

GARDENERS' GAB



Shelby County Master Gardeners' Association

Meetings: Monthly, 2nd Friday at 10 a.m.
Shelby County Extension Office
Columbiana, Alabama

Alabama MGA: www.alabamamg.org
Alabama MG Program www.aces.edu/mg

Vol. 6, Issue 8

August 2013

Pointers from the President...

I am so excited that our new class of master gardeners is starting. Remember we always provide lunch for the first class. Please bring something yummy for this group on Wednesday, August 7th. Lunch will be around noon on that day. Also bring your smiling faces to welcome this group. Our regular meeting for August will be the following Friday (August 9th). I know this is a busy time for all of you, but I hope you will come to our regular meeting also!

Remember you are always welcome to attend any of the new master gardener classes if you feel you need a brush-up on anything. The schedule for the meetings was in last month's *Gab* and will also be available at the meeting.

We really want to hear about your gardening volunteer opportunities. Come to our meetings and let us hear all about them. Other folks may want to join you.

It was great to see about 45 of our members at the last meeting. I hope we can keep the attendance up and growing! See you all soon!

Your President,

Susan

THIS MONTH'S MEETING (Friday, August 9)

Now that the relentless summertime heat and humidity are bearing down on us, I hope everyone is exercising precautions—frequent breaks, lots of water. Wouldn't it be a relief if someone else could take some of your gardening workload? Well, they can, and our very own Jan Rogers is going to tell us how with her program on vermiculture! I hope you all will join us for what is sure to be a fantastic meeting!



Please join us on Friday, August 9 at 10 a.m. for this very special program. ~Susan Seng, VP

Please consider the environment before printing this e-mail.

ALABAMA GARDENER'S CALENDAR FOR AUGUST

FRUITS AND NUTS – Cut out old blackberry canes after fruiting and then fertilize and cultivate for replacement canes. Remember to order new catalogs for fruit selection.

SHRUBS – Layer branches of hydrangea.

LAWNS – Watch for diseases. Mow regularly, water as needed.

ROSES – Keep roses healthy and actively growing. Hybrid teas and floribundas may need slight pruning to prevent scraggly appearance.

ANNUALS AND PERENNIALS – Water as needed. Plant perennials and biennials.

BULBS – Divide old iris plantings and add new.

MISCELLANEOUS – Keeping flowers, shrubs, trees, and lawns healthy is the major task during this month. This means close observation for insects and diseases. Water.

VEGETABLE SEED – Plant turnips, rutabagas, beans, and peas in South Alabama.

VEGETABLE PLANTS – Plant cabbage, collards, cauliflower, Brussels sprouts, broccoli, and celery.

AUGUST BIRTHDAYS

6—Angie Ballew
11—Terri DiMuro
14—Joy Dearing
19—Bill Legg
24—Jane Keeton

\$\$\$\$\$\$ Treasurer's Report as of 7-22-2013 ~ by Angie Ballew \$\$\$\$\$\$

BALANCE SHEET

Assets

Checking Account	2,327.09
MG Clothing	447.00 ***
Total Assets	2,774.09

Liabilities

Clothing Deposits	0.00
State Dues Payable	0.00
Total Liabilities	0.00

Capital

Begin of Year	3,658.47
Net receipts YTD	-884.38
Total Capital	2,774.09

Total Liabilities & Capital **\$2,774.09**

*** MG apparel on hand had not been accounted for and should be shown as an asset. Therefore, a one-time adjustment to capital was made, since it was purchased in previous years.

INCOME STATEMENT

Receipts

	July	Year to Date
Memberships	0.00	516.00
Ground Hog Day Dinner	0.00	0.00
Round-Up Dinner	0.00	0.00
Field Trip	0.00	0.00
Shelby Co. Fair	0.00	0.00
Donations	0.00	19.00
Total receipts	0.00	535.00

Expenses

State dues	0.00	240.00
Ground Hog Dinner	0.00	0.00
Round-Up Dinner	0.00	0.00
Stamps, Cards & Admin Supplies	0.00	114.38
Honorarium & Gifts	0.00	0.00
Decorations	0.00	0.00
Field Trip	0.00	0.00
AMGA Scholarship	0.00	1,000.00
Donation to State Website	35.00	35.00
Badges & Stars	0.00	30.00
Total Expenses	35.00	1,419.38

NET RECEIPTS -35.00 -884.38

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**Shelby County Master Gardener Association
Minutes—July 12, 2013**

- Pledge of Allegiance
- Welcome and call to order—Susan Seng
- Welcome visitors
- Special thought about friends
- Thank you reports
- Minutes from previous meeting—approved as reported in the Gab
- Treasurer's report—approved as reported in the Gab
- Committee Reports:
 - Projects—Rita Forrest: no report
 - Sunshine—Karen Kendall: no report
 - Advisory Council—Jeanon Massien: 2016 State Conference will be at the Wiregrass
 - MG Class coordinator—Jeanon Massien: Class schedules are available; 18 applicants with 9 paid at this time; look for article in the Shelby County Reporter; Sundra is putting together the mentor program
- Announcements
 - AMGA Fall Seminar: Sept. 10 in Montgomery
 - Farm, Home & Wildlife Expo: Aug. 3 in Chilton Co.—See Trisha Williams to volunteer.
 - Upcoming programs—Mary K Tomas: Jan Rogers to speak on vermiculture at the August SCMGA meeting
 - Native Plant Conference: Nov. 1—2
 - Nelson Wynn: Looking for volunteers to participate in a cancer patients' gardening program; need to meet before Sept. 20th.
- New business: None
- Program: “Ferns” presented by Sarah Johnston from the Birmingham Fern Society
- Blessing and Lunch

Respectfully submitted,
Brenda Fitzgerald



Mary K Tomas, Sarah Johnston (B'ham Fern Society) & Susan Seng
Photo by Karen Jensen



B'ham Fern Society member
Jenny Lusk—still active at 89!
Photo by Karen Jensen

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SHELBY COUNTY MASTER GARDENERS!

Please send photos taken at our meetings or some of your garden, yard or even a single plant or bloom that you would like to show off. Your fellow Master Gardeners love to see what you are doing and growing. Send your photos to **Heidee.Vansant@gmail.com** and I'll make sure to get them in next month's issue.



Susan Seng, Merle Schukoske and Deborah Kattus check out the ferns—Photo by Karen Jensen



Edith Johnston and Rita Forrest—Photo by Karen Jensen



Regena Varvoutis, Edith Johnston & Jenny Lusk
Photo by Karen Jensen



Container garden designed by Susan Seng's 11 year old grandson. He loves gardening!

ON-SITE SHARPENING AVAILABLE AT OUR AUGUST 9TH MEETING

Bill Legg has arranged to have Carey Baird, owner of ON-SITE SHARPENING to be with us at our August meeting.

Bring any tools, scissors or knives to class that day and he will sharpen them while we have our meeting. It is amazing how much easier it is to work with sharp implements. Bill has been using his services for two years and thinks it is well worth the cost.

His mobile sharpening business will be set up in the parking lot, so leave items with him before our meeting. His web site: www.keepitsharp.com shows his price list. Questions? Call him at **205-441-3322**.

Thank You

Hello Treasurers in Autauga, Jefferson & Shelby Counties,

Thank you for your recent donations to the service report upgrades - please share my appreciation with your local MGA for this support.

~ Kerry

Kerry Smith
Home Grounds Team Co-Coordinator &
State MG Program Coordinator

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HISTORY OF SCMGA 1995-2013

By: Bill R. Legg

In 1995 several other Alabama counties had already begun Master Gardener classes and our very own Nelson Wynn decided Shelby County needed to follow suit. He took flyers around to nurseries and other places gardeners would frequent. Our first class was held in August of that year.

Just as soon as these class members finished their courses and completed their 40 hours of community service, the association was formed. A Shelby County Master Gardener class has been held every year since with the exception of 1998. Those first years were a time of growing and adapting to our members needs. The first meetings were held in private homes until we outgrew most living rooms.

Somewhere along the line, the idea of having a pot luck lunch following our meeting began and we hope it never goes out of style. We have all agreed our members are some of the best cooks in the country. We have always been able to get good and interesting speakers for our monthly meetings. Our regular meeting date of the 2nd Friday at 10 AM has proved to be the best time for most folks. Through the years we have tried a night class and night meeting on special occasions. These have not proved satisfactory and are being discontinued. We continue to have plant/seed swaps and tour the yards and gardens of our people.

We always have several members attending the state convention as well as regional meetings. Some of our members have held positions on the state board. Many members are available for speaking engagements as well as teaching our new class members. The knowledge gained from this program has been shared with countless others through our volunteers.

Thank you Nelson for leading this program the past 18 years!

SHELBY COUNTY MASTER GARDENER ASSOCIATION PRESIDENTS

- Dolly Bacak (Class of 1995) 1996—1997
- Colleen Carden (Class of 1996) 1998
- Vivian Swain (Class of 1995) 1999
- Lynn Andrews (Class of 1999) 2000*
- Myra Healy (Class of 1999) 2000—2001—2002
- Bill Legg (Class of 1999) 2003—2004—2005
- Jeanon Massien (Class of 2005) 2006—2007
- Joe Keeton (Class of 2006) 2008—2009
- Teresa Neal (Class of 2003) 2010#
- Regena Varvoutis (Class of 2008) 2010—2011—2012
- Susan Seng (Class of 2010) 2013—

* forced to resign

died in office

Calera Farmers' Market - www.calerafarmersmarket.com

- Location: Oliver Park (9758 Hwy. 25, Calera)
- Date: June 7 - August 30
- Hours: Tuesdays 3:00 pm - 6:00 pm

Columbiana Farmers' Market—Contact: Randy Glenn (205)305-8632

- Location: West College & Mill Street
- Date: May 1 - October 31
- Hours: Saturdays 7:00 am - 12:00 noon



Helena Farmers' Market - www.helenamarketdays.com

- Location: 4151 Helena Road
- Date: June 4 - September 24
- Hours: Saturdays 8:00 am - 12:00 noon

Montevallo Farmers' Market - Contact: Leeann Reed (205) 665-1519

- Location: Corner of Main & Middle Street (Behind First Baptist)
- Date: June 6 - August 8
- Hours: Mondays 3:00 pm - 6:00 pm

Mount Laurel Farmers' Market & Crafts Fair - Contact: Kelly Burley (205) 408-2717

- Location: 38 Manning Place
- Date: June 4 - October 29
- Hours: Saturdays 8:00 am - 12:00 noon

Valleydale Farmers' Market - Contact: Jed Park (205) 868-4575

- Location: 4601 Valleydale Road
- Date: May 14 - September 3
- Hours: Saturdays 8:00 am - 12:00 noon



**Shelby County Master Gardeners' Association
Board of Directors and Committee Chairs 2013–2014**



President	Susan Seng	991-7867	gaggy10@gmail.com
Vice-President	Mary K. Tomas	781-883-1523	maryktomas@yahoo.com
Secretary	Beth Heerten	991-5154	beth.heerten@charter.net
Treasurer	Angie Ballew	980-7694	aklballew@bellsouth.net
Advisory Council Rep	Cathy Canant	260-7748	ccanant@bellsouth.net
Communications	Jan Rogers	307-9733	janrogers@charter.net
Historian	Karen Jensen	670-0701	kkerr50@hotmail.com
Hospitality	Michele Hill	665-1206	michelerhill@gmai.com
Membership	Cathy Canant	260-7748	ccanant@bellsouth.net
MG Class Coordinator	Jeanon Massien	991-3125	nauzer1@att.net
Newsletter Editor	Heidee Vansant	669-3284	heidee.vansant@gmail.com
Projects	Rita Forrest	620-1167	ritabe@bellsouth.net
Sunshine Committee	Karen Kendall	982-0614	kkendall247@bellsouth.net

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