Switzer/KSU Ag Camp for Youth!
Growing New Gardeners One Peony at a Time!
About Me!

- 4th generation descendant of original settlers to Historic Nicodemus, KS
- My linage is the Charles Williams family
- My father worked on the Webster Dam and met my amazing mother
- Raised a phenomenal family here!
- Worked at Fort Hays State, University of Missouri - Columbia, and retired from Kansas State University
- Living legend and cousin Veryl Switzer and I started the camp. We celebrate our 10th year this year!
Bragging a little
Veryl dreamed of a Ag camp
- Statically underrepresented youth are not exposed to Agriculture and farming
- Statistically this group graduate high school at a lower rate than their counter parts

1 out of 10 low-income youth have been to a farm
- 1 out of 8 youth have been to a farmer’s market
- 1 out of 4 youth eat fresh foods on a regularly!

Girls do not think they can be farmers!
- 23% of the 2017 graduating class at KSU in agronomy were women.
- 15% of the producers and sellers at farmers markets are men!
About the Camp

- Curriculum developed in partnership with College of Agriculture, Agriculture in the Classroom, and the K-State Extension office.
USDA-NRCS Supports the camp!

- NRCS supports the camp each year by providing a water field day at Osborne and Pheasants Forever provides us with a BBQ lunch!
Webster State Park and the Stockton Bait Shop has supported the camp!
In Historic Nicodemus Kansas
What’s Peonies got to do with it?

Our theme for camp this year is: Growing Gardeners one Peony at a time!

We will bring the campers for a tour here in Stockton and,

Each camper will be given a bulb to plant at their home or apartments. Containers (recycled) will be decorated and given to each camper with potting soil!