



GMGA GARDEN CONFERENCE

The Georgia Master Gardener Conference will be held on October 19, 2019 at the Museum of Aviation Century of Flight Building, Warner Robins, Georgia. Conference starts promptly at 8:30am.

The 2019 Garden Conference is open to all Master Gardeners, Gardeners, Green

Industry Professionals and Consumers. Our Conference Speakers include Dr. Michael Dirr, Professor Emeritus University of Georgia, globally recognized as “the expert” on woody plants; Dr. Kim Coder, Professor Warnell School of Forestry and Natural Resources, a world renowned expert on urban trees; Mary Lynne Beckley, Executive Director Georgia Tree Council, will present Georgia Landmark & Historic Trees; The Nichols Brothers, owners of Mr. Maple Nursery, will speak on Japanese Maple selections and their travels in Japan; Mark Maher, Southern Living, will share new plant introductions!

Master Gardeners and Industry Professionals can receive educational credits.

There are three credits for Forestry Category 23; three credits for Ornamental / Turf Category 24; and 2 credits for private pesticide.

The Friday Reception will be held at **The Farmhouse**, 95 Chantilly Dr, Warner Robins, GA 31088, from 5- 8 pm. GPS users may want to use 417 S. Houston Lake Rd., Warner Robins, GA 31088. The Farmhouse is on Chantilly behind McCullough Funeral Home. Parking is the back lot of McCullough and the designated parking area next to the Farmhouse.

This is a must attend conference and for those of you who thought it was only on Saturday, October 19, 2019 – think again! The day before the conference, Friday, October 18th from 11 am to 3pm, there will be a free tour of the must see “Native Plant Garden” at the Macon Museum of Arts and Science at 4182 Forsyth Rd, Macon, GA 31210. In 2013, the garden received the Native Landscape Award at the South Georgia Native Plant and Wildflower Symposium. Master Gardeners of

Central Georgia including Master Gardeners from Bibb, Houston, Twiggs, and Crawford counties have worked tirelessly to lay out, label and map the garden beds; provide appropriate, informative signage; and address the natural landscape challenges of the location, Come see this special garden!

The GMGA Conference Garden Market will be open on Saturday, October 19th from 8:30 – 4:30pm. We have top notch growers including Japanese Maples from Mr. Maple, Native trees, shrubs and plants from Ernest Koone, owner of Lazy K Nursery, the largest grower of native azaleas in the U.S.; Donna Vincent, Vincent Gardens and Greg Lewis, Flat Creek Natives. Tim Bell, Bell's Daylily Gardens, will offer Georgia grown daylilies and Tim Lewis, Lewis Farms Nursery will have perennial plant at the market. Linda Fraser, renowned native plant artist will show and sell native plant art and prints.

The day after the conference, Sunday, October 20th another real treat is in store for conference attendees. All attendees will receive free admission to Massee Lane Gardens, 100 Massee Ln, Fort Valley, GA 31030, a designated International Camellia Society's "Garden of Excellence". Massee Lane will be open from 1pm to 4:30 pm.

Not far away, in Elko, Georgia is another treasure. Mary Royal, owner of "Royal Gardens" has invited all conference attendees to tour the gardens at no cost! Ms. Royal will be on hand to answer questions about the gardens during the self-guided tour between the hours of 9am to 2pm. Royal Gardens is located 2541 Elko Rd. in Elko, Georgia.

The reception and garden tours are free. Come join us for a great conference and a taste of Southern hospitality!

Registration is open at the GMGA web site:

<https://www.georgiamastergardeners.org>

2019 GMGA Conference Speakers:



Dr. Michael A. Dirr

Michael A. Dirr, professor emeritus, horticulture, University of Georgia, is widely acknowledged as one of the leading experts on trees and shrubs for landscapes and gardens. He holds BS and MS degrees in horticulture from The Ohio State University and the Ph.D. from the University of Massachusetts. Dirr has introduced over 200 woody plants to cultivation and holds 29 patents with the UGA Research Foundation. With two partners, he established Plant Introductions, Inc., a breeding and introduction company in 2006, selling it to Bailey Nurseries in 2015. Dirr continues to work in lockstep with the American nursery industry to introduce and promote new trees and shrubs.

“75 Years of Gardening. The Endless Quest for the Next Great Garden Plant”



Dr. Kim D. Coder

Professor of Tree Biology and Health Care, and Hill Fellow for Distinguished Public Service and Outreach, at the Warnell School of Forestry and Natural Resources, University of Georgia in Athens, Georgia, USA. He has degrees from Iowa State University in forestry, tree biology, and forest ecology. Dr. Coder was elected world President of the International Society of Arboriculture, and served as President of the Southern Chapter of ISA, the international Arboriculture Research & Education Academy (AREA), and the Georgia Urban Forest Council. He was appointed to the USDA-Secretary's NUCFAC, advising on community forestry issues.

Dr. Coder is author of over 500 technical publications and articles. He is an international lecturer and consultant to private citizens, corporations, attorneys, and communities on tree health care, tree anatomy, abiotic tree stress, lightning & tree protection, storm damage, biomechanics, and community forest ecology.

“Trees Gone With the Wind – Big Wind and Ice Storms Making Proper Tree Care Even More Important”



Mary Lynne Beckley

Executive Director of the Georgia Tree Council. Her mission is to sustain Georgia's green legacy by partnering with organizations, individuals and communities

"Georgia's Landmark and Historic Trees"



Mathew and Tim Nichols

Matt and Tim Nichols are the co-owners of MrMaple.com and MrGinko.com. Their nursery is located in East Flat Rock, NC. While most of their business is online sales, a visit to the nursery can be scheduled. Both brothers are accomplished grafters and work to continuously improve their process. They travel extensively for research. Matt and Tim have lectured at universities around the south. They have presented their academic article on Japanese Maple Propagation to the Southern Region of the International Plant Propagator's Society.

"A Shared Passion for Japanese Maples"



Mr. Mark Maher

Mark Maher has worked in the horticultural industry for over 30 years. He has a degree in Landscape Management from UGA and is a Certified Landscape Professional.

He worked at Pike Nursery for 15 years and is now in sales for Flowerwood Nursery a wholesale nursery and grower of such brands and the Encore Azaleas® and the Southern Living® Plant Collection.

“Trialed and Proven, New and Better Plants”



Sheri Dorn

Sheri Dorn joined University of Georgia's Department of Horticulture as Extension Horticulturist for Consumer Ornamentals and Georgia Master Gardener Extension Volunteer Program Coordinator in June 2012. Sheri fully appreciates Master Gardener Extension volunteers and their role as education partners with Extension, having worked with MGEVs in her position as a former state coordinator for the Virginia Master Gardener Volunteer Program (1996-1999) and as an Agriculture and Natural Resources Extension Agent in Roanoke, Virginia (2008-2012). Additionally, Sheri brings to her UGA roles nearly ten years of industry experience, having co-owned a small retail nursery and landscape contracting firm (1999-2008). Sheri's research centers on the relationship between people and plants, particularly the capacity of horticulture to expand communities through volunteerism.

“Plants & People: Connections for the Future”

Conference Schedule:

1. 8:30 Presentation of the Colors Military Honor Guard
Please stand and honor our nation and those who serve to defend our freedom.
2. 8:40 Good Morning & Welcome Larry Julian, M.C.
3. 8:45 Welcome to Warner Robins Mayor Randy Toms
4. 8:50 GMGA Direction George Jeburk
5. 9:10 Connecting to the Future Sherri Dorn
6. 9:30 Georgia's Landmark & Historic Trees Mary Lynne Beckley
7. 10:15 Break
8. 10:30 Urban Trees Dr. Kim Coder
9. 11:45 Lunch/ Garden Market
10. 12:45 Southern Living New Plants Mark Maher
11. 1:45 pm Discovering Japanese Maples Nichols Brothers, Mr. Maple
12. 2:45 Break
13. 3:00 A Horticulture Journey Dr. Michael Dirr
14. 4:00 Wrap Up /Final Door Prize