

# Roots and Shoots

Nov/Dec 2019



Editor: Kathy Rostand

## President's Message

Thanks Master Gardeners!

For more than forty years I have been privileged to lead a financial cooperative whose purpose is to help people help themselves, and it is very gratifying to hear heartfelt stories from our members that we help transform from despair to hope. Is this not the plan and purpose for Master Gardeners, too? Absolutely! And you are doing a wonderfully amazing job.

The year 2019 has been appropriately referred to as *fabulous and fast*. We can't control the speed of life, but when we serve cooperatively toward a common goal, we achieve fabulous results and time simply zips away. So, whether we lead or follow, let us continue humbly, enthusiastically, and with heartfelt compassion as we endeavor to restore hope to often troubled people in a troubled world.

Lastly, this is my final message for "Roots & Shoots", and my term as President will end at the conclusion of the upcoming Graduation Banquet. It has been a remarkable experience for me, and I will remain forever grateful for each of you for your strong support that made our meetings successful and our mission achievable; and you have encouraged me to continue my career-long mission — to help people help themselves.

Sincere thanks!

Charlie Faulkner  
President

### \*New Officers for 2020\*

Will be installed at the Banquet November 19

<b>President</b>	Carol Melton
<b>1st Vice President</b>	Gary Walker
<b>2nd Vice President</b>	Mary Foy
<b>Secretary</b>	Linda Massey
<b>Treasurer</b>	Rick Cybulsky
<b>Assistant Treasurer</b>	Jan Street

## JCMGA November Program Notes

### Banquet & Intern Graduation

*Tuesday, November 19, 2019*

*6 PM in the Auditorium  
Birmingham Botanical Gardens*

*With Verna Gates  
"Wildflower Folklore"*



Come celebrate the Intern Graduation and meet the new board for 2020. Tickets for the banquet are \$20 apiece. For more information go to the [Dues and Banquet page](#).

\*There is no meeting in December\*

### Looking Ahead

#### January

*Harvest for Health guests will share their success stories.*

#### February

*Reach for the Stars Banquet*

Don't forget to update your volunteer hours before the Banquet in February.

## Jefferson County Master Gardeners Association Meeting Minutes October 8, 2019

The meeting was called to order by President Charles Faulkner at 10:00 am.

The **Minutes** of the September meeting as reported in the October *Roots & Shoots* were approved. Members may review the September **Financial Report** in the October *Roots & Shoots*; any questions should be directed to *Kate Musso*, Treasurer.

*Gail Pless* of the **Nominating Committee** presented the slate of officers for 2019: President, Carol Melton; 2<sup>nd</sup> Vice President, Mary Foy; Treasurer, Rick Cybulsky; Assistant Treasurer, Jan Street; Secretary, Linda Massey. A call for nominations from the floor was made for the office of Vice President. Gary Walker volunteered for the office and will be presented and installed with the slated officers at our November Banquet.

*Gail Pless* of the **Grants Committee** reported that 7 requests have been submitted for funding by JCMGA. Review and awards will take place in the coming weeks and results will be published in an upcoming *Roots & Shoots*.

Bethany O'Rear from ACES reported a GPIC Volunteer Training class to be held on Thursday, October 17<sup>th</sup>, 2019. ACES also requested volunteers to serve at the Moss Rock Festival Master Gardener Booth, November 2-3 in Hoover.

*Gail Pless*

*For Hope Cooper*

### JEFFERSON COUNTY MASTER GARDENERS ASSOCIATION FINANCIAL REPORT

October 2019

<b>Regions Checking Account Starting Balance 10/1/19</b>	<b>\$4736.38</b>
<b>Deposits</b>	<b>\$2105.50</b>

Dues (\$1210)	
Banquet tickets (\$600)	
Cash box (\$10.50)	
Kathy Connolly Memorial Scholarship (\$285)	

<b>Expenditures</b>	<b>(\$607.72)</b>
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September party expenses (\$80.27)	
Honorarium & Honors (\$200)	
Project Admin Fee (\$251)	
Banquet Expenses (\$64)	
PayPal fees (\$12.45)	

<b>Regions Checking Account Ending Balance 10/31/19</b>	<b>\$6233.66</b>
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<b>Regions MM Account Reserve Balance 10/31/19</b>	<b>\$13,039.61</b>
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(No transactions in this period except accrued interest)

<b>Regions MM Account Grant Balance 10/31/19</b>	<b>\$10,786.71</b>
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(No transactions in this period except accrued interest)

## Bethany's Extras

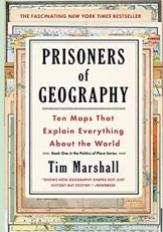
### Old Man Winter Stole Autumn

I don't know about you, but it seems like the 90-degree days we had through October stole my favorite season, Fall, pretty quickly. While we can expect enjoyable temperatures for football weather, the first frost has come and gone and we can expect that to be the norm for nighttime temperatures pretty routinely from now on. So let's go through our checklist for winterizing:

- Remove dirt from hand tools, sand off any rust, check the integrity of their handles and repair if necessary and move them to a dry place for winter storage.
- Rakes, shovels, pitch forks and hoes should also be cleaned of dirt, but now is the time to honestly assess whether they have outlived their useful lives (nothing worse than a long handle breaking and flipping back at your face). If they're good, sand off rough spots of wooden parts, clean rust off metal and store them safely with tines and sharp edges against walls or structures. By the way, you might want to sharpen the tips of shovels and hoes now so that they're ready for use as soon as spring chores call.
- Blades on hand pruners, hedgers and clippers need special attention. Remove any clippings and then sharpen. Treat springs with oil to protect against rust. Hand pruners can be expensive but there are readily available kits online to replace working parts and/or blades. You can look up easy tutorials or stop by our ACES office for a quick lesson—just give me a call beforehand.
- Leather gloves for pruning or other hard gardening work are also an investment, often received as a gardener's favorite gift. Protect the palm part of the glove with a dab of linseed (or other plant-based) oil. Store the gloves flat or rolled, but don't fold them as creases can cause cracks in the leather.
- Empty clay pots, sterilize in a dilute bleach solution and store in a dry location for winter. Drain concrete bird baths and pots and turn on their sides so they don't collect any more water this season. And while you're thinking of birds, remove your hummingbird feeders, sterilize your seed feeders, add suet and, most importantly, make sure birds have a reliable, shallow water feeder for winter.
- And the best general advice for the garden is remove diseased plant parts and leaves, mulch permanent plantings, water well, and trust that Spring is just around the corner.

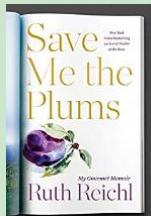
## Thyme to Read Book Club

The Library at Birmingham Botanical Gardens



**Tuesday, December 3 at 6PM**

*Prisoners of Geography: Ten Maps That Explain Everything About the World*  
by Tim Marshall



**Tuesday, January 7 at 6PM**

*Save Me the Plums*  
by Ruth Reichl

*No registration required*

*For more information contact Hope Long,  
Library Director, at 205-414-3931 or [hlong@bbgardens.org](mailto:hlong@bbgardens.org)*



**In the Art Gallery**  
November/December

Catherine Smith  
**Character of the South**



## Volunteers Needed

The Library at the Birmingham Botanical Gardens has openings for volunteers on Mondays, 1-4 pm and Tuesday, 9am-1 pm. If you are interested contact Alice Moore, Volunteer Coordinator at 414-3950, ext. 104 or email her at [amoore@bbgardens.org](mailto:amoore@bbgardens.org)

### Membership Dues

Jefferson County Master Gardeners Association annual dues are \$35. Dues are payable by January 1st and are delinquent after January 31. You can pay by credit card (PayPal) online at the JCMGA website [Dues and Banquet page](#).

Dues are also payable by check (payable to "JCMGA") mailed to:

Kate Musso, JCMGA Treasurer  
c/o Alabama Cooperative Extension System  
C. Beatty Hanna Horticulture & Environmental Center  
2612 Lane Park Road  
Birmingham, AL 35223

Or drop it off with Kate's name on the envelope at the ACES

### Master Gardener Meetings CEU Hours for 2019

<b>January 8</b>	Stephen Knop
	Renee Thompson 1.25 CEU
<b>March 12</b>	Bethany O'Rear 1 CEU
<b>April 9</b>	Intern projects 1 CEU
<b>May 14</b>	Plant Swap 1 CEU
<b>June 11</b>	Lindsey Barclift. 1 CEU
<b>June 18</b>	June Mays 1 CEU
<b>July 9</b>	Jason Powell 2 CEU
<b>August 13</b>	Peggy Hill 1 CEU
<b>September 10</b>	Arnold Caylor 1.5 CEU
<b>October 8</b>	Phyllis Light 1.0 CEU

## Classes at the Birmingham Botanical Gardens

Register at <https://www.bhgardens.org/>

### Saturdays in the Gardens

#### **November: Grow Ferns that Flourish!**

Led by Dan Jones of the Birmingham Fern Society

**Saturday, November 16, 2019 | 9 a.m.–Noon**

Orientation Room (near the entrance to the Gardens)/Southern Living Garden

Cost: \$10

Dr. Dan Jones of the Birmingham Fern Society will provide an introduction to what makes ferns special, how to care for them, and where to grow them, including unique terminology associated with ferns, their differing growth habits, and specific attributes that influence how you plant, transplant, and site them in a garden.

Participants will then tour the Fern Glade with Dr. Jones. The tour will cover a brief history of the Glade and its current role as a test garden for the Hardy Fern Foundation, select ferns that perform well in Birmingham gardens, as well as some unusual ferns.

**\*Counts toward Certificate in Native Plant Studies**

#### **December: Care for Tools!**

Led by Friends Staff and Bog Garden Volunteers

**Saturday, December 21, 2019 | 9 a.m. –Noon**

Orientation Room (near the entrance to the Gardens)

Cost: \$10

Join the Friends of Birmingham Botanical Gardens on Saturdays in The Gardens! John Nabors, Executive Director of the Alabama Green Industry Training Center and Green Industry Training Coordinator for the Alabama Cooperative Extension System, will cover the proper way to care for your garden tools and ensure they work their best season after season. Participants will work with experts to prepare tools for winter storage. Participants may bring some of their own tools or practice their skills with the Gardens' tools.

### Native Plants & Birds

Instructor: Michelle Reynolds

**Saturday, November 23, 2019 | 8:30-12:30 p.m.**

Birmingham Botanical Gardens

Members \$40 | Non-members \$50

Learn about the many native plants that provide food and habitat for our state's birds. Instructor Michelle Reynolds will combine indoor instruction with time spent in the Gardens to see the plants favored by southbound migrant birds, and—hopefully—some of the birds too.

**\*Counts toward Certificate in Native Plant Studies**

**Tony Glover's Webinar** presentation on “*30 Underused or Just Outstanding Woody Plants for Alabama Landscapes*”

If you missed it – it was recorded and can be viewed by clicking this [link](#).  
This CEU opportunity lasts about 45 minutes.

**Jefferson County Master Gardeners Association  
Officers, Board Members, and Committees 2019**

<b>President</b>	Charles Faulkner	<b>Webmaster &amp; Social Media</b>	Diane Remick
<b>1st Vice President</b>	Carol Melton	<b>Newsletter Editor</b>	Kathy Rostand
<b>2nd Vice President</b>	Mary Foy		
<b>Treasurer</b>	Kate Musso	<b>ACES</b>	Bethany O'Rear
<b>Asst. Treasurer</b>	Rick Cybulsky	<b>Hospitality</b>	Maurice & Martha Picardy
<b>Secretary</b>	Hope Cooper	<b>Membership</b>	Ken & Alicia Hall
			Linda Systrom



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