

LPMGA GENERAL MEETING

RESCHEDULED To
JULY 7 At Noon
Clifton Chenier Center
220 West Willow St Lafayette
Speaker Becky Taylor

LPMGA Board Meeting

JUNE 15, 1 PM
IRA NELSON
2206 JOHNSTON ST.

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President's Message



Hello Gardeners!

Here we are in the middle of May and it's still relatively cool and wet! Do you think it will last all summer?

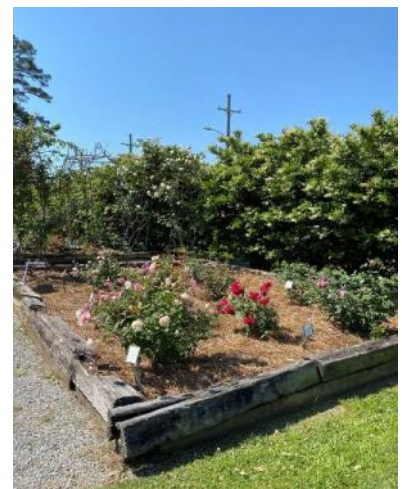
The LPMGA has been getting back into the swing of things. Board meetings are regular and conducted face-to-face, general meetings have started back up, we had a social complete with margaritas and other Cinco de Mayo trappings, the school gardening initiative is likely to start up again in the fall, and the Garden Strolls are getting ready to start again too! Isn't it great to get back together again? Thanks are due to our social committee for the party set up, and to our many committee chairs, organizational leaders and sponsors and partners for getting our activities back up to normal speed.

Hope your May is filled with good weather and happy gardening. Send in your best photos and stories to the newsletter! We'd love to see them!

Don Weintritt 2021

Demo Beds Roses

The Rose Bed at the LPMGA demonstration beds showed off this year. Pink Dawn made quite a show as it climbed up the arch trellis. The Chairs for these beds are Cindy Wiley and Don Weintritt.



MEETINGS AND WHAT PLANT AM I

**2021 LPMGA
General Meetings**
First Wednesday
Monthly
except for July
Daytime: 12:30pm

**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
JUNE GENERAL MEETING RESCHEDULED FOR NOON ON JULY 7 Clifton Chenier Center Speaker Becky Taylor	JUNE 15
	JULY
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 climbing (sometimes up to 50 feet) woody evergreen vine, native to the lower 48 states. My best Zones are 6 to 9.

I like full sun to partial shade, in a well drained, light or sandy soil. Plant me in May to June, or earlier farther south. My showy orange-red flowers are 2 inches long by 1 1/2 inches wide and are produced on older plants. They hang in clusters of 2 to 5 from March and throughout summer and attract hummingbirds, bees, and butterflies.

My leaves are opposite and bifoliate, dark green in summer turning to reddish-purple in winter, on a gray stem. They have been used in days past to brew a tea which is said to provide energy to humans, and to animals such as horses and mules. They have also been used to make beer. I contain reserpine, which is used as a sedative and to lower blood pressure. What would have been a third leaf becomes a leaflet that branches into a tendril. These tendrils have adhesive pads (holdfasts) at their tips which enable me to climb on trees, stones, bricks, and fences. I am not invasive, and I have no reported toxicities for birds, animals, or humans. My fruit is a long, slender, flat capsule. At maturity, it splits and releases many papery seeds.

Do you know what plant I am?

THE DEVENPORT REPORT:



Controlling Yellow Poplar Weevil On *Magnolia grandiflora*

The Yellow-Poplar weevil, *Odontopus calceatus*, is an insect that has been causing damage to Southern Magnolias in the past several years. Weevils have a long snout that helps in identifying it in your trees. This weevil also goes by the names: Sassafras weevil, the magnolia leaf miner and the tuliptree leaf miner. Its host range is from Massachusetts to Florida and west to Louisiana, Iowa, and Michigan. The larvae and adults can cause damage to the leaves, the adults feed on buds and leaves while the larvae mine between the leaf's upper and lower surface. Adult weevils overwinter in leaf litter on the ground under the host tree. In the spring when the weather warms up, they fly to trees and feed on buds and leaves. A couple of months later, adults lay their eggs in the midrib of the underside of leaves. After hatching, the larvae mine the leaves and cause blotch-type mines. On magnolias, the blotch starts near the leaf's tip and can turn a beautiful tree into a very ugly specimen overnight. Weevil larvae pupate in the mine and for a short period of time and after emerging, feed on leaves the same way their parents did. Adult weevils may be found in trees as late as August but may be difficult to locate.

Recommended foliar applied insecticides for helping to control the yellow poplar weevil include those that contain one of the following: Acephate, carbaryl, and imidacloprid to target adults.

Dan Devenport



Adult Yellow Poplar weevil.



Larval damage from the Yellow Poplar weevil.

Kudos Carol Antosiak

Our June honoree considers herself a “worker bee,” but those who work with her acknowledge her leadership skills. A member of the 2015 Master Gardener Class, she has been an active part of the Propagation Team working closely to organize our plant inventory.

She is chair of the Trees and Shrubs section for propagation and the Bed Chairman of both Wildlife and Shrub Beds.

Carol has also been known to mix a mean batch of potting soil when the need arises.

Her interest in our environment has led her to the board of the Acadiana Native Plant Project and membership in the Atchafalaya Basin Keepers.

While admitting to being crazy about all plants, Carol has challenged herself to learn their Latin names. Thanks and **Kudos to Carol Antosiak.**

IT IS PEGGY MARTIN ROSE SEASON



It's that time of year again, my favorite time—Peggy Martin Rose season! You may know the Peggy Martin Rose by another, generic name, the Katrina rose. After Hurricane Katrina and the ensuing flood which inundated most of the city for weeks, everything was brown and dead in New Orleans because it had been under water for so long. But late that winter, the reliable little Peggy Martin, which seems so delicate and fragile, proved that it was absolutely not. It struggled up out of the mud and began to sprawl and climb up and up into the sunshine. It climbed everywhere, on fences, on trellises and arbors and even up on garage roofs. And then it burst into spectacular, victorious bloom. Nothing blooms as abundantly as the Katrina rose. Each rose is tiny but they grow in softball-size bunches, so many bunches that it's hard to keep up with the deadheading. And now, most of

the bunches are fading. But wait. Now there is a second wave of bright pink blossoms. Peggy seems to have

loved the hard freeze we had in January.

By Mary Perrin



The Feed Store

By Becky Taylor

If anybody had told me, as a young woman, that I'd one day get my jollies rambling through a feed store rather than a department store, I'd have thought they really didn't know me. But this is an honest-to-goodness *real* store. This is where you buy your seeds and fertilizer by the

ounce or pound - not in some fancy package. No instructions here - you're supposed to know all that if you're buying in a feed store. I felt so.... I don't know... connected, maybe. This isn't the place for those who garden with gloves - the weekenders. You get a feeling that you're not just *playing* gardener....I AM a gardener. Yellow and red bags of supplemental ingredients fascinated me, because they have meaning. Triple Superphosphate isn't just a name - I see all my plants growing wonderful roots as I look at it. Magnesium, lime, potassium....they all made sense, and I wanted to buy one of each just to line up on my shelf and get a good sense of being prepared for every garden problem.

Bought 1 pound of shallots, small scoop of red-top turnips, 1 ounce mustard seed (too much), sugar snaps (1/2 pound), and a plain brown paper bag with 1 pound of Osmocote (no instructions included except for friendly advice from the clerk). Also treated myself to a shiny galvanized watering can with a red and brass sprinkler top - yes, the plastic Rubbermaid can was about \$12 cheaper - but in my "connected" state nothing but galvanized would do. And now, as I glance toward the garden and see it under the lemon tree, I'm glad I didn't buy the plastic. Who knows? My can could wind up in some antique shop long after I'm dead. Or maybe one of my grandchildren will inherit it, and she'll tell her husband, "This was my granny's."

WHAT PLANT AM I



Bignonia capreolata :
Crossvine, Trumpet flower

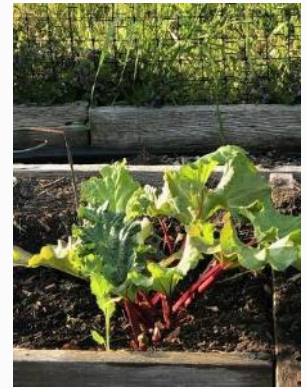




Kathy Troyanowski shared these pictures of Nick and Lillie Long. They are living and “gardening” in Ohio. But they will always be part of the LPMGA.

Nick writes “ It is finally warming up here and Lillie helped plant tomatoes, peppers, bok choi, and **rhubarb**. Here are some action shots. Missing you all!”

WE MISS YOU TOO NICK!



Here is the first bloom of one of the varieties of Louisiana irises provided for my new “native prairie bed” by Urban Naturalist Marcus Descant. He installed the bed in my west-facing front yard in January 2019. As with this cultivar, most of the irises did not bloom until this year. The bed is a space that receives a lot of harsh afternoon sun and extremes of wet and dry, often in succession. I had not had much success with previous attempts to plant there, so I was a little skeptical, but the native species he recommended, which include loads of irises, blanket flower and echinacea, as well as rattlesnake master, bee balm, rosin weed, swamp milkweed and gaura. These are now a flourishing haven for bees and butterflies. Yeah, natives—particularly for those trouble spots in your yard.

Submitted by Amanda LaFleur



The L'il Brooklyn Neighborhood Initiative is a community project to bring pride to Henry Street in New Iberia, LA. The goal was to bring new residents and life back into this community neighborhood.

Volunteers worked to paint houses, create a community park for children, they made planters for the porches and this group of ladies planted them with flowers and community volunteers delivered the boxes to residences of the neighborhood.

Pictured left to right...a resident of L'il Brooklyn, Regi LeBlanc, Ellen Garacci and Mary Gladney.

LPMGA 2021 GARDEN STROLL'S

June 1, 2021
Cindy Wiley Garden
815 St. Thomas,
Lafayette, La. 70505
10:00 to 12:00

Taking walks has proven to be one of the easiest ways to ease thoughts in one's mind. While walking in a garden you can reflect on your past present and future.

July 26, 2021
Cynthia Risinger-Johnson Garden
121 Shadyside Avenue, Lafayette, La. 70506
10:00 to 12:00

June 17, 2021
Marcelle Bienvenu
Garden
1056 Mimosa Lane
St. Martinville, La.
70582
10:00 to 12:00

So please join the folks that have opened their gardens to us and enjoy one or more garden strolls.

June 19, 2021
May Vidacovich Garden
201 Grossie
Lafayette, La. 70501
10-12

IN CINDY WILEY'S GARDEN

Cindy Wiley kindly sent these to me. It expresses how we all fell about our gardens. These made me smile I hope they touch you, also.

***Cares melt when you kneel in your garden. Old saying**

***The first rule of successful gardening is to work with, not against the natural setting.**

Burpee Gardening Guide

***You're only here for a short visit. Don't hurry, don't worry. Stop and smell the flowers along the way. Walter Hagen**

WEAR YOUR GLOVES!

By Barbara McConnell



Alexis Darbonne, registered nurse and master gardener, was doing a lot of gardening in November 2019: at the MG Demo Gardens, at her mother-in-law's, and in her own yard. Alexis was also only an occasional glove wearer, because she liked the feel of getting her hands in the soil.

She goes down to New Orleans to babysit her granddaughter and she starts feeling under the weather. While there, the index finger of her left hand starts to swell; and an orthopedic physician gives her a shot of steroids.

Back home, things are still not right with her swelling hand and by two days before Thanksgiving, Robbie LeBlanc, a Lafayette orthopedic surgeon, cleans out the inside sheath of her hand's tendons of what has been identified as *mycobacterium abscessus abscessus*.

This is a bacterium in the same family as tuberculosis and leprosy. It lives in both water and soil, and can be found growing in shower heads, hot water heaters and C-Pap machines. "We on the Louisiana Gulf Coast and those in Florida, are in 'hot spots' for it's contamination," Alexis said, "and 100% of people who get it in their hands—are gardeners."

By January 2, 2020, Alexis goes to an infection disease specialist in Baton Rouge, who put a PICC line in her arm for administration of multiple antibiotics.

But by February it had spread to the middle finger of her left hand and she had surgery the second time with Dr. LeBlanc.

She ends up in Denver at National Jewish Health with one of only two doctor groups in the country who specialize in this disease. Using other multiple antibiotics they try and 'smother and defeat' it, but can't kill it. She has her third surgery in Lafayette, and it includes her wrist and forearm.

It's the beginning basically of Covid restrictions in 2020 and her husband is a physician and is worried about his daily Covid exposure at the ER and her very compromised immune system. So she isolates herself in a guest house for many weeks working on mixing up her meds, doing physical therapy and managing her PICC line.

She ends up in Grand Isle in a camp with her daughter-in-law, who helps Alexis manage her condition for the following six weeks.

By May 2020 she is a little better, however, she does return to Denver because her joints are now reacting.

Overall, the whole thing took about a year to play out. She no longer has full range of motion in her left hand and her pictures show her scars, but in a recent phone interview she said, "I'm extremely grateful for all the care I received, and I do think I am very lucky for a mostly functional hand."

She does worry about the older and maybe more immunocompromised Master Gardeners and feels they would not be able to survive what she went through, as she watches them at Propagation Wednesdays, not wearing their gloves.

Dan Devenport of LSUAg also wants to remind the MG's that there are other fungus and bacteria out there, especially *tetanus (Clostridium tetani)*-that you don't need a puncture to download: just a cut in the skin and its in the soil and you're in trouble.

VOLUNTEER COORDINATOR REPORT

There have been no reports of members having problems with the online recording system in April or May. Hopefully the updates have taken care of any issues. The IT department is still monitoring the system, and if we experience any more recording issues they should be able to identify them and deal with them as quickly as possible.

Please remember that the reduced required hours are still in place for 2021. To remain Active in 2022, you will need to record 20 hours (all volunteer OR all CE OR any combination of volunteer AND CE totaling 20 hours). If you have any questions about earning or recording hours, please contact Volunteer Coordinator Louann McClelland-Long mglouann@gmail.com or (337) 501-7998

Some Helpful Hints For Recording Hours:

Travel Time:

Travel time is granted for volunteer service, but not for continuing education.

Volunteer service travel time begins when a member leaves home and ends when the member returns home exclusive of time spent on personal business.

Reporting Volunteer Hours:

Time can be logged in 15-minute increments on the computer for continuing education and volunteer service credit each month. Fifteen minutes = .25; 30 minutes = .50; 45 minutes = .75

Hours should be logged into the computer each month.

Instructions for Adding an LSU AgCenter Icon to your Cell Phone and Reporting Continuing Education/Volunteer Service Hours:

Go to your Browser or Search Engine to enter a web address

Type in lsuagcenter.com

Scroll down under "Topics" to "Lawn & Garden"

Scroll down to "Master Gardener" and click on it

Scroll down to "Reporting Site Login" and click on it

At the bottom of your screen, you will see a box with an arrow pointing up. Click on it.

Scroll left until you see (+) "Add to Home Screen." Click on it. Click Add.

2021 Service Hour Totals YTD	2021 LPMGA VOLUNTEER/COUNTINUING EDUCATION HOUR REPORT MAY 1-MAY 22						
	Activity Hours Totals By Details Report	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	YTD
Total Hrs 1690.4	4H & Other Youth Activities	0	0	0	0	67.5	105
Total Vol Hrs 1364.4	Attending Bus/Admin Meetings	6.25	2	0	25	2	93.75
Total CE Hrs 326	Civic & Community	112.70	76.75	164	133	49	1009.65
Ind Contacts 1940	Continuing Education	8	0	0	6	0	17
Total Contacts 16911	Extension Activities	29	8	0	3	10.5	60.5
Mileage 5866.4	LMG Teaching Activities	2	0	12	2.5	13.5	88
Expenses 2136.76	CE Totals Vol Hrs Summary Report	79.25	29.5	44.5	65.75	28	326
	Volunteer Totals Vol Hrs Summary Report	157.95	86.75	176	169.5	142.5	1364.4

Updated 5/22/2021. The 2021 monthly totals may change throughout the year since hours may be recorded or edited in previous months during the current year. Chart totals for previous months are not updated monthly.

LPMGA HANDBOOK COMMITTEE BEGINS WORK TO UPDATE OUR HANDBOOK

The Handbook Committee is beginning work on updates to the LPMGA Handbook and will be creating an Index to make the Handbook more user friendly. The committee members will be contacting our Committee Chairs to ask them to review their committee descriptions in the current version of the Handbook and provide updates if needed.

If any of our members have any questions about the Handbook, or have suggestions regarding updates, please contact Louann McClelland-Long mglouan@gmail.com or (337) 501-7998



**DEMONSTATION BEDS STILL
LOOKING FOR CHAIRPERSON!
CONTACT GAIL
WAKEFIELD 337-288-8058**

LARC Opens a Gardeners' Market



In late March, the LARC educational gardening program resumed operation under the leadership of four Master Gardeners (Jerome Alesi, Carolyn Freeland, Cindy Rynott, and Chuck Schrader) and five LARC gardeners. The five gardeners enthusiastically resumed their roles in the gardening routines by demonstrating what they had learned last year--identifying vegetables, demonstrating how to decide when it's time to water plants and how to water them, and naming beneficial insects as they worked in the garden.

After devoting two years to building a healthy soil, the team is now growing over 15 different vegetables to sell at the new LARC Gardeners' Market. The Market will serve LARC staff members this year, and the gardeners have been practicing their roles in selling the vegetables they have grown.

The LARC Garden program operates daily, and presently the team maintains 21 raised beds of varying sizes--15 vegetable beds, 4 flower beds, an herb garden, and 2 cover crop beds.



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JUNE CALENDER

- LPMGA General Meeting Cancelled
- LPMGA Board Meeting June 15th, Ira Nelson
- Daylily Festival & Garden Show
June 5, 2021 Abbeville
- **LPMGA General Meeting
July 7 Clifton Chenier Center
Speaker Becky Taylor**
- Arkansas Master Gardener State Conference. June 10-11 Virtual.

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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The AgCenter website 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 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 the LSU AgCenter 291-7090

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