

The Weeders' Digest

Curious About Paleobotany?

Dr Richard Lupia, curator of the Natural History Museum paleobotany collection and professor of geo-science at the University of Oklahoma, and Margaret Landis Barbour, the collection manager of the paleobotany department at the natural history museum were our speakers for the October meeting. They presented a most interesting speech on Paleobotany of Oklahoma.



November

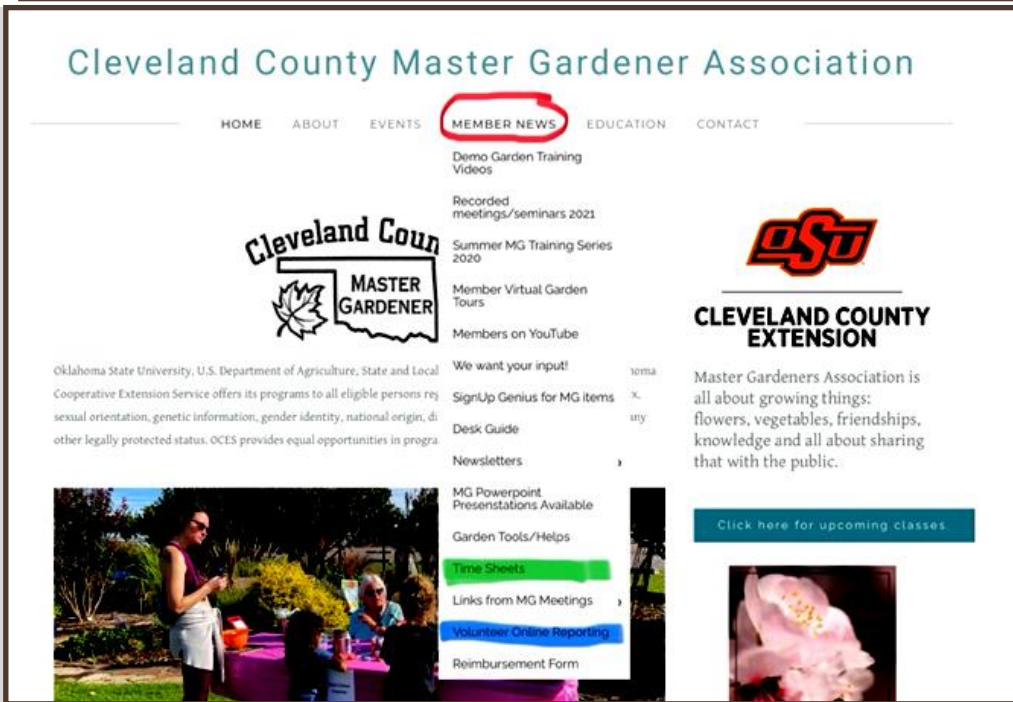
Our November monthly meeting will be our Harvest Feast, which will be at Sarkey's Foundation, 530 E. Main, Norman. Bring your food at 11 am and the program and feasting will begin at 11:30 am. We will graduate our newest Master Gardeners and honor our Distinguished Master Gardener for 2024, in addition to enjoying delicious food prepared by our expert culinary master gardeners. Entry and parking is on the south side. We need more side dishes and gravy, and could use additional help with set up. We are thankful for you!



T-shirts are ready for pick up at the Extension Office.

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It is time to report hours again! To maintain full membership, members (who with badges NOT interns) must document 20 hours of community service and 20 hours of continuing education. A record of these hours are due to Nancy Logan no later than the January monthly meeting. However, submit all your hours. Courtney uses this information in reports that justify the money and resources that OSU Extension program and the Cleveland County Commissioners provide the Extension office.

Time Record sheets can be found in multiple places and formats. The last page of the CCMGA membership directory is a two-sided time record. Education hours belong on one side

and community service on the opposite. You can make copies of them if you need more entry lines. The second place this form can be found is the Cleveland County Master Gardener Association website [www.clevelandcountymastergardeners.org]. At the website select the drop-down menu entitled Member News (circled in red in the image below). Select the Time Sheets link (high-lighted in green). Completely ignore the link highlighted in blue called Volunteer Online Reporting (it is not worth the problems it causes).

When you click on Time Sheets, there are three options (see image below). First a PDF of what is in the Membership Directory, second a Word version and finally an Excel version.

If you want to hand-write your hours, use the form in the directory or the PDF from the website. But you must use a dark ink pen and turn in the neatly written original to Nancy Logan. (We must protect her eyesight and her sanity.)

If you want to type your hours as text, download the file entitled ccmga_timesheet_template.docx. Once the file is on your device you can open it with Google Docs or Apples Pages. Finally, versions of this document can be print off and handed to Nancy or it can be emailed to her (nloganrel@gmail.com).

Last on the list is the Excel version, entitled hours_report_excel.xlsx. It has service and education as different columns on the same sheet (page) and will automatically add your hours for you. It can be opened with Google Documents or Apple Numbers. The completed form can be printed off or emailed.

Want to know what counts for hours, the details are in the CCMGA Constitution. And of course, the Constitution is in the Membership Directory and on the CCMGA website. There was also an extensive session on this topic at the January 2024 business meeting. The minutes for this meeting are in the February 2024 CCMGA newsletter. All newsletters are on the CCMGA website under the Member News drop down menu. But if you have questions or need help, ask around, we all like to get our hands in the dirt.



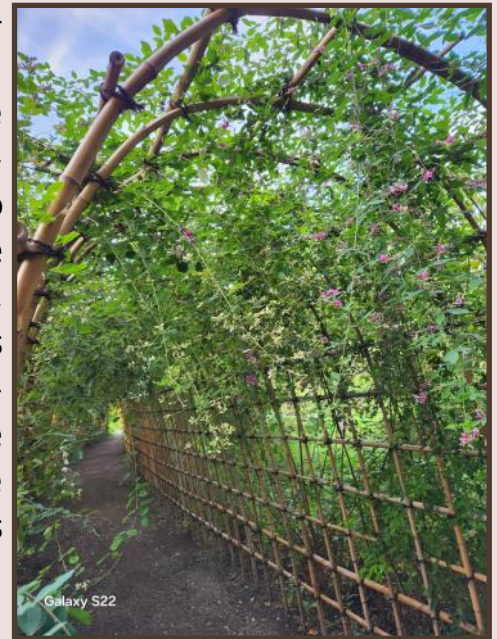


An Old Commoners' Garden in Tokyo: Mukōjima Hyakkaen

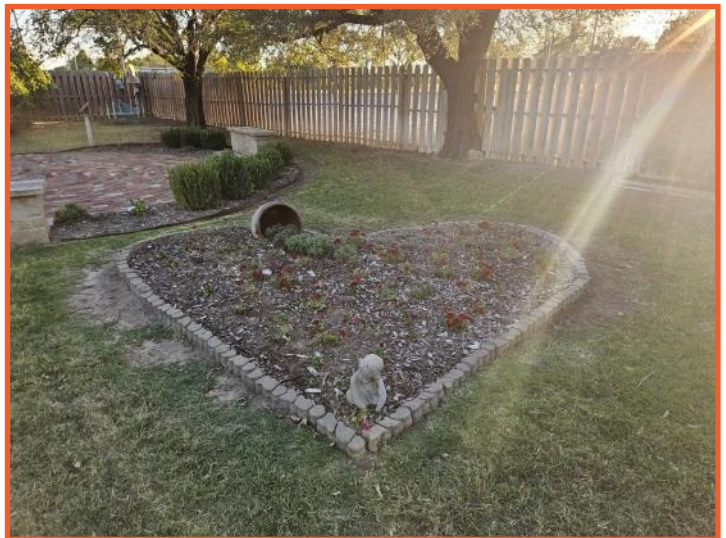
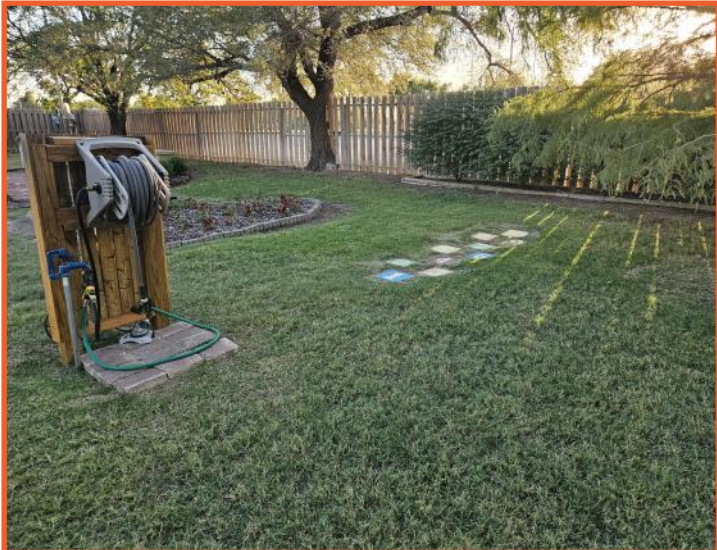
I am in Japan this fall and have visited a number of gardens. If you want to see traditional Japanese gardens, Kyoto, the old capital with long history, is the place to go. However, you can still sample some wonderful gardens in the more modern city of Tokyo, too.

Tokyo Metropolitan Park Association manages nine historically and culturally significant gardens (<https://www.tokyo-park.or.jp/teien/en/>). I visited one of them in October, Mukōjima Hyakkaen ("Hundred-flower garden in Mukōjima"). While many of the traditional gardens are found on the temple grounds and next to feudal lords' mansions, this one stands out as especially unique because it is a garden for commoners.

In the early 19th century, a rich merchant decided to create this place as a flower garden that could be enjoyed throughout the year, and he invited artistically minded friends to come and visit. In addition to herbaceous plants, there are many flowering trees, shrubs, and vines. When I was there, a typical autumn flower hagi (Lespedeza, Bush clover) was in bloom adorning the sides of a tunnel made of bamboo. Also of interest are rustic garden structures such as the gate and arbors. Furthermore, the garden is dotted with stone monuments featuring poems by visiting poets. In this sense, it is a bit like a Shakespeare's garden à la japonaise.











KEYS!!!! The Demo Garden needs everyone that has given up their beds to turn in their keys to Nancy or the Extension office. We are in need of keys for the new bedheads and gate openers. Please, do this ASAP! We would like to thank the following people for their help with the finale of the pergola construction last week . Thanks to Ron Thompson, Paul Thompson, Randy Edwards, Jerry Maynard, and Jerry Miller for their help with setting the pergola on the concrete posts. Also special thanks to Jerry Miller for construction over site and engineering of the project. Signed Jim Hanlon ***Check out photos below and also see our new hoop house!***



THANKS!

Thanks, Master Gardeners!

By Cathy Bowden

Since November is a month recognized for "thanks giving," the University Lutheran Church (ULC) Green Team responsible for Styrofoam recycling extends its sincere appreciation to the Cleveland County Master Gardeners and Staff for continuous support.

Each month's contribution of foam at MG meetings, and the service hours you have earned by working in the Styro-Station at ULC, are actions that affirm your genuine concern for creation. Special thanks to Loreen Upton, Janelle Miller, Val Green, Lesley Roberts, Laretta Buchanan, Celeste Stonecipher, Dan Barnes (and others who didn't officially sign up for the Styrofoam group!) who have helped transport bags of foam to the car after meetings. Some have even driven to the church when your donations overwhelmed my RAV4!

Before the end of 2024, we hope to have an announcement regarding the sale of more than 20,000 pounds of densified Styrofoam! We look forward to celebrating this achievement with CCMGA members since you have been involved since the project's inception. Happy Thanksgiving!



Photo Booth

By Cathie Rose



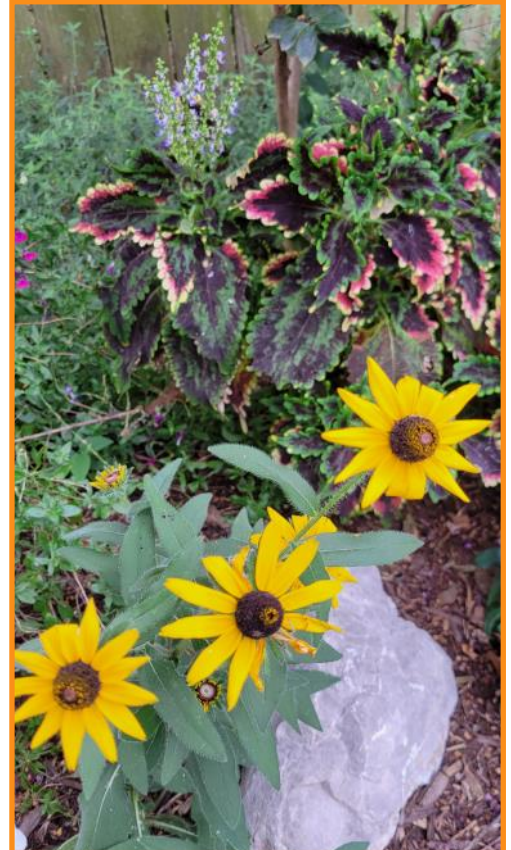
Joan Greenleaf & Cathie Rose at 4H Fall Festival. We had supplies for leaf rubbings.



Favorite Flowers

By Darlene Switalski

As I anxiously await Fall, I have a few of my favorite flower photos to share with you. Hope you enjoy them! I appreciate the completion of weeding and know you do too. Yeah! I anticipate saving seeds for next Spring and hope you have seeds to save too! My next task will be trimming back all the spent flowers, awaiting leaves to begin falling with the approach of those crisp breezes arriving from north. Happy Fall!





Favorite Flowers (cont)

By Darlene Switalski



**CLEVELAND COUNTY MASTER
GARDENER ASSOCIATION PRESENTS**

EDUCATIONAL CLASS

*At this **FREE** meeting*

Fall Tree Planting

Saturday, November 16th

10:00-11:00



Right Tree, Right Place.

Fall is a great time to plant a tree!

Arborists, landscapers and homeowners consistently face challenges to keep trees healthy and alive after planting. How can we be successful? What inputs should be considered and performed to increase the likelihood of survival? This presentation will focus on three overall objectives that will help maximize the success of tree planting. We will also discuss management considerations that will help increase your success.

Registration is required.

Sign up @ [the wellok.org/all-classes](https://www.wellok.org/all-classes) or with the qr code



Location: The Well

210 James Garner Ave, Norman, OK 73069



Presenter: Cris Martin

**OG&E supervisor of Vegetation Management,
former Urban Forester @ OSU, ISA Board
Certified Arborist**



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Call to Order & Pledge of Allegiance (Rahmona Thompson)

Approval of the Minutes (Rahmona Thompson) Minutes were approved by consensus.

Treasurer's Report (Nancy Logan) located on page 15..

Greenhouse (Nancy Logan) Our crews started last week, Mondays and Thursdays, 9:00 to noon, four crews. Our new procedures focus on sanitation. Currently our work days are slow and intense. The Hoop house may be installed next week.

Keys: Please turn in all keys to the demo garden that are not being used.

Education (Sharon Mitchel) Examples from the leaf casting class are on display at today's meeting. Class was a big success. Hope to do it again next year; a location is needed to meet the class's needs. After the meeting, Lois Cox-Marshall mentioned to Sharon that her new home may be a possible location for next year's class.

Nov 16 Right Tree, Right Place, Chris Martin, OGE, at The Well, 10:00

Demonstration Garden (Marilyn Solomon) Our last garden pot-luck of the year is October 29. The meeting following our meal is scheduled to discuss beds, budgets, bedheads, and ideas/suggestions to improve. The demo garden will close at the end of this month. One of next year's goals is to post QR codes for each bed. Plant lists are needed to update garden notebooks w/garden maps. Also, we are considering the purchase of an easy-start wood chipper.

Pergola (Jim Hanlon) Finished! Jim gave a big thanks to Ron and Paul Thompson and Randy E. and also to Jerry Miller for his oversight of the whole project. Now they are installing the floor, new pavers, almost complete.

Hospitality (Rahmona for Sherry Garner)

Harvest Feast—Nov 7 at Sarkeys Foundation, 530 E. Main in Norman (E Main/Findlay). Bring food at 11:00. Entrance and parking on south side of building; front entrance and across-the-street parking at empty bldg. is available on north side of building. Our new interns will receive their name badges. Interns present at today's meeting were asked to stand for recognition (applause). Sign up, either on paper handout or Sign-Up Genius, and please bring a hefty size dish of food. 110 people are expected, including the fairgrounds folks. Please thank fairground folks for all they have done for us.



Food at Meetings (Lois Cox-Marshall) Watch for a new survey re having food at meetings. Questions include do you want to continue to have refreshments? Are you willing to bring food? Lois reminded us that all paper products must be transported to our new meeting location.

Membership - No report

Program and Tours Committee— No report.

Publicity (Rahmona for Judy Kautz) Shirts: Store is closed. When the 19 orders are received, Judy will deliver to new office location and notify members who placed orders re pick-up info.

Special Projects (Jeanne Parker) – no report

Special Events (Lois Cox-Marshall) Garden Party—Great weather! Close to 300 in attendance. Plan to do this event again next year in conjunction with Touch-a-Truck event. Lois' Afghan grandkids especially enjoyed the pine cone bird feeders.

Junior Master Gardeners (Lois Cox-Marshall) - no report

Farmers Market Booth at the Well (Laura Eckstein) – no report

Home Garden Tours (Molly Monaghan) - no report

Styrostation (Cathy Bowden) - Two months ago in Shawnee, 45 cars drove thru lot in Shawnee. They were so busy they stayed an extra hour. Cathy reminded us that volunteers can earn up to five service hours working the Styrostation. Yesterday they were slammed with Jenny Craig meal coolers; cleaning help is needed.

The Styrofoam club at OU is making a float out of Styrofoam for Homecoming parade this weekend.

Vision 1: We have three offers to buy our foam. Negotiating, and hope to settle by November.

Vision 2: We are expanding our model; other groups in other places are following our lead.

A Lutheran church in Midwest City is holding a densifying event

Old Business—Rayge's husband Skip passed. Her church donated a crepe myrtle to plant in the demo garden.

After today's meeting, check out the garden at the back of the Moore Public Library.

Service hours for this year are due by the January meeting. Yearly dues are due at that time also. Service hours earned by attending the Harvest Feast in November and the Winter Holiday Potluck in December will be published in the Blooming News email.

Only 10 education hours can be earned by watching various shows on TV. Do not use OSU online to submit hours.

Nancy prefers to receive hours via email. Please no hand-printed or scanned documents.

Hours earned at the State Conference: 1 hour per session on Friday (opening session + 4 sessions). Report actual time spent at the Demo Garden on Thursday. No service hours eligible for the social Thursday evening.



October Meeting Minutes (cont)

By Jo Ann Dysart

New Business

4-H Fall Festival, Thursday, Oct. 24, 5:00 – 7:00 at The Well, earn service hours

Courtney's Comments—Office new location is on the second floor of the former DHS building, 631 E. Robinson. Enter from the east, and go upstairs. The election board will be on the first floor, front entry.

Members may earn education hours by sitting in a master gardeners training class at the Well. Our new space has a MG office with a MG help desk. She has not published a sign-up yet as currently there is no internet. The office needs to be painted and decorated, but she has to get a grasp prior to calling for volunteers, overwhelmed with tasks right now.

Nancy asked about removing tables from the hobby greenhouse. Courtney is working on it; she and Kathy will meet following today's meeting.

President's Comments

Sign up for Harvest Feast. Bring your food choice for our December event.

Dates to remember are on the next page.

Adjourn, 11:53

Respectfully submitted, Jo Ann Dysart, Secretary

Jo Ann's email: jdysart@ou.edu



Treasurer's Report

By Nancy Logan

Beginning balance as of September 30, 2024 is \$45,786.12. Income was \$70 Gloves Sold, \$30 2024 Dues; \$390 2025 Dues; \$17 Garden Party Donations and \$50 Cleveland Co Fair Judging for Total Income of \$557.00. Expenses were \$ 735.74 Demo Garden Expenses; \$1,444.63 Greenhouse Materials for 2025 Sale; \$82.89 Harvest Feast Supplies; \$ 367.41 New Pergola Supplies; \$ 30 Education Workshop Speaker; \$ 38.99 Jr. Master Gardener Supplies; \$ 4,529.70 Hoop House Installation and \$ 107.78 Garden Party Supplies for Total Expenses of \$7,337.14. Balance at October 31, 2024 is \$39,005.98, less budget items not yet reimbursed, of \$10,458.96 and less reserve for greenhouse repairs of \$4,606.00, leaving funds in excess of budget at \$23,941.02.

Respectfully submitted, *Nancy Logan*

Reimbursements for any and all expenses need to be requested before December 31, 2024. Please submit the CCMGA Reimbursement Form (located on our website or request from treasurer) and original receipts to Nancy Logan, 4403 12th Avenue SE, Apt 6206, 73072, or deliver to the greenhouse Monday mornings from 9-noon, or leave at the Extension office.

2025 Dues of \$30 will be collected at the Harvest Feast, the December, January and February meetings, or delivered to the greenhouse Monday mornings from 9-noon, or mailed to the treasurer at the above address or left at the Extension office M-F, 8-4:30.



Cambria Scarecrows

By Rahmona Thompson

When I visit the California contingent of my family in October, I love to go to Cambria and enjoy their Scarecrow Festival. This attraction has been going since 2009 and has been recognized by several numerous travel and new outlets. Not all the scarecrows are scary. Many are bizarre, ugly, pretty and/or just silly. Most are thematic to the business or office that sponsors the scarecrow. Here some of my photos from this years' trip. More photos on final page of the newsletter.





Cambria Scarecrows

By Rahmona Thompson





Favorite Squash & Cheese Casserole

by Debbie Wood

Ingredients

3 pounds yellow squash, sliced
1 large onion, coarsely chopped
½ cup butter
2 ½ cups crushed Ritz crackers
¼ cup butter 2 tbsp cornstarch
1 cup half and half
½ pound Velveeta Cheese, cubed

Preheat oven to 350 degrees. Boil squash and onion in small amount of salted water until tender. Drain. While squash is cooking, prepare topping. Melt ½ cup butter in skillet. Saute crushed cracker crumbs in butter until crisp and brown. Set aside. Make a white sauce using ¼ cup butter, corn-

starch and half and half. Add cheese. Stir until melted and sauce is smooth. Arrange squash in 9 by 13 inch glass baking dish. Pour sauce over squash. Top with cracker topping. Bake 25 minutes or until hot and bubbly.

Serves 10-12

Sour Cream Cranberry Salad

by Debbie Wood

Ingredients

2 packages raspberry gelatin
2 cups hot water
1 cup sour cream
1 can jellied cranberry
1 cup chopped pecans

Mix jellied cranberry and 1 cup of hot water in a blender or mixer until liquid and smooth. Dissolve both packages gelatin in one cup of boiling water. Add cranberry mixture and pecans to gelatin. Put half of mixture in an 8 inch square pan & chill in freezer until firm (30 to 35

minutes). Spread sour cream over top of chilled mixture. Add the second half of the gelatin mixture over sour cream and refrigerate until firm. Cut into squares & serve.

Master Gardener Monthly Meeting (9:30am to noon)

November 5th (Harvest Feast) – Sarkey’s Foundation (530 E Main St, Norman, OK 73071)

December 11th (Winter Party) – The Well (210 James Garner, Norman, OK 73069), large upstairs room

Master Gardener Executive Meeting (11am to 12pm)

November 12th – The Well (210 James Garner, Norman, OK 73069), downstairs classroom

December 10th – The Well (210 James Garner, Norman, OK 73069), downstairs classroom

Cleveland County Master Gardeners

Nov 7 – Harvest Feast @ Sarkey’s Foundation, 530 E. Main, Norman

Nov 9 – Curiosity: Fields of Discovery @ SNMNH 10 am to 4 pm

Nov 16 – Education Class *Right Tree, Right Place*, Chris Martin @ The Well 10 to 11 am

Dec 5 – Fill-a-Truck outside Demo Garden Gate 10 am to noon

Dec 11 – Holiday Party Potluck @ The Well, 2nd floor

Dec 14 – Education Class *Flower Arrangement*: Megan Winslow, Quail Hollow Flower Farm @ The Well, 10 to 11 am

Jan 15 – CCMGA Monthly Meeting, Meet & Greet + Committee Sign-up @ The Well

Jan 18—Education Class *Irrigation*, Jerry Miller, The Well, 10 am

Feb 19—CCMGA Monthly Meeting, Auditorium in Education Bldg, at former Norman Regional, 901 N. Porter

2025

Aug 25-28—International Master Gardener Meeting, virtual



OKLAHOMA IRIS SOCIETY

INFORMATION AND EVENTS

Monthly Meetings: All meetings are at the Will Rogers Exhibition Center at 3400 NW 36th, Oklahoma City, OK. All meetings are open to the public and visitors are enthusiastically welcomed. We have monthly meetings on the first Fridays in March through June, and September through December starting at 6:30pm. All of our meetings begin with a potluck meal. You can now get directions to find us via google maps, just type in Oklahoma Iris Society, and it will lead you to us!!

Upcoming Events:

OKLAHOMA NATIVE PLANT SOCIETY

Nov 7 - Central Chapter meeting, 6:30 socializing and 7:00pm program at OCU Dawson-Loeffler Building, Room 208, OKC. Sam O'Dell, a graduate student at the University of Oklahoma, will present his research on the pollen used of bumble bees.

CENTRAL OKLAHOMA CACTUS & SUCULENT SOCIETY

Meetings:

Our meetings are at the Will Roger Gardens, 3400 NW 36th St, Oklahoma City, at 7 pm on the third Thursday of the month. To see if we are having a meeting Check our Facebook page (Facebook search "Oklahoma cactus")



Check the Myriad website for registration requirements.

[Guided Gardens Tours](#). Meet in the Visitor Lobby FREE Expand your knowledge of Oklahoma plants and find inspiration for your own garden with an educational walking tour, led by one of our knowledgeable horticultural staff. Wheelchair and stroller friendly. Future dates: Friday, November 8, 1pm Saturday, November 30, 10am.

[Tree For All presented by Cox](#) Saturday, November 9, 9AM – 12PM West Plaza, by the Children’s Garden and Carousel Mark your calendars for our highly anticipated Tree for All event on the first Saturday of November. This year, we have our biggest selection yet, with 800 trees ready to find new homes. We aim to enhance natural beauty and foster environmental improvement through dedicated tree planting. By diversifying Oklahoma’s green canopy, we aim to create a sustainable and biodiverse landscape that benefits everyone. During the event, families can also enjoy tree activities and educational booths. A special thank you goes to our presenting sponsor, Cox.

[Composting 101](#) Thursday, November 14, 6-7PM Terrace Room Member \$12; Nonmember \$15 Kaitlin Bacon, Director of Education Register by November 12 REGISTER HERE Come get the ‘dirt’ on all things composting: what is compostable, indoor vs outdoor, small scale vs large scale, the mechanisms, science, and more. Learn what compost does for us and how composting can help our earth

[Workshop: Oklahoma Landscape Watercolor](#) Saturday, November 16, 10AM-12PM Terrace Room Member \$50; Nonmember \$55 Brooke Hutchens, Red Dirt Pigment Co. Register by November 11 REGISTER HERE Paint an Oklahoma landscape with Brooke Hutchens of Redbud Pigment Co. as she guides us through a botanically inspired watercolor piece using handmade pigments that are locally foraged and sustainably sourced.

[Workshop: Pressed Florals](#) Saturday, November 16, 1-4PM Member \$40; Nonmember \$45 Terrace Room Zana Haqq, Archive Floral Preservation Register by November 13 REGISTER HERE Zana Haqq will guide us through her techniques and tips for selecting, prepping, and pressing florals and botanicals. Guests will leave with a small flower press and a piece of art brought to life from their imagination

[Harvesting and Saving Seeds](#) Saturday, November 23, 10:30-11:30AM Terrace Room Member \$12; Nonmember \$15 Kaitlin Bacon, Director of Education Register by November 20 REGISTER HERE Join us as we learn everything you need to know to have a successful seed harvest from your garden and take a walk through our grounds to harvest seeds from your local botanical garden! Guests will learn about seed collection and how to properly store them for future seasons.

[Putting Your Garden to Bed](#) Saturday, November 23, 2-3:30 PM Terrace Room Member \$12; Nonmember \$15 Kaitlin Bacon, Director of Education Register by November 21 REGISTER HERE November is the time to prepare your garden for the colder winter months, so it looks great and returns in the spring in the best shape possible. We will talk through what we do in the garden at this time and will discuss what is and isn’t getting cut back. We will also discuss adding mulch for cold protection, removing and composting annuals, and other best practices.



More Cambria Scarecrows

By *Rahmona Thompson*



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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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 jkautzpre@gmail.com

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.