

## LPMGA GENERAL MEETING

**October 6, Noon**  
Southside Library  
6101 Johnston Street  
Lafayette  
Speaker Tim Chapman  
Greenwood Nursey

## LPMGA Board Meeting

**OCTOBER 19 1 PM**  
IRA NELSON 2206 JOHNSTON ST.

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# President's Message



Hello Gardeners!

As I am writing this newsletter, Hurricane Nicholas has made land fall in Texas and looks like it's making a bee-line for us. September is peak hurricane season, but I think we were all hoping that this year would be a little kind.

The main news item is the upcoming Plant Fest sale set for Saturday September 25. On Friday September 24 we will be setting up tents starting at 9 AM and then begin moving the plants over around noon. We should be done by 3, though in the past we have finished earlier than that.

Saturday morning the plant sale starts at 8 AM, but we encourage volunteers to come around 7. The customers are ready to shop and the early birds will be there before 8 AM for sure. The sale ends at 1 PM but that's not where the work stops. We have to move back all the unsold plants and plant racks, and fold up and store the tents. Please help us make the takedown faster by having plenty of helpers. Remember to bring your own water and food etc. We will not be providing anything for ourselves or our customers due to the ongoing virus concerns.

Happy Gardening and hope to see you at Plant Fest!  
Don Weintritt

## Greeting Fellow Master Gardener and MGIT's,

I want to start by thanking everyone for volunteering to work PlantFest 2021, I realize that it will not have some of the community presentations we are accustomed to, but there is always next year. For MGIT's it will be the first time working an event with the Master Gardener program. For all the rest of our dedicated members, I truly want to thank those of you that year after year are some of the first to text me or send me an e-mail offering your time. I want to invite everyone to our general meeting. Our speaker will be Tim Chapman with Gingerwood Nursery. The meeting is at 12 noon at the Southside Library on Oct. 6<sup>th</sup>. Juan Nieto (VP)

MEETINGS AND WHAT PLANT AM I

**2021 LPMGA  
General Meetings**  
First Wednesday  
Monthly  
Daytime: 12:00pm  
Evening: 6 pm

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

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

GENERAL MEETINGS	BOARD MEETINGS
OCTOBER 6	OCTOBER 19
NOVEMBER 10	NOVEMBER 16
DECEMBER SOCIAL	DECEMBER 21

Fall Garden Stroll

I'm pleased to inform our membership that we will have a Fall Garden Stroll. It will be Saturday, October 2, 2021 from 10:30 to 12:30. This stroll will take place at the home of Andy Breaux. Andy is not a Master Gardener, but is a friend to many of us. He lives at 108 Clara Von, Lafayette, La. Parking is limited, so Andy suggests that you carpool. Parking is available on side streets or across the street at Red's Health Club. Remember you earn one hour of education credit by attending. Please contact me if you would like to host a Garden Stroll. [Cindy4wiley@yahoo.com](mailto:Cindy4wiley@yahoo.com) or 337-207-6424

WHAT PLANT AM I

I'm a large (up to 100 feet or more), deciduous native tree, found from Canada down to northern Florida, and east to Texas. I like moist, fertile soils of oak hammocks, bottomland hardwoods, upland slopes, and ridges. I have stout limbs, a straight trunk, with a

broad spreading canopy. Because of my long taproot, I am difficult to transplant except when I am very young. However, because of my taproot, I have great hurricane wind resistance. My leaves are shiny green above and paler below, with short, soft hairs. In the fall, my leaves, which can range from 6 to 12 inches, turn a beautiful yellow orange before falling.

My male flowers are in pendulous catkins, my female flowers appear in short, clustered spikes on the tips of my branches in April. They are borne on the same tree. From September through October, solitary, or paired ovoid, 3/4-to-1-inch fruits appear. The nut inside is edible, but bitter to humans. However, they are eaten by pigs, racoons, rabbits, chipmunks, and all kinds of foxes. They are calorie-dense, each ounce containing 193 calories, and they are an excellent source of protein.

My trunk is smooth, light to dark gray, and becomes ridged and forms diamond patterns as it ages. My white wood is strong and heavy, shock resistant, and has many uses, including handles for tools and implements, brooms and skis. It is excellent for firewood.

My main problems are the bark beetle's native to Wisconsin, and tent caterpillars. But I can live more than 200 years.

Do you know what plant I am?

## THE DEVENPORT REPORT:



### “Murder Hornets”

In the past few weeks, I have received several phone calls from individuals claiming that they have the Asian Giant Hornets- “Murder Hornets” in their yard. I quickly let them know, and want you to know, that these insects have only been identified in the Pacific Northwest, mainly in the state of Washington and on Vancouver Island, Canada!

There is a size difference between the two insects that should be noted. Murder Hornets are very large between 1.5”-2” long where the Cicada Killers are a little smaller about 1.5” long. Visual marking on the upper abdomens of these insects are very useful in identifying the two. Cicada Killers have yellow stripes across their abdomen that are jagged and yellow in color. Murder Hornets have smooth, straight lines across their abdomen that are either orange or dark brown in color.

It is interesting to know that in 2020, entomologists in Washington State were able to tie a small tracking transmitter, using dental floss, to the body of one of these Murder Hornets and tracked it back to it’s hive in a hollowed tree. They were able to destroy the nest full of the insects hoping to eradicate these Insects. In 2019, Canadian officials were able to eradicate another nest in a public park on Vancouver Island, BC.

Cicada Killers normally appear during the summer months of July and August but evidently September as well based on the recent phone calls I’m receiving. These insects feed on cicadas and if not provoked are harmless. Cicada Killers are beneficial and are predators of cicadas, which it stings and stuns to store in her burrow to feed her larvae.

It appears the movement of Murder Hornets is slow and more than likely never make it down to our area, but stranger things have happened. If you hear of someone thinking that they have seen one of these Murder Hornets, more than likely they have encountered a Cicada Killer. The marking on the abdomen is a good way to identify the insect if they can get that close to analyze. Samples can also be dropped off to my office and I can send them to our entomologists in Baton Rouge for identification.



Asian Giant Hornet/Murder Hornet



Cicada Killer Wasp

# WHAT PLANT AM I?



Carya  
glara :  
Pignut  
Hickory



## ANNOUNCING NEW TROPICAL BED'S CHAIRS



A big welcome and thank you to these two sisters, Linda Landry and Priscilla McElroy, class of 2019, who have volunteered to chair our 3 tropical beds!



**A Community Garden  
Lafayette Parish Master Gardener  
Education Fair and Plant Sale**

**Saturday, September 25, 2021 8:00-1:00**

**Lafayette Parish Master Garden Association Demonstration Beds  
Blackham Coliseum Road**

**A HUGE assortment of Master Gardener Favorite!**

**Affordable Plants, Suitable for Fall Planting, Nicotinoid-free Plants  
Natives, Perennials Butterfly & Hummingbird Plants, Succulents,  
Southern Bulbs and More!!!**

**Horticultural Speakers**

**9:00 -9:25 " SETTING UP IRRIGATION IN YOUR YARD" GAIL  
WAKEFIELD/DON WEINTRITT**

**9:30 – 9:55 " GROWING ORCHIDS" MARY GLADNEY**

**10:00- 10:25 " GROWING SUCCULENTS" TINA JUMONVILLE**

**10:30- 10:55 " GROWING CUT FLOWERS" COLETTE ANZALONE**

**11:00 – 11:25 " PROPAGATION" SUSAN MEAD**

**DRAWING FOR DOOR PRIZES AT 12:30**

**YOU DO NOT HAVE TO BE PRESENT TO WIN**

**SELF-GUIDED TOUR OF DEMONSTRATION BEDS 9:00AM-12:30PM**

**Plant Swap near Cottage 10:00 -11:00**

**Note: Please bring your own water  
BRING OWN SHOPPING CARTS/WAGONS**

*Master Gardener's Christmas Social*



*MGIT 2021 Class Graduation*

*December 1, 2021*

*6:00 pm*

*Petroleum Club*

*6:00-6:45 Social & hors d'oeuvres Cash Bar*

*7:00 Dinner*

*8:00 Graduation*

*Cost \$40 (MGITs excluded)\*\*\**

**DEADLINE FOR RESERVATION: FRIDAY, November 26, 2021**

**\*\*\*Sorry, but due to price increases in food, trucking, etc. the price has increased.**

**Make checks payable: LPMGA**

**Mail to:**

**Pam Womack  
1018 Bayou Tortue Rd.  
Broussard, LA 70518**

---

**Name:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Number of Guests:** \_\_\_\_\_ **Amount Enclosed:** \_\_\_\_\_

## TIME TO ORDER PINESTRAW FOR FALL!



It's time for Fall Pine Straw, Y'all! Orders for active MGs only will be taken at the September and October general meetings and via phone, email or text. Pick up behind the Demo Gardens is Friday or Saturday Nov 5 and 6th, 8 to Noon, \$10 per bale, cash or check payable to LPMGA at pick up, 20 bale maximum. Order early! They go quickly!

Thanks, Theresa Gore 2007

[TeaGore@msn.com](mailto:TeaGore@msn.com) Cell/text: 303-8113

## RAIN GARDENS: A CURE FOR YARD FLOODING BY BARBARA McCONNELL

THE LAFAYETTE AREA ESCAPED MAJOR FLOODING ANTICIPATED BY HURRICANE NICHOLAS IN SEPTEMBER OF 2021, BUT IT HAS BEEN A SOGGY YEAR. RAIN REPORTED BY THE NATIONAL WEATHER SERVICE WAS AT 67.43 INCHES OF RAIN BY SEPTEMBER 16, MORE THAN 20 INCHES MORE THAN WHAT'S NORMAL THIS TIME OF YEAR. ANNUAL LOUISIANA RAINFALL IS USUALLY AROUND 60 INCHES, WITH THE OTHER GULF COAST STATES CLOSE BEHIND ALONG WITH HAWAII IN COMPETITION AS THE WETTEST STATE!

WHAT DO YOU DO WITH ALL THAT WATER THAT OFTEN ACCUMULATES IN YOUR YARD, GUSHING FROM GUTTERS, COLLECTING IN LOW SPOTS, OR RUNNING OFF INTO THE STREETS? SOME ELECT TO HAVE RAIN BARRELS TO COLLECT WATER AND REUSE FOR THEIR YARDS AND THESE CAN BE OBTAINED AT LOW-COST FROM LAFAYETTE CONSOLIDATED GOVERNMENT, TO BEGIN AGAIN IN MARCH 2022.

BUT A RAIN GARDEN IS USUALLY A LOWER AREA IN THE LANDSCAPE THAT CAN BE CONVERTED INTO A WET GARDEN. THOUGH THE CONCEPT IS NOT NEW, IT IS GAINING IN POPULARITY, BOTH FOR RESIDENTIAL SETTINGS AS WELL AS BUSINESS AND GOVERNMENT PROPERTY. THEY CAN BE PUT AT THE BOTTOM OF A GUTTERS' DOWNSPOUT, DUG AS A LOW SPOT IN THE YARD, OR A NATURALLY LOW AREA-A SPOT WHERE WATER CAN COLLECT. DRESS IT UP WITH MOISTURE-LOVING PLANTINGS SUCH AS THE LOUISIANA IRIS; BORDER IT WITH DECORATIVE ROCKS, OR CONSTRUCT A PLASTIC LINED WATERWAY TOPPED WITH GRAVEL TO SPREAD WATER OUT.

SO TO KEEP YOUR STORMWATER CLEANER AND FILTERED, CREATE A WATER FEATURE, HELP IRRIGATE YOUR LAND AND ACCUMULATE WATER FOR WILDLIFE SUCH AS RESIDENT BIRDS, CONSIDER THE RAIN GARDEN.

THE LSU AGCENTER HAS MANY ARTICLES ON THE SUBJECT BUT A MAY 21, 2021 PIECE BY HEATHER KIRK-BALLARD, "*RAIN RAIN GO AWAY*" IS VERY INFORMATIVE AND GIVES INSTRUCTIONS ON HOW TO BUILD A RAIN GARDEN AND WHAT THE LIMITATIONS CAN BE. PINTEREST IS LOADED WITH INFORMATION AND PICTURES TO GIVE YOU EVEN MORE IDEAS.



## Mary Alice Hale Host Healers Garden Committee



Recently, members of the Healers Garden Committee were treated to summer lunch at the Breaux Bridge home of committee member Mary Alice Hale. Those present were Mary Alice Hale, Tina Vidrine, Nancy Atkins, Beverly Fuselier, Margaret Lambert, May Waggoner, Sherry Perry, Melanie Francois' and co-chair Mary Perrin.

We got a tour of the Hale's venerable old Breaux Bridge home and enjoyed the summer breezes under a giant live oak tree in their shady backyard. A special treat was seeing their vegetable garden which was also filled with literally hundreds of colorful zinnias, a Master Gardener's delight. Afterwards, the chefs, Mary Alice, Tina Vidrine, and Nancy Atkins, saw to it that we ate well .

Melanie Francois, Tina Vidrine, Sherry Perry, and Nancy Atkins enjoy a little pre-lunch fellowship.

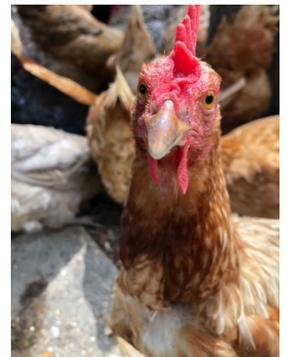


May Waggoner and hostess Mary Alice Hale catch up on summer activities



Honorary member Stephanie Stanley, and committee members Beverly Fuselier and Margaret Lambert chat with photographer Mary Perrin.

One of Mary Alice's "girls." The girls have a wonderful living situation, a huge chicken yard, as well as a giant backyard to scratch for bugs and worms in. It's a Disneyland for chickens! □



## LPMGA 2021 ELECTION

*Master Gardener members help keep this wonderful organization moving forward. Please consider becoming an integral part of the organization by*

*stepping up to be a board member.*

The following positions are open for nomination:

**Vice President...Treasurer...Volunteer Coordinator...(Member at Large)**

If you are interested in working with a great group of people dedicated to the MG program, please let me know. If you are not sure about the decision to work with the board, please call me as I would love to discuss this opportunity with you.

Debbie Dupuy, after several years as our treasurer, has become very busy at work and will be stepping down. If you have any experience with bookkeeping we could sure use your help! Debbie will be happy to discuss the position with you so give her a call at 849-1117.

Please look up the responsibilities of these offices in your handbook and give me a call. I need to hear from all interested parties since the nominating committee will meet shortly to put the slate together.

**CALL ME WITH QUESTIONS OR TO EXPRESS AN INTEREST!**

Colette Anzalone 337-288-0283 or email [colette.anzalone1@Louisiana.edu](mailto:colette.anzalone1@Louisiana.edu)

## **Tickets for Drawing ~ Plantfest 2021 ~**

Our last Plantfest drawing doubled our usual profits even after expenses, i. e. \$1042 vs \$500. The key to doing this is the PRE-SALE of the \$5 tickets. If every Master Gardener would sell a book of tickets, we could multiply our profits many times over.

The tickets will again be given out at the September meeting. Plantfest is one of our most important fundraisers for LPMGA. Please consider taking a book to sell/buy. Remember, the prizes are those great garden carts!

**CONTACT CINDE FOR YOUR TICKETS...THE MORE WE SELL THE MORE WE MAKE!**

Thanks,

Cinde Risinger-Johnson

Drawing Co-chair

**OUTSTANDING MASTER GARDENER  
NOMINATIONS DUE  
OCTOBER 1ST.**

**Criteria for OMG:**

- Be an active member
- Possess positive attributes such as dependability, enthusiasm, and cooperative spirit
- Demonstrate Leadership skill that have strengthened the LPMG program
- Make unselfish contributions that have benefited the LPMG program



Nomination forms are available in the LPMGA Handbook.  
Contact OMG Committee Chair  
Colette Anzalone 337 288-0283 or  
email [colette.anzalone1@louisiana.edu](mailto:colette.anzalone1@louisiana.edu)

**HAVE YOU RECEIVED YOUR 2021 LPMGA ROSTER?**

If you have received it please review it and contact Ellen Garacci with corrections.

If you have not received the roster please let Ellen know as soon as possible.

[frankellen@cox.net](mailto:frankellen@cox.net)

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## OCTOBER CALENDER

- **LPMGA General Meeting  
Oct. 6, Southside Library**
- **LPMGA Board Meeting, Oct.  
19 Ira Nelson Center**
- **Plantfest 2021 Sept. 25, Whit-  
tington House**
- **Garden Stoll October 2**
- **Pine Straw Pickup November  
5th and 6th**
- **Fall Social and Graduation  
December 1, 2021**

*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.**