



# DIRTY DIGS



August 2021

## *ENTERTAIN, EDUCATE, ELEVATE*

### President's Message August 2021

It's been a busy few weeks. One of the highlights was the graduation of 10 interns that are now certified Master Gardeners at our August meeting. Collectively, they have given over 1,000 hours of service already. Their class picture is included in this newsletter. Congratulations to all!!!

While we were busy celebrating our new Master Gardeners, our next class of interns were starting their program. Elmore County is hosting this year's class and we have ten interns in the class. This class will also be a hybrid virtual/hands-on class. There will be lunches provided each week for the class before they begin the afternoon hands-on session. Our association will be responsible for providing several of those lunches. There will be a sign up sheet at the 40<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Celebration if you can help by providing a dish. Another way to help is by providing a cash donation and we will be able to fill in the gaps. Thank you to each who agreed to mentor a new intern. This is going to be a great class!



Most people don't like the idea of turning 40, but this is a huge milestone for us. It's almost time to celebrate our 40 years of Alabama Master Gardening. I hope each of you can join us for our local celebration. To commemorate this achievement, there will be a statewide celebration on August 30<sup>th</sup>. Our association is joining in the fun via Zoom at our Ag Center auditorium. It's time to PARTY!!! The official ceremony starts at 1:30 pm televised live from Auburn. We will meet at 1:00 pm so we can have a bite to eat and get settled before the festivities begin. Bring a snack to share with the group and wear your 40<sup>th</sup> anniversary tee shirt if you ordered one. Our association will be providing drinks and an anniversary cake to share.

There will be special presentations and we'll get to see what other associations are doing this year. We'll also get to see some of the people who helped shape AMGA in the early days. I am so proud to be part of an organization that has the great legacy of beautifying and feeding our communities, educating the public, and partnering with the Alabama Cooperative Extension System to disseminate research-based information throughout our community.

Keep in touch. Always remember, time began in a garden!

*Debbie*

# Calendar of Events

Dates and Times are subject to change

August 16—Governor's Mansion 9AM

August 17—Demo Garden 8AM, Prattvillage Garden 9AM

August 23—Governor's Mansion 9AM

August 24—Demo Garden 8AM, Prattvillage Garden 9AM

August 30—Governor's Mansion 9AM

August 30—Celebration for Alabama's 40 year Anniversary at 1:00 PM, Extension Center

August 31—Demo Garden 8AM, Prattvillage Garden 9AM

September 1—Part 1 Linda Barry Leaf Stones Workshop 10AM at Prattvillage (See Bionca Lindsey)

September 2—Lunch and Learn 12PM, Trinity United Methodist Church, Year Round Color (Terese Goodson)

September 2—Board meeting and Seminar meeting 1:00 after Lunch and Learn

September 6—Labor Day

September 7—Demo Garden 8AM, Prattvillage Garden 9AM

September 9—Member ship meeting at Lanark 9:00AM—Maria Pacheo is presenting Pruning demo

September 13—Governor's Mansion 9AM

September 14—Demo Garden 8AM, Prattvillage Garden 9AM

September 15—Part 2 Linda Barry Leaf Stones Workshop 10 AM Prattvillage Garden

September 20—Governor's Mansion 9AM

September 21—Demo Garden 8AM, Prattvillage Garden 9AM

September 27—Governor's Mansion 9AM

September 28—Demo Garden 8AM, Prattvillage Garden 9AM

Sept. 30—AMGA Fall Seminar, Trinity United Methodist Church, ACMGA is hosting 9:30 AM

October 7—Lunch and Learn 12PM, Trinity United Methodist Church, Work Force of the Garden (Katherine Chapman)

November 3—Landowner Tour

November 4—Farm City Day

November 4—Lunch and Learn 12PM, Trinity United Methodist Church, Container Plants (Sue Brasel)

November— Trip to Bellingrath Gardens TBD

November—Herbs for the Holidays Workshop TBD

December—Trip to Callaway Gardens TBD

December 2—Lunch and Learn 12PM, Trinity United Methodist Church, Composting (Paula Seamon and Rose McCauley)



## **Get Outside with Alabama Smart Yards!**

Free Webinar Series (30 minutes) Wednesdays @ 1:00

pmConnect: [auburn.zoom.us/j/82398811386](https://auburn.zoom.us/j/82398811386)



**W, August 4 Grow More, Give More: Alabama**

**Home Garden Variety Trials** Dani Carroll and Bethany O'rear , Alabama Extension Horticulture Regional Agents

**W, August 11 Cut Flowers for the Fall** Megan Jones Alabama Extension Regional Agent

**W, August 18 Fragrance in the Garden** Sherry Blanton, Alabama Extension Advanced Master Gardener

**W, August 25 Fall Landscape Makeover** Dr. Brian Brown, Alabama Extension Regional Agent

**Master Gardener Helpline (887) 252-4769**





# BEE HOTEL

Glenn Huovinen



This Bee Hotel holds cardboard tubes purchased from the internet and are specially designed for the purpose of providing nesting spots for Mason Bees. The Mason Bee will enter the tube, go to the back of the tube, lay an egg, block off that section, lay another egg, etc. When the tube is full she will seal up the tube. When the bees mature they will bore their way out and begin their work. Mason Bees do not pose a threat to us and they are excellent pollinators. We installed this above the Demo Pollinator Garden .

Photo taken shortly after installation



Photo taken Aug. 4. The bees have eaten their way out of the tubes and are happily pollinating our garden.



# What's Bugging You?



**Hint: its not a Texas mosquito, crane fly or 'mosquito hawk'**

Do You know the name of this critter? Is it beneficial or destructive or both?

Answer and information can be found on Page 7

## Alabama Gardener's Calendar August

### Fruits and Nuts

- Cut out old blackberry canes after fruiting and then fertilize and cultivate for replacement canes.
- Remember to order new catalogs for fruit selection.

### Shrubs

- Propagate woody plants, such as hydrangeas and azaleas, by layering.
- Do not fertilize woody plants in late summer. It will stimulate new growth that might not have time to harden off before winter's first frost.

### Lawns

- Apply 1 pound nitrogen per 1,000 square feet to bermudagrass and St. Augustinegrass. Skip this month for fertilizing centipedegrass and zoysiagrass.
- Mow often (every 5 to 10 days) to remove just 1/3 the grass height at each mowing.
- Water lawns as needed (grayish color or curling leaf blades).
- Stop fertilizing warm-season turf types at the end of the month.

### Roses

- Keep roses healthy and actively growing.
- Lightly prune hybrid teas and floribundas to prevent a scraggly appearance.
- Old-fashioned roses will experience a second bloom flush, so no need to prune these types.

### Annuals and Perennials

- Water as needed. Plant perennials and biennials for spring.

### Bulbs

- Divide old iris plantings and add new ones.

### Miscellaneous

- Keeping flowers, shrubs, trees, and lawns healthy is the major task during this month.
- Closely observe for insects and diseases.
- Water.

### Vegetable Seeds

- Whole state: Continue planting beans and squash.
- Central and North: Continue planting cole crops, beets, carrots, collards, kale, lettuce, mustard, Swiss chard, parsley, radishes, and turnips.

### Vegetable Transplants

- **South and Central:** Plant certified seed potatoes for Irish and red-skinned varieties until mid-month.
- **North:** Plant cole crop transplants that were started in July



## *What's Bugging You Answer:*

### Robber Fly

This insect is a suborder of the robber fly. Robber flies are indeed predatory flies. They will perch on a twig or limb and look for their prey. They attack their prey in flight. They are both destructive and beneficial since they will attack good and bad insects. Picture submitted by Pam Olson.

## GROWING CORN

Glenn Huovinen

This year I grew corn in grow bags placed in a kiddie pool that is irrigated by a rain barrel with a float valve, that allows water into the pool when the plants want it. It is a variety sold by Burpee Seed Company called Container Corn. The plants only grow 5-6 feet tall. The bicolored corn is so sweet and does not need additional seasoning. I just love it.



# Lunch and Learn

## Butterflies by

### Soyna Moore







## Virtual Alabama Extension

### “Horticulture Happenings”

**All programs are Central Standard Time,**

“Get Outside with Alabama Smart Yards” Series: Every Wednesday 1:00 p.m.-2:00 p.m.

Registration Link: [www.auburn.zoom.us/j/82398811386](https://www.auburn.zoom.us/j/82398811386)

<https://www.facebook.com/AlabamaSmartYardsAlabamaExtension>

At Home Beekeeping Series: Last Tuesday of Every Month 6:30p.m.-7:30p.m. (Begins January 26th)

Registration Link: <https://auburn.zoom.us/j/904522838>

Back to Basics Gardening Series: 2nd & 4th Wednesdays 10:00 a.m.-11:00 a.m. (Begins February 10th)

Registration Link: <http://www.aces.edu/go/B2Bzoom>

<https://www.aces.edu/?s=Back2BasicsWednesdays&q=Back2BasicsWednesdays>

Eco Friendly Fridays~ Environmental Education Series:

Last Friday of Every Month 12:00p.m.- 1:00 p.m.

[www.aces.edu/go/EcoFriendlyFridays](http://www.aces.edu/go/EcoFriendlyFridays)

Alabama Garden Walk Series: 1st and 3rd Fridays 12:00 p.m.-12:45 p.m. (Begins February 19th)

Registration Link: [www.aces.edu/go/GardenWalk](http://www.aces.edu/go/GardenWalk)

Raising Trees Series: Thursday’s 12:00p.m.-1:00p.m.

<https://www.aces.edu/blog/topics/landscaping/raising-trees-webinar-series/>

Alabama Garden Chat Wednesdays TBA (Begins in April)

ForestHer Webinar Series: 2nd Tuesday’s of Every Month 12:00p.m.-1:00p.m.

<https://www.aces.edu/blog/topics/forestry/foresther-workshops/>

2021 Natural Resources Webinar Series: Wednesday’s 12:00p.m.-1:00p.m.

(see the link for the dates scheduled)

<https://www.aces.edu/blog/topics/forestry/natural-resources-webinar-series/>

Alabama Virtual Farm Tours: (Biweekly from March-Oct at 5:00p.m.- 6:00p.m.

Stay informed or watch on <https://www.facebook.com/AlabamaExtensionCommercialHorticulture>

Commercial Horticulture Monthly Webinar Seminars, last Monday of each month: <https://auburn.zoom.us/j/590217859>

or watch Livestream at <https://www.facebook.com/AlabamaExtensionCommercialHorticulture>.

Monthly agenda is posted on <http://www.aces.edu/anr/beginningfarms/webinars.php>

‘Q&A Friday!’ interactive shows: (Fridays from March-Oct 11:30a.m. to 12:30p.m.)

Stay informed or watch on <https://www.facebook.com/AlabamaExtensionCommercialHorticulture>

**\*For more information, please contact your local county office for more information & the ACES calendar of events for even more available educational programs on interest [www.aces.edu/calendar](http://www.aces.edu/calendar)**

**For Commercial Horticulture events, use the Farming Basics Phone App to access social media pages & Webinar recordings.**

# Governor's Mansion

The Monday Morning Mansion Garden Group continues to work at the Governor's Mansion every Monday morning. This spring and summer we have been weeding, pruning, and then going back and weeding some more. This group includes Master Gardeners from all 3 counties. Master Gardeners, interns, and potential MGs are welcome. Please contact Jane McCarthy (334-221-9936) if you are interested.

Summer Pollinator Tasks (not just for Governor's Mansion but for any garden).

July, August ,September

Trim spring blooming perennials back for new growth and a potential flush of fall bloom  
Lightly fertilize both annuals (water soluble) and perennials (timed-release)...NLT 1 September

Dead head, but keep in mind some seeds are a food source for some birds

Pinch fall bloomers to keep them compact and maximize fall flower display



## Hot News

By Mallory Kelley  
Regional Extension Agent  
Home Grounds, Gardens, Home Pests

### **“Fall Armyworms are Making their March”**

If they have not already eaten your lawn, start scouting now, because this year they seem to be everywhere! The phones have been ringing off the hook, we know they are already in the area and the numbers this year are extremely high!

The armyworm caterpillars will feed on almost all forage grasses, as well as 100 additional plant species including corn and cotton, which is most detrimental to the cattlemen and farmers. Most often in the homeowner setting we see them in the lawn and then in the vegetable garden (especially on the tomatoes). The caterpillar stage of the armyworm develops into a moth that lays eggs and the eggs hatch out into baby caterpillars where the cycle begins all over again. In Alabama, there may be as many as five to six generations of this pest every summer (Usually beginning in mid July/ early August). That being said, continue to scout as we have time for multiple generations of armyworms before cooler temperatures arrive.

The best method for control is scouting to detect them when they are young. Fall armyworms can be found on foliage at any time of day, but are more easily detected early in the morning or late in the afternoon. In heavy infestations, you will see caterpillar droppings on the ground underneath your plants. In the lawn the grass will look like it is moving when they are actively feeding and you will start to see brown patches in the yard where they are eating all of the green tissue off of the grass.

When fully grown, armyworms are 1.5 inches long. They are always striped, but their coloring is not always the same. Their background color ranges from light green to almost black. You can identify fall armyworm caterpillars by four black dots on the back end of the abdomen. Larger caterpillars typically have a light-colored, upside-down Y-shape on the head and three white lines on top of the segment just behind the head.

The earlier an infestation is detected the better. Young fall armyworms (under a half inch in length) don't eat much. As the caterpillars get bigger, their food demands increase dramatically and the bigger they are, the harder they are to control. Scouting for the worms and treating when they are young is your best defense. Scouting for fall armyworms is a relatively simple process, but for a homeowner they are often undetected until you go out to harvest the ripening tomatoes and there you find them boring into the fruit. In the lawn, they are usually undetected until after the lawn has been mowed and you pull your mower into the garage and walk out an hour later and there are worms all over the ground.

Control of fall armyworms is justified when the population exceeds three 0.5-inch caterpillars per square foot. Fall armyworms need to be treated when they are still small — about 0.5 to 1 inch long. Detecting infestations when the caterpillars are small gives more time for control measures to be implemented. When armyworms are fully grown, they are less susceptible to insecticides and, therefore, are harder to kill. In addition, if most of the caterpillars are nearly grown, most of the damage will already have been done. In this case, keep the lawn watered well to reduce stress and more than likely the grass will grow back in that area over time, it just leaves an unsightly look to the lawn.

Armyworms do seem to prefer bermuda lawns over all others, but that does not mean that the other grasses are less susceptible. They will truly eat any kind of grass. If the worms are large they have done about all the damage they are going to do and we do not recommend treating.

### **Treat late in the day when the caterpillars are actively feeding.**

Insecticides containing carbaryl or one of the pyrethroids (active ingredients bifenthrin, cyfluthrin, deltamethrin, lambda-cyhalothrin, permethrin) are effective against fall armyworms. Active ingredients are listed on the insecticide label. Always read and follow label instructions.

If you have other gardening related questions please call the Master Gardener Helpline at: 1877-ALA-GROW (252-4769).



Hello Everyone,

I have included the flyer that has all three counties L&L programs (Montgomery, Autauga and Elmore) on the same page with locations for the remainder of the year.

Please help us advertise these where you see fit!

Thank you so much!

Mallory

<b>Capital City Master Gardeners Association</b> <b>LUNCH &amp; LEARN 2021</b> 1 <sup>ST</sup> WEDNESDAY OF EVERY MONTH 12:00-1:00 P.M. <u>FREE PROGRAMS</u> Armory Learning Arts Center 1018 Madison Avenue, Montgomery, AL 36104  BRING A SACK LUNCH ~ WATER PROVIDED	<b>Autauga County Master Gardeners Association</b> <b>LUNCH &amp; LEARN 2021</b> 1 <sup>ST</sup> THURSDAY OF EVERY MONTH 12:00-1:00 P.M. <u>FREE PROGRAMS</u> Trinity United Methodist Church 610 Fairview Avenue, Prattville 36066  BRING A SACK LUNCH ~ WATER PROVIDED	<b>Central Alabama Master Gardeners Association</b> <b>LUNCH &amp; LEARN 2021</b> 2 <sup>ND</sup> TUESDAY OF EVERY MONTH 12:00-1:00 P.M. <u>FREE PROGRAMS</u> First Presbyterian Church 100 West Bridge Street, Wetumpka 36092  BRING A SACK LUNCH ~ WATER PROVIDED
<b>4 August</b> Hype on Hemp Jessica Kelton, Agronomist, ACES	<b>5 August</b> Butterflies Soyna Moore, Master Gardener	<b>10 August</b> Invasive Plants Dr. Nancy Loewenstein, Extension Specialist, ACES
<b>1 September</b> Composting Karin Carmichael, Master Gardener	<b>2 September</b> Year Round Color in the Garden Terese Goodson, Master Gardener	<b>14 September</b> Planting Bulbs & Tubers for Next Years Bloomers Karen Weber, Horticulturist & Master Gardener
<b>6 October</b> Destructive Insects Anthony Yarbrough, Advanced Master Gardener	<b>7 October</b> The Work Force of the Garden Katherine Chapman, Master Gardener	<b>12 October</b> Backyard Composting Kelly LaFreniere, Master Gardener
<b>3 November</b> Shade Gardening Mary McCroan, Advanced Master Gardener	<b>4 November</b> Everyone Has Fun Growing Container Plants Sue Brasel, Master Gardener	<b>9 November</b> Fermentation for Life Deborah Kelso, Master Gardener
<b>1 December</b> Decorating for the Holidays Anna Owen, Master Gardener	<b>2 December</b> Composting Paula Seamon & Rose McCauley, Advanced Master Gardeners	<b>14 December</b> Transplanting Trees & Shrubs David Doggett, Master Gardener
  For more information, contact Montgomery County Extension (334) 270-4133	  For more information, contact Autauga County Extension Office (334) 361-7273	  For more information contact Elmore County Extension Office (334) 567-6301

**The Hummingbird award for August is awarded to Soyna Moore for her work on the Pollinator Garden, Presentations on Butterflies, and for participation in many of ACMGA projects.**



## **Advisory Council Meeting Held on 8/3/2021 @ Pedals from the Past**

Discussed possibility of Auburn providing sub links for all Counties on their website. This would save the Counties money and could possibly include a calendar of events for each County.

Reminded all Counties that State MG member dues need to be paid by December 31, 2021.

Discussed AMGA upcoming conference dates:

2022 Conference - will be held in Montgomery at the Embassy Suites  
May 2-4, 2022.

2023 Conference - will be held in Tuscaloosa at Bryant Conference  
Center April 3-5, 2023.

AMGA Fall Seminar- will be held in Prattville at Trinity Methodist  
Church on 9/30/2021.

The AMGA Nominating Committee needs recommendations for slate of candidates for upcoming open positions. Noted that an Assistant Treasurer is needed also.

Discussed the possibility of adding new position, Community Education Coordinator, who would work with Agent in planning public education activities and programs.

Talked about 40th Anniversary of MG Celebration which will be held in Auburn on 8/30/2021. The celebration will be live streamed to the counties and to individuals via Zoom.



## Birthdays

Bionca Lindsey 08/02

Margaret C. Smitherman 08/04

Robin Snyder 08/09

Bob Scheffler 08/13

Sue Brasel 08/25

Linda Moschetti 08/25

Martha Hughes 09/01

Albert Striplin 09/05

These are the birthdays we have on file

'If we missed your birthday, we're sorry. Please contact Debbie Boutelier so that the information can be added to our file.'



# Prattville Garden Second Quarter Report

By Dian Owens

Second quarter work at Prattville Garden (PVG) continued to be quite busy. It was all hands on deck all Spring! We were not only preparing for our annual ACMGA plant sale the end of April but were also charged with the task of keeping the garden presentable for the Garden Glimpses Garden Tour two weeks later in May. We have a great group of volunteers every week that know that “there is a LOT of grunt work to be done to keep a flower garden beautiful.” Since PVG is open to the public, we have an added responsibility to try for at least a “pretty garden” every day of the week. We hosted the Lunch & Learn, ACMGA board meetings, and some business meetings throughout the “Covid indoor meeting restrictions.”

Speaking of the Garden Glimpses Garden Tour. Many new plants were added to the expanded Pollinator Garden. It is located next to the chapel, outside the East picket fence. It is a key location for all to see as they pass through the bank parking lot next door. The bees and butterflies are all over the plants every day now. Due to our efforts we are now designated as a Monarch Butterfly Waystation and Green Bridges Certified Garden.

Our herb garden has been carefully divided into four quadrants as (1) medicinal (2) tea (3) culinary and (4) miscellaneous small gardens. The black swallowtail caterpillars are all over the parsley and fennel getting ready to go into their chrysalis stage. Several of our pollinator volunteers are still collecting and tending these little creatures for future butterfly releases. We also have tiger swallowtail butterflies every summer on our colonized garden phlox. Of course, there are other butterfly and hummingbirds throughout PVG.

The Honor Brick pad in front of the wisteria pergola has become a beautiful hardscape for honoring and remembering gardeners connected to ACMGA.

Dian Owens, PVG Co-Chair









## Intern Graduation



Those Graduating were:

Al Booth, Jane Boysen, Catherine Brooks, Valera Brown, Phillip Creel, Glenda Harris, Lori Terrell  
Shannon Mayes, Soyna Moore, and Jonna Turberville

Those who completed the classes but lack a few hours to graduate were:

Carol Armstrong, Mary Rogers, Xavier Lewis and Vicki Williamson

## Top Hours Award Goes to Soyna Moore with 253.5 Hours



Others Having Over 100 Hours were Jane Boysen, Catherine Brooks, Phillip Creel,  
Shannon Mayes, Lori Terrell, and Jonna Turberville



## Alabama Master Gardeners Fall Seminar



### "Fall" in Love with Your Garden

HOSTED BY:



Contact Info: Rose McCauley [jrmprat@charter.net](mailto:jrmprat@charter.net) 334-365-3112

ACMGA is taking extra precautions to ensure your health & safety during this seminar.

Thursday,  
September 30, 2021

9:30 am – 3:45 pm

Cost \$30.00

#### SESSIONS:

**Dr. Leila Scott Kelly**

*Color in the Fall Garden: Developing a fall palette of color to add interest throughout the season*

**Dr. Fudd Graham**

*All Insects are Not Pests! Identifying & Encouraging Native Insects in Your Garden*

**Fred Bassett**

*Southeastern Hummingbirds: The Fall Migration*

**Dr. Desmond Layne**

*The Transformation Garden at Auburn University*

Optional: ACMGA Public Gardens Tour

**3 CEUs will be earned**

#### LOCATION:

Trinity United Methodist Church  
610 Fairview Avenue, Prattville, AL 36066

Registration Form:

Deadline to register is September 22, 2021

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ E-mail: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Master Gardener Association/County: \_\_\_\_\_

Lunch Preference: \_\_\_\_\_ Turkey \_\_\_\_\_ Ham \_\_\_\_\_ Vegetarian

Optional: ACMGA Public Gardens Tour on Thursday, September 30<sup>th</sup> 4:00 pm

Please circle: Yes No

Optional Hotel Information: La Quinta Inn, 261 Interstate Commercial Park Loop, Prattville, AL 36066 334-310-0869  
Hampton Inn, 2590 Cobbs Ford Road, Prattville, AL 36066 334-285-6767

Mail Registration Form & Check Payable to ACMGA to: Rose McCauley, 252 Berry Lane, Prattville, AL 36066



# Queen Bee Award

Sometimes some special person comes along who is indispensable to the success of a particular program. Mallory Kelley is one such person. No words can describe what she means to the Autauga County Master Gardener program especially the new intern program. Therefore, the Autauga County Master Gardeners Association wanted to honor Mallory with the Honorary Queen Bee Award.





## Autauga County Master Gardeners Association

### Membership Renewal Form

Annual County membership dues for 2022 are \$15. State dues are \$10 and optional. State dues entitle you to State Membership and **Pathways Newsletter**. You can also receive state awards such as Reach for the Stars. Please complete this form and return it to the Treasurer, **NO LATER THAN OCT. 15<sup>th</sup> 2021**. After the deadline, there is a \$10.00 late fee.

NAME \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_ Check if your information in the 2021 ACMGA Membership Directory is correct. If no changes, it is unnecessary to complete the information below.

ADDRESS \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

PHONE \_\_\_\_\_ CELL \_\_\_\_\_

EMAIL \_\_\_\_\_ DOB \_\_\_\_\_

(Only give email address if you wish to receive info via email) mm/dd

COUNTY OF TRAINING \_\_\_\_\_ YEAR OF GRADUATION \_\_\_\_\_

TYPE OF MEMBERSHIP:

Local Dues State Dues

\_\_\_\_ Active Member Local & State \$15 \$10

(includes graduating interns)

\_\_\_\_ Active Member Local Only \$15 \$0

(includes graduating interns)

\_\_\_\_ Active Member w/ current State Lifetime \$15 \$0

\_\_\_\_ Active member w/ new State Lifetime \$15 \$150

(one time fee)

\_\_\_\_ Yes, I am a dual member. County of primary membership \_\_\_\_\_

Make check payable to ACMGA.

Mail or give to:

Cheri Cook Check \_\_\_\_\_ Cash \_\_\_\_\_

813 Bluegrass Drive

Prattville, AL 36067 Receipt # \_\_\_\_\_

# MEYER LEMONS

## Don Armstrong



The Meyer Lemons at the Armstrong home are starting to turn yellow. By Christmas they will be ripe and finally ready to pick. OK, we have picked some already.

### **Eat The Segments**

Use your Meyer Lemons in your own favorite way. Once we have squeezed the juice out of them, I turn the rind inside out and eat the pulp. Yes, it is a little tart. It has to be as it is a Meyer Lemon. Remember, the Meyer Lemon is a cross between a lemon and an orange, so it is not as tart as “real” lemons. When you eat an orange, you eat all of the segment skin, so why not eat the same parts from the Meyer Lemon??? It counts as a fruit, and it is actually quite good. OK, so it is a little bit puckery!

### **Make Candied Lemon Rind**

Once you have the juice out and the segment pieces gone, it is time to use the rind. Slice the rind into thin wedges, about ¼ inch wide on the fat end. Take a plastic container, sprinkle a little sugar in the bottom. Put a layer of these wedges on the sugar. Cover this layer with sugar, just enough to cover the wedges. Repeat until all wedges are covered with sugar. Set this aside and forget about it for a couple of months, or up to a year.

Use the candied lemon rind in any recipe that calls for the store bought candied rind. Enhance your favorite sugar cookies with some very finely chopped pieces of this candied lemon rind. When you have used all of the candied rind, or almost all of it, use the sugar to make a very lemony sugar cookie.

## **Magic Lemon Meringue Pie**

This recipe comes from a 1952 *Borden's Eagle Brand 70 Magic Recipes* cookbook that Glenda has had since, well, since forever. The pie is great. In fact, it is so good we only get four servings out of one pie!

Perfect lemon filling without cooking. Easy as a mix, yet all the delight of real lemon flavor. (Makes an 8-inch pie.)

### **Filling**

- 1 crumb or baked pastry 8" pie shell, cooled
- 1 1/3 cups (15 ounce can) Eagle Brand Sweetened Condensed Milk
- 1/2 cup lemon juice\*\*\*
- 1 teaspoon grated lemon rind or 1/4 teaspoon lemon extract – rind is best
- 2 egg yolks.

\*\*\*Meyer Lemons will not make as tart a lemon pie as you like. Glenda adds 1/4 teaspoon of lemon extract to the Meyer Lemon juice.

Place all of the filling ingredients into a bowl and using a rubber spatula, mix until the mixture thickens.

Pour the thick mixture into a chilled crumb crust or cooled pastry shell.

### **Meringue**

Heat oven to 325 degrees Fahrenheit.

- 1/4 teaspoon cream of tartar, if desired
- 2 egg whites
- 4 Tablespoons granulated sugar

Add cream of tartar to egg whites (if you want to use it) and beat with a mixer until almost stiff enough to hold a peak. Then add sugar gradually, beating until stiff and glossy, but not dry.

Pile lightly on the pie filling and seal to the pie crust all around

Bake in slow oven (325) until the top is lightly browned, about 15 minutes.

Cool and enjoy your Meyer Lemon pie.

Store the pie in the refrigerator. It is also known as the Lemon Icebox Pie.



# Editor's Corner



I am presently on the Nominating Committee for the State Board. We are looking to fill two Members at Large positions, the Assistant Treasurer's position, and an Assistant Newsletter Editor. Please consider and contact me if you are interested.

Next deadline for newsletter articles is September 8.

Anthony Yarbrough

([ayarb@knology.net](mailto:ayarb@knology.net))

