

Peggy Cox: Windrush Gardens Curator

By John Monroe

Early on a misty morning is the finest time to experience Windrush Gardens in almost any season. Plants and birds are waking to the sun's first light. Last night's coolness has not left for the day. The lawns are moist. It is quiet. One can walk the bordered

research associate at the Burden Center, by Resident Director Dr. Warren Meadows, to work with herbaceous plants, especially herbs and perennials. An expansive herb garden with perennial borders north of the Ione E. Burden Conference Center had just been established and she became responsible for this area as well as evaluating flower varieties for fruit and seed production. She also tended a

paths by weepy crepe myrtles with attention undistracted from views of garden layouts, destinations and the abundant variety of plants. Visitors, as they pass under the old oaks for the first time, might be stirred to wonder who has made this gift of experience that is so intensely pleasurable. For the past ten years that person has been Peggy Cox, Windrush Gardens Curator.

Peggy's background made her uniquely qualified for her position as Curator of Windrush Gardens. She graduated from Southeastern University in 1980 with a Bachelor of Science degree in Biology Education. After teaching science for two years at the junior high and high school levels, she entered graduate school at LSU in the Plant Pathology/Physiology Department. While taking graduate courses, she worked as a graduate assistant under Dr. Bill Blackmon learning tissue culture techniques. She studied the native groundnut, *Apios americana*, collecting germplasm from across the state while increasing her appreciation for native plants. Her extensive knowledge

of locally successful ornamental plant species and their varieties came from her work experience with landscape architect Phil Moser and at Naylor's Hardware (Millerville Road) as Nursery Manager.

In November of 1989, Peggy was hired as a horticultural

specialist in the area of plant propagation and maintenance.

Reflections from the Chair

2012 Honoree Ginnie Bolin

4560 Essen Lane
Baton Rouge

Reception 6 p.m.

Dinner 7 p.m.

\$125 per person

Registration available at

225.773.3990

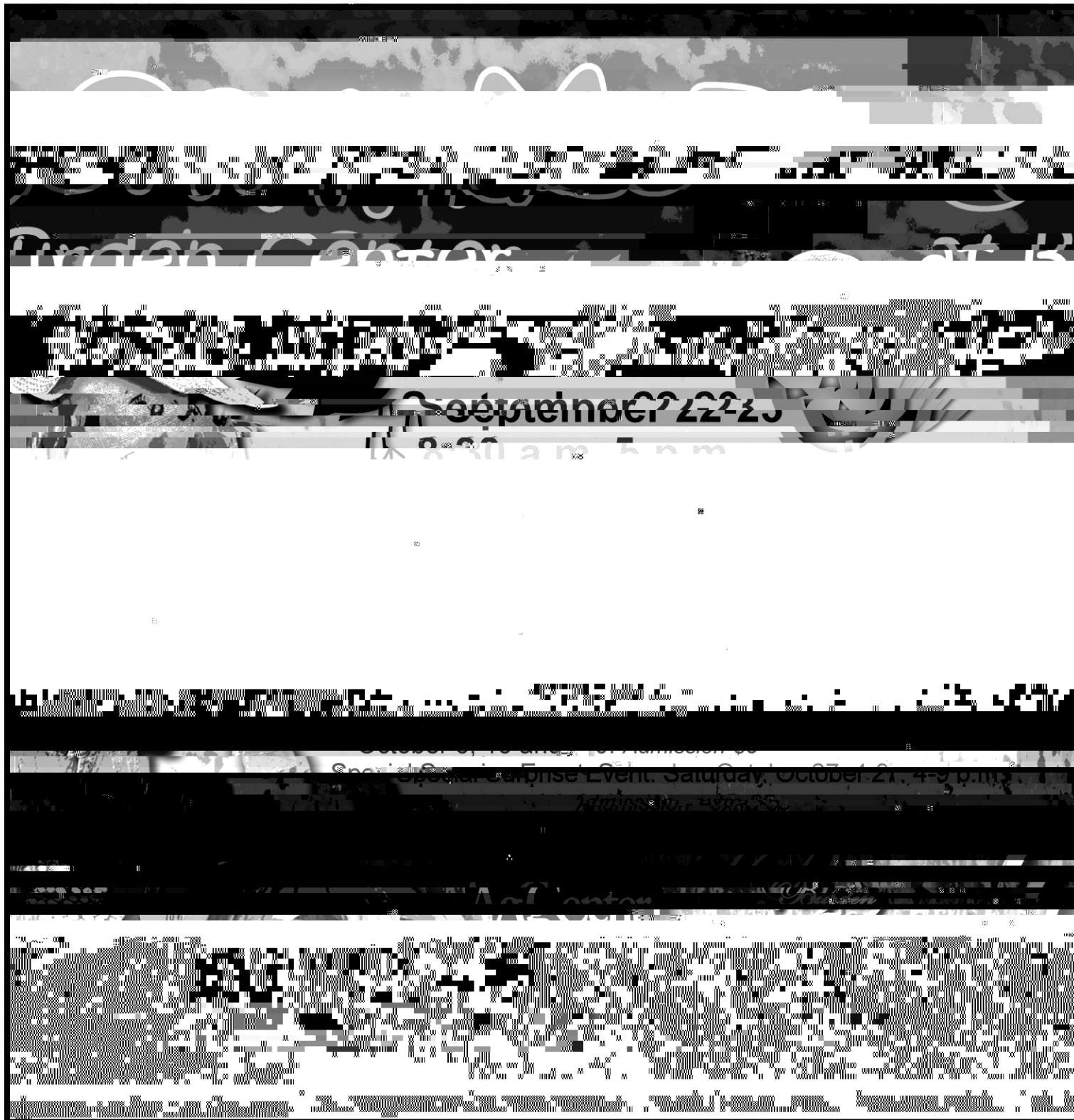


David Carlyle Humphreys recently conducted a lively photography workshop to benefit The Burden Horticulture Society. A local fine art and commercial photographer for over thirty years, Humphreys donated his time and shared generous helpings of his expertise with the nineteen participants.

On Thursday evening, he entertained the workshop gathering with humor designed to emphasize that photography should be fun. "Relax," he seemed to say, and experiment; make mistakes and learn from them." Then he discussed his process of creating large photo collages, using some of his original constructions mounted in the Ione Burden Conference Center, as well as an extensive slide show.

At 8 o'clock on Saturday morning, workshop participants gathered again at the Ione Burden Conference Center and were met by the BHS Chair, Judy Foil, and her helper-husband Judge Frank Foil, the day's chief organizers, helped by Pat Cooper and Dr. Billy Weldon. They dispensed coffee and directions in the morning and box lunches at the end of the workshop. With John Wozniak, Assistant Director of Communications for the LSUAg Center assisting, Humphreys sent participants forth into the garden to find sites that challenged them, whether for working on their photographer's eye, in pleasing composition, or their camera's technical features, such as "white balance."

After nearly two hours of shooting, workshop ph



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[www. BurdenHorticultureSociety.com](http://www.BurdenHorticultureSociety.com)

Le Jardin des Enfants at Burden Center

By Jeff Kuehny

Gardening projects for children in a school setting

Love of plants is mentioned as one of Peggy's principal attributes by friends and coworkers. Another attribute that has contributed to her successful management of

Burden Horticulture Society Mission:

In concert with the Burden Center Master Plan, the mission of BHS is to enhance and promote the Burden Center and its serene environment for the benefit of the public through educational programs, fundraising, and volunteerism.

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www.BurdenHorticultureSociety.com

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