

# GARDENERS' GAB



## **Shelby County Master Gardeners' Assoc.**

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

**E-mail:** [SCMGA.email@gmail.com](mailto:SCMGA.email@gmail.com)

**Meetings: Monthly, 2<sup>nd</sup> Friday at 10 a.m.**  
**Shelby County Extension Office—Columbiana, Alabama**

### **Like Us on Facebook**

**Alabama MGA:** [www.alabamamg.org](http://www.alabamamg.org)

**Alabama MG Program:** [www.aces.edu/mg](http://www.aces.edu/mg)

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

Vol. 13, Issue 1

January 2020

## ***The President Ponders...***

Greetings SCMG's,

Happy New Year to everyone! Can you believe it is 2020 already? I hope you all had a wonderful Christmas and New Year celebration. We certainly had a fun time at our December meeting! Good food and fun times playing Dirty Gardener! I hope everyone had a good time and came away with a useful gift! We elected a new President, Kate Vogel and Vice-President, Jim Sherbrook. Other officers, Barbara Williams, Treasurer, and Teresa Boody, Secretary will continue on for their second year. Congratulations to them! I know they are going to do a great job leading us in 2020.

It has been a pleasure being your President these last two years. I want to thank everyone for their support and hard work, especially my other officers, Kate Vogel, Barbara Williams, Teresa Boody, and Merle Schukoske. I couldn't have done it without you! Also, thanks to all the committee chairs and members who have worked to support our association. Y'all are the best! We have several projects already in the works for next year. We are assisting Deb Elliot with a project for a Veteran's Garden at Aldridge Gardens in January and are having an information booth at Montevallo's Arbor Day event in February. At this month's meeting, we will be planning more projects and speakers for the upcoming year. Bring your ideas and recommendations. We welcome and need your input. Remember, our association is what we make it!

See you all on the 10th!

*Myra*

*Please consider the environment before printing this e-mail.*

**This Month's Meeting—Friday, January 10<sup>th</sup> @ 10am  
Shelby County Extension Office Auditorium**

I hope you all have had a very merry Christmas and are now into a happy new year. The seed catalogs have started arriving so what could make gardeners happier?

Go ahead and mark every second Friday at 10:00 a.m. on your new calendars for SCMGA meetings at the Shelby County Extension Office Auditorium in Columbiana. There will be a few exceptions. We generally meet on a Wednesday in August to welcome the new interns, have our one evening meeting of the year in the fall and take a field trip or two.

Help kick off the new year at our January 10<sup>th</sup> meeting with your ideas for programs, projects, and field trips. Send them to me beforehand and I'll compile a list (kvogelashfield@aol.com).

The Old Farmer's Almanac says to expect snow earlier that week so bring your warmest comfort food for our meal. See you there, Your 2020 President, Kate Vogel



**NEXT MONTH'S MEETING**  
Friday, February 14<sup>th</sup> at 10am



**TREASURER'S REPORT as of December 20, 2019**

Submitted by Barbara Williams, Treasurer

**Checks/Deposits**

	<b>Balance</b>
Beginning Balance	\$5,616.18
Deposits	364.00
Checks	-170.86
<b>Ending Balance</b>	<b>\$5,809.32</b>

**Cards sent by Tommie Harrison on behalf of SCMGA during December:**

**Birthdays:**  
Susan Sang  
Sunny Gilliam  
Susan Moore

**Thank You:**  
none

**Thinking of You:**  
John Healy  
Dianne McKinnon

Help Spread  
The Sunshine!



We have a private Facebook group called  
**"Shelby County Alabama Master Gardener Active Members"**

This is a closed group for our members to help with communication, so if you are on Facebook, check it out and ask to join.



**Garden as though you will  
live forever.**

— William Kent



**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**

<https://aldridgegardens.com/educationevents/>  
<https://bbgardens.org/#events>  
<https://events.hooverlibrary.org/events?v=grid>  
<https://petalsfromthepast.com/events.html>  
<https://mg.aces.edu/shelby/events>

**ALL ALABAMA MASTER GARDENERS, FAMILY AND FRIENDS**, June 2020 offers us a great opportunity to see the beautiful Pacific Coast and parts of the Canadian Rockies! Rocky Mountaineer has created an itinerary for us to see some of the most spectacular sites. You will receive the entire information package by email soon! In the meantime, please watch the sneak peek at:

<https://rockymountaineer.zoom.us/recording/share/GhVB5z7ceX9XpkjL1hyHFMcm7rBy7iVKcNhhImx3OywIumekTziMw>



***Proposed changes to BY-LAWS (remove strikethroughs) submitted by By-laws committee: Trisha Williams, Myra Healy, Kate Vogel, Teresa Boody, and Barbara Williams. 12/13/2019***

#### **ARTICLE IV OFFICERS**

Section 1. ELECTED OFFICERS of SCMGA shall be President, Vice President, Secretary and Treasurer ~~and Parliamentarian~~. These officers will perform the duties prescribed by the parliamentary authority adopted by SCMGA, where not in conflict with these by-laws.

#### **Section 3. DUTIES OF OFFICERS**

~~e. The PARLIAMENTARIAN shall serve as an adviser to the Board of Directors and Members on the proper conduct of a meeting. Shall provide interpretation of SCMGA's By-Laws, policies and procedures, and have a working knowledge of Roberts Rules of Order.~~

#### **ARTICLE VI BOARD OF DIRECTORS**

The Board of Directors shall consist of the President, Vice-President, Treasurer, Secretary, ~~Parliamentarian~~, Immediate Past President, and Committee Chair-persons. Board Meetings shall occur quarterly with special meetings of the Board called by the President as deemed necessary and may also be called by written request by a majority of the Board of Directors. Time and place shall be fixed in such a call.

"January is the quietest month in the garden. But just because it looks quiet doesn't mean that nothing is happening. The soil, open to the sky, absorbs the pure rainfall while microorganisms convert tilled-under fodder into usable nutrients for the next crop of plants. The feasting earthworms tunnel along, aerating the soil and preparing it to welcome the seeds and bare roots to come."

- Rosalie Muller Wright, Editor of Sunset Magazine, 1/99

Please consider the environment before printing this e-mail.

**Shelby County Master Gardeners' Association  
Minutes—8 November 2019**

- President Myra Healy welcomed all members to the meeting and gave a special welcome to the interns who just completed their coursework on Wednesday. Following the pledge, Myra recognized veterans Jim Busbin and Jim Sherbrook (not in attendance today) and all present honored both men with a round of applause for their service to our country.
- Myra introduced David Doggett, Advanced Master Gardener from Jefferson County, who presented the program, "Japanese Maples, The Aristocrat of Trees". The program was wonderfully organized and beautifully presented and there were many "oooohs" and "ahhhhs" throughout the presentation.
- Following the program, Myra called the business meeting to order. She called attention to the minutes from the October meeting which were printed in the Gardeners' Gab. There being no corrections, the minutes were approved as printed. Myra then called attention to the Treasurer's Report, also printed in the Gardeners' Gab. She noted that we are in firm financial standing at present as a result of a \$3500.00 check received for our part in hosting the annual conference in May. We also made about \$300.00 from the silent auction at the Harvest Festival. There were no corrections offered to the financial report and it was approved and filed for audit.

**Committee Reports:**

- By-laws—Trisha Williams: no report
- Communications—Heidee Vansant: no report
- Historian—Sandy Hixon: asked that members send pictures from the Shelby County Fair Master Gardener booth, which won first place this year
- Projects—Dennis Stanek: no report
- Sunshine—Tommie Harrison: no report but special recognition was offered for the beautiful cards she designs and the gracious message written in each
- Hospitality—Jim Strickland: no report but we do need a member to step into this position next year

**Old Business**

1. The Harvest Dinner in October was a great success with about 60 people in attendance.
2. Tommie Harrison thanked everyone that worked on the special project at Thompson Middle School. She reported that it was "over the top" with a wonderful turnout of Master Gardeners. Dennis was especially helpful with his special garden tool for digging holes! Deb Elliot also contributed with her great eye for design. The garden changed throughout development from a formal garden to a more casual setting. Among other plants, there are a number of crepe myrtles and over 300 daffodils.

**New Business**

1. The 2019 Shelby County Master Gardener Class graduated this past Wednesday. There were 20 graduates, nine of whom attended today's meeting.
  2. The Advisory Council met on Tuesday and discussed the Annual Conference to be held in Mobile, March 30—April 1
  3. Myra reminded everyone to record their hours before the end of the December
  4. We have a new Facebook page; it is a closed group. Search: Shelby County Alabama Master Gardener Active Members; the address is also listed in this month's GAB
  5. The current issue of Pathways has been sent via email
  6. The 2020 Slate of Officers were presented and approved:

President:	Kate Vogel
Vice President:	Jim Sherbrook
Secretary:	Teresa Boody
Treasurer:	Barbara Williams
- There being no further business, Myra asked Jim Strickland to close in prayer and a blessing for the meal.
- Respectfully submitted, Teresa Boody, Secretary

**Shelby County Master Gardeners' Association  
Minutes—13 December 2019**

- President Myra Healy welcomed all members and guests and led in the Pledge of Allegiance. She then called the meeting to order and called for a review of the November 8<sup>th</sup> minutes as printed in the Gardeners' Gab. Beth Glasgow asked for a correction of date in the minutes so approval was withheld pending correction. The corrected minutes will be printed in the January *Gardeners' Gab*. The financial report as printed in the *Gardeners' Gab* were approved and will be held for audit.

**Old Business**

1. Member dues need to be paid.
2. State dues will be submitted on January 1, 2020.
3. President Healy reminded all to enter their 2019 hours of service by midnight on December 31<sup>st</sup>. A list of 2019 meetings and speakers is printed on today's agenda.

**New Business**

1. 2020 President and Vice President nominations were presented for election
    - a. President: Kate Vogel
    - b. Vice President: Jim Sherbrook
    - c. The floor was opened for additional nominations but, there being none, nominations were closed and the slate was approved unanimously by voice vote. Both officers will be installed at the January 10, 2020 meeting and will assume duties at that time.
    - d. Barbara Williams, Treasurer, and Teresa Boody, Secretary, will serve their second year as officers
    - e. The Executive Board recommended removing the office of Parliamentarian from the slate of offices, as it is not needed. The Board recommended that a committee chairperson serve as Parliamentarian if needed. A written report was presented at the meeting and will be printed in the January *Gardeners' Gab* to inform the membership for discussion and vote at the January meeting. The Executive Board consists of: Myra Healy, Past President, Teresa Boody, Secretary, Kate Vogel, President, Trisha Williams, By-Laws chairperson, and Barbara Williams, Treasurer.
  2. SCMGA has been asked to man a booth at the Montevallo Arbor Day on February 28, 2020 at the Montevallo Recycling Center. Volunteers are needed to give out information about the MG program and answer questions from the public.
  3. Deb Elliot asked for volunteers for a workday at The Veterans' Memorial Arbor at Aldridge Gardens. The first scheduled workday, weather permitting, will be Friday, December 27, 2019. Volunteers are asked to sign a list today and bring their own tools and snacks to the workdays.
  4. On behalf of the Association, President Healy presented a Master Gardener Manual to Master Gardener Joy Dearing, who lost all of her gardening books in a house fire. Joy was thrilled to receive the replacement copy of her MG Manual.
  5. The next meeting will be on January 10, 2020. The new officers will be installed at this meeting. All are encourage to bring ideas and suggestions for 2020.
- Following a blessing for the meal, the meeting was adjourned and all celebrated in our annual Dirty Gardener game followed by a delicious covered dish lunch.
- Respectfully submitted, Teresa Boody, Secretary



# GLENN'S MAGIC CHILI

from the kitchen of Dennis Stanek, Master Gardener

Here is the real recipe but I rarely follow it to the letter each time. I like to use chipotle peppers when I have them. This is best if made a day before serving.

### Ingredients:

- 2½ pounds boneless beef, such as lean chuck or sirloin (preferred), cut into 1/4-inch cubes, or lean, coarsely ground beef
- 2 tablespoons Chef Paul Prudhomme's Meat Magic®
- 2 tablespoons chili powder
- 1 tablespoon dried oregano leaves
- 1½ teaspoons ground cumin
- 1 teaspoon salt
- 2 cups peeled and chopped tomatoes
- 2 cups very finely chopped onions
- 4 cups beef stock or water
- 2 teaspoons minced garlic
- 1½ teaspoons Chef Paul Prudhomme's Magic Pepper Sauce®
- 6 whole jalapeños with stems, about 4 ounces (see Note)
- 1 tablespoon corn flour
- 2 cups cooked pinto or red beans, optional



### How To Prepare:

Note: Fresh jalapeños are preferred; if you must use pickled ones, rinse as much vinegar from them as possible. If the jalapeño skins are broken, the seeds will escape into the chili, giving the dish extra heat. If you like very hot chili, break one or more of the peppers open near the beginning of cooking time.

In a 4-quart saucepan, combine the meat, Meat Magic®, chili powder, oregano, cumin and salt; stir well. Cover pan and cook over high heat for 4 minutes. Stir well, cover pan and cook for 1 minute. Stir in the tomatoes and onions, cover pan and cook for 10 minutes, stirring occasionally and scraping pan bottom well each time. Add 2 cups of the stock and the garlic and Magic Pepper Sauce, stirring well. Stir in the jalapeños. Bring to a boil, then reduce heat to maintain a simmer; simmer for 1 hour, stirring and scraping pan occasionally. (Be sure to stir gently so that the jalapeño skins don't break open.) Skim oil from top of chili mixture, then in a small bowl stir together the corn flour and 2 tablespoons of the liquid from the chili mixture until well blended. Add the corn flour mixture, 1 cup more stock and the beans, if desired, to the chili mixture, stirring well. Simmer for 40 minutes, stirring frequently and gently and making sure mixture doesn't scorch (once you add flour, it's more likely to scorch). Add the remaining 1 cup stock; cook and stir for 20 minutes more, being careful not to let chili scorch. Remove from heat and serve immediately in bowls, allowing about 1½ cups per serving. (Note: If you make this a day ahead, remove the jalapeños but reserve them to add back into the chili when reheating. Be brave and give 'em a try - they really add flavor to the chili!)

Copyright © 1984 by Paul Prudhomme



Please send Martha Grantham, 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. Martha 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 Martha:

Email: [Doggymamacj@gmail.com](mailto:Doggymamacj@gmail.com)  
 Phone: 205-663-8977



## JANUARY BIRTHDAYS

- 3—Julie Hobaugh
- 11—Mary Mattingly
- 12—Heidee Vansant
- 17—Jennifer Gregory
- 25—Jim Sherbrook



# SCENES FROM OUR VERY ENJOYABLE "DIRTY GARDENER" CHRISTMAS PARTY



Please consider the environment before printing this e-mail.

# MORE SCENES FROM OUR "DIRTY GARDENER" CHRISTMAS PARTY



Please consider the environment before printing this e-mail.

# MORE SCENES FROM OUR "DIRTY GARDENER" CHRISTMAS PARTY



Please consider the environment before printing this e-mail.



## MORE SCENES FROM OUR "DIRTY GARDENER" CHRISTMAS PARTY



Dennis got my vote for best sweater for the second year in a row!

~Heidee



SCMG's are **THE** best chefs!



Myra Healy presented the Alabama Master Gardener certificate to Nita Limdi.

### 2020 AMGA ANNUAL CONFERENCE—GARDENING WITH 20/20 VISION ATTENTION: Online registration opens January 1

The Conference registration packet will be included in Pathways Winter edition.

The conference will be held in the award-winning Renaissance Riverview Hotel on the Mobile waterfront. To make hotel reservations, please copy this link into your browser:

<https://www.marriott.com/event-reservations/reservation-link.mi?id=1555428147355&key=GRP&app=resvlink>

or call 1-800-922-3298 and ask for the AMGA 2020 Master Gardener room block.

- Come to Mobile for the March 30, Annual AMGA Conference. Rather, come to Mobile early and visit the stunning Providence Foundation Festival of Flowers March 26-29.
- The conference begins Monday, March 30, with three breakout sessions followed by our noon keynote speaker, Jim Martin, a veteran horticulturist, director of programs for the Charleston Parks Conservancy in South Carolina.
- The conference theme is *Gardening with 20/20 Vision*, so Jim will share his vision in "Gardening Future Forward." The new direction he is following is characterized by his organization, Compost in My Shoe, that began as a blog post about his garden and has grown into an enterprise in which he sells his garden produce weekly to faithful subscribers in a co-op. Jim's continuing interests are leading him into design, and growth of ornamentals. Martin's breakout session following his keynote address is titled "Star-Studded Floral Design Using Creative Structures, Grocery Store Fare, and Your Backyard."
- Another break-out session sharing a vision for gardening's future will be Bobby Green of Fairhope, AL, discussing the heat-tolerant native varieties growing on the Gulf Coastal Plain. Sarah Skelly, OD, will recommend strategies to care for our health and general well-being as gardeners. Evie Pankok of Florida will teach us recycling in our gardens, and Bill Finch shares his newest book, *Light in the Long Leaf*.
- Our Tuesday evening banquet speaker is storyteller and humorist Dolores Hydock who will share two gardening tales: "Becoming Mrs. Nash" and "Western Civilization." A film festival featuring environmental reporter, Ben Raines is scheduled, as well as the AMGA business meeting that will include electing new officers and the announcement of awards. These are just a few of the 18 speakers across 22 sessions offered.
- Admission discounts to Festival of Flowers will be available with your Master Gardener identification. Mobile is also home of two nationally and internationally acclaimed gardens, Bellingrath Gardens and Mobile Botanical Gardens, to which Master Gardeners will be offered discounts during conference week.





Celebrate 100 Years  
of Extending Knowledge  
and Changing Lives  
visit: [www.Extension100Years.net](http://www.Extension100Years.net)



## ALABAMA GARDENERS' CALENDAR FOR JANUARY

**Fruits and Nuts**—Set out apples, peaches, pears, and grapes. Start grafting pecans. Prune dormant trees. Plant shrubs and trees, including broadleaf, narrowleaf, and deciduous. Graft camellias in south Alabama. Spray all deciduous shrubbery with a dormant spray to control diseases and insects. Spray when weather is on warming trend.

**Lawns**—Soil test before setting up fertility program.

**Roses**—Visit nurseries and garden centers to select varieties. Start planting.

**Annuals and Perennials**—Plant hardy annuals.

**Bulbs**—Late plantings of Dutch bulbs will flower if planted now. Lilies of all types, except Madonna, may be planted. Check stored bulbs and discard rotten ones. Make indoor plantings of amaryllis, callas, and gloxinias.

**Miscellaneous**—Prune winter-damaged limbs. Give houseplants a bath in lukewarm water to remove dust. To keep poinsettias that have finished flowering, turn pots on their sides and let them dry completely. Cut them back lightly. Keep in a temperature of 55 to 60 degrees.

**Vegetable Seed**—Plant hardy vegetables, root crops, roots, and tubers in southernmost areas. Plant lettuce, cabbage, and broccoli in cold frames.

**Vegetable Plants**—Set out cabbage plants.

### Shelby County Master Gardeners' Association Board of Directors and Committee Chairs 2020

President	Kate Vogel	665-5878	<a href="mailto:kvogelashfield@aol.com">kvogelashfield@aol.com</a>
Vice-President	Jim Sherbrook	234-0291	<a href="mailto:jsherbrook@gmx.com">jsherbrook@gmx.com</a>
Secretary	Teresa Boody	991-6463	<a href="mailto:wmmmb@yahoo.com">wmmmb@yahoo.com</a>
Treasurer	Barbara Williams	670-0191	<a href="mailto:bwilliams1581@gmail.com">bwilliams1581@gmail.com</a>
Advisory Council Rep	Dennis Stanek	789-0341	<a href="mailto:dennis.stanek@att.net">dennis.stanek@att.net</a>
Awards Committee	Myra Healy	665-4554	<a href="mailto:myhealy42@gmail.com">myhealy42@gmail.com</a>
By-Laws Chair	Trisha Williams	410-5074	<a href="mailto:trisha325@gmail.com">trisha325@gmail.com</a>
Communications	Julie Hobough	767-8666	<a href="mailto:jlhobough@gmail.com">jlhobough@gmail.com</a>
Historian	Rebecca Poskey	641-3677	<a href="mailto:thrifysouthernchick@gmail.com">thrifysouthernchick@gmail.com</a>
Hospitality			
Newsletter Editor	Heidee Vansant	669-3284	<a href="mailto:heidee.vansant@gmail.com">heidee.vansant@gmail.com</a>
Nominating Committee Chair	Myra Healy	665-4554	<a href="mailto:myhealy42@gmail.com">myhealy42@gmail.com</a>
Projects Coordinator	Dennis Stanek	789-0341	<a href="mailto:dennis.stanek@att.net">dennis.stanek@att.net</a>
Sunshine Committee	Martha Grantham	663-8977	<a href="mailto:Doggymamacj@gmail.com">Doggymamacj@gmail.com</a>
Webmaster	Beth Glasgow	669-7981	<a href="mailto:bethglasgow@bellsouth.net">bethglasgow@bellsouth.net</a>

Please consider the environment before printing this e-mail.