



GARDEN BUZZZZZ



Volume 28 Issue 1 Central Alabama Master Gardener Association January 2019

Message from:

Sandy Rosamond
CAMGA President



Happy New Year! I am looking forward to an exciting 2019! This is a new beginning and a new experience for me as president.

Hats off to Rhona for an outstanding job! I will do my best to serve you well. I am excited thinking about new ideas and new projects, and having a little fun with you along the way this year.

Are any of you gardening this month? All the gardening I want to do this cold month is cuddle up with a warm cup of coffee and look at all the seed catalogs that I have received over the holidays.

I must admit I am also analyzing my garden to improve it in 2019. I love plants so I just buy them and then I have to find a place to plant them. I can't resist plants that anyone offers to share with me either. I have been known to bring home pockets full of seeds that I have collected and cannot remember what I gathered. I have to plant them to find out what I have! I need a garden plan for sure.

My New Years gardening resolution is "Make a Garden Plan". Then I hope "I can stick to It".

See you at the next meeting!

Sandy

**Sandy Rosamond
CAMGA President**



Table of Contents:

Message from Sandy.....	1
Message from Mallory...	2
CAMGA Minutes	3-4
Lunch & Learn.....	5
Mansion Report	6-7
Spotlight on Volunteers...	8
Library Report.....	9
2019 Lunch & Learn Schedule.....	10
January Calendar	11

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



Message from Mallory**Mallory Kelley****Regional Extension Agent — Home Grounds, Gardens, Home Pests****Home Invasion of Lady Bugs**

Having the problem of ladybugs invading your home, you're not alone. Asian Ladybird Bugs are notorious of coming into homes in fall and winter seasons. On a warm winters day the ladybugs emerge and then when the temperature begins to drop they try to find an entry point into a protected space from the elements "your home."

Ladybugs indoors will not bite you or your pets and will eventually die from the lack of food. Ladybugs eat only small "juicy" insects, so they will not cause damage to plants, paper, cloth or any other household items. They are actually beneficial insects outdoors as they are predators of those problem insects such as the aphids, mealy bugs and scale, but when these ladybugs come indoors they can be a big nuisance. Ladybugs release a yellowish and smelly liquid when they are disturbed or distressed, this will leave yellow markings on your wall and windows.

Even though they are beneficial insects, we do not want them inside our homes. I do not suggest applying pesticide to kill them indoors. The most popular way to get them out is vacuuming them up and releasing the unwelcome guests outside.

Is there other means to get rid of them? There is a trap called a Ladybug Black Light Trap, but there is no research data as to its effectiveness and sticky traps have little effect on ladybugs. You can spray an insecticide outdoors around the perimeter of your home and also pull back the mulch from around the foundation. Also pruning back shrubs where more light and air can circulate around the foundation will reduce ladybugs as well as roaches, lizards or skinks and many other home invading insects.



CAMGA Minutes December 2018 By: Mary Lou Mullins, Secretary

December 4, 2018 CAMGA Meeting Minutes

Welcome Rhona Watson (President) welcomed everyone to the Annual Christmas Party and Swearing-In of 2019 Officers at First Presbyterian Wetumpka. In her final meeting as President, Rhona thanked everyone who worked so hard with her over the last three years. She said she was proud to be a part of such a wonderful organization. Attendance for the day was 52 members plus numerous guests. Our program consisted of Christmas readings and songs. Amanda and Lee Borden played dulcimers and sang. Our members have talents beyond gardening!

Business Meeting & Committee Reports

The following CAMGA Officers for 2019 were sworn in:

Sandy Rosamond- President

Lynda Edwards- Vice President

Deann Stone- Secretary

Bill Quails- Treasurer

Carol Rattan- Advisory Council

Robin Snyder (Hospitality Committee) was presented the first "Robin Award" for the CAMGA member that goes beyond expectations in service to our organization for the month. Rhona noted, as she presented this award, all the abundance of time, creativity, and hard work that Robin has shared with us all in 2018. Our appreciation was extended to her and all her committee members for the coordination of the day's event.

An oversight from two years ago was corrected by Rhona as she announced that Mary McCroan received the Rick Beauchamp Award for Excellence for 2016. Mary was applauded for her accomplishment and her on-going dedication to the work of CAMGA.

Mallory Kelly, Regional Extension Agent, and Candy Jones presented Judy May her Advanced Master Gardener's Certificate in Orchids. Judy has created multiple videos on orchid care. Congratulations!

Rhona announced that some members have had difficulty receiving the "December Garden Buzz." The updating of the Auburn's computer system might have been the culprit. Hopefully the problem has been resolved.

The November Meeting Minutes were approved by acclamation.

Bill Quails, Treasurer, gave the following report. At the end of October the balance was \$8,394.53. Funds received during the month were \$600. Expenditures were \$107.71. This leaves a balance of \$8,886.82. This report was approved by acclamation.

Mary McCroan (Learning Gardens) expressed her delight with the recent work day. All the tasks were accomplished. The cost of materials came in under budget for the projects. She went ahead and purchased the potting soil needed for the spring plant sale. Mary encouraged everyone to participate in future work days at the Extension Center.



CAMGA Minutes December 2018 By: Mary Lou Mullins, Secretary



Terri Chambliss (Projects Committee) reminded everyone interested in the Jan. 11 Floral Creations Event on Jan. 11 at 10AM at Extension pay \$5 for the supplies needed. Participants should bring the container they wish to use along with greenery.

Sandi Adkison and Charlotte Hall (Lunch and Learn) along with Mallory Kelly discussed the Lunch and Learn Programs for 2019. These will be held at First Presbyterian Wetumpka. This location allows for more space and easy exposure to the community. Mallory is hoping to put up signage to entice more participants to this free program.

Mallory also discussed the plans she is developing with others at Extension for 2019. The focus is to involve more people through instruction and service projects while making them aware of the resources within the county. Mallory asked members to share special learning opportunities they might know. Activities and trips will be announced as ideas are developed.

Cathy Whigham (Directory) asked that all committees turn in any wording changes needed in the 2019 Directory by Dec. 14.

Lee Borden asked members to suggest topics and presenters for "The Stubborn Old Gardener" series.

The January CAMGA Meeting will be Jan. 15 at 10AM at the Extension Auditorium with Kenneth Rogers speaking from the Camellia Society.

There was no further business. Rhona adjourned the meeting.

***Respectfully submitted,
Mary Lou Mullins, Secretary***

Lunch and Learn

December 2018

By: Charlotte Hall



“Floriculture By: Charlotte Hall”

Well, since I happened to be the presenter for the December Lunch and Learn and the subject was listed as Floriculture – AND since I didn’t know what Floriculture was – AND I thought I was doing a presentation of decorating with natural materials, I decided that I might need to learn exactly what the word floriculture actually means. Floriculture – definition – the cultivation and management of flowers or flowering plants, especially for ornamental purposes. So I jumped on the “for ornamental purposes” part of the definition and from that came the presentation. The main purpose of the presentation then became how to incorporate living things for ornamental purposes.

The first item that was presented was the construction of a basic rectangular box – similar to the ones that Johann constructed for our 2018 plant sale – and how to incorporate it into becoming a decorative item. It could be filled with natural materials such as pinecones, gourds for fall or filled with small jars of greenery and berries for Christmas. Also, a basic box can be adorned with natural materials such as lichens, moss, sweet gum balls and many other easily found materials to create an extraordinarily decorated basic building tool for decorating.



Different ways to use Epsom salt and cranberries were shown such as creating small table arrangements with clear plastic cups containing Epsom salt, cranberries and greenery.

Frosting an item such as glass mason jars or natural items such as pinecones was demonstrated. This involves the simple process of coating the item with modge podge or white glue and sprinkling Epsom salt over the glue. Frosting appears wherever the Epsom salt adheres to the glue. This process can be used to create candleholders from the frosted jars or simply add a decorative bling to natural materials being used for adornment.

Incorporating Christmas greenery such as holly, cedar, fir, pine or other green boughs was demonstrated. Some, along with decorative ribbon, were added to metal lanterns. An old standby, or course, was to create arrangements incorporating greenery, berries and other living materials.

A demonstration was given on how to create a Christmas wreath using natural greenery. To preserve greenery for wreath making such as boxwood, one must preserve the boxwood before wreath construction. A website for preserving natural materials was given. Wikihow has demonstrations and instructions for the preservation of several natural materials including eucalyptus, boxwood and pinecones. The website listed was <https://m.wikihow/preserve-pinecone> with the others being in the same format with the last word being the item for preserving.

This concluded our presentations for the year of 2018. Next month will be the first of the upcoming year speakers with Mallory Kelley conducting a presentation on Seed Starting.

A big note here – Our meetings will be held at a different venue.

Beginning January 2019, our Lunch and Learn meetings will be held at the First Presbyterian Church of Wetumpka located at 100 West Bridge Street in Wetumpka. Drinks will be provided. Hope to see you then as we begin our 2019 programs.



Governor's Mansion Report December 2018 By: Amanda Borden



In December, volunteers at the Governor's Mansion decorated the dining room of the Hill House for the Christmas Open House at the Mansion. They created decorations and placed (and later refreshed) greenery. They also weeded and tidied up across the front of both the Mansion and the Hill House. Many of them served as hosts for each of the Open Houses. The Monday Morning Master Gardener Group volunteered 197 hours to the 2018 Christmas Open House and has amassed 3501 total volunteer hours (not including travel time).





Governor's Mansion Report (Continued) December 2018 By: Amanda Borden



"Volunteers enjoy an evening reception at the Governor's Mansion."



SPOTLIGHT ON VOLUNTEERS

December 2018

By: Judy May

The Lunch and Learn Program December 11 was Floriculture by Charlotte Hall. There were 25 attendees, 24 of them Master Gardeners. Assisting were Sandi Adkison, Charlotte Hall, Cathy Whigham and Bill Quailes.

CAMGA volunteers at the Governor's Mansion this month were Amanda Borden, Jane McCarthy, Amy Richardson and Sandy Rosamond.

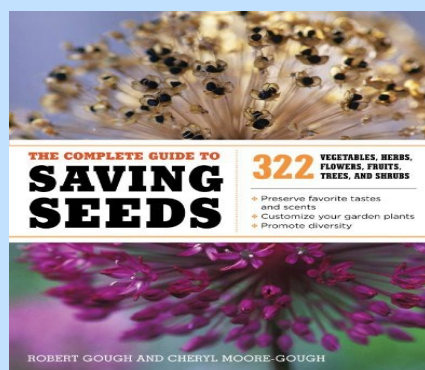
Everyone brought food to the Christmas party December 4, but a special thank you goes to the wonderful kitchen helpers and the decorators Betty Plaster, Carolyn Placeway, Jane McCarthy, Sandra Rosamond, Charlotte Hall, Lee Ann Marona and Robin Snyder and the others who pitched in to help at serving time. Robin says without them she could not make it happen.



CAMGA Library News

By: Dee Turberville

Perusing seed catalogs this winter? Check out the CAMGA title – Complete Guide to Saving Seeds



“Behold I have given you every plant yielding seed that is on the face of the earth, and every tree with seed in its fruit. You shall have them for food.” (Genesis 1:29)

With our Creator's encouragement and the guidance of authors Robert Gough and Cheryl Moore- Gough, you will learn how to collect, save, and cultivate the seeds from more than 300 vegetables, herbs, fruits, flowers, trees, and shrubs. Included are scientific descriptions/terminology of seed biology, tips on how to select plants for the best seeds, advice on harvesting and cleaning, proper storage and care, and propagating and caring for new seedlings. There is a rudimentary discussion on breeding your own varieties of plants. The book's strength is in the wide variety of plants that are covered, with often neglected coverage of woody plants.

The book is best used as reference material to learn how to save the seed for a specific plant and how to best germinate those seeds. Some seeds are easy, others not so. Info on how to control pollination to avoid seeds from crossbreeding is helpful. At first glance, saving seeds can seem quite complicated and daunting for the beginning gardener, but gardeners of any experience level will find the information needed to extend the life of their favorite plants to the next generation and beyond.

auburnseedlibrary.wixsite.com

Auburn University's “Fall Line Seed Library” (see also on Facebook) is located in the AU Ralph Brown Draughon Library. The diverse offerings of herbs, heirloom veggies and native plants are housed in a filing cabinet, with the concept of a library-within-a-library, to loan seeds to gardeners in hope they will replenish the seeds after their labor, post-harvest. “Seed saving and sharing is part of our cultural and agricultural tradition that's being lost,” said Patricia Hartman, an AU science librarian who revamped the seed library four years ago. “Our goal is to maintain genetic diversity and keep those heirloom lines around.” The free library checks out and collects seeds from its more than 300 members during seed swaps, at local farmers markets and in its main hub in the AU library's second floor. If you are looking for a particular type of seed, you can contact Hartman at pjh0011@auburn.edu. Watch Simply Southern TV, episode 316, at SimplySouthernTV.net to view a segment on the Fall Line Library.

--excerpts taken from SeedLibraryCultivatesCommunityConnections article by Marlee Moore

Central Alabama Master Gardeners Association Lunch & Learn 2019

2nd TUESDAY of EVERY Month

12:00-1:00 pm

First Presbyterian Church

100 West Bridge Street, Wetumpka 36092

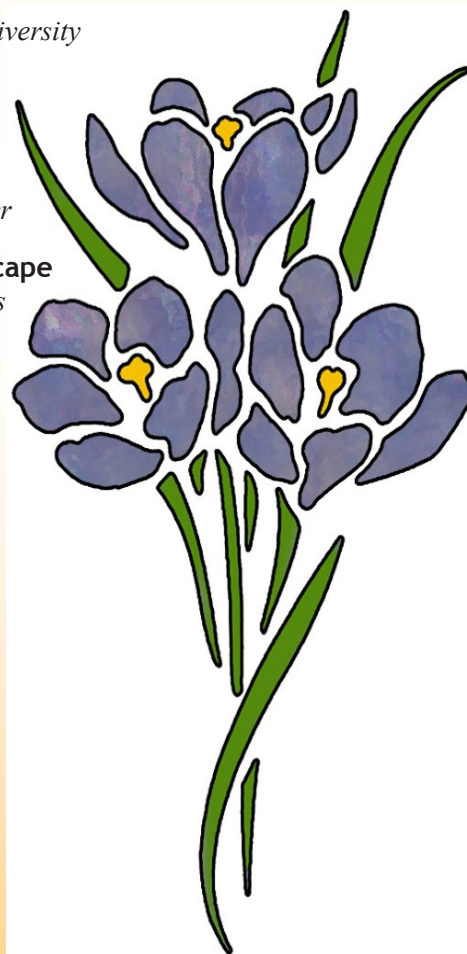


BRING A SACK LUNCH

FREE PROGRAM

DRINKS PROVIDED

- | | |
|---------------------|---|
| 8 January | Seed Starting
<i>Mallory Kelley, Horticulturist, ACES</i> |
| 12 February | Growing Camellias
<i>Dr. Charles Mitchell, Retired Professor, Auburn University</i> |
| 12 March | Hummingbirds
<i>Fred Bassett, Licensed Bander</i> |
| 9 April | Native Plants for Our Area
<i>Peggy Thompson, Jefferson County Master Gardener</i> |
| 14 May | Effective Use of Plant Materials in the Landscape
<i>Rip Weaver, Executive Director of Aldridge Gardens</i> |
| 11 June | Hello Hydrangeas
<i>David Doggett, Jefferson County Master Gardeners</i> |
| 9 July | Snake Identification
<i>Mary McCroan, Advanced Master Gardener</i> |
| 13 August | Unique Ideas to Gardening in Small Spaces
<i>Glenn Huovinen, Advanced Master Gardener</i> |
| 10 September | Controlling Pesky Weeds
<i>Virginia Pruitt, Master Gardener</i> |
| 8 October | Bugs In And Around the Home
<i>Dani Carroll, Horticulturist, ACES</i> |
| 12 November | Orchids
<i>Charlotte Bent, Master Gardener</i> |
| 10 December | Artistic Flower Pressing
<i>Betty Plaster, Master Gardener</i> |



For more information, please contact the
Elmore County Extension Office (334) 567-6301
www.aces.edu/elmore

Calendar of Events



January 2019

Sun

Mon

Tue

Wed

Thu

Fri

Sat

		1	2	3	4	5
6	7	8 <i>Lunch and Learn Seed Starting program at First Presbyterian Church, Wetumpka, 12-1 p.m.</i>	9 <i>Lanark Workday 8 to 12 noon</i>	10 <i>Elmore Co. Ext. Office Learning Gardens Workday 8-12 noon</i>	11 <i>Floral Creations with Charlotte 10 a.m. -12 noon Elmore County Ext. Auditorium. Preregistration Required</i>	12
13	14	15 <i>CAMGA Meeting at 10:00 a.m. Elmore County Extension Office</i>	16 <i>Lanark Workday 8 to 12 noon</i>	17 <i>Elmore Co. Ext. Office Learning Gardens Workday 8-12 noon</i>	18	19
20	21	22	23 <i>Lanark Workday 8 to 12 noon</i>	24 <i>Elmore Co. Ext. Office Learning Gardens Workday 8-12 noon</i>	25	26
27	28	29	30 <i>Lanark Workday 8 to 12 noon</i>	31 <i>Elmore Co. Ext. Office Learning Gardens Workday 8-12 noon</i>	