

# 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 2

February 2020

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

Shelby County Master Gardeners,

"There can be no other occupation like gardening in which, if you were to creep up behind someone at their work, you would find them smiling." (Mirabel Osler)  
As your new president, I am excited about working with all of you who smile as you work for SCMGA.

We have several projects already in the works for this year. Members assisted Deb Elliot with planting a Veteran's Garden at Aldridge Gardens in January. SCMGA will have a booth at Montevallo's Arbor Day February 29. This is always a fun event with lots of gardening giveaways.

For our Valentine's Day meeting, we will make dish gardens and/or terrariums for ourselves or our Valentines. SCMGA will provide the soil and drainage materials. You may bring your own vessels, plants and decorations. We will also have these items available for a very nominal fee.

To get some ideas ahead of time, look at these websites:

<https://www.wikihow.com/Create-a-Dish-Garden>

<https://www.wikihow.com/Make-a-Terrarium>

At January's meeting, we planned projects and speakers for 2020. I welcome more input from you as we decide on a destination for a field trip in April and find dynamic speakers and interesting projects.

See you all on Valentine's Day!

*Late*

## **This Month's Meeting—Friday, February 14<sup>th</sup> @ 10am Shelby County Extension Office Auditorium**

- ♥ We will make dish gardens and/or terrariums for ourselves or our Valentines.
- ♥ SCMGA will provide soil and drainage materials.
- ♥ You may bring your own vessels, plants and decorations. We will also have these items available for a very nominal fee.
- ♥ Please bring a potluck dish to share.

## **NEXT MONTH'S MEETING** Friday, March 13<sup>th</sup> at 10am

### **TREASURER'S REPORT as of January 20, 2020**

Submitted by Barbara Williams, Treasurer

<b>Checks/Deposits</b>	<b>Balance</b>
Beginning Balance	\$5,809.32
Deposits	+326.00
Checks	-323.14
<b>Ending Balance</b>	<b>\$5,812.18</b>

### **Cards sent by Martha Grantham on behalf of SCMGA during January:**

#### **Birthdays:**

Julie Baumgartner  
Julie Hobaugh  
Mary Mattingly  
Heidee Vansant

Jennifer Gregory  
Jim Sherbrook

#### **Thinking of You:**

Rex Anderson

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.

facebook



The City of Montevallo is hosting an Arbor Day Celebration on February 29<sup>th</sup> at the Montevallo Recycling Center. Approximately 2,500 bare root tree seedlings which will include Pin Oak, White Oak, Southern Red Cedar, River Birch, Pignut Hickory, Flowering Dogwood, Red Maple, Redbud and Pecan will be given away. Door prizes may include potted trees and shrubs, mulch and potting soil. The event will start at 9:00am and will conclude at noon at the Montevallo Recycling Center, 1361 Spring Creek Road at the intersection with Overland Road.

## **Shelby County Master Gardeners' Association Minutes—10 January 2020**

President Myra Healy welcomed all present and led in the Pledge of Allegiance.

**MINUTES:** Due to a request for correction, approval of the November minutes was delayed from December. The minutes were deemed to be correct as printed for November. Dianne McKinnon moved to approve with a second from Jim Strickland. The minutes were approved on voice vote. The December minutes required a change as printed in the *Gardeners' Gab*. The correction was made. Sandy Hixson moved to approve with a second from Jim Strickland. The minutes were approved as corrected.

**FINANCIAL REPORT:** Barbara Williams submitted the financial report in the *Gardeners' Gab*. It was approved as submitted and will be filed for audit. Barbara reminded all members that have not paid their dues to do so immediately. Interns are associate members and do not have to pay dues until certified.

### **OLD BUSINESS**

1. Trisha Williams clarified the need to eliminate the office of Parliamentarian: The president may select someone to serve in the position or appoint an ad hoc committee if needed but this position is no longer necessary as an office. Beth Heerten moved to approve the removal with a second from Rebecca Poskey. Motion approved.
2. Myra recognized the 2019 Committee Chairpersons and thanked them for their service:  
Hospitality: Jim Strickland                                By-laws: Trisha Williams  
Historian: Sandy Hixson                                      Webmaster: Beth Glasgow  
Projects: Dennis Stanek                                      Sunshine: Tommie Harrison  
Communications & Newsletter Editor: Heidee Vansant
3. Deb Elliot offered thanks to those who worked Dec. 27<sup>th</sup> on the arbor at Aldridge Gardens. The workday for tomorrow has been cancelled due to predicted bad weather and reschedule for Friday, January 20<sup>th</sup>; those interested may contact Deb at 205-612-4073 (call or text).
4. There are enough volunteers for the MG booth for the Arbor Day event in Montevallo on February 29<sup>th</sup>.

### **NEW BUSINESS**

1. 4-H needs volunteers to judge public speaking, photography, graphic design, and interior design. The event is January 28<sup>th</sup> at 6:00 pm. Contact Myra if interested.
2. Myra presented Master Gardener certificates to Joy Morris and Michael Cooley (in absentia).
3. Only 48 people posted their hours for 2019 with some members not reporting enough hours to remain certified. It is imperative that members report hours to maintain certain personnel positions at Auburn.
4. President Healy conducted the Installation of the 2020 officers:  
President: Kate Vogel    Secretary: Teresa Boody  
Vice President: Jim Sherbrook                                      Treasurer: Barbara Williams

### ***Newly installed president Kate Vogel continued the business meeting***

5. Money is available from the state association, but requests must be submitted before the project/projects begin. It was suggested we could build a greenhouse on the property of the community garden in Montevallo and request funding for that project.
6. Articles, pictures, minutes and reports are due to Editor Heidee Vansant by the 20<sup>th</sup> of each month for publication in the *Gardeners' Gab*. Articles and reports must be approved by President Kate Vogel before submission to Heidee Vansant.
7. The State Advisory meeting is set for February 4<sup>th</sup> at Petals from the Past. Anyone may attend the meeting.
8. President Vogel called attention to the back of the agenda which listed a few program ideas and dates for 2020. Many suggestions and opinions were offered regarding plans for 2020. Kate told everyone to send her their requests.
9. Thirty-four members attended today's meeting.

There being no further business, Wayne Gainey offered thanksgiving for our meal today and the meeting was adjourned.

Respectfully submitted,  
Teresa Boody, Secretary

**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/GhVB5z7ceX9XpkIjL1hyHFMcm7rBy7iVKcNhhImx30YwIumekTziMw>



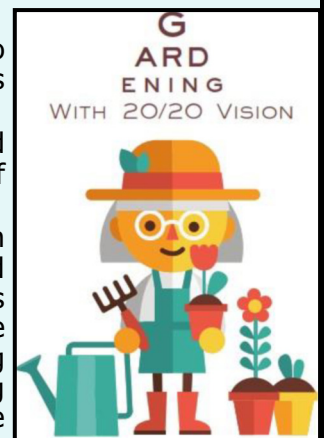
## **2020 AMGA ANNUAL CONFERENCE—GARDENING WITH 20/20 VISION ATTENTION: Online registration opened January 1**

The Conference registration packet was included in Pathways Winter edition. For a printable version of the conference brochure, [CLICK HERE](#).

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<sup>th</sup>, 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<sup>th</sup>, 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.



Please consider the environment before printing this e-mail.



## SWEET HOT PICKLES

from the kitchen of Kate Vogel, Master Gardener



### INGREDIENTS:

- 1 (46-ounce) jar whole dill pickles, drained
- 2 whole jalapeño peppers or more, to taste
- 1½ cups sugar
- 1 tablespoon white wine vinegar

### DIRECTIONS:

1. Cut pickles into ¼-inch thick slices.
2. Make 4 lengthwise slits in each jalapeño pepper, keeping stem end intact.
3. Layer pickle slices alternately with peppers in pickle jar.
4. Gradually add sugar, tapping bottom of jar gently on a flat surface to allow sugar to settle in jar.
5. Add vinegar.
6. Cover with lid, and let stand at room temperature 1 hour, shaking jar occasionally.
7. Chill 8 hours, shaking jar occasionally to ensure even pepper heat distribution.
8. Store in refrigerator.



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



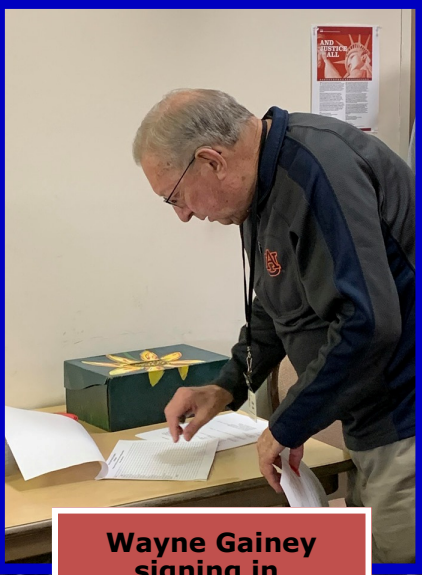
### FEBRUARY BIRTHDAYS

- 9—Joy Morris
- 15—Jennie Lucas
- 21—Myra Healy
- 22—Michael Cooley
- 23—Pat Hare
- 26—Merle Schukoske



**With the lengthening days which distinguish the third month of winter from its predecessor, come ardent desires for spring, and longings for the time of birds and flowers. An adventurous swallow too early flying from the south, a vision of snowdrops in the snow, a day of April warmth lit by a slant February sun, are all hailed with pleasure as harbingers of a more gracious season on its northland way.**  
~Oscar Fay Adams, January 1886

# SCENES FROM OUR JANUARY MEETING



**Wayne Gainey signing in.**



**Potluck dishes coming in!**



**Members join in saying the Pledge of Allegiance.**



**Myra Healy presented the Master Gardener certificate to Joy Morris.**



**Myra Healy thanked Merle Schukoske for her service as Parliamentarian.**



**Kate Vogel & Jim Sherbrook ready for Past Pres. Myra Healy to install them as the new President & VP.**



**New President Kate Vogel was installed by Past President Myra Healy.**



**2020 Officers: Pres. Kate Vogel, VP Jim Sherbrook, Treas. Barbara Williams, Sec. Teresa Body and Myra Healy, Past Pres.**



**Myra Healy turned over the second half of the meeting to President Kate Vogel.**



**New President Kate Vogel presented a gift to Past President Myra Healy for her service.**



**President Kate Vogel continued the January meeting.**



**Members brainstorm ideas for speakers/programs and field trips for 2020.**



When selecting new plants for your yard/garden this year, considering those listed on the next page. This list is from an article on the [aces.edu](https://www.aces.edu) website and was compiled for beekeepers but will attract many pollinators. If you want to read the entire article, you can go to:

<https://www.aces.edu/blog/topics/bees-pollinators/nectar-and-pollen-producing-plants-of-alabama-a-guide-for-beekeepers/>

If you want to attract honey bees, start by planting single-petaled blue, yellow, purple, and white blooms in your yard. Bees love many herbs too, like rosemary, sage, thyme, and lavender. It should go without saying, but please, please stop using pesticides!

~Heidee Vansant



**(Some) Nectar and Pollen Producing Plants of Alabama**

Plant	Nectar/Pollen	Dates of Bloom	Section
Alder ( <i>Alnus serrulata</i> )	P	February-March	E
Alfalfa ( <i>Medicago sativa</i> )	N&P	April-September	C&N
American Holly ( <i>Ilex opaca</i> )	N&P	April-June	E
Apple ( <i>Malus</i> spp.)	N&P	April-May	C&N
Aster ( <i>Aster</i> spp.)	N&P	June-November	E
Basswood ( <i>Tilia americana</i> )	N&P	June	N&C
Bitterweed ( <i>Helenium amarum</i> )	N&P	May-Frost	E
Black Locust ( <i>Robinia pseudoacacia</i> )	N&P	April-June	C&N
Blackberry ( <i>Rubus</i> spp.)	N&P	March-May	E
Blueberry ( <i>Vaccinium</i> spp.)	N	February-June	E
Boneset ( <i>Eupatorium</i> spp.)	N&P	June-October	E
Buckwheat ( <i>Fagopyrum esculentum</i> )	N	June-Frost	E
Carolina Laurel cherry ( <i>Prunus caroliniana</i> )	N&P	March-April	S&C
Chaste Tree ( <i>Vitex negundo</i> and <i>V. agnus-castus</i> )	N&P	June-July	E
Clover: Arrowleaf ( <i>Trifolium vesiculosum</i> )	N&P	April-July	E
Clover: Ball ( <i>Trifolium nigrescens</i> )	N&P	March-May	E
Clover: Crimson ( <i>Trifolium incarnatum</i> )	N&P	April-June	E
Clover: Red ( <i>Trifolium pratense</i> )	N&P	May-September	N&C
Clover: White ( <i>Trifolium Repens</i> )	N&P	April-September	E
Corn ( <i>Zea mays</i> )	P	June-October	E
Cotton ( <i>Gossypium hirsutum</i> )	N&P	July-October	E
Cottonwood ( <i>Populus deltoides</i> )	P	March-April	E
Dandelion ( <i>Taraxacum officinale</i> and <i>T. erythrospermum</i> )	N&P	February-June	E
Elm ( <i>Ulmus</i> spp.)	P	February-March	E
Florida Pusley (Also Florida Purslane) ( <i>Richardia scabra</i> )	N	June-Frost	S
Gallberry ( <i>Ilex glabra</i> )	N&P	May-June	S
Goldenrod: Flat-topped ( <i>Solidago</i> spp.)	N&P	July-October	E
Goldenrod: Plume type ( <i>Solidago</i> spp.)	N&P	July-October	E
Horsemint ( <i>Monarda</i> spp.)	N&P	June-September	E
Ironweed ( <i>Vernonia</i> spp.)	N&P	June-October	E
Palmetto ( <i>Sabal</i> spp.)	N&P	May-July	S
Peach ( <i>Prunus persica</i> )	N&P	March-April	E
Pear ( <i>Pyrus</i> spp.)	N&P	April	E
Plum ( <i>Prunus</i> spp.)	N&P	March-April	E
Redbud ( <i>Cercis canadensis</i> )	N&P	March-May	E
Red Maple ( <i>Acer rubrum</i> )	N&P	January-March	E
Smartweed ( <i>Polygonum</i> spp.)	N&P	May-November	E
Sourwood ( <i>Oxydendrum arboreum</i> )	N&P	June-July	E
Soybean ( <i>Glycine max</i> )	N&P	July-October	E
Sumac ( <i>Rhus</i> spp.)	N&P	May-September	E
Sunflower ( <i>Helianthus</i> spp.)	N&P	June-October	E
Sweetclover: Biennial White ( <i>Melilotus alba</i> )	N&P	April-October	C&N
Sweetclover: Biennial Yellow ( <i>Melilotus officinalis</i> )	N&P	April-October	C&N
TiTi ( <i>Cliftonia</i> spp.)	N&P	March-April	S
Tupelo ( <i>Nyssa</i> spp.)	N&P	April-May	E
Vervain ( <i>Verbena</i> spp.)	N&P	March-October	E
Vetch: Bigflower ( <i>Vicia grandiflora</i> )	N&P	April-June	E
Vetch: Hairy ( <i>Vicia villosa</i> )	N&P	May-September	E
Vetch: Narrowleaf ( <i>Vicia angustifolia</i> )	N&P	March-June	E
Vetch: Woollypod ( <i>Vicia dasycarpa</i> )	N&P	May-September	E
Willow ( <i>Salix</i> spp.)	N&P	April	E
Yellow-Poplar (Also Tulip-Poplar or Tulip tree) ( <i>Liriodendron tulipifera</i> )	N&P	April-June	E

**KEY**

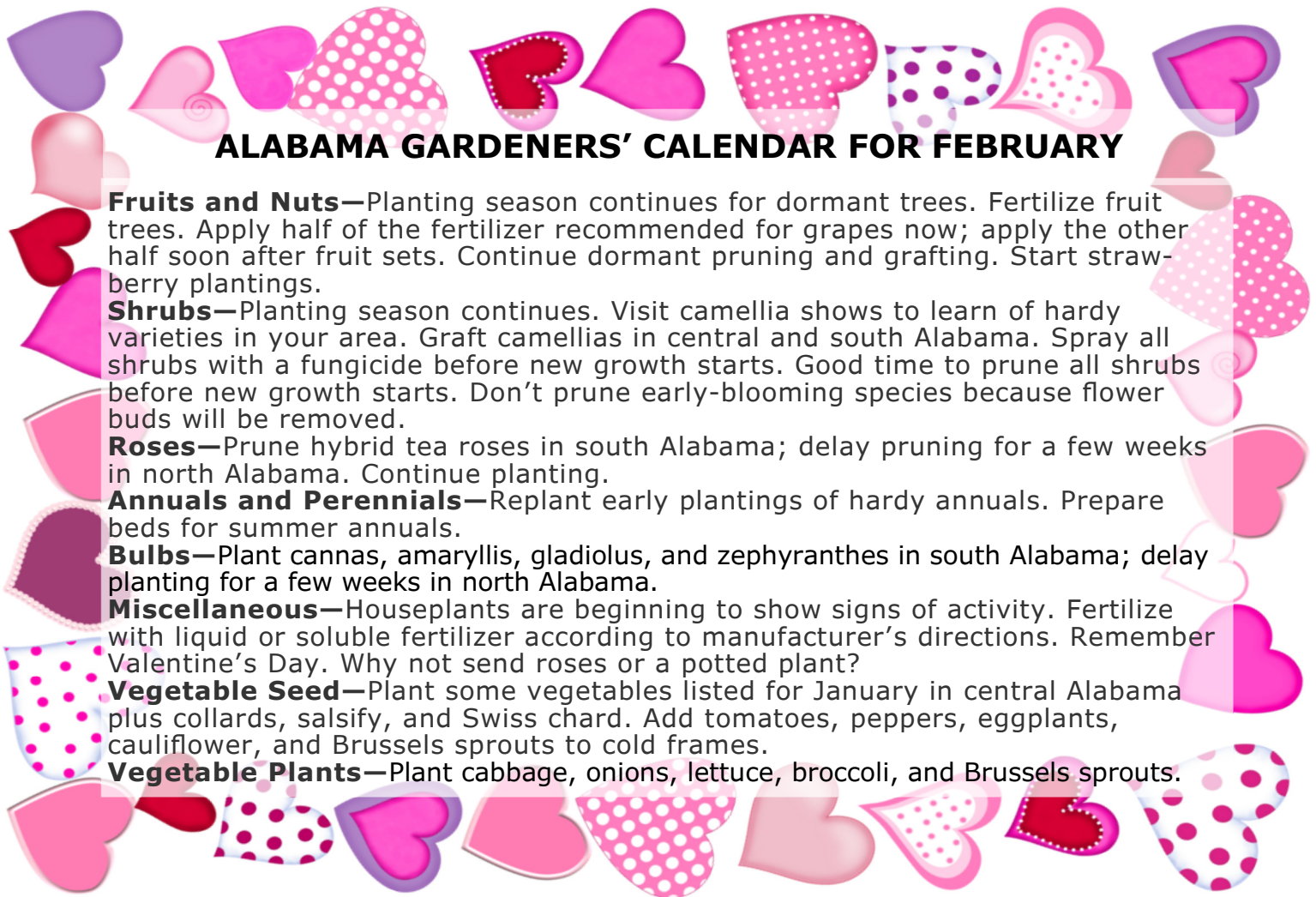
**N** = Nectar  
**P** = Pollen

**E** = Entire State  
**N** = North Alabama  
**C** = Central Alabama  
**S** = South Alabama





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## ALABAMA GARDENERS' CALENDAR FOR FEBRUARY

**Fruits and Nuts**—Planting season continues for dormant trees. Fertilize fruit trees. Apply half of the fertilizer recommended for grapes now; apply the other half soon after fruit sets. Continue dormant pruning and grafting. Start strawberry plantings.

**Shrubs**—Planting season continues. Visit camellia shows to learn of hardy varieties in your area. Graft camellias in central and south Alabama. Spray all shrubs with a fungicide before new growth starts. Good time to prune all shrubs before new growth starts. Don't prune early-blooming species because flower buds will be removed.

**Roses**—Prune hybrid tea roses in south Alabama; delay pruning for a few weeks in north Alabama. Continue planting.

**Annuals and Perennials**—Replant early plantings of hardy annuals. Prepare beds for summer annuals.

**Bulbs**—Plant cannas, amaryllis, gladiolus, and zephyranthes in south Alabama; delay planting for a few weeks in north Alabama.

**Miscellaneous**—Houseplants are beginning to show signs of activity. Fertilize with liquid or soluble fertilizer according to manufacturer's directions. Remember Valentine's Day. Why not send roses or a potted plant?

**Vegetable Seed**—Plant some vegetables listed for January in central Alabama plus collards, salsify, and Swiss chard. Add tomatoes, peppers, eggplants, cauliflower, and Brussels sprouts to cold frames.

**Vegetable Plants**—Plant cabbage, onions, lettuce, broccoli, and Brussels sprouts.

### 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:wtmmb@yahoo.com">wtmmb@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>