

CHILTON COUNTY MASTER GARDENERS  
ASSOCIATION  
Meeting Minutes  
October 8, 2019

President, Susan Cleckler, opened our meeting at 9:30 AM.

Larry Jones led us in a moment of silence to reflect on things we are thankful for then led us in the Pledge of Allegiance to our Flag.

Susan welcomed all members and guests that were present.

She turned the meeting over to Sondra Henley and Pat Farmer, co-chairmen of the AMGA Conference we held in May. They reported and presented CCMGA President, Susan Cleckler, a check for \$10,357.00 from the AMGA. This was CCMGA's part for being the Host of the Conference. They thanked each and every one for the hard work and help with the conference because without your help and dedication it would not have been possible.

There were no additions or corrections to the minutes. They were accepted as posted to our web site.

Audrey Giles, Treasurer, read our financial report ending September 30, 2019. The beginning balance was \$5341.39. After deposits and cleared transactions the ending balance is \$14,767.17. The report was accepted as read.

October birthdays: Jerry Farmer, Harriett Jackson and Teresa Davis

Our program today was all about Hummingbirds. Mr. Fred Bassett is a certified master bird bander who is President of Hummingbird Research Inc. This is a non-profit organization dedicate to the study and preservation of hummingbirds. He has banded more than 30,000 hummingbirds at more than 1,200 locations between Miami, Florida and Haines, Alaska. His research has been published in several national publications. He

had a very impressive program on how and what to feed them, the type feeders to use, how to keep your feeder clean and safe for the birds. He suggested using plain sugar water to feed them. The colored feed you buy does not draw them or help them in any way. He suggests using 4 cups water and 1 cup sugar. Just plain sugar, no brown sugar and definitely no honey. Honey will kill the birds. He encouraged us to keep our feeders out all winter because there are winter Hummingbirds and we probably have a few in our area. Also the birds need energy to migrate South in the fall and winter months. He also had a wonderful slide show of the beautiful birds he has banded over the years. This was a very extensive study on Hummingbirds and very interesting.

Pat Farmer made a motion to give an extra \$500.00 to the scholarship fund this year. When funds are available we give \$500.00 each year. This will make the amount we give for this year \$1,000.00. This motion was seconded by Alice Broome. After a brief discussion the motion was approved.

Susan stated the Jemison Planters will be planted on October 30, 2019 at 9:00 AM. A signup sheet is going around so please sign up if you can help. The more we have the quicker we'll finish.

Susan stated the fall vegetables at Thorsby School have been planted and the cabbage patch will be planted around the first of November, date to be announced later.

We are starting plans for our Christmas luncheon. It will be held at Petals from the Past in the barn.

The MGA will furnish the meat and there is a sheet going around for you to list a vegetable, salad, dessert etc. you will be bringing. We need someone to volunteer to oversee our luncheon. We also need people to volunteer to decorate the tables.

There will be a Chilton Fall Landowner Tour, Friday, October 18, 2019. We need volunteers to help with registration and serve lunch. If you can help see Pat Farmer.

Alice Broome, Christmas Home Tour Chairman, reported she has tickets for us to pick up and sell. They are on consignment but you are responsible for the money or return the tickets you

don't sell. The two for each member are \$5.00 each and you can buy those today also. All of the homes are in Verbena as well as the Historic United Methodist Church. There is a signup sheet for volunteers to help with the CHT.

Trisha Williams presented four interns with their certification.

Clem Clapp, Benita Cahalane, May Cremer-Stewart and Joan Barber have completed their study and hours to be certified.

Congratulations and welcome to the CCMGA. Trisha also reminded us to get our hours posted and keep talking and inviting people to our new class starting in January 2020. Also, our dues are due now.

Elizabeth York, Plant Sale Chairman, stated she has 1 and 3 gallon pots outside if you need them to pot up plants for the sale.

Also she has some mini blinds you can get to label your plants with. She has the signup sheet for plants you are bringing on the table up front. Go by and write down your plants. She will send out an email soon for the first meeting for those that signed up to help with the sale. Any questions please talk with Elizabeth after the meeting.

Sondra Henley, DEMO Garden Chairman, reported they have moved monkey bars from Jim's old house to the DEMO garden.

They will be planting plants on top of it and water is being run to it. They will be planting Turmeric in the garden when the time is right. Elmore County MG's will tour our garden on October 17, please come if you can. At this time maintenance on the garden is every other week and every other week at the EO garden. We are going to spray the nut grass at the EO with Image when it gets a little cooler then put down cardboard or paper to subdue the grass. If you have paper or cardboard you can give us it would be appreciated.

Lynn Webb went to the Fall Conference in Blount County and said it was fantastic. She reported they had wonderful speakers and the box lunch was the best she has ever had. She recommends if you have a chance to go to one of our conferences to go, it will be worth your time and money.

ACES will have a Bee Symposium, February 1, 2020, at CPAC.

There will be a signup sheet and more information on this closer to the date.

Treasia Bennett is taking up old eye glasses for the Lions Club.  
If you have some around your house please bring them to  
Treasia. Also, she needs someone to take over the Knot Garden  
at the DEMO garden in her place or at least help her with it.  
Please let her know if you are interested.

There being no further business or comments the meeting  
adjourned at 11:20 AM.

Members present: 25    Interns present: 10    Guest present: 5  
Total present: 40