

Louisiana Lagniappe 2010— A Little Something Extra

Regina Bracy—Hammond, Louisiana

The Louisiana Chapter of the Azalea Society of America invites you to experience Louisiana Lagniappe 2010. Lagniappe is an old Louisiana French custom of giving customers a little extra. And we plan to show you how it works!

The convention dates are Sunday, March 14 through Wednesday, March 17, 2010. We will be staying in New Orleans' historic French Quarter at the Iberville Suites Hotel. This historic Vieux Carré all-suites hotel is located one block off famous Canal and Bourbon Streets. Restaurants, shopping, museums, art, antiques, attractions, jazz, and history are in easy walking distance. A continental breakfast (including hot foods) is complimentary. Very little street parking is available in the French Quarter, so plan to park in the hotel lot at the discounted rate.

The hotel is offering one night prior and two nights after our convention for the same rate. Plan to stay a few days extra to enjoy the sights, sounds, and food of New Orleans!

A little something extra: All tours are guided. Follow along as we walk through each garden with the owner. Hear the stories they have to share about their favorite plants, their history, growth habits, and special features.

Monday Tours

Global Wildlife Center—A brief stop to mingle with more than 4,000 exotic, endangered, and threatened animals from all over the world. Global Wildlife Center is the largest totally free-roaming wildlife preserve of its kind in the country. Camels and bison and giraffes! Oh my!

Transcend Nursery—Robert “Buddy” Lee is a long-time ASA member and has held many leadership positions in the organization including president, vice-president, and convention organizer. Buddy is a recipient of the ASA’s Distinguished Service Award in recognition of his contributions to the nursery and landscape industry. He is the developer of Encore® azaleas with 24 cultivars released in trade. Although azaleas are his first love, his breeding efforts have not been limited to azaleas. An avid breeder for more than 30 years, his nursery is packed with interesting and one-of-a-kind plants including some unique azaleas, magnolias, hollies, and loropetalums. Guided tours will be provided by Buddy as he describes how he developed Encore® azaleas and points out a few of his favorite plants. Maybe we will see the next new release!

Bracy’s Nursery—Started by **Randy and Regina Bracy** in 1980, Bracy’s Nursery is an 160-acre wholesale container nursery. It is one of the premier nurseries in the South.



▲ Robert ‘Buddy’ Lee, developer of Encore® azaleas, among his Encores.

▼ The Reflection Garden at the home of Randall and Regina Bracy. Bracy’s Nursery can be seen in background.



As we ride through the nursery, tour guides will point out the unique aspects of Bracy’s, such as worker housing, propagation houses, a four-and-a-half acre shade structure, and irrigation system that recycles 90 percent of water applied on the nursery. Lunch will be served across the street on the grounds of their home. Their landscaping encompasses



Photo: Regina Lacey

▲ Ms. Margie in the Margie Y. Jenkins Azalea Garden at the LSU AgCenter's Hammond Research Station.

seven acres and includes water features, decking, an outdoor kitchen and cabana, and multiple garden rooms defined by plants, hills, and retaining walls.

Jenkins Farm and Nursery—Margie Y. Jenkins (Ms. Margie) began her nursery career late in life. After taking a course with Dr. Neil Odenwald, LSU Professor Emeritus and book author, Ms. Margie found her thinking about plants to be completely changed.

“When I came back my goal was to grow things that were unusual,” she said. “Of course a lot of the old plants, too, I wanted to grow—and of course, natives.” In 1977 Ms. Margie, at the age of 56, was ready to take on the challenge of opening a nursery to grow different types of plants.

Azalea production in the southeastern United States in the '70s had focused on the Southern Indica, Kurume, and a couple of Glenn Dale varieties. As Ms. Margie was active in national azalea meetings, she knew of the hardier varieties grown as far north as New York. Always a seeker of new and interesting plants, she bought rooted-cuttings of several varieties of Robin Hill azaleas and other hybrid groups and put them in production at her nursery. Now, in any process of discovery, there is a wildcard. For Ms. Margie, it was the cold blast that the area received in the winter of 1983.

Many Southern Indica azaleas suffered tremendous damage during the winter of '83, but the hardiness of these “new” varieties was demonstrated. This cold hardiness, and the off-season blooming habit that Ms. Margie later observed convinced her to propagate and expand these new azaleas.

Names like ‘Arabesk’, ‘Watchet’, ‘Janet Rhea’, and ‘Hardy Gardenia’ that were on a Jenkins Nursery liner receipt in 1981 are now stock-in-trade items of southern nurseries.

When the Azalea Society of America conferred its Distinguished Service Award on Margie Jenkins in 2007, the tribute acknowledged “the increased use of ‘Robin Hill’ azalea cultivars and other azalea hybrid groups in the southeastern United States can be attributed to [Ms. Margie’s] interest in growing and distributing these plants prior to other wholesale producers.”

Today she still watches her crops with the eye for discovery that had her notice a sport of ‘Watchet’. She isolated and propagated this white sport and named it ‘Freddy’ in honor of her son. ‘Freddy’ is on the cover of the *The Azalean* Winter 2006 issue.

A visit to Jenkins Nursery is a visit to a plant collection of unusual and native plants that has been ongoing for more than 30 years. Ms. Margie has many interesting and unusual plants. Each has a story that she is willing to share. Join us for a guided tour through a plant enthusiast’s wonderland.

Hammond Research Station—Monday’s tour will end at Louisiana State University AgCenter’s Hammond Research Station. The Hammond Research Station is the center for landscape horticulture research in Louisiana. Each year the station hosts the largest herbaceous ornamental plant trials in Louisiana and the South. Expect to see more than 500 different cool-season blooming plants during the visit. **Dr. Allen Owings** will be available to answer your questions as you stroll the grounds. You will have plenty of time to view all the gardens as we will have our evening meal and program on the grounds before returning to our hotel. Learn more about the station at www.lsuagcenter.com/hammond.

Margie Y. Jenkins Azalea Garden—Few among us have the national contacts and recognition or the huge circle of friends, family, and admirers that Ms. Margie has. We wanted to do something to celebrate the many contributions this dynamic woman has made to horticulture, the green industry, and to the personal development and education of so many horticulturists. So in 2006, we threw a Garden Party for Ms. Margie and collected monies for the establishment and maintenance of the Margie Y. Jenkins Azalea Garden.

In September 2006, the first azaleas were planted in the garden. Ms. Margie selected the first group to be planted and, of course, these were her favorite Robin Hill cultivars of which she selected 13. Also included in this first planting were 23 cultivars of Encore® azaleas, a nod to the other plant aficionado and breeder from Southeast Louisiana, **Robert “Buddy” Lee**. Later the Crimson azaleas (‘Crimson Majesty’, ‘Crimson Princess’, and ‘Crimson Queen’) developed by another Louisianan, Richard Odom of Country Pines Nursery, were added to the garden. The size of the garden was doubled in 2007 with the addition of Southern Indica azaleas.

Ms. Margie’s love of unusual and native plants has been

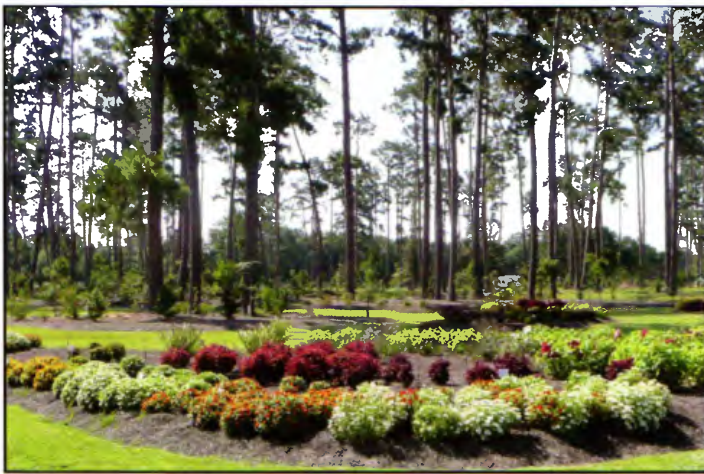


Photo Regina Bracy

▲ Some of the 500 varieties of blooming plants on display at the LSU AgCenter's Hammond Research Station. The Margie Y. Jenkins Azalea Garden is in the background.

▼ Conservatory of Two Sisters at the New Orleans Botanical Garden.



Photo New Orleans Botanical Garden

incorporated in the garden. One can find Japanese maples, wisteria, hibiscus, huckleberry, viburnum, osmanthus, lonicera, abelia, styrax, wisteria, camellia, hosta, itea, illicium, ilex, dianella, leucothoe, aucuba, euonymus, farkleberry, and lorepetalum.

Native trees include *Callicarpa*, *Carpinus*, *Catalpa*, cedar, *Chionanthus* (fringe tree), *Cornus*, *Crataegus* (hawthorn), *Malus*, *Fagus*, *Gordonia*, *Sinojackia* (Jacktree), *Nyssa*, *Beschorneria* (false red agave), *Halesia* (silverbell), *Acer*, *Quercus*, *Lespedeza*, *Myrica*, persimmon, sassafras, *Aleurites* (Tung Oil), *Ulmus*, and *Prunus*. Magnolias in-

clude Japanese, Southern, *Prunus ashei*, *tripetala*, *macrophylla*, and sweetbay. We plan to stroll through the garden with Ms. Margie on a guided tour to learn about her favorite azaleas and native plants.

Tuesday Tours

New Orleans Botanical Garden—Opened in 1936 as New Orleans' first public classical garden, it is one of the few remaining examples of public garden design from the WPA and Art Deco period. It is a showcase of three notable talents: New Orleans architect Richard Koch, landscape architect William Wiedorn, and artist Enrique Alferez. The park is home to the largest collection of mature live oaks in the world, some several hundred years old. The McDonogh (estimated at 600 years old), Dueling, and Suicide Oaks are among the remnants of this ancient forest that started long before Iberville and Bienville first scouted the area for a site to build the city and port that became New Orleans. Devastated by Hurricane Katrina, the garden is making an amazing comeback. Check out the garden at <http://garden.neworleanscitypark.com>.

Dan Gill, the voice of LSU AgCenter's highly successful *Get It Growing* media program, has worked and lived in New Orleans for more than 20 years. Dan will provide a guided tour through the garden, identifying plants and explaining how plants grow in the hot, humid subtropical city of New Orleans. More than 2,000 varieties of plants reside in the garden, including the largest palm collection in Louisiana as well as the Living Fossil and Tropical Rainforest exhibits.

Besthoff Sculpture Garden—Located to the rear of the New Orleans Museum of Art and adjacent to the New Orleans Botanical Garden, is the 5-acre Besthoff Sculpture Garden, featuring 60 sculptures by major 20th Century European, American, Israeli, and Japanese artists. The sculptures, valued in excess of \$25 million, are on view amongst meandering foot-paths and pedestrian bridges, reflecting lagoons, Spanish moss-laden 200-year-old live oaks, mature pines, magnolias, and camellias.

Among the artists represented are Antoine Bourdelle, Gaston Lachaise, Henry Moore, Jacques Lipchitz, Barbara Hepworth, Seymour Lipton, Arnaldo Pomodoro, Kenneth Snelson, George Rickey, Elizabeth Frink, Masayuki Nagare, Siah Armajani, Lynn Chadwick, Louise Bourgeois, Tony Smith, George Segal, Deborah Butterfield and Joel Shapiro. More information can be found at <http://www.noma.org/sgarden>. Although this is a self-guided tour, an audio tour that highlights 20 of the sculptures in the garden is accessible and free of charge through visitors' cell phones.

Longue Vue—The eight-acre garden is an idyllic and tranquil oasis in the lively pulse that is urban New Orleans. Created in 1934 by Ellen Biddle Shipman, known as "the dean of American women landscape architects," Longue Vue has an important place in the history of garden design in

this country.

At the time of Longue Vue's creation, a bold new garden movement was in effect. The Country Place Era, as it is termed by scholars of landscape history, was a period during which a unique set of conditions combined to create some of the most breathtaking garden estates in America. In 2006, Longue Vue was designated a Preservation Project of the Garden Conservancy. A docent will provide a guided tour through the nine garden "rooms" of Longue Vue. More information can be obtained at <http://www.longuevue.com>.

Sunday Speakers

Dr. Allen Owings is a horticulture professor with the LSU AgCenter located at the Hammond Research Station, Hammond, Louisiana. He has been a faculty member at the LSU AgCenter since 1992 and is the statewide coordinator for extension programs for the nursery and landscape industries. In addition, he conducts ornamental plant landscape performance evaluations at the LSU AgCenter—this includes azaleas, crape myrtles, roses, annual bedding plants, and herbaceous perennials. He serves as president of the Baton Rouge Rose Society, director of research and education for the Louisiana Nursery and Landscape Association, and president of the Louisiana Chapter of the Azalea Society of America. He writes weekly newspaper articles for the LSU AgCenter and *Hammond Daily Star*. He is a monthly contributor to *Louisiana Gardener Magazine*.

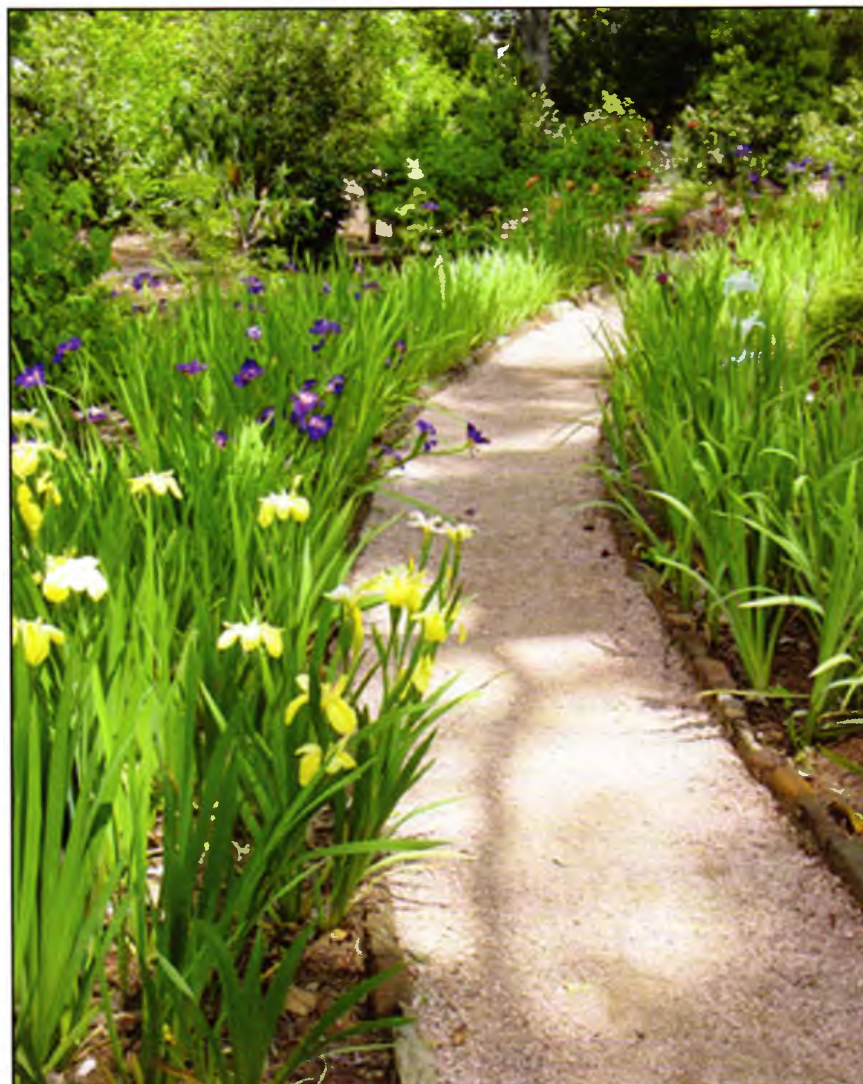
Although Louisiana hybridizers are relatively young in the history of azaleas and may not be as well-known to the industry, they have made significant contributions to the azalea world especially in the South. Dr. Owings will examine these contributions and highlight some of Louisiana's own in "Louisiana's Contribution to Azaleas."

Paul Soniat is the founding director of the New Orleans Botanical Garden and Celebration in the Oaks in City Park. He oversees volunteer and educational programs, strengthening plant collections, managing finance and fund raising efforts, and developing a master plan for the garden. For the past 23 years, he has been directing the efforts to turn an old forgotten garden into one of the country's premier botanical gardens. Following the devastating destruction from



▲ Oak Alley at Longue Vue Gardens.

▼ Garden path at Longue Vue Gardens.



Hurricane Katrina in August 2005, Paul, along with a team of dedicated volunteers and generous donors, began a painstaking restoration of the New Orleans Botanical Gardens. In just six months, the garden reopened to the public, becoming an encouraging symbol of hope for a city in recovery. Paul will share the story of the destruction and rebuilding of a botanical garden entitled "How to Recover a Garden after a Hurricane."

Robert “Buddy” Lee is well-known in the ASA, having served in a multitude of positions. He has been awarded the Distinguished Service Award, the ASA’s highest award, for his contribution to azaleas and the industry. Buddy loves azaleas and has spent his life working and hybridizing them. He is the breeder of the successful line of Encore® azaleas. He has also dabbled in hollies, white-flowered loropetalums, and dwarf gardenias, and has developed the gardenia ‘Jubilant’ and loropetalum ‘Emerald Snow’. Buddy, the owner of Transcend Nursery, will take us on a “Walk Down Azalea Lane.”

Monday Speakers

Dan Gill holds the Consumer Horticulture state-wide position with the LSU AgCenter in Baton Rouge. Dan is the spokesperson for the LSU AgCenter’s Get It Growing proj-

ect, a statewide educational effort in home horticulture utilizing radio, internet, television, and newsprint. Gardeners throughout Louisiana read his columns in local newspapers, watch his gardening segments on local television stations, and listen to him on local radio. In the New Orleans area, Dan appears weekly on the morning news, writes a weekly gardening column, and hosts the Saturday morning “Garden Show,” a live call-in radio program. Dan is co-author of the *Louisiana Gardener’s Guide*, author of *Month-by-Month Gardening in Louisiana* and co-author of *Month-by-Month Gardening in Texas*. His “South Louisiana Region Report” and “Only in Louisiana” columns appear monthly in the Louisiana Gardener Magazine. Dan Gill’s talk is titled “Gardening in South Louisiana—What Makes it Unique.”

Dr. Steve Krebs is Director of The Holden Arboretum’s David G. Leach Research Station. Dr. David Leach was an eminent American horticulturist and is renowned for his development and introduction of hardy (Zone 5) hybrid rhododendrons and azaleas. The continuation of his projects at The Holden Arboretum still emphasizes freezing adaptations, but also includes new objectives such as disease resistance and heat tolerance.

The Station’s azalea breeding is aimed at producing summer blooming, fragrant hybrids with strong colors, and is based entirely on native deciduous species, including *Rhododendron austrinum*, a Southern species that has proven to be quite hardy in Northern Ohio. In his experience, native azalea species are also resistant to powdery mildew disease. Breeding of evergreen rhododendrons (elepidotes) at Holden is almost entirely focused on the use of *R. hyperythrum*, a species from Taiwan that is root rot resistant and heat tolerant. They are crossing it into a broad array of cold hardy cultivars and selecting candidate hybrids for further evaluation in climates ranging from USDA Zones 5 to 8. Dr. Krebs shares highlights of his work in his presentation “North Meets South: Breeding Rhododendrons and Azaleas with Broad Temperature Adaptations.”

Dr. David Himelrick is a horticulture professor at LSU AgCenter and an entertainer. What our brain “sees” is influenced by our past experiences, imagination, and associations. Dr. Himelrick explores the fascinating aspects of our minds in “Illusions of the Mind.” He will keep you guessing as he uses the power of imagination to draw an image that exists only in someone’s mind!

Post Convention Tour

Buddy Lee is making arrangements for a post-convention tour of **Jim Campbell’s** River Camellias Nursery as well as **John Thornton’s** nursery to view his breeding work on rhododendrons. If you are interested in attending the post-convention tour, please contact Buddy directly by e-mail at buddyazaleas@yahoo.com. There is no charge for the tour, but you must provide your own transportation.

Hotel Reservations

Iberville Suites, located in New Orleans’s historic French Quarter one block off famous Canal and Bourbon Streets, is the convention hotel.

Please make reservations directly with the hotel either online at www.ibervillesuites.com or through central reservations at 1-866-229-4351. Request the **Azalea Society 2010 Conference** rate (Group Code: AOY) of \$99 a night, double occupancy. Make your hotel reservations by **February 12, 2010** to qualify for the special convention rate.

The convention room rate is valid one night prior and two nights after the convention. Plan to stay a few days extra to enjoy the sights and sounds and food of New Orleans!

This is a suites only hotel. The majority of rooms have one king/queen in bedroom and sofa sleeper in living room. A continental breakfast is complimentary with room.

There is very little street parking in the French Quarter. Parking is available in the hotel lot for the discounted rate of \$20/night (usual charge is \$32).

Iberville Suites

910 Iberville Street
New Orleans, LA 70112
Phone: (504) 523-2400
www.ibervillesuites.com

Air Travel & Transportation

New Orleans International Airport (MSY) is serviced by most major airlines. Airport shuttle is provided by Airport Shuttle New Orleans. Cost is \$15 per person one way. Taxis are available and price is comparable if 2 or more people share a cab.

Optional New Orleans Attractions

The Secret Gardens Tour®—The annual event opens to the public many of the most spectacular private gardens in Uptown New Orleans. During the tours, volunteer docents direct visitors through the gardens, while renowned landscaping experts and homeowners are on hand to answer questions and offer insider details. Aside from the gardens, there are musical performances throughout and Secret Treasures, an outdoor boutique offering garden accessories, gifts and art by local artists and merchants.

This year the Secret Gardens Tour® coincides with the ASA convention. Although this is not an official part of the ASA convention, it is a wonderful opportunity to see hidden gardens and a great way to spend a day in New Orleans. The self-guided walking tour takes place on Saturday, March 13, and includes 12 private gardens. The tour occurs on upscale St. Charles Avenue near historic Audubon Park (a short taxi or streetcar ride from the French Quarter). For more information or to purchase tickets (\$25 per person), go to <http://www.secretgardentour.org>.

National World War II Museum—The museum tells the story of the American experience in the war that changed the world—why it was fought, how it was won, and what it means today—so that all generations will understand the price of freedom and be inspired by what they learn. Dedicated in 2000 as The National D-Day Museum and now designated by Congress as the country's official museum of the Second World War, it celebrates the American spirit, the teamwork, optimism, courage and sacrifice of the men and women who fought on the battle front and the home front.

A \$300 million expansion that includes a six-acre campus of exhibition pavilions, the 4-D Victory Theater, Stage Door Canteen and a research and conference center is scheduled to open at the end of 2009, just in time for the ASA Convention. This museum is fantastic and within walking distance or short taxi ride (10 blocks) of the French Quarter. For more information, call 877-813-3329 or visit www.nationalww2museum.org.

Audubon Nature Institute—A family of museums and parks, including three award-winning facilities: Audubon Zoo, Aquarium of the Americas, and Insectarium. For information, call 1-800-774-7394 or check out Web site <http://www.auduboninstitute.org>.

One of the country's top-ranked zoos, Audubon Zoo offers an exotic mix of animals from around the globe, engaging natural habitats, lush gardens and resting spots, the mystical Louisiana swamp and "hands-on" animal encounters. With innovative natural habitat exhibits and an animal collection ranging from the unique white alligators to the extraordinary white tigers, Audubon Zoo has become one of the Gulf South's favorite family gathering spots.

Walk beneath the vivid Caribbean Reef, marvel at the lush beauty of the Amazon Rainforest and journey the Mississippi River at Audubon Aquarium of the Americas where

penguins, sting rays, sharks, and other deep sea creatures await your visit.

Insectarium showcases the largest group of animals on the planet, insects. Your visit to the one-of-a-kind, interactive, and award-winning Audubon Insectarium will illuminate amazing things about these tiny (and not so tiny!) creatures. Located in the historic U.S. Custom House on Canal Street (three blocks from the Iberville Suites Hotel), Audubon Insectarium will delight you with "up close and personal" live insect encounters, the indelible story of the Crescent City and insects, and "Life Underground," where you'll be shrunk to insect size. Discover global insect customs, sample exotic insect cuisine, learn about the history of termites and the latest technologies used in pest control management. Take in a fun animated insect film at the immersion theater, traipse through the Louisiana swamp, enjoy the tranquility of the Japanese butterfly garden and watch hundreds of winged beauties as they flit about.

St. Charles Streetcar—A must do in New Orleans is to hop on the St. Charles Streetcar, the longest continually operating streetcar line in the United States. Remember, it's a streetcar, not a trolley. This moving National Historic Landmark starts its run at Canal Street (three blocks from Iberville Suites Hotel), clanging through the Garden District (see below), passing Tulane and Loyola Universities (and very green Audubon Park across the street, not to mention the nearby mansions with wraparound porches) and winding up at Palmer Park in Carrollton. This 13-mile, 90-minute roundtrip jaunt can be had 24 hours a day.

What happens when the streetcar reaches the end of the line? Well, the driver flips the wood bench seats in the opposite direction, heads to the other end of the car (there are controls at both ends) and goes back into town. The St. Charles Streetcar is \$1.25 each way. It's the best buck you'll spend, even if you have nowhere to go.

Garden District—This part of town bears little resemblance to the French Quarter, and there's a darn good reason for it: no French. Americans started arriving in New Orleans after the 1803 Louisiana Purchase, a bargain at \$15 million thanks to President Thomas Jefferson. These (mostly) Yankees rubbed the Creoles the wrong way, so they set up their own encampment, which they dubbed the city of Lafayette, upriver. It was annexed to New Orleans in 1852, and today we know it as the Garden District, a National Historic Landmark.

Most of the families planted large, lush gardens next to their homes to help counteract the foul odors emanating from the stockyards near the river. The gardens are resplendent in magnolias, palms, and live oak trees. The houses aren't shabby, either, a confection of wrought iron, graceful balconies, and Doric, Ionic, and Corinthian columns as architects imported from Baltimore and Philadelphia engaged in a bigger-is-better rivalry with the Creoles of the French Quarter.

Edgar Degas' uncle lived here, despite being French, more than 100 ago, and yes, the painter did visit. Anne Rice maintains two homes here today (clue to house No. 1: it has a wooden sculpture of a dog on the balcony). Take a tour of the neighborhood (the National Park Service offers an excellent free tour daily) and revel in its magnificence.

Music—In New Orleans, music is everywhere—on the streets, in nightclubs, restaurants, and hotels. Call ahead for showtimes and cover charges.

A must-stop is Preservation Hall in the French Quarter, a showcase for traditional jazz which is low on style points and high on musicianship. No food and drink are served, so bring your own, and bear in mind, you'll probably stand (seats are few).

Tipitina's is a red-hot dance hall which features top local bands and is a regular stop for the Neville Brothers, solo or *en famille*. It's bound to be packed, which is half the fun. If you visit on a Sunday evening, get ready for the *fais-do-do*, a Cajun party featuring finger lickin' red beans and rice and pre-recorded tunes for dancing.

Decidedly different is Rock-n-Bowl at Mid-City Lanes (taxi ride). You got it, music and dancing among the tenpins. Local heroes Boozoo Chavis and the Iguanas play here regularly, and this is without a doubt one of the most rockin' good times you'll have in town.

Mardi Gras World—Blaine Kern Studios has been New Orleans' first family of float builders since 1947. The company is so closely identified with Carnival tradition that Blaine Kern himself is widely known as "Mr. Mardi Gras."

The guided tour takes about one hour and includes a 12 minute movie presentation, an opportunity to try on costumes, King Cake (a Mardi Gras tradition) and coffee (strong), and Mardi Gras beads. The tour finishes with a walk through the Prop Shop to see the artists creating, painting, constructing, and sculpting props for next year's parade. The group will also view the most awesome floats ever built for carnival—the Orpheus 140 foot, triple-tandem sea monster "Leviathan" and the 240 foot quintuple-tandem "Captain Eddie's S.S. Endymion" with tens of thousands of fiber optic lights.

Official New Orleans Web Site—There is much more to see and do in New Orleans. Check out <http://www.neworleansonline.com> for more information.

Dr. Regina Bracy, *Resident Coordinator of LSU AgCenter and Professor of Horticulture*, earned her bachelor's degree from Southern Louisiana University and her MS and PhD degrees in horticulture at Louisiana State University. Her major areas of interest are production techniques and practices for commercial vegetables, but she has extended this interest into azalea and camellia gardening through her work at the LSU AgCenter at Hammond, Louisiana.

Schedule of Events

Sunday, March 14

Registration Open	1:00 – 7:00 p.m.
ASA Board Meeting	2:00 – 4:30 p.m.
Dinner on Your Own	
Reception/Cash Bar/Plant Sale	6:00 – 7:00 p.m.
Welcome and Speakers	6:00 – 9:30 p.m.
Dr. Allen Owings	
Paul Soniat	
Robert "Buddy" Lee	

Monday, March 15

Registration Open	7:00 a.m. – 8:00 a.m.
Breakfast (complimentary in hotel)	
Tour Departs	8:00 a.m.
Global Wildlife	
Jenkins Nursery	
Transcend Nursery	
Bracy's Nursery & Home (lunch)	
Hammond Research Station	
Reception/Dinner/Plant Sale	
Speakers	
Dan Gill	
Dr. Steve Krebs	
Return to Hotel	10:00 p.m.

Tuesday, March 16

Breakfast (complimentary in hotel)	
Tour Departs	7:45 a.m.
Longue Vue Gardens	
New Orleans Botanical Garden (lunch)	
Besthoff Sculpture Garden	
Return to Hotel	3:30 p.m.
Reception/Cash Bar/Plant Sale	6:30 – 7:30 p.m.
Banquet	7:30 – 10:30 p.m.
Business Meeting	
Awards	
Speaker – Dr. David Himelrick	

Wednesday, March 17

Board Meeting	7:00 – 9:00 a.m.
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Host Hotel

Iberville Suites
910 Iberville Street
New Orleans, LA 70112
Phone: (504) 523-2400
www.ibervillesuites.com