



GARDEN BUZZZZZZ



Volume 31 Issue 2 Central Alabama Master Gardener Association

February 2022



Message from Lynda
Lynda Edwards, President
CAMGA President

Carol Rattan is moving forward in preparing our 2022 Membership Directory and asked me to update our History for 2021. As I looked back and reviewed our work for last year, I thought it would be interesting to share some of our accomplishments.

In spite of Covid and a world pandemic, I am proud of you. Our first Budget was adopted on March 1, our ten year old Bylaws were completely rewritten and approved on March 16 and our first Financial Policies were adopted in that same March meeting. This is something needed should we decide to apply for 501(c)(3) status.

We received a \$1500 grant from AMGA to purchase a laptop for use with the Helpline and to purchase a time-lapse camera to use with The Stubborn Old Gardener videos. CAMGA nominated and presented Dr. Charles Mitchell with the prestigious Gary Murray Service Award for outstanding service to Master Gardeners. We celebrated the 40th Anniversary of Alabama Master Gardener Association with a birthday bash in our meeting and joined in via Zoom for the big party at Auburn.

Our Intern Class was complete revamped because of Covid and will probably keep this format after the pandemic has gone, whenever that happens to be. Interns began online classes in the mornings and hands on classes and field trips in the afternoons. The classes were excellent this year and the participation by mentors was outstanding. All of this was new in 2021 and did not take away from all our other projects and volunteer opportunities that we do monthly. Plus our first three months of meetings were all via Zoom.

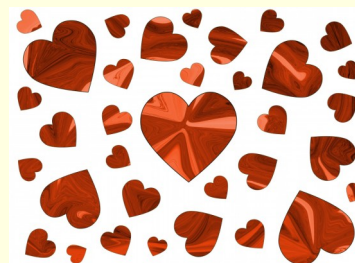


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ALABAMA A&M & AUBURN UNIVERSITIES



CAMGA Garden Buzzzz
Carol Pugh — Editor

Message from Lynda — (Continued)

Lynda Edwards, President CAMGA President



April, May and June we moved outdoors and then the local churches Mulder United Methodist Church and First Presbyterian Church opened their doors to us since we had no place to meet that would allow social distancing. Without the wonderful and talented members of CAMGA, none of this would have been possible. For fear of leaving someone's name off, I will avoid listing names here but you know who you are and I thank you for everything.

Iva Haynie has been our Pathway Reporter for several years now and her computer has died and she isn't sure when it will be replaced. If you are interested in accepting this position by sending a report of CAMGA'S activities quarterly, please let me know. The next publication deadline is March.

The Budget Committee will be very busy to bring you a proposed budget at the February 15th meeting. Please attend this meeting if you want a vote on how your money is spent. January's meeting was held both at the First Presbyterian Church in Wetumpka and via Zoom. I anticipate the February meeting will be the same. We will keep you posted so please watch your email inbox and read all mail from Central Alabama Master Gardener.

Lunch and Learn remains scheduled for February 8, 2022 at the First Presbyterian Church. You will be notified if there are changes. Mask will be required for this meeting. Our speaker will be Jane McCarthy, Horticulturist and member of CAMGA. Her topic will be Succulents, Info and Sale. Jane is like a walking encyclopedia and one of my favorite Master Gardeners.

Beginning with the February Garden Buzz, I have inserted a new idea of mine. We will highlight one CAMGA member each month so we can get to know them better. An outline of questions will be used for everyone but each has an opportunity to share more. Today, we are highlighting our Vice President, Kelly LaFreniere.

Did you know that Kelly is a nominee for the Board of Directors for Alabama Master Gardener Association? The election will be held at the AMGA Conference that we are co-hosting in Montgomery in May. **Congratulations Kelly!** Look for her under "Getting to Know our Members."

***Lynda Edwards, President
Central Alabama Master Gardener Association***



Message from Mallory

Mallory Kelley
Regional Extension Agent — Home Grounds,

The War Against Lawn Weeds

Many of you have given up the battle to treat your lawn on your own and many of you are still waging war yourself and wondering what am I doing wrong? Well if you want to get ahead of the game a pre-emergent in February is the way to go! This article will hopefully give you several tips from pre and post emergent products to fertilizers to help you achieve the beautiful lawn you are hoping for.

The most popular product out there that seems to have it all, the “one stop shop” for all your lawn needs is the “Weed and Feed” products. I am often asked if this is the correct way to treat the lawn. In central Alabama, there is not a large window of time when this product would be beneficial, but it can be used in May or early June when an extra application of fertilizer would not hurt and the application of the pre-emergent chemical in the product will help prevent weed seeds from germinating through the summer and into the fall.

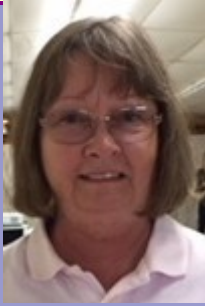
The best and most effect control of weeds in the lawn may take a little more effort than the “Weed & Feed”, “All in One” products, but you can save money and time in the long run applying them separately.

Pre-emergent weed killers should be selected based on the type of grass you have. These weed control products are preventative so they should be applied before the weeds are visible in the lawn as they prevent the seeds of the weeds from germinating. These can be applied any time of year except during “Green-up” or to newly seeded or sprigged lawns, but again February is a great month as we will soon have spring like temperatures and spring weeds will start to germinate.

Do not reseed a lawn for 4-6 months after a pre-emergent chemical is applied and remember to always read and follow all label instructions when making applications of any chemical. I have provided information below to access our website for a list of all Pre and Post-emergent chemicals on the market so you can correctly select the chemical that is best for your lawn situation. Don’t forget, a post-emergent herbicide is only going to kill a weed that has already begun to grow in the lawn.

Fertilizers are generally applied twice throughout the year, first in early spring during green-up and then again in mid summer. Fertilizer type and amounts should be based on soil test results, not guess work and anytime is a good time to have a soil test. Soil tests will provide you with the correct type of fertilizer and amounts needed for your specific lawn and if lime is needed, lime can be added at anytime of year. Remember, lime raises the soil pH. A soil test will help you be more accurate in your fertilizer application, provide your grass with the exact nutrients it needs and save you money down the road.

For information on proper care of your turfgrass visit our publications online at www.aces.edu and search for the type of grass you have. Also for a list of pre and post-emergent chemicals that are available and the type of lawn they can be applied to, visit our website and search for: **IPM 0590 Home Lawns Chemical Weed Control.**



CAMGA Minutes

January 18, 2022

First Presbyterian Church, Wetumpka and Via Zoom

By: Sheila Radford, Secretary

At 10:05, Lynda introduced Kelly LaFreniere, newly elected Vice President, who will be in charge of all programs for 2022. Kelly's program was based on Volunteer Opportunities for CAMGA members in 2022.

The following members spoke of various on-going opportunities:

Amanda Borden spoke about Friends of the Governor's Mansion. This group volunteers to work there and has been in existence about 10 years.

Lee Borden reminded all of the Stubborn Old Gardener videos available at CAMGA.net. They've had approximately 78,000 views since inception in 2017.

Mary McCroan talked about the Learning Gardens. This group of Master Gardeners main goal is education. These gardeners typically meet at the extension on Thursdays from about 8-12 depending on the weather. They enjoy exploring different gardening techniques, landscaping ideas, water gardens, etc. Mary says they really need more publicity outreach. A lot more young people are becoming interested in growing their own food. The CAMGA Learning Gardens are a good starting point.

Due to illness, Maria Pacheco was unable to come, so Kelly spoke on the Lanark opportunities. The usual days for volunteering there are Wednesdays from 8-11, but arrangements can be made for working anytime during the weekdays also.

Sandy Rosamond spoke on small projects and urged members to remember that one of the goals of the Projects Committee is to keep Master Gardeners in the public eye. From participating in Wetumpka's Mardi Gras parade to taking part in the Victorian Christmas events this is socialization made fun. Sign up information is sent out regularly. On February 3rd from 10am - 3pm a workshop to make decorations to be used on the Mardi Gras float will take place.

Rick Ohlson is the CAMGA representative to the Millbrook Farmers' Market. He invited members to bring a chair, bring a plant that you like to talk about, sit a spell, and make some new acquaintances. The Farmers Market is open Tuesdays May thru August, and Rick has found that 9-11 a.m. is when customers are more likely to stop and talk. He will be sending out an email with more information as time goes on.

Report by Mallory Kelley, Regional Extension Agent/Advisor - Mallory shared updates from around the area. CCMGA's intern program starts in February. ACMGA's Lunch & Learns will now be held on the 3rd Wednesday of each month.

The meeting was called to order by President Lynda at 11:06 a.m.



**Meeting
Minutes**

CAMGA Minutes (Continued)

By: Sheila Radford, Secretary

Member Concerns: Condolences went out to Freda Fry for the loss of her husband William. William was also a Master Gardener. Jane Duke's son, John Lawrence passed away suddenly. CAMGA extends its deepest sympathy. Johan Beumer had his pacemaker replaced last month and healing has been slow. He is scheduled for a cardiac ablation procedure which should help with both healing and with lingering shortness of breath. Mrs. John Butler is ill and will be following up with her physician soon. Sharon Kochik's husband, Ron, is sick as well. Sharon is participating via Zoom. Lois Pribulick will be attending only a portion of the meeting via Zoom due to a doctor's appointment for her husband. Sheila Radford lost an uncle and aunt in a motor vehicle crash January 2, 2022. Collective prayers go out to all these and any others that may have been missed.

President's Report - Lynda Edwards

Lynda introduced the newly elected officers:

Vice President - Kelly LaFreniere

Secretary - Sheila Radford

Treasurer - Sherri Lynn Davidson

Advisory Council Representative - Cheryl Fitzgerald

Lynda also introduced the 2022 Chairs, Coordinators, and Committee members.

Education: Robin Snyder, Chair

Lunch & Learns Committee: Linda Cater, Leslie Bingham, Rhonda Miles and Marilyn Knapp, assisted by Robin Snyder and Lynda Edwards

Advanced Master Gardener: Candace Jones

Intern: Robin Snyder

Library: Dee Turberville

Helpline: Mary Ann Hatcher

Projects: Terry Chambliss, Chair and Sandy Rosamond, Co-Chair

Membership Directory: Carol Rattan

Member Care: Betty Plaster

Reach for the Stars: Lee Ann Marona

Spotlight on Volunteers: Judy May

Hospitality: Robin Snyder

Network: Anida Wishnietsky, Chair

Website: Anida Wishnietsky

Newsletter: Carol Pugh

Pathway Reporter: Iva Haynie

Lynda thanked those who accepted positions this year. There are always plenty of openings for CAMGA members to step up and help out. Contact Lynda if you would like to serve on any committee.

The 2022 CAMGA Budget is to be presented at the February meeting. All chairs have until the end of the month to present their want list to the Treasurer. The Budget Committee consists of the four officers.

The Audit Committee meets January 20th to audit the Treasurer's books. An audit report will be presented at the February meeting.

CAMGA Minutes (Continued)

By: Sheila Radford, Secretary

Vice President's Report - Kelly LaFreniere

Kelly plans to have both indoor and outside meetings moving forward this year. Ideally, there will be some trips and some new speakers as well. Nothing definite so far, but it looks promising.

There will be mask, gloves, and hand sanitizer available at every gathering.

Secretary's Report - Sheila Radford

A motion was made by Sheila to dispense with the reading of the minutes since they were printed in the Garden Buzz Newsletter. The motion was seconded by Betty Plaster and motion carried.

Treasurer's Report by Carol Rattan, 2021 Treasurer

Opening Balance	\$ 8,896.25
December Income	\$ 485.00
Expenses	\$ 1,500.61
Closing Balance	\$ 7,880.64

Reach for the Stars Awards - Lee Ann Marona

2022 Volunteer "Reach for the Stars" Awards

CAMGA Totals:

56 Certified volunteers posting hours
 4607 Total Volunteer hours
 1022 Total Education hours
 5629 Combined total volunteer and education hours

AMGA Award Nominees from CAMGA:

Jean Lee Lifetime Hours Award

Candy Jones – 4169.7 Lifetime volunteer hours

Top Hours of the Year Award

Lynda Edwards – 426 volunteer hours for 2021

Reach for the Stars Advanced Badge Recipients:

Silver Star with Ruby-Colored Gemstone (4000+)

Candace Jones – 4169.7 lifetime hours

Platinum name badge (2000+)

Kelly Lafreniere – 2075 lifetime hours

Iva Haynie – 2003.76 lifetime hours

Gold name badge (1000+)

Lee Ann Marona – 1185.75 lifetime hours

Lynda Edwards – 1114.75 lifetime hours

Anida Wishnietsky – 1034 lifetime hours

Carol Rattan – 1007.65 lifetime hours

CAMGA Minutes (Continued)

By: Sheila Radford, Secretary

Silver Star (300+ hours)

Sheila Radford 392.2 Lifetime hours

Bronze Star

Sandra Bowen 177.5 Lifetime hours

Carolyn Hensley 127.75 Lifetime hours

Thank you for all you do to make our community and world a better more beautiful place!

AMGA 2022 Conference Update - Janice Jackson and Margaret Cully

Janice Jackson and Margaret Cully gave an update on the 2022 AMGA Conference. It will be May 2-4 at Embassy Suites in Montgomery and is hosted by CCMGA and CAMGA. The last date to register is April 20th. Janice noted that parking will be less expensive in the city lot behind Embassy Suites. Information about purchasing volunteer T-shirts will be coming soon. Fund raising is ongoing. There are NOT many vendors at all. Any leads furnished on potential merchants will be most welcome. Ideas include jewelry makers, pottery, plant sales etc. Remember that Mothers' Day is the Sunday after the convention! Additionally, Bionca Lindsey will be the Volunteer Coordinator for the convention.

Projects Chair - Terry Chambliss

Since CAMGA's budget won't be approved until the February meeting and funds are needed to build the Mardi Gras Float, Terry made a motion that the membership approve \$175 for decorations, seed packets and candy for this project. Janet Lewis seconded the motion and the motion carried.

Old Business - None

New Business - None

The meeting adjourned at 12:13 p.m.

*Respectfully submitted,
Sheila Radford, Secretary*



CAMGA Library News

January 2022

By: Dee Turberville

Passalong Plants

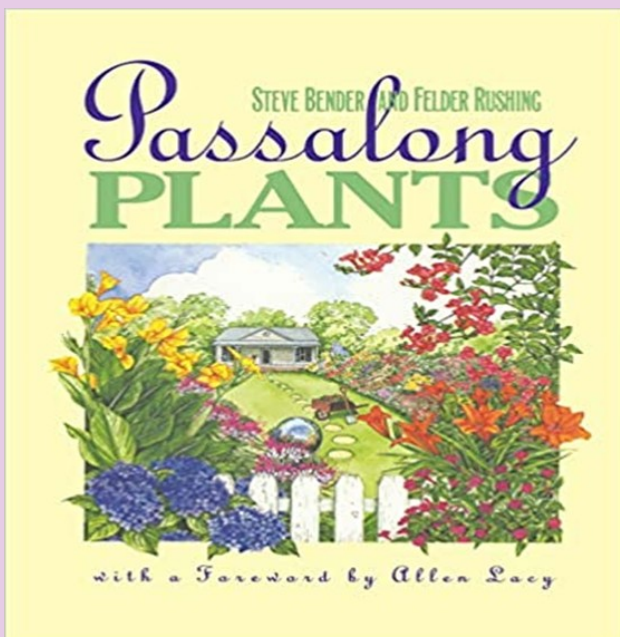
By Steve Bender and Felder Rushing

Purchased in Memory of William Frye, CAMGA 2016

“To a gardener all other gardeners are friends.” William Frye would have appreciated this quote by Bender, the well-known Southern Living gardening editor, and Rushing, author of the Slow Gardening movement. The book is so readable, good writing with a down-home feeling.

In alternating chapters, the authors share stories of 117 plants (i.e., why zinnias are often called “old maids”), heirloom plants that are hard to find in commercial markets, ones you remember from your grandmother’s garden, ones that evoke special memories of loved ones, friends or neighbors who have passed on.

They are the old-fashioned, traditional, hand-me-down plants. Of course, anyone who shares their seeds, sprigs, or slips with you also gives you gardening advice. You think of that person each time you tend to their passalongplants in your Southern cottage garden.



“This book is utterly delightful. It’s like sitting on the porch swing in the cooling evening with a good friend, chatting about flowers and neighbors. It’s funny, irreverent, and very informative. This book is a good way to spend a wintry evening, reading about summer and favorite plants. The writers are clever and humorous, and the little stories they tell make you think, ‘I know someone just like that!’.” -- a Goodreads review-- for our friend, Master Gardener, William Frye....



Governor's Mansion Report

January 2022

By: Amanda Borden



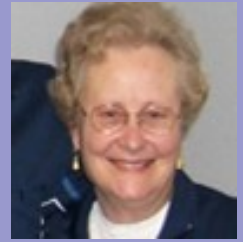
PHOTOS FROM THE GOVERNOR'S MANSION



SPOTLIGHT On VOLUNTEERS

January 2022

By: Judy May



Attending the projects Committee meeting January 11 were Candy Jones, Rhona Watson, Lynda Edwards, Anne Carr, Jane Mobley, Linda Cater, Sandy Rosamond, Deborah Kelso, Sheila Radford, Judy May, Michelle Sharpton and Terry Chambliss.

Jane Mobley presented Southern Heirloom Gardens to the Millbrook Garden Club on January 12. There were 19 members in attendance. On January 19 she presented Pruning Pointers for Southern Gardens to the Autauga County Lunch and Learn. There were about 35 in attendance.

The Master Gardener volunteers at the Governor's Mansion took down and packed all the Christmas decorations, and thought a little about what we might create next year. Volunteers were Susan Carmichael, Anne Carr, Linda Cater, Peggy Funk, Ann Hamill, Bionca Lindsey, Jane McCarthy, Kathy Quinn, Robin Snyder and Mirenda Tatum.

Volunteering this month at Lanark were Don Hoover, and Leslie Bingham. Maria says we are rebuilding the Heirloom garden fencing and raised Box beds and they have been working hard to help get the job done. Please consider helping us at Lanark. There are lots of winter projects and we need all the help we can get.

On January 24th, Dr. Richard Cybulsky of Jefferson County gave his Advanced Master Gardener Presentation on Bringing Butterflies Back to Your Yard and A Butterfly Friendly Yard via Zoom. Attending were Lee and Amanda Borden, Jane Mobley, Candy Jones and Judy May. Also attending were Phyllis Clay and David Doggett also from Jefferson County.



GETTING TO KNOW OUR MEMBERS

February Member Featured — *Kelley LaFreniere*



Hi my name is Kelly Lafreniere. My occupation is a registered nurse and I work at Baptist East, Montgomery in day surgery.

My husband is Steve Lafreniere and we have two children, Katie and Emily Lafreniere.

Our oldest daughter Katie, is also a registered nurse and our youngest daughter Emily, graduated from Auburn University and is currently in graduate school to become an occupational therapist.

Steve and I will have been married for 30 years this April. We live in Millbrook.

My hobbies are gardening and hiking. I became a Master Gardener in 2004 to learn more about gardening, meet people who love to garden, and also to teach the public about gardening.

My favorite gardening interests include growing flowers, ferns and vegetable gardening. Other interests I have include hiking and traveling.

Something you may not know about me is that I am a Naturalist and teach at the Alabama Nature Center.

Upcoming Gardening Programs February 2022



Orchard Pruning Workshop Blueberry, Muscadine, Fig, Plum, Peach, Apple, Pear

Friday, February 4, 2022

LOCATION:
Smith Home Orchard
2228 County Road 40 West
Billingslev, AL

TIME:
10:00 AM – 12:00 PM

QUESTIONS& REGISTRATION:
Autauga Extension Office
334.361.7273

This Program is FREE!

Please contact the Autauga County Office to let us know you plan to attend.

This is a HANDS-ON Program!
Bring your hand pruners and loppers and be ready to practice your new skills.



The Alabama Cooperative Extension System (Alabama A&M University and Auburn University) is an equal opportunity educator and employer. Everyone is welcome! Please let us know if you have accessibility needs.



Tree Risk Assessment

02.24.22

8:00 am - 12:15 pm



A Guide to Safer Trees

Peterson Lodge
2635 Gunter Park Dr. E.
Montgomery, AL 36109

Registration Cost: \$10

Register Here:

<https://www.aces.edu/go/2444>

What You Will Learn:

- Tree Risk Assessment Concepts
- Identifying root, trunk and crown defects
- Legal considerations
- Outdoor demonstrations

The Alabama Cooperative Extension System (Alabama A&M University and Auburn University) is an equal opportunity educator and employer. Everyone is welcome! Please let us know if you have accessibility needs.

SAVE THE DATE

SEEDY SATURDAY SEED SWAP

Saturday, February 26, 10 - 12, E.AT. South
farmer@eatsouth.org
www.eatsouth.org-@eatsouth

For more info see [EAT South](https://www.eatsouth.org/) or go to their website at <https://www.eatsouth.org/>

February 2022

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
		1 	2 <i>Lanark Gardens With Maria</i> 8-11 a.m.	3 <i>Learning Garden Workday</i> 8:00 a.m. — 11:00 a.m. <i>Extension Office</i> <i>MG Helpline Extension Office</i> 9 a.m.—1 p.m. <i>Flower & Seed Packet workshop</i> 10-12 Extension	4 <i>Orchard Pruning Workshop</i> 10-12 noon <i>Smith Home Orchard, Billingsley</i>	5
6	7 <i>Governor's Mansion Garden</i> 9—11 a.m.	8 <i>Lunch & Learn</i> 12— 1 p.m. <i>First Presbyterian Church, Weumpka. Succulents Information and Sale —</i>	9 <i>Lanark Gardens With Maria</i> 8-11 a.m.	10 <i>Learning Garden Workday</i> 8:00 a.m. — 11:00 a.m. <i>Extension Office</i>	11	12
13	14 <i>Governor's Mansion Garden</i> 9-11 a.m. <i>CAMGA Board Zoom Meeting</i> 2 p.m. <i>Happy Valentines Day!</i>	15 <i>CAMGA Monthly Meeting</i> <i>First Presbyterian Church, Wetumpka —10 a.m.</i>	16 <i>Lanark Gardens With Maria</i> 8-11 a.m.	17 <i>Learning Garden Workday</i> 8:00 a.m. — 11:00 a.m. <i>Extension Office</i>	18	19
20	21 <i>Governor's Mansion Garden</i> 9 —11 a.m.	22	23 <i>Lanark Gardens With Maria</i> 8-11 a.m.	24 <i>Learning Garden Workday</i> 8:00 a.m. — 11:00 a.m. <i>Extension Office</i> <i>Float Decorating & Potluck</i> 9:30 am <i>Extension Barn</i> <i>Tree Risk Assessment</i> 8-12:15 p.m. <i>Peterson Lodge, Montgomery</i>	25	26 <i>Mardi Gras Parade</i> 11:30 a.m. (lineup) <i>Parade at 1 p.m.</i> <i>Seedy Saturday Seed Swap</i> 10-12 pm <i>E.A.T. South, Montgomery</i>
27	28 <i>Governor's Mansion Garden</i> 9 —11 a.m.					