



2019 Garden Party: Light Up the Gardens

The Friends' annual celebration in the Gardens features "Light Up the Gardens" on Friday, June 7 at 7 pm. This year's event will start a little later to take advantage of the evening light. We will offer light hors d'oeuvres and dessert with an open bar. Live music will be provided by Solars Trio and a selfie station will be available for taking fun group photos. Proceeds of the event and silent auction sale will support our internship program. This year we have several new items for the auction including two harvest tables, large potted plants and more. Please plan to attend! Check our website for more information.



Planting a Seed Fundraiser Set for October 25

Mark your calendars now for this year's third annual Planting a Seed fundraiser on Friday, October 25 at the Hilton Garden Inn. It will be a busy weekend with K-State homecoming and Family Day! You won't want to miss this opportunity to enjoy a delicious dinner, fast paced live auction and a chance to support the new reflecting pool at the Gardens. We need \$500,000 to get this project moving forward.

There will be even more fabulous auction items to win this year. Watch for save the date cards in March or check our website for more details.



Join the Fun at K-State's Open House

This year's K-State Open House is on Saturday, April 6 from 9 am to 3 pm. There will be activities in the Gardens; the first meeting of the Kids Garden Club, a horticulture club annual plant sale and a daylily sale. Please come join the fun!



Docent Training Starts in April

The second annual K-State Gardens "Docent and Volunteer Training Program" will begin in April 2019. There are three sessions covering Gardens history and lay out, plant identification, specialty gardens and collections, tour leading, future plans, and interpretation. Cookies will be provided. Check our web site for more information.



Digging into Gardening

Come to the Gardens for an informal learning experience on May 24 and June 14 at noon. Bring a brown bag lunch to eat during the presentations if you'd like. Check our website for more details.

Annual Master Gardener Tour Set for June 9

The Riley County Extension Master Gardeners are hosting their annual garden tour on Sunday, June 9 from 1-5 pm. Purchase your tickets at the Gardens on the day of the event and see all five of the beautiful Manhattan gardens featured this year. Tickets will be available beginning May 7 at the Riley County Extension office or local garden centers. They are \$8 if purchased in advance and \$10 on the day of the event.

Kansas State University GARDENS

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

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Student Gardeners:

Caitlin Carlson, Mary Conner,
Katy Doll, Wesley Howe,
ShayeAlta Naaf and Jessica Stanton

2018–2019 Board of Directors:

Barbara Pearson, President
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Sharon Snyder
Tom Snyder
Beth Unger
Sue White
Cheryl Yunk

Cait Carlson, Student Member
Ruth Ann Wefald, Honorary Member

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Iris Day and Sale

Celebrate Mother's Day by viewing an amazing assortment of over 300 varieties of Iris in bloom at the Gardens. Vote on your favorite with Flint Hill Iris Society members from 1 – 4 pm. You can jot down your favorites and come back on Saturday, July 27 from 8 am to noon to purchase. Most varieties should be available. Costs vary for size and variety but range from \$1 - \$7 each. Please bring cash or check, as we are unable to process credit cards.



Daylily Daze Celebration Coming in July

Join us for the 2nd annual Daylily Daze Celebration on July 6th from 9:00 to 11:00! Members of the Flint Hills Daylily Society (FHDS) will be available to answer questions and discuss daylily habits and needs. There will be chances to win a free daylily and tattoos for the kids. Master Gardeners will be available to answer questions about roses and butterfly gardening. The Daylily Collection will be ablaze with color, shape and form. See Doubles, UFOs and Spiders! (Oh my!) FHDS members will be displaying blooms from their own gardens as well. It's your chance to pick out some favorites and maybe they will be available at the FHDS Farmers Market Daylily sale in late summer. Visit the Gardens throughout the months of June and July to enjoy the many different varieties in the Daylily Collection. You will be WOWed each time by the ever changing blooms and colors! Hope to see you at the Daylily Daze!



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 support the Gardens by attending special events, promoting the Gardens and its events, invite a friend to become involved or consider becoming a garden volunteer. All of the above are needed and greatly appreciated. If you want to support our people, places and programs please contact Gardens director Scott McElwain at mcelwain@ksu.edu or 785-532-1397.

From the Director of the Gardens

As we continue to grow the Gardens at Kansas State University, we work very hard to provide the Gardens **people** (our students), **places** (our gardens) and **programs** (education) with the resources they need as they are equally important in fulfilling our mission and vision of “Providing Excellence in Garden Education.”

Every Friends of the Gardens newsletter is filled with all the wonderful things the Friends of the Gardens do to support the Gardens **people, places and programs**. I would like to take this opportunity to talk about the **people**. We employ several students throughout the year to help us create and maintain the Gardens beautiful plant displays. While our students love the valuable hands-on learning experience they get while working here, they also take great pride in contributing to such a special place.

This spring two landscape construction lab classes dedicated to landscape lighting will be held in the Gardens. As these classes learn about landscape lighting our student employees will assist them with the installation of new lights in the Cottage Garden. These new lights will highlight the beautiful architecture of The Gardens Quinlan Visitor Center and the specimen plants that surround it.

As the Gardens grow, student labor needs follow. We have numerous fund-raising events throughout the year to support our annual student labor budget needs. Those



needs now exceed \$40,000 annually. We have been working with donors to establish a program where donors can sponsor/fund a student working in the Gardens. We are pleased to announce that our head intern has been sponsored for this spring and summer. The donor also provided a matching opportunity to entice another donor to sponsor an additional student for the summer. Please see the sponsorship opportunity chart below and help us fully fund our student employees. Thank you for continuing to support the Gardens.

–Scott McElwain

Sponsor the Head Intern (Spring-half & Summer full-time)	\$7,500	[Sponsored for 2019]
Sponsorship for Summer Interns (4 full-time)	\$5,000*	each
Sponsorship for Fall & Spring Semester Intern (4 part-time)	\$3,500	each
Seeking donor for matching opportunities (Summer Interns)	\$2,500	each
(*\$2,500 matching may be available for this sponsorship) [1/4]		

President of the Friends Remarks

The K-State Gardens are in hibernation and dreams are focused on warm weather, spring planting and blooms sprouting. As the Friends of the Gardens board discussed what is important for the upcoming year, we decided that the main focus is to support the construction of a reflecting pool with adjacent aquatic plant pools and surrounding gardens in the conservatory garden. A beautiful reflecting pool was a main feature when the Gardens were located in the heart of campus many years ago. The new pool will embrace a time in history and be a special place to reflect and enjoy. This exciting new project will be constructed with the help of our community supporters, donors and generous contributors. Please be a part of this worthwhile endeavor as we strive to raise \$500,000 in funds to move forward.

Many activities are planned for the Gardens during the year for everyone to enjoy. The annual Garden Party will be held on Friday, June 7th and the annual fundraiser “Planting a Seed” will be held on Friday, October 25. Check the Gardens website and Facebook pages for more information on all of our sales, events and educational programs. Thank you all for your support of the beautiful Gardens at Kansas State University.

–Barbara Pearson



New and Exciting: Garden Club for Kids

April brings the start of a new program for kids — The K-State Kids' Garden Club. It is designed for grades K through 3rd grade and will meet on Saturdays in April and May. Each session will include a brief "lesson" and activity.

Topics include 1) Plants are needy just like people, 2) What about worms and let's plant some veggies (in the K-State Gardens), 3) Think like a butterfly, buzz like a bee, 4) Plant a terrarium for Mothers' Day, 5) Harvest and eat what you planted, 6) Plant zinnias.



PURPLE THUMB VOLUNTEERS

The Purple Thumbs are an active group of outdoor volunteers who help to maintain The Gardens by weeding, planting, watering, and much more! The volunteers meet informally about once a week throughout the spring, summer and fall months. You don't have to be an expert but we do have many master gardeners on our team. Learn and have fun as you garden. Contact Laura Hall at gardens.laura.hall@gmail.com for more information. Check our website the last week of April and first week of May for our annual planting schedule.

Last year our Purple Thumb volunteers contributed more than 400 hours of labor to the Gardens. Our offices volunteers added another 1,000 hours of donated time.





Planting a Seed to Grow the Gardens 2018

The second annual “Planting a Seed to Grow the Gardens” fundraiser was held at the Hilton Garden Inn on September 7, 2018. Attendees experienced a wonderful evening of delicious food, great wine and an exciting, fast paced auction that raised over \$90,000!

Dave Lewis, our Master of Ceremonies for the evening, introduced our special Gardens’ honorees Steve and Cathy Lacy. They were recognized because of their support of Kansas State University and gardening in general through the Meredith Corporation “Better Homes and Gardens” magazine and test garden.

The extraordinary live auction featured many amazing travel experiences, an instant wine cellar, a romance package and spirited bidding among the guests. The evening concluded with a paddle raise for the Gardens. Five percent of the paddle raise proceeds (approximately \$35,000) went to the Greater Manhattan Community Foundation to support victims of the Manhattan Labor Day flood. The rest of the proceeds went to support student interns.

The Gardens Fundraising Committee, the entire Gardens Board, and Director Scott McElwain want to thank all of those who generously donated their time, money and other talents which contributed to the amazing success of the evening.





Dr. Kim Williams and her floral crops greenhouse production class grow the poinsettias and amaryllis for the annual sale and provide them to the Gardens already potted. The Friends of the Gardens organize, bag and sell the plants. With an ample inventory of 790 poinsettias, 48 amaryllis and 39 centerpieces, the Friends netted over \$6,000 for the Gardens this year. Thank you to all of the Purple Thumbs garden volunteers, board members and students who helped prep, staff and clean up after the sale. It was a tremendous effort by a lot of people to make this event a success.



We are pleased to announce...

Long time volunteer Cindi Morris was hired as a part time administrative assistant at the Gardens in September, 2018. She uses her organizational skills to keep the plant database up to date, schedule and plan advertising, coordinate volunteers, and maintain the calendar. She works closely with director Scott McElwain on various mission driven tasks.



This past year's holiday potluck celebration included 6 students and more than 20 volunteers! Everyone contributed to the feast by bringing a dish to share. Director Scott McElwain distributed several door prizes, too.



GARDENS

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and Natural Resources
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Online membership registration available: www.ksu.edu/gardens

UPCOMING EVENTS

April 2019

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				

Kansas State University Open House
Saturday, April 6, 9 am – 3 pm. Fun in the Gardens, activities and games, Hort Club plant sale, daylily sale from 9 – 11 am

May 2019

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	

Kids' Garden Club
Activities and learning in the Gardens for K – 3rd graders. Starts on Sat., April 6 from 9 – 10 am. \$5 per session or \$20 for 6. Check website for more info.

June 2019

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

Iris Day
Saturday, May 12, 1-4 pm, K-State Gardens
"Light up the Gardens"
Friends of the Gardens' Annual garden party. Friday, June 7, 7-10 pm in the K-State Gardens

July 2019

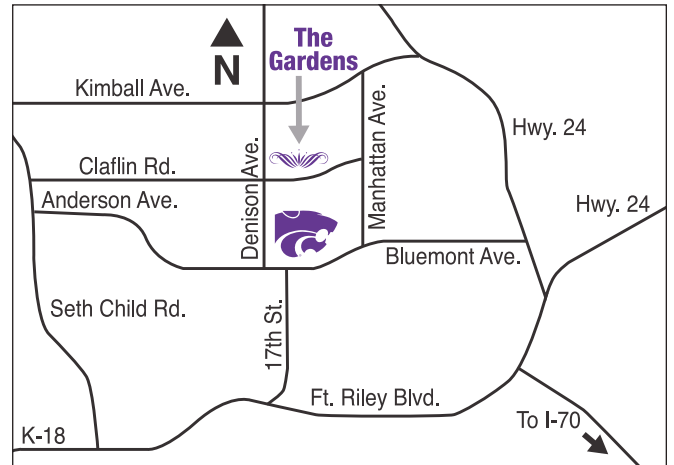
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14	15	16	17	18	19	20
21	22	23	24	25	26	27
28	29	30	31			

Riley County Extension Master Gardeners Annual Garden Tour
Sunday, June 9 from 1-5 pm. Tickets on sale from May 5 at local garden centers and Riley County Extension office \$8 in advance; \$10 at the door

Daylily Daze
Saturday, July 6 from 9-11 am. Meet members of the Flint Hills Daylily Society and talk to local master gardeners.

Iris Day
Saturday, July 27 from 8 am – noon. Bring cash or check to buy your favorite iris from the Flint Hills Iris Society at the Gardens.

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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