

GARDENERS' GAB



Shelby County Master Gardeners' Association

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

www.shelbycountymastergardenersassoc.com

Alabama MGA: www.alabamamg.org

Alabama MG Program www.aces.edu/mg

Vol. 7, Issue 7

July 2014

Pointers from the President...

Hello Master Gardener friends!

I hope you have a way to stay cool and keep your plants watered! Also I hope everyone had a happy and safe 4th of July!

Thank you Murry and Wayne for opening your beautiful garden to our entire group! I heard folks really enjoyed it. I hated missing it but was taking care of grandkids.

I wanted to make everyone aware of a great opportunity. On Sunday, July 20, from 1:00-4:30, you are invited to Mobile Convention Center to hear P. Allen Smith speak. It's free to master gardeners who wear their badge!! This is a national county agent conference but they are allowing us in this one event for free. Please try to go!

If you are interested in becoming a mentor for our new class of master gardeners, please contact Sundra Smith. Remember our new class begins next month.

We still want to hear about all your volunteering hours. Don't forget to record them on the state web page. I promised myself not to wait until December to record mine!

I'm looking forward to our time together at the July meeting. Please try to come.

Your President,
Susan Seng

THIS MONTH'S MEETING—Friday, July 11th

FLOWER ARRANGING WORKSHOP

with MARY CARR, avid gardener, PEO & Birmingham Art Museum Docent



- Come to participate or just watch. If participating, bring a bucket of plant material in a few inches of water.
- Bring a vase or low sided centerpiece container - plant material needs to be 2.5 times taller than container so be sure to leave your material long enough.
- If doing a low centerpiece, purchase & pre-soak a bar of OASIS. Home Accents on Hwy 31 in Pelham usually carries this. At home or at meeting, wedge your soaked oasis into your container (you may need a knife and tape to keep wedge secure).
- Bring scissors, hand trimmer or knife to cut plant material as you make your arrangement **ALONG WITH MARY CARR.**
- Come, bring a potluck dish to pass, and glory in the beauty of our Alabama flora!



Please consider the environment before printing this e-mail.

SAVE THE DATE: August 8th, our speaker will be energetic Coosa Riverkeeper, Frank Chitwood. Alabama is so biodiverse, and we are living with such amazing water resources - come learn **MORE!**



Treasurer's Report as of 6/26/2014
Submitted by Deb Kattus, Treasurer

| Date | Amount | Check # | For | Deposit | For | Balance |
|------------------------|--------|---------|-----|---------|-----|------------|
| No activity this month | | | | | | \$2,869.31 |

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.



The Great Tomato Contest @ Petals from the Past
Saturday, July 26, 2014

- 9am—10am - Bring your tomatoes for the contest. Please bring 5 tomatoes per entry and one entry per category.
- 10am—Judging begins.
- Also at 10am—What to do with all those Tomatoes! Learn interesting ways to preserve tomatoes to prolong your harvest. Sample delicious tomato recipes.
- Kids Contest—Green Tomato Critters (Please register for this by calling 205-646-0069. There is no charge.

[Annual Tomato Contest Entry Form](#)



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JULY BIRTHDAYS

2—Mary K Tomas
9—Tommie Harrison
12—Rhonda Cowan & Beth Glasgow
21—Barbara Williams
30—Betty Daigle & Michelle Stinson



I have Master Gardener front tag plates available. Cost is \$20. \$10 goes to Extension for agents' use and \$10 goes to the AMGA Endowment. Contact me if interesting in purchasing.

Jeanon Massien ~ Nauzer1@att.net

VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITY

The 2014 Master Gardener Class will be here before you know it. We need as many volunteer Mentors as possible.

As a Mentor, we ask you to...

- Contact your mentee prior to the first class. Send a card, email or smoke signal to say, "Welcome and I am here for you." You should provide encouragement before they start.
- Attend the First Day of class AND bring a welcome gift. This can be something you have grown or made for your mentee. It's another way of saying "We're glad to have you here with us."
- Identify some type of project or activity you can do together. We want the new MG class to know about the activities we do in the community and how they can become involved. Additionally, they may be involved in something YOU may want to do.

Twelve (12) people signed up at the May meeting. Let's increase that to twenty-five (25) at the June /July Meeting.

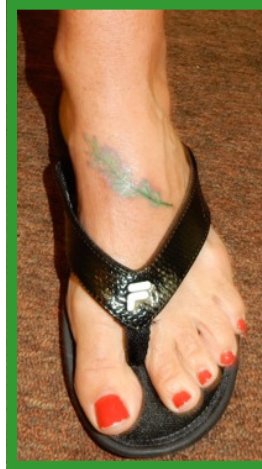
Thank you, Sundra



Scene from the Jim Scott garden tour.
Photo by Rita Forrest



Susan enjoying life. Photo by Rita Forrest



Susan's new tattoo. Sprig of lavender/rosemary.
Photo by Karen Jensen



Susan, Rhonda & Sundra look on as Randall attacks his birthday dessert! Photo by Rita Forrest

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Calling all Shelby County Master Gardeners! Mark your calendars for August 6th. Our 2014 Intern Class will begin at 9:00 a.m. Once again, 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, sshealeysmith@aol.com. Sundra will be sending information regarding the mentoring program, but it's not too early to begin thinking about a "garden gift" for your future Master Gardener Intern.

Many thanks for all those volunteering to help with the class this year. The committee consists of your SCMGA Officers, Sundra Smith, Brenda Fitzgerald, Jan Rogers, Cathy Canant and myself. In addition, thank you in advance for agreeing to be a mentor. With your help and support, the upcoming class will be a successful one. Join us on August 6th to welcome them. ~Jeanon

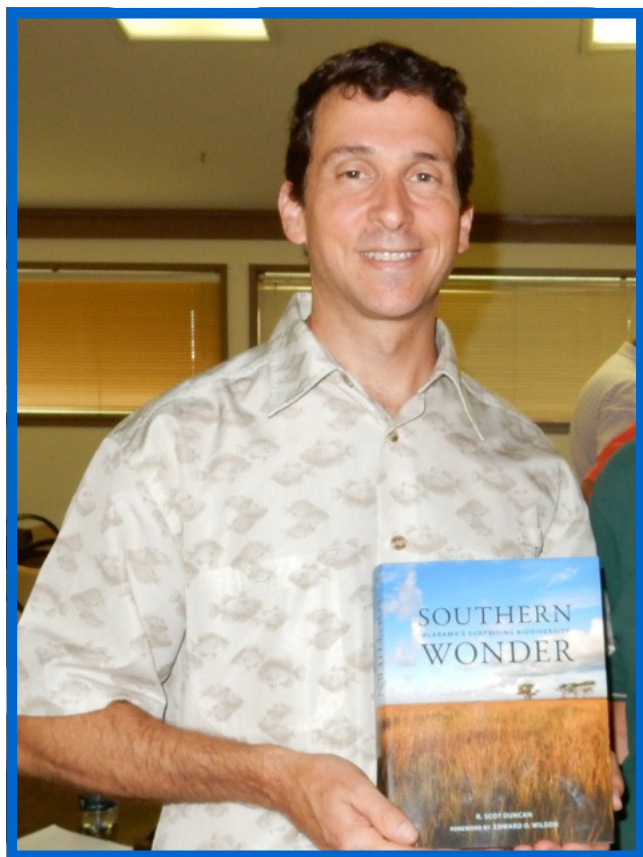
SHELBY COUNTY REGIONAL 2014 - MASTER GARDENER PROGRAM CLASSES SCHEDULE

Nelson D. Wynn Regional Extension Agent

| SUBJECT | DATE | TIME | INSTRUCTOR |
|--|----------|---|---|
| Orientation Soil Sampling Lunch Annuals & Perennials | 08/06/14 | 9:00- 12:00 12:00 – 1:00 1:00 – 3:00 | SCMGA Nelson D. Wynn SCMGA Carol Beard |
| Fruits (meet @ Experiment Station) Tour Chilton Reg. Res. & Ext. Center | 08/13/14 | 9:30 -12:00 1:00 – 3:00 | Don & Ruth Driggers James Pitts |
| Plant Physiology | 08/20/14 | 9:30-3:00 | Dr. Dan Jones |
| Weed Science Pesticide Safety | 08/27/14 | 9:30- 3:00 | John Nabors |
| Plant Entomology | 09/03/14 | 9:30 -3:00 | Roger Vines |
| House Plants Vegetables | 09/10/14 | 9:30 -11:00 1:00 – 3:00 | Jeanon Massien Tom Harris |
| Plant Pathology (meet @ Petals from the Past) Plant Propagation (@ Petals) | 09/17/14 | 9:30 – 12:00 1:00 – 3:00 | Dr. Jim Jacobi Arlie Powell |
| Soils | 09/24/14 | 9:30 -3:00 | Dr. C. Mitchell |
| Landscape Design | 10/01/14 | 9:30 – 3:00 | Bethany O'Rear |
| Woody Ornamentals& Invasive Plants | 10/08/14 | 9:30 -3:00 | Sallie Lee |
| Home Lawns | 10/15/14 | 9:30- 3:00 | Dr. David Han |
| Pruning Trees & Tour (@ BBG) | 10/22/14 | 9:30 -3:00 | James Horton |
| Backyard Composting (meet @ Aldridge Gardens) Vermiculture Lunch & Graduation | 10/29/14 | 9:30 – 11:00 11:00 – 12:00 12:00 – 3:00 | Sondra Henley Jan Rogers SCMGA |

Please consider the environment before printing this e-mail.

I thought we had a GREAT meeting with Dr. Scot Duncan - I learned so much (hope I can remember a fraction of it). Mary Kay, thanks for suggesting him as a speaker - know he'll be a hit in Cullman at MG Convention 2015. Diane & Jan, loved your water/fish input. I printed off the June Newsletter so I could have a paper copy of the Farmer's Market list and I wanted guest Judy Jones to SEE how wonderful our MG Newsletter is - we wish HOBO had one as fine! HOBO is also trying to do a nicer website....they are VERY ENVIOUS of our MG Newsletter & website. Be proud of yourselves!!! ~Karen Jensen



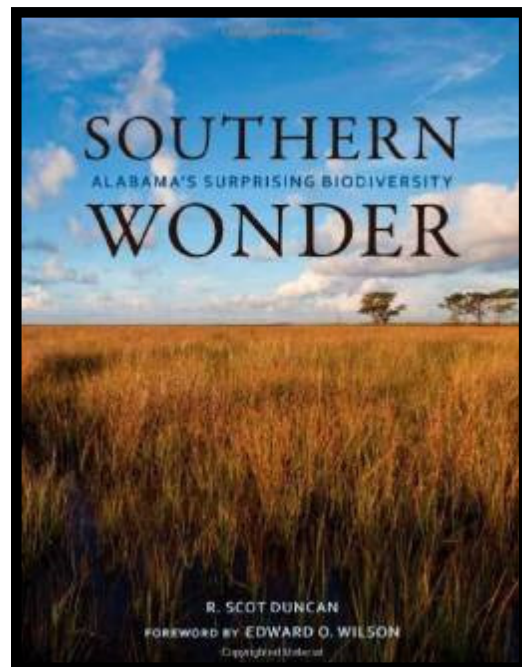
Dr Scot Duncan with his new book on Alabama's amazing biodiversity.



Lay Lake HOBO Clean-Up Chair, Judy Jones visits with Sundra Smith during lunch.



Rhonda Cowen presents Randall with the door prize!



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Alabaster Farmer's Market—Contact: Lynn Coleman (sowersofseed@hotmail.com)

- Location: 1953 Municipal Way
- Date: June 14—August 16
- Hours: Saturdays 8:00 am—12:00 noon

Calera Farmers' Market - www.calerafarmersmarket.com

- Location: Oliver Park (9758 Hwy. 25, Calera)
- Date: June 3—August 5
- 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 7—August 23
- 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 2—August 4
- 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 7—October 25
- Hours: Saturdays 8:00 am - 12:00 noon

Riverchase United Methodist Market—Contact: John Ray (john@riverchaseumc.org)

- Location: 1953 Old Hwy 31
- Date: May 28—August 7
- Hours: Thursdays 1:00 pm—5:00 pm

Valleydale Farmers' Market - Contact: Felder Davis (valleydalefarmersmarket@gmail.com)

- Location: 4601 Valleydale Road
- Date: May 17—August 20
- Hours: Saturdays 8:00 am - 12:00 noon



Shelby County Master Gardeners' Association Board of Directors and Committee Chairs 2014—2015



| | | | |
|---------------------------------|----------------|--------------|--|
| President | Susan Seng | 991-7867 | gaggy10@gmail.com |
| Vice-President | Karen Jensen | 670-0701 | karenkjensen3@icloud.com |
| Secretary | Beth Heerten | 991-5154 | beth.heerten@charter.net |
| Treasurer | Deb Kattus | 913-2703 | dkattus@charter.net |
| Communications/Webmaster | Jan Rogers | 307-9733 | janrogers@charter.net |
| Historian | Diane McKinnon | 620-3282 | bamabeach@bellsouth.net |
| Hospitality | Michele Hill | 665-1206 | michelerhill@gmail.com |
| Membership/Advisory Council Rep | Cathy Canant | 260-7748 | ccanant@bellsouth.net |
| MG Class Coordinator/AMGA VP | Jeanon Massien | 991-3125 | nauzer1@att.net |
| Newsletter Editor | Heidee Vansant | 669-3284 | heidee.vansant@gmail.com |
| Projects/Webmaster | Rita Forrest | 620-1167 | ritabe@bellsouth.net |
| Sunshine Committee | Mary K. Tomas | 781-883-1523 | maryktomas@yahoo.com |

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