



# Kay Holder Shares Irises!

"Iris" Kay Holder delighted us with her photos and tales of the iris tour she took in Portland in 2015. She had quite an adventure! You can see some of her photos on page 10.



## Speaking in April...

*by Marilyn Solomon*

**Mark Bays** will speak about the Oklahoma Survivor Tree at the April meeting. This tree survived the Oklahoma City bombing in April of 1995. Mr. Bays obtained his Forestry degree at OSU and worked in traditional forestry in Colorado and California as well as consulting in urban forestry, arboriculture and tree care in Oklahoma and Texas. Working with the Oklahoma Forestry Service for the last 25 years, he helps communities and administers forestry and tree planting projects statewide including recovery from catastrophic storms. Participating with the rescue and recovery of the "Survivor Tree" at the Oklahoma City National Memorial since 1996, Mark helps spread its message of hope and healing. His favorite quote: "The best time to plant a tree was 20 years ago. The second best time is now". The program will begin at 10, but come early for snacks and conversation at 9:30. See you there!

Thank you to all who submitted pre-orders for plants! Our profit is about \$2,500 so far. To make our goal of \$4,000, come to the Garden Party on April 9 to purchase some of the plants grown in our greenhouse. If you just have too many plants and can't buy any more, we will gladly take monetary donations! Cash, check or credit card!

### Inside This Issue

President's Posting	2	Education Updates	3
Seed Order Information	2	Photo Booth	3
PR Prattle	2	The Recipe Box	8
Garden Gossip	3	March Minutes	6-7
Member Profile	4	Treasurer's Report	7
Garden Guru	5	Upcoming Events	9
Kay's Iris Photos	10	Address update	10



A reminder: We will be voting by paper ballot either "Yes" or "No" at the April CCMGA Meeting on the proposal to no longer recite the Pledge of Allegiance at the start of our meetings. Please respect your fellow CCMGA members on their decision.

Kudos to Jackie Engleman who has stepped forward to insure the success in the mentoring of students at the desk. This is crucial to insuring the continued success of our organization. Also, Donna Carter is seeking people to help at the Garden Party. She needs help supporting the variety of activities that take place at the event. Joan Barker and Tomoko Yoshida have a list of volunteers for Earth Day. However, you are welcome to stop by and provide relief. Jim McDaniel will conduct a workshop on drip irrigation on April 2 at 10 a.m. He needs all the support he can get - bring a towel! Les Brown is once more seeking volunteers to provide Garden Tours. There will also be a request for volunteers to serve at an Information Booth in Noble. And, as usual, Elaine Dockray is always looking for contributions to the Weeder's Digest. If you can't provide her with material, I can always use "Weeders" in my garden!

Finally, we should all recognize and thank Nancy Logan for the efforts in the Greenhouse and for her task in organizing the plant orders. Her thumb has become quite "green"!

*Fred*



## Seed and Plant Order Information

*By Nancy Logan*

**CHANGE TO PICK UP LOCATION AND DATES:** Plants should be picked up at PRAIRIE WIND NURSERY at the following times: Wednesday Morning, April 13, from 8am to Noon OR Thursday Afternoon, April 14, from Noon to 4pm. CCMGA Greenhouse Committee members will help you with your orders. Please bring your own containers to carry the plants. We will have a limited number of wagons to help load.

The nursery is located on EAST Lindsey Street, just past 72nd Street SE. Once you pass 72nd, turn left at Goodman Lane, the first street to the left (a dirt road). The first drive to the right is Prairie Wind.

If you need additional information or help with your orders, please call or email Nancy Logan at 405-364-6399, nlogan@ou.edu OR Pat Welty at 405-921-1118, patriciasgarden@cox.net.



## PR Prattle

*By Judy Kautz*

**CCMGA Cookbooks** are still available...cost is \$10. Copies have been placed in the Extension office and can be picked up there. If you have corrections, please send or give them to me. We will publish a correction sheet that you can place in your cookbooks.

**Calendars** are available in the Extension office. They are \$10.

**Patches:** We still have patches for your attire. They are \$3 each and will also be available at the meeting.



Work days and extra days have been busy in the garden and greenhouse. Beds are being cleaned of weeds at an impressive rate. It represents a lot of work by the whole crew and we deeply appreciate all new recruits. Demolition work is done on the rebuilding of two of the original garden beds. They lasted fairly well but now will get permanent borders. Reconstruction work is also happening in the native plant bed. There is not much time left before the garden party/plant sale so we are working hard to have things look the best we can make it on April 9. Due to the early timing of the plant sale this year, there are beds which will still be empty, waiting for warm weather. Also, this month starts the Saturday garden tours. Be sure to respond to Les Brown's e-mail requests for tour guides. New guides should have an experienced Master Gardener to provide an orientation.

*Pictured at right, lovely daffodils in the demo garden!*



## Education Updates

Our thanks to Mary Engle for the wonderful presentation she did March 19 at Wildbirds Unlimited on Inviting Hummingbirds and Other Pollinators to your Garden. These are the upcoming events we have:

April 5 - Raised Beds at the Moore Public Library 7 p.m. Rick Ault presenting

April 9 - The garden party

April 16 - Information Table at Home Depot

April 24 - Earth Day Information Table and plant give away at Reaves Park - coordinated by Joan Barker and Tomoko Yoshida

May 21 - Edibles in the Landscape 10 a.m. in the Classroom - Claren Kidd presenting

June 11 - Container Gardening - 10 a.m. in the Classroom - Judy Kautz and Marilyn Solomon presenting

Let us know if there are other topics you would like us to explore or if there is a workshop you would like to present.



## Photo Booth



Beautiful plants in warm, sunny Galveston, Texas.  
*Submitted by Paulet McGee*





## Q and A with Donna Carter

*Background:* I was born and raised on a small farm east of Cushing and moved to Chickasha in 1980 after graduating from OSU. I retired from DHS after 30 years as a social worker.

*Significant Gardening Influences:* My love of gardening began at a young age delivering May Day flowers to a neighbor which as I got older became a much loved tradition of selecting and planting his front flower bed until he was 101. I still have burgundy iris that his wife had planted in their gardens many years ago.

*Do you have a gardening "specialty" or just love it all?* I would have to say I love it all and my hodge-podge garden reflects no style at all! The latest trend of Prairie Gardening for pollinators has given me a reason to buy more native perennials and plant for a "natural" look.

*What led you to CCMGA and what year did you complete classes?* Before I retired I read about Master Gardener activities in newspaper articles and became curious, but when I drove my mom and her Master Gardener friends to the Dallas Arboretum I was hooked! I wanted to know as much about plants as they did so I enrolled and completed the MG classes in 2012. I still don't know as much as those ladies, but I'm a work in progress gardener.

*What do you enjoy about CCMGA?* What I enjoy about MG ---the diverse, interesting, knowledgeable gardeners, especially the "cackling" greenhouse crew. Oh the things I have learned....and not everything about plants.

*Other interests you'd like to share:* My other interests include traveling with my mom in the fall to Taos, NM, fishing in Cabo San Lucas, and of course OSU football games. I also work seasonally at a local greenhouse as a "petal pusher". It is wonderful to see so many young people buying vegetables and seeds in order to grow their own fresh produce.

*Is there a photo you'd like to share?*





### Come and See Wildlife and Enjoy Special Moments in the Demo/Teaching Garden

Last summer Les Brown and I watched (near the pergola) two caterpillars crawling very fast on the grass. Les said, "Wow! Look at them go!" Neither of us knew they could move that fast; and we both wondered why they were in such a hurry to go someplace. Then I saw this poem. It helped explain everything.

**The Caterpillar** by Christina Gabriel Rossetti

Brown and furry,  
Caterpillar in a hurry,  
Take your walk  
To the shady leaf or stalk  
No toad may spy you,  
Hovering bird or prey pass by you,  
Spin and die  
To live again a butterfly



As several new members were helping trim plants in the Serendipity Garden, I asked them to be very careful to NOT harm the caterpillar perched on a rock in the garden. We then, all three of us, started watching the caterpillar as it moved about the rock. Then all of a sudden we saw what looked like a small BB shell drop. It was round, small, and black. "OMG what was that?", said one of the new members. I said it was frass (AKA insect poop). Yes, they eat and then they poop. We all laughed. It was a special moment.

Several years ago, while Charlie Crisp was still alive, he called me over to his garden. "Mary", he said, "you will want to see this". We watched the birth of a beautiful butterfly.



It pushed, pulled, and struggled to get out of its "coffin" as some people call it. It then spread its wings and flew away. It was the Oklahoma state butterfly, the black swallowtail. WOW, thank you Charlie for that special moment. I may never be privileged to witness this again. LIFE IS A GIFT. See you in the garden!



Meeting called to order by Fred Schneider and the Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

Marilyn Solomon introduced our speaker, Kay Holder. Kay will be speaking on and showing slides from the American Iris Society National Convention held in Portland, Oregon in May of 2015.

A short break was taken and we then proceeded to the business portion of the meeting. Fred Schneider reported that at the recent Executive Committee meeting a proposal was presented to delete the Pledge of Allegiance at the CCMGA Business Meeting. After some discussion, it has been decided to present the membership with the following suggestions. We will take a secret ballot at the next meeting April 8, with a yes or no answer to the proposal to delete the Pledge of Allegiance. You now have a month to consider the proposal and vote on April 8.

**TREASURER'S REPORT:** Nancy Logan reported on the budget. Cash balance as of February was \$12,950.15. Funds in excess of budget were \$12,235.15.

**Community Education:** Laura Eckstein and Sonya Fallgatter supplied the list of the upcoming classes: 3/18 – State Forestry will be giving free trees for the tornado victims in Moore at the Moore Fire station/Community Center. 3/19 – Mary Engle will speak on pollinators in the garden at Wild Birds Unlimited. 4/2 – Jim McDaniel will speak on irrigation in the garden in the classroom. 4/5 – Rick Ault will speak at the Moore Library on raised beds. 4/16 – information booth at Home Depot. Sign-up sheet passed. 4/24 – Booth at Earth Day. Sign-up sheet passed.

**Public Relations:** Judy Kautz has errata sheets for the cookbook available. She also has cookbooks, calendars, and patches for sale. Door hangers are available.

**Newsletter Director:** Fred Schneider spoke for Elaine in asking for articles to be given to Elaine for the newsletter.

**Garden Director:** Theresa January reported that our work day on 3/1 started with a good brunch but a rained out work day. She will send emails about regular work days. If the rain continues to affect our work days, she will possibly reschedule a work day on another day or the garden will be open on Thursday mornings while the greenhouse work is continuing. She asked that all old plant tags be pulled and reused for plant identification. The first day for garden tours is 4/2. Les Brown is in charge of tour guides. Please sign up to be a guide. It is fun and knowledgeable. Charlie Altman has donated a chipper/shredder to the garden. Jody Marcussen will be in charge of the watering system.

**Membership:** Suzanne Perrine reported that the sign-up sheet for desk hours for the new class is available. Fred stressed the importance of mentoring as a learning experience for both the students and the members.

## March Meeting Minutes (continued)

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Greenhouse: Nancy Logan reported that work is going good. She reminded us that we will make 50% profit on the plants ordered from Prairie Wind Nursery. Also, we will not bring plants from home to sell at the plant sale. They can be brought to the monthly meeting to share or sell.

Programming: Marilyn Solomon has Mark Bays coming to next month's meeting to talk about the survivor tree from the OKC bombing.

Special Events: Donna Carter has scheduled setting up for the Garden Party for 4/8 after the regular monthly meeting. She is asking volunteers to come after lunch to help with moving tables, etc. Please ask Donna about volunteering for the party. She also needs awnings for the demonstrations and classes.

Membership Committee: Jackie Engleman reports that the mentoring for the desk hours is covered for now.

Fund raisings: Susan Aikman is working on a date for the flea market. She is trying to pick a date that doesn't interfere with other events. Be saving your good items to put in the flea market.

Hospitality: Phyllis Blackwell thanked all the suppliers of our break goodies: Kathy Whittle, Joan Kemmet Greenleaf, and Les and Donna Brown. Joan also brought non-styrofoam cups.

Kathy Whittle informed us that Lois Cox's husband had a stroke.

Fred Schneider recommended this month's *National Geographic Magazine*. It talks about crop diversity and world-wide waste problems. He also brought a seed catalogue from Landreths Seed Co. to share.

Meeting was adjourned by the President.

Respectfully submitted, *Vada Edwards*



## Treasurer's Report

*By Nancy Logan*

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Beginning balance (corrected, \$715 added), as of February 25, 2016, is \$12,950.15. Income includes \$40 2016 Dues; \$12 Garden Books Sold; \$60 Calendars; \$4,559.22 Plant Sale Pre-Orders; \$100 Demo Garden Donation; \$12 Patches and \$50 Cookbooks Sold for Total Income of \$4,833.22. Expense includes \$213.97 Directories Printed; \$10 Soil Test Door Prize; \$15 Memorial Brick and \$93.32 Demo Garden for Total Expense of \$332.29. Balance at March 25, 2016 is \$17,451.08, less budgeted amount of \$13,384.96, leaving funds in excess of budget at \$4,066.12

Respectfully Submitted, *Nancy Logan*



## Breakfast Casserole in the Crockpot

*By Judy Kautz*

### Ingredients

1 bag 26 oz. frozen hash browns  
12 eggs, or use egg beaters  
1 cup milk  
1 tablespoon ground mustard  
1 16 oz. roll sausage maple, sage or regular sausage.  
Salt and pepper  
16 oz. bag shredded cheddar cheese

Spray crock pot and evenly spread hash browns at the bottom.

Crack 12 eggs in a large bowl. Mix well (and slowly) using a whisk.

Add the milk. Go ahead and sprinkle in the ground mustard. Add plenty of salt...and lots of fresh pepper. Mix well and set aside.

Cook the sausage on high heat, drain and set aside. Add sausage on top of hash browns. Add the cheese. Mix it up well.

Pour the egg mixture over everything in the crock pot. Using a wood spoon, even everything out so it's spread evenly. Turn the crock pot on low for 6-8 hours.

Some fun variations of this recipe. Before cooking (during prep) you can add: chunks of sourdough bread, diced chiles, salsa, diced green onions.

This recipe cooks while you sleep. When you get up in the morning, you have a hot cooked breakfast that fills the house with a great aroma!

We will try to feature seasonal recipes and many of your own recipes in the Recipe Box through the year. Send us your recipes at [rdsefd@aol.com](mailto:rdsefd@aol.com).



## Upcoming Events

**April 5, 7 PM:** Raised Bed Gardening – presented by Rick Ault. Moore Library.

**April 9,** CCMGA Garden Party, Demo Garden

**April 24, 12 – 5 PM:** Earth Day, Reeves Park, Norman, OK

**April 30, 9 – noon:** The Grass is Greener – garden workshop presented by Oklahoma County Master Gardeners. Will Rogers Gardens Exhibition Center.

**April 30, 10 – 11 AM:** Myriad Gardens Walking Tour, South Lobby, Crystal Bridge, Oklahoma City, OK

**May 7, 9 AM – noon:** Oklahoma County Master Gardener Plant Sale, The Urban Mission, 3737 N. Portland, Oklahoma City, OK

**May 13, 10 AM:** CCMGA Monthly Meeting, Classroom

**May 21, 9 AM – 3 PM:** Will Rogers Festival in the Park, Will Rogers Garden Exhibition Center, 3400 NW 36<sup>th</sup> St., Oklahoma City, OK

**May 24, 7 - 8:30 PM:** Oklahoma Horticultural Society Seminar - Dave Edwards presents "Garden Projects: Taking Stuff and Making Stuff for the Garden". OSU-OKC Agricultural Resource Center, 400 N. Portland Avenue, Oklahoma City

**June 3:** State Master Gardener Conference, Langston University

**July 23, 9 AM – 3:30 PM:** Oklahoma Nursery and Landscape Association Meet-Up, Linnaeus Gardens, Tulsa, OK. Please contact Kelly Keech at 918-693-6461 to register to attend this free event.

**June 28, 7:00 - 8:30 PM:** Oklahoma Horticultural Society Seminar - Take a look at the All American Selections Trial Garden at OSU-OKC. OSU-OKC Agricultural Resource Center, 400 N. Portland Avenue, Oklahoma City

# Join us for a

# Garden Party

Usher in Spring with demonstrations, garden how-to classes, tours, children's activities and a plant sale, plus fun with Gertrude the Gardener!



Fun for kids!



Harry the Caterpillar  
Beetle Rock painting  
Little Sprouts - Plant a Zinnia!  
Butterfly Seed Balls

Garden Demonstrations and classes!



Composting  
Vermiculture  
Square Foot Gardening  
(Ongoing throughout the event)  
Container Gardening 10:30 am  
Herb Wreath Making 11:30 am

Plant Sale!



Live Music!

**Saturday, April 9, 2016 9 AM to 1 PM**

Master Gardener Demonstration Gardens

Cleveland County Fairgrounds (Southwest Corner)

601 E. Robinson, Norman, Oklahoma (405)321-4774

New address:  
Charlie Altom  
13533 Borgata Ln  
Oklahoma City, OK 73170

New member:  
Nelida Alvarez  
218 Collier Dr  
Norman, OK 73069  
405-321-5737  
[nelida.alvarez@yahoo.com](mailto:nelida.alvarez@yahoo.com)



Just a few of  
Kay Holder's  
beautiful  
photos from  
her iris tour!



## MASTER GARDENER ASSOCIATION

Oklahoma State University, U.S. Department of Agriculture, State and Local Governments Cooperating. The Oklahoma Cooperative Extension Service offers its programs to all eligible persons regardless of race, color, national origin, religion, sex, age, disability, or status as a veteran, and is an equal opportunity employer.

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Tracey Payton -Miller  
Extension Educator  
Horticulture

Submit suggested articles for the newsletter not later than the **25th of each month** to Editor Elaine Dockray at [rdsefd@aol.com](mailto:rdsefd@aol.com)

Newsletter Editor: Elaine Dockray  
Newsletter Publisher: Judy Kautz



**For More Information** Check out the updated Horticulture and Master Gardener sections on the Cleveland County Extension Office website. The address is [www.oces.okstate.edu/cleveland](http://www.oces.okstate.edu/cleveland).