

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 12

December 2018

The President Ponders...

I hope you all had a wonderful and blessed Thanksgiving holiday! It is now December and we are nearing the end of a very busy year. The months have flown by quickly. It has been a pleasure serving you as your President and I look forward to an even better year in 2019. If last month's business meeting is any indication, we will have an even busier year coming up. I am thankful to all of you for your participation in our Gifts from The Garden and our business meeting last month. I apologize for the long meeting, but what a pleasure it was to have so many people share their ideas for gifts and for upcoming programs and speakers for the next year(s). Wonderful ideas all the way around and so many of them! Plus, many of you donated your garden gifts as door prizes, and pretty much everybody left with one. Y'all are awesome!

Again, I must brag about our wonderful new members from this year's intern class. Out of a graduating class of fifteen, nine members attended our November meeting. Two of them are already certified, and the others are diligently working on getting their hours. They have joined in already and participated - bringing garden gifts and ideas for projects and speakers for next year. I love their enthusiasm!

We have a complete slate of officers for next year, and elections will be held at this month's meeting. There will also be a few openings for committee chairpersons, so I am hoping some of you will step forward and serve in that capacity. We always need good people to serve as committee members as well, so find something you are interested in and get involved. This is our association, and it is what we make it! Let me know if you are willing to lead or serve. I look forward to hearing from all of you.

Enough business talk! Let's talk about our upcoming meeting in December. You know, the one where we bring delicious food and play Dirty Santa - our Christmas party/meeting. I've decided to call it Dirty Gardener instead. It sounds a bit nicer, and after all, that's what it is, isn't it? Dirty gardener? Where we gleefully take gardening gifts and tools from each other? You know, like the tool that was taken (ripped away) from me last year? I have almost gotten over it...almost. Forgiven, but not forgotten. But I digress. Just remember to bring a \$15-\$20 gardening gift for our Dirty Gardener game. This is a fun meeting and I promise to keep the business part very short. Looking forward to seeing you all and Merry Christmas!

Nyra



This Month's Meeting—Friday, December 14th @ 10 a.m.
Shelby County Extension Center

Our annual "Dirty Gardener" Christmas Party/Meeting
is a not-to-be missed event!

Please bring a \$15-\$20 garden-related gift for the game and
your favorite holiday dish to share.

Please consider the environment before printing this e-mail.

TREASURER'S REPORT as of 11/23/2018
Submitted by Jim Strickland, Treasurer

Check/Deposit	Balance
Beginning Balance	\$1,871.76
Deposits (2)	+178.00
Checks (0)	-0.00
Ending Balance	\$2,049.76

SCMGA
Membership
remains at
60

Shelby County Master Gardeners' Assoc. Minutes
12 October 2018

- Shelby County Master Gardeners Association meeting, November 9, 2018 @ Extension office
- President Myra Healy called meeting to order & led Pledge of Allegiance.
- Myra asked for any changes to October meeting minutes as submitted by Wayne Gainey. There being none, minutes approved as submitted.
- Financial report as submitted by Jim Strickland approved & filed for auditors.
- **COMMITTEE REPORTS:**
 1. Sunshine—Tommie Harrison absent due to injury.
 2. Library—Continuing, hopefully all available resources can be online by January 2019.
 3. Projects—Dennis Stanek; Fall community garden plot doing well & watered by recent rains. Dennis asked for input from members for suggestions for 2019 projects for SCMGA.
 4. Historian—Diane McKinnon asked that any photos for submission to SCMGA be forwarded directly to her prior to publication; Diane wants the highest possible resolution for best publication results. Rita asked that a drop box be set up to use for this & other info; it was noted Jan Rogers had previously set up a drop box for SCMGA use; it seems no one is using the drop box! Rita, Myra, Diane urged everyone to use drop box for info, photo submission.
 5. Nominations—Rita Forrest; no one has volunteered as yet for Secretary beginning in 2019. Wayne has served 2 years & will step down, end of year.
- **OLD BUSINESS:**
 1. Myra requested all volunteers who have signed up to serve for 2019 AMG conference/meeting to join her for a brief meeting following today's meeting.
 2. Next planning meeting for 2019 state conference to be held November 29, 2018 @ Extension office, downtown Clanton at 10 AM.
 3. 2019 State AMGA to be held, May 8-10, 2019, Clanton, jointly hosted by Chilton, Shelby, Autauga counties.
 4. Everyone urged again to pay 2019 dues before year end, December 31, 2018. Please have your dues paid by next meeting, December 14, 2018.
- **NEW BUSINESS:**

2019 Nominations for SCMGA Officers:

President—Myra Healy
Vice-President (Programs)—Kate Vogel
Secretary—Teresa Boody
Treasurer—Barbara Williams
Parliamentarian—Merle Schukoske

(This is the slate of officers to be recognized & voted on in December meeting)

Committee Chairs:

By-Laws—Trisha Williams
Communications/Newsletter—Heidee Vansant
Historian—Diane McKinnon
Hospitality—Jim Strickland
Nominations—Rita Forrest
Projects—Dennis Stanek
Sunshine—Tommie Harrison
Webmaster—Rita Forrest
- Kate Vogel listed on back of today's agenda suggested ideas for 2019 programs & asked for additional suggestions. Among various suggestions were: Sandy Hixon's daughter for carnivorous plants; Captain Compost; field trips including AU, Ferns, Cedar Ridge, Pat Dye, Japanese Maples; Morgan Creek Winery; Maple Valley Farms; native plants; wild flowers; Community Gardens; & free gardening classes.
- Potential projects for 2019: Wild Flower garden @ "Living Rivers", clean-up walking trail @ our extension center.
- It was noted no one present at today's meeting is receiving "Garden Pathways", the AMGA state newsletter (supposedly issued quarterly).
- Myra announced Dirty Santa gifts be in range of \$15-\$20. Everyone remember we will have a covered dish luncheon at December meeting.
- Kate presented several suggestions for gardening gift giving for this year: plant chairs, jams, jellies (NEVER add water to these), Plantain plants (very invasive), plants in recycled cans, Swedish ivy in water in clear containers, garden tools, Roots/Shoots, paper white bulbs in water.
- Beth Glasgow presented a borrowed idea from Jim Strickland regarding several suggestions for "Fairy Gardens."
- Diane McKinnon presented her idea for recycling microwaveable containers for aerating re-potting plants.
- Meeting adjourned. Prayer & lunch followed.

Respectfully submitted,
Wayne Gainey, Secretary



SAVE THE DATE

Next Month's Meeting—Friday, January 11



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



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

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

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

BEST TACO SOUP RECIPE from the kitchen of Heidee Vansant



Ingredients:

- 1 pound ground beef or turkey
- 1 pkg. taco seasoning or less to taste
- 1 medium sweet onion chopped finely
- 1 green bell pepper chopped
- 1 red bell pepper chopped
- 1 15 oz. can black beans drained
- 1 15 oz. can kidney beans drained
- 1 15 oz. can pinto beans drained
- 1 15 oz. can corn
- 1 15 oz. can tomato sauce
- 1 10 oz. can Rotel® tomatoes
- 1 15 oz. can diced tomatoes
- 1/4 cup salsa (I use Pace® Mild Picante Sauce)

Directions:

1. Brown hamburger in a large pan over medium heat. Add in onions, bell peppers & sauté for a few minutes.
2. Add in remaining ingredients & stir until combined. Let simmer for about 20 minutes, stirring occasionally. You can add a little water if it starts getting too thick. If you have more time let it simmer longer. You could also put this soup in a crock pot and let cook on low for several hours.
3. Top with sour cream and cheese. Serve with tortilla chips. Enjoy!



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



DECEMBER BIRTHDAYS

7—Paul Saegar
 10—Susan Seng
 10—Jim Williams
 12—George Hare
 20—Sunny Gilliam



Cards sent by Tommie Harrison on behalf of SCMGA during November

Birthdays:

Carol Beard
Marge Glenboski
Jessica Joslin

Thank You:

none

Thinking of You/Get Well:

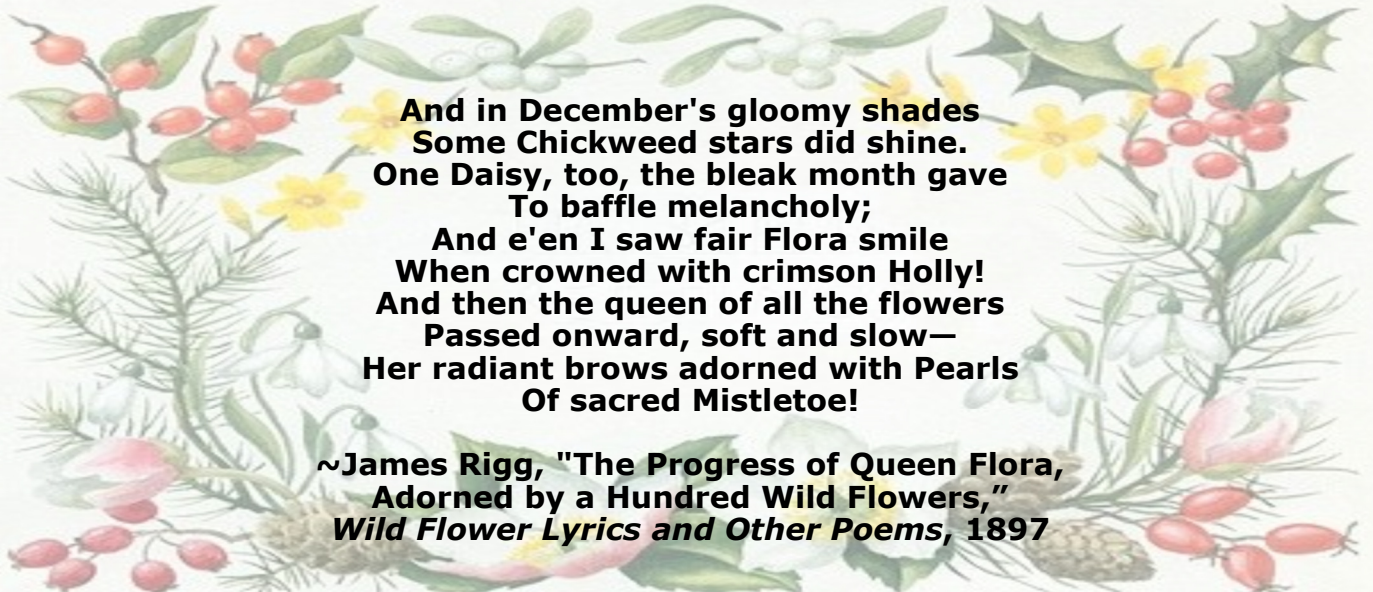
Wendy Patton

Help Spread
The Sunshine!



ATTENTION MEMBERS:

The countdown is on for paying 2019 dues. Remember to submit a membership form with your check, even if there are no changes in your information. Checks and forms should be submitted to our treasurer, Jim Strickland, P.O. Box 500, Columbiana, AL 35051. Please pay at December 14th meeting or submit by mail to arrive prior to 12/31/2018.



And in December's gloomy shades
Some Chickweed stars did shine.
One Daisy, too, the bleak month gave
To baffle melancholy;
And e'en I saw fair Flora smile
When crowned with crimson Holly!
And then the queen of all the flowers
Passed onward, soft and slow—
Her radiant brows adorned with Pearls
Of sacred Mistletoe!

~James Rigg, "The Progress of Queen Flora,
Adorned by a Hundred Wild Flowers,"
Wild Flower Lyrics and Other Poems, 1897

SCENES FROM NOVEMBER



Heidee Vasant demonstrated
how she assembled her
Soup Can Tin Man

Sandy Hixon told how she will
use jars of jam, jelly and pickles
as gifts. She processed the
produce from her own garden.



Cindy Sapp all dressed up
for the holidays!



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ALABAMA GARDENER'S CALENDAR FOR DECEMBER

FRUITS AND NUTS—Plant young pecan and other deciduous fruit trees and grapes. Select bud wood. Start dormant pruning of established fruits. Protect all young trees from rabbit damage by placing wire around the base of the tree. Apply dormant oil sprays for scale.

LAWNS—Control wild garlic, chickweed, Poa annua, dandelion, and other weeds. Read label on each package of weed killer used.

ROSES—Add plants to rose garden. Mulch all plantings.

ANNUALS AND PERENNIALS—Plant hardy annual seed without delay. Have you tried violas?

BULBS—Continue spring bulb planting.

SHRUBS—Planting is still the main activity but delay in case of freezing weather.

MISCELLANEOUS—Shrubs, trees, and indoor plants make excellent gifts.

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	wlgainey43@gmail.com
Treasurer	Jim Strickland	381-1042	JimStricklandInc@yahoo.com
Parliamentarian	Merle Schukoske	669-0783	schukos@gmail.com
Advisory Council Rep	Board Members		
Awards Committee	Board Members		
By-Laws Chair	Trisha Williams	678-7875	trisha325@gmail.com
Communications	Heidee Vansant	669-3284	heidee.vansant@gmail.com
Historian	Diane McKinnon	680-3282	bamabeach@bellsouth.net
Hospitality	Board Members		
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

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, 2019. 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 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 Training: _____

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: \$ _____

MAKE CHECK PAYABLE TO SCMGA AND MAIL TO:

Shelby County Master Gardeners' Association
c/o Jim Strickland
PO Box 500
Columbiana, AL 35051