

The Weeders' Digest

Spinning With Plant-Based Materials Challenging!

Our first member showcase featuring Melody Palm was extremely informative! We learned what a challenge it is to spin various materials, but some were very successful in their attempts. Melody also had a wonderful display of the items she made from materials she dyed...what beautiful items! Thank you Melody!



Programs....

by Lois Cox

Wasn't it interesting to hear about what Melody and Kandace are doing with their spinning of yarn? It was amazing to learn how many plants are made into yarn. I was appreciably impressed with the skill of these members.

In October, we are planning another Member Showcase. This will be a program on plant uses other than growing beautiful flowers or harvesting produce for our tables. It will be a panel discussion of several of our members. Let me know if you are interested in taking part in this program.

For the June meeting Michelle Loudenbeck will speak on projections for water availability in Cleveland County. Michele Loudenbeck is a Registered Professional Environmental Specialist, Certified Floodplain Manager, and a Certified Professional in Stormwater Quality. She serves as Environmental and Sustainability Manager for the City of Norman. Before her current role, she worked for Norman residents as their Stormwater Program Specialist. Prior to joining the City, Ms. Loudenbeck worked at the Oklahoma Department of Environmental Quality for almost 18 years in the Environmental Complaints and Local Services and Water Quality Divisions. Ms. Loudenbeck holds a Bachelor of Science degree in astrophysics from the University of Oklahoma. The meeting begins at 10 am but come at 9:30 for food and fellowship. Our business meeting will follow at 11 am.

Master Gardener State Conference has been postponed from June to October. More information will be forthcoming.

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President's Posting

By Lois Cox

The weather continues to get in the way of my personal gardening—how about you? It seems we have had to cancel Demo Garden workdays more than we have had them. Of course, it will soon be hot and then we will all be wishing to have some of the cooler days of rain that keep invading our spring and summer. How great to be back into the “normal” swing of things with our tours, meetings in person, and learning to live with COVID!

We still need more volunteers with all our projects. My schedule is so busy I hardly know whether I am coming or going. I know all of us have other commitments and many physical limitations. However, there are volunteer opportunities for all of us no matter how busy our schedules are and what our body is telling us are our limits. Get involved with one of the many projects we have going on in YOUR master gardener association.

The garden tours were great! Much thanks to Even Taylor for organizing these for us. And also great thanks to our wonderful hosts who put in so much time to get their gardens ready for us to visit. Melody Palm, Valerie Green, Jeannie Coley, and Kay Holladay—we appreciate your hard work so much! This is one activity I missed greatly during COVID and thrilled to have it back.

With the state convention postponed to October 6 and 7, we all have plenty of time to work it into our schedules. I plan on attending—do you?

Lois



Junior Master Gardener Program

By Lois Cox

We had a great meeting to get this program off the ground. Tulsa has been involved for years. We can operate the program as a licensed one or non licensed. With the girl scout troupe who has shown interest, we have a beginning point. We also considered offering the program to home schoolers. Joseph Stubbs, our administrative assistant, can use some of his paid hours in working with youth. He has several years experience in this area to qualify him. Courtney sent him to a Jr. Master Gardener program training in Stillwater. He came back with lots of great curriculum ideas. The plan is to start in September with the Girl Scouts. If you are interested in working with these students, please let me know! Should be fun and rewarding.



Garden Party Review Meeting

While the garden party is still fresh in our minds, let's get together to share ideas. What went wrong? What went well? What would you change? What did you like just the way it was? If you want to give your input, join us immediately after the June meeting in Classroom C. Showing up at the meeting does not automatically put you on the committee—we just want your ideas. We had a great garden party this year—let's work to make next year's even better!



ARE YOU INTERESTED IN GROWING ROSES? Please join the Community Education Committee on June 18th, in Classroom "C" of the OSU extension center located at 601 East Robinson as one of our esteemed members shares her knowledge of growing roses in Oklahoma.

Cathy Bowden became a Master Gardener in 2011 after retiring from her training consulting business. When she lived in Las Vegas in the 1970's the house she purchased had 12 rose bushes in the landscaping, so she became a "rosarian" out of necessity! As well as keeping roses growing in Las Vegas, she has grown roses in Oklahoma clay and Florida ashy-sand soil which has given her a broad geographic perspective. When the MG rose bed became available shortly after Cathy finished her MG course work, she thought the rose bed as a good fit for her. Since first taking the bed the original site of the rose bed has moved east of the former location to increase sun exposure, and all new rose varieties have been planted.

Cathy will emphasize how to correctly plant, and prune branches to encourage a positive direction of growth, eliminating crossed branches and increase airflow, which are all important to the future health of the rose bush. She will display examples of pruners, hand shears and saws that can be used for pruning your roses. Cathy will discuss putting your roses to rest for the winter weather.

Cathy is one busy lady. At her church, Cathy leads the Green Team in the collection and recycling of polystyrene foam for Norman, Noble, Shawnee, Blanchard, Newcastle and Moore.

Come join the Free Saturday Community Education Class as Cathy helps us grow healthy roses.



Garden Humor

Submitted by
Karen Wolf
and Donna
Wright



Help is always welcome! We have a pretty good crop of grass growing after the last rain-fall and need help getting it under control. Tuesday's and Friday's from 9-12 (or however much time you can put in). Plus, we have 4 beds that need bedheads. Some are very small. Georjana is writing these up and putting pictures. Look for them in this newsletter. This may be for you! If you'd like to help, we always need Floaters. Those that flit from bed to bed like a beautiful butterfly. We can't do it without you!

Kathi



Photo Booth

By Kay Holder

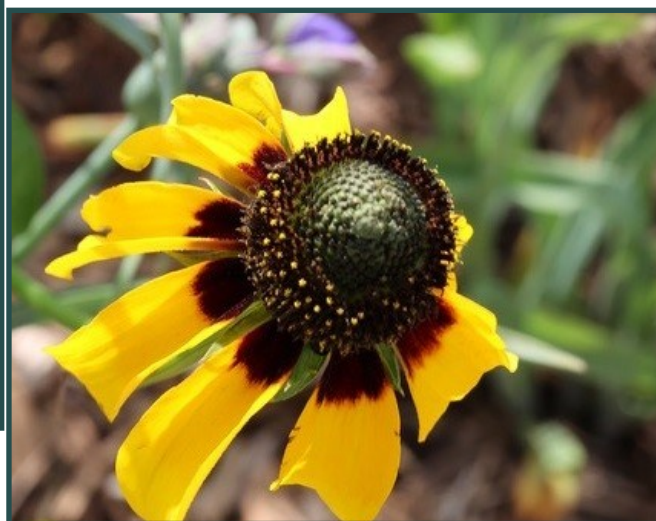
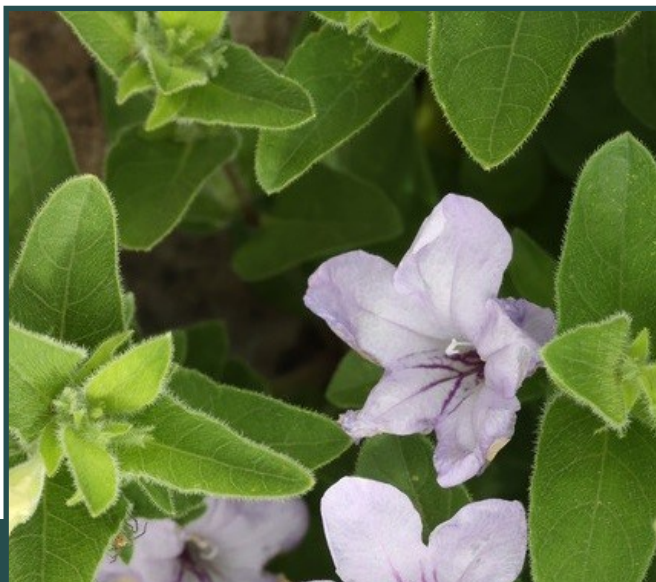


I worked with a lady many years ago that brought her flower arrangements to the office. Some of her arrangements contained Yellow Salsify. She collected this plant by the side of the road after it had bloomed. It looks like a giant dandelion. I tried to replicate what she did years ago to this plant. First you spray the plant with hair spray. When it is stiff you can cut it and take it home (it is usually at the side of the road). I have acreage, so I had some on my back acre. After the hair spray is dry you can spray paint it with any color you have and then use the sprayed plant in flower arrangements. I only had brown spray available. Enclosed are pictures of the plant before it blooms, after it blooms, and after I sprayed it with spray paint.















Demonstration Garden Diaries *By Georjana Mauldin*

JUNE FEATURED GARDEN = BULB GARDEN AND ROSE OF SHARON GARDEN

BEDHEAD = Marilyn Solomon

Gardening for some is a walk down memory lane. It is for me, as well as for Marilyn Solomon. Her love of gardening is a family trait. She draws inspiration from her Father, her Sister and her friends. She began gardening as a newlywed in their first home. At this point Marilyn said she knew very little about gardening, but that didn't keep her from trying.



Her favorite garden memories took place in her home state of Alabama. Her gardening spark begins with her father. He worked hard to support the family, but yet still had time to cultivate a "show" garden at their home. Marilyn talked about the beautiful hedge rows of Azaleas and Camellias that surrounded their home. She said her father found peace and comfort in gardening.

Her Father not only grew pretty flowers, but had a vegetable garden too. Marilyn wanted a garden like the one of her childhood. A garden with Purple Hull Peas, other southern field peas, and Butter Beans, among all the other traditional vegetables grown in beds today. She said her Father had a natural green thumb. Living by the coast helped. They hardly had to water their plants.

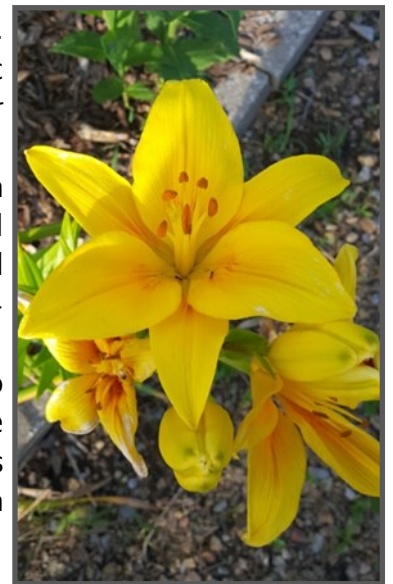
As I am want to do, Marilyn is nostalgic about her gardening. She has tried to bring some of her favorite vegetables and plants to Oklahoma that were commonplace in Alabama. She said she had no luck with Butter Beans, but found the Azaleas purchased at the Muskogee Azalea Festival brought good results. When Marilyn learned about Oklahoma Proven Winner plants, her garden success rate skyrocketed.

We talked about "Pass-along Plants." She had poppies that were given to her by a dear friend that are still blooming to this day. She has three Dogwood trees that were cultivated from cutting from their Alabama mother.

Marilyn was delighted that her Sister had become a Master Gardener. Her Sister was so knowledgeable and willing to share what she had learned. Marilyn was amazed how her Sister could just spout off all the scientific names of plants. When Marilyn decide to retire, she wanted to follow in her Sister footsteps and become a Master Gardener.

Marilyn graduated from the Oklahoma County Master Gardener program in 2008. And as a nice surprise, she found Judy Kautz there too. They had worked together years earlier, but had lost touch. They visited and found out they lived only a few miles apart. 2011 they both moved their membership to CCMG.

At home Marilyn - has eight beds with flowers, a big shade garden, a patio garden, three raised beds for vegetables and numerous more. Marilyn like her Father finds solace in gardening. She is never happier than when she is digging in the dirt. The hymn, "I Come To The Garden Alone," goes through Marilyn's mind as she walks through her gardens.





Demonstration Garden Diaries *By Georjana Mauldin*

REAL-ESTATE FOR GRAB - COME BE A PART OF THE DEMONSTRATION GARDEN FAMILY
The Demonstration Garden is in need of four Bedheads. These are not giant beds, and they will be easy to care for during the summer. Most are established beds, so just care and up-keep is needed. As always, as the Bedhead, you can put your personality into the design. Please, consider joining our team. We have a pot-luck lunch for the group every last Tuesday of the month. We get together all sweaty and dirty from the garden, and eat, visit, and cool down - it is the best part of gardening.

PROVEN WINNER - BED 1

This is a lovely piece of real-estate. This garden has a wandering path running through the middle. This path makes it easy to weed and plant from each side. It has a lot of established



plants, but has room for something new! There are two beautiful blue pots that you can use to give the area some zing! This garden has a twin sister just to its south. The twin garden,



also a Proven Winner garden, is taken care of by Veda Edwards and her husband Randy. I'm sure they would be very happy to offer advice if you feel you need some.

TRELLIS VEGETABLE BED

Like the Square Foot Garden - a trellis garden is about gardening within a small space. This is called vertical gardening.



Vertical gardening is a time-tested, common-sense way to grow a lot of vegetables within a small footprint. Trellises, cages, stakes, and arbors have been used in vegetable gardens for centuries.

These four plots are next to the Organic Vegetable Garden and the Straw Bale Garden. You'll be in the presence of experts, if you need advice.

The Demonstration Garden is a teaching garden. We hope the garden will show all kinds of ways one can garden, especially in an urban setting. Vertical is the way to go. The trellis can be made with bamboo stakes, or

wire panels. You will not be alone in creating these beds. You have an army of gardeners to help you in your creation.



CHILDREN'S BED

This bed gets its character from polls that are placed in a pyramidal form where various vines grow and creates a great hiding place for the young at heart. There is a small bench inside, just perfect for spending a little time contemplating life.

This bed employs vines to twine around the poles, and creates a hidden compartment underneath it. This bed needs little maintenance once established.

If you plant Pole Beans, just water a bit, and they usually germinate within seven days if the soil is warm and kept moist. The vines need very little support or care. They will naturally wind themselves around the poles. Apply a little mulch, and water once a week if no rain has fallen. The beans should be harvested frequently when the pods reach full size to encourage further flowering and production.

ROCK BED

This bed is a newly designed bed. A variety of gardeners have contributed plants to this bed, and rocks too! It is nearly completed. You can take over this bed and add plants of your choosing to your heart's content. It is part of what we call the Quad Beds. These are 4 beds set together by the walking path and divided by a smaller walking path. It is a small bed. Just enough space to enjoy keeping it neat and happy.

And after planting rocks, they require very care!! No water, no fertilizer, no nothing!! Hehehe!





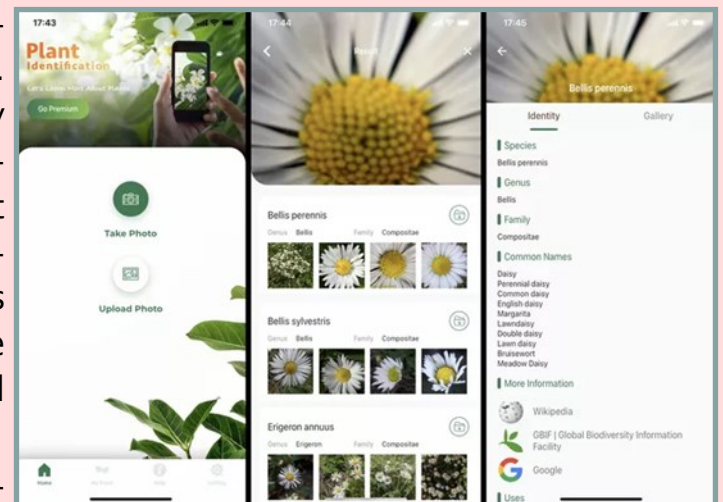
Plant Identification Applications – Choose From Many!

Ever looked in a garden, yard, or park and had no idea what the plant is in front of you? Fortunately, there are plenty of great plant identification apps out there that take all the hard work out of the process. Here's a look at eight of the best options for iOS and Android.

01 Best App To Identify Plants: **Plantsnap** If there's only room in your life for one 'name that plant' app, PlantSnap is the one. It's very simple to use with a neat tutorial guiding you through the paces. Its accuracy level is pretty good even if it occasionally makes the odd misstep that a professional gardener would avoid. Quick and easy to use, its only true downside is that you'll need to pay to be able to use it frequently and to unlock certain other features such as the ability to view other people's snaps. It's worth it though. Available for IOS and Android

02 Simplest Plant ID App: **iPlant** Skipping past the need for community features or anything too complex, iPlant gets right to the point - snap a photo of a plant and it'll (eventually) tell you what it is. It's very accurate too providing you with a Wikipedia link and more to learn more about it. It's just unfortunate then that it's a little slow on the uptake when uploading photos, and it's only available for iOS.

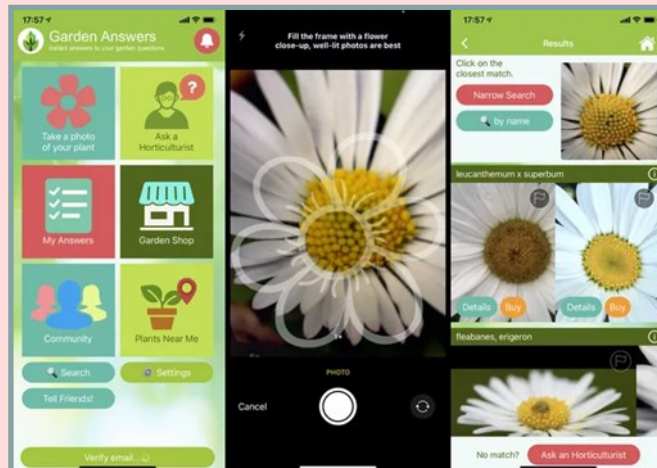
03 Most Accurate Plant Identification App: **LeafSnap** LeafSnap performed admirably in tests, generally proving to be the most accurate Plant ID app out of all the ones tried. That comes at a small cost with a lot of very intrusive video ads that encourage you to upgrade to the premium build of the app, but it's worth it for such good results. If it also included extra information on plants besides existing Wikipedia knowledge, it'd be the best of the bunch. As it stands, it's still well worth using. Available for IOS and Android.



04 Best App for Plant Care and Identification: **PictureThis** PictureThis is a fantastically comprehensive plant identification app. It takes seconds to identify plants before giving you a near overwhelming amount of information on it and how best to care for it. For some users, it'll be excessive but for those keen to cultivate their green space, it's a huge help. It even identifies if a plant is toxic and warns you accordingly. Bear in mind, you'll need to subscribe if you plan on using it for any length of time. Keen gardeners will be happy to do so as its near encyclopedic knowledge is very useful. Available for IOS and Android.



o5 Best Community Focused Plant Identification App: **Garden Answers** If you don't mind signing up to a new community, Garden Answers is a great way to get in touch with horticultural experts, discover exciting plants near you, as well as identify plants around your garden and surroundings. The interface feels a little dated by modern standards but ads aren't too intrusive and Garden Answers tells you the basics about each plant without overwhelming you with too much detail. Being able to connect to like-minded souls is a nice extra touch too. Available for IOS and Android.



o6 Best Location Aware Plant Identification App: **PlantNet** Designed with a worldwide appeal to it, PlantNet immediately presents you with images of plants from all the different continents. You can submit your own right down to the location by quickly snapping a photo and waiting for the app to identify the plant. While the app is reasonably accurate, spotting other people's entries can have some issues with the need for the community to validate how authentic the results are. Still, it's a fascinating insight into the green world and not just your local surroundings. Available for IOS and Android.

o7 Best Plant and Insect Identification App: **Seek** Want to turn plant identification into a game? Seek does that almost feeling like a form of Pokemon Go. It even allows you to identify bugs and other insects you might see in your garden. In all cases, you need to take fairly good photos for it to identify accurately, but it's worth taking that extra time when you gain new badges and achievements for doing so. If it had a little more information on plants and leaned into its gaming side more so, it'd be the ultimate plant identification app. Available for IOS and Android.

o8 Fastest Plant Identification App: **Plant Identification++** In a rush and want to immediately know what plant you're looking at? Plant Identification ++ is the fastest of the bunch taking seconds to show up with highly accurate results. Typically, it offers a couple of different results giving you the ability to determine what seems right to you. Other information is a little sparse but if you simply want to know a name quickly, it does the job well. It's just unfortunate that you need to pay to gain unlimited plant identification. Available for only IOS.

I must offer this disclaimer about these applications. This is not an endorsement of any particular application. There are many opinions about which application is best, and you will need to determine for yourself which one you prefer. The basis for this article came from Lifewire, but there are many other articles on the web that offer other diverse opinions. It is up to you to try and choose the application which works the best for you.



Oven Pancakes for Two

By Rick Ault

Ingredients

2 eggs beaten
1/2 cup milk
1/2 cup flour
2 T. butter, melted
in 9" round glass
pan in oven

Preheat oven to 450 F. Pour batter into pan of melter butter and bake 15 minutes on middle rack. Serve by filling the pancake "bowl" created in the oven with strawberries and sweetened sour cream, or cut into wedges and serve with syrup.

Notes: This is an amazing dish to watch cook in the oven. These pancakes are deliciously eggy tasting but under 220 calories per serving.

Source: Aunt Loretta Spaeth; published in 1980's.

Crock Pot Green Enchilada Chicken Soup

By Judy Kautz

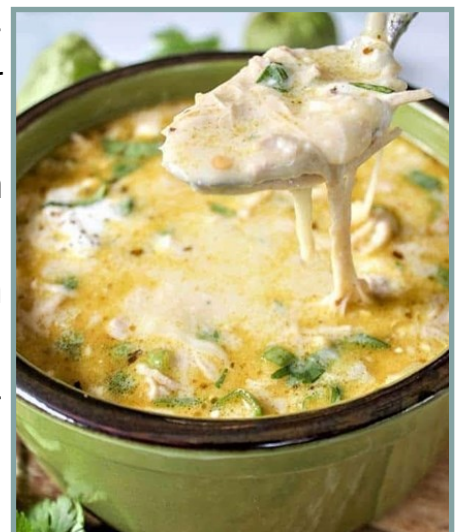
Ingredients

2.5 lbs of boneless skinless
Chicken Breasts or thighs
28 oz can of Green Enchi-
lada sauce
24oz of Chicken broth
1 Cup half and half or
heavy whipping cream
2 Cups Monterey jack
cheese
4 oz cream cheese, cubed
at room temp
4oz Green Salsa (salsa
Verde)
Salt and Pepper to taste

In Crock Pot add Chicken breasts or thighs, green enchilada sauce and chicken broth...cook on low for 6-8 hrs

About 30 min before serving Remove Chicken and Shred. the add shredded chicken, Jack Cheese, Cream Cheese, 1/2 and 1/2 and green salsa to crock pot. stir until cheeses are melted. * you can add additional salsa for taste.

You can top with sliced avocado, Cilantro, green onion and sour cream and add strips of Crisp tortillas if you like!





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

Nancy Logan (Treasurer). Beginning balance as of March 31, 2022 is \$21,134.07. Income for the month is \$190 Gloves Sold; \$ 15 Meeting Donations; \$11,322.71 Garden Party Plant Sale; \$138 Garden Party Donations and \$90 Meeting Silent Auction for a total of \$11,755.71. Expenses were \$265.75 Greenhouse Supplies and \$211.30 Credit Card Fees for a total of \$477.05. Balance at April 30, 2022 is \$32,412.73, less budgeted expenses not yet reimbursed of \$10,974.34 and less reserve for greenhouse repairs of \$1,913.00, leaving funds in excess of budget at \$19,525.39.

Nancy Logan (Greenhouse) Greenhouse has been put to rest for the year. Materials stored at Nancy's house have been moved to the shed. Meeting scheduled after June meeting to discuss upcoming plant sale.

Program Chair (Lois, Jeannie Kline, and Patty Cummings))- Meeting after July meeting for programs. For the June meeting Michelle Loudenbeck will speak on projections for water availability in Cleveland County.

Special Events/Garden Party (Lois, Jeannie Kline) there were 493 attendees, including sixty children at the Garden Party. Concluded for now.

Donna Wright and Linda Dolezal (Education) A printed schedule for Saturday classes is available.) The May 21 program will be Composting 101 by Claren Kidd (outdoors), June 18 Roses by Cathy Bowden, and July 16 Fall Gardening by Courtney Dekalb-Myers.

Julie Johnson/Phyllis Blackwell (Special Projects) – Nothing to report.

Judy Kautz (Public Relations) Items for the newsletter have been great contributions and she wants them to keep coming in. She would like to have more recipes submitted. There will be an appendix for Garden Party photos.

Kathi Farley/Georjana Mauldin (Garden Committee) The garden crews rocked in Kathi Farley/Georjana Mauldin (Garden Committee) – 19-20 people show on Tuesday but we always need more help. Kathi will help anyone with physical disabilities. We still have 5 beds needing bed heads. There are 2 beds with plants available for taking. Irrigation expansion: Contractor Steve will run individual pump system off current water system for a cost of \$600 this year to get it all water ready. Judy Kautz moved ad Joan Barker seconded to approve funds of \$600 to expand water system.

Garden Tours—Tours will be conducted first and third Saturdays each month. Please sign up for tours – we need 3 people per Saturday.

Rahmona Thompson (Membership) – No report.



Evan Taylor (Home tours) Please carpool because of limited parking. Meet at Extension between 8:10 and 8:15 am. Final details will be provided by Jun 1, including addresses and phone numbers. Rahmona has volunteered to be the photographer. Volunteers hosting the tours receive 3 hours of Service, and those members touring receive 3 hours Education.

Fundraising—No report.

Ronna Banks, Sherry Garner, and Cheryl Jones (Hospitality) – Thanks to Marilyn Solomon, Judy Kautz, Karen Driscoll, Laura Eckstein, Lois Cox, Evan Taylor and Ronna Banks for bringing refreshments to the May meeting.

Jr. Master Gardeners- Committee will meet after this May meeting. There are lots of kids interested in gardening.

OLD BUSINESS: 1860 pounds of densified Styrofoam has been stored and will be sold to a secondary plastics buyer.

NEW BUSINESS Fred Schneider spoke about Farmer's Market. PR gain is phenomenal. They meet Saturday from 8 – 12, there is lots of parking, we have a covered outside stall. It is great introduction to CCMGA; fact sheets are very popular; 21 different MG members volunteered; nice facilities and all kinds of foods and coffees; plants and veggies for sale. 557 people stopped by the MG table in April and May. Claren Kidd will take charge of the table for the summer. Lois is ordering 2 tablecloths for the information table.

President's Comments:

Dates to remember:

May 21-Composting 101 presented by Claren Kidd

June 11- Home Tours

State Conference-June 16-17

Courtney's Comments: Thanks to Fred for work on Farmer's Market. MG class registration is open – there are 10 spots left, with a total of 30 in the class which begins in August. OK County has 2 tours available; Courtney will forward emails to membership. Courtney will switch OSU logo nametags to a black background. Membership okayed this by voice vote.

The meeting adjourned.

Respectfully submitted, *Judy Kautz for Marilyn Solomon*



Vada Edwards excitedly shares "Pink and yellow blooms on my cactus!"



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.