



Department of Horticulture,  
Forestry and Recreation Resources  
2021 Throckmorton Hall  
Manhattan, KS 66506-5506



## Some Never-Before-Seen Poinsettias To Be Offered at K-State Sale

By *Tim Lindemuth*

Nearly 50 different varieties of holiday poinsettias—including some never-before-seen types—will be displayed and offered to the public as a fundraiser for the K-State Gardens.

The flowering plants will be on sale at the gardens' Visitor Center, 1500 Denison Ave., from 11 a.m. to 6 p.m. Wednesday, Dec. 2; and 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. Saturday, Dec. 5. The cost is \$10 for a 6.5-inch plant or six for \$50, while 10-inch centerpieces are \$15 each.

"Several cultivars have not yet been named or released by the breeding companies," said Kim Williams, K-State professor of horticulture whose students in the Greenhouse Operations Management class grew the poinsettias as a hands-on lab project and to generate information for industry.

"Some plants aren't even available in supermarkets. However, many of the same cultivars that are produced by regional growers are available in our selection," she said.

Williams described the flowers,

which are often used in holiday decorating, as everything from the favorite red, to peach, white, pink, speckled and bicolored.

Three international poinsettia breeding companies provided the cultivar trials to the students to grow in the teaching space of the Throckmorton Plant Sciences Center greenhouses at K-State.

Related to the sale, Williams will deliver the public presentation, "Culture and Care of the Christmas Flower," at 10 a.m. Dec. 5 in 2414 Throckmorton Hall.

Williams offers these poinsettia pointers to help make the plants last through the holidays and the winter:

- "The biggest mistake is to overwater, which causes problems with root rot," she said.
- Don't let plants sit in water, such as a plastic sleeve or pot that doesn't drain.
- Allow the plants to dry down evenly between waterings, but not so much that the leaves droop.
- Avoid displaying the plants in cold or drafty areas of the home, like right next to cold windows.

## From the Gala Silent Auction Committee

By *Lori Levin*

Together with co-chair Stephanie Gryniewicz, we have secured a few items for the 2010 Gala Silent Auction. Because of the popularity of the Gourmet Dinner for Six in the Levin garden hosted by Ralph Diaz and me, we will offer another dinner package this year. The theme will be a Sumptuous Southern Six Course Dinner for Six, featuring gourmet variations on southern specialties like fried green tomato napoleons with shrimp and crab.

Brent Bayer of U.S. Stone Industries has generously agreed to donate a custom limestone piece. The committee is still deciding what to commission, but a fountain stone has been suggested. If you have ideas, we would love to hear them—email Lori at [llevin@ksu.edu](mailto:llevin@ksu.edu)

with ideas for the custom stone piece, or any other ideas for auction items you might have.



*The Gourmet Tuscan Dinner for six from last year's auction was purchased by Marcia Colbert. She decided to host a girls' night out and invited five friends to share in the delightful evening of fine food and wine pairings in the garden of Steve and Lori Levin. Together with Ralph Diaz, we treated the ladies to a beautiful Fall evening of delicious food.*

## Upcoming Events

### ANNUAL POINSETTIA SALE



Wednesday, December 2, 11 am – 6 pm

Saturday, December 5, 10 am – 1 pm

KSU Gardens Visitors Center, 1500 Denison Ave.

### 6TH ANNUAL KSU GARDENS GALA

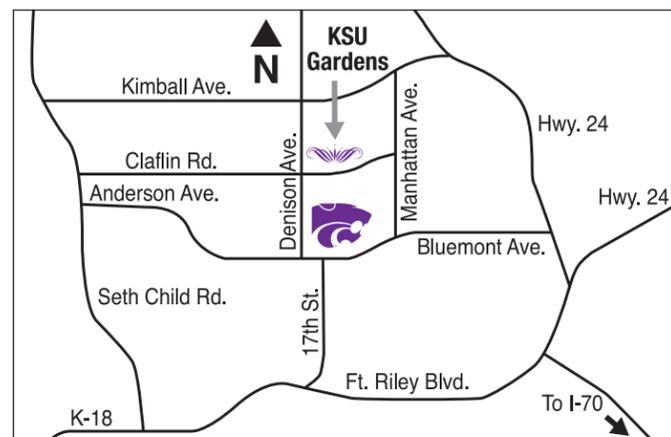


*Run for the Roses*

June 4, 2010



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 Claflin Road. Quinlan Visitor Center is part of the historic Glenn H. Beck Dairy Barn.

**Annual Poinsettia Sale**  
Wednesday, December 2  
11 am – 6 pm  
Saturday, December 5  
10 am – 1 pm

KSU Gardens Visitors Center  
1500 Denison Ave.

**OPEN HOUSE**  
Wednesday, December 2  
11 am – 3 pm  
Main greenhouse of Throckmorton Plant Sciences Center

**2009 Gala Sponsors Party**  
Gala committee members hosted a party at the KSU Gardens Visitors Center the evening of October 18 for sponsors of the 2009 Gala. Special guests included President Kirk and Dr. Noel Schulz, and Dean of the College of Agriculture Fred and Cathy Cholick.



## Message from the Director

The new drive and parking lot for the KSU Gardens has been completed. Our students have been working on the new irrigation system and replanting the plants that were temporarily relocated



**Nilo Fanska**

during all the construction. Nilo Fanska, a landscape design student, has started his KSU Gardens student project "Curb Appeal," which consists of designing an ornamental grass collection along the new drive and its' entry, locating and purchasing materials and implementing his design. The project will be completed by the first of May, 2010. Nilo will also be working with the Contracts and Constructions class to put in raised beds and a paver walk near the Gardens parking lots' information kiosk. All of these projects will create a sense of arrival while driving up to the KSU Gardens.

Paul Cook's student project is almost completed. Paul did a redesign of the Adaptive/Native Plant Garden. The south half of the garden will be a scenic landscape of native plants and the north half will be collections of native plants.

By having collections of a particular plant type such as Echinacea, students and visitors can compare the different colors and heights of that plant growing side by side. Paul's design is available



**Paul Cook**

for viewing in the KSU Gardens Visitor Center. The clearing out and transplanting process is done and about two-thirds of the planting is completed. With his December Graduation and frozen soil conditions approaching, Paul has been working very hard to get all the plants in the ground. We are very proud of Paul and what he has been able to accomplish while working on the Adaptive/Native Plant Garden project.

We hope you enjoy what you see while visiting the KSU Gardens during this next growing season especially the finished product of our student projects. The student projects have been made available through the Friends of KSU Gardens Galas. Thank you for supporting these valuable educational experiences.

— Scott McElwain, Director, KSU Gardens

## Thanks to these local businesses . . .



**Blueville Nursery and Darrell Westervelt** for helping move landscape stone and top soil along the new drive.

Growing Concerns for their continued support and for working with our turf students this fall on seeding and fertilizing the KSU Gardens turf.



## Kansas State University GARDENS

*Constructed and maintained by the Department of Horticulture, Forestry and Recreation Resources*

**Stuart Warren**  
Department Head

**Scott K. McElwain**  
KSU Gardens Director

**Thomas D. Warner**  
Professor and Projects Director

**Kim Schirer**  
KSU Foundation  
Director of Development  
College of Agriculture  
(800) 432-1578

### Student Gardeners:

Bridget Baker  
Paul Cook  
Nilo Fanska  
Caleb Jones  
Anna Rhoades  
Zach Swim  
Amanda Thatcher  
Kathryn Wilde

### Board of Directors:

Jim Lindquist, President  
Deloris Berland  
Kris Boone  
Nancy Farrar  
Janice Flanary  
Marilyn Galle  
Karen Hibbard  
Lori Levin  
Tim Lindemuth  
Jo Lyle  
Marti Meek  
Liz Ramsey  
Mitzi Richards  
Jim Roush  
Ann Scott  
Sharon Snyder  
Polly Stoecklein  
Judy Unruh  
Cheryl Yunk

*Honorary Board Member:*  
Ruth Ann Wefald

**KSU Gardens**  
2021 Throckmorton  
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ksugardens@ksu.edu  
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## Scenes from the 2009 Gardens Gala: Taste of Tuscany



## OUR FRIENDS HELP US GROW!

The KSU Gardens is a wonderful treasure on the Kansas State University campus, enjoyed by people from Manhattan, and from across the state of Kansas. Annually, thousands of visitors experience the beauty and serenity the Gardens provide, while students across the campus benefit from a learning environment second to none. All those who are impacted by our gardens are grateful to those we call "our friends".

Members of Friends of KSU Gardens generously assist with garden development, educational material, and

ongoing maintenance of this historic Kansas State University project. As the "Friends" membership continues to grow, it is reflected in the continued improvement and development of Garden programs.

The Friends of the Gardens Board of Directors has set some exciting goals for next year, including the continued growth of our "Friends" membership. Please know how much your continued membership renewal sustains the Gardens, and invite your friends to consider membership. Together, our

shared passion for the KSU Gardens impacts our quality of life and excellent education for future horticulture leaders.

Annual Memberships for 2009-2010 Friends of KSU Gardens are now due. Please join me in supporting this wonderful project by renewing your membership or becoming a new Friend of the Gardens. Friends giving levels are posted on the renewal form of this newsletter. If you have recently renewed your membership, I would like to thank you for your continued support.

— Jim Lindquist, Friends President

## Grow with the Gardens

### Become a Friend and/or Volunteer at the KSU Gardens!

Volunteers provide essential assistance that is greatly appreciated. If you are interested in volunteering in any of the following capacities, please return this form indicating your interests in serving.

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

City, State, Zip \_\_\_\_\_

Phone \_\_\_\_\_ E-mail \_\_\_\_\_

### Membership:

I would like to support the KSU Gardens at the following level:

- Patron (\$25 to \$49)
- Contributor (\$50 to \$99)
- Supporter (\$100 to \$249)
- Benefactor (\$250 to \$499)
- Builders Circle (\$500 to \$999)
- Distinguished Friend (\$1,000 and up)

Gift membership provided by: \_\_\_\_\_

### Volunteer:

I would like to assist the KSU Gardens in the following ways:

- Gardening
- Tour Guide
- Information Center Volunteer
- Gift Shop Volunteer
- Educational Programs
- Special Events
- Publication Production
- Other: \_\_\_\_\_

### Please return form to:

Friends of the KSU Gardens  
Department of Horticulture, Forestry  
and Recreation Resources  
2021 Throckmorton Hall  
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Friends of the KSU Gardens D25860

Online membership  
registration now available:  
[www.ksu.edu/gardens](http://www.ksu.edu/gardens)