



**MASTER GARDENERS OF GREATER NEW ORLEANS**  
present the  
**LOUISIANA MASTER GARDENER**  
**2009 STATE CONFERENCE**  
[www.lsuagcenter.com/lmg09](http://www.lsuagcenter.com/lmg09)

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To learn more:

Call

504-838-1170

E-mail

[LMG09@agcenter.lsu.edu](mailto:LMG09@agcenter.lsu.edu)

Visit

[www.lsuagcenter.com/lmg09](http://www.lsuagcenter.com/lmg09)

**May 21-24, 2009**

Hilton New Orleans Airport Hotel  
901 Airline Drive • Kenner, Louisiana 70062

**A Four-Day Conference**  
*Gardening Renaissance...*  
*what's old is new again!*

including

Presentations on Sustainable Gardening Practices and More  
Educational Displays and Workshops  
Networking Socials  
Tours of Historic New Orleans Gardens and Landmarks  
Community Service Volunteer Projects  
Plant and Garden Exhibits

featured speakers

**Executive Chef John Besh**

*New Orleans restaurateur, urban gardener and farmer*

**Joe Lamp'l**

*author and TV host of PBS GardenSMART  
and DIY Network Fresh From the Garden*

**Mel Bartholomew**

*originator and author of Square Foot Gardening*

**Dan Gill**

*LSU AgCenter horticulturist, author,  
columnist, TV and radio host*

The Louisiana Master Gardener Program is an Educational Program of the  
Louisiana State University Agricultural Center Cooperative Extension Service.  
P. O. Box 56276, New Orleans, LA 70156-6276





**MASTER GARDENERS OF GREATER NEW ORLEANS**  
present the  
**LOUISIANA MASTER GARDENER**  
**2009 STATE CONFERENCE**

**Conference Overview**

*"Gardening Renaissance ... what's old is new again."*

**Conference Chair**  
Linda Vinsanau

**Communications/Merchandise**  
Linda Wegmann

**Community Service Projects**  
Tammany Baumgarten

**Finance**  
Joe Baucum  
Sandy Jackson

**General Information**  
Kathy Tolliver

**Hotel & Vendors**  
Lekoma Akate

**Logo Design**  
Judy Dorfi

**LSU AgCenter Advisor**  
Bobby Fletcher, Jr.

**Registration**  
Linda Kraus  
Cheryl Skinner

**Speakers**  
Patty Gonzales  
Karen Oterling

**Sponsorships**  
Tricia Wrubleski

**Tours**  
Sandy Pitre  
Judy Simkin  
Roma Gibson-King

**Volunteers**  
Fran Robichaux

**Call**  
504-838-1170

**E-mail**  
LMG09@agcenter.lsu.edu

**Visit**  
[www.lsuagcenter.com/lmg09](http://www.lsuagcenter.com/lmg09)

The annual state conference for Louisiana Master Gardeners will be held in New Orleans on May 21-24, 2009 at the Hilton New Orleans Airport Hotel. The theme of this four-day event will be **"Gardening Renaissance ... what's old is new again"** and will feature programs and workshops on sustainable gardening practices and other exciting new trends in horticulture.

Our 21 speakers include national, regional and local experts in gardening, culinary arts, urban farming and horticulture technology. Attendees will enjoy seven general-session presentations from such notables as Chef John Besh, Joe Lamp'l, Mel Bartholomew, Dan Gill, and Norman Winter. Four special-interest tracks—***The Ornamental Garden, The Edible Garden, The Healthy Garden and The Garden Shed***—will be presented by LSU AgCenter specialists and others including Dr. Allen Owings, Dr. Carlos Smith and Dr. William Welch.

LMG09 will also offer educational displays, networking socials, six signature tours of New Orleans, plant, garden and art exhibits plus a special community service volunteer opportunity for master gardeners.

The conference is open to all Louisiana Master Gardeners and their guest. Cost of the conference is \$170.00 but is discounted at \$135.00 through the early-bird registration deadline March 16, 2009. A full-conference registration includes: all educational programs, conference meals, hospitality refreshments, vendor/exhibit area, The Garden Party at New Orleans Botanical Garden and Jazz Reception at the Hilton but excludes optional bus transportation to The Garden Party, tours and conference merchandise. You may register online at [www.lsuagcenter.com/lmg09](http://www.lsuagcenter.com/lmg09) and pay by Visa or MasterCard credit card or by mail with a check payable to "MGGNO" (see application form at the end of this package). Registration is limited and will close on May 1, 2009.

Hotel reservations may be made online at [www.lsuagcenter.com/lmg09](http://www.lsuagcenter.com/lmg09) click on "Accommodations" or by calling Hilton New Orleans Airport Hotel at **1-800-445-8667**. Be sure to reference our group code "LMA" to receive the special discounted room rates for LMG09 attendees.



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**Speakers – General Sessions**

*"Gardening Renaissance ... what's old is new again."*

**John Besh**

*New Orleans restaurateur,  
urban gardener, sustainable  
farmer, owner of Restaurant  
August, Lücke, Besh Steak in  
Harrah's New Orleans Casino,  
and La Provence*

Keynote Address

Thursday, May 21, 2009, 2:00 p.m. to 2:45 p.m.

***"Sustainable Farming from a Louisiana Chef's Perspective"***

Chef John Besh learned early in his career about the importance of local and sustainable farming practices from an internship in the Black Forest region in Germany. That message resonated after Hurricane Katrina when, in order to survive, local restaurants and farmers had to band together. Since then, he has been instrumental in helping create the largest urban garden in the United States working with the vibrant Vietnamese community of New Orleans East, developing a line of products solely with local ingredients and establishing a farm at La Provence in Lacombe, Louisiana, to supply his restaurants. This commitment has led to remarkable discoveries along the way; such as, oyster shells and crawfish peels that were once thrown away are great sources of beta carotene and give chickens eggs remarkable orange yolks. The entire restaurant group has benefited from sustainable farming practices in ways that were never imagined.

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**Paul Soniat**

*founding director of the New  
Orleans Botanical Garden  
(NOBG) and Celebration in the  
Oaks in City Park*

Thursday, May 21, 2009 - 3:00 to 3:45 p.m.

***"The Birth, Decline, and Rebirth of the New Orleans Botanical Garden"***

Before we begin our evening festivities, The Garden Party at the NOBG, join Paul Soniat as he narrates a pictorial history of New Orleans' most celebrated garden. This compelling presentation will feature images from its modest beginning in the 1930's as the "Rose Garden" through its decline then initial restoration and renaming in 1981, and finally its second restoration after Katrina. The lecture will end with a music video showing the sobering images of Hurricane Katrina's destruction in New Orleans.

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**Dan Gill**

*horticulturist with the LSU  
AgCenter, author of Month-by-  
Month Gardening in Louisiana  
and co-author of the Louisiana  
Gardener's Guide and Month-  
by-Month Gardening in Texas;  
his popular "Get It Growing"  
gardening tips are also featured  
on radio, TV, print and online*

Keynote Address

Friday, May 22, 2009 - 8:30 a.m. to 9:45 a.m.

***"Perennials in the Renaissance Garden"***

Herbaceous perennial plants form an important part of Louisiana flower gardens. There are perennials for every growing condition in our landscapes, and, as a group, they are amazingly diverse and beautiful. Proper selection, planting and care are parts of successfully cultivating these plants, but it's also important to know how to use them effectively.



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**Speakers – General Sessions**

*"Gardening Renaissance ... what's old is new again."*

**Mel Bartholomew**  
originator and author of  
Square Foot Gardening

Friday, May 22, 2009 at 12:00 p.m. to 1:30 p.m.  
***"Square Foot Gardening (SFG) for Everyone!"***

Learn how to grow more with less space and work. Square Foot Gardening is adaptable and applicable to all persons of any age, description, or circumstance from ages 5-95 and anywhere in the world. SFG adapts to all environments—condominium balconies, urban homes, front-yard gardens or two-acre rural landscapes.

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**Joe Lamp'l**  
*aka joe gardener®*, nationally syndicated garden writer, host of the PBS series *Garden Smart*, and *DIY Network's Fresh from the Garden*, author of *The Green Gardeners Guide: simple significant actions to protect and preserve the planet*

Saturday, May 23, 2009 - 8:45 to 10 a.m.  
***"Greening Your Garden While Protecting the Planet"***

Based on his popular book, *The Green Gardener's Guide*; simple significant actions to protect and preserve our planet, Joe shares his secrets for gardening in harmony with nature. Gardeners enjoy a connection with the earth unlike anyone else. Ironically, as we create and maintain beautiful gardens and landscapes, many unknowingly do so in a way that is harmful to our environment. Learn Joe's seven significant concepts you can do right now to make our gardens and community 'greener' while protecting the planet too.

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**Beth Perkins**  
*horticulturist, plant buyer and co-owner of Banting's Nursery in Bridge City, Louisiana*

Saturday, May 23, 2009 - 10:15 a.m. to 10:45 a.m.  
***"What's New at the Nurseries--Hot New Plants for the LA Landscape"***

Although boxwood and ligustrum fit a need in our landscapes, we don't need to stop there. There is an abundance of new plants to use that will "shake up" our gardens. Some of these are new and need to be tried for durability in our region. Others have passed the test, but need to be used more. Discover some of these new plants that offer exciting new colors, textures and designs and do well in our area.

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**Norman Winter**  
*author of Tough-As-Nails Flowers for the South, Paradise Found: Growing Tropicals in Your Own Backyard and Mississippi Gardener's Guide, and host of the popular television/radio show *Southern Gardening**

Saturday, May 23, 2009 - 10:45 a.m. 12:00 p.m.  
***"Designing Mixed Containers"***

Container gardening has exploded in popularity. In fact, 47 percent of American households do some form of container gardening. Forty-six percent say they garden for decoration or, in other words, to enjoy the beauty of the flowers and have them enhance the appearance of their home's outdoor environment. Learn the hottest new trends in flowers and foliage, and those captivating combinations that can give your containers that designer look for the long growing season ahead.



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**Speakers – The Ornamental Garden**

*"Gardening Renaissance ... what's old is new again."*

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**Allen Owings**

*horticulture professor with the LSU AgCenter located at the Hammond Research Station and coordinator of statewide LSU AgCenter extension efforts in commercial ornamental horticulture*

Friday, May 22, 2009 - 10:15 to 11:30 a.m.

***"Easy-Care Landscapes: The Best of the Old and New"***

Today many of us are interested in low-maintenance plants for our Louisiana landscapes. Which species and varieties are good performers for our climate? Many new ornamental plants have been introduced in the past few years--some good, some bad. This presentation will cover new and old ornamental plants (roses, annual bedding plants, herbaceous perennials, shrubs and trees) that are adapted to Louisiana. Dr. Owings will also highlight low maintenance, disease resistance and flowering performance.

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**Dr. Carlos Smith**

*county agent for Avoyelles Parish and commercial nursery specialist for the LSU AgCenter*

Friday, May 22, 2009 - 1:30 p.m. to 2:30 p.m.

***"Practical Plant Propagation"***

If you're thinking a lecture on plant propagation may be just too boring, think again. Dr. Smith's method of teaching and lecturing is so entertaining that you forget you have just learned all about the parts of a flower, including the sex life of the plant. This is the one man who will keep you wanting to learn more about botany than you could ever imagine.

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**Dr. William C. Welch**

*landscape specialist for Texas AgriLife Extension Service in the Horticultural Sciences Department at Texas A & M University and best selling author of Perennial Garden Color, Antique Roses for the South, The Southern Heirloom Garden, and The Bountiful Flower Garden*

Friday, May 22, 2009 - 2:30 to 3:30 p.m.

***"The Southern Heirloom Garden"***

The wealth of our southern gardening heritage, both in design and plant materials, inspires this presentation from Dr. Welch. Immigrants from many nations brought seeds, cuttings and mental images of homeland gardens and remembrances of homes and families left behind. Discover design ideas and heirloom plants that are time tested and valued for low-maintenance and water efficiency in today's gardens.

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**Chris Wiesinger**

*owner of The Southern Bulb Company, authority on perennial flowerbulbs for warm climates*

Friday, May 22, 2009 - 3:30 to 4:30 p.m.

***"Historic Bulbs for the Southern Garden"***

Take a journey through the seasons of heirloom bulbs for the Gulf Coast South. Discover the best perennial flowerbulbs for our warm Louisiana climate from "The Bulb Hunter" Chris Wiesinger.



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**Speakers – The Edible Garden**

*"Gardening Renaissance ... what's old is new again."*

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**Dr. Owusu Bandele**

*professor of horticulture at the Southern University Agricultural Research and Extension Center*

Friday, May 22, 2009 - 10:15a.m. to 11:30 a.m.

***"Community Gardens: Planting The Seeds of Social Sustainability"***

Low income communities often lack access to fresh produce because of the absence of supermarkets and farmers markets. However, community gardens enable citizens in these neighborhoods to obtain locally grown food that may otherwise be unavailable or unaffordable. Thus, community gardens can address a very critical need. Community gardens can also be powerful models in educating communities about sustainable agriculture. Concurrently, these gardens can provide a sense of pride and accomplishment to inner city students, homeless shelter residents, and other citizens who are typically under served.

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**Dr. David Himelrick**

*professor of horticulture with expertise in fruit crops, author of Small Fruit Crop Management and Muscadine Grapes.*

Friday, May 22, 2009, 1:30 p.m.

***"The Edible Landscape"***

Edible landscaping offers an alternative to conventional residential landscapes that are designed solely for ornamental purposes. Using food-producing plants in the residential landscape combines fruit and nut trees, berry bushes, vegetables, herbs, edible flowers and ornamental plants into aesthetically pleasing designs.

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**Carl Motsenbocker**

*professor of horticulture at LSU AgCenter in the School of Plant, Environmental and Soil Sciences*

Friday, May 22, 2009 - 2:30 p.m. to 3:30 p.m.

***"Sustainable Home Vegetable Gardens"***

Learn the principles of growing herbs and vegetables sustainably in backyard vegetable gardens.

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**Joe Lamp'l**

*aka joe gardener®, nationally syndicated garden writer, host of the PBS series Garden Smart, and DIY Network's Fresh from the Garden, author of The Green Gardeners Guide: simple significant actions to protect and preserve the planet*

Saturday, May 23, 2009 - 3:30 to 4:30 p.m.

***"Fresh from the Garden; Everything You Need to Grow Your Own"***

Eating local and growing your own fresh food is the hottest topic in gardening today. Home gardeners are rediscovering or learning for the first time just how fun, healthy and delicious it is to grow your own. Joe Lamp'l, host of the popular DIY Network television series Fresh from the Garden, shares his secrets for starting and growing your vegetable and herb gardens with tips and information that will assure success and simplify the process.



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**Speakers – The Healthy Garden**

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**"J Bird" Stevens, Jr.**

*associate professor and  
specialist in soil fertility and  
nutrient management with the  
LSU AgCenter*

Friday, May 22, 2009 - 10:15 a.m. to 11:30 a.m.

***"Composting and Soil Health"***

Learn the meaning of "soil health" and how it has been mostly ignored at the expense of the production of plants or other crops. This simple term encompasses a multitude of chemical and physical processes that can be measured from year-to-year or over multiple-year periods to assess improvements of the soil. This is an opportunity to expand your knowledge regarding composting and improving the availability of nutrients to your plants through this simple, yet sometimes misunderstood and under-applied concept.

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**Dr. Donald Ferrin**

*plant pathologist with the LSU  
AgCenter Department of Plant  
Pathology and Crop Physiology*

Friday, May 22, 2009 - 1:30 to 2:30 p.m.

***"Sustainable Plant Disease Management"***

Plant diseases are an inevitable part of the gardening experience. This presentation will focus on the development of a set of Best Management Practices designed to minimize the impact of diseases in the garden without the need to resort to the use of chemical pesticides.

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**Dr. Dale Pollet**

*aka "The Bug Man" an  
entomologist with the LSU  
AgCenter Department of  
Entomology*

Friday, May 22, 2009 - 2:30 p.m. to 3:30 p.m.

***"Beneficials and Integrated Pest Management"***

The environmental concerns about pesticide misuse and the effectiveness of any kind of control or management program hinge on correctly identifying the insect. Learn how to identify beneficials and how they function in a pest management system to help reduce pesticide use.

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**Anne Baker**

*popular sustainable farm,  
organic garden educator in the  
New Orleans area and a master  
gardener*

Friday, May 22, 2009 at 3:30 to 4:30 p.m.

***"In the Weeds: Controlling Weeds Sustainably"***

Learn how to keep invasive and "misplaced" plants out of your garden, lawn and landscape. Anne will introduce you to organic products and methods as well as preventative techniques that promote better weed control.



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**Speakers – The Garden Shed**

*"Gardening Renaissance ... what's old is new again."*

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**Richard Parish**

*Professor Emeritus, LSU  
AgCenter, consulting  
agricultural engineer in  
forensic engineering for  
agricultural and grounds  
maintenance equipment*

Track - The Garden Shed

Friday, May 22, 2009 - 10:15 a.m. to 11:30 a.m.

***"The Right Tools for the Right Job and How to Care for Them"***

Learn how to select, use and maintain garden tools including: mechanical cultivators for the home garden, zero-turn mowers for home lawns, fertilizer spreaders, compact tractors and implements, and small engines.

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**Mel Bartholomew**

*originator and author of  
Square Foot Gardening*

Track - The Healthy Garden

Friday, May 22, 2009 at 1:30 p.m. to 2:30 p.m.

***"How to Build, Plant and Harvest a Square Foot Garden (SFG)"***

Learn all the simple steps necessary to build a SFG out of different materials at different costs. Master the steps to create the perfect soil, "Mel's Mix," construct the grid and plant a variety of crops. See the construction and use of a vertical frame—from planting to harvest—for all types of vine crops. Learn how to plan and operate a community garden project.

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**Steve Picou**

*futurist, advocate of healthy,  
sustainable lifestyles, green  
building and energy efficiency*

Track - The Garden Shed

Friday, May 22, 2009 - 2:30 p.m. to 3:30 p.m.

***"Solar Energy & Rainwater Harvesting—A Gardening Perspective"***

Solar energy and water conservation are hot topics. This presentation will explain current solar systems available and how Louisiana residents can take advantage of some of the best incentives in the country. Rainwater harvesting systems are vital to gardeners. Learn what you can do to save water and save money.

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**Mel Bartholomew**

*originator and author of  
Square Foot Gardening*

Friday, May 22, 2009 at 3:30 p.m. to 4:30 p.m.

***"How to Build, Plant and Harvest a Square Foot Garden (SFG)"***

Learn all the simple steps necessary to build a SFG out of different materials at different costs. Master the steps to create the perfect soil "Mel's Mix," construct the grid and plant a variety of crops. See the construction and use of a vertical frame--from planting to harvest--for all types of vine crops. Learn how to plan and operate a community garden project.



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**Conference Schedule**

*"Gardening Renaissance ... what's old is new again."*

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**Thursday, May 21, 2009 - Hilton New Orleans Airport**

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- 10:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m.** Set up Educational Displays  
**11:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.** Educational and Vendor Displays Open  
**1:30 p.m. to 2:00 p.m.** Welcome & Opening Remarks, Dr. William Richardson, Chancellor, LSU AgCenter and Mayor of City of Kenner, Louisiana  
**2:00 p.m. to 2:45 p.m.** Keynote Speaker - Chef John Besh *"Sustainable Farming from a Louisiana Chef's Perspective"*  
**3:00 p.m. to 3:45 p.m.** General Session - Paul Soniat *"The Birth, Decline, and Rebirth of the New Orleans Botanical Garden"*  
**5:30 p.m.** Board Bus to New Orleans Botanical Garden  
**6:00 p.m. to 9:00 p.m.** The Garden Party, New Orleans Botanical Garden  
**9:00 p.m.** Board Bus to Return to Hilton

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**Friday, May 22, 2009 - Hilton New Orleans Airport**

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- 7:30 a.m. to 8:15 a.m.** Continental Breakfast  
**7:30 a.m. to 8:00 p.m.** Educational and Vendor Displays Open  
**8:15 a.m. to 8:30 a.m.** General Session: Opening Remarks and Housekeeping  
**8:30 a.m. to 9:45 a.m.** Keynote Speaker, Dan Gill *"Perennials in the Renaissance Garden"*  
**10:15 a.m. to 11:30 a.m.** Breakout I:
  - The Ornamental Garden - Dr. Allen Owings *"Easy Care Landscapes: The Best of the Old and the New"*
  - The Edible Garden - Dr. Oswusu Bandele *"Community Gardens: Planting the Seeds of Social Sustainability"*
  - The Healthy Garden - J. Bird Stevens *"Composting and Soil Health"*
  - The Garden Shed - Dr. Richard Parish *"The Right Tool for the Right Job & How to Care for Them"***12:00 p.m. to 1:30 p.m.** Lunch and General Session - Mel Bartholomew *"Square Foot Gardening for Everyone!"*  
**1:30 p.m. to 2:30 p.m.** Breakout II:
  - The Ornamental Garden - Dr. Carlos Smith *"Practical Plant Propagation"*
  - The Edible Garden - David Himelrick *"The Edible Landscape"*
  - The Healthy Garden - Dr. Donald Ferrin *"Sustainable Plant Disease Management"*
  - The Garden Shed - Mel Bartholomew *"Square Foot Gardening Workshop"*



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**Conference Schedule**

*"Gardening Renaissance ... what's old is new again."*

- 2:30 p.m. to 3:30 p.m.** Breakout III:
- The Ornamental Garden - Dr. William Welch *"The Southern Heirloom Garden"*
  - The Edible Garden - Dr. Carl Motsenbocker *"Sustainable Home Vegetable Gardens"*
  - The Healthy Garden - Dr. Dale Pollet *"Beneficials and Integrated Pest Management"*
  - The Garden Shed - Steve Picou *"Solar Energy & Rainwater Harvesting--A Gardening Perspective"*
- 3:30 p.m. to 4:30 p.m.** Breakout IV:
- The Ornamental Garden - Chris Wiesinger *"Historic Bulbs for the Southern Garden"*
  - The Edible Garden - Joe Lamp'l *"Fresh from the Garden; Everything You Need to Grow Your Own"*
  - The Healthy Garden - Anne Baker *"In the Weeds: Controlling Weeds Sustainably"*
  - The Garden Shed - Mel Bartholomew *"Square Foot Gardening Workshop"*
- 5:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m.** Jazz Reception, Browse The Garden Shops, Educational Displays and Silent Auction

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**Saturday, May 23, 2009 - Hilton New Orleans Airport**

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- 7:30 a.m. to 8:15 a.m.** Continental Breakfast
- 7:30 a.m. to 1:00 p.m.** Educational and Vendor Displays Open
- 8:15 a.m. to 8:45 a.m.** General Session - Opening Remarks by Mike Strain, Louisiana Commissioner of Agriculture and other guests
- 8:45 a.m. to 10:00 a.m.** General Session - Joe Lamp'l *"Greening Your Garden While Protecting the"*
- 10:15 a.m. to 10:45 .m.** General Session - Beth Perkins *"What's New at the Nurseries -- Hot New"*
- 10:45 a.m. to 12:00 p.m.** General Session - Norman Winter *"Designing Mixed Containers"*
- 12:00 p.m.** Closing Remarks by Dr. Bobby Fletcher, Jr. and other guests
- 12:00 p.m.** Dismantle Educational Displays
- 12:30 p.m.** Board Bus for Afternoon Tours:
- 5:00 p.m.** Board Bus to Return to Hilton - The evening is open to enjoy dinner on your own in New Orleans or near the hotel.

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**Sunday, May 24, 2009**

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- 10:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m.** Community Service Projects



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**Accommodations**



The Hilton New Orleans Airport Hotel, the official site of the Louisiana Master Gardener 2009 State Conference, is a deluxe, full-service, executive-class hotel. Located immediately across the street from Armstrong International Airport, the hotel is just 14 miles from downtown New Orleans and the historic French Quarter.

**Discounted room rates are available to conference attendees Thursday, May 18 through Wednesday, May 27, 2009** for those who may want to enjoy more time in New Orleans. Please use the **group code "LMA"** when booking reservations online or by phone. Rates are \$79.00 for single/double occupancy and \$89.00 for three/four occupancy plus tax.



Reservations may be made online at [www.lsuagcenter.com/lmg09](http://www.lsuagcenter.com/lmg09) (click on Accommodations) or by calling **1-800-445-8667**. The conference rate is not guaranteed on reservations made after April 30, 2009. To ensure you receive the discounted rate, please make your reservations early. After April 30, you should call Hilton New Orleans Airport Hotel directly at 1-800-455-8667 to inquire about availability of rooms at the discounted rate. Hotel cancellations must be made directly with the Hilton.

Hotel amenities include:

- complimentary parking for overnight hotel guests
- wireless high-speed Internet in public space and guest rooms
- complimentary 24-hour fitness center
- phone
- coffee maker
- hairdryer
- iron and ironing board
- 27" inch flat-screen TV



Hilton New Orleans Airport  
901 Airline Drive  
Kenner, LA 70062  
Tel: 1-504-469-5000  
Fax: 1-504-466-5473

To visit the hotel Web site, enter "Hilton New Orleans Airport Hotel" in your Google search engine.



**MASTER GARDENERS OF GREATER NEW ORLEANS**  
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**Tours**



Longue Vue Gardens



Besthoff Sculpture Garden



New Orleans Museum of Art

The Master Gardeners of Greater New Orleans are pleased to offer six signature New Orleans tours to our guests attending LMG09. Your registration fee for each tour includes: admission, a box lunch and roundtrip bus transportation. All tours will depart from the Hilton New Orleans Airport Hotel at 12:30 p.m. on Saturday, May 23, 2009, and return to the hotel by 5:30 p.m. Space is limited to bus capacity.

**A Gardener's Guide to Audubon Zoo.** View the zoo from a gardener's perspective. Our tour guides: Audubon Zoo landscape architect, Diane Weber, and Joe Baucum, master gardener, will share the history of this famous NOLA landmark as we explore the Jaguar Jungle noted for its bamboo and palm collections and the majestic grove of ancient Live Oaks. You'll observe some of the unique challenges of zoo landscaping where your "clients" insist on eating everything you plant. Peek behind the scenes to see the back road vegetable garden that supplies food for the animals, composting operations—including a compost tea maker—and production greenhouses. The Audubon Marketplace and Swamp Gift Shop also offer a unique shopping experience with zoo-themed merchandise as we conclude our tour. **Tour cost is \$27.00.**

**Renaissance House & Garden.** Longue Vue House and Gardens, the once private estate of Edgar and Edith Stern, pillars of the New Orleans community, is a model of the fashionable, but conservative taste of wealthy Americans during the 30's and 40's. The eight acres of beauty that comprise Longue Vue's gardens are an idyllic and tranquil oasis in the lively pulse that is urban New Orleans. Though situated less than 20 minutes from New Orleans' Central Business District and French Quarter, the gardens of Longue Vue are a world apart from the hot sidewalk bustle of Bourbon Street. The cool shady lushness of the Johnson or Goldfish Pond Garden and the serene natural beauty of the Wild Garden are just two of the nine garden "rooms" you'll explore at Longue Vue. Conclude your visit by browsing The Shop at Longue Vue known for its English creamware pottery, innovative flower holders and unique garden treasures. **Tour cost is \$27.00.**

**Art—Indoor and Outdoor.** NOMA's Sydney and Walda Besthoff Sculpture Garden has become the latest cultural destination for locals and a must-see for visitors to the Crescent City. The world-class collection of 50 modern and contemporary sculptures is presented in an incredible, five-acre natural setting with delights at every turn. You will be guided through both the museum and sculpture gardens by the docent who specializes in the Sculpture Gardens where you can stroll along meandering footpaths leading to fifty-seven exquisite sculptures. You may choose to visit the treasures of the New Orleans Museum of Art on your own or receive a tour chosen for you by a NOMA docent. **Tour cost is \$27.00.**



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**Tours**



World War II Museum

**Memorial Day Salute to WWII Veterans.** The National World War II Museum illuminates the American experience during the WWII era with moving personal stories, historic artifacts and powerful interactive displays. From the Normandy invasion to the sands of Pacific Islands and the Home Front, the Museum brings to life the teamwork, optimism, courage and sacrifice of the men and women who won the war and changed the world. Learn why and how World War II continues to influence so many aspects of daily life – civil liberties, global economies and laws, women’s rights, advances in technology and medicine, and most importantly, the values that preserve and protect a free society. After receiving a special orientation to the Museum, participants may choose *where* to begin this wonderful learning adventure. ***Tour cost is \$27.00.***

**Cajun Swamp Adventure.** Nestled in the heart of a working Cajun Fishing Village, Bayou Segnette is the gateway to the Barataria-Terrebonne Estuary. If there's anywhere in the world that is filled with legends and lore, it's Bayou Segnette—home of Westwego Swamp Boat Tours. The swamp is an incredible ecosystem blooming with life, and generations of native Cajuns have lived in fascinating harmony within nature's delicate balance. Beginning with a naturalist presentation at the dock, our two-hour excursion through the bayou by a native captain will introduce you to the wetlands of Louisiana—their wildlife and ecological importance. Be sure to bring a camera to capture images of all types of wildlife from alligators to endangered birds! Take a little bit of your swamp adventure home with you from The Cottage Gift Shop, a Louisiana themed shop housed in an 1897 Creole cottage. ***Tour cost is \$37.00.***

**Urban Growers: Food Gardens & Farms of New Orleans.** Enjoy visiting the diverse food gardens and meeting the folks who make the city greener and tastier! See chickens and value-added goodies in Central City, growing greens by Xavier University, bees and veggies in Gentilly, Mid-City, the 9th Ward, and the Hollygrove neighborhoods. Learn first-hand about the range of urban growing possibilities where local growers have succeeded and how they have improved access to healthful food in the neighborhoods and the markets where they sell. Take a trip around our beautiful, historic, and now greener neighborhoods, with tour guide master gardener Anne Baker, the Sustainable Gardening Editor of NewOrleans.Com and local urban organic farmer. ***Tour cost is \$27.00.***



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**Community Service Project**



The Veterans Memorial in nearby Chalmette will be the site for one of the LMG09 relandscaping Community Service Projects.

The Master Gardeners of Greater New Orleans (MGGNO) cordially invite our guests attending LMG09 to join us in a special Community Service Project on the last day of the conference, May 24, 2009.

MGGNO has several exciting projects slated for 2009 that will be implemented in phases starting early in the year. We will be working with St. Bernard Parish to create and restore landscaping at a Veterans Memorial honoring Veterans from all four branches of the military and a Pearl Harbor Memorial. Also, we are designing an educational wildlife garden incorporating native plants for Belle Chasse Primary School in Plaquemines Parish and plan to also add a butterfly garden for their science class. We have offered our assistance to Brad Pitt's Make It Right Foundation in the design and landscaping of some of their new housing in the 9th ward of Orleans Parish. These and other projects are scheduled to be a part of our Community Service Projects during LMG09.

We are also planning to build and plant several "Square Foot Gardens" for firehouses in our area under the tutelage of one of our prominent conference speakers, Mel Bartholomew. MGGNO also enjoys a cooperative relationship with many like-minded organizations in and around New Orleans that we may offer to assist as part of our community outreach program. This may include work for local community gardens, City Park Botanical Gardens, Bayou Rebirth Wetlands Restoration, the Audubon Nature Center, and the Woodlands Nature Trail.

We hope you will consider sharing your horticultural expertise with our community by participating in this Community Service Project on Sunday, May 24, 2009 from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. If you are interested in helping, please respond "yes" to the Community Service Project question when completing your online registration. Look for more details about this event on this Web page in March.

Participants in the Community Service Project will be asked to carpool to their destination.



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**Social Events**



New Orleans Botanical  
Garden

Two social events will highlight LMG09—The Garden Party on opening night and a Jazz Reception and Silent Auction on Friday evening.

***The Garden Party, Thursday, May 21, 2009, 6 to 9 p.m., New Orleans Botanical Garden, 1 Palm Drive, New Orleans, LA 70124***

The historic New Orleans Botanical Garden in City Park will be the setting of our opening night celebration for all conference attendees and guests. You'll enjoy local foods in the grandest New Orleans style as you stroll the meticulously landscaped pathways of this beautifully restored garden. Party guests may take a self-guided tour of the garden, which houses a collection of over 2,000 varieties of plants—including the nation's largest stand of mature Live Oaks. Your informal tour will include:

- Living Fossil and Tropical Rainforest exhibits
- Exotic Foliage Garden containing largest palm collection in Louisiana
- Plano Demonstration Garden
- Aromatic, Medicinal and Culinary Herb Garden
- Cold Frame Plant Trials
- Butterfly Walk and Hummingbird Garden
- Rose Parterre and Lily Pond
- Collection of Art Deco Sculptures
- Train Garden noted for its miniature NOLA architecture made entirely of botanical materials

Master Gardeners and other knowledgeable guides will be available to highlight points of interest and answer your questions.

Admission to The Garden Party is included in the fee for a full conference registration. However, non-registered conference guests may attend The Garden Party for \$40.00. Reservations may be made when registering for the conference. Optional bus transportation will be available for those who may prefer not to drive to The Garden Party. The roundtrip fee is \$11.00 and reservations may be made with your conference registration.

***Jazz Reception and Silent Auction, Hilton New Orleans Airport Hotel, Friday, May 22, 2009, 5 to 8 p.m., Vendor and Educational Exhibits Area***

On Friday, we'll unwind at the hotel after our full day of sessions with a fun evening of New Orleans music and refreshments. This will be an excellent time to explore the educational displays and learn about the accomplishments of Master Gardeners throughout the state. You'll also be able to browse the LMG09 Garden Shops for that hot new plant, book, gadget or unique garden treasure. Our Silent Auction will feature unusual garden gifts and plants including a collection of creative container gardens designed by New Orleans Master Gardeners. There is no additional fee for conference attendees or their guests to attend the Jazz Reception.



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**Educational Displays**

The 2009 Louisiana Master Gardener State Conference offers Master Gardeners throughout the state a unique opportunity to network and showcase highlights of their recent activities and projects.

We invite each local chapter of the LMG program to share, through an educational exhibit, what your program has been doing within your communities the past year to expand the consumer horticultural outreach ability of the LSU AgCenter. Examples may be activities such as: school gardens, educational presentations given, educational programs developed, garden show coordination, networking with other organizations or groups, 4-H youth related educational outreach, Junior Master Gardener club development, community service projects, etc.

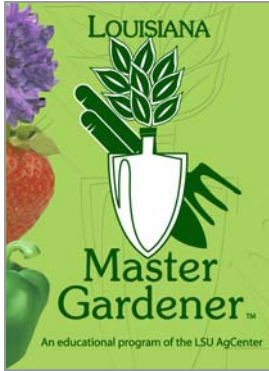
The Hilton Hotel will provide each LMG exhibitor a skirted 6-foot table. Educational displays may be set up at the Hilton New Orleans Airport on Thursday, May 21, 2009, between 10 a.m. and 2 p.m. All displays must be dismantled by Saturday, May 23, 2009 at 6 p.m.

If your LMG region plans to display an educational exhibit, please confirm your participation by contacting Kathy Tolliver at 504-838-1170 or e-mailing us at [lmg09@agcenter.lsu.edu](mailto:lmg09@agcenter.lsu.edu) by April 1, 2009.



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**Conference Merchandise**



Official LMG Garden Flag

LMG09 merchandise available for purchase includes a T-shirt with conference logo and the new Louisiana Master Gardener (LMG) garden flag.

The 100% cotton T-shirt is available in adult sizes S-XXXL and will have the conference logo, date and city imprinted at the left breast pocket. The cost is \$15.00.

At LMG09, we are very proud to introduce the first official garden flag for Louisiana Master Gardeners. Designed by Elma Sue McCallum of the LSU AgCenter, the nylon, weather-resistant banner is 12" x 18" and can be mounted on a standard garden flag pole for placement in your landscape or a container garden. Cost of the flag is \$15.00.

Both the conference T-shirt and the LMG garden flag may be ordered through the online registration process or by completing the paper registration form. Merchandise will be available for pickup at the conference.

Proceeds from the sale of this merchandise will be used to offset 2009 LMG conference expenses.