

SOCIAL

Wednesday

Dec 3, 2014 - 6 PM

Petroleum Club

By reservation

111 Heymann Blvd.,
Lafayette

LPMGA BOARD

MEETING

1 PM MONDAY,
DECEMBER 8, 2014

IRA NELSON HORTICULTURE
CENTER

WHAT'S INSIDE

- Gerald's Corner
- MG Events, Reports, & Announcements
- Thanks from René Schmit
- Approving New Projects—How the Process Works
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- December Calendar

2014 BOARD: President

Babette Werner 2010

Vice President

Heather Warner-Finley
2012 **Recording Secretary**
Jay Ruffin, Jr 2012

Corresponding Secretary

Carolyn Rink 2013

Treasurer

Sandra Scheuermann 2012

Board Member at Large

Judy Corne 2006

Prior President

Marc Wiley

Agent/Adviser

Gerald Roberts

Volunteer Coordinator

Mary Ann Armbruster

Newsletter Editor

Theresa Rohloff

Our 2015 Newly Elected Board Officers



HEATHER
FINDLEY
PRESIDENT

LINDA
BEYT
VICE
PRESIDENT

SANDY
SCHEUERMANN
TREASURER

CAROLYN
RINK
CORRESPONDING
SECRETARY

JAY
RUFFIN
RECORDING
SECRETARY

JUAN
NIETO
AT LARGE



Christmas Social

December 3 at
the Petroleum Club, 6-9 PM!
See you there!



PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE



Babette Werner

As we approach a time of year that we express thanks and gratitude for our many blessings, I would like to thank you, LPMGA members for your faithful dedication to promote our mission and vision. It is with great pride that I say that I am a Master Gardener. This is due to the hardworking nature of our members to get the job done. Yes, we are tree huggers and plant lovers. However, our efforts extend beyond the personal satisfaction of digging in the dirt. We give it our all to help improve our community. Our service learning model extends to the students that we work with in the school garden program. We are planting the seeds to grow civic minded individuals for the future.

I would like to give a special thanks to our terrific agent, Gerald Roberts, who guides us and helps us stay on the right path. I also thank Billy Welch, manager of the Ira Nelson Horticulture Center, for assisting us throughout the year.

We began the year with three goals: to be more transparent, to provide more information about committees to the membership and to research the fund development. We have successfully achieved our first two goals. We have more work to do in the fund development area. This is an issue to be explored and discussed by the membership next year. The 2015 Board is strong and will provide excellent leadership to carry the organization forward.

Thank you for the privilege of serving you and for your support this year. I look forward to seeing you at the December 3rd Social where we celebrate our accomplishments, meet the 2015 board and honor our new graduates, the Class of 2014.

Babette Werner

GERALD'S CORNER

Hello Gardeners,

This month I am covering several topics of interest based on phone calls and information received from horticulture specialist with the LSU AgCenter. The fact that mother nature has sent us an early reminder of winter has prompted many calls on topics of plant protection in the landscape. Lack of preparation or plans causes one of the biggest issues that I see that sends many gardeners into a panic when freezing temperatures are predicted. Every gardener should have protection plans in place when herbaceous tropical or woody tropical plants grow in the landscape when those plant that are not able to survive predicted low temperatures.

You may recall earlier information regarding plants and degree of cold hardiness or cold tenderness, the length of time that plants are exposed to freezing temperatures usually determines the extent of injury. Plants exposed to temperatures in the mid – 20's, for 4 hours, will sustain less damage than if exposed to the same temperatures for 8 hours. Whenever plants are covered with some type of fabric while it is raining, if it freezes the weight of the fabric can damage plants; support in the form of three simple, wooden stakes will help. If using plastic to cover plants, it will shed water and weight is not a problem; however, removing the plastic or venting the plastic on sunny days is important to prevent injury to plants from heat buildup. Additionally when covering plants, drape the cover over the entire plant until it touches the ground, then anchor the covers with pins, bricks or other heavy objects. This will be more effective than covering the plant and tying off the cover before it touches the ground. It is felt that, especially when there is bare soil beneath the plant, heat is absorbed during the day and released at night.

For this reason, it is recommended that the ground beneath citrus trees be left bare during the winter months instead of being mulched. Bare soil absorbs heat and releases it later, and the heat release can make a difference in the degree of damage during periods of freezing temperatures. With citrus trees, remember it's important to protect the graft union located on the lower trunk. This graft union can usually be identified by a slight swelling just below the regular trunk and a few inches above the soil line. The graft union can be wrapped with old cloth material, foam, mulched with leaves, pine straw or any material that can serve as insulation. Even if the top of the tree killed as long as any part of the trunk above the graft union survives, sprouts will be capable of producing quality fruit. If, however, the graft union or areas above the graft union doesn't survive, sprouts that are produced below the graft union near the soil line usually will be wild rootstock which will not produce quality fruit.

Although cold, dry winds can dry out leaf tissues and cause brown edges, plants don't feel wind-chill. When low temperatures are predicted, focus on the actual temperatures rather than wind-chill. When weather forecasts predict that the actual temperature is getting down to 38 degrees with a wind-chill of 25, you don't have to be concerned about a freeze.

Prune off any freeze damage or injury to gingers, cannas, philodendrons, or other herbaceous tropical. Placing between four and six inches of mulch such as pine straw around the base of plants will help protect roots and rhizomes.

Move tender container plants indoors on nights when temperatures are predicted to be in the low 30's or lower to prevent damage. Leave them inside in a sunny window or place them back outside when the freeze is over.

Many garden chemicals are water based and can be destroyed by freezing. Those loss of chemicals can be expensive and spilled pesticides can create dangerous conditions. Keep chemicals in locations that don't freeze, and if there are children in the house those chemicals should be stored safely (preferably in a locked location).

Fall tomatoes ripen poorly in when temperatures are cool outside. Don't wait for them to turn red before you pick them. As soon as fruit start to turn whitish or pink, harvest them and place them inside at room temperature until they turn red. Light is not necessary for ripening. Harvest any green fruit of reasonable size if a freeze is predicted, and use them in your favorite green tomato recipes. For citrus trees, any time freezing temperatures are predicted below the upper 20's, all fruit should be harvested.

November through March is a good time to plant pecan trees. The more resistant varieties such as Sumner, Candy, and Elliot are recommended. Elliot is the top choice for disease resistance for home gardeners! When we refer to disease resistance in pecan varieties, we are primarily referring to Pecan Scab: a fungus disease that severely impacts the quality of nuts. Also, remember that resistance doesn't mean immunity!!

Harvest broccoli when the largest buds in the head are the size of the head of a kitchen match. Don't focus on the overall size of broccoli head itself, as that is not an indication of when the broccoli is ready for harvest. If you begin to see yellow flowers you've waited too long. If temperatures in the mid 20's are predicted harvest mature heads of broccoli; even though the plants are hardy, the heads are susceptible to freeze when the temperatures fall to 25 degrees or below.

Varieties of certain shrubs such as azaleas, nandinas or junipers may develop a burgundy tint to their foliage during cold weather. This is normal and no cause for concern. They will turn green in the spring.

Bed preparation is the key to long-term landscape success. Raised beds are almost essential in our area for successful landscape plant establishment because of our soil type and our poor internal drainage. A raised bed at least 6-8 inches deep can be enclosed with decorative bricks, concrete edging, landscape timber, or railroad ties. Chemically treated wood is safe to use around ornamental plants. A raised bed doesn't necessarily have to have a physical border or edge. If properly prepared and mulched when completed, the soil should hold in the bed and not wash away even in heavy rainfall.

One method of bed preparation that is used at the Hammond Research Station whenever annual bedding plants, herbaceous perennials, or small shrubs are planted is the "kill, dump, rake, and plant method." Kill the area you wish to plant with glyphosate herbicide, repeat in 10 to 14 days to kill any lasting vegetation. Obtain good landscape bed builder soil from a reputable dealer, dump this soil over the area where vegetation was killed. Then rake and smooth bed to an average depth minimum of 6 inches. Ideally wait for a rainfall to settle the soil prior to planting. It seems to be easier to lay the mulch down on the bed, then plant into it instead of mulching after planting.

HAPPY GARDENING !!!! HAPPY THANKSGIVING!!!!

Gerald P. Roberts

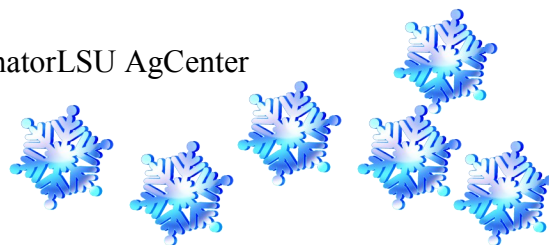
Horticulturist/Master Gardener Program Coordinator LSU AgCenter

1010 Lafayette Street, Suite 325

Lafayette, LA 70501

GRoberts@agcenter.lsu.edu

Office (337) 291-7090 / Fax (337) 291-7099



EVENTS, REPORTS, AND BOARD ANNOUNCEMENTS

EMBRACE THE CHALLENGE

BRING YOUR REUSABLE WATER BOTTLE TO MASTER GARDENER FUNCTIONS!

2014 LPMGA Meetings:
(First Wednesday
Except in January & July)
Daytime—noon/Evening—6 pm

2014 LPMGA Board
Meetings, 1 pm:
There WILL be a
board meeting!

Christmas Social —
Petroleum Club at 6 p.m.

DECEMBER 3

Ira Nelson Horticulture
Center at 1 p.m.

DECEMBER 8

GENERAL MEETING PROGRAM

Our own Becky Taylor, expert in many gardening realms, will be the Lafayette Parish Master Gardeners Association speaker at the January general meeting. Becky will be talking about winter gardening — a topic that is also touched upon in this month's newsletter (read Gerald's Corner on Page 2).

The meeting will be held on Wednesday, January 7, 2015, in the auditorium at the Lafayette South Side Library. Start time is noon.

Approving New Projects

The board voted unanimously to revise the procedure to approve new projects at the November 17th board meeting. See Volunteer Project Proposals on page 47 in the newly revised handbook.

- Paragraphs 1,2 and 3 remain the same.
- Paragraph 4—Revision:

Proposal forms may be submitted to any member of the Executive Board. The Executive Board with the approval of the LSU AgCenter Extension Agent/Advisor will first determine if the project falls within the Mission of the LPMGA. If so, the project proposal form will be emailed to the General membership and introduced at the monthly General meeting to garner interest. Members equaling the number of requested volunteers for the project must respond by the specified deadline to accept the proposal as a LPMGA approved project.

Rationale: Projects are currently approved by the Board and there are not enough members interested to complete or run the project.

Babette Werner

Louann, Jeanell and Anita;
I was talking with some local MG volunteers about the SRMG Conference and was thinking of you and Just wanted to again say **THANK YOU** for the incredible and outstanding job you did with the state display for the SRMG Conference. From the many admiring comments it was certainly a hit with all our state MG volunteers and as well from out of state! Several coordinators expressed how they loved the display and the ideas they got for modifying their own state displays. I know you all put a lot of work into the display and it certainly paid off - well exceeding all expectations. But hey, that's Lafayette LMG program volunteers for you...if you expect the best you get the best from the best!! And you are the **BEST EVER!**
THANK YOU.

Rene' G. Schmit
County Agent/ANR
St. Charles Parish
Office 985-785-4473

OPEN LETTER



Watch Thursdays at noon

LUS Channel 3 / Cox Channel 15



In The Garden

Watch first run on December 4 at noon!

Master Gardeners who help produce the show include Nancy Rowe, Cheryl Crow, Geneé Foley, Marie Jones, Vivian Katz, Lois Manuel, Gary Trahan and Peggy Voorhies.

This monthly TV Show broadcasted by AOC Community Media, is targeted to run LIVE, every first Thursday at noon, with reruns each week throughout the month on LUS Channel 3/Cox Channel 15. The show is streamed by computer through AOC One and will now be accessible upon demand through YouTube! That's a new AOC perk!

2-DO LIST: General Meeting—learn about winter gardening; Pay dues. Complete forms. Post your hours! Enjoy the Christmas Social, Dec. 3 at Petroleum Club!



READY FOR 2015?

GET THE NEW CALENDAR!

If you don't have one of the new LSU AgCenter's 2015 Get It Growing calendars, you should think about being ready for the holidays and the NEW YEAR. Get yours and some for your special gardening friends. The list price for this beautiful and informative calendar is \$12.00. Members may purchase the calendars for \$10.00. Check your gift list. These calendars make great holiday gifts.

Member at Large reflection

Of all the issues brought to me this year, the one reoccurring most seems to be a concern that our Master Gardener association is becoming a fund raising organization. Whether you personally want to see us become part of the Central Park or would rather some other venue, the reality is that we will not have a facility at Ira Nelson when that property is repurposed. The likelihood is that this will happen sooner rather than later. That leaves us with two options: wait until we no longer have a facility or begin planning for a new facility now. Any move is going to cost money.

The Board is very much aware that the club as a whole will need to come to a consensus on where our future lies. This will be a discussion in the year to come. All current funds are dedicated for use by our Master Gardener Association not for any specific venue. It was also noted that no fundraising projects will ever require mandatory membership participation. All members will need to be open to discussing these issues when they are brought before the membership.

Thank you for allowing me to represent you this year as Member at Large. Please continue to voice your concerns and opinions to Juan. He is looking forward to serving each of you in the coming year.

Judy Corne

What Plant Am I?

It's the most wonderful time of the year, and I'm part of the reason for that. When the Pilgrims landed the day before Christmas, they used me for decorations. I'm a long-lived, slow growing, evergreen native and grow all along the East Coast down to the Gulf of Mexico, but my natural habitat is being destroyed by poor conservation. I can grow at altitudes up to 4,000 feet in the Appalachian Mountains. My dense uniform shape with short horizontal branches makes me a fine specimen plant, but I'm also good as a hedge. I can maintain my conical shape if you don't remove my lower branches.

My bark can be light gray, thin and smooth, or it can be rough and warty. Deep green toothed leaves are the perfect foil for my bright red berries, which appear in winter. I'm dioecious, and only female plants produce berries. These berries provide food for song birds, game birds, and deer and other mammals. There must be a male plant nearby for fertilization to occur. Cold weather is usually not a problem. Plant me in my dormant period from November to February.

My pests include fungi, mildew, rust, leaf miners and scale (which is treated with two applications of horticultural oil ten days apart). If the pH of the soil is greater than 6.5, chlorosis may develop. An annual application of a slow-release fertilizer (12-12-12) will keep me happy.

Piano keys can be made from my white wood when it's dyed to resemble ebony. I'm also used for violin pegs and fingerboards.

Do you know what plant I am?
See page 8 for the answer.

FALLING SHORT on MASTER GARDENER HOURS

It is very important to record both your volunteer and continuing education hours. You must record them in the year that you have earned them. The system will not let you record hours from 2014 in 2015. Active members need 20 volunteer hours and 6 continuing education hours. Master Gardeners In Training should, also, record any earned Master Gardener volunteer and education hours

If you have problems with your computer, please record your hours on a hardcopy form and send to MaryAnn Armbruster, Volunteer Coordinator, 410 S. Larriviere Road, Youngsville 70592. She will enter your hours into the system for you.

If you are having trouble obtaining your continuing-education hours, you can check out DVDs of our AOC shows, titled "In the Garden" and our previous year shows titled "Get It Growing." These can be watched at home. There are years of shows recorded and available in the Master Gardener archives stored at the LSU AgCenter Office, in downtown Lafayette. The address is 1010 Lafayette Street.

You can also go to the AOC website, aocinc.org, and click on the "Watch" tab at the top of the URL site. Click on the AOC 1 television (Cox 15 or LUS 3) and a list will come up with the most recent shows. Scroll down this list and click more to find shows taped on earlier dates. While this may seem time consuming, perseverance will pay off when you find some of our "In the Garden" AOC shows

You can also look on YouTube and type "Lafayette Parish Master Gardeners" in the search field. There are two AOC shows: part one and two of the gourd talk with LPMGA member Karen Willingham. Enjoy all the cool things you can learn from the comfort of your own home!

LPMGA proudly contributed \$150 to the Neil Odenwald Distinguished Scholarship Professorship sponsored by the LSU Foundation. Dr. Odenwald served as a professor and director of the renowned Robert Reich School of Architecture at LSU for many years. He has significantly impacted the people and gardens of the South through his love of plant materials and plant design. This scholarship will be used to recruit and retain outstanding faculty focused on instruction in plant materials, plant design and natural systems.



Ag in the City in Opelousas, La

Many thanks to Heather Finley and Kathy Van Ness for representing LPMGA at this event sponsored by the state Ag in the Classroom Program. The intent is to introduce children to various aspects of agriculture. Over 500 students rotated through stations addressing topics such as growing your own food, grain crops, aquaculture, soil, exotic animals and beef production. The LPMGA station addressed water issues using a **Junior Master Gardener lesson**.

Candy Bienvenu, Linda Beyt, Mary Waguespack and Babette Werner assisted with the lesson plan. The day was a success and plans for future events are underway.

Lafayette Parish Master Gardener Association, Inc.

Year 2015 Renewal Form

Name: _____

Mailing Address: _____
 Street **City** **State** **Zip**

Home phone: _____ **Cell:** _____ **Work:** _____

Email: _____

Year of Class:	Spouse (optional)	Business Affiliation (optional)
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Please check all items you wish to include in the LPMGA Roster

<i>home address</i>	<i>home phone</i>	<i>cell</i>	<i>work</i>	<i>email address</i>	<i>spouse's name</i>
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Please check committees/volunteer opportunities in which you are interested in serving on for year 2015. (if you served on a committee in prior year and want to do so again for 2015, please check it again)

COMMITTEES:

<u> </u> <i>AOC</i>	<u> </u> <i>MG IT Class Mentor</i>
<u> </u> <i>Ask a Master Gardener</i>	
<u> </u> <i>Calendar Sales</i>	<u> </u> <i>Newsletter</i>
<u> </u> <i>Children’s Garden (garden tours)</i>	<u> </u> <i>Pine Straw</i>
<u> </u> <i>Class Coordinator Assistant</i>	<u> </u> <i>PlantFest</i>
<u> </u> <i>Cottage Keeper</i>	<u> </u> <i>Plant Sales</i>
<u> </u> <i>Demonstration Gardens</i>	<u> </u> <i>Plant Swap</i>
<u> </u> <i>Facebook Administrator</i>	<u> </u> <i>Programs</i>
<u> </u> <i>Festival des Fleurs</i>	<u> </u> <i>Propagation</i>
<u> </u> <i>Field Trips</i>	<u> </u> <i>Publicity</i>
<u> </u> <i>Garden Stroll</i>	<u> </u> <i>School Garden Initiative</i>
<u> </u> <i>Garden Talk</i>	<u> </u> <i>Second Saturday Garden Talks</i>
<u> </u> <i>Guy Squad/Property</i>	<u> </u> <i>Soctial Coordinator (May and Christmas Events)</i>
<u> </u> <i>Habitat for Humanity</i>	<u> </u> <i>Speakers’ Bureau</i>
<u> </u> <i>Handbook Update</i>	<u> </u> <i>Vermilionville Medicinal Garden</i>
<u> </u> <i>Historian</i>	<u> </u> <i>Volunteer Coordinator</i>
<u> </u> <i>Horticultural Hints</i>	<u> </u> <i>Webpage Administrator (coordinates with State LSU website)</i>
<u> </u> <i>Irrigation (Demo Gardens)</i>	<u> </u> <i>Website Committee(assists with development of LPMGA website)</i>
<u> </u> <i>Junior Master Gardener</i>	<u> </u> <i>Volunteer coordinator</i>
<u> </u> <i>Master Gardener Office (Ag Office)</i>	
<u> </u> <i>MG Merchandise (T-shirts)</i>	

OFFICERS/CHAIRS:

 Demo Garden Bed Chair *Executive Board* *Committee Chair*
Bed of Interest: *Office of Interest:* *Committee of Interest:*

Membership is valid January 1 through December 31, 2015.

Membership cards will be issued to members who have met the following conditions:

- paid dues for 2015
- Completed and recorded all volunteer service hours required for membership during 2014
- Completed and recorded all continuing education hours required for membership during 2014

Lafayette Parish Master Gardener Association, Inc.**Year 2015 Dues Payment Form**

<i>Your status for 2015</i>	<i>Amount Due</i>	<i>Amount</i>	<i>Enclosed</i>
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Dues: Please check one \$10.00

Active

Associate

Member-on-Leave

Meritorious

Sustaining

Currently Inactive

NAME: _____

Check number: _____

Make checks payable to "LPMGA"

**Please return this form and payment to
Sandy Scheuermann
305 Keeney Avenue
Lafayette, LA 70501**

Or, you may pay and return form at the November General Meeting

**Year 2015 Annual dues are payable prior to January 1, 2015
A \$5 late fee will be assessed for payments received after January 1, 2015**

Membership is valid January 1 through December 31, 2015.

Membership cards will be issued to members who have paid dues for 2015 and completed and recorded all volunteer service hours and continuing education hours required for membership during 2014.

MGIT class members do not pay 2015 dues

WHAT PLANT AM I?

ANSWER:



Ilex opaca: American Holly,
Christmas Holly.



TIME IS RUNNING OUT!
POST YOUR VOLUNTEER AND
EDUCATION HOURS!

*The LPMGA Christmas Social
and
Master Gardener Class of 2014
Graduation*

December 3, 2014

6pm to 9pm

Petroleum Club

111 Heymann Blvd, Lafayette

Cocktails, Graduation & Award

Ceremony, Heavy Hors d'Oeuvres

with Dessert

2014 Graduates Gratis

Active Members \$20

*Guests and Inactive
members \$30*

**All payments had to be made
in advance.**

**Contact Linda Broussard for
additional information**

Visit Our Website!

www.LafayetteMasterGardener.org

Attention: All LPMGA Committee Chairmen

We would like to include any information that you can provide regarding the accomplishments, recognitions, and awards of your committee, as a whole, and/or of individual committee members.

Only information that you provide to me will be included on our website. Please take time to send me any pertinent information/pictures, including years in the past. Also, feel free to e-mail anything of this nature that you would like added to the website.

Jay Ruffin— lpmgacalendar@gmail.com

innovate , educate , improve lives
for the latest research-based information on just about anything, visit our Web site at www.lsuagcenter.com

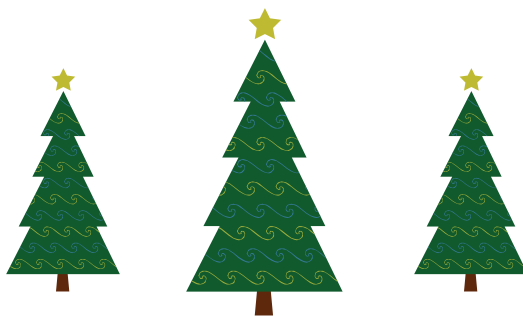


LSU AGRICULTURAL CENTER
COOPERATIVE EXTENSION SERVICE
U.S. Department of Agriculture
1010 Lafayette Street, Suite 325
Lafayette, LA 70501-6884

LPMGA Calendar DECEMBER 2014

Dec 3rd: Christmas Social — Petroleum Club (111 Heymann Blvd.) at 6 p.m.
Dec 4th: December AOC 1st run broadcast— “In the Garden” — noon (page 4)
Dec. 6th: U.S. General Elections at your precinct voting location, 7 a.m. until 8 p.m.

Dec 25th: Merry Christmas !!!



Gardener's Gazette is issued to all members of the Lafayette Parish Master Gardeners' Program. All members are encouraged to submit news, educational features, and photographs. The deadline for all submissions is the 24th of each month for publication in the next month's issue unless otherwise noted.

Please send newsletter items to:

Theresa Rohloff thescottherald@aol.com Please include:

“MG NEWSLETTER” in your subject bar.

The Master Gardener program is a division of the Louisiana Cooperative Extension Agency and can be contacted at:

1010 Lafayette Street/Suite 325,
Lafayette, Louisiana 70501
Telephone (337) 291-7090
fax (337) 291-7099

The Web site is www.lsuagcenter.com

The Louisiana cooperative extension provides equal opportunities in programs and employment. Louisiana State University and A&M College, Louisiana Governing Bodies, Southern University, and the United States Department of Agriculture Cooperating

A State Partner in the Cooperative
Extension System

It is the policy of the Louisiana Cooperative Extension Service that no person shall be subjected to discrimination on the grounds of race, color, national origin, gender, religion, age, or disability.

If you have a disability which requires special assistance for your participation in our meetings, please call
337-291-7090

Please note: All meeting and event dates, times, and locations are subject to change.

