



## President's Message

By Linda Griebel



In the past month, there have been multiple opportunities for us to either learn more about pruning or to practice this necessary skill. We are busy planning for our annual plant sale (hopefully you are digging and potting up or nurturing things already growing so contributions will look good). March Lunch and Learn session was well attended in spite of chilly temperatures and we thoroughly enjoyed Mallory cramming so much design information into that time constraint. Mary McCroan's hands-on presentation on irrigation at the monthly meeting was not only to the point, but also taught us mistakes to avoid. Can't forget about the delicious goodies some of you brought to the meeting! The helpline is up and running and homeowners are starting to call with questions

for us to handle. You are needed - so check your schedule to determine when you can assist on the helpline.

I'm going to keep reminding you to put an application for the intern class into the hands of one potential master gardener. Go over the details of what master gardeners are. Talk to them about how much fun we have teaching and helping others, meeting like minded people, attending public events, and sharing plants. Let them know that volunteering does not necessarily require physical activity - tell them about the helpline and teaching and all of the other things we do other than gardening. If they have concern about the cost, tell them they will receive quality horticulture education taught by Auburn credentialed instructors which is the equivalent of a couple of semesters for the small fee of \$125. Indicate that we continue to learn as we volunteer. Show enthusiasm for what we do. You are each the face of the master gardener class. Then follow up to ensure the application gets turned in. Don't forget to take some flyers to prominent locations and ask to put them up so more people will see them. We will have a class this fall with your help.

I know why poets write about spring - it is truly amazing! Surprises pop in multiple colors out of the ground or magically appear on the tips of newly greening plants. Butterflies, bees, and hummingbirds are returning. Every turn around a building or a drive down the highway past a forest reveals another delightful site. Soon we'll be able to actually smell the roses (unless all you have are knockouts, but even those have sight benefits). This is one really exciting time of the year. It's on my list to walk around the yard every morning with my camera so I can capture all of the remarkable changes and to delight in the results of my plantings. Keep your eyes open for those blossoms, smell the fragrances, and enjoy the warming temperatures.

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## Message from Mallory

By Mallory Kelley

Regional Extension Agent — Home Grounds, Gardens, Home Pests

### Caring for Fruit Trees

The excitement of spring is in the air and that means, time to dig in the “dirt.” I have to admit, the bug has bitten me and I have been browsing the stores for the new plant that is “needed” in my landscape. In the spring time we often see the beautiful hydrangeas, azaleas, perennials and annuals, but also you may be enticed by fruit trees. Fruits can be a great addition to the home landscape if the proper conditions and devotion to caring for them are a priority.

First of all, let's talk about the easiest fruits to grow in Central Alabama. If you are new to fruits in the landscape, start out with those that require the least amount of maintenance and care, such as: figs, pomegranate, blueberries (need acid soil), oriental persimmon and muscadines. These fruits rarely require spraying and very little pruning, except the muscadine. The muscadine needs a structure to grow on so that can be an initial investment of money and labor. In addition, the blueberries will produce best if there is more than one variety for pollination and the muscadines can be self-fertile or female. If you plant a female, you will need a self-fertile variety to accompany it.

Now for the more difficult fruits to grow such as peaches, plums, apples and pears. Peaches are self-fertile so just one tree will do, but all the others need another variety for pollination. Tree fruits require pruning and training year after year for best production. Beyond pruning, sanitation of the orchard or tree is very important in your success. Anytime fruit or leaves drop from the tree clean it up to prevent the spread of diseases. Heavy mulching all the way out to the canopy of the tree will also help prevent diseases while holding in moisture, suppressing weeds and adding organic matter.

Spraying is often required to have a healthy crop when it comes to fruit trees. Spray recommendation are to start spraying Captan (fungicide) as soon as the petals begin to open. Continue to spray every 10-14 days. Once the petals are falling to the ground and you no longer see bees visiting the flowers, start spraying Malathion or Sevin for insect control. Continue spraying every 10-14 days and it can be applied in conjunction with the Captan once the pollinators are gone.

Especially for fruit trees it is necessary to thin the fruit. For peaches, pears and apples you will want one fruit per 6"-8" with plums one fruit per 4"-6." If the fruit is not thinned the tree will try to produce too many. The end result is all the fruit ends up being the size of a golf ball when ripe or the stress of too much fruit can cause the tree to abort the fruit, meaning drop it all at once. This usually occurs about a week before you think the fruit is ready to be harvested and suddenly every fruit is laying on the ground under the tree. Thinning the fruit will greatly increase the size of your fruit and prevent the weight of the fruit from breaking limbs.

Hopefully this information will improve your home fruit production. If you have more questions about growing fruits or any other horticulture related question please call the Master Gardener Helpline at: 1877-ALA-GROW (252-4769).



## Calendar of Events

# April 2014

Sun

Mon

Tue

Wed

Thu

Fri

Sat

		1 <i>Learning Garden Work Day</i>	2 <i>Fundraising Committee Meets 10 am Extension</i>	3	4	5 <i>Native Azalea Sale Auburn</i>
6	7 <i>Governor's Mansion Work Day</i> <i>WSFA 12 Talk</i>	8 <i>Learning Garden Work Day</i>	9 <i>Lunch &amp; Learn</i> <i>Annuals &amp; Perennials</i>	10 <i>Grafting Workshop</i> <i>EV Smith Station</i>	11 <i>Farm Day</i> 	12 <i>Lanark Art Fest</i>  <i>Daylily Society</i>
13 <i>Birmingham Botanical Plant Sale</i> <i>April 11-13</i>	14 <i>Governor's Mansion Work Day</i> <i>Passover begins</i>	15 <i>MG Meeting</i> 	16	17	18 <i>Spring Fling in Notasulga</i>  <i>Good Friday</i>	19
20 <i>Easter</i> 	21 <i>Governor's Mansion Work Day</i>	22 <i>Learning Garden Work Day</i>	23 <i>Grafting Workshop</i> <i>Coosa County</i>	24	25 <i>Antiques in the Garden</i> <i>Petals from the Past 9-5</i>	26 <i>CCMGA Plant Sale</i> <i>Frazer Church</i>
27	28 <i>Governor's Mansion Work Day</i> <i>AMGA Conference</i>	29 <i>Learning Garden Work Day</i> <i>AMGA Conference</i>	30 <i>AMGA Conference</i>	May 1	2	3 <i>CAMGA Plant Sale</i> <i>7am-2pm</i> <i>Episcopal Church</i> <i>Wetumpka</i>

## **MARCH MINUTES** By Rosemary Mobley



The March, 2014, Central Alabama Master Gardener's Association (CAMGA) meeting was held March 18, 2014, at the Elmore County Extension Office Auditorium, Wetumpka, Alabama. Linda Griebel called the meeting to order at 10:03 a.m. She turned the floor over to Carol Rattan, who introduced presenter, Mary McCroan, a CAMGA master gardener.

Mary's presentation topic was "Planning and Installing an Irrigation System." She shared several lessons learned through installing irrigations systems at her home, and at the CAMGA Learning Gardens. Mary encouraged everyone to select one system and stay with that system. She demonstrated skill sets acquired through installation of irrigation systems, which included: priming and gluing PVC (polyvinyl chloride) pipe to fittings, using PVC cutters, and splicing irrigation wires. The wires run to a timer manifold which control solenoids that cut water on and off for each section of the yard. After questions and answers, the session ended with applause from attendees.

Before the break, Linda directed everyone to different sign-up sheets for a number of upcoming events and volunteer opportunities. These were for the following: (1) Work day at the Governor's Mansion on March 24; (2) A pruning session on March 26; (3) Farm Day on April 11; (4) Flora and Fauna Art Festival on April 12; (5) CAMGA Plant Sale on May 3; and (6) Refreshments for CAMGA meetings.

Following the refreshment break, the group reconvened at 11:15 a.m. for the business meeting. Linda made some general announcements about a shadow box made by Johan Beumer to house a Flower Show Award Ribbon from the National Federation of Garden Clubs that she and Jane Mobley received via a display on CAMGA. She showed the recent issue of "Elmore County Living," which spotlighted the Junior Master Gardener class, led by Suzanne George, at Holtville Junior High. Then, she shared the success of the recent bonsai class conducted by Rhona Watson. There are requests for more bonsai classes! Discussions are underway about holding another class in the future.

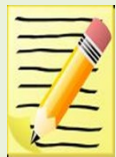
The President announced that Sally L'Abbe tendered her resignation, effective immediately, as Advisory Council Representative, due to other obligations. After a conversation with Gale Wheeler-Leonard, Gale made herself available to serve as the representative for the remaining term. A motion to nominate Gale Wheeler-Leonard as Advisory Council Representative was made by Jane Mobley. Candy Jones made the second motion, and it was carried by all present.

The February 2014 minutes were accepted as written. Candy Jones made the first motion. Betty Stricker made the second, and it was carried by all present.

Becky Ashurst gave the treasurer's report for February 2014. The balance as of January 31, 2014, was \$8219.67. The income for February was \$144 from dues, Mildred Wheedon Blount Educational and Charitable Foundation, \$1000, sale of buckets, \$40, and \$38 from the bonsai class. The total February income was \$ 1222. Expenditures included \$13.65 for postage, \$112.13 for bonsai class supplies, \$40.00 for AMGA dues, \$6.17 for envelopes and a sympathy card, \$2 for overpayment, and \$18 refund of bonsai class payment. Total expenditures for February were \$191.95. This brings the balance as of February 28, 2014 to \$9,249.72. The treasurer's report was approved; Rhona Watson made the first motion, Bonnie McCormick made the second, and it was carried by all present.

Due to the absence of Catese Chaffey, Linda reported for the Projects Committee. She spoke about the need to develop a display board for several upcoming events including the Annual Meeting and Professional Development Conference for County Agricultural Agents. Projects Committee members recommended that it would be worthwhile for CAMGA to purchase a durable display board for extended use. CAMGA members present were shown a display board with desirable features suggested by the committee. Phil Easter made a motion that up to \$500 be made available for the purchase and development of a display board. Red Norman made the second, and it was carried by all present.





Mary McCroan gave an update on progress in the Learning Gardens. Mary shared that over two separate work days, she, Linda Griebel, John Barnes, and Amanda Borden volunteered in the gardens. They added soil to raised beds and put down ground cover. *Liriope* was replanted in the area by the front of the main building after weed cloth was added. She informed the group that the next big project is to put down ground cover and gravel in the area near the rain garden. After discussion about the project, Susan Jones moved that an amount up to \$450 be used for this project. Brenda Bernal made the second motion, and it was carried by all present.

The chair of the Fund Raising Committee, Linda Armour-Scott reported on the Annual Plant Sale preparations. She shared that volunteers were needed for these activities: 1) Working a shift: 8 a.m.-12 p.m. or 12 p.m.-4 p.m. on May 2 pricing day; 2) Loaning canopies, carts, vans, and utility trailers; 3) Help with setting up and cleaning up on May 3: 4) Working a shift: 6 a.m.- 11a.m. or 11 a.m. – 4 p.m. on May 3. Sign-up sheets for these tasks were on the registration table and available after the meeting. Linda explained how to label donated plants for identification. The plant name, maximum growth potential, and sun or shade preference, with room at the top for a price should be included on the label for each plant. Labels were distributed to interested members. Linda also announced that members contribute yard art, vases, decorative pots, or stepping stones. CAMGA members may contact Linda Armour-Scott at 334-514-9409 or [linas-cott@aol.com](mailto:linas-cott@aol.com) with questions or to volunteer for the Plant Sale on May 3, 2014, at Trinity Episcopal Church, 5734 U S HWY 231, Wetumpka.

The President reported for Mary Ann Hatcher, Help-Line Committee. Members are encouraged to sign up on open dates, and to sign up on dates Coosa County interns are working.

Charlotte Hall, co-chair of the Lunch and Learn Committee, shared that the topic for the session on April 9, is "Annuals and Perennials," and the speakers are Jane McCarthy and Virginia Pruitt. Lunch and Learn sessions are open to the public.

Carol Rattan, Program Committee Chair, encouraged members to attend the Alabama Association of Master Gardeners (AMGA) Annual Conference in Daphne, AL, on April 28-30, 2014. The web site is <http://www.alabamamg.org/AMGAConference.html>. She announced speakers and trips planned for upcoming CAMGA meetings. These are:

April 15 – "Alabama Wildflowers," Richard and Nancy Cobb of Alabama Native Plant Society

May 20 – \*Trip to the Jim Scott Gardens on Lake Martin

\*\*June 18 –Trip to Young Farm in Auburn, AL, Focus on Annuals

July 15- "The Extension System and CAMGA," Mallory Kelly

Linda recognized Sally L'Abbe who suggested that CAMGA donate money from the treasury to assist other Master Gardener groups in need of funds. Comments were made that AMGA had available funds that were not requested by groups. The majority opinion was not to participate in this activity.

Door prizes were awarded and the meeting was adjourned at 12:15 p.m. Sixty people attended.

\*Guests are handled on a case-by-case basis.

\* \*Notice that this is on a Wednesday instead of the third Tuesday of the month. Make plans to carpool.

Respectfully submitted,

Rosemary Mobley, Secretary

**ACES is excited to announce a new app, now available in the Apple App Store: SOW. It's a planting guide for Alabama and can be customized to your region. This is the first version; please offer your feedback. Special thanks and recognition to James Miles for the concept and Tyler Weldon for the design work.** Ellen Huckabay—REA Mobile, Clarke, and Washington Counties —Jon Archer Ag Center, 1070 Schillinger Rd. N. Mobile, AL 36608 51-574.8445



The School of Forestry and Wildlife Sciences will host the second annual Spring Fling and Outdoor Expo on April 18, 2014 at Crooked Oaks Farm in Notasulga, Alabama. This nationally renowned farm, owned by legendary coach Pat Dye, is the site of Quail Hollow Gardens, a beautiful Japanese maple farm, and the Crooked Oaks hunting lodge. All proceeds raised from the event will go toward scholarships in the School of Forestry and Wildlife Sciences.

The evening's entertainment will include fabulous silent and live auctions conducted by Coach Dye, demonstrations by Auburn University's EcoDogs and Raptor Center, live music and dancing, tours of Coach Dye's home and Quail Hollow Gardens, and the Outdoor Expo. The Expo will feature exhibitors offering a wide variety of products and services relating to work and leisure in the outdoors. Vendors include businesses specializing in hunting, conservation, research and education, horticulture, outdoor recreation, and more.

Like the [Spring Fling and Outdoor Expo Facebook Page](#) to see photos from the 2013 event and to get more details about 2014 as they come available.

**\*\* Disclaimer:** In the event of inclement weather, net proceeds from sponsorships and tickets will not be refunded and will be used to benefit the SFWS by supporting students, faculty, and programming initiatives.



**Don't Forget !!!**

Start getting your plants ready for our annual Plant Sale on May 3. The longer they're potted, the better they'll look on sale day! Plant Sale flyer on last page.



## **SPOTLIGHT ON VOLUNTEERS** by Judy May



Attending the Fund Raising Committee meeting March 5<sup>th</sup> were: Linda Armour-Scott, Linda Griebel, John Butler, Rhona Watson, Catese Chaffee, Tina Bowles, Candy Jones, Nancy Tribble, Joe L'Abbe, Becky Ashurst, Lois Pribulick and Judy May.

Jane Mobley gave a wonderful presentation on Butterfly Gardening to the Blue Ridge Garden Club on Wednesday, March 12<sup>th</sup>. The meeting was held at the home of RJ and Penny Arceneaux and 23 ladies enjoyed her presentation.

Jane also did the Butterfly and Bird presentation for the Capitol City Master Gardeners Lunch and Learn this month. Linda Griebel, Mary McCroan and Jane are doing the pruning presentation for the Montgomery Interns this month.

Helping Maria at Lanark this month were Carla McCune, Norman Turnipseed, Sandi Atkinson, Marie Updike, Ann Hill, Cathy Whigham, Charlotte Hall and John Barnes. Maria says Lanark is beautiful because of you.

Bringing food to our monthly meeting were Brenda Bernal, Mary Lou Mullins, Cheryl Christian, Rhoda Miles, Charlotte Hall, Joan Johnston and Judy May.

Attending the Projects Committee meeting this month were Johan Beumer, Jane Mobley, Candy Jones, John Barnes, Linda Armour-Scott, Lois Pribulick, and Linda Griebel.

The only person helping Jane McCarthy at the Governors Mansion most Mondays of this month was Amanda Borden. Lee and Amanda did a Sustainability and Resilience presentation March 18<sup>th</sup> for the Herb Society at the Loeb Center in Old Alabama Town. On March 24<sup>th</sup>, Linda Griebel, John Barnes, Rosemary Mobley, Charlotte Hall and Amanda Borden helped Jane McCarthy at the Governors Mansion.

The Lunch and Learn presentation this month was done by Mallory Kelley and was on Garden Design. Twenty two people attended. Linda Griebel introduced the speaker, while Sandi Adkinson, Carla McCune and Charlotte Hall helped set up and take down. Carla made the tea and Charlotte again brought a lovely flower arrangement.

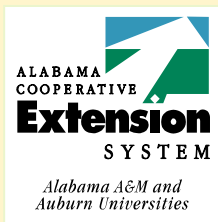


## **Native Azalea Plant Sale 2014**

The Lee County Master Gardener Association will be hosting a native azalea plant sale, as well as companion plants, April 5, 9 a.m. to 12 p.m. at the Dean Road Recreation Center, 307 S. Dean Rd. Auburn. Native plants grew here prior to the arrival of Europeans in North America and generally require less care and maintenance and they contribute to maintaining our native ecosystem. Master Gardeners will be available to answer questions and offer sugges-

tions. The LCMGA supports the Auburn-Opelika community by offering a variety of garden related programs and workshops for the public. The association also maintains several community demonstration gardens. Visit the LCMGA website at [www.LeeMG.org](http://www.LeeMG.org) and become a Friend of Lee County Master Gardeners.





# 2 Grafting

## Workshops

**E.V. Smith Research Station, Shorter, Alabama**

**Thursday April 10**

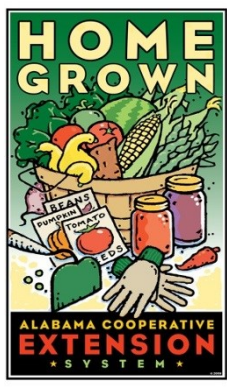
**1:00-3:00 p.m.**

**&**

**Wednesday, April 23, 2013**

**John Neighbors property in Coosa County,  
550 Holloway Mill Road**

**1:00-3:00 p.m.**



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**To sign-up for the grafting class at E.V. Smith, contact  
Cathy Browne at 334-844-5483 by April 8th.**

**To sign up for the grafting class at John Neighbors property in Coosa County, contact  
the Coosa County Extension Office at 256-377-4713 by April 21st. There is No Cost to  
attend, but pre-registration is required.**

### **E.V. Smith Research Center**

From I- 85 North or South in Macon County take exit 26 to Highway 229 North towards Tallassee. Go approximately one mile until you see a railroad crossing. Just before the railroad crossing you will see Macon County Road 40. Take a right on County Road 40. The Pecan Orchard is on the right.

From Tallassee take Hwy 229 South to the railroad tracks just past the river bridge. Then take a left on County Road 40. The Pecan Orchard is on the right.

### **John Neighbors Property in Coosa County**

From Alexander City, Alabama take Highway 22 West to 259 South. Travel 259 South to County Road 12. Turn left on County Road 12 then take the next left onto Holloway Mill Road. Travel ½ mile to 550 Holloway Mill Road.

From I- 85 North or South in Macon County take exit 26 to Highway 229 North towards Tallassee. Go approximately one mile until you see a railroad crossing. Just before the railroad crossing you will see Macon County Road 40. Take a right on County Road 40. The Pecan Orchard is on the right.

From Tallassee take Hwy 229 South to the railroad tracks just past the river bridge. Then take a left on County Road 40. The Pecan Orchard is on the right.



Learn from the Pros  
Connect with Friends  
**Alabama ... A Gardener's Jubilee!**

When

April 28-30, Monday-Wednesday

Where

Program begins Monday, April 28 at noon.

Daphne Civic Center

2603 U.S. 98 in Daphne, AL

Calling All Gardeners! No matter your skill level, the Alabama Master Gardeners Annual Conference is the place to be. With a combination of nationally-known speakers, roundtable discussions, "local speaker-short sessions," and guided field trips (Perdido Winery, Splinter Hill Plant Bog, Blakely Board Walk over the Delta marshes, and more), there is so much to learn -- and enjoy. Speakers include: Dr. Bill Welch, author and educator; Greg Grant, horticulturist, naturalist and garden writer; and Fred Nation, field botanist, photographer and author; plus Betty Ann Wylie, James Miles, Ellen Huckabay, and Marilyn Mannhard. A variety of gardening-related products will be available from our select vendors.

More Information

Web: <http://www.amgaconference.org>

Sponsor: Baldwin County Master Gardeners

Contact: Pat Greer at 251-964-2746

Email: [conf2014pat@gmail.com](mailto:conf2014pat@gmail.com)

DEADLINE for Registration: postmarked by April 1  
Great info ... entertaining speakers ... fascinating tours ... yummy food!

Registration Form Page 10

Registration Form - Part A



www.amgaconference.org

www.alabamamg.org

www.baldwincountymastergardeners.com

## REGISTRATION FORM

Last Name \_\_\_\_\_ First Name \_\_\_\_\_ MI \_\_\_\_\_

Street \_\_\_\_\_ City \_\_\_\_\_ ST \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_

MG County \_\_\_\_\_ E-mail \_\_\_\_\_ Phone \_\_\_\_\_

Please Circle One: MG Intern ACES Sponsor Vendor Guest

Is the Badge Name the same as the Registration Name? \_\_\_\_\_ Yes \_\_\_\_\_ No

If NO, please submit the name for your Badge \_\_\_\_\_

## REGISTRATION COST:

Regular Registration: \$100.00

\$ \_\_\_\_\_

Postmarked After April 1: \$145.00

\$ \_\_\_\_\_

## ADDITIONAL COSTS AS DESIRED:

Jubilee Hour I with appetizer

Monday Dinner at Bayfront—\$25 (BBQ Chicken Breast &amp; Smoked Pulled Pork)

\$ \_\_\_\_\_

Tuesday's Boxed Lunch—Free with Registration

Circle preference: 1) Ham &amp; Cheese on Roll 2) Chicken Caesar Wrap 3) Veggie Wrap

Jubilee Hour II with hor d'oeuvres

Tuesday Banquet at Daphne CC—\$45 (Registration must be postmarked by 4/1/2014)

\$ \_\_\_\_\_

Circle preference: (1) Chicken Cordon Bleu in Cream Sauce (2) Shrimp Scampi Kabobs (3) Vegetarian Eggplant Parmesan

## T-SHIRTS:

T-shirts—\$15 each, select your size: \_\_\_\_\_ Medium \_\_\_\_\_ Large \_\_\_\_\_ XL \_\_\_\_\_ XXL

\$ \_\_\_\_\_

*Note: A very small number of T-shirts will be on sale during the conference*

## GUEST MEALS AVAILABLE UNTIL APRIL 1, 2014

Guest Name \_\_\_\_\_ \$45 Tuesday Banquet

\$ \_\_\_\_\_

Circle preference:

(1) Chicken Cordon Bleu in Cream Sauce (2) Shrimp Scampi Kabobs (3) Vegetarian Eggplant Parmesan

TOTAL: \$ \_\_\_\_\_



Alabama... A Gardener's JUBILEE!

## March Lunch & Learn

By Charlotte Hall

Most of us need no introduction to our speaker for our March, 2014 Lunch and Learn program on Landscape Design. It was our own Mallory Kelley, Regional Extension Agent. The fun thing was to see Mallory hauling in lots of landscape design tools – templates, tissue paper, a T-square and lots of rolled layouts that she had drawn while in school but the exciting and even more fun thing was to hear Mallory tell us how to use these non-computer software products, which are so popular today, to produce a wonderful layout for any garden or landscape.

Landscape design is an art – a science that involves understanding the environment around your home and selecting the right plants for that environment. A great landscape adds much value to your home, up to a 6 – 15 percent increase in its worth and adds functional (may include a playground), environmental (reduce runoff and air pollutants) and aesthetic (beauty of nature – who doesn't like to see a beautiful yard?) value to your property.

The first thing to consider when preparing a landscape design is style and purpose. Do you prefer the formal, informal, cottage garden or woodland type of design? Do you want to hide some unsightly utility or service area or put up a barrier so you won't see neighbors sunning by their pool? Then take an inventory. Keep in mind the three general use areas – public, private and service areas. The public area needs to be kept simple with thought given to parking and a path to your front door. The private area is where you will spend most of your time and fill the outside needs for you and your family. And of course the service area is for garbage cans and any other tools and machinery that you store outside.

Next comes plant selection for your environment. Don't forget to give heavy consideration as to the amount of sunlight or shade that your property has and then think about evergreen and deciduous plants, size and height of plants, annuals and perennials, ground covers and types of grass. Now you are finally ready to put these ideas on paper, using symbols and drawn to scale with templates. Use a different symbol for each type of plant. Deciduous plants use symbols that have spokes or lines in the middle which look like branches. Invoke the unity of three law. There is no need to label each plant but establish a key and label each grouping of plants with the number indicated in parentheses.

Also remember to use repetition in your plant design. Hard to believe but this wonderful presentation was presented in one hour ----- and seven minutes. Utterly amazing what you can learn on your lunch hour. **So please join us next month on the second Wednesday, April 9<sup>th</sup>, and see what you can learn about Annuals and Perennials with Virginia Pruitt and Jane McCarthy. Drinks will be provided. Hope to see you then!!**





## Montgomery Area Daylily Society

April 12, 2014

Memorial Presbyterian Church

2130 Bell Rd., Montgomery, AL - Time:  
12:00 noon



(Sponsored by the Montgomery Area Daylily Society - Region 14 of the American Hemerocallis Society)

\*\*\*\*\*

The next meeting of the Montgomery Area Daylily Society will be on Saturday, April 12, at 12:00 p.m., at **Memorial Presbyterian Church**. The church is located south of I-85, between Monticello Drive and Vaughn Road.

The April meeting guest speaker will be prominent daylily hybridizer Tommy Maddox of Biloxi, MS. Join us to hear Tommy talk about his recently AHS introduced 'eye candy' plants as he shares his techniques and tips for growing big, beautiful plants. He will also bring his plants to be auctioned off after his presentation.

For MADS club information, contact Terese Goodson, President, MADS

334-288-6024 Email: [etbgoodson@aol.com](mailto:etbgoodson@aol.com)

MADS will start with a luncheon, then, Mr. Maddox's slide show, an auction followed by a business meeting. **Please bring a covered dish.**



**Lunch, Meeting  
and Speaker  
Open to the Public**



## ALABAMA WILDLIFE FEDERATION

Alabama Flora and Fauna Arts Festival

April 12, 2014

at Lanark in Millbrook from 8 am to 6 pm

Come Celebrate Nature and Art With Us!

Questions? Call Ann Harper or Maria Pacheco-West at 334.285.4550

For more information visit [www.alabamawildlife.org](http://www.alabamawildlife.org)

2013 Best of Show

Sue Taylor White

Spring Construction

2014

### DON'T MISS THIS OPPORTUNITY!

Beautiful Nature-themed Alabama Art

Quality Plants from the Lanark Gardens

Our nature-inspired art event returns to the Alabama Nature Center  
featuring the original fine works of Alabama artists

- Art booths at Lanark Pavilion with wildlife and floral themed paintings, metal sculpture, gourd art, wildlife photography, fine prints, and more!
- Beautiful ready-to-hang paintings and sculpted items that have been juried by our experts and depict Alabama wildlife, native plants and ornamentals- all exhibited in the Historic Lanark Home
- Annual Lanark Plant to include hydrangeas, ferns, trillium and many more! Donny Tomlin and his Japanese Maples
- Expert speakers to include Dr. Dan Jones on wildflowers and Jane Mobley on butterfly gardens
- To join us with their home grown healthy products: Eagles Roost Herb Farm, Dancing Bee Apiary and Aric Adams' goat cheese
- Tri-County Master Gardeners on-site with loads of information and activities for kids
- Concession food available
- Our nature trails will be open! ALABAMA WILDLIFE FEDERATION

### Attention Master Gardeners!

When counting up hours, the number of "contacts" should only count those people you give information to and not the volunteers you work with during a project or sit with during a meeting. Notice that we've reworded the note under the "contacts" field in an attempt to clarify this. It now reads, "How many people did you help or provide information to at this event?" As well, you might read this article linked here in the Autauga MGA newsletter for further examples.

<http://www.aces.edu/counties/Autauga/documents/mgnewsletterfeb2014final2.pdf> . Thank you for your attention today.

Kerry Smith, State MG Program Coordinator

**Capitol City Master Gardener  
Plant Sale April 26  
8 —12  
Frazer Memorial  
United Methodist Church**





Linda and John

## Governor's Mansion Work Day

During the month of March, CAMGA's Jane McCarthy, Amanda Borden, and several from Capitol City worked together in digging up monkey grass, weeding, relocating abelias, pruning hydrangeas, viburnum and butterfly bush, cutting back asparagus fern and cast iron plants, cleaning off the paved area by the altar in the Serenity Garden, and spreading pine straw.

On March 24, CAMGA members Linda Griebel, John Barnes, Rosemary Mobley, Charlotte Hall, and Amanda Borden joined Jane McCarthy and three Capitol City Master Gardeners for a special workday. Tasks accomplished were "de-meatballing" camellias (at left), renewal pruning dwarf crepe myrtles and jasmine, relocating clematis, weeding, pruning hydrangeas, and taking down two wax myrtles.



Rosemary and Charlotte



Charlotte Amanda Jane Rosemary





Mary McCroan, Linda Griebel, John Barnes, Rosemary Mobley, and Amanda Borden are applying landscape fabric between the water garden and the raised beds in the Learning Garden. Every summer it has been a pain to keep this area clean and weed free, so we decided to do a permanent “fix” that will keep it beautiful all year. Also there will be less work in the HOT summers trying to keep it up.

## **JAPANESE MAPLE OUTING**

Who doesn't love a Japanese Maple? A group from CAMGA went to prune Japanese maples with renowned expert, Dr. William Shell, at Church of the Epiphany in Tallassee. From Left: Mary McCroan, Rhona Watson, Jim Davis, Lee Borden, Cathy Whigham, Jane Mobley, Yvonne Hart, Dr. Shell, Candy Jones, John Barnes, Rosemary



Mobley, Linda Griebel, Amanda Borden. After the pruning demonstration, the group helped Dr. Shell prune lots of his maples.

We are fortunate to have such a knowledgeable friend in our area to teach us more about these wonderful and beautiful additions to our gardens.



## Program Notes By Carol Rattan

### CAMGA Meetings

Mary McCroan taught us how to plan and install an irrigation system, based on her experience installing one at her home. I learned tons, but am not sure I want to tackle that project without help. Thanks, Mary!

Richard and Nancy Cobb from the Alabama Native Plant Society are coming to speak, of course, on Alabama natives this month. We go off-site in May and June, first to visit Jim Scott's beautiful gardens at Lake Martin, and then to see Young's Farm near Auburn. Mallory will speak to us in July on the Extension System and its organization. I've recently received confirmation from Pat Dye's folks that we are scheduled to visit Quail Hollow Gardens for our September meeting. August, October and November remain open – I will keep you posted!



There are several other events you may be interested in :

**Birmingham Botanical Gardens Spring Plant Sale** – Friday – Sunday, April 11-13<sup>th</sup>, <http://www.bbgardens.org/spring-plant-sale.php>. The sale is not at the gardens – check link or additional information in newsletter for location.

**Lanark Flora and Fauna Art Fest** April 12

**Music in the Forest**, concert series at The Louise Kreher Forest Ecology Preserve a concert series, held Sundays, from 3:30 – 5:00 p.m., March 23, March 30th and April 6th. Join us for a relaxing afternoon of music and fellowship under the shaded canopy of the Forest Ecology Preserve's open-air amphitheater. Admission is free. Picnics and chairs are welcomed.

**Talk by prominent daylily hybridizer Tommy Maddox** of Biloxi, MS at the next meeting of the **Montgomery Area Daylily Society** on Saturday, April 12, at 12:00 p.m., at **Memorial Presbyterian Church**. The church is located south of I-85, between Monticello Dr. and Vaughn Rd.

**Petals from the Past – Antiques in the Garden** - Friday and Saturday, April 25 and 26, 2014, 9:00am-5:00pm - Features vendors with antiques, crafts, collectibles, and food.



**MASTER GARDENER FRONT CAR TAGS** are currently available at \$20 each. Proceeds are a 50/50 split between the AMGA Endowment Fund at Auburn University and the Alabama Master Gardener Program. Tag sales are not limited to Master Gardeners. They are available to anyone. These look great on the front of your car, golf cart, RV, or garden wagon.

They also make great gifts. Mentioned in the *PATHWAYS Magazine*, you don't have to go far to get your tag. At the April CAMGA meeting, we will have a supply of the car tags. See Sally L'Abbe before the meeting or during the break. Bring cash or checks if you want a tag.



Mary Ann  
Hatcher

Marie Updike

## Helpline News



By Mary Ann Hatcher

Thank You! Thank You! To our CAMGA organization for the great response to fill our volunteer slots for the Helpline. We had so many to sign up that sometimes there wasn't a slot for an advisor. Just goes to show what a great group we have! The Helpline volunteers for the month of March were: Sandi Adkison, Pat Petro-Perryman, Linda Griebel, Marie Updike, and John Barnes. Our advisors were: Mary Ann Klatt, Debbie Hough, and Mary Ann Hatcher. Our 'Appointment Reminder' was Sharon Potts. All help was greatly appreciated this month.

## 2014 Lunch and Learn Programs

Second Wednesday Each Month  
12:00 to 1:00

APRIL 9TH ANNUALS & PERENNIALS

MAY 14TH SHADE GARDENING

JUNE 11TH HYDRANGEAS

JULY 9TH ATTRACTING BUTTERFLIES TO THE GARDEN

AUGUST 13TH WORMS EAT MY GARBAGE

SEPTEMBER 10TH BEES FREE PROGRAM

OCTOBER 8TH HERBS BRING

NOVEMBER 12TH HOLIDAY DECORATING WITH NATURAL MATERIALS

DECEMBER 10TH HOLIDAY PLANTS & FORCING BULBS

## 'Thank You' from Iva

Fellow Master Gardeners: I really appreciate the wonderful response of those bringing refreshments. Remember you get volunteer credit for the time you spend making them. Some have brought refreshments even though you were not on the list. This is great, but please let me know when you do bring something so you can get credit in the "Spotlight" for doing so. We like to give credit where credit is due.





## SERVICE REPORT WEBSITE IS NOT JUST FOR RECORDING HOURS

By Anida Wishnietsky

The Service Report website at <https://apps.acesag.auburn.edu/mgmanager/login/> has much more to offer than recording your volunteer hours. Once you log in you have a variety of options to choose from. The main menu items are displayed at the top, above the photos.

The first menu item on the left is the “Directory.” If you click here you will see a listing of our members. If you click on an individual you can see their directory information and a few have a photo and facebook link. If you notice your own listing is out of date you can update it by clicking the last menu item on the right called “My Page.” Then click on the blue links to make changes to your directory

listing.

The next menu item is the “Calendar” which we do not use because there is no way to do recurring events. Once ACES solves this problem we will use the calendar again. “Help Line” is the next menu item. If you click here you will see the help line schedule. If you would like to sign up to work a specific day and time just click the blue “[volunteer]” link to sign up. The “Help Line” menu item is only active before and during help line season. The same is true of the “Classes” menu item. That is why you will not see any intern classes listed at this time.

The next menu item, “Success Stories” allows you to read about some of CAMGA’s most successful projects. Of course, the “Hours” menu item allows you to input your volunteer hours and CEUs. The “Volunteer” menu item provides a list of recurring volunteer opportunities where members can help out and rack up hours.

The last place you might want to explore is the links in the green box on the left. If you click on “Advanced MG” under “Receive Training” and then click on “Photo Gallery” you will see all the CAMGA members who have advanced MG certificates. Then if you click on “Intern Certification” a little below and then click on “photo Gallery” you will see our last four intern classes.

## Pruning Class in Montgomery

On March 27 Linda Griebel (from left), Jane Mobley, and Mary McCroan presented "Pruning Pointers for Southern Gardens" to Montgomery's Capitol City MG Intern class.

## Farm Day April 11

**Farm Day** is an agricultural event at the Wetumpka Extension for students and the public to learn more about agriculture in Elmore County. For the students, it also is an opportunity to introduce careers in agriculture. Millbrook 5<sup>th</sup> and 6<sup>th</sup> grade students will be bused to the Extension Office from 8am–2pm. The public is welcome from 2pm – 6pm.

**Y'all Come !!!**





## Junior Master Gardener Project "Top Seed" Kids

Here is CAMGA's Marie Updike with the Junior Master Gardener "Top Seed" kids garden project at the Adullam House Christian Academy in Wetumpka. Laurie Weldon, Regional Extension Agent, joined in to help with heavy digging and shoveling the refurbished soil. Whew!! It took Marie over an hour to double dig the soil in the raised bed, empty last year's 15 garden buckets into the bed, mix in new compost and manure, shovel fresh soil back into the buckets, and lastly prepare the bed for planting. Marie used her recycled window blinds (cut up) to make plant markers for plants donated by Bonnie Plant Farm and also her own snow pea seedlings and arugula seedlings from her garden. In photo below is Janet Lewis, CAMGA member-who assisted with putting in plants. The kids planted their garden....and will watch it grow. Marie is inspired by the Elmore County Extension staff whose expertise and assistance is much valued. What an enjoyable time we had digging and planting at the youth gardening activity — an activity encouraged by fellow CAMGA friends. Below is the finished product!



Below is the finished product!





# Ladies Can

## A Series of Workshops for Women

A program of the Elmore County Extension Office  
in partnership with Wetumpka Russell Do It Center

**April 3, 10, 17, and 24:**

**10:30am – 1:30pm**

**(BRING A SACK LUNCH)**

Elmore County Extension Office

Come join the fun as we learn:

- The right tool, screw, nail, and technique for the job
- Safety tips; how to change a doorknob or lock
- How to repair a hole in the wall; painting tips; care for your heat and air units and hot water heater
- How to fix a leaky faucet; fix your commode; clear a clog;
  - Install a faucet, protect your pipes
- Safety with electricity; hang a ceiling fan; change a switch or outlet



**And more!**

**Pre-registration Required, \$5.00 per class**

**Call 334-567-6301**

**MAKE CHECKS PAYABLE TO "ELMORE COUNTY EXTENSION OFFICE"**

**Upcoming WORKSHOPS:**

Food Preservation; Cooking for Diabetes; Holiday Cooking, Food Safety, & Crafts

**Call 567-6301 for dates and information**



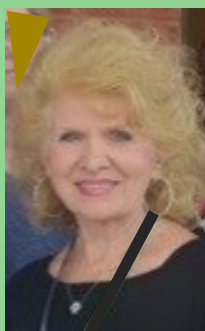
**Wall-o-Water** By John Barnes

At the March 4th workday in the Learning Gardens we planted tomatoes in two "water pyramids". They are also called "WALL-O-WATER" in *GARDNER'S SUPPLY Magazine* as well as others. It is made up of different 'cells' that are joined to form the pyramid. The cells are filled with water which causes it to partially collapse upon itself, forming a pyramid. The purpose of the item is to put plants inside them, and you will be able to set warm season plants out earlier. As the sun hits the cells, it warms up everything inside. Even if it snows, it should keep the inside warm. If the plant grows out of the top of the pyramid, only the exposed portion would be harmed as the plant inside would keep growing. Before filling the cells with water, be sure the surface the pyramid sits level. If one or two cells develop leaks, this will not jeopardize the operation of the pyramid.



Mary McCroan  
and John Barnes

CAMGA  
Garden Buzzzz  
Mary Long- Editor  
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Elmore, AL 36025



plantlady@elmore.rr.com

**NEXT MEETING**  
**APRIL 15**  
**10:00 A.M.**

**NATIVE PLANT SOCIETY**

**RICHARD AND**  
**NANCY COBB**

**ALABAMA WILDFLOWERS**



**CENTRAL ALABAMA**  
**MASTER GARDENER ASSOCIATION**

**SPRING PLANT SALE**

**SATURDAY, MAY 3, 7:00-2:00**

**TRINITY EPISCOPAL CHURCH**

**PARKING LOT**

**5375 U S HWY 231, WETUMPKA, AL**

**Great prices and plant selections**

Annuals, perennials

Trees, shrubs

Vegetables, herbs

House plants, garden items

Gardening demonstrations

Soil test kits available / free

**Gardening questions answered by on-site Master Gardeners**

