

Louisiana Garden Club Federation, Inc.

# NEWSLETTER



April 2017

# THE LOUISIANA GARDEN CLUB FEDERATION, INC.

## Newsletter

Member of  
National Garden Clubs, Inc.

Deep South Region

*"Who are we? Who do we want to be?"*



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<b>LGCF 2015-17 OFFICERS:</b>
<b>President</b> Jeanette Gatzman jgatzman@bellsouth.net
<b>President-Elect</b> Lena Bateman lbateman6332@gmail.com
<b>First Vice-President</b> Kathy Tell Kathytell7@gmail.com
<b>Second Vice-President</b> Carla Gauthier carla_gauthier@hotmail.com
<b>Recording Secretary</b> Roxanna Champagne roxannachamp@cox.net
<b>Corresponding Secretary</b> Diane Dufour dd34@bellsouth.net
<b>Treasurer</b> Tricia Ortalano lilclover59@gmail.com
<b>Historian</b> Donna St. Louis stlouis1@cox.net
<b>Parliamentarian</b> Clara Earl clarae2003@yahoo.com

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**On our Cover:** Last year was an excellent year for hydrangeas in south Louisiana. There were many showy bushes of the mop head variety to enjoy. Our cover photo was shot by **Jennifer Granger**, Diggers and Weeders President of District VII. Jennifer submitted the photo last summer and said that she enjoyed the blooms for many weeks. Thank you, Jennifer, for sharing your photo.

If you would like to submit drawings, paintings or photos for the cover of the Newsletter, please email them to [lgcfnewsletter@gmail.com](mailto:lgcfnewsletter@gmail.com) or mail to one of the co-editors listed below

Co-Editors ..... Ruth Delhomme and Roxie Blanton

**DEADLINE FOR SUBMISSIONS TO SUMMER ISSUE (JULY 2017) IS JUNE 1<sup>ST</sup>, 2017.**

Please send all information for this issue to [lgcfnewsletter@gmail.com](mailto:lgcfnewsletter@gmail.com) or mail to:

Ruth Delhomme • PO Box 12632, New Iberia, LA 70562-2632 • (h) 337-364-5677 • (c) 337-322-3157

OR

Roxy Blanton • 303 W. Tampico St, New Iberia, LA 70563 • (h)337-364-2562 • (c) 337-519-1299

# President's Message

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Since this will be my last Newsletter Report as your LGCF President I want to thank each and every one of you for what you do to make LGCF such a great organization, which in turn makes our cities and our beautiful state of Louisiana a better place to live. LGCF's efforts and your individual Garden Club's efforts improve the lives of all citizens through our beautification efforts. The Cleanest City Contest plays a big part in this effort making the citizens aware of the need to clean up.

In keeping with my theme "Who are we? Who do we want to be?" the major focus of my two year term as your President was to revise the LGCF Handbook. This has been accomplished through the efforts of Yvette Hebert and her committee. We have a new and improved LGCF Handbook. It has been printed and was on sale at our 2017 Convention in New Orleans. The questions have been answered – we know who we are and who we should be!

2016 was a very hard year for many of our cities and individual Garden Club members. There were two floods, one in North Louisiana and one in South Louisiana, there were tornadoes, and the day before our Summer Board Meeting in Baton Rouge three law enforcement officers were killed and two wounded, one with very serious wounds. We are a resilient people and are on our way back to normal lives.

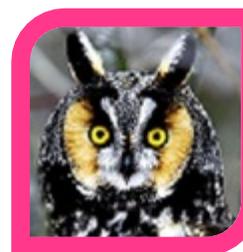
I want to again thank Carol Bullard, our Deep South Region Director, for establishing the Natural Disasters – Louisiana fund, and to our "sister" Deep South states for their generous contributions to the fund – which now totals over \$20,000.00! The funds will be used by individual garden clubs to refurbish or replace landscaping in public areas affected by the Great Flood of 2016. It is not too late to apply for funds. We have extended the deadline to December 31, 2017. Please apply if you have a worthy project.

Being LGCF President was never on my bucket list; in fact I don't think I even had a bucket list! But thanks to all of you, especially our officers and chairmen, it has been two very enjoyable and productive years. When my children ask how things are going with my job as LGCF President my standard answer has been "Well, I guess I am doing okay because they haven't impeached me yet." Thank you for not impeaching me!

In all seriousness, thank you, thank you, thank you, and may we always be **Loving, Good, Caring** Friends.

*Jeanette Gatzman,*

LGCF President



Who are we?  
Who do we  
want to be?

# LGCF Officers' Reports

## LGCF President Elect

*Lena Bateman*

You know the old saying, "Time flies when you are having fun." Well it has flown by for the last two years for this LGCF President Elect. The first reason is the seven District Directors have made my responsibilities, not only fun, but a lot less demanding than I thought. We started off with a bang; they were organized, eager to learn and kept with their main responsibility: The District Director is the liaison between the club presidents and LGCF club members.

When I decided to call my directors "Daisies", that was the perfect name for this energetic group. They have been eager to learn, always thinking out of the box and worked well with each other. The very first thing they did was to work together to create the District Director's Checklist. This will help future District Directors perform their duties. While accomplishing all this, they always had a smile on their face. Thank you, Daises.

The second reason the time has gone by so fast, is the travel. It was my pleasure to attend the District Fall Meetings, meeting the club members, enjoying the educational, fun programs and speakers. I have gotten to know a lot of people and now can put a face with the name. The District Directors have done a great job, working within their district to plan and execute these meetings.

We traveled to Tunica, Mississippi for the DSR Convention in March 2016. It was good seeing and visiting with some old friends and meeting new ones. The workshops, speakers and meetings were all centered around the NGC and DSR projects and themes. The LGCF contention performed a fun and informational skit inviting all attending to "Ease on down the Road" to New Orleans for the 2017 DSR and LGCF conventions.

In May 2016, I accompanied our LGCF President Jeanette Gatzman to the 87th NGC Convention in Grand Rapids, Michigan. Please know that Jeanette represented LGCF very well. That was my first NGC Convention. WOW, I was very impressed with the speakers, workshops and the floral designs. Each Regional Director was honored by a design which interpreted one of our National Parks. The designs were outstanding. Michigan is a beautiful state and I loved the cherry trees that were in full bloom.

I would like to take this opportunity to thank former LGCF officers that have had this position for their help and guidance. I especially would like to thank my home District V, for supporting me all the 14 years I have served on the LGCF Board. I look forward to the next two years in my new position working with our garden clubs of LGCF, LGCF Officers, and LGCF Chairmen.

Thank you for the opportunity to serve LGCF.

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# LGCF Officers' Reports

## LGCF First Vice President

*Kathy L. Tell*

I am proud, honored and grateful to have been on the LGCF board and work alongside an amazing group of people. It's been a wonderful learning experience for me.

As LGCF First Vice President, one of my jobs was serving as LGCF Awards Chairman. I want to take this opportunity to thank club members for taking the time to apply for LGCF awards. Your clubs work hard and do wonderful projects and programs which you deserve recognition for. Remember, just as a seed that is never planted cannot grow, a project that is never reported on can't be recognized. Thank you LGCF for giving me the opportunity to meet so many wonderful people ... many of whom will remain lifelong friends.

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## LGCF Recording Secretary

*Roxanna Champagne*

This officer has attended all meetings of the Executive Council and Executive Board during my term of office. I have dutifully recorded the minutes of all such meetings and emailed copies of the minutes to the appointed committee for corrections and approval within the time specified. The approved minutes were emailed to all officers as specified in the LGCF Handbook. At the conclusion of this term, the minutes will be archived within the LGCF State Headquarters in Lecompte, LA.

I would like to extend my sincere gratitude to all who were appointed to the committee to approve the minutes. You responded in a timely fashion and were meticulous proof readers. It was interesting to note that not everyone saw the same corrections; demonstrating that it does take a committee to proof the minutes.

As a note to incoming LGCF Officers including District Directors and Committee Chairmen, I have a request. When you are giving a report at an LGCF Business or Executive Council meeting, please bring two copies of your report. One copy is to be handed to the secretary and the other to the LGCF President. It is not the job of the recording secretary to write your reports into the minutes, except information that is extremely pertinent. I file all reports for reference as does the President. You will receive a call letter from the LGCF President before any LGCF Executive Council or Business Meeting. Therefore, if you have a report you will let the LGCF President know so that she may place you on the agenda and come prepared with your two copies. Thank you for your cooperation on this item.

Lastly, but not least, to Yvette Hebert, I offer special thanks and extreme gratitude for the many back and forth emails and lengthy phone calls. Yvette was an invaluable mentor to me as I learned the ropes! Her guidance was instrumental in compiling accurate and complete minutes.

During my term I have learned much about the inner mechanisms of LGCF. The works accomplished by the dedicated LGCF Officers and Chairmen are amazing. It has been a pleasure making new LGCF friends. I look forward to serving in this office for another term.

# LGCF Officers' Reports

## LGCF Treasurer

*Tricia Ortalano*

It has been a pleasure and privilege serving as LGCF Treasurer 2015-2017. My first year was quite a challenge, getting organized and really not knowing what needed to be done other than making deposits and paying bills. BUT once I got myself together with the help from Former Treasurers, everything started falling in place. This position has been challenging at times, doing research and preparing reports, at times feeling like a Detective, but overall I've enjoyed working with Members throughout Louisiana. Because of your kindness and patience, I look forward to serving as your LGCF Treasurer for another two years, 2017-2019. With that being said, GET YOUR 2017-2018 CLUB DUES PAID!

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## The Objectives of the Louisiana Garden Club Federation

1. To bring into closer relationship the Garden Clubs of the State of Louisiana to coordinate the interests of the separate Garden Clubs; and to promote the organization of new clubs.
2. To aid in the conservation and protection of our natural resources, encourage civic beauty and stimulate roadside beautification.
3. To advance the fine art of gardening, of landscape design and the study of horticulture.
4. To further horticultural education, conservation and landscape design through gift scholarships.
5. To exist on a nonprofit basis for benevolent, charitable, scientific and educational purposes conducive to the well-being of the community and useful to the public.



# LGCF Chairmen Reports

## LGCF Handbook Committee

*Yvette Hebert, Chairman*

The Handbook Committee has updated our wonderful Handbook for all our members. Since this Handbook resource is to help all of us know about our organization and to make it easier for us to function, I hope that everyone will own one.

Three major changes were made to make the Handbook more user-friendly.

1. Paragraphs that were designated with a ◆ (diamond) or ● (large dot) symbol, also known as bullets, are now numbered to make referencing areas in the Handbook easier.
2. Cross references have been placed in the Handbook so that all information referring to a particular topic has been noted. In finding references to other parts of the Handbook, one can search the Table of Contents, which also acts as an index.
3. Tabs have been added to make the Handbook more convenient to locate sections.

The Handbook Committee thanks Penny Crawford, a long time LGCF garden club member who now resides in Mississippi, for the beautiful Louisiana Iris fulva on the cover and Brian Saybe, who resides in Alexandria, for the use of the 1986 LGCF Headquarters print that is found on the tab sections of the Handbook.

As Handbook Committee Chairman, I would like to thank the members of the committee who helped complete this project. They are Donna Bucci, Mary Sue Colvin, Clara Earl, Margo Racca, Jeanette Gatzman, LGCF President 2015-17 and Lena Bateman, President-Elect.

Lastly, many thanks to Fine Print in Alexandria for all the advice in making this Handbook so beautiful!

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## LGCF Headquarters Committee

*Mary Jacobs, LGCF Headquarters Chairman*

This LGCF State Headquarters Chairman, along with Local Chairman and Board of Trustees have been quite busy, talking by phone, sending emails, and making decisions which affect the upkeep and maintenance of a historical house located in LeCompte which is known as LGCF Headquarters.

Among the challenges we faced was a break-in robbery attempt. Damages due to the break-in were done to front door and side window. Thankfully no items within the house were missing. During a windstorm a large tree limb fell and landed on the roof in the back of the house, with no damage except a few shingles missing. The house needed a termite treatment which should be done every 15 years.

The Good News is an "OPEN HOUSE" was held during the month of March, 2016 to raise funds to landscape the front garden beds. Mary Jane Peters contacted Dana Brown, of Dana Brown and Associates, and a Landscape Plan drawn by Danielle Duhue was donated.

# LGCF Chairmen Reports

In planning stage, Janet Moriarty, Fran Francis, and Pattie Killen met with Sara Marshall to research the history on paintings, glass, figurines, and furniture. A documented history is now on file. Virginia Webb's generous donation to our house is a lovely marble-top table including a porcelain vase.

Many thanks to our garden clubs, and their members for everything they did to help our "Open House" be a success. Members helped by attending, baking, serving as hostesses, cleaning up, buying raffle tickets, donating money, and welcoming all members to the Headquarters. The "History" of raising monies for the Headquarters house purchase and furnishings was a varied one and included trading "Green Stamps", passing a paper bag at meetings, and asking for coupons from Betty Crocker to buy flatware.

A great deal of gratitude goes to the following sponsors: Ann Johnston of Lea's pies; Evelyn Soderman for the Beautiful Stained Glass Louisiana Iris Raffle Item; Frame for Iris was done by Mike Armand; Joyce Lyford of R & H Furniture; Donna Stokes Nursery for loan of plants and flowers.

As LGCF Headquarters Chairman, I would like to thank the Headquarters Local Committee members Janet Moriarty and Fran Francis; and the Headquarters Trustees Pattie Killen, Donna Bucci, and Dottie Hebert for their help and dedication to the Headquarters Home.

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## LGCF Webmaster

*Kathy L. Tell*

As this term comes to an end, so will my webmaster duties come to an end. I have served more than 10 years and while it saddens me, it is indeed time for a new face that will draw on fresh inspiration and new ideas. I am humbled and privileged to call so many of you wonderful people my friends and I find comfort in knowing that God will protect and guide me on my future path with LGCF.

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## LGCF Newsletter Editor

*Pam Langley*

I am excited to let you know that the Newsletter Editor has been passed on to new hands! Ruth Delhomme and Roxy Blanton of New Iberia will be co-editors of the Newsletter. They have hit the ground running and have set up an email address for your Newsletter submissions: [lgcfnewsletter@gmail.com](mailto:lgcfnewsletter@gmail.com). Please continue to support our Newsletter by submitting articles of garden club happenings often and on time. Don't forget to send in photos and artwork for the cover. We are such a talented group, we should show it off!

I accepted the position of Newsletter Editor only 4 months after joining the Diggers & Weeders Garden Club in 2007. I knew very little about my local club and even less about the state Federation. I have learned quite a lot about garden clubs and LGCF since then, thanks to my term as Newsletter Editor. I've enjoyed meeting and working with many different LGCF members over the years. I hope I can say I've made many new friends along the way. I will continue to be involved in LGCF by serving as Scholarship Chairman this next term. I look forward to many future years of LGCF activities.

# LGCF District Director Reports

## District I

*Mabel Himel, Director*

My theme for my two years as District I Director was "Teaching, Learning, and Laughing." My goals were to learn more about NGC projects and goals, and to help club members both gain knowledge and then teach others. And we Did! We donated Frightened Frog books to local libraries and talked to several children's groups. Our members had speakers on topics ranging from Growing Citrus Plants, to Water Conservation, to Creating Unique Floral Designs. Our members presented on topics from Yard Art, to Drying Flowers, to Landscaping with Succulents. We also collected donations for the 2017 Louisiana Flood Victims and fulfilled Garden Therapy projects at local centers. We also dedicated a Blue Star Memorial marker at the Pearl Harbor Memorial Park.

Gardeners are happy people and love to exchange plants with each other, talk about plants or designs, and help each other in plant related activities. During these two years our members co-sponsored three flower shows. Several members completed the Flower Show Judging Courses. We helped to create floral designs at the New Orleans Museum of Art, entered our scarecrows for the Botanical Garden Scarecrow Trail, volunteered hundreds of hours decorating for Celebration in the Oaks....while having good times.

I am especially proud of the many connections we made in reaching out to other garden club members, Master Gardeners, and Keep New Orleans Beautiful citizens around the city. Teaching and learning go hand in hand and I am ready to provide support to Kathy Boudreaux, our District I Director Elect.

When I became District Director, little did I expect to end my two year term with a week long celebration of garden club activities, right here in downtown New Orleans at Harrah's Hotel. We encourage you to join us in one or more of tours, delicious meals, or speaker sessions at the 2017 Deep South Flower Show "Birds of a Feather Flock Together" March 26 -27, the Deep South Region Convention March 26-28, the LGCF Tri-Refresher March 29, or the LGCF State Convention March 30-31.

## District II

*Mary Hazen, Director*

District II Garden Club News: BLOOM WHERE YOU'RE PLANTED and PASS IT ALONG!

BETTER SWAMPS & GARDEN CLUB is one of the cleanest cities in La. Lafitte holds the honor of winning the cleanest city contest for 10yr.

CREATIVE PLANTERS GARDEN CLUB, Gretna, 17 members, is preparing for a beautiful spring, with the anticipation of welcoming the migrating Monarch butterflies to the Mes Amis butterfly garden & bird sanctuary in Gretna. The club signed a contract with Jefferson Parish during National Garden week June 9, 2016 with the dedication of the reopening of the garden located in Belle Meade South in Gretna. Sixteen yrs ago the garden was a dead end street over run with weeds.

With vision from Mary Hazen, the founder of the Mes Amis Garden and Jefferson Parkways, the dead end street is now a space of tranquility in which environmental & garden study classes for youth & adults will be given & everyone will have a place to gather or just sit for a quiet time under the oak tree.

Work is being done by replacing the flag pole & flag, installing 4 raised garden beds, 2 metal benches and installing a new irrigation system. A "butterfly milkway" party will be held in April, with lots of milkweed for our winged quest, and refreshments for the gardeners & guests to enjoy.

# LGCF District Director Reports

Creative Planters continues the collection of aluminum cans for recycling and donates to JPCGC to help with the cost of purchasing a tree to be planted in Lafreniere Park for Arbor Day.

CP is unique in that it has 4 sets of mother/daughter gardeners & one set of mother/daughter/ & Granddaughter, that is what you can call Bloom where you're planted & passing it along.

CHATEAU ESTATES GARDEN CLUB, Kenner, 81 active members, stays very busy with many continuing projects. In honor of October's Beauty of Life Garden the club added additional knock out roses and enlarged the existing flower bed & continues to support breast cancer awareness.

CEGC maintains bird sanctuaries throughout Chateau Estates with 3 bird baths in the public beds for the 33rd year.

CEGC designs & installs a Christmas display at the main entrance of Chateau Estates for the 29th year. A Christmas doorway contest is held yearly.

Community Service is very important to the club as they support Angel's Place, which provides a loving & caring environment for children diagnosed with life-threatening illnesses. For the 10th year the club provides supplies, toys, gift cards for the holidays.

Partnering with the City of Kenner CEGS had donated & planted an Oak Tree in Kenner City Park under the Adopt-a-park project, this is the 5th oak tree planted by the club.

Twice a year, a team of 4 to 6 CEGC mem create two arrangements for the large urns at the entrance of the Grand Staircase in the main lobby of the New Orleans Museum of Art for "Art in Bloom"

NEW PROJECTS: CEGC donates a portion of the proceeds from the monthly 50/50 drawings to the Second Harvest Food Bank. This organization prepares hot meals for children & senior.

In the spring, CEGC collects excess fresh fruit from home trees throughout the neighborhood for donation to distribute through local food bank. CEGC donates a portion of the proceeds from the 50/50 drawings to the St. Francis Animal Sanctuary in Abita Springs.

COUNTRY CLUB HOME GARDENERS Metairie, 39 members, planned an Arbor day program & planted an oak tree in the Botanical Garden in City Park.

For many years CCHG has worked with Harold Keller School working with teachers & special education students to plant flowers in a pot for their Mother's day gift. A litter poster contest is held at the school. Kits containing materials & rules for poster contest are given to each classroom of Pre-K thru 5th grade students. Members judge posters & award cash prizes for 1st, 2nd, 3rd place for each grade.

The club will be celebrating their 60th Anniversary. HAPPY GARDENING TO ALL COUNTRY CLUB HOME GARDENERS.

COLONIAL GARDEN CLUB, 33 members, took a tour of the New Canal Lighthouse SAVE OUR LAKE, Lake Ponchartrain Basin Foundation, to hear what condition or condition is in.

GRAND ISLE GARDEN CLUB. Grand Isle, 36 members, continues to support their environmental projects, the butterfly dome, tracking of the bird migrations, and monitoring the coastal erosion.

# LGCF District Director Reports

METAIRIE RIDGE GARDEN CLUB, Metairie La. , 21 members, supports Celebration in the Oaks, the Scarecrow Trail & gave a donation to Lafrenier Park for Arbor Day. A special project is held at St. Anthony's Nursing Home. To take plants & pots to assist the patients in planting the plant they selected & taking to their room.

PETALS OF NORTH BRIDGEDALE GARDEN CLUB, Metairie, La. , 15 members, actively supports the on-going project for the Greenwalt day care facility for Alzheimer's patients by giving two programs a year to the patients, one at Halloween & one at Easter.

Petals of North Bridge gives a monetary donation to JPCGC'S Arbor Day and maintains a Bird sanctuary on Transcontinental between Harvard & Camphor Street. Members are encouraged to recycle. Council scholarship is donated to JPCGC scholarship fund to be given to an LSU student studying horticultural & Landscape Design.

The club has taken on a new project to donate clothes, toiletries & household items to battered women.

RAMBLING ROSE GARDENERS, Metairie, La., 15 members, presented a beautiful club book with an inviting cover and a wonderful picture of the club members on the inside back page of the book for a true keep sake for all to have throughout the years. The objective of RRG is promoting good gardening techniques and supporting their ongoing projects. New projects focused on flower arranging, lines, containers, succulents and the La. Iris.

RIVER RIDGE GARDEN CLUB, River Ridge, La., 26 members, supports their many on-going projects Mr. Bingle Wreath, & Scarecrow display. Members add to the PIP garden at River Region Hospice in River Ridge, for 5 yrs. Plantings are added to the existing garden in the green space in front of Hazel Park Elementary School. In addition to plantings, a bird bath & garden statue have been added. Teachers are encouraged to incorporate lessons on nature by touring the green space with their students. RECYCLING used prescription bottles will be sent to clinics in third world countries by a civic association (4yr project) CANCELED STAMPS are collected at each meeting & given to the VA to benefit programs for veterans. (14 yr. project)

ARBOR DAY is celebrated by planting new trees for the good of the Earth and for the benefits they offer (10yrs.) RRG donates annually to the JPCGC SCHOLARSHIP FUND...donation helps with students studying landscaping. (40 YRS) NEW PROJECT—PROVIDE PANTRY ITEMS FOR A THANKSGIVING MEAL along with gift certificates. Also provides gift certificates for an area family in need for the holiday. (7yrs)

SHADY OAKS GARDEN CLUB, RIVER Ridge, La., 50 members, are without a doubt the movers & diggers of District II scoring the highest total of 1,602 points for Award #1 Garden Club Achievement. An amount of \$900.00 was donated to the LGCF special Funds. SOGC HAS SPONSORED Little Shadows Junior Garden Club at Hazel Park Public School for 30 yrs. After Katrina, many of the students were on the free lunch program & had never been exposed to gardening & environmental concerns. Over the last 8 yrs time spent at the school has been increased to one hour weekly. SOG gardeners brought the goals objectives of NGC, to promote love of gardening, floral design, civic & environmental responsibility through education, resources of NGC & community networking with other organizations.

# LGCF District Director Reports

The rear garden at the school is planted as an official Monarch Waystation. With the help of the students & garden club members Little Shadows club is planting a sustainable garden, which they plant fruit trees for Arbor day. They have orange, tangerine, key lime, lemon & fig trees growing on the school grounds.

The students made dish gardens as Valentine Gifts for their parents, in the spring they took home a container growing Patio Tomato plants to care for. They learn how to dry flowers & use those in projects, such as flowers under glass, gift wrapping & corsage making.

The juniors have been studying Pollinators. This year the focus was on bees. The next class will review what they have studied & build houses for Mason bees.

THIS IS THE FIRST YEAR THE JUNIORS HAD A FLOWER SHOW AT SCHOOL. The student's designs were in the table artistry category with fresh decorative unit. There was also a horticulture division. The students roamed the campus collecting plant specimens, which were groomed & named. The staff & faculty were invited & encouraged to enter. Many brought named specimens to the show. The junior created and educational exhibit on the local bees and their needs. The other students of the school came to the library to see the show. The junior gardens acted as hostesses answering questions & giving information.

SOGC does an OUTSTANDING JOB ON DECORATING THE HISTORIC CAROUSEL FOR CELEBRATION IN THE OAKS. The club makes a Mr. Bingle Wreath to be hung inside the carousel an also does a scarecrow for Halloween. SOGC makes arrangements for the grand staircase at the NOMA celebrating Art in Bloom. This has been an ongoing project for years.

RECYCLING IS ENCOURAGED BY donating new or used shoes, coats, books etc. Shoes will be donated to SOLES 4 SOULS. SOGC ASSIST RESIDENTS OF ST. FRANCIS VILLA ASSISTED LIVING CENTERFOR PLANTING FALL FOLIAGE.

Great job to all the garden club ladies of Shady Oaks Garden Club with 1,602 points .

TERRYTOWN GARDEN CLUB Terrytown, La., 12 members, installed new plantings at Christ the King flagpole, and continues to recycle & donate Mardi Gras beads to St. Michael's special school. Collect for recycling aluminum can pulls for Ronald McDonald House. TTCG supports the cleanest city contest.

The club maybe small in numbers but it has many great garden club designers. Thank you Terrytown Garden Club for all the beauty you have shared over the years with your talent.

Please hold this thought as we enter another garden club year.....

WHAT GROWS IN A GARDEN SO BEAUTIFUL & RARE, BEES & BUTTERFLIES, AND FRIENDSHIPS GROW THERE.

It has been a true pleasure to serve as your District II Director, and to get to know many of you over the past 2 years, wishing all of you peace, good health and happy gardening.

# LGCF District Director Reports

## District III

*Ruth Delhomme, Director*

The pass 2 years have gone by so fast and I have such great memories that I will cherish forever.

Lena, it has been my pleasure to serve under your leadership, you are thoughtful, supportive & a great communicator & leader. I wish you the very best as incoming President of LGCF.

Our district is strong, committed, and goal driven. Under the leadership of our 12 Presidents and the support of their members, our clubs succeed in accomplishing so many projects such as: Community Action, Clean City Contest, Growing Membership, Flower Shows, Memorial Marker Dedications, Presenting & Attending Workshops & Schools, Arbor Day, Jr Garden Club Sponsors and many more.

To Roxanna Champagne special thanks for your dedication as Scholarship Chair. Our recipient Victor Bowler's letter of thank you, demonstrates how our help can make a difference in one's life to succeed. His mission is to promote, teach, treasure outdoors, and help spread gardening around the world.

Thank you, Brenda Gautreaux and Thibodaux Garden Club Members for hosting the District III Fall Meeting and making our day so enjoyable. Hats off to you.

Thank you, District III Board and Committees, together we have accomplished so much and I have enjoyed working with all of you. No task was too much, and you all contributed to getting the job done.

What I will walk away with is this – great respect for Jeanette's leadership as LGCF President, fond memories of having the opportunity to work & bond with great Co-Directors, work on special projects requested from LGCF President & President Elect, for being the voice of our district, for the invitation to attend club meetings, socials, installation of officers & the support I received throughout our district. I have gained so much knowledge as being a part of this great organization.

Remember this:

**“Nothing in the world has ever been accomplished without passion”**

Our passion is very visible with all that our District accomplishes and I encourage you to keep doing what you are doing.

I wish my successor, Patsy Hebert, the best and I promise to help and support her journey.

It has been an honor and privilege to have served as District III Director. Thank you.

---

# LGCF District Director Reports

## District V

*Martha Burnside, Director*

It has been a great pleasure to serve as District V Director for the last two years. I have enjoyed getting to know the clubs in my district, seeing what they are doing and working with them. When I started 2 years ago, I felt some apprehension as to what would be expected of me. As I reflect back over the past two years, the involvement in this organization has been most fulfilling. I have seen the hard work that goes on at the State Level which gives me a better understanding of our purpose.

As far as accomplishments, I feel that the successful District meetings were outstanding and could not have been done without the help of all the ladies in the different clubs. It was very rewarding to see them come together, share information and offer to help. I have witnessed the growth of members in their leadership skills. For example, the cleanest city campaign chairman was successful in adding another city to the campaign this past year.

The biggest event that we hosted in District V was the State Convention in Vidalia, La. and a wonderful convention pre-tour. The School of Environmental Studies was held in Monroe, La. It was well attended and had some very good instructors. All of these events require a lot of work and the ladies in District V responded to the request to work. The one thing that I have realized is that it is a one day at a time and to not get overwhelmed by the size of the project. With delegation to the capable people of this wonderful state the work gets done.

Twenty-four of *The Frightened Frog* books were bought and placed in Libraries throughout District V. We felt that this project was very successful and supported the National theme to make children and adults aware of the endangered frog.

We have had one club to do a re-dedication ceremony for the Blue Star Memorial Marker. As a district we voted to place a permanent Blue Star Memorial Marker at the new Northeast Louisiana Veteran's Cemetery on Highway 425. This is a wonderful opportunity to honor our veterans.

Several Clubs in our district have planted Pink Roses to support Breast Cancer Awareness. Hospitals have been chosen as the site to make these plantings.

We have clubs that have adopted and keep flower beds in front of civic buildings, schools, and airports which helps to improve the appearance of our district and communities. It has been rewarding to see how much can be accomplished when we all work together.

Clubs in District V have worked hard at planting pollinator plants and watching the results as pollinators come to our yards. Federated garden club members work hard to protect and improve our environment and the results are worth the hard work.

Another great accomplishment has been the growth in communication skills throughout the district through the use of E-Mail, Texting, New Websites and Facebook. As individuals and groups, we have kept up with the changing times and this has been great to see. We are using these communication tools effectively and it is helping us to grow.

Yes, I have been the one to benefit the most as I have been the District V Director. I have benefited from the expertise of so many hardworking ladies and made many new friends. It has been a great two years as I have observed the clubs "Leap into Action."

# LGCF District Director Reports

## District VI

*Kyle Martin, Director*

As I reminisce about the past two years, a smile comes over my face. It seems like yesterday that it was April 23, 2015 and I was being installed as District VI Director at Convention in Lake Charles. What a journey this has been!

I chose as my theme "Keeping Our Heritage Alive Through Our Gardens", because I felt that it exemplified District VI. Our District is rich in heritage. Many of our clubs originated in the 1920's and 1930's and our members have followed in the footsteps of their mother's, aunts and other family members.

Our District VI Fall Meeting was held on October 25, 2016 at Juliana's in Ponchatoula, LA. It was a great success thanks to the efforts of the Gardenettes Garden Club. Our speaker, Representative Steve Pugh, shared with us his own heritage of family and flowers.

One of my jobs is to be a liaison between our clubs and LGCF. Not only in sharing and communicating information via emails, but in visiting our clubs. This has been the most rewarding part of my job. I have witnessed first-hand as our garden clubs in District VI share or "pass down" knowledge of gardening to their members and to other garden clubs. They have enriched their communities by planting and maintaining healing gardens, butterfly parks, erecting blue star markers, cleaning their cities; and they have even taken on the project of protecting a little frightened frog and our pollinators. They have held flower shows, Christmas teas, flower arranging workshops and Arbor Day memorials. They have given scholarships to further education in horticulture and landscaping. They have contributed to Food Banks and to help their communities from the devastation of flood waters that took place in August 2016.

It is obvious that our clubs in District VI are accomplishing their own goals and many of the goals of NGC, Deep South and LGCF.

It has especially been my honor and pleasure when asked to install some of the clubs' newly elected officers, to present the Circle of Roses to well-deserved, dedicated ladies and to present LGCF life memberships.

As I reach the end of my term, there are many that I would like to thank.

Thank you to the 20 District VI clubs and their members for trusting in me and welcoming me into your homes and meeting places. Each of you has a special talent and I encourage you to continue to share that talent.

Thank you to my Officers. I believe that we are successful, because of so many ladies doing a good job. It could not have been done without you.

Thank you to Gail Lonibos and Kathy Bedenbaugh. I have been so fortunate to have them as mentors. They have been there at every bump in the road, answered every question I had and were the cheerleaders I needed to encourage me along the way.

Thank you to my fellow District Directors. It has been a pleasure to work with such competent and congenial ladies. We worked as a team and together we accomplished a lot to help benefit the LGCF. And I think I can say, "We had fun doing it!"

Thank you to President Jeanette Gatzman and President-Elect Lena Bateman. Jeanette, you are a gracious and kind leader. Thank you for teaching me those qualities. Lena, I could not have wished for a better teacher. Your reminders, guidance and advice were well needed and well taken. You helped me become a better leader.

# LGCF District Director Reports

Nancy Delahaye, your next District VI Director, is eager to take the reins and will be a great DD. I know she will do a good job. I know that she will be well received and welcomed as I have.

In closing, I would like to share with you a poem that I found in The Wheelbarrow Collection.

**Each of us, like a small pebble,  
can create ripples of change  
that start small and reach outward,  
making a better world.  
Be a pebble. Get involved.**

---

## District VII

*Jane Anders, Director*

Happy Spring to all of you from District VII! What a gorgeous winter we have had! (or was it winter?) Of course, it's still early...

District VII Club members and I have been very busy. Our Get Acquainted Meeting was held at Pat's Seafood in Lake Charles in May. We had great participation, with almost every club represented, plenty of good food and great fellowship!

In July, I attended Summer Board in Baton Rouge, where we learned of all the changes to award applications, heard great educational speakers, and, the best part, reconnected with friends from all over the state. This year, one of our own, Margo Racca, gave a wonderful presentation on bromeliads and sent us home with some of her "babies."

In August, I completed Courses 3 and 4 of LGCF's wonderful Environmental Studies School in Monroe at Black Bayou Education Center. Thank you, Jean Gilstrap, for arranging that school for us!

September found many of our district members traveling to the LeCompte Flower Show, held at our beautiful state headquarters home in LeCompte. That is always an amazing show, with lots of talented ladies displaying their creativity!

Washington Garden Club, under the leadership of Anne Jones, hosted a wonderful fall district meeting in October. I applaud those hard-working members, and am so grateful to them for a job so well done. It was held at the Steamboat Warehouse Restaurant...again, delicious food and wonderful camaraderie with LGCF members from across our beautiful state. The guest speaker was hilarious!

Crowley Garden Club graciously invited me to join their club for their November meeting. That is a delightful bunch of ladies!! Christie Brammer gave a design program, and Jeremy Hebert, of the LSU AgCenter spoke to us about garden pests and pesticides. Thank you, Crowley Garden Club. This club has "planted it pink" at a local clinic, had a craft booth at the Rice Festival, and holds an annual wreath, garland and poinsettia sale. They also host a wonderful flower show in the spring!

I am looking forward to attending the March meeting of the Lake Charles Garden Club. That is one of the most fun parts of being a district director!! Lake Charles GC is a proud participant of their city's Leaders Against Litter campaign, and the home club of LGCF's incoming 1st Vice-president, Linda Finley. We are excited to have Linda accepting this opportunity to lead our state organization for 2019-2021!

# LGCF District Director Reports

Winter Council was held in January at state headquarters in LeCompte, where we made some improvements to award applications, and discussed our upcoming Deep South and LGCF State Convention to be held in New Orleans March 26-31.

Diggers and Weeders of Lake Charles, Iowa Garden Club, and Sulphur Garden Club are maintaining their Blue Star Memorial Markers. Welsh has established and is maintaining a beautiful veterans marker honoring all branches of military service. All of us appreciate the sacrifice that our veterans have made to protect our freedoms and make all of our lives better.

Sulphur GC, Diggers and Weeders, Iowa and Oakdale are continuously planting, weeding, mulching city parks, flower beds, library beds and school grounds. Lake Charles GC sponsors a junior garden club in a local elementary school. We are doing so many things to support our communities' beautification. Washington Garden Club is hosting their first annual Daffodil show this March, with growers from as far away as Arkansas and Mississippi coming to show their flowers and teach us! On Sunday, March 19, Washington GC is also hosting their tour of historic homes, with four sites on the agenda!

Oakdale Garden Club donates and distributes Christmas gifts to local nursing home residents and Welsh sponsors a Rose Bingo in February at a local nursing home. Each bingo winner is presented a rose in a vase. It is so nice that they remember these sweet people, especially around holidays. At Christmastime, Crowley GC gathers blankets, socks, and personal hygiene items for their Assist Agency.

March 24-25 will be 2 exciting and educational days for Southwest Louisiana Gardeners, with the 2017 SWLA Garden Conference and Expo held at Burton Coliseum in Lake Charles. This is a "don't miss" event!

Cities entered in this spring's Cleanest City Contest are Elton, Fenton, Oakdale, Opelousas, Rayne and Turkey Creek. This year's CCC chairmen are Bobbie Young and Shirley Savoy. Even if your city is not officially registered, please do everything you can to educate the residents to stop the litter and take pride in their hometown.

Last, but certainly not least...SEE YOU AT CONVENTION, MARCH 26-31 in New Orleans at Harrah's Casino.

All of us in District VII ask for your continued prayers for our former district director, Jennifer Granger. She is in Houston at MD Anderson undergoing radiation treatments at this time. Thank you.

As you have read, District VII clubs are all about their communities and contribute in many, many ways. I personally am very proud to be a part of this wonderful LGCF group, and I know the other members feel the same way.

This is my last hurrah as district director. Your new, highly efficient and delightful district director will be Kelly Keers of Sulphur Garden Club. She will be a tremendous asset to District VII and is a huge supporter of you, the members of LGCF District VII. Please welcome and encourage her.

Thank you, Jeanette Gatzman, for being such a delightful state president. It has really been fun working with you!

Thank you, Lena Bateman, for being such an encourager for all of us district directors. We look forward to your leadership as our new LGCF president! Let me know if there is anything I can do to support your presidency.

Being a district director has been a joy! There are so many people to thank, especially our District VII officers and chairmen!! I've made so many new friends that I will treasure forever, and I look forward to working with them and with you for many years to come. Let me know if there is anything I can do help your club thrive.

# LGCF District Director Reports

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## District VIII Report

*Carol Campbell, Director*

Bonjour a tout le monde. C'est toujours une plaisir de vous voir.

We have come to the end of a perfectly wonderful two years. I had no idea what I was getting into at the beginning of this term. If someone comes to you with a very large box and says, "How would you like to be a district director?" Say "Yes".

Alexandria, our largest club with 118 members, has been landscaping around the city, taking field trips, and helping Kent House, the tourist center, with herb, tree, and rose bush sales that are open to the public.

Lecompte received trash cans from Keep America Beautiful and is cleaning up the town to enter the Cleanest City Contest. One of their goals is to refurbish old unused items like mail boxes, cast-off furniture, and farm implements, to make them live again as planters in gardens.

Mansfield planted a red bud tree at the downtown Catholic Church. The local nursery has invited the club for a workshop to learn how to plant, prune, fertilize, and water.

Marksville is preparing for an April flower show in a downtown home. They received a \$400 grant from Entergy to place plants around the "Welcome to Marksville" sign.

Moreauville planted trees around a newly restored high school in Bordelonville for Arbor Day. They applied for a flower show award after their October show, "Couture en Fleurs" or "Fashions in Flowers".

Olla had two fieldtrips this Spring. They went to Hodges Gardens and to the Caroline Dorman Nature Preserve. They planted two magnolia trees at the entry sign just inside the Olla city limits.

Allons garder notre heritage francais. Let's hold on to our French heritage. If we don't, who will?

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## LGCF TRAVEL

The 2018 LGCF Tour to New York City and the Lake District has been scheduled June 2-10, 2018. Plans are to visit gardens and wineries in the area along with 'The Big Apple'! Contact Naomi Cordill if you have questions:

Naomi Cordill  
448 New Zion Road  
Winnsboro, LA 71295  
318-435-0029  
318-498-0094



# Circle of Roses

## Thelma Rees

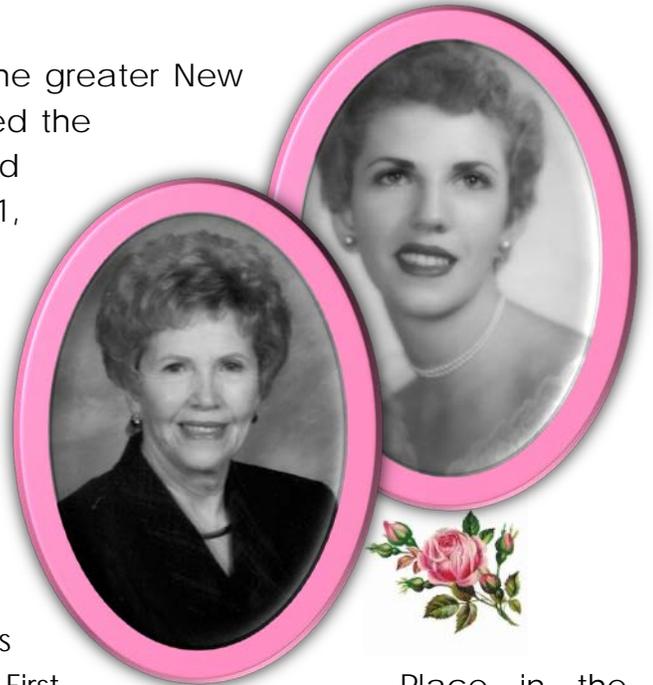
*Lakeview Botany Guild (District I)*

Thelma Rees has been active in garden clubs in the greater New Orleans area for more than 30 years. She first joined the Greater Pines Village Garden Club in 1985 and served four different terms as its president (1989, 2001, 2002, and 2003). After hurricane Katrina and the dissolution of the Greater Pines Village club, Thelma joined the Lakeview Botany Guild, and she has been the club's treasurer since 2013.

Over the years, Thelma has participated in countless events and activities sponsored by her clubs and the Federated Council of New Orleans Garden Clubs. Here is just a sampling of her varied interests and contributions. She particularly enjoys

creating miniature flower arrangements and won First Place in the "Small Design" category at the "Art in Bloom" competition sponsored by the New Orleans Museum of Art in 2002. Also in 2002, Thelma created decorations and floral arrangements for the 68<sup>th</sup> annual convention of the Louisiana Garden Club Federation, Inc., at the Chateau Sonesta Hotel. She has created numerous door decorations for Christmas and nurtures her own garden, for which she has won "Garden of the Month" a number of times. When Pope John Paul II visited the city in 1987, she was involved in creating the floral arrangements at the St. Louis Cathedral for the Pope's Mass. And in 1996, Thelma won the Ann Gernhauser Butterfly Award for her project in which she documented on film the developmental process of Monarch butterflies from caterpillar to chrysalis to adult butterfly. She raised many butterflies in her backyard garden, and she donated several caterpillars to her granddaughter's fifth grade class at St. Ann School so that they, too, could witness this miracle of nature.

Thelma was honored to be chosen as "Woman of the Year" for 2007-20078 by the Federated Council of New Orleans Garden Clubs, Inc.



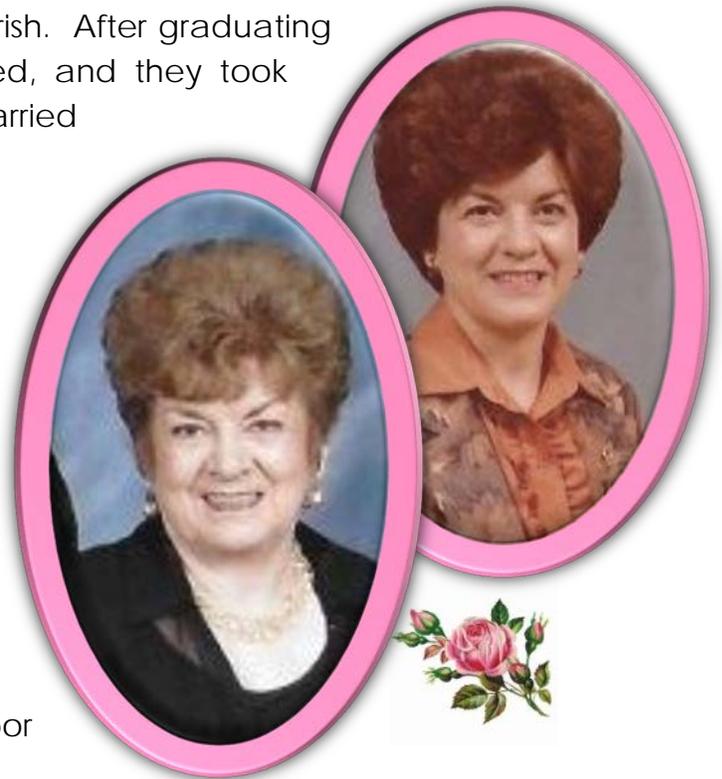
# Circle of Roses

## Joanne Schrock Bolding

Oak Grove Garden Club- (District V)

Joanne grew up on a farm in West Carroll Parish. After graduating Louisiana Tech she married her husband Fred, and they took over the family farm. They have three married children and six grandchildren.

As a farm wife and helping 4-Hers in plant science, forestry and entomology Joanne was no stranger to growing plants and at the invitation of friends joined Oak Grove Garden Club in 1990. She has served in various officer positions and on numerous committees including: Arbor Day, Programs, Cleanest City, and Horticulture. She has helped her club with festival booths, Christmas decorating downtown and attended many district meetings. She presently serves as club secretary and Arbor Day chairman.



Most of Joanne's life has been spent in church and volunteer work. She has taught Sunday school and served as a 4-H club leader. In 2008 she was inducted into the Louisiana 4-H Hall of Fame and still serves on the West Carroll 4-H Advisory Committee. For many years Joanne served as Parish Farm Bureau Women's Committee Chairman leading many projects. She still works with youth projects and is on the Ag in the Classroom Committee.

Joanne continues to stay busy and she and her husband enjoy supporting the sports activities of the grandchildren.

# Circle of Roses

## Ruth Horton Mulkey

Oak Grove Garden Club (District V)

Ruth was born April 12, 1937 in Cullman Alabama. She and her husband moved to Oak Grove Louisiana in August 1963. She has three children.

After retiring from owning a local retail business ,she became a member of Oak Grove Garden Club in 1988. Her mother passed down to her a love for beautiful flowers and gardening. At one time she cared for her bed of thirty tea roses.

Ruth has served her garden club through the years in many capacities. She served two terms as club president and also as committee chairman on many projects. She has enjoyed several LGCF tours and attended LGCF state conventions through the years. One special memory for her is the LGCF tour to the Tournament of Roses parade and being a part of the city of Burbank float building crew. Ruth is a faithful member of First Baptist Church, Oak Grove ,LA. She also stays busy helping her three step-granddaughters with church and school activities.



# Circle of Roses

## Jeanette Gatzman

*Baton Rouge Garden Club District VI*

Jeanette Gatzman is the kind of Garden Club member that any club would be proud to claim. She joined the Villa del Rey Garden Club as a charter member in 1977. And immediately took an active part. She served as Secretary 5 terms (10 years); First Vice President, Treasurer, Historian, and Chaplain; and as President 3 terms (6 years). She also served as Yearbook Chairman and held many other chairmanships.

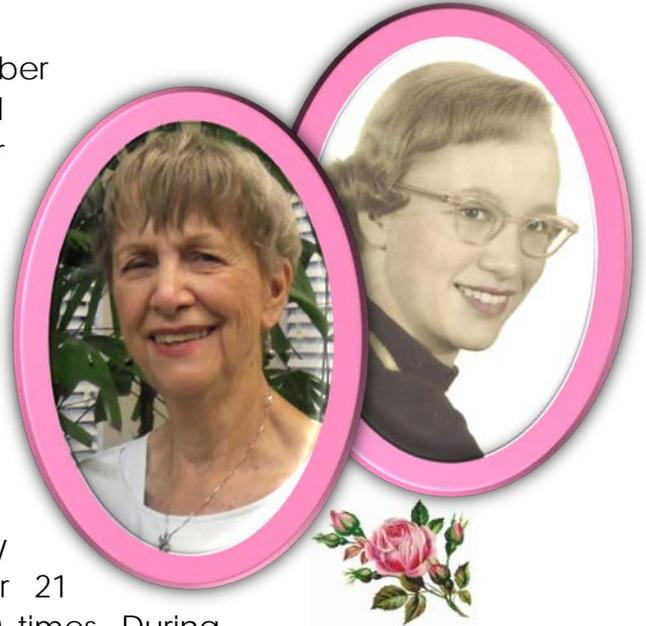
She later joined the Baton Rouge Garden Club, serving 3 terms as Recording Secretary; Vice President and President. She has held many Chairmanships including Yearbook Chairman for 21 consecutive years; and Flower Show Chairman 10 times. During her tenure as Flower Show Chairman, the Club won LGCF and NGC Awards almost every year. Jeanette is also a member of the Lazy Daisy Study Group of Baton Rouge Garden Club, serving as Secretary, President, and Yearbook Chairman.

Jeanette is our current LGCF President and has served in many capacities in our Federation including Corresponding Secretary, Recording Secretary, Treasurer, Representative-at-Large and President Elect. She has chaired these committees: Credentials, Life Membership, Inter-Club Relations, National Garden Week, and Headquarters Trustee; and served on the Handbook Revision Committee in 2006 and the LGCF 75th Anniversary Committee in 2008. Under Deep South Director Mary Sue Colvin, Jeanette served as Recording Secretary.

In addition to her many duties, Jeanette has entered all our flower shows and has won many blue ribbons for her lovely creative designs.

This very busy lady grew up in Lafayette, graduating from Lafayette High School, completed a 1-1/2 year secretarial course at Southwestern Louisiana Institute (now the University of Louisiana, Lafayette.) Jeanette was married to Rodney Gatzman for 45 years and has been a widow since 2001. She is the mother of 5 children, has 11 grandchildren and 4 great-grandchildren.

The Baton Rouge Garden Club is proud to nominate our most worthy member, Jeanette Gatzman for the 2017 LGCF Circle of Roses



# Circle of Roses



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 asking each club that wishes to honor a senior member or members this way please submit 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" these 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

LGCF Circle of Roses Chairman  
Georgie Petitjean  
1006 East 5th Street  
Crowley, LA 70526-3952  
(337) 783-4545, [gmpetitjean@cox.net](mailto:gmpetitjean@cox.net)

## LGCF Gardening Study

REMEMBER WHEN GARDENING STUDY CLASSES WERE HELD AT HAMMOND AG CENTER...?



They are coming back!!!!!! Beth Erwin and Linda Brashier, Co-Chairman of Garden Study Schools, plan to have Series 10, Course 1 on November 7th and 8th, 2017 at the Center. Mark your calendars and make your plans.

Dr. Allen Owings will be hosting the event. Details to follow at convention and summer board.

Remember when each class included walks through the gardens and hands on propagation? We look forward to seeing you in Hammond.

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## New Newsletter Editors

All future Newsletter submissions should be sent to [lgcfnewsletter@gmail.com](mailto:lgcfnewsletter@gmail.com) . Ruth Delhomme and Roxy Blanton are the new Co-Editors of the LGCF Newsletter. Their contact info:

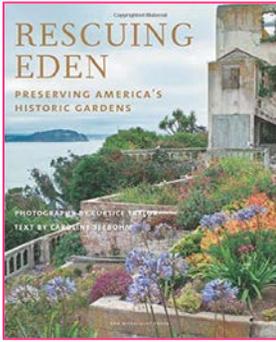
Ruth Delhomme  
P.O. Box 12632  
New Iberia, LA 70562-2632  
H (337) 364-5677  
C (337) 322-3157

Roxy Blanton  
303 W. Tampico St.  
New Iberia, LA 70563-1339  
H (337) 364-2562  
C (337) 519-1299

Deadlines will stay the same. Please have your info for the July Newsletter in by June 1. And don't forget to submit photos and artwork for the cover!

## Book Review

By Sissy Gall, LGCF Book Review Chair



**Rescuing Eden: Preserving America's Historic Gardens**

**By Caroline Seebohm**

**Photography by Curtice Taylor**

**ISBN: 978-1-58093-408-4      213 pages**

**The Monacelli Press, New York, 2015**

This book presents 30 incredible gardens across America that have been rescued from the brink of ruin.

Creeping development and suburbanization, as well as changing economies, has encroached on what were once magnificent landscapes and estates created by the hand of man. Much of the brilliant work of landscape designers, architects and horticulturalists that flourished during their early stewardship of American open space has now been lost forever.

Thanks to the tireless work and vision of garden clubs, historians, politicians, conservancies, civic organizations, planners and volunteers, some of America's garden heritage has been saved for the enjoyment of future generations.

With brilliant color photographs and a short history of each garden, we're drawn into history and can walk pathways with those who loved gardening before us.

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## Handbook Revisions

This year, 2017, marks the year of revisions. Our own LGCF has a new revised handbook that should be on sale at LGCF Summer Board meeting in Baton Rouge. The proposed selling price is \$12.

Also NGC has revised the Handbook for Flower Shows. You may order one through NGC:

<http://www.shopgardenclub.org/shop/>

The price is \$25 plus shipping. Quantity discounts are not available.

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## NGC Photo Contest Winners

The 2016 NGC Member Photo Contest winning photos are posted on the NGC website. The one on the right is one of the winners. See the others at

<http://gardenclub.org/resources/2016-photo-contest/NGC-2016-member-photo-contest-winners.pdf>



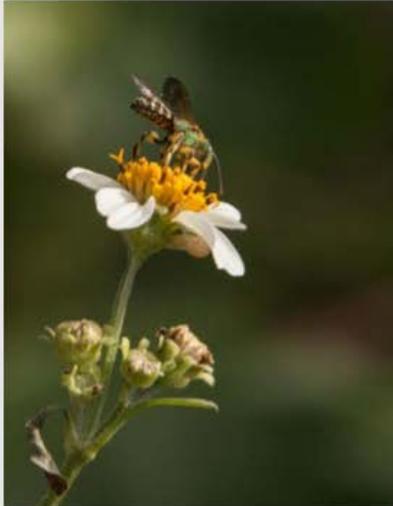


## National Garden Clubs, Inc.

International Photography Competition for NGC Members and Affiliates

*"Look deeper into Nature and you will understand everything"*

Albert Einstein



**For more information:**  
arabellasd@aol.com

**A MACRO or CLOSE-UP of something in nature that brings understanding about the web of life**

**The contest is open**

**MARCH 1 - APRIL 15, 2017**

**All the submissions will be juried.**

**The 24 highest scoring images**

**will be displayed**

**in Richmond VA**

**May 16-21, 2017**

**at the NGC Convention**

**Submit entries on-line –**

**Login at**

<http://cgburke.com/ngc/>

**This competition is open to members of National Garden Clubs, Inc. and its affiliated organizations.**

**Fees:**

You may enter as many as 3 images. There is no charge to enter.

**Image Preparation Guidelines:**

All images must be submitted in the "JPG" format.

**Image Resolution:**

Each image must have a minimum resolution of 300 pixels per inch.

**Dimension:**

When the image resolution is 300, the maximum allowable dimensions for an image is 14 inches (4200 pixels) on the long side and 11 inches (3300 pixels) on the short side.

For images having a resolution greater than 300, a proportional increase in their dimensions is allowed. As an example, for an image with a resolution of 350 pixels per inch, the long side dimension may be 4900 pixels and the short side may be 3850 pixels.

**File size:** minimum 1.5 Megabytes

### Native Tree *Halesia diptera* (Silverbells)

From LSU AgCenter Ornamental Horticulture E-News

The two-winged silverbell (*Halesia diptera*) is one of our many smaller-growing native tree species that should be considered for inclusion in a native landscape plan. Silverbells most commonly are recognized by bell-shaped, drooping flowers from early to midspring in Louisiana. Sometimes the two-winged silverbell is called the "snowdrop tree."

Hummingbirds are attracted to silverbell flowers. A botanical variety of two-winged silverbell native to Florida has larger flowers.

Two-winged silverbell has a moderate-to-fast growth rate the first few years in the landscape. A typical mature height is 25-30 feet with a trunk diameter of 6-8 inches. Canopy spread is about 20-30 feet. Some trees in Louisiana have surpassed the average reported height.

Consider using silverbells in your landscape. Many experts recommend them as a substitute for dogwoods, which have been doing poorly in Louisiana over the past few years.



“Naturally New Orleans”  
2017 Deep South Region Convention  
Sunday, March 26 – Wednesday, March 29, 2017

**Sunday, March 26**

Flower Show Entries..... 8:30 -10:30 AM  
Flower Show Judging .....11:30 - 1:00 PM  
Flower Show Judges Lunch..... 1:30 PM  
French Quarter Courtyard Tour.....11:00 AM - 2:00 PM  
Flower Show Open to Public..... 2:00 - 4:00PM  
Dinner and a Show ..... 6:00 –8:00PM  
Don Vappie and the Creole Jazz Serenaders

**Monday, March 27**

Breakfast ..... 7:00 - 8:30AM  
Deep South Region Council meeting ..... 9:00 AM – 10:00 AM  
Deep South Region Business Meeting .....10:00 AM – 11:45 AM  
(Business meeting resumes on Tuesday, March 28 at 9:00 A.M.)

Lunch .....12:00 – 2:00  
Introductions  
Blessing Meal  
Youth Awards  
Program – What Bugs You May Not Bug Me, Stacy Blomquist

Workshop/ Breakout Sessions

Blue Birds *by Emily Winners* .....2:15 – 2:45 PM  
Green Clean *by Reba Mackey* .....2:45 – 3:30 PM  
Flower Show Removed.....4:30 – 6:00 PM

Dinner - Awards Banquet Cash Bar.....6:30 – 10:00 PM  
Dinner .....7:00 PM

Introductions  
Blessing Meal  
General Awards

“Naturally New Orleans”  
2017 Deep South Region Convention  
Sunday, March 26 – Wednesday, March 29, 2017

**Tuesday, March 28**

Breakfast.....7:00 – 8:30

DSR Business Meeting Resumes .....9:00 A.M.

Lunch

Introductions Blessing Meal  
Program – “Humor in the Garden”  
Annette Parker Kahn

Afternoon Activities

Workshop/ Breakout Sessions

Design Mechanics *by Carrie Martin* .....2:15 – 2:45 PM

Bird Songs *by Rosalie Overby* .....2:45 – 3:30 PM

Dinner – Design Banquet Cash Bar.....6:30 – 10:00 PM

Introductions

Blessings Meal

Director Citations

“Southern Comfort and Hospitality Designs for Your Home:” Sylvia Deck,  
designer

Director’s Closing Remarks Adjourn

**Wednesday, March 29**

Tri-Refresher Tour .....8:00 AM

2017-2019 Deep South Region Council Meeting .....9:00 A.M.

**LOUISIANA GARDEN CLUB FEDERATION, INC.**

**2017 LGCF Convention**

March 29-31, 2017

Harrah's Hotel New Orleans, Louisiana

"Ease on Down the Road"

**Wednesday, March 29, 2017**

7:30 AM.....Breakfast and Tri-Refresher Tour, Vieux Carre Ballroom  
7:00-9:00 PM.....Welcome Party, Third Floor Lobby

**Thursday, March 30, 2017**

8:00 AM-4:00 PM.....Registration, Third Floor Lobby  
8:30 AM.....Ways and Means /Vendors Open. Fulton Street Salon I  
8:30-9:30AM.....Environmental Council Breakfast, Vieux Carre Ballroom  
*"Handbook Revisions" by David Robson, NGC Handbook Revision Committee Chairman*

Lagniappe – Workshops – Replanting Orchids by Mary Prokop and

Dried Flowers under Glass by Mary Ellen Miller.....See message board for time and location

9:30-10:00 AM.....Headquarters Meeting, Satchmo Room  
10:00 -10:30AM.....Finance Committee Meeting, Satchmo Room  
10:30-11:30 AM.....Executive Council Meeting, Satchmo Room  
12:00- 1:30PM.....Gardening Studies Lunch, Vieux Carre Ballroom

*"Floral Designs for Special Occasions" by Meade Wensel*

1:30-2:30PM.....LCNAFS Judges Council Meeting, Fulton Street Salons II & III  
2:30-3:00 PM.....Gardening Consultants Meeting, Fulton Street Salons II & III  
3:00-3:30 PM.....Landscape Consultants Meeting, Fulton Street Salons II & III  
3:30-4:00 PM.....Environmental Consultants Meeting, Fulton Street Salons II & III  
4:30-5:30 PM.....2015-17 Club Presidents/District Directors Meeting, Fulton Street Salons II & III  
5:45-6:45 PM.....Reception honoring Jeanette Gatzman, 2015-2017 LGCF President, Third Floor Lobby  
7:00-9:00 PM.....Awards Banquet, Vieux Carre Ballroom

**Friday, March 31, 2017**

8:00 AM.....Registration, Third Floor Lobby  
9:00 AM.....Ways and Means/ Vendors Open, Fulton Street Salon I  
8:30-9:45 AM.....Landscape Council Breakfast, Vieux Carre Ballroom  
*Chef Kevin Belton, NOLA Cooking School Instructor and TV Personality*

10:00 AM-12:00 Noon .....LGCF Business Meeting, Fulton Street Salons II & III  
12:15-2:30 PM.....Judges Lunch & Installation of Officers, Vieux Carre Ballroom  
*"Louisiana's Coastal and Wetlands Problems" by Lt. Governor Billy Nungesser*

Lagniappe – Corsage Making Workshop by Mary Ellen Miller..... See message board for time and location

2:30-3:00 PM.....Workshop – Common Ground Wetland Restoration, Fulton Street Salons II & III  
2:30-3:00 PM.....Workshop - Grants and Improvements, Satchmo Room  
3:00-3:30 PM.....Workshop – Insurance Wisdom for Garden Clubs, Satchmon Room  
5:30-6:30PM.....Reception honoring Lena Bateman, 2017-2019 LGCF President, Third Floor Lobby  
7:00-9:00PM.....Banquet - Installation Banquet of 2017-2019 LGCF Officers, Vieux Carre Ballroom

**Louisiana Garden Club Federation  
 Summer Board 2017  
 “Keep Louisiana Beautiful From the Bayous to the Marshes”  
 Plant America – Plant Louisiana  
 July 17 - 18**

**Registration Form**

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_

E-Mail \_\_\_\_\_ Phone (\_\_\_\_) \_\_\_\_\_

Garden Club \_\_\_\_\_ District \_\_\_\_\_

Please circle the box that indicates your status for Registration and Credentials:

Local Club	Member	Club President	Delegate / Alternate	Guest
LGCF	Officer	Chairman	Life Member	Past President
Deep South	Officer	Chairman	Life Member	Past DSR Director
NGC	Officer	Chairman	Life Member	

**Due Date July 4, 2017**

Please make an (x) in the desired boxes.

		Price	Amount
<input type="checkbox"/>	July 17 - 18	Entire Summer Board registration/meal package	\$127.00 \$
<input type="checkbox"/>		I want to register for a portion of the meeting	
<input type="checkbox"/>			
<input type="checkbox"/>	<b>Monday</b>	Registration for Monday only	\$20.00 \$
<input type="checkbox"/>	7/17	Lunch	\$25.00
<input type="checkbox"/>		Banquet	\$45.00
<input type="checkbox"/>	<b>Tuesday</b>	Registration for Tuesday only	\$20.00
<input type="checkbox"/>	7/18	Lunch	\$37.00
<input type="checkbox"/>	<b>Late Fee</b>	<b>If you register after July 4, 2017 there will be an extra \$20.00 charge</b>	<b>\$20.00</b>
<input type="checkbox"/>	Total	Amount I am enclosing: Total Amount:	\$

Dietary: Special Diet \_\_\_\_\_ Vegetarian \_\_\_\_\_  
 Allergies \_\_\_\_\_

**THERE WILL BE NO SAME DAY REGISTRATION ACCEPTED**

Make checks payable to LGCF Summer Board

Mail form and payment to:

Juanita Pearson, 801 Rue Chalet, Hammond, LA 70403 (985) 542-0657

# Deeds & Doings

## District I & II

Participating in the Jefferson Parish Council of Garden Clubs, Inc. Arbor Day Ceremony in Lafreniere Park is Metairie Ridge Garden Club. Pictured from left to right are: Daria Vincent, Dottie Pechon, Debbie Corales, Pat Occhipinti, Jackiie Ciuffi, Sharon Rojas-President, Carrie Martin, Wanda Adams.



Arbor Day Activities in Lafreniere Park



Rambling Rose Gardeners was represented by Daria Vincent. Betty Rena-President not pictured but attended the celebration inside the Lafreniere Foundation Center.

Daria Vincent with Arbor Day Oak Tree

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## District III

Members of the **Abbeville Garden Club** gathered on December 12, 2017 for the annual Christmas Social, celebrating the holiday season, at the lovely home of Susan and Ed Wilhelm. Enjoying a wonderful time at the Abbeville Garden Club Christmas Social on December 12, 2017 are pictured on the following page (standing left to right) Linda Hedio, Ingrid Jones, Brenda Cross, Ruth Delhomme, LGCF District III Director, Denise Files, Odile Segrest, Gwen Lanoux, Liz Gremillion, Susie Ledet, Jeanell Duhon, and Susan DesOrmeaux. Kneeling from left to right are Theresa Broussard, Patsy Hebert, Susan Wilhelm, Karen Hoyt, and Sandy Richard. Not pictured are Ed Wilhelm and Judge Edwards.

# Deeds & Doings



Abbeville Garden Club Christmas Social



Pictured (from left to right) are Theresa Broussard, AGC hostess, Carrie Salyers, Biologist with Louisiana Wildlife and Fisheries, and Sandy Richard, AGC Vice President of Programs.

Abbeville Garden Club members gathered for their regular monthly meeting on January 23, 2017. Theresa Broussard served as hostess of the event. The educational speaker for the meeting was Carrie Salyers, Biologist with Louisiana Wildlife and Fisheries.

In keeping with the National Garden Club's Conservation Pledge "to protect and conserve the natural resources of the planet Earth", Salyers presented a program concerning two Louisiana Wildlife and Fisheries projects. First, she presented an update on the "Whooping Crane Project." Then Salyers' main presentation consisted of a slideshow and lecture on the Louisiana Black Bear.

Abbeville Garden Club is a proud sponsor of the Daylily Festival. That being said, for the February meeting Abbeville Garden Club invited Charlene Beckett, Abbeville Main Street Manager and Keep Abbeville Beautiful Director, to present a program on the Daylily Festival's partnerships and contributions to the beauty and environmental education of the community. Denise Files, AGC member and Daylily Vendor, then spoke on the propagation and care of different varieties of daylilies.



Pictured above (from left to right), are Liz Gremillion, AGC President, Denise Files, AGC member and Daylily Vendor, Sandy Richard, AGC Vice-President of Programs, and Charlene Beckett, Abbeville Main Street Manager and Keep Abbeville Beautiful Director.

# Deeds & Doings

Congratulations go to Dee Nolan, **Lafayette Garden Club's** Cleanest City Chair, who was presented the Bayou Vermilion Preservation Association Award for Cleanest City, by Babette Werner of BVPA. Lafayette Garden Club also won BVPA's Conservation Award. We also congratulate Lafayette Garden Club member Angel Landry, whose white traditional mass floral design is featured in National Garden Club's 2017 Visions of Beauty calendar in the month of January. And among Cleanest City activities, Dee Nolan announced that the Cleanest City's schools' poster judging will be on Wednesday, March 1, at 2:00 p.m. at Lafayette City Hall, with cash prizes being awarded. Lafayette area school's judging is set for Monday, March 6.



Lafayette Garden Club Christmas Tea

Lafayette Garden Club members and guests celebrated their Christmas Tea at the Alumni House of the University of Louisiana at Lafayette on Wednesday afternoon, December 14, enjoying fellowship and all their favorite sweet and savory foods. The beautiful, seasonally decorated Alumni House featured a lovely red rose arrangement made by Social Chairman, Julie Anna Ousse. Louisiana Garden Club Federation President Jeanette Gatzman was a special guest at the Tea. Garden Club President Betty Foret recognized Club members, Jeanne Latiolais, Almeda Ledoux, Margo Racca and Sarah Schoeffler, who are being honored for their 25 or more years of service to the Lafayette Garden Club.

Another special guest, Georgie Petitjean, Circle of Roses Chairman, presented Circle of Roses pins and certificates to the honored, newly inducted members of Circle of Roses, and Club President Betty Foret presented these ladies with bouquets of red roses. New members of Circle of Roses are pictured, seated from left to right: Margie Walsh, Almeda Ledoux, Gloria Guilbeaux and Charlotte Castille, Standing is Henrietta Boriskie, and absent from the picture is Jan Wyatt [PHOTO 2]. New Club members, Cindy Hamilton, Connie Byrne, Diane Kohm and Evelyn Bethel were welcomed. Following the Christmas Tea, Lafayette Garden Club members lined up on the staircase at the Alumni House staircase, as they celebrated the Club's 2016 Christmas Tea.



Newly Inducted Circle of Roses

In observance of Louisiana Arbor Day, Lafayette Garden Club and Louisiana Consolidated Government planted a red oak tree at 410 West Bluebird Drive in Beaulieu Park. Lafayette Garden Club's Arbor Day Chair Gretchen Stewart led the Friday, January 20 ceremony, and Betty Foret, Lafayette Garden Club President, welcomed everyone to the ceremony. Greetings and proclamation were presented by Cydra Wingerter, Administrative Assistant representing Lafayette Consolidated Government, Also participating were Brian Smith, Street Superintendent with LCG and Dennis Sullivan, President of Trees Acadiana.

# Deeds & Doings

Julie Haack, Sunshine Memorial Committee Chair stated that the red oak tree was donated by Lafayette Garden Club



Arbor Day Activities

and was being planted in memory of deceased Club member Inez Whittington. Ms. Haack then introduced special guests, who were friends and relatives of Inez Whittington: Vienna Spell, Nancy Whittington and Margie Walsh.

A program about “So, I have all these plastic grocery bags, now what? “ was featured at the January meeting, which addressed how the recent school collection drives and recycling efforts in Lafayette led to the creation of durable benches and functional planters made from ordinary plastic grocery bags. Sarah Schoeffler recommended that we see the upcoming Vermilionville Les Vues film that takes an entertaining look at our obsession with plastics, titled “Bag It.” which is hosted by the No Waste Louisiana group. We were asked to bring our own cups (BYOC) to this NO WASTE event.

By popular demand, the Club’s programs about giving hands-on instruction for preparing for Lafayette Garden Club Standard Flower Show, using the National Garden Club procedures and explaining the requirements for registering horticulture, were presented at the February and March Club meetings. Instructors to these enthusiastic gardeners and designers were outstanding horticulturists, experienced award-winning designers and flower show judges, who instructed Club members on the mechanics of design and in the creative arrangements required for competition.



Hands-On Instruction for Future Flower Show

Lafayette Garden Club looks forward to its annual standard flower show, “Favorite Things,” set for Saturday, March 31 and Sunday, April 1, 2017, in conjunction with Festival des Fleurs de Louisiane at Blackham Coliseum, at 2330 Johnston Street in Lafayette. The Flower Show, featuring horticulture, design and special exhibits, is open to the public on

# Deeds & Doings

Saturday, from 8:00 a.m. until 4:00 p.m. All Garden Club members are invited to participate by entering a flower design and/ or a horticulture exhibit, and any interested gardener is welcome to enter in the horticulture division. Festival des Fleurs' "Favorite Things" Flower Show, is chaired by Lafayette Garden Club's Margaret Hargroder, with Betty Foret and Cecille Revels as Co-Chairs. Entry forms are available by emailing [Mhargroder@aol.com](mailto:Mhargroder@aol.com).

Lastly, Lafayette citizens and tourists can now enjoy its former historic Azalea Trail, which begins at the Lafayette Visitor Center at 1400 Northwest Evangeline Thruway and covers approximately 20 miles of Lafayette city streets that are lined with azaleas that adorn beautiful homes and historical points. Local civic groups were formerly responsible for the trail, but with changes in leadership, the project faded away around 1980. However, several civic groups partnered with Lafayette Consolidated Government to restore this downtown beautification project that includes planting of new azaleas and caring for existing azaleas. A Lafayette Azalea map is available on the website [Lafayettettravel.com/things-to-do/trip-ideas/azalea-trail](http://Lafayettettravel.com/things-to-do/trip-ideas/azalea-trail). This year, starting in late February, the azaleas are putting on their annual show during our springlike weather. The predominant variety of azalea is the Formosa, christened the "General Lafayette, LA," which blooms in colors of lavender and fuchsia. Enjoy.

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On February 16, 2017, twenty one members of **Terrebonne Garden Club** visited the Chef John Folse Culinary Institute on the Nicholls University campus. The school is an important addition to the university because food plays such an important part of all social and business gatherings in this area. After we viewed all the high tech classrooms, we were happy to see they grow their own fresh herbs for cooking



## District VI

**Gardenettes** planted a Schumard Oak at the south end of Memorial Park in Ponchatoula on January 30, 2017 in honor of Arbor Day. Ceremonies included a dedication by Ponchatoula Mayor Bob Zabbia. Special guests of the garden club included city councilman Jeff Daniels and Kiwanis president Bill Poland.

Following an opening prayer by Joan Morse, the Gardenettes present sang the Star Spangled banner. Mayor Zabbia thanked the club for planting the tree as there had been several trees lost in the park. Club president Anna Poland explained the Schumard oak is one of the largest of the red oak trees and well suited to the Ponchatoula climate. She thanked our guests for coming.

Club Vice President Sonya Avery explained the history of Arbor Day. She noted that 60 million trees have been planted in our nation's forests since 1990. She explained that this legacy for future generations is something for which we should be proud. She said that the next 60 million are already being planted.

# Deeds & Doings

Gardenettes also attending included Libbie Barron, Margaret Hardin, Liz Anderson, Kathy Bedenbaugh, Lynda Byrd, Sonya Avery, Ellen Pusey, Peggy Avery, Diane Dufour, Cricket Ayala and Vicky Fannaly. Special member Morse read Joyce Kilmer's poem "Trees" and closed the ceremonies with a prayer.



Arbor Day Activities of the Gardenettes of Ponchatoula.

The birds were winners at the **Baton Rouge Garden Club** Tablescapes show, held using photos from the Louisiana Photographic Society as inspiration for functional and exhibition tables. Each February, this show raises funds for a scholarship the club gives on successive years to students in horticulture, landscape architecture or urban forestry.

Favorite photo, best niche and best table are chosen by votes from those attending as the show is not formally judged. Dottie Gianelloni won first with her lighthouse interpretation table and Jeanette Johnson took second with her table by a photo of cattle egrets. The cattle egret photo by Butch Spielman tied for first with a photo of a parrot by Pat Riddick.

Sharon Harley won top honors for her niche beside a cheetah photo and Willie Allen took second with a state capitol interpretation. An overflowing refreshment table featured a centerpiece by Ann Nette Pearce, both design and goodies a center of attention!



Pictured above are (L to R) Sharon Harley, Clara Earl, winning lighthouse table, Dottie Gianelloni and Cindy Moran, Tablescapes Chairman

# Deeds & Doings



Pictured above are (L to R) Butch Spielman, Cindy Moran, Cattle egret table along with Spielman's Egret photo, Sally Daigle and Sandra Patrick.



Pictured above (L to R) are Jeanette Gatzman LGCF President and Donna Moran Tablescares Chairman



Winning Cheetah Picture Interpretation Niche by Sharon Harley

# Deeds & Doings

## District VII

Members of the **Lake Charles Garden Club** Camille Stakes, Gayle McInnis and Diane LaFargue gave an Arbor Day Program and provided a tree to be planted by the Junior Garden Club at College Oaks Elementary. Arbor Day is celebrated in January in Louisiana so that the roots of trees will be deep enough before the hot weather comes. In other states it is celebrated in April. The club was entertained with a reading of the book "The Giving Tree".



Lake Charles Garden Club members present Arbor Day Program at elementary school

The **Sulphur Garden Club** (SGC) donated a live oak tree to Sulphur High 9th grade campus agriculture class and Future Farmers of America (FFA) in honor of Arbor Day. Observed annually in Louisiana, the day is recognized on the third Friday in January. First observed in 1872, the day celebrates the role of trees in our lives and promotes tree planting and care. The simple act of planting a tree represents a belief that the tree will grow and someday provide wood products, wildlife habitat, erosion control, shelter from the wind and sun, beauty, and inspiration for ourselves and our children. The tree has appeared throughout history and literature as the symbol of life. Mrs. Dara Johnson, Ag Science teacher, will oversee the planting and care of the tree. Pictured are members of the SGC and Sulphur High 9th grade students.



Sulphur Garden Club Arbor Day Activities

# Deeds & Doings

**Welsh Garden Club** (WGC) held our annual Rose Bingo at Golden Age of Welsh Nursing Home February 8, 2017. Our club provided roses in bud vases for the bingo game. When a resident would bingo they received a rose. The residents always look forward to this event. They loved receiving all the roses

WGC members also assisted residents who needed help to play their bingo card. WGC members gave roses to all resident even those who were confined to their room and unable to attend the bingo. It is good feeling to see the smiles on residents' faces. It is hard to say who has more fun the residents or us!



Welsh Garden Club's Annual Rose Bingo

Hardworking **Oakdale Garden Club** ladies, preparing for Cleanest City Contest and enjoying this beautiful weather, weeded and mulched one of the city of Oakdale's flower beds recently. Shown left to right are Jane Anders, District VII

Director, Phyllis Johnson, OGC Treasurer, Margaret Ann Osborn, Oakdale GC Native Plants and wildflower chairman, Bobbie Smith, OGC Chaplain, and Frannie Richardson, OGC Scholarship Chairman. Not shown is Shirley Savoy, OGC President, who started this project earlier than the rest of us, and Jane Hatsfelt, OGC Vice-president, who was our photographer!



Oakdale Garden Club Prepares for Cleanest City

# Deeds & Doings

## District VIII

District VIII's 2016 Fall Meeting was held in Pineville, Louisiana and Carol Campbell was master of ceremonies. The district was proud to be host to the LGCF President and President-Elect. A good time was had by all who attended.



Pictured (L to R) are LGCF President Jeanette Gatzman, District VIII Director Carol Campbell, and LGCF President Elect Lena Bateman shown at District VIII's Fall Meeting.

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## NGC 2017-2019 Theme

The new NGC President for 2017-2019 will be Nancy L. Hargroves. The theme for the 2017-2019 administration will be PLANT AMERICA with a singular focus on gardens and gardening. The words of this theme can either be a command to service or a description of what NGC clubs do. This concept supports the results of a recent survey at a meeting of the NGC Board of Directors that the main reason people join a garden club is to learn about gardening.

This theme can cover any and every aspect of gardening, horticulture, garden design and community service – even water issues, as one cannot garden without water! It applies to every kind of garden: Blue Star plantings, vegetable gardens, community gardens, container gardening on town streets, neighborhood plantings, etc.

This theme will have its own graphic logo for visual recognition of the program's name.

I am asking each state to consider choosing the same theme so that we can have a unified feeling of all states working together on a main focus of gardening. The words in this theme also offer an opportunity to add a phrase at the end of PLANT AMERICA by your state, if you so desire.



# Calendar of Events



## 2017

- March 27-28 Deep South Convention, Harrah's New Orleans  
March 29 LGCF Pre-Conv. Tour and Tri-Refresher, New Orleans  
March 30-31 LGCF Convention, Harrah's New Orleans  
May 18-20 NGC Convention, Richmond, Virginia  
June 4-10 National Garden Week  
July 17-18 LGCF Summer Board, Baton Rouge  
Sept. 12-16 NGC Fall Board Meeting, St. Louis, Missouri  
LGCF Fall District Meetings:  
October 17 - District VIII  
October 18 - District V  
October 19 - District VII  
October 24 - District VI  
October 25 - District I & II  
October 26 - District III  
Nov 7- 8 LGCG Garden Study Series 10, Course 1, Hammond

## 2018

- April 17-18 LGCF Convention, Alexandria, LA, District VIII  
May 21-24 NGC Convention, Philadelphia, Pennsylvania  
Sept 26 - 29 NGC Fall Board Meeting, Orlando FL  
LGCF Fall District Meetings:  
October 16 - District VIII  
October 17 - District V  
October 18 - District VII  
October 23 - District VI  
October 24 - District I & II  
October 25 - District III

## 2019

- April 9 - 11 LGCF Convention, Lafayette, LA District III  
April 30-May 4 NGC Convention, Biloxi, Mississippi  
(TBD) NGC Fall Board Meeting – St. Louis, MO

## 2020

- (TBD) NGC Fall Board Meeting – North Carolina

*\*Owl photo by Coleen P. Landry*