

April 1, 2011

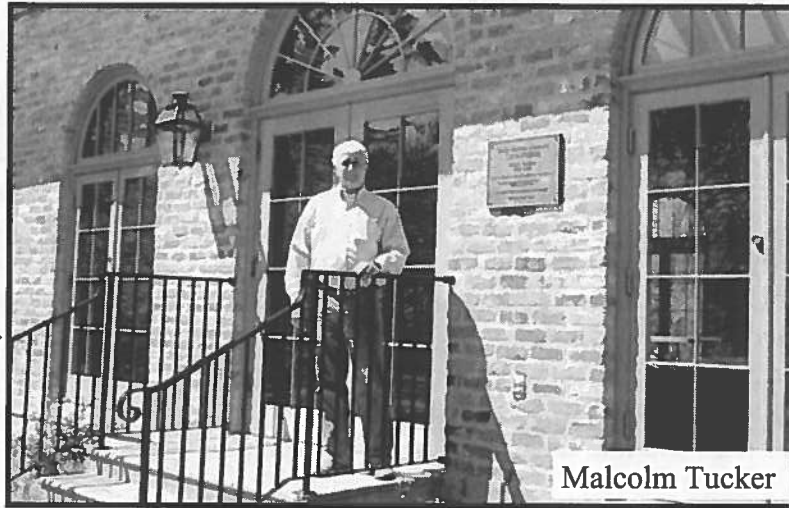
The Steele Burden Memorial Orangerie

By John Monroe

Steele Burden died at The Lady of the Lake Hospital on Friday, June 9, 1995 at 2:50 in the afternoon. Four days later, his ashes were interred in the cemetery at the Rural Life Museum on the opposite side of a live oak from those of his sister Ione. Steele's death was a deep personal loss for many of us whose lives he changed by example in his inimitable and subtle but persuasive way, but was also the loss of the master planner for Windrush. Most of the vision for Windrush Plantation was carried in his head and revealed occasionally through conversations and interviews but more often on site, on the ground, as projects were in progress. During his life, Steele supervised every layout, every planting, every trail and the location of every new structure. We have been working hard ever since to decipher the messages he left, as Windrush continues to develop to serve the mission envisioned by the Burden Family.

No one was more saddened by Steele's death than long time friend and associate Malcolm Tucker. Malcolm saw Steele almost daily for 20 years, helping to plan and manage landscape projects at Windrush, private homes and some commercial establishments as well as assisting with the operations of the Rural Life Museum. Malcolm's desire to do something to commemorate Steele's

life was strong. He discussed ideas with several of Steele's long-time friends remembering that Steele often mentioned his desire to have some



Malcolm Tucker

sort of conservatory on the property. Two of those friends, Hayes Town and Mike Richard played significant roles in the project that Malcolm ultimately decided to pursue. Richard was the owner and operator of Live Oak Gardens (now Rip Van Winkle Gardens). Steele and Malcolm knew him well, as they did just about everyone associated with major gardens in Louisiana. It was Richard who came up with the idea of an Orangerie. Hayes Town, a renowned Baton Rouge architect, a contemporary and close friend and collaborator of Steele's, agreed to contribute the design for the building.

An Orangerie is similar to a greenhouse or conservatory. Many can be found on wealthy 17th, 18th and 19th century estates in Europe.

Orangeries, as the name implies, were designed for growing citrus during the winter months and are particularly common in colder

climates. These structures can be very elaborate and ornate and ultimately evolved to become places for entertainment with their lush tropical environments. The Burden Horticulture Society at Burden Center is continuing this Orangerie

tradition by using the Steele Burden Memorial Orangerie as the setting for several of its events during the year, such as the annual *Wine and Roses* fund-raiser and recently as an exhibit hall for *Brush with Burden*, an art competition, show, and sale.

Malcolm Tucker took on the task of raising funds for the construction of the Orangerie as a personal mission. With the approval and support of the LSU AgCenter and the Burden Foundation, he appealed to Steele's close friends who committed to roughly a quarter of a million dollars to complete the project. The Steele Burden Orangerie now stands next to the Ione E. Burden Conference Center. The opening and dedication was held on June 17, 1998.

Reflections from the Chair

By Penny Miller, Chairman

Following Ginnie Bolin as chair of BHS is not easy – that will probably be my understatement of the year. She has worked incessantly in creating BHS from the very beginning, starting with a small group of Master Gardeners approaching LSU, to forming a very talented and dedicated board, and to never taking ‘No’ as the final answer. The seamless way she works with people and just knows what to do at the right time is awesome. Thank you so much, Ginnie, for setting the bar high. It will be a challenge.

Fortunately, Ginnie has provided substantial groundwork for me to continue. By the time this newsletter is delivered, we will have had the second **Arbor Day** celebration and the first **Brush with Burden** art reception and exhibition, we will have started the quarterly **Hayride Tours** to introduce people to Burden Center, and we will be well into training docents and bringing school classes to Trees and Trails for **Project Learning Tree** activities. **Reflections in the Garden** started with a bang when Wanda Chase attracted a standing-room only crowd to ‘Ring in the New Year with New Plants.’ People were ready to get out of the house and into their gardens

after the December holiday season with her enthusiasm.

Looking ahead, this next quarter will have more firsts: **C.C. Lockwood’s Workshop** the first weekend in April for photography enthusiasts of all levels and the **Spring Music Event**, featuring Broadway tunes, on April 15. Chase away the income tax blues by bringing a picnic supper and a blanket as you relax on the lawn in front of the Burden home with entertainment by students of Terry Patrick-Harris from the LSU School of Music. The whole family is welcome.

As a final note, you should have already received the annual appeal letter requesting your financial support. If you haven’t already, please consider a donation of any size this year. Not only will doing so help support our programs, it will also serve as a vote that we’re on the right path.

Many thanks to all of you for helping to promote Burden Center.



“Reflection in the Garden” Lunch Series

Noon to 1:00 PM in the
Ione Burden Conference Center

Special guest speakers!
Bring a brown bag lunch
Drinks will be provided!

April 4	Get Intimate with Colors in Containers	Toby Massengale
May 2	Turn Up the Heat with Warm-Season Color	Mitch Mayes, Louisiana Nurseries
June 6	Landscape Shapes & Textures to Tantalize the Soul	Steve Wilson
July 11 *	Bob’s Best for the Rest of the Summer & Fall	Bob Souvestre
August 1	Gardening Green: Low Input/High Output	Dan Gill
September 12*	Shady Gardening in Louisiana’s Capital City	Marion Drummond
October 3	Cool Colors for the Fall Garden	Bill Roundtree
November 7	Bringing Mother Nature Inside for the Holidays	Emily Stich
December 5	Grow Your Own Fruit for Stocking Stuffers	Charlie Johnson

*2nd Monday due to holiday

Digging in the Dirt

By Jeff Kuehny



Speaking of digging in the dirt, the sudden disappearance of old man winter has caught many of us gardeners off guard. I started working in my garden last weekend and realized that I had not taken my annual soil samples for my garden and landscape. Knowing just a little bit about what those plant roots are

living in is very important to the beauty and/or yield of the plant. The old saying "out of sight out of mind" is very appropriate for many gardeners when you consider how little attention we pay to the root system. The more healthy the environment the root lives in the more healthy the shoot will be.

The School of Plant, Environmental and Soil Sciences (formerly the Horticulture and Agronomy Departments) has made it so easy for you to send in a soil sample that there is absolutely no excuse for you not to know what the root environment is like for your plants. There are LSU AgCenter soil sample kiosks at all the LSU AgCenter state offices and most of the garden centers in every city. Simply pick up one or more of the US Postal Services boxes from the kiosk. You can fit three samples in each box, so you only need ONE box to get three different soil tests conducted. Inside the self-mailing box is a soil test request form that you will need to fill out to send with the samples. The back of the form has a table with a list of crops that you will get recommendations for when you receive your soil analysis. This table is VERY important as it will help you determine the number of soil samples you will need to take and where you need to take them. It costs only \$10.00 per test and \$5.00 to ship three samples.

When receiving the results of your soil test, the first thing you will be provided with is the pH of your soil sample(s). The availability of essential plant nutrients is dependent upon the soil pH. Those soils that have a lower pH, less than 6.5, have a greater availability of most micronutrients while micronutrient availability is less for those soils that have a pH greater than 7.0. This is especially important for those plants that do not efficiently absorb some micro-

nutrients such as tomatoes, dianthus, snapdragons, celosia and begonia or woody plants such as azaleas, gardenias and camellias. As most everyone knows, adding lime (calcium carbonate) to the soil can help adjust the pH by increasing the pH. If pH is at the appropriate level for the plants you are growing, then do not add lime. If your recommendation calls for adding lime, I suggest always using dolomitic lime. Dolomitic lime contains both calcium and magnesium and you provide essential nutrients instead of just calcium as when using regular agricultural lime. If the soil pH is too high, then you can add elemental sulfur or you can use fertilizers like ammonium sulfate to lower the pH.

The levels of essential nutrients in the soil are the next most important part of the soil test results. Based on your soil test, recommendations will be given for adding the appropriate fertilizer sources for the plants you are growing. When purchasing fertilizer, you should look at the fertilizer analysis (%nitrogen - %phosphorus - % potassium) before purchasing it. With fertilizers you truly get what you pay for. For example, a cheap 13-13-13 that contains high amounts of chloride is just that, cheap and bad for your plants. There are also many good slow-release fertilizers that are more expensive but that you should consider. The nutrients in slow-release fertilizers that contain urea formaldehyde or sulfur-coated urea are released in part by microbial breakdown, while the nutrients in plastic encapsulated fertilizers such as Osmocote are released through fissures in the plastic membrane by increasing temperatures. So the warmer it gets, the greater the release of nutrients. I do not recommend using "bloom enhancers" that contain high amounts of phosphorus! They DO NOT enhance bloom and pollute the environment. The same can be said for 'winterizer' fertilizers that contain high amounts of potassium. They DO NOT help prepare your lawn or ornamentals for the winter and will also pollute the environment.

So remember to think about the root system of the plant and the environment it grows in. Take some soil sample and follow the recommendations from your soil test or call your local extension agent to help you with your soil test results.

Brush with Burden

By Ginnie Bolin

Approximately 250 guests visited the very successful **Brush with Burden** (BwB), a juried art show depicting the Burden Center's buildings, sculptures, flora and fauna, in the beautiful Steele Burden Memorial Orangerie in spite of the earlier cancellation because of inclement weather on February 3rd. The afternoon included a complementary exhibit of winning paintings from a plein air competition at the University of Arkansas' *Garvan Woodland Gardens*, and a reception abundant with food and wine. A commemoration of Steele Burden, originally scheduled for February third, Mr. Burden's birthday, was presented by Malcolm Tucker who worked for Mr. Burden and remained his life-long friend.

The jurist, Dr. Leone Elliot, selected 50 pieces of art to be exhibited from the 90 entries. Forty-four artists were represented. He awarded **Best in Show** to Janice Macdonald for her sculpture *Louisiana Cypress Tree of Tears*; the **Judge's Award** went to Pat Raines for *Knot on a Log* and **Honorable**

Mention to Larry Casso for *Trees and Trails at High Noon*. The guests voted Jane Flowers' *Harvest Day Candle Maker* the **People's Choice**. These four winning entries were displayed at the **Shaw Center** for one month. Twenty-one works were sold, with the remaining displayed and on sale in the Conference Center for an indefinite period. If the Conference room is not being used, the public is welcome to view them, Monday through Friday from 9:00am until 4:00pm.

The Board of the Burden Horticulture Society (BHS) wishes to express their deepest appreciation to the artists, Dr Elliott, the members of the East Baton Rouge Master Gardener Association, The Association of Women in the Arts, members of BHS, the dedicated staff of the Burden Center, and sponsors, the Louisiana Cultural Economy Foundation, Marcello's Wine Market, Dr. and Mrs. Jack Breaux, artist Charla Foret, Malcolm Tucker and Annette Barton. Thanks also go to Larry Casso for his
..... continued on page 7.....



Brush with Burden



Top left: Artist Bridgett Jarvis; Top right: Sam Martin, B.R.C.C. student with first juried entry, *Pawprints in the Mud*; Middle right: Original Haase Town Architectural Rendition of the Orangerie donated to Burden by Malcolm Tucker; Bottom left: Jurist Leone Elliot, M.D., art collector and dealer, with the *Candlemaker*, People's Choice Winner by Artist Jane Flower; Bottom right: The Exhibit inside the Orangerie.

Spring Sing at Windrush Gardens

By Chris Russo Blackwood

Burden Horticulture Society will inaugurate their Burden Center Music Series with a *Spring Sing at Windrush Gardens* from 6 -8 p.m. April 15 at Windrush Gardens in the heart of the LSU AgCenter's Burden Center, 4560 Essen Lane. The LSU students of the very talented musician Terry Patrick-Harris will don costumes to sing and dance to a variety of musical theatre selections including solos, duets, large and small ensembles from shows like *Chicago*, *The Addams Family*, *Crazy For You*, *Fame*, *Rent* and many more.

Families are encouraged to bring picnic dinners, sit on the lawn and enjoy the show. Wine, soft drinks and water will be sold at the event. The evening will continue to be a delight to the senses as guests are invited to stroll through the grounds laden with a variety of beautiful flowers, plants, trees and sculptures. Tickets can be purchased at the event. Admission is \$5 for individuals and \$10 for families. For more information, call 225-763-3990, Ext. 3, or visit www.burdenhorticulturesociety.com. Proceeds from this event will be used to support the Burden Center.



Top: Terry Patrick-Harris, right, LSU Professional in Residence in Voice, with students from class.

Bottom: Musical Theatre class members practice for upcoming spring performances.



COME
and
BRING A FRIEND

Free Hayride Tour of
Burden Center
Thursday, May 19, 2011
10:30-Noon

Groups limited to 20 people
so please call 763-3990 for
reservations

Please check our website for new activities, updates and changes as so much depends on the weather.

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

A Leader to Learn From...

By Jeff Kuehny

“Let me get us a glass of wine, let Roger the cat in, get my list and we can get started.” That is how many late afternoon Burden Horticulture Society meetings started with Ginnie Bolin and me as BHS began to take shape and become the organization it is today. This highly talented lady of great discipline led the helm of the newly formed Burden Horticulture Society through many different waters. Those included forming a new board; writing bylaws; starting a newsletter; starting “Reflections in the Garden”; setting up accounts with the LSU Foundation; planning new events for promotion, education and fund raising; updating a few older events; starting Les Amis de Jardin; and initiating and completing the Burden Center Master Plan. Ginnie, of course, had help along the way from many different people. And that is one of Ginnie’s greatest gifts - she can get almost anyone to help her do almost anything!

Everyone knows that when Ginnie puts her mind to doing something, she has done her research, made the plans (another one of those lists), involved all the right people, and provided the outcome that



was promised and more. Whether it was working with the BHS board and membership, Master Gardeners, the Burden staff, the Burden Foundation, Director of the Louisiana Agricultural Experiment Station or the LSU AgCenter Chancellor, Ginnie treated everyone with respect and expected and received that same respect in return. Ginnie is not only involved in BHS but with many other community organizations as well. She truly gives back to her community in so many different ways with a passion and undaunted spirit that all admire. She is one of the many gems I am so very proud to have come to know at the diamond in the rough we call Burden Center. So, I lift my glass to toast and thank Ginnie Bolin for all she has done for BHS! I also challenge the rest of the BHS membership to continue to help grow and support BHS. It is friends like you and Ginnie Bolin who will help make Burden Center a destination for promoting the importance of plants and their environment to the physical, mental and spiritual well-being of the Baton Rouge community, the state and the world.

*****Cheers!*****

.....continued from Page 5.....(Brush with Burden)

donation of his award winning watercolor, and to all the contributors of the wonderful hors d’oeuvres. A special thanks to Burden staff member Andrew Barker for his creative efforts in building the lattice frames for the Orangerie and hanging the paintings in the Conference Center.

Many wonderful stories that evolved from BwB could be told if space permitted. The photographs shown on the page 5, with their captions, will give the flavor of all these stories. This was truly a rewarding community effort and event. There is much more of Burden to be captured by the artists and photographers for the 2012 event, especially since there will be time this year to paint and photograph Burden in its glory through the spring, summer and fall. The 2012 competition will have the same requirements as 2011, except more entries will be accepted. All artists and photographers are invited to gather cameras, palettes and brushes and start the creative juices flowing.

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Ms. Gaye Baltz

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Mr. Malcolm Tucker
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Many thanks to all the Contributors!

**Burden Horticulture Society Presents:
C.C. Lockwood Landscape Photography Workshop**

April 7, 2011: 7:-8:30 pm, Lecture on techniques

April 11, 2011: Field trip, Dawn - 11 am

Location: Burden Center, 4560 Essen Lane

Registration: \$175

Contact: 225-763-3990 or register at

www.burdenhorticulturesociety.com

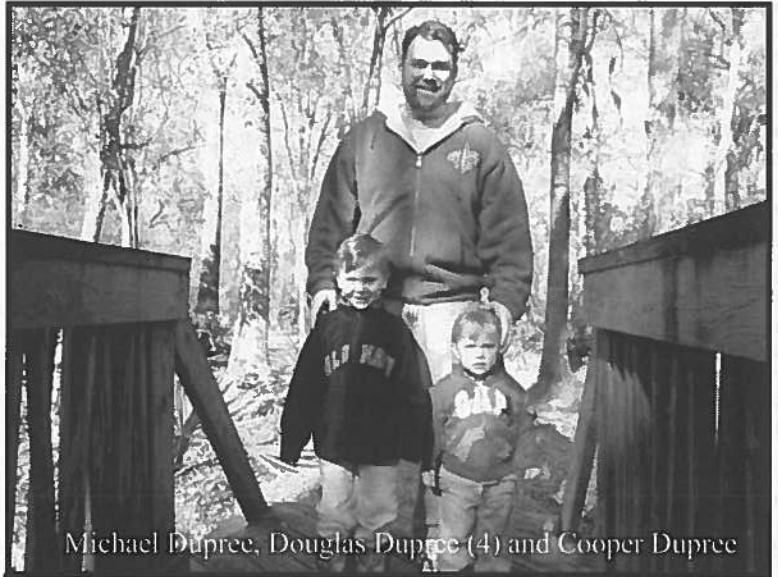
Arbor Day at Burden Center

By Penny Miller

You may have thought that Arbor Day is just about planting trees, but at Burden Center, it was more. Surely, trees were planted, to the tune of 300. What a great way to help reforest our woods after Gustav downed so many. That clear January morning started very cold, but as the temperature increased, so did the number of people. LSU students, young families, couples, and grandparents with their grandchildren – approximately 275 in all - came to help plant trees. They were even given the GPS coordinates so they could track their trees for years to come.

To encourage people to learn about Trees and Trails and to walk a 5-mile Fun Hike, we added a scavenger hunt through the woods. Children had to find various locations along the trails, and when successful, high school volunteers were there to stamp their card. Prizes were given for visiting all ten locations, which just happened to end at the Barton Arboretum, the last part of the trail. All participants were given a packet of 6 tree seedlings, supplied by the Louisiana Department of Agriculture and Forestry (LDAF), our Arbor Day partner.

This was all made possible by many volunteers from BHS, EBR Master Gardeners, Forum 35, LSU, Baton Rouge Green, and several high schools. Sponsors included the Baton Rouge Junior League, the Louisiana Hiking Club, Whole Foods Markets Baton Rouge, Associated Grocers, the Baton Rouge Coca Cola Bottling Company, Roy O. Martin Lumber Company, Live Oaks Gardens Wholesale Nursery, and Ed's Plumbing Service and Portable Toilet Service, Inc. Proceeds from the event will help support the Project Learning Tree program for school children conducted by BHS.



Michael Dupree, Douglas Dupree (4) and Cooper Dupree



****Volunteers Wanted****

Want to join a great group?

Mail the form (on right) to 4560 Essen Lane (70809) or use the entry form on the 'Join Us' page of BHS Website (www.BurdenHorticultureSociety.com) or call or e-mail our new volunteer coordinator, Simone Kramer (225-235-8896, SKramer@agcenter.lsu.edu). We'd love to hear from you.

Support The Burden Horitculture Society

I would like to be a patron and support the Burden Horticulture Society

Donor Name _____ Daytime phone _____

Donor Address, City, State, Zip _____

E-mail Address (optional) _____

Enclosed is my tax deductible donation for LSU Foundation/BHS in the amount of:

\$1000 \$500 \$200 \$100 \$50 \$30 Other \$ _____

Enclosed is my **check made payable to LSU Foundation/BHS**

Please charge my Visa Mastercard AmEx Discover

Card # _____ Exp Date _____

Signature _____

Donations may be made online at www.BurdenHorticultureSociety.com or www.LSUFoundation.org/contribute

Gift designation: **Line 1: LSU AgCenter**
 Line 2: Burden Horticultural Center (BHS)
 Line 3: Special Interest Dedication

Burden Horticulture Society

BHS is a non-profit organization formed to promote, support, and expand the use of the Burden Center. The LSU Foundation accepts contributions directly in support of the LSU AgCenter Burden Center activities and programs, together with the Burden Horticulture Society. Your contribution will be accepted by the LSU Foundation as a restricted gift for the benefit of the Burden Horticulture Society.

Partnering with other gardening and outdoor organizations, plus the Rural Life Museum, BHS strives to offer informative opportunities for the public and to increase awareness of this local resource. Your gift will allow us to develop a Master Plan for Burden Center and will help sponsor special educational events.

Please mail to: Burden Horticulture Society
 4560 Essen Lane
 Baton Rouge, LA 70809

Volunteers Opportunities:

- | | |
|--|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Gardening | <input type="checkbox"/> Publicity |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Clerical | <input type="checkbox"/> Speakers |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Annual Events | <input type="checkbox"/> Volunteer Coordination |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Reflections in the Garden | <input type="checkbox"/> Membership |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Database | <input type="checkbox"/> Fundraising |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Clerical | <input type="checkbox"/> Trees and Trails, Maintenance and Development |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Wine and Roses Committee | <input type="checkbox"/> Trees and Trails, Docents |
| | <input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____ |

Your Name and phone number: _____

Burden Center
4560 Essen Lane
Baton Rouge, LA 70809



In this Issue:

-  **Memorial Orangerie.....Page 1**
-  **Reflections from the Chair...Page 2**
-  **Digging in the Dirt.....Page 3**
-  **Brush with Burden.....Page 4**
-  **Spring Sing.....Page 6**
-  **A Leader.....Page 7**
-  **Arbor Day at BurdenPage 10**

BHS Annual Events 2011

- April 7-10 C.C. Lockwood Lecture and Workshops
- April 15 Burden Center Music Series: Spring Sings at Windrush
- May 19 Hayride Tour of Burden
- May 21 Art in the Garden and Wine Tasting
- June 18 Burden Center Garden Festival
- September 24-25 Corn Maze Pumpkin Patch
- September 29 Hayride Tour of Burden
- September & October Corn Maze (TBA)
- October 26 Wine and Roses Dinner
- October Burden Center Music Series: Autumn Event
- November 17 Hayride Tour of Burden
- November 30 Brush with Burden entry deadline.