



GARDEN BUZZZZZ



Volume 27 Issue 10

Central Alabama Master Gardener Association

October 2018

Message from:

Rhona Watson
CAMGA President



October is one of my busier months in the garden. The meeting at Petals from the Past was timely because I do most of my planting of perennials and shrubs in the fall. This is the fun part of gardening for me, moving plants, making new areas and planting new plants. It is also the time some of my favorite plants like the Japanese anemone, and Mexican sage are in full bloom. I am also going to make a new miniature garden with a dwarf Ginko and a Heucherella. I have been saving *patiently* waiting for the temperatures to get more reasonable.

Our trip to Petals was informative, I always learn something new when Jason Powell speaks to us. He talked about perennials their care, and what to expect from each plant in our area. I also learned that if you have afternoon sun even if plants are shaded in the morning, plants that need full sun will do best in that area. Everyone bought plants a perfect day for any Master Gardener.

The projects committee did their practice for the building of Leopold Benches on October 5th. Special thanks to Johan Beumer for cutting all the wood and buying all of the supplies. Andy Wallace gave some of us a woodworking 101 class so we can be experts when we have the workshop. Putting in screws is not as easy as it looks when you have no experience, but by the end Candy, Terri, Jane and I got the hang of it. I love my bench so it is in the picture for this month.

The Plants, Pots, and Propagation swap and presentation will be on October 26th. The biggest difference this year aside from the presentation, is you don't need to bring plants. We always have extras so come and learn so you can be one of the people that bring plants next year and to the plant sale. We will choose the plants in rounds. The first round will be only for the people who brought plants so they have first choice. The next round everyone who is there picks one plant, and we will continue until all the plants are gone.

The Lunch and Learn in October will be about succulents presented by Jane McCarthy. There are such a variety of succulents and they are easy to grow, and perfect for miniature or fairy gardens. They are also some of the easiest plants to propagate.

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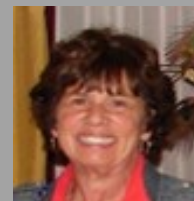
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CAMGA Garden Buzzzz
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Message from: Rhona Watson
CAMGA President — (Continued)

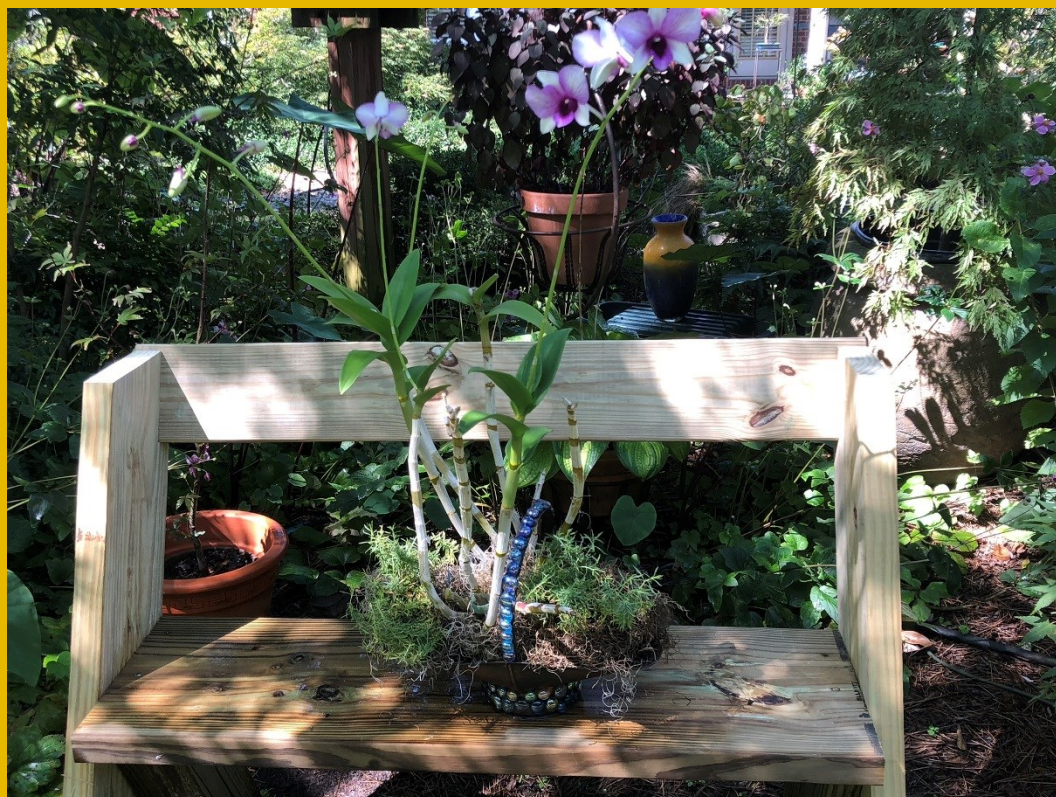


Don't forget that our meeting this month will be at Lanark at the usual time—10 a.m. We will have membership forms available for anyone paying dues that day. Please make the checks out to CAMGA and write dues on your check to make it easier for our treasurer.

The Christmas Party will be on December 4th and we are waiting for approval from the First Presbyterian Church of Wetumpka to have it there.

YOUR FAVORITE GARDEN SHOULD BE YOUR OWN
Rhona

The picture is of the bench we made, and as a friend said “you will probably just put plants on it”. The plant is a dendrobium orchid in one of the wonderful containers Sandy made for the plant sale. There are two Square Bud Primrose on each side that I just bought. They are a great perennial that will go in the ground when the temperatures finally cool off. They are perfect for containers or the front of a border getting only about 12 inches tall, with yellow flowers. Fall is the best time to plant so buy something new, or get it from our plant swap.



Message from Mallory**Mallory Kelley****Regional Extension Agent — Home Grounds, Gardens, Home Pests**

The Plague of the Lady Bugs

For Alabamians, lovebugs are not so lovely. These insects are a stubborn, sticky seasonal problem for drivers especially when stuck to the front of your vehicle. This September we have had more than usual rainfall which has also made them more prevalent. I have had clients calling asking if there is anything they can do to repel or kill these “plague like insects?”



“Lovebugs get their common name as some often fly while still coupled from mating. These bugs swarm twice a year like clockwork, every May and September” says Dr. Xing Ping, an Extension Entomologist for Alabama Extension. The autumn swarm is usually larger and plague-like. Although individual females live for only a few days, adult flight activity last for about a month before they disappear.

These nuisance insects become more abundant after a rain and are concentrated in areas with decaying organic matter, especially in pastures and farms with livestock. Swarming occurs primarily from 10 to 11 a.m. and 6 to 8 p.m. each day.

Lovebugs do not bite or sting and are not poisonous, but they are a major nuisance to motorists when smashed on car windshields and headlights. The lovebugs on your vehicle when exposed to sunlight will turn acidic within 24 hours and can cause damage to car paint and clog radiators. The best solution is to wash the bugs off as soon as possible.

For management of Lovebugs there is no easy solution. The females lay eggs in moist habitats such as ditches and swampy areas high in organic matter. Larvae or maggots live on decomposing organic matters in the soil. Organic matter in the soil is music to the ears of a gardener, but it is an attractant to lovebugs, but it is important to remember only a few more weeks and they should be gone. In the mean time, you can try to eliminate the areas that are holding moisture and around the home prune back foliage for better light penetration and air circulation.

These insects do not respond to insect repellents containing DEET or citronella and spraying them with other contact insecticides is really not advised or economical. Just hang in there, the plague will pass soon!



CAMGA Minutes September 2018 By: Mary Lou Mullins, Secretary

Welcome Rhona Watson (President) welcomed 27 CAMGA Members and 3 guests to our field trip at Petals from the Past in Jemison. Our meeting was held prior to our program presented by Jason Powell on Perennials.

Business Meeting & Committee Reports

Rhona opened the meeting requesting volunteers for Pioneer Days, Oct. 20 in Loachapoka. Please contact Mallory Kelley.

Glenn Huovinen gave a presentation on the up-coming Alabama Master Gardeners' Convention, "Party in the Garden," to be held May 8-9, 2019 at the Clanton Fine Arts Center Master. Chilton County along with help from Shelby and Autauga Counties are hosting this statewide event. Presentations will follow one after the other at this large stadium seating venue. Look for more detailed information in your Pathways Newsletter.

Rhona asked for the approval of the August CAMGA Minutes. Bill Quailes (Treasurer) stated no income for the month. The expenditures for the month were \$102.13 for library purchases and a donation of \$100 to First Presbyterian Church Wetumpka for the use of its fellowship hall. This leaves \$7,518.96 in our treasury. The minutes and treasurers' report were approved.

Mallory Kelly announced a proposed field trip to Spencer Farms in Marion Junction and to the Britnell Permaculture area near Autaugaville. The suggested date is Wednesday, Nov. 7. This would be a 6+ hour adventure. Mallory will confirm this as soon as possible and inform the group. There are no individuals from Elmore County participating in the up-coming internship class so there will be no need for volunteers to assist with food and set-up for this class.

The discussion of the 2019 slate of officers was the next item of business. Rhonda Miles is chairperson for the Nominating Committee. Our President said the committee's proposed set of officers is as follows: Sandy Rosamond, President; Lynda Edwards, Vice President; Deann Stone, Secretary; Bill Quailes, returning as Treasurer; and Lee Ann Moran, Advisory Council. The election will take place at our October Meeting with the elected individuals being sworn in at the December Meeting.

Terry Chambliss (Projects Committee) said that Mary McCroan will be leading interested volunteers in creating some new raised beds for the Learning Gardens. Watch for her email for the dates.

The Wetumpka Middle School is asking for help pruning their garden. A November date will be announced.

CAMGA Minutes September 2018 By: Mary Lou Mullins, Secretary



There is a major work day at Lanark on Oct. 3 prior to our CAMGA Meeting there Oct. 16. Registered participants for the Bench Making Class are reminded of the Oct. 5 class date. On Oct. 26 the Plant/ Pot Swap and Propagation Demonstration will be held at the Extension Office. Cutting, grafting, and air layering propagation methods will be demonstrated. Bring your plants and clean pots to swap!

Charlotte Hall (Lunch and Learn), said there were 39 attendees at last month's session. Jane McCarthy will be discussing succulents on Oct. 9. The proposed classes for 2019 along with garden tours are being planned. The topics are diverse and interesting.

Bill Quailes, at Cathy Whigham's request, discussed the need for membership dues to be paid by December 5. This allows Cathy the necessary information to create the 2019 Directory. Everyone is encouraged to complete the membership forms for next year and to check if a hard copy directory is desired. (Many hard copies were never picked up from this year.) Dues are the same as last year. State & local dues are \$20 and \$12 for local only.

Our President adjourned the meeting and our program began. The next CAMGA Meeting will be at Lanark on Oct. 16 at 10 a.m.

***Respectfully Submitted:
Mary Lou Mullins, Secretary***



Lunch and Learn September 2018

By: Charlotte Hall

“Fall Gardening and Harvest”

Program Presented by: Lee and Amanda Borden

For our September Lunch and Learn program, our own advanced master gardeners, Lee and Amanda Borden, presented a convincing presentation on the advantage of having fall gardens and the benefit of planting cover crops.

Fall gardening is an interesting and productive way to transition from the summer and better prepare for spring planting. It is much cooler and more pleasant to be outside for fall gardening, there are fewer weeds and bugs, and some of the produce that is frost kissed such as brassicas has the best flavor. So there are many reasons to plant a fall garden.

Amanda and Lee covered many of the important topics concerning fall gardening and cover crops such as the basic where, when, how, why and how much issues and had a wonderful slide presentation to illustrate and list these items. The most impressive part of the presentation to me was the fact that they had a link to all their slides and recommended publications so everyone could listen, absorb and enjoy their talk without trying to make notes. Here is the link to the informative slides and publications.

Fall Gardening and Harvest – Lee and Amanda Borden

Presentation slides – <https://wp.me/p8eayi-kK>

Publications: Crop Rotation – ANR 1254; Basics of Fall Vegetable Gardening – ANR 1422; Planting Guide for Home Gardening in Alabama – ANR 0063

If anyone is interested in more detailed information, please refer to the above-mentioned link and publications.

Next month please join us on October 9th for Jane McCarthy’s presentation on Succulents. This is another of our own very talented, informative and knowledgeable master gardeners. And I promise this will be a treat, so hope to see you at noon next month on the 2nd Tuesday. Anxiously awaiting some cool, autumn weather! See you then. Wouldn’t it be nice if we needed to have some coffee?

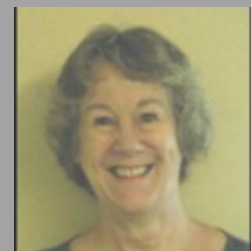


**Advanced Master Gardeners,
Lee and Amanda Borden pre-
sented a Fall Gardening and
Harvest Program for the
Elmore County September
Lunch and Learn Program**

Minutes from Projects Committee Meeting

September 2018

By: Terry Chambliss



Projects Meeting
September 11, 2018

Those present were Mallory Kelly, Candy Jones, Rhona Watson, Johan Beumer, John Butler, John Barnes, Judy May, Bill Quailes, Jane Mobley and Terry Chambliss.

Bench making was discussed. Five committee members registered for 7 benches while ten CAMGA members registered for 10, making a total of 17 benches. It was agreed to close the registration. Johan stated he would have 8 benches ready for assembly on September 21, for the practice. He will have several drills but requested the members to bring their own drills.

Terry Chambliss shared an email from Amanda Hannon regarding the courtyard beautification project at the Hospital. They were waiting on the results of the soil samples. The boy scouts committed to working on all of the outside structure projects and they are coordinating with the city and county to allow people who need community service hours to provide manual labor. They hope to plant in October.

The Plant, Pot & Propagation project scheduled on October 26, was discussed. Setup will be at 9:00am for the 9:30-11:30 a.m. event. No snacks. Tables will be placed around the edges with chairs in the middle for Jane and Rhona's presentation on propagation which should take around 40 minutes. Propagation will include grafting, air layering and cuttings. Rhona will remind members about the project at the next meeting to encourage participation. There will be no size limit on the washed pots to be swapped.

Maria Pacheco chose October 3 for the Lanark workday with an alternate date on October 10. The committee chose October 3. Work days at the Middle School and the Learning Gardens will be scheduled in October and November. It was decided to schedule the work day at the Governor's Mansion in February.

Respectfully submitted,

Terry Chambliss



Governor's Mansion Report September 2018 By: Amanda Borden



During September, Governor's Mansion volunteers weeded and cut back sago palms in the southeast corner of the front yard, weeded and trimmed in front of Hill House, and weeded the Guest House bed and herb garden.

They also began planning for Christmas decorations.



Kathy Quinn helps to clean up the Carissa holly hedge.



Jane McCarthy prunes and weeds in the southeast Hill House bed.



SPOTLIGHT ON VOLUNTEERS

September 2018

By: Judy May

Attending the Projects Committee meeting September 11 were Terry Chambliss, Jane Mobley, Rhona Watson, Candy Jones, Johan Beumer, John Barnes, John Butler, Bill Quailes, Judy May and Mallory Kelley.

The Lunch and Learn Program September 11 was “Fall Gardening and Harvest” by Lee and Amanda Borden. There were 39 attendees, 30 of them Master Gardeners. Assisting were Sandi Adkison, Charlotte Hall, Cathy Whigham and Bill Quailes.

On September 19, Amanda Borden presented “Sustainable Landscape Design” for the Pike County Master Gardener’s monthly meeting. On September 26 Amanda presented “Vegetable Gardening” to the Autauga intern class.



Amanda Borden presenting Vegetable Gardening program to Autauga County Master Gardener Intern Class

September 15 Rhona Watson did a program on Propagation at the Doster Center for the public organized by Autauga County Master Gardeners. Twenty two people attended.

CAMGA volunteers who worked at the Governor’s Mansion this month were Amanda Borden, Jane McCarthy and Amy Richardson.

Maria says working at Lanark this month were Leslie Bingham, Carla McCune, Dee Turberville, Cheri Cook, Sheila Pearson, and Sue Brasel who all helped her get the garden ready for fall, a couple of weddings coming up and all the many things that have to be done this time of year. She says thank so much to all of you – she deeply appreciates your help and endurance in these last weeks of still hot weather! A special thanks to Norman Turnipseed for coming by and replacing several badly damaged boards at the Brick Terrace patio where we have Fred Evans memorial furniture. A tree fell across the deck during a storm! Norman did a beautiful job!

On September 21 the following people took part in a practice round of bench making: Candy Jones, Terry Chambliss, Rhona Watson, Johan Beumer, John Butler, Bill Quailes, Ricky and Mary Ann Hatcher, Jane Mobley and Andy Wallace.



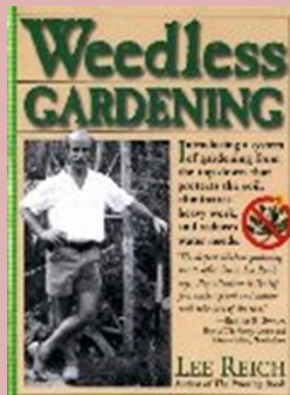
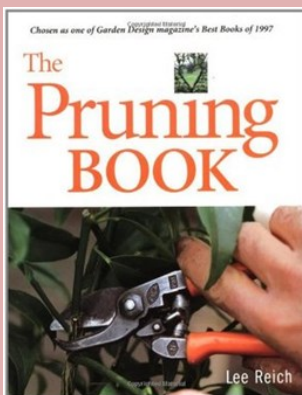
CAMGA Library News

By: Lee Ann Marona

Featured Author: Lee Reich



We have these two books by Lee Reich in our CAMGA Library:



Lee Reich, PhD is an avid farmdener (more than a gardener, less than a farmer) with graduate degrees in soil science and horticulture. After working in plant and soil research with the USDA and Cornell University, he shifted gears and turned to writing, lecturing, and consulting.

His books include *A Northeast Gardener's Year*, *The Pruning Book*, *Weedless Gardening*, *Uncommon Fruits for Every Garden*, *Landscaping With Fruit*, and *Grow Fruit Naturally*. He writes regularly for a number of gardening magazines and his syndicated gardening column for Associated Press appears biweekly from coast to coast.

His farmden has been featured in such publications as the *New York Times* and *Martha Stewart Living*, has won awards from *National Gardening* and *Organic Gardening* magazines, and has been included in "Open Days" tours of the Garden Conservancy. www.leereich.com

"Growing a Greener World", Episode 812 from Sparta, Georgia, features an urban garden which implements the principles from Weedless Gardening. Dr. Reich's personal garden is featured in Episode 612 from GAGW, and the episode can also be seen at www.leereich.com



What do you SOW in your garden?

By: Candy Jones

Earlier this year, in an effort to cut waste, our Project's Committee, came up with the idea of creating a business card to hand out at CAMGA information tables. The cards listed several of the more popular Alabama Cooperative Extension Service (ACES) publications and informational websites, along with our own CAMGA.net site. In this way, we could reduce the number of handouts given out to the public and allow them to go directly to the information online. Little did we know then, there was one more VERY important piece of information that should have been listed on that card.

Every year, in the spring and especially when the seed catalogs start showing up in mailboxes in the winter, many of us ask, "What am I going to plant this week, next month, or next year?" If you're like me, you pull out ACES Publication, ANR-0047 The Alabama Vegetable Gardener – Planning for the Home Garden, as it contains valuable information such as dates of planting, spacing, days to harvest, soil prep, etc., for the home gardener.



Just a short time ago though, I learned of an APP that came out in 2015 from ACES, called the **SOW APP**. THIS is the VERY important piece of information that will now also be listed on our card handouts.

This mobile app is available for free, in both Google Play and iTunes stores. Now, we can ask ourselves, (or better yet, the app), *what can we SOW?*

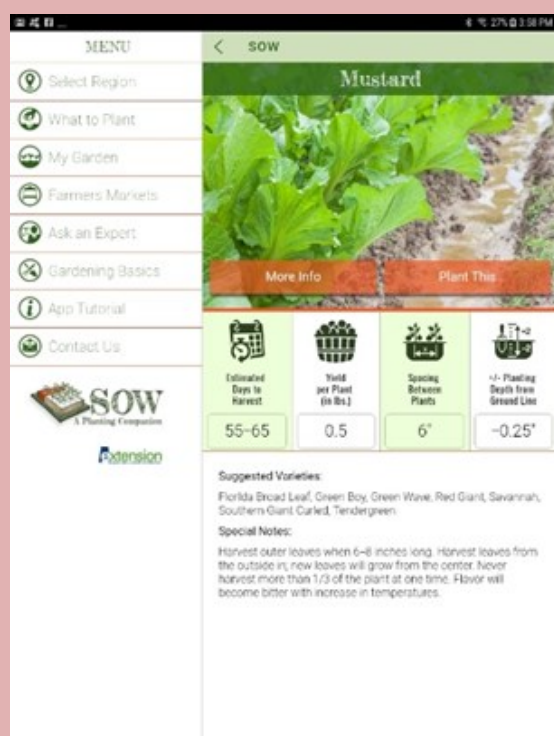
SOW APP features:

- Customizable to your location
- What to plant today (or any day you select on the calendar)
- A place to record your own garden plantings
- A listing of Farmers Markets
- Ask an Expert
- Planting tips.....and so, so much more!



What do you SOW in your garden? (Continued)

By: Candy Jones



Click on any photo to learn additional information specific to that crop, such as spacing, yield, days to harvest, etc. Below that information, you will see recommended varieties and special notes that may also be helpful in planting your selection.

Select "More Info" shown on the picture itself, and you are directed to the ACES Publications website where any publication having to do with that fruit or vegetable is available to view or download as a .pdf file.

All research-based information from ACES. All at your fingertips. What's not to SOW!

Download yours today and start planning for your next fruit and vegetable garden planting, and share your knowledge of this app so that other gardeners may enjoy.

2019 CAMGA Membership Form

Central Alabama Master Gardener Association 2019 Membership Form

Due: December 1, 2018*

Please Print:

Name _____

_____ *Check if your information in the 2018 CAMGA Membership Directory is correct. If your information is correct, it is unnecessary to complete your profile information below.*

Address _____ City _____ Zip _____

Telephone _____ Cell Phone _____

Email _____

Year of your Master Gardener Class Graduation _____ County _____

Type of Membership: (Check one)

_____ Local and State Active Member - - - \$ 20

(includes graduating interns)

_____ Local only or Dual Member only - - - \$12

(includes graduating interns)

(A dual member has primary membership in another county.)

Checks should be made payable to CAMGA.

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

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

Please mail or give this completed form and dues to Treasurer,

Bill Quailes

1060 Redbud Road

Titus, AL 36080

****NEW**** Would you like to receive a CAMGA Membership Directory Booklet as well as the digital version **or** only the digital directory? **Check one:**

_____ CAMGA Directory Booklet as well as the Digital Version

_____ Digital CAMGA Directory ONLY

***Your completed form and dues must be submitted by December 1, 2018 or you risk not being included in the 2019 CAMGA Membership Directory. If you wish to have a new picture in the directory, send to cathywhigham@gmail.com by December 1.**



Calendar of Events

October 2018

Sun

Mon

Tue

Wed

Thu

Fri

Sat

	1 Governor's Mansion Work Day 8 to 11 a.m.	2	3 Lanark Workday 8 to 12 noon	4 Elmore Co. Ext. Office Learning Gardens Workday 8-12 noon	5 Leopold Bench Making Class — Elmore County Extension Office 9:30 a.m. (Bring your drill if you have one). Bits will be provided.	6
7	8 Governor's Mansion Work Day 8 to 11 a.m.	9 Lunch & Learn 12 noon to 1:00 p.m. —Elmore County Ext. Office. Program on Succulents	10 Lanark Workday 8 to 12 noon	11 Elmore Co. Ext. Office Learning Gardens Workday 8-12 noon	12	13
14	15 Governor's Mansion Work Day 8 to 11 a.m.	16 CAMGA Meeting At Lanark 10 a.m. —12 noon	17 Lanark Workday 8 to 12 noon	18 Elmore Co. Ext. Office Learning Gardens Workday 8-12 noon	19	20
21	22 Governor's Mansion Work Day 8 to 11 a.m.	23	24 Lanark Workday 8 to 12 noon	25 Elmore Co. Ext. Office Learning Gardens Workday 8-12 noon	26 Master Gardener Plants, Pots and Propagation Swap 9:30 a.m. Elmore Co. Extension Office	27
28	29 Governor's Mansion Work Day 8 to 11 a.m.	30	31 Lanark Workday 8 to 12 noon			