

GARDENERS' GAB



Shelby County Master Gardeners' Association

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

www.scmastergardeners.com

Like Us on Facebook

Alabama MGA: www.alabamamg.org

Alabama MG Program: www.aces.edu/mg

Vol. 8, Issue 10

October 2015

Pointers from the President...

Wow, the county-owned Outdoor Learning Center, behind our Extension Building, LOOKS GOOD now! With Ricky Colquitt's September 24th "Removal of Invasives Workshop", we'll be able to SEE a Kelly Lane entrance to this amazing SHADED walking area because he'll have help removing the overgrown privet.

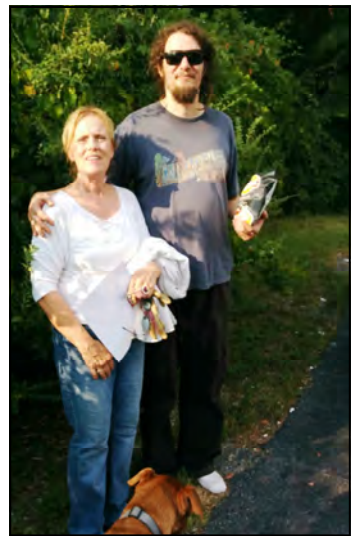
We had our September business meeting in our spruced up backyard amphitheater. Here's the 'back story': when Michele Hill's bridge partner (Lay Lake HOBO Clean-up Chair) Judy Jones mentioned her Atlanta beekeeper son needed 40 hours of public service (dirt bike ticket), they decided to "labor" together over Labor Day Weekend. With the assistance & blessing of County Manager Alex Dudchock, Michael Jones power washed the amphitheater, benches, two 32' bridges, and picnic table. He weed whipped, mulched, and labeled plants w/plastic spoons. Jones said thanks to shade, they survived the heat although Michele didn't fare well with hornets. To secure ongoing maintenance help, Michele plans to work with Shelby County Chief Probation Officer, John Miller, who'll try to partner us up with locals needing public service hours.

It's been a delight to audit Intern Classes - presenters are darn impressive and our Interns are talented! Can you believe we'll be graduating this group at our November meeting? Time is flying. We thank all the efforts of Sundra Smith and our Mentors.

I hope you know Betty Daigle's team of "Gardening Grandmas" has been teaching Riverchase Elementary youngsters how to dig, plant, and harvest with gusto. I also hear Angie Ballew's one milkweed plant fed a Monarch butterfly! Hurrah! We are making a difference! Come to the October meeting & share your stories.

Keep Gardening!

Karen Jensen



Michele Hill & Outdoor Learning Center helper Michael Jones

This Month's Meeting—Friday, October 9

We've had a change of plans for our October meeting, and we're excited to have the opportunity to learn about Master Gardener Techie Innovations. We'll also hold a round table discussion about the future of the SCMGA. Please come ready to share your ideas on anything you'd like to see from programming to projects. What can we do differently or better? Potluck lunch to follow.



Please consider the environment before printing this e-mail.



MARK YOUR CALENDAR!!

Friday, October 17, 2015—Rose Garden Tour & Chat with Chris VanCleave (The Redneck Rosarian) at his Helena home. Byron Ford will have a sign up sheet for those interested in attending.

Friday, November 13, 2015—SCMGA Meeting: 2015 Master Gardener Intern Graduation Ceremony & Nominating Committee to Present Recommend Slate of 2016 Officers

Hello master gardeners! We need someone to "step up" and be the upcoming treasurer. Our wonderful Deb has been a great one for the past two years but according to our by-laws cannot continue past two terms. Our slate of officers will be given at our November meeting and so far we cannot find a treasurer. If you would agree to take this office, please contact, Susan Seng, Trisha Williams, Beth Heerton or Rhonda Cowan as soon as possible. Thank you!

SHELBY COUNTY MASTER GARDENERS' ASSOCIATION MEETING MINUTES - 11 September 2015

- President Jensen called the meeting to order at 10:00 a.m.—25 persons in attendance.
- Pledge of Allegiance to USA flag led by Diane McKinnon
- President Jensen introduced VP Ford. VP Ford reminded us to expect touring the "Red Neck Rosarian" garden in the October meeting, details to be provided via email in the coming month.
- VP Ford also introduced the Presenter for September, Lois Trigg Chaplin, who designs, consults and teaches Edible Landscaping. Ms. Chaplin's presentation included many pictures of existing applications of the concept, in her own and clients' yards. While the Victory Gardens of the Second World War was likely to be linear in form, today's urban gardener will typically use curvilinear form to make a pleasing visual presentation, suitable to allay the concerns of many Home Owner Associations. The importance of soil building, as well as some of her typical amendments to enhance microbial action vs. buildup of chemical salts in the soil was also discussed.
- The meeting took a brief recess to move to the grounds of the Outdoor Learning Center, to both enjoy the pleasant temperatures and view the notable absence of weedy growth courtesy of the workers (including Judy Jones from Lay Lake HOBO's and her son (an Atlanta beekeeper!), who spent 40 hours Labor Day weekend getting a good start on rehabilitating the area behind the Extension Service building. Michele Hill, committee chair, noted the vines had been pulled versus spraying, particularly the poison ivy. That form and similar weeds will be the subject of the 24 SEP 15 education and work session on Suppression and Control of Invasives. Please contact the Extension Office for registration and time.

Old Business:

- Thanks to all those (including 2015 MG interns) attending Fall Conference in Clanton September 9th. Remember to record travel time for volunteer hours and 4 CEU's for presentations by speakers.
- Minutes of previous meeting published via e-mail. Motion to accept by Beth Heerten, second to motion by Deb Kattus. Approved.
- Treasurer's Report: Motion to accept by Merle Schukoske, second to motion by Rita Forrest. Approved.

New Business:

- VP Ford announced City of Alabaster seeking Master Gardeners to participate in City Beautification Program. Tommie Harrison reported having participated in program in past, which consisted of contacting homeowners and offering to assist with suggestions (not actual performance) for care/improve appearance of yards/gardens. Contact Alabaster City Offices or VP Ford for additional information or contacts.
- SCMGA November meeting: Graduation of the 2015 Master Gardener Class. Nominating Committee (Susan Seng, Beth Heerten, and Paul Saeger) will present the recommended slate for 2016 Association Officers. Election will be held during December meeting, installation will take place at January 2016 meeting.
- Meeting adjourned at 11:27 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,
Randall Robertson

TREASURER'S REPORT as of 9/22/2015 Submitted by Deb Kattus, Treasurer

Check/Deposit	For	Balance
	Beginning Balance	\$2,472.77
(47.48)	Karen Jensen	
	Ending Balance	\$2,425.29

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THERE ARE NUMEROUS GARDEN-RELATED CLASSES & EVENTS IN OUR AREA!

Please visit these websites to check out classes and events you may be interested in attending:



ALDRIDGE GARDENS
BIRMINGHAM BOTANICAL GARDENS
HOOVER PUBLIC LIBRARY
PETALS FROM THE PAST
SHELBY CO. MASTER GARDENERS

www.aldridgegardens.com/education/events/
www.bbgardens.org/all-events.php
www.hooverlibrary.org/events/calendar/
www.petalsfromthepast.com/events.html
www.scmastergardeners.com/events/

BBG Fall Plant Sale offers incredible selection on October 17-18

The second largest plant sale of the year comes to Birmingham Botanical Gardens October 17-18. For two days, gardeners and landscapers will find Blount Plaza filled with annuals, biennials, climbers, fall lettuces, camellias, daylilies, herbs, irises, natives, perennials, trees, shrubs and ferns.

Plant sales at Birmingham Botanical Gardens always feature amazing selection and expert advice from an incredibly knowledgeable group of volunteers at The Gardens. And each purchase helps The Gardens achieve its educational mission; one that strives to offer free programs to adults and children including its flagship program, Discovery Field Trips, which has provided a curriculum-based, science education to more than 100,000 Birmingham schoolchildren over the last decade. For free.

Fall is the best time to plant! Mark your calendar for this year's Sale. It takes place on Saturday, October 17 from 9-5 pm and on Sunday, October 18 from noon-4 pm. The event is rain or shine. Learn more about the event at www.bbgardens.org/fallplantsale.

A NOTE FROM CAROL BEARD:

We'll be setting up Friday morning before the sale. Saturday we're usually busy there from about 8 or 8:30 until 5:30, and Friday morning from about 8:30 or so until we finish, which is always before noon. Of course, I'd love to have help! As you know, this is a sweet little sale conducted on the grounds at BBG. We set it up on Blount Plaza, the area near the water fountains beside the main building.

This is a great time to plant trees and shrubs, perennials, and perennial herbs. The ABC booth always has snapdragons, sweet Williams, foxgloves, pansies, violas, lettuces, arugula, fall vegetables that are decorative (like the fancy kales) as well as culinary (like cabbage and collards).

2016 ALABAMA MASTER GARDENER CONFERENCE

Wiregrass Master Gardeners and the AMGA Board of Directors are working to provide an Educational and entertaining experience for attendees.

Mark May 12–14, 2016 in your

calendar, and come back to our website often to check for updates on our speakers and agenda. If you are interested in becoming a Sponsor, Vendor, Donor, or Advertiser please check our website access our conference package webpage.

<http://alabamamg.org/2016-alabama-master-gardener-conference-sculpting-the-garden/>

AMGA ANNUAL CONFERENCE
SCULPTING
the **GARDEN**



If you attended these 2015 SCMGA meeting/tours, DON'T FORGET TO LOG your CEU hours:

January 9: Dale Dickens (Urban Forestry)—1.0 CEU
February 13: Spring Foraging of Honeybees—1.0 CEU
March 13: GMO's—1.0 CEU
April 14: Bonnie Plant Tour—2.5 CEU's
April 17: Joyce Darby (Organics)—1.0 CEU
May 8: Plant Swap—No CEU's
June 12: Keep Oak Mtn Wild—1.0 CEU
July 10: Tomato Taste Test—1.0 CEU
August 14: Identifying Invasive Plants—1.0 CEU

September 11: Edible Landscaping—1.0 CEU



Alabama 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 interested in purchasing.

Jeanon Massien ~ Nauzer1@att.net

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Please send Pat Hare, Sunshine Committee Chair, information about members (or their relatives) who are sick, facing surgery or have lost a loved one. We want to make sure all our members know they are loved and

are a vital part of our organization. Pat will send a card to let the member know we are thinking about them. Here are two ways for you to get in touch with Pat:

Email: pat.hare@outlook.com
Phone: 205-621-3848



OCTOBER BIRTHDAYS

5—Ruby Duncan
7—Peggy Bullard
10—Kathy Bass
12—Jessica Joslin
15—George Baldwin
16—Carol Beard
19—Barbara Clotfelter
23—Willie Edmiston

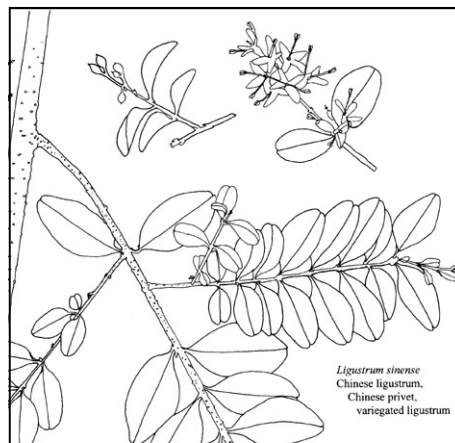
Have you 'LIKED' us on Facebook?



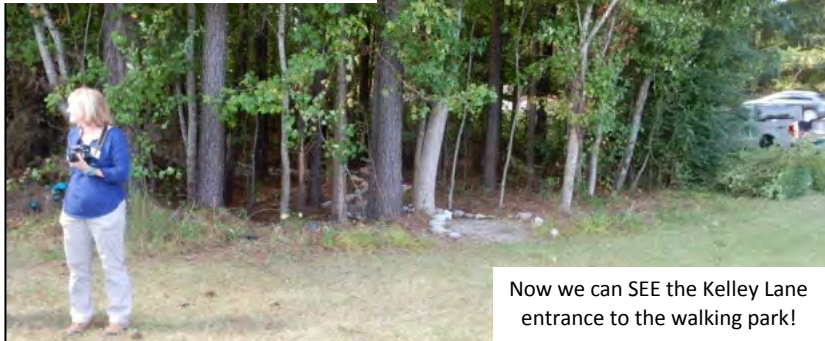
Agent Ricky Colquitt organized an excellent September 24 Invasive Species Management Workshop for county/private industry employees who were updating their chemical use credentials. The all-day event included Identification of Alabama Invasive Plants, Control/Suppression Methods, Pesticide Safety, and a Hands-on Demonstration of these methods: Basal Bark, Stump Treatment & Injection. Our SCMGA helped finance the chemicals used at the workshop. You all will be impressed with the NOW VISIBLE Kelly Lane entrance to our backyard walking trail/learning center.



Trainers included Nancy Loewenstein who showed us invasive plants, Dr. Steve Li taught Herbicide Basics, & forester Andrew Baril demonstrated w/Ricky Colquitt "how to do the fieldwork."



Andrew Baril—an Extension forestry consultant in 10 counties



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Ricky Colquitt talking about invasive plant species during August meeting.



2015 Master Gardener interns on tour during their fruit production class.



Lois Chaplin—Edible Landscapes



Byron Ford and Lois Chaplin



Jane & Tom Harris with Lois Chaplin



Sybil O'Brien and Beth Heerten in our spruced up Outdoor Learning Center



Three volunteers labored 40 hours each over Labor Day weekend to spruce up the Outdoor Learning Center!



Ricky Colquitt describes invasive plant eradication methods.

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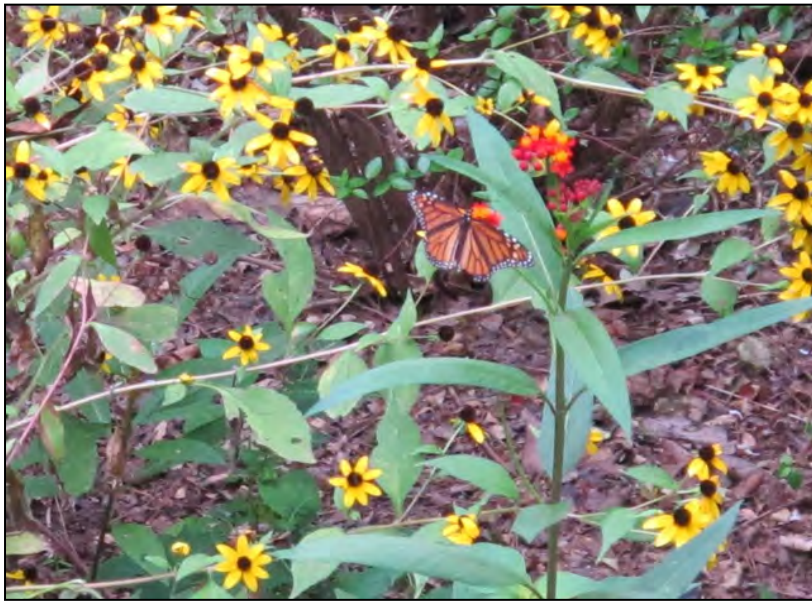
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CONGRATULATIONS
to our
2015 Intern Class
for their
FIRST PLACE booth
at the
Shelby County Fair.
Job well done!



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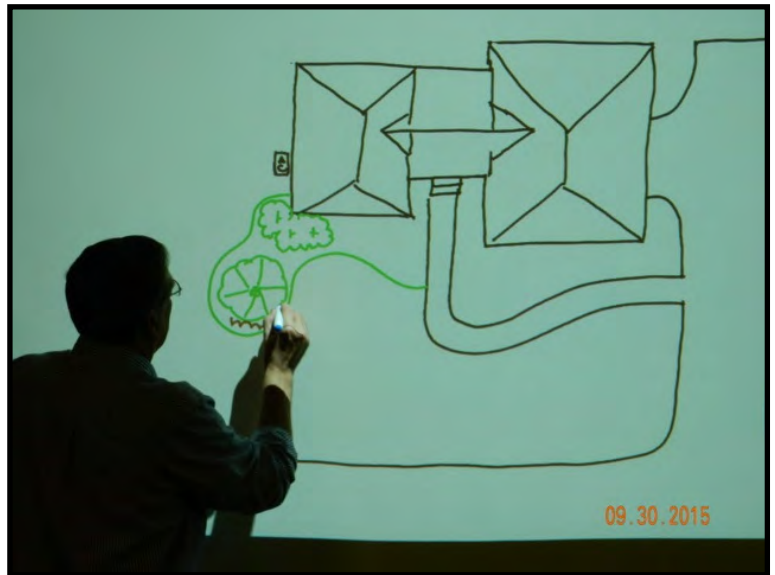
Angie Ballew's Monarch—Angie's LONE self-seeded milkweed plant attracted a hungry Monarch! Angie says, "It made me think that one person can make a difference! Just by planting one plant then letting it go to seed and letting it grow the next year, it attracted a monarch butterfly. I hope I see more!"



Clanton Fall Conference—Sally Lee, after being bitten by Copper Mouth the day before, presents her program on "Sex in the Garden" (important pollinators).



Betty Daigle's team of "Gardening Grannies" has been teaching Riverchase Elementary youngsters how to dig, plant, and harvest with gusto.



The new technology was a bonus during Dr. Dave Williams' landscaping class. Dr. Williams is head of the Auburn University's horticulture department.



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visit: www.Extension100Years.net



ALABAMA GARDENER'S CALENDAR FOR OCTOBER

Fruits and Nuts—Planting season for strawberries starts in south Alabama. Clean up orchard area. Remove broken limbs, old fruit, and debris from orchard floor.

Shrubs—Shrub plantings can be made. Water when needed. Note varieties of camellias in bloom. Start mulching all shrubs that do not have a mulch.

Lawns—Continue to mow lawns until no new growth is noticeable.

Roses—Continue insect and disease control practices. New rose catalogs will be coming in. Study closely; add some new varieties to your list.

Annuals and Perennials—Visit flower shows and gardens. List desirable varieties of mums. Clean up flower beds immediately after first killing frost.

Bulbs—Plant tulips, hyacinths, daffodils, crocuses, Dutch irises, anemones, and ranunculuses. Watch planting depth. Dig caladiums; clean and store in warm place.

Miscellaneous—Renew mulch around shrubs and rose beds. Loosen mulches that have packed down. Spray with oils before freezing weather to kill scale, mites, etc. Remove all dead stems and trash from flower beds. Transplant into small pots any cuttings taken earlier.

Vegetable Seed—Plant turnips, mustard, kale, rape, spinach, and onion sets.

Someone left a black zip up notebook at the Fall Seminar on September 9th. Please check with your members so that we can find the owner! Thanks, Pat Farmer, Chilton County Master Gardeners

Shelby County Master Gardeners' Association Board of Directors and Committee Chairs 2015—2016

President	Karen Jensen	670-0701	karenkjensen3@icloud.com
Vice-President & Webmaster	Byron Ford	334-473-0707	Byron@byronford.com
Secretary	Randall Robertson	663-0459	msptngc96@charter.net
Treasurer	Deb Kattus	913-2703	dkattus@charter.net
Parliamentarian	Sundra Smith	985-7360	sshealeysmith@aol.com
Advisory Council Rep	Rhonda Cowan	678-4994	cowan_r@bellsouth.net
Awards Committee Chair	Cathy Canant	626-8105	ccanant@bellsouth.net
By-Laws Chair/MG Class Coord	Jeanon Massien	991-3125	nauser1@att.net
Communications	Jan Rogers	307-9733	janrogers@charter.net
Events Coordinator	Jennifer Gregory	444-0742	jggdrg@aol.com
Historian	Diane McKinnon	680-3282	bamabeach@bellsouth.net
Hospitality	Michele Hill	690-7019	michelerhill@gmail.com
Newsletter Editor	Heidee Vansant	669-3284	heidee.vansant@gmail.com
Nominating Committee Chair	Susan Seng	991-7867	gaggy10@gmail.com
Projects Coordinator	Beth Glasgow	669-7981	bethglasgow@bellsouth.net
Sunshine Committee	Pat Hare	621-3848	pat.hare@outlook.com

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**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, 2016. 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 to receive the Garden Pathways newsletter, please complete this application and give it, along with your dues, to your local association Treasurer by December 11, 2015.

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 CHECK PAYABLE TO SCMGA AND MAIL TO:

Shelby Co. Master Gardeners' Assoc.
% Deb Kattus
6538 Cahaba Valley Rd
Birmingham, AL 35242