

**LPMGA JANUARY
GENERAL MEETING**
JANUARY 3RD — 6 PM
DOWNTOWN MAIN LIBRARY
301 W CONGRESS
LAFAYETTE

**2018 LPMGA BOARD
MEETINGS**
1 PM MONDAY, JANUARY 22
IRA NELSON HORTICULTURE CENTER
(INHC)

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2018 BOARD:
President
MaryAnn Armbruster 2010
Vice President
Juan Nieto 2010
Recording Secretary
Patricia Soileau 2014
Corresponding Secretary
Ellen Garacci 2005
Treasurer
Debbie Garrene-Dupuy 2015
Member at Large
Jacob Williams 2016
Prior President
Charles Turner 20124
Volunteer Coordinator
Jay Ruffin, Jr. 2012
Newsletter Editor
Theresa Rohloff 2012
Agent/Adviser
Dan Devenport

WISHES FOR A HAPPY NEW YEAR



New President, MaryAnn Armbruster's message:

Happy New Year Everyone. I look forward to working with you all during the coming year. I hope that you will help me and the Board by sharing your ideas and thoughts for improvement. Over the past few years we have had an annual retreat for the Board. The results of those retreats have basically been that we should increase member interest, increase transparency, share information over social media to increase our community profile and keep it fun. During the year the Board and I hope to continue all those things because they are all worth doing.

Thank you for your trust and support. I can accomplish nothing without your help.

I wish you all the very best in this new year.

MaryAnn Armbruster

Our 2018 board:



MaryAnn Armbruster: President
Juan Nieto: Vice President
Ellen Garacci: Corresponding Secretary
Patricia Soileau: Recording Secretary
Jacob Williams: Member At Large
Debbie Garrene-Dupuy: Treasurer
Jay Ruffin: Volunteer Coordinator
Charles Turner: Prior President



EVENTS, REPORTS, AND BOARD ANNOUNCEMENTS

2018 LPMGA Meetings:
(First Wednesday
Except in July)
Daytime—noon/Evening—6 pm

2018 LPMGA Board Meetings
1 pm:
(Fourth Monday except for July
& Dec.)

JANUARY 3, 6 pm

Lafayette Parish Main Library

FEBRUARY 7, Noon

Lafayette Parish Main Library

MARCH 7, 6 pm

APRIL 4, Noon

MAY 2, 6 pm (Social)

JUNE 6, Noon

AUGUST 1, 6 pm

SEPTEMBER 5, Noon

OCTOBER 3, 6 pm

NOVEMBER 7, Noon

**DECEMBER 5, 6 pm
(Social)**

JANUARY 22

FEBRUARY 26

MARCH 26

APRIL 23

MAY 21

JUNE 25

AUGUST 27

SEPTEMBER 24

OCTOBER 22

NOVEMBER 26

DECEMBER 17

STAY ACTIVE IN 2018

Please remember that your
**Volunteer Hours and Continuing
Education Hours must be
performed and recorded by
December 31, 2017**

**For Help recording, contact 2017
Volunteer Coordinator Jay Ruffin**



Our Garden Talks Need Volunteer Support

Our Garden Talks series offers an important educational
outreach of LPMGA.

Please contact Juan Nieto or Linda Beyt if you would like to
become involved as a speaker or helper.

Garden Talks earn one hour of Continuing Education

THE DEVENPORT REPORT



You may have noticed a number of multi-colored lady beetles accumulating around and possibly in your home in the past few weeks. These insects are known as Asian Lady Beetles (*Harmonia axyridis*) and are native to Asia but have been found in homes in Louisiana and other areas of the United States. This beneficial insect was originally imported and released into the US around 1916 to help control certain insect pests but it wasn't until 1988 that the first populations were noted in New Orleans. The larvae of these beetles search for and feed on aphids and other soft bodied insects that feed on your plants that's why they are considered beneficial insects.

Perhaps the one complaint we hear about Asian Lady Beetles is that in the fall, they congregate on our homes and inside our homes in sometimes pretty large numbers becoming a nuisance. If agitated or squashed, they may emit a yellow fluid that has an unpleasant odor. In nature, this reaction helps to prevent predators like birds from eating them; however, this fluid may stain walls and fabrics. The adult Asian Lady Beetles are attracted to lighter colors so if you live in a home that is white, gray, yellow, etc. your home may be a magnet for attracting them in larger numbers. It's when the beetles get into your home that homeowners become annoyed. You will need to try to caulk around doors and windows in an effort to block their entry. If they get into your home, you can use a vacuum or try sweeping them up to get rid of them. Indoor pesticides are not usually needed but if you have a heavy population, you may need to get advice from a professional pest control operator. On the exterior of your home, a fast acting pyrethroid can be applied usually on south and southwestern exposures.



Asian Lady Beetles

LSU AgCenter Dan Devenport

EMBRACE THE CHALLENGE BRING YOUR REUSABLE WATER BOTTLE TO MASTER GARDENER FUNCTIONS!

What Plant is this?

I'm a herbaceous evergreen perennial, belonging to the fern allies. I grow in zones 7-10, but am not fully hardy in zones 7 and 8. I once covered the earth as gigantic forests in the carboniferous period. The coal deposits of Illinois were formed in part from my ancestral plants. I am the only genus of my family, and am native to Eurasia, Canada and the United States. Because of my high silica content, I was used for scouring pots and floors.

Tiny leaves are joined together around my hollow stem, forming a narrow black-green band at each joint. I do not produce flowers or seeds. Under varying conditions, I grow from three to five feet tall, resembling bamboo. Two inch yellow spore-bearing cones release their spores from late spring to mid-summer.

Propagate me from rhizomes or cuttings, but be careful where you plant me. I can be very invasive if not restricted by some type of barrier that prevents rapid spread. If you plant me in containers, check the bottom of the pot monthly for invasive rhizomes. I grow naturally in moist bogs, along abandoned railroad tracks, and at the edges of damp forests, in full to partial sun.

It has been reported that I'm poisonous to livestock. I'm affected by few pests or diseases.

Do you know what plant I am?
See the answer on page # 6

NEEDED: THREE CHAIR PERSONS:

1. "ASK A MASTER GARDENER"
2. SPEAKER BUREAU
3. GARDEN TALKS



Linda Beyt



Juan Nieto

Greeting Fellow Master Gardeners,

Thank you for giving me the privilege of serving as your vice president for 2018.

I also want to mention that we are looking for three leaders to take over the Chair for Ask A Master Gardener, Speaker Bureau and Garden Talks. **Linda Beyt** and I have been keeping them active for the last year and would like to let some new leader take them over. We will give you all the support you need. The three committees work very close together, so much that we have often talked about combining them into one.

New Class members, please consider being the lead chair on one of these very important committees. I would not ask if I did not feel that as a new member the task would be too hard to handle.

Happy holidays,
Juan Nieto

We Thank OUR NEWEST SUSTAINING MEMBERS For 10 Years Of Volunteer Service

*Linda Alesi,
Gail Wakefield,
Mazie Movassaghi
Noorjahan Merchant
and Patsy Sarver*

WERE RECOGNIZED DURING OUR WINTER SOCIAL ON
DECEMBER 6 AT THE LAFAYETTE PETROLEUM CENTER.



CONGRATULATIONS
to our
2017
OUTSTANDING MASTER GARDENER
BABETTE WERNER



**Don't forget to keep saving your flower and
vegetable seeds for the
2018 LPMGA Seed and Bulb Swap**

For more information email plantswap@lpmga.org

Upcoming Meetings



Dan Devenport, our LSU Extension Agent, will be discussing past progress, current projects and future possibilities for our organization. As we evaluate the level of our success, we can consider our potential.



Dr. Steve Payne, retired professor and author of *Strategic Management and Thinking for Bee Keepers*, will address our group on the topic of bee culture. He is a beekeeper and has been an officer and member of the Louisiana Bee Keepers Association for many years.

More Beautiful Beds to be added at Acadian Village



Congratulations go to the Acadian Native Plant Project on their new Greenhouse and their wonderful AV Demo Bed. We encourage all our members to stop by and take a look.

Remember that Master Gardeners will be planting heirloom roses soon and will need volunteers to help. Try to get to Acadian Village to see the work that has been done in prior months. Please email mglouann@gmail.com if you are interested in helping with the old rose project that is slated to run take place sometime soon.

Tasty Recipes Brighten Holiday Harvests

Candied Tangerine Peel Recipe

Prep time: 15 min; Cook time: 30-45 min

Total time: 45-60 min; Yield: 40-50 strips

Ingredients:

2 large tangerines

1 ½ cups water

2 ½ cups sugar (divided)

Cooking directions:

- 1. Quarter tangerines. Remove flesh away from the peels. Slice the peel of each wedge length wise into 5-6 pieces. Try to slice most of the pith away from the peel.*
- 2. Mix the water with 2 cups of sugar in a small sauce pan. Bring to a boil, stirring to make sure that all the sugar is dissolved. Add sliced tangerine peels and reduce to a simmer. Simmer 30-45 minutes, until peels are soft and pliable.*
- 3. Use tongs to remove peels to a drying rack placed on a cookie sheet. Let dry for 1-2 hours, peels will still be sticky to touch. Place ½ cup of sugar in a bowl and roll candied peels in sugar to coat.*
- 4. You can eat now, but let them dry on a rack over night before storing them. If you will not be eating within a week, store them packed in sugar in an airtight container.*

Kumquat Cream Pie

Prep time:: 15 mins,

Yield: 8 servings

Ingredients:

14-ounce can sweetened condensed milk

1/2 cup freshly squeezed lemon juice

*2/3 cup pureed kumquats**

8-ounce container whipped topping, de-frosted

9-inch pre-baked pie shell or graham cracker crust

Cooking directions:

- 1. Combine sweetened condensed milk and lemon juice in a large bowl and beat on medium speed until it starts to thicken, approximately 2 to 3 minutes.*
- 2. Add kumquat puree and beat on low speed until combined, stopping to scrape down the sides of the bowl with a spatula as necessary.*
- 3. Fold in whipped topping and pour mixture into prepared crust.*
- 4. Refrigerate pie overnight or for at least 2 hours before serving.*



What Plant Am I? ANSWER:

Equistum hyemale:
Horsetail, Scouring Rush,
Snake Grass



How To Grow
Equisetum
Hyemale



2017 Photos from the Christmas Social



MG CLASS OF 2017



ABOVE: Those present nominees for Outstanding Master Gardener: Heather Warner-Finley, Theresa Guidry and Gail Wakefield applaud 2017 Outstanding Master Gardener honoree Babette Werner.



LEFT: One of the Class of 2017 members, Tricella Bonnet, who had obtained all the hours needed to achieve active status by the time of induction into the LPMGA.

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

LPMGA Calendar January 2018

**JANUARY 1—PAST DEADLINE FOR HOURS—BE SURE YOUR HOURS ARE
LOGGED BY DECEMBER 31, 2017 TO LSUAGCENTER.COM
HAPPY NEW YEAR 2018**

JANUARY 3 — GENERAL MEETING, DOWNTOWN MAIN LIBRARY, 6 PM

JANUARY 15- MARTIN LUTHER KING DAY

JANUARY 22— BOARD MEETING, IRA NEWLSON CENTER, 1 PM



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:

Theresa Rohloff newsletter@lpmga.org

The Master Gardener program is a division of the Louisiana Cooperative Extension Agency and can be contacted at:

1010 Lafayette Street/Suite 325,
Lafayette, Louisiana 70501

Telephone (337) 291-7090 Fax (337) 291-7099

The Web site 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 Cooperating 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 at 337-291-7090

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