

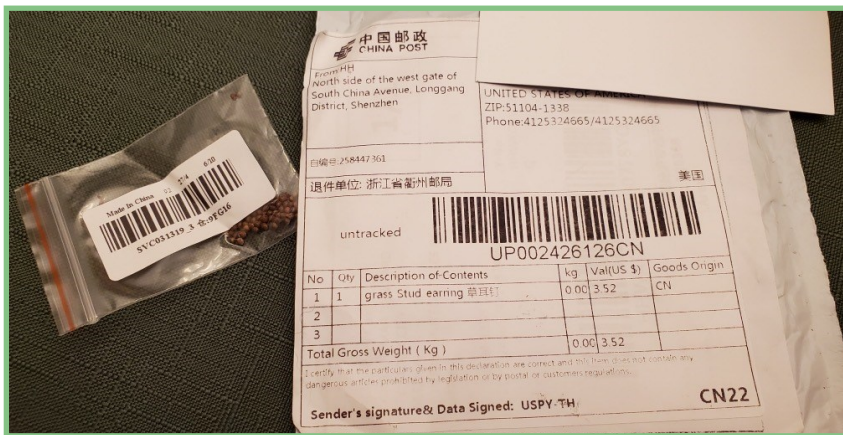
The Weeders' Digest

Be Wary of Seeds in the Mail!

People across the country, including some of our own CCMGA members, have received suspicious, unsolicited packages of seed that appear to be coming from China. USDA's Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service (APHIS) is working closely with the Department of Homeland Security's Customs and Border Protection, other federal agencies, and State departments of agriculture to investigate the situation.

USDA urges anyone who receives an unsolicited package of seeds to immediately contact the USDA Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service Anti-Smuggling hotline at 1-800-877-3835. Please hold onto the seeds and packaging, including the mailing label, until someone from your State department of agriculture or APHIS contacts you with further instructions. Do not plant seeds from unknown origins.

At this time, we don't have any evidence indicating this is something other than a "brushing scam" where people receive unsolicited items from a seller who then posts false customer reviews to boost sales. USDA is currently collecting seed packages from recipients and will test their contents and determine if they contain anything that could be of concern to U.S. agriculture or the environment. USDA is committed to preventing the unlawful entry of prohibited seeds and protecting U.S. agriculture from invasive pests and noxious weeds.



Cherry Slaughter continues to recover from knee replacement surgery. If you wish to send a card, you may send it in care of the Extension Center.

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Autumn is my favorite season of the year bringing cooler temperatures, colorful leaves, another planting season and pumpkin spice lattes. However, thinking about fall gardening when the temperatures are in the mid-90s can be challenging. If you have any words of wisdom or tips about fall gardening that have worked well for you, please share. See you in the garden!

Joan

FROM 2016-2019

**8400 MASTER
GARDENER VOLUNTEERS
FROM 20 STATES
HAVE GROWN & DONATED
OVER 2.4 MILLION POUNDS OF
PRODUCE TO FOOD PANTRIES**

#PLANTSDO THAT

NICH



Left, Mexican Sunflower, known for attracting bees and butterflies!



We are dealing with weeds so if anyone feels they can join us come on in. Tuesday is the best day to join us. Check Teamup to see if anyone will be there.



Photo Booth

Left, Vada Edwards captured this gorgeous photo of naked ladies, which have popped up all over our yards in Oklahoma!

Right, Kay Holder submitted this photo of onions called red candy. She says, "I purchased the plants in March from a little greenhouse by Lexington. These were planted in pots with my peppers. I'm going to use the pot method in addition to planting in the ground in the future."





Who says animals do not use tools?

A few days ago, after catching a mouse (such a good Putty) my cat ran over and placed it into my Croc shoe. She then began toying with the poor mouse releasing & returning it to her Croc cage several times before it became a meal.

Not long ago, I first noticed the use of the Croc mouse cage one day when I responded to Putty's loud meowing on the back porch. Putty was guarding her prisoner while impatiently waiting for us to come outside and praise her prowess. Then



once she showed off her prize, in my shoe, she released the mouse and re-caught it for lunch.

Good Putty!

The first time I saw this, I questioned if it only were only an accident as the mouse unwittingly tried to

hide but seeing her in action changed my mind.

Here is an interesting read on animal intelligence.

<https://www.lumosity.com/.../the-many-forms-of-animal-intelli...>



Upcoming Events

August 15, 8 – 9:30 AM: Summer Garden Walk, Will Rogers Park, OKC. Tour the gardens while in full bloom! Have some refreshing Hibiscus tea and take a leisurely tour through the gardens and learn which plants thrive in the heat of summer. This is a great opportunity to get some of the names of plants to use in your own flower beds at home for next summer. Cost \$5. Register at okc.gov/departments/parks-recreation.

August 22, 10 AM – Noon: Creating your Own Personalized Garden Space, Will Rogers Park, OKC. Event ID:33037. This presentation is about bringing your own self joy and happiness by way of nature reproducing itself by plants. Why wait to buy a plant in the spring, this can be expensive and time consuming to find that particular species. Collect your own seeds, make your own storage system and grow the flowers that you really like and succeed just like Mother Nature. There is little expense, very little time involved, but a great deal of self pride. You will be the creator of that garden spot that glows with pollinators and blooms or a nice tomato patch with your heirloom tomatoes. And you did it with just collecting a few seeds and a brown paper bag. It's just that easy! Spend an exciting hour or two learning how to keep your favorite plants year after year with little work. And as a bonus learn the plants that reseed themselves without your hands being involved. Cost: \$5. Register at okc.gov/departments/parks-recreation.

August 29, 10 AM: Gardens Walking Tour, Myriad Gardens OKC. Expand your knowledge of Oklahoma plants and find inspiration for your own garden with our educational walking tours. Each month will feature different plants from our outdoor collection that make great choices for our region – from year-round color to drought-tolerant choices and more. Self-guided plant tour handouts are available in our north lobby. In keeping with recommendations and requirements from city, county, and state officials regarding COVID-19: Pre-registration is required to attend – the tour is still free! Register at Myriad Gardens website. We encourage all attendees to wear a mask for the walk. All attendees must social distance in order to participate. The guide will be wearing a mask and a microphone so everyone can hear them.



Treasurer's Report

By Nancy Logan

Beginning balance as of June 25, 2020 is \$25,836.44. NO INCOME FOR JUNE. Expenses were \$590.76 Demo Garden for Total Expenses of \$590.76. Balance at July 25, 2020 is \$25,245.68, less budgeted expenses not yet reimbursed of \$13,043.68 and less reserve for greenhouse repairs of \$1112.00, leaving funds in excess of budget at \$11,090.00.

Respectfully submitted, *Nancy Logan*



Chocolate Suicide (Chocolatier Magazine) *by Rick Ault*

Ingredients

1-18.25-oz. box devil's food cake mix
1 pound (16 oz.) semisweet chocolate chips
1 1/3 cup heavy cream
4 T unsalted butter, cut into tablespoons

Bake cake per directions on box in any size pan. Cool completely.

Heat the cream and butter until the butter melts and the mixture comes to a boil. Place chocolate in a large bowl and pour hot cream over. Let stand 30 seconds to melt the chocolate. Whisk until smooth. Let the ganache cool for 15 to 20 minutes.

Line the bottom of a 9 x 2" round springform pan with a circle of wax paper.

Cut the cake into 1" cubes. Place cubes in large mixer bowl of standing electric mixer with paddle attachment. Pour 1 1/3 c. ganache over cake cubes and mix 1 minute at medium speed until consistency of fudge. Scrape into prepared pan and smooth the surface. Cover the surface with plastic wrap and freeze 1 hour.

Run thin bladed knife around edge of cake and remove sides of pan. Invert cake and remove bottom. Cover cake with remaining ganache. Refrigerate until 1 hour before serving. Serves 12

NOTES: If desired, reserve 1/4 c. of the ganache for dipping strawberries and evenly space around the cake. When I made this cake for Bunko, I decorated it with irregular shaped pieces of edible gold leaf!

Black Bean and Zucchini Quesadillas

by Judy Kautz

Ingredients

1 c canned black beans, rinsed and drained
4 T salsa
1 c finely chopped zucchini
8 (6-inch) corn tortillas
8 T shredded Cheddar cheese

Combine beans and salsa in a small bowl, mashing with fork. Stir in zucchini.

Layer 4 tortillas with half of bean mixture, sprinkle each with 2 T cheese and top with remaining 4 tortillas.

In broiler or toaster oven, cook quesadillas approximately 1 minute on each side until cheese is melted and bubbly. I cut these in half with a pizza cutter to make them easier to eat. This makes 2 servings.



MASTER GARDENER ASSOCIATION

Oklahoma State University, U.S. Department of Agriculture, State and Local Governments Co-operating. The Oklahoma Cooperative Extension Service offers its programs to all eligible persons regardless of age, race, color, religion, sex, sexual orientation, genetic information, gender identity, national origin, disability, marital or veteran status, or any other legally protected status. OCES provides equal opportunities in programs and employment.

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

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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.