

2024 BCMG Elected Board

- President:
Don Richerson
- Vice-President:
Ed Pickle
- Treasurer:
Cassandra Rabren
- Recording Secretary:
Pat Greer
- Corresponding Secretary:
Lydia Chan
- Members at Large:
Barb Comstock
Kay Heinrich
- Past President:
Mary Calvin

2024 Appointed Board Members:

- Monthly Program Co-Chairs:
Charlotte Hamm
Brenda Montgomery
- Intern Class Coordinator:
Anita O'Connor
- Outreach Coordinator:
Eileen Huisman
- Finance Committee Chair:
Gail Hand
- Projects Chair:
Elmer Vick

President's Notes by Don Richerson

I'm not ready to leave Provence. Early July through mid August are the times of lavande and lavandin harvesting in the smack dab middle of southern France. From Cannes to Valensole to Sault, this area of Provence is a delight to the senses. As I've said before, when you walk through a lavender field, you can see it, smell it, and hear it. It is remarkable.

In this country, we call lavande, lavender and we call lavandin, lavender. But they are very different plants. Lavande is true lavender or English lavender, *Lavandula angustifolia*, and lavandin is a hybrid variety, *Lavandula x Intermedia*. While very similar plants, they have different uses and "lavender oil" can be produced from both plants.

And there are many varieties of both kinds of "lavender".

The lavandin varieties tend to produce plants that are larger than the lavande varieties with longer, larger, and more pointed flower spikes. Also, with the lavandin varieties, you tend to see lateral shoots up the stems with additional



Lavender



Lavandin



Abbaye Notre-Dame de Sénanque near Gordes

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President's Notes by Don Richerson (continued)

flower spikes. Lavandin normally has stems 24" in length while lavande has 12'-18' stems. Lavandin also tends to flower later in the season than lavande. Lavande has darker bluish purple flower buds while lavandin has grayish purple buds.

Lavandin plants can produce as much as 3 times the amount of oil as lavande varieties, but the oils are very different. Lavandin oil contains up to 10% camphor while lavande oil contains only 0.6% camphor. Lavandin oil is used for repelling insects, air fresheners and other uses. Lavande oil is used in cooking and soothing cuts or burns and is reported to have a calming effect. I squirt a small amount on my pillow most every night before sleeping. I love the stuff.

Of course, as is true of most things, you get what you pay for. Lavande essential oils are about 4 times the cost of lavandin oils. I'll try to bring a sample of both kinds of oil to the August meeting for your sniffing pleasure.

I hope your summers are going well and I look forward to a prosperous autumn and beyond for the BCMG.



Lavande and Lavandin Fields near Sault



Nominations for Wayne de la Rua Now Due! by Sam Andrews

The Wayne de la Rua Award recognizes annually an active member of the Baldwin County Master Gardeners for outstanding, quality service to the organization and the Extension. The Award is unique in that it is a *peer-nominated: peer-selected: once-in-lifetime* prize. It honors dedicated Master Gardener Wayne de la Rua (WDLR) who graduated with the first Baldwin County Master Gardener class in 1990.

If you have a candidate that you would like to submit for consideration, **the WDLR Committee must receive your nomination no later than the September 11, 2024 Monthly Meeting at 10:00 a.m., either through email or hand delivery.** The Committee will only accept written nominations listing significant accomplishments including dates, activities, offices, and individuals with whom they worked. In practical terms, you write a 100–250 word essay beginning with a first paragraph stating your nomination and the basic nomination premise moving to additional paragraphs that build your case. Please finish your nomination with a short summation paragraph. You may use a similar outline format as well.

IMPORTANT: Your written nomination's purpose is to build a strong case to the BCMG active membership as to why your Baldwin Master Gardener's nomination merits the award over other candidates in 2024. Present their Master Gardener résumé and why you feel your nominee is deserving of the award. You should include primary examples of your nominee's activities, volunteer hours, and character.

Please call or email if you require a brief time extension to prepare your nomination. Your written nomination will appear in the October *Grass Roots* with the Wayne de la Rua Committee reserving the right to edit your submission.

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Nominations for Wayne de la Rua Now Due! by Sam Andrews (cont.)

Please note only one person may write and sign each nomination. However, the nominee writer may conduct research into their candidate using available materials including speaking with other Baldwin Master Gardeners. In addition, other Master Gardeners may write additional nominations of an individual. Only active Master Gardeners may write the content of publishable WDLR nominations.

The written nomination format in the *Grass Roots* is the primary method utilized for active Baldwin Master Gardeners to receive insight and make an informed opinion as to the best person to vote for the 2024 Wayne de la Rua Award. You may discuss published candidates amongst yourselves. However, the spirit of Wayne de la Rua does not permit members to wage marketing/publicity campaigns. Remember this Award is one of Honor and long-term achievement which should be obvious to members!

Active Baldwin Master Gardeners on the current Membership roll may vote for one potential prizewinner through either an email or "Meeting Ballot". Please include the date and your name on your submitted vote. All members may deliver their vote from November 1, 2024 through November 13, 2024. If you have NOT voted as of the November 8th meeting, you may obtain a special "Meeting Ballot" from an Extension member which you may vote, print your name, and return to the person at that meeting. No other paper or vocal votes are to be honored.

The WDLR Award Committee consists of several past winners. This year the committee members are Sam Andrews, Chairman, Myra Lassere, Judi Smith, Lynn Andrews, Loree Hadley, Pat Greer, Marilyn Mannhard, Paula Pritchett, Selena Vaughn, Jimmie Van Valkenburgh, and Julian Walthall.

Please email your questions and your nominations to Sam Andrews at HibiscusFiend@mchsi.com. (Note: That's "FIEND" and not "friend".) Again, the nomination deadline is September 11, 2024 at 10:00 A.M. — Remember, **time is short!**

Wayne De La Rua Award – Questions and Answers

- 1) What is the Wayne de la Rua (WDLR) Award?
 - 2) Who was Wayne de la Rua?
 - 3) How is the winner determined?
 - 4) Who are past WDLR winners?
-
- 1) The Wayne de la Rua Award is a lifetime achievement award that a Master Gardener earns through a lengthy demonstration of passion and hard work toward our BCMG, Inc. organization and its mission. Rarely, a member might make a singular, perhaps one-time, contribution of outstanding merit. Nevertheless, it is the quality, not the quantity of service hours that a Master Gardener contributes that earns a WDLR Award. Each December, we conduct an Award Ceremony announcing that year's winner at our year-end banquet. A Baldwin Master Gardener honored with a WDLR may only win this lifetime achievement award once.
 - 2) Wayne was a member of the first 1990 class of Master Gardeners in our area, held jointly between what we now know as the Mobile County Master Gardeners and the Baldwin County Master Gardeners, Inc. As befits someone instrumental in the founding of the Baldwin Master Gardener group, Wayne's fellow Master Gardeners elected him the first winner of the lifetime award named for him following his death in the 1990's.
 - 3) The WDLR Committee accepts only written nominations for the Wayne de la Rua. If you are running close to the deadline, please contact Sam to let him know to expect your nomination. The Committee consists of past winners of the Award who are active members of our organization.
 - 4) Your organization, the Baldwin County Master Gardeners, Inc., maintains a plaque containing a list of all the past WDLR winners in the Help-Line Office. Past winners are as follows:



Nominations for Wayne de la Rua Now Due! by Sam Andrews (cont.)

- | | |
|---|---|
| 1997 — Wayne de la Rua | 2012 — Marilyn Mannhard |
| 1998 — Maureen “Moe” Nation | 2013 — Jim & Nancy Gaines (joint nomination) |
| 1999 — Jill McArthur | 2014 — Ottie Dailey |
| 2000 — Herb Nall | 2015 — Gene Sellier |
| 2001 — Jane Wright | 2016 — Pat Greer & Myra Lassere (tie) |
| 2002 — Mary Gibson | 2017 — Loree Hadley |
| 2003 — Gail Terrell & Joanne Caglione (tie) | 2018 — Pam Tucker |
| 2004 — Carol Griffin | 2019 — Paula Pritchett |
| 2005 — Harry Anderson | 2020 — Jimmie Van Valkenburgh & Julian Walthall (tie) |
| 2006 — Sherry Eubanks | 2021 — Arren Graf |
| 2007 — Tanys Waldron | 2022 — Lynn Andrews |
| 2008 — Sam Andrews | 2023 — Judi Smith |
| 2009 — Joyce Mudrak | 2024 — ? |
| 2010 — Pat Libby | |
| 2011 — Selena Vaughn | |



August Membership Meeting Announcement by Brenda Montgomery

Come and join us on August 14 at 8300 Hwy. 104 in Fairhope for our monthly membership meeting. The timely topic will be addressing the Alabama Coastal Birdfest held in October. We will learn about this annual event, including what exciting and educational activities are available to the nature loving public of all ages. Additionally, various ways for Master Gardeners to volunteer during the Birdfest will be shared. See you there!



Welcome to Our New Master Gardeners



YOU DID IT!
Congratulations



Lynn Barnes, Sueann Barnwell, Vicky Franks, Ann Lemis, Deb Mallon, Mary Meyer, Beth Murray, Robin Newell, Tiffany Ramey, Diana Rodgers, Kimberly Scasny, Sara Semmes, and Gilda Underwood.
(Not present: Edward Bradshaw, James Faulkner, Tom Fortner, Marjorie Grace, and Shannon Russell)



BCMG Award Recipients



Bronze Star—100 Hours: Gilda Underwood, Ann Lemis, Mary Meyer, Deb Mallon, Diana Rodgers, and Sara Semmes (Not pictured: Lee Brady, Liz Cobb, Terry Delker, Becky Majors, and Shannon Russell)



Silver Star—300 Hours: Karon Pennington, Dolores Hammack, and Susan Palmer (Not pictured: Julie Cox, Ken Cooper, and Catherine Kiser)



Gold Star—500 Hours: Kim Musson and Ed Pickle (Not pictured: Joyce Hewitt and Liz Wojtaszek)



Gold Badge—1,000 Hours: Cassandra Rabren, Gail Hand, and Ann Hutchison (Not pictured: Susan Mattingly and Marta Stauts)



Amber Star/Platinum Badge—2,000 Hours: Maria Logan-Montgomery, Deborah Marriott, and Eileen Huisman (Not pictured: Pam Schultz)



Ruby Star-4,000 Hours
Andreu Riebe
(not present)

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BCMG Award Recipients (continued)



Diamond Pin—6,000 Hours:
Paula Pritchett



Light Blue Pin—13,000 Hours:
Sam Andrews



Navy Blue Crystal Pin—16,000 Hours and AMGA Garnet Platinum Star—15,000-16,999 Hours:
Tanys Waldron



AMGA Champagne Platinum Star—20,000 Plus Hours: Myra Lassere



AMGA Plaque—Top Hours of the Year: Mary Calvin



Many Thanks to our Luncheon Committee for all of their hard work!

August Birthdays



8-4	Mary Calvin
8-5	Shirley Ryals
8-9	Darlene Anderson
8-10	Elmer Vick
8-11	Harry Hopkins
8-12	Jackie Gray
8-13	Teri Shoemaker
8-18	Debra McWhorter
8-19	Danny Powell
8-20	Jean Vick
8-20	Karon Pennington
8-20	Lori White
8-21	Sandra Walton
8-22	John Fitzhugh
8-23	Phyllis Holman
8-26	Charmaine Peterman
8-27	Susan Morrison
8-28	Joni Euler
8-28	Andreu Riebe
8-31	Rob McWhorter

Life...is all about the Journey.



Meeting Minutes by Pat Greer

Don Richerson called this Extravaganza together at 10:30 AM. We then all stood and recited the Pledge of Allegiance.

Don then asked all the past presidents of BCMG to stand; and all the winners of the Wayne de la Rua recipients were asked to stand.

Guests attending today included Adrian Faust who is one of the current Scholarship Award winners, and her father, Mathew; Tony Hickman who came with Julian Walthall; Bo Montgomery who is the husband of Maria Logan-Montgomery; Alan Barnes who is the husband of our new Intern, Lynn Barnes; Dennis Newell who is the husband of our new Intern Robin Newell; and the husband and family of our new Intern, Sara Semmes. Seventy-one BCMG members and guests were present today.

Wanda Martin restaged the Entertainment event from the 2024 State Conference. These MGs are hard working in their gardens—Mary Calvin, Robin Newell, Fran Posey-Eversole, Elsie Reed, Sara



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Meeting Minutes by Pat Greer (continued)

Semmes, Tiffany Ramey, Ken Cooper, and Anita O'Connor. They are doers who get the job done and, like all of us in this room, they garden for others and themselves.

Paula Pritchett then presented the overview video for our viewing of the 2024 State Conference. She then thanked all those who volunteered to put this Conference together—Sandy Stepan, Wanda Martin, Sheryl Bly, Terri Wallace, Zetty Bauer, Linda Bizzell, Loree Hadley, Fran Posey-Eversole, Tanys Waldron, Brenda Montgomery, Ed Pickle, Elsie Reed, Marilyn Mannhard, Gail Hand, Barbara Comstock, Don Richerson, Kim Scasny, Sara Semmes, Maria Curow, Becky Estes, Joni Euler, Julian Walthall, Lydia Chan, Maria Logan-Montgomery, Robin Newell, Karon Pennington, Cassandra Rabren, Judi Smith, and everyone else in this room who helped with the Conference.

Ed Pickle commented that he feels this Conference set a record for the biggest profit, had the highest amount of attendance, and the best food. He thanked Paula Pritchett for all her work.

Julian Walthall then offered a prayer. Let's have lunch!

At Noon we reconvened the Awards Luncheon meeting with Sam Andrews announcing all the Scholarship winners for this year.

Aven Brasher is a Senior at Mississippi State majoring in Landscape Architecture. Sam recently learned that Aven has been honored to be a Mississippi State Ambassador.

Mary Conway is a Junior majoring in Forestry at Auburn College of Forestry and Wildlife.

Adrian Faust is a Sophomore majoring in Landscape Architecture Design at Auburn School of Architecture. Adrian is in attendance today along with her father. Her professor sent a recommendation for her and called her a future "rock star".

Sam then mentioned that this is the 22nd year BCMG, Inc. has offered Scholarships. Members of the committee to choose the scholarship recipients include all the past BCMG presidents.

Don Richerson then began presenting the Awards that have been earned at this time. Anita O'Connor congratulated all of the 2024 Interns, all of whom had received their badges along with those who were also receiving Bronze Stars.

After the awards, Don then presented three more awards for those who have earned over 10,000 Hours in 2023. Tanys Waldron received an AMGA Garnet Platinum Star for the 15,000-16,999 hours category. Myra Lassere received an AMGA Champagne Platinum Star for the 20,000 plus category. Last, but not least, Mary Calvin received AMGA Top Hours of the Year for the most hours earned in the year, i.e. 1,573 hours.

Don then thanked Sam for all he is doing; Linda Bizzell for taking photos; and Jim Greer for drilling holes in badges for those who are getting new stars.

Dolores Hammack then reminded us that the Fall Plant Sale will be held on October 18 and 19, with a special day on the 17th for Master Gardeners. She also sent around a sheet asking for suggestions of what we would like to see at the Fall Plant Sale. One gallon or smaller containers are needed at the Daphne Greenhouse.

There being no further Old Business, Don asked if there was any new business. Cassandra announced that there are two items on the back table that have been won by both Brenda Montgomery and Diana Rodgers.

Deborah Marriott then offered a motion to Adjourn the meeting with a second from Gail Hand. The motion passed and the meeting was adjourned at Noon.



Mark Your Calendar

August 7, 2024	BCMG Board Meeting, Research Station, Hwy. 104, 9:30 a.m.-11:30 a.m.
August 14, 2024	BCMG Monthly Meeting, Research Station, Hwy. 104, Speaker: TBD, <i>"Alabama Coastal BirdFest"</i>
August 14, 2024	*Urban Green Back 2 Basics Webinar, 10:00 a.m., <i>"Weathering the Storm: Identifying and Mitigating Tree Hazards at Home"</i> , Joel Potter, Baldwin Co. Urban Regional Extension Agent
August 28, 2024	*Urban Green Back 2 Basics Webinar, 10:00 a.m., <i>"Five Gallon Bucket Gardening"</i> , Roosevelt Robinson, Asst. Dir. Urban Ag, Forestry, Wildlife and Natural Resource Programs
Sept. 4, 2024	BCMG Board Meeting, Research Station, Hwy. 104, 9:30 a.m.-11:30 a.m.
Sept. 11, 2024	BCMG Monthly Meeting, Research Station, Hwy. 104, Speaker TBD
Sept. 11, 2024	Wayne de la Rua Nominations close at end of September General Meeting
Sept. 25, 2024	*Urban Green Back 2 Basics Webinar, 10:00 a.m., <i>"Korean Natural Farming"</i> , Bronson Lubresky, Jefferson Co. Urban Regional Extension Agent
October 2, 2024	BCMG Board Meeting, Research Station, Hwy. 104, 9:30 a.m.-11:30 a.m.
October 9, 2024	BCMG Monthly Meeting, Research Station, Hwy. 104, Speaker TBD
October 9, 2024	*Urban Green Back 2 Basics Webinar, 10:00 a.m., <i>"Let's Plant a Tree...The Right Way!"</i> , Joel Potter, Baldwin Co. Urban Regional Extension Agent
October 10, 2024	AMGA Fall Seminar, Auburn University Nursing Building, 710 S. Donahue Dr., Auburn, 9:00 a.m.-4:00 p.m.
October 12, 2024	BCMG Fall Seminar, Research Station, Hwy. 104, 9:00 a.m.-12:00 Noon
Oct. 18-19, 2024	BCMG Fall Plant Sale, Weeks Bay Reserve
October 23, 2024	*Urban Green Back 2 Basics Webinar, 10:00 a.m., <i>"10 Great Trees and Shrubs for the Landscape"</i> , Allyson Shabel, Morgan Co. Urban Regional Extension Agent
Nov. 6, 2024	BCMG Board Meeting, Research Station, Hwy. 104, 9:30 a.m.-11:30 a.m.
Nov. 13, 2024	BCMG Monthly Meeting, Research Station, Hwy. 104, Speaker TBD
Nov. 13, 2024	Election of Officers and Board of Directors
Nov. 13, 2024	Wayne de la Rua Voting closes at the end of the General Meeting
Nov. 13, 2024	*Urban Green Back 2 Basics Webinar, 10:00 a.m., <i>"Safe and Secure Homes: Landscape Edition"</i> , Marcus Garner, Madison Co. Urban Regional Extension Agent
Dec. 4, 2024	BCMG Board Meeting, Research Station, Hwy. 104
Dec. 11, 2024	BCMG Awards Membership Luncheon, Foley Civic Center, 10:30 a.m.
April 3-5, 2025	AMGA Conference, First Baptist Church, Prattville, AL, <i>"Fountains of Knowledge"</i>
April 10-12, 2025	BCMG Spring Plant Sale

*Visit www.aces.edu/go/Back2Basics to register. This webinar will also be available through Facebook Live: www.facebook.com/AlabamaExtensionAAMU

Grass Roots is compiled and edited by Lynn Andrews, assisted by Sam Andrews. Pictures courtesy of Linda Bizzell, Loree Hadley, and Eileen Huisman. The newsletter is available before the monthly general meeting on our website: www.baldwinmastergardeners.com.

Submission of articles, items of interest, photos of BCMG events, garden tips, garden jokes, etc. are greatly encouraged and appreciated. Articles should be submitted in Microsoft Word format, PDF or, if necessary, "rich text format" (*.rtf). **Pictures should be JPG's at least 1 MB in size.** **Articles and pictures must be submitted by the 20th of the month.** Please attach, not "embed", photos into your email. Send to grassrootsnews@gmail.com. PLEASE DO NOT SEND PICTURES BY TEXT.

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Baldwin County Master Gardeners
c/o Baldwin County Extension Office
302-A Byrne Street
Bay Minette, AL 36506



Next meeting: WEDNESDAY, August 14, 2024

Location: Research Station, Hwy. 104

Speaker: TBD

Topic: "Alabama Coastal Birdfest"

Social begins at 9:30 a.m.

Meeting 10:00 a.m.

Reminder: Submissions for the newsletter are due by the 20th of the month.