PlantFest! Teaser 2014

Marion Drummond Remembered

... by a few of her favorite friends ...

Johnny Mayronne, Michael Hopping, & her daughter Laurie Drummond ... waxing eloquent on a few of Marion’s favorite plants!!!

SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 28

REGISTRATION: 12:30 PM ~ PROGRAM: 1:00 – 4:00 PM
POST-PROGRAM: “Walk-About Tour” of Sale Plants

Imogene Newsom Brown Education Facility
BEVERLY BROWN COATES AUDITORIUM
Hilltop Arboretum, 11855 Highland Road
~ Members: $10.00 - Non-Members: $15.00 ~

To put the “tease” in this new spin on our annual Plant Fest! “Prep” chat, only one of each of the plants presented will be eligible for purchase. We will host a drawing to determine who gets to purchase what.

The rules of engagement are as follows:
1. only Teaser registrants may participate
2. they may put their name in up to six plant hats
3. and they must be present to win their opportunity to purchase

If this isn’t enough to set your horticultural barometer rising, the 60-minute post-program “walk-about” through the field of plant dreams with our guest speakers ought to do it. Scheduled one week prior to the “main event,” the Teaser will find the Plant Fest! arena already set up with plants in their final nestling place and their infomercial signs installed.

What better occasion to start your plant list and check it twice, determining which plants will be naughty or nice for your landscape AND guess-timating just how many wagons and co-conspirators you will need to achieve your gardening mission.

~ QUESTIONS OR TO REGISTER FOR THE TEASER ~
www.lsu.edu/hilltop – 225.767.6916 – hilltop@tigers.lsu.edu
Chinese Evergreen Dogwood
Indian Pink
Choco Zebra Curcuma
Country Girl Garden Mum
Toad Lily
Evergreen Hydrangea
Fourth of July Lily
Hidden Ginger

MARION'S GARDEN
A few of her plants in bloom!
The more the "Marion"

This year's PlantFest! (like the Teaser that precedes it) will be all about Marion Drummond replete with a special section at the plant sale proper featuring plants grown by Marion in her garden and a purple PlantFest! T-shirt. Marion was, shall we say, forcefully adept at finding the perfect match for her peeps and their prospective plants.

Marion is remembered for many things, among them: her hard head, her soft heart, and her green thumb. One of her signature talents was gathering people and using her wiles to persuade them to take on tasks they never knew they could or wanted to do. That tenacious enthusiasm, while daunting to some, was more often than not welcomed wholeheartedly by people and groups whose cause she saw fit to champion. Hilltop was fortunate to be counted among them. She will be sorely missed, but not easily forgotten.

The 31st anniversary of our fall plant sale celebrates three decades of masterfully collecting people and plants and bringing them together in the unique natural space that is the LSU Hilltop Arboretum. Brace yourself for a botanical "all you can tweet" plant feast ... trees, shrubs, perennials, vines, ferns, fruits, gingers, camellias, incredible edibles, ornamental grasses, and more that run the gamut from native and traditional to eclectic and electric newcomers. To spice up the mix, plants are imported from a diversity of nurseries located in Alabama, Texas, and Florida, as well as Louisiana. Well over 5,000 plants will be assembled representing 600 different species ... some making their debut at Hilltop this year.

With smiles to go before they're done, "Marion-ettes": landscape architects, contractors and designers; arborists; horticultural specialists; growers; plantmen and women; Master Gardeners ... all will be on hand to help you sidestep anything that might clog your garden arteries. Display vignettes that make "scents", bedazzle with color, or speak to those who want to go native or attract butterflies will help you get growing and suggest just the right dosage for your space.

The Hilltop Gift Shop, offering a 50% sale on selected items, will be joined by specialty plant and craft vendors to meet all the needs of gardeners and their gardens. We offer both a tax and a membership incentive that add up to 20% in savings on plants purchased during the two days of the sale.

One week prior to the sale, check the website (www.lsu.edu/hilltop) for a list of the plants being offered at PlantFest!
It has been a very busy summer at Hilltop. The first workshop with Reed Hildebrand occurred on June 11. I am excited to begin the planning process for the back portion of the property. The final proposal for the site will require further discussions and input from all concerned parties. We will have a Horticultural Court beginning behind the Beverly Brown Coates Auditorium. It will include a greenhouse which is part of Marion Drummond's legacy. The area will facilitate the work of the Hodge Podge Group and enhance the Plantfest experience.

Our discussions regarding the Hilltop experience for visitors highlighted the need for a better introduction to the history of Hilltop and the site. At our recent board meeting it was decided that the gift shop would be downsized. A portion of that area will be set aside for a recorded presentation of the site and its history.

Many thanks to Pete Newton and his crew for the renovation of the Hodge Podge area. Gone are the lovely tree roots that longed to trip us once again! Paul Orr and the LSU interns have helped greatly in improving the site this summer. The plantings in the Bert Turner Courtyard have thrived the spring and summer. It is worth a visit just to see how well they have done! The Garden Tour Committee has an interesting array of gardens for this fall. Presently the committee is working to finalize gardens for the spring and fall of 2015! Suggestions for potential tour gardens are always welcomed. Many thanks to our garden hosts. I understand how much work goes into being on the tour.

Once again please visit Hilltop and share your knowledge of Hilltop with your friends and neighbors. When you visit notice the magnificent beautyberries at the entrance. I have never seen them look this good.

See you at Hilltop!

Terry Rehn

Summer Interns Making a Difference

Selected from 22 applicants, Hilltop’s summer interns worked under the supervision of Site Manager Paul Orr on a host of site maintenance activities, horticulture projects, and education programs. We can’t thank them enough for all their hard work, and their ability to work together as a team.

From left: Emily Oakman is an undergraduate student at LSU majoring in Natural Resource Ecology and Management. Ziding Liu is an international student from Harbin, China working on a master’s degree in landscape architecture at the LSU Robert Reich School.

From left: Benton Williams, Matthew Relyea, Paul Orr and Taylor Richardson. Matthew is a graduate student, and Benton and Taylor are undergraduate students all majoring in landscape architecture at LSU.
Margaret Stones Walking Tours

On a beautiful Sunday afternoon in July Wayne Womack led the final Margaret Stone’s Flora of Louisiana: In Bloom Tour at the LSU Museum of Art and on the grounds of the Arboretum. It was Dr. Gresdna Doty Alumni Professor Emerita in the Department of Theatre at LSU who saw Margaret’s work in the private art collection of Wayne Womack and Jon Emerson, and with Wayne’s encouragement, she called on the artist while on sabbatical in London. Gresdna proposed the idea of the commemorative series of botanical drawings to LSU Chancellor Paul Murrill who commissioned Stones in 1976 to create water color drawings of Louisiana native flora to commemorate the bicentennial of the United States, and the 50th anniversary of the LSU campus in its present location.

The Margaret Stone’s Flora of Louisiana: The Baton Rouge Connection exhibition at the LSU Museum of Art featured 55 original watercolors highlighting the individuals who contributed directly to the success of the artist’s project, most notably the collectors of plant specimens in East Baton Rouge Parish including Hilltop’s founder Emory Smith who collected 17 of the plant specimens featured in the exhibition at the LSU Hilltop Arboretum.

We are so grateful to Randy Harelson the guest curator for the exhibition, and Jordana Pomeroy the Director of the LSU Museum of Art for including Hilltop in the educational plant walks. We also thank horticulturist Neil Odenwald and botanist Lowell Urbatsch who lead walking tours in April and June.

Entertaining at Hilltop

We are so excited you are considering the LSU Hilltop Arboretum for a small gathering, corporate event, family party or wedding! Our award-winning facility designed by Lake|Flato Architects of San Antonio, Texas include beautiful views of nature and a pond with an elevated wooden boardwalk surrounded by Louisiana aquatic plantings.

The complex includes:
- Cherry Owens Library — a small meeting room
- Margaret Holmes Brown Pavilion — a covered open-air space
- Beverly Brown Coates Auditorium — a climate-controlled, multi-purpose space
- Bert Turner Courtyard – a gathering space, connecting the pavilion to the auditorium

We invite you to review the Facility Rental Information, Policies and Registration Form and the Facility Layout Plan online at www.lsu.edu/hilltop to determine if Hilltop is a venue you would like to consider for your special event. Our Event Coordinator, Paula Dillemuth can answer any questions you may have about Hilltop’s facility and can assist you with planning your event and completing your registration forms. To schedule an appointment with us call 225-767-6916 or email hilltop@tigers.lsu.edu
Many changes and transitions are occurring at LSU: Professor Emeritus Van L. Cox, FASLA has returned as Interim Director of the Robert Reich School of Landscape Architecture (RRSLA) for one more year. The Dean of the College of Art & Design has formed a Director Search Committee, to be chaired by Professor Emeritus and Hilltop Board member Suzanne Turner and consisting of a host of faculty representatives. The search is to begin soon, while a separate search begins for a new Assistant Professor (with skills in the ecological/horticultural/technological areas of the profession). In fact, the new hire will be awarded the Emerson/ Womack Professorship for up to 3 years to support the new hire’s research in site technologies and horticultural systems.

The RRSLA will also be seeking an outstanding individual to fill the Marie M. Bickham Chair with the general target being someone who has skills in the “green” areas—and who can be with the RRSLA on an active, but temporary basis. These activities would include teaching of plant materials and planting design, bio-swale and storm water management systems, and other ecologically-based instruction using native and adapted plant materials and hands-on construction demonstrations for RRSLA students. The job description specifically says the “recipient will integrate the LSU Hilltop Arboretum as a locus of research and teaching activities as outlined in the RRSLA’s and LSU Hilltop Arboretum Strategic Plans.” In addition, the recipient will aid in the development and implementation of a student internship program for the LSU Hilltop Arboretum and the duties will include but not be limited to assisting with instructional activities and coordination, fostering student volunteerism, developing a long term maintenance plan for the Arboretum, and recruitment activities for high school students for the RRSLA.

The most exciting news relative to Hilltop is the near-completion of the Phase 1 fund-raising efforts for the Dr. Neil G. Odenwald Professorship. Few people have supported the ideals or been a key part of the development of Hilltop Arboretum as much as Neil, and although not quite completed and we can certainly use more donations, we anticipate by the end of December having the primary gifts in hand. A key requirement in the donor agreement is that the Professorship “shall be given to a faculty member whose research and teaching focuses on horticultural topics (plants, planting design) and the ecological/natural systems in which they exist.” The RRSLA greatly appreciates all who have stepped up to contribute and hope others will help in honoring Neil by establishing this new position. The RRSLA remains the most generously endowed programs in the College, a fact not only serving as a constant source of pride for alumni but also aiding in recruiting and retaining high-caliber students—the same students who have visited and will continue to visit Hilltop Arboretum frequently as part of their educational process.

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**HILLTOP GARDEN**
**BOOK & NATURE SHOP**

**PLANTFEST SALE**
**UP TO 50% OFF SELECTED ITEMS OCT 4 & 5**

We are still Baton Rouge’s best source for:
- **BOOKS** on Louisiana plants and gardening
- **TOOLS** including Felco pruners and Corona saws

**SHOPPING HOURS**
Tuesday through Friday
9AM-4PM

SEE YOU IN THE GIFT SHOP AT PLANTFEST!

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**Clean House! Support Hilltop!**

Yes, you can! Did you know that 50% of the proceeds from the sale of items donated to *Here Today Gone Tomorrow* can be directed to Friends of Hilltop?

All you have to do is bring your re-sale items to *Here Today Gone Tomorrow* at 10240 Burbank Drive and mention that you would like the proceeds to be directed to Hilltop at account number 640. When your donated items are sold, Hilltop will receive half the proceeds!
**Hilltop Staff Changes**

**Lyna Buckley Retires**

It was a sad day when Lyna Buckley informed us she was retiring! Lyna has been the Friends of Hilltop Arboretum CPA for almost two decades and has been an outstanding financial advisor to our organization. Lyna reconciled our financial books on a monthly basis, met regularly with the finance committee, prepared financial reports for an annual audit, and shepherded the organization through two capital campaigns that resulted in the construction of the Administration and Education Complex designed by Lake Flato Architects. She will be missed and we thank her for her outstanding service!

**Heather Belanger Joins Us**

After the executive committee interviewed several worthy candidates, Heather Belanger was hired in June to replace Lyna Buckley as our new CPA. Heather brings with her 16 years of experience in public accounting in the non-profit sector.

Heather holds a Master’s Degree in Accounting from the University of New Orleans and received her CPA license in 2000. Heather has been a regular volunteer at PlantFest! alongside her mom Melanie Hirschfeld, and showed us a real appreciation for Hilltop’s mission and programs.

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**Create Memories at Hilltop**

Please consider supporting Hilltop through our *Emory Smith Tribute Program*. This program will allow you to recognize a friend, a loved one, or an organization through a gift to the Arboretum. Gifts support the on-going work of Friends of Hilltop Arboretum, and help us improve and develop our beautiful 14 acre property along historic Highland Rd. Acknowledgment letters are sent to the donor and to the gift recipient or their family. All gift amounts are confidential. The donor and the recipient will be recognized in the Hilltop newsletter. Please contact Hilltop Arboretum for more information at 767-6916 or hilltop@tigers.lsu.edu.

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**Send your answer to hilltop@tigers.lsu.edu for a 20% discount on one item in the Hilltop Garden Book & Nature Shop.**

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**Guess Who?**

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**We need you! Does your company want to support Hilltop?** Hilltop would love to put your logo on this page. Become a corporate member! Benefits include sponsorship recognition and tickets for Hilltop programs, radio and billboard recognition, and use of the Margaret Holmes Brown Pavilion for a corporate event. More information can be found at our website, www.lsu.edu/hilltop under the membership link, or you may contact us at 225-767-6916 or hilltop@tigers.lsu.edu
HILLTOP THANKS YOU!
April 1, 2014 to August 1, 2014

New and Renewing Members

Live Oak $1,000
Catherine Caxites

Cypress $500-$999
Colette and Andy Dean

Magnolia $250-$499
Jane Honeycutt

Dogwood $100-$249
Patricia Alford, Richard Babin, Elizabeth Buchart, Travis and James Coleman, Brenda and Dave Davis, Katie and Mark Goodson, Paulette Hargroder, Cindy and John Hartgrink, Ann and Cordell Haymon, Katherine Inzer, Muccia and Joe Landry, Brenda and Philip Legendre, Renee and Paul Major, Penny Miller, Charlie and Jakk Stovall, Pam and Gerry Sulzer, Julie Vitor, Leo Broders, Jr.

Azalea $50-$99
Linda and Brian Babin, Christina Bowersox, Margaret Campane, Ann Coco, Josephine and Rudy Gomez, LaRue Jolly, Ann Reiley Jones, Arlene and Neil Kesner, Loice Lucy, Kay Martin, Kim and Don Moore, Judy and Butch Noland, Laura Oubre, Sabrina Taylor, Christina Watts, Donna Welch, Anne and Bert Wilkins

Violet $35-$49

Memorial Contributions
For Frances Patrick: Janet and Dick Hearin
For William Martin Bowlus: Robert and Martha Bowlus Family Fund

Matching Gifts
Albemarle Corporation, Exxon Mobil Foundation

Donations
For Anne Leggett: Donna Baxter
For Bartram Project: Michele Deshotels
For Tree Clearing: Richard Lipsey
For Bobby Green: Cheryl and Wayne Stromeyer

Grants
Junior League of Baton Rouge, EBR Master Gardeners, Urban and Community Forestry Grant Program, Louisiana Department of Agriculture and Forestry

Spring Garden Tour Hosts
Patrice and Richard Ellis, Mary Johnson, Dr. Joel Podolsky, Denise Van Schoyck and Terry Tuminello, Carol and Pete Newton

Junior Master Gardener Fall Camp
November 24-25, 2014 ~ 9 am – 1 pm
Register Early! Space Limited!

For 2 Days: $50 Members ~ $85 Non Members
(Includes Annual Membership)

What better place for your children or grandchildren to be in November than Hilltop’s beautiful 14-acres! Your special young gardener (ages 7-10) can expect lots of hands-on garden projects including gardening crafts, purple and gold hanging flower baskets, and an insect safari. Children that complete the fall camp will earn a Junior Master Gardener flower and beetle bug chapter pins.

Nutritious snacks based on gardening themes will be provided throughout the day. Parents will provide a brown bag lunch and drink. Register your young gardener online today www.lsu.edu/hilltop. For more information call 225-767-6916 or email hilltop@tigers.lsu.edu.

Camp Basics

To become a certified Junior Master Gardener – a very prestigious accomplishment – a child must complete activities from all 8 chapters of the "JMG Gardener Handbook". The activities are offered at the LSU Hilltop Arboretum in a series of day camps that are held in the fall (2 days), spring (2 days) and summer (5 days) each year. If you cannot attend all three camps in one year the lessons remain the same from year to year. You can take up to three years to complete the certification (ages 7-10). For each camp your child attends they will receive a certificate and chapter pins.

Thank You to our Junior Master Gardener Sponsor East Baton Rouge Parish Master Gardeners.
Join us for a garden stroll on a cool fall afternoon through seven gardens in old Baton Rouge on Sunday, October 26 from 1-5pm. The tour features garden spaces of various sizes and styles in Southdowns, Old Goodwood and Oak Alley Neighborhoods. We are so grateful to the fall garden tour hosts Dr. Richard and Judi Atkins (home and office), Cynthia and John Graves, Susan Hamilton, Drs. Judy and Kirk Patrick, Bertha and Travis Taylor and Betty Whitt. And as always, make time to drop by the Arboretum the afternoon of the tour where there will be ladies-in-waiting to assist you with the purchase of the Hodge Podge Collection of plants.

Thank you to all the members of the garden tour committee Devera Goss (Chairman), Lori Byrd, Terry Rehn, Mary Tharp and Vallan Corbett for their efforts in planning and organizing this annual Hilltop event.

Detail garden information, maps and tickets will be available through our website www.lsu.edu/hilltop.
Patrice and Richard Ellis held a “Porch Party” in their beautiful back yard in honor of Hilltop’s spring garden tour hosts and volunteers. We can’t thank them enough for their generosity! Featured from left: Dr. Joel Podolsky, Mary Johnson, Denise Van Schoyck, Pete Newton, Carol Newton, Terry Tuminello, Richard Ellis and Patrice Ellis.

**What Our Friends Are Doing**

**Burden Horticulture Society**
For additional information: psm0203@bellsouth.net
[225] 927-8459

**REFLECTIONS IN THE GARDEN**
Burden Conference Center
1st Mondays ~ noon-1pm

- Sept 8 ~ History of LSU Rural Life Museum
- Oct 6 ~ Shade Gardening – Orchids and Ferns
- Nov 3 ~ Decorating for the Holidays
- Dec 1 ~ Birds Unlimited

**CORN MAZE**
Sat. in October

**WINE & ROSES DINNER**
Oct 15

**COCKTAILS IN THE GARDEN**
Nov 7

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**Hilltop's new website**, at same address www.lsu.edu/hilltop, was launched on March 3, 2014. The site was designed by Lori Martin, Director LSU Web & New Media Development (Office of Communications and University Relations) and her talented staff including ME Hart and Alexandra Zimmerman. This huge undertaking would not have been possible with our volunteer Deb McMillin who has been our web editor for many years. This new WordPress website can be edited from the internet which will allow for greater flexibility in updating the content.
Take It Easy in The Big Easy!

Monday, November 10th
Depart Hilltop at 7:30 AM

Cost all inclusive: Members $115, Non-Members $150 (Includes Annual Membership)

Yes, Hilltop's next garden trip is to New Orleans. NOLA is one of our favorite destinations. In collaboration with Rene Fransen, a highly acclaimed landscape architect and friend of Hilltop, we will visit six of his gardens that are a leisurely stroll within a few blocks of each other in the University District. His motto is "It can be done....."

Lunch will be a special treat at Redemption, a wonderful restaurant that is in a lovely (former) church. And I happen to know that many of you who travel with us could use a little Redemption!!

After you have had your belly and maybe your soul replenished, we will go across the river to Algiers and visit the Rosetree Glass Gallery. It is housed in an old movie theater and you can watch the glass blowers create their one-of-a-kind works of art. You can also browse around the shop and purchase items such as, vases, ornaments, perfume bottles, and much more. I can attest to the fact that their work is very high quality and unique. Watching the actual process is amazing too. This is not your street corner glass blower!

Then Rene has yet another magnificent garden in Algiers called English Turn, referred to as "Gumbo Soul". After perusing this four acre beauty you will be ready for an easy ride home to Baton Rouge.

What Our Friends Are Doing

EBR Recycling Office
For additional information:
www.brgov.com/recycle
[225] 389-5194

HOUSEHOLD HAZARDOUS WASTE COLLECTION
Memorial Stadium
Nov 22

Master Gardener Programs
For additional information:
mtauzin@cox.net

SOUTHERN REGION MASTER GARDENER CONFERENCE
Baton Rouge Crowne Plaza
Tues-Fri, Oct 21-24
www.southernregionmgconf2014.com
~2014 at a glance~

**SEPTEMBER**
Sun, Sept 28, 12:30 – 4 pm
PLANTFEST TEASER!
*Marion Drummond Remembered …*
Featuring Laurie Drummond, Michael Hopping & Johnny Mayronne

**OCTOBER**
Sat, Oct 4 – Sun, Oct 5
PLANTFEST!

Tues - Fri, Oct 21-24
SOUTHERN MASTER GARDENER CONFERENCE

Sun, Oct 26, 1-5 pm
FALL GARDEN TOUR
*Eclectic Gardens in Old Baton Rouge*

**NOVEMBER**
Mon, Nov 10, Day Trip
FALL GARDEN TRIP
*Take It Easy in the Big Easy!*

Mon, Nov 24 – Tues, Nov 25
JUNIOR MASTER GARDENER Fall Camp

**DECEMBER**
Tues, Dec 2, 12 noon
ANNUAL MEETING

Visit Hilltop's Vendor Booth at the Southern Master Gardener Conference (Oct 21-24)

**Friends of Hilltop Arboretum**
P.O. Box 82608
Baton Rouge, LA 70884

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