

# 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/groups/1295873251386288>

Private Facebook Group for Active 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 5

56 Members

May 2024

Happy Spring Master Gardeners,

Several of us attended the State AMGA Conference down in Daphne, and I have to say that Baldwin County MGA did a great job of hosting. While at the State Conference, SCMGA was honored for our *Gardeners' Gab* newsletter and won the newsletter award with a \$100 check and certificate. Heidee Vansant is our longtime editor and has done a fantastic job. The next time you see her, please thank her for all her hard work. May is a busy month. Vegetable planting can be done without fear of frost and our annuals can be planted for summer-long color. Mother's Day is on the 12<sup>th</sup> and on the 21<sup>st</sup>, we are having our first-ever Lunch and Learn at Extension. Noon—1 PM, Larry Kronk will be sharing "How to Grow Tomatoes". Please share the flyer I sent out. Please remember our Plant Sale. We now have multiple opportunities to sell plants as a fundraiser. June 1<sup>st</sup> at Helena Farmers' Market and June 13<sup>th</sup> at Heardmont Park, so dig up and divide what you are willing to sell. All your time spent doing this is counted as volunteer hours!! Our next meeting is May 10<sup>th</sup>. Our speaker is Henry Lewis presenting "Square Foot Gardening".

See you then,

*Elizabeth*



## This 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  
12 April 2024—Meeting Minutes**

The regular monthly meeting of the SCMGA was held on Friday, April 12, 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

**Speaker:** Karen Mitchell, Jefferson County MG—"Container Gardening"

- Minutes—Martha Jones as noted in April *Gardeners' Gab* newsletter—Approved as received.
- Treasurer's Report—Sue Owen as noted in April *Gardeners' Gab* newsletter—Approved as received.

**Committees:**

- Nominating—Cindy Hearn
- Projects—Dennis Stanek
- Communications—Elizabeth York (Facebook), Heidee Vansant (Gardeners' Gab)
- Audit and By-Laws, Membership—Trisha Williams
- AMGA Advisory Council Representative—Kate Vogel (Pathways)
- Hospitality—Marisa Masters
- Sunshine—Vacant (Barbara Williams Interim)
- Fundraising—Vacant
- Historian—Greg Adair

**Projects:**

- Grace Klein Community Chelsea—ongoing
- Brierfield Ironworks—Workday April 16<sup>th</sup>
- Grow More Give More—Pop Ups: Alabaster to have plantings done May 6<sup>th</sup> and Wilsonville plantings will be done after this meeting.

**Old Business:**

- AMGA Conference April 22—24, 2024, Daphne, AL
- Association Interest Survey 2024—Gregg Adair will give an update at our next meeting.

**New Business:**

- Lunch and Learn May 21<sup>st</sup> Larry Kronk, Growing Tomatoes. Elizabeth would like to get a team together to discuss quarterly L&L
- Booth and plant sale at Heardmont Park Senior Center Community Festival Thursday, June 13<sup>th</sup> Noon—3 PM. Gregg Adair—Need a team to get plant sales together. Please pot up plants from your yard for this sale.
- 2025 AMGA Fall Seminar—Do we want to host in September of 2025? Need to get a team together if we do—registration, door prizes, food, etc. The association voted to proceed with this fundraiser.
- Shelby County Spring Picnic Booth with Extension April 24<sup>th</sup>, 9 AM—1 PM. Barbara Williams and John Vanderford need more volunteers, see Barbara.
- Fall Intern Classes scheduled for August 8<sup>th</sup>. We will plan for a potluck lunch to welcome new Interns.
- Teresa Riddle—Flowers were delivered for her funeral reception and a donation to Big Oak Ranch was given in her memory with money left over from member donations.

**Dates**

April 16	Workday at Brierfield Ironworks 9 AM with Lunch at Kate Vogel's
April 22—24	AMGA State Conference <a href="http://www.baldwinmastergardeners.com">www.baldwinmastergardeners.com</a>
April 24	RSVP Spring Picnic Booth
May 10	SCMGA Meeting—Henry Lewis, Capital City MG, "Square Foot Gardening" Kerry Smith and Devonne Ellis will be joining our meeting
May 21	Lunch and Learn—Larry Kronk "Growing a Tomato"
June 14	SCMGA Meeting—Richard Cybulsky Jefferson Co. MG "Shade Gardening"

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 MARCH 2024

Sue Owen, Treasurer



<b>Deposits:</b>	\$ 0.00
<b>Total Deposits</b>	<u>\$ 0.00</u>
<b>Checks:</b>	
#1294 Barbara Williams (cards)	\$ (10.90)
<b>Total Checks</b>	<u>\$ (10.90)</u>
<b>Beginning Balance:</b>	\$ 4,624.65
Deposits	\$ 0.00
Checks	\$ (10.09)
<b>Ending Balance:</b>	<u>\$ 4,613.75</u>

Help Spread  
The Sunshine!



### Cards sent by Barbara Williams on behalf of SCMGA during March:

**BIRTHDAY CARD:**

Steve Nadeau

**SYMPATHY CARD:**

Cindy Hearn

## 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:** Homemade Hamburger Helper  
**FROM THE KITCHEN OF:** Rock House Farms/Sweet Grown Alabama



**Ingredients:**

- 1 lb. of Sweet Grown Alabama ground beef or pork
- 2 cups elbow pasta
- 2 cups Sweet Grown Alabama whole milk
- 1.5 cups water
- 2 tsp. onion powder
- 2 tsp. garlic powder
- 1 tsp. paprika
- 1-2 tsp. salt
- 1/2 tsp. pepper
- 1 Tbsp. tomato paste
- 2 tsp. Worcestershire sauce
- 1 cup shredded cheese (Colby Jack, Pepper Jack, Sharp Cheddar—whatever you like!)

**Directions:**

1. Start by browning your ground meat. Once it's brown, add in your tomato paste and Worcestershire sauce and stir well until all of your meat is coated.
2. Add in your spices, milk and water and bring to a boil. Turn down your heat to a low simmer and add in your pasta. Stir it well to cover it with the liquid and put the lid on your pan.
3. Cook on low for 10-12 mins stirring occasionally to make sure your pasta isn't sticking and that it is cooking evenly. If you see that it is needing a little more water, add it in.
4. Once the pasta is done, add in your shredded cheese and stir until melted!

**SCMGA UPCOMING DATES**

May 7	Advisory Council Meeting 10 AM Petals from the Past	Jun 14	SCMGA Meeting—Richard Cybulsky, Jefferson Co. MG "Shade Gardening"
May 10	SCMGA Meeting—Henry Lewis, Capital City MG, "Square Foot Gardening"	Jul 12	SCMGA Meeting
May 21	Noon—1 PM, Lunch & Learn Larry Kronk "Growing a Tomato"	Aug 9	SCMGA Meeting
June 1	SCMGA Plant Sale at Helena Farmers' Market	Sep 13	SCMGA Meeting
June 13	Noon—3 PM SCMGA Plant Sale at Heardmont Park	Oct 3	Blount County Fall Seminar (see page 3)
		Oct 13	SCMGA Meeting
		Nov 8	SCMGA Meeting
		Dec 13	SCMGA Meeting & Dirty Gardener



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



**MAY BIRTHDAYS**

- 2—Carolyn Hudson
- 16—Jim Busbin
- 22—Marilyn Donoho
- 24—Madeline Harris
- 27—Jeannie Bubbett







BRING YOUR LUNCH AND  
JOIN US FOR A

REGISTRATION IS \$5

SHELBY COUNTY



# Lunch & Learn

## Growing Tomatoes

May 21, 2024 from 12:00 - 2:00

Shelby County Extension Auditorium  
54 Kelley Lane, Columbiana



Master Gardener, Larry Kronk will present all you need to know about planting and growing tomatoes.

Hosted by Shelby County Master Gardener Association

This program is \$5 per person and open to the public. Registration is required.

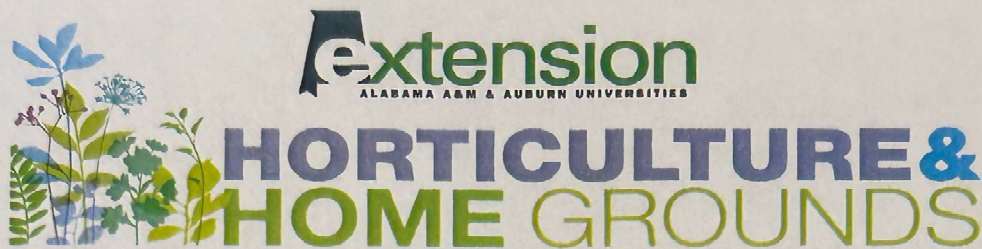
Register by calling (205) 669-6763 or emailing [jle0046@auburn.edu](mailto:jle0046@auburn.edu)

Bottled waters are provided and bring a sack lunch and come learn with us.

ACES.EDU

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## 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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## ALABAMA GARDENERS' CALENDAR FOR MAY

**Fruits and Nuts**—Continue spray program. Keep grass from around trees and strawberries. Peaches and apples can still be budded.

**Shrubs**—Newly planted shrubs need extra care now and in coming weeks. Do not spray with horticultural oils when the temperature is above 85° F.

**Lawns**—Start new lawns from seed. Call the Master Gardener Helpline at (877) 252-4769 to learn more about seasonal fertilizer use and proper mowing. Overfertilizing and overwatering lead to lawn problems. Wait until warm-season lawns are fully green before applying any fertilizers. Mow often (5 to 10 days) to remove just 1/3 the grass height at each mowing. Apply 1 pound nitrogen per 1,000 square feet to all warm-season lawn types: Bermuda grass, Centipede grass, St. Augustine grass, and Zoysia grass (or wait until after dethatching). Dethatch warm-season lawns if needed. Check thatch layer, as in April. Water and fertilize after dethatching (1 pound nitrogen per 1,000 square feet).

**Roses**—Spray or dust for insects and diseases. Fertilize monthly according to a soil test. Plant container-grown plants in flower. Prune climbing roses after the first big flush of flowering.

**Annuals and Perennials**—Late plantings of bedding plants still have time to produce. Watch for insects on day lilies.

**Bulbs**—Summer bulbs started in containers may still be planted. Do not remove foliage from spring flowering bulbs. Do not let seedheads form on tulips and other spring flowering bulbs.

**Miscellaneous**—Mulch new shrub plantings if not already done. Monitor new landscape plantings of shrubs, trees, and turf. To establish healthy root systems, prevent them from drying out and water deeply.

**Vegetable Seeds**—Whole state: Continue plantings of all April seeds across the state. Central and North: Add okra and southern peas to your garden.

**Vegetable Transplants**—Whole state: Continue plantings of April transplant crops. Central and North: Plant certified sweet potato slips.

### 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 (Interim)	205-902-1137	bwilliams1581@gmail.com

# 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**





Thank you for supporting the Shelby County Master Gardeners Association. Your donation aids the community.

Donation: \_\_\_\_\_

Value: \_\_\_\_\_

Member Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Company Donating: \_\_\_\_\_

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

Telephone: \_\_\_\_\_

Name of Donor: \_\_\_\_\_

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Shelby County Master Gardeners Association 501 (c) (3) #92-3186698  
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