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THE GARDENGOER

THE NEWSLETTER OF THE ST. TAMMANY PARISH MASTER GARDENERS ASSOCIATION

VOLUME 15, ISSUE 10

October, 2012

FALL STPMG SEMINAR “*COOL TIPS FOR WINTER GARDENS*”



On September 13, the St. Tammany Parish Master Gardeners hosted a fall seminar at the Southeast Louisiana National Wildlife Refuge Headquarters in Lacombe. Speaking on *Hoop Houses: Extending Your Growing Season* was Dr. Wayne Porter, MSU Area Horticultural Agent (left). Rusty Batty, LSU AgCenter County Agent, is the coordinator of the STPMG Association (right). 125 people attended the seminar.

Program Chairman and Vice President, Judy Wood (left in the photo to the right) was instrumental in acquiring our speaker, Nellie Neal, The Garden Mama. (right). Ms. Neal spoke on *Fall Frenzy* and *Propagation Passion*, two very informative and interesting programs.



Several Table Clinics were offered at the Fall Seminar including: *Growing in Bales*, *Staying Sharp through the Winter “Dull-drums”*, *Fabulous Fall Herbs*, *Soil Samples*, and shown to the left, *Using Your Garden in Decorating* hosted by Bruce Probst and Karla Partridge.

President's Message

"I love Fall!" That was the Nellie Neal's mantra during our Fall Seminar this past month. Her talks were both informative and entertaining with lovely pictures of her landscape. Her talk on propagation gave us ideas on how to start a new plants from ones in the garden to ensure that our favorite tropicals survive the winter. Dr. Wayne Porter explained ways to extend you growing season using hoop houses. The more than 125 participants were able to visit the six wonderful table clinics with topics ranging from Decorating from your Garden to Sharpening your Tools to Herbs to Growing in Bales. Thanks to everyone on the committee for making this seminar one of our best.



If you haven't signed up yet to help out at Wild Things on Saturday, October 13, 2012, there are still slots left to fill. This is a fun annual event at the SELA National Wildlife Refuge in Lacombe where we have a butterfly garden. Susie Andres has ordered 30 caterpillars and will once again raise them to be beautiful butterflies so they may be released during the day. The theme at the Master Gardener tent this year is "Butterfly Anatomy". We will also offer plant selection advice to attract butterflies and tours of our garden all day. Contact Susie at sandres@bellsouth.net to sign up.

The Abita Library Project Committee has come up with an exciting Fall program for Wednesday, October 17, 2012 at 4:00 PM. "Eat Your Greens" will feature educational talks about growing different greens in the raised beds, soil preparation geared to Fall vegetables, alternative ways to grow greens and sumptuous recipes with greens as the main ingredient (not just salads). If you have any interesting greens recipes, please e-mail Cindy Manger at beachin70124@gmail.com.

The first Plant Show meeting of the year will be held before the next membership meeting Wednesday, October 17, 2012 at 9:00 AM at the Armory. Come see what the committees have planned for March 15 and 16, 2013.

Record those volunteer hours!

Julie Deus

jdcalla@aol.com

Damaged Trees- Keep‘em or Cull‘em?

By

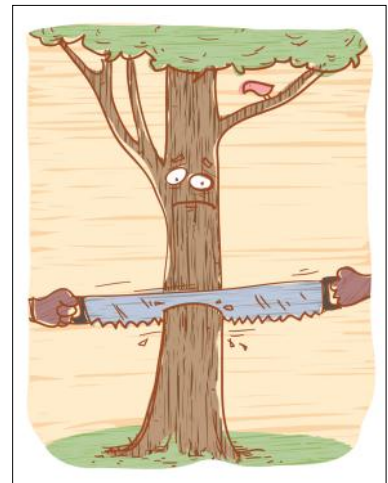
Rusty Batty

Lots of questions have come up in relation to our trees with our visit from Hurricane Isaac. The storm caused broken limbs, stripped bark, leaning, and/or completely uprooted trees. There’s no simple answer to “can my tree be saved?” Many other questions need to be considered before rushing to cut it down.

Consider these questions:

- Is the tree basically healthy? If you lost some leaves and twigs, originally healthy mature trees will recover. Younger trees require consistent moisture and mulch.
- Are major limbs broken? Large broken limbs are much harder to be replaced. Smaller branches may replace the large limbs, but the tree will be misshapen for years.
- Has the main leader been broken out? Some trees will recover with the central section gone. However surviving and thriving is doubtful. At best, you will have a deformed version of the original.
- Are at least 50% of the branches and leaves still there? This is a rule of thumb guide. A tree with less than half of the leaves left usually cannot nourish itself very long.
- How big are the wounds of broken limbs and stripped bark? Large wounds are less likely to heal. These wounds can become openings for diseases and decay.
- Is the tree a desirable species for its location? Poorly located, improperly planted and messy fruiting trees make the decision easier to take them out.

Many publications are available at the www.lsuagcenter.com webpage. Read more about storm damaged trees by typing “hurricane information series” in the search engine. This information and others will help you decide to keep or cull your tree.



The Garden Mama's Soil Mix Recipe

Here is the Garden Mama's soil mix recipe that will root just about anything. Add more or less sand and perlite depending on what you are propagating.

- Start with a big bag of good potting mix, peat or forest compost based.
- Add half its volume ground pine bark, quarter its volume in sharp sand and quarter its volume perlite and garden lime (1/2 cup for 30 gal).
- The mix should be gritty. This mix will hold water but drain very well so it works with green and woody cuttings.
- Fill pot, leave headroom, water once.
- Make fresh cut on slant, strip leaves off lower half and stick cuttings.
- Reduce leaf surface by cutting off half of each leaf, not half of the leaves.
- Keep soil barely moist while rooting. Bottom water and/or mist regularly.
- Cover with a plastic cloche to increase humidity around cuttings.
- Ventilate daily as condensation builds.
- Tug gently in 2 weeks to check progress.

And by the way, you can grow most anything in this mix by tweaking the ingredients.

Best, Nellie Neal

mama@gardenmama.com

www.gardenmama.com



STPMG Programs 2012

| Month | Speaker | Topic | Hint | Problem | Share | Hours |
|------------------------|-------------------------------------|---|------|---------|-------|-------|
| January 18 Covington | Ed Goodwin Kim Walsdorf-Shockley | Caring for Garden Tools Gardening Exercises | No | Yes | Yes | 1 |
| February 15 Covington | Art Scott Bernard Ory | Irrigation Presentation of Awards | Yes | Yes | Yes | 1 |
| March 14 Covington | Henry Harrison | Growing Watermelons in the Home Garden | Yes | Yes | Yes | 1 |
| March 29 Thursday | Field Trip | St. Martinville Jefferson Island | No | No | No | 3 |
| April 18 Covington | No Speaker | Spring Plant Swap Lunch at Cheri Hall's | No | No | No | 0 |
| May 16 Covington | Sheila Stroup | Scholarship Award | No | No | No | 0 |
| June 20 Covington | Joan Gagliano Chairperson | Vegetable Festival | No | Yes | No | 1 |
| July 18 Covington | Derek Moore Dana Moore | Plants from KatKaw Landscapes & LA Ag Nursery Inspecting | Yes | Yes | Yes | 1 |
| August 15 Covington | Dianne Quinn | Aquatic Gardening | Yes | Yes | Yes | 1 |
| September 19 Covington | Dr. Guihong Bi | Hydrangeas: the how, when, and where | Yes | Yes | Yes | 1 |
| October 10 Wednesday | Field Trip | Bracy's Nursery Covey Rise Farms | No | No | No | |
| October 17 Covington | John Klipsch | Organic Plant Foods and Organic Controls Fall Plant Swap | Yes | Yes | Yes | |
| November 14 Covington | Art Scott | Growing Micro Greens | Yes | Yes | Yes | |
| December 12 Location | No Speaker | Christmas Party | No | No | No | |

Judy Wood
jazzwood@charter.net



STPMG Programs

Wednesday, October 17, 2012

Organic Plant Foods And Organic Controls John Klipsch

John Klipsch is the Area Sales Manager for Scotts Miracle Gro will speak about Organic Plant Food and Organic Controls.

STPMG Fall Plant Swap

St. Tammany Fair Grounds Barn
Following the meeting

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

Judy Wood
jazzwood@charter.net





STPMG Fall 2012 Field Trip

Bracy's Nursery

Covey Rise Farms

Wednesday, October 10, 2012

Bus Departs Covington Ag Center 8:30 AM

The Bus is filled.

The Fall 2012 Field Trip will be to tour Bracy's Wholesale Nursery, Amite, LA and Covey Rise Farms, Husser, LA.

The bus will depart from the Ag Center parking lot in the Fair Grounds **promptly** at 8:30 AM. We will tour Bracy's Nursery from 9:15 to 11:15 AM. There we will see their vast variety of plants and tour the grounds of the Bracy home.

After a short bus ride we will arrive at Covey Rise Farms for lunch, a presentation by the staff of Covey Rise, and tour of the fall vegetable gardens. Since May 2010 Covey Rise has supplied vegetables to the finer restaurants in New Orleans. More of the history of the Farm may be found at the site listed below.

The bus will leave Covey Rise at 3:00 PM returning to the Ag Center approximately 3:30 PM.

Additional information and sites are available at

Bracy's Nursery <http://www.bracys.com>

Covey Rise Farms <http://www.coveyriselodge.com/history/>

Judy Wood jazzwood@charter.net

MASTER GARDENER PROJECTS TOUR

You are invited to join the Class of 2012 on the Tour of the St. Tammany Parish Master Gardener Projects Tour on Thursday, October 4, 2012. The tour will begin at the Slidell Library Herb Garden at 9:00 AM. See the next page for the complete schedule. This is a wonderful opportunity to see some of our ongoing endeavors, meet the chairmen and ask questions about the project. Meet us at the Slidell Library and we will provide maps to the rest of the tour sites.

Julie Deus
jdcalla@aol.com

Judy Wood
jazzwood@charter.net



The Lacombe Butterfly Garden is located at SELA NWR on Hwy 434. This is just one of the many projects on the Tour of St. Tammany Parish Master Gardener Projects Tour.

MASTER GARDENER PROJECTS ORIENTATION TOUR

You are invited to a special Garden Tour! On Thursday, October 4,, 2012, Julie Deus and Judy Wood will lead a progressive tour of the St. Tammany Parish Master Gardener Projects. Each of these garden projects offers an opportunity to work toward the 40 volunteer hours that are required before the end of 2013. The tour will give an opportunity to see the site, meet the chairman and hear about the focus and purpose of each project. We hope that it will give a better idea of what the Master Gardeners are all about and a greater understanding of the volunteering we do. The plan is to spend about 15 minutes at each venue.

The tour will begin in Slidell and then head west:

9:00 AM – **Slidell Herb Garden** in front of the Slidell Library, 555 Robert Boulevard. Linda Franzo will explain the **Herb Group** and the **Herb Fest**.

9:40 AM – **Slidell Memorial Hospital Rehab Garden**, 1001 Gause Boulevard. Leslie Landeche will explain how we work in the **flower garden**, how the patients in the Rehabilitation Unit interact with us and how we help the therapists and patients reach the patients' goals.

10:15 AM – **Slidell Senior Center**, 610 Cousin Street. Ruthanne Johnson will give details of the plan for the raised **vegetable, herb and flower gardens** that the seniors will be tending and what opportunities are available to volunteer.

11:00 AM – **Southeast Louisiana Wildlife Refuge**, 61389 Highway 434 in Lacombe. Susie Andres will give a tour of the **Butterfly Garden** and tell us about the yearly "Wild Things" event that involves the Master Gardeners. *We plan to eat lunch at the Refuge. We will provide sandwiches, chips and water.*

11:15 AM – **MG's Partner with STPSB Schools**-While we're at the Refuge, Christy Paulsell will explain the "Legacy Garden" program that she has implemented in many elementary and middle schools in St. Tammany Parish.

12:15 PM – **Abita Springs Library**, 71683 Levenson Street, Martha Gruning will give us a tour of the herb and vegetable gardens and preview the upcoming educational event scheduled in October.

12:30 PM – **Otis House in Fairview Riverside State Park**, 119 Fairview Drive in Madisonville. Ann Durel will meet us at the Abita Library and give us some information about the upcoming activities that are planned for students in the spring 2013.

We hope that you will be able to attend this jaunt through the Master Gardener Projects. There will be ample time to ask questions and get to know your fellow classmates. We suggest that perhaps those of you coming from west St. Tammany meet at the AgCenter and carpool. Judy will provide maps to the various locations at your Thursday, September 27th class. FYI – Rusty has advised us that this is an educational opportunity and cannot be counted as volunteer hours.

If you have any questions, feel free to contact either of us.

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985-674-2040
985-807-8719 (cell)

Judy Wood
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Southwest Louisiana Master Gardeners Host 12th State Master Gardener Conference

Space is still available for the 2012 state master gardener conference October 24-26 at L'auberge Casino Resort in Lake Charles, LA. As space is limited, interested persons are encouraged to register as soon as possible. More detailed information about the conference is available at www.lsuagcenter.com/lmg2012.

The three day conference features prominent speakers in the field of horticulture. There will also be a variety of vendors and a location that cannot be beat.

"We wanted this event to highlight outstanding writers and speakers in gardening," said Emily Shirley, chairperson of the event. "Examples of our outstanding speakers include Nellie Neal and Dr. Allan Armitage," she said. Nellie Neal's books include "Questions and Answers for Deep South Gardeners" and "Getting Started in Southern Gardening." Dr. Armitage is a noted writer and horticulturist. He teaches at the University of Georgia where he runs the research gardens. His books include "Herbaceous Perennial Plants," "Armitage's Vines and Climbers" and "Native Plants." The conference will also feature a gardening bookstore that will include books authored by some of the speakers.

On the final day of the conference Dr. Armitage will lead a tour of the gardens at Margaret Place where he will describe the history of some of the plants in the gardens at Margaret Place, believed to be the oldest subdivision in Calcasieu Parish.

Margaret Place tour is one of three offered at the conclusion of the conference; another is a high tea at the Nobless Tea House on Ryan Street in Lake Charles. A tour is also scheduled to the famed Creole Nature Trail in Cameron Parish, south of Lake Charles.

The conference is being sponsored by the Southwest Louisiana Master Gardeners and the LSU Ag Center. For more information contact the LSU website, telephone your local County Agent or Pam Langley at mplangley@hotmail.com.

Special rates have been arranged with L'auberge for the event. The registration fee of \$165 covers all meals, attendance at all conference events. The tours are \$30 each. While space is limited there is still space on each tour but they are filling up quickly.

http://www.lsuagcenter.com/en/lawn_garden/master_gardener/LMG+State+Conference/



Lacombe Butterfly Garden

The Lacombe Butterfly Garden is a busy place these days. Located on the grounds of the Southeast Louisiana National Wildlife Refuges Complex at 61389 Highway 434 in Lacombe, the garden has been a project of our St. Tammany Master Gardener Association for the past three years. Ample rains have supplemented the irrigation system and the result is lots of growth, blooms, and BUTTERFLIES! The penta, lantana, sedum, cigar plant and bat face seem to be the star attractions these days. Gulf fritillary caterpillars are on the passion vine (*Maypop*), happily munching on the leaves. Hummingbirds are also attracted to the colorful blooms and seem to favor the Turks' cap plants.

Our fall workday will be on Thursday, October 4, beginning at 9:00 AM. Tasks for the day include weeding, staking, trimming, and adding mulch. We'll also put in a few flats of fall bedding plants to add some color to the garden. After that work is done we will install the plant markers which have been purchased by the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service. The Class of 2012 will be on tour that day and is scheduled to visit the garden around 11:00, around the time our work should be done.

A big day for the butterfly garden will be Saturday, October 13, 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 is free and open to the public. It provides opportunities for people of all ages to connect with the great wild resources in our area, learn new skills, make new friends, and maybe get involved in helping to preserve our precious natural heritage. Master Gardeners will be on hand to present horticultural education activities for children attending *Wild Things*. This year's activities will focus on the anatomy of butterflies, and will feature butterfly crafts for children, day-long releases of Painted Lady butterflies, and tours of the butterfly garden. Last year over 900 people visited the butterfly garden during *Wild Things*!

Additional volunteers for this day are welcome and especially needed from 1:00 PM – 5:00. Contact Susie Andres (sandres@bellsouth.net) if interested in volunteering.



U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service

15th Annual Wild Things

Saturday, October 13, 2012
National Wildlife Refuge Week

Admission, parking, tours, music are all FREE!!!!



photos by © Donna Bush

Youth Wildlife Art Show-
Over 300 entries on display!

Friends Photo Club
Photography Show

Canoe Tours, Pontoon
Boat Tours, Van Tours

Wildflower Walk

Over 30 wildlife and conservation
exhibitors with live animals!

Archery

Hayride

Casting Pond

Pellet Gun Target Range

Kid's Activity Tent

Refuges Visitor Center
and Wildlife Dioramas

Explore Scenic Nature Trails

Great food from
The Friends of LA Wildlife Refuges

Audubon Institute Bug Mobile
and Wetland Express

FRIENDS OF LOUISIANA



WILDLIFE REFUGES, INC.



Music by Chuck Cavet
and the Allstars and
by the Casino Imperials

10 am - 5 pm

Bayou Lacombe Centre
U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service
61389 Highway 434
Lacombe, LA

More info: 985/882 2000
[www.fws.gov/](http://www.fws.gov/southeastlouisiana)
southeastlouisiana



Abita Springs Library

The Abita Springs Library MG group met September 18th with Kay Redd to discuss the upcoming October event called “Eat Your Greens”. During the following week, the group scheduled a work day at the library to prepare the area for the vegetable talk on October 17th. Those who participated were Sandra Percoraro, Deborah Nolan, Martha Gruning, Cindy Manger, Julie Deus, and Susan L’Hoste. Leafy greens will be planted in the raised herb and vegetable beds at the library and will be the focal point of the event.

Susan L’Hoste



Sandra Pecoraro, Deborah Nolan, Martha Gruning, Julie Deus and Susan L’Hoste

Mail on Monday

In an effort to better communicate with STPMG membership the Board is implementing a few new strategies.

First, **Mail on Monday**.

All routine emails will be grouped and sent to the membership on Monday, thus **Mail on Monday**.

If you wish to have information sent to the membership, it should be sent to the stpmga@gmail.com address by midnight Sunday evening. On Monday that information will be forwarded to the membership.

If no information is provided to send to the membership an email will be sent telling you that there is no STPMG “news” that week. So there will always be **Mail on Monday**. Look for it!

Exceptions, there are always exceptions.

- If an emergency notice must be sent to the membership, it will be sent on immediately.
- The Gardengoer will be sent separately when it is published.

Other information

- Every effort will be made to send the information to you as a Bcc. That means you will not be able to view other email addresses than your own.
- If the email is asking for a response every effort will be made to include the Respond/Reply To email address.
- When providing information to be forwarded to the membership, please include your email address under your name/signature.
- The deadline for email to be sent to the membership is midnight Sunday. (Sometimes the mailperson works at 1 AM. So if you want it sent out honor the deadline.)

Second, **all communication will be sent directly from our Gmail account** (stpmga@gmail.com) We will not use the eMerge account. The emails will no longer contain the green border, the Master Gardener logo, or the LSU AgCenter logo.

As always, your Board welcomes your comments and suggestions.

Minutes
STMGA Membership Meeting
September 19, 2012

The September meeting was held at the National Guard Armory in Covington on September 19, 2012. Fifty-three members were in attendance. President Julie Dues led the group in the Pledge of Attendance. Sandy Arnoult led the prayer.

Garden problems were addressed by AJ Heinsz-Bailey. AJ reminded everyone the newsletter, Horticultural Hints, is published quarterly by the LSU AgCenter and is available on their web site. Rusty B. was unable to attend the meeting today.

Judy Wood gave the garden tip. She suggested marking various colored plants with matching plastic colored knives to remember the color of the plants when they are not in bloom.

Dr. Guihong Bi, Mississippi State University, gave an extremely informative presentation on Hydrangeas: The How, When, and Where. Her PowerPoint presentation had gorgeous color photos of numerous examples of hydrangeas, and her hand out helpfully echoed the power point presentation. Dr. Bi mentioned the Fall Garden Fest in Crystal Springs would be held October 5th and 6th from 9 am to 2 pm. Julie added that Nellie Neal was scheduled to speak at the Fest on the 5th.

Officer's Reports

The St. Tammany Parish Fair will be held October 2nd to the 6th. Julie said Rusty suggested we consider participating. See www.sttammanyparishfair.info for entry forms.

The Washington Parish Fair will be held October 17th to the 20th.

The Louisiana Master Gardener Conference will be held from October 24th to the 26th. Registration is still open. The cost of registration is now \$165 which includes most meals. See the Master Gardener page on the LSU AgCenter web site for more information. A 20 minute power point presentation highlighting some of our projects will be given by Julie on Friday, October 26th, beginning at 9:20 am.

Chris Pinto of Blue Harvest Farms has requested a speaker concerning blueberries on October 27th. If interested, please contact Rusty.

The Hammond Research Center has requested and will receive a donation of \$1,500 from STMGA. This was a planned expense and was noted in our budget.

The regular meeting dates for the November and December have been changed. The November meeting will be on the 14th and the December meeting will be on the 12th.

It is imperative that we record our volunteer and education hours ASAP but definitely by the end of the year.

The October 10th field trip to Bracy's Nursery and Covey Rise Farms is full; however, Judy Wood said "cancellations happen" and to contact her now if you are interested in attending.

October 17th meeting:

1. The first planning meeting for The 2013 Plant Show will be at 9 am prior to our October 17th meeting.
2. A presentation on organic plant food and organic controls will be given by John Klipsch. Mr. Klipsch is a representative from Scotts; however his presentation is intended to be educational and not a commercial for Scotts.
3. There will be a plant swap at the barn after the regular meeting.
4. Orders for MG hats, shirts, etc. will be taken during the meeting by Dee Middleton.

Dr. Art Scott will speak on growing your own salad greens at the November 14th meeting.

Pam Rowe made a motion that the August meeting minutes be accepted as submitted. Nancy Berulis seconded. Motion carried.

There are still issues with e-Merge. Rusty, who was recently dropped from e-Merge, requested communications temporarily revert to Gmail until these issues are resolved.

The August financial statements have not yet been e-mailed to the membership; therefore, we will wait until the October meeting to approve.

New Business

The nominating committee recommended the following individuals to be considered for STMGA officers for 2013:

| | | |
|----------------|---|-----------------|
| President | - | Susie Andres |
| Vice President | - | Martha Gruning |
| Treasurer | - | Pam Rowe |
| Secretary | - | Kathleen Guidry |

Nominations were requested from the floor. None were received. Art Scott made a motion to accept the slate of officers recommended by the nominating committee. Rodney Cross seconded. The motion was carried.

Project Committee Reports

Julie thanked all individuals contributing to the success of the Fall Seminar, Cool Tips for Winter Gardens. She particularly noted as outstanding the featured speakers, Nellie Neal and Wayne Porter, and the table-top clinic presenters. There were 118 paid attendees and a profit of \$1,000 was made.

Susie Andres, chairperson of the Lacombe Butterfly Garden, announced the Wild Things Event will be held on October 13th at the Bayou Lacombe Center from 10 am to 5 pm. Volunteers are

needed to represent MGs at the Butterfly Garden during the Event on the 13th. In addition, volunteers are requested for a workday at the Butterfly Garden on October 4th. Last year during the Wild Things over 900 individuals visited the Garden. If interested, please contact Susie..

Martha Gruning, chairperson of the Abita Springs Library Garden Project, announced Project members will have a program entitled Eat Your Greens at the Abita Springs Library on October 17th from 4 pm to 5:30 pm. She invited us to attend.

Isabelle Moore, member of the Hospitality Committee, stated plans are being made for the Christmas party to be held on December 12th. A sign-up sheet will be available at the October meeting for MGs wishing to be part of the planning committee for the party.

Sandy Arnoult, chairperson of the Honors Committee, submitted for vote a recommendation that MGs volunteering greater than 50 hours during 2012 will be awarded their choice of a brick, a subscription to Louisiana Gardener, or an option yet to be decided. A motion was made by David Lynd and seconded by Isabelle Moore to accept the recommendation. The motion was carried. Sandy also stressed the importance of timely posting volunteer and educational hours.

Announcements

Julie advised the Butterfly Festival at Mizell's Farms in Folsom was rescheduled to September 22. MGs will have a resource table.

There will be an orientation tour of STMGA projects on October 4th. This tour is for the 2012 class and any current MGs who are interested. The tour will start in Slidell at the Slidell Library Herb Gardens at 9 am.

The dates for the next Vegucator meetings along with topics were announced.

The book, Garden Primer, was donated by Nancy Berulis as a door prize. Sandy Pecoraro was the winner.

Meeting was adjourned. As usual, great refreshments were served. Thank you to the Hospitality Committee.

Respectfully submitted by
Gaill Hinkley, Acting Secretary
for Kathleen Guidry, Secretary



STPMG Board Meeting

The September 18, 2012 STPMG Board Meeting was called to order by President Julie Deus at 1:09 PM. The meeting was held in the first floor meeting of Slidell City Hall. Present were Julie Deus, President, Judy Wood, Vice-President, Jay Rose, Treasurer, Debora Litzenberger, Gardengoer Editor, Susie Andres, President-elect, and Art Scott, Past President.

The Board reviewed the August 2012 Financial statement.

It was decided by consensus to use the Gmail account to communicate with the membership. Email addresses will be downloaded from the eMerge account and transferred to the Gmail account. Once the addresses are transferred the eMerge account will be closed. A letter will be sent to eMerge notifying them that STPMG will terminate the contract with eMerge due to poor ability to communicate with the membership. If eMerge will not let STPMG out of the contract, STPMG will pay the final amount in a lump sum payment and cancel debit payment from the checking account.

Effect October 1 STPMG will institute *Mail on Monday*. Communication to the membership will be sent on Mondays with the exception of the Gardengoer and emergency announcements. An article will be written for the October Gardengoer.

Awards for recording volunteer and education hours at the LSU Ag web site were reviewed. It is suggested that members who record 50 or more hours of volunteer time and the required education hours will be able to select a brick, a subscription to Louisiana Gardener, or no award.

Providing some type of landscaping for the Armory as a thank you for the use of the meeting room for monthly meetings was discussed.

The October 18 Board meeting will be held at 10 AM in the First Floor Meeting Room of the Slidell City Hall. The November 16 Board meeting will be held at 10 AM in the home of Judy Wood, Lacombe.

Respectfully submitted,
Judy Wood, Acting 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, 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
October 17, 2012

- 1. Call to order and report quorum present**
- 2. Opening Ceremonies**
- 3. Garden Hint**
Garden Problem
Program: Organic Plant Foods and Organic Controls: John Klipsch

Break: 10 minutes

Comments by Rusty Batty, County Agent and MG Advisor

- 4. Minutes from September, 2012 meeting**
- 5. Officer's reports**
President: Julie Deus
Vice President: Judy Wood
Treasurer: Jay Rose
- 6. Project Committee Reports**
Lacombe Butterfly Garden/Wild Things: Susie Andres
- 7. Committee Reports**
Plant Show: Ty Guidroz
Hospitality: Christmas Party: Barbara Moore
Honors: Sandy Arnoult
- 8. Announcements**
- 9. Adjourn**

PLANT SWAP IN THE BARN BEHIND THE ARMORY

Calendar of Events

| October, 2012 | |
|---------------|---|
| 3 | Vegucator seminar at the AgCenter. 9 a.m. –12. Speakers are: Jerry Ballanco on Tomatoes, and Karla Partridge on Squash. |
| 4 | <i>Tour of St. Tammany MG Projects.</i> Designed for the Class of 2012 but open to any MG who would like to visit our many projects around the parish. Contact Julie Deus if you'd like to join the tour jdcalla@aol.com . See pages 8 & 9. |
| 4 | Work day at the Lacombe Butterfly Garden. 9-11 am. The Tour of St. Tammany MG Projects will stop by for a visit while MGs are sprucing up the garden for <i>Wild Things</i> which will be held on Sat. Oct. 13 from 10-5. Bring your gloves, tools and water. Contact Susie Andres at sandres@bellsouth.net . See page 11. |
| 10 | Field trip to Covey Rise Farm and Bracy's Nursery. The bus will leave at 8:30 and return around 3:30. The bus is filled. See page 7. |
| 13 | <i>15th Annual Wild Things</i> in celebration of National Wildlife Refuge Week. 10-5 on the grounds of Southeast Louisiana National Wildlife Refuge on Hwy 434 in Lacombe. Free! See flier on page 12. |
| 17 | First Plant Show 2013 meeting at the National Guard Armory at 9 a.m. preceding the regular monthly meeting. Ty Gudidroz is the Plant Show Chairman. tygui-droz@charter.net |
| 17 | Monthly meeting at the National Guard Armory at 10 a.m. following the Plant Show meeting. Speaker: John Klipsch on Organic Plant Foods and Organic Controls. A plant swap will follow the meeting at the Barn on the Fairgrounds behind the AgCenter. |
| 17 | <i>Eat Your Greens</i> , a vegetable talk held by the Abita Springs Garden Project at the Abita Springs Library at 4 pm. Contact Martha Gruning at mgruning@bellsouth.net |
| 24 | Vegucator seminar at the AgCenter. 9a.m.-12. Speakers are: Linda Franzo on Peppers and Rodney Cross on Onions. |

| November, 2012 | |
|----------------|---|
| 14 | Monthly meeting at the National Guard Armory. 10 am. Speaker: Art Scott, "Growing Micro Greens". Please note the date is one week earlier than normal due to Thanksgiving. |

| December, 2012 | |
|----------------|---|
| 12 | Christmas Party. Details to follow. Please note the date is one week earlier than normal due to Christmas. |

STPMG Directory

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

Martha Gruning, mgruning@bellsouth.net

Notes From the Editor:

Hi MGs,

Fall has been teasing us with a few cool hours here and there. I wish it would come and stay, especially for Wild Things on Oct. 13. Please come out and enjoy all of the free activities for children and adults, including canoeing, pontoon boat rides, casting lessons, air rifle shooting, building bird houses, numerous nature exhibits, music and food. Don't forget to stop by our beautiful Butterfly Garden on the way to the bayou to learn about butterfly anatomy and to watch butterfly releases during the day.

For historical purposes, I'm asking all Project Leaders to submit an article and photos for this newsletter when your project has work days, seminars, or special events. Master Gardeners would like to know what goes on at all of the projects, but I can not personally cover all of our many activities. If it's not documented, then historically, it's like it didn't happen.

Don't forget to log in your hours for all of your activities. Here is the link to post your hours:

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

Debora Litzenberger
debtogo@gmail.com



THE GARDENGOER

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

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