

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

Alabama MGA: www.alabamamg.org

Alabama MG Program: www.aces.edu/mg

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

Vol. 9, Issue 9

September 2016

Thoughts from the President...

First, I want to say how happy I am the new class has begun and it's a large class too!

I really appreciate all of those that came and brought a nice meal for all to enjoy. I felt it was a good start to what will surely be a great class of interns and they are willing and eager to learn.

I also want to thank Edith for the flower arranging program, and of course all the clippings and materials to make the beautiful arrangements. Jeanon took a couple of the arrangements to the Columbiana Rehab Center and they were thrilled to have them.

Remember, you can attend any of the Classes on Wednesdays for the new interns. Be sure and sign up for the September 29th Fall Seminar at the BBG!

Your President,

Rita Forrest



This Month's Meeting
Friday, September 9 @ 10 am—Noon
"Wildflowers" presented by
Rebecca Robertson
Please bring a potluck dish to share.

Please consider the environment before printing this e-mail.



SAVE THE DATE

Next Month's Meeting—Friday, October 14th
Seed Swap & Gardening Tips—Speaker, Renee Thompson, Harvest For Health

SCMGA Meeting Minutes—12 August 2016

Convened by President Forrest, 10:00 a.m.

Old Business: Minutes and Treasurer's reports are in GAB, which is on website.

Minutes of previous meeting: Motion to accept as published by Jim Strickland, second to motion by Diane McKinnon, approved on voice vote.

Treasurer's report: Motion to accept as published by Jim Strickland, second to motion by Diane McKinnon, approved on voice vote.

New Business:

President Forrest reported opportunity to participate in State-led fund raising effort by purchase of gardening calendar. Final cost to be determined, price schedule will include portion to benefit local association chapters.

Fall Seminar will be at Birmingham Botanical Gardens 29th September. Sign up is available now at website; alabamamg.org.

Jeanon Massien reported the 2016 Master Gardener Intern classes have begun. 21 members in class, "a huge class for Shelby County". Jeanon recommended a bit of restraint in offering volunteer opportunities at this point, as they are just adapting to their schedule and have already been tasked with the County Fair presentation (sound familiar?). The class size represents great chances for future MG Association members, so any chance you have to establish relationships with the interns are encouraged. At social or business meetings attended by the interns, please be certain to mingle with them and "catch up" with your friends after the fact.

Jim Strickland expressed his appreciation to the Sunshine Committee and other members who have sent cards and emails of support during his radiation therapy treatment. That series of treatments, by the way, has currently ended.

Vice President Edith Johnston is approaching a surgery appointment for spinal treatment. We wish her well, and should coordinate with President Forrest for assistance to Edith and to Rita, who'll be both assisting Edith and missing the help Edith lends in operation of the Association duties.

The entry portal structure for the Outdoor Learning Center is complete and will be installed soon after the beginning of September and (hopefully) a break in the heat! Hope everyone's gardens have survived this abundant sun.

Program: Container Design with Garden Cuttings

Brandon Resnick led off with a mini-tutorial and demonstration of developing a container with a variety of blooms and foliage, while pointing out the elements of the design; framework approximately 1½ x the height of the container, focal point to the arrangement (blooms), fill-in foliage to complement the focal and add texture. Attending members then followed suit in assembling their own designs and collections of plant materials. Final judging: All were winners! Thank You, Brandon, for sharing your talents.

After Benediction for the meal, meeting was adjourned to carry-in lunch.

Respectfully submitted,
Randall C. Robertson, Secretary

TREASURER'S REPORT as of 08/20/2016 Submitted by Myra Healy, Treasurer

Check/Deposit	For	Balance
	Beginning Balance	\$2,726.45
(146.29)	Disbursements	
	Ending Balance	\$2,826.16

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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:



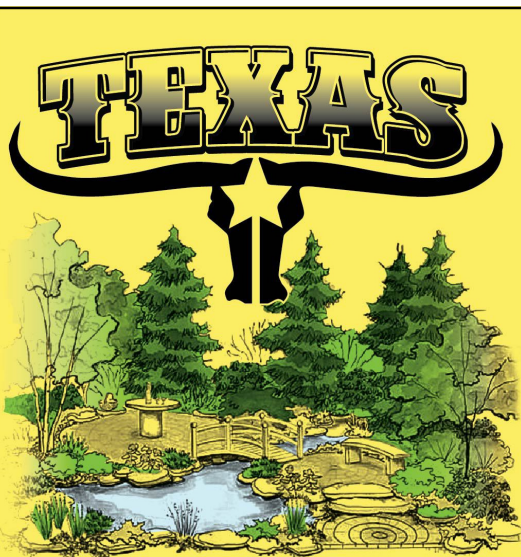
ALDRIDGE GARDENS
BIRMINGHAM BOTANICAL GARDENS
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SHELBY CO. MASTER GARDENERS

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



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/>



2016 Southern Region
Master Gardener
Conference

Welcome to 2016 Southern Region Master Gardener Conference in Arlington and Fort Worth, November 1-4, 2016!

Texas is delighted to have been chosen to host this conference and we eagerly anticipate your arrival. The conference will take place at the Sheraton Arlington and the Arlington Convention Center, which are practically across the street from Globe Life Park, home of the Texas Rangers, and a few blocks from AT&T Stadium, home of the Dallas Cowboys. The hotel is a mere 9 miles from Dallas/Fort Worth Airport and the Sheraton provides a complimentary shuttle. Expect for weather to be dry and in the 70's.

The speakers we have planned will engage and educate you. The Master Gardener State Coordinator panel should provide many new ideas and answer your questions. Our Capstone Speaker is actor Barry Corbin who will regale us with stories of growing up in West Texas and talk about drought and water conservation. On the tours you can visit many glorious public, school and residential gardens, as well as the two sports facilities near the hotel. We plan to offer you good old-fashioned Texas hospitality and look forward to having y'all visit our county.

Steve Chaney, Tarrant County Extension Agent, Horticulture, Texas A&M AgriLife Extension Service and the Tarrant County Master Gardener Association

For more info, go to <https://2016southernregionmg.com/>



67th ANNUAL SHELBY COUNTY FAIR October 3—8, 2016

Shelby County Exhibition Center, Columbiana, AL

Theme: "Taste of the Past and the Future"

Admission: \$12 each at Gate

www.alshelbycountyfair.com/tickets

Everyone Over 36" Must Purchase A Ticket

Gates Open at 5:30pm Nightly—Rides Start At 6pm

Gates and Rides Open at 3pm on Saturday



A FAMILY TRADITION!

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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



SEPTEMBER BIRTHDAYS

6—Betty Elder
7—Brenda Fitzgerald
8—Deborah Dahlin
11—Wayne Gainey
12—Carolyn Friday
17—Sue Brasher
29—Kate Vogel

Have you 'LIKED' us on Facebook?



Here are the cards sent so far this month:

Birthdays:

- Angie Ballew
- Terri DiMuro
- Joy Dearing
- Julia Wright
- Jean Plecker

Sympathy: Murry & Wayne Williamson

Get Well:

- Edith Johnston
- Cathy Canant
- Dot Kachelhofer

It feels like there was another Get Well card sent but I don't have a record of the name. Please let me know if you find out our ill members need a second card to speed their recovery. Thanks, Pat Hare



TOOLS and PLANTS needed by **Girl Scouts!** Our own SCMG member, Karen Kendall, responded to the need of girl scouts in Avondale to help build a **TRANQUILITY GARDEN** at a local church. She can use some help collecting garden tools, gloves, etc. as the group has nothing!

Contact Karen at kkendall247@bellsouth.net if you can help with the work or if you can provide tools and/or plants for this **SUNNY** garden. Deb and Jan plan to meet her at Aldridge Gardens to donate daylilies, David Austin Tranquility roses and more. If you have items to donate you can drop them off on any Tuesday morning at Aldridge Gardens.

Volunteers needed to help kids fish

Each year Aldridge Gardens hosts a native American festival in October called **Whispers From The Past**. It is designed to teach young and old alike about native American traditions and activities. One of these is fishing using cane poles with worms. They are in need of volunteers to assist children in fishing with cane poles. All poles, hooks and bait are provided. There will be two shifts on the day of the festival. If you can help with this activity please contact Phyllis Giles at Aldridge Gardens at volunteer@aldrigegardens.com.

We also need volunteers to help with various arts and crafts on the day of the event, Sunday, October 2, 2016.

There is a need for other art and crafts volunteers. Contact Phyllis if you can help, its fun!

Click here for more info: http://aldrigegardens.com/education/events/spring_event_calendar.html/event/2016/10/02/whispers-from-the-past-a-native-american-experience/132269





Susan Seng showed off the Sedona, AZ quilt she made when our 20 interns returned to class after lunch. Such a fine group we have!



Kate Vogel shows off her farm shirt.



Brandon Resnick, Karen Jensen, & Brenda Fitzgerald with their arrangement.

From Brenda Fitzgerald's *My Alabama Backyard* blog:

I got an "F" in flower arranging

This past Friday, my Master Gardener friend, Brandon, gave our MG group an impromptu lesson in flower arranging using random items we brought from our gardens. This is an artistic endeavor that leaves me completely baffled. I find it almost impossible to walk out into my garden with a vision of how to bring elements from the garden indoors to decorate my home.

Brandon may not have intended to teach me how create arrangements using alliteration on the letter "F" but that is how it resonated with me.

Framework: Decide on the shape of the arrangement. Use sticks or large greenery to create the overall shape and size. In class, we used a jar brought in by my friend, Karen, that she stuffed with wet florist foam. We created a large, one-sided triangular shape using sticks from her sweet gum tree and some eucalyptus from my garden.

Focal pieces: Choose a few things to be the eye-catchers in the arrangement. An odd number is good but we actually used four dried hydrangea blooms and grouped them together to create one large focal point.

Filler: Then, fill in the empty gaps in the arrangement using greenery, with the purpose of adding complementary color and texture. We used seed heads from several perennials in my gardens.

When we were finished, we had a gorgeous fall arrangement blending shades of green and brown. Karen added a large, black Halloween spider just to add an element of fun.

I'm ready to start bringing more of my gardens indoors. Learning how to do it was fabulous fun!



When: Monday September 19, 2016
Time: 5:30 pm
Where: Central AI Farmers Co-op
Address: 2519 US HWY 80 Selma, AL
Guest Speaker: Dewayne Allday, Herbalist
Topic: Herbal Plants and Forage
Admisison: Public invited, free admission

**Dallas County
Master
Gardeners
Association**



Dewayne is an Alabama native and herbalist. Raised in the foot hills and valleys of Marengo County, Dewayne began learning of herbs though nature and books in his youth. Dewayne works as a contractor in his home town of Selma, Alabama. His philosophy is rooted in respect for nature the interdependent need for plants and humans. <http://thealabamaherbalist.com/>



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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.

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

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
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
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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