

The Weeders' Digest

Water Availability Projections Promising

Michele Loudenbeck presented an interesting program on water in Cleveland County and projections for its availability in the future. It was interesting to see the history of the water treatment plant and the status of the various lakes in Cleveland County.



Programs....

by Lois Cox

It is always good to be reminded of how valuable our resource of water is on our lives. Michelle Loudenbeck certainly did an excellent job in updating us on the Norman water supply and usage. Our future may see needed changes in water usage in the way we garden for sure. I have heard that future wars will be fought over water availability. Definitely these are things to think about. July will be another Member Spotlight with speaker Rahmona Thompson. She is also our resident expert with her teaching at East Central University in botany. Her program will be about fungi. She always brings an informative presentation so be sure to come July 20. The meeting begins at 10 am but come at 9:30 for food and fellowship. Our business meeting will follow at 11 am.

If you are interested in helping plan future meetings, please attend a meeting following the July meeting in the Cowboy Conference Room. We want your ideas!

Mark Your Calendars!

New Student Luncheon will be August 12th. Sign up at July's meeting for side dishes or desserts. Pizza will be provided by CCMGA.

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This time 55 years ago, I was preparing to marry my late husband, Jerry, in August. Now 55 years later, I am preparing to marry my fiancé, Henry Marshall, also in August. So much life has happened in that 55 years!

The biggest challenge of marrying at this age I am finding is putting two households into one—both of which are currently full of “stuff.” Stuff has memories but memories also stand alone. To consolidate, one of the things I have done is take all photos out of albums and put them in photo boxes for smaller storage space. As I did that, I evaluated if I needed 50 pictures of my grandson's 3rd birthday or would 10 be sufficient to remind me of how cute he was? I chose wisely and threw away lots of pictures—many of them blurry because they were developed from film—remember that? And my six albums detailing three trips to Europe with daily journals and lots of pictures? I kept the pictures of people and tossed all the scenery pictures and the journal pages. I never went back and reread the journals or looked at the scenes of the places we visited. There were very few pictures of people!

Of course, all of this has been an emotional roller coaster of ending a 50-year marriage with Jerry's death and starting a new chapter with Henry. As I worked in my garden this morning, it was memories of why I garden and the value of the memories. As a young child and through my teen years, I would get up in the summer to find my mother working in her garden. At that time, I did not understand why she would spend so much time digging in the dirt. But the serenity of a garden, especially in the morning, came to mind. Mother taught by example the value of a garden to putz in and have some meditation and prayer time.

I have moved very little to my fiancé's house as I am still sorting and discarding. But I have moved the important items. Jeannie Kline helped me move my hostas, many of which I brought with me from Wisconsin to my new home. We will be building a house next year, but this is a holding spot for them for now. I also moved my rocks that were in my mother's garden to the new house. Mother was a true rockhound and instilled that in me as well. I am also moving an assortment of sedums in pots for my future garden. It is very difficult to leave a garden I put so much time and effort into but the garden memories from my mother will never be left behind.

Other memories of my garden involve my grandchildren. When they would come for their annual 2-week visit from Missouri to Wisconsin, a favorite time was tea in Grandma's Garden. We would pick a variety of herbs from my garden, steep them, and serve with treats in the garden while having a devotional time. With nine of my new grandchildren, I have provided them with caterpillars to watch form a chrysalis and then emerge as a butterfly. How precious to have such wonderful memories in my family.

What are your garden memories and what are you doing to create new ones? They say the older generation keeps things while the younger generation keeps memories. Perhaps there is wisdom to be passed from the younger to the older. “No one can ever take your memories from you – each day is a new beginning, make good memories every day.” — Catherine Pulsifer *Lois*



Join us for a class for cooler weather! Fall gardens can be started as early as late July. It's difficult to think about fall in the heat of the summer. As the weather cools off, late plantings are perfectly positioned for harvest before the first frost. Join us for a class to learn the strategies behind fall gardening and maximize that final harvest.

The July 16th Community Education Class will be taught by Courtney DeKalb-Myers. The class will meet in classroom "C" at the OSU extension center. Courtney has been the Cleveland County horticulture educator since August 2018. Her position handles homeowner inquiries, master gardener advisement, and other horticulture education programming throughout the state. She is originally from Norman, Oklahoma and went to study horticulture at Oklahoma State University with an emphasis in entrepreneurship. After graduating from OSU, she moved to Raleigh, North Carolina to attend NC State for graduate school. Her research was heavily focused on vegetable production, specifically processing tomatoes for a local salsa product. The emphasis on local products motivated her to move back to Oklahoma and work for the OSU Extension Service.



Garden Party Review Meeting

by Lois Cox

We had a great group of 16 who attended our meeting. Overall, comments were positive about this year's sale. Of course, the profit from this year was superb! There was a discussion on how to improve the congestion in the greenhouse and possible solutions are being considered. The date for next year's sale/garden party is April 23. Easter is early, April 9, so the later date was selected. This is also Earth Day which will be good to support. The demonstrations will be planned but will be contingent on weather. With the Jr. Master Gardener Program in full swing by then, we hope to have that group do a demonstration for us. Co-chairs for the 2023 sale are: Donna Carter and Lois Cox



New Assistant Webmaster!

by Lois Cox

Welcome to not only new webmaster but also one of our newest master gardeners: Sharon Mitchell! She willingly offered to come and learn how to work with our website to help it stay updated. Thanks, Sharon, for stepping up with this great information tool. I will continue to work with her, but it always helps to have an extra person to share responsibility.



I'm looking at the predictions for heat forecast for the next week. Triple digits continue for a couple of weeks at least. So, we will only work in the garden Tuesday 7-9 am. If you wish to do other days and hours, you must take care and do precautions against heat exhaustion and stroke. It's a real issue! Never come alone, hydrate well and keep your phone with you at all times. I really encourage everyone to not stay past 9am. I will only be coming Tuesday 7-9am until further notice. *Kathi*



Photo Booth

By Kathi Farley

Loosestrife: A beautiful plant bees were swarming over. So why did I pull it out?! It made the "do not plant" list. Reasons are it clogs the waterways and chokes out our native plant life that also attracts pollinators. So it had to go. We pulled it from the Oklahoma Proven where it just showed up one day. Just goes to show you how it can spread. Be it by bird, wind or water. I'll find another plant pollinators love, but on an acceptable list to replace it. For more information, see fact sheet below.

<https://extension.okstate.edu/fact-sheets/problem-horticultural-plants.html>





Photo Booth

These photos were taken at our Demonstration Garden. (I took both photos). The first is of a Fritillary Butterfly caterpillar enjoying our Passion Flower vine. The second is an American Robin taste testing a Southern Highbush blueberry.

Submitted by Ruth Smith



I am sending pictures of my Petite Nigra fig. The tall plant in front of the fig is a *Verbascum thapsus*, or common mullein, that reseeds in my garden every year. It is a biennial plant that can grow several feet tall and has small yellow flowers. To my delight, my fig trees are all loaded with figs. This spring I planted several pots with strawberries. I put two 1015 onions in each pot with the strawberries. I'm including pictures of one of the pots that produced two large onions and gave me some strawberries too. The large onion was planted in a very large metal bucket. This is the largest, but I also am sending a picture of the onions I grew in pots.

Submitted by Iris Holder



Photo Booth

Below, these photos were taken at our Demonstration Garden. (I took both photos). The first is of a Fritillary Butterfly caterpillar enjoying our Passion Flower vine. The second is an American Robin taste testing a Southern Highbush blueberry.

Submitted by Ruth Smith



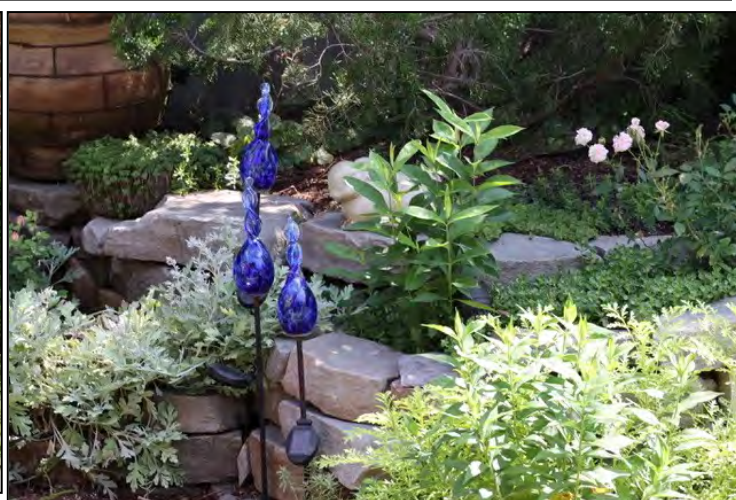
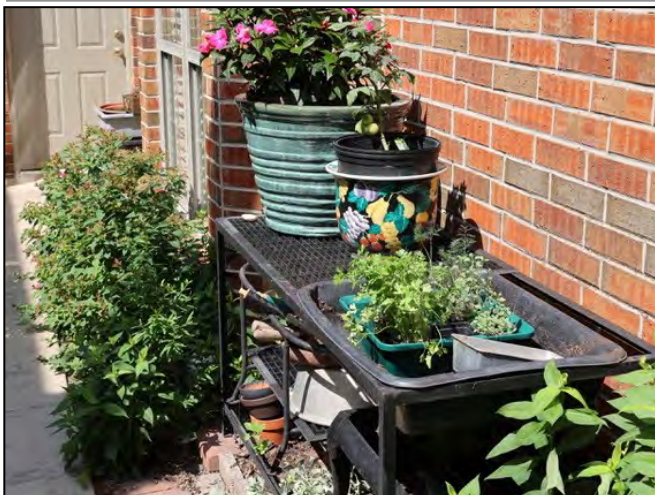
Top left, Purple Lisianthus and Blackeyed Susan, and right pink and orange lilies.

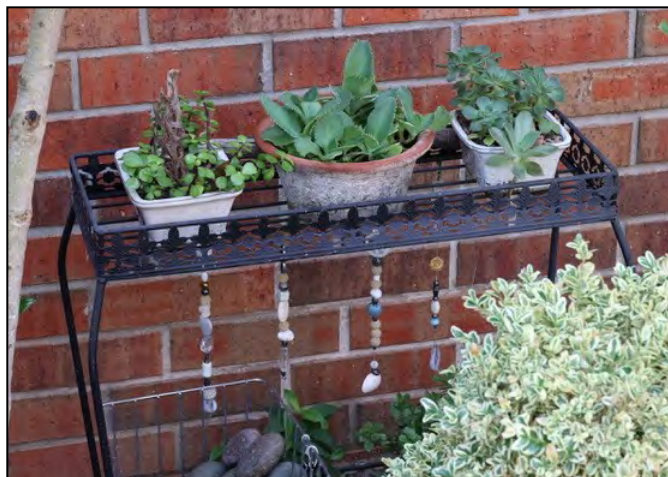
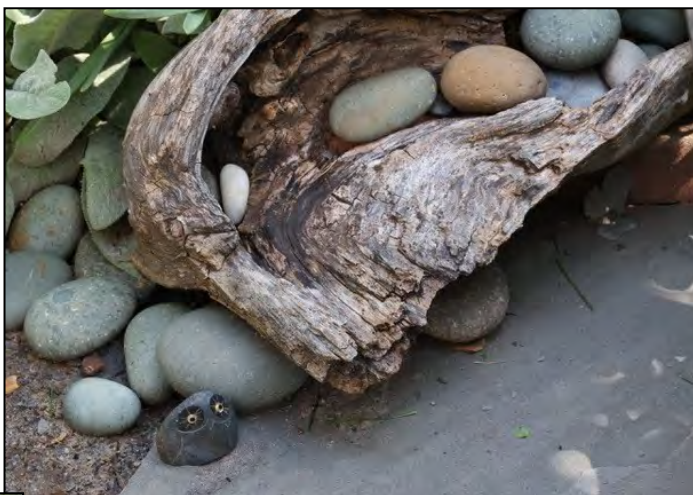
Submitted by Marilyn Solomon

Below, here are some from my flower farm (Yes Honey in Noble). The first one is Ruby Parfait celosia, (with gomphrena in the background) and the second one is of the zinnia patch. All three of these do really well in our heat.

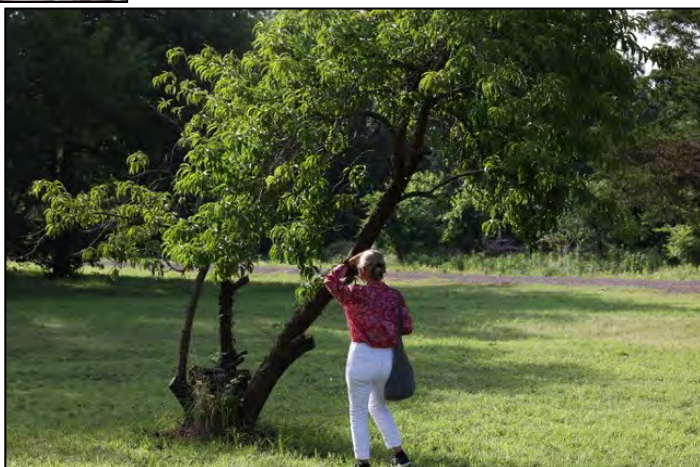
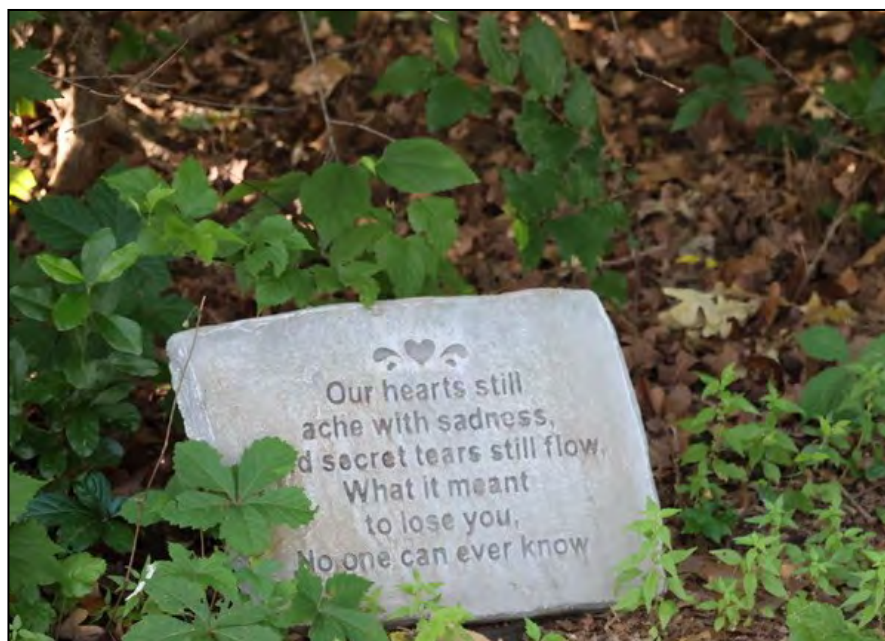
Submitted by Barb Mauldin







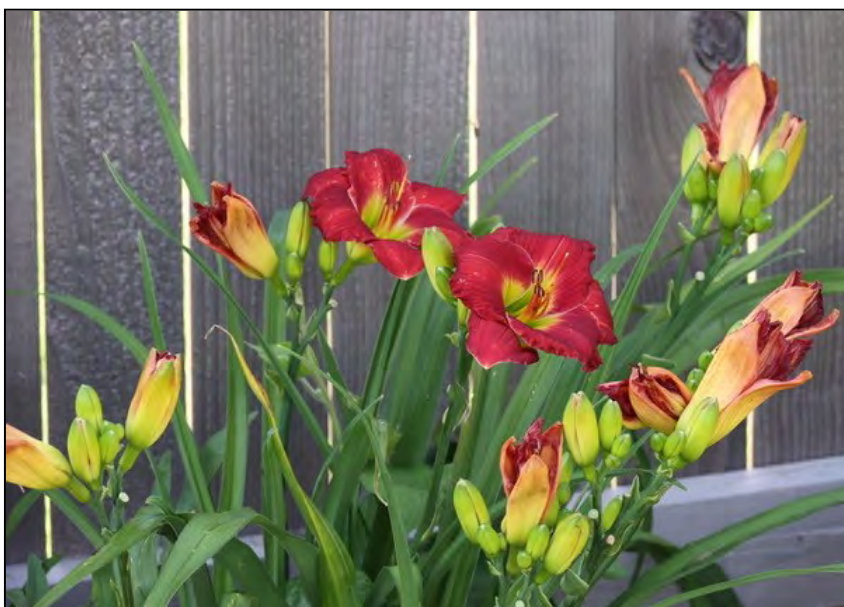
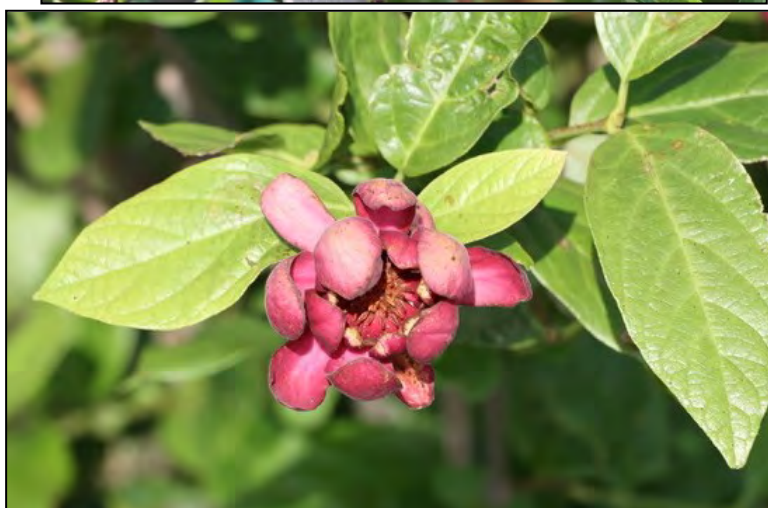














(This segment is to feature the animal life that is found in the Demonstration Garden)

Whoosh!! What was that? If you have never been startled by the breeze of a diving bird passing over you while you garden, you are missing out! Once in my home garden, I felt that tell-tale breeze of a bird whizzing by me as she protected her nest. I was watering the bush that concealed her nest. I got another whoosh, and even a peck as I continued to water. It was a Mockingbird. From then on, we gingerly walked around that bush so as not to disturb her or her babies.

On another occasion, my husband while working at OCU (Oklahoma City University) experienced a similar event. Whoosh, but it was a Mississippi kite (*Ictinia mississippiensis*). OCU eventually had to rope-off the area where a pair were defending their nest and dive-bombing students.



So now when you are in the Demonstration Garden, look up. There are two Mississippi kites that have taken up residence in the large tree that overshadows the tool shed. I do not know of anyone getting targeted in our Demonstration Garden by these birds, yet.

In Oklahoma, Mississippi kites are here in early spring and summer for nesting and raising their young. They overwinter south of the Equator. They are well known for their nest defense tactics. They can eat insects on the fly, and are very acrobatic birds.

An article from the Oklahoma Wildlife Departments indicates, that:

"Nests are typically a shallow bowl made of sticks and are found in trees. One to three bluish-white eggs are laid in late May, and hatch a month later. Both parents take part in incubation and care for the young. Chicks fledge, or leave the nest for the first time, five weeks after hatching."



"Mississippi kites will aggressively defend their nests and will dive at any intruder - including humans - that gets too close."

"A simple way to avoid getting "attacked" is to leave the area alone until after the chicks fledge. Like many other birds, Mississippi kites are protected under the Migratory Bird Treaty Act of 1918, and it is against the law to even "attempt to pursue any migratory bird, nest, egg, or part thereof." If Mississippi kites are nesting on your property, or in your favorite park, it is best to watch from a distance, keep your pet on a leash while at the park, and enjoy the experience."

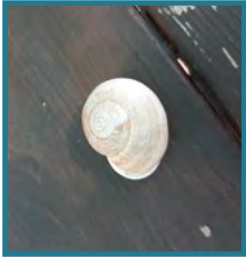
<https://www.wildlifedepartment.com/wildlife/field-guide/birds/mississippi-kite>

<https://okc-audubon.org/mississippi-kite/>



Demonstration Garden Diaries *By Georjana Mauldin*

MORE MILK SNAILS IN THE DEMO GARDEN



Recently in the Demonstration Garden, Linda Fielder has found two more Milk Snail shells. Previously, we had found the first of its kind in Oklahoma. Dr. Liz Bergey, Professor, Department of Biology, OU identified it as a Milk Snail, *Otala lactea*. I believe this will be the sixth or seventh snail found in our garden.

This snail is not native to Oklahoma. It is native to the western Mediterranean (Spain, Portugal, Morocco and Algeria). It's been introduced into several SE USA states, including Texas and now Oklahoma. It is thought that the snails travel to their new locations within

potted plants. It is sold as pets and it is edible.

VISITOR TO MY GARDEN - Woodhouse Toad

So ... is it a toad or a frog?? Actually, both in a way. Mary Michaela Parker of the Mississippi State University Extension Service informs us that they are both amphibians, and "technically, a toad is a type of frog" in her article, "Toads vs. Frogs."



Toads are often short and squatty with dry bumpy skin found in dry areas like your yard.. Frogs can be leaner with legs built for leaping, with smoother more moist skin usually found near a water source. Although, as in any part of the natural world, there are exceptions. Toads and frogs are beneficial to the garden and home. Make them welcome in your garden and they will eat insects, including flies, crickets, grubs, and spiders.

<https://extension.msstate.edu/blog/toads-vs-frogs>

This little guy is a Woodhouse Toad. I have several in my yard. When I walk at night I surprise many of them along the sidewalk where they sit tall and proud waiting for an insect to pass them by. They, of course, start out life as a tadpole. Their preference is sandy areas and spawn near temporary pools

of water in fields, ditches, river bottoms and marshes. Females can deposit up to 25,000 eggs, and the metamorphosis can happen within a few weeks.

"Woodhouse's toad is the most common toad throughout most of Oklahoma. It is the toad most often seen hunting for insects beneath porch lights around homes in long-established neighborhoods and beneath street lights. The distribution of Woodhouse's toad includes the Central Plains in the U.S., extending west to Arizona, New Mexico, Wyoming, and eastern Montana; their range extends south into Mexico and north into Canada."

<https://www.wildlifedepartment.com/wildlife/field-guide/amphibians/woodhouses-toad>

NOT FLORA, OR FAUNA, BUT COLD WATER!

Some of you may know the Demonstration Garden's little fridge, that had been outside for years in the weather, didn't make it - sad!! We acquired a free dorm room style fridge from Dr Liz Bergey. She has an eye for picking up free things at OU. College kids just put these out on the curb when they are leaving college. To accommodate our wishes to have it indoors, we drilled a hole in the shed and ran the cord out to the outlet. All is good. It is working and keeping our water nice and cool. While visiting the garden, stop in for happy-hour, and get a cold drink. Happy hour is every hour spent in the garden.





CCMGA has maintained an Info. Table on 3 Tuesdays and 6 Saturdays of April and May at the Farmers Market. There is usually four of us at the table. We have a sampling of OSU Fact Sheets, the Soil Test flyer, a Monarch Butterfly flyer, A list of our CCMGA monthly public talks, 4 different Monarch coloring sheets for kids, our CCMGA card indicating our website, and a display of useful garden, plant, and insect books.

The table team is suggested to be proactive, to point out the information and fact sheets are free, to point out that the website listed on the Fact Sheets allows them to search and download additional Fact Sheets, to use our website to learn of CCMGA activities and particularly to learn more about the public programs, and to ask would their child or children be interested in coloring sheets on the Monarch. We want to welcome the public and try to respond to their varied inquiries and issues about their gardens, yards and plants.

It has been of interest to learn that many are interested in Raised Beds, Oklahoma Garden Vegetables, Roses, Butterflies, and problems with Insect pests. The kids are very interested in the Monarch coloring sheets. There were many interested in the upcoming Public Talks as well as many interested in learning more about the CCMGA Program. It is not unusual for three of us to be interacting with 2-3 visitors who were at the table the at the same time.

There are many food vendors along with those with plants. Lots of cookies, buns, and breads, at least two coffee vendors, water, and even a beer vendor. Of course, an interesting array of plants. We take turns visiting the vendors, using the bathrooms, and simply stretching our legs.

Best of all is the experience: This is a fun activity to earn Service Hours. We work together to help answer questions from the public. We get to meet and better know our fellow CCMGA members. From my perspective I think this is the best CCMGA activity in which I have participated for us to interact with the public, to share our education and training with the public and to learn more from one another. We average about 60 inquiries each Saturday. We always need people to sign up to work the Info.Table.

The activity leadership is being passed to Claren Kidd to continue. She has participated several times and I have worked with her to help pass on suggestions and instructions.



Repotting Orchids Class

I went to the Oklahoma Orchid Society's June meeting held at the Will Rogers Garden on Jun 19, 2022. After their business meeting, their featured speaker talked about repotting orchids. Some of the members brought orchids for show and tell; some I had never seen before other than the Phalaenopsis orchids that are usually sold at local stores.

What I learned about Repotting Orchids:

Repot the plant if it has grown too large for its current container, the potting medium has deteriorated, you suspect the orchid is suffering from root rot, or it may have a disease/infestation.

It is best to repot an orchid after it has finished blooming and the active growth stage has begun. Be careful not to break off any new growth.

When trimming off spent flowers or dried up roots, use sterilized shears/scissors. Apply cinnamon to trimmed areas. Cinnamon is a natural fungicide and should be used to treat any cuts made to the plant.

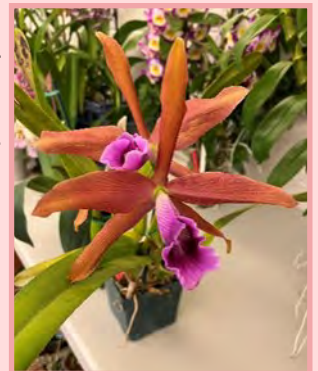
Know what type of orchid you have and know their specific soil and watering requirements. Most orchids are planted in mixes of bark, sphagnum moss, glass or clay composite, charcoal, etc. so the roots can breathe and they have good drainage. Bark dries out fast, so addition of sphagnum moss will help retain moisture. If you are a heavy waterer, don't use too much s. moss. Don't plant in potting soil.

Orchids like their roots to be close together. Plant according to the plant's root size, not foliage size. Don't plant in oversized pots.

Orchids have aerial roots that draw moisture in from the air. It's okay if they spill out over the sides of the pots.

Don't water with well water or faucet water if you have a water softener attached. It adds salt to your water and will kill the plants. Also, if you have well water, know the mineral content in it. You can use tap water but it is also good to use RO (Reverse Osmosis) water. Ice cubes are not recommended.

Enjoy these photos I took in class:





STRAW BALE GARDEN

Tucked away in the northwest corner of the demonstration garden is a small straw bale garden established this spring. A straw bale garden is just what it sounds like – gardening in straw bales. The area was inspired by the book *Straw Bale Gardens Complete* by Joel Karsten that was shared with me by Master Gardener Barbara Mauldin. The garden was started in early May with conditioning the bales which means watering them every day and fertilizing



them most days for about two weeks. Conditioning is just getting the bales to start composting and rotting to make a better rooting environment for the plants or seeds you will put in. After the 12-14 days, you plant the bales and after that it is watering and fertilizing like most gardens. So far, I am watering the straw bale garden every morning for about 60 minutes via a soaker hose and this has been adequate moisture. With the extended hot weather expected in July, it may need more watering.

There are both advantages and disadvantages to straw bale gardens. The main advantage is that it does not require any soil and can be grown wherever you have adequate sunlight and a way for water to drain away after it flows through the bales. Another advantage is that they can be started earlier than some soil based gardens because the conditioning bales will heat up as they are composting (decomposing) just like a compost pile. Although I didn't get to start them early because of my own personal schedule, this may be one of the biggest advantages here in Oklahoma. The disadvantage seems to be that they require more fertilizer and water. I really didn't know what to expect from the little straw bale garden but I have been pleasantly surprised with how well it has done in growing the cucumber, peppers, and squash plants that I established from store bought transplants and the pole beans I planted from seeds. It's even growing some vigorous lemongrass! If you get a chance check it out at the far northwest corner of the garden.



Zucchini Crisps

By Lois Cox

Ingredients

1 zucchini, shredded
1 egg
1-2 tsp. Mrs. Dash seasoning (flavor is your choice)
¼ c. shredded cheddar cheese
½ cup Pablo bread crumbs
Parchment paper

Preheat oven to 425. In a medium sized bowl, combine all the ingredients. Using a small cookie scoop, add scoops of zucchini mixture to parchment lined baked sheet just like you were making cookies. Use the backside of a spoon to spread out the zucchini mixture till it is flat. Bake for 20 minutes or until evenly brown. Remove from the oven and allow the crisps to cool. Serve with your favorite low-calorie ranch dip!

Notes: This is originally one of Sassy Mama's recipes from Chanel 9 News at 4. It is such a great recipe to use those enormous and never-ending zucchinis.

Overnight Sausage Pancake Breakfast Casserole

By Rick Ault

Author: [Stephanie @ Plain Chicken](#)

Yield: 8 people

Prep Time 15 mins | Cook Time 50 mins | Total Time 1 hr 5 mins

★★★★★

Overnight Sausage Pancake Breakfast Casserole - this is seriously delicious! Tastes like a Sausage McGriddle with egg. Frozen pancakes, maple sausage, eggs, heavy cream, milk, vanilla, sugar, and maple syrup. Assemble the casserole and refrigerate overnight before baking. Great for an easy weekday or weekend breakfast, overnight guest, and holiday mornings! #casserole #breakfast #sausage #pancake

Ingredients:

- 20 to 24 frozen pancakes from a 2-lb 1-oz package, thawed
- 1 lb maple sausage
- 6 eggs
- 1½ cups heavy cream
- 1 cup whole milk
- 1 tsp vanilla
- 2 Tbsp sugar
- 2 Tbsp maple syrup, plus more for serving

Instructions:

1. Cut pancakes in half and place cut side down in a lightly greased 9x13-inch pan.
2. Cook sausage in a skillet over medium-high heat until no longer pink. Drain fat. Sprinkle cooked sausage on top of and in between pancake slices.
3. Whisk together eggs, heavy cream, milk, vanilla, sugar, and maple syrup.
4. Pour egg mixture over pancakes.
5. Cover casserole dish and refrigerate overnight.
6. Remove casserole from refrigerator and uncover. Preheat oven to 350°F.
7. Bake casserole uncovered for 50 to 60 minutes until center is set.
8. Let stand 5 minutes before serving with extra maple syrup.

Notes:

Can substitute turkey sausage for maple sausage.

Can substitute 20 to 24 2-1/4 inch homemade pancakes for frozen.



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 and Telephone Change

Nancy Logan's new address: 2803 24th Ave, Apt 2126, Norman, OK 73069.
Cell (405) 615-9673 (Home phone 364-6399 no longer in service.)



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

Submitted by Elaine Dockray

July 19, 5 – 6:30 PM: Growing Local: Native Plants for Your Home Garden (with OSU Extension). McCloud Library, Milburn Room, 133 N. Main, McCloud, 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.

July 30, 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

August 1, 5 – 6:30 PM: Growing Local: Native Plants for Your Home Garden (with OSU Extension). Purcell Library, 919 N. 9th, Purcell, 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 6, 8 – 10 AM: Take the Heat Garden Tour. Will Rogers Park Exhibition Building. 3400 N.W. 36th St., OKC. Event ID: 46647. Tour the gardens in full bloom! We will serve some refreshing Hibiscus tea and take a leisurely tour through the gardens and learn which plants thrive in the heat of summer. This is a great opportunity to get some of the names of plants to use in your own flower beds at home for next summer. Cost \$5. Register at parks.okc.gov.

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



Pat Welty submitted the photo at the left. Below, **Cheryl Jones** writes, "Here's a visitor I found at the demo garden. He was resting in the shade under the bench by the Redbud tree in the Tea Garden."



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

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For More Information Check out the updated Horticulture and Master Gardener sections on the Cleveland County Extension Office website. The address is www.oces.okstate.edu/cleveland.