

## The Weeders' Digest

## Great February Meeting Speakers!



Thank you to our speakers Margaret Landis and Richard Lupia of the Sam Noble Museum for their presentation at our February meeting. It is amazing how they reduced our entire biological and ecological history into one slide presentation! They are looking for volunteers to help them photograph and catalog their work. If you are interest-

ed, contact JoAnn Dysart who has their contact information.

*Pictured above, Margaret Landis and Richard Lupia.*

### At the March Meeting by JoAnn Dysart & Jeanne Kline

Jim McDaniel, CCMGA Emeritus, class of 2001, will be our March speaker. Jim is one of the original Master Gardeners who developed and built the Demonstration/Teaching Gardens and is a recipient of the CCMGA Distinguished Service Award. Jim has an Associate's Degree in Business and one in Medical Technology as well as a Bachelor's Degree in Education and a Master's Degree in Hospital Administration. His presentation is on Drip Irrigation in Your Garden. The meeting begins at 10, but come at 9:30 for snacks and conversation. See you there!

Directories should be available at the March meeting. Be prepared to sign for your copy. Thanks to Cherry and Nancy Logan for gathering material and updated names for this important resource.

#### Inside This Issue

President's Posting	2	February Minutes	10-11
ONPS Article	2	The Recipe Box	12
Treasurer's Report	11	Upcoming Events	14
Garden Gossip	3	Photo Booth	15
OK Proven Plants 2020	8-9	Demo Garden Photos	3-7
		Garden Party Invite	13



## President's Posting

*By Joan Barker*

Spring is almost here! Our first garden work day was held on March 3rd. We began with a breakfast potluck and then worked in the demo garden. Thank you to Kathi Farley for chairing the Garden Committee this year.

Terry Hull and the Special Events Committee are having very productive meetings preparing for our annual Spring Garden Party and Plant Sale scheduled for April 18th. The Greenhouse Committee has been busy all winter working and preparing for this special fundraising event. At the February meeting, Rahmona Thompson secured enough mentors for all the new mentees. Thank you to all who volunteered to be a mentor!

Linda Fielder and the Education Committee have programs and information tables set up from February through October. The Committee is also working on programs with the new Norman Central Library. Jo Ann Dysart and Jeannie Kline have been busy generating awesome new ideas for our monthly programs. Be ready for a Fitness Gardening Program in April.

See you in the garden!

*Joan*



## ONPS Field Trip to the Selah Ranch

*By Fred Schneider*

One of our stalwart CCMGA members, Rahmona Thompson, will make a presentation on April 2 to a meeting of the Central Chapter of the Oklahoma Native Plant Society (ONPS) titled ONPS FIELD TRIP TO THE SELAH RANCH. The ranch is a phenomenal restoration success with thousands of acres of native grasslands, numerous springs with free flowing water year round (in a dry region of Texas) and even a "new" bat cave. The meeting is at the OSU/OKC Horticulture Building, 400 N. Portland Ave., Room 196, at 6:30.

This year Rahmona is a Director at Large for the Central Chapter of the ONPS as well as in charge of the CCMGA Membership Committee. You do not need to be a member of ONPS to attend the meeting.





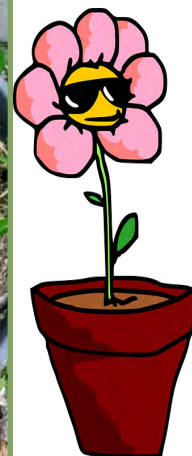
We have assistants for all but one person in the garden so if you are interested, contact Kathi Farley at [netfarley@gmail.com](mailto:netfarley@gmail.com).

Courtney and Kathi are working on a system to hopefully make it easier for new classes to acclimate to the demo garden. It looks promising and has been well received by the new class.



### First Garden Workday and Potluck!

Barbara Mahoney submitted great photos and writes "First morning in the CCMG demo garden! The Lasagna Bulb garden has Hyacinth blooms on the way. The Container Garden (Pot Garden) is weeded and ready for weed barrier fabric, mulch and freshly painted containers and bench! The Kids Tee-pee Garden is next!" *{Pictured below left with teepee garden is Celeste Stonecipher.}*







# Garden Potluck







# First Garden Day - Lots of Work!







# Garden Workday









## Oklahoma Proven Plants for 2020

### Tree—Hornbeam, *carpinus species*

The genus *Carpinus* includes the native *C. caroliniana*, American hornbeam and *C. retusus*, the common or European hornbeam, both common in the trade.

American hornbeam is a slow-growing, understory tree with an attractive globular form. It typically grows 20-35' tall. The European hornbeam grows in full sun to part shade and needs little pruning when grown as a tree, but responds well to hard pruning if grown as a hedge; it is a medium-sized, tree that grows 40-60' tall with a pyramidal to oval-rounded crown.

Both trees produce flowers as separate male and female catkins, with the female catkins giving way to distinctive clusters of winged nutlets. Leaves are dark green and can produce respectable shades of yellow, orange and red in fall. Trunks have smooth gray bark and distinctive muscle-like fluting. Upright, columnar forms are available. Exposure: Full sun or light shade; Soil: Tolerates medium moisture, well-drained soils; Hardiness: USDA Zone 3-9 (4-8)



### Shrub—Red Yucca, *Hesperaloe parviflora*

Not a yucca, this member of the Century-Plant family (Agavaceae) produces soft, yucca-like, evergreen leaves, 2-3 ft. in length, crowded on the perennial's short, woody base. The flower stalk rises 5 ft. and bears showy, coral-colored, tubular flowers on arching, wand-like, pink stems. Leaves are plum-colored in winter; blue-green other times.

Red Yucca is drought-resistant, and adaptable to a variety of soils. Deer may browse the foliage, while the flowers attract hummingbirds.

*Hesperaloe parviflora* 'Perpa', Brakelights® Red Yucca has vibrant, brake light-red blooms which are a great color improvement to this species! Yellow flowering forms are also available. Use in mass plantings for a dramatic effect in xeriscape and warmen. Exposure: Full sun, Soil: Dry



terwise gardens. Good container specimen, excellent drainage, Hardiness: USDA Zones 5-10



## Oklahoma Proven Plants for 2020

### Perennial—Golden Variegated Sweet Flag, *Acorus gramineus* "Ogon"

*Acorus gramineus* is commonly called grassy-leaved sweet flag. It is native to wetland areas of China, Japan, Korea, India, Thailand, Myanmar and the Philippines. 'Ogon' is a dwarf plant which features iris-like tufts of narrow, grass-like, variegated leaf blades (6-12" tall and 1/4" wide) which are striped with yellow and green but primarily appear as yellow.

Sweet flag is easily grown in average, medium to wet soils in full sun to part shade and perform well in both boggy conditions and consistently moist garden soils. Never allow soils to dry out. Plants appreciate some relief from hot summer sun (e.g., afternoon shade or filtered sun) when grown in hot summer climates. Foliage is sweetly fragrant when bruised (hence the common name of sweet flag). Exposure: Full sun, part shade; Soil: medium to wet; Hardiness: USDA Zones 5-9



part shade; Soil: medi-

### Annual—Brazilian Verbena (improved cultivars), *Verbena bonariensis*

Commonly called Brazilian vervain, this plant is a rapid-growing, clump-forming tender perennial. Plants typically form a 1-foot tall basal clump of dark green leaves from which rise erect, slender, wiry, branching, stems to 3.5' tall bearing clusters (to 2" across) of tiny rose-violet flowers. Though a tender perennial it often grows as an annual in Oklahoma. If sited in sheltered locations with southern exposures, plants can survive mild winters. Even if plants do not survive winter, they often remain in gardens for a number of years through self-seeding. Plants have no serious insect or disease problems, though watch for powdery mildew. This species is very heat and drought resistant and makes a great cut-flower and attracts butterflies and hummingbirds.



Improved cultivars include 'Little One', 'Lollipop', and Meteor Shower®. Exposure: Full sun/part shade; Soil: Poor soils, good drainage; Hardiness: Use as an annual





President Joan Barker called the meeting to order, requested that everyone silence their phones, and led the Pledge of Allegiance to our flag.

**Sign-up sheets:** Joan gave an opportunity for those with sign-up sheets to explain their purposes. They were as follows:

Linda Fielder-**Education**—Home Depot Tables, Library speakers, and Earth Day tables

Loreen Upton-**Garden Tours**—Tour Guides needed

Terry Hull-**Special Events**—Garden/Plant Party—volunteers needed. Available flyers to hand out to organizations to which members belong. A planning meeting scheduled for Feb 24. Would like to sell small gardening tools in good condition at the party.

**Treasurer's Report:** (Nancy Logan) Beginning excess balance Dec 31, 2019 \$21,304.82 and available balance as of Jan 25, 2020 is \$21,559.82. The full report in the newsletter stands as printed.

**Greenhouse** (Nancy Logan) The greenhouse is full.

**Program Committee Report:** (JoAnn Dysart/Jeannie Kline)

Twenty-one members signed up for the greenhouse on Rockcreek Rd tour tomorrow. The committee is sending Thank You notes signed by attendees to monthly speakers.

March--Jim McDaniel will speak on Drip Irrigation next.

April—Gardener Fitness

May—Rahmona Thompson will speak on the new plant nomenclature requirements

**Education:** (Linda Fielder) The following programs have been scheduled

Feb 22- Adam Sarmiento: Eco Gardens\

Mar 24- Information table Home Depot

Mar 28- Mariah Menzie: Bees

Apr 11- Information table Norman Library

Apr 19-Info Table Reeves Park (Earth Day)

May 23- Lori Coats: Herbs

June 20-Molly Monghan: Mosaic Stones

July 18-Rahmona Thompson: Sex in the Flower Bed

Aug 22- Sandy Schwinn: Backyard Monarch Way Stations

Sep—No Speakers

Oct 23-Carolyn McCabe: Orchids

**Special Events:** See Sign-Up sheets section.

**Special Projects:** (Julie Johnson/Phyllis Blackwell) No report

**Public Relations:** (Judy Kautz) Judy thanked everyone for phone calls and cards following her knee surgery. She needs articles and photos for the newsletter. She is putting the flyer for the Garden/Plant Party on Facebook and Lois Cox is placing it on our website.

**Newsletter:** (Elaine Dockray) No report. Newsletter items must be submitted before the 25th of each month.

**Membership:** (Rahmona Thompson) All mentors have signed up. Courtney needs more desk help so she will be free to help our organizations in other ways.





## February Meeting Minutes (continued)

**Garden Committee:** (Kathi Farley) March 3 is the first workday in the Demo Garden. We will have a pot-luck breakfast at 8:30 am. Kathi developed a student rotating schedule for garden work through July and hopes the students will love it so much that they continue to work. Kathi held a meeting before the Executive Board meeting, and she said almost every bed has an assistant except Judy Kautz and Julia Linger. She is working on fencing problems and walkway weeds solutions. Garden bed descriptions need updating by "bed Heads". See Judy.

**Fundraising:** (Molly Monaghan/Brenda Williams) We will have a Master-Gardeners-only raffle in which Courtney will donate 4 hours of her expertise in the raffle-winners garden. Tickets will be \$1 each or 6 for \$5 and will be sold March and April with the drawing at the May meeting.

**Hospitality:** (Cindy Mullens/Patty Hayes) There are still dishes left from previous snacks/diners that need picking up. Otherwise, they will be put on the general use shelves. Cindy thanked the following people for refreshments today:

Terry Hull, Judy Kautz, Marilyn Solomon, Carol Craig, Susan Aikman, Georjana Mauldin and Mary Engle.

**Garden Tours:** (Sherry Hill/Loreen Upton) See Sign-Up Sheets section

**Member Home Tours:** (Barbara Rafferty) No report.

**Old Business:** Cathy Bowden thanked everyone for their continued support of the Styrofoam project.

**New Business:** Linda Reed made a motion to purchase a new microphone and Joan Barker seconded the motion, but the motion was tabled for Joan to research the available microphones for our needs.

**Courtney's Comments:** Courtney will offer a new education series. She also issuing a questionnaire to determine what Master Gardeners think about the Master Gardener program. She will have a seed staring class soon.

**President's Comments:** (Joan Barker) None

### **Dates to remember:**

March 3—First day of work in Demo Garden and Potluck breakfast

April 18—Spring Garden Party/Plant Sale

April 19—Earth Day Festival

Meeting Adjourned

Respectfully submitted, *Marilyn Solomon*



## Treasurer's Report

*By Nancy Logan*

Beginning balance as of January 25, 2019 is \$21,559.82. Income includes \$460.00 2020 Dues; \$20 Gloves Sold; \$2 Nametag Jar; \$9 Visors Sold and \$30 Donation for Total Income of \$521.00. Expenses were \$421.95 Greenhouse Supplies; \$65.24 Labels for Demo Garden and \$50 Distinguished Service Award for Total Expenses of \$537.19. Balance at February 25, 2020 is \$21,543.63, less proposed budgeted expenses not yet reimbursed of \$9,160.63 and less reserve for greenhouse repairs of \$591, leaving funds in excess of budget at \$11,792.00. The demonstration garden budget will be presented for approval at the March regular meeting.

Respectfully submitted, *Nancy Logan*





### Buttermilk Oatmeal Muffins

#### Ingredients

1 cup quick-cooking oats  
1 cup buttermilk  
1 egg -- beaten  
1/2 cup packed brown sugar  
1/4 cup vegetable oil  
1 cup flour  
1 teaspoon baking powder  
1/2 teaspoon baking soda  
1/2 teaspoon salt

In a bowl, soak oats in buttermilk for 15 minutes. Stir in egg, sugar and oil.

Combine flour, baking powder, baking soda and salt; stir into oat mixture just until moistened.

Fill greased muffin cups three-fourths full. Bake at 400 F. for 16 to 18 minutes or until muffins test done.

Cool in pan 5 minutes; remove to wire rack.

Per Serving (excluding unknown items): 230 Calories; 8g Fat (33.0% calories from fat); 5g Protein; 34g Carbohydrate; 2g Dietary Fiber; 28mg Cholesterol; 320mg Sodium. Exchanges: 1 Grain

(Starch); 0 Lean Meat; 0 Non-Fat Milk; 1 1/2 Fat; 1 Other Carbohydrates.

### Bacon and Cheese Lover's Pie

by Judy Kautz

#### Ingredients

1 refrigerated pie crust (from a 17-ounce package)  
1 1/2 cups (6 ounces) shredded cheddar cheese  
1 1/2 cups (6 ounces) shredded Swiss cheese  
1/2 cup real bacon bits  
1 (10-ounce) package frozen chopped spinach, thawed, drained, and squeezed dry  
3 eggs  
1 1/2 cups half-and-half  
1 teaspoon onion powder  
1/4 teaspoon black pepper  
1/4 teaspoon ground nutmeg

Preheat oven to 350 degrees F. Place pie crust in a 9-inch deep dish pie plate and flute edges.

In a medium bowl, combine cheddar and Swiss cheeses; sprinkle half the mixture into bottom of pie crust. Sprinkle bacon bits over cheese, top with spinach, then remaining cheese.

In the same bowl, combine eggs, half-and-half, onion powder, and pepper; beat until thoroughly mixed. Pour into pie crust; sprinkle with nutmeg.

Bake 40 to 45 minutes, or until a toothpick in-

serted in center comes out clean.

Remove from oven and cool on a wire rack 5 minutes before cutting and serving.

Notes: This is so easy and absolutely yummy for dinner or breakfast. To lighten it up, use fat free half and half and reduced fat cheeses. You could also use turkey bacon instead of real bacon.



The Cleveland County  
Master Gardener Association

invites you to their annual



# Spring Garden Party and Plant Sale

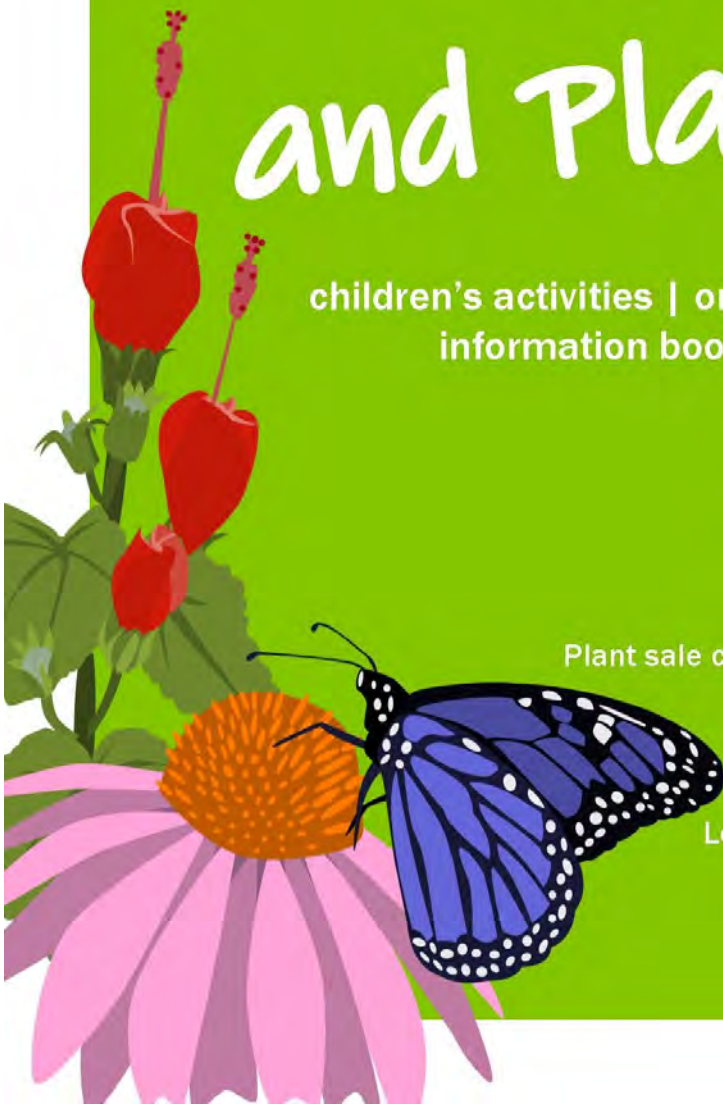
children's activities | on-going garden demonstrations |  
information booths | lots & lots of plants

April 18, 2020  
9:00 am to 1:30 pm

Plant sale continues on April 25<sup>th</sup>, 9:00 am to 1:00 pm

Cleveland County Master Gardener  
Demonstration Gardens  
Located at the Cleveland County Fairgrounds  
615 E Robinson, Norman, OK 73071

For more information, call the  
OSU Extension Office at 405-321-4774







## Upcoming Events

**March 13, 12 – 1:30 PM: Developing the Water-Efficient Landscape.** This FREE gardening workshop will introduce gardeners of all skill levels to water-efficient plant selections that thrive in Oklahoma! Spaces are limited so register soon! Oklahoma County OSU Extension Service, 2500 NE 63<sup>rd</sup>, Oklahoma City.

**March 14, 2 – 4 PM: Fruit with Flavor – Grafting Fruit Trees for Superior Results.** Let's grow fruit more deliciously than ever imagined. Join us as we explore two commonly used methods of spring grafting. These techniques are perfect for urban gardeners that would like to include more fruit variety and better producing trees that save precious space. SixTwelve, 612 NW 29th St, Oklahoma City, Oklahoma 73103, Oklahoma City. \$30 for non-members, \$15 for members. Register at [SixTwelve.org](https://SixTwelve.org).

**March 21, 8 AM – 3 PM: Oklahoma Gardening School.** Myriad Botanical Gardens' annual Oklahoma Gardening School is the state's premier annual horticultural symposium designed for home gardeners and professional horticulturists, garden designers and landscape architects. Each year the Oklahoma Gardening School showcases local and national experts in gardening, plant selection, and garden design. Their illustrated talks and Q&A discussions help participants learn how to create and maintain more sustainable gardens in Oklahoma. Speakers will share inspiring ideas for the 2020 theme of Garden Renovation for a Changing Climate: Transforming Your Yard into a Beautiful, Resilient and Eco-Friendly Garden by presenting how to convert Oklahoma lawns or existing garden beds into gorgeous, hardy and sustainable gardens. Register at Myriad Gardens' website. **NEW VENUE: Kerr-McGee Auditorium in the Meinders School of Business at Oklahoma City University.**

**March 22, 1 - 7 PM: Gardening Workshop "Beyond Organic".** This 6-hour class will be provided by Providence Farms in Edmond. Chris has been growing a Market Garden for over 10 years, growing for his family for over 20 years and was doing it as soon as he could walk with his family growing up! Farmer Chris will cover: Soil- how to build it organically without chemical fertilizers by using cover crops and rotating your crops; Companion planting- He will spend a lot of time in Companion planting because to really do it right and without chemicals it's a must. Beneficial insects- You will get a hand out to help you tell the good from the bad because 80% are Beneficial and did you know a lot of organic pesticides kill them? Why Heirloom Seeds- We have lost over 90% of our seeds due to hybrids and GMO's so he will take you through the best seeds to use and where to get them along with sharing some of his favorite seeds with you! - Planting methods- He is very unconventional in his planting methods but it will save you a ton of time planting, less weeding, less watering and up to 10x the production! There will be demos in the garden but most will be indoors in the classroom. \$99 for two or \$59 per person. Purchase tickets at [squareup.com](https://squareup.com). Providence Farms, 14475 South Western Ave, Edmond, Oklahoma.

**March 28, 10 - 11 AM: Gardening in Dry Shade Conditions.** This multi-speaker workshop is focused on selecting and cultivating drought-resistant dry-shade plants for hearty low-ground cover. Conservative watering techniques, such as irrigation, mulch and rain barrels will be discussed. Myriad Botanical Gardens, 301 W Reno Ave, Oklahoma City

**March 28, 10 AM – Noon: Landscape Design for Water Conservation.** Learn how to integrate native plants and water smart practices into your landscape from local landscape expert Adam Sarmiento. Registration Required. OKC Zoo Education Center, 2101 NE 50<sup>th</sup> St., Oklahoma City

**March 28, 10 – 11 AM: Gardens Walking Tour.** Myriad Gardens, Oklahoma City

**March 28, 11 AM – Noon: Urban Hike OKC from Myriad Gardens.** Take a hike, literally, with a new Urban Hike beginning this spring at Myriad Botanical Gardens. Immediately after the regularly scheduled monthly Guided Walking Tour, instructors from the Greater YMCA Oklahoma City will lead participants on an hour-long hike through downtown Oklahoma City. Target locations will be announced prior to the hike. Bring water and wear comfortable clothing and shoes. Walk-ups are welcome.

**May 9, 9 AM – 4 PM: Oklahoma City Flower and Garden Festival.** The annual Oklahoma City Flower and Garden Festival returns to Myriad Botanical Gardens Saturday, May 9, from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m., which is Mother's Day weekend! This fun-filled event includes 40 local vendors nestled in on the west side of the Gardens next to Mo's Carousel and the Children's Garden. The annual festival features an abundance of plants and more sure to brighten up anyone's home. Visitors will find Oklahoma-grown herbs, perennials, annuals, native plants, culinary herbs, vegetable plants, flowers, produce, pottery, jewelry, wineries, succulents, ornamental grasses, milkweed, pollinator plants, wildlife habitat and more. Enjoy strolling entertainment and activities for children while viewing floral displays. Take the "Instagramming Your Garden Walk" through the Gardens. Moms get free admission to the Crystal Bridge Conservatory with one paid family member and food trucks will be on hand. Myriad Botanical Gardens, 301 W. Reno Ave, Oklahoma City





# Photo Booth

Vada Edwards says, These Lenten roses are in the Oklahoma Proven Bed in the demo garden. Thanks so much, Rick Ault!"



## 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.

The CCMGA newsletter is published as an educational service by the Cleveland County Oklahoma Cooperative Extension Service, 601 East Robinson, Norman, OK 73071-6616  
Office 405-321-4774 Fax 405-360-0319  
Email [ccmastergardener@yahoo.com](mailto:ccmastergardener@yahoo.com)  
Website  
[www.clevelandcountymastergardeners.org](http://www.clevelandcountymastergardeners.org)

Courtney DeKalb-Myers  
Extension Educator  
Horticulture

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

Newsletter Editor: Elaine Dockray

Newsletter Publisher: Judy Kautz



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