

LPMGA MAY SPRING SOCIAL

WEDNESDAY, MAY 2, 6 P.M.
@ Sarah Schoeffler's
3502 East Simcoe

2018 LPMGA BOARD

MEETING

1 PM MONDAY, MAY 21
IRA NELSON HORTICULTURE CENTER
(INHC)

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2018 BOARD:

President

MaryAnn Armbruster 2010

Vice President

Juan Nieto 2008

Recording Secretary

Patricia Soileau 2000

Corresponding Secretary

Ellen Garacci 2016

Treasurer

Debbie Garrene-Dupuy 2015

Member at Large

Jacob Williams 2016

Prior President

Charles Turner 2014

Volunteer Coordinator

Jay Ruffin, Jr. 2012

Newsletter Editor

Theresa Rohloff 2012

Agent/Adviser

Dan Devenport



May 2nd Lawn Chair

At our Spring Social, bringing our own seating is a good idea to make our event a comfortable experience to remember.

Our Spring Social will be at 600 Pappa Joe Drive, the home and gardens of Colette Anzalone in Broussard. Warnings are to NOT USE GPS! Directions: #1. From Ambassador, head towards Hwy. 90. Turn left on Morgan and at the next light, turn left on Albertson's Parkway. Look for JJ's Pizza on right. Just past JJ's, Collette's driveway is on the right.. The #2 alternate directions from Hay 90 are continued on page 2 ANNOUNCEMENTS ...

President, MaryAnn Armbruster's message:

We continue to enjoy a beautiful, long spring. I really should have planted that spinach. April was as busy as expected. It's not totally over yet. Don't forget to come to the Plant Swap on the 28th at Moncus Park. You won't be disappointed.



A great big 'Thank You' to all of you who helped our organization by volunteering and fulfilling your commitment to the LSU Ag Center. Remember, if you were in the class of 2017 you have until December 2018 to complete your 40-hour commitment. If you were in an earlier class and have completed your 40-hour commitment, you then have a commitment of 6 educational hours and 20 volunteer hours each year. If you have not completed your commitments and want to become Active again, contact Jay Ruffin, our Volunteer Coordinator. He'll be happy to explain the process. It's easy, don't worry, and we'd love to have you back.

May will allow us to slow down a little, but there are still things to do to get your hours. The Sunset Herb Fest is on the 5th and several of you have volunteered in various positions. On the 12th we will have Ask A Master Gardener at Moncus Park starting at 9:00 a.m. and at 10:00 a.m. Mark Simon will give a presentation on Bee Keeping – another opportunity to earn a CE hour. On the 19th our Healing Traditions of Acadiana lecture will be held at the Performance Center at Vermilionville at 11:00 a.m. – another CE hour. May 20th will be the Bayou Fest at Vermilionville. You can earn hours by giving us an hour or two to help at the Healer's Garden. Contact me at 480-522-4950 if you're interested. We usually have a blast talking with people. The cool thing is that we always seem to learn something interesting from our visitors.

Remember to enter your hours. It's so much easier to do immediately after the activity. Don't wait until the end of the year, that just makes it hard on you and you're more likely to forget some.

Don't forget the Spring Social on May 2nd has been moved to Colette Anzalone's. For Sarah Schoeffler, who had offered to host initially, we hope Harold's surgery goes well.

Good Gardening, Mary Armbruster

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.)

MAY 2, 6 pm (Social)

MAY 21

JUNE 6, Noon

JUNE 25

AUGUST 1, 6 pm

AUGUST 27

SEPTEMBER 5, Noon

SEPTEMBER 24

OCTOBER 3, 6 pm

OCTOBER 22

NOVEMBER 7, Noon

NOVEMBER 26

DECEMBER 5, 6 pm
(Social)

DECEMBER 17

ANNOUNCEMENTS !

SOCIAL DIRECTIONS #2 for Colette Anzanola's
access from Hwy 90:

Go all the way on Hwy 90 until you get to Albertson's Parkway in Broussard. (It will be the light with all of the construction). Turn right off of 90. Go straight on Albertson's Parkway. Go through the light at Morgan. Just past JJ's Pizza the driveway on the right is Colette Anzalane's

WANTED!

To help with the website/calendar,
contact Karen at
webmaster@lpmga.org

**PICK UP YOUR MEMBERSHIP CARDS & GET MG
DISCOUNTS**

At the Cottage, Wednesdays AM.

THE DEVENPORT REPORT

Where is my coat? This is what many of our vegetable plants have been asking over the past few weeks. We often try to plant our vegetable transplants early in order to get a jump on the increased pressures of insects and diseases in our gardens. I have had several calls about damage and Dr. Raj has received calls from all over the state. These early spring cold snaps have been causing some foliar damage to tomato crops and cucurbits across the state. Newly planted, actively growing plants are highly prone to cooler temperature damage, which appear as

sunken, tan-colored spots that in time turn purplish brown. The discoloration appears between the veins of the leaves. (See photo on page 9.)

Severely damaged plants may not fully recover from the injury. Symptoms do not reverse so what turns brown will not become green again. However, plants often recover with their new growth and a normal harvest season is possible.

The best way to avoid this damage is to protect your plants when such temperatures occur. There are several frost covers on the market that you can use to cover your plants from cooler temperature. If your plants are not too tall, you can use five-gallon plastic buckets to cover them overnight. You must remember to remove any coverings as soon as temperatures return to normal the following day to prevent excessive heat buildup.

LSH Agent Dan Devenport

What Plant is this?

This low bushy shrub, from the mint or deadnettle family, is a native of Southeast Asia. It is a perennial which grows to about 2 1/2 feet, has furry green ovate leaves, pink/purple fragrant flowers that bloom in fall, and purplish stems. It is cultivated in Chinese, Indian, Malaysian and Japanese medicinal herb gardens and prefers a hot, moist climate. Claims are made that its oil treats fungal infections, stomach disorders, inflammation, low libido, and body odor. It is also said to have a calming and grounding effect. It is used as an antiseptic and insecticide, and is said to kill Formosan subterranean termites. Because it repels insects, it was used by silk merchants travelling from China on camels. Its leaves were layered between silk fabric to repel any moths.

The scent became associated with fine fabrics which only the wealthy could afford. In the 1960's, it was hijacked by hippies, probably to mask the scent of marijuana. (This is hearsay. "What Plant Am I" contributor attests that she was too old to be a part of that scene.)

The most successful method of propagation is rooting cuttings from the mother plant in water. Plant rooted cuttings in fertile well drained soil with a pH of 5.5 to 6.2, in partial shade. Allow 20 inches between plants. They can also be grown in containers. Mulch well to maintain moisture, but allow the top soil to become dry before watering. Fertilize with 10-10-10 every month until fall.

The leaves of the plant are used for tea, and an oil is made from steam distilling the leaves. The oil is used in perfumes, and is often mixed with fragrances such as bergamot, lavender and citrus. Leaf blight can be a problem. Disinfect shears used to prune or harvest leaves. Caterpillars can also be a problem. Just pick them off.

See the answer on page 6



Lafayette Master Gardener Board has approved
earning service hours in New Iberia-Ag Adventures.



This event will be held May 9 & 10 at the SugArena in New Iberia from 8 a.m. until 3 p.m.

This program helps to educate and make 3rd graders aware of
Agriculture and its importance. If you would like to help, please contact :

Mr. Blair Hebert, County Agent/Parish Chairman, [Iberia Parish](#),

[415 Providence St.](#)
[New Iberia, LA 70560](#)

CALL: (337) 369-4440.

Don't Forget!

LOUISIANA 2018 SPRING PLANT SWAP



An educational program of the LSU AgCenter

LAFAYETTE PARISH MASTER GARDENERS
SPRING PLANT SWAP

Like Lafayette Parish Master Gardeners on Facebook and visit our website www.lpmga.org

For the latest research-based information on just about anything, visit our Web site: www.lsuagcenter.com

SATURDAY, APRIL 28

FARMERS & ARTISANS MARKET
AT THE HORSE FARM MONCUS PARK
2913 JOHNSTON STREET, LAFAYETTE

OPEN TRADING 8AM TO 11AM

- ◆ Get there early for the best selection.
- ◆ Bring as many different plants, bulbs or seeds as you'd like to trade before and after the Formal Swap
- ◆ Label with variety, color, planting hints or any other helpful info

FORMAL SWAP 9:00AM

- ◆ Numbers are drawn randomly
- ◆ Bring one plant for the Formal Table Swap at 9am- it's a 1-to-1 trade.
- ◆ The more interesting the plant, the more interesting the swap!
- ◆ Remember that all plants need to be identified

Plants, Cuttings & Seeds That Have Been Requested

Lizard Tail, Devils Spine/Devils Backbone; Mock English Dogwood/ Mock Orange-Philadelphus; Popcorn Spiraea; Begonias; Crocosmia-Red; Byzantine Gladiolus; Heirloom Rose Cuttings-For MG Project; Container Roses; Jewels Of Opar; Yesterday, Today & Tomorrow; Cleome; Blue LA Iris; Rick Rack/Fish Tail Cactus, Minnie Pearl Phlox, Voodoo Lily, Grandiosa Lily, Red Texas Sage, Texas Star-any color, Althea-White or Dark Pink, Dragon Wing Begonias, Lycoris-Spider Lilies-Red or White, Rain Lilies-Zephyranthes, Double White Crepe Myrtles, Daylilies-Any, Passion Flowers, Balloon Flowers, Chinese Lanterns, Plumeria Cuttings-Any, Hibiscus-any-especially hardy, Dutchmans Pipe, Dwarf Red Bananas, Silverbells-small trees, Vitex-esp white, Figs-Any for this area, Night Blooming Cereus-esp white, White Agapanthus, Banana Magnolia, Wahoo/Strawberry Bush, Butterfly Matchweed-Phyla nodiflora, Willow-Salix caroliniana, Mexican Milkweed-Asclepias, Angel Trumpets-Any color especially Double Purple or Double White, Devils Trumpets-Any color especially White, Purple and Double Purple; Nuns Orchid; Sassafras Trees, Lenten Rose/Helleborus-any; Candelabra Plant-Euphorbia; Orange Tree-For this area

For more info, contact Louann Long plantswap@lpmga.org or mglouann@gmail.com
Plants that do not find a home will be donated to Habitat For Humanity or LPMGA.
If you have "extra" foundation plants/shrubs, please consider bringing them to donate to H4H

Celebrate
*National
Public Gardens Day*
featuring the
Pollinator Garden

FREE

May 11 . 9 a.m.-Noon
LSU AgCenter Botanic Gardens

Educational sessions and booths
Free pollinator plant
Grand opening of the Pollinator Garden



LSU AgCenter Botanic Gardens
Burden Museum & Gardens . 4560 Essen Lane . 225-763-3990
DiscoverBurden.com

Join us and hundreds of gardens across the United States for National Public Gardens Day! This year the Botanic Gardens will showcase the new Pollinator Garden. Activities for all ages will be themed around pollination and its importance to our environment. Educational sessions will take place in the lone E. Burden Conference Center. Local organizations will provide information on pollinators and pollinator plants. City Gelato will be selling a customized gelato made from Burden Honey. The event is free and open to the public with a free pollinator plant to take home. National Public Gardens Day is a program supported by American Public Gardens Association.



For anyone looking for hours, Vice President and President-Elect Juan Nieto reminds us that ASK A MASTER GARDENER remains a good opportunity to get one volunteer hour as well as an educational hour by listening to any one of our scheduled speakers.

Jfnieto1@netzero.net 337 290-1451 Juan Nieto

ASK A MASTER GARDENER TABLE

LOCATION	DATE		VOLUNTEER	TIME	SPEAKER(S)	TIME
ALL SEASONS	MAY 12	1	COLETTE ANZALONE	9: 00 A.M	MARK SIMON / BEE	10 AM
		2			KEEPING	
		3				

Take Time for a Garden Stroll

Cindy Wiley shares that we have at least four garden strolls scheduled for the month of May. These provide a delightful way to share our love of gardening with others. The confirmed strolls are:

May 12 from 10AM-noon at Mary Perrin's: 737 Alonda, Lafayette 70503

May 16 from noon –3PM at Tina Jumonville's: 112 Meche Road, Carencro

May 19 from 10AM-noon at Allen Baque Garden: 104 Melrose, Laf 70506

May 30 from noon-2PM at Cindy Wiley's: 815 St. Thomas, Laf 70506

If you would like to host a garden stroll, please contact Cindy Wiley at 337 207-6424 or email cindy4wiley@yahoo.com.

What Plant Am I?

ANSWER:

Pogostemon cablin:

Patchouli



Master Gardeners

Participate in Greatest Show (& tell)

On March 24, Lafayette Science Museum and Lafayette Parish Library partnered to introduce the inaugural "Mini Makers Faire" also referred to as the Greatest Show (and Tell) on Earth.

The Lafayette Parish Master Gardeners, as "makers of gardens," were invited to the first Lafayette Mini-Makers Fair which took place at the museum.

Geneé Foley expressed thanks for Juan and Linda Beyt's input on seed necklaces. "We had a successful debut at the event co-sponsored by the Lafayette Parish Library system and the Science Museum. We made 136 seed necklaces in a five-hour period. "

"The booth was so popular that we were unable to eat the complimentary lunch or take pictures. We did delight over 200 parents and children and hopefully created more than a few mini-gardeners," Foley writes.

LATE COLD SNAP DAMAGE TO YOUNG TOMATO PLANTS



Dan Devenport provided this phot as an example of how the late cold snap could injury our tomatoes exposed to the unexpected drop in late spring temperatures. As Dan noted in his Devenport Report, "severely injured plants may not fully recover." See his advice on page 2.

Vocabulary: cucurbits — plants of the gourd family (*Cucurbitaceae*), which includes melons, pumpkins, squashes, and cucumbers

Cool Things Happening at LARC



At the conclusion of a lesson on geotropism, eight clients at LARC took turns applying what they had learned.

Well, actually it was a lesson on “The Right Way to Plant Bean Seeds” with an explanation that the little dot on the smaller curve of the bean is where the root will emerge. (Fortunately no one asked how the roots of the bean know how to grow toward the pull of gravity and the stem or shoot knows to grow up and away from it.)

Chuck Schrader, Jerome Alesi, and Lynn Dubois (all from MG 2017) have been teaching and demonstrating basic gardening lessons on a daily basis to eight clients in the class of Mark Godeau, an instructor at LARC. The LARC Garden features a raised bed herb garden, three raised beds (4' x 12') for vegetables (tomatoes, green beans, okra, squash, several varieties of peppers, eggplant, zucchini, lettuce, radishes, carrots), a cucumber patch, a banana pepper patch, several container plants, and a strawberry patch.

The daily routine begins with a walk around the gardens to check on the general health of the plants, the progress of seed growth, the presence of both pests and beneficial insects. Other early lessons included demonstrations on pruning roots before transplanting the vegetables and carefully handling them so as not to injure the stems. (Rule #2 for the Garden is Patience.) The clients follow the directions very intently and take a lot of pride in following directions and seeing the results.

A visit to Yvonne Alexander's class at St. Thomas More and the *Junior Master Gardener Handbook* have also provided ideas for lesson plans, and Dan Devenport provided about three dozen plants from the Master Gardeners supply for the vegetable beds.

*Story and photos submitted
courtesy of Chuck Schrader*



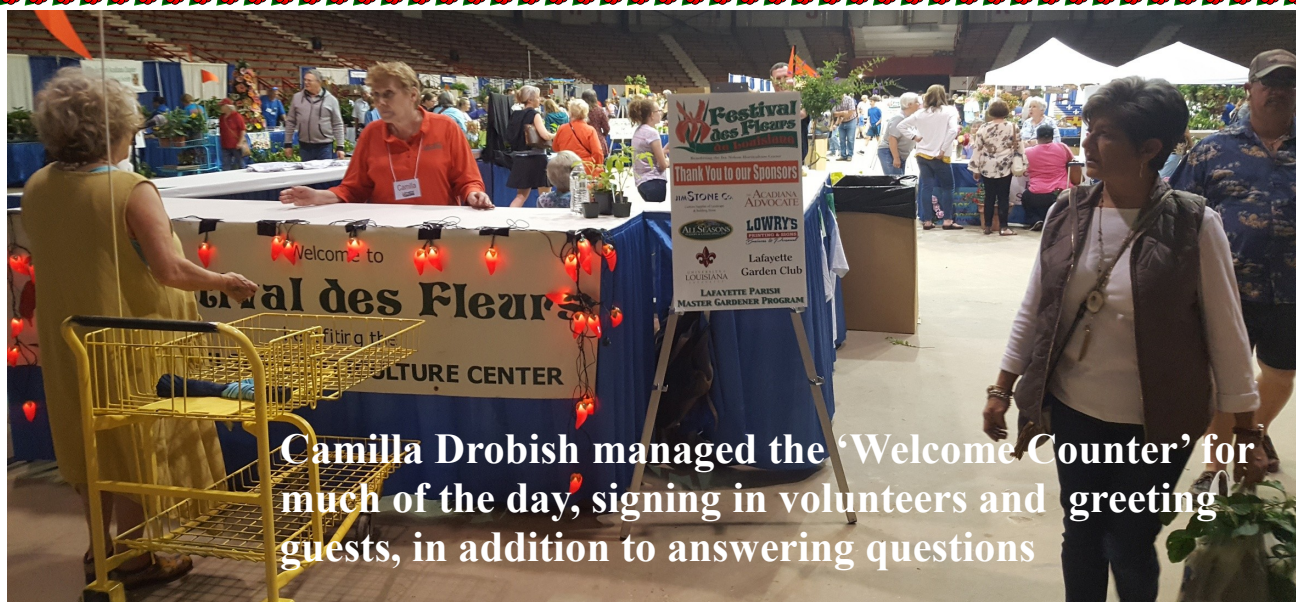


Glenda Balliviero had stayed helping at the children's activity center much of the day. Here she captures a photo of some of the crafts that the children created during the day.

There was talk during the April 14 event at Blackham Coliseum that the rain only made Festival des Fleurs (FdF) better. Had it been a sunny day, someone said, many garden lovers would have been outside in their gardens. As it was, the festival was a big draw, attracting a steady flow of attendees from start to finish.

Master Gardener volunteer coordinator Camilla Drobish sent out kudos to those who helped: "Many THANKS to all of the wonderful Festival des Fleur volunteers. Final count not in, but most vendors claimed it was their best show ever at our festival. It couldn't have happened without your hard work! Flowers to you all." Cindy Wiley says thank you to all the tally and cashier volunteers. They helped during and after the event.

Billy Welsh, Ira Nelson manager shared that we can expect details about the Festival in our June newsletter. He said about this year's Festival des Fleurs, "Great attendance, happy vendors and a fun day."



Camilla Drobish managed the 'Welcome Counter' for much of the day, signing in volunteers and greeting guests, in addition to answering questions



LEFT: Nick Gachassin and Jerome Alesi—both MG 2017. Nick has taken pictures he plans to share with us. RIGHT: Master Gardeners Sandy Rhodes and Gail Wakefield help children have fun at the FdF craft activities center.



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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 May 2018

MAY 2 — SPRING SOCIAL MOVED TO COLETTE ANZALONE IN BROUSARD AT 6PM (SEE DIRECTIONS PAGES 1 AND 2)

MAY 5 — SUNSET HERB FEST

MAY 9 AND 10 — NEW IBERIA AG ADVENTURES AT THE SUGARENA IN NEW IBERIA 8 AM UNTIL 3 PM (SEE PAGE 3) CALL TO VOLUNTEER

MAY 11— LSU AgCenter Botanic Gardens': NATIONAL PUBLIC GARDENS DAY in Baton Rouge 9 AM until noon (See page 5)

MAY 12 — ASK A MASTER GARDENER AT MONCUS PARK AT 9 AM

BEE KEEPING: Presentation by Mark Simon at 10 AM

MARY PERRIN'S =THE 1ST OF FOUR MG STROLLS (SEE PAGE 6)

MAY 19 — HEALING TRADITIONS OF ACADIANA (ASSOCIATED WITH HEALER'S GARDEN) AT VERMILIONVILLE PERFORMING ARTS CTR AT 11 AM

**MAY 20 — BAYOU FEST AND BOAT PARADE AT VERMILIONVILLE
WANT TO VOLUNTEER AT OUR MEDICINAL GARDEN? 480-522-4950**

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.

