



President's Message

By Linda Griebel



As the weather starts changing, so does the CAMGA landscape. We were delighted to have the class 2014 graduate at the August meeting and now are thrilled to have a new group of interns start in September. Some of the board members hosted lunch on the first day of class and mentors provided a personal feast for specific interns the subsequent week.

While our newest master gardeners in training are gaining horticultural knowledge, they will need our help in determining where their skills and abilities fit into our proactive organization. We heartily welcome each and every one of you. Your mentor will assist and guide you. In addition, we want you to feel free to call on any seasoned member if you have questions. Please attend committee meetings or even board meeting so you can learn what we do.

September was a very busy educational month with members attending the Fall Seminar and other training offerings. Lunch and learn featured Amanda and Lee Borden instructing us about cover crops and we even took home seeds to begin our home field trials this fall. In the scheme of things, Lee Borden was also the presenter of the vast subject of photosynthesis at the regular meeting. Wow – does he ever know how to keep an audience's attention! As always, thank you to members who step up and handle everything we do so very competently.

Some members attended the dedication of the Fred Evans Memorial Area at Lanark on September 19th. Even if you missed it, at some future time you can enjoy sitting on the lovely teak chairs and benches on a brick patio near the AFW building and can take in the peaceful surroundings that Fred liked so much when he was alive. For those of you who didn't know him, Mr. Evans was a very dedicated CAMGA member who exemplified not only the principles of master gardening both in the local organization as well as serving for many years at state level, but he was also extremely caring. He made new members feel welcome and never forgot your name. Everyone who met him also remembers his warm and upbeat attitude as well as his professionalism. It is very fitting to have dedicated to him a specific section of Lanark where he volunteered some of his extensive master gardener time.

Coming up very soon is our annual master gardener (and intern) plant swap will be on October 9. While Rhona has called this a propagator's paradise, you only need to bring some of your extra "babies" to swap. You didn't have to grow them yourself. Arrive with 5 established plants ~ take 5 different ones home. It's always fun and we will have new and different things just in time to enjoy them as fall continues.

Lastly, I have mixed feelings about fall. We might get some leaf color changes and can really enjoy the foliage if that happens. Some plants like confederate roses, angel trumpets, and mums are providing some delightful late season color. (Don't forget that the Lunch and Learn this month is "Color for every season.") Then there's the issue of maintenance and preparation for cooler weather. Even though we had some moisture during the summer months, September proved to be rather dry. And we all know that October is traditionally the driest month of the year. So, we'll need to provide ample moisture to our gardens, especially if it's a newer planting. Of course, we'll rake leaves and pine straw, but I really utilize mine for added mulch in my flower beds, in my orchard, and on my vegetable garden. However, if anyone doesn't use their leaves at home, we would like to have yours in the Learning Gardens. Just drop off bags behind the shed and we will put them to good use.

Hope to see everyone at Lanark where Maria Pacheco-West will host our October 20th monthly meeting.

See you in the gardens.

Linda

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Message from Mallory

By Mallory Kelley

Regional Extension Agent — Home Grounds, Gardens, Home Pests

Backyard Citrus is Growing in Popularity

Citrus has been grown in Central and South Alabama for years. The citrus belt spans from California along the Gulf Coast to Florida (USDA Zones 8-10), but recently I have seen an increased interest in citrus from backyard gardeners. With their ever-green foliage, fragrant flowers and delicious fruit, citrus can be a great addition to every garden or patio. And as an added bonus, with the exception of a few tangerine varieties, all citrus is self-fruitful meaning you can have just one plant to produce fruit.

With very few insect and diseases, the only drawback to citrus is the occasional cold winter temperatures where they will require protection. It is best to plant citrus in a large container so it can be moved indoors in the winter season during cold spells. For central Alabama, I recommend the Semi-hardy to hardy varieties. Semi-Hardy refers to citrus varieties that are hardy to temps in the mid to upper teens or low 20's. Satsumas or mandarins, kumquats and Meyer lemons are all considered semi-hardy in central Alabama.

The highest degree of success and greatest satisfaction in growing citrus in Alabama is often seen with satsumas. They withstand colder temperatures than the other forms of edible sweet citrus, produce more consistent crops over a longer period of time, and require less cold protection.

Satsuma is a mandarin. It has excellent cold hardiness and ripens its fruit well ahead of most freeze problems (September to November). Owari is the most popular variety and is generally available at retail outlets. Brown's Select is a very recent introduction from Louisiana that is somewhat similar to Owari in tree and fruit characteristics, but ripens its fruit at least 2 to 3 weeks earlier. Armstrong Early (also called Early Armstrong) is an old variety that has been grown for many years and is planted to a small degree. Fruit of this variety ripen extremely early (beginning in September), but the quality is not as good as Owari. When grown under warmer climatic conditions (such as Florida), fruits often retain their peak quality for approximately 2 to 4 weeks, after which they may become puffy and rough in appearance and lose flavor and juice content. However, under the cooler climatic conditions of Central and South Alabama, fruits tend to remain in good condition on the tree, retaining their juice and flavor for 1 to 2 months after reaching full maturity.

There are a number of hardy acid-type fruits available for homeowner use. These plants make attractive ornamental specimens and provide delightful fruits as well. The kumquat tree (not the fruit) is the most cold hardy of the commonly grown acid citrus fruits (it can withstand temperatures of 15 to 17 degrees F). The kumquat is one of the most widely used citrus plants around the home; it develops into an attractive shrublike tree that bears small orangelike fruit about 1 inch in diameter. Fruits can be eaten fresh, peel and all, or used in making jellies, marmalade, or candies. Several varieties are available, but only three are commonly propagated: Nagami, Marumi, and Meiwa. Meiwa, which produces round, sweet fruit, has become one of the most popular for home plantings.

Meyer is the most cold hardy variety of lemon. The fruit ripening period usually lasts for several months beginning in late summer. Good crops of large, practically seedless, juicy lemons are produced. Ponderosa, is another variety of lemon that is commonly grown in Florida that produces exceedingly large fruits and can also be grown as a container plant.

Limes are among the most cold-sensitive of the common acid-type citrus fruits. However,



the Mexican (also called Key or West Indian) lime, famous for the Key lime pie, can be grown as a container plant when provided with inside protection during the winter.

As mentioned previously, citrus fruits can be grown successfully in the home grounds with little or no control of insects and diseases. Fruits produced without pesticide sprays may be very poor in external quality as a result of damage by several mites, insects, and fungal diseases. Although they may look unattractive on the outside, external damage usually has no detrimental effect on internal fruit quality. And the appearance of the tree may suffer, but seldom will trees be critically damaged by most citrus pests.

So, if you are looking for a low maintenance, conversation piece, think about adding citrus plants to your landscape or patio. Not only will you love their incredible fragrance when in bloom, but it's so much fun to watch them grow and share with your neighbors, friends and family.

Interested in learning more about seasonal gardening topics? Please join us for the FREE Master Gardener Lunch and Learn Program in your area EVERY MONTH from 12:00-1:00, Bring a Sack Lunch, Drinks Provided:

October's Topics and locations:

Montgomery: The 1st Wednesday of EVERY month, Armory Learning Arts Center on Madison Ave. For more information: (334)270-4133

Topic: Tree's Recommended for Montgomery Soil and Climate

Wetumpka: The 2nd Tuesday of EVERY month, Elmore Co. Extension Office, 340 Queen Ann Road For more information: (334)567-6301

Topic: Color for Every Season in your Garden

Prattville: The 1st Thursday of EVERY month, Christ Lutheran Church, 2175 Cobbs Ford Road For more information: (334)361-7273

Topic: Cacti and other Succulents

Election of Officers

Our slate of officers for 2016 is as follows:

President—Rhona Watson

Vice-president—Lee Borden

Treasurer—Joyce Vella

Secretary—Lois Pribulick

Advisory Council Rep—Gayle Wheeler-Leonard

Be prepared to make nominations from the floor if desired and vote for your candidate.

October 2015

Sun

Mon

Tue

Wed

Thu

Fri

Sat

				1 <i>Learning Garden Work Day</i>	2	3 <i>Garden Art Show in Selma</i> 
4	5 <i>Governor's Mansion Work Day</i>	6	7  <i>Home Safety Lanark Work Day</i>	8 <i>Learning Garden Work Day</i>	9 <i>Plant Swap 10 a.m.</i>	10
11	12 <i>Governor's Mansion Work Day</i>	13 <i>Lunch and Learn</i> <i>Estate Planning Seminar</i>	14  <i>Home Safety Lanark Work Day</i>	15 <i>Learning Garden Work Day</i>	16	17 <i>Poultry Workshop</i> 
18	19 <i>Governor's Mansion Work Day</i>	20 <i>CAMGA at Lanark</i>	21 <i>Lanark Work Day</i>	22 <i>Learning Garden Work Day</i>	23	24
25	26 <i>Governor's Mansion Work Day</i>	27	28 <i>Lanark Work Day</i>	29 <i>Learning Garden Work Day</i>	30	31 HALLOWEEN 

Fred Evans *In Memoriam*

I would like to thank everyone in CAMGA for the wonderful memorial bench given in Fred's memory. As you know, Master Gardeners was right below God and family in Fred's list of things most cherished. We enjoyed the memorial gathering for Fred at Lanark and also want to thank Maria P-West, Linda Griebel, Jean Lee and all who had a part in the beautiful dedication of the bench. On behalf of all of our family, please know that your gift means the world to us.



..... Linda Evans

Remembering Fred Evans By Maria Pacheco West Lanark Grounds Specialist and CAMGA Master Gardener

In early April 2002, the Alabama Wildlife Federation (AWF) had a function to raise the funds to acquire the Lanark property from the Wiley and Isabel Hill estate. I'd been busy dealing with the Hill home for my employer, the Hill's daughter, who lived in New York. So, gardening chores were last on the list as other things took precedence. That meant a lot of work in a short amount of time needed to be done. Being in charge of the property didn't mean I actually had time to do much work in the gardens. I was out here all by myself, except for one man, William McCall who mowed and cleared the roads. The Hydrangea's dead-heads were unsightly and pruning was in order. How was I to do it all in just few days? The grounds are what initially capture people's interest in Lanark and its activities; the grounds required sprucing up if we were going to impress possible donors.

Rick Beauchamp, Elmore County Extension Service Agent, came



to my rescue. He'd been friends with the Hills for many years and was their favorite advisor for their beautiful gardens; he felt a strong desire to be of service. He told me he knew just the man who could help me get everything cleaned up quickly.

Enter Fred Evans into my life. What a difference he made! He and I worked for two whole days, cutting dead flowers off literally thousands of Hydrangeas, pulling out fallen tree branches, while cleaning up debris. We hauled wheel barrel after wheel barrel from out and around the Hydrangeas and then moved on to neatening up any area visible from the main house. Two ladies from the Elmore Master Gardeners (Now known as CAMGA) also came to help us. When we were done, everything looked like I'd worked weeks and weeks on it.

Fred was a quiet, unassuming soul who worked like a demon and wouldn't let up until the job was done. Fred went back to the Elmore Master Gardeners, the club he belonged to, convincing them to come out and help me on a regular basis. AWF raised the money required for the property and once the property was no longer a private home, but a non-profit organization, the door opened for volunteers. I rely on volunteers and all these years later, when the regular Wednesday crew shows up to work, I still say a thank you to Fred for getting this routine started.



Fred's loving family: Lynn and Greg Fanning and their children (Fred's grandchildren) are Danielle Vines, Nathan Fanning, and Linda (center).

Once a week, for several years, Fred arrived with tools in his truck and a determined set to his jaw. No matter what I planned for work that day, trimming ivy off the brick walls, dividing perennials in the Formal garden, planting trees or potting and rooting cuttings, he worked hard and with such joy. He encouraged other volunteers, never missing an opportunity to express or demonstrate an easier way for us to do things. Always a great guy to have a conversation with, we discussed the pros and cons of just about everything. In later years Fred volunteered to be one of the golf-cart drivers for the annual Flora and Fauna Arts Festival held in April. He loved taking groups from the Historic Lanark site over to the Hill home, where he worked with me and other gardeners those first years. He showed off Lanark for us and became one of the facilities biggest advocates.

When he died a few years ago, I knew I'd lost a dear friend. I walked around the gardens thinking, "We need to do something to honor Fred". Well, awhile back, I received a phone call from Jean Lee of New Market, Alabama. While president of the Alabama Master Gardening Association several years ago, she was in a terrible car accident. Fred, as the vice President for that organization, stepped up and led that year while Jean recovered. Undoubtedly, Fred made an impression on Jean and all the people he touched while working on the state level. Jean wanted to contribute to a memorial for Fred: knowing he loved Lanark so much, she thought it appropriate to donate here at the gardens. She wanted to join with CAMGA working together to provide something special. Fred was completely devoted to CAMGA and well loved by its members.

I remembered that Fred loved to work around the brick terrace. This was Isabel Hill's favorite spot as well, and he'd always felt we should put the area to good use. He once asked me why there wasn't anything to sit on out there. I told him that there used to be but it had all been sold when Mrs. Hill died. That I thought we needed something to invite folks to come sit and enjoy. He looked me straight in the eye and said "Well, I guess you better do something about that". I'd noticed visitors loved to walk around the brick terrace but wouldn't stay there long as it lacked furniture to sit on. So, with Fred's comment in mind, I suggested a bench made from teak wood with a memorial plaque; AWF's executive director, Tim Gothard approved the idea and CAMGA immediately sent a check for a teak bench.

When I called Jean Lee with the news she suggested we bring in some other friends of Fred. One friend in particular was Brenda Tapp from Huntsville, Alabama. She was the original instigator with Jean Lee to do something special in remembrance of Fred. Brenda immediately sent the information about the teak furniture to all Master Gardening organizations in the state of Alabama. Within days, AWF received checks from Mobile to Huntsville; from all over the state the money poured in. With it came testimonials and remembrances of

one man that made such a big difference to so many people.

The Brick Terrace now displays two teak benches, which each sit three, three teak chairs and two teak coffee tables. It is a lovely area with a brick patio surrounded by woods; Oak leaf- Hydrangeas and Wild Azaleas produce spectacular back drop. There is a step down to a wooden deck over-looking the hillside with a small winding creek below. Brick stairs lead down to the creek. It is a truly beautiful, peaceful site.

There was a memorial dedication ceremony September 19. It was a quiet Saturday morning until all the cars started pulling up the road, searching for a place to park. Fred's family was there along with Fred's friends and some fellow Master Gardener's. I spoke first and said basically what I just told you about Fred, then Jean Lee gave a beautiful talk about what a great friend Fred was as well as such a huge help to the statewide Master Gardener's organization. Third up was Linda Griebel, current CAMGA president, she spoke on behalf of CAMGA but also as a friend to Fred and what he meant to her personally. The patio furniture has and will get plenty of use and already the Brick Terrace has become a mini-meeting place. I believe Fred would've loved that so many folks came together to make a special place at Lanark mean even more.



OPPORTUNITY FOR CAMGA SHIRT

When we represent our organization at events or during speaking engagements, it's very nice to be wearing an "official" shirt. (Remember that Master Gardeners should always be careful to give out only research based horticultural information per Extension guidelines.)

If you would like to have a CAMGA shirt, bring whatever shirt onto which you want the design shown above embroidered to either the **October 13 Lunch & Learn at Extension or to the monthly meeting on October 20th (at Lanark)**. Charlotte Hall will take the shirts to the individual who'll have this done. You'll need to also bring either cash or a check for \$8 per shirt if we have enough orders. The cost will be \$10 per shirt if you do this individually at another time.



The Selma Art Guild...presents IN THE GARDEN

Calling All Artists to come and be a part of this show.
Sally Jordan, our president, has spear headed the effort to restore the back garden at the Selma Art Guild Gallery and we are proud of her efforts. Therefore, we decided to celebrate with a garden party. Come, join us!

Artists and craftspeople bring your paintings, sculptures and pottery that has a garden related theme and/or garden art. We will be hanging art in the garden and as well as the gallery. Also, there will be garden experts giving talks and demos in the garden

Take in for the show: Saturday October 3rd for art that will be hung in the gallery and Saturday October 10th for garden art.

Reception for the show: Sunday October 11th from 2-4

Guild members 20% and non-members 30%
commission on sales during the show

If you have any questions, please contact Jo Taylor at
daisyraku@bellsouth.net or 334-412-3852

—Featured Plant of the Month -October By Jane Mobley

Harlequin Glory Bower aka Peanut Butter Plant



Imagine my surprise when I looked out my backdoor in September only to see masses of fuchsia blooms waving in the air above one of my flower beds. I thought, "Where on earth did those come from?" After further thought I remembered that was the location of the glory bower that I had planted several years ago only to be disappointed at never seeing anything but leaves. And, what I was looking at was not the bloom but the fruiting stage. The blooms had come earlier, and I had been so busy that I had missed them, but the fruit-

ing stage was not to be missed even from a distance.

Glory bower was one of the plants that I discovered when working on an advanced certification in southern heirloom gardens. I fell in love with the very distinctive blooms and fruits in the pictures and jumped on the chance to acquire one when a Capital City MG friend had one to share after ordering them from someone in Oregon of all places. Within a year I discovered a couple of things about my sought after plants. They are very unique in several ways, are easy to grow, get very large, and spread all over if they like where they are.

Clerodendrum trichotomum is not only called harlequin glory bower, but is also known as the peanut butter plant because of the aroma that is given off when its large ovate leaves are crushed. In late summer the somewhat topsy-turvy plants bloom with jasmine-like white flowers encased in red sepals. The flowers also have a jasmine-like fragrance. Flowers are followed by metallic blue berries encased in fuchsia calyxes.

This plant is native to Japan and was used in southern heirloom gardens. Like many southern heirloom plants, the glory bower can get huge, as in 10-15' X 10-15' if planted in full sun with loamy well-drained soil. It still will do well in partial shade. It is hardy to zone 6 but will die to the ground in winter. In our area it is a deciduous shrub. By deciduous I mean that it will lose all of its leaves AND BRANCHES in the winter. For that reason I was cutting down the entire thing in the winter after which it would appear in the spring. Although I could not find any info on this, I believe that my cutting it down every year is the reason that I have just now gotten blooms. I neglected to cut it down last winter. I know that will happen if you cut down the brown vine of the clematis in the winter.

Glory bower is an aggressive grower (meaning that it might be aggravating to keep in check). It is prone to suckering and spreading in mass. For that reason it would make a really good hedge particularly at the woodland edge. On the other hand, it also would do well planted in the middle of a lawn where the suckers could be easily mowed down. The plant can be pruned into a tree shape. It may be propagated by softwood cuttings, hardwood cuttings, digging up suckers and repotting, and by planting seeds. Or, you could just ask me for one as I have plenty to share.

It is a butterfly and hummingbird magnet and lends a great smell to the air when in bloom.

SEPTEMBER MINUTES By Rosemary Mobley, Secretary



The September, 2015, Central Alabama Master Gardeners' Association (CAMGA) meeting was held September 15, 2015, at the Elmore County Cooperative Extension auditorium in Wetumpka, Alabama. Linda Griebel called the meeting to order at 10:03 a.m. She announced that the Nominating Committee, chaired by Charlotte Hall, will present the slate of nominees for officers for 2016. These are: Rhona Watson-President; Lee Borden-Vice-President; Lois Pribulick-Secretary; Joyce Vella-Treasurer; and Gale Wheeler-Leonard-Advisory Council Representative. Next, she asked for any additional nominations from the floor. There were not any, and Linda explained the process to follow. The nominees announced at the September meeting will be published in the October Garden Buzz Newsletter. These individuals will be announced again and voted on at the October meeting, and begin their terms of office in January, 2016.

Next, Linda recognized Mallory Kelly. First, Mallory expressed gratitude to Mary Ann Hatcher, and the entire Helpline Committee, for the thorough manner that responses to gardening questions from the public were handled. Next, she spoke about the current intern class which involves a partnership between Elmore County and Autauga County. Mentors from both counties will bring lunches to the interns on September 17th. She asked that mentors arrive at 10:50 a.m., and wait outside of the auditorium until asked to enter so as not to disrupt the class.

Rick Ohlson stood and thanked Butch Kinney and Joe L'Abbe for their dependable service at the Millbrook Farmers' Market during the summer. Then, Linda introduced the speaker, Lee Borden, CAMGA Vice-President, who holds Advanced Master Gardener Certification.

Lee's presentation was titled "A Layman's Take on Photosynthesis." He presented his informed belief that, "Photosynthesis is the most important chemical reaction on the planet." While explaining the origins of photosynthesis, Lee described a world of one-celled organisms that were destroyed in an extinction event, the "Oxygen Holocaust." This event gave rise to multi-celled organisms that not only tolerated, but thrived on oxygen. After a while, equilibrium became established between oxygen and carbon dioxide.

At the previous CAMGA meeting, Lee asked participants to record favorite people, places, and things. He proceeded to incorporate these responses into the fact that life and everything we hold dear is dependent on the ability of plants to make their own food through a process called photosynthesis. In describing the mechanics of photosynthesis, he noted that plants take in carbon dioxide and water and then produce glucose (a sugar) and oxygen. While this description is straight forward, the details of photosynthesis are complex. Plants have a pigment called chlorophyll that absorbs light in the red-orange and blue-violet parts of the spectrum. Chlorophyll reflects green light, which is why plants are green. The main chemical reactions of photosynthesis take place in plant structures called chloroplasts.

The photosynthesis process is divided into reactions that happen in the light and other reactions occur in the "dark" or are non-light-dependent. Lee explained, "Light causes chlorophyll to give up electrons. Then, the chlorophyll snatches them back from water." He went on to explain that, "There are two kinds of chlorophyll. The first gives up an electron and snatches it back. The second sends it on its way, a river of electrons. The power of the flowing river of electrons is used to make ATP (adenosine triphosphate) – "the energy currency of life." In the non-light-dependent (dark) reaction the free electrons get pushed into carbon dioxide, forming glucose. The entire presentation is available online at the following site:

<http://www.slideboom.com/presentations/1298091/Photosynthesis> . A question and answer session followed the presentation.

The group took a break at 11:00 a.m. The business meeting convened at 11:12 a.m. The first order of business was for the President to award Candy Jones and Phil Easter the Rick Beauchamp Service Award for performing extraordinary volunteer service. Congrats to Candy and Phil!

Linda thanked the CAMGA Board for providing lunch for the interns on September 10th. Sandy



Rosamond announced that CAMGA members will provide lunch on October 29th and November 5th. She will have sign-up sheets at the October meeting. Also, the CAMGA Board will provide lunch on November 12th.

Next, Linda noted that there is a need for a member to write a quarterly article for the Alabama Master Gardener Association (AMGA) publication, "Pathways." Contact Linda if you are interested.

Lee Borden was recognized to report on programs for future meetings.

- 1) On October 20th, the meeting site moves to Lanark in Millbrook. Maria Pacheco-West will make a presentation titled, "Sensory Gardens." Directions are online at: <http://www.alabamawildlife.org/directions-to-lanark/>
- 2) Dave Borden will be the presenter at the November 17th meeting, and his topic is long-leaf pines. The November meeting will return to the Elmore County Extension Auditorium.
- 3) The annual Christmas luncheon will occur on December 15th at Mulder Memorial Methodist Church. Details will follow.

The next order of business was consideration of Secretary's Minutes. Linda asked attendees if there were any questions, corrections, or additions to the August Minutes published in the September Newsletter. There were none and the minutes were approved by acclamation.

Linda gave the Treasurer's Report for August, 2015. The balance as of July 31, 2015 was \$12,574.43. There was no income for August, 2015. Expenditures for August included a \$100. donation to Mulder Church for use of the facility, site of intern graduation; and \$31.05 for the Learning Gardens. Total August expenditures were \$131.05. This resulted in a balance, as of August 31, 2015, of \$12,443.38. The Treasurer's Report was approved by acclamation.

John Barnes reported for the Projects Committee. He invited interested members and interns to attend the committee meetings held on the Monday before each monthly meeting. John shared that Johann Beumer researched the cost for materials needed to maintain and repair the two overhangs above the entrances to the Extension Auditorium; and presented them to the Projects Committee for consideration. John Barnes made a motion that up to \$600 from the Treasury is used for these repairs. Lee Borden and Candy Jones made seconds, and the motion was passed. The Master Gardener Plant Swap is scheduled for October 9, 2015, at 10:00 a.m. in the Extension Auditorium, and those interested should have 5 established plants to swap. A sign-up sheet for this event was available at the registration table. Another sign-up sheet was available to volunteer for a work day on November 2nd at the Governor's Mansion.

Linda announced that the beginning time for Thursday volunteers in the Learning Gardens changed from 7:15 a.m. to 8:15 a.m. While the intern class is in session, volunteers were asked to avoid as much as possible, any noise distractions, especially while working in the beds near the auditorium.

Charlotte Hall reported for the Lunch and Learn (L&L) committee. There were 31 attendees at the September session conducted by Amanda and Lee Borden titled, "Energize with Ground Cover." The October 13th session, "Color for Every Season," will be presented by Jane McCarthy. The L&L Committee met and firmed up topics for sessions in 2016. They have already secured 2 speaker commitments for next year.

Mary Ann Hatcher noted that the Helpline Committee responded to 135 calls, and followed up on any pending calls from other regions that were not included in the final report.

Gale Wheeler updated everyone on the Membership Care Committee. She sent a card to Ann Smith on the loss of her son. Also members and spouses who received cards were: the wife of Rod Douglas and Iva Haynie's husband. She requested that everyone keep her informed of illnesses of members or any other card needs.

Linda shared that Maria Pacheco-West contacted her about a Memorial Dedication at the area where the teak patio furniture given in memory of Fred Evans is located. The dedication will take place on September 19, 2015 at 9:30 a.m. The ceremony will be held at the Hill Home, Lanark, in Millbrook, Alabama. Linda asked those who planned to attend to arrange for car pools due to limited parking.

Charlotte Hall was recognized to provide information about her research into the cost for embroidery of shirts with a CAMGA design. With individuals providing the shirt, the cost is \$8. per group order and \$10. per single orders. More details will follow in the newsletter.

The meeting was adjourned at 11:50 a.m. Door prizes of orchids and bromeliads, courtesy of Phil Easter,



SPOTLIGHT ON VOLUNTEERS by Judy May

The Lunch and Learn September 8th was "Energize With Ground Cover" by Lee and Amanda Borden. Thirty One people attended, 19 of them Master Gardeners. Assisting that day were Sandi Adkison, Debbie Kelso and Carla McCune.

Attending the Projects Committee meeting September 14th were John Barnes, John Butler, Johan Beumer, Corky Butts, Linda Griebel and Janet Lewis.

The yummy snacks at the Master Gardener meeting September 15th were thanks to Iva Haynie, Cheri Bedford, Brenda Bernal, Marjorie Hannah and Becky Brown.

Becky Brown says the first day of the 2016 MG class went well with 20 members. The first day was a bit hectic guiding the new interns into the process of the class, but Selma Thomason, Joyce Vella and Bob Brown did a great job of helping the class members navigate the day. The Test Graders for Sept. 17th were Joyce Vella and Corky Butts. Thank you to Sharon Potts and Ricky Hatcher for answering the phones in the office so that OUR Carol Pugh is able to attend the MG class. And Kudos to Mallory Kelley for getting the MG class together and teaching two classes Sept 17th on short notice.

Board members who brought lunch to the interns the first day of class were: Linda Griebel, Rosemary Mobley, Lee Borden, Becky Brown, Ann Hill, Carol Rattan, Mary McCroan, Candy Jones and Charlotte Hall. The interns enjoyed getting to know one another over a great lunch.

Mentors for the new class are John Barnes, Joe and Sally L'Abbe. Don Hoover, Kay Norman, Candy Jones, Marjorie Hannah, Sharon Potts, Rhonda Miles, Amanda Borden, Johan Beumer, Joyce Vella, Paula Seamon, Mary McCroan and Judy May. The mentors brought lunch to the interns the second week of class.

Sept 9th the AMGA Fall Conference attendees were: Joyce Vella, Jane Mobley, Rhonda and Jesse Miles, Gale Wheeler-Leonard, Rosemary Mobley, Kay Norman and Linda Griebel and Marjorie Hannah.

Working in the Learning Gardens this month were Don Hoover, John Barnes, Joyce Vella, Terry Chambliss, Mary McCroan, Cheri Bedford, Amanda Borden, Johan Beumer and Linda Griebel.

September 16th Rosemary Mobley gave a presentation to the Pike County Master Gardeners on "Crafts Using Natural Materials".

Present for the September 19th Lanark Dedication to Fred Evans were Maria Pacheco West, Candy Jones, Don Hoover, John Barnes, Mary Long and Linda Griebel.

Working at the Governor's Mansion this month were Amanda Borden, Sandy Rosamond, Melanie Barry and Jane McCarthy.

Attending the Gardening Extravaganza in Alex City on September 18th were Janet Lewis, Kelly McCloskey, Judy May, Rosemary Mobley, Kay Norman, Joyce Vella, Sandy Rosamond, Don Hoover, Linda Queen, Jo Weitman, Tom Jaworksi and interns Sherron Schaefer and Susan Littleton.

Maria says this month at Lanark, Ann Hill, Carla McCune, Norman Turnipseed, Judy May, Peggy Gelpi, Don Hoover, and Jimmy May helped keep the gardens neat and beautiful all month. Peggy Gelpi, Jimmy May, Carla McCune, Linda Griebel and her husband Mike all helped prepare and or set up and clean up for the Fred Evan's Memorial Dedication. Thanks to all of you for your time and energy! Maria appreciates us all.



Fall AMGA Mini Conference in Clanton



Ongoing Article for Learning Garden

By Mary McCroan

Workers for September: Cheri Bedford, Terri Chambliss, Cindy Beumer, Linda Griebel, Don Hoover, Amanda Borden, John Barnes, and Mary McCroan. We've had fewer workers this month, but there has been less to do with no major projects such as building trellises or new raised beds.



In September we have continued to enjoy the fruits of the harvest as we've gathered up the last of the summer veggies. The Malabar Spinach is still going strong and any CAMGA members are welcome to harvest some leaves to try in a salad or stir fry. It's not my favorite garden veggie--it's not bad, just a little bland. But it grows GREAT in our heat all summer long. It is also a favorite of the bees and a very attractive vine as a annual ornamental. It currently has lots of berries if you want to collect some to try at home. We still have a few tomato plants providing fruit and herbs such as basal are going strong. The basal is worth having just because it smells so great when we brush against it as we walk around the garden. We've let some of the basal go to flower and the bees love it. Of course we continue to plant fall veggies, some from seed and some transplants.

Coming up after the first frost will be a "Harvest the Horseradish" day. We'll let everybody know in advance and there should be plenty for anybody that wants to come out and help dig and take some home either to try in a recipe, or to plant at home.



Poultry Processing Workshop

Please join us for an educational workshop on the processing of chickens on **October 17, 2015** at the **Elmore County Agricultural Center** from **9:00 am until 12:00 p.m.**

The workshop is **free**, however we have a **15 person limit**.
Please **RSVP** to the **Elmore County Extension Office (334-567-6301)** by **October 15**.



The Workshop is Hands-On

Elmore County Agricultural Center
340 Queen Ann Road
Wetumpka, AL 36092
334-567-6301
334-567-8604 Fax





Estate Planning Seminar

October 13, 2015

9:00am-1:30pm

3481 Main Street

Millbrook, AL

FREE

**Presenters: Dr. Robert Tufts, Auburn University
Clint Niemeyer, Alabama Securities Commission**

PLEASE CALL THE ELMORE COUNTY OFFICE TO REGISTER

Sponsors: Alabama Cooperative Extension System

Alabama Securities Commission 334-567-6301

DO YOU HAVE AN ESTATE PLAN ??

If you do not have an estate plan, Alabama has one for you.

Who will take care of your minor children?

Who will own your property?

Learn about wills, power of attorney, advanced directive for health care and other issues.



www.aces.edu

Lunch and Learn



“Energize with Cover Crops” by Deborah Kelso

Our own energetic MG members Amanda and Lee Bordon presented this very important topic at the September Lunch and Learn. They explained that a “resting soil” is really a dying soil in the South. The weeds will still grow and rob nutrients from the soil, organic matter continues to break down and erosion steals even more of our hard worked soil.

Some of the reasons given for not using cover crops are: lack of knowledge, tired of gardening, it can be ugly or unsightly, money, have too small of an area, or don’t know how to terminate it.

The reasons you should use cover crops are: It builds organic matter into the soil, aerates the soil, decreases erosion, increases the tilth (fryability or feel), increases the water capacity, and increases the nitrogen available thus decreasing the need to fertilize. Some are edible and others have beautiful flowers and attract beneficial insects.

We learned that cover crops can be grown year round with a little knowledge of what does best in each season.



In the warm season, plant Sunn Hemp, Buckwheat, Sorghum-Sudangrass or Cowpea. Plant between May 1st and August 1st. They usually die with the first frost.

The cool season favorites were: Crimson Clover, Hairy Vetch, Winter Pea, Triticale, Cereal Rye, Black Oats, Annual Ryegrass, Daikon Radish and Amanda’s favorite, Lupin.

The price for cover crops varies greatly. It can range from \$0.16/lb for Wheat to \$6.00/lb for Cow Pea. Soil scientists recommend mixing 2-3 different cover crops to take advantage of their different attributes. Don’t forget that legumes require inoculation prior to planting.

Some of your cover crops will require trimming, so keep the hedge trimmer

handy. When it is time to terminate the cover crop, do not remove the roots if possible and lay the cut material in your beds for mulch.

For more information, check out the full slides on <http://bit.ly/camgacovercrops>

Don’t forget to join us next month on October 13th, when Jane McCarthy will Dazzle us with “Color for Every Season”. Bring your lunch and remember beverages will be provided. I look forward to seeing you there.



The Borden's

Ladies CAN...

A Series of Workshops for Women

SAFETY...

October 7: Are You Ready (Part One)
(Home and Emergency Safety)

October 14: Are You Ready (Part Two)
(Home and Emergency Safety)

Pre-registration required for all classes

Call 334-567-6301

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Governor's Mansion Report by Amanda Borden

September has been an unusual month for those of us that volunteer at the Governor's Mansion. We took the day off for Labor Day, and then got rained out on the 21st.

However, we are continuing to weed, trim, discover, admire, chat, teach, discuss books and even mention current events. If you are interested in joining us any **Monday morning (8 AM** in the summer and **9 AM** in the winter) please give me a call, and we'll have you added to the security list.



Thanks, Jane H. McCarthy **(334-221-9936)**

Also, we are planning a Mansion Work Day, **2 Nov, at 9 AM.** Please sign up at the October meeting or give me a call to sign up, and for directions. You'll need miscellaneous hand tools, shovels, loppers, rakes, and what ever you think you'll need for Fall Clean-up. Thanks in advance, Jane

**Mark your calendars for
Blount County Master Gardener's
Fall Conference Blount**

October 1, 2015 9:30 am – 3 pm

Palisades Park, D. S. Loyd Building, 225 Palisades Park, Oneonta, AL 35121

FALL 2015 MASTER GARDENER CLASS SCHEDULE

Thursdays – 9:00 a.m. – 2:00 p.m.

- Sept. 10 9:00 a.m. – 11:00 a.m. Class Orientation Mallory Kelley
12:00 pm.-2:00pm. Plant Physiology Toby Hoover
- Sept. 17 9:00 a.m. –2:00 p.m. Vegetable Gardening and Pollinators Dani Carroll
- Sept. 24 **10:00 a.m. – 2:00 p.m. (OPTIONAL) Chilton Research Station & Petals from the Past
- Oct. 1 9:00 a.m. – 10:00 a.m. Website Login and Hours Mallory Kelley
10:30 a.m.-11:30 a.m. Helpline Training Mary Ann Hatcher & Mallory Kelley
12:00 pm.-2:00 pm. Pruning Ornamentals Mary McCroan & Linda Griebel
- Oct. 8 9:00 a.m. – 2:00 p.m. Soils & Plant Nutrition Dr. Charles Mitchell
Soil Test Results & Analysis
- Oct. 15 9:00 a.m.- 2:00 p.m. Fruit Culture Mallory Kelley
- Oct. 22 9:00 a.m. – 11:00 a.m. Herbs Maria P. West & Jane Mobley
12:00 p.m. -- 2:00 p.m. Entomology Dr. Charles Ray
- Oct. 29 9:00a.m.- 11:00 a.m. Plant Propagation Mallory Kelley
12:00 a.m. - 2:00 p.m. Composting Mallory Kelley
- Nov. 5 9:00 a.m.- 2:00 p.m. Turf and Lawn Care Dr. Chip East
- Nov. 12 9:00 a.m. – 10:00 a.m. Hummingbirds Fred Bassett
10:15a.m.- 2:00 p.m. Plant Diseases/Disorders Dr. Jim Jacobi
- Nov. 19 9:00 a.m.- 11:00 a.m. Landscape Design Kira Chaloupka
12:00pm. – 2:00p.m. Wrap Up (Pot Luck Lunch by Interns)



You're Invited

62nd ANNUAL SMALL-STANDARD FLOWER SHOW COMPETITION

at the **Alabama National Fair**
1555 Federal Drive, Montgomery, AL 36107

October 30 – November 4, 2015

Entries of Container Grown Plants and in the Horticulture Division are open to any amateur gardener (no entry fee). Exhibitors must follow the general rules and horticulture rules in the 2015 “*Flower Show Schedule*” available online at **<http://www.alnationalfair.org/competitions/flower-show>**

Competition in the Design Division is open to members of The Montgomery Federation of Garden Clubs, Inc., Judges in Council VI, Student Judges and Master Gardeners.

Exhibitors may pick up entry tags at the Fair office. A printable working copy of the tag is available online at **www.alnationalfair.org**.

Master Gardeners

Amateur Gardeners

Any questions or need more information

Call Marie Updike or Mary Long

Programs Update by Lee Borden

On September 15 during our program on photosynthesis, Carol Rattan and I had a fascinating conversation about whether old trees or young trees sequester more carbon. I had hoped to get an answer for you for this newsletter, but I'm still working on it. Watch this space.

On October 20 we will NOT meet at the Extension auditorium. Instead, we will meet at the **Lanark Nature Center** and here a presentation from Maria Pacheco-West on Sensory Gardens.



In November my brother Dave Borden will share with us about the role longleaf pines have played in southern forests and his experience growing them.

Our tentative program schedule and each meeting's evaluation results are online and available for your review at <http://bit.ly/camgaprograms>.



MASTER GARDENER PLANT SWAP OCTOBER 9 10:00 A.M. Extension Auditorium

Those interested should have 5 established plants to swap.

CAMGA Garden Buzzzz
Mary Long— Editor
Plantlady@elmore.rr.com
Elmore, Alabama 36025
plantlady@elmore.rr.com



NEXT MEETING

OCTOBER 20

10 A.M.

LANARK

