



AUGUST 2016



Carol Cook Hagood, Editor

President's Message

My last couple of weeks have been “off the grid” due to shoulder surgery. I appreciate all the kind thoughts and caring messages that have come via mail, email and from the last meeting. I remain one-handed at this point so typing and computer work are limited at best! Still, please know how much I appreciate your thoughtfulness.

The View from here has been a little altered this last month! A shoulder harness and wedge have framed all vistas. I have to say I've had more views of my toes than any garden, recently. Not my preferred take on the world!!!

JCMGA work continues. Please watch for notices about needs for the **September 29th Statewide MG meeting in Birmingham**. Gail Pless and Rosemarie Fernandes are calling for everyone to help out with this exciting event, and they will have sign up sheets available at the next Master Gardener meeting on August 9. They also want to thank the members who have already signed up.

Rosemarie also says that anyone wishing to sign up can email me her directly at aquaferns@outlook.com, giving her their name, cell phone number, and email address; then she or Gail will contact them during August with a specific assignment.

As the need for painkillers wanes, I will begin to resume my activities with the JCMGA over the next few weeks. I look forward to seeing you at the August meeting.

Ann Gray

Ann Gray Harvey, President

JCMGA August Program Notes

Tuesday, August 9
9 a.m. Social Hour, 10 a.m. Meeting
BBG Auditorium

Speaker: David Doggett
Topic: Aromi Azaleas

It is always rewarding to see a Jefferson County Master Gardener as knowledgeable in so many areas as David Doggett. He is well known for his hydrangea lectures, as well as maple trees and azaleas. He propagates all of these and more, and has a special gift to teach all of his fellow Master Gardeners. If you have any garden questions, you will find David willing to explore your subject matter and genuinely happy to listen and provide correct guidelines.

In between winning awards for his own home gardens, you will find he spends a good bit of his time between Aldridge Gardens and Birmingham Botanical Gardens. We were very lucky to slow him down long enough to be our speaker in August!

Come early, bring a friend, neighbor, or family member, along with some sweet morsel. We always love to share.

Note for September: This will be another double feature. Regular meeting, September 13, 9 and 10 a.m.: Speaker, Taylor Steele; and the night meeting, September 20, 6 p.m.: Speaker, Henry Hughes.

Mark your calendar for all these events. Hope to see each of you there.

Pat

Pat Cosgrove, First Vice President

Bethany's Extension Extras

Master Gardener Gets Growing at Local YMCA

Cathy O'Sheal knows how to get involved—she's been volunteering in various local community organizations since moving to Birmingham in 1990. Her latest engagement has grown out of her commitment to stay fit, her love of gardening, and her interest in combining those passions. This spring Cathy organized the Y Garden Club, an adult gardening group at Vestavia YMCA, and together they transformed abandoned garden space into colorful growing beds of vegetables, fruits and wildflowers.

Meeting weekly in April and May, the Y gardeners planted, weeded and harvested. And once monthly, Cathy introduced her Y gardeners to Jefferson County Master Gardeners speakers' bureau members. So far, her speakers included Rick Cybulsky and Karen Mitchell, who shared their expertise in Shade Gardening and Container Gardening.

For the summer, Cathy and her Y gardeners turned their garden tending over to summer campers. The young junior gardeners have visited the garden space to inspect visiting insects and lizards, to journal and sketch nature up close, and to water the growing produce—from radishes to watermelons.

In August, the garden space returns to Cathy and the Y Garden Club members as they make plans for fall plantings. Contact Cathy if you'd like to speak on your favorite gardening topic this fall to her active group of gardeners.

Jefferson County Master Gardeners are making a difference throughout our community. Congratulations to Cathy for getting this community gardening project into full bloom!



Cumulative CEU Hours from 2016 Meetings

January 12 (Jason Kirby)	1.0 CEU
February 9 (Reach for the Stars) No CEU for this mtg.	
March 8 (William Cureton)	1.25 CEUs
March 15 (David Glass)	1.25 CEUs
April 12 (Sallie Lee and Andy Baril)	1.25 CEUs
May 10 (Plant Swap)	1.0 CEU
June 14 (James Horton)	1.5 CEUs
June 21 (Mike Rushing)	1.0 CEU
July 25 (Jim Jacobi)	1.25 CEUs

(Extension Extras, continued)

Super Summer Workshops

I hope your busy summer schedule allowed time for you to participate in at least one of our summer workshops. Master Gardener Karen Smith joined me in July to present **Plant Propagation**. Through photos, group discussion, and hands-on demonstrations, we covered a wide variety of propagating topics. In the spirit of gardener's generosity, Karen brought along plants to share new starts as she demonstrated division, air layering, and leaf cutting.

Unfortunately, our newsletter goes to press before learning the outcome of Sallie Lee's and Jim Jacobi's **Terrific Tomatoes** workshop and competition on August 4 (registration deadline August 2). Sallie and Jim are hosting a workshop covering variety selection, insect management and disease control, followed by a contest for biggest, tastiest, and even the best pop-in-your-mouth tomato.

To round out the fun, everybody's a winner since the workshop ends with bacon and home grown tomato sandwiches!

Publication Spotlight: Mosquitos and Ticks

As you enjoy spending time in your summer garden, you may become the target of an annoying mosquito or tick before you know it!

Check out these two ACES publications, [Mosquitoes](#) and [Tick Problems & Organic Control](#), for important information aimed at keeping you and your family healthy.

Treasurer's Report

July 2016

Beginning balance July 1, 2016	\$11,691.41
Deposits	\$315.00
Disbursements	45.47
Ending balance July 31, 2016	<u>\$11,960.94</u>

--- Tom Douglass, Treasurer

July 2016 Minutes

Jefferson County Master Gardeners Association Meeting – July 12, 2016

The regular monthly meeting of the JCMGA was held on July 12, 2016 in the Lecture Hall at the Birmingham Botanical Gardens (BBG). Pat Cosgrove presided. The meeting was called to order at 10 a.m. Pat welcomed new members, visitors, and members of the 2016 Master Gardener Class. Everyone was reminded to sign in and to check with Ken Hall and Linda Systrom if they need to pickup stars or special badges.

Secretary's Report: Pat asked for a motion to accept the minutes of the April meeting as printed in the newsletter. A motion was made to accept the minutes as published. The motion was seconded and unanimously approved by the membership.

Treasurer's Report: Pat asked for a motion to accept the treasurer's reports for April and May as published in the newsletter. A motion was made to accept the treasurer's report as published. The motion was seconded and unanimously approved by the membership.

President's Report: Pat reminded members that volunteers are needed for the Fall AMGA meeting to be held at the BBG on Thursday, September 29. Rosemarie Fernandes had placed signup sheets at the sign-in table.

Pat asked for a motion to accept the bylaws changes concerning the nominating committee make-up. Written notice had been presented at both the day and evening meetings in June and were published in the newsletter. Alicia Hall moved that the change be accepted. The motion was seconded and approved unanimously.

Fletcher Harvey reported on the progress of the search for an executive director of the BBG. John Floyd is chairman of the search committee and Mike Rushing is the representative from the Gardens volunteers and plant groups. Taylor Steele said that qualities the committee is looking for in applicants and other results of the search can be found at www.bb garden.org/search. For comments and/or questions contact John Floyd, search committee chair, at johnfloyd02@gmail.com.

Committee Reports:

Community Projects: Taylor Steele introduced Christopher Pugh from Turkey Creek Nature Preserve. Chris announced a day to help with cleanup at Turkey Creek. However the date coincided with a JCMGA Tuesday meeting so Taylor said a new date would be determined.

Taylor introduced the BBG Shades Valley Rotary Club intern, Rachel Martin. She spoke about her work to improve the Native American interpretive area for better use by visiting school groups and on native prairie grasses in the Pollinator Garden. Taylor pointed out that there had been an article in Mountain Brooks Village Voice about Rachel.

Program: Dr. Jim Jacobi presented a power point Photo Quiz – “Do You See What I See?” He showed many examples of plant damage due to natural pests, weather, and chemicals.

Next Meetings: The next meeting of the JCMGA will be August 9. There will be two meetings in September, on the September 13 and September 20.

Door prizes were given.

The meeting was adjourned at 11:30 a.m.

This meeting is approved for 1.25 CEUs

Kathy Rostand, Secretary



Thursday, September 29th
 Birmingham Botanical Gardens
 2612 Lane Park Road
 Birmingham, Alabama 35223
4 Sessions, 4 CEUs

2016 AMGA Fall Seminar
There's No Place Like Home!
 produced by
Jefferson County Master Gardeners

Japanese Maples, Aristocrat of Trees: David Doggett, JCMG
Beauty in Her Own Backyard: Sally Price, JCMG
Save and Savor Summer: Angela Treadaway, ACES & Helen
 Phillips 6 Afternoon Breakout Sessions: Various Leaders

Please select three breakout sessions from below and mark them 1-3 in order of priority (1 being most preferred):

- A) *Our American Canopy* with Henry Hughes, Director of Education, BBG
- B) *Tree I.D. Key* with Mallory Kelly, ACES
- C) *Dried Flower Arrangements* with Mary Jo Quintana, JCMG
- D) *The Aging Gardener* with Fletcher Harvey, JCMG
- E) *Fostering Fall Flights* with Birmingham Audubon Society
- F) *Autumn Beauty at the Birmingham Botanical Gardens* with Chris Boles, JCMG

Check-in begins at 8:15 a.m.
 Programming 9 a.m.- 3 p.m.

\$35 includes sessions, coffee, boxed lunch and snacks
 (\$40 AFTER AUGUST 31st)

Information and ONLINE REGISTRATION: www.alabamamg.org

Or Mail-In Registration (please print):

Name: _____ Email: _____

Address: _____

City/State/Zip: _____

Sandwich option: Chicken Pork Vegetarian

Make \$35 registration check (\$40 after August 31st) payable to JCMGA. Return to: AMGA Fall Seminar 2016, 527 Greenbrier Way, Hoover AL, 35244

Upcoming Events at Aldridge Gardens

To find information about other events or to register for classes, visit <http://aldridgegardens.com>.

Cooking with Herbs Seminar: Teaching and Tasting

Thursday, August 25, 2016, 6:30 – 8:30 p.m.

**Chefs: Peter Northcott, Master Gardener and Licensed Realtor, LAH Hoover,
and Susan Green, Birmingham Bake and Cook Company
Aldridge Gardens Living Room**

\$24 Members/\$32 non-Members, Seminar limited to 20

If you have ever wanted to learn how to cook with herbs, come join Peter and Susan as they demonstrate using the best dried herbs for getting the most interesting flavors. Use what is already in your pantry to enhance your menu and make dinner more exciting. This seminar will be interactive with lots of tasting.....and you will even get the recipes! Feel free to bring a bottle of wine or a beverage of your choice. Please pre-register at <http://aldridgegardens.com>.

To volunteer at Aldridge Gardens, contact Phyllis Giles at 205-682-8019 or volunteer@aldridgegardens.com.

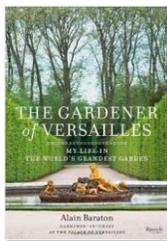
News from the Library at Birmingham Botanical Gardens

For more information, visit www.bbgardens.org/library.

Art Gallery News

The work of the Crest Drive Glass Collective will continue on display through August, featuring artists Gerda Carmichael, Anne Miller, Patti Steelman, Diane Tucker, and Lynda Wilson.

Thyme to Read book club:



The **Thyme to Read** book club will meet Tuesday, August 2, at 6 p.m. in the Library at BBG to discuss *The Gardener of Versailles: My Life in the World's Grandest Garden* by Alain Baraton.



The **Thyme to Read** book club will meet Tuesday, September 13, at 6 p.m. in the Library at BBG to discuss *Food: A Love Story* by Jim Gaffigan.

Contact Hope Long, director of library services, at 205.414.3931 or hlong@bbgardens.org to learn more about the book club.

Library Volunteers Needed

The Library at The Gardens currently has volunteer opportunities available on the following days of each month: Wednesday (9 a.m.-1 p.m.), 1st Saturday (1-4 p.m.), 3rd Saturday (1-4 p.m.), 4th Saturday (10 a.m.-1 p.m.), 4th Saturday (1-4 p.m.), 5th Saturday (10 a.m.-1 p.m.), and 5th Saturday (1-4 p.m.). If you're interested in volunteering at The Library, please contact Rachael Daughtry at rdaughtry@bbgardens.org.

Educational Opportunities at Birmingham Botanical Gardens

Register online at www.bbgardens.org or, for more information, call Dawn Coleman at 205-414-3958.

Lunch & Learn: How Succulent

Speakers: Jamie Cross and Molly of Oak Street Gardens

Wednesday, August 10, 2016 | 11:30-12:30 p.m.

Free program. Bring your own lunch.

No time? No water? No problem! Sedums and other succulents thrive in the native dry garden with very little care.

Establishment and Aesthetics of the Traditional Japanese Garden

Instructor: Mickey J. Lollar, Vol. Curator and Education Programs Director, Berry Library & Museum
Saturday, August 13, 2016|2-4 p.m. Members \$20|Non-Members \$25

Whether for recreation, aesthetic pleasure, or spiritual practice, the Nihon Teien (Japanese Garden) utilizes a historical, philosophical, botanical, and physical landscape to provide serene sanctuary for its visitors.

This two-hour lecture will introduce you to the storied history behind traditional Japanese Gardens, the philosophies that have cultivated traditional Japanese garden design, and optimal garden design techniques that are centuries old. Also included will be plant and garden ornament identification and details of plant health and soil amendment and supplementation. Upon conclusion, the participants will possess a small portfolio of information, ideas, and sample garden design plans.

Lunch & Learn: Yard Art

Speaker: Hope Long

Wednesday, August 24, 2016 | 11:30-12:30 p.m.

Free program. Bring your own lunch.

Discover fun alternatives to plants in your landscape while still adding charm, color, and interest.

Botanical Beauty Secrets (II): Summer Skin Care

Saturday, August 27, 2016|10-noon Members: \$30|Non-members: \$35

Beat the summer heat (and bugs) with The Gardens' Botanical Beauty Secrets! Join Plant Adventures Program Specialist, Brooke McMinn, and Library Director, Hope Long, to learn which botanical ingredients are most effective for common summer concerns and create an array of products to take home. Skin care will include a nourishing sunscreen, a cooling sunburn salve and a bug repelling spray.

Flora Photography, Instructor: Hank Siegel

Saturday, August 27 | 9-1 p.m. Members \$60|Non-Members \$75

This class is designed to teach the student how to capture images of the plants - shrubs, flowers, and trees - specific to the BBG. The class is organized into five segments: Equipment...those things one must have and those that are nice to have -- Camera Setup...how to set up the camera to enable one to capture the best images -- Image Capture...techniques, processes and tips to capture great plant images -- Image Processing...software options and how-tos for effective image processing -- Practical Application...field work in the gardens

You will need to bring:

Your digital camera (preferably an SLR or high end digital compact or bridge camera with functions that go beyond "Full Auto" and a tripod (if you have one - not essential for the class))

Introduction to Flower Arranging, Part 2, Instructor: Zhaleh McCullers

Sunday, August 28|2-5 p.m. Members \$30|Non-Members \$35

This introductory class will provide students with the confidence to distinguish between the different styles of flower arranging. They will also learn how to incorporate fresh and artificial flowers into their arrangements.

Participants will be led in a hands-on demo on creating a small, simple flower arrangement. Please bring 1-2 bunches of the same flower, greenery from home, and clippers. A container, floral foam, wire, tape, and stakes will be provided. Handouts also will be provided by the instructor. *Minimum of ten participants.*

Certificate in Native Plant Studies Program

Find more information or register for classes online at <http://www.bbgardens.org/native-plant-studies.php>.

Among upcoming CNPS classes and events---look online for additional opportunities:

(You don't need to be enrolled in the entire series to attend these, or any other CNPS offerings.)

Bees, Plants & Honey - An Overview of Pollination Ecology (new elective)

Instructor: Richard Carroll, Ph.D.

Saturday, August 20 | 8:30-12:30 p.m.

Location: Birmingham Botanical Gardens

\$40 Members | \$45 Non-Members

For thousands of years, honey has been an important and delicious food source for humans throughout the world. In recent years, honey has gained a sophistication and appreciation which rivals that of wine. The number of honey varieties available from local beekeepers, health food stores, and on-line has grown appreciably. Honey, a complex product of botanical and entomological processes, has - in some respects - remained unexplainable. Topics to be discussed include the origins and developments of these processes by looking at plant pollination throughout history and at pollination strategies used by both pollinators and plants. We will examine different varietal honeys and using microscopes, identify them by their pollen assemblages. Additionally, we will be able to taste these varieties and discuss their associated color, taste, aromas, and other characteristics.

(To read the story that AL.COM published about Richard Carroll and the class, see: http://blog.al.com/good-things-growing/2016/07/richard_carroll_discusses_bees.html.)

Introduction to Native Plant Conservation (core)

Instructor: Instructor: Bob Boyd, Ph.D., Professor, Auburn University

Saturday, August 27 | 8:30-4:30 p.m.

Location: Birmingham Botanical Gardens

Members \$80|Non-members \$90

The flora of Alabama is one of the richest in the country, which underscores the importance of conserving our plants and their habitats. This course is a general introduction to plant conservation, focusing particularly on Alabama plants.

We will cover a broad set of topics, including rarity ranking systems, invasive species, restoration ecology, conservation ethics, conservation legislation and conservation methods such as safeguarding. Alabama Plant Conservation Alliance projects will be emphasized as examples. Time will be spent in The Gardens to observe some of the rare plants we are working to conserve.

Other Upcoming CNPS Events to note (not all posted online yet)

Introduction to Botany – The Science of Plants (core) Saturday, September 10

The Art of Making Paper (and Dyes) from Native Plants (new elective) – Saturday, September 17

Plant – Soil Relationships (core) – Saturday, September 24

Autumn at Moss Ross Preserve (field trip) – Saturday, October 1

All about Green Roofs – (new workshop) Friday and Saturday, October 14 & 15

North Alabama Adventure – Desoto State Park & Little River Canyon (field trip) Fri.-Sun. November 4-6

Fall Plant Sale – Saturday & Sunday, October 22 & 23.

Note: John Manion has launched a new Facebook group page titled *Certificate in Native Plant Studies at Birmingham Botanical Gardens*—an additional way to get the word out about the program, to list events, photographs and post about relevant topics. You can join the group at: <https://www.facebook.com/groups/525085171018082/>

Volunteer Opportunities with John Manion

Volunteer Workdays: Kaul Wildflower Garden Curator John Manion will lead volunteer sessions in the Kaul Wildflower Garden on August 2, 4, 9, 11, 16, 18, 23, 25 and 30. For more information, write John Manion at jmanion@bbgardens.org.

Don't forget the native plant sale on the next MG meeting day!

Mark your calendar now for this upcoming opportunity---

BBG Native Plant Group Summer Pollinator Sale

When: Tuesday, August 9, 9 a.m.—Noon **Where:** BBG Plant Adventure Zone

What: Butterfly host and nectar plants; also good for bees; late summer blooming.

Plants have been recently tended and fertilized so they can be planted now or left in containers to enjoy till fall.

Cash or check only

Limited quantities of the following plants may be available:



Antennaria plantaginifolia Pussy Toes (Am. Painted Lady host) – part shade
Asclepias incarnata Swamp milkweed (Monarch host) – sun/part sun
Asclepias tuberosa Butterfly Weed (Monarch host) - sun
Blephilia subnuda Cumberland Pagoda – shade
Echinacea purpurea Purple Coneflower – sun/part shade
Eutrochium 'Gateway' 'Gateway' Joe Pye Weed – sun/part shade
Eutrochium fistulosum Joe Pye Weed – sun/part shade
Gaura lindheimeri Gaura
Hibiscus aculeatus Savanna Hibiscus – sun/part shade
Hibiscus coccineus Texas Star Hibiscus – sun/part shade
Hibiscus laevis Halberd-Leaf Rose Mallow
Lobelia cardinalis/siphilitica Cardinal Flower or Blue Lobelia - sun/part shade
 (mixed plants, may bloom red or blue)

Passiflora incarnata Passion Vine (Gulf Fritillary host) – sun/part shade
Passiflora lutea Passion Vine (Gulf Fritillary host) – part shade
Pycnanthemum muticum Mountain mint – sun/part sun
Rudbeckia fulgida Black-Eyed Susan – sun
Rudbeckia heliopsisidis Sun Facing Coneflower – sun/part sun
Salvia coccinea Red Salvia, annual, reseeds – sun
Solidago rugosa 'Fireworks' Goldenrod 'Fireworks' – sun
Vernonia fasciculata Ironweed (American Painted Lady host) – sun/part
Viola walteri 'Silver Gem' Silver Gem Violet – (Fritillary host) – part shade
Zizia aurea Golden Alexander – (Black Swallowtail host) – part sun



Bethany A. O'Rear
 Regional Extension Agent
 Alabama Cooperative Extension System
 C. Beaty Hanna Horticulture and
 Environmental Center
 2612 Lane Park Road
 Birmingham, AL 35223-1082

We're on the Web! Visit us at www.jeffcomg.org.

Also see Facebook pages for Jefferson County Cooperative Extension System and Jefferson County Master Gardeners Association