

CHILTON COUNTY MASTER GARDENERS
MEETING MINUTES
April 10, 2018

President, Sondra Henley, opened our meeting at 9:30 AM. She welcomed all members and guest that were present. She especially welcomed Roy Sallis, a former CCMGA president, after being absent for a while. She explained that his wife Patty, also a CCMGA member, lost her battle with cancer recently.

Sondra stated that Renee Powers invites everyone to her home for a meeting with the State of Alabama Commissioner of Agriculture.

She also showed a brochure that Alice Broome and Susan Cleckler has produced. It contains all the information of upcoming events, tours and speakers for this year. Pick one up and you'll know what's going on and have it in hand. Also, you can find this information on our web site and Facebook page.

Lanell Baker, secretary, asked for a motion to accept the minutes as posted on our web site. Harriett Jackson made the motion and it was seconded by Susan Cleckler. There was no discussion and the motion was approved.

Pat Farmer, treasurer, reported our balance as of March 31, 2018 as \$2,261.17. She read the complete report and explained that we received the AMGA grant for the shade cover for the DEMO garden. We had to pay the awning company \$1400.00 on the shade cover but we will be reimbursed for this amount. She asked for any discussion. There being none she asked for a motion to approve the treasure report as read. Jackie Hickman made the motion, seconded by Diane Clapp. The motion was approved.

Susan Cleckler, VP, introduced our guest speaker Holly Wadleigh. Holly was in the 2nd CCMGA class after we started. She worked with Jason Powell at Petals from the Past for 16

years. She went back to college at age 40. While attending the University of Montevallo she was asked if she would like to participate in the community garden. Through the UM community garden she works with the Shelby Emergence Assistance program feeding people in need from the garden.

Everything they grow in the garden is 100% organic. Many people they help are elderly and they like to come and pick their own food. The area of the garden is approximately ¼ acre, they keep rotating crops all year. She also has plants that draws butterflies and other pollinators. Everything is watered by hand and the water they use comes from a nearby creek. Stated that she loves her work because it touches so many people.

She also stated that she and a friend are going to open a restaurant in the old part of Jemison called “Ole Town Eatery”.

They will use foods they grow. The bakery part will open in mid-summer. There was a Q & A time that followed.

The CCMGA will tour the UM Community Garden next Tuesday, April 17th, for those that are interested in touring the garden. Please sign up on the sheet in back.

Sondra explained about the 501c3 meeting that was presented to the Autauga County MGA. It went well and we have a brochure available that we can share with others.

Extension Office back flower bed looks good. Soaker hoses and timer will be installed soon.

Hyper tufa is ready to pick up today. Just follow Sondra home after meeting.

Pat Farmer explained the payment plan she has set up for our members to pay on the \$150.00 fee for the 2019 AMGA conference. Stated that several people had paid her today.

Amount could be less, the AMGA sets the registration fee. If you cannot attend all monies will be reimbursed except for the amount for food that has been ordered.

Harriett Jackson thanked everyone for the donations of items and money for the 2018 auction basket.

They will be taking this to the conference in May.

Harriett has the butterfly garden at the DEMO garden. Lost a lot of plants this year because of the cold weather. If you have

some native butterfly weed please share it with her. Needs mounding yellow Zinnias also. If you can help at the DEMO garden this Thursday at 9:00 AM to screen the soil from the EO flower bed it would be greatly appreciated.

Susan Cleckler, VP, went over some off the upcoming tours.

Stated the Autauga Co. DEMO garden tour will leave the Clanton City Hall parking lot at 8:15. We are to be there at 9:00 AM.

April 17th, the Montevallo Community Garden tour will leave the Jemison City Hall parking lot. She will send out time to those who signed up thru email.

She stated since July and August is usually so hot there are no trips scheduled.

May 8th, our regular meeting, will be our plant swap at the CREC. They are setting up the big tent for us. We have invited the Autauga Co. and Shelby Co. MGs to join us. Michael Thomason, VP, of the AMGA will be our special guest. Bring your plant to swap, food to eat and a chair to sit in.

We presented Jim Pitts a \$75.00 gift certificate at his retirement party, a small token of thanks for all his help through the years. We hope to have \$100.00 to give Elaine Densmore before May to help her with the ACES Personnel Association meeting Chilton Extension Office is hosting. Along with the money we will be helping her set-up, clean up and decorate for her upcoming meeting May 16th and 17th. She has also ask us to serve at two meals during the conference and give tours of our DEMO garden.

Lee Walters gave the agenda for the upcoming garage/plant sale.

It will be April 21, 8:00 AM – 3:00 PM. Thursday, April 19th, meet at the EO and bring a fat black marker to made signs.

After signs are made we will hand out fliers over town. April 20th, we will move items in storage to EO parking lot and if you have items at home bring them between the hours of 12:00 – 2:00 PM. Put signs out early Saturday, April 21st. We will have tickets made up for the sale, green ones for plant or yard items and white one for all other sale. This will help us know which items sold better.

Faye Collins reported that she has sent a card to Bonnie Harrell.

Sondra told us that Bonnie has cancer and not able to attend at this time.

Pat Farmer is in charge of the helpline this year and reminded us to please sign up. The list is on table in back. Also “Ask a Master Gardener” at Garrison Farm each Saturday from 8:00

AM – 12:00 PM, please sign up on list in back

Sondra, in closing, ask all of us to please support the garage/
plant sale. If you cannot help, come by and shop. This will
probably be our biggest fund raiser of the year. The Christmas
Home Tour is still being debated and we may not have it this
year.

There being no further business or comments the meeting was
adjourned at 10:40 AM.

Members present: 34

Guest present: Holly Wadleigh, guest speaker and Roy Sallis

Total present: 36