



**GARFIELD COUNTY
EXTENSION**

Master Gardener News

Garfield County OSU Extension Center, 316 E. Oxford, Enid, OK 73701 580-237-1228

MAY 2023

Next Meeting Date – May 9th, 2023

Executive Meeting: 8:30 a.m.
General Meeting: 9:00 a.m.
Location: Garfield County OSU Extension
Program: Sprouts– Barbi Oliver/Plant Ex-
change
Hospitality: Lori Bowers

Message from Barbi Oliver Garfield County Master Gardeners President

It's definitely spring. There are warm days and then cool days. Trees are leafing out and flowers blooming. The Home and Garden show was April 28 --30. What an amazing exciting time. Lori and Katherine did an amazing excellent job organizing the space. So many Master Gardeners helped with set-up, take down and the booth on those days. A big thank you to all that helped.

At the next meeting bring a plant that you can share.

Barbi Oliver

Minutes of the Garfield County Master Gardeners April 11, 2023

President Barbi Oliver called the meeting to order.

Announcements: Birthdays for the month were announced.

A round of applause was given for the success of the Spring Workshop.

Minutes: The minutes of the March meeting were approved as written.

Treasurer's Report: The treasurer's report

was given by Ruth Carvalho. As of March 31, 2023 the checking account balance was \$17,888.51; savings account \$6,721.93; with total of funds at \$24,610.44. The Spring Workshop had a \$5,354.50 income.

Bills: We will donate \$100 to the Autry Scholarship Foundation and \$25 each to Tambi and Burt from Autry for their help and donating of the space for the Workshop.

Demonstration Garden: Mike Gwinnup reported that the April 1 workday was productive but a lot more needs to be done. The Greenhouse has a lot of stuff in it and we were encouraged to check it out. The Arbor is complete. It is constructed in all cedar. Areas of the Demonstration Garden need weekly checks. A work day was set for Saturday April 15th from 10:00 – 11:30 or so. The fescue in the garden has been re-seeded, so avoid walking on it.

Newspaper: It was reported that the 2nd week in July is open and asked that someone write the article.

Hospitality and Social Activites: Linda Severin thanked John and Edith Medley and Pam Lyon for refreshments.

Spring Workshop: Jenny Gwinnup and Diane Ford reported that there were 113 paid registrants. All surveys returned were positive. A huge thank you to all who provided food, etc. for the workshop.

Home Show: Kathryn Redding stated the show is April 27th – 30th. Set-up will be on the 27th. She then passed a sign up sheet to help work the booth. Lori Bowers and Kathryn Redding will be there each day.

Children's Garden: Diane Ford reported there

needs to be planting done. Design work is needed before next year's tour and convention. Ideas are floating around and there will be more discussion at a later time.

Office/Phone: Rick Nelson sent around the calendar to sign up to help answer phones. He also stated if anyone wants to help with "Garden Talk" radio, you are more than welcome

New Business: Mickey Chapman shared that an Enid High School Teacher wants to help set up a website for our group for free. She can set up a donor section, automatic Thank you, etc. She suggested we form a committee for media. (Website, newspaper, radio, Facebook, etc.) A motion was made by Jenny Gwinnup with a 2nd by Diane Ford to form a committee and set up a website. The motion carried.

President Barbi Oliver adjourned the meeting.

Companion planting flowers and veggies can boost pollination— Oklahoma State University

When gardeners plant their vegetable and flower gardens, the edibles and ornamentals typically are located in different places. But planting them in the same bed is beneficial to pollinators.

Casey Hentges, Oklahoma State University Extension associate specialist and host of OSU Agriculture's "Oklahoma Gardening" television show, said that while vegetable plants produce their own flowers that attract pollinators, adding ornamental flowers has a positive impact on pollinator numbers.

"Bees, wasps, moths and butterflies pollinate those flowers that then develop into many of the vegetables we'll eat later in the season," Hentges said. "Direct sowing seeds such as zinnias and cosmos not only will attract more pollinators, but they'll also make your vegetable garden more pleasing to the eye."

Companion planting pollinator-friendly flowers

with vegetables is a natural way to help keep the plants healthy and increase yield. This same strategy can be used to ward off pests in the garden.

Adding ornamentals isn't just for aesthetics purposes. Hentges said plants such as marigolds and nasturtium add color to the vegetable garden and are a tasty addition to a salad. Marigolds are not only good to eat, but also repel pests such as cabbage worms.

For gardeners who enjoy cut flower arrangements, consider adding in daisies, echinacea and sunflowers with the vegetable plants.

"Another option is to add herbs to your vegetable garden. Gardeners are growing some tasty vegetables, so it makes sense to add in some herbs to flavor them when cooking," Hentges said.

Chives are a great choice because they're fragrant and add flavor in the kitchen, and they also provide a colorful purple flower later in the season. The fern-like foliage of dill and fennel in the garden is a favorite among butterflies.

Hentges said to check seed packets to make sure the bloom time for the flowers matches up with the bloom time for the vegetable plants.

"Native bees and other pollinators are essential to successful gardening, and pollinator populations are struggling," she said. "Planting flowers in the vegetable garden is good for your plants and helps maintain pollinator populations. It's a win-win for everyone."

Garfield County OSU Extension Office Will be closed Monday, May 29th, 2023



MEMORIAL DAY



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Rick Nelson
CED, Extension Educator, Agriculture/4-H

Happy Birthday!

Gloriann Byrum- May 9th

Barbi Oliver- May 21st

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