



K-STATE

Research and Extension
Master Gardener

What's Growing On . . .

The latest news from the
Marais des Cygnes Extension Master Gardeners

AUGUST 2023
www.maraisdescygn.es.ksu.edu

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CALENDAR

- August 15** – Garden Tool Care & Cleaning
- August 22** – Vegetable Garden Extraordinaire Tour
- August 26** – Garden Owners and Liaison Dinner
- August 30** – Pre Garden Tour
- August 31** – Pre Garden Tour
- September 6** – K-State Webinar – Seed Saving from Your Garden
- September 8** – Marais des Cygnes Garden Tour
- September 9** – Marais des Cygnes Garden Tour

WORK DAYS

- Courthouse:** Wednesday – 8:00 a.m.
- Trial Garden:** Monday – 8:00 a.m.
- LaCygne Community Garden:** Tuesday & Friday • 8:00 a.m.
- Mound City Courthouse:** Varies
- New Class Flower Garden:** Varies

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

The 2023 Advanced Training schedule is on page 7. Please see the schedule for details on each opportunity. Watch for new programs as they are added.

2023 Miami County Fair

By Jan Thompson

Yes, it was **HOT** . . . a heat index of 108! Yes, we were in an un-air-conditioned Quonset hut! But thankfully, we had a good turnout of volunteers! This was the second year for the online pre-registration of entries and it seemed more people tried the online system.

Sue B. headed up the Floriculture area, Dennise F-M. managed the Horticulture and Agriculture entries and Betsy H. handled the Seeds for Kids entries. We had a great crew that helped set up and manage the receiving of entries. Volunteers included Scott C., Helen K., Janette B., Barb S., Carol V., Janette E., Patty T. and Jan T, and Mike Knoch, our community volunteer that helps every year. Hopefully, I didn't miss any names and my apologies if I did.

We saw a successful turnout of entries for Seeds for Kids with some very imaginative decorated zucchini., a huge display in the horticulture open class with Dennise estimating over 150 entries and a nice showing for the floriculture but Sue B. estimated fewer entries than last year.

At noon on Wednesday, the judging began with the judges being quite detailed at viewing all the entries

and telling us the features they were looking for, why an entry missed scoring higher, etc . . . very fascinating and educational to watch. Once judging was complete, a lot of work was needed to be completed. Cards needed to be marked with ribbon color, one of the cards filed, appropriate ribbons placed on the entries and all the information recorded in the "notebook". Dennise F-M. and Scott C. were busy into the late afternoon taking care of the Horticulture and Agriculture section.

It was apparent that some processes need to be evaluated. Many things went well. Also, suggest going forward we use Signup Genius for the EMG volunteers to help the Supervisors know who will be able to help. Dennise F-M. and Scott C. would have appreciated more volunteers to help them after judging. It was such fun to see all the entries, and everyone was thrilled to show off their wares. The Marais des Cygnes Master Gardeners were awesome and so happy to see some EMG entries!

Thank you to all for helping make the fair a fun event! (Pics on page 4!)



We are needing volunteers to sign up for our GARDEN TOUR! Please feel free to sign up for more than one shift!

Garden Tour Sign-up Genius:

<https://www.signupgenius.com/go/4090d49abac22a6f58-20232#/>

Advisory Board

Chairman — Jan Thompson

Vice Chairman — Janette Everhart

Secretary – Anita Boyett-Voke

Treasurer – Billie Lenz

Members at Large

Helen Kloepper

Barbara Shropshire

Vickie Vetter-Scruggs

Committees

Courthouse Garden

Phyllis Benedict &

Helen Kloepper

Trial Garden

Shirley New & Chet McLaughlin

KSU Extension Office Garden

Sue Burns

Advanced Training

Barbara Shropshire

Awards Banquet

Donna Cook, Susan Thompson &

Betsy Hasselquist

Symposium 2024

Janette Everhart

Plant Sale 2024

Sue Burns, Stacie Campbell

& Lenora Larson

Garden Tour

Helen Kloepper

Publicity

Lenora Larson

Seeds for Kids

Betsy Hasselquist

Social Media/Newsletter

Anita Boyett-Voke

Miami County Fair

Chet McLaughlin & Sue Burns

New Recruits/Mentors

Becky Thorpe

Newspaper Articles

Katelyn Barthol,

Extension Agent

Send news and photos to:

Anita Boyett-Voke,

Newsletter Editor

abvoke@yahoo.com

● A big thank you to everyone that helped at the **Miami County Fair** by volunteering and their exhibits!

● We received two sweet thank you notes from the **Seeds for Kids Trophy** winners.

● One month and counting . . . the **Marais des Cygnes Garden Tour** is almost here! Please help Helen K. and Carol V. by not waiting! They'll feel so much better seeing the tour shifts on the six gardens filled with volunteers! It's a great way to meet other gardeners and your fellow EMGs . . . besides all the volunteer hours.


● We're excited to have **five new EMG Master Gardeners!** Becky is getting their program organized and events planned! Thank you to Lenora L., Stephanie M., Marty S., Carol V. and Becky T. for volunteering to be their mentors! Their bios will appear in the upcoming EMG Newsletter.

● The **2024 Board nominees** are Stephanie M., Rena T., and Carol V. Their bios will appear in the September

EMG Newsletter. Our election will be in October with the new Board attending our December meeting.

● Don't wait till the last minute . . . **enter your volunteer hours** online! If you have any issues on accessing, please let Katelyn know.

● We will once again provide **EMG raised garden produce/flowers on the Garden Tour**. It will be located on a table(s) at Orange Moon (Vickie's garden). In keeping with Vickie's practice, we want to provide pesticide free only items. The items should be delivered to the extension office on **Thursday September 7th**, so we can deliver to Orange Moon.

● A **pre-tour of the six gardens** is planned for the evening of Wednesday, August 30th for 3 gardens and the evening of Thursday, August 31st for 3 gardens. Please mark your calendars as Helen and Carol V. have planned a fun pre-tour where you will see first-hand the wonderful gardens on the tour. More details to follow. 

Courthouse Workers

Phyllis B., Bill V., Carol V., Susan H., Stephanie M. and Helen K. have been working hard to keep the Courthouse Gardens looking lovely for our up and coming garden tour.

Photos by: Phyllis B.



August is a great month in the garden,
with many flowers, including dahlias, sunflowers and
other hot-colored blooms at their peak!
– unknown

Seeds for Kids at the MI CO Fair

By Betsy Hasselquist

Despite the heat, we had a great turn out.

Lots of *very* creative decorated zucchini this year! It was fun seeing the kids so enthusiastic about their projects.

There were also some beautiful zinnia displays and some market sized zucchini. Marigold entries seemed somewhat lacking with some reports of great foliage with few blooms which seems unusual. Not sure why, was it the seeds, a late marigold year or . . . ? Any ideas?

Seeds for Kids expanded educational outreach to kids through schools and libraries in LaCygne, Louisburg, Osawatomie and Paola. Osawatomie was an addition to those opportunities this year. All programs were well received and the Earth Day presentations to 5th graders were fun.

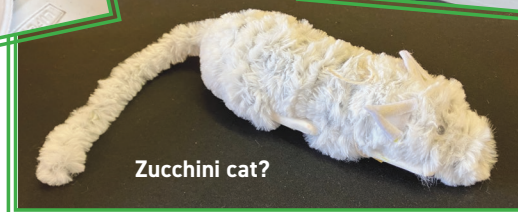
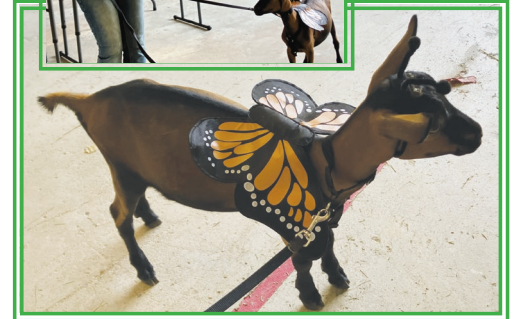
We gave out over 250 seed packets this year per entry forms. Believe that's a record!!! Reminder, informational emails were sent out per entry forms. EMGs packeted the seeds and we changed from plastic to paper envelopes. Seeds were available at our plant sale, city libraries, some school events and the Paola and Mound City Extension Offices.

Thanks to all master gardeners who made this program a success!!! And kudos to those who entered exhibits!

Of note: Online pre-registration was encouraged, although people could register at a designated area at the fair. There were lots of pre-registrations that were not actually entered. It's difficult to know what prime garden specimens will be ready for the fair weeks in advance. A work in progress. Hope you plan to participate, visit the fair next year.



Becky T. even brought one of her goats, Kalla Lily, who was a hit and could become the Seeds for Kids mascot!



Zucchini cat?

Photos from the Miami County Fair by Betsy H. and Jan T.



Class of 2022 Project & 2023 Class Info

By Becky Thorpe

The 2022 Rookie Class cutting garden project is amazing! Zinnias and sunflowers are outstanding thanks to the efforts of 2022 new members work, coordination and communication.

Flowers have been hand delivered to all three area assisted living facilities, nursing homes and senior center.

Definitely a surplus of beautiful flowers due to their efforts. Much appreciation to all and such a great representation for master gardeners.

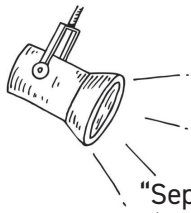
The **2023 Class** consists of five new applicants from Miami county. Interviews have been scheduled for all and they each have an EMG mentor assigned. Classes will once again be zoom with two group zoom classes at the Paola extension office.

An introductory and concluding date is also scheduled. More details will be provided in the coming weeks.



Garden Tour – Paola

By Helen Kloepper



“September to Remember” garden tour (on September 8th and 9th) has three gardens in the Paola area. Each garden has a different feel and purpose!

Miami County Court House Gardens are our own Master Gardener project begun in 2008 around the historical court house that was built in 1898.

Our connection to the gardens began with a grant from the Bear Foundation to enhance the courthouse lawn. The Garden began with the planting of a cottonwood tree. Now the gardens are maintained by a weekly crew of master gardeners led by Phyllis Benedict.

2011 saw the establishment of a Monarch Waystation with perennial milkweed and annual plantings of tropical milkweed. Over the years the gardens have expanded adding plants, trees, sidewalks, benches, an arbor, and artworks.

Orange Moon Apothecary and Farm is owned by Paul and Vicki Vetter-Scruggs. Paul and Vicki have made the 80 acres their home since 2010. Vicki, a Master Gardener with the Marais des Cygnes extension, has studied meditation and using herbal compounds for relief of physical and emotional conditions. She is a Certified Natural Health Professional and has an apothecary shop onsite.

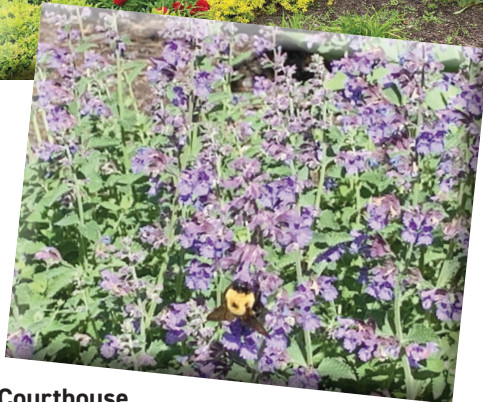
Raised beds are homes for the many herbs, berries and vegetables used in remedies and cooking. There is an onsite hoophouse that extends the growing season. The farm is also home to peacocks, goats, bee hives,

chickens and ducks. No pesticides are used on the property and it is certified as a pollinator and butterfly garden.

Flagstone Walk is owned by Tami and Terry Fowler in Hillsdale. Tami and Terry moved into their home in 2017 and immediately started renovations on the house and property. Their yard was overgrown with weeds and dying shrubs. The reclamation became a treasure hunt as flower beds and flagstone walks were uncovered.

Restoring and enhancing the garden has been Tami’s passion for the last six years. Berms and flagstone walkways outline the emerging gardens that are filled with elephant ears, hostas, impatiens and begonias that grow under spreading catalpa trees. Many of the elephant ear plants will reach heights over 6 feet, with 3 foot long leaves.

At night the garden glows with string lights. Terry has helped plan and execute the garden design, builds much of the hardscaping and works as the engineer to keep everything running.



Courthouse



Flagstone

Photos by Helen K.

2023 Marais des Cygnes Extension Master Gardener Advanced Training

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

Mo	Date	Time	# Hr	Topic	Speaker	
Aug.	15	6:30 PM	1	Garden Tool Care and Cleaning	Harley Davidson, MdC EMG	Davidson barn, 29113 Lonestar Rd., Paola; Harley will show us his property with water and vegetable garden and unique trees. Bring your folding chair, non-alcoholic drink and bug spray.
Sept.	22	11:00 AM	1	Tour a Vegetable Garden Extrordinaire	Lana Doolin	The Doolins, 29885 Antioch, Louisburg Tour a beautiful garden with a huge fenced vegetable garden and gorgeous flower beds. Learn about Lana's methods for growing her bountiful produce including raised bed gardening, organic practices and companion planting. Bring a lunch and drink for after the tour and relax on her lovely patio. Plan your own carpooling if you wish.
Sept.	9	5:00 PM	1	"Jewels of the Air: Dragonflies and Damselies"	Betsy Betros, KC area Entomologist	Idalia Butterfly Society program: Matt Ross Community Center, 8101 Marty, Overland Park Beverages and light snacks will be served.
Sept.	26	12:00 PM	1	"Managing Our Clay Soil for Greater Success"	Nancy Chapman, JoCo EMG at Leawood Garden Club Meeting	Cure of Ars Catholic Church, 9401 Mission Rd., Leawood
Sept.	26	6:30 PM	1	"What Would Mother Nature Do?"	Lenora Larson, MdC EMG	La Cygne Library, 209 N. Broadway St., Light snacks may be available Plan your own carpooling if you wish. (This is the program Lenora presented to the IMG Conference in June)
Oct.	17	2:00 PM	1	"Creating a Beautiful Landscape to Provide a Wildlife Bridge" and Tour of Vinland Valley Nursery	Amy Albright, nursery owner	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: barbshrops@gmail.com (Rain Date scheduled for Oct. 24)
<p>To join K-State Garden Hour, 12 PM 1st Wed. of each month. Register here for 2023: http://hnr.ksu.edu/GardenHour Sept. 6 - Seed-Saving From Your Garden Oct. 4 - Putting Your Garden to Bed 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 deepproofs.org (past recordings available on website)</p>						
MdC Training Hours			Other Training Hours		Red denotes new training or updated information	

MdC Advanced Training • Tuesday, August 15 – 6:30 PM • Garden Tool Care and Cleaning: Presented by Harley Davidson Davidson barn, 29113 Lonestar Rd., Paola • (Corner of 303rd and Lonestar, .5 mile south of 287th)

Harley will demonstrate techniques for keeping your garden tools in good working order. He'll share his special sand mix to clean tools in the fall for storage during the winter months.

Harley has been a MdC EMG since 2006 after retiring from UPS as a truck mechanic. He is experienced with welding and has used these skills to supply our MG group with metal repair and projects such as the plant sale plant racks and spirit pole toppers.

Please bring a folding chair, bug spray and drink if you like (non-alcoholic, as we may be trying out using some of the machinery)

Tour of Doolin Garden • Tuesday, August 22 at 11:00 AM • 29885 Antioch, Louisburg

Tour this beautiful property that includes a large fenced vegetable garden and gorgeous flower beds. Lana will give her tips for growing bountiful produce, following organic practices, and utilizing companion planting.

Bring a lunch and drink for after the tour to enjoy on the patio. Plan your own carpooling if you wish.

Lana is a member of the Louisburg Garden Club and has recently retired and able to spend more time gardening. She describes her garden plan below which includes flower beds and a darling garden shed.

"I have lived in Louisburg for 18 years. In 2015, I sketched my dream garden and began a multi-year journey in financing and building it. The first year, the ground was leveled and the raised beds constructed. During year two, I brought in organic garden soil to fill the beds and had the deer fence installed. The greenhouse was erected during the third year and I also bought the garden shed. I realized an irrigation system would make my life easier, so that was installed during the fourth year. In 2021, I replaced the mulched walkways with gravel as a more permanent solution to weeds. I retired in January 2022 and, for the first time, gardened at full capacity. I started over 2,000 seedlings, filled all 13 raised beds and greenhouse beds, and succession planted until the fall. While I have no formal education in gardening, I was fortunate to grow up in my parents' and grandparents' gardens.

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

Idalia Butterfly Society

Saturday, September 9th, 5:45 pm, at the Matt Ross Community Center, 8101 Marty St., Overland Park, KS. **Doors open at 5:00 pm.** Beverages and light snacks will be served. Meeting begins at 5:54 pm with the program immediately following a brief session of business and announcements.

Betsy Betros, noted Kansas City Area entomologist, will present "Jewels of the Air: Dragonflies." The meeting is free; visitors are welcome. Call/text 816-795-8177 with any questions.

Dragonflies are ancient insects that evolved flight 319 million years ago. Their mastery of the skies is still unmatched as these insectivores pursue dinner and mates with powerful wings that move independently and allow rapid flight in any direction as well as hovering. The eggs are laid in water and the aquatic juveniles, called naiads, are also carnivorous, dining on aquatic insects and fish. This presentation will introduce participants to the Kansas City area's dragonflies. Betsy's photographs of these aerialists in action will illustrate their beauty and their amazing aerial acrobatics.

Betsy Betros has had a life-long love of nature, particularly insects which led to a major in entomology at Colorado State University. Betsy's career has spanned 34 years, primarily in the environmental regulatory field with Johnson County's Environmental Department as well as an environmental science instructor at Johnson County Community College.



A Widow Skimmer Dragonfly. Learn more about Dragonflies, the champion mosquito eaters!

Lenora's Garden Party and More

By Lenora Larson

Lenora's Garden Party on Sunday July 16th at Longlips farm was attended by several people. She was also presented with a spirit pole full of butterflies created by Stacie C.



Photos by: Jan T. and Lenora L.



Ten blooms a night on my (Lenora's) *Datura innoxia*, which is **6 feet tall** and the night-blooming flowers are 10" deep. They are pollinated by the Hummingbird Moth, which has a 10" long tongue. This is not coincidence! And this is NOT a Moon Flower (which is a tropical morning glory). *Datura* is in the tomato family, in the same genus as Jimsonweed. So yes, it is poisonous and hallucinogenic, but that doesn't bother the moths.