



The Weeders' Digest

Thanks for all the Donations of Food!



Thanks to all our members who generously gave food and supplies to go to the Norman Food Bank at Christmas. Your generosity made a big difference in the lives of those less fortunate! Well done!

Our January meeting.... *by Jo Ann Dysart*

In consultation with our executive committee and due to the rise of COVID-19 cases, we have decided to move the January meeting to a virtual capacity. We will also look to have a virtual February meeting if conditions stay the same. The health and safety of our members is of the utmost importance. For the January meeting, we will be watching two informative videos and then break out into discussion groups. It'll be a fun chance to talk with fellow members about their gardening practices and learn from each other. We'll induct our new officers and a business meeting will follow. Since Zoom is a challenge for some. Lois Cox, our incoming president, has kindly agreed to host a Zoom test session from 2pm to 3pm on Tuesday, January 18th. If that time does not work for you, please reach out to Lois. She will coordinate a time to troubleshoot any issues you may have. See Courtney's email for the Zoom link for the session with Lois. The meeting Zoom link will be sent out separately.

Don't Forget Dues and Hours!

Remember that your dues and your hours need to go to Nancy Logan by our January meeting. You can drop them by the Extension office or mail them to Nancy at the address listed in the directory.

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President's Posting

By Joan Barker

Happy New Year! Lois Cox will begin her term as our 2022 CCMGA President at our January 19th meeting.

I sincerely appreciate the opportunity to serve as CCMGA President for 2020 and 2021. We connected and supported one another through our love of gardening during these challenging last two years. Thank you to Courtney and Cherry (we miss you) for their dedication and service to our organization.

Joan



Time to Submit Dues and Hours

Dues of \$20 for 2022 and hours for 2021 must be provided to Nancy Logan by January 19th, our January meeting. You can pay at the extension office, or by mail to Nancy Logan, 3200 Summit Bend, Norman 73071. Your education and service hours can be emailed to nloganrel@gmail.com or mailed to Nancy. If you record your hours online, those hours will be provided to Nancy from the system so no action is required on your part. Remember that if you do not pay your dues or submit your hours on time, you will not be included in the 2022 CCMGA Directory.



Treasurer's Report

By Nancy Logan

Beginning balance as of November 30, 2021 is \$21,586.26. Income for the month is \$380 2022 Dues Paid and \$85 Gloves Sold for total of \$465.00. Expenses include \$600.58 Greenhouse Supplies and \$30 Xmas Party Contest Prize for total of \$630.58. Balance at December 31, 2021 is \$21,420.68, less budgeted expenses not yet reimbursed of \$9,768.22 and less reserve for greenhouse repairs of \$1,112.00, leaving funds in excess of budget at \$10,540.46.

Respectfully submitted, *Nancy Logan*



It's a new year! So, it's too cold to work on the garden, but I'll still be busy. You should be looking for my emails on updating my database for bed heads, positions on the committee, assistants, and floaters. Also, it's the perfect time to contact me for future positions. They are always needed! If you have never worked in the garden and are afraid you physically can't do it, contact me. We have beds and areas for the physically challenged. I'm looking forward to hearing from you. Bed Heads, your budgets need to be turned in this month. If you are new to this, just think about what you want to accomplish this year. Some may continue and just need small amount of money, others may need a major redo. If it's a major redo, think about doing it in stages to spread the need for money out over a couple of years. Turn in your plans for your bed this year. I need to know if you are continuing with your current bed, have moved to a new bed, or quitting the bed this year. Who is your co-head, assistant? Do you need an assistant? Let me hear from you! Thanks. *Kathi*



Photo Booth



Left, top and bottom, Lois Cox says, "Here are some great presents for a Gardener. I got these cute socks and this Monarch caterpillar ornament!" Top center, Lois Cox said, "Yes I know that Christmas is over, however, this is a poinsettia from last year. It was sitting in a south window but blocked from direct sun and has turned red. This is the first time I've ever had this happen and I was very excited." Top right, Cathy Bowden said, "Kathi Farley and I had a Master Gardener's surprise reunion on the Riverwalk in San Antonio before the Alamo Bowl game! We were with our husbands or I'm sure we would have spent some time admiring the beautiful plantings."



Demonstration Garden Diaries *By Georjana Mauldin*

(These diaries are designed to familiarize readers with the various beds in the Demonstration Garden)

JANUARY FEATURED GARDEN = Worm Hotel, and Blueberry Garden

BEDHEAD = Pat Welty

If you have been fortunate enough to meet Pat Welty, you know she is always an enthusiastic gardener, ready with a smile. If you haven't met her, then you should. You will leave the encounter with a smile, too. She is very knowledgeable and always quick with good garden advice.

Worm Hotel

Pat is a retired Elementary teacher. When she retired she brought her "pet" Red Wigglers, *Eisenia fetida*, of five years home with her! The Demonstration Garden became the perfect place for a "Worm Hotel!"

Pat purchased the worms online. Kind of like online dating -- for the love of worms!! She gave many away and sold some. Normally, these worms overwinter fine without feeding. But with the recent warm weather, Pat has gone out occasionally to give them food. The worms currently are enjoying donated pumpkins!!

As you remember last year's horrible freezing temps, all of the Worm Hotel inhabitants died. But don't despair, those people that she had given worms - gave her worms back. I guess these worms would be the past occupant's cousins twice-removed, or something like that.

Now, there is a small group of worms starting over. They like dark, damp, moist environments. Their favorite foods are food scraps, fallen leaves, shredded paper, but no meat, dairy, or fish. The food that will make the worms get out of town are citrus or onions. And like online dating, these worms enjoy long walks along the beach sipping sugary drinks. Okay maybe not, but they are a great resource for getting rid of all your junk mail.

For more information seek out Pat or check out these OSU Publications:

In **The Basics of Vermicomposting - BAE-1528**, you will learn about the Red Wiggler Fattening Diet recipe - if you want to really grow worms to sell. Recipe: 5 parts chicken layer pellets or chick starter; 2 parts wheat or rice bran; 2 parts alfalfa pellets; 1 part whole wheat flour; 1 part agricultural lime; 1 part powdered milk."



Figure 1 Looking at Black Gold - AKA - Worm Castings and leaf litter with shredded newspaper as feed.



Figure 2 Worm Hotel in the Demonstration Garden



Demonstration Garden Diaries *By Georjana Mauldin*

And in **Vermicomposting, Composting with Worms - BAE-1742**, you'll find out that "Worms like a higher carbon diet than **microbial composting**. **One way to manage this is to spread the** "green" material (food scraps, coffee grounds, etc.) thinly across the bin and lightly cover with a layer of "browns" (dried fallen leaves or shredded paper). Spread the next layer of greens on top of the browns. Keeping a layer of higher-carbon brown material over the quickly decomposing greens reduces odors and flies"

Blueberry Garden

The Blueberry Garden was Pat's brainchild a few years back. She knew that blueberries required an acidic soil to thrive. She put some plants in open ended buckets with only peat moss as the planting medium, and a few plants placed directly into the amended soil. She found out the ones just planted in the soil did better. This is what we do as Master Gardeners, take a chance, experiment, and then teach our results. The Blueberries are harvested and given to Food and Shelter. Pat is hoping for a good crop this year, but rain is needed.

You can learn more about blueberries online:

On Oklahoma Gardening, Host Casey Hentges shows us an easy way of incorporating blueberries into our gardens. "An Easy Way to Plant Blueberries" - YouTube https://youtu.be/CO5SleAO_7k

Also at the Oklahoma Gardenings YouTube Channel "Fertilizing Blueberries" Kim Rebek explains how blueberries need specialized soils and sites for optimal growth and fruit production and tells us how to make blueberries thrive. Fertilizing Blueberries - <https://youtu.be/ZcjT23cOnGo>

And the Oklahoma Cooperative Extension Fact Sheet: HLA-6248 Blueberry Production for the Home Garden



Figure 3 Bushes in early bloom and surrounded by daffodils



Holiday Party Photos





Holiday Party Photos



Ugly sweater contestants. The winner was Marilyn Solomon, whose sweater was truly ugly!





Holiday Party Photos





Holiday Party Photos



Thanks to all our members for the massive donations to the Norman Food Bank! Thanks also to Fred Schneider for bringing his truck for transport!





Hey All,

Some of you probably already know this but I thought it might be great information to pass on to your Master Gardeners. I received this from Dr. Whitcomb after I misspelled Crapemyrtle. Enjoy!!

Laura Payne,
Assistant Producer, Oklahoma Gardening

PLANT NAMES CAN BE CLEAR AND TELLING OR CONFUSING

by Carl E. Whitcomb PhD

I wish to point out two major plant-naming errors and in so doing, hopefully prevent these errors from occurring in future articles: **The common name is crapemyrtle, not crape myrtle.** Why? Because it is in the genus *Lagerstroemia* and in the Lythraceae plant family, and not in the genus *Myrtus* which is in the Myrtaceae family. **It is simply a plant that LOOKS somewhat remotely like a myrtle.** As opposed to the Greek myrtle, *Myrtus communis* which is a true myrtle and appropriately the common name is two words. Standardized Plant Names, in the preface on page VII, provides further insights on this topic. "In the case of compound names in which a name properly belonging to one genus is applied in compound to a different genus, like horsechestnut or mayapple, failure to write or print them as compound words, either with a hyphen or solid is in many cases likely to cause serious confusion and should be consistently avoided. The committee prefers and prints mayapple. It makes no serious objection to may-apple. It objects very positively to may apple, which is apt to mean, for anyone not familiar with the plant, that it is a species or variety of the genus *Malus*". Clearly horsechestnut, *Aesculus hippocastanum*, is not a chestnut, *Castanea* but simply bears some resemblance and mayapple, *Podophyllum*, is not an apple and is not in the genus *Malus* but does produce a fruit that somewhat resembles an apple. And, there are loads of other examples where the appropriate common name is a compound word: horseapple / *Maclura pomifera*, buttonwood / *Cephalanthus occidentalis*, barberry / *Berberis thunbergii*, hackberry / *Celtis occidentalis*, walnut / *Juglans nigra*, dogwood / *Cornus florida*, firethorn / *Pyracantha* species, soapberry / *Sapindus drummondii*, and on and on.



Garden Guru (continued)

One of the problems with cultivar names is that one large wholesale nursery has on several occasions, as a way to bypass contact with the original nursery that legitimately patented and named a new plant cultivar, AFTER the patent has expired, and to try to create new interest and sales of an old plant, simply gave the plant a new cultivar name and reintroduced it into the market. For example, the cultivars, *Juniperus chinensis* 'Mint Julep' and 'Sea Green' are the same plant. Likewise, for *J. chinensis* 'Blue Vase' and 'Texas Star'. This same unethical relabeling has occurred even more often with roses and some herbaceous plants. To the best of my knowledge, the practice of obtaining a trademark for a plant name was first put in place by a large firm specializing in the breeding and marketing of new rose cultivars. Their approach was to a) patent the plant as they had been doing in the past, then b) give the plant a cultivar name that is not attractive or particularly useful, then c) trademark the name of the plant to be used in commerce. The trademark name can then be legally tied to any plants that are asexually produced offspring from the original parent for as long as someone wants to maintain the trademark, which could go on indefinitely, whereas the plant patent is for only 20 years.

Therefore, **cultivar names should be placed in single quotes with a true cultivar name such as 'Natchez' crapemyrtle. On the other hand, to place single quotes around 'Dynamite', which is the registered trademark name of *Lagerstroemia indica*, cultivar 'Whit II', is incorrect. Dynamite®, is a registered trademark, and should always be listed as ®. The same is true for Raspberry Sundae®, Pink Velour®, Red Rocket® and Tightwad Red®. The objective is to make it absolutely clear to any reader, anywhere, that these plants have a registered trademarked name and that it is illegal to call these plants by any other name. Likewise, it is illegal to propagate and use the name without paying the breeder a royalty or at a minimum, obtaining the rights from the breeder to use the name.**

I suspect that computers and their very limited spell check capabilities are responsible for some of the current 'rash' of taking legitimate compound common names, such as crapemyrtle and incorrectly breaking them into two words. I am slowly breaking my computer of that bad habit

Applying compound names and all plant names appropriately is a responsibility of professionals in the field of Horticulture. Likewise, cultivar names in single quotes makes it immediately clear to the reader that this is a cultivar of some specific species. Marking trademarked names with ® or ™ is likewise an immediate clarification to the reader that these are plant names that have been registered and likely are or were patented. The ® is used when the trademark name has completed registration. The ™ immediately reminds the reader that these plants have a trademark registration on file but has not yet completed registration. Use of either ® or ™ with a name informs the reader that the plant is likely the result of a concerted effort on the part of a plant breeder somewhere and that USA laws provide the breeder to protect the huge investment in time and expense. Carl Whitcomb PhD, Lacebark Inc. 2104 N. Cottonwood Road, Stillwater, OK 74075



Cranberry Salad

By Ronna Banks

Ingredients

2 Pkgs Jello(cranberry, cherry, raspberry)
1 cup Water
1 cup Juice(from pineapple)
1 Pineapple(canned)crushed
1 Quart Cranberries
2 Mandarin oranges(canned)
2 Apples(diced)
2 cups Sugar or splenda
1/2 cup Water
1 cup Pecans

Combine in saucepan; sugar or Splenda and 1/2 c. Water, boil together for a few minutes. Mix jello with 1 cup boiling water until dissolved and add fruit juice. Grind cranberries and add oranges. Add water and sugar mixture and pineapple to jello. Add pecans.

Three Corn Casserole

By Judy Kautz

Ingredients

1 can whole kernel corn (undrained)
1 can creamed corn (undrained)
1 cube (1/2 cup) butter
1 box Jiffy corn muffin mix
3 eggs
1 pkg (8 oz) cheddar cheese
1 chopped onion, sauteed

Combine all ingredients in a greased 9 x 9 pan. Cook at 350 degrees for 45 minutes or until completely set in the center. *This recipe is absolutely delicious!*



Upcoming Events

Submitted by Elaine Dockray

January 21 – 23: OKC Home and Garden Show. Oklahoma City Fairgrounds, Bennett Event Center.

January 22, 10 AM – Noon: Workshop: Papercrete Planters. Myriad Gardens, Terrace Room. Learn how to turn paper and cement into sturdy, unique planters suitable for the Oklahoma elements. The workshop will discuss what papercrete is, the process to make it, and how to use it to design and create planters. You will leave with a self-made piece. All supplies included. Members \$35, Non-members \$40. Register by January 19 at Myriad Gardens website.

January 22, 10:30 AM – Noon: Winter Plant Identification. Will Rogers Exhibition Center, 3400 NW 36th St., OKC. Event ID: 43696. Let's go for a quiet walk in the gardens and discuss how to identify the shrubs and trees in the winter when they are not cloaked in their summer garb. Cost \$5. Register at parks.okc.gov.

January 29, 10 AM – Noon: Winter Pruning and Tool Care. Will Rogers Exhibition Center, 3400 NW 36th St., OKC. Event ID: 43697. In this class we will teach the basics of tree pruning and, while you are here, we will show you how to sharpen those tools of yours as well. You may bring one tool for us to sharpen for you. Dress for the weather as we will be heading outside for this hands-on class. Cost: \$5. Register at parks.okc.gov.

February 18 -21: Great Backyard Bird Count. Share Your Birds with Us! The Great Backyard Bird Count uses eBird, one of the world's largest nature databases. It stores more than 100 million bird sightings contributed each year and is used by professionals for science and conservation. Contribute to eBird and become a citizen scientist. Visit birdcount.org to learn more and participate.

February 26, 9 – 11 AM: Better Indoor Orchid Growing. Will Rogers Exhibition Center, 3400 NW 36th St., OKC. Event ID: 43609. Members of the Oklahoma Orchid Society will walk you through how to set up an effective growing area in your home or business. Cost: \$5. Register at parks.okc.gov.

May 7, 9 AM – 4 PM: OKC Flower and Garden Festival. Myriad Gardens, OKC. The annual Oklahoma City Flower and Garden Festival at Myriad Botanical Gardens Saturday, May 7, 2022, from 9 AM to 4 PM! This fun-filled event includes local vendors nestled in on the west side of the Gardens next to Mo's Carousel and the Children's Garden. The annual festival features an abundance of plants and more, sure to brighten up anyone's home. Visitors will find Oklahoma-grown herbs, perennials, annuals, native plants, culinary herbs, vegetable plants, flowers, produce, pottery, jewelry, wineries, succulents, ornamental grasses, milkweed, pollinator plants, wildlife habitat, and more.



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 **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.