CALENDAR

- July 24-31 Miami County Fair.
- August 9-14 Linn County Fair.
- August 19, 1 pm, Landscaping to Attract Birds, by Geary County Ag Agent Chuck Otte. JoCo EMG Advanced Training by Zoom.
- 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. More info to come.
- The 2021 Advanced Training schedule is on page 3.

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:
Thursdays 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, and open to all EMGs.

Newsletter deadline is noon on Thursday following the Board meeting.

Landscaping to Attract Birds

Avid birder Chuck Otte, Geary County Ag and Resources Agent, Junction City, KS, will present “Landscaping to Attract Birds” for the Johnson County EMGs on August 19 at 1 pm. JoCo kindly allows us to join the presentation via Zoom. Katelyn sent the link in an email on February 18. Contact her if you have lost track of the link.

Don’t miss this special opportunity to see a unique garden nearby. Ken and Jody Hawkins will open their Shawnee, KS, tropical garden to us on August 24th at 10 am. Arrange to carpool, or meet us there: 10501 W. 50th Place, Shawnee, KS.

The Tropics Are Coming To Kansas!
Giving New Meaning to the Word “Trial”?

Text by Janette Everhart  |  Photos by Lenora Larson

WOW—talk about hot and sweaty! June 17th was another scorcher at the Trial Garden work day. Headed for 100 degrees. We were thankful for some clouds early on—but no rain. Betsy brought donuts and ice cold water. We also now have a shade canopy on site for some relief from the heat.

Chet had been trying to get the gravity fed watering to work from the lake. No such luck. The soaker hoses just were not providing enough water—even after 24 hours. So he had been hand carrying 5-gallon buckets from the nearby pond to the plants. Talk about back breaking work.

We needed a better watering solution for this new garden location. We discussed some ideas and decided a pump would be necessary. Chet got one from Family Center while we weeded. When he returned, we were able to connect all the parts and pieces and fill with fuel, but realized we had no oil. Drat! It was Betsy’s turn to take a trip to the gas station for motor oil. Finally, after a few more stumbles, we got the pump started and the hoses in place and water was flowing. Those plants seemed very thankful for a drink.

With a few more tweaks, we now have a good watering system in place. Of course, now we have had so much rain, we don’t need the pump. But we all know that will change!

The latest challenge is bindweed. The field where we placed the trial garden is full of it, and the cardboard and straw don’t seem to be keeping it at bay. So harsher methods may be required so the poor tomato and pepper plants don’t continue to be choked out. As of this time, the harvest looks like it will be meager, which is a big disappointment for us and for the Osawatomie Community.

Help will always be appreciated at the garden...

Work days: Thursdays, 8 am. Activities planned: watering, weeding and harvesting as needed.

Please join us to help and to see how the plants will be flourishing from our combined efforts. ✿
• The 2021 Garden Tour will be held on September 10-11. Watch for info on the SignUpGenius website where you can sign up for four-hour shifts. A pre-tour for volunteers, garden owners and patrons will be held August 27 and 28, 1-5. Details will be in the August issue of this newsletter.

• The theme of the 2022 Symposium is “Design with Maintenance in Mind.” The date is set for February 26 at the Lighthouse Church. Lenora Larson has already lined up great speakers.

• Becky Thorpe has eight applicants for this fall's training program, but we are short of mentors! Please contact her if you would like to be a mentor. The classes will again be by Zoom.

• K-State has lifted restrictions on mask requirements for in-person events, but social distancing is still required. The new meeting room will hold up to 25 people, so there will be limits on in-person AT classes. There will be a zoom option for those who choose not to attend in person.

• The 2022 Plant Sale committee had a very productive meeting on July 6th at the Jackson Hotel led by new plant sale chair Sue Burns. Sondra dela Cruz turned her notes over to Sue and promised to help. Thank you, Sondra, for all your hard work, and thank you, Sue, for stepping forward to take on the job.

• The next Board meeting is August 10 at the Extension Office. All EMGs are welcome to attend.

### 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>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>24</td>
<td>10:00am</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>Tour Tropical Garden</td>
<td>Ken &amp; Jodi Hawkinson</td>
<td>10501 W. 50th Pl., Shawnee</td>
</tr>
<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></td>
<td>28</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></td>
<td>21</td>
<td>1-3pm</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></td>
<td>18</td>
<td>9-11am</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

---

Follow the Marais des Cygnes EMGs on Facebook at www.facebook.com/mdcemg
The Worthy Garden

By Stacie Campbell

It was late June and blistering hot, so I was relieved and happy when Sue Burns gave me a tour of her garden in the utility buggy with a nice, shady roof. As we toured a good part of the 20 acres she shares with her husband, Bob, one thing became abundantly clear. Sue’s garden is full of memories.

The first bed we visited came with a story of how the truck got stuck in that spot tearing up the grass. What else was there to do but finish the job of de-sodding and install a garden for native flowers? Other garden beds are above burial sites of beloved animal companions including cats, dogs and even a couple horses. Sue remembers where she got the seed for the gorgeous dark purple (almost black) holly hock, and where they found the native black raspberries bush that now number in the dozens, producing tiny but succulently sweet berries.

Sue Burns has been an MdC Master Gardener for five years, joining the program to learn more about plants and gardening and to be a bit more connected to the community. She shared her thought that while no one in the program knows everything about plants and gardening, as a group, knowledge abounds and there is likely someone who knows just the answer needed in most any circumstance.

Technically, Sue is retired but still uses her credentials as a registered nurse working a part time job and is about to start another part time job to fill a gap in on-call home care needs in her area. As an animal-mom to several cats, a couple dogs and three horses, she spends a good deal of her time taking care of others. Chatting in “The Grotto” with cold glasses of iced tea, kitties jumping on our laps to be petted and dragon flies landing on our shoulders, Sue told me Gardening is the first thing she has ever done just for herself. Working in the garden is hard work that is not only rewarding but also provides a quiet serenity that lets stress fall away.

As a remarkably busy person she prioritizes her limited gardening time watering where most needed, containers and raised beds. Weeding is prioritized for the raised beds, home to an array of vegetables which will later be canned by Bob, a member of the K-State Master Food Volunteer Program. Other areas get attention as time allows but most of the garden is left to natural growth which many may find untidy. Others would choose to see it as lively proof of the tenacity and power of nature. Unquestionably, Sue’s garden is full of life, home to insects, toads, and most days, Sue – smiling as she sips tea in The Grotto.

Sue Burns: A Garden Just for Herself

This unique raised bed was found at an estate sale. The peppers planted here need Fort Knox protection from the local fauna.

Sue will always remember the inn where she found the seeds for this beautiful hollyhock.
Hypertufa Class Given an A-Plus

A big thank-you to Jan Thompson, Betsy Hasselquist and Lenora Larson for sending photos!

Lenora Larson made an eight-foot column from a beach towel. Greg nailed it to a tree to form and dry. “It will eventually be a glorious purple sculpture in my garden,” said Lenora.

At right: Betsy Hasselquist inspects her work.

Greg Beverlin led a how-to-make-hypertufa class on June 22 at the former Hillsdale Bank BBQ building.

Twelve EMGs dipped towels in wet hypertufa and draped them over plastic pots. They picked up the finished products several days later, after the hypertufa material had dried. “It was so much fun!”

Above: Sue Burns with her two pots. Below: Jan Thompson and Susan Thompson getting dirty.
Stacie’s Awesome Garden

Another big thank-you to Jan Thompson, Betsy Hasselquist and Janette Everhart for sending photos

New EMG Stacie Campbell invited our group to visit her gardens in early July. And oh, what gardens they are! There are water features, masses of flowers with a view of Hillsdale Lake in the distance, and a huge area in the back yard devoted to leisure activities for friends and family of all ages. A very impressive train garden is taking shape in the front yard. “Campbell Highlands” will be on our MdC garden tour in September. Thanks, Stacie!
<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>
</table>
| Whispering Elm Farm             | Melissa & Colin McDonald 27017 Waverly Rd. Paola, KS | Vickie-Vetter-Scruggs | Whispering Elm Products Cowboy Coffee Post Family View Farms | Bio-dynamic farm specializing in culinary and medicinal herbs, elderberries, all pollinated with help by their honeybees.  
**Focus:** Elderberries, Medicinal Herbs |
| Campbell Highlands              | Stacie & Dave Campbell 30456 W. 272nd St. Paola, KS | Lenora Larson      | EMG Produce & Flowers                            | 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.  
**Focus:** Gardening on a Slope |
| Turtle Run                      | Laraine & Allen Crawford 29320 Cedar Niles Rd. Paola, KS | Phyllis Benedict   | Allen Crawford Wood Crafts                       | Gardening Rooms divide the property into diverse ecosystems including a biblical garden, pollinator garden, shady grove & turtle haven.  
**Focus:** Garden Habitat for Wildlife |
| Blue Door                       | Donna Cook 903 N. Broadway Louisburg, KS | Stephanie Meyers   | Freya’s Botanicals                               | Beneath the canopy of towering mature trees, you will find a colorful sculpture gallery, a whimsical garden of quirky art.  
**Focus:** Planting Trees and Shrubs |
| Hart Daylilies/Thin Wallet Ranch | Lois & Bill Hart 7460 W. 255th St. Louisburg, KS | Debbie Kitchell    | Classic Statuary                                | 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.  
**Focus:** Collecting plants for pleasure and profit |
| Swan’s Water Gardens            | Diane & Kevin Swan 4385 W. 247th St. Louisburg, KS | Anita Boyett-Voke and Kathleen Brady-Francis | Swan’s Water Gardens                             | An inviting array of water gardens. Enjoy the birch tree tunnel as you stroll through the surrounding gardens which are a Certified Wildlife Habitat.  
**Focus:** Water Gardens |
2021 Miami County Fall Garden Tour

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

Friday & Saturday, September 10th & 11th, 2021, 9 am to 5 pm

Tickets: $15 (cash or check only)

Enjoy unique gardens in Miami County!
This year’s Garden Tour will feature six gardens located around Paola and Louisburg. This diverse group of gardens will showcase butterfly gardens, water features, hardscape usage, art in the garden, and much more!

- Tour held rain or shine
- Start the tour at any garden
- No pets or strollers, please
- Sign up for the drawing
- Your $15 ticket is valid for both days of the tour!

Tickets available at each garden during the tour, or at the Marais des Cygnes Extension District–Paola Office, 913 N. Pearl, Suite #1, Paola, KS 66071

For more information call 913-294-4306 or visit www.maraisdescygnes.ksu.edu or www.facebook.com/mdcemg
Garden Tour map will be available on the website and Facebook prior to the tour.