



**Master Gardener™**

An educational program of the LSU AgCenter

**ST. TAMMANY PARISH MASTER GARDENERS' ASSOCIATION**  
P. O. Box 2074, Mandeville, Louisiana 70470

VOLUME 20 Issue 7

July 2017

**“Deep summer is when laziness finds respectability.”  
Sam Keen**

President’s Message	2
VP’s Message	3
Abita Springs Library	4
Committee Chair Contact	5
Board Meeting Minutes	6-7
Board & Committee List	8
Editor’s Note	9
Editor’s Gift	10



**Tina Richardson’s *Hibiscus moscheutos***

## President's Message

Well, tomorrow is the first official day of summer and already Tropical Storm Cindy has made a most unwelcome appearance along our water-logged coastal regions. I just made an Executive Decision to cancel our June monthly membership meeting after hearing from several of you about not wanting to brave the winds and rain and, most certainly, flooded roads. Our speaker was to have been Tammany Baumgarten, but she has willingly agreed to re-schedule for October. We had better err on the side of caution, even if in hindsight we didn't need to.

So our yards and flowerbeds are again inundated with too much water. But here come the drier months of July and August, where high heat and even higher humidity rule the day. No one who braves our summers is faint of heart!

The Fall Seminar Chairman, Suzanne Krieger, and her three Vice-Chairs (Kendra France, Joe Cummins and Mary Katherine Villere) are already hard at work planning their event, which will be held on October 13, 2017, once again, at the Church of the King in Mandeville. Sign-up sheets for the various committees were to be presented at our monthly meeting in June, but must now wait for our July meeting. You might want to check your calendars to see if you'll be able to help.

As always, thank you for your work on behalf of our communities.

**Jan Gardner**  
Class of 2014  
President



## Vice President's Message

Dear Master Gardeners,

Grant Estrade, owner of Laughing Buddha Nursery, will be our speaker for the July 19th meeting. He is a native of Metairie and a graduate of Jesuit High School and the University of New Orleans. He was 15 when he began his first business venture--raising mice and rats to sell at the pet shop where he worked. With the help of his father, he learned the basics of business accounting and, thanks to the rodent poop, he learned the basics of nutrient cycling and composting. This early experience helped him with his first vegetable garden. In 2003, Grant started Laughing Buddha Nursery, which focuses on helping people grow vegetables naturally and organically. He sells micro-batched soils, garden supplies and hydroponic growing equipment, and hosts a daily farmer's market stand. Grant and his wife, Kate, own Local Cooling Farms, located south of Bogalusa, where they sell compost mixed with soil. They also raise pigs, goats, chickens, and rabbits using rotational grazing methods in the pasture. Grant is still fascinated by the composting process and even more interested in growing food with recycled organic matter. He is currently working on adding sustainable agriculture (raising livestock) to his farm production and has begun to focus his attention on the microbreweries and coffee production in New Orleans' food and beverage manufacturing scene.

I know you won't want to miss Grant Estrade!

**Suzanne Krieger**  
Class of 2012  
Vice President  
Program Chair



## *Meetings, Projects, & Workdays*

### **Abita Springs Library**

The Abita Springs Library group met on Wednesday, June 13 for the third workday of the year. Pierre Bouchee, Nancy McDonald, Martha Gruning, Rachel Lambert, and Susan L'Hoste planted the raised garden bed and weeded the side garden. Kay Redd (head librarian) had nurtured the snapdragons through the heat and rainy days, but we replaced them with pretty lavender and white Angelonia. The fern garden in the shaded back area of the library was green and healthy, plus seemed to have enjoyed the wet weather and overcast days. The butterfly weed is blooming and passion vines are growing. As we were gathering our tools, a monarch butterfly landed in the mimosa tree above our heads. We took this as a sign of a good workday.



**Susan L'Hoste**  
Class of 2010



## Committee Chairs' Contact Information Education Committee (E) & "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	Sharon Hassinger, Co-Chair Karen Martin, Co-Chair	sharhass@me.com Cell:985.264.1528 carboncopy2@gmail.com Cell:985.705.1418
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	Donna Howland	donna.howland@mac.com Cell: 508.733.5237
Super Plant Garden @ AgCenter—F	Ron Rowland	rrowlan60@gmail.com Cell: 504.329.0599
TableTalks—E	Denise Schoen	neez@mindspring.com Cell: 504.554.5486
Vegucators—E **study group open to all MGs	Ron Wahl	rjwahl@charter.net Cell: 985.640.8778
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

## **St. Tammany Master Gardener Association June 14, 2017 BOARD Meeting Minutes**

The June board meeting was held on June 14, 2017 in the Media Room at the St. Tammany Parish Library Causeway Branch, Mandeville, LA. President Jan Gardner called the meeting to order at 10: 01 a.m.

In attendance were, Jan Gardner, Jimmy DeJean, Art Scott, Tim Zimmerman, and Cindy Manger.

### **OFFICERS' REPORTS:**

There were no questions or comments regarding the May 2017 board minutes as they appeared in the June 2017 issue of *The Gardengoer*. Jimmy DeJean made a motion to accept the minutes with no opposition.

**Treasurer**, Jimmy DeJean, presented the STMGA May 2017 financial report. The May report will be presented at the June 21st membership meeting. Jimmy ordered a certified copy of the STMGA articles of incorporation from the state. GERALYN SUHOR and ALLAN BRESLIN are assisting in the process of STMGA acquiring 501(c)(3) status.

**President** Jan Gardner announced

- A fall field trip on October 4th to Nicki Usner's GROW.Farm is being planned.
- STMGA October 13th Fall Seminar will be at Church of the King. Signup sheets will be available at the June 21st membership meeting. On June 23rd there will be a fall seminar meeting at seminar chairman Suzanne Krieger's home.

### **NEW BUSINESS:**

- Sharon Hassinger and Karen Martin have agreed to take on the role of project chairs for Lacombe Wildlife Refuge Butterfly Garden.

#### ***New Project proposals:***

- Tim Zimmerman proposed the ***Boys and Girls Club*** in Covington as a new project for STMGA. He has agreed to be chairman of the project. There will be a vote at the June 21st membership meeting.

## BOARD Meeting Minutes, *continued*

- Dave Maher is proposing *Longue Vue House and Gardens* as a new project for STMGA. He is head of a team (many of whom are MGGNO members) who volunteer there on a weekly basis.
- Tina Richardson is collecting names of interested volunteers for *Milneburg*. A chairman is needed in order to qualify as a new project.
- A discussion ensued regarding *Florida Parishes Juvenile Detention Center* as a project. All interested volunteers should contact Will Afton for a tour of the facility.

There is no board meeting scheduled for July, until further notice.

Meeting was adjourned at 11:02 A.M.

Respectfully submitted by

Cindy Manger

**Cindy Manger**  
Class of 2009  
Secretary



# 2017 St. Tammany Master Gardeners Board of Directors & Committee Chairpersons

President: Jan Gardner (1<sup>st</sup> year)                      Vice President: Suzanne Krieger (1st year)  
 Secretary: Cindy Manger (2<sup>nd</sup> year)              Parliamentarian: Pam Rowe  
 Treasurer: Jimmy DeJean (final year)          Past President: Ty Guidroz

Membership Committee Chair (2-year term):          Marilyn Bingham (2<sup>nd</sup> year)

Finance: Mary Ann Brannan, Dianne Ramirez, and GERALYN SUHOR  
 Muscle: Wes Goostrey  
 Nominating: Rodney Cross, Barbara Moore, and Deborah Nolan  
 Plant Sale: Jan Pesses and Rodney Cross  
 Program: Suzanne Krieger  
 Scholarship: Kay Hanson

### Facilitators (no term limit)

A/V: Johnny Despeaux  
 Facebook: Betty Cronin  
*The Gardengoer*: Tina Richardson  
 Gloves: Marilyn Bingham  
 Historical: Janet Reuther  
 Honors: Sandy Arnoult and Sandra Pecoraro  
 Hospitality: Barbara Moore  
 Mentoring: Jenny Graffeo  
 Merchandise: Pam Perret  
 MoM: Art Scott  
 Photography: Betty Cronin  
 Publicity: Tim Zimmerman

### 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 Farmers Market: Billie Stanga and Diana Cammatte  
 Covington Library: Mimi Padgett  
 Hospice of the South Gardens: Paul Andres  
 Lacombe Butterfly Garden: Sharon Hassinger and Karen Martin  
 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: Donna Howland  
 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,

I'm not sure to whom Billie Holiday was singing when she sang of summer living being easy. Perhaps she was thinking about the lives of gardeners. And while many do take a respite from the garden when the temperatures begin to hover around 90 (because that's the smart thing to do), life outside of the garden seems to kick into high gear—at least it does for me—and I find myself always in a hurry to get from point A to point B. And, before I know it, the summer has passed and I'm startled to discover that the leaves have started to change. I long for the days when an hour lasted an hour, and when summer meant sitting in a rocker on the front porch with a tall glass of ice cold, sweet tea and a lapful of green beans to snap and nothing but the sound of cicadas singing in the trees.

Be well,  
Tina



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



Cooperative Extension Service  
1301 N. Florida Street  
Covington, LA 70433

Phone: 985-875-2635 (Covington)

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

## Lying in a Hammock at William Duffy's Farm in Pine Island, Minnesota

By James Wright

Over my head, I see the bronze butterfly,  
Asleep on the black trunk,  
Blowing like a leaf in green shadow.  
Down the ravine behind the empty house,  
The cowbells follow one another  
Into the distances of the afternoon.  
To my right,  
In a field of sunlight between two pines,  
The droppings of last year's horses  
Blaze up into golden stones.  
I lean back, as the evening darkens and comes on.  
A chicken hawk floats over, looking for home.  
I have wasted my life.