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

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

Awards Dinner

It’s that time of the year to mark your calendars for the upcoming MdC EMG Awards Dinner and 1st Quarter General Meeting.

The Awards Dinner is a time for us to get together and review the past years accomplishments.

A buffet style meal and awards presentation will take place in addition to the 1st Quarter General meeting. During the Awards presentation, the class of 2022 will be introduced and will officially become Marais des Cygnes District Extension Master Gardeners!!

Awards will be presented to the graduating class (EMG members who’ve completed the first official year) as well as members who’ve been in the program for 5, 10, 15, and more years. We will also hand out the Rookie and Master Gardener of the Year awards, in addition to much more.

This year’s Awards Dinner will be held on Tuesday, January 10, 2023, starting at 6:00 p.m. The Paola Country Club.

Cost to attend the dinner is $15.00 per member including the new class members. If you bring a guest, there is an additional cost of $32.00. MdC EMG Emeritus members and significant other, will be paid for by the Master Gardeners. However, we do ask that you please RSVP.

All members planning to attend should have full payment (in the form of cash or check) to the Paola Extension office (913 N. Pearl St. Suite 1, Paola, KS, 66071 • 913-294-4306) on or before Thursday, December 22, 2022.

We look forward to seeing you all at the Awards Dinner!

Merry Christmas
and
Happy New Year!
With many good wishes for the holiday season and the coming year.

2023 Awards Dinner
Tuesday, January 10th
Paola Country Club
29651 Old Kansas City Rd.,
Paola, KS 66071
6:00-6:30 • Social Time
(Cash Bar Available)
6:30-7:15 • Dinner
7:15-9
Awards Presentation

Buffet Menu
Cafe Salad
(Spiced Pecans, Apples, Cranberries over a Spring Mix)
Burnt Ends (with BBQ Sauce)
Chicken Parmesan Over Cavatappi Pasta
Roasted Red Potatoes
Green Beans with Bacon and Onion
Cheesecake
Coffee, Tea, Water
The Awards Dinner is Tuesday, January 10th at 6:00 p.m., at the Paola Country Club. Several awards will be presented as well as the introduction of our new class. Sign-ups for the various committees will also be available. Due to the Extension office being closed and the venue needing a final head count, we need to have the RVSPs to the Extension office by Thursday, December 22nd. Should be a fun time!!

Volunteer Hours and Advanced Training Hours need to be entered by December 31, 2022. If you have any questions, please contact Katelyn.

Thank you to everyone that donated to our 3rd Annual Holiday Happiness. Our donation provided $550 each for the three local food pantries – LaCygne, Osawatomie and Spring Hill. Checks were mailed out on Tuesday, December 13th.

A huge thank you to all those that helped make the "Wreaths for Residents" community project a big success! Such a selection of items to create the masterpiece wreaths. We have a lot of talented, creative EMG members as the wreaths were awesome. A special thanks to Becky T. and Anita BV. for organizing and gathering materials and delivering the wreaths to the Osawatomie Vintage Park Assisted Living facility. A great idea and already talk of doing again next year!

Our 2023 Garden Symposium theme is “Design with Maintenance in Mind” planned for Saturday, February 25th. Cost is $45 for this wonderful, educational experience. Registration is available online through Constant Contact. Please see Katelyn’s November 15th email for more information. Be looking for your favorite sweet bread, cookie recipe...we will be having a sign-up sheet on sharing with Symposium guests.

With the Paola Lions Club disbanding we needed to find a new process for sandblasting the Courthouse Memorial Bricks. New process is to pick up a blank brick at courthouse, deliver to Design4Sports with the appropriate verbiage. Once complete, Design4Sports will contact us for pick up. Cost is $20. A brick is currently being made for Pat Trachsel who passed away several weeks ago.

If you have pictures of your garden, any season please share for our Newsletter Spotlight. Please send to Anita for featuring in our “spotlight”.

Thank you to Connie M. for sharing her beautiful wreaths she created for the holiday season. We look forward to seeing your pictures during the coming dreary winter months! 🌸🌸🌸🌸🌸🌸🌸🌸🌸🌸

The 2023 Advanced Training schedule is on page 7.

Please see the schedule for details on each opportunity. Be sure to watch for new programs as they are added.

CALENDAR

December 22 – Awards Dinner RSVP
Due at Extension Office

January 10 – Awards Dinner at Paola Country Club

NIGHTHAWK WINERY

On Saturday November 12th a small but enthusiastic group of MdC EMGs gathered together at the Nighthawk Winery. They had a perfect table in front of the fireplace! It was a fun social time! Thank you Rena for organizing!

Photo by Jan Thompson
On December 8th, several of the MdC EMG members gathered together to make small, minimalist style wreaths for the residents at the Osawatomie Vintage Park Assisted Living facility.

Becky Thorpe put her idea into motion and had members bring donated items to the extension office for several weeks before the final event. Members were generous in their donations and Becky did a great job of getting three types of 8 inch hoops, brass, wood and plastic, for members to use as a starting point.

Connie Murphy came to the extension office in November and gave some members a lesson on wreath making. (See page 7 for her talents!) Members perused the piles of donated items, helped each other in their efforts and fellowshipped a lot!

After the project was completed sandwiches, cider and dessert snacks were served to members.

Becky T. and Anita BV. then went to Vintage Park and delivered the wreaths. The faces of the residents had smiles, a lot of compliments on how beautiful the wreaths were and were very appreciative of our efforts.

Rena Tedrow also came up with the idea of having an ugly sweater contest at the same time. (We will advertise that more next time.) She generously brought some door prizes to hand out. Thank you Rena.

A HUGE thank you to everyone for making this a successful community outreach project. Our talents go beyond the garden! Let’s do it again next year!!
Wreaths for Residents (continued)

Photos by Jan Thompson and Anita Boyett-Voke
Wreaths are a design used in ancient times in southern Europe. They can be an assortment of flowers, leaves, fruits, twigs and many other materials that are typically constructed to form a circle. They have a very long history and multiple meanings. They could represent a person’s occupation, rank, their achievements and status. In Christianity, wreaths are used to observe the Advent season.

Connie started doing evergreen wreaths many years ago utilizing the wreath forms available at local craft stores as well as her own greens. They planted 1500 evergreens in 1975. About 2004, they purchased a machine which pushes clamps together so she can use the clamp-type forms, this is quicker and more stable.

In addition to the wreaths, she also does “grave blankets” (essentially an enormous low centerpiece large enough to cover a grave site) as well as table centerpieces. In early fall, they harvest their own evergreens and immediately put them into floral water, which contains an antibacterial, a nutrient and an acidifier to help the stems take up the water easily. Full hydration is critical for longevity of the finished pieces.

If the weather is still warm, the greens go into the cold room (about 39 degrees) Also, boxwood and arborvitae need to be harvested prior to the first freeze so they don’t turn yellow. They also harvest white pine, scotch pine, arborvitae, boxwood, evergreen euonymus, and yew, from their property. A kind neighbor shares her blue spruce with Connie, which is appreciated. Consequently, the basic wreath is an interesting mix of multiple greens even before it is decorated.

Please share YOUR garden!!
Garden Design with Maintenance in Mind

The K-State Research and Extension
Marais des Cygnes District Master Gardeners Present:
6th Annual Spring Gardening Symposium in Paola, Kansas

February 25, 2023
9:00 am – 3:30 pm
$45 registration fee
Check-in: 8:30 am

The Lighthouse Church
1402 E. 303rd St.,
Paola, KS 66071
(Park and enter on west side)
Driving directions on registration link.

This event is open to all!
The registration fee includes:
A gourmet boxed lunch, snacks, and all printed reference materials.

Registration and payment are only available online and due by February 15. Space is limited!
Here is the link to the online registration: https://tinyurl.com/MdCEMGGardenSymposium

Note: Payment for Symposium will show up as from: MdCExtension@gmail.com
Registration is not refundable.

MdC EMGs receive 5 hours advanced training credit. Other EMGs: Please ask your County Agent if AT credit is approved. For more information call 913-294-4306.

You can also find the link on our Facebook page at: www.facebook.com/mdcemg

Stacie Campbell
Marais des Cygnes EMG
“Know Before You Grow”
Understanding what you need and how much time and energy you can give to your garden.

Lenora Larson
Marais des Cygnes EMG
“Winning the Weed Wars”
A weed-free garden? Yes! Strategies range from effective weeding techniques to chemicals to mulching.

Brad Guhr
Director of Prairie Restoration, Dyck Arboretum
“Native Plant Landscaping: Best Management Practices”
Bust the myth of “no/low maintenance”.

Kevin Nelson
Douglas Co EMG
“Maintenance for the Aging Gardener”
Practical tips for staying engaged and productive in your garden for as long as you choose.

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

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.
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>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Seed Starting for a Head Start</td>
<td>Nancy Kalman, MdC EMG</td>
<td>MdC Extension Office</td>
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<tr>
<td>Jan.</td>
<td>24</td>
<td>6:30 PM</td>
<td>1</td>
<td></td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>Feb.</td>
<td>7</td>
<td>6:30 PM</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>Hydroponic Vegetable Gardening</td>
<td>Scott Catton, MdC EMG</td>
<td>MdC Extension Office</td>
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<tr>
<td>Feb.</td>
<td>21</td>
<td>6:30 PM</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>The Art of Gardening Monet Style</td>
<td>Gale McRoberts, JoCo EMG</td>
<td>Zoom link will be sent at a later date</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mar.</td>
<td>7, 21, or 28</td>
<td>6:30 PM</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>Herbs for Medicinal Use and How to Grow &amp; Maintain Them</td>
<td>Vickie Vetter-Scruggs, MdC EMG</td>
<td>MdC Extension Office</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Apr.</td>
<td>4 or 18</td>
<td>6:30 PM</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>Sustainable Gardening to Reduce Food Costs</td>
<td>Chet McCloughlin, MdC EMG</td>
<td>MdC Extension Office</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>May</td>
<td>16 or 23</td>
<td>6:30 PM</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>Native Bumble Bee Boxes for Habitat - How to Monitor &amp; Care for the Bees</td>
<td>Scott Catton, MdC EMG</td>
<td>MdC Extension Office</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>June</td>
<td>6</td>
<td>10:00 AM</td>
<td>1.5</td>
<td>The Garden Gallery Guided Tour</td>
<td>Marcia Ruse, JoCo EMG</td>
<td>In person walk and talk, JoCo Admin. Office, 119th &amp; Ridgeview Rd., Olathe: a picnic or lunch location afterwards will be planned</td>
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K-State Garden Hour Webinar, 12:00 PM, Every 1st Wednesday of the month will start Jan. 4, Registration is required for 2023 (no topic info at this time)

MdC Training Hours | Other Training Hours

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What is a Barn Quilt you ask?
By Anita Boyett-Voke

If you thought it was a quilt made of fabric that you drape over a stall door, or yourself as you worked in the barn, well, nope. A barn quilt is typically a large piece of painted wood that looks like a single quilt block and decorates the side of a barn.

Barn quilts have been around for hundreds of years. In the past, farmers used different types of folk art, including quilt-like blocks, to decorate their barns. People chose blocks to reflect particular meanings.

In the early 2000s, barn quilts became popular again — decorating not only the sides of barns but also houses and garages.

There has been some interest in having a social activity and/or class that would be Barn Quilt Painting. Some of the La Cygne area master gardeners have experience in Barn Quilt Painting and are willing to have a class. This would not qualify for any AT credit but could be fun. And, they don’t have to be the size of a barn! They can be small for your house, porch, a shed or a piece of art inside.

If you are interested please reach out to Barb S. (barbshrops@gmail.com) and she will assess if there is adequate interest.

Photograph is from Thayer Park in La Cygne and shows several barn quilt patterns.

Please like and follow the Marais des Cygnes EMGs on Facebook at www.facebook.com/mdcemg