

LPMGA GENERAL MEETING

CANCELLED

**LPMGA Board
Meeting**

CANCELLED

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PRESIDENTS MESSAGE

Happy Belated Easter!!

Hope you were all able to have a lovely Zoom session for Easter Dinner with all your family and friends. However, if you did opt to remotely celebrate then I do hope you were all able to isolate in a good way. "He has Risen". Who would have ever thought that we would have to celebrate Easter Mass at home on the computer? It was definitely interesting, but I am praying that all will eventually get back to normal (sooner rather than later).

First off, I would like for all to please keep Babette Werner and her husband Fred in your prayers. Fred has been in the hospital since April 8 with pneumonia. It has been rough for him, but, thus far, there is light at the end of the tunnel. If you don't mind, please just silently pray for the family. Second, I must know, how many of you are getting to work on projects that have been put on the back burner for years and are actually enjoying your time at home. I finished my last day of working from home yesterday (officially unemployed-eeek); so now I can continue in my garden that is flourishing as planned and start getting to my "back burner" projects also - YAY.

As a reminder, as soon as we get to start meeting as a group again there will be some voting that will take place on by-law changes. I would like to commend the Handbook committee and board for they have been emailing back and forth and working diligently behind the scenes. They have been getting the handbook up to date and working on a list of changes that will go before the congregation, all while keeping in mind what is best for the Master Gardeners. This is all set to go before you all 30 days prior to next meeting to get you familiar BEFORE you vote.

Another committee that I would like to give a shout out to is the Newsletter committee. They

continue to update us on the latest information, new events, work dates, and any changes we need to know about. So, if you have any information you want to tell us each month please send to Mary Gladney via email so she can post it.

Thank you all for your patience, continue washing your hands, and remember to stay 6ft apart.

Colette



LPMGA VOLUNTEERS NEEDED

The organic vegetable garden group is looking for a chairman and co-chair. Responsibilities include planning fall and spring gardens, working with a committee to complete and maintain garden plantings, and enjoying a harvest. If you think you are interested please contact me.

Contact:: Kathy Troyanowski 337-804-2260

Kathytroy@yahoo.com

MEETINGS, KUDOS AND WHAT PLANT AM I

**2019 LPMGA
General Meetings**
First Wednesday
Monthly
except for July
Daytime: 12:30pm
Evening: 6 pm

**2019 LPMGA Board
Meetings**
1pm on Third
Tuesday of each
month except July

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

Picnic Cancel	May 19 Cancel
June 3	June 16
July No Meeting	July No Meeting
August 5	August 18
September 2	September 15
October 7	October 20
November 4	November 17
December Social	December 15

WHAT PLANT AM I?

I'm a biennial herb, native to southern Europe, western Asia, and India. I've been cultivated for over 5,000 years. In my first year of growth, my leaves are feathery and resemble those of carrots. In my second year, I produce tiny flowers which are lacy and flat, greenish-white to pale pink and are borne on one to two-foot stems. These produce what many call "seeds", but are really dried fruits. They are crescent-shaped achenes about 0.08 inches long with 5 pale ridges. If not harvested, they will self-seed. These "seeds" are used to flavor bread, stews, and cabbage dishes. They are the flavoring for rye bread, and Havarti cheese. If cooked too long, they become bitter. Their oil is used to flavor soaps, lotions, and perfumes.

According to Nicholas Culpepper, a 17th. century herbalist, a poultice of powdered seeds would make bruises disappear. I'm also used to aid digestion, and my seeds are chewed to relieve flatulence.

In early spring, sow me 1/4 inch deep in well-drained soil in full sun. Keep me evenly moist until I'm established. I have a long taproot and don't transplant well.

This root can be cooked like carrots and turnips.

Do you know what plant I am?

See page 7 for the answer.

KUDOS

Kudos to all of our LPMGA members who are staying home, staying safe and catching up on their own gardens!

THE DEVENPORT REPORT:



.Coping with the Covid 19 Virus

With a “Stay Home” order issued for most Louisianans’ learning how to cope with this mandate has been difficult for most of us. “Cabin Fever” often has us wanting to jump in the car and taking a ride in the country just to pass our time. As plant lovers, we have so many options that we can choose from without leaving home.

Perhaps it’s time to divide plants that are overcrowded in our landscapes or propagate some of your plants that friends would love to get a start from you. Planting a vegetable garden is not only a form of therapy but you can grow something you can eat!

Recently, I designed and planted a small bed in my backyard that I can look at through my dining room window as well as enjoying from my back patio.

In the bed I planted a bottlebrush tree to both provide shade on the patio and provide food for honeybees and hummingbirds. Bottlebrush plants flower in the spring and again in the fall when hummingbirds are migrating through our area. Other plants in the bed include perennials such as lantana, bird of paradise, blue salvia and gaura. I always like to add some annual color such as petunias and dwarf hibiscus to provide quicker blooms in the beginning.

Although I live in a new neighborhood with few trees, I have been able to attract some birds to my backyard. I have put up a bluebird house and the first nesting is complete and the fledglings are out and on their own. The parents will nest two more times during the spring and summer. In addition, I have put up a purple martin house and they are beginning to build their nest. Lastly, I have a bird feeder for morning doves and a shallow bird bath that most all the birds that visit my back yard enjoy daily. It’s amazing how nature can provide so much distraction from the stressful times we all go through. Please consider some of the options I mentioned to help you cope with this virus.

Dr. Kathryn Fontenot has just completed a new Herb publication. See the hyperlink below. In addition, there are many new first-time gardeners that could benefit from your expertise and education. Please share what you have learned with your neighbor. <https://www.lsuagcenter.com/profiles/aiverson/articles/page1586271995364>

Keep Safe!!

LSU AgAgent Dan Devenport

Photo of new bed through my new office (dining room table)





Cindy Wiley shared a picture of her Enigmia Salvia with us.

It is from the Lamiaceae family and is a tall perennial, growing to around 5 feet tall. It is a great pollinator plant and Cindy reports that the hummingbirds love it.

LPMGA “Horticulture In A Time Of Virus”



May Vidacovich grew these stunning Clematis Rebecca. This plant is regarded as one of the best red clematis .

May's Japanese Maples. What a wonderful place this would be to just sit and think.





Jacob Williams and his family enjoy this planter full of annuals and salvia. It adds a bright bit of color at the front door of their home.



Gail Wakefield and her granddaughter, Lily, painted this lovely rug on the pool deck two years ago during Easter Break.



She also sent a picture of her lovely split leaf maple..

Pricilla Mcelroy submitted this picture of her Plumeria just starting to spout out.





Spring has sprung...Lilies, Milkweed, Amaryllis. Vibrant colors attract butterflies , pollinators. Unwanted bugs feed the goldfish. Compliments of Anna Bernard Class 2019."



From Don Weintritt's grandsons school newsletter

PRAYER FOR THE PANDEMIC

MAY WE WHO ARE MERELY INCONVENIENCED
REMEMBER THOSE WHOSE LIVES ARE AT STAKE.

MAY WE WHO HAVE NO RISK FACTORS
REMEMBER THOSE MOST VULNERABLE.

MAY WE WHO HAVE THE LUXURY OF WORKING FROM HOME

REMEMBER THOSE WHO MUST CHOOSE BETWEEN PRESERVING THEIR HEALTH OR MAKING THEIR RENT.

MAY WE WHO HAVE THE FLEXIBILITY TO CARE FOR OUR CHILDREN WHEN THEIR SCHOOLS CLOSE

REMEMBER THOSE WHO HAVE NO OPTIONS.

MAY WE WHO HAVE TO CANCEL OUR TRIPS

REMEMBER THOSE THAT HAVE NO SAFE PLACE TO GO.

MAY WE WHO ARE LOSING OUR MARGIN MONEY IN THE TUMULT OF THE ECONOMIC MARKET

REMEMBER THOSE WHO HAVE NO MARGIN AT ALL.

MAY WE WHO SETTLE IN FOR A QUARANTINE AT HOME

REMEMBER THOSE WHO HAVE NO HOME.

AS FEAR GRIPS OUR COUNTRY,

LET US CHOOSE LOVE.

DURING THIS TIME WHEN WE CANNOT PHYSICALLY WRAP OUR ARMS AROUND EACH OTHER,

LET US YET FIND WAYS TO BE THE LOVING EMBRACE OF GOD TO OUR NEIGHBORS.

AMEN.



WHAT IS GROWING AT

IRA NELSON HORTICULTURAL CENTER

Pavonia multiflora, or the Brazilian candles, is a species of flowering plant in the Hibisceae tribe of the mallow family Malaceae. It is an evergreen shrub native to Brazil.

The plants in this picture are growing in Ira Nelson's greenhouses. When we can move around again this is a great place to walk around and enjoy the peace and quite.



Look at the creative way Carolyn Free-land found to hide an unsightly water trough that she was using to plant vegetables.

However, the neighbors grandchildren saw this as a great "fort" and they had a hard time keeping the little ones out.

Great ideas are appreciated by both young and slightly older folks.

WHAT PLANT AM I ANSWER



Caraway:

Carum carvi



VOLUNTEER COORDINATOR REPORT

Please, do not stress or worry about hours. During this challenging time, the safety and well being of our volunteers, their families and our community is priority one for our organization. But if you find yourself at home, with time on your hands, and are looking for something to do, there are ways to earn Continuing Education and some Volunteer hours from home. 4

But first...please update your contact info.

Don't forget to review and update your contact information in your online account and in the Roster. Check to be sure that your email, telephone and address are current. Also, please check the Roster to make sure you are listed on the Committee Lists for activities you volunteer for. Contact Ellen Garacci with Roster updates at: frankelen@cox.net

SUGGESTIONS FOR EARNING HOURS AT HOME

Online Webinars and Videos Through the eXtension Foundation: *"The Extension Foundation is a membership-based non-profit designed to be the engine fueling U.S. Cooperative Extension's advancement in making a more visible and measurable impact in support of education outreach from land-grant universities/colleges located in every state and territory. eXtension provides an array of opportunities for Extension professionals that foster innovation creation, the adoption of innovations at member institutions, and increased impact of Extension programs."* 6

Free webinars and other courses are listed at campus.extension.org. You do not have to join the Foundation, but will need to create an account. Offerings include: The Power Of Pollinators, Urban Gardening, Plant Diagnostics for MGs, and many other topics. Please remember that CE for Louisiana Master Gardeners is most helpful if it applies to plants, conditions, pests or other issues found in our area. Area specific courses or webinars from Universities in other sections of the United States may not offer information that applies to Louisiana. 8

FOR VOLUNTEER HOURS:

- *Planning upcoming events or activities may be done through telephone, email or text conversations and your volunteer time still counts. *Consider writing an article or Committee Report for the newsletter. Contact Newsletter Editor Mary Gladney at newsletter@lpmga.org for more info. Please do not text Mary.
- *While our educational outreaches are currently on hold, we are always looking for MGs to give presentations. This might be the perfect time for you to create a Garden Talk or Library Lecture for the future. Contact Speakers Bureau Chair Colette Anzalone for more information or MaryAnn Armbruster about the Library Lecture series. You can also reach out to Meagan Stogsdill (imgmeagan@gmail.com) if you have a presentation you would like to create or submit to our Youtube channel. 10

*Chuck Schrader will be needing volunteers at the LARC Garden. Contact Chuck at chuckandkateschrader@gmail.com for more info.

COMMITTEE CHAIRS:

Please review your Committee Description in the LPMGA Handbook. Some Committee lack descriptions, others are out of date. You will need to provide a short, updated description of your committee's purpose and activities for the updated Handbook, So why not write up a paragraph now? If you are satisfied with what is in the Handbook currently or if you have an update for your Committee, please email Louann McClelland-Long at mglouann@gmail.com 12

FOR 2019 CLASS MEMBERS: If you have recorded your 40 hours for certification, congratulations! Please contact the Volunteer Coordinator Louann McClelland-Long at mglouann@gmail.com to arrange to receive your name badge and certificate.

If you are having any problems recording hours or with your online account, please contact Louann mglouann@gmail.com 11

Take care of yourselves and each other, Louann McClelland-Long 13

BOOK REVIEW

SECONDHAND: TRAVELS IN THE NEW GLOBAL GARAGE SALE
BY ADAM MINTER

If you were like me during our enforced stay-at-home during the Covid-19 pandemic, I got some time in cleaning out boxes, closets, drawers, shelves, garage, sheds, and my car.

Now what to do with it all? That is the subject of the new book by Adam Minter which is all about secondhand and garage sales, and so much more.

Minter takes us chapter by chapter on different journeys as to what happens to all that stuff taken to Salvation Army or Goodwill. How about all the electronic gear discarded after repeated upgrades? And where does your junked car go after it dies?

When we donate, most of us would like to think that we are doing a good deed for people who have less, or that your grandmother's things will have a new life. We're all not on "Antiques Roadshow"; most of what is donated gets incinerated or ends up in a landfill.

However, the two most traded items are clothing and electronics, and what doesn't get sold here in the US, may be sent overseas to be repaired and used by people in emerging-economy countries who can't buy or afford new.

Minter has some suggestions for us: don't buy so much, because you can't take it with you. He discusses the new Japanese minimalism like that of Marie Kondo—"If it doesn't bring you joy, get rid of it."

Repair it: www.iFixit.com has something like 38,000 product manuals online, even to repair Apple products, which has a poor history of consumer self-repair; and the largest television parts company worldwide is www.shopjimmy.com.

Minter talks about the "crisis of quality": Buy better quality clothes, appliances, etc. that will last longer, give more value, and be used by someone else in the future, instead of just discarded. www.poshmark.com www.speedqueen.com

Do donate books: schools, libraries, or used bookstores are all possibilities. For example, if the megastore in Japan, Book Off, can't re-sell a book anywhere, they will sell to a paper recycler.

Repurpose/Make it into something: combine an old wooden chest and marble top with a new sink, for an 'upcycled' bathroom vanity.

Get organized-Find the right person for the object: think about which person, museum or organization would want it, and ask them. (www.everplans.com)

And do it now; don't wait for your kids or grandkids to do it, because they don't want IT; THEY WANT "Star Wars" action figures still in the box. There are antique shops, flea markets, and thrift stores full of heavy dark wooden furniture and complete sets of china everywhere. Or use E-Bay, Etsy, Replacements, Craigslist or OfferUp for those things.
Barbara Mcconnell

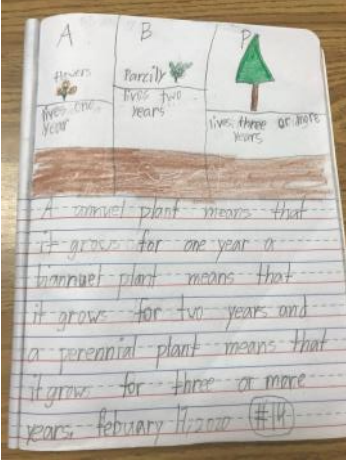
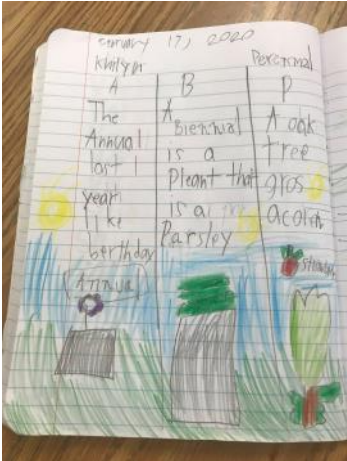
Each month the newsletter will include our volunteer and CE hour totals, plus reasons for, and ideas about, earning and recording hours. If you need help recording or finding ways to earn hours, please contact

2020 LPMGA VOLUNTEER/CONTINUING EDUCATION HOUR REPORT JAN-MAR 2020														
Year To Date Service Hour Totals Report Total Hrs 1408.33 Total Vol Hrs 1169.90 Total CE 238.43 Individual Contacts 1053 Mass Contacts 21954 Mileage 7474.40 Expenses 662.50	Activity Hours Totals By Details Report	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec	YTD
	4H & Other Youth Activities	93.7	98.5	12.5										217.7
	Attending Bus/Admin Meetings	23.5	16.5	17.75										57.75
	Civic & Community	293	181.25	192.5										667.25
	Continuing Education	0	2	4.5										6.5
	Extension Activities	50.5	45.5	48										144
	LMG Teaching Activities	18.5	33	23.7										76.70
	Volunteer Activities Totals Volunteer Hours Summary Report	479.2	376.75	298.95										1169.90
	Continuing Education Totals Volunteer Hours Summary Report	90.45	98.2	45.78										238.43

Updated 4/2/2020. The 2020 monthly totals may change throughout the year since hours may be recorded in previous months during the year. The Year To Date total reflects all hours recorded in 2020 thus far. The AgCenter currently places a value of \$10/hr for each recorded hour. The 2021 Annual Report will be sent to the membership when available.

SGI
GREEN T LINDON
TEACHING THE JOY OF GARDENING

I



In February, Green T Lindon students were taught the ABP lesson by Nick Long. As you can see in the photos of their journaling, these first grade students understand the difference between annuals, biennials, and perennials. Some students classified every plant they could think of as an annual, biennial, or perennial! Great teaching, Nick!!

2020
Dear Ms. Levis:

I am writing to express my gratitude for the work you have done with your class in the school garden this year. It is not uncommon for kids to be picky eaters or not be willing to try foods outside their comfort zones. I spoke with you at the beginning of the year and explained that Cole has anxiety issues and one of the main areas we have been working on with his therapist and pediatrician is his fear of trying new foods. We have seen many anxiety attacks that were triggered by something as simple as having a new food placed on his plate. The thought of touching much less tasting an unfamiliar food would immediately bring on hyperventilating and a steady flow of tears.

When I met you on meet the teacher day and learned that the class would be participating in the school garden, I was both optimistically hopeful and admittedly nervous. The first vegetable that Cole brought home from school was an eggplant. He was so willing and excited to prepare, cook and taste what came from the garden. The next Friday, he was just as excited to bring home and cook a jalapeno pepper. It took some convincing to not just wash, cut and eat the pepper. After adding it to a sauce, Cole willingly and excitedly tried spaghetti for the first time. Much to my amazement, he has gone on to try many new foods from the school garden (eggplant, peppers, cauliflower, broccoli, sweet potatoes, and lettuce just to name a few).

We started the school year with a child that had a fear of unfamiliar foods. We will be finishing the school year with a child that has developed a love of gardening, a child that enjoys looking at fresh fruits and vegetables at the grocery store, and that is open and enthusiastic about trying new foods both at school and at home. Cole now helps me plan and prepare family meals. He has a birthday in a few weeks and one of the things he has asked for are tools and materials to start his own garden at home.

The work that you have done with your class in the school garden this year is purely amazing. The inspirational leadership and motivation the students receive from you daily coupled with the hands on learning experiences in the garden have had a tremendously magical impact on Cole. The students will reap the benefits of this experience long after they leave your classroom.

Sincerely,
Michele Levis



Michele Levis and Jillian Ray thought their 2019-20 class was not getting the proper amount of instruction, they felt they needed to give. during the school shutdown But these pictures, of their students gardening at home, which include the gardening principles they were taught, shows that these principles have become second nature to their students. Receiving this letter from a grateful mom, attesting to the life-changing effect of the incorporation of nutrition from the garden to the class illustrates the powerful impact these teachers and the SGI are having on the students.

Submitted by Sherlyn Larrison

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**Tune in next
 month for what's
 coming
 Up!**

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:

Editor Mary Gladney newsletter@lpmga.org

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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.