



Master Gardener™

An educational program of the LSU AgCenter

ST. TAMMANY PARISH MASTER GARDENERS' ASSOCIATION
 P. O. Box 2074, Mandeville, Louisiana 70470

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August 2017

In summer, the song sings itself.

William Carlos Williams



Zinnia from the garden at Marigny Elementary

**thank you, Karen Martin*

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President's Message

Hello Master Gardeners!

Well, here we are smack dab in the middle of those “lazy, hazy, crazy days of summer,” and it seems like our outdoor lives have somehow slowed down. Certainly, in the flower gardens, my plants are on their own; it's too hot to be spending much time out there, which is probably why I spend so much time in the spring planting ornamentals that can withstand our summers.

But we see activity on the horizon. The Fall Seminar Committees are being formed and work is being done to ensure that, once again, St Tammany Master Gardeners present an outstanding day of learning. Thank you to the many who have already signed up, and if you think you might be able to assist in some way, please feel free to contact Suzanne Krieger and jump in!

I am pleased to announce that Helen Babb has graciously and enthusiastically agreed to become our next Membership Chairperson, relieving Marilyn Bingham of this job she has done for the last two years. Thank you, Marilyn, for a job well done, and I look forward to working with you, Helen, as we grow.

Unfortunately, I am NOT pleased to announce that our indomitable, Tim Zimmerman, and his family are moving to Germany this fall, and we must all somehow carry on without his energy and warm smile. Truly, he will be sorely missed. What he has accomplished in these two short years is impressive, and it will take a village to replace him! To that end, I am excited to announce that our own Jan Pesses has agreed to become our new Publicity spokesperson! Tim and Jan have already met to begin the mentoring process. Thank you, Tim, for impacting every project you've served, and thank you, Jan, for stepping up. And we are searching for someone who would be able to carry on Tim's amazing work at the Parenting Center and the next-door gardens. Please contact Dorothy Delaune if you are interested.

Also, Mark Flynn deserves our thanks for taking over the Audio/Visual set-up job from Johnny Despeaux, who will be enjoying more time on the Gulf Coast.

Thanks to every single one of you. We are only as great as our volunteer hearts agreeing to work for our communities...and look what we have accomplished!

Jan Gardner
Class of 2014
President



Vice President's Message

Dear Master Gardeners,

Our speaker for the August meeting will be Mike Cornwell. His topic will be, "After planting over 500 plus fruit trees, you should plant these..." He is the founder, CEO and "mad scientist" of Dixie Fruits. He helps individuals and organizations create food independence through establishing year round fruiting systems that provide diverse, healthy food, naturally.

Mike's perspective evolved while he was a Marine deployed to Afghanistan in 2009 as an intelligence attaché. In Southern Afghanistan he developed relationships with war hardened tribal elders and provincial politicians. He experienced firsthand the results when natural resources have been decimated, namely, a population becomes distrustful with minimal prospects for a bright future. This powerful experience provided revelations on the importance and fragility of natural resources and organic healthy community.

Following Afghanistan, Mike created a southern fruit genetics repository and natural research lab known as "Chaba Uti" (Choctaw for Chestnut Ridge) with over 350 varieties of fruit and nut trees. Upon founding this repository and seeing results first hand, Mike created Dixie Fruits for the purposes of getting fruit out into every green space available.

I know we will all gain some valuable information about fruit trees. Mike will also bring some fruit trees for sale.

See you at the meeting,

Suzanne Krieger
Class of 2012
Vice President
Program Chair



Farewell, Tim Zimmerman!



Photo by Elizabeth Moore, Times-Picayune, June 19, 2017

If you have not yet heard the news, our own Tim Zimmerman will be leaving us in September. And while we all wish him good fortune and happiness as he starts his next big adventure in Germany, I know that I speak for all of us when I say, he will be greatly missed.

Tim is the most vibrant, compassionate, and caring person I've ever met, and his ability to lift up everyone around him, with a ready smile and a genuine love of life, is inspiring. While I knew that Tim was a very active volunteer, always willing to offer his helping hand with any project, it wasn't until I began scrolling through the hundreds of master gardener photos taken since he graduated in November of 2015, that I realized just how far his helping hand reached. I borrowed the above photo from a Times-Picayune article about the *Great Futures Gala* for The Boys & Girls Club of Covington. Tim was "on hand to show how the children grow vegetables and herbs, pick, bag and label the harvest, and take the bounty home to share with their families."

Looking through all the photos from the last couple of years, I am reminded of just how big Tim's heart is and how much he gave of himself in the service of others.

Tim's Helping Hands

Here is a photographic “look back” at Tim’s time as a St. Tammany Master Gardener. Of course, this is only a very small sampling of his generosity and, seemingly, endless supply of energy. What has not been photographed is his quiet, behind-the-scenes work of Publicity Chair—and that diligent work is reflected in our current success as an organization. Tim is leaving some pretty big gardening gloves to fill.



**Master Gardener
Class of 2015**

Spring Seminar



Tim's Helping Hands, continued



Folsom Fall Garden Festival



Monster Mash Craft Day



**Beau Provence
Therapeutic Center**



Tim's Helping Hands, continued



Madisonville Plant Sale



Northshore Garden and Plant Sale
*great socks, Tim!



Habitat for Humanity

Tim's Helping Hands, continued



Vegucators



Fall Fieldtrip Best-Dressed



Magic Wings Butterfly Garden

Tim & the Magic Wings Butterfly Garden



Parenting Center & Hospital Community Wellness Center

While Tim has always been very generous with his time, sharing it among many different Master Gardener projects, he was especially invested in the Magic Wings Butterfly Garden project at the STPH Parenting Center.

He had already spent many, many hours helping his fellow master gardeners beautify

and maintain the butterfly garden, but when he noticed an area behind the attached Community Wellness Center, he saw an opportunity to expand.

Last fall Tim installed the "pool gardens," where he planted arugula, mustard greens, green onions, kale, collard greens, mint, parsley, sage, and oregano. The gardens were very productive, and the first harvest was given to individuals and families from the Parenting and Wellness Centers.

On March 1st of this year, Tim built two more raised bed gardens (left photo) and two weeks later, with the help of children from the Parenting Center, they planted tomatoes, peppers, eggplant, and squash.



Thank you, Tim!



I count myself incredibly fortunate for having the opportunity to learn with you and work with you and laugh with you. You will be missed, friend.

Be Well.

Tina Richardson
Class of 2015



Meetings, Projects, & Workdays

Beau Provence Therapeutic Center

On June 13th the Beau Provence master gardener group paid a visit to the center. We had a large group of interested residents who participated in our featured topic, Butterfly gardens. We spoke about the types of plants that will attract butterflies to the garden and we brought pictures with information on them to pass around for the residents to see. Linda Zitzmann, our group leader, had brought about half a dozen new perennials to add to the existing raised beds, which we had on the tables while we were having our discussion. Then we went out to the gardens to plant and were accompanied by many of the residents, who enjoy observing our activities.

First we did a bit of pruning back overgrown plants and moving out spent ones. While pulling out what she thought were just some ornamental sweet potato vines, Diane Ramirez found about a half dozen sweet potatoes of varying sizes that she harvested. Ann Durel took home these plants that were removed to make cuttings and give them a try in her garden. We also trimmed back the rosemary and had enough to give everyone a bunch to take home.

We had a very productive day in the garden and the residents were happy to be with us checking out our progress. Each time we visit we have a bigger group of interested residents. It is definitely a worthwhile master gardener project.



Gordon Kuehl



Harold Ryan



Meetings, Projects, & Workdays

Beau Provence, *continued*



Tim Zimmerman, Kathleen Dupuy, and Gordon Kuehl



Diane Ramirez, Kathleen Dupuy, Linda Zitzmann and Ann Durel (front row)
Gordon Kuehl, Tim Zimmerman and Harold Ryan (back row)

Sharon Hassinger
Class of 2015



Committee Chairs' Contact Information Education Committee (E) & "Fingers in the Dirt" (F)

Abita Library Garden—F	Susan L'Hoste	lhoste@att.net Cell: 985.373.1770
Beau Provence Rehab Garden—F	Linda Zitzmann	nickiroux@hotmail.com Cell: 985.630.6403
Covington Farmers Market—E	Billie Stanga-3rd Saturday chair Diana Cammatte-1st Saturday chair	billie.stanga@gmail.com Cell: 504.428.6535 dhcammatte@bellsouth.net Cell: 985.778.3500
Lacombe Butterfly Garden—F	Sharon Hassinger, Co-Chair Karen Martin, Co-Chair	sharhass@me.com Cell: carboncopy2@gmail.com Cell:
LSU AgCenter Volunteers—E **phone duty	Cindy Manger	beachin70124@gmail.com Cell: 504.481.7792
Magic Wings Butterfly Garden—F **Parenting Center, Covington	Dorothy Delaune	regdelaune@aol.com Cell: 985.630.6503
Northshore Garden & Plant Sale—E **March 17 & 18, Covington Fairgrounds	Jan Pesses, Co-Chair Rodney Cross, Co-Chair	jpesses@charter.net Cell: 504.458.6443 rod335i@live.com Cell: 985.778.3555
Otis House Rose Garden—F **Fairview Riverside Park, Madisonville	Ann Durel	adurel@bellsouth.net Cell: 985.373.2111
School Partnership—F ***"Rooting the Future" all school gardens	Christy Paulsell	jpgpaulsell@gmail.com Cell: 985.264.4926
Slidell Farmers Market—E **2nd & 4th Saturdays Jan – Oct	Sue Clites	suethern@yahoo.com Cell: 985.951.0508
Slidell Library Herb Garden—F	Sandy Arnoult	sarnoult@charter.net Cell: 985.974.1676
Slidell Memorial Hsptl Rehab Garden—F	Paul Andres	pkandres@bellsouth.net Cell: 985.718.9161
Speakers' Bureau—E **coordinates MGs public speakers	Donna Howland	donna.howland@mac.com Cell: 508.733.5237
Super Plant Garden @ AgCenter—F	Ron Rowland	rrowlan60@gmail.com Cell: 504.329.0599
TableTalks—E	Denise Schoen	neez@mindspring.com Cell: 504.554.5486
Vegucators—E **study group open to all MGs	Ron Wahl	rjwahl@charter.net Cell: 985.640.8778
W. St. Tammany Habitat—E	Jenny Graffeo, Chair Nancy Thompson, Co-Chair	jennygraffeo@hotmail.com Cell: 504.756.7806 nthomps25@bellsouth.net Cell: 985.502.1716

St. Tammany Master Gardener Association July 18, 2017 MEMBERSHIP Meeting Minutes

The July 18, 2017 meeting was called to order by President, Jan Gardner at 10:10 a.m. Deb Nolan gave an invocation and the Pledge of Allegiance was led by Jan Gardner.

Attendance: 76

PROGRAM & SPEAKER:

Vice President Suzanne Krieger introduced Program Committee member, Jamie Blazek. Jamie introduced this month's speaker, Grant Estrade of Laughing Buddha Nursery, Local Cooling Farms, and GME Environmental Consulting. Grant gave a very educational presentation on composting and farm to table gardening entitled, "Yesterday, Today, Tomorrow." He can be reached by calling Laughing Buddha at 504-887-4336 or his cell 504-234-3564.

OFFICERS' REPORTS:

****There were no minutes for June, due to the meeting cancellation****

Due to the cancellation of the June membership meeting, the **May 2017** minutes were approved as they appeared in the June 2017 issue of The Gardengoer with a motion to accept by Deb Nolan. The members unanimously voting to accept the minutes.

In *Treasurer* Jimmy DeJean's absence, President Jan Gardner asked the membership if there were any questions or corrections regarding the May 2017 financial report as it appeared in June 19, 2017 M.o.M. *OR* the June 2017 financial report as it appeared in July 16, 2017 M.o.M. Since there were no questions or corrections, the Treasurer's reports for both months will be filed for audit.

President Jan Gardner:

- Called for a vote on giving a \$500 donation to Hammond Research Center. The vote was unanimous to make the \$500 donation.
- Announced that *Merchandise Facilitator* Pam Perret is imploring those who ordered merchandise to contact her to receive their items. Most items were picked up by members months ago.

MEMBERSHIP Meeting Minutes, *continued*

- Requested a volunteer to take membership meeting minutes on September 20th, due to *Secretary* Cindy Manger's expected absence in September. Peggy Goertz volunteered to act as interim secretary for the September 20th meeting.

ANNOUNCEMENTS:

Fall Seminar Vice Chairman Joe Cummins announced the availability of volunteer sign-up sheets for the October 13th event at Church of the King, which will take place from 8 a.m. until 2:30 p.m. at a cost of \$35, including lunch. After the August meeting, there will be a Fall Seminar meeting.

Facebook Facilitator Betty Cronin announced that at a cost of only \$4.38, she boosted a post on STMGA's Facebook page regarding the AgCenter acceptance of applications for the new 2017 STMGA class. There is a link to the application on the page. The deadline for applications is July 31st, and there is a class limit of 32 students.

County Agent, Will Afton, announced that the Hammond Research Center is in need of volunteers on Friday, July 21st from 7:30 a.m. until 11:00 a.m. to help with general maintenance (weeding, spreading mulch, etc.). No STMGA volunteers came forward.

Scholarship Chairman, Kay Hanson, reported the committee had received eight applications for the STMGA scholarship. They chose three recipients, all females, from three different schools—Archbishop Hannan High School, Salmon High School, and Northshore High School. She introduced the recipients and gave recognition to each of them for their many achievements. Besides the scholarship award money to the college each of them attend, they each received a certificate from STMGA. An honorary/celebratory pot luck was enjoyed by all after the meeting was adjourned.

Meeting adjourned at 11:33AM.

Respectfully submitted by:

Cindy Manger
Class of 2009
Secretary



2017 St. Tammany Master Gardeners Board of Directors & Committee Chairpersons

President: Jan Gardner (1st year) Vice President: Suzanne Krieger (1st year)
 Secretary: Cindy Manger (2nd year) Parliamentarian: Pam Rowe
 Treasurer: Jimmy DeJean (final year) Past President: Ty Guidroz

Membership Committee Chair (2-year term): Marilyn Bingham (2nd year)

Finance: Mary Ann Brannan, Dianne Ramirez, and GERALYN SUHOR
 Historical: Janet Reuther
 Muscle: Wes Goostrey
 Nominating: Rodney Cross, Barbara Moore, and Deborah Nolan
 Plant Sale: Jan Pesses and Rodney Cross
 Program: Suzanne Krieger
 Scholarship: Kay Hanson

Facilitators (no term limit)

A/V: Mark Flynn
 Facebook: Betty Cronin
The Gardengoer: Tina Richardson
 Gloves: Marilyn Bingham
 Honors: Sandy Arnoult and Sandra Pecoraro
 Hospitality: Barbara Moore
 Mentoring: Jenny Graffeo
 Merchandise: Pam Perret
 MoM: Art Scott
 Photography: Betty Cronin
 Publicity: Jan Pesses

Project Co-Ordinators Mimi Padgett, Education
 Ty Guidroz, Fingers in the Dirt

Project Chairs (no term limits)

Abita Library Garden: Susan L'Hoste
 Beau Provence: Linda Zitzmann
 Covington Farmers Market: Billie Stanga and Diana Cammatte
 Covington Library: Mimi Padgett
 Hospice of the South Gardens: Paul Andres
 Lacombe Butterfly Garden: Sharon Hassinger and Karen Martin
 LSU Ag Phone Volunteers: Cindy Manger
 Magic Wings Garden: Dorothy Delaune
 Otis House Rose Garden: Ann Durel
 School Partnership: Christy Pausell (Rooting the Future)
 Slidell Farmers Market: Sue Clites
 Slidell Herb Garden: Sandy Arnoult
 SMH Courtyard Garden: Paul Andres
 Speakers' Bureau: Donna Howland
 SuperPlants AgCenter Garden: Ron Rowland
 TableTalks: Denise Schoen
 Vegucators: Rob Wahl
 W. St Tammany Habitat: Jenny Graffeo and Nancy Thompson

Editor's Note



Hello my fellow Master Gardeners —

It seems like just yesterday that I was crowing about how beautiful my new daylily blooms were, but this morning I found myself slowly and laboriously gathering the dried scapes that once held those blooms. As I threw the remains into the compost, I thought to myself, “I’m not sure there is anything that feels more like the end of something than these.” I have spoken before (and will, most likely, again) about how the daylily seems like a perfect metaphor for the passage of time—one day those first ripe, green buds begin to emerge from the new flush of spring foliage, the next day I’m gathering the dead stalks like kindling. But, the act of gathering feels less like a chore and more like a kind of ceremony—a liturgy. I think it might be a matter of learning to love the end of the blooming as much as I love the beginning—because there can’t be one without the other. The following poem, *Over and Over Stitch* by Jorie Graham, speaks much more eloquently to this idea—I hope you love this poem as much as I do.

Be well.



THE GARDENGOER

**THE NEWSLETTER OF THE ST. TAMMANY PARISH
MASTER GARDENERS' ASSOCIATION**



Cooperative Extension Service

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Over and Over Stitch By Jorie Graham

Late in the season the world digs in, the fat blossoms
hold still for just a moment longer.

Nothing looks satisfied,
but there is no real reason to move on much further:
this isn't a bad place;
why not pretend

we wished for it?
The bushes have learned to live with their haunches.
The hydrangea is resigned
to its pale and inconclusive utterances.
Towards the end of the season
it is not bad

to have the body. To have experienced joy
as the mere lifting of hunger
is not to have known it
less. The tobacco leaves
don't mind being removed
to the long racks—all uses are astounding

to the used.
There are moments in our lives which, threaded, give us heaven—
noon, for instance, or all the single victories
of gravity, or the kudzu vine,
most delicate of manias,
which has pressed its luck

this far this season.
It shines a gloating green.
Its edges darken with impatience, a kind of wind.
Nothing again will ever be this easy, lives
being snatched up like dropped stitches, the dry stalks of daylilies
marking a stillness we can't keep.