CALENDAR

- May 21-22, Johnson County EMG Garden Tour. **Earn 5 AT hours!**
- May 25, 6:30 pm, AT at the Ext. Office, Bee Keeping/Native Bees, with zoom option.
- June 8, 6:30 pm, AT at the Ext. Office, Flora and Fauna of the Kansas Prairie, with zoom option.
- September 10-11 **Garden Tour.** A “pre-tour” for volunteers and garden owners will be held a few days before the tour. Flyer on page 6.
- **The 2021 Advanced Training schedule is on page 5.** Watch for new programs as they are added.

**Courthouse Work Days:**
Workdays: Wednesdays at 10 am (earlier in hot weather)
*Phyllis Benedict* 913-294-4751  
pabenedict51@gmail.com

**Extension Office Work Days:**
Sue is working on plans for the garden at the new office.
*Sue Burns* 816-510-5291  
smbohmker@hotmail.com

**Trial Garden Work Days:**
Work days are being announced.
Call **Chet McLaughlin** for info 913-963-7187  
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.

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**Advanced Training May 25, 6:30 pm**

**Beekeeping and Native Bee Plants**

Vickie Vetter-Scruggs will share her experiences as a 14-year honey bee steward and briefly explore our native bees.

An Extension Master Gardener since 2008, Vickie’s last presentation was on her high tunnel. She enthusiastically grows medicinal herbs, vegetables, native plants and flowers. She is a true nature and animal lover. Vickie owns Orange Moon Apothecary and conjures up all kinds of herbal, safe and earth-friendly skin care products and teas, using her “high hoop” for growing in all seasons.

**Advanced Training June 8, 6:30 pm**

**Flora and Fauna of the Kansas Prairie**

The prairie is a complex system of interactions between its plants and animals. Surprising to many, insects are a major force, serving as the number one herbivore and the primary predator of other insects. Insects are also at the base of the food chain, the link that converts plant protein to animal protein. Courtney Masterson will discuss the impact of natural and human disruptions on this delicate ecosystem.

Courtney received her Master’s Degree at the University of Kansas in Ecology and Evolutionary Biology. She currently teaches Field Botany at KU and consults on restoration of native ecosystems as well as native plant landscaping through her business, Native Lands LLC.

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**Once Again, a Successful Plant Sale**

After last year’s sale had to be cancelled, we triumphed again! Well-staffed and well-attended, with cooperative weather, the 2021 plant sale was a success. Major kudos to Chair Sondra Dela Cruz!
Advisory Board
Chairman — Betsy Hasselquist
Vice Chairman — Sue Burns
Secretary – Anita Boyett-Voke
Treasurer – Laraine Crawford

Members at Large
Janette Bennett
Chet McLaughlin

Committees
Courthouse Garden
Phyllis Benedict & Kathy Doherty
Trial Garden
Shirley New & Chet McLaughlin
KSU Extension Office Garden
Sue Burns
Lakemary Liaison
Becky Thorpe
Advanced Training
Barbara Shropshire
Awards Banquet
Donna Cook & Susan Thompson
Symposium
Stacie Campbell
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
Becky Thorpe & Cynthia Katzer
Newspaper Articles
Katelyn Barthol, Extension Agent

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

How About a Shot of Nature?

By Betsy Hasselquist, MdC EMG Chair

Gardening is therapeutic, engenders hope. Hope for what’s to come, the future. Gardening is good for the mind, body and soul.

Spending time in nature reduces stress, engendering both physical and emotional benefits.

Time in the out-of-doors entails increased physical activity, can reduce blood pressure and risks of heart disease, boost one’s immune system and Vitamin D levels. Experiencing nature expands our mood, decreases anxiety and depression and enhances our sense of well-being.

I continue to learn through the master gardeners program, expanding my horizons. We have so many knowledgeable folks. I had mostly focused on my organic vegetable garden in full sun and have enjoyed learning more about landscaping and flowers. It’s been trial and error as I’m acquiring knowledge of my current gardening/yard ecosystem. I’ve had to move a few plants to sunnier spots and seek out more shade plants of interest and color.

Over the years, I grew a few flowers, planted flowering shrubs and had small flower and herb beds. In retrospect, I believe I didn’t feel the need to plant tons of flowers, enjoying living in the woods with the prolific, immense diversity of plants in nature. I always encouraged that growth and yet sometimes had to cut it back.

As I walked through the woods this spring, I found humor in identifying so many natives that are truly native to our woods that I see people buy at our plant sale and nurseries. I guess mother nature knows… Too numerous to mention, but tons of columbine, Solomon seal, lilies, phlox, may apple, buckeye, from the tiny and delicate to magnificent, mature trees.

Co-vid Craziness

I’m tired of writing about, thinking about and living the effects of Covid, but its ongoing impact is not to be ignored. So many people experienced significant changes, losses and grief related to this pandemic. Sorry if I sound repetitive, but it’s real and profound. Ambivalence continues. Please make thoughtful, responsible choices.

With restrictions easing, there comes a sense of relief as life seems to be getting back to “normal,” whatever that is or may be. So happy getting together with more people again. Personally, getting vaccinated lessened my anxiety and I’m more comfortable venturing out and about. Positive changes. (Things do always change.)

Great seeing so many people at the plant sale, working, sharing and laughing together.

Be sensitive to others’ feelings and beliefs. We often have no idea what struggles other folks are facing. Be patient, open minded, accepting, respectful of yourself and others.

Happy Gardening! ✿

Betsy’s Clematis
Who needs flowers with foliage like this?

By Lenora Larson

These plants are all perennials in my garden and will keep these colors for the entire growing season and even into winter. Many are deliberately planted with their color complement. For example, the opposite of plum on the color wheel is chartreuse. This color contrast makes them even more brilliant and adds drama to my garden. More photos on next page.
Continued from page 3

Barberry & Spirea

Heuchera ‘Peaches & Cream’

Japanese variegated willow ‘Hakuro nishiki’

Cimicifuga racemosa with Spirea ‘Gold Mound’ and Persicaria ‘Lance Corporal’

Euonymus ‘Gaiety’

Golden Privet with Dame’s Rocket
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.

Board meetings are now being held in the meeting room at the Extension Office.

More than 100 packets of **Seeds for Kids** were handed out at the plant sale. Kathleen Brady-Francis and Janette Bennett have taken over this project and we thank them! The Fair will probably be held this year as usual in both counties.

The 2021 **Garden Tour** will be held on September 10-11. A “pre-tour” for volunteers and garden owners will be held a few days prior to the tour.

The theme of the 2022 **Symposium** will be “How to Design a Garden without Breaking Your Back.” The tentative date is February 26, but we need to secure the venue before moving forward.

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### 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>Date</th>
<th>Time</th>
<th>Topic</th>
<th>Speaker</th>
<th>Location</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>May</strong> 25</td>
<td>6:30pm</td>
<td>1 Beekeeping/Native Bee</td>
<td>Vickie Vetter-Scruggs,</td>
<td>Katelyn will send Zoom link if necessary</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>June</strong> 8</td>
<td>6:30pm</td>
<td>1 Flora &amp; Fauna of the KS Prairie</td>
<td>Courtney Masterson, KU Prof., Native Lands owner</td>
<td>Katelyn will send Zoom link if necessary</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>17</td>
<td>1-3pm</td>
<td>2 Ten Steps to Transform Your Yard into an Earth-Friendly Garden</td>
<td>Alan Branbagen, Minnesota Landscape Arboretum Director of Operations</td>
<td>JoCo EMG AT Zoom link (see Katelyn’s email from 2/18)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>22</td>
<td>6:30pm</td>
<td>1.5 Making Hypertufa Containers</td>
<td>Greg Beverlin</td>
<td>Hillsdale Bank BBQ, $30 to make two containers, limit 15 participants, second sessions will be added if needed</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>July</strong> 15</td>
<td>1-3pm</td>
<td>2 Plant Exploration of Asia</td>
<td>Mark Weatherington, Director of JC Raulston Arboretum, NC State U</td>
<td>JoCo EMG AT Zoom link (see Katelyn’s email from 2/18)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Aug.</strong> 19</td>
<td>1-3pm</td>
<td>2 Landscaping for Attracting 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>24</td>
<td>10:00am</td>
<td>2 Tour Tropical Garden</td>
<td>Ken &amp; Jodi Hawkinson</td>
<td>10501 W. 50th Pl., Shawnee</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Sept.</strong> 9</td>
<td>1-3pm</td>
<td>2 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>6:30pm</td>
<td>1 Your Gardening Personality</td>
<td>Lenora Larson, MdC EMG</td>
<td>Possibly in person at the Ext. office</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Oct.</strong> 5</td>
<td>11am</td>
<td>1 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>2 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><strong>Nov.</strong> 4</td>
<td>9-11am</td>
<td>2 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>2 150 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)
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.

K-STATE Research and Extension
Master Gardener
Marais des Cygnes District

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