

## The Weeders' Digest

## CCMGA at the Cleveland County Fair!



Thanks to our Master Gardeners who worked at the fair, assisting with exhibits and judging. Thanks also to those who worked in the Demo garden receiving visitors and showing them around our beautiful grounds. And thanks to all those who worked to prepare the demo garden for visitors, pulling weeds and caring for plants. Your

efforts are appreciated by all!

### Programs....

*by Lois Cox Marshall*

Judy Kautz will be presenting at our October meeting. She joined MG through Oklahoma County, class of 2007. She transferred to Cleveland County in 2010, and has served as PR chair, V Pres, and Pres, and also selected as Distinguished Master Gardener. Many of her travels result from an organization she has served for 25 years, Zonta International, which empowers women through service and advocacy. She visits local gardens wherever she travels, most recently to Hamburg, Germany, and will share her photos at our meeting in October. The program begins at 10 but come at 9:30 for snacks and conversation!

### Mark Your Calendars!

Harvest Feast is November 10th!  
Come and welcome our newest master gardeners and pay your dues of \$30!

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## President's Posting

*By Lois Cox Marshall*

I missed seeing everyone for the September meeting! It just doesn't seem like the month is complete without our monthly gathering. All of us were busy with the fair (county and state), gardening, working with the OEC group who came to help with some much-needed demo work in the garden, the first Jr. Master Gardener class, and continuing gardening.

Fall is an exciting time for gardeners. The State Conference is being held October 6 and 7 in Claremore. What a great time we will have learning and collaborating with our gardeners from around the state. And we are able to wear our new red MG T-Shirts to show our group as one! Thanks to Judy Kautz for spear heading that effort.

Fall also means we will be adding new Master Gardener Interns on November 10. This is not a Wednesday but will be our monthly meeting. Harvest Feast is something we look forward to every year. We have such a great group in this year's class. They will be a great addition to our organization.

Fundraising – Be thinking about what you can bring to the Harvest Feast for our donation table. We rely on our Plant Sale for most of our budget, but these extra times really help! A lot of community people also attend this event.

*Lois*



## Home Tours

*By Lois Cox Marshall*

We will not have the time to get a fall tour going. However, Evan is suggesting having more frequent tours next year. The thought is a tour of homes with lots of spring bulbs, some who have summer garden beauty, and then a fall tour. This would be shorter tours—maybe just 2 houses. They would be easier to manage and would not require as much planning. Please give your input about this idea to Lois or Evan.



## Dues Increase

*By Lois Cox Marshall*

Reminder of dues going up! The dues for 2023 will be \$30, an increase of \$10 from the last years. You get a lot for \$30 a year! Also, be staying up with your hours for the year. They will be due at the first of the year. We start collecting dues at our Harvest Feast November 10.



## Vacant Committee Positions

*By Lois Cox Marshall*

For the coming year, we have the following vacancies:

Secretary, Special Projects, Programs, Fundraising, Membership, and Junior Master Gardeners  
Please consider getting involved!



The Demo Garden truly looks great and was apparently very well received by the first Jr master program! Way to go, guys!!

October is our last month for routine workdays in the garden. Time to plant fall perennials and put the garden to bed. We continue Tuesday and Friday until the last week of the month. The last Tuesday is also our last demo garden potluck of the year. I hope we really have a great turnout.

Many people continue to go work their beds as long as the weather holds out. Just check Teamup to watch for workers being there when you want to go or bring a partner.

If you gave up a bed, please turn your keys into Nancy Logan. We need them for whoever is taking your bed.

We have some openings in the demo garden for 2023. See below for what we need.

**Small Square Foot Garden:** This garden is a 3 piece, very small, bed. It is used for gardeners to show what can be done in small spaces which usually means vertical. Kandy Schloesser currently has this bed and can let you know what worked and what did not. Susan Aikman is also a good resource. I estimate this bed will take about 2-3 days a month for about an hour to maintain once established. Very easy to upkeep.

**The left half of the Oklahoma Proven Garden:** Because this garden is away from the fence by the parking lot makes it an easier bed to maintain. This bed can stay as it is or is up for some creativity. Vada Edwards was on this bed as was Kathi Farley for a short time this year. A couple of hours a week or two will maintain nicely. Most of the heavy work is at the beginning of the season for cleanout.

**The Native American Medicinal Garden:** This bed needs a partner. Currently Janice Oaks is on this bed, but it needs a partner to make it easier. We are looking at ways to do this and a partner will help.

**The Greenbelt Garden:** (working title) Is a new bed. Is used to be one of the 3 parts to the Native Bed but due to the difficulty of care, these areas were broken up into 3 parts. That area was given up this year as too difficult to maintain so it is being reworked to an easier to maintain garden plus one we don't have yet...Evergreens! Mounded beds with stone walkways between mounds. If you'd love to be involved in this idea, this is the one for you. We feel once established, this will be an easy maintenance and beautiful garden. What a pleasure to see from many advantage points. **\*Note:** Do you any evergreens to donate? We can come get them!

**Irrigation:** We need a new person in charge of irrigation. Jody is willing to teach but she is unable to continue in this capacity. Please... this area is vital.

Kathi





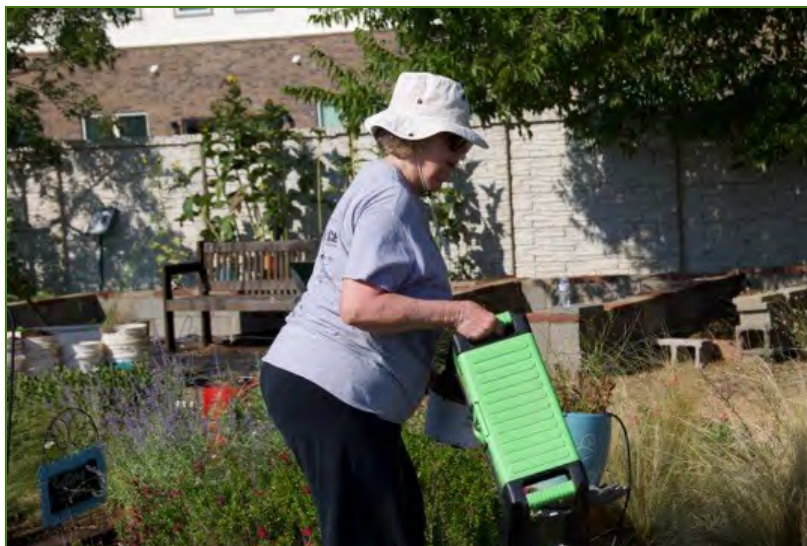
**Hardworking trainees with Kathi -  
Jim Hanlon and Jerry Miller**





## Some of Our Favorite Gardeners

*by Rahmona Thompson*







Our first meeting on September 17 was a HUGE success! We had 14 girl scouts who came with their parents and sponsors at 9 that morning. They were divided into 2 groups and taught different lessons by our ladies to earn badges. My group had a color wheel to fill in with flowers and leaves from the garden. The other group created art projects and even a terrarium for the older scouts to take home. Mariah, our tree specialist worked with the 2 oldest scouts to teach them tree climbing. The pictures will tell it all.

We have already been contacted by another scout troop and some homeschoolers are also interested. Ask any of the ladies how they enjoyed the morning, and I think you will find all very positive responses. The scouts even gave each of us a thank you gift of 2 seed bombs they had made and a box of girl scout cookies!

Thanks to the following who helped us pull this first one off: Susan Aikman, Joan Barker, Cherri Cummins, Linda Dolezal, Patty Hayes, Jeannie Kline, Mariah Menzie, Debra Howse, Courtney, Joseph, and myself. Let any of us know if you want to get involved for the next one.











These pics were taken Sept 17th during our inaugural CCMGA Junior Master Gardener Day Camp with Girl Scout Troop 324. One of the activities involved Girl Scouts gathering various flowers and/or foliage from our Demo Garden that coordinate with colors on the Nature Color Wheel. I believe all the Girl Scouts and definitely all CCMGA volunteers immensely enjoyed this event.







## Demonstration Garden Diaries *By Georjana Mauldin*

### OCTOBER FEATURED GARDEN = ROCK SUCCULENT BED

**BEDHEAD = Donna Carter**

This month I visited with Donna Carter. She has been a Master Gardener since 2012. You may have met her when she organized the Spring Plant Party or the years she has worked in the greenhouse. If you have met her you know she is a dynamo. Busy, busy, busy!! She took over the development of the Rock Garden this year.

I asked her a few of the standard gardening questions. And here are her answers:

What are your first gardening memories?



"My earliest memories of gardening would be a small vegetable garden with my parents and shelling peas on the porch with my grandmother. From a very young age on May Day I'd plant annuals in the neighbor's flower bed and continued this for 35 years until he passed away at 101. I moved to Norman 2 years ago from Chickasha leaving large flower beds determined to downsize, but after winning a \$200 gift certificate from Bustani I was motivated to fill in the existing beds with perennials. My garden style is basically cottage style/ plant collector."

Tell me about your Rock Garden?

"I've recently taken over the rock garden which is a work in progress so be patient until completion in

2023."

What are some of your other gardening adventures?

"After I retired I worked seasonally in the greenhouse/ nursery at Ross Seed in Chickasha for 6 summers. I've spent the past 9 winters on the Greenhouse committee helping grow plants for the spring plant sale. Being in the warm greenhouse on a cold winter day watching seeds/ cuttings grow into lush plants is the best therapy for the soul."



If you would like to know more about Rock Gardening with Succulents, read Rock Gardening in Oklahoma - E-965 by Steve Owens. He explains, "Oklahomans can create and enjoy beautiful rock gardens modified to fit our climatic challenges. Any setting with a combination of plants and a few strategically placed rocks may be loosely considered a rock garden."

<https://extension.okstate.edu/fact-sheets/rock-gardening-in-oklahoma.html>



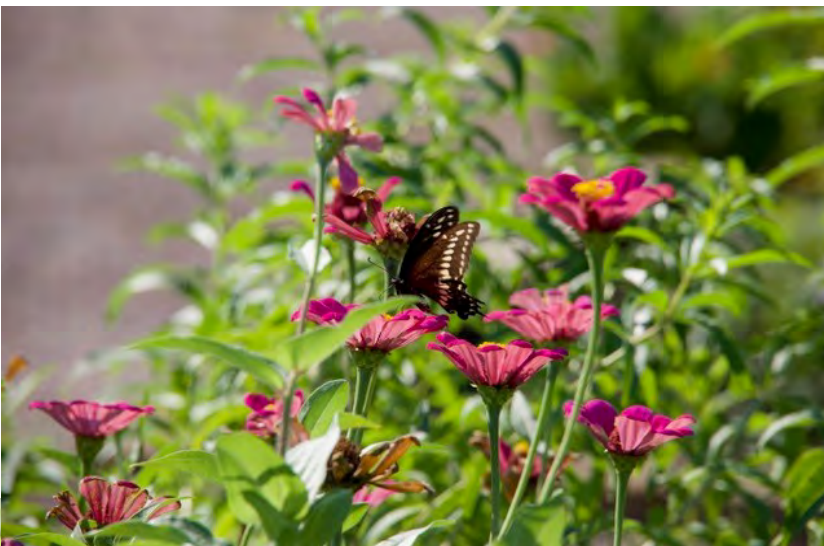
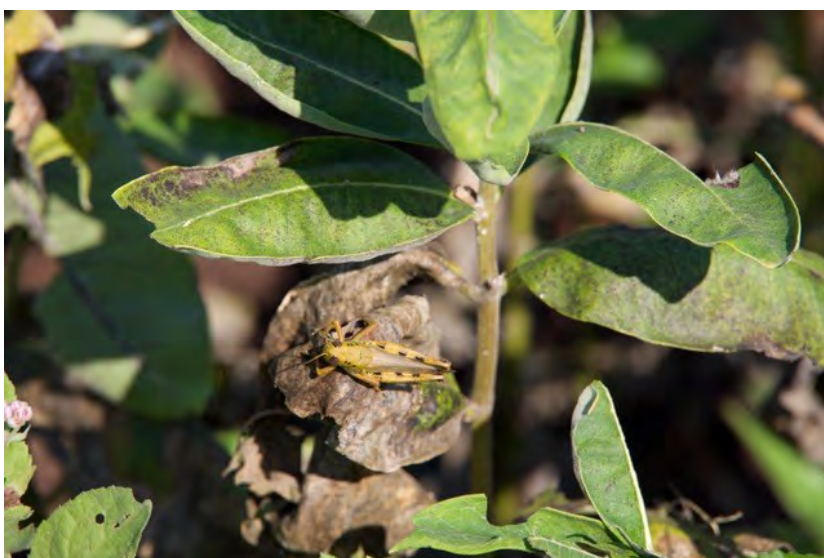
















## Day of Caring

*By Joan Barker*



Thanks to all who came to the Day of Caring in our Demo Garden. Our partners in the Day of Caring were OEC members who worked diligently to get our beds ready for the new greenhouse. They also worked to seal and stain our bridge and benches and assisted generally in whatever was needed. Thank you!







## Monarchs in the Park



Thanks to all our master gardeners who showed up to work at the Monarchs in the Park Sunday, October 2. Those who worked were 1st shift - Jeannie Kline, Vada Edwards, Donna Wright and Joan Barker, and 2nd shift—Cathy Bowden, Denise Hawkins, Susan Urbach, Linda Reed, and Joan Barker.



## Treasurer's Report

*By Nancy Logan*

Beginning balance as of August 31, 2022 is \$29,534.74. No income for the month. Expenses were \$765 Demo Garden; \$415.50 Materials for Day of Caring and \$201.05 Greenhouse Sale 2023 for a total of \$1,381.55. Balance at September 30, 2022 is \$28,153.19, less budgeted expenses not yet reimbursed of \$6,757.92 and less reserve for greenhouse repairs of \$1,913.00, leaving funds in excess of budget at \$19,482.27.

Respectfully Submitted,  
*Nancy Logan*



Mark your calendars for the International Master Gardener Conference for next year. Never will it be closer than Kansas! Check out all they have to offer at their website and sign up for the newsletter. <https://imgc2023.com/>





Barbara says, "Bustani looked fantastic this week!"







Far left, first sighting of an adult Praying mantis in my garden this year. I marvel at these interesting little creatures. And left, this huge nest of paper wasps fell off our eve landing right next to our porch. I find wasps so helpful in the garden with pollinating

and removing cabbage worms, so, for several days we attempted jet streams of water and used a leaf blower to discourage rebuilding over the table where we enjoy our morning tea. Sadly, these attempts to avoid killing any of the wasps proved unsuccessful and we had to resort to wasp spray.



It seems the summer of 2022 has been the longest and hottest I have experience while in Oklahoma. Could that be the reason the figs are abundant this year?







## All About Tulsi

Letting Tulsi (Holy Basil, Tulasi) take over unused areas of the veggie garden has its advantages. First, Tulsi attracts and is a food source for bees and butterflies. Second, it is easy to dry Tulsi for an uplifting tea to enjoy through the winter. Third, Tulsi can be used akin to Italian basil to make a delicious Wild Pesto.



**Drying Tulsi for tea:** Collect the tender new tops and young flowers of Tulsi. Place in an open area with good circulation. (The picture shows my guest bedroom, a vinyl tablecloth covers the bed and the ceiling fan provides air circulation.) Once the leaves are fully dry and will crumble, discard the stems and place your Tulsi tea in a paper bag until use. To make tea, use 1 teaspoon of Tulsi per cup of tea.

## Making Wild Pesto.

Ingredients:

10 oz. of wild greens. Tulsi leaves and young flowers can be used alone or with other plants from your garden. The other greens (20% of the recommended 10 ounces) can include young leaves of dandelion\*, plantain\*, and curly dock\*, which will add more nutritional value. Why not, as they say, "Let food be thy medicine, and let medicine be thy food" and the pesto taste just as good.

1 to 2-Cups olive or avocado oil (I use equal amounts of both)

1-Cup pecans

1-Cup garlic cloves

1-teaspoon sea salt



Combine all ingredients in a good blender (Using vita-mixer works well

for this recipe). Also, the ingredients will combine better when added as follows; first, add pecans, garlic cloves, sea salt, half of the oil and half of the greens, blend, then add the rest of the greens and oil to finish processing. This recipe will make about 2 pints. After filling jars leave one-inch headspace, remove air pockets and clean the jar rim. To preserve pesto, top with 1/4 inch of olive oil before capping. The oil will solidify and keep the pesto from discoloring. Store in the refrigerator, in previous years, I have kept Wild Pesto in my fridge throughout the winter without spoilage. Keep in mind, this pesto is very concentrated. One of my favorite ways to use Wild Pesto is to make a dip or spread by mixing one heaping tablespoon of Wild Pesto with feta or goat cheese, toasted sesame seeds, nutritional yeast and a little extra olive oil.



If you are interested in growing Tulsi contact me for seeds.





## **GROWING OKLAHOMA NATIVE PLANTS IN THE NORMAN AREA**

Fred Schneider, a Cleveland County Master Gardener, will give a power point presentation on Growing Native Plants at 10 a.m. on Saturday, Nov. 19th, in classroom "C" at the Cleveland County Extension office located at 600 E. Robison. Fred has been conducting research on Native American use of Native Plants and grows plants suitable for the Norman area. Topics to be discussed include: What are Native Plants? Why might I want to grow them? Where can I find these plants? What issues should be recognized and addressed before planting any plant? Where might I go to see displays of these plants. In addition, how have Oklahoma Tribes used these plants?

Oklahoma is a unique state in that the greater OKC region including Norman is located at the intersection of four major plant ecoregions. It is possible to grow plants in this region that cannot be successfully grown in many areas of the state. Our state is a locale of 2,600 native plants!

There will be a display of appropriate books, pamphlets, Extension Fact Sheets, information on the Oklahoma Native Plant Society, and information on the Master Gardener program.

Fred received his B.A. at Beloit College, his Masters Degree at OU, and his PhD at the University of Missouri. All were degrees in Anthropology. His first job, in 1972, was to help establish the Department of Anthropology and Archaeology at the University of North Dakota. It was here that he developed his research interests in Native American Gardens as well as Native American use of native plants, Ethnobotany. He maintained a large Native American Vegetable Garden at the University.

His retirement in 2003 and return to Norman quickly resulted in his joining the Cleveland County Master Gardener Program. He has twice served as President, once as Program Chair, once co-chaired Norman's hosting the yearly state Master Gardener's meeting, received Norman's Distinguished Service Award in 2015, and has given programs to various organizations throughout the state. Soon after his becoming a Master Gardener his Native American Vegetable Garden occupied the northern half of the present demonstration garden at the Cleveland County Fairgrounds. As membership increased he gradually decreased his activities and eventually had an Oklahoma Ethnobotanical Garden that occupied about 3/8ths of the present demonstration garden. Eventually, he turned that garden over to others. He continues to grow native plants in his home garden and continues research on Oklahoma Native American Ethnobotany. He is currently in process of preparing three North Dakota tribal ethnobotanies for publication, and continues searching for information on Oklahoma Tribal use of Native Plants.



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



Photo Credit:  
Oklahoma Proven

**Saturday, October  
15th 10:00 - 11:00**

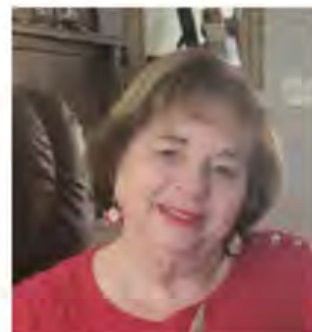
*At this **Free** meeting Marilyn Solomon will explain what Oklahoma Proven means and share the names of proven perennials, annuals, shrubs, and trees that have flourished in Oklahoma over the last several years.*

**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**  
Master Gardener



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# CLEVELAND COUNTY MASTER GARDENER ASSOCIATION PRESENTS

## EDUCATIONAL CLASS

### *Native Plants*



Photo Credit:  
Oklahoma Native  
Plant Society

**Saturday, November  
19th 10:00 - 11:00**

*At this **Free** meeting Fred Schneider will answer questions about native plant selections including: What are Native Plants? Why do I want to grow them? Where can I find these plants? What issues should be addressed before starting these planting? Where will I find these plants?*

**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:  
Fred Schneider**  
Master Gardener



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## Mini Cinnamon Roll Cheesecakes

By Rick Ault

### Ingredients

#### CRUST

1 cup vanilla wafer cookie crumbs  
2 tbsp sugar  
1/2 tsp ground cinnamon  
4 tbsp butter, melted

#### CHEESECAKE FILLING

12 ounces cream cheese, room temp

1/2 cup sugar  
3 tbsp flour  
1/2 tsp ground cinnamon  
1/2 cup sour cream  
1 tsp vanilla extract

2 eggs

#### CINNAMON SUGAR FILLING

1 1/2 tbsp ground cinnamon  
1/4 cup sugar

#### FROSTING

3 tbsp butter  
1/2 cup + 2 tbsp powdered sugar  
1/4 tsp vanilla extract  
1/2 tbsp milk

#### CRUST

Preheat oven to 325° F. Add cupcake liners to a cupcake pan.

Combine the vanilla wafer cookies crumbs, sugar, cinnamon and melted butter. Divide the mixture between the cupcake liners (about 2 tablespoons per cup) and press into the bottoms.

Bake the crusts for 5 minutes then remove from oven. Allow to cool while you make the filling.

#### CHEESECAKE FILLING AND FROSTING

Reduce oven to 300° F.

In a large bowl, mix the cream cheese, sugar, flour and cinnamon until combined (Use low speed to keep less air from getting into the batter, which can cause cracks). Scrape down the sides of the bowl.

Add the sour cream and vanilla extract. Beat on low speed until well combined. Add the eggs one at a time, beating slowly and scraping the sides of the bowl after each addition. Set filling aside.

In a small bowl, combine the cinnamon and sugar for the cinnamon sugar filling. Add about 1/2 to 3/4 of a tablespoon of filling into each cupcake, then sprinkle some cinnamon sugar over the filling, fully covering the filling. Repeat two more times for a total of three layers of filling and cinnamon sugar. The cupcakes should be mostly full.

Bake the cheesecakes for 15-17 minutes, then turn off the oven and leave the door closed for another 5 minutes.

Crack the oven door and allow cheesecakes to cool for 15-20 minutes, then put in the fridge to finish cooling. When cheesecakes are cooled, remove them from the pan.

To make the frosting, mix the butter until smooth. Add the powdered sugar, vanilla extract and mix and mix until smooth. Add the frosting to a piping bag fitted with a small round piping tip (or a ziplock bag with the corner cut off) and pipe a swirl of frosting onto each cheesecake.

Refrigerate cheesecakes until ready to serve.

Makes 12.

*Note: With cinnamon sugar swirls mixed into mini cheesecakes, these Mini Cinnamon Roll Cheesecakes are a super fun recipe! These simple cinnamon rolls are a comforting and tasty breakfast option.*







## Upcoming Events

*Submitted by Elaine Dockray*

**October 6, 8 AM – 4:30 PM: 2022 Oklahoma Compost Conference.** Will Rogers Gardens, 3400 NW 36<sup>th</sup> St., OKC. Come learn about agricultural composting, backyard composting, and compost and sustainability in small businesses! About this event: The Oklahoma Compost Conference first started in 2015 as a way to discuss how compost can benefit local communities, businesses, and the environment. We believe in raising awareness for the many uses of compost, and that by helping spread stories of successful projects, we can help Oklahoma. Now on our eighth year, the 2022 OK Compost Conference is being hosted by the Oklahoma Compost and Sustainability Association (OCASA) and will feature talks and demonstrations ranging from agricultural composting to backyard composting, to composting and sustainability in cities and businesses. Attendees include local governments and municipalities; construction, landscaping, and solid waste companies; consulting firms; students; and backyard gardeners.

**October 8, 10 AM – 4 PM: Vegfest OKC.** Myriad Gardens Great Lawn. The third annual VegFestOKC celebrates healthy living and eating by way of plant-based lifestyles! VegFest is a festival that was started by the Vegan Society, which is a national organization based in the United States. It is hosted in multiple states all across the U.S and in other countries. This festival serves as a time to celebrate and promote plant-based foods, animal rights, and environmental sustainability. Their mission is to educate and inspire those around us to live healthier and happier lives.

**October 14, 1 PM: Guided Garden Tour.** Myriad Gardens, OKC. Meet in the Visitor Lobby. Every second Friday at 1pm and the last Saturday of every month at 10am, the horticulture staff invites you to the Guided Gardens Tour. As we stroll the grounds, we'll examine and talk about the seasonal flowers, shrubs, trees, and other vegetation that our staff looks forward to every year. Discover the projects the Gardens is working on and bring back useful gardening advice. Takeaway handouts are provided at the walk or can be download from the website [myriadgardens.org](http://myriadgardens.org). Meet at the Conservatory's Visitors lobby. Free of charge. Wheelchairs and strollers are welcome on the trip.

**October 15, 8 – 10 AM: Arboretum Bird ID Walk.** Will Rogers Garden, OKC. Event ID: 48281. Let's go for a walk through the arboretum and gardens to see all the birds that call it home...or, are just passing through! Bring your own binoculars if you have them! Led by the OKC Audubon Society. Free. Register at [parks.okc.gov](http://parks.okc.gov)

**October 15, 10 – 11 AM: Creating a Monarch Waystation.** Myriad Gardens, Terrace Room. Monarch Waystations are garden habitats specifically designed to provide the resources necessary for monarchs to produce successive generations and sustain their migration. Learn how to build your own waystation from the ground up, including planning and design, sourcing host and nectar plants, garden maintenance, and certification. Participants will head home with one host plant and one nectar plant. Register at Myriad Gardens website.





## Upcoming Events

**October 29, 10 AM: Guided Garden Tour.** Myriad Gardens, OKC. Meet in the Visitor Lobby. Every second Friday at 1pm and the last Saturday of every month at 10am, the horticulture staff invites you to the Guided Gardens Tour. As we stroll the grounds, we'll examine and talk about the seasonal flowers, shrubs, trees, and other vegetation that our staff looks forward to every year. Discover the projects the Gardens is working on and bring back useful gardening advice. Takeaway handouts are provided at the walk or can be download from the website [myriadgardens.org](http://myriadgardens.org). Meet at the Conservatory's Visitors lobby. Free of charge. Wheelchairs and strollers are welcome on the trip.

**November 12, 10 – 11 AM: Putting Your Garden to Bed.** Myriad Gardens, Terrace Room. November is the time to prepare your garden for the colder winter months so it looks its best and returns in the spring in the best shape possible. Our horticulture staff will talk through what they're doing in the garden at this time and will discuss what is and isn't getting cut back. They'll also discuss adding mulch for cold protection, removing and composting annuals, and other best practices. Register at Myriad Gardens website.

**November 18 – 20: Crystal Bridge Conservatory Grand Reopening.** Crystal Bridge, Downtown OKC. Visitors will soon get to experience the centerpiece attraction of the Myriad Botanical Gardens in a new way when the Inasmuch Foundation Crystal Bridge Conservatory reopens this fall after extensive renovations.

As they go through the beautifully redesigned and accessible space, visitors will enjoy new features like a reflecting pool, new plant collections, overlook terraces and a new waterfall feature. They'll also find it easier to learn about the tropical plants in the conservatory – the space will include interpretative signage and exhibits and educational programming. A new Myriad Gift Shop will offer merchandise that reflects the Gardens' mission of horticultural education and conservation. This tropical conservatory opened in 1988 and has always been a popular destination for the Gardens. When it reopens, visitors will get to rediscover its beauty.

Opening weekend is Nov. 18 and 19 with special hours from 9 a.m. to 8 p.m. and Sunday, Nov. 20, 11 a.m. to 6 p.m.





More photos of our garden people 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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Submit suggested articles for the newsletter not later than the **25th of each month** to Editor Judy Kautz at [jkautz@cox.net](mailto: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](http://www.oces.okstate.edu/cleveland).