



K-STATE

Research and Extension
Master Gardener

What's Growing On...

The latest news from the
Marais des Cygnes Extension Master Gardeners

JULY 2018 | 104 S. Brayman St., Paola, KS 66071 | 913-294-4306 | www.maraisdescygnnes.ksu.edu

Advisory Board

Chairman — Mike Brown
Vice Chairman — Debbie Kitchell
Secretary — Becky Thorpe
Treasurer — Laraine Crawford

Members at Large

Phyllis Benedict
Sondra Dela Cruz
Betsy Hasselquist

Committees

Courthouse Garden

Phyllis Benedict

Trial Garden

Shirley New

KSU Extension Office Garden

Sue Burns & Debbie Kitchell

Lakemary

Advanced Training

Lenora Larson

Annual Awards Banquet

Donna Cook & Susan Thompson

Symposium

Susan Thompson

Plant Sale

Sondra Dela Cruz & Lenora Larson

Publicity

Judy Moser & Lenora Larson

Seeds for Kids

Jane McLaughlin

New Recruits/Mentors

Sondra Dela Cruz

2019 Garden Tour

"Your Name Here"

Send news and photos to:

Mike Brown, Chairman
mlbcoach@gmail.com

or

Judy Moser, Newsletter Editor
judy@springvalleynursery.com

CALENDAR AT A GLANCE

AUGUST

7 *Fall Vegetable Gardening*, Paola Office, 6:30

Nancy Chapman, JoCo EMG

28 *Barkeeping for Butterflies*, Paola Office, 6:30

Lenora Larson, MdC EMG

Extension Office Garden workdays are Tuesdays and Saturdays, 9 am

Courthouse Garden workdays are Wednesdays, 9 am

(both start earlier on hot days, so check with the committee chair!)

Trial Garden workdays are Tuesdays at 8 am. Food is collected and

donated to area food banks on Thursdays.

Board meetings are the 2nd Tuesday of every month, 9:30 am, Paola office

Deadline for inclusion in the newsletter is the 2nd Friday at noon.

Fall Vegetable Gardening

August 7th at 6:30 pm | Paola Office | 1 hour Advanced Training

Presented by Nancy Chapman, JoCo EMG

Harvesting tasty vegetables doesn't have to end in the fall. In fact, fall is an even better time to start and grow crops such as lettuces, radishes and broccoli. Topics will include which vegetables, how to start them, and how to extend the growing season.

Nancy Chapman has been a JoCo EMG since 2007. She has an AAS degree in Horticulture from JCCC and her BS degree in Agricultural Economics from K-State. She grew up in southern California and moved to Kansas by choice to live in our splendid four seasons.

Barkeeping for Butterflies

August 28th at 6:30 pm | Paola Office | 1 hour Advanced Training

Presented by Lenora Larson

If you offer *only* flowers, you are not a butterfly gardener. You are a bartender, a saloon-keeper, providing adult beverages to lonely spinster and bachelor butterflies. Learn how to be the best bartender possible by providing their favorite blooms. We'll also be voyeurs, watching butterfly courtship behaviors at the "Nectar Bar."

MdC EMG Lenora Larson maintains a two-acre North American Butterfly Association (NABA) certified garden in rural Paola. A proud "science geek," she has a degree in microbiology from Michigan State University and a life-long interest in wildlife, especially the creepy and crawly. She contributes a monthly "About Butterflies" column to the *Kansas City Gardener* magazine and is a frequent presenter to gardening groups.

Notes

- Watch *KC Gardener* magazine for Johnson County EMG Advanced Training classes that may be of particular interest to you. All are **approved credit hours** for Marais des Cygnes EMGs. Other garden-related events and classes require Katelyn's approval for credit.
- A committee is **nominating** new Board members to replace those whose terms will be up at the end of the year.
- The fourth quarterly meeting will be a **Horticulture Game Night** on Oct. 9 at 6:30 pm. Let the games begin!
- The **Hotline** is now available for calls on Mondays and Thursdays from 8 am to noon. Volunteers may sign up for two-hour shifts at www.SignUpGenius.com/go/4090D49ABAC22A6F58-20181. If your shift is slow, consider checking with front desk staff to notify you of any calls and help out in the Extension gardens. Watering and weeding help are always welcome.



Jan Thompson contributed this photo—part of the Courthouse Garden in all its July glory.

Early summer is a glorious time to see gardens in all their splendor. My recent vacation to North Carolina (via Missouri, Kentucky, and Tennessee) proved just how similar, yet varied, they all can be.



First stop was the Biltmore Estate in NC. This 1900s American “castle” is impressive, especially when coupled with its distinct set of gardens (Italian, Azalea, Shrub, Winery, Walled), glass Conservatory (for exotics), and this year’s special feature tie-ins to 20 Chihuly “flame-like” glass sculptures spread throughout the estate. The original garden designs were by Frederick Law Olmsted, designer of Central Park in New York City. It’s amazing what people can accomplish when money is abundantly available. What could you do with a garden staff of 40 people?

On a simpler scale were the personal gardens in Old Salem, a 1700s Moravian (early Protestants) “restored/enactors” community. They were herbalists, who also had to grow vegetable/fruit gardens for their own survival. The Moravians were among the first people to make extensive use of garden plans and recording of plants (types/quantities) used. They planted diagonal rows within their square parterres to maximize sun penetration. Small family plots but very impressive.

Visiting the Arboretum at the University of Kentucky gets one’s attention. Maintained mainly by Master Gardeners, they raise flowers for show, as well as a Kids Garden and a Vegetable tract. I learned that day lilies now come in an assortment of colors (other than orange), seeing yellows by the acres, as well as red/burgundy varieties.

If you have never been to Baker Creek Seeds (rareseeds.com) near Mansfield, Missouri, you are missing a real treat. The owner, Jeremiah Gettle, collected old buildings as well as heirloom seeds from around the world. Most all are on display/in use, interspersed with herb and vegetable gardens. They hold monthly and annual events that are open to the public.

His Director of PR, Kathy McFarland (a keynote speaker at the upcoming Missouri Master Gardeners Advanced Training session in Branson in September), gave us a personal behind-the-scenes tour of their production facilities. Their seed packing operations use state-of-the-art technologies. They also have greenhouses/high tunnels that create micro-climates that allow them to grow some of their more exotic offerings. Most of the vegetables in plots the public sees growing are used in their vegan restaurant.

All in all, it was a very educational trip. It wasn’t planned to be as such, but it’s interesting to put all the pieces together and to appreciate how people can implement similar plans in such distinctly different ways. So, how’s your garden doing? Mine is a disaster after being gone for three weeks...

—Mike Brown

Scenes from the Third Quarterly Meeting



Marais des Cygnes EMG Chair Mike Brown organized a fabulous third quarter meeting, potluck and plant swap. Sue Burns grilled hotdogs and hamburgers, and attendees brought delicious side dishes and desserts.

A business meeting followed dinner. Laraine Crawford gave the Treasurer's report (see page 4).

Volunteers brought plants and pots to exchange, and a great time was had by all, as you can see from these candid photos.

Chet McLaughlin encouraged attendees to help themselves to some items he cleared out from the chicken house.



Financial Report

As reported by Treasurer Laraine Crawford at the Third Quarterly Meeting:

Quarter 2

April 1 beginning balance	\$ 8,656.91
June 30 ending balance	13,691.26

There will be no more income for the year, only expenses.

Plant Sale

Revenue	\$23,986.35
Expenses	18,749.26
Net Profit	5,237.09

Symposium—Unexpected Income

Net Profit	\$ 1,572.50
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Estimated Plant Sale profit for 2019 is \$5,000. If there is no Garden Tour, expenses will have to be limited—e.g., not paying for part of Awards Dinner meals, not continuing with scholarship, not helping training class, not helping with “Come Grow with Us”—or some other fund-raiser will be needed.

2018 Calendar

Please visit the website for changes and updates, as new training may be added throughout the year.

Month	Date	Time	# Hrs	Topic	Speaker	Location
August	7	6:30 PM	1	Fall Vegetable Gardening	Nancy Chapman JOCO EMG	Ext Office
	28	6:30-8:00 PM	2.0	Bartending for Butterflies	Lenora Larson, MdC EMG	Ext Office
September	25	6:30 PM	1.0	Bugs and Berries: Landscaping for Birds	Nik Hiremath Birds Unlimited	Ext Office
October	9	6:30 PM	2.0 Vol	General Meeting & Pot Luck Dinner	Horticulture Game Night	Ext Office
	16	1 to 2:30 PM	1.0	Propagating Plants from Cuttings	Cheryl Boyer KSU	Ext Office

Be sure to follow the Marais des Cygnes EMGs on Facebook at www.facebook.com/mdcemg