



Master
Gardener™

An educational program of the LSU AgCenter

THE NEWSLETTER OF THE ST. TAMMANY PARISH MASTER GARDENERS ASSOCIATION

VOLUME 19 Issue 1

January 2016

Christmas Party 2015



Christmas Party 2015	1-3
President's Message	4
County Agent's Corner	5
MG Programs	6
Seed Starting Workshop	7
Spring Seminar	8
Planning and Work Days	9
MG GNO Winter Gardening Symposium	10-11
Service Award Committee	12
Northshore Garden & Plant Sale 2016	13-22
Books of the Month	23
December MG Meeting Minutes	24
December MG Meeting Pics	25
Board of Directors/Committee Chairs	26
Editor's Notes	27

We had a wonderful Christmas party at the Abita Springs Town Hall. We had multiple tables of great food and then miles of desserts! We had great plants for the plant swap. Add good friends in a happy mode and the party could not have been better!

From left: Mary Jenks, Dianne Bellas, Dianne Rameriz, Me, Isabelle Moore, Carolyn Rault, Barbara Griggs. Back row: Stacey Scott, hiding behind Isabelle is Sue McGuire. Missing: Lyn Monteleone (who cooked the pork) and Mona Russell (who did the decorations).

Christmas Party 2015 *Continued*



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Christmas Party 2015 *Continued*

Just one of many delicious dishes!

Pineapple/Cheese Casserole

1 20 oz. can pineapple chunks in juice (reserve juice)
1 cup grated cheddar cheese (I use sharp cheddar or half sharp/half mild)
3 T flour
3T reserved pineapple juice
½ cup granulated sugar
½ stick melted butter (4 T)
25 buttery crackers, crushed (Ritz or butter-flavored crackers)

Mix pineapple and cheese in greased casserole dish. Stir together next 3 ingredients and add to pineapple mixture. Mix melted butter and cracker crumbs and spread on top of casserole. Bake at 350 for about 25 - 30 minutes or until browning around edges. Makes 4 – 6 servings. (Can be doubled or tripled; be sure to use shallow casserole.)

Susie Andres



President's Message

Hello Everyone and Happy New Year! I am very excited to embark on this journey into 2016. As promised I plan to share with you in this message part of what I am learning at the Institute for Integrative Nutrition. We learn about the entire field of nutrition from lecturers that are well known in the holistic medical practice such as Dr. Oz and many of the contributors of Prevention Magazine.

The term holistic according to Merriam Webster is “relating to or concerned with wholes or with complete systems rather than the analysis of, treatment of, or dissection into parts.” In holistic medicine the practice refers to the treatment of the body as a whole. Nutrition plays an enormous role in holistic medicine. The belief is the body has the natural ability to heal itself, given the proper nutrition. Beginning my study in holistic nutrition I started with the basic understanding that if you provide your body with good quality food you lead a healthier life. If you operate your automobile with dirty gas it will not run efficiently and eventually break down. “Garbage in ... garbage out...” certainly applies. What I didn't expect was where my course of study would actually begin. We know that food nourishes the body, but what else nourishes the body? What I am learning is more important to our well-being is our “primary food.” What we consider to be primary food is areas of your life that contribute to mental and physical well-being. Relationships, spirituality and physical activities are a few of the contributing factors to good health. For example, stress can make your body produce cortisol a chemical that tells your body to store fat. What actions can you take to reduce stress in your life? Certainly walking, cycling and water aerobics are physical activities that will increase circulation, flush out toxins and reduce stress. Along with exercise, we Master Gardeners love to involve ourselves with activities such as gardening and volunteering which provide a calming and sense of contribution respectively. One thought is to keep a journal to document the outside factors that affect our mood, attitude, stress and emotional state. You can see what outside factors you could improve to promote a healthy, happy life. As we begin 2016, we should all certainly set goals for achievement and we should think about ways to enhance our health increasing the quality of our “primary food.”

Coming up in January we have the board meeting Tuesday the 5th and the general meeting on Wednesday the 20th. If you would like to be placed on the agenda for either meeting please email. Thank you all for your continued service to our great Parish.

Ty



County Agent's Corner

Greetings St. Tammany Master Gardeners,

We have done it yet again. We have survived another a strange but successful year. We experienced a lot during this past year including a month of thunderstorms (April), a three month drought (July-September), and a severe budget crisis. However, like grandma's garden, we have weathered the storm and will do it all over again. I look for to the New Year to bring us a fresh start and a clean slate. May it open your mind to learn something new or provide the will power to overcome a bad habit. Many of us will make resolutions in order to help start that change. I have listed a few gardening oriented New Year's Resolution for all of us to think about.

"I will start my gardening season off by getting my soil tested and analyzed"

How can you talk about "fixing" nutrient problems in your soil without having a test done to tell you what's there from the start? The LSU AgCenter soil testing boxes, available at several retail locations across the parish, have made soil testing more accessible for the home gardener.

"I will study for LDAF's Private Pesticide Applicator License exam and schedule a time to take the test with the St. Tammany Parish Extension Office."

No matter which philosophy you live your life by, learning the ins and outs of how pesticides are classified, regulated, labeled, and applied can be interesting and informative. And for those considering the Advanced Master Gardener Program, obtaining a Private Pesticide Applicator license is the first requirement.

"I will not let weeds get out of control in my garden. I will learn how to properly manage weeds in my landscape."

I have been working with gardeners for a while now and the topic of weeds is always one of the common problems in the home garden. Identification is the first step to understanding how to manage the weeds in your landscape. There will be a little research involved so don't be afraid to ask for help. Know what tools are available to you. Pesticides can be a useful tool but a program which includes cultural, physical, and mechanical processes will always be the most effective.

"I will start a compost pile and pledge to use it throughout the year."

This concept in gardening has got to be one of the most beautiful processes in the entire natural world despite the occasional odor. Dead organic material can be composted down and then applied to a garden as a soil amendment and fertilizer. Think of all the kitchen and general yard waste which can be saved from the dump and used to grow more next year! Compost piles are also a great way to introduce the "big picture" of a natural process in the environment.

I hope that some of these have got y'all thinking about what you can do to start off your New Year. As always I am here if you need me. Please be safe!

Happy New Year!
Your County Agent,
William Afton



STPMG Programming



The New Year will kick off with a talk on something we all can relate to, call it a love hate relationship and that is our landscape designs. I know I do, my husband says my plants cringe every time I go outside with my trimmers they must be thinking who's next.

Our speaker for January is Patricia Drackett, Director of The Crosby Arboretum; Extension Professor Department of Landscape Architecture.

Pat said if you bring her a picture of your landscape she will be more than happy to help you with it. Take a picture with your phone and show her.

January 2016	Patricia Drackett -Director of Crosby Arboretum How's of Landscaping
February 2016	Lee Rouse, Agriculture Agent, New Orleans Tree Trimming, Tips and Techniques
March 2016	Sharon Murphy, New Orleans, Master Gardener Natural Herbalist & Speaker Herbs in Your Cabinet and Their Uses
April 2016	Jill Mirkovich, Probation and Planting.
May 2016	Dr. Allen Owings Hammond Research Station

Garden Tips

If anyone would like to come share a garden tip of any kind please let me know and I will give you the floor for 5 minutes. We would love to hear from you.

985-264-4019
rowe2226@bellsouth.net

Happy Growing to all!
Vice President
Linda Rowe



Seed Starting Workshop 2016

The 2016 Seed Workshop will be held on Thursday, 14 January, from 9 AM until noon at the Lacombe Wildlife Refuge on Hwy. 434. The wildlife refuge is located just north of LA 190 in Lacombe. Seeds in general will be discussed, and hands-on work will cover soils, planting techniques, transplanting seedlings both to and from the growth cells and much more information concerning starting from seeds. Attendees will come away with all this knowledge plus a 72-cell starter tray and a most enjoyable morning.

We are better than half way to the 40-attendee limit for this workshop, so if you are interested please register with a \$25 check (payable to STPMGA) sent to Paul Andres at 123 Northam Ct, Slidell LA 70458. Again the date is January 16 so it's time to move if you want to be included. Contact Paul Andres at pkandres@bellsouth.net (or 985 643 3310) with any inquiries.



Seeds starts for the January Workshop. Broccoli, lettuce, and kale are shown here, with others to be included, We will work with attendees moving these starts into growth cells for spring planting.

Paul Andres



2016 Spring Seminar

The class of 2015 is busy planning for our Spring Seminar entitled SPRING GARDEN FEVER. The date has been set and the speakers contacted! The seminar is scheduled for Tuesday, February 23, 2016 from 9:00 am-2:30 pm with registration opening at 8:30 am. We will be holding it at Journey Fellowship Church in Lacombe and the cost for the seminar will be \$20.00 including lunch.

Angela Dutel, MG Class of 2015 is chairing this event and her committee is already working on the food, flyers, registration and decorations. They are a very enthusiastic group!

Will has gotten some very interesting speakers to come to talk with us that day. Dr. Gary Bachman will present a “Quirky Version of Southern Gardening”, Will Afton is going to talk about “Lawn Care”, Dr. Allen Owings is giving us “New Plant Selections for 2016 and our own Vegucators will host a panel to discuss and answer all of our vegetable gardening questions. As a special treat during lunch, Suzanne Krieger, MG Class of 2012, will share with us some of her pictures from the Chelsea Flower Show she attended last year in England. There will also be some interesting Table Talks available during the day.

Registration for our Seminar will open the day of our January meeting, Wednesday January 20, 2016. We will have flyers and registration forms at the meeting and they will be sent out in MoM that week.

The Class of 2015 is very excited to host this event and we hope to have a very large turnout.

Julie Deus, Educational Chair



Angela Dutel, Chairman



Planning Days and Work Days

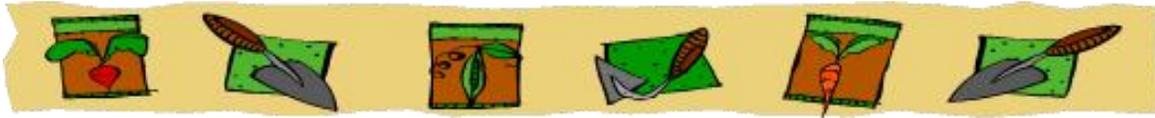
Speaker's Bureau Workshop

Our speaker's bureau is sponsoring a 3 hour workshop. The workshop, Growing your Speaking Skills, will focus on development and presentation of garden related topics. It is open to all members of STMGA and is scheduled for Thursday, January 21st at the Ag Center from 9 till noon. It will count as 3 hours of continuing education.

If you would like to attend, contact Mimi to reserve your seat. There is no fee.

Topics included will be: how adults learn; selection, development and organization of your topic; where to go for information, and adding sparkle to (accessorizing) your talk.

Mimi Padgett, chair - phone: [\(504\) 975-1800](tel:5049751800) or email: mimipadgett63@gmail.com



HERB FEST AT THE COVINGTON LIBRARY

The Adult Education Director for the St. Tammany Libraries has asked Jan Pesses and me to coordinate an Herb Fest for the Covington Library to be held this Spring. Jan, Susie Andres and I met with her in November and picked Saturday, April 16, 2016 as the date we would hold this event. I would like to schedule a meeting in late January to begin planning the Herb Fest. Please let me or Jan know if you are interested in helping with the planning and I will schedule a meeting and have it in MoM as soon as the AgCenter office re-opens.

Julie Deus, Educational Chair



Jan Pesses, Library Events Coordinator



Master Gardeners of Greater New Orleans Winter Gardening Symposium



LOUISIANA
Master Gardener™
An educational program of the LSU AgCenter

Master Gardeners of Greater New Orleans

mggno.org mastergardeners.gno@gmail.com

Edible Gardening ...

Harvest Healthy Vegetables and Herbs at Home
Hosted by Master Gardeners of Greater New Orleans and LSU AgCenter

Explore the basics of successful vegetable and herb gardening in south Louisiana. Join leading horticultural experts for a morning of inspiration on how to grow many exciting vegetable and herb varieties in your own backyard.

Winter Gardening Symposium

Saturday, January 23, 2016
8:30 A.M. to Noon
New Orleans Museum of Art Auditorium, City Park

When Size Matters: Dwarf and Miniature Veggies and Herbs for Container Gardens. If your garden space is limited; miniature, midget and dwarf vegetables are good selections for container gardening. But what are the differences between the many different varieties in the seed catalogs? Come learn how to select the best varieties of vegetables and herbs suitable for container culture. Lydia Pollard, Louisiana Master Gardener, MGGNO project chairman and greenhouse manager for Arc uptown.

Organics Made Easy. Want to work smarter not harder in your gardens and landscape? Learn how to harness the power of millions of microscopic workers to create a healthy, productive soil and grow the best quality plants and produce. You'll discover the reasons to use organic fertilizers, how they work and what to look for in a top quality organic fertilizer. Greg Cooper, MicroLife Fertilizers, San Jacinto Environmental Supplies, Houston.

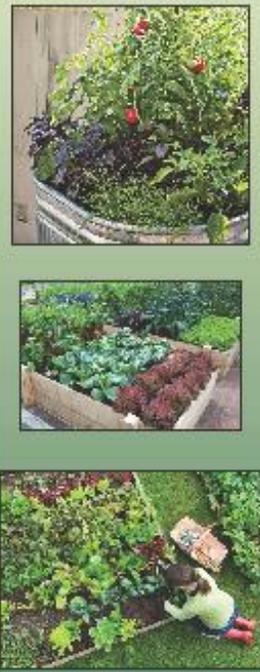
How to Build and Maintain a Spring Edible Garden Utilizing the LSU AgCenter's New Home Garden Series Publications. Learn how to prepare garden beds, grow transplants and identify when a fruit or vegetable is ready to be harvested. The LSU AgCenter will guide you in finding all the information you will ever need to grow a beautiful and edible garden. Dr. Kathryn Fontenot, Assistant Professor and State Vegetable Extension Specialist for the School of Plant, Environmental and Soil Sciences at the LSU.

Your morning of learning will include a continental breakfast, sale of winter transplants, plus a raffle of stunning edible container gardens designed especially for this event by New Orleans master gardeners. Guests of the symposium will also receive complimentary admission to NOMA immediately following the program and are invited to enjoy the Besthoff Sculpture Garden which adjoins the museum.

Registration fee is \$25.00. Please go to www.mggno.org/symposium to print the registration form and mail by **January 15, 2016**, with your check payable to "MGGNO," P. O. Box 55126, Metairie, LA 70055. Register early as space is limited. For more information about this event, please visit www.mggno.org/symposium. Have a question? Call 901-568-4600 or email mastergardeners.gno@gmail.com.

Follow us on Facebook.com/MasterGardenersOfGreaterNewOrleans for updates and the latest news about our 2016 Winter Gardening Symposium.

Master Gardeners of Greater New Orleans
Our Mission: To increase the public's love and knowledge of gardening and responsible stewardship of the environment.



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

Master Gardeners of Greater New Orleans Winter Gardening Symposium Registration



Master Gardeners of Greater New Orleans Winter Gardening Symposium - January 23, 2016 New Orleans Museum of Art Auditorium

Edible Gardening Harvest Healthy Vegetables and Herbs at Home

Registration Form

Registration is \$25.00 which includes a continental breakfast and complimentary admission to NOMA on the day of the symposium. Doors will open at 8:30 a.m. with sessions beginning at 9 a.m. and ending at noon. We encourage you to register and arrive early as seating is limited.

The Symposium will be held in the New Orleans Museum of Art Auditorium in City Park. Entrance to the auditorium will be through the atrium adjoining Café NOMA. Free parking is available around the museum and in the lots in front of the Botanical Garden.

For more information about the Symposium, please visit us online at www.mggno.org/symposium, or email mastergardeners.gno@gmail.com. For updates and the latest news about this event, please follow us on Facebook at www.facebook.com/MasterGardenersOfGreaterNewOrleans.

Please print and submit only one registration form per person.

Name: _____
Address: _____
City/State/Zip: _____
Phone: _____
Email Address: _____
Amount Enclosed: **\$ 25.00** _____

Please make your check payable to "MGGNO" and mail with this registration form by **January 15, 2016** to: MGGNO, P. O. Box 55126, Metairie, LA 70055. We will confirm your registration by email. If you have any questions, please call 901-568-4600.

Please add my name to your mailing list to receive email announcements about future events hosted by MGGNO. MGGNO will protect your privacy and not share your email address.

Thank you!

Our Mission: To increase the public's love and knowledge of gardening and responsible stewardship of the environment.

MGGNO | P.O. Box 55126 | Metairie, LA 70055-5126 | www.mggno.org

Service Awards Committee

Thanks to those members who have shared their thoughts concerning the giving of an award for volunteer hours of 75 and above.

Due to the cost of the current awards for volunteer hours and the number of members receiving the brick or magazine the awards committee has been searching for a less expensive award. We have had the suggestion of a pin with our logo showing the hours such as 100, 500 and 1000. When you reach 1000 hours we put your name on the plaque that is in the Ag. Office. We have not been able to obtain the cost of the pin as yet but I'm sure it does not cost as much as the brick or magazine subscription. We will have that information at the January meeting.

We presently give the bricks for the outgoing board members and 1000 cumulative volunteer hours.

This year will stay the same a brick or magazine subscription for 75 hours volunteer and required education hours. At the January 2016 general meeting we will discuss how we want to award our members for their hard work. Hopefully we can vote as to our choice.



Northshore Garden & Plant Sale 2016

VOLUNTEERING AT THE STMG Garden & Plant Sale 2016

We are gearing up for the 2016 Garden & Plant Sale on March 19 and 20 and we are looking for a few good volunteers! I am the chairman of volunteers this year and Kappy Goodwin is the co-chair. We are to make sure that there are plenty of people to help out on this major fundraiser for our scholarship program.

The gates will open at 8:00 AM and close at 4:00 PM.

The volunteer signup sheets will be available at each of the next two membership meetings, at the remaining Garden & Plant Sale committee meetings and you can e-mail me with your choices. Please see the calendar in MoM for dates and times of those meetings.

I have asked each chairman to write a short summary about their area and you can read these descriptions at the end of this article. If you have any questions, please don't hesitate to contact me or the chairman 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 I 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 Garden and Plant Sale for the last time. Please be sure to initial the sign out sheet when you turn your badge in.

Please be sure to 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.

Northshore Garden & Plant Sale 2016 *Continued*

VOLUNTEERING *Continued*

The committee chairman have told me how many volunteers they need for each shift and once that number is met, that area will be closed for further volunteers and you will be asked to volunteer in another area. Last year we had too many volunteers in some areas and we were scrambling to get enough in others. Please be understanding in this matter.

As in the past, we are offering double (2 for 1) hours in parking. You will also receive double hours for staying past the end of the Garden & Plant Sale on Saturday to help with take down. The vendors need help putting the plants back in their trailer, we need to pick up garbage, take down our booths and return the fairgrounds to the condition it was in before we set up on Thursday.

We are going to have a great Garden & Plant Sale this year and the sun will be shining! Come out with us and have some fun!

TABLE TALKS

As you have heard, the barn has been expanded and now all the booths for the Garden & Plant Sale will be under roof! Kay and Pete want to put more emphasis on the educational component for this year's Garden & Plant Sale so we are incorporating several areas for table talks. These educational booths will be interspersed throughout the barn. If you have a topic that can be turned into a table talk, please sign up for a shift (or two) and contact me with your idea. You'll need to have some kind of visual material (either a board set up with pictures or props) and even a handout to give people. The organization will pay for copying. The information you give about your subject should be about 5-15 minutes in length, but you may certainly expand on it if the person requests more information. If you have a co-presenter to help you, let me know and both of you sign up. If you'd like a co-presenter, I will try to help you find someone. Remember, any time you spend to develop your table talk counts as volunteer hours.

Northshore Garden & Plant Sale 2016 *Continued*

CHILDREN'S BOOTH

The Children's Booth is a "free fun" for the children who attend the Garden & Plant Sale with their families. Volunteers help the children with their own gardening project by decorating a clay pot and planting a vegetable or plant to take home with them. Lots of fun! (and they are soooooo cute!!!) This year we are putting more emphasis on the educational component so Christy Paulsell is putting together an activity for the children (such as a scavenger hunt) where they can learn some facts about the plants that our vendors offer. Once they find the information requested then they'll come to our booth and plant an herb or vegetable plant.

PARKING

Thank you for volunteering for parking. As you are probably aware you receive 2 for 1 hours while volunteering for parking detail. We have a few instructions to make everything work efficiently.

1. Please sign in and report for duty 10 to 15 minutes prior to your shift. Keep in mind that other volunteers may be waiting to be relieved so they can work in other areas of the Garden & Plant Sale. You will be able to pick up your volunteer badge at the February and March membership meetings, Thursday afternoon at set-up or at the entrance gate before your shift. Direct those Master Gardener volunteers to the tent by the gate to sign in and pick up their badge, if needed.
2. We recommend that you wear the reflective vests that we will provide while working parking for your safety.
3. The temperature can be very cool in the morning and then quite hot during the day. Please dress appropriately so you will be comfortable. Remember hats, sunglasses, sunscreen etc. You may also bring out a folding chair for breaks. We will provide water so please make sure you keep yourself hydrated.
4. If you work in the parking lot you will simply be directing the traffic to and from parking spaces so that guests can park as close as possible and the lot remains full. We will have designated parking areas for handicapped patrons, master gardeners, speakers and vendors.

Northshore Garden & Plant Sale 2016 *Continued*

PARKING *Continued*

5. If you are working the gate: The entrance fee is \$5 per person (not per vehicle) per day and children under 12 enter for free. Master Gardener volunteers will be able to enter for free only if they show their volunteer badges and not just with a Master Gardener name tag. Please remind those who object to the new rules that the proceeds go to the Bobby Fletcher, Sr. Scholarship fund. We are not allowing people to return on Saturday for free, but we are not here to fight with anyone. If someone returning on Saturday insists we should take down their name then let them enter. This same procedure should be used for anyone who creates a problem at the gate due to the rule changes. Take down their name and then let them in. Kay or Pete Hanson or Ty Guidroz can deal with those individuals once informed of the problem. We will have a hand stamp at the exit for those wanting to return the same day so if anyone asks, tell them to see the parking person assigned to the exit.

6. Because we have a new layout we will go over the parking flow and layout on site. Just report in to the gate for instructions and assignment after you check in with Julie Deus or Kappy Goodwin, volunteer coordinators.

Remember you will be the first face and last face our guests will see while attending the Garden and Plant Sale so you will set the pace for their experience. I know things will go smoothly and we will have a lot of fun.

Thank You again for volunteering for parking!

SET-UP AND TAKEDOWN

Volunteers are needed to assist with setting up the fairgrounds to accommodate the Garden & Plant Sale prior to the opening on Friday. Volunteers are also needed to help return the facility to the condition it was in when we arrived.

The booths will be set up using 12 foot long aluminum fence rail panels that interlock. This will make each booth some incremental measure, in length and width, of 12 feet. The panels will be placed and arranged by a team of "trustees" from the sheriff's office, under the supervision of Mr. Cotton Jourdan from the sheriff's office. So the heavy lifting of the panels for set-up and take-down will be handled by his team.

Northshore Garden & Plant Sale 2016 *Continued*

SET-UP AND TAKEDOWN *Continued*

Our first task will be to meet at the site 7 to 10 days before the Garden & Plant Sale to map out the booth arrangement. We will be using stakes, streamers and spray paint to map the grounds.

A paper map / layout will be provided as a guide.

- We will need to meet at the site again on Thursday beginning around 9:00am to complete the setup arrangements. These will be assigned on an ad-hoc basis as needs dictate and will include; labeling the booths, posting signage, hanging streamers to direct traffic flow and parking, helping put up some of the tents (the large tents provided by the Parish will be put up by the trustees), setting up chairs and tables, helping the vendors unload their products, and more.
- When we close the Garden & Plant Sale volunteers will be needed to; help with cleanup by policing the grounds, emptying the trash containers, taking down all signage, streamers and tents, returning tables and chairs to a centralized pickup area for the rental company, helping vendors reload their merchandise to return, and other things I may have failed to mention. **DOUBLE VOLUNTEER HOURS WILL BE OFFERED FOR TAKE DOWN ONLY.**

•
These are some of our tasks. We should have plenty of help and you will be surprised when you see how it all unfolds into a great event.

PLANT HOLDING AREA

The Plant Holding Area is similar to a coat check, but instead of coats, we hold purchased plants for patrons to enable their freedom to continue to shop without the encumbrance of toting their purchases around the Garden & Plant Sale.

Additionally, we help load their purchases into their cars when patrons pick up plants from our booth. Therefore, the ability to lift plants onto tables and into cars is required to work at this booth.

GREAT FUN for volunteers at this booth, especially since we come in contact with lots of patrons and get to check out lots of plants!

Northshore Garden & Plant Sale 2016 *Continued*

SPEAKERS' AREA

Duties that are to be divided up among volunteers

- Sign in with Julie Deus or Kappy Goodwin, volunteer coordinators.
- Be flexible and upbeat :)
- If anyone has expertise with the audio/video equipment, help with this.
- Help make and hang signs for upcoming lectures. 3 white boards which will need to be changed for the second day
- Help keep chairs straight throughout the day
- Help speakers set up and tear down (includes carrying things to and from cars)
- Give MG cup to speakers as a thank you
- Help with handouts, door prizes, business cards, etc.
- Help hand out evaluations and pencils before each lecture
- Collect evaluations and pencils!!!!
- Hand out hand fans on hot days. We have only a limited amount of fans, so collect these from people who may try to walk out with them (unless they really want them).
- Count and record the number of audience members for each speaker. Because people come late, mill around, etc., we go for a peak number.
- Act as audience members for speakers. We are included in the count.
- Seek out other MGs to listen to speakers, particularly if the count is low.
- Fold and stack chair after last speaker.
- Do not try to rearrange the black-out curtains around the speaker's area. Yes, it may be hot (hence the fans), but years of experience says the wall has to stay up in order for video to be seen
- Be aware that if help is needed elsewhere we may be pulled
- Please Note: no 'double dipping'. If you claim these hours for education, you may not claim them as volunteer time. Of course, the reverse is also true. Sorry

Northshore Garden & Plant Sale 2016 *Continued*

RAFFLE



- **WHAT WE DO:** Sell raffle tickets during the Garden & Plant Sale for donated items provided by vendors and Master Gardeners. The items are displayed on tables manned by volunteers all day Friday and Saturday. The drawing is held late Saturday afternoon before the close of the Garden & Plant Sale. Tickets are \$1.00 each/6 for \$5.00. Volunteers are responsible for selling tickets and insuring the purchasers place the ticket stubs in the appropriate raffle item boxes of their choosing. Winners need not be present to claim their prize.
- **WHY WE DO IT:** Proceeds benefit the Bobby Fletcher, Sr. College Scholarship Fund
- **VOLUNTEER OPTIONS:**
 - Thursday** - Set up display area/collect donations from vendors
 - Friday Morning** - Collect remaining vendor donations/organize, decorate and display Donations
 - Friday and Saturday all day** – Man tables/Sell raffle tickets
 - Saturday Afternoon** - Draw winners/Display winners on board/Call winners not present
Coordinate pick up and delivery to winners

EVALUATION BOOTH

It is important that we get feedback from the people who attend our events so we can continually improve them. To get this information at the Garden & Plant Sale, we ask patrons to fill out an evaluation survey and they get a free raffle ticket for their time. We try to get 100 surveys filled out each day. When you volunteer at this booth, you will walk around the Garden & Plant Sale with the evaluation forms and ask people to fill them out. It only takes a minute or so and they get a raffle ticket. We get great ideas for future Garden & Plant Sales with these comments!

Northshore Garden & Plant Sale 2016

Continued

GLOVE BOOTH

We sell our gloves to the public at most of our events. We offer them for \$5.00 a pair and they come in various sizes and several different colors. We offer the gloves at a much lower price than the stores do. They are comfortable gloves that allow air to circulate and keep your hands cool.

MUSCLE CREW/ONGOING CLEAN-UP

When you volunteer for this area, you will be responsible for checking and emptying the garbage cans, stocking the bathrooms with toilet paper and paper towels and general maintenance during the Garden & Plant Sale. We have found that the garbage piles up during the day and think if we have a few people who will be checking these, it will make the end of the day clean up even quicker.

INFORMATION TABLE/MG SIGN IN

This year we will have a separate booth for Master Gardeners to sign in for their shifts, where patrons can ask questions and where the first aid kit will be housed. Please come to this booth before each of your shifts to sign in so we know who is present. We will have additional Garden & Plant Sale flyers/maps for patrons and the line up of speakers for each day. We need a few people to help us man this booth each shift.

Northshore Garden & Plant Sale 2016 *Continued*

MASTER GARDENER BOOTH

The Master Gardener booth is located at the same table as the LSU experts. We are available to answer question and give out hand-outs. Any questions we can't answer we refer to the experts. We are also available (if needed) to take up a seat if there are not enough people to listen to a particular speaker. It is a very easy booth to work in and you learn a lot from the LSU experts!

MG Backyard Plants

This is a fun and very educational booth! We solicit plants from our MG group - all plants are brought to the booth the Thursday or Friday of the Garden & Plant Sale. As a volunteer with us, your responsibilities would include:

- Setting up the booth if you volunteer on Thursday (tablecloths, signage, etc)
- Arranging the plants in a proper and appealing display to sell
- Assisting in pricing the plants and making sure each is labeled
- Selling the plants, collecting the money, re-stocking the plants as the table tops empty
- Have a huge amount of fun finding out what all these plants are and discussing all kinds of plant stories with the general public
- Cleaning up and breaking down the display if you volunteer on Saturday

***If you did not volunteer for this booth this year, please make a point to come by and check us out - we bet you'll want to join us next year. We humbly acknowledge - our volunteer list is one of the first to fill up!! :)

Thanks so much,

REFRESHMENTS

We offer free coffee and pastries to the vendors and master gardener volunteers both mornings of the Garden & Plant Sale. We arrive at 6:00 AM to start the coffee and we close up shop around 10 AM. We need a few people to make sure there is fresh coffee during this time and the pastries are replenished.

Northshore Garden & Plant Sale 2016

Time to Prep for our 2016 Northshore Garden & Plant Sale !!!

Backyard Plants: We need your plants! While you're thinning and moving some of your existing plants as you prepare your fall/winter garden, think about setting some aside for our backyard plants booth. Time spent preparing and caring for these plants count toward your volunteer hours.

Remember:

- Plant **must** be labeled (common name ok/ scientific name –great)... this will give you plenty of time to look them up if you aren't sure what you have!
- Plant can be starter size as long as it has viable roots.
- ... Plenty of time for your donations to develop an awesome root system!

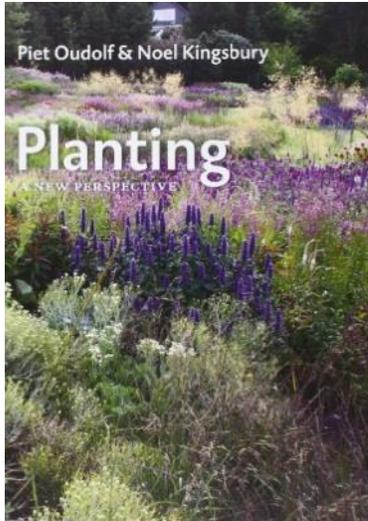
Wishing you a happy fall and a fun Halloween! Thanks!!

Feel free to call with any questions.

Lisann Cheaney 985-951-9855
Eileen Gremillion 985-869-0466
Deb Litzenberger 985-290-3829



Books of the Month

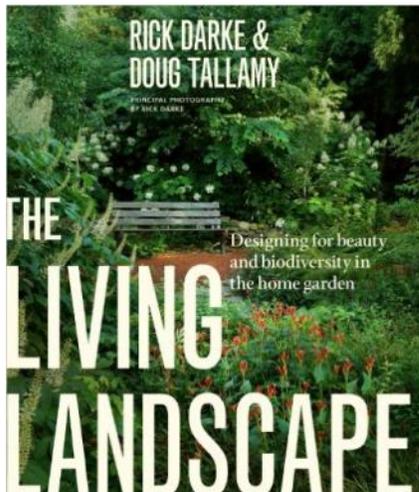


Planting: A New Perspective

by Noel Kingsbury and Piet Oudolf

Planting, by famed landscape architects Piet Oudolf and Noel Kingsbury, is a groundbreaking moment in horticulture. It is the first book to share Oudolf's original planting plans and plant groupings and the only book to explicitly show how his gardens and landscapes are made.

Recommended by: Dana Easley



The Living Landscape

By: *Rick Darke & Doug Tallamy*

Many gardeners today want a home landscape that nourishes and fosters wildlife. But they also want beauty, a space for the kids to play, privacy, and maybe even a vegetable patch. Sure, it's a tall order, but *The Living Landscape* shows how to do it. By combining the insights of two outstanding authors, it offers a model that anyone can follow.

Recommended by: Dana Easley

(Book descriptions borrowed from Amazon)

What are you reading? Send recommendations on garden related fiction and nonfiction to the Gardengoer at: jpsesses@charter.net

**St. Tammany Master Gardeners Membership Meeting
Abita Springs Town Hall
December 18, 2015 Minutes**

The meeting was called to order by President Ty Guidroz at 1:12 p.m. The invocation and the Pledge of Allegiance were led by Ty.

Ty thanked Barbara Moore and the Hospitality Committee for all their work putting on the Christmas Luncheon.

Will Afton, County Agent, announce that the AgCenter will be closed December 24 through the 4th of January. Will thanked Cindy Manger for the office help for the past few months. Will also reminded the membership to record your hours by December 31. Also, dues need to be paid by December 31.

Ty mention that your dues and renewal form has to be in by the end of year to have your name in the directory.

Door prizes were won by Angela Dutel, Kathleen Dupry, and Lisann Cheaney. Thirty-five members participated in the plant swap.

Ty presented the outgoing chairmen with Bricks - Pam Peltier, Scholarship; and Sue Stoltz, Membership.

Ty then presented Peggy Goertz, outgoing secretary with Brick.

Meeting adjourned at 1:23 p.m.

Respectfully submitted by

Peggy Goertz, Secretary



This is Peggy's last official minutes! Thank you Peggy, for getting your minutes in on time and always accurate. You did a great job!

Jan Pesses

Master Gardener Membership Meeting Pictures



Peggy Geortz
Outgoing Board Secretary

Sue Stoltz
Outgoing Membership Chair-
man



Pam Peltier
Outgoing Scholarship Chair



St. Tammany Parish Master Gardeners 2016 Board of Directors/Committee Chairpersons

President: Ty Guidroz (second term)
V-President: Linda Rowe (second term)
Secretary: Cindy Manger (first term)
Treasurer: Jimmy DeJean (second term)
Past President: Susie Andres

Board Appointments:

Parliamentarian: Pam Rowe
Gardengoer Ed: Jan Pesses

Committee Chairs (appointed by the board of directors; two year term)

Membership: Marilyn Bingham (first term)

Sub Committees: (no term limit for subcommittee chairs)

- MoM Art Scott
- Master Calendar Leslie Boucher
- Honors: Sandy Arnoult; co – Sandra Pecoraro
- Merchandise: Dee Middleton
- Gloves: Peggy Goertz; co –Marilyn Bingham
- Hospitality: Barbara Moore

Finance: Jimmy DeJean (second term, STPMG Treasurer)
Program: Linda Rowe (second term, committee chaired by VP)
Publicity: Peggy Goertz
Historical: Janet Reuther (first term)
Scholarship: Betty Cronin (first term)
Nominating: TBD
Garden & Plant Sale: Pete and Kay Hanson
Projects “ Fingers in the Dirt”: Susie Andres (past president)
Projects “Education”: Julie Deus

Project Chairs (appointed, no term limit)

Abita Library Garden: Martha Gruning
Beau Provence Therapeutic Gardens: Harold Ryan
CCC: Inactive
Covington Farmers’ Market: Billie Stanga
Lacombe Butterfly Garden: Barbara Moore
LSU AgC Volunteer Coordinator: Cindy Manger
Otis House: Ann Durel
Parenting Center Garden : Marie Porche
School Partnership: Christy Paulsell (Rooting the Future))
Slidell Farmers’ Market: Sue Clites
Slidell Hospital Rehab Garden: Paul Andres
Slidell Library Herb Garden: Camille Schwandt
Speakers’ Bureau: Mimi Padgett
Super Plant AgCenter Jan Gardner
Vegucators: Deborah Nolan
W. St. Tammany Habitat: Nancy Thompson

Notes From the Editor:

I love the New Year, with all it's possibilities and second chances! Please review the updated 2016 Board of Directors & Committee Chairpersons. There are some new names, and there are positions available where some folks are ready to step down and do other things. Contact Ty, Susie or Julie if you want to try something new in 2016! The amazing thing about our organization is everyone is ready to help, so you will not be going it alone.

Please send articles, comments or suggestions for our newsletter to jpesses@charter.net, to help us represent you.



Master Gardener Photo Link:

[2014/2015 Pictures \(press Ctrl and left click\)
\(or cut and paste the link into your browser\)
\[https://drive.google.com/folderview?id=0B_pGgpE3CheTUFdDbGRGczIwR0U&usp=sharing\]\(https://drive.google.com/folderview?id=0B_pGgpE3CheTUFdDbGRGczIwR0U&usp=sharing\)](https://drive.google.com/folderview?id=0B_pGgpE3CheTUFdDbGRGczIwR0U&usp=sharing)

Past issues of the Gardengoer can be found on the LSU AgCenter, St. Tammany webpage. All issues since January 2010 are listed.. Below is a link to the issues online. http://www.lsuagcenter.com/en/our_offices/parishes/St.+Tammany/Features/Newsletters/Gardengoer/index.htm

We are having issues with posting some of our back issues, but we are working to solve the problems. Here is the link to the LSU AgCenter site to log your hours. Keep posting those hours on a regular basis. http://www.lsuagcenter.com/en/lawn_garden/master_gardener/Reporting+Volunteer+Hours/

Jan Pesses

THE GARDENGOER

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

Cooperative Extension Service

St. Tammany Parish

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Covington, LA 70433

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