



Master Gardeners of Rogers County January 2017 Newsletter

Butch Kindly's 6-inch diameter circle cucumber won in the Oddest Veggie Contest. Enter yours next season!

*New Master Gardener Class Underway
Claremore paper features Teaching Garden
New officers, award winners named*

Happy New Year!!!

Please note that our kick-off meeting in January will be on Tuesday, January 17, 2017, at 6 pm.

This first meeting will give all members the opportunity to sign up to help on the committees of their choice. For the seasoned members, they already have a good idea of what the various committee choices are – but for the new students these choices are a mystery. In the hopes of giving you some insight, I have given a brief highlight of the committee choices available and the events that take place throughout the year.

Home & Garden Show: held the later part of March. Master Gardeners have in the past assisted in the Home and Garden Show by manning a booth, acting as ticket takers, organizing displays for the entry, signing up for blocks of time to man the booth, etc. For our assistance in the Home and Garden show, we are given money. These monies are used to support our Teaching Garden.

Education Committee – This group goes into grade school classrooms sharing their knowledge and love of gardening. Syllabuses have been prepared and are presented by the volunteers. The grades we visit are Kindergarten, 1st & 2nd. Also in the spring this committee holds plant clinics at various gardening centers such as Atwoods, Lowes, and Stillwater Milling.



MG Co-President JoAnn Lynch

Spring Plant Sale – April 7 & 8, 2017. The proceeds from this plant sale are used to fund the ongoing expenses of our organization. These funds cover such expenses as supplies used at our meetings and expenses incurred through our outreach programs, such as Master Gardeners in the classroom, etc.

Every member is asked to donate plants to this fundraiser as well as the contribution of time and labor.

Safenet Garden Tour – Early June - We assist Safenet (organization that assists battered women) in their annual fund raising event by hosting the gardens of the homes selected for the tour. Usually 4 or 5 gardens are selected. Master Gardeners are available at these gardens to answer questions regarding plants growing in these gardens.

Besides the Teaching **Garden flower beds**, there will also be sign-up sheets for you to work helping maintain the Court House flower beds and the County building flower beds.

Rogers County Fair – Middle of September – Master Gardeners set up a booth and members are asked to sign up to man the booth during the Fair times.

This is just a quick overview to assist you in your decision making for our meeting Tuesday, January 17, 2017.

Pizza will be provided!!! See you there!

JoAnn Lynch

MASTER GARDENERS HONORED, 2017 OFFICERS NAMED

Incoming officers for 2017 are Co-Presidents JoAnn Lynch and Carolyn Peterson; Vice-President Ellis Flanagan; Secretary, Judy Baker and Treasurer Dora Johnson. New event chairs are: Kathy Klawitter, Home and Garden Show; Trudy Hedgpath, Safenet Garden Tour; Grace Aquino, Plant Sale. The Rogers County Free Fair event chair remains open.

Committee chairs were honored during the December fellowship dinner. They are Merry Steinley, Garden Development; Jennifer Podowski, Website; Newsletter, Henry Harrison; Education, Trudy Hedgpath and Carol Chuck; Ellis Flanagan, Events; Janice Drehbohl and Joan Sherwood, Plant Sale/Fund Raising; Publicity Jim Stone and Clark Shilling, hoop house. 5-year pins were awarded to Wanda Clinton, Annie Earley, Linda Hopper, Kathy Kawitter, JoAnn Lynch, Carolyn Peterson, Connie Shilling, Jim Stone, Verna Wilson. 10-year pins were awarded to Frankie Bartley and Opal Flagg.

Oak pin recipients are Linda Hopper, Kathy Klawitter, JoAnn Lynch, Carolyn Peterson, Connie Shilling and Jim Stone.

New Award – Garden Trowel pin - for people who worked at least 25 hours in the Teaching Garden. Awards went to Carolyn Peterson, Linda Hopper, Jim Stone, JoAnn Lynch, Helen DeBell, Kay Waterman, Wanda Clinton and Butch Kindley.



ANNUAL VEGETABLE CONTEST DRAWS BIG'UNS!

Close battle for biggest SUN FLOWER

Jim Stone	17 9/16" head
Jennifer Podowski	17"
Carolyn Peterson	6.5"

Forget the hasty, unkind word;
Forget the slander you have heard;

Forget the quarrel and the cause;
Forget the whole affair, because,
 Forgetting is the only way.

To forget the storm of yesterday;

Forget to even get the blues -

But don't forget TO PAY YOUR DUES!

\$25 per year—Bring dues payment to the January meeting!

Forget the knocker, and the squeak;
Forget the bad day of the week.
Forget you're not a millionaire;
Forget the gray streaks in your hair;



Master Gardeners continue mission to educate

By Mary Pryor mpryor@claremoreprogress.com

Note: This was a recent feature article published in the Claremore Daily Progress.

Some may not realize how much work goes into the Teaching Garden at Will Rogers Park in Claremore, yet over 60 members of the Master Gardeners Association of Rogers County certainly do. Working hard year round to maintain the garden is only part of what the members do in the community.

Each member of the Master Gardeners Association must complete a 12-week Oklahoma State University Extension course to obtain certification to be part of the program before giving 50 hours of participating assistance in the first year and 25 hours of approved community service beyond that.

The purpose of the Master Gardeners is to meet the gardening needs in the community. Beginning in 2002 the non-profit organization took off and has grown since that time. The city allowed the Master Gardeners — working solely from donations from the community and a few fundraisers — to build a Teaching Garden at Will Rogers Park that opened in 2014. The club renovated flowerbeds within the park, which led to the city providing them with an irrigation system earlier this year. “It really helped us out a lot, because before the city did that for us, we watered everything by hand,” said Master Gardener Merry Steinley. One feature added this year is the Pixley Waterfall Garden funded by Pixley Lumber Company. The waterfall project is an example of something the association would love to see more of.

The group also takes part in helping educate K-2 grade students at schools in Rogers County by offering a curriculum and giving children a hands-on learning experience. Members of the program speak to the children and then leave them each with a seed and a cup so they can enjoy watching it grow.

“We really want to add a children’s garden at the park,” Steinley said, adding that the organization is hoping to make that happen in the coming year.

The group is also proud of its new website, where members will eventually post updates and gardening tips, something they currently do on their Facebook page. Though one has to take the certification course in order to volunteer at the Teaching Garden, monthly meetings are open for the public to attend.

The Master Gardeners undertake projects aimed at meeting the gardening needs of the community.



Merry Steinley at the Teaching Garden



MG Co-President Carolyn Peterson and Janice Hensley, Program chair, work at a clean-up day at the Teaching Garden.

Conserve water year-round.

OSU Oklahoma Cooperative Extension Service Division of Agricultural Sciences and Natural Resources

FACT SHEET L-432 "Seasonal Landscape Maintenance"

READY FOR FALL

In the fall, plants require less water. Adjust your system accordingly.

Compost your leaves instead of bagging them to save landfill space and recycle beneficial nutrients.

To prepare for winter and freezing conditions, turn off water, drain valves and blow out excess water in the lines with compressed air.

Disconnect, drain, coil and store garden hoses to reduce wear.

Check your water usage history for unusual changes that may signal leaks or other wasteful problems

BUCKLE DOWN FOR WINTER

Tree roots continue to grow during the winter. If extended dry spells are experienced, consider hand watering your trees once a month.

Check your lawn. Warm-season grasses go dormant during winter months, but they still require adequate moisture. Irrigate your lawn in the morning during warmer winter days to avoid winter kill if dry conditions persist.

And the winners are..... Biggest Vegetable Contest Summer 2016

22.3 lb watermelon, Ross Lincoln. Second, Cheri Murray, 16.10 lbs.



7.6 oz pepper, Ross Lincoln



22.8 oz Beefsteak tomato by Ross Lincoln

Other tomato contestants:

Floyd Culp 17.1 oz

Connie Wells 14.4 oz

Jennifer Podowski 14.1 oz

Cheri Murray 13.5 oz

The City of Claremore's Partnership with MGARC Teaching Gardens

Speaker

Joe Kays is Director of Parks and Recreation for the city of Claremore. Among other duties, Joe is responsible for the Will Rogers Park. The park is home to a splash pad which opened in 2013 and the new Teaching Gardens being installed by the Rogers County Master Gardeners. Joe will be speaking on the partnership that is developing between the city Of Claremore and MGARC.



Sponsored by:

Rogers County Master Gardeners and
OSU-Extension Rogers County



Tuesday
February 21 – 7 pm

Location: Rogers County Building
416 S. Brady, Claremore

For more information contact:
John Haase 918-923-4958
Visit us at mgaroco.com
and on Facebook

Free to
the public



MG 2017 Calendar

6 pm Fellowship -- 7 pm Speaker

Rogers County Building, 416 S. Brady, Claremore

January	February	March	April
10 Board meets 9 am 17 General Meeting Pizza/ sign up For committees (Note: Tuesday night)	14 Board Meets 9am 21 Joe Kays — Director, Claremore Park & Recreation, "City Partners with Teaching Garden" (Note: Tuesday night)	14 Board Meets 9am 20 Mikaela Rodriguez 4-H Poultry Club Leader, "Backyard Chickens" 24-26 Home & Garden Show	7-8 Spring Plant Sale 11 Board Meets 9am 17 David Hillock — OSU Horticulturist, "Oklahoma Proven Program"
May	June	July	August
9 Board Meets 9am 15 Spring Fellowship	3 Safenet Garden Tour 13 Board Meets 9am 19 Rachael Pepin Horticulturist, "Hydroponics (Gardening in Water)"	No Meeting	8 Board Meets 9am 21 Tulsa Master Gardeners, "Enduring Roses"
September	October	November	December
12 Board Meeting 15-16 Free Fair 18 Dr. Kay Backues "Orchids"	7 Fall Plant Sale 10 Board Meeting 16 Mary Lou Havener "Wild at Art — Creating with your garden materials"	14 Board Meeting 20 Fall Fellowship	No Meeting

. For more information call Janice Hensley, Program Director, at 918-638-7149.

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