

CCMGA Meeting March 11, 2025

The meeting was called to order as everyone recited the Pledge to our Flag.

Due to the cancellation of our scheduled speaker two of our own stepped up and did our program.

Beverly Williamson, Master Gardener, gave us a step by step program on how easy it is to work the helpline. She had a power point of each step and how much fun it is to answer people's questions. There are forms on the ACES website you can look at and study. She stated that all interns have to work the helpline before they get certified. CCMGA works the helpline every Friday mornings and the interns have it covered thru May. After May she will be looking for volunteers to work. There are all sorts of information at the Extension Office and online to help you find the answers to questions you don't know or are not sure about. Beverly has been nominated as Intern of the Year for all her hard work since joining the CCMGA.

Hugh Nichols is our conservation group leader. This is a new program that Hugh has dedicated many hours to so people are aware of the necessity of saving some of our most prized species of plants. Hugh will be speaking to the State Conservation Group in the near future about concerns. Some of the things he'll talk about are: 1. increasing our knowledge of endangered plants 2. Search and identify plants 3. Help and protect plants in our area. He stated we have a bog garden started at our Demonstration Garden at Thorsby. We have to also maintain the plant areas when we locate them, such as weeding, controlled burns and propagating the plants. He has a trip planned to the Talladega National Forest in the near future for locating and identifying plants. He supplied so much information on this subject it's hard to summarize in just a few sentences, please contact Hugh Nichols for more information.

Betsy Smith, facilitator of our intern class, invites everyone to attend one of the intern classes.

Our Birthday's for the month are: Jim Rabey. Trisha Williams and Judy Cobb.

Judy Cobb, treasurer, was absent. Sharon Hosch gave the treasure report in her place:

Treasurer Report

Beginning Balance	8,333.88
Total deposits	8,555.15
Total withdrawals	8,555.15
Total checks	327.38
Net checking balance	8,006.50
Cash box	100.00
CD balance	8,555.15
Total balance	16,661.65

Treasurer report was accepted as read.

Lanell Baker, Secretary, asked if there were any changes or corrections to the minutes as posted online. There were none so they were accepted as posted on our website.

Skip asked for updates on our flower beds. Amy Baker, Recreation Center bed, stated the watering schedule is in good shape.

Kerry Rush and Hugh Nichols, Demonstration Garden bed, stated they had their first work day with 10 people present and got a lot accomplished. Kerry told us that there are some pots in the garage next to the little house if anyone needs them.

Skip announced that we need a leader or leaders to step up and take the Extension Office bed to see that it is maintained.

Our door prizes were given out: First door prize went to Harriett Jackson, 2nd door prize went to Samuel Blackmon and the 3rd prize went to Kerry Rush

Hugh Nichols presented our Honorary Members, David and Martha Wright, with their new name tag badges. They seemed very honored to get them.

Amy Baker awarded the Peach Pin to Harriett Jackson for going beyond and above her duties as a CCMG.

Trisha Williams, plant sales chairperson, gave a report on the upcoming spring sale. She has a list of plants on the table for everyone to mark what they are bringing so she can have labels for them. She has 4 wagons committed so far, small boxes and she will send out a request by email on other items she will need. She needs volunteers to pick up plants in their covered pick-up trucks or vehicles at the Research Center and bring them to the park. After the sale if there are plants left we need people to take them home and keep them until next year. She reminded us to label our plants stating the color, sun or shade, height etc. Please bring plants in clean pots and in good shape. Make sure they are rooted well and there are no company names or stickers on the pots. Also we need someone to help get their plants to the cars. Don't wait to be told what to do, if you see a need please help.

Trisha also reminded us the Water festival is March 21, 2025 at the Performing Arts Center. Register, get your assignment and go to the refreshment table and get your shirt.

Skip is in charge of the country store and he still needs items to sell. Also we need someone to help work the country store let him know if you are interested.

Betsy Smith, Yoga Instructor, helped us to stretch and do some balancing before we adjourned.

Skip led us in a game of identifying insects and pests in our gardens. We were divided in "Annuals" and Perennials". The Annuals won 4 to 3.

There being no further business our meeting was adjourned at 11:30 AM

Present 16 members, 3 interns, 2 Honorary members: Total 21

Minutes submitted by Lanell Baker, Secretary