What’s Growing On...

The latest news from the Marais des Cygnes Extension Master Gardeners

JANUARY 2023
www.maraisdescygnes.ksu.edu

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2023 Awards Dinner
Congratulations for a great job everyone!

Training Class of 2022
Back Row: (l-R) Scott Catton, Bill Vandenberg, Bob (Robert) Burns, Susan Rodgers, and Becky Thorp (Recruiter in Chief)
Front Row: (l-R) Lynn Stoner, Monica Chapman, Theresa Barr, Patty Trull, and Lyn Campbell (Not Pictured: Donna Mckee)

The Graduating Class of 2022
Melissa Anderson, Lorie Holt, Billie Lenz, Betty McCale, Carol Vandenberg & Cyndi Wilson

10 Years of Service
Jane McLaughlin

Emeritus Award
Judy Moser, Michael Poss, & Julie Perez
(Not Pictured)

Seeds of Knowledge: AT Hours
Bille Lenz

Work Glove Award 2022
Chet McLaughlin

Rookie of the Year 2022
Carol Vandenburg

Master Gardener of the Year 2022
Barb Shropshire

15 Year Service Award
Donna Cook, Shirley New, & Vickie Vetter-Scruggs

5 Years of Service
Janette Bennett, Cathy Stainbrook, & Carol Williams

The latest news from the Marais des Cygnes Extension Master Gardeners
Huge thank you to Donna C., Betsy H. and Susan T. for a wonderful evening at our Awards Recognition Dinner on January 11th. Great venue, great menu, great decorations! Always good to see everyone!

Congratulations to the Marais des Cygnes Master Gardeners with 2,680 volunteer hours turned in for 2022. Chet McLaughlin earned the Work Glove Award for his contribution to our organization. Congratulations, Chet! Would also like to mention several others that were big contributors to our total hours...thank you to Lenora L., Carol V., Anita B-V., Billie L., and Sue B. Thank you all!

It is EMG Committee sign up time! Katelyn sent an email on January 10th with the sign-up information. Please remember, you can sign up for more than one committee! We have a lot of community activities, and we need you to help make them successful. This is a great way to be involved and to get to know your fellow master gardeners. If you have any questions, please contact Katelyn or Jan T. (https://forms.gle/fTZeNYL9GmYfCBMR7)

A special call out to any “writers” in our group. Lenora writes many of our materials and would like to see if we have any others that like to write and interested to help. Please contact Lenora if you have an interest.

The 2023 Garden Symposium “Design with Maintenance in Mind” is Saturday, February 25th from 9:00 a.m. thru 3:30 p.m. Cost is $45 and registration is available online.

The Marais des Cygnes Master Gardeners are providing the breads and cookies for morning and afternoon snacks at our Symposium. Please email Jan Thompson (jkg.thompson@gmail.com) if you would like to bake a loaf of bread or 1-2 dozen cookies. We would like to provide a variety of gluten free, keto friendly as well as regular varieties. If you happen to have extra tea bags for hot tea, the Symposium is also asking for those to have a nice variety for our guests.

Part of the Symposium table decorations will include teacups. If anyone has teacups they no longer want, please contact Stacie C regarding your donation.

A tour of Deb Wilson’s iris garden in LaCygne is planned for May 11th with a rain date of May 23rd with a social time following. More information to come as we get closer to tour time. Please mark your calendars.

The Newsletter deadline is Noon on Thursday following the Tuesday Board meetings.
So Many Accomplishments in 2022 and Looking Forward to 2023!  

By Jan Thompson

The Marais des Cygnes Master Gardeners were quite busy in 2022. Following are just a few of the highlights from the year:

• **Plant Sale** – A huge Success
• **Numerous Advanced Training Opportunities** – 373 Hours recorded by EMGs
• **New Editor of EMG Newsletter** – Thank you Anita
• **New Lucy Booth** – Thank you to Nancy K, Connie, Shirley
• **Seeds for Kids** – Over 300 seed packets handed out & demonstrations
• **Short Term Community Projects** – Plants for Containers - Vintage Park, Louisburg
  Wreaths for Residents – Vintage Park, Osawatomie

AND FOR 2023 –

• "Garden Design with Maintenance in Mind" Symposium
• EMG Plant Sale
• "A September to Remember" Garden Tour
• Variety of Advanced Training opportunities
• Short Term Community Project(s)
• Trial Garden & Courthouse Garden volunteer opportunities

These are just a few of the projects on the calendar and with numerous, new ideas to come!! We have such a wonderful group of Master Gardeners and look forward to all that we can accomplish for the coming year. Have fun, stay healthy and enjoy!

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2023 EMG Clothing Order Form

Each year EMG’s can order official MdC EMG clothing to wear when at programs/events. These items will have the MdC EMG logo on them. New Class members, you actually get one clothing item at no cost (free). But please feel free to order more if you would like. **Order form with payment is due back to the Paola Extension office by January 31st.**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Name</th>
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<tr>
<td>Address</td>
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<td>Short Sleeve T-Shirt</td>
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<td>Hooded Sweatshirt</td>
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<td>Hooded, Full Zip Sweatshirt</td>
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<td>Full Length Apron</td>
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<td>Adjustable Hat</td>
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**All orders WITH payment are due to the Extension Office by January 31, 2023**

Make Checks Payable to: Marais des Cygnes Extension Master Gardeners

Reminder: New Class members get one clothing item paid for (free).
Garden Spotlight

By Chet McLaughlin

EMG TRIAL GARDEN – LABOR OF LOVE

Current Team: Chet McL. & Shirley N. are co-chairs with Dennise F-M. and Carol W. with occasional help from Jeanette E. and Debbie K.

Transition: The team is starting from scratch – again. The trial garden has moved to the Paola Community Garden. Lexus is the contact and heads up the city group that takes care of the garden. Luckily, we are taking over an area previously gardened by another group. They bequeathed us the poles for a fence, a short perimeter fence, lots of weeds and a warning that deer will eat everything we grow! Dennise, Carol, and Chet took on the job of knocking down weeds as tall as they were and covering the site with cardboard to slow down the germination of seeds in the spring. Bob and Sue hauled off the bags of burrs and other wastes for their burn pile. We have bags of goat manure to add to the soil but currently it is holding down the cardboard along with the tomato cages. We are looking for green fencing to finish the deer deterrent barrier.

Spring Preparation: Sometime in late April or early May, weather permitting, we will gather to put up our signs, pull the cardboard, distribute the goat manure, till the garden, and lay out the plan for the 60 tomato and 144 pepper plants. Shirley and Chet normally do the tilling with Shirley also doing the layout. We will need help this year! We will need to place cardboard, drill the plant holes and add the plants. With cardboard in place, we spread the straw to keep the sun from baking the plants and to help moisture around the plants. We will need to weed and water during the early plant development. Usually once a week is desirable. We are very fortunate to have two tillers and a variety of tools (shovels, fence post pounders, rakes, etc.) available through the Paola Community Garden. The volunteer caretaker of the Garden is Rule, a 90 years young gardener who everyone who uses the facility.

Summer Fun: After the plants have had a chance to get established, usually in June, we will put in the fence post for the tomato cages, erect the cages and put in the pepper cages. We will have to monitor the moisture in the ground and water as needed and weed of course. In July we will begin the weekly harvest. The tomato plants and pepper plants need to be evaluated each week and fruit counted for each set of six tomato varieties and pepper varieties. We pick a weekday that is convenient to the trial garden team. We collect data for KSU from July through September when we file a report on how each variety performed. The fruit is taken to the Osawatomie Food Pantry the same day that we pick. They have cold units to hold it until they distribute it on Wednesday.

Fall Clean Up: We continue to harvest until first frost but do not evaluate the plants. About a month after the first frost when the plants are dead and dry, we will gather the dead plant material and place it in the compost piles on site, pull the tomato fence post and all cages leaving them on site to hold the cardboard in place for the winter. If there are significant windstorms someone should check on the garden to make sure cardboard is in place. We will do any repairs on the fence. Our tools are to be stored in the tool shed just north of the garden. Plan to provide Lexus a copy of the report to KSU so she can share with her board and the city.

The Community Garden is located at 1201 Industrial Park Dr. A lot of work goes into preparing the Trial Garden for planting and harvesting. We want to encourage EMG members to sign up to help the Trial Garden Committee! Please come join us!
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.
Come be Inspired! Register for the IMGC 2023!
It’s going to be five fun days of gardening inspiration and education. Gather new ideas from international experts and hands-on classes. Visit acres of lush gardens and one of North America’s most complex and vanishing ecosystems. Make new friends, share experiences. Enjoy heartland hospitality June 18-22, 2023, when you come to Kansas to Celebrate, Educate and Grow with Extension Master Gardeners from around the world.

The signature event for Master Gardeners around the world takes place June 18-22, 2023 in Overland Park, KS. The special $397 early-bird rate includes more than 40 concurrent sessions, nationally renowned keynote speakers, six meals and much more. Register early to sign up for optional tours, workshops and evening speakers, which are likely to sell out quickly (extra fees apply). Make plans now to share this remarkable journey in person with avid gardeners like you. Visit imgc2023.com for details. https://imgc2023.com

WHERE EAST MEETS WEST

Overland Park, part of the Kansas City metropolitan area, is where the North American eastern deciduous forest transcends into the tallgrass prairie. This is where you’ll embark on your IMGC 2023 journey.

For the first time in four years, Master Gardeners from around the world will gather in person to celebrate today, educate for tomorrow and grow the future. This conference is a one-of-a-kind opportunity that will nurture the Gardener in You.

Everywhere you look, you’re going to find unforgettable experiences. Did you know that with more than 200 public fountains, Kansas City is known as the City of Fountains? Where else can you visit an exquisite Monet Garden—emulating the painter’s garden in France—meticulously designed and cared for by Master Gardeners? And yet in minutes you can enjoy some of the best barbecue in the country while you soak up our Midwestern hospitality.

CONVENTION CENTER, HOTEL AND REGISTRATION

The award-winning Overland Park Convention Center (OPCC) is the hub of IMGC 2023 activity. It’s conveniently connected to our host hotel, the modern Overland Park Sheraton. IMGC 2023 selected the Convention Center for its ease of navigation, comfortable meeting rooms, state-of-the-art technology and culinary excellence.

Overland Park Sheraton Hotel special IMGC rates range from $154 to $254 plus tax, based on type of room. Rate available three nights before and after the conference, depending on availability. On-site restaurant, fitness center, hot tub and indoor pool. Free parking.

Early bird registration is $397 and available November 2022 to March 1, 2023. Registration after March 1, 2023 is $459.

Registration includes Monday dinner, Tuesday through Thursday breakfast, Tuesday through Wednesday lunch, and Tuesday and Wednesday concurrent presentations.
## 2023 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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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Jan.</td>
<td>24</td>
<td>6:30 PM</td>
<td>1</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>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>11</td>
<td>10:00 AM</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>&quot;Twelve Months of Color&quot; (Free Speaker Series sponsored by Gardeners Connect)</td>
<td>Anne Wildeboor, OP Arboretum Horticulturist</td>
<td>Anita B. Gorman Discovery Center, 4750 Troost Ave., K.C., MO; No reservation required</td>
</tr>
<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>Feb.</td>
<td>25</td>
<td>9:00 AM - 3:30 PM</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>MdC Garden Design with Maintenance in Mind Symposium</td>
<td>Stacie Campbell, MdC EMG; Lenora Larson, MdC EMG; Brad Guhr, Dir. of Prairie Restoration, Dyck Arboretum; Kevin Nelson, DO Co. EMG</td>
<td>The Lighthouse Church, 1402 E. 303rd St., Paola; $45 registration by Feb. 15 (includes lunch/snacks); <a href="https://tinyurl.com/MdCEMGGardenSymposium">https://tinyurl.com/MdCEMGGardenSymposium</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mar.</td>
<td>25</td>
<td>8:15 AM - 4:15 PM</td>
<td>6</td>
<td>KC Garden Symposium, sponsored by Gardeners Connect</td>
<td>Joseph Tychonievich, author of plant &amp; garden books; Ed Lyon, Dir. of Reimen Gardens; Chris Fehlhaber, Chanticleer Gardens Horticulturist</td>
<td>Rockhurst University, Arrupe Hall, 54th St. and Troost Ave., K.C., MO; $96 registration fee, sign up on gardenersconnect.com (includes 6 presentations, lunch, &amp; gift bag)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mar.</td>
<td>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>
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<td>Apr.</td>
<td>18</td>
<td>6:30 PM</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>Sustainable Gardening to Reduce Food Costs</td>
<td>Chet McClaughlin, MdC EMG</td>
<td>MdC Extension Office</td>
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<tr>
<td>May</td>
<td>11</td>
<td>3:00 PM</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>Tour of Deb Wilson's Amazing Garden</td>
<td>Deb Wilson</td>
<td>La Cyne</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>May</td>
<td>16</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>
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<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>119th &amp; Ridgeview Rd., Olathe; a picnic or lunch location afterwards will be planned</td>
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<tr>
<td>Aug.</td>
<td>15</td>
<td>6:30 PM</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>Garden Tool Care and Cleaning</td>
<td>Harley Davidson, MdC EMG</td>
<td>Davidson barn</td>
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To join K-State Garden Hour, first Wednesday each month at 12, Register here for 2023: [https://hnr.k-state.edu/extension/consumer-horticulture/garden-hour/](https://hnr.k-state.edu/extension/consumer-horticulture/garden-hour/)

Lunch and Learn, 12:00 PM Every 1st Thursday of the month. Register here for 2023: [https://deeproots.org/seasonal-webinars/](https://deeproots.org/seasonal-webinars/)

Native Plants at Noon, 12:00 PM Every 3rd Thursday of the month. Register here for 2023: [https://deeproots.org/native-plants-at-noon/](https://deeproots.org/native-plants-at-noon/)

### Note:
You can register for the K-State Garden Hour for 1 HR of Advanced Training per session. If you miss a session you can go to their site and view previously recorded sessions.

The Deep Roots program also offers webinars on the 1st and 3rd Thursdays of each month. These also require registration. There is a drop down menu under Webinars for registration information for the Lunch and Learn Native Plants at Noon. If you miss one of their sessions you can also view previous sessions. These count as 1 HR of Advanced Training as well.

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### Barn Quilt Painting

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.

We would also have snacks and a social time afterwards.

If you are interested please reach out to Barb S. (barbsdrops@gmail.com) Barb has started a list and will reach out to you once we have enough people interested.

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