

Kansas State University



GARDENS

NEWS

Fall 2021





Kansas State University GARDENS

*Constructed and maintained by the
Department of Horticulture
and Natural Resources*

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Marcia Cooper
Libby Cyr
Nancy Farrar
Don Glaser
Kendra Kuhlman
Tim Lindemuth
Jo Lyle
Cindi Morris
Terry Olson
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Photo Credit

Thanks to Joan Wasser who provided many of the photos for this newsletter

From the Director of the Gardens

As many longtime Garden supporters are aware, the original Gardens on campus had a reflecting pool in the formal rose garden. The Friends of the Gardens have been raising funds to develop a new reflecting pool in the conservatory garden just north of the Bidwell Family Fountain. The two existing arbors will serve as entrances into the reflecting pool and plaza. We are very close to making this a reality in 2022!

Over \$900,000 in donations and pledges have been raised for the reflecting pool project and if we raise an additional \$50,000 in 2021 and construction costs stay somewhat stable, we should be able to break ground in spring 2022. If you would like to support this project, please don't wait. Send your contribution to the K-State Gardens or directly to the KSU Foundation. Please make sure that your contribution is directed to the Kansas State Gardens Projects Fund (D14610) to specifically support the reflecting pool project.

Thank you for being a Friend of the Gardens. We look forward to seeing your reflection in the Gardens soon!

Scott McElwain

K-State Gardens Director



From the President of the Friends

Throughout the last year the K-State Gardens have bloomed in all their splendor, undeterred by virus and closures. We officially reopened August 1st to give our community a place to continue healing in nature. Every day we welcome visitors like you to our five acres of formal gardens. You come to breathe in the fresh air, admire the changing colors and growth, learn about plants, spend time with family and friends, and participate in activities like our iris and daylily sales and the June Master Gardeners Tour. Even in the face of many financial challenges, we have continued to provide so many resources and services to our community. The K-State Gardens have been here for you.

Not only are our plants and flowers growing, but so is our Friends of the Gardens board of directors. Please welcome our newest board members Terry Olson, Val Converse and Kendra Kuhlman, who are already hard at work using their talents in support of the Gardens. We also say thank you to outgoing board members Sally Lindquist, Kathy Hasler, Janice Flanary and Greta Baack who will continue to volunteer and support our Gardens in other ways.

Say, have you seen our new donation boxes at the Gardens? These locked boxes give all visitors the opportunity to make a financial gift by placing it in the box or using the QR code on the portable signs to make an online gift. We often have photographers and groups use the Gardens for photo shoots and this is a way for those grateful guests to give something back, too. Look for those on your next trip to the Gardens. Every little bit helps.

Jenne Streeter

Friends of the K-State Gardens Board President



Supporting the GARDENS

Please email us at ksugardens@ksu.edu
or call 785-532-3271



Riley County Master Gardeners 2021 Garden Tour

Trains, Turtles and Traditions was chosen as the 2021 garden tour theme. Two of the gardens had G-scale train features, one with resident box turtles and many with long family traditions of growing their own vegetables, fruits and flowers. Six private gardens along with the K-State Gardens varied in size and plant selection, offering lots of ideas for new and experienced gardeners.

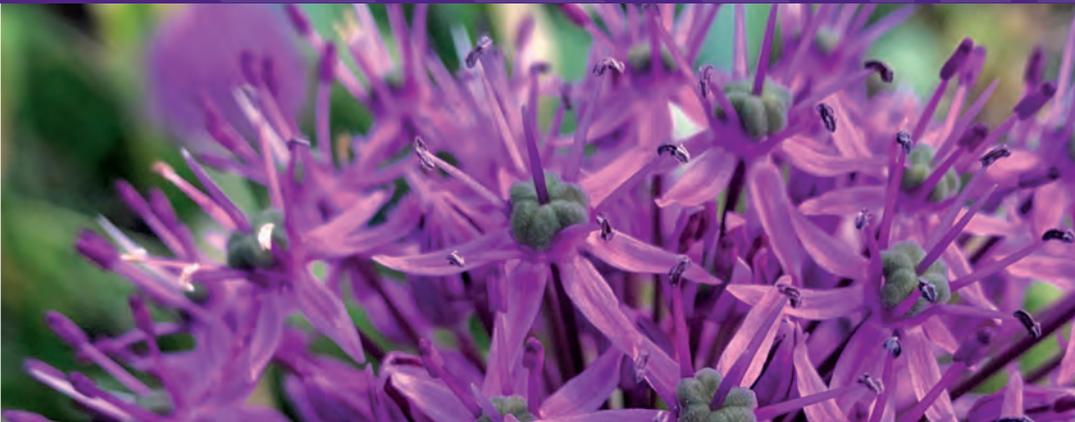
This year's tour was a little different than in previous years. It was on a Saturday morning instead of a Sunday afternoon and was scheduled later in June, which allowed local gardeners to show off their daylilies as well as a variety of annuals and perennials. Riley County Extension Master Gardeners did not sell tickets. Instead, they suggested a \$10 donation. The weather was wonderful and about 360 people came out to enjoy the diverse gardens, bringing in nearly \$3,800.



Garden Student Employees

Student employees weed, plant, prune, water, mow, and perform irrigation repair to help with the physical maintenance of the K-State Gardens. They come from many different colleges across campus, including horticulture. Each day is a little different but there's always something to do in every season.

Purple THUMBS



The K-State Gardens' volunteers (better known as the Purple Thumbs) help with planting, watering, weeding and managing the landscape. They are an active group year-round, working outside in fair weather and in the greenhouses in foul weather. Spring and summer are especially busy times followed by fall cleanup. Come join our group of volunteers – no experience required!

Contact Laura Hall at gardens.laura.hall@gmail.com for more information.



“ My garden is my most beautiful masterpiece. ”

— *Claude Monet*



Poinsettia sale

This year's poinsettia sale will be a hybrid event – early sales online and an in person sale, too! Watch the Gardens' website for more information as we get closer. Online sales will be offered during the first two weeks of November with a mid-November pickup date. In person sales will be offered on Friday, Nov. 19 and Friday, Dec. 3 with times to be determined.

Visitor Center

The Visitor Center was opened to the public on Monday, August 2. Please feel free to stop by during the week and watch our slide presentations and learn about our history.

Garden Brochures

Self-guided Garden brochures are available in two locations within the Gardens – one at the parking lot entry kiosk and one in front of the Visitor Center.

Iris Sale

The annual Iris sale was held on Saturday, July 31 from 8 a.m. to noon. Many of our most popular varieties were available for purchase. Proceeds from the sale will benefit the Iris collection at the Gardens.

September Stroll



The Friends of the Gardens are hosting a September Stroll in the Gardens on September 17 from 5:30 – 7:30 p.m. A Quinlan Society Recognition will take place at 6:00 p.m. to celebrate those individuals who have given over \$10,000 in their lifetime to the Gardens. It should be a lovely evening with impromptu tours, light refreshments, student demonstrations and music. Feel free to join us for this come and go event.

Update on Finding Homes for Gnomes

Many gnomes have been adopted from the gnome orphanage in the Gardens' conference room. There have been several successful "private showings" to people who heard about the gnomes through word of mouth. The sale table in the Gardens during the Daylily Daze/Regional (MO, KS, OK) American Daylily Society Tour brought in over \$800. Future plans include more sale tables in the Gardens on nice Saturdays, working with on-line sale organizations, and advertising. There will be a sale table at September Stroll. Don't miss it.

By the way, we also have Hummels for sale and the gnomes will soon be evicted from the conference room. They need homes soon. Yipes!



We Love Our Donors!

We can't begin to thank our donors enough for their contributions to the Kansas State University Gardens. This generosity helps us to maintain and grow the beautiful Gardens.

In 2025, the Gardens at K-State will be celebrating their 150-year anniversary! In the meantime, the Friends of the K-State Gardens are working hard to support the gardens and make them even more wonderful for our visitors' enjoyment. Your contributions to the K-State Gardens will certainly help. You will be receiving a letter from the Friends of the Gardens Board of Directors soon. Please consider making a donation to the Gardens today. THANK YOU!

Fountain Renewal

Both of the K-State Gardens fountains, Sidebotham (installed 1998) and Bidwell Family (installed 2012), are closed for repairs and refreshing. Age has taken its toll and sandblasting and new paint are in order. The work should be finished by the September Stroll on September 17. Come and check it out!



A society grows
great when old
men plant trees
whose shade they
know they shall
never sit in.

— *Greek Proverb*



GARDENS

Department of Horticulture
and Natural Resources
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Manhattan, KS 66506-5506

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UPCOMING EVENTS

September 2021

S	M	T	W	T	F	S
			1	2	3	4
5	6	7	8	9	10	11
12	13	14	15	16	17	18
19	20	21	22	23	24	25
26	27	28	29	30		

September Stroll
Friday, September 17
5:30-7:30 pm

November 2021

S	M	T	W	T	F	S
	1	2	3	4	5	6
7	8	9	10	11	12	13
14	15	16	17	18	19	20
17	18	19	20	21	22	23
21	22	23	24	25	26	27
28	29	30				

Poinsettia Sale
Friday, Nov. 19
Friday, Dec. 3

December 2021

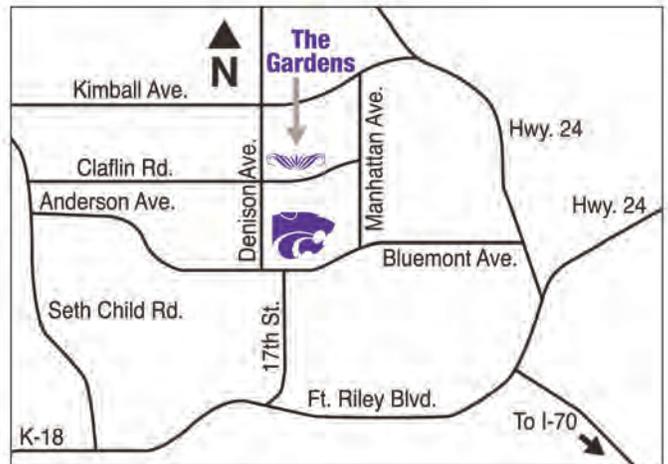
S	M	T	W	T	F	S
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5	6	7	8	9	10	11
12	13	14	15	16	17	18
19	20	21	22	23	24	25
26	27	28	29	30	31	

Garden Party
Friday, June 3, 2022

June 2022

S	M	T	W	T	F	S
			1	2	3	4
5	6	7	8	9	10	11
12	13	14	15	16	17	18
19	20	21	22	23	24	25
26	27	28	29	30		

The Kansas State University Gardens are designed as a lifelong learning laboratory to encourage environmental involvement with the university community and the public. An ever-changing display of plants provides an opportunity for education, research and conservation.



The Kansas State University Gardens are located on the campus of Kansas State University at 1500 Denison Avenue, north of Claffin Road. Quinlan Visitor's Center is part of the historic Glenn H. Beck Dairy Barn.

www.k-state.edu/gardens

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www.facebook.com/kstate.gardens