

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
Submit Photos to: scmgaphotos@gmail.com

Vol. 9, Issue 3

March 2016

Thoughts from the President...

The February meeting was nice and short, and thanks to Edith for getting us ready for spring and starting our mini-greenhouses. I couldn't wait to get home and start a whole bunch more.

I am happy that we are getting closer to spring! Especially happy to see we have several volunteer opportunities, there should be plenty for everyone to help get all their volunteer hours for this year.

The 4-H Foundation had judging of contests, we had a really good showing of volunteers the last time and, it was lots of fun. Be sure and sign up for the upcoming judging contest, you will be glad you did. Don't forget Arbor Day, in Montevallo.

Check the list from Beth Glasgow of all upcoming projects.

Don't forget to register for AMGA Annual Conference, May 12-14, 2016 in Dothan, AL. I would like to see a large number of SCMGA members attend. Oh, if you are planning to go, let me know, I want to make sure everybody gets together for a photo. Due to the dates for this Conference, I have decided to move the SCMGA meeting from May 13th to Friday, May 20th. PLEASE make a note of it!!!!!!

Thanks to all and hope to see everyone at the March 11th meeting. It's time for all those new badges to be given out and I know we all want that!

Your President,

Rita Forrest

This Month's Meeting
Friday, March 11 @ 10:00 am
ROSES—Pruning and Feeding
Presented by our own
Paul Saeger, Certified Rosarian
Happy Gardening! Edith



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SAVE THE DATE

Next Month's Meeting—Friday, April 8

Program & Presenter—To Be Announced

SCMGA Meeting Minutes – 11 February 2016

- Called to order @ 10am by President Forrest, who lead the assembled 23 members in the Pledge of Allegiance
- Minutes of previous meeting as published in GAB. Jim Strickland moved to approve; motion seconded by Dianne McKinnon. Motion carried on voice vote, minutes accepted.
- Treasurer's report, as published in GAB. Pat Hare moved report be approved; motion seconded by Jim Strickland. Motion carried on voice vote, Treasurer's report accepted.
- President Forrest requested a Moment of Silence be observed by attendees in remembrance of Helen Titus. Observed.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

- Susan Seng, Representative to the State Advisory Council, reported the size of the logo on future MG name badges will be increased to improve legibility; State Website will include clothing sales functionality for Master Gardener-related items.
- President Forrest announced a "Help Wanted" exists for positions of Hospitality, Historian, and Web Master. Members wishing to assist please contact President Forrest for further information.
- Vice President Johnston announced the Program for the March meeting will be, "Roses, Pruning and Feeding". We look forward to seeing you then.
- Patricia Williams announced the Spring 2019 Conference will hosted by the Chilton County MGA, which has asked for assistance from us in the Shelby County MGA. At this point in time, it is more of a question of, "what would you like to do to assist?". Venue has been selected, being the College Performing Arts Center, no cost to Association and capably audio-visual equipped. Please contact Patricia with your input and offers to assist.

Old Business:none

New Business:

PROJECT OPPORTUNITIES

- The 4-H Foundation, an element of the Extension Service, has an ongoing series of contests in which students are involved. You can assist by performing as a judge at one of these contests. Please contact Charity Battles, Coordinator, at (205)669-6763 for further information on judges needed and scheduling.
- The 4-H Community Group of Wilsonville has requested a program on Container Gardening, to be presented at the Wilsonville Baptist Church. Group members will be between 5-18 years of age, group size not exceeding 20. Some (?) funding available for supplies. A caveat on scheduling requests class not be on either March 8 or April 12. Your point of contact is Andie Bell, (205)907-1538.
- Maximize your preparation for the Container Gardening presentation by planning to present to the Columbiana Senior Citizen Center. Scheduling is flexible, provided you don't wish to present on a Wednesday. Ali Payne, (205)669-4899 will help you decide when you can share your knowledge.
- Demonstrate your green thumb in Montevallo's Community Garden project, Seed to Table. Plots, located on the University Baptist Church property, are available for \$25, which includes water and compost. In the past few years, UM student volunteers have been preparing the beds as part of the "Big Event!" Community Volunteer Day, which is April 9th this year. By the way, the 4K class at UBC has three plots, and garden in the Spring and Fall. Can you garden as well as those in the 4K group? In my home state of Missouri, we say, "Show Me".
- Time to locate your sun hat and screen, the Special Needs Fishing Event in Oak Mountain State Park returns May 11, 12, and 13 and can use your help. The students need a one-on-one helper to catch that fish (and everyone catches a fish!). Let Diane McKinnon know you'll be on hand to help.

PROGRAM

You DO know it's seed starting time, right? Edith Johnston helped us remember and had an easy way to get them going by turning a gallon milk carton into a mini-greenhouse. Slice almost all the way around the carton (leave a small portion as a hinge) about half-way between the bottom and the spout. Put drainage holes in the bottom half and fill with pre-moistened seed starting mix. Place your seeds the right depth in the soil, then, use wide tape to close the cut you made. Leave the cap off of the spout to let the seeds/plants breathe. If you place the mini-greenhouse outside in bright but indirect light, the seeds will come up at just the right time for them to harden off and be ready for setting out. Thank you, Vice President Johnston!

Following a blessing for the potluck lunch to follow, meeting was adjourned.

Respectfully submitted,
Randall C. Robertson, Secretary

TREASURER'S REPORT as of 01/20/2016 Submitted by Myra Healy, Treasurer

Check/Deposit	For	Balance
	Beginning Balance	\$2,464.07
188.00	Deposits	
	Ending Balance	\$2,652.07

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SCMG BUDGET 2016

Account Balance as of January 20, 2016

\$2,464

PROJECTED EXPENSES

Supplies for Gab	100
Supplies for Meeting	150
Door Prizes for Meetings	100
Website Upkeep	300
Sunshine Committee	100
Historian Scrapbook Supplies	50
Badges and Stars	20
Silent Auction Item for AMGA	50
Honorariums, gifts for SCMG speakers	100
Directory	50
Supplies, gifts for Intern Graduation	150
Shelby County Fair	100
Lunch for All Day Presenters	100

TOTAL PROJECTED EXPENSES

\$1,370

PROJECTED ENDING BALANCE

\$1,094

All announcements and requests for volunteer opportunities are to be submitted to Rita Forrest, ritabe@bellsouth.net, prior to the monthly meetings.

To ensure we have more program time (and more social and eating time), we have decided it's best if all such information be put in the agenda. Items will be listed, but not discussed. You will have the information to respond if interested. If you have sign-up sheets, place them at the door beside the meeting attendance sign-in sheet.

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/

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**



2017 International Master Gardener Conference "Follow the Oregon Trail to Great Gardening"

In 2017, the Oregon State University Extension Master Gardener Program and the Oregon Master Gardener Association will host the 2017 International Master Gardener Conference at the Oregon Convention Center in Portland, OR, July 10-14, 2017, with support from many generous sponsors and friends. Find more info on Facebook or at <http://blogs.oregonstate.edu/2017imgc/>

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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:

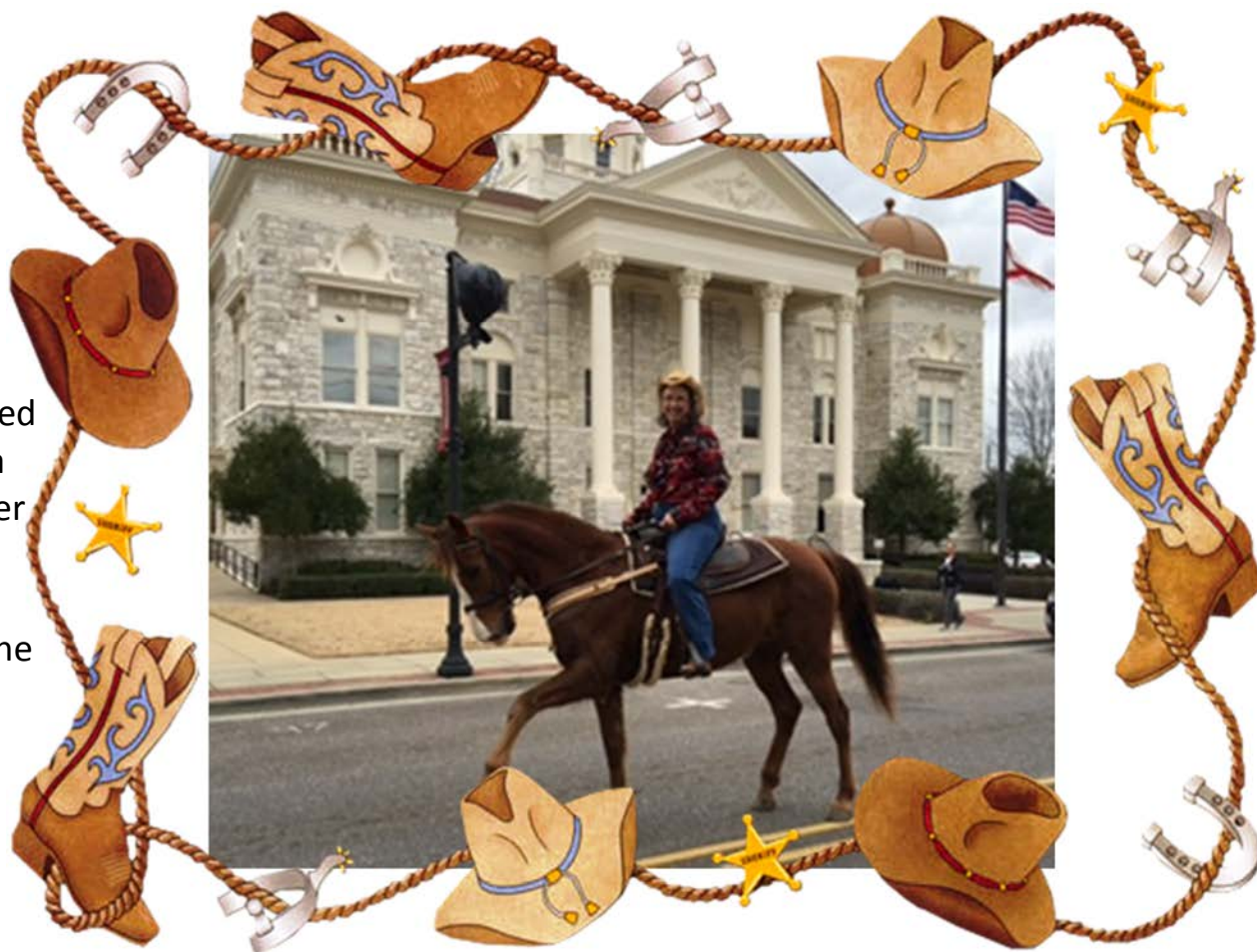
Email: pat.hare@outlook.com
Phone: 205-621-3848



FEBRUARY BIRTHDAYS

1—David Thomas
12—John Driver
24—Phyllis Love
17—Cindy Ferlitto
25—Trisha Williams

Have you 'LIKED' us on Facebook?



Our multi-talented member, Brenda Fitzgerald and her equine friend, Magic, participated in the parade during Columbiana's Cowboy Day celebration.



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

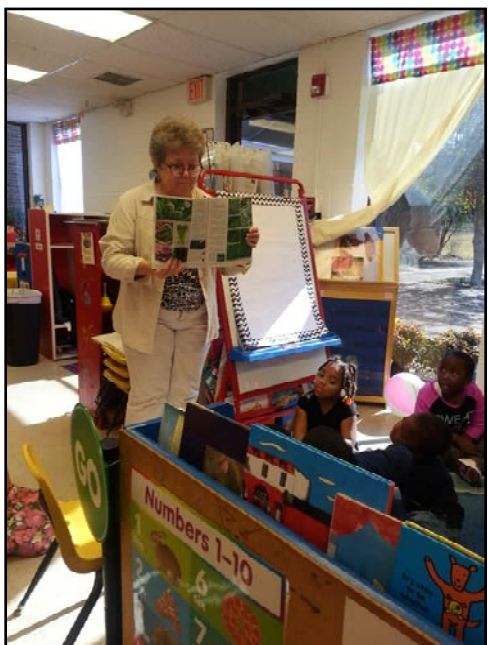
Please consider the environment before printing this e-mail.

February 2016 Meeting—Making Mini-Greenhouses and Seed Starting



Please consider the environment before printing this e-mail.

These photos are of the Alabama First Class PreK Program at Montevallo's University Baptist Church on Ground Hog Day. We read *A Garden for Groundhog* and looked at seed catalogs like the farmer in the book did. We also looked at a giant turnip. We will begin planting our seeds indoors next week and weeding in the Seed to Table Community Garden when the weather permits. ~Kate Vogel



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ALABAMA GARDENER'S CALENDAR FOR MARCH

FRUITS & NUTS—Continue strawberry & grape plantings. Bud apples and peaches. Start planting blackberries. Remember, if weather conditions prevent prompt planting, heel the plants in by placing the root system in a trench & covering the soil.

SHRUBS—Fertilize shrubs (except azaleas and camellias) according to a soil test. Late plantings may be made, particularly if they are container-grown. Watch shrubs for harmful insects.

LAWNS—Plant Bermuda, Zoysia, & Centipede in South Alabama. Seed bluegrass & grass mixtures in North Alabama. Fertilize established lawns.

ROSES—Watch new growth for aphids. Begin a spray or dust program. Begin fertilizing.

ANNUALS AND PERENNIALS—Tender annuals may be planted in South Alabama. Check garden centers for bedding plants.

BULBS—Plant gladiolus every two or three weeks if a long Blooming season is desired. Plant tuberous begonias in pots. Plant dahlias.

MISCELLANEOUS—Check & repair sprayers, dusters, and lawn mowers. Control lawn weeds with chemicals. Delay pruning of fruiting shrubs such as cotoneasters, pyracanthas, & hollies until after flowering.

VEGETABLE SEEDS—Plant hardy crops recommended for January & February. After danger of frost is past, plant tender vegetables.

VEGETABLE PLANTS—Plant cabbage, onions, lettuce, broccoli, & Brussels sprouts in North Alabama; plant tomatoes & peppers in lower South Alabama.

Shelby County Master Gardeners' Association Board of Directors and Committee Chairs 2016 (Committee Chair Appointments Pending)

President	Rita Forrest	620-1167	ritabe@bellsouth.net
Vice-President	Edith Johnston	620-2922	edithjohnston12@gmail.com
Secretary	Randall Robertson	663-0459	msptngc96@charter.net
Treasurer	Myra Healy	665-4554	myhealy@hughes.net
Parliamentarian	Paul Saeger	733-9066	saeger.paul@yahoo.com
Advisory Council Rep	Susan Seng	991-7867	gaggy10@gmail.com
Awards Committee Chair	Deb Kattus	913-2703	dkattus@charter.net
By-Laws Chair/MG Class Coord	Jeanon Massien	991-3125	nauzer1@att.net
Communications	Jan Rogers	307-9733	janrogers@charter.net
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	Karen Jensen	670-0701	karenkjensen3@icloud.com
Projects Coordinator	Beth Glasgow	669-7981	bethglasgow@bellsouth.net
Sunshine Committee	Pat Hare	621-3848	pat.hare@outlook.com
Webmaster	Byron Ford	334-473-0707	byron@byronford.com

**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.
% Myra Healy
2674 Spring Creek Rd
Montevallo, AL 35115