

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 9

September 2013

Pointers from the President...

Well, it is amazing that today as I am writing this, there is no rain. It has been a tough growing season with all this rain. Funny though, we will all wish for some of it later.

Our new Master Gardener class is up and running. There are 16 folks (half of which is men) and I believe they are excited about volunteering! They are also working hard on the Shelby County Master Gardener Fair booth. The fair will be held September 16—21 so please go and check out our booth! Maybe they will take home a ribbon!

Hope you have had a chance to visit our new web page. Jan will be writing something about it in this newsletter. Remember she wants pictures, so send some in!

Lots of volunteer opportunities were discussed at our last meeting. Please consider doing some of these or find another that interests you. Remember Aldridge Gardens and Botanical Gardens always need help. Don't be shy to ask others what they are doing. It is so fun to work together on things! I ran across this in a magazine . . . "Be willing to share with others. When we share, seeds of joy will come back to us." Start thinking about committees you want to be on for next year. We always need volunteers and we always welcome folks that have not tried this before.

Shout out a big thank you to Sundra for organizing the mentors and thanks to all of you that are now a mentor to an intern.

Looking forward to seeing all of you at our next meeting in Columbiana on September 13. Bring some yummy food and a great attitude!

Your President,
Susan Seng

THIS MONTH'S MEETING (Friday, September 13)

I hope you all are enjoying everything this summer has given -- cooler temperatures, plenty of rain, and lush foliage that in any other year would look pretty well spent by this time. We are set to have a fantastic meeting in September. Michelle Reynolds, President-Elect of Birmingham Audubon Society, writer for Alabama Gardener, passionate naturalist and fiber artist, will present a program on succulents. Arnie Rutkis of Stoneshovel will provide a few plants for us to purchase. If you've never had the good fortune to meet Michelle, now is your opportunity. I learn something new every time I see her, and you will, too! We will meet as usual at the Extension Center at 10:00 a.m. on Friday, September 13. See you there!



~Mary K Tomas, VP

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ALABAMA GARDENER'S CALENDAR FOR SEPTEMBER

FRUITS AND NUTS – New catalogs will be arriving soon. Start plans for future selection and plantings. Take soil test for new planting areas. Fertilize established strawberry plantings.

SHRUBS – Study landscape to determine plant needs. Check early varieties of camellias. You may want to replace those damaged in spring by late freezes. After fall growth is completed, spray all shrubs with a fungicide.

LAWNS – Plant seed of winter grasses where situation prevents planting permanent grasses. Winter seeds will appear soon. Stop fertilization three weeks before frost.

ROSES – Protect fall crops of blossoms from aphids and thrips. Keep plants healthy.

ANNUALS AND PERENNIALS – Last chance for planting perennials and biennials. Old clumps of perennials may be divided. Plant peonies.

BULBS – Spring-flowering bulbs may be planted late this month in North Alabama. Delay planting in South Alabama.

MISCELLANEOUS – Clean up infestations of insects on azaleas, camellias, boxwoods, gardenias, hollies, etc. If oil spray is needed, don't use in freezing weather. Build compost bin or box; leaves will be falling soon. Move houseplants indoors.

VEGETABLE SEED – Plant hardy vegetables and root crops.

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



SEPTEMBER BIRTHDAYS

7—Brenda Fitzgerald
9—Betty Elder
13—Sallie Farmer
17—Sue Brasher
19—Joan Pickett
29—Kate Vogel



\$\$\$\$\$ Treasurer's Report as of 8-20-2013 ~ by Angie Ballew \$\$\$\$\$

BALANCE SHEET

Assets

Checking Account	1,914.10
MG Clothing	447.00 ***
Total Assets	2,361.10

Liabilities

Clothing Deposits	0.00
State Dues Payable	0.00
Total Liabilities	0.00

Capital

Begin of Year	3,658.47
Net receipts YTD	-1,297.37
Total Capital	2,361.10

Total Liabilities & Capital \$2,361.10

*** 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

	Aug	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
SCMGA Website Setup	24.00	24.00
Admin/Office Supplies	60.11	174.49
Honorariums & Gifts	0.00	0.00
J. Massien (paper goods)	78.88	78.88
AMGA Scholarship	0.00	1,000.00
Donation—Native Plant Conf	250.00	250.00
Donation—State Website	0.00	35.00
Badges & Stars	0.00	30.00
Total Expenses	412.99	1,832.37

NET RECEIPTS -412.99 -1,297.37

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SHELBY COUNTY MASTER GARDENER ASSOCIATION

Minutes—August 9, 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 *Gardeners' Gab*
- Treasurer's report—approved as reported in *Gardeners' Gab*
- Committee Reports:
 1. Projects—Rita Forrest: AARP has grant money to teach seniors about container gardening, but must be completed by the end of August. Harvest for Health, a gardening program for breast cancer survivor still is looking for volunteers—contact Bill Legg
 2. New MG Class—Susan Seng: 16 interns, off to a good start
 3. Sunshine—Karen Kendall: no report
- Announcements
 1. AMGA Fall Seminar: Sept. 10th in Montgomery
 2. Expo Report—thanks to all who participated
 3. New Website—Rita Forrest and Jan Rogers: up and running, send info to be published to Rita or Jan, contact information on the website
- New business: none
- Program: "Vermiculture," presented by Jan Rogers and her husband, Bob
- Blessing and Lunch

Respectfully submitted,
Brenda Fitzgerald



64TH ANNUAL SHELBY COUNTY FAIR — September 16–21, 2013

Shelby County Exhibition Center, Columbiana, AL
Theme: **"FARMING FEEDS ..."**

Admission: \$10 each at Gate; \$9 each Online
www.alsbelbycountyfair.com/tickets

Everyone Over 36 Inches Must Purchase A Ticket
Gates Open at 5:30 Nightly—Rides Start At 6PM
Gates and Rides Open at 3PM on Saturday

We chose this theme in part due to a promotional idea from the International Association of Fairs and Expos (of which we are a member). IAFE is encouraging local Fairs to conduct a Food Drive in conjunction with their 2013 Fairs and give the donated items to a local food bank. We have decided to do a Food Drive and it will benefit the Shelby Baptist Association Food Bank.

In order to encourage donations the Kiwanis Club of Columbiana has decided to have a series of nightly drawing for a gift basket and have a Grand Prize drawing on Saturday night for a flat screen television. The specific items are still being put together.

Drawing Guidelines:

Must have paid admission

One entry per item

Case packs and multi-packs count as a single item

Limit of 6 entries per person per night

Nightly Winners returned to drum for future drawings

Nightly drawings at 9 pm

Grand Prize drawing immediately following Saturday nightly drawing

Sponsored by Kiwanis Club of Columbiana
Assisted by Kiwanis Club of Chelsea



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Can you say "Ready? Set? Go?" That's sums up what SCMGA Webmasters, Rita Forrest and Jan Rogers, said when they took Shelby County Master Gardeners Association LIVE with our own web page! They have been working for the past few weeks to Go Live with our new Go! Daddy! website.

Please check it out at <http://shelbycountymastergardenersassoc.com/>

It may not appear in a search for a few more weeks while we work out the "kinks" but it is open for you and your friends at the above link. It is full of handy links including those to the GAB and the state newsletter, Garden Pathways, and to current announcements about conferences, meetings and opportunities. Other links on the Resources page take you to our favorite local gardens and ACES printouts and even to the ACES login page for posting your hours. We hope that it will grow and become a very valuable tool for sharing what we do with each other and our community. You can also follow the progress of our new interns via the link to the Photo Album online. Notice that the officers' emails are also linked so that it is easy for you to communicate with each of us. Please help make this an active tool by sending comments, pictures, articles and more to Jan and Rita!



* Kudos to all the MG's who agreed to be mentors to our new
* interns. Your bright and cheerful smiles, hugs and embraces and
* your tokens of welcome were well received by our new interns.
* Thanks for making them feel welcomed and appreciated. I believe
* we are off to a good start toward making them feel a part of the
* Shelby County Master Gardeners.
*
* Finally, please keep in touch with your mentee and
* perform a volunteer activity together this fall.
*
* Thanks again for everything.
* Sundra

Greetings all,

I would like to know if anyone has a couple of oak leaf hydrangeas and about 3 Hearts-A-Burstin they would like to pass along to me. I will be happy to dig if necessary.

Thank you,
Karen Kendall

Hey Garden Chicks—now called the TUESDAY MORNING GANG (in case we get guys) & SC INTERNS & MENTORS:

I'm just taking a moment to get organized again for fall with our ALDRIDGE GARDENS Tuesday morning group. If you are interested in working with me, Deb Kattus and Cathy Stork let me know via email. In fact, let me know "yea or nay" and that way I can edit this group to only those who can participate. There may be a group working on Thursdays too. **I'm also inviting new interns to join in.** Deb and I will be teaching on some Tuesdays but the work will go on in the gardens each Tuesday morning throughout the fall season! Shelby County Master Gardeners have completely revamped and redesigned the Pass Along garden, designed and planted the new Daylily Garden and will now help revamp the Larry Quick Butterfly Garden and we want your help!

Starting Tuesday, August 20th, we will work from 9 AM (earlier if you want to start early) until 11 or 12 depending on the heat/cold and how much work is to be done. These are the things we need to do:

1. Repot hydrangeas in the greenhouse/nursery area for the fall plant sale - there are hundreds!
2. Trim/deadhead hydrangeas and other plants in the garden with CARE - ask Michael if you are unsure about this
3. Work on the "new" butterfly garden. An eagle scout is adding to this garden on the top end and Rip is adding to it near the bottom (but could use manly help). Deb and I met with Rip and the scout last week to make plans. We will be redefining the areas in the bed and planting new host plants and feed plants to demonstrate the butterfly life cycle. Your input is WELCOME! Most of this work will take place in September and October.
4. Check/redo plant ID labels throughout the garden including the ROCKS (Angie!). We now have a working inventory of our plantings but can always improve this with your help. I'm attaching the current PLANT INVENTORY spreadsheet.

SAVE the DATE for these events:

- Setup for PLANT SALE - all day Oct 10th
- PLANT SALE Oct 11 - 12
- Whispers from the PAST - Oct 6th

THANKS!
Jan Rogers

Photos taken by Karen Jensen at the August SCMGA meeting.
Jan & Bob Rogers presented their program on Vermiculture:



Susan Seng's "sweetheart" of a plant
(looks like it's trying to form a heart).

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
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