

GARDENERS' GAB



Shelby County Master Gardeners Assoc.

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

E-mail: SCMGA.email@gmail.com

Meetings: Monthly, 2nd Friday at 10:00 AM
Shelby County Extension Office—Columbiana, AL

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

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

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44 Members

January 2025

Welcome to 2025. I hope you all had a great Holiday Season. We are starting with new officers: Elizabeth York, President; Kim Sprouse-Howell, Vice President; Martha Jones, Secretary; and Sue Owen, Treasurer. Our new Historian is Karen Jensen. I am looking for someone to chair our Lunch & Learn committee. This is important to our association since it helps educate our community. We have good speakers for our association meetings so you can get your mandatory CEUs. We have multiple opportunities for volunteer hours at two *Ask a Master Gardener* booths for Arbor Day in March. One is at Aldridge Gardens on March 1st and the other at Veterans Park in Alabaster on March 8th. Many more opportunities can be found on a list Barbara Williams put together at the bottom of your Volunteer Hours page. A quick reminder that on January 2nd the required MOU will be on your volunteer hours page. You need to sign it no later than January 31st. Dennis Stanek has several projects in the works, and I would like to see the front of the extension building spruced up! Do not forget our fundraiser this year is the AMGA Fall Seminar we are hosting!! Such exciting things are happening in SCMGA.

Elizabeth

This Month's Meeting Friday, January 10th at 10:00 AM



Our January speaker is Rose McCauley,
Autauga County MG
She is speaking on Vermicomposting



Elizabeth York
e.york24@yahoo.com
205-616-7648

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SHELBY COUNTY MASTER GARDENERS ASSOCIATION
13 December 2024—Meeting Minutes

The regular monthly meeting of the SCMGA was held on Friday, December 13, 2024, at 10:00AM in the Auditorium of the Shelby County Extension Office at 54 Kelly Lane, Columbiana, AL.

- **OFFICERS:** Elizabeth York—President, Kim Spouse-Howell-Vice-President, Sue Owen—Treasurer, Martha Jones—Secretary
- **Minutes and Treasurer’s report** accepted as printed in the *Gardeners’ Gab*.
- **COMMITTEES:**
 - Nominating—Elizabeth York, Projects—Dennis Stanek, Communications—Elizabeth York (Facebook), Heidee Vansant (*Gardeners’ Gab*), Audit/By-Laws/Membership—Trisha Williams, AMGA Advisory Council Representative—Kate Vogel (Pathways), Hospitality, Marisa Masters, Sunshine—Vacant (Barbara Williams Interim), Fundraising—Vacant, Historian—Karen Jensen
- **PROJECTS: Earn Extra Hours!**
 - ◆ Grace Klein Community, Chelsea— this is ongoing when needed.
 - ◆ Family Connection, Alabaster—Landscape the shelter entrance. This will be an intern project with MG follow-up periodically
 - ◆ Family Connection—Raised Bed Gardening with Kids seasonally. They want to plant fall and spring crops.
 - ◆ Beeswax Park on Lake Lay—hiking trail native plant suggestions.
- **OLD BUSINESS:** Membership forms and dues are past due. Any collected after November 30th must have a \$5 late fee attached. Exception is the new interns that have recently passed the course and completed their hours. Form is in the *Gardeners’ Gab*. Fill out and mail to Sue Owen.
- **NEW BUSINESS:**
 - ◆ **ALL 2024 HOURS MUST BE LOGGED BY DECEMBER 31st** at <https://mg.aces.edu/shelby/>
 - ◆ Lunch & Learn for Monday, February 10th Martha Jones: Preparing Your Beds for Spring
 - ◆ Any suggestions for new board members? Sunshine and Fundraising?
 - ◆ Installation of Officers: Postponed to January meeting
 - ◆ 2025 AMGA Fall Seminar, September 16, 2025. Debbie Boutilier, Advanced MG, confirmed for *Benefits of Pollinators for the Environment*, Jason Powell, confirmed for *Daytime Pollinators for Natives* and will also be a vendor and bring native plants, Allyson Shabel, Extension Agent, confirmed for *Nighttime Pollinator Benefits*, and Dani Carroll, Extension Agent, confirmed for *IPM of Natives for Pollinators*. Caterer got back to us with flyer for lunch options, chicken salad croissant and pasta salad.
 - ◆ We were asked to have a booth at Aldridge Gardens Saturday, March 1st for Arbor Day and be available to answer questions
 - ◆ We were asked to help Alabaster Beautification Board with Arbor Day. They want us to educate the citizens of the community about the tree they selected and how to properly plant. Saturday, March 8th at Veterans Park off Hwy 119 in Alabaster
 - ◆ Voted to beautify the front of extension office with planters
 - ◆ **Memorandum of Understanding—some changes. Kerry will send out some info. Everyone will have to sign again. Expect a message from Kerry that Elizabeth will pass along. Due Jan 31st.**
- **DATES:**
 - ◆ Jan 10—Association Meeting, Rose McCauley, Autauga Co. MG, Vermicomposting
- Lost Badge or Replacement needed? www.aces.edu/go/badges fill out form and pay \$10 replacement cost.
- The meeting was adjourned by President York at 11:15 AM

Submitted by: Martha Jones, Secretary



TREASURER'S REPORT NOVEMBER 2024
Sue Owen, Treasurer



Deposits

11/6 Membership Dues	\$	75.00
11/7 Lunch & Learn	\$	40.00
11/7 Membership Dues	\$	15.00
11/12 Membership Dues	\$	140.00
11/25 Membership Dues	\$	50.00
12/3 Membership Dues	\$	50.00
TOTAL DEPOSITS	\$	370.00

Checks

11/6 Elizabeth York—Snacks for Lunch & Learn	\$	(6.71)
11/15 returned check	\$	(15.00)
TOTAL CHECKS	\$	(21.71)

Beginning Balance

Deposits	\$	5,468.51
Deposits	\$	370.00
Checks	\$	(21.71)
Ending Balance	\$	5,816.80

Help Spread
The Sunshine!



CARDS SENT BY BARBARA WILLIAMS ON BEHALF OF SCMGA DURING DECEMBER

BIRTHDAY CARDS:

Pam Dyer
Connie Griffen
Mike Mahaffey

SYMPATHY CARDS:

Lisa Wade



2024 Fall Interns who completed their volunteer hours and received their badges and certificates. Joanne Headrick, Julie Adams, President Elizabeth York, Pam Crawford, Mike Mahaffey and Pam Dyer

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RECIPE: Poppy Seed Chicken Casserole
FROM THE KITCHEN OF: Barbara Williams, SCMG

Ingredients:

- 4 skinless, boneless chicken breast halves
- 1 sleeve buttery round crackers (such as Ritz), crushed
- ½ cup butter, melted
- 1 teaspoon poppy seeds, or more if desired
- 1 (10.5 ounce) can condensed cream of chicken soup
- 1 (8 ounce) container sour cream
- 2 cups shredded Cheddar cheese

Directions:

1. Gather all ingredients.
2. Place chicken breasts into a large pot; cover with water and bring to a boil over high heat. Reduce heat to medium, cover, and simmer until chicken is no longer pink in the center, about 20 minutes. Drain; shred chicken with two forks.
3. Preheat the oven to 350° F. Mix crackers, melted butter, and poppy seeds together in a large bowl

until combined; set aside.

4. Stir condensed soup and sour cream together in a medium bowl; pour 1/2 of the mixture into a 9-inch square baking dish.
5. Add shredded chicken in an even layer.
6. Top with remaining soup mixture. Sprinkle with Cheddar cheese.
7. Top with cracker mixture.
8. Bake in the preheated oven until cheese has melted and the sauce is bubbly, 25 to 30 minutes.

Yield:

- 1 (9-inch) casserole
- 6 Servings



SCMGA UPCOMING DATES

- Jan 10 SCMGA Meeting 10AM Rose McCauley, Autauga Co. MG—Vermicomposting
- Feb 4 Kokedama Workshop 10AM, Autauga Co. Ext. Office. \$25 Register online: www.aces.edu/event/kokedama-workshop-autaugaville-2-4/
- Feb 10 Lunch & Learn—Martha Jones: Preparing Your Beds for Spring
- Feb 14 SCMGA Meeting 10AM
- Mar 1 Arbor Day booth at Aldridge Gardens
- Mar 8 Arbor Day booth at Veterans Park in Alabaster
- Mar 14 SCMGA Meeting 10AM

- Apr 3-5 AMGA 2025 Annual Conference, Prattville, AL
- Apr 11 SCMGA Meeting 10AM
- May 9 SCMGA Meeting 10AM
- Jun 13 SCMGA Meeting 10AM
- Jul 11 SCMGA Meeting 10AM
- Aug 8 SCMGA Meeting 10AM
- Sep 12 SCMGA Meeting 10AM
- Sep 16 AMGA Fall Seminar—Hosted by SCMGA
- Oct 10 SCMGA Meeting 10AM
- Nov 14 SCMGA Meeting 10AM
- Dec 12 SCMGA Meeting 10AM & Dirty Santa game



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



JANUARY BIRTHDAYS

- 1—Julie Baumgartner
- 10—Phyllis Weaver
- 12—Heidee Vansant
- 13—Margaret Copeland
- 17—Jennifer Gregory
- 19—Larry Kronk
- 26—Natalie Dudchock



ALABAMA GARDENERS' CALENDAR FOR JANUARY

FRUITS AND NUTS—Set out apples, peaches, pears, and grapes. Start grafting pecans. Prune dormant trees.

SHRUBS—Plant shrubs & trees, including broadleaf, narrow leaf, & deciduous. Graft camellias in south Alabama. Apply an ultrafine horticultural oil spray to all deciduous shrubs to help with control of insects and diseases. Spray when weather is on warming trend.

LAWNS—Soil test & add limestone as recommended. Apply preemergent herbicides if forgotten in September & if spring weeds were a concern last year.

ROSES—Visit nurseries & garden centers to select varieties. Plant roses. Consider old fashioned, disease tolerant cultivars.

ANNUALS AND PERENNIALS—Plant hardy annuals.

BULBS—Late plantings of Dutch bulbs will flower if planted now. Plant lilies of all types, except Madonna. Check stored bulbs & discard rotten ones. Make indoor plantings of amaryllis, callas, & gloxinias.

MISCELLANEOUS—Prune winter-damaged limbs. Give house plants a bath in lukewarm water to remove dust. To keep poinsettias that have finished flowering, turn pots on their sides & let them dry completely. Cut them back lightly. Keep in a temperature of 55°F—60°F.

VEGETABLE SEEDS—**South:** Plant hardy vegetables & root crops (garden peas, radishes, mustard, spinach, turnips). Start cabbage, broccoli, lettuce, & Swiss chard seeds in cold frames.

VEGETABLE TRANSPLANTS—**South:** Plant broccoli, celery, collards, cabbage, cauliflower, lettuce transplants, & onion sets. **South and Central:** Plant asparagus in late January. **Central:** Plant cabbage & cauliflower transplants. Wait until the end of January to plant Swiss chard, mustard, transplants, & onion sets.

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

President	Elizabeth York	205-616-7648	e.york24@yahoo.com
Vice-President	Kim Sprouse-Howell	205-478-9170	carpediem_2030@yahoo.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	Vacant		
Grow More Give More	Elizabeth York	205-616-7648	e.york24@yahoo.com
Historian	Karen Jensen	205-434-0642	karenkjensen3@icloud.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
Webmaster	Beth Glasgow	205-669-7981	bethglasgow@bellsouth.net

**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, 2025. 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, 2024.**

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 SCMGA AND MAIL TO:

**SCMGA
c/o Sue Owen**