



GARDEN BUZZZZZ



Volume 25 Issue 10 Central Alabama Master Gardener Association

October 2016

Message from: Rhona Watson **CAMGA President**



Welcome to October! It is finally cooling off and I can get back in the garden. It is time to take off the tin foil and check if there are roots on the air layering I did in June. Probably some of those plants will show up at the plant swap on October 7.

Check your calendar, there are seminars in Oneonta, Chilton, and Fairhope, if you are interested. There are also some fun volunteer opportunities. I am going to help at the Pioneer Day in Loachapoka. They will be cutting and serving sugar cane, harvesting potatoes, and peanuts, and there is a lot to see at the

Herb and Medicinal Garden. Dr. Mitchell and his wife Peggy are very involved with this and Lee and Amanda Borden will be playing music.

There are several fun activities for kids, so plan on coming on October 29th. October 28 thru November 1, is the Alabama national fair. Contact Marie Updike if you would like to enter the flower or photography contest.

Thanks to Maria for a wonderful presentation on roses, at our meeting. Everyone that attended learned how Maria keeps the roses at Lanark looking beautiful. To learn more about roses, and the diverse collection of plants at Lanark you can volunteer to help any Wednesday.

Thanks to Candy Jones for the work she did on the nomination for Officers of our organization for 2017. They are an outstanding group and I am looking forward to working with them next year. We will vote for them at the next meeting so be sure to attend if you can.

The program in October is about permaculture. Thanks to Lee and Jane for getting us educated about Toby Hemenway who will be our speaker, along with Jason Powell at our seminar in February. This will give us the opportunity to learn about permaculture so we can be knowledgeable about the subject before the seminar.

We also had a presentation on Harvest for Health from Renee Thompson. The results of master gardeners working with cancer survivors are impressive. As a mentor you will be working with a survivor for 12 months in a garden you do together. Contact Renee if you are interested in being a part of this worthwhile program.

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Sandy Rosamond made this adorable scarecrow. It will be on display in the gardens at Old Alabama Town this fall as the "Master Gardener." Thank you Sandy!!



Message from: Rhona Watson
CAMGA President — (Continued)

My picture this month is of my front yard. The plant in the front is a fire bush I got from Phil Easter and continues to be one of my favorites. In keeping with our program in November on Taxonomy the Latin name is hamelia. It is a perennial in our area and blooms from July to frost. It does well in hot dry weather and is always surrounded with butterflies, and attracts humming birds. The plant in the background is an Encore Azalea that blooms even more in late summer and fall than in the spring.

There is a lot you can choose from in October, so get involved.

YOUR FAVORITE GARDEN SHOULD BE YOUR OWN

Rhona



Photo of Rhona's front yard. Plant featured is one of her favorite plants, the "fire bush" plant.

Message from Mallory

Mallory Kelley

Regional Extension Agent — Home Grounds, Gardens, Home Pests

“Going Green by Composting”

Fall is a great time of year to start a compost pile and over one third of all the garbage from our homes that goes to the landfill could be composted and incorporated back into our landscapes. The United States alone generates 230 million tons of trash per day, this is about 4.6 pounds per person per day and in Alabama, a family of 4 generates 2.5 tons of garbage per year. Less than one quarter of all this garbage is recycled and the rest is either incinerated or buried in landfills. The amount of trash buried in landfills has almost tripled since 1960 and the truth is, these landfills are filling up. Landfills take up land that could be used for development or wildlife and cause odors and no one wants a landfill to be put in their community. So what are we to do with all that garbage? Compost it!



This fall as the leaves are falling to the ground, your pruning trees and shrubs and cleaning out your seasonal beds and summer vegetable garden, use these items to start a compost pile. It will save you money as you use the finished product in your landscape around your trees and shrubs and it is excellent to incorporate into your vegetable garden or even use as soil in containers and pots of seasonal plants.

Composting will act as a fertilizer itself so there is less need for purchasing fertilizers. Also incorporating compost into your landscape and garden will help improve the structure of your soil and decrease the amount of watering needed during the hot months of summer. Best of all composting will help your garden grow naturally and save you money.

Start by finding a place for your compost pile. In a corner of an unused area of your property is perfect. There are also composting barrels that you can purchase for making compost that are available online and at garden centers. The main things that are needed is a place in the sun that you can stretch a water hose to and you will need a pitch fork so that you can turn the pile to keep air circulating. Microbial activity is going on within the pile that cause the materials placed into the pile to break down so it is very important to provide air and water to those micros so that they will work faster and your compost will be ready quickly to incorporate into your landscape.

When starting the pile, start with small limbs on the bottom and some leaves and then place some green materials. Then alternate from brown to green until the pile is about three feet tall and can be managed when it is time to turn the pile to supply microbes with air. Then you should wet the pile until it has the moisture capacity of a wrung out sponge. Then let it sit for a few days and then begin to turn and mix the pile. Continue turning and add water as needed until the materials that were added to the pile become unrecognizable, this will take a few months. Then your compost is ready to be used in the landscape.

Examples of Brown Materials: limbs, leaves, newspapers, coffee grinds, tea bags, etc.

Examples of Green Materials: tomato peels, banana peels, vegetation from last years vegetable garden, the zinnias you are pulling out of the summer beds, etc.

It is important to note that any meats, bones, dairy, and fats should not be placed in your compost pile. They will attract unwanted visitors into your yard and it will cause the pile not to break down properly.

Examples of Materials that DO NOT go into the compost pile: milk, mayo, salad dressing, peanut butter, cheeses, chicken, or any bones. Composting has so many great benefits and will help your garden grow more naturally while helping the local environment and reducing the amount of garden and kitchen waste going to landfills. So one way you can “Go Green” is by Composting!



September CAMGA Minutes for 2016

Rosemary Mobley — Co-Secretary

September 2016 Minutes

The September, 2016, Central Alabama Master Gardeners' Association (CAMGA) meeting was held September 20, 2016, at the NaturePlex Auditorium, located at Lanark in Millbrook, Alabama. Rhona Watson called the meeting to order at 9:55 a.m. She asked Lee Borden to introduce the first speaker, Renee Thompson, Outreach Coordinator, of Harvest for Health (H4H).



Ms. Thompson explained that H4H is a research project with the aim of improving the quality of life for cancer survivors through gardening. This is a joint endeavor between University of Alabama Birmingham (UAB) and Alabama Cooperative Extension System (ACES).

The design of the project partners a master gardener with a cancer survivor. UAB designates the cancer survivor and provides the necessary materials for a raised bed or large planters on wheels. In turn, ACES-certified master gardeners communicate with the survivors monthly for one year. During the interactions, master gardeners offer advice, expertise and suggestions, while answering questions new gardeners might have.

Ms. Thompson circulated a sign-up sheet for master gardeners to volunteer to be a part of this program. The official starting date for H4H will be in February, 2017. For additional information, contact Renee Thompson: thomprw@auburn.edu

PROGRAM: Next, Lee introduced the featured speaker, Maria Pacheco-West. Maria is a CAMGA member, the Lanark Grounds Specialist, and Tour Coordinator. Her topic was about roses, primarily antique varieties. Maria used live roses from the gardens at Lanark to illustrate points and to demonstrate propagation.

The speaker addressed times and techniques for pruning antique roses. Repeat blooming antique roses may be pruned more than once a year. In these cases, a good rule of thumb is to prune down one-third of the plant in February. After the first pruning in February, each time after the rose blooms (about every 6 to 8 weeks), prune down one-fourth of the plant. She discussed the Dortmund rose as an example of a repeat bloomer. She also shared that a good food for antique roses is fish emulsion.



Maria gave some interesting facts about companion plants for roses and home-made remedies for unwanted insect pests. Maria noted that garlic is a great companion for roses, and that the blades of the garlic plant are a nice contrast to the shapes of rose plants. Garlic bulbs in mineral oil form the basis for an insect and fungal spray. She shared the garlic spray recipe with attendees. Additionally, recipes for rose cookies and rose water beauty products were distributed. There was a break at 11:00 a.m. following the presentation.

September 2016 Minutes Continued

Rosemary Mobley — Co-Secretary



BUSINESS



After the break, the business meeting convened at 11:15 a.m. First on the agenda, the President asked those present to consider changing the Christmas Party format from a catered lunch to a “pot-luck” lunch with CAMGA members bringing side dishes, etc., and CAMGA providing meat dishes, such as turkey and ham. Those present at the meeting were in agreement with this idea. More details to follow.

PROGRAMS

Next, Rhona recognized Lee Borden for the Vice-President’s report. Lee thanked Maria for the presentation and for staging the meeting at the NaturePlex. He shared the topics and speakers for meetings through the end of the year.

October: Permaculture: Amanda Borden, Lee Borden, and Jane Mobley

November: Taxonomy: Candy Jones and Jane Mobley

December: Christmas Party

MINUTES: The next order of business was to consider the August Minutes published in the September Newsletter. The Minutes were approved by acclamation.

TREASURER’S REPORT: The President gave the Treasurer’s Report for August, 2016. The balance as of July 31, 2016 was \$12,960.30. Expenditures for August included: \$225.89 for Intern Graduation and \$46.81 for the Yard Art class. Total August expenditures equaled \$ 272.70. This resulted in a balance as of August 31, 2016 of \$12,687.60. The Treasurer’s Report was approved by acclamation.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

PROJECTS COMMITTEE: Linda Griebel reported for the Projects Committee. She mentioned the positive results of the class on making stepping stones for the garden. There is a Plant Swap scheduled on October 7, 2016 at the Elmore County Extension Auditorium. The swap begins at 10:00 a.m. and there is not a requirement for the number of plants to bring to the event. Linda explained that on-going sub-committees were at work preparing for the CAMGA-sponsored Seminar on Permaculture, at the Wetumpka Civic Center, on February 15, 2017.

Then, Jane Mobley was asked to update everyone on other Projects Committee initiatives. First, Jane shared that the heirloom garden originally designed and planted by CAMGA members at Wetumpka Middle School is in need of some maintenance. She has spoken to the students at the middle school about southern heirloom gardens. Terri Chambliss and John Barnes have agreed to assist the students with this garden every third Thursday of the month. Secondly, Jane distributed a sign-up sheet for those interested in helping work in Phil Easter’s yard on Monday, September 26, 2016. She gave the details for this project and stated that in case of rain on Monday, the group will assemble on Friday, September 30th.

September 2016 Minutes Continued

Rosemary Mobley — Co-Secretary



ACES: Mallory Kelly was recognized to present Jane Mobley with an Advanced Master Gardener Certificate in Herbs. Congratulations to Jane Mobley for her outstanding commitment to service! Mallory recognized that several new interns were present at the meeting. She also thanked MaryAnn Hatcher for her coordination of the Master Gardener Helpline. Plans are underway to provide a new computer for use with the helpline.

NOMINATION COMMITTEE: Rhona thanked Candy Jones for chairing the Nominating Committee. She asked Candy to present the slate of nominees for 2017. These are: President- Rhona Watson, Vice-President- Sandy Rosamond, Secretary- Iva Haynie, Treasurer- Bill Quails, and Advisory Committee Representative- Rhonda Miles. Next, the floor was opened for other nominations. There were none. The slate of officers for 2017 will be voted on at the October meeting, and sworn in at the December meeting.

LUNCH AND LEARN: *Charlotte Hall provided an update from the Lunch and Learn Committee. She informed the group that topics and speakers are in place for 2017. Mallory Kelly stated that there was a great deal of positive feedback from the September session on garden irrigation by Mary McCroan. The Lunch and Learn scheduled on October 11, 2016, is titled, "Papercrete- Mudpies for Grown-ups," and will be conducted by Carla McCune.*



OTHER BUSINESS: Marie Updike spoke briefly about the 63rd Annual Fall Flower Show at the Alabama National Fair in Montgomery from October 28- November 6, 2016. She shared information about the process to submit entries for the flower show. There is also a new Garden Photography Division for this year. Rules, entry times, and dates are available at www.alnationalfair.org. You may also contact Marie Updike at 334-328-0164 for more information.

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 11:45 a.m. Fifty-three attendees were at the meeting.

*Respectfully submitted,
Rosemary Mobley, Co-Secretary*



Congratulations to Jane Mobley for receiving an Advanced Master Gardener Certificate in Herbs!
Shown left to right: Mallory Kelley and Jane Mobley



Maria Pacheco-West presented a program on Roses at the September CAMGA monthly meeting.



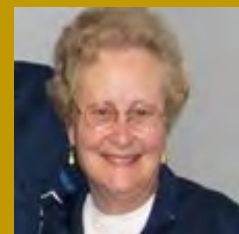
Renée Thompson, Outreach Coordinator, of Harvest for Health was one of the speakers at the September CAMGA monthly meeting.
Shown above: Amanda Borden and Renée Thompson



SPOTLIGHT ON VOLUNTEERS

For Month of September 2016

By Judy May



The Lunch and Learn speaker this month was Mary McCroan speaking on Drip Irrigation. Thirty One people attended, 23 of them Master Gardeners. Assisting were Charlotte Hall, Sandi Adkison, Debbie Kelso, Carla McCune and Bill Quailes.

Bringing refreshments to our monthly meeting were Maria Pacheco West, Linda Griebel, Ann Hill, Marjorie Hannah, Sharon Potts, Freda Frye, Rhonda Miles, Robin Snyder and Sally L'Abbe.

Maria Pacheco West did a presentation on Roses for our Master Gardener meeting. Maria and Jane Mobley did a presentation on Herbs to the intern class in Autauga County September 21. There were 22 in attendance.

Jane Mobley did a presentation on Heirloom Gardening to the Lonicera Garden Club on September 9 and on September 22 she did a presentation on Heirloom Gardening to some gifted students at Wetumpka Middle School. Sixteen students attended.

Janet Lewis was the instructor for the Stepping Stone class. Assisting were John Butler, Johan Beumer, and Linda Griebel. Creating wonderful stepping stones were: Terry Chambliss, Red Norman, Sherri Schaefer, Margie Hannah, Freda Frye, Carol Pugh, Betty Stricker, Mary McCroan, Rhona Watson and Lee Ann Marona.

Working on the Projects committee this month were: John Barnes, Linda Griebel, John Butler, Johan Beumer, Jane Mobley, Candy Jones, Terry Chambliss, Sharon Potts and Rhona Watson.

Rhona Watson did a presentation on Bonsai for the Montgomery Lunch and Learn. Fifty people attended and they were engaged and asked great questions. They gasped when she pruned the schefflera she used to demonstrate how to root prune a bonsai.

Maria says volunteering this month at Lanark were Carla McCune, Norman Turnipseed, Ann Hill, Leslie Bingham, Peggy Gelpi, and Jimmy May. We are preparing for winter and I really need some folks to come as a small group for the winter months November through March (this is a great way for interns to get hours!) to help me cut down wisteria, prune places that are hard to get to in the summer and other tidying up jobs we do in the wintertime, Call me at 657-9414. I can arrange for you to come any day-Monday through Friday, morning or afternoon. Thanks for all the support you all give to Lanark Gardens!

SPOTLIGHT ON VOLUNTEERS

September 2016



Many thanks to those who worked so hard in Phil Easter's yard on September 26, 2016. We had 17 members volunteer to help our good friend.

They were: Cathy Whigham, Debbie Corn, Rhonda Miles, Terry Chambliss, Jo Weitman, Johan Beumer, John Butler, Candy Jones, Mallory Kelly, Amy Richards, Rhona Watson, Leslie Bingham, Janet Lewis, Iva Haynie, Bill Quailes, RJ Arceneaux, and Jane Mobley.

Phil is donating some of his plants for our plant swap on Friday, October 7. Please come even if you do not have plants to swap and pick one up!

Submitted by: Jane Mobley

PLANT OF THE MONTH

By: Jane Mobley



October Plant of the Month - Deutzia

One type of southern heirloom shrub that is absolutely gorgeous is deutzia whose origin is Japan. This is one that often is overlooked in modern gardens, but one that would make a spectacular show as a foundation plant up close to the house or in the back of any border or on the edge of woods. Two of the 60 deutzia species that make great deciduous shrubs are *Deutzia scabra* and *Deutzia gracilis*. They are both in the Hydrangeaceae family. (All members of a family have many shared characteristics; so, if you presently grow hydrangeas, you would already know how to care for these plants.)

Deutzia gracilis is also known as slender deutzia. It grows from 2' to 5' tall and wide. ('String of Pearls' is a newer variety of this plant.) Its branches are adorned with racemes of fluffy white fragrant bell-shaped blooms in April or May. This plant grows in full to part sun and requires a medium amount of moisture. It also tolerates clay soil well even though it does best in loamy soil. Best flowering occurs in full sun. Individual stems are not long lived; so, pruning out dead stems is about the only maintenance required. Any other pruning should be done in the spring after flowering. The shrub is dense and rounded with broadly spreading to arching stems. (Any pruning should follow the pruning rules for cane plants.) Leaves are deep green and smooth.

Deutzia scabra, also known as fuzzy deutzia, is like the bigger cousin to slender deutzia. It grows from 8' to 10' tall and 4' to 8' wide with a dense rounded crown. Fuzzy Deutzia blooms in June on old wood, (the previous year's growth). It prefers full sun and moist soil, but will tolerate many different pH values of the soil. Renewal pruning is very effective for this shrub. (It will get BIG - give it space!) Small brown fruits appear after flowering and may be left for winter interest. Mature branches have dark brown exfoliating bark. Flowers of this deutzia appear on 3" to 6" panicles and are star shaped and fragrant. Flowers are white with a tinge of pink or purple. Leaves are dull green, rough textured and hairy.

Neither plant is troubled much by pests. Occasionally there may be some black spot, (I have never seen any on mine), as well as a slight affinity for leafminers and aphids. Plants may be propagated from softwood cuttings or grown from *fresh* seeds that require no dormancy period in order to germinate. The arching form of the branches gives these plants a graceful airy look.

Deutzia



LEARNING GARDEN

By: Mary McCroan



Our volunteers in the Learning Garden for September included Linda Griebel, Amanda Borden, Sherri Schaefer, John Barnes, Jane Mobley, Rosemary Mobley, Candy Jones, Don Hoover, and Mary McCroan.

This month we've focused on getting the fall veggies going. The small veggies we've planted from pots in two of the raised beds are doing well. The rhubarb I ordered a couple of weeks ago arrived and was planted last week. From our research, rhubarb will not grow as a perennial here because our summers are too hot, but it can be grown as a fall annual. We will see. If successful, I'll have to find a good rhubarb recipe. Two weeks ago Amanda planted four rows of seeds for various fall veggies. There are lots of baby plants where the emitters are keeping the soil damp, but most of them look like weeds. Update on that next month.

We got our irrigation system extended to the three new raised beds and will be planting those soon. If anybody wants to adopt a bed to try some fall veggies of your choice, send Mary a note at ary1@mccroan.com. We will also soon be deciding if we want to let the tomatoes continue awhile longer, or clear them out to make room for a fall crop.

We have continued to enjoy the fruits of our labors this month with volunteers taking home sweet potatoes, beets, egg plant, tomatoes, arugula, etc. The Malabar Spinach from last year self-seeded prolifically and we've allowed plants near the garden fence to grow up on the rails. They get NO irrigation in that location and are growing in much less fertile soil. Although the rate of growth is much slower than last year when they were in the irrigated beds, the leaves are as succulent and tasty as when they were better cared for. I'd recommend Malabar Spinach as a fast growing, eatable and decorative annual vine for a trellis. It WILL self seed, so maybe don't plant it where the seedlings will drive you crazy.

The small lantanas that Linda donated are doing OK in the beds in front of the Extension Office. We've been irrigating them a couple of times a week, but next year they should be very low maintenance. Although the ground cover fabric we installed has cut down on the weeding chores in that area, some weeds still grow through the fabric (e.g. nut grass) and some get started in the thin layer of mulch on top of the weed fabric. We hope the lantana will provide multiple benefits: out compete and shade out the weeds; provide additional color; feed the bees and butterflies; and do all of this with little to no irrigation once established.

Last, we did a little pruning to shape up the Lorepetalum and other shrubs that had gotten a little too big--growing up in front of Extension Office windows. I know--the official advice is to not prune this time of year. You will encourage new growth that might not have time to harden off before an early freeze. Or depending on the plant, you might cut off buds forming for next spring's flowers. But another school of thought is that you prune when you have time. Or my school of thought is that I prune when something gets so out of bounds it is driving me crazy. I won't say I have never killed a shrub with this approach, but at least I'm not crazy!

Lunch and Learn Program

CAMGA August 2016 Lunch and Learn

By: Charlotte Hall



CAMGA September Lunch and Learn

“Drip Irrigation – All the Parts and Pieces

Boy, has it ever been HOT and DRY!!!! And have you been spending a lot of time watering your plants through this very hot and dry season? Did you ever wish that you had an efficient irrigation system already installed in your yard so that you didn't spend so much time trying to water your plants? Guess what? Mary McCroan showed all the September Lunch and Learn attendees just that and she made it simple enough that everyone felt comfortable that they could incorporate this useful information and not require professional installation and incur professional charges.

Mary noted the pros and cons for having a drip irrigation system. On the plus side, drip irrigation doesn't waste water between plants as it puts the water directly where it is needed, eliminates fungal problems that may be spread through water contacting plant foliage, utilizes water to its fullest as there is less water loss to evaporation (30% - 50% less) and it creates less water runoff which can also help in reducing weeds, as well as contaminate rivers and ponds. It can also increase crop yields if you are planting on a slope as it is good for hilly areas. And a big plus is that it saves time and labor as it is automated with a timer. And who couldn't use more time and less work?

Among the cons that Mary has encountered over the time that she has incorporated drip irrigation is that it can be costly as drip irrigation can cost more than the regular flip/flop type of irrigation. It also can be a higher maintenance project since it can be susceptible to rodent damage and require more pressure regulation and filtration than sprinklers and it provides no foliage washing.

The initial plan to install drip irrigation will require many components and Mary suggests that you decide on one source for securing all the different parts. Pick a plan and stay with it because components from different vendors may not necessarily be compatible with each other. Since you will probably need replacement components in the future use of your drip irrigation system, it is best to secure these from the same vendor to assure compatibility. And this is also true if you want to expand your system at a future date.

One tip that Mary gave is to start with a backflow preventer, use battery operated timers and consider use of filters and pressure reducer.



Lunch and Learn Program (Continued)

By: Charlotte Hall



Then Mary proceeded to walk everyone through – step by step – on how to layout an irrigation system. This included her demonstrating the process of laying out the $\frac{1}{2}$ inch backbone tubing (250 feet maximum), adding hose ends, incorporating connectors – both $\frac{1}{2}$ inch “T” connectors and in-line connectors. For supplying water to individual plants from the main backbone tubing, cut the desired length of $\frac{1}{4}$ ” tubing that is required to reach the individual plant, make a hole in the pipe, add connector, and then place $\frac{1}{4}$ ” pipe to the bush, cut off and add the emitter. If desired, a stake may be added to raise emitters to allow for easier locating. She also showed us a micro sprayer which covers from 5’ – 10’ and can water a bed with a lot of small plants and sticks up about 4”-6” above the ground.

The number of drip emitters needed or the number of emitters that you can put on a line depends on the number of gallons of water per hour. And I was not able to write fast enough to provide the mathematical way that you must calculate the gallons of water per hour. When you need to calculate this, go to CAMGA.net as Mary graciously agreed to provide her slides to CAMGA, and they have been added to the CAMGA.net website and are available for reference.

Other factors that should be considered when using drip irrigation are the types of plants and where they are located, the type soil that is being watered and the water needed for each individual plant. Consider grouping plants in ‘hydrozones’ as the amount of water that each plant needs may vary but the frequency of watering cannot. List plants for each zone, determine the volume capacity of each plant and select the type and number of emitters needed.

Soil type is also a determinant for your irrigation. Different types of soil accept and disperse water differently and this will determine how much water is actually making it to the roots of the plant.

Mary provided some tweaking hints and noted that the best tool for tweaking a drip irrigation system is your own observation. This will give you an indication of whether you need to increase the duration or the frequency of water distribution depending on whether the plants are drooping or not. Consider drought tolerance, how well established plants are doing, the characteristics of the soil and watch some plants that are “canaries in the coal mine” type of plants. Hydrangeas can be this type of plant as they will start to droop if not watered for a period of time and this could be an indicator plant for water need.



After demonstrating how to place the tubing and all the components to the tubing, Mary covered the ‘going operational’ part of the drip irrigation. This covered the connecting to a water source, use of timers, and turning on the water. At this point, one would need to check for loose connections by listening for a “hiss” sound or observing a mini-fountain flow, look for plants that have been omitted from water coverage, and then mulch everything.

Lastly, Mary covered how to extend your water source, valves and control wire, irrigation boxes and station timers.

The demonstration was extremely well organized, explained and demonstrated in a detailed manner with questions being fielded and answered thoroughly. However, the most outstanding factor of this presentation was the confident, positive and assuring way in which Mary convinced everyone that they would be able to accomplish this feat on their own. And for that part alone, Lunch and Learn attendees were extremely impressed, appreciative and encouraged.



Don't forget that you can get more detailed information on drip irrigation at CAMGA.net by accessing the Mary McCroan – Drip Irrigation slide presentation.

For one short hour, attending Lunch and Learn presentations can amazingly expose one to new topics and ideas that can be extremely helpful in gardening experiences.

Next month, there will be another such presentation. Our own Lunch and Learn committee member, Carla McCune, is demonstrating how to use Papercrete – Mud Pies for Grownups. Papercrete is a construction material that incorporates shredded paper with other ingredients and is used to make various items such as stepping stones or flower pots.

Join us next month on October 11th at noon and bring your imagination as to what you might envision making from papercrete. Remember, drinks are provided and the building is air conditioned!



Governor's Mansion Report For 2016 By: Amanda Borden



During the month of September, volunteers at the Governor's Mansion weeded the herb garden and the front yard. They also removed the many small trees that were beginning to emerge in some of the beds. They began deadheading knockout roses in front of the Mansion. Now that fall has officially arrived, we are hoping for some cooler weather in weeks to come!

Volunteers picture below: Sandy Rosamond, Jean Smyth, Evelena Webb, Mirenda Tatum, and Kathy Quinn



Programs Update

By: Lee Borden



We had a wonderful introduction to the NaturePlex at Lanark in September. Thanks, Maria, for being such a great host! Maria told us all about roses, and as usual she did a great job as a presenter. We learned that garlic and roses love each other. She even gave us a recipe for homemade garlic spray. We also learned that roses like to be pruned not just once a year but four times a year beginning with Valentine's Day (never more than a third of the plant at a time).

In October several of us will work as a team to bring the group up to speed on big February conference, including its principal speaker, Toby Hemenway.

In November, Candy Jones and Jane Mobley will open to us the fascinating and intimidating world of plant classification, also called taxonomy.

Growing Garlic Presentation

R.J. Arceneaux will be giving a presentation on "Growing Garlic" to the Autauga County Master Gardeners on October 13th at 9:00 a.m. at the Autauga County Extension Office in Autaugaville. If any CAMGA member wants to attend, please contact Ann Fuller, at 334- 365-9007.



Rhona Watson recently presented a program on "Bonsai" for the Montgomery Lunch & Learn program in September.

Extension to host Master Naturalist Course in October

As a long time nature lover, it is exciting for me to announce that Tallapoosa County Extension, in partnership with Wind Creek State Park, will host our very first Master Naturalist Course beginning in October. If you appreciate the outdoors and Alabama's natural diversity, you definitely will want to plan on participating in this rare event.

The Alabama Master Naturalist (AMN) program is a statewide program whose goal is to help promote awareness, understanding, and respect for Alabama's natural world among Alabama's citizens and visitors. In addition, the AMN program will also develop a statewide corps of well-informed volunteers providing education, outreach, and service dedicated to the beneficial management of natural resources and natural areas within their communities.

The Alabama Master Naturalist Program will offer a course in East Central Alabama beginning **October 13, 2016**. The eight session course will be hosted by the Tallapoosa County Extension office and held on Thursdays either once or twice a month. Classes will be held from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. and consist of:

1. **Taxonomy, Botany and Native Plants**
 2. **Freshwater Ecosystems and Living Streams**
 3. **Forests and Ecosystems**
 4. **Birds and Mammals**
 5. **Amphibians and Reptiles**
 6. **Geology, Soils and Weather**
 7. **Alabama's Cultural Landscape**
- Invertebrates (including Insects)**

Full course details can be found in the **2016 Master Naturalist Course Pamphlet** found online at www.aces.edu/Tallapoosa. Most class locations will be at Wind Creek State Park in Alexander City with other to be determined locations. Cost of this course is \$30 per day or \$200 for all 8 sessions.

To become a fully certified Alabama Master Naturalist typically takes 1 full year, but it may take longer depending on the training regiment and track each participant chooses to follow. A participant starts by completing a 40-basic training course that is offered through Extension.

In addition to the 40-hours of basic training, participants are also required to complete 30 hours of volunteer service during the first year (these hours will be split between a class project and other volunteer opportunities that meet the programs requirements). Once the basic training and the volunteer hours are completed during the first year, each participant will be identified as an Alabama Master Naturalist in Training.

During the next three years, an additional 30 hours of advanced training will also be required to become a fully certified Alabama Master Naturalist. In addition, each AMN will be encouraged to complete a minimum of 40 hours of volunteer service as described in the AMN program per year. AMN's that complete and report their 40 hours of volunteer service per year will be eligible for special benefits associated with the AMN Program.

Alabama full or part-time residents who are interested in nature, enjoy the outdoors, and have a desire to help with natural resource management and conservation in Alabama are the perfect candidates to become Alabama Master Naturalists. The AMN Program is open to adults who reside or work in Alabama for at least part of the year. It is open to all adults regardless of race, color, national origin, gender, religion, age, disability, political beliefs, sexual orientation, or marital or family status.

If you are interested in participating in the 2016-17 Master Naturalist Program, you may register online at www.aces.edu/Tallapoosa OR by calling the Tallapoosa County Extension office at (256) 825-1050. **Registration Deadline is Friday, October 7, 2016.**

Ag Discovery Adventure

OCTOBER 8, 2016

9:00 A.M.— 2:00 P.M.

Hosted by the Alabama Cooperative Extension System, the Alabama Agricultural Experiment Station and Auburn University's College of Agriculture, Ag Discovery Adventure will offer adults and children entertaining and enlightening hands-on activities and presentations that will showcase agricultural technology and illustrate the key role agriculture plays in every aspect of our lives.

They will explore the multi-faceted world of agriculture, from crop and animal production to home gardening to buzzwords like sustainability and bioenergy.

Location: E.V. Smith Research Center
4725 County Road 40, Shorter, AL 36075
Phone: 334-844-4768

<http://agriculture.auburn.edu/community-industry/ag-discovery-day/>

Dr. Mitchell is looking for Volunteers!!!!

**Event: Pioneer Days at Lochapoka -- (Formerly known as The Syrup Sopping)
Saturday, October 29th from 7:00 a.m. - 3:00 p.m.**



Volunteers are needed to help in the medicinal herb garden, cutting and grinding sugar cane, making sugar cane lemonade and much much more! Please email Mallory Kelley at jones57@aces.edu if you would like to be on the list to help out! Thank you!

CAMGA Garden

Buzzzz

Carol Pugh — Editor
pughdia@aces.edu
334-567-6301



Toby Hemenway will be our featured speaker at the Feb seminar and the link below is a wonderful chance to get an advanced look at some of the principals he will cover:

Free webinar on permaculture: <http://bit.ly/camgatoby>

LANDSCAPE DESIGN STUDY COURSE 4, Series XIV

To Be Offered

October 17-18, 2016 At Auburn University

LANDSCAPE DESIGN STUDY COURSE 4, Series XIV – Mon. & Tues., Oct 17-18, 2016

FROM: Landscape Design Consultants Council – Ann Houston, President – 256-845-3148

1412 East Houston Loop Road West, Fort Payne, AL 35968

This is the fourth course in a series of Landscape Design Study Courses sponsored by The Garden Club of Alabama, Inc.'s Landscape Design Consultants Council. Instructors are Auburn professors and they will answer all your questions. **New Location:** Classes will be held on Auburn University's campus at Ham Wilson Arena classroom, 650 S. Donahue Drive.

Registration starts @ 8:30, Class hours are 9:00 am until 3:30 pm. Test for accreditation starts @ 4:00 pm. No parking pass will be necessary for this location. It is free and has plenty of parking!

Program cost is \$35/both days, \$20 one (1) day and for LDCC Refresher, a \$5 recording fee for credit, if testing. Box lunches are available for \$10 per day.

This series of landscape design classes is educational, informative, and fun! The classes are part of the National Garden Clubs, Inc. and accreditation transfers across state lines. Master Gardeners are always welcome to learn and receive continuing education units. Everyone is welcome! You do not have to be a garden club member or a Master Gardener, anyone interested in God's green earth is welcome to join us as we work to "Create Heaven on Earth"!

QUESTIONS: Ann Houston, listed above, or Linda Stephens, 256-638-4000H or 256-997-5583C + text/ or e-mail below

TEXTBOOK: "Stewards of the Land – A Survey of Landscape Architecture & Design in America": 1-800-550-6007, Ext 17, or www.gardenclub.org or NGC Headquarters, 4401 Magnolia Avenue, St. Louis, MO, e-mail: headquarters@gardenclub.org (also "National Gardener" magazine available here)

Textbook Chapters and Instructors for Series XIV, Course 4:

Chapter 31 - *Evaluating the Landscape Designs of Residential, Public, and Business Property* - Gary Keever

Chapter 33 - *Community Participation - Organization and Individual Responsibility* - Charlene LeBleu

Chapter 36 - *Designs for the Future* - Charlene LeBleu

Chapter 14 - *Herbaceous Materials in the Landscape* - Carolyn Robinson

Chapter 20 - *Redesign of Areas* - Carolyn Robinson

Chapter 21 - *Contemporary Landscape Design* - TBA

Chapter 26 - *Development of Landscape Architecture from World War II to Present* – TBA

*Special Interest – TBA

National Gardener Magazine Article (copy of article available on location)

Registration for: LANDSCAPE DESIGN STUDY COURSE 4, Series XIV

Monday & Tuesday, October 17-18, 2016, Auburn University Campus, Ham Wilson Arena classroom, 650 S. Donahue

Mail to: Linda Stephens, Registrar, 3453 Co Rd 121, Fort Payne, AL 35968, lindaste@farmerstel.com 256-638-4000 H

Name: _____

Address: _____

City, State, Zip: _____


Telephone, cell, e-mail (include area code): _____

Garden Club _____ District _____

Other Affiliations, i.e.: Master Gardener Landscaping Services Spouse etc. _____

_____ \$35 Both days: _____ \$20 one day: _____ \$20 Refresher: _____ \$10 box lunch (per day)=_ \$ _____

_____ \$5 NGC accreditation fee: _____ \$5 annual dues for GCA/LDCC: \$ _____ TOTAL DUE, check payable to LDCC



LONICERA GARDEN CLUB
Presents

**"THE CULLMAN GOURD
SHOW, WHAT TO EXPECT"**
Presentation (30 min.) by
Kay and Paul Wells
Members Alabama Gourd Society
OCTOBER 4, 2016 - 11:00 A.M.

E.L. LOWDER LIBRARY MEETING ROOM
2590 BELL RD., MONTGOMERY, AL 36117 (NO FOOD OR DRINK)

The Lonicera Garden Club was founded in 1928 and is affiliated with the Montgomery Federation of Garden Clubs, Inc. with the joint goals of providing community service and affording members the opportunities to enhance and share their knowledge of garden-related topics.

Club presentations are open to the public. Please join us!

FOR MORE INFORMATION CONTACT: MARIE UPDIKE, PRES, LGC @ 334-328-0164

Gourd Show



October 15 & 16, 2016

Saturday 9 am - 5 pm

Sunday 10 am - 4 pm

Cullman Civic Center, Cullman Alabama

(510 5th Street SW)

"Gourds From the Heart"



- Crafted Gourds
- Raw Dry Gourds
- Tools and Supplies
- Ribbon Competition
- Crafting Classes
- Free Demos
- Great Food
- Free Kids Patch

www.alabamagourdsociety.org

Pam Montgomery 256-355-4634
gourdzilla@aol.com

Articles submitted by Marie Updike

Calendar of Events

October 2016

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
						1
2	3 <i>Governor's Mansion Work Day 8 to 11 a.m.</i>	4	5 <i>Lanark Workday 8 to 12 noon</i>	6 <i>Elmore County Extension Office Learning Gardens Workday 8 to 12</i>	7 <i>Plant Swap Elmore Co. Ext. Office 10 a.m.</i>	8
9	10 <i>Governor's Mansion Work Day 8 to 11 a.m.</i>	11 <i>Lunch and Learn 12 to 1 p.m. Elmore Co. Ext. Office</i>	12 <i>Lanark Workday 8 to 12 noon</i>	13 <i>Elmore County Extension Office Learning Gardens Workday 8 to 12 noon</i>	14	15
16	17 <i>Governor's Mansion Work Day 8 to 11 a.m.</i>	18 <i>CAMGA Meeting 10-12 Elmore Co. Extension Office</i>	19 <i>Lanark Workday 8 to 12 noon</i>	20 <i>Elmore County Extension Office Learning Gardens Workday 8 to 12 noon</i>	21	22
23	24 <i>Governor's Mansion Work Day 8 to 11 a.m.</i>	25	26 <i>Lanark Workday 8 to 12 noon</i>	27 <i>Elmore County Extension Office Learning Gardens Workday 8 to 12</i>	28	29
30	31 <i>Governor's Mansion Work Day 8 to 11 a.m.</i>					