



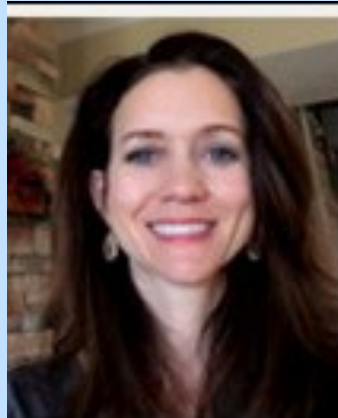
GARDEN BUZZZZ



Volume 32 Issue 6 Central Alabama Master Gardener Association

June 2023

Message from Kelly
Kelly Lafreniere
CAMGA President



Hello fellow gardeners. I hope everyone is well and had a good Memorial day.

We had a wonderful plant sale the first Saturday in May and a huge turn out! We had very little plants leftover! Thank you everyone who participated by potting up your plants for the sale, bringing food/ drinks and for coordinating and planning the event. It was a lot of fun and I'm glad we had such great vendors this year!

Please don't forget to sign up to bring food to our meeting in June. You can bring a plant too if you would like for a door prize.

I hope everyone will be going on our field trip to Young Farms, then Botanic in Opelika for lunch on Tuesday, June 7! It will definitely be fun and a great outing for us all. **We will meet at the Extension office at 6:45 a.m. that morning.**

Keep sending your pics to Jane Mobley for our scrapbook, and Rebecca Ridley for our Facebook page.

I look forward to seeing everyone at the next meeting on June 20th!!

Take care,
Kelly

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Carol Pugh – Editor
Garden Buzzzz
Newsletter



Message from Mallory

Mallory Kelley

Regional Extension Agent — Home Grounds,

Controlling Weeds in Flower Beds and Vegetable Gardens

A weed can have many definitions, but its true definition is “a plant out of place”. Some weeds are more than just irritating eyesore, some can be aggressive and very difficult to control. Especially in perennial flower beds it is very important that you stay on top of weed control. If weeds get out of hand your only method of control is hand weeding. In the case of an annual bed, since you will be pulling out plants seasonally that does allow more options in controlling weeds in between plantings and with a pre-emergent.

Overall, the best way to prevent or control weeds in your gardens is to mulch. Mulch truly is one of the best things a gardener can do far beyond just the benefits of weed control. Adding mulch helps add organic material and nutrients as it breaks down, creates a barrier between soil fungi and diseases and also helps retain moisture to the plants.

All gardeners know weeds love vegetable gardens. There's plenty of sun, the soil is great, water is plentiful, and no competition between rows. So what exactly should you do to control them?

If weeds are in your vegetable garden, beyond mulching, the old proven method of hand pulling, hoeing and tilling are best as many weeds are close to the vegetable plants and you have to be careful about using herbicides. In selecting a herbicide, Roundup is best. Roundup kills all vegetation and starts working immediately. The great thing about this herbicide is that it only affects the green plant tissue it comes in contact with. Once roundup touches the soil it becomes inactive so no need to worry about it getting into the water and affecting other plants. For best results apply roundup when weeds are actively growing. For very hard to kill weeds it will more than likely take multiple sprays before you kill the weed, but generally weeds begin to wilt within hours and are dead within one to two weeks.

Spray roundup when air is calm to prevent drift to desirable plants. One gallon covers approximately 300 sq. ft. Even on a calm day, be sure to use a piece of cardboard or plastic to shield your vegetable plants or shrubs and reserve one sprayer specifically for herbicides so you do not chance residues remaining in the tank.

Roundup can also be used in the landscape around trees and shrubs, but again, make sure to shield all desirable plants from any drift. If you begin to see leaves on plants in your garden or landscape have a puckering in-between the veins and a distorted look it is more than likely the result of herbicide drift.

Trifluralin is an active ingredient that can be used as a preventative for weeds in both the vegetable garden and also in shrub beds. If applying in a vegetable bed the application needs to be made at least 6 weeks before planting of any seeds and then can be applied once all plants are up and actively growing for continued control. **When using Herbicides -- Always read and follow label directions.**

In the shrub bed, I am often asked about using landscape fabric. This will work well for the first year or two, but will more than likely cause you much more work than just pulling weeds years down the road. Eventually, the mulch breaks down and forms soil build up on the fabric and weeds will begin to grow on top of the fabric. As years pass the fabric will become weak, rip and tear and then when you finally decide to remove the fabric it is almost impossible. So my best suggestion is to stay away from the weed fabric in the landscape.

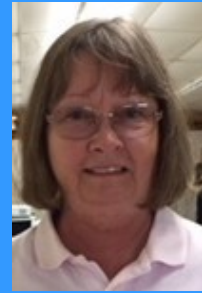
The best method I have found in either the vegetable garden or in the landscape bed is to use thick sheets of newspaper around your plants and then cover with a layer of two to four inches of mulch (pine straw or pine bark). The newspaper and mulch will keep weeds out from Spring to Fall (depending on how thick) and it will add nutrients to your soil while inhibiting weed growth. The more you control weeds this year, the less of a problem they'll be next year.

CAMGA Minutes

May 16, 2023

First Presbyterian Church, Wetumpka

By: Sheila Radford, Secretary



Sandy introduced the speaker, Debbie Boutelier. Debbie is a Master Gardener from Autauga County and she is currently servicing as the vice president of the Alabama Master Gardener Association. This is the first time that she has delivered this particular presentation.

“Le Jardin Potager” (phonetically pronounced po ta je) translates as “the garden for the soup pot”. It is a French form of gardening that has been utilized since the 15th century. Typically planted as near as possible to the kitchen, le jardin potager features vegetables and herbs as opposed to an English cottage garden which concentrates on flowers. It is deliberately kept small, compact, and more aesthetically pleasing to the senses than a regular vegetable garden. Create this space to be a place of enjoyment. The chosen location must be sunny and have an easily accessible water source. Potager gardens have definite boundaries i.e., walls, fences, sides of buildings, a stand of shrubs, or small fruit trees. They generally use raised beds in geometric shapes. A well-placed focal spot will draw visitors’ eyes into the garden. Seating invites people to stay awhile and gives them a landing point to view the scenery. Pathways are necessary and should be wide enough to harvest vegetables with access to both sides of all beds. Some plants that Debbie recommended for the potager garden are: Swiss chard rainbow mix, multicolored peppers, various squashes, tomatoes of different colors and shapes, and lettuces. Some herbs that do well are parsley, basil, and chives. Sage is better grown in a pot rather than with other herbs. Bay laurel makes an interesting focal point grown as a small tree as does rosemary. Debbie concluded her presentation at 11:05.

Kelly called the meeting to order at 11:34 a.m. Seventeen members signed the attendance sheet.

Member concerns include Lynda Edwards is getting physical therapy. Earnie has been experiencing chest pains that they are having checked out. Rhonda and Jesse Miles were involved in a scary out of state car accident recently but received no serious physical injuries.

There will be a Master Gardener College leadership training class via zoom Monday, August 7th and Tuesday August 8th from 9:30 – 12:30. A \$25.00 fee is required Attendees do not have to be office holders.

The minutes from the April CAMGA meeting are published in the “Garden Buzz” for members to read. A motion was made for approval of the minutes by Connie and seconded by Betty.

CAMGA May 16, 2023 Minutes (Continued)

By: Sheila Radford, Secretary

Sandy has arranged a field trip to Young's Plant Farm at 863 Airport Road in Auburn on Wednesday June 7th. The tour starts at 8:30 a.m. She has formed a field trip committee to help her with planning outings. Dee Turberville, Rhonda Miles, and Cathy Whigham volunteered, and Jane Mobley might help as well.

Sherri shared that 76 members have paid dues. She encouraged members to call and invite those who haven't been coming to meetings and events to come back.

Treasurer's Financial Report

Beginning Balance (April 18, 2023)	\$21,230.86
Total Income	\$4,827.00
Total Expenses	<u>- \$3,077.14</u>
Ending Cash Balance	\$22,980.72

Sherri also suggested that a CAMGA plant swap be initiated online. Members could then trade what plants they have plenty of for plants that they'd like to have. CAMGApics@gmail.com is the email to send videos and photos of CAMGA members' gardens to share with the public. These photos can also be sent via text to 256-419-3332.

Rhona announced that a propagation workshop is scheduled for June 15th. A workshop on making "fairy gardens" will be held on August 16th prior to creating them for the senior projects event. The cutoff date for buying engraved bricks has been extended. There are still plenty of spaces available in the celebratory brick garden at the Extension office.

Dee brought two books from the CAMGA library that tie in with Debbie Boutelier's presentation: "The Herbal Apothecary" by J.J. Pursell and "The Herbal Kitchen" by Kami McBride.

New Business: None

Old Business: None

Meeting adjourned at 12:15 p.m.

*Minutes respectfully submitted by,
Sheila Radford, Secretary*



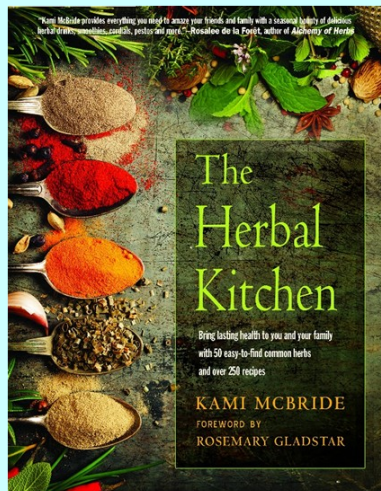
CAMGA Library News

June 2023

By: Dee Turberville

The Herbal Kitchen, by Kami McBride

The Herbal Kitchen will help you recognize the extraordinary pharmacy that probably already exists in your own kitchen. With 50 easy-to-find herbs and spices, information and tips for preparing, storing, and using them, and over 250 simple, flavorful recipes, Kami McBride will motivate you to care for your health that of your family. She offers recipes for refreshing drinks, infusing oil, vinegar and honey, and how to make tinctures and cordials, salts, sprinkles, and more. She emphasizes that using dried and fresh herbs in your cooking boosts your intake of vitamins and minerals, improves digestion, strengthens immunity, and increases energy.



“I wrote the *Herbal Kitchen* to help people, to show them that using herbal medicine didn’t have to be complicated. When the book was first published, there was an ‘Herbal Renaissance’ afoot. People were fed up with the sea of advertisements for over the counter drugs and they were hungry for other ways to support their health and treat common ailments. The Herbal Renaissance is now a full-on cultural movement. People are seeking out information about medicinal plants and learning how to use them to prevent and heal illness, to ease stress and help them sleep....

Modern life has led to multiple layers of cultural disruption. The ancestral food, medicines, and stories are gone. The hearth calls us back to the kitchen, where authentic experience and connection are rooted in the harvest of the earth and the turning of the seasons...

When we bring our hearts and hands back into how we build our lives, our food and our meals become our medicines.” -- Kami McBride



Governor's Mansion Report For May 2023

By: Amanda Borden



During the month of May, we planted annuals in beds and containers and weeded and pine strawed the Herb Garden. We weeded the front yard, the tennis court daylilies, and the Secret Garden. Then we watered everything.



A Colvin, Alicia , and Kathy – working in herb garden



Robin limbing up Secret Garden



Cheryl and A Colvin weeding backyard

Governor's Mansion Report (Continued)

For May 2023

By: Amanda Borden



Cheryl hose by pool



Jane — Secret Garden watering debris



Jane & A Colvin watering pool area



Linda watering side yard

W.O. Palmer Elementary

After School Program – Garden Project

Submitted by: Linda Jarzyniecki

Master Gardener Linda Jarzyniecki, has been working with W.O. Palmer Elementary after school program in Butler County for several weeks and will continue during the summer.

The first and second graders planted vegetables, flowers, and painted rocks to decorate their walkway and school yard.

A grant was written by the school to purchase planter buckets, soil, wood for bucket stands, and some other items. Linda provided seeds, plants, flowers, bamboo, and her energy.



Pictures from May 2023 Lunch & Learn Program “Outside The Box” Program

Master Gardener Robin Snyder Presented the Program



Upcoming Meetings

Propagation Workshop

Join us on June 15th for the propagation workshop. Please sign up using the following link:

<https://www.signupgenius.com/go/10c094eabae2ea6fcc70-propagation#/>

It will be from 9a.m. to 11 a.m. at the Extension office. We will have everything you need to do cuttings and dividing of plants that are at the extension. Pick your favorites and take them home for your garden, and if you have great success you can have them for the plant swap in October, or the plant sale next May.

Submitted by: Master Gardener Rhona Watson



Become a Master Gardener Volunteer

Do you love plants? Do you love to volunteer your time? Then you are a great candidate for Master Gardener Intern Training! You do not have to be a garden expert. Simply come with a desire to learn and grow! This is a hybrid course requiring online and in-person participation. For more information visit: <https://www.aces.edu/go/mgv> or contact your County Extension Office.

Important Dates

Apply & Pay

June 1st—30th
Course Fee: \$150

Background Checks

July 1st—30th
Directions provided via Email

Fall Class Dates

August 10th—November 9th

How to Apply

1. Visit: <https://www.aces.edu/go/mgschedule> to view the Fall 2023 County Training Schedule.
2. Apply here: <https://www.aces.edu/go/mgapply> or scan the QR code.
3. After completing step 2, follow the email instructions to pay the \$150 course fee.
4. Submit a background check.
 - **Please note:** Once a background check is submitted, only partial refunds of \$100 are available due to administrative fees.



June 2023

Sun

Mon

Tue

Wed

Thu

Fri

Sat



				<p>1 Learning Gardens 7-11 a.m. Extension Office</p> <p>1st Thursday Wetumpka Community Market 4-7 p.m.</p>	<p>2</p>	<p>3</p>
<p>4</p>	<p>5 Mansion Gardens Workday 8-11 a.m.</p>	<p>6</p>	<p>7 Young's Plant Farm Field Trip — will meet at 6:45 a.m. Extension Office</p> <p>Rose Pruning Workshop First Presbyterian Church 9-11 a.m. Lanark Gardens 8-11 a.m.</p>	<p>8 Learning Gardens 7-11 a.m. Extension Office</p>	<p>9</p>	<p>10</p>
<p>11</p>	<p>12 Mansion Gardens Workday 8-11 a.m.</p>	<p>13 Lunch & Learn 12-1 pm. First Presbyterian Church, Wetumpka. "Irrigate My Melting Plants" program</p>	<p>14 Lanark Gardens 8-11 a.m.</p>	<p>15 Learning Gardens 7-11 a.m. Extension Office Propagation by Cutting Workshop at Extension Office 8-11 a.m.</p>	<p>16</p>	<p>17</p>
<p>18</p>	<p>19 Mansion Gardens Workday 8-11 a.m.</p>	<p>20 CAMGA monthly meeting, First Presbyterian Church 10-12 noon</p>	<p>21 Lanark Gardens 8-11 a.m.</p>	<p>22 Learning Gardens 7-11 a.m. Extension Office</p>	<p>23</p>	<p>24</p>
<p>25</p>	<p>26 Mansion Gardens Workday 8-11 a.m.</p>	<p>27</p>	<p>28 Lanark Gardens 8-11 a.m.</p>	<p>29 Learning Gardens 7-11 a.m. Extension Office</p>	<p>30</p>	

