

From: **Oxford Newcomers and Friends** newcomers@oxfordms.com  
Subject: October 4, 2021 ONC&F Weekly Update  
Date: October 3, 2021 at 10:08 PM  
To: rosie@oxfordms.com



# OXFORD NEWCOMERS *and Friends*



It's party time for ONC&F, as we host our first social in almost two years this Wednesday at 6:00 pm at the Old Armory Pavilion. Details are below. Fall temps are starting to move in; Wednesday should be very pleasant (even if there's a shower, we'll stay high and dry). Hope you signed up (registration is closed) -- it'll be great to sit and visit! Here's to seeing all of you out and

about soon!

## ONC&F OCTOBER 2021 CALENDAR

**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.**

Monday, Oct 4, 7:00 am, **Men's Breakfast**, The Beacon  
**Wednesday, Oct 6, 6:00 pm, ONC&F Fall Party, Old Armory Pavilion**  
Thursday, Oct 7, 7:00 am, **Men's Breakfast**, The Beacon  
Monday, Oct 11, 7:00 am, **Men's Breakfast**, The Beacon  
Tuesday, Oct 12, 11:30 am, **Ladies Who Lunch**, Proud Larry's  
Tuesday, Oct 12, 1:00 pm, **Mary Poole Bridge Club**, OU-Methodist  
Wednesday, Oct 13, 10:00 am **Educational Program** (Zoom)  
Thursday, Oct 14, 7:00 am, **Men's Breakfast**, The Beacon  
Friday, Oct 15, 9:00 am, **Women's Coffee**, Panera  
Monday, Oct 18, 7:00 am, **Men's Breakfast**, The Beacon  
Monday, Oct 18, 4:00 pm, **Reading Faulkner**, Zoom  
Wednesday, Oct 20, **5 O'Clock Off the Square**, Tarasque Cucina  
Thursday, Oct 21, 7:00 am, **Men's Breakfast**, The Beacon  
Thursday, Oct 21, 1:00 pm, **Needlers**, Howell Activity Center  
Thursday, Oct 21, 2:00 pm **Book Club One** (Zoom)  
Sunday, Oct 24, 4:00 pm, **Oxwine**, 212 Garden Lane

Monday, Oct 25, 7:00 am, **Men's Breakfast**, The Beacon  
Tuesday, Oct 26, 11:30 am, **Lunch Bunch**, La Perla  
Tuesday, Oct 26, 1:00 pm, **Mary Poole Bridge Club**, OU-Methodist  
Thursday, Oct 28, 7:00 am, **Men's Breakfast**, The Beacon  
Thursday, Oct 28, 2:00 pm, **Better Read than Dead**, Howell Activity Center  
**Sunday, Oct 31, Halloween**

*Questions? See below for program details and contact information.*

### **Save the date!**

**Thanksgiving Pot Luck** - Wednesday, November 17th, 6:00 pm at the Stone Center, 423 Washington Ave. BYO beverage of choice.

**Holiday Celebration** - Thursday, December 2nd, 6:00 pm at the Country Club of Oxford, 300 Fazio Dr. Staffed buffet dinner and cash bar.

**ONC&F FALL PARTY:** We're so looking forward to seeing lots of old and new friends this *Wednesday, October 6th at 6:00 pm* at the Old Armory Pavilion, corner of Bramlett & University Ave. (registration has closed). Taylor Grocery will cater and staff the dinner, to include fried Mississippi farm-raised catfish, grilled chicken tenders, hush puppies, coleslaw, BBQ baked beans, potato salad and peach cobbler. Iced tea, lemonade and water are complementary; Tallahatchie Gourmet will staff the wine and beer cash bar. Questions? Ask social director Bonnie Siebert, [bonnie1017@aol.com](mailto:bonnie1017@aol.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](mailto:ladner2003@yahoo.com) or (662) 801-1371

### **OCTOBER GARDENING TIPS**

..... What a beautiful end to summer and return to cooler weather! Personally, I love fall, and always get excited to see the leaves begin to show their autumn foliage. If you look closely, maples all around town are just beginning to turn beautiful shades of red and orange, and ginkgo trees are starting to show off their golden hues. Fall is a great time to be in the garden, and I've talked to several people lately that already have plans to put in new plantings. While fall is an excellent time to plant new shrubs and trees, I would encourage you to wait until November unless you are willing to keep your new plantings watered. Typically, October is the driest month in Mississippi.

..... For those of you with hummingbird feeders, please continue to fill them through early fall or until you no longer see any birds at the feeder for at least two weeks. The hummers will need the nutrition before they start their southern migration, but be sure to take them down before the first frost to

southern migration, but be sure to take them down before the first frost to discourage them from staying too long.

..... Before we get into suggestions for other things to do this month, I thought I would take time to answer a reoccurring question I've encountered about flowers I've planted in my beds. There are of course many choices of flowers to choose from, but I'm only going to include the ones with which I've had repeated success. These are all plants that take full sun and have required a minimum amount of care while providing an abundance of blooms. Because of our deer population, I always have standard deer resistant perennials that I incorporate into the landscape in our front yard that is not fenced. They include: irises, purple verbena, new gold lantana, society garlic, and dianthus. The lantana, verbena and society garlic have bloomed prolifically all summer, and will continue until frost. As an added bonus, they continuously attract pollinators. In the fenced area of our yard, I have irises and daylilies which are perennials and, except for one type of my daylilies, have a limited blooming period. I also plant a variety of annuals. A favorite is zinnia augustifolia, a shorter bushy type. I put out several flats of these each spring in a variety of pinks, yellows and oranges as soon as the danger of frost has passed. They are prolific bloomers that will continuously bloom from spring to fall. I also had some reseeding of these from last year's plants. I will remove them at the end of this month to plant pansies.

..... Along with the zinnias, I've also planted Angelonia, purslane, purple verbena, and giant blue salvia. This particular type of salvia is very showy, and the bees stay on it constantly. I also added tangerine bulbines this year. They have yellow and orange flowers clustered at the end of long, slender stems and thin succulent type foliage. I used to grow this plant in Houston, Texas where it was evergreen, but I'll have to wait and see if it survives our winters. All of these plants have attracted a profusion of bees, butterflies and hummingbirds. Remember when choosing flowers to consider sunlight and water requirements, and don't be afraid to make a few mistakes along the way. I always say, if you're not making mistakes in your garden, you're not out there enough!

..... October is the time to plant pansies, violas and ornamental kale and cabbage for fall and winter color. If you have a deer problem, I would only recommend planting these in a fenced area. It's also time to plant spring bulbs, with the exception of hyacinths and tulips. Their bulbs should be refrigerated for 6 weeks and then planted in late December or early January. This is also a time when people typically change out the plants in their containers to reflect the change of season. While mums are beautiful and a standard fall favorite, they won't survive the winter in pots. You can consider other fall plants that will last the winter in containers. One of my favorite combinations is to use ornamental kale or cabbage with pansies. You can also add English ivy if you'd like foliage to spill over the edges of the container. If you want to force blooms such as paperwhites, jonquils or hyacinths, for an indoor container, put a layer of gravel in a glass container, put the bulb in place and add enough water to cover the roots. Keep it in a dark place until the

roots become established and the bulb sprouts to three inches. Gradually bring it into the light and refill the container with water to the original level.

..... Hopefully some of you are composting and remember those fall leaves make excellent compost. If possible, run over your leaves with a lawnmower before adding them to your compost. Happy Gardening!

~~ Karen Travillo, Master Gardener Lafayette Co.

### **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](mailto:jonell52@att.net), or any other Board members and let us know if you might be interested -- and say "Yes!" if asked!

**Master Gardener Speaker Series:** Lafayette County Master Gardeners invites the community to join us for our 2021 Thursday gardening lecture series with speakers on October 7th, 14th, and 21st. Admission is free, and door prizes will be given following each lecture, which will be held at the Extension Office at 70 F. D. "Buddy" East Parkway from 12:00 - 1:00pm.

October 7: "Fun with Plants, Bugs, and Master Gardeners," with Dr. John Guyton, MSU

October 14: "The Right Plant for the Right Place," with Ralph Muller, Dabny's Nursery

October 21: "Native Trees," with Alex Deason, Extension Agent for Sunflower County

Hope to see you there!

**An Open Invitation to Play Mahjong:** Newcomers and friends are invited to gather with a group of ladies -- many but not all of whom are members of ONC&F -- who meet twice a month to play mahjong. New learners to seasoned pros are welcome! For additional information, contact DeeDee Rafnson at [deerafn@bellsouth.net](mailto:deerafn@bellsouth.net)

**MISSISSIPPI COVID-19 VACCINE UPDATE** from the MS Dept of Health: All Mississippians aged 12 or older are now eligible for free vaccination. and

...Mississippians aged 18 or older are now eligible for free vaccination, and may be vaccinated free of charge at MSDH drive-through sites. Click on this link to learn more about [scheduling a third booster shot](#). Click on the following link to [find a pharmacy or health clinic near you offering vaccinations](#). If you are home-bound and need assistance getting your COVID-19 vaccination, email [COVIDHomebound@msdh.ms.gov](mailto:COVIDHomebound@msdh.ms.gov) or call (877) 978-6453. After you are vaccinated, the MSDH asks that you please continue to use masks and other protective steps to help prevent the possible transmission of COVID-19. [Click here for the Mississippi COVID-19 Vaccination Report](#)

### **Oxford Newcomers and Friends Executive Committee 2021**

President: Jonell McGivern, [jonell52@att.net](mailto:jonell52@att.net)

Vice President: VACANT

Communications: Michelle Harvey, [mmautheharvey@att.net](mailto:mmautheharvey@att.net)

Educational Programs: Don Mason, [dmason222@gmail.com](mailto:dmason222@gmail.com)

Immediate Past President: Judy Owen, [Sophieandme920@gmail.com](mailto:Sophieandme920@gmail.com)

Membership: Nellanne Davis, [nellanned@aol.com](mailto:nellanned@aol.com)

Social Director: Bonnie Siebert, [bonnie1017@aol.com](mailto:bonnie1017@aol.com)

Treasurer: Richard Muller, [frotscher60@att.net](mailto:frotscher60@att.net)

Updates to share? Send to ONC&F Communications Chair

Michelle Harvey, [mmautheharvey@att.net](mailto:mmautheharvey@att.net)

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