

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 4

April 2023

The President Ponders...

HAPPY BIRTHDAY, MASTER GARDENERS: Celebrating 50 years beginning at Washington State University with 300 volunteers has grown to over 84,000 in communities across the country. Thank you Master Gardeners for showing up to share gardening in Shelby County and across the State of Alabama. Share your memories on our Facebook page or The Alabama Smart Yards – Alabama Extension page.

Thank you to those who worked to get the beds cleaned up and covered in Montevallo for the Seed to Table Shelby Emergency donation gardens and the children's gardens. The committee is working on growing starts for these beds. Kate Vogel is designing the Children's garden to coordinate with the gardening book she will be reading. This is a great outreach and educational opportunity for these preschool students.

See you on April 14th, it sounds like a fun time.

Cindy

SHELBY COUNTY MASTER GARDENERS' ASSOCIATION



Meeting—Friday, April 14th 10:00 a.m. at the Extension Center auditorium

We will be doing a recap of the State AMGA meeting, POTLUCK and PLANT SWAP.

Start digging up plants you want to swap. If you did not sign up for food because you missed the March meeting and would like to bring something, please call Elizabeth York at (205) 616-7648.

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TREASURER'S REPORT February 2023

Lisa Wade, Treasurer



Deposits

Dues	\$ 22.00
Total Deposits	\$ 22.00

Checks

Barbara Williams	\$ (46.04)
Friends of Birmingham Botanical Garden	\$ (50.00)
AMGA Dues	\$ (40.00)
Total Checks	\$ (136.04)

Beginning Balance

Beginning Balance	\$ 5,466.29
Deposits	\$ 22.00
Checks	\$ (136.04)

Ending Balance

\$ 5,352.25

Help Spread
The Sunshine!



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

BIRTHDAY CARDS:

Carolyn Key	Dennis Stanek
Teresa Riddle	Trisha Williams
Sylvia Sheffield	

International Master
Gardener Conference



June 18 – 22, 2023
Overland Park, Kansas

CELEBRATE • EDUCATE • GROW

Early Registration ends March 1 Saving \$62

COME BE INSPIRED

FOR DETAILS GO TO:
<https://imgc2023.com/>

Questions?
Call us at
913-715-7034
Monday-Friday,
9am–5pm CST
or email us

registration@imgc2023.com

Registration Rates

EARLY BIRD	REGULAR
Nov. 8, 2022 until March 1, 2023	After March 1, 2023
\$397	\$459

Includes

- ✓ 6 Catered Meals
- ✓ 49 Concurrent Sessions
- ✓ 5 Keynote Presenters
- ✓ Garden Thyme Marketplace Trade Show

Add-on Events (Additional Fees)

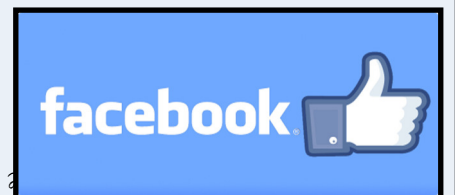
- 12 Tours
- 11 Workshops
- 3 Evening Featured Speakers
- Tour of Private Gardens
- Self-driving Tour (Drive Yourself)

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.



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SHELBY COUNTY MASTER GARDENERS' 2023 DATES

Apr 3-5	AMGA State Conference, Bryant Conference Center, Tuscaloosa	Jun 9	SCMGA Meeting
Apr 14	SCMGA Meeting—Plant Swap & Pot Luck	Jul 14	SCMGA Meeting
Apr 16	Celebration of Life for George & Pat Hare 1—3 pm Aldridge Gardens	Aug 11	SCMGA Meeting
May 12	SCMGA Meeting—Bring plants to the extension center for Seed to Table Garden, Montevallo	Sep 8	SCMGA Meeting
May 13	Planting day at Seed to Table Garden, Montevallo	Oct 13	SCMGA Meeting
		Nov 10	SCMGA Meeting
		Nov 30	Deadline to pay 2024 Dues
		Dec 8	SCMGA Meeting & Dirty Gardener Gift Exchange

Shelby County Master Gardeners Association Business Meeting—March 10, 2023

- President Cindy Hearn opened the meeting at 10:00 a.m., introduced guests, welcomed all in attendance, and led the Pledge of Allegiance.
- Cindy asked for corrections to the February minutes which are printed in the *Gardeners' Gab*. Hearing none, the minutes stand as written.
- Lisa Wade gave the treasurer's report.
- Julie Baumgartner is stepping down as hospitality chair.
- Bethany O'Rear, Extension Agent, has agreed to place a Grow More Give More pop-up garden at the Shelby County Alabaster Senior Center to improve seniors' access to fresh produce.
- Trisha Williams provided an update on Chilton County's Waterfest event.
- Barbara Williams presented the volunteer opportunity spreadsheet.
- Kate Vogel reported that we received a thank-you letter from Jason Kirby for our honorarium for being our speaker last month.
- The April meeting will be a recap of the AMGA conference followed by the potluck and plant swap.
- Karen Mims asked for speakers for the Alabaster Senior Center gardening class.
- Teresa Riddle provided an update on the Pelham Garden Club's walking trail project. Their meeting date is the fourth Thursday, not the second Thursday, as printed in the *Gardeners' Gab*.
- Grow More Give More—Alabama Extension would like for home gardeners to register their gardens at www.aces.edu. Please record the amount of food given away from your home garden in the same section that you record your MG hours.
- Seed to Table discussion by Cindy:
 - ◊ Joy announced upcoming workdays—May 12th is the day to bring plants to the extension center for May 13th which is planting day.
 - ◊ Cindy clarified that we are responsible for the four MG raised beds.
 - ◊ We need to work with the City of Montevallo and local organizations to make it a true community garden.
 - ◊ Kate described the emergency services to which we give the produced raised.
 - ◊ A State pre-k program is housed at the church where the garden is located with garden beds designed for children.
 - ◊ Cindy reported there are ten beds currently not being used.
 - ◊ We should look at ways to bring the community garden to the attention of Montevallo residents.
 - ◊ Cindy "passed the cup" to raise funding needed to have the grass cut at the community garden site. This resulted in \$105, enough to mow the grass three times.
- Trisha Williams awarded the following recognition pins to Shelby County Master Gardeners for their volunteer hours:
 - ◊ Bronze (100 - 299 hours): Jeannie Bubbett, Sue Owen, Larry Riddle, and Teresa Riddle.
 - ◊ Silver (300 - 499 hours): Martha Grantham
 - ◊ Gold (500 - 999 hours): Beth Glasgow, Karen Mims, and Dennis Stanek
 - ◊ Gold Badge (1,000 - 1,999): Kate Vogel—to be awarded at State Conference.
- Elizabeth York canceled the potential outing to Pursell Farms due to cost and distance.
- A program on pruning was presented by Deb Elliott, Shelby County Master Gardener and published author.
- The meeting was adjourned by the president at 11:31 a.m.

Submitted by,
Sylvia Sheffield, Secretary

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Seven-Layer Salad

From the Kitchen of: Wayne Gainey, Shelby County Master Gardener

Ingredients:

Lettuce (prefer either green leaf or romaine, thoroughly washed, trimmed)

½ cup bell pepper (prefer red & green)

8-10 slices bacon, cooked crispy, crumbled

½ cup celery, chopped

1 can English peas (uncooked, frozen are even better)

Mayonnaise

1 Tablespoon sugar

½ cup onion (prefer green onions, but regular onions are OK)

8 oz Shredded cheese (prefer cheddar, but mixture acceptable)

1 fresh tomato (optional)

Directions:

Hand tear lettuce to fill large bowl up to ½ of bowl. Sprinkle chopped pepper, chopped onions and chopped celery over lettuce in layers. Drain peas; sprinkle over layers. Spread mayonnaise carefully, covering top. Sprinkle sugar over top. If desired, chop fresh tomato and add on top. Sprinkle cheese on top. Lastly, sprinkle bacon on top for final layer. ENJOY!

I went back a few years and pulled this recipe out of the archives.



SCMG's 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

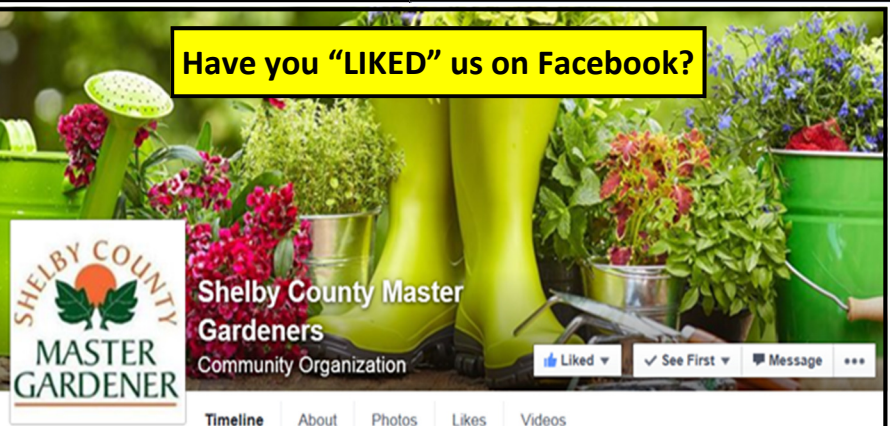
Phone: 205-663-8977



APRIL BIRTHDAYS

15—Lisa Wade
27—Steve Nadeau

Have you "LIKED" us on Facebook?



As I write this, wonderful things are happening at and for the Community Gardens in Montevallo. Currently the Seed to Table (S2T) and the children's garden beds are being solarized, while in some of your fellow master gardeners' homes seedlings have been started. The S2T committee has been hard at work planning for a success growing season. We have had two workdays to prep the beds and will plant the garden on May 13th. The plan for the S2T beds is high production of the most used produce to include beans, tomatoes, cucumbers, and squash. To meet this goal, we will be implementing the square foot gardening technique, along with succession and companion planting. I have personally had great success harmonizing these approaches and am hopeful that the S2T garden will result in the same; so much so that when the community drives by, it will inspire them to rent their own bed at the community garden.

The children's garden has been inspired by the book *A Garden for a Groundhog* by Lorna Balian, as well as the three sisters' approach with some eye-candy for the passersby of mammoth sunflowers.

Every week we will need help watering, maintaining success and harvesting. A signup sheet will be at our next meeting. If you would like to join the committee or volunteer, please contact me, Joy Morris, at (joymorris@outlook.com or 847-307-9176).

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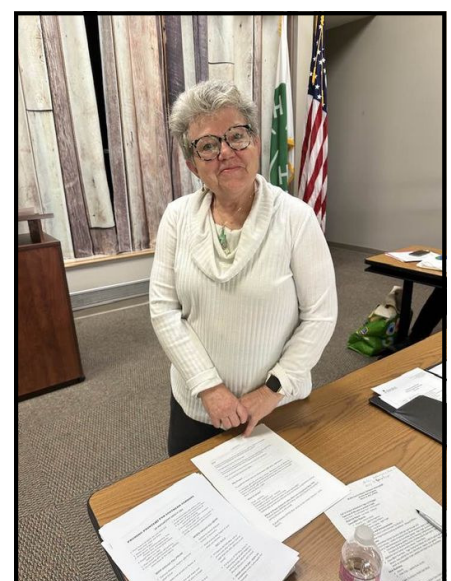
Larry and Teresa Riddle



Martha Grantham w/Trisha Williams



Dennis Stanek & Karen Mims



Kate Vogel





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ALABAMA GARDENERS' CALENDAR FOR APRIL

FRUITS & NUTS—Season for strawberry planting continues. Start spray program for all fruits. Plant raspberries & blackberries and continue budding apples and peaches.

SHRUBS—Prune spring flowering shrubs after flowering. Fertilize azaleas and camellias. When new growth is half completed, spray all shrubs with a fungicide.

LAWNS—Planting continues. New lawns may need supplementary watering. Also, fertilize at 3- to 6-week intervals. Keep ryegrass cut low, particularly if over planted on Bermuda lawns.

ROSES—Watch for insects & diseases. Keep old flower heads removed. Plant container-grown plants from nurseries or garden centers.

ANNUALS & PERENNIALS—Plant early started annuals or bedding plants from nurseries or garden centers. Divide mums or root cuttings. Dig & divide dahlias.

BULBS—Plant gladiolus, fancy-leaved caladiums, milk & wine lilies, and ginger & gloriosa lilies. Feed bearded iris with super-phosphate & spray for borers. Avoid cutting foliage of narcissus or other bulbs until it has turned brown naturally.

MISCELLANEOUS—Spray camellias, hollies, etc., for scale insects. Carefully water newly planted shrubs and trees. Pinch out tips of new shoots to promote more compact shrubs.

VEGETABLE SEED—Plant tender vegetables such as beans, corn, squash, melons, & cucumbers. Plant heat-loving vegetables in lower South Alabama.

VEGETABLE PLANTS—Plant tomatoes, peppers, eggplants, sweet potatoes, and parsley.

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	joymmorris@outlook.com
Grow More, Give More			
Historian	Lisa Wade	205-902-4174	lisatwade@yahoo.com
Hospitality			
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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