THE LOUISIANA GARDEN CLUB FEDERATION, INC.

Newsletter

Member of
National Garden Clubs, Inc.
Deep South Region

“Continuing our Legacy of Beautification, Education, and Restoration”

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The cover photo shows the South’s beloved Azalea. The Horticulture Corner on page 19 in this issue discusses growing Azaleas and the new variety of Rhododendron that will grow in the south.

If you would like to submit drawings, paintings or photos for the cover of the Newsletter, please send them (or good copies) to LGCF Newsletter, 1750 Bilbo St., Lake Charles, LA 70601, or email pamxyz@bellsouth.net.

DEADLINE FOR SUBMISSIONS TO SUMMER ISSUE (JULY 2013) IS JUNE 1ST, 2013.

Please send all information for this issue to Pam Langley,
1750 Bilbo St., Lake Charles, LA 70601-6061 • 337-842-2995 (phone) • pamxyz@bellsouth.net
President’s Report

CONTINUING OUR LEGACY OF BEAUTIFICATION, EDUCATION, AND RESTORATION

Two years ago the Presidency of the Louisiana Garden Club Federation was entrusted to my care, and at the close of this year we are looking back with reflective eyes over the years' activities, hoping that accomplishments have outweighed shortcomings, and excited we have added five new clubs, and many new friends to our garden club family. Our Membership Chairman, and her Mentors and have done a magnificent job by increasing our members. Welcome Jennings, Abbeville, Union Parish, Sterlington and Olla Pinewood Garden Clubs to our State Federation!

Our Circle of Roses Chairman and sponsoring garden club honors our dedicated and long serving members who are the foundation of our clubs. Their photographs and articles about their lives are published in our newsletter. I have had the honor of presenting the pin, and certificate to some of these ladies, and they are as beautiful as their photos captured in our newsletter.

It has been one of the happiest privileges of my life to have spent the busiest years in doing the work I love best, in knowing you, and working with you to continue in planning, building, and sharing our ideas- and carrying out my theme of Continuing Our Legacy of Beautification, Education & Restoration.

My duties included traveling to attend Arbor Day Celebration, Flower Shows, Christmas Teas, Founders Day Celebrations, Judging doorways, Invitations to attend garden club meetings (when time permitted), Blue Star Marker Dedication, and Fall District Meetings, and many more! I was so proud to represent you, and enjoyed this so much.

Our Headquarters Chairman and Trustees did a magnificent job keeping our home inviting and efficient! What a beautiful tribute to our members for generations to come. Our Live Oak Chairman registered over 7,102 trees throughout 17 states! What a job, and she also manages to measure the girth of live oak trees with measuring tape and one other person. And, she continues to "police" anyone who is trying to cut down a tree!

Blue Star Markers were restored and placed on highways, and byways throughout our state. The families of our servicemen and woman are so proud and thankful to us.

Cleanest City Chairman is our LGCF advocate to pick up the litter and keep our State Clean and Litter Free. Our local Chairmen update on our website, keep us well informed about state and national projects, so we can get involved and do our part. Scholarships were awarded to local, state winners. Our state winner's application went to National Garden Clubs, Inc. and was awarded a NGC Scholarship! I would like to recognize our Scholarship Chairman for her sustained efforts.

Congratulations to the Chairman and committee for their dedication and diligent operation of 4 (four) NGC Schools-Environmental, Gardening Study, Flower Show, and Landscape Design during my term.

Our Ways and Means Co-Chairmen and their committee, for their steady, earnest and energetic manner, and always a smile on their face! A Special Thank- you and to each one of our shoppers who have contributed to make our Ways and Means a Huge Success! We are "Born to Shop"
Our "Masterpiece," created and designed by Newsletter and Webmaster Chairman worked hand in hand to produce and create The Best, Most Enjoyable, and Up-To Date Newsletter and Website Ever! A huge round of applause goes to our members who contribute their photos and articles too!

Our Prayer Request Chairman for sending and sharing her comforting and beautiful e-mails. The most difficult and sad times during my presidency is to lose a loved one, one of us, someone who has been a part of our lives and federation, we shed tears of “joy” because they will remain with us forever.

A Special Thank-you to many Officers, Representative-At Large, District Directors, Headquarters Trustees, Chairman, Advisors, and each of you ..... I could not have done it without you!

Mary Jacobs, President
Louisiana Garden Club Federation, Inc.
2011-2013

President-Elect’s Report

What a wonderful two years as President-Elect of the LGCF! This officer has traveled miles to attend meetings, visit communities and get to know members statewide. What a great group of gardeners we have! They give their time, talents, and yes, even their money to participate in this great organization the Louisiana Garden Club, Inc. We are bound by our common interests to make this world a better place for all of us. I would like to share some of the highlights as President-Elect with you.

This officer began her office by traveling the state of Louisiana in May 2011 for three weeks to judge the State Cleanest City Contest. What a rewarding trip that was! It was so good to see that communities and governmental bodies were actually excited about cleaning their communities, landscaping them and placing ordinances on their books to deal with those who litter.

At the Summer Board Meetings in Baton Rouge, I had the privilege of presiding at the Presidents’ Meeting and the District Directors’ Meeting. It was so good to have so many first time Presidents and District Directors. LGCF needs newcomers to ensure the continuance of our local garden clubs as well as our LGCF. Our Deep South Region Director, Sara Lanier from St. Simons, GA visited us and her address at the Presidents’ Luncheon gave us new energy to begin her new administration in which “Membership Offers Opportunities for Everyone”.

In November 2011 I attended a most beautiful dedication of a Blue Star Marker at Fort Polk, Leesville, LA. The commander and soldiers of Fort Polk were so humble and respectful and grateful of our endeavors to show our appreciation of what they do to keep our country free. There were tears and many hugs that day throughout the ceremony.

In April 2012 it was such a treat to attend the LGCF Convention in Houma, LA. For me, it was a coming home because Terrebonne Garden Club was my very first home in LGCF. How good it was to renew friendships, enjoy great food and get to visit with NGC President Shirley Nicolai. Her address to us reminded me that we must continue to be “Proudly Serving Our Members and Communities”.

April 2013          LGCF Newsletter
I want to personally thank the wonderful group of District Directors who represented LGCF so ably and so admirably. Attending their District Meetings was a joy with each having its own flavor and style. They work very hard for LGCF and their Districts and Clubs. How gratifying to hear their ideas and share their visions for LGCF.

I have enjoyed working so much with our President Mary Jacobs and the Officers and Board of LGFC. Our state has been blessed to have such a talented group of leaders. And to all the members, LGCF would not be the best it can be without you. Your hard work getting projects done in your communities, districts and state certainly improves our quality of life.

Thank you all for allowing me to serve as President-Elect for these past two years.

Yvette Hebert, President-Elect
LGCF 2011-2013

First Vice President’s Report

It has been my honor and pleasure to serve as First Vice President of the Louisiana Garden Club Federation for the 2011-2013 Administration. I want to take this opportunity to congratulate the LGCF Officers, Chairmen and the Garden Clubs for the way they have supported the changes in the awards for NGC, Deep South and LGCF. These changes have been a challenge, but we all have agreed that the change is good and will save time and money. This new process will also use less paper, thus helping to save our natural resources.

Thanks to all who have worked so hard on these changes and made it easier for the clubs to apply for awards. As you have heard me say many times, our garden clubs do some awesome programs and projects for which they should get the proper recognition. There is no better tribute than to receive an award for these efforts.

Through these many programs and projects LGCF has effectively endorsed our president’s theme of “Continuing our Legacy of Beautification, Education and Restoration.” My hope is that as the club members and officers get more accustomed to the new award changes; LGCF will continue to have an increase in award applications.

Again thank you for the opportunity to serve as your LGCF State Awards Chairman, what a wonderful learning experience for this officer. LGCF garden clubs, keep up the good work.

Lena R. Bateman, 1st Vice President
LGCF 2011-2013

Second Vice President’s Report

Thank you to the 11 clubs/councils that submitted Deep South and NGC awards applications for 2012. Nineteen applications for NGC awards were received, reviewed, and sent to the appropriate NGC awards chairmen.

Fourteen Deep South awards applications were received, reviewed, and sent to the next level. All applications were in different categories so there was no competition among them. In addition, six yearbooks, which were evaluated by the Yearbooks Chairman, were submitted to Deep South.

We now await the results with great anticipation. The winners will be recognized at Summer Board.
During my term, the awards applications went through several changes. Most of the changes have resulted in simplified procedures for those submitting applications.

My only disappointment is the small number of clubs/councils that applied for DS and NGC awards. So many clubs are doing projects that are worthy of awards. I urge you to match your projects with awards requirements and apply!

Thank you for allowing me to serve in this capacity as a member of the 2011-2013 LGCF Board.

*Linda Finley, Second Vice-President*
LGCF 2011-2013

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**Treasurer’s Report**

It has truly been my pleasure and privilege to serve as Treasurer of Louisiana Garden Club Federation 2011-2013. We have 98 clubs and 2,658 paid members.

Having never served as Treasurer of any organization before this truly was a learning experience for me. Thanks to Linda Finley’s help and patience I made it through the two years.

This office has given me insight into the workings of LGCF which I am sure will help as I move up in LGCF to be President-Elect in 2013-15 and President in 2015-2017.

*Jeanette Gatzman, Treasurer*
LGCF 2011-2013
Chairman Reports

Cleanest City Chairman Report

The following is a list of cities that have entered the Cleanest City Contest for 2013. Each of these cities is a winner!

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Jean Gilstrap, Cleanest City Chairman
LGCF 2011-2013

Website Chairman Report

It is important that chairmen continue to submit their information and calendar dates to the website, as this is an integral part of LGCF, Inc.’s communication, not only with its members but also with the general public.

I congratulate the ten clubs that have taken on the task of creating and maintaining their own websites. They are District I: Lake Terrace Garden Club and Federated Council of New Orleans Garden Clubs, Inc.; District II: Chateau Estates Garden Club; District III: Bayou Vista Garden Club, Lafayette Garden Club, and Patterson Garden Club; District V: Delhi Garden Club; District VI: Town and Country Garden Club; District VII: Diggers and Weeders Garden Club of Lake Charles and Washington Garden. Most clubs are using Weebly.com to create their free club website. I encourage all clubs to give it a try and please visit these sites, they are fantastic. Club websites are linked from the LGCF, Inc. District page at http://www.louisianagardenclubs.org/districts.html

I would like to say thank you to Mary Jacobs for giving me the opportunity to serve as her chairman.

Kathy Tell, Website Chairman
LGCF 2011-2013
**District I**

Wow, the past two years have flown by so quickly. When I was asked to fill the District I Director shoes it was late in the game and being fairly new to the garden club scene I did not know what I was really getting myself into! Well, I must admit the experience has been a wonderful journey. I found myself in a very fast learning curve! The greatest experience of this journey has been meeting so many wonderful and helpful LGCF, Inc. members throughout the state. We all share the same common bond, the betterment of the LGCF, Inc. Two years ago I looked forward to the experience and knowledge that I would have obtained at the end of the term. OK, I am still in the learning mode as there is a wealth of knowledge out there, but I have experienced and learned so much to date.

I have enjoyed working with and getting to know the eight club presidents in District I. Also, I have enjoyed working with the members of The Federated Council of New Orleans Garden Clubs, Inc. All clubs participated in the fall Scarecrow Trail and continue annually to create the clever Mr. Bingle Wreaths for Celebration in the Oaks. Both events are held yearly at the Botanical Gardens in City Park, New Orleans.

Currently members from both The Federated Council of New Orleans Garden Clubs, Inc. along with the Jefferson Parish Council of Garden Clubs, Inc. are busy preparing for a Standard Flower Show March 12. The title will be “This Land is Our Land”, to be held in the Pavilion of Two Sisters, City Park.

At this writing I am excited to reveal that we may have as many as four Junior Garden Clubs in the pipeline. As I have spoken with the presidents I have realized that four District I clubs each work closely with a school. How wonderful that would be to bring in so many young people to this great organization.

Recently I called the eight presidents in District I to ask them what they would consider to be the highlights for the past two years. Their responses follow:

Aurora Plantation Gardeners reports that they continue to work with the herb/vegetable garden at Cafe Hope in Marrero. Cafe Hope helps down and out people to get back on their feet by teaching them culinary skills, working in a restaurant atmosphere and growing their own food. Aurora has also worked with the Holly Grove Market/garden in New Orleans. The club has also ventured out of town for some wonderful garden field trips.

Belle Chasse Garden Club reports that they raised the funds, $4,000.00, and erected a “Welcome to Belle Chasse” sign at the corner of Woodlawn and Belle Chasse Highways. They also maintain the planting around the base of the sign. Last year they entered the Cleanest City Contest for the first time. Though Hurricane Isaac, August 29, 2012, flooded many homes in Belle Chasse and did a great damage to the area, Belle Chasse is up for the CCC challenge again. This year they have recruited Belle Chasse High School to help with the clean up for the CCC and are already working to get additional help for next year.

Fleur de Lis Garden Club reports that they continue to maintain the teaching garden throughout the year for the Lighthouse of Louisiana, formerly The Lighthouse of the Blind. A summer garden camp is held for blind children and Fleur de Lis works with the children to experience their other wonderful senses in the garden. They also maintain the large cement planters in front of the newly built Algiers Regional Library.

Green Thumb Garden Club in conjunction with the Civic Beautification Association held a very successful 2012 Arbor Day Ceremony at the Arabi Elementary School in Arabi, Louisiana. Eight trees were planted along with additional landscaping. Arabi Elementary was torn down and rebuilt after Hurricane Katrina. Green Thumb also has plans to landscape around the gym when construction is finished. The club also has a strong Mother Daughter membership.

Lake Forest Garden Club reports that they worked with Hynes Elementary School to create the miniature scarecrows for the Scarecrow Trail. They also helped the students to participate in the Smokey Bear/Woody Owl poster contest. Thank you to Kathy Boudreaux for volunteering as District I C chairman for the Cleanest City Contest.
Lakeview Botany Guild reports that last year they reinstated awarding “Garden of the Month”. That was an exciting comeback for the Lakeview community after the total destruction from Hurricane Katrina. Also, last year they received the District Award for “Building Membership”. Additionally, one of their members collects used glass containers and monthly takes them to a glass recycling drop off location. Prior to Christmas, several of their members worked assembling treat bags for the Special Children’s Christmas program held in the Botanical Gardens in City Park, New Orleans.

Lake Terrace Garden Club reports they continue to eradicate the pesky, foliage eating, stinging (very painful) Buck Moth Caterpillars that hatch in the beautiful Live Oak Trees every spring. For the past three years the garden club has canvased the neighborhood of 425 homes and offered homeowners this service at a reduced group price of $60.00 per tree. The garden club collects the checks and data, and creates a spreadsheet to submit to Bayou Tree, Inc. for spraying. Last year over 130 trees were sprayed!

Tall Timbers Garden Club reports that they maintain the Butterfly Garden at Christ the King School. They also maintain the plantings around the entrance sign to Brechtel Park in Algiers. One of their members, Judy Leonard, was the speaker for the District I and II meetings. Both years Judy put on an informative and lively talk. Her husband will be the speaker at one of the luncheons for the 2013 LGCF, Inc. State Convention in April. I am looking forward to working with Donna St. Louis, District I Director Elect from Tall Timbers.

Lastly, I would like to thank the many members, too numerous to name, that have helped me the past two years. With their knowledge and help it made my job much easier. I have truly enjoyed the past two years as District I Director and look forward to my days ahead in the LGCF, Inc.

Nancy Click, District I Director
LGCF 2011-2012

District V

As my term as District V Director comes to an end, I have many fond memories from the last two years.

First, I would like to thank Lena Bateman and Johnnie Ruth Sturgeon for the wonderful district flower show they chaired. Also I want to thank my officers for a job well done, Eleonor Talley, Treasure; Suzanne Mercer, Secretary and Beth Erwin, Cleanest City Chairman.

One of the highlights of my term was judging Cleanest City in District V. Not only did I travel to towns I had not visited before, I saw how much pride garden club members have in their town and state and how much work they are willing to do in order to keep them clean.

Being Director gave me the opportunity to meet more garden club members in my district and also the state. The LGCF State Officers did a good job leading our organization during the 2011-2013 terms. I certainly enjoyed working with Yvette Hebert, our district director’s Mom, and look forward to working with her during her term as President of LGCF.

Last but not least, a big “Thank You” to the garden club members in District V for their participation in the activities in our district during the past two years. I had the honor of meeting with many of the sixteen clubs in District V and becoming acquainted with their members. I would like to encourage the members to support their new District V Director, Beth Erwin.

Hope I see some of you at the LGCF State Convention.

Sherrill Sasser, District V Director
LGCF 2011-2013
**District VI**

Going to conventions and Summer Board meetings was always something I enjoyed doing, but, as a District Director, they became more meaningful. I saw things in a different light. I was not there to enjoy myself. I had to take information back to my district. I had to take notes and be very attentive.

Attending club meetings became a goal. Having twenty-three clubs was an awesome task. What a pleasure to visit each one of them! They were each so different. I attended flower shows, LGCF schools and installations for new officers. I went to meetings held outdoors, in a clubhouse, at a home, and in church buildings; from sixteen ladies to one hundred ladies. I met so many wonderful people. A good friend told me that I would enjoy the people in LGCF more than anything else. She was right. I have made so many friends and enjoy being with all of them.

The clubs all have one goal in mind. How can we help? From working in communities, nursing homes, schools, to giving scholarships and getting new members to join their club, this is the goal. Helping with projects given to them from the National Garden Clubs to working on LGCF projects, this was the goal. Some have big goals and some small. But they were all completed with helping people in mind and making themselves better individuals.

The highlight of my two years as District Director was presenting the Circle of Roses to outstanding, well-deserving ladies. They all had such pride in receiving their pins and certificates and being presented to their clubs as a Circle of Roses ladies. We were all proud.

I would like to thank everyone in LGCF who has given me the opportunities to learn and meet so many wonderful people.

Thank you,

*Diane Dufour, District VI Director*

LGCF 2011-2013

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**District 7**

I don’t know about all of you, but I’m feeling pretty good right now, as I recall the last 2 years. The 2011-2013 term has been a whirlwind of new responsibilities, new friends, new insights and new inspirations, for all of us. I have met some really, really nice people; not only in District 7, but around the state. And I have irrevocably realized what an important and influential entity that Louisiana Garden Club Federation is.

If I had to sum up what I’ve experienced in the past 2 years, one word comes to mind…ENERGY. It’s a tangible thing, running through individuals, through clubs, through our district and throughout the state of Louisiana, and it has truly astounded me. ENERGY that is expended selflessly, with passion and dedication. A spark of ENERGY that starts with one person’s dream, and through the conduit of LGCF becomes a flame of inspiration to all of us. ENERGY that, once harnessed and channeled, creates an impact on the lives and environment around us. What power!

I congratulate all of the clubs of District 7: Bulb and Blossom of Eunice, Crowley, DeRidder, Diggers and Weeders of Lake Charles, Iowa, Jennings, Lake Charles, Magnolia of Ville Platte, Oakdale, Opelousas, Rayne, Sulphur, Washington, and Weeders and Feeders of Lake Charles. Your energy has performed miracles in your communities, and you should be PROUD!

To my friends in Districts 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6 and 8: I’ve learned so much from you, and wish you all the best in your “earthy endeavors” yet to come. I can’t wait to see where your energy takes you!!!
And...to our LGCF Execs...what a journey it has been for me, navigating through the channels of our Federation, with each of your lights combining to form a lighthouse in the dark! The energy of your beacon is true and real, providing direction for us all.

To all of you reading this little article: step out in faith – let your dream be a spark of inspiration for those around you. And if you want to experience a whole new perspective of what Garden Club is all about, take any and every opportunity to move into a LGCF District or State Office. Plug in! I highly recommend it!

Sissy Gall, District VII Director
LGCF 2011-2013

District VIII
As I see myself as District Director for Eighth District, things have gone so well for all the clubs in our area that it has not given me a big challenge. Grant you we are small (only 4 clubs) but have had some major accomplishment. For one thing we have a new club from Olla. This makes a total of 5 in District VIII. These ladies and token gentlemen have done what is expected from a club and more. They have taken on many new projects and are planning for the future ones.

I have been given this opportunity to lead a great group and know that the new District Director will have the same members to assist the state with projects. We look forward to working with the new incoming President of LGCF who from the Alexandria Club as well as two of the state officers who will be presiding from our district. We are very proud of our Central Louisiana Gardeners.

Frances O. Anderson, District VIII Director
LGCF 2011-2013

Amaryllis plants sometimes fail to bloom. This can be caused by a number of factors:

- Digging the bulbs too early, i.e., before the leaves yellow and die back.
- Too much shade, which reduces the plant’s ability to manufacture food and results in loss of vigor.
- Too rich a soil, too much nitrogen fertilizer, or too much water, any of which can cause amaryllis to produce leaves at the expense of bulb growth and flowers.
**Book Review**

By Dolla Farmer, LGCF Book Review Chairman

*Tough Plants for Southern Gardens*, by Felder Rushing, Cool Springs Press (June 1, 2003), Tough Plants Series, Paperback 288 pp.
ISBN-13: 9781591860020, $17.64

Tough Plants for Southern Gardens, this book caught my eye for a few reasons, one is selfish, as the older I get the more I want to sit and admire my plants. The second is my son just bought a house in New Orleans and asks, “Mom, what should I plant.” “Low Care, No Care, Tried and True Winners” was the answer. I bought him this book as a warming present, best present for a new homeowner. Mr. Rushing’s writing style engages experience, knowledge, whimsical photos and a great sense of humor to help you make decisions on which plants to put in your garden including annuals, bulbs, perennials, shrubs and small trees, ornamental vines and lawns. Each is noted for its ability to thrive with minimal care from planting to maintenance. Dealing with humidity, heat, erratic weather, drought and insects is not much fun but, each chapter has informative topics covering: pest avoidance, handling invasive plants and companion planting tips. For an excellent overview of plants in the South, you will read this book once and then again. This book is for the beginners or advanced gardeners, a must have valuable reference for all.

[http://www.amazon.com/Plants-Southern-Gardens-Felder-Rushing/dp/1591860024](http://www.amazon.com/Plants-Southern-Gardens-Felder-Rushing/dp/1591860024)

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**2013 Symposium**

Presented by the Louisiana Council of Nationally Accredited Flower Show Judges
April 30 - May 2, 2013

Registration deadline is April 13, 2013. For questions contact Carrie Martin, 985-893-3285 or mart3285@bellsouth.net

Wesley Retreat Center
2350 METHODIST PKWY
WOODWORTH, LA
Located approximately two hour’s drive from Baton Rouge, Monroe, Shreveport, Lake Charles, LA and Jackson, MS. South of Alexandria, LA, take Exit 73 off I-49 toward Woodworth.

Tuition and Meals
Entire Course for Credit or Audit $110.00
One day – May 1, Design only and Lunch $70.00
One day – May 2, Horticulture only and Lunch $70.00

Brochure and Registration form may be found at:
Lee Baraldi
Petals of North Bridgedale Garden Club (District II)

Lee is a native of New Orleans. She is married to William Baraldi and two grown children, a son and a daughter. She also has two grandsons. The family moved to Metairie in 1969.

In December of 1975 she was invited to visit The Petals of North Bridgedale Garden Club, joining that year. Because of her love for flowers and people, she became totally involved in the club. She served three times as President and served 13 times as Vice President. She has held every office and committee position, with the exception of Treasurer. She was instrumental in the placement of two signs on Transcontinental Drive, The North Bridgedale sign and the Blue Star Memorial Marker. She was Woman of the Year five times. She has helped to decorate for The Celebration in the Oaks and has decorated one of their wreaths for many years.

She has won blue ribbons for flower show design, wreaths and recently decorating hats. Her Christmas Doorway has won blue ribbons over several years. She has held the office of First Vice-President, Second Vice-President and Corresponding Secretary and is a Life Member of the Jefferson Parish Council of Garden Clubs. She is presently Corresponding Secretary for the Council and also serves as State Bird Chairman.

She has held several offices in the Civic Beautification Association. She is presently the Corresponding and Recording Secretary of CBA. She has successfully chaired the Ways and Means Committee for years. She is presently co-chairman for Arbor Day for the Federated Council of New Orleans Garden Clubs, Inc.

Her family was named The Great American Family by the Jefferson Association for Family & Community Education Committee. This award was given to the family that has given and volunteered for many charities and schools.

Ruth Hughson
River Ridge Garden Club (District II)

Ruth Hughson came to Louisiana over fifty years ago and came to River Ridge. Ruth started out in Berkeley, California – next stop Caspar, Wyoming then Baton Rouge. Her mother and two sisters are also gardeners as are her son and daughter-in-law. Her first garden club membership was in Baton Rouge followed by Hoe & Hope, Douglas Park and now River Ridge, all in River Ridge, LA. Sad to say the first two clubs no longer exist.

Over the years she has held many positions in all of the garden clubs she has been involved in and participated in flower shows, programs and workshops. For several years she was registration Chairman for the Jefferson Parish Council of Garden Clubs monthly meetings and special events. It was a great way to get to know members of other garden communities.
clubs. Currently Ruth is the CBA Chairman for the River Ridge Garden Club and is responsible for a floral arrangement in the Harahan Branch of the Jefferson Parish Library system each month throughout the year. Members are assigned by the month.

Ruth is a recent widow having been married to Barrett Burke Hughson for 70 years. She has 2 children, 5 grandchildren and 7 great grandchildren. The grandchildren are following in her footsteps by volunteering at their children’s schools.

Time goes on and she is unable to work in the flower beds as much as she would like to – the mind is willing, but the body isn’t. They say that working in the soil is good for the soul and she has found that to be true.

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**Rae Morgan**  
*Shady Oaks Garden Club (District II)*

Rae Morgan has always felt close to the Earth. As a child some of her favorite pastimes were making mud pies, sniffing clover from the nearby levee and stringing four o’clocks.

Her mother was a member of West Baton Rouge Garden Club, and she often tagged along and “watched” her mother’s gardening activities. Rae was hooked, thanks to Mom!

She attended school in Port Allen, LA and went to college in Lafayette, LA. Shortly after graduation Rae and Willie Morgan were married. They had four children. The family has grown to include eight grandchildren and four great-grandchildren. Her husband, oldest daughter and a grandson are now deceased.

Rae lives in River Ridge, LA and has been a member of Shady Oaks Garden Club since 1969. She has served the club in many areas during all these years as Recording Secretary, Flower Show Chairman, Garden Therapy Chairman, Intermediate Garden Club (Reflections) Chairman and designer of several of the club’s Yearbook covers. Currently Rae is Chairman of Shady Oaks Junior Garden Club, Little Shadows. Rae’s artistic pastimes now include painting in watercolors and making pressed flowers.

Rae has a strong bond with her garden club “Sisters” as they “strive to work, play and laugh together, and lose self in love of beauty, service and sharing.”
Millie Quick
Acres of Green Garden Club (District II)

Millie joined the garden club in 1962 and through the years served on the Nominating Committee and the Ways and Means Committee. She was president in 1970-1972 and again in 2011-2013. She hosted several inter-club flowers shows at her home as well as several Ways and Means tasting luncheons.

Millie says that the garden club has been a wonderful social outlet and learning experience. She is very grateful for the many friends she has made throughout these 50 years.

Millie has been married to Herman for 55 years. They have four children, fourteen grandchildren and six great-grandchildren.

Lynne Ryan
Acres of Green Garden Club (District II)

Lynne joined the club in 1958 and served as president in 1972-1974 and again in 2011-2013. Through the years she has served as Library Chairman, Arbor Day Committee Chairman for the Jefferson Parish Council of Garden Clubs, and served on committees for the Louisiana Garden Club Federation conventions. She entered horticulture in flower shows and her garden has won garden of the month many times. She is a gracious hostess and opened her home to the club for meetings through the years.

Lynne is the mother of four, grandmother of nine and great-grandmother of one. She was married 48 years to Robert when he passed away in 2002.
Shirley R DuBose  
New Iberia Garden Club (District III)  

Shirley has been an active member since 1990 and is now 82 years old. She has held a number of offices in the New Iberia Garden Club and has participated in many flower shows. She has won several “Best of Show” Design ribbons. She has been gardening for many years, with a special interest in daylilies and roses.

Shirley has held a number of design workshops for fellow members over the years. She attended the Flower Show School for two years in Lafayette and the Gardening Consultant School in Morgan City for two years, graduating in 1998.

She has been active in her church adult choir for fifty years as well as singing with the community choir “Le Son de Teche” for eight years and with several other civic groups. Shirley has been a widow since 1995 and has 2 children, 3 grandchildren, 4 step-grandchildren, and 14 great-grandchildren.

Shirley is a true asset of the New Iberia Garden Club both for her talent and her sparkling personality. The Club is proud to name Shirley Rogers Dubose to the Louisiana Garden Club Circle of Roses.

Sandra Lea Moise  
Terrebonne Garden Club (District III)  

Sandra Lea Moise joined the Terrebonne Garden Club in April 1998 after retiring from 30 years teaching elementary education. Married to Greg for over 50 years, Sandra has 2 adult children, 7 grandchildren, and 2 great grandchildren. Garden Club activities have included helping with the Flower Shows, participating in garden therapy at local nursing homes, weeding special city areas, laying sod for Habitat of Humanity projects, Arbor Day Chairman, The Live Oak Society, telephone committees, taking pictures and publicity for the club, working with the Cleanest City Contest, doing the club scrapbook, and Secretary for 2 years. She has scores of plants in her yard, and on her farm, and enjoys giving cuttings to anyone who needs them. She is a Deep South Life Member and LGCF Life Member.

Sandra is also busy with the Terrebonne Literary Club, Terrebonne Bird Club, Burkwall, a volunteer group for the parish, Kappa Kappa Iota Teacher’s Club, the Retired Teachers Organization, the church bereavement committee, and the Crescent City Sound Chorus of Sweet Adelines.

She travels with family members whenever possible, always noticing the plants and birds.
It is our pleasure to nominate Lima (Lou) Viator of the New Iberia Garden Club to the Circle of Roses. Lou has been an active garden club member since the early 1990’s. She has served on many committees during those years. We are proud to have Lou in our Garden Club!

Lou has provided garden tours at her home’s Edgewood Gardens to many organizations including being on the garden tour for the National Daylily Convention in 1998. Lou maintains about two acres of flower gardens in addition to her vegetable garden for a total of about four acres. The beauty of it all is that she has maintained it all herself until the last few years.

Lou specialized in Daylilies for many years and also belongs to the Delta Daylily Society. She hybridized a cultivar named Edgewood Red, which is still in cultivation today. She donated many cultivars as well as other plants to the New Iberia City Park as part of the Garden Club’s adoption of the Bird Sanctuary. She volunteered along with other members planting flowers which are still there today.

Lou was also active in helping with setting up of the downtown flower beds as part of the revitalizing of Downtown New Iberia. She recently helped with the landscaping of the Blue Star Marker at the Iberia Tourist Center. Lou is always ready to and willing to help with any projects the club is involved in. She is a dedicated member who seldom misses a meeting. Lou is a valued member and an asset to our club.

Lou and her late husband Mr. Voorhies (Slim) Viator have two sons and three grandsons. She also has two great-granddaughters, two great-grandsons and one great-great-grandson she loves very much.

We have many ladies in their senior years who have given their time and talents over the many years and we would like to honor them in the newsletter. In order to do this, we are as king each club that wishes to honor a senior member or members this way please submit it both a “then” and “now” photograph with a short write-up on the member’s garden club activities. This quarter we would like to welcome to our “Circle” eight special ladies.

If you have a deserving member of your club that you would like to nominate for the Circle of Roses, please send a short write up along with a ‘then’ and ‘now’ picture to Jennifer Granger, Circle of Roses Chairman, 10263 Gulf Hwy, Lake Charles, LA 70607, or email: jenjgra53@camtel.net or if you prefer there is a form available at the following link:

The Federated Garden Clubs of Southwest Louisiana (Crowley Garden Club, Diggers and Weeders Garden Club of Lake Charles, Iowa Garden Club, Jennings Garden Club, Lake Charles Garden Club, Sulphur Garden Club, Weeders and Feeders of the Lake Garden Club) presented a Small-Standard Flower Show entitled “Musical Extravaganza”. Here are the design winners of the show.

Illuminary Design Winner and Designers Choice Award by Georgie Petitjean, Crowley Garden Club (left)

Stabile Design Winner by Dolla Farmer, Sulphur Garden Club (below right)

Angular Design Winner by Georgie Petitjean, Crowley Garden Club (left)
**Azalea Gardening Tips**

**Exposure:** Generally, they are best in filtered sunlight. Shield them from strong winds. Choose species and selections well adapted to your climate.

**Soil:** Provide moist, acid, well-drained soil rich in organic matter such as sphagnum peat moss, ground bark, chopped leaves, and compost. Avoid clay as well as limy, alkaline soils.

**Planting:** Plant azaleas and rhododendrons with the top of the root ball slightly above soil level. Don’t cultivate around these plants, as they have shallow roots.

**Fertilizing:** Plants growing in fertile, acid soil need only infrequent fertilizing. When you do feed, use a controlled-release, acid-forming fertilizer such as cottonseed meal or commercial azalea/camellia food. Feed in spring, right after bloom. If chlorosis (yellow leaves with green veins) is a problem, apply garden sulfur or iron sulfate.

**Pinching:** This is necessary for shaping plants and encouraging thick, bushy growth. For specifics on this and other pruning, see text.

**Watering:** Because Azaleas absorb water through their foliage, wet both the leaves and root zone when you water. Be sure to water the whole root zone, not just one side of the plant. Water in the morning, so that leaves dry by afternoon.

**New Plants**

Azaleas are closely related to Rhododendron that are widely grown in the northern US. Recently a new, heat-tolerant group of rhododendron varieties from the Southern Living Plant Collection has been introduced. These were developed to perform well in the Deep South while performing equally well in traditional rhododendron areas.

The Southgate rhododendron hybrids bloom in early April in south Louisiana and were developed by retired veterinarian and longtime plant breeder Dr. John Thornton of Franklinton, La. Dr. Thornton began his rhododendron breeding efforts in the early 1970s. He is widely known among azalea and rhododendron enthusiasts for his vast knowledge of these plants and breeding techniques that have long been investigated to improve the species. Much of his work has been with the R. hyperythrum species.

Rhododendrons require cultural conditions similar to azaleas. This includes shade during portions of the day, especially early to late afternoons. The soil pH required for optimum growth is 5.5. Soils need to be enriched with organic matter, and it is important to plant rhododendrons in raised beds. Mulch them with pine straw and maintain uniformity in soil moisture for best success. Do not plant them too deep but slightly higher than the plants were growing in the containers.
Louisiana Garden Club Federation
State Convention 2013
April 15 – 17, 2013
Registration Form

Name

Address

City

State

Zip

Email

Phone (   ) -

Garden Club

District

Please circle your status for Registration and Credentials:

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<tr>
<th>Local:</th>
<th>Club President</th>
<th>Delegate</th>
<th>Alternate</th>
<th>Member</th>
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<tr>
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<td>Chairman</td>
<td>Life Member</td>
<td>Past President</td>
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Please Check Price Amount

☐ I would like to attend the Pre-Convention Tour of the French Quarter in New Orleans. Only a limited number of openings left! Money refunded if filled. $100 $

☐ I would like to register for the entire convention. The Package plan includes all registration fees, meals, events, speakers and business meetings with the exception of the French Quarter Pre-convention Tour which is optional and only available to the first 56 registrants. $190 $

☐ No, I only want to register for a portion of the convention as indicated below: Please note that you must pay the registration fee for each day of attendance regardless of the number of events you attend. $

<table>
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<th>Tuesday, April 16</th>
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| Registration      | $20 | $
| Luncheon          | $30 | $
| at Pontchartrain Center |
| Banquet           | $40 | $
| at Pontchartrain Center |
| Wednesday, April 17 |
| Registration      | $20 | $
| Luncheon          | $30 | $
| at Pontchartrain Center |
| Convention Banquet| $50 | $
| at Chateau Country Club |

☐ Late Fee
Paid if you registering after March 15.
No same-day registrations will be accepted.

$10 $

Your Total Package Selections
Make checks payable to: LGCF State Convention 2013 $

Mail registration form and payment to: Shelia Sparacio, 7933 River Road, Waggaman, LA 70094
Fax Reservation Requests

**Hotel Kenner**
4535 Williams Blvd
Kenner, LA 70065
PHONE: 504-273-7455  FAX: 504-712-0109

*Important note: The Hotel Kenner will be changing names sometime in February to Hilton Garden Inn Kenner. All contact information will be the same.*

Name

Address

City  State  Zip

Email  Phone (   ) -

Arrival Date:  Departure Date:

Credit Card Number:

Credit Card Type:  Exp. _____ / ______

All rooms are non-smoking and are $99/night ($111.63 with tax). Free daily breakfast and free shuttle to Treasure Chest Casino. Please circle type of room requested:

King-Size Bed

Two Queen-Size Beds

Please fax this sheet to 1-504-712-0109
ATTN: Amy Stettner
Group Sales & Special Events Manager

This sheet does not confirm you a room. Ms. Stettner will either call or email you a confirmation number. Please keep your confirmation number.

Confirmation # ______________
Deeds and Doings

District III
During the summer of 2012, the Houma Police Department asked the Terrebonne Garden Club for assistance in replanting the areas in front of the Headquarters. In October 2012, Landscape Design Consultants visited the grounds and measured the area. Members of La-Terre Master Gardeners were asked to add input concerning an irrigation system.

Garden Club members decided to plant white crepe myrtles to match landscaping already in place. Three trees were planted and final decisions were made for the front area. Left to right in picture are Paulette Henry, Linda Brashier, Kayla Rhode, Thomas Guidroz, Chuck Helmer, Chief of Police Todd Duplantis, Raymonda Guidroz, Joel Helmer and Hope Dupre. Paulette, Kayla, Raymonda and Hope are both Garden Club members and Master Gardeners. Thomas, Chuck and Joel are Master Gardeners.

When Terrebonne Garden Club sponsors Houma in the Cleanest City Contest, the Houma Police Department always adopts an area and does an extensive clean up. Club Members and Master Gardeners were happy to assist in beautifying the grounds and planting trees for Arbor Day.

Lafayette Garden Club held its December Christmas Tea at the University of Louisiana Lafayette Alumni House. An elegant hydrangea centerpiece arrangement, by Jan Vinning and Becky Latiolais, graced the table. (Shown on the right).

Club members contributed a substantial amount to this year’s Silver Bowl children’s charity fundraiser, Hearts of Hope. Club President Roxanna Champagne introduced special guests, District III Director Alma “Bebe” Ebel and Ruth Delhomme, President of New Iberia Garden Club.

Membership Chair Angel Broussard, introduced new Club members Jean Bonneau, Becky Latiolais, Jean Hernandez, Lydia Keeton, Pat Evans and Debbie Grissom. Unable to attend were Mary Ann Armbruster and Elaine DeMettee. (Shown on the left).
Angel Broussard welcomed Lois Manuel and Enola Provost, newly inducted into LGCF’s Circle of Roses, and presented them with vases of beautiful, long-stemmed red roses. Extraordinary, longer-standing members who have made significant contributions to Lafayette Garden Club, namely Bera Smith and Claire Moody, were recognized by Club President Roxanna Champagne. Then the Club members posed on the staircase of the main foyer of the Alumni House for a group photo shown on the right.

The January meeting featured Betty Foret and Gloria Guilbeaux’s lovely floral creations of Multi Rhythmic Designs. Club President Roxanna Champagne showed the video “Our World-Greening Our Communities.” Five new members were welcomed into Lafayette Garden Club. They are Loraine Allain, Rachel Babino, Manda C. Harson, Dean E. Kopfler, and Page Salley.

Lafayette Garden Club and Lafayette Consolidated Government’s Arbor Day ceremony held on Friday morning, January 18, 2013, on Camellia Boulevard, was chaired by Gretchen Heider. This program honored deceased club members Eleanor Phillipi and Debbie Hawthorne and Charles Nolan, the husband of Dee Nolan. City-Parish President Joey Durel and City officials, Garden Club members and guests, are pictured below beside the newly planted live oak tree.

The February meeting featured Sculptural Form floral exhibits by Betty Foret and Margaret Hargroder, which were judged by Cecille Revels. Glenda Balliviero, Club member and winner of the Silver Trowel, presented a program on how to prepare horticulture entries in a standard flower show, grooming of horticulture and filing out entry cards.
Flower Show Chair Betty Foret announces that Lafayette Garden Club’s annual Spring Flower Show “Forever Blooming” will be held at the IRA Ne Ison Horticulture Center on Friday, April 5, for judging, and Saturday, April 6, open to the general public, with the design and horticulture exhibits, and featured speakers.

Chris Cech, Bird Chairman, reported that February is National Bird Feeding Month, and to look for early-returning Ruby-throated Hummingbirds at the end of February, to have houses ready for mature, returning Purple Martins, and to clean out bird nesting boxes.

Judging for the School Litter Poster Contest, was held at City Hall on Wednesday, Feb. 27. Club members were given the opportunity to participate in one of the Cleanest City projects, by stopping by City Hall and voting for their favorite poster in the different categories.

Cleanest City judging will be at the beginning of April, so please report any areas needing attention to Jan at 984-7320, so she can advise the City workers.

**District VI**

*The Gardenettes of Ponchatoula* held a special Arbor Day Celebration on Friday, January 18th at the Ponchatoula Area Recreation District No. 1 (PARD). Kathy Bedenbaugh, Gardenettes Arbor Day Chairman, planned a splendid event in honor of Ponchatoula’s own John Vaughan, who died on December 28th at the age of 51.

The Gardenettes planted two burgundy Crepe Myrtle trees, which were donated by an anonymous donor, at the PARD entrance in memory of Mr. Vaughan.

Special guests included Ponchatoula Mayor Bob Zabbia, members of the John Vaughan family, local school officials and students, PARD officials and representatives of Whitney Bank.

Gardenettes President Rieth spoke about Mr. Vaughan’s many contributions to the Ponchatoula area, including his affiliations with the Kiwanis Club, Strawberry Festival Board and Columbia Theatre Advisory Board, to name a few.

President Rieth also spoke about the history of Arbor Day, and then invited five Ponchatoula students to read poems about trees, one of which was the well-known and very touching poem “Trees” by Joyce Kilmer. Mrs. Noelle Vaughan expressed her heartfelt appreciation to the Gardenettes for the special tree plantings and ceremony in honor of her late husband, John Vaughan.

Shown in the photo are Gardenettes members with one of the newly-planted crepe myrtles (back row, from left) Cricket Ayala, Margaret Bailey, Louise Steadman, Adrienne Dunn; (front row) President Dale Rieth, Janice Hickey, Pat Sweeney, Kathy Bedenbaugh and Joan Morse.
LGCF TOUR

LGCF Tours Chairman, Jan Smith, is pictured here with other LGCF members on their recent LGCF sponsored trip to California and the Tournament of Roses. All had a great time! The other two photos are of floats in the parade.
2013

April 15  LGCF State Convention Pre-Tour of New Orleans
April 16-17  LGCF State Convention, Hotel Kenner, Kenner, LA
April 30 – May 2  LGCF Symposium, Woodworth, LA
May 24-26  NGC Convention, Sheraton Seattle, Seattle, WA
June 2-8  National Garden Week
July 22 – 23  LGCF Summer Board Meeting, Embassy Suites, Baton Rouge
Sept. 20-25  NGC Fall Board Meeting, Marriott, St. Louis, Missouri

2014

March 4  Mardi Gras
March 26  LGCF State Convention Pre-Tour
March 27-28  LGCF State Convention, Crowne Plaza, Baton Rouge, LA
April 30 – May 3  NGC Convention, Norman, OK
Sept. 23 – 28  NGC Fall Board Meeting, Des Moines Airport, Des Moines, IA

2015

February 17  Mardi Gras
TBA  NGC State Convention, Kentucky
TBA  NGC Fall Board Meeting, St. Louis, Missouri

2016

TBA  NGC State Convention, Richmond, VA
Sept 26- Oct 2  NGC Fall Board Meetings, Portland, Maine (tentative)