

## LPMGA GENERAL MEETING

**CANCELED**

## LPMGA Board Meeting

**CANCELED**

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## PRESIDENTS MESSAGE

Hello again fellow Master Gardeners:

Here we are in May and still fighting this virus. We must continue social distancing and finish up all the jobs we have started. The questions I hear most often are on getting the required continuing education and volunteer hours. These issues are being discussed and solutions looked at. I have been informed of 4 options that are being considered, but will not have the final decision until mid-June. I will let you know the outcome as soon as I know. Here are a few items I discussed last week with Dan Devenport and Charles Hebert:

1. Our local LSU AgCenter is operating at 25% capacity of staff in the office, but still remains closed to the public at this time. Their personnel are working on a rotating schedule, so you may call the office with your gardening questions.
2. You will be notified once we are informed that activities may resume and how they will be implemented following specific guidelines. They will be a coordinated effort set by the LSU AgCenter, UL Lafayette and Lafayette Consolidated Government. We anticipate that this will occur sometime in July.
3. There will NOT be a 2020 MG class this year. There are too many unknowns.
4. Horticultural Hints will only be distributed on the LSU AgCenter website, with only those set to be mailed to individuals with a paid subscription.

We also, discuss the possibility of Advanced MG's working with Dan on home horticulture trainings offered to the public. The goal is to teach the core gardening basic material in a virtual series of 4-6 classes. Another possibility, is to create hands-on short educational videos to posted on the LSU AgCenter and Master Gardener websites. Please contact Dan Devenport at the LSU AgCenter if you are willing to work on these.

For now, we must continue social distancing until we are allowed to move on with our work. When we can move forward, we will start from that point and move toward the end of the year.

Thank you and stay safe .  
Colette



*Passiflora coccinea*

In August of 1954 Peodwaae Ira S. Nelson set out on an expedition in search of new amaryllis and the red passion flower. Dr. H. M. Lawrence, former Director of the Baily Hortorium, identified this spectacular red passion flower as *Passiflora coccinea* and he welcomed it as a re-introduction into the USA. This collection trip along with others were supported by the Louisiana Society for Horticultural Research.

## 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**

<b>June 3 Canceled</b>	<b>June 16 Canceled</b>
<b>July No Meeting</b>	<b>July No Meeting</b>
<b>August 5</b>	<b>August 18</b>
<b>September 2</b>	<b>September 15</b>
<b>October 7</b>	<b>October 20</b>
<b>November 4</b>	<b>November 17</b>
<b>December Social</b>	<b>December 15</b>

# WHAT PLANT AM I?

I am Native to most of Europe and North America. I am a member of the Adoxaceae family and a deciduous shrub or tree. I can grow in a variety of conditions and prefer a sunny location.

When my branches are young they are hollow and were once used as bellows to blow air into a fire. My oppositely arranged leaves are pinnate with 5–9 leaflets. I bear large clusters of small white or cream-colored flowers in late spring; these are followed by clusters of small black, blue-black, or red berries (rarely yellow or white). These berries can be used as an ingredient in syrups, pies, extracts, jams, wines, tea and champagnes. A teas made from my leaves was used by Native Americans to treat infections and the Egyptians used it to improve their complexions and heal burns,.

I have many health benefits, and have been used by native people and herbalist as a medicinal plant. An extract made from my flowers and fruit can be used to treat bronchitis, cough, upper respiratory cold infections and fever.

Although parts of me a poisonous to mammals, I am still a fair to good forage for animals such as mule deer, elk, sheep, and small birds. I am also good cover for them.

Do you know what plant I am?

See page 7 for the answer.

# KUDOS

This month, Marsha Bayer, on behalf of the LPMGA sends KUDOS to Mary Gladney and her newsletter committee. Even though Lafayette Master Gardeners have basically been shut down during this pandemic, these LPGMA members have still managed to put out an informative and interesting newsletter.

So thank all of you for a great job editors and contributors : Mary Gladney, Barbara McConnell, Karen Trahan, Babette Werner, Maggie Chaisson, Colette Anzalone and Dan Devenport

## THE DEVENPORT REPORT:



If you recall my last report, I mentioned the addition of a new flower bed in my back yard. I also added a bird feeder and used black sunflower seeds to attract doves. Well I also received visits from a male cardinal that found my blueberry plants located on the side of my house loaded with blueberries. While in my blueberries, he saw his reflection in the large window in my bathroom and continuously crashed into it ALL DAY LONG!

A friend of mine has a nice vegetable garden in his backyard and I noticed some stakes with a reflective tape tied to the tops of them. I found out it he was using a mylar bird repellent tape that is silver on one side and red on the other. He gave me a generous amount to try to use to help with the issue I was having with that cardinal. I found 5' tall poles and tied about 15 inches of tape to the tops of the poles. I spaced the poles in front, between and behind the last blueberry plant. It was a sunny day with a good breeze blowing between the houses and I got to see how this stuff works. As it waved in the breeze, with the sun shining on it, it became a strobe light effect and boy did it do the job. The cardinal does not feed on the blueberries and it no longer crashes into my bathroom window! The only issue I have found so far is that after a rain, the tape sticks to the pole and I need to unstick it for it to blow in the wind.

I talked to John, at Chastant's, and he has some in stock and it is also available on Amazon. It has been three weeks that I have installed the tape and it's still working. This method may also work on fig trees, but I don't know how other species of birds will react to it. Please consider sharing with people that have vegetables or fruit that are being attacked by birds!

Keep Safe!!

**LSU AgAgent Dan Devenport**

This is such a good idea. I intend to try it to keep birds from my figs and tomatoes.







Louann Long sent in this picture of her **Calla Lily 'Picasso'**. (*Zantedeschia*) It creates quite a sensation in the garden or patio with its succession of fascinating dark purple trumpet-shaped flowers (spathe) with creamy rims atop elegant, dark green, arrow-shaped leaves with lighter freckles.

### LPMGA “Horticulture In A Time Of Virus”



Early during the lock down, Joni Hill, decided to clean out her garage of unfinished projects. She found this frame that had been a fabric covered bed crown and she deconstructed it. She used things she had and created a cucumber bed/trellis. It may need a little bulking up, but so far so good. She then planted seeds she had on hand prior to lock down.



Look at the lovely planter Theresa Gore created. She has used different colors and shapes to create a planter that is very pleasing to look at.



Kathy Troyanowski sent these photos of her cherry tomato plant heavily laden with fruit.

Cilantro in full bloom. Or you may refer to this as the plant bolting. Either way it is a very nice display,



Kathy Troyanowski's black cherry tree busy making fruit for the birds. These trees are found though out the eastern united states.



## COMBAT THE RISK OF WILDFIRES: FIRESCAPING!

It doesn't seem possible that our area would need information about wildfires, but according to information from the University of Georgia in an April 30, 2020 two hour Zoom meeting, "Preparing for Wildfires with Firescaping-a Training for Master Gardeners", the highest temperatures on record in some parts of the country, one of the worst droughts in 1200 years in the southwestern United States, and extreme weather conditions that arise, make this something we need to inform ourselves about. In turn, Master Gardeners, a trusted source of information, need to educate their communities about "the history of fire, its behavior, plant flammability and firescaping design," according to the information sent to us by Sara Shields PhD, Louisiana Master Gardeners State Coordinator about this USDA-funded training.

There were over 300 Master Gardeners in on the training that day from Georgia, Mississippi, North Carolina, Oklahoma, Texas and Louisiana. J. Holly Campbell of the David B. Warnell School of Forestry in Athens, Georgia who organized the session, said she would be happy to provide further mini-virtual sessions.

By Barbara Mcconnell

## HERBS & VEGGIES IN THE SUMMER GARDEN

Plant heat-set tomato plants in mid-June according to LSU AgCenter's *Horticulture Hints* for Summer, 2020 because these have been bred to set fruit during high nighttime temperatures, when other cultivars will not. So if you haven't gotten your tomato plants in yet, and every home garden needs at least one plant, this is a good time for these preferred varieties: Florida 91, Solar Set, SunMaster, Phoenix and Bella Rosa. You might get product thru October.

In the South, according to Bonnie Plants Company, tomatoes need full morning sun, but shade in the afternoon protects them from our 'fry eggs on the sidewalk' sunlight. If no natural shade, try 50 percent shade cloth. Plant in enriched, mulched and moist soil, pick early because of the heat, and watch out for pests and diseases. You should get five or more pounds per plant of usable fruit of this very popular garden veggie.

Tomatoes are full of vitamins C, A and potassium. And they have lycopene, which gives the tomato its red color, and is an antioxidant which is believed to have medicinal qualities.

### CAPRESE SALAD & BALSAMIC REDUCTION

1 C BALSAMIC VINEGAR  
1/4 C HONEY  
3 MED-LRG TOMATOES SLICED  
16 OZ. PACKAGE OF *FRESH* MOZZARELLA  
CHEESE, SLICED  
1/2 C FRESH BASIL LEAVES  
1/4 C EXTRA VIRGIN OLIVE OIL  
COMBINE BALSAMIC VINEGAR AND HONEY AND  
BOIL TILL REDUCED TO SYRUP COOL  
ALTERNATE SLICES OF CHEESE AND TOMATOES  
ON PLATTER AND SPRINKLE WITH S&P  
ARRANGE BASIL LEAVES AROUND PLATE  
DRIZZLE BALSAMIC REDUCTION OVERALL  
DRIZZLE OLIVE OIL OVER ALL.  
BON APPETIT!



\*(WATCH VIDEO ON ALLRECIPES.COM)



### CLASSIC MINT JULEP

#### INGREDIENTS

1/2 OUNCE SIMPLE SYRUP  
(EQUAL MEASURES WATER AND  
SUGAR STIRRED OR HEATED UNTIL  
DISSOLVED)

2 LARGE SPRIGS OF MINT

2 1/2 OUNCES BOURBON\*

(BOTTLED IN BOND PREFERRED)

*\*For a virgin option swap bouron for 2 1/2  
Ounces ginger beer and add 1/2 ounce  
fresh lemon Juice*



Put simple syrup into mixing glass with mint leaves, reserving top few inches of best sprig for garnish. Muddle lightly with muddler or wooden spoon. Pour into julep cup, straining out mint. Fill halfway with powdered ice. Add bourbon; stir until cup is well frosted. Fill with ice, mounding on top. Garnish with mint insert straw; serve.



May Vidacovich has once again shared pictures of her lovely garden with us. Here are a few things blooming at May's house.

## WHAT PLANT AM I ANSWER



Elderberry  
*Sambucus nigra*  
Is the most  
common





Since the pandemic, the Healer's Garden Committee hasn't been able to do much in the way of upkeep, so they have used that time to work in their own gardens at home. Here are those of Maureen Phelan and Mary Perrin.

1



2

Maureen Phelan has been enjoying her garden during this time of isolation. She recently had to have an "over mature" river birch cut down, which changed a shady patch in her yard to one a lot sunnier. She moved some plants around to place those needing more sun in the new sunlight. And moved those needing shade to shadier spots.

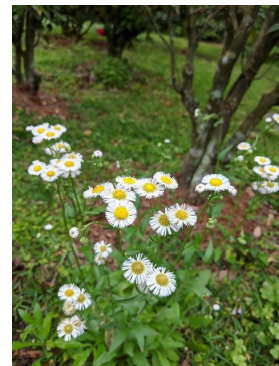
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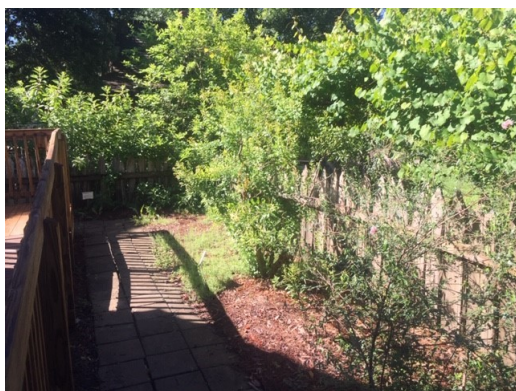
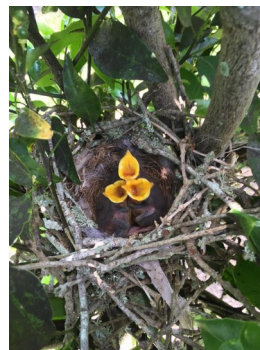


7



Begonias, Katrina roses, and orange crocosmia. Humm, what flower is this? No way a Mama bird could ignore this bouquet of noisy hungry babies .

Submitted by Mary Perrin.



David Cheramie PHD and CEO of Vermilionville sent us these pictures of the Healers Garden. Waiting on the LPM-GA for a little clean up.





## THE HEALER'S GARDEN

*Le Jardin des Traiteurs at la Maison Acadienne*  
VERMILIONVILLE

BUILDING A MEDICINAL GARDEN USING NATIVE PLANTS OF LOUISIANA THAT WERE IMPORTED TO OUR AREA PRIOR TO 1900 WAS THE VISION OF C.RAY BRASSIEUR, PH.D. WHO TOOK HIS INFORMATION FROM RESEARCH ON THE CREOLE FRENCH LANGUAGE WHERE PARTICIPANTS TALKED ABOUT THEIR HOME REMEDIES.

AND ALSO, IN THAT TRADITION IS THE *TRAITEUR*, A RESPECTED LOCAL PERSON WHO SPECIALIZES IN TREATING CERTAIN AILMENTS AND HAS A GIFT FOR HEALING, USING FOLK MEDICINE, MYSTICISM, AND LOCAL PLANTS WITH SPECIAL PROPERTIES.

MARY ANN ARMBRUSTER, PH.D., OUR VERY OWN MASTER GARDENER EXPERT IN LOCAL HEALING PLANTS SAYS ALTHOUGH THOUGHT OF AS WEEDS BY MANY, THEY ARE USED NOT ONLY IN HEALING, BUT ALSO AS A FOOD, OR IN BEAUTY PRODUCTS, AND COMPOUNDED IN MANY DIFFERENT FORMS.

THE ENGLISH NAMES ARE VERY FAMILIAR TO MANY AND SOME MAY KNOW THE PAIRED FRENCH TERM: ST. JOHN'S WORT, ARNICA, ELDERBERRY, BONE SET, YAUPON, THISTLE, BLACK NIGHTSHADE, AND CHINABERRY TO NAME ONLY SOME. HOW ABOUT CAT'S FOOT OR PATTE DE CHAT!

"AND WHEN OLDER PEOPLE VISIT US, THEY MOST OFTEN MENTION THESE THREE PLANTS USING THEIR FRENCH NAMES: THE MAUVE, MANGLIER AND MAMOU," MARY ANN SAID. (BRISTLE MALLOW, GROUNDSEL BUSH, AND MAMOU PLANT OR CORAL BEAN)

THE GARDENS ARE INTERESTING TO BROWSE THRU, AND SOME PLANTINGS ARE FRAGRANT DEPENDING ON THE MIX OF PLANTS AT THAT TIME OF YEAR. SHE ADVISES US TO VISIT THE GARDEN OFTEN AS THE SEASONS CHANGE, SO DO THE PLANTINGS.

Each month the news-letter 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 Louann McClelland-Long  
mglouann@gmail.com

Year To Date Service Hour Totals Report	2020 LPMGA VOLUNTEER/CONTINUING EDUCATION HOUR REPORT JAN-APR 2020													YTD
	Activity Hours Totals By Details Report	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec	
Total Hrs 1679.33	4H & Other Youth Activities	93.7	98.5	12.5	9									266.20
Total Vol Hrs 1400.40	Attending Bus/Admin Meetings	23.5	16.5	17.75	0									57.75
Total CE 278.93	Civic & Community	293	181.25	192.5	6.5									827.25
Individual Contacts 1463	Continuing Education	0	2	4.5	0									15.5
Total Contacts 25144	Extension Activities	50.5	45.5	48	13									157.0
Mileage 9225.4	LMG Teaching Activities	18.5	33	23.7	0									76.70
Expenses 732.50	Volunteer Activities Totals	479.2	376.75	298.95	28.5									1340.40
	Volunteer Hours Summary Report													
	Continuing Education Totals	90.45	98.2	45.78	17.5									274.93
	Volunteer Hours Summary Report													

Updated 5/22/2020. 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.

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

for the latest research-based information on just about anything, visit our Web site at [www.lsuagcenter.com](http://www.lsuagcenter.com)

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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](mailto: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](http://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.**