

Roots and Shoots

Nov/Dec 2017



Kathy Rostand, Editor

President's Message

It is a special time of year for us - Graduation. I think most of the JCMGA members are every bit as happy for the current class as they were for the graduation they remember. We have a special program scheduled with Dolores Hydock to entertain everyone. Along with a good dinner and presentation of your certificates and lots of door prizes. We want to congratulate each of you in the 2017 class. We hope you will become a part of our network of volunteers in the future.

I would like to recognize the entire 2017 Master Gardener class:

Debra Alfano, Kathy Barry, Sandy Berglund, Louise Billings, Teri Braden, Donna Brantley, Nancy Calloway, Janet Collins, Shirley Cotton, D.C. Coston, Mary Foy, Pam Gardner, Pat Hodges, Peggy Hsu, Ginger Huffstutler, Dr. Leland Hull, Jr., Bob Koons, Sandy McCarthy, Susan Mcnamara, Kate Musso, Dan Puckett, Jim Roberson, Margaret Rushton, Richard Smith, James V. Spencer III, Joyce Spielberger, Jim St. John, Jan Street, Paige Sykes, Adlai Trone, Kathy Tullis, Ann Walthall, Patty Warren, Kathy Webb, Lybda Whitney, John Whittington and Greg Wood.

A wonderful group of gardeners!

It has been an exciting trip for me over the last three years as an officer of JCMGA. We will welcome the new team of officers during the meeting in November. Hope you are going to join the party on the 14th.

Our next meeting will be January 9, 2018. 9:00 am social - 10:00 am meeting, at BBG Auditorium. The speaker scheduled will be Brook McMinn. Hope to see you then, bring a friend, neighbor and your favorite dish to share.

*Thank you all,
Pat Cosgrove*

JCMGA November Program Notes Graduation Banquet

*Master Gardener Graduation Banquet on
November 14th, at 6 pm, in the auditorium at
BBG.*



Welcome the New Year JCMGA January Program Notes

January 9, 2018

BBG Auditorium

9 am Social Hour 10 am Meeting

*All About Poinsettias: The Legend, History
and Botany of America's Most Popular
Potted Plant*

Brooke McMinn

BBG Plant Adventures Program Specialist

**JCMGA MINUTES
OCTOBER 17, 2017**

President Pat Cosgrove called the meeting to order. Guests and interns were welcomed. Door prize tickets were handed out to those who did not pick one up when signing in.

The minutes and treasurer's report were approved. Dues for next year are to be paid by December 15, 2017. Tom is accepting payment for dues for next year of \$35.00, which includes \$25 for the county and \$10 for the state. Banquet tickets are \$15 and may be included with dues. Payment may also be made to Annette in the Extension office, either in person or by mail, or they may be paid via PayPal.

November 14 is the date of the awards banquet, and Pat needs a couple of folks to come early and help with decorations. The banquet begins at 6:00pm at the BBG. Charter House is catering. The menu includes layered salad, lemon chicken, macaroni and cheese, vegetable medley, brownies and banana pudding. M..m..m.

We are trying to reduce mailing expenses wherever possible, so if you are receiving paper copies of the newsletter and have email, please let Annette know so you can be added to the electronic distribution list.

Linda Systrom, membership, reminded all to sign in. She received an email from Aldridge Gardens seeking volunteers for the Whispers Native American Festival, which was rescheduled for this Sunday due to the storm last weekend. Linda has specs for the signs to be placed at JCMGA projects and is looking for someone to produce them.

Diane Remick reminded us to logon to Facebook and "like" the JCMGA and JeffCo Extension pages. VP Chris Pugh asked that we logon to the website at <http://jeffcomg.org/> and update our interests. After the plant sale, Chris will be relocating from the BBG to Kelly Ingram Park. He will still be able to attend the monthly meetings.

The meeting was turned over to Ann Gray Harvey for elections for the 2018 Board of Directors. The proposed slate is as follows:

President:	Gail Pless
1 st Vice President:	Kathy Connolly
2 nd Vice President:	Chris Pugh
Treasurer:	Roger Clarke
Secretary:	Bonnie O'Bannon
Past President:	Pat Cosgrove
ACES Representative:	Bethany O'Rear

The slate was approved by acclamation and will be installed at the November 14 banquet.

Fletcher Harvey expressed thanks to all for prayers for his wife Ann. She is doing much better and is expecting to be released from rehab over the weekend.

Ann Gray gave a quick review of the progress of the upcoming 2018 state convention we are hosting. It will be held at the Sheraton downtown, with all activities in house, so there will be no need to drive once participants check in. Keynote speakers are Felder Rushing, Jim McClintock, and Lois Trigg Chaplin. Felder will also be available for a breakout session on Saturday. Optional 'urban greening' tours are being planned for Thursday morning to Jones Valley Farm, Sloss Furnace, and Railroad Park with the possibility of a tour to the Cahaba River on Saturday. Attendees will also have the option to visit the Birmingham Botanical Gardens and Aldridge Botanical Gardens. Aprons will likely be for sale in lieu of T-shirts, with orders placed at the time of advanced registration. Volunteers will receive five (5) CEUs for their work during the convention.

Dates are set for May 3-5, 2018, Thursday, Friday and Saturday. (The meetings will conclude on Saturday in time to catch the Derby.) Activities are being planned for 400 participants. The committee will be looking for lots of volunteers.

Mark your calendars and pay for your tickets for the Annual Awards Banquet and MG Graduation ceremony on November 14. Dolores Hydock will be delighting us with her storytelling. The banquet replaces the November general membership meeting. The next membership meeting will be the second Tuesday in January. Volunteer hours are due in by December 31.

With no further business, the meeting adjourned.

*Respectfully submitted,
Bonnie O'Bannon*

2017 Master Gardener Class and Their Projects



This group helped *Oxmoor Community Center* create a food garden where people can go to learn about gardening and benefit from the food going to the community. They made five raised beds and have plans to add more as they continue working.



This group worked on the restoration the *Guiding Light community garden at the Liberty Highlight Community*, where the church and community have been brought together. It is the senior citizens who do the gardening.



Four of the six members of this group were teachers or mentors. They developed a *Virtual Garden for children in the 4th grade*, based on the ABC's of wildflowers with a coloring book of individual pages to be used by the students. They presented this to one 4th grade class. The students and teacher were very receptive and the group plans to do more presentations of their Virtual Garden.



This group chose "*Fun with Herbs*" as their project's theme as they reached out to *First Light Women's Center*. There were nine full time residents who greatly enjoyed the herbs they were given, the soaps they made, and the wonderful cake made with herbs that they were served. This program underscored the culinary and health benefits of harvesting fresh herbs.



This group put together a presentation on *Southern Container Gardening* that they will take to various groups to teach how anyone can successfully do container gardening.



This special group of eight created a *Sensory Garden at Vestavia Hills Elementary school* where they created three raised beds for students to work with.

CEU Hours for 2017

January 10th Brooke McMinn, 1 CEU
 There are no CEU's for the Reach for the Stars in February
 March 14th Dr. Jim Jacobi, 1 CEU
 April 11th Jeanie Sherlock, 1 CEU
 May 9th Plant Swap
 Leonore Roberson 1 CEU
 June 13th, Longleaf Botanical Gardens, 2 CEU
 June 20th Antonia Viteri, 1CEU
 July 11th Tom Underwood, 1 CEU
 August 8th Henry Hughes 1 CEU
 September 19th David Doggett 1 CEU
 October 10th Business Meeting
 November 14th Graduation Banquet

Treasurer's Report

October 2017

Beginning balance October 1, 2017	\$18,561.45
Deposits	\$ 0.00
Disbursements	\$ 0.00
Ending balance October 31, 2017	<u>\$18,561.45</u>

Tom Douglass, Treasurer

Upcoming Events at Aldridge Gardens

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

Gardening the Natural Way - Without Chemicals

Tuesday, November 14, 2017 6:00 pm - 8:00 pm

Sandra Reaves, of Josie Gladys Gardens, will talk about raising vegetables without the use of pesticides. She will also bring a number of crafts made from natural materials as well as her vintage seed line. The cost is \$20 for Aldridge Gardens members and \$25 for non-members.

Wreath Design by Beth White

Tuesday, November 28, 9:30 am-11:30 am

Aldridge Gardens House

Cost: \$15 for members, \$20 for non-members

“Crape Murder” and Pruning for Form Workshop

Tuesday, January 23, 6:00 pm–8:00 pm

\$15 Members/\$18 Non-Members

Class size is limited. Pre-registration suggested.

Instructor: Rip Weaver, Executive Director, Aldridge Gardens

Learn the correct guidelines for pruning trees and shrubs, how to eliminate “crape murder,” and the best ways to remove unwanted limbs and stems to bring new vigor to your landscape. Using branches from the grounds, Rip will demonstrate how to correctly prune some of our favorite shrubs and specific landscape plants. Bring hand pruners to get a feel for how it should be done.

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

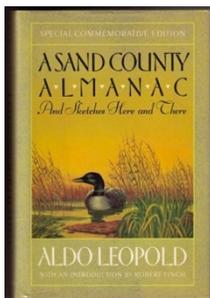
News from the Library at Birmingham Botanical Gardens

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

Art Gallery News

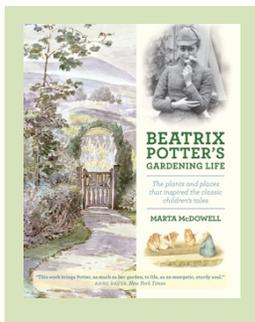
In November and December the Art Gallery will feature the work of Bryce Lafferty

Thyme to Read Book Club



Tuesday, December 5 at 6 PM

A Sand County Almanac: And Sketches Here and There
by Aldo Leopold



Tuesday, January 9 at 6 PM

Beatrix Potter's Gardening Life: The Plants and Places That Inspired the Classic Children's Tales
by Marta McDowell

No registration is required

For more information contact Hope Long, Library director, at 205-414-3931 or hlong@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.

Photography Series: Seasonal Series

Instructor: Hank Siegel

Saturday, November 18 | 9-noon

Birmingham Botanical Gardens

Members \$65 | Non-Members \$75

Instructor, Hank Siegel, will lead participants through the best practices of capturing an image that captures the passing of the seasons. You'll learn the techniques, tools and skills necessary to take visually stunning and interesting photographs through the creation of a seasonal series of landscapes/nature scenes. Class Requirements:

- Camera - a digital SLR or an advanced compact with Manual, Aperture and Shutter priority operational mode settings.
- A basic understanding of camera operations. Know how to use the different operational modes.
- Basic computer skills. Can download images from camera to computer and locate images once downloaded.

Louise Wrinkle Book Signing and Talk

Thursday, November 30. 5:30 p.m.

Birmingham Botanical Gardens

Please join us for the launch of Louise Agee Wrinkle's book, *Listen to the Land: Creating a Southern Woodland Garden*, at the Birmingham Botanical Gardens on Thursday, November 30, 2017. The reception begins at 5:30 p.m., with a presentation at 6 p.m. and book signing to follow. Attendance is free, but reservations are required. Guests are encouraged to pre-order their book by Tuesday, November 28, 2017. Books are \$35 for Members of Friends of Birmingham Botanical Gardens and \$40 for non-Members. All proceeds from this book sale will benefit Friends of Birmingham Botanical Gardens. Visitor bbgardens.org/wrinkle or call 205-414-3950. A limited number of books will be available for purchase at the event.

Owls Among Us: Winged Tigers of the Night!

For all ages- families are welcome.

Instructor: Greg Harber

Wednesday, December 6 | 6-7:30 p.m.

Birmingham Botanical Gardens

Individual Price: Members \$15 | Non-Members \$20

Family Price: \$20 (child + 1 adult) \$5 for each additional family member

Participants will learn which owl species are found in Alabama and in what season of the year. Some are year-round residents while others only occur here in winter. Learn how to identify each species by sight – and more importantly, by sound – and where and when to search for them. A walk through the gardens will follow the classroom session, during which we will put to use our newfound identification skills! Instructor: Greg Harber. Greg is a long-time member of Birmingham Audubon and currently serves as Field Trips committee chairman. He has many years of experience leading trips and teaching others about birds. His hobbies include nature photography, cycling and travel.

Rose Medicine Making

Instructor: Cameron Strouss

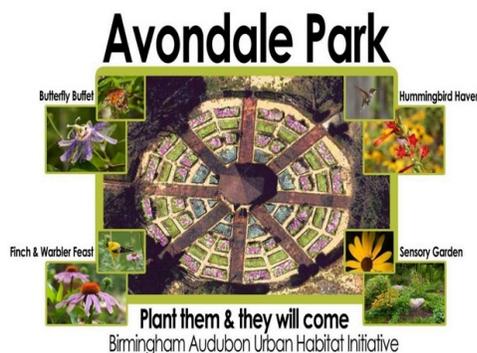
Saturday, December 9 | 10-11 a.m.

Birmingham Botanical Gardens

Members \$30 | Non-members \$35

The essence of a rose is profound and deeply understood cross-culturally. Please join Cameron Strouss on a Rose journey as we explore the history, energetic properties, and medicinal uses- internally and in topical applications. Class will showcase rose recipes as well as a class-made rose goodie! If you are a rose enthusiast this class will enable your addiction.

Volunteer Opportunities at Birmingham Botanical Gardens



Avondale Park is looking for Master Gardeners to volunteer with the

“Plant Them & They Will Come Garden.”

This historic garden is being transformed to attract pollinators. Visitors to the Garden will enjoy its seasonal beauty as well as the wildlife that supports the productivity and balance of the plants. **To volunteer, contact Adam Guthrie by [email](#) or at 205-868-3345. They also have a Facebook page.**

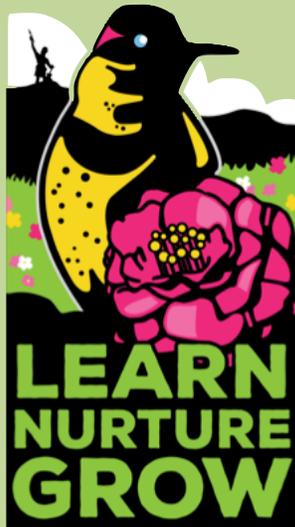
Do you know someone who would like to be a Master Gardener?

Applications are now being accepted for the 2018 Master Gardener class that will begin in January of 2018. Classes are held every Thursday (8:30 - 2:30), beginning on January 11th and wrapping up on April 19th. The application can be filled out online or downloaded at <http://www.jeffcomg.org>. You can print it and drop it off at the Extension Office at the Birmingham Botanical Gardens, or mail it to Annette Drummond at Extension Office, The Birmingham Botanical Gardens, 2612 Lane Park Road, Birmingham, AL 35223. For questions, please call Annette at (205) 879-6964 x10 or email Bethany O’Rear at bethany@aces.edu.

If you are a Jefferson County Master Gardener who is interested in becoming a speaker, you can email Hope Long at hlong@bbgardens.org or call her at 205-414-3931. Please provide your contact information and your topics. You will be asked to write something short about yourself and your topics for your Speaker’s page. You can look through what some of the other speakers have written. We look forward to hearing from you.

We’re on the Web! Visit us at <https://jeffcomg.org>

If you have information about volunteer activities or upcoming events send submissions and pictures to Diane Remick at dmremick@charter.net or by texting to 205-218-8880.



! Save The Date !

ALABAMA MASTER GARDENERS

2018 STATE CONFERENCE

BIRMINGHAM

MAY 3-5, 2018

THE SHERATON

DOWNTOWN BIRMINGHAM



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

Master Gardeners

We have a *Jefferson County Master Gardener* FACEBOOK page and a *Jefferson County Cooperative Extension System* FACEBOOK page. This is an easy process. Go to our website: jeffcomg.org. On the right hand side of the page you will see several icons. Scroll down to the Facebook icons and click on each one. When the page comes up, hit the "like" button.