

GARDENERS' GAB



Shelby County Master Gardeners' Assoc.

www.scmastergardeners.com

Meetings: Monthly, 2nd Friday at 10 a.m.
Shelby County Extension Office—Columbiana, Alabama

Like Us on Facebook

Submit Your Photos to: scmgaphotos@gmail.com

Alabama MGA: www.alabamamg.org

Alabama MG Program: www.aces.edu/mg

AMG Online Store: <http://www.victorydesigns.com/amg/>

Vol. 9, Issue 5

May 2016

Thoughts from the President...

The April meeting was outstanding. Everyone wanted Betty Elder to stay and tell us more! We had so many questions. It turned out to be a very informative meeting.

Did you get the supplies to start your Bokashi composting yet? I just got it all together and will begin my new method of composting very soon.

I have been super busy planting and of course visiting all the nurseries and plant sales. Be sure and check the calendar for all upcoming sales and events.

Reminder: AMGA Annual Conference, May 12-14, 2016 in Dothan, AL. Also remember I moved the May meeting from May 13th to Friday, May 20th.

Thanks to all and hope to see everyone at the May 20th meeting.

Your President,

Rita Forrest

This Month's Meeting **Friday, May 20 @ 10:00 am**

We will be presenting water reuse and collection. I am taking orders for rain barrels. The cost is \$30 each. Please let me know ASAP if you would like one. There is no assembly required. Put it under a downspout and wait for the rain.

Please email or call me. I will be gone to the conference but will check email to add more to order as needed. Edithjohnston12@gmail.com
Phone 620-2922 or Cell 531-9876



Please consider the environment before printing this e-mail.



SAVE THE DATE

Next Month's Meeting—Friday, June 10th
Annual Plant Swap & Garden Tour
Home of George & Pat Hare—701 Wynlake Cove, Alabaster

SCMGA Meeting Minutes – 8 April 2016

- Meeting convened 10:00 A.M. by President Forrest, who led Pledge of Allegiance. 19 members attended.
- Treasurer's report for March, by Myra Healy, published in GAB, approved by voice vote without changes.
- Minutes of March meeting, by Randall Robertson, published in GAB, approved by voice vote without changes or additions.
- Committee Reports: none reporting
- Communications/Announcements:
 - Michelle Hill, leading Outdoor Learning Center Project, reports work is proceeding with the effort. Presently in negotiation with plant provider to obtain plant materials for an intended April 19 work day. Members HIGHLY ENCOURAGED to participate. Watch your email for announcements or contact Michelle (205-690-7019) or michelerhill@gmail.com for further details. President Forrest intends to have signs, approximating the ones we've seen for the election campaigns just past, that will identify the group, "Master Gardeners at Work". Come be part of this!
 - Diane McKinnon reminded us there will be a Special Needs Fishing Event at Oak Mountain State Park, 11-13 May. Sign up for your preferred time and task by contacting Diane, 205-620-3282 (H) or 205-680-0184 (C) or fishlady3@gmail.
- Old Business: None pending
- New Business: Reminder: May Shelby County Master Gardener Association meeting will be held on May 20, versus May 13, so you may attend the State Conference.
- Program: Edith Johnston, Vice President, introduced Betty Elder, who introduced us to the means of composting named "Bokashi" by the Japanese who developed and practice it.
 - Do you compost? Do you find it hungry for space, somewhat labor intensive, possibly an eye-sore, picky about what you can put into the pile, and SLOW? You need to investigate Bokashi. Two 5-gallon buckets that will "nest", the inner one drilled with drainage holes and with a tight fitting lid. A handful of the inoculant bran, then your food prep clippings, moisten lightly and cover. After the meal, plate scrapings into the bucket, another handful of the bran, cover. Continue for six weeks or until full. You'll likely find the liquid from the food has dripped into the space between the bottoms of the buckets. Dilute with water 16/1 and bathe your plants or lawn in that. Let that full bucket "finish" for two weeks, then bury the contents in your growing bed. You'll be introducing active nutrients and microorganisms that will help your plants be happy. Have a second set of buckets and you can start a second cycle while finishing the first. No odor or pests and in the space of a pair of nested five gallon buckets. Ver-r-y interesting, don't you think? Another way to keep nutrients in the growing cycle and out of the landfill. Thank you, Betty Elder!

A blessing for our wonderful as always lunch, and meeting adjourned.

Respectfully submitted,
Randall C. Robertson, Secretary

TREASURER'S REPORT as of 04/20/2016 Submitted by Myra Healy, Treasurer

Check/Deposit	For	Balance
	Beginning Balance	\$2,534.07
(288.00)	Disbursements	
900.44	Grant from AMGA	
44.00	Misc. Deposits	
	Ending Balance	\$3,190.73

THERE ARE NUMEROUS GARDEN-RELATED CLASSES & EVENTS IN OUR AREA!

Please visit these websites to check out classes and events you may be interested in attending:



ALDRIDGE GARDENS
BIRMINGHAM BOTANICAL GARDENS
HOOVER PUBLIC LIBRARY
PETALS FROM THE PAST
SHELBY CO. MASTER GARDENERS

www.aldridgegardens.com/education/events/
www.bbgardens.org/all-events.php
www.hooverlibrary.org/events/calendar/
www.petalsfromthepast.com/events.html
www.scmastergardeners.com/events/

2016 ALABAMA MASTER GARDENER CONFERENCE

Wiregrass Master Gardeners and the AMGA Board of Directors are working to provide an Educational and entertaining experience for attendees.

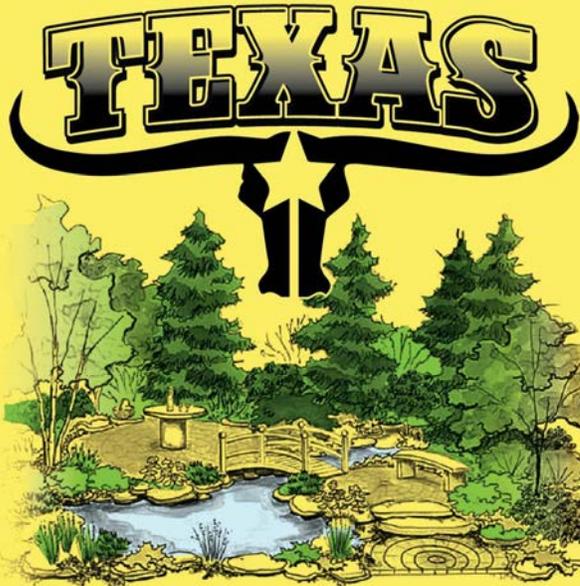
Mark May 12–14, 2016 in your calendar, and come back to our website often to check for updates on our speakers and agenda. If you are interested in becoming a Sponsor, Vendor, Donor, or Advertiser please check our website access our conference package webpage.

<http://alabamamg.org/2016-alabama-master-gardener-conference-sculpting-the-garden/>



2017 International Master Gardener Conference
"Follow the Oregon Trail to Great Gardening"

In 2017, the Oregon State University Extension Master Gardener Program and the Oregon Master Gardener Association will host the 2017 International Master Gardener Conference at the Oregon Convention Center in Portland, OR, July 10-14, 2017, with support from many generous sponsors and friends. Find more info on Facebook or at <http://blogs.oregonstate.edu/2017imgc/>



Welcome to 2016 Southern Region Master Gardener Conference in Arlington and Fort Worth, November 1-4, 2016!

Texas is delighted to have been chosen to host this conference and we eagerly anticipate your arrival. The conference will take place at the Sheraton Arlington and the Arlington Convention Center, which are practically across the street from Globe Life Park, home of the Texas Rangers, and a few blocks from AT&T Stadium, home of the Dallas Cowboys. The hotel is a mere 9 miles from Dallas/Fort Worth Airport and the Sheraton provides a complimentary shuttle. Expect for weather to be dry and in the 70's.

The speakers we have planned will engage and educate you. The Master Gardener State Coordinator panel should provide many new ideas and answer your questions. Our Capstone Speaker is actor Barry Corbin who will regale us with stories of growing up in West Texas and talk about drought and water conservation. On the tours you can visit many glorious public, school and residential gardens, as well as the two sports facilities near the hotel. We plan to offer you good old-fashioned Texas hospitality and look forward to having y'all visit our county.

Steve Chaney, Tarrant County Extension Agent, Horticulture, Texas A&M AgriLife Extension Service and the Tarrant County Master Gardener Association

For more info, go to <https://2016southernregionmg.com/>



2016 Southern Region Master Gardener Conference



Please send Pat Hare, Sunshine Committee Chair, information about members (or their relatives) who are sick, facing surgery or have lost a loved one. We want to make sure all our members know they are loved and are a vital part of our organization. Pat will send a card to let the member know we are thinking about them. Here are two ways for you to get in touch with Pat:

Email: pat.hare@outlook.com
Phone: 205-621-3848



MAY BIRTHDAYS

11—Rebecca Robertson
17—Rita Forrest

Have you 'LIKED' us on Facebook?



Shelby County Master Gardeners
Community Organization

Timeline About Photos Likes Videos

FISHING with SPECIAL NEEDS STUDENTS from Jefferson and Shelby counties. Help a great kid catch a fish!



We have now partnered with both the Shelby and Jefferson County 4-H programs who will be sending volunteers. Therefore, according to Nelson Wynn, **Master Gardeners can count the volunteer hours** for the fishing event as 4-H sponsored projects. So anyone who would like to volunteer on **May 11th, 12th or 13th** should contact Diane McKinnon at fishlady3@gmail.com. Please let me know which day you will be coming and if you want to help with the fishing, life jackets, photography or crafts. Thanks, Diane McKinnon

Aldridge Gardens SPRING PLANT SALE is May 5—7. Please contact **Phyllis Giles** at Aldridge Gardens to help with the sale. Her email is volunteer@aldridgegardens.com or call 205-682-8019 Ext 107.

Available Spots:

- Friday, May 6 from 9 AM to 1 PM: talliers, cart helpers, sales/helpers for hydrangeas, natives, pass alongs and complementary plants
- Friday, May 6 from 1 PM to 5 PM: talliers, cart helpers, sales/helpers for hydrangeas, natives, pass alongs and complementary plants
- Saturday, May 7 from 9 AM – Noon: talliers, cart helpers, sales/helpers for hydrangeas, natives, pass alongs and complementary plants

This one is from Kerry Smith – please take the survey.

Dear MG's:

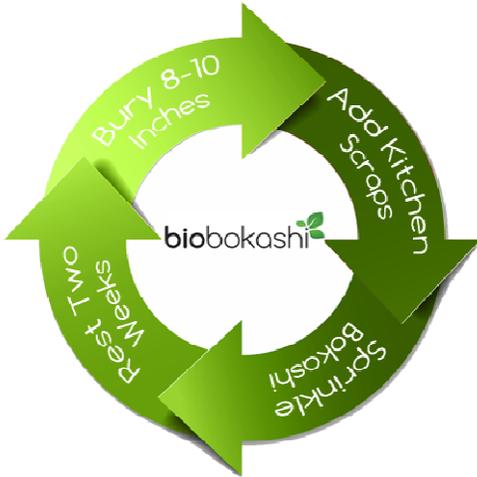
AmpleHarvest.org is a nationwide non-profit founded by a Master Gardener that enables America's home and community gardeners to donate the excess garden produce to 7,700 nearby food pantries, soup kitchens and similar programs nationwide along with many here in Alabama. This award winning program has been honored by the White House, on CNN Heroes, TEDx talk, and lots more.

I would very much appreciate it if you would take their 2 minute (really!) survey at www.AmpleHarvest.org/survey and if you'd share this with any/all home and community gardeners you work with in your community. We'd like to get as many growers as possible participating before April 30.

- They did this survey last year with some amazing results and need to validate that data.
- They will make the overall aggregate results publicly available at the conclusion. No individual responses will be made public.
- They need this completed before April 30 so the sooner you let other gardeners know about this, the better.
- Any questions/issues can be sent directly to info@AmpleHarvest.org.

Thank you.
Kerry Smith

Betty Elder—April's speaker on Bokashi composting



Carol, Cindy and Joy working the ABC booth at the Birmingham Botanical Gardens' spring plant sale.





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of Extending Knowledge
and Changing Lives
visit: www.Extension100Years.net



ALABAMA GARDENER'S CALENDAR FOR MAY

FRUITS AND NUTS—Continue spray program. Keep grass from around trees & strawberries. Peaches & apples can still be budded.

SHRUBS—Newly planted shrubs need extra care now and in coming weeks. Don't spray with oil emulsions when temperature is above 85°F.

LAWNS—Now is the best time to start lawns from seed. Water new lawns as needed to prevent drying. Keep established lawns actively growing by watering, fertilizing, and mowing. Spray weeds in lawns with proper herbicide.

ROSES—Spray or dust for insects and diseases. Fertilize monthly with complete fertilizer or Rose special. Container-grown plants in flower may be planted. Prune climbing roses after the first big flush of flowering.

ANNUALS AND PERENNIALS—Late plantings of bedding plants still have time to produce. Watch for insects on day lilies.

BULBS—Summer bulbs started in containers may still be planted. Do not remove foliage from spring flowering bulbs. Do not let seed heads form on tulips and other spring flowering bulbs.

MISCELLANEOUS—Mulch new shrub plantings if not already done. Avoid drying out new shrub, tree, and lawn plantings.

VEGETABLE SEED—Plant heat-loving and tender vegetables. Start cauliflower, Brussels sprouts, and celery in cold-frame for fall garden.

VEGETABLES—Plant tomatoes, peppers, eggplants, and sweet potatoes.

Shelby County Master Gardeners' Association Board of Directors and Committee Chairs 2016

President	Rita Forrest	620-1167	ritabe@bellsouth.net
Vice-President	Edith Johnston	620-2922	edithjohnston12@gmail.com
Secretary	Randall Robertson	663-0459	msptngc96@charter.net
Treasurer	Myra Healy	665-4554	myhealy@hughes.net
Parliamentarian	Paul Saeger	733-9066	saeger.paul@yahoo.com
Advisory Council Rep	Susan Sent	991-7867	gaggy10@gmail.com
Awards Committee Chair	Deb Kattus	913-2703	dkattus@charter.net
By-Laws Chair/MG Class Coord	Jeanon Massien	991-3125	nauzer1@att.net
Communications	Jan Rogers	307-9733	janrogers@charter.net
Events Coordinator	Jennifer Gregory	444-0742	jggdrg@aol.com
Historian	Diane McKinnon	680-3282	bamabeach@bellsouth.net
Hospitality	Michele Hill	690-7019	michelerhill@gmail.com
Newsletter Editor	Heidee Vansant	669-3284	heidee.vansant@gmail.com
Nominating Committee Chair	Karen Jensen	670-0701	karenkjensen3@icloud.com
Projects Coordinator	Beth Glasgow	669-7981	bethglasgow@bellsouth.net
Sunshine Committee	Pat Hare	621-3848	pat.hare@outlook.com
Webmaster	Byron Ford	334-473-0707	byron@byronford.com

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**ALABAMA MASTER GARDENER ASSOCIATION, INC.
MEMBERSHIP FORM**

Dear Master Gardener,

The Alabama Master Gardener Association (AMGA) Board of Directors has set \$10.00 as the annual membership dues for January 1—December 31, 2016. Members are very important to this Association, and we hope that you will join or renew your membership. To remain on the state membership list and to continue to receive the Garden Pathways newsletter, please complete this application and give it, along with your dues, to your local association Treasurer by December 11, 2015.

Association Name: **Shelby County Master Gardeners' Association**

Name: _____ Office: _____

Address: _____

Phone #'s: Home: _____ Work: _____ Cell: _____

Email Address: _____

State and Local Newsletters will be delivered online. County of Residence: _____

Birthday: Month: _____ Day: _____

Class Information: County of Training: _____ Year of Graduation: _____

In case of Emergency Call: _____ Phone # _____

TYPE OF MEMBERSHIP (Check one)

	Local Dues	State Dues
<input type="checkbox"/> Active Member	\$12.00	\$10.00
<input type="checkbox"/> Provisional Member (Interns)	No fee	No fee
<input type="checkbox"/> Lifetime Member	\$240.00	\$100.00
<input type="checkbox"/> Associate Member (Extension Employee)	No fee	No fee
<input type="checkbox"/> Honorary Member	No fee	No fee

Amount Enclosed: \$ _____

PLEASE MAKE CHECK PAYABLE TO SCMGA AND MAIL TO:

Shelby Co. Master Gardeners' Assoc.
% Myra Healy
2674 Spring Creek Rd
Montevallo, AL 35115