



Master Gardener™

An educational program of the LSU AgCenter

ST. TAMMANY PARISH MASTER GARDENERS' ASSOCIATION

VOLUME 20 Issue 2

February 2017



Signs of Spring



Signs of Spring	1
President's Message	2
VP's Message	3
Garden and Plant Sale	4-7
BackYard Plants	8
Committee Chairs	9
Contact Information	
The New Sprouts!	10
Special Announcements	11
Selecting an Arborist	12
Basic Care of Live Oak	13
Marigny Elementary	14-16
Master Gardener Logo-wear	17-21
Call for Recipes	22
Board Meeting Minutes	23-25
Membership Meeting Minutes	26-30
Board & Directors List	31
Editor's Note	32
Editor's Gift to You	33



Tina Richardson's Japanese Magnolia

For the latest research-based information on just about anything, visit our Web site:

www.lsuagcenter.com

President's Message

Happy February!

I would like to take this opportunity to thank all of you who stepped forward at our January 18th membership meeting to volunteer for Master Gardener activities throughout 2017. You are the reason for this association's continued relevance to our communities. Many of you also volunteered to work at next month's Plant Sale. The sign-up sheets were almost completely filled, which is a blessing to the many committees working this event. Julie Deus and Kappy Goodwin will be announcing where additional volunteers may be needed.

There was also a vote on January 18th to continue meeting at the Castine Center, as opposed to moving to the Abita Springs Town Hall. The most persuasive arguments seem to be that we would not be able to meet at the town hall on Wednesdays from 10:00 a.m. to noon, because 1. Senior Bingo occurs every Wednesday, and they begin arriving to set up at 11:00 a.m., making it difficult to hold any additional meetings directly after our General Membership meeting, and 2. there is a lack of adequate parking in Abita for our ever-expanding group. So, although we appreciate the kind offer from Mayor Gowland, we have decided to remain at the Castine Center. However, some of you have inquired whether our meetings could be held from 9:00 a.m. to 11:00 a.m. on Wednesday mornings rather than from 10:00 a.m. to noon. We will discuss and vote on this issue at the February 15th membership meeting.

I had the honor of attending a planning meeting for the Spring Seminar, entitled "Spring Forward." As you know, this seminar is managed by the newest Master Gardener class of 2016. Let me tell you, this year's group is exceptional. They are all excited and hard at work. Thank you, Class of 2016!

And, as always, please let me know what you are thinking—do we need to re-examine how we do things? How can we improve? Email me with any complaints or concerns.

Jan Gardner
Class of 2014
President



Vice President's Message

Dear Master Gardeners,

Our February speaker will be Michael Seal. He is the owner of the Funny Farm and an expert in the world of Bromeliads. Michael has been growing, propagating, and arranging bromeliads since 1990. He is a life-time member of the Mississippi Nursery and Landscape Association. He is a well-known speaker at flower and garden shows, Master Gardener Associations, and state conferences.

I also want to remind you to fill out the program surveys that were distributed at the January meeting. If you did not attend that meeting and would like to share your comments, please fill out the on-line version—there is a link to that survey in M.o.M. We value your suggestions and comments. The Program Committee will be reviewing the surveys at the February 3rd meeting. I want to thank those of you who have sent information to me already. I will share your ideas, as well as the surveys.

I look forward to seeing you at our February Meeting.

Suzanne Krieger
Class of 2012
Vice President
Program Chair



2017 Northshore Garden & Plant Sale

We are gearing up for the 2017 Garden & Plant Sale on March 17th and 18th and we are still looking for a few good volunteers! We need to make sure that there are plenty of people to help out with this major fundraiser for our scholarship program. The gates will open at 9:00 am and close at 4:00 pm.

The volunteer signup sheets will be available at the next Membership Meeting on February 15th and at the remaining Garden & Plant Sale committee meetings—you can also e-mail co-chairs Julie Deus or Kappy Goodwin, with your choices. This year the volunteer sheets will also be posted in M.o.M each week beginning January 23, 2017. You will be able to see where help is needed and email Julie what area and shift you would like to work. You will also be able to check and see when and where you have volunteered so you won't miss a shift.

This year, a few spots have been reserved specifically for the new 2016 MG graduates. These are in areas that tend to fill up quickly. If you are a graduate from an earlier class, please don't sign up in these spaces. To the 2016 MG class, you can sign up anywhere (not just for those slots).

Each chairperson has been asked to write a short summary about their area, and those descriptions will be found here on the following pages. If you have any questions, please don't hesitate to contact Julie or Kappy or the person who chairs that area, and we will be happy to explain the various duties to you.

Anyone who volunteers for the Garden & Plant Sale will be admitted for free on both days, but you must have your volunteer badge and present it at the gate for free admission. Just showing your nametag will not gain you free admittance. Kappy and Julie will have the badges available for you to pick up once you have registered for an area at the February and March membership meetings, at the remaining Garden & Plant Sale committee meetings, and at set-up on Thursday March 19, 2015 from 9:00 am until 6:00 pm. If you can't make any of those meetings, the front gate will have the volunteer sign up list with some badges, so you can stop there on your way in before your shift. You will turn in your badge to the information booth when you leave the

2017 Northshore Garden & Plant Sale, *continued*

Garden and Plant Sale for the last time. Please be sure to initial the sign out sheet when you turn your badge in.

Stop at the information booth in the barn to sign in before each of your shifts. It is important that we know who is present in each area in case we need to shift people around.

The chairperson for each area will also have a place for you to sign in.

Just one more note—please plan to take your lunch either before or after your shift so that we are fully staffed at all times. This is also true for shopping! Don't leave the booth in the middle of a shift to check out the vendors; you can do that Thursday or before or after your shift.

Julie Deus and Kappy Goodwin, Co-Chairs

Julie Deus
Class of 2009
Plant & Garden Sale Co-Chair
Past President



Kappy Goodwin
Class of 2010
Plant & Garden Sale Co-Chair



2017 Northshore Garden & Plant Sale, *continued*

MASTER GARDENER TABLE: We answer questions and give out information about various aspects of gardening. Our “Plant Doctor” will be at this table to help with the questions and this is a great opportunity to listen and learn about all the problems people are having these days.

PLANT HOLDING AREA: People can bring the plants they have purchased here and we keep them until they are ready to leave. Then we load them in their car for them.

EVALUATIONS: We have a few questions on an evaluation form and ask some of our patrons about how we can improve the show. We give them a free raffle ticket when they fill it out.

BACKYARD PLANTS: This is a booth that the Master Gardeners donate plants for us to sell to provide money to make all the copies that we provide to the public throughout the year at Farmer’s Markets, Seminars and the Plant Sale.

SPEAKER’S AREA: You have a chance to greet patrons, listen to the speakers and collect the evaluations about each speaker.

GLOVES: We sell gloves and certain gardening books for a slight profit.

MUSCLE CREW/ONGOING CLEAN UP: We need several people each shift to empty garbage cans and do any housekeeping chores that arise.

CHILDREN’S AREA: We invite the children to come and decorate a pot and plant either a vegetable or herb to take home. Lots of fun!

RAFFLE: We put together plants and garden art that is donated by the vendors and Master Gardeners into lovely baskets to be raffled off at the end of the Sale. We sell tickets to patrons for all of these prizes.

2017 Northshore Garden & Plant Sale, *continued*

PARKING: We take money at the gate and direct people where to park throughout the event. You get double volunteer hours for volunteering for parking.

INFORMATION TABLE: We check in volunteers for each shift, answer questions and fill in where necessary.

HOSPITALITY: This is an area where volunteers and vendors can get coffee and a little snack throughout the day. We replenish these things when necessary.

SET UP: On Thursday, the vendors start coming in to set up their booths and we help them unload their plants and garden art. This is also when we set up all of our booths and the speaker's area. We start at 9:00 and go until 4:00pm when we host a reception for the vendors and Master Gardeners to visit with vendors and look at all of the plants. There will be no sign up for this, just come whenever you want.

TAKE DOWN: We need volunteers to stay after 4:00 pm on Saturday to help the vendors load any remaining plants, tear down our booths and pick up any trash in the area. You get double hours for volunteering for take down.

2017 Northshore Garden & Plant Sale Backyard Plants Booth

The Backyard Plants Booth needs your donations

Time to get ready for the 2017 Garden & Plant Show! The dates are March 17th & 18th It will be here before we know it!

Please start thinking of what plants you can propagate, divide, or share with us for the show. Please try to attend the January general meeting. We will be presenting details about how our booth operates.

For our new members: the donated plants are of a minimal value. Please don't buy plants to donate! We sell the plants to the public and our proceeds support our Speakers' Bureau and other MG programs.

- All plants need to be labeled with at least their common name (scientific name even better!)
- Plants must have a viable root system
- NO "invasive" plants will be accepted
- Donate only plant material (no pots, books, etc.) You can contact the raffle booth chairs if you'd like to donate those type of items
- Plants are to be delivered on Thursday, March 16th, at the Fairgrounds barn. Time TBD

Please call with any questions. More details to come in MoM and *The Gardengoer*.

Lisann Cheaney, Deb Litzenberger, and Eileen Gremillion, Co-Chairs

Lisann Cheaney — 985.951.9855

Deb Litzenberger — 985.290.3829

Eileen Gremillion — 985.869.0466

Lisann Cheaney
Class of 2008
Backyard Plants Chair



Committee Chairs' Contact Information Education Committees (E) and "Fingers in the Dirt" (F)

Abita Library Garden—F	Susan L'Hoste	lhoste@att.net Cell: 985.373.1770
Beau Provence Rehab Garden—F	Linda Zitzmann	nickiroux@hotmail.com Cell: 985.630.6403
Covington Farmers Market—E	Billie Stanga-3rd Saturday chair Diana Cammatte-1st Saturday chair	billie.stanga@gmail.com Cell: 504.428.6535 dhcammatte@bellsouth.net Cell: 985.778.3500
Lacombe Butterfly Garden—F	Barbara Moore **(chair needed)	babsofil@gmail.com Cell: 985.264.6259
LSU AgCenter Volunteers—E **phone duty	Cindy Manger	beachin70124@gmail.com Cell: 504.481.7792
Magic Wings Butterfly Garden—F **Parenting Center, Covington	Dorothy Delaune	regdelaune@aol.com Cell: 985.630.6503
Northshore Garden & Plant Sale—E **March 17 & 18, Covington Fairgrounds	Jan Pesses, Co-Chair Rodney Cross, Co-Chair	jpesses@charter.net Cell: 504.458.6443 rod335i@live.com Cell: 985.778.3555
Otis House Rose Garden—F **Fairview Riverside Park, Madisonville	Ann Durel	adurel@bellsouth.net Cell: 985.373.2111
School Partnership—F **"Rooting the Future" all school gardens	Christy Paulsell	jcPaulsell@gmail.com Cell: 985.264.4926
Slidell Farmers Market—E **2nd & 4th Saturdays Jan – Oct	Sue Clites	suethern@yahoo.com Cell: 985.951.0508
Slidell Library Herb Garden—F	Sandy Arnoult	sarnoult@charter.net Cell: 985.974.1676
Slidell Memorial Hsptl Rehab Garden—F	Paul Andres	pkandres@bellsouth.net Cell: 985.718.9161
Speakers' Bureau—E **coordinates MGs public speakers	Mimi Padgett	mimipadgett63@gmail.com Cell: 504.975.1800
Super Plant Garden @ AgCenter—F	Ron Rowland	rrowlan60@gmail.com
TableTalks—E	Denise Schoen	neez@mindspring.com Cell: 504.554.5486
Vegucators—E **study group open to all MGs	Ron Wahl	rjwahl@charter.net
W. St. Tammany Habitat—E	Jenny Graffeo, Chair Nancy Thompson, Co-Chair	jennygraffeo@hotmail.com Cell: 504.756.7806 nthomps25@bellsouth.net Cell: 985.502.1716

Meet the Vegecators and the New Sprouts!



Back row: Gordon Kuehl, Wes Goostrey, Geralyn Suhor, Jimmy DeJean, Barry Pierce, Laura Steffee, Rodney Cross, and Tim Zimmerman. Middle row: D'Wanna Hanes, Theresa Wilfert, Gerald Ballanco, Theresa Rheams, Dee Middleton, Eileen Gremillion, Karla Partridge, Diana Cammatte, and Janice Roussel. Front row (sitting): Deborah Nolan, Rob Whal (the group leader), and Dawn Lavoie.

Not pictured: Nancy McDonald and Karen Martin

Special Announcements

- Each member will be receiving a an email with the subject line *Your Photographic Master Gardener Directory*. Attached to the email will be our new digital directory—26 pages containing photographs of every one of our fellow master gardeners. This valuable resource will enable you to put a name to that familiar face. This photo album/directory is in addition to our printed directory and NOT a replacement for it. The printed directory will be available soon and will be distributed at our meetings.
- Next month, look for Will’s article about his trip to Kentucky where he visited the student farms at Berea College and the University of Kentucky. I can’t wait to hear about what he learned!
- Dorothy Delaune, the new chair for the Magic Wings Butterfly Garden at the Parenting Center—Thank you, Dorothy!
- Betty Cronin has graciously volunteered to be our shutterbug! If you see her with a camera, SMILE! I’d like to, personally, say thank you to Betty from *The Gardengoer*—our issues will be so much more lively with Betty’s photographs to accompany the articles. While Betty does exhibit some super human powers, she will not be able to attend all of our events, so I urge everyone to take photos and email them to me to use in *The Gardengoer*.

Selecting an Arborist

For tree problems beyond the scope of the average homeowner's knowledge, a certified arborist should be selected. An arborist is a tree care professional who is formally educated in arboriculture—the art and science of planting, caring for, and maintaining trees. A certified arborist has passed a testing procedure through the International Society of Arboriculture (ISA). This certified arborist possesses the knowledge, equipment, training, and insurance to handle tasks such as pruning, planting, pest management, and a variety of other tree care practices. The following items are to be taken into consideration before selecting an arborist.

- ◆ Ask for proof of insurance, calling the insurance if you are in doubt.
- ◆ Check for references; pay a visit see the arborist's work.
- ◆ Get more than one estimate, even if this costs extra; a low bid is not always the best bid.
- ◆ Be wary of individuals who go door-to-door with bargain offers.
- ◆ Get what is to be done in writing. Read the contract carefully, and clearly include the work being promised, clean-up responsibilities, and start/end dates, etc.
- ◆ Topping a tree, removing an excessive amount of live wood, or removing or disfiguring living trees are unnecessary and are not performed by good arborists.
- ◆ A good arborist will not use climbing spikes if the tree is to remain in the landscape.
- ◆ Beware of an arborist who is too eager to remove a living tree. A second opinion may be needed.
- ◆ Memberships demonstrates a willingness to stay up-to-date on the latest techniques and current information. Ask if the arborist has a membership in one or more professional organizations such as:
 - International Society of Arboriculture (ISA)
 - Louisiana Arborist Association
 - Tree Care Industry Association
 - American Society of Consulting Arborists (ASCA)
- ◆ To locate an arborist in the area: Check the yellow pages under “arborists” or “tree service,” visit www.louisianaarborist.com for more information, or call the Louisiana Department of Agriculture and Forestry at 225-952-8100.

Gerri Sommers
Class of 2004



Basic Care of the Live Oak Tree



- ◆ Do not cover the roots of a live oak within a fifteen radius, nor cover the roots with fill to no more than one quarter of the way around the tree. The roots will smother, and the tree will die a slow death. Avoid parking vehicles under an oak as it compacts the soil and smothers the roots.
- ◆ Add mulch around the tree to allow air and nourishment to aid the tree's life process. However, do no pile mulch against the trunk of the tree. A gentle slope of mulch outward from the base of the tree is proper. Do no create a volcano effect with mulch, as it can do more harm than good to the root system.
- ◆ If a live oak has been damaged by construction work or drought, it is helpful to give the tree a dose of root stimulator (not regular fertilizer). It is not necessary to fertilize a live oak, except when it is first planted, in order to give it a good start. Mulch it instead, watering it occasionally. Water heavily during droughts, soaking the entire root zone under the tree's crown canopy.
- ◆ Never have the tree topped or thinned excessively, leaving only the outer branches. Calling upon an ISA-certified professional arborist will insure careful pruning of the tree.

Basic Care of the Live Oak Tree, *continued*

- ◆ Do not drive nails into a live oak. If hanging a swing or tire swing, insert the chain or rope into a rubber tube or cushioned protection layer to prevent wear on the branches. Inspect the device annually to make sure it is not rubbing or strangling the limbs as the tree grows larger.
- ◆ There is never a reason to whitewash a tree; this serves no purpose; it is not suggested by tree experts.



- ◆ Provide for better drainage if necessary so that the tree does not sit for long periods of time under damp conditions since this can smother the live oak's root system.
- ◆ Be very careful with herbicides, keeping mind that a tree is just a big, broad leaf weed to a lawn weed killer.



(Photos from the Hammond Mall grounds in Hammond, LA.)

Gerri Sommers
Class of 2004



Projects & Work Days

Marigny Elementary School Garden

On January 10th we STMGA members of the Marigny Elementary School Gardens Project met for a workday. We cleared out all of the freeze-damaged and spent vegetables and in general spruced up the beds. While we were there, Ms. Steadman brought out her pre Kindergarten class to observe the gardens. We had a bed of carrots with many ready to pick, so she led her class with harvesting. There was a wide array of carrot sizes, as one can see from the pictures. The children were very excited with the harvest and brought the carrots back to their class to wash and sample.



Projects & Work Days

Marigny Elementary School Garden, continued

On January 24th we met to continue our cleaning up and pruning of the dead plant materials and refilling the beds with fresh soil and fertilizer for our upcoming plantings. We also discussed plans for new additions to the garden area. Ms. Steadman brought out her class for a new planting that she and Sue McGuire had discussed earlier. The children were given potato parts with "eyes" to plant in three big planters located in the gardens. Sue showed them a big potato with many "eyes" first and discussed potato dishes they liked and that we could make when we harvest these vegetables.

We have plans for many more planting days and harvesting days with the children in the coming months.



Sharon Hassinger
Class of 2015



Master Gardener Logo Merchandise Order Form



Last chance to order your Master Gardener t-shirts, collared shirts, caps, visors, and aprons all with the Master Gardener logo!

IMPORTANT: Final orders will be placed after our Membership Meeting on February 15th

Sizing considerations:

All of the denim shirts are embroidered with the St. Tammany Master Gardener Logo.

Women's short-sleeved denim shirts run a bit large. Women's long-sleeved and men's, both short-sleeved and long-sleeved denim shirts run small and should be sized up.

Cotton t-shirts are true to size, and they are screen printed the Master Gardener logo.

I have samples of most sizes and will bring them to the January member meeting.

—If you have any questions, please call me at **504-583-3678**

Either give me your order form(s) and check at the meeting or mail them to:

Pam Perret, Merchandise Chair

918 W. 9th Avenue

Covington, LA 70433

Pam Perret
Class of 2006
Merchandise Chair





\$32.00

Port & Company Women's Short-sleeved Denim Shirt
Colors Available: Faded Blue

Quantity

Size



\$32.00

Harriton Men's 6.5 oz. Short-sleeved Denim Shirt
Colors Available: Faded Blue

Quantity

Size



\$26.00

Harriton Women's 6.5 oz. Long-sleeved Denim Shirt
Colors Available: Faded Blue

Quantity

Size



\$26.00

Harriton Men's 6.5 oz. Long-sleeved Denim Shirt
Colors Available: Faded Blue

Quantity	Size
_____	_____
_____	_____



\$29.00

Women's HiPerformance Mesh Polo
Quick-drying mesh fabric wicks moisture and blocks harmful UV rays up to UPF 50 factor. 4.0 oz. and antimicrobial
100% Polyester
Color Available: Cucumber

Quantity	Size
_____	_____
_____	_____



\$29.00

Men's HiPerformance Mesh Polo
Quick-drying mesh fabric wicks moisture and blocks harmful UV rays up to UPF 50 factor. 4.0 oz. and antimicrobial
100% Polyester
Color Available: Cucumber

Quantity	Size
_____	_____
_____	_____



\$16.00

Medium Length Apron with Pouch Pockets

Color Available: Hunter Green

One Size

Quantity



\$13.00

Port & Company Brushed Twill Low-profile Cap

Color Available: Hunter Green

One Size

Quantity



\$13.00

Port & Company Fashion Visor

Color Available: Khaki

One Size

Quantity

T-shirt Order Form

Master Gardener Bright Green 100% Cotton T-shirts

Short-sleeved and long-sleeved available in: S, M, L, XL, 2XL, and 3XL

Please circle size and note quantity if you want more than one

Short-sleeved

S M L XL \$7.00 2XL 3XL \$8.00

Long-sleeved

S M L XL \$9.00 2XL 3XL \$10.00

(tax included)

NAME _____

PHONE _____

CHECK # and Amount _____ CASH _____

Make checks payable to:

Pam Perret
918 W. 9th Ave.
Covington, LA 70433

Please call if you have any questions—504.583.3678

Master Gardeners Cookbook

The St. Tammany Master Gardeners are putting together a cookbook. You're invited to send in your favorite recipe(s). It can be an original recipe or one you adapted from another source as long as you give credit to the original source. If you have a short story that goes with the recipe, please send it with the recipe.

Send recipes by email (preferred) to Susan L'Hoste at lhoste@att.net or mail them to:

105 Sherry Lane
Mandeville, LA 70471



St. Tammany Master Gardener Association
BOARD Meeting Minutes, Coffee Rani, January 10, 2017

The January board meeting was held on **January 10, 2017** at Coffee Rani, Mandeville, LA. President Jan Gardner called the meeting to order at 10:00 a.m.

IN ATTENDANCE: Jan Gardner, Ty Guidroz, Jimmy DeJean, Julie Deus, Marilyn Bingham, Art Scott, Tim Zimmerman, Deb Nolan, and Cindy Manger.

NOT IN ATTENDANCE: Vice President, Suzanne Krieger (out of the country)

The December 2016 board minutes were approved as they appeared in the January 2017 Gardengoer.

OFFICERS' REPORTS:

TREASURER *Jimmy DeJean*

- Presented the STMGA Financial Report as of 12/30/2016, which will also be presented at the January 18, 2017 membership meeting.
- Presented a projected 2017 budget, which he will present at the January 18, 2017 membership meeting for approval.

PRESIDENT *Jan Gardner*

- Announced the newly appointed Finance Committee, whose members are Mary Anne Brannan, Dianne Ramirez, and Geralyn Suhor.
- Introduced Tim Zimmerman as new Publicity chairman.
- Proposed adding spouses names and expertise of MG and/or spouse to the membership directory (at the discretion of each member). It was agreed. Due to the expense of printing more names, the names would only be included in the digital directory. Gardengoer Editor, Tina Richardson will be handling the digital directory.
- Presented the proposed Northshore Plant and Garden Sale budget from Jan Pesses and Rodney Cross. It was noted that the budget has increased by 10% from last year. After some discussion, Jan agreed to relay the feedback and some of the concerns to the Plant Sale chairmen.
- Declared the speaker for January membership meeting will be Paige Mizell, who will be presenting on Camellias.
- Reported for School Partnership Chairman Christy Paulsell, that she will be enlisting volunteers to help build and plant a garden at Woodlake Elementary School, Mandeville.

BOARD Meeting Minutes, *continued*

PROJECT REPORTS:

Education Projects Chairman *Julie Deus*

- Spring seminar is still in search of a venue. She is still trying to coordinate speakers with the times the venue of choice, 1st Baptist Church can accommodate the seminar. The seminar will be one of the days during the week of March 6th thru 10th.
- There will be a Spring Seminar meeting this week at the AgCenter, where they are hoping everything will be “ironed out.”
- She will post an updated Northshore Plant and Garden Sale volunteer list *every* Monday in M.o.M. It will not be fillable, but members can contact Julie regarding being placed on the schedule for a particular booth/area.
- There will be a Garden Fest at the Covington Library on April 15, 2017. A planning meeting will be held either January 27th or February 3rd.

Membership Chairman *Marilyn Bingham*

- Announced she will be sending emails to project chairmen with the names of members who expressed interest in each respective chair's project.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS:

SECRETARY *Cindy Manger*

- Discussed the possibility of attaching honors pins to a ribbon attached to the STMGA name tag. After a discussion, it was decided it would be up to the individual member as to how they display/wear their honors pin/pins.
- Suggested the honors awards NOT be presented at the December meeting. Final decision will be at a later date.
- Requested Will Afton explain the importance of members logging their volunteer hours on the AgCenter site. This would take place at the January membership meeting.

BOARD Meeting Minutes, *continued*

PRESIDENT *Jan Gardener*

- Announced there will be discussion and a decision at the January membership meeting with regard to the venue and time of membership meetings. Meeting location: Abita Town hall or Castine Center AND Meeting time: 9:00 a.m. to 11:00 a.m. or 10:00 a.m. to noon.

NEW BUSINESS:

COUNTY AGENT *Will Afton*

- Announced a Live Oak tree workshop at the Greater Covington Center, Bogue Falaya Hall on February 11, 2017, 10:00 a.m. to noon. William Guion will give his presentation, *100 Oaks Project*. He will also present information about the care and conservation of Live Oaks.

Meeting was adjourned at 11:30 a.m.

Respectfully submitted by
Cindy Manger

Cindy Manger
Class of 2009
Secretary



St. Tammany Parish Master Gardener Association
MEMBERSHIP Meeting Minutes, Castine Center, January 18, 2017

The meeting was called to order by President Jan Gardner at 10:10 AM. She also gave an invocation and led the pledge of allegiance.

Attendance: 120

PROGRAM & SPEAKER:

Vice President Suzanne Krieger introduced this month's speaker, Paige Mizell. Paige Mizell gave a very interesting and educational presentation on planting, identifying and caring for Camellias. Her family has been in the horticulture business for over 40 years and 8 years ago, they opened Mizell's Camellia Hill Nursery in Folsom, LA. There will be a "Winter Open House" January 27 & January 28 from 8 a.m.- 4 p.m. and January 29 from 10 a.m.- 4 p.m. In addition to supplying members with a printed packet of her presentation, she also presented the members with a 10% off coupon, which can be used the dates of the open house.

OFFICERS' REPORTS:

December 2016 minutes were approved as they appeared in the January 2017 Gardengoer with a motion to accept by Betty Cronin, and seconded by Julie Deus, then all members unanimously voting to accept the minutes.

Treasurer Jimmy DeJean, presented the December 2016 financial report as it appeared in the January 16, 2017 M.o.M. There were no questions or corrections. The Treasurer's report will be filed for audit. He also presented the proposed 2017 budget, which was also posted in January 16, 2017 M.o.M. There were no questions or corrections. Deb Nolan made a motion to accept the proposed 2017 budget, which was seconded by Julie Deus. The membership unanimously voted to accept the proposed 2017 budget.

President Jan Gardner

- Expressed her appreciation for being selected to hold the position as president.
- Announced for members to sign up to volunteer for the many STMGA projects.

MEMBERSHIP Meeting Minutes, *continued*

Sign up sheets were available during the break after the program and speaker.

- Introduced Tim Zimmerman as *Publicity Chairman*. Tim asked for STMGA event/activity articles, so he can post/publish as publicity for such.
- Introduced Mimi Padgett as *Education Project Coordinator*.
- Announced that the *Finance Committee* will consist of Mary Anne Brannan, Dianne Ramirez, and Geralyn Suhor.
- Introduced Rob Wahl as *Vegucator Chairman*. Rob announced the 1st meeting for the 2017 Vegucator class will take place on January 25th, 9 a.m. - noon at the LSU AgCenter. He also stated, anyone interested could meet with him after the meeting for more information and a tentative schedule of the 2017 Vegucator classes.
- Introduced Betty Cronin as *STMGA Photographer*.
- Reported for *Legacy Gardens Chairman* Christy Paulsell. For all interested, there will be a planning and implementation meeting on January 30th 10 a.m. - 11:30 a.m. at Woodlake Elementary, where a new legacy garden is in the works.

Vice President Suzanne Krieger

- Expressed her appreciation for being selected to hold the vice president position.
- Distributed a “Master Gardener Preference” survey regarding member preferences on field trips, monthly meetings, and seminars. The survey will also be available in M.o.M. via a link, as per M.o.M. Chairman/Editor Art Scott. Suzanne encouraged all members to express their opinions thru the survey.

County Agent & MG Advisor Will Afton

- Reported there have been many inquiries regarding frozen plants and pruning. He stated, plants can be pruned, but suggested waiting until all cold weather is over. He warned, if plants are pruned, be vigilant in protecting them in the event of any freezes prior to Spring. He said to keep in mind, February is usually this area's coldest month.
- Reminded members of the 20 volunteer hours and 6 continuing education hours requirements to continue as members of STMGA and 40 volunteer hours for new members the 1st year after completing course. He stated that most members volunteer well in excess of the required hours.

MEMBERSHIP Meeting Minutes, *continued*

- Encouraged and explained the importance of logging volunteer hours on the Louisiana AgCenter site and reported some very interesting statistics: Annually, he compiles volunteer hours for his performance review. For St. Tammany Parish in 2016 there were 207
- volunteers who logged in 11,563 volunteer hours (which averages to 55.86 hrs./volunteer). At a cost of paying an employee \$22/hour, the volunteers saved the St. Tammany Parish AgCenter \$254,386. Volunteers also logged in a total of 2,530 education hours (which averages 12.2 hrs./volunteer).
- Presented the plaque which is displayed at the St. Tammany AgCenter office, with names of volunteers who have logged 1000+ volunteer hours on the AgCenter site.

PROJECT REPORTS:

Education Projects Chairman Julie Deus reported

- Spring Seminar Chairman is Mary Kathryn Villere of the class of 2016. The STMGA Class of 2016 will host the Seminar entitled “Spring Forward,” which will be held at Coquille Sports Complex on March 10, 2017, 8:30 a.m. - 2:30 p.m. Registration will begin on February 1st at \$20/person, which includes lunch. Topics will include:
 - Common Landscape Problems and Their Solutions
 - Go Native (You'll be Glad You Did)
 - HUGE Weed Problems? Make Your Landscape Great Again
 - Spring Garden Panel Discussion.

There will also be several table talks. All information will be in M.o.M.

- There will be a planning meeting on January 27, 2017 at 9:30AM at the Covington Library for the April 15th Covington Library Spring Garden Fest.
- Madisonville Garden Show will be March 4, 2017. Volunteers are needed for STMGA table. Look for more information in M.o.M.

COMMITTEE REPORTS:

Membership Honors Committee Chairman Sandy Arnoult asked members who are being awarded honors brick awards for AgCenter website logged 500 volunteer hours and 1000 volunteer hours to pick up bricks. In addition, she asked past board to pick up their brick award.

MEMBERSHIP Meeting Minutes, *continued*

Facebook Page Chairman and STMGA Photographer Betty Cronin

- Requested photos of any STMGA events/activities to be emailed to her for the STMGA Facebook page.
- Asked for a show of hands for those interested in her presenting a Facebook tutorial. Due to a large number of interested members, she agreed to present a tutorial at a time and date to be announced.

Northshore Plant and Garden Sale

- Members were encouraged to wear green “STMGA” t-shirts at the Plant and Garden Sale. They may be ordered thru Merchandise Chairman, Pam Perrett, at the meeting or by mail. If order is placed by January 31st, they will be available for pick up at the February 15th membership meeting.
- Wes Goostrey made an appeal for volunteers for the Northshore Plant and Garden Sale Muscle Committee.
- Raffle booth is requesting donations of large baskets for the booth.
- Plant and Garden Sale Volunteer Coordinator Julie Deus explained
- During the meeting, there would be a 10 minute break for members to sign up at Plant and Garden Sale booths with each booth having an individual sign up sheet and with booth Chairmen available to answer any questions.
- There are slots specifically reserved for Class of 2016 members until the February membership meeting, at which time, open slots may be filled by ANY member.
- There is NO sign up for set up day, March 16th —She encouraged *all* members to help any time Thursday from 9 a.m. until 4 p.m.
- Complimentary lunch will be available and there will be a welcome reception for vendors at 4 p.m.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS:

President Jan Gardner announced the need to decide on the venue for STMGA monthly membership meetings. A discussion ensued. Betty Cronin made a motion to vote at this meeting regarding the meeting venue, that was seconded by Dee Middleton. Sue Mcguire made a motion to keep the meeting venue on the third Wednesday of each month at the Castine Center

MEMBERSHIP Meeting Minutes, *continued*

that was seconded by Julie Deus. The membership voted by a show of hands. Over 3/4th of the present members voted for the motion.

ANNOUNCEMENTS:

President Jan Gardner announced there will be a vote on the monthly meeting time. The choices will be 9 a.m. to 11 a.m. or 10 a.m. to noon.

Betty Cronin announced a Live Oak Tree workshop sponsored by members of “Keep Covington Beautiful.” Speakers will be William Guion who will be speaking about “Quercus Quest” and James L. Culpepper speaking about “Live Oaks: Selection, Preservation, and Care.” The event is February 11, 2017 from 10 a.m. until noon at the Bogue Falaya Greater Covington Center, 317 N. Columbia Street. Admission is \$10.

Meeting adjourned at 12:15PM.

Respectfully submitted by Cindy Manger.

Cindy Manger
Class of 2009
Secretary



ST. TAMMANY MASTER GARDENERS 2017 BOARD OF DIRECTORS & COMMITTEE CHAIRPERSONS

President: Jan Gardner (1st year) **Vice President:** Suzanne Krieger (1st year)
Secretary: Cindy Manger (2nd year) **Past President:** Ty Guidroz
Treasurer: Jimmy DeJean (final year) **Parliamentarian:**

COMMITTEE CHAIRS (2-year term)

Membership: Marilyn Bingham (2nd year)

Sub-Committees (no term limit)

MoM: Art Scott
Gardengoer: Tina Richardson
Honors: Sandy Arnoult and Sandra Pecoraro
Merchandise: Pam Perret
Gloves: Marilyn Bingham
Hospitality: Barbara Moore
Mentoring: Jenny Graffeo

Finance: Mary Ann Brannan, Dianne Ramirez, and Geralyn Suhor
Program: Suzanne Krieger
Historical: Janet Reuther
Publicity: Tim Zimmerman
Scholarship: Kay Hanson
Nominating: Rodney Cross, Barbara Moore, and Deborah Nolan
Photography: Betty Cronin
Plant Sale: Jan Pesses and Rodney Cross
Backyard: Plants: Lisann Cheaney
Muscle: Wes Goostrey

Project Co-Ordinators

Education: Mimi Padgett
Fingers in the Dirt: Ty Guidroz

Project Chairs (no term limits)

Abita Library Garden: Susan L'Hoste
Beau Provence: Linda Zitzmann
Covington Farmer's Market: Billie Stanga and Diana Cammatte
Covington Library: Mimi Padgett
Hospice of the South Gardens: Paul Andres
Lacombe Butterfly Garden: Barbara Moore
LSU Ag Phone Volunteers: Cindy Manger
Magic Wings Garden: Dorothy Delaune
Otis House Rose Garden: Ann Durel
School Partnership: Christy Pausell (Rooting the Future)
Slidell Farmers Market: Sue Clites
Slidell Herb Garden: Sandy Arnoult
SMH Courtyard Garden: Paul Andres
Speakers' Bureau: Mimi Padgett
SuperPlants AgCenter Garden: Ron Rowland
TableTalks: Denise Schoen
Vegucators: Rob Wahl
W. St Tammany Habitat: Jenny Graffeo and Nancy Thompson

Editor's Note



Hello my fellow Master Gardeners!

As I was diligently creating our new digital pictorial membership directory, I came across a member who I was not entirely sure of his current membership status. I couldn't seem to locate him in any photographs from any of our activities last year, which usually means they aren't active members, but his name was listed in the 2016 Membership Directory Handbook. So, after a little investigating, I realized that this member, David Lynd, had passed away June 28, 2016. After sitting quietly with this new information, and saying a little prayer, I decided that we, as the close, community-oriented organization that we are should take notice when one of our own passes away. So, for the next several months, I will be paying tribute to one of the several master gardeners who gave a large part of their lives in the service of others. And I hope you will join me in celebrating their lives.

Be well,
Tina



THE GARDENGOER
THE NEWSLETTER OF THE ST. TAMMANY PARISH
MASTER GARDENERS' ASSOCIATION



Cooperative Extension Service

St. Tammany Parish

1301 N. Florida Street

Covington, LA 70433

Phone: 985-875-2635 (Covington)

Fax: 985-875-2639

Website: www.lsuagcenter.com/mastergardener/

The Garden by Moonlight by Amy Lowell

A black cat among roses,
Phlox, lilac-misted under a first-quarter moon,
The sweet smells of heliotrope and night-scented stock.
The garden is very still,
It is dazed with moonlight,
Contented with perfume,
Dreaming the opium dreams of its folded poppies.
Firefly lights open and vanish
High as the tip buds of the golden glow
Low as the sweet alyssum flowers at my feet.
Moon-shimmer on leaves and trellises,
Moon-spikes shafting through the snow ball bush.
Only the little faces of the ladies' delight are alert and staring,
Only the cat, padding between the roses,
Shakes a branch and breaks the chequered pattern
As water is broken by the falling of a leaf.
Then you come,
And you are quiet like the garden,
And white like the alyssum flowers,
And beautiful as the silent sparks of the fireflies.
Ah, Beloved, do you see those orange lilies?
They knew my mother,
But who belonging to me will they know
When I am gone.