



The Weeders' Digest

Join the Oklahoma Food Co-op!

Adam Price, shown at right with CCMGA Pres Fred Schneider and representing the Oklahoma Food Cooperative, spoke at the May meeting. All products sold through the coop marketplace are either made or grown in Oklahoma and include fresh produce, eggs meat, baked goods, whole grains, spices, bath and body products, jewelry, and candles. Mr. Price explained that anyone can choose to be a monthly, yearly or lifetime member (customer) after registration at oklahomafood.coop. He added that the coop helps sustain the Oklahoma economy and puts money back into the community as well as providing quality local wares. The audience expressed a great appreciation of this presentation.



Speaking in June...

by Marilyn Solomon

Our scheduled speaker for June, Joyce Hochritt, is unable to give her talk on succulents; so Kaben Smallwood from Symbiotic Aquaponic will speak to us about a growing system that integrates aquaponics (growing plants in water) and aquaculture (a system for raising fish. Symbiotic Aquaponic is a national, award-winning company that specializes in custom aquaponic system designs, commercial builds, and community education and outreach. The program will begin at 10, but come early for snacks and conversation at 9:30. See you there!

Yoga in the Garden Continues!		Inside This Issue	
Join us each Mon and Wed in June at 9 am at our demo gardens for yoga in the garden! Classes are \$10 each and don't forget to bring your yoga mats!		President's Posting	2
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President's Posting

By Fred Schneider

Summer will go by quickly and one thing to consider is a possible nomination of one of our members for the Distinguished Service Award. See information concerning the award on Page 23 of the Directory, and remember nominations are due by Sept 1.

Some observations in my garden: The Gaillardia continues to be a good "weed" and wants to take over. I have removed two waste barrels of plants so others can "breathe". My White Meadow Rue has decided to become a "Giant Meadow Rue" and the tallest stem is easily 9 feet high! The Engelmann Daisy has decided to become an alien and tries to escape to the front yard. A new "weed" in my garden and in my back yard is Zinnia. It decided last year to produce lots of seed. I also have a good crop of Horse Weed. I believe our mild winter and our moisture have encouraged these guys to do their thing this year.

A Scientific Observation: According to a National Geographic account between 1979 and 2015 the average extent of Arctic ice in September decreased 64%. At the above rate it is estimated that the Arctic could be ice free in summer by 2040. The Arctic ecosystem is already rapidly changing and some scientists think the weather of the Northern Hemisphere is also being directly affected. Climatic change is a fact and we are already witnesses to change in the natural world around us. Farming, Gardening, Fishing, Forests and Forestry, Wildlife Numbers and Distribution, Irrigation and Power Supplies, and Trade are among the many dramatic challenges facing all of us. Let's hope our leaders are good thinkers and planners.

Fred



Seed and Plant Profit Information

By Nancy Logan

As of May 25, Garden Party Results are:

Garden Party/Pre-Order Sales 2016

Sales	\$8,256.44
Expense	(4,026.70)
Profit	\$4,229.74

Garden Party Sales 2015

Sales	\$3,461.18
Expense	(998.59)
Profit	\$2,462.59



PR Prattle

By Judy Kautz

Doorhangers are available for you to distribute in your neighborhood or local businesses. Tell them how much you appreciate their efforts to make our environment beautiful!

CCMGA Cookbooks are still available...cost is \$10. Copies have been placed in the Extension office and can be picked up there. Don't forget to pick up the correction sheet that you can place in your cookbooks.

Garden Tours have been a great success with garden visitors total to date 745. This includes the many visitors on April 9 which was our Spring Garden Party. Many thanks to the volunteers for the tours.

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



Thanks go out to all who have been working in the garden, as things are coming along well. Remember the flooding this time last year? The garden looks good and there is progress being made on the rebuilding of the two long beds on the South border of the garden. This is a lot of hard work and I cannot say thank you enough to everyone who has been working on that job. Also, I know that more labels are going out on the plants –good work! There have been some new faces out working and that is great. I should acknowledge that Kathi Farley has taken on the Xeriscape bed and Georjanna Mauldin is the new care taker of the Serendipity Garden. Darlene Cagle is still looking for an apprentice in the corner Oklahoma Proven Garden. There are lots of opportunities to work on whatever type of gardening interests you!



Education Updates

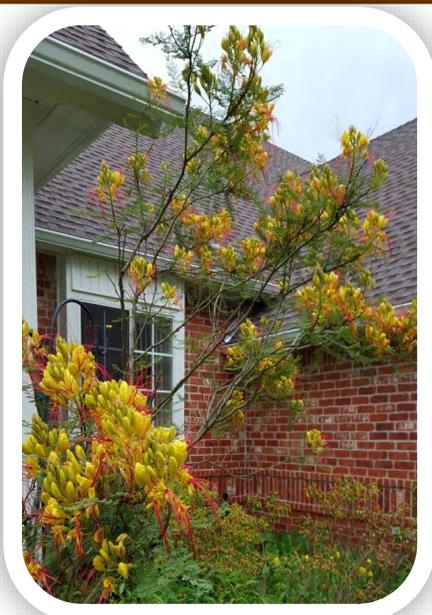
By Laura Eckstein and Sonya Fallgatter

We had 72 people stop by our information table at the Farmer's Market on May 14th. My thanks to Fred Schneider and Kay Holder for coming out to help me. June and July will be busy months. Here are the upcoming events in education:

- June 4: Shade gardening in the Demo Garden at 10 a.m. with Pat Hardre
 - June 11: Container Gardening in the Classroom with Judy Kautz and Marilyn Solomon
 - June 25: Small Fruits for the Backyard in the classroom with Theresa January
 - July 9: Fairy Gardens in the classroom with Marilyn Solomon
 - July 16: Seed Gathering in the garden with Pat Hardre
 - Aug. 6: Oklahoma Proven with Judy Kautz and Marilyn Solomon
- Please let us know if there is a topic of interest to you that you would like to see or present.



Photo Booth



My Bird of Paradise was absolutely beautiful this year!
*Submitted by
Marilyn Solomon*





Q and A with Celeste Stonecipher

Background and Significant Gardening Influences: There were few gardeners in my extended family. I did plant nasturtiums a long time ago. My mother always had beautiful house plants; my house plants were alive.

Do you have a gardening "specialty" or just love it all? I didn't get started on serious gardening until after John and I bought a house in San Antonio, Texas. The house was new. The front yard had been laid with sod and there were foundation plantings. There were also 18 live oak trees on the lot. The sides and backyard were bare and filled with rocks and caliche and a little bit of soil. We lived there for 24 years -- lots of time for loss and success. My favorites were begonias and bamboo. My failures were roses and bamboo. Gardening is lots easier in central Oklahoma. The clay can be difficult, but does dig easier than caliche. The weather is better here than in San Antonio. I still adhere to my belief that flowers belong in a garden and fruits and vegetables in the Farmers' Market.

What led you to CCMGA and what year did you complete classes? I've been trying to remember how I learned of the Master Gardener program. I just don't recall. I was in the 2010 class

What do you enjoy about CCMGA? CCMGA has been and continues to be one of my favorite activities. The people are warm, helpful, and generous. And it is just fun to dig in the dirt!





myriad botanical
GARDENS

Photos by Judy Kautz







Meeting called to order by Fred Schneider and the pledge of allegiance was recited. Fred introduced Susan Moffat, County Extension Director of Community Development. Susan is retiring in July and has done much to help the Master Gardener program. A gift certificate and card were presented to Susan along with many thanks for all her help.

Marilyn Solomon presented our speaker, Adam Price. He is the operation manager of the Oklahoma Food Coop. His presentation is "Eating Local in the Heartland".

After the speaker a short break was taken and we then proceeded to the business portion of the meeting.

Minutes from April were approved.

Treasury Report: Nancy Logan reported on the budget. Cash balance as of April 25 was \$16,259.92. Funds in excess of budget were \$6,936.67. Nancy also reported on the Profit from the Garden Party. Last year's profit was \$2462. This year's profit was \$3798.39.

Committees:

Demo Garden: Theresa January reported that the garden is coming along nicely. The biggest thing is demolition of the original gardens on the south. Working on it is very labor intensive. The plants are back in the tropical garden and 17 ½ pounds of vegetables were donated to Foods for Friends. Please send in requests for plant labels to Cherry. The template is in back of the directory. If you have ideas for new sign designs, talk to Theresa. Try to have something that stands up tall so they won't be hidden by foliage. Les Brown reported on garden tours. The tours are averaging 40 visitors every Saturday with about 80 % returning visitors.

Greenhouse: Nancy Logan reported that we did better on sales with the prepay plants but it was very labor intensive for the greenhouse committee. Bill Farris had a suggestion for next year. He would be open for two days just for the Master Gardeners. They could come to his nursery and pick out their own plants from his selection. We would pay retail prices and 25% would be taken off the top for the Garden. This would probably be in early April. If there were any problems with the plants from Prairie Wind please let Nancy know. Also, email Nancy with any plant suggestions for next year.

Education: Laura Eckstein thanked Mary Bruce and Cathy Bowden for working the information booth at the Noble library. She also thanked Marilyn Solomon for a fun trip to the Myriad gardens. Fred Schneider and Laura will work an information table at the Farmers Market on Saturday. Upcoming classes include:

- 6/4- Shade Gardening -- Pat Hadre
- 6/11- Container Gardening -- Judy Kautz and Marilyn Solomon
- 6/25- Small Fruits for the Backyard -- Theresa January
- 7/9- Fairy Garden --Marilyn Solomon
- 7/16- Seed Gathering—Pat Hadre

Laura also thanked those that volunteered at Home Depot and Earth Day. Jeanne Parker reported on planting Oklahoma native plants at Wild Care and touring the facility.

May Meeting Minutes (continued)

Programs: Marilyn Solomon reported on the trip to Myriad Gardens. It was very interesting and Lori Coats, a Master Gardener led our tour. On 6/23 we will tour the Tulsa Botanical Garden and Linnaeus Children's Garden. We will car pool and lunch will be on our own. The cost of the tour is \$12. Marilyn needs our money 2 weeks before the trip.

Fundraising: Fred Schneider reported on the Flea Market. The dates are 9/30 and 10/1. Be thinking about things to donate.

Hospitality: Phyllis Blackwell thanked the people that brought food for our morning break, Julie Johnson, Jackie Engleman, Suzanne Perrine and Thressa Giudice. Theresa January brought strawberries from her garden. Phyllis also asked for donation of big plates.

Public Relations: No new Information.

Newsletter: Fred encouraged everyone to give a bio and passed a sign-up sheet.

Membership: Fred reported that a former student is working on her hours and needs a mentor for the desk on 5/17.

Special Events: No new information.

Tracey Payton Miller: We will be working on a trial in the garden. Yoga in the garden will be offered by one of our new members. The cost is \$10. They will be Mondays and Wednesdays at 0900. Tracey also announced that she has passed all tests and is now a PHD candidate.

Special Projects: Julie Johnson reported that lawn judging will be next month. Hang tags are available.

Kathy Kelly announced that a tour of 5 fellow gardeners will be 5/23 starting at 8:30.

New Business: Fred Schneider presented an idea for tee shirts with a color and logo that would identify our group. At the conference last year there were quite a number of groups with matching tee shirts. Kathy Farley will research different colors, patterns and logos and report back to the group. Fred also mentioned that Robin Stead is the farm manager for the Noble Farmers Market. It is on Saturdays from 8-1 in front of city hall. They also have a community garden.

Fred passed an article on the water situation in Oklahoma and a copy of Seed Savers.

Meeting was adjourned by the President.

Respectfully submitted, *Vada Edwards*



Treasurer's Report

By Nancy Logan

Beginning balance as of April 25, 2016, is \$16,259.92. Income includes \$32 Garden Books/Gloves/Visors Sold; \$442.35 Garden Party Sales; \$560 NA Medicinal Bed Donation; and \$30 Cookbooks Sold for Total Income of \$1,064.35. Expense includes \$439 Final Plant Pre-Orders; \$30 Speaker Honorarium; \$172.99 Demonstration Garden; \$100 Susan Moffat Retirement Gift; \$284.50 Medicinal Bed; \$1,000 OSU Scholarship and \$212.28 Sales Tax for Total Expense of \$2,238.77. Balance at May 25, 2016 is \$15,085.50, less budgeted amount of \$7,084.48, leaving funds in excess of budget at \$8,001.02. Respectfully Submitted, *Nancy Logan*



Blackberry, Bacon & Blue Cheese Salad

Master Cook

Ingredients

- 4 cups mixed greens
- 1/2 cup crumbled blue cheese
- 1/2 cup fresh blackberries
- 4 slices bacon, cooked and crumbled
- 1 green onion, sliced
- 1/3 cup olive oil
- 1/3 cup balsamic vinaigrette
- 2 tablespoons honey
- 1/2 teaspoon cinnamon
- 1/2 teaspoon dried basil

Assemble salad by tossing the mixed greens, blue cheese, blackberries, bacon and green onion.

For the dressing, combine the olive oil, balsamic vinaigrette, honey, cinnamon and basil.

Top the salad with the desired amount of dressing.

Per Serving: 1217 Calories; 104g Fat (75% calcs from fat); 29g Protein; 50g Carb; 9g Dietary Fiber; 72mg Chol, 1407mg Sodium.

NOTE: This salad is beautiful to look at. The first thing that jumps out at you when tasting is the cinnamon in it

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.

TULSA BOTANIC GARDEN AND LINNAEUS GARDEN FIELD TRIP *by Marilyn Solomon*

We plan on a fun field trip to the Tulsa Botanic Children's Discovery Garden and the Linnaeus Teaching Garden in Tulsa on Thursday, June 23, 2016. The tour costs \$12 and offers no discount for reciprocal memberships. The Botanic Garden tour begins at 10:00 a.m. and we will carpool rather than take a bus. I am including the names of those signed up for the tour. Make arrangements with someone to carpool with and plan on leaving at 8:00 to give yourself plenty of time to get to Tulsa as we never know about construction work. I will collect your \$12 at the June meeting. After we tour the Botanic Garden, we will eat lunch at the shopping center across from the Linnaeus Garden. Our tour at Linnaeus is scheduled for 1:00 p.m.

Tulsa Botanic Garden
3900 Tulsa Botanic Drive
Tulsa, Ok 74127

Linnaeus Teaching Garden
2435 S. Peoria Avenue
Tulsa, Oklahoma

Laura Eckstein, Vada Edwards and husband, Sonya Fallgatter, Fern Garofalo, Patty Hayes, Kay Holder, Judy Kautz, Kathy Kelley, Claren Kidd, Jim McDaniel, Cindy Mullins, Suzanne Perrine, Gloria Sacco, Marilyn Solomon, Patricia Welty, Kathy Whittle, Tomoko Yoshida, Thressa Guidice, Karen Weddle, Jeannie Kline, Sherry Rowan, Celeste Stonecipher, Linda Reed, Sylvia Zimmerman, Joan Kemmet Greenleaf, Mary Bruce.



Upcoming Events

June 11, 9 AM: Butterfly Count at Tallgrass Prairie Preserve (sponsored by the Nature Conservancy) Joseph H. Williams Tallgrass Prairie Preserve (near Pawhuska). Each year, volunteers gather to help survey butterflies which helps measure the success of our efforts to restore biodiversity at the preserve. Join us for a fun and educational day outdoors at Tallgrass Prairie Preserve!

The Joseph H. Williams Tallgrass Prairie Preserve is the largest (39,000 acres) protected remnant of tallgrass prairie left on earth. Originally spanning portions of 14 states from Texas to Minnesota, urban sprawl and conversion to cropland have left less than 10% of this magnificent American landscape. Since 1989, the Conservancy has proven successful at restoring this fully-functioning portion of the tallgrass prairie ecosystem with the use of about 2500 free-roaming bison and a "patch-burn" model approach to prescribed burning. REGISTRATION IS REQUIRED. Directions/maps will be provided to all registrants via email the Monday prior to the event.

June 10, 10 AM: CCMGA Monthly Meeting, Classroom

June 18 – 19, 9 AM – 4 PM: Cactus and Succulent Show and Sale, Will Rogers Garden Exhibition Center, 3400 NW 36th St., Oklahoma City

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

July 12, 9AM—3PM: Butterfly Count at J.T. Nickel Preserve (near Tahlequah) (Sponsored by the Nature Conservancy) Each year, volunteers gather to help survey butterflies which helps measure the success of our efforts to restore biodiversity at J.T. Nickel Preserve. Join us for a fun and educational day outdoors! The J. T. Nickel Family Nature and Wildlife Preserve is the largest privately protected conservation area in the Ozarks. The preserve was formed in 2000 as the result of a land gift from the John Nickel Family. This 17,000-acre landscape rests in eastern Oklahoma's rolling Cookson Hills and overlooks the Illinois River. Spring-fed creeks meander amid a rugged topography of steep slopes and narrow valleys harboring a mosaic of oak-hickory forest, lofty pine woodland, and a diverse mix of savanna, shrub land, and prairie. The preserve provides optimal habitat for a suite of uncommon breeding bird species, including some whose survival requires large blocks of intact habitat. Level: Moderate REGISTRATION IS REQUIRED. Directions/maps will be provided to all registrants via email the Monday prior to the event.

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.

DIRECTORY UPDATE

Kathi Farley has a new
email:
forthqtr@gmail.com



May Meeting

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

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.