

THE PRAIRIE MUD

eNEWSLETTER

Volume 16, Issue 1

JANUARY, 2014

CCMGA Website: <http://www.capcitymga.org/>



Next Meeting

**Tuesday,
January 28th
9:30 Social
10:00 Meeting
Business
Meeting**

WHAT'S INSIDE?

2. Luncheon Photos
3. Treasurer's Report
4. Committee Reports
9. Announcements
13. Wreath Workshop
14. Tropical Photos
15. Prime Montgomery
16. Almanac
17. Garden To Do's
18. Extra Dirt
19. Jan. Calendar
20. Back Page 
21. Seed Starting Workshop
22. Membership Form



DECEMBER LUNCHEON



2014 Executive Board



2013 Intern Class



CCMGA Annual Luncheon / Silent Auction / Installation of officers and the Certification of the 2013 Interns was held on Tuesday, December 10th. President Tom McLemore received the award for most hours in 2013, Karin Carmichael received the Cathy Maddox Service Award for accumulative Life Time Hours and Carolyn Love Dorsey was named the 2013 Intern of the Year. Terese Goodson received the President's Award signifying the Master Gardener of the year.

Photos by Mac McLellan

A number of attendees at the December Luncheon asked for a copy of Gail Cortney's Inspirational.

Plant Three Rows Of Peas - For The Garden Of Your Daily Living;

1. PEACE Of Mind
2. PEACE Of Heart
3. PEACE Of Soul

Plant Four Rows Of Squash;

1. Squash gossip
2. Squash indifference
3. Squash grumbling
4. Squash selfishness

Plant Four Rows Of Lettuce;

1. Lettuce be faithful
2. Lettuce be kind
3. Lettuce be patient
4. Lettuce really love one another

Now No Garden Should Be Without Turnips;

- So Plant 3 Rows Of Turnips;

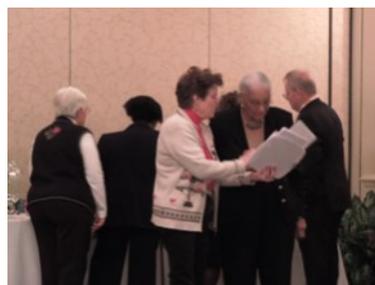
1. Turnip for meetings
2. Turnip for service
3. Turnip to help one another

Finally, Your Garden Must Have Thyme;

1. Thyme for each other
2. Thyme for family
3. Thyme for friends
4. Thyme for prayer

Water Freely With Patience & Cultivate With LOVE.

There should be much fruit in your garden, after all "We Reap What We Sow."





DECEMBER TREASURER'S REPORT



Kitty Huffaker 2010

Treasurer

CAPITOL CITY MASTER GARDENER'S ASSOCIATION

Treasurer's Report December 2013

BEGINNING BALANCE		\$16,543.22
REVENUE		
December luncheon		380.00
Dues		1,265.00
Pike Road Fair		216.10
Silent Auction		1,397.00
Wreath Workshop		50.00
Refund by Wynlakes on tax and gratuity overcharge		595.84
REVENUE TOTAL		\$ 3,903.94
CHECKS		
#1515 Diane Bush (Education committee)		75.00
#1516 Wynlakes Country Club (December luncheon)		2,510.64
#1517 Martha Stronach (reimbursement for intern lunch)		19.00
#1518 Mary Jane McCracken (reimbursement for December luncheon)		19.00
#1519 Mallory Kelly (frames for interns)		27.50
#1520 Dale Shepherd (refreshments for herb workshop and Lunch & Learn)		179.59
Bank Fee		3.00
EXPENSES TOTAL		\$2,833.73
ENDING BALANCE		\$17,613.43
Balance includes \$22.55 in petty cash		



COMMITTEE REPORTS



Lilly's Garden at Christmas



'Tis the Season

Brenda DeRamus-Coleman 2013

The Lilly Thompson Outdoor Classroom is alive with celebration. On Thursday, December 5, Master Gardeners and Interns came together to decorate the garden for the holidays. Master Gardeners Ira Howard, Wilma Howard, Ann Oldham, Suzanne Reeves, Cindy Smith, Maggie Stringer, Joyce Wilson, Brenda Coleman and School Liaison, Mrs. Shirley Johnson, met on a warm fall morning for food, fellowship, and decorating. The group created handmade bows and placed them on the fence and at the garden entrance. Live poinsettias were placed at the base of the fountain and later given as

gifts. The fountain boy and girl, along with the garden cricket donned red Santa caps.

The festive group enjoyed the fellowship of gardening friends as they enjoyed a cream cheese roll topped with sundried tomatoes and pesto, fruit, cheese, and pastries served with coffee and hot herbal teas.

The committee learned that during the previous week, Mrs. Gunn, a fourth grade teacher at Forest Avenue Academic Magnet Elementary School, was surprised by her students who took her to the garden to celebrate her birthday. The party was planned and executed by the students and their parents. This is a testament to the joy that the students find in the garden.





COMMITTEE REPORTS



Lunch & Learn

Wed, Jan 8 - Growing Citrus in the Home Garden

Wed, Feb 5 - Care and Selection of House Plants

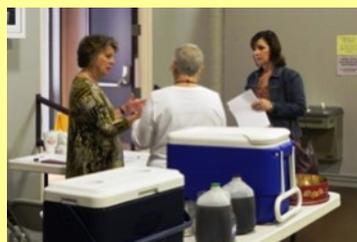
Wed, Mar 5 - Attracting Birds, Butterflies, and Hummingbirds to Your Garden

Educational Events Committee



December Lunch & Learn - Decorating with Natural Materials

w/ Sandee Ferguson 2009





COMMITTEE REPORTS



The Beauty and Fragrance of the Holiday Season are in the Air with Handmade Natural Decor

Brenda DeRamus-Coleman 2013

The final Capital City Master Gardener's (CCMGA) Lunch and Learn program of 2013, *Decorating with Natural Materials*, was held December 4 at the Armory Learning Center. Just in time for the holiday season, more than 50 participants witnessed the ease and delight of crafting decorative holiday wreaths and accessories to enhance home décor using materials that one can find outdoors.

Master Gardener Terese Goodson, chairperson of CCMGA educational events committee, introduced the program and welcomed 51 participants and presented the



speaker,
**CCMGA MG
Sandee Ferguson 2009.**

Sandee used greenery from her own backyard to design gorgeous wreaths that she displayed. Sandra enlightened the attendees by explaining how to create beautiful designs from natural plant materials; and as a bonus, pre-made wreaths were used as door prizes.

Sandra used a variety of natural plant materials taken from her garden and yard including greenery such as magnolia, holly, pine

boughs, pine cones, and other hearty plants. She also used dried hydrangeas. The floral supplies that she used included wreath forms, Styrofoam, straw, grapevines, and wire, moss, glue, pipe cleaners, wet foam, floral spray paints, pins, and ribbons.

To complete the wreaths, she demonstrated how to construct handmade bows. Additionally, she showed numerous table arrangements that could be designed using plant materials, mirrors, candles, bowls, saucers and other artifacts found around the home.

When the weather outside keeps us inside, we can bring the beauty of nature to our windows, doors, and tables with homemade wreaths and centerpieces. She recommended that the greenery be placed in water overnight before using it in designs. Greenery in the décor must be regularly sprayed to keep the arrangement moist; so that it will last longer.

The dried hydrangea wreath was made on a grapevine form. Sandra recommended using hot glue to adhere the dried hydrangea blossoms to the form. Wire and foam forms were also used to assemble the wreaths. Spray painted magno-

lia leaves and pine cones were used as table décor. A gorgeous Advent wreath was made with pine and holly. Dusty-miller, myrtle, bay, ligustrum, elaeagnus and other fresh and fragrant natural materials were used on varied forms to design additional displays.

This creative presentation included a brief demonstration on how to air-dry plants that might be used for decorating. Additional information was provided in the Alabama Cooperative Extension ANR-1115 *Drying and Preserving Flowers and Plant Materials for Decorative Use*.





COMMITTEE & PROJECT REPORTS



EDUCATIONAL EVENTS COMMITTEE

2014 CCMGA PROGRAMS (Subject to Change)

1. "Seed Starting Workshop - Preparing for Your Spring Garden", Brian Cooley, January 23, MPS Arboretum, 10:00 a.m., \$
2. "Creating an Edible Landscape Workshop", Numerous Speakers, Lunch, Grace Episcopal Church or Taylor Road Baptist Church, March or April, \$
 Creating an Edible Landscape at Home
 Raised Bed Vegetable Gardening: Spring vs. Fall Planting, or Both
 Low Key Vegetable Gardening in Pots and Containers
 Garden Pests and Problems – The Good, the Bad, and the Ugly
 Irrigation Systems for the Home Gardener – Pros and Cons of Various Ways to Irrigate – Demo of Drip Irrigation
 Growing Easy Perennial Fruits in the Garden
 Gardening Questions and Answers
3. "Benefits of a Botanical Garden for Montgomery", Fred Spicer, Director, Birmingham Botanical Garden, Taylor Road Baptist Church or Montgomery Downtown Public Library, May, \$
4. "The Lawn and Garden Show with Walter Reeves", Walter Reeves, host of weekly radio show in Atlanta and gardening columnist for Atlanta Journal-Constitution, <http://www.walterreeves.com/>, June or September
 And/or
5. "Tales from the Garden", Dr. Allan Armitage, U. of Georgia, Horticulturist, Writer, Traveler, The Trial Gardens at UGA, spoke at Herb Symposium, allanarmitage.net/speaker, \$, June or September

Capital City Master Gardener Association

JOIN US FOR LUNCH & LEARN 2014

THE 1ST WEDNESDAY OF EVERY MONTH

12:00-1:00 P.M. FREE PROGRAMS

Armory Learning Arts Center,
1018 Madison Avenue, Montgomery 36104

JAN 8	GROWING CITRUS IN THE HOME GARDEN
FEB 5	CARE AND SELECTION OF HOUSE PLANTS
MAR 5	ATTRACTING BIRDS, BUTTERFLIES, AND HUMMINGBIRDS TO YOUR GARDEN
APR 2	GROWING TOMATOES IN YOUR OWN BACK YARD
MAY 7	CONTROLLING WEEDS AND PESTS IN THE GARDEN, LAWN, AND FLOWER BEDS
JUNE 4	GROWING AND CARING FOR YOUR HYDRANGEAS
JULY 2	SHADE GARDENING
AUG 6	READY TO GROW SOME NEW FRUITS IN YOUR BACK YARD?
SEPT 3	PLANTING, MANAGING, AND HARVESTING A WINTER VEGETABLE GARDEN
OCT 1	JAPANESE MAPLES IN THE HOME LANDSCAPE
NOV 5	MAKING YOUR OWN TERRARIUM
DEC 3	CREATING HOLIDAY DECORATIONS WITH NATURAL MATERIALS

For more information contact the Montgomery County Extension Office. (334) 270-4133

www.aces.edu/counties/Montgomery/

www.capcitymga.org



COMMITTEE REPORTS



2014 CCMGA Membership Suzanne Reaves

For those of you who have submitted your application and paid \$25 for the coming year I say a very loud and grateful *THANK YOU*. If you have not yet done so I encourage you to get the application and payment to me as soon as possible.

Make check payable to CCMGA and mail to:
Suzanne Reaves, 702 Green Ridge Road,
Montgomery, 36109.

I will have a table at our January meeting on the 28th, but the official mail cutoff date is January 31st. Failure to meet this important deadline may mean you will not have a spot in our membership directory for this new year. A membership form can be found on the last page of this newsletter.

Everybody needs
beauty as well as bread,
places to play in and pray in,
where nature may heal
and give strength
to body and soul.

~John Muir



Save our Parks



ANNOUNCEMENTS



2014 Dues

Anyone who still has not paid their 2014 Dues, please send your check to

Suzanne Reaves

702 Green Ridge Road

Montgomery, 36109

If you do it now, you may still get into the 2014 Directory but time is running out.

Alabama ...
A Gardener's **JUBILEE!**
2014
AMGA Annual Conference
April 28-30 - Daphne, AL

Mark Your Calendar

2014 Alabama Master Gardener
Conference

April 28-30 2014 in Daphne, AL

hosted by Baldwin Master Gardeners

[http://alabamamg.org/
AMGAConference.html](http://alabamamg.org/AMGAConference.html)

Check Your Listing

Any errors or corrections

in the 2013 Directory

need to be sent to

Jane Shalhoop

jshalhoop@gmail.com

Before Jan. 15

LOUISIANA
**SOUTHERN REGION
MASTER GARDENER
CONFERENCE**

2014

BATON ROUGE, LA

OCT. 21 - 24, 2014.

CROWN PLAZA HOTEL

Master
Gardener™



ANNOUNCEMENTS



Petals from the Past

2014 Seminars

Saturday, January 18, 2014,
Small Fruits in the Home Garden
Dr. Arlie Powell
10:30 - 12:00

Saturday, January 25, 2014,
Sustainable Lawn and Garden Care
David Wood
10:30am

<http://www.petalsfromthepast.com/index.html>

SEED STARTING Workshop

Brian Cooley, CCMGA, Instructor

Thursday, January 23, 2014

10:00 a.m. - Noon

MPS Arboretum

1755 Hunter Loop Road (off Hwy. 31)

Montgomery, Alabama 36108

334-269-4815

Cost: \$ 10.00 covers all materials.

**Pay when you arrive at the
workshop. See Pg. 20**

Gov. Mansion Workdays

Every Monday

**Must call Jane McCarthy to
register before the previous
Friday to get your name on
the security list.**

**Jane can be reached on her
cell phone 334-221-9936.**

**Her email address is
mac&jane@att.net**

VOLUNTEER HOURS

2014

SHAKESPEARE

WEDNESDAY 9:00

MPS ARBORETUM

THURSDAY 8:00

LANARK

WEDNESDAY 9:00



ANNOUNCEMENTS



CCMGA Monthly Luncheon

Newk's[®]
EATERY



Tuesday, January 7, 2014

11:30

<http://newks.com/menu/>

7880 Vaughn Road

Montgomery, AL 36116

Cornerstone Plaza (Publix)

334-290-4955



All Bugs Good and Bad Webinar Series



Hi everyone,

Our "bug me" webinar series was so successful this year, that we're moving forward with a new series in 2014 – still about insects, but broadening the scope this time please help us spread the word – you can watch as a group in the county office (invite friends) – or in another location having internet and projection capability – or watch individually on your home computer. thanks for your assistance in promotion

Kerry Smith
Capo di tutti capi

All Bugs Good and Bad Webinar Series,

A series of short webinars on insects affecting the general public. Topics and speakers for the webinars and connection information are listed on the promotional materials linked below.

The webinars are free and will be offered on the first Friday of each month at 1 PM Central time. Webinars in the series are sponsored by various eXtension Communities of Practice (Imported Fire Ants, Urban IPM, Invasive Species, Gardens and Landscapes, and Bee Health) and by the Alabama Cooperative Extension System.

The following web page can be used to promote the 2014 series:

<http://www.extension.org/pages/70120/>

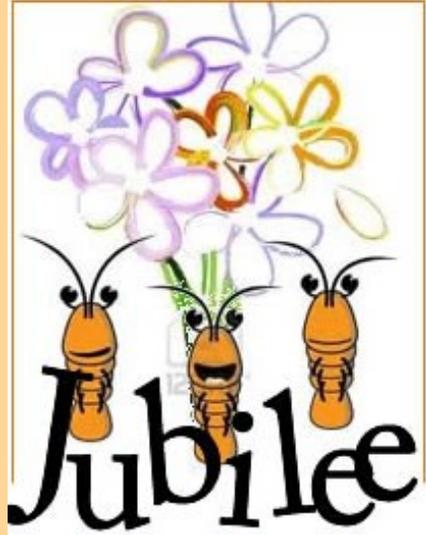
A flyer is also available:

jpeg: <http://www.extension.org/sites/default/files/2014%20Webinar%20Schedule.jpg>

pdf: <http://www.extension.org/sites/default/files/2014%20Webinar%20Schedule.pdf>



ANNOUNCEMENTS



Mark Your Calendar
AMGA Annual Conference
April 28-30 2014 in Daphne, AL
hosted by Baldwin County
Master Gardeners

<http://alabamamg.org/AMGAConference.html>



Baldwin County Master Gardeners take great pleasure in inviting you all to participate in a 'JUBILEE, gardening style'!

Open link above to watch video. Become a part of ALABAMA . . .
 A GARDENER'S Jubilee before putting one foot in Baldwin County! -



CCMGA @ AMGA Conference, Florence, AL 2012



ARBORETUM WREATH WORKSHOP

PHOTOS BY CINDY MCKENZIE & BIG 'T'



Wreath Making Workshop

It was cold and rainy outside, but inside the MPS Arboretum, it was warm and bustling, with a group of “Wreath Making Workshop” participants busily cutting vines, holly branches, rosemary sprigs, wire, and twine after Elaine Barron, CCMGA, 2012, explained how to shape a wreath form and also suggested easy ways to add greenery to the finished wreath.

Budding artists displayed a variety of large and small wreaths made from kudzu, honeysuckle, and other vines (no poison ivy). The atmosphere was quite festive as the group mingled and shared ideas and suggestions (and cookies) to make each wreath even more impressive than originally designed.

The “show and tell” portion of the workshop was a grand way to finish the session. This workshop received high marks on the evaluation forms which included “Super Class!”, “Great Event!”, “Such Fun and Informative!” This once again proves that learning can be fun for **ALL** ages!

Thanks, too, to Cindy McKenzie and Brian Cooley, CCMGAs, Class of 2012, for hosting this at the Arboretum – a perfect setting for this woody, delightful activity!



Terese Goodson





DECEMBER IN ST. LUCIA



For all gardeners, winter is not our favorite season. So I thought I would share with you some pictures I took on St. Lucia. St. Lucia is in the Windward Islands just above Barbados and Granada. While every island we visited was green, St. Lucia is garden green, if you know what I mean. These pictures were taken in the square right off the pier where our ship docked on December 21.



Montgomery's Botanical Garden Begins!

by Eileen Webb

Prime MONTGOMERY

Celebrating Midlife and Beyond

It was meant to be. On the grounds of Oak Park is an historical marker that includes the following sentence. "In February of 1965, the City Commission voted to reopen its recreational parks with Oak Park as a botanical garden."

Many years have passed since that date without the botanical garden coming to fruition. It took a passionate group of local citizens, educators and gardeners coming together to promote the idea of making it happen by planning, organizing and approaching city leaders. It became official November 7.



The ground-breaking ceremony took place on an overcast, windy day with rain clouds all around, but not a drop fell. Mayor Todd Strange spoke of what the gardens will mean to the city, the community and visitors to Montgomery. The Montgomery Garden Club provided refreshments at the ceremony led by Lallie Rogers, the great, great granddaughter of the Josephs, former land owners of the Oak Park property.

Heather Coleman and Ethel Dozier Boykin, key players in promoting the project, presented the master landscape, currently on display at the park. The landscape, created

by Boykin and Fairlie Rinehart, will include these specialty gardens:

- Alabama Native Plants
- Children's Garden
- Biblical Garden
- Japanese Garden
- Fern, Hosta and Hydrangea Garden
- Ground Cover Garden
- Butterfly Garden
- Rose Garden
- Rock Garden
- Conifer, Holly and Evergreen Garden
- Serenity Garden



The park is the perfect venue for future adult enrichment programs in gardening, botany, nature-related art, floral design, bird watching, botanical crafts, photography and health and wellness, as well as children's outdoor classroom activities. It will be a key destination for the city with the following concepts of its role developed by the Montgomery Botanical Garden Board of Directors:

- destination location for residents and visitors
- natural science-based educational experience
- role model for environmentally sound, sustainable horticultural practices
- important and profitable venue for events and functions
- plant collections-based living museum
- museum of Alabama outdoor art

The gardens will be developed in stages as money and hands are available, and several committees are being formed, including fund raising, events planning, strategic plan-

ning, history, membership and plant procurement.

Volunteers are needed for these and other committees, as well as to work in the gardens. If you would like to volunteer for any of these opportunities e-mail montgomery-botanicalgarden@gmail.com.

Honor bricks will be sold in the near future for paving a garden near the front entrance. If you wish to purchase a brick in memory of a friend or loved one, send donations to:

Montgomery Botanical Gardens
P.O. Box 344
Montgomery, Alabama 36101

After the print edition of Prime went to press, additional information was received about fundraising opportunities.

The Board of Directors of the Montgomery Botanical Garden recently approved a recognition opportunity for charter members. Anyone contributing a minimum of \$50 before December 31, 2013 will be a "Charter Member." A permanent plaque, listing all Charter Members, will be on display at the garden. Checks should be made payable to the Montgomery Botanical Garden at Oak Park and mailed to the address above.

Oak Park may only be a memory for many Montgomery residents, but its future is bright as a major recreational and educational asset in the River Region. Come watch, and participate, in the transformation.

Eileen Webb is a member of the Capital City Master Gardener Association. For information on becoming a master gardener, visit the website, www.capcitymga.org or e-mail capcitymga@gmail.com.

Prairie Mud Almanac: January Issues



The Almanac is a link to our history and is designed to enlighten our way forward. As Winston Churchill said, "Those who fail to learn from history are doomed to repeat it."

January, 2013 - 1 year ago

At the December Luncheon the 2012 Intern Class was certified and the new officers Tom McLemore, President, Mary Jane McCracken, VP, Kitty Huffaker, Treasurer and Janine Koslofsky, Secretary were installed. Ira James Howard was named Intern of the Year with over 700 volunteer hours, Harry Dickerson earned the most hours in 2012, Jerry Belcher, Lifetime Hours and Eileen Webb was the Volunteer of the Year

January, 2012 - 2 years ago

The new officers were installed, Betsy Coley, President, Anna Owen, Vice President, Lynette Morse, Secretary, Linda Carleton, Treasurer. Eighteen members of the 2011 Intern class were certified.

The 2011 Award recipients were Dianne Bush, Lifetime Award Winner, Jerry Belcher, Top Hours of the Year, Betty Starks-Smith, Intern of the Year. and Barbara Forsythe, Volunteer of the Year.

January, 2011 - 3 years ago

The new officers are Suzanne Reaves, President, Richard Moore, VP, Suzanne Brookhart, Treasurer and Jane Martin, Secretary.

2010 Award Winners were Jerry Belcher the Intern of the Year; Diane Bush the Master Gardener With the Most Hours, Cathy Maddox, the recipient of the First Lifetime Hours Award, and Charlotte Wood, the Volunteer of the Year

January, 2010 - 4 years ago

CCMGA hosting:

AMGA 20th Annual Conference

March 18-20, 2010

Montgomery Renaissance Hotel and

January, 2009 - 5 years ago

The 2008 Intern Class - Lisa Addison, Nancy Bowden, Melinda Dianne Brodman (posthumously), Robert Cope, Jim Drummand, Linda M. Carleton, Harry L. Dickerson, Martha Given, Amina Hall, Selena Hardy, Christine L. Hornady, Elizabeth Littleton, Susan Mathews, Sheila Robertson, Sandy Lynn Stevens, Jarome Thomas, Sheppard Thomas. Alan Weil, Ann Wilburn.

January, 2008 - 7 years ago

New officers were Karin Carmichael, President, Maggie Stringer, VP, Jan Gill, Secretary, Jane Shalhoop, Treasurer,

2007 Interns who were certified in Dec. Judy Crocket, Elaine Galt, Laurice Goorley, Anne Hamner, Earnestine Lewis, Pam Murphy, Buddy Murphy, Cecelia Terrell, Marie Tomlin, Calvin Whitesell, and Gay Winter. Pam Olsen of Autauga was also in this class.

January, 2007 - 8 years ago

This edition has been lost.

January, 2006 - 9 years ago

Our Christmas luncheon was a wonderful event to end our year. It was greatly enjoyed by all 49 members and guests. Kudos go to Cathy Maddox for planning the event, and hats off to Lynne Kuhlmann for a well-planned and executed auction. We made \$869.50, our best ever.

Congratulations to 19 new master gardener graduates who were recognized at the luncheon. They are D. J. Anagnos, Suzanne Brookhart, Peggy Byrd, Karin Carmichael, Betsy Coley, Nell Copeland, Emily Frye, Carol Gietl, Deborah Giles, Dick Hodges, Mac Porter, Susan Samuel, Ludy Sanderson, Anne Searcy, Jane Shalhoop, Jim Thibodeaux, Peggy Weimorts, Melissa Wilson and Judy Youngblood.



To Do's IN THE JANUARY GARDEN

ANR-47 [HTTP://WWW.ACES.EDU/PUBS/DOCS/A/ANR-0047/ANR-0047.PDF](http://www.aces.edu/pubs/docs/A/ANR-0047/ANR-0047.pdf)

Fruits and Nuts



Set out apples, peaches, pears, and grapes.

Start grafting pecans. Prune dormant trees.

Shrubs



Plant shrubs and trees, including broadleaf, narrow leaf, and deciduous.

Graft camellias in south Alabama.

Spray all deciduous shrubbery with a dormant spray to control diseases and insects.

Spray when weather is on warming trend.

Lawns



Soil test before setting up fertilization program.

Roses



Visit nurseries and garden centers to select varieties.

Start planting.

Annuals and Perennials



Plant hardy annuals.



Bulbs

Late plantings of Dutch bulbs will flower if planted now.

Lilies of all types, except Madonna, may be planted.

Check stored bulbs and discard rotten ones.

Make indoor plantings of amaryllis, callas, and gloxinias.

Miscellaneous

Prune winter-damaged limbs.



Give houseplants a bath in lukewarm water to remove dust.

To keep poinsettias that have finished flowering, turn pots on their sides and let them dry completely.

Cut them back lightly.

Keep in a temperature of 55 to 60 degrees.



Vegetable Seeds

Plant hardy vegetables, root crops, roots, and tubers in southern-most areas.

Plant lettuce, cabbage, and broccoli in cold frames



Vegetable Plants

Set out cabbage plants.

Reprinted
from



extra dirt®

Bees in Winter

P. Allen Smith



Many types of birds and butterflies migrate to warmer climates when temperatures drop. But bees stay put and protect the hive, just like they do all summer. How do they manage the cold?

Team work!

Unlike wasps and bumblebees, which live for only one season (except for the queens), honeybees can survive from year to year if they have enough honey and heat. In this video, gardening expert P. Allen Smith offers a glimpse of the [inside of a hive](#) and explains how bees work together to generate warmth.

With enough honey to give them energy, honeybees can withstand temperatures of -30°F or even lower for extended periods of time. Beekeepers who think their bees are low on food can supplement honey stores with winter feedings of things like [proprietary mixes](#) made for beekeepers, or granulated sugar.

Go team!

Recipes: App-solutely Delicious Appetizers



On a chilly winter's eve, what better way to greet your guests than with a platter of toasty warm appetizers. Deck the halls with bowls of creamy onion dips and plates of bacon-wrapped ginger-soy wings! These starters will set the tone for a delicious evening.

BACON-WRAPPED WINGS

You're in for a finger-lickin' treat with [Bacon-Wrapped Ginger-Soy Wings](#). After marinating in a bold ginger-soy sauce overnight, the

wings are wrapped in bacon and baked to create a bite-size appetizer that's totally irresistible.

MINI MEATBALL SLIDERS

A platter of [Slow Cooker Mini Meatball Sliders](#) will draw hungry guests like Kris Kringle to a pile of warm cookies. Tender Italian-sausage meatballs are covered in thick tomato cream sauce and nestled inside soft slider buns.

ONION DIP

[Hot Sweet Onion Dip](#) is an addictive appetizer that's as easy to make as it is to devour. Sweet onions coalesce with soft cream cheese and grated Parmesan cheese to create the ultimate spread for crackers or toasted baguette slices.

STUFFED MUSHROOMS

The intoxicating aroma of [Crab Stuffed Mushrooms](#) is enough to make your company sprint for the oven, eager to taste the savory morsels baking inside. Button mushrooms are filled with fresh crab meat and cheese, and then topped with parsley and panko crumbs.

BRIE CROSTINI

Studded with pistachios and cranberries, [Cranberry Orange Brie Crostini](#) make darling and delicious appetizers. Baguette slices are spread with marmalade jam, baked with a slice of brie on top and sprinkled with the colorful nuts and berries.

Do you have a recipe you would like to share? Send them to the Mud and we will print them.

CCMGA CALENDAR

Carnation

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
December 29	30	31	January 1	2	3	4
			 Shakespeare		 Vol. Hrs. 8-11	
5	6	7	8	9	10	11
	 Governor's Mansion 9am Call by Friday	Monthly Luncheon Newk's 11:30	 Lunch & Learn Growing Citrus in the Home Garden		 Vol. Hrs. 8-11	
12	13	14	15	16	17	18
	 Governor's Mansion 9am Call by Friday		 Shakespeare		 Vol. Hrs. 8-11	
19	20	21	22	23	24	25
	Seed Starting Workshop 10:30 to Noon See Pg. 20		 CCMGA Board Meeting, ACES 1:00 PM		 Vol. Hrs. 8-11	
26	27	28	29	30	31	February 1
	 Governor's Mansion 9am Call by Friday	 CCMGA Meeting	 Shakespeare		 Vol. Hrs. 8-11	

EVENTS & OCCASIONS FOR JANUARY

Volunteer hours; Wednesday at Shakespeare, and Lanark, Friday the Arboretum and Mondays at the Governor's Mansion.

7th - Monthly Luncheon, Newk's, 11:30. Pg. 9

8th - Lunch & Learn Pg. 7

22nd - CCMGA Board of Directors Meeting - All 2014 Committee Chairs are invited to attend.

28th - CCMGA Meeting, 10 am. Frazer UMC, Business Meeting



CCMGA Officers, 2013

Tom McLemore	President
Terese Goodson	Vice President
Jan Gill	Treasurer
Janine Koslofsky	Secretary

Send articles & items for newsletter to
Jerry Belcher, Editor
Phone: 334-467-5534
E-mail: jerrybelcher66@gmail.com

Kathie Mangum, Proofreader
Mac McLellan, Staff Photographer
Carolyn Love Dorsey, Staff Photographer
Sara Brown, Mailing Coordinator
Lynette Morse, Contributor
Brenda DeRamus-Coleman, Contributor



Final CCMGA 2013
Volunteer Hours 12,129
EDU Hrs. 1,677
Contacts 65,707

2013 STATE RANKING

Volunteer Hrs. 5th
EDU 3rd
Contacts 3rd

In 2014 resolve to record
your hours, if not for you,
then for the benefit of Ex-
tension and the justification
of the continuation of the
MG program

JANUARY BIRTHDAYS

Charlotte Wood Bent	7th
Martha Given	14th
Robert Cope	17th
James Canerday	22nd
Anne Waldo	26th
Karin Carmichael	26th
Jerry Belcher	28th



Dark is not Opposite of Light.
It is just the Absence of Light.
Similarly,
A Problem is the Absence of an Idea.
Not Absence of a Solution.



Rishika Jain's Inspirations



Published by the Alabama Cooperative Extension System (Alabama A&M and Auburn Universities) in cooperation with the U.S. Department of Agriculture. An Equal Opportunity Educator and Employer.

SEED STARTING Workshop

Brian Cooley, CCMGA, Instructor

Sponsored by:



Capital City Master Gardener Association
and Alabama Cooperative Extension System



Thursday, January 23, 2014

10:00 a.m. - Noon

Discover how to plant seeds in time for a bountiful summer harvest.

Take home your own flat of assorted seeds: vegetables,
herbs, flowers, etc.

MPS Arboretum

1755 Hunter Loop Road (off Hwy. 31)

Montgomery, Alabama 36108

334-269-4815

Cost: \$ 10.00 covers all materials.

Pay when you arrive at the workshop.



2014 CCMGA MEMBERSHIP FORM

Please give or mail this completed form and dues to the Membership Chairman, Suzanne Reaves, 702 Green Ridge Rd, Montgomery, AL 36109, not later than Dec.1, 2013. Dues are \$25.00 for full members and \$15.00 for interns, provisional members and any dual members who have their primary membership in another county. Checks should be made payable to CCMGA. Email Suzanne.reaves@hotmail.com with any questions.

Name _____

Address _____

City _____ Zip _____

Telephone _____ Cell Phone _____

Email (please print legibly) _____

Year of your Master Gardener Class _____ County _____

Amount Enclosed: Check \$ _____ Cash \$ _____

____ Yes, I am a dual member. County of primary membership _____

How many volunteer hours will you report from Jan. 1, 2013 to Dec. 31, 2013? _____

REACH FOR THE STARS award hours will be calculated from the ACES volunteer database and awarded in Feb., 2014.

To help in future planning, please provide the following information: What topic(s) would you like to see presented at a meeting? Do you know a person who could present a program on this topic? Also indicate any ideas you may have for CCMGA projects.

(a) _____

(b) _____

Please list the areas where you worked last year _____

What special skills do you have that could be used to help our organization? _____

(Use the back if necessary.)