



Top: Guests wander through the Rose Garden. Right: Guests ramble to and from the Pavilion.

Wine and Roses Rambler 2022

By Ramona Hill and Leigh Harris

The Wine and Roses Rambler was born in 2021 when the traditional and elegant Wine and Roses dinner was no longer feasible. The new event transformed more than its name, and guests enjoyed rambling through the LSU AgCenter Botanic Gardens on a pleasant fall Sunday afternoon.

If you missed it last year, you are in luck! The opportunity returns this year on Sunday, Nov. 13 from noon to 2 p.m. The 2022 Wine and Roses Rambler invites guests to spend time winding through the gardens and stopping along the way for delectable food, libations and entertainment.

The Rose Garden, Pavilion and Orangerie will each feature culinary delicacies provided by two beloved local caterers. The Gilded Artichoke will offer a variety of

options, and Nannette Mayhall will offer specialty desserts. Cocktails, wine and beer will be paired with the culinary creations.

We are especially grateful to our first-time sponsor, the Louisiana Seafood Promotion and Marketing Board, for providing fresh Louisiana seafood – shrimp, lump crabmeat, oysters and more – for our caterer's special creations. Thank you, Louisiana Seafood!

Back by popular demand, the Civic Orchestra of Baton Rouge will provide music throughout the gardens.

The popular raffle also returns with delightful offerings donated by the various societies that support and utilize the Botanic Gardens, as well as gorgeous fresh floral

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Reflections From the Chair

Kevin Langley

Chair, Friends of LSU AgCenter Botanic Gardens

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

LSUAgCenter.com/BotanicGardens

4560 Essen Lane

Baton Rouge, LA 70809

Dear Friends,

What comes to mind when you think of a life well lived?

I recently asked our Friends of LSU AgCenter Botanic Gardens Board to share their most memorable experience on the Burden property. Their answers were diverse, moving and spanned lifetimes.

Danielle Mensman shared her childhood memory of walking the property with her father. He explained the importance of plants and their environment to the physical, mental and spiritual wellbeing of people. She was moved to tears reflecting on the lessons learned from those experiences with her father. She also mentioned how grateful she is to unplug from a busy workday to enjoy the same garden and landscapes with her children.

I believe we are all fortunate to be able to create lifelong memories at one of the area's best kept secrets — the 440-acre oasis in the heart of Baton Rouge.

The Friends' mission is to enhance and promote the gardens at Burden and its serene environment for the benefit of the public through educational programs, volunteerism and fundraising. Yes, the mission is alive and firmly planted in the wonderful programs and educational events like Reflections in the Garden, the annual corn maze and others that are mentioned in the following pages.

This year, the mission continues to grow as we align and communicate as a strategic partner in fulfilling the goals of the LSU AgCenter Botanic Garden Master Plan. The new Welcome Center will serve as a gateway to the property, provide program expansion and offer unique space for exhibits and learning. Additionally, the holiday light display in the historic Windrush Gardens will further bring to light the life's work of Steele Burden's vision. Friends, family and loved ones will be able to connect on tranquil strolls during the holiday season in a truly magical experience like no other in the region.

Ramona Hill, Leigh Harris and Danielle Mensman, along with the rest of the Wine and Roses committee have been busy as bees. They extend their spirited invitation. You are cordially invited to the Wine and Roses Rambler. Relax, have fun and refresh your spirit as you wind your way through the gardens and sample gourmet cuisine and beverages at a series of tasting stations. The event also features a wine toss and raffle with prizes.

If you would like to only receive this newsletter electronically,
please email: **Friends@FOBGBurden.com**.



The Civic Orchestra of Baton Rouge playing near the Rose Garden.



Guests taking a chance to win a bottle at the wine toss.

Wine & Roses *continued from page 1*

arrangements donated by the incredibly talented floral committee. There will be some surprise items as well! Raffle tickets are \$10 and may be purchased online with your event tickets or at the door.

Last year's guests will certainly encourage you to join the wine toss fun and win a bottle of wine ... or four! For \$20, you have four chances to win, and you might even come away with an unusual or rare vintage. We have witnessed the competitive nature of some guests so bring a few friends,

test your skill and get in the spirit! Wine toss tickets can also be purchased online or at the door.

Please join us to enjoy fall in the gardens with food and beverages, live music and entertainment. Purchase your tickets today for the Wine and Roses Rambler 2022 to be held on Sunday, Nov. 13 from noon to 2 p.m. Nonmember tickets are \$100, and member tickets are \$90. The proceeds will support the wonderful education programs and activities of the Botanic Gardens at Burden.



Event signature cocktail: The Rambling Rose.



Wine & Roses Rambler

November 13 | Noon-2 p.m.
LSU AgCenter Botanic Gardens
Tickets available at
bit.ly/WineRoses2022

Create a 'florgeous' garden with blooming tropicals

Heather Kirk-Ballard

Blooming tropicals are a gorgeous addition to the summer garden, and with so many to choose from, you can create a tropical oasis in your landscape. Thanks to our semi-tropical climate, we can add many of these to our landscapes and patios and enjoy the beauty they provide.

Many grow well in the hot, humid temperatures of Louisiana and prefer full sun for the best blooms. They all benefit from a slow-release, granular fertilizer during the growing season or an occasional feeding of liquid fertilizer. Tropical plants have to be protected from temperatures below 40 degrees Fahrenheit to prevent damage. Hard freezes will kill most.

Now is a great time to add some flowering tropicals to your landscape or patio. Blooming tropical plants provide nectar for many pollinators. Here are some of the best options for Louisiana.

Golden trumpet (*Allamanda cathartica*) has prolific yellow flowers with elliptical green leaves that thrive in full sun. It is an ever-blooming selection that should be protected from freezes for year-round interest. Native to northern South America, it remains evergreen in warm temperatures. It will die back in freezes. A woody climber, it can get up to 15 feet tall. It can be pruned to grow as a shrub or have a more compact shape. The vine does not twine or have tendrils, so you will need to support it with stakes for upright growth.

Mandevilla is another evergreen vine with large deep-green leaves and pink tubular flowers. Alice du Pont is the most popular variety. Colors range from light to dark pink and red to yellow and white. Because of its trailing and vining habit, mandevilla should be trellised or allowed to spill over in hanging baskets.

Passionflower (*Passiflora*) is a native vine that thrives in high humidity and can be prolific in full to partial sun and in any soil. Featuring beautiful, unique blooms, passionflower is the host plant for the Gulf fritillary butterfly.

Bougainvillea is a vigorous, evergreen woody vine with thorns. This popular

tropical plant offers bright colors of fuchsia, purple, pink, orange and white. It thrives in full sun and is a prolific bloomer. Much like mandevilla, bougainvillea requires trellising to provide support for upright growth. If you would prefer it to cascade and trail downwards, try it in a hanging basket.

Cannas (*Cannas x generalis*) have large colorful foliage with broad leaves 6 to 12 inches long in colors from green to bronze to deep lavender. They also have beautiful flowers in colors of red, pink, yellow, orange and cream.

Coral vine (*Antigonon leptopus*) has large hanging clusters of pink, red or white flowers. It is a vigorous grower with heart-shaped leaves and a long bloom season. Vines are drought tolerant, prefer full sun and thrive in almost any kind of soil.

Hardy hibiscus (*Hibiscus moscheutos*) comes in all shapes, colors and sizes. Nothing says tropical more than hibiscus. Chinese hibiscus, also known as rose of China or *H. rosa-sinensis*, is the most popular hibiscus. Today, hundreds of hybrids are available in thousands of color combinations.

Esperanza, or yellow bells (*Tacoma stans*), is a deciduous shrub that produces bright yellow, bell-shaped flowers from late spring to winter. Orange selections also are available. This plant likes full sun and will grow 3 to 5 feet in height.

Firecracker plant (*Russelia equisetiformis*) is an evergreen shrub with red and yellow

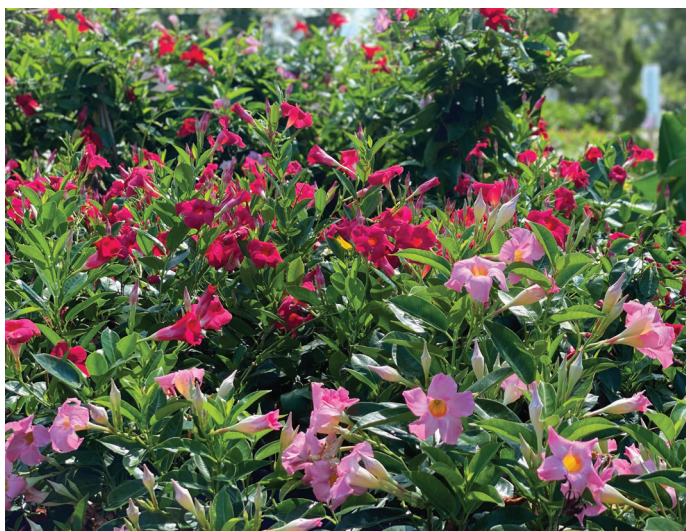


Tropical hibiscus comes in single- and double-flower forms in nearly any color combination imaginable.

tubular flowers on cascading stems. Place this in full sun to part shade, and expect it grow 4 feet high and 4 feet wide.

Giant bird of paradise (*Strelitzia nicolai*) has beautiful, orange, crane-like flowers against huge, blue-green leaves. A striking tropical bloomer, it prefers full sun to part shade.

Hummingbird bush (*Hamelia patens*) shrub grows to 6 to 10 feet tall, and blooms are red-orange, tubular flowers that last from early summer to late fall. It performs best in full sun. Try Lime Sizzler, a Louisiana Super Plant.



Mandevilla comes in a variety of beautiful colors, including light to dark pinks, reds, yellows and white.

City Nature Challenge Comes to Burden

At first glance, Baton Rouge doesn't seem like a haven for wildlife. However, the results from this year's City Nature Challenge offer strong evidence to the contrary. Every year, ordinary citizens come together to take part in the City Nature Challenge, a weekend-long global competition to see which city can find and document the most wild flora and fauna using a smartphone app called iNaturalist. Out of 445 global participating groups, Burden Museum & Gardens ranked in the top 6% for the number of observations made. Overall, 15,100 observations of more than 2,400 species were identified by almost 400 local participants, many of whom are members of the Louisiana Master Naturalists of Greater Baton Rouge. We are so thankful to everyone who participated. With your help, Burden Museum & Gardens ranked ninth in the United States for the highest species count and 30th for the highest number of participants. Again, thank you to the citizens of Baton Rouge for your enthusiasm and dedication!



Above: *Crimson clover*,
Right: *Eastern cauliflower mushroom*



Inviting you to share the vision

WELCOME TO THE FUTURE OF BURDEN MUSEUM & GARDENS

BURDEN
Museum & Gardens

Contact Jeff Kuebny at jkuebny@agcenter.lsu.edu for giving opportunities.

Glass House Repurposed

The once seldom-used glass greenhouse in the LSU AgCenter Botanic Gardens is now a delightful display house open for public viewing. The glass house located on the west side of the Rose Garden was built in the 1960s around the time Warren Meadows was assigned to the property as Burden's first resident director.

We know little about the construction of the glass house except for what Meadows recalls in his memoir. He remembers meeting Ione Burden for the first time and her interest in the glasshouse: "During this first visit, Miss Ione inquired about the progress in construction of a small glass greenhouse on the property." Once the glass house was finished, it was one of the only structures in what is now the display garden area of the property. During Meadows' time at Burden, the Rose Garden was also a trial garden for bedding plants. Meadows' memoir tells us all of the bedding plants for the trial garden were raised in the glass house. Since then, the glass house has been used occasionally for other projects including our annual poinsettia crop.

Currently, the glass house is packed with a wide variety of warm-weather plants for guests' enjoyment. Former student worker, Maeve Dumond, and Botanic Gardens landscape manager, Tyler Carr, collaborated on the layout of the space. With the help of the Baton Rouge Orchid Society, Carr was able to create beautiful displays full of orchids, anthuriums, bromeliads, begonias and many other plants.

The glass house is open daily from 8 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. During your next visit to the gardens, be sure to stop in and admire the collection.



A view inside of the glass house.



A Cattleya orchid shines in the light.



Bougainvillea blooms in the glass house.

Harvest Days
AND
CORN MAZE
AT BURDEN

OCTOBER 1 & 2
8 a.m.-5 p.m.
Burden Museum & Gardens

LSU Rural Life Museum
and LSU AgCenter Botanic Gardens
invite you to kickoff fall with two
great family events. Get tickets for
both events or one event. Visit our
website for more information:
LSUAgCenter.com/BotanicGardens.

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Orchid Show & Sale



A Fred's Triumph Orchid.



Baton Rouge Orchid Society took first place with this breathtaking display.



Spring Orchids was just one of our four vendor booths at the Orchid Show & Sale.



These young mothers had a great time checking out the orchid displays!



This multi-award-winning orchid only blooms for three days out of the year.



We are so grateful to ALL the volunteers and Orchid Society members who made this event happen!

Go Public Gardens Day



Family enjoys picnic in Windrush Gardens.



Group poses for a photo with Dr. Mark Zielinski, psychiatrist from Our Lady of the Lake, during the Walk with a Doc.



Children play on bee Pollinator Playground after a bug-themed StoryTime in the Garden with the Junior League of Baton Rouge.



Yoga class led by PilatesPlus BR in the Orangerie.



EBR Master Gardener Plant Health Clinic in Windrush Gardens.



Birding at Burden – Birding at Burden group led by Dr. Ashley Long and Dr. Luke Laborde.

Get some fresh air. Walk the trails!



TREES & TRAILS



LSU AgCenter Botanic Gardens
 128 Knapp Hall
 Baton Rouge, LA 70803

PHYSICAL LOCATION: 4560 Essen Lane, Baton Rouge, La. 70809 | 225-763-3990 | LSUAgCenter.com/BotanicGardens
Please check our website for up-to-date information on these events.

September 2022			
September 12	Noon-1 p.m.	Reflections in the Garden	Topic: "The Crosby Arboretum and Penecote Pavilion" with Patricia Drackett, director of Crosby Arboretum and assistant professor at MSU.
September 10	9 a.m.-noon	StoryTime in the Garden	Storybook reading and imagination-themed activities. Ages 3 to 8. Free.
September 17	7-9 a.m.	Birding at Burden	Guided walk with Dr. Luke Laborde and Dr. Ashley Long through one of the birding loops at Burden Museum & Gardens. Tickets available online at Eventbrite.com.
October 2022			
October 1 October 2	8 a.m.-5 p.m. 8 a.m.-5 p.m.	Harvest Days & Corn Maze	Suprise! Harvest Days and Corn Maze kick off the fall season together! You can purchase one ticket for both events or choose one event.
October 1	9 a.m.-noon	StoryTime in the Garden	Storybook reading and imagination-themed activities. Ages 3 to 8. Free.
October 3	7-9 a.m.	Reflections in the Garden	Topic: "Baskets and Pots of Kitchen Gardens" with Kathryn Fontenot, Associate Professor at the School of Plant, Environmental and Soil Sciences at LSU AgCenter.
October 8, 15, 22 and 29	Times: 9-11 a.m., Noon-2 p.m. 2:30-4:30 p.m.	Corn Maze at Burden	The crazy, mazy fun continues every Saturday in October. Find your way out of the maze, take a hayride, climb Hay Mountain and have some family-friendly fun.
October 22	7-9 a.m.	Birding at Burden	Guided walk with Dr. Luke Laborde and Dr. Ashley Long through one of the birding loops at Burden Museum & Gardens. Tickets available online at Eventbrite.com.
October 29	6-9 p.m.	Night Maze & Bonfire	Grab your costumes, glow sticks and flash lights and head on over to the Night Maze. Stroll through the corn maze in the dark, climb Hay Mountain, play awesome games and dance to live music!
November 2022			
November 7	Noon-1 p.m.	Reflections in the Garden	Topic: "Forcing Bulbs for Holiday Decor and Lovely Gifts" with Heather Kirk-Ballard, Assistant Professor at the School of Plant, Environmental and Soil Sciences at LSU AgCenter.
November 12	9 a.m.-noon	StoryTime in the Garden	Storybook reading and imagination-themed activities. Ages 3 to 8. Free.
November 13	Noon-2 p.m.	Wine & Roses Rambler	Ramble through the gardens as you savor gourmet hors d'oeuvres and desserts, fine wines and specialty cocktails. Enjoy live music, a wine toss and a fabulous surprise raffle. Tickets available September 2022 at Eventbrite.com.
November 19	7-9 a.m.	Birding at Burden	Guided walk with Dr. Luke Laborde and Dr. Ashley Long through one of the birding loops at Burden Museum & Gardens. Tickets available online at Eventbrite.com.
November 26	TBA	Poinsettia Show & Sale	More than 20 varieties of poinsettias will be on display and available for sale at the Botanic Gardens greenhouse. The Botanic Gardens evaluates poinsettia varieties developed by breeders worldwide.