

LOUISIANA



**Master
Gardener™**

An educational program of the LSU AgCenter

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THE GARDENGOER



THE NEWSLETTER OF THE ST. TAMMANY PARISH MASTER GARDENERS ASSOCIATION

VOLUME 14, ISSUE 4

April, 2011



Field trip to the Festival of Flowers in Mobile

President's Message

I don't know about you, but I'm still reeling from that fantastic turnout at the Plant Sale. The crowds, the plants and the weather all came together to produce a spectacular awakening of Spring. I would like to congratulate AJ and Rusty for coordinating yet another successful event. However, they couldn't have done it without the committee chairs and all of the volunteers who worked tirelessly throughout the weekend. Watching the smiling kids leaving with their tomato plants in the gift bags was priceless. It was also great to see all of the vendors smiling at the end of the day! The speakers were wonderfully informative and it was dark enough to see the slides!



I want to thank Catherine Lynch (MG Class of 2006), Cathy Hagood, Brenda Petro and Maureen Bush for their generous donation of \$80.00 to the Bobby Fletcher, Sr. Scholarship Fund in memory of Deanna Pounds Brazeale, Pam Keating's sister, who passed away last month. What a lovely and thoughtful remembrance for one who loved gardening.

Our next community activity will be the Slidell Herb Garden's Herb Fest entitled "Bee Happy With Herbs" that is scheduled for Tuesday April 12th at the Slidell Library from 4:00 P.M. until 7:00 P.M. Linda Franzo will give a cooking demonstration using a multitude of herbs, Julian Lane will talk to us about bees and honey and Sharon Murphy will teach us the health benefits of herbs. There will also be a children's table, foods and tea tastings, tours of the garden, vendors selling herbs and a table clinic about planting herbs in containers. Let's all "bee" there to help June and her committees with the festival.

The new speaker system and microphone has proven to be a wonderful addition to our meetings and was reliable at the Plant Show. We bought it to use at the meetings because the attendance has grown so much and it was difficult for those seated in the back to hear the speakers. I know that most of us think that our voices are loud enough for everyone to hear and this is true when we first start to speak. However, as you go along, the volume drops slightly and the audience has to strain to hear. So when you speak at the meetings, I'm requesting that you use this fantastic system so that everyone can hear what you have to say. As a trained speech pathologist, I would also caution you to take advantage of the microphone to preserve your voice. Thank you for being considerate to all of the membership.

Finally, I'd like to thank Judy Wood for arranging a fantastic field trip to the Mobile Festival of Flowers. The gardenscapes and other exhibits were truly magical and the seminars were lively. I think everyone found a few unique decorations and plants to put in their gardens. If you were unable to attend this Spring, definitely put it on your list for next year!

Julie Deus

jdcalla@aol.com

We Don't Like Lichens

By
Rusty Batty

Although we like most things green, particularly on our plants, we don't like lichens. Lichens (pronounced like in) are combinations of an alga, fungi, or bacteria in a mutually beneficial relationship. They are often found growing on rocks, plants and other non-mobile objects. Although harmless, not taking nutrients from plants, they do indicate some stress on the plants.

Lichens are not pathogens, meaning they don't cause disease in plants. They use the plants as a surface to grow on. When a tree or shrub begins to decline due to some sort of environmental stress or other disorder, its leaf canopy will thin and allow sunlight to enter and support lichen growth. If overall plant health is improved, a dense, vibrant leaf canopy should inhibit any sunlight available for lichen.

The two most common causes of stress on trees and shrubs are injury to the plant by string trimmers and poorly drained soil. Other reasons include herbicide damage, poor plant quality and planting technique, such as failure to remove plant ties and tags that girdle branches.

Lichens are a clue that something is wrong causing the plants to grow slowly and decline in health. This could be a combination of factors like plant competition, draught stress, root stress, overwatering, soil compaction, poor nutrition, or improper pH. If you remove whatever is stressing your plants, the lichen will go away.



Hi Everyone,

The plant show is over. It is the end of the month and my system has finally acclimated to daylight savings. These are the spring warm up exercises for the serious business of planting the veggie garden at my house. 6:00 am signals the beginning of the gardening day. The raccoons waiting under their umbrella need breakfast before going to bed. Occasionally, they bring possum friends. The birds are better than any alarm at letting you know when daylight arrives. Their platform feeder is swarmed at first light. I have a pleasant traffic jam going down the driveway to the garden. A pair of swallowtail kites patrol the length of the driveway overhead. The chickens await the daily weeds removed from the garden. I never thought weeds would be a renewable resource. Rabbits and squirrels and birds crowd the edges of the drive eating whole corn I toss out as I go to to garden. The cows loudly protest that they are always the last to be fed in this daily routine but, as soon as their bowls are filled they quit blowing their horns. I round the bend at 7:00 am and there is my garden. The fairies did not come and finish the weeding last night so I put on my armor (gloves, sunscreen, sunglasses, and iPod shuffle), and to a chorus of crows, grackles, and cows I begin the task I love so well, veggie gardening!!!!



Happy to be back in the garden aj

PS: Now is the time to plant tomatoes, cukes, peppers, eggplants, beans, and squash. Thanks to everyone who helped make the plant show a success. Please consider helping again next year.



Master Gardener Meeting
March 16, 2011

A meeting of the Master Gardener Association was held on Wednesday, March 16, 2011 at the National Guard Armory. A quorum was present with 64 members attending.

Julie Deus called the meeting to order at 10:00 AM. Julie led the pledge of allegiance and Rusty Batty led the group in prayer.

Judy Wood offered the garden hint of the month: the use of full strength household ammonia (in a spray bottle) for use on insect or ant bites. White vinegar or meat tenderizer can also be effective in treating bites.

Vince Accardo's "hot topic" was on the need to harden off plants in order to have success with new plantings.

Judy Wood introduced Georgeann Chaffee who offered a lovely presentation on "Assessing the Mature Landscape". An overview and spreadsheet of the program has been attached to the minutes.

There was a brief break at 10:45 and the meeting resumed at 11:05 AM.

Rusty reported on the following:

- MG's are asked to sign-out for yard signs to advertise the Plant Sale

- Directories are available in the Ag Center office

- MG recommitment/reactivation form is available in the Ag Center office

- Pam Twardzik/Judy Wood/Sandy Arnoult can assist with reactivation and setting up an account

- There is a sign-up list for the May 13 MG Appreciation Day, a head count is needed

- The Plant Show is an opportunity to offer information to the public and to generate funds for the scholarship fund; March 31 is the deadline for the scholarship applications

- The budget is not as threatening but still undecided on the federal level

- The Plant Show is the major project of the association – everyone is encouraged to participate

- Asked for help in the Ag Center office – contact Penelope Gilles or Mary Beth if you can assist

Julie asked the the Minutes of the February meeting be approved as presented.

A Motion was offered by Donna Dicharry to accept the Minutes of the February meeting as presented. Motion carried.

Julie reported the following:

- A sign has been posted which lists volunteer hours – available to monitor service hours

- Several MG's participated in the Madisonville Garden Show/Sale

- Debora Litzenberger's husband, Ken, has been honored as Refuge Manager of the Year by the National Wildlife Refuge Association.

Judy Wood reported on:

A comment/suggestion bucket was available

Field Trip to Mobile bus leaves at 6:30 AM from Covington; 7:00 AM from Slidell and returns at 3 PM after the herb speaker; there are two openings for Master Gardeners

Next month is the plant swap – no meeting, no speaker and after the swap, there will be a picnic at the home of Karla Partridge (info/directions will be in the Gardengoer). Karla asked that everyone bring a dish, a chair and a shovel (she has plants in her garden that she will give away)

The May 18 meeting is the “scholarship” meeting; Art Scott will present on Edible Flowers; there will be no hint, hot topic nor sharing table

June 15 – Veggie Festival – there is a sign-up sheet to plan/organize this event; there will be some tomato tastings but no prizes

July 20 – Nancy Bartlett will speak on cut flowers and a tour of her farm will follow the meeting

August 17 – John Besh at LaProvence after the 10 AM regular meeting;

11:45 tour of his garden with a presentation and lunch to follow. Judy proposed that the \$45 cost be divided that MG’s pay \$35 per person and the Association would pay \$10 per person. There is a maximum of 80 people – MG’s only unless space is available. Guests would pay \$45 per person.

Judy asked for a motion to approve the cost division as proposed.

A Motion was offered by Kappy Goodwin to approve the \$45 per person cost for the August 17 program with John Besh at LaProvence to be split as follows: \$35 per person to be paid by the Master Gardener and \$10 per person to be paid by the Association. Motion carried.

November 16 – Patrick O’Connor, Louisiana iris “guru” coming from NO to speak

September – working on organic vegetable gardening

October – working on “drainage” presentation

Rusty reported on the status of the Plant Sale preparations. Asked MG’s not to make purchases on Friday afternoon or Saturday morning in order that vendors would have adequate stock for sale to the general public.

Jay Rose presented the Treasurer’s Report (a copy has been attached to the minutes).

Julie asked for approval of the Treasurer’s Report as presented.

A Motion was offered by Dennis Koepp to accept the Treasurer’s Report as presented to the members. Motion carried.

Susie Andres reported that Tuesday, March 22 would be the planning day for the Lacombe Butterfly Garden and that April 8 is the date to plant.

June Taffaro reported on the Slidell Herb Fest, Tuesday, April 12 from 4 – 7 PM at the Slidell Library. Offerings will include herbal food and tea, container herb gar-

dening, three speakers, children's booth, door prizes. The wrap-up meeting will be March 30th from 1-3 PM at the Slidell Library. Volunteers are needed to set-up, work and take down. More information will be in the Gardengoer.

Cecelia Drennan offered a proposal for MG's to partner with Keep Slidell Beautiful to work on a landscaping project at the Slidell Senior Center (the project description has been attached to the minutes). It is a three phase project to increase knowledge by forming a senior citizens green team. There would be no cost to the MG's. Cecelia asked for approval for MG's to participate in the project.

A Motion was offered by Nancy Berulis to approve participation in the partnership project between the Master Gardeners and Keep Slidell Beautiful to landscape the Slidell Senior Citizens Center in a three phase project which will be at no cost to the Association. Motion carried.

Julie discussed a proposal to expand the membership directory to include special interest areas and professional background. Pam Twardzik will gather information, put the information on a disk and distribute it to the membership. Participation is voluntary, not mandatory.

Julie also discussed the idea of a speakers bureau which would assist Rusty. Pam Keating has a sign-up sheet for MG's who are interested in speaking on areas of their expertise. More information will be forthcoming.

Judy Wood proposed that the Association sell Palm Flex Atlas gloves (New Orleans and Hammond sell gloves at their events) which can be purchased in a quantity of 144 (S/M/L) for \$2.99 each. The gloves retail for \$6/pair. Judy proposed that we sell them at \$5/pair for MG sanctioned events and \$4/pair at non-Master Gardener events. Judy requested approval to sell the gloves.

A Motion was offered by Tom Cuccia to allow the sale of Palm Flex gloves at Master Gardener events. Motion carried.

Donna Howland reported that the Food Bank Project has begun with six MG's participating. Fliers went out last week and there are four participants to date. The class dates are March 28 and April 7. Another meeting will be held next week.

Betty Rose announced a Secret Garden Tour on April 10 from 1-6 PM, \$15 in advance and \$20 on Sunday. The tour will be in Slidell and Betty has tickets.

Julie announced that the next Board Meeting would be March 31 at 5:00 PM at the Louisiana Heart Hospital.

The meeting was adjourned at 12:05 PM.

Respectfully submitted by:
Chere Currault, Secretary

March Meeting Recap



Georgeann Chaffee, a Master Gardener from Baton Rouge, spoke on “Assessing the Mature Landscape” at the March meeting. She provided a tool to help determine what had value and should remain and what should be removed from the landscape.



Judy Wood shared the Garden Hint to keep a spray bottle of household ammonia in the garden cart to apply when bitten by red ants or other stinging insects. A spray or two will provide instant relief and not itching.



Vince Accardo was the Hot Topic speaker, talking about what and when to plant edibles. He suggested planting hot peppers in the garden for added color.



Door prize winners were Linda Rowe and Kappy Goodwin



NORTHSHORE GARDEN SHOW



The 2011 Northshore Garden Show is now in the history books as one of the most successful shows yet with a profit close to \$8,000. Top left: Dan Gill spoke about New Trends in Landscaping. Top right: The parking crew of Dennis Koepp, Rodney Cross and Susan L'Hoste. Center left: Judy Wood, Pam Twardzik and Pam Keating. Center right: Julie Deus, Pam Keating and June Taffaro. Bottom left: A.J. Heinz-Bailey, Plant Show Chairman, at the 4-H Booth. Bottom right: Susie Andres and Kappy Goodwin. Thanks to everyone who worked so hard to make this event a success!



Third Annual

Spring Herb Festival

Bee Happy with Herbs

Tuesday, April 12, 2011

4 to 7 PM

Slidell Library Herb Garden

555 Robert Boulevard

A fun filled afternoon for the whole family

Children's Activities

Plant a miniature herb garden to take home

Herbal Foods for Tasting

Teas, dips, and other foods using herbs / recipes provided

Container Herb Gardening

Five easy herbs to grow

Using Herbs

4:30 – Julian Lane – Beekeeping and Using Honey with Herbs

5:15 – Sharon Murphy – Kitchen Medicinal Herbs

6:00 – Linda Franzo – Dripping in Honey and Citrus

Guided Tours of the Slidell Library Herb Gardens

Door Prizes

Community vendors will sell herb plants

The Fall Herb Festival is one of several educational events sponsored by the St. Tammany Master Gardeners, a program offered by the LSU AgCenter, and the Friends of the Slidell Library.



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*Louisiana Master Gardener
Appreciation Day
At
Hammond Research Station*

May 13, 2011

9 a.m. – 3 p.m.

Invitation to Louisiana Master Gardeners

- Come and spend a day in our garden!
- Guided tours through Sun Garden and Margie Jenkins Azalea Garden!
- LSU experts on hand to answer your questions!
- Presentation by Dan Gill and other Gardening Experts throughout the day!

*Complimentary lunch served at noon!
Door prizes!*

Contact your Parish LMG Coordinator and register by May 1st.



Hammond Research Station
21549 Old Covington Hwy., Hammond, LA
www.lsuagcenter.com/Hammond

Louisiana Master Gardener Appreciation Day Hammond Research Station, May 13, 2011

Dear Master Gardener: Last year's Louisiana Master Gardener Appreciation Day was a great success and was enjoyed by all. More than 200 Master gardeners attended! Dr. Regina Bracey and Dr. Allen Owings will again host this special event for Louisiana Master Gardeners on May 13th from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. at the Hammond Research Station in Hammond, Louisiana. Speakers for the day will be Dan Gill and Dr. Gary Bachman (bio below). The speakers will give their presentation at different times during the day so everyone will have the opportunity to hear them. AgCenter experts who man booths and provide information throughout the morning will include:

Dr. Ron Strahan, The Weed Doctor

Dr. Don Ferrin, The Disease Doctor

Dr. Alan Morgan, The Bug Doctor

Dr. Kathryn Fontenot, The Vegetable and School Gardening Doctor



Dr. Gary Bachman is an assistant Extension professor of horticulture at the Coastal Research and Extension Center in Biloxi, Mississippi. He is the host of Southern Gardening, the gardening feature of the Mississippi State University Extension Service. Gary does what Dan Gill does but in Mississippi. View or hear Gary's Southern Gardening columns and television and radio programs online at <http://msucares.com/news/>.

Invitation to Louisiana Master Gardeners

Come and spend a day in our garden

Guided tours through Sun Garden and Margie Jenkins Azalea Garden!

LSU experts on hand to answer your questions!

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Contact your Parish LMG Coordinator and register by May 1st

Hammond Research Station

21549 Old Covington Hwy., Hammond

www.lsuagcenter.com/Hammond

St. Tammany Parish Master Gardeners 2011 Programs

Month	Speaker	Topic	Garden Hint	Garden Problem	Sharing Table	ED Hours
January 19 Covington	Jerry Ballanco	Vegetable Gardening: Delicious Fun	Yes	Yes	Yes	1
February 16 Slidell	Bob Stroud	Camellias and Tour of Camellia Gardens	No	No	No	1 talk 1 tour
March 16 Covington	Georgeann Chaffee	Assessing the Mature Landscape	Yes	Yes	Yes	1
March 24 Mobile, AL	Tour	Festival of Flowers				6
April 20 Covington/Barn	No Speaker	Plant Swap	No	No	No	
May 18 Covington	Art Scott Edible Flowers	Scholarship Award	No	No	No	
June 15 Covington	No Speaker	Vegetable Festival	No	No	Yes	
July 20 Covington	Nancy Bartlett	Cut Flower Gardening & tour of Blue Stem Farm	Yes	Yes	Yes	
August 17 Covington/ Big Branch	John Besh	La Provence	No	No	No	
September 21 Covington		<i>Organic Vegetable Gardening</i>	Yes	Yes	Yes	
October 19 Covington		<i>Drainage</i>	Yes	Yes	Yes	
November 16 Covington	Partick O'Connor	Louisiana Iris	Yes	Yes	Yes	
December 14 ? Location	No Speaker	Christmas Party	No	No	No	

For any questions concerning MG Programs, contact:

Judy Wood

jazzwood@charter.net



Planning for the Festival of Vegetables
Thursday, April 7
9:30 AM
Ag Center

*The June 15 meeting of the STPMG will be a Festival of Vegetables.
What does that mean?*

If you would like to have a voice in designing this Festival come to the planning meeting. The Festival will be decided by a committee that will meet on Thursday, April 7, at 9:30 at the AG Center. Come bring your ideas and help to plan this fun event/meeting. Any questions or thoughts, contact Judy Wood, Program Chair at jazzwood@charter.net (Participating in this meeting counts as volunteer hours.)



August 17 Meeting – La Provence Garden Tour and Lunch

We will gather at the Armory at 10 AM on August 17 for our regular business meeting. Following a short meeting, we will drive to La Provence Restaurant for our 11:45 appointment. John Besh is a nationally recognized chef, the owner of La Provence and many restaurants in and around New Orleans and now the star of a new PBS cooking show. We will tour the garden at La Provence and then hear remarks by Chef Besh. Following his presentation we will have a Prix Fixe lunch.

The cost to Master Gardeners for the lunch including tax and gratuity is \$35 per person. On June 1 we will begin to accept checks to reserve a spot for this event. Up to eighty people may attend the event. On August 1 any vacant spots may be filled by guests of MGs at a cost of \$45 per guest. La Provence is located on Hwy 190 between Mandeville and Lacombe.



Chef John Besh and his restaurant, La Provence

STPMG Garden Glove Sales

Garden gloves sold at STPMG events will be \$5 per pair to whoever is purchasing at that event.

STPMG members may purchase garden gloves at \$4 per pair as announced at STPMG monthly meetings only. (There may be meetings where gloves may not be for sale.)

Members who wish to purchase gloves should email Peggy Goertz, Glove Chairperson, peggpegg@aol.com indicating the size and number of gloves they wish to purchase at \$4 per pair. The gloves will be packaged for the member and ready for pick up at the designated meeting. The member will have a check in the correct amount made out to STPMG.

A onetime exception

At the Spring Plant Swap on April 20, 2011 gloves will be for sale without pre order. Members shall pay by check.

The gloves will be maintained at the home of the Glove Chairperson. Quarterly reports of inventory and sales for the prior three months will be provided to the Board (April, July, October, and January). All proceeds (cash and checks) will be turned over to the Treasurer immediately.

The Treasurer will provide appropriate change for sales prior to a STPMG public event.

The Glove Chair will maintain appropriate inventory and order stock form Palmflex at <http://www.palmflex.com> in an amount \$80 or greater to get free shipping.

Submitted by:
Judy Wood

The Slidell Library Herb Committee News



June Taffaro invites you to attend the our third annual Spring Herb Festival -- "BEE HAPPY WITH HERBS". The festival will be held at the Slidell Library on April 12, from 4-7 pm. We will have herbal food and teas for tasting, speakers, children activities, plants for sale and much more. If interested please contact June at 985-781-0891 or 985-710-2929 or email: CPTJPT@yahoo.com



Dill, The Herbal Allstar

Deborah Turton gave an informative lecture on dill at the March Herb Gathering at the Slidell Library. Sixteen people attended the lively lecture and we sampled some "zakuskis" (finger food) made with dill. If you have any problems with witches, dill is your herb! You never know what you'll learn at these gatherings!



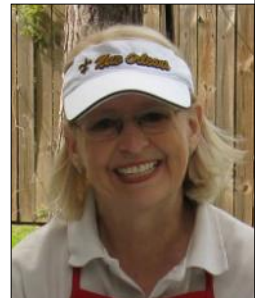
Herb Gathering meetings - all are Wednesdays on the following dates from 1-3 PM at the Slidell Library meeting room. Everyone is welcome to attend.

May 11	Debora Litzenberger	Rosemary
Aug. 10	Pattie McGinnis	Basil
Sept. 14	Cecelia Drennan	Mint
Nov. 9	Donna Dicharry	Parsley

The Fall Herb Festival is scheduled for Tuesday, September 27.

We need a chairperson for the Fall Festival. Any volunteers?

Contact Betty Rose at bettyrose@charter.net for more information.



Lacombe Butterfly Garden

April 1, 2011 Report

Members of the Butterfly Garden committee met on March 22, 2011 to view the garden and make plans for the 2011 garden. Thanks to the great work done by the 2010 committee many of the butterfly magnets (plants) put in during the 2010 season have come back for 2011. Salvia, butterfly bush, gladiolas, turk's cap, fennel, heirloom mums and lantana made it through the winter and are sprouting up nicely.

We will have a Butterfly Garden work day on Friday, April 8 beginning at 8:30. At this time we will rake out the old mulch, plant pentas, passion vine, parsley, and some annuals for color. An irrigation system will be installed, and new mulch will be spread across the garden. The committee decided that we need to maintain a consistent water source for butterflies visiting the garden, so we'll add a shallow water container for our winged visitors.

The Friends of Louisiana Wildlife Refuges has agreed to donate up to \$300 for the 2011 butterfly garden.

All are welcome to join in the April 8 planting party/work day. If you plan to come or need more information please contact me. If you can't come to the work day make plans to visit the garden. It is located on the grounds of the Bayou Lacombe Centre, off of Highway 434 in Lacombe. A kiosk located at the main parking area displays a map of the grounds. The butterfly garden is located near the camellia gardens, just behind the Law Enforcement building. The refuge is open for visitors from 9:00 AM – 4:00 PM every Monday – Saturday.

Susie Andres, sandres@bellsouth.net

Butterfly Garden volunteers: Sandy Arnoult, Art Scott, Julie Deus, Janey Lively, Susie Andres, not shown, Debora Litzenberger.



ANNOUNCEMENTS

Northshore High School Plant Sale & Volunteer Request

Northshore High School will hold their annual plant sale to benefit the Northshore FFA Club on Saturday, April 9th from 8-1 behind the football field. Members will be selling vegetables and annuals in 4 inch pots for \$1.00 each and hanging baskets for \$5.00. The Ag teachers are also looking for MG volunteers to be on hand from 8-12 p.m. to answer general questions for their customers. If you would like more information, please contact Dr. Pete Cannizaro at 985-966-6489.

The school is located on Hwy. 190, east off the Fremaux I-10 exit. The greenhouse is located around and in the back of the football field and athletic track on the east side of the school.

Contact Nancy Berulis at nberulis@bellsouth.net for more information or to volunteer.



Hinds/Copiah Master Gardeners Plant Sale at Mynelle Gardens

On April 16th the Hinds/Copiah Master Gardeners plant sale at Mynelle Gardens in Jackson, MS will hold the annual spring sale. The sale begins at 8:00 a.m. and ends at noon. The sale offers inexpensive plants that are from the yards of Hinds/Copiah Master Gardeners. There will be annuals, herbs, perennials, hanging baskets, shrubs and trees available for customers just in time for spring planting. As a special bonus for those attending the sale you will be able to tour the beautiful Mynelle Gardens for FREE on that day. Mynelle Gardens is located right off of I-220 at the Clinton Boulevard Exit. For more information contact: Plant Sale Chairpersons, Diane Bradford at 4gardeners@gmail.com or Wanda Holmes at W5Holmes@att.net.

(These MGs had a booth at our fall field trip to Crystal Springs and graciously invited us to attend their plant sale.)



St. Tammany Parish Master Gardener Note Cards

STPMG now has our own supply of note cards with the Louisiana Master Gardener logo on the front. They are available at the Ag Center and may be used for those occasions when an official note card would be appropriate.

ANNOUNCEMENTS *continued*

Speaker's Bureau

A proposal was made at the last general membership meeting to form a Speaker's Bureau consisting of people who would like to go out and talk to community groups such as garden clubs, civic organizations and the like about gardening. Rusty has been requesting this list for some time and I believe that we have some outstanding members who would represent the Master Gardeners and the AgCenter admirably. A sign-up sheet was passed around at the meeting that asked for people's names and a potential topic, if they had one (this is not necessary). This group will meet to decide on the topics (with Rusty's input), write a script, develop a PowerPoint presentation, if indicated and practice in front of each other to get comfortable with the subject matter. Hopefully, there will be several people comfortable enough with each topic so that if one person was unavailable, then another could step in and give the talk. If you feel that you'd like to be a part of this program, please e-mail me at jdcalla@aol.com. We will have a meeting in the very near future.

Julie Deus



Master Gardener Plant Booth

Thank You!! Thank You!! Thank You!! Thank You!! Thank You!!
Thanks to all the volunteers and the Master Gardeners who donated their time and plants to the Master Gardener Plant Booth at the Plant Show. Our booth has grown by leaps and bounds since we started it 3 years ago. It definitely fills a niche for those who are watching their money. We made approximately \$600.00 for the organization. A request for a new book shelf has been made if there is a place for it in the AgCenter. Lisann Cheaney will be the Plant Booth chairman next year.

Pam Keating

Master Gardener Plant Booth Chairman



Master Gardeners/ST. Tammany Parish Schools

You are invited.....



Master Gardeners interested in working with our Pre k-3rd schools “SAVE the DATE” on your calendars:

Who: Teachers, Master Gardeners and PTA parents

What: “Legacy School Garden” Project for the 2011-2012 School Year

When: Wednesday---- JULY 27, 2011 8:30-3:30

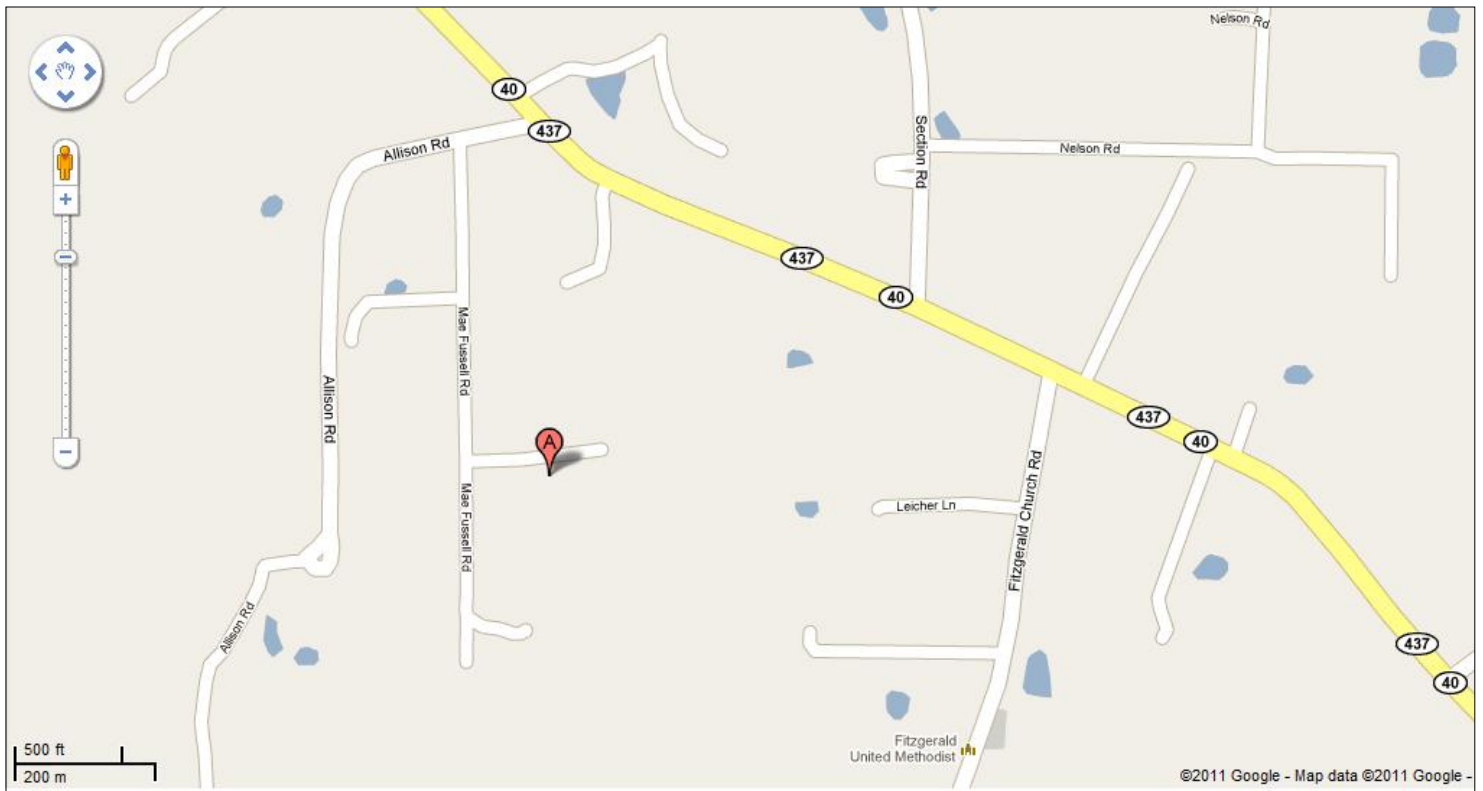
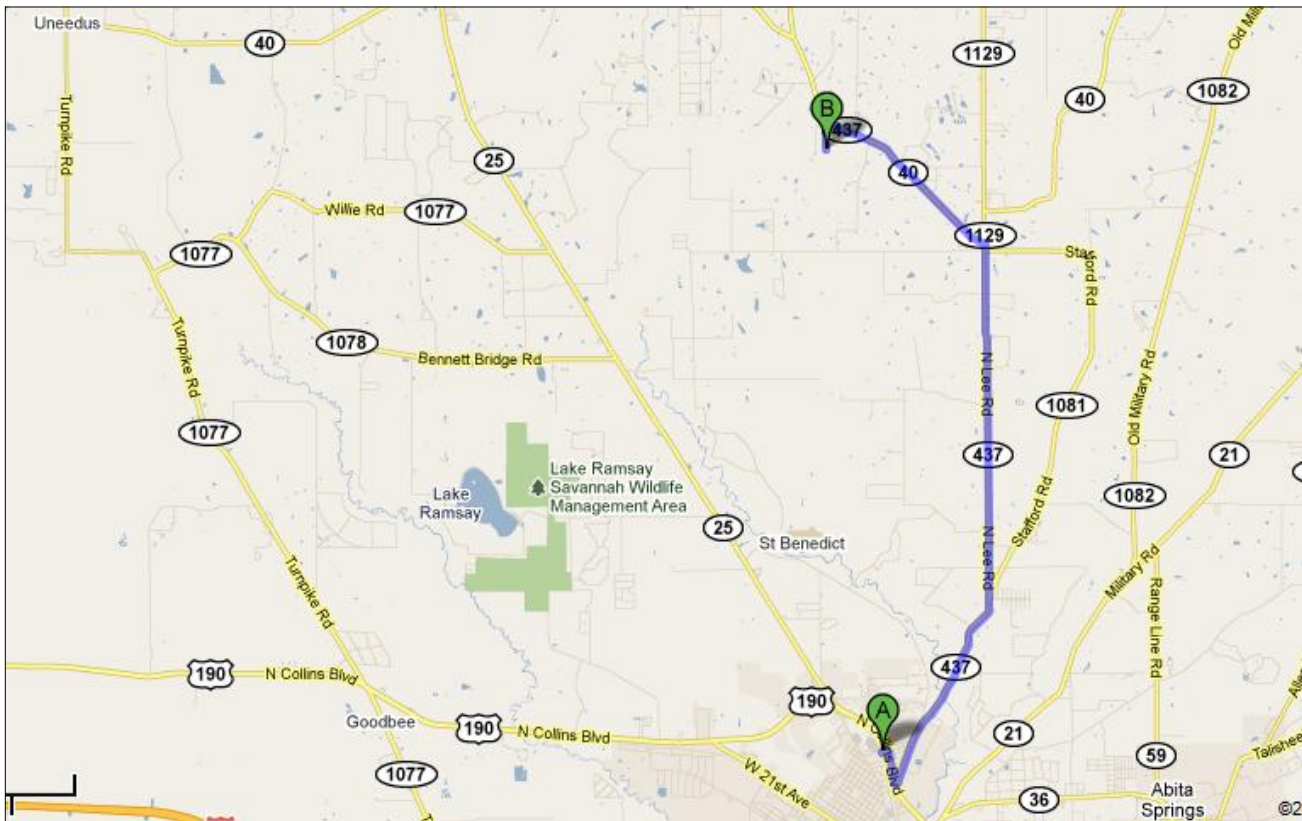
Where: Jefferson East Curriculum Center (227 N. Jefferson, Covington, LA 70433) To attend Contact- Christy Paulsell 985-898-6483 or J.Christine.Paulsell@stpsb.org

Why: During this Continuing Education in-service, Pk- 3rd grade schools will be able to apply for a “Legacy School Garden”, donated by the Legacy Foundation, during the 2011-2012 school year. Teachers, Master Gardeners (PoC) and PTA parents will receive promotional information, curriculum and instruction lessons, planning and/or construction of frugal gardens for their school grounds.

Submitted by:
Christie Paulsell



MAP TO KARLA PARTRIDGE'S HOUSE FOR POTLUCK LUNCH 4/20



80070 Mae Fussell Road, Covington, LA 70435
Karla's cell: 985-373-5326

DIRECTIONS TO KARLA PARTRIDGE’S HOUSE FOR POTLUCK LUNCH 4/20

From the LSU AgCenter at 1301 N Florida St Covington, LA 70433:

1. Turn right onto N Collins Blvd (Hwy 190)
0.4 mi
2. Turn left at LA-437/N Lee Rd
6.8 mi
3. Turn left at LA-40 W/LA-437
2.4 mi
4. Turn left at Allison Rd
384 ft
5. Take the 1st left onto Mae Fussell Rd
Destination will be on the left
0.3 mi

80070 Mae Fussell Rd, Covington, LA 70435

Following the April Plant Swap at the Fairgrounds Barn, we will travel to the home of Karla Partridge for a potluck lunch. Karla asks that you bring a lawn chair, a dish for lunch and a shovel. She has some plants to give away. You should bring paper towels, water, plastic bags, etc., to protect any cuttings or small plants that you acquire at the plant swap so they won't wilt during our lunch outing.

Volunteer Evaluation of the 2011 Northshore Garden Show

Thank you for volunteering at the Northshore Spring Garden Show.

Please take a minute to complete this evaluation so that we can improve the volunteer experience.

1. In what area(s) did you volunteer?

☐ Parking
☐ Plant Corral
☐ Children's Booth
☐ Plant Booth
☐ Master Gardener Booth
☐ Raffle Booth
☐ Other (specify)

2. How many years have you helped (volunteered) at the Northshore Spring Garden Show?

3. How would you rate your volunteer experience?

☐ Excellent
☐ Good
☐ Fair
☐ Poor

4. What was positive about the experience?

5. How could the experience be improved?

If you volunteered at the Plant Show, please complete this evaluation form and email it to Pam Twardzik at ptwardzik@yahoo.com.

STMG Association Board Meeting
March 31, 2011

A meeting of the Board of Directors of the St. Tammany Master Gardener Association was held on Thursday, March 31, 2011 at 5:00 PM at the Louisiana Heart Hospital in Lacombe. Board Members attending were Julie Deus, Judy Wood, Jay Rose and Chere Currault.

Jay presented the Treasurer's Report (attached to the minutes) reflecting balances of \$2,320.12 in the Association account, \$17,787.26 in the Plant Show account and \$5,005.99 in the Savings account. Jay proposed that \$7,786 be transferred to the Association savings account and the balance of \$10,000 to remain in the Plant Show Account.

A Motion was offered by Judy Wood and seconded by Chere Currault to move \$7,786 to the Association Savings Account and the balance of \$10,000 will be left in the Plant Show Account. Motion carried.

Judy provided the evaluation of the field trip to Mobile which has been attached to the minutes. Judy gave an update on the forthcoming meetings and speakers and noted the change from a buffet style lunch to a set menu for the John Besh presentation in August. Checks to secure reservations will be accepted at the regular June meeting. On August 1st, any available spaces will be open to guests at a cost of \$45 per person.

Judy stated there were two suggestions from the last meeting: a request for a speaker on "canning"; and that checks submitted for activities are acknowledged.

Under New Projects, Judy read the proposed protocol for the sale of garden gloves (copy attached to the minutes). Judy suggested the possibility of using a portion of the profits, if any, to support a selected project.

A Motion was offered by Judy Wood and seconded by Jay Rose to adopt the Protocol for the sale of garden gloves by the Association. Motion carried.

Julie stated that ten master gardeners signed up for the Speakers Bureau and that a notice will be published in the Gardengoer for any other master gardeners interested in joining the group. Christy Paulsell reported on the MG's partnership with the STPSB Schools and stated there would be funding provided by Jinx Vidrine's private foundation for the Legacy School Gardens which targets 20 of 27 grades Pre-K to 3 schools with one Legacy Garden per school. A request will be made for MG's to attend the Professional Development days in July. The project would not require any financial support from the STMG Association. Additional information will be published in the Gardengoer.

Betty Rose gave an update on the Herb Festival, April 12 from 4 – 7 PM. The set up will be at 1:30 PM and Rusty will provide the PA system. Friday, April 15 is the wrap-up meeting.

Julie reported that the Lacombe Butterfly Garden will have a planting work day on April 8th and that Jay, Art Scott and Keith Knight would install an irrigation system. Financial sponsors are in place.

The MG recommitment process was discussed with clarification from Rusty that the MG must first meet the criteria, pay dues, open an account and then sign the commitment form. Once this process is complete, information will be submitted to Pam Keating for e-mail distribution to the membership.

Debora Litzenberger asked that articles/information for the Gardengoer which are typically submitted to Pam Keating, be sent directly to Debora while Pam is recovering from surgery. The meeting was adjourned at 6:00 PM.

Respectfully submitted:
Chere Currault, Secretary

AGENDA
STPMG Membership Meeting
April 20, 2011

1. Announcements

- a. Scholarship meeting and pot luck-Mary Ann Brannan**
- b. MG Appreciation Day- Friday May 13th, Hammond Research Station**
- c. SMH Rehab Garden Plant Sale-5/13/11**

2. Adjourn

Plant Swap and Pot Luck Luncheon at Karla Partridge's house (directions in the Gardengoer pages 21-22)

Calendar of Events

April, 2011	
8	Workday for the Lacombe Butterfly Garden on the grounds of Southeast Louisiana National Wildlife Refuge. 8:30 a.m. until finished. Bring tools, hat, gloves & sack lunch. Contact Susie Andres at sanders@bellsouth.net for more info. <i>See page 17</i>
10	<i>Secret Gardens of Slidell.</i> 1-5 pm. A tour of 5 private, prestigious gardens. Tickets are \$15 in advance, \$20 day of tour. Tickets available at the Garden Spot, Slidell Nursery, The Purple Armadillo & Pelican Pro Cleaners of Pontchartrain Dr.. Contact Betty Rose at 985-863-3418 for further info. Proceeds benefit Keep Slidell Beautiful.
12	Spring Herb Festival at the Slidell Library on Robert Rd. Setup starts at 2 pm. The Festival runs from 4-7 pm. Contact June Taffaro at cptjpt@yahoo.com if you would like to volunteer. <i>See page 16</i>
15	Herb Festival wrap up meeting at the Slidell Library 1 pm.
16	Northshore High School annual plant sale. <i>See page 18</i>
16	Hinds/Copiah County Spring Plant Sale, Jackson, MS <i>See page 18</i>
20	10:00 a.m. Plant Swap at the Fairgrounds barn in lieu of regular meeting. Bring your extra plants to swap with other MGs for “new to you” plants. Potluck lunch to follow at the home of Karla Partridge. Please bring a dish for lunch, a chair and a shovel (she has plants to give away). Also, bring water, paper towels, plastic bags, etc., to protect any cuttings or small plants that you acquire at the Plant Swap from wilting. <i>See pages 21-22</i>
May, 2011	
11	Herb Gathering at the Slidell Library on Robert Rd. Debora Litzenberger will give a talk on rosemary. 1-3. <i>See page 16</i>
13	Plant sale at the Slidell Memorial Hospital Rehab Garden. Plant donations for the sale would be greatly appreciated. Contact Leslie Landeche @ rocknlou@bellsouth.net
13	Louisiana Master Gardener Appreciation Day at Hammond Research Station. 9-3. Remember to register with Rusty before May 1. <i>See flier on pages 11-12</i>
18	Monthly meeting at the National Guard Armory. 10 a.m. Art Scott will give a presentation on Edible Flowers. The Bobby Fletcher, Sr. Scholarships will be presented. Potluck lunch to follow—details next month.
June, 2011	
15	Monthly meeting at National Guard Armory. Festival of Vegetables. More info to follow. <i>See page 14 to help plan/organize this event.</i>

STPMG Directory

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TREASURER:

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SECRETARY:

Chere Currault
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**LSU AGCENTER OFFICE
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PROJECTS COMMITTEE:

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HISTORICAL:

Glenda Spano, *Scrapbook*
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LACOMBE BUTTERFLY GARDEN:

Susie Andres
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OTIS HOUSE BUTTERFLY GARDEN:

Ann Durel
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**ROOTING THE FUTURE: MGs PART-
NER WITH STPSB SCHOOLS:**

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

Notes from the Editor:

My sincere thanks and appreciation to Art Scott, Pam Twardzik, Judy Wood and Kathleen Guidry for taking photos and providing information on the March meeting and the Plant Show which I was unable to attend. I couldn't have put this newsletter together without their help! Master Gardeners are the nicest people!

Congratulations to all who worked the Plant Show. It was one of our most successful shows yet.

To those who didn't go on the field trip to the Festival of Flowers...you missed a wonderful experience. The photos I've posted on Picasa don't do justice to how beautiful the exhibits really were.

Be sure to come support the Spring Herb Festival at the Slidell Library. You can learn about herbs at 3 seminars, sample food and teas made with herbs and even buy some herbs and hummingbird plants to take home. The Festival is April 12 from 4-7 on the grounds of the Slidell Library on Robert Road. I hope to see you there!

Here's your monthly reminder to log those volunteer and educational hours:

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

Debora Litzenberger dklitz@charter.net



THE GARDENGOER

THE NEWSLETTER OF THE ST. TAMMANY MASTER GARDENERS ASSOCIATION

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