

GARDENERS' GAB



Shelby County Master Gardeners' Assoc.

Website: <https://mg.aces.edu/shelby/>

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. 12, Issue 3

March 2019

The President Ponders...

Greetings SCMG,

Winter should be ending soon. The Farmer's Almanac predicted a wet and mild winter for the South this past winter. They sure got that right! We have had lots and lots of rain lately. Of course, us gardeners never complain about rain! We remember all too well what it is like to face a drought. Hopefully, the moisture will continue once our spring and summer seasons get here. With the mild temperatures, I have seen lots of things budding and blooming already. Most importantly, the tulips will soon be blooming at the American Village just in time for our visit there. I'm really looking forward to our field trip. I hope you all have signed up to come for the Tulip Tour and for a delicious lunch!

Didn't you enjoy our speaker last month? I loved hearing Sandra Reeves speak on her garden and how she evolved into a natural gardener. That is my style of gardening - let things happen! She said when she didn't spray for bugs and pests, the birds, beneficial bugs and critters came to take care of the bug problem. Much better than spraying chemicals when that works. Speaking of bugs... has anyone else been invaded by those annoying, smelly stink bugs this winter? I have never seen them inside the house until this year. I did read where they are a foreign species of the stink bug, (like we need more). That's kind of like the Asian beetles that look like ladybugs and usually come inside during the winter. These are big and ugly, with hard shells. They're scary looking and they stink! I certainly hope when spring gets here, they will stay outside.

Our State Conference plans have started to come together nicely. We have already held two successful joint meetings with all the volunteers from Chilton and Autauga Counties. I want to thank all of you who have contributed by donating door prizes and items for the silent auctions. But, most of all, I want to thank our Shelby volunteers who are honoring their commitment to work at the AMGA State Conference. It means so much to have you show up and represent us. You all are very much appreciated!

I hope to see all of you at our next meeting so we can tiptoe through the tulips!

Myra



Please consider the environment before printing this e-mail.

Our March 8 meeting will be at 10:00 a.m. in Montevallo at the American Village Festival of Tulips which has over 100,000 tulips with replicas of some of America's most historic places as a backdrop. It creates a one-of-a-kind photo opportunity, so bring your camera! As the only you-pick tulip field in the region, visitors can take home armfuls of beautiful blooms. Tulips will be \$1.50 each, bulb included.

There will be a brief tour and program about growing tulips before our business meeting with lunch provided by Southern Sweets. The cost of admission and lunch is \$20, and **reservations or cancellations must be made by March 4** to Barbara Williams, Treasurer, 825 Mountain View Drive, Wilsonville, AL 35186 205-670-0191(H) 205-902-1137(C) bwilliams1581@gmail.com

Guests are welcome. We will meet at the Admissions Building which is directly in front of you when you turn off Hwy 119 into the American Village. Parking is to the left and trams are there for those who need them.

Shelby County Master Gardeners' Association— February 8, 2019 Meeting Minutes

- President Myra Healy called the meeting to order & led the Pledge of Allegiance. Myra welcomed Martha Grantham, guest of Barbara Williams.
- Kate Vogel introduced Sandra Reaves, speaker for today's program. Sandra gardens in north Jefferson County & blogs at josiegladysgardens.blogspot.com. Sandra is also a frequent expert gardener on WBRC's *Ask the Gardener*. Sandra gave an informative & entertaining talk about her experiences in her own garden raising vegetables, herbs, ornamentals, & chickens. She also had some very helpful information for senior gardeners & for those with physical limitations.
- Following Sandra's program, Myra introduced Sondra Henley, Chilton County Master Gardener, who is the overall chairperson for the Alabama Master Gardeners' Conference this year, May 8-10 in Clanton, AL. Sondra discussed the pre-conference workshops, tours & the agenda of the two-day conference. The theme for this year's conference is "Party in the Garden". For more information see alabamamg.org.
- Following the programs, Myra called the meeting into business session. She called attention to the January 11, 2019, minutes & the January Treasurer's Report as printed in the February GAB. There being no comments, corrections, or additions to either, both were approved as printed & will be filed.
- The following interns were recognized for completing all requirements for certification: DeAnne Benedict, Rebecca Poskey, & Lisa Wade
- The following members achieved recognition in the "Reach for the Stars" program:
 - Bronze Star: Cindy Sapp, Sylvia Sheffield, & Dennis Stanek
 - Silver Star: Deb Elliot
 - Gold Star: Teresa Boody
 - Gold Badge: Deb Kattus (will receive recognition at the State Conference)
- **Old Business:**
 - yearly dues are now overdue & need to be turned in immediately
 - still need items for the silent auction & door prizes at the state conference; printing deadline for the conference program is February 28.
- **New Business:**
 - we will be stuffing 400 "goody bags" for the state conference on April 24 at 10 AM at the Extension Office; volunteers needed & welcomed
 - we are in need of a new webmaster (Rita Forrest moving to Florida)
 - our new website is <https://mg.aces.edu/shelby/>
- **Announcements:**
 - February 28 AMGA Conference Planning, Petals from the Past; 10:00 AM
 - March 21 AMGA Conference Planning, Clanton Performing Arts Center; 9 AM. Meeting to follow at Jemison City Hall Meeting Room
 - April 25 AMGA Conference Planning, Jemison City Hall Meeting Room; 10 AM
 - May 8-10 AMGA Conference Clanton, AL
- **Next Meeting:** Friday, March 8 @10 AM; American Village Festival of Tulips, \$20.00 for admission & lunch; Registration/Cancellations by March 4; send to Barbara Williams, 825 Mountain View Drive, Wilsonville, AL 35186
- Wayne Gainey closed the meeting by asking a blessing for the meal & the meeting was adjourned.

Respectfully submitted,
Teresa Boody, Secretary

TREASURER'S REPORT as of FEB 2019
Submitted by Barbara Williams, Treasurer

Check/Deposit	Balance
Beginning Balance	\$2,283.93
Deposits (Dues & Event)	388.00
Checks (AMGA for State Dues)	(460.00)
Ending Balance	\$2,211.93

Noteworthy Items:

SCMGA 2019 paid
 Membership is now 53.

ITALIAN PASTA SALAD from the kitchen of Shauna Brown

Salad Ingredients:

1 lb. Penne pasta or similar
 3 slices Genoa Salami cut into 1/2" thick pieces
 1 cup mild banana peppers
 1 cup halved black olives
 8 oz. mozzarella, cubed
 1/2 cup julienne cut sun dried tomatoes
 1/2 cup chopped red onions
 1/2 cup freshly chopped basil
 2 Tbls. grated Parmesan Cheese
 Pinch red pepper flakes, optional

Pasta Salad:

Cook pasta according to directions. Drain under cold water. Set aside to cool. Once pasta has cooled, add pasta to a large bowl along with remaining salad ingredients. If not serving the salad right away, chill until ready to serve.

Dressing:

1/2 cup red wine vinegar
 2 Tbls. grated Parmesan cheese
 1 Tbls. Italian seasoning
 2 tsp. sugar
 1/2 tsp. garlic powder
 1/4 tsp. celery seed
 3/4 cup extra virgin olive oil
 Salt and pepper to taste



Dressing:

Add all dressing ingredients, except for the olive oil in a blender or food processor. While machine is still running, slowly stream in olive oil. Continue to blend until combined. Season with salt and pepper. When ready to serve, toss pasta salad with dressing. Season with additional salt and pepper, if necessary.

Keep refrigerated.



Please send
 Tommie Harrison,
 Sunshine Comm.
 Chair, information
 about members
 (or their relatives)
 who are ill, 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
 13—Dennis Stanek
 25—Trisha Williams
 29—Sylvia Sheffield





SAVE THE DATE

Next Month's Meeting—Friday, April 12



Cards sent by Tommie Harrison on behalf of SCMGA during February

Birthdays:

Sydney Ellis
Sundra Smith
Kelly Shelton
Teresa Boody

Myra Healy
Pat Hare
Merle Schukoske
Jeanie Lucas

Thank You:

none

Thinking of You/Get Well:

none

Help Spread
The Sunshine!



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/

Scenes from our February Meeting



REACH FOR THE STARS

Teresa Boody was awarded
the Gold Star

Sylvia Sheffield was awarded
the Bronze Star

Congratulations also to Dennis Stanek & Cindy Sapp for
their Bronze Stars, Deb Elliot for her Silver Star &
Deborah Kattus who earned her Gold Badge.



President Myra Healy presented certificates and official name tags to newly certified Alabama Master Gardeners!
DeAnne Benedict Rebecca Poskey Lisa Wade



Please consider the environment before printing this e-mail.



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



ALABAMA GARDENERS' 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 2019

President	Myra Healy	665-4554	myhealy42@gmail.com
Vice-President	Kate Vogel	665-5878	kvogelashfield@aol.com
Secretary	Teresa Boody	991-6463	wtmmmb@yahoo.com
Treasurer	Barbara Williams	670-0191	bwilliams1581@gmail.com
Parliamentarian	Merle Schukoske	669-0783	schukos@gmail.com
Advisory Council Rep	Dennis Stanek	789-0341	dennis.stanek@att.net
Awards Committee	Board Members		
By-Laws Chair	Trisha Williams	678-7875	trisha325@gmail.com
Communications	Heidee Vansant	669-3284	heidee.vansant@gmail.com
Historian	Sandra Harris	300-5808	sharris5808@gmail.com
Hospitality	Jim Strickland	669-6912	JimStricklandinc@yahoo.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

We will be closed Sunday due to inclement weather.



PEAK BLOOM

**100,000 tulips
planted this year!**



- *The tulips are at their peak bloom - that time when the most flowers are in bloom.*
- *We will be open Monday-Saturday 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. and Sunday 12 to 4 p.m. as long as the flowers are blooming (weather permitting).*
- *Weekday admission is \$10 adults, \$9 seniors and youth. Weekend admission is \$5 per person*
- *Tulips (flowers and bulbs) are \$1.50 each plus tax.*
- *Here are some of the tulips that are blooming right now:*



Monte Orange



Thanks and Praise



Skyliners



Akebono



Big Ups



Banja Luka

The Festival of Tulips will once again provide a fantastic outing for clubs, groups, and families. The event is perfect for motorcoach tours as well. The field of over 100,000 tulips, with replicas of some of America's most historic places as a backdrop, creates a one-of-a-kind photo opportunity, so bring your camera!

The Festival of Tulips at the American Village will be open Monday-Friday 10-4, Saturday 10-4, and Sunday 12-4, and will continue as long as the flowers are blooming (depending on weather). Please check this page or our Facebook page each week for field conditions.

In addition to experiencing the tulips, visitors can take part in Colonial games, encounter patriots of the past, experience the Continental Army encampment, Colonial Chapel, Randall Museum and National Veterans Shrine.

There is a group discount and catering option for groups of 20 or more that book in advance for a weekday trip. **Call Jodie Wasyluka at (205) 665-3535 extension 1045 for more information on group tours.**



Thursday, May 9 Biscuit Breakfast Welcome

Jane McCarthy

Planning a Garden Design:
"Creating A Party Ready Landscape"



AMGA Business Meeting

Lunch

Dr. Sue Webb

Using Native Plants in Our Landscapes:
"Natives Are Always Welcome at the Party"

Sharon Capps of Bonnie Plant Farms

One Hundred Years of Family,
Community and Innovative Plants and
Marketing: "Partying Everywhere"



Judy Groover

Hosts:
"Everyone's Favorite Party Guest"



*Meet and Greet
Italian Buffet*

Awards Ceremony and
Installation of New Officers

Joe Lamp'1

Favorites from Television Seasons:
"Best Parties"

Friday, May 10th

Hospitality

Vendors

Silent Auction Check Out and Pick Up

Conference Wrap-Up

Taylor Hatchett

Supporting Local Farms:
"Party Close to Home"

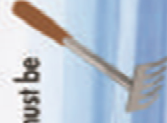
Lelia Scott Kelly

Dumb Things We Do to Our
Landscape: "Unwise Party Attire"

Conference Closing Remarks

Final Door Prize Drawing-You must be
present to win.

2020 Conference Invitation



Conference hosted by

Chilton, Autauga
and Shelby Counties

Party in the Garden



*Your
Invitation
To Party!*

May 8, 9 & 10

Clanton Performing Arts Center
Clanton, Alabama

2019

AMGA Spring Conference

The public is invited
Pre-registration is required

www.alabamamg.org

Party in the Garden

Convention details will be included in the schedule
provided in the registration packet, online and in the
convention booklet.

Wednesday, May 8

Pre Conference Activities



Registration

Hospitality

Vendors

Silent Auction

Tours (There is no cost, but advance registration is required)

Petals from the Past:

Orangery Tour "Party in the Tropics"

Permaculture Tour "Tried and True"

Chilton County Research and Extension Center:

North Tour

South Tour

Chilton County MGA Demonstration Garden

Self-Guided Tours

Joan McGriff

Workshop-Garden Whimsies:

"Party Decorations"

Mallory Kelley

Advanced Master Gardener Networking:

"Manning the Party Lines"

Dr. Neil Lamb

Updates of Research in Plant Genomics:

"Party Guest Diversity"

HOE DOWN Come as you are! Meet and greet
old and new acquaintances • Win game prizes •
Join the line dance • Have fun!

B&B meal



Jason Powell

The History of Petals from the Past:

"How Petals Started Its Party"



Speakers

The History of Petals from the Past:

"How Petals Started its Party"

Jason Powell and his wife Shelley own Petals From the Past, a nursery in Jemison, Alabama. Jason earned degrees in



horticulture and landscape design from Auburn University and Texas A&M University. The nursery specializes in antique roses, heirloom shrubs, cottage perennials and herbs as well as classical varieties of vegetables and fruits. Much of what is grown at the nursery is integrated into a garden setting. Petals from the Past approaches gardening from an educational standpoint and hosts lectures/workshops and guest speakers in its educational facility. Events such as "Antiques in the Garden" and the "Black and Blueberry Festival" are hosted at Petals from the Past annually.

Bonnie Plant Farms - One Hundred

Years of Family, Community and Innovative Plants and Marketing: "Party Everywhere"



Sharon Capps is the Office Manager and Accounts Receivable Manager for Bonnie Plants, Inc. She has served in many positions over the 44 years that she has been employed by Bonnie Plants. She is the historian of the Chunnungee Garden Club, which is the oldest garden club in the United States. Sharon grew up in a gardening family and enjoys getting her hands dirty working in her yard. Sharon's professional background is in business with a bachelor's degree in business management from Auburn University, Montgomery. She and her husband, Larry, live in Union Springs, Alabama.

Workshop - Garden Whimsies:

"Party Decorations"



Joan McGriff retired after 35 years teaching fourth grade in the Chilton County School System and is now a part time employee with the Chilton County Cooperative Extension Office. At the Extension Office she works with 4-H Enrichment and conducts workshops and camps for children and adults. Joan shares her talents with others by teaching the art of using glass vases, plates, bowls and other interesting items to create whimsical yard decorations. Joan is very active at Walnut Creek UMC in Clanton, Alabama where she is Planist and Nurture Team Leader.



Advanced Master Gardener

Networking: "Manning the Party Lines"

"Manning the Party Lines"

Mallory Kelley grew up in and currently resides in Selma, Alabama. She attended Auburn University and attained an undergraduate degree in Landscape Design Horticulture and a Master's Degree in Horticulture in 2009. Since that time, Mallory has been a Regional Extension Agent and Horticulturalist for the Alabama Cooperative Extension System; for over 9 years, she has served 6 counties in Central Alabama. Mallory and her husband Ron have two boys: Hudson, age 5 and Coleman, who is 3.



Updates of Research in Plant

Genomics:

"Party Guest Diversity"

Neil Lamb, Ph.D., is faculty investigator and Vice President for Educational Outreach at the Hudson Alpha Institute for Biotechnology. Keynote speaker of the 2017 AMGA Spring Conference, Dr. Lamb presented "Plant Genomics: From Ancient Crop Domestication to Modern Breeding and Selection". At the time of this presentation, he stated that results of research being conducted in this area would be available in two years; we are honored to welcome Dr. Lamb back as he presents an update of these research findings.

Planning a Garden Design:

"Creating a Party Ready Landscape"



Jane McCarthy became a Virginia Master Gardener in 1995 and an Alabama Master Gardener in 1998. She received her B.S. in Horticulture/Landscape Design from Auburn University in 2000 and completed an internship at Blount Cultural Park and Alabama Shakespeare Festival in the same year. She was employed as the Maxwell Air Force Base Horticulturalist from 2001-2016. Jane has been a member of the Old Alabama Town Herb Society since 2007. In 2013, she established the Monday Morning Master Gardener Group, which is responsible for reclaiming, maintaining and improving a period appropriate design at the Alabama Governor's Mansion.

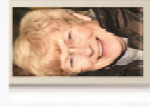


Using Native Plants in Our

Landscapes:

"Natives are Always Welcome at the Party"

Sue Webb says that because of the reduction in native areas in the United States, wildlife that depend on native habitat for food and shelter are declining at an alarming rate. Join Sue as she talks about planting and maintaining native plants which have seasonal beauty and are a valuable food source for wildlife. As a research scientist with a Ph.D. in Microbiology, Sue brings a problem-solving approach to the plight of our wildlife and plant. She is an Alabama Master Gardener, natural landscape designer and is employed at Petals from the Past nursery in Jemison.



Hostas:

"Everyone's Favorite Party Guest"

Judy Groover started collecting hostas in 1999 and was soon growing many different varieties in her backyard nursery. She is a Master Gardener and former President of the Birmingham Fern Society; she served as President of the former Central Alabama Hosta Society for 5 years. She is a past Director of the Dixie Regional Hosta Society, a member of the American Hosta Growers Association, and served on the Executive Board of the American Hosta Society as Treasurer for five years. Judy is owner of Hostas on the Hill nursery located at her home in Dunnivant Valley near Birmingham.

Favorites from Television Seasons:

"Best Parties"



Joe Lamp'l is one of the country's most recognized and trusted personalities in gardening and sustainability. His passion for teaching is evident to a nationwide audience that watches Joe in his current role as creator, Executive Producer and Host of the award-winning PBS series, Growing a Greener World®. Previously, he was host of Fresh from the Garden on DIY Network as well as on-air contributor to The Today Show, Good Morning America and The Weather Channel. Joe is also the founder and "Joe" behind joegardener.com.



Supporting Local Farms:

"Party Close to Home"

Taylor Hatchett and her father Bobby own Boozer Farms in Thorsby, Alabama, where a variety of fruits and vegetables are grown rather than only one or two crops. Taylor earned degrees in agronomy and soils, and plant pathology from Auburn University. Produce is sold at the farm as well as at various farmers' markets in the area. Boozer Farms has "Community-Supported Agriculture" (CSA) plans; customer members who opt to participate, pay for produce before the season and in return receive a weekly box of in-season fruits and/or vegetables at harvest. A certain number of "shares" in the plan are offered each year.



Really Dumb Stuff We do to our

Landscapes:

"Unwise Party Attire"

Lelia Scott Kelly, a lifelong gardener, earned a Ph.D. and M.S. in Horticulture from Mississippi State University (MSU). She served for 17 years as Consumer Horticulture Specialist and was the State Master Gardener Coordinator at MSU. She is a Mississippi Licensed Landscape Designer, a magazine columnist and award-winning writer. Lelia is known for wit and gardening wisdom; her talks are filled with personal anecdotes, storytelling and science. Audiences leave entertained, inspired and informed.