



An educational program of the LSU AgCenter

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THE NEWSLETTER OF THE ST. TAMMANY PARISH MASTER GARDENERS ASSOCIATION

VOLUME 14, ISSUE 10

October, 2011

Crystal Springs Field Day Friday, October 21

STPMG will charter a bus to attend the Fall Flower and Garden Fest at the Mississippi Research Station in Crystal Spring, MS on Friday, October 21. **The bus will leave the Ag Center in Covington at 7 AM** and return by 5 PM. The cost for a STPMG is \$20. Guests of STPMG may participate with us for a cost of \$30. You may reserve your place or a place for your guest on the bus by sending a check for \$20 (member) or \$30 (guest) payable to STPMG and mailing it to Judy Wood, 60589 Cypress Drive, Lacombe, LA 70445. Members will be notified by email when their check arrives.



Speakers for the Flower and Garden Fest have been announced. Many of the excellent speakers from 2010 are returning. Topics and speakers are listed below.

For additional information <http://msucare.com/fallfest/>

Seminar topics and Speakers

My Favorite Woody Plants for the Winter – Jeff Wilson
 Fundamentals of Garden Design – Brian Templeton
 Tropical Plants – Keep 'Em Growing! – Nellie Neal
 Holiday Decorating Ideas from the Garden – Catherine Strange
 Not Your Grandma's Coneflowers – Gary Bachman
 The Garden Grocery: Your Local Farmers' Market – Paige Manning
 Heirloom Vegetables: Antique or Novelty? – Donna Beliech
 Canning Fresh From the Garden – Carolyn Conger
 Adding Value to Fresh Fruits and Vegetables – Dr. Anna Hood
 Take the Sting Out of Fire Ants – Blake Layton
 Preserving and Maintaining Trees – Drew Bates
 Managing Koi in your Water Gardening – Dawn Barnige
 Colored Mulch and Row Covers for Vegetables – Romon Arancibia
 Gardening with a High Tunnel – Mengeng Gu
 Make Your Own Rain Barrel – Donna Beliech

St. Tammany Parish Master Gardeners 2011 Programs

Month	Speaker	Topic	Garden Hint	Garden Problem	Sharing Table	ED Hours
January 19 Covington	Jerry Ballanco	Vegetable Gardening: Delicious Fun	Yes	Yes	Yes	1
February 16 Slidell	Bob Stroud	Camellias and Tour of Camellia Gardens	No	No	No	1 talk 1 tour
March 16 Covington	Georgeann Chaffee	Assessing the Mature Landscape	Yes	Yes	Yes	1
March 24 Mobile, AL	Tour	Festival of Flowers				6
April 20 Covington	No Speaker	Plant Swap	No	No	No	0
May 18 Covington	Art Scott Edible Flowers	Scholarship Award	No	No	No	1
June 15 Covington	No Speaker	Vegetable Festival	No	No	Yes	1
July 20 Covington	Nancy Bartlett	Cut Flower Gardening	Yes	Yes	Yes	1
August 17 Covington/ Big Branch	John Besh	La Provence	No	No	No	1
September 21 Covington	John Cassidy	Urban Storm Drainage	Yes	Yes	Yes	1
October 19 Covington	Dr. Allen Owings	Outstanding Plants from the Trial Gardens at Hammond & Tour Bartlett Farms	Yes	Yes	Yes	
October 21 Crystal Springs	Tour	MS Field and Flower Day				
November 16 Covington	Patrick O'Connor	Louisiana Iris & Tour Suzanne Sloan Bromeliad Garden	Yes	Yes	Yes	
December 14 Slidell	No Speaker	Christmas Party	No	No	No	0

STPMG Programs

Outstanding Plants From the Trial Gardens at Hammond Dr. Allen Owings October 19, 2011

Dr. Allen Owings is Professor of Horticulture at LSU Ag Center Hammond Research Station. Dr. Owings received his B.S. degree in plant science from Southeastern Louisiana University in Hammond and graduate degrees in horticulture from LSU and Mississippi State University. Dr. Owings will speak to us about the outstanding plants at the trial gardens at the Hammond Research Station.



Bartlett Farms Tour

Following the meeting on October 19 we will have the opportunity to tour Bartlett Farms, a vegetable and cut flower garden. Nancy Bartlett was our speaker at the July meeting. Her topic was Cut Flower Gardening. Nancy and her son, John, sell cut flowers and fresh vegetables at the Covington Farmer's Market.

Bartlett Farms is located off of Highway 25 north of Covington and south of Folsom. It is the first driveway on the right (east side of Highway 25) past Million Dollar Road. It is less than six miles from the AgCenter.

You may wish to bring **water to drink, a hat for sun protection** and a sandwich.

More information on Bartlett Farms (John Bartlett will be at the farm for our tour.)

John Bartlett was on the cover of the May 24, 2011 issue of Gambit. The cover story was Fresh Crop - The Good Earth - South Louisiana's young farmers have a stake in the land.

<http://www.bestofneworleans.com/gambit/young-farmers/Content?oid=1752043>

Another article about the farm appeared in the Times Picayune in 2009

http://blog.nola.com/judywalker/2009/01/a_new_generation_of_growers_co.html

Here is a third link about the farm.

<http://www.thegardenveg.com/>

Judy Wood jazzwood@charter.net



Membership Dues

Beginning at the October 19th meeting you may pay your membership dues of **\$12.00** if you have 20 volunteer hours and 6 education hours posted online at the LSU AgCenter site. Please make out your check to **STPMG** and give it and your membership dues form below to Jay Rose. He will verify hours through Sandy Arnoult and send this information to Ruthanne Johnson, who will be compiling names and addresses for the 2012 Membership Directory. Please have all hours posted online no later than Dec. 15 and dues in by this time also.

Thanks to all of you for your promptness in paying your dues and having your hours online.

Susie Koepp
Membership Chairman

MEMBERSHIP DUES 2012

NAME: _____

ADDRESS: _____

HOME PHONE: _____

CELL PHONE: _____

EMAIL ADDRESS: _____

CLASS YEAR: _____

LACOMBE BUTTERFLY GARDEN

The Lacombe Butterfly Garden has been a busy place lately. A group of Master Gardeners met there on September 9, 2011 and spent a wonderfully cool morning weeding, feeding, staking some over-achieving cassias (*Cassia obtusifolia*), mulching, and generally sprucing up the garden. Lots of butterflies, humming-birds, and bees joined the party. The pentas (*Pentas lanceolata*) attracted several Gulf fritillary butterflies, and numerous hummingbirds found the lantana (*Lantana camara*) irresistible. The garden has started its shift into fall colors, and the rains from recent Tropical Storm Lee helped bring out lots of blooms and healthy growth.

A big day for the butterfly garden will be Saturday, October 15, when the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service will host Wild Things, an annual event celebrating the outdoors. The event is co-sponsored by Friends of Louisiana Wildlife Refuges. This day-long (10:00 AM – 5:00 PM) family event provides Master Gardeners with an opportunity to present horticultural education activities for children attending Wild Things. This year's activities will focus on the life cycle of butterflies, and will feature an exhibit of live Painted Lady butterflies and tours of the butterfly garden. Additional volunteers for this day are welcome - please contact Susie Andres (sandres@bellsouth.net) if interested.



LEGACY SCHOOL GARDEN PROJECT

The **Legacy School Garden** project is a collaborative effort of the St. Tammany Public School System, Master Gardeners of the LSU Ag Center, the Boy Scouts, PTA groups, and Jinx Vidrine's Legacy School Gardens Fund. Seven schools are currently taking part with ten different pilot garden projects.

Dr. Vidrine's Northshore Community Foundation is providing "seed" grants for establishing the project in elementary schools throughout the parish. The organization's mission is to partner with the community for the purpose of creating a vegetable garden at the schools, with a long-range vision to connect children to the food they eat, thus leading to better health both for them and the community.

The Legacy School Garden project provides organic soil, vegetable seeds and seedlings, a garden hose and sprinkler, and enough mulch for a four foot by four foot garden area. It includes garden curriculum resources so teachers can provide students with appropriate lessons on gardening and related subjects.

The gardens will be used as an "outdoor classroom" to teach various aspects of science, math, language arts, social studies, art, geography, as well as sustainability.

According to project organizers, students engaged in gardening activities have shown enhanced academic achievement, an awareness of the importance of good health, and a better developed "sense of place." The project instills in them environmental stewardship and encourages greater community and social development, said Christy Paulsell, science curriculum specialist with the School System and Master Gardener.

Thanks to the funding and volunteer efforts of the Legacy School Gardens initiative, pilot school projects have been launched at Lyon Elementary, Bayou Woods Elementary, Cypress Cove Elementary, Mandeville Elementary, Abita Springs Elementary, Chahta-Ima Elementary, and Lee Road Junior High. All with supportive LSU Ag Center- Master Gardeners serving as on-site horticultural experts!

The ten Legacy School Garden boxes were built and delivered by Eagle Scout Canon Henton. Three schools received two boxes each because two teachers from the school attended the "Legacy School Garden" in-service workshop during the summer with Dr. Kiki Fontenot, Director of School and Community Gardens for the LSU Ag Center.

For more information about the "Rooting the Future- Help Grow A School Garden" program, visit the Northshore Community Foundation website at

www.northshorefoundation.org.



1. Boy Scouts built, deliver and place garden boxes



2. Master Gardeners, students and teachers place seeds/seedlings in Legacy School Garden Box.



3. Lyon Elementary class enjoys a pre-harvest taste!

4. Teaching and reaching children through gardening experiences!



Board of Directors Meetings

Beginning next month, the St. Tammany Master Gardener's Board of Directors will hold their meetings on the third Thursday of each month. We are rescheduling the date of our meeting to accommodate one of our members who has an obligation on the fourth Thursday of each month. The location and time of the meetings will remain the same. So, the Board will meet at the Louisiana Heart Hospital in the first floor classroom at 5:00 P.M. on Thursday, October 20, 2011, on Thursday, November 17, 2011 and on December 15, 2011 (if needed) to finish out the year. Our meetings are open to everyone in the organization.

Julie Deus
jdcalla@aol.com



e-Merge

Getting the word out to the public about our seminars, herb fests and plant shows has proved a daunting task. Our Registration Chairmen and Membership Chairman are faced with the tedious job of loading lists of several hundred email addresses onto their computers before they can send out registration forms to people who have attended our events in the past. The same problems plague our Publicity Chairmen when they send out flyers and other information to the membership and general public. And these address lists keep on growing.

In addition to this ever-increasing load, there are approximately 130 addresses for our Master Gardener members and 10 to 20 mass emails that we send out each month to inform us about meetings and events, not to mention the mailing of our monthly newsletter.

Your Board of Directors has been conducting research about how we can consolidate and more easily manage our mailing lists and data. In this regard, the Board invited E-MERGE, a local document organization company with international experience that is located in Slidell, to attend our August Board Meeting. At the meeting, e-Merge introduced us to a new control system they have developed and explained in some detail how it could be used to simplify our mailing.

Briefly, this system would store all of our email addresses in what they call a “cloud” that would enable us to group the addresses into specific categories, such as “Membership”, “Herb Fest” and “Seminars”. A selected group consisting of Board members, the Membership Chairman and members who volunteer to be registration chairmen for seminars, herb fests and plant shows can easily access the categories to send information to our membership or the general public. An important aspect of any contract with e-Merge is that the company could not and would not sell any of the email addresses. They would store them only.

In addition, we would be able to take advantage of the graphics capability of e-Merge to enhance our internet communication.

The cost of this storage service is \$10.00 per month for up to 500 email addresses and \$30.00 per month for 501 – 2500 email addresses. While we now have less than 500 addresses, the Board believes our organization will exceed that number very quickly. As a result, we expect our cost within a few months to total \$30.00 per month. This cost is comparable to what other similar services charge.

Based on the above, the Board has voted to recommend adopting the e-Merge Management Service for the STPMG organization. This issue will be placed on the agenda for discussion, followed by a vote, at the October 19 general membership meeting.

Julie Deus
jdcalla@aol.com

President's Message

Fall is in the air! Wasn't that small breath of cooler weather we had a couple of weeks ago sort of heavenly? And while the rain was a little much over the Labor Day weekend, most of our plants hung in there. Hope everyone's house stayed dry, at least.



Our Fall Seminar was, simply, a wonderful event. The speakers had so much great information and Dan Gill was as entertaining as he was informative! The table clinics were well-attended and Rod Downie's group identified over 70 different trees brought in by some of the 100 or so registrants. Congratulations to Nancie and her entire committee for a very successful seminar. Huzzah!

The Herb Fest was a rousing success this past week. Over 180 people attended and sipped, tasted and shopped for herbs in addition to learning about making a wreath, planting and harvesting herbs and how to prepare them for their next soiree. Great job Camille and everyone that helped!

And the fun continues this month with the Southeast Louisiana Wildlife Refuge's "Wild Things" on Saturday, October 15. Susie Andres and her committee have captured the "wild" spirit of this event with some unique and exciting butterfly activities for young and old alike at the Master Gardener's Butterfly Garden. To volunteer as a Garden Helper, please contact Susie at sandres@bellsouth.net. This is a wonderful and fun way to build up those volunteer hours.

On Friday, October 21, the STPMGs will hit the road again, this time on a gardening bus tour to Crystal Springs, MS, featuring plants and garden art galore plus very interesting speakers throughout the day. For anyone who needs additional educational hours, this is a golden opportunity to get them. There are more details about this trip later in this very newsletter. Or contact Judy Wood at jazzwood@charter.net.

Congratulations to Kathleen Guidry who will become our Secretary in January 2012. Chere has done a spectacular job this past year, but some pressing family obligations preclude her from continuing this ongoing responsibility. She will be missed, but the entire Board is looking forward to having Kathleen join our team.

Cool Time for Cole Crops

By
Rusty Batty

Ok, it's October, a slight chill in the early morning air, shorter days and reasonable humidity. What a beautiful time to plant Cole crop vegetables. Many people mistakenly think these fall season vegetables are called cold crops. Cole is different than cold. "Cold" refers to temperature. "Cole" refers to a group of plants belonging to the Brassicaceae or mustard family. Even though you may not be interested in the botanical name, you will love these vegetables.

The group of Cole crops includes: broccoli, cabbage, collards, brussel sprouts and a variety of greens like mustard, turnip or collard. Each of these Cole crops have several benefits in common:

- Vegetables are high in Vitamin C
- Grow best in 60 to 70 degree temperature
- Edible parts are typically the flower and leaves.

Tips on planting Cole crops:

- To prepare for planting these crops, your soil pH should be 6 to 6.5. If your soil is acidic, add lime several months before planting.
- Your soil should be well drained, high in organic matter, and free of weeds.
- Plant seeds from late July through mid September.
- Transplants can be added as late as early as November.
- Allow 12 to 18 inches between plants.
- Fertilize w/ 8-24-24 when planting, followed by a high nitrogen fertilizer 3-4 weeks later
- Pre emergence weed control can be used, but w/ the transplants only.
- Insects are generally less of a problem in cool season crops. However, be on the lookout for caterpillars (soft bodied insects) that can be controlled with Sevin or BT materials.

Growing any of the Cole crops will not only fulfill your gardening desires this fall but can fill you with healthy foods as well. How cool is that?!!!



Broccoli

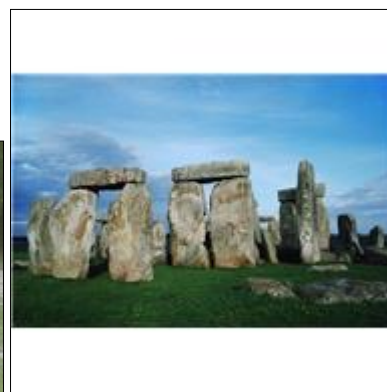


Brussels sprouts



Collards

Hi Everyone, An epiphany came to me during the sweltering, cold, wet, lightning endorsed, storm laden month of September. I was sitting in my rocker on a fog filled morning recalling the escapades of the summer. Other places and foreign gardens all have historical and archeological significance. What does my garden have to offer? I hadn't yet had breakfast, so when, what to my starved mind and body an artifact appeared through the misty fog I gasped in delight. I ran for the camera and a note pad to take notes. This archeological find is common to all low lying flood prone areas in Louisiana. Transient in nature and helped along by gardeners and non gardeners alike the monument gleamed. Sandhenge arose through the mist having served its purpose during Tropical storm Lee's 12 inches of swift moving rain. The sandbags sitting upright in the face of flashfloods, their white covers glowing through the fog gave hope and structural support in a time of great need. (The gutter was overflowing into the house foundations.) Not only that sandbags are portable, you can create your own design to fit your needs, and when you are done the sand can be added to the garden as a great amendment or saved for another rainy day. Functional as well as historical. Jim suggested I sleep a little later and eat breakfast before I search for any more archeological artifacts in the yard. Therefore, I returned to the real world and began plans for the St Tammany Fair. October is a very busy month in the garden. Transplanting time is optimum for trees and shrubs this month. The ground will stay warm and the roots of newly transplanted items will have time to establish before winter temperatures arrive. Garlic can be planted now for a May harvest next year. Greens and the many beautiful leaf lettuces can be planted as a border in the flower garden or a row in the veggie garden. Persimmons are ripening. Quinces are falling from the trees. This is the perfect time to get back in the garden. Remember if you locate any monuments get some pictures. aj





The Slidell Library Herb Committee News



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

Oct. 5	Cecelia Drennan	Mint
Nov. 9	Donna Dicharry	Parsley

A wrap-up meeting of the Fall Herb Festival will be held immediately after Cecelia's talk on Oct. 5.



The Fall Herb Festival, "*Herban Gardening*" at the Slidell Library was a big success with 206 people attending. There were 3 speakers: Dr. Jerry Ballanco, Yvette Cutrer and Linda Franzo. Foods and teas prepared with herbs were served. A seed paper craft table and a children's booth were popular activities.

Top: Camille Schwandt, Chairman of the Fall Herb Festival. Below left: Kathleen Guidry and Gail Hinkley and their seed paper crafts.



Yvette Cutrer, a Tangipahoa Master Gardener, and one of her many living wreath designs. Yvette has been featured in *Louisiana Gardener* magazine and has spoken at many seminars and has even been on TV.

A TREE-MENDOUS SEMINAR



Karla Partridge did a fantastic job with the fall-inspired decorations. Everyone loved the giant scarecrow.



Rusty Batty and Kyle Huffstickler



Nancie Munn, Chairman of the fall seminar committee, Donovan Guilbeau and Julie Deus.

The TREE-mendous Seminar was indeed a great seminar with over 100 people attending. There were 3 speakers, with topics all about trees and tree maintenance. Congratulations to the committee for putting on a great seminar at Southeast Louisiana National Wildlife Headquarters in Lacombe.



Peggy Goertz asks Dan Gill a question. Dan's talk was very entertaining and informative. We also got a sneak peak at the LSU AgCenter Fall Super Plant collection.



Ken Litzenberger welcomes the attendees to the Refuge.

St. Tammany Master Gardeners Association
Membership Meeting
September 21, 2011

A membership meeting of the St. Tammany Parish Master Gardener Association was held on September 21, 2011 at 10:00 AM at the National Guard Armory. There was a quorum present with forty-eight members in attendance.

Julie called the meeting to order and led the group in the Pledge and Rusty Batty offered a prayer.

Kappy Goodwin presented a clever garden hint of the month utilizing 1x2 scrap wood to make planter covers for plastic garden pots.

Rusty discussed “garden problems” which included treatment of scale, bacterial leaf spot and leaf scorch.

Judy Wood introduced John Cassidy, owner of Cassidy Outdoor Specialties in New Orleans. John offered an informative presentation on “Urban Storm Drainage” and the management of urban storm water

After a ten minute break, Rusty reminded the group that the Parish Fair will be next week and volunteers are welcome and needed. In addition, Rusty complimented the organizers of the Tremendous Seminar. Rusty also asked for volunteers to assist with revitalizing the landscaping at the Ag Center Office – time/date to be arranged.

Julie asked for approval of the August minutes.

A Motion was offered by Donna Dicharry to approve the minutes of the August meeting as presented. Motion carried.

Julie stated that the board would meet tomorrow, September 22 at 5:00 PM at Judy Wood’s home in Lacombe as the Heart Hospital meeting room is not available. E-merge, an e-mail management will be discussed and members are invited and welcome to attend.

Julie reminded everyone to record their volunteer and educational hours (Sandy Arnoult posted the list which is current through August). The Urban Storm Drainage presentation counts for one educational hour.

Julie displayed the 2012 Garden Show flyer which will be distributed in the community.

Julie stated she received a request from Paul Andres and Slidell Memorial Hospital seeking master gardener advice on plantings for a new area being developed by the hospital – more details will be forthcoming.

Judy Wood stated that the Program Planning Committee will meet at 1:30 PM tomorrow, September 22 at the Ag Center Office and there will be another meeting in November. The Committee is soliciting ideas for speakers for next year.

Judy reported that the Crystal Springs field trip will be October 21st at a \$20 cost for master gardeners. After October 1st, guests may participate at a cost of \$30 per person.

Judy stated there would be no October Plant Swap however any plants can be shared at the “Sharing Table”. Judy stated Dr. Owings would be the speaker for the October meeting and Patrick O’Connor, Louisiana iris “guru” will speak at the November meeting.

Jay Rose reported that the Association has approximately \$21,000 - \$15,000 in checking and \$5,000 in savings. Approval of the Treasurer’s Report will be deferred to the next meeting pending distribution of the report to the membership.

Under New Business, Donna Dicharry requested approval to purchase a new Epson EX71 multi-media projector which accepts flash drives at a cost of \$500.00.

A Motion was offered by Kappy Goodwin to approve the purchase of an Epson EX71 multi-media projector at a cost of \$500.00. Motion carried.

Susie Andres reported on the October 15 “Wild Things” program at the Refuge which is free to the public. Susie asked for volunteers for this family oriented event which is in conjunction with Celebration of Wildlife week.

Julie announced that a new 12x12 tent has been purchased, on sale, for \$119.00.

Nancie Munn reported that the Tremendous Seminar was very successful with 100 attendees and had revenue of \$1,000.00.

Camille Schwandt reminded everyone that the Herb Fest is Tuesday, September 27 from 4 – 7 PM at the Slidell Library. The new tent will be used. The Fest is free and everyone is invited to attend. Volunteers to help set up from 1 – 4 PM would be welcome.

Julie reported that the Otis House and the Butterfly Garden are open for touring in conjunction with the Madisonville bicentennial celebration. Volunteers are needed.

Gerry Ballanco discussed the “Wiki Project”, an interactive database of information on various topics relative to vegetable gardening. The site is run by the “veggie group”. All master gardeners can visit the site: <http://mgveggiegrou.PBworks.com> (not case sensitive) which is supported by St. Tammany School System. Access must be requested, which Gerry will grant and members can ask questions, make comments, however editing is not possible.

Sandy Arnoult presented a report from the Honors Committee as previously published in the Gardengoer which proposes recognition for members who have completed 50 hours of volunteer service and 6 educational hours by December 31st. Recognition would be in the form of (1) an engraved brick, \$22.50, or (2) 1 year subscription to Louisiana Gardener magazine, \$19.95, or (3) LSU Lawn & Garden Calendar, \$13.23, or (4) “opt out”. All recipients will be recognized at the February meeting. Sandy asked for approval of the proposal.

A Motion was offered by Isabelle Moore to approve the proposed recognition awards as stated above for members completing 50 hours of volunteer service and 6 educational hours by December 31, 2011. Motion carried.

Diane Ramirez offered a report from the nominating committee, which included Nancie Munn and Mary Ann Brannan. Diane stated that three officers would be returning and the position of Secretary would be open for next year. The Committee recommended that Kathleen Guidry replace outgoing Secretary, Chere Currault. The Committee also recommended Julie Deus as President, Judy Wood as Vice-President and Jay Rose as Treasurer.

With no other nominations made, the officers were elected by acclamation.

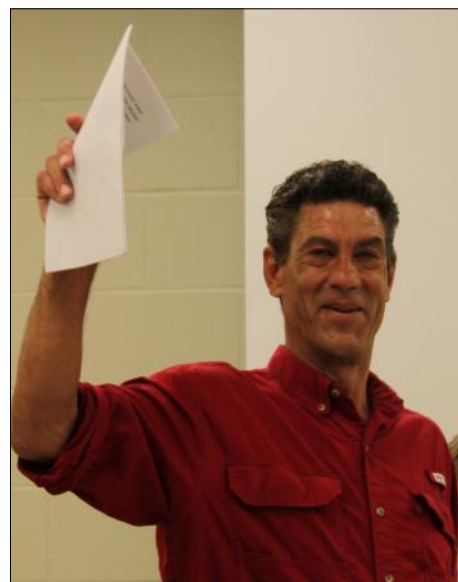
Door prizes ("Weeds" books) were awarded to Lynn Monteleone (#7) and Wes Goostrey (#4).

The meeting was adjourned at 12:05 PM.

Respectfully submitted,
Chere Currault



Top: Kappy Goodwin demonstrated how to make a plain plastic landscape pot into a pretty planter. Right: John Cassidy spoke on Urban Storm Drainage: methods to control runoff at our homes.



**St. Tammany Parish Master Gardeners Association
Board of Directors Meeting
September 22, 2011**

A meeting of the Board of Directors of the St. Tammany Parish Master Gardeners Association was held on September 22, 2011 at 5:00 PM at the home of Judy Wood. Board members attending were Julie Deus, Judy Wood, Jay Rose and Chere Currault. Also attending were Debora Litzenberger and Donna Howland.

Jay Rose presented a report on the fall seminar which reflected a profit of \$974.59.

Judy Wood gave an overview of possible program speakers and field trips for 2012. Additional information will be made available as details are finalized.

Donna Howland offered information concerning the Food Bank Project which has 94 people registered for the fall program. On behalf of the project committee, Donna requested funding for printing costs for the Louisiana Vegetable Planting Guide (copies are no longer available from the Ag Center).

A Motion was offered by Judy Wood to approve an allocation not to exceed \$75.00 for printing costs for the Louisiana Vegetable Planting Guide for the Food Bank Project. Motion carried.

The board discussed eliminating the practice of giving door prizes at the monthly membership meetings.

A Motion was offered by Judy Wood to eliminate door prizes at the monthly membership meetings and to bring the proposal to eliminate to the membership for a vote at the next scheduled meeting. Motion carried.

The board agreed to change the monthly board meetings to the third Thursday of each month beginning in October. The board meetings for the remainder of 2011 will be October 20, November 17 and December 15.

Judy Wood demonstrated features of the E-Merge program of e-mail management and it was agreed that the board would present E-Merge to the membership at the October meeting for discussion and vote.

A Motion was offered by Judy Wood to recommend and present E-Merge to the membership at the next meeting for discussion and vote. Motion carried.

The meeting was adjourned at 6:30 PM.

Respectfully submitted,
Chere Currault, Secretary

ANNOUNCEMENTS

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, 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



Mindy Brooks , Wetland Youth Agent, will be offering outdoor classes for area schools and is looking for volunteers. For more information contact Mindy at the contact information below.

Adopt Cypress Cove Elementary Wetland (Slidell)

Adopt Marigny Elementary Wetland (Mandeville)

Fairview State Park Wetlands Day (Madisonville) - October 25

Camp Salmen Wetlands Day (Slidell) - November 1

Mindy M. Brooks

Youth Wetlands Program

LSU AgCenter

Extension Associate - Southeast Region

21549 Old Covington Hwy.

Hammond, LA 70403

Cell: 225/247.4004 Office: 985/543-4129 Fax: 985-5434136

AGENDA
STPMG Membership Meeting
October 19, 2011

- 1. Call to order and report quorum present**
- 2. Opening Ceremonies**
- 3. Garden Hint of the Month**
Garden Problem
Program: “Outstanding Plants from the Trial Gardens
at Hammond Research Station”: Dr. Allen Owings
- 4. Comments by Rusty Batty, County Agent and MG Advisor**
- 5. Minutes from August meeting**
- 6. Officer’s reports**
President: Julie Deus
Vice President: Judy Wood
Treasurer: Jay Rose
- 7. New Business**
E-Merge
Discontinue Door Prizes
- 8. Project Committee Reports**
Herb Fest: Camille Schwandt
Lacombe Butterfly Garden/Wild Things: Susie Andres
- 9. Door Prizes**
- 10. Adjourn**

Calendar of Events

October, 2011	
5	<i>Herb Gathering</i> at the Slidell Library meeting room at 1 pm. Cecelia Drennan will give a talk on mint. A wrap up meeting of the Fall Herb Festival will be held immediately after the talk. <i>See page 13</i>
15	<i>“Wild Things”</i> at SELA NWR in Lacombe. 10-5. Lots of children’s activities, food and fun. MGs will host a children’s activity, featuring live Painted Lady butterflies, and guided tours of the Butterfly Garden. 61389 Hwy 434, Lacombe. 882-2000 <i>See page 5.</i>
19	Monthly meeting at the National Guard Armory. 10 am. Speaker is Dr. Alan Owings on “New Plants at the Research Station”. The rescheduled tour (from July) of Nancy Bartlett's farm will follow the meeting. <i>See page 3.</i>
21	Crystal Springs Tour. MS Field and Flower Day. Registration is now open for guests to come along. Don’t miss this one! It’s a fantastic tour. <i>See page 1.</i>

November, 2011	
3	New Master Gardener Class graduates.
9	<i>Herb Gathering</i> at the Slidell Library meeting room at 1 pm. Donna Dicharry will give a talk on parsley. <i>See page 13.</i>
16	Monthly meeting at the National Guard Armory. 10 am. Speaker is Patrick O’Connor, a local <i>guru</i> on the Louisiana Iris. A rescheduled tour of Suzanne Sloan’s bromeliad garden will follow (weather permitting).

December, 2011	
14	Christmas Party! Save the date!
15	Last day to pay your 2012 Membership Dues. Don’t wait! Don’t procrastinate or you won’t be included in the 2012 Membership Directory. <i>See page 4.</i>

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**ROOTING THE FUTURE: MGs PART-
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Notes from the Editor:

No, it's not April Fool's Day! The newsletter is all mixed up this month for a reason. I moved just about everything out of its usual order to get you to think about what you like and what you would like to change. This is the beginning of my third year as Editor and I would love to have your input on the newsletter. About a week before the next meeting, I will send out a short survey soliciting your ideas to improve the newsletter. The survey results will not be published and will remain strictly confidential. I would greatly appreciate your input to help me make the newsletter better.

September was a busy month for us. Please remember to post your hours before you forget what you did!

Here is the link to post all of those hours you'll earn in September:

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

This issue is dedicated to Judy Wood, who continues to inspire me.

Debora Litzenberger
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THE GARDENGOER

**THE NEWSLETTER OF THE
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