



# The Weeders' Digest

## Trees and Arboriculture

Don Menzie, Certified Arborist and member of the International Society of Arboriculture, spoke about trees at the October meeting. Through research, technology, and education, the International Society of Arboriculture (ISA) promotes the professional practice of arboriculture and fosters a greater worldwide awareness of the benefits of trees. *Right, Don Menzie explains the importance of trees in your landscape.*



## Come to the Harvest Feast!



It's time for our Harvest Feast, where we celebrate the graduation of our new Master Gardeners, thank those in the county and local community for their support, and enjoy a sumptuous meal of homemade goodies crafted by our great Master Gardener cooks. The festivities begin at 11:30! Don't miss it!

### Garden Work Tables For Sale!

Our Greenhouse Committee has acquired new workbenches, so their old ones are for sale for \$75 each, cash and carry. They measure 36" by 8'3" and are in really good shape. If you wish to purchase one, contact Nancy Logan...they are going fast!

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Once again we are approaching the holiday season, starting with our annual Harvest Feast on Thursday, November 9th. At the Harvest Feast we will celebrate the season with an array of wonderful food and fellowship. We will acknowledge the great support others in the community have provided to our Association throughout the year. We will also congratulate and welcome our newest Master Gardeners who have completed their hours. Last year we had over 125 attendees. It's a fun time, hope to see you there.

Jeanne Parker

# Happy Thanksgiving



## Extension Office Closure Dates

The Extension Office will be closed on the following dates during the upcoming holiday season:



November 10

Veterans' Day

November 23 and 24

Thanksgiving Holiday

December 25 and 26

Christmas Holiday



## PR Prattle

By Judy Kautz

**CCMGA Cookbooks** are still available...cost is \$10. Copies have been placed in the Extension office and can be picked up there. Don't forget to pick up the correction sheet that you can place in your cookbooks.

**Garden Tours:** We had a total of 461 visitors for the month of September and 1872 for this year 2017. This was 307 more visitors than this same time in 2016 of 1565. Thanks to all our tour guides!



The Demonstration Garden continued to look great through the season and the Oklahoma gardening episode featuring the Susan G. Komen, Dreamcatcher and Worm Beds was lovely. Hope everyone watched. Our tours during the County Fair were a great success. We always have a large number of visitors during the Fair and thanks are due to the hard working tour guides.

As October ends, some cold nights have taken a toll on cold sensitive plants and the beautiful Tropical Bed plants have been returned to their winter home until next year. The volunteers who showed up to dig sweet potatoes and remove the greenhouse shade cloth were great. Those jobs were finished up in record time. The irrigation system appears to have had more than one leak and Steve Parks will be working to fix the second leak so the system can finally be really and truly fixed. We will also very soon have nifty new tables ready in the greenhouse which should last for years.

Though the end of October means the end of our garden tour season, please remember we will still be working on Tuesdays in November. There is a lot to do after the garden closes to clean up all the beds and leave things ready for spring planting, so please do come out to help, if you can. Everyone has done a fantastic job and I thank you so much. Plans for next year are for the garden to be run by committee.

Remember to prepare budget proposals for your beds to turn in no later than the January meeting.



## Photo Booth



*Kay Holder submitted these photos of colorful garden spiders on her zinnias. Left is a Green Lynx spider; can anyone name the one on the right?*





Olbrich Botanical Gardens  
in Madison, Wisconsin



Do you have photos you would like to share of your yard or garden? If so, please submit them to Elaine Dockray at [elaine.dockray@cox.net](mailto:elaine.dockray@cox.net) for inclusion in a future newsletter. Thanks!





## Kitchen Gardens in Germany

By Tomoko Yoshida

Last fall, my husband and I had a chance to travel across central Germany on trains. Looking out from the windows, we noticed patches of land here and there with small huts. They were not, as my husband initially wondered, shanty towns, but rather a type of community garden. Our German friend told us that city dwellers would rent a plot, work in the garden, have a picnic, or even spend weekends at the garden. In Europe, these community gardens are generally called allotment gardens. They originated in the 19th century primarily to provide the urban poor with land for food production. In Germany they are also called Shrebergärten after a 19th century physician Moritz Shreber who promoted outdoor activities for city youth.

Small scale vegetable gardening is by no means a modern phenomenon. I was delighted to find out that many of the historic sites we visited had kitchen gardens. In Wittenberg, we went to see Martin Luther's home. Unfortunately, it was closed for renovation in anticipation of the 500-year anniversary of the Reformation. We could, however, go into the courtyard of this massive house (originally a monastery) and see the statue of Luther's wife, Katharina. She was a real wonder woman who tended gardens and orchards, brewed beer, and even bred cattle to feed their six children, as well as boarders, and constant streams of house guests. Not much was left of her garden from five centuries ago, but I could still imagine Katharina briskly moving about to get her chores done.

Much better preserved were Goethe's (1749-1832) gardens in Weimar (*pictured at right*). Goethe, a writer, statesman, and scientist, first lived in a former vineyard cottage on the edge of town. In the romantic setting surrounded by hills and streams, he wrote many of



his famous poems there. He also built vegetable beds and orchards for producing food for social gatherings. Goethe later moved into a large house

in town (now a museum) where he lived for several decades. To supply fruits and vegetables for the family and visitors, the poet's wife Christiane tended a good-size kitchen garden adjacent to the mansion. Fascinated by the natural world, Goethe also conducted botanical experiments there. The garden is still preserved in its 1820's layout, but mostly planted in flowers now.

In Würzburg, we saw a grand scale garden of Residenz, a palace built in the 18th century for a Prince Bishop. The garden (*pictured at left*) consists of three sections: Italian (elegantly terraced and formal), English (natural/unkempt forest), and Austrian (trimmed yews and lots of statues). In the back of the



Austrian section, away from the palace, was an orangery. Tucked away behind the orangery where few tourists visit was a large kitchen garden. Princes and princesses partying in the Italian Garden probably did not know where their food came from!

Kitchen gardens in Germany, present and past, gave me a glimpse of private sides of people's lives and made me feel much closer to them.



### Q and A with Sherry Burnett

*Background and Significant Gardening Influences:* My earliest memories of gardening tragically include the memory of my first bumblebee sting at the age of 4, but the "owie" wasn't enough to deter me from accompanying my mother to the garden. When I was about 7, mom ordered me a child's garden seed pack, which included an assortment of vegetables, and gave me my own space in her garden. I had the distinct honor of growing the only carrots in the garden a nearby rabbit would pull up and eat (at age 7 I was quite delighted by this, now not so much!). I grew up in Canada, where my mom's garden is in hardiness zone 3b, and I take great delight now in growing perennials in Oklahoma that are annuals in Manitoba.



*Do you have a garden "specialty" or just love it all?:* I'm enjoying it all! My yard is slowly filling up with gardens and I'm enjoying the experience of growing vegetables, herbs, fruits, and flowers. This year my husband and I added four new beds, and we're already planning a few more to add in 2018. We've caught the gardening bug.

*What led you to CCMGA and what year did you complete classes?* My husband and I took some weekend winter gardening classes offered by CCMGA and loved the material. When I opted to change my career path, my non-traditional work hours allowed me the flexibility

to complete the Master Gardener class in 2015.

*What do you enjoy about CCMGA?* I have loved meeting so many wonderful people! CCMGA is such a diverse group. Everyone has been so friendly, helpful, and accepting. I look forward to work days and our monthly meetings. I always feel uplifted from the time I spend with this group.







# HARVEST

The Cleveland County  
Master Gardener Association  
and the  
Oklahoma Cooperative Extension Service  
Invite you to join us  
as we celebrate our annual

## Harvest Feast

Thursday, November 9, 2017  
11:30 am  
at the Frye Auditorium  
Cleveland County Fairgrounds

For potluck information contact  
Donna Carter at [dcarter56@icloud.com](mailto:dcarter56@icloud.com)





Linda Wren introduced our speaker, Don Menzie. Don is a certified arborist and is a member of the International Society of Arboriculture. His program today is "Trees".

After the speaker a short break was taken and we then proceeded to the business portion of the meeting.

Jeanne Parker called the meeting to order and led the members in reciting the Pledge of Allegiance.

She asked for approval of August's minutes. The motion was made to approve the minutes and seconded. The members present voted to approve the minutes.

Jeanne reported that the county fair went well. She thanked all who worked during the fair. Having greeters helped with the flow of entrants. She also thanked Tom Walker and Pat Welty for presenting our compost and vermiculture areas in the garden to the composting conference visitors.

Tracey will need help at the desk and a sign-up sheet was sent around.

Volunteers are needed for work in the garden next Tuesday. The sweet potatoes will be harvested and the shade cover removed from the greenhouse.

Nancy Logan discussed the tables in the green house. Tracey donated 12 tops for the tables. But the remaining wood legs won't hold up. There is a proposal to buy plastic legs that are warranted for 20 years. The cost is \$1,800. We want to make sure we leave enough in our treasury going into the next year so a vote by the whole membership is needed. Nancy intends to sell the wooden tables to the members. They are 3 foot by 8 foot and made from treated lumber. The price is \$75. Please contact Nancy if interested. The cost for the legs includes 24 signs holders that can be mounted on the tables. The plant sale is our biggest fund raiser. In 2012, the revenue generated by the plant sale was \$1,400. In 2017, the revenue was \$4,600. Having better equipment in the greenhouse will help with the continuing success of the plant sale. A proposal was made to buy the legs for the work tables. A motion was made by Theresa January and seconded by Georjana Mauldin. The majority of members present voted yes.

Jeanne passed a thank you card from this year's scholarship recipient. She also welcomed several new students.

Treasurer Report: (Nancy Logan) Cash balance as of September 25 was \$17,815.52. Funds available for the 2017 budget were \$15,467.79.

### **Committees:**

Community Education (Kathi Farley, Carol Craig, and Joan Kemmet Greenleaf): Our next class will be October 21st in Classroom C. It will be "House Plants and Moving You Plants Indoors for Winter", presented by Cathy Bowden. Mary Engel will present a class on bulbs in November but no date has been set yet. The Retired Teachers Association has asked for a speaker on November 3. They would like a talk on winterizing garden beds and it will be a 30 minute talk. Lunch will be provided. Please contact Kathi if interested.

Demonstration Garden (Theresa January): In the past the garden budget was \$3,000 with no funds available. It has grown to \$6,000. The time to submit a budget for the garden is fast approaching. The budget for individual beds needs to be in by January's meeting, or earlier. The constitution states the final budget needs to be submitted by March. Pat Hadre has plants to donate to the shade garden. If not needed for the garden, they will be given to the members. Volunteers are needed in the garden Tuesday for harvesting the sweet potatoes. All vegetables go to Food for Friends. If the members have a surplus of vegetables in their home gardens they can donate also. The irrigation is still being worked on. The area by the east pergola is still soggy. We may have to investigate further than the fair board did. The benches and garden art in the medicinal bed have been taken in for the winter. The garden committee needs a new chair for next year. It can be run by committee but it is easier with one contact person. Please contact Theresa if interested.



## October Meeting Minutes (continued)

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Greenhouse: (Nancy Logan) Purchase of the legs for the new workbench tops was approved. There will be a work day in the greenhouse Thursday 19th at 09. There will be a work day every Thursday from 9-12. This Thursday will be for cleaning and organizing. The shade cloth will be removed Tuesday, 10/17. Nancy and several members of the greenhouse committee had a private class with the manager of the OSU Oklahoma Gardening, Jane Carter. They went through their gardens and greenhouse. The members got some good tips from her. The committee will need extra volunteers for the plant sale, so keep that in mind. Contact Nancy if interested in buying an old work table. They are \$75. Dues can be paid at the Harvest Feast. They are \$20 and credit card usage is available.

Hospitality (Cindy Mullins, Patty Hayes): Cindy thanked all who brought food. Fred White had a heart procedure and a get well card will be sent..

Membership (Georjana Mauldin): The members are doing a great job of having mentors at the desk. A sign-up sheet for October/November was passed to the members. Desk hours can be count as service or educational hours as needed.

Programming: (Linda Wren, Brenda Williams): The committee will try to have a Spring Zoo tour since the fall tour was cancelled. The committee is starting to work on next year's speakers and field trips. Please contact Linda or Brenda with ideas.

Special Projects (Julie Johnson, Phyllis Blackwell, and Joan Barker): The recipient of the 2017 Service Award will be announced at Harvest Feast.

Fundraising: (Alice Humphrey, Brenda Williams, Linda Wren) The bazaar at Blanchard went well. 34 items were donated and 23 were sold and \$346 was raised. This was great PR for our organization. Over \$2,000 has been raised through raffles and fund raisers.

Tomiko estimates 2 weeks for harvesting the potatoes. She will start next Tuesday. The potatoes had problems this year so help her think of a new vegetable to plant. Fred Schneider commented on an activity taking place at OSU/OKC on October 28th. They will feature trial plant beds and have food trucks and other activities. He also commented on Seed Savers Exchange, the largest seed catalogue in the world. The available varieties of seeds in most catalogues are decreasing. This affects the diversity of fruits and vegetables available. He would like all of us to be aware of this.

Georjana encouraged members to sign up for desk hours. We are also getting calls from OK county so the calls are many.

Meeting was adjourned by Jeanne Parker.

Respectfully submitted, *Vada Edwards*



### Treasurer's Report

*By Nancy Logan*

Beginning balance as of September 26, 2017, is \$17,815.52. Income includes \$5 Visor; \$60 Gloves; \$371 Craft Fair Proceeds and \$200 Greenhouse Benches Sold for Total Income of \$636.00. Expense includes \$354 Demo Garden and \$30 Speaker Honorarium for Total Expense of \$384.00. Balance at October 25, 2017 is \$18,067.52, less remaining budgeted expenses of \$1,963.73, leaving funds in excess of budget at \$16,103.79.

It is time to pay your 2018 membership dues of \$20 and turn in your education and service hours. Credit card payment will be possible at the Harvest Feast and the December meeting.

Respectfully submitted, *Nancy Logan*



### Cheese/Sausage/Potato Breakfast Casserole

*By Kay Holder*

#### Ingredients

28 oz. bag Ore Ida O'Brien Potatoes  
with onions and peppers-thawed in frig.  
16 oz. carton sour cream  
1 can of Cream of Celery soup  
8 oz. shredded cheese (four cheese  
Mexican type)  
1 pound sausage – hot type

Fry the sausage and drain – then mix with the above ingredients and put in a lightly greased casserole dish. Cover and cook in oven at 350 for 35 minutes. Uncover and cook until bubbling.

### Autumn Pumpkin Dump Cake

*By Judy Kautz*

#### Ingredients

1 (15-ounce) can solid pack pumpkin  
1 (5-ounce) can evaporated milk  
3 eggs  
1 cup packed brown sugar  
2 teaspoons pumpkin pie spice  
1/2 teaspoon salt  
1 (15-1/4-ounce) package yellow cake mix  
1/2 cup (1 stick) butter, cut into thin slices  
1/2 cup chopped pecans  
1/2 cup cinnamon baking chips (or use butterscotch, caramel or chocolate chips)

Preheat oven to 350 degrees F. Coat a 9- x 13-inch baking dish with cooking spray.

In a medium bowl, combine pumpkin, evaporated milk, eggs, brown sugar, pumpkin pie spice, and salt; mix well and pour into baking dish.

Sprinkle evenly with cake

mix. Top with single layer of butter slices, then sprinkle with pecans and cinnamon baking chips.

Bake 50 to 55 minutes, or until toothpick inserted in center comes out clean. Cool completely, then serve.

We will try to feature seasonal recipes and many of your own recipes in the Recipe Box through the year. Send us your recipes at [rdsefd@aol.com](mailto:rdsefd@aol.com).





## Upcoming Events

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**November 9, 11:30 AM, Harvest Feast:** Frye Auditorium

**November 11, 10 AM – 2 PM:** Cold Frame Class, Myriad Gardens Water Plaza Room & Children's Garden, weather permitting Steve Upson, Horticulture Consultant, Noble Research Institute. Member \$80; Nonmember \$100. Register by Wednesday, November 1. Cold frames are a great way to extend the growing season since they act as mini-greenhouses for your plants. They're especially great for cold-season vegetables like spinach, arugula, and kale. Join Tobi as he walks you through the steps of building your own cold frame to take home.

**November 30 – December 1, 8 AM – 5 PM or until sold out:** OSU Poinsettia Sale, Located at the OSU Teaching Greenhouses on Farm Road (south of the Colvin Center, east of the tennis courts), Stillwater, OK. Elfin Desk Size - \$5/each; Deluxe Table Size, 6" pot - \$10/each; Spectacular Specimen Size, 8" pot - \$35; Specialty Crops - 2 for \$5 (geraniums, dianthus, ornamental kale and ornamental peppers)

**Sundays, November 26, December 3, 10, and 17, 6-9 PM:** OG&E Merry & Bright Free Crystal Bridge. The beauty of the Crystal Bridge takes on a whole new glow at night. Thanks to OG&E Energy Corp., there is FREE admission on Sunday evenings in December to the Crystal Bridge Tropical Conservatory. Come enjoy charming holiday light displays and beautiful plant exhibits designed especially for the holiday season. It will be cold outside, but you will think it's Christmas in July in the balmy warmth of the tropics.

**December 9, 10 AM:** CCMGA Meeting and Christmas Potluck, featuring Dirty Santa; Classroom

**January 27, February 3 & 10, 9 AM – 3 PM:** 3rd Annual Garden Bootcamp, Will Rogers Gardens - Exhibition Center, 3400 NW 36th Street, Oklahoma City, OK 73112. Cost: \$45 for all three days. Oklahoma Gardeners' Association. [bootcamp@gardeners.org](mailto:bootcamp@gardeners.org).



Many thanks to Jim McDaniel for providing the soldier for the Veteran's Honor garden when the eagle was stolen. Thanks to Pat Welty for the photos.



## MASTER GARDENER ASSOCIATION

Oklahoma State University, U.S. Department of Agriculture, State and Local Governments Cooperating. The Oklahoma Cooperative Extension Service offers its programs to all eligible persons regardless of age, race, color, religion, sex, sexual orientation, genetic information, gender identity, national origin, disability, marital or veteran status, or any other legally protected status. OCES provides equal opportunities in programs and employment.

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

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