What’s Growing On...

The latest news from the Marais des Cygnes Extension Master Gardeners

August 2021

www.maraisdescygnes.ksu.edu

Local Tour of a Tropical Garden Paradise

Tour a Shawnee Tropical Garden Paradise at Ken and Jodi Hawkinson’s, 10501 W. 50th Place on August 24, 10:00 am. (Meet to car pool between 9—9:15). We will have lunch afterwards (location to be determined)

Ken and Jodi Hawkinson bought their home over 40 years ago and have added immense shade gardens and tropical plants over the years. More than 300 different kinds of hostas and dozens of banana plants, along with 200 elephant ears planted this year, are included on their property they call “God’s Garden.” Ken just recently retired from being a Johnson County EMG for 16 years! Come see their gorgeous gardens and hear about their years of gardening!

Sign-up by email to Barb Shropshire (barbshrops@gmail.com) by August 17. We will coordinate car pooling and choose a lunch spot after those interested sign up for the tour.

CALENDAR

- August 24, 10 am, Tropical Garden Tour in Shawnee, KS.
- August 26, 10 am, “Meet and Greet” for the new EMG applicants at Lenora Larson’s. Bring your sack lunch.
- September 28, 6:30 pm, “Your Garden Personality” by Lenora Larson.
- The 2021 Advanced Training schedule is on page 4.

Courthouse Work Days:

Wednesdays at 8 am

Phyllis Benedict 913-294-4751
pabenedict51@gmail.com

Extension Office Work Days:

Sue Burns 816-510-5291
smbohmker@hotmail.com

Trial Garden Work Days:

Tuesdays at 8 am

Call Chet McLaughlin for info 913-963-7187 or email: mclaughlin1944@gmail.com

LaCygne Garden:

Approved for volunteer hours.

Rena Tedrow 913-757-2551
snoski58@yahoo.com

Board meetings are the second Tuesday of each month, 9:30 am, Paola Extension Office. The next meeting is September 14 at the Extension Office. All EMGs are welcome to attend.

Newsletter deadline is noon on Thursday following the Board meeting.

N E W S & N O T E S

• Chet would love to have some help at the Trial Garden. Work days are now Tuesdays at 8 am.
  - Meet and welcome the seven members of the new EMG training class at the home of Lenora Larson on Thursday, August 26, at 10:00 am. Bring a sack lunch and a lawn chair. Water and cookies will be provided. Lenora’s address is 27995 Plum Creek Road, Paola, KS 66071.
  - Betsy and Jan will discuss the MdC Garden Tour on KOFO am radio (1220 on the am dial) on August 31 at 6:40 am.
  - Remember to be turning in your volunteer hours for 2021. Instructions are on page 5.

• The 2021 Garden Tour will be held on September 10-11. Sign up for four-hour shifts at the signupgenius link Katelyn sent on August 4. A progressive pre-tour for volunteers, garden owners, patrons and EMGs will be held August 27 and 28, from 1 to 5 pm.

  August 27: Swan’s Water Gardens 1 pm; Hart’s Daylilies/Thin Wallet Ranch 2 pm; and Blue Door 3 pm, with social hour and refreshments.

  August 28: Turtle Run 1 pm; Whispering Elm Farm 2 pm; and Campbell Highlands 3 pm, with social hour and refreshments. Sign up to volunteer and visit all the gardens in advance!
IT’S GARDEN TOUR TIME!!!
September 10 and 11, 9 to 5

By Betsy Hasselquist, MdC EMG Chair

September 10 and 11, 9-5, rain or shine. (Shine, please!) We’re excited to share six inspirational, eclectic, intriguing gardens. Three of these gardens are endeavors of our very own master gardeners!

VOLUNTEERS NEEDED!!!
Lots of fun and a great way to earn volunteer hours! Sign up for one or more four-hour shifts. Sign-up link: https://www.signupgenius.com/go/4090D49ABAC22A6F58-20212

An EMG liaison is the point person for each garden. Volunteers are asked to be flexible, help with set up and take down, oversee tickets, parking, answer questions, greet and thank visitors for coming. Wear your EMG shirt and name tag.

Tell your friends! TICKETS are $15, available at any garden (cash or check only), good for both days. Visitors can start at any garden. Tickets can be purchased prior to the tour at the extension office and are available now. A map is printed on each ticket (also on page 8 in this newsletter).

PRE-TOUR TOUR August 27th and 28th—COME ONE, COME ALL! An entertaining opportunity to get together and experience and learn about the gardens. A progressive tour for all volunteers, garden owners, patrons, and sponsors (carpooling encouraged).

August 27th — 1-5 p.m.
1 p.m.- Swan’s Water Gardens, 4385 W. 247th St., Louisburg KS
2 p.m.- Hart’s Daylilies/Thin Wallet Ranch, 7460 W. 255th St., Louisburg KS
3 p.m.- Blue Door, 903 N. Broadway St., Louisburg KS, social hour, refreshments provided

August 28th — 1-5 p.m.
1 p.m.- Turtle Run, 29320 Cedar Niles Rd., Paola KS
2 p.m.- Whispering Elm Farm, 27017 Waverly Rd., Paola KS
3 p.m.- Campbell Highlands, 30456 W. 272nd St., Paola KS, social hour, refreshments provided

Produce and flowers WANTED for the tour: If you have any produce and/or flowers you can donate to the cause, we will offer them for sale at Campbell Highlands. Please drop them off there (or at any garden September 10th by 9 a.m. to be delivered to the vendor location.)

Porta-potties will be available at Turtle Run and Swan’s.

FREE DRAWING: Please encourage everyone to sign-up at Campbell Highlands for a night at Casa Somerset B&B for two, including dinner and breakfast. Information collected for the drawing is important because it includes attendee logistical information and feedback about our tour!

See www.facebook.com/mdcemg, www.maraisdescygnes.ksu.edu, and The KC Gardener magazine for more information and a map to the gardens. The map is on page 8 in this newsletter.
The Worthy Garden

By Stacie Campbell

If you close your eyes and imagine a traditional Kansas farm you may be seeing Sondra Dela Cruz’s place in rural Linn County. The phrase “neat as a pin” comes to mind as well as words like “traditional” and “serene.” The house and farm once belonged to her parents, and she and her husband, Tom, are now stewarding the land, keeping it pristine, bountiful, and a home to be proud of.

It was a hot July day when I came to visit and though the house was full of family, Sondra took the time to show me around her small but beautiful garden. Other than the well-maintained traditional shrubs around the house’s foundation, she has restricted her garden size to a small area surrounding a fire pit. The newly installed pool sits nearby waiting to warm up just enough for the grandchildren to take the plunge. It is clear Sondra has arranged landscape and her schedule around spending time with family rather than being a slave to her garden. It is a lesson many of us could learn.

Sondra has been a Master Gardener for five years, enjoying the community of like-minded friends and even taking on the responsibility for the annual Plant Sale for the last two years. She and her husband like to travel, visiting family and friends when they aren’t visiting her. Time is a precious commodity, and Sondra has become a master of managing her responsibilities to prioritize and allow sufficient time for each. Maintaining a smaller garden is part of that strategy. She has chosen plants, mostly native to Kansas that do well with minimal watering and care because she may be away from the garden for a week or two at a time.

I am reminded of something I recently heard regarding our relationships with our gardens and how many of us have created a dysfunctional relationship by having a larger garden than we can reasonably handle. I must admit I am guilty of this. During the growing season I am reluctant to leave my garden, being sure something precious will wither in my absence or because I know a pause in maintenance will create a nightmare of weeds and overgrowth to find upon my return. I’m not sure my relationship has crossed over into the dysfunctional zone, but I do envy Sondra’s peace of mind and the ability to do things other than gardening.

I am grateful to Sondra for showing me that I have the power to choose my level of effort and commitment to gardening rather than letting the garden take the lead. Hopefully I can remember this lesson during the winter when I can’t help but dream of new garden beds and green things growing.
### 2021 Marais des Cygnes Extension Master Gardener Advanced Training Calendar

Please note: More training sessions will be added throughout the year as they are scheduled.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Mo.</th>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Time</th>
<th>#Hr</th>
<th>Topic</th>
<th>Speaker</th>
<th>Location</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Aug.</td>
<td>19</td>
<td>1-3pm</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>Landscaping to Attract Birds</td>
<td>KSRE Geary County Ag Agent Chuck Otte</td>
<td>JoCo EMG AT Zoom link (see Katelyn’s email from 2/18)</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>24</td>
<td>10:00am</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>Tour Tropical Garden</td>
<td>Ken &amp; Jodi Hawkins</td>
<td>10501 W. 50th Pl., Shawnee</td>
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<tr>
<td>Sept.</td>
<td>9</td>
<td>1-3pm</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>Favorite Flowering Shrubs</td>
<td>Susan Mertz, Powell Gardens Dir. of Hort.</td>
<td>JoCo EMG AT Zoom link (see Katelyn’s email from 2/28) (same as 2/20 presentation, only one will count)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>28</td>
<td></td>
<td>6:30pm</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>Your Gardening Personality</td>
<td>Lenora Larson, MdC EMG</td>
<td>Possibly in person at the Ext. office</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Oct.</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>11am</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>Visit Everharts—Tree Tour and compost info, bring lunch, chair and drink</td>
<td>Janette Everhart, MdC EMG</td>
<td>36229 W. 327th St., Osawatomie; rain date Oct. 12 if necessary</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>21</td>
<td>1-3pm</td>
<td></td>
<td>2</td>
<td>Topic and Description TBD</td>
<td>Betsy Betros</td>
<td>JoCo EMG AT Zoom link (see Katelyn’s email from 2/18)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Nov.</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>9-11am</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>TBD</td>
<td></td>
<td>JoCo EMG AT Zoom link (see Katelyn’s email from 2/18)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>18</td>
<td>9-11am</td>
<td></td>
<td>2</td>
<td>150 Ways to Create a Fantastic Yard Totally Tailored to You</td>
<td>Amanda Thomsen</td>
<td>JoCo EMG AT Zoom link (see Katelyn’s email from 2/18)</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**MdC Training Hours**

Other Training Hours—check with Katelyn to see if other Zoom training is AT eligible

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Follow the Marais des Cygnes EMGs on Facebook at [www.facebook.com/mdcemg](http://www.facebook.com/mdcemg)
As we move toward the end of the reporting year I want to pass along a few helpful reminders about reporting your hours and to help everyone remember how to do it.

1) We offer several Advanced Training opportunities each year. However, there are many other opportunities available in surrounding counties. Nearly any program provided by K-State Research and Extension, regardless of location, will count for Advanced Training hours. If you have questions about whether workshops or programs offered by other organizations will count, just email me and check.

2) Volunteer hours should only be reported for time spent working on approved Master Gardener projects and events (Garden Tour, Courthouse Gardens, Extension Office Gardens, Trial Gardens, etc.).

3) Make sure to report all your hours, even if you have put in more than 40 hours of volunteer time or 10 hours of Advanced Training. I know you all put in a lot of hard work throughout the year. It’s ok to brag on yourself and it makes our organization look better in the statewide reports!

—Katelyn Barthol

Enter Volunteering Hours

Log on to the system using your own username and password

• If you have forgotten your password, click on the “Forgot Username or Password” link and it will email the information to you.

Click on “Access the Reporting System”

Click on “Report New Hours”

Select a project category and subcategory

• All EMG projects are sorted under different categories. You pick the category, then choose the subcategory where our EMG projects are listed.

• Administration – Please list anything you do to support the EMG program’s business, like board meetings, general meetings, committee meetings, prep time, etc. under this category

• Outreach – Anything that you do to educate the community including the Courthouse Gardens, Trial Gardens, Extension Office Gardens, Seeds for Kids, Hotline, Garden Symposium, Garden Tour, etc.

• Fundraising – Plant Sale

• Advanced Training – All trainings, field trips, etc. go here.

  • Subcategories
    • Marais des Cygnes – Any trainings offered by the MdC District
    • K-State – Any trainings offered by other EMG groups or K-State
    • Other – Any APPROVED trainings that are provided by non-EMG groups or non-K-State EMG groups.

• Click on the calendar box and select a date.
  • We like for them to be as accurate as possible, but these dates do not have to be exact.

• Enter the number of hours you wish to report.

• Please enter something descriptive in the Location and Description boxes so it is clear what you did.

• Please enter the estimated number of people you came in contact with as an EMG at that event.

• Click on “Save.” To enter more hours, you will need to click on “Add New.”

• Repeat these steps as needed until you have entered all your volunteer projects and advanced training hours.

If possible, please begin entering an estimated number of people that you had contact with as an EMG. This is very helpful when we are doing reports.
Miami County Fall Garden Tour

“A September to Remember”
Presented by the Marais des Cygnes Extension District Master Gardeners

Friday & Saturday, September 10 & 11, 2021, 9 a.m. to 5 p.m.

Join in the fun! Beautiful, unique, inspiring gardens that are each educational, motivating, and uplifting.

Tickets $15 (cash or check only) can be purchased at each of our six diverse, eclectic gardens. Start your tour at any garden. Rain or shine. Tickets good for both days.

Whispering Elm Farm- 27017 Waverly Road, Paola KS—Sustainable farm specializing in elderberries, culinary and medicinal herbs, vegetables, health.

Campbell Highlands- 30456 W. 272nd St., Paola KS—Beautiful diverse gardens, gardening on a slope, water features, train garden. A great view!

Turtle Run- 29320 Cedar Niles Rd., Paola KS—Inviting and varied wildlife habitats and gardens. Unusual shade plants, native pollinators.

Blue Door- 903 N. Broadway, Louisburg KS—Beneath the canopy of mature trees, a colorful sculpture gallery of whimsical, quirky garden art.

Hart’s Daylilies/Thin Wallet Ranch- 7460 W. 255th St., Louisburg KS Captivating gardens amid a native forest. A renowned daylily grower who grows most anything.

Swan’s Water Gardens- 4385 W. 247th St., Louisburg KS—Experience water garden ponds, streams, waterfalls, bubbling fountains, a wildlife habitat.

Visit www.maraisdescygnes.ksu.edu or www.facebook.com/mdcemg for map and more information.

Kansas State University is committed to making its services, activities and programs accessible to all participants. If you have special requirements due to a physical, vision, or hearing disability, contact the Marais des Cygnes Extension District at 913-294-4306. Kansas State University Agricultural Experiment Station and Cooperative Extension Service K-State Research and Extension is an equal opportunity provider and employer.
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Garden Name</th>
<th>Owner &amp; Address</th>
<th>EMG Liaison</th>
<th>Vendor(s)</th>
<th>Short Descriptions/Educational Focus</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Whispering Elm Farm</td>
<td>Melissa &amp; Colin McDonald 27017 Waverly Rd. Paola, KS</td>
<td>Vickie-Vetter-Scruggs</td>
<td>Whispering Elm Products Cowboy Coffee Post Family View Farms</td>
<td>Bio-dynamic farm specializing in culinary and medicinal herbs, elderberries, all pollinated with help by their honeybees. <strong>Focus: Elderberries, Medicinal Herbs</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td>Campbell Highlands</td>
<td>Stacie &amp; Dave Campbell 30456 W. 272nd St. Paola, KS</td>
<td>Lenora Larson</td>
<td>EMG Produce &amp; Flowers</td>
<td>A garden developed with an eye for function and design. Stroll thru this gardener’s unique, diverse paradise and experience all it has to offer. <strong>Focus: Gardening on a Slope</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td>Turtle Run</td>
<td>Laraine &amp; Allen Crawford 29320 Cedar Niles Rd. Paola, KS</td>
<td>Phyllis Benedict</td>
<td>Allen Crawford Wood Crafts</td>
<td>Gardening Rooms divide the property into diverse ecosystems including a biblical garden, pollinator garden, shady grove &amp; turtle haven. <strong>Focus: Garden Habitat for Wildlife</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Blue Door</td>
<td>Donna Cook 903 N. Broadway Louisburg, KS</td>
<td>Stephanie Meyers</td>
<td>Freya’s Botanicals</td>
<td>Beneath the canopy of towering mature trees, you will find a colorful sculpture gallery, a whimsical garden of quirky art. <strong>Focus: Planting Trees and Shrubs</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Hart Daylilies/Thin Wallet Ranch</td>
<td>Lois &amp; Bill Hart 7460 W. 255th St. Louisburg, KS</td>
<td>Debbie Kitchell</td>
<td>Classic Statuary</td>
<td>Captivating gardens are carved out among a native forest. Lois’ passion began with daylilies. She is a nationally recognized grower. Artworks include her own mosaics. <strong>Focus: Collecting plants for pleasure and profit</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Swan’s Water Gardens</td>
<td>Diane &amp; Kevin Swan 4385 W. 247th St. Louisburg, KS</td>
<td>Anita Boyett-Voke and Kathleen Brady-Francis</td>
<td>Swan’s Water Gardens</td>
<td>An inviting array of water gardens. Enjoy the birch tree tunnel as you stroll through the surrounding gardens which are a Certified Wildlife Habitat. <strong>Focus: Water Gardens</strong></td>
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