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## Country Comes to Town

By Aline Creed

There is no need to take a road trip to a distant rural parish to experience the feel of the country. In the heart of Baton Rouge, in the backyard of the Botanic Gardens at Burden, lies a multi-acre field of corn. This field of corn contains an intriguing maze and a monstrous hay mountain for outdoor fun for kids and those who are kids at heart.

Run around outside in the sunshine and fresh air. Explore the twists and turns in the maze to reach the hay mountain hidden in the middle. Climb to its summit and see above and beyond the corn stalks to give a wave and a shout to everyone below. Pull on the giant slingshots to take aim at zombie targets out in the field. Bump along on a tractor driven hay ride and marvel at bright orange satsumas ready for the picking. What could be more fun?

Beginning with the Corn Maze Festival on Saturday, Oct. 3, and continuing every Saturday, the Corn Maze will be open each and every Saturday in the month of October. The Corn Maze will conclude with a Halloween Family Bonfire and Night Maze.

During the Corn Maze Festival on Oct. 3, there will be extra attractions of Snow Creek Farm's traveling red barn on site full of farm animals. There will be pumpkins for sale and a tent set up with loads of supplies and friendly volunteers to assist young artists in painting their pumpkins. The giant slingshots will be ready with water balloons on hand to launch at numerous targets.

Country Comes to Town *continues on page 3*



## Reflections from the Chair

By Kerry Hawkins

As the deadline for my Reflections article nears, it hardly seems like fall. It has recently been hovering in and around 100 degrees, and it makes me thankful for the coming cooler weather. It also reminds me of the coming activities and all the hard work that is going into preparations for them. I also am thankful for all the effort of some very visible folks and some not so visible.

Kitty Hessburg, Lorice Say and their hardworking committee folks are deep in to preparations for our signature Wine and Roses dinner Oct. 14th. If you have never been to the Wine and Roses gala, you need to really consider this as a must do. The gardens turn almost magical with the tables set amongst the roses. Join us for this elegant event!

If you have little ones and even teenagers you want to entertain, you need to take advantage of our Corn Festival/Maze all during October. Barbara Quirk and her Corn Maze committee along with Farm Manager Keith Lewis have been tending to the many details necessary to conduct corn maze days, Saturdays in October culminating in a night with music and bonfires at the Maze. Keith Lewis and crew have planted sweet corn in the past weeks and Katie Gautreau and Wanda Ellis have planted sunflowers in the fields around the corn.

Also, a special thank you goes to Ginnie Bolin and her fellow Iconographers who are conducting the Second Icon Workshop in mid-November in the Orangerie. Ginnie also is guiding the participants as they learn and practice the art of writing and painting a byzantine icon of St. Francis of Assisi. Ginnie is truly amazing and makes it “look easy.”

While these wonderful activities result in readily enjoyable events and require the dedication of many hardworking committee members, there are a number of other folks for whom I also am very grateful. Their work is perhaps not so visible, but it truly impacts on the Burden Horticulture Society and our beloved Gardens. The organization requires lots of “back office activities” that involve loads of analysis and lots of paperwork. Martha Rome, Valerie Webre (our CPA), Pam Rupert and Aline Creed recently completed a massive revision of the way we do our budgeting and financial reporting. This work will greatly simplify year to year budgeting and improve our accounting.

Other behind the scenes work involves our communications with our membership. Penny Miller and



Kerry Hawkins

John Hough have devoted countless hours to updating our membership database, mailing lists, event calendars and the Burden Horticulture Society website. While it seems simple enough, constantly changing addresses, email accounts and event schedules require great attention to detail. Thanks a bunch, Penny and John.

Mentioning John in the above “behind the scenes” work in the office certainly does not mean John’s work is by any means limited to the office. John has championed our Trees and Trails program tirelessly, as discussed in this newsletter. He also recruits docents and willing hands to cut vines and weeds as the leader of the Trees and Trails Maintenance group. Looking forward, he has been involved in planting bare root saplings for next year’s Arbor Day planting and nurturing these young trees so that they will be ready for planting in January 2016.

In the coming Thanksgiving season, we all have a great deal to be thankful for. And I am truly thankful for all the great folks above as well as being able to work with a great bunch of folks in BHS.

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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.

Newsletter Submissions:  
BotanicGardens@AgCenter.LSU.edu

[DiscoverBurden.com](http://DiscoverBurden.com)

4560 Essen Lane,  
Baton Rouge, LA 70809

*Country Comes to Town continued from page 1*

During the interim Saturdays, Oct. 10, 17 and 24, there will be a hay mountain climb, corn maze, and the giant sling shot launch. The hayrides will be circling the satsuma orchard and plenty of concessions will be available.

Special nighttime hours are being offered for Halloween, Oct. 31st. The maze will be open all day and into the evening until 9 o'clock. Snow Creek Farm's red barn will make a return visit during the day. Come in costume after dark and enjoy a family-friendly maze with music, a bonfire and s'mores as an extra treat.

So round up the children in the neighborhood, gather the kids and their cousins, call up the scouts and their den leaders, send the word to youth groups and their leaders and come spend a Saturday in the country at the Corn Maze at Burden.



## All good things come to those who wait, but the best things come to those who do.

'Sparkpeople.com'

By Jeff Kuehny

I recently came across this quote and I thought it was very fitting for the title of this article. We have been working on three projects that will enhance the Barton Arboretum and Trees and Trails. These projects took a great amount of thought, input from our patrons and sponsors and funding. The seeds for these three separate but connected projects have sprouted, taken root and are beginning to grow.

The first is the Black Swamp Boardwalk. Several years ago, the Mosaic Company expressed interest in the Trees and Trails/Project Learning Tree educational program. Mosaic contributed funds to expand the small boardwalk over the Black Swamp and create an educational program that would include a curriculum for school field trips. Although this seemed a relatively simple project, it quickly became very involved. Gulf Engineers and Consultants (GEC) was awarded the contract to begin the project. Because Black Swamp is a natural wetland, we had to get approval from the Army Corps of Engineers to build the boardwalk. This was no small task and involved many hours (months) of effort to accomplish. Once we were given approval to build the project, plans and drawings were made and the project was let for bid. Work began on the boardwalk project on Aug. 10th. The boardwalk and trails will be completed by the first of October. Ellen LeBlanc, education coordinator for youth programs at the Botanic Gardens and the BHS docents will pilot the new wetlands program this fall.

The second project to take shape is the restoration of the James H. Wandersee Palmetto Walk that was designed by Dr. Wandersee and Dr. Renee Clary (EarthScholars Research Group) in 2004 and 2005, with an opening ceremony held by Dr. Wandersee and his students in Spring 2005. The walk, using best signage practices researched by EarthScholars, was developed with educational stations detailing historical and botanical facts about this Louisiana native plant. Wesley Swain is an Eagle Scout candidate who is working with Kerry Hawkins to renovate the walk for his final project.

Most recently, we received funding from the Lamar Family Foundation for installing the Early American Camellia Collection. The main emphasis of the project is to preserve the horticulture history of the camellia so that future generations will come to know the beginnings from which the modern varieties are derived. Florence Crowder,

a camellia expert known worldwide, has spent many years conducting extensive research to locate catalogues and documents containing the needed information on these camellias, traveling the world to find them and bringing the cuttings back to the United States for this collection. She has collected approximately 200 of these plants that will go into this collection. Through the funding of the Lamar Family Foundation, this collection can be planted in the Barton Arboretum so that it can be studied and used by other camellia researchers and breeders. We have Dr. Doreen Maxy to thank for helping put the proposal together to fund this project. We plan to have the first phase of this project implemented by Christmas. If you are interested in further supporting the efforts to complete this collection, please contact me at [jkuehny@agcenter.lsu.edu](mailto:jkuehny@agcenter.lsu.edu).

Each of these three projects is unique but connected in helping fulfill the mission of the Botanic Gardens by promoting plants and their environment to all who visit the Gardens. The walking path for each of these projects will be physically connected to the network of trails in the Burden Woods to enhance the educational experience for all who come out to enjoy this urban forest.



# COCKTAILS IN THE GARDEN

Nov. 6, 2015 · 7:30 -10:30 p.m.  
LSU AgCenter Botanic Gardens

## CELEBRATE THE GOLDEN AGE OF HOLLYWOOD

Dance among the roses and the stars to the music of  
NED FASULLO AND THE FABULOUS BIG BAND

Come dressed as your favorite star or just the way you are. Enjoy a taste of stellar beverages created by local mixologists and sample some of Baton Rouge's best cuisine.

**Tickets at EventBrite.com**

*(search Cocktails in the Garden)*

**VIP admission \$50 per person**

*(Cocktails begin at 6:30 p.m. for VIP guests)*

**General admission \$40 per person**



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## Trees and Trails Care

By Ellen LeBlanc

*Trees and Trails Coordinator*

The trails and gardens at Burden recently were full of young explorers who participated in Trees and Trails programs as part of their summer camp experience in June.

The Rural Life Museum hosted a June summer camp for nearly 45 fifth-graders and younger students. These students were brought to the pavilion for one of their camp sessions. A specially crafted lesson plan provided the chance for campers to spend 50 minutes on a guided tour of the trails, with a quick session at the tree cookie station.

Hundreds of other students from the summer camps hosted by the Louisiana Resource Center for Educators also visited on multiple days in June. The Louisiana Resource Center for Educators helps those seeking to become certified teachers in Louisiana.

The younger campers toured the Children's Garden and completed the butterfly life cycle craft during their visits. The middle school students took a guided tour of the trails, where they viewed the effects of storms in the area, reforestation efforts and native and invasive plants, as well as discussing the importance of wetlands and learning about tree growth patterns. They also toured the All-America Selections Garden and the Children's Garden.

Representatives of the Louisiana Resource Center for Educators also expressed interest in returning for future camps and requested to meet next spring with Trees and

Trails personnel to plan how to incorporate visits to the Botanic Gardens into their next summer camp curricula.

Trees and Trails is now gearing up for the return of school field trips in the fall. As the word is spread by the Trees and Trails volunteers, who bring information about the program to our area schools, and among teachers, who have brought their students out for a day on the trails, so does the number of schools and students taking part.

During the fall of 2014, six schools and 405 students from the third through the eighth grades participated. During the spring of 2015, that number grew to 10 schools and 628 students from pre-K through seventh grade.

Anyone who enjoys walking in the woods and engaging children while enhancing the learning experience is welcome to become a Trees and Trails docent. No experience is necessary, because training sessions are available in addition to the guidance of experienced docents.

If you are thinking about joining Trees and Trails activities or would like a refresher course before jumping back into it, just contact Ellen LeBlanc at 225-571-9886 or [goldsmith@bellsouth.net](mailto:goldsmith@bellsouth.net). Volunteers are always welcomed and greatly appreciated. Bring a friend and join us for outdoor adventures!

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## Children's Garden Gift

By Ellen Mathis

You probably have seen Peggy Scott greeting you at Reflections in the Garden or as she notes members' attendance at the lunch-and-learn events. What you may not know, however, is that she is celebrating her recent retirement from being the executive vice president and chief financial officer for Blue Cross and Blue Shield of Louisiana.

As a tribute to her exemplary time at Blue Cross and Blue Shield, the company has given a gift to the Botanic Gardens in honor of her service. The \$10,000 gift will support the Children's Garden and its educational programs.

Scott took the Master Gardener class in 2006 and has been an enthusiastic supporter and volunteer since. "I love gardening and learning about agriculture, and when you get an opportunity to be out here, it's wonderful," she said. "How can you explain something you truly enjoy?"

Scott also was involved in the Blue Cross Blue Shield of Louisiana Foundation, which has given several grants to the Children's Garden and its programming. She noted that the foundation's major focus is educating children about healthful eating, and working with the Botanic Gardens at Burden on this project is great fit for their mission.

Dr. Jeff Kuehny says of the garden, "The Children's Garden is one of the most important gardens we have at the Botanic Gardens for learning and discovery for the youth of our community." Thanks to Blue Cross and Blue Shield of Louisiana for your support!

# BHS Schedules Its Second Icon Workshop

By Ginnie Bolin

The Burden Horticulture Society is sponsoring its second Icon Workshop during the week of Nov. 9-13.

Twenty people have enrolled in this year's class, which will be conducted by Ginnie Bolin, with the assistance of a group of volunteer iconographers.

The workshop will be held in the Steele Burden Memorial Orangerie at the Botanic Gardens and will begin each day at 9 a.m. and end at 4 p.m. Each participant will receive instruction on and complete an icon featuring St. Francis of Assisi that all of them will take home at the end of the week. All supplies are included in the \$350 registration fee.

All proceeds from the workshop will go to the Burden Horticulture Society to be used toward its educational programs for the public. This year's class is full, but anyone wishing to be placed on this year's waiting list or to be considered for future workshops may call Ginnie Bolin at 225-343-2225. Burden Horticulture Society wishes to thank and acknowledge Dr. Richard Wampold, D.D.S. for his support for this workshop.



## Special Thanks To Our Sponsors



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### How to Support Burden Horticulture Society

- Send a check made payable to LSU Foundation/BHS to:  
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Or ... Donate online at [www.lsufoundation.org/contribute](http://www.lsufoundation.org/contribute) and follow these directions:

- Click the "Give Now" button.
- Select "LSU AgCenter" to access the form.
- Choose "Designations" to select the desired fund name.
- Complete the form.



# 2016 Art Exhibition

Steele Burden Memorial Orangerie  
and Ione Burden Conference Center  
LSU AgCenter Botanic Gardens at Burden  
Baton Rouge, La.

## Brush With Burden



# Call for Entries

## Deadline: January 20, 2016

For more information, contact 225-763-3990 or  
BotanicGardens@agcenter.lsu.edu

Visit our website: [DiscoverBurden.com](http://DiscoverBurden.com)

# Wine & Roses at Burden



The Burden Horticulture Society  
invites you to dine in the  
Rose Garden at the LSU AgCenter Botanic Gardens

Honoring Pat Alford

Wednesday, October 14, 2015  
Cocktails and Hors d'oeuvres  
Music by the John Gray Jazz Trio  
The Pavilion  
6 p.m.

Dinner  
Rose Garden at Burden  
7 p.m.

LSU AgCenter Botanic Gardens at Burden  
4560 Essen Lane . Baton Rouge

Cocktail Attire

*\$100 per person for members reserving before October 1.  
\$125 per person for nonmembers  
and members reserving after October 1.  
(limited seating)*



# LSU AgCenter Tiger Gardens ‘Greasing Food and Knowledge’

*By Kathryn Fontenot*

The Tiger Gardens program was initiated by Dr. Kiki Fontenot a year ago to provide Louisiana’s teachers with the knowledge and materials to establish and maintain a sustainable school garden program.

The intention of this program was to partner with local sponsors to provide public, private and charter schools with basic garden equipment and supplies to maintain a productive school garden program. So far, the sponsors included the Pennington Family Foundation, Blue Cross Blue Shield of Louisiana, East Iberville School Group and the Albemarle Foundation.

The Children’s Garden at Burden served as the outdoor classroom for this program, and 10 south Louisiana schools were awarded grants last summer to implement gardens on their campuses. The schools involved in the program included four in East Baton Rouge Parish, two in Iberville Parish, two in West Feliciana Parish and one in Jefferson Davis Parish.

The program has been a great success, and teachers who started gardens at their schools last year were recognized for their progress at a half-day workshop on July 29 at the Botanic Gardens. The teachers returned for the workshop to learn how to continue the gardens without the financial backing of the Tiger Gardens program and to receive trophies to congratulate them on being excellent school gardeners.

At the workshop, the teachers gave a progress reports on their project and recommendations for what can be done to make the gardens better this year.

Lanya Mayer, a physical education coach at Bains Lower Elementary School in West Feliciana Parish, had kindergartners and first graders working in her garden and said it was a great success. LSU AgCenter extension agents Layne Langley and André Brock assisted with Mayer’s garden.

“The students sustained the garden themselves with guidance,” Mayer said. “The best thing is they loved to eat the food and they tried new things because they grew it.”

The students loved the time outside, Mayer said. They worked on counting, measuring, teamwork, sharing and physical activity. “We did 10 jumping jacks; then you would go plant a seed. You do 10 sit ups, and then you could go water,” Mayer said.

Brock works with three of the four schools in the parish, visiting each once a week. Langley provides nutrition information, and the students eat what they grow.

The Botanic Gardens currently is working to get additional corporate sponsorships to bring in another group of teachers to begin their school gardens. If you are interested in helping sponsor this program or would like to get involved with the Tiger Gardens program, contact Fontenot at 225-578-2417 or [kkfontenot@agcenter.lsu.edu](mailto:kkfontenot@agcenter.lsu.edu).



# Winter Greens

By Bob Souvestre

Gourmet salad greens don't have to cost a fortune. You easily can grow your own.

Most salad greens are cool-weather crops. Sow salad green seeds in September and continue planting more every week through late October. Read individual seed packets for specific planting information.

Seeds of salad greens are sold separately or as mixtures. The mixes may contain any combination of lettuces and greens. Some are tangy. Others are mild or bitter. Combine them with a zesty dressing, and the salad is no longer something that's just good for you – it's tasty, too.

Arugula has a toasty, pungent flavor and is a favorite for mixes. It's rich in beta carotene and higher in vitamin C than almost any other salad green. Endive is in the same family as lettuce. With smooth, pale, long heads, it has more flavor than many lettuces. Curly endive, sometimes called chicory, has curly edged green leaves. Escarole has broad, wavy green leaves with a pleasant, slightly bitter flavor.

Radicchio, or red chicory, adds color and a mildly bitter

flavor to salads. Mache, also called corn salad, has velvety leaves and a mild taste. Watercress has pungent sprigs that look like parsley. Cresses have a peppery flavor, while mustards "bite" your tongue.

Plant salad green seeds a quarter-inch deep in rows 18 to 24 inches apart. You can space them as close as 6 to 12 inches if you plan to harvest young, immature leaves. To keep those fresh salads coming, plant about 5 feet per week throughout the fall.

Salad greens do best with at least three to four hours of direct sunlight. Fertilize your greens moderately with one side-dressing.

The growing season for lettuces varies with the cultivar. Most will be ready to harvest within 40 to 60 days. Harvest the greens with scissors when they're young. Cut the young leaves a half-inch to an inch above the soil, and the leaves may regrow for a second harvest. Or cut them at ground level for a single harvest.

## Volunteers Wanted

Want to join a great group?

Mail the form below to:

Burden Horticulture Society

4560 Essen Lane

Baton Rouge, LA 70809

or use the entry form on the "Join Us" page of our website at

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

You also can contact our volunteer coordinator Bob Souvestre at

225-763-3990 or [bsouvestre@agcenter.lsu.edu](mailto:bsouvestre@agcenter.lsu.edu)

### Volunteer Opportunities

- Gardening
- Clerical
- Annual Events
- Fundraising
- Volunteer Coordination
- Trees and Trails
- Speakers
- Database
- Membership
- Publicity
- Reflections in the Garden
- Other: \_\_\_\_\_

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

Email: \_\_\_\_\_



The Bartram Trail markers arrive at Hill Top Arboretum. The Burden marker, along with four other markers, were placed this month. [www.lsu.edu/hilltop](http://www.lsu.edu/hilltop)

Randy Harrelson, Pam Sulzer, Jeff Kuehny and Michelle Deshotels



## Corn Maze Festival October 3 . 10 a.m.-6 p.m.

Find your way out of the maze and enjoy a family event including petting farm, pumpkin painting, hay mountain, hayride and giant sling shot.  
Admission \$10 . Free for children 3 and younger.

## Corn Maze Saturdays Oct. 10, 17 and 24 . 10 a.m.-6 p.m.

The crazy, mazie Corn Maze fun continues in October. Wind through the maze, test your skill at the giant sling shots and take a hayride.  
Admission \$7 . Free for children 3 and younger.

## Night Maze and Bonfire Oct. 31 . 10 a.m.-9 p.m.

Bring the family, wear your favorite Halloween costume and enjoy an evening bonfire, corn dogs, s'mores and music.  
Admission \$10 . Free for children 3 and younger.



LSU AgCenter Botanic Gardens at Burden

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## Upcoming Events at LSU Botanic Gardens at Burden

### October 2015

Corn Maze	October 3, 10 a.m. – 6:00 p.m.	Corn Field
Reflection in the Garden	October 5, Noon – 1:00 p.m.	Ione Burden Conference Center
EBR Master Gardener	October 6, 6:00 p.m.	Ione Burden Conference Center
Corn Maze	October 10, 10 a.m. – 6:00 p.m.	Corn Field
Making Jams and Jellies Using Herbs	October 10, 9 a.m.-Noon	Ione Burden Conference Center
Storytime at Burden	October 10, 9 a.m. -10:30 a.m. (every 30 min.)	Ione Burden Conference Center
Wine and Roses	October 14, 6:00 p.m.	Rose Garden
Corn Maze	October 17, 10 a.m. – 6:00 p.m.	Corn Field
Capital Area Native Plant Society	October 18, 4 p.m.-6 p.m.	Ione Burden Conference Center
Baton Rouge Orchid Society	October 21, 7:00 p.m.	Ione Burden Conference Center
Baton Rouge Herb Society	October 22, 6:30 p.m.	Ione Burden Conference Center
Corn Maze	October 24, 10 a.m. – 6:00 p.m.	Corn Field
Night Maze and Bonfire	October 31, 10 a.m. – 9:00 p.m.	Corn Field
BR Green - Tree for All	October 31	Ione Burden Conference Center

### November 2015

Reflections in the Garden	November 2, Noon - 1:00 p.m.	Ione Burden Conference Center
EBR Master Gardener Assoc.	November 3, 6:00 p.m.	Ione Burden Conference Center
Cocktails in the Gardens	November 6, 6:30 p.m. - 11:00 p.m.	Orangerie
Baton Rouge Herb Society	November 7, 9:30 a.m. - Noon.	Ione Burden Conference Center
Baton Rouge Camellia Society	November 8, 1 p.m.	Ione Burden Conference Center
Byzantine Icon Workshop	November 9 - 13, 9:00 a.m. - 4:30 p.m.	Ione Burden Conference Center
Storytime at Burden	November 14, 9 a.m. -10:30 a.m. (every 30 min.)	Ione Burden Conference Center
Capital Area Native Plant Society	November 15, 4:00 p.m. - 6:00 p.m.	Ione Burden Conference Center
Baton Rouge Orchid Society	November 18, 7:00 p.m.	Ione Burden Conference Center

### December 2015

EBR Master Gardener Assoc.	December 1, 6:00 p.m.	Ione Burden Conference Center
Pointsettia Sale	December 4, 8:00 a.m. - Noon.	Ione Burden Conference Center
Reflections in the Garden	December 7, Noon - 1:00 p.m.	Ione Burden Conference Center
Storytime at Burden	December 12, 9 a.m. -10:30 a.m. (every 30 min.)	Ione Burden Conference Center
Baton Rouge Herb Society	December 13, 3:00 p.m.	Ione Burden Conference Center
Capital Area Native Plant Society	December 20, 4:00 p.m. - 6:00 p.m.	Ione Burden Conference Center

### January 2016

Reflections in the Garden	January 4, Noon - 1:00 p.m.	Ione Burden Conference Center
EBR Master Gardener Assoc.	January 5, 6:00 p.m.	Ione Burden Conference Center
Storytime at Burden	January 16, 9 a.m. -10:30 a.m. (every 30 min.)	Ione Burden Conference Center
Arbor Day at Burden	January 16, 9:00 a.m. - 3:00 p.m.	Ione Burden Conference Center
Baton Rouge Orchid Society	January 20, 7:00 p.m.	Ione Burden Conference Center
Baton Rouge Herb Society	January 28, 6:30 p.m.	Ione Burden Conference Center

*For more information on these and other upcoming events at Burden Museum & Gardens, visit [DiscoverBurden.com](http://DiscoverBurden.com)*