



# GARDEN BUZZZZZ



Volume 26 Issue 11 Central Alabama Master Gardener Association

November 2017

**Message from:** Rhona Watson  
CAMGA President



November is the month we normally get our first freeze, and much of my effort this month is preparing to take my plants for a walk where they will spend the winter.

The first fun task is cleaning the greenhouse. I did find out that mixing soap and bleach is not a good idea, so now I just use bleach on the benches, and clean up any debris from the floor. The bigger plants like my zig zag cactus, bougainvillea, and snow on the mountain, I decrease the size to at least half so they take up less room, and propagate the cuttings. This is also the month all of

my Japanese Maples turn color, and I am looking forward to that.

Thanks to Maria for hosting our meeting at Lanark, and for her presentation about the uses for different plants that are grown there. I learned a lot about the uses for turmeric and how to grow it, and plants that are good for decorating in the fall and winter.

The plant swap was fun as usual. If you like to propagate plants, and get interesting plants from other master gardeners, plan to come next year. Rhonda Miles brought some turmeric that is now in my greenhouse, so I will see how much I learned from Maria's presentation.

Our Christmas party this year will be on December 5<sup>th</sup> at Mulder Church beginning at 10 a.m., so mark your calendars.

We have moved the date to earlier in the month so it will not interfere with other holiday plans.

We are planning to have a combination of hearty horderves that our organization will provide, and sides and deserts from the members. December 5<sup>th</sup> is also the last day to pay dues, and still be included in the directory. We will have membership forms available there or you can get them from last months newsletter. The officers for 2018 will be sworn in at our business meeting before lunch.

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CAMGA Garden Buzzzz  
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**Message from: Rhona Watson**  
**CAMGA President — (Continued)**

The intern class will end on November 16<sup>th</sup>, so there is still a chance to attend a class and meet the interns. Thanks to everyone who volunteered to be mentors. Your job is just beginning when the class is over, now they have to earn their hours to be certified.

November is a great month to plant shrubs and trees and just be outside and enjoy the cool weather and changing of the leaves

***MAKE YOUR FAVORITE GARDEN YOUR OWN***  
***Rhona***



*The picture this month is a planter on my back porch with a shelf on top. Planted in the planter, from left to right is Blue Angel, Bromeliad, and an Angel Wing Begonia. I will pot the Bromeliad and Blue Angel and put them in the greenhouse for next year, and have already taken cuttings from the begonia, so it will live in the planter until the frost gets it.*

*On the top shelf are two Rex Begonias, and a Christmas cactus that will spend the winter in the house, and a Maidenhair Fern. The Maidenhair Fern can stay outside. It will die to the ground and come back in the spring.*

## Message from Mallory

Mallory Kelley

Regional Extension Agent — Home Grounds, Gardens, Home Pests

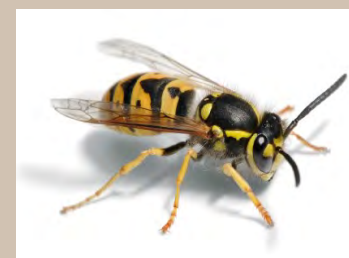


### Look Out for Yellow Jackets this Fall

Yellow jackets have their second peak of activity in the fall. Many people encounter and experience painful stings from these wasps during outdoor activities such as tailgating, picnics and parties.

#### Nesting

Dr. Xing Ping Hu, an entomologist with the Alabama Cooperative Extension System, said most yellow jacket species build nests in the ground. However, some construct nests in buildings, tree cavities and structural voids.



Yellow jackets begin new colonies by mated overwintered females who become foundress queens. Queens usually build new nests in May and contain about a dozen developmental cells. By fall, nests typically contain 300 to 120,000 developmental cells, depending on the species and environmental conditions.

In some places in the South, large perennial colonies, ruled by multiple queens and tended by thousands of workers, have been maintained. They can contain millions of cells, added Dr. Hu.

#### Tools for Managing

“Dust applicators are the most useful tools for managing yellow jackets,” Hu said. Hand dusters and air dusters are common applicators. Dusters should be operated by a pest control professional wearing protective garments.

Using a dust formulation can carry air deep into cavities and voids of wasp nests. Dust particles remain on the concealed surfaces awaiting contact with foraging yellow jackets, which, in turn, contaminate other nest mates.

Surface-treating yellow jacket nests with wettable powder insecticides accelerates the colony-elimination process. This permits same day nest removal, said Hu.

“If using aerosol and mist insecticides, such as pyrethrins and other botanical extracts to kill yellow jackets, apply directly to their bodies. Additionally, treat nests after dark when yellow jackets are contained within the treatment zone,” said Hu.

Although it is necessary to close off multiple entry points of wasps from structural voids to the living and work spaces, homeowners should never caulk close an exterior entrance to an active yellow jacket nest in a structure. This action only alarms the trapped wasps and causes them to seek out alternative escape routes to the outdoors.

Remember all female and worker wasps and bees can sting repeatedly, except for honeybees, said Hu. With occasional stings comes the likelihood of increased sensitivity to venom. Use caution around small areas of bare ground. They could house nests of yellow jackets. Exercise care and wear protective clothing when treating wasps.

## **CAMGA Minutes October 2017 Iva Haynie, October**



The Central Alabama Master Gardeners Association met October 17th, 2017 at Lanark. There were 36 in attendance. The president called the meeting to order at 10:06 a.m.

Maria Pacheco-West gave a brief history of the property. She presented a program on plants for fall and how to overwinter some of them. She touched on decorating with foliage when blooms are not available. After a break, the business portion of the meeting was conducted. It was noted that Pioneer Days is October 21 and our plant swap is this Friday, October 20th at 9:00 a.m.

The minutes as presented in the Garden Buzz were approved by acclamation.

Bill Quailes gave the treasurer's report. On August 31, there was a balance of \$10,087.25. Income for September was \$380 and expenditures were \$751.34, leaving a balance as of September 30 of \$9715.91. The report was approved by acclamation.

The Lunch and Learn program was given by Jane Mobley on Heirloom Gardens, when she filled in for Dr. Arlie Powell who was in an automobile accident on the way to the meeting.

A hearty thanks to Jane for filling in. It was decided that we need something on hand to present in case something like this happens again. The Board approved \$100 to purchase DVDs or CDs. The November program will be Holiday Plants and Forcing Bulbs by Karen Webber.

The interns present were recognized and welcomed. Those who brought food for the class lunches were thanked.

It was pointed out that there are forms to fill out and attach dues. Please log in your hours.

Robin Snyder reminded that the Christmas party will be at Mulder Church on December 5th, which will encompass our monthly meeting. This year, the menu will be hearty hot and cold horderves. Suggestions will be made later. CAMGA will provide the meaty ones.

Mallory reminded the mentors to contact their interns and invite them to meetings, lunch and learn programs, plant swap, etc. She thanked Lee Ann, Sandy and Deann for lunches. The intern class will go to Petals From the Past Thursday.

Some directories still need to be picked up.

Rhonda Miles said the Advisory Council will meet soon and if anyone would like to go to let her know.

Katrina reported on Farm Bot. The high school students have been called in to help and found the problem was the temperature and are working on a solution.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 11:30 a.m.



**2018 Membership Form****Due: December 5, 2017\***

Please give or mail this completed form and dues to Treasurer,  
 Bill Quailes  
 1060 Redbud Road  
 Titus, AL 36080

**Dues are:**

\$ 20 for state and local (full active membership)

\$ 12 local *or* any dual member who has primary membership in another county

Please Print:

**Name** \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_ Check if your information in the 2017 CAMGA Membership Directory is correct.

Address \_\_\_\_\_ City \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_

Telephone \_\_\_\_\_ Cell Phone \_\_\_\_\_

Email \_\_\_\_\_

Year of your Master Gardener Class \_\_\_\_\_ County \_\_\_\_\_

**Checks should be made payable to CAMGA.**

Amount Enclosed: Check \$ \_\_\_\_\_ Check Number \_\_\_\_\_ Cash \$ \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_ Yes, I am a dual member. County of primary membership \_\_\_\_\_

\*Your completed form and dues must be submitted by December 5, 2017, or you risk not being included in the 2018 CAMGA Membership Directory. If you wish to have a new picture in the directory, send to annfitzhil@gmail.com by December 5.

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**Name** \_\_\_\_\_

To help in future planning, please provide the following information: (A) What topic(s) would you like to see presented at a meeting? Do you know a person who could present a program on this topic? (B) Also, indicate any idea you may have for CAMGA Projects.

(A) \_\_\_\_\_

(B) \_\_\_\_\_

Please check your interest and what you are interested in learning more about in our organization.

\_\_\_\_ Financial \_\_\_\_ Excel \_\_\_\_ Power Point \_\_\_\_ Publicity \_\_\_\_ Garden Design \_\_\_\_ Leadership

\_\_\_\_ Committee Membership \_\_\_\_ Speaking (Topics) \_\_\_\_\_

Other (specify) \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_



## October 2017 Lunch & Learn

### By: Charlotte Hall

### “Southern Heirloom Gardens” Program

#### By: Jane Mobley

Well, if you missed last month's Lunch and Learn, you really missed a big event. Our scheduled speaker, Dr. Arlie Powell of Petals from the Past, was involved in a car accident on his way to our CAMGA meeting. When we received the call that Dr. Powell would not be able to make our meeting, we were doubly concerned – first about Dr. Powell's safety and well-being and secondly – WHAT WERE WE GOING TO DO???? Much scurrying took place, a little gnashing of teeth and some heads getting together to pull one rabbit out of a hat. And then in walked the fabulous, fantastic— and oh, so many more wonderful adjectives – Jane Mobley. And luckily for us, Jane had saved a few power point presentations on the CAMGA laptop and the day was saved! Jane stepped in and we learned all about Southern Heirloom Gardens. It was as if she had prepared just the day before, especially for us, and she did not miss a beat. So, a great big **THANK YOU** to Jane.

Southern heirloom gardens are those that contain plants at least fifty years old. A lot of these plants were documented in a repository of botanical history with notes from Thomas Jefferson.

Southern heirloom gardens have influences from many cultures – Native American, Spanish, French, Africa-American, English and German.

Native American influence gave us roads and pathways and, of course, indigenous plants. The three sisters concept was developed by the Native American – a planting of beans, squash and corn. There was no corn in Europe. In the three sisters planting, each of the three plants makes a unique contribution to the success of all three plants. The corn furnishes the structure, beans contribute nitrogen and squash help to control the weeds by providing shade. Native Americans were already farmers when Europeans came and used many plants for medicine.

Spanish influence includes plazas, town squares, four-point garden plans with a central water feature, land for different functions, structures for shade, symmetrical plans with asymmetrical plantings, bold contrasting colors, walls around the gardens and ornamental tiles.

*Jane Mobley presented a program on  
Southern Heirloom Gardens  
for the October  
Lunch & Learn*



## October Lunch & Learn Continued By: Charlotte Hall



The French had more formality of plans including the use of alleys which are avenues of trees and unity of dwelling houses with gardens. They tied all of this together with a clear definition between pleasure and functional areas. They also incorporated indigenous plants.

The African-American influence was great. The role of the garden for them was for survival. It incorporated decorative objects with lots of dirt yards which were swept clean with brush brooms. Their garden was always changing and it represented the gardener's personality with bright color, bottle trees, and tire planters. The bottle trees held in bad spirits and were indicative of the voodoo influence of their culture.

The English garden usually had a grid plan with a central path to the front door and beds off to the side. It was used a lot in cemeteries and can vary from very formal to informal.

The German brought the scientific interest with emphasis on heavy fertilizing and of vegetable and fruit plantings. These gardens incorporated a lot of stonework and iron, and the Germans are responsible for introducing the iris to the United States.

Gardens may be formal or informal. Formal ones are symmetrical, contain statuary, water features, and are walled in with iron or a fence. These are seen in lots of public buildings and antebellum homes. They usually contain a lot of boxwood plants. Rosedown Plantation in St. Francesville, Louisiana is an excellent example of a formal garden.

Informal gardens were once those with no grass and swept yards and contained a central path from the gate to the door and side paths to the beds. Some had split rail fences and were very functional. And some contained beds on the inside and around the perimeter.

We need to continue to have Southern Heirloom Gardens to preserve our past and because they provide a hardy landscape as they incorporate plants that have lasted over a long period of time. They teach our children about our culture and our history, save plants important to our history, provide fragrant flowers, help us understand where our plants originated, provide variety and also help with thriftiness.

When we increase heirloom plants in the landscape, there is a reduction of impact of large monocrop failure, preservation of natural food -plant strains, public access to seed stocks, healthy and affordable eating and also sustainable farming. Heirloom plants do not require high levels of chemicals.

Some heirloom plants are mimosa, trumpet vine, camellia, common boxwood, magnolia, prickly pear, American beauty bush, spider lily, sweet shrub, catalpa and Carolina jasmine.

So, again, a great big thank you to Jane Mobley. Next month join us for a planned presentation on Holiday Plants and Forcing Bulbs with Karen Webber from the Capitol City Master Gardeners. And if for some unforeseen reason, something happens on November 14<sup>th</sup> that we are without a speaker, you might have the pleasure of hearing Jane present one of the other two remaining power point presentations on our CAMGA laptop. We are also hopeful that we can re-schedule Dr. Powell for his presentation on Citrus at a later date.



Hope to see you again next month on November 14<sup>th</sup>!!

***Thank You Jane!!***



## Scenes from October Master Gardener Activities



*Maria Pacheco-West presented a program on Plants for Fall and Winter for the October CAMGA Meeting at Lanark*

*Pictures from the Papercrete Workshop held Friday, October 13th at the Elmore County Extension Office. Carla McCune was the instructor for the workshop.*







## Governor's Mansion Report October 2017 By: Amanda Borden



Thanks to all the rain, we missed two work days in October. But the energetic gardeners made up for it the rest of the month, leaving the grounds looking well groomed and happy. Volunteers weeded in the herb garden, the forsythia bed, around the Guest House and pool, in front of the Mansion, all along the driveway, and in the Secret Garden. They also watered and trimmed as necessary.



*Allyson Ludington weeds the forsythia*



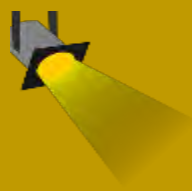
*Guest House bed after weeding*



*Jane McCarthy, Kathy Quinn, Allyson Ludington, and Melanie Barry pull weeds in the bed adjacent to the driveway*



*Jane pulls torpedo grass from the Guest House bed*



## SPOTLIGHT ON VOLUNTEERS

### October 2017

### By Judy May



Present for the Projects Committee meeting October 16 were John Barnes, Johan Beumer, John Butler, Terry Chambliss and Debbie Corn.

The speaker for Lunch and Learn October 10<sup>th</sup> was Jane Mobley who spoke on Southern Heirloom Gardens. There were 21 attendees. Assisting were Charlotte Hall, Cathy Whigham and Bill Quailes.

On October 11 Jane did an Ollie presentation on Pruning. Carla McCune did a Papercrete workshop on October 13.

The following members assisted in the preparation of meals for the Master Gardener Interns in September and October: Baked Potato Bar— 9/14/17--Debbie Corn, Freda Frye, Candy Jones, Lee Ann Marona, Rhonda Miles, Sandy Rosamond, Sherri Schaefer, Robin Snyder and Marie Updike.

Mexican Fiesta— 10/12/17--Amanda Borden, Ernie and Lynda Edwards, Charlotte Hall, Mary Ann Hatcher, Judy May, Virginia Pruitt, Carol Rattan, Robin Snyder, and Deann Stone.

Italian Feast— 10/26/17— Leslie Bingham, Terry Chambliss, Charlotte Hall, Mary McCroan, Sheila Person, Sandy Rosamond, Deann Stone, Robin Snyder, Barbara Wallace and Cathy Whigham.

Providing refreshments for the October meeting at Lanark were Maria Pacheco West, Freda Frye, Marie Updike, Katrina Mitchell, Debbie Corn, Charlotte Hall, Pat Petro-Perryman, Linda Mincey and Robin Snyder.

Working at the Governor's Mansion in September were Allyson Luddington, Amy Richardson and Jane McCarthy. In October only Jane McCarthy worked due to weather conditions.

Helping Maria at Lanark this month were Leslie Bingham, Carla McCune, Judy May, Sheila Pearson, Don Hoover and intern Sue Brazil. Maria says she needed a lot of help this past month preparing for two weddings at Lanark and these folks really jumped in and helped. Thank you so much! Also thanks to the food committee for providing such great refreshments for the CAMGA meeting at Lanark. You all really helped me out!

Please come and work with me at Lanark gardens. Late fall and winter are actually my busiest times and when I need the most help! I will not be here Wednesday, November 16<sup>th</sup> and Wednesday November 22 ( I have to use up my vacation time!) But come any other Wednesday or call me to come another weekday. I really do have many projects that need your help.

CAMGA members who brought refreshments to the Lanark meeting were Freda Frye, Marie Updike, Katrina Mitchell, Debbie Corn, Charlotte Hall, Pat Petro-Perryman, Linda Mincey and Robin Snyder.

Attending the Papercrete Class October 13 were Rhonda Miles, Candy Jones, Marie Updike, Janet Lewis, Jane Mobley, Leslie Bingham, Rhona Watson and Sharon Schaeffer. The instructors were Terry Chambliss, John Barnes, Johan Beumer, John Butler with Carla McCune conducting the class with expert instruction.

Attending the Plant Swap October 20 were John Barnes, Jane Mobley, Iva Haney, Johan Beumer, Terry Chambliss, Rhonda Miles, Katrina Mitchell, Sherry Schaefer, Rhona Watson and Marie Updike



# UPCOMING MEETING



## LONICERA GARDEN CLUB

Presents

### **"GROW YOUR GARDEN LIBRARY"**

**PRESENTATION (60 MIN.) - SHOWING GARDEN BOOK SELECTIONS**

**Ms. Betsy Coley**  
**Master Gardener with CCMGA**  
**Montgomery, AL**

**NOVEMBER 14, 2017 - 10:00 A.M. – TUES.**

**COLISEUM BOULEVARD BRANCH LIBRARY**

**840 COLISEUM BLVD, MONTGOMERY, AL (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.

Open to the public. Please join us! Door Prize

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

# Calendar of Events

## November 2017

Sun

Mon

Tue

Wed

Thu

Fri

Sat

			1 <i>Lanark Workday 8 to 12 noon</i>	2 <i>MG Class 9-2 p.m. Elmore County Ext. Auditorium</i>	3	4
5	6 <i>Governor's Mansion Work Day 9 a.m. to 12 Noon</i>	7	8 <i>Lanark Workday 8 to 12 noon</i>	9 <i>MG Class 9-2 p.m. Elmore County Ext. Auditorium</i>	10	11
12	13 <i>Governor's Mansion Work Day 9 a.m. to 12 Noon</i>	14 <i>Lunch &amp; Learn 12 noon to 1 p.m. — Elmore Co. Ext. Auditorium</i>	15 <i>Lanark Workday 8 to 12 noon</i>	16 <i>MG Class 9-2 p.m. Elmore County Ext. Auditorium</i>	17	18
19	20 <i>Governor's Mansion Work Day 9 a.m. to 12 Noon</i>	21 <i>CAMGA Meeting 10:00 a.m. Elmore Co. Extension Auditorium</i>	22 <i>Lanark Workday 8 to 12 noon  Extension Office Closed</i>	23 	24 <i>Extension Office Closed</i>	25
26	27 <i>Governor's Mansion Work Day 9 a.m. to 12 Noon</i>	28	29 <i>Lanark Workday 8 to 12 noon</i>	30		