



**GARFIELD COUNTY
EXTENSION**

Master Gardener News

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

FEBRUARY 2024

Next Meeting Date – February 13, 2024

Executive Meeting: 8:30 a.m.
General Meeting: 9:00 a.m.
Location: Garfield County OSU Extension
Program: Tour of Garden House: Micro-greens

Message from Janet Coontz Garfield County Master Gardeners President

The word for the month of February is **patience**. We have recently experienced some lovely spring-like weather which is greatly appreciated after the recent cold weather. Warm temperatures at this time of year always give us a case of Spring Fever. It gives one the itch to clean out garden beds and begin planting seeds. We need to hold fast and not start actively gardening quite yet. With our average last freeze date the middle of April, it is still a little early to begin planting. By the end of February we can start cutting grasses back and begin clearing out flowerbeds. Cool weather plants can be started towards the end of the month. You know we can count on more cold weather before it really is spring. February is a great month to exercise that spring fever on getting ready for spring. It is the best time to start planning for your garden. Think about the changes you want to make and any building projects your garden needs, such as raised beds and trellises. These can be built now before you are ready to plant. Make amendments to your soil as needed. Turn your compost or if you don't have one, create a composter. It is also a good time to examine your garden tools and pots. The end of the month is a good time to prune roses and any other shrubs that need spring pruning. Just remember that shrubs that bloom in spring should not be pruned until after they bloom. You can also add mulch in areas that need more. Of course you can spend hours in catalogs and on-line searching for seeds you wish to try this year. Remember that February is a great time to purchase seeds, but not to plant them! Practice patience!

Janet Coontz, Master Gardener President

Minutes of the Garfield County Master Gardeners January 9, 2024

Call to Order: Janet Coontz

Announcements: Acknowledged Birthdays of Susie Skaggs, Pam Denker, Liz Breitenkamp, Linda Severin, Pam Lyon and Rick Nelson. Several members apprised us of several members we were missing this meeting: Jenny Gwinnup and Kathryn Redding have Covid, Pam Lyon and Anne Bethel had knee surgery and Kay Dragoon was in a serious vehicle accident, resulting in serious injuries and hospitalization.

Minutes of previous meeting: No corrections. Amber Gill motioned to adopt the minutes as written. Mike Gwinnup seconded. The motion passed.

Treasurer's Report:

Provided by: Ruth Carvalho

As of: **December 12, 2023**

Checking Account: \$15,026.29

Savings Account: \$6,724.41

Total: \$21,750.70

Deposits: Dues \$135.00

Bills: Demonstration Garden \$602.18, OSU Scholarship \$2,000.00

Read by: Ruth Carvalho

As of: **January 9, 2024**

Checking Account: \$15,857.13

Savings Account: \$6,723.65

Total: \$22,580.78

Deposits: Dues \$75.00

Savings (Dividend Dec 17) \$0.76

Bills: Sensory Garden \$422.54, Garden Sprinklers \$438.00, Christmas Lunch Ham \$45.30

Committee Reports:

Demonstration Garden (Mike Gwinnup): (Nov-Jan Report-No December Meeting) Mike reported that in December, the lights in the Garden were put up and looked very good. He encouraged members to come by to look at them one evening. Mike would like to put up lights as an annual event. He thanked those who came out to help, with special thanks to

Diane Ford and her grandson who took down the lights after New Years. Mike stated that the Sensory Garden has the raised beds, ground cloth and edging in, but weather and other events have made it difficult to finish up. He said that he would wait until warmer weather to continue the project.

Children's Garden (Janet Coontz): No report

Office & Phones (Rick Nelson): No report

Newspaper (Kris Vculek): Kris passed around a sign-up sheet for those members interested in writing an article for the Enid News and Eagle. Our articles are published on the second and fourth Saturdays of the month. The first week is typically horticulture tips. The article should be 500 words (more or less) and in Word Document form and mailed to Kris a week in advance of the article due date. She will text or email a reminder a couple of days prior to the deadline.

Radio Program (Sandy Williams/Rick Nelson): No one was present for the program. As of January 9th, Jay Curtis has not called regarding the radio program.

Community Education (Janet Coontz): Janet expressed that she would like to have an adult class the latter part of February at the Extension Office. "I Want to Plant a Garden. What Do I Need to Do?" will be the title of the class.

Scholarship (Cheryl Gephart): No report

Hospitality & Social Activities (Linda Severin): Linda wasn't present, but Janet passed around a sign-up sheet for snacks for the meetings.

Multimedia (Barbi Oliver): It was reported that our website (gmail) was not allowing member access. Barbi said she would attempt to find out what is going on.

State Conference 2024 (Mike Gwinnup): Mike reported that the conference committee would be meeting at the Stride Bank Center in February to tour the facility. The SC dates are October 3rd and 4th with the third being comprised of several events, ending with a dinner at the Cherokee Strip Heritage Center and the conference on the fourth. Our keynote speaker will be Dee Nash. Some discussion was had regarding opening a second MG bank account specifically for the State Conference and the possibility of having a debt card with that account specifically. Barbi Oliver made a motion to open a second bank account for the convention and allow for one debt card (accessed by only two people) to be attached to said account. Sandy Williams seconded the motion. Motion was passed. The account will have the following committee members as signers for the account: Mike Gwinnup (State

Convention Chair), Ruth Carvalho (Treasurer), Judy Huhman and Susie Skaggs.

Spring Workshop (Jenny Gwinnup): Date set for the workshop is Saturday, March 23rd, 2024. Set up for the workshop will be on the March 22nd. Jenny and Diane Ford will meet Monday the 15th at 9:30 a.m. at Jenny's to plan.

Home Show (Lori Bowers/Kathryn Redding): Dates for the show are April 26th – April 28th, 2024. Lori will have a sign-up sheet at the February and March meetings for volunteers.

Old Business: Barbi Oliver (former President) needs to be removed from the bank account as she is no longer the current president and Janet Coontz added (current President). The additional signers include Ruth Carvalho (Treasurer), Mickey Chapman (Financial Chair) and Lori Bowers (Secretary)

New Business: The annual audit of our MG books is scheduled for February 2nd at 10:00 a.m. Janet Coontz, Ruth Carvalho, Mickey Chapman and Martha Posey is replaced by Amber Gill as the Member at Large will be present for the audit. We received a check from Francis Spencer for \$1,000 in honor of her husband, Alan Spencer today. It will be deposited into our account. There was a short discussion about adding a Field Trip Committee. There will be more discussion regarding the committee and vote at the February or March meeting.

Adjourn: Janet Coontz



Ann Bryant—7
Kris Vculek — 12
Mary Adams—20

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A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Rick Nelson, CED".

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

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