

# GARDENERS' GAB



## Shelby County Master Gardeners' Assoc.

Website: <https://mg.aces.edu/shelby/>

E-mail: [SCMGA.email@gmail.com](mailto:SCMGA.email@gmail.com)

Meetings: Monthly, 2<sup>nd</sup> Friday at 10:00 AM  
Shelby County Extension Office—Columbiana, Alabama

Like Us on Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/thescmga>

Private Facebook Group for Members:

<https://www.facebook.com/groups/738788633247421>

Alabama MGA: <https://www.alabamamga.org>

Alabama MG Program: [www.aces.edu/mg](http://www.aces.edu/mg)

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

Vol. 17, Issue 4

56 Members

April 2024

Spring brings warmer weather and our garden beds begin to take shape. We remember things we planted last year as the plants stick their heads up out of the ground. This month is busy. On April 8<sup>th</sup> there was a total solar eclipse. I remember the last one. Day turns to night, sort of. The 16<sup>th</sup> is our workday at Brierfield Iron Works Historical State Park followed by lunch at Kate Vogel's house. On this work day we need everyone to come. We are planting in front of one of the log cabins, pruning a large crepe myrtle, and spreading mulch. We also have a window box to plant. More information will come about this day. The AMGA annual conference in Daphne is the 22<sup>nd</sup>—24<sup>th</sup>. I hope you will attend. I submitted our Association for the newsletter award. Heidee does a great job on the *Gardeners' Gab*.

See you at our meeting on the 12<sup>th</sup>. This is our potluck lunch, so don't forget to bring your food.

*Elizabeth*



## Next Month's Meeting Friday, May 10<sup>th</sup> at 10:00 AM

Speaker: Henry Lewis, Capital City MG, "Square Foot Gardening".  
Kerry Smith (Alabama Extension's Master Gardeners coordinator) and  
Devonne Ellis will be joining our meeting.

Elizabeth York  
205-616-7648

Please consider the environment before printing this e-mail.

**Shelby County Master Gardeners Association**  
**8 March 2024—Meeting Minutes**

- The regular monthly meeting of SCMGA Members was held on Friday, March 8, 2024, at 10:00 AM in the Auditorium of the Shelby County Extension Office at 54 Kelly Lane, Columbiana, AL.
- Officers: Elizabeth York, President; Gregg Adair, Vice President; Sue Owen, Treasurer; Martha Jones Secretary
- Call meeting to order and Pledge of Allegiance—Elizabeth York
- Introduction of Speaker—Gregg Adair
- Speaker: Diana Fortner—Making of a Moon Garden
- Reading of Minutes as noted in March *Gardeners' Gab* Newsletter—Elizabeth York
- Treasurer's Report—Sue Owen as noted in March *Gardeners' Gab* newsletter
- Home Grounds Extension Agent—Jacob Turner

**Committee Reports:**

- Nominating: Cindy Hearn
- Projects: Dennis Stanek—update on Montevallo Gardens, Grace Klein Community in Chelsea, Brierfield Iron Works Historical State Park in Bibb County
- Communications: Elizabeth York, Heidee Vansant
- Audit, By-laws, Hours and Awards: Trisha Williams
- Membership: Sue Owen
- AMGA Advisory Council: Kate Vogel
- Hospitality: Marisa Masters
- Sunshine: Vacant (Barbara Williams Interim)
- Fundraising: Vacant
- Historian: Gregg Adair

**Old Business:**

- MOU must be completed and signed by everyone

**New Business:**

- Volunteer Opportunity—4H Monday, March 11<sup>th</sup>, Julie Yocum 205-864-5103
  - Association Interest Survey 2024—Gregg Adair handed out surveys and asked everyone to complete and give back to him.
  - Budget 2024 was presented and passed unanimously, see attached budget sheet.
  - Plant Sale/Lunch and Learn/Fall Conference 2025/Selling Plants at vendor booths—discussion was to try and do both plant sale and vendor booth, Elizabeth will check with Kerry Smith about the 2025 Fall Seminar.
  - Speaking Engagement in Columbiana March 14<sup>th</sup>
  - Booth at Heardmont Park Senior Center Festival—Thursday, June 13<sup>th</sup>. We got permission from Heardmont Park to sell plants.
  - Dennis Stanek discussed the Project with Bibb County at Brierfield Iron Works. We will have a member workday on Tuesday April 16<sup>th</sup>.
  - Grace Klein ACRES in Chelsea (2840 CR 39, Chelsea, AL 35043)—The following are dates/times/tasks for assistance/guidance volunteer times:
    - 3/11 - Dennis will be there and anyone else who would like to volunteer let Dennis know. Our role is to oversee. We can do some of the actual work if you would like. Teams will be there to assist.
    - 3/11 - Riverwood (25 people 9 AM—4 PM)
    - 3/16 - Dawson (16 people) time TBD
    - 3/23 - Samford Give Back (25 people) 10 AM—1 PM
    - 3/26 - Charity Chapel (10 people) 9 AM—4PM
- \*\*\*Tasks include building compost area, preparing hillside for wildflowers, seeding, laying down weed block around prepared gardens, building a platform for water tote/irrigation, covering weed block with mulch, finalizing beds for planting.

**Upcoming Dates:**

- April 12 SCMGA Meeting—**Pot Luck Lunch**. Speakers Karen Mitchell and Leonora Robertson "Container Gardening"
- April 22—24 AMGA State Conference [www.baldwinmastergardeners.com](http://www.baldwinmastergardeners.com)
- October 3 Blount County Fall Seminar

**Lost Badge????** [www.aces.edu/go/badges](http://www.aces.edu/go/badges) fill out form and pay a \$10 replacement cost

Respectfully submitted,  
Martha Jones, Secretary



## TREASURER'S REPORT FEBRUARY 2024

Sue Owen, Treasurer



### Deposits:

Dues	\$ 35.00
<b>Total Deposits</b>	<b>\$ 35.00</b>

### Checks:

#1293 AMGA Dues	\$ (10.00)
#1296 Silent Auction 2024 AMGA Conference	\$ (100.00)
<b>Total Checks</b>	<b>\$ (110.00)</b>

### Beginning Balance:

Deposits	\$ 4,699.65
Checks	\$ 35.00
<b>Ending Balance:</b>	<b>\$ (110.00)</b>
	<b>\$ 4,624.65</b>

Help Spread  
The Sunshine!



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

#### BIRTHDAY CARDS:

Carolyn Key  
Sylvia Sheffield  
Dennis Stanek  
Trisha Williams

#### SYMPATHY CARD:

Larry Riddle

## Where the Natives Have Gone



Blount County Master Gardeners' Fall Conference

October 3, 2024 (4 CEUs)

Locust Fork Baptist Church  
30580 AL-79, Locust Fork, AL 35097

Blount County Master Gardeners will host their Fall Conference, "Where The Natives Have Gone," on October 3, 2024 from 8:30 AM to 3:30 PM at Locust Fork Baptist Church, 30580 AL-79, Locust Fork, AL 35097. The Registration Form is here: <https://alabamamga.org/blount-county-master-gardeners-fall-conference/>

Cost \$40, including lunch by Lulu's—Chicken or pork barbeque and sides (please note vegetarian preference on registration form)

For information contact Sherilyn Osborne 205-382-0791 (leave a message) or sherilynosborne@bellsouth.net

We have a Facebook group called

**"Shelby County Alabama Master Gardener Association Members Only"**

<https://www.facebook.com/groups/738788633247421>

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



**RECIPE:** 7-Layer Greek Dip  
**FROM THE KITCHEN OF:** Heidee Vansant, Shelby County Master Gardener

**INGREDIENTS:**

- 1 (10 ounce) container hummus spread
- 1 teaspoon Greek seasoning
- 5 ounces feta cheese
- 3 ounces Kalamata olives, pitted and sliced
- 1 large English cucumber, diced
- 1 16 oz. tzatziki sauce
- 1 pint grape tomatoes, diced
- 3 green onions, chopped
- 2 (8 ounce) packages pita chips

**DIRECTIONS:**

Spread hummus evenly in a pie dish and sprinkle with Greek seasoning. Layer feta cheese over hummus, breaking up any large pieces. Layer

Kalamata olives and diced cucumber on top. Spread tzatziki sauce carefully on top. Top with tomatoes and green onions. Chill until ready to serve.

**Cook's Note:**

You can purchase Greek seasoning at specialty food stores or make your own! You can also opt to not add any at all.

**Easy Tzatziki Sauce:**

<https://www.allrecipes.com/recipe/232393/easy-tzatziki-sauce/>



## SCMGA UPCOMING DATES

April 16	Workday at Brierfield Iron Works Park with lunch at Kate Vogel's	Jul 12	SCMGA Meeting
Apr 22-24	AMGA State Conference	Aug 9	SCMGA Meeting
May 10	SCMGA Meeting-Henry Lewis, Capital City MG, "Square Foot Gardening"	Sep 13	SCMGA Meeting
May 21	Tuesday, Lunch & Learn Larry Kronk "Growing a Tomato"	Oct 3	Blount County Fall Seminar (see page 3)
Jun 14	SCMGA Meeting	Oct 13	SCMGA Meeting
		Nov 8	SCMGA Meeting
		Dec 13	SCMGA Meeting & Dirty Gardener Gift exchange



Please send Barbara Williams, interim 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. Barbara 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 Barbara:

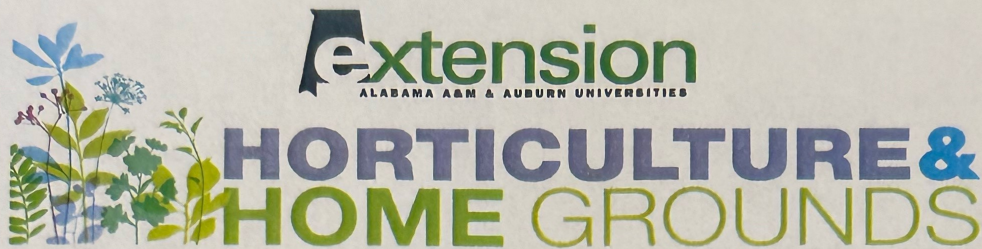
Email:  
 bwilliams1581@gmail.com  
 Phone: 205-902-1137



## APRIL BIRTHDAY

27—Steve Nadeau

Have you "LIKED" us on Facebook?  
 (this is our public page)  
<https://www.facebook.com/groups/1295873251386288/>



## Become a Master Gardener Volunteer

Do you love plants? Do you love to volunteer your time? Then you are a great candidate for Master Gardener Intern Training! You do not have to be a garden expert. Simply come with a desire to learn and grow! This is a hybrid course requiring online and in-person participation. For more information visit: <https://www.aces.edu/go/mgv> or contact your County Extension Office.

## Important Dates

### Apply & Pay

June 1st - 30th

Course Fee: \$150

### Background Checks

July 1st - 30th

Directions provided via Email

### Class Dates

August 8th - November 7th

## How to Apply

1. Visit: <https://www.aces.edu/go/mgschedule> to view the County Training Schedule.
2. Apply here: <https://www.aces.edu/go/mgapply> or scan the QR code.
3. After completing step 2, follow the email instructions to pay the \$150 course fee.
4. Submit a background check.
  - **Please note:** Once a background check is submitted, only partial refunds of \$100 are available due to administrative fees.

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[www.aces.edu](http://www.aces.edu)

I'm excited to say we get to have a class this fall. Please spread the news. You will find the class schedule at the right and how to apply on the previous page.

~Elizabeth York

<b>Master Gardener and Garden-U Class Schedule</b>	
<b>Date(s)</b>	<b>Module/Topic</b>
<u>Aug. 8</u>	Training and Introduction
<u>Aug. 12-16</u>	Soil and Composting
<u>Aug. 19-23</u>	Basic Botany
<u>Aug. 26-30</u>	Integrated Pest Management
<u>Sept. 2-6</u>	Insects
<u>Sept. 9-13</u>	Plant Diseases
<u>Sept. 16-20</u>	Plant Care and Management
<u>Sept. 23-27</u>	Woody Ornamentals
<u>Sept. 30—Oct. 4</u>	Home Lawns and We... Management
<u>Oct. 7-11</u>	No Classes
<u>Oct. 14-18</u>	Vegetables
<u>Oct. 21-25</u>	Fruits
<u>Oct. 28—Nov. 1</u>	Annuals and Perennials
<u>Nov. 4-8</u>	Plant Diagnostics



**Shelby County  
Senior Picnic**

**'24**

# **SPRING FLING**

**FOOD. MUSIC. FUN.**

**April 24, 2024**

**9:00-1:00**

**Shelby County Exhibition Center  
86 Argo Rd, Columbiana, AL 35051**

*Register here!*



**Visit [picnic.shelbyal.com](http://picnic.shelbyal.com)**



Celebrate 100 Years  
of Extending Knowledge  
and Changing Lives  
visit: [www.Extension100Years.net](http://www.Extension100Years.net)



## ALABAMA GARDENERS' CALENDAR FOR APRIL

**Fruits and Nuts**—Season for strawberry planting continues. Start spray program for all fruits. Plant raspberries and blackberries and continue budding apples and peaches.

**Shrubs**—Prune spring flowering shrubs after flowering. Fertilize azaleas and camellias. Spray all shrubs with a fungicide as new growth begins to mature.

**Lawns**—Planting new lawns continues. When daytime temperatures are consistently above 70 F, apply fire ant bait. Read the label carefully for best control. Start a mowing routine as spring growth begins. Monitor the thatch layer in bermudagrass and zoysiagrass lawns. Dethatch if thicker than 1/2 inch. Wait until active growth. Monitor for fungal disease in wet, cool weather. Fertilize warm-season lawns after fully green.

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

**Annuals and Perennials**—Plant early started annuals or bedding plants from nurseries or garden centers. Divide mums or root cuttings. Dig and divide dahlias.

**Bulbs**—Plant gladiolus, fancy-leaved caladiums, milk and wine lilies, and ginger and gloriosa lilies. Apply super phosphate to bearded iris and scout for iris borer moth caterpillars. Avoid cutting foliage of narcissus or other bulbs until it has turned brown naturally.

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

**Vegetable Seeds**—**South:** Plant heat-loving crops, such as okra. Continue planting other frost-tender crops. **South and Central:** Continue planting frost tender vegetables (beans, southern peas, corn, squash, melons, and cucumbers). **North:** Wait until late April to plant beans, cucumbers, melons, southern peas, and squash. Plant sweet corn each week for a staggered summer harvest.

**Vegetable Transplants**—**Whole state:** Plant transplants of tomato, pepper, and eggplant. **South:** Plant certified sweet potato slips. **North and Central:** Plant sweet potato slips in late April.

### Shelby County Master Gardeners' Association Board of Directors and Committee Chairs 2024

President	Elizabeth York	205-616-7648	e.york24@yahoo.com
Vice-President	Gregg Adair	205-410-2498	greggadair@gmail.com
Secretary	Martha Jones	205-410-7939	msmatha71@gmail.com
Treasurer	Sue Owen	205-580-9555	sueowen@gmail.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	205-725-0541	heidee.vansant@gmail.com
Fundraising	<b>Vacant</b>		
Grow More Give More	Elizabeth York	205-616-7648	e.york24@yahoo.com
Historian	Gregg Adair	205-410-2498	greggadair@gmail.com
Hospitality	Marisa Masters	870-703-3877	msmyth999@yahoo.com
Newsletter Editor	Heidee Vansant	205-725-0541	heidee.vansant@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	Barbara Williams	205-902-1137	bwilliams1581@gmail.com
Webmaster	Beth Glasgow	205-669-7981	bethglasgow@bellsouth.net



# PAST DUE

## ALABAMA MASTER GARDENER ASSOCIATION, INC. MEMBERSHIP FORM

Dear Master Gardener,

The Alabama Master Gardeners Association (AMGA) Board of Directors has set \$10.00 as the annual membership dues for January 1—December 31, 2024. 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. **DUE ON OR BEFORE: November 30, 2023.**

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

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Office: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_

Phone #'s:

Home: \_\_\_\_\_ Cell: \_\_\_\_\_ Work: \_\_\_\_\_

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)

Active Member

Provisional Member (Interns)

Lifetime Member

Associate Member (Extension Employee)

Honorary Member

**Past Due Fee**

### Local Dues

\$15.00

No fee

\$225.00

No fee

No fee

**\$5.00**

### State Dues

\$10.00

No fee

\$150.00

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 Sue Owen  
350 Howard Hill Dr  
Wilsonville, AL 35186**