

Raised Bed and Container Gardening



Casey Hentges presented our July program, "Different ways of raised bed and container gardening" and it was delightful, informative and humorous. Catch Casey as she writes, produces and hosts the weekly Oklahoma Gardening Television Show.

Upcoming Program

by Patty Cummings

Linda Vader will present our August 16 meeting program on What is an Elegant and Edible Garden, and How do I personalize it for myself and my lifestyle? Linda is a self-taught garden designer and stylist who also writes and produces garden media for TV, magazines, Instagram, YouTube, and the web. She has lived and gardened for over 30 years in her 1935 English Tudor home before moving to her "Cottage on the Hill" in OKC. Her gardens have been featured in numerous national and local magazines and have been toured more times than she can count.

Linda looks at everything: her home, family, travel and life's biggest questions through a gardening lens. Gardening has helped her raise two boys, be a better friend and neighbor, learn resilience and at times saved her sanity. Shesays often that gardening is simultaneously one of the most joyous and frustrating things she does. Join her in this great adventure that is gardening. Snacks are at 9:30 am and the speaker will begin at 10 am with the meeting following at 11 am.

Garden Party Planning Has Begun!

The committees are already working toward our next Garden Party. Plants and seeds are being collected, and activities are being planned. If you want to be a part of these exciting activities, contact Nancy Logan or Lois Cox Marshall.

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President's Posting

By Jeannie Kline

First, I want to thank all of you who have been laboring in the heat in the demonstration garden for all your hard work and dedication. July and August just seem to get hotter every year but being able to open the garden at 7 makes it more pleasant.

Our Master Gardener class for 2023 starts on the 11th and we have 22 new and enthusiastic students. Let's take every chance to make them welcome and encourage them along the way. Remember we can all attend any session of the classes to brush up on the basics and the hours you attend can be counted toward your education hours for the year.

And don't forget to register for the State Master Gardener Conference in El Reno on October 5th and 6th. It is always a great time for fellowship with each other and meeting other gardeners.

I look forward to seeing you at the August meeting!

Jeannie



Community Education Committee *By Donna Wright & Linda Dolezal*

Our next Community Education class will be August 19 at the Cleveland Extension Center, 601 East Robinson in Classroom "C" at 10 am. This Class is free to the Public. It will feature Stephanie Jordan, who will tell us about monarchs. Stephanie Jordan is the Pollinator Outreach Coordinator for The Natures Conservancy of Oklahoma. She also teams up with Okies for Monarchs to help her fellow Okies create habitats and expand their knowledge about our magnificent, migratory monarchs. She has extensive experience working with and advocating for a variety of pollinators. For many years, she grew and sold native host plants at farmers markets and festivals. She lives in an urban farming community near Paseo, where she keeps bees and strolls the extensive pollinator gardens in search of cool bugs.

Why Are Monarch Butterflies Important? Monarchs are easy to picture...they are one of the most recognizable butterflies. They're beautiful orange wings laced with black lines that are delicately tipped along the edges with white dots. It is impossible not to recognize these famous fluttering insects. But why are monarch butterflies important? Monarch butterflies offer the world much more than just their beauty. Monarch butterflies are pollinators. Pollinators like monarchs play a vital role in the natural ecosystem and our food supply. Without pollinator, the world around us would not be the same. But sadly, for many years the population of many pollinators has been rapidly declining.

Are Monarch Butterflies Endangered? The loss of milkweed plants, winter habitat, and climate change all pushing monarchs to the brink. The monarch butterfly is now a candidate to be listed as endangered under the Endangered Species Act, but they are not extinct yet. The three key factors listed are the main reason these butterflies are barely hanging on. 1) Loss of milkweed. Monarch Butterflies lay eggs on milkweed plants. Milkweed is the ONLY plant monarch caterpillars depend on for sustenance. Unfortunately, milkweed is often eradicated because it is considered a weed. Large-scale farms, Urbanization, and an increased use of herbicides are all contributing to the lack of milkweed. 2) Winter habitat loss. Harsh weather, deforestation, and continued development have rapidly shrunk monarch's winter habitat. The butterflies make their migration to California and Mexico, but with only a few locations left to gather, their population continues to decrease. 3) Climate Change. Climate change impacts many species in the environment. With an increase in extreme storms, severe weather swings, and torrential weather events, monarchs have seen deadly consequences. With monarch butterflies in trouble, there is no time to waste to help conservation efforts, build monarch way-stations, plant gardens of milkweed and cut the use of pesticides.



We all love our gardens and our association! However, we need to share them with the public! Consider becoming a part of our new Marketing Team! Together, we can come up with creative ways to publicize our association and our love of gardening, and share our gardens and education programs with the public.

Join us as Rahmona Thompson shares some marketing strategies she learned at the International MG Conference. We will meet via ZOOM sometime in the next couple of weeks. Details will be sent out to our membership from the Extension Office.



OSU EXTENSION
MASTER GARDENERS

Master Gardener Conference Registration Now Open!

Registration for the 2023 Oklahoma State Master Gardener Conference is now open! We made sure the registration process ran smoothly before July 1st, and we are happy to report that all is good to go! The cost is \$65 per person, and all sales are being handled online through the website. REGISTER HERE: <https://www.okmgc23.com/>

We are continuing to add information to the website, so be patient with us if there is any missing information. Right now, you will find information about our speakers, the agenda for conference day, our lunch caterer, a map of the conference facility, our designated hotels for the conference, and our current sponsors. Stay tuned and continue to check the website for updates. Canadian County Master Gardeners



Seed Saving Class Upcoming in September!

Don't miss this upcoming class! On Tuesday, September 12, 2023, at 5:30 PM to 6:00 PM at the Noble Public Library, Mary Engel will present a "Seed Saving Class" .



Our lively and lovely crop of grass and weeds are flourishing! Rain and heat have done a great job in helping unwanted seeds germinate. Some beds have been brought under control but others need help desperately. See Marilyn and Vada to help on their beds, please. We will continue opening the gates at 7am until the heat wave passes. Please let me know if you can be available to open gates at 7am on Tuesday and Friday for the month of August. Watch emails for changes.

A couple of changes are under way. The Monarch Bed is being reworked under Mary Engel's supervision (look for a wide variety of milkweed to be featured) and Judy Kautz's Susan B bed is in the planning stages of becoming a keyhole bed! Very exciting!!

Joan had applied for the United Way Day of Caring. They will be here September 15 (if we are accepted) and we hope to have them help build the keyhole bed, spread gravel and put wood chips or mulch on all of the beds. On the Day One of Caring, we will need volunteer supervisors and volunteer donations of water and snacks (the non-melting kind).

Does anyone know where we can get wood chips? The city compost will no longer carry wood chips.
Important Note! There will be a Garden Committee meeting after the September 26 potluck. Anyone interested come join us for food and stay for the meeting. Lunch starts at 11:30 in Classroom C

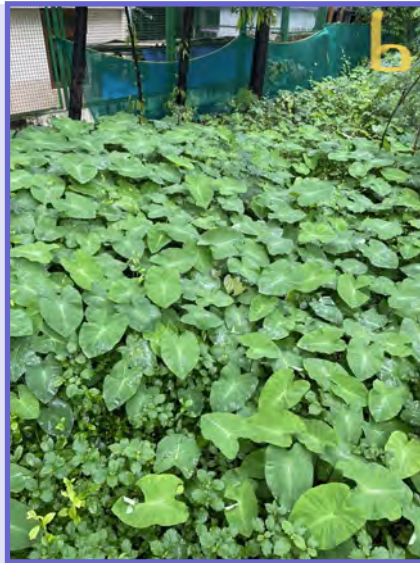


Photo Booth



Left, **Janelle Miller** shared a 'where's the rocks?/under the plants!' rock garden. Background *Artenia Cordifolia* (baby sun rose); foreground *Portulaca Oleracea* (purslane). Garden art is a glass bead covered bowling ball. Top, **Georjana Mauldin** submitted Dirty girls, the result from working in the garden after the recent big rain events. L-R, **Kathi Farley, Cherri Cummings and Mary Engel.**

6. Elephant ears growing wild



7. Climbing fern tree



8. Banyan tree in the Ficus family

9. Coconut tree

10. Custard apple tree showing the green, bumpy apples



11. Peacock flower shrub



While my husband was on a business trip here, I tagged along to learn about a new culture. There were many places I hoped to visit outside, but being in the monsoon season has literally dampened my efforts. I visited the Sagar Vihar Garden here in Navi Mumbai in a brief time of slowing rain on July 26. I had hoped to add more pictures July 27 from a park that has a botanical garden (was closed July 26 in the afternoon hours when we tried to get in) but my driver



called with monsoon news. The government put out a warning not to travel if possible. With a day of promised heavy rain, the streets

flood easily and travel is less than advised. But here are some pictures I took. The names I assigned to each picture are from Picture This so may or may not be accurate. Rahmona or Moriah can correct! Sorry the numbers are handwritten on with my pinkie



but needed to identify the pictures.



1-4. Garden entrance and pictures of the general area. Gardens here are obviously not what we think of in the US as gardens. They are places for children to play (when not in monsoon season).

5. -African Sausage tree. The unripe fruit is poisonous especially to humans. But it can be baked when ripe to eat the pulp. The seeds are roasted and are nutritional. The powdered mature fruit is applied as a dressing to treat wounds abscesses, and ulcers. Kathie, we need to add this to the medicinal garden!



Looking at Trees in Mumbai, India (cont.) *by Lois Cox Marshall*



12. Red frangipani (I just bought earrings like this flower to wear in Hawaii in September)



13. Frangipani tree

14. Fukien tea tree – great for household bonsai plants but can grow tall if allowed.



15. Tropical almond tree

16. Yakooro blossom (on the ground but couldn't tell which tree)



17. Golden pothos – have you ever seen it this big? It was climbing to the top of the tree.



Looking at Trees in Mumbai, India (cont.) by Lois Cox Marshall

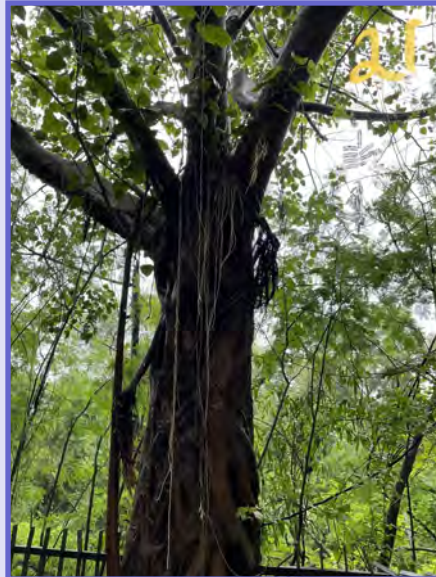


18. Papaya
19. Small mango tree
20. Bamboo



21 and 22. Rubber plant in Ficus family
23 and 24. Roystonea Regia in the palm family – These trees were so perfect looking, I truly thought they were artificial outside my hotel. The trunk looks and feels like plastic. Up under the leaves, it is a smooth green that also looks like plastic. I never saw dying

leaves that are so common with palm trees. Amazing tree. Sorry I wasn't able to go to the botanical garden to see flowers. I know they are here because when I visited a Hindu temple, ladies were stinging leis with fresh flowers to offer to the idols. The children were also selling these leis on the streets as they walked between the cars. We will have to come back during the dry season after September another year. They say October, November, and December are the best months to visit. Of course, those months are super busy here in the states!



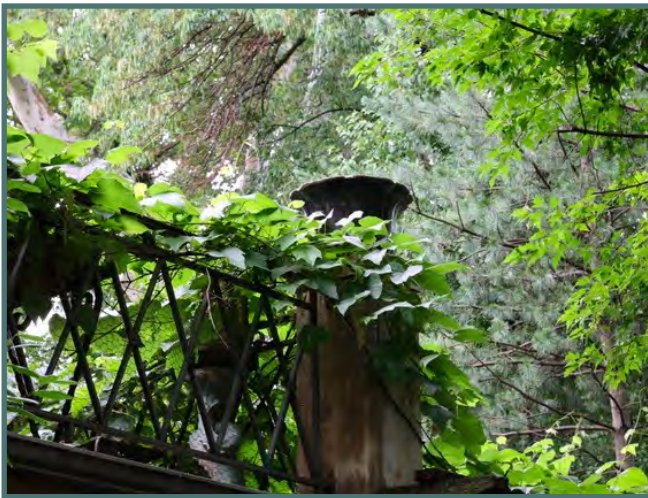
3. Christopher Filley & Rich Hoffman Garden *by Rahmona Thompson*

There's only one problem with Christopher Filley and Rich Hoffman's garden: Once you pass through the 19th-century French gates to the backyard, you don't know where to stop looking. There's so much to see. The small lot belies an abundance of treasures. It's a feast for the senses. Owners of an antique store, they have an exceptional ability to see the potential in the various artifacts and salvaged items. The garden is filled with a mix of eclectic items among the greenery that are at once unusual and captivating. Many items are priceless antiques, and many were saved from dumpsters or dusty attics and given new life in the garden.

Christopher and Rich love to beguile their visitors with nuances and surprises around every corner. There are ideas everywhere for taking home to your own backyard. You may not want to leave for fear of missing something.



3. Christopher Filley & Rich Hoffman Garden *by Rahmona Thompson*

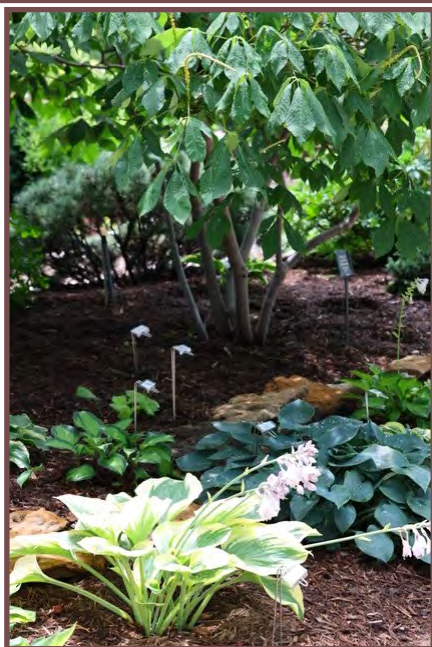
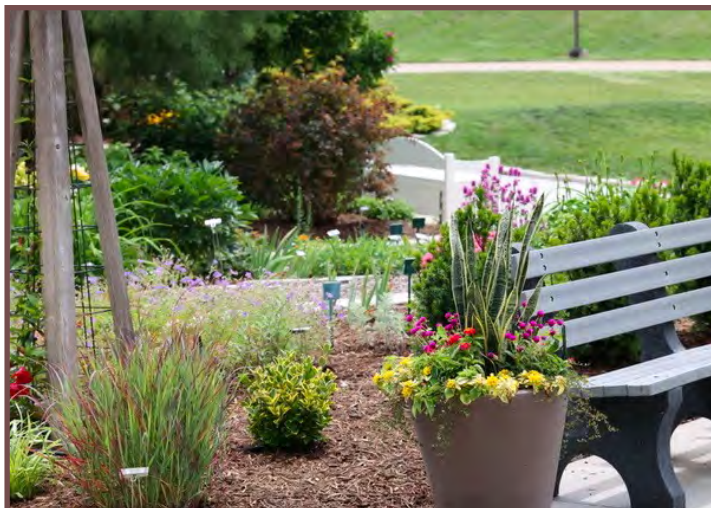
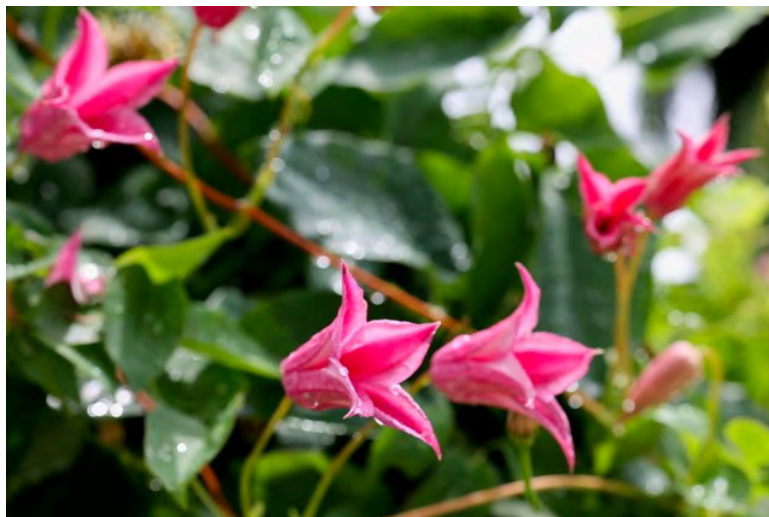


3. Christopher Filley & Rich Hoffman Garden *by Rahmona Thompson*



4. Johnson County Demonstration Garden *by Rahmona Thompson*

Lunch was at the Johnson County Extension Building. It prepared by the Johnson County Nutrition Extension Master Gardeners, a subset of program whose mission is to promote healthy eating. While there, we got a 15-minutes to explore their demonstration gardens which was on one side of the building. The extension office fully funded the garden. Landscape design and plant selections were decided by a committee of EMGers.



4. Johnson County Demonstration Garden *by Rahmona Thompson*

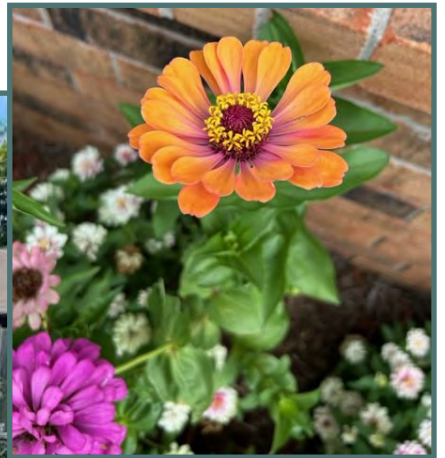




Photo Booth



Pictures from Laura Eckstein's yard—pretty flowers!





**CLEVELAND COUNTY MASTER
GARDENER ASSOCIATION PRESENTS**

EDUCATIONAL CLASS

*At this **FREE** meeting*

Calling Monarch Lovers

(and other pollinators)

Saturday, August 19th

10:00-11:00



Photo credit:
The Nature Conservancy of Oklahoma

Stephanie Jordan is the Pollinator Outreach Coordinator for The Nature Conservancy of Oklahoma. She also teams up with Okies for Monarchs to help her fellow Okies create habitat and expand their knowledge about our magnificent, migratory monarchs. She has extensive experience working with and advocating for a variety of pollinators. For many years, she grew and sold native host plants at farmers markets and festivals. She lives in an urban farming community near Paseo, where she keeps bees and strolls the extensive pollinator gardens in search of cool bugs.

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



**Presenter:
Stephanie Jordan
The Nature Conservancy of Oklahoma
Pollinator Outreach Coordinator**



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July Meeting Minutes

By Loreen Upton

President, Jeannie Kline opened the meeting with the Pledge of Allegiance.

Treasurer Report listed below.

Greenhouse committee, Nancy Logan. The committee is working on details for our 2024 plant sale. We will need several volunteers to help with the Sale. Important dates to remember; our set update for the sale will be 4-17-24. Our Plant Sale is scheduled for 4-17-24. We will need to borrow carts to carry plants. There is a home-schooled group of children named "Thrive Club" that has volunteered to help with our sale. Judy Kautz will work on pathway signs for the Plant Sale and for the Demonstration Garden.

Program Committee. Our speaker for our 8-16-23 meeting will be Linda Vater. The topic for her presentation is "What is an elegant and edible garden".

Education committee. The topic for the 8-19-23 education meeting will focus on pollinators.

Hospitality Committee, Sherry Garner. The new student picnic is scheduled for 8-11-23 at 12:00 noon. Please sign up to bring drinks, side dishes or dessert. We will need all the items by 11:00 am please.

Special Projects, Jeannie Parker. We have all the volunteers we need for the Cleveland County Fair. Thank you to all who have signed up.

Public Relations, Judy Kautz. CCMGA tee shirts are available for sale online. We need a total minimum of 30 shirts to complete the order. Our interns are eligible to buy shirts. The committee is planning a marketing campaign. More information will follow. The deadline for newsletter articles is 7-28-23. Would like to have more recipes.

Membership, Rayge Johnson. Thank you to all who have volunteered to be ambassadors. We still need more volunteers. Please see the sign-up sheet.

Styrofoam Recycling, Cathy Bowden. Our goal is to have 10,000 pounds of Styrofoam ready to sell by 9-10-23. Channel 9 news will be on site Saturday morning on 7-22-23 to interview. All are welcome to come out and bring Styrofoam. The location is University Lutheran Church in Norman OK. Wednesday 7-26-23 is our "washathon day" at ULC. All are welcome to participate in washing Styrofoam. Please contact Cathy Bowden for more information.

Note from Courtney. There are 2 new Education positions open. For more information, please contact Courtney. Our September meeting will be at the WELL.

Other notes. Norman library is requesting people to volunteer for yard workers. Please contact Lizzie Hedges.

There will be a collection of school supplies that Sooner Fashion Mall for needy children. The date is 7-22-23 from 10:00am to 1:00 pm.

There will be a "rock Painting" event on 8-7-23 and on 8-11-23 from 12:00pm to 5:30pm. The location is the WELL. All material is provided. Need volunteers to paint words of encouragement on painted rocks. The contact person is Cindy Merrick. Cindy will send an email with more details and contact information.

Meeting adjourned.

Respectfully submitted, *Loreen Upton, Secretary*



Treasurer's Report

By Nancy Logan

Beginning balance as of June 30, 2023 is \$39,407.25. No income for the month. Expenses were \$204.03 Demo Garden; \$70 Additional Directories Printed; \$56 Dist. Member Plaque 2022; 155.91 Native American Bed credit used and \$1,759.33 Irrigation Beds Added for Total expenses of \$2,245.27. Balance at July 31, 2023 is \$37,161.98, less budgeted expenses not yet reimbursed of \$7,464.96 and less reserve for greenhouse repairs of \$3,046.00, leaving funds in excess of budget at \$26,651.02.

Respectfully submitted, *Nancy Logan*



Homemade Baked Zucchini Fries

Ingredients

Zucchini
Parmesan
Thyme
Oregano
Basil
Garlic powder
Salt and pepper

Cut zucchini length wise. In a separate bowl combine parmesan, thyme, oregano, basil, garlic powder, salt and pepper. Place zucchini strips on baking sheet and drizzle with olive oil then sprinkle on mixture. Bake for 15 mins at 350 for 15 mins, then broil until golden brown. Makes a great guilt free snack!!!



Below left, Pipevine caterpillars discovered in the demo garden in July by Georjana Mauldin. Below middle, Ruth Smith says, "A Yellow garden spider (*Argiope aurantia*) in my strawberry patch. This beneficial spider, who eats mosquitoes, aphids, gnats and flies, is a gardener's friend." Above and below right, more photos from the demo garden, submitted by Debbie Wood.



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.

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Office 405-321-4774 Fax 405-360-0319
Email ccmastergardener@yahoo.com
Website
www.clevelandcountymastergardeners.org

Courtney DeKalb-Myers
Extension Educator
Horticulture

Submit suggested articles for the newsletter not later than the **28th of each month** to Editor Judy Kautz at jkautz@cox.net

Newsletter Editor: Judy Kautz



OSU EXTENSION CLEVELAND COUNTY MASTER GARDENERS

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.