



K-STATE
Research and Extension

CECEMBER, 2024
www.maraisdescyignes.ksu.edu

What's Growing On.....

The latest news from the Marais des Cygne 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 ~ 913-795-2829

INSIDE THIS ISSUE
News & Notes - Pg 2
Calendar - Pg 3
Adv. Training - Pg 4
Article of Interest - Pg 5-7

ADVISORY BOARD
Chairman - Janette Everhart
Vice Chair - Carol Vandenberg
Secretary - Susan Rogers
Treasurer - Lynn Campbell
Members at Large:
Helen Kloepper
Stephanie Myers
Rena Tedrow

MdC Vision Statement
We are recognized as a welcoming, knowledgeable, focused gardening volunteer team. We grow, communicate with, and educate our community and ourselves. We build lasting connections and friendships.

WORK DAYS
MiCo Courthouse Garden
Wednesday's, 8a - 10a
Trial Garden/Cut flower Garden
Tuesday's, 8a
LaCygne Community Garden
Wed and/or Fri 8a - 11a

Wreaths for Residents

If you follow the Facebook page for the *Marais des Cygnes District Extension Master Gardeners* you will have already seen the photo below. On Dec. 4th a group of 'crafty' EMGs assembled 35 wreaths for senior residents at Louisburg Healthcare & Rehab Center. We enjoyed crafting all the wreaths along with one special one for our Katelyn.



Lynn C. was asked to assemble a wreath for Katelyn. She was handed some items and did a lovely job. Thank you so much, Lynn!



Due to HIPPA restrictions, resident's photos cannot be taken. Here are some of the employees showing off the wreaths.



Committees

Courthouse Garden
Phyllis Benedict

Trial Garden
Dennise Fink-Morse,
Chet McLaughlin, Shirley New,

KSU Extension Office Garden
2024 Class (monument sign)
Deb Kitchell (planters by door)

Linn County Courthouse Garden
Lorraine Crawford

Advanced Training
Barbara Shropshire

Awards Banquet
Donna Cook, Betsy Hasselquist,
Susan Thompson

Symposium - 2024
Janette Everhart

Plant Sale
Sue Burns, Lynn Campbell,
Lenora Larson

Garden Tour (2025)
Susan Rodgers

Seeds for Kids
Betsy Hasselquist

Miami County Fair
Dennise Fink-Morse, Hort. Supt.
Betsy Hasselquist, Seeds4Kids
Supt.
Bill Vandenberg, Flori. Supt.

New Recruits/Mentors
Stephanie Myers/
Rena Tedrow

Other

Publicity
Lenora Larson

Newspaper Articles
Katelyn Barthol, Extension Agt.

Social Media/newsletters
Rena Tedrow, Editor

Articles, photos, etc. to be included in the monthly EMG Newsletter should be sent to Rena at wordet01@gmail.com **by the second Thurs. of each month.**

 **CPR Class...**

Two 'Hands only' CPR classes have been scheduled for January - Saturday, January 18th @ 9a and Tuesday, January 21st @ 6p. The location is 2100 Baptiste Dr., Paola (the former MiCo Medical Center). This is for friends and family - cost \$35pp. **To register or for more info, contact Carol V (kansaswego@yahoo.com or call/text 913-406-6306 by January 10th.**

 **Volunteer hours...**

Remember to enter your volunteer/AT hours. The sooner the better in the event you have questions. Nearly 2/3 of the EMGs have not finished entering their hours! Last day to enter is December 31st but if you can get it done by the 20th, it might give Katelyn a head start on going thru everyone's hours. P.S. This excludes the new class.

 **2025 Board officers have been elected....**

The EMG board members for 2025 are Janette Everhart, Chairperson; Carol Vandenberg, Vice-chair; Helen Kloepper, Secretary; Lynn Campbell, Treasurer. At-large members: Stephanie Myers, Rena Tedrow, Susan Rodgers.

 **Advanced Training, co-chairs...**

A huge thank you to Stacie Campbell and Stephanie Myers for your willingness to volunteer to take over for Barb S.!

 **Seeds for Kids...**

Helen Kloepper has agreed to co-chair with Betsy Hasselquist for 2025.

 **New computer....**

A new computer is being purchased for the volunteer office. Natalie Hartig will be setting it up soon!



- ▶ **Paola Extension office is closed....** December 24th - January 1st for the holidays. Katelyn will NOT be in the office after December 20th.
- ▶ **Annual Awards Banquet...** January 14th, 6-9p at Legacy Homestead, 110 W. Peoria, Paola. RSVP and payment are due at the extension office by January 8th. Please see Katelyn's email of Dec 12th for all information.
- ▶ **Annual Plant Sale...** reminder of the dates - April 23rd - 26th. Additional articles related to the plant sale follow.

MERRY WORD SEARCH

MERRY CHRISTMAS

K	F	A	M	I	L	Y	T	R	N	K	B	J	L	H
Y	M	U	T	J	C	O	R	B	S	X	G	O	J	H
Y	U	P	L	R	C	A	R	O	L	S	I	Y	I	F
Y	C	M	R	R	E	Q	N	W	E	E	V	E	N	N
L	H	F	E	E	P	E	H	D	N	D	I	J	G	O
S	R	B	T	D	S	C	S	S	Y	W	N	G	L	R
Y	I	Q	M	T	Y	E	R	C	M	C	G	S	E	T
U	S	T	O	C	K	I	N	G	S	J	A	E	I	H
U	T	L	I	G	H	T	S	T	G	S	D	N	W	P
L	M	F	L	I	O	V	S	M	S	N	J	S	E	O
K	A	V	F	X	B	I	Z	G	I	I	G	D	T	L
B	S	R	E	B	Z	S	L	E	I	G	H	X	C	E
F	K	Y	O	L	Q	H	R	N	S	N	O	W	R	U
X	N	L	R	J	F	Z	C	D	N	D	E	X	X	V
H	S	T	A	R	W	S	A	N	T	A	T	L	V	M

How quickly can you find all of the words?



- | | | | |
|------------|--------|------------|-----------|
| BOW | FAMILY | NORTH POLE | SNOW |
| CANDY CANE | GIVING | PRESENTS | STAR |
| CAROLS | JINGLE | REINDEER | STOCKINGS |
| CHRISTMAS | JOY | SANTA | TREES |
| ELF | LIGHTS | SLEIGH | |

ADVANCED TRAINING SCHEDULE

2025 Marais des Cygnes Extension Master Gardener Advanced Training Calendar

Note: Additional trainings will be added throughout the year as they are scheduled

MO	DAY	TIME	# HOURS	TOPIC	SPEAKER	LOCATION
Jan	28	12:00p	1	Annuals vs. Perennials	Lu Tarr, EMG MGGKC	Leawood Garden Club, Cure of Ars Catholic Church 9400 Mission Rd., Leawood
Feb	11-12	8:30a - 5:00p	Keep track of hours & check with Katelyn	Plan It Native - Landscape Conference presented by Deep Roots	Keynote speakers: Nancy Lawson Doug Ladd	Anita B. Gorman Conservation Center & Kauffman Conf. Center \$305 for 2-day all access ticket To register & for more information: www.planitnative.org
Jun	3rd or 17th	Late afternoon	TBD	Spring Butterfly Garden visit	Lynn Fogle former JoCo EMG	Lynn Fogle's garden 15192 W. 335th St., Paola (Note: this may be a social event depending on educational content)
MdC Training Hours			Other training hours		Red text denotes new training added or updated info.	



The **K-State Garden Hour**, is at 12:00 PM on the 1st Wed. of each month. Register online at <https://hnr.k-state.edu/extension/consumer-horticulture/garden-hour/>. Past recordings are available on the website.

Lunch and Learn, 12:00p - every 1st Thursday of the month. **Native Plants at Noon**, 12:00p - every 3rd Thursday.

Register for both webinars at deeptoots.org (past recordings available on website)

**IF YOU HAVE THOUGHTS, OR IDEAS FOR TRAINING FOR 2025
CONTACT STACIE CAMPBELL AND STEPHANIE MYERS**



2025 Plant Sale - Plant Ambassadors (PAs)

WHEN: April 23rd - 26th, 2025; INDOORS at the MiCo Fairgrounds, 401 Wallace Park Dr., Paola Lenora Larson, Co-chair

The Plant Sale Committee is currently recruiting “Plant Ambassadors” (PAs) as we’ll have over 7,000 plants for sale. YIKES! Nobody knows everything about all these plants, (except Amy*) but many of us have favorites that we love to talk about. Several of the Plant Groups have had a PA for years, other groups have been quickly claimed. Here are the 14 Groups (established by Amy many years ago) along with their PA :

- 1) Pollinator & Annual Flowerpots, Scott Catton;
- 2) Shade lovers, Debbie Kitchell;
- 3) Butterfly Host Plants, Lenora and Janette Bennett;
- 4) Herbs, culinary & medicinal, Audrey Morris;
- 5) Native Perennials, Susan Rodgers;
- 6) Ornamental Perennials, Krystal Barr;
- 7) Sun-loving Annuals**
- 8) Hanging Baskets**
- 9) Tropicals**
- 10) Vegetables, Chet McLaughlin;
- 11) Succulents**
- 12) Grasses**
- 13) Berries**
- 14) Trees and Shrubs, Betsy Hasselquist.

WE NEED VOLUNTEERS FOR THE GROUPS NOTED IN RED.

If your favorite Group is already claimed, no problem! Some of the Groups are so large that they should have several PAs, so please let Lenora know of your interest ASAP!

In April this Pennisetum purpurea 'Vertigo' grass (Group 12) is a 3" green whisp. It needs a Plant Ambassador to testify that by August it will be a 6-foot purple-black statement! OK, it is an annual in KS, but who cares when it's this beautiful?! I plant 12 Vertigos every year.



What will the PAs do? As “Plant Ambassadors”, they will assist with set-up, initial and re-stocking inventory, customer interactions and the final inventory on Saturday. Fortunately, you have an easy tool, the downloadable PDF Plant List, organized by Groups, which can be on your phone, or as a paper list. If you don’t have the 2024 plant list PDF, I can email to you as a study guide. We don’t anticipate many changes, but we do need the PAs input on which Group a plant belongs in! For example, does Sedum ‘Autumn Joy’ belong in Group 11 with the other succulents? Maybe, but last year we put it in Group #1, Pollinator Plants, because In September it reigns supreme as a pollinator flower, especially for migrating Monarchs.



These Group 11 succulent cuties still need a PA to help shoppers. You could just refer to their plant tags, then explain that some are cold-hardy, others are tropical. Plant accordingly!



PAs for these beauties could explain that many Tropicals (Group 9) can perform double duty as houseplants or summer annuals. This Purple Zebra Plant (formerly known as Wandering Jew, but always as Tradescantia zebrina) will bring drama to your living room or your shade garden or a hanging basket.

What will PAs do...continued

Another example, where should we put the native Little Bluestem Grass? (*Schizachyrium scoparium*). It could be in Group 5 as a native perennial, or Group 12 as a grass or Group 3 as a butterfly host plant (for Skippers and Common Wood Nymphs). What makes the most sense? Where would a shopper be most likely to look? Last year we placed in Group 3 for the butterflies, but maybe it should be with the other grasses? Wherever we put it, the Grass PA, the Butterfly PA and the Native Perennials PA need to know. Fortunately, you don't need a photographic memory, the PDF list will tell you its location if you have downloaded it to your phone. Just type in the common or scientific name and press "search" to see the plant in its Group, plus size and price.



Little bluestem in spring and fall. Photo from Vinland Valley's website.



During set-up, each PA will be posted at their Group's tables to ensure that all plants brought to them belong there per the PDF Plant List. Then you'll organize by species and variety on your tables and perform an inventory, which should match your PDF Group section. During the sale, the PA will assist customers in locating their Group's plants and share horticultural information as needed. If there are unsold plants at the conclusion of the sale, the PA will perform a final inventory count. It is not necessary for a PA to commit to all four days; however, they will be most needed on Wednesday's during set-up and the crazy Thursday morning feeding frenzy. You are welcome to recruit helper PAs. This should be fun and an easy way to increase your knowledge about your favorite plants!!

*Amy Albright and her husband Doug Davison own Vinland Valley Nursery, our Plant Sale grower since the beginning in 2007. Amy is the daughter of our beloved former EMG, Judy Moser.



Plant Sale Hotties.....

Lenora Larson

Members of the Plant Sale Committee and staff from Vinland Valley Nursery will introduce you to some of our favorites from the Plant Sale. Start making your shopping list and be ready to add these proven superstars to your own garden. And suggest them to shoppers during the sales, but we are our own best customers! For more information and additional photographs, Google or click on the Plants Section in the Vinland Valley Nursery website.

GROUP 2, SHADE PLANTS

Plant Ambassador Debbie Kitchell has been sharing her love and encyclopedic knowledge of woodland shade plants with us and Plant Sale customers for years. Her first choice may surprise you since “Shade Plants” includes so many favorites like Impatiens, Coral Bells (Heuchera) and Hostas. Debbie delights in a lesser known genus, the Epimediums.

With common names like “Barrenroot” and “Horny Goatweed”, who would guess this plant’s many virtues? Most of us call them by their Latin genus name, *Epimedium*. A low-growing groundcover from China and the Mediterranean, the leaves and flowers are delicious edibles for your salad. Herbalists appreciate its medicinal properties such as increasing blood flow and sexual function. Most importantly, Epimediums are celebrated by gardeners as one of the few flowering plants that flourishes in dry shade under trees. We sell both a yellow species, *E. versicolor* ‘*Sulphurum*’ and the large-flowered purple, *E. grandiflora* ‘*Lilafee*’.

Another favorite is our native **Celandine Poppy**, *Stylophorum diphyllum*, also called Wood Poppy. Some consider it invasive because it freely self-seeds, but I appreciate its enthusiasm with brilliant yellow flowers that brighten a shady spot from April through June. The leaves are also highly decorative, but the plant goes dormant in the summer heat.

Amy’s choice

As owner of Vinland Valley Nursery, Amy has access to an almost unlimited choice of shade plants. Her favorite is *Brunnera macrophylla* ‘**Jack Frost**’. This silver-leaved beauty has thrived in my own garden for over 30 years, so we can add “long-lived” to its many admirable qualities. Even during the hottest summer the leaves remain silvery if kept watered. In May small blue flowers reminiscent of Forget-me-nots bloom for at least a month. It does not spread or self-sow and is an excellent companion for other short, spreading shade plants like Impatiens and Heuchera.



A groundcover, Epimedium ‘Lilafee’ has enchanting delicate lavender flowers in spring and brilliant red foliage in fall.



Celandine Poppy is a spectacular long-blooming native perennial in partial to deep shade!



Brunnera shines silver from early spring through late fall.