

The Amazing Honeybee!

Forest Chapman, Beekeeper extraordinaire, offered a fascinating program on honeybees—life cycles and types of bees, nesting habits, and keeping bee colonies. His photos were extremely detailed and we learned so much about these amazing creatures! Below are photos of the meeting. It was great to see so many of our students there!



Don't miss the Cleveland County Fair Sep 7-8. We can use your help with demo garden tours—we always have lots of visitors during the Fair. Contact Pres Laura Eckstein if you can assist in the demo garden.

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President's Posting

By Laura Eckstein

Hello Master Gardeners,
Judy Kautz and I made the trip to Stillwater for the formal presentation of our scholarship to OSU student Mindy Maguire on Saturday, August 25 (photo at right). Over \$100,000 in scholarship money was awarded at that time. I was very proud that our organization could contribute. We were told that some of these students would not be able to continue their education without the help these scholarships provide. We also were able to tour the botanical garden while we were there. Visit our Facebook page to see some of the pictures Judy took while we were there.



I would like to thank all of you who have volunteered to work at the fair and in the demo garden. I do appreciate all that you do to make our activities successful.

I attended the greenhouse committee's planning meeting at Nancy Logan's House. We talked about the plants that will be grown this year for the garden party. There is a two team approach in place which will enable more people to participate. It is going to be a very good year. See you all soon.
Laura Eckstein



Education Update

By Kathi Farley

There was a great turn-out for the class on smudging. Sixty-five people attended, coming from all around the state.

On September 22, Judy Kautz will present a class on photography in the garden. **On October 13**, Cathy Bowden will present a class on composting. **On November 3**, Georjana Mauldin will present a class on lasagna-style planting of bulbs. Kathi Farley and Marilyn Solomon will take the bulb class and put it into practice on the bed formula known as the Backyard Bed.



Fall Home Garden Tour

By Terry Hull

The CCMGA Fall Home Garden Tour will be on Thursday, October 4, 2018. In the event of inclement weather, the Tour will be on Thursday, October 11, 2018. Home garden tours are an opportunity for shared learning, a way to show support for our members' gardening efforts and generosity in opening their gardens to us, a chance to commune outdoors while getting to know our brother and sister gardeners, and a fun way to earn continuing education and service credits toward annual Master Gardener certification. Like the unique personalities of our gardeners, every home garden has something different to offer. Come enjoy and learn from different approaches. A member-wide e-mail with agenda (times, descriptions, locations, driving directions) will be sent out about two weeks before October 4.



The wall/fence on the west side of the Demo Garden is finished. We are looking at replacing the fence on the south side sometime too. The Garden Planning Committee is hard at work on developing a new 5-year plan. We will have a number of beds needing caretakers next year so if you have any ideas/interest, let us know. There has been talk of a grasses bed or a bulb bed. There is always something to do in the garden so come join us on Tuesdays between 8-11 AM!

Thanks to Jim McDaniel for the photo of the pink garden and the caterpillar!



What Worked and What Didn't

What unusual weather we have had this year! Cold in April with a very late frost. Hot in May. Monsoon rains in August! It's enough to make a gardener pull her hair out. It would be interesting to know which plants managed to survive, or even thrive, in our wacky weather. Also, those that were expected to be tough enough to make it but wimped out. So if you have examples you would like to share, please send them to me and we'll put them in the newsletter. Photos of your survivors (or the wimps) are always great too!

Elaine Dockray

Email: elaine.dockray@cox.net or rdsefd@aol.com





First Day for the New Master Gardener Class

New master gardener students attend their first class with Rahmona Thompson instructing them. Above left, Class of 2017 members man the help desk in the office while Susan Evans, a trusty TA (right), stands ready to assist the students where needed. Below, the entire class absorbs the material before they enjoy a potluck lunch, compliments of CCMGA members!



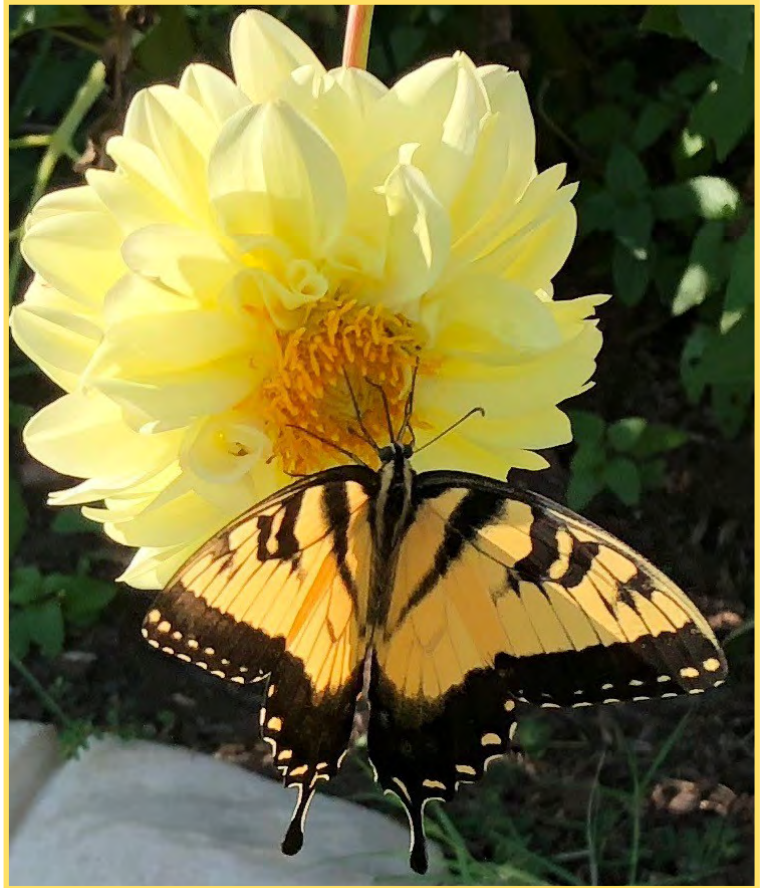


New Student Luncheon









Above, Pat Arthur won a blue ribbon with her flower arrangement using flowers from her garden! Above right, photo by Linda Wren.





Previous page and here, Jeanne Parker reports, "I and my grandchildren collected 3 caterpillars and put them in a terrarium. One made its crystalline on the glass the other two on a branch. The beautiful butterflies emerged after 11, 12, and 13 days. This is the Oklahoma state butterfly, the black swallowtail."





Linda Wren introduced our speaker, Forest Chapman. Mr. Chapman is the owner of Bullfrog Creek Apiary and spoke on bees. After the speaker a short break was taken and we then proceeded to the business portion of the meeting.

The meeting was called to order by Laura Eckstein. She led the members in reciting the Pledge of Allegiance. She then welcomed Pat Hardre back after a short absence. There was a correction to the minutes of last month's meeting. Terry Hull is not organizing the Harvest Feast and Tomoko is not giving up the tropical bed, only giving one half of the garden she now maintains. After these corrections the minutes were approved. It is time to nominate a member for the Distinguished Member Award. Nominations are needed this week. They must be in writing and give a short reason why the nominee deserves the award. A sign-up sheet for September garden tours was passed. It included the dates for the tours during the county fair. Volunteers will be needed for two shifts on Friday, 7/7 and Saturday, 7/8. Judy Kautz saved the unused cutting from the Student Picnic and potted them in her pots. They are available for a donation to our organization.

Treasurer Report: (Nancy Logan) Cash balance ending 6/25 was \$22,383.00. Funds in excess of the budget as of July 25 were \$15,820.21.

Greenhouse: (Nancy Logan) There will be a Greenhouse planning meeting at Nancy's house on 8/17 at 0900. The committee members were given the task of choosing 5-8 plants to be grown next year and where to get seeds. 3 people have volunteered to check the water system daily next year. They will start growing plants in November for the plant sale.

Program Committee: (Linda Wren) Next month there will be no meeting due to the fair. At October's meeting we will have Okies for Monarchs as our speaker. An outing to Lori Coats farm is planned for 10/16 at 600 p.m. Her farm is in Tuttle. More information will be sent by email.

Special Events: (Donna Carter) A sign-up sheet for the Harvest feast will be available at the next meeting.

Special Projects: (Julie Johnson) The lawn judging is finished for the year. Nominations for Distinguished Service Award are needed so the plaque can be ready by Harvest Feast.

Demonstration Garden: (Rick Ault) A head of the Demonstration Garden is needed for next year. The west wall of the garden is finished. The county will replace the south fence and the portion of the fence behind the Serendipity Garden. The new wall is 6 inches off the ground and then the terrain slopes down. There is talk about planting Bermuda grass on the slope.

Membership: (Jeanne Parker) There are two more opportunities to sign up for lunch in the garden with the students.



Education: (Carol Craig for Kathi Farley) Carol reported on the great turn-out for last Saturday's class on smudging. 65 people attended, coming from all around the state. On 10/13 Cathy Bowden will present a class on composting and on 11/3 Georjana Mauldin will present a class on lasagna-style planting of bulbs.

Fundraising: (Alice Humphrey) The raffle of the 5 plant arrangements at the new student picnic took in \$165. The bazaar in Blanchard will be 10/13. Please donate containers and plants now.

Hospitality: (Cindy Mullens) The members that brought food for our break this month were Mary Engel, Lois Cox, Judy Kautz, Susan Evans, Terry Hull and Fred Schneider. A big thanks was given to the volunteers that brought food and helped set up for the picnic.

Newsletter: (Elaine Dockray, Judy Kautz) Judy loved all the pictures that were sent for the newsletter. Please keep sending pictures to her or Elaine. They always need art for the newsletter.

Old Business: Judy Kautz still has patches for sale for \$3. She thanked all members that have given recipes but could use more. She would like submissions by the end of August so the cookbook could be published in time to be given as Christmas gifts. She will send an email of any shortages of a specific type of recipe, such as desserts.

Laura congratulated Judy on being published in a book Resilient Warriors. It is through a program "Women Vets in Need" and can be purchased on Amazon.

Terry Hull has planned our next tour of Master Gardener's gardens. The date is 10/4 with a rain-out date of 10/11. More information will be send out by email.

New Business: Laura recognized new students. Julia Linger proposed buying a wireless head set microphone to be used by our members and speakers. It could be researched and bought and be available for the October meeting. It will be researched and presented at the Executive meeting on September 4.

There was no other business and the meeting was adjourned by President Laura Eckstein.

Respectfully submitted, *Vada Edwards*



Treasurer's Report

By Nancy Logan

Beginning balance as of July 25, is \$20,724.86. Income includes \$20 New Class Picnic Donation; \$20 Donated Plants; \$50 Lawn Judging; \$165 New Class Picnic Raffle and \$20 2018 Dues for Total Income of \$275.00. Expense includes \$375 Demo Garden; \$88.85 Paper Goods and \$163 New Class Picnic for Total Expense of \$626.85. Balance at August 25, 2018 is \$20,373.01, less budgeted expenses not yet reimbursed of \$4,277.80, leaving funds in excess of budget at \$16,095.21.

Respectfully submitted, *Nancy Logan*



Blueberry-Basil Ice Cream

Master Cook

Ingredients

2 1/2 cups blueberries, fresh or frozen
1/4 cup water
3/4 cup sugar
1 cup milk
1 1/2 cups heavy cream
5 large egg yolks
1 teaspoon vanilla
1/8 teaspoon salt
2 tablespoons basil -- minced

Place the blueberries, water, and 1/2 c. of the sugar into a large saucepan and cook over med-high heat. Mash up blueberries as they begin to bubble, and stir occasionally. Cook for about 10 minutes, or until the sauce is thick. Set aside and cool completely. (You can strain out the blueberry skins or leave them in.)

In a medium saucepan, mix together the milk and heavy cream. Heat, slowly, until it starts to steam, and small bubbles form.

Meanwhile, in a separate medium bowl, whisk together the remaining 1/4 c. sugar and the egg yolks.

Very, very slowly (so you don't cook the eggs) begin to add the warm milk mixture to the egg mixture, whisking constantly.

Return the entire mixture to the saucepan and heat again for about 10 minutes on low heat, until you can run your finger through the custard on the back of a coated spoon and it stays in place. (If the custard breaks and starts to curdle, immediately remove to a cool bowl and use an immersion blender in 5 second intervals for a total of about 25 seconds until the custard is smooth again. Don't overprocess or the custard will be too thin.) Allow the custard to cool to room temperature or cooler.

Mix in salt, vanilla, and the minced basil. Then stir in the blueberry sauce.

Pour mixture into an ice cream maker and follow the instructions to make ice cream. Place in the freezer for a couple of hours afterwards to firm it up before serving.

Serves 8. Source: "Pinterest" Copyright: "2018"

Per Serving (excluding unknown items): 312 Calories; 21g Fat (58.9% calories from fat); 4g Protein; 29g Carbohydrate; 2g Dietary Fiber; 198mg Cholesterol; 73mg Sodium. Exchanges: 0 Grain (Starch); 0 Lean Meat; 1/2 Fruit; 1/2 Non-Fat Milk; 4 Fat; 1 1/2 Other Carbohydrates.

Serving Ideas: This is really pretty and even tastier served with additional fresh blueberries.



NOTES: People flipped over this, the pictures of it AND the taste! You can't really taste the basil, though.

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.



Upcoming Events

September 6 – 9: Cleveland County Free Fair. Cleveland County Fairgrounds. More information is available at <https://www.clevelandcountyfair.org/DocumentCenter/View/57/County-Fair-Book-PDF?bidId>

September 6, 6 – 9 PM: Flight of the Butterflies Screening. Myriad Gardens, Devon Lawn. Educational and entertaining, this showing includes fun before the movie starts – how to plant and maintain a pollinator garden to attract butterflies to your yard, kids’ crafts, face painting, food trucks and more. Visit various booths and then settle in to watch Flight of the Butterflies and see that the monarch butterfly is a true marvel of nature. Follow the monarch’s perilous journey and experience millions in remote mountain peaks of Mexico. Sponsor Tinker Federal Credit Union In partnership with Okies for Monarchs and Nature Conservancy Oklahoma. 6pm visit booths including butterfly crafts, local artists, info on how to attract butterflies to gardens. Screening at sundown, close to 8pm. FREE

September 8, 9 AM – 5 PM: VegFestOKC. Myriad Botanical Gardens, OKC. VegFest features 50-plus vendors and exhibitors to experience the many flavors and benefits of plant-based eating.

September 8, 11 AM - noon: Plant a Fall Salad Garden. Commonwealth Urban Farms, 3310 N. Ollie, OKC. Fall is a wonderful time to garden in Oklahoma. Vegetables and gardeners alike love the cooler weather, and we (usually!) get rain. Knowing what and when to plant is critical to success. Class will focus on greens and roots that grow well at this time of year in Oklahoma and will provide you with delicious salads all through the fall. Fall vegetable seedlings will be available for sale. Pay on site with cash or check - \$10.

September 15, 10 AM – 2 PM: Native Seed Collection Workshop. Oklahoma Native Seed Library, 111 E. Chesapeake Street, Oklahoma Biological Survey, Norman, OK. This fall field day demonstrates how to collect and document native seeds for the Oklahoma Native Seed Library, a biodiversity preservation project of the Oklahoma Natural Areas Registry. Participants will collect seeds from a variety of native plants, but the fall timing of this workshop is to facilitate the collection of tallgrass prairie grass seeds ripening late in the growing season. Registration is free, but required. Space is limited.

September 20, 6 – 8 PM: Growing Your Fall Garden. Myriad Botanical Garden. In class, From Seed to Spoon creator, Dale Spoonemore will guide you in growing the highest quality produce in cooler temperatures. He will also demonstrate helpful techniques in growing and harvesting a backyard garden with ease. Once you immerse yourself in the joys of autumn gardening, you may extend your growing season every year. Member \$10; Nonmember \$12

September 22, 11 AM - noon: Three Cheers for Lactic Acid Bacteria! Commonwealth Urban Farms, 3310 N. Ollie, OKC. Learn about one of the components of the Korean Natural Farming method of cultivating indigenous microorganism to maintain soil fertility with no external inputs. David Braden will show how he makes lactic acid bacteria (LAB) and uses it for faster composting, odor prevention, soil fertility and foliar sprays. He will also provide free samples of LAB to participants! Instructor: David Braden, co-founder of CommonWealth Urban Farms. Pay on site with cash or check - \$10.

September 29, 10 – 11 AM: Gardens Walking Tour @ Myriad Botanical Gardens. Meet in the North Lobby and Walk the Garden Grounds. Expand your knowledge of Oklahoma plants and find inspiration for your own garden with educational walking tours. Each month features different plants from outdoor collections that make great choices for our region – from spring color to drought tolerant choices and more. Self-guided plant tour handouts are available in the north lobby.

September 29, 10 AM – 2 PM: GardenFest and Mum Sale. OSU Botanic Garden. Stillwater, OK. Join us in the garden for an educational and festive day of presentations, guided tours, children’s activities, food and music. GardenFest also kicks off our famous Mum sale!

October 6, 9 AM – 12 PM, Monarch Festival. Oklahoma City Zoo, OKC. Festival includes information tables, kids’ crafts, nature-inspired art for sale by local artists, milkweed sale, garden tour, and monarch tagging.

October 8: Columbus Day. Extension Office closed.

October 12, 10 AM: CCMGA Meeting, Classroom.

October 13: Garden Tours for Connoisseurs. Sponsored by Oklahoma Horticultural Society.

Directory Additions

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Welcome to our new Horticulture Educator, Courtney DeKalb, who was previously the plant protection program administrator at the Oklahoma Department of Agriculture, Food, and Forestry where she oversaw nursery licensing, nursery inspections, pest surveys, and export certificates. We are so glad to have her! *Above, Courtney, center, looks at the Fairy Garden with Cherry Slaughter as Marilyn Solomon gives her an overview of this bed.*

MASTER GARDENER ASSOCIATION

Oklahoma State University, U.S. Department of Agriculture, State and Local Governments Co-operating. 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
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Courtney DeKalb
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

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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.