

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.alabamamga.org

Alabama MG Program: www.aces.edu/mg

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

Vol. 16, Issue 2

February 2023

The President Ponders...

A survey to explore the wishes of the Association's members was collected in January. Vice President Elizabeth York will provide the details at the February Business Meeting. I do want to refer us all back to "The AMGGA Volunteer Training Handbook. The first pages and the first chapter give detailed information on "Understanding the Program", "Our Purpose, Objectives, and Relationships", and "Community Volunteer Projects". I have found myself re-reading as each question comes up. Please review the chapter. It states we are an educational arm of Extension. MGs should evaluate the educational usefulness of the project and determine if the organization has enough time to devote to it. Our fundraising should support Extension and we should avoid funding beautification projects unless they are for county Extension offices or places MGs meet frequently. A few meetings back we discussed Projects in several business meetings. These discussions included:

1. Alabama Master Gardener Program Volunteer Request Form and asked that if members knew of a project needing member volunteers, please use this form. (Chapter 1 appendix 1.D)
2. Leadership is needed for projects, ownership of projects, and willingness of membership volunteers to serve with the project's committee.

The handbook uses the word sanctioned. Seed to Table Community Garden is our only sanctioned project (prior to Covid Era and going back over ten years). I used the word owned, or official and should have said sanctioned. This project serves our entire county, meets our Extension Mission of educational, benefits the GMGM initiative, was awarded money from the state association project funding committee last year and received the highest number of Survey Votes to continue. This was providing we improve the maintenance plan. This does not mean we should not participate in volunteer opportunities and report hours while using our MG certification to advise or participate in other projects. It does not mean that we cannot fairly consider other project requests. I hope this clarifies.

Cindy



SHELBY COUNTY MASTER GARDENERS' ASSOCIATION

Meeting: Friday, February 10th
at the Extension Center auditorium

Our meeting speaker is Jason Kirby, Historian at Birmingham Botanical Gardens.
He will be speaking on the "Gardens of Emily Dickinson."

Please consider the environment before printing this e-mail.

Shelby County Master Gardeners' Association Minutes
13 January 2023—Business Meeting

- President Cindy Hearn opened the meeting at 10:10 a.m. and welcomed all in attendance, followed by the Pledge of Allegiance.
- Cindy asked for corrections to the December minutes which were printed in the *Gardeners' Gab*. Hearing none, the minutes stand as written.
- Treasurer Lisa Wade gave the treasurer's report which was accepted as read.
- Lynn Webb from the AMGA Board visited the meeting. She reminded members to complete entering their volunteer hours for the year.
- Cindy provided updates of projects including:
 1. Montevallo Community Garden
 2. Seed to Table, which needs additional volunteers to keep it viable. Kate Vogel volunteered to oversee volunteers and will develop a one day per week work schedule for volunteers which will result in volunteers only having to work one day per month.
 3. A new project near the petting zoo in Oak Mountain Park was announced.
- Teresa Riddle announced the Pelham Garden Club meetings are held on the fourth Thursday of the month, at 10:00 a.m., in the Pelham Library.
- Cindy announced Nelson's SECRET retirement party on January 31st, 2:00-4:00 p.m., at the Extension Office auditorium. VP Elizabeth York is coordinating volunteers for the event and passed around a sign-up sheet. A card was also sent around for signatures.
- Lisa Wade and Trisha Williams gave updates on our membership.
- Barbara Williams announced RSVP needs volunteers to assist with their outings.
- Trisha Williams announced Chilton County will hold their Water Festival on March 17th.
- Elizabeth York provided a reminder to take advantage of early registration for the State Conference which will be held April 3-5 in Tuscaloosa.
- Cindy reported the committee is working on establishing a 501c3 tax exempt status. This committee will meet after today's business meeting.
- Elizabeth York presented a program on the Grow More Give More program.
- The meeting was adjourned by the president at 11:25 a.m.

Submitted by,
Sylvia Sheffield, Secretary

Volunteers are needed for Master Gardener Series—Alabaster Senior Center. Classes are one hour and maximum attendance is twelve students.

Anyone interested in presenting a class, please contact Karen Mims (mimskaren@yahoo.com)

Thanks!
Karen





TREASURER'S REPORT for December 20, 2022—January 31, 2023

Lisa Wade, Treasurer



Deposits

Donation	\$ 100.00
Dues	\$ 88.00
Total deposits	\$ 188.00

Checks:

AMGA dues	\$ (280.00)
Reach for the Stars	\$ (27.00)
Gift card for Nelson Wynn's retirement	\$ (304.00)
Partial refund for duplicate dues payment	\$ (10.00)
Total checks	\$ (621.00)

Beginning Balance	\$ 5,899.29
Deposits	\$ 188.00
Checks	\$ (621.00)
Ending Balance	\$ 5,466.29

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

Help Spread
The Sunshine!



Birthday Cards:

Julie Baumgartner
Jennifer Gregory
Mary Mattingly

Larry Riddle
Heidee Vansant
Phylliss Weaver

Get Well/Thinking of You:

Edith Johnston

SCMGA 2023 UPCOMING DATES

Feb 2— May 11	New Intern Class to be held in Chilton County (we only have 3)	Apr 3-5	AMGA State Conference, Bryant Conference Center, Tuscaloosa
Feb 10	10 am, SCMGA Meeting	Apr 14	10 am, SCMGA Meeting
Feb 15	Grow in Grow Bags Lunch&Learn (free), 12-1 pm, Trinity Presbyterian Church, 610 Fairview Ave. Prattville, AL Water provided. Bring sack lunch.	Apr 16	1-3 pm, Celebration of Life for George & Pat Hare-Aldridge Gardens
Feb 21	Autauga Co. Extension 334-361-7273 Spring 2023 Community Garden Expo 8 am-4 pm, Birmingham Botanical Gardens Lecture Hall	Apr 19	Nature Journaling for Everyone 9-11 am Brierfield Ironworks State Park, \$10 https://www.aces.edu/event/naturejournaling-for-everyone/
Feb 28	Deadline for Regular Registration Postmarked for AMGA Conf. (\$170)	May 12	10 am, SCMGA Meeting
Mar 1-15	Deadline for Late Registration Postmarked for AMGA Conf. (\$180)	Jun 9	10 am, SCMGA Meeting
Mar 10	10 am, SCMGA Meeting	Jul 14	10 am, SCMGA Meeting
		Aug 11	10 am, SCMGA Meeting
		Sep 8	10 am, SCMGA Meeting
		Oct 13	10 am, SCMGA Meeting
		Nov 10	10 am, SCMGA Meeting
		Dec 8	10 am, SCMGA Meeting & Dirty Gardener Gift Exchange

We have a Facebook group called
"Shelby County Alabama Master Gardener Association"

facebook



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



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Martha Stewart's CARROT CAKE

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

Ingredients:

- 2½ cups all-purpose flour, plus more for pans
- 1 teaspoon baking powder
- 1 teaspoon baking soda
- 1 teaspoon ground cinnamon
- ¾ teaspoon coarse salt
- ½ teaspoon ground ginger
- ¼ teaspoon ground nutmeg
- 3 sticks (12 ounces) unsalted butter, room temperature, plus more for pans
- 1 cup packed light-brown sugar
- ½ cup granulated sugar
- 3 large eggs
- 2 teaspoons pure vanilla extract
- ½ cup water
- 1 pound carrots (8 to 10 medium carrots), peeled and shredded on a box grater or in a food processor (about 2¾ cups)
- 2 cups toasted pecans (1 cup finely chopped for batter, 1 cup coarsely chopped for decorating sides of cake)

Directions:

1. Preheat oven to 350° F. Butter three 9-inch round cake pans. Line bottoms with parchment paper, and butter parchment. Dust with flour, tapping out excess. Whisk together flour, baking powder, baking soda, cinnamon, salt, ginger, and nutmeg.
2. Beat butter and sugars with a mixer on medium speed until pale and fluffy. Add eggs, one at a time, beating well after each addition. Beat 3 minutes. Add vanilla, water, and carrots. Beat until well combined, about 2 minutes. Reduce speed to low, and add flour mixture, then finely chopped pecans.
3. Using a serrated knife, trim rounded top of 2 cakes. Place one trimmed cake, cut side up, on a serving platter. Spread 1 cup frosting over cake. Top with second trimmed cake, cut side down. Spread 1 cup frosting over cake. Top with remaining cake. Spread remaining frosting over top and sides. Gently press coarsely chopped pecans onto sides of cake. Refrigerate 1 hour before serving.

Easy Cream Cheese Frosting

Ingredients:

- 16 ounces cream cheese, room temperature
- 2 teaspoons pure vanilla extract
- 2 sticks (16 tablespoons) unsalted butter, cut into small pieces and brought to room temperature
- 2 pounds confectioners' sugar, sifted

Directions:

1. Beat cream cheese and vanilla with a mixer on medium speed until creamy. Gradually add butter, beating until incorporated after each addition.
2. Reduce speed to low. Gradually add confectioners' sugar, and beat until fluffy and smooth.

This is the recipe I used for Nelson's retirement party except I made it in a 12"x 18" pan & multiplied the recipe 2.5 times.



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



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



FEBRUARY BIRTHDAYS

6—Sydney Ellis
9—Joy Morris
26—Sue Owen
26—Merle Schukoske

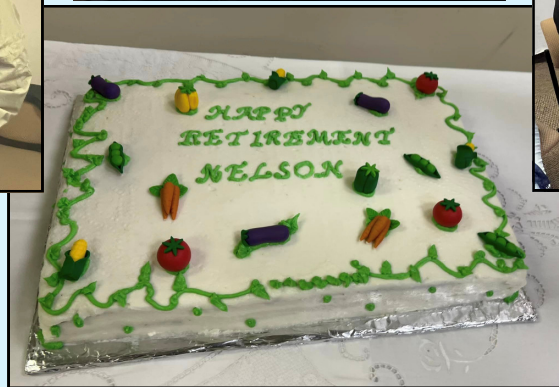


It's time to make plans to attend the **2023 AMGA Annual Conference in Tuscaloosa** on April 3-5, 2023! We have a great mix of speakers lined up! Keynote speakers will be Dr. Doug Phillips of the Emmy Award-winning television series "Discovering Alabama" and Felder Rushing—who has published several garden-related books. Other speakers will address topics from Col. (Ret.) Duane Lamb (landscape design at the University), Vince Wallace (advantages of honey bees), Dr. Andy Coleman (Urban Turtle Project), Dr. Larry Davenport (botany), Dr. R. Scot Duncan (Alabama's biodiversity), native azaleas, and more!

This may be a little earlier than usual for the Annual Conference, but we were able to arrange much more affordable lodging rates and better availability of rooms than any other date. Early Bird registration has closed, but we are looking forward to seeing you there!

The 2023 AMGA Conference registration information is now on the AMGA website <https://alabamamga.org/2023-amga-conference-registration/>. The preferred registration method is online. The hotel information is included.

SCENES FROM NELSON WYNN'S RETIREMENT PARTY



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SCENES FROM NELSON WYNN'S RETIREMENT PARTY





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



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 2023

President	Cindy Hearn	205-531-0616	cindy_hearn@att.net
Vice-President	Elizabeth York	205-616-7648	e.york24@yahoo.com
Secretary	Sylvia Sheffield	623-262-3972	ssheffield108@gmail.com
Treasurer	Lisa Wade	205-902-4174	lisatwade@yahoo.com
Advisory Council Rep	Kate Vogel	205-665-5878	kvogelashfield@aol.com
Awards Committee	Trisha Williams	205-410-5074	trisha325@gmail.com
By-Laws Chair	Trisha Williams	205-410-5074	trisha325@gmail.com
Communications	Heidee Vansant	205-669-3284	scmga.email@gmail.com
Fundraising	Joy Morris	847-307-9176	joymorris@outlook.com
Grow More, Give More			
Historian	Lisa Wade	205-902-4174	lisatwade@yahoo.com
Hospitality	Julie Baumgartner	601-405-3343	julie_baumgartner@comcast.net
Newsletter Editor	Heidee Vansant	205-669-3284	scmga.email@gmail.com
Nominating Comm. Chair	Cindy Hearn	205-531-0616	cindy_hearn@att.net
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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Please Note: A new membership form must be completed each year and returned even if you don't owe dues.



**ALABAMA MASTER GARDENER ASSOCIATION, INC.
MEMBERSHIP FORM**

Dear Master Gardener,
The Alabama Master Gardener Association (AMGA) Board of Directors has set \$10.00 as the annual membership dues for January 1—December 31, 2023. Members are very important to this Association, and we hope that you will join or renew your membership. To remain on the state membership list and to continue to receive Garden Pathways newsletter, please complete this application and give it, along with your dues, to your local association Treasurer ASAP.

Association Name: **Shelby County Master Gardeners' Association**

Name: _____ Office: _____

Address: _____
City _____ Zip _____

Phone #'s:
Home: _____ Work: _____ Cell: _____

Email Address: _____

State and Local Newsletters will be delivered online. County of Residence _____

Birthday: Month _____ Day: _____

Class Information: County of Training: _____ Year of Training: _____

In Case of Emergency Call: _____ Phone _____

TYPE of MEMBERSHIP (Check one)

	Local Dues	State Dues
<input type="checkbox"/> Active Member	\$12.00	\$10.00
<input type="checkbox"/> Provisional Member (Interns)	No fee	No fee
<input type="checkbox"/> Lifetime Member	\$240.00	\$150.00
<input type="checkbox"/> Associate Member (Extension Employee)	No fee	No fee
<input type="checkbox"/> Honorary Member	No fee	No fee

Amount Enclosed: \$ _____

MAKE CHECK PAYABLE TO S.C.M.G.A. AND MAIL TO:

**S.C.M.G.A.
c/o Lisa Wade
24 South Forty Road
Alabaster, AL 35007**