
MG SPROUTS

Calhoun County Master Gardener Newsletter: Volume 23, Issue 1

January 2022



A beauty from CCCG Butterfly Garden

MG Calendar

- MG Board Meeting, January 12, 10:45 a.m., Cane Creek Community Gardens
- MG Business Meeting, January 12, 12:00 p.m., Cane Creek Community Gardens. Lunch: TBD. Location: inside or outside, TBD.
- Sprouts Deadline, January 23

In This Issue

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



President's Message: New Year, New Opportunities!

2022, not going to review the past. But it's a new year and that means new chances for change, new opportunities for growth, and new challenges to face! It's a fresh start for volunteering and impacting our County as Master Gardeners. We will have a new class of interns starting soon and it's important for each of us to make them welcome and do all we can to learn about them as they learn about Master Gardeners and our Association. So be sure to make them feel welcome and a part of our group.

January is a slower time on the farm – Like many of you, I have already ordered my seeds, planned my garden, cleaned and sharpened my tools, serviced all equipment for Spring and reviewed last year for successes and failures. But it's also a time to order new chicks, keep the expecting animals fed and cared for, repair fencing or install new fences, clear any debris or brush from areas where storms have impacted or just to clear new feed areas. So, while it's slower, it is still a busy time – and an expectant time as we look for new kids, chicks, weeds, invasive plants and critters (like hammerhead worms, coyotes, feral hogs, etc.). So, layer up and get busy because there's lots to be done and from 28F in the morning to 70F in midafternoon you can experience a true Alabama winter wonderland of weather!!

Our next meeting will be January 12th at noon. The new Board, along with outgoing Board members, will meet prior to the general meeting. Look at weekly emails for announcements as to location and whether we are inside or out --- December's meeting went well for inside and it was great to be back to fellowship with food (way too much food!). We will decide after January about how we are going to bring back the lunches and also on our future programs and speakers.

We also will review the active directory and look for any updates to addresses, phone numbers or emails as well. We are looking to add photos to the directory as well, if everyone is willing to have their pictures taken or submitted. Also come ready to discuss going to fully digital for our newsletter to save on printing and postage costs in the upcoming year. It's a new year and we have a lot of good things ahead, including a return to State Conference in Montgomery – more information to follow.

See y'all at the Creek!

Let's Be Social

Facebook:

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

Twitter:

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

Instagram:

<https://www.instagram.com/ccmgsala>

Cane Creek Plant of the Month

Submitted by Judy Shew

"I chose the loquat tree as the Cane Creek plant of the month for January. You may think that is an odd choice, but as I was considering this, I wanted to show that even in the winter we can have beautiful arrangements in our home with fresh greenery. Pictured is the loquat tree at Cane Creek and the leaves with the blooms in an arrangement made by Linda McDaniel.

The loquat tree is an evergreen and may reach 20-30 feet in height. The flowers bloom in fall and winter and attract bees for pollination."



Gardener's Resolution for 2022

"Plant the right plant in the right place."

Gardening Humor

"A weed is a plant that is not only in the wrong place but intends to stay."

Sara Stein



Recipe of the Month

We are now using recipes from the ACES.edu web site, Live Well. They are easy, cost efficient, and healthy. Let us know what you think.

Live Well Recipe: Balsamic Roasted Turkey Salad
August 1, 2019

Posted by: Sondra Parmer

Our Balsamic Roasted Turkey Salad is perfect for a light lunch. Add any fruits and veggies you like to this tasty salad. Serves 7.

Ingredients

1/4 cup balsamic vinegar
1/4 cup fat-free Italian dressing
3 cups fresh spinach, chopped
1 cup fresh Brussels sprouts, thinly sliced
4 ounces deli roasted turkey breast, diced
1 tomato, diced
2 tablespoons low-fat mozzarella, shredded
1 apple, cored and diced
1/2 cup dried apricots, chopped
1/2 cup walnuts or pecans (optional)

Directions

In mixing bowl, whisk together balsamic vinegar and Italian dressing.

Add spinach, Brussels sprouts, turkey, tomato, mozzarella cheese, apple, apricots, and walnuts/pecans (optional).

Toss well to coat all ingredients.

Gardening Inspiration

"The love of gardening is a seed once sown that never dies, but never grows to the enduring happiness that the love of gardening gives. – Gertrude Jekyll (2016) 'Wood and Garden – Notes and Thoughts, Practical and Critical, of a Working Amateur' Read Books Ltd.



Update from the Jacksonville Pocket Park

“Santa stopped by in December to visit with Rudolph. He was in the neighborhood taking Christmas lists. We asked for healthy plants.”

Pocket Park Rangers

Update from Tree Amigos

“Tree Amigos had a great year at Coosa Valley Youth Services. The greenhouse is full with plants grown from the cuttings the girls worked on throughout the year. The girls enjoyed a field trip to Dick and Sarah’s farm November 17. Along with a hay ride, they learned the history of the settlers in Ohatchee. If you would like to volunteer with Tree Amigos in 2022, contact Hayes Jackson.”

Ellen Cannon

Master Gardener Happenings

Paula and I are sprucing up Sprouts. There will be some things you will not see any more but other added items to educate, inform, and even entertain you. Welcome new Master Gardeners who completed the requirements to be certified: John Murphy Janet Brittain, Richard Atkinson, Carol Fischer, and Wayne Morris.

The best source for up-to-date MG information remains Linda McDaniel’s weekly e-mail. Sprouts is produced in the month prior to distribution; changes can happen. Linda also includes interesting pieces by our local members and state news. Currently, Stan Bennett is contributing a monthly column about bees, “Bee Buzz.” Stan is a beekeeper who has established a hive at Cane Creek.

Congratulations to the new executive board and members at large:

President Skeeter Sims, Vice President (and head of the program committee), Tim Kaylor, Treasurer, Tom Gilbert, Secretary Geri Toycen, and members- at-large Lyn Web and Linda McDaniel.

Please join me at the Public Library of Anniston-Calhoun County on January 11th at 2 p.m. Programs are no longer streamed live on FB or archived to YouTube. Our topic will be resolutions to plan, create, and grow a successful garden. Make gardening easier and healthier for the plants, the gardener, and the environment. You can earn CEUs.

Sherry Blanton

Update from Longleaf Botanical Gardens

“LBG held a successful fall plant sale. The Green Team members have been propagating plants and doing general garden maintenance and clean up as well as planting pansies for winter color. Although we need more volunteers to help with normal activities, we really need someone who can drive a tractor. We have a tractor with a scoop on the front, we just need a driver to haul mulch and distribute it to the planting beds. Please contact Hayes Jackson or Cheryl Heine at the museum to volunteer.”

Patricia Patty

Cane Creek Update

- Grounds crew will begin working again on 4 January, weather permitting. Updates will be via weekly emails.
- We will be cleaning/clearing all landscaped beds as well as refreshing with mulch in the upcoming month.

Skeeter Sims



Thank you, Skeeter for all you do for our MG Association on the state and local level



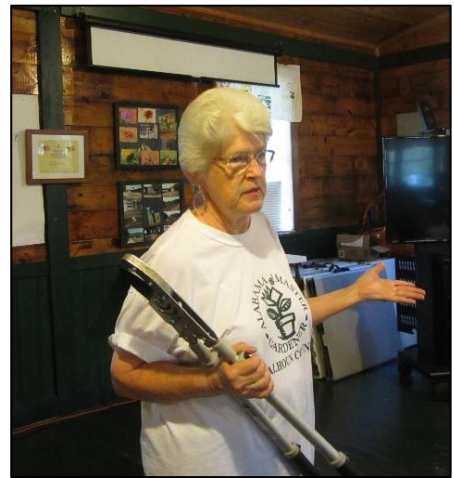
Landon Rivers helps out at the Country Store sale in 2020. We stayed safe with our masks, social distancing, and gathering under the pavilion.



Jim Wakefield painting the clubhouse in 2014

What's Blooming?

Beautiful and blooming in the garden at the end of December: camellias, mahonias, pansies, and snapdragons. The Christmas cactus, the amaryllis, the cyclamen, and the poinsettia remain in flower in the house.



Janice Cain demonstrates her special pruner at a monthly MG meeting



In memory of our good friend and MG Joe Trawick (Joe's shed)

Calhoun County Master Gardener Officers

President:	Skeeter Sims
Vice President:	Tim Kaylor
Secretary:	Gerri Toyce
Treasurer:	Tom Gilbert
Members-at-Large:	Linda McDaniel and Lyn Webb

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