

SEED STARTING SEMINAR



On the 24th, the STPMGA held a seed starting seminar with our own MG, Dr. Gerard Ballanco (inset). We learned all about seeds from a PowerPoint presented by Dr. Ballanco, then reinforced that with hands-on learning with several types of seeds and growing mediums. The photo above shows Pam Rowe and Kathleen Guidry busy planting seeds and below is Kappy Goodwin carefully removing seeds from a pod. Kappy also was a great hostess, serving coffee, king cake and cookies to the 30 attendees. The seminar was held at the Conservation Room at the Southeast Louisiana National Wildlife Headquarters in Lacombe.

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President's Message

Our January meeting was fantastic! On a very wet and cold day over 100 brave Master Gardeners showed up for the first meeting of 2013. Following a terrific presentation on rose pruning from one of our own members we had brief summaries of our St. Tammany Master Gardener Association committees and projects. The chairpersons of these groups were then available during “rush” to offer additional information to those interested in signing up to volunteer for 2013.

Those volunteers will be busy this month. Our spring seminar (“You Need a Vegucation”) will be held on Friday February 22; additional information appears in this newsletter. The Spring Plant Show committee is also hard at work preparing for our March show. St. Tammany Master Gardeners will start a new project this month with a presence at the Covington Farmers’ Market on the third Saturday of the month. (*Details on our two new projects can be found in your January 2013 Gardengoer.*) Other project chairpersons are busy making plans for 2013 events including activities for school groups at the Otis House, a new hummingbird garden at Camp Salmen Nature Park in Slidell, an herb seminar at Slidell library, and an April educational event at the Abita Springs library. If you missed the chance to sign up for any of these committees or projects at the January meeting it’s not too late. Contact information for all committee and project chairpersons is listed in this newsletter.

It was great to see so many Master Gardeners wearing name tags at the January meeting but several folks have lost or misplaced their tags. Mary Beth Kaizer, the Administrative Coordinator in our AgCenter office, is the person who can help you get a new name tag. The cost is \$5.60 and a check (payable to LSU AgCenter Office) should be sent to Mary Beth at the LSU AgCenter (1301 N. Florida St., Covington, LA 70433; her phone number is 985-875-2365 if you have questions.) Make certain that you provide the correct spelling of your name for your tag when you send your check to Mary Beth.

The cold and wet weather in January might have hindered gardening efforts for a few days which allowed for some indoor time to make plans for spring planting while browsing through catalogs, gardening books, websites and blogs. In case we get more of the same weather in February you might want to check out some of these sites. Here are some I have accessed recently:

- <http://www.lsuagcenter.com/>.
- The Louisiana Master Gardener blog (<http://bhfletcher.wordpress.com> – follow prompts for access)
- “Grumpy Gardener” blog; the easiest way to access this is to enter “Grumpy Gardener” in a search engine; this blog is sponsored by Southern Living Magazine.
- Several local nurseries have websites and/or blogs with local information. O’Keefe Feed and Seed, Mizell Farms, Stelz Nursery and Slidell Nursery are the ones I checked. Enter the name of the nursery in a search engine to access its site.

Happy gardening when the weather permits; happy reading/planning/dreaming when it does not!



Susie Andres

susieandres@gmail.com

Prime time to Soil Test

By

Rusty Batty

If due to rain, cold or lack of enthusiasm, you haven't done a soil test, now is the prime time. Soil testing is the most often overlooked, but necessary, step in starting or continuing a garden or improving your landscape. Knowing where you are, is as important as, knowing where you want to go when it comes to our soils. Simple steps to soil testing help you know what your plant needs nutritionally to thrive.

Soiling testing steps:

- Take soil from at least 10 random places in the area you intend to plant or improve.
- Take the soil sample from 4-6 inches deep.
- Place these random samples in a plastic container and mix thoroughly.
- From the mix, take one pint of soil as your soil sample.
- Label the sample with name or number for identification. This helps to identify a specific location.
- Bring the sample to the LSU AgCenter office with a \$10.00 check or money order. No cash can be collected.

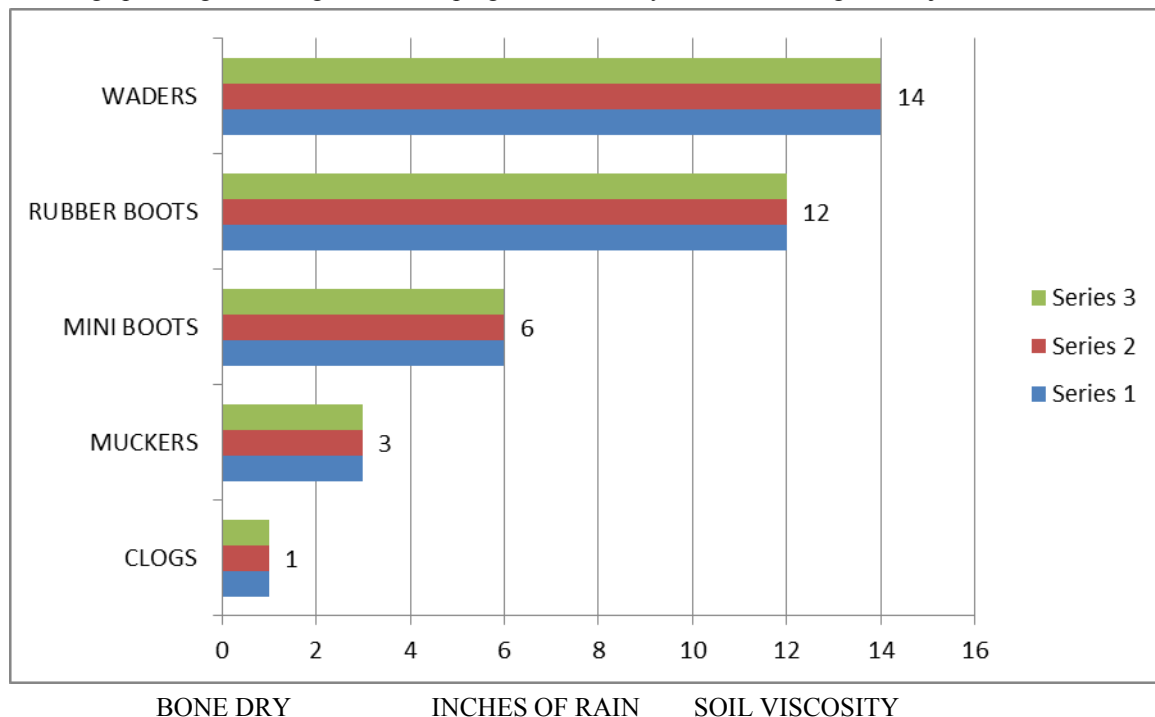
Results usually take 7-10 days. The recommendations will include whether or not lime is needed. Any lime required is best applied 6-8 weeks before fertilizing. Fertilizer needed will also be included in the results usually in ounces per bush, pounds per 1000 square ft. or tons per acre. Following the recommendations will make your landscape ready for “prime time” production.



Hi Everyone, Happy New Year!! We have received over 16 inches of rain in the last two months. This has promoted armchair gardening for the faint of heart and a new garden term for the diehard dirt dwellers, soil viscosity. Soil viscosity is measured in inches of rain. 0 inches of rain is bone dry and as the inches of rain increase so does the height of garden footwear. January was a real wader month. Orvis is a good place to find the most stylish and functional waders. They are pricey too!



Hand painted rubber boots are the footwear of choice for 6-12 inches of rain. Tractor supply and feed stores have cheaper models which are also quite functional for this stage of viscosity. In the 4-6 inch rainfall range, mini boots are suggested. Sloggers have several colors of mini boots available. Muckers are ideal for the average 2-3 rainfall. Less than one inch of rainfall all you need are an average pair of garden clogs. Here's hoping for a mucker year, back in the garden, aj



A.J. Heinsz-Bailey
ajjim@hotmail.com

STPMG Programs 2013

Month	Speaker	Topic	Hint	Problem	Share	Hours
January 16 Covington	Sue McGuire - Master Gardener 2012	Pruning Roses	Yes	Yes	Yes	1
February 20 Covington	Jim Campbell – Riverside Camellias	Camellias	Yes	Yes	Yes	1
March 20 Covington	Lee Berry – Bamboo Gardens of Louisiana	Overview of bamboo varieties, planting, maintenance	Yes	Yes	Yes	1
March-April	Field Trip – Bellingrath Gardens					
April 17 Covington	No speaker	Spring Plant Swap	No	No	No	0
May 15 Covington	TBA	Scholarship Award	No	No	No	0
June 19 Covington	TBA					
July 17 Covington	TBA					
August 21 Covington	TBA					
September 18 Covington	Linda Franzo – MG 2002	Starting an Herb Garden				
October ?	Field Trip					
October 16 Covington	TBA	Fall Plant Swap				
November 20 Covington	TBA					
December	No Speaker	Christmas Party				



Martha Gruning
mgruning@bellsouth.net



"You Need a Good Vegucation"

St. Tammany Parish Master Gardeners
in conjunction with the
LSU AgCenter



Invite you to attend a seminar
Friday, February 22, 2013
9:00 am to 3:00pm
(Check-In Begins at 8:30am)



First Baptist Church
16333 Highway 1085 Covington, LA
(Bootlegger Rd & Hwy 21)

Topics will include:

New and Improved Vegetable Varieties
Container Vegetable Gardening
Avoiding the Garden of Weedin'
Growing Vegetables Organically
Growing Mirlitons on the Northshore

And

There will be several table top clinics with various gardening demonstrations as "lagniappe"

Registration fee of \$20 per person due by February 15, 2013

Lunch is included. Space is Limited. Registration will close when full.

Registration deadline is February 15, 2013. Make checks payable to STMG
Mail to STMG, You Need a Good Vegucation c/o LSU AgCenter, P. O. Box 5438, Covington, LA 70434
For Further Info: LSU AgCenter 985/875-2635

Name: _____ Number Attending: _____
(Please Print)
Additional Attendees: _____ Amount Enclosed (\$20 per person): _____
(Please Print)
Address: _____
Phone: _____ E-Mail address: _____
Lunch Selection: ☐ Meat ☐ Nonmeat

OFFICE USE ONLY: Amount enclosed: _____ Confirmed: _____
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NORTHSHORE GARDEN SHOW

FRIDAY, March 15
SATURDAY, March 16

NEW THIS YEAR
GARDEN ART VENDORS

St Tammany Fairgrounds, Covington
9am-4pm

Covered Event—No Rain Outs—Free Parking
30+ Exhibitor Booths—Food Concessions
LSU Experts—"Plant Doctor" Table
Raffle Items Available
Free Presentations Hourly
Free Children's Activities

Benefitting the Bobby Fletcher, Sr. College Scholarship Fund



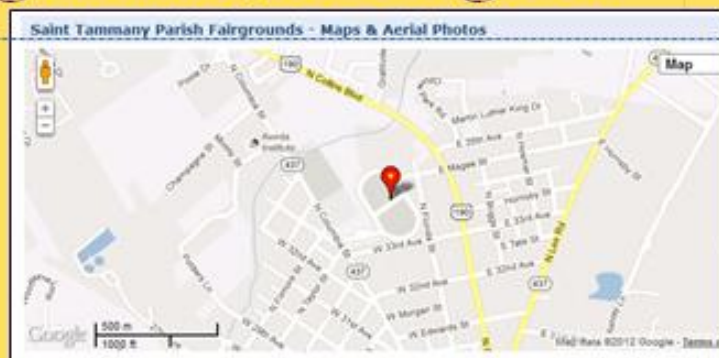
NORTHSHORE GARDEN SHOW

FRIDAY, March 15 & SATURDAY, March 16

St Tammany Fairgrounds, Covington

Friday	Topic	Presenter
10 am	Backyard Beekeeping	Julian Laine St Tammany Beekeeper
11 am	A Season for Herbs	Dr. Arlene Kestner Past President, American Herb Society
12 noon	Best Roses for Your Landscape	Dr. Allen Owings LSU AgCenter Hammond Research Station Specialist
1 pm	Mounting Bromeliads	Urbain Breaud 2012 Master Gardener
2 pm	Landscaping, Step 1	Eric McQuiston Landscape Architect

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



Saturday	Topic	Presenter
10 am	Proper Pesticides	Dolph Denley Owner Denley's Horticultural Services
11 am	Grass, Lawn or Turf	Dr. Ron Strahan LSU AgCenter Weed/Turf Specialist
12 noon	Some Like It Hot	Dan Gill LSU AgCenter, Consumer Horticulturist
1 pm	Azaleas, A to Z	Pat Newman Azalea Expert/Fohom Nursery
2 pm	Amaryllis from Seed	Richard Gremillion 2012 Master Gardener



Camellia Garden Stroll



1:00 – 4:00 p.m.

**Sunday
February 10, 2013**

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 4, 2013.

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.

Join us for the “Bayou Gardens” Camellia Open House February 16th 9AM-3PM

You are invited to the 4th Annual Camellia Garden Open House event at the headquarters for Southeast Louisiana Refuges in Lacombe.

The 110 acre property, historically known as Bayou Gardens, contains over 400 cultivars of camellias, plus a variety of other exotic plants, amidst a backdrop of native vegetation. The event will showcase and celebrate the large camellia collection of Bayou Gardens, many of which are in full bloom. Bayou Gardens is today part of the Bayou Lacombe Centre, an administrative headquarters for the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service’s Southeast Louisiana Refuges office. Eight National Wildlife Refuges are administered from this location, including Big Branch Marsh and Bayou Sauvage.

Activities scheduled for the day include both talks and demonstration, including camellia enthusiast Hunter Charbonnet, a board member of North Shore Club and American Camellia Society, presenting a program on the history of camellias and Jim Campbell, President of the North Shore Camellia Club, demonstrating an effective method of rooting limbs on existing camellias for reproduction commonly called “air layering”

Tours of the beautiful grounds will take place every hour covering the history of the complex as well as the variety of camellias that can be found here.

Live camellia plants will be for sale, with a portion of the proceeds to be donated to The Friends of Louisiana Wildlife Refuges, the non-profit group that raises funds and enlists volunteers in support of refuge goals and programs.

Join us for a guided walk or explore on your own, learn the intriguing history of the gardens, and enjoy this spectacular display of camellias at their peak!

When: Saturday Feb. 16th 9AM-3PM

Where: Southeast Louisiana National Wildlife Refuges Complex
61389 Hwy 434
Lacombe, LA 70445



The U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service is the principal Federal agency responsible for conserving, protecting and enhancing fish, wildlife and plants and their habitats for the continuing benefit of the American people. The National Wildlife Refuge System, managed by the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, is the world's premier system of public lands and waters set aside to conserve America's fish, wildlife and plants. Since President Theodore Roosevelt designated Florida's Pelican Island as the first wildlife refuge in 1903, the System has grown to more than 150 million acres, 552 national wildlife refuges and other units of the Refuge System, plus 37 wetland management districts.

For more information contact Supervisory Park Ranger David Stoughton at 985-882-2025 or david_stoughton@fws.gov

SLIDELL HERB GARDEN

Thanks to all who volunteered to work the herb garden at the Slidell Library. Along with Co-Chair Camille Schwandt, we are excited about the coming year. There will be a meeting February 20th to discuss a date and plan for the Spring Herb Festival. We will meet at D'Christina Restaurant, 810 W. Columbia Street, following the regular Master Gardener meeting. Donna Dicharry has volunteered to be our Chairperson for the Spring Herb Festival. Thank You, Donna!!!

A clean up day is scheduled at the Slidell Library Herb Gardens on Wednesday, March 6th beginning at 9:30. At this time we will remove old mulch, weed, trim plants as needed, add fresh soil and plant some new herbs. We will have a short meeting after the clean up to discuss any pending issues for the Herb Festival. Please bring a chair, water, and a snack as we will be meeting under the trees by the gardens.

I hope to see everyone at these two very important meetings.

June Taffaro,
Co-Chair
cptipt@yahoo.com



Backyard Plants Master Gardener Grown Plants 4 Sale

Hi! Can you believe the Plant Show is ONLY 6 WEEKS AWAY!!

Please continue propagating what you'd like to donate to the BACKYARD PLANTS booth.

Please keep in mind these parameters:

- 1) Plant must be **labeled** (common name ok/ scientific name, great!)
- 2) Plant must have a **viable root system** –
- 3) You will **bring your plants to the barn** on the afternoon of March 14 – between 2 and 5 pm. If you are UNABLE to physically bring them – contact me and we can arrange to have them picked up. We'll also accept donations throughout the show.
- 4) Remember – the hours you spend propagating your plants DO count toward your annual requirement.
- 5) If you attended the **propagating workshop** in November – don't forget your **promise to donate** a plant! ☺

Thanks so much, and Happy Propagating,

Warm regards, Lisann 985-951-9855 (lisannsc@gmail.com)



PLANT SHOW MEETING - 1/16/13

Ty called the meeting to order at 9:00 a.m. at the National Guard Armory in Covington. Chairmen of the various committees reported on any new developments within their section.

Judy Wood & Kappy Goodwin will be coordinating the volunteers. A quick check with them might let you know what's available.

Don Lefevre reminded all that the parking duties are still double hours and involve collecting money, directing traffic, handing out maps, etc.

Ann Gilbert said to be sure and check out cable TV. They will have a spot about the plant show that will air repeatedly throughout several weeks. Also, yard signs will be given out at the February meeting. Everyone should take at least one.

Julie Deus brought a few flyers to start circulating. More will be at February meeting.

Karla Partridge will be at the show at 6:00 a.m. serving coffee and doughnuts to all the brave souls who show up that early.

Lisann Cheaney stressed the importance that any plant bearing the Master Gardener's name should have both solid roots and curb appeal. Everyone should try to donate some plants. Dig up the extras in your yard.

Christine Stellingworth needs your extra pots and baskets to give the raffle items a special look

Rodney Cross (and Rusty) explained the new set-up and hinted that more changes might still be made since there are two livestock shows in the next few weeks. Recycling possibilities were discussed but were shelved for this year.

Pam Peltier announced that the letters have gone out to the vendors from last year. The meeting ended with a discussion on the merits of T-shirts versus vests versus aprons. The discussion was inconclusive.

Meeting adjourned.

Respectfully submitted,
Kathleen Guidry, Secretary

STPMG BOARD MEETING 1/3/13

The first board meeting for 2013 was held at the Causeway Branch of the St. Tammany Parish Library in Mandeville at 10:00 a.m. Seventeen members were in attendance. The meeting was called to order by Susie Andres, President.

Committee chairmen presented their reports:

Judy Wood, Membership: Membership for 2013 will be about 150 members. This year's directory will also show members by their geographical area. Some discussion was given for the possibility of having a formal mentor program (such as Washington and Alabama's) where the mentor relationship starts before the class has been taken. Concerns were raised if there would be a 2013 new class if Rusty's position hasn't been filled. Ty suggested we check with Washington parish as they only have a small class each year. Judy will check with Rene Schmitt about this possibility.

Art Scott, Communication: Art and Pam are developing the MoM (mail on Mondays) weekly email and are learning more each week. The meeting agenda is now formatted as before.

Sandy Arnoult, Honors: Deadline for 2012 hours has passed and tabulation has begun. The two options for rewards this year will be La. Gardener or brick.

Peggy Goertz, gloves: People are still buying and loving the gloves. She will have to reorder before the plant show.

Barbare Moore, Hospitality: The party was a huge success. No budget has been used in the past, but might be considered for the future.

Pam Rowe, finance: All files have been received from past Treasurer, Jay Rose. At present, we have \$7372 in checking, \$7690 in plant show account and \$5047 in Savings accounts.

Martha Gruning, Programs: Calendar will be continued this year in the Gardengoer. She will research a possible trip to Bellingrath Gardens for the coming year.

Ty Gridroz, Plant Show: A new tent has been purchased for the Art area. All speakers are lined up, including Dan Gill. He is looking into the possibility of having a commercial sponsor to pay the expenses for the vests, fans, etc.

Nancy Thompson, Spring Seminar: Registration will close when 200 have been received. Kiki Fontenot and Rodney Cross will be on the agenda. Contact her with any comments or suggestions.

Two new projects will be voted on at the general meeting, the Camp Salem butterfly garden and the Covington Farmer's Market. Tables will be set up so member can break and find out more about all the new and standing projects they can take part in this year. Sign-up sheets will be available.

Sue McGuire, class of 2012 will speak to the group on pruning Roses.
Meeting adjourned.

Respectfully submitted,
Kathleen Guidry, Secretary

STPMG GENERAL MEMBERSHIP MEETING

1/16/13

New president, Susie Andres, called the first meeting of 2013 to order and led the group in the pledge of allegiance. Ninety-nine members were in attendance at the National Guard Armory in Covington. This was our highest attendance on record. Rusty gave the opening prayer.

The problem for the day was spots on Indian Hawthorn leaves. Rusty said this is called EN-DOSPORIUM- a common problem in wet weather. The solution is to get greater air circulation through the branches by thinning (pruning) the plants. It's also advisable not to use overhead watering. If necessary, chemicals can also be used.

Sue McGuire, class of 2012 (and, in house expert) presented a great talk on pruning roses and brought examples of some favorites to demonstrate techniques. Her favorite roses are 'Old Garden Roses' and she said most of them don't need spraying like some of the newer varieties. Both educational and humorous, Sue's motto for roses is, "If it gets in the way- cut it off!!" She said it wouldn't hurt the plant and instead would probably help it.

Peggy Goertz spoke about a new project, the Camp Salmen Hummingbird/Butterfly garden encompassing 1/3 acre. Ty motioned to accept the project. Julie seconded. Motion carried.

Billie Stanga explained the new project of an information table set up at the Covington Farmer's Market on the 3rd Saturday of each month from 9 to 12. Eileen made the motion to accept the project. Bart seconded. Motion carried.

Each project chairman was given a two minute time slot to describe their project and ask for volunteers if needed. A break afterwards allowed all members to visit the different project tables set up in the hallway to get in depth information on any projects that sparked their interest.

Rusty announced his official retirement as St. Tammany Parish county agent. He is planning a retirement date of 4/1/13 and will be greatly missed by all the Master Gardeners. We hope he won't be able to stand not knowing what we're up to and will therefore visit us often.

Kappy motioned to accept the December minutes as submitted to the Gardengoer. Eileen seconded. Motion carried.

Julie motioned we accept the treasurer's report as presented. Donna seconded. Motion carried.

Judy passed out the new directories for 2013. They keep getting bigger and better. This year has the members listed by location in addition to alphabetically. We have 156 active members.

Dee Middleton suggested you still place your order even if you missed the last deadline. She will send a new order as soon as she reaches the required amount.

Martha gave a great garden tip for planting small seeds. She said to wet a small string, then pull it straight and plant the string. Perfect line up for planting.

Meeting adjourned.

Respectfully submitted
Kathleen Guidry, Secretary



Sue McGuire gave an excellent and humorous talk about pruning roses at the January meeting.



MG Rush at the January meeting. All of our projects leaders put their best foot forward to sign on new volunteers.

Calendar of Events

February, 2013	
7	Monthly Board Meeting at the Causeway Branch Library in Mandeville located in the K-Mart shopping center. 10 a.m.—12:00 p.m. Contact Susie Andres, susieandres@gmail.com , if you have any questions.
16	<i>Bayou Gardens Camellia Open House</i> at Southeast Louisiana Refuges Headquarters in Lacombe on HWY 434. 9 am—3 pm. Tours, demonstrations and seminars. Contact Park Ranger David Stoughton at 985-882-2025 or david_stoughton@fws.gov . <i>See page 10 for details.</i>
20	Plant sale meeting at the National Guard Armory. 9 am.
20	Monthly meeting at the National Guard Armory. 10 am. Jim Campbell will give a talk on camellias.
20	The Slidell Library Herb Garden Committee will meet after the regular meeting at D'Christina Restaurant at 810 W. Columbia to discuss plans for the Spring Herb Festival. Contact June Taffaro, cptjpt@yahoo.com or Camille Schwandt, camilleschwandt@charter.net
22	Spring Seminar, “You Need a Good Vegucation”. Presented by the Class of 2012. The Chairman is Nancy Thompson, nthomps25@bellsouth.net . It will be held at the First Baptist Church in Covington from 9-3. <i>See page 6 for details and registration information.</i>
March, 2013	
6	The Slidell Library Herb committee will have a workday at the garden beginning at 9:30. <i>For details, see page 11.</i>
15-16	Northshore Plant Show and Sale at the Fairgrounds. Ty Guidroz is the Chairman of the Plant Show, tyguidroz@charter.net . <i>See pages 7 & 8 for details.</i>
20	Monthly meeting at the National Guard Armory. 10 am. Lee Barry will give a talk on bamboo.
22	Otis House/Fairview State Park presents a school program “Into the Garden”, 9:00 a.m.-12:30 p.m.. Contact Ann Durel if you are interested in volunteering, 985-792-4652.
April, 2013	
20	MG Plant Swap under the barn at the Fairgrounds. 10:00-12:00. Bring seeds, cuttings, seedlings or mature plants that you’d like to share with your fellow MGs.

STPMG Directory

PRESIDENT:

Susie Andres, susieandres@gmail.com

VICE PRESIDENT & PROGRAMS:

Martha Gruning, mgruning@bellsouth.net

TREASURER:

Pam Rowe, PamMG09@yahoo.com

SECRETARY:

Kathleen Guidry, katfire@bellsouth.net

LSU AGCENTER MASTER GARDENER CO-ORDINATOR/COUNTY AGENT:

Rusty Batty, rbatty@agcenter.lsu.edu

LSU AGCENTER OFFICE:

Mary Beth Kaizer, MKaizer@agcenter.lsu.edu

**LSU AGCENTER OFFICE
VOLUNTEER COORDINATOR:**

Cindy Manger, beachin70124@gmail.com

MEMBERSHIP CHAIRMAN:

Judy Wood, jazzwood@charter.net

HONORS:

Sandy Arnoult, sarnoult@charter.net

HOSPITALITY:

Barbara Moore, babsofil@gmail.com

MERCHANDISE:

Dee Middleton, doloresmiddleton@ymail.com

COMMUNICATION SPECIALISTS:

Art Scott, folsomart@bellsouth.net

Pam Rowe, PamMG09@yahoo.com

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Debora Litzenberger, debtogo@gmail.com

PLANT SHOW:

Ty Guidroz, tyguidroz@charter.net

CAMP SALMEN HUMMINGBIRD GARDEN:

Peggy Goertz, peggpegg@aol.com

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SCHOLARSHIP:

Lyn Monteleone, lynmonte01@yahoo.com

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Julie Deus, jdcalla@aol.com

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SLIDELL SENIOR CENTER:

Ruthann Johnson, rjohnson104@bellsouth.net

SMH REHAB GARDEN:

Leslie Landeche, rocknlou@bellsouth.net

SLIDELL HERB GARDEN:

June Taffaro cptjpt@yahoo.com

Camille Schwandt camilleschwandt@charter.net

LACOMBE BUTTERFLY GARDEN:

Kay Hanson, hansonpk@bellouth.net

OTIS HOUSE BUTTERFLY GARDEN:

Ann Durel, adurel@bellsouth.net

**ROOTING THE FUTURE: MGs PARTNER
WITH STPSB SCHOOLS:**

Christy Paulsell, j.christine.paulsell@stpsb.org

VEGUCATORS & TOMATO FOCUS GROUP:

Gerard Ballanco, gballanco@bellsouth.net

ABITA SPRINGS LIBRARY:

Martha Gruning, mgruning@bellsouth.net

GLOVES:

Peggy Goertz, peggpegg@aol.com

CHILDEN'S METHODIST HOME GARDEN:

Ty Guidroz, tyguidroz@charter.net

COVINGTON FARMERS' MKT:

Billie Stanga, billie.stanga@gmail.com

Notes From the Editor:

Hi MGs,

Spring isn't officially here yet, but my trees think it is and so do my azaleas. Hopefully we have more seasonal weather before my summer perennials start blooming!

Many thanks to Jerry for putting on a great seed starting seminar. The hands-on learning was the best. My lettuce is growing, the basil is up and several flower seeds that I planted are growing. Soon they will be out in the backyard, hardening off before planting in the garden. I feel much more confident in using seeds than I did before. Great job, Jerry!

I hope to see everyone at the Spring Seminar, "You Need a Good Vegetation". There are some real go-getters on this committee and it's going to be a seminar you won't want to miss.

Be sure to keep your New Year's resolution to post your hours at least once a month. Here is the link to post your hours:

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

Anxiously awaiting real spring to get here...

*Debora Litzenberger
debtogo@gmail.com*



THE GARDENGOER

THE NEWSLETTER OF THE ST. TAMMANY MASTER GARDENERS ASSOCIATION

Cooperative Extension Service

St. Tammany Parish

1301 N. Florida Street

Covington, LA 70433

Phone: 985-875-2635 (Covington)

Fax: 985-875-2639

Website: [www.lsuagcenter.com/
mastergardener/](http://www.lsuagcenter.com/mastergardener/)