

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/>

Vol. 18, Issue 25

50 Members

May 2025

Happy Spring. The temperatures are finally staying in the normal ranges. No more 30-degree nights. I have planted my summer vegetables and all fifty-seven of my Dahlia tubers. We had a nice AMGA conference in Prattville. What a quaint place. Now we can focus on our Fall AMGA conference on September 16th in Columbiana. We had a productive meeting with everyone volunteering in some way. Thank you in advance for your upcoming hard work in making this a success. For those of you not at the meeting, we are having a silent auction, so if some of you talented people would like to donate/make a silent auction item or door prize, please let me know.

Our next meeting will be a field trip to Deb Elliott's garden in Helena. The address is 1025 Bridle Lane, Helena, AL 35080. She said to go to the end of the road. Her husband, Lou, will be assisting with parking in a small field to the right and parking in the back by her house. Afterward, we can eat at Beef O'Brady's in Old Town Helena by Buck Creek and the trains. I cannot wait to see her beautiful garden.

Happy Gardening,

Elizabeth



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

This Month's Meeting Friday, May 9th at 10:00 AM

Our May meeting is a field trip to Deb Elliott's garden in Helena.

We have been invited to the **CHILTON COUNTY MG PLANT SWAP** on May 13th at Judy Cobb's place at 10:00 AM for fun and social time. Directions below. Bring a sack lunch. Drinks and dessert provided. Also, bring a plant for our "Dirty Plant Swap." The plant can be a well-rooted perennial, annual basket, succulents, hosta, rose, whatever! (valued at \$10+) If you want to fish in their lake you are welcome to go early—just let Judy know.

DIRECTIONS to Judy Cobb's "The Old Place" Judy(205)587-7314 Trisha Williams (205)410-5074

- **410 Old Salter Community Rd, Rockford, AL 35136** Some GPS work, and some don't—check yours against these directions. It takes about 30-35 minutes from Peach Park and about an hour from Chelsea.
- **FROM Clanton:** Take US 31 S and from Peach Park go 4 miles, turn LEFT on Alabama Hwy 22 toward Rockford, go 15 miles, turn RIGHT on Co. Rd 37, go 0.2 of a mile, take first LEFT on Old Salter Community Rd, take slight RIGHT (driveway—look for arrows).
- **FROM Chelsea:** Take US 280 E about 28 miles, turn RIGHT on US 231 S, go 19 miles, turn RIGHT on Alabama Hwy 22, go 6 miles, turn LEFT on Co. Rd 37, go 0.2 of a mile, take first LEFT on Old Salter Community Road, take slight RIGHT (driveway—look for arrows).

Please consider the environment before printing this e-mail.

SHELBY COUNTY MASTER GARDENERS ASSOCIATION

11 April 2025—Meeting Minutes

The regular monthly meeting of the SCMGA was held on Friday, April 11, 2025, at 10:00 AM 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
- **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—Elizabeth York, Historian—Karen Jensen
- **PROJECTS:**
 - ♦ Grace Klein Community, Chelsea ongoing when needed.
 - ♦ Family Connection, Alabaster—Landscape the shelter entrance. This will be an intern project with MG follow-up periodically. Raised Bed Gardening with Kids seasonally.
 - ♦ Beeswax Park on Lake Lay—hiking trail native plant suggestions. Considering.
 - ♦ Front of Extension Office Building upgrade—awaiting Shelby County Building Manager
- **PLEDGE ALLEGIANCE TO THE FLAG**
- **PROGRAM:** Kim Sprouse-Howell gave a presentation on Drying Herbs and their uses.
- **MINUTES AND TREASURER'S REPORT:** Approved as printed in the *Gardeners' Gab*
- **OLD BUSINESS:**
 - ♦ 2025 AMGA Fall Seminar, September 16, 2025
 - Budget and actual costs were passed out. We budgeted much more than actual cost.
 - Assignments for duties made.
 - More prizes and silent auction items have been donated.
- **NEW BUSINESS:**
 - ♦ Re-cap of AMGA Conference: Kate Vogel reported and passed out changes to the by-laws.
 - ♦ Next Lunch & Learn for Monday May 5, Elizabeth York to present on Container Gardening
- **UPCOMING DATES**
 - Apr 10—12 Birmingham Botanical Gardens Plant Sale
 - Apr 12 Chilton Co. MGA Plant Sale Goose Pond Park Clanton 9 AM—1 PM
 - May 9 Deb Elliott's Garden Field Trip Helena
 - May 13 Chilton/Shelby Plant Swap and Cornhole Competition at Judy Cobb's Farm in Rockford
 - June 13 Field Trip to Vogel Blueberry Farm—Hot dogs for lunch. Bring side dishes and drinks, chair, hat, sunscreen, bug spray. Plan to pick blueberries \$10/gallon.
- **Lost Badge or Replacement needed?** www.aces.edu/go/badges fill out form and pay \$10 replacement cost.

Minutes respectfully submitted by Martha Jones, Secretary



TREASURER'S REPORT APRIL 2025

Sue Owen, Treasurer



DEPOSITS

		AMOUNT
4/15/2025 Deposit for Fall Conference (10)	\$	400.00
4/15/2025 Deposit for Fall Conference (2)	\$	80.00
4/15/2025 Deposit for Fall Conference (2)	\$	80.00
4/15/2025 Deposit for Fall Conference (2)	\$	80.00
TOTAL DEPOSITS	\$	640.00

Checks

4/9/2025 #1335 Cecilia Adams—State Dues—W. Gainey	\$	(10.00)
TOTAL CHECKS	\$	(10.00)

Beginning Balance

Deposits	\$	5,635.48
Checks	\$	640.00
Ending Balance	\$	6,265.48

Help Spread
The Sunshine!



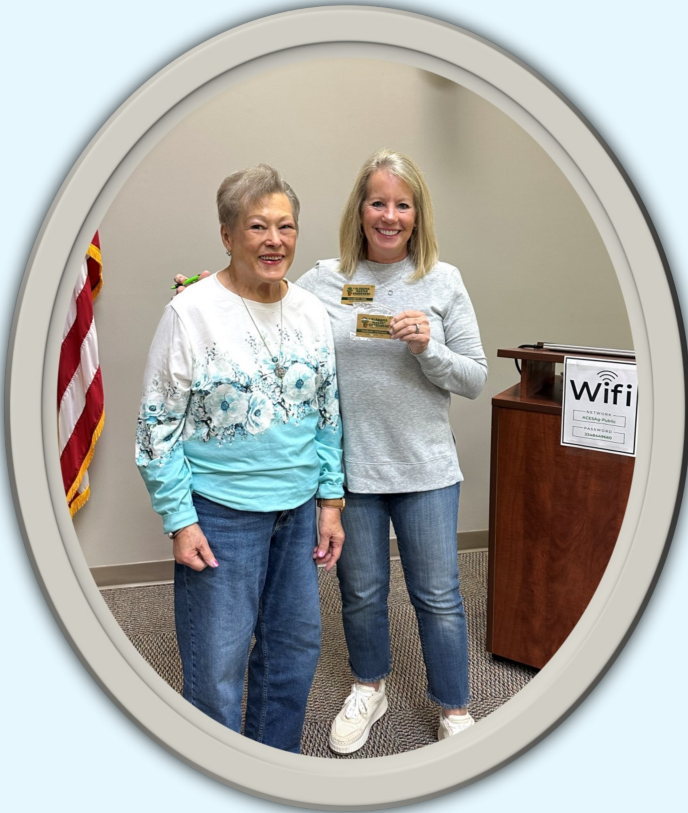
CARDS SENT BY BARBARA WILLIAMS ON BEHALF OF SCMGA DURING APRIL

BIRTHDAY CARDS:

Steve Nadeau

President Elizabeth York presented Barbara Williams the gold badge she earned (1,000—1,999 hours).

President Elizabeth York presented Kim Sprouse-Howell thank-you gifts for speaking to our group on herbs.



RECIPE: MEXICAN STREET CORN

FROM THE KITCHEN OF: Sweet Grown Alabama 2023 Ambassador Kathy Phillips

Kathy Phillips shares how Mexican Street Corn is a Fiesta all by itself!

Ingredients:

- 6 ears corn

Sauce

- 2/3 cup sour cream
- 1/3 cup mayonnaise
- 1/3 cup shredded Colby Jack cheese
- 1 tsp. chili powder
- 2 tsp. lime juice
- Cilantro
- Salt & Pepper to taste

Instructions:

- Grill corn to desired doneness.
- Mix together ingredients for sauce.
- Slather sauce on hot grilled corn.
- Garnish with extra cheese, chili powder and Cilantro.



UPCOMING DATES

May 9 SCMGA Meeting 10 AM Field Trip to Deb Elliott's garden in Helena

May 10 10:00 AM Petals From the Past—*Mother's Day Brunch*. Make Mom feel special by treating her to a delicious brunch buffet! Fee \$25 Advanced reservations & payment required.

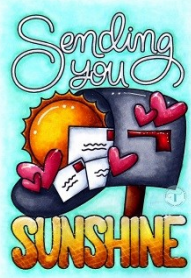
May 13 Chilton/Shelby Plant Swap and Cornhole Competition at Judy Cobb's Farm in Rockford

May 24 Petals From the Past—*Herbs For Life: An Herbal Experience*. Start your experience at 10 AM with a lecture on *Growing & Using Herbs in Every Day Life* presented by Herbalist Debbie Boutelier. Register under Events on the Website (free)

Jun 13 SCMGA Meeting 10 AM Field Trip to Vogel Blueberry Farm. Hot dogs for lunch. Bring side dishes & drinks,

chair, hat, sunscreen, bug spray. Plan to pick blueberries (last years rate was \$10/gallon).

Jul 11 SCMGA Meeting 10 AM
Aug 8 SCMGA Meeting 10 AM
Sep 12 SCMGA Meeting 10 AM
Sep 16 AMGA Fall Seminar—Hosted by SCMGA
Oct 10 SCMGA Meeting 10 AM
Nov 14 SCMGA Meeting 10 AM
Dec 12 SCMGA Meeting 10 AM & 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



MAY BIRTHDAYS

2—Carolyn Hudson
16—Jim Busbin, Jr.
22—Marilyn Donoho
24—Madeline Harris
27—Jeannie Bubbett
29—Joanne Holloway



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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 2025

President	Elizabeth York	205-616-7648	e.york24@yahoo.com
Vice-President	Kim Sprouse-Howell	205-478-9170	carpediem_2030@myyahoo.com
Secretary	Martha Jones	205-410-7939	msmatha71@gmail.com
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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