



**Master
Gardener™**

An educational program of the LSU AgCenter

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THE NEWSLETTER OF THE ST. TAMMANY PARISH MASTER GARDENERS ASSOCIATION

VOLUME 14, ISSUE 9

September, 2011



The Fall Seminar will be held on September 14 from 9-12:30. Speakers will be Donovan Guilbeau on Tree Assessment, Kyle Huffstickler on tree maintenance and Dan Gill on tree selection. There will also be 6 table clinics: Experts Table, Resources, Soil Testing, Citrus and Fruit Trees, Tree Planting and Pruning and Tree Identification. Registration for the seminar ends on September 7, so send in your \$15 checks ASAP. See page 8 for more details.



TREE-mendous Seminar Committee: Peggy Goertz, Nancie Munn (Chairman), 2nd row: Susie Andres, Joann Bassett, Pam Peltier. Back row: Dede Hanby, Kappy Goodwin, Deborah Adams and Debora Litzenberger.

President's Message

The dog days of summer are waning, but the activities of the St. Tammany Master Gardeners are heating up! We have so many events scheduled this month it is hard to keep up with them all: you can participate in the Mizell Butterfly Festival on Saturday, September 10 and see Jim's beautiful gardens and the butterfly release; learn about choosing and caring for your trees at the TREE-mendous Fall Seminar on Wednesday, September 14; meander along the Tchefuncte river among the live oaks for Madisonville's Bicentennial celebration at the Otis House Butterfly garden on Saturday, September 24; or plan your own "Herban" garden at the Slidell Herb Fest on Tuesday, September 27 at the Slidell Library. For more information about volunteering at these activities, just look further into the Gardengoer.



The John Besh luncheon and tour was a rousing success! Chef Besh inspired us to use local, fresh ingredients, and Chef Erich gave us a delightful (but hot) tour of the gardens and farm. This event was the brainchild of Paul Andres and coordinated by Judy Wood. Thank you both for a memorable afternoon. I can't wait to see where we'll go next year!

I would like to remind everyone that our organization e-mails are for gardening and membership information only. Our list should never be used for commercial purposes. Any mass e-mails should be sent through membership committee chairman Susie Koepp to be forwarded to the membership.

As mentioned earlier, opportunities for volunteer and educational hours abound in the coming months. But attending the events is only the first part of the equation. You must also post those hours on the LSU Ag Center website, which only takes a few minutes. Not only is it essential for you to maintain an active role in the Master Gardeners, it also proves to the administrators in Baton Rouge just how vital this program (and our favorite County Agent) is to St. Tammany Parish. If you have any questions about posting your hours, don't hesitate to contact Sandy Arnoult at sarnoult@charter.net and she will be happy to help you.

I look forward to sharing the beautiful fall gardening season with each of you!

Julie Deus
jdcalla@aol.com

Don't Get Robbed, "Winterizing" your Lawns

**By
Rusty Batty**

Lawn winterizing products are already being offered in some retail stores. As a result, lawn "officianodos" are beginning to consider applying these fertilizers to strengthen their lawn for winter. My advice, "back away from the fertilizer and no one gets hurt." Using any winterizing fertilize can be more harmful than beneficial if incorrectly applied.

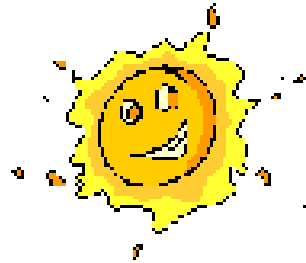
Typically, many products marketed as "winterize fertilizer" contain a high percentage of Nitrogen. The nitrogen fertilizer will promote shoot growth at the same time the plant is beginning to slow down its growth. This can possibly lead to fungal disease (brown patch) and possibly winter kill.

If you need extra color on home lawns for the fall, apply foliar iron spray or granules. The only other fertilizer to consider is murate of potash (0-0-60). Use about 1 pound per 1000 square feet. Apply to a dry lawn and water in. Apply in September or October. Consider this only after a soil test. There is no advantage to applying excessive amounts.

Keep in mind, our winters are mild and short. Mowing and watering properly are steps to a healthy fall lawn. Back away from the fall fertilizer and you won't get robbed of your beautiful lawn.



Hi Everyone, After returning from Paris, the garden fashion capital of the flower world, I have lots of time to contemplate as the thermometer on the back porch has reached 116 degrees and it is dead calm outside. As I begin my 55th year on this planet, I realize what I thought were hot flashes were only the excessively hot temperatures of August. Relieved, I notice everything else (flora and fauna) is also wilted. The quince tree and the black gum trees have shed this seasons leaves and are preparing for the fall season. My attention is focused on ice cream, icees, sherbert, and sno balls. These are not the viburnum varieties either. The sprinklers are back in action. We have been chipping and shredding unwanted vegetation along the pathways in the yard. A little known gardening fact is that gardening chores are always arranged in alphabetical order. (mulching and pruning, raking and weeding.) There are butter yellow flowers all over the hickory nut tree. I thought it was heat exhaustion causing mirages but upon closer inspection it was luffa gourd vines that have attached themselves to all of the lower branches of the hickory. We have also been constructing armadillo low cow high fences around the flower beds. It has taken three heights and much replanting to arrive at the perfect height 24 inches. The armadillo is eating yellow jacket wasp nests in the ground which I appreciate, but the garden rototilling is unwanted. Heat and humidity seem to be the prevalent fashion in my garden. They never seem to go out of style in Louisiana. Anxiously awaiting a fashion change in the garden, aj



Hot



Hot

St. Tammany Parish Master Gardeners Association
Membership Meeting
August 17, 2011

A meeting of the St. Tammany Parish Master Gardener Association was held at 10:00 AM on Wednesday, August 17, 2011 at the National Guard Armory. A quorum was present with 62 members in attendance.

Julie Deus called the meeting to order and led the group in the Pledge of Allegiance. Rusty Batty led the members in prayer.

Rusty reported that the 2011 Master Gardener class began with 27 new people. Rusty also updated the new webpage process.

Julie asked for approval of the Minutes of the July meeting.

A Motion was offered by Rodney Cross to accept the Minutes of the July meeting. Motion carried.

Judy Wood reported that 80 people would attend the John Besh luncheon at La Provence. In addition, the speaker for the September meeting will be John Cassidy who will speak on Urban Storm Drainage. After the meeting, there will be a tour of Suzanne Sloan's bromeliad garden in Beau Chene.

Judy discussed the proposed Crystal Springs, MS field trip (information attached to the minutes) which would be on Friday, October 21 at a cost of \$1,316 for bus transportation. The member cost would be \$20.00 and after October 1, any available spaces would be open for guests at a cost of \$30.00. Judy asked for approval of this excursion.

A Motion was offered by Janice Binnings to approve the October 21st field trip to Crystal Springs at a cost of \$1,316 for the bus charter with members to pay \$20.00 and after October 1, available spaces for guests at a cost of \$30 per person. Motion carried.

Jay Rose presented the Treasurer's Report (attached to the minutes) which reflected a net worth of \$23,900.

A Motion was offered by Paul Andres to approve the Treasurer's Report as presented. Motion carried.

Julie stated under New Business, there has been discussion and a board recommendation to change the date of the Plant Sale from Saturday and Sunday to Friday and Saturday. The vendor and membership survey responses are attached to the minutes and have been distributed to the membership. Julie asked if there was a motion to approve the change.

A Motion was offered by Susie Koepp to change the Plant Sale dates from Saturday and Sunday to Friday and Saturday. Motion carried.

Art Scott called for a ballot vote on the proposal to change the Plant Sale dates.

A ballot vote was taken and results were 51 in favor and 11 not in favor of the change.

Nancy Munn provided an update on the Fall Seminar, September 14 at the Wildlife Refuge Center (information attached to the minutes).

Camille Schwandt discussed the Herb Fest on September 27 at the Slidell Library Herb Garden (information attached to the minutes).

Ann Durel reported that Otis House is complete and will open on September 24th in coordination with the Madisonville Bicentennial. Ann introduced Mindy Brooks who spoke about Wetlands Exploration Day and asked for Master Gardener participation with an information booth and planting at Camp Salmen on October 25th and Fairview State Park on November 1st. Mindy also asked for volunteers to adopt rain gardens at Cypress Cove Elementary and Marigny Elementary Schools. Mindy's contact number is (225) 247-4004.

Cecelia Drennan reported that the Slidell Senior Center is scheduled for completion in September or October. She asked for volunteers to assist with the design of the triangle shaped garden.

Mary Ann Brannan stated the Christmas Party would be on December 14th and that the Volunteer Fire Department in Slidell would be available for a \$100 fee. Mary Ann asked for membership approval to reserve the facility for the party.

A Motion was offered by Dennis Koepp to approve the use of the Slidell Volunteer Fire Department for the Christmas Party on December at a cost of \$100.00. Motion carried.

Julie stated that the Mizell Butterfly Festival would be on September 10 and provided a sign up sheet for volunteers. The gates open at 7:30 AM with most activities beginning at 9:00 AM.

Door prizes were awarded to #33 – Pattie McGinnis and #16 – Mark Flynn.

Rusty discussed the issue of azalea caterpillars and remedies for the problem.

The meeting was adjourned at 10:45 AM with the La Provence luncheon to follow.

Respectfully submitted,
Chere Currault, Secretary

August Meeting Recap

Lunch at LaProvence with Chef John Besh



Paul Andres introduced Chef John Besh and gives him a Master Gardener mug. Chef Besh gave a talk on “Farm to Table”: celebrating what is grown locally, using the freshest ingredients, knowing where your food comes from and supporting your local farmers.



Betty and Jay Rose, Julie Deus, Rodney Cross and Pam Twardzik, above. Right: a full house of 80 MGs for Chef Besh’s luncheon.



A tour of the farm behind LaProvence after the luncheon. Right: Chef Erick Loos IV showed us the garden, the chicken coop, hog pen, composting, and fruit trees.





TREEmendous

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

Invite you to attend a tree workshop
Wednesday, September 14, 2011
9:00am to 12:30pm
(Check-In Begins at 8:00am)

Southeast Louisiana National Wildlife Refuge Headquarters
Bayou LaCombe Centre`
61389 Hwy 434, Lacombe, LA 70445

Topics include:

Tree Assessments—"What's it Worth to Ya?"

Tree Maintenance—"Nurture like Nature"

Tree Selection—"What, When, Where, Why and How?"

and

Expert information from Master Gardeners at "Table-Top Clinics"

Registration fee of \$15 per person due by 09/07/11
Space is Limited. Registration will close when full

Registration deadline 09/07/11. Make checks payable to STPMG
Mail to STPMG, Treemendous Seminar 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 (\$15 per person): _____

(Please Print)

Address: _____

Phone: _____ E-Mail address: _____

OFFICE USE ONLY:

Amount enclosed: _____ Confirmed: _____



Discover what's inside

Fall Herb Festival

"Herban" Gardening

Tuesday, September 27, 2011

4 to 7 PM

Slidell Library Herb Garden

555 Robert Blvd.

Children's Activities

Plant a fall herb to take home

Herbal Foods for Tasting

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

Herb Wreaths and Seed Paper Crafts

Speakers

4:30 – Gerard Ballanco – Practical Mechanics of Fall Herbs and Heirloom Veggie Greens

5:15 – Yvette Cutrer – How to make a Herbal Wreath using Seasonal Herbs & Salad Greens

6:00 – Linda Franzo – Harvest Herbs and Demonstrate Entertaining with Herbal Dips

Community vendors will sell herb plants

Door Prizes

The Fall Herb Festival is one of several educational events sponsored by the St. Tammany Master Gardeners, a program offered by the LSU AgCenter, and the Friends of the Slidell Library

Overflow Parking: from Library, go to the red light then turn right on North Boulevard, go one block to commuter lot on left. Patrons may enter the Festival via the back entrance behind the Library.



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 |

There will be a **Slidell Library Herb Festival committee planning meeting** at Camille's home at 323 Carr Drive, Slidell on September 7, 10:00 a.m. to finalize plans for the Festival. A work day to clean up the herb garden before the Festival will be scheduled at that time.

The Slidell Library Fall Herb Festival, “Herban Gardening”, will be held on Tuesday, September 27 from 4-7. Setup starts at 1pm and take down is over by 8pm. Camille Schwandt is the Festival Chairman. There will be 3 speakers, herb tastings, a craft project and a children's activity. Be sure to come by to learn more about herbs. If you would like to volunteer, contact Camille Schwandt at camilleschwandt@charter.net or Betty Rose at bettyrose@charter.net.



Fall Herb Festival Committee: Front row: Peggy Goertz, Betty Rose, Kathleen Guidry, Linda Franzo, Camille Schwandt, Hazel Harrod. Back row: Lonnie Holbrook, Cecelia Drennan, Nancy Berulis, Sandy Arnoult and Donna Dicharry

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 & Tour Suzanne Sloan Bromeliad Garden | Yes | Yes | Yes | |
| 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 | Yes | Yes | Yes | |
| December 14 Slidell | No Speaker | Christmas Party | No | No | No | 0 |

STPMG Programs

Urban Storm Drainage

September 21

John Cassidy, Cassidy Outdoor Specialties, New Orleans

John Cassidy is the principle of Cassidy Outdoor Specialties, a New Orleans company that focuses on landscape construction to complement landscape designs including water features, lighting, and drainage.

Tour of the Bromeliad Gardens

Suzanne Sloan

September 21

Following STPMG Meeting

We have been invited to tour the bromeliad garden of Suzanne Sloan, 948 Winona Drive, Marina Beau Chene, on Wednesday, September 21 following our STPMG meeting. Suzanne spoke to STPMG last year about bromeliads and her garden.

Directions to Suzanne Sloan's home: Take US 190 south 6.5 miles from the Ag Center, crossing I-12, exit right on LA-22 W toward Ponchatoula. Go 2.3 miles, turn right onto Marina Boulevard and enter Marina Beau Chene. Continue on Marina Boulevard which will turn left and become Winona Drive. Her home is on the cul de sac at the end of Winona Drive.

Garden Problem Table

Got Problems? (Gardening kind) Bring them to the STPMG meeting.

Following the success of the Problem Table at the Vegetable Festival we decided to try a new approach to the "Garden Problem/ Issue of the Month". STPMGs are encouraged to bring your garden problems to the meeting. There will be a designated table for these items. Early in the meeting there will be a brief discussion about the problem, cause, solution, etc. AJ Heinz-Bailey has agreed to be the leader of the discussion with Rusty Batty as a resource.

Sharing Table

The Sharing Table will be available at the September meeting for those gardening items/plants that you may wish to share with other members. What you no longer need or want may be of use by another gardener.

NO October Fall Garden Plant Swap

Because there were few participants in last year's October fall plant swap the Program Committee decided to have a speaker at the October meeting in 2011. If you have plants you wish to share with the membership bring them to the Sharing Table. There will be a Sharing Table at the September, October, and November meetings.

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. You may reserve your place on the bus by sending a check for \$20 payable to STPMG and mailing it to Judy Wood, 60589 Cypress Drive, La-combe, LA 70445. Members will be notified by email when their check arrives. Checks will be accepted at the September 21 STPMG meeting. Beginning October 1 any remaining seats will be available for guests of STPMG at a cost of \$30.

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



LACOMBE BUTTERFLY GARDEN



The Lacombe Butterfly Garden has had a great summer! The garden, located in Lacombe at the Southeast Louisiana Wildlife Refuge Headquarters, has enjoyed the benefits of an irrigation system installed in April, lots of sunshine, and visits from all sorts of critters (including many of the two-legged variety). At this time the focus of the Butterfly Garden Committee is getting the garden ready for fall. We will have a work day on Friday, September 9, 2011, beginning at 9:00. All Master Gardeners are welcome to join us for a morning of work on the garden. Bring your gloves and gardening tools; water and light refreshments will be provided. We will be weeding, pruning, spreading new mulch, and considering additions to the garden for fall planting.

After completing garden tasks on 9/9, plans for Master Gardener participation in the annual WILD THINGS day will be discussed at a brief meeting of the Butterfly Garden Committee. Master Gardeners will be hosting educational activities for children of all ages at our butterfly garden during WILD THINGS, which will be held on Saturday, October 15, 2011 from 10:00 AM – 5:00 PM at the Refuge Headquarters on Highway 434 in Lacombe. Last year over 4300 people attended WILD THINGS, and the Master Gardener Butterfly Garden drew over 200 children who participated in a variety of horticulture education activities.

Please consider volunteering at our butterfly garden during WILD THINGS; we will need volunteers to work two hour shifts during the day. Volunteers will assist children with hands-on educational activities and lead tours of the garden for visitors. If you would like to volunteer please contact Susie Andres at sandres@bellsouth.



VOLUNTEERS NEEDED AT OTIS HOUSE EVENTS

Hello MGs,

The Otis House renovation is nearing completion and the house will be open for the Pickets-N-Posts Home Tour 1pm-4pm, a part of the Madisonville Bicentennial Celebration on Saturday, Sept 24. Three or Four Master Gardener volunteers are needed to provide tours of the butterfly garden before/after visitors tour the house.



Also, in cooperation with the LSU AgCenter Youth Wetlands Program and other non-profits volunteers, Fairview State Park will host Louisiana Wetlands Exploration Day for students on Tuesday, October 24. Students will learn about the importance of Louisiana's wetlands at various stations from 9am-1:30pm. A few Master Gardeners are needed to conduct presentations on wetland plants and help students plant irises.

For more information or to help, contact Ann Durel at 985-626-1656 home, 985-845-3318 park entrance, 985-792-4652 Otis House, or email adurel@bellsouth.net



Submitted by: Ann Durel

Photo courtesy of : <http://www.crt.state.la.us/parks/ifairview.aspx>

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: 985-543-4136

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Planning for Programs for 2012



Do you have ideas for field trips or speakers for STPMG? It is time to begin to plan for the Programs for 2012. The successful programs in 2011 are the result of the Program Committee. Through brain storming and synergy we developed the list of speakers, field trips and tours. You are invited to participate in this planning process.

The Program Committee will meet on Thursday, September 22, at 1:30 PM in the Meeting Room at the AgCenter. For additional information contact Judy Wood at jazzwood@charter.net



Reporting Hours

To assist you in reporting your volunteer and education hours there is a printable resource, *An Explanation of Volunteer Activities*, on the initial page for reporting volunteer hours. http://www.lsuagcenter.com/en/lawn_garden/master_gardener/Reporting+Volunteer+Hours/ At the same location further down the page is *Frequently Asked Questions*. You may find that to be of assistance.

A pdf file is available to give an explanation of the various terms <http://www.lsuagcenter.com/NR/rdonlyres/4B050DA7-EB1B-40EA-93A2-247E6DCF4B08/52441/2008ExplanationsforVolunteerActivities1.pdf>

If you have questions, forgot your user name, etc. email Sandy Arnoult at sarnoult@charter.net or by phone at 985-882-3344.

HONORS COMMITTEE PROPOSAL

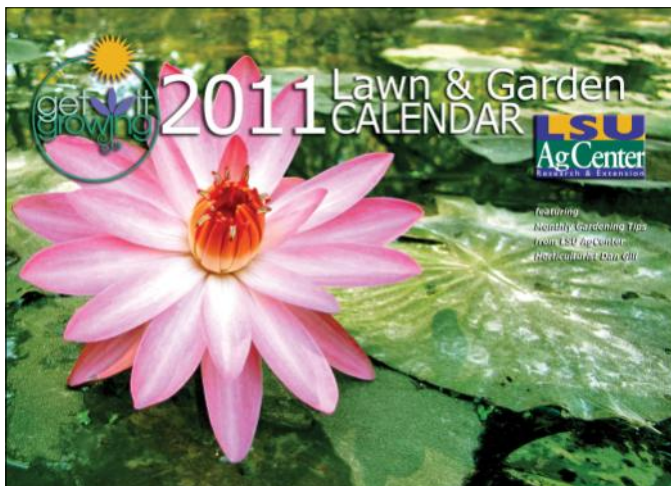
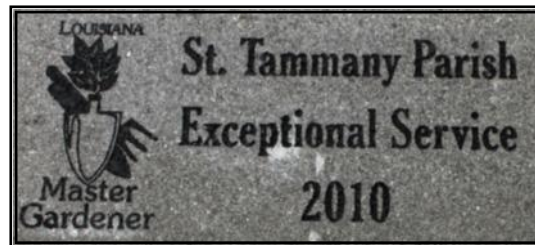
Propose that STPMG recognize the volunteers giving 50 hours or more plus the required 6 hours of continuing education (exceptional service). The reward choices would be an engraved brick (costing \$22.50), a one-year subscription to “Louisiana Gardener” (costing \$19.95), a LSU Lawn and Garden Calendar (costing \$13.23) or choose not to receive a reward at all.



There will be recognition of all STPMG who provide exceptional service at the February 2012 meeting.

After the first of the year a list of those STPMG who have met the requirements will be made. At the January meeting the list will be available for the volunteers to choose their reward. If you are unable to make the January meeting you must email or call Sandy Arnoult, sarnoult@charter.net or 985-882-3344 to choose your reward. The deadline for choosing will be January 20, 2012.

This will be brought to the membership at the September 21, 2011 meeting for a vote of approval.



St. Tammany Parish Master Gardeners Association
Board of Directors Meeting
August 25, 2011

A meeting of the Board of Directors of the St. Tammany Parish Master Gardeners Association was held on Thursday, August 25, 2011 at 5:00 PM at the Louisiana Heart Hospital. Board members attending were Julie Deus, Judy Wood and Chere Currault. Also attending were Debora Litzenberger, Pam Keating, Sandy Arnoult, and Susie Koepp.

Julie called the meeting to order and deferred the Treasurer's Report as Jay Rose was not able to attend the meeting.

Judy Wood gave an update on the Crystal Springs trip – 17 paid plus Rusty and stated there is space for 50 plus Rusty. On October 1st, space available will be open for guests to attend.

Judy reiterated that John Cassidy would speak at the September meeting with a visit to Suzanne Sloan's bromeliad garden in Marina Beau Chene to follow the meeting. In addition, it was noted that there would be no fall plant swap in October – anyone with plants to share can do so at the "sharing table" from September through November.

Judy stated there would be a meeting on September 22nd, 1:30 PM at the Ag Center office for the Program Planning Committee for 2012. In November, another planning meeting will be held to include new master gardeners from the 2011 class.

Under New Business, Judy introduced Natalie Guess, VP of Sales and Marketing with eMerge, an interactive marketing system which manages e-mail communication.

Natalie offered an overview of how eMerge facilitates communication with the membership and public by managing contact lists, i.e. members, past members, general public with the benefit of being able to send communiqués at one time without number limits. The cost is \$10 per month with unlimited "sends" for 500 and under in the database. 501 – 2,500 in a database would cost \$30 per month. Natalie answered questions and highlighted the advantages of eMerge.

Judy suggested that this proposal would have to be presented to the membership for discussion and a vote.

Julie stated the Board would also discuss eMerge at the September Board Meeting when Jay Rose would be in attendance prior to presentation to the general membership.

Sandy Arnoult gave a report from the Honors Committee (attached) which will be published in the Gardengoer. The Committee has proposed recognition of volunteers giving 50 hours or more plus the required 6 hours of continuing education. Recognition would consist of a choice of an engraved brick, one year subscription to Louisiana Gardener magazine, LSU

Lawn and Garden Calendar or not to receive a reward at all. A motion will be needed at the September meeting with a membership vote on this proposal.

Under Projects, Sandy offered a report on the Herb Fest and stated a need for a tent.

The Board reviewed prices for various sizes/types of tents from Academy and decided on a 12x12, 144 sq. ft. of shade at a cost of \$149.99 which could be used for the Herb Fest, Plant Sale and other MG events.

A Motion was offered by Judy Wood to approve the purchase of a 12x12 tent from Academy at a cost of \$149.99 plus tax. Motion carried.

Julie presented a report from Susie Andres concerning Wild Things at the Bayou La-combe Refuge. Susie requested \$100 from the MG Association for horticultural teaching materials and supplies for an estimated 500 children participating in the event.

A Motion was offered by Judy Wood to approve funding in the amount \$100 for Wild Things, as budgeted, as per the precedent set by the 2010 contribution and as authorized in the Bylaws. Motion carried.

Julie presented samples of the 2012 Plant Show flyers which could be printed in color at a cost of \$214.00 plus tax for 500 flyers. Julie asked for a motion to approve ordering the flyers.

A Motion was offered by Judy Wood to approve ordering 500 color flyers from Mele Printing at a cost of \$214.00 plus tax for Plant Sale promotion. Motion carried.

Julie stated she is getting prices on a banner to advertise the Plant Sale.

The meeting was adjourned at 6:45 PM.

Respectfully submitted,
Chere Currault, Secretary

Board of Directors Expenditures

The Board of Directors authorized several expenditures at the last meeting on August 25. I wanted to take a minute to review these with you.

First, Sandy Arnoult, on behalf of the Herb Fest, made a request for the purchase of a new tent to be used at the Slidell Herb Fest and also at the Garden Show. One of the 10 X 10 tents that we own was found to be broken last Spring. It was decided to approve a 12 X 12 EZ-Up tent to be purchased at Academy Sporting Goods for \$149.99.

Next, Susie Andres, on behalf of the Wild Things committee, requested \$100.00 to be used to purchase items to be used at the Children's area during the Louisiana Wildlife Refuge's Wild Things celebration. The Master Gardeners have a table at the Butterfly Garden with an educational children's activity that emphasizes butterflies and/or butterfly plants. This was approved by the Board.

Lastly, I requested, on behalf of the Garden Show committee, the printing of 500 flyers announcing the day change of the Garden Show in 2012. These will be distributed at all of our upcoming events including the Butterfly Festival, Fall Seminar, Otis House tours, the Herb Fest and Wild Things. The Garden Show committee feels that publicity early and often will help ensure a strong turnout on Friday. The cost of these color flyers will be \$214.00 plus tax.

If you have any questions about these expenses, please feel free to contact any of the members of the Board.

Julie Deus
jdcalla@aol.com

AGENDA
STPMG Membership Meeting
September 21, 2011

- 1. Call to order and report quorum present**
- 2. Opening Ceremonies**
- 3. Comments by Rusty Batty, County Agent and MG Advisor**
- 4. Minutes from August meeting**
- 5. Officer's reports**
President: Julie Deus
Vice President: Judy Wood
Treasurer: Jay Rose
- 6. New Business**
Speaker's Bureau request for a Projector: Donna Dicharry
- 7. Project Committee Reports**
Fall Seminar: Nancie Munn
Herb Fest: Camille Schwandt
Otis House Butterfly Garden: Ann Durel
Lacombe Butterfly Garden/Wild Things: Susie Andres
- 8. Committee Reports**
Honors Committee: Sandy Arnoult
Nominating Committee: Dianne Ramirez
- 9. Door Prizes**
- 10. Adjourn**

Calendar of Events

| September, 2011 | |
|-----------------|--|
| 7 | Slidell Library Fall Herb Festival planning meeting 10:00 A.M. at Camille's home at 323 Carr Drive, Slidell. camilleschwandt@charter.net See page 10. |
| 9 | Lacombe Butterfly Garden Work Day, 9-11. Bayou Lacombe Centre', 61389 Hwy 434, Lacombe. Bring gardening tools and gloves to freshen up the garden for the upcoming Wild Things Event. Contact Susie Andres for more info at sandres@bellsouth.net See page 14. |
| 10 | <i>Butterfly and Hummingbird Festival</i> at Mizell's Nursery, Folsom. 7-5. MG's will host an information table. Contact Julie Deus to volunteer at jdcalla@aol.com . |
| 13 | <i>Growing Fall Vegetables</i> , a seminar by Dr. Gerard Ballanco . 2-3:30 pm at the Folsom Library (796-9728) and 6-7:30 pm at the Covington Library (893-6280). Call or stop by the libraries listed above to register. |
| 14 | <i>TREE-mendous Seminar</i> at Southeast Louisiana National Wildlife Refuge, Bayou Lacombe Centre', Hwy 434, Lacombe. 9 am - 12:30. Registration is \$15 due by Sept 7. Contact Nancie Munn to volunteer xtchanrm@yahoo.com . See page 8 for more information.. |
| 17 | <i>Growing Fall Vegetables</i> , a seminar by Dr. Gerard Ballanco at the Slidell Library 2-3:30 pm. Call 646-6470 or stop by the library to register. |
| 19 | Monthly meeting at National Guard Armory 10 a.m. Speaker is John Cassidy on Urban Storm Drainage. The rescheduled tour (from last September) of Suzanne Sloan's bromeliad garden in Beau Chene will follow the meeting. See page 12. |
| 22 | Program Committee Meeting, AgCenter at 1:30 if you would like to be part of the program planning for 2012 with Judy Wood. jazzwood@charter.net . See page 17. |
| 24 | <i>Pickets-N-Posts Home Tour</i> 1-4. Fairview Riverside State Park. Otis House tours as part of the Madisonville Bicentennial Celebration. 3 or 4 Master Gardeners are needed for butterfly garden tours. See page 15. |
| 27 | <i>Slidell Library Fall Herb Festival</i> , "Herban Gardening" 4-7. Set-up for the festival starts at 1pm. There will be speakers, herbal food & drink tastings, crafts with herbs, a children's activity and a cooking demo. To volunteer, contact the chairman of the festival, Camille Schwandt at camilleschwandt@charter.net See page 9. |

| October, 2011 | |
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| 5 | <i>Herb Gathering</i> at the Slidell Library meeting room at 1 pm. Cecelia Drennan will give a talk on mint. See page 10. |
| 15 | "Wild Things" at SELA NWR in Lacombe. 10-5. Lots of children's activities, food and fun. MGs to host a children's activity at the Butterfly Garden. Hwy 434 Lacombe. 882-2000 See page 14. |
| 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. |
| 21 | Crystal Springs Tour. MS Field and Flower Day. See page 13. |

STPMG Directory

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OTIS HOUSE BUTTERFLY GARDEN:

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**ROOTING THE FUTURE: MGs PART-
NER WITH STPSB SCHOOLS:**

Christy Paulsell
898-6483 j.christine.paulsell@stpsb.org

Notes from the Editor:

It's fall gardening time again! There is so much going on in September for Master Gardeners to get involved. Here are some of September's offerings: the Fall Seminar, TREEmendous, on the 14th and the Slidell Library Herb Festival on the 27, Dr. Ballanco's seminars on fall gardening at the libraries, planning meetings and work days. There's ample opportunity for everyone to earn those required volunteer hours and to earn the 50 hours needed to earn an Exceptional Service Award.

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/

Debora Litzenberger
dklitz@charter.net



THE GARDENGOER

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

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