

# 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, 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](http://www.aces.edu/mg)

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

Vol. 18, Issue 26

50 Members

June 2025

I can't believe how much rain we got in May!!! At my house, we had over 15 inches. That's just unheard of. I am unsure of what to expect in June, but I do know that all the plants and vegetables we planted will require deadheading, pinching, and pest management as the weather begins to warm up. We are fortunate to be visiting Vogel Blueberry Farm at our next meeting, June 13<sup>th</sup> at 10:00 AM. We will be grilling hot dogs, so bring a side dish, a folding chair, and something to drink. Kate is letting us pick blueberries for \$10 a gallon, so bring bug spray, hats, and sunscreen.

Also, at our last meeting, we divided up by city for members to solicit donations for our upcoming Fall Seminar on September 16<sup>th</sup>. If you procured any items, please bring your donation form and item(s) to the meeting.

**Directions to Kate Vogel's home:** 5065 West Ashby Rd. Brierfield, AL 35035  
(Some GPS directions send you 10 miles out of the way.)

- Take HWY 25 South from Montevallo through Wilton.
- Three miles from Wilton, turn left at Stella Jones Lumber onto HWY 139.
- In three miles, turn right onto HWY 2 West (West Ashby Road).
- Cross the railroad.
- Take the third drive on the right (Vogel Drive sign).

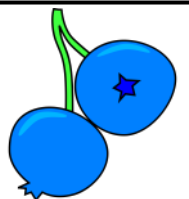
Happy Gardening,

*Elizabeth*



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

**This Month's Meeting**  
**Friday, June 13<sup>th</sup> at 10:00 AM**



Our June meeting is a field trip to Vogel Blueberry Farm in Brierfield.

*Please consider the environment before printing this e-mail.*

SHELBY COUNTY MASTER GARDENERS ASSOCIATION  
9 MAY 2025—Meeting Minutes

The regular monthly meeting of the SCMGA was held on Friday May 9, 2025, at 10:00 AM at 1025 Bridle Lane, Helena, AL 35080

**Officers:**

- Elizabeth York—President
- Kim Sprouse-Howell—Vice President
- Sue Owen—Treasurer
- Martha Jones—Secretary

**Committees:**

- Nominating—Elizabeth York
- Projects—Dennis Stanek
- Communications—Elizabeth York (FB), Heidee Vansant (*Gab*)
- Audit and 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 – 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.
- Front of Extension Office Building upgrade will be 2025 Intern Project
- Presenter Deb Elliott Field Trip to her Shade Garden
- Minutes and Treasurer's Report approved as posted in the *Gardener's Gab*

**Old Business:** 2025 AMGA Fall Seminar, September 16, 2025

**New Business:** Dividing up cities in Shelby County for Donation requests for upcoming Fall Seminar

**Dates:**

- 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 Vogel Blueberry Farm Pick and lunch

⇒ Lost Badge or Replacement needed? Go to [www.aces.edu/go/badges](http://www.aces.edu/go/badges) fill out form and pay \$10 replacement cost.

Minutes submitted by Elizabeth York, President

*Please consider the environment before printing this e-mail.*



## TREASURER'S REPORT APRIL 2025 (Amended)

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
4/30/2025 Deposit for Fall Conference (1)	\$	40.00
<b>TOTAL DEPOSITS</b>	\$	<b>680.00</b>

### CHECKS

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

### BEGINNING BALANCE

Deposits	\$	5,635.48
Checks	\$	680.00
	\$	(10.00)

### ENDING BALANCE

\$ **6,305.48**



## TREASURER'S REPORT MAY 2025

Sue Owen, Treasurer



### DEPOSITS

		AMOUNT
5/9/2025 Deposit for Lunch & Learn \$80, Fall Conference \$240 (6), Fall Conference Cash \$40 (1)	\$	360.00
5/10/2025 Deposit for Fall Conference (1)	\$	40.00
5/12/2025 Deposit for Fall Conference (1)	\$	40.00
<b>TOTAL DEPOSITS</b>	\$	<b>440.00</b>

### CHECKS

\$ **0.00**

### Beginning Balance

Deposits	\$	6,305.48
Checks	\$	440.00
	\$	0.00

### Ending Balance

\$ **6,745.48**

Help Spread  
The Sunshine!



## CARDS SENT BY BARBARA WILLIAMS ON BEHALF OF SCMGA DURING MAY

### BIRTHDAY CARDS:

Jeannie Bubbett	Madeline Harris
Jim Busbin, Jr.	Joanne Holloway
Marilyn Donoho	Carolyn Hudson

"It's beautiful the Summer month of June.  
When all of God's own wildflowers are in  
bloom. And sun shines brightly most part  
of the day. And butterflies o'er lush green  
meadows play.

Light hearted skylark songster of the  
wing. High o'er the quiet and lonely  
moorland sing. Above her nest cloaked by  
the tangled heath. Her charming song so  
exquisitely sweet.

So mellow the gentle breath of June day  
breeze. The birds rejoicing on the leafy  
trees. And dappled trout in pool bed of the  
stream. Bask in the sun their spotted  
skins agleam."

~ Francis Duggan, *June*



**RECIPE: Berry Floating Islands (Retro dessert that deserves a comeback)**  
**FROM THE KITCHEN OF: Better Homes and Gardens**

Prep Time: 40 min. Chill Time: 2 hrs.  
 Total Time: 2 hrs. 40 min. Servings: 4-6

**Ingredients:**

- 2 large egg whites
- 1 Tbsp. plus 1/4 tsp. vanilla
- 1/2 cup sugar
- 3 cups milk, plus more as needed
- 3 whole eggs
- 2 egg yolks
- 3 cups blackberries and/or blueberries
- Fresh mint sprigs, optional



**Instructions:**

**Step 1 Make Meringues**

For meringues, in a small bowl beat egg whites, 1/4 tsp. vanilla, and a dash salt with a mixer on medium until soft peaks form (tips curl). Gradually add 1/4 cup of the sugar, beating until stiff peaks form (tips stand straight).

**Step 2 Cook Meringues**

In a large skillet bring milk to simmering (about 180°F) over medium. Gently stir milk to prevent scorching (do not allow milk to boil). Using two serving spoons, drop egg white mixture in 1/3- to 1/2-cup portions into simmering milk to make four to six meringues. Reduce heat to medium-low. Cook, uncovered, until meringues are 165°F

to 170°F, 5 to 7 minutes. Using a slotted spoon, transfer meringues to a paper towel-lined tray. (Reserve milk.) After 10 minutes, transfer meringues to a clean plate and loosely cover with plastic wrap; chill at least 2 hours or up to 24 hours. (Do not store meringues on the paper towel-lined tray.)

**Step 3 Make Custard**

Meanwhile, for custard, transfer reserved milk to a 4-cup measuring cup. Let cool 15 minutes. If necessary, add enough milk to equal 3 cups.

**Step 4 Finish and Chill**

Set a stainless-steel bowl in a large bowl of ice water. In a heavy medium saucepan whisk together cooled milk, whole eggs, egg yolks, 1/4 tsp. salt, and the remaining 1/4 cup sugar. Cook and stir constantly over medium just until sauce coats the back of a spoon and mixture is 180°F, 8 to 10 minutes. Remove from heat. Stir in the remaining 1 Tbsp. vanilla. Quickly cool custard by transferring to the stainless-steel bowl; stir constantly 4 to 5 minutes. Remove bowl from ice bath. Cover surface of custard with plastic wrap. Chill at least 2 hours or up to 24 hours before serving.

**Step 5 Serve**

To serve, spoon custard into shallow bowls. Top with meringues, berries, and mint (if using). Serve immediately.

**UPCOMING DATES**

- Jun 13 SCMG Meeting 10:00 AM Field Trip to Vogel Blueberry Farm. Hot dogs for lunch. Bring side dishes & drinks, chair, hat, sunscreen, bug spray. Plan to pick blueberries (\$10/gallon).
- Jun 14 Blueberry Walking Tour 10:30 AM-Noon @ Petals From the Past with Dr. Arlie Powell—Free—Register at <https://petalsfromthepast.com/events-2/>
- Jun 21 Greenhouse Sale—Petals From the Past: 7 AM—2 PM
- July 9 Herb Cooking Class @ Petals From the Past 10:30 AM—12:30 PM. \$35 Advanced registration & payment required. Register at <https://petalsfromthepast.com/events-2/>
- Jul 11 SCMG Meeting 10:00 AM
- July 26 Petals From the Past 10:30 AM—Fig & Bunch Grape

- Walking Tour with Dr. Arlie Powell. Register for this seminar Register at <https://petalsfromthepast.com/events-2/>
- Aug 8 SCMG Meeting 10:00 AM
- Aug 9 Petals From the Past 10:30 AM—Apple, Asian Pear, & Muscadine Walking Tour with Dr. Arlie Powell. Register for this seminar at <https://petalsfromthepast.com/events-2/>
- Aug 23 Petals From the Past 10:30 AM—Creating a Haven for Butterflies—Paulette Haywood Ogard, Author. Register at <https://petalsfromthepast.com/events-2/>
- Sep 12 SCMG Meeting 10:00 AM
- Sep 16 AMGA Fall Seminar—Hosted by SCMG
- Sep 20 Petals From the Past—The Great Fall Garden Festival



Please send Barbara Williams, interim Sunshine Comm. 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](mailto:bwilliams1581@gmail.com)  
 Phone: 205-902-1137



**JUNE BIRTHDAY**

**27—Karen Jensen**





## ALABAMA GARDENERS' CALENDAR FOR JUNE

**FRUITS AND NUTS**—Layer grapes and continue spray programs. Thin apples and peaches if too thick.

**SHRUBS**—Lace bugs may be a problem on azaleas, pyracanthas, dogwoods, cherry laurels, and other shrubs. Water as needed. Fertilize now. Keep long shoots from developing by pinching out tips. Take cuttings from semi-mature wood for rooting.

**LAWNS**—Apply 1 pound nitrogen per 1,000 square feet to Bermuda grass and St. Augustine grass. Skip this month for fertilizing Centipede grass and Zoysia grass. If dollar spot disease is detected, reduce water and fertilizer. Mow often (5 to 10 days) to remove just 1/3 the grass height at each mowing. Water lawns as needed (grayish color or curling leaf blades). Planting may continue if soil is moist.

**ANNUALS AND PERENNIALS**—Keep old flower heads removed to promote continued flowering. Plant garden mums if not already in. For compact mums, keep tips pinched out. Monitor for insects and diseases. Fertilize with water-soluble fertilizer for a mid-season boost.

**BULBS**—Foliage may be removed from spring bulbs if it has yellowed and is becoming dry. Watch for aphids and thrips on summer bulbs. **MISCELLANEOUS**—If scale insects continue on shrubs, use materials other than oils. Set house plants on porch or outdoors in shade and pay close attention to the need for water. If desired, air layer house plants.

**VEGETABLE SEEDS**—Whole state: Continue plantings of beans, sweet corn, southern peas, melons, and okra.

**VEGETABLE TRANSPLANTS**—Whole state: Continue planting April transplant crops.

### 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
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	Elizabeth York	205-616-7648	e.york24@yahoo.com
Grow More Give More	Elizabeth York	205-616-7648	e.york24@yahoo.com
Historian	Karen Jensen	205-434-0642	karenkjensen3@icloud.
Hospitality	Marisa Masters	870-703-3877	msmyth999@yahoo.com
Newsletter Editor	Heidee Vansant	205-725-0541	heidee.vansant@gmail.com
Nominating Comm. Chair	Elizabeth York	205-616-7648	e.york24@yahoo.com
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