



LOUISIANA
Nursery & Landscape
NEWS

LNLA Quarterly Newsletter | Volume 61 | March / April / May 2018

Spring 2018

***Member Directory
Included***

Photo submitted by Ricky Cicero with Cicero's Gardens in Metairie, LA



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cherrmann@cleggsnursery.com
 225-292-0821
 Clegg's Nursery #2, LLC
 5696 Siegen Ln
 Baton Rouge, LA 70809
 cell 504-289-0949

1st Vice-President – Ricky Becnel
rickybecnel@gmail.com
 504-656-7535
 Saxon Becnel & Sons, LLC
 13949 Hwy 23
 Belle Chasse, LA 70037-4117
 cell 504-432-3007

2nd Vice President – Kurt Ducote
ducotestrees@yahoo.com
 225-229-7113
 Ducote's Tree Farm
 4521 Wye Rd.
 Lakeland, LA 70752

Past President – Roger Steele
latreefarm@bellsouth.net
 318-346-1822
 Louisiana Tree Farm, Inc.
 148 Tanglewood Dr.
 Bunkie, LA 71322
 318-729-8969

Treasurer – Pat Newman
folsomnursery33@aol.com
 985-630-1335
 Folsom Nursery
 PO Box 580
 Folsom, LA 70437-0580

Executive Secretary – Cari Jane Murray
carijanelnla@gmail.com
 cell 985-237-2939
 126 Bertel Drive
 Covington, LA 70433

Director (2019) – Mike Goree
mike@michaelsnursery.com
 318-613-9505
 Michael's Nursery
 PO Box 1067
 Glenmora, LA 71433

Director (2019) – Jerry Plauche
barrysnursery@atvci.net
 337-255-8585
 Barry's Wholesale Nursery, LLC
 PO Box 390
 Grand Coteau, LA 70541

Director (2019) – Tony Carter
lpstonyc@gmail.com &
lpstina@gmail.com
 504-912-2488
 Langridge Plant Sales
 14655 Hwy 23
 Belle Chasse, LA 70037

Director (2019) - Michael Roe
michael@windmillnurseryllc.com
 504-210-6684
 Windmill Nursery
 PO Box 400
 Folsom, LA 70437

Director (2020) – Mike Hoogland
mike@hooglands.net
 318-208-1057
 Hoogland's Landscape
 2713 Viking Drive
 Bossier City, LA 71111

Director (2020) – Juan Garcia
juan@cpnsy.com
 318-715-6458
 Country Pines Nursery, Inc.
 PO Box 99
 Forest Hill, LA 71430

Director (2020) – Lisa Loup
amkland@aol.com
 504-913-8272
 AMK Landscape Services, Inc.
 850 Newman Ave.
 Jefferson, LA 70121

Director (2020) – Gerritt Monk
gmonk@plantceaux.com
 318-446-2020
 Monk Farm
 353 N Black Top Extension
 Oakdale, LA 71463

Director (Associate, 2019) – Brian Bridges
brianbridges@bwicompanies.com
 318-623-9158
 BWI Co., Inc.
 PO Box 610
 Forest Hill, LA 71430

Director (Associate, 2019) - Craig Roussel
croussel@agcenter.lsu.edu
 225-963-0139

Director of Research & Education - Ed Bush
ebush@agcenter.lsu.edu
 225-247-3184

Director of Training – Dan Gill
dgill@agcenter.lsu.edu

Administrative Assistant & Webmaster – Paul Wilson
pwwilson@lsu.edu
 225-892-1164
 2337 N. Country Club Lane
 Biloxi, MS 39532

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A WORD FROM OUR PRESIDENT

I am honored to be chosen to lead the Louisiana Nursery and Landscape Association as your President. Since joining the board of directors in 2015, I have seen many changes move our association in a positive direction and promise to continue to foster and cultivate this culture of improvement. I'm excited to work with our current board and welcome our new board members.

I would like to thank our outgoing president, Roger Steele, for his dedication and leadership in the past year. He and the board developed a great benefits package for all our members, which I urge you to check out on our website's Members' Benefits page. He also updated our Articles and By-Laws to bring us into compliance with Louisiana Law.

We had a tough winter and many are recovering from hard freezes, sleet, ice, and even snow. Many suffered crop loss and a resulting loss of sales or suffered damage to irrigation, greenhouses and shade structures. Some of us experienced all of the above. As temperatures warm and we continue to recover, I anticipate a very robust spring. Consumers are out in full force buying plants to replace ones lost and are anxious to get their yards and gardens looking beautiful again. Hopefully, the temperatures won't rise too quickly and we will all have a long and prosperous spring!

I want to thank our Executive Secretary, Cari Jane Murray, for keeping all of us informed about current issues. It was brought to our attention that State Representative Julie Emerson introduced House Bill 563 which would repeal the regulation,

examination and licensing of landscape horticulturists. This bill would have also removed the member representing landscape horticulturists from the Horticulture Commission. Cari Jane, Craig Roussel, Baton Rouge Landscape Association President Elena Fennell, and I met with Commissioner of Agriculture and Forestry Mike Strain, Assistant Commissioner Benjy Rayburn, Director of Horticulture & Quarantine Ansel Rankins, Sr. and District Manager Tina Peltier to discuss the issue. We had a great meeting and Commissioner Strain was very helpful. At the meeting, Commissioner Strain stated that we are not politicians, but need to be politically active. I wholeheartedly agree with this sentiment and I am proud of everyone's effort to contact the representatives involved by email, phone or in person. I am also glad to report that Rep. Emerson withdrew the bill.

I want to thank all who attended the Annual Membership Breakfast Meeting and Hospitality Hour and Foundation Silent Auction at the Gulf States Horticultural Expo in Mobile in January. I encourage all members to attend these great events next year.

I look forward to serving you and implore all our members to get involved. Please do not hesitate to reach out to me, any of our board members, or our Executive Secretary, Cari Jane Murray.

Sincerely,
Chris Herrmann

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In Memory

Thomas Brandt Becnel

Thomas "Tommy" Brandt Becnel, loving and devoted husband, father, brother, grandpa and friend died suddenly at his home on Sunday, August 13, 2017 at the age of 80. Son of the late Arthur and Gladys Brandt Becnel. Widower of the late Frances Rotolo Becnel. Father of Thomas B. Becnel Jr. (Patti), Rosalie Longwell (Phillip), and Frances Zemlik (Scott). Grandpa of Katie Traut (Tyler), Kelsey Becnel, Brandt Becnel, Tyler Longwell (Chelsea), Taylor Longwell, Rebekah Herberg and Jake Zemlik. Survived by his longtime companion Barbara Labatut, his brothers Bob Becnel, Harold Becnel, Ben Becnel, sister Shirley Navarre and a host of nieces of nephews. Preceded in death by his brothers Arthur, Carol, Hewitt, Saxon, and Johnny Becnel.

Tommy, a fourth generation citrus and vegetable farmer, worked hard all his life. He worked various jobs over the years to provide for his family. Tommy was a rough neck in the oil field, a city bus driver, an insurance salesman, trawler, an operator at Chevron Oronite, a bull dozer operator and a Plaquemines Parish drainage pump operator. He loved his family who will forever cherish him and his storytelling, especially stories of growing up on a farm with all his brothers and sister. He loved tending his garden & cooking. While eating one meal, he talked about ways to cook the next; everything starting with a roux and black cast iron pot. Tommy enjoyed sitting around a card table whether in a casino or surrounded by family and friends, playing cards and sharing stories and good times. He will truly be missed and we are all blessed to have had him in our lives. In lieu of flowers, a donation to your favorite charity or OLPH Church Belle Chasse are preferred.

Mrs. Elizabeth Pittman Dodd

Mrs. Elizabeth Pittman Dodd, age 98, longtime resident of Semmes, AL passed away on Thursday, February 1, 2018. She is preceded in death by her husband, Thomas

Henry Dodd, Jr., son, Robert Pittman Dodd, parents, William Alexander Pittman and Elizabeth Acree Pittman, grandson, William Jonathan Tandy and brother, William A. Pittman. Mrs. Dodd was a longtime member of Springhill Baptist Church.

She was very active in the church and Semmes community and fully involved in the missions and Girls Auxiliary of the church. Mrs. Dodd is survived by her children; Thomas Henry Dodd, III (Thayer), Elizabeth Anne Dodd and Alice Dodd Baker (David). She is also survived by her grandchildren; Shalla Tandy Braswell (Stephen), Thomas H. Dodd IV (Yasuko), Susan Dodd Gray (Wayne), Robert Smith Petersen, Elizabeth Smith Petersen Helenius (Ross), Rebekah Baker Orlando (Michael), David R. Baker, II (Lauren) and ten great-grandchildren.



Catherine Marie Foret

June 24, 1929 - February 16, 2018

Catherine Petit Foret, 88, returned to her heavenly home on February 16, 2018 surrounded by her loving family. Her devotion to her family and her firm belief in God supported her in life and ultimately gave her peace.

Catherine was born to the late Louis and Inez Petit in Belmont, LA and was a 1946 graduate of Lutchter High School. She attended Baton Rouge Business College and did clerical work for most of her life working at both Gulf States Utilities and later at Calcasieu Parish School Board for 32 years.

Catherine was blessed with a large and loving family. She married her best friend and fellow classmate, the late Gerald Louis Foret, Sr. on June 9, 1951. Catherine raised her four children with patience, discipline and humility. She was a member of Our Lady Queen of Heaven Catholic Church where she was active in Catholic Daughters, Altar Society and Sacristan Ministry. By her life she encouraged her children and grandchildren to explore the beauty of the gospels, and to follow His example.

Her hobbies included gardening, dancing, cooking and entertaining.

Catherine is survived by her children, Gerald Foret, Jr., Denise Collett, Charlene (Mark) Burgess, and David Foret (Kim); her grandchildren, Courtney McCain (Brandon), Jessica Miguez (John), Kelli Richard (Troy), Chris Foret, Jacob Collett; Catherine Haese (Mikey), and Derek Foret (Lindsey); 8 great-grandchildren; and sister, Dolores Brignac.

She is preceded in death by her husband, her parents, and her brother, Louis D. Petit.

Visitation will be at Johnson Funeral Home Tuesday, February 20, 2018 beginning at 9:30 AM with a Rosary at 11:00 AM and Mass at Our Lady Queen of Heaven Catholic Church at 1:30 PM with burial following at Consolata Cemetery.



Dr. Bernard McSparrin Sr.

Dr. Bernard Hugh McSparrin, Sr., PH.D. 79, a native of Lokeba, OK and a resident of Schriever, LA passed away on December 28, 2017.

He is survived by his wife Russella Ramp McSparrin; son, Bernard "Buddy" McSparrin, Jr. (Deidra); brother, Joe McSparrin; sisters, Judy Woodard and Janet DeSpain; step-daughters, Natalie DeAngelis, Laura Elliott, Mary Gaidry, Roberta Gaidry; step-grandchildren, Trevor Billings, Douglas Pecot, Miranda Pecot, Ruth Pecot; step-great grandchild, Emma Billings.

He is preceded in death by his parents, Gerald McSparrin and Cora Hagerman McSparrin; brother, Gerald Lynn McSparrin and sister, Connie Jacobs.

In lieu of flowers, donations can be made in Bernard's honor to the Dr. Bernard H. McSparrin and Sandra Taylor Nursing Endowed Scholarship Fund, ALSU Foundation or St. Judes.

UPCOMING EVENTS

April 5, 2018 - Margie Jenkins Lecture Series and Spring Industry Open House, LSU AgCenter Hammond Research Station, Hammond, LA. Contact Yan Chen at yachen@agcenter.lsu.edu for more information and RSVP at <http://bit.ly/2ljwts>

April 26, 2018 - Celebration of Dr. Allen Owings' 25-year Career with the LSU AgCenter and the Louisiana Horticulture Industry, LSU AgCenter Hammond Research Station, Hammond, LA Contact Regina Bracy at regina@bracys.com for more info

June 8, 2018 - Louisiana Nursery and Landscape Foundation for Scholarship and Research Gala, Lod Cook Alumni Center, Baton Rouge, LA

July 10 - 11, 2018 - LNLA's Certified Nursery and Landscape Professional (CNLP) Review and Exam, Lafayette, LA, contact carijanelnla@gmail.com for more info.

August 16-18, 2018 - TNLA's Nursery/Landscape Expo, San Antonio, TX. Visit <http://www.nurserylandscapeexpo.org/> for more info.

The LSU AgCenter and affiliated groups offer numerous educational opportunities for nursery and landscape professionals. Some educational programs having multi-state impact and attendance are also listed. Be sure to check with the contact person listed for more specific information on each event and confirm date, location, time prior to attending.

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An Evening with Allen Owings
 “Celebrating 25 Years of People and Plants”

Thursday, April 26th
 4:30 – 7:30 pm

Hammond Research Station
 21549 Old Covington Highway, Hammond, LA

In acknowledgement of Dr. Owings’ many contributions to the landscape and nursery industry, please consider a gift in support of the Dr. Allen Owings Sun Garden at the Hammond Research Station

- Yes, I/we plan to attend the event.
- Yes, I/we would like to support the Dr. Allen Owings Sun Garden with a gift of:
 - \$100 (Donor)
 - \$500 (Sponsor)
 - \$1,000 (Patron; recognition in program and signage included)
 - \$2,500 (Benefactor; recognition in program and signage included)
 - \$5,000 (Philanthropist; recognition in program and signage included)

Contact Information:

Name _____
 Business Name _____
 Address _____
 City _____ State _____ Zip _____
 Phone _____ Email _____

Gift Information: please make check payable to the LSU Foundation

What our members are saying about LNLA

- Just saved \$121 for Bracy’s at Office Depot!!! - *Allen Owings, Bracy’s Nursery*

- I would like to thank you and the Louisiana Nursery and Landscape board for recognizing me as the 2018 Young Professional of the year. Receiving this award came as a huge shock as unaware I was being considered as a candidate. Though unexpected, it comes as a great honor to receive this award. It is humbling to be recognized by my peers and professional of Louisiana’s green industry as having made strides in the advancement of our trade. All too often, I grapple with the question’ “Am I making a difference” or “Is this the right direction”. Winning this award

has given me the reassurance to continue to push forward for Louisiana’s Green Industry. Thank you again, this really means a great deal to me and it is a recognition I will cherish for years to come. - *Lee Rouse, LSU AgCenter*

- Just saved Clegg’s \$24 on a \$30 purchase. This is what I call a major member benefit. Hope other members know what kinda great deals are there to be gotten?.... - *Allen Owings, Clegg’s Nursery*

- I want to take this opportunity to thank all of you for selecting me as the recipient of the James A. Foret Award in recognition of lifetime service, dedication, and outstanding contributions to Louisiana’s nursery

and landscape industry. This was totally unexpected and is truly a great honor. Since most of my career was spent overseeing the regulation of this industry, it makes receiving this award even more special. I sincerely appreciate being selected to receive such a prestigious award. The Louisiana Nursery and Landscape Association will always hold a special place in my heart. Thank you again for the award and I look forward to our continued relationship. - *Craig Roussel, LSU AgCenter*

- I received the discount cards from Office Depot and it was a nice surprise! Thanks! - *Mike Honbon, Mike Honbon Landscape, LLC.*

Notes from the secretary...

Hello Everyone,

This first quarter of 2018 has been a busy one! We kicked off at Gulf States Horticulture Expo in Mobile ... well some of us that is. The extreme low temperatures kept some of us from being able to travel with lots of roads and bridges being impassable throughout Louisiana. Never the less, the show must go on.

Attendance at LNLA's annual membership breakfast meeting was less than average due to the weather but those in attendance enjoyed the enlightening speech by our guest, Commissioner Mike Strain. The LNLA hospitality hour and Foundation silent auction at GSHE brought lots of friends, colleagues and customers together; always a good time.

If February, LNLA hosted the first Certified Nursery and Landscape Professional review with Dan Gill and exam for the year at the Hammond Research Station. There were 40 in attendance with 28 taking the exam. CNLP is a wonderful way to help prepare for the state licensing exam for Landscape Horticulture and being a Certified Nursery and Landscape Professional sets you out from the crowd. It lets others know you take pride in your knowledge and professionalism in this industry. The next CNLP review and exam is scheduled on July 10 and 11 at Ira Nelson in Lafayette.

Most recently, LNLA has joined together the licensed Landscape Horticulturists of Louisiana to fight House Bill 563 proposing to deregulate this license. Passage of this bill would remove the licensing requirement and allow ANYONE to call themselves a landscaper and conduct business as such. We are proud of our educated and licensed landscapers in the state! It has been pretty cool to see everyone in the industry pull together and fight this! We have been a strong voice and this is exactly the reason for LNLA and you being a part! Thank you all and I look forward to many more times like this that we can strengthen together.

Louisiana Nursery and Landscape Foundation for Scholarship and Research will host GALA IX at Lod Cook in Baton Rouge, June 8th. This will be a super fun time with great food, friends and lots of auction items! I want to see you all there.

I hope you all enjoy this special issue of the Louisiana Nursery and Landscape News magazine and directory. And as always, feel free to call or email me if there is anything I can do for you.

Thank you,
Cari Jane
LNLA and LNLFSR Executive Secretary

LNLA congratulates it's newest Certified Nursery and Landscape Professionals from the CNLP Review & Exam at the Hammond Research Station on February 20 & 21, 2018

Jonathan Windham, Banting's Nursery
Austin Bingham, RCI
Brooks Breland, RCI
Courtney Hammontree, RCI
David Wells, RCI
Debbie Carpenter, RCI
Dillon Kenny, RCI
Ezekiel Davis, RCI
Heather Roseburrough, RCI

Jacob Higdon, RCI
Jeffrey Yeager, RCI
John Warner, RCI
Stephen Kulikowski, RCI
Tim Michell, RCI
Candis Voorhies, Pointe Coupee Landscape & Sod
Jeffrey Authement, Infiniscapes Grounds Maintenance
Joe Willis, LSU AgCenter



RCI employees gain valuable information from Dan Gill at LNLA's CNLP review & exam.



Dan Gill gives an excellent manual review!



Invites Green Industry Professionals to

GALA IX

Friday, June 8, 2017 -- 6:30 - 9:30 PM

**Lod Cook Alumni Center, LSU -- Baton Rouge, LA
(3848 West Lakeshore Dr. – Free Parking Lot)**

Join us for an evening of fun, food, and fund-raising for scholarships and research to benefit our industry in Louisiana.

**Drinks & Hors D'oeuvres start at 6:30, Dinner at 8:00
Silent Auction 6:30-7:45 Live Piano Music 6:30-8:00
Program & Live Auction 8:30**

Business Casual Attire - Limited Seating
Gala invitations will be mailed around May 1. Please respond by June 1.

Tables seat 8 persons each.

Gold Sponsor \$3,000 includes 2 tables premium seating, recognition in Gala program and signage, and LNLA newsletter.
Silver Sponsor \$1,500 includes 1 table preferred seating, recognition in Gala program and signage, and LNLA newsletter.
Table Sponsor \$850 includes 1 table reserved seating, recognition in Gala program and LNLA newsletter.
Individual Admission \$100 per person.

For information, reservation, or to donate an auction item,
contact Cari Jane Murray, carijanelnla@gmail.com or 985-237-2939.

**Note: 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 \$70.**

Closest hotels: Cook Hotel (on campus 225-383-2665) or Staybridge Suites (south of campus 866-539-0036)

Gala IX Reservation Form

Mr., Mrs., or Ms. _____

Business Name (if applicable) _____

Yes, I plan to attend the LNLFSR Gala IX - Number attending _____

- _____ Gold Sponsor (seats 16) - \$3,000
- _____ Silver Sponsor (seats 8) - \$1,500
- _____ Table Sponsor (seats 8) - \$850
- _____ Attendee - \$100/person
- _____ Additional / Other Contribution \$ _____

*Gold Sponsor – 2 premium tables, recognition in program, signage, & newsletter
Silver Sponsor – 1 preferred table, recognition in program, signage, & newsletter*

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 \$70.

_____ **No**, I cannot attend but please find enclosed contribution.

_____ Please contact me about a named scholarship or research fund opportunity with the LNLFSR.

Please respond by June 1. Make checks payable to LNLFSR.

Mail Reservation Form and payment to: Louisiana Nursery & Landscape Foundation, 126 Bertel Drive, Covington, LA 70433

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DISTINGUISHED SERVICE AWARD

Presented to: **Pete Newton with Newton Landscape Group in Baton Rouge**

By Tom Fennell

The Distinguished Service Award is awarded to those who have distinguished themselves through education, promotion of special “Green Industry” endeavors or distinguished themselves through LNLA.

This year’s recipient has distinguished himself by actively and enthusiastically promoting the green industry for over 38 years. Throughout his career, he has been active in many professional organizations, including: Baton Rouge Project Wildflower, Baton Rouge Green, the American Society of Landscape Architects, where he was on the board of directors, serving as both President and Vice-President, the Louisiana Chapter of the American Society of Landscape Architects, Baton Rouge Landscape Association, LSU’s Hilltop Arboretum, where he was also on the board of directors serving as both President and Vice-President. He is an active member of the Louisiana Nursery and Landscape Association. He has served on the board and has also served as President and Vice-President. He was a founding member and is still a very active supporter of the Louisiana Nursery and Landscape Foundation for

Scholarship and Research.

His interest and passion for the green industry began at the University of Arkansas where he graduated with a degree in Horticulture. He always desired a career in the landscaping industry, so he and his wife moved to Baton Rouge where he earned his Master’s degree in Landscape Architecture from LSU.

For ten years, he was co-owner of Pro-Scape, a landscape firm in Baton Rouge. In 1990, he established Newton Landscape Group, a firm specializing in landscape design, landscape construction, and maintenance. The firm has been in operation for twenty-eight years.

During their thirty-eight year marriage, Pete and his wife, Carol, have raised two sons. Greyson, 32, lives in Baton Rouge and is a firefighter for the St. George Fire Department. On his days off from firefighting, Greyson works with his dad at Newton Landscape Group. He and his wife, Amanda, have two children, Riley (2 years old), and Jackson (1year old). Pete and Carol’s younger son, Garrett, 29, lives in Boston, Massachusetts, where he is a landscape architect, employed at Reed-

Hilderbrand and Associates, a landscape design firm.

In his leisure time, Pete enjoys spending time boating, fishing, and relaxing at their family’s camp in Monterey, Louisiana, on Black River Lake. It is Pete’s belief that a person cannot have too many boats. But his favorite activity is spending time with his children and grandchildren, who have their Pops tightly and completely wound around their little fingers!

It is my pleasure to present this year’s Distinguished Service Award to Pete Newton!



Pictured: Roger Steele, Pete Newton and Chris Herrmann

LNLA Professional of the Year Award

Presented to: **Robert Lacroix with Lacroix Nursery in Kentwood**

The Professional of the Year Award is given to someone who reflects long time professionalism in business and outstanding long time contribution to the ‘Green Industry’ and to LNLA

This years recipient perfectly fits that description .

He is a second generation nurseryman who graduated from USL. After college, he worked for a while outside of the Industry before taking over the Nursery started by his father in 1960. He currently operates a 200 acre Nursery in Kentwood. LA.

He is a longtime member of SELNA and a longtime member and Board member of LNLA.

Like his Father before him, he served this organization as president (in fact he served 2 terms as president of LNLA)

He has contributed to the betterment of the Green Industry in Louisiana on many levels and enjoys a stellar reputation in the industry !

This year, the Professional of the Year Award goes to my good friend “ROBERT LACROIX”



Pictured: Robert LaCroix and Roger Steele

LNLA Young Professional of the Year

Presented to: Lee Rouse with LSU AgCenter

By Lisa Loup

I have been asked to present the LNLA Young Professional of the Year Award to one of my close friends and former college.

He is a native to Baton Rouge and grew up visiting his grandmother's home. Behind her home were woods in which he played. This is where he developed a love for plants and trees but didn't realize it until all of this vegetation was removed to build a subdivision. As a teenager he realized how stark the land was without the trees and plants. Hence his love for horticulture began.

Still in his teens he worked for Clegg's nursery in Baton Rouge, which opened the doors to following his passion for gardening.

He graduated high school from Christian Life Academy and enrolled in LSU. While attending LSU he received the Ira Nelson Scholarship Award. He was a student worker for Dr. Ed Bush and Dr. Jeff Beasley. He graduated in 2013 with a Bachelor's degree from the College of Agriculture LSU Baton Rouge. He then moved to Houston and began work as a propagation coordinator for Magnolia Gardens.

It is hard for a native Louisiana to stay away too long and soon he moved back to Louisiana for family and food. He landed in New Orleans as the Orleans County Ag Agent.

I was given the opportunity to work closely with this young man on different boards. One of the boards is Metro Area Horticultural Foundation, and another was the Botanical Garden Show Committee.

I have worked with so many talented Ag Agents over the years and this young man earned top of list status for me.

He was determined to be the best agent he could be. He was never afraid of a difficult task in fact he embraced it and saw it through. He never threw in the towel. His forward thinking would cultivate new ideas that he would put into action. He is a go getter and is dedicated to improving his professional skills that's why he is currently working on his Masters. He has motivated urban gardens and continues to do so. He works hard training and educating Master Gardeners.

What impressed me the most about this young man is his love of plants? He would leave work and go home to the love of his life Brittany (his wife) and would convince her to sit with him in his little green house that he built



so he could cultivate his plantings while they spend time together.

He visited me quite often delivering paperwork or picking up checks. He was all business until the business side was complete. It was like watching a caterpillar in a cocoon. He would burst out like an excited butterfly with new wings and begin describing the plants he was growing. His passion for all things plants is very apparent and one of his attributes that we should all cherish.

I was very sad when he accepted his new position in Baton Rouge as their new East Baton Rouge County agent where he is currently, but I knew he was moving on to more opportunities.

Dan Gill long time host for the Bayou Garden Radio show has since passed the baton on to Him and his on-air presence is growing strong by the day. He continues to educate the public and work with the green industry on a daily basis.

His life has been Blessed with the birth of his son and is anxiously expecting his second child. As his LSU horticulture Instructor Bob Mirabello said it Best " He has the work ethic and drive to be successful in any endeavor"

I am very honored to present the LNLA Young Professional of the Year Award to my friend Lee Rouse.

James A. Foret Award for career contributions

Presented to: Craig Roussel with LSU AgCenter

By Allen Owings

Craig Roussel's story goes back to the age of 3 or 4 when he planted his first row of shallots. His dad did not want him to do this in spite of his persistence. His dad said, "the seed pouch (made from a burlap sack) is bigger than you, you can't plant shallots". The next day, one of his dad's aunts called him and his dad over and pulled out a seed pouch made from a very small burlap sack and told his dad... "now you need to let him plant his shallots!" and he did and the rest is history.

Craig Roussel was born and raised on a vegetable farm and his wife, Mary Beth's father was a butcher who owned a small meat market and grocery store. Craig and his wife (Mary Beth) dated in high school and Craig helped her with a Science Fair project on "Hydroponic Gardening". Both Craig and Mary Beth's moms had a love of flower gardening and plants.

Craig decided he wanted to be an extension horticulturist as a 4-H member in the garden contest when Dr. Al Moreau, Horticulture Specialist, came out to judge their garden. Craig was also State Horticulture Records winner and First Alternate National winner. From there he went to LSU on scholarship to pursue his B. S. in Horticulture where he served through the officer ranks of the LSU Horticulture Club. He continued school to receive his master's degree in Horticulture.

His first job with the LSU Extension Service was Area Horticulture Agent and then an Extension Assistant with a statewide vegetable responsibility. He reluctantly left the Extension Service for a career with the Louisiana Department of Agriculture and Forestry. He served as Director of the Horticulture Commission and Division of Horticulture & Quarantine Programs for 27 years. He was in charge of the licensing of various aspects of the horticulture industry and he oversaw the response and implementation of many plant pest quarantine programs.

Over the years, he also served through the officer ranks of the Southern Plant Board and was on the Board of Directors for the National Plant Board. He feels blessed that he was able to retire from that job and return to doing extension horticulture work for the LSU AgCenter in Ascension Parish. Craig's true passion is extension service work and helping people.

More from the family side.....Their oldest daughter, Dana, came home from a friend's house one day and told them that the corn (store bought) she ate there was "stale." Stacy, their second daughter, ate cucumbers and okra in front of some new friends and they were "horrified" that she would eat those foods. When their youngest daughter, Katie, was a baby just learning to walk, she crawled up to a large bucket of fresh picked tomatoes and took a bite out of Craig's first tomato that season. She would not eat the baby vegetable food but loved fresh mashed vegetables from the garden.

Along come Craig and Mary Beth's grandchildren who are always ready to dart out to the garden, fruit trees and compost pile to check out what is going on. Mallory Anne, the oldest



Pictured: Craig Roussel and Allen Owings

grandchild, once took her sketch pad out to the back yard and sketched some of the blooms she saw and asked to identify them so she could write it on her sketches. Grandson Hudson hesitantly picked cucumbers when younger but loved kale chips from first bite. He has since helped to make his own chips. He also loves squeezing oranges to make orange juice.

Granddaughter Molly Kate has always truly loved the garden and fruit trees. When October arrives, you can count on her to ask if the satsumas are turning orange. Grandson Hayes loves watching the vegetables grow and is always eager to point out any bugs that he sees. Hayes (amazingly) loves broccoli, brussels sprouts, cucumbers and sweet peas. The youngest grandson, Carter, has a very keen interest in the compost pile, more specifically, the worms! He does enjoy harvesting carrots as well. Craig and Mary Beth were recently blessed with their 6th grandchild, Mary Margaret.

Craig Roussel has well rounded experience as a professional in horticulture in both home and commercial horticulture and in the regulatory spectrum. One thing we all know about Craig is that once he commences to provide a verbal update on a topic that by the time he is completed you will be very well informed!

Craig Roussel is an honorary LNLA member and in 2018 was named a Life Member of the Louisiana State Horticulture Society. In addition, he was recognized with Distinguished Service Awards from the Louisiana and National County Agricultural Agent's Associations in 2017. LNLA is very pleased to present the 2018 James A. Foret Award for career contributions to the nursery and landscape industry in Louisiana to Craig Roussel.



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LNLFSR Scholarship Winners – 2018

Bailey Fournier – Foret/Meadows/Owings Scholarship

Bailey was born in Houma, LA and graduated from Franklinton High School in 2015. She is currently a junior at Louisiana Tech University pursuing a Bachelor degree, majoring in Agricultural Business with double minors in Business Administration and Plant Science. As a junior, she has earned 76 hours of course work with a GPA at 3.2. She was one of the honor students on the Dean's list for winter 2016. She served as Agriculture Ambassador for College of Agricultural Sciences and Forestry, she's a member of Louisiana Tech University Block and Bridle Club, and a team leader at the La Tech Baptist Collegiate Ministry. She works part time at the Louisiana Tech Farm Saleroom, and gained experience in handling plants and interacting with public. She was one of the best student workers at the Hammond Research Station during summer 201. She is always willing to help others and the environment, as evidenced by her trip to Dominican Republic, where she



Scholarship recipient Bailey Fournier in the photo with Allen Owings.

worked with a team and build a large aquaponics system in a remote village.

Lee Rouse - Ira Nelson Scholarship

Lee was born in Baton Rouge, LA and attended Christian Life Academy for high school. He received his Bachelor's degree from LSU. He has been working with the horticulture industry since 2006, starting with two nurseries, and from 2014 to 17, as LSU AgCenter county agent for Orleans parish. He is currently pursuing a Master of Science degree with LSU School of Plant, Environmental, and Soil Sciences. His research study focuses on the development of propagation and production protocols for ornamental edible sweet potatoes. At the same time, Lee is working as an Assistant County Agent for East Baton Rouge Parish, and also providing public gardening information through a weekly gardening columns for Advocate newspaper and a radio station program in Baton Rouge. He is also working in social media to promote activities, events, research at the AgCenter Botanic Gardens in Baton Rouge and the Hammond Research Station in Hammond. We believe that Lee's current and future work will make significant contribution to the promotion and advancement of the green industry in Louisiana.

Mitchell James Provensal – LNLFSR Scholarship

Mitchell is a native of Metairie, LA and attended Grace King High School. He received his Bachelor's degree from LSU in 2009, and is currently working on his Master Degree at Southern University in the Urban Forestry Program. He has a 4.0 grade point average. Mitchell has previously been working as an AmeriCorps member and Community Garden Coordinator for the Baton Rouge Office of the Mayor-President, as well as interning in the mobile farmers market in north Baton Rouge, the food desert portion of the city. He was awarded an AmeriCorps Education Award, and he was the recipient of 2016 Southern University Global Scholar in Urban Forestry. While pursuing his graduate degree, Mitchell has continued his work with community gardens, connecting various gardens with horticulture, agriculture fellows, and great organization, such as the Southern University Research and Extension Center, and organizing youth program to build and maintain the gardens. These experience helped him realize his passion for horticulture and for helping people and benefiting communities, as a whole.

Dora Sevor – LNLFSR Scholarship

Dora Sevor is an international student at Southern University pursuing a Master's degree in the Urban Forestry and Natural Resources Program since 2017. She is originally from a city named Kumasi in Ghana. Before coming to the US, she received her Bachelor's degree from KNUST

(KWAME NKRUMAH University of Science and Technology) majored in Renewable Natural Resource Management and Forestry Management, and then worked as a nursery and propagation staff at the Parks and Gardens in the city of Accra, Ghana. Dora's research study focuses on managing the air potatoes using a leaf beetle as biological control agent. Dora's major professor, Dr. Veronica Manrique commented that "I am impressed with her dedication, hard-work, high ethics and enthusiasm". Dora has maintained a GPA of 4.0 and has participated in outreach events as to recruit high school students for the Urban Forestry programs. Her goal is to complete her Master degree and continue her education in the US with a PhD degree – still focusing on invasive species management. Her ultimate career goal is "to contribute to the society's effort to conserve natural environment, improve environmental health, and quality of life for people in the US and elsewhere."

Fen Yang – LNLFSR Scholarship

Fen is an international student at LSU pursuing a Master's degree in Landscape Architecture since 2015. She was an honor student during the undergraduate study in China, and received national level scholarships. During her study at LSU, Fen has also received several scholarships, including Landscape Architecture Endowment Scholarship from LSU RRSLA in 2016 and 17. Over the years, Fen has interned in some of the most respected design studios, both in China and US. She has also volunteered at the LSU Hilltop Arboretum, BREC (including several parks in Baton Rouge), volunteered for ASLA Expo and Parking Day at Baton Rouge from 2015 to 2017, and volunteered at the World Greenroof Conference in 2016. Her major professor Dr. Austin Allen commented that "I find her to be an exceptionally talented designer and planner Fen Yang has been a leading student in many courses, performing with great enthusiasm, bringing a well –informed international perspective to the class, and examined the cultural and physical histories and complexities of urban life in a very thoughtful yet thorough manner with the sensitivity of a well-seasoned scholar, ranking high among her peers...." Fen's career goal is to improve people's life quality through solving problems by landscape architecture design.

Victoria Gough – LNLFSR Scholarship

Victoria is a native of Baton Rouge, LA. She graduated from St. Joseph's Academy in 2013, and is currently attending LSU in the Bachelor of Landscape Architecture program. She has maintained a GPA above 3.0, which is not easy for Landscape architecture undergraduate students, and has been a recipient of TOPS scholarship (when it was offered) for the past few years. – 5 years and 159 hours of intensive learning. Victoria is passionate about her education experience at LSU, and enjoyed the time intensive program by leading team works and projects, and adding fine art as a minor to her degree and managing between sculpture, pottery and wood projects. As commented by faculty members, Drs. Kathleen Bogaski and Bruce Sharky, that "she has grown and developed into a student with real professional promise in a profession she has developed a keen passion for."



Fen Yang, Mitchell Provensal, Dora Sevor, Lee Rouse, and Victoria Gough receive their scholarships.

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The Best Growers in Our Industry Don't Just Grow Plants!

By Janet E. Curry

Industry Consultant

The best growers have a mission to grow the best plants that will provide beauty and enjoyment to many after they leave the greenhouse and move to their new admirers. Their goal is to provide plants that have been grown to not only survive the journey but Flourish.

Most growers have been on a journey themselves and sometimes a bumpy one from the day they opened their growing operation. Many started by building from the ground up and many like Tony Carter who had been working for Langridge Plant Sales for 10 years found himself with the opportunity to buy the operation, an existing operation. That was 20 years ago. Making that decision was not always easy, but in his words, "we made it happen". Not only did they make it happen, his mission was to be Committed to Excellent Service and Quality. They started by growing vegetable starter plants, but knew they needed to expand that market. Their growth took them into growing other annuals, perennials, woodies, ferns and specialty crops to Independent Garden Centers and Landscape Contractors.

Tony always knew his mission to Excellent Service and Quality meant he had to continually look to improve production efficiency. He knew that staying on top of what was new in the industry through his distributor sales reps, trade shows, seminars and the industry plant breeders would be most important to his success. New technology in all aspects is key. Tony considers himself a "systems guy". He builds systems to run his business. That began with hiring the right people to run his systems. His staff has grown to 25 full time employees, part of that system was to find the right employees to grow his business and to make sure they are taken care of with a full benefits packages. Tony stated, The strength of our company is our Staff, many being there over 10 years, a few over 20. It's these people that make LPS great!" With Tony being there over 30 years he saw the systems that needed to be put in place. Other systems involve the right equipment and the best growing programs for his crops and their journey to success. That system starts with the best varieties where he often turns to Ball Seed Company and Michele Andre'. From there it is the right growing media, the right nutrition and the best pest control. Tony is trialing some of the newest mixes from Ball made by Lambert Peat Moss Company. Assurance of consistent quality is key. Ball has the same commitment to Service and Quality and that shows in the growing media they provide their growers in the Ball Mixes. From the natural based starter charge of Nature's Source Plant Food to the EcoPeat, a natural soil amendment that provides air porosity throughout the growing process and continues on the plants journey providing the roots optimum air and water/nutrition.

From the beginning they are ensuring success of their plants by adding Nature's Source Plant Probiotics and Nature's Source Plant Food through their water tunnel. Nature's Source Plant Probiotics contains a beneficial microbial complex aiding in nutrient uptake efficiency and reduces leaching while enhancing tolerance to environmental stress. It is a blend of 8 strains of Bacillus, Trichoderma and Streptomyces. Tony then feeds all his production with Nature's Source Plant Food. This is an important factor in his growing production, as with his wide variety of plants, the natural

(continued next page)

nutrition of Nature's Source allows him to grow all crops with one nutrition program. It is a natural source of nutrition from Oilseed Extract. Not only does it provide optimum nutrition for the plants, it is also a food source for the beneficial microbes ... Feeds the Plant and Feeds the Soil. This nutrition program provides so much more than just nutrition. Knowing that it is a low salt formula that provides all the NPK, trace elements and Calcium his plants need for optimum growth, he also knows that eliminating the salt base fertilizer allows his plants to store nutrition very efficiently for their future travels. He is Always aware that the success of his business is based on his customer's success, with the plants he provides them.

The continued health of his plants is another reason he likes Nature's Source Plant Food, it is a new technology/system in plant nutrition. Not only does it supply all the nutrients a plant needs, in a balanced form with low EC, the oilseed extract contains 20 plant essential amino acids, in high enough ppm's to provide plant tone, strength and enhanced nutrient efficiencies. Additionally, silicon and many other organic compounds for improved plant tone and quality are available from the oilseed extract.


Tony also uses some beneficials in his insect control program. All systems were put in place to grow stronger, healthier plants. Plants that have not endured stress from fertilizer salts and heavy chemical use in their growth and development. Tony's goal is to provide his customers with "Stress Free" plants that have a healthy root system for improved shelf-life at the garden center and enhance transplant qualities for the consumer and all his landscape contractors.

Tony's didn't have an easy start as a new owner as he faced many weather challenges within the first 3 months of being a new owner. Hurricane Katrina took a path right over the nursery, then a hailstorm that ruined every roof of his 30 greenhouses filled with plants, followed by a tornado that destroyed a greenhouse. But, Tony's dedication to finding systems to improve production efficiency with new technology and the right people with the right systems for his employees is the key to the success of his operation and his customers as well.


The Best Growers in Our Industry know how to battle through adversity and find the Systems and Technology to grow the Best Quality Plants for Their Customers.

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Intenz Classic Celosia is Debut Louisiana Super Plant for 2018

The LSU AgCenter Louisiana Super Plants program has named 'Intenz Classic' Celosia (*Coleus argentea*) as a winning variety for 2018. LSU AgCenter press releases will go out throughout the spring beginning in late March / early April. LNLA and other horticulture groups will be promoting this plant via Facebook social media.

This is an excellent spring through fall performing annual warm season bedding plant for sunny beds. 'Intenz Classic' has wonderful heat tolerant and grows to a height of 15-18 inches in the landscape. Plants are about a foot wide and should be planted 12-15 inches apart.

'Intenz Classic' is a spicata-type celosia (wheat celosia) with excellent vigor and a ton of flowers. Blooms persist spring through fall. Bees, butterflies and other pollinators are abundant on the plants. Outstanding as a filler or thriller plant in containers.



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Baton Rouge New-Old Landscape Code

Landscape Law

Contemporary municipal landscape regulations began in the 1950's and have evolved over the decades since.

There are three (3) forms of landscape regulations in zoning law.

The most common is the Municipal Landscape Ordinance. These regulations convert raw land to suburban development. They aside specific pieces of land on each development site to be landscaped.

Tree Ordinances and tree regulations are a subset of municipal landscape codes.

Land Development Regulations (LDRs) is a second form of municipal law affecting landscape. These more comprehensive regulations contain enhanced clearing, landscape and tree preservation standards.

This style is likely less than 4% of all landscape laws that have been enacted.

Urban Landscaping Regulations are a third form.

These represent perhaps 1% of all enacted landscape laws and they have the greatest potential for further growth.

Often called 'landscape urbanism' this new approach as humanism to the urban fabric of downtown open space, public facilities and neighborhood centers.

These regulations lead to green parking lots, connected walkways, public courtyards, green walls and planted rooftops. They create more active and viable neighborhoods.

Essentially, nature is welcomed back to make city living more attractive than it has been in decades.

Evolving Code Technology

This brings us to a discussion of the recently revised landscape code for the City of Baton Rouge. The first landscape code was enacted on January 19, 1994 as Ord. 9808.

It originally set forth the typical requirements to suburbanize raw land. That is, it contained design components, technical standards and design directives written for Street Yard Planting Areas, Vehicular Use Areas and Buffer Yard Screens. This ordinance was amended several times between 1994 and September 2016. The revised code, Chapter 18, Landscape Clearing & Trees was introduced as a part of zoning law within the Unified Development Code of the City-Parish of Baton Rouge.

This original code contained in addition to landscape design standards, contained Landscape Clearing Requirements, and created the City-Parish Tree and Landscape Commission.

This version of the code did not apply to built up areas in the CBD. It was clearly a code to convert raw land to suburban areas, not to fit nature into the built up parts of a city.

The New-Old Landscape Code

The City of Baton Rouge has spent much time over the last decade being concerned with the increasing urbanization of the city. Plan Baton Rouge and FutureBR are two planning programs that have been instituted over the last 20 years to steer Baton Rouge toward a more urbanized, design oriented and sustainable future.

A landscape code aimed at streetscapes, urban centers, walkability, corridors, complete streets, sustainable landscapes, and a rebuilt urban forest might accomplish this. The latter could easily help the city to

grow its open spaces, public places and neighborhood centers.

Sadly, the new landscape code adopted late in 2016 falls short of the mark. You can see this in the Purpose Clause Sec. 18.1 where the reference to nature in the city has been removed.

Rather than being an innovative code that applies to the philosophy set forth in Plan Baton Rouge and FutureBR Plan it is merely a repeat of the suburbanizing landscape code ideas of the late 1970's or early 1980's.

Chapter 18, Landscape And Trees seems a backward step that sets very minimal standards better suited to new development rather than urbanizing existing built up areas of the city. Sustainability is not mentioned.

Minimal Code Standards

Requirements of the code consist of setting aside 10% of each development site as landscaped area (18.3.2). Planted Bufferyards are based upon screening, width and amount of planting materials required. (18.3.3). In addition, the code establishes Street Yards (18.3.4) based upon 4 types of urban character, Parking Lot Screens (18.3.4.B.5), Street Tree Plantings (18.3.4.B.7) and Parking Lot Landscaping (18.3.5) are included but not exceptional. Screening of utilities (18.4.1) and drive-thru pick-up areas (18.4.2.) round out the design components.

In all fairness, the last design component is something not seen in many landscape codes written in the 1980's. This is in fact the first code in Louisiana to deal with bothersome driveway pick-ups and excess paving.

Site clearing standards have been removed in this new code and tree and urban forest preservation standards have been weakened to tree credits for preserving certain sizes and classes of trees. Clearly landscape preservation and environmental stewardship is off the table.

There is no mention in this new-old code of sustainability, stormwater management, irrigation design and the City's role in site plan review, approval, permitting and after construction inspection. The Tree And Landscape Commission has been completely removed.

Evolving Law

The new-old code for Baton Rouge is a step backward. It fails to adequately carry forth the urbanizing objectives of the city's master plan.

But perhaps the strangest aspect of the revised code is its attempt to tie design requirements to four types of development character. First, character seems subjective, is not defined and solutions are arbitrary.

It would be a stronger code if it was based upon urban the specific design standards identified in the FutureBR Plan as "Community Design and Neighborhoods" and the scale of small area plans.

Basing the code on character is nebulous. A more viable approach, might be based upon scale, use, density and zoning and not merely ill-defined unquantifiable variables such as 'downtown', 'walkable', 'suburban' and 'rural'.

This new-old code is less responsive to urbanizing Baton Rouge.

Should readers care to contact the author, please get in touch at kygreenlaws@aol.com



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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)
(p) 225-603-8096 or (e) AOWings64@gmail.com

Welcome to the first edition of a new column – Plants, Plants and More Plants. Hope you will not get tired of hearing about the “newest of the new”, the “sorta new”, the “best of the traditional” and the “old ones” that are still good.

How About Distylium?

New to the nursery trade in the last five years, these plants are being picked up widely in the marketplace in the Southeastern United States. Many of the varieties were developed by Michael Dirr in Georgia and are part of the Bailey Nurseries First Editions Plants program.



Cinnamon Girl

Vintage Jade began as the most popular and is still the most sold but now Cinnamon Girl has been greatly increasing in popularity. Cinnamon Girl has plum-purple new growth which turns blue-green as the leaves mature. The small leaves and compact growth give this plant a more refined look than other distylium on the market. This is the most cold hardy distylium on the market. Matures at a height of only 2-3 feet with a spread of 3-4 feet. Full sun recommended. USDA hardiness zones

7-9. Other First Edition Plants program varieties are Swing Low and Linebacker.

Distyliums are great for foundation plantings. They do not necessarily have the same size and habit as boxwood, cherry laurel, compact hollies, dwarf yaupon, Indian hawthorns, dwarf sasanquas and similar evergreen shrubs but are attractive in these settings and can be used as a replacement for these shrubs..

Other distylium varieties include Spring Frost, Emerald Heights, and Blue Cascade.

Platinum Beauty™ Lomandra

My favorite new ornamental grass is Platinum Beauty Lomandra. This new grass has no disease issues and no insect problems. It is a low maintenance performer. 24-30 inch growth habit. Small dainty white flowers in center of canopy in the winter months. Landscapers need to be “all over this one”. Five star performer since 2016 at the LSU AgCenter Hammond Research Station! This variety is in the Southern Living Plant Collection.

Abelias

Abelias are abelia-ing around Louisiana this spring. There are so many on the market now. Mardi Gras, Kaleidoscope and Twist of Lime are popular. Radiance is the variety that is selling very well for some wholesalers and is moving to the forefront with many folks.

Knock Out Roses

There still is new in roses. Knock Out roses has added three new varieties for 2018. Coral Knock Out (previously on the market as Carefree Celebration), Peachy Knock Out (originally trialed as The Peachy Keen Rose) and White Knock Out (on the market prior as White Out) are now part of the Knock Out family. White Knock Out and

Coral Knock Out will be available to growers in the South. Peachy Knock Out did exceptionally well in 3 years of LSU AgCenter trials but will not be a Southern offered variety.

My Favorite LSU AgCenter Louisiana Super Plants

A new addition to the Super Plant program in 2018 is my newest favorite – Intenz Classic celosia. Other varieties that I love include Supertunia Vista Bubblegum petunia, Senorita Rosalita cleome and Flutterby Petite Tutti Fruitti butterfly bush. The Lemon Zest variety of the Bandana lantanas is the one to grow in that series. And, taking it back in time, how can you not keep growing and planting Homestead Purple verbena – the top landscape performing verbena variety.

Do not be “caught with your plants down”....keep up to date on the latest and greatest (and not so great) in landscape plants. And, also remember, whether you over-water your plants or under-water your plants, once they are dead they all look the same!



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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*

Virginia Buttonweed – My yearly “get ready for buttonweed pep talk!”

Virginia buttonweed is the #1 weed in southern lawns for a reason. Be diligent! Buttonweed is not a “one application and it’s over weed”. Spray this plant early and often with herbicides to prevent mats of the weed and smothered out turfgrass.

Virginia buttonweed is widely considered the most invasive weed infesting turfgrass in the South. The plant is very prolific and has multiple ways to reproduce including heavy seed production that occurs both above and below the ground from self-pollinating flowers, rooting stem fragments, and tap roots that allow plants to survive through winter months. Mowers set at even the lowest blade height do not interfere with growth or seed production of this plant. Due to the potential for stem fragments to root, mowing may actually aid in the spread of buttonweed. Turning the mower deck discharge toward landscape beds could even start populations of buttonweed in flowerbeds.

Virginia Buttonweed Control?

Virginia buttonweed is tolerant of most selective herbicides used for weed control in turf, especially when plants harden off in late summer. Managing the weed should start early in the spring as perennial plants emerge from winter dormancy.

Typically, April is a good month to begin spraying buttonweed in spot applications. Perennial plants that went dormant after the first frost usually emerge in March and April depending on your location in the state. Seedling plants germinate around the perennial “mother” plants as temperatures warm in the spring. During this early growing season, perennial plants are tender with new growth. It is at this time that the perennial plants are most susceptible to herbicide uptake. Additionally, herbicide applications during the spring will easily kill germinating seedling plants and reduce the overall buttonweed population significantly. The worst thing to do is to wait until late July or August to make the first herbicide application. By late summer, heavy Virginia buttonweed populations can form a dense mat that can kill out large areas of the lawn. Single applications, especially late-season have not been effective on mature Virginia buttonweed in our research trials at LSU. Multiple applications throughout the summer months are needed after the initial spring applications to get buttonweed under control.

Virginia buttonweed herbicide program - A program approach works best to control buttonweed. According to research trials conducted by the LSU AgCenter, herbicides that contain the active ingredients 2,4-D, dicamba, mecoprop, and carfentrazone (Speed Zone Southern, Weed Free Zone) have been effective in suppressing emerging perennial plants and killing the first flush of buttonweed seedlings when applied in early Spring. Once temperatures exceed 85 F, 2,4-D containing herbicides cause too much injury to St. Augustinegrass and centipede grass. In the hot summertime, metsulfuron (MSM and others) or Celsius herbicides should be applied. Always repeat metsulfuron or Celsius applications 4 to 6 weeks after the initial application. Both Celsius and metsulfuron have performed well in research trials and these herbicides seem to be tolerated pretty well by St. Augustinegrass even in

very hot weather, especially Celsius.

Virginia Buttonweed Control Program for Louisiana Lawns		
Herbicide	Timing	Comments
Speed Zone South, Weed Free Zone (2,4-D + dicamba +, mecoprop + carfentrazone)	Apply in early Spring as perennial plants break dormancy and seedling buttonweed emerges	Labeled for all southern turfgrass. Expect injury on St. Augustinegrass and centipede grass as when temperatures exceed 85 F.
MSM Turf, Mansion (metsulfuron)	Summer – repeat application in 4 to 6 weeks	Some chlorosis or stunting possible with centipede grass. Kills bahiagrass. Very effective on dollarweed as well.
Celsius (iodosulfuron + thiencazone + dicamba)	Summer – repeat in 4 to 6 weeks	Safest herbicide to use in hot weather. Do not apply to bahiagrass or carpetgrass.

Is there an organic herbicide for torpedograss?

I had an email question recently about controlling torpedograss with organic herbicides in flower beds. We would all like to use something organic on weeds in our landscapes. Unfortunately, there are no organic options for removing torpedograss. In fact, there are very few synthetic herbicides with activity on this troublesome perennial grass.

In areas where you can easily spray glyphosate with no potential to contact desirable vegetation, spray a 10% glyphosate/water solution every time that you see torpedograss. Unfortunately in a flowerbed, you will likely not be able to spray glyphosate without killing a non-target species. Brush or wipe this highly concentrated glyphosate solution on torpedograss since there is a very high non-target drift risk.

In bermudagrass and zoysiagrass lawns, quinclorac (Drive Herbicide and other trade names) alone or tank-mixed with Monument can suppress torpedograss populations with repeated applications. For centipede grass and St. Augustinegrass turf infested with torpedograss, there are no reliable control options. It’s likely time for the “nuclear” renovation option. Spray the infested turfgrass with a 10% glyphosate solution and sod with zoysiagrass.



Emerging buttonweed.



Torpedo grass infesting centipede grass



Virginia buttonweed.

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THE PLANT DOCTOR

By: Dr. Raj Singh, Assistant Professor/Diagnostic Specialist, Plant Diagnostic Center, LSU AgCenter, Baton Rouge, (p) 225-578-4562 or (e) rsingh@agcenter.lsu.edu

Chinese windmill palm: A new host of Date palm lethal decline

Date palm lethal decline (a.k.a. Texas Phoenix palm decline), is known to occur on several economically important palms including, Canary Island date palm (*P. canariensis*), edible (medjool) date palm (*P. dactylifera*), pigmy date palm (*P. roebelenii*), silver date palm (*P. sylvestris*), wild date palm (*P. reclinata*), cabbage palm (*Sabal palmetto*), and queen palm (*Syagrus romanzoffiana*). The disease was first confirmed in Louisiana in 2013 from Canary Island date palms in Orleans parish. In subsequent years, the disease was detected from medjool date palm and sabal palm in Jefferson, Orleans, and St. Bernard Parishes.

Last fall, several Chinese windmill palms (*Trachycarpus fortunei*), planted in a home landscape in Baton Rouge, exhibited typical symptoms associated with date palm lethal decline. Symptoms included, a large proportion of discolored leaves in the lower region of the canopy, dead spear leaf, and rapid death of palm trees. Affected palms tested positive for date palm lethal decline. This recent discovery adds Chinese windmill palm to known susceptible hosts of this deadly disease.

The disease is caused by a phytoplasma, *Candidatus Phytoplasma palmae*, an unculturable bacterium with no cell wall. The pathogen colonizes in the phloem tissue where it spreads systemically to new plant parts. It is suspected that the pathogen is vectored by sap feeding insects with piercing-sucking mouthparts such as plant hoppers, psyllids or tree hoppers, however, exact species of insect vector is not known.

Management of date palm lethal decline in infected palms is not possible. Symptomatic palm with dead spear leaf must be removed immediately, as it may serve as a source of the pathogen for the insect vectors to transmit to healthy susceptible palms. Successful disease management in landscape where date palm decline is prevalent can be achieved by preventative treatment of healthy susceptible palms with antibiotic oxytetracycline hydrochloride. The antibiotic should be administered as a trunk injection every three to four months. Accurate identification of date palm lethal decline is required for effective disease management. Other diseases and disorders of palms may produce similar symptoms which can make it hard to identify the disease based solely on symptoms. Molecular detection of the pathogen from symptomatic tissue is required for positive confirmation. Samples from suspected palms can be submitted to the LSU AgCenter Plant Diagnostic Center for

positive identification, but before you collect any samples please contact us. More information about date palm lethal decline can be obtained by calling at 225-578-4562 or emailing at rsingh@agcenter.lsu.edu.



Figure 1: Chinese windmill palm exhibiting brown discoloration in lower canopy (Photo Credit: Raj Singh, LSU AgCenter).



Figure 2: Chinese windmill palm with dead spear leaf (Photo Credit: Raj Singh, LSU AgCenter).



Figure 3: Date palm lethal decline resulted in death of a mature Chinese windmill palm (Photo Credit: Raj Singh, LSU AgCenter).

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THE BUG DOCTOR

By: *Dr. Dennis Rings, Professor of Entomology, LSU AgCenter, Baton Rouge, (p) 225-978-3881 or (e) dring@agcenter.lsu.edu*

Green June Beetles

Green June beetles, *Cotinis nitida* (Linnaeus), are members of the order Coleoptera (beetles) and are not bugs. Beetles have hardened front wings that are called elytra, chewing mouthparts, and complete metamorphosis (egg, larva, pupa, and adult). In contrast, bugs have front wings that are half membranous and half hardened at the base (hemelytron) or completely membranous, sucking mouthparts, and incomplete metamorphosis (egg, nymph, and adult). This beetle is native to the United States and is found in an area bounded by Texas, Florida, New York, and Nebraska. It is a white grub, and the adults of white grubs are called May beetles of June beetles.

Adult green June beetles may be confused with adult Japanese beetles. The Japanese beetle is a serious pest that may become introduced in Louisiana. It is important to know if the Japanese beetle is found in Louisiana. Thus, it is important to be able to tell green June beetles from Japanese beetles.

Adult Japanese beetles are 3/8 to 1/2 inch long. The thorax is green and the front wings are metallic reddish brown. Adult Japanese beetles have five tufts of white hairs on each side of the abdomen. Additionally, there is a pair of white tufts of hairs on the end of the abdomen. The head and legs are black.

Adult green beetles are 0.5 inches wide and 1-inch long. The underside of the adult is metallic green and has orangish yellow areas. The edges of the shield behind the head (pronotum) and front wings are brownish yellow and, the top of the front wings are velvety green. The head and legs are mostly metallic green.

Green June beetles are larger than Japanese beetles. The tops of the front wings or wing covers of green June beetles are green while, those of the Japanese beetle are metallic reddish brown. Additionally, Japanese beetles have the white tufts of hairs, and a black head and legs. If adult Japanese beetles are found in Louisiana, collect the beetles and send them to Dr. Dennis Ring, Dept. of Entomology, 404 Life Sciences Building, Baton Rouge, Louisiana 70803.

The eggs of green June beetles are oval in shape and gray in color. The larvae are up to 2 inches long in length, have true legs, have a dark brown head and a C-shaped body that is creamy white. The larvae will coil up tightly if disturbed.

Eggs are oviposited in soil with decaying plant matter. Larvae hatch from the eggs in about 2 weeks and feed on manure, roots, decaying plants and humus. Newly emerged larvae are 3/8 inch long. Larvae feed near the soil surface at night and move deeper in the soil during the day. They overwinter in the soil at depths up to a foot or deeper. The larvae move close to the surface of the soil in the spring when temperatures reach 60 degrees F. Pupation occurs in May in earthen cells at a depth of 2 to 6 inches. The pupal stage lasts for 2 to 3 weeks, and adults remain in the cell in the soil for 1 to 2 week. Adult emergence occurs in June, July, or August and these beetles have one generation per year. Adults emerge following rains that soften the soil. Female beetles release sex pheromone from mid-morning to mid-afternoon. Males fly at waist height in a zigzag pattern searching for females. After mating, females fly close to the surface searching for moist areas with high organic matter (decomposed hay or decomposed manure

piles). The female green June beetle digs 5 inches deep in the soil to build a walnut-sized ball of soil and lays 10 to 30 eggs in the ball. At oviposition, eggs are oblong. If there is enough moisture, eggs will increase in size becoming round and twice their original size. Females may lay up to 100 eggs.

Larvae feed on roots of ornamental plants, turfgrass, vegetables, corn, sorghum, oats, and alfalfa. One different characteristic of the larva is that it crawls on its back when moving on the soil surface. Adult green June beetles eat the leaves of many trees and shrubs and occasionally will attack berries and tree fruits. Adults will also feed on over-ripe fruit, and may be attracted to fruit baits. Soil amendments with high organic matter amendments and manures encourage infestations of green June beetles.

Traps are only effective for monitoring first adult emergence. Monitoring of adults may be accomplished by jarring several branches of trees, and counting the number of beetles flying off.

Parasitic nematodes (*Steinernema* and *Heterorhabditis* species) can decrease numbers of white grubs. Treatments using *S. carpocapsae* have shown less than 50% control, while treatments using *H. heliothidis* have shown 80% control in the Midwest. Nematodes and imidacloprid may work synergistically.

Insecticides for green June beetles include carbaryl (Sevin®), chlorantraniliprole (Acelepryn®), clothianidin (Arena®), imidacloprid (Merit®, Season-Long Grub Control®), halofenozide (Mach2®), Ortho Grub-B-Gon®), thiamethoxam (Meridian®), and trichlorfon (Dylox®). Green June beetle larvae will die on top of the soil rotting and making a mess.

Managing adult green June beetles is difficult because new beetles fly in daily. However, applications for adult green June beetles may be needed when large numbers of beetles are feeding on foliage. Irrigation right after treatment of the soil or treatment right after rainfall is important in managing larvae.



Green June beetle pupa and pupal cell, Jim Baker, North Carolina State University, Bugwood.org



Green June beetle larva, Clemson University - USDA Cooperative Extension Slide Series, Bugwood.org



Adult Japanese beetle, Pest and Diseases Image Library, Bugwood.org



Adult green June beetle, Natasha Wright, Florida Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services, Bugwood.org

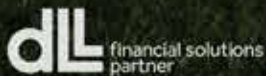
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Drainage in Residential Landscapes and Gardens

Submitted by: Eric R. McQuiston, PLA, ReLush LLC.

Drainage problems in the home landscape are more than a just a frustrating mess and eyesore. Drainage problems and the resulting standing water can adversely affect our plant material, create unmanageable conditions, offer breeding environments for mosquitoes and ultimately have an adverse effect on our quality of life. This is no more evident than what commonly occurs in our south Louisiana region.

Simple physics and natural precipitation are the causes of poor drainage. In our particular part of the country, we experience significant rain events on a regular and, almost, unpredictable frequency. This rain when combined with often already saturated soils and high water tables has no where to go but fill the lowest portions of our lawns and gardens until it can dissipate through infiltration or evaporation.

Before offering solutions, it should be noted that with continued development in natural areas this problem will continue and amplify. In it's natural state, our environment was covered with native plant communities that thrived in the soft, silty, loam of the pine forest floor. Like a sponge, this soil soaked up what nature gave it and allowed the rest to flow out through bayous and rivers to the Gulf of Mexico. As development occurs, the native woodlands are removed and, in many cases, non-native soils are introduced to provide stable foundations for building. This heavy, sandy clay makes for a good foundation on which to build. However it also has some negative side effects. It is nearly impervious, preventing the percolation of rainwater into the ground. In addition, this fill material has very little organic, nutritive value to any plant material. Finally, as a result of it's impervious nature, any rain that falls on it must be channeled via swales to ditches located, in most cases, along streets and roads. Ultimately when these ditches fill up and the soil can take no more, we experience street flooding or worse.

Subsidence is another phenomenon that most people in south Louisiana are familiar with. Subsidence, the slow, gradual sinking of our land, causes significant problems, not the least of which is drainage. This is a result of many factors. For example: if the groundwater is not recharged, the soils above can begin to sink and compact. Subsidence can also occur due to the lack of periodic, flooding that would bring sediments to add volume to the soil. And the inevitable decomposition of organic material, like tree stumps, contributes to the low spots in our landscape.

Development, a sinking land and significant rainfall could be considered a 'perfect storm' of environmental conditions that adversely effect our lives and property! But take heart! There are solutions to this!

Sustainable Solutions: The most sustainable and effective runoff control is to retain this storm water in place and allow it to infiltrate back into the natural aquifer. This recharges the groundwater and minimizes flooding risks. **Rain Barrels** – Located at roof gutter downspouts, rain barrels collect runoff and hold it in place until it can be used for other purposes or gradually released later. Rain barrels are available in many

styles and sizes to compliment your home and personal style. **Rain Gardens** – This simple approach works with the natural contours of the land to create basins in the landscape that hold runoff and allow it to infiltrate back into the native soil. These can be designed to be beautifully constructed and planted amenities to your garden and provide a visual and aesthetic feature. **Retention Basins** – Above or below ground, these impervious features collect and hold runoff water for use later as irrigation or water features like ponds or fountains. These can be designed as attractive and functional features of your landscape. In fact, your entire driveway could function as a storm water retention/infiltration basin and you would never see it!

The commonality of these solutions is that they hold and/or use the runoff of rain events on site for a period of time until that runoff can be released or infiltrated. This reduces the impact on, and contribution, to area wide flooding problems.

Traditional Solutions: These solutions are often the more cost effective options. Traditional solutions to drainage problems remove the excess water from an area or environment via gravity. This approach, while less expensive, may solve the drainage problem on your property but can contribute to a much greater neighborhood or regional drainage challenge. In other words, your lot may be well drained by capturing and piping all runoff to the ditch in front of your house. But, combined with all other homeowners runoff, your street and possibly home may become flooded in a significant rain event. In many cases though, this is the preferred method of removing standing water from a landscape or garden. **Swales/ Ditches** – The simplest of solutions is to collect storm water in a low, linear feature with a downward pitch that allows it to move from an undesirable location to a more desirable location. A swale is typically shallower and less evident where a ditch is deeper and more apparent. **Catch Basins with Piping** – Catch Basins or Boxes are located in low spots to collect runoff water and pipe it to a lower, often designed, location like a ditch or retention pond. **Sump Basins** – Sump Basins are often located in low areas that do not allow for convenient gravity drainage. A sump basin collects water below grade and moves it out to another location via the use of electrical pumps.

With all of this in mind, often the best solution to a drainage problem is a combination of several approaches. For example; overflow from rain barrels can feed a drainage swale modeled into an attractive dry-creek bed that feeds a sub-surface infiltration/retention basin and rain garden that provides a source for irrigation water while allowing overflow to the municipal drainage ditch. This can be an attractive and environmentally responsible amenity to your home and neighborhood. A solution such as this virtually eliminates your contribution to the adverse flooding effects of storm water runoff in your neighborhood and community while solving drainage and standing water problems in your landscape. And, it turns your drainage problem into a resource and amenity!

'Julia Child' Named ARS Gulf District Rose of the Year

Submitted by Allen Owings
February 2018

The Gulf District of the American Rose Society, which includes rose growers and hobbyist in Louisiana and Mississippi, has named 'Julia Child' as the 2018 Gulf District Rose of the Year.

The award came because "rose growers and enthusiasts surveyed in the local area have been impressed with the great landscape performance of this popular floribunda variety" reports Allen Owings, Gulf District Director for the American Rose Society.

If you desire an easy care floribunda, 'Julia Child' is for you.

'Julia Child' is a medium-yellow floribunda hybridized by Tom Carruth. In 2005 when Weeks Roses offered famous chef Julia Child the opportunity to select a rose to be named after her, she fittingly chose a butter-yellow rose.

The cupped, old-fashioned blooms of 'Julia Child' have a sweet licorice fragrance with an average of 30-45 petals forming 3 inch blooms. The blooms are produced individually or in small clusters which quickly repeat bloom throughout the season. The foliage is glossy, medium green.

The stems have a generous supply of prickles. In Louisiana the bush is easily controlled as a 4 foot medium size, compact plant in the ground or pot. This rose has a highly recommended rating in the American Rose Society rose ratings for landscape performance.

'Julia Child' is heat tolerant and while it is listed as very disease tolerant, it will greatly benefit from spraying 3-4 times annually (February, April, June, September) by keeping more foliage therefore producing more blooms. Prior winners of the Gulf District Rose of the Year include 'Belinda's Dream' in 2015, 'Cinco de Mayo' in 2016 and 'Mrs. B. R. Cant' in 2017. These varieties along with 'Julia Child' are available from a wide range of local independent retail garden centers and mail order nurseries.

'Julia Child' is very worthy of being added to your rose plantings in 2018.





The Voice of Louisiana Agriculture.

Agriculture and new highway regulations – Electronic Logging Devices

On March 18, 2018, agriculture’s 90-day waiver that exempted agriculture from having to comply with Electronic Logging Devices (ELD) regulations will expire and agriculture will have to comply with ELD’s beginning on March 19th unless Congress grants agriculture another waiver.

The biggest problem for agriculture appears to be in the livestock industry when an operator drives 11 hours beyond the 150-mile radius of the farm. Once a driver hits their 11-hour driving limit or 14 hours in service, the driver must rest for at least 10 hours before he or she can continue. While that may sound reasonable, a driver hauling livestock could be forced to leave livestock in a cattle trailer in the hot sun at a truck stop for 10 hours without food or water while the driver fulfills their 10-hour rest requirement. Can you image what will happen when the media videos animals suffering in the heat inside a cattle trailer at a truck stop on the nightly news!

In agriculture, ELD problems are not limited to the

livestock industry. Other fragile agricultural commodities such as a load of nursery plants being hauled greater than 11 hours may not fare any better at a truck stop in the hot sun without water while the driver rests for 10 hours. Many have commented that the ELD rule needs greater flexibility. It does not make sense to require a driver to park for 10 hours if they are only 30 minutes from their destination.

Electronic Logging Devices (ELD’s) are government’s attempt to enforce Hours of Service limits on drivers with an electronic device that keeps drivers from falsifying their log books regarding their Hours of Service. However, due to the perishable nature of many agricultural commodities, some in agriculture are pushing that agriculture be exempt from ELD’s and that the 150-mile agricultural exempt area around a farm be extended. Things that require political solutions can be very complex. In the days ahead, only time will tell if this problem will be resolved favorably for agriculture or not.



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**LOUISIANA DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE & FORESTRY
Horticulture & Quarantine Program Update**

Tennessee Boxwood Blight Quarantine

Tennessee Department of Agriculture has implemented a boxwood blight quarantine that became effective on February 4, 2018. The quarantine will impact any Louisiana nursery that ship *Buxus* species, *Sarcococca* species, and any/all material containing this plant material, such as compost, mulch, soil, and waste.



There are several steps that Louisiana nurseries will need to take before they can resume shipments to Tennessee. First, they will need to become enrolled in a boxwood blight cleanliness program administered through the LDAF's Horticulture and Quarantine Division. This program aimed at prevention of the disease and six critical steps: exclusion, water management, sanitation, inspection, training and record keeping. Any regulated material entering Tennessee must be accompanied by a state phytosanitary certificate, which is also issued by an authorized representative of the Horticulture and Quarantine Division. Currently, there is a \$106 charge for these certificates if the value of the material is more than \$1250.

This quarantine applies to all boxwoods (container, B&B, liners, plugs, etc.). Louisiana nurseries that ship boxwoods to Tennessee should contact Allen Fabre (allen_f@daf.state.la.us or 225.952.8054) for more information. It is important to not wait until the last minute to finalize all the details. The boxwood blight cleanliness program may require a site visit by an inspector before enrolling in the program, and state phytosanitary certificates may need several days to generate.


Prepared by:
Ansel Rankins
Director, Horticulture & Quarantine Division
Louisiana Department of Agriculture & Forestry



Congratulations to LNLA board member Brian Bridges!!

2017 BWI Manager of the Year winner — for his dedicated service to BWI. This award is given by BWI in recognition of Brian's hard work and many successes over the past year.

Pictured: Ron Riddle (Division Manager) and Brian Bridges (Location Manager)



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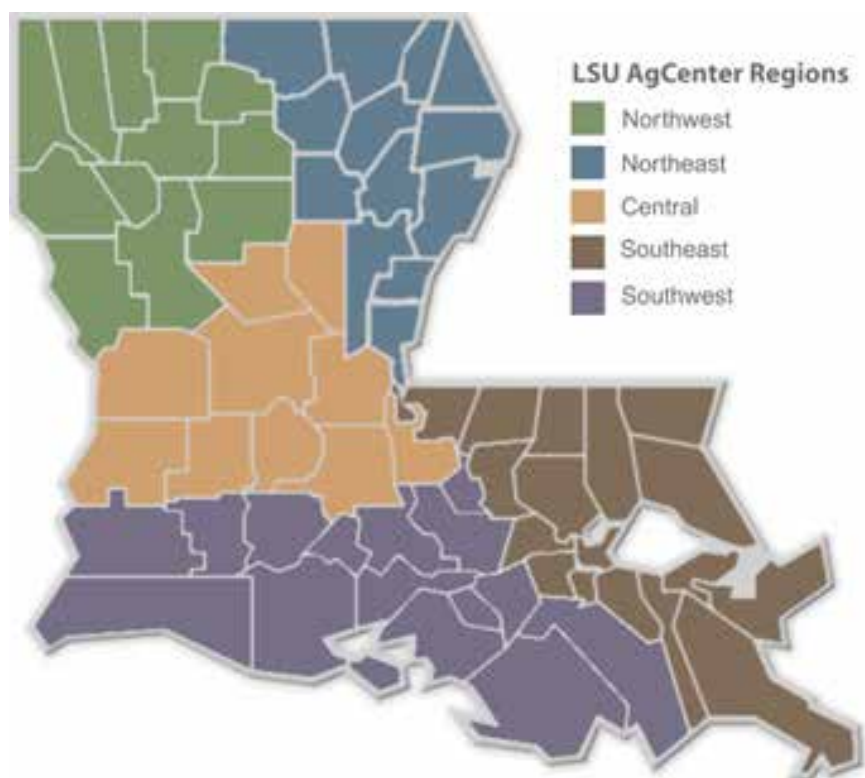


Introducing Dr. Jeb S. Fields

We would like to introduce Dr. Jeb S. Fields as LSU AgCenter's new Assistant Professor & Extension Specialist for Commercial Ornamental Horticulture. Jeb has recently started work at the Hammond Research Station to develop an engaging and continually evolving Extension program. Among his many responsibilities, Jeb manages the Hammond Research Station Trial Gardens, where he aims to provide a top of the line demonstration area for Louisiana ornamental crops as well as conducting trials to seek out new plant material and stay at the forefront of the intersection between Louisiana's Ornamental Production and Landscape Industries. Jeb also has a research appointment where he conducts research aimed at benefiting Louisiana's Nursery and Landscape industry as well as creating a nationally recognized research program. The focal area of Jeb's work and expertise is water. He is motivated by a passion for water and natural resource stewardship in Horticulture as well as incorporating



more sound practices to build a more profitable and sustainable industry. While Jeb is actively seeking to expand his knowledge base and develop techniques to improve the industry, he currently provides assistance in his areas of expertise, including soilless substrate physics & hydrology, plant water relations, irrigation technology & automation, landscape systems, and soil science. Jeb believes that his Extension and research program should be geared towards applied research with a direct focus on industry needs; however, it is also important to push the envelope and continually seek new and exciting avenues that can further the industry. Prior to moving to Louisiana, Jeb received his Ph.D. from Virginia Tech, a M.S. from North Carolina State University, and a B.S. from University of Florida. Jeb is from Winter Haven, FL, where he grew up rooted in the agricultural industry. As a child, his family owned and operated a retail nursery and garden center, and currently owns and operates large tractor dealerships in central Florida. Throughout his career, Jeb has had the pleasure of interacting with many people in the Nursery, Greenhouse, and Fruit production industries throughout the Southeastern US.



“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.”

2018 - Extension Horticulture Agents List

CENTRAL REGION (Allen, Avoyelles, Beauregard, Evangeline, Grant, LaSalle, Point Coupee, Rapides, St. Landry & Vernon Parishes; Dean Lee & Rospine Research Stations)						
Last Name	First Name	Professional Rank	Job Title	Office Domicile	Parish Responsibilities	Phone #
Angeny	Chanelle	Assistant Agent	Horticulture	Point Coupee	Allen, Avoyelles, Point Coupee, Evangeline, St. Landry	225-578-4161 cangeny@agcenter.lsu.edu
Hawkins	Keith	Associate Agent	Horticulture	Beauregard	Beauregard, Grant, LaSalle, Vernon, Rapides	337-463-7006 KHawkins@agcenter.lsu.edu
Shields	Sara	Assoc. Agent/Central Reg. Coor./ Statewide MG/AMG Coor.	Horticulture	Point Coupee	Region/State	225-638-5533 SRShields@agcenter.lsu.edu
Washington	Terry	SU Agent	Horticulture	Rapides	Rapides Parish	318-767-3968 TWashington@agcenter.lsu.edu
NORTHEAST REGION (Caldwell, Catahoula, Concordia, East Carroll, Franklin, Madison, Morehouse, Ouachita, Richland, Tensas, Union & West Carroll Parishes; Macon Ridge, Northeast & Sweet Potato Research Stations)						
Last Name	First Name	Professional Rank	Job Title	Office Domicile	Parish Responsibilities	Phone #
Heafner	Kerry	Assistant Agent / NE Region Coordin.	Horticulture	Ouachita	Morehouse, Ouachita, Union, Caldwell	318-323-2251 KHeafner@agcenter.lsu.edu
Lee	Donna R.	Agent	Horticulture	East Carroll	East Carroll, West Carroll, Madison	318-559-1459 DRLee@agcenter.lsu.edu
Miller	Kylie	Extension Associate w/Dennis Burns	Horticulture	Concordia	Concordia, Catahoula, Tensas	318-336-5315 KMiller@agcenter.lsu.edu
Pinnell-Alison	Carol L.	Agent	Horticulture	Franklin	Franklin, Richland	318-435-7551 CPinnell-Alison@agcenter.lsu.edu
NORTHWEST REGION (Bienville, Bossier, Caddo, Claiborne, DeSoto, Jackson, Lincoln, Natchitoches, Red River, Sabine, Webster & Winn Parishes; Hill Farm, Pecan & Red River Research Stations)						
Last Name	First Name	Professional Rank	Job Title	Office Domicile	Parish Responsibilities	Phone #
Stockton	Gary A.	Agent	Horticulture	Lincoln	Bienville, Claiborne, Jackson, Lincoln, Winn	318-251-5134 GStockton@agcenter.lsu.edu
Wilson	Mark	Assistant Agent	Horticulture	Caddo	Bossier, Caddo, DeSoto, Red River, Sabine, Webster, Natchitoches	318-226-6805 MAWilson@agcenter.lsu.edu
SOUTHEAST REGION (Ascension, East Baton Rouge, East Feliciana, Jefferson, Livingston, Orleans, Plaquemines, St. Bernard, St. Charles, St. Helena, St. James, St. John, St. Tammany, Tangipahoa, Washington & West Feliciana Parishes; Hammond, Idlewild & Southeast Research Stations)						
Last Name	First Name	Professional Rank	Job Title	Office Domicile	Parish Responsibilities	Phone #
Afton	William	Assistant Agent	Horticulture	St. Tammany	St. Tammany	985-875-2635 WAfton@agcenter.lsu.edu
Brock	André P.	Agent	Horticulture	St. John	St. John, St. James, St. Charles	985-497-3261 ABrock@agcenter.lsu.edu
Dunaway	Christopher R.	Extension Associate	Horticulture	Orleans	Orleans, Jefferson, St. Bernard, Plaquemines	504-658-2900 CDunaway@agcenter.lsu.edu
Ferguson	Mary Helen	Associate Agent	Horticulture	Livingston	Livingston, Tangipahoa	225-686-3020 MHFerguson@agcenter.lsu.edu
Harrison	Henry	Agent	Horticulture	Washington	Washington	985-839-7855 HHarrison@agcenter.lsu.edu
Hoover	Jessie	Assistant Agent	Horticulture	East Feliciana	E. Feliciana, W. Feliciana, St. Helena, Tangipahoa	225-683-3281 JHoover@agcenter.lsu.edu
Muse	Burnell	SU Assistant Area Agent	Horticulture	St. Helena	Multi-parish	225-222-4136 Bmuse@agcenter.lsu.edu
Rouse	Lee	Assistant Agent	Horticulture	East Baton Rouge	East Baton Rouge	225-389-3055 LRouse@agcenter.lsu.edu
Simoneaux	Mariah	Associate Agent	Horticulture	Ascension	Ascension	225-562-2324 MJSimoneaux@agcenter.lsu.edu
Timmerman	Anna	Assistant Agent	Horticulture	Jefferson	Jefferson, Orleans, St. Bernard, Plaquemine	504-736-6519 ATimmerman@agcenter.lsu.edu
Willis	Joe	Agent	Horticulture	Orleans	Orleans, Jefferson, St. Bernard, Plaquemine	504-258-3392 JWillis@agcenter.lsu.edu
Schmidt	Rene	Part-time Agent	Horticulture	St. Charles	St. Charles	985-785-4473 rschmidt@agcenter.lsu.edu
SOUTHWEST REGION (Acadia, Assumption, Calcasieu, Cameron, Iberia, Iberville, Jefferson Davis, Lafayette, Lafourche, St. Martin, St. Mary, Terrebonne, Vermillion & West Baton Rouge Parishes; Iberia, Rice & Sugar Research Stations)						
Last Name	First Name	Professional Rank	Job Title	Office Domicile	Parish Responsibilities	Phone #
Devenport	Dan	Assistant Agent	Horticulture	Lafayette	Lafayette, Vermillion, Acadia	337-291-7090 DDevenport@agcenter.lsu.edu
Gauthier	Stuart	Agent / SW Region Coordin.	Horticulture	St. Martin	St. Mary, St. Martin, Iberia	337-332-2181 SGauthier@agcenter.lsu.edu
Joffion, Jr.	Bennett B.	Part-time Agent	Horticulture	Terrebonne	Terrebonne, Lafourche	985-873-6495 BJoffion@agcenter.lsu.edu
Simoneaux	Mariah	Associate Agent	Horticulture	Assumption	Assumption	985-369-6386 MJSimoneaux@agcenter.lsu.edu
Turley	Robert M.	Agent	Horticulture	Calcasieu	Calcasieu, Cameron, Jefferson Davis	337-721-4080 RTurley@agcenter.lsu.edu
Borel	Steve	Associate Agent	Horticulture	West Baton Rouge	Iberville, West Baton Rouge	225-336-2416 sborel@agcenter.lsu.edu

2019 SNA Conference Announced

The SNA Conference Scheduled for January 7 - 8, 2019 in Baltimore, Md.

The Southern Nursery Association (SNA) has announced plans for the 2019 SNA Conference. After favorable reviews of the 2018 conference, plans are underway to hold the 2019 conference once again at the Baltimore Convention Center on Monday and Tuesday, January 7 - 8, 2019, preceding the Mid-Atlantic Nursery Trade Show (MANTS) on Wednesday, January 9 – Friday, January 11, 2019.

Participants of the 2018 SNA Conference were positive about the location, the meeting space, and the added convenience of the conference held two days before the opening of MANTS, and again impressed with the plant conference speaker lineup, the quality of research papers presented at the research conference, and the open format of the conference allowing ample time for networking and discussion.

On Monday morning Dr. Charlie Hall and Dr. Marco Palma, Texas A&M, teamed up to present “The Forecast – A Preliminary Outlook for the Spring Season” during the SNA SuperSession. These two green industry economy experts offered a preliminary economic outlook for the industry and the key drivers impacting the industry today. The complete video presentation is available at contents.sna.org/snaconferencesupersessionvideos.html.

Craig Regelbrugge with AmericanHort provided an update on Tuesday morning during the SNA SuperSession, offering his insight on the ever-changing political landscape on Capitol Hill. Details of the SNA Synergy Sessions can be found at www.sna.org/page-1863049.

One component of the conference was the SNA Synergy Session featuring participant-driven roundtable discussions covering topics chosen by attendees and facilitated by the most qualified people attending the session. Details of the crowd-sourcing and concept of the session can be found at www.sna.org/page-1863044.

In 2019, the conference will include more “cross-pollination” between the plant conference and research conference presentations. This means even more collaboration and synergies between all participants.

Watch for more details of the 2019 SNA Conference in the coming weeks. For more information, 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.

Louisiana Native Plant Showcase

Twice now I have had the honor of being awarded by LNLA and both times the bio introduction starts out something like “He began his nursery career by helping his mother transplant Mayhaw trees from the woods to their yard so she could make jelly”.

So it seems fitting to start a Native Plant of the Quarter with a mention of Mayhaw trees.

Here is a slide I have been showing for years:



These pictures of the flowers say it all.



And all of those people think only of herbaceous flowering plants when supporting bees in our landscapes need only watch a Mayhaw in flower on a warm day.

My parents, as I mentioned, had a few trees in our yard for home jelly. Well my dad started seeds and grew a patch of trees that grew too close

together.

I was really proud to have been able to bring a digging crew and equipment and move his best trees to a new location on the farm and create a new orchard.

So a native species that has showy early Spring flowers that lead to bright red fruits that all wildlife value and when collected and processed by humans make an excellent jelly and an armed and twisted structured small tree that loves wet ground but will do fine planted upland is what we have here.

I suggest you plant in groupings of three and mulch to protect from mechanical damage, take care of them through the establishment period and enjoy.

Get you some!

Thanks,

Rick Webb

And as I will always close:
Diversity Rules.

SOUTHEAST LOUISIANA NURSERY ASSOCIATION

The SELNA Trade Show and Open House was successful on Wednesday, October 12, 2017, held in conjunction with the LSU AgCenter's Hammond Research Station Landscape Horticulture Field Day. There were 178 attendees with more than half, represented by professional landscapers, city maintenance departments, and nursery workers. SELNA sponsored the entire lunch for those who attended the event.

SELNA's 5th Annual Folsom Fall Festival was a huge success on Saturday, September 29, 2017. General attendance seemed right in line with previous years' numbers of around 300 to 400 people. Fifteen total vendors participated in the event. The Folsom Fall Festival is a way for wholesale plants growers to get a direct to consumer experience with clientele. By attending the plant festival, gardeners can speak directly to experienced growers where questions can be asked and specific recommendations given.

At the SELNA Fall Meeting on November 9, 2017 long time SELNA Secretary, Annie Coco, officially retired her position. Annie was recognized in person and received an award recognizing her

lifetime commitment to the nursery industry. The membership voted in William Afton as the new SELNA secretary at this same meeting.

SELNA members shared memories of past seasons during a Christmas party held on December 1, 2017 at the home of Margie Jenkins. Close to 50 guests packed in and enjoyed a lovely potluck style dinner.

The big snowfall and freeze out of 2018 left several growers with collapsed green houses and shade houses. The weight of accumulated snow became too much for many structures used in the cultivation of plant material. Growers have had to spend money on repairs during a traditionally slow time of year.

The SELNA Spring Meeting is scheduled for April 17, 2018. The location is Mike's Catfish Inn in Amite, LA. Meal will be served for 6:00PM with the meeting occurring directly afterwards.

The 2017 Southeast Louisiana Wholesale Plant Locator List is available on our website at <http://www.selna.org>. If you prefer a printed copy, contact SELNA secretary William Afton at WAfton@agcenter.lsu.edu or (985)875-2635.



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, 2246 East River Road, Oakdale, LA 71463, (p) 318-748-7905, (f) 318-748-7906, (e) myram@riovertenursery.com

LIA: Severn C. Doughty, Sr., Executive Secretary/Treasurer, (e) scd357@gmail.com

NOHS: Shaun Hebert (e) nohs1885@gmail.com

SELNA: Annie Coco, SELNA Secretary, 11050 Hwy. 441, Amite, LA 70422 (p) 985-748-4301, (e) anniecoco400@gmail.com



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Roger Steele/Todd Steele

Baton Rouge Landscape Association

The Baton Rouge Landscape Association’s spring meeting is scheduled for Wednesday, March 7th, at Hilltop Arboretum. Our speaker will be Buddy Lee, Director of Plant Innovations for Plant Development Services. Buddy’s presentation will highlight some of the latest cultivars of the Southern Living Plant Collection – no doubt a timely subject for this season’s landscape designs. BRLA is covering the cost of this meeting, so it will be free of charge. Please support our organization by renewing your membership, and joining us for a fun, educational evening! Officers elected in December for 2018 include: President – Elena Fennell; President-Elect – Matt Fennell; Secretary – Lee Rouse; Treasurer – Jason Stagg. Directors include Melanie Nauta, Earl Rish, and Cory Ball. For more information on BRLA and upcoming meetings and events, please email Elena Fennell (ecfennell@cox.net). Your support is greatly appreciated!

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Quarterly publications: Jan/Feb/March, April/May/June, July/Aug/Sept, Oct/Nov/Dec.

AD Sizes	Dimensions	1 QTR Issue	Non-Member Rate 1 YR / 4 issues	*Member Rate 1 YR / 4 issues
Full pg Color	7-1/2" X 9-1/2"	\$300	\$1200	\$960
Half pg B/W	3-1/2" X 9-1/2" V	\$115	\$450	\$300
Half pg Color	7-1/2" X 4-1/2" H	\$180	\$720	\$480
Quarter pg B/W	3-1/2" X 4-1/2"	\$75	\$300	\$150
Quarter pg Color		\$120	\$480	\$300
Business card B/W	3-1/2" X 2"	\$65 \$110	\$260 \$420	\$110 \$270
Business card Color				

Ad Specifications: Ads should be saved in a jpeg or tiff format, with fonts converted to curves.

Deadline: Ads are due the first of the month each quarter (March, June, September, December).

For Questions and Ad Submissions Contact: Cari Jane Murray, LNLA Executive Secretary,

(E) carijanelnla@gmail.com (P) 985-237-2939.

PURCHASE the 1yr/4 issue option and get a FREE ad in the LNLA Directory

New Orleans Horticultural Society

The New Orleans Horticultural Society is a non-profit organization that began in 1885, the second oldest of its kind in the United States. It's a place where like-minded professionals in the green industry can meet and talk about the trade and attend lectures and activities that promote all aspects of the landscape profession. The group is comprised of licensed horticulturists, florists, nurserymen, garden center owners and operators, pesticide applicators, landscape contractors and architects, arborists, and those in allied trades. Our meetings are typically held on the third Thursday of every month, unless an event or holiday alters the day. We meet at the City Park Garden Study building, which is set among the beautiful New Orleans Botanical Gardens.

The Horticultural Society is starting off 2018 strong with a full schedule of speakers and field trips lined up. Recently we took a trip to the Northshore to

tour Mizell's Camellia Hill Nursery. We were treated to a guided tour of the shade houses and camellia gardens that surround the nursery and finished it off with refreshments provided by the generous hosts. These types of outings are just a few of the perks of becoming a member of the NOHS. The trips to local landmarks and nurseries are an added bonus to the fantastic speakers that we have monthly ranging from horticulture researchers, nursery stock specialists, and wildlife enthusiasts. We hope you'll join us and see what the buzz is all about for 2018!

Meetings typically last two hours and refreshments are provided before the guest speaker takes over. Please contact us at NOHS1885@gmail.com to request to be added to our email mailing list and newsletter and to find out about upcoming events. Thank you for your continued support and we hope to see you soon!



Congratulations to LNLA member Buddy Lee who won the Don Shadow Award of Excellence at the SNA Conference, held during the MANTS Trade Show in Baltimore. The Don Shadow Award of Excellence is presented to an individual, corporation or organization that has provided exemplary service, leadership and generosity in the development, promotion and use of new and improved landscape plants.

Regional Horticulture Symposium



Pictured with Dr. Owings are (left to right) Dan Gill (LSU AgCenter), Owings, Bill Welch (Texas A&M), Greg Grant (Texas A&M), Pat Shanley (American Rose Society), David Creech (SFA Gardens), Laura Seabaugh (American Rose Society), Frank Hover (Shreveport Rose Society) and Buddy Lee Plant Development Services).

Dr. Allen Owings held a regional horticulture symposium at the Gardens of the American Rose Center in Shreveport, LA on Friday March 9th. There were 140 attendees representing home gardeners, master gardeners, and industry members.

Topics included Rose Rustling, Heirloom Perennials, Louisiana Super Plants, News from the American Rose Society, Tips for Growing Great Roses, Southern Living Plants, Encore Azaleas, and more!

GSHE 2018 PHOTOS



Member



RECIPES



Bouree Crawfish Ravioli

- 1 (1 lb.) bag frozen Louisiana crawfish tails (not drained)
- 1/2 cup butter
- 1 large yellow onion, minced
- 1 large bell pepper, minced
- 2 stalks celery, minced
- 2 stalks parsley, minced
- some spring onion (as pleased)
- 1 tablespoon salt
- 1/2 teaspoon black pepper
- 1/2 teaspoon white pepper
- 1/4 teaspoon ground cayenne pepper
- 1 can mushroom, cream sauce
- 1 box of frozen, fried, cheese-stuff Ravioli
-

DIRECTIONS

1. In Dutch oven, melt butter over medium heat.
2. Add onions, bell pepper, celery and garlic.
3. Sautee vegetables until soft, about 30 to 45 minutes.
4. Place frozen Ravioli in oven and bake according to directions.
5. Add crawfish tails and seasonings to the sautee'd vegetables.
6. Cover and simmer for 10 minutes
7. Add the mushroom sauce, let it simmer for 5 minutes.
8. Add to crawfish mixture, cover and sommer for 10 more miutes.
9. Serve over fried Ravioli.

Billy & Cheryl Lutes' Robert Strange Nursery, LLC
Forest Hill, Louisiana

LOUISIANA IRRIGATION ASSOCIATION

The LIA Board of Directors had the opportunity to meet Dr. Jeb S. Fields, LSU AgCenter's new Assistant Professor & Extension Specialist for Commercial Ornamental Horticulture at our recently held Board Meeting. He is a very personable young man and seems very interested in working with LIA pending approval through his superiors. If he gets the approval, we will invite him to be an LSU AgCenter Board Member of which he seems interested. He also expressed interest in developing training courses in the future which will benefit LIA greatly as Dr. Stacia Davis will likely be working with Jeb especially with creating new courses for our recertification training. Jeb is the person that replaced Dr. Allen Owings who recently retired from that position last year.

Some more good news. Board Member, Robert (Robbie) Miller with M&M Lawn and Irrigation from Lake Charles, LA took the initiative to contact Joshua Teague, Drip Sales Mgr., Southeast U.S., Rain Bird Corp. to invite him to prepare a training program on Drip Irrigation. Joshua, has accepted and will be putting together a program for our review in about a week and he said that he is looking forward to assisting us. Once we receive the outline for the training content, we will have to send it to LDAF for their approval. Thank you, Robert, for making the contact as this will definitely enhance our training course offerings.

A third bit of good news was discussed at the February 8, 2018 Board Meeting. Chris Friedman had an idea pertaining to a four hour training that would elicit audience participation. He felt that it would be a good idea to have a structured panel discussion that would last about 2 hours. It would include 30 minute segments with an overview of such topics as drip irrigation, new sensors, new controllers, etc. and afterwards open it up to audience questions/comments. Tina Peltier with LDAF said that an overview of the topic would be good and it could not be a commercial for any one company or product. Chris further stated that he and Dr. Davis could work up a 2 hour program to round up to a four hour segment. Of course a program outline describing the four hour content would have to be approved by LDAF.

LIA has a grant program for interested persons to apply for preparing new LIA training programs and small irrigation research projects. Limited monies are available but if any one is interested, they may look on the LIA website at www.l-i-a.us for more details.

Irrigation Basics for Landscape Irrigation Contractors training will be available on June 6, 7, 2018 primarily intended for those individuals who wish to become prepared to take the Landscape Irrigation Contractors license exam. The first day also will serve as a recertification opportunity for those who already have a license but need to recertify. The location will be Dukes' Seafood, 33920 Hwy 16, Denham Springs, LA. Registration begins at 7:45 A.M. and class starts at 8:30 A.M. The cost is \$200.00 with payment made payable to LIA. For more information go to www.l-i-a.us

Meet your 2018 LNLA Board Members



Chris Herrmann, President - Born and raised in Uptown New Orleans, I grew up working for my father, a general contractor. I started as a 'go-fer' and developed over the years into a finish carpenter. In 1989, I attended LSU and studied Landscape Architecture and Horticulture. I started working for Clegg's Nursery in February 1993 at the Greenwell Springs location. Under the tutelage of Tom and Theresa Fennell, I was eventually promoted to Assistant Manager. In the spring of 1998, I had the opportunity to move back home and become the General Manager at Langridge Plant Sales in Belle Chasse, LA. In 2000, I returned to Clegg's and became the Co-Manager of the Siegen Lane location. I am married to my beautiful wife, Holly, and we enjoy spending time gardening, traveling, and exploring our wonderful city. We are huge New Orleans Saints fans and we were fortunate enough to be in Miami when the Saints won Super Bowl XLIV. Like most New Orleans residents, I love cooking and eating. The most surprising fact about me is that I live in River Ridge, a suburb of New Orleans, and commute to and from Baton Rouge to a job that I love.



Ricky Becnel, 1st Vice President - Ricky Becnel is a graduate of River Oaks academy in 1980. Worked side by side with his father until his passing in 2013. Owns and operates a citrus nursery in Belle Chasse, Louisiana. Ricky's family has been growing citrus in Plaquemines Parish since 1850, and during his lifetime the industry has seen many changes. After Hurricane Katrina, having almost lost the family business, opened up a second citrus nursery in Orange, Texas. Since then that location has more than doubled in size of the original Belle Chasse nursery. Ricky and his two younger brothers are now welcoming their children into the family business. Due to the restrictions placed on citrus Ricky has expanded the nursery to include alternative crops such as Avocado, Fig, Loquat, Persimmon, Olive, and Chestnut. Ricky works very close alongside both state and federal regulators regarding the growing process and regulations placed on citrus nursery and fruit production. Ricky looks forward to working with everyone as a member of LNLA, and is honored to be able to serve as a board member.



Kurt Ducote, 2nd Vice President - Kurt is the owner and operator of Ducote's Tree Farm, in business for 25 years, specializing in large tree sales, planted and guaranteed. Kurt's future goals are large trees in containers from 100 gallon to 90 inch boxes. Kurt got his start at 23 years old working as a cameraman for WBRZ TV and decided to open a small country garden center and started growing b&b trees. One thing led to another and he grew more than he could sell and failed terribly. One day he was pushing over some 8 inch caliper trees and a guy said he needed to buy one of those big trucks spades. Kurt's remark at the time was "I could not afford my light bill much less a \$250,000 truck." From that conversation it took Kurt four years to save up enough money for a down payment and now his business is growing every year and he is always learning ways to improve. Kurt says his failures have taught him to change what does not work and excel and what does. Ducote's Tree Farm 25 years later has 165 acres under production.



Roger Steele, Past President - Roger Steele lives in Bunkie, La. with his wife Wendy. They have 3 grown sons. Roger is a graduate of LSU. He is co-owner of Louisiana Tree Farm, Inc. which he and his brother Todd started in 1978. The company grows B&B nursery stock on 200 acres.



Pat Newman, Treasurer - Pat worked at LSU as Freshman Coordinator for 10 years, Tennis Coach and Coordinator of Women's Sports for 10 years. She helped establish (10) women's sports at LSU. Pat has worked since 1983 at Folsom Nursery, Inc. and served in all officer positions of LNLA. Pat has served as Treasurer for LNLA for the passed (8) years and the GSHE Executive Committee for (8) years.

Meet your 2018 LNLA Board Members



Cari Jane Murray, Executive Secretary - I graduated from Mississippi State University in 2004 with a degree from the Dept of Ag and Life Science. I started my career at Windmill Nursery in Folsom, LA as an inside and then outside sale rep for LA, MS and AL. In December 2009 I became general manager for Banting's Nursery in Bridge City for 3 fun years. Then the fun really started with motherhood! And since then Plantbid and now LNLA. I'm super excited to serve as representative for you all!



Mike Goree, Director (2019) - I started my career in the nursery business in 1977 with my first job at Robert Bates Nursery, growers of potted liners, in Forest Hill, LA. From there, in 1983, I progressed to the nursery supply business, working for Hammond Nursery Supply, still in the Forest Hill area. In the spring of 1984 I decided to start my own nursery. In 1985 Hammond's was purchased by Texas Processed Plastics. There, after a couple of years, I became the branch manager. I was employed by them until 1989 when I was approached by V J Growers Supply to start a wholesale nursery supply business as well in the Forest Hill area. I worked for them in the same capacity for 6 years. Then, in 1995, I went to work for E C Geiger South, once again in the same capacity, till 1997 when they closed their doors. In that same year I decided to go it alone and focus on my own business. I haven't look back since. I have been married for 32 years and have three children.



Jerry Plauche, Director (2019) - Jerry grew up in New Roads, LA with two brothers and one sister. He graduated from Catholic High of Pointe Coupee in 1973. Jerry attended USL and graduated in Business in 1978. Jerry met his wife D'Ann Barry Plauche (daughter of Dr. Robert J. Barry, former professor of horticulture at USL) at USL and married in 1986. They have two sons, Same and Jack. They got into the wholesale nursery business in 1991. Jerry went to work with his father-in-law at Barry's Nursery, a wholesale B&B nursery. Jerry is now co-owner with his brother-in-law, Robbie Barry. They have successfully been in operation for 42 years. Jerry has thoroughly enjoyed serving the nursery industry by being a board member for the last 4 years.



Tony Carter, Director (2019) - I've been at Langridge Plant Sales for 30 years. 20 years ago I was offered the opportunity to purchase the company. Through a lot of hard work and many hours I made it happen. LPS now has 25 full time employees which we provide a full benefit package to. We sell to IGCs and Landscape Contractors. Starting as a Vegetable starter plant grower we have expanded tremendously into annuals, perennials, woodies, ferns and specialty crops. We also offer landscape items to our landscape contractors such as bag soils, chemicals, tools and fertilizers. At LPS we also grow all our product using Nature's Source fertilizer. An organic based seed oil extract. We also use some beneficials in our insect control program. One of my strong points is chemical control as I have been doing it for 30 years. I also consider myself a systems guy. I build systems to run my business and hire people to run the systems.



Michael Roe, Director (2019) - Michael graduated from University of Florida in Spring 1999 cum laude with a degree in Horticultural Operations Management. He worked at Cherry Lake Tree Farm in Groveland, FL. His first 7 years out of college as Propagation Manager, satellite farm manager and 3-gallon grower. Michael spent two years in south Florida at a Horizon Tree Farm before moving to Louisiana where he's spent the last 9.5 years with Windmill Nursery first as a section grower and now as production manager. Michael loves his wife Amy and 3 boys Greg, Tyler and Jackson.

Meet your 2018 LNLA Board Members



Mike Hoogland, Director (2020) - Mike Hoogland, owner and operator of Hoogland's Landscape in Bossier City, was born on 10-18-1961. He is has been married to Valerie Adger Hoogland for 29 years and they have three children; John (27), Caroline (25), Hunter (22). Mike was a graduate of Louisiana Tech in 1984, served as Student Govt Ass. LA Tech 1983-1984, member Sigma Nu Fraternity where he served as Social Chairman in 1983. He has a degree in Landscape Design; Horticulture with a minor in business. Mike has dedicated his time to many boards for several organizations and served in many positions. Mike also serves as volunteer basketball coach for girls and boys and previously coached J.V. Boys in High School. Mike was voted Young Nursery Person of the Year of State of Louisiana in 1994 and is a Lifetime Member of Ducks Unlimited. Hoogland's has been in business for 32 years. Mike is now serving as an active Board of Director for LA. Nursery & Landscape Assoc 2017-2020.



Juan Garcia, Director (2020) - Juan Garcia started working at Country Pines Nursery as a teenager. Nearly two decades later and in ture American dream fashion, Juan became co-owner of the business. Country Pines Nursery is one of the larger nurseries in Forest Hill. To this day, the nursery is one of the few licensed to grow Encore Azaleas and the Southern Living collection of plants. In 2017, Juan was selected as the Young Professional of the Year for LNLA. Juan lives in Forest Hill with his wife Maria and 3 children; Brandon, Michell and Dylan.



Lisa Loup, Director (2020) - Lisa Loup started in the horticulture industry in 1989. She is the owner/operator of AMK Landscape Services, Inc since opening in October 1997. Lisa is a licensed Landscape Contractor/Horticulturist, Grounds Applicator, Retail Florist and LAN Certificate holder. Lisa currently serves on the LNLA board as well as the Spring Garden Show of New Orleans board, English Turn Property Owners Association board, Treasurer of the Metro Area Horticultural Foundation board, and President of the Suburban Terrace Civic Association. Lisa is the mother of 3 beautiful daughters and grandmother of 2 incredible grandsons and awaiting a new grandchild to be here in September.



Gerritt Monk, Director (2020) - I was born in Oakdale, La. Raised on a small farm in the sticks of Oakdale. In 1980 I graduated high school at 17 years old and couldn't wait to leave the small town life. So I moved to Lake Charles, La. Found a job with an environmental service company traveled North America and lived in California, Texas, New Jersey and Kentucky then settled down in Beaumont, TX. As the operations manager for environmental services. After 20 years away from home I wanted the small town life again. In 2000 I moved back to Oakdale and started Monk Farms on property I purchased in 1995. While consulting for an environmental service company I started helping my father and brother haul plants as a pastime and to get back in the country state of mind and grew a passion for the horticulture industry. Quit my consulting and started working for Stanley Young at Forest Hill Nursery Farm while I had a nursery of my own. In 2012 Stanley sold his nursery to me and my wife. We started Plant Ceaux to broker what Monk Farms didn't grow. In my 18 years in the plant business, I have had the pleasure to meet some great people in the horticulture industry.



Brian Bridges, Associate Director (2019) - Brian worked for Michael's Nursery, American Metalworx and Chris's Nursery prior to going to work for BWI (Louisiana Nursery Supply) in 1991. In 1994 Brian went to work for BWI in Jackson, MS as the south Louisiana outside sales rep and in 1995 became location manager of BWI Forest Hill. Brian loves his wonderful wife Kelly Bridges, whose father owned and retired from Morris and Sons Nursery, and his two children, Meagan Bridges, currently enrolled in college for business admin. and Nathan Bridges, who owns NB Metalworx in Forest Hill and is also an LNLA member. NB Metalworx manufactures trailers and carts for the nursery industry. Brian has one daughter in law, Kasey and one grandson Wyatt. Brian enjoys hunting and spending time with family.

Meet your 2018 LNLA Board Members



Craig Roussel, Associate Director (2019) - Craig Roussel currently serves in a part time role as a mentor for new LSU AgCenter Extension Agents with less than five years of experience. He previously worked with Extension Horticulture Programs for the AgCenter (2012-2017 and 1977-1985) and as Director of the LA Horticulture Commission and the Horticulture & Quarantine Programs Division in the Louisiana Department of Agriculture & Forestry (1985-2011). Craig and his wife Mary Beth live in Baton Rouge. They have three daughters and six grandchildren.



Ed Bush, Director of Research & Education - Ed Bush serves as Director of Education and Research for LNLA. He is an Associate Professor of ornamental Horticulture in the LSU AgCenter. His teaching, research and extension appointments focus on plant, soil, and media fertility and irrigation management.



Dan Gill, Director of Training - Dan Gill is an Associate Professor in Consumer Horticulture with the LSU AgCenter. He is the spokesperson for the LSU AgCenter's Get It Growing project, an educational effort in home horticulture utilizing radio, Internet, TV and newsprint throughout Louisiana. In the New Orleans area, Dan writes a weekly gardening column for The Times-Picayune. He also hosts the Saturday morning Garden Show on WWL 870-AM, a live gardening call-in program that reaches people from west Louisiana to the Florida panhandle. Dan is author of Month-by-Month Gardening in Louisiana and co-author of the Louisiana Gardener's Guide. His "Only in Louisiana" columns appear in Louisiana Gardener Magazine, and his articles have also appeared nationally in Fine Gardening Magazine.



Paul Wilson, Administrative Assistant & Webmaster - Paul was born Jan. 29, 1949 in Danville, IL. and married Roberta M. Peters on August 14, 1976. They have twin daughters, Elizabeth and Jennifer and one son, Mark. Paul attended St. Mary's Grade School, Westville High School, Eastern Illinois University (BS Botany), Purdue University (MS Horticulture & PhD Agricultural Engineering). He taught courses in Fruit and Vegetable Processing, Food Plant Design, Food Engineering, Food Preservation, Brewing and Winemaking, Quality Control of Food Products, Horticulture and Food Science Seminar at LSU for 31 years in the Horticulture and Food Science Departments. Paul's areas of research are commercial sweet potato processing, manufacturing of baby foods, fermentation and processing of hot sauce, jelly making, quality evaluation of sweet potatoes, potatoes, strawberries, blueberries, citrus, squash, peppers. Paul has served as LNLA webmaster since 2013.



2018 LNLA COMMITTEES As of January 2018

Administrative Review – Chis Herrmann, Ricky Becnel, Roger Steele. Meet with and discuss job performance, expectations for past year and next, and/or suggestions/requests for next year. Review should be before last Board meeting of each year, usually in Dec. Committee traditionally consists of LNLA President, Past President, and Incoming President (usually 1st VP).

Awards – Ed Bush (chair), Pat Newman, Mike Goree, Gerritt Monk & Michael Roe. Collects nominated candidates for awards and brings to the Board for vote(if needed) and approval.

Budget – Chris Herrmann (chair), Roger Steele, Ricky Becnel, Cari Murray, Pat Newman & Brian Bridges. Review income & expenses of previous year(s) and plans budget in January for Board approval. Committee: Current president, incoming president, treasurer, and secretary. Include past president, if available, next year.

Funding – Brian Bridges (chair), Mike Goree, Pat Newman, Ricky Becnel & Lisa Loup. Review requests for funding/donations. This committee can award up to \$500 without full Board approval. Committee should include Treasurer and Vice-President.

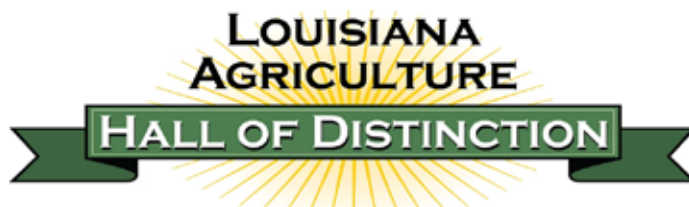
IT (Internet Technology) – Lisa Loup (chair), Tony Carter, Paul Wilson. Investigate, recommend, and/or procure hardware and software so that LNLA will have its own computer and software, do more by email, maybe web videos, enhance web ads, and more interaction with membership. Review and make recommendations for website improvements. Evaluate website host and possible new ones.

Marketing – Tony Carter (chair), Gerritt Monk, Brian Bridges, Jerry Plauche, & Jason Stagg. Seeks grants and ways to promote plant & landscape services sales among public. Publicize LNLA to public &/or green industry professionals. Review, determine and maintain goal of social media (Facebook and Google) for the association.

Membership – Ricky Becnel (chair), Allen Owings, Juan Garcia, Jerry Plauche & Craig Roussel. Encourages prospective members to join LNLA through membership drives, seeking more member benefits, or other ways to be approved by the Board, especially when funding is needed. May recommend dues increases, which must be approved by Board, then membership at annual meeting. Vice-president serves as Membership chair.

Nominating – Roger Steele (chair), Mike Hoogland, Kurt Ducote, Juan Garcia & Matthew Bracy. Recruits, recommends, and nominates members to serve as Officers and Board of Directors. Recommendations should be approved by Board before presentation to membership for election at annual meeting. Nominations may also come from floor at annual meeting. Consists of 3 regular members appointed by President.

Labor - Kurt Ducote (chair), Michael Roe & Mike Hoogland. Investigate how LNLA can have input in the VISA program with congress. Write articles or obtain articles and pertinent information for member email blasts and quarterly newsletters.



**Congratulations
Ms. Margie Jenkins
on your induction into the
Louisiana Agriculture
Hall of Distinction!
What an outstanding achievement!
We are so proud for you!**



Photos by Buddy Lee

GSHE 2018 PHOTOS



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126 Bertel Drive
Covington, LA 70433
985.237.2939
carijanelnla@gmail.com
www.lnla.org

To: Louisiana Green Industry Professionals
Re: Certified Nursery & Landscape Professional Exams (CNLP) – **2018**

The Louisiana Nursery and Landscape Association has scheduled the certified nursery and landscape professional manual review and exams for 2018. The schedule is as follows:

July 10-11 Ira Nelson Horticulture Center, ULL, Lafayette
Additional Review and Exam Date and Location to be determined for the 4th quarter ...

Manual reviews will be held on Tuesday from 9:00 a.m. - 4:30 p.m. and Wednesday from 9:00 a.m. - 12:00 noon. The exam will be given at about 1:00 p.m. on Wednesday; 3 hours are allowed for the full exam. There are five sections to the exam:

- Section 1** - Plant Classification, Growth and Development
- Section 2** - Understanding Pests and Their Control
- Section 3** - Culture of Nursery Stock in Retail Yards
- Section 4** - Landscape Contracting, Tree and Turf Management
- Section 5** - Plant Identification

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 CNLP was established to provide a professional educational opportunity for 'Green Industry' professionals. 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. The certification is not a license. Call LDAF Horticulture Commission at 225-952-8102 or your nearest LDAF regional office to schedule the license exam.

Dan Gill, LSU AgCenter 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. A highlighter and pen, as well as the manual, are highly recommended to be brought to the review with each participant; this allows marking of items which will be included on the exam. The manual is not included in the fee for the review &/or exam.

Please contact me, by phone (985)237-2939, or email carijanelnla@gmail.com, if you have any questions in regard to this year's certified nursery and landscape professional programs.

Sincerely,

Cari Jane Murray
LNLA Executive Secretary



Certified Nursery & Landscape Professional Manual Review and Exam - 2018

□ **July 10-11**

Ira Nelson Horticulture Center
University of LA at Lafayette
2206 Johnson St.
Lafayette, LA 70503

Begins at
9am daily

Register for the Manual Review and Exam by selecting the appropriate location □ above:

Business Name _____

Address _____

City, State, Zip _____

Phone/Email (P) _____ (E) _____

Registration & Manual Fees:

Participant Name(s) & Section(s):

Fees

\$175 per person for review and full exam.

\$20 per section(s) re-taken by each person.

* Please specify re-take section(s) if known.

- Sec #1- Plant Classification, Growth & Development
- Sec #2- Understanding Pests and Their Control
- Sec #3- Culture of Nursery Stock in Retail Yards
- Sec #4- Landscape Contracting, Tree & Turf Mgt.
- Sec #5- Plant Identification

\$75 per person for manual review only
(no exam) in preparation for the LDAF
license test or professional training.

\$60 per copy for "*Louisiana Manual for the Environmental Horticulture Industry*", the suggested manual for this course (not already included in registration fees above).

\$60 x _____ @ Manual = \$ _____

Shipping & Handling **\$5** x _____ @ Manual = + S/H \$ _____

Make check or money order payable to:

Louisiana Nursery & Landscape Association

Total \$ _____

Mail check to:

Louisiana Nursery & Landscape Association
126 Bertel Drive
Covington, LA 70433

Check # _____

Date _____

For further information contact:

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

MINUTES OF LNLA BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING

Ralph and Kacoo's Restaurant, Baton Rouge, LA

December 6, 2017

The Louisiana Nursery and Landscape Association Board met on Wednesday, December 6, 2017 at Ralph and Kacoo's Restaurant in Baton Rouge, LA. Total attendance was 21 people
Officers & Board Members attending: Roger Steele, Chris Herrmann, Ricky Becnel, Pat Newman, Lisa Loup, Gerritt Monk, Juan Garcia, Kurt Ducote, Tony Carter, Jerry Plauche, and Brian Bridges.
Absent: Mike Goree, Mike Hoogland, Michele Andre, and Dan Gill.

Quorum is 7 voting members: 9 present; quorum established.

Guests: Tina Peltier, Ansel Rankins, Dr. Rogers Leonard, Jason Stagg, Paul Wilson, Annie Coco, Dr. Ed Bush, Brian Breaux, Andy Blumberg and Barry Blumberg.

President Roger Steele called the meeting to order 10:15 welcomed everyone. All stood for the pledge of allegiance.

Roger introduced Andy and Berry Blumberg with Blumberg & Associates, sponsors of our meeting today and partners for 10 years plus with LNLA. 50ish LNLA members have joined over that time period with Blumberg & Associates for some of their insurance needs. Auto, property, liability, work comp, bonds, special event coverage, etc. Blumberg & Associates has offices in Baton Rouge, and Pontchatoula ... Andy reported not so good news for all, auto rates are going higher and higher.

Minutes of Last Meeting - The board reviewed the minutes of the previous meeting on October 18th at Hammond Research Station. Chris Herrmann motioned to accept the minutes. Second by Kurt Ducote. Voted, no nays, motion passed.

Financial Report - Pat Newman gave the financial report for LNLA. In the bank \$28K thru November. Will move savings of \$88K from capital one to regions after the first of the year. We recently put \$25k in a money market account at regions. Total assets = \$148K. Gulf States cost us around \$13-14K for breakfast, reception and board meeting. We have spent \$117K so far this year and will spend an estimated \$10k in December. Gerritt Monk motioned to accept the financial report. Lisa Loup second the motion. Voted, no nays, motion passed.

Plant Materials Conference Update - Cari Jane Murray gave this report. Conferences were held on Nov 14th for Master gardeners (37 in attendance) and Nov 28th for Industry Professionals (48 in attendance). Both were held at Burden in Baton Rouge and total net profit for both was \$1004.89. Now that I have been thru one year of these plant conferences, I have a better feel for it. I could not have done it without ALLEN OWINGS!!! Planning starts in the summer for these, picking dates and then securing speakers. Hopefully next year we can generate more interest and income.

LDAF Update - Tina Peltier with LDAF reported that so far in 2017 there have been 120 notices of non-compliance. The next hearing is scheduled for next Tuesday where 3 cases will be heard. Renewals going out this week. Online licensing testing should be available in 2018. New mobile app is now live under LDAF Business; still working on a few things but seems to be working well.

Ansel Rankins, Director & State Entomologist-Horticulture and Quarantine Division at LDAF, updated on quarantines and pest portion dealing with serious issue that has come up. Citrus canker has been identified in Plaquemines parish and quarantined. USDA in Maryland is taking a close look at procedures

for quarantine in Louisiana. Citrus canker is a quick and aggressive disease but can be cleaned up. LDAF continues to monitor HLB in Orleans; in Jefferson home owners have to have trees removed. On Nov. 29th LDAF received notice that North Carolina sent boxwood blight in Christmas wreaths shipped to LA. More inspections may be needed for Christmas related plants from North Carolina. LDAF is also inspecting Christmas trees for pests and proper certification.

LSU AgCenter Update - Dr. Rogers Leonard and Jason Stagg both spoke on how much LSU AgCenter appreciates the support of LNLA and it's board; both in cooperative efforts and financial assistance. Dr. Chiquita Briley is replacing Dr. Regina Bracy as regional director for the SE region. Remission AgCenter agents and still hiring. Regionally will operate 75% with about 20-21 agents that work on Horticulture throughout the state. SE Region will have 8-9 of those hort agents and 2 in NW region due to the function of the needs. New assignments will be released in early 2018. Challenge is to bring the level of expertise up so the agents can focus on their specialties.

Few changes that will be ongoing; Dr. Jeff Beazley will begin to give a consistent message across the state with list of contacts, calendar will still go out, website will be revised over the next year to address consumer needs and industry. Would like to have a super plant garden in each region of the state for learning for consumers, master gardeners and industry.

Jason Stagg filled in what's going on at the Hammond research station. In Feb. Hammond will host the landscape pest management recertification program and a whole list of other things going on. Jan Dr. Jeb Fields (replacing Allen Owings) will be starting with LSU AgCenter. April 26 Allen Owings retirement party. Only 2 students have submitted applications for LNLA scholarships. Yan Chen will replace Allen Owings on the Foundation board. Legislation will have to be involved to change law to get landscape horticulture and contractors to have continuing education, it's a state statute. This has driven up membership for those associations (LIA, LDSP Architects, those that have to have CEUS). Something to look into.

Dr. Ed Bush gave and update on the irrigation distribution survey. This information will be available soon on LNLA website or newsletter.

LFBF Update - Brian Breaux gave a LFBF update and what's been going on legislatively. AG ACT will make year round agriculture to create labor available thru H2C. Maybe we need to have a conference or special meeting to invite LNLA members to question and answer for Brian Breaux.

Roger introduced Kelly Bruno with Fleetcor/ Fuelman, a recent partner that will be offering fuel cards to membership.

Awards Committee - Pat Newman gave out award description, past award winners and ballots to attending board members to vote on. Award winners will be announced at GSHE in Mobile January 2018.

Budget Committee - Roger Steele gave out copies of the proposed budget for 2018. There will be no more grant money coming in or going out at this time for 2018. Chris Herrmann moved to accept budget. Second by Jerry Plauche. Vote, no nays, motion passed. This budget will be voted on by membership at the annual meeting in Mobile January 2018

Funding Committee - Brian Bridges reported of only one request for \$1200 for Cari Jane to attend the NLAE conference for leadership development. Motion was to fund up to \$1200. Second by Kurt Ducote. Vote, no nays,

motion passed.

IT Committee - Chris Herrmann reported that IT has nothing at this moment. Paul Wilson reported on the website. He has added a member benefits page that will be added to and the CNLP dates.

Membership Committee - Chris Herrmann reported that membership is working on new membership application. Discussion about newsletter cost. GROW WITH US ...

Roger Steele makes motion to mail newsletter as a default to every member unless they specify email only. Kurt Ducote seconds. Vote, no nays, motion passed. Membership moved to spend \$2900 on mail outs to potential LNLA members by Chris Herrmann. Second by Kurt Ducote. Pat said that we need to make sure list from LDAF is up to date. Pat also asked where are we going to come up with \$3000, good discussion. Voted, all in favor, motion passes.

Newsletter Update - Cari Jane reported that 4th quarter newsletters would be in the mail before Christmas. If anyone has suggestions or ideas for newsletter articles, cover pages, themes, or other content please talk to Cari Jane.

Marketing Committee - Ricky Becnel reminded all in attendance about the gun raffle. Posters were handed out to those that needed them and the posters will be available to display in member booths at Gulf States. Get time slot sheet available for board members serving in the LNLA booth.

CNLP Update - Annie Coco went to Angola and administered the CNLP exam to 11 prisoners. Net profit of \$2096. Dates are set and confirmed for 2018. Annie Coco will be sending changes to the videographer next week. Should be ready for sale by February.

GSHE Report - Pat Newman reported the number of rooms at Riverview hotel has been increased. Remind Ricky Becnel to call commissioner and reserve rooms for him. Should be a great annual meeting and show.

Foundation Update - Pat also reported about the reception at GSHE to raise money for Foundation. Foundation board Meeting on Jan 4th.

New Business - Chris Herrmann motioned to amend the articles and bylaws as prepared by our attorney Mr. Ogden. Second by Kurt Ducote. Goal of these amendments to articles and bylaws is to be able to vote by proxy or email rather than by in person. We have 12 directors and we recommend that the past president be a nonvoting board member to alleviate a tie vote. As it stands now, the treasurer must be a board member.

Amendment to motion is to change the treasurer appointment from regular member to just member. One potential change to the bylaws is that the executive secretary shall provide a surety bond. Proposal to strike that. Pat Newman moved to accept these amendments, Jerry Plauche second, all in favor and motion passed. Cari Jane needs to send these proposed amendments out to membership before annual meeting and have at GSHE for the membership to vote on.

New Business - Kurt Ducote wants to know if we have the full support with the board to seek CEU requirements for Landscape Horticulture Licenses. This topic was tabled for now.

Other Business - The nominating committee presented the board with a ballot for the open 2018 positions to the board of directors with 10 possible candidates. The votes were counted and this slate of officers and directors will be presented for ratification at the annual meeting in January.

Roger Steele said he enjoyed being president this past year.

Meeting adjourned 2:54

MINUTES

**LNLA 2018 ANNUAL MEMBERSHIP MEETING & AWARDS PROGRAM
GULF STATES HORTICULTURAL EXPO - ARTHUR OUTLAW CONVENTION CENTER - MOBILE, AL
JANUARY 18, 2018**

President Roger Steele called the meeting to order at 7:15 am and welcomed all in attendance. 49 people signed the attendance sheets, but there were about 51 in attendance, according to table count.

An invocation was given by Cari Jane Murray. Breakfast was enjoyed after Roger Steele recognized Meadowbrook Insurance Group for sponsoring the breakfast. All stood and said the Pledge of Allegiance.

Minutes of Last Annual Meeting

The minutes of the last annual membership meeting on January 19, 2017, were available at each table and time given to be reviewed. Motion was made by Rick Webb to accept minutes as presented; second by Danny LaFleur; motion carried with no nay votes.

Reflections of 2017 by President Roger Steel
Roger Steele reflected over the happenings of 2017. He made references to weather, changes to at the LSU AgCenter, the economy, politics and the many wonderful things that got going in LNLA. We said good bye to Dr. Allen Owings and Dr. Regina Bracy but hello to Dr. Jeb Fields and Dr. Chiquita Briley. H2B program will be a thorn in our sides this year. Labor is the biggest problem we deal with in our industry. It's been a pleasure working with Cari Jane our new executive secretary. And our board, I can thank them enough for all the hard work they have put in to helping the association have a very productive year.

Memorials - Deceased members & Industry Friends

Roger Steele read the names of the following:
*Robert J. Dupont, Sr. – Dupont Nursery
*Bryson Lemoine James, Ph.D. – SNA Research Director
*June Delambre Walker – Sunset Herbs Garden
*John Byron Wight, Jr. – Wight's Nursery, Cairo, GA
*Cleveland "Cleve" Boudreau – Forest Hill, LA
After the names were read, a moment of silence was observed.

American Hort Update

Dan Batson stopped by to give a report for American Hort. The biggest things are labor and immigration. We are and have been working on making immigration easier. We do have a president that gets that we need foreign labor. H2B - there were 33K visas issued at first part of year and 80+K applications for the country. Cash accounting and being able to expense things. American Hort is marketing plant pollinators. Glyphosphate and round up do we want that to go away for cancer causing? Fighting these battles cost money please consider joining and supporting American Hort.

Financial Update

Roger called on Pat Newman for the financial report. 2017 was our best year ever. As our treasurer I made sure we did not spend money we did not have. We put an extra \$25K into a money market. We are getting ready to move a savings account

from capital one to regions. We took in more money than we spent. We get monies from 3 different areas; GSHE, Membership, manuals. GSHE may not be as profitable this year due to weather conditions. We have set a budget of \$118K for the year 2018 and we hope to take that much in. If you ask for something make sure we really, really need it. We need money to cover ourselves in case we have a bad year. Roger called for a motion to accept financial report from Rick and second from Buddy Lee. Voted, no nays motion passed.

Keynote Speaker – LA Commissioner of Ag Mike Strain

Roger called on Ricky Becnel to introduce our keynote speaker, Commissioner Mike Strain. He spoke on how critical H2B was. Spent this last year as head of the ag commissions. Working hard to not lose momentum in trade. Total embracement of technology. All boils down to a better quality of life for rural America. Economy has turned up and without these workers our economy will turn down. Oil companies are on the uptick and when oil companies are on the uptick we all are. We need a permanent solution so we are not chasing our tails year after year. For every dollar we invest in agriculture we bring back \$24. LA Ag is at \$13Billion. Do not harm the economy. Some of the deficit will take care of itself. The Commissioner thanked everyone for working with him and the ag department. And our support. Our organization is important ... a voice as a legislator is needed. After the Commissioner's speech, Ricky Becnel presented him with a plaque from LNLA for our appreciation of him.

Membership Committee Incentive Awards

Chris Herrmann reminded those present of the incentive for members to recruit new members to LNLA and receive a \$50 gift card for each new paid regular or associate member. He presented \$50 gift cards to Roger Steele, Billy Lutes, Mike Hoogland, Regina Bracy, Ben Prosper and Todd Ellefson.

Louisiana Nursery & Landscape Foundation for Scholarship & Research (LNLFSR) Update

President Pat Newman reported that the Foundation has had an exceptional year. The gala of Summer 2017 was absolutely magnificent. Your contributions will have helped us give 5 scholarships this year. Foundation board has worked hard. The foundation is doing well. Rick Webb our treasurer watches every penny and makes sure we do well. Pat called attention to the invitations to the LNLA Hospitality this evening, and named some of the items that will be in the auction. He also announced the Gala IX will be June 8, 2018, at the Lod Cook Alumni Center, LSU, Baton Rouge and urged all to attend.

Scholarship Awards for 2016

The following scholarship awards were announced by Dr. Yan Chen:
Foret-Meadows-Owings Scholarship Award – Bailey Fournier, Louisiana Tech University
Ira Nelson Scholarship Award – Lee Rouse, Louisiana State University
Mitchell James Provensal, Southern University
Dora Sevor, Southern University

Fen Yang, Louisiana State University
Victoria Gough, Louisiana State University

Ratification of LNLFSR officers & Board of Directors

LNLFSR officers and board of directors were read by Roger Steele. Motion to ratify by Danny LaFleur and 2nd by Albert Durio, motion passed, no nays.

- *President - Pat Newman
- *Vice-President - Sal "Buddy" Perino
- *Treasurer - Rick Webb
- *Executive Secretary – Cari Jane Murray
- *Directors - Michele Andre, Tom Fennell, Jim Foret, Pete Newton, Yan Chen

Vote on Article & Bylaw Amendments

The LNLA board voted unanimously to amend the articles and bylaws at the last meeting. Gerritt Monk moved to accept. Robbie Dupont second. Discussion: Rick Webb asked for the changes to be explained. Roger Steele explained changes. Membership voted; all were in favor with no nays, vote passed.

Election of LNLA Officers & Board of Directors

Roger Steele reported the LNLA nominating committee and board nominated the following for 2018:
President – Chris Herrmann
Past President – Roger Steele
1st Vice President – Ricky Becnel
2nd Vice President – Kurt Ducote
Treasurer – Pat Newman
Executive Secretary – Cari Jane Murray
Board Directors (2019) – Mike Goree, Jerry Plauche, Tony Carter, Michael Roe
Board Directors (2020) – Juan Garcia, Lisa Loup, Gerritt Monk, Mike Hoogland
Associate Director (2019) - Brian Bridges
Associate Director (2019) – Craig Roussel
Director of Research & Education – Ed Bush
Director of Training – Dan Gill

When called for, there were no further nominations from the floor. Motion to close the nominations and elect all by acclamation by Robert LaCroix; 2nd by Albert Durio; motion carried with no nays. Roger handed the President's gavel to newly elected President Chris Herrmann. Chris in turn presented Roger with a plaque for outstanding service as president to LNLA.

Presentation of Awards

The following awards were presented:
Young Professional of the Year Award 2016 – Lee Rouse – presented by Lisa Loup.
Professional of the Year Award 2016 – Robert LaCroix – presented by Roger Steele.
Distinguished Service Award 2016 – Pete Newton – presented by Tom Fennell.
James A. Foret Award 2016 – Craig Roussel – presented by Allen Owings.

Adjourn

There being no other business, Chris adjourned the meeting at 8:45 am.



2018 Membership Application

First Name: _____ Last Name: _____

Company Name: _____

Mailing Address: _____

City, State, Zip: _____

Phone1: _____ Phone2: _____ Tollfree: _____

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**)
- Horticultural Consultant (**HC**)
- Interior Plant Maintenance (**IM**)
- Irrigation Contractor (**IR**)
- Landscape Contractor (**LC**)
- 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 (LNLFSR)** 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**

Mail check and **entire** form to: **LNLA, 126 Bertel Drive, Covington, LA 70433**

SEND DUES & APPLICATION BY MARCH 1 TO BE IN ANNUAL MEMBER DIRECTORY **TOTAL Amount: \$** _____



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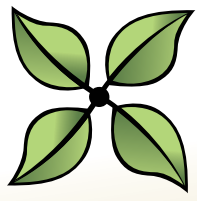


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The advertisement features a background image of a large, two-story house with a red-tiled roof and a prominent arched doorway. In the foreground, there is a lush garden with various plants, including several vibrant pink roses. A small tag with the Bracy's Nursery logo is visible on one of the roses.

The logo is an oval-shaped emblem with a yellow background and a dark border. It depicts a tractor pulling a trailer loaded with potted plants. Below the illustration, the text "BRACY'S" is written in a large, bold, serif font, and "NURSERY, LLC" is written in a smaller, sans-serif font below it.

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