



GARDEN BUZZZZZZ



Volume 31 Issue 6 Central Alabama Master Gardener Association

Hello June 2022



Table of Contents:

Message from Lynda.....	1-2
Message from Mallory.....	3
CAMGA Minutes.....	4-5
CAMGA Library News.....	6
Mansion Report	7-8
Spotlight on Volunteers.....	9
Master Gardeners Photos.....	10-13
Getting to Know Our Members.....	14
June Calendar.....	15



Message from Lynda
Lynda Edwards, President
CAMGA President

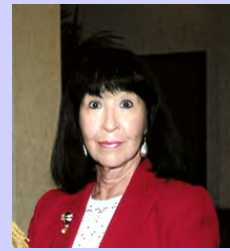
Hopefully you all had a restful or at least a fun Memorial Day Weekend.

Summer has arrived! The heat index is already over 100 degrees so do your gardening early because late in the evening it's still hot. I did enjoy some much cooler temperatures while traveling to Idaho in the past 10 days.

I was amazed to see that, even though they had snow just before I arrived, their thousands of acres of farmland were a beautiful color of green. They use massive irrigation and the water was freezing in parts of the field. Their tulips were in full bloom and so were many other flowers. Their trees had just begun to bud and reminded me of Upstate New York in the spring. It was my first trip to the Idaho Falls and the Burly area and I expected more mountains, so the beautiful farms were a pleasant surprise, although I love the mountains.



CAMGA Garden Buzzzz
Carol Pugh — Editor

Message from Lynda (Continued)*Lynda Edwards, President
CAMGA President*

My second adjustment for the Cochlear was last week on Monday. I hope I'm wrong, but it seems I don't hear as well now as I did before the adjustment. This may require a trip back to Birmingham before my next appointment. The doctor keeps reminding me that it will be slow and that I scored 90% in word recognition last week. Easier to do in a soundproof booth. I long to be able to pick up the phone again and make a phone call and be able to hear. I have one more out of state visit to make before we meet again. Pray for my safe travel to St. Louis and Effingham, Illinois.

Since my time in the garden has been limited, there is not a lot to share with you. Our Blueberries are in and look good. Muscadines haven't regained their production since we reduced the runner to one rather than two. I am sure that will take time. We did have less aborting of fruit last year but there wasn't as much fruit so hard to gauge. Now our Asian Persimmon tree has started aborting before the fruit gets very large. It may be nature's way of saying, "help, I can't hold this much fruit." The tree was loaded. We will keep a close watch on that and do more research. Our tomatoes are all in pots this year; hoping to control blights or viruses. They look good now but always look good this time of year.

Don't forget our meeting program this month will be by Debbie Boutelier. Not sure her topic, but she is a wealth of information. See you there.

Happy Gardening!
Lynda

In Deepest Sympathy

Mrs. Patricia (Pat) Louise Tuttle, a past member of CAMGA, passed November 27, 2021 in Atlanta, Georgia. Pat was a former resident of Montgomery and Wetumpka. Grave side services were held Saturday, May 14th at Pine View Memorial Gardens, Wetumpka.

In lieu of flowers, memorial donations may be made to Jackson Hospital Foundation; St. Thomas Aquinas Anglican Church; The Alabama Shakespeare Festival; Elmore County Historical Society; Central Alabama Master Gardener Association; or the Humane Society of Elmore County.

Please keep Pat's family in your thoughts and prayers during this sad time.



Message from Mallory

Mallory Kelley
Regional Extension Agent — Home Grounds,
Gardens, & Home Pests

Tips to Keep your Tomato Plants Healthy

The tomato is by far the most popular plant in the vegetable garden, but it can also be the most problematic.

There are so many things to watch for when growing tomatoes to insure you have a healthy crop. Following the tips below will help keep your plants healthy the further we go into the hot and humid summer months.

Start with drip irrigation or hand watering only at the surface of the soil to avoid splashing. Then prune all lower limbs off the tomatoes that are touching the soil and apply mulch.

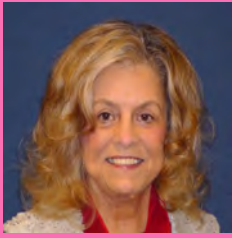
Mulching your tomatoes keeps the plants moisture level consistent and will help prevent blossom end rot. Mulching helps control weeds where insects like to overwinter and eliminates their competition for the fertilizer you have applied. Mulch also creates a barrier between the plant leaves and the soil to help control many of the fungal problems that come from the surface of the ground.



Remove yellow and brown spotted leaves as soon as they appear and if not already, start a fungicide application to prevent "Early Blight." No tomato grower can avoid this problem so apply the PREVENTATIVE fungicide before the tomatoes get the fungus. Products with the active ingredients: Chlorothalonil, mancozeb or copper will control Early Blight.

Scout daily for insects. Go out and inspect for armyworms, fruit worms, hornworms along with stinkbugs. (The main insect problems on tomatoes). Products that contain *Bacillus thuringiensis* (Bt) will work when the WORMS are young or use products containing carbaryl if the worms are larger. Another insecticide that will control stinkbugs and some of the other pests you may find is bifenthrin. Don't wait until your plant has no more leaves before you start your search for the hornworm. Scout today cause the plant may not be there tomorrow!!!!

Weather challenges, garden insects, viral, fungal and bacterial problems, and disorders are all challenges we face with growing our own backyard tomatoes. Like I said, they are the most popular vegetable/fruit to grow, but also the most problematic. If you have more questions on what may be affecting your tomato plants and what you can do to stop it. Please call our Master Gardener Helpline



CAMGA Minutes — May 17, 2022

10:00 a.m. — 12:00 noon

**First Presbyterian Church, Wetumpka and
Via Zoom**

(Minutes submitted by Jane Mobley for Secretary Sheila Radford)

At 10:00 a.m. Kelly LaFreniere introduced our speaker, Claude Jenkins, a wildlife biologist from the Alabama Wildlife Federation. His topic was Native Plants for Pollinators. He discussed the necessity of having native plants for the success of pollinators in our state. He explained how the escape of exotic plants into the wild has damaged our ecosystems.

Lynda Edwards opened the business meeting after our break by bringing up our member care concerns. Kelly LaFreniere has lost a family member, Anida Wishnietsky is ill, Linda Cater has had foot surgery, and Lois Pribulick is doing much better after her hospitalization. Linda then read a part of the obituary of Pat Tuttle, a former member, whose family asked that money in lieu of flowers be sent to CAMGA.

In her president's report Lynda thanked everyone for all the help with the state conference. She was also excited over the wonderful results of our plant sale and thanked everyone for their work on it.

Kelly Lafreniere announced that Debbie Boutilier would be speaking at our next meeting. The topic has yet to be decided.

Jane Mobley, standing in for Secretary Sheila Radford, asked for any corrections or additions to last month's meeting as printed in the Buzz. Sherri Davidson said that they were missing the financial report. Lynda Edwards announced that they would be added before everything was filed. Jane moved that the amended minutes be accepted. Bonnie McCormick seconded the motion which was then passed.

Sherri Davidson gave the treasurer's report. One \$650.00 expense was a check sent to AMGA as a pass through for the conference silent auction fund that had been sent to us for the conference. Another expense was the Square that we used for payments for the plant sale and will use in the future. The charge was \$54.99. Deposits consisted of \$25 for a new member fee, money from the plant sale, plant swap, and aprons.

The final bank balance was \$12,609.36. Final sales and costs for the plant sale are not yet complete as there are some expenses still out and some additional sales have been made. As of now it looks that we have gotten about \$5,450.00 from the sale. It appears that about \$246.00 of that was from crafts.

CAMGA Minutes (Continued)
May 2022
By: Jane Mobley



Robin Snyder thanked everyone for work done on the plant sale and will have a debriefing session with team leaders in the near future to figure out how we can make it even more successful. There were 42 volunteers for the sale, many of whom worked both days. Publicity was great, and the new cashier system worked very well. Card transactions represented 40% of our sales total. Next year we need more muscle for putting up canopies.

Robin does not yet know the start date of the intern class for this year. There were plenty of volunteers for food this month. Mary Ann Hatcher needs some help with the Helpline. Please call her if you can help.

Lee Ann Marona gave a report on Reach For the Stars. This was a recap of earlier in the year. Top hours for the year was Lynda Edwards. Top Lifetime Hours was Candy Jones. Candy was awarded a silver star with ruby colored gemstone. Kelly LaFreniere and Iva Haynie received their platinum badges. Lee Ann also brought annuals that were left after the sale for anyone to take for free.

Sandy Rosamond stated that we do not have a lot of activities coming up soon. The tee shirts are still being researched, but we will be getting our real logo embroidered on the new ones. Rhona Watson will be covering bonsai at the June community market. After June the next community market will be in September. Jane Mobley asked that all jars for the senior terrarium project come in. The practice for assisting members will be June 29th and people involved will need to provide their own jars.

Margaret Cully gave a recap of the conference. She thanked everyone for helping out. She stated that it seemed that there is about \$42,000 left over at AMGA and that our two associations will split about \$20,000 of that according to our agreement to go into our own treasuries.

Jane Mobley asked that any conference pictures be emailed to her and announced that there would be an article and pictures about the conference in June's Boom!

Sherri Davidson reminded us that all receipts for an activity must be submitted within 90 days for reimbursement.

Lynda Edwards adjourned the meeting at 12:00 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,
Jane Mobley



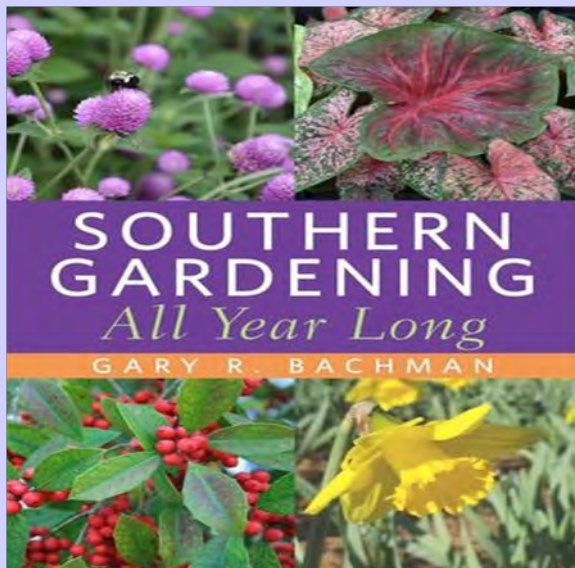
CAMGA Library News

June 2022

By: Dee Turberville

SOUTHERN GARDENING All Year Long, By Gary R. Bachman

Dr. Gary Bachman was the Keynote Speaker for the recent 2022 Alabama Master Gardener Conference, *Behind the Garden Gate*, held in Montgomery, Alabama. He is the Extension/Research Professor of Horticulture at the Coastal Research & Extension Center at Mississippi State University. He is well-known and respected for his award-winning Southern Gardening television, newspaper, radio and social media contributions. Through his personal, conversational style, Dr. Bachman has created a unique gardening narrative in his latest book, SOUTHERN GARDENING All Year Long.



This book is a most helpful month-by-month gardening guide for gardeners in the Southeast. Dr. Bachman tells tales about his own personal gardens, plants that have thrived and failed in the extreme conditions of the Deep South. Dr. Bachman's goal for his book is to help gardeners be successful in their own landscapes, to alleviate some apprehension for new gardeners, and to inspire experienced gardeners to try new plants instead of the same old familiar plants every year. Bachman encourages readers not to fret if their plants don't survive. He reminds his readers that failures happen for all gardeners sometimes. He offers a variety of tips and tricks with over 170 beautiful color images that enhance his common-sense style of gardening.

Gary Bachman knows how to connect with his audience, whether in a speech, a television show, a newspaper column, or in an old-fashioned style book in which he shares his knowledge and advice as if he were chatting with his neighbor over the fence or behind the garden gate.



Governor's Mansion Report For May 2022 By: Amanda Borden



During May we worked in the Secret Garden, pulling vines and weeds and renewal pruning azaleas. It was very hot, and we created loads of debris.



Jane & Robin in herb garden



Darwin & Ann renewal pruning azaleas

**Governor's Mansion Report (Continued)
For May 2022
By: Amanda Borden**



**Darwin, Jaeri, and Ann gather
azalea debris**

**Kathy working with birdbath
in herb garden**



Group photo

SPOTLIGHT On VOLUNTEERS

For May 2022

By: Judy May



Volunteers who helped with the plant sale both Friday and Saturday are: Dee Turberville and her grandson Harrison, Cheryl Fitzgerald and her granddaughter Riley, Carolyn Hensley and her granddaughter Jasmine, Sandy Rosamond and her entire family, Lee Ann Marona, Jane Mobley, Barbara Wallace, Rhona Watson, Christina W, Mary McCroan, Terry Chambliss, Connie Willis, Betty Plaster, Bill Quailles, Sherri Schaefer, Judy May, Amanda and Lee Borden, Katrina Mitchell, Iva Haynie, Anne Carr, Rhonda and Jesse Miles, Linda Queen, Kelly LaFreniere, Sherri Davidson, Lynda and Ernie Edwards, Michelle Sharpton, Allyson Andrews, Robin Snyder, Sharon Kochik and Jane McCarthy. There were others who donated plants but were unable to attend the sale.

Rhona Watson and Jane Mobley did a preconference workshop on Propagating Camellias. There were 27 in attendance. Michelle Sharpton helped them. Attendees were Lee Ann Marona, Kelly LaFreniere, Jane Mobley, Michelle Sharpton, Maria Pacheco, Rhona Watson, Sherri Davidson, Terry Chambliss, Candy Jones, Sandy Rosamond, Ricky and Mary Ann Hatcher, Carol Rattan, Anne Carr, Linda Cater, Janice Jackson, Rhonda and Jesse Miles, Betty Plaster, Sheila Radford, Glenn Houvinen, Margaret Cully, Connie Willis, Lynda Edwards, Cindy Augustine, Cheryl Fitzgerald, Janet Lewis, Dee Turberville, Barbara and Anne Wallace and Rose McCauley.

Sherri Davidson, Mary McCroan and Terry Chambliss facilitated tours. Janice Jackson was the chairperson of the event with Margaret Cully, Candy Jones and Sandy Rosamond as co-chairs. Members who brought refreshments to the CAMGA meeting were Cindy Augustine, Lee Ann Marona, Judy May, Dee Turberville, Anne Carr, Margaret Cully, Sandy Mikashus. Connie Willis and Bonnie McCormick. MaryAnn Hatcher worked the Helpline by herself this month.

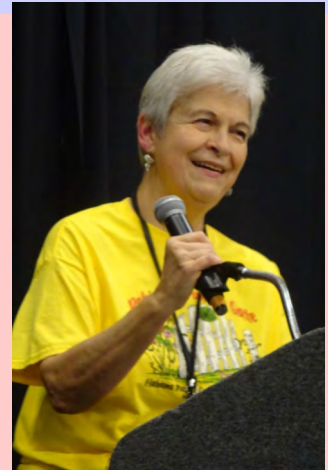
Lanark volunteers this month were Don Hoover, Judy May, Betty Plaster, Cheryl Fitzgerald, and Dee Turberville. Don goes above and beyond to help Maria in the gardens at Lanark every week, all year long. Judy May came to Lanark to pick up plant donations for the CAMGA plant sale. Maria is so appreciative of her doing this every year. Dee Turberville, Cheryl Fitzgerald and Betty Plaster each sent out the information about the Hydrangea Fest to social media. If you want to help out at Lanark, please call Maria Pacheco at 334- 657-9414.

Volunteers who worked at the Governor's Mansion this month were: Amanda Borden, Anne Carr, Peggy Funk, Jaeri Ellis, Ann Hamill, Jane McCarthy, Cheryl McKiearnun, Dawn Mitchell, Kathy Quinn, Darwin Prewitt, and Robin Snyder.



Master Gardeners in Action May 2022

Alabama Master Gardener Association State Conference May 2-4, 2022



2022 Master Gardener Conference



2022 Master Gardener Conference



2022 Master Gardener Plant Sale



GETTING TO KNOW OUR MEMBERS

June 2022 Featured Member: Cheryl Fitzgerald



Hello I am Cheryl Fitzgerald. I hold the position of Advisory Council Representative with CAMGA.

I am a retired social worker. Currently I am raising two grand daughters ages 20 and 17. I have a daughter, Tracey and a son Patrick. Other than the two granddaughters living with me, I have five other grandchildren.

I was born in Newark, New Jersey. My hobbies are repurposing items to give them a second life — especially furniture.

My interest in taking the Master Gardener class came from my late husband being an avid gardener and I wanted to learn more. It was on our “bucket list”. I enjoy herbs, flowers and fruit bushes the most. I keep on working at vegetable gardening. Each season I like to try to plant something new or try a new method of gardening.

I enjoy spending time with my grandchildren and adult children, going to the theater (plays, movies), reading biographies, and the occasional “vanilla ice cream” beach read, going to the beach, going to concerts and listening to jazz.

Something about me that you may not know, I am a cradle Catholic, having gone to Catholic school all of my life including two colleges.

The only public school I’ve attended is Florida State University (Go Noles!) for my Master’s Degree.

I am currently a parishioner at Our Lady of Guadalupe Catholic Church in Wetumpka and am active with the Our Ladies Guild.



Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
			1 Lanark Gardens Workday 8-11 a.m.	2 Learning Gardens Extension Office 7-10 a.m. 1st Thursday Wetumpka Market 3:30-8:00 p.m.	3	4 Hydrangea Feast 8-12 noon at Lanark
5	6 Governor's Mansion Gardens Workday 8-11 a.m. Rose Pruning Workshop First Presbyterian Church 10-12noon	7	8 Lanark Gardens Workday 8-11 a.m.	9 Learning Gardens Extension Office 7-10 a.m.	10	11
12	13 Governor's Mansion Gardens Workday 8-11 a.m.	14 Projects Com. Meeting 9:30-11 Extension Office Good Garden Thugs — Lunch & Learn First Presbyte- rian Church	15 Lanark Gardens Workday 8-11 a.m.	16 Learning Gardens Extension Office 7-10 a.m.	17	18
19 Happy Father's Day!	20 Governor's Mansion Gardens Workday 8-11 a.m. Board Zoom	21 CAMGA Monthly Meeting 10-12 noon First Presbyterian Church	22 Lanark Gardens Workday 8-11 a.m.	23 Learning Gardens Extension Office 7-10 a.m. Master Gardener Helpline Extension Office 9-1 p.m.	24	25
26	27 Governor's Mansion Gardens Workday 8-11 a.m.	28	29 Lanark Gardens Workday 8-11 a.m. Senior Terrarium Project Practice	30 Learning Gardens Extension Office 7-10 a.m.		