



Carol Cook Hagood, Editor

President's Message

Master Gardeners... Who are we and why are we here? Our bylaws say:

The object of this Association shall be the continued horticultural education of the Master Gardener (MG); to promote accepted horticultural practices and techniques to residents, schools, churches, and other public institutions of the Jefferson County area, all within the standards established by the Alabama Cooperative Extension System (ACES) and the Board of Directors of this Association.

There is so much of this work going on right now! Please read on and volunteer where your capabilities and interests lead you!

Fall Seminar: The AMGA Fall Seminar will be in Birmingham on September 29. The theme is "There's No Place Like Home," and our own JCMGA members and friends will be leading the programs. Registration link: <http://alabamamg.org/2016-fall-seminar/>. Volunteers are needed for preparing food and for the day of the seminar.

Newsletter: Our current JCMGA newsletter editor is giving up her position at the end of 2016, much to my dismay! If anyone is interested in this **volunteer opportunity**, please let Carol Hagood or me know of your interest. It would be great to have a month or two with her before assuming full responsibility.

Leadership: Both the JCMGA and the AMGA have nominating committees that are recruiting for leadership roles. Please let Roger Clarke know if you are interested in serving on the nominating committee or as a JCMGA 2017 officer. Please let Roger or me know if you are interested in serving as a state officer in the AMGA. We have so many capable people...please consider serving in these roles.

BBG Fall Plant Sale: Mark your calendars for Saturday, October 22 – the BBG Fall Plant Sale. A special invitation has gone out to members from the Native Plant group for a pre-sale order opportunity. Check your email for that notice.

While we do not take political positions, **Amendment 2** on the November 8 Alabama ballots is one with which all who have interest in our Alabama State Parks will want to be "up to speed." Take a minute to research this proposed Amendment and form your own opinion.

(Continued on page 2)

JCMGA September Program Notes

Tuesday, September 13

9 a.m. Car Pool, 9:15 a.m. Departure Time

**Location: Turkey Creek Nature Preserve,
3906 Turkey Creek Road
Pinson, AL 35126**

**Speaker: Taylor Steele, with assistance from
Charles Yeager and Christopher Pugh**

We are going on a field trip!!!!!!! Wear comfortable clothes and shoes, and bring along a camera for all of the lovely scenic areas. You may also want to bring a picnic personal lunch as well.

Important Instructions:

1. Meet at BBG parking lot at 9 a.m.
2. Depart for Turkey Creek Nature Preserve at 9:15 a.m.
3. From downtown Birmingham, take I-20 E/I-59 N
4. Take the Tallapoosa Street exit #128
5. Merge onto AL-79 N/Tallapoosa Street
6. Continue on AL-79 N for 11.9 miles
7. Turn left on Narrows Road at the intersection of AL 79 and AL 151
8. Turn right onto Turkey Creek Road
9. Parking instructions: On the street, but do not block any mailboxes

Tuesday, September 20, 6 p.m.

Evening Meeting

Location: BBG Hodges Room

**Speaker: Henry Hughes, BBG Director of
Education**

Bring a friend or neighbor and don't forget a special treat to eat and share with your fellow gardeners. Henry always has the most interesting subject matter, and this one is sure to be a winner.

Looking forward to seeing lots of our interns as well as the current JCMGA members and your guests for this night meeting.

Pat

Pat Cosgrove, First Vice President

Bethany's Extension Extras

Master Gardener Spotlight on E.W. Phillips

E.W. Phillips, Vietnam veteran and Jefferson County Master Gardener, captured the attention of Bessemer City High School administration and students, as well as WBRC's Sarah Verser. In her feature, "What's Right with Our Schools," Ms. Verser visits E.W.'s on-going volunteer project of engaging high school students in their school garden as they learn about growing their own vegetables. Visit our Jefferson County Master Gardeners page on Facebook to connect to the full story, and "Like" our page to stay up-to-date on other important topics and opportunities.

Fact or Fiction? The truth behind GMO and other food myths

On Thursday, September 22, from 9 a.m.-Noon, we are invited to join Alabama Extension professionals, researchers, and specialists from Auburn University and Alabama A&M University as they explore non-biased and research-based information related to GMO and biotechnology. Registration fee: \$10; please register by Tuesday, September 20. The workshop will meet in Birmingham Botanical Gardens' East Room.

Contact Sallie Lee at leesall@aces.edu or me at bethany@aces.edu with questions.

Publication Spotlight: Controlling Fall Armyworms on Lawns and Turf

If you noticing signs of decline in your lawn, it may be the result of something other than the obvious stress of heat and dry conditions. Extension has recently released a revised publication about armyworms to guide home gardeners with identification and management.

Here's the link and full description: In this completely updated Extension publication, find essential information on the biology, damage, and management of the Fall armyworm, a reported annual pest on crops in the Southeast for more than 100 years.

Fall armyworms attack a variety of plants, including turfgrasses. While they seem to prefer lush, green, well-maintained Bermuda grasses, armyworms also attack
(continued above)

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

(Extension Extras, continued)

fescue, ryegrass, bluegrass, and bentgrass.

From the same insect family as cutworms, Fall armyworm caterpillars damage grass by chewing plant tissue. Unlike cutworms, which are night feeders, Fall armyworms feed any time of the day.

Also included is a chemical control recommendation table for homeowners. The publication, which contains new information for 2016, is available at <https://store.aces.edu/itemdetail.aspx?ProductID=14518>.

(President's Message, continued from page 1)

September is a month where we have two **JCMGA meetings**. Please see Pat's column on page 1 for information, and plan to join us at 10 a.m. on Tuesday, September 13 and/or 6 p.m. on Tuesday, September 20.

I look forward to seeing you soon!

Ann Gray

Ann Gray Harvey, President



Treasurer's Report

August 2016

Beginning balance August 1, 2016	\$11,960.94
Deposits	\$2,326.14
Disbursements	121.25
Ending balance August 31, 2016	<u>\$14,165.83</u>

--- Tom Douglass, Treasurer

August 2016 Minutes

Jefferson County Master Gardeners Association Meeting – August 9, 2016

The regular monthly meeting of the JCMGA was held on August 9, 2016 in the Lecture Hall at the Birmingham Botanical Gardens (BBG). Ann Gray Harvey called the meeting to order at 10 a.m. Ann Gray 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: Ann Gray asked for a motion to accept the minutes of the July meeting as printed in the newsletter. It was pointed out that the ACES report by Bethany O'Rear had not been included in the minutes. A motion was made to accept the minutes with the addition of Bethany's report. The motion was seconded and passed unanimously.

Treasurer's Report: A motion was made to accept the treasurer's report as published in the newsletter. The motion was seconded and unanimously approved by the membership.

President's Report: Ann Gray announced the retirement of Carol Hagood as newsletter editor at the end of this year. If anyone is interested in taking on this job please let Ann Gray or Carol know. It would be beneficial for a new editor to spend time with Carol prior to the new year.

The nominating committee for the 2017 election slate of officers will be organized at the September meeting.

The Alabama Master Gardeners Association's Fall meeting will be held at the Birmingham Botanical Gardens on September 29, 2016. The registration fee is \$35 until September 1. Thereafter the fee is \$40. Attendees receive 4 CEUs, and volunteers who help with the meeting can accrue volunteer hours. The title of the conference is "There's No Place Like Home." Most of the talks and break-out session leaders are JeffCo Master Gardeners. Gail Pless asked members to save "tiny" bottles to be used for flowers. There will be a box in the BBG Library to collect the bottles. If you wish to help with baking for the meeting, use the "other" column on the volunteer signup sheet. Baked goods will highlight recipes from the talks given during the conference. Organizers would also like photographs of members' gardens to use in an ongoing slideshow at the meeting. If you have photographs to contribute send them to Bethany O'Rear.

Extension Report: Bethany O'Rear was absent.

Committee Report:

Hospitality: Ann Gray thanked Bruce Steele for the refreshments while Martha Picardy recovered from surgery. No other committee reports were given.

Volunteer Opportunities: Heather Oliver, Special Events Coordinator for the BBG, reported on upcoming events that offer volunteer opportunities. *Antiques in the Garden* will be October 6-9, and the *Fall Plant Sale* will be October 22-23. The Gardens members' plant giveaway will be held at the time of the plant sale instead of later in the Fall. Looking ahead, Heather reported that Peter J. Hatch has been retained for the talk on March 1, 2017. He is a former director of the historic Monticello Gardens.

Program: David Doggett presented the history of *Aromi Azaleas*, a deciduous azalea named for Dr. Eugene J. Aromi (1926-2004). Dr. Aromi lived in Mobile, AL and developed many hybrids from 1045 crosses. There are now 44 *Aromi* hybrids in commercial production, and some can be purchased from Maarten van der Giessen in Semmes, AL. Aldridge Gardens has a collection of *Aromi* azaleas that were donated by van der Giessen. Look for them along the shoreline of the pond at the Gardens. There are no *Aromis* at the BBG. Mobile Botanical Gardens opened its *Aromi* Azalea Collection in the Spring of 2016. For a 30-minute presentation by van der Giessen, search You Tube.

If you would like to order *Aromi* azaleas for the plant sale you should contact David.

Next Meeting: There will be two meetings in September: the regular morning meeting on the 13th and an evening meeting on the 20th at 6:30 PM.

The meeting was adjourned at 11:30 AM. Door prizes were given. 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

Still haven't registered for the Fall Seminar? Register today!

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 two breakout sessions from below and mark them 1-2 in order of priority (1 being most preferred):

- (filled) A) *Our American Canopy* with Henry Hughes, Director of Education, BBG
- (filled) 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
- (filled) E) *Fostering Fall Flights* with Birmingham Audubon Society
- (filled) 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

Information and ONLINE REGISTRATION: <http://alabamamg.org/2016-fall-seminar/>

Or Mail-In Registration (please print):

Name: _____ Email: _____
 Address: _____
 City/State/Zip: _____
 Sandwich option: Chicken Pork Vegetarian

Attach \$35 registration check 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>.

Whispers from the Past - A Native American Experience

Sunday, October 2, 2016 10:00 am - 5:30 pm (rain date, October 9)

This Fall, take a trip back in time to rediscover the culture and contributions of Native Alabamians at *Whispers from the Past—A Native American Experience*. Native American life will take shape through demonstrations, activities, and games. Food will be available for purchase as well as handmade items, artifacts, and more.

Please note this is a special event, and free admission to the Gardens is not offered during *Whispers from the Past*. Go to http://aldridgegardens.com/education/events/annual_events/ to see a recap and a video from last year's event and learn more about what visitors can expect at the *Whispers from the Past* event.

For more information, contact Audrey Ann Wilson at aawilson@aldridgegardens.com or 205.682.8019.

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

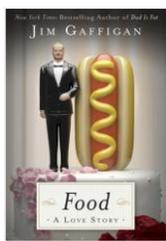
News from the Library at Birmingham Botanical Gardens

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

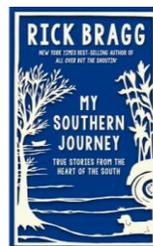
Art Gallery News

The work of Lois Mash and Jane Reed Ross comes to Art Gallery in September. We will toast its arrival with an opening reception on September 9 from 5:30-7:30 p.m.

Thyme to Read book club:



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.



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

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 (10-1 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 or 414-3962.

Educational Opportunities at Birmingham Botanical Gardens

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

Seasonal Series

Instructor: Hank Siegel

Saturday, September 10, 2016 | 9-1 p.m.

Location: Birmingham Botanical Gardens

Members \$65|Non-Members \$75

Learn the techniques, tools and skills necessary to capture visually stunning and interesting images through the creation of a seasonal series of landscapes/nature scenes with a loved one.

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.

Lunch & Learn: All About Bulbs

Speaker: Amanda Clark

Location: Birmingham Botanical Gardens

Wednesday, September 14, 2016 | 11:30-12:30 p.m.

Free program. Bring your own lunch.

Easy care and low maintenance? Yes, and they bring added color and texture all year long!

Alabama Orchid Society Show – September 15-18, 2016

Location: Birmingham Botanical Gardens

Whiskeys of the World

Instructors: Brooke & Nathan McMinn

Thursday, September 15 | 6-8 p.m.

Location: Birmingham Botanical Gardens

Members: \$30 | Non-members: \$35

Back by popular demand! Join Plant Adventures Program Specialist, Brooke McMinn, and Birmingham Whiskey Society President, Nathan McMinn, for a trip around the world of whiskey. We will begin with a discussion about the botanical aspects all whiskeys share, from the grain to the oak.

Then, starting in Scotland and moving through Ireland, Canada, America, Japan and back to Scotland, we'll learn what makes each style distinct. A tasting of a selection of each style will be included in the program.

Lunch & Learn: Transplanting and Care

Speaker: David Doggett

Wednesday, September 28, 2016 | 11:30-12:30 p.m.

Location: Birmingham Botanical Gardens

Free program. Bring your own lunch.

Discover the tried and true techniques of planting, transplanting, or repotting established plants in your yard and home.

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.)

Introduction to Botany—The Science of Plants (core)

Instructor: Tom Diggs Ph.D., Asst. Professor, University of North Georgia

Saturday, September 10 | 8:30-4:30 p.m.

Location: Birmingham Botanical Gardens

Members \$80|Non-members \$90

This class will introduce participants to the fundamental concepts of botany, including plant tissues, anatomy of the major vegetative and reproductive structures of the plant body, global plant habitats, basic botanical terminology through the use of a key, and a discussion of Alabama plant diversity. After the classroom portion of this class, we will spend time in The Gardens to explore the physiology and diversity of the plants around us.

The Art of Making Paper from Native Plants (new elective)

Instructor: Doug Baulos, Assistant Professor of Drawing and Book Arts, UAB

Saturday, September 17 | 8:30-12:30 p.m.

Location: Birmingham Botanical Gardens

Members \$45|Non-members \$50

Throughout history, many different cultures have made paper out of various organic fibers. In this hands-on workshop, participants will learn about, and make various types of paper... including sheet, relief, and three dimensional structures. The natural overlap between plant fibers and paper making will be explored, as well as the properties of cellulose and how-and- what fibers can be harvested in Alabama. We will also discuss and see examples of natural dyes. Bring an apron, some newspaper and an old bath towel. Class limited to 15 participants.

Plant-Soil Relationships (core)

Instructor: Henry Hughes, Director of Education, Birmingham Botanical Gardens

Saturday, September 24 | 8:30-4:30 p.m.

Location: Birmingham Botanical Gardens

Members \$80|Non-members \$90

Explore the physical, chemical, and biological properties of natural soils and the characteristics of the native plant communities growing in them. Plant growth reciprocally modifies soil properties.

This class will explore the ways that natural soils and native plants together form unique systems with interdependent living and non-living characteristics.

Methods for amending compromised soils to improve plant growth, and the technique for obtaining a soil sample for testing will be demonstrated.

This class will include some field work.

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

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

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

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

Central South Native Plant Conference – October 26 – 29.

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

Volunteer Opportunities with John Manion

Volunteer Workdays: Kaul Wildflower Garden Curator John Manion will lead volunteer sessions in the Kaul Wildflower Garden on September 1, 6, 8, 13, 15, 20, 22, 27 and 29. For more information, write John Manion at jmanion@bbgardens.org.

The BBG Fall Plant Sale is coming on October 22 and 23!

Mark your calendar now.



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***