
MG SPROUTS

Calhoun County Master Gardener Newsletter: Volume 22, Issue 8

August 2021



Rudbeckia, Brown Eyed Susan, in Cane Creek Community Gardens Goat Bed

President's Message Dog Days of Summer

So far, we have had a relatively mild July – muggy, lots of rain but cooler than normal daytime temperatures and some really nice nights on the porch!! But it's still August in the South so best to be prepared for heat plus humidity and lots of sweat and mosquitoes. So just another reminder to get your hours quickly before time runs out! Basically, everyone that is truly serious about being an active Master Gardener should already have their volunteer hours and be close on their CEUs. The webinars from Extension have been awesome this year; not to mention Longleaf Botanical Gardens and Anniston Library programs as well.

Summer is a busy time on the farm; but August through October is prime work time – from gardening to pastures, fencing to breeding, cutting hay to preparing barns for winter weather – there is always work to be done but now is as busy a time as ever. I have already laid out my plan for Fall crops and cover crops, planted a pumpkin patch and prepared greenhouse for next round of seasonal transplants and preparing for overwintering of more sensitive plants.

Our August meeting may be our first to go back inside the classroom if the speaker needs PowerPoint. But if we do have to go inside, we will keep doors open, fans on and limit the presentation to 40 minutes then probably move back outside for the actual meeting. I'll try to watch the weather and let everyone know through the weekly email the week of the meeting.

Again, remember to get your hours into the online system early in case you have any problems. Also remember to log your extra produce, that you give away to others that are not gardening or growing something in particular, under the Grow More Give More tab. You can put the description in the comments section as well. Also, if you are viewing webinars online after recording, remember to "Like" on Facebook or make a comment so that your viewing has been documented (no need if you watch it live and have registered for the webinar) – again you can also document the webinar title or series in the comments section when you log those CEUs.

See y'all at the Creek!

MG Calendar

- MG Board Meeting, August 11, 10:45 a.m., Cane Creek Community Gardens
- MG Business Meeting, August 11, 12:00 p.m., Cane Creek Community Gardens.
- Sprouts Deadline August 23
- Lunch & Learn, August 25, 12 noon, Cane Creek Community Gardens

In This Issue

President's Message	1
My Favorite Plant	2
MG Happenings	3
Recipe of the Month	2
Cane Creek Update	3



My Favorite Plant from Emily Richardson



Yellow wood poppy, celadine poppy Papaveraceae (poppy family)

Spring is the time to enjoy the yellow wood, or celadine poppy. The bright yellow one-inch blooms welcome the early spring and bloom longer than most and sporadically through the summer. It prefers shade to part sun and moist soil. It looks wonderful scattered in a woodland garden. I love to see it next to woodland phlox; its happy yellow blooms are set off beautiful by the blue of the phlox. The leaves are held into the summer, and the wooly seedpods are interesting. It seeds easily but not aggressively. If one comes up where it isn't expected, it's easy to move to a shade bed. These plants are readily available from native plant sales or wildflower lovers.

Cane Creek Update from Skeeter Sims

- Cane Creek Crew continues to work our home grounds every Tuesday, weather permitting, from 9:00-12:30. August will continue to find the Crew weeding, cleaning beds, mowing, weed eating, and keeping up with everything else on these beautiful grounds.

- Special Projects work will be announced in weekly emails when and if time permits. We are also working towards making our grounds safe, clean, and ready for public access during Fall Fest so start making your plans now to help get Cane Creek ready and working to serve Calhoun County on the third Saturday in September!!

- Make sure to check out all the new changes = Sweet Tea Garden, Moss Hill Village, Muscadine Vineyard, and the Garden of Reflection. Also check out the new sign for the 4H/Wildlife Bed (thanks to Myra!!).

Recipe of the Month from Sarah Ballard Pritchett: Easy Lemon Bars

Preheat oven to 350*

1 box yellow cake mix
6 Tbsp. butter (softened to room temperature)
1 box (3 ounce) lemon "cook and serve" pudding and pie filling
1 can sweetened condensed milk (Eagle Brand)
2 lemons (divided)
1 cup powdered sugar



1. Combine cake mix and butter in medium sized bowl. Mix until crumbly. Press mixture evenly in greased 9 by 13 pan.
2. In same bowl, whisk pudding mix and condensed milk until smooth. Zest one lemon and juice both lemons. Add 2 Tbsp. Juice and the zest to the pudding mixture. Mix well. Pour filling over the crust in 9 by 13 pan and spread evenly.
3. Bake 24 to 27 minutes until light brown. Remove from oven and cool 10 to 12 minutes.
4. Combine powdered sugar and 3 to 4 teaspoons lemon juice to make a thick glaze. Drizzle over the top of warm bars. Cool and cut into bars.

If you have a recipe to share, please submit it to Sherry.

Mystery Gardener

Last month's Mystery Gardener was Truman Norred quickly identified by Skeeter Sims.

August's Mystery Gardener. Please let Sherry know if you can guess who this person is.

I was born in Anniston, Alabama and resided in the area until graduated from JSU University in 1966 and moved to Tuscaloosa for another degree from University of Alabama.

Gardening is a process. I enjoy preparation, growing, harvesting, and sharing the end results.

I enjoy horseback riding with friends, traveling, and hooking up a good mule team and enjoying the country.

I was an executive with major automotive manufacturing company. I rose to position of Business Management Manager for North and South Carolina before returning to Anniston to further my business career.

I currently reside in the Alexandria area.

Let's Be Social

Facebook:

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

Twitter: <https://www.twitter.com/CalhounMGs>

Instagram: <https://www.instagram.com/ccmgala>



New sign for the 4H wildlife garden created by Myra Gann

Gardening Inspiration

Garden as though you will live forever." Thomas Moore

MG Happenings by Sherry Blanton

Our Association enjoyed the July monthly meeting when our speaker, Judy Bacon, talked about and demonstrated her exceptional roses.

Dr. Robinson from Auburn presented a program about "The Art of Floral Design" at our July Lunch and Learn. Our monthly meeting in August will feature Dr. Susan Hagen, who will introduce us to exquisite gardens in Italy. We will learn how to manage plant diseases at our August Lunch and Learn

Although we can still earn our CEUs online, Longleaf Botanical Gardens, Tree Amigos, and our Master Gardener Association are now having in-person programs. Learn from both.

Please join me at the Public Library of Anniston-Calhoun County on August 3rd at 2 p.m. My programs are no longer live streamed; but they will be added to the You Tube page for the Library. The topic will be "Clinging Vines." Vines are an important part of any landscape; they can provide privacy, a screen, a focal point, shade as well as food for pollinators. Our gardens can go vertical.

On August 18th I will be participating in the Alabama Smart Yards online series. My topic will be "The Fragrant Garden" and we will discuss adding scented and aromatic plants to our gardens. The program will be via zoom at 1 p.m. A link will be sent out. Join us please.

Native Plants Make the Garden Go Round

Emily Richardson offered as her favorite plant a beautiful native. Garden writers are publishing volumes about the virtues of using native plants in the garden. Native plants bring a lot to our landscapes. They have survived for centuries in places without human intervention. We can find native trees, flowers, shrubs, grasses, and vines to add to our gardens online, in garden shops and, of course, at our local plant sales. What is so wonderful about natives? Most produce something all year whether it be fruit, flowers, or seed providing food for our birds, butterflies (and their caterpillars) and other native insects.

Native plants are used to Alabama; they survive our climate (heat/cold), and our water or lack thereof. They bring a wonderful sense of character to our gardens. The ability of native plants to provide a wildlife habitat is exceptional attracting the creatures we love in our gardens – the pollinators.

They seem to need less chemicals: fertilizers, herbicides or pesticides, a good thing for the earth. Joyfully, most native plants require less maintenance. Their ability to thrive with less water, less upkeep, and less stress on the gardener are positives for us and our environment. Ultimately, native plants save the gardener time and money.

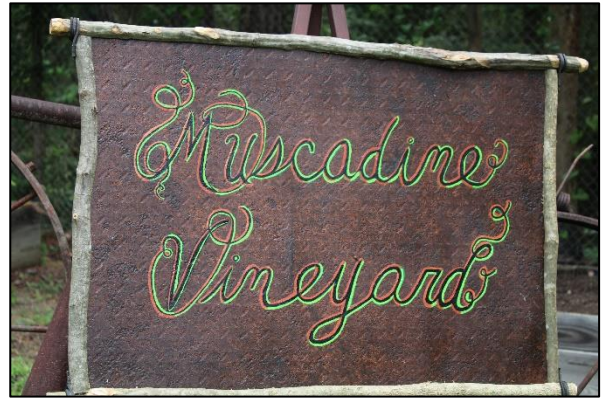
Our Sweet Tea Garden at CCCG has a fascinating variety of native plants, sure to provide inspiration for your own native garden.

Garden Humor

How do you stop moles from digging in your garden?
Take away their shovels



A Cane Creek Community Garden Lovely



CCCG Muscadine Vineyard Garden sign by Myra Gann



Marking Alabama Master Gardeners 40th Anniversary

Let's recollect the past and reconnect for the future. This year marks our 40th anniversary, and we want to celebrate it together!

The party is August 30, 2021, starting at 1:30 p.m. (CDT). Paul Patterson, dean of Auburn University's College of Agriculture, and Mike Phillips, director of Alabama Cooperative Extension, will honor us with a special recognition at 2:30 p.m.

Everyone is invited to join – in Auburn, via Zoom from your own local MG Association social, or individually from home.

Celebrate Master Gardeners and Extension Agents from the past by inviting and honoring them, too! It's 2021, so let's CELEBRATE!



Zinna in Butterfly Garden at CCCG



Daylilies at CCCG

Calhoun County Master Gardener Officers

President:	Skeeter Sims
Vice President:	Linda Wakefield
Secretary:	Judy Shew
Treasurer:	Myra Gann
Members-at-Large: Gary Lawson and Linda McDaniel	

Sprouts is published by:

Master Gardeners of Calhoun County

Editor:	Paula Barnett-Ellis
Copyeditor/Proofreader:	Sherry Blanton
Advisor: Dr. David H. West, County Extension Coordinator	
Advisor: Mr. Hayes Jackson, Urban Regional Extension Agent	
Advisor: Ms. Dani Carroll, Regional Extension Agent	