

**LPMGA GENERAL MEETING**

**August 4th Noon**  
Southside Library  
6101 Johnston Street  
Lafayette  
Speaker

**LPMGA Board Meeting**  
AUGUST 17, 1 PM  
IRA NELSON  
2206 JOHNSTON ST.

**WHAT'S INSIDE**

- ◆ Meetings/Board pg 2
- ◆ What Plant Am I pg 2
- ◆ Devenport Report pg 3
- ◆ KUDO'S pg 4
- ◆ LA MG Appreciation Day pg 5
- ◆ What Plant Am I pg 5
- ◆ Reflections on Roses pg 6
- ◆ Message From Collette pg 7
- ◆ Aug. Calendar pg 10

## President's Message

Hello Gardeners!



Well there is no board meeting in July so not a lot of business to report on. We will have three positions open for new candidates on the board for next year; Treasurer, Vice President and Member at Large. After many years of serving as our treasurer Debby Dupuis is stepping down. We owe her a big thank you as she did this role for us while also working a very demanding job. If you, or anyone you know, has a business or financial background or interest please consider running for this position. The VP and MAL roles both come open every year. Last time around we had multiple candidates running for some of our open positions and this gave the membership some choices! So step on up and be on the board for a while! It's vital to our organization and we have a pretty good time too!

I saw in the news last night that we have had as much rain though July 20 as we normally get in a year. It's supposed to start drying out now which is welcome news for some of our plants. Let's hope we don't go from feast to famine and have a hot dry August!

Happy Gardening!

Don Weintritt

MEETINGS AND WHAT PLANT AM I

**2021 LPMGA  
General Meetings**  
First Wednesday  
Monthly  
Daytime: 12:30pm  
Evening: 6 pm

**2021 LPMGA  
Board  
Meetings**  
1pm on Third  
Tuesday

Dates, times, topics, and locations  
are subject to change

GENERAL MEETINGS	BOARD MEETINGS
NONE	JANUARY 19
NONE	FEBRUARY 23
NONE	MARCH 16
APRIL 7	APRIL 20
MAY 5	MAY 18
July 7 Clifton Chenier Center	JUNE 15
	JULY NONE
AUGUST 4	AUGUST 17
SEPTEMBER 1	SEPTEMBER 21
OCTOBER 6	OCTOBER 19
NOVEMBER 10	NOVEMBER 16
DECEMBER SOCIAL	DECEMBER 21

WHAT PLANT AM I

I am a flowering plant native to the hot, dry regions of Africa and India, and I've naturalized in tropical regions around the world in Zone 10 and higher. I am cultivated for my oil and edible seeds, which grow in pods. The largest commercial producers of my seeds are Myanmar, India, and Tanzania. I have been grown for consumption for at least 5,000 years.

Plant my seeds in sandy, loamy, well-drained soil which is at a neutral or slightly alkaline soil. They germinate best at 68 degrees to 75 degrees. They may be white, black, red, brown or tan. The plant they produce can grow up to 3 feet tall. Grown in full sun, I do not need much water after I become established. Companion plants are lilacs, thyme, and sedums. In summer, bell-shaped pendulous flowers similar to foxgloves appear, which are white, purple or blue. Bees feeding on my nectar produce very tasty honey.

Following my flowers, seed pods form, which ripen from the bottom of my stems up. When my seed pods begin to split, cut the stems, and lay them flat in a dry place. As my pods split, tap them over a pan or bucket to release the seeds. Each pod contains hundreds of seeds. My seeds have many antioxidants and are 44 percent to 60 percent oil, which resists oxidation. Toasting them before storing can preserve flavor and prevent spoilage even further. They will last about 6 months at room temperature and one year refrigerated

Do you know what plant I am?

## THE DEVENPORT REPORT:



## Saint Medardus

Saint Medardus or Saint Medard, was a Bishop in the north of France around 456-545 AD. He was venerated in the Roman Catholic church and his feast day is June 8<sup>th</sup>. As a child, St. Medardus was said to have once been sheltered from rain by an eagle that hovered over him. He is often depicted with an eagle over his head and why he is associated with weather, good or bad and is held to protect those who work in the open air. There is a French rhyme: *Quand il pleut a la Saint-Medard, il pleut quarante jours plus tard* (If it rains on St. Medardus' Day, it rains for forty days more). I guess it must have rained around the area on June 8, 2021! If you did not know about this association of rain and June 8<sup>th</sup>, I thought it would be a little something for you to explore. Cajun folklore speaks often of St. Medard pronounced (San Meda) and local weather stations report on this as well. We cannot be too rough on this saint because if we have dry weather on his feast day, we will be dry for 40 days. That is why he is considered the patron saint of weather.

Looking at the weather we have had since June 8<sup>th</sup>, I would say it must have rained somewhere around us on his feast day. All this rain is causing a lot of issues for ripening figs. Figs normally ripen around July 4<sup>th</sup> and that falls within the 40 days of rain. When we get too much rain, the eye or the end of the figs open or bursts, allowing bees and flies to become problematic. The figs begin to sour and harvesting figs for fresh eating or canning is reduced tremendously. Another issue with excessive rain is the splitting of ripened tomatoes on the vine. If we get too much rain, you will begin to see radial splits on your tomatoes. Bacterial rot often develop in the splits and cause you to lose your crop. This wet weather has also increased gray leaf spot on St. Augustine Grass and the need of applying a lawn fungicide to control it.

So next year around June 8<sup>th</sup>, please pray for sun!!!!

Dan Devenport LSU AgAgent

# Kudos

## Tommy Hayes

Our camera-shy MG this month is also our hedge trimmer extraordinaire. If you have never had the privilege of helping him on the hedge shearing marathons, you have missed learning that there is a true art to shaping hedges. And you will learn the right and only way—that is the “way according to Tommy”. Tommy has shared his knowledge with us on many subjects via mini lectures during propagation breaks. He has demonstrated tool care, tool sharpening and most recently given a talk on soil structure with hand-outs. Always generous with his time, you will find Tommy in the vegetable garden when needed or weed eating and blowing walkways around the cottage and gardens. He often works on days other than propagation. A master gardener since 2007 and a sustaining member of LPMGA, we are proud to say thank you and KUDOS, Tommy Hayes.

CINDY WILEY'S  
GARDEN SAYING AND REFLECTIONS

\*Good gardening is very simple, really. You just have to think like a plant.

Barbara Damroasch

## LOUISIANA MASTER GARDENER APPRECIATION DAY

**SAVE THE DATE**THURSDAY SEPTEMBER 30, 2021  
HAMMOND RESEARCH STATION

WATCH FOR MORE INFORMATION COMING SOON



Steven J. Roussell, local rose hybridizer, lectured at the recent MG general meeting, inviting us to use the Internet for more rose knowledge and finding new rose friends.

**WHAT PLANT AM I**

Sesamum indium:  
Sesame



# Reflections on Roses by Barbara McConnell

*“A ROSE BY ANY OTHER NAME WOULD SMELL AS SWEET.”* SHAKESPEARE, ROMEO & JULIET

HEIRLOOM, ANTIQUE OR OLD ROSES ARE A ROSE OF ANCIENT STOCK FROM OLD EUROPEAN GARDENS AND DATING BACK TO ROMAN TIMES. CINDY WILEY OF THE LAFAYETTE MASTER GARDENERS (LPMGA) LOVES THIS OLDER ROSE AND PLANTS THEM IN HER HOME GARDEN AS WELL AS IN THE MG DEMO BEDS BECAUSE SHE SAYS, “THERE IS A HISTORY BEHIND EACH ROSE’S NAME, THEY ARE PASSED DOWN FROM GENERATION TO GENERATION, AND ARE EASY TO PROPAGATE.”

OLD ROSES ARE PLANTED IN THE FALL, NEED TO BE IN RAISED BEDS, LIKE EIGHT HOURS OF SUN A DAY, AND ARE PRUNED AT VALENTINE’S DAY AND LABOR DAY. THEY HAVE GROUP NAMES LIKE: GALLICA, ALBA, DAMASK, CHINA AND NOISSETTE.

“OLD ROSES DON’T LIKE HEAT OR RAIN AND DROP THEIR LEAVES WHEN STRESSED, ESPECIALLY IN JULY AND AUGUST. THEY SHINE IN SPRING, AND PERK BACK UP IN SEPTEMBER-NOVEMBER,” WILEY ADDED.

THE MODERN ROSES, WHICH WERE BRED FROM THE ANTIQUES IN 1867, INCLUDE THE GROUPS: HYBRID TEA, FLORABUNDAS, MINIFLORAS, DAVID AUSTIN, ETC.

ACCORDING TO MG, JUAN NIETO, THIS MODERN VERSION FULFILLS WHAT HE LIKES IN A ROSE: FRAGRANCE, LOTS OF DIFFERENT COLOR AND FORMS, AND EASIER TO MAINTAIN.

HE SAYS A LOT OF PEOPLE COME TO HIM WITH ROSE QUESTIONS AND AS A TRAINED CONSULTING ROSARIAN WITH THE AMERICAN ROSE SOCIETY, HE ADVISES, “ONCE YOU FIND A SPOT TO PLANT A ROSE, GO SEE IT IN ANOTHER GARDEN-WILL IT FIT WHERE YOU WANT IT TO: HEIGHT, WIDTH, COLOR AND MAINTENANCE?”

AFTER TOURING GARDENS, I FOUND DON’T BE AFRAID TO MIX UP ROSE VARIETIES OF DIFFERENT COLORS OR SHAPES, AND THEY CAN BE BLENDED IN WITH OTHER LANDSCAPING.

AND THE NEWEST POPULAR MODERN ROSE VERSIONS: KNOCKOUTS AND DRIFT ROSES? THOUGH ADVERTISED AS MAINTENANCE-FREE, THEY STILL NEED TO BE SPRAYED FOR BLACK SPOT AND PRUNED TO LOOK AND PERFORM THEIR BEST.



Cinco de Mayo  
LSU Super-  
Plant 19



Juan Nieto with Modern Roses



Natchitoches Noisette

## Message from Colette Anzalone

Hello, Colette Anzalone here with a couple announcements for the members. I am going to speak to you as co-chair of the Mentor's groups and as Past President and Cochair of Plantfest.

1. I am speaking now as Mentor Co-chair along with Amanda Lafleur for the new class we are still looking for a few more volunteers to help us out. We will have a mentor's meeting on Wednesday August 4 , after the general meeting (Southside Regional Library on Johnston Street. 12: noon. in the same room so I would say about 2:00 ish if the meeting does not go over time. We will discuss the schedule and what is happening at each event which will only be about 2-3 events.

This year's first Class will be held August 12 which all mentors will be in attendance by 8:00am. Mentors will be meeting and greeting the new class and there will be an activity then clean up after lunch. Again if you are interested please attend the mentor meeting on August 4th. I you have any questions -please feel free to contact Colette Anzalone 288-0283 or Amanda Lafleur 781-7708, we will be glad to answer any questions.

1. As Past President I am charged with nominations for the upcoming elections in October so at this time we have the position of Vice President, Treasure and Member at Large open so please if you would like to run for either of these two positions please let me know. Again Colette Anzalone 288-0283 or email me [colette.anzalone1@louisiana.edu](mailto:colette.anzalone1@louisiana.edu)<mailto:[colette.anzalone1@louisiana.edu](mailto:colette.anzalone1@louisiana.edu)>.

1. Plantfest will be held September 25 on the grounds of Whittington house and as you all know this is a big task starting with hauling all the plants to the new location from the shade house to the sale grounds across from the cottage. We need help setting up several tents and moving chairs to location just to name the big items there are many volunteers need to help set up the booth for sale items, cashiers, speakers booth, cooking demo booth and the children's booth. Please mark your calendar in advance to help on the 24th 9:00am -3:00 and then Saturday 7:00 till we finish hauling and cleaning the grounds. If you have any question's please feel free to call me Colette Anzalone 288-0283. Heather Finley 501-9261 (Propagation Chair Cottage - is in charge of the Plant hauling and setup if you would have any question's she is looking for trailers and if you have wagons that can we can haul with please bring them for the event and please mark them with your name so we know who's goes home with who and we don't end up missing a wagon.

If you were in charge of an area and would like to continue please let me know i.e.: refreshments at cottage, children gardens, Cooking demo area.

Thanking you in advance.

LSU AGRICULTURAL CENTER  
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## AUGUST CALENDER

- **LPMGA General Meeting  
August 4, Southside Library**
- **LPMGA Board Meeting Au-  
gust 17, Ira Nelson Center**
- **LPMGA New Class Aug. 12th**
- **IMGC Virtual  
September 12-17 2021**
- **Plantfest 2021 Sept. 25, Whit-  
tington House**
- **Louisiana MG Appreciation  
Day Sept. 30..more info coming  
soon**

*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 17th of each month for publication in the next month's issue unless otherwise noted.**

Please send newsletter items to:

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

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