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

EMG 2021 Rookies
By Becky Thorpe

Below is the 2021 class project on the southwest corner of the Miami county courthouse. They worked on May 21 and 28. New class members Carol V., Cyndi W., Melissa A., Billie L. and Lorie H. Looking really good.

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

The 2022 KC Water Garden Turtle Crawl Tours will start July 9th (9 am - 5 pm) with the Johnson County locations as Tour #1. Go to kcwatergarden.com (See TOURS) This is not an organized activity with MdC EMG’s, only a notice for those interested. (1 hour AT per tour.)

June 10th: South side of the courthouse is a completed project! Thanks to Becky Thorpe for the generous help and guidance for this project and all the work the team put in. We forgot to take a before picture. Members of the class are Melissa Anderson, Lori Holt, Billie Lenz, Betty McCale, Cyndi Wilson and Carol Vandenberg. Thanks to the Board Members for approving the project.
Short Term Community Service Projects

By Janette Everhart

Thru our brainstorming sessions, an EMG committee came up with a community project that would be low cost, short term and with minimal effort. We wanted to help in some capacity at the Louisburg Vintage Park facility. Becky Thorpe contacted Kim, their recreation manager to check on possibilities and Kim was thrilled to hear that we were wanting to help. She asked that we plant the 11 flowerpots at the front of the facility with some planters in shade and some in sun. Once they were planted, Kim will take care of the maintenance of the planters.

Janette Everhart volunteered to lead the project to develop the plan, purchase the plants and plant the 11 planters. The Board approved her plan and a call for volunteers went out.

On Sunday, June 12, Janette Everhart, Helen Kloepper and Carol Vandenberg met at Vintage Park in Louisburg and completed the project in under 2 hours! This was a quick, fun, and creative project despite the heat. They helped to beautify the community and brought some joy to the residents for the summer.

These were left with EMG items at the plant sale. Size 8.5, these can be found in the storage room at extension office.
From the Chair
By Jan Thompson, mdC EMG Chairperson

Such a lovely evening! So good to see all the EMGs together. . . . visiting, laughing . . . a long, several years in the making to be inside and enjoying! Donna C., Betsy H. and Susan T. did an excellent job in organizing our Awards/Recognition Dinner! The venue was so accommodating and comfortable, the food was delicious, and the Town Square staff so helpful and friendly.

We celebrated many milestones, from 5 year awards to 20 year awards! Wow! 20 years a Master Gardener . . . way to go Marty and Nancy! We want to recognize these accomplishments in our Newsletter so everyone can see what an awesome group we have.

Congratulations to all receiving an award. We so appreciate all you do to help EMG be a successful organization. Thank you to everyone who made the evening possible and to everyone that was able to make it to our event. We missed those members not able to make it and hopefully will see you soon. Hopefully, we can be back on schedule and have our 2023 Awards/Recognition Dinner in January and start our 2023 with a gathering.

AWARDS

Emeritus Award
Richard Piezuch
Kathy Doherty

Work Glove Award (Volunteer Hours)
Donna Cook

Rookie of the Year Award
Stephanie Myers

Master Gardener(s) of the Year
Chet McLaughlin
Jan Thompson

Friend of the EMG
Angela Scherman

Training Class of 2021
Melissa Anderson · Lorie Holt
Billie Lenz · Betty McCale
Carol Vandenberg · Cyndi Wilson

Graduating Class of 2021
Stacie Campbell · David Gifford
Susan Hain · Helen Kloepper
Ronda Lewis · Stephanie Myers
Shelli Shockey - (Pictured)

5 Years of Service – Class of 2017
Carmen Anthony
Tom Dela Cruz
Doris McElreath
Rena Tedrow

10 Years of Service Class of 2012
Chet McLaughlin
Kathy Nicholson
Becky Thorpe

15 Years of Service Class of 2007
Susan Thompson

20 Years of Service
Martha Sundquist – Class of 2002
Nancy Kalman – Class of 2001

Seeds of Knowledge: Advanced Training Hours
Barb Shropshire

Not Pictured: Lorie Holt and Betty McCale

Photos Courtesy of Anita Boyett-Voke. (Not all recipients were in attendance.)
Linn County Garden Tour
By Rena Tedrow

On June 9th, the EMGS embarked on a tour of five gardens around the LaCygne area.

Garden 1 (The first stop was at my garden.) Unfortunately, I did not have the veggie plants in their containers. Instead of show-and-tell, I gave a tutorial on how I grow vegetables from start to production and answered a few questions about my hoop house. I was previously utilizing the “Rain Gutter Gardening” method, but we changed the set-up this year. The 10-foot lengths (of the wood) had degraded and needed to be replaced. We went with a secondary method of “bucket gardening” that uses PVC, which should help keep mosquitoes at bay better. After the new location for the garden is finished, I'll be adding “kiddie pool gardening”, this is where a few corn plants are going. As the growing season progresses, I have promised to share photos of “how” what I do comes about.

Garden 2 Our next stop was at Janette Bennett’s Lasagna Garden. If you are unfamiliar with lasagna gardening, this is a no-dig, no-till organic method that gives you rich soil for your plants. It’s basically adding layers of organic material, such as leaves, grass clippings, etc., that given some time, will ‘cook down’ resulting in nutrient-rich soil. Fall is the optimum time to get started so you can let the materials break down over the winter. Janette started her garden 5 years ago. She started with 3 layers of wet newspaper laid directly on the grass, then topped it with 3-4” of decomposed wood, mulch, compost and old leaves. It was allowed to do its job over the winter then in the spring she made holes for her plants. Last fall, the garden was expanded using flattened cardboard boxes and it was perfect for planting this spring.

Continued on page 5
Continued from page 4

Garden 3 The third stop was at Mayor Deb Wilson’s Garden. Deb has been working on her gardens for the 10 years she and her husband have lived there. There are themes to several areas of her garden. There’s the Wizard of Oz, the Asian Garden, and her Historical Iris Garden to name a few. In the Iris Garden—her oldest Iris, dates to 1758, and she’s collected some that date back to the 1800’s. Her Asian Garden is a tribute to her family, who are of Japanese descent. Her garden is truly amazing, especially during May when her Iris are in bloom.

Garden 4 This stop was the LaCygne Community Garden, located at 317 N. 4th St. Established in 2017, it provides the community an opportunity to learn and share gardening technique and share the bounty. Produce is donated to various locations such as the LaCygne Library, which provides lunches/meals for seniors and children throughout the year. Volunteers are always welcome. To find their work schedule, visit LaCygne Community Garden | Facebook

Garden 5 And last but not least, Thayer Memorial Park. It is located on the NW corner of Broadway and Market St. The property that the park is located on was a former filling station, owned by the Thayer family. It was donated to the city to be developed by the Chamber of Commerce along with citizen volunteers. Many of the plants are donated by residents. The upkeep of the garden is performed by anyone willing to come work. On display is a collage of barn quilts — these represent the area, families, etc. Plans are to add an area for native flowers, possibly hang small barn quilts along the fence and always, the addition of more plants/flowers. Visit Thayer Memorial Park La Cygne Kansas | Facebook

Photos on pages 4 & 5 courtesy of: Diane Burnette, Barb Shropshire, Rena Tedrow and anyone not mentioned. (Some photos were from the web and photographers are unknown, but we were given permission by the individual that posted.)
Compost Bin and Raised Beds
By Chet McLaughlin

**COMPOST BIN AND RAISED BED INSTRUCTIONS AND INFORMATION**

Below are Chet's instructions and information for the compost bin and raised bed that he placed on display at the EMG Plant Sale. Many of the Master Gardeners wanted to know how they could make and place in their gardens. Thank you Chet!!

**COMPOST BINS MADE EASY**

- Pallets: 4 pallets with one dimension about 4 feet. Place the pallets where you want your compost pile and stand them up with the slats facing inward and the 4 foot side up and down. (Vertical.)
- Bungee Cords: 8 cords. Use four bungee cords to tie the upper corners together to form a box open at the top. If the bottoms need it, use 4 bungee cords to tie the bottom corners together.
- Pallets: The Equip Bid Office, in Osawatomie puts their available pallets in the southeast corner of their parking lot. Farm and Home in Paola and Orscheln in Louisburg will let you have damaged pallets as available. Please ask first and give them a kudo for helping you help the environment.
- Bungee Cords: $6.98 for a package of 20 at Home Depot.

**RAISED BEDS**

- Corner blocks (Planter Wall Block) are available at Home Depot, Menards, Lowes and other locations. They come with slots which hold 2 by 4 or any 2 by boards. They stack 7.5 inches at a time so you can make the beds as high as you want. Depending on the size of your 2 bys you can make them any length or width that you want.
- Rebar is available at lumber yards or scrap iron dealers. The corner blocks have a round hole in the center that is the perfect size for a piece of rebar to slide down in and lock the corner pieces together. (I will give pieces left over from building my home as long as the supply lasts.)

If you build a high raised bed you can fill the bottom with wood or rubble to minimize the amount of good soil you add. The organics will slowly decompose and add to your soil.

- Always place the raised bed on the ground so the rain will move down and into the ground.
- If you do not want to use the corner blocks you can purchase 4 X 4 X 8 feet posts and cut them to length and use them inside the corners of your raised bed. I would suggest screwing rather than nailing the outside boards to the corner posts. (Screws will hold better.)

**Costs:**

- Planter Wall Blocks are $3.38 each. You need four for each level you build so 4 X $3.38 = $13.52 per rise.
- Rebar comes ½ inch x 24 inches at $3.87 each. You need one per corner so 4 X $3.87 = $15.48.

If you go three or four high you will need an additional 2 X 4 X 8 feet to make the top surface complete. They cost $6.28 each. If you go with the 4 X 4 X 8 foot corner post design, they cost $10.98 and you can get by with one post up to 2 feet in height.

- For a one level raised bed at 8 feet by 4 feet with Planter wall blocks it will cost $13.52 + $15.48 + $30.54 = $69.54. Doing a corner post will save you $2.54.

I have 15 raised beds and 7 compost bins that provide annual compost for the beds. If you place cardboard in the beds and cut holes for your plants or cut rills for a line of plants, then you only weed the holes and rills. Cages hold the cardboard in place, support the plants and make it easier to pick. The cardboard will disintegrate in time to turn it under with the compost the next spring so you can start all over. Oh, it cuts down on weeding by about 90% – Yeah!!

Questions contact Chet at 913 963 7187.

Note: Tax is not included in pricing. All prices are approximate and subject to change based on availability, location, and inflation.

* A garden rill is an artificial channel that carries water from one place to another.

Photos courtesy Carol Vandenberg and Jan Thompson.
EMG Applications are available for those interested in becoming a Master Gardener on our website and at the Paola Extension office. Applications are due by July 31st. If you know of anyone interested, please let them know the applications are available. We have 7 applicants at this time!!

Becky Thorpe is needing mentors for the 2022 New EMG Class. Please contact Becky if you are interested in becoming a mentor. A mentor gives the new class member a great start in the world of master gardening and someone to help them feel welcome to EMG!

A big thank you to Janette E., Helen K. and Carol V. for completing the Vintage Park – Louisburg Short Term Community Project. Janette created the plan and budget, presented to the Board for approval and with Helen and Carol’s help planted 11 planters at the facility. Thank you Ladies!

Laraine C., Phyllis B. and Janette B. are moving on to Phase 2 of the Mound City Courthouse to be completed in the Spring of 2023. They were requested to design a landscape plan with plants and a budget for the north side of the courthouse. Laraine C. presented the plan to the Board for approval which she received. They meet in Mound City on June 23rd to present their plan for their 2023 budget planning. A very impressive and worthwhile community service project.

There will be a Garden Tour/Festival Planning Committee meeting on Tuesday, July 12 at 11:30 at the Extension Office. Please bring a sack lunch to enjoy while we brainstorm on possible ideas for a Fall 2023 event.

Definitely will continue with Vinland Valley for the complete quality and variety of plants. Lenora will see if we can find another vendor to add variety to what Vinland has but they may be our only vendor. We’ll see how that goes.

Straw was a messy bust and won’t be there next year. I’ll personally miss the seating.

We’re always open to more suggestions on how we can improve. Send your ideas to Sue Burns or Lenora Larson. Again thanks to everyone’s hard work!

Loved Harley’s plant tripods! And couldn’t do without all of Chet’s hard work and keeping everything organized throughout. Just to name a few! Looking forward to Stacy joining up as a co-chair this year to keep our check out system on track!!

On June 2nd at 2pm some of the Plant Sale Committee members met for a follow up meeting at the Paola Extension office.

Lots of good suggestions were thrown out to make next year’s sale even better. Numbers were great but improvements can and will be made to streamline check out, set up etc.

We’re looking for an “event tent” that has sides. I’m hoping we don’t need those, but it would protect not only our paperwork but, more importantly, people!

We’re going to try to set up the whole sale closer to the Extension office. We have to be closer to the office for the check out system to work. If we have bad weather we can use the over hang closer to the office for protection too.

Lenora is talking to vendors.

You can’t blame THIS rose problem on the Japanese Beetles!! Have your rose leaves turned lacy and brown like the photo provided? It looks awful! And you may worry that your rose plant is a goner. Fortunately, your plant should recover from this trauma.

Have you looked on the underside of the leaves? That is where you will find the culprits See photo number 2 for a close-up of the Saw Fly larvae (commonly referred to as rose slugs) They are small light green larvae and they like to eat the green part of the rose leaves They leave the veins of the leaf intact and do not disturb the blooms.

You can pick off the larvae if you catch it soon enough, or there is an option I do not recommend, to use a pesticide. See the article from Iowa State Extension. https://hortnews.extension.iastate.edu/faq/small-green-worms-are-eating-foliage-my-roses-what-should-i-do.
# 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>Date</th>
<th>Time</th>
<th># Hr</th>
<th>Topic</th>
<th>Speaker</th>
<th>Location</th>
<th>Link</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>June 28</td>
<td>10:30 AM</td>
<td>1 Day Lily Tour</td>
<td>at Lois Hart’s 7460 W. 255th, Louisburg; Bring a chair, lunch and a drink to enjoy around the pool. Rain date Thurs., June 30.</td>
<td>JoCo EMG AT Zoom link <a href="https://ksu.zoom.us/j/9277672568?pwd=RU5paFFyby9PajVNcnpHejZVMd6NQ09">https://ksu.zoom.us/j/9277672568?pwd=RU5paFFyby9PajVNcnpHejZVMd6NQ09</a></td>
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<tr>
<td>July 21</td>
<td>1:00 PM</td>
<td>1 Mushrooms and Their Association With Plants</td>
<td>Malissa Briggle, State Botanist, MO Dept, of Conservation</td>
<td></td>
<td>Mc Extension Office</td>
<td><a href="https://ksu.zoom.us/j/9277672568?pwd=RU5paFFyby9PajVNcnpHejZVMd6NQ09">https://ksu.zoom.us/j/9277672568?pwd=RU5paFFyby9PajVNcnpHejZVMd6NQ09</a></td>
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<tr>
<td>Aug. 18</td>
<td>1:00 PM</td>
<td>1 Sunflowers That Will Steal the Show</td>
<td>Marilyn Schmit, Platte County, NE EMG</td>
<td></td>
<td>Mc Extension Office</td>
<td><a href="https://ksu.zoom.us/j/9277672568?pwd=RU5paFFyby9PajVNcnpHejZVMd6NQ09">https://ksu.zoom.us/j/9277672568?pwd=RU5paFFyby9PajVNcnpHejZVMd6NQ09</a></td>
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<tr>
<td>Sept. 15</td>
<td>1:00 PM</td>
<td>1 Clematis Mythbusting</td>
<td>Linda Beutler, Rogerson Clematis Garden, Curator, Intern. Clematis Society</td>
<td></td>
<td>Mc Extension Office</td>
<td><a href="https://ksu.zoom.us/j/9277672568?pwd=RU5paFFyby9PajVNcnpHejZVMd6NQ09">https://ksu.zoom.us/j/9277672568?pwd=RU5paFFyby9PajVNcnpHejZVMd6NQ09</a></td>
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<tr>
<td>Oct. 29</td>
<td>1:00 - 4:00 PM</td>
<td>1.5 Participate in a Prairie Burn</td>
<td>EKBA Team</td>
<td></td>
<td>Lenora Larson's Long Lips Farm, back up date Sunday, Oct. 30</td>
<td><a href="https://ksu.zoom.us/j/9277672568?pwd=RU5paFFyby9PajVNcnpHejZVMd6NQ09">https://ksu.zoom.us/j/9277672568?pwd=RU5paFFyby9PajVNcnpHejZVMd6NQ09</a></td>
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<tr>
<td>Nov. 17</td>
<td>9:00 AM</td>
<td>1 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></td>
<td>Mc Extension Office</td>
<td><a href="https://ksu.zoom.us/j/9277672568?pwd=RU5paFFyby9PajVNcnpHejZVMd6NQ09">https://ksu.zoom.us/j/9277672568?pwd=RU5paFFyby9PajVNcnpHejZVMd6NQ09</a></td>
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**MdC Training Hours**

**Other Training Hours**

- 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
- July 6 - Growing Culinary Mushrooms at Home
- Aug. 3 - Landscaping for Wildlife
- [https://hnr.k-state.edu/extension/info-center/k-state-garden-hour-webinar-series/k_state_garden_hour.html](https://hnr.k-state.edu/extension/info-center/k-state-garden-hour-webinar-series/k_state_garden_hour.html)

Please like and follow the Marais des Cygnes EMGs on Facebook at [www.facebook.com/mdcemg](http://www.facebook.com/mdcemg)