



# GARDEN BUZZZZZ



Volume 34 Issue 9 Central Alabama Master Gardener Association, Inc.

## September 2025



### Message from Cindy

**Cindy Augustine**  
**CAMGA, INC. PRESIDENT**



Happy September everyone and greetings from Tanzania, East Africa!

As I write this month's column I've just returned to my room after a dinner with a view of the Indian Ocean. I've seen some beautiful plants here, and even seen them selling seedlings in red Solo cups, lol!

I hope you all had a wonderful Labor Day weekend! I don't know about you, but I'm ready for slightly cooler temperatures and all things related to the Fall season.

Because I'm currently in Africa, I don't have a ton of information about upcoming events, but here's are the ones I can remember.

- Lunch and Learn will be held on September 9<sup>th</sup>
- Our monthly CAMGA, Inc. meeting will be held on Tuesday, September 16<sup>th</sup>

At the September meeting, the nominating committee will present the slate of nominations for the 2026 officers.

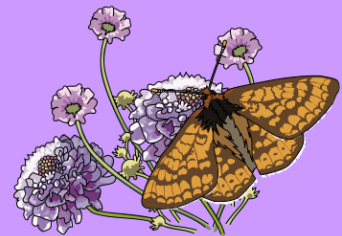
We will vote at the October meeting, which will be held at Lanark. Be sure to be propagating some plants now for our plant swap in October.

I hope everyone is well and has a wonderful time in their garden this week. Planting fall plants and shrubs will be here soon. I'll look forward to seeing everyone at our meeting when I'm back on that side of the globe!

*All the best,*  
*Cindy*

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Carol Pugh, Editor  
*Garden Buzzzz*  
Newsletter



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

### September Garden Tips

#### Fruits and Nuts

- New catalogs will be arriving soon.
- Start plans for future selection and plantings.
- Take soil test for new planting areas.
- Fertilize established strawberry plantings.

#### Shrubs

- Study landscape to determine plant needs.
- Check early camellia varieties for damage caused by insects and disease.
- Replace landscape plants as needed that have severe damage caused by insects, disease, or freezes.
- After fall growth is completed, spray all shrubs with a fungicide.

#### Lawns

- Mow often (5 to 10 days) to remove just 1/3 the grass height at each mowing.
- If daytime temperatures are consistently cooler than 80 degrees F, apply fire ant bait. Read the label carefully for best control.
- If winter or spring weeds were a concern this year, apply preemergent herbicides.
- Reseed tall fescue lawns and fertilize at 1 pound slow-release nitrogen per 1,000 square feet.

#### Roses

- Protect fall crops of blossoms from aphids and thrips.
- Keep plants healthy.

#### Annuals and Perennials

- Plant perennials and biennials. This is the last planting time for these.
- Divide old clumps of perennials.
- Plant peonies.

#### Bulbs

- Plant spring-flowering bulbs late this month in north Alabama.
- Delay planting in south Alabama.

#### Miscellaneous

- Clean up infestations of insects on azaleas, camellias, boxwoods, gardenias, hollies, etc.
- If oil spray is needed, don't use in freezing weather.
- Build a compost bin or box; leaves will be falling soon.

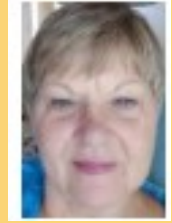
#### Vegetable Seeds

- **Central and North:** Continue planting carrots, collards, kale, lettuce, mustard, onion seeds, parsley, radishes, spinach, Swiss chard, and turnips.

#### Vegetable Transplants

- **Whole state:** Continue planting cole crops, collards, kale, lettuce, mustard, and spinach transplants, and onion sets.

**CAMGA, Inc. Monthly Meeting Minutes**  
**August 19, 2025**  
**Elmore County Extension Office**  
**Submitted By:**  
**Martha Rodgers, Secretary**



Jason Maddox opened the meeting with our guest speaker, Barry Chrietzberg, who spoke to us about landscape and plant photography. He also gave us tips on how to better use the camera on our cell phones.

The Central Alabama Master Gardeners Association business meeting was called to order at 11:05 a.m. by Cindy Augustine.

Jason reminded everyone of the upcoming events emphasizing the Pollinator Count and provided the website to register and report the count.

Cindy reminded everyone that Sherri was recovering from a health issue. If someone needs to be reimbursed for expenses, Jason and she will be the people to contact.

A brief report was given as part of the slide presentation.

The July minutes presented in the Garden Buzz was unanimously approved.

Cindy announced volunteers were needed for the nominating committee.

Mary McCroan reported that water lines and valves had to be replaced in the learning gardens. The water pressure has improved.

Robin reminded everyone that Jesse Myles lost his twin brother. She also needs volunteers to provide lunch for the intern class and for BudEs. On September 4th, the interns and their BudEs will have a \$5 pizza lunch.

Darlene reported that having a table at the Wetumpka Farmers' Market is really generating interest in Master Gardeners.

Cindy reminded everyone that the Senior Project will be coming up on September 29th., the AMGA Fall Conference is September 16th in Columbiana, and Blount County Master Gardener's Fall Conference is October 2, the Farm City Festival in Wetumpka will be on Tuesday, October 7 from 4 p.m. to 6 p.m.

Cindy also reminded everyone that Keri Smith needs our volunteer hours posted monthly. Please don't wait until the end of the year. You might lose hours.

There was no new business.

The meeting adjourned at 12 noon.

*Respectively submitted by,*  
*Martha Rodgers, Secretary*





## Governor's Mansion Report For August 2025

By: Amanda Borden



The Governor's Mansion volunteers had a hot and interesting August. We weeded, watered, trimmed, pine strawed...and last but not least, rescued six kittens.



Alicia, Carmen, Jane putting debris in toter



Alicia & Anne



Robin & Kathy strawing in Herb Garden

### Group after workday 8-25-25



Front row: Kathy Quinn, Alicia Robertson, Robin Snyder, and Amanda Borden. Back row: Jane McCarthy, Ann Hamill, Carmen Sowers, R. Casey, Anne Carr, and Darwin Prewitt. Photo taken by Kayren Pittman.



Kittens



## CAMGA Library News

### September 2025

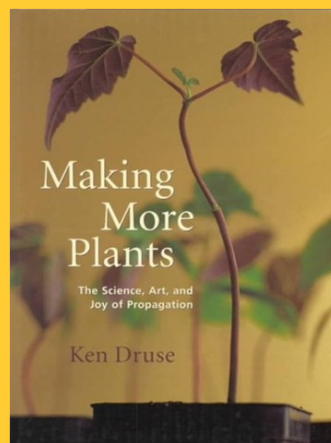
By: Dee Turberville

### Making More Plants; the Science, Art, and Joy of Propagation By Ken Druse

“If you have decided to do some propagation, but don’t know the best way to propagate your plant, check out the book Making More Plants by Ken Druse. It will give you the best way to propagate each plant (cuttings, seeds, layering), the best time of year to be the most successful, and it has great pictures.” -- Rhona Watson

In a recent email, Rhona stated the title is available from Amazon or on used book websites. If you do not want to purchase a personal copy, we also have this superb gardening book in the CAMGA collection at the ACES Extension offices along with three other good resources on propagation.

For people who love gardens, propagation, the practice of growing more of whatever you want, whenever you want is the essence of gardening. Ken Druse, one of America’s foremost gardening experts, presents innovative and practical techniques for expanding any plant collection, along with more than 700 colorful photographs. Based on years of his personal research, while including other garden authorities, this book is a practical reference manual as well as a beautiful book to browse. Making More Plants was named best book of the year by the American Horticultural Society and won the 2001 Book of the Year award from the Garden Writers Association.



Both experienced and novice gardeners will find an abundance of information about propagation in this indispensable guide. The book addresses all the components of propagation that include conditioning, sowing seeds, dividing perennials, vegetative reproduction, layering, grafting, leaf cuttings, and more. It is time to take up the challenge -- to create more plants not only for us and our fellow gardening friends but also for the CAMGA community plant swaps and sales.





## 2025 CAMGA/ACMGA Master Gardener Intern Class

Submitted by Robin Snyder

Mallory has kicked off the largest intern class we have ever had with a total of 25 interns. Fourteen of the interns are from Elmore County, 9 from Autauga County and 2 from Montgomery County.

We have 14 volunteers from CAMGA to serve as Bud-Emg and the other counties are providing for their interns. Robin Snyder and Lidia Mitchum are serving as CAMGA class facilitators and Autauga is providing 3 additional facilitators.

CAMGA and ACMGA members are sharing the job of providing lunches for the classes held at the First Presbyterian Church Wetumpka from August 14 through September 25. Later classes will take place outdoors and will not include lunch.

The first session started with orientation and distribution of class materials. CAMGA board of directors provided an excellent Italian pasta meal which was very well received. The afternoon portion of the class covered composting and vermicomposting and was presented by ACMGA master gardeners Rose McCauley and Paula Seamon.

The first speaker of the day at the August 28th class was Jane Mobley. Jane spoke and shared a slide show on methods and guidelines of propagation of plants and also the use of numerous pruning tools.

Lunch was prepared by the CAMGA volunteers who provided soups, salads, homemade breads and desserts. Requests have been made by the interns for CAMGA to prepare a cookbook of favorite recipes. I guess they liked the lunches so far.

## UPCOMING PROGRAM

### THYME TO GROW AND COOK AN HERBAL JOURNEY



SEPTEMBER 12, 2025, 9:30 TO 2:30

GRACE EPISCOPAL CHURCH 906 PIKE ROAD, PIKE ROAD, AL

ENJOY A DELICIOUS HOME-COOKED, HERB-INSPIRED LUNCH

PRESENTATION TOPICS:

NEW HERB VARIETIES, LANDSCAPING WITH HERBS,  
AND COOKING TECHNIQUES USING HERBS

\*CARRY HOME AN HERB INSPIRED "MAKE AND TAKE"

Registration is \$35  
and is  
Available to first  
36 participants



Capital City  
Master  
Gardener  
Association



Please sign up by September 5th  
[ccmga.square.site](https://ccmga.square.site)



Refund request must be made 10 days  
prior to the event to:

[Ann.Hamill.hamillhs@gmail.com](mailto:Ann.Hamill.hamillhs@gmail.com)

Refunds will be made through Square

If you have any questions please contact Janell Diggs - (334) 425-9069

Auburn University is an equal opportunity educator, employer, and provider.

If you need a reasonable accommodation or language access services, contact Mallory Kelley at [jones57@aces.edu](mailto:jones57@aces.edu) by 8/29/25

# September 2025

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
	<b>1</b> Happy Labor Day	<b>2</b>	<b>3</b> Lanark Gardens Workday 8-11 a.m.	<b>4</b> Learning Gardens workday at the Extension Office 8-12 noon	<b>5</b>	<b>6</b>
<b>7</b>	<b>8</b> Mansion Gardens Workday 8-11 a.m. Projects Meeting at the Extension Office 10 a.m.	<b>9</b> Lunch and Learn First Presbyterian Church, Wetumpka 12-1 p.m.	<b>10</b> Lanark Gardens Workday 8-11 a.m.	<b>11</b> Learning Gardens workday at the Extension Office 8-12 noon	<b>12</b>	<b>13</b>
<b>14</b>	<b>15</b> Mansion Gardens Workday 8-11 a.m.	<b>16</b> Monthly CAMGA meeting at the Extension Office at 10 a.m.  AMGA Fall	<b>17</b> Lanark Gardens Workday 8-11 a.m.	<b>18</b> Learning Gardens workday at the Extension Office 8-12 noon	<b>19</b>	<b>20</b>
<b>21</b>	<b>22</b> Mansion Gardens Workday 8-11 a.m.	<b>23</b>	<b>24</b> Lanark Gardens Workday 8-11 a.m.	<b>25</b> Learning Gardens workday at the Extension Office 8-12 noon	<b>26</b>	<b>27</b>
<b>28</b>	<b>29</b> Mansion Gardens Workday 8-11 a.m.  Senior Project	<b>30</b>				