

JULY 2016



Roots and Shoots

Carol Cook Hagood, Editor

President's Message

Summer is heating up! I have to admit that gardening hours at my house have gotten much earlier in the day! Garden volunteer needs are peaking with the temperatures all around our area. Consider some early-hour volunteering if you are available. Please read this and other notices in this newsletter and participate where you have skills and talents.

Regarding state meetings.....

- The planning group for the September 29 state meeting needs your help. Please let them know if you are able to volunteer for the meeting. Signup sheets will be available at the July JCMGA meeting. Help is needed for registration, hospitality, facility and speaker coordination, etc.
- You may want to start planning now for the **seed exchange** which the Huntsville group is starting for the May 2017 conference. Watch for details on the Alabama Master Gardener website. We will share more, here, as well. It will be May 1-3, 2017.

JCMGA happenings....

- Watch for **meeting location** notices. We will be moving around the BBG for the next few months for our regular meetings. Thank you for your patience.....we are meeting at the usual time (2nd Tuesday, 10 a.m.) at the BBG, just not always in the same place! This month, we are back in the **Auditorium!**
- Christopher Pugh has agreed to lead our community service project intake and review process. Please give him your support as we go forward putting that into action.
- We had two special and very informative programs in June. Thanks to James Horton and Mike Rushing for programs that were very relevant and informative.

Most know by now that Fred Spicer has left the BBG. **The search for a new Executive Director** is now underway. The plant groups' volunteers were invited to meet on Monday, June 27 to select a volunteer to represent these groups on the search committee and to provide input into the skills needed in the new Executive Director. John Floyd is chairing the search committee and representing the BBG Trustees.

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JCMGA July Program Notes

Welcome Summer!!!

Let me first take a moment to thank all of the Master Gardeners, interns, friends, and neighbors for the really nice turn-out at our June 21st evening meeting. "36" was a good show of good spirit!

Tuesday, July 12
9 a.m. Social Hour, 10 a.m. Meeting
BBG Auditorium

Speaker: Dr. Jim Jacobi
Director, BBG
Topic: Pathologist's Choice
The Study of the Nature and Effect of Disease

You may have noticed Jim is a quiet man with a wonderful smile. He is an employee of ACES as an extension plant pathologist. Jim backs this up with a B. S. in forestry from the University of Vermont, an M.S. in forest pathology from Clemson University, and a Ph.D. in plant pathology from Auburn University.

For the past 16 years, he has managed the plant diagnostic laboratory at the Birmingham Botanical Gardens. As you can see, we are in good hands.

Now is the time to make a few notes on questions you might have for Jim, with such a wonderful opportunity to get the best answers.

Come at 9 a.m. for the Social Hour, and bring along a friend, neighbor, or family member. All are welcome. If you have time, you might also bring along something you like to eat to share with all of us.

Hope you all had a safe and happy Fourth of July. God bless America.

Pat

Pat Cosgrove, First Vice President

Bethany's Extension Extras

Class Reunion Fun!

Just before the start of summer's busy schedules, Jefferson County Master Gardeners from the class of Winter 2015 met for a garden tour at the home of fellow classmate Jarry Taylor. Flower-shaped cookies and iced tea were just the beginning of treats in store for the garden tour. Jarry and his wife, Janet, also a Jefferson County Master Gardener, welcomed garden enthusiasts to enjoy the plantings and hardscape they have developed over the past 10 years. Many thanks, Jarry and Janet, for opening your home and garden and renewing friendships with Master Gardeners.



How about a reunion for *your* Master Gardener class? You can start by emailing or calling a classmate, and inviting them to join you at the next Jefferson County Master Gardener meeting. If your class plans a get-together, be sure to take a photo and send my way. Better still, invite me to join you!

Publication Spotlight: Backyard Tracking

Home gardeners likely fall into one of two categories: either feeding and encouraging wildlife, or shooing unwanted wildlife away. Regardless of your passion or frustration over wildlife in your garden, critters wander or fly into your shared space. Here's a publication, [Beginning Backyard Tracking](#), to give you some guidelines for examining the footprints left behind by wildlife around your home. Summer days may be just the right time to set up a simple animal tracking space so that you may discover more from the clues left behind. Maybe your grandchild or young neighbor will join in the fun as you collect what's left behind by animals visiting your backyard.

Be sure to share your backyard tracking experience on our Jefferson County Master Gardeners FaceBook page. We always like to see what's going on in your garden!

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

(Extension Extras, continued)

Summer Plant Propagation Workshop

Like most home gardeners, you surely have favorite plants growing throughout your garden. But sometimes propagating those favorites can become a challenge.

Join me along with other Master Gardeners for a summer propagation workshop and learn how to successfully propagate some of your favorite plants! Mark your calendar for **Tuesday, July 19**. Check in begins at **8:30 a.m.**, and the morning workshop runs from **9 a.m.-12 p.m.** The class will meet at Birmingham Botanical Gardens, room assignment TBD. To register for this class, contact Annette Drummonds at 879-6964, x10, or Bethany O'Rear at bethany@aces.edu.

Registration fee is \$10, payable to ACES, and due by Friday, July 15.

(President's Message, continued from page 1)

There will be six other members, including Mike Rushing, who was nominated and elected by those present at the 6/27 meeting as representative from the volunteers.

The Search committee will post its activities on the BBG website, so that all may follow what is going on.

The BBG is a special place to many of us and needs a special leader. If you have information about a potential candidate, you are encouraged to contact John Floyd or one of the committee members. We'll have more information on this at the July JCMGA Meeting.

I will miss seeing you at the July meeting. Pat Cosgrove will be leading it in my absence. I'm about to have some long-avoided shoulder surgery, and look forward to seeing you again in August.

Ann Gray

Ann Gray Harvey, President

Treasurer's Report

June 2016

Beginning balance June 1, 2016	\$11,052.29
Deposits	\$639.12
Disbursements	(None)
Ending balance June 30, 2016	<u>\$11,691.41</u>

--- Tom Douglass, Treasurer

June 2016 Minutes

Jefferson County Master Gardeners Association Meeting – June 14, 2016

The regular monthly meeting of the JCMGA was held on June 14, 2016 at the Birmingham Botanical Gardens (BBG). President Ann Gray Harvey called the meeting to order at 10 a.m.

Ann Gray welcomed everyone, and reminded everyone to sign in.

Secretary's Report: Ann Gray Harvey asked for a motion to accept the minutes of the May 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: The Treasurer's reports for both April and May were published in the May *Roots & Shoots*. A motion was made to accept as submitted. The motion was seconded and unanimously approved by the membership.

President's Report: Ann Gray reminded members to update their Garden Interests and Gardening Skills in the "My Page" tab of the jeffcomg.com website.

- The Fall AMGA meeting will be hosted by us on September 29 at the BBG. Volunteers are needed to help and sign-up sheets for room setting, hospitality, coordinating audio/visual, tallying bid sheets, and others are available. Gail Pless is the Committee Chairperson; Rosemary Hernandez was present to solicit volunteers. The theme is "No Place Like Home," and the meeting will feature our hometown talents. Ann Gray noted that, as per usual for state meetings, even volunteers must pay to attend; the fee stands at \$35. Gail noted that registration will begin on July 15.
- Ann Gray announced that the spring 2017 AMGA meeting will be in Huntsville and will feature a "seed exchange." Members are encouraged to capture seeds now; info is on the Alabama Master Gardener website.
- Ann Gray stated that in the Bylaw update for the nominating committee, the JCMGA Past President will serve as chairman, with the committee also including two members who have served as JCMGA officers or committee chairs in the past, and 2 members at large. Article 6 was made available in writing, with both the existing and the proposed wording. A copy of the changes is attached to these minutes (*see following page of newsletter*).
- The Alabama Master Gardener Store is now open. See the AMGA website.
- Badges that weren't given out previously will be available at the next evening meeting.
- The Fern Show is June 15; bring your fern fronds to be judged from 8-10 a.m. Sale starts at 1p.m.

Committee Reports:

Hospitality: none at this time.

Education and Speakers: none at this time.

Membership: Dues may be sent by mail to the Treasurer; check volunteer website directory for Tom Douglass' address.

Communications: none at this time.

Community Service: Taylor Steele stated that volunteers were needed due to short staffing, especially with watering every Saturday and Sunday. Also assistance in deadheading and pruning of roses is needed, possibly on Monday or Thursday mornings (Tuesdays are spray days). The Rose Society could possibly help with this.

Taylor announced the presence of a Rotary intern, and asked that members please welcome Rachel Martin.

Taylor also announced that John Floyd and Jeannie Sherlock are providing leadership as the BBG begins the search for its next Executive Director; John Floyd will chair a search committee for BBG's next director. On Monday, June 27, from 4-5 p.m. in the Linn Henley Auditorium, there will be an Open Forum meeting. The various plant group volunteers are invited and will be asked to select one person to represent this group as a representative, in order to have 7 members on the committee. Taylor will send out a letter about the Open Forum meeting.

Program:

The program speaker for this meeting was James Horton. James presented information about poisonous snakes and herbicides, and shared slides of beautiful garden designs and flowers. Handouts on "First Aid for a Poisonous Snake Bite" and "Herbicide Classification" were distributed.

The meeting adjourned at 11:35 and James invited the group to Greenhouse #9.

CEUs for this meeting will be 1.5.

Acting Secretary Debbie Dumais, for Kathy Rostand

**Attachment to June 2016 JCMGA Minutes of Regular Meeting June 14, 2016,
regarding Proposed Change to Bylaws, Article VI**

Article VI, Section 1: *(current statement)*

A Nominating Committee of three (3) members, nominated from the floor, shall be elected at the September meeting. A plurality vote shall elect. The President shall appoint an alternate. Members of the Nominating Committee shall elect their chairperson. Members of the Nominating Committee shall not succeed themselves.

Proposed change to statement:

A Nominating Committee of five (5) members, shall be elected at the September meeting. The current Past-President shall serve as one of the members and as Chairperson. Two (2) members shall be former officers or committee chair persons. Two (2) members shall be nominated from the floor. The President may appoint an alternate. Members of the Nominating Committee shall not succeed themselves, with the exception of the Chair when a President is serving two terms.

**Minutes of the Jefferson County Master Gardeners Association
Evening Meeting – June 14, 2016**

The evening meeting of the JCMGA was held on June 21, 2016 at the Birmingham Botanical Gardens (BBG). President Ann Gray Harvey called the meeting to order at 6 p.m.

President's Report and Announcements:

Ann Gray reminded members to check their information in "My Page" on the JCMGA website and to update their Garden interests and Volunteer interests.

Volunteers are needed to help with the Fall AMGA meeting to be held on September 29 at the BBG. Ann Gray asked members to sign up on the available sheets. All speakers for the meeting are JeffCo Master Gardeners. The organizing committee wants photographs of your gardens. Send photos of hydrangeas to David Doggett and other photographs to Gail Pless or Rosemarie Fernandez.

The Spring AMGA meeting will be held in Huntsville. A seed exchange is planned for the meeting, so save seeds this Fall and Winter.

Members were encouraged to read proposed bylaw changes; written copies were provided. *(Ed. Note: see above.)*

If you have not picked up your gold or platinum card or your star please contact Ken Hall. The "Plant Propagation" workshop will be held at the Gardens on July 19th from 9AM until noon.

Program: Mike Rushing presented a talk on "Growing Old in the Garden." He offered good advice on how to adjust to changes in ourselves as well as in our gardens over time.

The meeting adjourned at 7 p.m.

A door prize was given.

This program is approved for 1 CEU.

Kathy Rostand, Secretary

Upcoming Events at Aldridge Gardens

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

Landscape Your Own Backyard

Thursday, July 21, 6 - 8 p.m. (Rain date Thursday, July 28)

Tour and Talk: Sid McLean, DIY "Backyard Landscaper"

Location: Less than 3 miles from the Gardens (directions upon registration)

\$15 Members/\$20 Non-Members Bring your own bottle of wine if you wish. Seminar limited to 20.

Come join us and take advantage of this rare opportunity to see and hear about the transformation of the backyard of Hoover resident and Aldridge Gardens member, Sid McLean. Sid has offered to share a look at his property to those interested in the steps he took to make his backyard look like a glimpse out of *Southern Living!*

He added a pool, an outdoor kitchen, and striking landscape plantings. Feel free to bring your own bottle of wine or other beverage to enjoy while Sid gives us a tour and tells about how he changed a yard full of only trees to his finished product. Please pre-register at <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

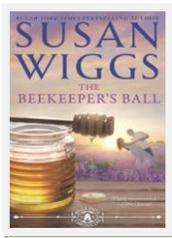
For more information, visit www.bbgardens.org/library.

Art Gallery News

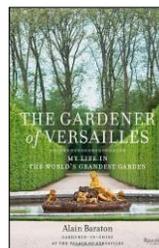
The work of the Crest Drive Glass Collective will be displayed throughout July and August.

An artists' reception will be held on July 15 from 5:30-7:30 p.m., with 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, July 12, at 6 p.m. in the Library at BBG to discuss *The Beekeeper's Ball* by Susan Wiggs.



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.

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 has an immediate need for additional volunteers on Wednesdays (9-1), 1st Saturdays (1-4), 3rd Saturdays (1-4), 4th Saturdays (10-1 and 1-4), and 5th Saturdays (10-1 and 1-4). Contact Taylor Steele, 205-414-3962 or tsteele@bbgardens.org for information and a volunteer application.

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: Oh Deer...

Speaker: Andy Baril - Alabama Cooperative Extension System

Wednesday, July 13, 2016 | 11:30-12:30 p.m.

Free program. Bring your lunch; drink and dessert provided.

Learn strategies on how to prevent certain wildlife from ruining your yard or garden.

Memorable Images, Instructor: Hank Siegel

Saturday, July 9, 2016| 9-noon and Saturday, July 16, 2016| 9-noon

Members \$100|Non-Members \$120

Join instructor Hank Siegel for this two part course on how to capture those magical Summer moments from kids first full day outside to Weddings! This class is designed to introduce the student to basic concepts in photography and digital camera operations.

Botanical Beauty Secrets: Summer Hair Care, Saturday, July 23, 2016|10-noon

AND Botanical Beauty Secrets: Summer Skin Care, Saturday, August 27, 2016|10-noon

Single Class: Members: \$30|Non-members: \$35, Both Classes: Members: \$50|Non-members: \$60

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. Hair care products in the July class will include a restorative mask, a smoothing serum and a texturizing sea salt spray. Skin care products in the August class will include a nourishing sunscreen, a cooling sunburn salve and a bug repelling spray.

Register for both classes at once and receive a \$10 discount.

Lunch & Learn: Better Veggies

Speaker: William "Captain Compost" Cureton

Wednesday, July 27, 2016 | 11:30-12:30 p.m.

Location: Birmingham Botanical Gardens

Free program. Bring your lunch; drink and dessert provided.

From soil to harvest, learn how to grow wholesome food.

Flora Photography, Instructor: Hank Siegel

Saturday, July 30, 2016| 9-1 p.m.

Members \$60|Non-Members \$75

Spring has sprung and this class is designed to teach the student how to capture images of the plants - shrubs, flowers, and trees - specific to the Birmingham Botanical Gardens.

Need to bring:

-Your digital camera (preferably an SLR or high end digital compact or bridge camera with functions that go beyond "Full Auto".

-A tripod (if you have one - not essential for the class)

The Art of Soy Candle Making, Instructor: Brittney Stallworth of Scents From Heaven

July 31, 2016|2-5 p.m.

Members \$20|Non-members \$25

The Art of Soy Candle Making class will take you step by step in how to handcraft highly fragrant soy candles at home. Everyone will be able to take home a newly crafted candle and all of your tools will be provided for you!

So what are you waiting for; register today!

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 this, or any other CNPS offerings.)

Mushrooms, Mycorrhizae, Magic and Madness: An Introduction to Mycology
Instructor: Juan Luis Mata, Ph.D., Department of Biology, University of South Alabama

Location: Birmingham Botanical Gardens

Saturday, July 9, 2016 | 12:30-4:30 p.m.

Members \$40 | Non-Members \$45

The study of fungi is an immense field. This class will focus on the macrofungi, which include any type of fungal reproductive structure that is evident to the naked eye. Recognition of the major groups of macrofungi will be taught with special attention to those forming beneficial symbiotic relationships with plants. After an introductory lecture - participants will collect specimens in The Gardens for detailed examination and hands-on learning. Final remarks on macrofungal ecology, diversity and importance, and useful tips - will conclude the class.

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.

Volunteer Opportunities with John Manion

Volunteer Workdays: Kaul Wildflower Garden Curator John Manion will lead volunteer sessions in the Kaul Wildflower Garden on July 5, 7, 12, 14, 19, 21, 26, and 28.

For more information, write John Manion at jmanion@bbgardens.org.

Roots& Shoots P.S.: A SPECIAL NOTE to Parents and Grandparents---

Be sure to explore these exciting Summer Camp opportunities for children at BBG!

Register online at www.bbgardens.org or, for more information (including details on an additional yoga-based adventure July 18-22), call Ellen Hardy at 205-414-3953.

Young Artists in The Gardens (for children entering grades 3-6), Instructor: Donna Long, B.S. Elementary Education
Monday-Friday, July 11-15 | 9-1 p.m. Location: Birmingham Botanical Gardens, Members* \$160 | Non-Members \$200

Explore a new garden each day to see and experience life in The Gardens in living color. We will draw our discoveries while out in The Gardens. Dip your brush in watercolor, craft a summer mosaic, and even create your own special painting on canvas-- tons of creative, colorful fun!

Get Growing: The Tiny Seed (for children ages 4-5 years), Instructor: Sheryl Lee, Masters Early Childhood Education
Monday-Friday, July 25-29 | 9-1 p.m. Location: Birmingham Botanical Gardens, Members* \$160 | Non-Members \$200

Explore The Gardens and investigate plants and plant growth through *The Tiny Seed* by Eric Carle. Arts, crafts, and fun included! Students Engaging Exploring Developing Seeds!

Gardening in Wonderland (for children entering grades 3-6), Instructor: Mildred Henderson, Masters Elementary Education
Monday-Friday, July 25-29 | 9-1 p.m. Location: Birmingham Botanical Gardens, Members* \$160 | Non-Members \$200

Discover botany through designing and modeling! Curious gardeners research garden design, browse photos, draw blueprints, learn types of garden landscaping, and how to maintain a garden. Design and plant your own garden to take home and grow! All aspects of gardening will be aligned with State and National Standards for grades 3-6. Campers will earn a certificate of achievement!

Summer camp shirts included. * Become a member, Hydrangea Level or above, and save 20%!

Add native plants to your garden, and attract more pollinators!



Mark your calendar now for this upcoming opportunity---

BBG Native Plant Group Summer Pollinator Sale

When: Tuesday, August 9, 9 am till Noon

Where: Birmingham Botanical Gardens outdoor Arrington Plant Adventure Zone
(left inside the Main Entrance and exit door past classrooms)

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

Plants:

<u>Botanical Name</u>	<u>Common Name (Butterfly Host) - Exposure</u>	<u>Size</u>	<u>Price</u>
Asclepias tuberosa	Butterfly Weed (Monarch host) - sun	3.5"	\$5.00
Echinacea purpurea	Purple Coneflower - sun/part shade	quart	\$5.00
Eutrochium 'Gateway'	'Gateway' Joe Pye Weed - sun/part shade	quart/gallon	\$5.00/\$6.00
Lobelia cardinalis	Cardinal Flower - sun/part shade	quart/gallon	\$5.00/\$6.00
Lobelia siphilitica	Blue Lobelia - part sun	quart/gallon	\$5.00/\$6.00
Passiflora incarnata	Passion Vine (Gulf Fritillary host) - sun/part shade	quart	\$5.00
Salvia coccinea	Red Salvia, annual, reseeds - sun	3.5"	\$4.00
Vernonia fasciculata	Ironweed (American Painted Lady Host) - sun/part	quart	\$5.00
Vernonia 'IronButterfly'	Dwarf Texas Ironweed' - sun/part sun	quart	\$5.00



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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