Mission Statement: The purpose of the Extension Master Gardener (EMG) program is to provide trained volunteers willing to serve as program assistants for educational programs developed and supported by extension councils and K-State Research and Extension. The local extension council should be involved in implementing and monitoring progress with the EMG program with frequent reports of program impact and activities.

Regularly scheduled Board meetings are the second Tuesday of each month, 9:30 am, Paola Ext. Office, and open to all.

Newsletter deadline is noon on Thursday following the Tuesday Board meeting.

We’re calling this philanthropic opportunity “Holiday Happiness” because it is our chance to help spread holiday cheer to others in these trying times.

The MdC EMG program will match up to $500 in donations to food pantries in Miami and Linn Counties.

You’re invited to donate toward our goal by sending a check between now and December 4 made out to EMG, including “Holiday Happiness” in the memo line. **DO IT SOON!**

Mail or drop off your donation to the Marais des Cygnes Extension Office, 104 Brayman St., Paola KS 66071.

Wishing you and yours a happy and healthy holiday.—Betsy

Our Newly Elected Board Members

Congratulations and welcome to our new board members. Our election was an uncontested landslide.

Sue Burns will continue in a second term, and Janette Bennett and Chet McLaughlin will join the team.

The new term begins in January 2021. New board members are invited to attend the December 8 board meeting which will be held via zoom.

The MdC Board strives to provide guidance and support, supporting our mission of education and community service.

We’re Moving in January!

The extension office is scheduled to be moved into the **new location** on Old KC Road (913 N Pearl) by January 31, 2021. Volunteers from the various groups will share a space, and there will also be a conference room. The **Plant Sale** will be held in the large parking lot in front of the office, which will be a much-needed convenience for Plant Sale volunteers.

Follow the Marais des Cygnes EMGs on Facebook at www.facebook.com/mdcemg
### Advisory Board

**Chairman** — Betsy Hasselquist  
**Vice Chairman** — Phyllis Benedict  
**Secretary** — Anita Boyett-Voke  
**Treasurer** — Laraine Crawford  

**Members at Large**  
Sue Burns  
Cathy Stainbrook  
Judy Moser

### Committees

- **Courthouse Garden**  
  Phyllis Benedict & Kathy Doherty  
- **Trial Garden**  
  Shirley New & Chet McLaughlin  
- **KSU Extension Office Garden**  
  Sue Burns & Debbie Kitchell  
- **Lakemary Liaison**  
  Becky Thorpe  
- **Advanced Training**  
  Laraine Crawford  
- **Awards Banquet**  
  Donna Cook & Susan Thompson  
- **Symposium**  
  Chair(s) Needed  
- **Plant Sale**  
  Sondra Dela Cruz & Lenora Larson  
- **Garden Tour 2021**  
  Jan Thompson & Betsy Hasselquist  
- **Publicity**  
  Judy Moser & Lenora Larson  
- **Seeds for Kids**  
  Kathleen Brady-Francis & Janette Bennett  
- **Social Media**  
  Anita Boyett-Voke  
- **Miami County Fair**  
  Chet McLaughlin & Michael Poss  
  Pat Trachsel & Sue Burns  
- **Linn County Fair**  
  Mike Brown  
- **New Recruits/Mentors**  
  Jan Thompson & Betsy Hasselquist  
- **Newspaper Articles**  
  Katelyn Barthol, Extension Agent

Send news and photos to:  
Judy Moser, Newsletter Editor  
judy@springvalleynursery.com

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**2021 GARDEN TOUR**

“A September to Remember” Garden Tour, September 10 and 11, 2021, from 9 to 5. We have six beautiful and intriguing gardens lined up, committed liaisons for support, and vendors for each garden. Sue Burns, Donna Cook and Stephanie Myers head up a committee to find sponsors. Contact Jan Thompson jkg.thompson@gmail.com or Betsy Hasselquist, bjbnianqua@yahoo.com, garden tour co-chairs, with any ideas or questions.

Enjoy the relaxing sights and sounds at Swan’s Water Gardens.

Entertaining, creative, fun garden art at Donna Cook’s garden.
Lots happening! Hoping for better days!!!

Congratulations to our new term board members Sue Burns, Janette Bennett and Chet McLaughlin. Looking forward to working with you and all your contributions.

At least gardening is a constant (more or less, LOL). Have you put your gardens to bed?

What are you thinking about the holidays?

Remember to take care of your physical, spiritual and mental health. Eat healthy, get adequate sleep, exercise, fresh air, relax and breathe. Be productive, creative, learn something new and keep in contact with others. Practice patience, compassion, acceptance and gratitude.

I’ve recently had respiratory symptoms. Back in the old days, I wouldn’t have been too concerned and still think it’s a bad cold. However, with Covid looming, it’s not the same and one can’t help but be concerned.

Our country has been on a roller coaster. Hoping for peace, unity, social justice, “with liberty and justice for all.”

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Upward and Onward

*By Betsy Hasselquist, MdC EMG Chair*

Lots happening! Hoping for better days!!!

At this point, I try to mulch the leaves with my lawn mower. The first year, I started with a self-propelled mower, but it was more work than I bargained for on those really hot summer days, so since changed to a rider.

Would appreciate hearing, learning from anyone who plants fall cover crops for their veggie garden. I’m still eating tomatoes, peppers, herbs, bok choy from my garden.

**Co-vid, Co-vid, Co-vid—“the Big Germs”**

Unfortunately, Covid has made it to the Midwest big-time with cases, hospitalizations and deaths on the rise, and it’s not near over yet. Please take precautions for yourself and others. Make hand washing a lifetime habit. Can’t help but worry about the colder months ahead when we’re even more restricted indoors, making social distancing difficult. Still missing hugs and get-togethers, going to restaurants.

I’m still dealing with lots of leaves. When I moved to town, I didn’t know what to do as I’d never done anything before. I raked up a lot of leaves the first year, but that didn’t make sense and was a lot of work. What are you thinking about the holidays?

Remember to take care of your physical, spiritual and mental health. Eat healthy, get adequate sleep, exercise, fresh air, relax and breathe. Be productive, creative, learn something new and keep in contact with others. Practice patience, compassion, acceptance and gratitude.

Our country has been on a roller coaster. Hoping for peace, unity, social justice, “with liberty and justice for all.”

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Fall and Winter Color—Just When We Need It Most
Christmas Gifts for the Butterfly-Lover

By Lenora Larson

Your friend or family member has taken up a new hobby: butterflies. HOORAY! Your gift-giving dilemmas for this Christmas and the next few birthdays are solved. As you start shopping for butterfly “stuff,” remember that most butterflies prefer images of REAL butterflies, not cartoons or imaginary butterflies. Instead of tropical butterflies, look for representations of our stunning native butterflies, especially the iconic Monarch. A warning: do not buy a butterfly house. Yes, they are cute, but butterflies do not use them, while wasps and spiders consider them to be the perfect home. Likewise, butterflies do not use a water dish. However, they will come to a shallow nectar plate, but their tongues are too short to use a hummingbird feeder.

Books are always an excellent gift choice and these three books will please any butterflier. Suggest the bookshelf. You can be a good Santa by correcting any deficits. Two of the authors are nationally known experts from the Kansas City area! These books are available on Amazon.

**Butterfly Gardening: Jane Hurwitz**

Jane is the former editor of NABA’s (North American Butterfly Association) Butterfly Gardening Magazine. She is from Overland Park and received her degree from K-State. She does not assume that the reader is already a knowledgeable gardener, so she goes back to the basics of gardening and then applies this knowledge to attracting specific butterflies.

**A Photographic Field Guide to the Butterflies in the Kansas City Region: Betsy Betros**

A former JOCO employee, Betsy illustrated her book with over 1,100 of her beautiful photographs of Kansas City area butterflies. The basics of butterfly ecology and comprehensive information for each species are presented in a delightful personal style. This is my “GO-TO” book for butterfly identification and information.

**The Caterpillars of Eastern North America: David Wagner**

What about that caterpillar you’ve just found munching a prized plant? Is it a friend or foe? “The Wagner” has both moth and butterfly caterpillars and also includes a photograph of the adult. This is my favorite book because I love caterpillars even more than their beautiful parents.

More Shopping

Gardener’s Supply Company’s catalog or website (www.gardeners.com) is my first destination for all my gardening needs, including my purple hoses. Check out their garden art section for a wide selection of butterfly yard art. On-line butterfly shoppers can also head over to www.monarchwatch.org and click on “shop.” Items include milkweed seeds, posters, books, and tee-shirts. All proceeds support the Monarch Waystation™ program and research on Monarch migration.

Our large local nurseries have gift shops and many items have butterfly motifs. The huge gift shop at Powell Gardens is yet another reason to visit this outstanding horticultural triumph. Or, how about a hand-made gift certificate to our Marais des Cygnes spring Plant Sale? We have the best selection of butterfly host plants in the Midwest, (probably the nation!), plus knowledgeable EMGs to assist a novice butterfly with their plant selections.

NABA also has an extensive online store, with a discount if you are a member. The proceeds support butterfly conservation. Go directly to www.butterflybuzz.com to see the huge selection of butterfly field guides and children’s books. Are there children on your gift list? Remember, children love bugs, especially butterflies. You can plant the seed for a budding entomologist by gifting the youngsters in your life with butterfly-themed items this Christmas. Butterfly Buzz also has signs, seeds, and regional guides, plus butterfly and dragonfly jewelry and clothing. See sample gift items below.

Happy shopping! ✿