

# 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](http://www.alabamamg.org)  
**Alabama MG Program** [www.aces.edu/mg](http://www.aces.edu/mg)

**Vol. 6, Issue 7**

**July 2013**

## Pointers from the President...

Happy summer to all! It sure is a hot one and watering is the biggest job around! I certainly did enjoy our program last month on moths. I Hope you attended and will attend this month also. Ferns is the topic and it should be a good program.

Remember to sign up with Trisha Williams to work the Expo on August 3 at the demonstration farm in Chilton County. It is a great event for the whole family and there are great fruits to sample also. The herb garden is always a beautiful thing to visit and get ideas for your own garden. Wear cool clothes because it always is a hot day.

Don't forget the Rain Barrel Class on July 11. Nelson will be teaching this class from 5:30 to 8:00 PM in Columbiana. The cost is \$50 and you must register at 669-6763. You will be taking home a rain barrel from the class. I have 5 rain barrels and really want more!

Our next Master Gardener class of interns will begin on August 7. This is the day we always bring a lunch for the interns so plan on this please. If you haven't already signed up to be an mentor for one of the new interns, please do. Notify Sundra Smith or sign up at our next meeting. This is a great service plus you get hours for this!

Hope to see all of you at our next meeting with a special dish you made. We have such great fellowship and a great learning opportunity as well.

Your President,

*Susan*

## THIS MONTH'S MEETING (Friday, July 12)

**Hi, everyone! Now that the summer heat has arrived, I'm already looking for ways to cool down. What better way to find relief than by spending the morning in the lush greenery of our native ferns? We're in for a treat with Sarah Johnston of the Birmingham Fern Society, who will tell us all about the best native ferns to grow in our area. Sarah is also an accomplished photographer, many of whose photographs are featured in Ferns of Alabama.**



**Please join us on Friday, July 12 at 10:00 a.m. for this very special program. ~Susan Seng, VP**

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## ALABAMA GARDENER'S CALENDAR FOR JULY

**FRUITS AND NUTS** – Protect figs and other ripening fruit from birds.

**SHRUBS** – Continue to root shrub cuttings until late in the month and mulch to keep soil moist. Remove faded blooms promptly from crape myrtle and other summer-blooming plants.

**LAWNS** – Watch for diseases. Mow regularly. Water as needed.

**ROSES** – Keep roses healthy and actively growing. Apply fertilizer. Wash off foliage to prevent burning if any fertilizer falls on plants.

**ANNUALS AND PERENNIALS** – Water as needed to keep plants active.

**BULBS** – Iris and spider lilies may be planted late this month.

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

**VEGETABLE SEED** – Plant beans, field peas, rutabagas, squash, New Zealand spinach, and Irish potatoes. Plant cabbage, collards, broccoli, cauliflower, Brussels sprouts, and celery for the fall crop.

**VEGETABLE PLANTS** – Plant tomatoes in Central and North Alabama.

### JULY BIRTHDAYS

2—Mary K Tomas  
 9—Tommie Harrison  
 12—Rhonda Cowan & Beth Glasgow  
 16—Lisa Walden  
 21—Barbara Williams

### \$\$\$\$\$\$ Treasurer's Report as of 6-27-2013 ~ by Angie Ballew \$\$\$\$\$\$

#### BALANCE SHEET

##### Assets

Checking Account	2,372.45
MG Clothing	<u>447.00 ***</u>
<b>Total Assets</b>	<b>2,819.45</b>

##### Liabilities

Clothing Deposits	0.00
State Dues Payable	<u>0.00</u>
<b>Total Liabilities</b>	<b>0.00</b>

##### Capital

Begin of Year	3,658.47
<b>Net receipts YTD</b>	<u>-849.38</u>
<b>Total Capital</b>	<b>2,809.09</b>

**Total Liabilities & Capital      \$2,809.09**

\*\*\* 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

	June	Year to Date
Memberships	54.00	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	<u>0.00</u>	<u>19.00</u>
<b>Total receipts</b>	<b>54.00</b>	<b>535.00</b>

##### Expenses

State dues	30.00	240.00
Ground Hog Dinner	0.00	0.00
Round-Up Dinner	0.00	0.00
Stamps, Cards		
& Admin Supplies	34.36	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
Badges & Stars	<u>0.00</u>	<u>30.00</u>
<b>Total Expenses</b>	<b>64.36</b>	<b>1,384.38</b>

**Net Receipts      -10.36      -849.38**

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**SHELBY COUNTY MASTER GARDENERS' ASSOCIATION**  
**Minutes – June 14, 2013**

- **Call to Order**– Susan Seng opened the meeting with the Pledge of Allegiance and welcomed everyone. There were two visitors, Clara Alice Heerten and Mike Raita.
- **Minutes were approved** as published in the *Gardeners' Gab*.
- **Treasurer's Report was approved** as published in the *Gardeners' Gab*.
- **Several "Thank You's"** were given, including to Rhonda and her set-up crew, Edith Johnston for hosting our tour last month, Murry and Wayne Williamson for hosting a tour of their gardens, to those who helped with The Exceptional Needs Fishing event and to the group that helped Helen Titus with her garden one afternoon.
- **We discussed Mary K's idea of lending a hand** to some of our members who could use a little help. It was announced that it could be counted as "community service", and could include helping out our fellow gardeners before they had their garden "on tour".
- **A few of our members have been in the news.** "Shelby Living" had an article on Composting. A copy of it was passed around. Two of our members, Trisha Williams and Tommie Harrison, were interviewed for the article which included a picture of Trisha and her compost bin. April Hayes was mentioned in "The Shelby County Reporter" for a play in which she performed.
- **Committee Reports:**
  - **New Class:** Sundra Smith has a list of those who have offered to be Mentors for the new class. More Mentors are needed so the list was passed around for others to volunteer. As usual, Master Gardeners will provide a Pot Luck lunch the first day. The cost of the new class is \$150. There are already ten people registered.
  - **Projects:** Rita Forrest clarified that all requests for new projects go through her and not Nelson. She will go back through any requests she has received and may have some to present at our next meeting for approval. Then they will go to Nelson.
- **New Business:**
  - **Karen Jensen brought some plants**, including Angel Trumpets, from her Lake Garden Club to share.
  - **Nelson announced that a new Rain Barrel** class will be held July 11, 2013, from 5:30 – 8:00 p.m. at the Extension Office. This class will use old olive barrels instead of the cola syrup barrels. The cost of the class is \$50 which includes a barrel. Extra barrels can be purchased for \$26.
  - **A Native Plant Conference** will be held November 1, 2013, at Birmingham Botanical Gardens. David Haskell, author of "Forests Unseen, a Year in Nature", will be the guest speaker. It was recommended, voted upon, and passed that we donate \$250 to the conference.
  - **The Fern Society** will hold their annual show and sale next week, June 19, at the BBG from 1:00 – 5:00. There will be an associated "Fern Walk" on Sunday, June 16, at 2:00 at the BBG.
  - **Trisha Williams asked for help with the Chilton County Farm, Home and Wildlife Expo** to be held August 3rd at the Chilton County Research and Extension Center. She passed around a sign-up sheet and said all volunteers would need to fill out a waiver form provided by Auburn University.
  - **Dues checks** are to be sent to Angie Ballew.
  - **Susan asked for a Nominating Committee.** Regina Varvoutis will chair. Jan Rodgers and Jeanon Massien volunteered. She also asked if anyone remembered having volunteered to take over the T-shirts and merchandising sales. No one remembered having done so.
  - **It was proposed and passed** that we donate \$35 to help with the update of the state website.
- **Mary K. Tomas introduced our speaker, Dr. Pete Van Zandt**, from The Moth Lab at Birmingham Southern. As there were some technical difficulties, announcements were made while he and Nelson worked on the projector.
- **ANNOUNCEMENTS:**
  - **Rita needs someone who can write** well to help with the website. Tommie Harrison volunteered.
  - **Door Prizes** were given out. It was mentioned that anyone was welcomed to bring some to any meeting.
  - **Jeanon talked about the AMGA meeting.** Shelby did not have as good a showing as in the past. The Conference made \$23,000. This will be split between the Shoals groups and the AMGA. The \$11,500 will cover the money lost a couple years back at the meeting in Mobile. State finances are now good.
  - **Next year's conference** will be held in Daphne. It will be different from those in the past with new speakers from Texas. It will be held on a Monday/Tuesday/Wednesday, April 28 – 30, 2014.
  - **Petals from the Past** will have a half-price sale on June 29th.
- **With technical problems solved, Dr. Van Zandt gave a wonderfully entertaining and informative program on "Moths of Alabama – Mostly Nothing to Fear and Much to Appreciate."** He can be contacted at [pvanzand@bsc.edu](mailto:pvanzand@bsc.edu).
- **Following our program, Bill Legg** gave the blessing and we enjoyed a delicious lunch.
- There were 32 in attendance, including two visitors.

Respectfully submitted,  
Beth Heerten, Secretary

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# Calling all Shelby County Master Gardeners!

Mark your calendars for August 7<sup>th</sup>. Our 2013 Intern Class will begin at 9:00 a.m. This year SCMGA will have the entire morning to conduct an expanded orientation. Lunch will begin at noon and I'm counting on YOU to bring a dish and join us. Our plan at this time is to have mentors teamed up with students during the morning hours and then of course, have lunch with them. If interested in being a mentor, please contact Sundra Smith at [sshealeysmith@aol.com](mailto:sshealeysmith@aol.com).

The Intern Class Committee has met and I want to let you know what we're planning. We are considering a "Meet and Greet" for everyone enrolled in the class. This event will be the week prior to the start of class. Stayed tuned for more information as we continuing developing this plan. Additionally, we are planning for a "Graduation". Hopefully this will be off site and will be the afternoon of the last class. Of course, all SCMGA folks are invited and I hope you will attend.

My thanks for all those volunteering to help with this class. The committee consists of your SCMGA Officers, Sundra Smith, Brenda Fitzgerald, Jan Rogers, Cathy Canant and myself. And, of course...thank you for agreeing to be a mentor. With your help and support the upcoming class will be a successful one and we'll have the opportunity to welcome even more folks as members of SCMGA. ~Jeanon



Birdhouse Tree—Murry & Wayne  
Williamson's garden.  
Photo by Heidee Vansant



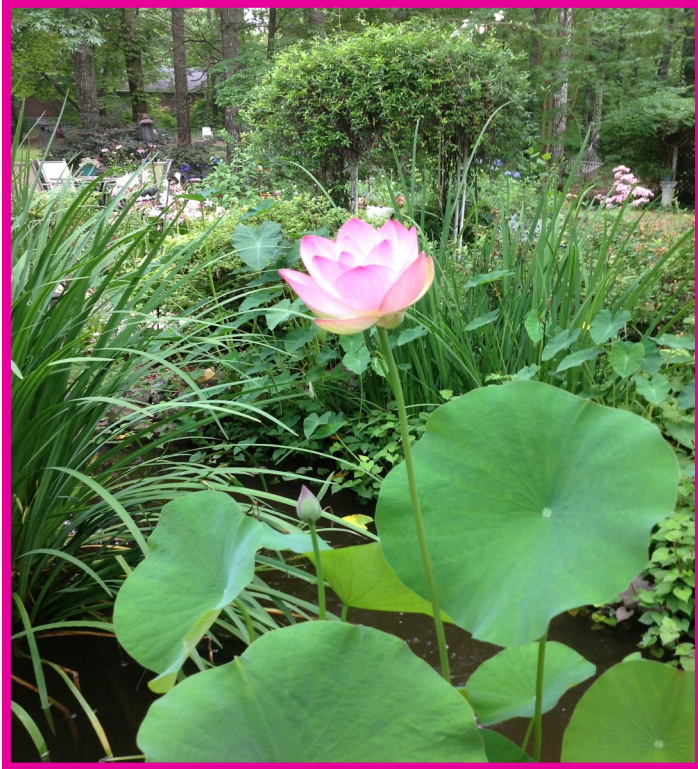
My Fairy Garden—Heidee Vansant

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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.



Lotus blossom—Susan Seng's pond.



Susan Seng and Trisha Williams display an article featuring Trisha's compost bin in Shelby Living Magazine.  
Photo by Karen Jensen



Dr. Pete Van Zandt tells about the fascinating world of moths.  
Photo by Karen Jensen



Dr. Pete Van Zandt, Mary K Tomas and Susan Seng "do lunch."  
Photo by Karen Jensen



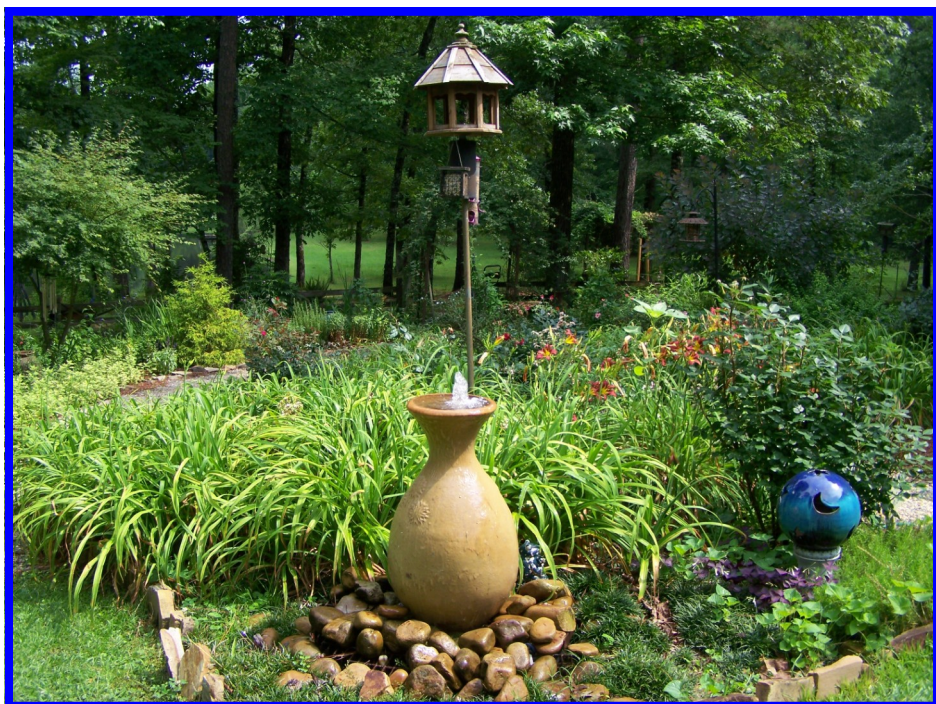
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**SHELBY COUNTY REGIONAL 2013 MASTER GARDENER PROGRAM  
CLASS SCHEDULE**

**Nelson D. Wynn Regional Extension Agent**

<b>SUBJECT</b>	<b>DATE</b>	<b>TIME</b>	<b>INSTRUCTOR</b>
Orientation Lunch Annuals & Perennials	08/07/13	9:00 - 12:00 12:00 - 1:00 1:00 - 3:00	SCMGA SCMGA Carol Beard
Fruits <b>(meet @ Experiment Station)</b> Tour Chilton Reg. Res. & Ext. Center	08/14/13	9:00 - 12:00 1:00 - 3:00	Gary Gray James Pitts
Plant Entomology	08/21/13	9:00 - 3:00	Roger Vines
Plant Physiology	08/28/13	9:00 - 3:00	Dr. Dan Jones
Weed Science Pesticide Safety	09/04/13	9:00 - 12:00 1:00 - 3:00	Bethany O'Rear Bethany O'Rear
House Plants Vegetables	09/11/13	9:00 - 11:00 1:00 - 3:00	Jeanon Massie Tom Harris
Plant Pathology <b>(meet @ Petals)</b> Plant Propagation <b>(@ Petals)</b>	09/18/13	9:00 - 12:00 1:00 - 3:00	Dr. Jim Jacobi Dr. Arlie Powell
Soils	09/25/13	9:00 - 3:00	Dr. C. Mitchell
Landscape Design	10/02/13	9:00 - 3:00	Bethany O'Rear
Woody Ornamentals & Invasive Plants	10/09/13	9:00 - 3:00	Sallie Lee
Home Lawns	10/16/13	9:00 - 3:00	Dr. David Han
Pruning Trees & Tour <b>(@ BBG)</b>	10/23/13	9:00 - 3:00	James Horton
Backyard Composting Lunch & Graduation	10/30/13	9:00 - 11:30 11:30 - 3:00	Nelson D. Wynn SCMGA



Fountain Area  
Murry & Wayne Williamson's garden.  
Photo by Heidee Vansant



Old ladder display  
Murry & Wayne Williamson's garden.  
Photo by Heidee Vansant

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**Calera Farmers' Market** - [www.calerafarmersmarket.com](http://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](http://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	980-7695	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
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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