

## **LPMGA AUGUST GENERAL MEETING**

**12:30 PM**

**AUGUST 1, 2018**

**DOWNTOWN**

**LAFAYETTE MAIN LIBRARY  
301 WEST CONGRESS**

## **2018 LPMGA BOARD MEETING**

**1 PM TUESDAY, AUGUST 28**

**IRA NELSON HORTICULTURE CENTER  
(INHC) NOTE THE CHANGE!**

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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

# EVERYTHING'S COMING UP ROSES



Greetings Fellow Master Gardeners,

I hope you all have had a good summer so far. As we start moving into the Fall, we will continue our 2nd Saturday Garden Talks at all Seasons. They will take place in September, October, and November. I do not know what topics they will be looking for, but I will let you know. I have been busy doing some remodeling at home and have not had time to do anything else. I did receive a call from a lady looking for a speaker on Landscape plants requiring full sun. It is to take place March 14th of 2019. **Please contact me if you are interested.** I hope you were able to attend our meeting that took place at the downtown Lafayette library at 12:30 on Wednesday, August 1. I was the speaker for that day. I showed some slides and talked about what takes place in my rose garden throughout the year. I hope you enjoyed it. Next month, the meeting will begin at noon and will take place at the Cade Farm. Directions will be included in the September newsletter. That's all for now. Stay cool, drink plenty of water when working outside, and enjoy the rest of 2018.

Juan Nieto (VP)



## **President's Message:**

Wow, I woke up this morning to go to the Healer's Garden and realized that we got a full inch of rain yesterday! I was amazed because when I went to bed we had only had two short showers and I did not hear it rain during the night. I certainly hope that all of you, also, had good rain.

We had our **General Member Meeting on August 1st.** It will be held at **Main Library at 12:30 p.m.** Our speaker was our **Vice-President Juan Nieto** and he told us all about **Roses.** There was a problem getting a room for our normal time, but after this we will go back to our regular schedule, so our September meeting will be held at noon.

Our new class starts this month and I want to welcome all our Master Gardeners in Training to the Lafayette Master Gardeners Association and to this and all future meetings. You will find that there are many different volunteer opportunities available that will allow you to easily complete the commitment of 40 volunteer hours that you made when you signed up for the Master Gardener Class. You have until November 2019 to complete those hours. The best part about most of those opportunities is that they allow you to work with some of the greatest people in the world - other Master Gardeners. A major reason to join this organization and to remain in the group is the camaraderie of your fellow Master Gardeners. It's just plain fun to work with these people; they're great to be around. So, I strongly encourage you to start working on those Volunteer Hours immediately. Hours can be completed early and, you probably should complete those 40 hours before you even graduate, then you can continue to volunteer and enjoy the company of people who will become your friends for many years. You can join the many Master Gardeners who give more than the required number of hours each

*Continued on page 8*

## 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 TUESDAY  
except for July & Dec.)

**AUGUST 1, 12:30 pm**

**SEPTEMBER 5, Noon**

**OCTOBER 3, 6 pm**

**NOVEMBER 7, Noon**

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

**AUGUST 28**

**SEPTEMBER 25**

**OCTOBER 23**

**NOVEMBER 27**

**DECEMBER 18**

## GARDEN TALKS

I hope you all have had a good summer. As we move into the fall we will continue our 2nd Saturday of the month garden talks at All Seasons Nursery. All seasons is located at 2974 Johnson Street. We will have talks in September, October and November and topics have not yet been chosen for these months. Juan Neito

## THE DEVENPORT REPORT

# St. Augustine Grass -A Problem Child?

This time of year, my office is inundated with calls about turf grass, in particular, St. Augustine grass. The main two issues are chinch bug infestations and gray leaf spot disease.

The southern chinch bug, *Blissus insularis*, is a common insect pest that is primarily found in St. Augustine grass but can injure other turf grasses. Adults and nymphs damage the grass by sucking sap from grass stems and stolons, causing the lawn to turn yellow-brown and eventually die. Injury normally occurs in the summer when it is hot and dry, but I have seen infestations as early as April. You need to be on the lookout for yellowing grass that quickly turns to a straw brown. The brown leaf blades often curl up resembling a drinking straw (tube like). Before you begin treatment, you must make sure that you have chinch bugs by getting down on your hands and knees and looking for this insect. You will want to look on the fringes of the areas under scrutiny because that is where they will be feeding — not in the dead, dried out areas.

Adult chinch bugs are about the size of an ant and have black bodies with white wings. If you are having difficulty locating this pest, you can use the flush test. Mix one (1) tablespoon of lemon-scented soap per one (1) gallon of water. Slowly pour the mixture onto healthy grass surrounding the injured areas. In wet conditions, drench a 1-square-foot area with the soapy water. In dry conditions, drench a 4-square-foot area. Then, for about 5-10 minutes, closely observe the area to see if the insects come to the surface.

Cultural control practices that may help to reduce insect injury and accelerate turfgrass recovery are to maintain a healthy lawn through proper fertilization, irrigation and regular mowing. Dethatching and aeration may help to reduce thatch buildup, which is associated with chinch bug infestations. Chemical control may be necessary to help rid your lawn from this pest. Always follow directions on the label. Products such as Pyrethroids (Advanced Lawn, Bug-B-Gone, Deltaguard, Talstar and others will help control chinch bugs). Gray leaf spot on St. Augustine grass is another issue we are seeing. This foliar disease can cause a browning effect on the leaf and if you google “gray leaf spot on St. Augustine grass, you will know what to look for. This disease appears to be a problem on compacted, heavy clay type soils. The use of fertilizer, especially nitrogen may cause the disease to spread even more. We cannot control our Louisiana climate, which also plays a role on the spread of this disease in your yard.

The best way to control this disease is using a lawn fungicide. There are a few fungicides that work on this disease but one that works the best contains the active ingredient azoxystrobin. Heritage and Maxide Dual Action Disease Killer will contain azoxystrobin. Another product that contains the active ingredient thiophanate-methyl works well also. Bonide Infuse Systemic Disease Control Lawn and Landscape Granules and Ferti-lome Halt Systemic Rose, Flower, Lawn and Ornamental Fungicide contains this active ingredient. Products containing either of these two active ingredients have the best ratings for control. Always read and follow label directions. Products containing the active ingredient propiconazole will have some effect on control but not as great as the other two. Fertilome Liquid Systemic Fungicide II, Bayer Advanced Fungus Control for lawns ready to spray, Bonide Infuse Systemic Disease Control lawn and landscape ready to spray contain propiconazole. The costs of the product may be the deciding factor on your purchase.

*LSU AgAgent Dan Devenport*

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



# What Plant is this?

This plant is a deciduous angiosperm and one of the largest of the flowering plants, occurring in seasonally arid areas. There are nine species, which are variously native to Madagascar, Mainland Africa, Arabia, and Australia. They can grow to 100 feet tall, and their trunks have been known to reach 154 feet in circumference with a diameter of up to 52 feet. Many have lived up to 2,500 years. Huge hollow cavities in these trees have been used as dwellings, shops, chapels and prisons.

Red, yellow and white flowers are pollinated by bats and bush babies. The fruit has a velvety shell about the size of a coconut, and the interior can be powdered into a food additive or medicine. They provide nesting for birds and food for baboons and wart hogs. Known as the "upside-down tree," its bare branches look like roots. Also known as the "Tree of Life," it can store 22,000 gallons of water in its trunk. To stay erect, it must absorb 70% to 80% of its volume in water when the rains come, but the rains in the plant's habitats have become unpredictable. If these fail to receive enough water, the plant dies. Seventy percent of the oldest (1,500 to 2,000 years) of these trees have died within a 12-year period. Culprits appear to be global warming and greenhouse gasses.

The Little Prince in Antoine de Saint Exupery's book of the same name warned what could happen if these trees grew on a "very small Planet," but the truth is, these are magnificent trees, and sadly, they are in danger.

Do you know what plant this is?  
The answer is found on page

## Years down the Road - We see the fruits of their Labor



College classes begin at University of Louisiana — Lafayette on August 20. Students and parents have been on campus for orientation, tours and tuition payment for the start of yet another school year. If they are paying attention to their surrounding they will notice that this year, some citrus around campus are laden with fruit, likely to ripen closer to the holidays.

What is the story behind these fruit trees? Lately there has been an awakening of regard for planting fruit bearing trees in public places. These however seem more mature than many we find in parks and along roadways.

These trees were planted in the spring of 2011 as part of an Eagle Scout project of a young man named Mark Andries. He organized his project with the backing of TreesAcadiana and coordination with the grounds keeper at the University. He had assembled a good many volunteers to assist with the planting, and by contacting US. The process went more quickly than anyone suspected. That is — of course — outside of the circles of TreeAcadiana and their quick turnaround of plantings due to the buy-in of volunteers. That April day many citrus trees were planted and this year the trees that survived all these past four years will begin serving a very real purpose.







### *OUT WITH THE OLD AND IN WITH THE NEW*

After 15, or so, years of loyal service we have retired the old shade cloth on the shade house at the Demonstration Gardens. On Wednesday, July 25, a group of volunteers led by Juan Nieto removed the old shade cloth and replaced it with a brand new one. Heather Warner-Finley, after getting advice from our adviser Dan Devenport and the LSU Ag Center, chose to upgrade the cloth to 50% shade. The time was right for a change and the update for the gardens was needed and welcomed.

## **OVERSTOCK SALE AT THE DEMONSTRATION GARDENS**

We've had such a productive summer in the greenhouse this year, that we are **OVERSTOCKED!**

We have to remove some of the plants from our greenhouse in order to be able to produce nice full green ones for our PlantFest.

We will have an **"Overstock Sale" on Wednesday, August 8, at the Ira Nelson Demo Beds.** We plan to offer a limited selection of plants that are ready now. This is for Master Gardeners only (if you bring a friend they will be welcome). We will start the sale at **9 a.m.** No CCs.

#### Plant List:

Limelight Salvia  
Tropical Milkweed  
Glowing Embers Coreopsis  
Peach Sparkle Coreopsis  
Ironweed  
Rebel Child Salvia  
Blackberry Lily  
French Kiss Costus  
Red Brazilian Cloak  
Chinese Beautyberry  
Mop Head Hydrangea  
Red Panorama Bee Balm  
Red Lycoris Bulbs  
Misc. Ginger Rhizomes  
Ellen Bosanquet Crinum  
Emperor Curcuma

**Heather**

# PLANTFEST 2018

The Master Gardener annual plant sale, known as PLANTFEST, will be held on September 29, 2018 between the hours of 8 AM and 1PM. The location is right next to the Demonstration Gardens, located at the Whittington grounds off Blackham Coliseum road.

We are looking for speakers to start at 9 AM, with the last talk being at 12 noon. Topics being considered are:

- ♦ *Irrigation*
- ♦ *Propagation*
- ♦ *Landscape architecture*
- ♦ *Flower Arrangement*
- ♦ *Growing Cut Flowers*

If you have other suggestions please contact Colette Anzalone.

PlantFest offers many opportunities to earn volunteer hours and interact with other Master Gardeners.

We need volunteers for the following:

- ♦ To set up the day before, Friday September 28th
- ♦ To take everything down and cleanup the afternoon of the 29th
- ♦ To help out with the children's activities
- ♦ There is a need for tally clerks and cashiers (contact Cindy Wiley)
- ♦ Help will be needed for the cooking demonstrations

We will need items to include in the items we offer for our raffle tickets. Anyone who has ideas or contacts that can assist us in this should contact Cindy Rising and offer their assistance.

## 2018 LAFAYETTE MASTER GARDENER CLASS

The 2018 Master Gardener Training Class will begin on August 9 and end on November 15. There are 30 students in this year's class. There are exciting changes in the program. We have added presentations on hydroponics and landscape design as part of the coursework. The bug board project has been replaced with a team research project including a 10 – 15 minute presentation. Mentors will now be paired with one or two students to assist them while taking the class and in their first year of the program. Our goal is to have 100% of our students become active participants in the Lafayette Parish Master Gardener Association program.

The LSU Agcenter has made changes that will be implemented this year. There is a new and expanded manual for students. There will no longer be a final exam. There are standardized weekly quizzes on the reading assignments from the manual.

Graduation and the Social will be on December 5.  
*Babette Werner, Class Coordinator*

What Plant Am I?  
ANSWER:  
**Adansonia:**  
**baobab**





## MS. JUDY'S ROSE GARDEN

Our VP, Juan Nieto, has scheduled a new Garden Stroll of the rose garden he has been working on for 6 years; At our meeting today Juan showed us a number of slides depicting the work and growth of the project, it is really quite impressive. The stroll will take place sometime in September.

### SEPTEMBER LPMGA MEETING TAKES PLACE AT “CADE FARM”



Our next Lafayette Parish Master Gardener Meeting will be held at the UL Experimental Research Farm, located at 1178 parish Road 183, St. Martinville, LA. We call it the “Cade Farm. it is a 600 acre agricultural research facility that is an international leader in crawfish research and renewable resources.

Get there a little early as they will conduct a tour and there will be limited space available for this. We are meeting at the Demo Gardens at Ira Nelson and car pooling. There is limited parking at the facility.

## SUSTAINING MEMBERS AND THOSE WHO GOT THEIR GOLD PINS



LEFT: Peggy Tracy received her Master Gardener nametag. She was in the 2017 graduating class. Sue Golden, the 2016 class, received her nametag. Cheryl Perett, the 2003 class, received a Sustaining Member certificate.

## IT'S OFFICIAL!



*Continued from Page 1*  
**PRESIDENT's MESSAGE:**

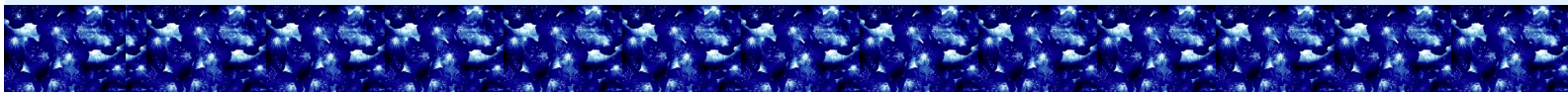
year. You, also, have many choices of volunteer opportunities. Feel free to try several committees until you find the ones that are perfect for you. It's your organization and the only way we can make a difference is if each of us does our part, so figure out where you fit best and become a true Master Gardener. Your first class will be held on Thursday, August 9th and the Board and I look forward to welcoming you then.

Celeste Finney and Carole Broussard were first in class to receive their Master Gardener Certificates of Completion and their official Master Gardener nametags before the summer break. Happy to share the happy moment!

If you're someone who has not been active lately, dig down to remember why you signed up for the Master Gardener Course in the first place. All those great people are still there, just waiting for you to join them again. If you have any questions about what it takes to regain active status, just contact the Volunteer Coordinator, Jay Ruffin, and he will be happy to explain it to you. It's not complicated. We really want you back. We don't want to make it hard for you.

I hope to see you all at all our general meetings through to the end of our 2018 Master Gardener year!

Good Gardening  
 MaryAnn Armbruster







# MG PLANT PRE-SALE

Wednesday, Aug 8th  
10am

## PLANTS TO BE OFFERED

Limelight Salvia

Tropical Milkweed

Glowing Embers Coreopsis

Peach Sparkle Coreopsis

Ironweed

Rebel Child Salvia

Blackberry Lily

French Kiss Costus

Brazilian Redcloak

Chinese Beautyberry

Mop Head Hydrangea

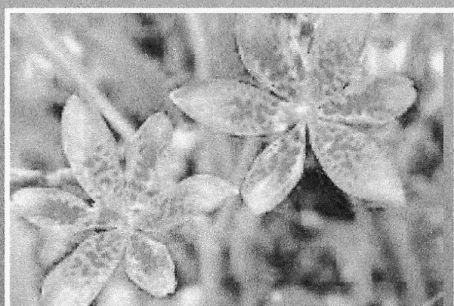
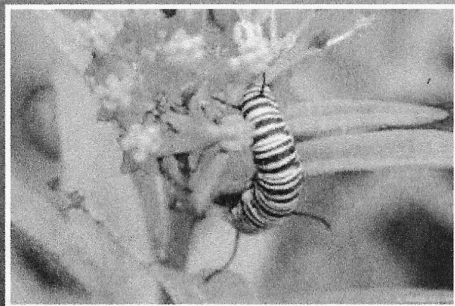
Red Panorama Bee

Red Lycoris Bulbs

Misc Ginger Rhizomes

Ellen Bosanquet Crinum

Emperor Curcuma



**Don't forget to come out to the  
Demo Beds this Wednesday to help us  
unburden our overful greenhouse!**

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

innovate, educate, improve lives



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

# LPMGA Calendar

## AUGUST 2018



*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 suggested deadline for all submissions is the 17th of each month for publication in the next month's issue unless otherwise noted. Late submissions result in late distribution as happened this month of August. Please send newsletter items to: Theresa Rohloff and Mary Gladney: [newsletter@lpmga.org](mailto: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](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 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.

**AUGUST 1 —GENERAL MEETING —LAFAYETTE PARISH LIBRARY, DOWNTOWN, 301 WEST CONGRESS, 12:30 PM**

**AUGUST 8—OVERSTOCK SALE — IRA NELSON DEMO GARDENS, 9 AM**

**AUGUST 9 — 2018 MASTER GARDENERS CLASSES BEGIN, IRA NELSON CENTER**

**AUGUST 18 — GARDEN TALK — ALL SEASONS, 10 AM**

**AUGUST 28— LPMGA BOARD MEETING — IRA NELSON LIBRARY, TUESDAY, 1 PM**

**SEPTEMBER 5 — GENERAL MEETING - UL RESEARCH FARM IN ST. MARTINVILLE CADE FARM— 1178 PARISH ROAD 183, 12 NOON.**