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Louisiana Nursery & Landscape Foundation for Scholarship & Research

Gala VII – June 10, 2016
Lod Cook Alumni Center, Baton Rouge

LNLSFR President Danny LaFleur had to give a speech

Dan Gill always attracts a crowd

LNLSFR Scholarship Winner Mark Wilson with the Pelicans Dance Team

LNLSFR Treasurer Rick Webb and his wife Susan enjoy the gala

LSU AgCenter horticulturists Dan Devenport and Jason Stagg

LNLSFR Executive Secretary Annie Coco with Pelicans Dance Team

Trouble is Rusty Ruckstuhl, Ricky Milner, Jim Rabalais, and Allen Owings

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Mission...To enhance the quality of life for people, conserve and protect the global environment, and promote the professionalism and profitability of the nursery and landscape industry in Louisiana.
Dear Members,

How was your Spring Season? I have asked this question to many and in the past years the answer is usually the same. This year it is different. This year the answer to this question has been all over the place.

The market is changing and we are starting to feel it. The generation shift that has been predicted is starting to be felt. The Boomers are moving out of the market as the largest population of buyers and the X and Y generations are moving in. They buy different and the ones who understand this are going to get the sales. I was recently at our national sales meeting and the main topic was this very thing.

Understanding trends in the market and being on the cutting edge with new products and ideas for your customers has always been the way to succeed. Do not forget this. Even bringing good, old, tried and true items and putting a new twist on it works.

When a shift in populations like this occurs it is unsettling. Studying the market and looking forward with an open mind can help you understand what to do. The USDA Floriculture Crop Summary may be something to take a look at.” Sales of foliage plants increased to $713.7 million, up 14.6%, and accounted for 18.6% of finished floricultural sales in 2015”. This was mainly driven by SUCCULENTS!

Our biggest money maker is the Trade Show we do in Mobile every year, GSHE. Many trade shows have gone to the wayside in these changing times. Ours is not one of them, it has been growing. In conjunction with Mississippi and Alabama we pull this off every year. There is a new management team and they have asked us to help. They are creating a committee to help us make the show better and better each year. It is called the GSHE Strategic Planning Committee.

Look for the Survey and please send in your thoughts.

I am always available.

Talk or Text Me 504-554-9737
Michele Andre

Mary Lucille Husted Meadows Fultz passed away at 92 in March 2016 in Tupelo, MS, following a brief illness. She was born in 1923 in Alexandria, LA; graduated from Central high School in Little Rock, AR; and completed three years of college at Henderson Teachers College in Arkadelphia, AR. She was married to Sidney Branch Meadows for 46 years until his death in 1988. She was a supporter of her husband’s career at Flowerwood Nursery and the nursery industry. In 1990, she married Charles Leonard Fultz and for four years, until his death, the two shared many adventures as they traveled across the U.S. and Canada. The Southern Nursery Association (SNA)’s Sidney B. Meadows Scholarship Endowment Fund, established in 1989, was named to honor Mary’s first husband and SNA past president (1968).
Imported Fire Ants (IFA) in Nursery Settings

Imported Fire Ants (Solenopsis invicta Buren, S. richteri Forel, or their hybrids) have been part of Louisiana’s landscape since the 1950’s. This invasive species has a very painful sting and has caused misery to humans and livestock since their introduction. Also, fire ants are known to cause damage to the electrical components of buildings and machines when they nest inside, which has cost property owners millions of dollars to correct the damages.

Fire ants have been closely monitored by the United States Department of Agriculture (USDA) and the Louisiana Department of Agriculture and Forestry (LDAF) since their introduction into the state. Early efforts to eradicate the fire ants were not successful, so IFA quarantine is in place to slow the spread of this pest to areas of the country that do not have them.

The quarantine covers all of the states in the Gulf Coast region and reaches into parts of Arkansas, North Carolina, Oklahoma, and Tennessee. There are also two small areas in New Mexico and California that fall into the quarantine. Because the state of Louisiana is in the IFA quarantine area, nurseries that ship out of Louisiana are monitored to mitigate the spread of IFA to non-infested areas. All nurseries that ship any regulated plant material out of the IFA quarantine area must treat the plant material with an approved insecticide before shipping. Documentation must be provided on the invoice showing the nursery has treated the plant material which follows the shipment to its destination.

Through funds provided by the USDA, LDAF administers the program that monitors these nurseries. The nursery can enter into a compliance agreement with LDAF stating that all material being shipped out of the IFA quarantine area will be treated with an approved insecticide. Also at this time, they will be issued a fire ant stamp that they must use to stamp on the invoice which indicates the material has been treated and is good to ship. Prior to a nursery entering into a compliance agreement with LDAF, inspectors from LDAF will make sure the nursery knows how to treat the plant material with the correct insecticide, depending on how the plants will be shipped (containers, ball and burlap, sod). By entering into the compliance agreement with LDAF, this ensures all plant material is treated before it is shipped, and it also expedites the shipping process because LDAF inspectors are not required to be present for every shipment. For nurseries that do not ship many loads out of the quarantine area, they can set up an inspection with an LDAF inspector to inspect the treatment process before shipping takes place. The LDAF inspector will endorse the invoice with a stamp and maintain a record of the inspection in the district office.

LDAF also monitors all shipments of honey bee colonies sent to California for almond pollination for fire ants. Commercial bee keepers treat holding yards with approved insecticides before the bees are brought in for shipment and also after the bees are loaded on to the trucks.

This agreement between LDAF and nurseries has worked quite well with very few incidences of fire ants being sent out of the quarantine area from Louisiana. All nurseries that ship out of the quarantine area should have steps in place to minimize fire ants in their nursery. Scheduled applications of labeled products should be made at regular intervals and all areas kept clean of dirt and debris that may harbor fire ant colonies. Approved products and best management practices for controlling fire ants can be found at the LSU Ag Center website.

Ansel Rankins
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Hi to LNLA Members,

During April, LNLA funded newspaper and radio ads promoting “Buy it, plant it, grow it, love it” to consumers throughout Louisiana. This is funded by the specialty crop grant we received from USDA through LDAF. The marketing committee is now working on a newsletter which will be mailed in late July to all licensed horticulturists and related fields. The goal is to increase business for our members and the industry as a whole. In January of next year, we will conduct a survey to find out the impact we made, so please take note of the ads and newsletters and let us know if you think they have increased your business income.

Our Foundation (LNLFSR) Gala VII was held on June 10th in Baton Rouge. Photos from it are on the front cover of this newsletter and the sponsors are listed on the LNLFSR page. Please do business with those who support us when you can. Donations are welcome any time to help with funding college horticulture student scholarships and ornamentals research. I especially enjoyed seeing friends and making new acquaintances in the industry. THANKS TO ALL WHO DONATED AND/OR ATTENDED!!

Our summer session of Certified Nursery & Landscape Professional (CNLP) Manual Review and Exam is coming up soon on July 12-13, 2016, at Ira Nelson Horticulture Center at ULL in Lafayette. Please see our website or contact me if you know of someone who wants to attend. We continue to certify more high school horticulture teachers each year, to help them fulfill the requirements for our student certification program. They get credit and some funding for their school through the Dept. of Education Jump Start program. In May 2016, we certified 16 students from high schools located in Galliano, Lake Charles, and Monroe, La. We already have one school from Alexandria which has paid dues to participate in the 2016-17 school year. It is delightful to me to be able to be part of helping students get prepared for jobs in the nursery and landscape industry.

LNLA will have an exhibit booth at the TNLA Nursery & Landscape Expo in Houston in August. We will be giving out information on our association to steer business to our members, and trying to recruit more members. I hope to see some of you there. Go to www.nurserylandscapeexpo.org for more information.

Don’t hesitate to contact me at anniecoco400@gmail.com or 985-789-4301 if I can be of assistance to you, or if you have suggestions or requests for LNLA. This is your association and I welcome input from you.

Later,
Annie Coco
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.

Spring is in full swing in New Orleans and summer is right around the corner. While the NOHS has temporarily lost its meeting space due to a special exhibition at City Park, we have supplemented the meetings with unique locations and outings to visit other greenhouses or nurseries. In March we had the pleasure of being given a tour around the Pelican Greenhouses in City Park where many of the botanical gardens flora is grown. In April, we took a trip to Plaquemines Parish and were treated to a great tour of Langridge Plant Sales in Belle Chasse and received an inside look at one of the production facilities that supplies much of Southeast Louisiana with annual color and horticultural supplies. Coming up we have our annual after-hours horticulture tour/meeting at the Audubon Zoo given by one of our very own members. While meetings are open to everyone, these types of field trips are perks offered only to dues paying members. We are always trying to change things up; so if you’re interested, please send an email to the address below to see what’s happening!

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!
Gala VII a Success!!

LNLFSR’s annual big fund raiser, Gala VII, was held on Friday, June 10, 2016, at The Lod Cook Alumni Center, on the LSU campus in Baton Rouge. A new record attendance of 144 people enjoyed the good food and drinks, and socializing with others in the horticulture industry. After all expenses are paid, the net profit is expected to exceed $20,000.

Dan Gill was the featured speaker of the evening telling of humorous experiences from years of working with the public. Musical entertainment for the evening was provided by piano instructor Rebecca Bellelo on the grand piano. Allen Owings did the live auctioneer duties and added to the entertainment. Two of the New Orleans Pelicans Dance Team made an appearance for photos and autographs. If you weren’t there, you missed a good time!

THANKS TO ALL DONORS, SPONSORS, & THOSE WHO ATTENDED!! Thanks to you, funds are available to award scholarships to deserving Louisiana horticulture college students, and to support ornamental horticulture research.

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Sodding – Get a lawn started correctly

Lawns that are established correctly and managed properly will last indefinitely. The first step to a beautiful lawn starts with a high quality sodding process. I’ve seen so many poorly sodded lawns here lately that I thought it would be a good idea to write an article on how to sod a yard correctly. Sodding is not complicated but several important steps should be followed to successfully establish a new lawn.

Steps to Sodding a Lawn

1. In order to determine the nutrient requirements and soil pH, collect a soil sample and submit it to your local extension office or participating retail nursery.

   http://www.lsuagcenter.com/en/our_offices/departments/SPESS/ServiceLabs/soil_testing_lab/faq/#2

2. Determine how much sod will be needed. One pallet of sod covers approximately 450 ft²

3. Kill existing damaged sod and weeds with a non-selective herbicide such as glyphosate.

4. Wait at least 7 days for the existing vegetation to die and sod cut or scrape dead material from the site.

5. If extensive grading will be needed at the location, remove the topsoil and stockpile it for replacement after the rough grade is established.

6. Redistribute or add topsoil back over the rough grade. Till in soil amendments and fertilizer as recommended by the soil sample results.

7. Optional: Install drainage and irrigation system if desired.

8. Establish final grade.

9. Install fresh sod (within 24 hours of harvest) soon after it’s delivered. The longer sod sits on the pallet the more it will deteriorate. Moisten the area to be sodded prior to laying the sod to improve root recovery. Lay sod in a brick-like pattern, staggering joints. Butt joints tightly to prevent roots from drying out. Do not overlap sod pieces.

10. Roll the lawn after laying the sod to insure good sod/soil contact.

11. After rolling, water deeply. Maintain a high level of moisture in the soil for 7 to 10 days. Do not allow the area to dry out.

12. Sod can be fertilized with nitrogen, one month after sodding. In Louisiana, we can lay sod anytime of the year, including winter. If sodding occurs in the late fall or winter, delay the first nitrogen application until the spring growing season.
EXOBASIDIUM LEAF GALL

Leaf gall of camellia and azalea is a fungal disease favored by extended periods of cool, wet weather during spring. This is primarily a leaf disease, but occasionally may occur on stems, flowers and seed pods. There are mainly two species of Exobasidium fungus that cause this disease; Exobasidium vaccinii on azaleas and E. camelliae on camellias.

Symptoms of leaf galls start appearing soon after the plants finish flowering. Leaves are distorted and become thickened with a fleshy or leather-like texture (Figures 1 and 2). Galls tend to be pale green, pink or white (Figure 3) in the beginning, but as they develop, they become white and powdery. The white powder material is the spores of the fungus, which readily disperse via air currents and by splashing water. As the galls get older, they shrivel up, dry out and turn brown and hard (Figure 4). Older galls fall to the ground, where they survive and may serve as a source of inoculum for the next spring susceptible growth.

Management of leaf galls is achieved primarily by adopting good cultural practices in the landscapes. Proper pruning and discarding of galled leaves is very important in reducing the spread of the disease. Cut galled leaves couple of inches below the symptoms and before discarding them, put them in ziploc bags.

Remove and destroy affected leaves with galls that have fallen on the ground. Improve air circulation by selective thinning of the canopy of established plantings to promote rapid drying of foliage and maintain adequate spacing when establishing new plantings to avoid creating favorable conditions for disease development. Fungicides may help avoid infection when applied beginning at bud break. Repeated applications may be required every 10 days as long as the conducive weather conditions persist for disease development. For fungicide selection, please consult your local county agent. For more information on leaf galls of azalea and camellia, please contact Dr. Raj Singh at 225-578-4562 or email rsingh@agcenter.lsu.edu.
Margie Jenkins Azalea Garden Horticulture Lecture Series and Industry Open House – May 6
LSU AgCenter Hammond Research Station

LSU AgCenter Hammond Research Station’s annual Margie Jenkins Azalea Garden Horticulture Lecture Series and Industry Open House was held on May 6, 2016. 105 people attended and enjoyed hearing speakers, a walking tour of landscape research, and a hamburger lunch co-sponsored by SELNA.
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Prosper Jules Alphonse Berckmans founded a family nursery in 1857 and were in practice sometime after 1911.

Of the earliest landscape architects at the South Southern Nursery Industry seems to come from the North and the East. Little much of the history of landscape architecture is well understood and often loathed at the North.

Frederick Law Olmsted was a scientific farmer and was interested in agriculture activities in the South. He was also a noted writer, traveller and social critic prior to the late rebellion. In 1853, he travelled from New York to New Orleans commenting on life, culture and conditions of the antebellum South. He sent copy back to a New York Daily Times Newspaper that published his observations on the economy and landscape of the South under the nom de plume Yeoman.

In 1856 his journey along the seaboard states into the south was published as a book by a London publishing house with a New York office of Dix and Edwards. You can read the book at http://docsouth.unc.edu/nc/olmsted/olmsted.html. In 1869 they sold 40 varieties of Rhododendron indica. By 1900 they offered one hundred varieties of the Indian Azalea. They also listed 29 varieties of Camellia japonica, and well over 100 varieties of ornamental roses. They did much to popularize azaleas, camellias, crapemyrtles and magnolias in the South. They also sold hedge plants including the 'mother hedge’ or Ligustrum amurense, still one of the South's favorite hedge plants but surprisingly not used in Louisiana.

Reading their annual catalogs from well over 100 years ago is very informative. They point out the scale and importance of the landscape and nursery industry in the late 1800’s.

Early Landscape Architecture Practice Much of the history of landscape architecture seems to come from the North and the East. Little is published about Southern landscape architects. They are not well known.

Southern Nursery Industry Of the earliest landscape architects at the South are the brothers Berckmans. They were from Georgia and were in practice sometime after 1911. Their grandfather, a Belgium trained horticulturist, founded a family nursery in 1857.

Prosper Jules Alphonse Berckmans (1830-1910) son of the founder became known as the father of peach culture in Georgia. He introduced new varieties of peaches and planted millions of trees that did well in Georgia’s warm climate. The family sold fruit, nut, berries and landscape plants throughout the eastern half of the nation. They offered special collections of deciduous trees and shrubs, as well as evergreens, roses, subtropical shrubs and palms. They even sold a special Southern lawn grass, Fruitlands Mix, ideal for scorching summer weather.

Fruitlands Nursery chartered as P.J. Berckmans’ Company, was a horticulture plantation employing 80 men which produced many classic Southern plants for a customer list of some 25000 buyers. Their catalog listed many species and cultivars grown on 350 acres with 50,000 square feet under glass.

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Reading their annual catalogs from well over 100 years ago is very informative. They point out the scale and importance of the landscape and nursery industry in the late 1800’s.

Fruitlands And Augusta National Perhaps the Berckmans’s greatest contribution to landscape architecture is the wildly popular but highly exclusive Augusta National Golf Club. The Berckmans Brothers designed the original layout of the golf course in 1930 working with the late and famous golf champion Bobby Jones.

Augusta National is built on the property of the old nursery site and its famous clubhouse, once called Fruitlands Manor, was the home of the Berckmans family.

Each spring the greatest golfers in the world gather for the Master's Tournament to “drive for show and putt for dough” along the fairways surrounded by flowering azaleas, spiraea, camellias, mock oranges, dogwoods, tea olives (sweet olive), flowering peaches, crab apples, magnolias, yellow jasmine, Carolina cherry, red bud and holly, many of which were planted by the Berckmans.

One wonders if the professional golfers stop to think about the origins or Southern landscape architecture while surrounded by so much beauty.
THE BUG DOCTOR

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

Pymetrozine: A systemic insecticide active against sucking insects

The xylem and phloem are the two types of transport tissues in vascular plants (higher plants). Water and some nutrients are transported in the xylem up the plant to the leaves. Sugars and other products are transported in the phloem down the plant from the leaves. Insects may feed on the phloem or the xylem. Pymetrozine is transported in the xylem and phloem providing systemic activity against insects feeding in either of these tissues. This article presents some properties of pymetrozine.

The Insecticide Resistance Action Committee places pymetrozine in group 9B (pyridine azomethine derivatives). Pymetrozine interferes with feeding behavior. The muscles that are used to pull food in the mouth are paralyzed. The stylet (feeding tube) of sucking insects is blocked. Sucking insects remove their stylets from the plant and stop feeding in an hour. The affected insects will remain on the plant, starve and die in 2 to 10 days. Pymetrozine is active as a systemic in the xylem and phloem, as a translaminar, and if eaten. It has some activity as a contact insecticide. Pymetrozine is rainfast because it easily penetrates into the plant.

Sucking insects such as planthoppers, leafhoppers, aphids and whiteflies are killed by pymetrozine, and all life stages that suck sap from the plant are affected. This insecticide exhibits low toxicity on beneficials (including bees) and mites. It should not be applied to actively foraging bees or flowering weeds.

The translaminar activity of pymetrozine allows the material to move through the leaf from one surface to the other. However, thorough coverage is recommended when an application of pymetrozine is made. Cross-resistance between pymetrozine and neonicotinoids (class 4) has been observed.

In summary, pymetrozine is systemic and is translocated in both the xylem and phloem. It also shows activity when eaten and translaminar. It has some contact activity. Pymetrozine is effective against life stages of sucking insects that are feeding on the plant. This insecticide is useful in insecticide resistance management. Products containing pymetrozine include Fulfill® and Endeavor®.

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2017
‘Supertunia Vista Bubblegum’ Petunia
‘Henry’s Garnet’ Virginia Willow
SunPatiens (compact varieties)

2018
‘Limelight’ Hydrangea
‘Intenz Classic’ Celosia
‘Little Gem’ Southern Magnolia
Plants with Potential 2016:
An LSU AgCenter Ornamental Plant Material Awareness Program

The LSU AgCenter's Hammond Research Station (HRS) created a new outreach program in 2015 to annually introduce and distribute unfamiliar, non-patented or non-trademarked plants to Louisiana's ornamental nursery and landscape industry. Plant material selected for the program is often difficult to find commercially and therefore rarely used in our state. However, observations of these plants at HRS indicate they have excellent landscape performance potential in our challenging Gulf South climate.

Since most of the plants are easy to propagate, the program provides participants with a small number of each year's selected plants so that they can be evaluated for durability and customer appeal. Since plant material in the program is free from production restrictions, propagation costs are kept to a minimum. Incorporating unfamiliar plant varieties helps nurseries and landscapers broaden their plant material palettes to enhance profitability, while increased distribution of these plants helps preserve unique varieties.

Green industry members receiving stock plants of the nine selections in 2015 included small to medium size wholesale growers, retail nurseries, landscapers, landscape architects, Master Gardener plant sale groups, professional horticulture organizations, public gardens and other university or research facilities. Six plants were selected for 2016 and are listed with descriptions below:

1. *Aerva sanguinolenta*

AMARANTHACEAE (Red Velvet Plant) – Unusual tropical foliage plant ideal for bed edgings and mixed containers. Aromatic, richly-colored burgundy leaves. Produces small Alternanthera-like flowers during short day seasons. Grows 18” x 14”. Plant in full sun to partial shade. Easily propagated by cuttings. Can be subject to pest issues. Will bloom all year and may need support due to sheer size of foliage. "Homestead Purple," this is it! HRS received its original plants from Billy Welsh at the Ira Nelson Horticulture Center in Lafayette, LA. 

2. *Cestrum x 'Orange Peel'*

SOLANACEAE (Orange Peel Cestrum, Orange Peel Jessamine) – This is one of the best cestrums at the Hammond Research Station (HRS). A hybrid of *Cestrum diurnum* x *Cestrum nocturnum*, this large tropical shrub will take the heat and can quickly grow to 4-8’ x 3-5’, making it an ideal background planting. Dark green, deer-resistant narrow leaves provide good contrast for the numerous golden yellow/light orange tubular blooms. Plant in full sun with good drainage. Excellent hummingbird and butterfly attractant. 

3. *Glandularia canadensis 'Carlos'*

VERBENACEAE (Carlos Verbena, Carlos Smith Verbena) – Unique bi-color blooming verbena named after the late LSU AgCenter Avoyelles County Agent/Horticulturist Carlos Smith who collected it from his great aunt's homestie near Monroe, LA. Possibly dates to the 1890s. Striking white to lavender flower clusters adorn silver-green foliage. Individual flowers can express both colors. Early season bloomer that slows during the summer heat. Cut back clump in late summer for blooms to reappear in fall. Prefers drier soils, so good drainage is important. Excellent in hanging baskets and containers. Attracts butterflies. Grows 9-10” x 18-24”.

4. *Glandularia canadensis 'Snow Flurry'*

VERBENACEAE (Snow Flurry Verbena) – Possibly Colonial White Verbena) – If you only have room for one verbena other than 'Homestead Purple,' this is it! HRS received its original plants from Billy Welsh at the Ira Nelson Horticulture Center in Lafayette, LA. Pure white flowers clusters bloom profusely on lush, dark green foliage. Vigorous grower with many mat-forming clones. Grows to 3’ x 2’ in full sun. Large clusters of 3-4” light pink, star-shaped flowers appear atop dark green leaves from late spring through fall. Excellent butterfly and pollinator attractant. Not known to be available commercially, but has been established for 15-20 years at the New Orleans City Park Botanical Garden. Propagated by cuttings, but with less success than 'Nova.' Perennial in warmer areas of Zone 9.

5. *Iresin herbstii AMARANTHACEAE*

RUBIACEAE (Pink Remembrance Pentas) – – This old variety is very similar to 'Nova,' but has a softer light pink bloom that looks great planted with 'Nova.' Plants at HRS are hard but not quite as vigorous as 'Nova.' Grows to 3’ x 2” in full sun. Large clusters of 3-4” light pink, star-shaped flowers appear atop dark green leaves from late spring through fall. Excellent butterfly and pollinator attractant. Not known to be available commercially, but has been established for 15-20 years at the New Orleans City Park Botanical Garden. Propagated by cuttings, but with less success than 'Nova.' Perennial in warmer areas of Zone 9.

2015 Selections:
1. *Acalypha wilkesiana 'Kapioloni Bronze'* (Kapioloni Bronze Copper Plant)
2. *Acalypha wilkesiana 'Musaica' (Musaica Copper Plant)
3. *Begonia sp. 'Barbara Rogers' (Barbara Rogers Begonia, possibly Friendship Begonia)
4. *Lantana camara 'Belle Starr Gold' (Belle Starr Gold Lantana)
5. *Pelargonium sp. Mary Helen' (Mary Helen Geranium)
6. *Pentas lanceolata 'Nova' (Nova Pentas, Egypt's Star Flower)
7. *Portulaca oleracea 'Florida Dwarf Rose' (Florida Dwarf Rose Purslane)
8. *Salvia sp. 'Silke's Dream' (Silke's Dream Salvia)
9. *Turnera ulmifolia 'Trailing Yellow' (Trailing Yellow Turnera, Creeping Buttercup Turnera, Trailing or Creeping Yellow Alder)

Jason Stagg
Instructor (Horticulture)
Hammond Research Station

Dr. Allen Owings
Professor (Horticulture) and Research Coordinator
Hammond Research Station

Gina Hebert
Research Associate
Hammond Research Station

LSU AgCenter Landscape Horticulture Research Program Update

Allen Owings, Professor (Horticulture), owings@agcenter.lsu.edu
LSU AgCenter, Hammond Research Station, Hammond, LA, Phone 985.543.4125, Fax 985.543.4124
The SELNA sponsored Folsom Fall Garden Festival will be Saturday, September 24, 2016 in Folsom, La. Members and non-members are eligible to be vendors at this event. The deadline for reserving a vendor booth space without a late fee is August 1, 2016.

The SELNA Trade Show will be October 6, 2016, in combination with the Hammond Research Station Field Day for nursery & landscape industry professionals. Only SELNA members are eligible to be vendors/exhibitors in the SELNA Trade Show. If you wish to join SELNA to be a vendor, contact Annie Coco.

The summer SELNA business meeting will be sometime in late July or early August.

The 2015-16 Southeast Louisiana Wholesale Plant Locator List is available on our website at www.selna.net. If you prefer a printed copy (booklet), contact SELNA secretary Annie Coco at anniecoco400@gmail.com or 985-789-4301 and give your mailing address.

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@rioverdenursery.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) 985-789-4301, (e) anniecoco400@gmail.com

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IMPORTANT NEWS FOR THE LIA MEMBERSHIP: LIA was hit with quite a surprise this spring! We will now have to start charging 3% sales tax on dues, registration fees, books, shirts, hats, advertising in print or on the web starting July 1, 2016. At our last Board Meeting on April 19th, Wayne Orton informed us that he felt that the sales tax would involve LIA. After the meeting I contacted the Louisiana Department of Revenue for details. After about four hours trying to register, etc. I received by email an account ID number and several days later received a Sales Tax Registration Certificate in the mail. Now the clincher! From April 1, 2016 to June 30, 2016 we have to pay 5% sales tax. From July 1, 2016 to two years later, we pay 3% - THEN they may remove the tax for non-profits. I really don’t believe they will. Once they start getting the money, they won’t stop.

In order to comply with this new legislative mandate under the John Bel Edwards’ administration, LIA had to pay for new Membership application forms of which I had just re-ordered a month before, printed inserts to go into the older forms and pay our webmaster extra to change the website prices. All totaled it cost LIA $357.70 not including 5% sales tax.

I and the Board of Directors apologize for having to increase our rates. It was not due to LIA, but to the Louisiana Legislature and the governor. If you have the opportunity to discuss this with your legislator, please do and it will affect all non-profits. So the next time you buy Girl Scout cookies, expect to pay tax on them!

Dr. Peter Gallagher, LIA’s Education and Research Director, has finally retired and has moved to his home state of Wisconsin to live. All his family is there, and he especially wanted to get back home to be with his children and brothers.

LIA has again received a Proclamation signed by Governor, John Bel Edwards stating that “July Is Smart Irrigation Month In Louisiana for 2016”. This is our 3rd year to receive the proclamation. To formally present it to LIA, we asked LDAF Commissioner Dr. Mike Strain to make the presentation. So, on May 5, 2016, President Wes Gauthier, Past President Jack Hopper, Board Member Curt Bowman and I met with the Commissioner and spent a very pleasant hour and half visiting with him.

LIA will have its Annual Meeting and Recertification Training on October 20, 2016, at Duke’s Seafood & Steakhouse, 33920 Hwy. 16, Denham Springs, LA. Registration begins at 7:30 A.M. and training begins at 8:00 A.M. with ‘Irrigation Systems Installation & Maintenance’ being taught by Dr. Stacia Davis, LSU AgCenter Assistant Professor. The Annual Meeting will begin at 11:45 with featured speaker, Dr. Mike Strain, providing an overview of LDAF. The afternoon session will be the other half of the morning session and the recertification paperwork will follow that. Registration is $120.00 + 3% sales tax, total $123.60 for LIA Members and $220.00 + 3% sales tax, total $226.60 for non-members.

Mid South Green Industry Conference

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LSU AgCenter’s Hammond Research Station Landscape Horticulture Industry Field Day and Southeast Louisiana Nursery Association’s 14th Annual SELNA Trade Show

“All Together Now: One Day, One Location”

Thursday, October 6, 2016
8:00 AM – 3:00 PM
Hammond Research Station
21549 Old Covington Highway
Hammond, LA 70403

Up To 5 CEUs for Louisiana Licensed Landscape Architects

Schedule
- 8:00-9:00 am: Registration for Field Day & Visit Exhibit Booths
- 9:00-12 noon: The Hammond Research Station Field Day Tour
- 12 noon-1:00 pm: Complimentary BBQ Lunch & Networking
- 1:00-3:00 pm: Visit Exhibit Booths
- 1:00-2:00 pm: Optional Field Research Tour
- 2:00-3:00 pm: Receive CEU credit certification

For Field Day info, contact Dr. Allen Owings at 985-543-4125 or aowings@agcenter.lsu.edu
For SELNA Trade Show info, contact Annie Coco at anniecoco400@gmail.com or 985-789-4301

The Hammond Research Station is a No Smoking facility, indoors and outdoors.
Participation in events is open to all citizens without regard to race, color, national origin, gender, religion, age, veteran status, or disability.
If you have a disability that requires special accommodation for your participation in this event, please contact Hammond Research Station at 985-543-4125 by September 29, 2016.

No Pets, except service animals.
MINUTES OF LNL A BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING
Thursday, April 14, 2016 – 10:00 am
Louisiana Department of Agriculture & Forestry, Baton Rouge

The Louisiana Nursery & Landscape Association Board met on Thursday, April 14, 2016, at the Louisiana Dept. of Agriculture & Forestry Auditorium in Baton Rouge. Total attendance was 21 people.


Absent: Dan Gill, Mike Goree, Megan Perino Scully.

Quorum is 7 voting members; 11 present; quorum established.


President Michele Andre called the meeting to order at 10:05 am and welcomed everyone. All stood and said the Pledge of Allegiance.

Conflict of Interest Policy
Michele Andre asked if all Board members had reviewed the policy, which was emailed in advance of this meeting.

Agreed to follow the policy.

Discussion included: LNLA needs ways to get more members and get more fits package is weak.

The minutes of the last meeting, which was on January 22 in Mobile, were emailed in advance of this meeting.

Annie Coco distributed copies for members' binders.

Conflict of Interest Policy
Michele Andre asked if all Board members had reviewed the policy, which was emailed in advance of this meeting.

Roger Steele motioned to accept the minutes; 2nd by Chris Herrmann; motion passed with no nays.

Robert LaCroix motioned to accept the report; 2nd by Kurt Ducote; motion passed with no nays.

Financial Report
Pat Newman distributed printed reports and reviewed the highlights. After brief discussion, Robert LaCroix motioned to accept the report; 2nd by Kurt Ducote; motion passed with no nays.

IT Committee
Michele Andre reported that Annie Coco had a few computer problems. Paul Wilson has been working on updating member renewals on the website. Michele encouraged everyone to go to the website and make suggestions for improvement. She wants links to members' websites eventually. Jpeg logos can be sent to Paul. We need to get a business program to implement Quickbooks. Pat needs paper copies of invoices/bills. May need to get with Annie & Pat together. Committee will work on this for next meeting.

Marketing Committee
Allen Owings reported they met 4-6 weeks ago and confirmed the spring mass media campaign. LNLA purchased 4 weeks radio spots + bonus weeks. Ads were run for 5 weeks over 8 weeks alternating. Moon L wants someone to be a guest on his radio talk show. Ricky Becnel volunteered; maybe have a tag team for 30 minutes. Articles are now being written. We are working through the LDAF grant; we get reimbursed.

Discussion included: Include arborists in the grant newsletter list. Texas has about 80% of all licensed in the state are TRLA members. A suggestion was made to go back to the highest income years and see who were members then. We need a motivational letter to go out – that would go to the Membership committee. There is a need to get the younger generation involved; many don’t join organizations. This is an ongoing challenge.

Membership Committee
Rogier Steele asked if his committee met and feels LNLA needs ways to get more members and get more benefits. They are looking at the last membership drive and will measure its effectiveness. It was offered at half price; they will see how many rejoined the following year. They are looking into Office Depot discount cards. The committee motioned to pursue a discount affiliate with Office Depot; 2nd by Pat Newman.

Robert LaCroix motioned to amend the motion to have the committee pursue this and make the decision, as long as there is no cost; amendment 2nd by Chris Herrmann; after brief discussion, the amended motion passed with no nays. Roger reported they may do more discount benefits in the future, but they will start with this.

Digital member list is now sold at $25 to members; $50 to non-members.

Pat motioned the membership committee provide a list of why membership is so low at next meeting & what we can do to entice more to become members; 2nd by Lisa Loup; after brief discussion, the motion was recalled/removed by Pat.

Discussion included: LNLA benefits package is weak. One board member said he tells customers when they call; asks if they are members. The committee is working on a new recruitment package. We must make persistent contacts later if they don’t join right away. What do I get out of membership? The annual meeting is out of state, so not good for everyone. The newsletter is the only visible benefit at this time.

Nominating Committee
Jerry Plauche asked everybody to help think of people for recruit for the Board. Send an email to all members for nominees. Before nominating someone, we need to look at qualifications – have email, member at least 6 months, represents key areas of membership and state regions.

CNPL Update
Annie Coco reported she contacted the LSU AgCenter person who tapes Dan Gill’s Get It Growing segments, but he will be unable to do the CNPL review. She wants to find a videographer in the Lafayette area to tape Dan, then LNLA can sell by DVD, flash drive, &/or online. This way, more people can get the education than just those who can attend the reviews held two times per year. Jerry Plauche indicated he knew of a person in Lafayette, so Annie will contact him.

Student Certification Update
Annie Coco reported we have 3 high schools participating this school year. More high school teachers are being certified in each CNPL session to teach their students. Robert LaCroix gave the background of Common Core/IBC, which now has Jump Start, for agricultural education in high schools. IBC will put agriculture on list, but employers must give certified students higher pay. Robert serves on a committee with Mike Strain, who presented the case for agriculture. LNLA needs to review the student certification to make sure we are including what’s needed.

LDAF Update
Ansel Rankins reported that Todd Hardy retired from LDAF in Nov 2015 and is now State Plant Health Director with USDA APHIS PPQ. He will continue to participate in LNLA meetings. Ansel introduced other LDAF staff members, Brett Laird, Allen Fabre, Tina Peltier, and Richard Miller, who were in attendance. LDAF will be receiving federal funds to conduct Citrus and Sudden Oak Death surveys this year. The SOD survey will consist of a visual and water baiting survey. All SOD surveys’ samples were negative last year. They are working with USDA, NRCS & LSU for emerald ash borer traps and biological controls in Webster parish. They provided outreach information regarding Systems Approach to Nursery Certification (SANC), along with dates for upcoming webinars regarding the SANC pilot program.

LDAF will be attending the Southern Plant Board Meeting next week in Biloxi, MS.

Tina Peltier gave an update from the Horticulture Commission. They issued 100 non-compliance notices. Forty-Five (45) violations were cited during the commission meetings in 2015 which resulted in fines. Last year they issued 6000 licenses and 642 nursery permits. They have quarterly meetings to hear cases, some of which result in fines. They are in the process of promulgating a new rule that will require a licensee to maintain their insurance. Currently, arborists (utility) and irrigation contractors are required to have insurance before they are issued a license.

Discussion included: LNLA benefits package is weak. One board member said he tells customers when they call; asks if they are members. The committee is working on a new recruitment package. We must make persistent contacts later if they don’t join right away. What do I get out of membership? The annual meeting is out of state, so not good for everyone. The newsletter is the only visible benefit at this time.

LSU AgCenter Update
Allen Owings reported on meetings coming up: Spring Open House on May 6 in Hammond; Buddy Lee & Jeff Kuehny will be speakers. Fall Field Day will be Thurs Oct 6 at 9 am to 2 pm with SELNA Trade Show. Landscape architects are coming to the fall event to get CEUs. Allen is working with MS folks for an early June show in Starkville.

The average home gardener does not like to see a tag that plants have been treated with neonicotinoids, which is now required. In the citrus industry, trees must have a regimen for imidacloprid, and it’s on the state tag. Growers must use it for Asian citrus psyllid to control them. LSU is doing research on what will replace neonicotinoids.

GSHE Report
Pat Newman reported the GSHE Board will meet on May 19. Russell Wood is the new executive director. We should get our payment in May. We did a good job moving in & out this year. Exhausting but fun.

Website Update
Paul Wilson reported there are 360 paid members this year so far. He is working with the IT committee for online renewals; that will be easier than new memberships. He is working with Plantant to get done this summer. We’ll need to tell members to check the data online when that becomes active. He should check with the President or IT committee when issues come up.

LNLFSR Update
Danny LaFleur pointed out the Gala VII flyer in everyone’s packet of printed materials. He urged all Board members to save the date & come; they will take donations. Sell a table if you can. We’ll have the same auctioneer again this year.

New Business – LNLFSR Donation
Pat Newman asked if LNLA will donate to the Gala. Chris Herrmann motioned LNLA to donate $5,000 to LNLFSR Gala VII; 2nd by Lisa Loup; after brief discussion and determination that the budget is okay for it, motion passed with no nays.

Next Meeting – July 21, Mi Tierra restaurant, Forest Hill.

Other Business/Announcements
The question was asked: Should the member package go to all members or just the Board? The Membership committee will decide. One suggestion to send to everybody. There was a suggestion to make a push card. Include the website address in the package. Give gift card incentives at the annual meeting again; that makes an impression. H2B employers will have to join to get a reduction in the wage requirement.

Adjourn
There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 12:25 pm.

There was a question why licensed landscapers don’t have to have insurance. This can be brought to the Horticulture Commission. They hired new inspectors; they now have 51 across state, 9 or 10 of which are new. They will send a publication/article about hiring licensed people again this year.

Allen Fabre reported there are about 600 nursery growers; about 1/3 have blue tag (Fire ant) to ship out of state. He makes sure tags get sent out on time. They no longer put growers’ names on tags. The fire ant quarantine map is from 2013 & available online. The pollinator protection program tells applicators how to time pesticide applications (mostly insecticides & a few fungicides) to mitigate bee killing. Clouds of honey bees were seen in Plaquemines Parish this spring; they are waiting to spray until after the blooming is finished. They take nematode samples each year for plants being shipped to California. They have a database for the past 20 years. Arizona also samples each year for plants being shipped to California. They have a database for the past 20 years. Arizona also samples each year for plants being shipped to California.

Forty-Five (45) violations were cited during the commission meetings in 2015 which resulted in fines. Last year they issued 6000 licenses and 642 nursery permits. They have quarterly meetings to hear cases, some of which result in fines. They are in the process of promulgating a new rule that will require a licensee to maintain their insurance. Currently, arborists (utility) and irrigation contractors are required to have insurance before they are issued a license.
UPCOMING EVENTS

July 12-13  Louisiana Nursery and Landscape Association Certified Nursery / Landscape Professional Review Ira Nelson Horticulture Center at ULL Lafayette, La. Contact Annie Coco at anniecoco400@gmail.com

July 21  LNLA & LNLFSR Board of Directors Meetings, Mi Tierra Restaurant, Forest Hill, La.

Aug 18-20  Nursery/Landscape Expo, George Brown Convention Center, Houston, TX. www.nurserylandscapeexpo.org

Aug 23  Mississippi State University Turfgrass Field Day, Rodney Foil Research Center (North Farm), Starkville, MS.


Oct 5  Ornamental and Turfgrass Commercial Pesticide Applicator Re-Certification, Location TBA, Lafayette, La. www.lpca.org

Oct 6  MAFES Ornamental Horticulture Field Day, South MS Branch Experiment Station, Poplarville, MS.

Oct 6  LSU AgCenter Landscape Horticulture Industry Field Day & SELNA Trade Show, Hammond Research Station, Hammond, La. Contact Allen Owings at aowings@agcenter.lsu.edu

Oct 11-13  Deep South Turf Expo, MS Gulf Coast Coliseum, Biloxi, Ms. www.deepsouthturfexpo.org

Oct 20  Louisiana Irrigation Association Annual Meeting and Irrigation Systems Installation and Maintenance (Recertification Training), Duke’s Seafood and Steakhouse, Denham Springs, La. Contact Severn Doughty, Sr. at scd357@gmail.com

Nov/Dec  Louisiana Plant Materials Conference, Location and Date TBA

Nov 16-17  Louisiana Irrigation Association – Irrigation Basics (Certification and Recertification Training), Don’s Seafood Restaurant, Baton Rouge, La. Contact Severn Doughty, Sr. at scd357@gmail.com

Dec 8  Ornamental and Turfgrass Commercial Pesticide Applicator Re-Certification, Location TBA, Kenner, La. www.lpca.org

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.

IN THE NEWS

Congratulations to LSU undergraduate horticulture student Russ Sonnier and to LSU graduate student Mark Wilson on being awarded $2,000 scholarships this spring from the Louisiana Society for Horticultural Research. Sonnier was also recently awarded the 2016 scholarship from the Baton Rouge Landscape Association. Sonnier and Wilson are also candidates for the James and Fay Foret Award from the Sidney B. Meadows Scholarship Endowment at the Southern Nursery Association this year.
Evolution Violet salvia provides abundant flowers spring through fall on compact plants. Photo by Dan Gill

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