

Douglas County  
  
**K-STATE**  
Research and Extension  
**Master Gardener**

# Update

January 2014

Vol. 26 No. 01

## January Monthly Meeting 2014



Please join us for our first 2014 EMG Business Meeting on Saturday, January 18. The Business Meeting will begin at 9:00 AM in the Dreher Building, followed by our Annual Activity Fair at 9:30 AM. We will close the Activity Fair at 10:25 AM to allow Michael Almon to present a class entitled "Permaculture Design of Urban Food Forests" from 10:30 AM to 12:00 NOON. This class will count as 1 ½ hours toward your 10 Advanced Education hours. Note: This meeting is open to the public. Invite your friends.

Since 1980, Michael has operated Forest Floor Permaculture, a half-acre food forest in Lawrence, KS, specializing in organic fruits and nuts. He was a co-founder of the Sustainability Action Network in 2007, and serves on the Board, as well as being a Board member of the Kansas Permaculture Institute. Michael has been an assistant instructor for the Kansas Permaculture Institute PDC courses, and has hosted the course student practicum. He has also taught weekend forest garden design workshops as one of an instructional team. In addition, he works to advance policies that preserve prime agriculture lands and support urban food production and collaborates with local sustainable agricultural groups to foster more interest in permaculture such as: the "Lawrence Fruit Tree Project" and "Cultivate Kansas City".

He designed and remodeled his home with solar space heating and solar hot water, making it well integrated into his permaculture landscape. Michael operates a home business, Paradigm Design, selling and servicing ecological building products.

Jane Cram  
EMG Vice President

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### Update

A monthly newsletter for Extension Master Gardeners in Douglas County

Douglas County Agent-Horticulture  
*Marlin Bates*

Association President  
*Mary Lochniskar*

Vice President  
*Jane Cram*

Treasurer  
*Cheryl Harmon*

Secretary  
*Sharon Laverentz*

Public Relations  
*Lisa Larsen*

Board Members  
*Susan Phillips*  
*Ginny Turvey*  
*Debbie Zabel*

New Class Representative  
*Harold Brandt*

Dg Horticulture Program Assistant  
*Stan Ring*

Editor  
*Bekki Heckman*

K-State, County Extension Councils, Extension Districts, and U.S. Department of Agriculture Cooperating

All educational programs and materials available without discrimination on the basis of race, color, religion, national origin, sex, age, or disability.

## Welcome to Marlin Bates, new horticulture agent

Marlin Bates joined the staff of K-State Research and Extension – Douglas County, as a Horticulture Extension Agent, on January 2. Marlin worked previously as a Horticulture Specialist for University of Missouri Extension in Kansas City, Missouri, and as an Adjunct Professor for Johnson County Community College in Overland Park, Kansas.



In his work in extension, Marlin has worked toward strengthening local food systems by assisting specialty crop producers and educating homeowners about fruit/vegetable gardening. He also worked on several projects with the Master Gardeners of Greater Kansas City, most of which focused on demonstration/education of food production for various audiences.

Marlin graduated from Kansas State University in 2007 with a Master of Science degree in Horticulture. His graduate studies were in vegetable production, involving foliar disease control of tomato. He also received his Bachelor of Science degree in horticulture with an emphasis in greenhouse management along with a minor in business from K-State in 2005. Marlin is excited to be a part of K-State Research and Extension in Douglas County.

## 2014 Monthly Douglas County Master Gardener Programs

**January 18, Saturday**, “Permaculture Design of Urban Food Forests”, Michael Almon.

Meeting at 9am, Presentation 10:30am-12:00noon. **Open to the public.**

**February 19, Wednesday**, “Invasives: Plants Gone Wild”, Lynn Loughary. Meeting at 9am,

Presentation 10:00am-11:00am. **Open to the public.**

**March 15, Saturday**, “Advanced Food Gardening”, Amber Lehrman. Meeting at 9am,

Presentation 10:00am-12:00noon. **Open to the public.**

**April 16, Wednesday**, “Tour of Native Plant Production”, Elliott Duemler. Meeting at 9am, Tour 10:00am-12:00noon. **Not open to the public.**

**May 17, Saturday**, “The Insectary”, Jim Harmon. Meeting at 9am, Presentation 10:00am-11:00am. **Open to the public.**

**June 18, Wednesday**, “What you Always Wanted to Know About Woody Plants”, Jason Griffin. Meeting at 9am, Presentation 10:00am-12:00noon. **Open to the public.**

**July 19, Saturday**, “Garden Photography”, Betty Goodwin. Meeting at 9am, Presentation 10:00am-11:00am. **Open to the public.**

**August 20, Wednesday**, “Garden Plots”, Tom Averill. Meeting at 9am, Presentation 10:00am-11:00am. **Open to the public.**

**September 20, Saturday**, “Tour of Hidden Valley Girl Scout Camp”, Durand Rieber, Meeting at 9am, Tour 10:00am-12:00am. **Not open to the public.**

**October 15, Wednesday**, “History of Chinese and Japanese Gardens and Design Elements”, Nancy Hope. Meeting at 9am, Presentation 10:00am-12:00noon. **Open to the public.**

**November 15, Saturday**, “Tour of the Green Roof atop the Center for Design Research”, Gregory Thomas. Meeting at 9am, Tour 10:00am-12:00noon. **Not open to the public.**



## For Kids from Nine to Ninety-nine

The EMGs who lead the Junior Master Gardener (JMG) program venture where few dare to go – an elementary school after school program. What could be more intimidating or more fun than gardening with a group of rambunctious and curious kids? Of course the chance to hold a giant Polyphemus moth would still and thrill any kid, and digging the spring garden becomes a treasure hunt for last year's potatoes and spinach. A jar of arthropods is always fun, especially when hesitant hands are brave enough to pluck one out for identification. Even the most seasoned gardener must sympathize as kids bemoan the fate of unlucky carrots and radishes chosen for thinning. Such are the experiences enjoyed (the arthropods in the jar were plastic) by EMG volunteers and Boys and Girls Club Junior Master Gardeners at the East Heights Boys and Girls program over the past three years.

The Douglas County JMG program started in 2004 and EMG Jack Landgrebe (class of 2003) was part of that initial six to eight person crew working with kids at New York Elementary. With a grant from K-State in hand Jack says that they were able to plant and maintain a vegetable garden and a butterfly garden, plant shrubs and trees in the courtyard, and lead a school cleanup each spring. I suspect that along the way they taught a bunch of 3<sup>rd</sup>-6<sup>th</sup> graders a whole lot about growing and caring for plants.

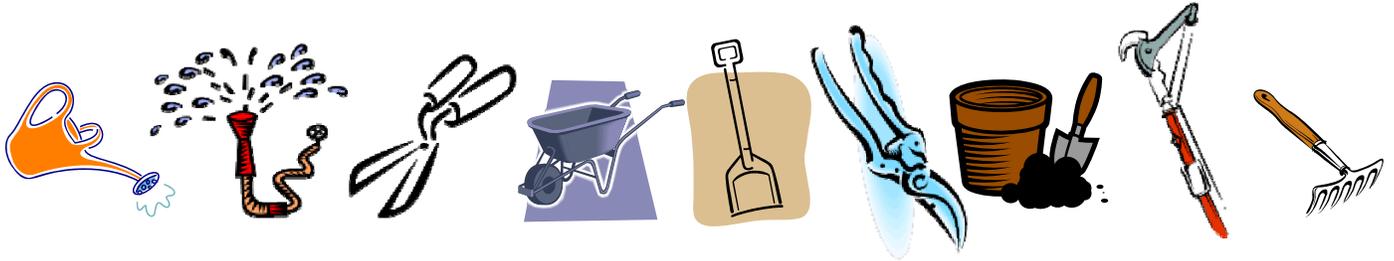
With lessons learned from these past attempts at corralling and engaging young children, the Douglas County EMGs are well on their way to designing a model JMG program. The current JMG Committee has in store for 2014 a new, expanded program that has come to fruition in meetings necessitating flowcharts and posters filled with pictures, diagrams, and arrows. There might be a good deal of clay in our backyard soils, but the JMG committee deals with shifting sands and a flowchart is a helpful amendment. Kate Forinash, the JMG coordinator, has the volunteers, the equipment, the lesson plans, a grant, and a memorandum of agreement with the Boys and Girls Club. The trouble has been finding a place to put a spade in the ground. Plans were ready for expansion of the JMG program to include two schools, the established program at East Heights and a new effort at New York Elementary School. However, scheduled remodeling of New York means existing gardens will sprout new building walls instead of plants next year. No problem, Kate spoke with New York's principal, Nancy DeGarmo, and the committee will work with container gardens next year. So, container gardens at NY, Boys and Girls after school program at East Heights, done. Oops, the Cordley Elementary School's remodel means that Boys and Girls will have to move out of East Heights to make way for temporary Cordley quarters and the JMG committee will need to find a new school. Kate and Joe were on it – alternative schools visited, pictures taken, aerial photos located – posters and arrows now outline any crevice hospitable for gardening at six schools in Lawrence. A couple more rounds of juggling space and construction schedules and a garden plan hatched for Schwegler Elementary. Kate takes these shifts in stride with a sense of humor and determination. The dedicated JMG committee is game for any garden, anywhere.

Kate says that the 2014 program will involve a total of 18-20 EMGs in various roles providing support and specialized resources - assisting in curriculum development, coordinating donations, and meeting other special needs like providing expertise in a certain subject or leading field trips. Two teams of four EMGs (plus B&G staff for backup) will mentor twelve 4<sup>th</sup> grade students at each school for one hour. The teams will use lesson plans culled from national and state JMG resources and curricula specifically designed to meet the new science standards. Formal lessons this year may include tool care and safety, photosynthesis, plant anatomy, soils, plant needs, pollinator gardens and insects, and garden planning. But as anybody who has worked with kids knows, most of what they really learn comes from interacting with adults who want to share what they love to do. For those of you thinking, "I couldn't possibly teach kids gardening", or "I'm not good with kids" – those on the committee that have made such claims in the past are inevitably the ones I'm told the kids absolutely adore.

# Garden Garage Sale

April 12, 2014

During the Douglas County Extension Master Gardeners Spring Fair



## We need your donations of used Garden "Stuff"

Any and all garden related items that we can sell at our first annual Garden Garage Sale.

Shovels, hoes, pruners, ceramic or clay pots, trowels, trellises, mowers, yard art, hoses, wheel barrels, spreaders, garden carts, plant markers

Don't store all that old stuff that's been cluttering up your shed or garage again this winter. Donate it to Spring Fair so that we can use it for this fund raiser to help support our educational programs.

Bring your items to our general meetings and they will be collected and stored until our event. If you need a special pickup let Cheryl Harmon know to make arrangements to do so.

## Upcoming EMG Events

January 18 (Sat.) Permaculture, Speaker Michael Almon

January 30 – Spring Gardening Classes – Wichita – 316-660-0138 or  
<http://2014springgardening.eventbrite.com>

March 14-16 – Outdoor Living & Landscape Show – Wichita – 316-660-0100

March 19 – Youth Lawn Mowing Clinic – Wichita - 316-660-0100

March 22 – Grow Good Food Workshop – Wichita - 316-660-0100

April 5 – Tree Festival – Wichita - 316-660-0100

April 12 – Spring Fair – Douglas County Master Gardeners – 785-843-7058

May 3 – Herb Day – Wichita - 316-660-0100

May 16-18 – Garden Tour – Wichita - 316-660-0100

July 26 – Tomato Day – Wichita - 316-660-0100

The Monthly *Update* is your chance to make your committee or activity known. If you are having organizational meetings, activities, or a call for volunteers, let the *Update* help you get the word out. Send the write up to Stan Ring at [Spring1@ksu.edu](mailto:Spring1@ksu.edu) or Bekki Heckman at [bekheck@gmail.com](mailto:bekheck@gmail.com) by the 5<sup>th</sup> of the month to be included in the newsletter.

To assure your place on the next regular meeting agenda send a request to Mary Locniskar at [maryloc@kitusa.com](mailto:maryloc@kitusa.com) 3-5 days before the meeting. You will also get a chance to speak at the meeting but this will reserve a space on the agenda.

# *Organizational Reports to Members*

## **EMG Board Meeting - November 26, 2013**

**CALL TO ORDER:** President Jane Cram called the meeting to order at 0900. Present at the meeting were Mary Locniskar, Jane Cram, Les Conder, Lisa Larson, Jim Harmon, Debbie Zabel, Roxie McGee, Susan Phillips, Jane Akob and Cheryl Harmon.

**PRESIDENT'S REPORT:** President Jane Cram congratulated President-Elect Mary Locniskar and 2014 Board. The date for the transitional Board meeting will be January 8<sup>th</sup> at 0900.

**VICE PRESIDENT'S REPORT:** Vice President Mary Locniskar has received word that Betty Goodwin will do the Gardening Photography program for the July program.

**SECRETARY'S REPORT:** Jim made the motion to accept the minutes of the previous board meeting, Roxie McGee seconded the motion and motion approved.

**TREASURER'S REPORT:** Cheryl Harmon presented bills totaling \$763.18 to be paid. Roxie McGee made the motion to pay the bills, Les Conder seconded the motion and the motion was approved.

**PUBLIC RELATIONS:** Jim Harmon reported that next year should see the formation of a committee to back the position.

**MEMBERS-AT-LARGE:** No report.

**UNFINISHED BUSINESS:** President Jane Cram reported that the Monarch Watch MOU has been completed by the Master Gardener's and has been sent to Monarch Watch for completion.

The Recognition Dinner will be December 4<sup>th</sup> at 6 p.m. Anyone with ideas for additional recognition should contact Jane Cram or Stan Ring.

President Jane Cram charged the Board to review the Long Range Plan next year. At the first meeting, the Vision Statement should be read, review goals and place a timeline for the goals.

**NEW BUSINESS:** Lisa Larson reviewed the budget for 2014. The budget will be presented to the membership in January. Jim Harmon made a motion to approve the budget, Roxie McGee seconded the motion and the motion was approved.

Roxie McGee made a motion to adjourn the meeting, Les Conder seconded the motion and the motion was approved.

*Submitted by Jane Akob, Recording Secretary*

## **EMG Monthly Meeting – November 20, 2013**

**CALL TO ORDER:** President Jane Cram called the meeting to order at 0900.

**SHARING:** Pictures of the Dallas Arboretum.

**MOTION TO APPROVE THE MINUTES:** Les Conder made the motion to approve the minutes of the previous meeting. Stew Grosser seconded the motion and motion was approved.

**REPORT OF OFFICERS:**

**PRESIDENT:** President Jane Cram reminded everyone of the EMG Recognition Dinner on December 4<sup>th</sup> at Building 1, Fairgrounds.

**VICE PRESIDENT:** Vice President Mary Locniskar gave a brief summary of the Advanced Education Program for next year. The first program will be on January 18, 2014, with the topic of Permaculture.

**SECRETARY:** No report.

**TREASURER:** Cheryl Harmon reported that we have \$16,322 checking, \$3,019 in CD's, \$100 scholarship fund with \$4,805 budget remaining. Cheryl request that any unpaid bills be turned in to her.

**PUBLIC RELATIONS:** No report.

**MEMBERS AT LARGE:** No report.

**NEW MEMBER AT LARGE:** No report.

**REPORTS OF COMMITTEES:**

**SOCIAL:** Sammie Conder thanked everyone for the donation of food and door prizes at each meeting. The EMG Recognition Dinner will be December 4<sup>th</sup> with social hour from 5-6 p.m. Please bring enough food to feed several people.

**SPRING FAIR:** Jim Harmon reported that there are signup sheets in the back of the room to sign up for the different committees. Dr. Barden and Dr. Alan Stevens will be at the Spring Fair.

**JUNIOR MASTER GARDENERS:** Kate Forinash reported that the Junior MG program continues to evolve. Next year, they are splitting the program between New York Elementary School and the Boys and Girls Club in East Heights. The plan is to introduce the 4<sup>th</sup> graders to the basics and have a spring session plus a small summer program. A Master Food Volunteer will help teach nutrition. If there are enough volunteers, they plan on a fall program.

**MONARCH WATCH:** Eileen Grosser has a signup sheet for Monarch Watch. If you have never worked at the Monarch Garden, she needs your license plate number to avoid getting a parking ticket in the KU parking lot.

**FESTIVAL OF TREES:** Cheryl Harmon reported that the MG Christmas tree will be delivered to Liberty Hall on December 1<sup>st</sup>. The auction will be Tuesday evening and the proceeds are donated. Mary Beth Musick donated this year's tree.

**UNFINISHED BUSINESS:** None.

**NEW BUSINESS:** The following members are running for election to the following offices: President, Mary Locniskar; Vice-president, Jane Cram; Secretary, Sharon Laverentz; Treasurer, Cheryl Harmon; Public Relations, Lisa Larson; Members At Large, Debbie Zabel, Ginny Turvey and Susan Phillips. Marilyn Roy added her name to the Member At Large as a write-in candidate. Ballots were handed out, collected and counted by members of the nomination committee. The officers for 2014 will be President Mary Locniskar, Vice President Jane Cram, Secretary Sharon Laverentz, Treasurer Cheryl Harmon, Public Relations Lisa Larson, Members At Large Debbie Zabel, Ginny Turvey and Susan Phillips.

Marilyn Roy made a motion to adjourn the meeting, Les Conder seconded the motion and motion was carried.

*Submitted by Jane Akob, Recording Secretary*

**Treasurer's Report**  
**December 31, 2013**

<b><u>2013 Budget vs Spending</u></b>	<b>Budgeted</b>	<b>Spent</b>	<b>Balance</b>
1. Administration	600.00	539.13	60.87
2. Demo Gardens/Building & Grounds	1350.00	1,348.75	1.25
Monarch Watch (allocated from Demo)	150.00	449.68	-299.68
Tom Swan	-0-	487.22	-487.22
3. E.M.G. New Class Training	2500.00	592.92	1907.08
4. E.M.G. Educational Class	200.00	0	200.00
5. Extension Projects	500.00	0	500.00
6. Spring Fair	1500.00	1047.66	452.34
7. Farmer's Market	50.00	53.36	-3.36
8. Festival of Trees	100.00	138.21	-38.21
9. Home Show	80.00	60.49	19.51
10. Garden Tour	1000.00	839.84	160.16
11. Resource Library	100.00	37.37	62.63
12. Mentoring	50.00	84.00	-34.00
13. Produce Distribution	100.00	0	100.00
14. Public Education	50.00	116.66	-66.66
15. Public Outreach	100.00	25.00	75.00
16. Social Committee	700.00	477.32	222.68
17. Scholarship	200.00	0	200.00
18. Jr. Master Gardeners	600.00	334.95	265.05
19. EMG Publications	<u>-0-</u>	<u>400.48</u>	<u>-400.48</u>
<b>Total:</b>	<b>\$9,930.00</b>	<b>\$7033.04</b>	<b>\$2896.96</b>

**EMG Executive Board  
Transition Meeting  
Wednesday, January 8, 2014**

**CALL TO ORDER:** President, Mary Locniskar called the meeting of the 2014 EMG Executive Board to order at 9:10 a.m. Present: Mary Locniskar, Jane Cram, Debbie Zabel, Stan Ring, Susan Phillips, Lisa Larsen, Sharon Laverentz, Ginny Turvey. Jim Harmon sat in for Cheryl Harmon's excused absence.

**PRESIDENT'S REPORT:** (Mary Locniskar)

Snacks and coffee will be provided by the EMG Executive Board at the January 18th Business Meeting.

The Executive Board reviewed the 17 tasks and 10 responsibilities of board members provided by K-State Research and Extension.

The edited By-Laws for the Douglas County Extension Master Gardener Association were reviewed and approved with minor editorial changes.

The Douglas County Extension Master Gardener Association Handbook will be reviewed at the January 29, 2014 EMG Executive Board meeting.

Garden Tour Coordinator has yet to be identified.

**VICE PRESIDENT'S REPORT:** (Jane Cram) No report

**SECRETARY'S REPORT:** (Sharon Laverentz) Minutes of the November 26, 2013 EMG Executive Board Meeting were approved.

There were expenses of \$1249.19 and a balance remaining of \$2896.96.

The 2013 budget is closed.

There is a \$1907.08 balance left on expenses for the 2013 new class training. This expense was not paid in 2013 because the bill was received too late. In the future the treasurer will make a concerted effort to get the bill in the same year the expense is incurred.

New nametag holders were ordered at a cost of \$425. At this time there is only \$60 left in the administration account.

Susan Phillips moved that the 2013 new class K-State expenses be paid out of the 2014 budget with the understanding that we may go back to the membership and ask for an increase in both the administration and new class budgets if we have to also pay expenses for the 2014 class in 2014.

## ***Douglas County EMG Activity Fair***



The Activity Fair will be held on Saturday, January 18<sup>th</sup>, from 9:30-10:30am (immediately following the General Meeting) in the North Dreher Family 4-H Building at the Douglas County Fairgrounds. The fair is one of the best ways for our members to learn about the upcoming volunteering opportunities for 2014. We have invited all committees to be available to represent their volunteer opportunities. Each committee will have table space, a sign, and a sign-up sheet available to them. Committees have been asked to be talk about the following topics at their tables: mission and nature of the committee/activity, benefits that go beyond the obvious (e.g., "best way to learn about vegetable gardening from the masters", or, "great for people who work 8-5", etc.), time of year for the activity, potential volunteer hours.

# Annual Activity Fair – Sign Up For Your Favorite Activity Now!

Below is a listing to the various committees and activities you will be able to see and join at the 2014 Activity Fair.

## 2014 Activity Fair Committee/Activity Sign-Up Form

EMG's are encouraged to serve on committees, participate in activities of interest, and to indicate a willingness to serve as a committee chair or activity coordinator.

NAME \_\_\_\_\_

I am interested in working with the following **Committees or Activities**

- \_\_\_\_\_ **Garden Tour** (planning, organizing, staffing, supporting this EMG fundraiser for 2015)
- \_\_\_\_\_ **Hotline** (assist with phone, email, and walk-in horticulture questions Apr – Oct)
- \_\_\_\_\_ **Advanced Education Programs** (planning the EMG Advanced Education Programs for 2015)
- \_\_\_\_\_ **Douglas County Fair Grounds Demonstration Gardens**, 2100 Harper Street (planning, planting, weeding, watering, and maintenance)
- \_\_\_\_\_ **Monarch Watch Waystation #1**, University of Kansas, West Campus, Foley Hall (planning, planting, weeding, watering, and maintenance)
- \_\_\_\_\_ **Tom Swan Park Demonstration Garden**, 8th and High Streets, Baldwin City (planning, planting, weeding, watering, and maintenance)
- \_\_\_\_\_ **Spring Fair** (planning and assistance for this one day Spring event for 2014)
- \_\_\_\_\_ **Farmer's Market** (Saturday mornings May-Oct. Staff EMG table for 2 hours)
- \_\_\_\_\_ **Home Show** (set-up/take-down/staffing booth - early spring)
- \_\_\_\_\_ **Public Education** (organize speakers for local groups)
- \_\_\_\_\_ **Jr. Master Gardeners** (Horticulture and nutrition activities spring, summer, or fall)
- \_\_\_\_\_ **Plant Sales** (donation, preparation, and display of plants for sale at events)
- \_\_\_\_\_ **Produce Distribution** (assist with the distribution of food to the hungry)
- \_\_\_\_\_ **Social Committee** (planning, set up, clean up of the EMG social activities)
- \_\_\_\_\_ **Mentoring** (assist new class members with the training and EMG operations)
- \_\_\_\_\_ **Garden Art** (development and sales of items in support of EMG events)
- \_\_\_\_\_ **Festival of Trees** (planning, development, set-up of the EMG entry)
- \_\_\_\_\_ **Here and There Tables** (set-up/take-down/staffing of information tables as needed)

I am interested in chairing the following committee: \_\_\_\_\_

*If you are planning to distribute handouts, papers, or publish advertisements on behalf of EMG's, these need to be reviewed by Marlin Bates, prior to distribution or publication, to make sure we are on track with Kansas State University requirements.*