



Update

September 2013

Vol. 25 No. 9

September Monthly Meeting 2013

K-State Research and Extension
Douglas County
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Update

A monthly newsletter for Extension
Master Gardeners in Douglas County

Douglas County Agent- Horticulture

Jennifer Smith

Association President

Jane Cram

Vice President

Mary Locniskar

Treasurer

Cheryl Harmon

Secretary

Jane Akob

Public Relations

Jim Harmon

Board Members

Les Conder

Lisa Larsen

Debbie Zabel

Horticulture Program

Assistant

Stan Ring

Editor

Bekki Heckman

K-State Research and Extension is an equal
opportunity provider and employer.

Please join us at our next EMG General Meeting on Wednesday, September 18. The business meeting will begin at 9:00 AM in the Dreher Building, followed at 10:00 AM by Dr. Charles Barden who will present a class entitled "Emerging Threats to Kansas Trees".

Dr. Barden has worked as a Research and Extension Forester since 1989, and began his current position as State Extension Forester at Kansas State University in 1998. He enjoys conducting practical, applied research and case studies using trees to solve environmental problems, (i.e., windbreak renovation, bioenergy, riparian buffers, and phytoremediation). He frequently advises the American Indian tribes in Kansas on natural resource issues. He oversees the Tuttle Forestry Research Station, where long term research is conducted on black walnut and other species. He was recently recognized as a Fellow of the Society of American Foresters, and an Outstanding Alumni from the Penn State Forest Resources alumni group. He earned his Ph.D. from Penn State, and his Master's degree from Virginia Tech, both in Forestry. A native of Rhode Island, he earned his B.S. degree in Natural Resource Management from the University of Rhode Island. He grew-up working in his grandfather's apple orchard, which is run today by his brother. He currently oversees the K-State Master Gardener vegetable trials.

This class will count as 1 hour of your 10 Advanced Education hours.

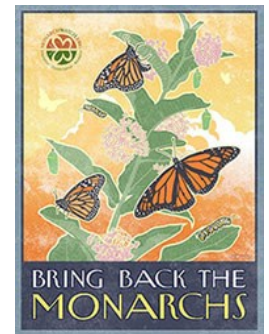
Mary Locniskar
Vice President

Monarch Watch Fall Open House Saturday, September 14th. 8 a.m. To 2 p.m.

The Monarchs Butterflies are starting their migration to Mexico. We are fortunate to have monarch Waystation #1 here. Come and enjoy their visit in the garden on KU's west campus. There will be monarch butterflies, pupae, caterpillars and more. Fun for everyone and its free! Let us show you the Monarch Watch Garden.

We will be working in the garden this Thursday with great anticipation. Come join us if you would like to prepare the garden.

Otherwise hope to see you, your family and friends Saturday, September 14th between 8:00 a.m. and 2:00 p.m.



Bottles and Bugs

EMG's - please save small or unique bottles for the Craft Committee. We will be making Bug Bottles for next year's Spring Fair. Cute bottles make cute bugs. They can be small to medium, colored glass or clear. Bring them to the monthly meetings for collection.

A Gem Of A Garden

Ten of us tread water in the muggy July air, awaiting instructions. Michele gives us the list for the morning which includes assembling a new arbor and bench for the butterfly garden, weeding, moving the old concrete bench to the bird garden, weeding, removing the grub infested irises, weeding, mulching a path for the new grass garden, weeding, and one more go at purging and organizing the garden shed. Recent rains mean no watering and “easy” weeding. Instructions received, we all move off each according to his or her ability. I’m a beginner and garden furniture assembly is a bit of an advanced task for me so I head off to weed. By the end of the morning we’ve checked everything off the list and Mary and I, we dug up the irises, are covered in mud and smiling. The gardens look fantastic and it has been another great morning at the demonstration gardens.

Did I mention how great the gardens look? I am still in awe of the new shade garden, a thriving, cool oasis with the most beautiful wren condominiums set just on the edge of the bird garden next door. The birds moved in the day the new house was installed and they seem quite happy with their accommodations. The shade garden is the most recent addition to twelve unique gardens at the Douglas County Extension Office. The gardens bordering the building and the herb collection were the only plantings when Michele Passman, current co-chair of the demonstration gardens, moved to Lawrence from Johnson County in 2003. Already a Master Gardener, Michele joined the initial three or four-person garden crew and not long after began a campaign for walking paths. Plans were already in the works for the garden shed, built in 2006, but the first cement paths were not built until 2009, shortly after Michele introduced herself to the new horticultural agent, Jennifer Smith. Since that time the volunteer crew has grown to include new co-chair Cathy Sorofman and 10-15 regular, enthusiastic volunteers. All their hard work has turned the gardens into true demonstrations of the varied possibilities for Kansas gardening.

What does a gardener do but look for opportunities to plant something? This is just how the gardens have evolved. The new circular sidewalk provided just the spot for a butterfly garden and the extra soil mounded on the edge of the sidewalk was perfect for the shrub garden. The dry, baked area next to the parking lot became the xeriscape garden and the grassy swale that receives runoff from the parking lot was perfect for a rain garden. The 2011 construction of the sidewalk on the north side of the Extension office prompted the shade garden - all that promising space beneath trees between the sidewalk and the building’s brick walls. Every one of the gardens is filled with low maintenance plants capable of growing in this part of Kansas, without the assistance of any pesticides. To demonstrate possibilities is the purpose of the gardens - the public can walk or wheel their way around and see the incredible variety of vegetables, grasses, shrubs, and flowers that will grow in Northeast Kansas, and perhaps in their own backyard. Know someone who wants a shrub for a bare corner? Tell them to go look at the varieties planted in the shrub garden to see how big they get, what the flowers really look like, and the color of fall and winter foliage. Does your neighbor want to try some ornamental grasses, or find plants that won’t double the water bill? Suggest a visit to the demonstration gardens for ideas. Information, however, is not the gardens’ sole use; school groups and families stroll through the gardens looking for bugs and fair goers relax away from the crowds and midway.

Written by Sharon Ashworth

Public Education Opportunities this Fall

Bring your expertise to the community with some demonstration opportunities this fall!



Demonstrate and provide guidance on “how to prepare your garden in the fall” and “lasagna gardening” in two workshops for staff of community child care centers who are responsible for center vegetable gardens. Workshops will be held at Building Blocks and Children’s Learning Center on September 27 and October 11 from 4:30 p.m. - 5:30 p.m. Members of the EMG “Gardening with Children” committee will coordinate and support the activity. Child care center gardens involve children in gardening and good nutrition activities. Contact Kate Forinash at joeandkateforinash@gmail.com.

Join in the fun at the Mother Earth Fair on October 13 at Watson Park. We need volunteers to develop and demonstrate a youth gardening activity for one hour on that day. Help grade school kids discover the wonders of gardening! To share your ideas and/or volunteer for an hour contact Kate Forinash at joeandkateforinash@gmail.com.

For more information about the Mother Earth News Fair go to: <http://www.motherearthnews.com/fair/kansas.aspx#about>

Photo by Bev Lloyd-Roberts

Mission, Vision and Goals - The Long Rang Plan

In January, the EMG Board requested that we form a Long Range Planning Team with three specific goals in mind:

- Identify the mission, vision and goals that we will pursue in the future
- Examine all aspects of how we operate as an organization and develop a long range blueprint for achieving our goals
- Establish the basic steps needed to reach our future vision

Planning Team Members:

Jennifer Smith, Stan Ring, Jane Cram (as President), Jim Harmon (committee chair), Susan Phillips, Donna Black;, Jack Landgrebe, Karen Ragland, Cynthia Haines, and Ginny Turvey.

After 8 months of meetings, we are ready to give you a “peak under the tent” as to our progress. Attached is our new updated Mission Statement (approved by the board) and the Vision Statements and Goals that back it up. At the November general meeting The Team will make a presentation of our full plan and how it was developed. We are very excited about our results and can't wait to share it with you.

Jim Harmon

Long Range Plan

Mission Statement

The mission of the Douglas County Extension Master Gardener program is to share research-based, horticultural information with the residents of Douglas County, in partnership with Kansas State Research and Extension.

Vision

- Increase horticultural knowledge of our volunteers through quality education
- Support and encourage sustainable gardening practices
- Share horticultural information with families, neighborhoods and schools
- Increase gender/age and racial diversity within the EMG program
- Increase the visibility of the EMG program through partnerships with the community
- Increase the efficiency and effectiveness of the EMG program

Goals (should be developed with measurable results)

- Educate and develop a group of volunteer assistants
- Impress upon members the importance of recording hours
- Develop effective ways to coordinate with other Extension programs
- Locate alternative meeting sites in Douglas County for educational outreach and organizational meetings
- Develop a procedure for succession planning of Board members and committee chairs
- Find ways to use Board Members-At-Large more effectively
- Critique current programs and services relative to the mission statement
- Develop methods to ensure and enhance good communication between committees and the membership
- Propose ways for volunteer assistants to aid the paid staff
- Review and establish new guidelines for mentoring

Upcoming EMG Events

September 14 (Sat.) Monarch Watch Open House

September 14 (Sat.) Farm Business Planning and Management, Kansas City, MO find more info: www.growinggrowers.com

September 18 (Wed.) EMG Monthly Meeting and program on Emerging Threats: Trees and Other Things in the Garden with Dr. Charles Barden-Open to the Public

September 25 (Wed.) EMG Board Meeting, 9:00 a.m.

October 4 & 5 (Fri./Sat.) Advanced Master Gardener Training, KSU

October 19 (Sat.) EMG Monthly Meeting and program on Cultural/Alternative Method of Pest Management with Dr. Raymond Cloyd-Open to the Public

October 24 (Thurs.) Growing Plants Under Artificial Light, 7:00 p.m., Topeka-Shawnee County Public Library. Call 785-232-0062 for more information.

October 30 (Wed.) EMG Board Meeting, 9:00 a.m.

November 20 (Wed.) Long range plan presentation

Upcoming Extension Events

September 24-November 12 (Tuesdays) Cooking 101, 6:00 p.m.-8:30 p.m., Bldg. 21, Douglas County Fairgrounds, \$85 per person or \$150 per couple. More information may be found at: <http://www.douglas.ksu.edu/doc48176.ashx>

October 5 & 6 (Sat./Sun.) Kaw Valley Farm Tour, Lawrence Area, for more information: www.kawvalleyfarmtour.org

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 sring1@ksu.edu or Bekki Heckman at bekheck@gmail.com by the 5th of the month to be included in the newsletter.

To assure your place on the next regular meeting agenda send a request to Jane Cram at janecram@gmail.com, 3-5 days before the meeting. This will reserve a space on the agenda.

The Hotline Challenge for September



My fescue lawn has suffered from heat and drought. My neighbor's bluegrass lawn looks better than mine. Which is a better grass to grow in this area? Why? What resources did you use to find your answer?

Oven Roasted Tomato Sauce

18 ripe Roma (paste) tomatoes, halved & cored
3 cloves garlic, finely chopped
1/2 small onion, diced
1/4 cup extra virgin olive oil
1/2 teaspoon pepper (fresh cracked-medium grind)
1 tablespoon sugar
1 tablespoon Italian seasoning
2 tablespoons fresh basil, finely chopped
1 tablespoon fresh rosemary, finely chopped

Preheat oven to 300°. Line a baking sheet with parchment paper or silpat mat.

In a microwave safe bowl combine onion, garlic and olive oil. Microwave for 30 seconds to infuse the garlic and onion into the oil. When you remove bowl from the oven you will smell the heavenly aroma of garlic and onion. Add salt, pepper, Italian seasoning and sugar to bowl and stir to combine. Place cut tomatoes in a large mixing bowl, pour in the olive oil mixture over top and toss with your hands or a spoon. Make sure all tomatoes are well coated. Place tomatoes cut side up on the baking sheet. Sprinkle with fresh basil, rosemary and any remaining olive oil mixture from the prep bowl. Place on middle rack in oven. Cook for 2 hours at 300°. If doubling recipe rotate pans 1/2 way through. Turn oven up to 400° and roast for 30 minutes, or until the tomatoes start to brown. They will be caramelized and delicious. If you prefer a brighter tomato sauce pull them out before they brown. Approximately 10-15 minutes after you turn the oven to 400°. These roasted for the full 30 minutes, you can see the edges of the tomato are nice and browned. Remove pan from oven and transfer tomatoes to the bowl of a food processor. Process until tomato sauce is at your desired consistency. I like mine saucy, not too chunky. Note: the tomatoes will cook faster if you remove the seeds, so watch your time.

Karen Whipple, EMG 2007

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

ORGANIZATIONAL REPORTS TO MEMBERS
EMG BOARD MEETING - AUGUST 28, 2013

CALL TO ORDER: President Jane Cram called the meeting to order at 9:00 a.m. Present were: Jane Cram, Mary Locniskar, Debbie Zabel, Jane Akob, Lisa Larson, Cheryl Harmon, Jim Harmon and Stan Ring.

PRESIDENT'S REPORT:

There are committee chair openings for the Garden Tour 2015, Home Show, Social, and Monarch Watch.

The election of new board members will be November 20, 2013.

The Spring Fair will be on April 12, 2014.

The Board/Committee Chair Party will be at 6:00 p.m., October 12, 2013, at Bella Sera.

The Recognition Dinner will be December 4, 2013.

Committee chairs are to submit a budget to the board prior to the October board meeting.

VICE PRESIDENT'S REPORT:

Mary Locniskar reported the Advanced Education Committee is working on the program for 2014.

SECRETARY'S REPORT: Debbie Zabel made a motion to approve the minutes of the previous board meeting. Mary Locniskar seconded the motion. Motion approved.

TREASURER'S REPORT: Cheryl Harmon submitted the treasurer's report which is attached.

It was noted *Item#12 Mentoring, Item#14 Public Education, and Item#19 EMG Publication* are negative balances. These will be left as negative balances and are subject to change when the budget is reviewed. Roxie McGee made a motion to pay the bills and agree to overspend on the negative items. Debbie Zabel seconded the motion. Motion approved.

PUBLIC RELATIONS REPORT: Jim Harmon reported the Long Range Planning Committee is developing a plan to assist the Public Relations person.

MEMBERS-AT-LARGE:

Debbie Zabel reported Junior Master Gardeners are moving from East Heights to New York School. A sustainable program is being developed for New York School to support the teachers in gardening. Lisa Larson reported the Produce Distribution Committee has collected 17,800 pounds of produce for *Just Foods*.

NEW CLASS MEMBER-AT-LARGE: Roxie McGee reported Jim Blom and Mary Beth Musick are putting together a scrapbook for the Monarch Watch Garden.

HORTICULTURE AGENT'S REPORT:

Stan Ring reported the *Mother Earth News* Fair will be October 12 and 13. The Douglas County Extension Office will have a booth. Stan Ring and Jennifer Smith are reviewing the list of speakers for purposes of advanced education hours.

The Solar Dehydrator Workshop will be September 14 co-sponsored by *Engineers Without Borders*. There are two events - making components for the solar dehydrators for third world countries, and making your own solar dehydrator. The cost is \$50.00.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS: Jim Harmon presented a new *Mission Statement* proposed by the Long Range Planning Committee. Roxie McGee made a motion to approve the new mission statement with the addition of the word 'Extension' added to read Douglas County Extension Master Gardener. Jane Akob seconded the motion. Motion approved. Mary Locniskar made a motion to announce to the general membership in September that the November program will be a presentation by the Long Range Planning Committee. Cheryl Harmon seconded the motion. Motion approved.

NEW BUSINESS: According to the By-Laws Article 6 (F), there should be an EMG Member Count in September. The Spring Fair 2014 is set for April 12, 2014. A planning meeting was held on August 17, 2013. The By-laws and Handbook are being reviewed.

Submitted by Jane Akob, Recording Secretary

EMG MONTHLY MEETING - AUGUST 17, 2013

CALL TO ORDER: President Jane Cram called the meeting to order at 9:05 a.m.

MOTION TO APPROVE THE MINUTES: The July 17, 2013 minutes should be corrected to read: *Kansasemg.org* in two places. Karen Ragland made a motion to approve the minutes. Motion seconded. Motion approved.

EXTENSION AGENT:

Stan Ring talked about the Solar Dehydrator Workshop to be held on September 14 co-sponsored by Engineers Without Borders. The cost is \$50.00.

REPORT OF OFFICERS:

PRESIDENT: The 2013 Class met August 16 at Bella Sera. There are 21 participating in the class. The first class is August 20.

If you are interested in running for an office, plan to attend the EMG Board Meeting on August 28.

VICE PRESIDENT: Mary Locniskar stated the Advanced Education Program Committee met August 16, and thanked everyone for suggestions.

SECRETARY: No report.

TREASURER: Cheryl Harmon reported income for the month was \$240.02, CD interest \$1.27. Bills for the month totaled \$846.04.

General Account	11,289.19
CD's	3,114.85
Jr Master Garden	3,290.44
EMG Scholarships (dedicated acct)	200.00
Budget amount	7,105.41
Total	24,999.89

PUBLIC RELATIONS: No report.

MEMBERS AT LARGE: No report.

NEW CLASS REPRESENTATIVE: No report.

REPORTS OF COMMITTEES:

MONARCH WATCH: Eileen Grosser reported Jim Blom and Mary Beth Musick put together a picture book for each month of the Monarch Watch Garden. The Open House for Monarch Watch Garden is September 14. Contact Eileen Grosser if you are interested in volunteering. If you are volunteering at the Monarch Watch Garden be sure Eileen Grosser has your license plate number so you can park in the KU parking lot.

FARMERS' MARKET: Donna Black reported year to date collections of produce from the Farmers' Market is 4,322 pounds, Vogt's Farms contributed 9,034 pounds for a total of 13,356 pounds.

SPRING FAIR: Jim Harmon states that the first meeting for the Spring Fair will be soon. No date has been set for the Spring Fair. Also, Gardening 102 will be August 24. There is a \$10.00 charge.

PLANTS: Carole Mitchell stated EMG's should bring plants to share to the next general meeting on September 18.

Ruth Ellen Bartels wanted a clarification on the Heritage Tree project as far as returning the funds. President Jane Cram explained the money was being returned because Jennifer Smith will put the stories from the project on the website. The money was to be used for printing brochures, etc.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS: None

NEW BUSINESS:

Stan Ring stated the monthly EMG Update will change as the office staff will be using Microsoft Publisher. Information should still be submitted to Stan Ring or Bekki Heckman for the Update.

Bekki Heckman questioned whether EMG's would get credit for classes at the *Mother Earth Fair*. Stan Ring says that has yet to be decided.

Donna Black states that the Garden Tour Committee for 2015 needs one or two volunteers to identify gardens for the tour.

Motion to adjourn was made by Karen Ragland. Motion seconded. Meeting adjourned.

Submitted by Jane Akob, Recording Secretary

TREASURER'S UPDATE

Aug 31, 2013

Assets:

General Account	\$16,162.14
CD's	\$3,1114.85
Jr Master Gardeners	\$3,290.44
Budget Amount	\$6,461.64
Dedicated Acct: EMG Scholarships	<u>\$ 100.00</u>
Total:	\$29,129.07

Spending vs 2013 Budget

	Budgeted	Spent	Balance
Administration/Awards	600.00	346.10	253.90
General Gardens/Building & Grounds	1350.00	1207.45	142.55
Monarch Watch	150.00	28.96	121.04
Tom Swan			
E.M.G. Training Class	2500.00	172.92	2327.08
E.M.G. Educational Class	200.00		200.00
Extension Projects	500.00		500.00
Spring Fair	1500.00		1500.00
Farmer's Market/Outreach	50.00		50.00
Festival of Trees	100.00		100.00
Garden & Home Show/Outreach	80.00	60.49	19.51
Garden Tour	1000.00	839.84	160.16
Resource Library	100.00	30.85	69.15
Mentoring/Recruitment/Retention	50.00	81.38	-31.38
Produce Distribution	100.00		100.00
Public Education/Outreach	50.00	80.00	-30.00
Public Relations/Outreach	100.00	25.00	75.00
Social Committee	700.00		700.00
Scholarship	200.00		200.00
Jr. Master Gardener	600.00	194.89	405.11
EMG Publications	<u>-0-</u>	<u>400.48</u>	<u>-400.48</u>
Total:	\$9930.00	\$3,568.36	\$6,461.64