

Hello my Gardening friends,

Here we are at the end of the year. Reflecting on this year brings such good memories to mind. We always start our year with a new Master Gardener Intern class. We have put several ads in the Dothan Eagle paper and web site for the upcoming class. Please pass the information about the class to your friends, relatives and neighbors. We are hoping Lucy has a full class.



Next comes our awards in February. If you have suggestions on these awards, our Awards Committee has started meeting and would love your thoughts. These awards are very important. It is a happy time and the recipients are very surprised. What a better way to say *Thank you* for very deserving volunteers.

In March we were involved in the Home and Garden Show at the Civic Center. It was quite the experience. I hope we can have a nice selection of plants for this event in 2018. Of course, we need volunteers helping with seeding after the first of the year. If you would like to help in seeding, please contact the plant parents.

Not only will we need plants in March, we will also need plants for our major event. There is so much work in the greenhouse and nursery area preparing for our April Plant Sale. Plant Parents can not do this all without the help from all our members.

After the Plant Sale some things slow down. We often need people to help clean up after the sale and before the summer heat sets in. We have our State Conference in May. In 2018 our conference is in Birmingham. If you haven't been to a conference, I do hope you consider going this next year. The hotel is beside the civic center where the conference is held. All the information will come out in January.

As Fall approaches we prepare for another Plant Sale. It is always a welcome time when we have repeat customers. I had the pleasure of working the information table and met people when they first arrived for our sale. Some were from near by and others from Georgia and Florida.

As we approach Christmas we come together to close out another year for Master Gardeners. It has been a wonderful year volunteering for our association. This year we taught Junior Master Gardeners at the Dothan Area Botanical Gardens, taught children at Aunt Katie's Community Garden, worked the demo beds (vegetable and flower) at DABG, Home and Garden Show, booth at Senior Day, Volunteered at Landmark Park for various programs, two plant sales and helped Lucy with the intern class. I am so proud of our members. We all continue our education through workshops and webinars. Please remember to log in all your hours so our membership chair turns in the right amount of volunteer hours for each of you. The State Awards chair would appreciate it!

I hope you all get to know the people who have stepped up in positions on the board. Steve Jacobson is our Vice President. Carol Taylor is our Secretary. Chuck McManus is stepping into the Communications

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## The Garden Plot (continued)

Chair/web page. Cheryl Hatcher and Jane Klosky are stepping out of their positions. I am very appreciative of all their hard work they did on Communications and the web page. Both are continuing as Master Gardeners and will help Chuck transition in his position. Please thank them for their volunteer service. Jane won the Newsletter Award at Conference this year. Of course, Cheryl has been sending out Communications for as long as I have been a master gardener and did an incredible job for us during our Conference in 2016. Thank you both for all your hard work communicating through emails and newsletter keeping us informed!

In closing, please remember the reason for the season. Jesus was born and gave his life for all who believe would have everlasting life. I hope each of you have a wonderful Christmas. Please check on friends and family. Encourage our master gardeners to attend our Christmas Party on the 19<sup>th</sup>. I hope to see you then.

Life is a garden, dig it!

*Devonne*

## Don't Miss Out

DABG's Gardens A-Glow is almost ending. Only two more Friday nights—December 15 and 22. If you haven't enjoyed the lights, make plans now to take advantages of these final evenings.

Time: between 5 and 8 pm

Cost is \$5 per person over 5 years of age.

Flashlights are recommended especially for children who will want to find all of the hidden objects.



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**KEEP  
CALM  
AND  
PAY YOUR  
DUES**

## 2018 Dues Are Due

It's time to renew your WMGA membership. The WMGA membership dues for 2018 remain the same as last year — \$20.00. \$10 covers local dues and \$10 for state dues. Dues must be paid by December 1, 2017 so that WMGA can meet the AMGA due date of January 1, 2018. Dues for any member who has AMGA Life Memberships remains at \$10.00 and due and payable on December 1st.

Checks are preferable as it is a record for you and WMGA. Please give them to Connie Ford, WMGA Treasurer (334-406-9559). Questions? Contact Tom Boyle, Membership Chair, @ [BoyleT@graceba.net](mailto:BoyleT@graceba.net).





December 12 ..... WMGA BOD Meeting @ DABG, 9:30 pm  
December 19 ..... WMGA Christmas Celebration @ HPUMC, 6 pm  
January 2 ..... Lunch 'n Learn—A Year of Gardening, 12 noon  
January 10 ..... Master Gardener Intern class begins  
January 22 ..... Landmark Annual Membership Dinner, 6 pm  
January 28 ..... Seed Swap, Landmark Park, 1-3 pm

# GROW WITH US!

## MASTER GARDENER VOLUNTEER TRAINING COURSE

**JANUARY 10 – MARCH 28**

**EVERY WEDNESDAY 8AM-12PM**

**Houston County Extension Office**

**334-794-4108**

# Fall

# GARDEN CHECKLIST



## December

### FRUITS AND NUTS

- ✓ Plant young pecan and other deciduous fruit trees and grapes.
- ✓ Select budwood.
- ✓ Start dormant pruning of established fruits.
- ✓ Protect all young trees from rabbit damage by placing wire around the base of the tree.
- ✓ Put on dormant oil sprays for scale.

### SHRUBS

- ✓ Planting is still the main activity but delay in case of freezing weather

### ANNUALS AND PERENNIALS

- ✓ Plant hardy annual seed without delay. Have you tried violas?

### ROSES

- ✓ Add plants to rose garden.
- ✓ Mulch all plantings.

### BULBS

- ✓ Continue spring bulb planting

### MISCELLANEOUS

- ✓ Shrubs, trees, and indoor plants make excellent gifts.

### LAWNS

- ✓ Control wild garlic, chickweed, Poa annua, dandelion, and other weeds.
- ✓ Read label on each package of weed killer used.



## January

### FRUITS AND NUTS

- ✓ Set out apples, peaches, pears, and grapes.
- ✓ Start grafting pecans. Prune dormant trees.

### SHRUBS

- ✓ Plant shrubs and trees, including broadleaf, narrowleaf, and deciduous.
- ✓ Graft camellias in south Alabama.
- ✓ Spray all deciduous shrubbery with a dormant spray to control diseases and insects.
- ✓ Spray when weather is on warming trend.

### ROSES

- ✓ Visit nurseries and garden centers to select varieties.
- ✓ Start planting.

### ANNUALS AND PERENNIALS

- ✓ Plant hardy annuals

### BULBS

- ✓ Late plantings of Dutch bulbs will flower if planted now.
- ✓ Lilies of all types, except Madonna, may be planted.
- ✓ Check stored bulbs and discard rotten ones.
- ✓ Make indoor plantings of amaryllis, callas, and gloxinias.

### MISCELLANEOUS

- ✓ Prune winter-damaged limbs.
- ✓ Give houseplants a bath in lukewarm water to remove dust.
- ✓ To keep poinsettias that have finished flowering, turn pots on their sides and let them dry completely.
- ✓ Cut them back lightly.
- ✓ Keep in a temperature of 55 to 60 degrees.

### VEGETABLE SEED

- ✓ Plant hardy vegetables, root crops, roots, and tubers in southern-most areas.
- ✓ Plant lettuce, cabbage, and broccoli in cold frames.

### VEGETABLE PLANTS

- ✓ Set out cabbage plants.

### LAWNS

- ✓ Soil test before setting up fertility program.

# WMGA Contacts



## 2017 WMGA Board of Directors

### Officers:

President:.....Devonne Ellis .....205-739-9865 ..... devoellis@msn.com  
Vice President.....Steve Jacobson .....518-858-2244 ..... jakebama900@gmail.com  
Secretary.....Carol Taylor .....334.466.8120 ..... cetaylor27@gmail.com  
Treasurer: .....Connie Ford .....334-406-9559 ..... srvtpc@gmail.com

### Board Members:

Board Member at Large: .....Judy Clardy .....334-797-9580 ..... jclardy822@aol.com  
Membership Chair:.....Tom Boyle .....334-794-2094 ..... BoyleT@graceba.net  
Ways & Means Chair: .....Helen-Sue Kemp.....334-671-9879 ..... hsdekemp1@juno.com  
Communications Chair .....Cheryl Hatcher .....334-798-1034 ..... jhatcher@graceba.net  
Programs Chair .....Janice Egolf .....334-714-1785 ..... pamckees@aol.com  
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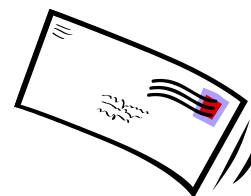
## Plant Parent Directory

**Annuals:** Devonne Ellis.....205-739-9865  
                Lisa Lopez .....334-718-1921  
**Bulbs:** Judy Clardy .....334-797-9580  
                Pat Smith.....404-702-3392  
**Perennials:** Cheryl Hatcher.....334-798-1034  
                Faye Carnley .....803-270-8757  
**GrCovers/Vines/Grasses:**  
                Barbara Jowers .....334.618.6657  
**Herbs:** Linda Westphal .....334-299-0388  
**House Plants/Tropicals/Succulents:**  
                Connie Ford .....334-406-9559  
                Barbara Knight .....334-446-8846  
**Shrubs:** Phyllis Poole .....334-790-7685  
**Trees:** Ralph Byram.....334-618-6691  
**Vegetables:** Helen-Sue Kemp.....334-671-9879

Visit our website @

[www.wiregrassmga.org](http://www.wiregrassmga.org)

## Our Mailing Address:



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## ACES

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