



THE ALABAMA
SUSTAINABLE
AGRICULTURE
NETWORK

ASAN UPDATE

2020 Spring

Published Quarterly

COMMUNITY SPIRIT ENERGIZES BIGGEST FOOD & FARM FORUM EVER!



All photos by Allison Kendrick

The sense of community was palpable. Whether at the market fair or gathering around the campfire, you could almost see it. This sense of belonging among a diverse group of people was the biggest takeaway from the 2019 Food & Farm Forum at Camp Beckwith in Fairhope on Dec. 5-7.

We had 185 attendees at this year's Forum and this was the first ASAN event for more than half of everyone! But whether it was a session or a sing-a-long, everyone treated each other like family.

(Continued on page 4)

GET INVOLVED WITH ASAN IN 2020!

It's a new year, a new decade – what better time to get more involved as a member-leader of ASAN?! (Trick question. Anytime is the best time!) We have some old familiar favorite programs that we're excited to continue to grow and improve, and we also have some exciting new work on the horizon. Our fundamental belief remains the same, which is that ASAN is stronger when our diverse and passionate members are deeply involved in driving the work forward!

Join a Planning/Leadership Committee

We have planning committees for all three of our major events, our Farmers Market Leadership Committee, and the Central Alabama CRAFT Steering Committee.

The **Food & Farm Forum committee** is open to all constituents throughout the state, and meets via Zoom (videoconferencing tool) roughly

monthly March through December.

Graze: Huntsville and Graze: Birmingham committees are open to all constituents in/around Huntsville and Birmingham, respectively, and meet in person several times spring through August (Huntsville) or October (Birmingham). These three committees set goals for their respective events, make big picture visioning decisions, and execute on nitty gritty details as well. And in the meantime we get to know one another and have a good time working together!

Our **Farmers Market Leadership Committee** is for farmers market managers around the state, and is an opportunity for them to learn, troubleshoot, and support one another in order to strengthen their respective markets (which in turn, helps farmers, eaters, and communities!). They meet monthly via Zoom.

The **Central Alabama CRAFT**

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ASAN MEMBER PROFILES



Joe Kemble



Blue Rooster Farms

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LETTER FROM THE ASAN BOARD PRESIDENT



Dear ASAN Community, 2020 is finally here as we are coming off of a busy season of gathering and celebrating. I am so happy, honored, and

thankful to be elected to serve as the 2020 ASAN Board President. My platform will incorporate strong representation and advocacy for the organization by connecting more people from my community to ASAN's excellent network of resources.

I want to reflect on all of the amazing work that has been accomplished by ASAN thus far as we are approaching two decades of existence. Since 2001, ASAN has truly grown to be a dynamic organization reaching over 2000 households, farms, and businesses with plans in place to continue to grow and cultivate ASAN. I am thoroughly looking forward to seeing where the seeds we have planted take us in the near future, especially with upcoming projects such as the farmers needs assessment and our

continuous efforts to secure sustainable funding.

My heart is still full from the Food and Farm Forum where I had the pleasure of reconnecting with some of you from previous ASAN events and meeting many more of you for the first time. The Annual Forum was planned so well with countless informational sessions where I found it impossible to choose between. Camp Beckwith's coastal site was such a treat to visit!

I am excited to share this will be my final semester as a student in the Integrative Public Policy and Development Ph.D. program at Tuskegee University. I am humbled to be a part of the inaugural graduating class of Tuskegee University's first social science Ph.D. program. My research focuses on local food systems' ability to create community and economic development in Alabama's Black Belt Region. I believe that your zip code should not determine your life expectancy, and fresh produce should be accessible and affordable to everyone.

I appreciate each of you and the vital work that you do as you contribute to

making our food system more sustainable here in Alabama. I look forward to connecting with you as we are searching for distinct ways to grow and deepen our membership along with getting members more involved and activated as we continue to sustain our state-wide, intergenerational ASAN community.

Please feel free to reach out with any information, opportunities, or research, especially in the local food systems arena. jasdr0115@gmail.com.

Onward,

Jasmine Ratliff
ASAN Board President

CONTRIBUTORS: SPRING 2020

Julie Lay holds a B.S. Degree from Auburn University in Animal Science. She has spent the majority of 16 years working in industrial food safety quality assurance and regulatory compliance.

Jasmine Ratliff, MCP for Masters of Community Planning at Tuskegee University, started formally with sustainable agriculture as the community garden coordinator for Tuskegee through AmeriCorps VISTA in 2017 but always have been interested in growing my own food.

Mindy Santo is a women's empowerment coach in Birmingham and works part-time on the staff of ASAN. An advocate of getting in the right mindset to bring your intentions to fruition, she works one-on-one and in-community to help you bring them into existence.

Williesha Morris is the Membership and Office Coordinator of ASAN. She's thrilled to learn more about about sustainable ag, since her background is in journalism and administrative assistance. She's a South Carolina native and became an Alabamian in 2012.

Alice Evans is the Executive Director of ASAN. She is a native of Huntsville, and now lives in Birmingham with her partner Lisa, their fur-babies, and their (human) baby, Moss.

ABOUT ASAN:

The mission of the Alabama Sustainable Agriculture Network is to deepen relationships between the people of Alabama, the food that we eat, and the place that we live.

ASAN provides peer-to-peer education, training, and networking opportunities to our broad network of farmers, gardeners, food-based businesses, agricultural resource organizations, and community leaders. We are a membership-based organization that seeks to improve the lives of small farmers and rural and urban communities and make a positive impact on the state's environment and health.

We define sustainable agriculture as farming that supports families and communities while conserving natural resources. We embrace the breadth of overlapping ways — ecological, economic, social, historical, etc. — that together, we can build a more sustainable food system. Find out more at <http://asanonline.org>.

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Holly Baker (Development/Membership Chair) — Climate Justice Alliance, Weogufka

Gabriel Denton — Jubilee Promise Farm, Vinegar Bend

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Frewin Osteen (Forum Chair) — Prichard Housing Authority, Prichard

Jasmine Ratliff (President) — Carver Integrative Sustainability Center, Tuskegee

Kristin Woods — Alabama Extension, Grove Hill

GET INVOLVED (CONTINUED)

(Continued from page 1)

Steering Committee met for the first time in January, and will meet annually. It is comprised of farmers, farm laborers, and seriously aspiring farmers in Central Alabama, and is tasked with making strategic decisions about the structure, membership, schedule, and workshop topics/locations of the Central Alabama CRAFT workshops. Keep an eye out for our 2020 workshop schedule, forthcoming in late February!

We are exploring establishing a **racial justice-centered member leadership committee** within ASAN, this year. This committee will be comprised of diverse ASAN members dedicated to helping ASAN lead towards both a more just, equitable food system through our programming, and a more affirming and liberatory community of practice, in our staff, board, and general membership.

If you are interested in becoming involved in any of these committees, please contact the staff people below:

- **Forum Committee** – alice@asanonline.org
- **Graze Committees** – mindy@asanonline.org
- **Farmers Market Leadership Committee** – alice@asanonline.org
- **Central AL CRAFT Network** – alice@asanonline.org
- **Justice Committee** – willi@asanonline.org, jasdr0115@gmail.com, alice@asanonline.org

BE PART OF ASAN'S YOUTH WORK IN 2020!

ASAN is gearing up for our 2020 youth work. We are currently hiring a Youth Forum Coordinator and recruiting our 2020 Youth Council! 2020 Youth Council (YC)!

The **Youth Forum Coordinator** organizes, facilitates, and supports the YC, and in turn, the Youth Forum. This is a part-time position with a flexible schedule, running from March through December 2020. The YFC is an adult with a strong understanding of and commitment to youth-led (not just youth-focused). organizing. Compensation is \$8500-10500. More info is here: <http://bit.ly/2020YFC>

Deadline to apply: rolling, however we hope to fill the position by late February or the first of March.

ASAN is also recruiting our 2020 YC. The YC is comprised of 6-10 youth (ages 14-21) from around the state who help to plan and develop the Youth Food & Farm Forum.

Youth Council members are required to:

- * Attend an in-person overnight orientation in April (exact dates and location TBD)

- * Prepare for an actively participate in regular YC video-meetings (via Zoom)

- * Participate fully in the Youth Forum Dec 10-12, 2020 (location TBD)

- * Develop and complete a "leadership project" related to the Youth Forum

Youth Council members receive a stipend equivalent to \$80/month, in recognition of their time and work. All registration and lodging costs are covered. (Youth may also receive a travel stipend, if funds allow.)

Deadline to apply: Tuesday March 10, 2020, 11:59pm CT. Get more info here: <http://asanonline.org/2020youth>.



Are you an ASAN member?



We are recommitting to being a grassroots membership-driven organization! Members drive our direction and our decision-making, and membership dues support our efforts to train farmers, educate consumers and policy makers, and strengthen the bonds that hold together our local food system.

We now have just one membership level (for individuals, farms, households, etc), and a sliding scale rate -- the base recommended membership fee is \$25, but any amount, large or small, will make you a member.

We also invite members to get involved! Maybe join an event planning committee for the Food & Farm Forum, Graze: Birmingham, or the inaugural Graze: Huntsville! If you manage a farmers market, we hope you'll consider joining our pilot Farmers Market Leadership Committee. Contact us if you're interested!

Please join or renew today! Use the form on page 15 or go to <http://asanonline.org/join-asan>.



CENTRAL AL CRAFT UPDATE

Last year's Central Alabama Collaborative Regional Alliance for Farmer Training (CRAFT) pilot was an

immense success. Four host farms

welcomed more than 80 Alabamians. Attendees learned actionable info from fellow farmers, gardeners and food lovers. But beyond that, CRAFT fostered informal, relaxed environments to learn from and relate with each other.

Not only are we adding more events this year, the CRAFT steering committee recently considered evaluations and brainstormed locations and topics for the 2020 season. Survey respondents said their networks and farming knowledge increased. They also gave us fantastic ideas to improve and suggested topics and farms.

Details are being carefully finalized now! We'll be giving updates on in our email e-blasts and on Facebook and Instagram (@asanonline).



Jones Valley Teaching Farm was a 2019 CRAFT participant.

FORUM (CONTINUED)

(Continued from page 1)

Attendees took advantage of every opportunity to congregate and chat with one another. There was a peaceful atmosphere, and we had no rain or overly cold temps. This made it easy to enjoy the coastal views and hang out with each other outside.

The weekend was packed with hands-on demonstrations, presentations and even yoga! Topics ranged from welding to soul food to mushroom foraging.

We are so grateful to the board, Forum committee, volunteers, presenters, vendors, farm partners and Camp Beckwith staff. We can't thank y'all enough! And, of course, a huge thank you to everyone who attended and willingly opened themselves up to fellowship and maybe something new.

We can't wait to see you for the 2020 Food & Farm Forum in December. Stay tuned for updates.



FOOD & FARM FORUM - BY THE NUMBERS

181 adults
24 youth
9 children ages 0-13
30 sessions
26 new ASAN members

SPONSORS

2019 Food & Farm Forum and
 2019 Youth Food & Farm Forum



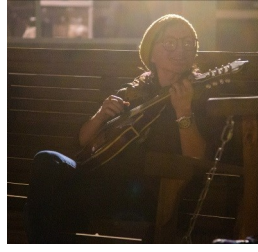
USDA-NIFA Project #2016-51300-25725



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WHAT FOLKS LOVED ABOUT THE FORUM

"Forum was very conducive to meeting people and collaborating."

"Loved the enthusiasm of the speakers and knowledge and experience they gladly shared."

"The intergenerational mix and diversity of participants."

"The opportunities to share stories and hear others' stories."

"I always enjoy meeting people, learning what people are working on and making new connections."

FARFA LAWSUIT: PRODUCE SAFETY RULE HURTS SMALL FARMERS

The Farm and Ranch Freedom Alliance has sued the Texas Department of Agriculture (TDA) challenging the agency's implementation of the federal Produce Safety Rule. FARFA claims the state agency's new rule is "improper and unconstitutional."

The TDA is the primary agency implementing the Produce Safety Rule under the FDA Food Safety Modernization Act (FSMA), as is the case with many other state agriculture departments.

However, FARFA is concerned that the TDA's version of implementing rules undermines the "Tester exemption" for small farms in FSMA, is too burdensome and is a sign of government overreach onto small farms.

Without the Tester Exemptions, the Produce Safety rule would cost small farms over \$20,000 annually on average, by

imposing difficult provisions for compost, compost teas, manure, surface water irrigation, livestock, and much more.

Under the TDA's rule, exempt farms must undergo a pre-assessment and have a biennial inspections by the Texas Department of Agriculture.

The state rule provides for non-compliance fines of \$500 the first day, \$1,000 the second then \$1,500 every additional day for simply refusing to allow an inspection.

FARFA said this violates the farmers' constitutional right to be free of unreasonable searches and is too expensive.



FARM & RANCH FREEDOM ALLIANCE

In addition, if the inspector finds "egregious conditions," the farm has to shut down all sales, even if they are exempt. FARFA noted the term "egregious" is too broad and vaguely defined.

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WATCH OUT FOR BIOSOLID SLUDGE LABELED AS “FERTILIZER”

By Julie Lay

Sludge is the solids, semisolid, or slurry, residual material produced as a byproduct of wastewater treatment processes. The source of sludge can be from cities' municipality waste water treatment plants (WWTP) or industrial facilities sludge, such as poultry processing wastewater sludge.

Municipality WWTP sludge includes waste from households, hospitals, and industry. The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) calls this type of sewage sludge “biosolids” because it more accurately reflects beneficial characteristics in sewage sludge.

Class A biosolid generators say they're “better” than Class B Biosolids. But the Center for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) concluded both A and B biosolids can present a potential health risk, since some of the chemicals and biologic components found in Class A biosolids are not EPA-regulated.

Alabama Department of Environmental Management (ADEM) stated industries in Alabama can deem their wastewater sludge as “beneficial use” if the waste stream shows fertilizing capabilities, such as nitrogen or phosphorous content. Both types of sludge can be deemed as “beneficial use



Photo provided by Julie Lay

by products” as soil amendments in the form of fertilizer.

ADEM currently has no regulations in the state of Alabama in the application of industrial wastewater sludge. As for municipality WWTP sludge (also known as biosolids), ADEM currently doesn't regulate the land application and relies on the EPA for regulation. Proposed ADEM regulations are up for public comment. In my opinion, they do little to protect our people, land, water, air, crops, wildlife, and livestock. The regulations “encourage” using beneficial byproducts. It's on us to protect ourselves and communities. Wait, what's the big deal? What are the risks of land applying sludge?

In 2018, the Office of Inspector General conducted an audit. They stated others

may not know both Class A and B biosolids have potentially harmful pollutants not regulated by the EPA and they haven't achieved public health and environmental safety goals. They found 352 pollutants, including 61 “acutely hazardous, hazardous or priority pollutants.

Other risks include crop uptake of heavy metals, bioaccumulation of contaminants in the fats of animals, biomagnification of contaminants, environmental persistence of substances such as PFOAs. You may remember this issue at 3M in Decatur. The sludge was applied on agricultural fields there.

Poultry processing facilities using sludge companies promote sludge as “free food grade fertilizer.” This product is most certainly not “food grade”. I have spent the majority of my career in food safety, working closely with USDA and FDA and am certain these two government agencies do not give this classification to sludge. I've found no agency giving certification to sludge, and sludge companies use this term to appeal to land owners for this sludge. These facilities have large amounts of very strong sanitizing agents and degreasers that may be classified as surfactants that typically contain alkylphenols, which are of major environmental concern.

There are farms and communities that have been decimated by the use of sludge as fertilizer. Generations-old dairy farms were closed and contaminated well-water made communities (including children) sick.

These companies that handle sludge or bagged compost have friendly names that sound like they are doing good work! These composts can found lurking on the shelves at your local feed store or home improvement store, luring you in with nice pictures of vegetables or a farm on the package. Read the fine print!

Visit websites such as www.usludgefree.org, read scientific studies, and support local environmental groups. Alabama's waterkeepers are vital to natural resources. They need our support and we desperately need them. Support local community-supported agriculture and ask if they use sludge on their land. Buy USDA Organic as this program prohibits the use of sludge.

It's About **OPPORTUNITY** *Let's finance yours.*

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ASAN MEMBER PROFILE SERIES

Since many of you are miles apart, and since opportunities to gather in person are few and far between, we initiated this series of member profiles as a way to deepen relationships among ASAN's diverse, amazing, and ingenious members across the state. **Thanks to these and all our members** for their ongoing support!

To read the **extended cut of these (and other) interviews** visit <https://asanonline.org/category/member-profiles/>.

Want to be featured in a future profile, or know an ASAN member who deserves a little light shined their way? **To nominate someone to be featured in a future profile**, drop us a line at info@asanonline.org!

Not a paid member yet? Join today, at <http://asanonline.org/join-asan> or fill out and mail us the paper form on the inside back cover!

MEMBER PROFILE: JOE KEMBLE



Photo courtesy Joe Kemble

In graduate school at North Carolina State University, Joe Kemble was introduced to Extension and knew that he wanted to be a part of its mission of education. For nearly 25 years, he's worked as the Alabama Cooperative Extension System's Vegetable Specialist at Auburn working hands-on with growers, listening to their concerns, and developing solutions that work within the farmer's framework.

Joe worries a lot about many of the growers in his network. They have many balls in the air, including costs, labor, disease and pest management, etc. That's why he enjoys being able to help them manage and put their problems into a larger perspective. This gives the growers the freedom to focus on what's more pressing. Eventually, he'll be able to come full circle with what he's learned. After he retires, he'll take the plunge and start his own farming operation.

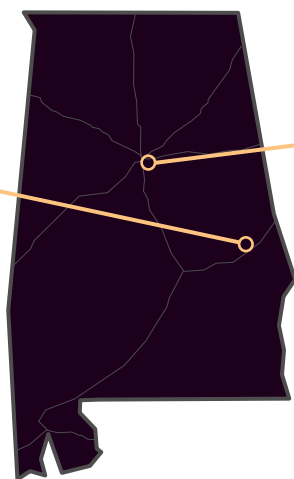
How long have you been a member of ASAN?

I joined ASAN after it was founded. I am an Extension Vegetable Specialist. I work with all vegetable growers around Alabama whether they are growing in a field, a high tunnel, or in a greenhouse. I am a resource for growers when they need information or when they have a problem. I have had the opportunity to partner with ASAN assisting with its educational efforts in areas such as vegetable disease management and high tunnel vegetable production.

Why did you become a member of ASAN?

I was excited about becoming part of ASAN. ASAN filled a timely need in Alabama. Up until its founding, there was no

(Continued on page 9)



MEMBER PROFILE: BLUE ROOSTER FARMS



Photo credit Allison & Kirk Creel

It's always a treat to learn the ways in which our members first found, stumbled upon, or re-discovered ASAN. For Allison and Kirk Creel of Blue Rooster Farms, they re-discovered the organization after reading an ASAN newsletter. In early summer 2019, they were discussing how to be more involved in the ag community. In addition they were ready to get their name out and share about their farm.

Ironically, the day they were discussing all of this, an ASAN newsletter email showed up. We had shared a request for farms, chefs, and volunteers for our 5th Annual Graze: Birmingham. Allison said, "Hey honey you wanted to get involved and get our name out? Here's your chance."

So it was rather serendipitous, but meant to be!

How long have you been a member of ASAN?

Off and on for 10 years

What do you love about being part of ASAN / part of the food movement in Alabama?

Helping others become more aware of the seasonal availability of local agricultural products

What frustrates or challenges you about the work you do, and/or the broader context in which you do it? What keeps you up at night?

Educating consumers about the complexity of non-

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KEMBLE (CONTINUED)

(Continued from page 8)

organization that brought together so many groups and individuals within the sustainable agriculture community.

What do you love about being part of ASAN / part of the food movement in Alabama?

The people that belong to ASAN and those that ASAN touches.

What frustrates or challenges you about the work you do, and/or the broader context in which you do it?

The most frustrating aspect for me is when I work with someone (grower, potential grower, ag educator, etc.) that has already made up his/her mind or that they want to debate facts.

The sustainable ag movement is made up of a diverse group. It is critical that we all recognize this and that we allow civil discourse. Critical thinking helps us improve on so many levels, not just farming. Just because a fact or opinion does not fit within your narrative does not mean it is not valid.

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alice@asanonline.org for details

BLUE ROOSTER (CONTINUED)

(Continued from page 8)

conventional farming and cottage industry. What keeps us up at night is the ability to maintain a sustainable farm income.

What excites you about the future of ASAN?

The potential for outreach

Describe your farm – where is it, how big is it, what do you raise, who helps manage it with you?

We are located in Shelby County, near Chelsea. Currently, we are growing on about an acre, although we can expand to four acres and have lots of plants to discover on the property that we design with.

What made you want to be a farmer?

Allison: I want to teach children that produce does not magically appear on the shelves at the grocery store. Brussels sprouts grow on a stalk. Tomatoes are green before they are red.

Kirk: At first I recognized I had resources available that others did not have in land, water, and tools. Now I realize this was more of a spiritual calling.

Is it what you thought it would be like?

Kirk: Yes. It is everything I hoped and more.

Allison: It is more than I expected. It is harder.

What's your favorite crop to grow? Where do you really shine / what is your specialty?

Allison: Whatever is blooming at the moment is my favorite, but that will change when something new blooms tomorrow - whether it is flower or vegetable.

Kirk: I have a fascination with melons. I am on the search for the perfect sweetness and juiciness in a melon. To farm for me is intuitive in nature. I was meant to do this.



Photo credit Allison & Kirk Creel

How do you reach your customers, and grow your business?

Online store, farm blog, word of mouth

What's the best piece of advice you've ever been given re farming?

This is a marathon not a sprint. Don't compare yourself to every Facebook post or Instagram picture you see.

What tool, piece of equipment, etc., could you not live without?

Allison: Felco pruners and snips
Kirk: Ford 1600 tractor

What about being a farmer do you love the most? What keeps you going?

Being outside. Experiencing nature. Knowing we are doing something important. Going out every day and seeing what is new in the garden and how it has changed.

What are frustrating issues that make you want to quit? Farming is 24/7, 365. You are constantly trying to stay ahead of the curve. And sometimes you are under the curve. You must make time for yourself and family away from the farm.

What could ASAN be doing to better support your efforts and the efforts of others like you?

We would like to see ASAN continue to foster mentoring between veteran and beginning farmers.

NEWS FROM YOUR NEIGHBORS

Welcome to the world Charlotte Diana Lawrence, who was born Nov 7 to parents **Jesie and Matthew Lawrence** of Marble Creek Farmstead in Sylacauga. Baby Lottie is healthy and happy and enjoying life on the farm. Big brothers Luke and Elijah love having a baby sister.

Our condolences to the friends and family of activist and writer **David R. Underhill**, who passed away in November at age 78. He was a civil and economic rights writer in Mobile starting in 1965. He became an environmental advocate for the Gulf of Mexico region in the 70s and was a longtime board member on the Alabama and Mobile Bay Sierra Club chapters.

Congratulations to **Rinske de Jong** of Working Cows Dairy. Rinske's Farmstead Cheese was the sole Alabama winner of the nationwide Good Food Foundation Award!

Congratulations to **Ben Burkett**, an inductee into the Cooperative Hall of Fame 2020! Burkett is a farmer, cooperative organizer, and advocate for southern black farmers with the Federation of Southern Cooperatives.

CLASSIFIEDS AND RESOURCES

JOB POSTING: Adelante Alabama Worker Center is seeking a full-time co-director to assume a leadership position based on community activism and organizing. For more information go to <http://adelantealabama.org/about-us/jobs/>

JOB POSTING: The Delta Fresh Foods Initiative in Bolivar County, MS is seeking an executive director for a one-year contract. Salary is \$50K. Go to <http://www.deltafreshfoods.org/> to download an application and get more information.

JOB POSTING: The Sierra Club is seeking an Alabama Chapter Director, reporting to the SE Deputy Director of Beyond Coal in Montgomery. Salary is \$60-\$66K. The position will implement policies and manage the budget. For more information, go to

These sections appear in every newsletter and feature updates both personal and professional, on ASAN members and friends: anything from a new farm, to a new baby.

They make existing resources known to others, and help spread the word for those looking to connect. Connecting people in this, the barest-bones of ways, we hope to provide a jumping-off point for folks to connect on their own in deeper ways.

Have something you want us to publish? Send it to willi@asanonline.org or (256) 743-0742.

<https://www.sierraclub.org/careers-jobs-employment> and search for Montgomery, AL.

JOB POSTING: Feeding the Gulf Coast is seeking a full-time distribution center associate for food and non-food items. For more information, go <https://www.feedingthegulfcoast.org/assets/uploads/DistributionCenterAssociate-AL-1.pdf>.

JOB POSTING: Feeding the Gulf Coast is seeking a part-time child nutrition kitchen driver to distribute food orders. Area includes parts of AL, MS and FL. For more information, go to <https://www.feedingthegulfcoast.org/assets/uploads/DistributionCenterAssociate-AL-1.pdf>.

JOB POSTING: The Alabama Rivers Alliance is seeking a Policy and Advocacy Director to work with leaders to advance a forward-thinking water policy agenda. For more information, go to <https://alabamarivers.org/ara-now-hiring/>.

JOB POSTING: Cahaba Riverkeeper is seeking a Development and Outreach Coordinator for grantwriting and outreach. Salary is \$30K. Go to <http://aansocial.org/jobs2017/job/development-and-outreach-coordinator/> for more information.

JOB POSTING: Coosa Riverkeeper is seeking swim guide interns for the summer. To apply, go to <https://www.coosariver.org/get-involved/want-to-intern-with-us/>

JOB POSTING: Alabama Arise seeks a Campaign Director to develop and lead Arise's efforts to drive smart, savvy education and engagement. Salary is \$55-\$60K. Go to <https://www.alarise.org/about/employment/>

to apply.

JOB POSTING: Alabama Arise seeks a Story Collection Coordinator to identify, collect, develop and share the personal stories of Alabamians affected by health care policy, with a special focus on people impacted by the state's failure to expand Medicaid. Salary is \$45-\$50K. Go to <https://www.alarise.org/about/employment/>

JOB POSTING: Development Fellow, Schoolyard Roots in Tuscaloosa, AL, in partnership with the Americorps VISTA program. Full-time, one year position. More information at <https://schoolyardroots.org/development-fellow>

JOB POSTING: Public Relations and Marketing Fellow, Schoolyard Roots in Tuscaloosa, AL, in partnership with the Americorps VISTA program. Full-time, one year position. More information at <https://schoolyardroots.org/public-relations-fellow/>

RESOURCE: The [2020 Vegetable Crop Handbook](#) for the Southeastern United States is now available. It comprises up-to-the-minute info from research and Extension projects conducted across the Southeast. It contains the information that you need to manage your vegetable crops. Get the handbook at <https://www.aces.edu/blog/topics/vegetable-crops/southeastern-us-vegetable-crop-handbook/>

SURVEY REQUEST: The University of Georgia and Alabama extension are teaming up to identify ways to overcome the challenges growers face implementing both conservation practices and food safety practices. Can you help by completing a 5 minute survey to help them understand the challenges you face? Take the survey at <http://bit.ly/36iuTG7>

Help us cultivate a resilient agricultural system in Alabama.
Join ASAN or renew your membership today!

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You will receive monthly e-updates and occasional other email communications. Check here to also receive our quarterly print newsletter: _____

You will receive an email receipt for your contribution.

Check here if you'd also like a paper acknowledgement: _____

The base membership fee is \$25 annually; however, any contribution is considered a membership due. Please contribute what you can! All donations are tax-deductible.

\$_____ **Membership dues enclosed**

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Please mail checks made out to ASAN to:
 PO Box 2533, Birmingham, AL 35202.

Questions? Contact info@asanonline.org
 or (256) 743-0742.

UPCOMING EVENTS

DETAILS FOR THESE EVENTS
 AND MORE, AT WWW.ASANONLINE.ORG/EVENTS

February 1 - Clanton
 25th Annual Alabama Beekeeping Symposium

Conecuh National Forest Water Monitoring Workshop

February 4 - Webinar
 FACT Pasture Management Series (Part 1): Soil and Plants

February 20 - Headland
 Hemp Production Meeting

February 20-21 - Tuskegee
 128th Annual Farmers Conference

February 7-8 - Athens, GA
 2020 Georgia Organics Conference & Expo

February 28 - Linden
 Hemp Production Meeting

February 7-8 - Athens, GA
 2020 Georgia Organics Conference & Expo

March 3 - Birmingham
 Hemp Production Meeting

February 10 - Auburn
 2020 Food System Summit

March 3 - Webinar
 FACT Pasture Management Series (Part 3):
 Grazier's Toolbox

February 13 - Talladega
 Vegetable Meeting and Farmers Market Training

March 6 - Wedowee
 Hemp Production Meeting

February 18 - Webinar
 FACT Pasture Management Series (Part 2): Livestock Perspective

March 10-13 - New Orleans, LA
 National Good Food Network Conference

March 13-15 - Nauvoo
 Alabama Water Rally 2020

February 19-20 - Andalusia

Submit your event to our events calendar!

Email willi@asanonline.org and include:

- Name of event
- Host group and contact info
- Location (including full address)
- Date/time
- Price
- Link to event website, Facebook event page, and/or flyer, if there is one.
- Short (3-4 sentences) description of the event written in "third person" (i.e. "XYZ Club invites you to join them for their annual meeting" vs "join us for our annual meeting")
- Please send information in the body of the email, not simply a flyer or attachment. We can link to something already online but can't upload a PDF flyer.

March 20 - Webinar
 Managing Pig-Poultry Rotational Grazing

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ASAN

PO Box 2533
Birmingham, AL 35202

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healthy communities.**

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Online at www.asanonline.org/join-asan, or mail us your donation
along with the form on page 11! **Thank you for supporting ASAN!**

(Continued from page 11)
March 24 - Florence
Hemp Production Meeting

March 27 - Crosswell
Hemp Production Meeting

April 4 - Camden
2020 SRBWI Cultural Street Fair

April 9-10 - Auburn
8th Annual Food Entrepreneur
Conference

April 18 - Fairhope
Earth Day Mobile Bay 2020

April 17-19 - Mentone
Midsouth Women's Herbal Con-
ference

April 26 - Birmingham
Vegan Fest 2020

May 15-18 - San Antonio, TX
River Rally 2020

July 12 - Huntsville
Graze Huntsville