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Master Gardeners were active in the usually slow month of January. On January 11, Susie Andres gave an informative presentation on lavender at the Herb Gathering at the Slidell Library (top right). Julie Deus and Kim Walsdorf-Shockley demonstrate stretching exercises to use before gardening (top left). Ed and Kappy Goodwin pose in the classic "American Gothic" stance. Ed taught us how to keep our shovels and other garden tools sharp at the January meeting. Sharp tools make gardening much easier. Kappy is a Master Gardener, class of 2010. Thanks for sharing Ed with us!

## President's Message

WHAT IN THE WORLD IS GOING ON?? Our Azaleas, Japanese Magnolia and Redbud trees are flowering! It is February, right? But it feels like it is April! Let's hope Mother Nature doesn't have a frigid surprise for Valentine's Day.



As was announced during the January meeting, the By-Laws committee has drafted an amendment proposing that Standing Committee Chairman be term-limited to two years. Please take a moment to look over the amendment in the article on Page 15 of today's Gardengoer written by Committee Chairman Art Scott. We will have an opportunity to discuss and vote on the issue at the membership meeting on February 15.

Committee sign-ups at the January meeting were a rousing success, thanks in great part to the many creative displays on hand. Forty eight people filled out the form, with most volunteering for multiple committees and projects. Great job, chairmen! If you were unable to attend the meeting and would like to volunteer, contact me or the chairman directly to get on board.

The 2012 Membership Directories were distributed at this meeting and will be available at the AgCenter office and at our February meeting. Please check your information, and if you find an error, contact Susie Koepp at [cskoepp@yahoo.com](mailto:cskoepp@yahoo.com) so she can send a correction to everyone.

In February, the Honors Committee will recognize all members who volunteered more than 50 hours in 2011. For those of you who chose to receive a brick, they will be available at the meeting. If you are unable to attend the meeting and need to pick up your brick, please contact Sandy Arnoult at [sarnoult@charter.net](mailto:sarnoult@charter.net).

Remember, the Plant Show is Friday, March 16 and Saturday, March 17 at the Covington Fairgrounds. This is our main fundraiser for the Bobby Fletcher, Sr. Memorial Scholarship that we sponsor each year. We have one more Plant Show meeting scheduled for 9:00 AM on Wednesday, February 15, immediately prior to our general membership meeting. If you haven't signed up to volunteer, there's still plenty of time. Contact Pam O'Quinn Twardzik at [pammg09@yahoo.com](mailto:pammg09@yahoo.com).

Julie Deus

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

# Ground Cover to Consider

By

Rusty Batty

Many homeowners want greenery whenever and wherever they can get it. That's not usually a problem except where there is limited light, steep terrain or inadequate moisture. The best choice of plant material for such an area is ground cover.

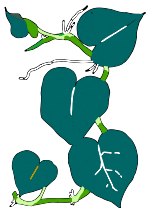
Ground covers are generally any low growing plants (other than grass) that cover a large area. They can help reduce erosion, are tolerant of most insects/ diseases, and generally low maintenance, such as mowing, weeding, or feeding. They are a great choice in providing greenery and some color in otherwise difficult areas.

Some ground cover recommendations to consider include:

For Shade to partial Shade: Choose from liriopse (various varieties of *Liriope muscari*), creeping lily turf (*Liriope spicata*), monkey grass (*Ophiopogon japonicus*), Asian jasmine (*Trachelospermum asiaticum*), cast iron plant (*Aspidistra elatior*), English ivy (*Hedera helix*), Algerian ivy (*Hedera canariensis*), periwinkle (*Vinca major*, an excellent variegated form is available), ajuga (*Ajuga reptans*, use in small areas, since it is prone to crown rot), strawberry begonia (*Saxifraga stolonifera*), many ferns such as holly fern (*Cyrtomium falcatum*), wood fern (*Thelypteris kunthii*), sword fern (*Nephrolepis cordifolia*) and autumn fern (*Dryopteris erythrosora*), to name a few.

For Partial Shade / Sun to Sun: Consider Lily-of-the-Nile (*Agapanthus*), sedum (*Sedum acre*, *S. Album*), low-growing junipers (*Juniperus chinensis procumbens* and *J. horizontalis* cultivars especially), dwarf lantanas, dwarf bamboo (*Arundinaria pygmaea*), daylily (*Hemerocallis*), wedelia (*Wedelia trilobata*, south Louisiana), perennial verbenas and yarrow (*Achillea millefolium*).

Using ground cover can offer a solution to a wide variety of limited landscapes.



Hi Everyone,

As I sit at the kitchen table I see the most beautiful pink cloud outside the window. It is a Taiwan cherry and it is spectacular this year thanks to the mild, adequately moist winter. This isn't enough for a column, so I stroll down to the veggie garden to find some broccoli, leaf lettuces, and a column topic. I am never disappointed by my little produce patch. I round the driveway to see several robins dashing and jumping in the pathways of the garden. They are parading through the dense, lush, spreading, perennial commonly known as chickweed. If I had to pick a favorite garden weed, it indeed would be "Stellaria media." Its stellar qualities include: it is found throughout the entire United States. It is Eurasian in origin. According to Weeds of the South, edited by DeFelice and Bryson, the seedlings are slender, often reddish, trichomes few, with unequal, clear cotyledons. It is 8-10 inches tall with a prostrate habit and a weak taproot that makes it easy to remove. Its tiny white flowers mature into seed capsules with multiple seeds insuring your garden of repeat performances spring after spring. February is a brown month generally in my yard, so I welcome the color reluctantly. Common chickweed also has an upscale cousin known as Mouse Eared Chickweed. Both are in the Caryophyllaceae or Pink family. It has the same basic characteristics as its cousin but its leaves are tufted and resemble mouse ears. This is the decorator model. It is also found throughout the United States. Armed with this knowledge and a 15 gallon black tub I proceed to thin the population. I stop and drop a bucket full to the cows who devour every last bit before I can finish dumping the bucket. The robins are now scratching frantically to unearth the newly exposed bugs in the pathways. I refill the tub and proceed to the chicken pen. They too like chick weed! Finally, the rabbits are the last to enjoy the impromptu feast. All the critters like chickweed. There are no toxic properties reported so I wash a handful and much too my disappointment, although the texture is crunchy, it still tastes like grass. So while everything is still slow in the garden go out and enjoy selecting your favorite weed. PS. I just bought a planket to protect my lettuces, more to follow next month. Back in the garden with the birds, 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	
March 14 Covington	Henry Harrison	Growing Watermelons in the Home Garden	Yes	Yes	Yes	
March 29	Field Trip	Jefferson Island	No	No	No	
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 ?	Field Trip	Bracy's Nursery Covey Rise Farms				
October 17 Covington		Speaker  Fall Plant Swap				
November 14 Covington						
December ? Location	No Speaker	Christmas Party				



## STPMG Programs

February 15, 2012

### **Drip Irrigation in the Home Garden** **Art Scott and Bernard Ory**

Once gardens are planted, it is time to plan for irrigation. Our “in-house experts”, Art Scott and Bernard Ory, will share with us the benefit of their knowledge on Drip Irrigation. Art Scott, a member of the 2008 Master Gardener class, has researched the technical aspects of drip irrigation. He has installed many drip irrigation systems including those at the Slidell Library Herb Garden and the Lacombe Butterfly Garden. Bernard Ory spoke on the types of and installation of Drip Irrigation for his 2011 Master Gardener Show and Tell.

### **Sharing Table** **Garden Problems** **Garden Hints**

At this meeting the **Sharing Table** will be available to pass on those gardening items you no longer need/want but may be helpful/useful to other MGs. Don Lefevre, a 2008 MG, will provide the **Garden Hint** for February. If you have a **Garden Hint** you are willing to share with us, please email Judy Wood, [jazzwood@charter.net](mailto:jazzwood@charter.net) to be placed on the schedule. There will be a brief time to learn about a current **Garden Problem** about which you may have a question. Bring that ailing leaf, stem, plant, etc. for discussion.



**STPMG Spring Field Trip**  
**Jefferson Island**  
**Rip Van Winkle Gardens**  
**St. Martinville**  
**Thursday, March 29, 2012**  
**Bus Departs Covington Ag Center 7:30 AM**

The Spring 2012 Field Trip will be to view the Rip Van Winkle Gardens at Jefferson Island in Iberia Parish. Michael Richard, owner of Rip Van Winkle Gardens and Live Oak Nursery (wholesale) will lead the tour of the gardens and nursery.

The bus will depart from the Ag Center parking lot in the Fair Grounds at 7:30 AM. There will be a thirty minute stop in St. Martinville to view the Evangeline Oak and native gardens along Bayou Teche. Upon arriving at Jefferson Island the group will divide into two smaller groups. While the first group tours the gardens the second group will eat lunch. Then the groups will switch and the second group will tour the gardens and the first group will eat lunch. There will be time to view the short film about the November 1980 disaster when Lake Peigneur disappeared into the salt mine and to tour the Joseph Jefferson Mansion.

The bus will leave Jefferson Island at 2:30 PM returning to the Ag Center at 5:30 PM.

The cost of the tour for STPMG members is \$20 plus the cost of lunch. The menu of lunch choices is on the next page. To reserve your place **send a note indicating your lunch choice and a check made payable to STPMG for the amount of your lunch choice plus \$20** to Judy Wood, 60589 Cypress Drive, Lacombe, LA 70445. You will receive an email confirmation that your check was received.

Additional information and sites are available at

Rip Van Winkle Gardens: <http://www.ripvanwinklegardens.com/>

Live Oak Nursery: <http://www.liveoakgardens.com/>

The Lake Peigneur disaster: [http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Lake\\_Peigneur](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Lake_Peigneur)

St. Martinville: <http://www.stmartinville.org/attractions.html>

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

**Lunch Choice (Includes beverage, tax, and 20% gratuity)**  
**Jefferson Island Café**

<b>Item Number</b>	<b>Description</b>	<b>Cost</b>
1	Half Muffuletta Ham, salami, Provolone and Swiss cheese, olive salad	12.66
2	Quarter Muffuletta	8.84
3	LOCO Turkey Sandwich Turkey, Jalapeno Cheese, Dressed with Lettuce Tomato, Mayonnaise and Jalapeno Mustard	13.93
4	BLT Bacon, Lettuce & Tomato served on Toasted Bread with Mayonnaise	10.12
5	Seafood Gumbo (Bowl) Homemade with large shrimp, LA crawfish and crabmeat served with rice on side and a roll	18.45
6	Weezies Chicken and Sausage Gumbo (Bowl) Homemade with boneless chicken, smoked sausage, served with rice on the side and a roll	14.63
7	Seafood Cream Bisque (Bowl) Homemade with large shrimp, LA crawfish and crabmeat served with a fresh roll	25.45
8	Crawfish Etouffee with Side Caesar Salad Homemade Blue Ribbon Etouffee with LA Crawfish	26.66
9	Crabmeat Au Gratin with Side Caesar Salad Jumbo chunks of crabmeat in a creamy sauce au gratin	27.93
10	Seafood Heaven with Side Caesar Salad Creamy basil sauce full of jumbo shrimp, crabmeat chunks, and crawfish over angel hair pasta	26.66
11	Spaghetti with Meat Sauce with small Caesar Salad Delicious spaghetti sauce over tender angel hair pasta served with fresh baked homemade bread.	16.48
12	Chicken Sauce Piquant with Side Salad Leg quarter with spicy red sauce, Tasso and Andouille, sundried tomatoes, roasted peppers and vegetable mirepoix.	19.02
13	Chefs Salad A plate full of ham, turkey, egg and American cheese, served on a bed of romaine with tomatoes	12.66
<b>Optional Side Items (no beverage included)</b> add this to the cost of the meal above		
14	Seafood Gumbo (Cup)	9.54
15	Weezies Chicken and Sausage Gumbo (Cup)	8.27
16	Seafood Cream Bisque (Cup)	12.09
17	Side House Salad Romaine lettuce, tomatoes, cucumber, bacon bits, and croutons	5.03
18	Side Caesar Salad Romaine lettuce mixed with Caesar dressing, croutons, and Parmesan cheese	5.03
19	Beverage add if you are ordering side items only	2.55



# NORTHSHORE GARDEN SHOW

**FRIDAY, March 16  
& SATURDAY, March 17**

St Tammany Fairgrounds, Covington

9am-4pm

Adults—\$3.00/Under 12—FREE



Covered Event—No Rain Outs  
Free Parking  
30+ Exhibitor Booths  
Gardening Information -

Free Presentations Hourly  
Free Children's Activities  
Free Door Prizes both days  
Food Concessions

Benefitting the Bobby Fletcher, Sr. College Scholarship Fund



## NORTHSHORE GARDEN SHOW FRIDAY, March 16 & SATURDAY March 17 St Tammany Fairgrounds, Covington

Friday	Topic	Presenter
10 am	Basics in Butterfly Gardening	Eileen Gremillion, 2011 Master Gardener
11 am	Lawns, Leaves and Limbs Diagnosed	Dr. Nick Singh LSU AgCenter, Plant Pathologist
12 noon	Irrigation for Small Gardens	Curt Bowman Irrigation Specialist
1 pm	Weeds vs Lawns vs Man	Dr. Ron Strahan LSU AgCenter, Weed/Turf Specialist
2 pm	Recommended Fruits of the South	Dr Ned Edwards USDA-Horticulturist

*More than 35 exhibitors,  
featuring plant material and  
garden supplies for sale,  
a plant health clinic,  
childrens activities  
and food concessions*



Saturday	Topic	Presenter
10 am	Composting, The World of Worms	Nancy McDonald, 2011 Master Gardener Karla Partridge, 2010 Master Gardener
11 am	Louisiana Iris, from Acadian—Zydeco	Patrick O'Connor Horticulturist
12 noon	Can't Miss Colorful Plants	Dan Gill LSU AgCenter, Consumer Horticulturist
1 pm	Water Gardening	Diane Quinn, 2011 Master Gardener
2 pm	Lessons in Landscaping for Beginners	Eric McQuiston Landscape Architect

## Plant Sale Volunteers Needed!

Thank you to all the volunteers who have signed up to work this year's plant sale on March 16<sup>th</sup> and 17<sup>th</sup>! There are still lots of opportunities available to help. This is a great way to earn your volunteer hours. You can sign up for morning (8 am – noon) or afternoon (noon – 4 pm) on either day in any area. Mix and match if you'd like some variety. Remember, parking earns you two for one hours! If you work 4 hours, you will earn 8.

Here are the areas that still need help. I am providing the list of chairs/co-chairs if you need further information about what is required of volunteers for a particular area. Please e-mail me at [PamMG09@yahoo.com](mailto:PamMG09@yahoo.com) if you would like to sign up for any of the available time slots.

Thank you!  
Pam O'Quinn Twardzik



Children's Area needs volunteers on both days, both shifts. Chair is Debi Schoen [debischoen@att.net](mailto:debischoen@att.net) and co-chair is Lyn Monteleone [lynmonte01@yahoo.com](mailto:lynmonte01@yahoo.com)

Evaluations needs volunteers on both days, both shifts. Chair is Cecelia Drennan [ceceliad@charter.net](mailto:ceceliad@charter.net) and co-chair is Susan L'Hoste [lhoste@att.net](mailto:lhoste@att.net)

MG Table has two open spots on both mornings, three on Friday afternoon and five on Saturday afternoon. Chair is Barbara Moore [babsofil@gmail.com](mailto:babsofil@gmail.com) and co-chair is Peggy Goertz [pegg-pegg@aol.com](mailto:pegg-pegg@aol.com)

MG Plant Booth is nearly full! There is one open spot on both afternoons. Chair is Lisann Cheaney [lisannsc@gmail.com](mailto:lisannsc@gmail.com)

Parking is still in need of volunteers – four on Friday morning, eleven on Friday afternoon, seven on Saturday morning and twelve on Saturday afternoon. Chair is Ty Guidroz [tyguidroz@charter.net](mailto:tyguidroz@charter.net) and co-chair is Debbie Adams [tworettriev@aol.com](mailto:tworettriev@aol.com)

Plant Corral still has lots of openings on both days, both shifts. Chair is Phyllis Morgan [oclsmorgan@bellsouth.net](mailto:oclsmorgan@bellsouth.net) and co-chair is Chere Currault [ccurrault@att.net](mailto:ccurrault@att.net)

Raffle Table has 3 open spots on Friday morning and afternoon and on Saturday afternoon and two open spots on Saturday morning. Chair is Joan Gagliano [joan70435@yahoo.com](mailto:joan70435@yahoo.com) and co-chair is Chris Stellingworth [cstellingworth@gmail.com](mailto:cstellingworth@gmail.com)

Helping with the Speakers still has room for a couple of volunteers each shift on both days. Chair is Donna Dicharry [dmd1001@bellsouth.net](mailto:dmd1001@bellsouth.net) and co-chairs are Charlotte Fanz [twink298@hotmail.com](mailto:twink298@hotmail.com) and Gerri Sommers [gsommers@bellsouth.net](mailto:gsommers@bellsouth.net)



CALLING ALL STP Master Gardeners:  
Please help out the plant booth for this year's  
Spring Garden Show !!!

As the 2012 Plant Show fast approaches,  
please consider donating your extra plants and  
successful cuttings to our booth at the plant  
show.

We will accept any plant – no matter the size! It can be as simple as a rooted cutting planted in a paper cup to the more serious potted plant you just don't love anymore. Bought too many spring veggie starts? Donate!!!

Please remember:

- All plants need to be labeled: scientific name preferred, but common name certainly accepted. We need to be able to correctly identify the plant for the public. (Ideas to use for labels: plastic utensils, popsicle stick, mailing labels)
- Plants need to be delivered to the Fairgrounds on Thursday, March 15 between 2 and 5 pm.
- If there's no way you can deliver, call me and I'll come pick up what I can Thursday morning, between 9 and 12. (Lisann – 985-951-9855)

Note: Proceeds from this booth build the MG textbook library at the AgCenter. All books are available for loan to all STPMGs. This is a tremendous resource! Huge thanks to Pam Keating for the outstanding job she has done chairing this booth. As she passes the baton, I'm finding out I have some big shoes to fill!!!! Help me make Pam proud this year!! Thanks so much.

Here's to a fantastic 2012 Plant Show!

Lisann Cheaney  
985-951-9855  
[lisannsc@gmail.com](mailto:lisannsc@gmail.com)





# Camellia Garden Stroll



1:00 – 4:00 p.m.  
Sunday  
February 26, 2012

**Hammond Research Station**  
21549 Old Covington Hwy. (Hwy. 1067)  
(off Hwy. 190 next to Lynhaven)

**Free Admission**

Stroll through a collection of over 500 *Camellia japonicas*  
and *sasanquas* planted from the late 1930's  
to the early 1950's.

**Also Camellia Plant Sale**

Event co-sponsored by LSU AgCenter  
and Tangipahoa Parish Master Gardeners Association

Membership and participation in activities and events are open to all citizens without regard  
to race, color, national origin, gender, religion, age, veteran status, or disability.  
If you have a disability that requires special accommodation for your participation in this event,  
please contact Sandra Benjamin at 985-748-9381 by February 17, 2012.

A State Partner in the Cooperative Extension System  
The Louisiana Cooperative Extension Service provides equal opportunities in programs and employment. Louisiana State  
University and A. & M. College, Louisiana Parish Governing Bodies, Southern University, and United States Department of  
Agriculture cooperating.





## **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. Early bird registration is open through January 14 at a rate of \$105.

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)



**BAYOU GARDENS CAMELLIA OPEN HOUSE**  
**SATURDAY FEB.25, 2012**  
**9 AM - 4 PM**

**Hosted by The Friends of Louisiana Wildlife Refuges  
And The U. S. Fish and Wildlife Service**

**With Special Guests:  
New Orleans Camellia Club  
Northshore Camellia Club**



- Enjoy Guided Walks With a Camellia Expert - 10 am, 11 am, and 1 pm
- Historical Walks of Gardens and Grounds - 9:30 , 10:30, 11:30, 12:30, 1:30
- Spectacular Flower Show Presented by Camellia Club Members
- Guest Speakers!
  - 10:30 am - Marie Mizell - "History of the Camellia"
  - 11:30 am - Jim Campbell - "Camellia Grafting Demonstration"
  - 1:30 pm - Bob Stroud - "Camellia Cultivation"
- Refreshments Provided by The Friends of Louisiana Wildlife Refuges
- Plant Sale - 9 am until they're gone!
- Enjoy New Displays in the National Wildlife Refuges Visitor Center
- Tours and Admission are Free

**U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, Southeast Louisiana National Wildlife Refuges**  
**61389 Hwy 434, Lacombe, LA 70445      more Info: 985-882-2000**

## Report of Bylaws Committee, January 18, 2012:

*By direction of the bylaws committee, I move the following revision of the bylaws; the addition of Sections 11 and 12 to Article VIII. Committees.*

*Section 11. Committee chairs will be appointed by the president with board approval. The terms of the committee chairs will be for one year. A Master Gardener may be reappointed chair for a second year. The term of a committee chair may not exceed 2 consecutive years. The term committee is as delineated in Sections 1 through 8 under Article VIII.*

*Section 12. Each committee chair will appoint a co-chair to assume committee responsibilities in the absence of the chair.*

### Background:

A suggestion was made by an MG to have a term limit for chairing a committee.

The Board deemed the suggestion worthy of being brought to the membership for a vote.

This change would require an amendment to the bylaws, so the Board requested the bylaws committee convene to draft appropriate language that would reflect the intent of the suggestion.

Even though not everyone on the bylaws committee is in favor the idea, the group developed proposed amendments to the bylaws.

The proposed amendments will provide an orderly method for discussion of the suggestion and ability to arrive at an accurate consensus of opinion. This discussion will take place at the February MG meeting.

At the end of the discussion a ballot vote will be taken resulting in an approved amendment or one which was defeated.

Respectfully submitted:

Art Scott

Bylaws committee January 2012: Mary Ann Brannan, Rodney Cross, Chere Currault, Kappy Goodwin, Ty Guidroz, Debora Litzenberger, Deborah Turton, Pam Twardzik, Judy Wood, Art Scott (chair)

### **January 2012 Master Gardener meeting**

The January Master Gardener meeting was held on 1/18/12 at the Coast Guard Armory in Covington with 79 members in attendance. Julie called the meeting to order at 10:10 and led the members in the pledge of allegiance.

Rusty gave the opening prayer. He also covered the garden problem which this month was scale on a holly branch. He stressed the importance of taking care of the problem early before the insect population increases. He also had some hints for our citrus trees... all fruit should be harvested by now (mid-January) and trees should be fertilized at the end of this month and again in March and May.

Ed Goodwin spoke to us about the importance of taking care of our gardening tools. He demonstrated how to sharpen a shovel and made it look easy enough that we should all try to master his techniques.

Kim Walsdorf-Shockley spoke to us on the importance of exercise to remain limber enough for gardening. The simple exercises she demonstrated should keep us pain free, so we can keep gardening, and keep enjoying our gardening. Our very own Julie served as assistant for both speakers and was an amazing assistant in both cases.

After the break Rusty outlined the procedures for reapplying as a Master Gardener. This can only be done once. Recommitment forms are available. Two past members have recommitted for this year.

Kappy Goodwin motioned to accept the December minutes as submitted. Susie Koepp seconded. Motion carried.

Under new business Pam Twardzik read a proposed change in our by-laws which would limit a member to a two year term as chairman of a committee. Discussion will begin at the February meeting.

Martha Gruning announced a beautification project at the Abita Springs library. A motion was made by Chere Hall and seconded by Rod Downie that we accept this project. Motion carried.



Jay Rose announced that, at present, we have 138 paid Master Gardeners. David Lynd motioned to accept the treasurer's report as submitted, seconded by Betty Rose. Motion carried.

A.J. spoke on the progress of the March Plant Show. This will be the 12<sup>th</sup> year for the show. Billie Stanga reported on the upcoming seminar "It's Easy Being Green" and Ann Durel reported on the Otis House Butterfly garden.

The meeting was adjourned at 11:10 a.m.

Respectfully submitted by:  
Kathleen Guidry, Secretary



**JANUARY 2012 STPMG BOARD MEETING MINUTES**  
**1/19/12**

A meeting of the Board of Directors of the St. Tammany Parish Master Gardeners Association was held on Thursday 1/19/12, at 1:00 p.m.. In attendance were Julie Deus, Judy Wood, Jay Rose, Kathleen Guidry and Debora Litzenberger. This was the first board meeting held at the new Slidell location, City Hall, 2055 Second Street. All members are invited to attend.

Julie called the meeting to order and Jay went over the projected expenses and income that make up the 2012 budget and the final ledger entries for the 2011 year. Net worth in checking and savings combined, as of 12/31/11, was \$20,716.79.

Judy gave updates on programs and trips already in the works for this coming year including the Veggies in June and a possible presenter for ginger in July. A field trip is planned for October to Bracey's and the lunch for that event will be \$17.00.

Judy also announced that e-Merge reported that 2/3 of the emails sent to MGs (from them) are being opened and 1/3 are unopened. If you are not receiving these group emails, your address may be entered incorrectly.

Two suggestions were received at the general meeting, one regarding a meeting suggestion on a topic previously covered but could be covered in a table clinic (How to use and read a pH meter). The second suggestion dealt with political activity beyond the scope, mission and purpose of the organization as outlined in the By-laws.

Julie, Judy and Rusty will be attending the Southern Regional Convention on May 1-4 in Natchez, MS. Information will be in the Gardengoer for other STPMG members.

The meeting was adjourned at 2:00 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,  
Kathleen Guidry, Secretary

## **JANUARY PLANT SHOW MEETING**

The January Plant Show meeting was held on 1/18/12 at 9:00 a.m. before the regular MG meeting. There were 26 members in attendance. Rusty took a count of the tables needed for the show and announced that more plant wagons had been purchased. A.J. called the meeting to order and asked each chairman to give a progress report.

PUBLICITY: Ann announced that there would be a 9 minute T.V. spot on channel #10, Charter, with both Rusty and Julie on camera. It will run multiple times. Also the yard signs need to be updated with the new date stickers and she will bring them to the February meeting so everyone can spend a few minutes helping. No licking required.

CHILDREN'S BOOTH: Debbie announced that the clay pots are in and the order placed to Oriental Trader. She already has a sign for the booth, but could use some ideas on how to display it securely.

VENDORS: Jean Claire and Betty announced that the applications have been sent out to the vendors for booths and new vendors are anticipated.

PLANT CORRAL: Phyllis explained that the corral would have a different location this year. It will be on the back wall (known as the alley) and will have four tents. Customers will be able to drive up to get their plants.

PARKING: Everyone was reminded that volunteer hours for parking count as double.

DONATIONS: Glenda and Chris said that donations can be accepted from businesses and individuals.

RAFFLE: Joan said the door prizes and raffle section will have three tables and the vendors will be donating prizes again this year.

SPEAKERS BOOTH: Donna said Rusty has all the speakers lined up and she has enough cups to give out as a thank you.

EVALUATIONS: Susan said the new evaluation forms will have a question about 1) the Friday date change, 2) how did this show help you and 3) what did you learn. Also, completing an evaluation will give you a free raffle ticket.

MG PLANT BOOTH: Looking for donations of plants from members. Please label them to show what kind of plant.

HOSPITALITY: Carla will have coffee and donuts for vendors and members starting at 6:00 a.m. Let her know if you can help.

A.J. thanked everyone for the progress reports and asked everyone to sign up for the area they would like. If you can't decide, but are willing to help anyway, just let her know and she will find the perfect place for you. The meeting was adjourned and the sign-up sheets passed around.

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**  
**February, 2012**

- 1. Call to order and report quorum present**
- 2. Opening Ceremonies**
- 3. Garden Hint**  
**Garden Problem**  
**Program: Drip Irrigation-Art Scott and Bernard Ory**

**Break-10 minutes**

- 4. Comments by Rusty Batty, County Agent and MG Advisor**
- 5. Minutes from January meeting**
- 6. Officer's reports**  
**President: Julie Deus**  
**Vice President: Judy Wood**  
**Treasurer: Jay Rose**
- 7. Committee Reports**  
**Honors Committee-Recognition of Volunteers with 50+ hours and**  
**Presentation of Awards-Sandy Arnoult**  
**Plant Show-A.J. Heinsz-Bailey**
- 8. New Business**  
**By-Laws Committee-Art Scott**
- 9. Project Reports**  
**Spring Seminar-Jill Stoltz**  
**Herb Fest-Sandy Arnoult**
- 10. Adjourn**

# Calendar of Events

February, 2012	
2	Workday at the Slidell Library Herb Garden. 2pm. Bring your tools! For more information, contact Betty Rose at <a href="mailto:bettyrose@charter.net">bettyrose@charter.net</a>
10	<b><i>“IT”S EASY BEING GREEN</i></b> , a seminar by the Class of 2011. 9-3 at the Journey Fellowship Church, 30042 N. Dixie Ranch Road, Lacombe, LA. For more information: Jill Stoltz, Chairman, <a href="mailto:business_works@bellsouth.net">business_works@bellsouth.net</a> or Billie Stanga, Registration Chairman, at <a href="mailto:billie.stanga@gmail.com">billie.stanga@gmail.com</a> . <b>REGISTRATION IS NOW CLOSED!</b>
15	Plant Sale meeting at the National Guard Armory at 9 am before the monthly meeting.
15	Monthly meeting at the National Guard Armory. 10am. Speakers: Art Scott and Bernard Ory, “Drip Irrigation”. See page 6.
25	Bayou Gardens Camellia Open House at the Southeast Louisiana National Wildlife Refuge Headquarters at 61389 Hwy. 434, Lacombe. See page 14.

March, 2012	
14	Herb Gathering at the Slidell Library. 1pm. Speaker TBA.
16 & 17	<b>Northshore Garden Show and Plant Sale</b> at the Fairgrounds. The event will be on Friday and Saturday this year. Mark your calendars and sign up to volunteer. This is our biggest fund raiser of the year. Email our Plant Sale Chairman, A.J. Heinsz-Bailey at <a href="mailto:ajjim@hotmail.com">ajjim@hotmail.com</a> with any questions. Sign up to volunteer with Pam Twardzik at <a href="mailto:pammg09@yahoo.com">pammg09@yahoo.com</a> . See page 10 for more volunteer info.
21	Monthly meeting at the National Guard Armory. 10am. Speaker: Henry Harrison, “Growing Watermelons in the Home Garden”. See page 5 for more program info.
27	<i>Into the Garden</i> a 4th grade LEAP Review with life sciences. 9:30-1:30p at Fairview Riverside State Park—Otis House. Volunteer MGs needed to host 7 learning stations. Contact Ann Durel at <a href="mailto:adurel@bellsouth.net">adurel@bellsouth.net</a> .
29	Field Trip to Jefferson Island. See pages 7 & 8.

April, 2012	
12	Spring Herb Festival at the Slidell Library. Plans are underway for another great festival. Contact Betty Rose at <a href="mailto:bettyrose@charter.net">bettyrose@charter.net</a> or Sandy Arnoult at <a href="mailto:sar-noult@bellsouth.net">sar-noult@bellsouth.net</a> if you would like to volunteer for this event.
18	Spring Plant Swap and lunch following at the home of Cheri Hall. Details TBA.

# STPMG Directory

**PRESIDENT:**

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

**VICE PRESIDENT:**

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

**TREASURER:**

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**SECRETARY:**

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**SLIDELL SENIOR CENTER:**

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**ROOTING THE FUTURE: MGs PART-  
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**ABITA SPRINGS LIBRARY**

Martha Gruning, [mgruning@bellsouth.net](mailto:mgruning@bellsouth.net)

*Notes from the Editor,*

*Hi MGs,*

*What wacky warm weather we're having! I'll take it over a cold and dreary winter anytime. Let's hope we continue with the mild weather for the Plant Show.*

*Activities are starting to heat up for us, as is typical in the springtime.. Committee chairs, please let me know about your activities so I can include them in the calendar.*

*Congratulations to the Spring Seminar Committee for selling out "It's Easy Being Green"! Great job! See you there on the 10th.*

*Be sure to attend the February meeting. Honor awards will be given out to those who earned over 50 hours. Also, a very important discussion and vote will be held on the bylaw amendment on page 15. We'll also learn all about drip irrigation from Bernard and Art.*

*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/)

*Debora Litzenberger*  
[debtogo@gmail.com](mailto:debtogo@gmail.com)



## **THE GARDENGOER**

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

Cooperative Extension Service

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