

GARDENERS' GAB



Shelby County Master Gardeners' Assoc.

Website: www.scmastergardeners.com

E-mail: SCMGA.email@gmail.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. 11, Issue 3

March 2018

The President Ponders...

I hope everyone is having a great month! With all the warm days, plants are starting to wake up and green up again. It's time to get our gardens cleaned up and ready for Spring. I don't know about you, but I have a lot of work to do!

We had a wonderful meeting last month. I was so happy to see so many of your smiling faces! Lots of members that we haven't seen in a while were there. It was a fun and informative meeting, and we got a lot accomplished. After our business meeting, Kate Vogel gave a very entertaining presentation on making garden chairs. We used one of her masterpieces for our contribution to the Silent Auction at The AMGA State Conference. Speaking of the State Conference, don't forget to register, if you are planning to attend. Registration will remain open until April 20, 2018. I encourage you all to make plans to attend.

I am very happy to say we have a new Chairman for the Projects Committee, Dennis Stanek. Many thanks to Dennis for stepping up to volunteer to serve in this position! As I mentioned in the meeting, one of our first projects for this year will be starting a small community garden at Seed to Table in Montevallo. We plan to rent four raised beds to grow vegetables to share in the community. We will be asking for volunteers soon to help with this project. Consider signing up to participate, so we can make this project a success!

Be sure to join us at our next meeting for a tour of Southern Organics Aquaponics. We will meet at the Extension Center for a brief business meeting and then head over for our tour. Afterwards, we will be lunching at Cracker Barrel, as a group. I hope to see everyone there!

Myra

This Month's Meeting—Friday, March 9 @ 10:00 am

We will meet at the Extension Office for a brief business meeting then reassemble 3 miles down the road to tour Southern Organics Aquaponics (120 Landfill Rd). They specialize in growing healthy produce through ecologically sustainable methods. Nutrient-rich water from their tilapia flows under rafts in state of the art greenhouses to continually nourish their plants. All of their produce is grown without the use of any pesticides, insecticides or any harmful chemicals used in traditional agriculture. Check it out at www.southernorganics.com/



Southern Organics

No pot luck lunch—after our tour, we'll travel another 5 miles down the road to Cracker Barrel for lunch.

Please consider the environment before printing this e-mail.

**TREASURER'S REPORT as of 02/20/2018
Submitted by Jim Strickland, Treasurer**

Noteworthy Items:

Check/Deposit	Balance
Beginning Balance	\$2,586.68
Deposits (3)	+164.00
Check (1)	-510.00
Ending Balance	\$2,240.68

1. State Dues were paid and mailed 2/13/18.
2. SCMGA 2018 paid Membership now at 51.

SCMGA MEETING MINUTES—9 FEBRUARY 2018

- President Myra Healy called meeting to order at 10 AM and led Pledge of Allegiance.
- NEW BUSINESS:
 1. Jim Strickland submitted treasurer's report including 2018 budget. Jim added serving as treasurer also included keeping memberships updated; Jim passed out current membership roll listing 43 paid members for 2018. He will revise as additional members pay. Treasurer's report approved.
 2. Minutes of January 16, 2018 meeting submitted by Wayne, approved.
 3. Kate Vogel passed out program plans for 2018 monthly meetings; Kate stated programs were fairly well set through June. After June, revisions and changes may be possible. NOTE: For March meeting that includes a field trip to Southern Organics (commercial hydroponics farm); everyone will meet at extension office at 10 AM for regular meeting. Then, we will leave for field trip to Southern Organics located at entrance to Shelby County landfill, Hwy 70; about 5 minutes from Extension office. After completing tour, all interested will drive to Cracker Barrel for lunch (about 5 miles from Southern Organics).
 4. Merle Schukoske gave the Parliamentarian report and recommended our meetings always follow Roberts Rules of Order so meetings are orderly & organized. Also, Merle recommended anyone desiring to speak raise their hand, be acknowledged and identify themselves before making comments. Jan Rogers discussed various issues concerning SCMGA communications. Jan is in process of creating a "Drop Box" email for members submitting info, suggestions, photos, etc. that will be utilized by various committee chairs for further distribution to members via established modes (newsletters, GAB, directories, history, etc).
 5. Jan passed out release forms for all members to sign giving SCMGA permission to publish info & photos in various member communication outlets. Signed forms were submitted to Jim/Jan. These records will be kept in SCMGA files at the Extension office. All were informed effective end of March 2018 only paid members will receive the GAB and other email communications. Jan also asked all present to review their information on the power point presentation being created (computer set-up for use).
 6. Barbara Williams made sure all present received the updated membership directory. Revisions will be made as needed. Note: The directory included the 2017 & 2018 membership; therefore the names & numbers differ from presently paid 2018-membership list that Jim had passed out earlier. Consolidated, revised lists will be updated.
 7. President Myra Healy reminded members any articles, photos etc. must be submitted to Jan or Myra prior to publication.
 8. Rita Forrest discussed our website and noted in the past, only photos she had taken were on the website. She requested in the future, others take photos for website and/or other communication outlets. Again, Jan reminded all that Drop email was being created.
 9. Tommie Harrison, Sunshine Committee chair reported her plans for cards to be used for birthdays, get well, sympathy, etc. She stressed again members communicate with her in a timely manner for get-well, deaths etc.
 10. Myra reported open chairs existed for Hospitality Committee and Projects Co-coordinator positions; she asked that someone STEP-UP and take responsibilities for these needs. She will be glad to discuss with anyone the specific requirements for these open chairs.
 11. Trisha Williams reported for the By-Laws committee. She indicated all info related to reporting volunteer hours and/or recording CEU's was in MG handbook all received when completing Intern classes. She explained a few details; when reporting hours: always round up to nearest half-hour and to include drive time as part of volunteer hours. If submitting CEU's, then report drive time separately. Further, please list mileage and contacts when making reports online. Trisha distributed reports that gave various examples of correctly reporting these hours.
- OLD BUSINESS
 1. Hopefully everyone received the latest quarterly "PATHWAYS" from AMGA. The Spring AMGA meeting will be held at the downtown Sheraton in Birmingham Thursday-Saturday, May 3—5, 2018. All planning to attend should complete online registration as early as possible.
 2. The AMGA 2019 Spring Conference will be held in Chilton County, May 7—9, 2019, hosted by Chilton Co. MGA, with Autauga and Shelby county MGA's supporting. We will "stuff" gift bags all attendees will receive at registration and also be responsible for taking photos at the Conference.
 3. Barbara Corley was presented her certificate of completed volunteer hours and her member badge.
 4. Myra informed and exhibited a Suggestion Box that will be placed on registration table for anyone to use at meetings.
 5. SCMGA has been invited to Chilton County MGA plant swap on May 8, 2018.
 6. SCMGA BOD approved paying for 4 spaces at Community Garden in Montevallo for 2018. The spaces will be raised beds, approximately 4' X 8'. Community Gardens will supply compost and water for bed spaces.
 7. February 24, 2018 is National Arbor Day; both Alabaster and Montevallo will have Arbor Day programs/events.
- Business meeting adjourned.
- Kate Vogel made a "Member Moment" presentation regarding how to make a "Plant Chair". She exhibited several chairs, materials to make chairs and an "easy" way to make them into gifts or displays. The presentation was lively, fun, and informative with many member responses & questions! Kate even listed places, prices for buying chairs & materials and even appropriate occasions for gifting chairs. In summary the presentation was informative and hilarious.
- Door prizes given out, Benevolence and thanks for food by Jim Strickland.

Respectfully submitted,
Wayne Gainey

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SAVE THE DATE

Next Month's Meeting—Friday, April 13



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

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

RECIPES FROM OUR MASTER GARDENERS... *This section is a new addition to our newsletter. Each month we plan to share a recipe from one of our members, preferably dishes we have sampled at our Potluck Lunches each month! I brought this month's recipe to our Dirty Snowman Party in January.*

CHICKEN ENCHILADA PINWHEELS

from the kitchen of Heidee Vansant

Yield: 80 pieces

Ingredients:

- 2 (8-oz) pkgs cream cheese, softened
- 1½ cups shredded Mexican cheese blend
- 2 Tbls. Old El Paso original taco seasoning mix
- 2 cups shredded cooked chicken
- 1 (10-oz) Rotel tomatoes, well drained
- 1 tsp. minced garlic
- 4 green onions, sliced
- ½ cup chopped cilantro
- 8 burrito sized flour tortillas



Directions:

1. In a large bowl, combine all of the ingredients (except tortillas) until well blended.
2. Spread about ½ cup of the mixture over the entire surface of a tortilla. Roll up tightly. Repeat with remaining tortillas.
3. Refrigerate until firm, about 30 minutes.
4. Slice into ½-inch slices and serve.

NOTE: I wrapped mine in plastic wrap and refrigerated overnight, then sliced the next day.



Please send Tommie Harrison, Sunshine Comm. 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. Tommie 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 Tommie:

Email: torumo74@gmail.com
 Phone: 205-663-7146



MARCH BIRTHDAYS

- 1—David Thomas
- 8—Barbara Kimberly
- 13—Dennis Stanek
- 24—Barbara Corley
- 25—Trisha Williams
- 29—Sylvia Sheffield



Cards sent by Tommie Harrison on behalf of SCMGA during February:

Help Spread
The Sunshine!



Birthdays:

Teresa Boody
Sydney Ellis
Pat Hare
Myra Healy

Thank You:

Merle Schukoske
Kelly Shelton
Saundra Smith

none

Get Well:

Saundra Harris

Thinking of You:

Joy Dearing
Julie Hobaugh
Pat/George Hare



Alabama Master Gardeners 2018 Conference

May 3 to May 5, 2018
Birmingham

Come Enjoy the Magic City

**REGULAR
REGISTRATION**
(postmarked
March 2—April 1) **\$145**

LATE REGISTRATION
(postmarked
April 2—April 20) **\$155**

**Register Online at
www.alabamamg.org**



A completed masterpiece by Kate!



February 2018 Meeting



Vice President Kate Vogel presenting "Making Plant Chairs" during Member Moments at the February meeting.



Our completed project and silent auction item for the AMGA State Conference!



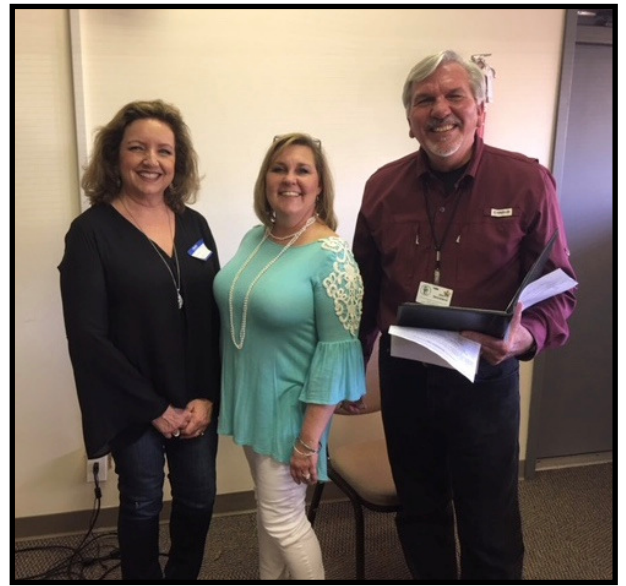
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President Myra Healy



Barbara Corley received her Master Gardener certificate and badge from President Myra Healy.



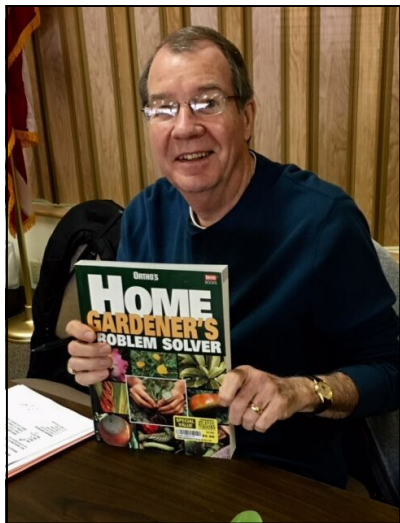
2015 classmates Dolores Davis, Kelly Shelton, & Treasurer Jim Strickland reunited at the February meeting.



February's meeting had 29 attendees.



Paul Saeger holding what he hopes is a winning ticket.



Jim Williams wins door prize.



Intern Wendy Patton wins door prize (plants).



Jan Rogers **finally** won a door prize!!



General Pesticide Safety

This workshop is for homeowners and anybody that is interested in pesticide safety

April 5, 2018

To pre-register contact Shelby County Extension office (205) 669-6763
Pre-register by Monday, April 2nd

North Shelby County Library off of highway 119

P.O. Box 1606, Columbiana, AL 35051

10:00 – 12:00

(205) 669-6763



www.aces.edu

Soil Sampling Program



Monday, May 14, 2018

Time: 6:30 PM - 7:30PM

**Where: Pelham Library
3160 Pelham Parkway
Pelham, AL 35124**

The program is for anyone that wants to learn the correct way to collect a soil sample and how to use the soil test report. The program will cover Soil PH, Soil Group, Nutrient Rating, Lime Recommendation, and Fertilization recommendation. There is no cost to attend, but please call the Pelham Library to register at 205-620-6418.



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



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 2018

President	Myra Healy	665-4554	myhealy42@gmail.com
Vice-President	Kate Vogel	665-5878	kvogelashfield@aol.com
Secretary	Wayne Gainey	670-7101	wlgainey@juno.com
Treasurer	Jim Strickland	381-1042	JimStricklandInc@yahoo.com
Parliamentarian	Merle Schukoske	669-0783	schukos@gmail.com
Advisory Council Rep		POSITION OPEN	
Awards Committee Chair		POSITION OPEN	
By-Laws Chair	Trisha Williams	678-7875	trisha325@gmail.com
Communications	Jan Rogers	307-9733	janrogers@charter.net
Historian	Diane McKinnon	680-3282	bamabeach@bellsouth.net
Hospitality	Kate Vogel	665-5878	kvogelashfield@aol.com
Newsletter Editor	Heidee Vansant	669-3284	heidee.vansant@gmail.com
Nominating Committee Chair	Rita Forrest	620-1167	ritabe@bellsouth.net
Projects Coordinator	Dennis Stanek	789-0341	dennis.stanek@att.net
Sunshine Committee	Tommie Harrison	663-7146	torumo74@gmail.com
Webmaster	Rita Forrest	620-1167	ritabe@bellsouth.net

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Please Note: A new membership form must be completed each year and returned with your dues.

**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, 2018. 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 ASAP.

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.
% Jim Strickland
P.O. Box 500
Columbiana, AL 35051