

September 2017 CCMGA Newsletter

THE • Prairie Mud •

September 26th, Field Trip to Alex City, Meet at Sam's Club 8:30 a.m.

Directions will be handed out at that time. Parking is limited so please carpool.

We will be viewing hydroponic gardens at a home near Alex City.

NO MEETING WILL BE HELD AT FRAZER ON THE 26TH!

**-October 4th, Lunch & Learn –
Noon until 1pm, Backyard Varmints!**



**Janine Koslofsky
President's Message**

September 5, 2017

According to the weather reporters, we are going to have a 'cold front' this week. Now I'm not sure that I would describe a high of 80 and a low of 57 as cold....but I'll take it! It's reassuring to know that fall will in fact arrive at some point, hopefully soon.

Speaking of soon.....It is already time to think about next year's activities and officers. It is the president's job to present 3 members of our organization to serve as a nominating committee and another 3 members to serve as an audit committee to go over our financial records from 2017. These members will be voted on at the October meeting. Add to that list the 4 members who will end up running for the offices of President, Vice President of Programs, Secretary and Treasurer. This makes 10 people that we need to have volunteer, or at least agree to 'be volunteered' for these very important positions. The audit is done during the first ten days of the New Year and of course, the nominating committee will be making their selections as soon as possible.

So please give it some thought and if you would be willing to serve on either of these committees or to be named as a candidate for one of the officers, let me know as soon as possible.

Thank you,

Janine Koslofsky

President CCMGA

AMGA Fall Seminar October 12

The workshops are filling up quickly for the upcoming AMGA Seminar so be sure to register soon to get into the sessions you want to attend. The last day to register is Oct. 5, 2017. Registration will be open to the public this week so you can invite your friends to join the fun.

Use this link to register: <https://mg.aces.edu/resources/>

AMGA Fall Seminar*

October 12, 2017

Lowder Business Building (room 113a)

Auburn University Alabama



8:30 a.m.	Check-in with Pre-registration (Lowder Bldg., Level 1lobby)
9:00 a.m.	Welcome (Dave Williams)
9:05 a.m.	Session 1 Finding Alabama's Native Pollinators (Charles Ray)
10:00 a.m.	Break
10:15 a.m.	Session 2: Healthy Soil Check-up (Audrey Gamble)
11:15 a.m.	Session 3: Smart Yards for Wildlife (Rachel Conley)
12:15 a.m.	Lunch
1:15 p.m.	(Travel to breakout sessions -registration required)
1:30 p.m.	Session4: Breakoutsessions (one session only)

Breakout Sessions* (you will attend one session only):

Tree Walk (Davis Arboretum, Beth Clendenen)

Wildflower Walk (Davis Arboretum, Rachel Conley)

Water Smart Irrigation (Horticulture Teaching Garden, Tim Crow and Eric Schavey)

Rainwater Harvesting (Davis Arboretum, Rhonda Britton)

Tagetes, Turmeric, and Tia, OH MY! (AU Medicinal Plant Garden, Tia Gonzales)

Who's Chomping My Garden? (Horticulture Teaching Garden, Dani Carroll)

Photo's Tell a Story (1:30-3:30, Poultry Science Building, Room 120, Bruce Dupree)

What the Bees Need, and Build a Bee Box (\$15 supplies fee - Pitcher Plant Bog Pavilion, Selina Bruckner and Augusta Thurmond)



Online registration begins July 18. An email announcement with full details will be sent to all local MGA Presidents and AC Representatives. link, <http://mg.aces.edu/resources/>

Early Bird price, \$30 - postmarked no later than September 14, 2017.

Late registration price, \$35 - postmarked between September 15 and October 5, 2017.

No refunds and no registration after October 5, 2017. No on-site registration.

*Schedule is subject to change. You will be notified if your Breakout session is cancelled or changed.



ALABAMA
MASTER
GARDENERS
ALABAMA COOPERATIVE EXTENSION SYSTEM

Mail-in Registration

AMGA Fall Seminar*

October 12, 2017, Auburn, AL

(<http://alabamamg.org/amga-fall-seminar/>)

Name: _____ Local MGA-- _____

Address: _____

Telephone: _____ Email: _____

Lunch option: _____ Newk's Club _____ Newk's Simply Box Salad (vegetarian)

(Morning sessions*, lunch and one breakout session included with registration. NOTE, *What the Bees Need* has an extra charge)

Breakout Sessions* (rank three of your choices, in order of your preference, from options below -each applicant is assigned one session based on time of registration receipt and capacity for each session):

____ Tree Walk (Davis Arboretum)

____ Wildflower Walk (Davis Arboretum)

____ Rainwater Harvesting (Davis Arboretum)

____ Water Smart Irrigation (behind Horticulture Teaching Garden)

____ Who's Chomping My Garden? (Horticulture Teaching Garden)

____ Tagetes, Turmeric, and Tia, OH MY! (AU Medicinal Plant Garden)

____ Photo's Tell a Story (1:30-3:30, Poultry Science Building, Room 120)

____ What the Bees Need, and Build a Bee Box (**\$15 supplies** fee -location TBA)

Early Bird registration, \$30 _____ (postmarked by 9/14/17)

Late registration, \$35 _____ (postmarked between 9/15/17 and 10/5/17)

For more information contact : Caitlin or Yanni, 334-844-3041

Online registration begins July 18. An email announcement with full details will be sent to all local MGA Presidents and AC Representatives. Early Bird price, \$30 - postmarked no later than September 14, 2017. Late registration price, \$35 - postmarked between September 15 and October 5, 2017. No refunds and no registration after October 5, 2017. Noon-site registration.

For mail-in registration: send your check, made out to "Auburn University, MG Fall Seminar", along with this form to: Katie Thurlow

Auburn University Office of Professional and Continuing Education

3010.0. Smith Hall

Auburn, Alabama 36849-5608

*Schedule is subject to change. You will be notified if your Breakout session is cancelled or changed.

**CCMGA Cut & Color Workshop
August 23rd, A Huge Success!**





Lily's Garden Upcoming Volunteer Day September 28th 7:30 a.m.

Pastry and coffee will be available. All are welcome! Call Ann Oldham for more information at 264-9762.

Below are photos from last month's spruce up on August 24th.



**Upcoming Lunch & Learn October 4th
Back Yard Varmints!
Speaker: Chris Jawaorowski, ACES Biologist**

Thank you to Cindy Berg, shown below, presenting the program "Fall Gardening for Spring Color".



August Treasurer's Report Submitted by Dave Toellner

Reimbursement/Payment Request form to be completed if you incur out of pocket expenses related to CCMGA activities and need to be reimbursed by our treasurer.

August Minutes Submitted by Julia Bounds, Secretary

**August CCMGA Meeting
Program on Ferns by Maria Pacheco-West**



CCMGA Volunteers in Action

Montgomery Area Food Bank

On August 29, 2017, several Master Gardeners, as a group organized by Carolyn Love Dorsey, went to the Montgomery Area Food Bank. They unpacked boxes from various businesses and repacked/placed on pellets to be

shipped to locations within the State of Alabama. Thank you to our volunteers for representing CCMGA in this worthwhile cause.



**Save the Date! CCMGA Plant Sale
April 21st Frazer UMC**



Susan O'Connor is our plant sale chairman for our 2018 annual plant sale this spring. It is our biggest fundraiser of the year and a highlight of the year to many of our devoted customers (and us!). Set up for the event will take place the day prior to the sale on April 20, 2018 so be sure to be available on both days.

It isn't too late to start thinking about potting up plants for the sale. It takes a while for them to establish a good root system prior to the sale so they are firmly rooted in the pot. One-gallon plastic containers are the recommended size as they are easy to handle and transport.

This is an all hands on deck event so please be sure to plan on helping out and volunteering. If you are unable to pot plants, funds are needed to purchase discounted annuals and vegetables from local nurseries since the weather is too cool for our members to propagate most of them without a greenhouse.

Service Awards Presented

Congratulations to Cindy McKenzie who was awarded the AMGA Gold Badge for her total of 1123.75 hours of volunteer work. Also, congratulations to Anita Ward who was awarded the Platinum Badge for her total of 2183 hours of volunteers hours last year. Thank you to these ladies for their dedication to improving our community by giving their time and efforts over the years.

Free Small Space Gardening Workshop September 23, Prattville, 9-11

The first half of this workshop will focus on choosing plants for bonsai, benefits to starting from new plants versus buying ready-made, and tips on maintaining your bonsai. Speaker: Mark Waldo Certified as a Master Gardener in 2012 and has been working with bonsai for 19 years.

The second half will be an introduction to methods of growing plants in other than traditional and typical beds. There are new and unique methods to make it more enjoyable and increase yield. Speaker: Glenn Huovinen Certified as a Master Gardener in 2016 and has been researching and working with alternative gardening methods for two years.

Boom Magazine October's Gardening Article

Thank you to Susan O'Connor, CCMGA member (Class of 2016) for her article "Our Pecan Tree".

Our Pecan Tree

by Susan O'Connor

When I was a child our family adored pecans, toasted or in pies. My parents, two sisters, and I spent mini Thanksgiving holidays picking up pecans at the farm in Georgia where my grandfather was born. The time between Thanksgiving and Christmas was spent separating the meat from the shells. Everyone worked to get the job done.

After a while, my parents decided to plant a pecan tree in our backyard, to go along with the palm, pear, and apple trees. We all watched our pecan tree, waiting and waiting for those first pecans, none came.

In the second year of our tree, instead of pecans, we sited what we thought was a big spider web in the top of it. Mother told us all about web worms and pecan trees. Mama Hollis, Mother's mother, was to eat lunch with us that memorable Saturday. I couldn't wait to tell her about the worms in our tree. When I told her, she suggested that Mother and Daddy needed to burn the web out of the tree. My parents did not want to start any fire because of the dry fall season we had experienced.

That afternoon, Mama Hollis stayed with us while Mother and Daddy ran some errands. As soon as the tail light lights of the '54 Bel Air was out of sight, Mama Hollis was wrapping part of an old sheet around a piece of wood left from one of daddy's building projects. The three of us watched wide-eyed. We'd never seen anyone make a torch. Not only that, she was disobeying our parents – a truly terrifying thought!

Well, she dipped the torch into Daddy's lawn mower gas can and then lit it. We followed at a respectable distance. She climbed up on the kitchen stepladder she carried in her other hand. Then, she lit the web sack. It began to burn instantly, as did the surrounding dried leaves. Quickly, the entire tree was a blaze with bits of red, glowing leaf parts floating in the air. The burning leaves landed on the very dry grass, which proceeded to burn. The fire seemed to skip across the grass and all directions.

Our neighbor heard us, smelled the smoke, and saw the fire. Grabbing her garden hose, which was a soaker, she ran toward us. Another neighbor had been trimming his bushes ran ahead into call the fire station two blocks away. We could hear the engine pull out of the station, coming to save us. However, since our house was on a small court, the fire truck drove right past the turn for our street. By now, all the adults and children that lived around us were outside. Some neighbors brought regular hoses that were not soakers. One man jumped in his car to chase the fire truck to have it return to our house.

Between the fire truck, that finally arrived, and water from other houses, the fire was put out.

When Mother and Daddy got home, the three of us had never in our lives been more thankful to have been innocent bystanders in the explanation of why part of our front yard and side yard was crispy black.

Susan O'Connor, an intern in the 2016 Master Gardener Class, and is now a Master Gardener, lives in Montgomery. For more information on becoming a master gardener, visit www.capcitymga.org or email capcitymga@gmail.com.

Intern Jim Williams. Where Did He Go?

Jim moved to the Birmingham area on short notice and is on the ball already. He has joined the Shelby County Master Gardener Association and is doing volunteer work at Aldridge Gardens and plans to volunteer at the Birmingham Botanical Gardens. He also recently attended our Cut and Color Seminar. Jim does plan to attend the graduation ceremony for his class in December. We wish him well.

His new address is: 126 Hunters Gate Drive, Hoover, Al 35242,
Cell Phone: 334-451-0978

Get Well to Ruth Padgett

We miss you! We are all wishing you continued healing and recovery.



CCMGA Membership

For information on joining, contact Janice Jackson
at janice.jackson.al@gmail.com.

Communications - Who to Call

Eileen Webb - Co-chair, website

email: eileenwebb88@gmail.com

Cary Kuhlmann - Co-Chair

Email: caryofmtgy@gmail.com

Janice Jackson - photography

Email: janice.jackson.al@gmail.com

Carolyn Love Dorsey - photography

Email: cdorsey637@charter.net

Mary Eleanor Hines - Sunshine Committee

Email: mariaeleonor@cs.com, phone # 272-7927

Annie Smith - Sends "Missing You" postcards, 399-8071

Mary Jane McCracken - BOOM! Magazine Gardening Articles

Email: mjmccracken@knology.net

Charlene Beach - Lunch and Learn email

Email: crbeach@charter.net

Betsy Coley - AMGA Newsletter articles

Email: betsycoley@gmail.com

Kate McLean - Monthly member Birthday emails

Email: khmcln1@gmail.com

Ruth Padgett - Prairie Mud Newsletter

Email: padgett@aol.com

Sara Brown - Prints and sends hard copies of the Prairie Mud as needed

Email: sdbrown8652@yahoo.com

Claire Hubbard - Assisting with Publicity

Email: larryandclairehubbard@gmail.com

Convenient Links

- **Who you gonna call (email)?** capcitymga@gmail.com
- [Accidentally Unsubscribe from CCMGA Emailings?](#)
- [Record your Hours](#)
- [Guidelines for Recording Hours](#)
- [Sign up for Helpline](#)
- [AL Master Gardener Assoc](#)
- [ACES Website](#)
- [ACES Montgomery Website](#)
- [Montgomery Co Extension Newsletter](#)
- [All Bugs Good and Bad - Webinar Series](#)
- [Festival of Flowers](#)
- [Petals from the Past](#)
- [Harwell's Green Thumb Nursery](#)

Member Information Updates (2 New)

This list includes changes to member information after the member directory had been printed. Please update your information with the following: If you have a change in your address, email or phone number, contact capcitymga@gmail.com and we will add it to this listing.

Please update your current directory with the following:

TWO NEW UPDATES TO ADD:

Susan Candler Samuel
3018 Bankhead Avenue, Montgomery, Al 36106
Email: sbcs1048@gmail.com
Phone: 834-2866

Judy Robbins
136 West Vanderbilt Loop, Montgomery, Al 36109
Email: hybrid07@wowway.com
Phone: 334-399-4558

Previously Published Additions

New Address:
Charles McLemore
1442 West Old Hayneville Road
Montgomery, AL 36105
telephone - 334-280-5054
cell 334-334-451-1954



The Prairie Mud will be published monthly on the 15th. Please send photos and announcements to capcitymga@gmail.com. If you have a flyer to submit, please make sure it is in a PDF format. This publication would not be possible without the help from our photographers Janice Jackson and Carolyn Dorsey. Thank you to Sara Brown for seeing that printed copies are mailed each month to those requesting them.

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