



President's Message

By Linda Griebel



The August (summer) dry period is upon us. It seems like I'm constantly watering to maintain my treasured plantings, especially the yearlings. At least, we've had a couple of cooler nights - strange weather overall this year! Even though you may have things at home that require your attention, there are also our regular volunteer activities

(Governor's Mansion, Lanark, the Learning Gardens, as well as the

Millbrook Farmers Market) that need your assistance. Those facilities/events do really appreciate what we do for them.

Thanks to Mallory for providing lots of information about Extension at the July meeting. I know of a couple of members who'll be working on advanced certification credentials based on her recommendations. We can always use additional trainers and presenters since the main focus for master gardening is always on education. In that regard, our fall class is on schedule. Becky Brown and I were able to meet with Mallory to do an initial planning session. I am personally grateful for all of you who've recruited potential interns for the class. Be sure to watch for ways to assist with this function (such as bringing food or drinks, test grading, mentoring) - we need your participation to make this an interesting and enjoyable experience for the interns.

While giving out kudos, I'd like to express our appreciation to Rosemary Mobley for doing such an in depth and excellent job of representing CAMGA at the National Extension Conference. Be sure to read her write-up in this month's edition. We received a very nice thank you email from state level: *"Whether it was presentations, exhibits, decorations, or any of a number of other things that each of you assisted with - your tireless work ethic, enthusiasm, creativity, and true volunteer spirit was much appreciated (if not hard to keep up with) and added so much to our con-*

ference. I received so many great comments about the decorations and exhibits."

Oops, a hummingbird just showed up at my window to tell me to refill his feeder. I just put enough sugar water in to last a few days since the heat turns the liquid rancid fairly quickly in this heat. Love seeing them flying around and chasing each other and visiting the flowers. And the butterflies have been plentiful. Jane Mobley's butterfly presentation at July's Lunch and Learn was most educational and informative. Such bright and colorful photos of the butterflies - hard to capture when you're out there with a camera (they flit away just when you get close).

On another note, the Projects Committee has begun the planning process for 2015 and has set a date for the Beginning Bonsai class for March 5; a sign-up sheet will be available at the August meeting - limited to 25 participants. John Barnes and committee members are also looking into hosting a rain barrel / rain water conservation program if we can secure enough barrels. It has been several years since the last session and trained master gardeners would be able to share this information with homeowners after such a class. (Oh, don't forget that the MG / Intern plant swap is coming (October 3) so you can have your 5 plants ready to swap.)

See you in the gardens.

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Message from Mallory

By Mallory Kelley

Regional Extension Agent — Home Grounds, Gardens, Home Pests



“Crazy Ants”

With over 150 resident ant species in Alabama, you would think there is NO room for more! Meet the Tawny crazy ant, *Nylanderia fulva*. Tawny crazy ants have been in the surrounding states of Mississippi, Florida, and Georgia for years, but we now have confirmation of them in Mobile County, Alabama. This is the first confirmed siting in Alabama.

Tawny crazy ants were formerly known as Rasberry crazy ants, Caribbean or hairy crazy ants. They were originally found in Florida in 1953. Since their discovery they have been sighted across south east Texas, Louisiana, central and southern Florida and found last year in Albany GA. Tawny crazy ants are native to Northern Argentina and Southern Brazil. They are small brown ants that are less than 2mm long. Under a microscope or hand lens, you can see the hairy body of the ants. Despite their small size, it's their incredible populations that give them away.

In the United States, crazy ant populations are 100 times greater than other ant species. Because of the sheer number of tawny crazy ants, food sources are limited for other ant species. This is especially true for fire ants which are displaced due to the tawny crazy ants. That may sound like good news for those of us inundated with fire ant mounds. However, the sheer numbers (millions) in a tawny ant colony is pretty scary. In areas where they have been found for years, it is not at all uncommon, to shovel dead Tawny crazy ants by the 5 gallon bucket full. They are very opportunistic ants, invading electrical boxes, campers, homes, and practically anything 'just lying around'.

Tawny crazy ants do not have stingers. Good news, right? Instead of a stinger, the workers have a specialized pore on the end of their abdomen. It will excrete chemicals for defense or attack. Tawny crazy ants are very social ants and colonies may not be distinguished from one another reaching super colony status. They also have polygyne colonies which

means colonies may contain several queen ants. This means that the population of tawny crazy ants increases rapidly. The foraging trails of these ants are very apparent and their movement is very erratic, which often looks as though the ground is moving. The trail of ants may also follow structural lines around buildings.



Tawny crazy ants, unlike red imported fire ants are not spreading by mating flights. Current research suggests that Tawny crazy ants must be picked up and moved by us. Tawny crazy ants may invade campers when you are on vacation. They may be present in potted plants or anything that they are able to crawl in. It is extremely important to check anything being moved from a known infested area. This is how the Tawny crazy ant spreads to new locations.

Because of the numbers and biology of the Tawny crazy ant they are hard to control, manage may be a better word. When they invade homes, indoor insecticides are just not enough since the colonies are often nesting outdoors. In our own yards and gardens, remove anything that may become a nesting site such as firewood piles, potted plants, thick pine straw and yard debris. Tawny crazy ants prefer humid, wet conditions which is another reason to plant drought tolerant plants that do not need irrigation as often as others. Crazy ants are seldom attracted to the bait products that are used for the management of fire ants. These guys are often managed in infested areas with contact pesticides applied in buffer zones around structures. For home owners, using pest control operators is usually the best option.

Remember that people are responsible for spreading Tawny Crazy ants. Please check anything that is moved from an infested site before bringing it home.

Calendar of Events

August 2014

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
					1	2 Chilton County Expo
3	4 Governor's Mansion Work Day	5 Advisory Council Meeting Farmer's Market	6 Lanark Work Day 	7  Help Line	8	9 Annual Youth Fishing Rodeo at Lanark
10	11 Governor's Mansion Work Day	12 Learning Garden Work Day Farmer's Market	13 Lunch & Learn Lanark Work Day 	14  Help Line	15	16  Daylily Society Meeting
17  Catch and Release Fishing Lanark	18 Governor's Mansion Work Day	19 CAMGA Meeting The Bordens Farmer's Market	20 Lanark Work Day 	21  Help Line	22 Fertilize tomatoes to keep them bearing through fall. 	23
24	25 Governor's Mansion Work Day	26 Learning Garden Work Day Millbrook Farmer's	27 Lanark Work Day 	28  Last day of Help Line	29	30
31	Mark your calendars for AMGA Mini Conference September 16 in Guntersville!					

JULY MINUTES

By Rosemary Mobley, Secretary



The July, 2014, Central Alabama Master Gardener's Association (CAMGA) meeting was held July 15, 2014, at the Elmore County Extension Office Auditorium. Linda Griebel called the meeting to order at 10:07 a.m. She recognized Mallory Kelley, Regional Extension Agent, who presented information about the Extension System in Alabama. Also present was Kerry Smith, Master Gardener Program Coordinator, who provided program support during the presentation. Mallory began the presentation with the Extension motto: "To educate the community." She explained that Extension operates in every state, and that every county in Alabama has an Extension Office. In 2004, Extension initiated a regional-based system with a coordinator in every county office. Currently, the coordinator in Elmore County is Katrina Mitchell. Mallory's role as regional agent gives her horticultural responsibilities for seven counties. Regions are based on soil types, and Elmore County is in the Piedmont Region.

Every land grant college receives federal funding for Extension Specialists. The thirteen southeastern states each have two land grant colleges. Some of the states have three such institutions. In Alabama, these are Auburn University, Alabama A&M College, and Tuskegee University. Technically, CAMGA volunteers serve under Auburn University. Next, Mallory demonstrated the way to locate county directories at the Alabama Cooperative Extension System (ACES) website: <http://www.aces.edu>

Katrina Mitchell announced that

the Annual Grass Roots Meeting is a time set aside for the community to get to meet extension specialists operating in Elmore County. These agents have a panel discussion about their role and responsibilities. Also, at this meeting, members of the community have an opportunity to provide input into program offerings and services.

In addition, Mallory discussed the requirements for Advanced Master Gardener certification. The first step is to meet with Mallory to discuss and confirm an area of study. Then, a course of action is approved which includes training requirements and literature studies as well as a requirement to present the topic to educate the public. A question and answer session followed the presentation.

Prior to the break, the president shared that the CAMGA Board approved a contribution of \$50.00 to assist with funding Helpline resource materials such as the book-mark. Bonnie McCormick made a motion to contribute \$50.00 towards Helpline materials, Jane Mobley made the second, and it was carried by all present. Linda presented a check for \$50.00 to Kerry Smith.

The president also informed members to sign up for the Leaf Bird Bath Class during the break. The cost for the class is \$10.00, and those interested should give cash or a check made out to CAMGA to Jane Mobley.

After the break, the business meeting convened at 11:15 a.m. Linda started the meeting with awarding a platinum badge for volunteer hours to Ann Hill. Lois Pribulick was awarded the gold badge. She also announced that there will be a fall

intern class!

Next, Linda recognized Kerry Smith. Kerry explained that Extension Home Grounds Agents initiated a new award, the Fred Evans Intern of the Year Award. The selection is based on recommendations, by county agents, of one intern from each master gardener class. These agents meet in teams and select one intern from the list of submissions. Overall, the qualities exhibited by CAMGA's dearly departed, Fred Evans, of all-around support of Extension activities, cooperative spirit, and exceptional stewardship, are those considered in the selection process. Kerry announced that the 2014 Fred Evans Intern of the Year Award recipient is Charlotte Hall. She accepted her award with heartfelt recognition of the mentoring that Fred Evans had provided to her. Congratulations to Charlotte!

Linda recognized Carol Rattan for a report on programs for future meetings. Lee and Amanda Borden are scheduled to make a presentation on "Fall Vegetable Gardens" for the August 19 CAMGA meeting. The September 16 meeting will be at Pat Dye's Japanese Maple Farm. Members should bring a sack lunch and carpool. The December Christmas Party and meeting will be tentatively held at Mulder United Methodist Church. It was noted that the September 16 meeting is on the same day as the Fall Alabama Master Gardener Association (AMGA) Conference in Guntersville.

John Barnes, chair of the Projects Committee, gave a report on upcoming events. He announced that



the Bird Bath Class is scheduled for September 12, 2014 from 9:00 until 12:00 in the Extension Barn. The class size limit is 25. Participants should bring to the class a large leaf as the mold. Johan Beumer will construct the pedestal for the bird baths. Jane Mobley is the contact for registration and payment of \$10.00 for all of the materials. Next, John discussed the plant swap scheduled for October 3, 2014. Master gardeners and interns from Autauga, Coosa, Elmore, and Montgomery counties are invited to the CAMGA Master Gardener Plant Swap. Those in attendance will bring 5 plant and leave with 5 different plants. The Arbor Day project at Adullum House is tabled until further information is available.

Linda announced that Tina Bowles had lost her battle with cancer. Gale Wheeler- Leonard, of the Member Care Committee, will send a sympathy card to the family. Since Gale also serves as the Advisory Council Representative, she noted that the next Advisory Council meeting will take place on August 5, 2014, in Clanton.

The June minutes were accepted as written. Becky Ashurst made the first motion. Janet Lewis made the second, and it was carried by all present. Rosemary Mobley updated the group about the display and presentation at the National Association of County Agricultural Agents (NACAA) Annual Meeting and Professional Improvement Conference, in Mobile on July 20-24, 2014. She shared the *Garden Refreshments* booklet which contained recipes, coordinated with class topics of master gardener intern classes. She thanked all those who shared pictures and videos.

Becky Ashurst gave the Treasurer's report for June. The balance as of May 31, 2014 was \$10,838.24.

Income for June were dues-\$15.00, Plant Sale profits-\$49.54, landscape spikes-\$2.00, and reimbursement for Fall seminar- \$649.33.00 totaling \$715.83. Expenditures for June were the following: Learning Gardens-\$60.70, Trinity Episcopal Church donation-\$100.00, Care Committee-\$15.30, postage-\$ 2.32, Silent Auction-\$49.78, and Master Gardener supplies- \$53.87. The total June expenditures were \$281.97. This left a balance as of June 30, 2014 of \$11,272.10. The treasurer's report was approved. Andy Wallace made the first motion, Rhona Watson made the second, and it was carried by all present.

Phil Easter reported for the Publicity committee that he and Jane Mobley were on "Alabama Live" on July 7, and "Noon Talk" on July 8, promoting the July 9 Lunch and Learn, "Attracting Butterflies to Gardens." He also noted articles in the paper, and continuing media for recruitment of interns.

Charlotte Hall, Lunch and Learn Co-Chair, announced that the current date of the second Wednesday of the month will remain the same in 2015. She stated that the committee had explored the possibilities for changing the date, but concluded that there were not any other viable options. The Lunch and Learn topic scheduled for August 13 is: "Worms Eat My Garbage." Rose McCauley is the presenter.

The President informed the attendees that Suzanne George resigned from the Class for Interns Committee due to family care necessities. Becky Brown has agreed to chair the committee. Becky asked members to volunteer as test graders and lunch/refreshment providers. In addition, there will be volunteer opportunities for mentoring interns. Mary Long announced that the summer months are sparse with news

and requested members send special features to her for the newsletter.

The President reported for Linda Armour-Scott that there were already donations for the 2015 plant sale. R.J. Arceneaux donated 8 garden shears, and other members left several gardening books in the library. Barbara Wallace, Library Committee, requested that members hold books until specifically requested for the plant sale. Since the Helpline, the library, and Mallory's office are all in the same room, there is no extra space for book storage.

Linda recognized Mallory Kelly. Mallory confirmed that there will be an intern class in the fall. The class will begin on the first Thursday in September and last through December 9, 2014. In other news, Mallory stated that the Helpline phone lines will start auto-routing. Calls will be automatically sent based on the first 6 digits. Also, she told those present about "Harvest for Health". UAB has received grant funding to research whether or not gardening and exercise play a role in the health of post cancer survival. Master gardeners will assist in the gardening aspect of the study by mentoring eligible individuals. There will be training for master gardeners who volunteer to participate. Volunteers will agree to monthly contacts personally and by phone. More details will be forthcoming.

Linda spoke with the group about a request from Volunteers Organized Against Disaster (VOAD) for food pantry donations through July 26, 2014. She asked if members would like to pool resources or make individual donations. Those responding preferred individual donations.

Door prizes were awarded. The meeting was adjourned at 11:50 a.m. Forty-eight [people](#) attended.

Respectfully submitted,
Rosemary Mobley, Secretary



SPOTLIGHT ON VOLUNTEERS by Judy May



Attending the Projects Committee meeting July 14th were John Barnes, Johan Beumer, Linda Griebel, Carol Rattan, Jane Mobley and Lois Pribulick.

Bringing food to the monthly meeting were: Johan Beumer, Ann Hill, Penny Arceneaux, Becky Brown, Linda Griebel, Judy May and Barbara Wallace. Johan Beumer, Brenda Uhlig and Bonnie McCormick set up the chairs.

Lunch and Learn this month found Jane Mobley speaking on Attracting Butterflies to your Garden. Volunteering to help that day were Sandi Adkinson, Deborah Kelso, Sharon Potts and Charlotte Hall.

Working at Lanark this month were Carla McCune, Norman Turnipseed, Cathy Whigham Ann Hill and Judy May. Maria says thank you so much.

As usual, Phil Easter has been busy. He did 2 – 3 public relations events for Lunch and Learn as well as the Fall Master Gardener Class. He and Jane Mobley did a Monday Alabama Live and a Tuesday Noon Talk on WSFA to publicize the July Lunch and Learn. Phil will be doing a Summer Gardening Check List for the Dixie Lions Club on July 17th.

Helping Rick Ohlson with the Millbrook Farmers Market this month were Butch Kinney, Joe L'Abbe and Judy May.

Volunteering at the Governors Mansion again this month were Jane McCarthy and Amanda Borden.

Working the Helpline this month were Sharon Potts, Mary Ann Klatt, John Barnes and Mary Ann Hatcher.

Rosemary Mobley will represent CAMGA at the National Extension Conference July 20 and 21st. She has been assembling the display board, a recipe book on the 2012 class, as well as presenting a talk on the Lunch and Learn Series.

And last but certainly not least is the list of who worked in the Learning Gardens. It was John Barnes, Amanda Borden, Virginia Pruitt, Rosemary Mobley, Mary McCroan, Red Norman and Linda Griebel.



President Linda Griebel congratulates those who received gold badges at the AMGA Conference in April.

From left; Ann Hill and Lois Pribulick

Program Notes By Carol Rattan

CAMGA Meetings

Mallory Kelly did a wonderful job, with the help of Kerry Smith (Alabama Master Gardener Program Coordinator) and Katrina Mitchell (Elmore County Extension Coordinator), explaining the Extension office mission and organization, along with a little history at our July meeting. Thanks Mallory and team! Also, thanks to Lee and Amanda Borden, and Maria at Lanark, we have the remainder of our meetings for this year planned. In August, Lee and Amanda will talk to us about planning and planting a fall garden, with plenty of time for questions. Our September meeting will find us at Quail Hollow to see Pat Dye's gardens and Japanese Maples. Then we will learn all about the Montgomery Botanical Gardens at Oak Park from Ethel Boykin-Dozier during our October meeting at the Extension office. For our November meeting, we return to beautiful Lanark this year for a wonderful program by Maria Pacheco-West on ferns. Our December meeting, of course, will be our traditional Christmas luncheon – location to be announced soon. Thanks for your support while I've been out-of-pocket, and thanks especially to Amanda for helping me coordinate the October meeting as well!



Andrew Howard's Vegetable Garden By Ann Smith

This is the garden of my young neighbor. It puts me to shame Andrew Howard is 12 and he built his own



raised bed, put up the fencing, has his own mulch section. Andrew has already provided neighbors with several dozen tomatoes; he checks them daily for hornworms. He grows several cucumbers, and the squash, pumpkins and sunflowers are looking good. He may be Master Andrew Howard by age, but his is a Master Gardener to us. It's inspiring to see young people who are interested in horticultural hobbies. We have featured Andrew in previous *Garden Buzzzz* editions. We're looking for his next big gardening project!

All Bugs Good and Bad

2014 Webinar Series

Please join us for this webinar series for information you can use about good and bad insects. Webinars will be on the first Friday of each month at 2 p.m. Eastern.

August 1 Minimize Mosquito Problems

Molly Keck



September 5 Kudzu Bug Takes Over the Southeastern U.S./Brown Marmorated Stinkbug—All Bad

Dr. Michael Toews/Dr. Tracy Leskey

October 3 Alien Invasions, Zombies Under Foot, and Billions of Decapitated Fire Ants

Dr. Sanford Porter

November 7 Where Have All the Honey Bees Gone? Hope for the Future

Dr. John Skinner

For more information on the series and how to connect to the webinars, visit: <http://www.extension.org/pages/70120>.



Helpline News By Mary Ann Hatcher

Working the Helpline for the month of July were these interns from Coosa County: Becky Peavy, Ellen Smith, Betty Gaddis, Rod Trammell, Melissa Nannini, Wanda Ivey, and Sheila Ward. Also working the Helpline was Master Gardener John R. Barnes. Our Advisors were: Mary Ann Klatt and Mary Ann Hatcher. Serving as our Appointment Reminder was Sharon Potts. Your work is much appreciated. Thank you so much!



Mark your Calendars

AMGA 2014

Fall Seminar

September 16, 2014

9 a.m. – 2:30 p.m.

Guntersville State Park

Goldenrod Room

Registration: \$25

Payable to:

**Marshall County
Master Gardeners
(MCMG)**

Send Registration and Check to:

**Wilma Tanner
80 Ensley Drive
Arab, AL 35016**



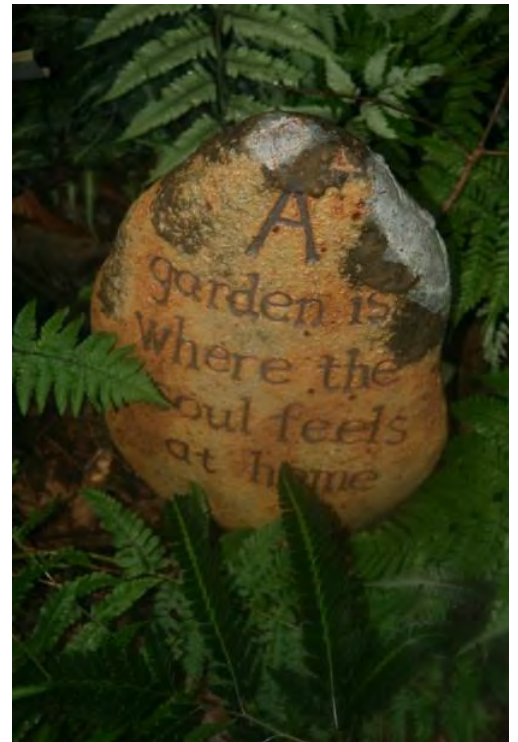
**Information:
256-586-8615**

Wild About Our Back Yards

Seminar Sessions...

- 1. All About Eagles**
- 2. Easy Gardens For The South**
- 3. Nature Calls: Photographing
Your Backyard and Beyond**
- 4. Landscaping That Works**

(Full Day = 4 CEU's)



Charlotte Hall Receives Fred Evans Intern of the Year Award



At our July meeting Linda Griebel recognized Kerry Smith, Alabama Master Gardenr Coordinator, who explained that Extension Home Grounds Agents initiated a new award, the **Fred Evans Intern of the Year Award**. The selection is based on recommendations, by county agents, of one intern from each Master Gardener class. These agents meet in teams and select one intern from the list of submissions. Overall, the qualities exhibited by CAMGA's dearly loved,

Fred Evans, of all-around support of Extension activities, cooperative spirit, and exceptional stewardship, are those considered in the selection process. Kerry along with Mallory Kelley announced that the 2014 Fred Evans Intern of the Year Award recipient is **Charlotte Hall**. She accepted her award with heartfelt recognition of the mentoring that Fred Evans had provided to her.

The list of Charlotte's achievements is very impressive . She had 190+ volunteer hours 2012-13. She is the driving force who got the Lunch and Learn program started. She is the coordinator of our CAMGA Lunch and Learn which is a very daunting task because she has to schedule each session, decide on the topics, contact speakers, and coordinate the other volunteers who help with the program. She also brings a huge flower arrangement from her yard each month to give away. She follows up on all the people who attend and invites them back to future sessions; perhaps this is why we have been having an average of 30 participants at each session, one session having 50 attendees. She also writes an informative article for the *Garden Buzzzz* each month describing that month's L & L program.

She presented a program for the Wetumpka Library's children's program, "Dig Into Reading." She worked up a historical presentation on Thomas Jefferson's garden and brought enough materials for 80 children to plant a hyacinth bean which happened to be Jefferson's favorite plant. This was the first session of the summer reading program at the library.

She volunteered with 4-H at the Holtville Junior High after school program planting terrariums. She has been a volunteer at the Governor's Mansion, worked at the CAMGA plant sale, volunteered at Lanark, and decorated at our annual Christmas Party. She researched and prepared a document for Citizen Science website for 'Come Alive Outside' program, volunteered at Greater Montgomery Home and Garden Show at the Convention Center, volunteered in conjunction with CCMGA for Felder Rushing presentation at the 2014 AMGA Mini Conference, surveyed and compiled a list of members of our intern class who would be willing to make presentations and on what subjects for the CAMGA Speaker's Bureau.

Charlotte is certainly a deserving recipient of this prestigious award, and we feel that Fred would be beside himself with pride to see her achieve it.

Alabama August Gardener's Calendar

Fruits and Nuts

- Cut out old blackberry canes after fruiting and then fertilize and cultivate for replacement canes.
- Remember to order new catalogs for fruit selection.



Shrubs

- Layer branches of hydrangea.

Lawns

- Watch for diseases.
- Mow regularly.
- Water as needed.



Roses

- Keep roses healthy and actively growing.
- Hybrid teas and floribundas may need slight pruning to prevent scraggly appearance.



Annuals and Perennials

- Water as needed. Plant perennials and biennials.

Bulbs

- Divide old iris plantings and add new ones.



Miscellaneous

- Keeping flowers, shrubs, trees, and lawns healthy is the major task during this month.
- This means close observation for insects and diseases.
- Water

Vegetable Seed

- Plant turnips, rutabagas, beans, and peas in south Alabama.



Vegetable Plants

- Plant cabbage, collards, cauliflower, Brussels sprouts, broccoli, and celery



Bird Bath Class September 12



Jane Mobley is the contact for registration and payment for the Leaf Bird Bath Class, scheduled for September 12, 2014. The cost for attendance is \$10 per person and the class size limit is 25.

Harvest for Health By Mallory Kelley

A grant from UAB has allowed the opportunity for Master Gardeners to mentor cancer survivors in hopes that it will continue to improve their health and well-being. In short, UAB is looking for approximately 25 Master Gardeners from the Autauga, Elmore and Montgomery region who would be interested in mentoring a cancer survivor in the area of vegetable gardening. You will attend an orientation in the coming weeks for a refresher in vegetable gardening and to learn any other specifics about the program. Then another meeting is scheduled where all the Master Gardeners will meet their cancer survivor.

UAB will be providing all the materials and supplies for the vegetable garden and you will be providing the expertise. Your involvement is to make contact with the cancer survivor 2 times per month. One time is through phone and the other face to face to help them in their garden. The program will start in September and last one year!

The hopeful outcome of this program is to improve the quality of life of the survivor, not only through nutritional food, but also through exercise and overall well-being. You all know the sense of worth and satisfaction you get from picking and cooking something you grew.

Please let me know if you are interested in being a mentor by emailing me at: jones57@auburn.edu.

Here is the site for a video about it that is also helpful:

<http://www.uab.edu/news/innovation/item/4827-gardens-help-cancer-survivors-cope-heal-and-grow+fdfeature>





Montgomery Area Daylily Society

August 16, 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)



Lunch—Speaker — Auction

Next meeting of the Montgomery Area Daylily Society will be at
Memorial Presbyterian Church

The church is located south of I-85, between Monticello Dr. and Vaughn Rd. The August meeting guest speaker will be foremost daylily hybridizer Dr. Jerry Patton of J & J Daylilies in Bridgeport, Alabama, who has been hybridizing since 2000 and has registered over 60 new daylilies with the AHS. Jerry is a PhD chemist retired from the pharmaceutical business. As a former president of the Greater St. Louis Iris Society, his interest in daylilies was spurred when someone brought daylily to an iris meeting—he was hooked!! J & J Daylilies contains 5,000 registered cultivars (and seedlings) of daylilies as well as an extensive collection of iris. Dr. Patton will also bring his plants to be auctioned off after his presentation.

Open to the Public. Info.: Contact Terese Goodson, President, MADS

334-288-6024 Email: etbgoodson@aol.com

Please bring a covered dish.

BRINGING COLOR TO THE RIVER REGION

<http://www.montgomeryareadaylilysociety.com/>

Lunch, Speaker, Auction, Popularity Poll and Meeting

Open to the public

Early Registration for Bonsai Class

It's mighty EARLY to advertise the BONSAI Class that will be next year but this class was so popular back in the spring that we feel we need to advertise it way ahead so everyone will have a chance to get the jump on reserving a spot.

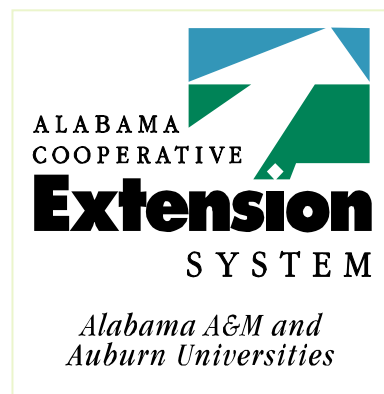
CAMGA Members

The Projects Committee is planning another BEGINNING BONSAI CLASS since many of you stated that you weren't able to take the first training offered early this year. The date is set for March 5, 2015 from 9:00-12:00 (Extension Auditorium) and the tentative price will again be \$18 per person, with each participant taking home a completed BONSAI. Please email Linda Griebel at lrgriebel@yahoo.com (don't just hit reply) to sign up for this class. We won't take payments until closer to the class date, but will limit the number to 25 participants. Reserve your spot well ahead of time since we can offer this to interns if the 25 seats are not taken by regular members.





Be a Master Gardener!



- ☐ Receive hours of quality instruction and materials
- ☐ Share the joy of gardening with others
- ☐ Participate in school/youth gardening education activities
- ☐ Volunteer on community projects

Applications are available now:

On line: <http://www.aces.edu/search/ACESresults.php?q=master%20gardener%20application>

Or from Elmore Co Extension Office 340 Queen Ann Road, Wetumpka, AL 36092

*****Class fee is \$125 (for materials), payable upon acceptance *****

Return all applications to the Elmore County Extension Office at above address.

(Final date for applications is August 20th)

JOIN THE FUN!

More details next page

Elmore County Fall Master Gardener Class

Important Facts to Know:

Application should be mailed to the Elmore County Extension office at: 340 Queen Ann Road, Wetumpka, AL 36092

Your application must be at the Extension office no later than Wednesday August 20th 2014 to be considered for the class.

Auburn will provide the Elmore County Extension office with the names of applicants who passed the background check. Those applications will then go before the review committee where approximately 20 applications will be selected. Those selected will receive an acceptance letter around the 25th of August 2014.

The fee of \$125.00 is due after you are selected, but before the first class to secure your seat.

Classes will be held at the **Elmore County Extension office in Wetumpka** each **Thursday from 9-2:00** starting **September 4th through December 4th.**

Graduation requirements for Master Gardener Certification include:

- 1. Class Attendance (missed classes must be made up)**
- 2. A passing grade on the weekly take-home tests**
- 3. 50 hours of Volunteer Service (10 of the 50 hours) are to be done at 2 Mandatory 5 hour sessions on the telephone helpline.**

Graduation will be held in August of 2015.

You are considered an Intern until graduation.

Deadline for applications: Wednesday August 20th

Lunch and Learn

By Charlotte Hall

Living in the South affords us the opportunity to see many varieties of beautiful butterflies. Jane Mobley



made a presentation to our Lunch and Learn bunch on how to enhance these opportunities! She

stressed, however, that you will only attract butterflies that are native to your

area - no matter how many gorgeous pictures of different varieties you might find in publications.

A butterfly garden is any garden designed to focus on what butterflies need for all stages of their life cycles. It must furnish food, plants for laying eggs, places to sleep, structures for protection from the wind, open spaces, puddles for male butterflies, and of course a great vantage point for you to enjoy watching these beautiful creatures. They prefer sunny locations and rocks for warming since butterflies cannot move if the temperature is less than 50 degrees.

The four stages of a butterfly's life - egg, larva/caterpillar, pupa/chrysalis and adult all require different needs. For instance, in the third stage or pupa stage when the caterpillar has molted for the last time, it does not eat at all and therefore does not require any food!

Butterfly gardens differ from regular gardens due to the specific needs of butterflies. Flower characteristics are important since a butterfly's proboscis is tubular and rolls out to feed and drink. Therefore, tubular shaped flowers are much desired. Flowers with platform shapes or flat on top so butterflies can rest while feeding are also a plus. Fragrant, bright colored flowers naturally attract butterflies and native plants are also especially good. Butterfly gardens must be insecticide free, so hand weeding will be necessary. And remember that you must be willing to sacrifice some plants to be nibbled on for the cause!

I am sure that many of you, and particularly me, have seen butterflies flapping their wings and frequenting mud puddles or shallow wet places. However, I had no idea why. Male butterflies lose all the salt from their bodies when they mate. So they gather salt and needed minerals from the mud puddles! Therefore, a

good butterfly garden needs a mud puddle. If there are no natural ones in your yard, you should build one that will include dirt, water and some rocks for them to rest upon while re-fueling. And for wind protection, trees to be airy and allow light through them. Mimosas and crape myrtles are good examples.



There are six families of butterflies:

Brush foot - which comprise one third of all North American species and have short, front legs - Examples: painted lady, mourning cloak, red admiral, common buckeye, viceroy, American lady.

Gossamer wing - small in size and usually a light blue color.

Milkweed - plant host specific and only feed on milkweed plants - Example: monarch.

Skippers - small and exhibit quick, darting flight habits - Examples: fiery skipper, silver spotted skipper, Southern Cloudywing, Horace's Duskywing.

Swallowtails - largest of the butterflies and usually have some black - Examples: giant, zebra, Eastern tiger **** which is officially the **State Butterfly of Alabama**

Whites - white or pale in color - Examples: cabbage, cloudless sulfur

Suggested plants for caterpillar stage are: dill, carrot, Queen Anne's lace, fennel, *Viburnum*, dogwood, tulip tree, passion flower, spring azure, paw paw tree, clover and other legumes and cabbage family plants.

Good plants for adults are: shrubs, lantana, azalea, blueberries, natural azaleas, butterfly bush, cosmos, zinnia, marigold, impatiens, candytuft, bee balm, coneflower, black eyed Susan, and butterfly weed.

The presentation concentrated on butterflies, but Jane did tell us the difference between butterflies and moths. So if you are curious, butterflies are diurnal, have knobs at the end of their antennae, rests with their

wings up, are bright colored and have slender, hairless bodies. Moths are nocturnal, have feathery (continued) or plain antennae, rest with their wings out, duller in color, and have flat, furry bodies. And now we know!! And by the way, if you see some-

thing buzzing around at dusk or later in the night and you think it is a hummingbird, it is actually a sphinx or hawk moth!

Consider a butterfly garden because it is a calming pursuit and offers us the chance to bring back much the natural habitat that we humans have destroyed. It is easy to do, lots of fun and what can be more beautiful or more enjoyable to watch than fluttering butterflies?

Also, consider joining our lunch bunch next month on the second Wednesday, August 13th, when our program will be presented by Rose McCauley and Paula Seamon on “Worms, Eat My Garden” – Composting and Vermiculture. I know I am anxious to hear this. What an intriguing topic. Remember, drinks are provided!



FARM, HOME & WILDLIFE EXPO

**This Saturday, Aug. 2 12:00 – 5:00 pm Chilton Research and Extension Center, 120 Co. Rd. 756
Clanton, AL. Call 205-646-3610 for details.**

The 2014 Farm, Home and Wildlife Expo at the Chilton Research and Extension Center (CREC), in Clanton is this Saturday, Aug. 2. It's always great, and about 1500 -2000 people usually attend each year.

I've attached the 2014 CREC Farm, Home & Wildlife Expo Program Agenda so you can get an idea of all that will be covered. Have a look at the program and I'm sure you'll be amazed at the spectacular line up of educational programs that Jim Pitts, CREC Director and his staff, Extension faculty, Master Gardeners and a myriad of volunteers have put together.

Participants will experience all kinds of fruit production demonstrations, vegetable gardening, high tunnel fruit production, wildlife management, livestock, over 100 varieties of fruit to taste as well as some amazing foods and fruit desserts including homemade peach ice cream, muscadine hull cobbler and blackberry lemonade, all grown and prepared at the CREC, where we grow over 200 varieties of peaches and many other fruits.

Here's a sample of some of the programs and fun planned for Saturday:

Dessert Tasting: peach ice cream, muscadine hull cobbler, blackberry lemonade; Apple Pie Cooking Demo; Inland Shrimp, Pork, Beef and Omelet Cooking Demonstrations; Food Entrepreneurship: Chilton Food Innovation Center FFA Goat Show; Dairy Cow Milking Demo; Backyard Poultry; View a Working Honeybee Hive; Portable Sawmill Demo, Tractors: Antique, Old and New; Piedmont Plateau Birding Trail; Purple Martins; 4-H Center Raptor Program: Owls, Hawks, Falcons, Bald Eagle; Non-Poisonous Snakes Safe Shotgun Handling & Skeet Shooting; Gun Dog / Drug Dog Retriever Demonstrations; Home Lawn Care and Irrigation; Redbud and Crape Myrtle Varieties; Chinese Lotus; Tomato Talk; Rainwater Harvesting & Irrigation, Master Gardener Plant Sale; Medicinal Plants; Virginia Peanut Varieties; Sweet Corn and Sweet Sorghum; National Weather Service – Understanding Tornadoes, etc.; CREC Research and Extension Farm Tours: Satsuma & Blackberry in Hoop Houses; Gold Kiwifruit Production; Vinifera Grape Variety Trial for Pierce's Disease Resistance; Oriental Persimmon Production; CREC Farm Tours.

Of all our Extension programs, this is my favorite. I hope you can come to this one. If you're interested in learning about any of these topics, the Expo is a great opportunity to meet and hear presentations from many of our Extension specialists and other great resource people who'll be helpful to you.

If you can come, please look me up. I'll be giving the South Farm Tour and Oriental Persimmon Production talk at location 12/ Trailer 2 (see peaches, wind machines for orchard frost protection, trellised apples, blackberries, Asian pears, asparagus, rootstock studies and oriental persimmons), and assisting the Master Gardeners in the Fruit Variety Tasting Tent at location 9.

Gary Gray—Regional Extension Agent, Commercial Horticulture (334)539-2128 - Cell graygar@aces.edu

YOUTH BEEKEEPING CAMP 2014 By Jim Davis, Advanced Master Gardener-Beekeeping



CAMGA's Jim Davis teaches Beekeeping class.

Another youth beekeeping camp has just been completed with another great time had by all. This year we extended the camp by an additional ½ day to allow for a camp written and practical exam. In turn we were able to award prizes for the best combined scores on the exams. Enough on that for now, let's discuss the camp itself.

We had a total of 23 students from all over Alabama and one from out of state (South Carolina) in attendance. They ranged in age from 9 to 15. After completing the registration on Thursday morning, we kicked off camp with class time by Dr. Maureen Murphy from Huntington College presenting a class on Bee Chemistry and Dr. Sig Harden from Troy University presenting a class on Honey Bee Society. I sat through the Bee Chemistry class and it was thoroughly enjoyable with

discussions on the periodic table, followed by a lab experiment.

After a short break the students, who were divided into two groups by age during registration, either had their first open hive class or attended a class on hive construction. The hive guides did an outstanding job all during the camp especially considering we had probably the hottest days of the year during the camp. I believe we hit 95 degrees on one occasion. The students were guided through the hives by several of our Central Alabama Beekeepers Association (CABA) members, Richard Knighton, Stacy VanDortrecht and Debra Mallory. They were able to go through the hives multiple times and as always this was the hit of the camp. Plus they really had to know their stuff on the hives during the practical exam.

During the hive construction class the students assembled a deep frame with wax foundation. They again did a great job even though some had never even used a hammer. They got to take the frame they assembled home as a souvenir.

On the second day of camp, it was more of the same. They had another class on chemistry, this time on the chemistry of honey and a class on extracting honey. Richard brought in a full super of honey and all the kids got to uncap and spin the extractor. As a reward, they each got to take a honey bear full of honey home with them which was a real treat (plus they got to chew the wax cappings which they really loved)! More classroom time followed on the second day with Myles Wright presenting a class on plants and pollination and Allyson Andrews presenting a class on making lip balm and soap. Again each student got to take home items they made during the class.

Saturday morning was a day of testing the skills they had learned the previous two days. Many of the parents were present as their child took the practical exam out in the bee yard. This time they were one on one with a hive guide and had to identify parts of the hive, bee types, products of the hive and a multitude of other items. The written exam consisted of 40 questions developed by Dr. Jason Borders, who has been the driving force behind the camp for the past two years. In addition, he developed a speed test of a dozen or so questions in case we had a tie on the exams, which we did. Three students had to take the follow-on exam which was much more complicated and was a timed test.

At the end of the exam period we all gathered in a classroom where Dr. Borders presented awards for the

highest achievement on the testing. Three students were awarded first place in their age groups, one in the younger group and two in the older group. They were each awarded a complete 10 frame hive (a value of nearly \$500) and are well on their way to becoming brand new beekeepers. In addition, all the students were presented a hive tool for their participation in the class. A very special prize was awarded for the only bee sting of the week.

This year's bee camp would not have been possible without help from several groups. Of course CABA was front and center with Dr. Borders and Allyson organizing the classes and instructors. Shannon Andress of the Montgomery County Extension office and the 4-H coordinator was also instrumental in making the camp a success. Bear Exploration Center again allowed us to use their campus and allowed us to bring the 5 bee hives into their gardens for the open hive portion of the camp. And finally, CABA received a \$5000 grant by Mid-South RC&D for purchasing the multitude of equipment required for the children, NUCs for the package bees that were purchased and equipment used for the hive construction class. CABA members served as instructors during the camp and provided the extractor and other equipment used during the camp. In addition 5 scholarships were awarded for students wanting to attend the camp.

Beekeeping is a valuable process that is vital for our environment and our food supply. By getting our children involved in it at an early we hope to increase the number of beekeepers. After observing the children during this camp, I believe we accomplished that vital mission. Hopefully next year we can have an even larger group of volunteers and students attend. More pictures—next page.





Enthusiastic students don beekeeping gear to learn more about the art. With honeybee populations waning, it is good to see an interest in keeping bees to pollinate our fruits and vegetables.

CAMGA Makes Good Showing at Ag Agents Conference in Mobile

Rosemary Mobley put together this outstanding display of all the refreshments CAMGA provided for the intern classes which included interesting recipes that coordinated with class topics .



Alabama Master Gardeners were invited to participate in the National Association of County Agricultural Agents (NACAA) Annual Meeting and Professional Improvement Conference, in Mobile on July 20-24, 2014. CAMGA was one of eight programs across the state to provide a display. The CAMGA display was based on

Rosemary Mobley speaks at Ag Conference.



a project by Rosemary Mobley and Kay Norman. They volunteered to help with refreshments for the intern class of 2012-2013. The project that ensued was to coordinate refreshments with class topics. As a result, recipes using herbs, seeds and nuts, vegetables, honey, fruit, and edible flowers were compiled into a recipe booklet, "*Garden Refreshments*".

In addition to the display, Master Gardeners were asked to give a presentation as part of the Horticultural Super Session. P. Allen Smith was the featured speaker for this session. At the conclusion of his portion, six programs, including CAMGA, presented on various projects. Information about CAMGA's Lunch and Learn Program was shared during this session.

Appreciation is extended to those who shared resources and talents for this endeavor. These are: Sandi Adkison, Amanda Borden, Lee Borden, Jim Davis, Linda Griebel, Charlotte Hall, Ann Hill, Candy Jones, Jane Mobley, Rosemary Mobley, Kay Norman, Virginia Pruitt, and Carol Pugh.

Fun at the Arboretum By Marie Updike



On Friday morning, July 18, I visited the Montgomery Public School's "Arboretum Nature Center" at 1755 Hunter Loop Road, just off Rt. 31.

Cindy McKenzie, who has more than 30 years experience as an educator, is the principal and director. Cindy invites

all Master Gardeners to get their volunteer hours at the Arboretum on any Friday, 8:30 to 12:30, and my four hours of volunteering were packed full of fun events. First, I picked figs from their large tree, then harvested rosemary stems from the garden, all for the cookout done by twenty high school students. My job was to help them learn about fishing so it was a hands-on experience getting live, squirming worms on hooks, then showing students how to cast out to the pond. Geneva Patterson, Director at TSTC, says they are high school students from the Upward Bound Program of the Trenholm State Technical College on a field trip to the Arboretum with their parents and advisers, to experience fishing, walking on nature trails in the woods, and having a picnic under the beautiful pines. TSTC Upward Bound assists high school students with graduating from high school and preparing for success in college and offers a summer component of cultural, recreational, and community services activities. Friday's outing for Upward Bound was co-partnered by Brenda Hinson from the ACES office. I was moved to hear high school students talk about taking their SAT's, planning for their future and how much fun they were having exploring the grounds. Then, I was introduced to sixty students from the Summer Learning Program, sponsored by the Brain Forest of the Montgomery Education Foundation which provides an opportunity for children to explore and have fun. Part of my job was be with the students on their nature walk which was expertly guided by Brian Cooley who is on staff at the Arboretum. Believe me when I say those kids (5th and 6th graders) were all

detectives in the woods....hunting for specimens, looking for anything creepy crawly. They all took to fishing at the pond with much enthusiasm and some snagged fish. I was excited just to see the kids get their first catch to experience the same joy I had.

Since 2010 Cindy has developed a variety of nature related curricula to benefit public school elementary, junior high and senior high school aged children. This summer I visited the Arboretum in June to hear about the Junior Master Gardener Summer Camp which was developed by Cindy and co-partnered by ACES. The JMG successfully provided "Square Foot Gardening", "Homemade Ice Cream", "Pinecone Bird Feeders", "Building Bird Houses", and many nature related games. The volunteers at this summer's JMG really enjoyed time spent with the kids. Since taking charge of the 37 acre site, Cindy has made great strides and accomplished a lot with a tiny budget.

Over the last 3 years approximately 12,000 children and adults have been through the Arboretum which is an amazing number! Cindy and her assistant, Brian Cooley, have become Master Gardeners with the CCM-GA and are very knowledgeable on all things horticulture or nature related. Both Cindy and Brian have taught workshops to Master Gardeners, such as "Seed Starting", "Making Hypertufa Pots" and many others. They sure hit the mark for fun and informative hands-on sessions for our fellow gardeners. Their circle of volunteers, contacts, contributing agencies and donating companies has tripled since 2010. Still, there are volunteer opportunities for Master Gardeners (like me) to perform, such as weed eating, mowing grass, clean our garden beds, plant new perennials, trim bushes, clear forest pathways and pick up fallen limbs. Or, assist Cindy and Brian when 80 students arrive on site for a nature program. Hm-m-m-m-m, maybe this Friday I'll go out to the Arboretum to clean out that garden bed by the entrance.

The contact information for Cindy McKenzie is 334-269-4815, E-mail: cindy.mckenzie@mps.k12.al.us Here is the link to the brochure from the Arboretum: <http://images.pcmac.org/Uploads/MontgomeryPublic/MontgomeryPublic/SubDepartments/DocumentsCategories/Documents/Arboretum%20newsletter.pdf> More pictures next page. . . .





Cindy McKenzie (from MPS Arboretum) with two elementary students.



Jeff Wood and Sarah Morris (from MEF) with two elementary students.



Hunter Wolfe and Michelle Brewster (from MEF) with an elementary student.



Brian Cooley (from MPS Arboretum) with elementary students.



Geneva Patterson (from TSTC) with high school students.

The day at the Arboretum was a fun, educational and recreational time for these eager students. They'll remember this wonderful outing for years to come.



Governor's Mansion Report By Amanda Borden

First Lady Celebrates 500 Volunteer Hours at the Governor's Mansion Garden

Volunteers at the Governor's Mansion continued their summer project of weeding and removal of plants that need to be relocated. In the process they also extracted unwanted rocks and gravel from some of the beds. They took out some juniper and iris, which Jane McCarthy

is potting up and saving to plant in appropriate locations in the garden this fall. One especially notable accomplishment was the removal of torpedo grass that had grown up around the fountain, along with the rescue of iris that was mixed in with the weeds. Shortly after that task was completed, Mrs. Bentley graciously invited volunteers into the kitchen to partake in a delicious cake offered in recognition of having reached a 500-hour milestone in the garden.



Pictured: Above: Jane McCarthy works with iris in fountain area.



From left to right: Sandy Rosamund, Amanda Borden, Mrs. Bentley and Jane McCarthy celebrate the occasion with a beautiful cake.



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A big **THANK YOU** from Kerry Smith

I along with Dr. Mask, Danny Cain, and Jim Todd want to thank all of you from CAMGA for your show of support last week at the Ag Conference. You showed our ag agents what a great program we have with your displays and presentations. I was also very proud to see your combined efforts with other

associations. As a follow-up, I had an idea to share the presentations with a wider audience. Since we're revamping our webpages, I had the idea to include a narrated version of all your Power Points. Here's one more reason I enjoy spending time with you. Your energy gives me inspiration! —————Kerry

AUM Offers Classes for Seniors

Classes at AUM's "Senior Guest Program" by Marie Updike

For those sixty years and over, you may view, download and print your application at the AUM website (this program is by application only) <http://www.aum.edu/admissions/senior-guest-program>

Marie Updike has taken a few courses at AUM through this program, and advises books are much, much less expensive if rented or purchased as "used", so perhaps try www.chegg.com or www.abebooks.com or www.amazon.com . She advises August 18 begins late registration fee, so be sure to submit your application BEFORE August 18, or ASAP. To view the full schedule for Fall.

Here are some classes that MG's might be interested in:

Select up to three courses from the semester class schedule available now and prior to the beginning of each semester.

Introduction to Biology, Principles of Biology I and II, Environmental Biology, Microbiology, Organic Chemistry, Ecology, and Environmental Pollution

Visit the Records Office, Room 131 Taylor Center, to submit the application and confirm course availability. Registration for subsequent terms will be conducted by mail-in-registration.

Details of Senior Guest Program:

1. Participation is open to those age 60 and over.
2. You can take classes on a space-available basis.
3. You will not receive course credit.
4. You will not normally take tests
5. You will not be required to complete assignments.
6. You can take advantage of free parking
7. You are responsible for purchasing books
8. The level of participation is really between the senior guest and the instructor.
9. Science lab classes, studio courses in fine arts, and computer classes are not available for audit in this program.

Visit the Records Office, Room 131 Taylor Center, to submit the application and confirm course availability. Registration for subsequent terms will be conducted by mail-in-registration.

AUM's facilities are accessible to all persons. If you have a disability that might require special assistance, please communicate this by calling the Center for Disability Services at 334-244-3631 or TDD phone 244-3754. For more information on this program, please contact the Registrar's Office at 334-2443125.

The Millbrook Farmer's Market

By Marie Updike



Marie



Rick

At our booth each week at the Millbrook Farmers Market we help residents of the area with gardening questions and healthy gardening practices. The Millbrook Farmers Market has been a great venue to answer gardening and horticulture questions and to help build relationships with people in the community, whether they are back yard gardeners, have small farms or those who support local growers. Among other advice, the MG volunteers help patrons with selection of the best plants for the best location and offer recommendations for the best time to apply fertilizers. They provide numerous handouts published by the local ACES office, distribute the "Helpline Number" as well as providing applications for the upcoming Master Gardener Intern class to be held in September.

So, what kinds of questions do they get down at the market?

Some questions and comments we get are:

- * What's wrong with my tomato plant? Can tomatoes be grown in buckets? How can deer be kept away from my garden, specifically from my tomato plants?
- * I just laid down new sod, only to find it pulled back and turned over the next morning. The culprit? Raccoons looking for grubs – they're smart and good with their paws.
- * The group gets lots of questions about problems caused when plants are put in spots where they don't get enough sun – because so many of us overestimate the amount of sun our yards really get. Especially with fruiting vegetables like tomatoes and eggplants, there's really no wiggle room as far as sun goes; they've gotta have a whole day of it!!!

A typical CAMGA booth is staffed by two or three Master Gardener volunteers for a period of four hours per shift. They arrive prepared to give helpful information about tree care, gardening, indoor or outdoor pests, environmental topics or wildlife issues. They answer most yard and gardening questions, and help identify and treat common yard and garden problems, or suggest whom to call/contact for specific questions. The Master Gardeners Farmer's Market "question and answer" manned with volunteers is open on Tuesdays from late May to late August at the park on Main Street, . Time: 8:00 am - 12:00 pm. Rick Ohlson, 334-233-7425, rohlson@yahoo.com, who coordinates this program, is looking forward to signing up any Master Gardener for future dates to work at the booth. Please let him know when you are available.

As a volunteer Master Gardener who helped out at this week's booth, I went home realizing that I'd learned right along with the customers who stopped by asking gardening questions. We all learn from each other, and then again, we learn from the many handouts provided. So-o-o-o-o, the booth has become a popular place for residents to stop, chat, and learn.

Mark Your Calendars
Southern Region Master Gardener Conference
October 21-24
Baton Rouge, Louisiana

The [East Baton Rouge Master Gardener Association](#) of the LSU AgCenter's MG Program is proud to host the 2014 Southern Region Master Gardener Conference. When gardening enthusiasts from Texas to Virginia converge on Louisiana's capital city, they will be greeted with riveting speakers, entertaining tours and a trade show that promises to offer those 'one-of-a-kind' items.

This event will bring together master gardeners, vendors, horticulture professionals and others with a common interest in all aspects of gardening, the environment and plant sciences. The 2014 Conference Committee is grateful to all who have made this conference possible through [sponsorships](#), in-kind gifts and hundreds of volunteer hours from our members.

Please join us in beautiful [Baton Rouge](#) from October 21st through October 24th at the [Crowne Plaza Hotel](#). Check back often for updates! Hope to see you there!



Keynote Speakers' Productions



Baton Rouge

The Learning Garden By Mary McCroan

The Learning garden continues to produce fruits and vegetables with the latest harvest being Sugar Baby Water Melons. Those in the know taught the rest of us how to tell when they are ripe and just to test the theory we cut one of the melons up and ate it in the garden. ..Delicious!



John Barnes tends the herb beds in the learning garden. The rain garden continues to do its job diverting water from nearby buildings and hosts some unique plants such as Catawba Lilies and the Texas Star Hibiscus shown below.



At left: John Barnes is standing between the peach trees with a freshly picked tomato. He has been taking care of the raised bed where he has planted tomatoes as well as other veggies.

Right: Peanut Pumpkin hangs from the fence.



Below: The vegetable garden is at its peak and will produce until frost.

CAMGA Garden Buzzzz
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NEXT MEETING

AUGUST 19
LEE AND AMANDA
BORDEN
FALL VEGETABLE
GARDEN

EXTENSION

