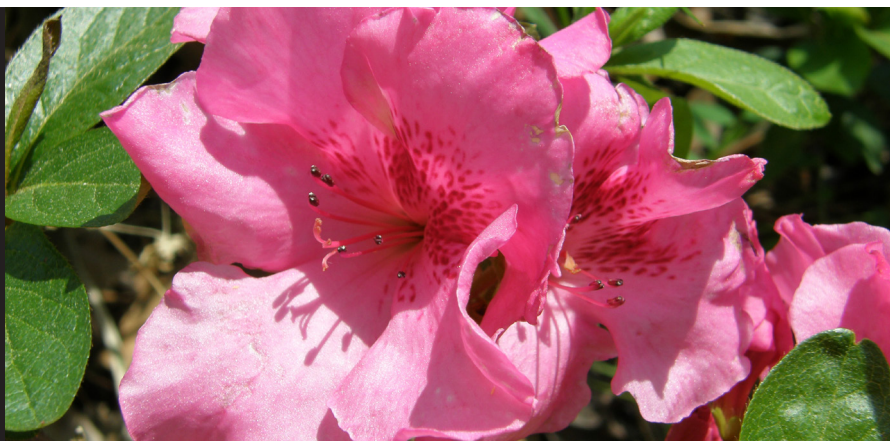


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## Countdown to Plant Sale; Thousands of Selections To Be Offered

Get ready for the countdown to 8 a.m. on Saturday, April 11 – when the annual East Baton Rouge Master Gardener Plant Sale takes place at the LSU AgCenter Botanic Gardens at Burden.

Volunteers have grown thousands of plants in hundreds of varieties that will thrive in your garden during our hot south Louisiana summer. Arrive early to park. Bring a wagon, if you have one, to help with your plant purchases. And be first in line when the sale opens so you can get the best selections.

The annual sale always offers a variety of special plants. There will be lots of hanging baskets, succulent pots and



Sale coordinator Marie Varnes inspects rows of plants destined for April 11 Plantmakers sale.



Sale coordinator Kay Heinrich, Renee Major and Leo Broders at soil mix trailer, filling pots for plants.

herb pots that will last through the summer. There also will be a special kids' gardening corner where children will have a hands-on gardening opportunities and chances to create something special for a modest charge. Payment is accepted by cash, check and credit card.

Plant Sale *continues on page 3*

### East Baton Rouge Master Gardener Plant Sale Saturday, April 11



## Reflections from the Chair

By Kitty Hessburg

### See What's New at Botanic Gardens; Better Access Just a Part

If you haven't visited the LSU AgCenter Botanic Gardens at Burden recently, then you've missed a very big and very welcome change. The construction workers, building equipment, dust and detours finally have been replaced by a beautifully landscaped roundabout, which means entering and exiting the property is not a problem anymore.

With the arrival of spring, there is no better time to visit the LSU AgCenter Botanic Gardens. Everything is beginning to turn green, and the flowers are blooming.

A walk on the trails also would be a great way to spend a weekend day observing the wildlife and seeing how much the trees have grown. Even more, if you planted a tree in the Burden Woods on Arbor Day this year or in previous years, you could check on its progress using the GPS coordinates you were given when you planted the tree – or you can just enjoy seeing how all the trees are doing.

Arbor Day was, of course, the first event of 2015 but it is being followed closely by the annual juried art show, Brush with Burden, which features art, sculpture and photography. Brush with Burden continues to grow, with more art submitted and more attendance at the opening reception and the weeklong exhibit.

Then the next scheduled event is Gourmet in the Garden on May 1. It was held for the first time last year and was a big success. Held in cooperation with the LSU AgCenter Botanic Gardens and the Louisiana Culinary Institute, this event features only locally grown products prepared by local restaurants and wines and spirits produced from area wineries and distilleries.

In addition, at noon on the first Monday of every month, Reflections in the Garden is held in the Ione Burden Conference Center and features a speaker whose topics are of interest to both gardeners and nongardeners alike. The number of people attending these events and visiting the gardens certainly was what the Burden family had in mind when they donated this beautiful property to be enjoyed by everyone.

Finally, the Burden Horticulture Society is glad to announce the election of five new members to our board. They are John Hough, Missy Jones, Dr. Mike Ruth, Lorice Say and Peggy Scott. They bring a great deal of experience and talent to our board. Please welcome them and thank them for giving their service to our group.



Kitty Hessburg

In our efforts to be more environmentally conscious, LSU AgCenter Botanic Gardens and The Burden Horticulture Society is giving all members an opportunity to receive the Reflections Newsletter electronically. If you would like to opt out of receiving the newsletter by mail, please contact us at [mfuller@agcenter.lsu.edu](mailto:mfuller@agcenter.lsu.edu)

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The newsletter is a quarterly publication of the Burden Horticulture Society and the LSU AgCenter Botanic Gardens at Burden, which is part of Burden Museum & Gardens.

[www.discoverburden.com](http://www.discoverburden.com)

4560 Essen Lane, Baton Rouge, LA 70809





*Plant sale coordinators: Left to right: Mary Tauzin, Marie Varnes, Kay Heinrich, Maggie Jolly, Cathy Mayer.*

*Plant Sale continued from page 1*

The following list is just a sampling of a few of the special plants that will be offered for sale from 8 am to 3 pm. April 11. Many of these selections are suitable for a sustainable landscape and are new to the retail market.

**Glandularia ‘Sarah’** is a close relative of verbena. It looks like and grows like the verbena everyone is familiar with. What makes it unusual is that the flowers sport both solid pink and white flecked petals to produce a bicolored effect. This selection was made available by Dr. Carlos Smith, a well-known and popular extension specialist with the LSU AgCenter, whose grandmother had grown it in her garden. It is a wonderful trailing perennial that is adaptable to many gardening situations and attracts butterflies. Smith was a tremendous friend to all Master Gardeners statewide and will be remembered for his enthusiastic willingness to share horticulture and his love of plants.

**Plectranthus coleoides ‘Variegata’** is versatile in the garden. Its scalloped dark green leaves, which are edged in white, make for showy trailing stems suitable for hanging baskets, mixed container gardens and ground covers in the landscape. Cuttings root readily, which makes it easy to spread this plant all around your yard and to share it with friends. It also has a clean, fresh aroma when bruised or cut. Plants grow well in sun and shade.

**Cuphea micropetala ‘Candy Corn’** is a hummingbird magnet, with its tubular, orange-yellow flower clusters atop each stem. These multistemmed plants growing up to 6 feet tall and are likely to be covered with hummingbirds when the plants are in full flower.

**Abutilon hyb. ‘Variegata’** develop maple-shaped leaves on tall plants, displaying shades of green and white to add something special in a semishaded garden area. Flowers, which are visited by hummingbirds, resemble miniature Chinese lanterns. Occasionally, a green stem will develop and should be removed to maintain variegation.

**Callibrochoa ‘Lemon Slice’** offers one of the all-time favorite color combinations – yellow and white. Each flower opens with contrasting yellow and white petals, making this a very showy plant in the sun garden. As an added bonus, the white petals make this flower stand out equally well at night. Also offered are pure yellow and solid amethyst selections.



*← Ellen Couvillion and plant sale coordinator Mary Tauzin discuss a plant that will be included in the 2015 plant sale*



*Brenda Baudin clears plants of all weeds prior to April 11 sale.*



*Plant sale coordinator Maggie Jolly*



*Ellen Couvillion and Peggy McConnell “bump up” plants to the next size pot.*



*EBR Master Gardeners prepare plants for plant sale.*

*Plant sale ◀ April 11  
 ▶ LSU Botanic Gardens at Burden◀  
 Sponsored by the East Baton Rouge Master Gardeners Plantmakers  
 An annual event, and the only fund-raising activity of the Master Gardeners  
 to support numerous community service and education projects.*

## Another Exciting Line Up for 2015 Brush with Burden Art Exhibit

The Burden Horticulture Society has generated another exciting lineup of artists and photographers for the 2015 Brush with Burden Art Exhibition.

Brush with Burden is dedicated to the memory of Steele Burden – a noted artist, landscape designer, horticulturist and philanthropist.

Launched in 2010, Brush with Burden is a forum for up-and-coming artists and professionals to showcase their works.

In 2014, the exhibition hosted a crowd of 700, and 20 percent of the exhibited artworks were sold. The juried exhibition has become so popular that its entries came from Louisiana,

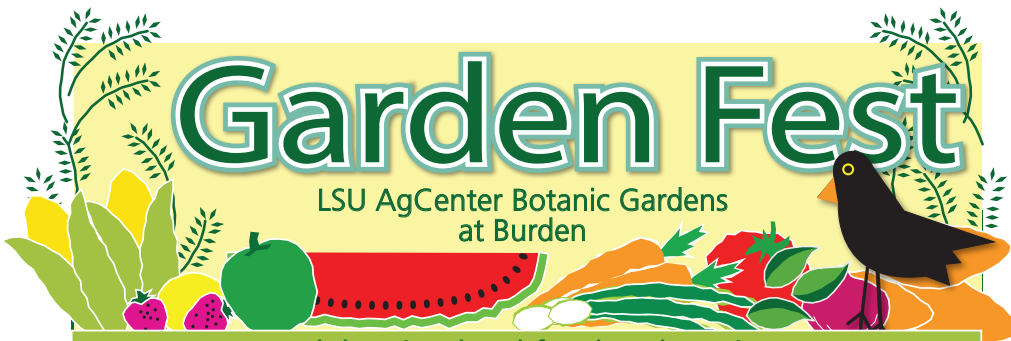
Texas, Pennsylvania, Wisconsin, Illinois, California and Mississippi.

The 2015 Brush with Burden is celebrating the unique culture and nature of Louisiana and is set for March 21-29. The works selected for the exhibition include paintings, sculptures, photographic art and mixed media works.

In addition, this year's programs include a demonstration and lecture on March 21 by noted urban planner and artist Phil Sandusky. Titled "Understanding Vision for the Artist and Practical Applications in Painting," Sandusky's objective for the program is "to heighten people's awareness and appreciation of the visual experience."

Viewing the exhibition is free, and it runs until March 29 and includes an opening reception from 4 p.m. to 6 p.m. on Saturday, March 21.

Thanks to the volunteers who helped put on this great show, which was well received by the Baton Rouge community. Among them are Margaret Blades, chairwoman of the show, and the dedicated committee of volunteers, Connie Abboud, Ginnie Bolin, Ann Davenport, Debbie Densdorff, Michele Deshotels, Kitty Hessburg, Barbara Laudun, SuEllen Lithgoe, Barbara Quirk, Susan Severance, Butch Spielman, and Kathy Stone.



LSU AgCenter Botanic Gardens at Burden

*Celebrating local food and music*

**Saturday, June 20  
7:30 a.m.-1 p.m.**

*Have a "fresh from the garden" experience!*

Celebrate local music and food "fresh from the garden." Sample gourmet dishes. Take a hayride tour of the gardens. Participate in the Garden Fest cocktail contest... and more.

*Must be 21 years old or older to sample cocktails.*

Discover  
**BURDEN**  
Museum & Gardens

*For details and admission information on these and other upcoming events, visit our website:*

**DiscoverBurden.com or call 225-763-3990**



LSU AgCenter Botanic Gardens  
Burden Museum & Gardens . 4560 Essen Lane . 225-763-3990

**LSU AgCenter Botanic Gardens  
Has Gone Green!!!!**

You may have noticed the new recycle bins in the lobby and in the kitchen. We are recycling paper, cans and plastic.

**Please be kind to Mother Earth  
and use the receptacles  
provided.**



## 2015 Arbor Day Observed at Burden

The LSU AgCenter Botanic Gardens at Burden held its sixth annual Arbor Day activities January 17, 2015.

The air was crisp, and spirits were high as more than 350 people enjoyed planting trees, tree climbing activities, hayrides and storytelling.

A total of 422 trees were planted, with GPS coordinates provided for each planting so families could track the progress of growth of the tree they planted.

Invasive species of trees have been cleared from the area where trees were planted this year and replaced with native species. The area of this year's planting also is in the part of the Burden Woods where the treehouse will be built.

In addition to planting activities, representatives of the LSU AgCenter and the Trees and Trails/Project Learning Tree program were in the Steele Burden Memorial Orangerie giving out a variety of educational information, and personnel from the Louisiana Department of Agriculture and Forestry gave out saplings families could take home and plant in their own yards.

The activities were made possible thanks to these sponsors: Louisiana Department of Agriculture and Forestry, Entergy, Whitney Bank, Bofinger's Tree Service, Associated Grocers, Whole Foods and Slaughter Logging LLC. Special thanks also go to the volunteers who helped to provide this important environmental event!



Four-year-old twins Maya and Stella Lacroix of Baton Rouge.



**The Marketing & Development Committee is looking for new members. Please contact Kay Martin if you are interested in joining!**  
**kaysmartin@aol.com**

### How to Support Burden Horticulture Society

Send a check made payable to LSU Foundation/BHS to Burden Horticulture Society, 4560 Essen Lane, Baton Rouge, La. 70809

Charge your  Visa  Mastercard  AmEx  Discover

Card # \_\_\_\_\_

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Or

Donate online at [www.lsufoundation.org/contribute](http://www.lsufoundation.org/contribute) and follow the directions: Click the "Give Now" button

- Select "LSU AgCenter" to access the form
- Choose "Designations" to select the desired fund name
- Complete the form

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## Students Among Botanic Gardens Visitors

The LSU AgCenter Botanic Gardens attracts a variety of interesting visitors – both from the public and from other universities.

In one recent example, 25 undergraduate students in agricultural programs at Ohio State University visited Dec. 19 as part of a tour of LSU AgCenter research stations. The LSU AgCenter Botanic Gardens at Burden was the last stop on their tour.

Katie Guitreau and Michelle Fuller hosted a barbecue featuring boudin and andouille sausage. The students were then presented with a large cake with the Ohio State logo for desert. Although the weather was cold, a fire and outdoor heaters were set up to

keep the students warm and toasty in the new pavilion.

After those students visited, the Ohio State University Agriculture Department's leaders were so impressed with our facilities that they invited 30 students involved with the 2015 National Ambassador Leadership Summit to take a tour on Feb. 9. Dr. Jeff Kuehny and Wanda Ellis took the students on a hayride tour of the Burden Museum and Gardens. Included in the group were students from the University of Kentucky, Florida State University, Purdue University and the University of Arizona.



## Reflections

*Topics and Speakers  
for 2015*  
Ione Burden  
Conference Center

**April 6**  
**Miniature Gardens:  
Terrariums and Fairy Gardens**  
*Angie Wall*

**May 4**  
**LSU Lakes Project:  
Reclaiming Nature in  
an Urban Setting**  
*Jeffrey Carbo*

**June 1**  
**Carefree Gardening with Succulents**  
*Mark Meese*

**July 6**  
**Red Stick Farmers Market:  
Local Farms and Food**  
*Copper Alvarez*

**August 3**  
**Wondrous World  
of Zingiberales:  
Gingers and their Relatives**  
*Glenn Stokes*

**Sept. 14**  
**Plants A-Z  
(26 Wanda-Proven  
Louisiana Favorites)**  
*Wanda Chase*

**Oct. 5**  
**Trees for Small Spaces**  
*Scott Courtright*

**Nov. 2**  
**LSU Agcenter Food Incubator  
Program: Turning your Passion Into  
a Dream**  
*Gaye Sandoz-Director*

**Dec. 7**  
**Louisiana Culinary Institute:  
Holiday Cuisine**  
*Charlie Ruffolo*





## 1,000 Beauties on Display

The Baton Rouge Camellia Society staged yet another beautiful camellia show the weekend of Feb. 14-15, and the event drew more 1,000 blooms – making for plenty of work for the judges who came from across the Southeast to assist in the event.

Three judges came from Texas, four from Florida, two from Alabama, seven from Mississippi and eight from Louisiana. Weather leading up to the show, which was free of freezes and rainstorms, made for prolific flawless flowers to delight visitors and participants.

The sweepstakes winner was Tommy Weeks, of Conroe, Texas.

Baton Rouge Camellia Society members pitched in to host this 44th annual show at the LSU Rural Life Museum. They say it's a labor of love for the many volunteers who set up, take down, serve as hospitality committee members, greeters and sales people for the show.

And that's just a part of the work, since volunteers meet many Wednesday throughout the year to graft and care for the plants that are offered for sale to the public during the show. For example, the very next week following the show, volunteers were back at work with a Saturday grafting project that brought together six grafters and 20 helpers who performed 240 grafts that will help to ensure many more camellias to enjoy in the years to come.

Baton Rouge is fortunate to have such a strong and active organization sharing its members' knowledge and love of camellias freely to all those interested in learning. If you are interested in learning more about the Baton Rouge Camellia Society, contact Florence Crowder at [florence.crowder@cox.net](mailto:florence.crowder@cox.net).



**Volunteers!**  
**Save the Date**  
**May 21st, 2015**  
**11:30 am-1 pm**  
**Volunteer Luncheon**  
**in Appreciation for**  
**Your Selfless time**  
**and Efforts**



East Baton Rouge  
Master Gardener

## Spring Plant Sale



**Saturday**

**April 11**

**8 a.m. to 3 p.m.**



**LSU AgCenter  
Botanic Gardens  
at Burden**

Essen Lane at I-10  
Baton Rouge, LA



**More than  
7,000 plants and  
250 varieties  
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See plant photos at  
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Expert Assistance in  
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Information on Local  
Gardening Organizations



Bring a wagon and load it up!  
No Pets, Please



## The Serendipitous World of People and Plants

*Jeff Kuehny*

I got a call from a landscape firm in Houston about a month ago. Their client, I will call her Penny, contacted the firm last year to renovate the landscape around her home. She originally is from the Southeast and loves camellias. Penny requested that the landscape firm incorporate as many camellias as they could in her landscape.

Penny had read through many camellia books and had done a considerable amount of research to determine which camellias she thought she would like to have in her landscape. She discovered a photograph of a camellia named 'Ruth C. McNair' in one of her camellia society resources. Penny has good friends she and her husband have known for many years, and the beloved mother of one of those friends was named Ruth McNair. So Penny wanted to give a 'Ruth C. McNair' to her friends in honor of the woman they all loved.

Penny had asked the landscape firm to find a 'Ruth C. McNair' camellia. They found it at Panhandle Growers in Milton, Fla., but they didn't have a permit to ship to Texas. The nursery also told them that they only had ball and burlap plants weighing approximately 800 pounds. In one last effort to avoid having to rent a truck and drive to Florida to bring a 'Ruth McNair' back to Houston, the landscape firm called almost every camellia nursery between Houston and Richmond, Va.

One of the nurseries they talked to in Louisiana suggested they call the LSU AgCenter Botanic Gardens at Burden. The Baton Rouge Camellia Society, which has its home base at the Botanic Gardens, has a reputation for collecting and propagating numerous varieties of camellias. Thus, I got a phone call from the landscape firm asking if we might possibly have the 'Ruth McNair' camellia or if we might know where they could get one.

I called Florence Crowder, a member

of the Baton Rouge Camellia Society who is known around the world for her travels to camellia gardens to collect what she terms "ancient camellias." Florence was on the road driving back from Magnolia Plantation in South Carolina. Florence called her friend who owns Panhandle Nursery and he said she could stop by on her way to Baton Rouge and pick up one of the 800 pound 'Ruth McNair' plants he had in his nursery.

It also turns out that I had just had the opportunity to meet John Davy, the Panhandle Nursery owner, at the Gulf States Horticulture Expo in Mobile in January. So I also talked to John, and we arranged for Florence to pick up the camellia. I also found out this particular camellia is named after John's grandmother, Ruth McNair.

In the meantime, I called the Texas landscape firm and told them we had found a way to get the 'Ruth C. McNair' camellia from Florida and that we would have it for them at the gardens in Baton Rouge. They could not believe it. They were in the process of renting a truck and trailer to go to Florida to get it. In the end, the camellia made it safely to Baton Rouge, and we shipped it to Houston, where it has now been lovingly planted into the landscape.

And now for the rest of the story...The couple was overwhelmed by the gift and asked where on earth the camellia had been found. The landscape firm shared with them the story and told them that there was only one nursery in the United States that had this camellia and it was from a nursery grower in a small town called Milton, Fla. They almost "fell over," because the husband of the couple originally is from Milton! Even though his mom had a different middle name, there is a very good chance he is related to Ruth C. McNair, since Ruth is a family name that also is borne by their daughter.





## A Progressive Dinner in the Garden

LSU AgCenter Botanic Gardens at Burden



Join Us for Dining, Music and Dancing  
*Among the Blooms and Under the Stars*

Friday, May 1 . 7-10 p.m.  
LSU AgCenter Botanic Gardens at Burden  
4560 Essen Lane at I-10

A benefit for the Botanic Gardens and educational programs at the Louisiana Culinary Institute

### Featuring

Award-winning, local chefs from top restaurants! Tastings at the Steele Burden Memorial Orangerie, the gardens at the Orangerie, the Rose Garden and the Pavilion! People's Choice awards for best chef creations! Student chef cook-off! Original cocktails by Baton Rouge's top mixologists! Music by the Rusty Yates band.

Advance Tickets: \$60 . At the door: \$70

Includes dinner, local beverages and live music

*(Advance tickets available at Eventbrite.com - search "Gourmet in the Garden")*



Sponsorship opportunities are available

For more information, visit [www.LSUAgCenter.com/BotanicGardens](http://www.LSUAgCenter.com/BotanicGardens) or [www.facebook.com/GourmetInTheGarden](http://www.facebook.com/GourmetInTheGarden)  
Call (225) 763-3990 . Email [mfuller@agcenter.lsu.edu](mailto:mfuller@agcenter.lsu.edu) or [charlie@louisianaculinary.com](mailto:charlie@louisianaculinary.com)



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## Upcoming Events at Burden Museum & Gardens

### March 2015

- Brush with Burden Workshop (*page 4*) . . . . . Mar. 21, 9 a.m.-Noon . . . . . Ione Burden Conference Center
- Brush with Burden Opening Reception . . . . . Mar. 21, 3-6 p.m.
- Brush with Burden Exhibition . . . . . Mar. 22-29, Mon.-Sat. 9a.m.-4 p.m., Sun. 1-4 p.m.
- Baton Rouge Herb Society . . . . . Mar. 26, 7 p.m. . . . . Ione Burden Conference Center

### April 2015

- Reflections in the Garden . . . . . April 6 Noon - 1 pm . . . . . Ione Burden Conference Center
- EBR Master Gardener Assoc. . . . . April 7 6 pm
- Storytime at Burden . . . . . April 11 "9-10:30 am, every 30 mins."
- Orchid Society . . . . . April 15 6-9pm
- CANPS . . . . . April 19 . . . . . Earth Day
- Louisiana Master Gardener Plant Sale . . . . . April 11 8am-3pm
- Baton Rouge Herb Society . . . . . April 23 6:30 pm

### May 2015

- Gourmet in the Gardens . . . . . May 1 7-10 pm
- Reflections in the Garden . . . . . May 4 Noon - 1 pm . . . . . Ione Burden Conference Center
- EBR Master Gardener Assoc. . . . . May 5 6 pm
- CANPS . . . . . May 17 . . . . . Local Field Trip
- Orchid Society . . . . . May 20 6-9pm
- Baton Rouge Herb Society . . . . . May 28 6:30 pm

### June 2015

- Reflections in the Garden . . . . . June 1 Noon - 1 pm . . . . . Ione Burden Conference Center
- EBR Master Gardener Assoc. . . . . June 2 6 pm
- Orchid Society . . . . . June 17 6-9pm
- Garden Fest . . . . . June 20 7:30 - 1 pm