



K-STATE

Research and Extension
Master Gardener

MARCH 2023
www.maraisdescygn.es.ksu.edu

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

SAVE THE DATE!
EMG 2nd QTR MEETING
TUESDAY, APRIL 11 at 5:30 p.m.
POTLUCK! • SEE NEWS & NOTES!

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It is beautiful when a plan comes together!

On Saturday, February 25th, The MdC EMGs hosted the annual Spring Garden Symposium with the theme of "Garden Design with Maintenance in Mind". Perhaps it was the recent warm weather getting everyone in the mood to garden. Perhaps it was a welcomed return after a two year absence. Perhaps it was just a job well done by all the MdC EMGs on putting together a fabulous event. Whatever it was, it was a rousing success.

The Speakers for this year's event were:

- Stacie Campbell: "Know (yourself) before your Grow"
- Lenora Larson: "Winning the Weed Wars"
- Bard Guhr: "Native Plant Landscaping: Best Management Practices"
- Kevin Nelson: "Maintenance for the Aging Gardener"

Maintaining a garden may not sound like a fun thing to talk about but based on the laughter from the audience, comments made throughout the day, and feedback from the surveys, everyone had a wonderful time. Several of the surveys commented that it was the best symposium they had ever been to! *Glowing* comments were made about the venue, food, speakers,

2023 Symposium

By Stacie Campbell



Speakers View from podium.

and the general atmosphere of the crowd. Topping it next year *will* be a challenge.

As Chair of this year's committee I can honestly say that such an event takes a lot of hard work, and would simply not be possible without the dedication and enthusiastic attitude of our wonderful committee and volunteers. The Symposium was together well before February 25th by:

- Anita Boyette-Voke – Who spearheaded the printing of the packets and other materials as well as publicized the event on our Facebook page.
- Lenora Larson – Lenora was not only a speaker but she found and arranged for the other speakers, commanded the marketing and wrote two articles for KC Gardener to peak interest.
- Betsy Hasselquist and Jan Thompsom – These two dynamos were responsible for the catering for 240 people and they knocked it out of the park! Betsy even went the extra mile for 12 of our guest to

fulfill special diet requirements.

- Stephanie Myers – In charge of registration and also arranged for help from the local high school to set up the table and chairs.
- Katelyn Barthol and Karla Hightower – Katelyn and Karla arranged for this year's registration to be completely on-line, saving everyone the hassle of dealing with checks and cash or having to make refunds when the event was sold out. This alone made a huge difference to our success.

We had many other volunteers jump up to help during the event, from filling water pitchers to keeping the snack tables stocked or helping with the door prizes.

Gardening is a hobby and as a hobby it is supposed to be enjoyable and fulfilling. The next best thing to doing gardening is talking about it and that is what the Symposium is all about. Bringing together gardeners to learn and laugh is a Master Gardener triumph. Well done Marais des Cygnes Extension Master Gardeners.

(See page 3 for more photos!)

Advisory Board

Chairman — Jan Thompson

Vice Chairman — Janette Everhart

Secretary – Anita Boyett-Voke

Treasurer – Billie Lenz

Members at Large

Helen Kloepper

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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 2023

Stacie Campbell

Plant Sale 2022

Sue Burns, Stacie Campbell

& Lenora Larson

Garden Tour

Helen Kloepper

Publicity

Lenora Larson

Seeds for Kids

Janette Bennett &

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

- **Courthouse Garden Clean Up** is Monday, March 27th at 9:00 a.m. with makeup day of Friday, March 31st. All EMGs are welcome to come help. Please bring gloves, pruners, rakes, etc. and something to put debris in. Courthouse Garden Committee meeting is Monday, March 22nd at 10:00 at the Jackson Hotel. This is for any EMGs wanting to help at the Courthouse Garden each week as well as those that have already signed up for the Courthouse Garden Committee.
- Please mark your calendar for **Tuesday, April 11th at 5:30** for our **Q2 EMG meeting** at the Paola Extension office. This will be a *potluck dinner* with everyone bringing a favorite dish as well as the **recipe**. Fried chicken will also be provided.
- Sue B. and Anita B-V. are co-chairing an **EMG Cookbook** with your favorite recipes. *They would like to have recipes that feature ingredients that you grow, or raise.* You can provide your recipes to Anita @ abvoke@yahoo.com. You can send a word file, a picture of the recipe or a hard copy that you can bring with you. Any questions please feel free to reach out to Sue or Anita.
- The next **Plant Sale meeting** is scheduled for Tuesday, April 4th, 9:30 a.m. at the Paola Extension office. All those that signed up for the Plant Sale Committee are encouraged to attend.
- Katelyn has sent the **Sign-Up Genius for the Plant Sale** held in late April. We encourage **all** EMGs to sign up and enjoy showcasing our wonderful plant offerings to the public.
- **The Spirit Pole** committee met on March 7th to come up with ideas for our spirit (garden) pole. It was decided we would make two poles – one for the IMGC auction and one for the Marais des Cygnes Master Gardeners. What a creative group . . . so excited about the ideas! Richard P. is carving and Harley D. is making a metal topper . . . very unique! Hope to be able to display at our Plant Sale.
- **Hotline** will begin in April. Katelyn will be sending out the sign-up information in the near future. We encourage each EMG to sign up for 4 hours. Hotline is on each Thursday, April thru October from 8-12. We

encourage mentors to sign up with their mentees.

- Becky T. has been busy working on our **Short Term Community Project** ideas. Becky and her committee members will be meeting to discuss how best to proceed. The Board approved a \$500 budget for their projects. They have some great ideas that will help us meet our mission of community support.
- Our Rookie class has selected to grow a **cut flower garden** at our Trial Garden location in the Paola Community Garden. Connie M. suggested a variety of cut flowers to grow which Becky ordered seeds for their project.
- The **new clothing orders** are in and available for pickup at the Paola Extension office. We did have one shirt that had a faulty seam and will be returned. Please contact Katelyn if you should have any issues with your clothing. 

CALENDAR

- March 22 – Courthouse Garden Committee meeting, 10:00 a.m., Jackson Hotel
- March 25 – KC Garden Symposium – Garden Obsession
- March 25 – How to Identify and Control Rose Pests
- March 27 – Courthouse Garden Clean Up, 9:00 a.m. (March 31st make up day).
- March 28 – Herbs for Medicinal Use; How to Grow and Maintain Them, 6:30 p.m.
- April 4 – Plant Sale Committee meeting, 9:30 a.m.
- April 5 – K-State Garden Webinar, 12 noon
- April 6 – 2023 Hotline Begins, 8-12 noon
- April 11 – 2Q EMG Potluck Dinner Meeting, 5:30 p.m.

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.

Thank you to all of our members who helped make this such a success!!



Annual Spring Plant Sale

By Lenora Larson, Co-chair

Buy and Support YOUR Plant Sale!!

Come Ready to Work (See page 5 for hours!) *Our MdC EMGs will receive a 10% discount on plants purchased late Saturday morning.*

Katelyn will soon be posting the Sign-up sheet. We particularly need specific shift sign-ups for cashiers who will receive a brief training. We will again have tally sheets for efficient organization. Shoppers can pay with cash, check or credit card. Stacie promises that it's easy to be a cashier!

Set-up begins on Wednesday the 26th at 9 am in the Extension Office parking lot with volunteers needed to place over 70 tables, following the map. Vinland Valley Nursery trucks will make their first delivery that day. I'll again be traffic director as the truck is unloaded and volunteers place the plants on the correct table. VVN has made colorful permanent metal signs (see photo) that Bob Burns will be affixing to the tables. Are they wind-proof? We'll see! Speaking of windproof, Harley Davison has designed and constructed four **HEAVY-DUTY** metal racks to hold the trees and shrubs. And we will again be using Harley's hanging basket rack. What other EMG program has its own personal blacksmith?!

Come Ready to Shop for Yourself! I have the tentative plant list as a PDF file. Please let me know if you would like a copy emailed. For the

sale, Vinland will provide laminated lists for our use in guiding shoppers. We are returning to our roots as a specialty provider of natives, butterfly host plants and unusual edibles. We will have at least 40 species of host plants, which attracts a large crowd of passionate butterfly gardeners. We also will have a wide assortment of nectar-rich ornamental, native and natar perennial, as well as colorful heirloom annuals.

Other Plant Offerings: We will have so much more! An abundance of both medicinal and culinary herbs will be offered, including five flavors of Basil and seven varieties of Thyme. Available fruit trees include varieties of Apple, Cherry, Peach and Pear plus Elderberry bushes and Grape vines. Berry bushes include Blueberries, Blackberries and Raspberries. For the vegetable gardener we will have carefully selected varieties of vegetable transplants, especially favorite varieties of tomatoes and peppers. For busy home gardeners with limited space, we will again offer patio pots of cherry tomatoes.

Traditional favorites include Clematis, Daylilies, Geraniums, Hosta, Heuchera and Peonies. We will also feature succulents and Greg Beverlin will be selling hypertufa pots. Tropical plants return, perfect as

houseplants or for an exotic touch in your garden. If you are landscaping your yard, we will have a selection of native trees and ornamental grasses.

Outreach: *The Lucy Booth* will be staffed to answer questions and **Seeds for Kids** will be onsite to encourage parents and children to participate in gardening and exhibiting at the county fair. Also, gently used gardening books will be given-away **FREE!** *Clean out your bookshelves and bring your unwanted garden books to recycle!*

Marketing: We have placed ads and articles in the March and April issues of Kansas City Gardener and Anita has done our first Facebook posting. Please share to *your* FB site!!!! I have posted our ad on Idalia Butterfly Society and Kansas Native Plant Society. Katelyn will post on our website and send our Plant Sale flier to the agent at each of our Extension neighbors. At the **April 4 Committee Meeting**, Sue Burns will organize postings of our flier at local businesses. **The best marketer is YOU!** Email and Facebook your friends. The Plant Sale has proven to be a powerful tool to fulfill our mission of educating the public about science-based horticulture. **And it's fun!**



← Our new Plant Signs!

Vinland Valley Nursery

By Lenora Larson

Vinland Valley Nursery in Baldwin City is owned and operated by Amy Albright and Doug Davidson. Daughter Bess is continuing the family tradition. Ken O'Dell helped Amy and Doug to establish their Douglas County nursery in 1998 and subsequently used them to grow plants on consignment for our annual Plant Sale since beginning in 2005. When Ken retired in 2014, we began buying our plants directly from Vinland. But the relationship is even deeper: Amy is our own Judy Moser's daughter and Judy owned the property and greenhouses that Ken operated at Spring Valley Nursery in Paola. Like Judy, Amy is a graphic designer and

"plant whisperer," able to coax life from the smallest seeds and wispiest seedlings.

Vinland Valley takes pride in their wide selection of plants grown without the use of pesticides (and still beautiful!). While they are most well-known for their huge inventory of native prairie perennials, they grow a complete inventory of plants including sun-loving ornamental perennials and annuals as well as shade-loving hostas, heuchera and ferns plus woodland spring flowers.



They also offer annual bedding plants in flats, pots and hanging baskets. Their wide selection of succulents and tropicals will create an exotic look in your garden. Herbs and selected veggie seedlings, again grown without pesticides, are provided for the discriminating vegetable gardener. Trees and shrubs include edible fruit trees and berry bushes as well as native and ornamental woody plants and ornamental grasses for landscaping. Amy, Doug and their well-trained staff offer their customers extensive expertise in selecting and growing plants. *Marais des Cygnes (Continued on page 7)*

Paola Plant Sale

April 27, 28, & 29 2023

Thursday 9:00 - 5:00

Friday 9:00 - 6:00

Saturday 9:00 - 1:00

Opens Daily at 9:00 am

**Pesticide-free, Locally Grown
More Butterfly Host Plants than ever!**



- Native Plants
- Pollinator Plants
- Herbs
- Annuals
- Perennials
- Veggies
- Succulents
- Hanging Baskets
- Trees
- Hypertufa Gifts!

913 N. Pearl, Paola, KS, 66071

The sale will be held in the parking lot of the Extension Offices
located at 913 N. Pearl, (Old KC Road) Paola, KS

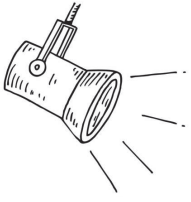


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Garden Spotlight

By Anita Boyett-Voke

Hold on Spring is just around the corner!!

As spring approaches many of us are anxious to get outside and get to work. There are endless choices and chores to do this early in the growing season. (These are just a few ideas.) You don't want to start too early or be too eager as you don't want to disturb overwintering beneficial insects. It's best if you can wait until your soil has had several days of 50 degrees or higher temperatures to give them a chance to survive your eagerness.

You may have ornamental grasses to trim. Leave approximately 5-8 inches of the old stubble, that way the tender new growth will have some protection from the early spring storms. I also like to give my liriopie a trim early, as the new growth hasn't started yet. You can gently rake leaves and smash them for mulch. (Or compost them if that's your preference.) Just be gentle, you don't want to break any tender perennials that may be peeking out of the soil.

There's usually sticks that need to be picked up. You could get your soil tested if you haven't done that in a while. If you're wanting to grow some vegetables perhaps putting in some early cold hearty crops like peas, beets, carrots, radishes (there's more), just be sure to check the soil temperature, I think 45 degrees or above is best.

If we've had some rain, pull weeds! (One of my favorite things to do!) We usually have those rainy, too cold to be outside days this time of year. Those days are a good time to plot and plan what you want to plant or even determine what plants need to go where or be moved to a different location. Or, some shopping for seeds, plants and even some garden art to add some fun to your garden area(s).

There is no one way to do so many things, the main goal is to just get busy and enjoy getting a little dirty!

Enjoy the pictures of signs of spring from several of our EMG yards.



Photos by Betsy H.



Photos by d Brown



Photos by Michael P.



Photos by Doris McE.

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	Location
Mar.	25	8:15 AM - 4:15 PM	6	"Garden Obsession", KC Garden Symposium, sponsored by Gardeners Connect	Joseph Tychonievich, author of plant & garden books; Ed Lyon, Dir. of Reimen Gardens; Chris Fehlhaber, Chanticleer Gardens Horticulturist	Rockhurst University, Arrupe Hall, 54th St. and Troost Ave., K.C., MO: \$99 registration fee, sign up on gardenersconnect.com (includes 6 presentations, lunch, & gift bag)
Mar.	25	10:00 AM	2	How to Identify and Control Rose Pests	Dr. Raymond Cloyd, Prof. in Dept. of Entomology, K-State	Loose Park Garden Center, KC, MO; afterwards Dana Fleming, KC Parks Head Rosarian will talk about organic products and how to plant a bare root rose bush
Mar.	28	6:30 PM	1	Herbs for Medicinal Use and How to Grow & Maintain Them	Vickie Vetter-Scruggs, MdC EMG	MdC Extension Office
May	16	5:00 PM	1	Hydroponics 101: Vegetable Gardening	Scott Catton, MdC EMG	MdC Extension Office
		6:30 PM	1	Native Bumble Bee Boxes for Habitat - How to Monitor & Care for the Bees		
May	25	3:00 PM	1	Tour of Deb Wilson's Amazing Garden - date change due to better bloom time	Deb Wilson	334 E. Grand St., La Cyne Deb will give a tour and talk about the planting and care of iris. A time for socializing and snacks will follow. Rain date will be scheduled if needed
June	6	10:00 AM	1.5	The Garden Gallery Guided Tour	Marcia Ruse, JoCo EMG	In person walk and talk, JoCo Admin. Office, 119th & Ridgeview Rd., Olathe; a picnic or lunch location afterwards will be planned
Aug.	15	6:30 PM	1	Garden Tool Care and Cleaning	Harley Davidson, MdC EMG	Davidson barn

To join **K-State Garden Hour**, 12 PM 1st Wed. of each month. Register here for 2023: <http://hnr.ksu.edu/GardenHour>
 Apr. 5 - Growing to New Heights with Vertical Gardening
May 3 - Drought Tolerant Plants for a Changing Landscape
 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 deeprroots.org

MdC Training Hours	Other Training Hours	Red denotes new training or updated information
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Vinland Valley Nursery (Continued)

Extension takes advantage of this expertise as we select the plants that we will offer to our customers.

Amy has been a butterfly gardener for twenty years and grows over 40 host plants for sale at their nursery since Vinland enjoys strong relationships with the Douglas County Extension Master Gardeners and Monarch Watch. The current interest in pollinators has inspired expansion of their heirloom and native annual floral offerings.

The garden center and greenhouses opened on March 1st. Even though they will deliver multiple truckloads of plants to us on April 26 and support our sale through Saturday the 29th, many of us will also shop on site. The pottery barn is filled with terra cotta and ceramic pots. Seeds, tools and gardening supplies and books are sold and mulch, compost, and topsoil are available for pickup or delivery. Vinland also provides planting and gardening maintenance services! Vinland is truly a full-service operation, owned and staffed by knowledgeable and caring people.

We are proud that Vinland Valley Nursery is our Plant Sale partner!



VINLAND
VALLEY NURSERY

MdC EMG Vickie Vetter-Scruggs: (Mar. 28) Vickie will present on herbs that are used in preparations for healthy drinks and creams. She will give advice on how to grow and harvest the plants for medicinal use.

An Extension Master Gardener since 2008, Vickie is an herbalist and has been a high tunnel grower since 2018. She grows herbs, vegetables and flowers and is a nature and animal lover. Vickie owns Orange Moon Apothecary and uses her high hoop to help her make safe and earth-friendly herbal skin care products.

"All through the long winter, I dream of my garden. On the first day of spring, I dig my fingers deep into the soft earth. I can feel its energy, and my spirits soar.

—Helen Hayes