



Master Gardener™

An educational program of the LSU AgCenter

ST. TAMMANY PARISH MASTER GARDENERS' ASSOCIATION

VOLUME 20 Issue 1

January 2017

Happy New Year!

Happy New Year!	1
President's Message	2-3
VP's Message	4
County Agent's Corner	5-6
Meet Marie Porche	7
Holiday Party	8-9
Garden & Plant Sale	10-13
Backyard Plants Info	14
Committee Chairs Contact Information	15
AgCenter Super Plants	16-18
Marigny Elementary	19-20
Persimmons Perfection	21-22
MG Merchandise	23-27
Call for Recipes	28
MG Mentoring Program	29
Board Meeting Minutes	30-31
Membership Meeting Minutes	32-33
Editor's Note	34
Editor's Gift to You	35



Linda Rowe's Rock & Roll Rose

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

www.lsuagcenter.com

President's Message

Hello fellow Master Gardeners and welcome to 2017!

I trust that your holidays were wonderful, and that you are now rested and ready to resume our service to St. Tammany Parish.

I am honored to be entrusted with this job, and I am already working hard to earn your confidence. I want to be available to each and every one of you, so please feel free to contact me with any questions or concerns. You can find my contact information in our directory.

Speaking of directories, I'm excited to tell you about an additional resource we've created—a digital pictorial membership directory. I remember being new to this group and being asked to speak to one of our fellow master gardeners. I had no idea what that person looked like, so a pictorial directory would have come in handy. Our *Gardengoer* editor, Tina Richardson, has just finished creating this directory, and it will be available for each of you to download, if you so choose. She has diligently searched for and selected your most flattering photos for inclusion in the directory, but if you wish to provide an alternative photo, feel free to email one to her. An advantage of having the pictorial directory is that updating it with each year's newest class of Master Gardeners will be easy, and there will be no cost to us as an organization. You may open the PDF file and refer to it occasionally, or print a hard copy to keep as a reference. I already have a hardcopy in my possession, and I have found it invaluable. This new, pictorial directory will not be replacing our current printed membership directory.

Before I leave the subject of directories, I think it would be beneficial to include our spouse's name in our membership directory. I know that when I call you and your spouse answers, I feel like a telemarketer. I'd be more at ease asking to speak to you if I could introduce myself to your spouse by using his or her first name. I also think it would be helpful to our membership to include our careers or areas of expertise. One of the first responsibilities as president is appointing a new finance committee, and I want to select those who wouldn't be overly burdened by this task. If I knew we had members who were accountants or who had careers in finance, it would help me make a better decision.

President's Message

Having this additional information about our members would help all of us when needing, say, a plumber or a car mechanic. If you prefer not to include this information in the directory, you wouldn't have to.

At our upcoming general membership meeting on January 18th, we will be discussing whether to remain at the Castine Center or move our monthly meetings to the Abita Springs Town Hall. There will also be the question of whether our meetings will continue to begin at 10 am or change to 9 am. I hope you will all be there to join in the discussion and possibly vote on this matter.

I am pleased to announce that our two Project Co-ordinators are Ty Guidroz, who will be handling all projects that require “Fingers in the Dirt,” and Mimi Padgett, who will be in charge of all other projects’ committees. They will act as liaisons between the board and the various committees. So, Project Chairs, if you have something to bring to the board, contact your co-ordinators, either Ty or Mimi, and they will bring the matter to our attention.

If you are looking for volunteer hours, or looking to become involved in a new project, be sure to add your name to the signup sheets that will be available at the January general meeting. A few of the projects are seeking new chairpersons, so please consider stepping forward. This is our organization—designed by us and run by us. It works if we work!

Thank you,

Jan Gardner

Jan Gardner
Class of 2014
President



Vice President's Message

Dear Master Gardeners,

As your new Vice President, I look forward to working with all of you to schedule interesting speakers for our monthly meetings and plan informative and fun field trips for the Spring and Fall. I welcome you to be a member of the Program Committee. Please send me your suggestions for speakers or trips by email, text, or phone. I would love to hear from you.

I want to thank Linda Rowe for the outstanding work she has done these past two years. She has given me a great start by scheduling speakers for our first five meetings. She has also prepared a program committee binder to pass along to others in the years to come. This binder is informative and filled with lots of valuable history. It is truly a work of art.

Many of us traveled by bus to visit the Festival of Flowers in Mobile, Alabama for our field trip in 2015. The festival featured landscaped gardens, a floral design showcase, seminars, and displays. We sat down for lunch in their wonderful café, and we were especially excited to visit the many retailers that sold plants and garden related items. If you would like to do this trip again, please let me know by text or email. If you have other ideas for field trips, please let me know.

Our speaker for the January meeting is Paige Mizell from Mizell's Camellia Hill Nursery. Many of us have visited the 30-year-old, family nursery founded by Paige's parents, David and Mary Mizell. Paige will share with us tips for selecting the perfect camellia, information about where and how to plant camellias, the best practices for mulching, fertilizing, and pest management.

I look forward to seeing all of you at the next meeting and sharing our love of gardening.

Suzanne Krieger
Class of 2012
Vice President
Program Chair



County Agent's Corner

New Year's Resolutions will be the topic of conversation this time of year. I have been going through and compiling a list of garden related resolutions that many may like to adopt this time around. Here are a few examples to get the ball rolling:

- Grow your own flower or vegetable transplants. By ordering seeds from mail order companies and online stores you will get a better selection of varieties instead of having to rely on what retail stores offer. Plant propagation by seed can also help your pocket book out, too.
- Eat healthier by growing your own fruit and vegetables. Citrus, blueberries, figs, and many different vegetables can easily be grown in the back yard. Get a copy of the Louisiana Vegetable Production Guide and The Louisiana Home Orchard publication from your local extension office to begin.
- Do your part as a home owner to protect the environment. Fertilize according to a soil sample analysis. Avoid adding nutrients which are already abundant in the soil, which may also help save money. Learn to properly identify a pest and search for cultural and biological solutions to control.
- Promote responsible water use through proper irrigation methods. Let watering systems run for a longer period of time but not as often. Use mulch to help with soil hold onto water for longer. It will keep you from watering all the time. Use soaker hoses when able to. Classic lawn sprinkler can be quite inefficient, especially when the wind blows.
- Visit public gardens and green spaces to get garden design ideas. New Orleans Botanical Gardens, Longue Vue House and Gardens, and City Park offer some beautiful scenery on the south shore, but there are many other places to look as well. Triangle Park in Covington is landscaped quite nicely, and the city of Mandeville has installed a native wildflower planting in the neutral ground near East Causeway Approach and Hwy 190.

County Agent's Corner, *continued*

- Cut back on landfill space by composting all of your organic house hold wastes. Composting is very inexpensive and can help add much needed nutrients back to the soil.

- Help create environmental awareness. As Master Gardeners we are here to help educate the public on various horticultural matters. Let's take it to the next level this year. Try to get your children and grandchildren involved with growing plants. May be it's a house plant, flower garden, or small vegetable plot. Keep talking about it and bringing it up in conversation. Be relentless!

Happy New Year!

Your County Agent,

Will Afton
County Agent
LSU AgCenter



Marie Porche

Graduate of the First Master Gardener Class of 1999

In 1999, my close friend Linda Cartwright and I applied for the Master Gardener class. We were really excited when we were both accepted for the program. I had just become a Junior League of Greater Covington Provisional, my youngest child would be graduating from Mandeville High School in 2000, and my volunteer schedule was growing rapidly. One of the first things I noticed about the St. Tammany Parish Master Gardener Program was that it brought people from all over the Parish together to make a difference. They all loved dirt, vegetation, volunteering, and, of course, eating. My life has changed over the years as has the Master Gardener Program. I have written articles for *The Gardengoer* when it was only a few pages long, I have retyped a manual for a tree seminar (from several sources) to make the presentation relevant to our area, I have worked on the Scholarship fundraiser (Dr. Fletcher was such a dedicated man), put in time at the Otis House (I love that place), Magic Wings Butterfly Garden, and more. However, I would never have been able to accomplish any of this were not for other master gardeners and the assistance and guidance of County Agents Bobby King, Rusty Batty, and of course, our kind, patient, knowledgeable, and dedicated, William Afton. I am one of those individuals who loves volunteering and giving back to the community. Giving back enables the community to grow and evolve, but also to remain the wonderful place it has always been. St. Tammany is a great place to live and Master Gardeners help to keep it that way. It is an honor to be a part of this ever-evolving organization.



Master Gardener Holiday Party 2016

Thanks to the ladies of the Hospitality Committee,
all of our spirits were bright!!



Paula Ramagos, Kimberlee Burt, Barbara Moore, Mona Russell, Lyn Monteleone
Dianne Bellas, Mary Jenks, Isabelle Moore, Carolyn Rault, Sue McGuire, Nancy Hodgins



2017 Northshore Garden & Plant Sale

We are gearing up for the 2017 Garden & Plant Sale on March 17th and 18th and we are 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 each of the next two membership meetings 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 MoM 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 Volunteer Opportunities

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 Volunteer Opportunities, *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 the 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



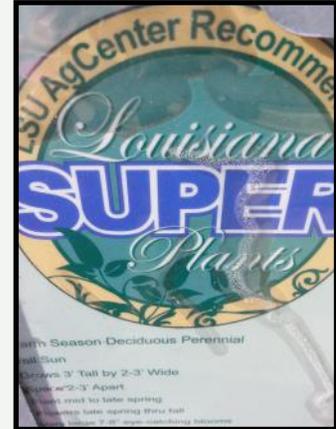
Committee Chairs' Contact Information Education Committees (E) and "Fingers in the Dirt" (D)

Abita Library Garden	Susan L'Hoste	lhoste@att.net Cell: 985.373.1770
Beau Provence Rehab Garden-D	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-D	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-D (Parenting Center, Covington)	Marie Porche	marieporche@yahoo.com Cell: 985.789.4283
Northshore Garden & Plant Sale-E (March 17 & 18, Cov Fairgrounds)	Jan Pesses, Co-Chair Rodney Cross, Co-Chair	jpeses@charter.net Cell: 504.458.6443 rod335i@live.com Cell: 985.778.3555
Otis House Rose Garden-D (Fairview Riverside Park, Madisonville)	Ann Durel	adurel@bellsouth.net Cell: 985.373.2111
School Partnership-D "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-D	Sandy Arnoult	sarnoult@charter.net Cell: 985.974.1676
Slidell Memorial Hsptl Rehab Garden-D	Paul Andres	pkandres@bellsouth.net Cell: 985.718.9161
Speakers' Bureau-E Coordinates MGs public speakers to provide horticultural education	Mimi Padgett	mimipadgett63@gmail.com Cell: 504.975.1800
Super Plant Garden @ AgCenter-D	Ron Rowland	rrowlan60@gmail.com
Vegucators-E study group open to all MGs	Wes Goostrey, Co-Chair Theresa Rheams, Co-Chair	wgoostrey@yahoo.com Cell: 504.913.2133 trheams@live.com Cell: 504.559.5336
W. St. Tammany Habitat for Humanity-E	Jenny Graffeo, Chair Nancy Thompson, Co-Chair	jennygraffeo@hotmail.com Cell: 504.756.7806 nthomps25@bellsouth.net Cell: 985.502.1716

Project Work Days & Special Announcements

Ag Center Super Plant Work Day

A work day was held on December 20, 2016 at the LSU AgCenter “Super Plant Garden” in Covington. This garden, started by the Class of 2013 and handed over each year to our newest class, features Louisiana Super Plants. Super Plants are reliable and beautiful plants which are selected by the LSU AgCenter for superior performance under Louisiana growing conditions. The Super Plant program was started in 2010, and each year several bedding plants, shrubs, or trees are added to the program.



Peggy Bianchi & Peggy Wales, hard at work



Barbara Briggs & our new Ag Center Super Plant Chair, Ron Rowland

Our County Agent, Will Afton, was able to secure some plants from the Hammond Research Station and MG Peggy Wales volunteered to collect the plants. The work crew met at the AgCenter to replant the garden with some cool season plants. Super Plant Committee Chairperson, Barbara Briggs led the work day. And we are happy to announce that new Master Gardener graduate, Ron Rowland, will be taking over as the new Super Plant Committee Chair!

Project Work Days & Special Announcements

Ag Center Super Plant Work Day, continued

Master Gardeners volunteering along with Will Afton were: Barbara Briggs, Peggy Wales, Pat Sharpe, Gordon Kuehl, Peggy Bianchi, Susie Andres, and our new Super Plant Committee chair and recent 2016 graduate, Ron Rowland—thank you, Ron!

Master Gardeners removed some of the plants that had been planted for spring and summer (the Senorita Rosita cleome and Bandana lantana were cut back and left in the garden as they are expected to come back in the spring) and removed the old pine straw mulch.



Taskmaster, Will Afton, oversees the hard work of Gordon Kuehl and Barbara Briggs

Project Work Days & Special Announcements

Ag Center Super Plant Work Day, continued

Ten bags of soil were added to the garden and four varieties of Louisiana Super Plants were planted—Redbor kale, Swan columbine, Sorbet viola, and Camelot foxglove. After the donated plants were in place and “eyeballed” for spacing and a new layer of pine straw mulch was placed over the garden, it all was given a good soaking.



Foxglove



Kale



Viola

Thanks to the volunteers and outgoing chair, Barbara Briggs. Next time you are near the AgCenter check out our garden and, perhaps, get inspired to include some Louisiana Super Plants in your landscape.

Susie Andres
Class of 2010
Past President



Project Work Days & Special Announcements

Marigny Elementary School Garden

The Master Gardeners involved in the Marigny Elementary School Gardens had a Gumbo Tasting Party on Friday, December 2nd. Members of our group each made a crockpot of Gumbo, using a recipe from the Whole Food Market website for a Chicken Gumbo with Fresh Okra. Whole Foods provided the chicken and sausage for the Gumbo and we used the okra that we had harvested from our Gumbo Gardens. Sue McGuire delivered the grocery bags with the main ingredients to each Gumbo maker and she provided the cooked rice.

We set up tables of our gumbos in the STEM lab and had two to three classes at a time come to taste the fruits of our fall plantings. First we talked to the children about this being the end of our planting season. Then we read a story, "Grandma's Gumbo," about making gumbo and we asked for volunteers to identify the food described in the story, find it in our grocery basket and put it into the Gumbo pot. Many of these first grade and T-1 grade children could find the correct vegetable with a little prompting.



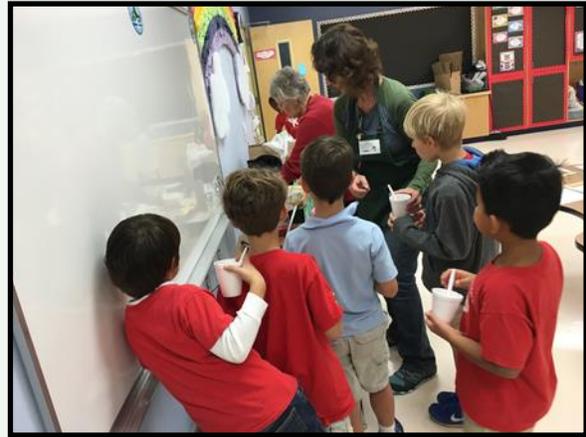
Diana Cammatte and Sue McGuire

Project Work Days & Special Announcements

Marigny Elementary School Garden, *continued*



Karen Martin



Diane Cammatte and Carolyn Rault

After the children had finished the story activity, we served them cups of Gumbo and rice to try. Most of the children tried and finished their cup, with many asking for seconds! We think this has been a very worthwhile endeavor in teaching the children how the foods we grow go into the tasty foods we cook here in South Louisiana.



Sharon Hassinger
Class of 2015



Persimmon Perfection!

As you drive around this season admiring all the colorful leaves, you will notice the persimmon tree. It stands out as a bare, small tree with what looks like mini, three-inch dangling pumpkins. The bright, orange fruit stands out against the fall sky. Persimmons grow with little attention all year, and then scream "Pick me!" But how many people really eat persimmons?

Persimmons fall into two categories: the heart-shaped Hachiya, which are astringent (sour) until they completely ripen and become soft, and the round, non-astringent Fuyu, which have an apple texture and they both appear in late September through December. This underrated fall fruit deserves the same hype as pumpkins! I prefer the Fuyu because they can be eaten as a quick snack and I don't have to wait until they are soft to eat them. It's like eating an apple, but with more health benefits. And the color is a spectacular orange! The flavor is sweet like a guava, and the texture is apple crisp. They can be eaten raw, pureed, or dried. Use persimmons in any recipe you would use apples or even pumpkin puree. The leaves can be used in teas. Persimmons can be baked in cookies, breads, cakes, and puddings. They can also be added to salads and appetizers.



Hachiya



Fuyu

Since people are becoming more conscientious about eating seasonal fruits and vegetables that have been locally sourced, the persimmon is getting more attention. There is no waste when you cut into a persimmon. Since they have no core, you can eat it whole, skin and all (just don't forget to slice off the top). They are not only beautiful on the outside, they also have a brilliant star pattern on the inside. Kids love to bite into this "little pumpkin." Eating a persimmon a day is said to be better at preventing heart disease than eating an apple. Since we don't have persimmons year round, now is the time to juice, mash, and freeze.

Persimmon Perfection!, *continued*

Persimmons are also a pretty addition to any dish. For the holidays, make a cheese board with a selection of a bleu, triple crème', gouda, and pate'. Then add slices of persimmon, grapes, crostini, and crackers and finish by sprinkling large pecans all around the board. This makes a perfect hostess gift. Better yet, bring this with a persimmon tree as the gift. It is the gift that keeps on giving!

Once considered an “old-fashioned” food, persimmon now trends on restaurant menus. Have you heard of a persimmon gastrique? It is a sugar and vinegar reduction infused the flavor of persimmon that can be used to bring out the assertive flavors of beef, pork, shrimp, and scallops. Get adventurous and add chili peppers for some heat—a sweet, heat & pickle-ish condiment. Now, go crazy and add it to a cocktail. I keep a jar of gastrique in the refrigerator to spice up any dish.

On a simpler note, you can bake persimmons, just like you'd bake apples, and serve them as a side dish with pork or chicken. On a savory note, you can make a mixture of sliced persimmons with onions and shredded cabbage and sprinkle with Herbs de Provence, a drizzle of olive oil, and salt a pepper. Spread the mixture in a baking pan and lay a pork loin on top. Bake it at 400 degrees until the pork has an internal temperature of 140 degrees. Remove the pork loin to a platter and cover it with foil to rest. Place the baking pan with the veggies and the persimmons back into oven and cook until golden. Slice the pork and serve it on the beautiful bed. And on the sweet side, slice off and discard the tops and place the whole persimmons in an 8x8 pan. Sprinkle them with brown sugar and cinnamon. I like to squeeze the juice of an orange or satsuma over them and bake at 375 degrees until they are fork tender (about 25-30 minutes). Serve them as a side dish for pork or chicken, or elevate it to a dessert by adding a scoop of ice cream and drizzle caramel sauce over the top. Delish!

Persimmons get my Vote! Vitality and Versatility adds Va-Va-Voom to my recipes!

Linda Franzo
Class of 2002



Master Gardener Logo Merchandise Order Form



It's time to order your Master Gardener t-shirts, collared shirts, caps, visors, and aprons all with the Master Gardener logo!

***IMPORTANT:** Because there is a minimum order requirement for embroidered items, I will only be able to place the order when I have met that minimum requirement—that means that there may be a lag time between the time you've given me your order and the time I place it. The more Master Gardeners who order items, the faster we will be able to place our order. I hope to receive enough orders so that we will all have our items in time for the plant show.

I will order the t-shirts on a monthly basis until the Plant Show.

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





\$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



Master Gardeners' Mentoring Program

Mentoring Program for Master Gardener Class of 2016

Purpose:

To create a smooth transition from MG student to an active MG and retain the new MG's in STPMG beyond the first year.

Mentors:

- Assigned by geographic area
- May mentor up to two students
- Contact the new student(s) by phone or email
- Answer any questions about STPMG
- Be certain that the newly graduated Master Gardener apprentice registers on the LSU site
- Introduce yourself at the first member meeting to newly graduated Master Gardener apprentice.
- Provide a list of opportunities or be available to direct them to information to complete their volunteer requirements
- Give information and answer questions about the organization, its committees/projects and the Plant Sale
- Remain in contact with the new Master Gardener apprentice during the first six months after graduation

To be a Mentor:

- Completed a total of 100 volunteer hours or more and posted on the LSU website during membership in STPMG
- Completed at least one full year as a STPMG – MG Class of 2014 and prior years
- Must have a strong interest and actively participate in STPMG projects and/or committees

Contact information:

To volunteer as a mentor, learn more about the mentoring program, or offer any suggestions, please contact Jenny Graffeo, Membership Chair, at jennygraffeo@hotmail.com or call or text at 504-756-7806.

Jenny Graffeo
Class of 2012
Membership Chair



St. Tammany Parish Master Gardener Association BOARD Meeting Minutes, LSU AgCenter, December 6, 2016

The December board meeting was held on December 6, 2016 at the LSU AgCenter, Covington, LA. President Ty Guidroz called the meeting to order at 3:10 PM.

Ty Guidroz, Linda Rowe, Susie Andres, Jan Gardner, Tina Richardson, Art Scott, Will Afton, and Cindy Manger were in attendance.

OFFICERS' REPORTS:

PRESIDENT *Ty Guidroz*

- Thanked everyone for their support during his term as president. Everyone present thanked Ty for holding the position.

- Reminded everyone that there will be a vote at the December meeting regarding whether or not the association's monthly membership meetings will be held at the Castine Center or the Abita Town Hall.

In **TREASURER *Jimmy DeJean***'s absence, Ty Guidroz presented the STMGA Financial Report as of November 30, which will also be presented at the December 16, 2016 general meeting at the Abita Town Hall.

VICE PRESIDENT & PROGRAM CHAIRPERSON *Linda Rowe*

- Reported she received a thank you note from Leilani of Shroomdom, thanking our association for visiting them on the fall field trip.

- Following the November 2016 general meeting, there was a suggestion placed in the suggestion box with the suggestion to announce to the membership the importance of being quiet during the meeting and especially while a speaker is presenting. The board wholeheartedly agreed on the importance of members being quiet during the meeting and if/when a discussion with another member is necessary, the discussion should be taken outside the meeting room. Incoming President Jan Gardner will announce the importance of this at the January 2017 meeting.

SECRETARY *Cindy Manger* reported

- A greeting card was sent to Ryan Lefevre, son of Master Gardener Don Lefevre who has been in a medically induced coma since August of this year. Ryan's "gofundme" link was posted in the December 5th M.o.M. There was discussion as to how often the link to Ryan's "gofundme" account should be posted in M.o.M. Editor, Art Scott, said he will contact Don Lefevre and discuss it with him.

INCOMING PRESIDENT *Jan Gardener* reported

- She will be presenting the board with the possibility of a change of venue and time for the *board* meetings.

BOARD Meeting Minutes, *continued*

PROJECT REPORTS:

“FINGERS IN THE DIRT” PROJECTS CHAIRPERSON *Susie Andres* will be handing over her position to Ty Guidroz.

NEW BUSINESS:

M.o.M. EDITOR *Art Scott*

- Presented a handout to all in attendance explaining problems with some members not receiving emails from the association. He and Gardengoer Editor Tina Richardson will be rectifying the problem.
- Presented a note from former Master Gardener Judy Wood. In the note she included her STMGA name tag.
- Presented a thank you note from the Master Gardeners of Greater New Orleans thanking our association for help during their hosting of the Master Gardener State Convention.
- Emphasized the importance of all Committee Chairmen referring to the STMGA calendar of events (posted weekly in M.o.M.) prior to deciding on upcoming event dates. This is to avoid multiple STMGA events being booked on the same day.

Meeting was adjourned at 4:25 PM.

Respectfully submitted by,

Cindy Manger
Class of 2009
Secretary



St. Tammany Parish Master Gardener Association
MEMBERSHIP Meeting Minutes, Abita Springs Town Hall
December 16, 2016

The meeting was called to order by President, Ty Guidroz, at 11:47AM with an invocation by Deb Nolan. The Pledge of Allegiance was led by Ty Guidroz and students of the Southern Magnolia Montessori School. The students sang Christmas songs.

Attendance: 78

OFFICERS' REPORTS:

PRESIDENT *Ty Guidroz*

- Thanked members for their help and cooperation during his 2 year term as President.

- Informed the group that there will be a vote at the January 18, 2017 membership meeting, regarding general membership meeting venue.

- Handed the gavel, cow bell and a copy of “Robert's Rules of Order” to incoming president, Jan Gardner.

INCOMING PRESIDENT *Jan Gardner*

- Thanked Ty and asked members to just keep volunteering

VICE-PRESIDENT *Linda Rowe*

- Thanked members for all their help and cooperation during her 2 year term as Vice President.

- Inquired if anyone had found a bag of one dozen pair of garden gloves at the November meeting. If so, they should inform her, so they can be returned to the person who is missing them.

COMMITTEE REPORTS:

MEMBERSHIP HONORS CHAIRMAN *Sandy Arnoult*

- Announced and awarded members with honors pins for logging in volunteer hours of 100 hours, 500 hours & 1,000 hours, cumulatively.

MEMBERSHIP MERCHANDISE CHAIRMAN *Pam Perret*

- Announced she was taking orders for membership merchandise the day of the meeting or she had order forms which could be brought home and returned with payment at the next meeting or mailed to her home with payment.

- Explained that the company from which we order the merchandise requires an order of at least 24 items in order to have the items monogrammed. Items take about a 10 day delivery.

- Displayed shirts available for purchase for the upcoming Northshore Plant and Garden Sale. Separate order forms for these shirts was also available.

MEMBERSHIP Meeting Minutes, *continued*

NEW BUSINESS

COUNTY AGENT *Will Afton*

- Invited members to the AgCenter office on Tuesday, December 20th at 9AM to assist in planting plants from the Hammond Research Station.
- He urged any of the members of the Class of 2016 to volunteer as chairman for the Louisiana Super Plants project, which consists of coordinating committee members in planting and caring for the LA Super Plant Garden at the AgCenter Office.

VEGUCATOR *Robert Wahl*

- Announced a new Vegucator class is set to begin at the end of January 2017. Any interested members should see him for more info or to sign up.

MASTER GARDENER *Deb Nolan*

- Announced the Northshore Camellia Society show at the Southern Hotel on January 7, 2017 @ 1PM. Admission is free.

NEW MEMBER MENTOR COORDINATOR *Jenny Graffeo*

- Urged pre-2016 members to seek out and introduce themselves to 2016 graduates.

Meeting adjourned at 12:30 PM

A holiday potluck followed the meeting with a plant swap following lunch.

Respectfully submitted by,

Cindy Manger
Class of 2009
Secretary



Editor's Note



Hello my fellow Master Gardeners!

Last month, I had the opportunity to chat with fellow master gardener, Gerri Sommers, over a leisurely cup of coffee. We were meeting to discuss her ideas about writing an informational, monthly article for *The Gardengoer*, but during the course of our conversation, I was delighted to learn more about her life and her interests (outside of gardening, of course). Gerri has been a master gardener and active member since 2004—that's 13 years of work days and plant sales and herb fests and spring and fall seminars! But, it also occurred to me that, while I'm a new master gardener (class of 2015), there is very little I know about many of you. And while we all spend so much time together at meetings and seminars and the occasional work days, we don't really know very much about each other's lives. We currently have 42 master gardeners that have been active members for a decade or longer, and I think it fitting to honor those who have given so much of their time, hard work, and dedication to the service of others. This month we get to meet **Marie Porche**. She is a graduate of the very first master gardener class of 1999. I look forward to learning more about each and every one of you in the coming year.

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 Mark Strand

It shines in the garden,
in the white foliage of the chestnut tree,
in the brim of my father's hat
as he walks on the gravel.

In the garden suspended in time
my mother sits in a redwood chair:
light fills the sky,
the folds of her dress,
the roses tangled beside her.

And when my father bends
to whisper in her ear,
when they rise to leave
and the swallows dart
and the moon and stars
have drifted off together, it shines.

Even as you lean over this page,
late and alone, it shines: even now
in the moment before it disappears.