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On our Cover: A big Thank You to Daria Vincent, member of the Metairie Ridge Garden Club and Rambling Rose Gardeners (District II), and LGCF Environmental Consultant, for sharing her amazing picture. A photo note from Daria: A bee which has not yet lit on the stamen/pollen of the Confederate Rose. If you look close, you can see the wings in flight. The bee is underneath the stamen which confirms still in air. I snapped this walking and enjoying my garden with camera in hand one day.

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

DEADLINE FOR SUBMISSIONS TO SPRING ISSUE (APR 2017) IS MAR 1ST, 2017.
Please send all information for this issue to Pam Langley, 1750 Bilbo St., Lake Charles, LA 70601-6061, 337-842-2995 (phone) ● pamxyz@bellsouth.net
As I sit down to write my “President’s Message” to you, it is hard for me to believe that 2016 is nearly over. This time of years always makes me thankful for all that we have in our beautiful United States. We are free – free to be whatever we want to be. I am thankful that each and every one of you chose to join a garden club and to be a member of LGCF. Thanks, too, for electing me to be your President. It is such an honor to be President of an organization that does so much to beautify our “Lovely Louisiana”.

2016 has been a difficult year in many areas of our state with the floods and other tragedies, but we are a resilient people and we on our way back to being “normal”, however it will probably be a new “normal”.

Since our last Newsletter I have the pleasure and privilege of attending three flower shows and participating in one of them. Willie Allen, Cindy Moran and I attended the Lecompte Garden Club Flower Show in September and the Moreauville Garden Club Flower Show in October. Baton Rouge Garden Club held their flower show in November – I got to put in two designs and won a blue ribbon and a red ribbon. All three flower shows were beautiful and very well staged.

September 23-25 found Mary Jacobs and me at the NGC Board Meeting in Portland, Maine. It was most enjoyable and informative meeting.

On October 3, 2016 I had the privilege of presenting a $725.00 check to East Baton Rouge Sheriff Sid Gautreaux for the purchase of a bulletproof vest. This was the money we collected at Summer Board in honor of the three law enforcement officers killed the day before our Summer Board. Thanks to all of you who contributed. Sheriff Gautreaux was very appreciative of our donation.

October was a very busy month with six Fall District Meetings. Thanks to my traveling buddies – Lena Bateman, Diane Dufour and Mary Lou Robertson. We attended all of the meetings and many officers and chairmen attended one or more. All the meetings were very informative and entertaining. Great job, District Directors!

November 11th was Veterans’ Day and I had the privilege of attending two Veterans’ Day Celebrations – one in Baton Rouge and one in Hammond. Baton Rouge Garden Club makes the table decorations for the meal served after the program. The Hammond Garden Club held it’s Veterans’ Day program in conjunction with the dedication of a Blue Star Memorial Marker in Zemurray Park. The veterans in attendance at both programs, some from World War II, were so appreciative and made us proud to be Americans.

Don’t forget to register for the Deep South Convention to be held March 26-28, 2017, and our LGCF Convention to be held March 29-31, 2017 at Harrah’s Hotel in New Orleans, Louisiana. Registration forms for both conventions are included in this Newsletter. Let’s have a big turnout for both conventions. Remember let’s be there as we install Lena Bateman as our next LGCF President.

Again join me in thanking Carol Bullard, our Deep South Region Director, for setting up the Natural Disasters – Louisiana fund. Tricia reports we have over $18,000.00 in the fund. If there was landscaping in a public area in your town please apply for a grant to refurbish or restore the landscaping. The application is on our LGCF website.
President’s Message

My wish for you as this year comes to a close is that you and yours will have a blessed and peaceful Christmas season and a safe and very Happy New Year!

Jeanette Gatzman,
LGCF President

LGCF Contributes for Police Body Armor

LGCF Summer Board Meeting this past summer was held in Baton Rouge just days after a shooting that left three Baton Rouge law enforcement officers dead. In response to this crisis, the members agreed to pick up donations at the meeting to help fund the purchase of body armor for police officers. The members donated a total of $725 to be presented to the Baton Rouge Sheriff’s Department. Our president, Jeanette Gatzman, presented the check on our behalf to the Baton Rouge Sheriff.

Book Review

By Sissy Gall, LGCF Book Review Chair

_One Man’s Garden_ by Henry Mitchell

Pen and Ink Drawings by Susan Davis

Published by Houghton Mifflin Company, 1992


I’ve had this fun book for quite some time. While it is not a new release, it is still definitely worth your consideration.

Henry Mitchell wrote a gardening column for the Washington Post for 20 years. This book is a collection of seriously witty short stories or essays on his varied gardening adventures. Each chapter covers a month’s worth of seasonal forays into his own city garden. Mitchell’s humor and practicality, combined with a great writing style, make for a fluid delivery of his knowledge and expertise.

This is an entertaining read, to be sure, but you will learn from it! And the good news is, there are 2 more books filled with collections of his stories: _The Essential Earthman_ and _Henry Mitchell on Gardening._
Lakeview Botany Guild (District I)

Zana Newell has been an active garden club member New Orleans clubs for more than 20 years. She was first with the Ivy Garden Guild and then Lakeview Botany Guild (LBG) post Katrina Hurricane in 2005. She has maintained her membership in the Federated Council of New Orleans Garden Clubs (FCNOGC) as well.

The Ivy Garden club in the Lakeview area was a small club in existence since 1963. Zana served as President of that club and was elected as Woman of the Year. The club dissolved after Katrina.

Lakeview Botany Guild was lucky enough to have Zana join in 2006 as she has been very active ever since. She has served in various leadership roles as secretary, treasurer, and President in 2015 when she was also elected as Woman of the Year. Presently, she is serving as Secretary of LBG and Arbor Day Chair for the past two years. This past year she received the Award for bringing the most horticulture specimens for sharing with others. She believes this is an excellent way for new members to increase their favorites. She has also served as Vice President and various Committee Chairs of the Federated Council of New Orleans Garden Clubs.

Zana has been married to Gordon Newell for 58 years; they have lived in the Lakeview area all of this time and have been members of St. Louis King of France Catholic Parish. They have five children and seven grandchildren.
Henrietta Boriskie

Lafayette Garden Club (District III)

In 2000, upon moving back to Lafayette, Henrietta Boriskie joined Lafayette Garden Club. She was invited to Club meetings by her husband Paul's mother and sister, Louella Boriskie and Claire Moody, who are past presidents of Lafayette Garden Club. Henrietta says she was not much of a gardener, and joined the Club primarily to learn about plants, gardening and floral arrangements. Henrietta serves as Publicity Chairman; is Chairman for Youth Horticulture Education’s Daisy Scout Program; received a National Garden Club Award for her Special Exhibit on Daisy Scouts; was a 2006 2007 Honorary Member of the Year; is on the Yearbook and Girl Scout’s Native Badge Committees; served on the Civic Pride/Garden of the Month Committee; and has opened up her home and adjacent park and pond for Lafayette Garden Club Spring luncheons. Henrietta is proud to show her front yard tree, a Junior Member of The Live Oak Society planted by Paul’s Dad.

Henrietta Bertrand Boriskie was born in Bridgeport, Connecticut in 1937, and moved to Lafayette in 1940. She was educated at Mt. Carmel School and Southwestern Louisiana Institute (now ULL). She and her husband of 58 years are parents of a son, daughter, and granddaughter.

After retiring as a judge’s secretary in State Appellate Court in Gretna, she completed Paralegal studies at University of New Orleans, and continued working as a legal secretary/paralegal until 2005. Henrietta was an avid tennis player for over 40 years, was in New Orleans Delta Aimees, a Petroleum Engineers auxiliary; sang in the Lafayette Soundwaves Chorus; and now enjoys gardening, playing bridge, aerobics, serving as a Lafayette Parish voting commissioner, and entertaining friends and family. Paul and Henrietta traveled to Europe, Ireland, Alaska, New England, the Maritime Provinces of Canada, the Holy Land, the Caribbean and Haiti, volunteering with her brother, Dr. Charles Bertrand’s
missionary group. She and Paul now like going to the Gulf Coast beaches, Baton Rouge, New Orleans, and taking bus trips in the Southeastern Region.

As a member of St. Pius X Catholic Church, she serves as a Eucharistic Minister, attends Bible Study classes and is in the Women’s Guild.

Henrietta looks forward to continuing to actively participate in the Lafayette Garden Club, sharing the Club’s love of nature and all the wonderful Garden Club activities.

Gloria Guilbeaux

Lafayette Garden Club (District III)

"After being away for forty years, I couldn't wait to join the 'Lafayette Garden Club'. It's been great!", said Gloria Guilbeaux.

A previous move with husband Dale and children Michelle and Michael from Houston, Texas to Washington Crossing, Pennsylvania in 1983 brought her to new surroundings which meant she had to make new friends. Joining the "Washington Crossing Garden Club" was that and more. I learned the love of making floral arrangements and even became President.

Later Gloria joined "Martha Washington Garden Club" and was privileged to decorate the Taylor Inn where Washington and some of his troops spent the night before crossing the Delaware River. Gloria chaired a cookbook, several decorating committees for special events and historic buildings at Christmas.

Gloria joined "Four Lanes Garden Club". Her fondest memories there were decorating historic stone homes for Annual Christmas Tours, staging a flower show called the "Philadelphia Story" and participating in the Philadelphia Flower Show as a club. She became president of Four Lanes End, and secretary of Philadelphia District I. She was also a member of an Ikabama Club.
Now as a member of the Lafayette Garden Club since 2006, Gloria has enjoyed being with old and new friends. She has been Historian, chaired decorating committees, participated in Civic Development and Cleanest City, Civic Pride and Garden Club of the Month, Design program, Flower Show, Daisy Scout Program, Sunshine, and Telephone committee.

Sylvia Grabert
New Iberia Garden Club (District III)

Sylvia was born in 1939. She is married with one son and two grandsons. She is a retired Iberia Parish Child Nutrition Director for the school lunch and breakfast programs. Sylvia has been an active member of the New Iberia Garden Club since 2000. She has held several offices for NIGC including President, Secretary and Historian. She has been on several committees through the years including butterfly garden for 16 consecutive years, Christmas Tea, gardening and horticulture notes and garden tours. Sylvia’s home was featured on the NIGC 2007 garden tour of homes. Sylvia’s home is located in rural Iberia Parish where she has many flower beds which include flowers, shrubs and small trees. She also has a vegetable garden. Some of Sylvia’s favorite things to grow are trees: oak, pecan, cypress, magnolia, holly and crepe myrtles. Sylvia brings to NIGC a wealth of knowledge about gardening and horticulture along with a very enthusiastic attitude about gardening.
Charlotte LeBlanc Castille

Lafayette Garden Club (District III)

With an interest in gardening and with many friends in the Lafayette Garden Club, Charlotte Castille decided to join the club in 1997. It was a natural transition for the Farm Bureau retiree who had worked with school children teaching them to plant flowers and rice and sugar cane. Working in public relations with the Farm Bureau as the federation secretary, she was on every committee possible.

In the garden club, Charlotte has served as hospitality chairman of the Flower Show for 10 years. She has helped with refreshments at meetings with Miss Irene Trahan, served as historian, and corresponding secretary. She has co-chaired Mary's Garden, chaired the children's booth at Plant Fest, participated in pond tours, co-hosted May luncheons, helped with the Christmas teas, and sought out door prizes for flower shows. In 2008, Charlotte was chosen as the club's "Honorary Member of the Year."

The Franklin native is the mother of three: Jim Castille (wife Lisa), Christy Sutherlin (husband Dr. John), and Carlton Castille. She has four grandchildren and two great-grandchildren.

Today, while not busy with garden club activities, Charlotte sells antiques in Washington at the Old Schoolhouse Antique Mall. She is also on the Ag in the Classroom Committee for the Farm Bureau, volunteers at Holy Trinity prayer house, and visits nursing homes. She volunteers at her grandchildren's schools, where she sponsored the Woodvale 4-H club and annual symposium. Her hobbies include gardening, collecting antiques, reading and helping the elderly.
Almeda Hoffpauir LeDoux was born into a family of eleven children and raised in Indian Bayou, LA. She graduated from Indian Bayou High School in 1944 and then attended SLI (now the University of LA at Lafayette). She was married in 1947 to Gordon LeDoux. They were married for 57 years until he passed away in 2004. She has three daughters, nine grandchildren, 13 great-grandchildren, and one great-great grandchild.

Almeda has always been interested in flowers for as long as she can remember. She especially remembers the rose bushes all around her childhood home that were planted by her grandmother. Her grandmother had many other plants and trees throughout the yard. Her mother also loved gardening (flowers and vegetables).

Almeda has always enjoyed tending to her flower beds and vegetable gardens. The Indian Bayou native enjoys the potted plants on her patio and credits her husband Gordon for encouraging her to garden.

With the encouragement of their friend, Inez Whittington, Almeda and her sister, Margie Walsh, joined the Lafayette Garden Club in 1987. She has nothing but praise for the group. "I've enjoyed every moment of it," she says.

Today Almeda is chairman of the telephone committee. She has entered specimens in flower shows and always helped out when she could. In addition to working with local community activities, she also served her church, Indian Bayou United Methodist, and her school, Indian Bayou School, in many capacities. She was also on the board of the Vermilion Parish Council of Aging and was for many years a member of the area Homemaker's Club.

Almeda's work experience was at home. She has always loved plants, cooking, sewing, and keeping house.
Margie Walsh

Lafayette Garden Club (District III)

Margie Hoffpauer Walsh has been gardening since she was a child. Born and raised in Indian Bayou, she was influenced by her grandmother, Phanie Hoffpauir, a great gardener. Her interest in gardening grew while she moved around the country landscaping each new home.

After returning to Indian Bayou, Margie became interested in the Lafayette Garden Club through her close friend Inez Whittington. Margie and her sister Almeda LeDoux joined at the same time in 1987. She is most proud of being chairman of Mary’s Garden, a patio garden at the Lafayette Public Library’s main branch, which her committee re-landscaped. The garden was dedicated to Jean Massicot and Lucille Arceneaux upon its completion. In addition, she has participated in flower shows and has been part of the City Beautification, Yearbook, and other committees. In 1993, Margie was selected as “Woman of Year” of the garden club.

Margie was married to Daniel V. Walsh (deceased), and they had two children—Alicia Walsh and Daniel Walsh. She has one granddaughter, Amanda Walsh.

Margie now lives in Baton Rouge and continues to garden in her yard and patio courtyard. Her home church is Indian Bayou United Methodist Church.
Jan Wyatt

Lafayette Garden Club (District III)

Jan Wyatt joined her first garden club over fifty years ago. As a member of Driftwood Garden Club, she served as Chair of the School Landscape Project and club President, prior to her husband’s transfer to New York City. Upon returning to Houston two years later she helped found Sprig and Sprout Garden Club in the Memorial area, serving as the second club President. The club project was landscaping the new Wilchester Elementary School and building a playground.

Also active in the 125 member Houston Federation of Garden Clubs, she served as Arbor Day Chair, Awards Chair, Civic Development Chair, 2nd Vice President (Yearbook) and 1st Vice President (Programs).

She organized Tree Spree, a sale of Christmas Trees designed by famous Houstonians. Funds generated were used to build the greenhouse at the Ronald McDonald House. As 1st Vice President (programs), she brought in regional and national horticulture and flower arranging experts. She organized a yearly President’s Procedure Workshop and accompanying President’s Procedure Manual.

In 2007 Jan moved to Lafayette and joined the Lafayette Garden Club in 2009. In 2010 she became a Lafayette Parish Master Gardener. Her project, with the help of many Garden Club members and a strong leadership team, was the Vermilionville Traiteur’s Garden (a Medicinal Garden), a recipient of an International Master Gardener Search for Excellence Award.

In 2012 she developed the website www.LafayetteGardenClub.org and has served as webmaster. A new project began - Protecting Our Aquatic Ecosystem – The Bayou Vermilion Watershed. After winning national recognition from the National Council of Garden Club, Inc. for this work, Garden Club members started the Bayou Vermilion Preservation Association (BVPA), led by Charles Wyatt. BVPA, through partnering with local, regional and
state groups, has achieved the following: a heightened awareness of litter and its effect on the water, monthly water testing along the 70 mile Bayou, a digital paddle trail map that is accessible from a smart phone while traversing the river, and strategically placed mile markers. In 2014, this project was awarded the Louisiana Wildlife Federation Governor’s State Conservation Achievement Award.

In 2014, she achieved a life-long goal. After entering many award winning garden club yearbooks, the 2014 yearbook won the Best Garden Club Year Book in the nation (in their category) for the Lafayette Garden Club.

Jamye Guy Copeland Knight

Garden Gate Study Club (District V)

Jamye Guy Copeland Knight was born in Memphis Tennessee in between World War I and the Great Depression. Her grandmother introduced color into those gray times through the beauty of nature. Jamye found much wisdom and peace while tending flower beds alongside this wonderful, wise woman.

Jamye has been a member of a garden club since 1958. In 1977 she helped organize Garden Gate Study Club. She is one of three charter members that are still active in the club. Jamye served as president of the club from 1980-1981 and her other duties included club treasurer for many years and awards chairman.

While working as a bank teller she met the love of her life, a new graduate of Auburn Veterinary Medicine. Together they embarked on a journey that would last 65 years, offering aid to thousands of God’s creatures, raising a family and seeking to walk the path of a Godly woman. Just as those colorful flowers she tended through the years, Jamye has brought much love and color to those lives that she has touched.
Barbara "Bobbie" delaHoussaye

Crowley Garden Club (District VII)

Barbara "Bobbie" delaHoussaye has been a member of the Crowley Garden Club since the early 1960's. She graduated from college at age 19 and began her career as a teacher in Acadia Parish. She was married to the late Fredrick M. delaHoussaye for 42 years and has been widowed for 22 years. They are the parents of 2, Marc and Anne, grandparents of 5 and great-grandparents of 9.

Bobbie has served the club on many committees over the years most often as chairperson of the judges' luncheon which she graciously hosted in her home. She has hosted the annual flower show in her home. As one walks through her home and yard her love of plants is obvious by the many different species of plant life she has. Part of her greenhouse is designated as "the hospital" for her plants that require intensive care.

Bobbie has been very active in various historical and genealogical societies for many years and has held offices at the national and international level. She has traveled extensively throughout the world.
Jackie Fogleman
Crowley Garden Club (District VII)

Jackie Fogleman has been a member of the Crowley Garden Club for more than fifteen years. Each year Jackie graciously opens her home for meetings and is a willing participant in the annual flower show the Club presents each spring. She has often served as club treasurer.

Jackie loves gardening as evidenced by the petunias recently planted in her front flowerbed. “I love my fall plantings,” smiles Jackie, “especially petunias, cabbage and the dusty millers and seeing them flourish in the spring!”

When asked about what she loves most about the Garden Club, Jackie is quick to reply, “The friendships! And learning about gardening, when to plant, where and how to keep plants healthy.”

Joan McDaniel Hoffpauer
Crowley Garden Club (District VII)

Joan is a member of the Crowley Garden Club and has been active since joining. Joan's interest in horticulture has been awarded with many ribbons, including a sweepstakes award for the most received.

Joan was born and raised in Crowley, LA. Joan was married to the late Jack Hoffpauer. She has 4 children, 7 grandchildren and 5 great grandchildren.

Joan is an active member of St. Michael Catholic Church. Her interests include gardening, antiques, cooking, coin collecting, bourre and babysitting. Her greatest love is her family.
Ruth Thibodeaux McBride
Crowley Garden Club (District VII)

Ruth Thibodeaux McBride has been a member of LGCF for nearly 50 years. She served in the Rayne Garden Club for more than 44 years, and in Crowley Garden Club for almost 5 years.

During her 60 years of marriage to Warren McBride, Ruth raised 4 children while also working as a school teacher and in their family-owned office supply business. Ruth and Warren now have 7 grandchildren.

Besides having served in every capacity in her Garden Clubs, Ruth is also on the Rayne Beautification Board and is a past member of Beta Sigma Phi.

Ruth loves working in her yard, going to Garden Club meetings and conventions, enjoys floral design. She takes great joy in the friendships she has made through her years in Garden Club. Other hobbies include painting, home décor, traveling and socializing with friends and family.

Valerie Trahan
Crowley Garden Club (District VII)

Valerie has been an award winning member of the Crowley Garden Club for many years. She is married to Victor F. Trahan and they have four children and four grandchildren. She and her husband are members of the St. Michael Catholic Church.

Her creative design talent is always on display at the annual Crowley Garden Club exhibit in April. She is an avid bridge player and a member of the Acadiana Bridge Club. She served as President of the Crowley Garden Club from 2001-03, and has served on numerous committees.
In 1994 the Iowa Garden Club was reorganized and was later federated in 1995. Marlene Miller joined the club at that time and has been an active member for the last 21 years. She has served the club as vice-president and secretary, as well as chairman of City Beautification, Scholarship and Hats, Gloves, and Pearls Committees. She is always seen working at the annual plant sale and participating in the many meeting projects.

Marlene moved to Iowa in the 3rd grade, graduated from Iowa High School and later from SLU with a BS degree in Home Economics. She married her high school sweetheart Phillip Miller in 1956 and made Iowa their permanent home where they reared 3 sons. She has 6 grandchildren and 2 great-grandchildren. Marlene retired from Calcasieu Parish Schools.

Mrs. Miller is a lifetime active member of the First United Methodist Church of Iowa. She spends her spare time gardening and is known in our community as a talented quilter. The Iowa Garden Club takes pleasure in honoring Marlene Miller.

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
“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
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 Roselie 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.
Last Name:____________________________________ First Name:________________________________________

Address:_______________________________________________________________________________________

City:_________________________________State: ________________________________Zip :__________________

Home Phone:_________________ Cell Phone:____________________ E-Mail:________________________ 

State Federation________________________ May we email your registration confirmation?________ 

Dietary Restrictions for Extreme Health Issues Must Accompany Registration Form

CREDENTIALS – PLEASE CHECK ALL THAT APPLY

____Deep South Officer  ____Former Deep South Director  ____Garden Club Member

____Deep South Council Member  ____NGC Board Member  ____Delegate

____Deep South Life Member  ____State President  ____Alternate

____Guest/spouse

FULL-TIME PACKAGE (includes Registration, Flower Show, All Workshops, 
Meals  2 Breaks, 2 Luncheons, 2 dinners, 1 Design Banquet).  $280.00 $__________

REGISTRATION PART TIME ONLY– Check Days Attending and options listed below:

Deep South Member Registration: ___Sunday ___Monday ___Tuesday $30.00 $__________

Guest/Spouse  ___Sunday ___Monday ___Tuesday $20.00 $__________

PART-TIME MEAL PLANS

___Sunday 3/26 11:00am-4:00pm - French Quarter Home and Garden Tour $60.00 $__________

___Sunday 3/26 1:00pm-2:00pm - Optional Judges Luncheon $50.00 $__________

___Sunday 3/26 Dinner $45.00 $__________

___Monday 3/26 Breakfast $20.00 $__________

___Monday 3/26 Luncheon $40.00 $__________

___Monday 3/26 Awards Banquet $45.00 $__________

___Tuesday 3/28 Breakfast $20.00 $__________

___Tuesday 3/28 Luncheon $40.00 $__________

___Tuesday 3/28 Dinner $60.00 $__________

Registration postmarked after February 25, 2017 must add late fee $30.00 $__________

MAIL CHECK, PAYABLE TO: DEEP SOUTH GARDEN CLUBS INC. WITH REGISTRATION FORM TO:
Reba Mackey, 1913 Green Oak Drive, Gretna, LA 70056. Confirmation will be emailed. For USPS Mail acknowledgement enclose a self-addressed stamped envelope. No refunds after February 25, 2017. Registration Fee is non-refundable. No Walk-ins. YOU MUST BE REGISTERED TO ATTEND ANY PROGRAMS, MEALS OR WORKSHOPS. Hotel reservations must be made directly with Harrah’s New Orleans Hotel, 1-877-466-7847; http://www.totalrewards.com/hotel-reservations?propCode=NOR&groupCode=S03NCG7 All reservations made via the telephone call center will be assessed a fee of $15 per reservation – Room Rate $179.00. - Link also on Deep South Region website www.dsregion.org.
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
7:00-9:00 PM...................................................Welcome Party

Thursday, March 30, 2017
8:00 AM-4:00 PM...................................Registration-Pre-Function Area
8:30 AM.........................................................Ways and Means/Vendors Opens- Pre-Function Area
8:30-9:30AM..................Environmental Council Breakfast/Speaker Handbook Revisions –
David Robson, NGC Handbook Revision Committee Chairman

9:30-10:00 AM.................................Headquarters Meeting
10:00 -10:30AM.................................Finance Committee Meeting
10:30-11:30 AM.................................Executive Council Meeting
12:00- 1:30PM.................................Gardening Studies Lunch/Program

Floral Design Program by Meade Wensel

1:30-2:30PM.................................LCNAFS Judges Council Meeting
2:30-3:00 PM.................................Gardening Consultants Meeting
3:00-3:30 PM.................................Landscape Consultants Meeting
3:30-4:00 PM.................................Environmental Consultants Meeting
4:30-5:30 PM.................................2015-17 Club Presidents/District Directors Meeting
7:00-9:00 PM.................................Awards Banquet

Friday, March 31, 2017
8:00 AM.........................................................Registration-Pre-Function Area
9:00 AM.........................................................Ways and Means/ Vendors Open-Pre-Function Area
8:30-9:45 AM.................................Landscape Council Breakfast

Chef Kevin Belton, NOLA Cooking School Instructor and TV Personality

10:00 AM-12:00 Noon.................................LGCF Business Meeting
12:15-2:30 PM.................................Judges Lunch/Program & Installation of Officers

Lt. Governor Billy Nungesser
Louisiana’s coastal and wetlands problems

2:30-3:00 PM.................................Workshop – Common Ground Relief
3:30-4:00 PM.................................Workshop - Grants and Improvements
5:30-6:30PM.................................Reception honoring Lena Bateman, 2017-2019 LGCF President
7:00-9:00PM.................................Banquet-Installation of 2017-2019 LGCF Officers
Tri Refresher – Louisiana Garden Club Federation, Wednesday, March 29, 2017

You must register for the Tri Refresher separate from the 2017 LGCF Convention and the 2017 Deep South Region Convention. Because of the popularity of this tour, priority is given to those registered for one or both conventions and consultants taking the tour for credit.

New Orleans, Louisiana is an excellent location for a one-day Tri Refresher at City Park Botanical Gardens, Longue Vue House and Gardens and Couturie Forest. The day begins with an early Tri Refresher Breakfast at Harrah’s Hotel with program speakers, Lee Rouse, LSU Agriculture Agent and Thomas Bruno, sculptor. We will board the bus at 8:45 a.m. and depart at 9:00 a.m.

Our first stop is the unusual Cross House with the garden designed by Rene Fransen, Landscape Design Architect and featuring the bronze sculptures of Thomas Bruno. This is a house built in the 1920’s and shaped like a cross.

Located inside New Orleans City Park is the New Orleans botanical Gardens that contains more than 2,000 variety of plants from around the world. The tour will visit the Helis Foundation Enrique Alferez Sculpture Garden. This is a newly landscaped sculpture garden containing 14 beautiful sculptures.

The day will continue with Mark Meuniere, Master Naturalist and he will lecture on the eight distinct ecosystems and the natural growth of the Couturie Forest. The bus will depart in route to the Longue Vue House and Gardens for lunch on the great lawn.

After lunch, Amy Graham, horticulturist and head gardener of Longue Vue will take us through the wild garden. Then Eileen Hollander, President of the Greater New Orleans Iris Society and American Iris Society Judge will walk us through the Iris garden of Longue Vue Gardens. The bus will depart for the trip back to the hotel. The trip will include traveling by the ancient oak trees on St. Charles Avenue with stops at 2 private gardens that never have been on any tour.

Lee Rouse and Cindy Metcalf, Master Gardener will provide narration of the tour of New Orleans throughout the day. Expected arrival at the hotel is 5:30 p.m. The cost of this Tri Refresher is $95.00 and includes all admission fees, tours, speakers, lunch, transportation and printed material. Additionally, please include $5.00 for each school you are refreshing. Dress for the weather and wear comfortable footwear.

Name__________________________________________Email__________________________
Street Address_________________________________City_____________________________
State and Zip__________________________________Phone___________________________
State Garden Club______________________
Are you taking this for Refresher Credit?   Yes______  No______ Please check the schools you are refreshing:   Environmental_____ Gardening Study_____Landscape Design_______
Most recent Consultants Refresher Record
School___________________Event______________City/State_______________Date_______
School___________________Event______________City/State_______________Date_______
School___________________Event______________City/State_______________Date_______
Multiple Credit may be offered to Master Consultants in each of the schools in which he/she is a master. Do you qualify for the Multiple credit?    Yes_______  No________
Are you a Master Consultant in the school(s) you are refreshing? Yes____ No_____
If no, is this your fourth refresher? Yes____No____
Deadline Registration for this Tri Refresher is February 15, 2017. The cost is $95.00 along with $5.00 for each school you are refreshing. Total Amount Enclosed_____
Mail Registration Form and check payable to 2017 LGCF Convention to JoAnn Christopher, 311 Sauve Road, River Ridge, LA 70123  Phone: 504-737-2320  Email: ptajc@att.net
2017 LGCF CONVENTION – NEW ORLEANS

March 29, 30, 31, 2017  “Ease on Down the Road”  Harrah’s Hotel

Name_______________________________________________________________________________
Address________________________________________________________
City__________________________________ State_____________           Zip _____________________
Phone______________ Garden Club____________________________________     District   _________
E-Mail__________________________

Please Circle Those That Apply:

**LGCF:** Officer(Includes District Directors & Representatives-at-large) Chairman or alternate

Former LGCF President   LGCF Life Member   Club President (or alternate)

**DEEP SOUTH:** Officer   State President   Chairman   DS Life Member

**NGC:** Officer   State President   Chairman   NGC Life Member

**FULL-TIME PACKAGE**

Includes three day registration, welcome party, 2 Breakfast, 2 Luncheon and 2 Banquets.

Must be postmarked by February 25, 2017  $260.00  $________

**PART TIME PLAN**

Please check days attending. Must be postmarked by February 25, 2017

NGC member Registration: Wednesday, Thursday Friday  $25 per day  $________

*Pre-convention (tri-refresher) tour must be registered on separate sheet.*

Welcome Party (cash bar) $25  $________

Thursday Breakfast  $30  $________

Thursday Lunch  $36  $________

Thursday Banquet  $40  $________

Friday Breakfast  $28  $________

Friday Lunch  $36  $________

Friday Banquet  $52  $________

Registration postmarked AFTER Feb. 25, 2017 must add a late fee of $30  $________

**Total Registration Fee Due**  $________

Make checks payable to LGCF Convention 2017. Mail with registration Form to Bonnie Hebeisen, 3016 Neyrey Dr., Metairie, La. 70002. Confirmations will be E-mailed. No refunds after February 25, 2017. Registration Fee is non-refundable. NO WALK INS. YOU MUST BE REGISTERED TO ATTEND ANY PROGRAMS, MEALS OR WORKSHOPS.
LGCF CONVENTION 2017

MENUS AND SPEAKERS

Wednesday, March 29, 2017

7:30 am  Pre-tour (tri-refresher) You do not need to be refreshing to attend. Breakfast of coffee and beignets. Lunch buffet included at Longue Vue. Multiple speakers on birds, landscape design and horticulture. (See separate form)

7:00 pm  Welcome party. Masquerade. Music, live entertainment. Wine and cheese with vegetable display. Cash Bar. Prizes for Best Costume, Best Decorated Umbrella and Best co-ordination costume with second line umbrella.

Thursday, March 30, 2017

8:30 am  Breakfast: Grillades and Grits, Coffee and juice. David Robson, among his other credentials, with NGC is a Flower Show Procedure, Horticulture and Symposium Instructor. He is also Horticulture/ FSP Instructor Chairman, Chairman of Handbook Revision Committee. He will give an overview of the new changes in the Flower Show Handbook. He will give a detailed explanation at the Judges Council meeting that afternoon. All welcome at judges meeting.

12:00 noon  Lunch: Chicken Caesar Salad, dessert, soda. Meade Wensel, Member of New Orleans Garden Study Club, an affiliate of Garden Club of America, is a New Orleans expert Floral Designer. She has created floral settings for some of the most important weddings and debutant parties in New Orleans. She will come and demonstrate her art.

7:00 pm  Dinner: Chicken and Andouille Gumbo, Jambalaya, dessert, soda. Awards presentation

Friday, March 31, 2017

8:30 am  Breakfast: Eggs Benedict, Coffee, juice. Local Chef, New Orleans Cooking School Instructor and T.V. Cooking Show Personality, Kevin Belton will teach the secrets of New Orleans flavor in cooking. Kevin appears every weekend on WYES TV before Paul Prudomme and John Besh. He is found there, at the New Orleans Cooking School and Restaurant Cava. He is an enormous presence in a room and will delight and educate you.

12 Noon  Lunch: Spinach Salad with chicken, bread, dessert, soda. Lt. Governor Billy Nunguesser will speak on the coastal and wetlands problems. Billy has long been recognized as an advocate of coastline restoration. We are proud that he is now Lt. Governor of La. and will share his views on the problems of our area from a local and government viewpoint.

In the lobby following lunch will be a presentation from “Common Ground Relief” working toward an environmentally sustainable community.

7pm Banquet: Oyster and artichoke soup, Roasted chicken with seasonal vegetables, Chocolate Mousse Pyramid dessert, tea, bread. We will be installing our new President.
A Veterans Day Celebration in Hammond
By Karen Nelson, VP Hammond Garden Club

What a wonderful day it was.....a little breezy, cloudy and the temperature was perfect! That was Veteran's Day and it seemed everything was just right! We had fifty or so chairs; they were filled.....and as many were standing. So many veterans were there, most dressed in their uniforms looking so terrific. Amazing how so many were still able to get into those great uniforms, all looking so proud!

In the background of the veiled sign stood a wooden frame with the flags of all branches of the service, P.O.W.'s, an American flag centered among them all and loaned to us by Chris Fox. Hanging high above the crowd from a huge ladder-like apparatus from the Fire Department was another American flag waving in the breeze, grey clouds floating above it all as if in memory of our fallen veterans! Sounds like a Norman Rockwell painting doesn't it!

The object of the day was to honor all veterans living, or in their memory. The Hammond Garden Club had gone a few steps further and made it extra special for them by acquiring a Blue Star Memorial Highway Marker dedicated to all veterans and erecting an American flag behind it at the entrance to Zemurray Park. Both stood in the middle and behind the butterfly garden. Whitney Statham and her crew had planted lovely lavender and pink Phlox with rose and purple Calathea, (lavender and rose are our club colors), and Dwarf Nandina outlining the shape of the butterfly garden.

Some months ago we had a meeting with Mayor Panepinto stressing how much we wanted to do this as a club but we needed funds to do so. After explaining our plight to him he said, "I'm on board, we want to help with this". So with funds from the city, donations from others for the flag pole, Representative Chris Broadwater got a flag that flew over the capitol for us and Representative Steve Pugh had the paperwork put through the Legislature to erect the Marker, we were good to go!

Father Cayet Mangiaracina of Holy Ghost Catholic Church was asked to begin the event with his invocation which was beautifully done setting the tone of the celebration.

As an "Amen" resounded at the end of the invocation all eyes turned right to see the four uniformed cadets marching in cadence from the Ponchatoula JROTC looking like the next soldiers we will be having a veteran's day event for. The American flag, that of their unit and of Louisiana with rifles on the end cadet's shoulders, they marched in. Their knees all bent at the same time as did their turns as we heard, "Left, left, left, right, left"!

When the color guards were in place Retired US Air Force Col. James Nelson and Retired US Army Infantry Tech Sergeant William Bader hoisted the exquisite American flag. You could just see the patriotism in their faces as they pulled the rope lifting that flag.

You can't imagine how seeing the Blue Star Marker, that American flag on the new pole and the huge American flag that the Fire Department flew over the crowd made chills run down my spine. And as the flag was attached going up the pole Rose Anders with her gorgeous voice began singing the "Star Spangled Banner".....if that didn't bring a tear to your eyes you must have ice water running in your veins!

Our emcee and President Carolyn Schwebel then asked Retired US Navy Lt. and P.O.W. George Will to lead us in the Pledge of Allegiance. There is something uttered with a salute as an officer of the military begins the Pledge that made it more meaningful than I have ever heard it before. "I pledge allegiance".....followed by the crowd with a lump in our throats and tears in our eyes.

Carolyn then asked Mayor Panepinto if he would unveil the Blue Star Memorial Marker since the City of Hammond funded it's purchase and without that help the garden club probably wouldn't have been able to afford it.
He stepped on the flagstones in the garden and removed the black material covering the sign. It was spectacular! A big blue star in top center representing what people put in their windows in 1945 after WWII in honor of the veterans. The star sits on a shiny brown surface, the letters in gold, dedicating this to all veterans from the Hammond Garden Club with the City of Hammond and with the LA Garden Club Federation. A sight to behold; hope everyone passes by and sees it and realizes its significance.

Once the sign had been unveiled Carolyn called on Retired US Navy Chief Petty Officer (and HGC member) Colleen Scott to read the dedication which begins with "We are here to pay tribute....." It pledges that we will not forget, we will remember and closes with "We dedicate this Blue Star Marker to the honor and glory of all those men and women in the Armed Forces of this great Nation". A very moving presentation.

A beautiful wreath was made by member Linda Ryan in red, white and blue flowers, ribbons and flags and Carolyn called on Retired US Army Corporal Sal La Monte and Retired US Army SP5 Dr. John Alexander to place the wreath by the Blue Star Marker. The wall behind the flag and wreath had pictures and memorabilia from veterans relatives that attended the celebration.

When the wreath had been placed Carolyn called on Attorney Sam Dileo who has a very fond place in his heart for the veterans and gave a speech about Zemurray Park that was also dedicated to the military and then about the difference in being sheep, wolves or a sheep-dog. The latter is what the military are called who keep us, (the sheep) free from the wolves, (the bad guys, the terrorists)! A very poignant speech. Mary Thornhill’s granddaughter told her she was going home to tell her Dad (who is in the military) that he was a sheep-dog!

The president, Carolyn, then called on the vocalist Rose Anders again to sing "God Bless America". With the voice of an angel she sang the intro and then motioned for everyone to join in. That's another one that I can hardly make through without getting choked up! (Just call me a ninny baby...but I know for a fact I wasn't the only one)!

After the song Carolyn thanked all those that made this possible and made me promise that I would say I was the "Event Manager" for the whole thing and spent many long hours preparing, begging and getting people to lend me things for this celebration. Every time I take on something like this I always say "never again". But this was different...this was a labor of love and I’d do it again for the vets anytime.

After the thank you's Peggy Dunn read a poem titled "Just a Common Soldier" and subtitled "A Soldier Died Today". I'm sure you can tell by the title that tissues were coming out of everyone’s pockets. On top of that Blake Daniels played TAPS when she had finished the poem, lots of wiping tears then too.

It was a very moving ceremony and everyone seemed to enjoy it. Refreshments were served after it ended of cookies, cupcakes, coffee and chocolate milk.

I must thank everyone I begged or cajoled into doing things, lending me things or donating things for all to enjoy. First and foremost is Mayor Panepinto and the City of Hammond, Chris Broadwater, Steve Pugh, the police dept., the fire dept., Chris Fox, the Ponchatoula ROTC, Seale & Ross and Linda Ross, Matt Cotton, Lee Collins, Marta Lichtl, John and Juanita Pearson, Rose Anders and Father Cayet. Winn Dixie, Albertson’s, PJ's on Thomas, all those that played a part in the ceremony itself, all the veterans that attended and their families and all the ladies of the Hammond Garden Club and some of their husbands. Thanks also to the District VI Director Kyle Martin and LGCF President Jeanette Gatzman who came from Baton Rouge and Covington using their day to attend our event.
I especially want to thank Robert Morgan who is the Superintendent of Streets, for all his and his workers help in erecting the sign and the flag pole. Dori St. Cyr, Lacey Landrum and Whitney Statham and crew for all their help and expertise. I am in hopes that I haven't left anyone out but be assured even if you helped me in some small way it did not go unnoticed, you have my deepest gratitude, (and I will probably call on you again in the future).

.....and just to let you know how important this was to one person, there was a car parked on the side entrance street of the park that stayed there the entire time. Inside sat an elderly lady and driving was her sitter. She wasn't able to get out but thought it was very important for her to attend because she too was a veteran! You never know what small thing may be the very thing that made that persons day.

I really just wanted to let you know how much this means to our vets. If you see a vet today please stop and thank them for their service. It may be the small thing that makes their day!

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**Breast Cancer Awareness Supported by Welsh Club**

*By Sharon Todd, Welsh Garden Club President*

The Welsh Garden Club hosts a Breast Cancer Awareness reception every October to honor breast cancer survivors and their families. This reception is special to us. You can feel the emotions and love in the room. These survivors share their personal stories of struggle, pain, denial, acceptance, and courage.

Our guest speaker was Kim Myers. Kim has experienced both sides of breast cancer as a survivor and as a caregiver for her mother diagnosed 15 years ago at age 42. Kim's mother was again diagnosed with a re-occurrence of breast cancer one year before Kim was diagnosed in February 2016.

Kim stressed the key to early detection by self-exams. Kim found her lump through her self-exam at age 32. Kim's mammogram was negative but her doctor could feel the lump. Next Kim was scheduled for an ultrasound and the results came back negative revealing no abnormality again. Kim was told she had dense breast tissue. Like her regular doctor the surgeon could also feel a lump. Next an MRI was done and confirmed an abnormal growth on her breast. Than a biopsy was done to reveal Kim did have cancer. It was also determined one lymph node was affected.

Kim has been through chemotherapy, surgery, and now undergoing radiation treatment. Today Kim as well as her mother are cancer free.

Also in attendance was Ms. Gertrude Robinson who is 102 years old and a breast cancer survivor.
MEMBERSHIP IDEAS
By Jo Krallman, NGC Committee Member (taken from NGC ‘Keeping in Touch’)

Membership Begins With Me

Me As members of a garden club we should each be inviting friends, neighbors, and others to join our garden clubs.

Member As a member we should be willing to mentor new members. Otherwise, they may become discouraged and drop out or become a non-productive member. Without an active member to inspire new members they will not grow or be willing to Leap Into Action and leadership.

Membership We’re losing members and clubs for lack of recruiting and mentoring. Be willing to help new members become knowledgeable and productive members. Be excited and productive and be willing to mentor and pitch in to do your part, and you will inspire others to do likewise.

Horticulture Corner

Black walnut (Juglans nigra) is a native species that is widespread in the United States. It is hardy to Zone 4. It is common in the northern half of Louisiana. It grows 50-57’ tall. Black walnut is highly prized for its dark-colored, straight grained, true heartwood. It is heavy, strong, shock resistant, and yet can be easily split and worked. The tree develops an extensive taproot and is difficult to transplant. The nuts are popular with people, squirrels, and wildlife. Black walnuts contain a chemical known as juglone. The greatest quantities of the chemical are found in the area immediately under the walnut tree, where roots are concentrated and decaying nut hulls and leaves accumulate. It kills or inhibits the growth of many other plants. Symptoms range from stunting, yellowing, partial to total wilting, to complete death. Tomatoes and potatoes are very sensitive to juglone. Other species known to be affected include rhododendron, white pine, white birch, eggplant, pepper, lilac, cotoneaster, and privet. Plants known not to be effected by juglone include Kentucky bluegrass, forsythia, most maples, ferns, pachysandra, most viburnums, daffodils, daylilies, winged euonymus, snap beans, corn, and onions. Even after a tree is removed the soil where the roots once were will still contain juglone for several years after the tree is removed as more juglone will be released as the roots decay.
Deeds & Doings

District I & II

The Jefferson Parish Council of Garden Clubs, Inc. and Federated Council of New Orleans Garden Clubs, Inc. sponsored a holiday standard flower show at the New Orleans Botanical Garden in City Park with the theme "Spirit of the Season".

Cutting the ribbon to open the show are from left, Mabel Himel, co-chairman; Tricia Ortalano, honorary chairman; LGCF President Jeanette Gatzman; Nancy Glick, honorary chairman and General Chairman Reba Mackey.

Phyllis Stacy of Acres of Green Garden Club displays her wreath "Mr. Bingle and Rudolph" that was displayed during the Christmas season in the Carousel House in New Orleans City Park.

Coleen Landry shows her blue ribbon award flower arrangement "Waltz of the Flowers" that she entered in the JPCGC-FCNOGC show held in City Park's Botanical Gardens. In addition, she won the "Growers Choice" rosette for her sedum and a ribbon for her educational exhibit of the Live Oak Society.

There are currently 8,260 live oaks registered with the Live Oak Society.

Coleen Perilloux Landry, LGCF Chairman of the Live Oak Society, stands with her educational exhibit at the standard flower show sponsored by the Jefferson Parish Council of Garden Clubs and the Federated Council of New Orleans Garden Clubs (Districts I and II) held in the Botanical Garden in New Orleans City Park.
Deeds & Doings

Participating to the Scarecrow Trail in the Fall Garden Festival in City Park, Rambling Rose Gardeners made a Scarecrow titled "SUPERGHOST". Pictured on the right is Daria Vincent, Awards and Yearbook Chairman of Rambling Rose Gardeners.

Rambling Rose Gardeners had had Christmas Luncheon at Chateau Country Club. Pictured standing left to right are: Carol Fourmaux, Angie Cole, Virginia Warren, Mary Ann Vincent, Betty Rena-President, Daria Vincent, Elaine Lescale, Duchess Brian, Sharon Massa, Uanna Houssey, Ronda Berger, and Billie Massa.

Metairie Ridge Garden Club enjoyed a Christmas Tea at Lafreniere Foundation Center. Pictured front row left to right are: Wanda Adams, Sara Stapleton, Dottie Pechon, Pat Occhipinti, Kathy Piazza, Jackie Ciuffi, and Sharon Rojas-President. Back row left to right: Pat Terranova, Suzanne Sciortino, Stella Bowman, Maria Griffin, Jaynell Zimmerman, Carrie Martin, Daria Vincent, and Debbie Corales.

Metairie Ridge Garden Club enjoyed their Christmas Luncheon at Commander's Palace in New Orleans. Some of the members and guest pictures are: Patsy-Jackie Ciuffi's daughter, Jackie Ciuffi, Jaynell Zimmerman, Pat Terranova, Daria Vincent, and Sharon Rojas.

Also, Daria Vincent won Best Greenery Door Wreath for the Holiday Contest Award. It consisted of Camellia Buds, Shrimp Plants, and Fern from her garden.
Deeds & Doings

District III

Lafayette Garden Club started the 2016-2017 season with great programs at its fall meetings at the IRA Horticulture Center. The September speaker was Tina Jumonville, who gave a very informative talk “GMOs . . . How, Why, Fact & Fiction,” demonstrating how genetically modified organisms affect our daily lives and can affect the near future. Tina is an advanced Master Gardener and chairperson of the Louisiana Super Plants Demonstration Garden, a licensed Louisiana Landscape horticulturist, a retired high school science teacher with a dual major in biology and environmental geology and owner of Tina’s Landscapes & Garden Consulting.

A fireball and amateur comedian, Annette Parker’s October talk “Daffy for Daffodils” was about daffodil division, color codes, historic daffodils and how to grow daffodils locally. Annette has a MS in botany, is regional vice-president of the American Daffodil Society, is active in the Gulf State Mycological Society and Louisiana Native Plant Society. Everyone received a handout on Daffodil FAQs by the American Daffodil Society.

And last, but not least, we heard Joan Adams, President of Franklin Garden Club and Delta Daylily Society, who presented a most interesting program “I Adore Daylilies.” Joan earned a degree in agriculture with a concentration in botany from Nicholls State University. Joan is also a member of The CenLa Daylily Society, which meets in Alexandria. Daylily Society residents of Louisiana may become a member of Region 13 and receive the Regional newsletter, The Arkla Daylily. Each Club member was given a Cooperative Extension Service brochure on Daylilies and a handout on Growing Daylilies in South Louisiana by the American Hemerocallis Society.

Fifteen Lafayette Garden Club members attended the District III Fall meeting, “Treasures on the Bayou,” at Envie Restaurant in Thibodaux, which was hosted by Thibodaux Garden Club. Featured speaker Marcelle Bienvenu gave a presentation titled “My Love Affair with Food.” At our Club meetings, Roxanna Champagne was selling books of raffle tickets for drawing at this Fall meeting, which supports the District III scholarship fund for environmental studies. Lafayette Garden Club members who attended the District III Fall Meeting are Jean Bonneau, Linda Bourg, Maggie Chaisson, Roxanna Champagne, Joy Hargrave, Madelyn Hoyt, Becky Latiolais, Diana Nolan, Kathy Van Ness, Julie Anna Ousse, JoAnn Pugh, Jeannie Richard, Sarah Schoeffler, Jan Vinning and Babette Werner.

Lafayette Garden Club President Betty Foret has launched a new way to recognize Club members who go above and beyond the call of duty in their volunteer work for Lafayette Garden Club. As a token of appreciation, they are selected as Star Members of the Month. Honored Star Members of the Fall Months are Roxanna Champagne, Diana Nolan, Cathy Andrews, JoAnn Pugh, Lorraine Newberry, Margaret Hargroder and Jan Wyatt.

In keeping with gardens or public parks that were damaged during Louisiana’s August floods, Deep South Garden Club, under its Keep Louisiana Beautiful, a Cleanest City Project, is awarding small grants to affiliates to renovate gardens or public parks that were damaged during the floods. It is necessary that Garden Clubs apply for a grant to renovate gardens or parks that were declared a state of emergency. For this effort, Lafayette Garden Club took up a collection during the September meeting. During this time of need, our hearts and prayers go out to Louisiana citizens, state and local leaders, first responders and generous volunteers who were impacted by the flood. Keep Louisiana Beautiful is committed to the rebuilding and rebirth of our local communities.

Congratulations go to Diana Nolan, Chairman of Civic Development and Cleanest City Committee, as the proud recipient of the Cleanest City Award, presented by Babette Werner on behalf of Bayou Vermilion Preservation Association. Also, Lafayette Garden Club received their Conservation Award. Diana Nolan acknowledged her Award, on behalf of Lafayette Garden Club.
Deeds & Doings

Garden Club, and announced that the winners of the 2017 Cleanest City Poster Contest would be invited to attend the City Council meeting.

We are proud of Lafayette Garden Club member Angel Landry for her award-winning white traditional mass floral design that is featured in National Garden Club’s 2017 Visions of Beauty calendar, and is pictured in the first week in January.

Club President Betty Foret invited all the best Garden Club witches to park their brooms at the door and come sit for a spell at the October meeting. A highlight of the October meeting was another successful Silent Auction, headed by Jeanie Richard. And kudos go out to Julie Anna Ousse’s Social Committee, which has done an outstanding job decorating the Garden Club break room for each Fall meeting.

Dr. Margaret Hargroder, with Garden Therapy Committee, asks for Club members to sign up for project ideas to present programs for The Blake, Louisiana’s newest retirement address, which is south of the Vermilion River, minutes from River Ranch and neighbors with Lafayette Heart Hospital. A new resident at The Blake since the August South Louisiana floods, is Madelyn Hoyt, an active Garden Club member who was a 1955 Charter Member of the Lecompte Garden Club, 1968-1969 Lafayette Garden Club President, LGCF State Life Member, as the District III Director, and honoree of Circle of Roses.

Dr. Mary Ann Armbruster, Lafayette Garden Club Secretary and Chair for speakers at the Greenhouse, asked for volunteers who would be willing to present horticulture programs to Senior members at the Greenhouse on the second Monday of the month at 10:00 a.m. The Greenhouse is located at 110 N.E. Evangeline Thruway, and meets the needs of elderly persons in Lafayette Parish, through the continuous development of a comprehensive program of activities.

The designers for the meetings’ Design Study all did a magnificent job, drawing praise and few, if any, critiques from our top design judge Cecille Revels. Becky Latiolais and Roxanna Champagne were designers for the Design Study “Exhibition Table Type 1.” For the October Transparency Design Study, which requires having some components of the design viewed through other parts of the design, Jan Vining and Jean Bonneau were the designers. And the November Creative Line Design Study featured Linda Bourg and Janie Richard as designers. Hopefully, our Club will be able to present all of our Club meetings’ designs on our website, lafayettegardenclub.org. Some samples of the Club meetings’ designs are shown in photos on the left and right below.

Dr. Margaret Hargroder, Flower Show Chairman, announced the upcoming flower show, “Favorite Things,” which will be held on March 31 and April 1, 2017. She encouraged all Club members to have at least one entry in the show. Margaret gave helpful tips on preparing container-grown plants and facts for entering designs, giving each member a brochure about entering the Flower Show. This Flower Show is in keeping with National
Deeds & Doings

Garden Clubs, Inc.’s objective of providing education for its members to promote the love of gardening and floral design.

Some good features from the meetings are that Cinde Risinger, Chairman of What’s the Buzz about Bees Chair, spoke of how one should be aware of detrimental effects to bees, and for people to preferably use non-toxic insecticides to help bees, because bees are so essential to the environment. Linda Beyt and Loraine Allain reported on the Barred Owl, also called the Hoot Owl, which lives here year-round and nests in hollow trees. The Great Horned Owl is a winter resident. They advised us to never shoot/harm an owl since they are protected by State and Federal law. And Connie Gremillion, in her Butterfly Garden report, stated that the butterfly garden at St Pius X School is phenomenal and is a new Monarch Way Station.

Also, the Master Gardeners were holding a Plant Swap at the Farmers Market at the Horse Farm on October 15. Everyone was invited to bring a plant or three and swap. Other events of interest are the Christmas Tour of Homes to be held December 4, from 1:00 to 5:00 p.m. in St. Martinville, located at the Opera House at the corner of Main & Port St. in St. Martinville, and the Flower Show School scheduled in February 8-11, 2017.

At the conclusion of our delightful and informative October meeting, which included Jeanie Richard’s silent auction fund-raiser, the auction winners were announced, and they proceeded to the silent auction room to retrieve their items.

As part of the Adopt-A-School program, Bayou Vista Garden Club partnered with Bayou Vista Elementary School to implement the National Garden Club’s School Gardens Project. BVGC Adopt-A-School Chairman Donna Richard presented a program to the BVES Pre-Kindergarten and NCP Special Education classes which included reading the book Way to Grow! Gardening: Planting and illustrating using a Community Helper Gardeners display poster. The students were given an activity booklet to reinforce the lesson. Students then planted herbs in the containers located in the rock garden near the classrooms. BVGC donated containers, rocks, garden trowels, watering cans, and Community Helper identification tags to assist students when maintaining the gardens.

Pre-K and Special Education students are: (left to right) (kneeling) Kayla Perry, Pre-Kindergarten 4 teacher; (standing) Jo Ann Ryan, BVGC member; Donna Richard, BVGC Adopt-A-School Chairman; Ashley Cheesteen, Paraprofessional; Ruth Blocker, teachers’ aide; Colleen Keller, NCP Special Education teacher; and Natalie Theriot, nurse; (not pictured, BVGC member Janice Verret).
Deeds & Doings

Members of the Abbeville Garden Club took part in a Fall Field Trip to Houmas House and Gardens in Darrow, Louisiana on October 17, 2016. They strolled through the different gardens on the grounds, enjoyed the shade provided by 400 to 600 year old oak trees, identified plants, and learned more about Louisiana culture from the historic tour of the plantation.

Enjoying the day filled with beauty and friendship were (pictured left to right) AGC members Sandy Richard, Susan Wilhelm, Patsy Hebert, Marietta Clark, Brenda Cross, Gwen Lanoux, Liz Gremillion, and Theresa Broussard.

Members of the Abbeville Garden Club attended the Louisiana Garden Club Federation District III Fall Luncheon Meeting, “Treasures on the Bayou”, hosted by the Thibodaux Garden Club on Thursday, October 27, 2016. Those attending were Theresa Broussard, Marietta Clark, Brenda Cross, Denise Files, Liz Gremillion, Patsy Hebert, Gwen Lanoux, and Sandy Richard. Special Guest of Abbeville Garden Club was Charlene Beckett, representing Keep Abbeville Beautiful. Information concerning LGCF committees and projects was presented. Guest speaker was Marcelle Bienvenu, author and Culinary Arts Instructor at the John Folse Culinary Arts Institute, Nicholls State University in Thibodaux.

Attending, pictured from left to right, are AGC members Denise Files, Brenda Cross, Sandy Richard, Theresa Broussard, Marietta Clark, Liz Gremillion, AGC Club President, Gwen Lanoux, District III Cleanest City Chairman, and Patsy Hebert, District III Director Elect.

Abbeville Garden Club is a member of National Garden Clubs, Inc., Deep South Region, and Louisiana Garden Club Federation, District III.

District VI

The Gardenettes Garden Club of Ponchatoula picked up bikes and sports equipment to be donated to the 17th Annual Toys and Bikes drive, sponsored for underprivileged children.
The District VI Fall meeting hosted by the Gardenettes Garden Club of Ponchatoula was held on October 25th at Juliana's Wedding and Event Center, Ponchatoula. District Director Kyle Martin led the meeting. Approximately 80 garden club members were in attendance. 11 of 20 clubs in District VI were represented. Guest speaker was State Representative Steve Pugh.

The Hammond Garden Club’s November meeting took place at Murphy's Seafood Restaurant with the same delicious food as usual! Carolyn called the meeting to order and began with the usual new business since our speaker was unable to attend. She asked Chaplain Mary Thornhill to open with a prayer and we all joined in with the Pledge of Allegiance.

Next was the Treasurer’s report given by Phyllis diBenedetto, and minutes had been dispensed with since Karen Granier was absent. We were told that the Garden of the Month had not been selected as yet and Jewel Jamal said that First Guaranty Bank had gotten the Link Award.

Carolyn called on Linda Broussard to give a report on the Veteran’s Day Ceremony. She reported and asked for help in the refreshment tent and asked everyone to wear their club shirts.

Gail Diebold chairperson for decorating the Christmas trees at North Oaks gave out dates to choose which would be the best to decorate them followed by the gazebo. November 29 at 10:00 AM was the time and date voted on.

It was mentioned that the Springfield Elementary School was in need of books for their library. Either gently used or new books or any monetary donation to buy books would be appreciated. Motion was made that this could be used for our Books and Library Committee donation. The motion was voted on and passed.

It was also decided to use the fish fry again for a fundraiser. Much less preparation, time spent, we just have to sell the tickets!

Margaret Hawkins made the suggestion since we seem to be getting so many new members, it’s hard to remember everyone's name. She brought a metal name tag to show us and Shirley Pellichino volunteered to get the information on them to present at the next meeting.
Deeds & Doings

Really nice wooden, decorated bird houses were the door prizes and were won by Linda Ross, Shirley Pelichino and Clara Houston. Our meals were then served, conversations ensued, all imbibed and were so satisfied before going home.

The Hammond Garden Club is a proud member of the District VI Garden Club Federation and the Deep South Region of the National Garden Clubs doing our best to unify and beautify our homes, gardens, our city and our nation every day to the best of our ability. God Bless America!

District VII

The Diggers and Weeders Garden Club visited the NOAA Weather Station at the Lake Charles airport during their September meeting. The members learned about the measurements taken by the weather balloons that are released twice a day, seven days a week.

One of the Diggers and Weeders’ new projects is helping elementary schools put in gardens and plant trees. Shown below on the left, are members that helped in planting fruit trees at Nelson Elementary in November. Club member Nola Ducote has been acting as coordinator with area schools and the American Heart Association in promoting a healthy diet and exercise for school children. The goal is to get the children gardening and eating the veggies they grow. The fruit trees were an extra addition to the garden.

Christmas decorating projects were completed early this year by the club. Two Christmas trees were decorated at Landmark, a local retirement home, as well as a garden/patio area at the main branch of the Calcasieu Parish Library. Ornaments are always hand made by club members. Shown on the left are club members and three home residents around one of the trees decorated.
Deeds & Doings

The Welsh Garden Club, WGC, presents the Commercial Beautification Award for September 2016 to Golden Age of Welsh Nursing Home, Todd Traux- Administrator and Co-owner (unavailable for picture).

When visiting the Nursing Home you see the beautiful crepe myrtle trees, well maintained grounds, flowering shrubs, and benches placed among the landscaping for visitors and residents to enjoy the outdoors. Once inside the facility you may walk into the beautifully landscaped Courtyard. The Courtyard's design has a peaceful and relaxing feeling with a beautiful and calming water fountain, various statues and a winding walking path. Each day you will find residents enjoying the beauty and serenity of the Courtyard.
Deeds & Doings

In honor of Veteran’s Day, the Sulphur Garden Club presents a wreath in memory of all military who served and who currently serve our country. The wreath is displayed at the Blue Star by Henning Museum on Purple Heart Boulevard. The Blue Star, also donated by the Sulphur Garden Club, represents each family member serving in the US Armed Forces.

The Sulphur Garden Club (SGC) donated food to Care Help to assist with the overwhelming demand during the holidays. Care Help food pantry will continue to take donations at their new location, 112 E. Thomas Street. The Sulphur Garden donates annually to various organizations, schools, and other worthy causes. Meeting monthly, the SGC’s objective is to encourage civic beauty and cooperate with other organizations to promote progress of our community.

Sulphur Garden Club members gathered for their annual tree decorating at the Sulphur Regional Library. The tree is decorated with ornaments made out of natural materials. The decorations include Magnolia pods; sweet gum balls; cotton balls; dried Gomphera blossoms, hydrangeas, and okra; Spanish moss, mistletoe, pinecones; and bridal wreath. Dried roses were placed in the tree in remembrance of passed members. This is the sixth year the club has decorated the Sulphur library’s tree.
Deeds & Doings

District VIII

The Marksville Garden Club members celebrated October by hosting the District VIII meeting, along with neighboring clubs including Moreauville, Lecompte, Alexandria, Olla and Mansfield. The theme for the luncheon was Une Promenade dans le Bois (a Walk in the Woods) and the setting was at the Cottonport Bank Camp along Old River Road in Mansura. Gerard Dupuy, husband of the Marksville Club’s immediate past president Ann Dupuy, spoke to the attendees about recognizing trees and native plants in their natural setting. Representatives from the District VIII clubs worked together the day before the luncheon to make beautiful table centerpieces using magnolia branches, coxcomb, pine, and other plants from their yards.

Members of the Marksville Club at the October monthly meeting, dressed in costume.

Patti Killen of Lecompte registers for the District 8 meeting, while welcome committee members Diane Bordelon (Moreauville Club) and Kate Moreau (Marksville Club) look on.

Marksville Garden Club Members in attendance at the Fall District VIII Meeting.

Pauline Humphries, President of the Lecompte Garden Club, presented a summary of activities at the District 8 meeting.

Avoyelles Parish resident Gerard Dupuy displays crafts made by early settlers at the LGCF District 8 Fall Meeting.
Calendar of Events

2017

January 16-17  LGCF Winter Council, Headquarters House, Lecompte, LA
February 8-11  Flower Show School, Course 4, Lafayette, LA
March 24-25  District VII Flower Show, Lake Charles
March 26  Set-up for Deep South Flower Show, Harrah’s New Orleans
March 27-28  Deep South Convention, Harrah’s New Orleans
March 29  LGCF Pre-Conv. Tour and Tri-Refresher
March 30-31  LGCF Convention, Harrah’s New Orleans
May 16-21  NGC Convention, Richmond, Virginia
June (TBD)  LGCF Tour, Nova Scotia/New Brunswick, Canada
July 17-18  LGCF Summer Board, Baton Rouge
(TBD)  NGC Fall Board Meeting, St. Louis, Missouri
December 2 – 9  LGCF Tour, Viking River Cruise

2018

(TBD)  LGCF Convention - District VIII
May 21-24  NGC Convention, Philadelphia, Pennsylvania
Sept 26 - 29  NGC Fall Board Meeting, Orlando FL

2019

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