# Garden \*\*

# Buzzzz



Volume 23 Issue 11

**Central Alabama Master Gardener Association** 

November 2014

#### President's Message By Linda Griebel



So much to do, but we're up for the fall tasks. I'm really enjoying the slightly cooler temperatures and looking forward to getting lots accomplished in my landscape. October proved to be another dry month to stress our plant pals... What can we do other than provide additional moisture and hope our favorites make it?

We are very appreciative of the drip irrigation in the Learning Gardens since it enables our experiments to thrive in spite of the heat and dryness. Since we removed most of the spent summer vegetables, we are trying cold hardy items like daikon radishes, kale, and Chinese cabbage and they are growing nicely. Several interns are already helping and learning in

the gardens. Be sure to check out the changes when you attend Lunch and Learn sessions since the next 2 meetings are away from Extension. And don't forget the other volunteer sites, including the group workday on November 17 at the Governor's Mansion.

It's great seeing interns at meetings and already volunteering at CAMGA functions. There are many positive comments on the classes and we're appreciative of the addition of these newest master gardeners to our ranks. Soon you'll be certified and teaching others as well. Don't forget that recruitment for next year's class should be an ongoing process and that you can give out an application at any time. Always room for more wonderful down to earth people!

Ethyl Boykin proved to be a very entertaining speaker at the October meeting. While giving us her journey to secure the Botanical Gardens in Montgomery, she kept members in stitches for most of the hour's presentation. Many thanks to Carol Rattan for lining up this program. Don't forget that we'll be at Lanark next month and then there's the holiday function in December.

Wow – the year is almost over! Be sure to enter your hours by December 31. If you are not comfortable getting your volunteer time into the computer, you can call Rhona Watson before the end of the year with your hours.

Thank you for your confidence in electing me to serve another term (2015) as President. Of course, I will need everyone's help in keeping CAMGA such a vital and proactive organization. It's great to have so many like minded friends. I look forward to designing and implementing new ideas with you. I hope you'll take on a role of responsibility if called upon – we need everyone to keep things rolling.

See you in the gardens... Linda

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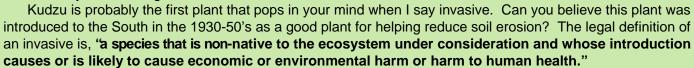
#### **Message from Mallory**

**By Mallory Kelley** 

Regional Extension Agent — Home Grounds, Gardens, Home Pests

#### **Dangers of Moving Firewood**

There are many invasive species of different kinds around us in Alabama whether we are talking about insects, animals, or plants. I had a family relative from the east coast who came to town recently who had never been this far south. They were talking about the beautiful countryside and this beautiful, lush "ivy look-alike" growing everywhere, all over the trees and covering the hillsides and they wanted to know what it was. It took me a second, but I soon realized they were talking about our beloved Kudzu!



Invasive pests pose a major threat to Alabama's natural ecosystems. "Whether they are plants, animals or insects the damage they cause can have significant impacts to the native flora and fauna. The challenges associated with invading insects are the lack of natural predators to control their populations. Additionally, their hosts or trees impacted have few natural defenses due to the pest not being a natural component of the ecosystem. This combination can result in large pest populations causing significant mortality of host species" said Beau Brodbeck, Forester and Regional Extension Agent, Alabama Extension.

All this talk leads me to an invasive insect that we all need to be aware of as we move into the fall. The Emerald ash borer (EAB) is already in Georgia and Tennessee, so it's just a matter of time before it will be discovered in Alabama. The EAB is an exotic invasive from Asia that was discovered in Michigan in 2001 and has been recorded in 24 states and 2 Canadian provinces. According to Herms and McCullough, "Because ash is one of the most common tree genera in North America, the pest's prolific nature and fatal impact on trees make it the most economically and ecologically costly forest insect to invade North America." If there is good news... EAB feeds only on ash trees. The three North American species most vulnerable are the white, green and black.

The EAB adult females deposit their eggs on the bark of ash trees, usually high in the canopy of trees in the thin branches. When the larvae hatch, they bore into the tree and feed on the inner bark. The feeding disrupts the nutrition system of the tree and as more larvae infest the tree, this causes a slow death, usually 2-4 years from the time of infection. At the time you realize you have this insect in your forest, it will be too late for any measures of control.

Although EAB can fly, its flying radius is fairly minimal, but where our awareness of these insects comes into play is when we could be the ones transporting them.

The public can be a valuable asset in slowing the spread of EAB and preventing the pest from entering non-infested states. This time of year people are heading to the mountains to see the fall foliage and may pack firewood to take or purchase firewood upon arrival.

Check the map and know where the EAB has been found. If you are in an area that is noted as having EAB, do not buy firewood or take firewood from that area to another. If you do buy firewood, use it only in the county where you bought it. Ash firewood that has dried naturally can still harbor larvae.

Below is a link to view where the EAB has been identified: <a href="http://www.emeraldashborer.info/">http://www.emeraldashborer.info/</a> map.cfm#sthash.rjaJi95n.p1yl5LfJ.dpbs

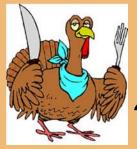
According to Herms and McCullough, "Researchers have estimated that if EAB continues expanding at its current rate, it is likely to have an economic impact of \$12.5 billion by the year 2020." Researchers and regulators can do their part, but we also need you, the citizens.

For more information, go to http://www.emeraldashborer.info.

**Source for information:** Herms, D.A. and McCullough, D.G. (2014) Emerald ash borer invasion of North America: History, biology, ecology, impacts and management. *Annu. Rev. Entomol.* 59: 13-30. Doi: 10.1146/annurev-ento-011613-162051.

Beau Brodbeck, Regional Extension Agent, Forestry and Natural Resources, Alabama Extension.

# November



# 2014

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
						All Saints' Day
2	3 Governor's Mansion Work Day	4 Learning Garden Work Day	5Advisory Council Lanark Work Day	6 Intern Class	7Webinar 1PM Where have Honey Bees gone	8 Chinese Painting Class Nov.1-29
9	10 Governor's Mansion Work Day	11 Veterans Day	12Lanark Work Day Lunch & Learn	13 Intern Class	14	15
16	17 Governor's Mansion Work Day	18 CAMGA Meeting	19 <sub>Lanark</sub> Work Day	20 Intern Class	21	22
23	24 Governor's Mansion Work Day	25 Learning Garden Work Day	26Lanark Work Day	27  Mappy Thanksgiving	28	29 Roll Tide War Eagle
30						

#### OCTOBER MINUTES

By Rosemary Mobley, Secretary

The October, 2014, Central Alabama Master Gardener's Association (CAMGA) meeting was held October 21, 2014, at the Elmore County Extension Auditorium, Wetumpka, Alabama. Linda Griebel called the meeting to order at 10:00 a.m. She welcomed everyone, and recognized interns and other guests in attendance.

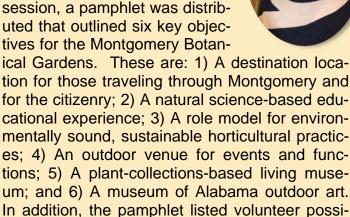
Linda recognized Amanda Borden who introduced the speaker, Ethel Dozier-Boykin, a former classmate of Amanda's at Robert E. Lee High School in Montgomery, Alabama. Ms Dozier-Boykin received an undergraduate degree in Landscape Design and Horticulture from North Carolina State. She is a landscape design consultant, and currently spearheads efforts to develop Montgomery Botanical Gardens at Oak Park.

Ms Dozier-Boykin provided a historical perspective of the concept of Botanical Gardens at Oak Park. She explained that in 1965, Oak Park was reopened to the public as a scenic rather than recreational park. She recalled a visit to the park, when she read a marker dated from 1965, designating Oak Park as a "botanical garden." This was the impetus for her to champion the development of botanical garden in Oak Park.

In 2012, Friends of the Montgomery Botanical Gardens at Oak Park was formed and supported by local master gardeners. Together with Heather Coleman and others, Ethel Boykin-Dozier convinced Mayor Todd Strange to give them an opportunity to begin planning the gardens in a small portion of the park. The land allotted to the recently formed Friends of Montgomery Botanical Garden at Oak Park runs along the northern edge of the park and includes the area around the northeast picnic shelter, the old monkey island pond, and the maintenance buildings.

Plans include a Southern Garden close to the park entrance and containing plants native to Alabama. Ms. Boykin-Dozier explained that some area nurseries have volunteered to donate plants. Other gardens in the design are: Children's Garden, Biblical Garden, Butterfly Garden Rose Garden, Rock Garden, and a Serenity Garden to name a few.

After a question and answer session, a pamphlet was distributed that outlined six key objectives for the Montgomery Botan-



bilities, and membership in Friends of the Mont-

gomery Botanical Gardens at Oak Park. For fur-

ther information, write to the e-mail address:

montgomerybotanicalgardens@gmail.com

After a break with refreshments, the business meeting was convened at 11:18 a.m. spoke about a "glitch" with the Yahoo calendar which shows incorrect times for upcoming events. Until this is rectified, any posting to the Yahoo calendar should include the time frame in the subject line. Members should ignore times other than those noted in the subject line.

Next, Linda stood in for Becky Ashurst and gave the Treasurer's report for August. The balance as of August 31, 2014 was \$11,300.95. Income for September included \$30.00 - Bird Bath Workshop, \$125.00-Donation from Alabama Wildlife Federation (AWF), and \$125.00-Payment for class, which totaled \$280.00. Expenditures for September were Bird Bath Workshop- \$ 94.82, Scholarship-\$125.00, Elmore County Extension Office for AWF donation-\$125.00, and Payment for class-\$125.00 which totaled \$469.82. This left a balance as of September 30, 2014 of \$11,111.13. Katrina Mitchell made a motion to approve the Treasurer's report. Amanda Borden made the second, and it was carried by all present. At the November meeting, members will be able to pay yearly dues along with the amount for the Christmas luncheon. (Current interns do not pay dues for 2016.)

John Barnes reported for the Projects Committee. The Master Gardener Plant Swap was a success, and those attending left with more than John announced that a sign-up five plants. sheet for a CAMGA workday at the Governor's Mansion on November 17<sup>th</sup> was on the registration table. Amanda Borden, the liaison for this project, noted that the primary task for this day is the relocation of ferns, roses, and azaleas. When daylight savings time takes effect on November 2<sup>nd</sup>, the time frame for volunteer hours at the Governor's Mansion will change to 9:00 a.m. until 12:00 p.m. If you signed-up at the meeting, your name will be included on the clearance list for November 17<sup>th</sup> provided to the guards at the gate.

The bonsai class is on schedule for March 5, 2015, and the class size is limited to 20. A sign-up sheet for this class was available at the registration table. A price for this class will be finalized in January, 2015. The Projects Committee approved the installation of a butterfly garden in Alice's Garden. Anyone interested in helping with the design and installation should contact John Barnes. The committee also approved a new project at the Elmore County Municipal Courthouse and designs are under development.

Becky Brown, chair of the Class for Interns Committee, shared that the intern class is running smoothly. Interns present at the meeting, Joyce Vella, Sandy Rosamond, Terry Chambliss, and Cheri Bedford, voiced agreement.

Next Linda gave updates for several committees. She noted that Mary McCroan and CAM-GA volunteers made necessary repairs to the water garden feature on Extension grounds. In the process, those involved learned about using a wet saw. On October 25, 2014, R.J. Arceneaux will be present at 10:00 a.m. in the Community Learning Gardens for his annual garlic demonstration. Future plans for the gardens include planting fig trees by the fence, and spreading mulch to help put the gardens to bed.

The Lunch and Learn Committee is finalizing plans for next year's sessions. A tentative schedule for the year includes a majority of new topics. Starting in January 2015, Lunch and Learn meetings will be held on the second Tuesday of the month. Rounding out the current year, on November 12<sup>th</sup>, the topic is Holiday



Decorating with Natural Materials, presented by Charlotte Hall and Rosemary Mobley. Phil Easter will present on Holiday Plants and Forcing Bulbs on December 10, 2014.

Linda stressed the importance of keeping all publicity going through Phil Easter, the Publicity chairman. She also reminded all present to send articles and pictures to Jane Mobley to help with her preparation of the historical record of the year. It was also mentioned to send volunteer information to Judy May. Finally, the deadline for submitting newsletter articles and pictures to Mary Long is October 25, 2014.

Next, Linda recognized Kelly Lafreniere, Nominating Committee chair, to report on the recommendations of candidates as officers of CAMGA for 2015. These included: President-Linda Griebel; Vice President-Lee Borden; Secretary- Rosemary Mobley; Treasurer- Rhona Watson; and Advisory Council Representative-Gale Wheeler-Leonard. Bob Brown made a motion of acceptance of the submitted list of candidates, and to close the floor. Katrina Mitchell seconded the motion, and the slate of officers received unanimous approval. These officers will be sworn in at the December meeting.

Door prizes of plants were awarded to everyone in attendance. The meeting was adjourned at 11:55 a.m. Thirty-six people attended.

Respectfully submitted, Rosemary Mobley, Secretary



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

Attending the Projects Committee meeting October 14<sup>th</sup> were Linda Griebel, Carol Rattan, Candy Jones, Johan Beumer, John Butler and John Barnes.

Speakers for the Lunch and Learn October 8<sup>th</sup> were Rosemary Mobley and Jane Mobley speaking on Herbs. Helping that day were Carla McCune, Sandi Adkinson and Charlotte Hall.



Maria says helping her at Lanark this month were Ann Hill, Carla McCune, Judy May, Norman Turnipseed, Connie Willis and interns Peggy Gelpi and Don Hoover. She says we have really worked hard this month to make the gardens cleaner, neater and easier to work in. These volunteers went well beyond my wildest expectations of what we could accomplish in such a short time. Thank you for all your hard work. There are probably some things left to do for those who haven't visited yet (ha ha) so don't be shy! Come and volunteer at the Lanark Gardens and learn about all the things we have to do during the winter months!

Bringing food to the monthly CAMGA meeting were Sharon Potts, Amanda Borden and Iva Haynie. Angela Peltier helped set up the room.

Bringing food for the intern class October 8<sup>th</sup> were Candy Jones, Ann Hill, Sally L'Abbe, Sharon Potts, Judy May, Rosemary Mobley, Red Norman, and Karla McCune.

Bringing food October 15<sup>th</sup> were Ann Hill, Sally L'Abbe, Cathy Whigham, Barbara Wallace, Katrina Mitchell, Rosemary Mobley, Karla McCune and Red Norman.

Bringing food October 22<sup>nd</sup> were Becky Brown, Rosemary Mobley, Sally L'Abbe, Jane Mobley, Iva Haynie, Judy May, Johan Beumer and Red Norman.

Working at the Governor's Mansion this month were Jane McCarthy, Amanda Borden and Sandy Rosamond.

Jane McCarthy taught a class on making bird bath leaves to the Scattered Seeds Garden Club in Montgomery on October 13<sup>th</sup>.

Jane McCarthy and Maria Pacheco West taught a class on Herbs to the Intern class on October 23<sup>rd</sup>.

Becky Brown says test graders this month for the intern class were Selma Thomason, Andy Wallace and Sharon Potts. Test graders October 30<sup>th</sup> were Charlotte Hall and Carla McCune.

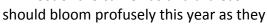
Phil Easter has had a very busy October. He taught a Fall Container Gardening Class five times! October 8<sup>th</sup> it was for the AUM Seniors. October 9<sup>th</sup> for the Commodoros of Coosada Baptist Church, October 14<sup>th</sup> for the Retired Teachers of Elmore County, October 15<sup>th</sup> for the Autauga County M. G. class and October 16<sup>th</sup> for the Elmore County MG class. On October 21<sup>st</sup> he taught Floral Decorating with things from the Landscape for the Federated Garden Clubs of AL. and October 23<sup>rd</sup> taught a class on Fall in the Garden to the Kiwanis Club.

On October 15<sup>th</sup> Mary McCroan and Linda Griebel presented Pruning Pointers for Southern Gardens to the Autauga Co. MG intern class. On October 28<sup>th</sup>, R.J.Arceneaux did a Lesson from the Garden- demonstration and instruction on planting garlic.

On October 21 Phil Easter, Mallory Kelley, Marie Updike, Janet Lewis and Mary Long attended the annual District VI meeting of the Garden Club of Alabama at a luncheon at Arrowhead Country Club. Phil gave the program, Marie made centerpieces, Mary provided piano entertainment, Janet as President of the Montgomery Federation of Garden Clubs was hostess, and Mallory gave a talk encouraging garden club members to become Master Gardeners.

#### Governor's Mansion Report By Jane McCarthy

Many thanks to all the Autauga, Elmore and Montgomery County Master Gardener volunteers for their unselfish time spent in the gardens at the Governor's Mansion this past year. They have been doing an incredible job keeping the grounds tidy, while sharing experiences and information. Everyone has noted, commented, and raved about the changes in the gardens. We have made great progress in controlling weeds, keeping the beds mulched, applying proper pruning techniques, and plant identification. Most of the camellias and azaleas



are no longer meatballs, and we have declared war on nut grass, torpedo grass, and cardinal vine. Thanks to all these issues, there is job security in what we do.

On Monday, 17 November, we will hold our second annual fall workday at the Governor's Mansion. All three of the Master Gardener groups are invited to participate, as well as any avid gardeners and/or potential Master Gardeners. There are approximately 30 roses, 20 hydrangeas, 20 holly ferns, and 20 hostas that need to be relocated. Please bring your favorite shovel, clip-

pers, and gloves. Work is scheduled 9 AM-2 PM, or until we finally come to a stopping point. Feel free to bring snacks and/or lunch. If you only can donate an hour or two of your time please feel free to join us at anytime during the day.

There will be a winter workday in February or March to prune and tidy up the beds for spring. We plan to renewal-prune some of the holly, wax myrtle, crepe myrtle, and pyracantha trees to return them to shrubs. I will bring a chain saw and the Mansion has a pole saw, so please bring pruning tools.

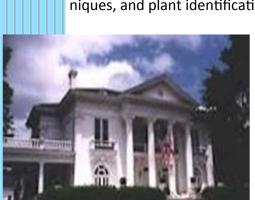
These workdays are great opportunities to learn the 'how and why' of many basic gardening techniques, exchange ideas, share information, trade an occasional recipe, and express thoughts and opinions.

Starting 3 November, we will shift our start time to 9 AM and work until noon. We meet every Monday, including holidays. Please bring your favorite tools, water, and appropriate weather gear.

If you are interested in working with us and have not joined us before, please let me know the Friday before you plan to show up, so I can provide your name to Security.

Many thanks, and I hope you have as much fun as I do...Jane





# 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.

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.

#### **CAMGA Member Wins Master Gardener Awards at Fall Flower Show**

By Laurice Goorley Awards Chairperson--61<sup>st</sup> Annual Fall Flower Show

The Master Gardener Awards (total of four) were given for the first time this year at the Montgomery Federation of Garden Clubs 61<sup>st</sup> Annual Fall Flower Show held at the Alabama National Fair October 3-13, 2014. The award was sponsored by the Capital City Master Gardener Association. (CCMGA)

**Mary Long**, a member of CAMGA, and a member of Lonicera Garden Club, won two of the four MG Awards and eight top awards for her Horticulture. This was the highest number won by an entrant. Mary won the following awards:

Award of Horticultural Excellence 2nd show

Award of Merit 1<sup>st</sup> show
Award of Merit 2<sup>nd</sup> show
Arboreal Award 1<sup>st</sup> show
Herb Award 1<sup>st</sup> show
Herb Award 2<sup>nd</sup> show

Master Gardener Award 1<sup>st</sup> show Master Gardener Award 2<sup>nd</sup> show



Congratulations on winning eight top awards and helping the Flower Show be such a success.



#### **Program Notes** – By Carol Rattan

Ms. Ethel Boykin-Dozier was a very informative and entertaining speaker during our October meeting and we learned much about the plans for Montgomery Botanical Gardens and the history of Oak Park. This month we make our annual fall visit to Lanark for an informative program by Maria Pacheco-West on ferns. In December we will enjoy our annual Christmas Luncheon at Mulder Memorial

United Methodist Church (same location as last year). Meal price is \$12. You may include your luncheon payment with your dues if you'd like – please annotate on your check how many will attend the luncheon.

#### **Directions to Lanark:**

If you would like to carpool, please meet at the Extension Office by 9:15. Otherwise, you may make arrangements with someone who lives near you to ride together, or drive out yourself. Here are directions from the Lanark website:

#### FROM I-65 NORTH FROM MONTGOMERY:

Take I-65 North to Exit 179 (Prattville/Millbrook). Turn right (go east) on Cobbs Ford Road approximately ¼ mile and turn left on Edgewood Drive (first paved road to the left past Chevron). At the "T" in the road, go right approximately ½ mile and turn left onto Lanark Road.

FROM I-65 SOUTH FROM BIRMINGHAM: Take I-65 South to Exit 179 (Prattville/Millbrook). Turn left (go east) on Cobbs Ford Road approximately ¼ mile and turn left on Edgewood Drive (first paved road to the left past Chevron). At the "T" in the road, go right approximately ½ mile and turn left onto Lanark Road.

Our December meeting, of course, will be our traditional Christmas luncheon with our interns at Mulder Memorial United Methodist Church.

Carol Rattan

#### **2014 Lunch and Learn Programs**

**Second Wednesday Each Month** 

12:00 to 1:00



\*NOVEMBER 12TH
HOLIDAY
WITH NATURAL MATERIALS



\*DECEMBER 10TH HOLIDAY PLANTS & FORCING BULBS





Be sure to catch Phil Easter and L&L presenter every 2nd Monday on WSFA '12 Talk' or sometimes 'Alabama Live' TV Show.

### **Alabama Gardening Calendar—November**



#### **Fruits and Nuts**

Set out apples, peaches, pears, and grapes.

#### **Shrubs**

- Plant shrubs and trees, including broadleaf, narrowleaf, and deciduous.
- Graft camellias in south Alabama.
- Spray all deciduous shrubbery with a dormant





#### Roses

- Visit nurseries and garden centers to select varieties.
- Start planting.

#### **Vegetable Seed**

- Plant hardy vegetables, root crops, roots, and tubers in southern-most areas.
- Plant lettuce, cabbage, and broccoli in cold frames.



• Set out cabbage plants.







#### CAMGA Participates in Local Garden Club Event By Marie Updike

The Garden Club of Alabama held their 75th Annual District VI meeting on October 21 at the Arrowhead Country Club. Various garden clubs gathered in Montgomery, AL for the annual meeting under the auspices of District VI director, Mrs. Suzy Shepherd, whose designated theme was "For Everything There is a Season." The group of 90 attendees enjoyed an excellent plate luncheon, informed speakers, many door prizes, and numerous raffle drawings. Several of our CAMGA members participated in this event and were able to make about a hundred contacts. Phil Easter presented the program on making floral arrangements from things growing in his yard. He made two table arrangements, and his last one was a lovely swag to hang on the door. He donated all three arrangements as door prizes. Mallory Kelley gave a talk on Extension and how to become a Master Gardener. Providing the entertainment was Mary Long who played the piano during the luncheon. Janet Lewis, CAMGA member and Montgomery Federation of Garden Club president was a gracious hostess to all of the garden clubbers from seven counties. Janet was the General Chairman of the event. The registration table and nametags were managed by Marie Updike, CAMGA 2013, who also donated two table centerpieces of her own design. As you can see, Master Gardeners had a strong presence in this Garden Club of Alabama event and are spreading good will by helping in community events.











#### Learning Garden Report By Mary McCroan

October has been a relaxing month in the learning garden. We haven't done any high intensity projects like laying down weed fabric or putting out a truckload of mulch. But it has been interesting. We pulled up the last of our successful summer squash garden and planted some fall veggies that are doing well. The suckers on the Crapes got pruned and the shade/water garden was tidied up. One day with some projected rain, I was the only person that showed up. It was misty



and cool and perfect gardening weather. So I picked an easy project--cut back the asparagus in the raised bed. They were half brown and unattractive. Classic advice is to wait until after the first frost (mid November for our area). Since I cut them back early, we have some new growth--fall munchies for the gardeners! As good as it tasted, next year I'll wait longer to cut the fronds back since that will be better for the health of the asparagus bed. One of the plants that is almost doing too well since it is provided some unneeded shade to some of the raised beds, is the banana plant. But the blooms and little bananas are sure cute. One important demonstration was RJ coming out on the 28th to plant garlic again this year. The only thing I used to know about garlic was to include garlic salt in a recipe so as a result I didn't think I liked garlic. Then RJ taught me to grow and harvest my own garlic which I learned to sauté and add to a recipe--now that's a tasty addition to a meal! And it's so easy: plant in the fall, harvest around June, hang it up until it dries, cook with it for a couple of months, then freeze whatever might be left over.







Asparagus bed before and after cutting the fronds back, Banana plant with bananas, new fall veggies



Learning Garden Work Day
Every Tuesday
8 Till 12
For more information
contact Mary McCroan



#### Lunch and Learn, Herbs, October 8, 2014 By Carla McCune

Presented by Jane Mobley & Rosemary Mobley

Our own Mobley Girls did a wonderful job of approaching herbs from two interesting but different points of view for the October Lunch and Learn. Jane touched on the importance of proper planting, care, and harvesting of herbs. She also mentioned ways to dry and freeze herbs to give more longevity of use. Her love of herbs seems to center on how useful they can be as household cleaners with their antibacterial qualities, their wonderful ability to enhance other plants when used as companion plantings with their amazing ability to repel insects and disease from their garden friends. She had wonderful listings of which herbs are helpful to which plants in what ways and has promised to try to e-mail some of that helpful information to the attendees. Another of her special interests in herbs is in their incredible healing qualities. She touched very briefly on the use of herbs in such things as poultices and the resurgence of the popularity of using herbs as medicines.

Rosemary approached the use of herbs from a culinary point of view. She not only talked about cooking with herbs and how they bring great flavor to food in her words, "jack it up", she brought homemade herbal foods and recipes to share! She talked about some of the important things to remember as one prepares foods using herbs both fresh and dried. She spoke of getting excess moisture off fresh herbs prior to using them in cooking and demonstrated how to use a spinner to remove the moisture. She also demonstrated the rocking technique of cutting herbs, demonstrated how to role the herb leaves prior to cutting and showed several different types of cutting utensils designed to achieve the rocking cut. She emphasized that pinching the herbs to gather them was better than clipping for preserving the flavor of the herb and that using fresh herbs was usually superior to using dried, but that some recipes specifically would call for dried herbs and if so she usually tried to follow that guideline. Both Rosemary and Jane reminded the attendees that when an herb is dried the flavor is stronger in foods so the amount of the herb in a recipe will usually be cut in half.

Thanks to Jane and Rosemary for sharing their passion for and expertise in herbs with us at Lunch and Learn! We look forward to November and December as we jump in to Decorating with Natural Material for the Holidays and Holiday Plants and Forcing Bulbs respectively.

Submitted by: Carla E. McCune, Lunch and Learn Committee



CAMGA herb experts, Jane Mobley (left) and Rosemary Mobley (right) tell our Lunch and Learn guests how to plant, grow, and harvest, and prepare herbs for culinary enjoyment.



#### Intern class with Jim Davis, Jane Mobley and Maria Pacheco-West

















#### **Events of Interest**

## **Chinese Painting Workshop: Learn to paint flowers**

The AUM Confucius Institute in Montgomery is sponsoring a "Chinese Painting Workshop" on five Saturdays, Nov. 1-29, 2014.

Time: 10 to 12:00 pm

Cost: \$50 (materials included)
Call: 334-244-3624 for information

I've met the AUM visiting scholar, Professor Chen, and she is a very accomplished artist.

Please share this information with your friends and neighbors. Submitted by Marie Updike

#### "Lanark Workday Each Wednesday 8 am until 11



#### When

Wednesday, October 22 2014 03:00 AM to 06:00 AM (GMT-06:00) Central Time (US Canada)

#### Where

Alabama Wildlife Federation | 3050 Lanark Road | Millbrook, AL

#### **Notes**

POC: Maria Pacheco-West, 334-285-4317, MPW@alabamawildlife.org

#### **ADVISORY COUNCIL MEETING**

The November Advisory Council meeting will be held at the Jemison Municipal Building in Jemison, Wednesday, November 5, at 10:00. Chilton County Master Gardeners have graciously offered to provide coffee for the early arrivals. If you would like to bring a snack to share, it will certainly be appreciated. A sign-in table will also be provided. Please look for it and register your attendance before you sit down. The membership list will not be circulated.

If you have questions/concerns/items of interest for the open discussion, please send them to me ASAP for inclusion. Additionally, if you have an announcement for an upcoming event, please let me know the date(s) and I will include that info as a listed announcement at the end of the agenda.

I look forward to seeing you all in Jemison on Nov.

Ginny Holland AC Chair Jemison Municipal Building 14 Padgett Lane Jemison, AL

Directions to Jemison Municipal Building Take exit 219 off of I-65 (Like you are exiting for Petals From the Past).

From the south, turn left onto CR-42. Drive 3.9 miles to the first traffic light, which is Hwy. 31. The Municipal Building is across the street barely to the right. Parking is in the rear. From the north, turn right onto CR-42. Directions are the same as above except you will drive 3.7 miles to the traffic light.

- Take exit 231 for US-31 S toward Calera/Montevallo.
- Merge onto US-31 and drive 13.1 miles.
- Turn right onto Padgett Lane.

The Municipal Building will be on your right.

Jemison Municipal Building 14 Padgett Lane Jemison, AL

#### Lunch and Learn Report By Deborah Kelso



This week's Lunch & Learn was presented by Jane Mobley & Rosemary Mobley

Our own Mobley Girls did a wonderful job of approaching herbs from two interesting but different points of view for the October Lunch and Learn. Jane touched on the importance of proper planting,

care, and harvesting of herbs. She also mentioned ways to dry and freeze herbs to give more longevity of use. Her love of herbs seems to center on how useful they can be as household cleaners with their antibacterial qualities, their wonderful ability to enhance other plants when used as companion plantings with their amazing ability to repel insects and disease from their garden friends. She had wonderful listings of which herbs are helpful to which plants in what ways and has promised to try to e-mail some of that helpful information to the attendees. Another of her special interests in herbs is in their incredible healing qualities. She touched very briefly on the use of herbs in such things as poultices and the resurgence of the popularity of using herbs as medicines.

Rosemary approached the use of herbs from a culinary point of view. She not only talked about cooking with herbs and how they bring great flavor to food in

her words, "jack it up", she brought homemade herbal foods and recipes to share! She talked about some of the important things to remember as one prepares foods using herbs both fresh and dried. She spoke of getting excess moisture off fresh herbs prior to using them in cooking and demonstrated how to use a spinner to remove the moisture. She also demonstrated the rocking technique of cutting herbs, demonstrated how to role the herb leaves prior to cutting and showed several different types of cutting utensils designed to achieve the rocking cut. She emphasized that pinching the herbs to gather them was better than clipping for preserving the flavor of the herb and that using fresh herbs was usually superior to using dried, but that some recipes specifically would call for dried herbs and if so she usually tried to follow that guideline. Both Rosemary and Jane reminded the attendees that when an herb is dried the flavor is stronger in foods so the amount of the herb in a recipe will usually be cut in half.

Thanks to Jane and Rosemary for sharing their passion for and expertise in herbs with us at Lunch and Learn! We look forward to November and December as we jump in to Decorating with Natural Material for the Holidays and Holiday Plants and Forcing Bulbs respectively.



**NEXT MEETING** 

November 18

**LANARK** 

MARIA WILL TALK
ABOUT FERNS

10:00 A.M.