

GRASS ROOTS

NEWSLETTER OF THE BALDWIN COUNTY MASTER GARDENERS, INC.

JULY 2026

www.baldwinmastergardeners.com

VOL. 34 ISSUE 7



INSIDE THIS ISSUE

President's Note	1-2
Monthly Birthdays	2
Night-Blooming Cereus	3
Meeting Minutes	4-8
BCMG Scholarships	9
Things To Know	9
Past Events	10-11
Volunteer Spotlight	12
July Events	13-14
Volunteer Hours	15
Tech Corner	16
Mark Your Calendar	17
Calendar	18



PRESIDENT'S NOTE

By Lynn Barnes

"Let's Cross Pollinate Ourselves"

What does it mean to cross pollinate? "It is a mixing of genetic materials, resulting in healthier, stronger crops and unique varieties." OR it can be an exchange of ideas, skills or cultural elements.

We have several Master Gardeners who have transferred to Baldwin County from other areas – let's cross-pollinate with them and make a new friend. We already have so much in common because we love gardening. Let's find out what is their favorite plant to grow. If you see someone who doesn't look familiar, please walk over to them and introduce yourself. You will probably find that both of you have similar interests. I'm excited that BCMG is growing every month!

Let's talk about some upcoming events like the Fall plant sale. The dates are Oct. 16, 17 and 18. This is a Friday, Saturday and Sunday. Please mark your calendar.



**"BEE" SOCIAL AND BUZZ OVER
TO VISIT YOUR NEIGHBOR!**

PRESIDENT'S NOTE

By Lynn Barnes

Don't forget our General Meeting at the Foley Civic Center on July 8. We will begin the meeting at 10:30 so come early so you'll have time to walk from the back parking lot and find a good seat. We will be awarding name badges to our new class of Interns. Don't forget to bring your favorite recipe to share with others!

Our Tech Team has put together a lot of good info on our BCMG website and on the page where you enter your volunteer hours. Looking for ways to volunteer?, click on the "Check for Volunteer Ops" box at the bottom right hand corner on the website page. This is a huge asset to our project leaders. Thank you Andreu!

Wishing you a great summer!

Lynn Barnes



JULY BIRTHDAYS

Ann Hutchison	07-02
James Faulkner	07-08
Lawanna Sharpless	07-11
Analou Lopez-Shultz	07-14
María Curow	07-15
Gordon Cooper	07-16
Charlotte Hamm	07-16
Beth Murray	07-19
Carmen Flammini	07-27
Sueann Barnwell	07-28
Diana Rodgers	07-28
Mary Hamilton	07-30



Night-Blooming Cereus

By Linda Crowell

The Night-Blooming Cereus is often called "Queen of the Night", refers to several species of night-blooming cacti. Yes, the cacti family...without the spines to stick you!

They are known for producing spectacular, highly fragrant white flowers that open only in the dark and wilt before morning. I became fascinated with these beautiful, fragrant flowers several years ago and began with a single stem I received from a gardener friend. They root easily and grow fairly quickly. I now have four plants, one planted in a large hanging basket. Flowers can take weeks to form. Often taking more than a week from first sighting to get to the evening it blooms. However, once the bud opens, just after dusk, the flower opens so quickly you could just about pull up a chair and watch it unfurl.

The downside of the plant is that the large plate-sized flowers, much like a day lily, bloom for one night only, fading and wilting entirely by the time the sun rises. While they are blooming, they emit a lovely fragrant scent that fills the night air to attract nocturnal pollinators like moths and bats. Just walking nearby, you will enjoy the scent.

Night blooming cereus thrive in bright, indirect sunlight or dappled shade. It's not particular. I have found it does need to be protected from the scorching hot summer sun of South Alabama. Mine are planted in large pots which allow me to move them to a warmer environment when winter comes, as they are not cold-hardy.

Unlike desert cacti, they need rich, well-draining soil and like supplemental moisture during the growing season.

They are incredibly easy to propagate by taking stem cuttings, allowing the cut end to callus over for a few days, and rooting it in fresh soil or water.

Because the blooming event is both beautiful and so fleeting, it is common for gardeners to host "Bloom Parties." Friends or neighbors often gather late at night to watch the flowers open, share drinks, and take pictures of the rare spectacle. I have never hosted a Bloom Party, but many times I have set my alarm to get up and photograph these beautiful flowers. (and my neighbor has been known to sneak over in the middle of the night to photograph them.)

It's worth losing sleep to appreciate these breathtaking beauties of nature.



MEETING MINUTES



By Gilda Underwood

Baldwin County Master Gardeners

General Meeting 6/10/2026

Lynn Barnes, President, called the meeting to order at 10:02 AM. She requested everyone to stand and join in saying the Pledge of Allegiance. She recognized members with June birthdays by inviting them to stand. Also, all past Presidents, and Wayne de la Rua award winners were asked to stand and be recognized. Members applauded these recognitions. There were 73 people in attendance.

Lynn asked Charlotte Hamm, Monthly Program Chair, to introduce our guest speaker, Levi Blackmon, an Alabama Extension Aquatic Resources Agent in South Alabama. He will speak on Aquatic Invasive Species in Alabama: Impact, Examples and Management. Levi has been a natural resource conservationist for approximately 15 years. He got his B.S. degree in Forest Resources and Conservation from the University of Florida. In 2015 he became an aquatic biologist for The Lake Doctors, Inc. He now covers aquatic plant issues in 18 Alabama counties' ponds, lakes, streams, and reservoirs.

Terminology is important in understanding aquatic invasives. Native is a naturally occurring species; Weeds can be native – example Crabgrass, Dog Fennel, Sweetgum; Non-native is introduced to an area, that may or may not be harmful; Invasive/nuisance is non-native that likely causes economic, environmental or human harm; Noxious species are invasive, but not all invasive species are considered noxious-negative harm.

Aquatic invasives affect the ecosystem and economy. Florida has a lot of invasive plants with Alabama a close 2nd. Alabama has the 6th largest watershed and is the 4th largest in volume of water output. In Alabama there are 815 aquatic species; 132,000 miles of streams; 563,000 acres of ponds, lakes and reservoirs; 3.6 million acres of wetlands and marshes. Alabama has many pathways for invasive species to spread, along with a climate that supports their growth and reproduction.

Levi noted that ships arriving at the Port of Mobile from around the world can introduce invasive species to our area on their hulls and propellers. He explained smaller boats carry invasives as they travel to and from bays, rivers and lakes. The spread of invasive plants harms ecosystems across the state.

Alabama enforces a regulated list of prohibited plants. Reference was made to The Alabama Invasive Aquatic Plants list made by Alabama Invasive Plant Council (ALIPC) & Alabama Department of Conservation & Natural Resources (ADCNR). Some of the top prohibited plants are common salvinia, hydrilla, water hyacinth, alligatorweed, Cuban bulrush, and giant salvinia. Levi explained each invasive plant on the list, including whether it floats, has long roots, its size, its effect on oxygen levels, its country of origin, and the color of its plant and flowers.

MEETING MINUTES



By Gilda Underwood

By examining a plant's roots, leaves, spores, buds, flowers, and color, he can identify the best methods for improving ponds and lakes.

Torpedograss is not on Alabama's noxious species list, but it is listed on Florida's list. Levi invited all to read a new study he just completed on "Torpedograss: Identification and Control". This article is located on the Alabama Extension website www.aces.edu. Torpedograss can overtake Alabama marshes and spread across hundreds of acres.

Invasive Aquatic Fauna (animal life): bighead carp, silver carp, common carp, black carp, Rudd, virile and rusty crayfish, nutria, Corbicula clam, red shiner, zebra mussel, blue back herring, island apple snail, channeled apple snail, grass carp, Australian red claw, marron, and yabby crawfish, Australian spotted jellyfish, blue and Nile tilapia. Not all of these are in Alabama.

In Alabama, species that may help control invasive plants in some situations include grass carp, blue tilapia, and Nile tilapia. The bighead carp and silver carp are difficult to control because they feed continuously and their reproduction is high. Virile crayfish in Alabama decrease water quality. A rusty crayfish causes negative impact in our fresh water. Island apple snail can have thousands of eggs. Also, they have nematodes that attach to them that can cause meningitis. They are noxious and can affect our crayfish and water quality.

Flora (plant life) Management Control: We have mechanical controls which are by hand, rake removal, harvesters, small cutter bars, backhoes, draglines, and dredging equipment. Mechanical control is not always the best option as plants can easily spread by the fragments of their leaves. In some cases, chemical control, such as aquatic label herbicides used with grass carp, may be needed to manage aquatic plants. However, control can still be difficult to achieve.

Remember to use aquatic chemicals. The label is the law. Of the 300 chemicals available in the U.S., only 16 are labeled for aquatic use. The biggest problem of weed control is picking the right herbicide, mixing the right herbicide correctly, and applying the right herbicide.

Levi Blackmon, Aquatic Resource Agent, invited attendees to contact him directly with their aquatic problems. He can test fishpond water quality at the Brewton, Alabama office. If you want to report a sighting of non-indigenous aquatic species, the U.S. geological service (USGS) has a website www.usgs.gov. There were handouts available: How to Submit Pond Water Samples and How to Submit a Pond Weed Sample.

Lynn thanked Levi Blackmon for his presentation, and the group applauded.

A 7-minute break followed.

MEETING MINUTES



By Gilda Underwood

After the break, President Lynn Barnes, began the business portion of the meeting. She asked if there were any corrections to the May 13th General Meeting minutes. One correction was reported. Master Gardener Mary Anne Johnston had been incorrectly listed as a visitor. Correction was made and the revised General Meeting minutes will be recorded. Lynn asked for hands of those that read the Grass Roots Newsletter. After seeing many hands, "wonderful" was her comment. Lynn asked for a motion to approve the May 13th General Meeting minutes as corrected. Karon Pennington made the motion, Mary Meyer seconded it, and the motion passed.

PRESIDENT'S REPORT: Lynn invited Julie Cox to come forward to receive a Busy Bee award. Julie has been working on grant writing. She wrote the grant request application that secured funding for the new greenhouse. Julie noted that the project was a group effort and thanked Gilda, Andreu, Dolores, Cassandra, Lynn, Tom, and all the Master Gardeners who contributed descriptions of county projects.

Lynn made all aware that the greenhouse construction bid and the concrete bids were received in February. Early quotes were necessary to calculate the funds needed for grant applications. In the length of time since February prices have risen. We have some funds set aside for this project, but perhaps more funds will be needed. Lynn stated we should be very careful in the bid process and in spending the grant funds in a timely manner. Julie and Lynn thanked everyone for their help with the greenhouse project.

ACES REPORT: Carmen reminded everyone to check on members they have not seen recently, as some may be dealing with challenges. We all support each other to make our community better.

A few weeks ago, there was an appreciation party held for volunteers. Next year we will make a better effort to get the word out. If you did not get a thank you notebook, please pick one up on the front table.

Carmen had a handout called "BCEMG Projects in Service Report". She announced that Shannon Russell has been working toward having projects listed under Service Report on the ACES website.

The Service Report will include headings for Project, General Category, Subcategory, and Project Location. All activities should be assigned a category. The Grass Roots Newsletter will have a list of categories so you can become familiar with all categories. Work on this update will continue to give volunteers better access to information about available opportunities. In the past, sign-up clipboards were used, but as the number of projects grows, efforts are underway to improve volunteer information and make it easier to enter service hours in the Service Report.

MEETING MINUTES



By Gilda Underwood

Carmen clarified how to count contacts in the Service Report. In the past, one person at an event reported all contacts for the day. Now, each Master Gardener may count every individual they personally assist. For example, if four volunteers at a Master Gardener information table speak with the same person, all four may record that contact. A contact is made whenever you provide helpful Master Gardener information to someone. Shannon announced that these new format instructions come from Auburn for ACES.

Shannon Russell, Project Chair, introduced a new feature at the bottom of the Service Report for tracking ongoing volunteer projects and event opportunities. This information will be updated regularly and should be an easier engagement process. By clicking on a volunteer opportunity, members can contact the person coordinating sign-ups and attendance. Shannon thanked Sara Semmes, Andreu Riebe, Kim Musson, Carmen Flammini, and Lydia Chan for their help.

Shannon then referred to the Baldwin County Master Gardeners website:
www.baldwinmastergardeners.com

She encouraged everyone to click on the "Projects" heading to view each Baldwin County district (North, Central, South, & West) and its project information. Project names will be kept consistent across all platforms to avoid confusion. She also noted that clicking on the "Events" heading opens the "Main Event Calendar," which will list upcoming workshops, meetings, and public events.

Carmen reported that work is being done to get information and the Master Gardener's application on the website.

District leaders were invited to attend a meeting today after the General Meeting to review and refine project names.

VICE PRESIDENT REPORT: Tom Fortner, Vice President, reported that updated quotes have been requested for the Atlas greenhouse. Additional concrete quotes will need to be requested as concrete prices have increased. The lease agreement draft has been completed and is under review by the City of Loxley. Tom said he hopes the agreement will be finalized by July so construction can move forward.

Tom reported that policies require a Nominating Committee to be formed in June, typically organized by the Vice President. The committee will include the Vice President, the immediate past President, and five members. There will be three Board members: Mickey Ezell, Anita O'Connor, and Mary Meyer, along with Wanda Martin and Zetty Bauer. The committee's slate of members to serve will be presented to the Board in October and to the membership for election in November. The Board includes seven elected members and five appointed members.

MEETING MINUTES



By Gilda Underwood

If anyone has an interest in any position, please let it be known. The one thing we have to do for next year is to replace our Treasurer. Cassandra has done a wonderful job but will be cycling off. Mickey encouraged anyone interested in serving as Treasurer to talk to Cassandra and review the job description written in the Policy and Procedures Manual.

TREASURER'S REPORT: In Treasurer Cassandra Rabren's absence, Finance Chair Mickey Ezell reported that BCMG has \$100,430.11 in its checking account, \$164,341.47 in its money market account for the greenhouse, a \$5,258.83 CD for seed money, and a \$25,000.00 CD, for a total of \$295,030.41. Approximately \$100,000.00 has been budgeted for this year's program expenses.

OLD AND NEW BUSINESS: In response to a question from the audience, Lynn reported that the 2026 scholarship fund totaled \$2,500.00 and was divided between two students. She said she hopes the amount can be increased next year.

If you have pictures that would be good to present at the end of the year's slide show in December, please send them to Robin Newell at robin.rn@baldwinmastergardeners.com.

Please do not text pictures or send them to her personal e-mail address. Thank you.

There will be a Fall Plant Sale on October 16th, 17th, and 18th. The location has not yet been determined.

A door prize drawing was held for fresh eggs and Yeti bottles. Also, there were Porterweed and Pink Knotweed plants to share.

The next General Meeting will be held at the Foley Civic Center on Wednesday, July 8th at 10:30 AM with a social time at 10:00 AM. Lunch will be at 11:00 AM. Please bring a lunch item to be shared. Interns will be receiving their name badges.

Barry Gilliland made a motion to adjourn the meeting, and Kay Smith seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously. The General Meeting was adjourned at 12:18 PM.

2026 SCHOLARSHIPS

**BCMG
2026**

**Scholarship
Recipients**



Sharon Smith at Orange
Beach HS with Blake Brunick



Sharon Smith at Robertsdale
HS with Mattie Burnette

THINGS TO KNOW

By Home Grown National Parks

Here are 6 ways to make your yard firefly-friendly:

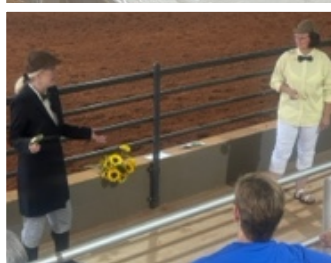


1. Plant native - Native wildflowers, grasses, and shrubs support the insects fireflies eat.
2. Dim outdoor lights - Switch to yellow bulbs, use motion sensors, and point lights downward. Turn off anything that doesn't need to be on after dark.
3. Skip the fogging - If mosquitoes are the issue, try the Mosquito Bucket using Mosquito Dunks instead. It targets larvae without harming fireflies, pollinators, or other wildlife.
4. Leave the leaf litter - Firefly larvae live in moist soil and decomposing leaves. That pile you were going to bag? Leave it.
5. Leave some decaying wood - Rotting logs and stumps provide the shelter and moisture firefly larvae need to survive.
6. Create a no-mow zone - Even a small corner where plants can grow undisturbed gives fireflies space to complete their life cycle.



PAST EVENTS

KIDS NATURE DAY JUNE 9TH. ROBERTSDALE



PAST EVENTS

KIDS NATURE DAY JUNE 23RD. HOLLY HILLS G.C.



VOLUNTEER SPOTLIGHT

BCMG South District



Foley Farmers & Fishermans Market Mom and kids playing our new "Match the Seed Game" at the Foley Farmers Market.
By Sueann Barnwell



The Grove Retirement Community Pollinator Garden By Julie Cox



Welcome Back Monarchs - By Sarah Butterworth

BCMG North District



Stapleton Elementary School Pollinator Garden and Outdoor Classroom, shown here with Tammy Grace. Volunteers: Andreu Riebe, Mary Calvin, Shannon Russell, Wanda Martin, Larry Musson, Kim Musson.

JULY EVENTS



GROW MORE GIVE MORE

**250 lb.
CHALLENGE**



How to Participate

This challenge is open to everyone, from gardening pros to those still establishing their green thumb. The challenge runs May 25 (Memorial Day) through September 7 (Labor Day).

1. Plant and Grow with Purpose

2. Where to Donate, interactive site map link.

[Click Here for Interactive site map link](#)

Site Map
QR code



3. Record Your Donation

[Click Here for
Donation Entry Link](#)

Donation Entry
QR code



County Leaderboard

As of June 23, fresh produce donations have been reported in 25 counties! Below is the current county leaderboard.

1st Place Marshall County: 1245.3 lb

2nd Place Jackson County: 793 lb

3rd Place Tuscaloosa County: 684 lb

4th Place Mobile County: 498.975 lb

5th Place Butler County: 415.38 lb

6th Place Houston County: 350 lb

7th Place Limestone County: 242.5 lb

8th Place Baldwin County: 242 lb

JULY EVENTS



BCMG Awards Luncheon

Wednesday July 8, 2026
 Foley Civic Center
 407 East Laurel Ave, Foley
 10:00 am - Social
 10:30 am sharp - Meeting
 11:00 am - Lunch
 12:00 pm - Awards

Please bring a dish of your favorite recipe to share.
 You are requested to park in the civic center rear parking lot
 Access from E Jessamine Ave



Happiness is the Garden!

Blount County Master Gardeners'
 Fall Conference, Thursday, October 1, 2026

4 CEUs

Blount County Multipurpose Center,
 6700 County Road 1, Cleveland, AL 35049

The Alabama Cooperative Extension System (Alabama A&M University and Auburn University) is an equal opportunity educator, employer, and provider. If you need a reasonable accommodation or language access services, contact Bethany O'Rear, Regional Extension Agent at baoo004@auburn.edu by two weeks prior to the program.

- 8:30 a.m. Registration
- 9:00 a.m. Susan Hagen, "There's More in the Garden than Plants!"
- 10:00 a.m. Bethany O'Rear, "Fun in the Garden"
- 11:00 a.m. Lunch by Lulu's BBQ and shopping with Jason Powell
- 12:30 p.m. Hayes Jackson, "The Weather is Awful and I Have Lost My Clippers Again: An Avid Plantsman's Tales of Triumph in the Garden"
- 1:30 p.m. Felder Rushing, "Garden Whimsies!"



Registration form, please print and clip ----- ✂ -----

Name _____

Address _____

City / State / Zip code _____

Email / Phone # _____

Make \$40 non-refundable registration fee check payable to Blount County Master Gardener Association and mail to Sherilyn Osborne, P.O. Box 13, Locust Fork, Alabama, 35097.
 Phone: 205-382-0791 (Leave a message)



STORM READY

Thursday, July 30
 9:00 am - 1:00 pm

Gulf Coast Eco Center
 1650 Eco Trail, Gulf Shores

- Preparing Gardens
- Chainsaws and Generators
- Tree Risk & Selection
- Storm Supplies
- Food, Water, Sanitation



**REGISTER
 HERE!**

<https://www.aces.edu/go/5923>

The Alabama Cooperative Extension System (Alabama A&M University and Auburn University) is an equal opportunity educator, employer, and provider. If you need a reasonable accommodation or free language access services, contact Carmen Flammini at 251-395-0249 by July 5, 2026.

Day long workshop covering
 hurricane preparedness for
 homeowners and property
 managers.

Cost: \$10
 Lunch will be provided.



VOLUNTEER HOURS

By Kim Musson

Volunteer Hours/CEU Updates

Baldwin County consistently leads the state in Volunteer Hours. We are now publishing hour totals from the County Reports page at the top of the Tech Corner page of the newsletter.

As you can see, BCMG does a good job reporting volunteer hours, CEU's and contacts. Last month, 99 of 156 active members reported hours.

Recently, there have been discussions to clarify how/when to count contacts. A few scenarios were brought up, and it appears we have been under-reporting contacts. Below you will find a few items that have been identified that we can all improve on.

Contacts

Example: You and two fellow Master Gardeners volunteered at Earth Day; you all had a discussion about native plants and gardening issues with 5 people. You should each document 5 contacts for that event.

Travel Time

Some BCMG members travel a long way to get to volunteer events and classes. It is very important to document this time, as it adds significantly to our volunteer total. Whether you are documenting volunteer hours or CEU's, don't get bogged down in details. If Google Maps says it will take you 30 minutes to get to an event, log in 1 hour for your round-trip total. Travel time is reported separately when you document CEU's. When volunteering, add travel time to your volunteer time; there is no separate space to document.

Plant Donation

Did you know that donating native plants to a school or other pollinator garden can be counted as a plant donation? The time you spend planting, transplanting, and nurturing those plants is valuable and necessary; don't forget to count it.

Food Donation

If you donate food to one of the Grow More Give More locations, don't forget to document the weight of the produce that you donate and your volunteer hours for that donation. If you are not close to one of the designated locations, donate to another worthy cause and document in the same manner.

Have questions about GMGM? See information links, page 13.

Still have questions on how to log in Volunteer Hours/CEU's, or need clarity on the ACES reporting system? Contact our hours manager Andreu Riebe.

In addition, Kerry Smith made a very detailed and helpful 17 minute video titled, How to Enter Hours.

Don't forget to document your time that you spend watching the training video.

[Click here for the link-](#)

TECH CORNER-Volunteer Hours Update



By Andreu Riebe

Here are the top 5 MG associations and their current reported hours.
Please remember to log your volunteer, CEU and travel time hours.

[Click here to report hours](#)

Total Hours by County - 2026

* This County Reports page combines Vol Hours and Travel Hours. The Statewide Summary Report provides a separate Travel Hours total.

* Num Vols = number of unique volunteers (not number of entries)

County	--	Num Vols	Vol Hours*	CEU Hours	Contacts
1 Baldwin	[CATEGORIES] [OUTREACH]	99	7818	813	10850
2 Mobile	[CATEGORIES] [OUTREACH]	85	7618	717	176947
3 Jefferson	[CATEGORIES] [OUTREACH]	141	6103	745	16293
4 Wiregrass	[CATEGORIES] [OUTREACH]	70	5965	559	10591
5 MG of N. Alabama (Madison Co area)	[CATEGORIES] [OUTREACH]	100	5350	1054	9991

Stay Up to Date – Subscribe!

You can subscribe to the BCMG website calendar so events automatically appear on your personal calendar (Google, Outlook, Apple, etc.).

Subscribing is one of the easiest ways to ensure you never miss a meeting or event.

Help Us Keep It Accurate

- Have an upcoming meeting or event?
- Notice something missing?
- See incorrect information?

Please contact Lydia Chan or Andreu Riebe so it can be added or corrected.

We put in significant effort to keep the calendar updated, but given the size of our county and the numerous events occurring across districts and committees, we depend on everyone's assistance.

Newsletter Committee:

Andreu Riebe, Kim Musson, Larry Musson, Linda Crowell

Article/Pictures Submissions - grassroots@baldwinmastergardeners.com

Deadline: 20th of each month



Baldwin County Master Gardeners, Inc.
8300 State Hwy. 104
Fairhope, AL 36532



MARK YOUR CALENDAR



CEU Opportunities - Access more information at aces.edu/calendar

Online Classes

Natural Resources Webinar Series

Online, AL

Wednesdays, Noon to 1 p.m. CT.

July 8, 2026

Landscaping with Alabama

Native Plant

<https://auburn.zoom.us>

Get Outside with Alabama Smart Yards Webinar Series

Registration required

July 22, 1:00 pm. Cut Flowers:

Field to Table

Lilly Oaks, Alabama Extension

Home Horticulture Agent at

Auburn University

Natural Resources Webinar Series

Online, AL

Wednesdays, Noon to 1 p.m. CT.

July 22, 2026

The Great Southeast Pollinator

Census in Alabama

Bethany O'Rear, Home Horticulture

Agent, Alabama Extension at

Auburn University

VCLLI F'26: 1-2-3 Photography

Online

September 9, 2026 at 10:00 am

October 7, 2026 at 10:00 am

November 4, 2026 at 10:00 am

Join a group of like-minded participants as we learn, grow, inspire, support, and engage each other in the world of writing with light.

**WHY COULDN'T THE
GARDENER GROW ANY
FLOWERS?**

HE HADN'T BOTANY.



Onsite Classes

Baldwin County Master Environmental Educators Training

Aug. 20th, 2026 8:30 am

Gulf Coast Research and

Extension Center, 8300

Alabama 104, Fairhope, AL

36532

MEE Training: Learn to teach engaging natural resource lessons (grades 2-12); Registration and Background Check required.

**WHAT DID ONE
CACTUS SAY TO
ANOTHER?**

"LOOKING SHARP!"



CALENDAR

JUL 08 2026 BCMG Awards Luncheon, (10:30 am Meeting, 11:00 Luncheon, 12:00 Awards)
JUL 30 2026 ACES Workshop "Storm Ready" 9:00 am - 1:00 pm, See flyer
AUG 05 2026 BCMG Board Meeting, Research Station, Hwy 104, 9:30 am - 11:30 am
AUG 12 2026 BCMG August Monthly Meeting (9:30 am Social, 10:00 am Meeting)
AUG 21 2026 The Great Southeast Pollinator Census Count, AUG 21 - 22,
SEP 02 2026 BCMG Board Meeting, Research Station, Hwy 104, 9:30 am - 11:30 am
SEP 09 2026 BCMG September Monthly Meeting (9:30 am Social, 10:00 am Meeting)
OCT 01 2026 AMGA Fall Conference Blount County - See flyer
OCT 07 2026 BCMG Board Meeting, Research Station, Hwy 104, 9:30 am - 11:30 am
OCT 14 2026 BCMG October Monthly Meeting (9:30 am Social, 10:00 am Meeting)
OCT 16 2026 BCMG Fall Plant Sale Location- TBA
NOV 04 2026 BCMG Board Meeting, Research Station, Hwy 104, 9:30 am - 11:30 am
NOV 11 2026 BCMG November Monthly Meeting (9:30 am Social, 10:00 am Meeting)
DEC 02 2026 BCMG Board Meeting, Research Station, Hwy 104, 9:30 am - 11:30 am
DEC 09 2026 BCMG Christmas Awards Luncheon, 10:00 am Social, 10:30 am Business meeting
11:00 am Lunch, followed by the awards ceremony



PICTURE SUBMISSIONS for end of year video.
Send pictures to this email-
Robin Newell -
robin.rn@baldwinmastergardeners.com

2026 BCMG Elected Board

President: Lynn Barnes
Vice-President: Tom Fortner
Treasurer: Cassandra Rabren
Recording Secretary: Gilda Underwood
Corresponding Secretary: Kim Scasny
Members at Large: Barry Gilliland,
Mary Meyer
Past President: Don Richerson

2026 Appointed Board

Monthly Program Chair: Charlotte Hamm
Intern Program Chair: Anita O'Connor
Outreach Chair: Linda Mong
Finance Chair: Mickey Ezell
Projects Chair: Shannon Russell

Next Meeting Dates:

Wednesday July 8, 2026
10:00 am - Social
10:30 am sharp - Meeting
11:00 am - Lunch
12:00 pm - Awards

Bring a dish to share at the General Meeting = 1 CEU Hr.
Don't forget to log in your time.

