



LOUISIANA Nursery & Landscape NEWS

LNLA Quarterly Newsletter | Volume 73 | January/ February / March 2021



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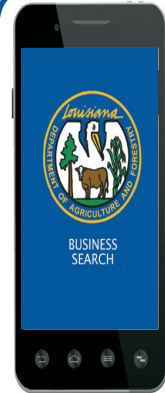
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Download the LDAF App today

With our mobile horticulture application, it's simple to verify individuals claiming to be horticulture professionals.

Did you know? Work such as plant bed preparation, bedding plant installation, landscape design, lawn irrigation system installation, tree trimming and fertilizer application all must be conducted by someone licensed through the LDAF. Be sure an individual is licensed before you hire them.

The app allows users to verify a horticulture license or permit of a business and file a complaint. The mobile app is available for both Apple and Android users. Download it at the iTunes and Google Play stores.

**Louisiana Nursery and Landscape Association
Summer Horticulture Internship at the LSU AgCenter
Hammond Research Station**

- ◆ 12-week paid summer internship
- ◆ Gain experience in the nursery and landscape industry
- ◆ Participate in research & Extension projects
- ◆ Earn college credit



Interested applicants should send a one-page paper detailing their education and career goals, horticultural experience, and interest in this position to Dr. Jeb Fields (JSFields@agcenter.lsu.edu). Please include your contact information, major, current grade (Fr, So, Jr, Sr), GPA and any references you would like. You may also attach a resume, but not required.

Internship open to college students interested in ornamental horticulture. The internship is for 12 weeks. Timing is flexible to accommodate the intern's schedule. On-site housing can be available if needed. **Deadline to submit application April 16th, 2021.**



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A WORD FROM OUR PRESIDENT

I am honored to be addressing you as President of Louisiana Nursery and Landscape Association. I am very passionate about this industry. It has provided me many opportunities to learn and grow in business with many successes and failures along the way. I have learned a lot from both, and have met incredible people in this industry along the way. I have seen the value of working cooperatively with other green professionals in our state and its effect on my tree farm and the industry as a whole. Last year proved that LNLA's mission to create an environment of industry networking, marketing, education and research is an absolute necessity! The green industry is vital and essential to our state economy, and our members dedication to that shined through in 2020. I feel blessed to be a part of this growing organization!

A little bit about my background ... I am from Baton Rouge and I grew up wanting to be in the Ag industry in any way I could. My father had a passion for horticulture and instilled this in me as well. I opened my first nursery in 1993 growing my own trees, shrubs, and flowering plants, and I haven't looked back since. My lovely wife Christy and

I are blessed to be able to work together on our 65 acre tree farm, and we are blessed with all girls that will hopefully take over the farm someday. We hope to instill in them a passion for whatever they chose to do in life.

It is no secret that we have all seen enormous peaks and valleys over the last 12 months. The numerous storms devastating our state were a definite valley for a lot of folks, but the peaks will come again. LNLA's commitment to the green professionals of this state in a time of need proved just how strong we are when we work together as an industry. My hope is that during my time as president of LNLA this cooperative effort of networking, education and research is nurtured and strengthened.



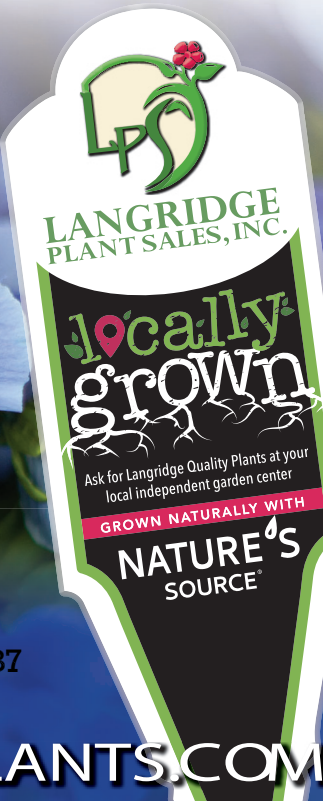
Camryn(5), Grace(7) and Ada(14) Ducote

Praying you all have a blessed 2021!
Kurt Ducote, LNLA President



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LNLA 2021 Events

- June 8-9, 2021 - CNLP Manual Review and Certification Exam, LSU AgCenter Hammond Research Station, Contact Cari Jane Murray for more info or visit lnla.org

- November 2, 2021 - Louisiana Plant Materials Conference, LSU AgCenter Hammond Research Station, Contact Cari Jane Murray for more info or visit lnla.org

LSU AgCenter Hammond Research Station Events

- April 16: Margie Jenkins Lecture Series – Hammond Research Station

- July 23: Horticulture Field Day – Hammond Research Station

- Oct 7: Proven Winners Landscape Roadshow – Hammond Research Station

Worker Protection Standard (WPS) Train-the-Trainer

- April 9, 2021, VIRTUAL \$25 register at LSU AgCenter online store, contact Kim Brown at kbrown@agcenter.lsu.edu or Bryan Gueltig at bgueltig@agcenter.lsu.edu, 225-578-6998

- May 11, 2021, VIRTUAL \$25 register at LSU AgCenter online store, contact Kim Brown at kbrown@agcenter.lsu.edu or Bryan Gueltig at bgueltig@agcenter.lsu.edu, 225-578-6998

Forest Hill Is Open For Business!

LNLA would like to recognize all of our nursery members in Forest Hill, Bunkie, Lecompte, Glenmora, Ville Platte and in between! Central Louisiana is open for business!

Spring is upon us and I encourage you to call or visit these nurseries! They have plants to sell! Structural damage does not mean plant damage in all cases and I'm here to tell you there are plants available in Central Louisiana!

TCB ... Taking Care of Business ... That's what nursery people do and are doing! Summer storms, winter storms, economic or worldwide pandemic storms cannot keep a nurseryman down. Forest Hill and the surrounding areas are proof of this! Hardworking, resilient men and women that are put to the test everyday but they gather their strength and keep going, doing what they love!

LOUISIANA IS OPEN FOR BUSINESS!



*Michael's Nursery, Glenmora
(Winter Storm 2021)*



*Star Nursery, Belle Chasse
(Hurricane Zeta)*



*Landscape Management Services,
Lake Charles (Hurricane Laura)*

Cover Photo Submitted by: Windmill Nursery

Named Scholarship or Research Grant Funding are great ways to honor your loved ones.

While the express purpose of the Foundation is to provide funding for scholarships and research, there are also naming opportunities that exist for businesses or individuals that may desire to name a Scholarship/Research in honor of someone or some other entity.

LNLFSR requires a minimum investment of \$10,000.00 to have a named Scholarship/Research. The investment may be accomplished in four different time frames:

- \$10,000.00 in a lump sum payment
- \$5,000.00 over a two year period
- \$2,500.00 over a four year period

Once the named Scholarship/Research is fully funded, the donor has some discretion working with the Foundation, to decide the dollar amount of the Scholarship/Research and thus the length of the time their naming funds would last.

Options for dispersal of funds towards scholarships or research grants could be:

- \$1,000.00 each over ten years
- \$2,000.00 each over five years
- \$2,500.00 each over four years

Donors would have the opportunity to add to their original investment if they decided to continue their named Scholarship/Research longer. Contact Cari Jane Murray, LNLFSR Executive Secretary for more information.

PLEASE JOIN US FOR OUR

Gala XI

with proceeds benefitting the

Louisiana Nursery & Landscape Foundation

for Scholarship & Research

Friday June 25th, 2021

6:30 - 9:30 pm

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*Funds generated will be used to provide scholarships for university students
and nursery / landscape research in Louisiana.*

For federal income tax purposes, only the excess paid over the value of dinner(s)
received is deductible. The fair market value of each dinner is estimated at \$90.

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Director - Dr. Regina Bracy

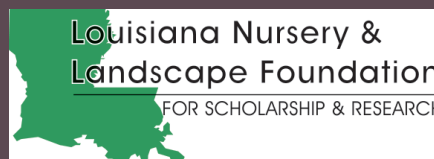
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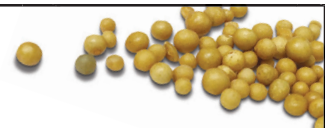
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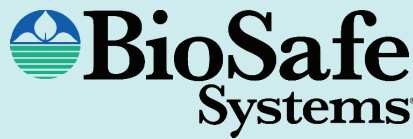
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3rd PLACE WINNER
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LNLA's Young Professional of the Year - Matthew Westmoreland

Award presented by Buddy Lee



Matthew Westmoreland grew up on his family's dairy farm and wholesale production nursery located not far from Franklinton, Louisiana. His parents are Dale and Lynette Westmoreland and owners of West Farms Nursery. Matt graduated from Franklinton High in 1998. While in high school he won the 1997 State FFA Nursery Operations Entrepreneurship/Placement

Proficiency Award. Even though Matt, along with his sister Katy, always helped with chores around the dairy and nursery, it was not until he was around twelve years of age that he got a real-life opportunity to learn about the industry. At that young age, Matt really wanted a specific type of four-wheeler, so his Dad made a deal with him to root boxwood liners and if he grew out some good liners that met the criteria and the quota they had agreed upon, then his Dad would pay him so he could purchase the four-wheeler. From that early learning experience, Matt never stopped. He knew he wanted to work in the nursery industry, but growing up in it, he felt like he needed knowledge in the managerial side of the business. After high school, Matt began attending Southeastern

Louisiana University in Hammond, Louisiana. He scheduled his classes, often at night, so that he could have three days a week to work at Nursery. Matt graduated from SLU in 2002 with a bachelor's degree in Business Administration and began working full time at the family business. He continues to work at West Farms Nursery and over the years has taken on more managerial responsibilities of the overall operation of the business. Matt is a true nurseryman, a manager who works with his employees and knows how to grow all different types of plants. He has become proficient in all aspects of the family business. And most importantly, his unique ability to interact with people in a friendly and honest fashion. Matt and his wife Leslie have been married for 19 years and have two children, their daughter June is eleven years old, and their son James is eight years old. Matt and Leslie are active in their church, First Baptist of Franklinton. Matt also has always enjoyed working with cattle and several years ago, fell in love with the Longhorn breed. He enjoys raising, showing, and selling them; however, he especially enjoys interacting with other Longhorn cattlemen. He has won several trophies with them and enjoys showing his Longhorn cattle at the Franklinton Parish Fair so people can see these beautiful cattle with their impressive horns. And lastly, Matt is also active in the Southeast Louisiana Nursery Association and served as president from 2015 to 2017. It is truly an honor for the Louisiana Nursery and Landscape Association to present this 2021 Young Nurseryman's Award to Mr. Matt Westmoreland.

LNLA's Professional of the Year - Gerritt Monk

Award presented by Cari Jane Murray



The LNLA Professional of the Year award reflects long time professionalism in business and outstanding long time contribution to the "Green Industry" and to LNLA. The recipient for this award this year not only represents professionalism but also passion and purpose in his work, family and hobbies. This person

has not just contributed to our Green Industry here in Louisiana but has been an advocate and leader for all.

This person did not start out his professional career in the green industry but his roots and passion for the farm and country life developed at an early age. He left home at the age of 18 and for 20 years traveled the country with an environmental services company. He returned home for good in the year 2000, after having purchased 52 acres in Oakdale, LA in 1995, to nursery manage full-time. About this same time Monk Farms growing

operation began; specializing in ground covers, ornamental grasses and multiple varieties of Carex. He and his wife Kelley also started a secondary brokerage business, Forest Hill Plant Ceaux, in 2012.

This person has served many years on the LNLA board of directors and has brought so many ideas and so much strength to our association. He sees things from a perspective of his own but will admit when he is wrong.

He is dedicated and a hard worker. What you see is what you get. And you usually get a good side of him. This person was one of the first in the Forest Hill area I was able to communicate with after Hurricane Laura earlier this year. He told me about the devastation that was far reaching in the area for our members and others. I'm pretty sure he must have called them all to check on them and see what they needed. His heart and quick thinking helped save many businesses and strengthen our association's influence and network.

When his is not working his hardest, you will find him not missing a moment of his 6 grandkids. His first hobby is his cattle and second mud buggy riding.

I am honored to know, have worked with and have the privilege of presenting the award of LNLA's Professional of the year to Gerritt Monk.

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James A. Foret Award 2021 - Gerald Foret

Award presented by Lisa Loup



The James A Foret award is the highest award given and reflects a lifetime of dedication and support to Louisiana Nursery and Landscape Association as well as the entire green industry.

Our Recipient this year has achieved all of these goals and so much more. This person has spent the better part of his life devoted to making this industry the best it can be.

This person has achieved success through

hard work, intellectual ingenuity, dedication to professionalism, a strong work ethic, relentless sacrifice, and his tenacity to perfect his business. Honesty, kindness, thoughtfulness, compassion, generosity, strength, leadership, dedication, humor, professionalism, intelligence are some of his many attributes.

Family is paramount in his life. He is a devoted father, son, brother, uncle, and godfather.

Many count themselves very blessed to have his friendship.

I personally judge the success of a person by the number of lifelong friends they have and his are too many to name.

He was born and raised in Lake Charles, Louisiana.

Growing up he enjoyed everything outdoors: hunting, fishing, football, water skiing and rafting in the lake with all of his friends.

He loved the water so much he started out at McNeese State University studying marine biology.

But his path soon changed after spending the day with his Uncle James A Foret. He then transferred to USL to study horticulture and graduated in 1975. He was immediately employed by Live Oak Gardens Wholesale Nursery in New Iberia.

In 1979 he opened his own nursery specializing in large field grown material. His business was thriving and his path was clear.

In 1993, Hurricane Andrew wipe his nursery off the map.

Instead of throwing in the towel, he went out and purchased an excavator and worked as many demolish projects as he could for the next 4 years to acquire the necessary funds he needed to rebuild his business.

He decided at this time to change his growing technique from field grown to container grown. This would propel his business to the forefront and continues to thrive today. He has served Louisiana Nursery and Landscape Association, as a long term board member and served as president for two consecutive years in 1997 and 1998.

He recently hosted the International Plant Propagators Society for the second time. He has mentored many of our youth and is always open to sharing his wealth of knowledge to anyone seeking information.

His devotion of giving back to the green industry is commendable and most deserving of this award. It is with my deep admiration, respect, and love that I present this award to my best friend, Gerald Foret.

LNLA Distinguished Service Award - Dr. Ed Bush

Award presented by Dr. Allen Owings



Dr. Edward (Ed) Bush was born and raised in New Orleans. He graduated Jesuit High School and then completed a BS degree in plant science at Southeastern Louisiana University in 1983, a MS degree in horticulture at LSU in 1986 and a Ph.D. in horticulture from LSU in 1996. Upon his M.S. graduation he worked at Bayou Tree Service in New Orleans the went to work as a research associate in horticulture at the LSU AgCenter's Calhoun Research Station from 1987-1992 where he worked in fruit crops

with Dr. Charles Johnson and then initiated some ornamental and turfgrass work at the station. In 1992, Dr. Bush transferred to the LSU Department of Horticulture in Baton Rouge where he was appointed an instructor. He taught many of the undergraduate courses in the department and worked part time on his Ph.D. degree. Upon completion of his terminal degree, Dr. Bush was appointed assistant professor in the Department. He continues to serve in that capacity today as a full professor assigned to research, teaching and a small extension service appointment.

Dr. Bush has graduated 27 M.S. students in horticulture and 4 Ph.D. students in horticulture at LSU. Many of these students are enjoying great horticulture

careers locally and across the country. His research has been in environmental management and nursery crop media / irrigation management. Dr. Bush has secured over \$1.5 million in grant funding. Develops have included a patent on a water monitoring system and the developed of Tiger Greaux and Garden Greaux horticultural potting media. He has also co-lead the LSU Coastal Roots program since 2000 – this program educates kindergarten through 12th grade students in nursery stewardship. Over 60 Coastal Roots nurseries are established at schools in Louisiana. Dr. Bush has also mentored around 200 high school students in science fair competitions with many receiving state, national and international recognition.

In organizational service, Dr. Bush is a past president of the Southern Region of the American Society for Horticultural Science and the Louisiana State Horticulture Society (two times).

Dr. Bush is married to Lisa who is a speech therapist with the EBR school system. Ed's son Nathan is an actuary in Baton Rouge and his daughter Natalie is a medical student at LSU in New Orleans. Ed enjoys barbequing, Saints football and golf.

We thank Dr. Bush for his 35 years of service to Louisiana's horticulture industry (and more to come)!



Congratulations to our newest LNLA Honorary Member

Brian Breaux with the Louisiana Farm Bureau Federation

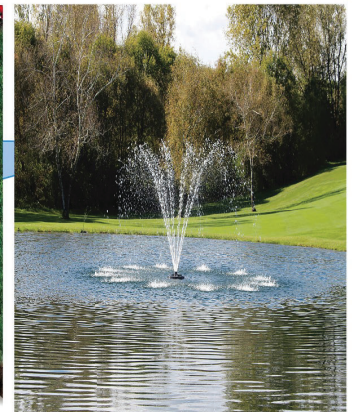
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FACEBOOK: Jenkins Farm and Nursery

LNLFSR Scholarship Winners – 2021

Congratulations to these students! We expect to see these scholarships help them with their education and leadership development that will eventually lead them down a career path that will benefit the Green Industry. Thank you!



Kristopher Criscione
Margie Jenkins Scholarship Winner

Kristopher is from New Jersey and graduated from the State University of New York of Cobleskill. He is pursuing a M.S. degree in plant and soil systems (horticulture) at LSU. His major professor is Jeb Fields where they are working in the area of soil substrates at the Hammond Research Station. In addition to being this year's recipient of the debuting Margie Jenkins Scholarship, Kris was the 2020 Dr. James and Faye Foret Scholarship Award from the Southern Nursery Association. He is also a Louisiana Society for Horticultural Research Scholarship winner.



Kelsey Shoemaker
Foret / Meadows / Owings Scholarship

Kelsey is a native of Alexandria, LA. She graduated from Lakeview High School in Campti, LA in 2017, and is currently a senior majoring in Agricultural Business with a concentration in Plant Science at Louisiana Tech University. Kelsey was introduced to agriculture during her FFA career and found her love of plants through working on a Nursery/Landscape team that won the Louisiana FFA state competition and 7th place at the national competition. At Louisiana Tech, beyond a wonderful GPA, Kelsey relates plant science theories to practical applications and has participated in landscape designs and maintenance projects, including working as the student groundkeeper at the university President's home. Through taking on tough challenges, Kelsey has gained hands-on experience in landscaping, teamwork, and demonstrated leadership. Kelsey will continue her journey in the field of plant science and with the nursery and landscape industry. She was the recipient of last year's LNLFSR Ira Nelson Scholarship.



Kaylee Deynzer
Ira Nelson Scholarship Winner

Kaylee is a graduate of Dutchtown High School in Ascension Parish and completed her B.S. degree at LSU in 2019. She is working on a M.S. degree in plant and soil systems (horticulture) at LSU with Dr. Kathryn Fontenot. Kaylee was the recipient of many undergraduate scholarships at LSU. She is involved with hemp production research (plant spacing, varieties and optimum germination temperatures).



Lakshmi Dasari

Lakshmi was born in India and completed here M.S. degree in urban forestry at Southern University in 2018. She is current a Ph.D. candidate in Urban Forestry at Southern. Her advisor is Dr. Yadong Qi and their work includes urban tree canopy modeling for reduction of temperature and humidity. Lakshmi has a 3.4 GPA. She is a member of Beta Kappa Chi and is a National Scientific Honor Society member.



Samuel des Bordes

Samuel is a M.S. graduate student in the School of Plant, Soil and Environmental Sciences at LSU. He graduated from Dutchtown High School in Ascension Parish in 2016 and completed his B.S. degree in horticultural science at LSU in 2020. He is now working at LSU with Dr. Heather Kirk-Ballard. Samuel is a member of the Phi Sigma Theta National Honor Society.



Isabella Frank

Isabella is a Baton Rouge native. She graduated from McKinley High School in 2016 and then graduated from Baton Rouge Community College before coming to LSU to pursue her B.S. degree in plant and soil systems (horticultural science). She has a 3.27 GPA. Isabella works as a student worker at the LSU AgCenter Botanic Gardens and is an active member of the LSU Horticulture Club.

WEED DOCTOR'S CORNER



By: *Dr. Ron Strahan, Assistant Professor in Weed Science, LSU AgCenter
Baton Rouge, (p) 225-578-2392 or (e) rstrahan@agcenter.lsu.edu*

2020 Was a Nightmare for Our Lawns Too!

Let's hope that the February cold snap reduced tropical sod webworm populations. Last summer, we had a biblical population of webworms that thoroughly devastated St. Augustinegrass lawns. I've never seen anything like it. Insecticides failed to control wave after wave last year. The damage was unrelenting until our nighttime temperatures got into the 50s. I am anticipating a reduced population this year...fingers crossed. Hurricanes were another factor that at least indirectly led to severe lawn damage.



Tropical Webworm

I expect most of us will have severe anxiety attacks when we see moths fluttering over the turf and flowerbeds after last year's

webworm infestation for the ages. This short-lived moth does not feed on the turf, but they are responsible for laying the eggs in the grass that hatch into larvae about a week later. The larvae are the destructive part of the tropical sod webworm life cycle. They feed on the lawn for about 25 days before pupating. Last year, multiple waves of larvae infested St. Augustinegrass and other lawn species to a lesser degree.

The larvae can get up to an inch long and are light green to gray green. There is no characteristic inverted Y shape on the head of webworms like you see with armyworms. The tropical sod webworm completes their development from egg to moth in 5 to 6 weeks. The species overwinters either as a moth or as pupa in the soil. That is where I'm hoping our cold weather steps in and "thins the herd" on webworms for the 2021 growing season. Moths and pupae have low tolerance for extended cold temperatures. We will see.



The table below shows some of the options for controlling tropical sod webworms. I highly recommend rotating

insecticides with different modes of action to reduce the potential for resistant populations

Tropical Sod Webworm Control Options

Insecticide	Common Trade Name(s)
bifenthrin	Talstar, Bifen
carbaryl	Sevin, Carbaryl
chlorantraniliprole	Acelepryn
trichlorfon	Dylox

Hurricane Damage

Lawns damage from hurricanes was more of an indirect result of the hurricane cleanup and not the hurricane itself. Turfgrass, especially St. Augustinegrass was already weak going into all the inclement weather from tropical sod webworms and a late summer/fall outbreak of chinch bugs. Multiple hurricanes were just icing on the cake.

During hurricane cleanup, machinery, branch and debris dragging and piling, and unusually high levels of foot traffic caused further damage to turfgrass that was already in a stressed condition. Lawns under stress have reduced wear tolerance. The result of multiple stress factors are lawns that are thin or bare and soils that are severely compacted. There are cultural practices that will help turfgrass recover in the 2021growing season that will get the lawn back and better than ever.

If you have a client with a lawn that's struggling, get a soil test to see where the lawn is fertility-wise. When you are not feeling well, blood tests are prescribed by your doctor. That's exactly why we do soil sampling and analysis, to see why the turfgrass isn't performing well. Soil test results will let you know what's lacking with soil nutrients and if pH adjustments are necessary.

Aerate and fertilize turfgrass back to good health - In most lawns, fertilizing appropriately and at the right time (late March to mid-April for the first fertilizer application) will quickly bring the lawn back to good health. Fertilize St. Augustinegrass in April, June and possibly in August. Fertilize centipedegrass in April and for a second time in June/July if additional recovery is needed. Don't overdo it with fertilizer on centipedegrass unless the lawn is really struggling.

Aeration may be necessary because of all the foot traffic and machinery that caused soil compaction. Some soils

are just naturally prone to compaction, especially if they are high in clay content. Try pushing a medium size screwdriver into the soil. If you feel a lot of resistance, soil compaction is a problem and debilitating to lawn roots. Stress on the roots from compaction always leads to poor turf health. Rent or buy an aerator for your business and aerate the lawn during the growing season. Multiple aerations are often necessary for some situations. In fact, next to applying fertilizer, aerating the soil can have the biggest impact on lawn recovery. Don't neglect soil compaction as an important reason as to why the lawn declined. Aerate for a more rapid recovery and long-term health of the turf. Aeration can be the missing component for bringing lawns back and as part of an overall maintenance plan that will take turfgrass to the next level.

Reseed? Sod? – In the most extreme and hopeless situations, the lawn may need to be seeded or more likely, sodded. Seeding options are limited to centipedegrass, common or improved common bermudagrass or possibly Zenith zoysiagrass. There is no seed for St. Augustinegrass. The first opportunity for seeding the lawn

is in April. With any seeding, the soil should be prepared extremely well. Soil test prior to planting and address fertility needs and pH issues during soil prep.

Seeding an area and forming a lawn is not instant gratification. Lawns will take a while to establish. Bermudagrass is the fastest of the seeded grasses to produce a lawn. Centipedegrass and zoysiagrass are the slowest, 6 to 12 months to establish into a lawn.

Sodding can be done year-round in Louisiana, but always prepare the areas to be sodded well. Just as with seeding, soil test prior to sodding and address fertility needs and pH issues during soil prep. Make sure the irrigation needs of newly sodded turfgrass are addressed during establishment.

Most problems can be fixed dramatically by just improving cultural practices. Get a soil sample analysis and fertilize accordingly. Aerate compacted soils. I've seen almost instant improvement of the worst lawns by just improving fertility and relieving stress on the roots through periodic aeration.



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The Old Gardens

Historic Garden Plants in Louisiana

In recent months I have become more interested in finding out about historic gardens and the kinds of plants used in the bygone days of Louisiana.

We know that garden design has changed greatly from the early days of Louisiana's founding to the present. Gardens are said to fall into several ages based upon the nature of our communities and the needs and wealth of our citizens. These garden periods are considered colonial from 1718-1803, antebellum 1803-1860, postbellum 1860-1900, and modern era 1900 to the end of WWII. The present form of gardening, call it Post WWII if you wish began with the advent of the auto suburbs when gardens moved into the country and provide plenty of space to garden.

By the time of the auto suburb, gardens were being designed by agents. That is to say, by professional designers such as landscape architects, horticulturists, landscape companies, and recently master gardeners. These last gardens we know today are different from the historic gardens of the past we wish to discuss here. Let's just agree that the modern garden is one that is simplified, designed to reduce maintenance as much as possible and whose main purpose is visual pleasure rather than actually working in a garden.

Historic Plants

This story is not so much about the eras of gardening in Louisiana noted above but about the plants that would be part of each era that form a basis of our understanding of garden design today. To better understand this transition in gardening one has to look at the plants that were used in each era. The interesting factor of garden design seen when looking at historic plants is two fold.

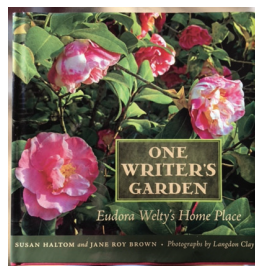
First historic plants that were introduced during each era are for the most part still used in garden design. Secondly, it is exciting to see when new plants are introduced, who introduced them and from where they came. The whole story of global plant explorers and those companies or botanical gardens that introduced these new species will keep the gardening public reading for weeks on end. Think of how much fun it is to read about **Vitex agnus castus**, monks pepper, one of the earliest ornamental plants to be used in Louisiana. This blue flowered plant that displays suspended terminal clusters of dark colored fruit was studied and described by **Pliny the Elder**, natural philosophy of the early Roman Empire (AD 23-79). Vitex was introduced into the United States in 1750 and planted in Louisiana gardens in the late 1700s and is still used today. There is one book all serious readers who are interested in historic plants need to discover. This book tells the story of the garden one of the most important Southern authors of the last century.

Eudora Welty's Garden

Eudora Welty (1909-2001) spent her life writing about the South and Southern people. She ranks with the best of Southern writers including Mark Twain, Kate Chopin, William Faulkner, and Truman Capote. Welty was a Pulitzer Prize author and received

a Presidential Medal of Freedom for her lifetime achievements in literature. What most people do not know however is that she was a lifetime gardener who grew up in "her mother's garden" and nurtured it till her death.

Today, the garden is located in Jackson and is a State Literary House Museum located at 1119 Pinehurst Street. Ms Welty's garden underwent restoration to re-establish a representational middle class garden of the pre-WWII modern era 1920-1940s. The book tells the story. It was said by her biographer that all of her work was flavored by the plants and flowers in her garden. Her garden was part of her inner world that sustained her writing creativity and stirred her imagination to write sweet and loving words.



Her work with gardens is a key to understanding Southern gardens and the historic plants that were introduced then and are still in use today. The interesting story of this garden is revealed in the book **One Writer's Garden**, Susan Halton and Jane Roy Brown, University Press of Mississippi, 2011. From this book we learn that the post WWII garden was designed as a

series of spaces, related to the house and lot size. The primary lawn was in front of the house connected to the side porch. Two planted garden rooms were at the rear along with a small woodland. All were connected by a circulation system. These garden rooms were furnished with walls, hedges, arbors, trellises and sweeping planting beds with particular spots where favored plants of a specific habit was presented. The emphasis was on flowers throughout the entire growing season and views from the house were of primary importance in the organization of outdoor spaces. One of the most interesting points of this book is that hundreds of references to garden plants are found in the millions of words written over the lifetime by Ms Welty. She used these historic plants as a storyteller to give a Southern sense of place to all of the short stories.

Among the historic plants used between 1920 and 1940 are found many of the plants we still use today. Trees included deodar cedar, red cedar, flowering peach, loblolly pine, crepemyrtle and magnolia. Flowering shrubs included abelia, azalea, banana shrub, camellias, flowering fragrant honeysuckle, gardenia, hydrangea, mock orange, spirea, sweet olive and old garden roses. Herbaceous material favorites included English ivy, four-o'clock, iris, phlox, jasmine, narcissus, spider lily, summer snowflake, violets and zinnia.

We garden readers can use this book to understand how much pleasure comes from getting to know historic traditional Southern plants.

To contact the author, get in touch by email at lsugreenlaws@aol.com. Abbey Associates Landscape Architects at 504.654-9952



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PLANTS, PLANTS, and MORE PLANTS

By: Allen Owings, Horticulture Professor Emeritus (LSU AgCenter), Senior Horticulturist (Bracy's Nursery), Horticulturist (Clegg's Nursery)
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Burpee GardenCast Emerging Trends for 2021

The Quiet Garden:

A calming garden full of blue and lilac Impatiens and ornamental grasses like Carex and Panicum provides soothing hues and gentle sounds that lull you into a peaceful state of mind.

Garden of Joy:

A flower bed full of bright "faces and eyes," including Pansy and Viola, is sure to inspire many smiles of pure happiness.

World Herb Garden:

Easy-to-grow herbs like Basil, Dill and Cilantro satisfy your wanderlust without ever leaving your own backyard and add punchy international flavors to your recipes.

Rise of Meatless Monday:

Embrace plant-based eating with a garden full of innovative, Burpee exclusive vegetables with dense flesh and succulent textures like Summer Squash, Eggplant and Turnips – fresh and flavorful additions to your meatless meals.

The Immunity Garden:

Get healthy in your own backyard with a garden full of vibrant vegetables like Winter Squash, Radishes and Tomatoes, all of which can help you fully commit to a nutrient-rich diet that strengthens your immune system.

Read more at: <https://www.burpee.com/GardenCast>

Sweet Viburnum Variety Option – Coppertop



Landscapers and retailers should consider transferring some of their sweet viburnum (*Viburnum odoratissimum*) sales to the relatively new Coppertop variety. Home gardeners need to start transitioning to this new and improved smaller growing sweet viburnum

This smaller growing habit sweet viburnum has maroon / copper new foliage growth flushes. White spring flowers. Great for use as a formal hedge or screen. Shearing a couple times annually yields brilliant colors extending 2-3 nodes on the new growth. Maintain at a landscape friendly 8-10 feet at maturity but maintained at less height. Developed by Louisiana plant breeder Buddy Lee. A Southern Living Plant Collection variety.

Proven Winners' Flowering Shrub of the Year



Pugster Blue Buddleia (butterfly bush) is "A Better Blue" bloomer. This variety has recently been designated as the Proven Winner flowering shrub of the year for 2021. What does it offer - drought tolerance, heat tolerance, deer resistance, dwarf habit. These perform great in the landscape bed or in containers. Plants produce large, violet blue flowers. Strong stems. Re-blooming. Improved hardiness.

Perennial for sunny areas. Addition Pugster varieties include White, Amethyst, Periwinkle plus the new for 2022, Pinker. The Pugsters have decent traction with growers, retailers and landscapers in Louisiana.

Great Newer Coreopsis

I love the Uptick series of Coreopsis from Darwin Perennials. My friend, Dr. Allan Armitage (professor emeritus, University of Georgia) raves about this variety in the November 2020 issue of Greenhouse Grower - "With the dozens of coreopsis out there, new and old, it is unusual for one to stand out as this series has. While it is not new, so what? All members of the series are good but 'Gold and Bronze' wins the Oscar. I will continue to recommend this little engine that could for some time". The Uptick varieties have been excellent landscape performers at the LSU AgCenter Hammond Research Station. They also bloom under less long day photoperiod requirements so can be grown for "color" sales most of the year. The series includes Cream, Cream and Red, Gold and Bronze and Yellow and Red. Consider these for landscaping and retail.



American Rose Society director Ken Kelley, Monroe, LA, recently announced the 'Peggy Martin' rose as the Gulf District (LA and MS) 2021 roses of the year. Horticulturist Allen Owings is pictured with the 'Peggy Martin' roses at BREC's Independence Park Botanical Garden in Baton Rouge, November 2020.

THE PLANT DOCTOR



By: Dr. Raj Singh, Associate Professor and Director, Plant Diagnostic Center,
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Susceptibility to satsuma cultivars to citrus canker caused by *Xanthomonas axonopodis* pv. *citri*

Citrus is the most popular fruit tree grown commercially and in home backyards in Louisiana. Satsumas dominated citrus production with 63% of total citrus acreage. In 2018, 183,408 bushels of satsumas were produced in the state with a total gross farm value of \$6.2 million (Louisiana Summary Agriculture and Natural Resources 2018).



(Figure 1)

During last decade, Satsuma production has drastically reduced by 54,526 bushels, which is attributed to diseases and natural disasters. After Hurricane Katrina in 2005, Louisiana lost majority of its citrus industry, and the total acreage was greatly reduced. In 2008 and 2010, citrus greening and sweet orange scab were confirmed in the state for the first time,

respectively (Hummel and Ferrin 2010; Singh and Ferrin 2011). In June of 2013, citrus canker (Figure 1) was re-confirmed in the state for a second time in Orleans parish (Singh 2013). The disease was first reported in Louisiana in 1914 (Loucks 1934), and considered eradicated in 1940 (Dopson 1964). Since 2013, citrus canker has been rapidly spreading to all commercial and backyard citrus production areas in the state. Currently, citrus canker is reported from 10 Louisiana counties including Plaquemines where majority of commercial citrus is grown (Louisiana Department of Agriculture and Forestry Cooperative Agriculture Pest Survey Report 2019).

All citrus varieties are susceptible to citrus canker, although some varieties are less susceptible than others. Copper-based fungicides may suppress the disease, but not control it. No bactericides have been labeled to use on citrus to manage citrus canker in Louisiana. Without effective management options, citrus canker has the potential to adversely affect the survival of Louisiana's valuable citrus industry. Therefore, it is critical to develop alternate methods to mitigate the spread of citrus canker in the state. One of the alternate methods is to discover satsuma cultivars that are highly tolerant and can withstand

high disease pressure in our canker conducive environment.

The results from an annual citrus cooperative agricultural pest survey (CAPS) conducted by LSU AgCenter and LDAF from 2014-2016, revealed that satsumas are highly tolerant to citrus canker with only 2.5% disease incidence. In some situations, the satsuma samples were collected from trees planted in the same backyard with heavily infested grapefruit, Meyer lemon, navel orange, and other citrus varieties. The CAPS lacked data on types of satsuma cultivars that were sampled. The cultivar susceptibility data plays critical role when promoting different type of satsumas to commercial and backyard growers in canker infested areas. The objective of this study was to screen susceptibility of satsuma cultivars against citrus canker under natural disease inoculum conditions.

Five cultivars of satsuma including, Brown's Select, LA Early, Miho, Owari, and St. Ann were screened along with three citrus varieties with known varying degrees of susceptibility to citrus canker disease ranging from a highly susceptible (HS) Ruby Red grapefruit, a moderately susceptible (MS) Hamlin sweet orange, and a least susceptible (LS) sweet kumquat. Trees grown in three gallon pots and eighteen months of age were placed under diseased mature grapefruit trees at a public garden in New Orleans and a commercial citrus orchard in Paulina. The study was conducted during 2018 and 2019 growing periods at both experimental sites.

The disease onset among the five satsumas varied at both New Orleans and Paulina sites during 2018 and 2019, but Brown's Select, Miho and Owari satsumas had consistently delayed onset of citrus canker with only 20% of incidence within weeks two and three after experimental tree were placed (Figure 2). Miho had an additional delayed disease onset that extended into week four with only 20% disease incidence in 2019 in Paulina. Similarly, Owari developed canker lesions during week five at New Orleans site with 20% disease incidence. LA Early and St. Ann satsumas were highly inconsistent in getting infected with citrus canker. The highly

susceptible ruby red grapefruit and moderately susceptible Hamlin sweet orange had a large number of trees getting infected early during the screening periods (Figure 2).

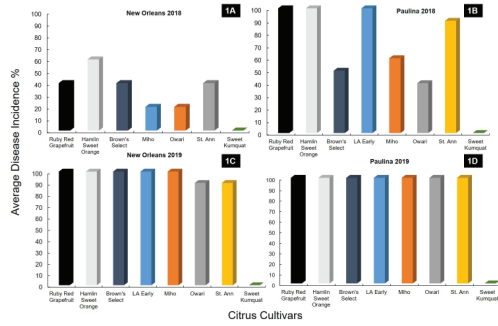


Figure 2: Disease incidence showed as mean percentage of experimental screened citrus cultivars trees infected with citrus canker at the end of the experiment in New Orleans (1A and 1C) and Paulina (1B and 1D) during 2018 and 2019, respectively.

In New Orleans public garden (grapefruits trees planted in a courtyard surrounded by brick wall), the satsuma cultivars Miho and Brown's Select showed the lowest average number of lesions in both years (Table 1), and a delayed disease onset compared with the other satsuma cultivars (Figure 3). Miho for instance never developed citrus canker symptoms after the three week-period in which the experimental trees were placed. In Paulina, an opened orchard, Miho and St Ann had the lowest average number of lesions per leaf in the two years of evaluation (Table 1), and Miho exhibited delayed onset of disease (Figure 3). The cultivars Brown's Select and Miho in New Orleans had the smallest number of 3.07 and 0.21 lesions per leaf, respectively. In Paulina the satsuma cultivars with the lowest number of lesions per leaf were observed on St. Ann (0.49 lesions per leaf) and Miho (1.69 lesions per leaf) (Table 1).

	2018		2019	
	New Orleans	Paulina	New Orleans	Paulina
Ruby Red grapefruit (HS)	1.36	4.14	9.2	6.11
Hamlin sweet orange (MS)	1.44	2.88	6.64	11.64
Brown's Select	0.48 AB	1.17 C	1.20 A	3.41 AB
LA Early	-	1.40 C	3.93 B	2.52 AB
Miho	0.21 A	0.90 B	3.07 AB	1.69 A
Owari	1.10 BC	0.49 A	4.92 B	4.07 B
St. Ann	1.75 D	0.43 A	5.34 B	2.02 A
Sweet kumquat (LS)	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0

Means followed by different letters in the column are different by Tukey's HSD test at 5%. Comparisons were made among the five satsuma cultivars only.

Table 1. Mean number of citrus canker lesions per leaf in experimental screened citrus cultivars trees in New Orleans and Paulina during 2018 and 2019

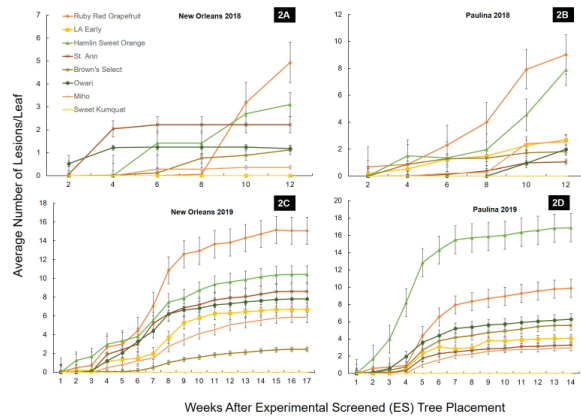


Figure 3: Disease severity expressed as average number of citrus canker lesions per leaf on experimental screened citrus cultivars trees in New Orleans (2A and 2C) and Paulina (2B and 2D) during 2018 and 2019 screening period, respectively.

The disease pressure on mature grapefruit trees at New Orleans and Paulina was 100% during both years and the weather conditions were conducive for canker at both sites. Despite the high disease pressure and weather conditions, satsumas Brown's select, Miho, and Owari performed best and had less disease with delayed onset of symptoms. Size of canker lesion is also an important predictive parameter on canker impact and spread. Lesions on leaves and twigs are probably the most epidemiologically significant inoculum for secondary infections, as canker lesions remain active for many months and the bacteria produced on lesions are dispersed by water splashes resulting in infection and further production of more canker lesions. In this study difference in canker lesion size among the five satsumas cultivars was observed in New Orleans but not in Paulina (Figure 4).

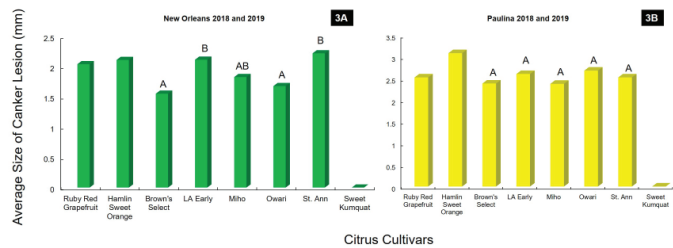


Figure 4: Average diameter (mm) of citrus canker lesions on experimental screened citrus cultivars trees in New Orleans (3A) and Paulina (3B) during 2018 and 2019 screening period, respectively.

In Louisiana, environmental conditions are optimal for citrus canker development, and lack of effective chemicals to manage the disease pose a continuous challenge for citrus growers. The popularity of growing satsumas in Louisiana orchards

and backyard gardens may help reduce the disease spread and development. This study provides field based scientific evidence that Brown's Select, Miho and Owari consistently had less disease severity with delayed incidence and therefore categorized as less susceptible to citrus canker compared to LA Early, St. Ann, Hamlin sweet orange, and ruby red grapefruit. Additionally, the smaller lesion size on both Brown's Select and Miho may result in lesser canker inoculum production for secondary infections. Louisiana growers must incorporate these satsumas in their future plantings as an alternate citrus canker management strategy.

Furthermore, in addition to the satsuma cultivar susceptibility data, this study provides the field-based data on sweet kumquat resistance to citrus canker. This information can be readily incorporated into citrus hybrids by conventional breeding.

In conclusion, this study provides valuable and reliable field-based scientific information on satsuma susceptibility to citrus canker in Louisiana which can help the growers select lesser susceptible cultivar to mitigate this high impact disease.

Acknowledgments

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Beacon® Impatiens (Spring)



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2021 Selections

- Impatiens Beacon® Series – (Bedding Plant)
- Sunflower Suncredible® Yellow – (Bedding Plant)
- Muhly Grass, *Muhlenbergia capillaris* (Native Grass)
- Supertunia Mini Vista 'Indigo' (Bedding Plant)

Previous Selections

Warm Season Bedding Plants

- Alternanthera 'Little Ruby'
- Angelonia – Serena Series
- Angelonia 'Serenita Raspberry'
- Begonia – BabyWing series
- Buddleia 'Flutterby Tutti Frutti'
- Celosia 'Intenz Classic'
- Cleome 'Senorita Rosalita'
- Coleus 'Henna'
- Coleus – Flamethrower series
- Gaillardia – Mesa series
- Hibiscus – Luna series
- Lantana – Bandana series
- Lemon Sedum
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- Pentas – Butterfly series
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- Gardenia 'Frostproof'
- Hydrangea paniculata 'Limelight'
- Hydrangea 'Penny Mac'
- Rose 'Belinda's Dream'
- Rose – Drift series
- Viburnum 'Mrs. Schiller's Delight'
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- Chaste Tree 'Shoal Creek' (*Vitex agnus-castus*)
- Evergreen Sweetbay Magnolia (*Magnolia virginiana*)
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LNLA Scholarship Winners From the Past

WHERE ARE THEY NOW?



HEATHER KIRK-BALLARD

Dr. Heather Kirk-Ballard is an Assistant Professor and Extension Specialist for Consumer Horticulture with the LSU AgCenter. She earned a B.S. and M.S. degree in plant and soil systems concentrating in ornamentals and received a Ph.D. in renewable natural resources from Louisiana State University in Baton Rouge. She was a scholarship recipient in the early 2000s.

Her early work experience included working in the bedding and foliage houses at Louisiana Nursery, with some wholesale nursery growing experience while in college at LSU. Upon completing her master's degree in ornamental plant research at the Burden Research Center, she took a position as a research associate at Pennington Biomedical Research Center where she completed her doctoral research under Dr. Zhijun Liu and Dr. Elizabeth Floyd with support from the Botanical Center, focusing on medicinal plants. She most recently worked as a technical consultant in water quality in heavy industry before joining the LSU AgCenter.

Her research interests include sustainable landscape research that will focus on such areas as; enhancing wildlife habitat in urban settings with native plants that support ecosystem services, edible landscaping, organic gardening, storm water run-off reduction, water-wise gardening, composting for soil management and energy-efficient landscape designs for consumers.

She is a member of the Southern Coordinating Committee SCC-85 that focuses on consumer horticulture extension, research and education across the country with other land-grant universities and is the chair of the social media council for the National Initiative for Consumer Horticulture (NICH). She is also the chair-elect for the Consumer Horticulture and Master Gardeners Professional Interest Group for ASHS. Her research interests will also include the impact of gardening on human health and well-being and on local communities and schools.

Heather is responsible for statewide consumer horticulture extension work and is the spokesperson for the LSU AgCenter's Get It Growing program, a statewide educational effort in home horticulture utilizing Internet, TV and newsprint. She also teaches the Plant Propagation course for the SPESS department on LSU's main campus. She heads up the LSU AgCenter Get It Growing program. Her love for home gardening comes from a lifetime of gardening alongside her mother who grew up farming corn in Nebraska and a brother who studied Landscape architecture at LSU.

SIMEON BENJAMIN

Simeon was recognized with the Foret / Meadows / Owings Scholarship Award in 2015. Simeon Benjamin was born in New Orleans and is a graduate of the Lighthouse Christian Academy. He had an Associate of Science degree in horticulture technology from Delgado Community College. He graduated with a B.S. program in plant and soil systems (landscape management) at LSU. In college, he was also awarded the LSU AgCenter Get It Growing scholarship and also the prestigious T.K. McKnight Memorial horticulture scholarship. He has been actively involved in several community service projects and completed an internship at Perino's Garden Center in Metairie. He is a Louisiana licensed landscape horticulturist. Horticulture professor Don Labonte at LSU says Simeon has always been "focused and very much devoted to horticulture".



Currently Simeon serves as Integrated Pest Management Gardener at Longue Vue Gardens in New Orleans. He is in charge of monitoring, researching, treating pest, disease and weed issues. Other items include maintaining the arbor scope tree inventor data base, writing garden columns on natural pest control, lawn care mowing over-seeding, with landscape maintenance. He also has done some self employed residential lawn care work since graduation. Simeon says he has never stopped learning – "I spend a good amount of time reading about plants, pest, pathogens, and helping to solve any garden problems". Simeon has many plans in the works and we look forward to his long future in Louisiana horticulture

(continued on next page)

LNLA Scholarship Winners From the Past WHERE ARE THEY NOW?

(continued from previous page)



RICHARD VANDERMUELLEN

An Ira Nelson Scholarship Award winner from about ten years ago is Richard VanderMuelen. He was recently recognized as a Rising Star Under 40 by Lawn and Garden Retailer Magazine (2020). He graduated in plant sciences from Southeastern Louisiana University and worked 3 years as a research farm assistant at the LSU AgCenter Hammond Research. Richard also was employed at Clegg’s Nursery. He is currently the supervisor of hanging basket production and seed manager at Wojo’s Greenhouse in Ortonville, Michigan. His mission there is to “develop practical solutions that improve company’s overall productivity and enhance product quality”. He is a frequent presenter in garden center’s educational program on a wide range of subjects. Rick likes to be creative and do artistic projects, “anything that involves working with my hands. I enjoy spending time designing landscape projects and working in the garden and flower beds at home.” Rick’s two favorite books are “Can’t Hurt Me” by David Goggins and “The Culture Code” by Daniel Coyle. “Both books can motivate and humble you at the same time.”

SOUTHEAST LOUISIANA NURSERY ASSOCIATION

COVID-19 has kept the association from having in-person meetings, but despite the hindrance, morale is strong. Members are well into the spring garden season and are looking at another big year for the industry.

SELNA has scheduled a spring garden festival this year. Folsom Spring Garden Festival is scheduled for Saturday, April 10, 2021 from 9:00 AM to 3:30 PM. Midway Church will be selling plate lunches

and offering refreshments for sale during the event. Plant nurseries and other related businesses are encouraged to participate.

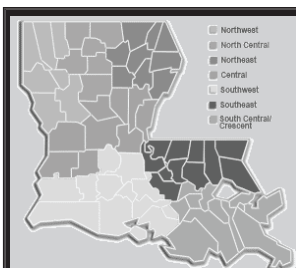
The Southeast Louisiana Wholesale Plant Locator List is available for download on our website. Visit www.selna.org for more information. The Nursery Map Locator is also available. Contact SELNA Secretary, Will Afton at 985.875.2635 or email WAfton@agcenter.lsu.edu if interested in receiving a copy.

BATON ROUGE LANDSCAPE ASSOCIATION

The Baton Rouge Landscape Association’s spring meeting is Thursday, March 11th, at the pavilion for the LSU AgCenter’s Botanic Gardens at Burden. Our educational program will be led by Dr. Gary Bachman, Extension/Research Professor of Urban Horticulture at MSU, and Host of Southern Gardening. Dr. Bachman will be focusing on new plant varieties at our March meeting – a much needed topic for anyone in charge of spring and summer plant sales, designs, and installations! Space will be limited, so RSVP today to reserve your seat! This meeting will be FREE to all members, and \$10 for non-members. We will have sandwiches from Jimmy Johns. BRLA will also provide bottled water, sodas,

and ice chests; we ask that you please bring your own beer or wine. Our 2021 BRLA Officers include: President – Harrison Jones; President-Elect – Elena Fennell; Secretary – Isabelle Morgan; Treasurer – Matt Fennell. Directors include Dr. Heather Kirk-Ballard, Russell Harris, and Sam de Bordas. Our Board Advisor is Jason Stagg.

Our next Association meeting (TBA) will be in early May. Please support our organization by renewing your membership, and joining us for a fun, educational evening! For more information on BRLA and upcoming meetings and events, please email Elena Fennell (ecfennell@cox.net). Your support is greatly appreciated!



Support Louisiana’s green industry by joining your regional association. Contact the following:

BRLA: Elena Fennell, Secretary, (e) ecfennell@cox.net, (p) 225-921-4095
 CLNA: Myra Poole Maloney, President, 75 Nick Strange Road, LeCompte, LA 71346, (p) 318-321-6046, (e) myramaloney41@gmail.com
 LA: Chuck Davis, Executive Secretary/Treasurer, (e) geauxlia@gmail.com
 NOHS: Shaun Hebert (e) nohs1885@gmail.com
 SELNA: William Afton, LSU AgCenter County Agent, St. Tammany Parish, Secretary, SE LA Nursery Association, 1301 N. Florida St., Covington, LA 70433 (p) 985.875.2635, (f)985.875.2639, www.selna.org

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Hammond Research Station Update

Jeb S. Fields, PhD

I would like to take to opportunity to first wish everyone well. The past 12 months have been quite challenging, with COVID, hurricanes, and terrible winter storms. You name it and it seems like it was thrown at us last year. However, we will not let this hold us down. We are going to continue to do what we love and promote horticulture, support our amazing industry, and provide you with the best horticultural research available. While at the time of writing this article, we are not open to the public we still want to ensure that we proceeded with our trials. Our staff has done an excellent job maintaining the winter gardens and we are busily taking data daily. We wish that we could open the gardens



and let everyone visit.

We had a limited cool-season trial this year, but we found some special plants that really made a statement. To that, we are busy continually planting and growing out all of our warm season trials. We are expecting such an amazing spread this spring and summer, we can't wait. Hopefully, the weather will change soon and we know, once that happens we are a full go. We have expanded our trials from last year, so we will have quite a bit to discuss this year. We have also broken ground on our new Magnolia Garden! The Louisiana Nursery and Landscape Foundation for Scholarship and Research and Louisiana Society for Horticulture Research were extremely generous

in support for our new garden additions. We have collected over 30 new varieties of Magnolias and we are not done yet. The Magnolia Garden will serve as a long-term evaluation area for all the new and underutilized Magnolia hybrids and



cultivars that are being developed across the country.

Since we still are unable to have public visitors, we have a special surprise for everyone at the Margie Jenkins Lecture Series, where we are planning to finally unveil our Hammond Trials website. We will have real-time trials data and news, at your fingertip, anytime you want. It is like having the Hammond Gardens right on your phone or computer. Well... not as good, but you get the idea. Be sure to stay tuned for the release.

On that note, we are busily planning our Margie Jenkins Lecture Series for Friday, April 16th. Currently, the event is planned for a virtual format, but we will know more as we get closer. Aside from the new website, we will have wonderful lectures, 2020 trial results, a winter landscape show, and virtual tours. We will also be hosting our Margie Jenkins celebration that was postponed last



year due to COVID. This is going to be fun, so be sure to check it out. While you're at it, make sure to mark your calendars for July, 23. That's the Hammond Research Station Horticulture Field Day. We also have the Proven Winners Landscape Roadshow, which was postponed last year, scheduled for October 7th. We cannot wait to get start having horticulture events again!



We are thrilled to welcome our new Research Associate, Maureen Thiessen to the Hammond Research Station team. Maureen joins us from North Carolina; however she is

originally from Louisiana, and is a graduate of LSU, where she received her M.S. in Horticulture focusing on soilless media. Maureen is a welcome addition as she brings her expertise of greenhouse production and wonderful attitude into the fold. Aside from assisting with the trial gardens and research projects, Maureen is gearing up for our upcoming Hammond Plant Sales, more info on this in the future. And last but certainly far from least, we would like to say a very special THANK YOU to all the members of the Louisiana green industry who support our station's efforts. Without you, we could never be able to do what we love and make all of these things happen. You are the reason we exist. If there is every anything that I or anyone at the Hammond Research Station can do to assist you, please let us know. Until next time,

Jeb



SAVE *the* DATE

Margie Y. Jenkins Lecture Series & Spring Open House 2021

APRIL 16TH, 2021

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FEATURING:

Special memorial segment for Ms. Margie Jenkins and her extraordinary lifelong contributions to the nursery industry

Plant Trials Update

The New Hammond Trials Website Launch

Lecture Series Speakers to be announced soon!

Virtual Tour of Hammond Gardens

More information on how to attend coming soon!



CARE FOR FREEZE-DAMAGED PALMS

DR. RAJ SINGH, LSU AGCENTER



(Figure 1 Silver Palm damaged from hard freeze)

Palms are signature ornamental plant species planted in home gardens, public parks, and roadside medians in southern Louisiana. Twenty-one species of palms are known to exist in Louisiana. Cabbage palm, Canary Island date palm, Chinese windmill palm, edible date palm, queen palm, and silver date palm are among the most prevalent palm species.

Palms are monocots, or grass-like flowering plant. Their trunks, or stems, have a central growing point called apical meristem, commonly known as bud or heart at the top of the plant from which all new fronds (leaves) emerge. If for some reason (biotic or abiotic issues), this central growing point gets killed, the palm will die. This can happen even to fully grown, well-established palms.

Palms are native to tropical and sub-tropical climates, although cabbage and windmill palms are considered relatively cold-tolerant. The winter weather that the Bayou State experienced the week of Mardi Gras severely damaged a large community of palm trees. Extended low temperatures and freezing conditions affected, Canary Island date palm, edible date palm, queen palm, silver date palm and some windmill palms. Cabbage and Chinese windmill palms in some locations suffered hard freeze injury as well but the damage is not as severe as on queen and silver palms. Generally the freeze damage begins to show up a week or 10 days later.



(Figure 2 Queen Palm damaged from hard freeze)

If you are now wondering what to do with a freeze-damaged palm, it's important to first understand the different types of injury they can sustain in low temperatures. First, chilling injury from temperatures above freezing results in browning of leaves commonly known as necrosis, or death, of the palm fronds. Chilling

injury results from sudden drop in the temperatures in the 40-to-45 degree range. This type of injury is not deadly, and affected palms recovers fully from the damage.

The second type of injury is frost injury that occurs when the leaf temperature drops to 32 degrees or below. The damage is similar to chilling injury, but affected palms may take longer – a year or more – to fully recover.

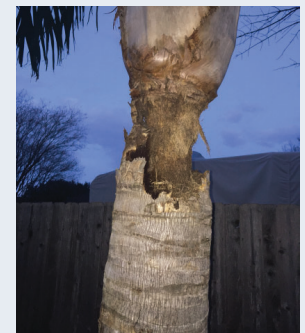
The third and deadly type of injury results from hard freeze. Extended temperatures below freezing not only affect the exposed fronds, but may also kill the base of the spear leaf (newest leaf in the palm canopy) in the apical meristem. This dead tissue is subsequently colonized by decomposing fungi and bacteria, resulting in the death of the apical meristem. Severe freezing temperatures may also kill the apical meristem. The spear leaf turns brown and can easily be pulled from within the palm canopy. Once the meristem is dead, it will not produce another one.



(Figure 3A Longitudinal splits caused by a hard freeze)

Freezing temperatures also can cause longitudinal splits on the stems of queen and silver palms. These splits are later colonized by decomposing organisms, resulting in softening of the stem. As the decomposition progresses, vascular channel tissue rots, interrupting the water and nutrient supply. In some instances, palms break in the middle at the affected area.

When it comes to caring for freeze damaged palms, be patient. Do not rush into removing the affected (brown) fronds immediately after the damage becomes visible. If a portion of a frond is still green, leave it on the tree as long as possible. It may look unsightly, but will benefit the palm during the recovering phase. The green portion will aid in photosynthesis necessary for production of sugars to support the palm growth. Palms usually start their season's



(Figure 3B Decomposed stem tissue on Queen Palm)



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CARE FOR FREEZE-DAMAGED PALMS

(CONTINUED)

growth long after other shrubs and trees start their spring growth flushes. Wait for the affected palm to produce new growth, and do not remove the affected fronds until the danger of additional hard freezes is over.

Affected palms should not be irrigated or fertilized now. Fertilize palms during active growing season from as early as late spring to early fall. Water palms adequately to avoid any drought stress, especially during summer months. Wrapping a palm trunk in burlap or frost-protection blanket to prevent cold damage does not protect the apical

meristem. It may provide some protection to the palm trunk from getting damaged.

If a cold-damaged palm does not produce new growth and has to be replaced, plan to plant a new one in early summer. Root growth in Louisiana is best in June, July and August, and new palm will also benefit from annual fertilization in early summer. When selecting new palms, think about native, cold-hardy species, including cabbage and windmill palms.

A Note from BWI VP of Sales, Mark Fomby



The independent garden center and nursery market in the South is as strong and healthy as I can remember in the last 20 years. I have read and heard many opinions why the above statement is true. I wanted to share what the experiences at BWI Companies, Inc. have been from April 2020 until the writing of the article in Mid-February 2021.

- BWI had its first market growth in the garden center segment of more than low single digits in over 15 years. This segment grew by 14% during the last 11 months. This growth could have been a few basis points higher had the supply chain been ready for the explosive growth.
- In reviewing the categories with exponential growth within the garden center market, we found that consumables such as potting soils led the way followed closely behind by decorative containers of all types. This can only lead to the increased sales of plant material in our collective markets.
- We also discovered that the retailers who have been doing the right things to promote their business over the past few years were the ones that benefited the most. In other words, if you had a good structure and plan, it allowed you to take advantage of unforeseen opportunities that occurred this past year. This also was reinforced by our highest performers on a historical basis were the ones who grew their customers business while maintaining mostly a virtual business environment. The bottom line is if you invest in what is right and valuable, you will be better prepared when these market changes occur.
- BWI suffered through our lowest product fulfillment rates in many, many years. Nobody knew what the pandemic would bring the lawn, garden, and nursery business but I can bet more thought the possibility of it being a negative was higher than it being a positive. This supply issue started with the manufacturers and bled all the way through the distributors to the retailers. BWI has taken measures to try to minimize a repeat of this situation and from what I understand most businesses in the market are doing the same type things. Now when everybody has the same thoughts (think toilet paper and disinfectants), a new type of challenge arises.... stocking up earlier and deeper than before. We are seeing the same rate of demand increase in Q1 of 2021 that we saw in the last 9 months of 2020. My advice is to be prepared for the increased demand to last at least through June-July. I would suggest you stay flexible and consider some alternatives to 'your brand of choice' to maintain stock going forward. Bags, bottles, and bottle caps are made throughout the world and there will be more supply interruptions over the coming months. If you have the capital and your supplier has the merchandise, my suggestion is you take delivery as soon as it is feasible.

We have read many reports of the number of new gardeners and the 'stickiness' of that trend. If even half of that prediction comes true, we all stand a chance of adding 2021 and possibly 2022 into the record books with 2020.

Stay safe and good selling!

HER LEGACY LIVES ON



Thanks so much to nursery grower and LNLA member David Norris of Norris Nursery and Landscaping, Folsom, LA for his efforts in donating and selling 40 ‘Quintessence’ camellias for \$25 each in support of the LNLFSR Margie Jenkins Scholarship Fund. \$1000 has been raised with some additional small donations. This is a highly fragrant variety that Margie got from Australia



many years ago. She gave a few to David to make sure someone else had and would propagate and grow for the future. The first Margie Jenkins scholarship recipient was selected in January (see announcement of 2021 scholarship winners elsewhere in the newsletter). Thanks to all who bought plants.



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Southern Nursery Association to Cease Operation

Atlanta, Ga., January 25, 2021 – Following the announcement of canceling The SNA Conference scheduled for February, the Southern Nursery Association (SNA) has announced that in a unanimous vote the board of directors has made the difficult decision to cease operation of the 121-yr. old organization. Since the conference is the main source of income and with declining membership, the board determined that the association cannot be sustained.

Founded in 1899, the SNA, a non-profit 501 (c) 6 trade association representing the horticulture industry in the southeastern U.S., accomplished many achievements in fulfilling its mission “to unite and advance the horticulture industry through educational, research and marketing efforts.” The SNA produced one of the industry’s largest trade shows from 1950 – 2009, the SNA Research Conference from 1955 to 2020, and the SNA Plant Conference from 1991 to 2020. In addition, the association hosted a State Officer’s Conference to encourage the exchange of information and learn about various issues affecting the industry throughout the region. Through a collaborative effort with industry researchers, the SNA produced The Best Management Practices (BMP) Guide, designed to help growers identify and promote exceptional management practices, methods and procedures. The first publication was in 1996 (v 1.0) and updated in 2007 (v 2.0) and once again in 2013 (v 3.0). With more than 6,000 copies in use today, this ever-popular guide has been recognized as the undisputed benchmark for horticultural BMPs in the U.S. The SNA also published the Proceedings of the SNA Research Conference and featured more than 3,000 titles comprised of more than 12,500 pages on the SNA website. Hundreds of topics in thirteen categories were presented at the conference and the proceedings have been published online, in an easy-to-use format, as an industry service. This exhaustive library will be transferred to the Horticultural Research Institute (HRI) website (www.hriresearch.org) or future reference.

In an effort to preserve the 121-year legacy of the SNA, two existing Horticultural Research Institute (HRI) Funds (the SNA Fund and the SNA Golf Classic Fund) will be combined (totaling approximately \$300,000) and renamed the Southern Nursery Association Legacy Fund. SNA members are encouraged to continue to donate to this important fund (<https://secure.givelively.org/donate/horticultural-research-institute-endowment-fund-inc/sna-1899-campaign>) that awards funding for horticultural research in the southeast region of the U.S. Past SNA Executive Vice Presidents Danny Summers (1989 – 2006) and Karen Summers (2012 – 2020) have volunteered to maintain the sna.org website to house SNA’s rich history, including but not limited to SNA past presidents from 1899 – 2020, SNA Awards program winners from 1956 – 2020, SNA Research Conference Proceedings from 1991 – 2020, past Bryson L. James Student Research Competition winners, and the Best Management Practices: Guide for Producing Nursery Crops. Additionally, an SNA Facebook page will be maintained to create a community for past SNA members, and for photos, memories and comments. Additional historical memorabilia will be deposited with the Atlanta History Center’s Cherokee Garden Library in the Southern Nursery Association Repository created in 1999 for SNA’s 100th anniversary. The collection contains hundreds of administrative records, meeting transcripts, seed catalogs, research proceedings, trade show programs, photos and more.

The Sidney B. Meadows Scholarship Endowment Fund, created by SNA in 1989, will not be impacted by this move. The Fund is a non-profit 501 (c) 3 charitable corporation fully independent of the SNA and will continue its efforts to award academic scholarships to horticulture students throughout the southeastern U.S. To date, the fund has awarded more than \$550,000 in scholarships. The fund balance currently stands at more than \$900,000. For more information on the Sidney B. Meadows Scholarship Endowment Fund visit www.sbmsef.org.

Although we are saddened that SNA will be closing its doors, SNA members can continue SNA’s mission to protect and advance our industry by becoming active members of their state horticulture association and AmericanHort, our industry’s national association. To assist in the effort of preserving the legacy of SNA, AmericanHort is offering an introductory membership to current SNA members through June 30, 2021. SNA members, who are not already AmericanHort members, can join at the Basic Level at a special rate of \$189 for the first year. Details available at AmericanHort.org. AmericanHort members receive the Impact Washington monthly e-newsletter; Connect digital and print newsletters; Industry Insider Reports; access to the Hort Knowledge Center featuring over 1,000 videos, webinars, articles, and employment development tools; access to the Member Resource Directory and MemberVoice – a tool to be heard on national legislation and regulations; access to webinars; event registration discounts and much more.

The creation of an SNA member group, based on the level of interest, inside AmericanHort, will help retain the identity and community of SNA. Additionally, efforts to expand the Southern Nursery Association Legacy Fund within HRI will be paramount to preserve the 121-year history and carry forth the longtime mission of the association to further horticultural research. For more information and to take advantage of this special offer contact AmericanHort by email: hello@americanhort.org or phone: 614-487-1117. In the coming weeks, SNA will be exploring other avenues for AmericanHort to help preserve some of SNA’s programs such as the research conference, student competition, and the Best Management Practices Guide. Final details of the effort to preserve the legacy of SNA will be forthcoming in the weeks ahead. The Southern Nursery Association wishes to express gratitude to the members, exhibitors, attendees, researchers, students, and volunteers who have been a part of the SNA experience for so many years. It is difficult to estimate the size and scope of the SNA community over the decades. To all those who have been a part of the SNA effort, we salute you and thank you for your service.

For more information on SNA contact the Southern Nursery Association, Inc., PO Box 801454, Acworth, GA 30101, 678.809.9992, mail@sna.org, or visit the SNA website at www.sna.org





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IN MEMORIAM

Joseph “Popee” Robert Barry, Jr (1931-2021)



Dr. Joseph Robert Barry, Jr. was a native and lifelong resident of the Grand Coteau/Sunset community where his contributions to numerous academic and community organizations were recognized over the years. A devout Catholic, he was a lifelong parishioner of St. Charles Borromeo Roman Catholic Church where he served on the Parish Council and was a lector for many years. Dr. Barry was a veteran of the United States military, proudly serving his country in the United States Air Force during the Korean War. He later served as the Commander at the Sunset American Legion Post.

Completing his undergraduate education at the University of Louisiana at Lafayette, formerly SLI, he went on to attain his Master’s degree at Louisiana State University and his PhD in Horticulture Science at Texas A&M. He began his career as a university professor, touching the lives of countless students and budding farmers and horticulturists, at the LSU Agriculture Extension Center’s Sweet Potato Research Station in Chase, LA, and later became a Professor of Horticulture at USL from 1969 – 1985 where he received the distinguished professor award. He was a member of Phi Kappa Phi Society, the Louisiana Society for Horticultural Research,

the organizer of the Louisiana Greenhouse Growers Association, and the local farmers market, the Louisiana Association of Retired Teachers, and the Louisiana Farm Bureau.

Dr. Barry was also a respected small business owner, the founder of Barry’s Wholesale Nursery in Grand Coteau, and a board member of the Louisiana Nursery and Landscape Association and of the Louisiana Sweet Potato Growers Association.

Known within the communities of Sunset and Grand Coteau for his service and generosity, Dr. Barry was a past president of the Sunset Sertoma Club and received the Sertoma Service to Mankind Award. Dr. Barry was granted the honor of reigning as both the King of Sunset Mardi Gras and the King of the Yambilee Festival.

Dr. Barry is survived by his wife of sixty-six years, Karleen Guilbeau Barry of Sunset; five sons, Robert Barry, III and his wife, Sheila, of Sunset; Dr. Michael D. Barry of Grand Coteau; Karl Barry and his wife, Karen, of Lafayette; Dr. Mark Barry of Grand Coteau; and Dr. Tim Barry and his wife, Cathy, of Lafayette; two daughters, D’Ann Plauche and her husband, Jerry, of Lafayette; and Linda B. Player and her husband, Robert “Baye”, of Hingham, MA; one daughter-in-law, Patricia “Peachie” Barry of Grand Coteau; sixteen grandchildren; eight great grandchildren; one great-great grandchild; one sister-in-law, Janelle Guilbeau Broussard; and many nieces and nephews. He was preceded in death by one son, Dr. Charles P. Barry; his parents, Joseph Robert Barry, Sr. and the former Odella Brinkhaus, both natives of Grand Coteau; and one sister, Patricia Barry Guillet.

Everett “Duke” John Lester Jr. (1952-2021)



Everett John Lester, Jr (Duke) passed away at home from a sudden heart attack on Mardi Gras day, February 16, 2021. Duke loved Mardi Gras –getting together with family and friends at the parades was a special joy to him. He is survived by his life-partner of 37 years Dan Gill, his sister Pennie Roberts, his brother and sister-in-law Tim and Tina Segura and many loving nieces, nephews and cousins. Born in Lafayette, Duke epitomized the joie de vie that is so much a part of South Louisiana culture. He never met a stranger. Duke could and would talk to anyone, anywhere, anytime, about anything. His life was a light that provided joy, comfort, kindness, generosity, support and understanding to everyone he met. The worth of a person is not so much in the degrees they held or career they pursued, but in how they lived and what is said about them when they die. Here are a few comments about Duke. “He had a wonderful way of making a person feel cared for and that they were special to him. In conversation, he would tilt his head, lean forward, then place his hand lightly on my arm, and be so attentive as to make me feel that our conversation was the most interesting thing happening to him at the moment.” “Even if you did not know him, Duke had a way of making you feel like an old friend and part of his innermost circle when you talked to him.” “Duke was such a cheerleader for me in everything I

was doing in my life. Everyone should be so lucky to have this type of friend. I will miss him for the rest of my life.” “Duke was always the life of the party. Who could help but love him.” “It is truly a testament to his love and devotion to you (Dan) that you were able to provide the service to Louisiana gardeners that you did. Without such a supportive person I’m sure this would not have happened.” There will be no services, but a memorial is planned for Duke in the late spring. In his memory, donations to the New Orleans Botanical Garden, where he spent so many happy hours, would be welcome.

IN MEMORIUM *(cont.)*

Harold Applewhite (1929-2021)



Harold Applewhite left this earth peacefully at home with his granddaughter by his side on September 14, 2020. Harold was born in Hazelhurst, Mississippi February 8, 1929 to Guy and Lela Odessa Applewhite. He was one of seven children. Harold attended Union Church High School and graduated with a degree in biology from University of Southern Mississippi. He enlisted in the US Air Force where he spent four years traveling the world while in the service. When his tour ended, Harold relocated to Pascagoula where he owned a successful air conditioning service company. While in this business, Harold opened “The Transplant”, a plant shop in Moss Point, MS. He began bringing plants to the French Market on weekends and would sell out. This prompted him to move to his true home, New Orleans, where he opened The Plant Gallery in the French Quarter and it flourished. He opened a second location on St. Claude Avenue. It later became Harold’s Plants, a landmark of the ByWater with its vibrant signage and festive atmosphere. Any day of the week, the shop is alive with plants, people, birds, dogs, cats, and the radio always playing in the background with signature New Orleans sounds or classical music. Harold considered his business partner, Kurt LeBlanc, and the rest of the staff his extended family. When Harold moved out of the Quarter, he settled in a 100-year-old Creole cottage

on Mehle Avenue in Arabi. After Katrina, he restored his house and bought the surrounding properties creating a beautiful oasis that anchored the neighborhood as it recovered and people returned. The 98 crepe myrtles that line Mehle Avenue were sought out and planted by Harold, a lasting legacy to the neighborhood he loved. Harold was an unapologetic person who lived life on his own terms. He was fiercely independent, even up to the end of his life. He had a particular soft spot for the underdog or the down and out. Although Harold was demanding, he was also very generous. He was a collector – of people, pets, and art. His wicked wit was not for every person, but anyone who understood it found themselves in good company. When word was out that Harold became ill, countless visitors came to call, and many told stories of how Harold invested in them to make them what they are today. Harold was preceded in death by his parents, Guy and Lela Odessa Applewhite, Brothers Hugh Applewhite, Ernest Applewhite, sister Betty Jarreau, and Thomas “Tommy” McDonald, who was like a son. Harold is survived by the pride and joy of his life, his granddaughter Brittney McDonald, brothers Robert Applewhite and Carroll Applewhite, a sister, Doris Hays, a very special niece and nephew, Amy Allen and Roger Applewhite, and many beloved friends and family members. The family wishes to thank Jimmie Hyde Watson, Harold’s hand-selected caregiver who attended to him with dedication for the past six weeks. In lieu of flowers, the family asks that donations be made in Harold’s name to a local animal shelter. And, that you keep Harold’s memory alive by doing something kind for someone less fortunate than you

Matt Willoughby



(editors note – Matt was a good friend to many of us in LNL A. Thoughts and prayers are with his family)

Willoughby was a sales representative for the company in the Carolinas and Tennessee, and a member of the company’s key account team. A kind and loyal friend to many, Matt grew up in the horticulture industry. As an Alabama native, he learned at an early age by working in his father’s greenhouses and retail garden center. Matt earned his B.S. degree in Ornamental Horticulture from Mississippi State University. He then worked for leading industry growers like Layman and Hines Horticulture.

“Matt will be missed by many in our industry, both in North America and internationally,” said Nathan Lamkey, president of Vaughan’s Horticulture and McHutchison. “His passion for floriculture and ability to build relationships allowed him to quickly establish a reputation for being a creative thinker who loved to develop new opportunities for his customers and vendors. We have already received many personal notes about Matt from customers, coworkers and peers all sharing how they will miss his guidance and friendship.”

Matt found his true calling as a broker sales representative in 2011 at Henry F. Michell before joining the Vaughan’s Horticulture team in 2018. Along the way, he helped countless customers with his out-of-the-box thinking, created personal connections and built long-lasting friendships. He was also an alumnus of GPN’s 40 Under 40 program as a member of the Class of 2015.

A true plantsman, Matt was highly respected in the floriculture industry for his deep knowledge and being a trusted partner in addition to his unwavering commitment to quality and service. His passion for horticulture was virtually unmatched and his relationships with breeders, customers and vendors were all built upon his sincere desire to help others.

Matt leaves behind his wife of 19 years, Jennifer, and three children including his son Samuel and his daughters Mason and Connor.

IN MEMORIUM *(cont.)*

Hilda Habetz Simoneaux (1931-2021)



Survivors include two daughters, Joselin Simoneaux Landry and spouse John Landry of Gretna, Mary Simoneaux Baronet of Rayne, four sons, Gregory Simoneaux and spouse Jennifer Zaunbrecher Simoneaux of Rayne, Nick Simoneaux and spouse Carol McCall Simoneaux of Rayne, Peter Simoneaux and spouse Daphne Morgan Simoneaux of Eunice, Paul Simoneaux and spouse Kim Savoie Simoneaux of Crowley, one sister, Pauline Habetz Reiners of Mowata, thirteen grandchildren, seventeen great grandchildren.

She was preceded in death by her husband, Jerome V. Simoneaux, infant son, Michael Simoneaux, grandson, Shawn Simoneaux, great grandson, Jack D'Aquin, parents, John Henry Habetz and Elizabeth Kreuser Habetz, infant sister, Hildegard Habetz, brother and sister in law, Philip Joseph Habetz and spouse Dolores "Bubbles" Zaunbrecher Habetz, brother in law, Anthony "Stoon" Reiners.

John Campbell Metz, Sr., (1924-2021)



We celebrate the well-lived, long life of John Campbell Metz, Sr., known to all as J. C., who passed peacefully at his home in St. Francisville, LA, on March 7, 2021, at the age of 96-1/2 years. Born on July 15, 1924, to Jesse and Myrtle Metz, J. C. grew up fishing, hunting, and playing in the backwoods of Cat Island Swamp with his seven siblings. He served in the U. S. Army and fought in World War II's Pacific War. J. C. returned home in February 1946, with 5 medals, including the Asiatic-Pacific Campaign Medal with 1 Bronze star for service in the Northern Solomons Campaign, the Philippine Liberation Medal, and the World War II Victory Medal. J. C. married Lily Imahara on November 16, 1951, and together they raised their family of seven children. His wife has said, 'J. C. is the provider and protector for his family', and he instilled in his children simple priorities for life: family and hard work. J. C. was a supervisor at Daniel and Truit Feed Mill in St. Francisville for many years, then became the Facilities Supervisor for the West Feliciana Parish School Board, all the while raising hogs and chickens, tending to several large gardens, and caring for his family. He retired from the School Board in June 1994. J. C. was the last survivor of the original Metz siblings, and he is survived by his wife, Lily, and their 7 children, Linda

'Lucky' Snyder, Joyce 'Sister' Roberts, Johnny and wife Tracy, Wanda 'Dootsie' and husband Don Chase, Randy and wife Melissa, Amy and husband Chris Hebert, Gaye 'Gaye-baby' and husband Ruben Toney, as well as his 7 grandchildren Justin, Sarah, Aaron, Mallory, Bailey, Taylor and Ethan, and 4 great-grandchildren Abby, John Carter, Laura and Charles. J. C. will be best remembered for his generous spirit, good cooking, and his favorite quote, 'My family is my Life!'

Dr. Karman Abdollahi



It is always difficult saying goodbye to someone we love and cherish. Family and friends must say goodbye to their beloved Kamran Abdollahi (Baton Rouge, Louisiana), who passed away at the age of 60, on March 4, 2021.

Dr. Abdollahi has been a loyal and valued faculty member, research scientist, advisor and advocate of the Southern University College of Agricultural, Family and Consumer Sciences (CAFCS) and the Southern University Agricultural Research and Extension Center for 28 years.

LNLA would also like to extend our deepest sympathy for the passing of the following.

Mary Avault, wife of James Avault, Avault Associates Landscaping, Prairieville
James Lane Culpepper Jr., son of Jimmy Culpepper, Greener Trees, Greenwell Springs

Our thoughts and prayers are with these families.

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LNLA BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING MINUTES
Wednesday, December 9, 2020 – 9:00 am (VIRTUAL)

All board members were in attendance virtually via zoom. President Ricky Becnel welcomed everyone. All stood for the Pledge of Allegiance. Ricky called for everyone to look over the minutes from the last board meeting on October 24, 2020. Kurt Ducote motioned to accept the minutes, Candi Ray second and I were in favor.

Mr. Ricky informed the board that our friend Dr. Ansel Rankins has been named Assistant Commissioner. Tina Peltier has become Director of Horticulture and Quarantine. We are very proud for them!

Tina Peltier joined the meeting and gave an update for the LDAF

Craig Roussel gave an update for the LNLA Labor Committee. No new news at this time.

LNLA Treasurer Brian Bridges gave the financial update and also the proposed budget for 2021. Matt Fennell motioned to accept both the financial report as given and the 2021 budget for LNLA. Kurt Ducote second the motion and all were in favor.

Michael Roe, LNLA funding committee chair, reported a request for funding from Dr. Jeb Fields with LSU AgCenter for a summer intern position at the Hammond Research Station. The board discussed the request in detail through email and all approved the expenditure. The LNLA board would like to ask the Foundation board if they would like to share in the cost of the interns pay since the position would be doing research. Michael had no other requests to present.

Brandon Adams, chair of the IT committee, reported to the board that dues renewal invoices successfully went out through our member management software and payments were successfully being submitted through the website.

Tony Carter, LNLA marketing committee chair, reported about the raffle to be held at the LNLA annual meeting in January. This meeting will be held virtually. Tickets may be purchased from board members or online. Cari Jane will have all the tickets and pull the winning tickets live during the virtual membership meeting. We have 11 sponsors that will strongly help the budget this coming year.

Kurt Ducote, chair of the membership committee, reported that the LDAF finished the first Licensed Landscaper Promotional Video and it has been email out to everyone. This is very helpful to our landscaper members! Dues renewals for 2021 have been mailed out to about 750 past and current members and another 1200 mailed to potential members. Payments are steady coming in each day. Each renewal will receive a 2021 LNLA membership certificate and packet in the mail.

Lisa Loup, LNLA nominating committee chair, gave the committees recommendations for the 2021 board to the current board. Kurt Ducote motioned to accept the nominations and to have them voted on at the January LNLA annual membership meeting that will be held virtually. Juan Garcia second the motion and all were in favor.

Juan Garcia, chair of the awards committee, gave ballots of all the nominations that have been made by LNLA members for 2021 LNLA awards. All great candidates. The board voted and winners will be announced at the January LNLA membership meeting that will be held virtually this year.

Ricky Becnel reported that the GSHE board of directors has decided to cancel the January 2021 Gulf States Horticulture Expo for this year due to the rise in Covid 19 cases. In light of this event not being held, Lisa Loup motioned that the LNLA Annual membership meeting (usually held at GSHE) be held on Thursday, January 21, 2021 virtually. Michael Roe second the motion and all were in favor.

Dr. Jeb Fields, Commercial Horticulture Specialist with LSU AgCenter gave the board a detailed update on the Hammond Research Station and the Louisiana Super Plants program. He also informed the board about our February 9-10, 2021 CNLP manual review that will be held virtually.

The next meeting of the LNLA board will be Wednesday, January 20, 2021, the day before the membership meeting to make sure all will run smoothly. Lisa Loup motioned to adjourn the meeting and all were in favor.

MINUTES
LNLA 2021 ANNUAL MEMBERSHIP MEETING & AWARDS PROGRAM
VIRTUAL - Live from your computer and on Facebook
January 21, 2021

President Ricky Becnel welcomed everyone, Cari Jane Murray gave the invocation and the meeting started at 7:15. All stood and said the Pledge of Allegiance. There were 57 members that logged on to the zoom call, 7 on Facebook and there has been 700+ views of the meeting there since.

The minutes of the last annual membership meeting on January 16, 2020 were emailed to everyone prior to the meeting. There was time given to be review. Motion was made by Lisa Loup to accept the minutes as presented; second by Gerritt Monk; motion carried with no nay votes.

LNLA Treasurer, Brian Bridges gave the financial report. Copies of the **financial report and proposed budget** were mailed to all members prior to the meeting. Our cash in the bank is approximately \$102k with \$88k in savings and \$25k in money market. Total assets of \$218,700. Brian reported items on the proposed budget. With the President's permission, Brian asked for a motion to accept the financial report and 2021 budget; Allen Owings motioned and Tony Carter second, all were in favor.

Ricky asked everyone to observe a brief moment of silence for those that passed away this year.

* Margie Yates Jenkins	* Fred Earl Mizell	* Dr. Dennis Ring	* Jeffrey Edward Jenkins
* Edward Lastrapes	* Doris Stokes	* Christie Watson Jones	* Harold Applewhite
* Wiley Roach	* Dr. Joseph Robert Barry, Jr.	* Dowell Robinson	

Dr. Jeb Fields with the LSU AgCenter Hammond Research Station updated us on all the latest happenings at the station and what we can look forward to this year.

Buddy Perino president of the LNLFSR addressed the audience. The foundation provides scholarships and grants in the area of horticulture. Gala XI will be this Summer, June 25 in NOLA at the Pavilion of the Two Sisters at City Park. Buddy announced the 2021 scholarship winners.

* Kristopher Criscione - Margie Jenkins Memorial Scholarship	* Kaylee Deynzer - Ira Nelson Scholarship	
* Kelsey Shoemaker - Foret Meadows Owings Scholarship	* Samuel des Bordes * Isabella Frank	* Lakshmi Manasa Dasari

Mr. Buddy Perino then announced the new LNLFSR Officers & Board of Directors for 2021-2023 up for ratification. Todd Ellefson motioned to accept the slate of officers and directors, Lisa Loup second. All were in favor. Buddy thanked long time officers Rick Webb and Pete Newton for their dedicated service.

President, Michele Andre
Vice-President, Allen Owings
Treasurer, Annie Coco
Executive Secretary, Cari Jane Murray
Directors: Regina Bracy, Albert Durio, Elena Fennell, Buddy Perino, Yan Chen

Ricky read the list of LNLA officers and Board of Directors for 2021 to be ratified. Gerritt Monk motioned to accept the slate of officers and directors for 2021, Pete Newton second the motion, all were in favor with no nays.

President, Kurt Ducote
1st Vice President, Lisa Loup
2nd Vice President, Michael Roe
Treasurer, Brian Bridges
Executive Secretary, Cari Jane Murray
Board of Directors (2022)
Juan Garcia, Candria Ray, Angelo Quaglino, Matt Fennell
Board of Directors (2023)
Tony Carter, Brandon Adams, Jeff Reid, Rueben Mitchell

Ricky Becnel presented an LNLA **Honorary Membership to Brian Breaux** with Louisiana Farm Bureau Federation.
Young Professional of the Year Award was presented by Buddy Lee to **Matt Westmoreland** of West Farms Nursery in Folsom, LA.
Professional of the Year Award was presented by Cari Jane Murray to **Gerritt Monk** of Monk Farms in Oakdale, LA
James A. Foret Award was presented by Lisa Loup to **Gerald Foret** of Gerald Foret Wholesale Nursery.
Distinguished Service Award was presented by Dr. Allen Owings to **Dr. Ed Bush**.

Tony Carter, chair of the LNLA marketing committee announced the sponsors of our 2021 raffle drawing.

Cari Jane and daughter mixed up and drew the winning tickets live for everyone to see.

#1 - Benelli SBE 3 B.E.S.T. Hunting Shotgun - **Winner Mark Navarre**
 #2 - Benelli Nova in Max-5 Camo Hunting Shotgun - **Winner Jacob Swarner**
 #3 - YETI 105qt cooler (donated by Langridge Plant Sales and Saxon Becnel & Sons) - **Winner Jeff Reid**.

Ricky addressed the membership about his time on the board over the years and turned it over to Kurt Ducote who called for a motion to **adjourn**. Matt Fennell gave the motion, Pete Newton second. All were in favor. The virtual meeting lasted a little over an hour.



Certified Nursery & Landscape Professional (CNLP) Manual Review and Certification Exam - 2021

JUNE 8-9, 2021

LSU AgCenter Hammond Research Station, 21549 Old Hammond Hwy,
Hammond, LA 70403

Registration & Manual Fees (check all that apply):

Name &/or Business Name _____

Address _____

City, State, Zip _____

Phone/Email (P) _____ (E) _____

_____ \$75 per person for manual review only

_____ \$175 per person for review and full certification exam.

_____ \$65 per copy "*Louisiana Manual for the Environmental Horticulture Industry*", the suggested manual for this course and LDAF Landscape Horticulture Licensing preparation (*not* already included in registration fees above).

_____ \$20 per section(s) re-taken by each person. * Please specify re-take section(s) if known.

_____ **TOTAL ... Make check or money order payable and mail to:** Louisiana Nursery & Landscape Association
PO Box 1447
Mandeville, LA 70470

The CNLP was established to provide a professional educational opportunity for 'Green Industry' professionals. Primarily, persons in the retail garden center and landscape contracting/maintenance areas of the 'Green Industry' participate; however the course is also recommended for wholesale growers, irrigation contractors and Master Gardeners. The manual review is also excellent preparation for the Louisiana Department of Agriculture and Forestry's landscape horticulturist license exam. An LDAF license or permit is required to be in various landscape & nursery related businesses in Louisiana; the *CNLP is not required*. **This certification is not a license.** Call LDAF Horticulture Commission at 225-952-8102 or your nearest LDAF regional office to schedule the state horticulture license exam.

Manual reviews will be held on the first day from 9:00 a.m. to around 5:00 p.m. and second day from 9:00 a.m. - 12:00 noon. The certification exam will be given (*if held in person*) at about 1:00 p.m. on the second day; 3 hours are allowed for the full certification exam.

Dr. Jeb Fields, LSU AgCenter's Commercial Horticulturist, is the primary instructor for the manual review/training session. It is recommended that participants acquire and read the manual, The Louisiana Manual for the Environmental Horticultural Industry, before attending the CNLP review. Participants can then ask questions on the content of the manual during the review. Please bring your manual to the review as well as highlighter and pen.

For further information contact:

Cari Jane Murray, LNLA Executive Secretary, (C) 985-237-2939, (E) carijanelnla@gmail.com

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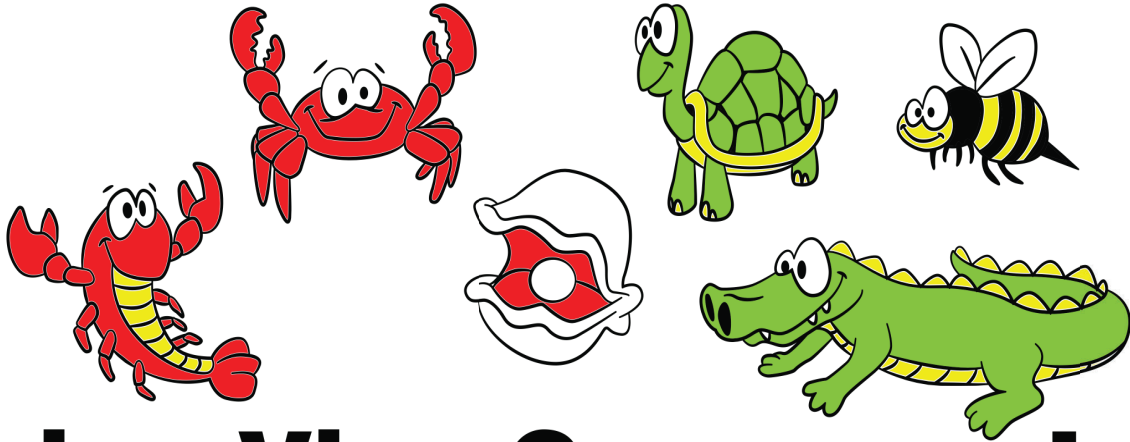
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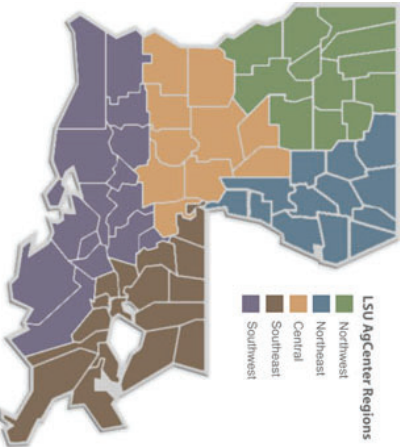


(225)686-3033
cajunvisa@gmail.com

please keep KK in your prayers!

2021 - Extension Horticulture Agents List

Responsible Parish	Last Name	First Name	Title	Email	Phone
SOUTHEAST REGION					
St. Tammany	Aton	William	Assistant Agent	WAton@agcenter.lsu.edu	985-875-2635
St. John, St. James,	Brock	André	Agent	ABrock@agcenter.lsu.edu	985-497-3261
Orleans, Jefferson, St. Bernard, St. Charles, Plaquemines	Dunaway	Christopher	Assistant Agent	CDunaway@agcenter.lsu.edu	504-658-2900
Tangipahoa, Washington	Ferguson	Mary Helen	Associate Agent	MHFerguson@agcenter.lsu.edu	985-277-1850
E. Feliciana, W. Feliciana, St. Helena, Tangipahoa	Hoover	Jessie	Associate Agent	JHoover@agcenter.lsu.edu	225-683-3101
East Baton Rouge	Harris	Russell	Assistant Agent	ruharris@agcenter.lsu.edu	225-389-3055
Multi-parish	Muse	Burnell	SU Assist. Area Agent	Brmuse@agcenter.lsu.edu	225-222-4136
Ascension	Simoneaux	Mariah	Associate Agent	MJSimoneaux@agcenter.lsu.edu	225-621-5799
Jefferson, Orleans, St. Bernard, St. Charles, Plaquemines,	Timmemman	Anna	Assistant Agent	Aitimmerman@agcenter.lsu.edu	504-736-6519
Orleans, Jefferson, St. Bernard, St. Charles, Plaquemines	Willis	Joe	Agent	Jwillis@agcenter.lsu.edu	504-483-9471
SOUTHWEST REGION					
Lafayette, Vermilion, Acadia	Devunport	Dan	Associate Agent	DDevunport@agcenter.lsu.edu	337-291-7090
St. Mary, St. Martin, Iberia	Gauthier	Stuart	Agent/ SW Region Coordin.	SGauthier@agcenter.lsu.edu	337-332-2181
Terbonne Lafourche	Joffron, Jr.	Bennett B.	Agent	EJoffron@agcenter.lsu.edu	985-873-6495
Assumption	Simoneaux	Mariah	Associate Agent	MJSimoneaux@agcenter.lsu.edu	985-369-6386
Calcasieu, Cameron, Jefferson Davis	Turley	Robert M.	Agent	RTurley@agcenter.lsu.edu	337-721-4080
CENTRAL REGION					
Beauregard, Grant, LaSalle, Vermon, Rapides	Hawkins	Keith	Associate Agent	KHawkins@agcenter.lsu.edu	337-463-7006
Rapides, Avoyelles, Evangeline, Allen, St. Landry, Pointe Coupee	Polozola	Michael	Assistant Agent	mpolozola@agcenter.lsu.edu	225-223-8321
Region/State	Shields	Sara	Assoc. Agent Reg. Coordin. Statewide MGJ/AMG Coordin.	SRS Shields@agcenter.lsu.edu	225-698-5533
NORTHEAST REGION					
Morehouse, Ouachita, Union, Caldwell	Heafner	Kerry	Assistant Agent NE Region		
Coordin.	KHeafner@agcenter.lsu.edu	318-323-2251			
East Carroll, West Carroll, Madison	Lee	Donna R.	Agent Extension Associate	DRLee@agcenter.lsu.edu	318-559-1459
Concordia, Catahoula	Miller	Kylie	w/Dennis Burns	KMiller@agcenter.lsu.edu	318-336-5315
Franklin, Richland	Pinnell-Alison	Carol L.	Agent	CPinnell-Alison@agcenter.lsu.edu	318-435-7551
NORTHWEST REGION					
Claborn, Webster	Monzingo	John	Assistant Agent	jmonzingo@agcenter.lsu.edu	318-927-3110
Bienville, Jackson, Lincoln, Wrm	Stockton	Gary A.	Agent	GStockton@agcenter.lsu.edu	318-251-5134
Bossier, Caddo DeSoto, Red River Sabine, Natchitoches	Wilson	Mark	Assistant Agent	MAWilson@agcenter.lsu.edu	318-226-6805



“The re-organization of ANR agent responsibilities across Louisiana has created a more focused effort in the core areas of animal science, agronomy, horticulture, and forestry and natural resources. The AgCenter will be transitioning personnel into these new responsibilities during the next 12-18 months. This following list includes those agents who have horticulture as their primary responsibility; they may have other formal duties as assigned by their Regional Directors. During this transition period, some of our ANR agents assigned to other core areas as their primary job will still continue to support horticultural efforts in their parishes to ensure that commercial and consumer horticulture stakeholder needs are being addressed. Please contact your local extension office for more information on horticultural programming.”



LOUISIANA

Nursery & Landscape

2021 Member Directory

Flower: Magnolia 'Jon Jon'

Photo Submitted by: Ashley Edwards



1st Class Lawn Services LLC

Darren, Dillenkoffer
525 Longwood Dr.
Destrehan, LA 70047
1stclasslawn@bellsouth.net

4 Neighbors Lawn & Landscape

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337-230-2513

Scapes, Inc.

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www.scapesincla.com

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Danny, Schilling
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(985) 735-9333

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Covington, LA 70434
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318-247-0689

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2021 Membership Application

First Name: _____ Last Name: _____
 Company Name: _____
 Mailing Address: _____
 City, State, Zip: _____
 Phone1: _____ Phone2: _____ Toll-free: _____
 FAX: _____ Email: _____
 Website: _____
 Referred By: _____

MEMBERSHIP CATEGORIES (select one) and Business Types (select all that apply – up to 5)

- REGULAR MEMBER (Voting) - \$ Based on gross sales per year (below)**
 A licensed or permitted business or person (in Louisiana only) engaged in one or more of the business types listed in box at right -- Please select no more than 5.

Dues	Annual Gross Sales	→
<input type="checkbox"/> \$100.00	\$0 - \$249,999	
<input type="checkbox"/> \$150.00	\$250,000 or more	
- ASSOCIATE MEMBER (Non-Voting) - \$150.00** – includes out-of-state businesses
 - In Louisiana - Wholesale Allied Supplies (AS)** A business/person selling any non-plant item such as chemicals, containers, equipment, fertilizer, garden décor or furniture, insurance, mulch, soil, stones, etc. Product(s) sold: _____
 - Out-of-State** -- State: _____ -- Please select no more than 5.
- AFFILIATE MEMBER (Non-Voting) – \$25.00**
 An employee of any horticulture business with a paid regular membership -- Please select no more than 5.
- GOVERNMENT/EDUCATION MEMBER (Non-Voting) – \$25.00**
 An employee of a government or non-profit entity, having a job responsibility in horticulture or closely related field
 - College or University Education/Extension/Research (**U**)
 - Educational/Regulatory Government Agency (**GV**)
 - Public Gardens or Parks (**PG**)
- RETIREE MEMBER (Non-Voting) (R) – \$25.00** - Any person formerly actively employed in horticulture or closely related field and having been a paid member of LNLA before retirement from that employment.
- STUDENT MEMBER (Non-Voting) (S) – FREE** - Full time student enrolled in a Louisiana university/college in horticulture or a closely related field.
 University/College name & location (city): _____

The **★Business Type** designation is used in LNLA's membership directory and website. Check each that applies - up to 5.

- Arborist/Urban Forester (**A**)
- Interior Plant Maintenance (**IM**)
- Irrigation Contractor (**IR**)
- Landscape Horticulture (**LH**)
- Landscape Design/Architect (**LA**)
- Landscape/Lawn Maintenance (**LM**)
- Plant Broker (**BR**)
- Retail Nursery / Garden Center (**GC**)
- Small Greenhouse/Field Grower (**SG**) -grow/sell direct to consumers
- Sod/Turf Producer (**T**)
- Wholesale Allied Supplies (**AS**)
- Wholesale Greenhouse Grower (**WG**) -bedding/ tropical plants
- Wholesale Field Grower (**WF**) -balled/container woody plants, perennials

PLEASE INDICATE YOUR PREFERENCE TO RECEIVE NEWSLETTERS: Email only Mail only Both email and mail

OPTIONAL: Members wishing to support the **Louisiana Nursery & Landscape Foundation for Scholarship & Research (LNLSFR)** fund for scholarships to deserving university/college horticulture/landscape students and grants for horticulture/landscape research/education should indicate amount and add the \$\$ to their dues check. This donation is tax deductible. Donation Amount \$ _____

Make check payable to: **Louisiana Nursery & Landscape Association**
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SEND DUES & APPLICATION BY MARCH 1 TO BE IN ANNUAL MEMBER DIRECTORY TOTAL Amount: \$ _____

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