

The Weeders' Digest

Thank You For Meals on Wheels Donations!

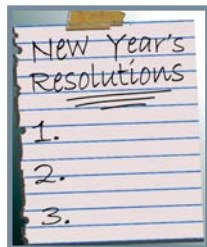


Thanks to all our members who brought food donations to our Christmas party to go to Meals on Wheels. Your generosity will feed many hungry mouths and make the winter

seem warmer. You are awesome!

January Meeting

by Lois Cox-Marshall



Have you made your New Year's Resolutions yet? They say if you write them down, you are more likely to keep them. What about your resolutions regarding Cleveland County Master Gardeners? Here are some you might consider:
I resolve to try to attend every meeting this year to learn new gardening facts and meet members.

I resolve to look at the schedule for Saturday education classes and attend those of most interest to me.

I resolve to find my place in this organization to help the growth of master gardeners and also to carve out my place to fit!

Come to the January meeting to help you meet these resolutions. We will be looking closely at the many opportunities there are for you to get involved in this chapter of Master Gardeners. You will have the opportunity to see what each committee/position does to further the organization. Find your spot, plug in, and see how much more you will enjoy the people who are the other members. We need you to join in and help us grow!

Time to Pay Dues!

Dues of \$30 will be taken at Jan and Feb meetings. Also, now is the time to gather your Education and Volunteer hours to maintain your certification as a master gardener.

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Dear Friends! Here we are at the beginning of another new year! I hope and pray it will be one of your happiest ever, both personally and as Master Gardeners. I am excited to get started on all the great projects we will be doing for our community and our group to grow in knowledge and fellowship. As we have done the past two years our January meeting will be a chance to see what opportunities will be open to you. We want each master gardener to find where their interest and talents are best met in a committee/position. At this time, we are in need of people for the Program/Field trip committee to plan for our monthly meeting speakers and field trips to areas and programs of interest away from the extension. We need people for our Home Tour Committee to plan and organize tours of our members gardens. And as part of our Publicity Committee, we have a lot of opportunities for members to work on communication projects that are being introduced this year. Many of the projects may be done from home! These are exciting ways to better engage with our community that Rahmona learned about when she went to the International Master Gardeners Conference last summer. I want to encourage you to be involved with us this year in our wonderful group of gardeners. Find your spot! With each one of us working together, we will make this a year we will never forget! I want to thank you for letting me serve as your president in 2023. It has been an honor and a privilege to represent the CCMGA. Each of you are so special to me and have encouraged me with your kind words and sweet smiles! I look forward to working with you in the coming year!

Jeannie

PS. Please remember that membership dues and hours are due by February 1st. Give both to Nancy Logan This can be done by mail or email. Class of 2022, you just need to pay your dues. And Executive Board members please remember we will now meet in person on the 2nd Tuesday of each month at 11 AM in Class room C.

Garden Party Combines with Jr. Master Gardeners *By Lois Cox-Marshall*

It was mentioned in the December newsletter to consider splitting the Garden Party away from the annual plant sale. With the plant sale moving locations, this is the time to make other changes as well.

Several factors were considered in making this decision. One of the main ones is that the garden is rarely ready in April for official garden tours even though we knock ourselves out to make it so. Secondly, the weather is so unpredictable. Doing crafts with children in the garden wearing parkas is a common part of our history with this event. By splitting them apart, we have a better chance of good weather. The thought is having at least two Garden Parties for the children in the community while parents tour the garden. We would plan them when something is going on at the fairgrounds to bring in more people. I have also connected with the point person in Norman who works with the Afghanistan families who live there. They are very interested in having classes to help them grow vegetables and flowers in their homes. Most are in rental homes rather than apartments. Be watching for more information. Also plan to stop by in January to visit with the Jr. Master Gardener Committee to let us know your interest in helping.

Officers

President – Rahmona Thompson

President Elect – Linda Reed

Secretary – Jo Ann Dysart

Treasurer – Nancy Logan

Parliamentarian – Judy Kautz

Committees

Education: contact Sharon Mitchell & Debra Howse

Fundraising: inactive

Demonstration Garden: contact appropriate member

Greenhouse: contact Nancy Logan

Hospitality: contact Sherry Garner

Membership: contact Rayge Johnson

Programs: need committee members

Public Relations: contact Judy Kautz

Special Events: contact Lois Cox & Jeannie Kline

Special Projects: Jeanne Parker

Junior Master Gardeners: contact Lois Cox & Jeannie Kline

Plant Doctor: contact Courtney DeKalb-Myers

Additional Positions

The Well Committee – contact Claren Kidd

Member Home Tours – need committee members

Garden Tours – Sherry Hill



Beginning balance as of November 30, 2023 is \$32,059.61. Income was \$480 2024 Dues Paid for Total income of \$480.00. Expenses were \$95.70 Hospitality for Total expenses of \$95.70. Balance at December 31, 2023 is \$32,443.91, less budgeted expenses, not yet reimbursed, of \$3,421.89 and less reserve for greenhouse repairs of \$2,797.10, leaving funds in excess of budget at \$26,224.92.

No additional expenses were submitted for payment as of December 31, 2023, so \$3,421.89 from reserves will be added back into our Funds in Excess of Budget. Funds going into 2024 will be \$29,646.81.

Respectfully submitted, *Nancy Logan*

2024 Dues of \$30 collected at the January and February meetings will assure your information appears in the 2024 Directory. Dues can also be left at the Extension office or mailed to Nancy Logan, 2803 24th Ave NW, Apt 2126, Norman, OK 73069.

Your Hours Report is due at the January meeting. Please consult your Directory for the definition of Education and Service hours. You may bring your hand-written report to the January meeting, to the Extension office, or mail it to Nancy Logan, 2803 24th Ave NW, Apt 2126, Norman 73069. Please DO NOT scan your hand-written report and send by email.

You can use the Excel Hours Report that is on our website or request the form from nloganrel@gmail.com. This file can be used on the Apple FREE app Numbers or Google Sheets. Both these apps work on iPhone or iPad. Most tablets will have a FREE app that will use the document also. You can then e-mail this completed form, or a suitable form you have done yourself, to nloganrel@gmail.com.



Meeting Spokesperson: Marilyn Solomon

Will obtain needed info from committee to speak of demo garden at executive and general meeting

Tuesday morning gate opening and workday conditions: Linda Dolezal

Will send an email to the office to be send out to the master gardeners if weather or garden conditions requires cancelling workday
Will be available to open the gate by 9 am on Tuesday morning.

Friday morning gate opening and workday conditions: Georjana Mauldin

Will send an email to the office to be send out to the master gardeners if weather or garden conditions requires cancelling workday
Will be available to open the gate by 9 am on Friday morning

Front Mulch/compost/sand/soil bins: Cathie Rose

Will keep weeds out of the from bins
Will keep the front bins filled

Walkway Weed Maintenance: NEED

Will maintain walkways following all safety precautions with sprays.

Shed maintenance & inventory: Jerry Miller

Will maintain organization of tools and products in sheds (replace as needed)
Will inventory both sheds and place laminated inventory in each shed.

Budget and demo garden spreadsheet maintenance: Kathi Farley

Will communicate with all bedheads o yearly budget
Will present budget to members for approval
Will maintain demo garden spreadsheet

Intern/student liaison: Kathi Farley

Will orient all to the garden
Will put persons together to work in the garden & assign work
Will be available for questions and problems



Recruitment for bedheads: Georjana Mauldin

Will recruit for all bedheads not assigned
Will determine who is coming back for the next season

Pot Luck Coordinator last Tuesday of each month: Georjana Mauldin

Will have to office block last Tuesday of each month
Will remind people of the event via email
Will email cancellations via email thru the office
Will maintain event supplies

Special Events: Joan Barker

Will line up OU's Big Even in April each year
Will line up Day of Caring in August each year

Bed signs & Garden Map: Judy Kautz

Will contact bedheads for their bed signs each year
Will update the garden map as needed

Plant Labels: Rahmona Thompson

Will accept and correct bedheads plant list yearly
Will provide the corrected plant list to the office to make available to bedheads

Construction & Irrigation team: Jim Hanlon (lead)

Will determine work needed to be done with the crew
Will repair irrigation and construction as needed

Rear Compost Bins: Claren Kidd

Will maintain bins
Will be available for instruction to garden workers

Lock & Keys: Nancy Logan

Will do demo garden lock & keys

Debris to City Compost: Les & Donna Brown

Will haul limbs and debris to city compost as needed

All positions:

Will inform spokesperson of needs in their areas for monthly executive and general meetings



Christmas Party Photos

by Judy Kautz





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Oreo/Peanut Butter Cup No-Bake Dessert

Ingredients

20 chocolate cream-filled chocolate sandwich cookies, divided
2 tablespoons butter, softened
1 package (8 ounces) cream cheese, softened
1/2 cup peanut butter
1-1/2 cups confectioners' sugar, divided
1 carton (16 ounces) frozen whipped topping, thawed, divided
15 miniature peanut butter cups, chopped
1 cup cold milk
1 package (3.9 ounces) instant chocolate fudge pudding mix

Crush 16 cookies; toss with the butter. Press into an ungreased 9-in. square dish; set aside. In a large bowl, beat the cream cheese, peanut butter and 1 cup confectioners' sugar until smooth. Fold in half of the whipped topping.

Spread over crust. Sprinkle with peanut butter cups.

In another large bowl, beat the milk, pudding mix and remaining confectioners' sugar on low speed for 2 minutes

Let stand for 2 minutes or until soft-set. Fold in remaining whipped topping.

Spread over peanut butter cups. Crush remaining cookies; sprinkle over the top. Cover and chill for at least 3 hours.
Yield: 12-16 servings





MYRIAD GARDEN HORTICULTURAL EVENTS

Guided Garden Tours

Friday, January 12, 1pm Monthly: Every second Friday, 1pm and last Saturday, 10am Meet in the Visitor Lobby FREE Expand your knowledge of Oklahoma plants and find inspiration for your own garden with an educational walking tour, led by one of our knowledgeable horticultural staff. Wheelchair and stroller friendly. Future dates: Saturday, January 27, 10am Friday, February 9, 1pm Saturday, February 24, 10am Friday, March 8, 1pm Saturday, March 30, 10am.

Workshop: Dried Floral Displays

Saturday, January 13, 10-11am Terrace Room Member \$20; Nonmember \$25 Kaitlin Bacon, Director of Education Register by Thursday, January 11 [REGISTER HERE](#) As we cross into the new year and wait eagerly for Spring to bring a bit of color back, why not embrace the beauty of our garden in its rest? Better yet, let's bring a little piece of it in! Join us in creating unique arrangements using dried flowers, leaves, fruits, and more to bring a pop of joy into our homes during the last stretch of winter.

Workshop: Botanical Cyanotype Prints

Saturday, January 13, 1-3pm Terrace Room Member \$45; Nonmember \$50 Kaitlin Bacon, Director of Education Register by Thursday, January 11 [REGISTER HERE](#) Cyanotype is an old printing process that was popularized for blueprints and has since become a way to create unique art through science. Learn all about the process and the chemistry behind cyanotype before we go out into the Gardens and collect botanical inspiration for our pieces. We will create our own individual artwork on archival paper that can then be taken home, washed, and display ready within 24 hours.

The Dirt on Soil

Saturday, January 20, 10-11:30am Terrace Room Member \$15; Nonmember \$18 Kaitlin Bacon, Director of Education Register by Thursday, January 18 [REGISTER HERE](#) Soil is the foundation for a successful garden, whether you're growing vegetables, flowers, or shrubs. Join us as we dig deep into the biology and chemistry of soil, how to identify types of soil, troubleshoot problems, build up your soil's health, and more.

Five Senses Crystal Bridge Guided Tour

Saturday, January 20, 10-11am Best for ages 5-10 Crystal Bridge Conservatory (Meet in Visitor's Center lobby) Member \$3; Nonmember \$7 (nonmembers must register attending adults) Register by Friday, January 19 [REGISTER HERE](#) Take a break from the cold with a sensational tropical guided tour! Our education guide will help you smell the rootbeer plant, spy the jaboticaba berry, feel the turtleback yam and more as we explore the Crystal Bridge Conservatory with all our senses!

Workshop: Vermicompost Bins

Saturday, January 20, 1-2:30pm Water Plaza Room Member \$25; Nonmember \$30 Kaitlin Bacon, Director of Education Register by Thursday, January 18 [REGISTER HERE](#) Vermicompost bins are an energy-efficient, highly sustainable way of disposing of kitchen scraps for the benefit of your gardens as well as our planet. Even better, they are perfect for homes and apartments of all sizes! Learn how to build your 'worm bin,' how to keep your wrigglers healthy and happy, and how to harvest your compost from start to finish. Each guest will leave with a fully-functioning bin (worms and all!) and the knowledge necessary to [...]



OKLAHOMA HORTICULTURAL SOCIETY

MONTHLY MEETING SPEAKER SCHEDULE

Meetings are held on the 4th Tuesday of the month at the OSU-OKC John E. Kirkpatrick Building
400 N. Portland, Oklahoma City, OK

Room 196 Meetings Start at 7:00 p.m. unless otherwise noted

March 28 - Steve Beiberich - "Great Trees for Oklahoma" Time 6:30 (note earlier time)

April 25 - Allan Storjohann - "The Artful Gardener"

May 23 - Haldor Howard - "All American Selections at OSU-OKC"

June 27 - Dee Nash - "The Joys and Challenges of Gardening in Oklahoma"

October 24 - Hugh Stout - "Outstanding Iris Selections from Stout Gardens"

OKLAHOMA NATIVE PLANT SOCIETY

MONTHLY MEETINGS AND EVENTS

Central Chapter, at Dawson-Loeffler Science Center, Oklahoma City University (OCU) campus.

Doors open at 6:30pm for socializing and seed swap (if you've got 'em);
presentations begin at 7:00pm.

Feb. 8 - Micah Friedman will present his graduate research: Flora of Oklahoma County: Floristic inventory, species lists, and Floristic Quality Assessment.

Mar. 7 - Dr. Sheila Strawn will present her current research on lichens.

Apr. 4 - Program TBA.

Apr. 26-28 - SAVE THE DATE for the annual Wonders of Wildflowers (WOW) event at Robbers Cave State Park. Details coming on website.

May 2 - Program TBA

Oklahoma City Home + Garden Show

January 19th - 21st OKC FAIRGROUNDS, Oklahoma City, OK

Residential Landscape Design

TUESDAY, JANUARY 23, 2024, 9 A.M. – 2 P.M.

Join us for this lecture + hands-on workshop, where participants will be able to work on their own landscape design using design tools and other resources! Cost is \$10, cash or check, payable to OSU Extension: PO BOX 519, El Reno, OK 73036. Register on the provided Microsoft Forms link and solidify your spot with payment. The instructor will print out a large aerial map of the address you provide when you register.

Location: 220 N. Country Club Rd, El Reno, OK 73036

Canadian County/Department: Program Area Calendar(s): Agriculture and Natural Resources

Tag: Design, Garden, Gardener Class, Horticulture, Master Gardener, Oklahoma Gardening

Cost: \$10

Contact Name: Courtney Keck

Contact Email: courtney.sidwell@okstate.edu

Contact Phone: 405-262-0155



Gardening with the Experts 2024

SATURDAY, JANUARY 27, 2024, 8:30 A.M. – 12 P.M.

The 24th annual Gardening with the Experts will focus on Pollinator Inspired Gardens. Speakers will be Courtney DeKalb-Myers on Pollinator Pocket Gardens, Peggy Turner on How to Create a Monarch Waystation, and Mark Howery on Wild about Gardens. Continental Breakfast sponsored by Vision Bank is prior to the program, which begins at 9 am. A number of booths will be set up for viewing and shopping. Virtual tickets will be sold online at the link provided for \$20 each. You will get an email to confirm your purchase and simply check in at the registration table on event day. Hope to see you there!

Location: Gordon Cooper Technology Center

1 John C. Burton Blvd

Shawnee, OK 74804

County/Department: Pottawatomie, Southeast District

Program Area Calendar(s): Agriculture and Natural Resources

Tag: Gardener Class, Horticulture, Master Gardener

Cost: \$20.00 per person

Contact Name: Carla A Smith

Contact Email: carlasm@okstate.edu

Contact Phone: 4052737683



Master Gardener Water Day

by Courtney DeKalb Myers

At the end of the 2023 Master Gardener training, students made a request for a supplemental training on water and water conservation. We have scheduled this for Friday, February 2nd from 9am to 3pm with an hour break for lunch. Subjects will include smart irrigation, rain barrels, xeriscaping, and rain gardens. Master Gardeners of all experience levels are welcome to attend! To ensure it is work our speakers' time and effort, I have created an RSVP sign up.

RSVP for Water Day Here! Please let me know if you have any questions!



Just for You!

BEYOND THE BACKYARD

A Suburban Homestead Conference

9:00am - 2:30pm, February 10th, 2024
Cleveland County Wellness Square
210 James Garner Ave, Norman, OK 73069

Cost is \$30, includes lunch and snacks
Register by February 2nd
Call 405-321-4774 to register



CLEVELAND COUNTY
EXTENSION



Is your New Year's resolution to be more sustainable or get closer to your food source?

Cleveland County OSU Extension is hosting Beyond the Backyard: A Suburban Homestead Conference on February 10th, 2024 from 9am - 2:30pm. The event will take place at The Well (210 James Garner Ave, Norman, OK 73069). Cost is \$30, which includes lunch and snacks.

Call us at 405-321-4774 to register! Topics will include drip irrigation, food preservation, spring grains, container gardening, and soap making.

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.

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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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.