

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/>

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May 2020

The President Ponders...

Members,

We have cancelled our May 8th meeting since the extension office is still closed and no more than ten people can attend meetings. Vice-president Jim Sherbrook had a program on growing hemp planned for us and he will try to reschedule it in July.

Hopefully, we will be able to meet in June. If the state has opened, I will poll members beforehand to see if you think it is safe enough to meet.

In June we traditionally visit a member's garden and are looking for someone to host this. If you would love to show off what you've done with all your extra time in social isolation, please contact Jim at jsherbrook@sherpower.com. Since we will miss our Spring Plant Swap in May, bring what you have to share in June.

Be sure to join the [Shelby County Alabama Master Gardener Active Members](#) Facebook page to keep up with what is going on and especially for online education opportunities for CEU's.

Keep Well,

Kate

ALABAMA EXTENSION CONTINUES TO SERVE DURING CORONAVIRUS

<https://www.aces.edu/blog/topics/home-family/alabama-extension-continues-to-serve-during-coronavirus/>

Please consider the environment before printing this e-mail.

**SHELBY COUNTY MASTER GARDENERS' ASSOC.
MEETING MINUTES—10 APRIL 2020**

No meeting occurred due to COVID-19 social distancing. Therefore, no meeting minutes were recorded.

TREASURER'S REPORT as of April 18, 2020

Submitted by Barbara Williams, Treasurer

Checks/Deposits

Beginning Balance

Checks (2)

Ending Balance

Balance

\$5,383.87

-147.64

\$5,236.23

Help Spread
The Sunshine!



Cards sent by Martha Grantham on behalf of SCMGA during April:

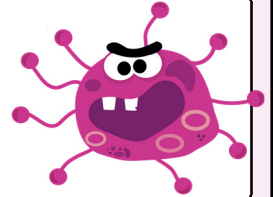
Birthdays:

Judy Cook
Sandra Harris
Edith Johnston

Diane McKinnon
Sybil O'Brian
Lisa Wade

I received this response to a question about some of our members making face masks for the community responders. I thought it should be shared to everyone. I know Gretchen Boling, Beth Glasgow, Cathie Long, Jennie Lucas, Paula Magnum and myself have been making masks for hospitals and first responders but there may be others who are doing this as well.

~Barbara Williams



Hello Barbara,

That is very nice of you to think about our communities. Usually we would not count making face masks, but because of these trying times we will count making masks as a volunteer activity for Master Gardeners. Please keep me posted on how many volunteers, how many masks you all make, and who received the masks, maybe we can write a story about the activity.

Thank you, Nelson D. Wynn, REA 205-438-3725

UPDATE: Thank you for your help! Paula Mangum is taking down your stories to share with Nelson for ACES. Please send the details of what you are doing to her at mangumpc@hotmail.com.

We have a private Facebook group called

"Shelby County Alabama Master Gardener Active Members"



This closed group was formed to help communicate with our members. Please check it out and ask to join if you are on Facebook.

facebook





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	https://aldridgegardens.com/education/events/eventsataldridge.html
BIRMINGHAM BOTANICAL GARDENS	https://bbgardens.org/#events
HOOVER PUBLIC LIBRARY	http://events.hooverlibrary.org/events
PETALS FROM THE PAST	https://petalsfromthepast.com/events-2/
SHELBY CO. MASTER GARDENERS	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/GhVB5z7ceX9XpkIjL1hyHFMcm7rBy7iVKcNhhImx3OywIumekTziMw>



GROW MORE VEGGIES – A NEW PROJECT FOR MASTER GARDENERS

Gardeners quickly learn that success is often cyclical determined by rain, drought, bounty and disease. However, novice gardeners, and those just curious about gardening, have a lot to learn, and we can all help to bridge that knowledge gap.

It's a tradition in many communities to "plant a row" for your neighbor - whether that's sharing plants as pass-alongs or sharing the crop after harvest. This time of year, Master Gardeners are usually in full force, supporting community-based vegetable gardens, but circumstances make that more difficult this year.

So, a group of ACES Agents and talented Master Gardeners have joined together to promote community-based gardening and deliver healthy vegetables to Alabamians. "Grow More Veggies" is a program with two primary goals:

- Provide practical advice and resources for people to successfully grow tasty produce in containers, raised beds and rows.
- Build on existing and increase opportunities for your contributions to your community's well-being – contributions as a Master Gardener Volunteer.

How it will work: Starting this month (May), ACES Agents will distribute specifications for materials needed to grow certain vegetables. If you want to grow tomatoes in a 5-gallon bucket, we'll suggest supplies needed, where to place it, when to plant it and how to maintain it. The same will be true for other crops (think beans, greens, cucumbers, peppers), and various garden sizes (large containers, raised beds and in-ground rows).

We'll offer everyone (individuals and MG Vol's) specific gardening instructions in several ways: brief on-line tutorials via video, Facebook postings, website printed materials, and one-on-one assistance through the Master Gardener Helpline. In addition, the Master Gardeners will solicit materials and supplies for people in need of garden kit assistance and will help coordinate distribution of the local harvest. We're confident there's plenty to be shared!

Stay tuned for further details in the next week or two and please share your ideas to "Grow" our project. Contact me at bethany@aces.edu.



CHICKEN POCKETS

from the kitchen of Diane McKinnon, Master Gardener

1 pocket per person

Place the following items or whatever you have on hand in a piece of aluminum foil:

- 1 boneless chicken breast per pocket
- Salt and pepper to taste
- Greek seasoning or Italian seasoning
- Slices of sweet onions, yellow squash, zucchini, red, green, yellow and/or orange bell peppers
- A few baby carrots and anything else you want to throw in.

Wrap tightly in aluminum foil, place in a dish and bake at 375°F for about 1 hour or until chicken is done.

Serve over rice or pasta of your choice with a side salad.



SCMG's please remember, we need recipe contributions from all of YOU.
Please send recipes to:
scmga.email@gmail.com



"May and June. Soft syllables, gentle names for the two best months in the garden year: cool, misty mornings gently burned away with a warming spring sun, followed by breezy afternoons and chilly nights. The discussion of philosophy is over; it's time for work to begin."
 ~ Peter Loewer



Please send Martha Grantham, Sunshine Committee 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
Phone: 205-663-8977



MAY BIRTHDAYS

8—Welton Edwards
 16—James Busbin, Jr.
 20—Ralph Cochran
 26—Paula Magnum



SEED-TO-TABLE COMMUNITY GARDEN PLANTING DAY—April 18, 2020

To celebrate National Gardening Day and Earth Day, four SCMG's and one spouse worked in SCMGA's beds in Montevallo's Seed-to-Table Community Garden Saturday, April 18th. The beds were cleaned, composted and planted. All produce goes to Shelby Emergency Assistance.

Usually University of Montevallo students clean out and compost the beds as part of their Big Event community give-back volunteer day but couldn't this spring. In addition to the four SCMGA beds, three beds tended by the Peewee Master Gardeners in Montevallo's Alabama First 4K class were prepared. ~Kate Vogel



Kate Vogel with walking onions originally donated by former SCMGA president Bill Legg.



Laurel Stanek watering



Projects Chair Dennis Stanek and Chris Cooley reusing the old garden gate to stake cucumbers.



Sandra Harris and Chris Cooley weeding.



A job well done.



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and Changing Lives
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ALABAMA GARDENERS' CALENDAR FOR MAY

FRUITS AND NUTS—Continue spray program. Keep grass from around trees & strawberries. Peaches & apples can still be budded.

SHRUBS—Newly planted shrubs need extra care now and in coming weeks. Don't spray with oil emulsions when temperature is above 85°F.

LAWNS—Now is the best time to start lawns from seed. Water new lawns as needed to prevent drying. Keep established lawns actively growing by watering, fertilizing, and mowing. Spray weeds in lawns with proper herbicide.

ROSES—Spray or dust for insects and diseases. Fertilize monthly with complete fertilizer or Rose special. Container-grown plants in flower may be planted. Prune climbing roses after the first big flush of flowering.

ANNUALS AND PERENNIALS—Late plantings of bedding plants still have time to produce. Watch for insects on daylilies.

BULBS—Summer bulbs started in containers may still be planted. Do not remove foliage from spring flowering bulbs. Do not let seed heads form on tulips and other spring flowering bulbs.

MISCELLANEOUS—Mulch new shrub plantings if not already done. Avoid drying out new shrub, tree, and lawn plantings.

VEGETABLE SEED—Plant heat-loving and tender vegetables. Start cauliflower, Brussels sprouts, and celery in cold-frame for fall garden.

VEGETABLES—Plant tomatoes, peppers, eggplants, and sweet potatoes.

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

President	Kate Vogel	665-5878	kvogelashfield@aol.com
Vice-President	Jim Sherbrook	234-0291	jsherbrook@gmx.com
Secretary	Teresa Boody	991-6463	wtmmb@yahoo.com
Treasurer	Barbara Williams	670-0191	bwilliams1581@gmail.com
Advisory Council Rep	Dennis Stanek	789-0341	dennis.stanek@att.net
Awards Committee	Myra Healy	665-4554	myhealy42@gmail.com
By-Laws Chair	Trisha Williams	410-5074	trisha325@gmail.com
Communications	Julie Hobough	767-8666	jlhobough@gmail.com
Fundraising	Joy Morris	847-307-9176	joymorris@outlook.com
Historian	Rebecca Poskey	641-3677	thrifysouthernchick@gmail.com
Hospitality	Julie Baumgartner	601-405-3343	julie_baumgartner@comcast.net
	Paula Mangum	306-7144	mangumpc@hotmail.com
Newsletter Editor	Heidee Vansant	669-3284	heidee.vansant@gmail.com
Nominating Committee Chair	Myra Healy	665-4554	myhealy42@gmail.com
Projects Coordinator	Dennis Stanek	789-0341	dennis.stanek@att.net
Sunshine Committee	Martha Grantham	663-8977	Doggymamacj@gmail.com
Webmaster	Beth Glasgow	669-7981	bethglasgow@bellsouth.net

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