

LOUISIANA GARDEN CLUB
FEDERATION, INC.

NEWSLETTER

APRIL 2022



Plant Louisiana—

Practice Sustainable Gardening

THE LOUISIANA GARDEN CLUB FEDERATION, INC.

Newsletter

Member of

National Garden Clubs, Inc.

Deep South Garden Clubs, Inc.

"Plant Louisiana—Practice Sustainable Gardening"



VOLUME LXXII

April 2022

NO 4

LGCF 2021-23 OFFICERS:

President

Roxanna Champagne
roxannachamp@cox.net

President-Elect

Patricia "Tricia" Ortalano
lilclover59@gmail.com

First Vice-President

Carla Gauthier
Carla_gauthier@hotmail.com

Second Vice-President

Kyle Martin
kylemartin@charter.net

Recording Secretary

Kathy Tell
kathytell7@gmail.com

Corresponding Secretary

Patsy Hebert
patsyh_2000@yahoo.com

Treasurer

Ruth Delhomme
osbyruth@gmail.com

Historian

Sherrill Sasser
ssasser438@bellsouth.net

Parliamentarian

Clara Earl
clarae2003@yahoo.com

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On Our Cover: The photos on our cover were sent in by Denise Lanclos of Lafayette Garden Club, District III. They were taken along Lafayette's Historic Azalea Trail and Visitor's Center. Azaleas at the trail bloom throughout the month of March with peak bloom time during the 2nd and 3rd weeks of March. A native of East Asia, Azaleas are flowering shrubs in the genus Rhododendron.

DEADLINE FOR SUBMISSIONS TO THE SUMMER ISSUE, JULY 2022, IS JUNE 1, 2022 AND SHOULD BE EMAILED OR MAILED TO THE EDITOR. We welcome drawings, paintings, or photos for the cover of the Newsletter.

Please email all information for this issue to lgcfnews@gmail.com

Editor: Donna Cline, 826 Evergreen Dr., Gretna, LA 70053. Phone: C (217) 778-2513, H (504) 702-8521

President's Message



*Plant Louisiana—Practice
Sustainable Gardening*

Finally, spring has sprung and the tender green buds are a delight to our eyes after the gray days of winter. As our days warm up, we cannot wait to visit our favorite nursery and load up on summer blooming plants making sure to include some natives. As I write this, my hands are itching to dig in the dirt once more! And while you are in your garden, don't forget to put out your hummingbird feeders if you have not done so. Before refilling your birdfeeders make sure to clean them with one part bleach to nine parts water. Birdbaths should be cleaned more often. When your natives, annuals and perennials start to bloom your garden will be ready for birds, bees and butterflies!

Now that we seem to be in a valley of COVID cases, garden clubs are springing back to life. In February I was invited to attend the annual luncheon of the Tangipahoa Parish Garden Clubs in Amite. The Stem and Stamen Garden Club was the host club with President Merrie Bennet presiding over the luncheon. The delicious lunch was followed by a program on Tillandsias. Other clubs attending were the Gardnettes, Belle Oaks Garden Club and Hammond Garden Club. I had a delightful time and was honored to be their guest. On St. Patrick's Day, I attended the Covington Garden Club's Annual Luncheon and Style Show. I was in heaven as green is my favorite color and members were adorned in the many shades of green. It was a pleasure to attend as their special guest.

With the arrival of March, I headed to Natchez, Mississippi to attend the Deep South Convention. I am proud to announce that after The Garden Clubs of Mississippi, Louisiana had the greatest number of members in attendance.

NGC President Mary Warshauer was present during the entire convention. She was as gracious and poised in person as she is on the Zoom meetings. We were thrilled to finally meet Mary. NGC Accredited Flower Show Procedure Instructor David Robson was the guest designer at the Design Banquet. In a design frenzy, he created 13 creative flower show designs in an hour with the assistance of his sidekick, NGC Accredited Flower Show Design Instructor Gina Jogan! At the end of the program, all designs were auctioned and some of the lucky bidders brought home Ken Schwartz sculptures. However, any kenzans in the designs were not included. It is rumored that David has a collection of 800 kenzans and will not part with any of them.

The Deep South State Presidents met and shared ideas on fundraising and membership, which seems to be the two hottest topics in NGC. My fellow State Presidents are no longer email addresses, but real people. It was fun getting to know them and Deep South Director Carol Hall who made her debut as she presided over her first meetings as Regional Director.

I felt like I was a District Director again as the State Presidents were seated on the first row below the head table to the left of the lectern when facing the head table. And we sat in alphabetical order! Well at least we know our places!

As gardens and clubs are springing to life, I am receiving invitations to attend club events. I am looking forward to meeting more garden club members as I continue to sail around the state.

Make sure to register for our state convention in Baton Rouge. The Convention Committee has been hard at work to make this a fun and informative convention.

In the words of President Mary Warshauer “Play Outdoors”!

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "Jovanna".

Editor's Corner

The last few months have brought us a roller coaster of weather, so we can really appreciate when we are rewarded with some beautiful days. It's exciting to watch everything turning green and perennials coming back to life. So much to look forward to in our gardens and with garden club activities as well. This month we will be celebrating Earth Day and Arbor Day and many of us will be attending the LGCF Convention. Details of the convention are included in this newsletter along with a link to the registration form if you have not sent yours in yet.



You will want to see the highlights of the Deep South Convention that many of you attended in March and get a glimpse of next year's convention with the "Save the Date" article.

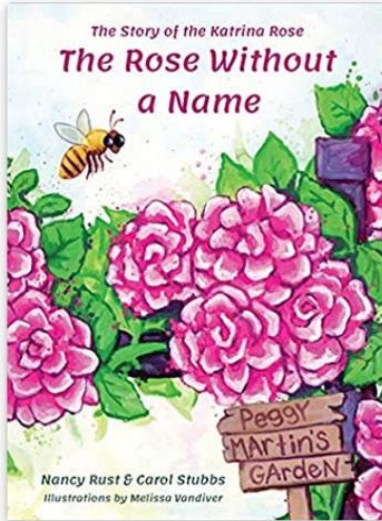
I appreciate the pictures that have been sent in for use in the Newsletter. They have a visual impact on the design of the newsletter. Please continue to send in your pictures, articles, and any information you would like to share.

Donna Cline



This beautiful picture of a George Burns Rose was sent in by Margaret Melancon of Azalea Garden Club, District II

Book Review



The Story of the Katrina Rose The Rose Without a Name

By: Nancy Rust and Carol Stubbs

Illustrated By: Melissa Vandiver

Crimson Dragon Publishing, Willow AK, 2021

ISBN: 978-1-944644-19-2

Though many of us have heard this true story, and indeed, many may already have a Peggy Martin Rose flourishing in their gardens, this is a tale that needs to be told and retold.

With bright, colorful, original artwork gracing each page, the story about an infamous hurricane's impact on Louisiana in 2005 is introduced to young readers in an inspiring way. Through its straightforward text, the story unfolds about a beautiful, unnamed, "old" rose which ultimately becomes a symbol of survival and hope, a theme of triumph that has been embraced around the world.

Included in this special book are easy-to-read fact pages about hurricanes and roses, followed by information about Peggy Dupuy Martin, as well as the authors and the illustrator.

This book was recommended to me by our LGCF President, Roxanna Champagne, who bought it for her grandchildren. I, too, bought a copy to share with mine. You might like to do the same!

Submitted by Sissy Gall, LGCF Book Review Chair

LGCF 86th Annual Convention
“Louisiana’s Live Oak Legacy”
At the Crowne Plaza Hotel, Baton Rouge, LA.
April 26 & 27th, 2022

Preconvention Tour – April 25th

Leaving the hotel by motor coach our first stop will be Independence Park in Baton Rouge, home to the Baton Rouge Garden Center and the BREC Botanic Garden. The Butterfly Garden will be the center of attention, along with collections of herbs, Louisiana Iris, daylilies, ginger and the rose garden, etc. Then on to beautiful Houmas House located between Baton Rouge and New Orleans. The Estate allows visitors to experience life on a sugarcane plantation in the 1800’s. We will be dining at Café Burnside named after its most famous owner, John Burnside.

Convention Highlights

Live Oak Society Chairman, Coleen Perilloux Landry, will do a presentation on day one. Coleen has registered thousands of Live Oaks and will share her experiences with us. On day two of the Convention, we will open with a breakfast presentation by Mary Hazen on the Gold Star Marker that was placed in Normandy on the 75th Anniversary of D-Day. Dr Allen Owings will be presenting a program you do not want to miss. Dr. Owings is a Senior Horticulturist at Bracy’s Nursery, a former Professor at LSU Ag Center Hammond Research Station and former Professor at LSU Ag Center, Department of Horticulture.

Receptions will be held on both evenings for Immediate Past President Linda Finley, Immediate Past Deep South Director Lena Bateman and LGCF President Roxanna Champagne. All are invited to attend.

Workshops

- **Use of Garden Tools & Exercise** presented by Landscape Architect Wanda Chase.
- **Building Bee Houses** presented by District VI Director Cynthia Moran
- **Awards** presented by Awards Advisor Babette Warner
- **Luffa Gourds** presented by Dana Truxillo
- **Exploring the Website** presented by Webmaster Vicky Fannaly

[REGISTRATION](#)

[SCHEDULE](#)

[HOTEL INFORMATION](#)

Highlights

Deep South Garden Club Convention March 6–9, 2022, Natchez, Mississippi

First Row left to right: Former DSGC Director 2009-2011, Mary Sue Colvin, Former LGCF President Margo Racca, LGCF President Roxanna Champagne, Former LGCF President Lena Bateman, Former LGCF President Donna Bucci, District V Director Ann Smith, Farmerville Garden Club President Connie Snell. Second row: Representative at Large Kathy Bedenbaugh, Mary Warshauer, NGC President. Third row: District V Director-Elect Nancy Love, Former District V Director Julia Gilmore, District VII Director Elect Ammy Taylor. Fourth row: District II Director Marlene Alvarez, Terrytown President Joan DeMille, Bayou Desiard Club President Jean Gilstrap. Fifth row: DSGC 2023 Convention Co-Chairman Elizabeth McDougald, DSGC 2023 Convention Co-Chairman Donna Clark, LGCF Second Vice President Kyle Martin.



LGCF President Roxanna Champagne - each flower represents a DSGC Award an LGCF Club won



DSGC Presidents after receiving DS Awards. Left to right: Julie Wilson, TN President; Pat Young, MS President; Roxanna Champagne, LA President; Peggy Tucker, GA President; Marjorie Hendon, FL President; LaMar Merrill, AL President

Highlights from 2022 Deep South Convention, Cont.



Donna Bucci, Former LGCF President, Mary Warshauer, NGC President 2021-2023



LGCF President Roxanna Champagne, Gay Austin, Former NGC President 2019-2021



Debby Cooper, DSGC Recording Secretary; Carol Bullard, Former DSGC Director 2015-2017



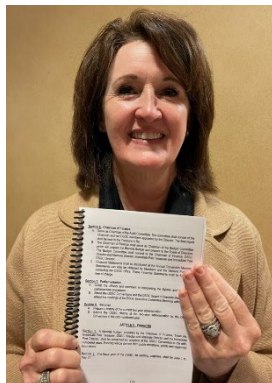
LGCF President-Elect Tricia Ortalano, LGCF President Roxanna Champagne admiring invitational design honoring Mary Warshauer, NGC President



Floral design honoring Roxanna Champagne, LGCF President. Designed by "The Sisters" Paula Grayson, May Hall, Melinda Causey



Gay Austin, Former NGC President 2019-2021, Kathy Bedenbaugh LGCF Representative at Large



Donna Snell takes on position of DSGC Parliamentarian



LGCF President Roxanna Champagne, LGCF President-Elect Tricia Ortalano, Smokey the Bear, Former LGCF President Donna Bucci, Second Vice President Kyle Martin, Representative at Large Kathy Bedenbaugh



Former District V Director Julia Gilmore

Highlights from 2022 Deep South Convention, Cont.



LGCF President Roxanna Champagne, Former NGC President 2019-2021 Gay Austin, Mary Warshauer. NGC President



Former DSGC Director 2009-2011 Mary Sue Colvin, Former LGCF Presidents Donna Bucci, Margo Racca



LGCF Representative at Large Kathy Bedenbaugh, Second Vice President Kyle Martin



Marjorie Hendon, Former DSGC Director Lena Bateman



Terrytown President Joan DeMille, District II Director Marlene Alvarez, LGCF President-Elect Tricia Ortalano



Terrytown Garden Club members with LGCF President Roxanna Champagne, District II Director Marlene Alvarez, LGCF President-Elect Tricia Ortalano, Terrytown President Joan DeMille



John Grady Burns, Floral Designer, LGCF President-Elect Tricia Ortalano



DSGC Convention 2023 Chairmen Donna Clark, Elizabeth McDougald promoting the DSGC 2023 Convention being held in Kenner LA

SAVE THE DATE!



DEEP SOUTH GARDEN CLUBS, INC.

Annual Convention

March 8 – 10, 2023

The Mindful Gardener

A Journey Through The Senses

Hilton New Orleans Airport

901 Airline Drive, Kenner, LA

- Interesting Speakers
- Educational Workshops
- Tri-Refresher
- Tours
- Free Hotel Parking
- Free Airport Shuttles

Other Reasons to Attend Convention!

Famous French Quarter

Beautiful Garden District

Aquarium of the Americas

Audubon Zoo

Authentic Southern Cuisine

National WWII Museum

Botanical Gardens at City Park

New Orleans Museum of Art

Historical Architecture

Plantation Tours

Home of Jazz and Blues

Longue Vue House and Gardens

Fun Swamp Tours

Sydney and Walda Besthoff Sculpture Garden



We NEED Your SHOES!



All new or gently used shoes will be accepted
Any type and size of shoes needed
(kids, women, men, boots, heels, sneakers, sandals, etc.)



Please ask family, friends & neighbors



Fundraiser for the Deep South Garden Club, Inc.
Convention in 2023

We are thinking out of the shoebox!

Place all shoes in clean trash bags and label with
your garden clubs name and district.

Collection will take place at 2022 LGCF Convention,
Summer Board, and Fall Meetings.



A full page 2023 Deep South Garden Club Convention program ad will be
awarded to one club in each category for the largest amount of shoes donated!

Small Club: 20 and under members

Medium Club: 21 –50 members

Large Club: 51 members plus

Contact elizmcdoug@gmail.com for questions or early pick up



We **NEED** Your **SHOES!**

2023 Deep South Garden Club Convention Fundraiser

The fundraising committee for the 2023 Deep South Garden Club Convention is looking for your support. Although we will pursue some of the usual avenues to fund this convention, we have decided to embark on an “out of the box” fundraiser. This endeavor will require no financial donations, manpower, or physical contact. It also has no out of pocket expenses. Basically, it cannot hurt to try something new!

As stated on the flyer, we will be collecting new and gently used shoes. Did you know 70% of the global population uses repurposed clothing and shoes? This is an important fact when you talk about global environmental sustainability.

Where do these shoes go?

They are sold to micro-entrepreneurs, mostly women, in developing nations.

Why not just donate?

These shoes create commerce; they sell them for a living wage. In other words, it is a hand up not a hand out.

It is easy, just collect as many new and gently used shoes from family and friends. Place them in clean trash bags labeled with your club name and district. It would be helpful to label inside and out to make sure you get proper credit. The pickup times are on the flyer but can be flexible for large loads. Because we are competitive by nature, there is a contest involved! With over 2000 members, if each member donates one pair of shoes we reach our goal. Let's set the bar high and hit this one out of the park!

Blue Star Memorial Marker Dedication

March 7, 2022, Jackson, Mississippi

Sponsored by Deep South Garden Clubs, Inc.

Honoring Gay Austin, 2019-2021 National Garden Clubs President

On behalf of the Deep South Garden Clubs (DSGC), which includes Alabama, Florida, Georgia, Louisiana, Mississippi and Tennessee, and the Mississippi Legislature, it was an honor to present a Blue Star Memorial Marker to the State of Mississippi placed on the Capitol grounds. The marker is dedicated to Gay Austin, the 46th National Garden Clubs (NGC) President and native Mississippian. Gay's term fell at a time when our world was in chaos due to the Covid-19 virus and she kept garden clubs focused on their goals with frequent communications and constant encouragement. We wish to acknowledge the dedication and hard work of those who made this day possible. The project took two years to complete due to Covid-19. Special thanks to Lena Bateman, DSGC Director 2019-2021 and Mary Hazen, DSGC Blue/Gold Star Chairman 2019-2021, to Brenda Davis, curator of the Capitol for her assistance in planning the dedication and to First Lady Elee Reeves for choosing the location of the marker.



Candace Wells, NGC Blue Star Chairman, Mary Hazen, DSGC Blue Star Chairman, 2019-2021 and Lt. Col. Betty Newman, Flight Nurse, 183 Aeromedical Squadron, 1989-2020



First Lady Elee Reeves



Lena Bateman, DSGC Director, 2019-2021.



Adjutant General Durr Boyles, Speaker of the House, Philip Gunn, Lt. Governor Delbert Hosemann and First Lady Elee Reeves.

UNVEILING OF THE MARKER



Granddaughters of Gay Austin, NGC President 2019-2021, placing flowers at the memorial.

It should be noted that all the men standing with the DSGC members, Speaker of the House, Lt. Governor and First Lady are all veterans as well as members of the Mississippi Legislature.

Blue Star Marker Dedication, Cont.



Mary Hazen, DSGC Blue Star Chairman with Major General Durr Boyes, Adjutant General of Mississippi. Mary is holding the blue star service flag which hung in her grandmother's window during WWII honoring Mary's father and his two brothers.



Candace Wells, NGC Blue Star Chairman, Gay Austin, NGC President 2019-2021, Mary Hazen, DSGC Blue Star Chairman 2019-2021, Nancy Moore, Garden Clubs of Mississippi Blue Star Chairman and Lena Bateman, DSGC Director 2019-2021.



Gay Austin, NGC President 2019-2021 and First Lady Elee Reeves



RECEPTION AT GOVENOR'S MANSION

Prior to the unveiling of the Blue Star Marker, First Lady Elee Reeves hosted a reception at the Mississippi Governor's Mansion. Built in 1842, this Greek Revival style mansion is located just blocks from the Mississippi State Capitol. The mansion is the 2nd oldest continuously occupied gubernatorial residence in the United States. Beautiful gardens cradle the mansion adding to the beauty of the changing seasons making the Governor's Mansion a treasure for the State of Mississippi and a must-see visit spot when in Jackson. The home is a National Historic Landmark.



The Mississippi Legislature granted the DSGC permission to erect the Blue Star Marker on the Capitol grounds. It was erected on the corner facing the Supreme Court building. The opposite corner has the Freedom Trail Marker.....HISTORY, CULTURE.....an amazing location for this marker.



To learn more about the Mississippi State Capitol, click below for the virtual tour *Experience the Mississippi State Capitol, A National Historic Landmark*. This beautiful 30-minute video highlights the building's architecture, history, and purpose.

[Virtual Tour | MISSISSIPPI LEGISLATURE \(ms.gov\)](https://www.ms.gov/virtual-tour)

You may also want to visit the [Mississippi Department of Archives and History](https://www.archives.ms.gov/) for information and the history of the Governor's Mansion.

FREEDOM ISN'T FREE

Submitted by Mary Hazen, DSGC Blue Star Chairman, 2019-2021



Plant Ahead**—Mark your calendars as NGC designates April 2022 as **PLANT AMERICA MONTH**. - Celebrate Earth Day, April 22, marking the anniversary of the birth of the modern environmental movement which began in 1970, and National Arbor Day on the last Friday in April. - Perhaps you, your garden clubs and families will make some plans to honor our earth and/or plant a tree. No matter your choice, let's keep our country green as we **PLANT AMERICA



GROW NATIVE!

Trees alter the environment in which we live by moderating the effects of climate, air pollution, water conservation and by providing wildlife habitat.

What to plant: Select species adapted for growth under local climate and soil conditions. Other considerations are a tree's mature height and shape (proper scale to fit the site and surrounding structures), root spread (small street spaces, cracked sidewalks, paved areas, building foundation, walls), longevity, rate of growth, site requirements: sun or shade and wet or dry site. Species attributes: flowers, fruits (nuts or large fruit in pedestrian areas), seasonal colors and the susceptibility to disease, insects or to storm damage. Select healthiest specimen with the best form.

Where to plant: The site you select will determine your choice of tree, i.e., winter windbreak, summer cooling, sight or sound barrier. Do not plant trees under overhead wires or above underground utilities. Tree branches should be high enough for pedestrians to walk beneath.

How to plant: If at all possible prepare the planting site, a hole 3 times the diameter of the root ball, before you bring in the tree. Cut away and remove wire baskets, strings, burlap, plastic and container. Plant by lifting the well-watered root ball into the planting space. Balance the tree upright on the firm center of the space. Fill to trunk flare and top of root ball at surrounding grade level. Mulch lightly, leaving a bare 3" circle around the trunk. Regularly deep water throughout the first growing season. Avoid injuring the trunk. Stake if necessary.

Audrey Coyle, Trees and Shrubs and PAT Initiative Chairman

(Submitted by Camille Stakes, Arbor Day Chairman)

"The best friend on earth of man is the tree." Frank Lloyd Wright

LGCF TOURS

Still Nothing Normal!! BUT SOON!!!!!!

2022 Passion Play SOLD OUT BUT STILL PLANNING TO GO!!!!?? June 12, 2022



2022 BILTMORE TOUR

NOVEMBER 11-15

Our tour to the **Biltmore, Gibbs Gardens and Callaway Gardens** will be November 11-15, 2022! Will be able to see the beautiful Fall Colors in the Blue Ridge Mountains and the beautiful Christmas decorations at the Biltmore and Biltmore Village. We will fly into Atlanta and then take a bus to the three gardens and back to the airport to fly home. To take a

bus the entire time will add 2 days to the trip because of “driving times!”

Reservations need to be made by June 1, and a deposit of \$200 will be due. \$100 non-refundable after July 1. NO refund after October 1, 2022. Thanksgiving will be November 24, 2022.



THE TULIPS IN HOLLAND

APRIL 23 TO MAY 2, 2023

Third Time's a Charm!!!

We will travel to Holland for the prime Tulip time! Fly into Amsterdam and stay in Utrecht City Center. We will have local, private guides and transportation will be provided for

our customized, private trip to Amsterdam, where we will take private canal rides, visit museums, etc. Most exciting will be the visit to a Tulip Farm and to Kurkenhof Gardens. We will also visit cities and sites near Utrecht on day trips: Delft, Gouda, Kinderdijk, The Hague, Giethoorn, Palaces and gardens, Museums, National Park and **Brugge, Belgium.**

Reservations to be in by August, 2022; with deposits in by September 6, 2022. Deposit is \$300 with \$100 non-refundable after October 6, 2022



CIRCLE OF ROSES

Reba Mackey Terrytown Garden Club District II

Reba Mackey was born in Green County Mississippi to an agricultural family. Her mom loved gardening and had a green thumb. As far back as Reba can remember, she belonged to the 4-H Club. She was also in the Future Homemakers of America. She entered county fairs with the family as a whole.



Reba came to live in New Orleans in 1963 and married in 1968. Her children are a son Sean born in 1970 and a daughter Karen born in 1971. Her children both live in Louisiana.

While living in Terrytown, her neighbor, a member of Terrytown Garden Club, invited Reba to join the club. Reba has always been a very active member of Terrytown Garden Club. She formerly held the position of president for several terms and also recording secretary. Currently she chairs Terrytown Garden Club's Membership Drive, Harvard Walking Trail's Plant It Pink Garden, Garden Study Hints, Environmental/Litter Control and is Awards co-chair. Reba is a former Louisiana Garden Club Federation District II Director, former president and recording secretary of Jefferson Parish Council of Garden Clubs and former vice president of Federated Council of New Orleans Garden Clubs.

Currently Reba holds the position of president of the Federated Council of New Orleans Garden Clubs. Since 2015, Reba has been the editor of the Planter's Placard, the monthly newsletter for Jefferson Parish Council of Garden Clubs, Inc. Another important position she holds is Louisiana Garden Club Federation District II Cleanest City Contest Co-chairman.

Along with her garden club interests, Reba is a member of the Herb Society, Native Plant Society, Iris Society and Louisiana Native Plant Initiative. She is very involved with her church, St. George's Episcopal Church, as Flower Guild Chair and also the Alter Guild. Reba is an accredited flower show judge. She is a member of the New Orleans Judges Council and was formerly a vice president for the same. Another interest of hers is continuing her education and maintaining her certification as an Environmental Consultant. On top of all this, Reba still continues working for the Federal Bar Association, New Orleans Chapter.

We are very blessed to have someone who is so very dedicated to the promotion and preservation of our Louisiana garden clubs. We appreciate all her time, efforts, creativity and dedication that she has given and continues to give.



CIRCLE OF ROSES

Carolyn T. Pearce
Covington Garden Club
District VI



Carolyn is a second-generation garden clubber; her mother was a member and Flower Show Judge for 50 years! Carolyn joined the Covington Garden Club in 1999, just as she retired from teaching 5th grade. She is married to Ed Johnson and has one daughter and one grandson. She is a lifelong resident of Covington where she has been a member of the First Baptist Church and enjoys working with children and youth.

Carolyn has been active in her community as evidenced by her eight years on the Covington City Council, serving as Board Member of the YMCA for 20 years, participation on the Historical Society's Bicentennial Commission, and sponsoring 4-H Club activities. Her hobbies include playing piano, cooking and, of course, gardening.

As a Covington Garden Club member, Carolyn has served as President, Cleanest City Contest Chairman, Flower Show Chairman and Style Show Moderator. She is at the hub of our activities and is especially valuable as our Membership Chairman. Carolyn epitomizes the spirit of the Covington Garden Club!



CIRCLE OF ROSES

Rebecca Weems
Covington Garden Club
District VI



Rebecca grew up in a family of nine children in Forest Park, Georgia, on the outskirts of Atlanta. She had an early love of gardening and is an avid reader and artist. She served her church as a nun for ten years, and now serves in adoration.

Rebecca had a 30-year career teaching school. The last sixteen years were spent with severely disturbed children. As a retiree, she works in her own garden and was recruited for garden development for her subdivision.

She joined Lakeview Botany Guild in 2000 where she rose to the office of president. Organizing home garden tours was her specialty. Hurricane Katrina changed her life, and she relocated to Covington. She became a member of the Covington Garden Club in 2007 and again served as president. Some of the activities of her term included promoting the Cleanest City Contest, restoration of the Healing Garden along the river downtown, and encouraging perfect attendance at meetings with a prize! Rebecca's service has been beneficial to garden clubs on both sides of Lake Pontchartrain!



CIRCLE OF ROSES

Germaine Daigle
Sulphur Garden Club
District VII



Germaine Daigle was born on May 4, 1941 in Church Point, Louisiana. She graduated from the University of Southwestern Louisiana (USL) in 1962 and Tulane School of Public Health in the seventies. She is married to John Daigle and they have two daughters and three grandsons.

Germaine joined the Sulphur Garden Club after retiring from the Calcasieu Parish Health Unit in Lake Charles, Louisiana, where she worked as a registered dietitian in the WIC program. While an active member of the Sulphur Garden Club, she served as secretary for several years, coordinated their monthly Landscape of the Month awards and wrote the articles for the newspaper. She also served as chaplain for several years. During this time, she has learned a great deal about gardening and has made many friends.



CIRCLE OF ROSES

Marilyn Wellan

Alexandria Garden Club

District VIII



Marilyn Wellan resides in Alexandria, Louisiana with her husband Myron. She is a mother of four daughters, grandmother of ten, and great-grandmother of nine. Marilyn joined the Alexandria Garden Club 32 years ago in 1990; she is currently serving as Program Chairman and is a member of the Executive Committee. She is active in horticulture and design and has always been active in providing support for the gardens of the club's meeting place.

She is a Rosarian—a 39-year member of the American Rose Society, 30 years of which have been served in leadership positions including service as national President (2003-2006). Marilyn has achieved Master Rosarian status, is a horticulture and arrangements judge, Consulting Rosarian and an avid grower and collector of roses in her home garden of almost 300 roses.

She received the highest national award for service to the Rose and the American Rose Society—the Gold Honor Medal. She has been awarded her local Society's Bronze Honor Medal and the Gulf District Silver Honor Medal, and was named "Great Rosarian of the World" at ceremonies at New York Botanical Garden in 2009. Back home, she was honored with the YWCA's "Decades of Women in 2017."

She is an advocate for America's Rose Garden at the American Rose Center in Shreveport, Louisiana, where she is leading the "Great Garden Restoration Project"—the total restoration of the gardens. The five-year master plan is underway; the near \$2 million project is expected to be completed by the end of 2022, in time to celebrate the 50th anniversary of the gardens. She has the distinction of having a rose named for her – "Marilyn Wellan."

In 2019, the ARS President appointed Marilyn to work with the national Society of the Honor Guard, Tomb of the Unknown Soldier in planning for the commemoration of the Centennial of the Tomb of the Unknown Soldier. In that capacity, she worked with former Tomb Guards, Chapters of the Daughters of the American Revolution, American Rose Society and Louisiana Garden Club Federation members across the state in the creation of Never Forget Gardens. She was instrumental in the creation of the new Never Forget Garden at Veterans Memorial Park at the State Capitol, Baton Rouge, Louisiana, which was dedicated with the Governor and First Lady on Veterans Day, 2021.



CIRCLE OF ROSES

We have many ladies in their senior years who have given their time and talents over 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 to please submit a short history of her garden club activities. This can include personal information such as husband, number of children, grandchildren, great grandchildren, church and community activities, hobbies, etc. Enclose two pictures, a "then" and "now." (One when she joined the garden club and one that is recent.)

If you have a deserving member of your club that you would like to nominate for the Circle of Roses, please send the information to:

LGCF Circle of Roses Chairman

Sarah LeBlanc

307 Bluebonnet Dr.

Lafayette, LA 70508

nanalovespops@gmail.com

337-540-7223 (Cell)

337-534-0187 (Home)

Note from the newsletter editor:

The Circle of Roses is a very special honor and we strive to make the presentation in the newsletter one that each recipient can print out as a keepsake. Since the newsletter is done in a digital format, it would be very helpful if the biographies could be sent in to Sarah digitally. We do the newsletter in Word so that is the preferred format. We prefer that it not be sent in PDF format.

The "then" and "now" pictures are especially important! We must digitize them also. Please use as large a picture as possible to scan. Please scan each picture individually. The quality of the picture is greatly diminished when there is more than one picture in a scan and each one must be cropped and enlarged. If you are unable to scan the pictures, we will accept photographs. Those will be scanned and returned to District Directors. Please clearly label which picture is "then" and which is "now."



Calendar of Events

2022

April 1	Dues Due—State and District
April 2-8	Cleanest City District Judging
April 25	Pre-Convention Tour, Baton Rouge, LA REGISTRATION
April 26-27	LGCF State Convention, Baton Rouge, LA (Crown Plaza)
May 2-13	Cleanest City State Judging
May 17-20	NGC Convention, Orlando, FL
July 11-12	Summer Board, Embassy Suites, Baton Rouge, LA
September 19-22	NGC Fall Board Meeting, St. Louis, MO
Tuesday, October 18	District III (Morgan City)
Wednesday, October 19	District VII (Jennings)
Thursday, October 20	District II
Tuesday, October 25	District V (Farmerville)
Wednesday, October 26	District VIII (Mansura)
Thursday, October 27	District VI
November 11-15	Tour of the Biltmore, Gibbs and Callaway Gardens and Blueridge Mountain Fall Colors

2023

March 8	DSGC Convention, Pre-Tour, Kenner, LA (Hilton Airport Hotel) SAVE THE DATE
March 9-10	DSGC Convention, Kenner, LA (Hilton Airport Hotel) FUNDRAISER - MORE
April 17	LGCF Convention, Pre-Tour, Vidalia, LA
April 18-19	LGCF Convention, Vidalia, LA (Clarion Suites/Vidalia Convention Center)
April 23 – May 2	Tulips of Holland Tour
May 2-5	NGC Convention, White Sulphur Springs, WV
September TBA	NGC Fall Board Meeting, St. Louis, MO