



GARDEN BUZZZZZZ



Volume 33 Issue 10 Central Alabama Master Gardener Association, Inc.

October 2024

MESSAGE FROM KELLY KELLY LAFRENIERE



Hello Fellow Master Gardeners!

I hope everyone is doing well and enjoying this cooler weather.

Please plan to attend our **October CAMGA meeting on October 15th at Lanark** where Maria P West will be our speaker. We will also have a plant swap so plan to bring a plant for swapping! It is always a lot of fun and Maria is a wonderful speaker!

We will also be voting on our new slate of officers. We will take nominations from the floor as well but our current nominations for our 2025 slate of officers are as follows:

President – Cindy Augustine
Vice president – Jason Mattox
Treasurer - Sherri Davidson
Secretary- Vacant

Please consider being secretary if you're willing. Michelle will be happy to explain the secretary position to you. It only takes just a few hours a month. If you're interested in being secretary, please let me know. Thank you to Lee and Amanda Borden for being our nominating committee this year!

Our next Lunch and Learn will be October 8 and David Lawrence, horticulturalist, ACES will talk about "Strawberries now for Spring", and he will also have strawberry transplants for sale!

I want to express our sympathy for the passing of Joe L'Abbe who was a longtime CAMGA member as was his wife Sally. I know he will be missed.

I wanted to make a correction for the September Garden Buzz. It was Yvonne **EVANS**, who receive the Emeritus status award and not Yvonne Ellis as I had written.

Thank you all and I look forward to seeing you at **Lanark on October 15th!**

Kelly Lafreniere
CAMGA, Inc. President

Table of Contents:

Message from Kelly.....	1
Message from Mallory.....	2
CAMGA Minutes.....	3-4
Spotlight on Volunteers.....	5
Library News.....	6
Mansion Report	7
October Calendar.....	8



Carol Pugh, Editor
Garden Buzzzz
Newsletter



Message from Mallory
Mallory Kelley
Regional Extension Agent — Home Grounds,

October Garden Calendar

Fruits and Nuts

- Planting season for strawberries starts in south Alabama.
- Clean up orchard area. Remove broken limbs, old fruit, and debris from orchard floor.

Shrubs

- Plant new trees and shrubs in the landscape
- Water when needed.
- Note varieties of camellias and other landscape plants in bloom.
Start mulching all shrubs that do not have a mulch.

Lawns

- Perform a soil test to determine if limestone is recommended and apply anytime this fall.
- If winter or spring weeds were a concern this year, apply pre-emergent herbicides.
- Fertilize fescue lawns at 1 pound slow-release nitrogen per 1,000 square feet.
As fall rain returns, monitor for fungal disease in fescue.

Roses

- Continue insect and disease control practices.
- New rose catalogs will be coming in.
Study closely; add some new varieties to your list.

Annuals and Perennials

- Visit flower shows and gardens.
- List desirable varieties of mums.
Clean up flower beds immediately after first killing frost. Plant half-hardy annuals, such as snapdragons.

Bulbs

- Plant tulip, hyacinth, daffodil, crocus, Dutch iris, anemone, and ranunculus.
Watch planting depth. Dig caladiums; clean and store in a warm place.

CAMGA, Inc. Monthly Minutes September 17, 2024 Elmore County Extension Office Wetumpka, AL



CAMGA, Inc. welcomes Brent Vinson, PT, DPT, ATC, Clinic Director of Phoenix Physical Therapy in Wetumpka, AL. Brent spoke to the membership on “Proactive Medicine” for gardening safety. Preparation by hydrating well, stretching, and thinking before doing are keys to keeping your body injury free when working in the garden or participating in a strenuous exercise. Injuries happen when fatigue happens, according to Brent who reminds all of us of the importance of taking rest breaks. Brent demonstrated a few exercises and passed around handouts to the membership. Brent urges members to contact him for any questions or concerns they may have. His telephone number is (334) 478-3543.

His email is bvinson@phx-pt.com

The business meeting was called to order at 11:30 a.m. by President LaFreniere. 21 members signed the roster today. Kelly began the meeting by asking for a motion to approve last month’s meeting minutes to record. After mention of a correction of a member’s name from Yvonne Ellis to Yvonne Evans, a motion was made by Connie Wilson to accept the minutes to record. This was seconded by Jessie Miles. The vote was unanimously in favor of approval.

Special thanks to all of the volunteers who brought food this month. Sign-up is available for next month’s meeting. Contact Rhonda Miles for further information.

Cheryl Fitzgerald asked membership to keep Katie Beasley in your thoughts and prayers after the loss of her mother. Cheryl sent a sympathy card on behalf of the membership.

Kelly reminds the membership that the 2025 Officer Nominations are being considered at this time. The nominations will be open to the membership at next month’s monthly meeting which will be held Oct. 15 at 10:00 a.m. at Lanark in Millbrook, AL. So far, the nominations are listed as follows:

President: Cindy Augustine
Vice President: Jason Mattox
Treasurer: Sherri Davidson
Secretary: open position
Projects Coordinator: open position

A Plant Sale Coordinator will also be an open position for the 2025 year, as Robin Snyder has agreed to assist the new Coordinator.

Jason Mattox, Vice President, provided the membership with a list of the many events scheduled over the next several weeks for Volunteer opportunities. Be on the lookout for Sign-up Genius emails to add your name to these exciting events.

Rhona Watson reminds the membership of the Plant Swap at the next CAMGA, Inc. monthly meeting scheduled Oct. 15 at 10:00 a.m. at Lanark in Millbrook, AL. Rhona encourages members to come be a part of this exciting event even if you do not have a plant to bring as there will be plenty to go around.

CAMGA, Inc. Minutes (Continued)

Elmore County Extension Office

By: Michelle Sharpton

Katrina Mitchell addresses the membership about a request from one of the local middle schools. Redland Middle School has asked if CAMGA, Inc. would be interested in helping build raised garden beds for the middle school as part of a pilot Agriculture program. After input from other members as well as Board discussion earlier, CAMGA, Inc. agrees to serve as a consultant for this endeavor.

Katrina also announces The 1st Annual Farm Fest will commence October 1, 2024. Katrina Mitchell has asked the membership to consider setting up a table at this event which will be held at the Elmore County Extension Office. There will be no cost associated with setting up this booth. After discussion and input from several members, Mary McCroan asked for a motion to set up a booth at this event. No one seconded the motion, and it is tabled. Mary McCroan requests that anyone interested in this event, contact her or Katrina Mitchell for more information.

Robin Snyder reports the Intern Class is “going strong”. Dee Turberville asks the membership for volunteers to bring dishes for sides and salads on September 26 at the Elmore Extension Office for the intern lunch. Contact Robin or Dee for more information.

Sherri Davidson reminds CAMGA, Inc. members that dues are now being collected via QR Code. The deadline is December 5, 2024. The QR Code will be found at the monthly meetings. Anida Wishnietsky states she will send a mass email to the membership with the QR code for members to scan via smartphone to pay their dues for the upcoming year.

Sherri reports that CAMGA, Inc.’s total assets are \$21,948.00 which includes a C.D. that will be maturing November 16, 2024.

Old Business: 0

New Business: 0

Meeting Adjourned 12:10 p.m.

*Minutes Respectfully Submitted by,
Michelle Sharpton, Secretary*

With Deepest Sympathy

*We extend deepest sympathy to the family of Master Gardener Joe L'Abbe.
Joe was a member of the 2007 Master Gardener Class and will be missed.
Extending prayers and condolences to the family.*

Spotlight On Volunteers

Senior Project Succulent Workshop

Monday, September 23, the Projects Committee conducted their annual Senior Project at the Wetumpka Senior Center. Rhona Watson lead a workshop on succulent care and propagation.

CAMGA volunteers for the event were: Norma Busby, Rebecca Ridley, Michelle Sharpton, Jessica Herald (intern), Anne Carr, and Jane Mobley. Everyone had lots of fun and the seniors loved potting up their very own succulent and adding personalized touches with their choice of decorative top dressing.

Check out the CAMGA Facebook and Instagram pages for more photos of the event.

Special thanks to Rhona and Michelle for coordinating this workshop, to Jane McCarthy for her wonderful instruction at the prior Make and Take, and to everyone that volunteered making this entire endeavor a success! *Submitted by: Rebecca Ridley, Projects Committee Chair*

Special Thanks!

Special thanks to the CAMGA members who created presentations and prepared lunch for seventeen of the incoming interns on September 26, 2024, at the ACES Extension. During the morning session, Judy May gave a workshop on Growing Orchids while Amanda Borden presented Sustainable Landscape Design during the afternoon session. The rain let up briefly to allow Mary McCroan to give the interns a tour of the CAMGA learning gardens.

The theme for the lunch was Harvest comfort foods featuring fall casseroles of squash, roasted sweet potatoes, along with fresh veggies from the garden, a crunchy green salad, carrots and raisins, a sunflower/blackberry charcuterie, and homemade yeast rolls -- all centered around the Chick-fil-A chicken fingers and sauces.

Desserts included pumpkin cake, pound cake, warm cobblers of apple and blueberries with a scoop of vanilla ice cream. Beverages of mineral water, coffee, lemonade, and sweet tea were served. The décor and treats were prepared and provided by Robin Snyder and Dee Turberville, organizers, with assistance from Leslie Bingham, Cheryl Fitzgerald, Candy Jones, Iva Haynie, Rhonda & Jesse Miles, Katrina Mitchell, and Connie Willis. Thank you for volunteering! *Submitted by: Dee Turberville*



CAMGA Library News

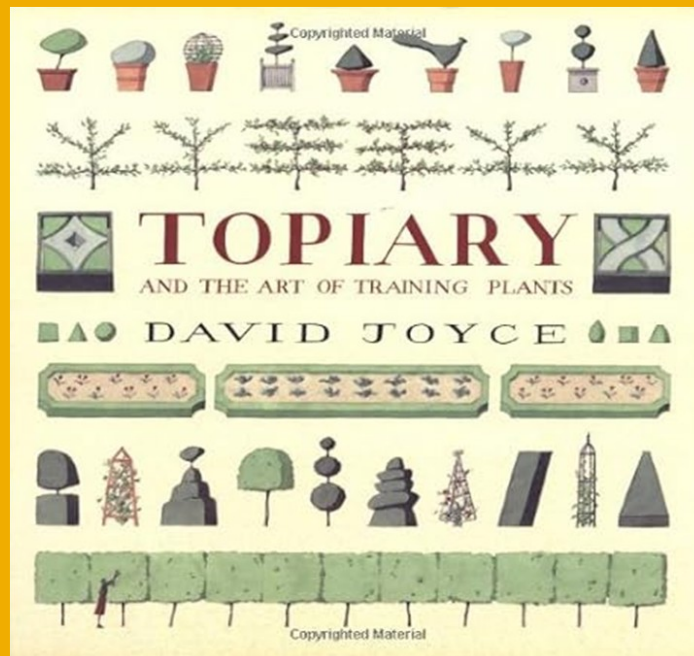
October 2024

By: Dee Turberville

Topiary and the Art of Training Plants

By David Joyce

Topiary and ornamental training offers a popular way to add character and structure to gardens. Joyce's [Topiary and the Art of Training Plants](#) combines topiary design with technical instruction. It covers ideas and advice on how to grow, prune and train plants to make stylish garden features. It demonstrates how to sculpt topiary shapes from single balls and pyramids to birds and abstracts, create patterns for knots and parterres, train fruit trees and climbers to make ornamental avenues and tunnels as well as to shape mock topiary for quick results.



Fun to browse through the 120 colorful photos and illustrations, you will appreciate the inclusion of garden plans, an extensive plant directory, and a North American zone map. I enjoyed reading the history behind the development of topiary gardens. Thank you, Jane McCarthy, for donating this resource to our CAMGA collection. The book is comprehensive and inspiring, especially if you would like to enliven your garden with living ornaments, like a sculpted bird topiary, a box obelisk or a knot garden with a geometric pattern.



Governor's Mansion Report For September 2024

By: Amanda Borden



With the maintenance scaffolding at the Governor's Mansion finally removed, we got into the front yard for the first time this summer...and we weeded everywhere. We had a chance to go through our Christmas decorations to start planning for the holidays.

We also welcomed five of the new MG intern class to our workdays: Marilyn Greer, Harriet Hobbs, Terrie MacLaren, Wesley Reynolds, and Nancy Strong. Thanks for joining us!



Ann, Kathy, Anne, Alicia



Robin, Linda, Jane pruning & watering



Group after work day 9-16-24



Kathy cutting back palms



October 2024

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
		1	2 <i>Lanark Gardens Workday 8-11 a.m.</i>	3 <i>Learning Gardens Workday at Extension Office, 7-10 a.m.</i>	4	5
6	7 <i>Governor's Mansion 8-11 a.m.</i>	8 <i>Lunch & Learn 12 noon First Presbyterian</i>	9 <i>Lanark Gardens Workday 8-11 a.m.</i>	10 <i>Learning Gardens Workday at Extension Office, 7-10 a.m.</i>	11	12
13	14 <i>Governor's Mansion 8-11 a.m. Projects Meeting 10 a.m., Extension Office</i>	15 <i>CAMGA Meeting at Lanark at 10 a.m. & Plant Swap (bring a plant to swap)</i>	16 <i>Lanark Gardens Workday 8-11 a.m. The Art of Autumn Gardening, Elmore Co. Extension Office Auditorium, 9-12 noon</i>	17 <i>Learning Gardens Workday at Extension Office, 7-10 a.m.</i>	18	19 <i>Wetumpka Wildlife Arts Festival — Downtown Wetumpka, at 301 Hill Street 9 a.m.—4 p.m.</i>
20	21 <i>Governor's Mansion 8-11 a.m.</i>	22	23 <i>Lanark Gardens Workday 8-11 a.m.</i>	24 <i>Learning Gardens Workday at Extension Office, 7-10 a.m.</i>	25	26
27	28 <i>Governor's Mansion 8-11 a.m.</i>	29	30 <i>Lanark Gardens Workday 8-11 a.m.</i>	31 <i>Learning Gardens Workday at Extension Office, 7-10 a.m.</i>		