



**GARFIELD COUNTY
EXTENSION**



Master Gardener News

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

APRIL 2025

Next Meeting Date – April 8, 2025

Executive Meeting: 8:30 a.m.
General Meeting: 9 a.m.
Location: Garfield County OSU Extension
Hospitality: Diane Ford, Margaret Warren,
 Cheryl Kephart
Program: Irrigation

Message from Janet Coontz Garfield County Master Gardener President

Finally, it's April and things are in full bloom. Redbuds, tulips, and daffodils everywhere you look. Vegetable gardens in process. One of our favorite times of the year for gardeners and also one of our busiest! We just finished a great spring workshop. The speakers were great and gave such good advice for gardening in the Oklahoma heat. Jenny Gwinnup did a wonderful job and she and her committee members should be congratulated on their hard work and success! We will be sharing specifics at our April meeting.

We have been working on a field trip to the Bartlett Arboretum in Belle Plains, KS for April. We are planning to go on Saturday, April 12th. Besides the trees and 40 acre arboretum, they will have 50,000 tulips blooming! The **Art at the Arb** will include 100 visual and performing artists, local craft people, live music, local food and family friendly activities. We will make specific arrangements at our April meeting, so please try to attend. If you cannot be at the meeting, please let me or another officer know if you wish to attend that day. Sounds like lots of FUN!

The Enid Home Show will be April 25, 26, & 28. Be sure to sign up to help man our booth sometime during the show. We also need help with set-up and tear down. Lori and Kathryn will be sharing their needs at our meeting.

On Earth Day, Tuesday, April 22nd we are planning a PLANT IT day. We hope to get most of our planting done that day (and mulching!) If we all make an effort to help, we can get our gardens planted early and have more time to enjoy them. We will be discussing this project at our April meeting also. Don't forget to take some time to enjoy the spring flowers! See you at the meeting April 8th!

Garfield County Master Gardeners Meeting Minutes March 11, 2025

President Coontz called the meeting to order.

Announcements: The audit is complete and turned in! Many thanks to Ruth for all the diligent work!

Minutes of February 11, 2025 were approved.

Treasurers Report:

Savings Account Beginning Balance:	\$24,732.15
Savings Account activity:	
Transfer to Checking:	\$ -517.33
Ending Balance:	\$24,214.82
Checking Account Beginning Balance	\$ 727.61
Checking Account Activity:	
Deposits:	
Dues	\$ 15.00
Transfer from Savings:	\$ 517.33
Expenses: (Spring Workshop)	
Workshop Printing:	\$ 63.28
Workshop Folders	\$ 196.66
Ending Balance:	\$ 1,000.00

Committee Reports:

Demonstration Garden: Mike Gwinnup

The heating in the greenhouse is fixed. The culprit was some tripped breakers. The plants are now doing well. Lowe's has agreed to sell us the shed, including shingles, for \$1400. That is a much lower price than Mike had expected. Mike has planned a workday this Saturday. This will be for general spring cleanup and repotting plants in the greenhouse to larger pots. Plan to begin at 9:00AM unless it turns out to be a cold morning, in which case start time will be 10:00. The watering system covers all areas of the garden. Presently it is set to water 3 times a week. Mike may change that to 2 times a week for longer watering time. In consideration of all the committee chairpersons do, President Coontz would like a report from each committee with an outline of what that committee does along with any necessary information which might be needed in the event someone else would need to step in to do the job of the leadership of any committee. This is an effort to keep GCMG running smoothly through any

transition, be it emergent or voluntary.

Children's Garden: Diane Ford: On Thursday, March 20, Retired Teachers will tour our gardens. Diane re-emphasized the need for help on Saturday's cleanup day.

Newspaper: Kris Vculek: There are still 5 opportunities to serve!

Website: Kris Vculek: Kris showed our website as is at present. It was nice to see the result of hours of effort by Kris and Kelli Tomkins (webmaster). It is not ready to be made public yet. There are two more pieces of information to be added to the site and then it will go public. This will probably happen within the week! Find the website at

<https://gcokmq.org>

Remember: We need pictures continually so that our sight is kept current.

Radio Program: John Jinkerson: Alan Kepler came to speak to us, helping us to find a comfort level among members who are hesitant to take on this project. "Garden Talk" is prerecorded and then airs on Saturdays. Some pointers from Alan:

- Be ready to talk easily about personal, familiar experiences. Alan fosters a relaxed conversational experience and leads the session so that the master gardener is set for success. It will be an easy conversation.
- Take a list of things you are comfortable talking about. The conversation can expand from this list.
- Take a prop – maybe a tool or a plant - to help generate conversation.
- This is an opportunity to advertise for any upcoming Master Gardener event such as the Spring Workshop, Home Show, or the new class coming up.
- This is a great way to expand our footprint in our community.
- The show airs on KGWA 9.60AM, 100.9FM and online at kgwanews.com

Seed Library: Heidi Bender: Seeds are available today. They are set up along with appropriately sized envelopes. There are flowers and vegetables. This is a soft start to this project. Heidi is looking at the needs as we move forward.

Scholarship: Cheryl Kephart: No Report.

Hospitality: Linda Severin, Thanks to Ann Bethel, Eddie Lou Strimple and Linda Severin for today's hospitality table!

Educational Outreach: Janet Coontz: Janet has been approached by Mary McDonald who asked that we explore the possibility of GCMG teaching one of the Life Long Learning sessions next year (2025-26). This might be fall or spring. It would consist of 8 lessons, each 90 minutes in length. GCMG would be paid \$400 for 8 sessions. Johnson Seed Company would like for us to have a meeting at their facility sometime so that we could foster a relationship between GCMG and Johnson Seed. This will be taken under consideration, and we have further conversations about this project.

A motion was made to pursue doing classes at Life Long Learning next academic year. Diane Ford/Mike Gwinnup; Passed

Spring Workshop: Jennv Gwinnup: Jennv has a few more

jobs that need to be covered at the workshop. She gave people the opportunity to fill these spots. Many, many thanks to Kris Vculek for creating the advertisement for this workshop and for the work on the website! Friday, March 28, is set up time. We are hoping it will begin around 4:00, however, final notification will come when we know the Autry Vo-Tech space is open and ready for us to use. Don't forget this Saturday's workday to transplant seedlings to larger pots and make labels so that they are ready for the boutique.

Home Show: Lori Bowers and Kathryn Redding: We will incur a \$50 fee for electricity (as are all vendors), but our set up is free. Lori will have a sign-up at the next meeting.

Rick Nelson: Pricing for the fall class will be \$125. This is an increase over the previous year.

Old Business:

Next Monday at 9:30 at the Extension Office there will be a meeting led by Janet Coontz. The purpose will be to brainstorm ideas for educational topics for lessons. These lessons then will be prepared and ready for presentation to groups who desire to learn more about gardening. We will need ideas for adults and children. Come and support this effort! Details for a trip to the Bartlett Arboretum in Wichita will be coming. Website: bartlettarboretum.com

New Business:

Members need to remember to take pictures any time we are together. Workdays; workshop days; meetings. These need to be sent to our webmaster in order to keep our website current.

Respectfully Submitted,

Eddie Lou Strimple, Secretary

Happy Birthday!

Barbara Blevins – 3

Louis Milacek – 10

Judy Mullen – 10

Janet Coontz – 14

Mary McDonald – 26

Margaret Warren – 29

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Rick Nelson
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