

LOUISIANA



An educational program of the LSU AgCenter

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# THE GARDENGOER



## THE NEWSLETTER OF THE ST. TAMMANY PARISH MASTER GARDENERS ASSOCIATION

VOLUME 15, ISSUE 4

April, 2012



For the latest  
research-based  
information on  
just about anything,  
visit our Web site:  
[www.lsuagcenter.com](http://www.lsuagcenter.com)

What a great month! First, we had the Northshore Garden Show and then a wonderful field trip to Jefferson Island. Top is the Joseph Jefferson House in Rip Van Winkle Gardens on Jefferson Island. Below is A.J. Heinsz-Bailey, Chairman of the Northshore Garden Show and Dr. Ron Strahan, LSU AgCenter, Weed/Turf Specialist.

## *President's Message*

There certainly were miles of smiles from everyone at the Plant Show this past month. With so many colorful plants and so many great topics who could blame them? Everyone in the organization deserves a round of applause (along with Mother Nature) for all of the hard work you put in to make this one of the most successful and enjoyable shows we've ever had. The comment made most often on the vendor's evaluations was about how helpful the Master Gardeners were all weekend. The majority of the vendors were happy with the Friday/Saturday change and Susan L'Hoste will share with us how the customers felt about it at the wrap-up meeting to be held soon. Congratulations on a job well done!



Next on the calendar is the bi-annual Herb Fest to be held at the Slidell Library on Thursday, April 12, 2012 from 4:00 pm until 7:00 pm. The title "Herbs Make Scents" hints at the rose theme that was chosen. There will be tea and food tastings, children's activities and speakers focusing on the rose. If you'd like to volunteer, contact Sandy Arnoult at [sarnoult@charter.net](mailto:sarnoult@charter.net). This is a free event for the public and is loads of fun!

On Wednesday, April 18, 2012 at 4:00 pm, there will be a program at the Abita Springs Library entitled "The Basics of Vegetable and Herb Gardening", developed and presented by the project group chaired by Martha Gruning. Topics to be covered will include planning the garden, soil preparation and vegetable and herb selection. Come out and see what this new group has put together for the community.

Bring any plants you have to share to the Plant Swap, in the barn where the Plant Show was held, on Wednesday, April 18, 2012 at 10:00 am. We will have a very short meeting and then trade plants amongst ourselves. Come even if you don't have any plants to share; there are plenty to go around! Afterwards, Cheri Hall has invited us to her house for a pot-luck lunch and a walking tour of her property! She has provided a map that is on page 7 of this newsletter. Hope to see everyone there.

Julie Deus  
[jdcalla@aol.com](mailto:jdcalla@aol.com)



## Victory with Vegetables

By Rusty Batty

It's that time of year. People are cramming general stores and nurseries for plants.

Lawn mowers are tuned up; blades sharpened and ready to roll. Feed and seed stores are having their busiest time. It's that time to plant.

Among the most common outdoor pastimes is vegetable gardening. The homegrown vegetables are fresher, higher in nutrition and usually cost less than store bought. It's also a good way to exercise your body and relax your mind.

Plan ahead when you're ready to start to your garden. Choose a sunny location for your beans, squash, and tomatoes. Leafy vegetables will tolerate more shade than root or fruit bearing crops. Keep your garden manageable. An 8 x 24 foot garden raised bed can provide more than enough beans, squash, and tomatoes for a young family. If you plant corn, okra or vine plants you'll need more room. Choose varieties that work well in our area. Some plants that may do well in the mid-south may suffer and struggle in our hot, humid conditions.

Soils should be at a pH of 6 to 7, rich in organic matter and well drained. For most crops start with an 8-24-24 fertilizer. Side dress most plantings with ammonium nitrate at 3-4 weeks after transplanting.

Good sources for vegetable gardening are The Louisiana Vegetable Planting Guide and Horticulture Hints both found on line at [www.lsuagcenter.com](http://www.lsuagcenter.com). Another source in "The Louisiana Fruit & Vegetable" book by Rushing & Reeves. Try some true and new varieties. It's great fun to experiment in the vegetable garden.



Hi Everyone,

Spring is here early and the fever to plant is all consuming. Since I have retired I have been doing a lot of volunteer work. Jim is getting jealous because I spend more time with the tractor (it has a great front end loader for compost moving) than I spend with him. I tried to tell him it's just spring fever and it will pass soon so he retaliates by spending time with the chain saw. I am not jealous but I do like to oversee his work so that wanted trees do not get felled. The tomato fairy has blessed me with an abundance of surprises for this years garden. The pepper fairy has also left a hefty group of specimens that are demanding new homes also. I sure hope the salsa fairy shows up in June to help with the crops.



The rabbits, crows, squirrels and doves provide constant entertainment during the day while I work. One evening I looked up to see two young raccoons watching me plants peppers. They didn't offer to help. I hope to have all my plant show trophies in the ground soon so that I can bring home more plants from our plant swap. So many plants so little time. I love spring fever and the flush of growth that accompanies the fever every year. The unusual weather should make for an interesting summer.

Back in the garden and growing strong aj

## STPMG Programs 2012

Month	Speaker	Topic	Hint	Problem	Share	Hours
January 18 Covington	Ed Goodwin Kim Walsdorf-Shockley	Caring for Garden Tools Gardening Exercises	No	Yes	Yes	1
February 15 Covington	Art Scott Bernard Ory	Irrigation  Presentation of Awards	Yes	Yes	Yes	1
March 14 Covington	Henry Harrison	Growing Watermelons in the Home Garden	Yes	Yes	Yes	1
March 29 Thursday	Field Trip	St. Martinville Jefferson Island	No	No	No	3
April 18 Covington	No Speaker	Spring Plant Swap Lunch at Cheri Hall's	No	No	No	
May 16 Covington	Sheila Stroup	Scholarship Award	No	No	No	
June 20 Covington	Joan Gagliano Chairperson	Vegetable Festival	No	Yes	No	
July 18 Covington						
August 15 Covington						
September 19 Covington						
October 10 Wednesday	Field Trip	Bracy's Nursery Covey Rise Farms				
October 17 Covington		Speaker  Fall Plant Swap				
November 14 Covington						
December ? Location	No Speaker	Christmas Party				



Judy Wood  
[jazzwood@charter.net](mailto:jazzwood@charter.net)

# **STPMG Spring Plant Swap**

Wednesday, April 18  
10 AM  
St. Tammany Fair Grounds Barn

Now is the time to go into your garden to see what needs to be thinned. Then bring your labeled plants to share with your fellow MGs. Pull into the barn and open your trunk or pick up. Browse and select from the plants your fellow MGs bring to swap. It's that simple.

## **Lunch at the Home of Cheri Hall**

75180 Highway 1083, Covington  
985-809-0907  
Following the Plant Swap

Cheri Hall has invited us to come to her home for a covered dish lunch following the Plant Swap. Bring a dish to share and a chair. Paper products and beverages will be provided. Rod Downie will give a tour of the wooded property. (Dress in long pants, etc.)

**Directions to the home of Cheri Hall  
75180 Highway 1083, Covington 70435  
985-809-0907**



**Driving directions to 75180 Louisiana 1083, Covington, LA 70435**



**N Columbia St**

**1. Head southeast on N Columbia St toward N Pierce St**

1.3 mi



**2. Turn left onto LA-21 N/E Boston St**

0.6 mi



**3. Sharp left to stay on LA-21 N/E Boston St**

177 ft



**4. Sharp right to stay on LA-21 N/E Boston St**  
Continue to follow LA-21 N

5.1 mi



**5. Turn right onto LA-1084 E**

1.5 mi



**6. Turn right onto LA-1083 S**

0.6 mi



**7. Turn left**

407 ft



**75180 Louisiana 1083**  
Covington, LA 70435

## **EVERYTHING'S COMING UP ROSES ! Rose, Herb of the Year 2012**

by  
Linda Franco

### ***ROSES ARE HERBS, TOO!***

The Herb of the Year for 2012 is The Rose! Grow them, enjoy their beauty and eat them. There are many recipes in which roses can be used. They make a wonderful jelly, rose vinegar, and are great tossed in salads or confections. Use fairly fragrant petals that have not been sprayed with pesticides. Replace vanilla with rose water in baked goods or make a rose sugar for cookies. Many Middle Eastern and Indian recipes call for rose petals and rose products. Rose syrup is extremely popular mixed with seltzer. The fruit of the rose, the hip, is high in vitamin C, nutritious and healthy. Both hips and petals have been traditionally brewed into a tea as a diuretic. Pick your petals in the morning, when the dew is gone and the oils are strong. Dry naturally, then store in a jar. Doesn't the fragrance of the rose seem to take your cares away? If you don't feel like cooking at least remember to "Stop and smell the Roses!"

### **MARSHMALLOWS**

4 envelopes unflavored gelatin  
1 ½ cups water  
3 cups sugar  
1 ¼ cups light corn syrup  
½ tsp. salt  
2 teaspoons vanilla extract  
1 ½ cups confectioner's sugar

Line a sheet pan with pam, cover with aluminum foil .  
In a mixer bowl, soften gelatin with ¾ cup water.

Place sugar, corn syrup, remaining ¾ cups water, & salt in a heavy sauce pan.

Bring to boil and cook until syrup heats to 234\* - 240\*, or soft stage boil. Use a candy thermometer.

With the whisk attachment at full speed, beat the hot syrup slowly into gelatin until mix is very stiff, about 10 minutes. Beat in vanilla. Spread over pan and let rest 10 – 12 hours .  
Sprinkle confectioners sugar on to a board, turn marshmallows onto sugar. Cut into squares.

**ROSEY MARSHMALLOWS**~ SUBSTITUTE ¼ CUP Rose water and ½ cup rose syrup to soften gelatin

**Passionate Rose Tea**~ ½ cup dried rose petals, 1/2 cup lemon balm, 2 Tablespoons mint, 1 Tablespoon dried rosemary  
Mix well. 1 teaspoon for each cup.

**Rose Petal Sugar**~ 1 cup rose petals, red, to 2 cups sugar, process in food processor . Add 1 teaspoon of rose petal syrup, optional. Slice sugar cookies and sprinkle with sugar, or add to other desserts, paint scones with cream then top with sugar. Great in tea!

**Rose syrup**~ 2 tablespoons sugar, 1/2 cup white wine, 1/2 rose water, ½ teaspoon vanilla  
Heat sugar and wine to dissolve & bubbly, cool add flavorings. Great over ice cream, panna cotta, in seltzer or to use to flavor desserts, vinaigrette, and fruit.



### **SAVORY CHEESECAKE**

½ cup ricotta cheese  
½ cup cream cheese  
½ cup goat cheese or bleu cheese  
1 or 2 eggs  
pinch of salt and cracked pepper  
add ½ cup green onion, red diced pepper for color, optional  
350\* oven bake mini cups about 20 -25 minutes

If cooking in a 4 1/2 inch springform pan, line outside of pan with foil and bake in a water bath.  
Place cheeses in a food processor, pulse to smooth texture. Add all other ingredients except onions or peppers. Stir those in at the end. 1 teaspoon into each mini muffin cup. Chill.  
Melt preserves and drizzle over cheesecake and serve with crackers. Great with pepper jelly.

### **Rose Petal Jam**

1 cup fresh rose petals [not sprayed w/ chemicals] 3/4 cup water  
¾ cup water or apple juice  
Juice of 1 lemon  
2 1/2 cups sugar  
1 pack of sure jell  
1 -2 Tablespoons rose petal syrup, optional  
¾ cup water

Puree roses, water and lemon juice in blender, add sugar.  
In a pot stir bring ¾ water and pectin to a boil for 1 minute, then pour hot mix into blender, blend well, work fast. Pour into jars, keep in refrigerator about a month or freeze.

### **Rose Vinegar**

1 cup seasoned rice vinegar  
1 cup rose petals

### **Rose Petal Salad**

4 cups ruby lettuce  
2 cups rose petals  
1 cup strawberries, halved  
2 oranges, peeled, sectioned  
½ cup diced red onion or green onion  
1 cup sliced almonds  
1 cup cranberries  
salt and pepper to taste  
splash with rose vinegar

### **Rose Water** ~Gather the rose petals when the dew has dried but before midday.

2 cups fresh rose petals  
2 cups bottled water  
½ cup vodka, optional

Bring water to boil and pour over petals, cover, remove from heat, add vodka [opt.] Let steep overnight to develop flavor. Strain. Refrigerate or pour into ice cube trays.

Linda Franzo, Passionate Platter, 985-781-4372, [www.passionateplatter.com](http://www.passionateplatter.com)  
[Linda@passionateplatter.com](mailto:Linda@passionateplatter.com), Facebook

## My Wildflower Garden

by  
Leslie Boucher

I am a member of the 2011 Master Gardener class. At our graduation ceremony, Rusty presented each of us with a packet of wildflower seeds, ready for planting at that time. I had always thought about trying the wildflower garden, but just never got around to it. Now I had no excuse!

We have several pastures, and there was a section along one fence line that had been tilled fairly recently, and had no grass growing there. We chose this as the wildflower site, and raked it before scattering the seeds. Since this is at the far end of the pasture, there was no water supply – the seeds were on their own. We did have a good rain not long after planting, and of course as the months went by we had several good soaking rains. I knew the seeds would not sprout until spring, so we settled back to see how they would do.

I was thrilled when the first seedlings appeared, and waited anxiously for them to grow and bloom. The first to appear were very short and small, but as more and more of them sprouted the bed began to look like a real garden. Only a few bloomed at first, soon to be joined by more and more, and different varieties. There are still new ones coming up every day, and many new ones that have not begun to bloom.

I try to go by the bed every day to look at them. They are truly graceful, swaying in the breeze. The butterflies have found the bed, and are taking full advantage of the blooms. It gives me great pleasure to see my wildflower garden. I am planning on expanding it for next year since it has been so successful.





*Louisiana Master Gardener  
Appreciation Day  
at  
Hammond Research Station*

**May 18, 2012**

**9 a.m. – 3 p.m.**

***Invitation to Louisiana Master Gardeners***

- Come and spend a day in our garden!
- Guided tours including a Scavenger Plant Hunt!
- LSU AgCenter experts on hand to answer your questions!
- Special question and answer program by Dan Gill!
- Door Prizes!

*Complimentary lunch served at noon!*

***Contact your Parish LMG Coordinator and register by May 5th.***



Hammond Research Station  
21549 Old Covington Hwy., Hammond, LA

[www.lsuagcenter.com/Hammond](http://www.lsuagcenter.com/Hammond)

For lodging in the Hammond area visit: [http://tangi\\_cub.org/site3.php](http://tangi_cub.org/site3.php)





## **Southern Region Master Gardener Conference**

### **May 1-4, 2012**

### **Natchez, MS**

The conference provides an opportunity to meet and interact with Master Gardeners from many southern states. There are excellent speakers and tours offered for your selection. Registration is \$205. **Last day to register is April 15-online registration only.**

Additional information and registration is available at the web site.

[http://msucare.com/lawn/master\\_gardener/2012conference/index.html](http://msucare.com/lawn/master_gardener/2012conference/index.html)





Fourth Annual

# **Spring Herb Festival**

## **Herbs Make Scents**

**Thursday, April 12, 2012**

**4 to 7 PM**

**Slidell Library Herb Garden**

555 Robert Boulevard

### **Children's Activities**

Digging for Worms

### **Herbal Foods for Tasting**

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

### **Making Herbal Tea**

Select herbs to make a sample tea

### **Roses**

**4:30 - Margaret Ganier**, New Orleans Old Garden Rose Society

**"Roses are Herbs, Too!"** – A Celebration of the Rose – 2012 Herb of the Year

Take a fresh look at the "Queen of the Gardens"

**6:00 – Linda Franzo**, Passionate Platter

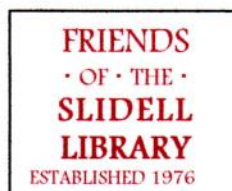
**"Butter Your Hips"** with Roses

Demonstrations and edible recipes using roses and rose hips.

Guided Tours of the Slidell Library Herb Gardens

Community vendors will sell herb plants

The Spring 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.





## SLIDELL LIBRARY HERB FEST APRIL 12

The aroma of herbs will be in the air as the Friends of the Slidell Library present their Spring Herb Festival with the theme, “Herbs Make Scents”, 4 – 7 p.m. Thursday, April 12, on the library grounds, 555 Robert Blvd. The event is one of several educational programs sponsored by the St. Tammany Master Gardeners and the LSU AgCenter.

The festival is billed as a “fun, late-afternoon activity for the whole family.” Surprisingly, the rose has been named the Herb of the Year, and Margaret Ganier of the New Orleans Old Garden Rose Society will speak on “Roses are Herbs, Too.”

Master Gardener Linda Franzo will suggest to listeners that they need to “Butter Your Hips,” rose hips, that is. She will give recipe demonstrations using rose petals and rose hips.

Tastings of several herbal teas, breads and dips will be offered. Recipes will be available of all foods and drinks served. Participants will be able to make their own tea from a variety of herbs, including lemon, mint, chamomile, lavender, rose hips and hibiscus.

While the parents are learning all about herbs, the children will be digging for worms, literally. Worms aerate and fertilize the soil, allowing herbs and all plants to flourish, explains Sandy Arnoult, chairman of the Spring Herb Festival.

Master Gardener Betty Rose is the chair of the herb garden at the Slidell Library. Master Gardener Judy Wood is the president of the Friends of the Slidell Library, which will be selling gently-used garden books at the event, which usually attracts 200 adults and children.

Local vendors will be offering herbs and roses for sale, and Master Gardeners and Friends of the Library will be offering tours of the library herb garden. Committee members planning the program are Donna Dicharry, Karla Partridge, June Taffaro, Nancy Munn, Kappy Goodwin, Kathleen Guidry, Betty Rose and Nancy Berulis.



Ann Gilbert, Publicity Chairman

## Lacombe Butterfly Garden



A work day is scheduled at the Lacombe Butterfly garden on Wednesday, April 4 beginning at 8:30. At this time we will rake out the old mulch, weed and trim, plant some annuals for color, and feed the beds. A layer of new mulch will be spread across the garden and we'll make sure the water sources added for butterflies last year are in good shape for this season.

Many of the plants in the butterfly garden (salvia, butterfly bush, gladiolas, Turk's cap, fennel, heirloom mums and lantana) made it through our mild winter and are sprouting up nicely.

The Friends of Louisiana Wildlife Refuges has agreed to donate up to \$100 for the 2012 butterfly garden.

All are welcome to join in the April 4 planting party/work day. If you plan to come or need more information please contact me. (Home – 985.643.3310; cell 985.502.8964) If you can't come to the work day make plans to visit the garden. It is located on the grounds of the Southeast Louisiana National Wildlife Refuges Complex at 61389 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.

Those who are coming to join the work day should bring hand tools; water and refreshments will be provided.



Susie Andres, [sandres@bellsouth.net](mailto:sandres@bellsouth.net)

**Planning for the Festival of Vegetables**  
**Tuesday, May 1st**  
**9:30 AM**  
**Ag Center**

*The June 20 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 Tuesday, May 1st, at 9:30 at the AG Center. Come bring your ideas and help to plan this fun event/meeting. Many of you have wonderful talents and ideas, please share. Any questions or thoughts, contact Joan Gagliano, Program Chair. At [joan70435@yahoo.com](mailto:joan70435@yahoo.com). (Participation in this meeting counts as volunteer hours.)



Joan Gagliano

## **Volunteer Opportunities at Southeast Louisiana Hospital**

### **Children's Home Butterfly Garden**

There is a proposal for the April 18<sup>th</sup> meeting of the Master Gardener's for a garden project for the Methodist Home for Children located on the campus of Southeast Louisiana Hospital, in Mandeville, LA across from Fountainbleu State Park on Hwy 190. The plan is for a butterfly and fruit/vegetable garden in an available green space. The garden is in the initial planning stage as to what will be planted. Anyone who specializes in butterfly gardens would be welcome to share their knowledge. It is hoped that a work date to actually put in the plants can be accomplished during the month of May. **There is a need for gently used garden tools to be donated for this project if anyone has any to spare. They will be collected at the April 18<sup>th</sup> meeting.** If approved, anyone wishing to volunteer or head this project, please contact Fran Thigpen at 985-892-3762.

### **Master Gardeners Needed for Plant Sale:**

There will be a plant sale at the NAMI (National Alliance for the Mentally Ill) greenhouse located at Southeast Louisiana State Hospital, Hwy. 190, Mandeville, La. (across from Fountainbleu State Park) on Thursday, May 10, 2012. The hours are from 10:00a.m. - 2:00 p.m. Anyone interested in volunteering at this plant sale, please contact Fran Thigpen at 985-892-3762.

## **ST TAMMANY PARISH MASTER GARDENERS 3/21/12 MEMBERSHIP MEETING**

The STPMG meeting was called to order at 10:00 a.m. A quorum was present with 56 members in attendance. Julie Deus, president, called the meeting to order and led the members in the pledge. Rusty Batty led in the prayer.

Don Lefevre presented us with some good garden hints for labeling our plants, including using an old pill bottle with the rolled up seed packet inside and planted by the corresponding plants. Some gardeners use an Excel spread sheet to keep up with what was planted where. Others use stakes with tin cans and others the ever popular pop-cycle sticks.

The educational program was “Growing Watermelons in the Home Garden” and was presented by Henry Harrison, LSU AgCenter county agent for Washington parish. He explained some of the most important things to remember for great watermelons are the pH of the soil (should be acidic), the amount of water, and the nutrients (best fertilizer would be 8-24-24). He brought both seeds and plants for the members.

Rusty announced that about 1900 people attended the Plant Show and everyone had a good time, great weather, great plants to choose from and educational talks to attend.

The February minutes were approved as submitted. Motion by Lyn Monteleone and seconded by Susie Andres.

The April meeting will be at the barn for the plant swap and then on to Cheri Hall’s home for lunch (9 miles from AgCenter – map in Gardengoer). Bring a lawn chair.

Treasurer’s report was approved; Ty Guidroz motioned, Joe Kieff seconded.  
Committee and Project reports included:

Lyn Monteleone for the scholarship committee, Sandy Arnoult for the Slidell Herb Fest (April 12<sup>th</sup> – 4 to 7), Ann Durel for the Otis House Butterfly Garden School Day (on 3/28), Susie Andres for the LaCombe Butterfly Garden (Wild Things On Saturday, Oct. 13<sup>th</sup>), Martha Gruning for the Abita Library Garden (3/28 program for children and 4/18 program for adults on veggies, herbs, soil, location selection)

Jerry Ballanco proposed a new idea of using MG money for educational opportunities for members, with the member attending then presenting the educational material to the entire membership. This idea will be discussed in more detail when more information is obtained.

Meeting adjourned.

Respectfully submitted,  
Kathleen Guidry, Secretary



## **MARCH BOARD MEETING**

### **3/22/12**

The March board meeting was held on 3/22/12 at City Hall, Slidell, LA, at 1:00 p.m. Julie De-  
us, Judy Wood, Kathleen Guidry, Debora Litzenberger and Fran Thigpen were in attendance.  
There was no treasurer report as Jay Rose was unable to attend. Judy spoke on the upcoming  
April meeting, plant swap and lunch afterwards at Cheri Hall's house. Also, plans are final-  
ized for the field trip to Jefferson Island. Forty-seven people have paid.

Fran Thigpen presented a proposal for the Master Gardeners to help educate and work with the  
clients at Southeast Louisiana State Hospital to improve their gardening skills and their garden  
area. She is looking for 2 to 4 volunteers for 4 hours a week for each four month period.  
There is also a plant sale the Master Gardeners could help organize with the group.

A second proposal was given for assistance with the Butterfly Garden Project run by the Meth-  
odist Home for Children which is also located on the state hospital campus. The Home is  
working towards getting soil, plants, mulch and tools donated. The Master Gardeners would  
be involved in planting, watering, harvesting, pruning and gardening education for the mostly  
teenage residents there. Judy recommended we accept the second proposal. Seconded by  
Kathleen.

Also at the meeting was a request by letter from Ann Durel for \$50.00 for supplies for the Otis  
House "Into the Garden" project on 3/28. Motion by Judy wood. Seconded by Kathleen. Mo-  
tioned carried.

Meeting adjourned at 2:15.

Respectfully submitted  
Kathleen Guidry, Secretary

## 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 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](mailto: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**.

Submitted by:  
Judy Wood



**AGENDA**  
**STPMG Membership Meeting**  
**April 18, 2012**

- 1. Call to Order and report quorum**
- 2. Announcements**
  - a. Scholarship meeting and pot luck-Barbara Moore**
  - b. Slidell Rehab Garden Plant Sale**
- 3. Project Reports**
  - a. Methodist Children's Home Butterfly Garden Project-Fran Thigpen**
- 4. Adjourn**

**Plant Swap and Pot Luck Luncheon at Cheri Hall's house  
(directions in the Gardengoer)**

# Calendar of Events

April, 2012	
2	Planning & Work day at the Slidell Library Herb Garden. 9:30. Planting and preparations for the upcoming Spring Herb Festival. Bring a lawn chair, water and hand tools. Contact Sandy Arnoult at <a href="mailto:sarnoult@bellsouth.net">sarnoult@bellsouth.net</a>
4	Work day at the Lacombe Butterfly Garden. 8:30. Planning, planting , weeding, pruning and other activities to get the garden going. Bring your garden tools. Water and refreshments will be provided. Contact Susie Andres at <a href="mailto:sandres@bellsouth.net">sandres@bellsouth.net</a> . See page 15.
12	Spring Herb Festival at the Slidell Library Herb Garden. 4-7 pm. “Herbs Make Scents” celebrating the 2012 Herb of the Year, the Rose. There will be 2 speakers, demonstrations, tastings and a children’s activity. Contact Betty Rose at <a href="mailto:bettyrose@charter.net">bettyrose@charter.net</a> or Sandy Arnoult at <a href="mailto:sarnoult@bellsouth.net">sarnoult@bellsouth.net</a> if you would like to volunteer. Set up for the event begins at 1pm. Free. See pages 13 & 14 for more info.
15	Deadline to register for the Southern Region Master Gardener Conference on May 1-4.. Online registration only. See page 12.
18	Spring Plant Swap at the barn (10:00) and lunch following at the home of Cheri Hall. See pages 6 & 7 for more information. Please bring any gently used gardening tools you would like to donate to the Methodist Children’s Home garden project. Fran Thigpen will collect the donations.
18	Abita Springs Library, “Basics of Vegetable and Herb Gardening” 4pm. For more info contact Martha Gruning at <a href="mailto:mgruning@bellsouth.net">mgruning@bellsouth.net</a> .

May, 2012	
1	Festival of Vegetables planning meeting at the AgCenter at 9am. Come, help plan for this festival to be held at the June MG meeting. Contact Joan Gagliano for more info: <a href="mailto:joan70435@yahoo.com">joan70435@yahoo.com</a> See page 16.
1-4	Southern Region Master Gardener Conference in Natchez, MS. See flyer on page 12 for more information. Online registration only until April 15.
16	Monthly meeting at the National Guard Armory. 10 am. Bobby Fletcher, Jr. Scholarship will be presented. Sheila Stroup is the featured speaker.
18	Master Gardener Appreciation Day at the Hammond Research Station. 9-3. Lunch provided. Contact Rusty to register by May 5. See page 11

June, 2012	
20	Monthly MG Meeting. Festival of Vegetables. Info TBA.

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*Notes from the Editor,*

*Is March ending or is it May already?? Everything has bloomed way ahead of schedule. I'm still trying to catch up with Mother Nature's strange schedule this year. I was way behind before I even started.*

*The plant show numbers aren't in yet, but it seemed like Friday was a huge success and Saturday was below normal. Whatever the numbers are, we had lots of happy customers and vendors.*

*Many thanks to Judy for planning and organizing the trip to Jefferson Island. Rip Van Winkle Gardens are beautiful and the Café has a lovely view of Lake Peigneur. If you didn't go on the field trip, be sure to take a day trip to St..Martinville and Jefferson Island.*

*We hope to see everyone at the Slidell Library Herb Festival on April 12. If you don't volunteer, come out to enjoy the speakers and the herb demonstrations. This year we'll learn all about the herbal uses of the rose.*

*This has been a busy month for MGs! Don't forget to log in your hours before you forget. Here is the link to post your hours:*

*[http://www.lsuagcenter.com/en/lawn\\_garden/master\\_gardener/Reporting+Volunteer+Hours/](http://www.lsuagcenter.com/en/lawn_garden/master_gardener/Reporting+Volunteer+Hours/)*

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## THE GARDENGOER

THE NEWSLETTER OF THE  
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