

Courtney Presents Tomatoes 102



At our February meeting, our own Courtney DeKalb-Myers spoke to us about her favorite subject, tomatoes! As usual, she did not disappoint, as we were informed and entertained as usual. We are so proud of Courtney and all she has accomplished, and so glad she is our Horticulture Advisor!

March Meeting

Our March speaker is Sophia Darrow, who is very involved with community gardens at the Oklahoma County Extension Office. Sophia Darrow is a Cleveland County native and a master's student at Oklahoma State University studying horticulture science. Sophia served as the student coordinator for OSU's new Student Farm from the infancy of the project to her graduation. Because she is still involved with community gardens at the Oklahoma County Extension Office, her presentation name is Oklahoma State University Student Farm: Student and Community Enrichment. Join us at 9:30 for snacks and conversation. Our meeting begins at 10 am.

Excited About Our Plant Sale?

New poster is available to advertise our sale on April 20 here at the Fairgrounds. If you want copies, ask in the office!

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President's Posting

By Rahmona Thompson

I missed the February meeting because I was sent to Lexington, Kentucky by the OSU Master Gardeners Extension Office. There I attended the 2024 Biennial Kentucky 4-H Volunteer Forum. Despite its name, this meeting is attended by extension Master Gardeners and extension Family and Consumer Science (FCS) volunteers in addition to 4-H volunteers and participants. Many extension agents and educators attend also. There were just over 1100 people at the meeting.

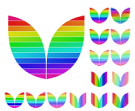
Fourteen Oklahomans attended this meeting. We represented all three Oklahoma extension programs. Four were affiliated with the Master Gardener program, four with FCS and six with 4-H. We went to Kentucky to explore the possibility of running this type of meeting in Oklahoma. The OSU Extension Office administrator, i.e. Karla Knoepfli (4-H), Suzette Barta (FCS) and David Hillcock (MG), are interesting in holding our first biennial Oklahoma Extension Volunteers meeting in 2024.

This type of meeting would not only celebrate all the Oklahoma extension volunteers but would provide education sessions for everyone. Our state-wide MG meeting model will fit nicely into this plan. A difference is that the biennial meeting would be a two or more days. The Oklahoma meeting will also be much smaller than the Kentucky one. With the proposed biennial meeting plan, every other year we would attend the combined extension meeting. Then on alternate years, we would meet just as Oklahoma Master Gardeners.

The big advantage of a combined extension programs meeting is "cross pollination." There is a tremendous overlap in areas in the three programs. All branches care about healthy and well-being, protecting the environment, expressive arts, and educating the public.

Another educational theme that cuts across all three extension groups is club management. The Kentucky workshops in this area provided information on topics such as money management, appreciating volunteers, running meetings, and communications. To me these workshops were very informative. Why struggle with a club issue if some other extension program has already figured it out.

What I took away from the Kentucky meeting is that with Oklahoma MG, FCH and 4-H volunteers meeting together, we could all come away with not just new information but stronger county programs and collaborative opportunities. This view is the consensus of 14 member of the delegation. So, a new window is opening for CCMA. Since I am on the planning committee, I will keep CCMGA informed.



Plant Sale Signs

by Lois Cox-Marshall

Are you interested in helping us create the signs for the plant sale? These will be the ones on the tables beside the plants to give instruction to buyers about details and instructions for the plants they are purchasing. How can you help?

Sign up (provided later in March) and come to Classroom C on Monday, April 8 any time from 9 a.m. to 2 p.m. I will provide a template to use to provide uniformity with the signs. They will be bigger this year and also include a QR code for buyers to look up more information if they so desire. I will provide instruction to those coming if needed. These signs will help sell our plants!



Junior Master Gardeners

by Lois Cox-Marshall

Our group met and planned a 1-day summer camp for ages 7-10 on June 18. We will be advertising it through any means we can to get the 20 maximum we will take. Our committee planned a full morning and early afternoon (9 am-1 pm) of activities for the children. It is on a Tuesday to enable us to bring the kids to the garden for education at each bed where the bed head is willing to assist in training. Linda Dolezal will be contacting you to see who is interested in helping that day. The group will be broken up into groups of 10 to come to your garden to hear what you have to say. Of course, we want hands on as much as possible. The herb garden will give opportunity to taste. The square foot and organic vegetable beds will allow the kids to see the food they eat as it grows. The compost bins will show them how dirt is made. The worm hotel is always a stop of interest.



Students will also be painting flower pots and later in the morning planting a flower and a vegetable. They will be creating a seed bomb under the direction of Mary Engel who will also teach about pollinators. We will do a bug hunt in the garden. The students will have a journal where they can draw pictures of the bugs they find. A later class on bugs will let them know of the beneficial side of bugs.

Next, on September 28, we will tag onto the Touch-a-Truck event with a Garden Party in the demo garden. Activities can include a scavenger hunt (always a popular activity), rock painting, leaf rubbings, bird feeder creation, faerie garden tours, and other things we can come up with. And the best thing about this garden party? We don't have to wear parkas and gloves!!!

There will be volunteer activities with each of these events so be watching! We need you to get involved!



OU Big Event in the Demo Garden

by Joan Barker

The OU Big Event will be held on Saturday, April 6th from 10:00 a.m. until 2:00 p.m. The three Demo Garden projects for the OU students are: (1) rebuild Judy's Kautz's pink garden bed and mulch the Veterans' bed, (2) clean/weed all the walkways and (3) clean/weed Demo Garden beds (bedhead must be present for the work to occur in their bed). Please contact Joan Barker or Kathi Farley if you have any questions. We hope to see many Master Gardeners at this event.



Cleveland County Master Gardener Plant Sale

100s of
Plants!

April 20, 2024
10 am - 2 pm

New
larger
location!

*Fairgrounds Exhibition Hall
(former home of Farmer's Market)*



OSU EXTENSION
**CLEVELAND COUNTY
MASTER GARDENERS**





Cleveland County Tool Time



Last month we looked at my garden bucket that I use in the flower beds around the house. This month let us explore what is in the veggie garden tool bag and cart that I use in my large garden.

My vegetable garden uses a CRAFTSMAN TRADESTACK® wheeled toolbox and tool bag. The tool bag includes the same garden tools that are in my garden bucket that we reviewed last month. The wheeled toolbox contains books, seed catalogs, and other gardening items.



The golf cart with an attached golf bag was repurposed to conveniently hold large garden tools close to the garden in a safe manner.

Enclosed in this golf bag is the following tools:

1. Garden fork
2. Garden rake
3. Leaf rake
4. Landscape rake
5. Japanese weeding sickle
6. Edging shovel
7. Pointed digger shovel
8. Long handle Nejiri Gama® garden hoe
9. Scuffle hoe

Maintaining these tools is like caring for

small garden tools; they are just bigger. Prior to using any tool, and after use, inspect to ensure that the tool is free from defects and safe to use. If the tool fails inspection, do not use it, remove/replace it from service.

Inspect – check for defects like loose, bent, cracked, or splintered wood on the handle. Loose joints, worn heads, dull edges.

Clean – after use wash the tool off. Use a wire brush to remove rust and soil stuck to the tool.

Sand – lightly sand rough wooden parts regularly to prevent splinters in the hand and fingers.

Sharpen – check the edges and sharpen, as necessary. Restore the edge as close as possible to the factory specifications. You may have to use several types of files to re-establish the edge.

Preserve – You should use Boiled Linseed Oil to prevent rust on metal parts and preserve the wood on wooden handled tools. Do not use petroleum-based products, as these products have the potential to contaminate your soil.

Next month we will take a quick look at power tools and their care, such as rotor tillers, riding mower, lawnmower and weed eater. Send me your favorite garden tool and could be the tool of the month in the coming months.

“Gardening is cheaper than therapy. Until your spouse adds up the receipts – Empress of Dirt” (Will, 2021)



This is a reminder that all communication and needs for the Demo Garden should be reported to Marilyn Solomon and she will report them at meetings. Also, if you want anything requested or reported in the newsletter.... send that to Judy Kautz before the end of the month.

Interns to contact Kathi Farley when they are ready to get oriented to the demo garden at netfarley@gmail.com.

Join us in the Demo Garden on Tuesdays and Fridays at 9 am for our garden work-days!



Help Desk Sign Ups

By Courtney DeKalb-Myers

In an effort to ease help desk sign up function, I am breaking them up into bimonthly links. March-April is now posted! The next few months will be very busy with community questions. Please consider signing up.

[Help Desk Sign Up March - April](#)

Today's Funny

By Karen Wolf

Husband: "Why do you keep buying plants when you just end up killing them?"

Wife: "Just to remind you what I'm capable of."



February Meeting Minutes

By Jo Ann Dysart

Call to Order and Pledge of Allegiance (Courtney for Rahmona)

Approval of the Minutes (Courtney) – Approved

Welcome 2023 Trainees (Courtney) Members welcomed interns/trainees in attendance with applause, and they were asked to encourage peers to attend monthly meetings.

Proposed 2024 Budget & Vote to Approve (Nancy Logan) Proposed Demo Garden Budget for 2024, \$7,670 Our Constitution requires membership to vote to approve this budget. Marilyn Solomon made motion to accept; Joan Barker seconded. Passed.

Treasurer's Report (Nancy Logan) CCMGA Year-to-Date Budget Comparison, \$8,302.72. The yearly, fluid budget does not require a vote by membership. Nancy will revise budget printed in the most recent newsletter.

Nancy projected a lower profit outcome from this year's Plant Sale due to new location and "we don't know what we're doing." However, in the eight-year history of having a Plant Sale, each year profits have exceeded the previous year's profits.

Members who have not paid yearly dues yet may do so today at this meeting and still get their photo and info in the new Directory. Nancy is giving Joseph the go-ahead to prepare new Directory.

Greenhouse Report – Nancy Logan Plant Sale is April 20.

Nancy thanked Jim and Jerry for repairing the doors to the greenhouse shed. Strong winds took off those doors. She praised them for doing a super job.

Education (Sharon Mitchel) Sharon thanked Cathy Bowden for presenting the Rose class on Feb. 17.

March 16: class presented by Marilyn Solomon on the topic Oklahoma Proven

April 13: Sam Noble Museum Curiousiday – looking for volunteers for both morning and afternoon sessions

April 13: Moore Library Plant Propagation program needs volunteers; Debra Howse will present. Handouts to promote our Plant sale will be provided.

Demonstration Garden (Marilyn Solomon)

March 5: first garden workday and brunch and learn

April 6: OU Big Event, 10:00 to 2:00, Joan Barker stated we can request three projects. This Friday 02/23 is our deadline to notify the OU group of our projects.

Hospitality (Sherry Garner) Sherry thanked all who brought treats. She reminded us of two ways to sign up: paper sign-up on table and Sign-up Genius emailed monthly. "just keep cooking"

Membership (Rayge Johnson) Rayge thanked all mentors for stepping up. The March/April desk sign-ups are now available.

Q: Could not access March.

A: Courtney explained alternate method: go to <https://www.signupgenius.com>

Click *search* icon top/right.

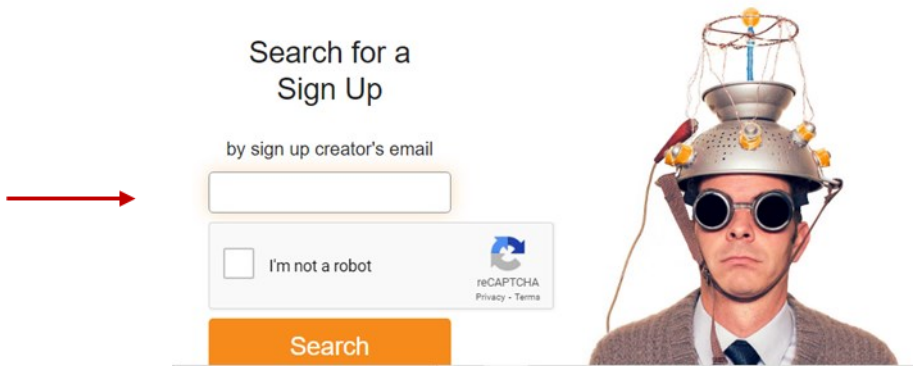
Search by Creator's email: courtney.dekalb@okstate.edu & click *I'm not a robot*.

3 options – make selection



February Meeting Minutes (cont.)

By Jo Ann Dysart



Courtney DeKalb-Myers

Available Sign Ups



Cleveland County Master Gardener Association

CCMGA Monthly Meeting Food Sign Up



Cleveland County Master Gardener Association

Master Gardener Help Desk | January - February



Cleveland County Master Gardener Association

Master Gardener Help Desk | March - April

Program and Field Trip Committee (Patty Cummings) Susan Aikman is in charge of Field Trips. No trips planned at this time. March 20: Sophia Darrow, OSU Student Farm: Student and Community Enrichment Public Relations (Courtney for Judy Kautz) Judy is out due to family issue. A volunteer is needed to make a poster to promote our April 20 Plant Sale. Judy is waiting for response re additional red t-shirt order. She will email info when rec'd.

Q: Fred asked if we will sell non-plant items at our Plant Sale.

A: Nancy replied, maybe gloves.

Special Projects (Jeanne Parker) no report

Junior Master Gardeners & Special Events (Lois Cox-Marshall)

Demo Garden Location (Lois) – Planning meeting scheduled next Monday, 02/26 at noon in Classroom C. The demo garden is to be used for instruction.

12th Ave. Recreation Center (Courtney DeKalb-Myers) – This Friday 02/23 is build day for three raised beds. Volunteers show up at 9:00. Currently there are four volunteers; more are welcome, just show up. The location is behind the Rec Center. Interns may count this as garden hours. Youth involved with the 12th Ave. Rec Center will be responsible for planting and maintaining these beds. We may provide educational training and guidance.



February Meeting Minutes (cont.)

By Jo Ann Dysart

Booth at Farmers Market (Claren Kidd) Booth opens Saturday, April 6. Show up at 7:45 to set-up for 8:00 opening, ending at noon. The market closes early November. Decisions to be made include which display equipment/racks to purchase, QR code usage, and promoting other educational and gardening events. Claren asked for donations of coloring books with pics of plants, bugs, and all things garden to hand out to young children to take home and color. Claren asked for suggestions for improvement. She reminded us that garden gloves are available for \$5 on the entry table. Proceeds go to our organization's budget. Gloves are donated by a member. Each budget item is an opportunity for anyone to make a donation.

Styrofoam Recycling (Cathy Bowden) Today at 3:30 and 5:30 at University Lutheran Church, 914 Elm on campus, volunteers will learn what they need to know to work in the Styro station. Parking is off College. Members can earn a maximum of five service hours on Styro tasks. Cathy demonstrated and explained the need for clean/dry food service Styro items to be included with large, packing Styro items. The smaller food service items are more dense, thus weigh more than large Styro items. This is important as the goal is to densify and make 10-pound logs. If the Styro station does not receive food service items, the logs will weigh less than 10 pounds. The goal is to amass 20,000 pounds of 10-lb logs as that is the quantity a 53' semi-truck holds. The purchaser will not send a truck and driver for less than a full truckload. Currently approximately 14,000 pounds are on hand. Cathy projects that number will increase to 20,000 by this fall.

Q: What happens with the profits?

A: Styro logs are commodities. Costs of commodities fluctuate based on supply and demand. Profit is between 5 cents to 20 cents per log. All profits go right back into the program for densifier equipment and truck maintenance. Project objective is about saving the environment, not turning a profit.

Cathy praised CCMGA as the first organization to contribute to this worthy cause. OHCE may be the second. Cathy also responded to question that all colors of Styrofoam are accepted.

New Business

Mary Engle (butterfly lady) and Karen Wolf brought a pollinator bird bath made from an elephant ear leaf. They stated that pollinators need food, water, and shelter. Karen is a member of the Water Garden Society of Oklahoma. The two of them plan to host a class in the demo garden this fall to make these cement items. Mary will provide the supplies. Attendees need to bring a large leaf for the project.

Intern Lizzy, employed by Pioneer Library System, showed a poster to promote the March 2 Gardening program to be presented by Mary Engle: Inviting Pollinators to Your Garden. This event is at The Well, 10:00-noon. Attendees must have a library card to attend. Lizzy is happy to help make that happen for all who need it.

Courtney's Comments

April 21 is Earth Day, the day after our Plant Sale. Let Joan Barker know if you can volunteer for this event. Please read the Dates to Remember section; Bug Fest, 03/21 needs volunteers. Event hours are 9 to noon, so volunteers need to plan for 8:00 to 1:00 to allow for setup and break down.

Q: Can Dates to Remember be emailed?

A: Yes, and times provided when possible

The extension is moving to the DHS building in August. We are actively looking for a new location for our monthly meetings. We also have to find a location for our Harvest Feast.

Q: Kathi Farley asked if moving help is needed.

A: possibly, do not have details yet

12:20 – Meeting Adjourned

Respectfully submitted, Jo Ann Dysart, Secretary

See Upcoming Events for Dates to Remember

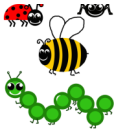


Treasurer's Report

By Nancy Logan

Beginning balance as of January 31, 2024 is \$32,277.22. Income was \$580 2024 Dues Paid; \$600 Donation to Fund The Well budget; \$40 Misc. Donations; \$10 Old T-Shirts Sold and \$85 Gloves Sold for Total income of \$1,315.00. No expenses for the month. Balance at February 29, 2024 is \$33,592.22, less budget items not yet reimbursed, of \$21,177.40 and less reserve for greenhouse repairs of \$2,797.10, leaving funds in excess of budget at \$9,617.72.

Respectfully submitted, *Nancy Logan*



Got Bugs?

by Courtney DeKalb Myers

The Norman Central Library is planning on hosting a 2024 BugFest and needs our help! If you are unaware, BugFest was an biennial event that the Cleveland County Master Gardeners under my predecessor. We did it again in 2022 and it was a lot of fun! BugFest includes a series of insect focused booth activities. Youth visit each booth to receive a prize at the end. We had over 300 youth come through in three hours last time!

2024 BugFest is scheduled for Thursday, March 21st from 9am to 12pm. They'll be hosting it at The Well. If you are interested, please fill out the below interest form. I'm also asking for which booths you would prefer to help me with volunteer assignment. Description of the booths are below, as well as some photos from 2022.

If you have any questions, please don't hesitate to reach out! This would count for 5 hours of community service (when we include set up and clean up). Interns are more than welcome to help, but this unfortunately cannot count towards pay-back hours.



Booth Options

Taste Of Honey: Teach about honeybees and pollinators; dip honey into spoons for youth to try

Maggot Art: Place a maggot into paint and let it wiggle around to create art; youth come back to pick up their masterpieces

Worms for the Wise: Observe worms and make a worm bookmark

Whirling Wings: Create butterflies out of coffee filters, pipe cleaners, and clothespins

Antennae Making: Cut outs of different antennae types, help youth assemble and become insects

Eat A Bug: Fry mealworm in peanut oil and entice kids to eat them

Termite Trails: Using a Bic pin, draw a circular loop on a piece of paper. The chemical in pen ink is similar to termite pheromones and termites will follow the drawn line

Face Painting: Using paints and brushes provided, help kids turn insects by painting their faces with butterflies, dragonflies, beetles, etc.

Click on the link below to sign up!

Yes! I am interested in the 2024 BugFest

**CLEVELAND COUNTY MASTER
GARDENER ASSOCIATION PRESENTS**
EDUCATIONAL CLASS
Oklahoma Proven



**Saturday, March
16th 10:00 - 11:00**

Each year the OSU Extension tests and carefully selects plants that flourish in Oklahoma to add to their award winning “Oklahoma Proven” list of plants. Whether you are interested in natives, trees, perennials, shrubs or annuals, this carefully curated program provides ideas for plants that will enhance your garden. Master Gardeners Marilyn Solomon and Judy Kautz will discuss this year’s selections as well as those from the recent past. Both speakers have extensive experience gardening in Oklahoma so bring your questions!

**Location: Cleveland County Extension
Meeting Room C, Northwest corner of front
building, Parking Behind building due to
Construction**

601 East Robinson, Norman, Ok 73071



**Presenter:
Marilyn Solomon &
Judy Kautz**
Master Gardeners



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Pollinators, we do it all for pollinators

Capture the natural beauty of a leaf in an elegant pollinator birdbath. Are you interested in making an elegant birdbath for the pollinators? Then please plant in your garden plants with BIG leaves, such as hostas, rhubarb, burdock, caladium or elephant ears, and send an email to engelmariam@aol.com with subject "Pollinators-we do it all for pollinators" to sign up for this project.

In the late gardening season of 2024, we will have a class for CCMGA members in our demo garden. (We need to grow the leaf before we can have the class.) You will need to bring a leaf approximately 10 inches long and 7 inches wide to the class. All other supplies will be provided. If more than 10 sign up, we will schedule several classes.

Karen belongs to the Water Garden Society of Oklahoma, and her group has been making pollinator birdbaths for many years. So we have an expert that has agreed to help.

Bluebirds are attracted to water so a shallow birdbath close to the ground may bring them into your garden.

LONG TERM GOALS: If this project is successful and beautiful pollinator birdbaths are made, the plan is to make them not just for our homes,



but also for the demo garden. We also want to provide classes for visitors, charging only for the costs of the supplies needed. It would be a 2 for 1 in that we bring visitors into our demo garden and also educate them about the need to help pollinators. Karen plans to bring a small pollinator birdbath to our February master gardener meeting. Hope to see you then.



Scotch Eggs

Submitted by Lesley Roberts

Ingredients

4 eggs boiled; do not overcook
 1lb sausage meat
 1 beaten egg
 Bread crumbs or panko crumbs

Boil, cool, and peel the eggs. Divide the sausage to make 4 patties and wrap the patties around each egg. Make sure there are

no gaps. Coat with the beaten egg and roll in bread crumbs. Repeat. Bake at 400• for about 20-25 minutes turning once. Serve hot or cold

(The traditional method is to deep fry until they're golden brown)

Beet Bread

Submitted by Mary Engel

Ingredients

1 cup + 2 T water
 2T softened butter
 2 T sugar
 1 1/2 t salt
 3/4 cup pureed beets (15 oz can drained)
 2 cups whole wheat flour
 2 2/3 cups white flour
 3 t yeast (dry yeast)
 1/2 t caraway seed

Mix ingredients together. Bake at 375 degrees for 25 minutes. Makes 2 loaves.



Carrot Cake Bars

Ingredients

Bars: ½ cup butter melted
1 cup light brown sugar packed
1 large egg
1 tablespoon vanilla extract
1 cup all-purpose flour
1 teaspoon ground cinnamon
¼ teaspoon baking powder
¼ teaspoon salt
1 cup shredded carrots

Cheesecake Swirl:

4 ounces cream cheese room temperature
¼ cup granulated sugar
1 large egg yolk
¾ teaspoon vanilla extract

Preheat oven to 350 degrees. Spray an 8x8 baking pan with non-stick spray and set aside. You can also line the pan with parchment paper and lightly spray with nonstick baking spray.

For the bars, place the butter in a microwave-safe bowl. Microwave for 30 seconds. If needed, microwave another 15 seconds to melt the butter completely.

In a medium bowl, add the melted butter and brown sugar. Mix to combine.

Stir in the egg and vanilla extract.

Add in the flour, cinnamon, baking powder,

and salt. Stir until completely combined.

Fold in the shredded carrots. Set aside.

Cheesecake Swirl: In a medium bowl, add in the cream cheese and sugar. Beat with a hand mixer until smooth.

Add in the egg yolk and vanilla extract. Beat until smooth and creamy. Add about half of the carrot cake batter into the pan and spread it out with an off-set spatula.

Add half of the cheesecake batter to the carrot cake batter. Do this by dropping dollops of batter over the carrot cake batter. Don't swirl yet.

Add the remaining carrot cake batter on top of the cheesecake batter and around the cheesecake batter. Add the remaining cheesecake batter by adding dollops on top of the carrot cake batter.

Using a knife or skewer, swirl the batters together. Swirl as much or as little as you like.

Bake for about 35-40 minutes until the edges are golden brown. There will be very little jiggle to the center.

Cool completely before cutting. Store in an airtight container in the refrigerator.





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.

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

CLEVELAND COUNTY MASTER GARDENERS

Mar 21 Bug Fest w/Pioneer Library at The Well, 8:00am to 1:00pm

Mar ? Cleveland County City Lifestyle article on raised beds

Apr 6 OU Big Event in Demo Garden, 10:00am to 2:00pm

Apr 13 Sam Noble Museum Curiousiday Springtime Spectacular

Apr 13 Plant Swap at Moore Library

Apr 19 Set-up for Plant Sale

Apr 20 Plant Sale



Tea and Tulips

Wednesday, March 27, 2-4:30pm
Park House Event Center
Adult – \$45 member; \$55 nonmember
Youth (4-17) \$30; nonmember \$35
[Learn more & register here](#)

2nd Annual Tulip Festival

Saturday and Sunday, March 30 and 31, 10am-5pm
Experience the enchantment of 50,000 beautiful tulip blooms as we celebrate the arrival of spring. Last year, 15,000 visitors flocked to our weekend festival to admire the thousands of stunning tulips. Enjoy live music, shop local vendors, and more. [Get the list.](#)



Botanical Candle Pouring

Saturday, March 16, 10-11am
Member \$35; Nonmember \$40
Jeff Chambless, MoonGlow Maven
[Learn more & register here](#)

Gardening 101

Saturday, March 16, 1-4pm
Member \$25; Nonmember \$30
Register by March 14
[Learn more & register here](#)

Spring Crops and Vegetable Gardening

Saturday, March 23, 10-11am
Member \$12; Nonmember \$15
Register by March 21
[Learn more & register here](#)



Companion Planting

Saturday, March 23, 2-3PM
Member \$12; Nonmember \$15
Register by March 21
[Learn more & register here](#)

Workshop: Foraged Floral Arrangements

Saturday, March 30, 10-11:30am
Member \$45; Nonmember \$50
Register by March 28
[Learn more & register here](#)

APRIL

Photography Workshop: Tulips and Spring Color

Saturday, March 30, 1-4pm
Member \$30; Nonmember \$35
Doug Hoke, The Oklahoman
Register by Thursday, March 28
[Learn more & register here](#)



Oklahoma Iris Society Spring 2024 Activities

All Events located at Will Rogers Garden Exhibition Center.

- **Saturday, Jan. 27th, 11am-1pm: Flower Design Series Pt.1:
Line Designs**
- **Saturday, Feb. 24th, 1-4pm: “I Love the Flowers” Flower Show**
 - **Saturday, Feb. 24th at 2pm: Flower Design Series Pt. 2:
Creative Designs**
- **Friday, March 1st at 6:30pm: March Meeting featuring special
guest speaker, David Toth.**
- **Saturday, March 2nd, 9am-1pm: Judges Training on Novelty
Irises**
- **Saturday, March 9th, 9:30am-11am: Flower Design Series Pt.
3: Advanced Designs**
 - **Friday, April 5th at 6:30pm: OIS April Meeting: Entering
Irises into an Iris Show**
- **Saturday-Sunday, April 27-28th: 92nd Annual Iris Festival**
 - **Friday, May 3rd: OIS 2nd Annual Garden Tour**
- **Saturday, May 18th, 9am-3pm: Annual Garden Festival in the
Park.**
 - **Friday, June 7th at 6:30pm: June Meeting**





CENTRAL CHAPTER EVENTS

WINTER, SPRING, and SUMMER 2024

February 8

Micah Friedman will present his graduate research on the flora of Oklahoma County. This research includes creating species lists, floristic inventories, and utilizing Floristic Quality Assessments to assess natural areas.

March 7

Dr. Sheila Strawn, author of *Lichen Field Guide for Oklahoma and Surrounding States*, will present *Lichens in Tree Communities*.

April 4

Lauren Rosenfelt will present her graduate work, *Ecosystem multifunctionality: benefits of forb plant diversity to local pollinators and soil properties from water retention to carbon sequestration*.

Lauren (BFA) is an MS student at the University of Oklahoma School of Biological Sciences in the Souza (plant ecology) and Hung (pollinator) labs. Her research surveys soils, plants, and pollinators across 21 sites in Central Oklahoma made up of the following habitat types: pollinator gardens (PG), remnant prairies (RP), and bermudagrass turfs (BG).

May 2

Sean Washington will present how native gardens can directly help species like migrating birds and butterflies explode and create hubs of biodiversity. Find Sean's podcast and science communication work at thefitnaturalist.com

June 8

Plant Walk: Learning Plant Families

Meeting at 9 am at the front entrance of the Belle Isle Library, 5501 N Villa Ave, Oklahoma City, OK 73112

We will traverse to the creek behind the library to look at plants. We will focus on using plant family characteristics to help identify plants.

July 6

Plant Walk: Botany in the City

We will meet at 9 am in front of Shoe Carnival, 1701 Belle Isle Blvd, Oklahoma City, OK 73118.

We will caravan to the Deep Fork River, which is .5 mile from the meeting spot.

Indoor events start at 7 pm at Oklahoma City University
2501 N Blackwelder Ave, Oklahoma City, OK 73106
Room 208 in the Dawson-Loeffler Science Center

The Dawson-Loeffler Science Center is located just south of NW 27th Street and Indiana, immediately adjacent to the OCU Baseball Field. The best place for parking is in the lot east of the building. Look for ONPS signs.

For **outdoor events**, wear hiking clothes and bring water.

For detailed directions, and updates: OKNativePlants.org



Upcoming Events (cont) Submitted by Rahmona Thompson

Oklahoma Native Plant Society Wonders of Wildflowers 2024 April 26-28, 2024



Robbers Cave State Park - Schedule of Activities -

Friday, April 26

- 5:30 Meet at The Lookout Kitchen in Robbers Cave State Park for registration
- 6:00 Dinner, group seating, order on your own.
- 7:00 Program by C.R. (Randy) Ledford on the State Park and its area.
Weekend field trips described and sign up lists.

Saturday, April 27

- Breakfast on your own
- 8:00 - 9:00 Registration and welcome in the Lodge Room 221, field trip details
- 9:30 - 11:30 3 different field trips, (a) easy, (b) moderate, (c) moderate plus. Meet at Lodge Room 221 for hikes.
12:00 noonish Boxed sandwich lunch (order below)
- 1:30 - 3:30 3 different field trips, (a) easy, (b) moderate, (c) moderate plus. Meet at Lodge Room 221 for hikes.

Saturday, April 27

- 6:00 Dinner, group seating, order on your own at The Lookout Kitchen with socializing
- 8:00 - 10:00 Happy Hour at Lodge Room 221: *BYO Refreshments*

Sunday, April 28

- Breakfast on your own
- 9:00 Board Meeting, meet at Robbers Cave State Park Lodge Room 221, all are WELCOME
- 11:00 Field trip and *Botanize* to end of Wonders of Wildflowers

Accommodations:

All Field Trips will meet at Lodge Room 221 for departures.
Rooms in the Lodge and Cabins are being held, reservations should be made WITHOUT DELAY by March 25th.
Campgrounds are also available.

See accommodations and maps on reverse.



Event Coordinator Contact: Lynn Michael at 918-381-0219 or jennmichael54@gmail.com

Register online at the ONPS website www.oknativeplants.org
or mail registration to:
ONPS, Mary Korthase, P O Box 14274, Tulsa, OK 74159-1274
make checks payable to: *Oklahoma Native Plant Society*

Name _____

Address _____ City _____ Zip _____

Phone _____

Email: _____

_____ \$10/person Member On-site registration will be available, without lunch.

_____ \$ 5/person Student Registration

_____ \$10/person Saturday Boxed Lunch: *bring your own beverage*

if required: veggie

_____ Total amount enclosed.

Please register by April 19, 2024, to ensure your meal.



Just for You!



Linda Reed submitted these photos and explanation. "I bought this at Marcum's on S. Sooner several weeks ago. They didn't know what it was for since there wasn't a name on the tag. It is about 15 3/4 in. long and has marks inside the cup for 1-4 inches and also mm. Corona is the brand. I used this today in a waist high raised bed that hadn't been used in a year or two. It worked great to dig up the hard soil and to beak it up. Just thought someone might find this interesting.

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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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.