

“Green Grows the Garden - Plant OK”

THE OKLAHOMA GARDENER

Winter 2024
Issue 3





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Winter 2024 Issue 3



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President's Message

Congratulations go to the members of the Lakeside Garden Club in Ketchum, Oklahoma, a member of the Northeast District, for being a recipient of the Plant America Community Project Grant this year. The Lakeside GC consists of approximately 36 members, five Honorary members, and 14 Oklahoma Garden Clubs Life Members. Way to go Lakeside!

I attended the Oklahoma Garden Club's 44th Wildflower Workshop, "Wild About Wildflowers", on Saturday, October 28, 2023 on the Northeastern State University, Broken Arrow campus hosted by the Northeast District. There were 46 participants and along with interesting talks and activities, there was a very successful interactive workshop included.

To keep the members of Northeast District informed, the president, Brenda Michael-Haggard, sends an email to all garden club members in the District with a What's Up NED? memo on a bi-weekly basis. This e-memo includes a calendar of events of activities of all the NED clubs with open invitation to participate. Included is 'need to know' information from Oklahoma Garden Clubs, South Central Region of Garden Clubs and the National Garden Club. What's Up NED? also promotes the NGC Schools encouraging members to become consultants in the four (4) schools.

The 2024 Oklahoma State Convention is being hosted by the Northwest District in Guymon, Oklahoma, on April 12th and 13th which is a huge challenge. The District consists of only 2 clubs, Delphinium and Rose with an approximate total membership of 21 seriously committed gardeners. There will be a meet and greet on Friday evening April 12th, with the meetings (including breakfast, lunch and tour) on Saturday April 13th.

In December, I attended the South Central District fall convention hosted by the Shawnee Rose club. The convention was well attended and the speaker, a representative from the Shawnee City Council, gave an interesting talk about the attractions and attributes of Shawnee including being the hometown of actor Brad Pitt. There was a lot of oohing and aweing going on!

A tornado hit the town of Shawnee last spring and damaged the park under the care of the Rose Club and during the summer, the club members worked to get the park back to normal.

The Southwest District has a goal to make new friends and ignite new initiatives by inviting clubs from other Districts to activities such as field trips and workshops as a way to increase involvement and support for special projects. Additionally, a Membership luncheon was hosted by the Walter's Dahlia Club Walters, Oklahoma in October for the women in town who contribute time and support for the club. I attended as well as members from the Marlow Patio Club and the Grandfield Rose club.

The Tulsa Garden Club hosted a well-attended Hands-on Floral Design Workshop "Designer's Choice" with NGC Master Accredited Flower Show Judge/Design Instructor Cathy Waitinas.

All of our District and club members are looking forward to a busy year of gardening and continuing camaraderie and I'm looking forward to attending the AFGC and SCR conventions in Little Rock, Arkansas in April and the NGC convention in Westminster, Colorado in June.

Carolyn McCabe, OGC, Inc. State President



Oklahoma Garden Club

**2024 Spring Convention
Hosted by the Northwest District
April 12 & 13, 2024**

Bloom Where You're Planted

Hotel: Holiday Inn Express
701 SE Hwy 3, Guymon OK 73942
580-338-4208
Fri. 12 April \$ 99.99
Sat. 13 April \$114.99
HOTEL CUT-OFF DATE: April 10
Includes free breakfast

Conference Location:

The Blum, 412 N. Main St., Guymon, OK

Friday, April 12, 2024

3:00 p.m. – 5:00 p.m. Registration/Meet & Greet
5:00 p.m.- 6:30 p.m. Supper on Your Own
6:30 p.m.- Executive Board Meeting
- at the Holiday Inn Express

Saturday, April 13, 2024

8:30 a.m. Registration/Light Breakfast
9:30 a.m. General Business Meeting
12:00 p.m. Luncheon
1:00 p.m. Continuation of Business Meeting
2:00 p.m. Program: Seeds...What is the
Difference, presented by Anita Helms
3:00 Adjourn and Tour of Helms Garden Shop
124 N. Quinn St., Guymon, OK

Chairmen: Marketta Kidwell (580) 461-1816
Jill Johnson (580) 651-0106

.....
Detach here

Name _____

Address _____

City _____

Club _____

***Credentials: Check all that apply:
(don't forget to complete this
important information)**

Email _____

<input type="checkbox"/> State President	<input type="checkbox"/> OGC Committee Chairman	<input type="checkbox"/> SCR Life Member
<input type="checkbox"/> SCR Director	<input type="checkbox"/> Club President	<input type="checkbox"/> NGC Life Member
<input type="checkbox"/> OGC District President	<input type="checkbox"/> Club Member	<input type="checkbox"/> 1 st Time Attendee
<input type="checkbox"/> OGC District Officer	<input type="checkbox"/> State Life Member	<input type="checkbox"/> Guest/Spouse

REGISTRATION (INCLUDES MEALS, PROGRAM AND TOUR) \$60.00 TOTAL
LATE REGISTRATION (POSTMARKED AFTER MARCH 27, 2024) \$75.00 ENCLOSED _____

MAKE CHECKS PAYABLE TO: OGC CONVENTION 2024

MAIL REGISTRATION AND CHECK TO: MARKETTA KIDWELL, 3197 WILLOW ROAD, GUYMON, OK 73942

SOUTHWEST DISTRICT REPORT

Our districts' goal is to consolidate some meetings, field trips, and programs to make new friends and ignite new initiatives. The Walters Dahlia Garden Club was invited to attend two field trips with Marlow Patio Club. We are really trying to consolidate our efforts to increase involvement and support for special projects.

The Fort Cobb Improvement Club

The Fort Cobb Improvement Club did not meet in October due to Covid. In November, Wilma Fullerton presented "Butterfly Season" for the program. She spends a lot of time in South Texas and shared information and first-hand experiences from there. We also, touched base concerning the various contests and tried to recruit contestants. We also discussed topics we were to be conversed in October. In December; the club met for its annual Christmas pot luck luncheon at Ft. Cobb Baptist Church. On January 09, 2024, members were delighted to have Pam McLemore, Middle School teacher, dressed in a bee costume to present a very informative program on bees. Ft. Cobb's membership is 12 members, with about approximately six members in attendance at meetings and on roster due to members that are Shut-In.

Grandfield Rose Unit

The Grandfield Rose Unit Garden Club has 18 members. They are: Phyllis Branham, Linda Capps, Ann Colyer, Vicky Colyer, Charlotte Davis, Bettye Ingram, Teena Ingram, Mary Ann Josefy, Robbie Lawson, Dana McIntyre, Linda Moore, Geneva Redway, Jean Ann Redway, Jody Rollins, Paula Schoonover, Joyce Varner, Betty Walker, Jewel Whittington

The officers are: President-Vicky Colyer, (CO) Jean Ann Redway; Vice President-Betty Walker; Recording Secretary-Ann Colyer; Treasurer-Bettye Ingram; Corresponding Secretary-Joyce Varner and Historian-Phyllis Branham.

The Rose Unit Garden Club is continuing the Grandfield cemetery project that was part of the Plant America project by installing a drip irrigation system to water the trees that were planted at the Grandfield cemetery.

The Facebook page is: Grandfield Rose Unit Garden Club. You can see the pictures of the fundraiser and projects we have to include Yard of the Month.

Walters Dahlia Garden Club

The Walters Dahlia Garden Club (DGC) organized a Membership luncheon in October for the women in town that contribute time and support for the club and also who may be interested in joining the club. Representatives from the Marlow Patio Garden Club and Grandfield Rose Unit attended. Oklahoma Garden Club President, Carolyn McCabe conducted a program on “Bees”. After luncheon, the Southwest District Board Meeting was conducted.

On November 07, 2023, the Walters Dahlia Garden Club celebrated its 77th Birthday with a cake from Iris Fraticelli and a program from Stephanie Smallwood, owner of The Naked Mermaid Soapery. The club also conducted the annual poster contest at Walters Library the same evening. In December, the club celebrated Christmas with a potluck and a game of Dirty Santa at Dean Hooker’s house.

The club is organizing an NGC Small Standard Flower Show in June. During the winter months the elementary children will plant seeds for plants for greenhouse and flower show. Members of the Marlow Patio Club will be participating in the flower show too. Each meeting month, a flower show education class is conducted by a Flower Show School judge to prepare members for the show. The OSU Extension office will provide the building, food, and programs from educators throughout the state.

The club has received two benches which were placed in February 2023 at the high school auditorium; the benches were donated by Representative Toni Hasenbeck and Senator Chris Kidd. The club, Senator, and former Representatives are still trying to schedule a ceremony for dedication. The primary focus of the club is increasing membership; focus on projects for the high tunnel and community garden. We will be getting back active in all aspects with the school, fundraisers and annual events. Currently, Dahlia Garden Club increased members from 19 to 21 and all officers will remain in office for another two years.

Submitted by Melanie Mason-Spence – President



SHAWNEE ROSE UNIT REPORT

Rose Unit's members and new slate of officers started the 2022-2023 year by organizing a convention for South Central District on October 13th.

In February, representatives from the club attended an "Ask a Gardening Expert" event that was held at Gordon Cooper Technology Center, and spoke to members of the community. Names of prospective members were collected at the event, and invitations to attend a Shawnee Rose Unit meeting were sent.

Rose Unit spent early Spring of 2023 getting ready to send officers to the State Convention in Oklahoma City. Attendees from Rose were to help with registration, arranging the silent auction, and goodie bags. Rose member (and SCD president Joyce Parsons), Rose President Kate Kamper, and Treasurer Donna Houston attended the convention.

In Fall of 2023, the South Central District Fall Convention is again being held by Shawnee Rose Unit.

Though much of our time has been spent with conventions in the past year, Shawnee Rose Unit has met for regular monthly meetings with programs. Programs included subjects like climate change, food preservation, herbs, floral arrangements, local plants, and even included a talk from local OSU extension horticultural expert Carla Smith about pollinator gardens.

This spring, a tornado hit the town of Shawnee, and damaged the park under the care of Shawnee Rose Unit. The city helped to clear trees and debris, but the park was not clear enough to work on until summer, at which time club members and OBU students worked to get the park back to normal.

Submitted by Kate Kamper – President



Plant America Community Project Grant and the Veterans Honor Plaza

The Lakeside Garden Club of Ketchum, OK, project is at the Veterans Honor Plaza in Langley, OK. The Veterans Honor Plaza was established in 2011 to honor the service of men and women who sacrificed their lives to keep our country safe and free. In February the club announced that they are a recipient of the *Plant America Community Project Grant* and will be awarded \$2,000.

The project has the support of the City of Langley, the Lakeside Garden Club, local chapters of the Veterans of Foreign Wars and the South Grand Lake Chamber of Commerce. Project start up and completion will be featured in the local paper, The Grand Laker. Dedication will be scheduled for Gold Star Mother's and Family's Day on September 29, 2024.

The Veterans Honor Plaza currently consists of a memorial wall surrounded by trees/plants, black granite benches, and bricks in memory of loved ones who served in the U.S. Armed Forces. The funds will be used to add four commemorative areas to the Honor Plaza. One to honor Blue Star Mothers and Families who currently have or have had family members in the U.S. Armed Forces. The second area will honor Gold Star Mothers and Families whose family members died while serving our Country. Each of these two areas will include a blooming tree, a granite commemorative plaque on a pedestal (one for Blue Star Mothers and Families and one for Gold Star Mothers and Families), and four dwarf boxwood plants. The other two areas will also have plaques that will list American wars and conflicts and American casualties in each, a stark reminder of our fallen heroes.

The Lakeside Garden Club of Ketchum, OK, will maintain the Veterans Honor Plaza and these additions.



Veterans Honor Plaza in Langley, OK

Submitted by Kathy Moore, President of Lakeside Garden Club



Left to Right: LGC members Jan Leake and Beverly Wall



Left to Right: LGC members Beverly Wall and Vickey Rose

Wild About Wildflowers! Workshop

The OGC NED District carried out with great success the Wild About Wildflowers! Workshop. Congratulation to the Co-Presidents, Rose Schultz and Brenda Michael-Haggard, and their team of hard workers.



Website Chairman Report

Submit all information, events, news to be posted on website to my email mamason89@yahoo.com. Schools are not listed on NGC website, so the schools in the region are listed under “More” tab under the “Events” tab. Under “More” tab, there is also a tab for “Pat Neasbitt”; she submits a garden/flower news column weekly/bi-weekly that is uploaded for reading and information. The “About” tab has not been updated with committee changes or President’s Project. Please know the ink to information under tabs in a blue font above the Comment box.

EXAMPLES OF FLOWER SHOW DESIGNS



Creative Mass Design



Reflective Design



Creative Line Design



Creative Design



Parallel Design



Under Water Design



Exhibition Table



Botanical Arts



HEDERA HELIX (Common ivy)

Cushing Gladiolus Garden Club with Sponsoring Tulsa Garden Club just finished up Gardening School Z-001, Course 002 – and are preparing for Course 003 in March – if you need a refresher for Gardening School, Course 003 is in March, Course 4 is in May. Look to the National Garden Club Website for registration information.

How many of us are looking for horticulture ribbons to satisfy our requirements to either push forward with our becoming a judge, continuing our judging journey or are Life Judges who are keeping their credentials current? I know for me sometimes finding a horticulture show and having a worthy specimen ready can be a difficult task – it seems I am always working to bring a “plant child” back to good health, starting a new one, or have one that is so common, and I don’t even have a binomial name for it. It is a stressor I deal with constantly and its possible you may also.

I recently relocated back to Oklahoma full time after a 17-year hiatus that has presented me so many different climates that I find it is almost easier to start fresh each time rather than struggle to keep my plant family alive. But I think I may have found a new interest in hederas – and of course I am always trying new ways to grow a Zinnia inside!

Hederas also known as Ivies come in about twelve (12) different species and are all evergreen climbing or woody plants that belong to the family Araliaceae. They are hardy to Zones 5 through 9 and while they have two leaf types – one is for the juvenile and is palmately (several leaves joined at a central point like the fingers of an open hand) and one is for the adult which is unlobed cordate, meaning the leaf at the base is heart shaped and then has no divisions or subdivisions as the leaf moves away from the stem.

Another fun fact is that the juvenile ivy does not bloom, and the adult ivy does but can be delayed indefinitely by pruning. Typically, Ivies are not shown in bloom!

Ivies can add a whimsical foliage aspect to any indoor or outdoor garden. If they are self-branching, they are best for your containers inside but if they have long unbranched stems – these are the best for your outdoor garden. Indoors or out, all Ivy love a little sunlight and a good amount of humidity. Direct or Full sun or placed in a dry area is a recipe for disaster with any Ivy. Water is much like any other humidity loving plant; moist but not soggy roots and any good quality plant food will provide the support your ivy needs to grow and take off.

If you plant your ivy outside, consider a spot on the North or East side of your house. Plant rooted cuttings about 12 inches apart. Fertilize as you plant and then again at two months, then only feed them as necessary.

Since Ivy can be shown either as a cut specimen or as a container grown plant – I am very much thinking I am going to start growing it – I think other than the fact that propagation may be a bit of an issue as the whole species of Hedera is considered genetically unstable – I will need to go to a proper nursery to find a new plant child – but for me a proper nursery is like a full-blown candy store for others!

Hope this gives some of you an idea or two about having a plant that can be either cut specimen or container grown in your plant family – so you can secure those ribbons at the next horticulture show in your area!

Pam Grotts – Oklahoma Horticulture News Editor

dates to Remember

2024

February 24	OK Judges Council Standard Flower Show, Will Rogers Garden Center, OKC
April 6	Tulsa GC Petite Design Specialty Flower Show, Tulsa Garden Center, Tulsa, OK
April 12-13	Annual OGC State Convention, Guymon, OK
April 24-25	SCR Convention, Four Points by Sheraton, Little Rock, AR
April 27	Iris Design Standard Flower Show, Will Rogers Garden Center, OKC
May 4	OKC Orchid Society Flower Show, Will Rogers Garden Center
May 18	Dahlia GC Standard Flower Show, Expo Center, Rogers, OK
May 18	34th Annual Festival in the Park, Will Rogers Garden Center, OKC
June 2-5	NGC Annual Convention, Denver CO, The Westminster Boulevard, Westminster, CO
June 12-13	Daylily National Flower Show, Embassy Suites, OKC
June 29th	Viola GC Standard Flower Show, Will Rogers Garden Center, OKC
September	NGC Fall Board Meeting, TBA

2025

May 18-21 **NGC Annual Convention, Omaha, Nebraska**

