

Master Gardener Project Annual Report
12/29/2022

2022 Master Gardener Plant Sale & Flea Market
Emil Rinderspacher, Project Chair

Number of MG Involved: I haven't counted the number of MG involved but my guess is that it's over 100 including those that donated plants and/or worked one of the many presale activities or the sale itself.

Number impacted: Because funds raised support all MG activities and programs, all MG are impacted.

Summary

The 13th annual Master Gardener Plant Sale & Flea Market was held on Saturday, May 7, 2022 after a 2-year hiatus due to COVID. A record-setting \$19,026 was raised through plant sales (\$14,542), flea market/gift sales (\$2,615), donations (\$360), and the silent auction (\$1,500). Sale expenses totaled \$3,802 and were generously covered by the JC Extension Council (\$2,802) and our sponsor Hills Bank (\$1,000). As a result, \$17,526 went to the MG General Fund and \$1,500 from the silent auction to the Butterfly House. For the first time, all our plants were donated by MG. Approximately 3800 plants were donated and approximately 2200 sold. The total number of volunteer hours worked for the sale and presale activities will be available after the first of the year. The 14th annual Plant Sale & Flea Market is scheduled for Saturday, May 20, 2023.

Greatest Success of Project: I consider the amount of money raised to be a success. Equally important was the chance for Master Gardeners to work together again after the long COVID pause. It was particularly meaningful to be able to work with folks from the last three classes since they haven't had the chance to work with veteran Master Gardeners.

Needs: Cooperation from the Fair Board in use of facilities and equipment. Adequate budget to continue buying pots and supplies.

Planned Changes: We recycled too many plants last year and this year will try to better control the number and type of plants that we accept for sale. We will do a better job of tracking inventory. We plan to make improvements to the cashier function and hopefully accept credit cards.