



Le Journal des Amis



NOTES FROM THE PRESIDENT

I would like to thank Donna for her tenure as President of The Friends of Magnolia Mound for the last three years.

It has certainly been a turbulent time for non-profits and historical museums. Besides Covid restrictions, the Friends lost Winnie, Sue, and Pat, the visionaries who spear-headed the saving and furnishing of Magnolia Mound. In spite of this, with Donna's leadership, the Friends continued to meet via Zoom (Thank you, John, for setting this up in the Hart House), have a fund raising event, revised our mailing list, and enhanced our ability to collect payments online.

Most importantly, Babeth Schlegel was appointed as the new director of the Friends of Magnolia Mound. She has redesigned our website, and it is stunning. The Friends' Newsletter, *Le Journal des Amis*, is now in its third year and is an excellent source of information about the collection, events, and activities at the Mound.

Donna, what a wonderful legacy you have established during your tenure.

I am looking forward to beginning my term as President of the board, and excited for our future. The 22nd Petite Antiques Forum will be held April 2, 2022. This will be our first important event of the New Year. Please put the date on your calendar! Hopefully, soon, the board can begin meeting in person, working together to make Magnolia Mound even better.

Thank you,

Karen Zobrist, *President*



Patrick Dunne, Featured Speaker at the Petite Antiques Forum on April 2

This year's Petite Antiques Forum will be held on Saturday, April 2. We will begin at the Louisiana Archives Building where our featured speaker will be Patrick Dunne, a southern legend who is well known in both culinary and antiques circles. He is the founder of *Lucullus Antiques* in New Orleans, which specializes in culinary arts, and of *Decorations Lucullus*, an interior design and decorating firm. Patrick Dunne has made a career of collecting and researching the history of fascinating and beautiful culinary implements, food presentation, and style at the table.

His talk has the intriguing title of **"Some Archaeology of Your Table: Exploring if Louis XVI could be cozy at an impromptu supper with you this evening."**

Lunch will be held at the nearby Baton Rouge Country Club, followed by a tour of an interesting home to be announced.

Invitations with ticket information will go out in late February.

The Petite Antiques Forum is glad to return to its "normal routine." We look forward to seeing you there!

Images taken from The Epicurean Collector: Exploring the World of Culinary Antiques by Patrick Dunne



Donna Mitchell steps down after three great years as our president



Ten years ago, I was asked to sit on the Board for the Friends of Magnolia Mound, an organization I was already familiar with through my position as BREC's Director of Special Facilities. I was reluctant to say yes at first. I had just retired and was looking forward to "carefree" days, away from deadlines and meetings. But because I had seen firsthand how hardworking and dedicated the Friends group was and knowing how their partnership with BREC was so vital in keeping Magnolia Mound alive and well, I agreed to serve.

I am so glad I made that decision. Over these past years I have learned so many different things about the Mound, more than I did when sitting on the BREC side of the table. I've learned more about its history, the people that lived there and their customs. I have met and worked alongside a great group of people. Their knowledge on the Mound's history, furniture, and artifacts, as well as their eagerness to share this knowledge is amazing.

It has been very rewarding to serve on the Board and an honor to serve as your President for the past three years. I thank all my fellow board members, past and present, the BREC staff, our most generous donors, and the many volunteers for the support you have given me. Magnolia Mound is a very special place, and I am so proud to be a part of the village that makes it such a true treasure. Though my role as President is coming to an end, I look forward to continue doing all I can to help the Friends, as they are a part of my retirement life now. And this time, no one will have to ask.

Sincerely,
Donna Mitchell

Toile de Jouy – Pallas and Venus

Babeth Schlegel (editing by Mary Boston)



A detail of the toile de jouy poster bed canopy in la chambre des maitres. Photo by Babeth Schlegel.

In the 16th century, cotton from India spread through Europe by way of the East India Company. India became the largest maker of cotton textiles in the world, developing complex processes and techniques for printing and painting cotton fabrics. These cloths had beautiful detailed designs with bright colorful patterns which didn't fade.

Those imported printed cottons from India (or chintzes as they were also called) soon became the fabric of choice. The fabric was hard-wearing, inexpensive, and easy to wash. The success of Indian cotton started to threaten local textile industries, and in 1686 several European countries, like France, imposed a cotton ban. Finally, France lifted its embargo in 1759.

Textile worker Christophe-Philippe Oberkampf (1732-1815) emigrated to France from Germany when the ban was lifted. Oberkampf was a pioneer in the textile industry. He became a talented and successful entrepreneur in the city of Jouy-en-Josas, outside of Paris. His manufacturing business was active from 1760 to 1843, and remained in the same family until 1820.

In 1783, Oberkampf received the title of Manufacture Royale by Louis XVI. Later, he was awarded the Legion of Honor by the Emperor Napoleon Bonaparte himself.

More than 30,000 design were created by his factory. In 1804, there were 40 engravers working at the Jouy manufacturing operation.

Oberkampf manufactured printed fabrics of a superior artistic and technical quality. The designs represented exotic gardens, fields, geometric figures, historical scenes, Neo-classical design, and the famous "champêtre" scene of people that will mark forever the textile history under the term of "toiles de Jouy" (Jouy cloth). This term "toile de Jouy" became the generic name for this style of design.

Continued on page 4



La chambre des maitres. Photo by Jim Zietz.

Eleventh Le Salon Duplantier

by Harriet Babin Miller



Left to right: John Sykes, Director of Magnolia Mound; Darryl Hughes, BREC Assistant Director of Special Facilities; Corey Wilson, BREC Superintendent; and honorees John Turner, and Jerry Fischer. Photo by Babeth Schegel.

Friends of Magnolia Mound gathered at the Hart House, December 12th, to honor the 2020-2021 Duplantier Society Donors. These included the Armand Allard Duplantier Circle Donors, John Turner & Jerry Fischer and the fifteen Duplantier Society donors: Barbara and H. Parrot* Bacot, Jr., Dr. Richard and Kim Byrd, Marilyn Davis*, Susan Eaton, Mrs. H. Mortimer Favrot, Jr., Mary Lynn and Chuck McMains, John and Virginia Noland, Dr. Wayne and Cheryl Stromeyer, Suzanne Turner & Scott Purdin, Cary Saurage II, Mike and Kim Wampold, Susan and John Wilder, Jeanne Yerger, Betty and Eugene* Young, and Karen and Mike Zobrist.

A magnolia tree was planted on the grounds at the Mound to honor John Turner and Jerry Fischer for their years of dedication and support. It will bear a plaque with their names and is near magnolias planted in 1986 honoring the late Sue Turner and the late Winnie Byrd. Mochaware mugs were given to the fifteen Duplantier Donors who have consistently given monetary assistance and support to the mission of Magnolia Mound.



Left to right: Harriet Babin, Jerry Fischer, John Turner, and behind them the newly planted magnolia tree. Photo by Babeth Schegel.



Left to right: Le Salon Duplantier event committee: Jeanne Yerger, Harriet Babin Miller, Jackie Creaghan, Susan Wilder, and Karen Zobrist. Photo by Babeth Schegel.

Special recognition was given to the four longtime supporters of Magnolia Mound who recently passed away: Pat Bacot, Winnie Byrd, Sue Turner and Eugene Young. Donna Mitchell, President of FMM, paid tribute to these four stalwart supporters of the Mound. Framed photographs of the four, who were instrumental in preserving this historic gem in Baton Rouge, are now proudly displayed at the Hart House.

Recognized for volunteering at the Mound were Camm Morton, who received the Anne Gueymard Shirley Award for the most volunteer hours, and Rosemary Lane for serving as a kitchen docent for over 30 years.

Friends attending this celebration enjoyed an array of party sandwiches and desserts served in the dining room gaily decorated with fresh Christmas greenery, red berries, and poinsettias.

Serving as committee chair for this event was Harriet Babin Miller. She was assisted by Jackie Creaghan, Susan Wilder, Jeanne Yerger, Karen Zobrist, and Babeth Schlegel.

*Deceased

MARILYN RODEMACHER DAVIS

by Harriet Babin Miller

What a Lady! What a Friend – especially to Magnolia Mound!



When Marilyn joined the Junior League, she chose to volunteer to promote historic preservation. That involvement lasted throughout her lifetime. She served the Friends on committees, as a hospitality chair, a member recruiter, a consistent Duplantier donor, and a Board member, even up to a few months before her death in December. She was a dignified lady with many talents: cooking, decorating, gardening and organizing. When I think of Marilyn, PERFECTION comes to mind, as she always tackled things in life to the best of her ability and skills. Magnolia

Mound was fortunate to be the beneficiary of these skills as she served as hospitality chair and handled refreshments at quarterly board meetings, many Petite Antique Forums, and special events. She also volunteered as a board member with the Louisiana Historic Foundation (now Preserve Louisiana) and the Louisiana Trust. She was a long-time member of the National Trust for Historic Preservation and often stayed in Historic Hotels of America recommended by the Trust.

The Friends salute you, Marilyn, for your years of love, commitment, and dedication to the Mound. We offer our condolences to your family. We will miss you!



New Curator of the Friends' Collection

Wayne Stromeier has accepted the position of Curator of the Collection of the Friends of Magnolia Mound, a position previously held by the late Pat Bacot. Dr. Stromeier was the Laboratory Director and Chief of Pathology at OLOL Regional Medical center for most of his career.

Known for their love of Louisiana architectural history and gardens, Wayne and his wife, Cheryl – the Magnolia Mound kitchen chair and a former Friends board member for many years – purchased Chêne Vert, circa 1825, in 1985 and have continued to restore the home, outbuildings, and extensive gardens to the period since then. In 2020, The Historical New Orleans Collection included a section on Spanish influence on Louisiana furniture style curated by Dr. Stromeier.

Thank you and we look forward to your expertise as our collection grows under your guidance!

New Year, New Executive Committee, New Board Members!

In addition to our new executive committee: Karen Zobrist, *President*, Donna Mitchell, *Past President*, Susan Eaton, *Vice President*, Mary Tharp, *Secretary*, Cary Coxe, *Treasurer*, and continuing board members, the Friends welcome four new board members: Mary Boston, Catherine White Johnson, Larry Ruth, and Donna Wright.

TOILE DE JOUY - Continued from page 2



Bed Cover: "Pallas and Venus" design, circa 1806. From the Musée de la Toile de Jouy in Jouy-en-Josas, France. Photo by Marc Walter

In 1994, Pat Bacot acquired a reproduction toile de Jouy from the Schumacher company in New York for the Mound. Researching this article lead me to the website of the museum of the toile de Jouy in France. I came across an article related to the design that is now in the master bedroom. Karine Huguenaud noted in her article that the Pallas and Venus cloth dates from 1806. The motifs are attributed to Jean-Baptiste Huet (1745-1811), a painter of landscape and pastoral scenes who participated in the Salons from 1769 to 1802. Huet began working with the Jouy, Gobelins, and Beauvais manufactories in 1790 and became a faithful collaborator, providing Oberkampf with many designs for the Jouy cloth, including, notably, an ensemble of scenes taken from antiquity. In the above photo, the original Napoleon-era cloth is shown with the rosewood bed it was originally designed to cover. The cloth, printed using a copper roller and violet ink, shows a typically Neo-classical design: mythological scenes, women in the antique manner, caduceuses, garlands of grapes, arrows, and crowns.

The reproduction fabric that Pat Bacot was able to procure now graces the mahogany bed and "portières" in Magnolia Mound's master bedroom.

Sources:

www.museedelatoiledejouy.fr/accueil/presentation-du-musee/

www.metmuseum.org/art/collection/search/222071

www.bearbellproductions.se/blog/2020/8/31/classic-pattern-styles-toile-de-jouy

www.vandaimages.com/2010CT5720-Pallas-and-Venus-by-Jean-Baptiste-Huet-Jouy-en.html

www.museedelatoiledejouy.fr/napoleon-toile-de-jouy/

www.napoleon.org/en/history-of-the-two-empires/objects/the-jouy-cloth-bed-cover-pallas-and-venus/



*Top: Amy Lambert & Camm Morton.
Photo by Babeth Schlegel.*

*Right: Rosemary Lane with her
mochaware bowl.
Photo by John Sykes.*



Volunteer Awards Presented

Volunteers play an important part in maintaining and improving our mission of education and outreach at Magnolia Mound. We could not do what we do without their dedication and loyalty. Since the 1960s, Magnolia Mound has relied on the hard work of its volunteers. Volunteers assist as demonstrators and interpreters in the open-hearth kitchen, interacting and managing school groups, cultivating the earth in the colonial garden, and teaching the public about Baton Rouge's unique history through tours of the historic house. This year, Magnolia Mound recognized two dedicated volunteers for the 2020 year at the 2021 Duplantier Party reception at the Hart House.

Though unable to attend the event, Rosemary Lane was recognized for 30 years of service as a kitchen docent. As is our tradition, she was gifted with a large, reproduction mochaware bowl. Also honored for their service was Camm Morton, chair of our garden volunteers. Mr. Morton received the Shirley Award, an award that goes to the volunteer with the most hours. This award was created in 2012 in honor of its first recipient, Anne Gueymard Shirley. This was Mr. Morton's third time receiving the Shirley award. For the honor, Camm received a new pair of cutting shears.

Magnolia Mound loves its volunteers. They help us be one of the best educational sites in Baton Rouge. Their sacrifice of time is why we've enjoyed great success. If you would like to be a part of this elite team of docents, please contact Amy at amy.lambert@brec.org

FRIENDS OF MAGNOLIA MOUND UNDERWRITERS, MEMBERSHIP AND DONATIONS AS OF FISCAL YEAR 2021- 2022

Thanks to the following donors for joining the Mound or re-newing their membership.

If you have questions about membership or your renewal date please call Babeth Schlegel at (225) 421-3162.

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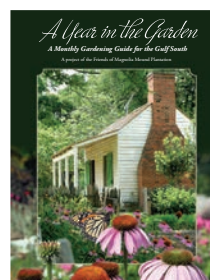
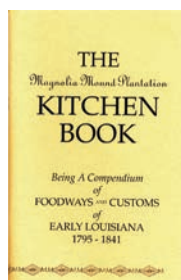
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Friends of Magnolia Mound

MISSION STATEMENT

To assist in the preservation and interpretation of the historic house and site as a demonstration of early plantation life in south Louisiana for the education and enjoyment of present and future generations and to procure and manage the Collection

RESPONSIBILITIES

The Friends, working with BREC, the Museum Director and staff, assist in implementing the master plan for the structures, landscaping, future additions and changes to Magnolia Mound.

BREC owns and operates Magnolia Mound. All of the furniture, decorative items and artifacts are owned and cared for by the Friends. This collection brings to life the interiors of the house and other buildings for the community, school groups, and tourists.

The Friends provide advisory and financial assistance for the kitchen garden, which is part of the educational tour at the Mound. Produce from the garden is used in the cooking demonstrations in the kitchen building.

YOUR MEMBERSHIP SUPPORTS THIS MISSION

Friends of Magnolia Mound

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Questions? Please send an email to friendsofmagnoliamount@gmail.com or call Babeth Schlegel at (225) 421-3162

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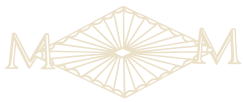
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Growing Celery in the Magnolia Mound Kitchen Garden

By Camm Morton



For several years now, we have been growing celery in the Kitchen garden because it is a beautiful plant with a long harvest season, and many people have never seen it grow. Celery requires a long period of moderate temperatures to mature, and we are lucky to have that climate in south Louisiana. Because it was simple to grow, we originally started with what is referred to as *Leaf Celery* which is sometimes called *Chinese Celery*. It grew so well we decided to try the kind sold in grocery stores.

We first grew *Tall Utah*, but we later found that a variety called *Tango* had a much better flavor, and that is what

you see pictured here between the carrots and the lettuce. We plant ours around September 15th, and by early January, we have an abundance of wonderfully crunchy and delicious stalks.

To me, celery has a fascinating history going back to Pharaoh Tutankhamun in 1323 BC. Celery leaves and flowers were found in his tomb. It shows up in cooking in Europe in the middle 1600s.

After many refinements for taste and texture, it became part of the mid-19th century American tables where it was served in celery vases to be salted and eaten raw. In fact, celery was so popular in the United States in the late 1800s and early 1900s that it became the 3rd most popular dish behind only coffee and tea, according to the New York Public Library's historical menu archive. In those days, celery cost more than caviar because it was too difficult to cultivate, and the varieties of the time did not ship well.

So if you have a little space in your fall garden, give celery a try. You will be glad you did.



Photo © Jeffrey S.
Evans & Associates

Side Note

This Pittsburgh blown, cut, and engraved celery vase (circa 1830) sold in 2015 for \$37,375.00! The manufacturer is possibly Bakewell, Page & Bakewell.

