



August 2016

Volume XXIV Issue VIII



NEWSLETTER OF THE BALDWIN COUNTY MASTER GARDENERS, INC.

WWW.BALDWINCOUNTYMASTERGARDENERS.COM

2015 BCMG Elected Board

President:

John Fitzhugh

President Elect:

Pam Tucker

Vice-President:

Sharon Thoele

Treasurer:

Gene Sellier

Recording Secretary:

Mary Hamilton

Corresponding Secretary:

Connie Griffin

Members at Large:

Bernie Fogarty

John Kitch

Past President:

Myra Lassere

2015 Appointed Board

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Continuing Education Chair:

Sharon Thoele

Finance Committee Chair:

Gordon Cooper

Intern Class Coordinator

Pam Tucker

Outreach Coordinator

Tanys Waldron

Projects Chairperson

Gary Wallace

Merchandising Purchase Chair

Maura Daniell



President's Notes by John Fitzhugh

Congratulations and an enthusiastic welcome to our seventeen new Master Gardeners. The 2016 Class is heralded to be one of Baldwin County's best intern classes ever in terms of classroom achievement and recorded volunteer hours. However, the "proof in the planting" will be measured by how much each new member contributes to the success of our organization in the future.

I am also delighted to welcome Lynn Andrews back as our newsletter editor, beginning with the August edition. Lynn served as our editor a few years ago and is excited to be back in the publishing business.

On behalf of our entire membership, I would like to thank Barbara Comstock for her unselfish dedication and hard work in putting together the Grass Roots newsletter as our editor during the past several months. Her eye-catching photography, Yankee wit and shared knowledge of gardening will be greatly missed. Fortunately, Barb has agreed to stay on as a contributing writer and support Lynn and her editorial staff as we move forward.

We all know that July and August are generally the hottest months of the year in our region. We often hear the phrase "Dog Days of Summer," referring to this part of the summer when the days are so oppressively hot that dogs go crazy and humans frantically seek shelter in the shade. Webster's defines Dog Days as a period marked by lethargy, inactivity, or indolence.

During this month, I urge all MG volunteers to stay cool, conserve your energy and get ready for a busy and important September and October when we must turn our attention to the Weeks Bay Foundation Fall Plant Sale and our Fall Educational Seminar. The Plant Sale will take place October 7th through 9th and the Fall Seminar will be held at the Fairhope Civic Center on October 27.

Sharon Thoele and Paula Pritchett and their Fall Seminar Committee are already busy putting together what is sure to be a very enjoyable, informative, and financially successful event. There is much work to be done so please do not let the Dog Days discourage you from volunteering to help with the Plant Sale and Fall Seminar.

SAVE THE DATE

Join the Baldwin County Master Gardeners for our Fall Seminar
"Go Wild, Go Native"

Speakers: Mark Ballard & Ben Raines

Mark Ballard: Cookbook Author, Home & Garden Designer, Newspaper Columnist, TV Personality
Ben Raines: Environmental Newspaper Reporter, Award Winning Documentary Producer

Thursday, Oct 27, 2016

9am to 3pm

Fairhope Civic Center

Tickets - \$15

* Door Prizes & Silent Auction *
Lunch on your Own

For information and tickets contact Paula Pritchett (251)- 752-0609 or pdpritchett@gmail.com
Watch the video on Facebook: Baldwin County Master Gardeners

?? Gardening Questions: Call our free Helpline - Mon to Fri - 10am to 4pm

[1-877-252-4769](tel:1-877-252-4769) or www.aces.edu



Meeting Minutes by Mary Hamilton

The meeting was called to order by our President, John Fitzhugh. A motion was made and seconded to approve the Minutes of the June Meeting.

President, John Fitzhugh, asked Pam Tucker and all those who helped with the classes this year to stand. A lot of those present stood.

Paula Pritchett announced the new project being done with a teacher at Foley Grade School with organically growing blueberries.

The Fall Seminar was also announced by Paula Pritchett, along with the speakers and topic, "Go Wild, Go Native." The speakers will be Mark Ballard and Ben Raines. We will have a silent auction for the first time, and Sharon Thoele is in charge of it. There are sign-up sheets in the back for coordinators. They will have baskets. They ask that a native plant be included in the basket. She made many suggestions for possibilities for the baskets, and they are asking each class year to do a basket.

Laurel Fleming and Tanys Waldron have been working on a video for promoting the Fall Seminar, and we watched it. It was great.

Myra Lassere made an announcement on the need to donate seeds. The conference next year will have a seed exchange, and she wants us to start saving now. See Myra about the seeds that you save. There are different web sites that we can go to and see how to save seeds. There is a basket of seeds from Ottie Dailey in the back. Please take some to have a piece of Ottie Dailey.

Tampa Sykora has been doing the work on the awards today. This location is beautiful today. Tampa's committee stood up. Anita, Judy, Jimmie and Diane stood. Tampa received the Busy Bee award. Tampa told us to keep up with our hours. There are 96 people here today, and a number have not signed in. Please sign in.

There were no door prizes today, but the zinnias can be taken home by anyone. The VIP table will eat first and then starting with the tables on the left of the room from the podium. Rev. Bob Tucker gave the invocation.

Sam Andrews presented the awards for the scholarship. The first is Dylan Taylor of Fairhope High School who will be a Freshman at Auburn University. He is on a work study program in South America for the month of July, but sent a nice thank you note to be read to the group. Sam asked members to look for qualified people to apply for our scholarships. The second winner was Alysa Gauci from Foley High School who was presented the award for the second year. She will be a sophomore at Auburn majoring in Biosystems Engineering.

Mike McQueen presented the awards for the interns. He thanked the club for all they do to make the county better. All of this year's 17 interns will be certified today, and many are receiving their bronze star. (See pictures and names of all award winners on the pages that follow.)

John Fitzhugh asked for a motion to adjourn the meeting. Bernie Fogarty so moved, and Sharon Thoele seconded the motion for the meeting to be adjourned.



Scholarship winner, Alysa Gauci, with John Fitzhugh and Sam Andrews

Intern Class Certifications and Bronze Star Recipients

Intern Class :

- Lynn Adams
- Ann Brun
- Donna Burnham
- Bonnibel Byars
- Leroy (Le) Cossette
- Michelle Doyle
- Joni Euler
- Sallie Grass
- Harry L. Hopkins
- Michelle Johns
- Rebecca Luck
- Charlotte Melton
- Barbara Phillips
- Diana Spillman
- Steve Urbanek
- Elmer L. Vick
- Terrie Withee



Bronze Star recipients for 100 hours were:

- Donna Burnham
- Le Cossette
- Joni Euler
- Sallie Grass
- Harry L. Hopkins
- Michelle Johns
- Rebecca Luck
- Charlotte Melton
- Barbara Phillips
- Diana Spillman
- Steve Urbanek
- Lynn White
- Terrie Withee



Award Winners

Receiving their Silver Star for 300 hours were:

- Margaret Griffin (not pictured)
- Ed Pickle (not pictured)
- Sharon Thoele
- Karen Rhea White



For 500 service hours, Gold Stars were given to:

- Lynn Cox
- John Fitzhugh
- Diane Hall
- Anita O'Connor
- Gary Wallace



Pam Tucker received her Gold Badge for 1000 hours



Transferees receiving their Gold Badges were:
Mia Martin and Patsy Connor

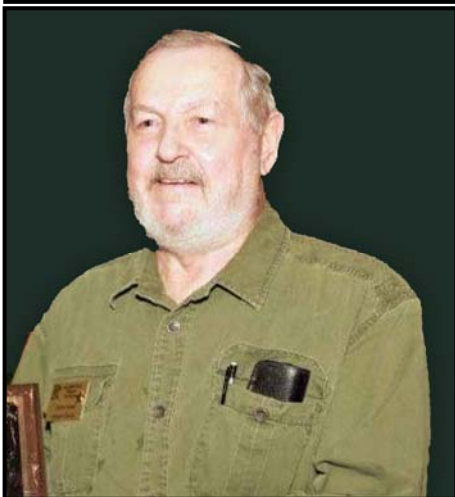
More Award Winners

(continued)



Jim Greer, who was not present, received his Amber Star for 2000 service hours.

Pictured at left, Peggy Loeffstedt and Carma Gronback received their Sapphire Stars for 3000 service hours.



Barbara Phillips and Elmer Vick (not pictured) received Rookie of the Year Awards from Mike McQueen

Our Treasurer and past President, Gene Sellier, received his Ruby Star for 4000 service hours.



Tanys Waldron received the Jean Lee Lifetime Hours Award for 2015 from the Alabama Master Gardeners Association



The Tables at the Luncheon were decorated with beautiful Zinnias.



More Award Winners

(continued)

Myra Lassere received an award from the Alabama Master Gardeners Association for Top Hours in a Year for 2015.



Scholarship winner, Alysa Gauci in center with her Grandmother and Mother.



Dear Scholarship Committee,

Thank you so much for your generosity in awarding me the Master Gardeners Scholarship. Since I am responsible financially for a large part of my education, it will be of immense help to me. I am looking forward to my time in the forestry program at Auburn. Once again, thank you for this opportunity.

Sincerely,
Dylan Taylor



TIME IS SHORT FOR Wayne de la Rua Award Nominations!

If you know of a special Master Gardener deserving our lifetime achievement award, please submit their name in a written nomination making the case for this person's consideration.

The Baldwin County Master Gardeners presents each year a special peer-nominated and peer-elected award. The Wayne de la Rua Award (WDLR) honors a deserving Baldwin Master Gardener recognized for a steady career-long contribution of outstanding service toward BCMG, Inc. goals over their Master Gardener tenure. This award symbolizes the Baldwin County Master Gardener of the Year and honors dedicated MG Wayne de la Rua, who graduated from the first Baldwin County MG class in 1990. Wayne de la Rua Awardees attain lifetime honors and are ineligible for future WDLR awards.

Please submit your written nominations as of our September 8, 2016 monthly meeting. Written nominations should include a description of why you feel your nominee is deserving of the award for longtime, significant service and should include some of the activities of the nominee.

Please fact check your written information provided regarding a person's activities and contributions. In addition, please write focused on selling your nominee's exceptional service to your fellow Master Gardeners.

The WDLR Committee reviews your nominee submission and, with possible editing, publishes your nominee's write-up in the October Grass Roots for everyone to consider. Active BCMG members vote in early November.

The WDLR Award Committee Chairman is Sam Andrews. Please submit your nominations and your questions to Sam Andrews, P. O. Box 2094, Fairhope, AL 36533-2094, or email to:

HibiscusFiend@mchsi.com. (Note: That's "FIEND" and not "friend".)

Remember, time is short, and there are many worthy candidates.

Sam Andrews,
Chairperson
Wayne de la Rua Committee



Elizabeth "Liz" Mundine (class of 2004), who worked with the intern classes and held various state and local positions, attended our Luncheon to say goodbye to everyone before she moves away. She will be greatly missed.





Mark Your Calendar

August 8, 2016	Board of Directors Meeting, Research Station, Hwy. 104
August 11, 2016	BCMG Monthly Meeting
August 26-27, 2016	Small Ruminant Conference, Perdido Beach Resort
September 1, 2016	Board of Directors Meeting
September 8, 2016	BCMG Monthly Meeting
September 8, 2016	Wayne de la Rua Nominations due
September 29, 2016	AMGA Fall Seminar, Birmingham Botanical Gardens
October 5, 2016	Board of Directors Meeting
October 6, 2016	BCMG Monthly Meeting, Weeks Bay
October 7-9, 2016	Weeks Bay Plant Sale
October 27, 2016	Fall Seminar, Fairhope Civic Center
November 2, 2016	Board of Directors Meeting
November 9, 2016	Helpline Closes
November 10, 2016	BCMG Monthly Meeting
November 19, 2016	Homesteading Expo—Loxley
December 1, 2016	Board of Directors Meeting
December 8, 2016	BCMG Membership Meeting & Awards Ceremony, Barnwell Baptist Church

Grass Roots is compiled and edited by Lynn Andrews, assisted by Sam Andrews. Pictures are courtesy of Loree Hadley. The publisher is Sandra Walton at the Baldwin County ACES office in Bay Minette. The newsletter is available before the monthly general meeting on our website: www.baldwincountymastergardeners.com

Submission of articles, items of interest, photos of BCMG events, garden tips, garden jokes, etc. are greatly encouraged and appreciated. Send to lynnandrews@mchsi.com or grassrootsnews@gmail.com.

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Baldwin County Master Gardeners
% Baldwin County Extension Office
302-A Byrne Street
Bay Minette, AL 36506
Attn: Sandra Walton

Next meeting: August 11

Location: Research Station
State Hwy. 104

Speaker: Denise Heubach, Urban Regional
Extension Agent; Forestry Wildlife and Natural
Resource Management; Home Grounds, Gardens
and Home Pests.

If your contact information changes, please
contact
BCMG
bcmginfo12@gmail.com