



GARDEN THYMES

Master Gardeners of North Alabama, Inc.



2018 MGNA Board of Directors

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2018 - Quarter 1

News

MGNA Regional Reporters Needed!

By Sue Khoury (W '13)

Reporters must be able to attend MGNA events, workshops, and community activities in which we are active, and will interview and photograph attendees or volunteers, obtain photo release authorizations from the general public, write about the volunteer effort, and submit the resulting articles to Acacia Moore, Editor-In-Chief at newsletter@mginfo.org.

We hope to find several people from different parts of Madison County to fill these slots. Interns, this would be a fantastic way for you to contribute while learning more about our projects and committees! If you are interested in becoming a *Garden Thymes* reporter please send an email to Sue Khoury at mastergardenersofnorthalabama@gmail.com

Like! Us on Facebook

You don't have to be a member of Facebook to view the public MGNA Facebook page. But if you are a member, remember to Like Us, and share the articles that interest you!

www.Facebook.com/MGofNA

2017 MGNA Annual Awards

By Suzanne Kirkhuff (W '07)

Congratulations to the winners of the 2017 annual Master Gardener awards.

Tom Simpson is Master Gardener of the Year. He will be our nominee for the Mary Lou McNabb State Master Gardener of the Year Award which will be presented at the 2018 Alabama Master Gardener Association State Conference.

Tom graduated from our Master Gardener Program in the winter of 2012 and hit the ground running. He has helped with the Huntsville Botanical Garden Plant Sale since

he became a Master Gardener and volunteered with the intern class for five years, has been on the MGNA Board for 3 years as a Director, and the social chairman for three years overseeing our

Christmas social. He has been a big part of the Demonstration Vegetable Garden for three years, helped with the Galaxy of Lights, completed the advanced pruning class, worked the Huntsville Botanical Garden

Fall Plant Sale and helped with the outdoor classroom at Morris Elementary where the children lovingly referred to him as Grandpa. Congratulations, Tom!



L to R: Carolyn Wade, Ann Tippie and Tom Simpson.

Photo by Suzanne Kirkhuff.

[Awards continued on page 7](#)

So, You Got a Poinsettia. Now what?

By Bonnie Gardner (W '12)

I suppose this article might have been more appropriate to appear at the beginning of December instead of January, but it's not too late. Whether you got a Poinsettia right after Thanksgiving and hoped that it would last until New Year's Day or someone gifted you with one for Christmas, you're probably wondering what you could have done better.

[Poinsettia continued on page 3](#)

From The President

Well, it has been a wonderful year, for me, as your president. I have come to know so many members of MGNA and I'm thankful for the opportunity. I would also like to take this opportunity to thank the 2017 Officers and Directors. They were dedicated to the success of our projects and helping me with my responsibilities. I'm looking forward to working with our new officers and board members.



Again, I want to congratulate the award winners: New Initiative: Sue Khoury, Sign-up Genius (SUG), with teammates Suzanne Beckinger and Susan Meyer; Friend of Master Gardeners: Sand Mountain Seed Bank; Project of the Year: Horticulture Therapy; Lifetime Achievement Award: Bill Fuller; Intern of the Year: Connie Carr; and Master Gardener of the Year: Tom Simpson. Tom is now our nominee for the Alabama Master Gardener of the Year.

In 2018, let's make a resolution to join a project or committee. There are many projects to choose from and we have several more we are hoping to make official MGNA projects soon.

Wishing everyone a Happy New Year.

Ann Tippie (W'12)
MGNA President



GARDEN THYMES

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Editor-in-Chief

Acacia Moore (F '12)

Contributing Editors

Sue Khoury (W '13)

Ann Tippie (W '12)

Carolyn Wade (W '12)

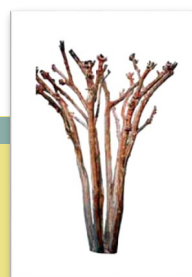
The *Garden Thymes* newsletter is published quarterly: January/February/March, April/May/June, July/August/September and October/November/December. Editorial deadline is the 15th of the month prior to publication.

Master Gardeners of North Alabama was incorporated in 1988 and is now a 501(c)(3) nonprofit corporation.

The Alabama Master Gardener program is conducted at the county level by the Alabama Cooperative Extension System (ACES).

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newsletter@mginfo.org.



Crepe Murder
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You may have noticed that your beautiful plant, lush and green with bright red bracts when you removed the protective plastic packaging, is already looking stressed. Leaves have started to curl and have perhaps dropped off. This doesn't mean that your previously green thumb has turned black, or that you were sold a diseased plant, but that your plant is unhappy about being its current environment.

Before it came to you, it had been happily living in a nice warm greenhouse with plenty of light and lots of humidity. Not only has it been snatched out of that comfy environment, but it may have been carried from the warm greenhouse through the cold outside air where the temperature could have been anywhere from 70 to 30 degrees or lower here in north Alabama, and back inside to yet another climate. The sudden change in temperature has already started your plant thinking something is wrong. Then you bring it inside your nice temperature-controlled house, and it still isn't happy. It's not the temperature to which it has been accustomed.

Worse than that, our heating systems make the air inside as arid as the Mohave Desert, and our poor little Poinsettia would be more comfortable in tropical Yucatan.

All is not lost. There are several things you can do to, at least, slow that distressing leaf drop. Keep your plant away from heat vents or doors that let in cold air. If you can, adjust the temperature a little lower, use a humidifier in the room, or gently mist the plant, or all of the above. You might even try placing the plant in a grouping of other plants to provide a small microclimate that is slightly moister than the rest of the house. As much as I have always wanted to be able to fill my house with the colorful blooms and foliage from the first of December to New Year's Day, I have learned that won't work. They just won't last that long and hold on to their leaves, so I'd recommend using them as accent pieces and giving them plenty of TLC when you're not showing them off.

In my experience, Poinsettias are less picky about the amount of light they get once the bracts - what looks like the petals of the flower - have turned color; they are more concerned about the ambient temperature and humidity level. The small yellow things in the center of the bracts are the actual flower. If you can read in the room in the daytime without using overhead lights, the room is bright enough. If you already have a glorious blooming

plant, keep it away from drafts and put it out when you're having people over.

I know some people consider a potted Poinsettia more like a flower arrangement than a living plant and are happy to throw it away at the end of the season. I just can't do that. I have learned through experience that they can easily be grown into lush and glorious plants and brought into bloom again and again. Plant lights and greenhouses are generally not necessary.

If you want to save your plant, expect that it may have dropped some or all of its leaves by the end of the holidays. That doesn't mean it's dead. Just like the dogwood in your yard that had dropped its leaves at the end of its season, your Poinsettia will grow new leaves in time. What's more important than the leaves at this time is the soil. A potted Poinsettia arrives in a medium that is more like a fine sponge than living soil. If you want to try to bring it into bloom again, transfer it into a slightly bigger pot containing good quality potting soil.

Now that it's in a more appropriate environment, trim the plant back to bare stems about four to six inches and leave it alone. Put it in an area free of drafts that gets bright, indirect light, and keep the soil evenly moist. Before long, you will see tiny little leaf buds form along the stem. Soon those buds will open up and you will have a nice lush plant again. It wouldn't hurt to mist it now and then as long as the heating system is still doing its thing.

About mid-August, give your plant a light feeding with plant food designed for flowering plants and, if your plant has gotten leggy, trim it back one more time. Keep it in an area with bright indirect light where you can keep lights off at night so that the plant gets approximately equal day and night time. I have sheers in the room where I have mine and the plant is set to the side of the window. For the next few months, don't turn on lights in that room in the evening hours. In a few months you will notice that the bracts are starting to turn red again. With luck and care, you should have a brightly blooming plant by the beginning of December. And if that doesn't work. You can always buy a new one.



Poinsettia

Scientific Name: *Euphorbia Pulcherrima*

Photo credit: www.ballseed.com



Bonnie Gardner (W '12)

Horticulture Therapy

Article and photo by Bill Fuller (W '97)

On December 12th, the Horticulture Therapy Project held their Christmas meeting with the Adult Day-care Clients at the Huntsville Senior Center. A number of activities were shared with the clients including hanging painted okra Christmas ornaments, the clients had made, on their Christmas tree in their activity area at the Center. Each client also received an ornament for his/her own Christmas tree at their home.

The Horticulture Therapy Project is led by Jean Lake, who has been the project chair since 2008. Any members or Interns interested in being a part of this project are welcome to contact Jean at 256-881-9518 or jeanlake7@comcast.net.

The project meets every other Tuesday morning from Spring until Fall at the Huntsville Senior Center. Garden related activities are conducted with the clients in a gated courtyard area at the center.



L to R: Gloria Uhl, Susan Meyer, Ameree Young, Marsha Harris, Jean Lake, Bill Fuller, Wanda Baumgartner, and Rick Riquelmy.

2018 MGNA Board of Directors

Article and photo by Suzanne Kirkhuff (W '07)

We welcome and are grateful for our new board members and remaining board members for 2018. It goes without saying that we will support them in their endeavors to lead this organization.

OFFICERS

President: Ann Tippie (W '12)
Vice President: Revelle Gwyn (F '15)
Secretary: Debi Bonkoski (F '10)
Treasurer: Suzanne Beckinger (F '07)

DIRECTORS

Dave Grey (F '10) Sue Khoury (W '13)
Melissa Kirkindall (W '98) Bill Fuller (W '97)
Dotty Pierce (W '95) Acacia Moore (F '12)

Also, we offer our appreciation and thanks to our board members who are leaving the board in 2017. They are Carolyn Wade, Flo Helman, Tom Simpson, and Bonnie Gardner. Sue Khoury is remaining on the board as a Director.



L to R: Dave Grey, Revelle Gwyn, Rhonda Britton, Debi Bonkoski, Suzanne Beckinger, Sue Khoury, Carolyn Wade, Melissa Kirkindall, Ann Tippie, Tom Simpson, Acacia Moore, Dotty Pierce and Bill Fuller.

Master Gardener Profile

"To plant a garden is to believe in tomorrow." - Audrey Hepburn

By Acacia Moore (F'12)

Jessica Thornburg was born in Artesia, CA and raised in Los Angeles, CA. She is married to Jeffery Thornburg and they have one daughter named Jameson.

Jessica has a degree in Animal Husbandry from Pierce College in Los Angeles, CA. She also completed training to be a member of the Los Angeles county sheriff's volunteer horse mounted posse.

She has been a professional horse trainer for 32 years and now has the good fortune of staying at home and taking care of her family. She owns one horse—Bellagio, a 12 year old Andalusian. Two dogs - Pinky, 5 year old Maltipoo and Pepper, 1 year old Yorkiepoo.

Jessica has traveled the world

providing horsemanship clinics and training. In addition, she has supported several TV spots and commercials with horses. One of her most recognizable commercials

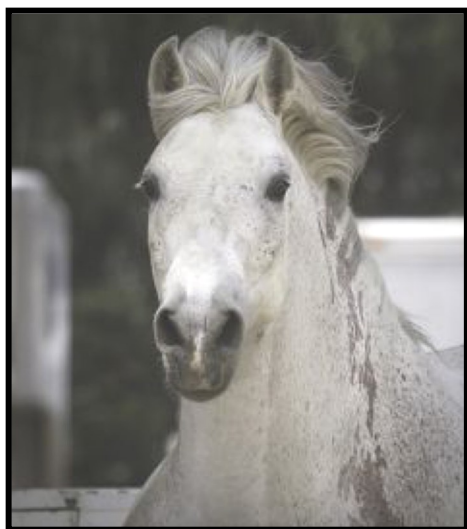


was providing the horse, and riding in a suit of armor for ABC's 'The Bachelor' TV reality show.

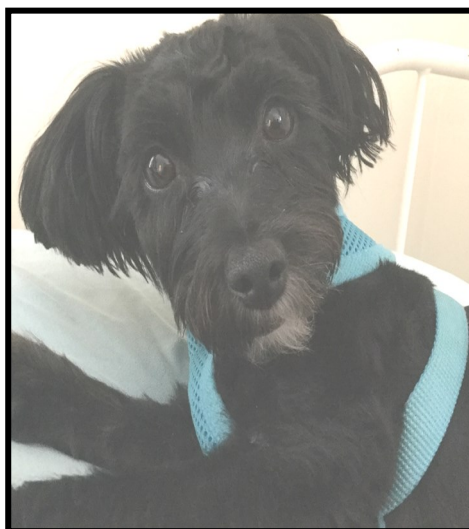
One of Jessica's favorite quotes, *"Riding a horse is not a gentle hobby, to be picked up and laid down like a game of solitaire. It is a grand passion. It seizes a person whole, and once it has done so, he will have to accept that his life will be radically changed"* - R.W. Emerson.

In Jessica's spare time, she enjoys gardening, horseback riding, yoga, running, and traveling. Her favorite destination is Turks and Caicos Islands.

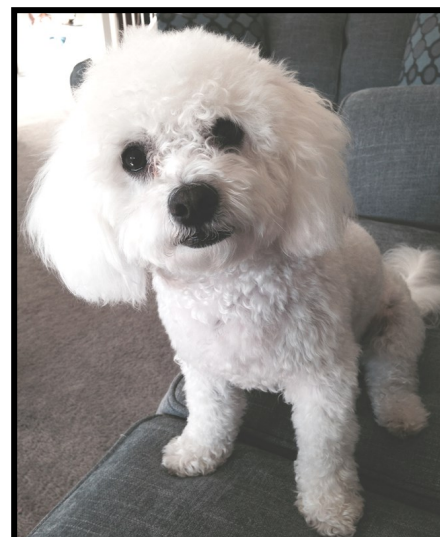
In 2018, Jessica will be actively participating in the Harvest for Health program and the MGNA plant sale.



Bellagio



Pepper



Pinky

Photos courtesy of Jessica Thornburg.



Become a Certified Master Gardener Volunteer with A.C.E.S

Learn how to grow a healthy landscape or your own vegetable garden, and serve the community. Become a certified Master Gardener volunteer under the Alabama Master Gardener volunteer program and the Alabama Cooperative Extension System.

The 2018 Spring Tri County Master Gardener Course for Limestone, Madison and Morgan Counties starts February 8 through May 10. Apply by Feb. 2.
The class meets from 9 a.m. to 1:30 p.m.

<https://mg.aces.edu/tricounty>



For more info contact
Rhonda Britton at the Alabama Cooperative Extension
System

(256) 532-1578

rcb0003@aces.edu



Intern of the Year is **Connie Carr**. Rhonda Britton, our new Regional Extension Agent, stated Connie's assistance was invaluable to Rhonda in manning the phone at the extension office and helping her any way she could to navigate the new position. Photo L to R: Connie Carr and Rhonda Britton.



Lifetime Achievement Award recognizes a Master Gardener who has been an active member of the organization for a minimum of 20 years. This year's winner is **Bill Fuller**. Bill has been a Master Gardener since winter 1997. He is currently a Director, he was MGNA Master Gardener of the year in 2003, won the New Initiative Award in 2008 for the compost demonstration project and he continues to be involved in so many of our projects. Photo L to R: Dottie Pierce and Bill Fuller.



Project of the Year Award goes to the **Horticulture Therapy** chaired by **Jean Lake**. Jean has been a Master Gardener since winter 2006. She also received this award in 2007. This is a continuing project that gives so much back to our community. Photo L to R: Janet Booth, Carol Milton and Jean Lake.

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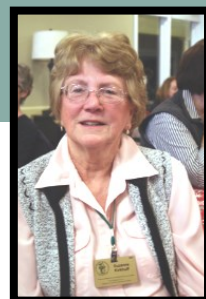
Friend of Master Gardeners of North Alabama is awarded to the **Sand Mountain Seed Bank with Dove Stackhouse accepting the award**. The Sand Mountain Seed Bank members joined in our Alabama Master Gardener Conference this year and set up a booth to promote seed saving and exchange.



New Initiative Award went to **Sign Up Genius**. **Sue Khoury, Suzanne Beckinger, and Susan Meyer** were the ladies who implemented this online and it has made signing up for workshops, our Christmas social, and many other sign up forums so much easier. Photo L to R: Suzanne Beckinger and Sue Khoury. Susan Meyer not in the picture.

There were several candidate nominations for each of our awards because we have many outstanding members. MGNA works in many ways to make our community a better place. Again, congratulations to all our winners and nominees.

Suzanne Kirkhuff (W '07)
suzanne6816@att.net
Awards Committee Chairman
Photo courtesy of Alice Brigman



Christmas Wreaths



Chilli thrips were seen working cleyera tips on Dec. 4th. Daytime temperatures were still in the low 70's. As long as temperatures are favorable, this pest will be active. I've seen them on mahonia and aucuba.

Boxwood blight is always a concern, and not only in nurseries, garden centers, and landscapes. Our inspectors recently disposed of **boxwood wreaths and garlands** arriving from another state with blight on them. These decorations can be a source of the disease, even when dried. It's important for florists and homeowners to be aware of this. After use, these decorations should be bagged up and disposed of with household garbage and not be left in the landscape or used for mulch.

Dried wreaths and garlands look really good, but with box stores, Etsy, and other online outlets, they can be shipped all over the country with no control over possible boxwood blight infestations. This makes proper disposal very important.

Article and photo courtesy of
Albert Van Hoogmoed
AL Dept. of Agriculture
Mobile County

Compost Demonstration Project

Article and photo by Bill Fuller (W '97)

The Compost Demonstration Project is a Master Gardener (MG) project, located at the Huntsville Botanical Gardens (HBG) near the Demonstration Vegetable Garden, another MG project. The composting system is a three bin welded wire system which is what both the Master Gardener Association and the HBG recommends for the backyard gardener.

On December 16th, Project Leader Bill Fuller, and the new Compost Demonstration Project Leader for 2018, Kathy Gardner, and husband Rick, along with two Master Gardener Interns, Tyna Gohmann and KC Wendler, met at the project for a workday and learning session. All three bins were turned and filled with leaves, grass clippings and shredded paper. Anyone interested in volunteering on this project or would like to come out to the project to learn how to construct the bins and run a three bin system can e-mail Kathy at kgardner0321@gmail.com.



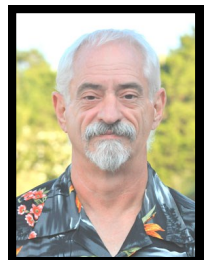
L to R: MG's Kathy Gardner and Bill Fuller; Interns Tyna Gohmann and KC Wendler.

Thank You Galaxy Volunteers

Thank you to the MGNA volunteers who worked our night at HBG's Galaxy of Lights! We broke the record: 1,260 cars went through HBG and everyone had great fun. We did the Master Gardeners proud.

Tom Simpson

MGNA Galaxy Night Chair



Tom Simpson (W'12)
tmshsv@gmail.com

Arrggghhhh, Crepe Murder in December!

Article and photo by Sue Khoury (W '13)

Honestly, it's way too early for me to be lecturing and admonishing my neighbors about slashing, aesthetically ruining, and potentially weakening one of the loveliest and hardiest plants in the south, the elegant, reliably-blooming Crepe (or Crape) Myrtle (Lythraceae).

First, as most of you already know, the crepe myrtle is a woody shrub or small tree that brings year-round interest to the landscape. Its summer-into-fall blooms are prolific and come in an almost infinite array of shades of pink, purple, red, and white. There are "dwarf" varieties (reaching 3-4' tall), 30' trees, and everything in between. Leaves are either green or burgundy, and given ideal conditions they put on a really colorful autumn show. They thrive in our clay soil and will tolerate short periods with no rain (although this makes them vulnerable to powdery mildew), and they are very forgiving.

I have Proven Winners® 'Dazzle' dwarf series in a backyard bed and they bloom from early June through early September. After an unusually warm winter, they've started blooming in late-April! A few years ago I discovered the Black Diamond (patented) series, with its deep burgundy leaves. I lined our driveway with a scarlet-flowering variety that has prominent yellow centers, hoping for a 'Gone with the Wind' look without the live oaks that wouldn't live here. Ha! We also have a large Biloxi that provides shade for my hostas and native azaleas as well as lovely pale pink blooms, and gives me a high, horizontal branch from which to hang Christmas lights over the front walk. It produces volunteers regularly, a few of which I've transplanted to backyard beds. While none of mine are fragrant, a few are, although nothing will ever come close to the lilac (*Syringa vulgaris*) that was the hallmark of Memorial Day where I grew up.

So how did the practice of "murdering" – horizontally sawing off limbs – crepe myrtles begin? Because crepe myrtles bloom on new wood, some people think that buzz-sawing them horizontally will result in increased growth and, thus, more blooms. Unfortunately, this practice results in the plant desperately trying to replace limbs, which turn out to be spindly, very weak branches that aren't securely

attached to the trunk. What the plant is really trying to do is replace the canopy of leaves that would have budded in late April, not to make more blooms! It also results in less photosynthesis, and may even harm the shade plants that previously thrived beneath it.

There are also landscape contractors who don't know any better. And there are some (albeit not many) contractors who want nothing more than to keep their crews busy during slow months, so they go door-to-door offering to "prune" your prized shrub. Just say no!

No matter how you decide to prune them – if you so decide – don't do it in December! We are likely to have a very brief warm-up in late-December or anytime in January, and if your sawed-off crepe myrtle starts to send up new growth then it will almost certainly be killed by the predictable re-freeze in a few days, further reducing the plant's chances of survival.

A great estimate for pruning your larger crepe myrtles as they grow from 2-3' plants is to remove the bottom 1/3 of the plant's branches and leave the top 2/3. It's far easier to prune unwanted branches when the plant is young, and you'll keep it trimmed and under control with very little effort.

Please share this information with your friends and neighbors. Crepe murder should never be committed! Education is key. We are the carriers of accurate horticultural information. This PSA was brought to you by a concerned Master Gardener volunteer.

ACES offers some terrific tips and guidelines on properly pruning crepe myrtles here: <http://www.aces.edu/ucf/crapemyrtles.php>.



Crepe (or Crape) Myrtle
Scientific name: Lythraceae



Sue Khoury (W '13)

Alsup's Acre

Article and photos by John Whitt (F '16)

The First Baptist Church of Madison's Community Garden, Alsup's Acre, was started in the Spring of 2016 following months of discussion and planning. Some of the goals of the garden are to teach children the joys and fun of gardening while serving those in need in the community. In addition to being good stewards of the World God has given us, we also wanted to show the benefits of pollinators and composting.

Alsup's Acre had a fairly successful first year. All the produce was donated to Manna House in Huntsville. Mistakes were made and lessons were learned. The end of Summer brought an end to the garden for the year. Discussion began for next year's garden for Summer and also maybe a Fall garden.

Last fall, we applied for and received a Jane R. Parks Memorial Grant. The grant allowed us to expand our garden by constructing and planting four raised beds. The addition of raised beds to our Community Garden enabled our youngest and eldest gardeners to have easier access to gardening. The raised beds, planted by the children with a mix of pollinators and vegetables, were a huge success.

Our produce this year, 650 pounds to date, has been donated to the Madison County food bank, House of the Harvest. Our fall garden, plentiful with cabbage, collards and kale will also be donated to the House of the Harvest which feeds the soul as well as the body.



2017 MGNA & MCMG Graduations

By Rhonda Britton, Regional Extension Agent
Alabama Cooperative Extension System



Rhonda Britton, ACES REA

Photo courtesy of ACES website.

My first year of the TriCounty Master Gardener class is in the books! We had 33 people participate in the winter class and 28 in the fall class. All three counties had a great representation of people from Madison, Morgan, and Limestone Counties.

In the past, we have had a spring and fall graduation for the TriCounty. After meeting with the presidents of each association, we decided to let each county do graduation for their counties.

The Master Gardeners of North Alabama (MGNA) started with the first graduation on November 17, 2017, at the Madison County Extension Office. We had 8 graduates from the fall 2016 class and 6 graduates from the winter 2017 class (figure 1).

Morgan County Master Gardeners (MCMG) had their graduation with their Christmas party on December 5, 2017 at the Vestavia Court Clubhouse in Decatur, Alabama. They had 3 graduates from fall 2016 and 2 graduates from the winter 2017 class (figure 2).



Figure 1: MGNA November 17, 2017 graduates pictured left to right: Tatiana Fears (16), Jim Laury (16), Eva Conn (16), Marie King (17), Rhonda Britton, Jessica Thornburg (17), Susan Beam (17), Kathy Gardner (16), and Kay Jacobson. Not pictured: Connie Carr (16), Carole Hamilton (16), Mayra Pangborn (16), Marty Garrett (17), Marcia Obermann (17), and Ann Schroetter (17).

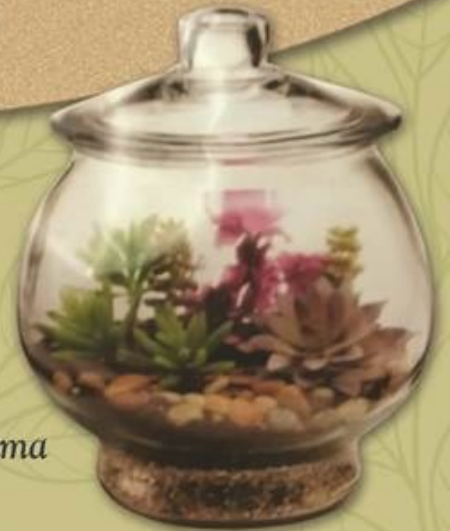


Figure 2: MCMG December 5, 2017 left to right: Carol Rivard (17), Bill Freeman (17), Pat Byrnes (16), Susan Parker (17), and Jim Braun (16).

Make Your Reservation Today!
Limited Class Size!



Master Gardeners of North Alabama
present a



TERRARIUM

workshop

Thursday, January 18, 2018 • 10 a.m. to Noon

Madison County Extension Office • 819 Cook Avenue • Huntsville, AL

Cost: \$20 per person (*No refund after January 12*) • Class Limit: 20

Master Gardener, Gigi Bullman, will teach the basics of creating a terrarium. Each participant will be provided with the supplies to put together a small terrarium to take home.

In addition, there will be handouts and door prizes!

[CLICK HERE TO REGISTER!](#)



extension
ALABAMA A&M & AUBURN UNIVERSITIES

2018 MGNA Lunch-n-Learn Workshops

Dublin Park, 11:30 a.m. - 12:30 p.m. - Tuesdays

<u>Date</u>	<u>Topic</u>	<u>Presenter / Helper</u>
Feb. 6 th	Eating to Feel Better	Nancy Billings / Suzanne
Feb. 13 th	What Pests are Buggin' You in Your Garden?	Chris Becker / Jennifer
Feb. 20 th	Attracting Butterflies to Your Garden	Jennifer Johnson / Pam & Suzanne
Feb. 27 th	Composting	Bill Fuller / Barb & Ann

2018 MGNA Education Workshops - Thursdays

<u>Date</u>	<u>Topic</u>	<u>Presenter</u>	<u>Location</u>	<u>Time</u>
Jan. 18 th	Terrariums	Gigi Bullman	X-tension	10-12 p.m.
March 15 th	Sq. Foot Gardening	Mike Harrison	Agribition Ctr.	10-12 p.m.
May 17 th	Fairy Gardens	Gloria Uhl & Susan Meyer	X-tension	10-12 p.m.
Sept. 20 th	Fall Veg. Gardening	Tom Simpson	Agribition Ctr.	10-12 p.m.
Oct. 18 th	Drought Water/Conservation	Rhonda Britton	X-tension	10-12 p.m.
Nov. 15 th	Playing in the Mud	Karen Reed	X-tension	10-12 p.m.

Calendar of Events

January



January 8 MGNA Board of Directors Meeting. 12 p.m. to 2 p.m. Madison County Extension Office, 819 Cook Ave, Huntsville. president@mginfo.org

January 11 MGNA Monthly Meeting. 6 p.m. Murray Hall, Huntsville Botanical Garden, 4747 Bob Wallace Ave, Huntsville. www.mginfo.org

January 18 Make Your Own Terrarium! Led by MGNA member Gigi Bullman. All materials are provided, including written instructions so you can make more at home. 10a.m. to 12 p.m. Cost is \$20 per person. We can only seat 20 participants so be sure to sign up early. www.mginfo.org

February

February 2 2018 All Bugs Good and Bad Webinar Series: Feral Hogs, Ecology, and Control Event from 2:00 p.m. (EST) to 3:00 p.m. (EST). Presented by Norm Haley, Alabama Extension. Moderated by Mallory Kelley and David Koon, Regional Extension Agents, Alabama Extension. Note: on February 2, the link to the live webinar opens about 15 minutes before the webinar. <https://learn.extension.org/events/3253> for more information.

February 5 MGNA Board of Directors Meeting. 12 p.m. to 2 p.m. Madison County Extension Office, 819 Cook Ave, Huntsville. president@mginfo.org

February 8 MGNA Monthly Meeting. 6 p.m. Murray Hall, Huntsville Botanical Garden, 4747 Bob Wallace Ave, Huntsville. www.mginfo.org

March

March 2 2018 All Bugs Good and Bad Webinar Series: Misidentified Pests in the Landscape Event from 1:00 p.m. (CST) to 2:00 p.m. (CST). Location: TBA. Presented by Erfan Vafaie, Texas A&M Agrilife Extension. Moderated by Mallory Kelley and Dani Carroll, Regional Extension Agents, Alabama Extension. Note: on March 2, the link to the live webinar opens about 15 minutes before the webinar. <https://learn.extension.org/events/3254> for more information.

March 5 MGNA Board of Directors Meeting. 12 p.m. to 2 p.m. Madison County Extension Office, 819 Cook Ave, Huntsville. president@mginfo.org

March 8 MGNA Monthly Meeting. 6 p.m. Murray Hall, Huntsville Botanical Garden, 4747 Bob Wallace Ave, Huntsville. www.mginfo.org

March 15 Square Foot Gardening workshop by Mike Harrison. 10 a.m. to 12 p.m. Agribition Center at 4925 Moores Mill Road, Huntsville. www.mginfo.org

March 17 Field Trip to the Memphis Botanical Gardens, Moss Mountain Farms, The Old Mill, and Mr. Dixon's Home and Gardens. Cost: Single \$495 pp, Double \$400 pp. Contact Sandra Pape for any questions or to make your reservation sandrapape@gmail.com

More information and registration for workshops at www.mginfo.org.

DEADLINE FOR SPRING ISSUE IS MARCH 15, 2018



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