

From: **Oxford Newcomers and Friends** newcomers@oxfordms.com
Subject: July 2021 ONC&F Newsletter
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To: rosie@oxfordms.com



OXFORD NEWCOMERS *and Friends*



Fireworks! Barbecues! Watermelon! Must be July!! ONC&F is roaring back to life as the fully vaccinated are able to safely gather again -- each month brings more to do! In July, we're doubling down on Rafters for **5 O'Clock Off the Square**, have a great **Educational Program** planned showcasing local artists and Oxford's arts economy, restarting the **Needlers**, along with all your

favorites. Don't miss **July Gardening Tips**, and watch for an interest survey to see what might be next.

Consider Serving on the ONC&F Board!

The ONC&F Board is the fun group of volunteers who keep the wheels turning for members and friends; a list of current Board members can be found at the end of this newsletter. The Oxford Chamber of Commerce is our supportive parent organization; the ONC&F Board meets once a month to check in, bounce ideas around, and make sure all is well. Please reach out to ONC&F president Jonell McGivern, jonell52@att.net, or any other Board members and let us know if you might be interested -- and say "Yes!" if asked!

ONC&F JULY 2021 CALENDAR

Thursday, July 1, 7:00 am, **Men's Breakfast**, The Beacon

Friday, July 2, 9:00 am, **Women's Coffee**, Panera

Sunday, July 4 – Independence Day

Monday, July 5, 7:00 am, **Men's Breakfast**, The Beacon
Wednesday, July 7, 5:00 pm, **5 O'Clock Off the Square**, Rafters on the Water
Thursday, July 8, 7:00 am, **Men's Breakfast**, The Beacon
Monday, July 12, 7:00 am, **Men's Breakfast**, The Beacon
Tuesday, July 13, 1:00 pm, **Mary Poole Bridge Club**, OU-Methodist
Wednesday, July 14, 10:00 am **Educational Program** (Zoom)
Thursday, July 15, 7:00 am, **Men's Breakfast**, The Beacon
Thursday, July 15, 1:00 pm, **Needlers**, Howell Activity Center
Thursday, July 15, 2:00 pm **Book Club One** (Zoom)
Friday, July 16, 9:00 am, **Women's Coffee**, Panera
Monday, July 19, 7:00 am, **Men's Breakfast**, The Beacon
Wednesday, July 21, 5:00 pm, **5 O'Clock Off the Square**, Rafters on the Water
Thursday, July 22, 7:00 am, **Men's Breakfast**, The Beacon
Thursday, July 22, 2:00 pm, **Better Read than Dead**, 206 Eastwind Drive
Monday, July 26, 7:00 am, **Men's Breakfast**, The Beacon
Tuesday, July 27, 11:30 am, **Lunch Bunch**, Lost Pizza
Tuesday, July 27, 1:00 pm, **Mary Poole Bridge Club**, OU-Methodist
Wednesday, July 28, 5:00 pm, **5 O'Clock Off the Square**, Sipp on S Lamar
Thursday, July 29, 7:00 am, **Men's Breakfast**, The Beacon
Sunday, August 1, 4:00 - 6:00 pm, **OxWine**, 903 Maplewood Cove.

Questions? See below for program details and contact information.

PLEASE NOTE: ONC&F members and first-time visitors who are fully vaccinated against COVID-19 (at least two weeks past your final shot) are welcome to attend in-person ONC&F events and gatherings.

5 O'CLOCK ON (& OFF) THE SQUARE: We had so much fun last month, we're seeing double! Join us at Rafters on the Water, 30117 Blackjack Rd., Sardis on Wednesday, July 7th and again July 21st (we'll be at Rafters, weather permitting, the first *and* third Wednesdays during July and August!). On Wednesday, July 28th, we'll also gather at the Sipp, 400 S Lamar Blvd A2, to show the Square a little love. 5 O'Clock is when ONC&F members meet to mix and mingle over adult beverages of choice. The cocktail hour offers a great opportunity to say hello to old friends and meet new ones; many folks choose to stay for dinner afterwards. A great time for catching up!! Social director: Bonnie Siebert, bonnie1017@aol.com

BETTER READ THAN DEAD will meet at the home of Sarah Miller Loftin, 206 Eastwind Drive (off of Hwy. 30), (662) 202-2294, on Thursday, July 22nd at 2:00 pm. The book for discussion will be *The Big Door Prize* by M. O. Walsh. It's a gripping and heartfelt Southern classic about a mysterious machine that

upends a small Louisiana town, asking us all to wonder if who we truly are is who we truly could be. What would you do if you knew your life's potential? All are welcome! If you would like to join in, just email chair Nancy Muller at maytarie@att.net

BOOK CHAT, the alternative to the traditional book club, is on hiatus until September, when participants will again gather on the last Tuesday of the month to share *whatever* they have recently read, or would like to suggest for others, be it fiction, non-fiction, poetry, or drama. All book lovers are invited to join us in the fall. Chair: Debra Guyton, debraguyton@bellsouth.net

BOOK CLUB ONE: July's book selection is *Surviving Savannah* by Patti Callahan. The novel recounts the 1838 sinking of a luxury steamboat, known as "the Titanic of the South", with Savannah's elite on board. Their fates were forgotten until their story is finally told in this breathtaking novel. Book Club One will meet on Zoom on Thursday, July 15th (our customary third Thursday of the month) at 2:00 pm. Click [here](#) to join us, or go to <https://Zoom.us> and enter Meeting ID: 680 808 8404. All Newcomers and friends are welcome! Chair: Debra Guyton, debraguyton@bellsouth.net, (251) 490-6690

EDUCATIONAL PROGRAM: Please plan to join us on Wednesday, July 14th at 10:00 am for the virtual **Big Bad Business Lab Tour**, led by Wayne Andrews, Yoknapatawpha Arts Council Executive Director, and Lee Ingram, Lab Creative-in-Residence. The Lab, a pilot project funded by a two-year NEA grant, is a creative arts industry space to grow 4 to 6 nascent arts-centered businesses to sustainable size and long-term presence. Details on the Zoom link will follow. Questions? Ask Chair Don Mason, dmason222@gmail.com

LUNCH BUNCH is back!! Join us Tuesday, July 27th at 11:30 at Lost Pizza, 7102 College Hill Rd., close to the airport. Besides pizza, they have a variety of sandwiches and Italian dishes. Lunch Bunch is for singles and couples. Questions? Contact Buck Ladner, ladner2003@yahoo.com or (662) 801-1371

MARY POOLE BRIDGE CLUB offers the opportunity to get together and play bridge with other ONC&F card lovers every 2nd and 4th Tuesday of the month (July 13th and 27th) at 1:00 pm. Find us in Room 214 at Oxford University United Methodist Church, 424 S 10th St. This is a casual group that welcomes players of all skill levels -- we will help you learn if you are a beginner! You *must* be a member of ONC&F to participate. Contact Carol Rawlings at (731) 610-0251 or marypoolebridgeclub@gmail.com

MEN'S BREAKFAST: Men gather for breakfast every Monday and Thursday at 7:00 am at The Beacon, 1200 N. Lamar Blvd. Come when you can. All are welcome. Join us for fun and great fellowship. Questions? Contact Buck Ladner, ladner2003@yahoo.com or (662) 801-1371

NEEDLERS returns on Thursday, July 15th, and will meet at 1:00 pm upstairs in the lounge area at the Ulysses "Coach" Howell Activity Center on the corner of Molly Barr and Price Street. Feel free to bring your own beverage, along with your knitting, sewing, needlepoint, or just yourself and join in the fun! All Newcomers are welcome. Chair: Nancy Muller, maytarie@att.net

OXWINE: Please plan to join us on Sunday, August 1st from 4:00 - 6:00 pm at the home of Michelle and Don Harvey, 903 Maplewood Cove, (479) 685-1581. *Singles, duos, trios -- all are welcome; no RSVP required.* Our theme: Rosé wines, produced from red wine grapes but with reduced grape skin contact. Dry rosé is the standard now, rather than the once sweet flavor profile that scared off so many; pink to golden hues and bright, crisp flavors make rosé the perfect wine for summer foods and fun. *What to bring:* your own wine glass, a snack to share, AND a bottle of chilled rosé. NOTE: this is a blind tasting; please wrap the bottle in foil so it can stay covered while on ice. Have a wine buddy? One bottle per two people is fine. Plates, napkins, and ice to chill the wines will be provided. Questions? Contact Michelle Harvey at (479) 685-1581 or mmautheharvey@att.net

READING FAULKNER is on summer break in July and August. We'll reconvene in September when we'll begin our discussion of *The Snopes Trilogy* on Zoom. For more information about the group, contact Dianne Fergusson at (662) 236-4088 or sdsferg@bellsouth.net.

WOMEN'S COFFEE: Please join us for friendship and conversation on the first and third Friday of July (July 2nd and 16th) at 9:00 am at Panera Bread, 1902 Jackson Avenue West. Hope each of you will be able to join us as we miss you when you are not there. Chair: Nellanne Davis, (318) 447-0038 or nellanned@aol.com

JULY GARDENING TIPS

.....From ice and snow to flooding rains, this year is shaping up to be one of weather extremes! In spite of all Mother Nature has thrown our way, I'm happy to say it looks like lawns and gardens in Oxford, Mississippi are thriving!

.....At this time of year, the majority of work in your lawn and garden is maintenance. I find great enjoyment in seeing all the blooms in our yard, and thankfully that somehow takes the edge off of weeding! Even though I always apply weed preventative, I still have a few noxious little weeds that keep popping up. I'm out early every morning pulling out any that I see while also deadheading my flowers. Deadheading not only keeps the plants looking good, it also encourages reblooming for most annuals. This is also helpful for roses – pruning them encourages new blooms.

.....Another component of maintenance that you should be mindful of in July is watering. All ornamentals should be watered to a depth of 1 inch every

week, if it doesn't rain. Pay particular attention to any new ornamentals or trees that you may have planted this spring. They will need more frequent watering than established plants. If you depend on an irrigation system, set a longer running time for your ornamental beds than the rest of your lawn.

.....Your turf will also need extra water if it doesn't rain, and it is also helpful to cut your lawn at a slightly higher level during hot weather to reduce stress. Remember to keep your mower blades sharpened. A sharpened blade will cut each blade cleanly and doesn't tear them. When blades are torn, it creates openings for pests and disease. Feeding also helps maintain a healthy lawn. Fertilizer should be applied in early summer when grass is entering its peak growing season, with a second feeding in late summer. Turf should also be treated with a post-emergent herbicide to control weeds. I know a lot of lawn services in our area also offer a fertilization and weed control service. If you prefer doing it yourself, I recommend choosing a brand of commercial fertilizer and following the recommended schedule on the back of the package. Another tip for maintaining a healthy lawn -- *do not* mow your grass when it's wet. Turf diseases are more prevalent when grass is frequently wet, and wet grass clippings will spread any disease that is present all around your lawn. Weed seeds that are present will be spread around as well.

.....For those with vegetable gardens, I hope you're enjoying the bounty of your efforts! Pick your vegetables regularly to ensure they continue to bear fruit, and keep them watered consistently. Also be on the watch for pests and take care of them quickly. My wish for summer tomatoes has certainly come true. My husband is bringing them in by the handfuls every day!

.....Bird lovers, please remember to leave water out for our feathered friends at this time of year. I find that I enjoy watching them at my birdbath as much as my feeders.

Happy Gardening! ~~ *Karen Travillo, Master Gardener Lafayette Co.*

QUICK BITES are free, informative programs held over Zoom on Thursdays from 12:00 – 1 pm. The best specialists and experts in Mississippi prepare a one-hour program on various topics such as gardening, horticulture, insect management, health, and cooking. *Click on the session name to register.*

Upcoming Quick Bites

Thursday, July 8, 2021 - 12:00pm

- [**Lawn Care through the Summer**](#)

Ross Overstreet, Extension Agent II, Lamar County

Mississippi summers can be tough on your home lawn, but it doesn't have to be. Implementing basic management techniques can help your lawn look its best through the hottest part of our year. Learn how to keep your yard as healthy as possible during your lawns most stressful time of the year. This course will cover basic maintenance, fertilization, irrigation, and other things you need to be thinking about and preparing for as we get further into summer in Mississippi.

summer in Mississippi.

Thursday, July 22, 2021 - 12:00pm

- **[Gardening with Succulents](#)**

Dr. Christian Stephenson, Extension Agent, Hancock County

Succulent plants make fantastic and low maintenance additions to the landscape, and are an easy way to bring the garden indoors. This presentation will include discussion of the characteristics of succulent plants, how to include them in your home landscape, as well as a discussion of some common and beautiful succulent plants.

Thursday, July 29, 2021 - 12:00pm

- **[De-Stress](#)**

Natalie Ray, Extension Agent, Clay County

Understanding stress is more than just symptoms. Learning how to cope with stress is the true answer for freeing you of those stress symptoms. This session discusses ways to make a permanent change in coping with stress, and how to really use meditation to help when stress is knocking at your door.

MISSISSIPPI COVID-19 VACCINE UPDATE from the MS Dept of Health: All Mississippians aged 16 or older are now eligible for vaccination. Those 18 and older may be vaccinated free of charge at MSDH drive-through sites; click here to [find a first-dose vaccination appointment](#) at no charge. Look for second-dose scheduling information in your appointment confirmation e-mail. Second dose appointments should be made 3-5 weeks (for Pfizer vaccine) or 4-6 weeks (Moderna) from your first vaccination. *For help with drive-through vaccination appointments, call 877-978-6453.* Click on the following link to [find a pharmacy or health clinic near you offering vaccinations](#) After you are vaccinated, the MSDH asks that you please continue to observe social distancing, mask use, and other protective steps to help prevent the possible transmission of COVID-19 to those who have not yet been vaccinated. [Click here for more about vaccination providers and vaccination appointments](#)
[Click here for the Mississippi COVID-19 Vaccination Report](#)

Oxford Newcomers and Friends Executive Committee 2021

President: Jonell McGivern, jonell52@att.net

Vice President: VACANT

Communications: Michelle Harvey, mmautheharvey@att.net

Educational Programs: Don Mason, dmason222@gmail.com

Immediate Past President: Judy Owen, Sophieandme920@gmail.com

Membership: Nellanne Davis, nellanned@aol.com

Social Director: Bonnie Siebert, bonnie1017@aol.com

Treasurer: Richard Muller, frotscher60@att.net

Updates to share? Send to ONC&F Communications Chair
Michelle Harvey, mmautheharvey@att.net

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