

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. 14, Issue 9

September 2021

The President Ponders...

Members,

"September days are here. With summer's best of weather and autumn's best of cheer." Helen Hunt Jackson

This quote makes me feel more hopeful (dare I say cheerful?) despite what's going on in the world. My son and I agreed that we felt a wisp of a fall breeze yesterday morning.

Once again, I agonized over going ahead with our monthly meeting. As of August 25, twenty-three of you let me know that you did not feel comfortable with meeting September 10th which is totally understandable.

A couple of our planned spring/summer outdoor meetings were rained out and only eight or ten of us attended the other two. Things began looking up when seventeen of us were at the July meeting before COVID-19 numbers began spiking again.

Since ten of us said we would like to see the 4-H Center renovations, we bravely ventured out.

Hope to see you soon,

Kate

- NEXT MONTH'S MEETING -

- Dennis Stanek has agreed to host our annual member garden tour, which was rained out in June, in his garden on October 8th at 10 AM.



- His address is 717 Creekview Dr., Pelham, 35124.
- You can reach Dennis by phone 205-789-0341 or email at dennis.stanek@att.net if you have questions.

SHELBY MASTER GARDENERS' ASSOCIATION 13 AUGUST 2021—MINUTES

President Kate Vogel opened the meeting at 10 a.m. at the Extension meeting room. Seventeen were in attendance plus one guest/spouse and Extension Agent Nelson Wynn. All wore masks and were socially distanced.

Kate Vogel lead the pledge and updated us on officer changes:

1. VP Jim Sherbrook has had to resign.
2. Immediate Past President, Myra Healy and her husband have moved nearer to their children in Augusta GA; their new address is 5702 Tubman Road, Attling, GA 30802.

Treasurer Barbara Williams noted no changes in our treasury. She collected \$10 from those purchasing box lunches. Beth Glasgow delivered our box lunches.

Dennis Stanek has agreed to have the annual member garden tour, which was rained out in June, in his garden October 8th. He also updated us on the Advisory Council.

President Vogel presented three 2021 "virtual" interns with their Master Gardener certificates, badges and rosemary plants. They are Linda McCullough and Larry and Teresa Riddle.

April Stone, new Shelby County Extension Coordinator, introduced herself to the group.

Program:

Teresa Riddle explained how she and husband Larry, as interns, became interested in promoting a Pelham Community Garden. An increased interest in gardening during the COVID -19 sequestering was a catalyst. Research indicates that about 80% of new gardeners will continue gardening into next year.

The Pelham Park & Recreation Department, city & county departments, the Pelham Library (offering free bi-monthly programs provided by Master Gardeners), and the Senior Center (where MG Sylvia Sheffield offers hands-on monthly garden classes), will keep the program growing.

Larry Riddle passed out an Overview of the Pelham Community Garden Project (history, goals, Pelham groups involved) and "10 Steps to Starting a Community Garden". They are currently looking for sponsors and land. Goals are altruism, education, and camaraderie!

Our next meeting will be September 10th outdoors at the 4-H Center, Columbiana, to see the \$8.4 million renovation. Lunch in the dining room will be \$10.

New officers will be nominated in November. SCMGA will need a new president, vice-president, and secretary. Cindy Hearn is willing to be treasurer.

Respectfully submitted,
Karen Jensen (substitute secretary)

September 10th tour of the newly renovated Shelby County 4-H Center



President Kate Vogel presented an Alabama Master Gardener certificate and badge to Steve Nadeau.



President Kate Vogel opened the September meeting at the Shelby County 4-H Center



One of the cottages.



Inside view of one of the cottages.



View of the Chapel.



View of the Pavilion.

Looking for Volunteer Hours?

Spread the word! We still hear Alabama's MG's asking, "How can I get my hours this year?" Here's your friendly reminder.... Watch our Extension webinars and get your fill of CEU's. If your volunteer hours are on the shy side this year, then have no fear. A grand total of 25 reported hours, regardless of being Volunteer activities or CEU's, will fulfill your commitment for 2020. Maybe you've been watching these webinars already. Did you count them in your Volunteer Report? Tell everyone!

- https://www.facebook.com/AlabamaSmartYardsAlabamaExtension/videos/?ref=page_internal
- https://www.facebook.com/AlabamaExtensionAAMU/videos/?ref=page_internal
- https://www.facebook.com/LawrenceCountyextension/videos/?ref=page_internal
- https://www.facebook.com/AlabamaExtensionCommercialHorticulture/videos/?ref=page_internal
- https://www.facebook.com/acesfoodsafety/videos/?ref=page_internal

TREASURER'S REPORT as of August 20, 2021

Submitted by Barbara Williams, Treasurer

Checks/Deposits

	Balance
Beginning Balance	\$5,784.88
Deposits	132.00
Checks	252.70
Ending Balance	\$5,664.18

Help Spread
The Sunshine!



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

Birthday Cards:

Joy Dearing
Deborah Elliott
Cindy Hearn

Cathie (Mary) Long
Karen Mims

Thinking of you Cards:

Myra Healy
Jan Rogers

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 (may be rescheduled or cancelled due to COVID-19):



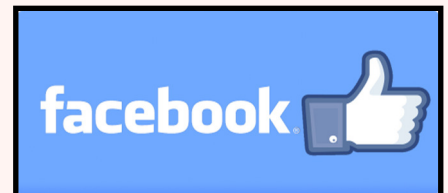
ALDRIDGE GARDENS	https://aldridgegardens.com/education/events/eventsataldridge.html
BIRMINGHAM BOTANICAL GARDENS	https://bbgardens.org/#events
HOOVER PUBLIC LIBRARY	http://events.hooverlibrary.org/events
PETALS FROM THE PAST	https://petalsfromthepast.com/events-2/
SHELBY CO. MASTER GARDENERS	https://mg.aces.edu/shelby/events

We have a Facebook group called

"Shelby County Alabama Master Gardener Active Members"



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



Cindy Hearn is spearheading **Grow More, Give More** for SCMGA. Please let her know what you are doing.

cindy_hearn@att.net or 205-531-0616

The Lady and Sons Okra and Tomatoes By Paula Deen

From the Kitchen of: Heidee Vansant, Shelby County Master Gardener

- **Prep time:** 10 minutes
- **Cook time:** 40 minutes
- **Servings:** 5

Ingredients

- 4 slices bacon diced into small pieces
- 1 small peeled and chopped onion
- 2 cloves minced garlic
- 2 (15-ounce) cans diced tomatoes
- 1 tablespoon chicken base (I used "Better Than Bouillon")
- 1 tablespoon sugar
- 3 cups fresh okra, cut into 1-inch pieces (may use frozen, if fresh not available)
- fresh ground black pepper



Directions

Cook bacon slightly. Sauté onion and garlic with bacon until tender. Add tomatoes, chicken base, sugar, and pepper. Stir well and let simmer for about 20 minutes. Adjust seasoning if needed. Meanwhile wash okra and cut into pieces. Add the okra and simmer until okra is done, about 20 more minutes (less if using frozen okra.)

Note from Heidee: I've had my best year ever for okra! This recipe was a welcome change and very good. I grew several varieties of okra, but one outshined the rest—"Heavy Hitter". Google and read its story/history.

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



Sending Sunshine and Smiles!

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.

Deborah Elliott
Here are two ways for you to get in touch with Martha:

Email: Doggymamacj@gmail.com
Phone: 205-663-8977



SEPTEMBER BIRTHDAYS

11—Wayne Gainey
13—Gina Dodson
18—Diane Pigg
20—Sandy Hixon
24—Elizabeth York
29—Kate Vogel



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Shelby County Master Gardeners
Community Organization

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ALABAMA GARDENERS' CALENDAR FOR SEPTEMBER

FRUITS AND NUTS—Cut out old blackberry canes after fruiting and then fertilize and cultivate for replacement canes. Remember to order new catalogs for fruit selection.

SHRUBS—Layer branches of hydrangea.

LAWNS—Watch for diseases. Mow regularly, water as needed.

ROSES—Keep roses healthy and actively growing. Hybrid teas and floribundas may need slight pruning to prevent scraggly appearance.

ANNUALS AND PERENNIALS—Water as needed. Plant perennials and biennials.

BULBS—Divide old iris plantings and add new.

MISCELLANEOUS—Keeping flowers, shrubs, trees, and lawns healthy is the major task during this month. This means close observation for insects and diseases. Water.

VEGETABLE SEED—Plant turnips, rutabagas, beans, and peas in South Alabama.

VEGETABLE PLANTS—Plant cabbage, collards, cauliflower, Brussels sprouts, broccoli, and celery.

Shelby County Master Gardeners' Association Board of Directors and Committee Chairs 2021

President	Kate Vogel	205-665-5878	kvogelashfield@aol.com
Vice-President			
Secretary	Teresa Boody	205-991-6463	wtmmb@yahoo.com
Treasurer	Barbara Williams	205-70-0191	bwilliams1581@gmail.com
Advisory Council Rep	Dennis Stanek	205-789-0341	dennis.stanek@att.net
Awards Committee			
By-Laws Chair	Trisha Williams	205-410-5074	trisha325@gmail.com
Communications	Julie Hobough	205-767-8666	jlhobough@gmail.com
Fundraising	Joy Morris	847-307-9176	joymmorris@outlook.com
Grow More, Give More	Cindy Hearn	205-531-0616	cindy_hearn@att.net
Historian	Rebecca Poskey	205-641-3677	thrifysouthernchick@gmail.com
Hospitality	Julie Baumgartner	601-405-3343	julie_baumgartner@comcast.net
	Paula Mangum	205-306-7144	mangumpc@hotmail.com
Newsletter Editor	Heidee Vansant	205-669-3284	scmga.email@gmail.com
Nominating Committee Chair			
Projects Coordinator	Dennis Stanek	205-789-0341	dennis.stanek@att.net
Sunshine Committee	Martha Grantham	205-663-8977	Doggymamacj@gmail.com
Webmaster	Beth Glasgow	205-669-7981	bethglasgow@bellsouth.net

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