THE PRAIRIE MUD enewsletter

Volume 16, Issue 3

MARCH 2014

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





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THOUGHTS FROM TOM





Tom McLemore 2009

President CCMGA

Greetings

We had a great crowd for our February meeting. It was combined with the January meeting that was called off because of the fear of icy road conditions. Thank you for your patience during a long "double" meeting. Our three "young" members did an excellent job with the program on terrariums.

There were two things we did not cover. I) The CCMGA board worked very hard on the 2014 budget in January. There were plenty of copies circulating at our meeting but we did not mention it. It is a well thought out budget and it was accepted by the board and all our members need to read it on page 5 of this newsletter. 2) Cindy McKenzie's Arboretum report was also lost in the process of getting everything done. Just because we did not get to Cindy's report does not mean The Arboretum is not a wonderful

place for our interns and members to volunteer and earn hours. Cindy and Brian Cooley do a fantastic job and The Arboretum is on our capcitymga.org website and listed as a place available for volunteer hours. Call Cindy to find out the best time or days she needs you the most.

We have 148 full members, 5 emeritus members and 25 interns. That is a record total of 178 members and people involved! That is awesome. There is nothing we can't get done if we all pull in the same direction. Congratulations to all our new Star award winners. Thank you Karin for coordinating this committee.

The plant sale has improved every year. That will be tough to do again after the horrible winter we have had. Karin Carmichael and her committee are already working very hard to get everything growing and up to speed. Please consider how you can help with your time and donations of **materials**. Call Karin if you have any questions as to what you can do to participate.

Our intern class has two spouses of CCMGA members and two couples. Mallory, Martie, Maureen and Barbara are quickly getting the intern class up to speed. I think several interns are going on the field trip to Mobile and several were in attendance at our February meeting. This could be a very good class! Thank you Mallory for accommodating the changes in the intern class schedule so they can participate in the field trip.

Cindy, Carolyn and Brenda have all intern lunch spots covered for now but you might check in with one of them to see if they need any help sometime due to unforeseen circumstances. Maybe they could put you on an alternate list for emergencies.

Please check out all the things CCMGA has going on and consider helping in areas that are of interest to you. I'm looking forward to a great year for CCMGA!

Thanks,

Tom



February Meeting Minutes





Janine Koslofsky 2011 Secretary **CCMGA**

Meeting Feb 25, 2014

Tom McLemore called the meeting to order.

Gail Cotney did the Inspiration.

Tom introduced a guest and hopefully future member, Joe Inman. He was a Master Gardener in Virginia and also has a Master's Degree in Landscape Architecture.

The Minutes and Treasurer's Report were accepted as published.

Terese Goodson introduced the speakers for our program: Brian Cooley, Emily Brown and Vickie Raney.

The speakers, all CCMGA members, explained and demonstrated the proper way to build your own terrarium. They donated a terrarium and a kit to the Door Prizes.

Tom announced that the Board had agreed to donate \$100 to Lanark in memory of Fred Evans.

Reports from Committee Chairs:

Membership: Suzanne Reaves had to leave early. We will hear her report next month.

Newsletter: Jerry Belcher reported that the newsletter is getting so large he may have to delay publishing articles.

Communications: Eileen Webb was unable to attend the meeting. We need volunteers to go on WSFA the first Monday of the month for a 3 minute free publicity spot. Also, Mike Forster reported that we have obtained new speakers, corded and cordless microphones that will be stored at our Helpline Helpline: Rena Russell reminded office at ACES.

Intern Class: Martie Hicks reported that the class now has 25 members. All is going smoothly thanks to Maureen Emerson and Barbara Witt.

Sunshine: Chris Henderson requested information on any member who might need a call or a card.

Advisory Council: No report this month from Dianne Bush and Betsy Coley.

Field Trip: Lynne Kuhlmann announced the Bus Trip on Mar 20th to the Festival of Flowers in Mobile. It will be 7am to 6:30pm and cost \$45 per person.

Educational Events: Elaine Barron requested a change in the by-laws to reflect the true workings of the Educational Committee. The change would delete the word 'steering' from the title. This can be found on page 46 of your Membership Directory.

Speaker Bureau: Maggie Stringer

asked for more volunteers for speakers. If you have not filled out the form but would be interested in speaking to groups, please do so as soon as possible.

Awards: Karin Carmichael distributed awards for volunteer hours including a Ruby Star to Jerry Belch-

members to sign up for at least one if not more shifts for the Helpline. It operates from March through August from 9am to Ipm on Mondays at the ACES office.

Refreshments: John Mitchell, Ruth Davis and Elaine Galt passed around a sign-up sheet for snacks and thanked those who have participated.

Lily's Garden: Ann Oldham reported that Lily's Garden had received several monetary contributions that would be used for hardscapes. A local Girl Scout troop donated part of their cookie earnings to the project. Next year we will make a group effort to purchase cookies from that particular troop.

Blount Cultural Park: Karen Weber reminded us that there are always volunteer opportunities at the Shakespeare Park on Wednesday mornings 9am to 12n.

Continued on next page



February Meeting Minutes



Continued from previous page

You do not need to sign up. One Monday a month the volunteers work at the round garden in front Table Committee: Lanark invited of MMFA and she would appreciate volunteers letting her know so that she can email the date and time.

Rose House OAT: Karin Carmichael and Cathy Maddox requested volunteers to pick one or two slots (2 weeks each) to check on the garden for weeds and water.

Habitat for Humanity: Suzanne Reaves Plant Sale: Karin Carmichael and was not available. This will be dis-

cussed next month.

Invocation: Gail Cotney will continue as chairperson.

CCMGA to host a table at their Flora & Fauna event on April 12 from 8am to 6pm. If anyone is interested in being on a committee to handle this event please let Tom know.

Shirts and Aprons: Anna Owens needs orders ASAP for shirts, aprons and vests.

Maggie Stringer need plants, pots,

soil and volunteers.

Field Trip Meeting: Terese Goodson asked for a show-of-hands for persons interested in having a brief business meeting on May 27th followed by a carpool to various homes with daylily gardens.

The membership voted and approved moving the November meeting to the 3rd Thursday in order to avoid conflict with Thanksgiving. It also approved the date of December 9th for the Holiday Luncheon.

Raffle and Adjournment.

2014 STARS AND BADGE WINNERS

Silver Star Award



Barbara Witt, Mary Jane McCracken, Elaine Barron, Mac McLellan, Ginger Gammon, Nancy Ellis, Carolyn Love Dorsey, Mike Forster

Bronze Star Award



Anna Trawick, Ruth Davis, Jarome Thomas, Dale Sheppard, Kitty Huffaker, Katherine Pool, Margaret Cully, Vanessa Sanders.

The full list of winners is in the **February** Mid-Month. A number of winners who came to the meeting had to leave before these pictures were taken.

Gold Badge Award



Tom McLemore, Betsy Coley

Gold Star Award



Christine Shoup, Jane Martin, Terese Goodson, Maureen Emerson, Sara Brown

Platinum Badge Award



Mary Eleanor Hines, Maggie Stringer

Pictures by Mac McLellan

FEBRUARY MEETING PROGRAM





FEBRUARY'S TREASURER'S REPORT



Jan Gill 2006 Treasurer CAPITAL GARDENE		MASTER SOCIATION	#1529 Capital Trailways - Deposit/Trip #1530 Sara Brown - Postage/Newsletter #1531 Mike Forster- Sound System \$	\$ 200.00 \$ 14.00 91.18
Treasurer's Report thru	Febru	ıary 25, 2014	#I532 Elaine Barron -	
BEGINNING BALANCE			Mailing \$	34.95
		\$ 16,443.29	#I533 Eileen Webb -	
Petty Cash			Website \$	193.76
ĺ		\$ 22.55	#I534 Tom McLemore -	11000
			Sound System \$	1,148.35
REVENUE	0		#1535 Suzanne Reaves -	,
Dues	\$	425.00	Directory \$	234.30
Seed Workshop	\$	410.00		
Prepaid 2015 Dues -			TOTAL EXPENSES	
2 Members/Merijanian	\$	50.00		\$ (2,006.54)
			Petty Cash	
TOTAL REVENUE		\$ 885.00		\$ (22.55)
EXPENSES CHECKS #1528 AMGA -Stars		\$ 90.00	ENDING BALANCE	\$ 15,321.75

CCMGA 2014 BUDGET

2014 CCMGA	BUI	OGET	Website	\$	500.00
			Field Trip	\$	3,900.00
			Speakers Bureau	\$	100.00
Bank Balance:			Registration Fees	\$	300.00
January 1,2014	\$	17,590.88	Projects		
			Lilly's Garden	\$	200.00
INCOME			Rose House	\$	150.00
2014 Dues	\$	3,580.00	Habitat	\$	200.00
2013 Silent Auction	\$	1,400.00	Awards/Stars	\$	200.00
Field Trip	\$	2,500.00	Plant Sale (includes \$50	0	
Badge/Raffle	\$	300.00	Donation to Frazer)	\$	1,500.00
Plant Sale	\$	5,000.00	Alabama National Fair		
Pike Road Fair Booth	\$	2,500.00	Flower Show (Judy Youngblood	Best o	of Show)
Speakers Bureau			gady roungered	\$	200.00
(Honorarium)	\$	100.00	Miscellaneous	\$	1,500.00
Education	\$	5,000.00	Pike Road Fair Booth	\$	1,250.00
	_		Donations	\$	500.00
Total Income	\$	20,380.00	AU Scholarship Fund	\$	500.00
E) (DE) 10E0			Equipment	\$	2,800.00
EXPENSES	•	. 500.00	Sunshine	\$	25.00
Meeting Expenses	\$	1,500.00			
AMGA Dues	\$	1,400.00	Total Expenses	\$	22,225.00
Directory	\$	200.00			
Education	\$	5,000.00			
Newsletter	\$	300.00			

STARTING SEEDS INDOORS



Mallory Kelley Regional Extension Agent Home Grounds, Gardens, Home Pests!

Many home gardeners become discouraged starting their seeds indoors because the plants become weak, spindly, and leggy or even die of diseases. It's not that difficult to grow good quality seedlings at home, but there are some important things you need to know before you begin to ensure success.

When asking yourself, "Is it time to sow seeds?" It is always better to lean on the side of being too late rather than too early. Keep in mind that you can continue to grow seeds throughout the summer to have a succession of vegetables in your garden rather than planting them all at once. On deciding when to start seeds, calculate this according to when the average date of the last frost is for your area. Then according to the seeds you are growing count back the number of weeks to when you should sow. Plants like beans, okra, carrots and corn should be seeded directly into the soil, but other plants like tomatoes, eggplant and peppers respond well to a head start indoors.

One advantage to starting seeds indoors is that you can order from a reputable source and select varieties that you would most likely not be able to find in the garden centers. From

the "heirloom" varieties to the latest hybrids, starting seeds indoors opens a whole new world of plant varieties warming pad to warm the soil or and types of vegetables to try.

The best place in the home to put your container with seeds is on a warming pad to warm the soil or you do not have a warming pad plant.

Now that you have the seeds and know when to sow them, what should you sow them in?

Select containers that provide good drainage. If you use containers you have previously grown plants in, it is best to wash them in a 10% bleach solution to remove any fungi or bacteria. Then select a growing media that is sterile and free of weed seed. It is best to start seeds in a media that is labeled "Seed Starter Media." Always make sure to moisten the soil well before you sow any seeds and prepare all of your labels to identify your plants ahead of time.

Very few seeds need light to germinate so it is not necessary to provide light to the media and seeds until after they germinate. If the seeds are very tiny you may want to cover them lightly with vermiculite. As a rule of thumb, plant seeds two and a half times the diameter of the seed.

For good germination, the seeds will need warm soil and humidity. To create the humidity place a clear plastic bag over the container or a clear lid to hold in the humidity. If you see water dripping inside it is too hot and wet and could cause disease problems so make sure to vent the lid or cover if it is too warm.

The best place in the home to put your container with seeds is on a warming pad to warm the soil or if you do not have a warming pad place the planted container on top of your refrigerator. Your seeds will need to remain moist and humid and should begin to germination in 10-12 days.

Once the seedlings germinate you can remove the cover that you have over them creating the humidity and place them directly under lights as close as you can without touching for 14-16 constant hours to prevent them from becoming long and leggy. No fertilizer is needed until after the first set of true leaves appear. Then use a water soluble fertilizer at half strength every 2-3 weeks.

If you sow the seeds in very small cell packs or sow all of the seeds together in one container you would then need to transplant them into bigger containers as they grow. This transplanting should be done early and carefully to avoid damaging the plants delicate roots and stems. Then once your plants get larger and stronger and it is close to planting time outdoors you should begin to harden off your plants by taking them outside for a few hours a day and bringing them back indoors. This is done to prepare young plants for the harsher environments outdoors such as the full sun, wind, and varying moisture.

When the day finally arrives to plant outdoors, a cloudy day with little wind



COMMITTEE REPORTS





Only a limited number of seats and they are going fast

FESTIVAL OF
FLOWERS
AND MOBILE
BOTANICAL
GARDEN

Lynne Kuhlmann, Chair clkuhlmann@charter.net

Don't Miss Out, contact Lynne today and sign up.



CCMGA Bus Trip

THURSDAY MARCH 20

March 4th is

DEADLINE TO

SIGN UP

FORM ON PG. 24



COMMITTEE REPORTS



Lunch & Learn Educational Events Committee

MARCH 5 - ATTRACTING BIRDS, BUTTERFLIES, AND HUMMINGBIRDS TO YOUR GARDEN

APRIL 2 - GROWING TOMATOES IN YOUR OWN BACK YARD

MAY 7 - CONTROLLING WEEDS AND PESTS IN THE GARDEN, LAWN, AND FLOWER BEDS





CAPITAL CITY
MASTER GARDENER
ASSOCIATION

2014

MEMBERSHIP DIRECTORY

2014 CCMGA MEMBERSHIP DIRECTORY

It was a monumental effort to get the 2014 Directory updated.

Suzanne Reaves, Jane Shalhoop and Jan Gill did a remarkable job of getting everyone's picture included (save one and she has moved away from Montgomery).

Of course we have found some printing errors like - Anne Waldo's mailing address changed while the directory was at the printers.

Please make the following changes in your copy:

Anne Waldo's new mailing address is:

PO Box 6380

Montgomery, AL 36106-0380

Brenda Coleman's cell # is missing an 8. 334-444-5888

Peggy Byrd's year is 2005

There may be more so let Jerry Belcher know if your listing needs editing.



COMMITTEE REPORTS





HELP LINE

RENA RUSSELL, BRENDA COLEMAN
HELP LINE VOLUNTEERS NEEDED



We need two MG volunteers to help with the Help Line each Monday beginning March 3 and continuing through August 25 from 8:45 am - 1:00 pm. Two interns will be signing up each week starting in April. The computer system implemented last year is user-friendly, and the new HL facilities in the ACES office are quiet and spacious! You may access the HL calendar through the CCMGA link. This is a much-appreciated service provided by MG/ACES, a great way to earn service hours, and an opportunity to learn and have fun! We would **love** to have a MG sign up for an entire month at a time, to help with continuity and follow-up, but we're also thankful for whatever volunteer time you have for this six month venture! Please contact Brenda Coleman or Rena Russell if you have any questions.



Last opportunity for CCMGA members to make reservations before the trip is opened to spouses and guests on Monday. There are only 10 seats left, the trip will sell out. Anyone planning on going needs to contact Lynne Kuhlmann via email lckuhlmann@charter.net NOW.





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



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













Date: April 8, 2014

Location: Autauga County Extension Office,2226 Hwy 14W Autaugaville

Time: 9:30-12:30

Registration Fee: \$5.00, non- refundable

Free Food Preservation Cookbook and more!

Please call the Autauga County Office at 334-361-7273 and reserve your seat.





All Bugs Good and Bad

2014 Webinar Series

Please join us for this webinar series for information you can use about good and bad insects. Webinars will be on the first Friday of each month at 2 p.m. Eastern.

Straight Talk About Termites

Get TickSmart: 10 Things to Know, 5 Things to Do

May 2 Are Those Itsy Bitsy Spiders Good or Bad?

Fire Ant Manageme

Minimize Mosquito Problems

Kudzu Bug Takes Over the Southeastern U.S./Brown Marmoral Stinkbug—All Bad
Dr. Michael Toews/Dr. Tracy Leskey

Alien Invasions, Zombies Under Foot, and Billions of Decapitated

Where Have All the Honey Bees Gone? Hope for the Future

For more information on the series and how to connect to the webinars, visit: http://www.extension.org/pages/70120.



Brought to you by these extension
Communities of Fractice: Imported Fire Ants,
n IPM. Bee Health, limasive Species, & Gardens and Landscapes.



HELP LINE begins Mar 3rd &

Sign up today! Go to the MG Service Report, the Help Line tab is 3rd from the left.



Reserve the day you want SYSTEM to work

Alabama A&M and Auburn Universities

Creating an Edible Landscape

Hosted by the

Alabama Cooperative Ex-System and tension the Capital City Master **Gardener Association**

Wednesday, March 19th 2014

Grace Episcopal Church 906 Pike Road







2014 MONTGOMERY COUNTY WATER FESTIVAL



Many thanks in advance for volunteering at the 2014 Montgomery County Water Festival!! The following information should provide you with everything you need to know to make the day run smoothly. PLEASE READ EVERYTHING CAREFULLY!

THE BASICS - The Festival is Tuesday and Wednesday, March 11th and 12th, at the Auburn University in Montgomery campus. Over 2,800 4th grade students and their teachers will participate in activities from 9:00 am to 1:45 pm. All students will attend three activities: Edible Aquifer, Water Filtration, and Water Cycle Bracelets.

LOGISTICS - The activity schedule is as follows:

Session I		Session II	
8:15 – 8:45 am	Buses arrive at AUM	10:30 am	Buses arrive at AUM
9:00 – 9:25 am	Activity 1	10:40 – 11:05 am	Activity 1
9:30 – 9:55 am	Activity 2	11:10 – 11:35 am	Activity 2
10:00 – 10:25 am	Activity 3	11:40 – 12:05 pm	Activity 3
10:25 – 10:40 am	Break	12:05 – 12:45 pm	Lunch
11:00 – 11:45 am	Entertainment	1:00 – 1:45 pm	Entertainment
11:45 am	Buses depart AUM	1:45 pm	Buses depart AUM

<u>VOLUNTEER TRAINING</u> – We will have volunteer training, if needed, on March 10th at 5:30pm at the Auburn Montgomery campus, Goodwyn Hall.

T-shirts will be distributed at the training. Please wear your t-shirt each day so you will be easily identified as a volunteer. If you are unable to make the training, you can pick up your shirt at registration.

<u>VOLUNTEER CHECK-IN:</u> You must report to Goodwyn Hall to check-in and verify your assignment. **Please check-in by** 7:45 a.m. each day.

Presenter Aides will be assigned a room in which they will assist. **Tour Guides** will receive a schedule and a sheet with their assigned classes. **Entertainment guides** will be directed to the gym and **transportation guides** to the bus drop-off location beside the gym. **Runners** will be directed to their assigned locations with instructions regarding extra supply bins on each floor. Runners should check with their presenters before the students arrive to verify that they have everything need to complete their activity and will need to check in with their assigned rooms between activities to empty trash containers and re-supply trash bags. Clean-up after the event is always something we can use help with, so stick around if you can!

<u>LUNCH</u> - Lunch will be provided to the volunteers beginning after the last session at the AUM University Center, courtesy of the Montgomery Water Works & Sanitary Sewer Board. Feel free to go and enjoy the Magic Show with the kids after lunch at beginning at 1:00 pm.



AMGA ADVISORY COUNCIL MEETING

FEBRUARY 4, 2014





Dianne Bush 1998 CCMGA Advisory Council Representative

The AMGA Advisory Council met in Clanton on 4 February. CCMGA was represented by Tom McLemore, Dianne Bush, and Betsy Coley. Twenty-five local associations attended, as well as AMGA Officers and Kerry Smith, Alabama MG Coordinator.

AC President, Brenda Tapp announced that local associations had contributed so generously to the **Fred Evans memorial fund** that there were enough funds to purchase two benches, three armchairs and two tables. This outdoor furniture will be used at Lanark (AWF site in Millbrook) in a contemplative area as a memorial to Fred, who often worked there with his MG friends. Date and time of dedication will be announced at a later date.

Open discussion Included:

AMGA car tags (front of car) are still available to purchase. Contact your AC Rep if you are interested.

Kerry Smith, MG Program Coordinator, announced the **National Extension Conference** will be held in Mobile in this July (of note: CCMGA already has a committee in place to create exhibit for this event)

Discussion about local association **policies concerning Interns** proved to be as varied and diverse as the different organizations themselves, and included:

- When and how Interns are officially recognized
- Can Interns purchase MG "logo" items before graduation
- How are Interns encouraged to become a part of the association
- Are Interns charged local dues before they graduate

Kerry stated there is a one year standard for Interns to earn hours and receive badges, but it is **not** a requirement. She agreed with the group consensus that policies regarding Interns are to be determined by local associations.

Discussion about certified Master Gardeners who move from out of state to Alabama was addressed. Kerry stated that the local agent decides if the MG must take all or a part of the required classes to become certified in Alabama. The agent bases the decision mainly on where the original training took place. One rep pointed out how difficult this policy is for folks who move around the country with the military. Kerry reminded that only hours earned within Alabama could count toward state awards.

AMGA Project Funding Awards was discussed. Many of the projects funded for the last 3 or 4 years have been technology connected. Diana Hansen, AMGA Web Master, suggested that organizations use the www. techsoup.org site to find advantageous pricing for tech products.

Several members talked about the advantages/disadvantages of applying for IRS 501c3 status. One county rep revealed that they had ended up owing a large sum in taxes because they did not know that application had been started previously and they automatically became a corporation and were then liable for back taxes. Dottye Pierce, AMGA President, stated that any group thinking about applying for IRS status, first contact AMGA, as help can be offered from the state level.

Guidelines for reporting travel and service are on the AMGA web site and in the Local Association Handbook, Appendix E, p. 24. Volunteer service "requirements" should be interpreted as

"recommendations"!

Kerry continues to work with the **online store and online classes**. The online classes can be of special benefit for those associations that cannot fill intern classes. Kerry

suggested that these folks also consider joining with a neighboring county in order to fill Intern classes.

The **Extension Logo** that says "Your Experts for Life" is no longer to be used. The new logo says "Alabama A & M and Auburn Universities"

There are computer files available for embroidering the **state MG circular logo** (with "Alabama Cooperative Extension System" in linear text). Contact Kerry.

Announcements:

Freida Romanchuk, 2014 conference chair, presented a power point about the conference showing locations for tours and speakers. Registration and all information about Conference 2014 is in the winter issue of Garden Pathways (or go to www.alabamamg.org). Many events are limited in size, so members need to register soonest. The newsletter has been mailed out to all AMGA members. Each local association is asked to contribute a \$50 item for the Silent Auction.

Brenda Armstrong, Co-Chair of 2015 Conference (Blount & Cullman Counties) stated that most decisions have been made about sites, speakers, and meals. The committee is now attracting vendors.

Conference 2016 (Dothan/Wiregrass MGs) is well into preliminary planning.

AMGA Vice-President Jeanon Massine stated that she still seeks an **organization to host Conference 2017** (Oh, Mother, may I?? ha,ha).

Diana Hansen asked AC Reps to solicit volunteers from their local associations to **help** with the AMGA web site. She seeks a volunteer with computer skills and also a photographer.





CCMGA-Monthly Lunchcon



Tuesday, March 4, 2014 11:30

https://www.lajollamontgomery.com/ Lunch Menu.html 6854 E Chase Pkwy Montgomery, AL 36117 (334) 356-2600



Saturday, March 1, 2014, 10:30am Sustainable Gardening (introduction to Permaculture) -Tracy Britnell

Thursday, March 6, 2014 10:30am Herb Cooking Class -Linda Franzo Fee \$25 Advanced reservations and payment required.

Saturday, March 22, 2014, Citrus in the Home Garden - Dr. Arlie Powell 10:30 - 12:00

Saturday, March 29, 2014, 10:30am Perennials for Every Spot in the Garden - Jason Powell

Saturday, April 12, 2014, 10:30am Spring Container Gardening - Lacey Neely

For more information on these and other events go to: http://www.petalsfromthepast.com/events.html





Mark Your Calendar AMGA Annual Conference

April 28-30 2014 in Daphne, AL hosted by Baldwin County Master Gardeners http://www.amgaconference.org/



Open link below to watch video become a part of ALABAMA . . . A GARDENER'S Jubilee before putting one foot in Baldwin County! - See more at:

http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=-UN8E2PrU0U



Calling all CCMGA Members

Don't miss the Conference. It is a great time to share with your fellow gardeners.



If you have never been - Bring your best friend and/or spouse, you will have a great time, get some great gardening ideas, learn a lot and earn almost 15 volunteer hours doing it.

Great accommodations, food, programs and company. You cannot go wrong.

We will have a hospitality suite at the Hampton for cocktail hours and after dinner gatherings.

Prairie Mud Almanac: March 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."

March, 2013 - 1 year ago

With 58 members receiving stars or badges it was the largest number of Stars Awards recipients in *CCMGA* history.

March, 2012 - 2 years ago

Our membership was reported at 136 including the new interns. It was announced that Suzanne Reaves and Karin Carmichael will receive their Platinum Badges at conference

March, 2011 - 3 years ago

Twenty seven members qualified for Stars Awards with Dianne Bush earning her Platinum Badge. The bus trip was a great trip to Serenbe Organic Farm in Palmetto Ga. where we enjoyed a delicious lunch. We stopped at Callaway Gardens on the way home. Our membership was at 109.

March, 2010 - 4 years ago

CCMGA was a very busy place to be as the Conference was just around the corner, the March meeting was held at Jasmine Hill, the bus trip to Eufaula, and the Plant Sale was a month away with all the work that needed to be done in the final month. Twenty three members received Stars awards. Cathy Maddox received her Platinum Badge at Conference.

March, 2009 - 5 years ago

Treasurer, Suzanne Reaves presented the budget for 2009, which was approved by the membership by voice vote. Suzanne has developed a new form that will provide a better means of tracking expenditures for future audits.

President Maggie Stringer applauded everyone involved with producing our new pictorial membership directory. We now have 90 active members. The Spring Trip will be to the Birmingham Botanical Garden.

March, 2008 - 6 years ago

The second annual MG trip is being coordinated by **Nell Copeland**. Sign up begins today. On 5/13/08 we are going to Wilkerson Mill Nursery, where we will have a box lunch. Then on to Hills and Dales to tour the estate and grounds.

Anna Owen is planning a canoe ride to see the Cahaba Lilly mid-May to mid-June. The trip will be during the week, 2 to a canoe and \$25.00 a person. Sign up will be next month

March, 2007 - 7 years ago

Jim Thibodeaux gave a humorous overview about the Help Line. He announced that Suzanne Reaves will be the Chair of Help Line 2007, and Suzanne passed around a sign-up sheet for member volunteers. CCMGA will again man the Help Line on Mondays starting in April. There will be four counties involved in the area Help Line, as Lee County will join us this year. Jim thanked Lula Tyson, ACES, for her expert advice and help during the initial 2006 project year.

March, 2002 - 12 years ago

President Sandra Thompson thanked Mary Cochran and Anna Owen for the great refreshments at our last meeting. A number of members will be attending the AMGA Convention in Mobile on March 22-24.

March, 2001 - 13 years ago

VP Alice Hargett reminded members of the garden tour for the March meeting. We are planning to leave by 10:15 a.m. and as parking is limited we need to double up in driving there.

March, 2000 - 14 years ago

A motion was made to participate in "Reach for the Stars" program by Fran Duncan and Evelyn Watkins second. Motion was voted on and carried. Evelyn Watkins volunteered to do this job. She will need our hours that we have volunteered since we have been members.

Commemoration of Judy's Garden



On February 15, 2014 at the Old Alabama Town Herb Garden, friends and relatives of Judy Youngblood gathered to dedicate a plaque to commemorate Judy's Garden. The plaque pictures Judy the way everyone should remember her. Lovely, strong, smiling, full of life and surrounded by the herb garden that she designed, planted, loved and cared for until her death in 2013.



Judy's life truly made a difference and she left Montgomery a better and more beautiful place than she found it.















Photos by Carolyn Love Dorsey

Starting with this edition of the Prairie Mud, we will begin running bios of the members of the new intern class. There are 22 interns and we will start in alphabetical order until all of the submitted bios are published.

Barbara Barnes



When I think back over my childhood I have always been a dirt and nature buff. While everyone else skied and swam, my cousin and I roamed the woods examining the plants and wild life. I would plunder my uncles back yard garden.

I became a busy gardener about 20 years ago when a neighbor introduced me to daylilies – I like all plants. The smell of dirt seems to 'turn me on'.

I am an active member of Eastmont Baptist Church.

Cecil Barnes



I moved to Montgomery after graduating from Auburn Univ. Barbara and I married 47 years ago. We have had a flower bed each year but started growing daylilies about twenty years ago and are members of Montgomery Area Daylily Society. We both help with 4 & 5 year olds during church, one Sunday a month. I help with ushering during church and working in serving a meal at church on Wednesday a month.

Julie Bounds



One of my earliest memories is of my mother taking me tending her Rose Garden and trying to keep me from jumping in the pond; but that is another story. Wherever we lived, there was a garden and there were roses. My father also was a gardener and built golf courses. From the advent of my adulthood, where ever I have lived there has been some form of garden.

Continued on next page

014

Most of my adult life has been in the New Orleans area and that usually means limited garden space. As a result I am a good container gardener. Marco and I moved to Alabama 3 ½ years ago because I could not tolerate any more direct hurricane hits and remain sane. I had a friend who lived on Lake Jordan and I bought the house next door.

I love my collection of orchids but routinely ignore them in the spring and summer when the garden calls.

Professionally, I am a retired Certified Registered Nurse Anesthetist and a member of and past officer of that professional organization. I am still a member of a New Orleans Mardi Gras Krewe and also served as an officer to that organization. I am an LSU graduate and avid fan, you may not want to talk to me in the fall.

I learned of the MG program from a recent graduate. I started attending Lunch & Learn and quickly decided that I wanted to attend the MG Program.

Peggy Funk



Our Air Force family arrived in Montgomery from Italy in 1981. I've been a volunteer in International Family programs at Maxwell for 27 years. I've led the Wives portion of the Orientation program for 25 years. I've taught English-As-A-Second Language for over 20 years. I have a grown daughter who works for ADEM and my son works for a Swedish firm

and lives in Austin, TX.

I have a Masters in Counceling from Troy Univ. I enjoy volunteer work and have been volunteering Monday's the Governor's Mansion.

I have a love of gardening from my mother who had a rose, lily and pansy garden. I am a flower gardener.

Kathy Gowan



I love flowers and would like to learn more about them. I am married and we have 7 grandchildren.

Cheryl Hitch



I am a 'local yokel' born and educated in Montgomery and Auburn. I have enjoyed many interesting jobs over the years almost all related to home economics. My parents loved to garden and as a child, I helped plant, weed and harvest. Life has been fast and now I'm able to work on my bucket list of learning to garden.

I have been married to Benny Hitch for 40 years. We have 2 children, Bryan and Meredith who live in B'ham. We live on a farm so I have lots of land to plant. I am excited about the class.

Andy Jackson



I have lived most of my life in Montgomery. Recently retired after working for the State of Alabama for 34 years. I enjoy reading and history. My gardening has been limited to planting a few vegetables and yard maintenance.

Janice Jackson



My husband, Andy and I have been married for over 30 years and are both taking the Master Gardener classes together. We have 2 married daughters, one, Laura, completed the MG program 2 years ago. Andy and I are both retired state employees.

MY parents had vegetable and fruit gardens all my life and mother canned vegetables.

More Intern Bios next issue.



To Do's In The March Garden

ANR-47 HTTP: //www.aces.edu/pubs/docs/A/ANR-0047/ANR-0047.pdf

Fruits and Nuts



Continue strawberry and grape plantings.

Bud apples and peaches. Start planting blackberries.

Remember, if weather conditions prevent prompt planting, heel the plants in by placing the root system in a trench and covering the soil.

Shrubs



Fertilize shrubs (except azaleas and camellias) according to a soil test.

Late plantings may be made, particularly if they

are container-grown.

Watch shrubs for harmful insects.

Lawns



Plant Bermuda, zoysia, and centipede in south Alabama.

Seed bluegrass and grass mixtures in north Ala-

bama.

Fertilize established lawns.

Roses



Watch new growth for aphids.

Begin a spray or dust program.

Begin fertilizing.

Annuals and Perennials



Tender annuals may be planted in South Alabama.

Check garden centers for bedding plants.

Bulbs



Plant gladiolus every 2 or 3 weeks if a long blooming season is desired.

Plant tuberous begonias in pots. Plant dahlias.

Miscellaneous



Check and repair sprayers, dusters, and lawn mowers.

Control lawn weeds with chemicals.

Delay pruning of fruiting shrubs such as cotoneasters, pyracanthas, and hollies until after flowering.

Vegetable Seeds



Plant hardy crops recommended for January and February.

After danger of frost is past, plant tender vegetables.

Vegetable Plants



Plant cabbage, onions, lettuce, broccoli, and Brussels sprouts in North Alabama; plant tomatoes and peppers in lower South Alabama.



Try These New Veggies!

It's the perfect time to sketch out plans for your vegetable garden. And even if you've already done that, you'll want to include these three new-for-2014 vegetables we're wild about!

Indigo Blue Beauty Tomato



New from Tomato Growers Supply Company, Indigo Blue Beauty is a cross between a blue tomato variety and the luscious heirloom tomato 'Beauty King'. Fruit tips the scale at about 8 ounces and slices like a good beefsteak variety. Indetermi-

nate plants grow 4 to 8 feet tall.

Peppermint Stick Chard

Introduced by Renee's Garden Seeds, Peppermint Stick chard is named for its two-toned stalks, which are pretty enough for use in ornamental gardens, too! Bolt resistant even in hot weather, this new chard produces tasty baby greens just 30 days after planting. Grows to 2 feet tall.



Kosmic Kale



The beauty of kale is not often extolled. But SuperNaturals' new Kosmic Kale is truly a standout for its attractive, upright form and green and white leaves that can be harvested continuously throughout the season. It does well in full to partial

sun and grows to 2 feet tall.

Emeritus Status

At the January board meeting a new CCMGA Member Status was created. The purpose of this new status designation is to honor the members who have given so much to CCMGA for so long.

The five initial Emeritus members are from left to right; Ken Whitaker 1991, Martha Blackwell 1992, Gloria Jennings 1996, Evelyn Watkins 1999, and Mary Bullard 1999.











BITS, PIECES AND LINKS

How to Grow Roses



From <u>David</u>
<u>Beaulieu</u>

About.com

Landscaping

Normally when we hear "rose," we think of the Rosa genus, but many other popular plants belong to the rose family, which includes not only the Rosa genus but also Crataegus, Malus, Cotoneaster, Spiraea and many more.

"That's fine," perhaps you're thinking, "but what I could really use are some basic tips to make me less afraid of planting roses." tips on growing roses will help.

Search Related Top-

ics: <u>flowering shrubs</u> <u>over-</u> <u>wintering plants</u> <u>fragrant</u> <u>plants</u>



Mary Jane McCracken sent this video along for all her fellow gardeners out there.

Clic aqui La vida de las flores

Extreme Temperatures Affect Fire Ants



http://www.extension.org/ pages/70330/extremetemperatures-affect-fireants#.UvqDLPldXrQ



<u>Jack-in-the-Pulpit's Spring-</u> time Sermon



From David Beaulieu
About.com Landscaping.

Are you as fascinated by jack-in-the-pulpit plants as I am? Walking in the spring woods is an experience to which I look forward immensely this time of year. I love keeping track of the wild plants in my area as, one by one, they make their reappearance. One of these is jack-in-the-pulpit. I hear its message, "Spring is here!" with the ears of a religious devotee.

Search Related Topics: wildflowers native plants woodland gardens



This Jack-inthe-pulpit grows in MG Irene Fowler's beautiful wooded garden in N. AL.

All Bugs Good and Bad Webinar Series: Straight Talk About Termites

Presenters

xing ping hu and Mallory Kelley



https://learn.extension.org/ events/1371

All Bugs Good and Bad Webinar Series 2014 Schedule can be found on pg. 11 or following this link: Flyer (PDF) for advertising the 2014 All Bugs Good and Bad Webinar Series

CCMGA CALENDAR

MARCH

DIDWING.						90
Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
						March I
2	3	Mardi Gras Ends	Ash Wednesday5	6	7	8
			Lunch & Leagn	Intern Class	2014 Webinar	
	Help Line Begins	LA JOLEA	Attracting Birds		All About	
		Monthly Luncheon	Butterflies	-11	Termites	
			Hummingbirds		pg. 9	
9	10		12	13	14	15
Daylight-	Help Line	Mo	ntgomery	Intern Class	ARBORETUM Vol. Hrs.	
Saving Sime Z	See Contraction of the Contracti		ınty Water		8-11	
Begins"	Eco (Water Festival	ival @ AUM	1		
	Ct Patrida Par 17					
16	St. Patrick's Day 17	18	EMU's B-day 19	COMPARATATE 20	1st Full Day 21	22
			¥ Edi	Botanical	4	Petals from the Past
	Extraction State of the State o		Workshop pg. 25	Gardens Come Here to Grow	The First	Citrus in the Home
	Help Line		scape og. 25	2014 Testinal of Thomas	Day Of Spring	Garden. Dr. Powell
23		25	26	British Gardens In Cime In Cime	28	11:30
23/	Help Line	NTURE O.	Last day for Mud article	Intern Class		27
		CCMGA	submissions	CONTROL OF THE PROPERTY OF THE	ARBORETUM Vol.	
		Meeting		100	Hrs. 8-11	
30					0-11	
30	31			JESPA.		

EVENTS & OCCASIONS FOR MARCH

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

4th - Monthly Luncheon, La Jolla @ Eastchase I I:30

5th- Lunch & Learn, Attracting Birds, Butterflies & Hummingbirds

9th - Daylight Savings Time - @ 2:00 am, move clocks forward

19th Edible Workshop - pg. 10. Form pg. 25

20th - Annual CCMGA Bus Trip - Mobile

20th - Vernal Equinox, First Day of Spring

25th - CCMGA Meeting - 10:00 Frazer UMC - Japanese Maples in the Home Garden.

26th - Deadline for submitting articles for April Mud.



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

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

2014 YTD

Volunteer Hours 912 EDU Hrs. 79 Contacts 6,526

2013 STATE RANKING

Volunteer Hrs. 4th EDU 6th Contacts 1st

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

MARC

Happy Birthday

Nancy Gilreath	Ist
GENE PAYNE	IST
CHRISTINE SHOUP	3RD
VICKIE RANEY	4тн
SADLER MCLEMORE	6тн
LAURICE GOOLEY	9тн
MARY JANE MCCRACKEN	9тн
JUDITH KYSER	14тн
JAN GILL	18тн
JUSTIN SKIPPER	21st
KAREN STEINEKER	22 ND
ANITA WARD	25тн
CHRIS HENDERSON	25тн
EMILY BROWN	25тн
JOHN DORMINEY	28тн

Mobile's Festival of Flowers





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Creating an Edible Landscape



Hosted by the

Alabama Cooperative Extension System and the Capital City Master Gardener Association

Wednesday, March 19th 2014

Grace Episcopal Church 906 Pike Road Pike Road, Alabama

9 a.m. to 2:00 p.m.





Come learn how to incorporate edible plants into your landscape and your dinner menu.

Fruits, Vegetables, Herbs, and Flowers

Along with a Drip Irrigation Demonstration



To sign-up or for more information, contact the Montgomery County Extension office at 334-270-4133. Cost is \$15 per person and includes lunch.

Pre-Registration and Payment is required by Friday, March 14th.

	PRE-REGISTRATION FORM		
	PRE-REGISTRATION FORM	n-Eulbie Lanuscape Worksi	юр
Name(s):			<u>—</u>
Address:			
City:		County:	
Phone #:			
# of Participants	X \$15 = Total Amo	ount Enclosed:	

Return Pre-Registration Form and Payment by Friday, March 14, 2014 to: Montgomery County Extension Office

Make check payable to: Alabama Cooperative Extension System

Eastmont Shopping Center

Montgomery County Extension Office
Eastmont Shopping Center
5340 Atlanta Highway
Montgomery, AL 36109



2014 MASTER GARDENER ANNUAL BUS TRIP FESTIVAL OF FLOWERS IN MOBILE

and

MOBILE BOTANICAL GARDENS THURSDAY, MARCH 20, 2014

PLEASE ENCLOSE A SIGNED REGISTRATION FORM AND \$45.00 CHECK MADE PAYABLE TO "CCMGA" FOR THE 2014 BUS TRIP TO MOBILE, ALABAMA FESTIVAL OF FLOWERS AND MOBILE BOTANICAL GARDENS THURSDAY, MARCH 20, 2014.

REGISTRATION FORM AND CHECK MUST BE RECEIVED BY **TUESDAY, MARCH 4, 2014**MAIL TO: LYNNE KUHLMANN, 2312 WOODLEY ROAD, MONTGOMERY, AL 36111

NAME:		
E-MAIL:		
ADDRESS :		
CITY	STATE	ZIP
PHONE	CELL	
CANCELLATION POLICY: TICKETS	ARE NONREFUNDABLE BUT M	1AY BE TRANSFERRED.
General Release: The undersigned hereby and or its members from all manner of action, suits signed's person or property during this trip to	s or demands whatsoever in law or equit	y from any loss or damage to the under-

Date:

Signature:

Registration Form - Part A



www.amgaconference.org

www.alabamamg.org

www.baldwincountymastergardeners.com

REGISTRATION FORM

Last Name			First Name			MI
Street			City		ST	Zip
MG County			E-mail		Phone	
Please Circle One:	MG	Intern	ACES	Sponsor	Vendor	Guest
Is the Badge Name the sa	me as the	e Registration Name	e?	_ Yes	No	
If NO, please submit the	name for	your Badge				
REGISTRATION C	OST: \$100.00)				\$
Postmarked After April	1: \$145.0	0				\$
ADDITIONAL COST Jubilee Hour I with appe Monday Dinner at Bayfa Tuesday's Boxed Lunch- Circle preference: 1] Han Jubilee Hour II with hor Tuesday Banquet at Dap	tizer ront—\$2 —Free wi n & Chee d'oeuvres	5 (BBQ Chicken Broth Registration see on Roll 2] Chicke	en Caesar Wrap 3] Veggie Wrap		\$ \$
Circle preference: (1) Chi	icken Co	rdon Bleu in Cream	Sauce (2) Shrimp	Scampi Kabobs (3	3) Vegetarian Eggp	olant Parmesan
T-SHIRTS: T-shirts—\$15 each, selec	t your siz	e:Medium	Large	XLXXL		\$
	Note	e: A very small num	ber of T-shirts wil	ll be on sale during	the conference	
GUEST MEALS AVA	AILABI	LE UNTIL APRI	IL 1, 2014			
Guest Name				\$45 Tuesday Banq	uet	\$
Circle preference: (1) Chicken Cordon Bleu	in Crear	n Sauce (2) Shrimp	Scampi Kabobs (3	3) Vegetarian Eggp	lant Parmesan	
6					TOTAL:	\$
<i>1</i> 5						

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Alabama...A Gardener's JUBILEE!

Registration Form Part B-Workshops, Tours and Breakout Sessions

Alabama...A Gardener's JUBILEE!

MONDAY, APRIL 28, 2014
11:30 AM Daphne Civic Center (DCC) opens for Registration

'Fish Out of Water'	'Seining'
I-65, Exit 45 Limited to 20 people each, indicate choice(s)	at the Daphne Civic Center
Enimed to 20 people each, mulcate choice(s)	No limits, no sign up; open for your choices
12:30-1:30 (A) Perdido Winery* Hosted By Jim Eddins	1:00-2:00 Beautification Issues Roundtable, 2 parts
12:30-1:30 (B) Splinter Hill Bog* Hosted by Fred Nation 2:00-3:00 (C) Splinter Hill Bog* Hosted by Fred Nation 2:00-3:00 (D) Perdido Winery* Hosted by Jim Eddins *Not Handicap Accessible; limited accessibility 4:00 PM Daphne Civic Center Locked Up	2:30-3:30 Questions & Answers DCC Auditorium 2:30-3:30 Internet Options for Master Gardeners Daphne Library Classroom 2:30-3:30 Membership Database (Hampton Inn) 2:30-3:30 Helpline Troubleshooting Daphne Recreation Center
TUESDAY, APRIL 29, 2014 7:15 - Doors Open at Daphne Civic Center	
7:00-8:30 'Urban Wilds' (buses limited to 25 pa Village Point Preserve Daphne Home Landscape/East Meet	
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