



Carol Cook Hagood, Editor

## President's Message

Wow! What a month of activities for our members.....harvesting summer gardens, planting fall gardens, working with school groups around the county, talking with organizations, gearing up for fall events, volunteering for community events and fundraisers which benefit gardens and environmental issues. There is so much going on!

**AMGA:** Deep thanks to Gail Pless, Rosemarie Fernandes, Ann Katholi, and Kathy Connolly for their leadership of the fall AMGA conference held in Birmingham on Sept 29. Roger Clarke set up the registration system. Mary Jo Quintana, Fletcher Harvey, Sally Price and David Doggett led various groups and spoke at the meeting. Along with these people, there were a number of volunteers who supported the event in so many ways.

Thank you ALL for your efforts which produced a well-received educational meeting for our colleagues from around Alabama.

**Turkey Creek:** Our own Christopher Pugh teamed with Charles Yeager to lead our September meeting at Turkey Creek Preserve. What a beautiful place and huge effort to balance the mixed mission of preservation and community recreation!

A special thanks to Martha and Maurice Picardy and the hospitality team for making sure that there was cold water for our hot day there! Thanks to those who shared that day and for all who support and volunteer at similar locations.

**Vegetable Garden teams:** Tons (literally) of fresh food has been made available to community agencies, schools, cancer survivors, churches and other groups.

For those who guide, advise and teach vegetable gardening – a huge bow of gratitude.

**Speakers, media development and telephone support:** So many have been willing to share time and information through speaking to groups, developing content for sharing or answering the GPIC telephones for the extension service.

Thanks to all who share themselves in this way.

**Fall Plant Sale and Antiques in the Gardens:** So many of our group are involved in the preparation and execution of the events which fund and support one of our most special community assets: the Birmingham Botanical Gardens.

Thanks to all!

*(Continued on page 2)*

## JCMGA October Program Notes

**Tuesday, October 11**

**9 a.m. Social Hour, 10 a.m. Meeting**

**Location: BBG Auditorium**

**Speaker: Bethany O'Rear**

**Topic: New Apps,**

**along with a short presentation  
regarding Harvest for Health**

Please come for the annual business meeting. We need your input for your Master Gardeners group. Remember, if you don't come and contribute, you can't complain later.

Bring along a friend, neighbor or family member. Bring along a snack to share. Bring along some good ideas for the Master Gardeners group! This will be our last regular meeting in 2016.

The November meeting will be the graduation of the 2016 Master Gardeners class—a proud time for all. We are proud also to have Dolores Hydock as our entertainment. The date and time for graduation this year will be Tuesday evening, November 15, at 6 p.m., and the location will be the BBG Auditorium. Be sure to join us, and your guest (or guests) will be most welcome, too. The cost of the graduation dinner is \$15 per person, and can be included, if you like, in the Master Gardener dues check (or cash) now due to our treasurer, Tom Douglass (more about that on page 2.)

Fall is here...but it does not feel like Fall. All the falling leaves are due to drought, not cool weather. Water your lawns and gardens and hope for rain soon.

**Pat**

Pat Cosgrove, First Vice President

### Bethany's Extension Extras

#### Master Gardener meetings: Let's get together!

Our state conference in September gave us a great time to be together, as Jefferson County Master Gardeners welcomed folks from all around Alabama to our terrific city. I hope to continue seeing you at our monthly Master Gardener meetings.

On October 11, I will be presenting the program on great apps for garden planning and planting. I sure hope you'll join me and bring a friend! Our meetings and workshops are terrific opportunities for us to get to know each other better while we improve gardening skills and share our gardening knowledge.

#### Spotlight on Pansies

Fall is here, and so are trays of colorful pansies! Who can resist lingering over the varieties of colors that are showing up at your favorite garden shop! Planted alone or among your fall vegetables, pansies continue to give us a burst of freshness throughout the fall, winter, and early spring.

Click [here](#) to find some tips about growing these irresistible flowering reminders of a changing season.

#### BBG Fall Plant Sale is almost here!

At last, it's almost time for the annual BBG Fall plant sale! Here are the details, from the BBG website:

“On October 22-23, The Gardens will host its annual Fall Plant Sale in its Blount Plaza – welcoming patrons with opportunities to purchase herbs, sustainable trees, fall annuals, shrubs, natives, perennials and more, while benefiting The Gardens’ mission to promote public knowledge and appreciation of plants, gardens and the environment.

On Saturday, The Gardens’ Fall Plant Sale will be open to the public 9 a.m.-5 p.m. On Sunday, hours are Noon-4 p.m.”

*As always, many members of the Jefferson County Master Gardeners Association will be among the hardworking volunteers helping to make the annual Fall Plant Sale a resounding success!*

#### 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
August 9 (David Doggett)	1.25 CEUs
September 13 (tour of Turkey Creek Preserve)	2.0 CEUs
September 20 (Henry Hughes)	1.25 CEUs

*(President's Message, continued from page 1)*

There are so many who should be celebrated. Please take a minute to talk to fellow members at our meetings, share what you are doing and learn about others' volunteer activities. Please watch for Bethany's focus on volunteers in her "Extension Extras" notes, as well. Congratulations to E.W. Phillips on his work, featured by Bethany in September's *Roots and Shoots*.

**Replacement Badges:** Please see Ken Hall if you need a replacement badge; payment for these is required prior to October 31. Ken also has information about replacing stars or special award badges.

**Dues are Due** Master Gardener dues for the upcoming year are due now, and are \$35 (\$25 for JCMGA membership and \$10 for state). In time we plan to include a Paypal link on the JCMGA website for easy online payment; but, for now, dues are payable by check or cash, delivered to our treasurer Tom Douglass. You can bring payment to our next meeting, send it by mail (check the MG directory for Tom's address), or drop by the Extension office at BBG and leave your payment with Annette for Tom to pick up.

Our new slate of officers will be presented for election at the October meeting. I hope you will be there to learn about them. This is a wonderful group of people doing special work and it has been a privilege to learn more about their work.

See you on October 11!

**Ann Gray**

Ann Gray Harvey, President

#### Treasurer's Report

##### September 2016

Beginning balance September 1, 2016	\$14,165.83
Deposits	\$1,970.00
Disbursements	1,545.00
Ending balance September 30, 2016	<u>\$14,590.83</u>

--- Tom Douglass, Treasurer

## September 2016 Minutes

### Jefferson County Master Gardeners Association Meeting – September 13, 2016

The regular monthly meeting of the JCMGA was held on September 13, 2016 at Turkey Creek Nature Preserve. The meeting was called to order by President Ann Gray Harvey at 10:10 a.m. The sign-up sheet was passed around. We had four visitors.

The Minutes and the Treasurer's Report from the previous meeting were approved as published in the newsletter.

#### **Announcements:**

The Alabama Master Gardeners will hold a one day seminar on September 29 at the Birmingham Botanical Gardens. A number of the presenters are JCMGA members. The cost is \$35 with lunch included. We have reached the break-even point in registration, but there is room for additional attendees.

The Native Plant Sale is preceding the Fall Plant Sale. Group orders can be made. All orders must be greater than \$200. Check the website and Facebook pages for added information.

There will be a seminar on GMO plants on September 20. No charge.

Volunteers are needed for the Moss Rock Festival, which takes place the first week in November.

Volunteers are also needed for "Antiques in the Gardens", the first week in October. Please contact Heather Oliver if you are interested and able. Heather's email is [hooliver@bbg.org](mailto:hooliver@bbg.org).

Roger Clarke submitted the names of the nominating committee: Ric Cybulsky, Mindy Bodenhamer, Fletcher Harvey, Ann Gray Harvey, Bruce Steele, and Hope Cooper. They were approved.

President Harvey stated that although the Master Gardeners "do not do politics," we should all read Amendment #2 on Alabama ballots in the November 8 election, as it affects funding for Alabama State Parks.

There were no other committee reports.

We were adjourned for the program and walking tour of the Preserve.

### Jefferson County Master Gardeners Association Evening Meeting – September 20, 2016,

The JCMGA evening meeting on September 20, 2016 took place at the Birmingham Botanical Gardens. No official business meeting was held.

BBG Director of Education Henry Hughes presented a program on Shades Creek.

Hope Cooper for Kathy Rostand, Secretary

The 2016 AMGA Fall Seminar, *There's No Place Like Home!*, produced by the Jefferson County Master Gardeners, took place Thursday, September 29, at the Birmingham Botanical Gardens.

Here are just a few of the special moments that made this event so memorable. More photos will soon be available on the JCMGA website.



## Upcoming Events at Aldridge Gardens

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

**Sensory Handmade Soaps! Tuesday, Oct 18, 6 - 8:30 p.m.**

**Instructors: Julie Morrow & Amanda Ray, Soap Crafters**

**\$30 Members/\$40 Non-Members (includes materials fee and 4 soaps)**

**Workshop limited to 18; pre-registration required.**

Learn several fun techniques for creating your own handmade soaps. (Soaps you can make for Christmas and Holiday gifts!) Soap Crafters Julie Morrow and Amanda Ray will demonstrate “old fashioned” soap making using the cold process method. First will be a demo on how to make a basic exfoliating kitchen soap using ingredients from your pantry. The second demo will show more advanced techniques including multi-colored soap batter and swirls. Students will receive a bar from each batch of cold process soap that was made during class via mail 4-5 weeks later after it has fully cured. Next, you will have the opportunity to create two bars of melt and pour soap to take home and enjoy immediately or give as gifts. Let creativity run wild experimenting with happy colors, scents, herbs, and additives. Detailed hand-outs with recipes, tips & techniques plus info on sourcing supplies will be included so you may continue making handcrafted soaps at home. Please wear cleaning/work clothes to have a good time.

**Creepy, Crawly Spiders of Alabama (Just in Time for Halloween), Family or Individual Seminar**

**Monday, October 24, 2016. Rain Date: Wednesday, October 26 6:30 – 8:30 p.m.**

**Instructor: Dr. Drew Hataway, Biology Department, Samford University**

**Members: Adult \$12. Child \$5. Family (parents or grandparents with children, \$22)**

**Non-Members: Adult \$15. Child \$7. Family (parents or grandparents with children, \$28)**

Learn about the fascinating world of spiders from a scholar in the life sciences. Dr. Hataway will discuss his experiences with spiders both in the wild and in the laboratory, and bring some interesting arachnids to view up close. Learn how to distinguish venomous from non-venomous spiders. Bring flashlights for a fun-filled field trip after class in search of harmless wolf spiders on the grounds of Aldridge Gardens. Come join us for a spiderific evening in a great family-oriented seminar for young and old alike (but not for the faint of heart!) Each child will receive a spider ring!

*To volunteer at Aldridge Gardens*, contact Phyllis Giles at 205-682-8019 or [volunteer@aldridgegardens.com](mailto:volunteer@aldridgegardens.com).

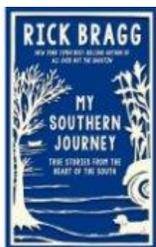
## News from the Library at Birmingham Botanical Gardens

For more information, visit [www.bbgardens.org/library](http://www.bbgardens.org/library).

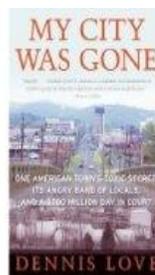
### Art Gallery News

The work of Lois Mash and Jane Reed Ross will continue on display in October.

### Thyme to Read Book Club:



The **Thyme to Read** book club met Tuesday, October 4, at 6 p.m. in the Library at BBG to discuss *My Southern Journey* by Rick Bragg.



The **Thyme to Read** book club will meet Tuesday, November 1 at 6 p.m. in the Library at BBG to discuss *My City Was Gone* by Dennis Love.

**Looking ahead:** The 2016 *Southern Tales at the Gardens* program ***Starch in Their Petticoats*** with Dolores Hydock and Bobby Horton will take place Sunday, November 6, at 2 p.m. in BBG's Linn Henley Lecture Hall. General admission is \$20. Get your tickets now at <http://www.bbgardens.org/southern-tales.php>.

### Library Volunteers Needed

The Library at The Gardens currently has volunteer opportunities available on the following days of each month: 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 (1-4 p.m.), and 3rd Sunday (2-5 p.m). If you're interested in volunteering at The Library, please contact Alice Moore at [amoore@bbgardens](mailto:amoore@bbgardens).

## Educational Opportunities at Birmingham Botanical Gardens

Register online at [www.bbgardens.org](http://www.bbgardens.org) or, for more information, call Dawn Coleman at 205-414-3958.

### **Lunch & Learn: Ask the Experts---Speakers TBD**

**Wednesday, October 11, 2016 | 11:30 a.m.-12:30 p.m.**

Free program. Bring your own lunch. Bring your garden related questions and ask the panel.  
Trees, turf, vegetables, soil, pests, and disease - our experts will have the answers!

**Instructor: Hank Siegel**

**Saturday, October 15, 2016 | 9 a.m.-1 p.m.**

**Members \$60|Non-Members \$75**

Autumn's colors are here and this class is designed to teach photographers how to capture images of the plants - shrubs, flowers, and trees - specific to Birmingham Botanical Gardens during this colorful time. The class is organized into five segments: *Equipment*...those things one must have and those that are nice to have; *Camera Setup*...how to setup 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.

Need to bring to class: 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).

### **Glorious Containers**

**Instructor: Gloria Clemmensen, Designer & Gardener**

**Saturday, October 15, 2016 | 9 a.m.-noon**

**Members \$15 | Non-Members \$20**

**Materials fee of 50.00 to be paid to instructor on day of class**

Think beyond your yard when planning a garden. Learn to plant beautiful containers like the ones you see in local plant shops, customized for your own garden setting. Create a vibrant and lush container garden with expert Gloria Clemmensen, who will present her favorite plants to use for containers, and tips on how to care for them. Topics to be covered include color and design principles, soil and planting techniques, plant selection and ideas for sun or shade, and tips for maintaining and keeping your planters looking great all season. *Special Note:* More details regarding demonstration kits available through Leaf & Petal will be provided soon.

### **Rose Medicinals**

**Instructors: Cameron Strouss and Antonia Viteri**

**Saturday, October 15, 2016 | 2-4 p.m.**

**\$35 General Admission**

The essences of a rose are profound and deeply understood cross-culturally. Join Antonia Viteri and Cameron Strouss on a Rose Journey as we explore the history, energetic properties, and medicinal uses--internally and in topical applications--of this glorious plant. 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.

### **Lunch & Learn: They're So Wicked**

**Speaker: Verna Gates**

**Wednesday, October 26, 2016 | 11:30 a.m.-12:30 p.m.**

Free program. Bring your own lunch.

Discover what plants are harmful or toxic, how to control them, and the folklore associated with them!

### **Marigolds: Flor de Muerto---Instructor TBD**

**Saturday, October 29 | 1-4 p.m.**

**Free, registration is required**

Come learn about the botanical and cultural history of marigolds, with a focus on their role in the Day of the Dead celebrations in Mexico and other Latin American countries. Marigolds, known in Nahuatl (an indigenous Mexican language) as *compasuchitl* (flor de muerto or "flower of the dead"), are used to adorn the elaborate altars erected during the Day the Dead. Participants will also learn how to make the beautiful tissue paper flowers and papel picado that can supplement real marigolds in Day of the Dead decorations.

## 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.)

#### **The Science and Art of Green Roofs (new elective)**

**Instructors: Ed Snodgrass, Proprietor, Emory Knoll Farms, Inc., Maryland, and Julie Price, Ph.D., Sustainability Coordinator, University of Alabama at Birmingham**

**Friday, October 14 | 8:30 a.m.-4:30 p.m.**

**Saturday, October 15 | 8:30 a.m.-12:30 p.m.**

**Location: Birmingham Botanical Gardens and other locations**

**Members: \$110 | Non-Members \$125**

All over the world, more and more green roofs are being installed on a variety of structures - ranging from dog houses and garden sheds to large industrial complexes. Replacing bare roof-tops with live plants accomplishes many purposes, among them: reducing the costs of power by forming a "natural" layer of insulation to regulate building temperatures; prevention of water run-off; aesthetics of plants, rather than bare surfaces; habitat for many living organisms, especially pollinators.

This event will begin in the classroom where participants will learn the basics of green roof design, installation and maintenance. Plant selection will be discussed and images of many green roofs around the world will be shown. The class will then visit green roofs in Birmingham, each different in scope. The following morning we will gather at a site nearby, where we will have a hands-on experience planting a green roof!

#### **The Beauty of Autumn on Lookout Mountain:**

**Waterfalls, Hemlock Forests, Glades and Bogs (field trip)**

**Trip Leaders: Tom Diggs Ph.D., Asst. Professor, University of North Georgia  
John Manion, Kaul Wildflower Garden Curator, Birmingham Botanical Gardens**

**Location: Near Mentone, AL**

**Friday, November 4 - Sunday, November 6.**

**\$175 Members | \$195 Non-members**

Two of Alabama's most spectacular destinations are adjacent to each other, making exploration of both convenient. These locations feature spectacular waterfalls, easily-navigable woodland trails, rock outcrop glades, several rare plants – including a population of rare pitcher plants. We have timed this trip when autumn color is usually at its peak. Both DeSoto State Park and Little River Canyon National Preserve sit atop Lookout Mountain. In addition to traversing the beautiful woodland trails of DeSoto State Park, we will make several stops along Little River Canyon Rim Scenic Drive to visit sandstone glades, scrubby woodlands and bogs.

We will begin the trip on Friday evening with a welcome reception dinner and drinks prepared by your trip leaders at one of the chalet's at Desoto. Also included is breakfast Saturday morning at the historic Mountain Inn Restaurant, located in the original Lodge built by the Civilian Conservation Corps during the mid-1930s, and nestled on a canyon-edge overlooking the West Fork of Little River. Other meals are on your own; there are several affordable choices in-and-around the park.

Participants are responsible for making their own lodging arrangements. The 3,502-acre DeSoto State Park provides a variety of lodging facilities, including mountain chalets, log and rustic cabins, motel rooms, campgrounds. Learn more about accommodations and make reservations at <http://www.alapark.com/desoto-state-park>.

Trip difficulty: Moderate (short to moderate walks through occasionally uneven or muddy grasslands and woodlands). Carpooling is encouraged. Trip details sent upon registration.

## Volunteer Opportunities with John Manion

**Volunteer Workdays:** Kaul Wildflower Garden Curator John Manion will lead volunteer sessions in the Garden on most Tuesday and Thursday mornings from 9 to 11:30 a.m. Also, in October, Friday morning propagation sessions will begin again. If interested in participating, contact John Manion at [jmanion@bbgardens.org](mailto:jmanion@bbgardens.org).

*Thanks to all the volunteers who made the  
AMGA Fall Seminar such a wonderful event!*



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](http://www.jeffcomg.org).**

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