

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 2

February 2013

Pointers from the President...

I am looking ahead to a great year for Shelby County Master Gardeners. Let's all get involved and think of new ways to volunteer. Remember one of our objectives is to extend the Master Gardener's knowledge of interests in horticultural and related activities (from our bylaws).

Please plan on attending the 2013 Alabama Master Gardener conference in Florence April 15-17. The theme is "Jazz Up Your Gardens" and it looks to have great speakers. Go to www.amgaconference.org for applications. It is less expensive if you register before April 1.

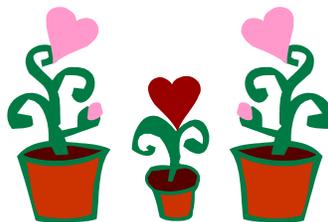
I am excited about our Groundhog Day program Thursday night, February 7, beginning at 6:30. It will be held in Columbiana. Please call folks you haven't seen in a while to invite them to our meeting. Ride together—it's more fun!!

I am happy about my new office as president and will always have an open ear. Let's work together to grow our membership!

By the way, happy Valentine's day!

Your President,

Susan



NEXT MONTH'S MEETING:

FRIDAY, MARCH 8th @ 10:00 AM (Shelby County Extension Center)

Michelle Reynolds will be the speaker for our March meeting. She's a self-taught naturalist and on the Board at Birmingham Audubon Society. Her topic will be native succulents.

Potluck lunch!

~Mary K. Tomas





9th Annual GROUNDHOG DAY CELEBRATION

Thursday, February 7th at 6:30 PM

Shelby County Extension Center

Pot Luck Dinner

Program: Groundhogs! presented by Jamie Nobles,
Alabama Wilds Zoological Manager
at the Birmingham Zoo

Shelby County Master Gardeners' Association Minutes—11 January 2013

Call to Order: Susan Seng, President

Announcements: AMGA Conference, April 15-17, Information and registration on website

Minutes: Minutes for the December meeting approved with the following corrections:

1. Bill Legg made a motion to make a \$1,000 donation to the AMGA Scholarship Endowment. It was unanimously approved.
2. The minutes for the November meeting were approved as submitted in the Gab
3. The "SAP" referred to in the Advisory Council Report, should be changed to "SOP"

Treasurer's Report: Approved as reported in the Gab. Pres. Susan Seng appointed Trisha Williams to serve as Asst. Treasurer. Dakota Pace will perform the audit of the books required by the bylaws so the books can be transferred to new treasurer, Angie Ballew.

Extension Agent's Report: Nelson Wynn—Rain Barrel demonstration on March 7th at the extension office, 11-12AM

Program: Loyd Mehaffey, Supporting Healthy Wildlife Communities

Committee Reports:

1. Communications: Jan Rogers
2. Hospitality: Michele Hill
3. Membership: Cathy Canant, make sure your information is listed correctly on the web-site
4. Master Gardener Internship Program: Jeanon Massien, meeting with Nelson today
5. Projects: Bill Legg, retiring, Rita Forrest to be new chair
6. State Advisory Council Rep: Cathy Canant, SOP approved, newsletters on the website, need someone from SCMGA to write articles for the state newsletter, AMGA needs grant Applications

Old Business: none

New Business: Ground Hog Celebration, Thursday, Feb. 7, 6:30 PM, Extension Office, Potluck Supper, Guest Speaker—Jamie Nobles from the Birmingham Zoo to speak about groundhogs.

Lunch

Respectfully Submitted,
Brenda Fitzgerald



Gardeners! Play, Stay and "Jazz up Your Garden" at the 2013 AMGA Annual Conference in Florence, Alabama!

"Jazz Up Your Garden" is the theme for the 23rd Master Gardener State Conference to be held April 15-17, 2013, hosted by The Shoals Master Gardeners.

Our speakers are ready to jazz you up with new garden plans and ideas that will have you excited and ready to return home to work in your garden.

Hospitality at the Marriott Spa and Hotel Conference Center will have the red carpet rolled out and ready to welcome everyone from Gulf Shores to our master gardeners in the northern part of our state. We are also thrilled to offer a self-guided garden tour on Sunday the 14th of April. Maps to local gardens allow you to drive and view gardens at your leisure.

To learn more, go to: <http://www.amgaconference.org/>



FEBRUARY BIRTHDAYS

- 1—Joyce Bulford
- 2—Patty Johnson
- 5—Sherry Hornbuckle
- 6—Dot Kachelhofer
- 9—Sandra Smith
- 11—Wayne Williamson
- 16—Katherine Walsh
- 21—Myra Healy
- 26—Merle Schukoske

ALABAMA GARDENER'S CALENDAR FOR FEBRUARY

FRUITS AND NUTS - Planting season continues for dormant trees. Fertilize fruit trees. Apply half of the fertilizer recommended for grapes now; apply the other half soon after fruit sets. Continue dormant pruning and grafting. Start strawberry plantings.

SHRUBS - Planting season continues. Visit camellia shows to learn of hardy varieties in your area. Graft camellias in Central and South Alabama. Spray all shrubs with a fungicide before new growth starts. Good time to prune all shrubs before new growth starts. Don't prune early-blooming species because flower buds will be removed.

ROSES - Prune hybrid tea roses in South Alabama; delay pruning for a few weeks in North Alabama. Continue planting.

ANNUALS AND PERENNIALS - Replant early plantings of hardy annuals. Prepare beds for summer annuals.

BULBS - Plant cannas, amaryllis, gladiolus, and zephyranthes in South Alabama; delay planting for a few weeks in North Alabama.

MISCELLANEOUS - Houseplants are beginning to show signs of activity. Fertilize with liquid or soluble fertilizer according to manufacturer's directions. Remember Valentine's Day - why not send roses or a potted plant?

VEGETABLE SEED - Plant some vegetables listed for January in Central Alabama plus collards, salsify, and Swiss chard. Add tomatoes, peppers, eggplants, cauliflower, and Brussels sprouts to cold frames.

VEGETABLE PLANTS - Plant cabbage, onions, lettuce, broccoli, and Brussels sprouts.

ORGANIC Gardening[®]

SEED-STARTING PLAN

The spring frost-free date in my garden is _____

CROP	WHEN TO START INSIDE	WEEKS FROM SOWING	SAFE TO SET OUT TIME (RELATIVE TO FROST-FREE DATE)	SETTING OUT DATE
Basil		6	1 week after	
Beets		4-6	2 weeks before	
Broccoli		4-6	2 weeks before	
Cabbage		4-6	4 weeks before	
Cauliflower		4-6	2 weeks before	
Collards		4-6	4 weeks before	
Corn		2-4	0-2 weeks after	
Cucumber		3-4	1-2 weeks after	
Eggplant		8-10	2-3 weeks after	
Kale		4-6	4 weeks before	
Kohlrabi*		4-6	4 weeks before	
Lettuce		4-5	3-4 weeks before	
Melons		3-4	2 weeks after	
Mustard*		4-6	4 weeks before	
Okra*		4-6	2-4 weeks after	
Onions		6-8	4 weeks before	
Parsley		9-10	2-3 weeks before	
Peas*		3-4	6-8 weeks before	
Peppers		6-14	2 weeks after	
Pumpkins		3-4	2 weeks after	
Spinach		4-6	3-6 weeks before	
Squash		3-4	2 weeks after	
Swiss chard		4-6	2 weeks before	
Tomatoes		6-8	1-2 weeks after	

* These crops are usually direct-seeded outdoors, but they can be started inside.

First "Don't Bug Me" Webinar Slated for Early February

The inaugural *Don't Bug Me* webinar will provide answers on what works and what doesn't work to control fire ants. Dani Carroll, a regional home grounds agent with the Alabama Cooperative Extension System will host the free webinar on Friday, Feb. 1 at 1:00 pm Central time.

"Do a web search, and you will find lots of sites with home remedies for fire ant control," says Carroll. "They are all over the internet. This webinar will help ordinary people learn what works and what doesn't."

Carroll says that the webinar's expert is Wizzie Brown, a Texas A&M AgriLife Extension specialist working in integrated pest management who will debunk some myths about dealing with fire ants.

Brown says she will begin by explaining basic fire ant biology.

"I plan to talk about "organic" and how it means different things to different people," she says. "Then I will discuss what treatments work and those that do not work. People will learn about less toxic but effective techniques for fire ant management for home landscapes."

Carroll explains that this webinar and all of the *Don't Bug Me* Series webinars are specifically for average people who need answers they can use.

"This first webinar and the rest of the series will give people sound, research-based solutions for pests from some of the top experts in the nation," she says.

More information can be found at the [Fire Ant Home Remedies event page](#) including how to connect to the webinar. On February 1, participants can use [this link](#) to connect to the webinar.

The webinars are sponsored by [eXtension](#) and the [Alabama Cooperative Extension System](#). They are coordinated by the [Imported Fire Ant eXtension Community of Practice](#).

As upcoming webinars approach, watch eXtension's [Don't be Bugged Webinar Series page](#) for more information on that particular webinar.

Upcoming Webinars in the First Friday of the Month Spring Series:

March 1: [Ants! Ants! Ants!](#) Tawny crazy ants and Argentine ants don't sting, but their large colonies are definitely annoying. Learn how these ants live and how to control them. Hosted by ACES Regional Extension Agent Bethany O'Rear.

April 5: [You Have Fire Ants Where?](#) Targeted fire ant management in sensitive and challenging areas including vegetable gardens, fish ponds, compost piles and electrical boxes. Hosted by ACES Regional Extension Agent Willie Datcher.

May 3: [Protect Your Loved Ones From Fire Ants](#) Learn safe, effective, research-based methods to protect your family and pets from fire ants. Hosted by ACES Regional Extension Agent Charles Pinkston.

June 7: [Get Rid of Those Bed Bugs](#) Learn how bed bugs live and get sound, research-based advice on how to get rid of them. Hosted by ACES Regional Extension Agent Chris Becker.

\$\$\$\$\$ Treasurer's Report as of 1-31-2013 ~ by Angie Ballew \$\$\$\$\$

BALANCE SHEET		INCOME STATEMENT		
Assets		Receipts	Jan	Year to Date
Checking Account	3,211.47	Memberships	286.00	286.00
MG Clothing	<u>463.06 ***</u>	Ground Hog Day Dinner	0.00	0.00
Total Assets	3,674.53	Round-Up Dinner	0.00	0.00
Liabilities		Field Trip	0.00	0.00
Clothing Deposits	0.00	Shelby Co. Fair	0.00	0.00
State Dues Payable	<u>0.00</u>	Donations	<u>19.00</u>	<u>19.00</u>
Total Liabilities	0.00	Total receipts	305.00	305.00
Capital		Expenses		
Begin of Year	3,674.53	State dues	130.00	130.00
Net receipts YTD	<u>-843.41</u>	Ground Hog Dinner	0.00	0.00
Total Capital	2,831.12	Round-Up Dinner	0.00	0.00
Total Liabilities & Capital		Stamps, Cards		
	2,831.12	& Admin Supplies	18.41	18.41
		Honorarium & Gifts	0.00	0.00
		Decorations	0.00	0.00
		Field Trip	0.00	0.00
		AMGA Scholarship	1,000.00	1,000.00
		Badges & Stars	<u>0.00</u>	<u>0.00</u>
		Total Expenses	1,148.41	1,148.41
		Net Receipts	-843.41	-843.41

*** 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.



**Shelby County Master Gardeners' Association
Board of Directors and Committee Chairs 2012–2013**



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	980-7695	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
Mentorship	Brenda Fitzgerald	620-0931	brendafitz@bellsouth.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

**ALABAMA MASTER GARDENER ASSOCIATION, INC.
MEMBERSHIP FORM**

Dear Master Gardener:

The Alabama master Gardener Association (AMGA) Board of Directors has set \$10.00 as the annual membership dues for January 1 – December 31, 2013. Members are very important to this Association, and we hope that you will join or renew your membership. To remain on the state membership list and to continue receiving the Garden Pathways newsletter, please complete this application and give it, along with your dues, to your local association Treasurer by December 14, 2012.

Association Name: **Shelby County Master Gardeners' Association**

Name: _____ Office _____

Address: _____

Phone #'s: Home: _____ Work: _____ Cell: _____

Email Address: _____

State and Local Newsletters will be delivered online. County of Residence _____

Birthday Month _____ Day _____

Class Information: County of Training: _____ Year of Graduation: _____

In case of Emergency Call: _____ Phone # _____

TYPE OF MEMBERSHIP (Check one)

	Local Dues	State Dues
<input type="checkbox"/> Active Member	\$ 12.00	\$10.00
<input type="checkbox"/> Provisional Member (Interns)	No fee	No fee
<input type="checkbox"/> Lifetime Member	\$240.00	\$100.00
<input type="checkbox"/> Associate Member (Extension Employee)	No fee	No fee
<input type="checkbox"/> Honorary Member	No fee	No fee

Amount Enclosed: \$ _____

PLEASE MAKE ONE CHECK PAYABLE TO "SCMGA" AND MAIL TO:

Shelby County Master Gardeners' Association
% Angie Ballew
5020 Stone Bridge Lane
Birmingham, AL 35242