratcliffe. Registration deadline is September 20, 2024.

St. James Workday for planting fall color for the church will be held October 08, 2024, at 9:00 a.m. at St. James Methodist Church.

Sara announced that it is time for award nominations from the membership. Project related award categories include Outstanding Project of the Year, Friend of Master Gardeners, Master Gardener of the Year, Rookie of the Year, Business or Organization Friend of Master Gardeners, Mimi Cox Mentor of the Year, Newsletter of the Year and Excellence in Education. Information and forms are at [uaex.uada.edu](http://uaex.uada.edu) in the Master Gardener section. The deadline for returning forms to Pulaski County Extension Office is October 15, 2024. The membership will vote on award nominations at the November general meeting.

The STUFF Committee information was presented by Laura Anne Warren and Rachel Kelly. Examples of new clothing items available to members were modeled by PCMG members and presented on the screen as Laura Anne explained our new system. Individual ordering will be offered through an online portal. More information will be available in the future.

Oaktober Fest 2024 is an event celebrating fall in the state on September 29, 2024.

Reimbursement problems were addressed by Derek Reed and Brenna Hyatt, the PCMG Secretary. Brenna explained the process and urged members to call with questions. An updated reimbursement form is located on the [armgs.org](http://armgs.org) website.

**News from Derek:** Name badges ordered in July will be available for pick up in October. Now is the time for soil samples to be submitted. Also, sixty new master gardeners have been accepted into our program. Training class will be held from October 23 to November 20, 2024.

Door prizes were distributed to members present at the general meeting.

The general meeting was adjourned at 12:30 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Deeana Montgomery

Board Secretary