

GARDENERS' GAB



Shelby County Master Gardeners' Assoc.
www.scmastergardeners.com

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

Like Us on Facebook

Submit Photos to: scmgaphotos@gmail.com

Alabama MGA: www.alabamamg.org

Alabama MG Program: www.aces.edu/mg

AMG Online Store: <http://www.victorydesigns.com/amg/>

Vol. 9, Issue 4

April 2016

Thoughts from the President...

Our March meeting was fantastic! I was so happy to see so many in attendance, and very proud of all the new stars and badges. Paul did a great job showing us the right way to prune roses. I really am proud of our really smart and informative members.

At our March meeting, we celebrated the achievements of several of our members. Seven received bronze stars for having accumulated 100-299 volunteer hours: Barbara Clotfelter, Sydney Ellis, Cindy Ferlitto, Emily Gravitt, Jessica Joslin, Randall Robertson, and Julia Wright. Those receiving silver stars for 300-499 hours were Rhonda Cowan, Rita Forrest, Michelle Hill, and Paul Saeger. Gold stars for 500-999 hours were given to Edith Johnston, Sundra Smith and Heidee Vansant. Three members will receive gold badges signifying 1,000-1,999 hours at the state conference: Betty Daigle, Tommie Harrison and Merle Schukoske. Jeanon Massien will receive an advanced star with emerald stone for completing 6,000- 7,999 hours. Top hours for the year were first place—Jeanon Massien; second place—Betty Daigle; and third place—Cathy Canant. Phyllis Love took home top honors for most CEU's for the year. Congratulations to all these members. Keep up the good work! Note: the above info was compiled by Deb Kattus (see page 5 for photos)

I don't know about you, but I cannot wait to start planting! All my mini-greenhouse seeds are looking great, and I am ready to give them a new home. Speaking of plants, don't forget all the plant sales coming up, even though we go and volunteer, I seem to come home with way more than I should. Doesn't matter though, I still enjoy every minute of it!

Reminder: register for AMGA Annual Conference, May 12-14, 2016 in Dothan, AL. I would like to see a large number of SCMG members attend. Also, remember I moved the May meeting from May 13th to Friday, May 20th.

Thanks to all and hope to see everyone at the April 8th meeting.

Your President,

Rita Forrest



This Month's Meeting **Friday, April 8 @ 10:00 am**

Betty Elder will present a program on Bokashi composting. *Bokashi* is a Japanese term meaning 'fermented organic matter'. We will learn a faster way to compost than the traditional method.

Please consider the environment before printing this e-mail.



SAVE THE DATE

Next Month's Meeting—Friday, May 20th

Program & Presenter—To Be Announced

SCMGA Meeting Minutes – 11 March 2016

- Called to Order by President Forrest 10:00 a.m. - 33 members/guests in attendance
 - Pledge of Allegiance led by President Forrest
 - Introduction of new Extension Service Administrative assistant (Kay Arnold) by Rick Colquitt
 - Minutes of February meeting and February financial report approved by voice vote
 - Attendance at upcoming Spring Conference encouraged by Jeanon Massien
 - Announcement of approval of grant request for materials related to completion of Outdoor Training Center by Michele Hill. Dates for workdays TBA.
 - Susan Seng gave report of Training Session for Junior Master Gardener leaders, conducted at the Extension Service by Luci Davis Feb 10, 2016. Teaching manual available was rated excellent with many suggestions for learning activities for participants.
 - Committee Reports:
 - Awards: Deb Kattus presented Service Stars to those in attendance for levels of Bronze (100-299 total hours) Sidney Ellis, Randall Robertson, Julia Wright; Silver (300-499 total) Rhonda Cowen, Michelle Hill, Paul Saeger, Rita Forrest; Gold (500-999 total hours) Edith Johnston, Sundra Smith. Colored Member name Badges for further levels will be awarded at the Spring Conference and include the Gold Badge for Tommie Harrison and Merle Schukoske. The Emerald pin for 6,000-7999 total service hours will be awarded to Jeanon Massien. Jeanon is also the Top Volunteer hour awardee for 2016 with 846 hours, followed by our Betty Daigle with 637 hours and Cathy Canant, 458 hours. Phyllis Love is recognized as top CEU achiever with 81 hours. BIG CHEERS for ALL AWARDEES!
 - Service Opportunities - Each hour you serve touches and enriches our entire community. Some future efforts you can help:
 - The "Kids First" Executive Director has asked for design assistance in landscaping (think flowers) for the new Alabaster Center. Also, the Mayor of the City of Vincent requests help pruning the Knockout Roses in Vincent Park. Further information on both of these may be gained by contacting Beth Glasgow at 669-7981 or bethglasgow@bellsouth.net.
 - Tommie Harrison is volunteering with the Alabaster Beautification Board and has some scheduled events you can support. One particular item she noted was work to revise the criteria for judging, with an emphasis on adding native flora and xeriscaping. Lend your passion or stretch your breadth, contact Tommie 663-7146 or torumo74@gmail.com.
 - The Senior Citizen Center in Columbiana requested a presentation on container gardening. You may choose the day of the week to present, as long as it is not Wednesday. Contact Ali Payne, 669-4899. Likewise, the 4H Community Group of Wilsonville would like a presentation on container gardening on April 12th. They meet at the Wilsonville Baptist Church, students range in age 5-18 and no more than 20 will be in the group. Andie Bell at 907-1538 is your point of contact.
 - Fishing Fun! Special Needs Children fishing event at Oak Mountain State Park needs volunteers to help, May 11, 12, 13. Contact Diane McKinnon at 620-3282 or bamabeach@bellsouth.net.
 - Something different, perhaps? Try judging competitive events involving 4-H'ers. This is an ongoing program, dates TBA. Charity Battles, 669-4899 can provide details.
 - We are encouraged to obtain 10 hours Continuing Education each year. Why not learn how to keep bees? Support the hardest workers in the agriculture business and gain your own sweet rewards. (Sorry, could not resist). HURRY! A Beginner Level Bee Workshop is scheduled for March 29th, but you must be registered by March 28th. Contact Nelson Wynn at 669-6763, 438-3725 (mobile) or wynnne@aces.edu
 - Program: Following the drawing for door prizes, Paul Saeger, Consulting Rosarian and Master Gardener, presented a timely primer on pruning of roses. Thanks, Paul.
 - MARK YOUR CALENDARS! In order to avoid conflicting with the Spring Conference, our meeting in May will be on the 3rd Friday, May 20th. Now you know.
- Meeting adjourned after blessing of the meal.

Respectfully submitted,
Randall C. Robertson, Secretary

TREASURER'S REPORT as of 03/20/2016

Submitted by Myra Healy, Treasurer

Check/Deposit	For	Balance
	Beginning Balance	\$2,522.07
(78.00)	Disbursements	
90.00	Deposits	
	Ending Balance	\$2,534.07

Please consider the environment before printing this e-mail.

Beginning with February meeting:

All announcements and requests for volunteer opportunities are to be submitted to me, 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/>

Shelby County Master Gardeners Needed for ABC Booth, BBG Spring Plant Sale

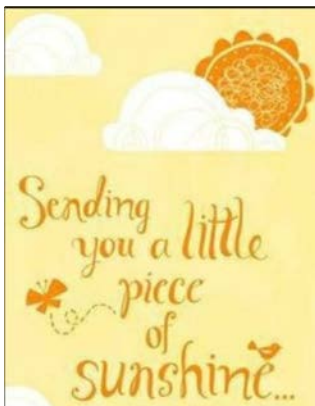
This year the sale will be held at the same location as last year, in tents at the Brookwood Village Shopping Center, located off Lakeshore Drive. Here are the dates and times we need help in the ABC booth:

- Thursday, April 14: 4:30-6:30pm (preview party), 6:30-9:00pm (member sale)
- Friday, April 15: 8:30-11:30 (first day sale is open to the public), 11:30-2:30, 2:30-5:30, 5:30-7:30
- Saturday, April 16: 8:30-11:30, 11:30-2:30, 2:30-5:30
- Sunday, April 17: 11:30-3:00

Volunteers usually work 3 hour shifts. Some help longer or more days, and I really appreciate them! I'm there the entire sale time. All you need is a smile and the desire to help someone select a plant! The plants have tags with growing information, and I'm there to help if you have questions. Mostly, we just put another plant on the table as one is sold. ABC (annuals, biennials, climbers) sell easily since we always have plenty of blooms to draw attention, and annuals need replacing every year!

Please call me at 205-981-2314 (home) or 205-617-4059 (cell, but I don't always have it nearby), or email me at cabbeard@bellsouth.net if you can help! Thanks so much, Carol Beard

Please consider the environment before printing this e-mail.



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

4—Cathy Canant
5—Ginny Whitaker
8—Aprille Hayes
12—Edith Johnston
16—Jo Lowden

28—Sybil O'Brien
30—Phillip Inman

19—Diane McKinnon
28—Jane Harris

Have you 'LIKED' us on Facebook?



FISHING with SPECIAL NEEDS STUDENTS from Jefferson and Shelby counties. Help a great kid catch a fish!



We have now partnered with both the Shelby and Jefferson County 4-H programs who will be sending volunteers. Therefore, according to Nelson Wynn, **Master Gardeners can count the volunteer hours** for the fishing event as 4-H sponsored projects. So anyone who would like to volunteer on **May 11th, 12th or 13th** should contact Diane McKinnon at fishlady3@gmail.com. Please let me know which day you will be coming and if you want to help with the fishing, life jackets, photography or crafts. Thanks, Diane McKinnon

- **Aldridge Gardens SPRING PLANT SALE** is May 5—7. Please contact **Phyllis Giles** at Aldridge Gardens to help with the AG sale. Her email is volunteer@aldrigegardens.com. Jan Rogers is the Chairperson and can still use help on Tuesday mornings (9 – noon) and for setup the week of the sale. Thanks to these SCMG's for helping pot plants and ready for the sale: Deb Kattus, Jim Strickland, Rex Anderson, George and Pat Hare, Debbie Dahlin, Barbara Clotfelter, and Sydney Ellis. Contact Jan at janrogers@charter.net if you can help or if you have **pass along plants** to donate to the sale.
- **Aldridge Gardens Children's Field Trips are FULL for spring!** We teach K – 3 students about trees, habitats, soil, worm composting and more!
- Several **SCMGA volunteers** have helped plant beds and prepare the children's garden for the spring field trips. Thanks go to Deb Kattus, Jan Rogers, Rex Anderson, Jane Spivey, and Wayne Gainey. If you want to "shadow" a docent or get involved with field trips in the gardens contact Jim Wilson, AG field trip coordinator, at jwwilson43@gmail.com. If you want to help maintain the field trip garden contact Jan Rogers at janrogers@charter.net.



Please consider the environment before printing this e-mail.



BRONZE STARS—Julia Wright,
Randall Robertson and Sydney Ellis



SILVER STARS—Rhonda Cowan, Michelle Hill,
Rita Forrest and Paul Saeger



GOLD STARS—Edith Johnston and
Sundra Smith



GOLD BADGES—Merle Schukoske and
Tommie Harrison



MOST CEU's—Phyllis Love



TOP HOURS FOR THE YEAR
Jeanon Massien

Congratulations



MONTEVALLO'S ARBOR DAY CELEBRATION
Dot, Edith, Rita and Phyllis



MARCH ROSE PRUNING CLASS
Conducted by Paul Saeger

Edith and I had such fun with super nice Wilsonville 4-H club members. Edith and a helpful 14 year old fellow cut drainage holes in containers and mama/gardener Kim Joseph helped us distribute soil in a timely manner. About 19 members were in attendance and a lot of parents. We admired the meeting facility and efficient set-up with plastic table/floor covers and supplies available on every round table. Wow! The club president was professional & efficient. As an OLD (Decatur, IL) 4-H leader, I sure was impressed! ~Karen Jensen



123 4-H Club—Edith Johnston & Karen Jensen had fun making germination greenhouse jugs with Wilsonville 4-H Club members.

Arty Greenhouse—This young artist planted zinnia seeds!



Adding soil—4-H'ers cut open their jugs, added soil and seeds before taping them closed.



Miss Edith cuts drain holes in containers before kids cut open their greenhouse jugs.

Please consider the environment before printing this e-mail.



Celebrate 100 Years
of Extending Knowledge
and Changing Lives
visit: www.Extension100Years.net



ALABAMA GARDENER'S CALENDAR FOR APRIL

FRUITS & NUTS—Season for strawberry planting continues. Start spray program for all fruits. Plant raspberries and blackberries and continue budding apples and peaches.

SHRUBS—Prune spring flowering shrubs after flowering. Fertilize azaleas and camellias. When new growth is half completed, spray all shrubs with a fungicide.

LAWNS—Planting continues. New lawns may need supplementary watering. Also, fertilize at 3- to 6-week intervals. Keep ryegrass cut low, particularly if over planted on Bermuda lawns.

ROSES—Watch for insects and diseases. Keep old flower heads removed. Plant container-grown plants from nurseries or garden centers.

ANNUALS & PERENNIALS—Plant early started annuals or bedding plants from nurseries or garden centers. Divide mums or root cuttings. Dig and divide dahlias.

BULBS—Plant gladiolus, fancy-leaved caladiums, milk and wine lilies, and ginger and gloriosa lilies. Feed bearded iris with super-phosphate and spray for borers. Avoid cutting foliage of narcissus or other bulbs until it has turned brown naturally.

MISCELLANEOUS—Spray camellias, hollies, etc., for scale insects. Carefully water newly planted shrubs and trees. Pinch out tips of new shoots to promote more compact shrubs.

VEGETABLE SEED—Plant tender vegetables such as beans, corn, squash, melons, and cucumbers. Plant heat-loving vegetables in lower South Alabama.

VEGETABLE PLANTS—Plant tomatoes, peppers, eggplants, sweet potatoes, and parsley.

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 Sent	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
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	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