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

October Quarter Meeting
By Janette Everhart

News, Nash and Noodling!
The third quarter general meeting was held Tuesday, October 10th at 5:30 at the Paola Extension Office. We had a full house needing to bring in extra chairs! Jan ran the meeting from her home using Zoom to prevent the spread of those nasty fall germs.

Lots of updates from garden managers and committee chairs. Our managed gardens are being cleaned up and closed this month. Helen is wrapping up the garden tour; reviewing results of the very well received tour and preparing gifts and thank you notes for the owners. The symposium committee is busy with initial planning. Lots of changes in leadership and opportunities to become more involved. See the board meeting minutes for all the details.

And of course, there was food! The advisory board members provided quite a Taco spread with all the toppings and many delicious sides and desserts. Corn dip, guacamole, cheesy rice, beans, sopapilla cheese cake to name a few. Have you ever eaten pawpaw ice cream? If you weren’t there you missed your chance for a yummy taste!

We had a colorful basket of fresh flowers from our own cutting garden as a center piece.

Some laughs, some tears, renewing friendships and great food. What more could you want? Hope to see you at the next meeting!
(Some more pictures on page 4.)
October 25th will be the last workday for the Miami County Courthouse Garden. Tulip bulbs were recently planted which we look forward to seeing in the Spring. We will also be moving the spirit pole inside for the winter. Another beautiful garden year for the Courthouse!!

We need a replacement to fill the Superintendent of the Open Class Floriculture for the Miami County Fair in 2024. Sue B. has handled that responsibility for several years but is not able to this year. Please contact Sue B. (smbohmker@hotmail.com), Jan T. or Katelyn B. if you are interested or have any questions.

We also needed a replacement(s) for the maintenance of the Paola Extension office plantings. Deb K. will take care of the two planters in front and Carol V. will be responsible for the front signage area. Thank you, ladies for volunteering!

We will be accepting donations for our Holiday Happiness project. EMG is donating $1,000 and EMG members can donate via check payable to EMG and deliver to the Paola Extension office by Friday, December 8th. These monies will divide equally between three food pantries . . . Osawatomie, Paola and Spring Hill.

Our 1Q 2024 Annual Awards dinner is planned for Tuesday, January 30th. More details will be available in the coming months.

EMG Cookbook, with Anita B-V. leaving the group, please submit any recipes you wish to contribute to Sue B.
I am a nurse and work at a metro hospital in the emergency department. I am married to my husband, Bruce, and we have two sons, both of whom are currently in college.

I enjoy reading, learning new things, and framing pictures in my down time. I keep busy with work and family as well as many other part time hobbies. I love spending time outdoors, especially on the beach!

I am looking forward to participating in the Master Gardener program and learning more about plants and the environment in which we live and grow things. I grew up gardening with my grandfather and have not stopped since. Gardening and plants have been a part of my life ever since I can remember.

I have been an avid gardener for thirty years. I primarily tended vegetable gardens, flowering plants and landscaping. I’ve been privileged to have gardened in Kansas, Texas, Colorado and Florida. I have enjoyed the variety that each of those zones have to offer a gardener. I’ve done quite a bit of residential garden design. Previously I have been a Master Gardener through the Southward K-State District and was Garden Coordinator for the Elm Creek Community Garden in Iola, KS.

I have recently connected with the over the rainbow community garden in Osawatomie, and I am planning a few projects with them for next spring. I am looking forward to my continued education with the Master Gardener program in Miami County. See you then!!

I was born and raised in Leavenworth County, Kansas. I received a BS at KSU and an MS at ESU in Elementary Education.

I then taught for 28 plus years, the majority of which was teaching first grade at Basehor-Linwood District #458. After retiring from teaching my husband and I were full time “RVers” eventually spending most of our time in Safford, AZ. While in Arizona I attended Eastern Arizona to become a certified Master Gardener and volunteered at Our Neighbors Farm and Pantry.

Becoming a Master Gardener has been on my bucket list for decades. I have a passion for watching creation through plants and animals. I developed an appreciation for gardening from my grandmother who had a huge garden and many flowers. She allowed me to assist her in caring for the plants and consuming garden produce, especially strawberries.

She taught me games with plants: making Hollyhock dolls, dandelion necklaces, and making music using blades of grass.

Master Gardener certification will increase my knowledge of plants, and provide me an opportunity to share my passion for gardening with others.

I grew up on a farm that is still in my family today. Some of my best memories are from playing in the hay barn and fabulous meals in the field during wheat harvest.

Today, my husband and I live on roughly 30 acres and my love for the country has only grown.

I went through the Johnson County Master Gardener Class 20 years ago and am privileged to be a transferee to the Marais des Cygnes Master Gardeners!

I am looking forward to getting to know all of you!
2nd Annual Wreaths for Residents

By Jan Thompson

Who: Residents at the Vintage Park in Paola Assisted Living Facility
What: Create simple wreaths for the doors of the residents
When: Thursday, November 30th at 9:30 a.m.
Where: The Paola Extension Office
Why: Giving opportunity and outreach to the community!

We will be meeting at the Paola Extension Office to craft and create 40 wreaths at the extension office. Master Gardeners are supplying hoops, greenery, ribbon and/or wire for the wreaths as well as glue guns.

There will be a designated tote in the Hot Line Room for you to drop off any items you would like to donate. Please donate any item(s) you think would be good for creating a wreath for the residents at Vintage Park. This can include, but not limited to bells, bows, ribbon, pine cones, holly, various decorative fruit, ornaments . . . anything “holidayish”. We are hoping the residents will enjoy these through the winter season.

We will be providing sandwiches and drink for everyone in attendance (so Please RSVP). We are expecting to make 40 wreaths and have this project completed prior to the class room zoom meeting scheduled for 1:00 for our new members.

PLEASE RSVP BY MONDAY, NOVEMBER 27TH to the Paola Extension office: 913-294-4306.
What a great time for fun, fellowship and giving!! Hope to see you there!!
**2023 Marais des Cygnes Extension Master Gardener Advanced Training**

Please note: More training opportunities will be added throughout the year as they are scheduled.

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<th>Mo</th>
<th>Date</th>
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<th>Topic</th>
<th>Speaker</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Oct</td>
<td>17</td>
<td>2:00 PM</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>&quot;Creating a Beautiful Landscape to Provide a Wildlife Bridge&quot; and Tour of Vinland Valley Nursery</td>
<td>Amy Albright, nursery owner</td>
<td>1606 N 600 Road, Baldwin City, KS 66006 Meet at 1:00 to drive to Vinland Valley Nursery Carpool will be planned closer to the date. Notify Barb if you plan to attend: <a href="mailto:barbshrops@gmail.com">barbshrops@gmail.com</a> (Rain Date scheduled for Oct. 24)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Oct</td>
<td>24</td>
<td>10:30 AM</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>&quot;Art in the Garden&quot;</td>
<td>Lu Tarr, MGKGK EMG</td>
<td>Leawood Garden Club, Cure of Ars Catholic Church, 9401 Mission Rd., Leawood (Learn to use your imagination and re-purpose everyday household items such as discarded tools and iron. Add water features, stones and feeding stations into your garden)</td>
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To join K-State Garden Hour, 12 PM 1st Wed. of each month. Register here for 2023: [http://hnr.ksu.edu/GardenHour](http://hnr.ksu.edu/GardenHour)

Nov. 1 - Plants Gone Wild! - Controlling Invasive Plants

Dec. 6 - Beekeeping Basics: How to Start Your Own Colony

**Lunch and Learn, 12:00 PM, Every 1st Thursday of the month. Native Plants at Noon, 12:00 PM, Every 3rd Thursday.** Register for both webinars at [deeproots.org](http://deeproots.org) (past recordings available on website)

**MdC Training Hours**

Wildlife bridges are being used all over the world, but what does it look like in Kansas? First, we need habitat, sources of connection!

We ask our own wild neighbors: Monarchs may say gardens or "islands" of milkweed and native flowers, flying squirrels may look for intact forest canopies. Our bigger mammals prefer our streams and waterways. Bringing back native plants into our own yards, we can establish connective habitats and become the bridge that our wildlife are needing right now.

Join us for this exciting class where we explore our own backyard wildlife bridge through garden layers.

Doug Davison and Amy Albright opened Vinland Valley Nursery in 1998. Located near Baldwin City, they plant organically, they also grow and sell native plants and non-native plants to encourage plant lovers to think of themselves as naturalists and home conservationists as they garden.

The full-service garden center offers pottery, local goods, gifts, bulk products and many other services.

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**BE SURE TO GET YOUR HOURS REPORTED!!**

Go to the on line reporting site at: [ksuemg.org](http://ksuemg.org)

Click on the **On Line Reporting** at the top. (The site has been updated and looks different.)

**Step 1. On Line Reporting** will take you to the Login window.

Log on to the system using your own username and password. (If you have forgotten your information see the links at the bottom and follow the prompts.)

Once you have entered your Username and Password, Sign In. (You can also save your user name and password for future recordings.)

Once signed in it will take you to the main menu and will also show you the status of your hours.

**Step 2.** Once in the main window click on Report New Hours.

**Step 3.** From this window you can enter your AT and Volunteer hours. **Note: areas with a red * are required fields.**

Use the Drop Down menus to select the appropriate category, sub categories, dates etc. Enter a description and location.

Be sure to save your work. Once you have saved your work, select "Add New" and repeat the process.

Click on Exit at the top to end your session.

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