

CHILTON COUNTY MASTER GARDENERS

MEETING MINUTES  
SEPTEMBER 9, 2014

Sondra Henley, President, called our meeting to order as she welcomed Rose Utendahl, Jimmy Fretwell, Lamar Giles and our guest speaker for today Paul Saeger. She also welcomed all interns and members present.

She started our meeting by reminding everyone that Jemison lets us use their complex facilities free. The City of Jemison has asked us to landscape the front of Jemison City Hall. This includes pruning, digging up some plants and planting new ones. This is the least we can do for the City of Jemison for the kindness they have shown CCMGA. Times and dates for this project will be announced later.

September 24, 2014 will be a craft day at Sondra's house. Instructions on how to get to her house are on the table. These crafts will be sold at Thorsby Swedish Fest, October 11, 2014. You can donate any crafts that you have or want to make. Only make or donate five of each item or craft. We need everyone possible to show up. Bring a sack lunch.

We had several door prizes today. Winners from the first drawing were, Lamar Giles, Diane Clapp, Joann Davis, Betty Knight and Treasia Bennett.

Lanell Baker, Secretary, reported no regular business meeting was held in August. There was a report of the work by the CCMGs at the EXPO posted to our website. No vote for approval was needed.

Treasurer, Margaret Goolsby, gave reports for July and August.

July treasurers report:	
Balance last report	\$3,076.08
Deposit: (Cups - \$20.00, Logo - \$30.25, Directory - \$3.50, Plants - \$76.00)	+ 129.75
Checks written: (ck #171 - \$ 20.70, ck #172 - \$14.46, ck #173 - \$33.25, ck #174 - \$30.22, ck #175 - \$199.00, ck# 176 - \$21.50)	- 319.13
No outstanding checks	
Bank Balance	\$2,886.70
August treasurers report:	
Balance last report	\$2,886.70
Deposit: sales from EXPO	+ 682.10
Checks written: (ck #178 - \$12.33, ck #179 - \$355.28, ck #180 - \$84.90, Ck #181 - \$38.68)	- 491.19
Bank Balance	\$3,077.61
Checks not cleared: (ck #177 - \$70.00, ck #182 -\$25.00)	- 95.00
Actual Bank Balance	\$2,982.61

Pat Farmer made a motion to accept these reports. Audrey Giles seconded the motion and the motion was approved.

Jackie Hickman had items that workers had left at the EXPO. She ask for them to pick them up and most items were claimed by their owners.

#### OLD BUSINESS:

Sarah Saunders represented the CCMGA at the National Extension Agents Conference in Mobile on July 19<sup>th</sup> and 20<sup>th</sup>. She had her display set up and showed the power point presentation she used at the conference. It was very effective at the conference and she got lots of information out to the public as to what Master Gardeners are about and how they work with the Extension Agents. Thanks Sarah for all your hard work and representing us so well.

If you did not get the last insert that goes into your Handbook, there are copies on the table. Please add them to your Handbook so you'll have all the information you need for the remainder of the year.

#### NEW BUSINESS:

The Cottage Food Safety Workshop was a big success. There were several MGs that took advantage of this workshop. Those that attended can go by the Clanton Health Department between 8:00 - 9:00 AM, and see Pam New about getting your Certificate.

Sondra read a fairly long list of Fall Conferences coming up. She urges every one that can to attend one of them. They are very informative and educational. Petals from the Past has some online.

The new frost date for our area is 10/28/14 this fall and next spring the last frost date is 4/9/15. Nelson Wynn said he had not heard about the new dates.

Gay West needs more fair judges for the Shelby County Fair. She already has volunteers but she needs more. If you can help please let her or Sondra know.

There will be a Grant Writing class in the near future. Please keep this in mind. We need as many as can to take this class. It is very important now that we are a 501c3 organization.

Our next door prize winner was Paul Saeger.

“Questions from the Crowd” - Skip Coulter:

Q. Skip asked the first question. How do you grow pumpkins? He doesn't have much luck growing them – any suggestions?

A. Plant pumpkins on July 1<sup>st</sup> and you'll have them by fall. Another suggestion was to place something under the pumpkin to keep it off the ground. Don't turn it or disturb it or you could damage it. Just gently lift it off the ground, place something under it and lay it back down.

Q. How do you get rid of Moles!!!???

A. Chew up Juicy Fruit chewing gum and place it in the hole. The moles will eat it and the gum will kill them. Also there is a Mole trap you can buy and trap them.

Q. Do you plant roses in October?

A. Only if they are rooted in a pot with a good root system. No ball and burlap or bare root.

Q. What is a good variety of Apple to grow in the South?

A. The "Southern Gold" Apple is a good one for this area. It is a gold colored apple.

Q. When is the best time to plant Blackberries?

A. Fall is the best time to plant them. However, you probably want have very many berries until your second year.

More door prizes: Jackie Hickman and Sarah Saunders.

#### COMMITTEE REPORTS:

Steve McAnally is our Advisory Council representative. He told us this meeting is not just for the Advisory Council but for all MGs. The next meeting is November 5, 2014, 10:00 AM, at the Alabama Power Company Building in Clanton. You learn a lot about other counties and how and what they do for their communities. You can also make suggestion as how to make the AMGA work better for our area. Since this is a state wide meeting and people come from long distances, we have volunteered to set up tables, make coffee, etc. and make it a little easier on the council.

Steve also announced that we are now a 501(c)(3) organization. We will have to abide by their rules as how we do business. Nothing much will change because we already do almost everything required. Much of our information is now required to be available to the public, including our 501(c)(3) IRS Application, our Conflict of Interest policy and our Financial Statements. We are going to solicit donations from the public so we have to register with the Alabama District Attorney's Office. We are not required to register with the Alabama Secretary of State office because we are not a corporate entity. We will satisfy much of the public records access by putting the information on the website. We have already applied for a tourism grant in the amount of \$1500.00. If this is given to us it will be in two different payments.

Jane Mason reported that she has already sent 13 cards out this year. She is going to send Ann Baker one because she had surgery today.

She also stated that the Forestry Council will be meeting at the Alabama Power Company Building.

Bob Bates reported that Ben Matthews is home doing well and would love company. He can eat bananas, watermelon, peaches, tomatoes, etc. His address is 1366 Kincheon Road, Clanton, AL.

Jerry Farmer reported the Demo Garden is to undergo considerable changes. There will be a shade garden of approx. 10'x20' added. Some of the existing garden plots will be removed, water features will be added, and electricity put in the garden for the water features and lighting. Our Design and DEMO garden committees will meet September 18<sup>th</sup>. If you have any suggestion or ideas on the design of our DEMO garden please contact Sondra or any member on the Design Committee.

All plants that are in the garden now need to be removed by September 20. After this date any plants remaining in the garden will be potted up and sold at the Swedish Fest.

Wally Walters reported on the EXPO. She stated that she and Lee would be in charge of it again next year. She stated we had a very good EXPO this year. She would like suggestions for changes to make next year's EXPO even better. Please give your suggestions to Wally or Lee.

Margaret Goolsby stated we have already paid for our booths at the Swedish Fest on October 11, 2014. She requested the same location we had last year. We have one booth with electricity and one without.

Mildred Knowles said there were only 3 more months that she and Jimmy are responsible for food. Someone needs to volunteer for the food committee before January, 2015. If you volunteered to bring food in October your cards are on the table as to what to bring. November we need two people to bring Fruit and Cheese. She'll have more on our December lunch in October and a list for you to sign as to what to bring.

Trisha Williams reported that we are currently 8<sup>th</sup> in the state for reported hours. If you have a hard time keeping up with your hours she has two sheets you can pick up. Maybe these sheets will make it easier for you. Please get all your hours in ASAP. Don't wait until December, because that makes it hard on Trisha to get all the paper work in by January, 2015. They don't like for you to do it, but if you are so far behind, just put them in cumulatively. We would like to stay in the top 10 in the state.

Door Prizes: Sondra Henley, Mildred Knowles and Katie Moon.

Audrey Giles has been doing our Scrapbooking for the past two years. She is given it up and would like for anyone interested to please see her or Sondra.

After our business concluded Pat Farmer introduced our guest speaker of the day. Mr. Paul Saeger is a Master Gardener in Shelby County. He presented a very interesting and informative program on "HYBRID ROSES". His presentation was titled "Rose stories and More". He started growing roses over 50 years ago. He gave an in depth background as to how the Peace Rose came to be. It started out only a number, 3-35-40, in Germany before the World War. In 1945 after the war was over it was named the Peace Rose. On the same day it was named the Peace Rose in the US, Berlin fell, a truce was declared in Europe and a peace treaty was made in Japan. When you buy a rose make sure it is rated at least an 8. Roses are rated from 0.0-6.0, not recommended, to 9.3-10, one of the best. The Peace Rose dropped from a 9.3 down to an 8.8 last year. The reason is because of its age. The older it gets the more vigor it loses. He named over the different types of Roses. The Old Garden roses, those seen at cemeteries or around old home places or the wild rose that has only one petal but smells great. Hybrid Tea, Grandiflora, Floribunda, Polyantha, Miniature, Mini flora and Shrub roses are more types he talked about. All roses come in many colors and bi-colors and some have a very heavy fragrance while others are only grafted for bloom size. He gave us a tour of his rose garden via power point and named over some of the varieties he grew. He has renamed most of them for his children and grandchildren. Thank you Mr. Saeger for sharing your knowledge of Hybrid Roses and the stories behind them.

Barbara McAnally has forms for ordering Fall Logo items. Please see her after the meeting. Also, she has some shirts that are half price if anyone is interested.

CCMGA Board Meeting is Monday, September 29, 2014, 10:00-12:00, at the "Little House" in Thorsby.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned.

With guest, interns and members, we had a total of 43 present.

