Barden Horticulture Society

December 31, 2011

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Windrush Gardens: Designed for Sculpture

By John Monroe

Many of Steele Burden's landscape designs made use of sculpture as focal points in important locations to add interest and mystery to the garden experience for guests and visitors. Windrush Gardens surrounding the Burden family home is a prominent example. In fact, Windrush Gardens can be said to have been laid out to display sculpture and other hard ornamental pieces that he collected throughout his life. Alcoves viewed through openings in beds, the ends of long paths and alleys, and



views from one garden room to another were all used to present intriguing pieces from his collection. A favorite technique to enhance the sculptural locations was the use of flowering plants such as camellia or sasangua as back-drops with perhaps a pair of Japanese yews as side frames for the sculpture. The garden design became more formal, and the use of color from annuals or perennials more common, near these pieces. In the early days of Windrush when resources were tight, these areas near statuary would receive attention first, leaving other maintenance for another day.

Steele worked with Frances and me as we continued the development of the gardens surrounding our home. Occasionally he would say "I found a piece that you might be interested in. It could go right over there -- if you like it." Not at first, but eventually, we came to realize that what he meant was "go get this piece and put it right there." I am sure there are many others who have had this same experience with him and are smiling as they read these words.

Steele's interest in sculpture was not so much to acquire a collection of fine or unique art but to have forms around that pleased him and added to the mood he wanted to create in his landscapes. He liked marble, and especially bronze, because of the wonderful colors of the patina that develops on the metal as it ages outside, but he collected works of stone, cast iron and concrete as well.

Good art never loses its appeal to the viewer. The passage of time is the ultimate judge of good art. Steele had an expert eye for it.

We learned from Steele to love sculpture as he did. Now when we travel, we always take time to visit museums, shops and gardens where sculpture is prominent, as we know he did when he traveled. This always adds something extra special to the trip. There is a marble piece on the south side of "Old" Windrush Gardens that we used to identify as an image of the Roman mythological Diana. Seven years ago while visiting the Capitoline Museum in Rome, I stumbled across another copy of this same piece, but it was named "Wounded Amazon." We will defer to the Capitoline Museum's name from now on. Just this year, walking through the Tullieres Garden in Paris, Frances and I were amazed to see Hippomenes and Atalanta in one of the pools there. Copies of the same figures, in cast iron, can be seen at the ends of the third garden room in Windrush Gardens. Steele Burden was inspired during his trips to Europe to

recreate some of what he had seen around the Burden Home. We cannot know for sure, but perhaps he saw the same pieces we did.



Burden Horticulture Society

Reflections from the Chair

By Penny Miller, Chairman

On a recent trip, a new acquaintance asked about the organization I was involved with. Do you know how difficult it is to tell someone totally unfamiliar with your area about something you're totally passionate about and not bore them to tears? So I gave her my 30 second 'elevator talk':



Burden Center is a part of the university in Baton Rouge and is our little "Central Park." We are trying to protect this 440-acre of green space in the center of town

for generations to come by promoting it to the community. We have an educational program that brings students into the woods, we have artistic and music activities to entice the creative people, and we have family activities to attract, well, families. Moreover, we have the potential to offer so much more to our area.

Her wise council was to get the support of all types of stakeholders, people who can help keep and expand Burden Center for all to enjoy. This is where you, our supporters, have helped so much and we are grateful beyond words. To share some of the benefits your contributions of treasure and talent have made possible this year:

- Project Learning Tree at Trees and Trails brought almost 700 students into the woods. Costs were for educational materials, learning station supplies, maintenance and development, promotional expenses, and support for our docents. Some of these students had never been in woods before; to watch them see and learn was a natural high.
 Your funds and volunteer hours make this possible.
- Thanks to a generous donation and grant support, we are getting very close to having enough money to build the Pavilion. It will provide covered area for outdoor lessons and much needed restroom facilities for the 100+ size groups we're attracting. Your support will help bridge the gap.
- We had over 900 participants attend the monthly Reflections in the Garden, sometimes with standing room only. This is a major source of new people to Burden Center and your support made this possible.
- The Brush with Burden juried art exhibition and C.C. Lockwood Landscape Photography workshop, along with the Art in the Garden Reception that followed, brought a different group of people out. The proceeds from these events helped enhance the Burden Conference Center with better lighting; the number of new people experiencing Burden for the first time was priceless. Your participation and volunteer hours made this occur.
- The Corn Maze attracted another 2,500 people. These were families looking for a good place to entertain their children close to home, and yes, even during LSU football games. Those who came the last weekend in October will never forget the bonfire with hot dogs and marshmallows. Thank you for making that possible.
- The Black Swamp Boardwalk opening attracted 50 people, many who said they never knew that Burden Center went all the way to the Barton Arboretum. Do you? Check out the map on www.BurdenHorticultureSociety.com. Again, all made achievable by you.

The majority of the funds raised are set aside for the Master Plan to serve as seed money and to help with matching funds for grants. This long term plan will take years, maybe generations, but it allows us to grow in an orderly manner. Tell friends about Burden or better yet, bring them to visit, volunteer to help, and give what you can financially. It's important! Baton Rouge and our surrounding communities deserve something this great.

See you where the grass is greenest

Pumpkin Patch & Corn Maze Fun Family Weekend

The Corn Maze Fun Family Weekend was another record setting event – more people, more fun, and more funds to support Burden. The weekend was great with the pumpkin painting, the hay stack, balloon launch, and hayrides. The Corn Maze continued through October bringing almost another 1,000 people.





Reflections and Visions



The name Dr. Paul Murrill means many different things to many people from all walks of life. To some, he is remembered for his successful career in chemical, mechanical and aerospace engineering in the private sector. To others, he is thought of as a dynamic teacher and professor at LSU. Still others recall his record of accomplishments as Chancellor of LSU. Sports fans will remember that he was instrumental in expanding the stadium's seating capacity. Veterinarians laud him for spearheading the building of the LSU School of Veterinary Medicine. His interest in and emphasis on the LSU Press contributed to its receiving national recognition and being awarded 65 titles, including the coveted Pulitzer Prize. In his "spare time," he authored or co-authored eight textbooks and contributed to seven others. It would embarrass him by enumerating his many honors and awards.



When thinking of Dr. Paul Murrill, one thinks of the Burden Center where he brought his knowledge of the inner -workings of LSU, his prestige and his gifted leadership abilities to the development of the Center. He and his wonderful wife, Nancy, have been actively involved in the Center for many years, Nancy as a docent and Paul as President and

Madisyn and Taylor Puckett

member of the Burden Foundation Board. His hardest work was behind the scenes where he quietly stilled troubled waters and engineered important developments, such as the formation of the Burden Horticulture Society and the creation of a Master Plan for the Burden Center. As a friend of Steele Burden, he has made certain that everything was done in accordance with Mr. Burden's vision and wishes while giving unselfishly of his talents and abilities for the common good and to whom all of us are so indebted.



Pictures from the Pumpkin Patch & Corn Maze













Wine and Roses





Flower arrangement volunteers: Barbara Laudun, Jan Soule, Evalyn Lank, Jeanie LeBlanc,



Drs. Bill Richardson, Paul Murrill, Mike Martin



Wine and Roses could not have been better this year.

Our honorees, Nancy and Paul Murrill, attracted a record crowd that filled not only the Burden Conference Center but also the Orangerie.



Brenda Davis



Jack Hightower, Frank Foil, Bobby McCall



Frances Monroe, Denis Murrell, John Monroe. Cornelia Weldon (guests)







Many thanks to our committee chairs, Judy Foil and Ginnie Bolin, our volunteers, and our sponsors who worked so hard to make sure all were included comfortably and to our guests who made this evening such a successful evening.





Gail Pryor, Beverly Coates, Carolyn Murrell

Reflections and Visions



Special thanks to our generous sponsors and donors



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J.D. Smith Camellia Collection - More than a Pretty Face

by Gigi Gauthier



When Dr. Louis Leatherman and his wife, Mary Gail, decided they were ready to share his cousin's oil paintings, Dr. Pat Hegwood and Lynn Vicknair with the Baton Rouge Camellia Society knew Burden Center was the ideal location for such a special exhibition. For over 25 years, the paintings have been enjoyed by retired Houston cardiologist, Dr. Leatherman, and his family. Leatherman's late cousin, Joseph D. Smith of St. Francisville, La., was an accomplished educator, entomologist and insecticide research scientist, who along with his wife, Estelle, had a fondness for camellias. In fact, Estelle was a well-known exhibitor in local and statewide floral shows and an American Camellia Society judge. Mr. Smith's passion for camellias was manifested in the 1940's and 1950's when he painted over seventy camellia blooms from his and other gardens in central and south Louisiana. He dated and labeled each painting with

the name of the bloom and the garden where it was grown. His scientific training served him well. He reproduced the morphological and anatomical details of each bloom,

including the leaves, with remarkable precision and attention to detail.

Thirteen of the seventy paintings from this exceptional and unique collection are on loan and displayed in the Ione Burden Conference Center. Friends and family won't want to miss this beautiful exhibit.

Thanks to John Wozniak, LSU AgCenter Communications Assistant Director and Head of Publications who scanned all the paintings, Pat and Lynn created the J.D. Smith Camellia Collection calendar. It is available for purchase through the Baton Rouge Camellia Society.



No Child Left Inside

By Gigi Gauthier

The Tree Factory exercise from Project Learning Tree (PLT) illustrates how a tree's many components work together to help it grow and thrive. Similarly, many partners contribute to PLT's success and play a pivotal role in the program's growth.

First and foremost are the dedicated volunteer docents who give so generously of their time and energy to make this BHS program come alive for the school children of Baton Rouge. They are committed to making the learning experience offered by this acclaimed environmental program a positive one. Second is the financial support necessary to ensure that PLT and Trees and Trails learning stations offer maximum educational impact and that the program benefits the maximum number of school children.

Thanks to the generosity of ExxonMobil Corporation, PLT has extra support for significant program expansion. A \$7500 grant awarded by Exxon-Mobil will provide transportation and admission funds for 1200 children to participate in PLT. "Trees and Trails is a wonderful resource for Baton Rouge, and we have made an investment in the PLT program so that students from all neighborhoods can take advantage of this fun, educational experience," said Stephanie Cargile, ExxonMobil Baton Rouge Public and Government Affairs manager.

BHS greatly appreciates all the support provided by individuals, businesses, and community organizations who, through their partnership, contribute to PLT's success. By helping children learn about the natural world, the importance of maintaining ecosystems in an urban environment, and the preservation of our region's cultural heritage, we can help ensure no child is left inside.



Professional photographer for more than 30 years,

DAVID HUMPHREYS

is offering a special photography workshop in April 2012



COMING APRIL 12 & 14, 2012 DAVID HUMPHREYS WILL OFFER HIS EXPERTISE FOR A UNIQUE WORKSHOP TO BENEFIT THE BURDEN HORTICULTURAL SOCIETY

(FUNDS RAISED WILL SUPPORT THE DEVELOPMENT OF THE BURDEN CENTER MASTER PLAN)

A fine art and commercial photographer for 31 years, David Humphreys has worked for clients around the world and has taught and been a guest lecturer at LSU for a number of years. He has won numerous awards, including the PDN Nikon award. His clients are well known, ranging from the international, such as, American Express, to the local, such as, the Baton Rouge Junior League's River Roads IV cookbook.

> Introductory meeting Thursday, April 12th, 2012, 7-8:30 p.m. Ione Burden Conference Center 4560 Essen Lane, Baton Rouge

Lectures will focus on the nuts and bolts of camera equipment and composition and lighting. A shooting session, led by Humphreys,

will be held

from 8 a.m. to 9:30 a.m. April 14 at Burden.

It will be followed by a visit to his studio.

Workshop participants will have the opportunity to see the latest photography equipment and to ask questions of a professional about the use of Lightroom and Photoshop, as Humphreys takes them through the steps of creating quality photos.

SPACE IS LIMITED FOR WORKSHOP PARTICIPANTS; THOSE INTERESTED ARE ENCOURAGED TO REGISTER EARLY. COST: \$150 THE WORKSHOP REGISTRATION FORM AND ADDITIONAL INFORMATION FOR THE GENERAL PUBLIC WILL BE POSTED ON WWW.burdenhorficulturesociety.com after Nov. 11, 2011.

Burden Horticulture Society

Burden PHOTOGRAPHY WORKSH	istration ~ IOP WITH DAVID HUM er's Burden Center	IPHREYS
Full Name:	E-Mail:	
Street Address:		
City:	State:	ZIP:
Daytime Phone:	Cell Phone:	
Camera(s) owned:	Howlong:	
Do you have a tripod?	Lenses owned:	
What is your main area of interest in photography	?	
How did you hear about this workshop?		

 The workshop lecture will be held on Thursday, April 12, 7:00-8:30 p.m.

 FIELD TRIP DATE: April 14th 8-9:30 at Burden, then to Humphrey's studio

 (for office use only)

 Payment enclosed
 Yes

 No
 Check No.:

WAIVER OF LIABILITY

I, (print name) _______, being 21 years of age or older, on behalf of myself (or on t my minor child participant) hereby release, discharge, hold harmless and indemnify David Humphreys, Horticulture Society, Burden Center and LSU AgCenter, their affiliates and their respective members, employees and representatives from all damages, losses, injuries, liabilities, claims, demands and causes of a personal illness or injury, death or damage to personal property, in each case suffered by the undersigned their minor child participant) or by any other person, arising from or occurring in connection with provisio workshop, including illness, injury, death or damage caused in whole or in part by the negligence or wrong any member of the sponsoring organizations, and any illness, injury, death or damage arising out of any treatment or first aid provided or procured by the sponsors. The undersigned agrees that neither he/she or successors or assignees will ever assert in any forum any such Claim, and the undersigned shall indemnify a harmless the sponsors from and against any such Claim (including reasonable attorney's fees and costs inc defending such Claim) brought against them by any other person.

Participant or Parent Signature	Date
Child's Name (if applicable)	Child's Age

* Please make two copies of this form. Send one copy to BHS and retain a copy for your records.

Enclose your check for payment in the amount of \$150, payable to Burden Horticulture Society Mail to: BHS, c/o Judy Foil, 434 Castle Kirk Drive, Baton Rouge, LA, 70808

Current Turfgrass Research: Nutrients and Pesticide Losses

By Jeffrey Beasley, Steve Borst, and Ron Strahan



Urban environments have been recognized as significant sources of non-point (pollution coming from many diffuse sources, for example, motor oil dripping on the ground) surface water pollution. Given estimates that grassed areas account for more than 30 million acres in the United States, combined with increased use of fertilizers and pesticides, it is easy to understand how urban centers are becoming greater contributors to runoff pollution of surface waters.

Many scientists have concluded nutrient runoff from established grass systems is negligible because turf has a dense canopy and fibrous root structure.

Dense vegetation has been shown to delay runoff, slow lateral water flow, and trap suspended sediment. In fact, the efficacy of grass to limit runoff and

reduce erosion has resulted in its adoption in conservation systems. In some cases, areas of turf have been viewed as safer than areas of agronomic production because turf is a perennial vegetation.

However, most research examining surface runoff losses from turf has been conducted on highly managed areas. Areas such as intensively managed golf courses and

athletic fields may not accurately depict the majority of grassed areas, such as home lawns or right-of-ways. Most grassed areas are not highly managed in terms of fertilization, pesticide application, frequency of cultural practices, and irrigation. As a result, less intensely managed turfs tend to lead to less dense turfgrass canopies. They are more susceptible to surface runoff. Therefore, fertilizers or pesticides applied prior to precipitation may be more susceptible to offsite movement than previously thought, as a direct result of the lower runoff resistance of less intensely managed turf areas.

Current research at the LSU AgCenter Burden Center is focused on understanding the role turf coverage has on nutrient and pesticide movement during surface runoff. Early results indicate water volumes and sediment losses are significantly reduced with denser turf coverage. However, turf coverage had little effect on applied water-soluble nitrogen and phosphorus losses. This suggests fertilizer applications should be watered-in prior to rainfall to incorporate the nutrients into the soil. Or less water-soluble forms of nutrients, such as slow-release fertilizers or organic type fertilizers, should be applied to reduce nitrogen and phosphorus movement via surface runoff.

As research continues at the LSU AgCenter Burden Facility, our goal is to better understand nutrient and pesticide movement so that we can continue to devise more site-specific best management practices and ensure cleaner water bodies for all of Louisiana.

Dr. Jeffrey Beasley is an Associate Professor of Horticulture in the School of Plant, Environmental and Soil Sciences. He specializes in environmental and cultural issues related to turfgrass management.

Dr. Ron Strahan is an Assistant Professor of Horticulture in the School of Plant, Environmental and Soil Sciences. He specializes in weed management in turfgrass and ornamentals, weed ecology, and weed—crop competition.

Dr. Steve Borst recently completed his Ph.D. research at LSU, part of which is reported in this article. The Ione E. Burden Assistanship Fund helped support this project.







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Burden Horticulture Society

Black Swamp Boardwalk Opening

By Penny Miller



The Black Swamp Boardwalk was officially opened with tours, a bonfire, and a weenie roast on Oct. 12th. A wonderfully mild weekday evening attracted 50 people to the Barton Arboretum, many for the first time. Located in Burden Center's Trees and Trails, you can

visit the boardwalk any day of the week, 8am-5pm.



"Reflection in the Garden" 2012 Lunch Series

Noon to 1:00 PM in the Ione Burden Conference Center Special guest speakers! Bring a brown bag lunch! Drinks will be provided!

& Drinks will be provided!		
💥 January 9	Landscape Design, Simplified	
X	Wanda Chase	
🔆 February 6	How to Understand and Predict Weather Patterns	
X	Jay Grimes	
🔆 March 5	Going Wild with Natives (Native Plants)	
X	Rick Webb	
🔆 April 2	Herb and Kitchen Gardening	
×	Peggy Cox	



Not getting e-mail announcements?

Go to the "Join Us" page of www.BurdenHorticultureSociety.com and enter your information or email Connie Abboud at abbcon@bellsouth.net

******Volunteers Wanted**

Want to join a great group?

Use the entry form on the 'Join Us' page of BHS Website (www.BurdenHorticultureSociety.com) or call or e-mail our new volunteer coordinator, Simone Kramer (225-235-8896, SKramer@agcenter.lsu.edu).

We'd love to hear from you.

A Brush with Burden

A Juried Art Exhibition and Sale March 3, 2012 Opening Reception 4 p.m. to 6 p.m. **Exhibit Closes** March 11, 2012 at 6 p.m.

Make your year-end gift today!

Help support Burden Center, the Burden family's gift to the community.

Please donate to the areas that mean the most to you. Your gift helps maintain, preserve and enhance this treasured oasis of natural beauty in the heart of Baton Rouge. Priority funding areas include the following:

<u>Trees and Trails Pavilion Project</u> - Eco-friendly, outdoor classroom space for BHS' Project Learning Tree environmental education program and other groups – i.e. Boy Scouts, Brownies, 4-H, birders, hikers. \$217,000 of the \$300,000 goal has been raised. If 400 people gave an average gift of \$200, we'd be ready to begin construction and BHS would have capacity to educate over 1000 school children a year!

<u>Orangerie Restoration Project –</u> Restoration of the iconic Steele Burden memorial and other improvements necessary to use the building year-round.

<u>Burden Botanic Garden</u> – Salary and supplies to maintain the All-American Rose Garden, one of three All-American Rose Selection display gardens in Louisiana with 1500 plants representing 150 varieties.

<u>Windrush Restoration and Gardens</u> – Rehabilitation of the historic gardens which were Steele Burden's life work, restoration of areas damaged by Hurricane Gustav, support for salaries/on-going maintenance.

Thank you for your generous support of Burden Center.

	dentify the funding area to direct your contribution: dentify your means of contributing: Enclosed is my check made payable to LSU Foundation. Memo designated funding area.				
	Please charge my Visa Mastercard AmEx Discover				
	Card # Exp Date				
	Signature				
3.	Name Phone				
4.	Address City/State/Zip				

Mail to: Burden Horticulture Society, 4560 Essen Lane, Baton Rouge, LA 70809 For additional information about these and other funding opportunities, contact: Gigi Gauthier, Burden Center Director of Development, 225-763-3990, ext. 3 or ggauthier@agcenter.lsu.edu





BHS Annual Events 2012

January 21, 2012	Arbor Day/Trees and Trails
March 3-11, 2012	Brush with Burden Reception and Exhibition
March 2012	Spring Road Trip: Festivals of Flowers, Mobile, Alabama
April 12 & 14, 2012	David Humphreys Photography Workshop

What's Happening with Our Friends:

Hilltop Arboretum:

Annual Symposium Heirloom Gardening - Yesterday's Plants for Today's Gardens Saturday, January 28, 2012, 8:30am-12:30pm LSU Design Auditorium Keynote Speakers: William C. Welch & Greg Grant

Baton Rouge Camellia Society:

Camellia Day at Burden Conference Center Saturday, January 28, 2012, 9am-2pm

Annual Camellia Show at RLM Saturday, February 18, 2012, 2pm-4pm Sunday, February 19, 2012, 10am-3pm

Rural Life Museum:

Rural Life Museum's Red Rooster Bash January 20, 2012, 7pm-till

"Tea, Fashion, and Fancies" February 12, 2012, 2pm-5pm

Baton Rouge Green:

Arbor Day Luncheon Tuesday, January 17, 2012, 11:30am

Tree Trooper Arbor Day Friday, January 20, 2012