

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 7

July 2023

The President Ponders...

I am very proud of our group and the individual initiatives members are taking. We have reached close to 100 people between the Shelby County picnic, one "Ask a Master Gardener" event at Lowe's in Alabaster and the booth at Helena Market Day on a June Saturday. Helena Market shoppers were eager to stop and see what we had, talk about their gardens, and learn about what Master Gardeners do. There was interest in the upcoming class at all of these events and the SCMGA was invited to visit the garden of a Rosarian in Helena in the fall. Special thanks to John Vanderford, Barbara Williams, Martha Grantham, Deb Elliott, Julie Baumgartner and Elizabeth York for working with these events. We have an educational session set in July for the Seniors at the Mary Ellen Estes Senior Community Center. The pop-up community garden in Wilsonville initiated by Barbara Williams will be set up and planted by the time you get this as well. They also are very excited to benefit from the Extension Grant. Karen Mims classes are set at Alabaster Senior Center for the next few months and she is looking for speakers into the fall. I encourage every member to find one topic they like and create a short class. These folks are friendly and gracious to our speakers. There is no shortage of places to help, you are needed and wanted.

There has been so much squash from the Seed to Table Community Garden in Montevallo. A zucchini seems to grow from bloom to 3 pounds in 48 hours. The tomatoes are beginning to ripen. Shelby Emergency Assistance is truly a blessing for citizens with this produce. Thanks to Elizabeth York, Kate Vogel, Dennis Stanek, Martha Jones, my grandson, and a few other drop-in helpers. The community also has beautiful gardens growing.

As always "thank you" to each of you for all you do.

Cindy

SHELBY COUNTY MASTER GARDENERS ASSOCIATION

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



Our July meeting speaker will be Jason Powell from Petals of the Past speaking on Soil Management

We will follow up with a Tomato Variety Tasting (Bring a couple of your homegrown tomatoes and seeds if you have them to share) and an ICE CREAM SOCIAL

Elizabeth York (205) 616-7648

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TREASURER'S REPORT MAY 2023

Lisa Wade, Treasurer



Deposits

Total Deposits \$ 0.00

Checks

Kate Vogel (silent auction items) \$ (32.95)

Auburn Transformation Garden \$ (500.00)

Dennis Stanek (lawnmower repair for Seed to Table) \$ (50.45)

Total Checks \$ (583.40)

Beginning Balance

Deposits \$ 5,147.25

Checks \$ 0.00

Ending Balance \$ (583.40)

Ending Balance \$ 4,563.85

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

Help Spread
The Sunshine!



BIRTHDAY CARDS:

Karen Jensen

The Dial of Flowers

By Felicia Hemans

'T WAS a lively thought to mark the hours,
As they floated in light away,
By the opening and folding of flowers,
That laugh to a summer's day.

Thus had each moment its own rich hue,
And its graceful cup and bell,
In whose colored vase might sleep the dew,
Like a pearl in an ocean shell.

In such sweet signs might the time have flowed
In a golden current on
Ere from the garden, man's first abode,
The glorious guests were gone.

So might the days have been brightly told—
Those days of song and dreams—
When shepherds gathered their flocks of old
By the blue Arcadian streams.

So in those isles of delight, that rest
Far off in a breezeless main,
Which many a bark, with a weary quest,
Has sought, but still in vain.

Yet is not life, in its real flight,
Marked thus—even thus—on earth,
By the closing of one hope's delight,
And another's gentle birth?

O, let us live, so that flower by flower,
Shutting in turn may leave
A lingerer still for the sunset hour,
A charm for the shaded eve.

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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SCMGA UPCOMING DATES

Jul 14	SCMGA Meeting—Ice Cream Social, Tomato Tasting, Jason Powell, Petals From The Past	Nov 10 Nov 30 Dec 8	SCMGA Meeting Deadline to pay 2024 Dues SCMGA Meeting & Dirty Gardener Gift Exchange
Aug 7-8	Leadership Webinar		
Aug 11	SCMGA Meeting		
Sep 8	SCMGA Meeting		
Oct 12	Blount Co. MG Fall Conference		
Oct 13	SCMGA Meeting		

Shelby County Master Gardeners Association Business Meeting—9 June 2023

- In the absence of the president, Vice President Elizabeth York opened the meeting at 10:00 a.m., welcomed all in attendance, and led the Pledge of Allegiance.
- VP Elizabeth asked for corrections to the May minutes which are printed in the *Gardeners' Gab*. Hearing none, the minutes stand as written.
- Lisa Wade gave the treasurer's report, it stands as read and as posted in the *Gardeners' Gab*.
- Old Business:
 - ◇ Seed to Table project update
 - ◇ Karen Mims reported on the Alabaster Senior Center's gardening project including the pop-up garden and asked for volunteers to provide programs.
 - ◇ Kate Vogel is now a member at large for the Alabama State Master Gardeners' Association. She reported on her first meeting.
- New Business
 - ◇ VP Elizabeth reported the senior center at Heardmont Park has requested assistance with fall gardening in their raised beds.
 - ◇ The residents at Somerby Senior Living have requested assistance with setting up plantings for their raised beds in the fall.
 - ◇ Organizers of the Helena Farmers market requested that we set up a Shelby County MGA booth every Saturday through August. Cindy and Elizabeth will determine if this will be every weekend. Our first booth will be June 17th. We need volunteers.
 - ◇ The Lowe's in Alabaster has requested that Master Gardeners be available to answer questions on Saturday morning, June 17th.
 - ◇ Barbara Williams announced the setup of a pop-up garden in Wilsonville. Help will be needed on June 22nd, 8:00 am at the library.
 - ◇ VP Elizabeth reported that the next Master Gardening Class is available for Master Gardening website. She expressed the importance of letting people know about the class whenever possible to get more members which are needed to help with the many requests for gardening support. Heidee will send out an email about these volunteer opportunities
- VP Elizabeth provided a program on the Transformation Garden at Auburn.
- The meeting was adjourned by VP Elizabeth at 11:05 a.m.

Submitted by,
Sylvia Sheffield, Secretary

Shelby County Master Gardeners worked hard to install a new **Grow More Give More Pop-Up Garden at the Wilsonville Library Community Garden** this week. Many thanks go to Shelby County Master Gardeners Martha Jones, Sue Owen, Barbara Williams, Elizabeth York and visiting Master Gardeners Becky Large from Auburn and Ruth Martin from Texas for their hard work and expertise. The project was helped greatly by Jessica Evans and Kay Arnold of the Shelby County Extension office. All of this project was made possible by a grant from Bethany O'Rear of ACES and facilitated by John Vanderford of Shelby County ACES. A big thanks goes out also to the librarians of the Wilsonville Library, Amanda Killingsworth and Robin Griffin, who will take care of the garden for the community.



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More Photos from Wilsonville Library's GMGM Pop-Up Garden setup.



VOLUNTEER HOURS and CEU GUIDELINES

- Certified Master Gardeners are to record 25 VOLUNTEER hours and 10 CONTINUING EDUCATION UNITS (hours) each year. SCMGA garden programs do count as CEUs.
- MG Interns need 50 VOLUNTEER hours to become certified.
- Volunteer hours should fit into the volunteer categories on the Service Report site. The current hour categories guide is available to download on the AMGA website: <https://alabamamga.org/aces-volunteer-http-mg-aces-edu-wp-content-uploads-sites-5-2015-01-volunteer-hours-categories-guide-sr-pdfhours-guide/>
- CEUs are to be programs from reputable sources such as:
 - 1) Programs and videos from Alabama Cooperative Extension Service and other regional Extension services.
 - 2) Garden programs at nurseries like Petals from the Past
 - 3) Garden programs such as the ones at the Birmingham Botanical Gardens and Aldridge Gardens.
 - 4) Programs from well-known garden experts such as P. Allen Smith and Joe Lamp'1 to name a few.



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

Happy
BIRTHDAY

JULY BIRTHDAYS

12—Beth Glasgow
16—Gretchen Boling
21—Barbara Williams
23—Linda McCullough





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ALABAMA GARDENERS' CALENDAR FOR JULY

FRUITS & NUTS—Protect figs and other ripening fruit from birds.

SHRUBS—Continue to root shrub cuttings until late in the month and mulch to keep soil moist. Remove faded blooms promptly from crape myrtle and other summer-blooming plants.

LAWNS—Watch for diseases. Mow regularly. Water as needed.

ROSES—Keep roses healthy and actively growing. Apply fertilizer. Wash off foliage to prevent burning if any fertilizer falls on plants.

ANNUALS & PERENNIALS—Water as needed to keep plants active.

BULBS—Iris and spider lilies may be planted late this month.

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

VEGETABLE SEED—Plant beans, field peas, rutabagas, squash, New Zealand spinach, and Irish potatoes. Plant cabbage, collards, broccoli, cauliflower, Brussels sprouts, and celery for the fall crop.

VEGETABLE PLANTS—Plant tomatoes in Central and North Alabama.

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Shelby County Master Gardeners' Association Board of Directors and Committee Chairs 2023

President	Cindy Hearn	205-531-0616	cindy_hearn@att.net
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