



Visitor Center upgrades in progress. The new digital displays (2 of 3 shown here) will provide visitors with various information such as maps, tours, educational videos and much more.



This past spring, the Landscape Construction class finished a paver walkway at the Gardens maintenance building. Inset photo shows the finished product.

Notes from the President

This summer has been filled with a great deal of activity for the Board of the Gardens and the volunteers who help make The Gardens at Kansas State University thrive. I want to thank each of you for all you do for the Gardens.

I am Beth Unger and have the privilege of serving this year as your President. The Gardens are facing very exciting and interesting challenges this year and your continued support is appreciated.

Candice Shoemaker, Head of Horticulture and Natural Resources, provided the Board an inspirational perspective on the future of the Gardens in August. A little background to her remarks includes a huge cut to the Departmental budget this year due to decreasing State funding for higher education. There may also be an additional 10% cut this fiscal year and another 10% next year. Candice noted this budgetary situation is one that demands new thinking and new ways. There is no way to meet the mission by working harder. The department and the Gardens are presented with a situation that demands new and creative thoughts to find new ways to meet their missions and to achieve the excellence of the visions for the Gardens. Her positive thoughts and enthusiasm to work with the Friends to find and implement different and creative ways to assure that the Gardens continue to develop and maintain excellence is catching. Your Board is in discussion now and any thoughts you have will be gratefully considered.

This past year a Board member, Cindi Morris, has volunteered to help and coordinate help to provide administrative services to the Director. Another Board member, Anne Scott, has organized volunteers to identify and label all plant material in the Gardens. With their initiatives a current Board goal is to provide more volunteer coordination especially for workers in the Gardens. To accomplish this goal an individual who is knowledgeable of gardening will be required to spend about 2 hours a week during the growing season coordinating what is hoped is 4-6 individuals willing to help with weeding, deadheading and other garden tasks. If you are interested in the coordinator role please contact Scott our director at mcelwain@ksu.edu or 532-1397.

Thanks again for being a Friend. You have much to be proud of at the Gardens. Stop by and see the beautiful Fall flowers in the Gardens and if you have not seen the Gardens at night it is worth putting that on your bucket list. The night views of the Gardens are simply spectacular.

Beth Unger, President
Friends Board

From the Director of The Gardens

As you can see in the photos below, construction on the conservatory garden arbors has been completed. R.M. Baril General Contractor, Inc. did a great job constructing these beautiful new additions to the gardens. The south arbor was given in loving memory of Dave and Doris Weibert by Warren, Carol, Chris and Julie. The north arbor was a gift from Dan and Beth Bird.

The lawn area between the two arbors is the future home of a reflecting pool. Once the design work is completed on the reflecting pool, we will start actively seeking a sponsor. Many visitors and Friends of the Gardens have fond memories of the old gardens' reflecting pool and formal rose garden which were located in the central part of campus (southeast of Dickens Hall). Elements of the old reflecting pool as well as those of the existing gardens, will be pulled into the design of the new reflecting pool. We ultimately want this area of the Gardens to be a peaceful place where people come to relax and reflect.

As we have increased the gardens size, visitation has also increased and over the past year we've had many visitors make a point of seeking us out to comment on how much they love what we are doing and appreciate our efforts. As a Friend of the Gardens, I hope that makes you feel as proud of this project as it makes us feel.

As always, thank you for your continued support.

Scott McElwain
Director of The Gardens



Kansas State University **GARDENS**

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

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Songs in the Garden

The 11th annual fundraising party for the student interns was held on June 10. The Kansas State University Gardens provided the colorful and beautiful setting.

Along with a delicious array of hors d'oeuvres and cocktails, provided by Sodexo, guests enjoyed the delightful western swing music of Robin Macy and the Cherokee Maidens.

The evening of dining, dancing and bidding on a wide variety of silent auction items was enjoyed by 150 guests and raised approximately \$20,000.

The 12th annual "party in the garden" is scheduled for June 2, 2017. Please mark your calendars!





The Gardens summer crew, took a quick break from dividing iris in the late July heat to pose for this shot. They look pretty happy even with the 105 heat index that day.

Annual Iris Sale: A Joint Venture Between The Gardens and the Flint Hills Iris Society

Every year on the last Saturday in July, the Flint Hills Iris Society (FHIS) holds our annual iris sale, and this was a very successful year! Thanks to ample moisture we had a bumper crop of large, healthy rhizomes and buyers began lining up for the sale an hour before we opened. We grossed over \$6800 (which is a record for us) at the sale on July 30th, and another \$500 by selling the leftovers at the Downtown Farmer's Market two weeks later.

The Flint Hills Iris Society was founded by De McGlashon in 1998 to promote growing iris and to help maintain the iris collection at the Kansas State University Gardens. We now have over 400 varieties including historic, dwarf, and intermediate, and many are award winners. Our volunteers do deadheading and some weeding, and spend two weeks labeling and bagging the rhizomes prior to the sale. All the proceeds from the sale go back to the Gardens to purchase new varieties, permanent signs, pavers for walks, etc. Also, we have formed an endowment and periodically update our web page with these funds. We are currently in the process of ordering new individual iris signs with QR codes on them. This will enable visitors to use their smart phones to bring up an image of the iris even when they're not in bloom.

Our website, www.flinthillsirissociety.com, will give you information on the care and types of iris, along with pictures of most of the varieties. To fully enjoy the

iris, however, we invite you to Iris Day. It is our other major event of the year and is held on Mother's Day. Visitors to the The Gardens will normally find the iris in full splendor at that time, and can make their wish-list for the next sale. Members of FHIS will be on hand to answer questions, too.

This fall 15 new varieties will be added to the collection, so we hope you'll stop by several times next spring to enjoy their rainbow of colors. We encourage any of you who would like to join the FHIS to contact us at fhis2014@gmail.com.

Lesa Sailor
FHIS member

Supporting The Gardens

As the Gardens grow, so does our need for support. In addition to making an annual contribution to the Friends of the Gardens, you can also show your support by attending special events, promoting the Gardens and its events to your family, friends, colleagues and neighbors (word of mouth can't be beat!), or consider becoming a volunteer.

There are also opportunities to create a lasting legacy at the Gardens through endowments that support our people, programs and places in perpetuity. To learn more, contact Emilie Fink at the KSU Foundation at 785-532-7571 or emilief@found.ksu.edu.

Protecting Against Dutch Elm Disease



Randy James from Tree Biologics (center) treated the Gardens elm tree this past July.

This treatment (pictured above) is for protection against a deadly wilt pathogen called Dutch Elm disease, a disease introduced into the United States in the 1930's that has killed thousands of American Elms (*Ulmus americana*). The strategy here is to inject a fungicide solution into the vascular tissue of the tree for systemic distribution throughout the canopy, with the effectiveness being achieved by the presence of the fungicide in small twigs/stems preventing the establishment of the disease when introduced by bark beetles that carry the fungus (vector). Consequently this is a protective type of treatment vs. therapeutic. Generally, once symptoms are observed, loss of the tree is likely.

This particular treatment is called macro infusion as the injection amount exceeds one liter, and in this case will involve some 45 gals of solution. The solution is delivered via a pressure pump (~ 15 psi), line and some 50 injection tees in or around the root flair.

The protective treatment has been found in documented studies to be 99% effective and provide protection for up to 3 years.

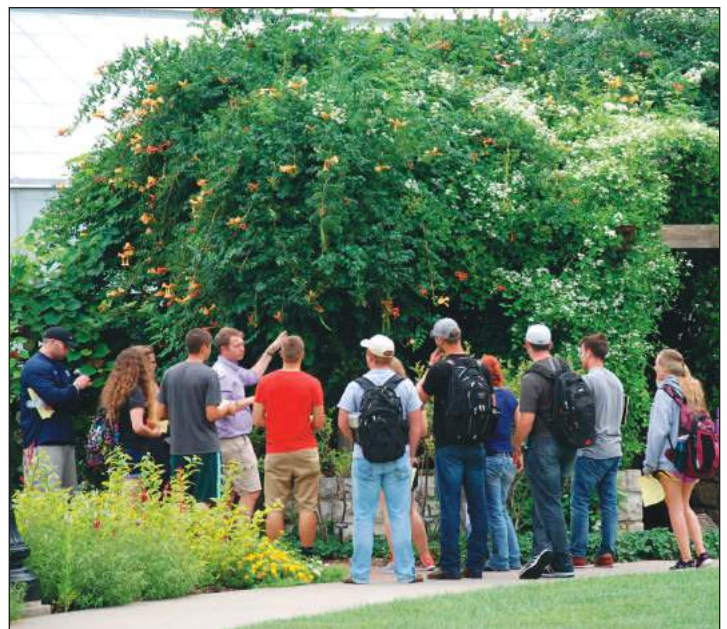
Online membership
registration available:
www.ksu.edu/gardens



The annual flower display bed showcases some outstanding plants. This photo shows a few that got a lot of attention from our visitors this year. In order, from right to left, the dark foliage plant is an ornamental pepper called 'Black Olive'. The purple and white bloomer in the foreground is an Angelonia called 'Angel Face' and the tall plant behind it with the little round pink blooms is a globe amaranth or Gomphrena called 'Fireworks' (left inset photo is a close up of nectar providing blooms). Down low, on the sidewalk is a trailing lavender Lantana and the tall plant behind it is a 'Black Currant Swirl' Datura. The right inset photo shows both the bloom and seed pod which is why Daturas are also commonly called angels trumpet or downy thorn apple.



Every year, the flowering Abelia at the Gardens visitor center entrance attracts the attention of both two and six legged visitors from early spring to late fall.



Students taking the fall plant identification lab class were out in the Gardens studying plants the first week of class.



GARDENS

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One view of the vegetable garden, with several 'Pretty N Sweet' (an All America Selection) pepper plants. Harvested produce is donated to the Flint Hills Breadbasket.

UPCOMING EVENTS

September 2016

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 in The Gardens

Friday, September 23, 2016
4:30 – 7:00 p.m.; Light refreshments
6:00 – 7:00 p.m. Quinlan Society
Recognition and Arbor Dedication
(north side of Gardens)

November 2016

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 Gardens Holiday Luncheon Series – Holidays with Hildegard

Thursday, November 10, 2016
11:30 a.m. – 1 p.m.
Manhattan Country Club

Friends of the Gardens
Poinsettia and Amaryllis Sale
Friday, November 18, 2016

3-5:30 p.m., Quinlan Visitor Center,
K-State Gardens

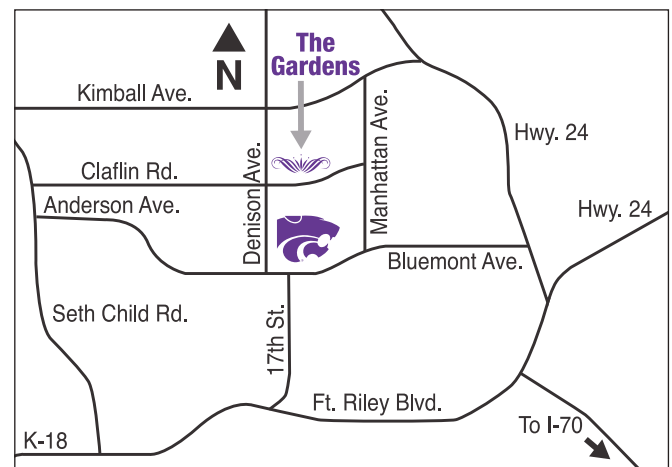
Wednesday, November 30, 2016
12 – 5:30 p.m., Quinlan Visitor Center,
K-State Gardens

Friday, December 2, 2016
3-5:30 p.m., Quinlan Visitor Center,
K-State Garden

December 2016

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	31

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's Center is part of the historic Glenn H. Beck Dairy Barn.

www.k-state.edu/gardens

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