

Roots and Shoots

OCTOBER 2014



Carol Cook Hagood, Editor

President's Message

Welcome to October! Fall festivals, Oktoberfest, Halloween, and the BBG Fall plant sale, then Fall / Winter gardening can really get into full swing. In my family it also marks the start of "birthday season," with seven birthdays to celebrate before New Year.

We will have a great October meeting on the 14th with the election of officers and a presentation by Lois Trigg Chaplin on edible landscapes. Lois is the author of *The Southern Gardener's Book of Lists*, which for me has been the one indispensable book for gardening in Alabama. I want to thank nominating committee members Natalie Lee, Dinah Sisson, Glenn Peoples, and chair Fletcher Harvey for agreeing to take on this job. I know they have been working hard – and the final nominations are secret, so you will have to be at the October meeting to be the first to hear the news and congratulate the nominees.

I know Ann mentions the November graduation banquet and 2015 dues in her report, but a second reminder never hurts. The graduation banquet is on Monday, November 3, at 6 p.m. We will celebrate our new 2014 Master Gardeners, 100 years of the Alabama Extension Service, and 50 years for the Birmingham Botanical Gardens. Banquet cost is \$12 per person.

While you are making out a check for the banquet, why not include 2015 dues of \$22 (\$10 state, \$12 Jefferson County). Bring your check to the October meeting, or mail it to me at 527 Greenbrier Way, Birmingham 35244, but please plan on attending.

I look forward to seeing you on the 14th.

Roger

Roger Clarke,
President

JCMGA October Program Notes

October 14, 10 a.m.

**Lois Trigg Chaplin of Bonnie Plants,
"Edible Landscaping"
Birmingham Botanical Gardens**

I'm having a gratitude moment as I write this – the weather is not as hot, not as humid, but it is still a wonderful time to be out and about in this part of the world. Fall and Spring are such special times, here. The weather is about to get me over my procrastination of all the garden calendar things that I should be doing but haven't gotten to, yet!

Our regular JCMGA monthly meeting will be on Tuesday, October 14, at 10 a.m., at the Birmingham Botanical Gardens. The speaker will be Lois Trigg Chaplin, of Bonnie Plants. We are very fortunate to have her join us to talk about "Edible Landscaping." Lois was formerly with *Southern Living*, and is also the author of one of my favorite references, *The Southern Gardener's Book of Lists: The Best Plants for All Your Needs, Wants, and Whims*. I hope you will be able to join us for this wonderful opportunity!

Mark your calendars for Monday, November 3, at 6 p.m., as well. Our annual graduation banquet will held that evening at the BBG. Please plan to bring your checks to the October 14th meeting if you have not already mailed payment. You will need to reserve a place for you and for any friends, partners, spouses or others you may want to include in the evening's festivities. We will be celebrating the 2014 Master Gardener Interns who have completed their course work and volunteer requirements. We will also have a program celebrating the anniversaries of both ACES (100th) and the BBG (50th) and the very special partnerships that have created the resources and opportunities we have at the BBG.

We look forward to seeing you on October 14th, and don't forget to bring your checkbook if you haven't already paid for the November meeting! Make it easy on yourself and add your dues to the meeting payment and be "all set" for next year! Dinner is \$12 per person, and you can write one check for the banquet and your 2015 dues: State dues are \$10, Jefferson County dues are \$12.

Ann Gray

Ann Gray Harvey,
First Vice President

Bethany's Extension Extra

Here are more interesting educational and service opportunities coming up for you in the months ahead:

From Bethany –

The Fall Plant Sale is just around the corner!

As usual, we plan to have a Master Gardener booth to answer questions, provide information, and spotlight all of the great things that you guys are doing. So, if you can fill any of the following slots, that would be great!

Saturday, 10/18

- 9-11 – one slot
- 11-1 – one slot
- 1-3 – two slots
- 3-5 – two slots

Sunday, 10/19

- 12-2 – two slots
- 2-4 – one slot

Please let me know ASAP if you can help us out!
Have a great day!

Getting JCMGA and Other ACES News from Facebook

If you use Facebook, remember that ACES in Jefferson County maintains two active Facebook pages, the [Jefferson County Master Gardener page](#) and the [Jefferson County Cooperative Extension page](#).

You can click on these links and “Like” the pages, and if you are on Facebook, you will then automatically receive updates being posted on these two pages.

Cumulative CEU Hours from 2014 Meetings

| | |
|--------------------------------------------------------------|---------|
| January 14 (James Horton) | 1.0 CEU |
| March 11 (Fred Spicer) | 1.0 CEU |
| April 8 (David Doggett) | 1.0 CEU |
| May 13 (Plant Swap with Linda Emerson and Leonora Robertson) | 1.0 CEU |
| June 10 (Japanese Gardens, Robert Wendorf) | 1.0 CEU |
| June 17 (Charlie Thigpen's Garden Gallery) | 1.0 CEU |
| July 8 (UAB speaker and Leonora Robertson) | 1.0 CEU |
| August 12 (Michelle Reynolds) | 1.0 CEU |
| September 9 (Don Ehrett) | 1.0 CEU |

Volunteer Needed for Girl Scout Garden Club

The Junior Garden Club powered by Girl Scouts is a unique Girl Scout opportunity that is based at the Birmingham Botanical Gardens and will utilize Girl Scout program materials, ACES program materials, and the resources of the Friends of the Birmingham Botanical Gardens to build on the talents and character of girls in grades 7 and up.

This troop is seeking a “troop leader” who will work as a liaison between the girl members, the Girl Scouts of North-Central Alabama, and the adults at the Birmingham Botanical Gardens. This individual would help to establish service and learning projects for the girls, with assistance from the previously mentioned groups.

There are currently three co-leaders and one dedicated council staff person who will be assisting directly with this troop. Meetings will be held once a month. The leader is requested to attend all or part of this meeting. The term of appointment is one year.

The candidate should have experience working with teens or young adults, be enthusiastic about learning and service, and have a background in plants and/or conservation. Must complete a volunteer application and pass a background check. The troop will cover registration and start-up fees.

The Girl Scouts of North-Central Alabama is a certified partner in the President's Volunteer Service Award program.

If you are interested in learning more about this exciting volunteer opportunity, contact Danielle Dowell at 205-492-7455.

Treasurer's Report

August 2014/ September 2014

| | |
|-----------------------------------|---------|
| Beginning balance August 28, 2014 | \$8,721 |
| Received | \$536 |
| Disbursements | \$123 |
| Ending balance September 29, 2014 | \$9,134 |

---Submitted by Roger Clarke

September 2014 Minutes

Jefferson County Master Gardener's Meeting – September 9, 2014

This meeting was a field trip to Don Ehrett's home and the program was a trip through his "Dahlia Patch."

The meeting was called to order by President Roger Clarke. The Minutes of the previous meeting and the September Treasurer's Report were approved.

President Clarke announced that Lisa Ennis, our Treasurer, has accepted a new job in Dothan and has tendered her resignation. President Clarke will assume the Treasurer's duties until a new person can be elected.

President Clarke presented a slate for the Nominating Committee: Natalie Lee, Dinah Sessions, and Glenn Peoples. Hope Cooper made a motion to accept the slate. Seconded by Bruce Steele. The motion was approved. Fletcher Harvey was appointed as the representative of the President and he was named as the Chair of the Committee. The Committee is to present a slate of candidates for 2015 officers at our next meeting.

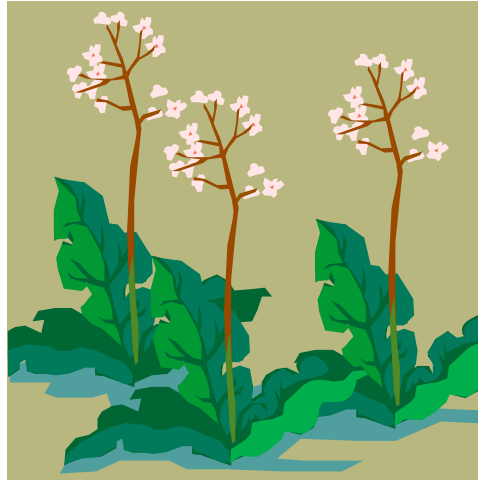
The meeting was adjourned.

Respectfully submitted,
Hope I. Cooper, Secretary



These photos of the trip to Don Ehrett's garden were taken from our wonderful JCMGA website.
For more photos of the event, go to the website at <http://jeffcomg.org>.

Fall Plant Sale at BBG October 18-19



(from a BBG press release)

Fall Plant Sale Offers Great Selection at the Best Time to Plant **Proceeds from Sale to Benefit Birmingham Botanical Gardens' Educational Mission**

On October 18-19, 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. Proceeds from the sale help fulfill this mission through programs like Discovery Field Trips, Plant Adventures and our Public Library, among many more. On Saturday, The Gardens' Fall Plant Sale will be open to the public 9-5 p.m. On Sunday, hours are Noon-4 p.m.

Trees available for purchase at this year's Fall Plant Sale have once again been selected especially for Birmingham's climate and condition. They have proven easy-to-grow, free of injurious insect and disease pests and both heat and drought tolerant. Choose from long-lived native trees, which add to local biodiversity, and non-invasive exotics. Fall Plant Sale will also offer a carefully selected and diverse collection of native and non-native plants that are good host plants for butterflies. For a partial list of available plants for purchase, please visit www.bbgardens.org/fallplantsale. Not all plants that will be available are listed on the site.

Upcoming Events at Aldridge Gardens

Find more information at www.aldridgegardens.com.

TASTE OF HOOVER 2014

Thursday, October 16, 5 - 8 p.m.

The *Taste of Hoover* celebrates the variety of culinary styles found throughout the city.

Enjoy an autumn evening with us strolling through the Gardens and sampling delicious dishes from some of Hoover's best restaurants, caterers and more. Taste international wines, local beers, and listen to live entertainment throughout the evening with special musical guests Elliott Davis Band and Winston Ramble Band.

A limited number of tickets are available (\$20 members/\$30 non-members), so order right away.

NEW TRAVEL CLUB

Next spring, a new travel club at Aldridge's will explore the Earth's greatest wilderness on her mightiest river, traveling more than 600 miles on the "Greatest Voyage in Natural History" aboard International Expedition's newest and specially-designed river ship, La Estrella Amazonica. Click on the web page link above to learn more.

Volunteer Opportunities at Aldridge Gardens

For information on how 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.

[Get Your Tickets Now: *Southern Tales at the Gardens* presents Dolores Hydock](#)

On Sunday, November 16, at 2 p.m., in the Linn Henley Lecture Hall, *Southern Tales at the Gardens* presents Dolores Hydock, appearing in "The Lady With All the Answers" by David Rambo, drawn from the life and letters of Ann Landers, with the cooperation of Margo Howard.

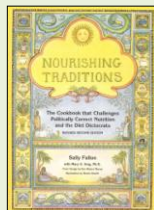
Tickets may be purchased by phone at 204-414-3050 or online at www.bbgardens.org/southerntales.

This presentation is not suitable for children.

Main Art Gallery:

The work of artist Debbie Reese will continue on display and for sale in the Art Gallery during the month of October.

Thyme to Read book club:



The **Thyme to Read** book club will meet Tuesday, November 4 at 6 p.m., in the Library at BBG, to discuss *Nourishing Traditions: the Cookbook that Challenges Politically Correct Nutrition and the Diet Dictocrats* by Sally Fallon.
Come join the group!

Library Volunteers Needed

Jason Kirby notes that The Library at the Gardens has an immediate need for additional volunteers.

Current openings are as follows:

1st Saturday (10-1), 2nd Saturday (10-1),
3rd Saturday (10-1) & (1-4),
and 5th Saturday (1-4).

Please contact Taylor Steele, Volunteer Coordinator, at 414-3962 or email him at tsteele@bbgardens.org for an application.

Educational Opportunities at Birmingham Botanical Gardens

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

Among upcoming classes at BBG - look online for additional opportunities:

Creepy Creations

Instructor: Bradley Gilbert

Location: Birmingham Botanical Garden – Adventure Classroom

Sunday, October 12 | 2 – 4 p.m.

\$15 Members | \$20 Non-Members

In this class we will explore the vibrant jewel tones that explode during the fall season. Learn to make a creepy centerpiece using sticks, rocks, dried flowers, vines, cotton, gourds and tiny little skeletons.

Principles of Fall Planting

Instructor: Brooke McMinn

Location: Birmingham Botanical Gardens- Plant Adventures Zone

Friday, October 17 | 6 – 7 p.m.

Free Admission – Registration is required

Fall can be the most satisfying planting season of the gardening year. The days are cooler, pests are fewer and watering demands are lower. To make the most of this wonderful season, join Plant Adventures Program Specialist Brooke McMinn for this free program and learn the best gardening practices for fall planting.

Kokedama

Instructor: Hope Long, Library Director & Master Gardener

October 25 | 10 - noon

Location: Birmingham Botanical Gardens - Adventure Classroom

General Admission \$20

Meaning ‘moss’ (koke) and ‘ball’ (dama), kokedama is a Japanese art form that offers a whole new way of displaying house plants. In this hands-on workshop you’ll have access to all the materials needed to make your own beautiful kokedama and will be taken step by step through the unique process.

This is a messy class so please dress appropriately.

Limit 15 people, so sign up early.

Photography Class: Memorable Images

Instructor: Hank Siegel

November 8 & 15 | 9 – noon

Location: Birmingham Botanical Gardens – Upstairs Conference Room

\$100 members | \$120 non-members

This class is designed to introduce the student to basic concepts in photography and digital camera operations including:

- Image Capture - understanding the light, know your camera, develop techniques
- Image Transfer - set up the computer, manage your image files, accessories
 - Image Processing - software available, capabilities, techniques
 - Image Sharing - E-mailing, WEB sites, printing

Whether you've got a simple "POINT-AND-SHOOT" digital camera or a more complex Digital SLR, you can gain skill and confidence in your ability to create memorable images.

Need to bring:

- your digital camera
- your camera's user's manual

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-look online for additional opportunities:

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

Introduction to Native Plant Conservation (core)

Instructor: Bob Boyd, Ph.D.

Location: Birmingham Botanical Gardens

Saturday, October 11 | 8:30 - 4:30 p.m.

\$80 Members | \$90 Non-Members

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, plant conservation legislation, and conservation techniques such as safeguarding. Alabama Plant Conservation Alliance projects will be emphasized as examples where possible and time will be spent in The Gardens.

Autumn Identification of Native Woody Plants (elective)

Instructor: Fred Spicer

Location: Birmingham Botanical Gardens

Saturday, October 25 | 8:30 – 12:30 p.m.

\$40 Members | \$45 Non-Members

Using The Gardens' extensive living collections as a hands-on resource, we will focus on attributes and identification features of species found naturally or in cultivation in Alabama. Attendees will examine and learn to identify ~20 plants whose key traits are evident in autumn, as well as learn which of these plants make good sense to use in your landscapes. We will have the opportunity to see some good autumn color. This is largely a walking class, held outdoors; please dress appropriately for the weather.

The Dynamic Autumn Forest (elective)

Instructor: Henry Hughes

Location: Birmingham Botanical Gardens

Saturday, November 15 | 12:30 - 4:30 p.m.

\$40 Members | \$45 Non-Members

During this class, which includes a field trip, we will explore the fascinating transition of a forest from summer to winter. Topics to be covered range from seed dispersal and conditions necessary for germination, to the mechanisms of fall foliage color change. Participants will learn how all these processes lead to the onset of winter dormancy - and ultimately to forest regeneration in spring.

**Check online periodically for other upcoming CNPS classes and events;
they often fill fast, so plan ahead!**

Volunteer Opportunities in Native Plant Studies

Volunteer Workdays: Kaul Wildflower Garden Curator John Manion will lead volunteer sessions in the Kaul Wildflower Garden on October 2, 7, 9, 14, and will offer additional volunteer opportunities with the Native Plant Propagation Group on October 3 and 10. For more information, write John at jmanion@bbgardens.org.

Fall Plant Sale – time to add something new to your garden!

On October 18 and 19,
Blount Plaza at the Birmingham Botanical Gardens
will be filled with hundreds of beautiful plants –
fall annuals, shrubs, natives, perennials, herbs, sustainable trees, and more.

Come choose something new and wonderful
to liven up your own garden – and take joy in knowing that
your purchase will benefit the BBG's marvelous educational program.



Bethany A. O'Rear
Regional Extension Agent
Alabama Cooperative Extension System
C. Beaty Hanna Horticulture and
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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 Extension System*
and *Jefferson County Master Gardeners Association***