



The "Show-Me" Gardener

Webster Groves Garden Club

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May Meeting

Monday, May 10, 2019 – 7:15 pm
ZOOM Meeting

Speaker: Dr. Kyra Krakos

Topic : "Plants, Power and Politics of
the Last Medici Princess



May meeting:

Dr. Kyra Krakos, will be our speaker for the May 10, 2021 meeting. She is an Assistant Professor of Biology at Maryville University, and Research Associate at Missouri Botanical Garden. She received her Masters Degree in Integrative Biology and Evolution from Brigham Young University and her PhD in Evolution, Ecology and Population Biology from Washington University in St. Louis,. She has also traveled the world doing plant history and research and is well published. We are more than excited to have her speak to us. Please plan to attend. The ZOOM information will be emailed on Sunday, May 9, 2021.

The title of her talk is "Plants, Power and Politics of the Last Medici Princess." Below is a description of the talk - This is an ethnobotanical study that is a collaboration between MOBOT's plant library (one of the best!)/rare books collection and the Medici archives. For the first time in history, the Medici archives are translating the famous and secret recipes of Anna Maria Louisa, the last princess to rule Florence. In a collaboration with the Missouri Botanical Garden, this research examines the plants of those recipes, and how she used them as a political tool in ruling as a lone female in the 16th and 17th centuries. This talk has something for everyone.

Mark Your Calendar:

On Monday June 14 our monthly meeting will be a visit to the garden of Dorothy and Dick Lockard. This garden will be on the 2021 St. Louis Garden Tour. Tickets for the tour are already sold out, but you will be able to visit their

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garden on Monday, June 14th.

Annual Plant Sale 2022:

Please take photos of any blooming plants which are thinking about donating to the 2022 Annual Plant Sale. Plants sell better when they are either blooming or we can show photos of them in bloom. If you put your name on the back of the photo, we will return it to you. If possible, make note of the dates the plant blooms in your yard,

Annual Dues:

Club dues for 2022 are \$15 per person or \$20 per family. Dues are waived for members who paid dues for 2020. If you have not yet renewed for 2020/2021, please make your check payable to "Webster Groves Garden Club" and send to: Steve Seele, 223 Rosemont Ave, St. Louis, MO 63119.

Presidents Corner:

How did your garden survive the snow? Many of my plants did okay, but some of my hostas looked a little ragged and the azalea blossoms were short lived. Word from University of Missouri (MU) Extension is that most perennials will recover as they develop new growth. Thankfully, at this writing, May is almost here and instead of (snow) showers, we'll have flowers.

What are some May garden tasks? The Missouri Botanical Garden "Gardening by Month" says pinch those azalea (unless they are double) and rhododendron blossoms when they fade, then fertilize them with an acid-based fertilizer. For those of you who like summer bulbs (caladiums, dahlias, cannas, elephant ears), now is the time to plant them. You can move or divide your spring bulbs after their foliage dies. And, once the nights are reliably above 50 degree, you can take your houseplants outdoors.

Have you had your soil tested? This very short video from the MU Extension tells you why and how:

https://umsystem.zoom.us/rec/play/oy7f57t_uGp0Zil7x5KVIZTU_Tdd_oDxhV9W9D0h2MipUChriLW5qYE3Tccp-3xFX6EZld9Ib3n22h-c.Wgp2WFptgJ4KSxx9

Also at the Extension office in St. Louis County is a Master Gardener Hotline monitored between noon and 3 p.m. Monday through Friday. You can email them with your plant questions at: stlgardenhotline@gmail.com.

There are several events that might be of interest to you. Several organizations are sponsoring free programs through the St. Louis County Library in May. Space is limited for these virtual programs so you must register and will receive Zoom information via email. To register: go to www.slcl.org and click Events & Classes, Adult Programs, and search by title or date. Programs and their sponsors include:

Monday, May 3rd from 2-3 p.m. *"Lights Out" during spring and fall bird migration.* This is presented by the St. Louis Audubon Society and the Missouri Chapter of the International Dark-Sky Association.

Monday, May 3rd, from 6-7 p.m. *Gardening for crafters 5/3/ 6-7 also 5/17 6-7* Discover a range of plants you can grow yourself that are great for natural dyes, pigments, and crafts.

Tuesday, May 4th, from 7-8 p.m. *Growing a culture for native plants.* With Missouri Botanical Garden's Jean Ponzi and sponsored by Partners for Native Landscaping.

Monday, May 17th, from 6-7 p.m. *Gardening for crafters.* A repeat of the session on May 3rd where you will discover a range of plants you can grow yourself that are great for natural dyes, pigments, and crafts.

Deep Roots, an organization in Kansas City working to increase the use of native plant landscapes, has been sponsoring a series of webinars on Zoom this spring. The series is presented by the Arvin L. Gottlieb Foundation with support from the Mid-America Regional Council and the Missouri Department of Conservation. You can find more about and register for the entire series including those that were presented earlier this spring at:

<https://deeproots.org/deep-roots-2021-webinar-series/>. **Two to be presented in May are:**

Tuesday, May 11th, 6:30-7:30 pm. *Conferrin' with the flowers: A year of native garden maintenance.* Presented by Matt Bunch, Horticulturist with The Giving Grove, Kansas City.

Tuesday, May 25th, 6:30-7:30. *Native tree selection and care.* Presented by Wendy Sangster, MO Department of Conservation, a Community Conservation Planner and a certified arborist.