



An educational program of the LSU AgCenter

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www.lsuagcenter.com

THE NEWSLETTER OF THE ST. TAMMANY MASTER GARDENERS ASSOCIATION

VOLUME 14, ISSUE 1

January, 2011

OUTGOING OFFICERS OF 2010



Glenda Nanz, Vice President, Art Scott, President, Dianne Ramirez, Treasurer and Nancy Berulis, Secretary, received a commemorative garden brick for their service to the Association at the Christmas Party. For more on the Christmas Party, *see page 9.*

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE



The New Year is here and with it comes the gardener's chance to reflect on last year's beauty and plan for this summer's color. So, dig out those seed catalogs, sharpen those tools and get ready for the spring warm-up. But before we do, I want to thank Art for his strong leadership throughout 2010. He has guided us with patience and vision and I'm grateful he will continue to foster the ideals of the Master Gardeners as our Project Chairman in 2011.

No organization can move forward without the energy and enthusiasm of its new members. For that reason, as we enter this next year, let's offer a warm welcome to all of the 2010 graduates. We're delighted to have you as new members and we hope you enjoy and profit from MG as much as our past members.

On this same subject, I wondered if there is a way to ease the transition of these new members into the ranks of the Master Gardener. I met with some members of the 2009 class to get their ideas on this subject and one suggestion was to implement a mentoring program. Under this system, mentors will be available to answer questions, help with posting hours and provide information about all the MG volunteer activities and opportunities available throughout the year. Although these listings appear in the Gardengoer, we felt that sometimes it's nice to have a more personal touch.

Instead of assigning one seasoned MG to each new graduate, regional mentors will be scattered across the parish, with a mentor each in Mandeville, Covington/Bush, Abita Springs/Folsom, Lacombe and Slidell. Of course, each mentor will be available to answer questions for everyone in the organization when needed. Not only is this an opportunity to help, but also to get to know one another better.

If you would be interested in volunteering as a mentor, please contact me at jdcalla@aol.com and I will explain in more detail the scope of this program.

There will be a meeting of subcommittee chairs for the Plant Sale at 9:00 a.m. before the January meeting at the Armory. If you have not signed up to volunteer for this year's sale, please look for the volunteer sheet that will be passed around at the meeting or contact Judy Wood at jazzwood@charter.net to get on the list. This is an event you won't want to miss. Not only is it our annual fund-raiser for the college scholarships we endow each year, it's also a lot of fun.

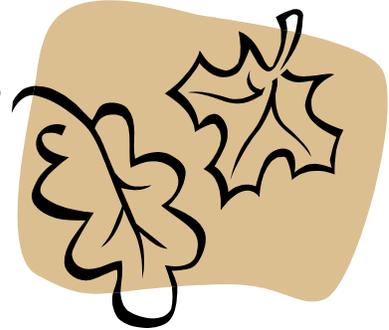
Julie Deus jdcalla@aol.com 985-674-2040

Organic Matter Matters

By
Rusty Batty

Organic matter may be the most important part of your soil. Most soil in St. Tammany has lots of clay, red or gray. Many soils here are less than 3 inches deep. Add to this soil that is compacted, too wet/too dry, and lacking in nutrition. A giant step to improving your soil would be to add organic matter. Rotted leaves, decayed grass clippings, or any combination of compost is great for your gardening.

Consider these benefits of adding organic matter to your growing area:



Organic matter improves tilth. Soil that is high in organic matter is easy to work. The soil is “fluffy”, or pliable.

Organic matter improves water holding capacity. The organic matter in soil acts like a sponge. It absorbs large amounts of water, dries on the surface quickly, but holds water on the inside longer. These soils help plants survive better in dry weather.

Organic matter aids in aeration. Soils high in organic matter allow air to move freely through the soil. The root ends’ tiny root hair can stretch through this porous space for better nutrient uptake and improves the plants stability.

Organic matter regulates soil temperatures. Cooler soil temperature in the hot summer months and warmer soil temperatures in deep winter are provided by the organic matter insulation ability.

Organic matter adds helpful bacteria and fungi to the soil. Fungi and bacteria help to break down large particles into smaller particles for improved plant nutrition in overall health.



Any decomposed plant residue is an excellent source of organic matter. Peat moss for pot plants or small beds is ideal. Leave your leaf and grass clippings for more organic matter in lawns. Consistently add composted food scraps, like egg shell, coffee grounds and fruit/vegetable waste, to your vegetable garden.

Improved soils will provide improved gardens and landscapes. Using organic matter really matters.

Hi Everyone,

The tinsel has blown off the tree. The garden was eaten by renegade cows. The crows ate most of the seeds I broadcasted for greens and clover and this year is still not over!!!

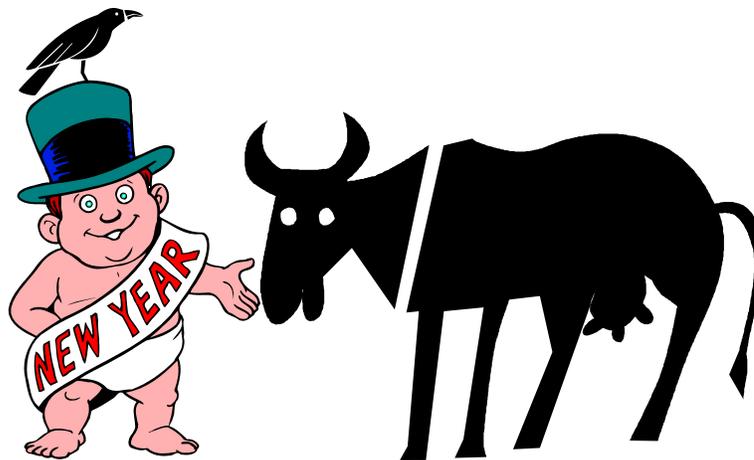


2010 was a disconcerting year to say the least. After a cold wet spring, we were inundated with rain until July. Then with no explanation everything dried up and no fruit was the fall result, except for the hickory nuts, upon which I am still slipping and sliding on as I unexpectedly hit the ground bottom first. I am ready for a new year and a fresh start in the garden. I have taken the gun from my brother and told him it is black eyed peas and ham and cabbage for a traditional New Years Day dinner, not angus stuffed with cabbage, cauliflower, and brussel sprouts. I'm not sure about the eat crow witticism but, I would prefer he shot them instead if he feels the urge.

Several wonderful people have passed this year recently also. Al Bordelon, Olga Clifton, and a special young lady, Anna Marie Catoir, are the most recent.. I send special thoughts to all those who have lost loved ones this year.

Let us hope that 2011 will be a great year with joyful new beginnings for us all. We will have a plant show meeting before the next regular meeting at the armory. All are welcomed to attend.

Checking the back porch for runaway cows and misplaced cow pats, aj



GET ACQUAINTED WITH YOUR NEW OFFICERS

JULIE DEUS, PRESIDENT

I was born in the South and grew up a Yankee. It was in the North that I got my first up-close-and-personal look at gardening. Every year I watched my mother tend her shade garden under the graceful limbs of a Sycamore tree in the summer and gaze longingly at the snowy carpet in the winter. The day the first crocus poked through the snow and signaled the return of Spring was always a joyous occasion! In 1982, my Southern roots pulled me back and I have been planted here ever since.



I graduated from LSU in August, 1987 with a Master's degree in Speech Pathology and got married two days later. My husband Rod and I moved to Mandeville in 1992 with our children Jennifer and Austin. I was a weekend gardener for 17 years until I retired from St. Tammany Parish Hospital in 2009. Now, I like to spend at least a couple of days a week in my yard and gardens. To sit on the porch after a day in the yard and see a green carpet of grass bordered by colorful flowers, ferns and trees is simply Heaven!

My mother, Helen, became a Master Gardener in Austin, Texas 10 years ago and her experience inspired me to take the Master Gardening class last year. This love of horticulture has brought us even closer together. We can't seem to pass up a garden center no matter where we are!

I have volunteered for many organizations over the years, but to pair gardening and education as a Master Gardener is a perfect combination for me. I am looking forward to a fun and prosperous year for the St. Tammany Master Gardeners.

Julie Deus

W. Jay Rose, Treasurer

Jay retired from the U. S. Navy in January 1990 as a Master Chief Petty Officer, after 25 years service. He then went on to work as a Project Manager on Information Technology contracts for the Stennis Space Center, DOE Strategic Petroleum Reserve, and USDA National Finance Center. He stopped working and started getting up late in June 2000. He was a member of the 2004 Master Gardener Class. Jay and his wife Betty moved to the North Shore in January 1983, upon their return from Japan. Betty takes care of the yard and Jay supervises the yard mowing service.



Judy Wood, Vice President

In 1973 I moved from the Midwest to Slidell, Louisiana “kicking and screaming” and was told I must stay only three years. Thirty-seven years later I remain and have grown to love this area and all its many advantages. In 1973 I learned that Kentucky Blue Grass would not grow here and thus I needed to “plug” a Centipede lawn. There was so much to find out about the horticulture of my new home. Where was the Louisiana Master Gardener Program at that time? I needed it! Since then my gardening experiences have included native gardening in the Honey Island Swamp and patio gardening in the Warehouse district of New Orleans.



Being involved and working with folks, learning new ways, and solving issues and problems are my passions. Over the course of the past thirty-seven years I served as Slidell’s first City Councilwoman, on the St. Tammany Parish Library Board of Control, and as the jazz DJ on the Wednesday *Jazz from the Park* on WWOZ.

My education is as a teacher. Although I never taught in the Louisiana classroom I was able to use that training in health care, government, and community service.



Chere Currault, Secretary

I “transplanted” to Folsom in 1987 from New Orleans, where I owned a convention tour and transportation planning company. I currently work for a Covington non-profit agency serving the hearing impaired community. My first Folsom garden was an ambitious eleven acres, downsized to five, and I now push mow one acre! My love of gardening began at age three when my grandmother nurtured the interest and encouraged “watering only, no digging” in our flower garden. Consequently, one of my first priorities has been an in-ground irrigation system and I am still formidable with a sharp shovel. My flower garden is constantly evolving and provides an endless source of peace, pleasure and new projects.



I became a Master Gardener in 2004 to have an opportunity to learn from and share with like-minded people and it has been a very rewarding experience. I am looking forward to serving as Secretary in 2011 and to more involvement on our community projects.

Why Tree Leaves Change Color

Brian Chandler, Area Extension Forester

We are seeing some pretty good fall leaf color on our trees this year. Yellow, red, purple and colors in between have appeared on our trees. I am seeing reds on sumac, sassafras, sourwood and Chinese tallow tree. Fall color is the only good quality of tallow tree, and unfortunately there are lots of them. Yellows are appearing on hickories and other species. Some species have yellow, orange and red all at the same time.



The amount of color in the leaves in the fall varies from year to year. Of course we will never get the spectacular display of fall foliage like the states up north.

Scientists don't fully understand all the complicated actions involving pigments, sunlight, moisture, chemicals, hormones, temperatures, length of daylight, site, genetics, and other factors that make a perfect autumn color display. But full understanding is not necessary to enjoy the colors of autumn in the country.

Pigments in the leaves give us the various colors. These pigments are present in the leaves even when the leaves are green. But as long as green chlorophyll is present, the pigments do not show. Carotenoids give us the yellow colors while anthocyanins give us the red colors.

All during spring and summer, the leaves have served as factories making the food necessary for tree growth. Chlorophyll is an important component of this process called photosynthesis. In the fall, the leaves slow and then stop their food making. The chlorophyll breaks down, the green color disappears, and the yellowish colors appear. At the same time, other chemical changes may occur and cause formation of additional pigments that vary from yellow to red to blue.

Trees that turn yellow include hickory, ash, maple, sassafras and Chinese parasol tree. Trees with reddish and purplish colors include dogwood, maple, red oak, black gum, sweet gum, Chinese tallow tree and sumac.

The degree of color varies from tree to tree and from year to year. Weather plays a big part in this. Generally, cooler fall nights cause more fall color.

Of course, after we enjoy the beautiful colors on the trees in our yards, we get the job of raking them up when they fall. Even then they can be beneficial if used as mulch or composted for our gardens.

So enjoy the tree leaves during the summer for the shade they provide us, enjoy the fall colors they provide, and enjoy them as mulch in your flower beds as they keep the weeds down and the moisture in the soil.

**ST. TAMMANY PARISH MASTER GARDENERS
GENERAL MEMBERSHIP MEETING
DECEMBER 15, 2010**

The meeting was called to order by President, Art Scott at 11:40 AM. The meeting was held at the Fire Department on Carr Drive in Slidell. Art welcomed all members to the annual Christmas Party. He thanked the Hospitality Committee for their work in organizing this event.

Art introduced the Membership's new President, Julie Deus, by "passing the pot". The out-going board was presented with inscribed garden bricks to thank them for their service. Door prizes were awarded.

The meeting was adjourned to enjoy the luncheon after the blessing was said by Rusty Batty.

Respectfully submitted,
Nancy Berulis
Secretary

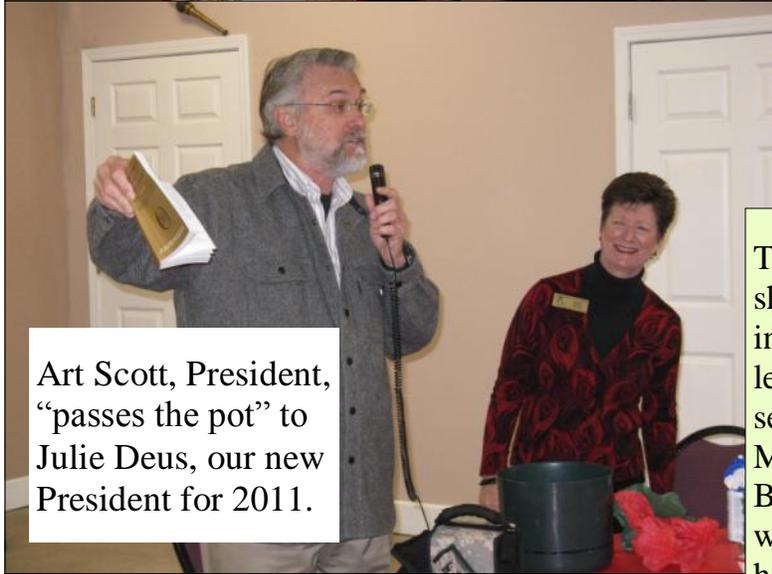
CHRISTMAS PARTY



The Hospitality Committee



Plants brought for the gift exchange were exceptionally pretty this year. Many changed hands several times before finding a permanent owner.



Art Scott, President, "passes the pot" to Julie Deus, our new President for 2011.



There was a very good attendance at the party. And a good time was had by all.

The Christmas Party was held at the Northshore Beach Community Center and Firehouse in Slidell. The Hospitality Committee, above left, are Barbara Moore, Isabelle Moore, seated, and Camille Schwandt, and Chris McNeely Stellingworth, and Mary Ann Brannan, Chairman, standing. They did a wonderful job putting the party together. We had lots of great food and drinks. Ed Brannan did an outstanding job roasting the pork for us. The hall was decorated beautifully for Christmas. We even had an ice-breaker quiz for which prizes were awarded. Prize winners were Betty Rose, Lorraine Martin, Wes Goostrey, Debora Litzenberger, Pam Peltier and Ann Jenkins. Each received a beautiful hanging basket of pansies. A lively "Chinese Auction" of plants ensued. Several people had up to 7 plants stolen from them before finally getting a plant to call their own. This was a wonderful party! Many thanks to our Hospitality Committee for their hard work!

Programs for 2011



We are beginning a new year for STPMG and are planning many different opportunities to learn through the programs offered at the meetings. Attending these programs may be recorded as Education Hours.

The Program Committee has been actively working to make it easier to view the pictures our speakers use in their presentations when we are at the Armory. The windows will be “curtained” for that part of the meeting when a speaker uses visual aids. In addition, we will test a new sound system at the January meeting.

As requested in the July membership survey two new five minute features will be added to some of our meetings. The first feature will be a presentation sharing **Garden Hints**. Don Lefevre will coordinate these brief five minute talks. If you have a garden hint to share contact Don at dllef165@gmail.com.

The second feature will be the **HOT TOPIC** where we will share information about the garden issue of the month. This five minute talk might be about a problem that is affecting our gardens, a new plant species, a weed that will not go away, etc. Linda Deslatte at deslatte@charter.net and Vince Accardo at yaccardo@bellsouth.net will coordinate these presentations. If you would like to be a part of these activities, please contact them.

The **Sharing Table** will be available at the meetings held in the Armory. This is the location for you to bring the garden items that you no longer need/use but can have a life with some other STPMG. In addition, if you have plant cuttings, seedlings, etc. that you wish to share, this is the place. The Sharing Table will also have a box for your confidential suggestions regarding the programs, topics you would like to hear, or other information you would like to share.

January 19

At the January 19 meeting Jerry Ballanco, a STPMG, will speak on “Vegetable Gardening: Delicious Fun”. Jerry has graciously shared his knowledge of vegetable gardening through his frequent and popular presentations at the many St. Tammany Parish Libraries. His table clinics on Starting Seeds are full of valuable information. We are delighted that he will share information so that we can get our vegetable gardens started.

February 16

The February 16 meeting will be held in the Slidell City Council Chambers. Bob Stroud, a STPMG and past member of the Board of Directors of the International Camellia Society, will speak on Growing Camellias. Following our meeting we will go to Bob Stroud’s home to tour his camellia gardens.

March 16

The speaker at the March 16 meeting will be Georgeann Chaffee, a 2009 Baton Rouge MG. Her topic will be “Assessing the Mature Landscape”.

April 21

The April 21 “meeting” of STPMG will be the annual Spring Plant Swap held in the “barn” at the St. Tammany Parish Fair Grounds.

Louisiana Master Gardeners Offer Free Basic Gardening Series

The Louisiana Master Gardeners' three-week Basic Gardening Series will be held at the Bluebonnet Regional Branch Library from 6:30 – 8:30 P.M. Thursday evenings beginning January 20, 2011. This series has been updated and offers several new and different topics. The free educational presentations provide research-based information targeted toward beginning or intermediate gardeners.

Week 1, January 20st - "*Mother Earth*" opens the series by discussing soil composition and guiding you toward understanding your soil and how to use soil amendments and fertilizers safely and effectively. In the presentation "*On Your Own Turf*," you will learn about different turf grasses, their site preferences and how to care for each. If you are at wit's end trying to manage your lawn -- or your lawn 'carers' -- you will learn what you need to be in control.

Week 2, January 27th - "*Practical Solutions for Small Spaces*" Learn to beautify problem areas with the right landscaping. Homes with small yards, entryways, problem areas like utility equipment or garbage cans can be beautified with careful planning. "*America's Most Unwanted*" will help you learn to identify most common weeds in our area and provide information you need to keep them under control.

Week 3, February 3rd - "*Did an Insect Do THAT?*" Learn specific steps to recognize insect problems on plants and how to identify culprits. "*Mini Gardens for Children*" gives parents, grandparents, and other adults the basics on how to invest children with a love of gardening. Children who garden develop a life-long appreciation of nature.

Louisiana Master Gardeners is an education program of the LSU Agricultural Center. This Basic Gardening Series has been presented by the East Baton Rouge Master Gardeners since 2004. The series pinpoints horticultural problems unique to gardeners in this specific area of the state.

**St. Tammany Parish Library Announces
Growing Eggplants, Tomatoes & Peppers from Seed
With Dr. Gerard Ballanco**

The St. Tammany Parish Library and Recreation District #1 of St. Tammany Parish, are co-sponsoring *Growing Eggplants, Tomatoes & Peppers from Seed* with Dr. Gerard Ballanco. Now is the time to plant seeds for your spring garden; do not miss this unique opportunity to prepare for a satisfying spring harvest. In February, there will be a follow-up program called Growing Spring Vegetables. For your convenience, these helpful programs will be held at three different libraries on the following dates and times.

Growing Eggplants, Tomatoes & Peppers from Seed Program

Branch Name	Day	Date	Time
Folsom	Wednesday	January 12, 2011	3:00 to 4:00 PM
Causeway	Wednesday	January 12, 2011	6:30 – 7:30 PM
Slidell	Saturday	January 15, 2011	10:30 – 11:30 AM

Growing Spring Vegetables Program

Branch Name	Day	Date	Time
Folsom	Wednesday	February 16, 2011	3:00 to 4:00 PM
Causeway	Wednesday	February 16, 2011	6:30 – 7:30 PM
Slidell	Saturday	February 19, 2011	10:30 – 11:30 AM

Dr. Gerard Ballanco is a retired pediatrician from New Orleans who is now a Master Gardener living in Folsom. He is graciously sharing his knowledge and experience with the community by presenting this program.

The event is free and open to the public, and registration is required. Seating space is limited to adults. Please stop by the branches listed below, or call to register for the program.

Library	Location	Phone
Causeway	3457 Highway 190	626-9779
Folsom	82393 Rail- road Ave	796-9728
Slidell	555 Robert Blvd	646-6470

Volunteers Needed

The annual **Northshore Garden Show and Plant Sale** will be held **Saturday, March 19 and Sunday, March 20, 2011**. Volunteer shifts both days are from 8 a.m. until noon and noon until 4 p.m. This is a great opportunity to earn a large portion of your required volunteer hours for 2011. It's also fun! There are many areas to volunteer. Volunteering for parking is a two for one hour reward. (That is, for every hour spent as a parking volunteer you may record two hours of volunteer service.) Our organization depends on this event for the majority of our yearly operating funds and to endow the Bobby Fletcher, Jr. Scholarship Fund. Your volunteer help is needed for this event to be a success. To sign up, please contact Pam Twardzik at ptwardzik@yahoo.com or Judy Wood at jazzwood@charter.net.



Scenes from the 2010 Northshore
Garden Show and Plant Sale

Master Gardener Plant Booth



Master Gardeners, I am sending out my wishes for the New Year. These would be for lots of plants from you for the MG Plant Booth at the Northshore Plant Sale on March 19 and 20. People were looking for great bargains last year and we could accommodate them with our plants. Lots of vegetables were bought as well as flowers for hummingbird and butterfly gardens. So...just about anything you would like to donate would be great. Please label the plant as to what it is, you can be as technical as you like. Also, those of you who took envelopes for seeds, remember to label them as well. We will sell the envelopes for 50 cents each. Get those plants growing and going!!

Thanks,
Pam Keating
MG Plant Booth Chairperson



These were some of the many plants donated by Master Gardeners last year for the plant booth. There were 3 full tables plus lots on the ground by the time the sale got underway.

SCHOOL'S COMMITTEE PROPOSAL

The new school's committee met on December 29, 2010 to establish a name, set a purpose and brainstorm 2011 volunteer opportunities.

The official name of the committee will be "Rooting the Future: Master Gardeners partner with STPSB Schools" and the purpose of the committee is to provide horticultural educational opportunities for our schools.

We discussed many volunteer opportunities and would like to begin with the ones outlined below.



1. In 2011 we would like to provide the parish public elementary schools with a Master Gardener Point of Contact to help coordinate the horticultural needs of that school (www.stpsb.org). If you are interested in being that POC for an area school please contact Christy Paulsell at J.Christine.Paulsell@stpsb.org for more specific information.
2. We are piloting three educational opportunities this year:
 - Arbor Day Lessons- Schools may request MG Lessons January 24- February 4
I will conduct an **MG Arbor Day Training session Friday January 21, 2011** to discuss potential topics and ideas for classroom activities for the various grade levels.



erson,

The training will be held at STPSB Jefferson East, 227 North Jefferson, Covington, LA 70433.

- Spring Gardening Lessons- Schools may request MG Lessons:
March 14- May 20 (NO Lessons during Week of April 11-15 because of LEAP testing)
I will conduct an **MG Gardening Training session Wednesday March 2, 2011** to discuss possible topics and projects for a spring garden based on the various grade levels.



The training will be held at STPSB Jefferson East, 227 North Jefferson, Covington, LA 70433.

- Fall Gardening Lessons- dates to be determined at a later time.

Feel free to contact me at any time.

Christy Paulsell

J.Christine.Paulsell@stpsb.org

The Slidell Library Herb Garden Festivals and Herb Gathering Calendar for 2011

Spring Herb Festival - Tuesday, April 12
Fall Herb Festival - Tuesday, September 27

Festival time is 4 pm to 7 pm, Set up usually starts by 2 pm or sooner.

Herb Gathering meetings - all are Wednesdays from 1-3 PM at the Slidell Library meeting room:

January 12	Betty Rose	Curry
March 30	Donna Dicharry	Parsley
May 11	Debora Litzenberger	Rosemary
August 10	Cecelia Drennan	Mint
September 14	Patty McGinnis	Basil
November 9	(to be determined)	

We need a Chairperson for the Spring and Fall Festivals for 2011. Nancy Berulis and Denise Stearns did a great job in 2010. Judy Wood has done a great job in getting all the duties documented. It should be a very streamlined effort for the next Chairpersons. Do I have a volunteer?

Happy Holidays,

Betty Rose
Chairperson
Slidell Herb Garden



AGENDA

January 19, 2011

- 1. Call to order and report quorum present**
- 2. Opening Ceremonies**
- 3. Hot Topic of the month**
Garden Hint of the month
Program: "Vegetable Gardening: Delicious Fun" presented by Gerard Ballanco

BREAK: 10 minutes

- 4. Comments by Rusty, County Agent and MG Advisor**
- 5. Minutes from December meeting**
- 6. Officer's reports**
President: Julie Deus
Vice President: Judy Wood
Treasurer: Jay Rose
- 7. Committee Reports**
Honor's Committee: Sandy Arnoult
Hospitality Committee: Mary Ann Brannan
- 8. Project Reports**
Plant Sale: A.J. Heinsz-Bailey
Spring Seminar: Ty Guidroz
School's Project: Christy Paulsell
- 9. Unfinished Business**
Sound System
- 10. New Business**
Board Meetings
- 11. Door Prize**
- 12. Announcements**
- 13. Adjourn**

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

January, 2011	
8	Guided Camellia Garden Tours, every Saturday through early April. Starts at 10:30. SELA Nat'l Wildlife Refuge, 61389, Hwy 434, Lacombe. Pre-register: 882-2000
12	Herb Gathering at the Slidell Library meeting room. 1-3 pm. Betty Rose will give a presentation on curry.
12 & 15	Dr. Gerard Ballanco @ St. Tammany Parish Libraries, <i>Growing Tomatoes, Peppers & Eggplant from Seed. See flier on page 12.</i>
19	9 a.m. Spring Plant Sale committee meeting at the National Guard Bldg.
19	10 a.m. Monthly meeting at the National Guard Bldg. Speaker: Dr. Gerard Ballanco, <i>Vegetable Gardening: Delicious Fun.</i>
20, 27 & Feb 3	Louisiana Master Gardeners Basic Gardening Series, 6:30-8:30, Bluebonnet Regional Branch Library, Baton Rouge. Series of free lectures targeted toward beginning or intermediate gardeners. For info call Carol Harbo @ 225.766.5696 <i>See page 11.</i>
22	<i>Walk in the Woods</i> , Northlake Nature Center. Native tree identification in winter with MG Rod Downie.. \$5 non-members. Call for details 985-626-1238
27	5 p.m. Board meeting @ LA Heart Hospital, Hwy 434, just north of I-12, in the first floor classroom.
February, 2011	
12	Bayou Gardens Open House at Southeast LA Nat'l Wildlife Refuge, 61389 Hwy 434, Lacombe. Come see the camellias in bloom. The NO Camellia Society will be there to answer your camellia questions. 882-2000.
16	10:00 a.m. Monthly meeting at the Slidell City Council Chambers. Speaker: Bob Stroud, <i>Camellias</i> . A tour of Bob's garden follows the meeting.
16 & 19	Dr. Gerard Ballanco @ St. Tammany Parish Libraries. <i>Growing Vegetables from Seed. See flier on page 12.</i>
March, 2011	
16	9 a.m. Spring Plant Sale committee meeting at the National Guard Bldg.
16	10:00 a.m. Monthly meeting at the National Guard Bldg. Speaker: Georgeann Chaffee, <i>Assessing the Mature Landscape.</i>
19-20	Spring Plant Show and Sale, Fairgrounds <i>See page 13.</i>
30	Herb Gathering at the Slidell Library meeting room. 1-3 pm. Donna Dicharry will give a presentation on parsley.
April, 2011	
12	Spring Herb Festival at the Slidell Library on Robert Rd. Setup starts at 2 pm. The Festival runs from 4-7 pm. Contact Betty Rose if you would like to volunteer. bettyrose@charter.net .
20	10:00 a.m. Plant Swap at the Fairgrounds barn.

STMGA Directory

PRESIDENT:

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674-6742 jdcalla@aol.com

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882-5353 jazzwood@charter.net

TREASURER:

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882-3344 sarnoult@bellsouth.net

MEMBERSHIP CHAIRMAN:

Pam Keating
892-4445 tvkpam@bellsouth.net

NEWSLETTER:

Debora Litzenberger
882-7986 dklitz@charter.net

PROJECTS COMMITTEE:

Art Scott
796-5878 folsomart@bellsouth.net

PUBLICITY:

Donna Brown
809-8030 acddbrown@yahoo.com

HISTORICAL:

Glenda Spano, *Scrapbook*
845-0900 runmimirun@yahoo.com

SMH REHAB GARDEN:

Leslie Landeche
639-9963 rocknlou@bellsouth.net

SLIDELL HERB GARDEN:

Betty Rose
863-3418 bettyrose@charter.net

Linda Franzo
781-4372 Linda@passionateplatter.com

LACOMBE BUTTERFLY GARDEN:

Denise Stearns
757-864-4760 2stearns2@charter.net

OTIS HOUSE BUTTERFLY GARDEN:

Ann Durel
626-1656 adurel@bellsouth.net

**ST.TAMMANY PARISH SCHOOLS
COMMITTEE:**

Christy Paulsell
898-6483 j.christine.paulsell@stpsb.org

Notes from the Editor:

Happy New Year everyone! It's a time of fresh starts, resolutions and hope. May 2011 hold everything you wish for.

One of my wishes for the new year is for everyone to send me their articles in electronic form, by email. I prefer Word documents, but a plain email works fine. Emails with fancy stationary has to be re-typed and/or reformatted into Publisher (the program I use to create the newsletter). PDF files are another problem. They are designed to be unchangeable. They come out looking like alien computer symbols when copy/pasted into Publisher. This means I have to go through several extra steps to get a PDF document into Publisher. Hand-written articles are another problem...I have to type them. So, please help me by sending your articles in Word or a plain email. I had to re-type three separate articles in this issue alone (I will not name names this time).

I hope one of your New Year's resolutions is to post your volunteer hours on a regular basis. Here is the link to post your hours.

http://www.lsuagcenter.com/en/lawn_garden/master_gardener/Reporting+Volunteer+Hours/

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THE GARDENGOER

**THE NEWSLETTER OF THE
ST. TAMMANY MASTER
GARDENERS ASSOCIATION**

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