

The Weeders' Digest

"Know Your Fungi" - Rahmona Thompson



CCMGA member Dr Rahmona Thompson and our resident ex-pert on plants presented a pro-gram on fungi at our July meet-ing. We learned about the makeup of various fungi and es-pecially not to eat the mushrooms unless we absolutely know what they are! Thanks, Rahmona!

Programs....

by Lois Cox

Richard Carpenter from the National Weather Center will give a Perspective on Global Warming. I am guess-ing we all have a perspective on global warming, right? But his will be based on the science of the weather. Join us August 17 and remember we are in a different room than the auditorium. We will be meet-ing in the same room where we will enjoy the new stu-dent picnic the Friday before, August 12. The meeting begins at 10 am but come at 9:30 for food and fellow-ship. Our business meeting will follow at 11 am.

Mark Your Calendars!

State Master Gardener Con-ference Regis-tration is open!
See info on page 18!

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Is it hot enough for you? Wow—what a heat wave that just won't quit. I can't seem to water enough to save my plants and don't feel good about watering anyway with our country in a drought! The rain we have gotten has been marvelous, but we could certainly use more. We may all be starting over next year when it is hopefully a cooler summer.

As I write this, I am still in the middle of moving my belongings from my house to my fiancé's house in preparation for our August 13 wedding. I have been able to bless an Iranian couple and a French student with things from my house that are not needed with duplicates: 2 dressers, 3 storage units for clothing, 2 bookshelves, computer desk and chair, computer armoire, end table, kitchen island, 3 bar stools, living room chair from my fiancé's house, kitchen items, towels, linens, blankets, comforter, pillows, trash cans, iron and ironing board, mops, brooms, and on and on. It has been great to give these items to our wonderful international students rather than just drop the items off at Goodwill.

It made me think of how we bless others with our gardens. I know Serena Norrel is constantly taking produce to her church's food bank as I am sure others do as well. If you grow some of the more productive vegetables like zucchini, you are "blessing" many with extras. Donna Wright asked for some of the terracotta pots I showed at the meeting because she likes to take flowers to neighbors and friends. Most of us have probably gotten starts of plants from our fellow master gardeners, right? Then, of course, there is just the beauty of our gardens (well maybe not this year). Our gardening is always a blessing to others and certainly is to ourselves.

Getting married again has shown me a few things that are different being an avid gardener. When we went to pick out our wedding rings, we decided on matching wedding bands. I have had a beautiful traditional wedding set with diamond standing tall in the middle. However it has been a fight with that stone for years getting garden and winter gloves on and off. With my arthritis, once the ring is on, it rarely comes off! The bands will have a special touch, however, because we both have an angled line of diamonds from my mother's diamond watch! Just precious!

In talking to my cosmetologist about my nails for the wedding, she said we would do the French manicure with the white tips because "my nails aren't that white." When I asked why, she said, "They always have dirt under them." This is, of course, a true statement! Some things are just not as important as the garden!

Welcome to our new students! See you when I get back from a week in the US Virgin Islands!

Lois



Community Education Committee *By Donna Wright & Cathy Bowden*

The COMMUNITY EDUCATION COMMITTEE HAS HAD A GREAT YEAR. We appreciate all of the members who have taken time out of their busy schedules to prepare and teach courses.

WE WOULD LIKE TO HEAR SUGGESTIONS FROM ALL OF THE MEMBERS TO MAKE NEXT YEAR'S PRESENTATIONS AS GREAT AS THIS YEAR'S!

We are interested in what you want us to present: to the community. What are you interested in learning or doing this coming year? What talents do we have among our members that are hidden treasures? Who specializes or has a passion for growing a certain type of flower or vegetable and could share this knowledge with us?

Who do you know that gardens differently with great success? Please share your/their name and their passion/talents with us.

If one person feels overwhelmed to teach a one-hour class then possibly a group of two or three could teach together.

Yellow survey cards were passed out in the July meeting. We will be handing them out in several more meetings if you were unable to attend in July. Please send an email to don-nawright@cox.net or lindadolezal@cox.net if you can't turn in a survey card.



Junior Master Gardener Program

by Lois Cox

Don't forget our two meetings in August: the 23 and 30 from 2 to 4 p.m. We will be receiving information on the training we need to work with the students as well as planning the curriculum for our first meeting September 17 with the girl scouts. Everyone is welcome to attend these meeting whether or not you showed interest previously. We are excited to get this started. Thank you, Joan Barker, for getting us going on this great program.



Spark a Change—Doug Tallamy on the Environment

Meet at The Well, Sunday, Aug 21, 2:00—3:30 pm. Discover more about local conservation with author Douglas Tallamy and his book, **Nature's Best Hope**, alongside Oklahoma Native Plants Society, Okies for Monarchs, Wildcare, and more! Learn more about native plants and their role in protecting local ecosystems through an engaging presentation with Douglas Tallamy on his book *Nature's Best Hope* followed by hands-on activities and the opportunity to explore and converse with community partners on local conservation efforts and ways you can protect and support our natural world at your own home. We will be joined by the Oklahoma Native Plants Society, Okies for Monarchs, Wildcare, Oklahoma Conservation Commission, and more!

This event will be held in the Market Hall at The Well and space is limited to the first 150 attendees. Additional parking is available in the lots to the west of the building up to Santa Fe Ave. Spark a Change conversations are part of our PLS Reads series. This year's topic is the environment and our exploration will be guided by 3 community reads: *The Music of Bees* by Eileen Garvin, *Nature's Best Hope* by Douglas Tallamy, and *Flight Behavior* by Barbara Kingsolver. TO REGISTER GO TO <http://pioneer.libnet.info/event/6760412>



Wow was it hot! The early times helped a lot. Just harder for me to wake up. Great pot-luck brunch too! We are trying an experiment of a new group called The Locust Group. It's to help beds that need more people to clean it up. The first two beds, Valerie Green's and Judy Kautz's gardens, went well. The group was 4-5 people big. We were able to totally clean up both beds in one day! "Many hands makes light work." Not a new concept. I looked it up. Way back to the 1300's Be looking for future Locust Group dates in emails and a short article describing this group. . *Kathi*



Locust Group

By Kathi Farley

The concept is "Many hands make light work". So how does this work? On designated workdays we will concentrate on one bed at a time with whoever shows up to work in that group. This is a great opportunity for those who wish to help in the garden but can't come every week. Once a month, couple times a season or once... this group is for you! You just show up that day and ask where the Locust Group is working that day and come join us. The fun part is getting know your fellow Master Gardeners and spend some time in the fresh air. I'll work hard to keep it on good weather day. Look for workday announcements on email and on our new private Cleveland County Master Gardener's Facebook page. I'm looking forward to getting to know new people too!





Vicki Morris says "I am amazed at the abundance of fruit this year. Grapes, raspberries, blackberries and especially peaches. Our three peach trees have out done themselves."



Above left, 1st cuts from the Green Tails amaranth. Above, love this Yarrow mix! My place in Noble. Left, Celosia - Flamingo Feather in the foreground and Hopi Red amaranth in the background. At my place in Noble.







Demonstration Garden Diaries *By Georjana Mauldin*

AUGUST FEATURED GARDEN - XERISCAPE GARDEN

Bedhead—Janelle Miller

So what is xeriscaping? By the way - it is not zero-scaping!!

Xeriscaping is water-wise gardening. These beds are designed to conserve water creating a dry landscape. Very little water is used to maintain this style of landscaping. Newly planted beds might need a bit more water to get established. Requirements for xeriscaping are using soil that drains well, using xeric plants that require little water, and implementing an efficient watering strategy.

An advantage to xeriscaping is replacing water-thirsty lawn grass with drought tolerant plants that are accustomed to less water benefits the environment and your pocketbook.

Janelle Miller is the bedhead for our Xeriscape bed in the Demonstration Garden. I asked her a few questions. Here are her responses:

When did your gardening interest begin?

Janelle: "The gardening gene passed down to me from both maternal & paternal grandparents. They each raised six children during the depression on mostly home-grown food. My father maintained a vegetable garden for 50 years."

Janelle also said, "I grow mostly flowers and shrubs and dabble in vegetables." I personally know that she grows some



amazing strawberries at home, as well.

Why do you like xeriscaping?

Janelle: "the Norman garden xeriscape bed is a good fit as I have maintained a 7'x15' drought tolerant bed at my home for ten years. My favorite drought tolerant shrub in my garden is a 'desert bird of paradise' (*Caesalpinia gilliesii*), because it was introduced to me in my grandmother's garden. This style of gardening and utilizing a 50-gallon rain barrel is my small scale contribution to water conservation."

Tell me a garden story that makes you smile:

"One recent spring, I discovered tadpoles in my rain barrel. I scooped them out with an aquarium net and relocated them to a neighborhood pond. Curious, because as a child I would collect tadpoles from a stream and bring them home to a water filled wagon; watch them magically turn into frogs and then return them to the stream.

What are your future plans for the Xeriscape bed?

"The bed contains established plants; however, I have recently added an ice plant and a red-hot poker. Ice plant is considered an annual, but I've had success in it returning a second year when heavily mulched."

For further research on Xeriscaping:

Xeriscape Plant List

<https://extension.okstate.edu/fact-sheets/xeriscape-garden-plants.html>

Xeriscape Demonstration Garden: Edmond, Oklahoma

<https://extension.okstate.edu/fact-sheets/xeriscape-demonstration-garden-edmond-oklahoma.html>





AUGUST BOOK REVIEW -- MONARCHS - Submitted by Georjana Mauldin

I recently read two books about the Monarch butterfly. Both books mentioned Oklahoma's involvement in the Monarch Highway. This corridor flows along Interstate-35 (I-35) from Laredo, Texas, to Duluth, Minnesota.

These books highlighted the legendary Chip Taylor. Orley R. "Chip" Taylor is a world-renowned expert on butterflies and their migration patterns, and he has been featured at Master Gardener Conferences. His website is: <https://www.monarchwatch.org/>

In July the Monarch Butterfly was placed on the endangered list. The following article explains in detail this decision, and offers hope: "Migratory monarch butterfly now Endangered - IUCN Red List"

"It is difficult to watch monarch butterflies and their extraordinary migration teeter on the edge of collapse, but there are signs of hope. So many people and organizations have come together to try and protect this butterfly and its habitats. From planting native milkweed and reducing pesticide use to supporting the protection of overwintering sites and contributing to community science, we all have a role to play in making sure this iconic insect makes a full recovery," said Anna Walker, member of the IUCN SSC Butterfly and Moth Specialist Group and Species Survival Officer at the New Mexico BioPark Society, who led the monarch butterfly assessment.

<https://www.iucn.org/press-release/202207/migratory-monarch-butterfly-now-endangered-iucn-red-list>

For further reading the following link is an interview between Ali Rogin of PBS and Scott Hoffman Black, Xerces Society for Invertebrate Conservation:

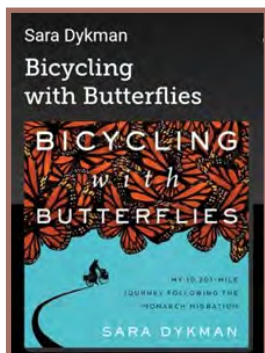
"July 30, 2022 --- Last week, the monarch butterfly was officially designated as endangered by the International Union for Conservation of Nature. Scientists estimate that the species' population has dropped between 20% and 90% over the last several decades. Scott Hoffman Black, executive director of the Xerces Society for Invertebrate Conservation, joins Ali Rogin to discuss."

<https://www.pbs.org/newshour/show/monarch-butterfly-declared-endangered-amid-declining-numbers>

Another great website is "Journey North," where one can be a citizen scientist and track wildlife migration and seasonal changes, including the Monarch. But Monarchs are not their only concern, the following is a project list that they also monitor: Hummingbirds; Robins; Pollinator Patches; Tulip Test Gardens; Sunlight & Seasons; Weather and Songbirds; Symbolic Monarch Migration <https://journeynorth.org/>

BOOK ONE: "Bicycling with the Butterflies, My 10,201-Mile Journey Following the Monarch Migration," by Sara Dykman.

The book is artfully written, with beautiful descriptions of nature, facts about Monarchs, and the author's personal experiences through this endeavor. I found this to be a very enjoyable book, filled with some suspense, written by female field researcher Sara Dykman. She chronicles her travels mile by mile from Mexico, through the US, to Canada on a solo bike ride --- and back again. This journey took about nine months and 10,000+ miles. She made history when she became the first person to bicycle alongside monarch butterflies on their annual migration. Her adventure begins in March when the Monarch butterflies begin their migration from Mexico, and it ends when they return to Mexico in November. The Monarchs overwinter in Mexico. They begin their hibernation fat-as-can-be and consume very little food while they sleep in the Mexican mountain forests.



Her bike was old and remade by her. It was a "cross between a salvage yard and a garage sale," her words. She carried a stove, two cook pots, cold and rain gear, few clothes, toiletries, water, a little food, and not much else.

Dykman hoped to average 40 miles a day. She stopped and stayed at several Monarch enthusiast's homes, but most often found a safe place behind schools and churches to camp. Along the way, she taught classes at schools, garden clubs, and butterfly sanctuaries spreading the word about the plight of the Monarch. Dykman's hope for the Monarchs of the eastern U.S. and Canada is replanting milkweed wherever we can.

With a few wrong turns, some bicycle blunders, many sandwiches, beautiful Monarchs, and the threat of potential danger, how did she make it? You'll have to read it to find out if there really was a group of bad men hiding under the bridge along her journey!!

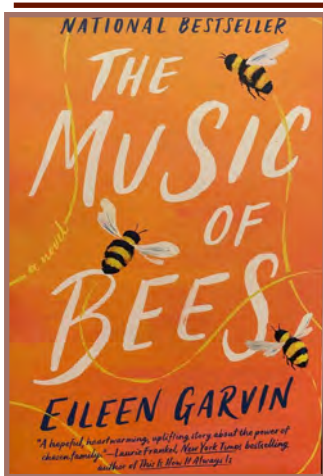
Sara Dykman website" [http://www.beyondabook.org/fosterslifelonglearners, boundary pushers, explorers, and stewards.](http://www.beyondabook.org/fosterslifelonglearnersboundarypushersexplorersandstewards)

BOOK TWO: "The Language of Butterflies: How Thieves, Hoarders, Scientists, and Other Obsessives Unlocked the Secrets of the World's Favorite Insect," by Wendy Williams

I enjoy books for the beauty of the words. This book meets that benchmark. It is well written with humor sprinkled in among the facts. Not too cumbersome with scientific nomenclature, but there is enough that you will feel educated when you finish. Science journalist Wendy Williams reveals the inner lives of these creatures -- a butterfly biography, if you will. I would say it is a storybook about the natural history of butterflies.

Although this book is an all-encompassing butterfly book, it also delves into the Monarch situation. The Language of Butterflies explains the critical role that butterflies play in our world.

<https://wendywilliamsauthor.com/product/the-language-of-butterflies>



Book Report: The Music of the Bees by Eileen Garvin; submitted by Lois Cox
Joan Barker gave me this book as a gift and what a pleasure it was to read it. The story is both educational about operating a honeybee from as well as being a heart-warming story. The main character, Alice, is a young widow at 42 who is struggling to expand her honeybee farm. With the unexpected help of two misfit teenagers who just happen to come into her life, they are able to become very successful. One of their challenges turns out to be the pesticides the apple orchards are spraying on their trees that is killing the bees. And you ask about the music part? One of the teens was really into music and hones in on the sounds and notes of the activity in each hive. It is one of those feel-good books with a happy ending and just a hint of romance. It does have a little more profanity than I prefer, but if you can read over that, it is a worthwhile read. If

you want to borrow it, just let me know. Joan picked it up at the Norman library where Eileen, the author, was doing a book signing and signed this copy!



Zucchini—the Gift That Keeps on Giving

Are you overrun by zucchini this summer? Slice it, grill it, fill it, fry it, bake it, pickle it, grate it, turn it into zoodles – zucchini is the most versatile vegetable in the garden. Desperation may have something to do with all those variations, because the more you pick, the more the plant produces. And there is usually one that gets away, hiding under leaves and reaching an enormous size!

Zucchini is originally native to Mexico, but the squash we know today is a variety brought to the United States by Italian immigrants. The early varieties, bred in Italy in the 16th century, were round. They were dubbed zucchini from Zucca, meaning pumpkin, and ini, which means small. The elongated version we know, grow and love was developed near Milan.

The squash was used here but really took off in the early 1970s with the age of flower children and their focus on home gardens and vegetarianism. Soon, zukes began popping up in seed collections - Burpee, for example in 1973 - and on grocery store counters. Zucchini cookbooks abounded shortly after, because this veggie is generous to a fault!

You can slow down the production by eating the female flowers, identified by a tiny zuke at the base of the blossom, stuffed with cheese or meat and immersed in sauce or fried.

What can you do with all the bounty of zucchini? Eat it, donate it to a food bank, feed it to backyard chickens and rabbits...or have fun with it. Maybe you should hold a neighborhood contest for the biggest zucchini and share a potluck of zucchini dishes. Or you can use pumpkin-carving tools to make designs in the outer skin for a centerpiece. Bat a whiffle ball with the giant ones, and then save and dry the mature seeds for the cardinals at your feeders.



When all else fails, celebrate April fool's day in August: play a joke on a friend or neighbor by sneaking into their garden and placing your overgrown zucchini among their plants. Or offload your extras on the doorstep of a friend or neighbor in the dark of night like the Tooth Fairy – surprise...it's a giant zuke! All's fair when it comes to zucchini!

All kidding aside, if you have an excess of zucchini, shred it and freeze so it will be available all winter long. A good use for this shredded zucchini is in a yummy chocolate zucchini bread. This recipe takes just 15 minutes to prepare and bakes in about 50 minutes. It makes two loaves of 12 slides each. Here are the ingredients: 2 cups sugar, 1 cup canola oil, 3 large eggs, 1 tablespoon vanilla extract, 2-1/2 cups all-purpose flour, 1/2 cup baking cocoa, 1 teaspoon salt, 1 teaspoon baking soda, 1 teaspoon ground cinnamon, 1/4 teaspoon baking powder, 2 cups shredded, peeled zucchini, 1 cup chopped nuts (optional). Directions: In a large bowl, beat sugar, oil, eggs and vanilla until well blended. Combine flour, cocoa, salt, baking soda, cinnamon and baking powder; gradually beat into sugar mixture until blended. Stir in zucchini and nuts. Transfer to two 8x4 inch loaf pans coated with cooking spray. Bake at 350 degrees for 50 – 55 minutes or until a toothpick inserted in the center comes out clean. Cool for 10 minutes before removing from pans to wire racks to cool completely.



Make the most of your zucchini harvest this summer! Remember it's good for you and so versatile!



Lois Cox (President) opened the meeting with the Pledge of Allegiance.

Nancy Logan (Treasurer). Beginning balance as of May 31, 2022, was \$31,165.44. Income for the month was \$25 Gloves Sold, \$ 30 Meeting Donation, \$20 Plant Sale, and \$5 Visors for a total of \$80. Expenses were \$284.52 Demo Garden and \$402.12 table covers for a total of \$686.64. Balance on June 20, 2022, was \$30,558.80, less budgeted expenses not yet reimbursed of \$9,400.53 and less reserve for greenhouse repairs of \$1,913.00, leaving funds in excess of budget at \$19,245.27

Nancy Logan (Greenhouse) She is planning a greenhouse committee meeting, and we may need to change the plant sale date.

Lois, Jeannie Kline, and Patty Cummings (Programs) There will be a meeting today in the Conference room about next year programs.

Donna Wright and Linda Dolezal (Education) A yellow survey sheet is available. Jerry Mowdy will present the August program on How to Build Birdhouses.

Lois Cox and Donna Carter (Garden Party) They are researching the feasibility of renting a tent to expand the greenhouse during the garden party to ease sales. We are also considering renting a porta-potty. Demonstrations will be dependent upon the weather. Children events were the most popular areas this year. We hope to have Jr. Master Gardener participation next year. There will be food trucks with at least one providing coffee and hot chocolate.

Judy Kautz (Public Relations) The newsletter was twenty-four pages this month, and eight of those pages were from the home garden tours. She thanked everyone for the submissions and has a few inputs held over for next month.

Kathi Farley/Georjana Mauldin (Garden Committee) – Because of the heat, garden work should be performed between the hours of 7 and 9 am. Some people still want to work on Fridays, and some want to work in the evening which is permissible as long as no one works alone. There is water in a refrigerator in the shed to keep workers hydrated. Gardeners should keep telephones with them at all times. The straw bale bed looks good. A “locust” group is being created to work occasionally to attack one bed and completely weed it. One should notify Kathy if a bed needs attacking by this group. It is fun to work and visit.

Garden Tours—Kathi reported for Sherry Hill. Tours are on hold until the weather cools down.

Rahmona Thompson (Membership) The new Master Gardener class starts on Aug 1 with thirty students. Different members may open the gardens at lunch time for students and receive one hour service hours, and also receive education hours if you attend the class that day.

Evan Taylor (Home tours) He is considering Fall Garden tours but must wait to see how well our home gardens fare after the hot temperatures.



July Meeting Minutes (cont.)

By Marilyn Solomon

Ronna Banks, Sherry Garner, and Cheryl Jones (Hospitality) – Thanks to Judy Kautz, Marilyn Solomon, Lois Cox, Cheryl Jones, Sherry Garner, Peggy Blair, and Ronna Banks for the lovely treats. More people should sign up for next month's meeting treats, and to bring dishes to the Student Picnic on Friday August 12. Dishes should arrive by 11:30. Jr. Master Gardeners—Training will occur on August 23 and 30 from 2-4 pm in Classroom 4. The first meeting will be held on Sept 17.

Claren Kidd (Farmer's Market Table) She reported an average of 117 people visit the table per day with three CCMGA members working. There is a lot of interaction with people, and education classes notices are posted. They also give out Fact Sheets. Alice Humphrey provided some colourful rocks and children are interested in them as well as some colouring sheets. The new table covering is working very well. They are also getting a banner with pictures of who we are and what we do.

RECURRING BUSINESS: Styrofoam recycling. Grease should be washed from foam before donating. The foam must be #6. Can take #4 To Rupert's. Densifier Events coming up—Aug 6—Moore Library, Aug 13 Household Hazardous Waste Facility, Aug 27 Nobel Public Library. All from 10-12 a.m.

NEW BUSINESS A new Webmaster, Sharon Mitchell is training with Lois.

Dates to remember: Aug 20 Jerry Mowdy—How to Build a Birdhouse

State Conference-October 6-7

Courtney's Comments: There is a new sign-in process. Either fill out a card or scan a QR code. The August meeting will be held in the North Room. Those working with Jr. Master Gardener's must go through a background check. She is working on a private Facebook page for members only.

President's Comments: Lois is anticipating the new Jr. Master Gardener program and also the number of new class students. She has found yogurt cups are good for growing succulents. Jeannie Kline will be taking the meeting next month because Lois will be on her honeymoon. Judy requested photos of the Farmer's market table and the new classes.

The meeting adjourned.

Respectfully submitted,

Marilyn A. Solomon



Treasurer's Report

By Nancy Logan

Beginning balance as of June 30, 2022 is \$30,558.80. Income for the month is \$25 Gloves Sold; \$12 Meeting Donations; \$20 2022 Dues and \$10 Visors for a total of \$67.00. Expenses were a total of \$798.27 Demo Garden. Balance at July 31, 2022 is \$29,827.53, less budgeted expenses not yet reimbursed of \$8,602.26 and less reserve for greenhouse repairs of \$1,913.00, leaving funds in excess of budget at \$19,312.27.

Respectfully submitted,

Nancy Logan



Best Ceasar Salad Dressing

By Rick Ault

Ingredients

3 cloves garlic
3/4 cup mayonnaise
4 anchovies
2 tablespoons freshly grated Parmesan cheese
1 tablespoon fresh lemon juice
1 teaspoon Worcestershire sauce
1 teaspoon Dijon mustard
salt and pepper, to taste

With food processor running, drop in garlic cloves. Add Mayonnaise, anchovies, Parmesan cheese, lemon juice, Worcestershire sauce and mustard. Press to blend.

Transfer to a medium bowl. Season with salt and pepper.

Serves 4

Oatmeal Chocolate Coconut Chewy Cookies

By Georjana Mauldin

Ingredients

1 cup butter, softened
1 1/4 cups packed brown sugar
1/2 cup white sugar
2 eggs
2 tablespoons milk
2 teaspoons vanilla extract
1 3/4 cups all-purpose flour
1 teaspoon baking soda
1/2 teaspoon salt (Optional)
3 cups rolled oats
2 cups semisweet chocolate chips
1 cup chopped walnuts (Optional)
1 cup shredded coconut

Preheat oven to 375 degrees F.

In a large bowl, cream together the butter, brown sugar and white sugar until smooth. Beat in the eggs one at a time, then stir in the milk and vanilla. Combine the flour, baking soda and salt; stir into the sugar mixture until well blended. Stir in the oats, chocolate chips, walnuts and coconut until evenly distributed. Drop by rounded tablespoons onto ungreased cookie sheet.

Bake 10 to 12 minutes in the preheated oven for a chewy cookie or 14 minutes for a firmer cookie.

Cool for 1 minute on the cookie sheet and then remove to wire rack. Cool completely and then store in tightly sealed container.

Servings—30; makes 5 dozen



June Meeting Minutes

By Marilyn Solomon

Lois Cox (President) opened the meeting with the Pledge of Allegiance.

Nancy Logan (Treasurer). Nancy Logan (Treasurer). Beginning balance as of April 30, 2022, was \$32,412.73 Income for the month was \$15 Gloves Sold, \$ 3 Meeting Donation, \$20 Dues for 2022, and \$4 Visors for a total of \$42. Expenses were \$503.16 Demo Garden; \$709.80 Sales Tax on Plant Sales; \$46.33 Garden Party Supplies, and \$30 Speaker Stipend. Balance on May 31, 2022, was \$31,165.44, less budgeted expenses not yet reimbursed of \$9,685.05 and less reserve for greenhouse repairs of \$1,913.00, leaving funds in excess of budget at \$19,567.39. We are still waiting on Steve to complete water extensions. Still have to order tablecloths. Just received new logo.

Nancy Logan (Greenhouse) There will be a meeting after this meeting to discuss plans for next year

Program Chair (Lois, Jeannie Kline, and Patty Cummings))- Meeting after July meeting for programs. Rahmona will speak at the July meeting.

Donna Wright and Linda Dolezal (Education) Roses by Cathy Bowden on June 18, and July 16 Fall Gardening by Courtney Dekalb-Myers.

Judy Kautz (Public Relations) Thanked Rahmona for photos of the garden and gardeners, Rick for recipes, and Vada and Kay for photos of their gardens.

Kathi Farley/Georjana Mauldin (Garden Committee) – There are four beds that need heads—the tepee bed (children's bed), the rock bed with pass along plants, four small square beds, (they may put trellises in the small beds), and one-half of the Oklahoma Proven bed. Kathi needs more help as there is lots of grass. Workers need to remember to sign up on Team Up. Tuesday, June 28 is the potluck. We are giving up the maintenance on the beds outside Classroom C. Plants can be removed for free. Julia Linger is giving away plants from the Xeriscape bed.

Garden Tours—Kathi reported for Sherry Hill. There are six open slots for tour days. We need three people per tour.

Evan Taylor (Home tours) The tours were successful at the homes of Melody Palm, Valerie Green, Kay Holladay, Jeannie Coley. Those on the tour receive 3 hours educational credits.

Ronna Banks, Sherry Garner, and Cheryl Jones (Hospitality) – Thanks to Rahmona Thompson, Nancy Logan, Valerie Green, Janelle Miller, Cherri Cummings, Linda Dolezal, Cheryl Jones, Mary Engle, Pat Welty, and Judy Kautz for the tasty treats.

OLD BUSINESS: Cathy Bowden said committee members takes out the Styrofoam. On July 1 there will be a densifier demonstration at the Norman Public Library, and next Saturday there will be one at the Shawnee Library. There are flyers about foam donating. Foam should be #6.

Claren Kidd said there were 106 people stopping by our booth at the Well last Saturday. She needs people to sign up to answer questions about Master Gardeners.



June Meeting Minutes (continued)

By Marilyn Solomon

Jr. Master Gardeners-Joseph can help and has curriculum. The program sounds good. We need to check on Safe Sanctuary training and other training.

NEW BUSINESS There will be a meeting at the close of this meeting to review the Garden Party.

Dates to remember:

Roses-Cathy Bowden -June 18

State Conference-October 16-17

Courtney's Comments: It was exciting to have so many people at the meeting. New classes will begin on August 5. There are four slots open. The new blog's name is Dishing the Garden Dirt. There will eventually be a dedicated Master Gardener desk. Courtney will work with her Potawatomie counterpart to present a series on Native Plants at the Pioneer Library. There will be a webinar on June 23 at 6:30 p.m. This will be advertised on the CCMGA Facebook.

The meeting adjourned.

Respectfully submitted,

Marilyn Solomon

Address Change

New name and address: Lois Cox-Marshall, 2929 SE 27th St Moore, Ok 73160



Treasurer's Report

By Nancy Logan

Beginning balance as of May 31, 2022 is \$31,165.44. Income for the month is \$25 Gloves Sold; \$30 Meeting Donations; \$20 Plant Sale and \$5 Visors for a total of \$80.00. Expenses were \$284.52 Demo Garden and \$402.12 Table Covers for a total of \$686.64. Balance at June 30, 2022 is \$30,558.80, less budgeted expenses not yet reimbursed of \$9,400.53 and less reserve for greenhouse repairs of \$1,913.00, leaving funds in excess of budget at \$19,245.27.

Respectfully submitted, *Nancy Logan*



Upcoming Events

Central Oklahoma Cactus & Succulent Society Fall Succulent Plant Fest

Scheduled talks for the September 24 Succulent Plant Fest, 8-5 pm

9AM. What are succulents? Mike Douglas

10AM. Basic cultivation of succulents. Kate Reynolds

11AM Why succulents look the way they do. Mike Douglas

1PM. More about cultivation, pests and problems. Kate Reynolds

2PM. A tour of succulent habitats around the world. Mike Douglas

3PM "Variegates, Cristates, and Monstrosities: Oh My!" Wil Oats

4 pm. Ask the doctor. Members

See flyer on page 19

Beyond the Backyard: A Suburban Homestead Conference

SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 24, 2022, 9 A.M. – 2:30 P.M.

The Cleveland County OSU Extension Service is excited to present BEYOND THE BACKYARD: A Suburban Homestead Conference. Hosted at the Norman Farm Market and Cleveland County Wellness Center, this day-long workshop will cover different ways to be more self-sufficient at home! Presentations will include food preservation, edible landscaping, small grains in small spaces, and more. The cost is \$30 and includes lunch. Call the extension office at 405-321-4774 to register by September 14th.

Location: The Well

201 James Garner Ave

Norman, OK 73069



ROGERS COUNTY
EXTENSION

Registration is Open for State MG Conference!

The website is open and ready for MGs from all over Oklahoma to register for the 2022 state Master Gardener Conference - we are hosting in Claremore this fall! Please visit this secure website – browse through the events, speakers and schedule – and sign up to attend! Dates are October 6-7, 2022. Go to: <https://register.mgaroco.com/> and register today!

We hope to have 250 or more MGs attend our county and participate in the first in-person MG conference since 2019! See you there!

Central Oklahoma Cactus & Succulent Society Fall succulent plant fest

Plant sale, hourly talks, exhibits

September 24th 8 - 5 pm

Oklahoma County OSU Extension Center
2500 NE 63rd St, Oklahoma City, OK 73111



Plant sale, posters, educational exhibits, talks every hour and more.

Members will be on hand to answer questions.

For questions email Wil at:
daisyandherdads@gmail.com

For more information see:
web: Oklahomacactus.com
Facebook: cactusokc

**CLEVELAND COUNTY MASTER
GARDENER ASSOCIATION PRESENTS**
EDUCATIONAL CLASS



***HOW TO BUILD
BIRD HOUSES***

**Saturday, August 20th
10:00-11:00**



*At this **FREE** event you will
learn how to build a **blue** bird house
And other pollinator houses.*

**Location: Cleveland County Extension
Meeting Room C
Northwest corner of front building 601
East Robinson, Norman, Ok 73071**



**Presenter: Jerry Mowdy
Master Gardener**



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Cleveland County Extension Master Gardener Training Schedule 2022



CLEVELAND COUNTY
EXTENSION

| | | |
|-------------------------------|-----------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| August 5 <i>Week 1</i> | Basics of Botany | Dr. Rahmona Thompson, Professor of Botany and Vascular Plant Taxonomy, ret. Editor, Flora Oklahoma MG Class of 2017 |
| August 12 <i>Week 2</i> | Soil Science | Dr. Hailin Zhang, OSU Regents Professor & Director of Soil, Water, and Forage Analytical Laboratory |
| August 19 <i>Week 3</i> | Entomology | Courtney DeKalb-Myers, Cleveland County Horticulture Educator |
| August 26 <i>Week 4</i> | Field Trip to Stillwater | Tour of Oklahoma Botanic Garden and Arboretum, Insect Adventure, and OSU Soils, Water, and Forage Analytical Laboratory |
| September 2 <i>Week 5</i> | Lawn and Turf | Dr. Dennis Martin, OSU Professor and Turfgrass Extension / Research Specialist |
| September 9 <i>Week 6</i> | Plant Pathology | Sara Wallace, Plant Pathologist at OSU Plant Disease and Insect Diagnostic Lab |
| September 16 <i>Week 7</i> | Herbaceous Ornamentals | David Hillock, OSU Extension Consumer Specialist & State Master Gardener Coordinator |
| September 23 <i>Week 8</i> | Vegetable Gardening | Courtney DeKalb-Myers, Cleveland County Horticulture Educator |
| September 30 <i>Week 9</i> | Pesticide Safety | Charles Luper, OSU Extension Associate, Pesticide Safety and Educator Program |
| | Plant Propagation | Courtney DeKalb-Myers, Cleveland County Horticulture Educator |
| October 14 <i>Week 10</i> | Planting & Care of Woody Ornamentals | Mariah Menzie, Certified Arborist, The Tree Wizard, Norman, OK, Class of 2017 |
| October 21 <i>Week 11</i> | Fruit and Nut Production | Becky Carroll, OSU Extension Associate Specialist, Fruit Crops & Pecans |
| October 28 <i>Week 12</i> | Plant Detective | David Hillock, OSU Extension Consumer Specialist & State Master Gardener Coordinator |
| November 5 <i>Week 13</i> | Final Exam | Morning Only 9:30am – 11:30am |

Schedule

| | |
|-------------------|------------------------------------|
| 9:30am – 10:00am | Quiz of previous week's material |
| 10:00am – 12:00pm | Class (short break around 11:00am) |
| 12:00pm – 1:00pm | Lunch |
| 1:00pm – 3:00pm | Class (short break around 2:00pm) |



Upcoming Events

Submitted by Elaine Dockray

August 12, 1 PM: Guided Garden Explorer Tour. Myriad Gardens, OKC. Join the horticulture team for the FREE Guided Gardens Tour. Meet in the visitor center. Stroller friendly, leashed dogs welcome

August 16, 6 – 7:30 PM: Growing Local: Native Plants for Your Home Garden (with OSU Extension). Southwest OKC Library, 2201 S.W. 134, Oklahoma City, OK. Embrace the beauty and benefits of native plants with OSU Extensions of Cleveland and Pottawatomie Counties in this workshop dedicated to designing a native plants garden fit for your space. Learn how to harness the power of native plants to support our local environment and wildlife in your own yard with Courtney Dekalb-Myers and Carla Smith from the OSU Extensions of Cleveland and Pottawatomie Counties. This program is an interactive, in-person workshop dedicated to planning and designing your own native plants garden with the support of experts from OSU Extension. In order to get the most out of this workshop, select a sunnier spot of your yard that you'd like to design and come prepared with: photos or a rough sketch of chosen area, dimensions of chosen area, and descriptors or sample of soil in chosen area (i.e. sandy, loam, clay, typically wet, dry, etc.) Register at pioneer library website.

August 21, 2 – 3:30 PM: Spark a Change: Let's Talk About the Environment (Featuring Douglas Tallamy). The Well, Cleveland County Wellness Center, 210 S. James Garner Avenue, Norman, OK. Discover more about local conservation with author Douglas Tallamy and his book, *Nature's Best Hope*, alongside Oklahoma Native Plants Society, Okies for Monarchs, Wildcare, and more! Learn more about native plants and their role in protecting local ecosystems through an engaging presentation with Douglas Tallamy on his book *Nature's Best Hope* followed by hands-on activities and the opportunity to explore and converse with community partners on local conservation efforts and ways you can protect and support our natural world at your own home. We will be joined by the Oklahoma Native Plants Society, Okies for Monarchs, Wildcare, Oklahoma Conservation Commission, and more! This event will be held in the Market Hall at The Well and space is limited to the first 150 attendees. Additional parking is available in the lots to the west of the building up to Santa Fe Ave. Register at pioneer library website.

August 27, 10 AM: Guided Garden Explorer Tour. Myriad Gardens, OKC. Join the horticulture team for the FREE Guided Gardens Tour. Meet in the visitor center. Stroller friendly, leashed dogs welcome

September 10, 2 – 3 PM: Daylilies??? You Mean Those Yellow and Orange Thangs?!?! Will Rogers Exhibition Building, Oklahoma City. Event ID: 48090. Join the Daylily Society and learn more about these gorgeous and tough perennials. Michael Kowalchuk is going to lead this free class on these colorful beauties! Register at parks.okc.gov

September 24, 10 – 11 AM: Fall Mushroom Foraging. Will Rogers Exhibition Building, Oklahoma City. Event ID: 44496. Please join us as we discuss a variety of edible mushrooms and other fungi you can find in the wild during Autumn/Fall. We will have fresh mushrooms on-site to learn what to look for when out in the wild. We will also talk about their look-alikes and some delicious recipes. We will have foraging brochures and field guides available for viewing after class. Free. Register at parks.okc.gov

October 8, 10 AM – 4 PM: Vegfest OKC. Myriad Gardens Great Lawn. The third annual VegFestOKC celebrates healthy living and eating by way of plant-based lifestyles! VegFest is a festival that was started by the Vegan Society, which is a national organization based in the United States. It is hosted in multiple states all across the U.S and in other countries. This festival serves as a time to celebrate and promote plant-based foods, animal rights, and environmental sustainability. Their mission is to educate and inspire those around us to live healthier and happier lives.

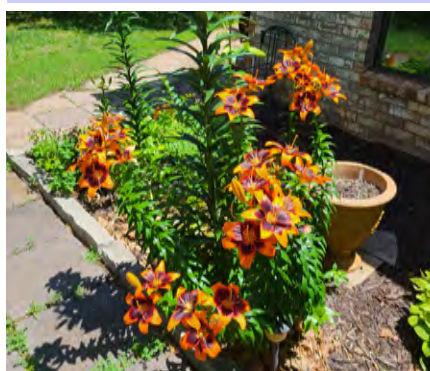
October 15, 8 – 10 AM: Arboretum Bird ID Walk. Will Rogers Garden, OKC. Event ID: 48281. Let's go for a walk through the arboretum and gardens to see all the birds that call it home...or, are just passing through! Bring your own binoculars if you have them! Led by the OKC Audubon Society. Free. Register at parks.okc.gov

New to Oklahoma!

Right, Mulberry
weed: invasive.

Don't let it go just
to see what it is. It's
new to Oklahoma. I
am not sure where
it's from—anyone
have more in-fo on it?

***Submitted by
Kathi Farley***



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 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.

The CCMGA newsletter is published as an educational service by the Cleveland County Oklahoma Cooperative Extension Service, 601 East Robinson, Norman, OK 73071-6616
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www.clevelandcountymastergardeners.org

Courtney DeKalb-Myers
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.