

LPMGA GENERAL MEETING

WEDNESDAY

January 8th 6 PM
SouthSide Library
6101 Johnson Street
Speaker
Mary Courville
Wild Flower
Project

LPMGA Board Meeting

Ira Nelson (INHC)
1pm Tuesday January 21

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JUAN'S MESSAGE



Greetings Fellow Master Gardeners,

As I sit here today typing my last column as your president, I am reflecting on all the nice comments I received from many of you, my gardening family. It was a good year in the fact that together we were able to support the LSU Ag Center in so many ways. We stayed true to our Mission and our vision.

I want to thank everyone who volunteered in the School Garden Cook-off, Festival Des Fleurs and PlantFest. Many thanks go out to all the die-hards of the school garden and the new Master Gardeners that have stepped up and answered the call for help. It was a pleasure working with such a committed and hard-working Executive Board. An even higher pleasure to finally bring to the forefront the many behind the scenes volunteers that chair and run the over 30 committees at our September appreciation meeting. Many of whom we did not mention. For those I want to say thank you. You made it a good year. Happy Holidays, and may your days be as blessed as mine are my Gardening Friends.

Juan Nieto

PRESIDENTS MESSAGE

First off, let me start out by wishing you all a Merry Christmas and a joyful New Year. For those of you whom I have not had the privilege of meeting yet my name is Colette Anzalone and I am 2012 graduate of the Master Gardener Program. I want to, first and foremost, thank you all for the opportunity to serve as the 2020 President of our Master Gardener Lafayette Chapter. It is a privilege to serve and I am very honored.

For a little bit about me, I have lived in Broussard for the past 41 years with my husband, Joey, and three children: Joseph (36), Justin(34), and Jenci (28). Joey and I also have 5 grandkids that fill our hearts with so much love and joy. I graduated from the University of Southwestern (ULL) with a Bachelors degree in Animal Science. I was employed with the University for 25 years in the Renewable Resources Department where I retired in July 2011. After retirement was when I joined Master Gardeners and since then have served as the Vice President (2019) as well as other various roles such as Festival des Fleurs chair, Plantfest chair, and a chair for Pine straw sales. I also serve as a current Mentor to MGIT's. I look forward to working with the Board as I feel we all share the same passion for leadership and dedication to our mission statement. In working with the Board, it will be our duty to continue moving forward in our community.

As for a quick recap, we had our Annual Banquet which was held on December 3rd and I want to send out a huge thank you and congratulations to the committee for a great evening. I also want to congratulate our new Master Gardener Graduates and to all that have already received their gold badges. We also had our last board meeting for 2019 and we reviewed the budget. We made a few changes, and saw a decrease in member dues. The budget will be sent out for your viewing in the upcoming weeks.

As we move forward, we will begin to start preparing for our monthly speaker sessions at All Seasons Nursery (March, April, and May). If you are interested in volunteering as a speaker for the Speakers Bureau and/or would like to volunteer to work the Master Gardener table then please do not hesitate to reach out to me via call or text.

Mark your calendars! Our next meeting, on January 8th, will be held at the Southside Library at 6:00 p.m. and the guest speaker will be Mary Courville. Ms. Courville will be speaking about the LaDOTD Wildflower Program.

Again, I look forward to serving as your 2020 President and want to remind you that I encourage you all to feel free to contact me either by email/text/or phone call if you ever have any comments, questions, and/or suggestions. Let's make this a great year!

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**

January 8	January 21
February 5	February 18
March 4	March 17
April 1	April 21
May 6	May 19
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

**Due to the New Year Holiday, the
JANUARY GENERAL MEETING will take
place at 6pm
on Wednesday, January 8th at the
Southside Library 6101 Johnston St, Lafa-
yette**

**Also note that the FEBRUARY GENERAL
MEETING will take place at the Scott Li-
brary 501 Old Spanish Trail, Scott LA
on February 5th at 12:00pm**

WHAT PLANT AM I?

I'm a biennial herb, though I'm usually grown as an annual. Native to the Mediterranean, my dark green leaves resemble celery leaves.

In ancient Greece, I was used to make garlands for the head or neck on festive occasions. I'm rich in Vitamins A, B and C, and clean the breath when chewed.

In milder climates, sow me in late winter or early spring. Soak me in warm water for 24 hours before planting because I'm very slow to germinate. I am also grown from nursery seedlings before my tap-root gets too big. I grow in full to partial sun, in fairly moist, fairly fertile soil. I am grown for use in savory dishes in all types of cuisines. My leaves brighten the flavor of bland foods. Start picking them when I'm about 6 inches tall, taking the older, outer leaves first. Keep my leaves clipped for a fuller, bushier growth. I may be grown indoors in a sunny window.

I am a food plant for Swallowtail caterpillars. Plant enough of me to have some left over for yourself.

Do you know what plant I am?

See page 7 for the answer.



**LPMGA Propagation
team prepares soil
to use in the
upcoming weeks.
This is the time of year
they begin to plan for
the spring plant sale.
Seeds to be started, cut-
tings to be taken all in
preparation for our sale.**

SCHOOL GARDEN NEWS FROM ALICE BOUCHER



A Square Foot Garden bed was added to the garden this year.

Strawberries are thriving and students are anxiously awaiting a spring harvest.

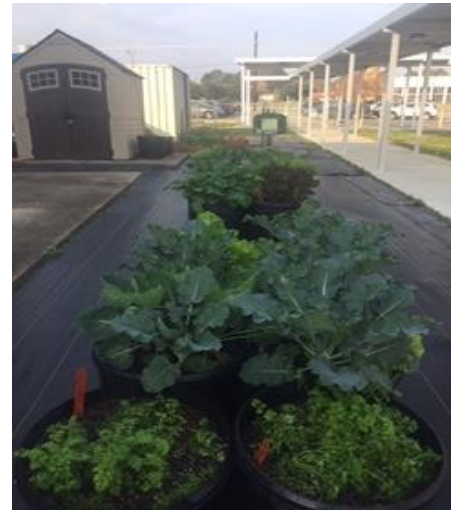


A new addition to the Alice Boucher garden is a sturdy metal sign with a plastic sleeve to insert garden information

Alice Boucher Elementary ended the year with one of its best Fall gardens ever! An earlier freeze sent us scurrying to protect the newly planted greens. We are currently working on a frame to cover our plants should future freezes occur.

Our new garden sign has been used as an additional education tool, providing both the school gardening students, and adults with information about our garden grant and garden tips. Students are looking forward to harvesting and cooking the fall vegetables and planting our Spring vegetables.

Happy New Year!!



Fresh Lettuce and Collards waiting for harvest

KUDOS

Kudos go out to Juan Nieto! As President of the LPMGA, Juan worked diligently to improve and highlight the School Garden Initiative Program. He encouraged our 2019 class to become more involved with all programs and activities early in their class. He supported and recognized each of our committees and programs, by highlighting the committees and their work in our Appreciation Day. Juan has been an outstanding leader for our organization and will remain a driving force for our growth and excellence.



"THANK YOU" LARC CHRISTMAS



In December, eight LARC gardeners celebrated three years of learning skills in the LARC Garden. Master Gardeners Jerome Alesi, Virginia Atkins, Brenda Blanchard, Barbara Feske, Carolyn Freeland, Peggy Musser, Cindy Rynott, and Chuck Schrader sponsored a party for the guys at the Ira Nelson Horticulture Center. The visit began with a tour of the greenhouses led by Billy Welsh. One group of the plants in the hydroponics section caught the eyes of the gardeners. Growing in only water were lettuce plants that had reached the height of two feet. Observations of wonder fol-

lowed as the group toured the "Jungle Room" with a very tall banana tree as the center of the tropical plants.

As the tour continued to the Demonstration Gardens at the Center, the group found the vegetable garden and Nick Long, who gladly described the plans for planting blueberry bushes and pointed out the snow peas and the sugar snap peas in the garden. "Do you grow mustard greens? or broccoli?" flowed from gardener Chris. Nick answered the questions and then covered the steps in growing the sweet potato slips. Gardener Greg listened and then announced: "We need to plant Beauregard sweet potatoes, Mr. Chuck."

In his words of thanks to the gardeners, Chuck reminded the guys about all the work they completed over the years to go from 200 square feet to 1400 square feet of garden space. He praised them for following instructions and learning about planting seeds, weeding, how to water and fertilize the veggies, how to feed earthworms, how to pick flowers, and when to harvest vegetables. The gardeners also were able to identify beneficial insects and how to use non-toxic sprays to get rid of pests—and, lastly, how to clean their garden tools. Following a lunch prepared by the volunteers, the LARC gardeners received gifts along with a special sample of reindeer food. Billy presented the gardeners with a Bro-



Volunteers Are Needed For Festival des Fleurs 2020



Part celebration of spring's arrival, part fundraiser for UL Lafayette's Ira Nelson Horticulture Center and part educational outreach and resource for the enhancement of horticulture in Acadiana –

Festival des Fleur returns to
Blackham Coliseum
April 18, 2020 for its 29th year.

The committee that puts this event together needs volunteers to help them in a number of areas, such as Publicity and Sponsorships.

If you are interested please contact Billie Welsh at welsh@louisiana.edu or attend the next meeting to be held at Ira Nelson on

January 16, 2020 at 5 PM

LPMGA is offering a
continuing lecture series at the

South Side Library
6101 Johnson Street 70503

Thursday Jan. 23, 6:30 PM

Taking the Mystery Out of Plant Propagation

The lecture series is open to the public and earns 1
hour of Continuing Education

Please contact the Library at 445-3168 for more details

LEARN THE ART OF GARDENING

Master Gardeners Lecture Series At The Southside Library

UPCOMING EVENTS OF INTEREST

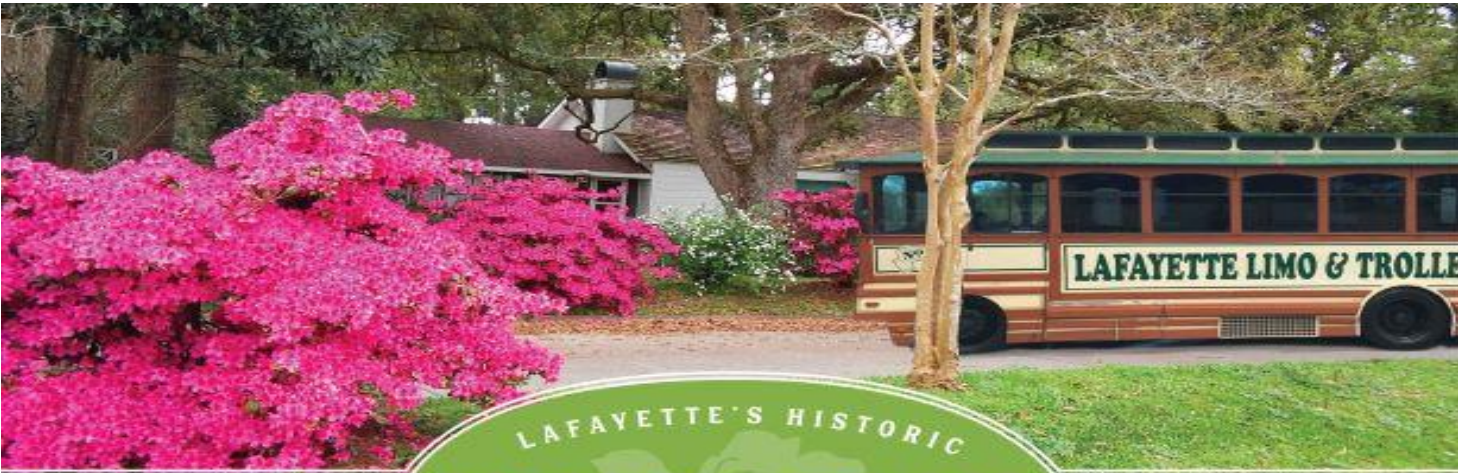
GARDEN TALKS

ALL SEASONS NURSERY

2974 Johnston St, Lafayette
3RD SATURDAYS AT 10AM

**Will Return In
March of 2020**








Ask A Master Gardener table opens at 9:45 Our Garden Talks series offers an important educational outreach of LPMGA. Please contact Colette Anzalone if you would like to become involved as a speaker or helper, or to volunteer for the Ask A Master Gardener table. Garden Talks earn one hour of Continuing Education.



LAFAYETTE'S HISTORIC
AZALEA TRAIL
Celebrating over 80 years!
WWW.AZALEATRIL.ORG

VERMILIONVILLE
AZALEA RECEPTION
SATURDAY, MARCH 7, 2020
11AM - 3PM

TROLLEY RIDES
SATURDAY,
MARCH 7 & 14, 2020
9AM - NOON

MG CLASS OF 2019 ROCK! THEIR FINAL ORAL PRESENTATIONS



Amanda Lefleur-Giambrone

Halloween was the last class for the Master Gardeners 2019, an auspicious day for pairs of students to give their oral horticulture presentations, worth fifty percent of their grade and the culmination of all the prior months of study.

Just when everyone thought it had already been covered, there was a wealth of new information about natural gardening and identification of 'beneficial pests', butterflies, daylillies, wisteria, native Louisiana plants, cucurbits, toxic plants, ginger, honey bees, edible landscaping, raised gardens and planting for fragrance.

And what a show! Though most used the PowerPoint computer program to fashion slides for projection to augment their talks, there were some who chose posters and samples instead, and even one demonstration of how to create an attractive container planter. Some came in costume, and the citrus group brought actual delicious samples for the class to eat. We'll let the pictures tell the story.

BARBARA MCCONNELL



Janis De la Houssaye:
Container Gardens



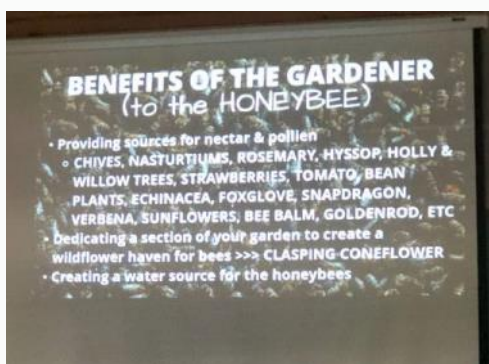
Jackie Hardy & Marti Erny: Wisteria



Jenny Frederick & Anna Bernard: Ginger



Barb McConnell & Pris McElroy:
Toxic Plants



Nicole Johnson: Bees



Chris Ponthier & Carolyn Freland:
Gourds



Virginia Atkins



THE DEVENPORT REPORT:

The new buzz word in the agricultural community is "hemp". I just wanted to fill you in on some of the information that has been shared with agents so you can converse with others on this topic. On November 13, 2019, the LSU AgCenter had their first Industrial Hemp Informational Meeting in Alexandria, LA.

Since Industrial Hemp is a regulated crop, the Louisiana Department of Agriculture and Forestry will be taking the lead on all aspects of the growing and harvesting of this crop. The LSU AgCenter will provide some educational materials regarding growing. You must remember that this is a largely unfamiliar crop in Louisiana with no past university research.

One of the greatest unknown factors is which varieties will perform best in Louisiana's climate. In addition, our climate with its high humidity will make the drying of plants very difficult. Industrial Hemp plants can be grown for its fiber, seeds for consumption and other compounds such as cannabidiol (CBD). It appears most of the hemp being grown across the country is for CBD production.

Tetrahydrocannabinol (THC) concentration must test at a level of 0.3% or less near the time of harvest to qualify as a legal industrial hemp crop. A hemp crop for CBD production contains only female plants, and it is the unpollinated flower that contains the harvestable CBD compound. A single male plant growing near a production field can release pollen (wind) and cause unwanted fertilization of the female flowers. An event such as this, results in a salvage harvest for edible seeds only.

Because there are no approved pesticides labeled for use on hemp, there will be many challenges with weeds, insects and diseases for the grower.

I believe that the LDAF's fee for becoming a hemp grower in the state will be around \$500. Each field will have to be tested (\$250)/field two weeks before harvest to ensure the THC levels are below 0.3%. If they are above that level, a second testing may be requested for an additional \$250. You can contact the LDAF for more information: <http://www.ldaf.state.la.us/industrial-hemp/>

The LSU AgCenter will be providing more training for agents and potential growers of industrial hemp. I personally feel that this is a risky endeavor and one should crawl before they walk not to get burned by things out of your control including harvesting and selling and the going prices you may have been promised and actual prices you will get later after harvesting your own crop.

LSU AgAgent Dan Devenport

WHAT PLANT AM I ANSWER



Parsley:

*Petroselinum
crispum
var. hortensis*





2019 LPMGA SOCIAL

There were 125 members of the Lafayette Parish Master Gardeners Association celebrating over hors d'oeuvres and cocktails another great year together at their annual Christmas Social on December 3 at the Petroleum Club.

One interesting quirk was members drew table numbers instead of sitting with people they knew, and it seemed to work well in the course of a buffet dinner and the rest of the evening.

The class of 2019 graduated with over half achieving their 40 volunteer hours for the year, and those members receive their permanent gold name tags in recognition.

Lois Manual And Becky Taylor were recognized for their 20 years of volunteer service. Both received gift baskets and the honorary title of Platinum Member.

Becky is known for her work in the demo beds & her work in propagation, and she initiated the butterfly, hummingbird and salvia beds. She has worked with five County agents and is known as a great speaker.

Lois Manual is quite the field trip taker and is famous for 150 varieties of peppers grown in the vegetable garden! She is a proficient judge of flowers and 4H gardens and said, "I've known a lot of great people in Master Gardeners."

Mazie Movassaghi and Linda Beyt completed the 2019 Advanced Master Gardener Class and received their Advanced Master Gardeners badges. The "Top Ten" Volunteers were also acknowledged for performing and recording the most volunteer hours for 2019.



LPMGA AWARDS

2019

“TOP TEN” VOLUNTEERS 2019

Most Volunteer Hours Recorded 11/30/2019

1	CHARLES SCHRADER	495
2	MARY GLADNEY	264.3
3	TOMMY HAYES	264
4	SHERLYN LARRISON	219
5	HEATHER WARNER FIN- LEY	213.5
6	JEANELL MENARD	213
7	JUDY CORNE	211
8	KATHY TROYANOWSKI	204
9	BECKY TAYLOR	188
10 (TIE)	NICK LONG	182.5
10 (TIE)	BABETTE WERNER	182.5



TOP TEN VOLUNTEERS

FROM LEFT TO RIGHT:

BECKY TAYLOR
JUDY CORNE
SHERLYN LARRISON
CHUCK SCHRADER
MARY GLADNEY
BABETTE WERNER



2019 ADVANCED MASTER GARDENERS

FROM LEFT TO RIGHT:

MAZIE MOVASSAGHI
LINDA BEYT



2019 PLATINUM 20-YEAR MEMBERS

FROM LEFT TO RIGHT:

BECKY TAYLOR
LOIS MANUEL

*Congratulations to all
our award recipients and
Advanced MGs.
A very special
thanks to all our
volunteers for their support.*

LSU AGRICULTURAL CENTER
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1010 Lafayette Street, Suite 325
Lafayette, LA 70501-6884

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January 2020

DECEMBER 31 PLEASE PAY DUES to Debbie Dupuy

LPMGA GENERAL MEETING

WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 8TH 6 PM

SOUTHSIDE LIBRARY 6101 JOHNSON STREET

SPEAKER MARY COURVILLE WILD FLOWER PROJECT

**January 18th: NELA Master Gardeners January Garden Seminar:
Native Plants and Native Landscapes and Seed Swap/Free Seeds
Registration \$20 Vendors, Refreshments, Door Prizes (318) 323-2251
7:30-1:30pm West Monroe Convention Center, West Monroe LA**

**Late February: Deadline for photo submissions for 2021 Get It Growing
Calendar. Contact Elma Sue McCallum at EMccallum@lsu.edu for details.**

**April 18: Festival des Fleurs/LPMGA Spring Plant Sale
www.festivaldesfleurs.org**

**May 2: Sunset Herb And Garden Festival 8am-4pm
240 Marie St, Sunset LA
www.sunsetherbfestival.com**

**June 6: Daylily Festival 8:30am-3pm
2 South Magdalen Square Abbeville, LA**

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
The Master Gardener program is a division of the
Louisiana Cooperative Extension Agency
1010 Lafayette Street/Suite 325,
Lafayette, Louisiana 70501
Telephone (337) 291-7090 Fax (337) 291-7099
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.