



# GARDEN BUZZZZ



Volume 35 Issue 1 Central Alabama Master Gardener Association, Inc.



## January 2026



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



**Happy New Year, Everyone!**

I hope everyone had a wonderful holiday season filled with good food, family, and friends. I'm looking forward to serving another year as your President!

The weather has been kind of crazy lately, so it's hard to tell what each day will hold.

Some CAMGA members helped Jason Powell from Petals from the Past with a project behind the Kelly Arts Center on December 12<sup>th</sup>. We had a great time trying not to fall down the slope we were planting on, lol! With the holidays, there has not been much other activity going on with CAMGA, Inc.

I hope everyone is working on propagating plants for our plant sale. It is hard to believe, but it really is only four months away (May 2), so we need to work hard to have enough plants for all our shoppers.

We have a wonderful slate of programs for our Lunch & Learn this year, with the first one on January 13<sup>th</sup> presented by Emily Stamm, Horticulturist/AU Grad Student on Growing and Caring for Houseplants.

Our monthly meeting for January will be held on the 20<sup>th</sup> at 10 a.m. at the Extension Office. Our program for January will be committee chairs talking to members about their committee's responsibilities and how members can take part.

We still have some committee positions to be filled, so please consider taking on a new role in CAMGA, Inc.

I look forward to seeing everyone at our January meeting!

*Happy Gardening!  
Cindy*

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Carol Pugh, Editor  
Garden Buzzzz  
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 Seed —**

**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 and Central AL:** Plant asparagus in late January.

**Central AL:** Plant cabbage and cauliflower transplants. Wait until the end of January to plant Swiss chard, mustard, transplants, and onion sets.



**CAMGA, Inc. Minutes**  
**December 2, 2025 – 10:00 a.m.**  
**First Presbyterian Church, Wetumpka**  
**Martha Rodgers, Secretary**

President Cindy Augustine called the meeting to order at 10:15 AM.

A few reminders/announcements were made regarding paying of CAMGA/AMGA dues for 2026 and a member concern.

Due to the early (in the month) meeting, the minutes were not yet published in the Garden Buzz, and the banking statements for November were not yet available.

Due to those concerns, the minutes and treasurer's reports will be approved at the January 2026 regular business meeting.

Our Home Grounds Extension Agent, Mallory Kelley, installed the 2026 officers with a humorous swearing in ceremony.

Officers for 2026 will be Cindy Augustine, President; Jason Mattox, Vice President; Bob Shields, Treasurer; and Dee Turberville, Secretary. After the officers' installation, the business part of the meeting was adjourned.

The program for the meeting was the table decoration challenge. All the tables were beautifully decorated, and each table's decoration was explained by the decorators.

Tables by the 2026 Intern class, the Projects Committee, Robin Snyder, and the Learning Gardens were especially festive and had an entertaining background story or acted out theme to theme.

The Learning Gardens table and the Interns table tied for first place.

We had a wonderful meal provided by all the members. Following the table judging, the event was a wonderful time to socialize for the members who attended.

*Respectively submitted by,  
Cindy Augustine*

(Acting in place of Secretary Martha Rodgers, who could not attend)



## **Governor's Mansion Report For December 2025 By: Amanda Borden**



During December we had five workdays at Hill House and hosted at three Christmas Candlelight Tours. Our volunteer hours to date have reached a total of 11,382.



**Volunteer Reception December 9th:**

Top row: Darwin Prewitt, Jane McCarthy, Alicia Robertson, and Sue Berry. Middle row: Anne Carr, Robin Snyder, Carmen Sowers, Ann Hamill, Amanda Borden. Bottom row: Pattie Brown, Cheyenne Taylor, Racile Casey, Debbie Satterfield, Katherine Reed.



**The December 18th Hill House  
Christmas Candlelight Tour  
hosts:**

Katherine Reed, Jane McCarthy, Anne Carr, Cheyenne Taylor, Kathy Quinn, Jane Ficquette, Racile Casey, Pattie Berg, Ann Hamill, and Robin Snyder.

## Governor's Mansion Report (Continued)



Alicia decorates side table in Hill House dining room



Volunteers at the end of December 8th workday



## CAMGA Library News

### December 2025

#### By: Dee Turberville

### CAMGA Library Acquisitions 2025

Libib online library database (Subscription) *camga.net* link \$60.00

Taming the Potted Beast; the strange and sensational history of the not-so-humble houseplant (Indoor Plants) \$7.82

The Vegetable Gardening Book; the complete guide (Vegetables, Herbs, Fruits) \$26.96

Flower Color Theory (Flowers, Perennials & Ornamentals) \$22.63

Comfort of Crows; a backyard year (Pollinators & Wildlife) \$20.16

Urban and Suburban Meadows; bringing meadowscaping to big and small spaces (Landscape & Garden Design) \$19.75

Philip Juras The Southern Frontier; landscapes inspired by *Bartram Travels* (Landscape & Garden Design) \$33.04

How to Have a Green Thumb without an Aching Back (Techniques & Specialty) \$16.27

### Donations

The Serviceberry; abundance & reciprocity in the natural world (Theory & Misc.)

Last Child in the Woods; saving our children from nature-deficit disorder (Theory & Misc.)

Camellia Garden Field Guide (Flowers, Perennials & Ornamentals)

Diseases of Annuals and Perennials; identification and control (Diseases, Pests & Weeds)

What's Wrong with My Plant; and how to fix it (Diseases, Pests & Weeds)

Moss Gardening; including lichens, liverworts & others (Techniques & Specialty Gardens)

Container Gardening Through the Year (Techniques & Specialty Gardens)

Landscaping with Stone; natural looking paths, steps... (Landscape & Garden Design)

**NOTE: Since I will be the CAMGA secretary for 2026, I will not be preparing a library report for the monthly Buzz Newsletter. I invite and encourage the interns to earn volunteer hours by writing a book review from our collection -- to share each month with our members. It can also be a wonderful way to familiarize themselves with the collection.**

**I will continue to maintain the online subscription data base and our book collection at the ACES center.**

Central Alabama  
Master Gardeners Association

# Lunch & Learn 2026

2nd TUESDAY of EVERY Month

12:00-1:00 pm



First Presbyterian Church (Fellowship Hall)  
100 West Bridge Street, Wetumpka 36092



**BRING A SACK LUNCH**

**FREE PROGRAM**

**WATER PROVIDED**

- 13 January** Growing and Caring for Houseplants  
*Emily Stamm, Horticulturist, AU Graduate Student*
- 10 February** Sowing Winter Seeds in Milk Jugs and Containers  
*Elizabeth York, Shelby County Master Gardener*
- 10 March** Japanese Maples  
*Nicole Hart, Crooked Oaks Farm*
- 14 April** Bees of Alabama  
*Dr. Selina Bruckner, Bee Specialist, ACES*
- 12 May** Floral Arranging Techniques and Tips  
*Dr. Carolyn Robinson, AU Horticulture Professor*
- 9 June** Add Hostas to Your Garden  
*Bionca Lindsey, Advanced Master Gardener*
- 14 July** Teas, Tinctures and Salves  
*Debbie Kelso, Central Alabama Master Gardener*
- 11 August** Growing and Cooking with Herbs  
*Janell Diggs, Advanced Master Gardener*
- 8 September** Composting 101  
*Kelly LaFreniere, Elmore County Master Gardener*
- 13 October** Fall Blooming Roses ~ Planting and Care  
*Jason Powell, Petals From the Past*  
*\*Roses will be for sale following the program*
- 10 November** Citrus in the Backyard  
*Dr. Chip East, Commercial Extension Horticulturist, ACES*
- 8 December** Alabama Soils & Garden Fertilizers  
*Dr. Charles Mitchell, Soil Scientist, Retired Auburn Professor*





# January 2026

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
				1	2	3
				Happy New Year!!		
4	5	6	7	8	9	10
Mansion Gardens Workday 9-11 a.m.		Lanark Gardens Workday 8-12 noon		Learning Gardens at Extension Office, 8-11 a.m.		
11	12	13	14	15	16	17
Mansion Gardens Workday 9-11 a.m.	Lunch & Learn First Presbyterian Church, Wetumpka, 12—1 p.m.	Lanark Gardens Workday 8-12 noon		Learning Gardens at Extension Office, 8-11 a.m.		
18	19	20	21	22	23	24
Mansion Gardens Workday 9-11 a.m.	CAMGA, Inc. monthly meeting at the Extension Office, 10-12 noon	Lanark Gardens Workday 8-12 noon		Learning Gardens at Extension Office, 8-11 a.m.		
25	26	27	28	29	30	31
Mansion Gardens Workday 9-11 a.m.		Lanark Gardens Workday 8-12 noon		Learning Gardens at Extension Office, 8-11 a.m.		