

On May 21, 1961 Pike Burden accepted the Golden Deeds Award from Charles P. Manship, Jr. publisher of the State-Times and Morning Advocate newspapers, at Mike & Tony's Restaurant in Baton Rouge. Before his acceptance speech, Pike announced that he had with him a book that contained the hottest information on how to accept an award. As he opened the book it burst into flames on the podium. The humorous contrast pretty much sums up the life and character of Pike Burden, a complex and diverse man. He spent his life looking every day for an opportunity to do something significant, or failing that, looking for a good joke to play.

Pike was already suffering from heart and lung diseases at the time he received the Golden Deeds Award. He died four years later. The Golden Deeds Award was a culmination to a life of adventure and service.

Pike was a businessman, who ran a successful Baton Rouge printing business. He was a philanthropist; and a well known member of the Rotary Club. On one occasion he was removed from the membership roles for a short time for missing too many meetings. He repented, recovered his membership and vowed to become a stellar Rotarian. Eventually, he was elected president of Rotary. He used the occasion of his installation as an opportunity for another performance. At his inauguration meeting he delayed his

### Pike Burden: On Stage By John Monroe

entrance and marched in dressed in top hat and tails followed by two scantily clad young women carrying pennants reading "THIS IS MY YEAR" and a Dixieland band playing "When the Saints Go



Marching In." He used his influence at Rotary to make changes to help people in need. He changed the practice of distributing cigars at the birth of a child to establish the Rotary Crippled Children's Fund supported by contributions of a dollar a pound from new fathers and grandfathers. Doing for others was a lifelong penchant for Pike.

A children's playroom on the pediatric floor at the Our Lady of the Lake Hospital was another contribution entirely paid for by Pike because he thought the hospital too dreary a place for children. He had been admitted to a room in the pediatric unit earlier because the other floors were full. He decided that he liked it there and went back to the same room for later admissions. He never checked in at the admissions desk, just went to the room and called on the hospital phone to announce that he was there.

He had an artist friend paint a mural on the drab hospital wall in his room in the pediatric unit. He then agreed to pay for the playroom furnishing as a penance for doing so as he had neglected to get permission beforehand. He paid for everything on the condition he had free reign to do whatever he wanted. He told the Franciscan sister in charge of pediatrics that the first thing he would do would be to take down all the crucifixes. She was horrified and quickly ran to report this to the Mother Superior. Later Pike admitted that he was only joking and put a new large crucifix in the playroom. The room had toys, a fun-house mirror, balloons and clowns painted on the walls and a sign over the door, "Playhouse 279, No Doctors Allowed."

Pike Burden Printers was successful because everyone in town liked Pike. It was not because he ran a good business. Orders were delivered notoriously late. Pike once left the details of an order on the desk of a local banker and promptly forgot about it; he was off doing other .....continued on page 6

## **Reflections from the Chair**

By Ginnie Bolin, Chairman



BHS Board members. volunteers, Burden staff, many community organizations, and government agencies have been very engaged at many levels on a project near and many. Project dear to Learning Tree. This endeavor involves kindergarten through twelfth grade children and teachers in a nationally recognized envi-

ronmental education program, using the Burden Trees and Trails as the classroom. A group of volunteers has been very involved in the restoration of the woods from the destruction of Gustav and continues the work of keeping the trails clear and safe. (See their story on page 10). A workshop was held May 15 for classroom teachers and September 15 for the docents who will be working with small groups of children at the learning stations on the trails. In October and November, six classes from four public, private, and parochial middle schools will participate in a Project Learning Tree Pilot Program. Next year the full program will be implemented with schools from all over the area participating. Three grants have been submitted, one to ExxonMobil and two to the Junior League with the hope they will award the funds to help make Trees and Trails a self sustaining outdoor educational environment for our community. If you are interested in participating, supporting this project or just curious, please fill out the volunteer form, or check out our website www.bhs.com. or the website www.PLT.org.

**Dr. Jeff Kuehny** conducted a walking lecture tour through the ginger garden on **Ginger Day** August 14. He and ginger expert, Tim Chapman, answered questions about all the different varieties of gingers that were offered for sale.

On August 17 all of our many BHS volunteers were honored at a luncheon at the Burden Center. **Dr. William Richardson, Chancellor of the AgCenter,** welcomed the guests and expressed his appreciation for all the work that so many BHS volunteers have given the Burden Center and emphasized the importance of continued support during the present budget crisis. Simone Kramer, the new BHS Volunteer Coordinator, and her committee did an outstanding job of organizing this event. They hope to honor many new volunteers at the volunteer appreciation luncheon next year. Will you be among them?

The Board is presently involved in planning four

events, Harvest Day activities on Saturday, October 16 and Sunday, October 17. Soon to follow is our annual Wine and Roses Dinner, Wednesday October 27. Then a new event, *Brush with Burden*, a juried art exhibition of works that are of, or about Burden Center. Works are to be completed and entered by December 1<sup>st</sup> with the exhibit to follow in February. Preliminary plans are being made for a **Photography Workshop with C.C. Lockwood** in the spring.

In conjunction with the Rural Life Museum's Harvest Days, BHS will have several fun activities for families. The children can take a hayride around Burden, find their way through a corn maze, have their pictures taken with the scarecrows, all for five dollars a family. They can select a pumpkin to buy from the pumpkin patch and have it painted. If the weather permits, for five more dollars each person can take a balloon ride and see the vastness of the Burden Center (See page 7).

Wine and Roses will begin at six o'clock with cocktails and hors d'oeuvres in the Rose Garden and in the Steele Burden Memorial Orangerie. At seven o'clock the dinner will follow. Please refer to the box on page 3 for details.

Brush with Burden is a new venture into the world of art for BHS with more art events to follow. Artists from

Baton Rouge and # surrounding areas are invited to submit original art work which depicts the gardens, grounds, buildings, flora or fauna of the Burden Center, includthe Windrush ing Gardens. (See page 4 for details). The selected works will be displayed in the Orangerie on February 4-6. A reception will be held in the evening, February 4. The four winners selected by the judge will later be on display at the Shaw Center for one month. There will be a parallel exhibit award of winning paintings from

	Burden Horticulture Society Board	
	Dr. Pat HegwoodEx-C Dr. Jeff Kuehny Ex-C Annette BartonEx-C Dr. John RussinLiais Ginnie Bolin	Dfficio Director Dfficio Director on to AgCenter Chair
	Penny Miller	
1	Directors:	Advisory
,	1	Committee:
,	Sherry Eubanks Jea Judy Foil Co Len Kilgore Ba Marilyn Root Ar Cary Saurage Fra Malcolm Tucker Ba	slie Bardwell anne Clement Ieman Brown rbara Laundun t Landry ances Monroe rbara Quirk Ie Walsh

#### Editors: Maia Butler Aline Creed Ginger Ku

Reflections and Visions



### **Reflections from the Chair**

... continued from Page 2

the Marvin Garden Show called A Brush with Beauty.

This spring we are planning a **Photography Workshop with C.C. Lockwood**. There will also be an exhibit of these works. Keep in touch for details of this exciting event.

The Board welcomed two new board members, Len Kilgore and Wanda Chase at an orientation September 2. Len is an attorney with Kean Miller Law Firm and Wanda is a landscape architect with Imahara Landscape Company. The Board is looking forward to working with both of these talented and energetic professionals.

Right: Dr. William Richardson, Chancellor of LSU AgCenter and Simone Kramer, chaired the Luncheon.



**Burden Horticulture Society** invites you to An Evening of ine at Burden Center Wednesday, October 27, 2010 \$100 per person **Burden Center** Limited seating available 4560 Essen Lane Proceeds dedicated to **Baton Rouge** 7 p.m. implementing the LSU AgCenter's Ione Burden Conference Center Burden Center Master Plan Dinner 6 p.m. Steele Burden Memorial Orangerie **First course** by Galatoire's Bistro Reservations Cocktails accepted by check, payable to: Main course Hors d'oeuvres LSU Foundation/BHS by Chef Don Bergeron by Eric Arceneaux, City Club (Memo line: Wine & Roses) **Dessert** course Silent auction mail to: by Whole Foods **Burden Horticulture Society** Wine and champagne 4560 Essen Lane Live auction Baton Rouge, LA 70809 or call 225-763-3990

**Reflections and Visions** 

# ~Call for Entries~

"A Brush with Burden" 2011 Art Exhibition at Steele Burden Memorial Orangerie



Sponsored by Burden Horticulture Society



# **RULES OF ENTRY**

#### Theme

Theme for the show is "A Brush with Burden." Pieces must depict an area within the Burden property, including grounds, buildings, flora and fauna of the Burden Center and Windrush Gardens. (Standard admission will be charged for entry onto the grounds of the Rural Life Museum). Any work that is deemed not to meet the criteria of the exhibit will not be accepted.

#### Awards

Ribbons will be awarded for Best In Show, Judge's Award, Honorable Mention, and People's Choice. Winning works will be displayed at the Shaw Center for the Arts following the show.

#### Eligibility

Open to all artists 18 years of age and older. All art media are eligible. Works must be original. All artwork must be priced and available for sale.

#### Entries

Entries will be accepted as images (JPG or TIF). Selection of works to be accepted in the exhibition will be chosen from the digital images submitted. Only one digital image should be submitted for each two-dimensional work. A maximum of three digital images may be submitted for each three-dimensional work. Multiple entries can be placed on one CD or zip disk. Each disk must be labeled with artist's name. Each work on the disk must be titled. You must include the following information for each entry: artist name, title, medium, and size. Maximum size of entry is 48 " by 48". Any artwork that differs from the digital image will be disqualified. Disks will be returned if submitted with a self-addressed, pre-paid postage envelope. Digital images as JPG or TIF files may be submitted by e-mail to woodcock2@cox.net, but registration form and fees must be received for entry to be valid.

#### Fees

A non-refundable fee of \$15.00 per piece of artwork entered must accompany the entry form. Checks or money orders should be made payable to Burden Horticulture Society, with the notation "Burden Art Show" in the memo line.

#### Juror and Judge

Leone Elliott, M.D., collector and dealer of fine art.

#### Sales

All work submitted must be priced and ready for sale. A commission will be taken on all 20% sales.

Burden Horticulture Society

### CALENDAR

Postmark deadline to receive entries
Acceptance letters mailed to artists
Drop-off day for accepted entries, 10 a.m—4 p.m.
Opening Reception, 6 p.m.—8 p.m.
Exhibition Closes
Pick-up day for art

# **ACCEPTED ENTRIES**

#### ENTRIES MUST BE POSTMARKED NO LATER THAN WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 1, 2010

#### **Accepted Entries**

All artists will be notified by mail or e-mail of the decision of the juror. All two-dimensional entries must be suitably framed, wired for hanging, and in stable condition.

#### SHIPPING/DELIVERY INSTRUCTIONS WILL BE INCLUDED WITH YOUR NOTIFICATION OF ACCEPTANCE.

#### Liability

The Burden Horticulture Society, Burden Center and Windrush Gardens, and LSU Ag Center will not be responsible for any damage, loss, or deterioration of art while in transit to or from the exhibit hall. Upon arrival, each piece will be unpacked and inspected for damage. Art will be stored in a secure, temperature-controlled room. The exhibit will be held in the Steele Burden Memorial Orangerie at the Burden Center.

#### For more information, please contact:

Ginnie Bolin Phone: (225) 343-2225 Fax: (225) 383-2098 woodcock2@cox.net www.burdenhorticulturesociety.com/ Join us on Facebook: Burden Horticulture Society

# **ENTRY FORM**

NAME

STREET\_\_\_\_\_

CITY

STATE \_\_\_\_\_ ZIP\_\_\_\_\_

PHONE (Day)

E-MAIL

1) TITLE\_\_\_\_\_

SIZE \_\_\_\_\_ MEDIUM \_\_\_\_\_\_

SALE PRICE \_\_\_\_\_ VALUE \_\_\_\_\_

2) TITLE

SIZE \_\_\_\_\_ MEDIUM \_\_\_\_\_

SALE PRICE VALUE

3) TITLE \_\_\_\_\_\_

SIZE \_\_\_\_\_\_ MEDIUM \_\_\_\_\_\_

SALE PRICE VALUE

Please mail disks, entry fee and entry form to:

A Brush with Burden Art Show Burden Horticulture Society 4560 Essen Lane Baton Rouge, LA 70809 Burden Horticulture Society

## Pike Burden: On Stage

....continued from Page 1

things. The banker waited a month," called Pike to ask about the order. "It's on the press and will be ready.

this afternoon," Pike answered. "The hell it is," replied the banker. "It's here on my desk where you left it a month ago." This was one of the few times Pike was on the receiving end of a prank. Another time when a banker in Port Allen was complaining angrily about a late delivery, Pike loaded the completed order into his small plane, flew over the river and dropped it on the front steps of the bank. At the Golden Deeds banquet, his employees at the print shop had a stalk of bananas presented to him with a note: "We know you are the top banana. Please get back to work and stop running around town."

Pike Burden was a businessman, World War I flyer, prankster, philanthropist, humanitarian and friend, but probably he was happiest as a magician. He performed shows, hundreds of them, for all groups who asked and especially for school classes. Everyone in Baton Rouge who attended grammar school at that time probably

remembers seeing one of Pike's shows. Like all good magicians, he never explained how he performed his tricks (or apologized for one of his practical jokes). The little house at Windrush, where he Jeannette lived and when they first married, became a warehouse packed full with his magic tricks. No one could enter but Pike. He learned a lot about people from his performances. He once said, when choosing a volunteer from the audience; choose some one with a smile on their face. But never a

it was not a rush order, and then Pike Burden will always be remembered for his magic: Burden the Great.

> woman with a big hat because women wear big hats to attract attention and they will take over the stage if you let them up there.

> Pike spoke about his view of life in his Golden Deeds Award acceptance speech: "Many of you regard me as a magician. This brings a smile to you but I should like to be taken seriously ... I see magic in life. There is something magically beautiful, often hidden, in everything around me. I see it in this city, in the churches and schools, in business and play, in my friends, of course, also. My efforts to see this lovely magic everywhere has been rewarding. You are the people who have given me whatever magical insight I have. This time I thank you for your magic, for it helps me to see down in my heart, how I might be a greater magician and so become a more magically useful member of this community."

> > Pike Burden will always be remembered for his magic: Burden the Great.

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





Haupides (Last hayride each day at 3 pm) (Children under 12 must be accompanied by an adult.)

Paint a pumpkin from the Pumpkin Patch

Take Pictures with the Scare Crow in the Pumpkin Patch (Bring your camera for great photos of your kids.)

Get lost in the Com Maze

Fly up in the Tethered Hot Air Balloon Ride (Weather Permitting)

Buy pumpking to take home

IMPORTANT NOTE: Admission to the following Burden Horticulture Society events is only offered to those who pay admission to the Bural Life Museum Harvest Days. **Digging in the Dirt** By Jeff Kuehny



Just because you grow green plants to beautify your landscape or partake of their fruit doesn't mean that you are being green. Did you ever think of what happens to all those plastic containers and flats that you purchase your plants in? Biocontainers offer an exciting opportunity for the

home gardener to become green or even more earth friendly. Biocontainers are containers that are not petroleum based and will degrade rapidly when placed in a composting operation or when planted in the garden or landscape (see Table for a list of currently available biocontainers). Currently, the majority of garden plants are produced in petroleum-based plastic containers. Plastic is cheap, strong and can be formed into essentially any size and shape. However, the extensive use of plastic containers results in a significant waste disposal problem for the home gardener and this waste plastic either ends up in a landfill or hopefully gets recycled.

Biocontainers fall into two categories. First, there are compostable biocontainers, which are designed to be removed from the rootball before the final planting and then composted. The second category, plantable biocontainers, are designed to be left intact on the rootball and planted directly into the field, landscape bed or final container. These biocontainers are designed to allow roots to grow through the container walls and to decompose after being planted.

To determine the suitability of these biocontainers as a replacement for plastic containers, a comprehensive study

### **Consider Eco-Friendly Pots**

was undertaken at the Louisiana State University AgCenter Burden Center in conjunction with Longwood Gardens in Pennsylvania and the University of Arkansas.

Vinca 'Grape Cooler' and impatiens 'Dazzler Lilac Splash' were grown in each of the biocontainers listed in the table and plant growth was evaluated for each container type. All plants in each pot type were considered marketable; indicating that all serve as biocontainers tested would suitable replacements for plastic when considering plant growth.

Decomposition of plantable biocontainers (those planted directly in the landscape) in the landscape was also evaluated. There were a few differences in decomposition rates likely due to the difference in materials used to make the containers. Those composed of high cellulose materials, such as Cowpots, had higher rates of decomposition than those containing high amounts of lignin or other difficult to decompose components, such as, cocofiber containers. Additionally, nitrogen in the dairy manure used to produce the Cowpot containers may have stimulated the activity of microorganisms and subsequent decomposition rates. The rate of decomposition of cocofiber containers may be low enough that the containers will still be present when a location is replanted. In this case, previously planted containers may need to be manually broken apart and incorporated into the soil or removed before replanting. The compostable biocontainers (those that must be removed prior to planting) were added to a composting operation at Longwood Gardens and were found to degrade within a matter of a couple of weeks!



Type of containers from left to right: 4" Plastic, Fertil®, Cowpots®, Cocofiber, Strawpots®, 5" Plastic, Peat, Ricehull, OP47, Paper.

# **Digging in the Dirt**

... continued from Page 8

The biocontainers that were tested in this study are suitable for growing plants, planting in the landscape or garden, or composting. Thus, providing an acceptable alternative for growers, landscapers and homeowners to use in place of petroleum based plastic pots. So the next time you have a choice when purchasing containers to grow your transplants or when you are at the garden center

purchasing plants for your garden or landscape, geaux green with a biocontainer! It may cost you a little bit more but just think of the benefits: reduced reliance on petroleum and your contribution to the landfill. All of these containers are available for purchase on the internet. If you haven't already, you should start finding these containers at your local garden center very soon.

Container Name	Container Composition	Plantable	Compostable
Plastic	Petroleum-based plastic		
Peat	Peat and paper	1	
DOT® / Fertil®	80% Cedar wood fiber, 20% peat and lime	1	
Cowpots®	Composted dairy manure and a binder	1	
Cocofiber	Coconut husk fibers and a binder	1	
Strawpots®	80% Rice straw, 20% cocofiber and a binder	$\checkmark$	
<b>OP47</b>	Protein based bioplastics		~
Paper/Kord Fiber	Paper pulp and a binder		✓
Ricehull	Ground rice hulls and a binder		1



### "Reflection in the Garden" Lunch Series

Noon to 1:00 PM in the Ione Burden Conference Center the first Monday of each month

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

	Oct 4	Sweet Potatoes: They're Not Just for Thanksgivin	ng Anymore	Don Labonte
	Nov 1	Strawberries: Planting, Caring and Eating		Charlie Johnson
() ()	Dec 6	Design on a Dime Holiday Decorating	Barbara Lau	dun and Jeanie LeBlanc

### **Our Knights in Shining Armor** By Penny Miller

Once upon a time, there was a forest - a beautiful woodland of wandering trails and education stations - that everyone loved; but in all the busyness of the world, it needed the care of a person who could see it for all of its beauty and prioritize its needs so that the forest could be sustained far into the future. Many helped here and there, some mightily, but there was no one to be the forest's own caretaker.

At last, that has changed! Burden's Trees and Trails have their very own Trail Master: **Don Thibodeaux** of Baton Rouge Hikers. Joining Don, as co-Trail Master, is **Phillip Legendre**. These two have been part of the muscle men called the "chain gang" at Burden Center because of the hard work they have done preparing Burden Woods for the onslaught of curious youngsters who will be participating in Trees and Trails. Now, the two of them have become the eyes, hands, and voice of the trails. They began immediately by conducting an inventory of the maintenance needs, such as weeds hiding signs, a downed tree blocking the trail, invasive species encroaching the woods, and broken benches harboring ants. They handled what they could physically do by themselves and called in help from Burden staff for the heavier work and chemicals. Looking ahead, they are notifying Burden Horticulture Society of work that needs to be done this fall, especially considering the implementation of *Project Learning Tree* which will bring more children into the woods. As with any good stewardship of property, keeping ahead prevents work from getting out of hand. Burden Center is so lucky to have Don and Phil as volunteers!

If Trees and Trails are your passion too, you are welcome to join them. For the real outdoor experience, Don and

Phil are usually on the trails Wednesday mornings. For the less physically inclined, docents are now leading planned outdoor class activities as *Project Learning Tree* for area 4<sup>th</sup> and 7<sup>th</sup> grade students, tying lessons learned indoors to the actual environment. Fill in the form below or use the entry form on the 'Join Us' page of the BHS website (www.BurdenHorticultureSociety.com) or call or email our new volunteer coordinator, **Simone Kramer** (225-235-8896), SKramer@agcenter.lsu.edu. We'd love to hear from you.

#### Volunteers Opportunities:

- □ Gardening
- □ Clerical
- Annual Events
- □ Reflections in the Garden
- Database
- □ Wine and Roses Committee



- Publicity
- Speakers
- □ Volunteer Coordination
- Membership
- □ Fundraising
- □ Trees and Trails, Maintenance and Development
- □ Trees and Trails, Docents
- Other:

Your Name and phone number:

**Reflections and Visions** 

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the LSU AgCenter's educational and fund	Burden Center. It opera draising purposes. Partne um, we strive to offer infor	cently formed to promote, support, and expand the use of ates under the auspices of the LSU Foundation solely for ering with other gardening and outdoor organizations, plus rmative opportunities for the public and to increase aware-
Your gift will allow us educational events.	s to develop a Master Pla	an for Burden Center and will help sponsor special
Please mail to:	Burden Horticulture S	Society







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#### In this Issue: What's Bloomin' at Windrush? Windrush Garden is shining in all its glory in the autumn sun Brike Burden: On Stage......Page 1 these days. Come see the changes that take place in this Southern Garden for the fall and winter. First, the sasanquas are blooming and will continue to bloom as Reflections from the Chair...Page 2 the first of the early camellias begin to show their color and give way to mid season camellias. Bedding plants placed at the points of the garden beds include the colorful foliage of the coleus still glow-A Brush with Burden......Page 4 ing from summer, zinnias, with their varied warm colors and shapes and amaranth, which are similar to cetosia. There are likely some ornamental peppers tucked into some Digging in the Dirt.....Page 8 sunny areas and, of course the background of the lush evergreens to set off the whole effect. If you would like to see what's blooming come on by! Cour Knights in Shining Armor .....Page 10 **BHS Special Events 2010** October 16 & 17, 2010 Corn Maze Pumpkin Patch October 27, 2010 Wine and Roses Deadline to receive entries December 1, 2010