What’s Growing On . . .
The latest news from the Marais des Cygnes Extension Master Gardeners

Paola Office: 913 N. Pearl (Old KC Road), Paola, KS 66071 | 913-294-4306
Mound City Office: 115 S. 6th St., Mound City, KS 66056 | 913-294-2829

Come meet our New EMG Class by Jan Thompson

We are so happy to welcome the new EMG class! Ten have applied to become Marais des Cygnes Master Gardeners, our largest class ever! Plan to attend a garden tour and meet the new class on Thursday, August 25th at 10:00 a.m. at Lenora Larson’s Garden, 27995 Plum Creek Rd. Bring your own sack lunch. The new class and their mentors will attend. All EMG members are encouraged to attend and meet our new class.

A short bio of each new member will be featured in the coming months in our EMG Newsletter. We also want to extend a huge thank you to all the mentors that will help our new class feel welcomed. They will help them become familiar with the EMG organization and be available to answer their questions.

Please mark your calendars for Thursday, August 25.

A big thanks to Becky Thorpe for a great job in coordinating the mentor program.

3rd Qtr General Meeting
By Jan Thompson

Such a wonderful turnout for our 3Q General Meeting! We had approximately 25 members attend! The potluck included such a great variety of salads, deviled eggs, appetizers and desserts and enjoyed by all . . . especially Carol Williams chocolate squares!

Requests for recipes were numerous and we’re asking for those that want to share their recipe to send to Anita (abvokek@yahoo.com) and she will organize and distribute. (We were so busy enjoying the fellowship and food we forgot to take any pictures!)

The agenda began with enjoying dinner and then a short general meeting. We concluded with several fun games that Anita organized for us. Fun time! There was such a positive energy and comradery in the group. Thank you to all those who attended!

Looking forward to our our 4th Quarter General Meeting on October 11th at Wallace Park in Paola. Pizza and games will be provided. (The Board meeting will begin at 3:30 the general meeting at 5:00.) Hope to see you there, new class members are invited to attend also!

The Newsletter deadline is Noon on Thursday following the Tuesday Board meetings.

The 2022 Advanced Training schedule is on page 6. Please see the schedule for details on each opportunity. Watch for new programs as they are added.
2022 Miami County Fair!
by Janette Everhart

What a lovely week we had for the fair! The unseasonably low temperatures and the refreshing rain made it quite comfortable in our un-air conditioned space.

We had a great crew with Sue Burns heading up the Floriculture, Chet McLaughlin (and his ever so cute companion, Beau, attending for his 10th year!) heading up the Horticulture and Agriculture. Other Volunteers were Cyndi Wilson, Helen Kloepper, Jan Thompson, Betsy Hasselquist, Dennise Fink-Morse, Janette Bennett, Janette Everhart, soon-to-be-EMG, Scott Catton and our loyal community volunteer Mike Knoche.

Set-up was Tuesday afternoon following the volunteer lunch which was yummy BBQ and pot luck. We waited for the 4H judging to finish and then set up our tables and risers and also reviewed the updated procedure and forms for accepting entries. The work went fast! When one area was completed we all went to the next area.

Tuesday 6-8pm we began receiving entries. The number of entries was lower than expected except for the Seed for Kids. (See Article on Seeds for kids on page 3, what a great turnout!)

Wednesday morning from 8-11:30 a.m. we received more entries. The number of entries for both Floriculture and Horticulture were much lower that prior years. Can you believe no standard tomatoes and only 2 bell peppers entered? What a rough summer on veggies and flowers – not to mention us humans.

The Judges came at 1:00 p.m. They thoughtfully walked through the classes and identified the winners. Uniformity was key along with well-formed specimens with no blemishes. This was true for both horticulture and floriculture. Ribbons were laid with the entries. And we had two EMG winners in Horticulture: Janette Everhart took the Grand Champion of Horticulture again with her Armenian hard-neck Garlic. Soon-to-be-EMG, Scott Catton, earned the Reserve Champion with his beautiful, huge white onions.

Some volunteers returned one more time on Saturday morning to oversee the pick-up of entries and to put away tables and chairs.

We want to encourage more Master Gardeners to enter in both Horticulture and Floriculture – take a look at the fair book and the class list on the web-site and start planning what flower, vegetable, plant, hanging basket, or arrangements you want to enter. It really is fun to participate and even more fun to win a ribbon and a small cash premium!

We hope you will join in the fun next year by entering or volunteering to earn some hours.
A huge thank you to Laraine C. who has served as the EMG Treasurer for over 6 years, but due to circumstances, Laraine is stepping back from the Treasurer duties. Billie Lenz will serve as the EMG Treasurer for the remainder of 2022 and we so appreciate her stepping in to handle our finances.

Due to health reasons, Kathy Doherty had to step back from being the co-chair with Phyllis B. at the Courthouse Gardens. If you are interested in being a co-chair, please contact Phyllis and let her know. Also, if you haven’t been by the Courthouse Gardens, please stop and enjoy as they look beautiful. Great job by all the EMG volunteers!

The 2023 Garden Tour planning is underway! Helen K. volunteered to chair the event with assistance from Carol V. and Billie L. They met with Betsy H. and Jan T. for an initial overview of planning and history of past tours. If you have a garden or know of a garden that might work for our tour, please let Helen know.

The 2023 Symposium planning is also scheduled for this month. Stacie C. has scheduled a committee meeting with more details to come.

Barb S. has been busy organizing and scheduling some wonderful, advanced training classes. Many of you wanted more classes on tree identification and Barb has organized three classes for us to become more knowledgeable. Thank you, Barb!

We have one of the largest Marais des Cygnes classes with TEN new applicants. Thank you to the mentors that volunteered to help the new class settle in with the zoom classes, meeting the EMG members and to helping them feel welcomed to our organization. Mentors play an important role!

For those of you who are interested in ordering daylilies from Lois Hart, please contact Lois to place your order as the daylilies will be available later this month. Barb S. placed an order by contacting Lois on the color she was interested in, Lois sent pictures and Barb was able to place her order. Lois’ contact information is: 913-837-5209 or: legwh85@mokancomm.net

Nominating Committee has nominated 4 EMG members for the 4 vacancies that we will have in 2023. Watch the September EMG Newsletter as there will be a short bio on each nomination as voting will take place in October.

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**Garden Spotlight:** Jan Thompson.

I love gardening! I’m not always successful but I keep trying! When things do turn out and produce . . . it keeps me hopeful, and I persevere! Pictured are a few items I grow . . . at least for this season.
Our goals are to inspire and encourage young gardeners with hands on experience, expand sharing free seeds to any child 18 years old and younger and increase exhibit entries in the MI CO Fair.

WE DID IT!!!

Committee members included Janette B., Betsy H., Helen K., Carol V., Jan T., Cindi W., Sondra D-C., Carol W.

Thanks to all who made this a success, coordinating, packaging, providing educational information. Encouraging, reminder e-mails were sent to participants.

Special recognition goes to those who collaborated with their local schools, libraries and community projects, providing seeds, presentations, planting demonstrations: Janette B. (LaCygne), Helen K., (Louisburg), including an Earth Day Event for all 5th graders with the help of Carol W, Carol V. (Paola). Lots of local interest and enthusiasm.

Seeds were available through schools, libraries, presentations, K-State Extension offices and the EMG plant sale. Zinnia, Marigold, Sunflower and Zucchini seeds were donated by Tri-Star Seed Company.

Program is Growing

By Betsy Hasselquist

Our efforts paid off! We connected with lots of kids/families, distributed hundreds of seed packets and had exponentially more amazing fair entries this year. We are proud.

We met our goals in spades, I mean in zinnias!

Seeds for Kids committee members pictured (L-R) are Jan T., Betsy H., Helen K., and Janette B. Members not pictured are Sondra D-C., Cindi W., Carol V., and Carol W.

Trial Garden

In spite of the challenging weather this year the trial garden looks good and so does the harvest! Thanks to everyone for their hard work!!

August 8th at trial gardens: Dennise F-M., Debbie K., Chet McL., and Carol W., harvesting and weeding (Photos courtesy of Debbie K.)
Rain Gutter Gardening System
By Rena Tedrow

Rain Gutters (RGGS), PVC (a hybrid) and Kiddie Pools (KPGS) Installment 2.
In the past, I used the 10’ long rain gutters shown in Photo A. (Photo is from a previous year.) They held nine 5-gallon buckets. As you see can the gutters were open and attracting mosquitoes.

The dogs were also drinking from the gutters which resulted in some digestive issues. I added mosquito “dunks” (which only “half” worked). While dunks are noted to be “safe” for pets, when you fertilize and combined with the water sitting in the gutters, it might not be so “safe” for pets to drink. Until I could figure out what to do, I tacked welded wire fencing around them. The next year, I stapled landscape fabric across the top and cut holes for the net cups to fit through leaving the ends open to make checking the water levels easier. Due to a dog still trying to drink the water, I added a longer length of fabric, stapling one end down and wrapping a small 2x4 piece inside one end so fabric draped down. Problem solved!

In photo, B on the ends is a threaded piece sticking out. This is for a Kerick float valve. They were installed along with the tubing attached to the float valve, then attached to a hose, you can fill all four at once.

If you were here for the tour, you saw two 5-foot lengths that were stacked on top of one another. I’ve always had the four 10’ gutters sitting under the shade house — with mostly peppers and tomatoes to prevent sun scald. Every now and then, the 5 footers were on the ends with a cattle panel across the centers and used as a trellis for cucumbers or pole beans. (Photo C)

The last option that I use is the KPGS (Kiddie Pool Growing System). You can see corn plants in each bag. (Photo D) There are 7 bags — 4 plants each, in the 5’ pool. I’ve grown tomatillos, eggplant, zucchini, and squash, but mostly corn. A hole is drilled on one side — for over-flow. For mosquito prevention pea gravel is added between the bags since they have no water source. This simply makes sure the bags are wet and there is water in the pool. You can make some bags from landscape fabric or use “Grow Bags.” They need to be “breathable” bags.

In June, you may have seen some lumber sitting around, this is the result. (Photo E) The other two PVC set-ups are here, and I am using recycle bins with carrot seeds planted in them. They are shorter than the blue bins that are more commonly found. The height must be shorter for the water to get to the roots. What you see in the foreground, are my Veg Trugs with bush bean plants, and radishes in them this year. Not necessarily a method, my husband just liked the Veg Trugs.

Next month: The “Why’s”.

In the photo to the right you can see dark areas in between the buckets. The vacant holes are plugged with landscape fabric and a net cup filled with pea gravel to keep mosquitoes at bay.
### 2022 Marais des Cygnes Extension Master Gardener Advanced Training

Please note: More training opportunities 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>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Aug</td>
<td>16</td>
<td>6:30 PM</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>No Sow Garden</td>
<td>Lenora Larson, MdC EMG</td>
<td>MdC Extension Office</td>
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<tr>
<td>Aug</td>
<td>18</td>
<td>1:00 PM</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>Sunflowers That Will Steal the Show</td>
<td>Marilyn Schmit, Platte County, NE EMG</td>
<td>K-State Extension Office</td>
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<tr>
<td>Aug</td>
<td>23</td>
<td>10:00 AM</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>Tree ID Session I</td>
<td>Katy Dhungel, District Forester</td>
<td>K-State Extension Office</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Sept</td>
<td>15</td>
<td>10:00 AM</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>Tree ID Session II</td>
<td>Anne Wildeboor, Horticulturist</td>
<td>K-State Extension Office</td>
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<tr>
<td>Sept</td>
<td>15</td>
<td>1:00 PM</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>Clematis Mythbusting</td>
<td>Linda Beutler, Rogerson</td>
<td>K-State Extension Office</td>
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<td>Sept</td>
<td>17</td>
<td>8:30 AM - 4:00 PM</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>Garden Symposium “Live in Full Bloom” (Still plenty of room left - Register by August 31)</td>
<td>Hosted by Leavenworth County EMGs</td>
<td>Riverfront Community Center, 123 Espanade, Leavenworth, KS; $45 per person includes 3 speakers and box lunch; more info and register at k-state.edu/lawn-garden/master-gardeners/</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Sept</td>
<td>27</td>
<td>10:00 AM</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>Tree ID Session III</td>
<td>Kim Bomberger, Community Forester</td>
<td>K-State Extension Office</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Oct</td>
<td>18</td>
<td>6:30 PM</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>Understanding a Prairie Burn</td>
<td>Al Lozier, Pres. Eastern KS Prescribed Burn Assoc.</td>
<td>MdC Extension Office</td>
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<tr>
<td>Oct</td>
<td>21</td>
<td>10:00 AM</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>Weather! What's Brewing in Our Future</td>
<td>Doug Kluck, Central Region Climate Svc, Dir., NOAA's National Center for Environ. Inform. (NCEI)</td>
<td>K-State Extension Office</td>
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<tr>
<td>Oct</td>
<td>29</td>
<td>1:00 - 4:00 PM</td>
<td>1.5</td>
<td>Participate in a Prairie Burn</td>
<td>EKBA Team</td>
<td>K-State Extension Office</td>
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<tr>
<td>Nov</td>
<td>17</td>
<td>9:00 AM</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>Growing Old Roses, Hybrid Rugosa and Hardy Roses</td>
<td>Dr. James Roush, Assoc. Dean of Academic Programs and Student Success, College of Vet Med, Riley Co. EMG</td>
<td>K-State Extension Office</td>
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To join K-State Garden Hour, use link below: (see Katelyn’s email from Jan. 6 for flyer) 12 PM 1st Wed. of each month

### Spotlight our gardens in our newsletter!

We welcome you to share comments on your gardening experiences- successes, struggles, favorite plants, observations, information, questions, the weather (lol) . . . ESPECIALLY PICTURES! Please send your pictures to Anita and they will be shared in the Newsletter (depending on space) throughout the year.

Be sure to review the next two pages. The first page provides detailed information on AT opportunities coming up. The last page is the Tree Resource information that we were unable to fit into last months issue.

**MONARCH watch 30 YEAR CELEBRATION** is not an organized MdC EMG activity. See their website for more info and registration. [https://www.monarchwatch.org](https://www.monarchwatch.org)

**FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 16, 2022**

9:00AM-2:00PM - Monarch Update Symposium & Box Lunch @ Monarch Watch ($15/person)

There will be an opportunity for brief tours of Monarch Watch facilities then we will move to a classroom for a mini-conference with various speakers giving monarch updates and other news (see “Monarch Update Symposium Topics” section for details) then break for a box lunch followed by additional discussion. Price includes box lunch (sandwich, side, dessert and drink) and symposium.

Attire: Casual

4:30-7:00PM - Evening in the Garden @ Monarch Watch (Free event)

Monarch Watch staff and Douglas Co. Extension Master Gardeners will be available to answer questions as you explore Monarch Waystation #1.

Refreshments will be provided. Attire Casual

**SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 17, 2022 – 8:00AM-12:00PM**

Monarch Tagging @ Baker Wetlands Discovery Center (Free event)

They will provide tags, nets, and instruction, then send you out into the wetlands to tag some wild monarchs as they migrate through the area. The Baker Wetlands encompasses 927 acres of rich, natural wildlife and is one of the most diverse habitats in Kansas. Attire Casual (Additional consideration should be given for rugged and/or wet conditions in some areas.)

Note: A banquet is also planned for Thursday, September 15 – see Monarch Watch website for details.

Please like and follow the Marais des Cygnes EMGs on Facebook at [www.facebook.com/mdcemg](http://www.facebook.com/mdcemg)
Lenora Larson’s August 16 Advanced Training - NO SOW GARDEN

My many flower beds are ablaze with color from April to mid-November. Who has the time to plant all those flowers? Certainly not me, but through the years I have discovered the answer: select those flowers that eagerly plant themselves. This presentation will showcase self-sowing flowers and describe the necessary horticultural techniques to achieve a glorious NO SOW garden year after year. (1 hour AT)

Biography:
Lenora is a Marais des Cygnes Extension Master Gardener and member of local chapters of the Idalia Butterfly Society and Kansas Native Plant Society. She is a proud “science geek” with a degree in microbiology from Michigan State University, a career in molecular biology and a life-long interest in wildlife, especially the creepy and crawly. She maintains a two acre garden in the English Estate landscape style on her 27 acre property, Long Lips Farm, in rural Paola, Kansas.

Tree ID Series
Have you been wanting to refresh or sharpen your skills in identifying native trees in our area? We have the answer with our Tree ID AT classes scheduled for this fall. This is a hands-on opportunity to study trees with the experts and tour some of our local spots for brushing up on what was covered in our EMG Training however many years ago!

Tuesday, August 23rd
Tree ID Session I
Where: Wallace Park, Paola
Katy Dhungel, District Forester for KS Forest Service
10:00 AM. Meet at the main shelter, bring your own lunch and drink for after the presentation. There will be some walking on gravel paths so comfortable shoes are advised. (Insect repellent, sunscreen, and hat also if desired.) 1 hour AT

Thursday, September 15th
Tree ID Session II
Where: Overland Park Arboretum
Anne Wildeboor, Horticulturist
10:00 AM. Meet at admissions kiosk, Bring a lunch and drink if desired. 1 hour AT

Tuesday, September 27th
Tree ID Session III
Where: John Brown Memorial Park, Osawatomie
Kim Bomberger, KS Forest Service Community Forester from K-State
10:00 AM. Kim will lead us on a tour of the park. Meet at the shelter house NE of the Adair Cabin 1 hr AT
(Rain Date: Thursday September 29th.)

**Please note: The Sept. 7 K-State Garden Hour topic is “Recommended Trees for Kansas”, presented by Dr. Jason Griffin

EMGs AT Info:
The Leavenworth Garden Symposium on September 17 has a required registration with a fee of $45. (See last months newsletter for information). They have plenty of open spots left and request registration by August 31. Please email Barb S. at: barbshrops@gmail.com if you plan to attend and want to carpool.
There wasn’t room in last newsletter to provide you with additional tree information resources. Below are some links to web sites and some recommended reading materials.

**Online Sources:**
- American Conifer Society: [https://conifersociety.org](https://conifersociety.org)
- Iowa State Extension, Interactive Tree Id Key: [https://naturalresources.extension.iastate.edu/forestry/iowa_trees/tree_id.html](https://naturalresources.extension.iastate.edu/forestry/iowa_trees/tree_id.html)
- vPlants, Plant Glossary: [https://vplants.org/portal/plants/glossary/index.html](https://vplants.org/portal/plants/glossary/index.html)
- Virginia Tech Dept. of Dendrology searchable database: [http://dendro.cnre.vt.edu/dendrology/factsheets.cfm](http://dendro.cnre.vt.edu/dendrology/factsheets.cfm)
- Oregon State Dept. of Horticulture Landscape Plants: [https://landscapeplants.oregonstate.edu](https://landscapeplants.oregonstate.edu)
- Purdue University, Forestry and Natural Resources. Red and White Mulberry in Indiana: [https://www.extension.purdue.edu/extmedia/fnr/fnr_237.pdf](https://www.extension.purdue.edu/extmedia/fnr/fnr_237.pdf)

**Kansas Forest Service**
- Demonstration Arboretum and Honor Grove, including list of trees and shrub species: [https://www.kansasforests.org/arboretum.html](https://www.kansasforests.org/arboretum.html)
- Find an arboretum near you: [https://www.kansasforests.org/events/diversity.html](https://www.kansasforests.org/events/diversity.html)
- Morton Arboretum ArbNet Accreditation Program: [http://arbnet.org/arboretum-accreditation-program](http://arbnet.org/arboretum-accreditation-program)

**Print Sources:**
- *Winter Twigs: The Identification of Kansas Woody Plants by Their Twigs*: 1940. Kansas Academy of Science, Manhattan, KS.