



GARDEN BUZZZZZ



Volume 34 Issue 1 Central Alabama Master Gardener Association, Inc.

January 2025

Message from Cindy

Cindy Augustine
AMGA, INC. PRESIDENT

Welcome to 2025
CAMGA Members!



I hope everyone had an enjoyable holiday season spent with family and friends! Can you believe it is already 2025? As my son recently reminded me, we are a quarter of the way through this century already! Yikes!

I look forward to serving as your CAMGA President for 2025 and will do my best to lead our organization forward into another great year. We accomplished a lot in 2024, most especially becoming incorporated and a 501(c)3. I look forward to all the events planned for 2025 as we continue to grow as Master Gardeners!

Here are just a couple of gardening reminders for January from Month-By-Month Gardening Alabama by Bob Polomski:

- Start organizing your annual and biennial seed packets and create a sowing schedule for them.
- Adjust the location of any houseplants to improve lighting conditions if needed.

Enjoy this brief break before the work of Spring begins! Be sure to complete the new Memorandum of Understanding on the Service Hours website by no later than January 31, 2025. There were some minor changes to the one signed last year, so ACES is asking everyone to sign a new one for 2025.

I look forward to seeing everyone at our next meeting on Tuesday, January 21st at 10 AM at the Extension Office. Please let me know if you have any questions or concerns that I can help you with.

Cindy

Cindy Augustine
CAMGA, Inc. President

Table of Contents:

Message from Cindy.....	1
Message from Mallory.....	2
CAMGA Minutes.....	3
Mansion Report	4-5
Spotlight on Volunteers.....	6-8
Library Report.....	9
Projects Committee	10
January Calendar.....	11



Carol Pugh, Editor
Garden Buzzzzz
Newsletter



Message from Mallory

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

January Gardening Calendar

Fruits and Nuts

- Set out apples, peaches, pears, and grapes. Start grafting pecans. Prune dormant trees.

Shrubs

- Plant shrubs and trees, including broadleaf, narrow leaf, and deciduous.
- Graft camellias in south Alabama.
- Apply an ultrafine horticultural oil spray to all deciduous shrubs to help with control of insects and diseases. Spray when weather is on warming trend.

Lawns

- Soil test and add limestone as recommended. Apply pre-emergent herbicides if forgotten in September and if spring weeds were a concern last year.

Roses

- Visit nurseries and garden centers to select varieties. Plant roses. Consider old fashioned, disease tolerant cultivars.

Annuals and Perennials

- Plant hardy annuals

Bulbs

- Late plantings of Dutch bulbs will flower if planted now.
- Plant lilies of all types, except Madonna.
- Check stored bulbs and discard rotten ones. Make indoor plantings of amaryllis, callas, and gloxinias.

Miscellaneous

- Prune winter-damaged limbs.
- Give house plants a bath in lukewarm water to remove dust.
- To keep poinsettias that have finished flowering, turn pots on their sides and let them dry completely.
- Cut them back lightly. Keep in a temperature of 55 to 60 degrees.

Vegetable Seeds

South: Plant hardy vegetables and root crops (garden peas, radishes, mustard, spinach, turnips). Start cabbage, broccoli, lettuce, and Swiss chard seeds in cold frames.

Vegetable Transplants

- **South:** Plant broccoli, celery, collards, cabbage, cauliflower, lettuce transplants, and onion sets.
- **South and Central:** Plant asparagus in late January.
- **Central:** Plant cabbage and cauliflower transplants. Wait until the end of January to plant Swiss chard, mustard, transplants, and onion sets.



CAMGA, Inc. Monthly Meeting Minutes
December 3, 2024
First Presbyterian Church, Wetumpka
By: Michelle Sharpton, Secretary

The CAMGA, Inc. monthly business meeting was called to order today at 10:25 a.m. by President Kelly LaFreniere. 40 members were present and signed the roster. The November meeting minutes report will have to be approved by the membership at the January 2025 meeting since the Garden Buzz Newsletter has not been published yet.

Fall Line Park in Wetumpka, AL, has a CAMGA, Inc. paver on display. The park is scheduled to be completed in a few months.

Cindy Augustine has her camera today, so be sure to have your picture made for the directory. You may also send in your own photo for the directory.

Kelly LaFreniere, President, swore in the 2025 Executive Board Officers: Cindy Augustine, President; Jason Mattox, Vice President; Sherri Davidson, Treasurer; Martha Rodgers, Secretary.

The Treasurer's Report was given by Sherri Davidson. The total assets at Max Credit Union are \$23,204.73. The 7-month C.D. matured in November. The original \$10,000 had matured to \$10,263.84. The full amount was rolled over to a new 18-month C.D. at 3.5% to mature 05-16-2026. The total amount in checking and share accounts: \$12,940.89.

Cindy Augustine reminded members the Memorandum of Understanding will be available for viewing and signing January 2025. This will be an updated copy for the membership to sign.

Rebecca Ridley of the Projects committee needs volunteers with Martha Rodgers at Charlton Place this Friday at 10:00 a.m. to plant a seasonal flowerbed.

Mallory Kelley encouraged members to attend next week's Lunch and Learn on Forcing Bulbs.

Candace Jones of the Education Committee says she is currently working on the budget for 2025. She is also fine tuning the schedule for educational public events for 2025.

Meeting Adjourned: 10:47 a.m.

New Business: 0

Old Business: 0

Minutes Respectfully submitted by
Michelle Sharpton, Secretary



Governor's Mansion Report For December 2024

By: Amanda Borden



Over 1600 people visited the Governor's Mansion and Hill House on the 2024 Christmas Candlelight Tours... 988 on the last evening tour alone.

In the Hill House, the Master Gardeners decorated, hosted, packed up, and cleaned up. Good time had by all.



Candlelight tour of Hill House

Photo with Governor Ivey



Governor's Mansion Report (Continued) For December 2024



Linda, Sue, Anne, Jane in front of fully decorated pine cone tree

Harriet clowns around at Hill House tour





Spotlight on Volunteers

By: Robin Snyder

Thanks to all who helped make the CAMGA Christmas Luncheon such an outstanding kick off to the holiday season.

Special thanks to Rhonda and Jesse Miles for their organization and planning and hands on help to make it all happen. Thanks to the folks who provided the table decorations for the competition: Dee Turberville (CAMGA Library), Robin Snyder (Governor's Mansion Monday Morning Master Gardener Volunteers), Darlene Dixon (Learning Gardens), Rebecca Ridley (Projects Committee), Darlene Dixon (CAMGA Board of Directors), Beth Denton (Autauga/Elmore County 2024 Interns), Candy Jones (Public Education Committee), and individual members Carol Rattan, Norma Busby, Casie McGinn, Leslie Wilkinson, Sheila Kelly, and Rhonda and Jesse Miles. Many others helped to set up all of the tables, present them to the membership and provide fun and entertainment at the luncheon. Special congratulations goes to the interns for their big win!

Thank you to Lee and Amanda Borden for their wonderful holiday music and the joy and laughter they brought to us all with "Twas the Night Before Christmas".

What about that meal?! The beef tenderloin was prepared by Robin and Jesse, but the rest of the meal was the work of the CAMGA membership and we all enjoyed every bit of that. Thank you to the members who took meals to our dear friends and fellow members who could not be with us that day. Thanks to the folks who helped in the kitchen and with the serving. And to all the many who stayed until the entire fellowship hall was cleaned up and back to where we found it thank you so very much. This event is due to the time and effort put in by so many people and CAMGA thanks you all for your contributions. What a lot of fun!!



Spotlight on Volunteers (Continued)

By: Robin Snyder

The Monday Morning Master Gardener Volunteers once again volunteered their time and efforts this holiday season to decorate the Hill House on the mansion grounds and then acted as tour guides for the Governor's Mansion Candlelight Tours for the public on December 9 and December 16.

The governor also hosted a thank you reception for all mansion volunteers on the evening of December 10. A photo array can be enjoyed at the CAMGA facebook page. This effort is led by Jane McCarthy and members from 3 counties volunteer their time and talents to accomplish this event. Thanks to all who helped decorate and those who attended. As much as possible our decorating is accomplished with natural materials and handmade ornaments.



Spotlight on Volunteers (Continued)

Central Alabama Master Gardeners and interns from Montgomery and Autauga County Masters Gardeners met at Charlton Place Senior Center in early December to clean raised beds and plant pansies to brighten the courtyard for winter.

Article Submitted by: Martha Rodgers



L-R Martha Rodgers, Michelle Sharpton, Wesley Reynolds, and Sheryl Mims.



L-R: Sheryl Mims, Martha Rodgers, and Nancy Strong. Not shown: Rebecca Ridley.



CAMGA Library News

January 2025

By: Dee Turberville

CAMGA Library Acquisitions for 2024

- Liblib online library database (Subscription) *camga.net Link* \$60.00
Climate Change Gardening for the South (Alabama & the South) \$26.04
Listen to the Land: Creating a Southern Woodland Garden (Alabama & the South) \$37.20
Pergolas, Arbours and Arches (Garden Projects) \$8.79
Handmade Bird, Bees, and Bird Houses (Garden Projects) \$5.85
Homegrown Humus; Cover Crops in a No-Til Garden (Specialty Gardens) \$16.58
The Living Soil Handbook; No-Til Grower's Guide (Specialty Gardens) \$23.66
The Art of Momiji Mastery: A Guide to Cultivating Vibrant Maple Trees (Specialty Gardens) Memorial \$16.32
Landscaping with Daylilies (Landscape and Garden Design) Memorial \$35.19
Cultivating Garden Styles (Landscape and Garden Design) \$7.43



Donations

- Botanical Shakespeare (Compendium) Memorial
Topiary and the Art of Training Plants (Landscape and Garden Design)
The Art and Craft of Stonescaping (Landscape and Garden Design)
Houseplants for Dummies (Indoor Plants)
Botannica's Annuals and Perennials (Flowers)
Floret Farms; A Year in Flowers (Flowers)
The Ortho Home Gardener's Problem Solver, Expanded Edition (Reference Helpline)



Thank You Volunteers!!

Rebecca Ridley Projects Committee Chair

I would like to thank everyone that made Dickens Christmas a success. Jane Mosley ensured that we had dried lavender and sachet bags.

Special thanks to Candy Jones for putting together a last-minute, rush order for Plant Sale business cards, ensuring we had one for each sachet. Everyone on the Projects Committee pitched in to ensure that Plant Sale cards were attached to each lavender sachet.

Rebecca Ridley, Terry Chambliss, Darlene Dixon, Kelly Lafreniere, and Bob Sheilds dressed in period costume and represented CAMGA Friday and Saturday night, (December 6-7). We distributed 300 sachets, all while promoting CAMGA, the Plant Sale, and the Master Gardener Helpline. Dickens Christmas is always a magical time, where we get to interact with children and adults, alike.



This year was such a success, we will plan to distribute twice the amount of sachets, next year. We hope you will consider joining us in 2025!



*Best,
Rebecca*

**Rebecca Ridley
Projects Committee Chair**

January 2025

Sun

Mon


Tue

Wed

Thu

Fri

Sat

			<p>1</p> <p><i>Happy New Year!!</i></p>	<p>2</p> <p><i>Learning Gardens Workday 8-12 noon</i></p>	<p>3</p>	<p>4</p>
<p>5</p>	<p>6</p> <p><i>Mansion Workday 9-11 a.m.</i></p>	<p>7</p>	<p>8</p> <p><i>Lanark Workday, 8-11 a.m.</i></p>	<p>9</p> <p><i>Learning Gardens Workday 8-12 noon</i></p>	<p>10</p>	<p>11</p>
<p>12</p>	<p>13</p> <p><i>Mansion Workday 9-11 a.m.</i></p> <p><i>Projects Meeting at Extension Office, 10 a.m.</i></p>	<p>14</p> <p><i>Lunch & Learn First Presbyterian Church 12-1 p.m.</i></p>	<p>15</p> <p><i>Lanark Workday, 8-11 a.m.</i></p>	<p>16</p> <p><i>Learning Gardens Workday 8-12 noon</i></p>	<p>17</p>	<p>18</p>
<p>19</p>	<p>20</p> <p><i>Mansion Workday 9-11 a.m.</i></p>	<p>21</p> <p><i>CAMGA Meeting Extension Office 10-12 noon</i></p>	<p>22</p> <p><i>Lanark Workday, 8-11 a.m.</i></p>	<p>23</p> <p><i>Learning Gardens Workday 8-12 noon</i></p>	<p>24</p>	<p>25</p>
<p>26</p>	<p>27</p> <p><i>Mansion Workday 9-11 a.m.</i></p>	<p>28</p>	<p>29</p> <p><i>Lanark Workday, 8-11 a.m.</i></p>	<p>30</p> <p><i>Learning Gardens Workday 8-12 noon</i></p>	<p>31</p>	