

January 2023

**Louisiana Garden Club Federation, Inc.**

# **NEWSLETTER**



# THE LOUISIANA GARDEN CLUB FEDERATION, INC.

## Newsletter

Member of

National Garden Clubs, Inc.

Deep South Garden Clubs, Inc.

*"Plant Louisiana—Practice Sustainable Gardening"*



VOLUME LXXIII

January 2023

NO 3

### Table of Contents

#### LGCF 2021-23

##### OFFICERS:

###### President

Roxanna Champagne  
[roxannachamp@cox.net](mailto:roxannachamp@cox.net)

###### President-Elect

Patricia "Tricia" Ortalano  
[lilclover59@gmail.com](mailto:lilclover59@gmail.com)

###### First Vice-President

Carla Gauthier  
[Carla\\_gauthier@hotmail.com](mailto:Carla_gauthier@hotmail.com)

###### Second Vice-President

Kyle Martin  
[kylemartin@charter.net](mailto:kylemartin@charter.net)

###### Recording Secretary

Kathy Tell  
[kathytell7@gmail.com](mailto:kathytell7@gmail.com)

###### Corresponding Secretary

Patsy Hebert  
[patsyh\\_2000@yahoo.com](mailto:patsyh_2000@yahoo.com)

###### Treasurer

Ruth Delhomme  
[osbyruth@gmail.com](mailto:osbyruth@gmail.com)

###### Historian

Sherrill Sasser  
[ssasser438@bellsouth.net](mailto:ssasser438@bellsouth.net)

###### Parliamentarian

Clara Earl  
[clarae2003@yahoo.com](mailto:clarae2003@yahoo.com)

President's Message .....	3
Editor's Corner .....	7
Book Review .....	8
Deep South 2023 Convention .....	9
Advertising and Sponsorship Forms .....	10
Bunco Report .....	14
"The Shoe Story" .....	16
LGCF 2023 Convention .....	19
Pre-Convention Tour .....	20
Hotel Information .....	21
Schedule .....	22
Registration .....	24
LGCF Tours .....	25
"Evangeline Oak" by Jude Theriot .....	30
Circle of Roses .....	34
Calendar of Events .....	40

**On Our Cover:** The beautiful artwork on our cover was sent in by Margaret Melancon of Azalea Garden Club, New Iberia, District III. This painting of a rose was created by Margaret herself using alcohol ink as an art medium. Alcohol ink art is a vibrant technique that takes time and skill to master. We appreciate Margaret sharing her stunning artwork with us.

**DEADLINE FOR SUBMISSIONS TO THE SPRING ISSUE, APRIL 1, 2023, IS MARCH 1, 2023 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](mailto:lgcfnews@gmail.com)

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

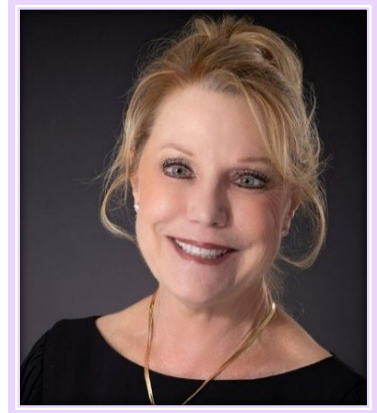


# PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE



## *Plant Louisiana—Practice Sustainable Gardening*

The last few months of 2022 were filled with meetings and events which kept me on the road. I spent the last two weeks of October attending the District Fall Meetings. The District Directors and Districts are to be commended for successful meetings with informative and fun programs. It has been a pleasure touring the state in October and visiting with LGCF members during the past two years. I shall miss it.



Immediately following the Fall District Meetings, I travelled to Meridian, Mississippi on Halloween for a Flower Show Symposium. I was pleasantly surprised when on the first day of class, I discovered there were more LGCF members attending than from any other state, including Garden Clubs of Mississippi members. We made their symposium a success. Former NGC and GCM President, Gay Austin, was the Horticulture instructor who presented judging criteria for *Ilex* and *Euphorbia* species. The Design instructor, Jo Krallman from Arkansas, amazed us with her imaginative Exhibition Table Designs. Lodging was at the historic Threefoot Hotel in downtown Meridian and our classes were across the street at the MSU-Riley Center for Education and Performing Arts. It was an added bonus to be at these historic buildings that have been lovingly restored.



Threefoot Hotel Lobby



Exterior of the Riley Center



Jo Krallman's Exhibition Table Designs

The week after I returned from Meridian, I was on the road again for the Covington Garden Club Fall Luncheon and style show in the quaint town of Madisonville. The hospitality, food and entertainment did not disappoint.

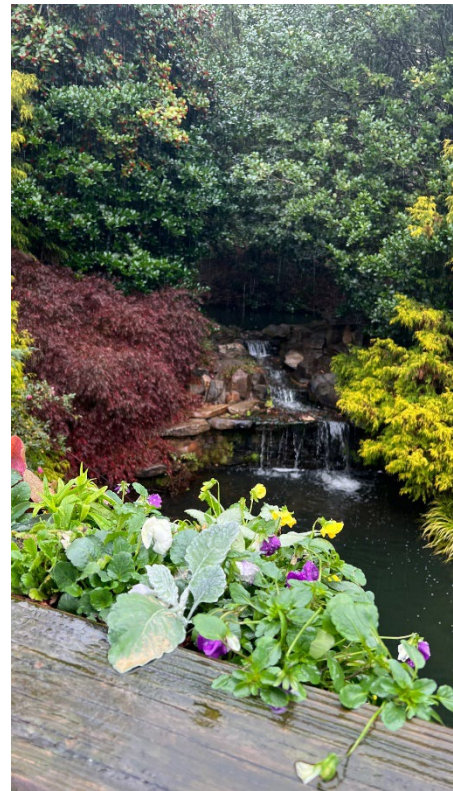
Two days later, I was flying to Atlanta for the LGCF Biltmore and Gibbs Garden Tour. Despite plane delays we all met at the Atlanta airport for the ride to the Biltmore whose halls were decked out in splendid Christmas Cheer! Following a candlelight dinner at the Biltmore Stables Restaurant, we embarked on a tour of the Biltmore. On the right is our first glimpse of the Biltmore ablaze with thousands of twinkling lights.



The following day was spent exploring the gardens, greenhouse, shops and winery on the grounds of the Biltmore Estate. We visited the exhibition, *Leonardo Da Vinci – 500 Years of Genius* at the Amherst Exhibition Hall. Here we are in front of Mona Lisa.



That afternoon we journeyed to the picturesque mountain town of Blue Ridge, Georgia. Downtown was filled with charming shops, restaurants and craft breweries. The next morning, we headed out to Gibb's Gardens. Unluckily, the weather did not cooperate as it was a cold, drizzly day. But that did not stop a determined group of garden club ladies. Armed with umbrellas and ponchos we braved the elements to be delighted by the mesmerizing Japanese Gardens. The Japanese Gardens are the largest in the nation, covering more than 40 acres. Designing and installing the Japanese Gardens took place over 23 years. Mr. Gibbs avidly read books on the secrets of Japanese Gardens and even traveled to Kyoto, Japan to study the most beautiful and traditional Japanese Gardens. After viewing the Japanese Gardens, some of the braver ones hiked up to the Manor House to view the House Gardens and mountain views.



We finally warmed up and dried out with a delicious lunch and shopping at the gift shop. Satiated, we boarded our bus for the drive back to Atlanta with memories and new friendships to cherish.

On this last day of November, I am sitting in front of my computer writing this report which I hope you have found to be interesting. December will not find me nestled on my sofa watching Hallmark Christmas movies. I will be

traveling the next few weeks celebrating the season at garden club holiday events, making even more garden club friends. That is the best part of being President.

Remember we have two Conventions in Louisiana, the Deep South Garden Clubs Convention in March at which NGC President Mary Warshauer will honor us with her presence. This is your opportunity to meet Mary. She is thrilled to be visiting us in Louisiana. In April, District V will host the LGCF Convention in Vidalia. The two Convention Committees have spent an inordinate amount of time and angst preparing and planning these conventions. Now they need YOU to attend for them to be successful!

*I hope you had a Wonderful Christmas and May the New Year Bless You with Health, Happiness and Prosperity!*

*Joyanna*



Picture taken at Biltmore Conservatory



## Editor's Corner

---



This is a special time of the year when we enjoy time with family. It is a time to look back and reflect on the year that has gone by and a time to look ahead and make plans for the year ahead. In this issue we look back on the delightful LGCF tour of the Biltmore Estate and the success of the Bunco and Shoe Drive fundraisers for the Deep South Garden Clubs Convention. We look forward to that convention which will take place March 8-10 in Kenner, Louisiana. Shortly following that, the LGCF convention will be held in Vidalia, LA on April 17-19. Information about both conventions can be found in this issue of the newsletter.

I am always looking for more pictures to be used on our cover or sprinkled within the newsletter. Please continue to send in your pictures, articles, and any information you would like to share.

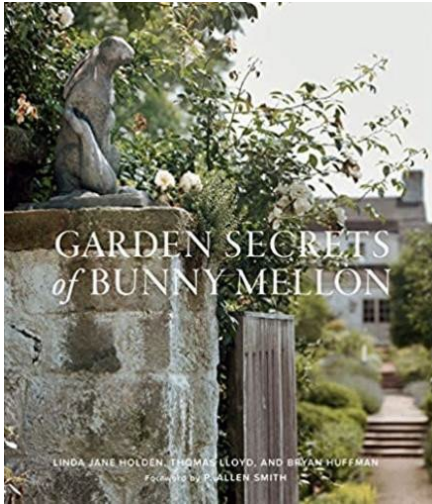
Wishing you and your families health, joy and peace in the New Year.

*Donna Cline*

“Learning is the only thing the mind never exhausts, never fears and never regrets.”

— Leonardo da Vinci

## Book Review



### **Garden Secrets of Bunny Mellon**

by Linda Jane Holden, Thomas Lloyd and

Bryan Huffman, 176 pages

Gibbs Smith Publishers 2020

ISBN-10: 1423655400

I had heard of Rachel “Bunny” Lambert Mellon before, but when her name popped up twice in the last few weeks, I decided to learn more about her. Little did I know, aside from her legendary style and connections, Mrs. Mellon was renowned for her passion for gardening and landscape designs.

With a forward by P. Allen Smith, this wonderful book is the “how-to” that Bunny had always intended to write.

Linda Holden collaborated with Mellon’s grandson, Thomas Lloyd, and Bryan Huffman, to create a wonderful compilation of personal writing, illustrations and photos obtained from the family archives from which we discover the sources of her gardening inspirations.

(As a bonus, I discovered another intriguing book about Bunny Mellon, entitled [I’ll Build a Stairway to Paradise](#), which further delves into her extraordinary life.)



## Deep South Garden Clubs Convention



“The Mindful Gardener”  
March 8 -10, 2023  
Kenner, Louisiana

The 2023 Deep South Garden Clubs Convention will be here before we blink an eye! The convention committee would like to take this opportunity to thank all our LGCF clubs and members for their support in our state fundraisers. The income from the Bunco, Shoe Collection, and raffle items will definitely help to defray some of the convention cost. Success will ultimately depend on registrations to meet our financial requirements with the Hilton convention contract.

The information and registration documents for the Deep South convention are now on the LGCF website. Please look to see the many things we have planned for you in Kenner! Remember, we are committed to a certain number of hotel rooms so please use the link provided so LGCF will get the proper credit. Also, the deadline for program ads and sponsorships is fast approaching! The forms are provided for you below and on the website. We hope to see many of you in March!

# Deep South Garden Clubs, Inc. Convention 2023

*"The Mindful Gardener, A Journey Through the Senses"*

Hosted by the Louisiana Garden Club Federation, Inc.

Louisiana Garden Club Federation Inc. is honored to be hosting the 60th Annual Deep South Garden Clubs Convention in Kenner, Louisiana on March 8 - 10, 2023. In preparation for the convention program, we are offering you the opportunity to honor national, state and local members including individual garden clubs. These ads will help to defray the expenses that are associated with the convention.

Rates for ads are as follows:

Full page 7.5 x 4.5 inches black and white inside program page	\$100.00
Half page 3.75 x 4.5 inches black and white inside program page	\$70.00
Quarter page 1.75 x 4.5 inches black and white inside program page	\$40.00

## **Deadline for ads: February 3, 2023**

All ads must be camera ready and meet exact measurements given above.

May be submitted electronically in **MSWORD** or **JPEG** format.

Full page ad is portrait orientation only.

Half page ad is horizontal orientation only.

Quarter page ad is horizontal orientation only.

Mail your payment to:

Kyle Martin

73192 Military Road

Covington, Louisiana 70435-6053

***Make checks payable to: Louisiana Garden Club Federation, Inc.***

Submit camera ready ad electronically to:

Elizabeth McDougald

[elizmcdoug@gmail.com](mailto:elizmcdoug@gmail.com)



# Deep South Garden Clubs, Inc. Convention 2023

## *“The Mindful Gardener, A Journey Through the Senses”*

### Program Book Advertising Template

- Please use following templates as guidelines for creating your convention ad.
- All ads will be in black and white.
- Committee reserves the right to refuse and refund any ad that does not meet the stated printing requirements.

Full page ad  
Black and white only  
Inside program page  
**7.5” high x 4.5” wide**  
Portrait orientation only  
\$100.00

Half page ad  
Black and white only  
Inside program page  
**3.75” high x 4.5” wide**  
Horizontal orientation only  
\$70.00

Quarter page ad  
Black and white only  
Inside program page  
**1.75” high x 4.5” wide**  
Horizontal orientation only  
\$40.00

# Deep South Garden Clubs, Inc. Convention 2023

## *"The Mindful Gardener, A Journey Through the Senses"*

Hosted by the Louisiana Garden Club Federation, Inc.

### **Sponsorship Form**

Louisiana Garden Club Federation, Inc. will be the host state for the 60th annual Deep South Garden Clubs, Inc. Convention March 8 -10, 2023 in Kenner, Louisiana. Deep South Garden Clubs is comprised of six states, Alabama, Florida, Georgia, Louisiana, Mississippi, and Tennessee which are all members of **National Garden Clubs, Inc.** These member clubs share a love for gardening, conserving and protecting our natural resources as well as wildlife and habitats, for beautifying our communities and for sharing what we learn with others. We are presently seeking sponsors to assist with speakers, workshops, and educational materials for the convention.

#### **Sponsor Opportunities:**

##### **Platinum Sponsor - \$500.00**

- \*Listing as Platinum Sponsor on sponsor board at Registration Desk
- \*Listing as Platinum Sponsor in the statewide Louisiana Garden Club Federation, Inc. Newsletter for 1 year
- \*Logo/name in Convention program as Platinum Sponsor
- \*Opportunity to table organizational materials at the convention

##### **Gold Sponsor – \$250.00**

- \*Listing as Gold Sponsor on sponsor board at Registration Desk
- \*Listing as Gold Sponsor in the statewide Louisiana Garden Club Federation, Inc. Newsletter for 1 year
- \*Logo/name in Convention program as Gold Sponsor

##### **Silver Sponsor - \$100.00**

- \*Listing as Silver Sponsor in the statewide Louisiana Garden Club Federation, Inc. Newsletter for 1 year
- \*Logo/name in Convention program as Silver Sponsor

##### **Bronze Sponsor - \$50.00**

- \*Logo/name in Convention program as Bronze Sponsor

To be a sponsor, please complete and mail the attached form.

For questions contact:

Elizabeth McDougald at 504-450-5634 or [elizmcdoug@gmail.com](mailto:elizmcdoug@gmail.com)

Donna Clark at [dclark3601@gmail.com](mailto:dclark3601@gmail.com)

**The Louisiana Garden Club Federation, Inc. is a non-profit 501(c)3 organization.  
Thank you for your contribution.**



# Deep South Garden Clubs, Inc. Convention 2023

*"The Mindful Gardener, A Journey Through the Senses"*

Hosted by the Louisiana Garden Club Federation, Inc.

## Sponsor Form:

Sponsor Name as it should be listed in publications:

\_\_\_\_\_

If Business, please give contact name: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone number: \_\_\_\_\_

Email: \_\_\_\_\_

## Sponsor Amount:

Platinum Sponsor      \$500.00 \_\_\_\_\_

Gold Sponsor      \$250.00 \_\_\_\_\_

Silver Sponsor      \$100.00 \_\_\_\_\_

Bronze Sponsor      \$50.00 \_\_\_\_\_

## Payment Method:

Please make check payable to: **Louisiana Garden Club Federation, Inc.**

Mail to: Kyle Martin, 73192 Military Road, Covington, LA 70435-6053

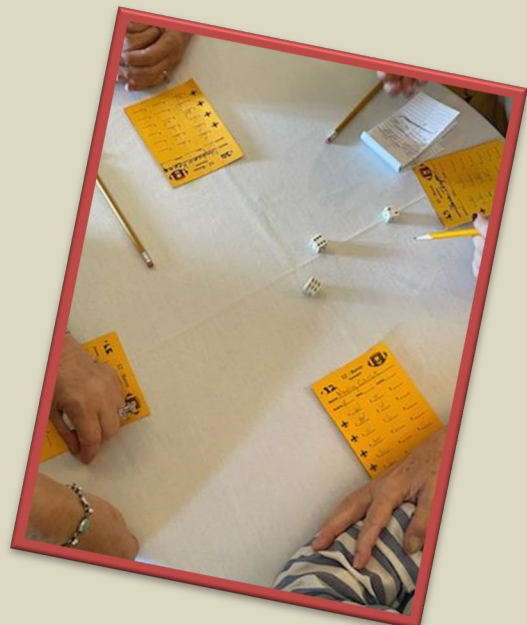
**The Louisiana Garden Club Federation, Inc. is a non-profit 501(c)3 organization.  
Thank you for your contribution.**

# Bunco

On September 21<sup>st</sup> the 2023 Deep South Convention fundraising committee hosted a fun and very successful Bunco. The Bunco, held at the beautiful Chateau Estates Country Club, was attended by over 100 guests! The game, which had the theme of black and gold for our mostly beloved NFL team, was refereed by the fundraising committee and the moderator was Marieanne Arata from Petals of North Bridgedale. After an entertaining morning of Bunco, the guests were served a delicious meal. Lunch was followed by a 50/50 and Money Tree raffle. Monetary prizes were given out for the 1<sup>st</sup> and 2<sup>nd</sup> Most Buncos, 1<sup>st</sup> and 2<sup>nd</sup> Most Games, and of course, a Booby Prize! Hands down, the most fun was the Parade of Prizes. Through the generosity of many of the members and district clubs the prizes were beautiful, varied, and plentiful! The day was filled with laughter and merriment which made the task worthwhile on its own. The profits from this day will help bring our members a fun filled and educational convention! The Deep South Convention committee sincerely thanks all that worked, contributed, and attended the event.



*Elizabeth McDougald*  
2023 DSGC Convention Co-Chair  
*Donna Clark*  
2023 DSGC Convention Co-Chair





Money Tree Winner!



50/50 Winner!

**Top Row:** Valerie Moscona, Diane Baur, Patricia Ortalano

**Middle Row:** Nancy Byrd, Kay Johnson, Lee Baraldi

**Bottom Row:** Elizabeth McDougald, Donna Clark, Marianne Arata



Nancy Byrd, Lee Baraldi



## “The Shoe Story”

What kind of fundraiser can we do for the Deep South Convention that will not require our members to contribute financially? That was the question the committee asked itself and how this idea came to fruition. We had no idea at the time that it would take on a life of its own!

First, let's see if we can answer some of the many questions that have been asked by members. We have partnered with Funds2orgs on this adventure. Donating to our shoe fundraiser not only helped us raise money, but in turn helped small business owners (mostly women) in developing countries. Those countries include Haiti, which is the most impoverished nation in the Western Hemisphere. It also includes nations such as Cambodia, Honduras, Ghana, and others worldwide. In many of these countries, because of systemic poverty, people living there have no support. For adults of working age, systemic poverty provides little, if any, work opportunities for them and therefore they must create their own. Selling shoes in their communities is one of the best ways to make a living. The shoes you donated are shipped to 26 developing countries around the world. The footwear then gets sold to these small business owners at a fraction of the cost. This helps to ensure commerce and not destroy their commercial economy by dumping “free” items. Many countries and local governments have laws and regulations against “free” merchandise and donations in order to protect economies. Over 4000 small businesses and their families are partnered with Fund2orgs and have created thriving businesses selling shoes. In turn, **we** have helped them out of poverty with our **hand up** through our shoe drive fundraiser! As a bonus, environmentally speaking, they did not end up in our landfills!

So, now that you know where the shoes went, let's talk about how they got there. Admittedly, it was probably not the best thought out plan! Who knew how much space shoes would take and then there was the logistics of collecting. In retrospect, it is probably for the best that we were a little naïve because we may have passed on this great opportunity and adventure. Once the shoes were collected, they were counted and documented from which garden clubs they were obtained. They needed to be tied or rubber banded together and then

placed in groups of 25 in the company provided bags. This alone could be a time-consuming task, but with the help of a glass of wine and a little imagination, it could be quite entertaining. Oh, the types of shoes we collected! We have attached a few of our favorites below. We really want to know which ones of you out there are still wearing the 6" heels? Seriously, we were overwhelmed by the quality of most and the huge number of new shoes that were donated.

So, we asked you for shoes and you answered! Our goal in the beginning was 2200 pairs. You witnessed our journey through our monthly graphs. At the end of September, we had our first pick up of 2000 pairs of shoes (80 bags of 25). Our reimbursement was a tiered system, so we knew if we could get another 1000 pair it would increase our income. We were overwhelmed, literally, with the numbers the Fall Meetings brought. Our second pick-up in November was larger, 90 bags. This brings us to a grand total of over **4200 pairs** of shoes!

We had 52 clubs contribute shoes to the fundraiser with numbers as low as 4 to over 400 with at least 12 clubs in the triple digits! A full-page ad in the DSGC convention program will be awarded to the following clubs:

Small Club -	Home and Garden Club, District VI
Medium Club-	River Ridge Garden Club, District II
Large Club-	Plaquemine Garden Club, District VI

We would also like to award a quarter page ad to Chateau Estates, Mount Hermon, Aurora Home Gardeners, and Farmerville Garden Clubs. These clubs' numbers were very high and the committee felt they should be recognized. Congratulations to these clubs for their outstanding participation.

In closing, this was a statewide fundraiser and every District stepped up and made this more successful than we thought possible. The 2023 Deep South Convention committee genuinely thanks the members that diligently collected, helped coordinate and transport, and finally counted and bagged for pick-up (shout out to a few husbands). Last fact, 4200 pairs of shoes fill a 3-car garage! Great job ladies, we reached our goal and more, helped the environment, and most importantly improved the lives of other women and families around the world.



HAND-UP



Craziest

Most Beautiful



Fall Meetings



Pick Up



# LGCF CONVENTION

April 17-19, 2023

Vidalia Convention Center

Vidalia, LA



# LGFC CONVENTION PRE-TOUR

April 17, 2023

Monday, April 17, we will leave the Clarion Inn at 9:30 a.m., with the Pre-convention Tour that will take us across the Mighty Mississippi to the historic Natchez, Mississippi. We will tour the beautiful Bluffs, “Under the Hill,” and other interesting sights. We will tour the beautiful locations below, and will have a delicious lunch after the tour of the gardens and home of Sunnyside B&B.



Choctaw Hall was built around 1836 and features a blend of Greek Revival to Federal styles. The home has four floors connected by a swirling, oval staircase. Double porches with white columns bookend the front and back of house making every scene a picture-perfect backdrop.

This elegant, 1850's Greek-Revival cottage is situated on 10 acres near historic downtown. The gardens are picture perfect. Sunnyside is the hidden gem you've been looking for!



Will also visit the Convention Center Museum to learn about the Hydro-electric power in Vidalia.

“Dutch Treat” dinner at Pearl Street Pasta Monday night! Transportation provided.



# Enjoy your Riverfront stay in Vidalia

How often do you get to experience the best of two cities—in two separate states—at almost the same time? That is the opportunity we provide here at **the Clarion Suites®** in Vidalia (a Choice Hotel), perched directly on the Louisiana-Mississippi border and nestled along the shores of the mighty Mississippi River. Event-goers enjoy quick access to the Convention Center.



**100 Front Street, Vidalia, LA 71373**

**MAKE YOUR RESERVATION AT CLARION INN 318-336-1655**

**"LGCF CONVENTION" to book**

(Vidalia Convention Center on Front Street (**Shuttle will be provided !!!**))





# LGFC Convention Schedule–2023

## Monday, April 17

Tour, Vidalia, LA

## Tuesday, April 18

6:30 – 9:00 AM	Continental Breakfast at the Hotel	
8:00 AM – 4:30 PM	Registration*	<b>Foyer</b>
8:30 AM	Ways and Means* and Vendors, Displays	<b>Promenade</b>
8:30 – 9:40 AM	<b>Finance</b> Committee Meeting	<b>VIDAL ROOM (Enter through Thornhill Room)</b>
9:00 – 9:45 AM	<b>Workshop</b> “Website” — Vicky Fannaly	<b>BOWIE ROOM</b>
9:50 – 10:50 AM	2023-2025 District Directors Meeting	<b>VIDAL ROOM (Enter through Thornhill Room)</b>
10:00 - 10:50 AM	Ways and Means* and Vendors, Displays	<b>Promenade</b>
11:00 – 11:50 AM	<b>Executive</b> Council Meeting	<b>VIDAL ROOM (Enter through Thornhill Room)</b>
11:00 – 11:50 AM	<b>Workshop</b> Yearbooks — Millie Comeaux	<b>BOWIE ROOM</b>
12:00 – 2:00 PM	Lunch – <b><u>Environmental Council and Gardening Council</u></b> Honoring Club Presidents <b>SPEAKER Robert Dobbs, LDWF</b> “The Brown Pelican”	<b>Kenny Davis Room</b>
2:10 – 3:00 PM	<b>Landscape</b> Design Consultants Council	<b>VIDAL ROOM (Enter through Thornhill Room)</b>
2:15 – 3:00 PM	<b>Workshop</b> Espoma “Organic Gardening”	<b>BOWIE ROOM</b>
3:10 – 4:00 PM	<b>Environmental</b> Consultants Council	<b>VIDAL ROOM (Enter through Thornhill Room)</b>
3:10 – 4:00 PM	Ways and Means* and Vendors	<b>Promenade</b>
6:00 – 7:00 PM	Reception Honoring President Roxanna Champagne	<b>Promenade</b>
7:00 – 9:00 PM	Awards Banquet	<b>Kenny Davis Room</b>

## Wednesday, April 19

6:30 – 9:00 AM	Continental Breakfast at the Hotel	
8:00 AM – 4:30 PM	Registration*	<b>Foyer</b>
8:30 AM	Ways and Means* and Vendors, Displays	<b>Promenade</b>
9:00 – 9:50 AM	<b>Workshop</b> “Native Louisiana Plants” Tevah Cardneaux	<b>Thornhill Room</b>
10:00 – 10:50 AM	LCNAFS Judges Council Meeting	<b>VIDAL ROOM (Enter through Thornhill Room)</b>
10:00 – 10:50 AM	<b>Workshop</b> “Bees” — James Gauthier	<b>BOWIE ROOM</b>
11:00 – 11:50 AM	Gardening Consultants Meeting	<b>VIDAL ROOM (Enter through Thornhill Room)</b>
11:00 – 11:50	Ways and Means* and Vendors, Displays	<b>Promenade</b>
12:00 – 2:00 PM	Lunch – <b>Hosted by Louisiana Council of Nationally Accredited Flower Show Judges and Landscape Design Council</b> Honoring Life Members <b>SPEAKER Alan Futch “Floral Designs”</b>	<b>Kenny Davis Room</b>
2:30 – 5:00 PM	LGCF Business Meeting	<b>Thornhill Room</b>
6:00 – 7:00 PM	Reception honoring President-Elect Patricia Ortalano	<b>Promenade</b>
7:00 – 9:00 PM	Banquet – Installation of 2023-2025 Officers	<b>Kenny Davis Room</b>

\*Registration and Ways and Means are closed during Meals and Business Meeting

Vendors store items in **Richmond Room**  
Storage and Flower arrangements in **Jim Bowie Room**  
Has small kitchen and water access

**REGISTRATION FORM**

Vidalia Convention Center

April 17-19, 2023

*A Delta Promenade*

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

Former LGCF President LGCF Life Member Club President

Delegate (Clubs with 50 or more members) Club Member Guest

**DEEP SOUTH:** Officer State President Chairman DSLife Member Former DSDirector**NGC:** Officer State President Chairman NGC Life Member

REGISTRATION		Price	Amount
<b>ENTIRE CONVENTION</b> includes all registration fees and s (4) meals. <b>BREAKFAST IS INCLUDED IN THE HOTEL FEE</b>		\$265.00	
<b>PART REGISTRATION</b> (A registration fee is required for each day regardless of the number of events one attends.)			
Tuesday, April 18	Registration	\$47.50	
	Luncheon	\$35.00	
	Banquet	\$50.00	
Wednesday, April 19	Registration	\$47.50	
	Luncheon	\$35.00	
	Banquet	\$50.00	
<b>MONDAY, APRIL 17 Tour of Natchez, Choctaw House and Sunnyside B&amp;B and Gardens. (Includes lunch and transportation)</b>		\$78.00	
<b>LAST DATE FOR REGISTRATION IS FRIDAY, MARCH 15, 2023. NO LATE REGISTRATIONS OR WALKINS WILL BE ACCEPTED.</b>			
<b>TOTAL</b>			
Dietary	Vegetarian Allergies		

**MAKE CHECKS PAYABLE TO: DISTRICT V LOUISIANA GARDEN CLUB CONVENTION—in the memo**  
**MAIL FORM AND PAYMENT TO : NAOMI CORDILL, 156 BOTANY BAY ROAD, SAINT JOSEPH, LA 71366**

EMAIL: [naomiccordill@aol.com](mailto:naomiccordill@aol.com) PHONE: 318-498-0094

**MAKE RESERVATIONS AT CLARION INN 318-336-1655 "LGCF CONVENTION" to book**



# LGCF Tours

## HIGHLIGHTS OF BILTMORE TOUR

November 12 found seventeen of us flying to Atlanta from five Cities, to travel to North Carolina and Georgia to see the beautiful Biltmore decorated for the Christmas Season and then to see the beautiful Fall foliage at Gibb's Gardens in Ball Ground Georgia. Those making the tour were: Roxanna Champagne, Betty Foret and daughter, Cindy Foret (Lafayette Garden Club); Patricia Ortalano, Donna Cline and Joan DeMille (Terrytown Garden Club); Linda Finley and friend, Kathy Plante (Lake Charles Garden Club); Clara Earl, Ruth Delhomme and Linda Gaspard (Baton Rouge Garden Club); Tina Messina, Judith Taylor, Bonnie Hatrel and Patricia Prewitt (Shady Oaks Garden Club); Cindy Galloway (Vidalia Garden Club) and Naomi Cordill (Garden Gate Study Club}.

The bus picked us up at the airport and we started on our adventure to have the Evening Candlelight Dinner and Home Tour at the Biltmore. It was a delicious meal and the Biltmore was beautifully decorated. We were surrounded with wonderful, live music-of-the-Season that filled the entire mansion. Some 64 magnificently decorated trees welcomed us into each room of the house. Floral arrangements and greenery filled mantles, sleighs, tables, chandeliers, stairwells and entrances. Was an exciting and lovely way to begin getting into the Christmas Spirit!



November 13 was spent viewing the Leonardo da Vinci Exhibit-*500 Years of Genius*, that is being hosted by the Biltmore until the beginning of February. What a very talented and extremely intelligent man he was. The Exhibit was very well displayed and the Media Exhibit was exceptionally well done. A very interesting time was enjoyed by all. Next, we visited and explored Antler Hill Village and the Winery. The temperature was quite cold,

but the sun made the day outside very enjoyable. A little shopping, tasting and having lunch made for a good time mid-day.



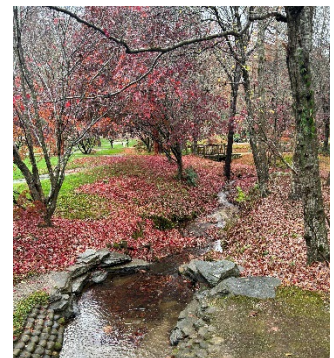
The Conservatory was the afternoon activity. This tropical oasis nurtures exotic orchids, ferns palms and other beautiful plants and flowers—dotted with red poinsettias for the holidays. And what a neat Gift Shop was housed by the Conservatory. Too bad we were flying home, just not enough room or luggage to take all we wanted!!

November 14, we traveled to night. What a neat, neat little restaurants, great decorations, We all left with enough goodies place to start our Christmas



Blue Ridge, GA to spend the town. Great shops, boutiques, and their own Scenic Train! to fill our luggage! Was a great Shopping!

Sadly, November 15 was very wet and very cold. But even with all that, Gibb's Gardens was still a beautiful experience! It was too be quite windy, but while we were there, we were very fortunate that the wind did not blow. And it was not so much rain that the day was a "wash out"! The Maple Trees were still lovely, and the leaves that had already been dropped made for a carpet of red on which to walk as we made our way through the gardens and on to the Mansion. What a beautifully, thought-out Garden. A beautiful display in hundreds of acres. It is a location that you would enjoy!! Maybe we can go back in the Spring sometimes? The staff at the Gardens were so accommodating and nice, which made for a great experience. We left in the afternoon to travel to spend the night near the airport, to be near for our early-morning departures for home.



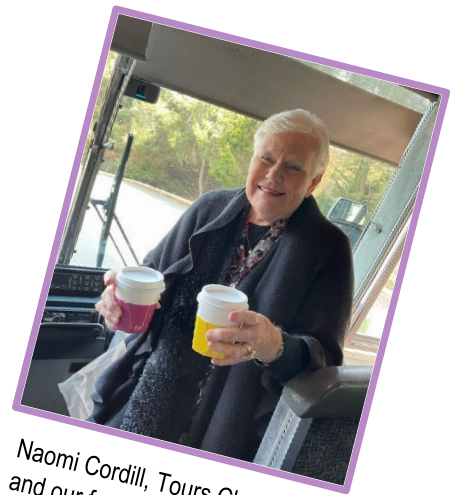
What a great time was had by all. Is always nice to meet new people and gain new friends over the days spent together. It is my hope that more of you will join the **LGCF Tours!** You still have time to sign-on for the **April, 2023 Tour to Holland to see the Tulips.** Will be a great, private tour. Just contact me and I will get you the information!

Naomi Cordill, LGCF Tours Chairman, 318-498-0094  
[lgcftours@aol.com](mailto:lgcftours@aol.com)





The Biltmore House



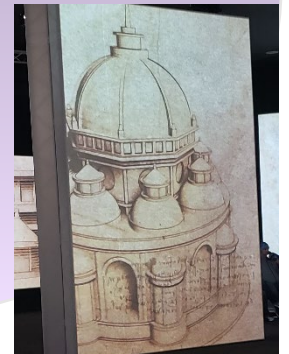
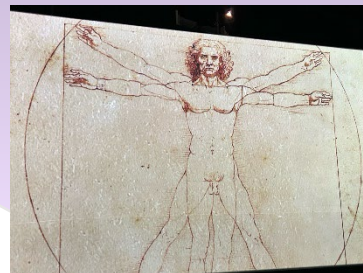
Naomi Cordill, Tours Chairman  
and our fantastic guide.



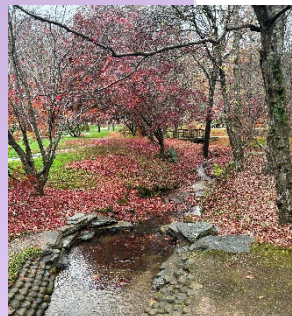
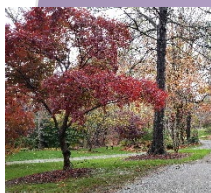
Lunch at Atlanta airport as we waited  
for the arrival of the delayed flight  
from Lafayette.



The Da Vinci Exhibit



Gibbs Gardens



The group with our bus driver who  
got us safely to our destinations



## LGCF TOUR OF TULIPS April 23 to May 2, 2023) 10 days (NEW PRICE)

(REMINDER: EASTER IS APRIL 9, 2023)

1. Travel to Holland for the prime Tulip time!
2. Fly into Amsterdam from your airport to Atlanta and over.  
(Hope Groups Tickets purchased!!??) \*
3. Stay in Utrecht City Center (**Hampton Inn by Hilton**)
4. Local Guides and transportation will be provided for our customized, private trips. (Tips included)
5. **Use of "whispers," (individual earphones where can hear the guide at all times)**
6. Tour Amsterdam, take Private Canal ride, visit museums, etc.  
**(Will have opportunity to visit Anne Frank House) (24 per ticket)\*\***
7. Visit Tulip farm and Kurkenhof Gardens
8. Visit interesting cities and sites near Utrecht on day trips (Delft, Gouda, Kinderdijk (canal ride), The Hague, Giethoorn, Naarden, Kroller-Muller, Het Loo and Bruges, Belgium).
9. Tour Utrecht and take small, private canal ride from Utrecht
10. Can purchase Trip cancellation insurance options as an extra ([Cancellation Any Reason and/or Pre-existing Condition Insurance has to be purchased when deposit is placed on the trip](#)\*\*\*)



**MINIMUM: 14 PERSONS** AND MAXIMUM 20 PERSONS at this price, which has been lowered by about \$1,000 DEPOSIT DUE December 1 — \$300pp (\$100 not refundable after December 15)

**ALL ESTIMATES!!**

**PRICE IS PER PERSON**

**BASED ON TWO TO A ROOM**

**Checks to: Cordill Enterprises, Inc.**

**Venmo: naomi-cordill**

**YOU MUST HAVE A VALID PASSPORT!!!!**

**AS OF NOW THERE ARE NO COVID RESTRICTIONS**

**ESTIMATED TOTAL: \$4500 to \$5000** \* [including estimated Air fares](#) + Insurance \*\*\*

**Includes:** flights (\$2000\*), transfers, transportation, all tours and entrance fees and tips and hotel.  
Breakfast included in hotel!

**\*Estimated cost.** Will secure flights after November, 2022! Prices are estimates so **will owe for tickets when booked**- based on the \$2000 estimate (May make your own arrangements if you have points??)

**Extra expenses:** Meals, drinks, wine/liquor, shopping and possibly luggage fees. **\*\*Possibly Anne Frank Tickets and \*\*\*Insurance** (Estimation \$500 to \$700 pp??)

*Naomi Cordill, Tours Chairman*

*156 Botany Bay Road*

*Saint Joseph, LA 71336*

*318-498-0094 [lgcftours@aol.com](mailto:lgcftours@aol.com)*

## PROPOSED TOURS THROUGH SPRING 2025

(Let me know what you think about the proposals!)

### FALL 2023

#### North/South Louisiana Swap      NOVEMBER 6 –11

North members will tour Southern locations/South members will tour Northern locations. The Garden Clubs will assist me by suggesting restaurants, sites, gardens and hotels to visit. Both areas will tour Alexandria area November 8<sup>th</sup>.

- Bellingrath Gardens (Alexandria to Mobile, AL) November 9 to 11  
(Cascading Chrysanthemums)

**I AM HOPING THAT ALL CLUBS WILL PROVIDE ME WITH 2 SITES, 2 RESTAURANTS AND 2 HOTELS FOR THEIR AREA. PLEASE SEND THEM WHENEVER YOU DECIDE YOUR CHOICES.**

### SPRING 2024

#### Philadelphia Flower Show      FEBRUARY 28–MARCH 5 / MARCH 6–12 TBD

The Flower Show is the nation's largest and longest-running horticultural event and features stunning displays by the world's premier floral and landscape designers. Described as "the country's oldest, largest and most prestigious celebration of flowers!" **THE EXACT DATES FOR 2024 HAVE NOT BEEN FINALIZED BUT IS ALWAYS NEAR THE BEGINNING OF MARCH!!**

### FALL 2024

#### Portland and Washington Wine Country`      SEPTEMBER 24–30

Restore your spirits and satisfy your inner wine enthusiast with some of the most scenic wineries and tasting rooms in Oregon's Mid-Willamette Valley. See the beauty of Oregon and Washington and see the interesting sights of Seattle. Possible visit to Butchart's Garden while in Seattle.

**KNOW THAT ACTIVITIES AROUND AREAS PROPOSED WILL DETERMINE IF TRAVEL TAKES PLACE.**

### SPRING 2025

#### Texas Bluebonnets      MARCH 31 TO APRIL 5      (Easter is April 20)

It is the time of year when wildflowers are popping up all over the countryside painting Texas in shades of red, blue, yellow and white. Texas respects the beauty of all wildflowers, but the bluebonnet is the best. So, to make sure that you get your fill of bluebonnet beauty, I've planned the ultimate Bluebonnet Road Trip through the heart of Hill Country.

**MANY HAVE BEEN BEFORE, BUT THERE IS ALWAYS NEW BEAUTY AND FUN TO SEE AND DO!**

## Evangeline Oak



Evangeline was unwell. You could see it in Her lackluster crown, leaf-bald in places, and in the meager crop of acorns She begrudgingly sprouted. A creeping fig vine, starting out innocently enough as an ornamental ground cover in the 1980s, had escaped its intended location and had managed to scale the trunk of the legendary oak, growing tighter, more leafy and more woody

every year, tighter even to the point of cutting into Evangeline's bark.

By the turn of the new millennium, the opportunistic vine had crept throughout Her crown, wrapping its evergreen leaves around each of Her fern-feathered branches. Visitors to the park during the 2010s may recall Evangeline's silhouette, romantically garlanded with vines. That was no romance. The vines were actually strangling poor Evangeline. Standing beneath Her branches and looking up into Her crown, the



canopy was green enough. But it wasn't Evangeline's leaves that were green. It was the fig leaves that were green. Evangeline, entangled, was fighting for Her life.



If Evangeline is still around in the year 2122, and your grandchildren's grandchildren have the occasion to visit Her, they'll have the St. Martinville Garden Club to thank. But for the valiant efforts of these women and the team of experts they assembled, this battle between fig and oak might have ended on a different note. Mary Desormeaux, as President of the St. Martinville Garden Club, has served as Evangeline's caretaker and main advocate for the last four years. She told me whenever she had a difficult decision to make, she always



tried to see the situation from the tree's point of view. "Every living organism has a will to survive," she told me. She just needed a little help.

The Garden Club, under Desormeaux's leadership, and with the input of advisors, developed a plan for Evangeline's rehabilitation, which also included substantial renovation of the grounds of Evangeline Oak Park. The plan was proposed to the City Council in 2019, and the Save Our Tree project was underway. Through the fundraising efforts of club members, with matching funds from the City of St. Martinville, and a major assist from WoodmenLife, Chapter 134 of St. Martinville, the plan was put into action.

The most urgent issue was the vine. Stuart Gauthier coordinated the response from the LSU Ag Center as Extension Agent for St. Martin Parish. He said, "You could say that the vine was parasitizing the tree." A parasite is when one organism lives on or inside another organism, causing some harm to its host. You might think of parasites as tiny micro-organisms, but plants can be parasites too. In this case, it was a battle between an oak and a vine, and the momentum was tilted in favor of the smaller, but more nimble, creeper.

And it wasn't just the fig vine that needed to be addressed. Evangeline's daughter had grown so tall and full beside Her that the two live oaks were now competing for the same sunlight. Did you know that Evangeline shares the park with Her daughter? Or have you always been, like me, too awed by Evangeline to notice? Next time you visit the park, spend some time with the other live oak there. She doesn't have a name, but people call her Daughter. Daughter's crown, the team determined, would need to be trimmed back for Evangeline to fully flourish.



Daughter in front, Evangeline in back



Evangeline Crown

Jim Foret, a licensed arborist and horticulturist out of New Iberia, emphasized the importance of sunlight to a live oak. "Leaves are the sugar factories of the tree," he explained. Without exposure to enough sunlight, leaves won't be able to meet the tree's energy requirements. A healthy crown of leaves is the sign of a happy oak, and Evangeline's crown had grown raggedy. On an old

postcard from the 1960s, Her crown is resplendently green. It's shocking to see the comparison.

Frank Thibodeaux with Bob's Tree Preservation coordinated the removal of the creeping fig. If you think it was as simple as peeling some vines away from the trunk, think again. *Ficus pumila*, so-called creeping fig vine, can secrete latex strong enough to do real damage to brick and other building materials. Imagine what it can do to an oak. The creeping fig had encased Evangeline in braided, woody layers, constricting Her. Severed from their roots, they came off in thick mats. To be sure they'd not missed any roots still in the ground, an air knife was used to gently decompact the topsoil around Her base with focused jets of air. Her limbs were trimmed. Fungicide was applied. And a specially formulated mulch, with root-friendly microbes, was worked into the soil. Then they waited.

By spring of 2021, the tree was showing signs of renewal. Foret told me the turnaround was palpable. Gauthier, while giving a more guarded assessment, agreed that things were moving in the right direction. "Oaks are slow to decline," he said, "and also slow to rebound." In other words, these things take time. For Desormeaux, it was the large crop of acorns Evangeline sprouted that year. She took it as a good omen.

With the health of Save Our Tree project renovations. The existing Evangeline—white loosely with chain—could the steady stream of foot any favors, so aluminum place. Daughter was a tree means respecting root system, so you don't blindly into the ground. used to gently decompact insertion of fencing slope of the park. In my park both before and after, the experience of the two live oaks is actually enhanced by the low black fencing. Yes, the fences are barriers, but here they are also elegant frames.

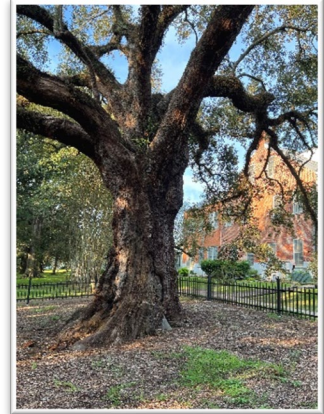


Daughter

Evangeline righted, the pivoted to park barrier around concrete pillars strung be easily breached, and traffic wasn't doing Her fencing was installed in its fenced off too. Respecting its massive underground just go poking fenceposts Again, an air knife was the soil, allowing safe conforming to the subtle opinion, having seen the

Going forward, Foret will continue to advise on Evangeline's care. He's eager to see Evangeline's crown come May or June. He'll look to the most vulnerable areas, where the leaves grow farthest from the trunk, for any patches of yellow or other signs of leaf loss. And of course, everyone will be keeping an eye out for the fig vine. Strangulation by vine is an uncommon cause of live oak morbidity, according to Gauthier, and now that the non-native fig vine has been eradicated, he's less concerned about the native vines that are already beginning to find purchase on Evangeline's sturdy trunk—trumpet vine, Virginia creeper, poison ivy.

It's tempting to believe a mature live oak would be able to take care of Herself, but Evangeline's treatment plan was carried out only with great effort, a lot of teamwork, and at no small expense. Rehabilitation of both oaks, clean-up and landscaping of the grounds, placement of a lightning rod and installation of fencing, before all was said and done, ended up costing around seventy thousand dollars. For Desormeaux, the Garden Club, and the community at large, the investment was well worth it. "We are all Evangeline," Desormeaux said. "We all go through hardships in life. We all get beat down. We all suffer. But we're also resilient. We find a way to move forward."



More than a tourist destination, Evangeline is the beating heart of a people, the living embodiment of an enduring myth permanently rooted in the soul. Evangeline invites us to remember where we come from and to consider where we're going. More than anything, She inspires us to see the world beyond our own narrow self-interest. You can see it in Her rootedness, Her deep connection to the earth, stretching back to the

1700s at least. You can see it in the optimism of Her evergreen leaves, in Her hunger for the sun. And if you look closely at Her trunk, the next time you visit, you can see it in Her battle scars, too. Every living thing has a will to survive. Evangeline sees our struggle, and tips it in favor of Faith.

*Jude Theriot*

*Contributing Writer*

*St. Martin Parish Tourism Commission*





# CIRCLE OF ROSES

Rebecca “Becky” Latiolais  
Lafayette Garden Club  
District III



Becky Latiolais was born in Lafayette and moved to Franklin, LA in 1970. Becky moved back to Lafayette in 2001.

Becky has been married to Harry Latiolais for 52 Years. She has one son, Marcus, his wife, Tasha and one granddaughter, Alexis.

Becky joined the Lafayette Garden Club in 2012. She was sponsored by Margaret Hargroder and Claire Moody. Becky was a Board Member from 2017-2019 and she was the Social Committee Co-Chair for 6 Years. She served on the Bridge Memorial Committee at ULL Alumni Center, the Welcome Committee for the LA Convention in Lafayette 2019, has helped with Hospitality Committee for Festival des Fleur for the past 8 Years and helps set up the Flower Show annually.

Becky is a fabulous Flower Designer winning many blue ribbons and the Tri-color Award at Flower Shows. She was the winner of the Maude Viskell Award in 2013 and was the LGC Woman of the Year in 2021. Becky attends the District Meetings, LGCF Conventions, Garden School and Flower Show School Courses and Symposiums. She has also attended a Floral Design Show by Brady workshop by Diana Dore 2012 and A Garden Affair by the Washington Garden Club, 2012.

Becky loves gardening and working in her yard. She is a Eucharistic Minister at St. Mary's Catholic Church. She belongs to the Ladies Altar Society and is on the Décor/Social Team. Becky is a rosary maker at St. Pius Catholic Church and is on the Senior Citizen Luncheon Committee.



# *CIRCLE OF ROSES*

Tommie Andrews  
Farmerville Garden Club  
and  
Marion Garden Club  
District V



Tommie Andrew was born on January 28, 1922 in Prescott, Arkansas. She graduated from Emmet, AR High School in 1939 and attended Texarkana Jr. College. She was married in December of 1939 and again in October of 2004.

Tommie is the past president of Louisiana Federation of Music Clubs, past president and past board member of Haynesville Country Club and past president of Mildred Bevil Music Club in Haynesville, LA. Tommie worked at North Claiborne Hospital for 25 years and was head of the Medical Records Department.

Tommie has been involved over the years with District V Garden Clubs. She was a past treasurer and is currently an active, participating member of both the Farmerville Garden Club and the Marion Garden Club. She has completed Courses 1 and 2 of Series 7 of Environmental Studies School in September 2022. She was also a member in a non-federated garden club for many years.



# CIRCLE OF ROSES

Cynthia "Razzie" Cagnolatti  
Gonzales Garden Club  
District VI



Cynthia "Razzie" Cagnolatti joined the Gonzales Garden Club in 1995. Razzie has been the club's treasurer since 2001. She has done an outstanding job in overseeing the management of the financial affairs of the club. Her other contributions to the club include serving as Chairman of the Membership Committee and Chairman of the Ways & Means Committee. The club appreciates her willingness to help and enjoys her delightful disposition.

Razzie is an avid gardener and her yard is a natural habitat for butterflies, bees, and birds. The most important thing to her is her family. She and her husband Frank have been married for 55 years. They have two grown children Chad Cagnolatti of Bend, Oregon, and Edie Cagnolatti of Baton Rouge. She also has a grand dog name Pierre! Razzie enjoys trying new restaurants, is a member of St. Theresa Avila and her motto has always been "I am\_\_years old and flexible!"

Recently she said, "The garden club means so much to me because of the many friends I have made, of the opportunities I have had to learn more about gardening and participate in community events that benefit Gonzales, and the chance to socialize and eat great food!"

Conchita Richey said this when she learned of Razzie's receiving the Circle of Roses Award, "Razzie is not only a fellow Gonzales Garden Club member but a very close and dear friend, long before Garden Club. I knew she would be a great asset to our club, and she is."





# CIRCLE OF ROSES

Margaret Hardin  
Gardenettes Garden Club  
District VI



Margaret Hardin has been a dedicated garden club member for over 20 years. Born in Spain to German parents, Margaret moved with her family to Mexico prior to World War II. There she met and married her husband Homer Hardin in 1971 and moved to Ponchatoula.

Margaret Hardin was a long-time member of Community Garden Club in Ponchatoula LA. When that organization dissolved, she transitioned over to Gardenettes Garden Club. Margaret has been a hard worker on all of the projects that make the club function as a community asset. For the past few years, she has been the Live Oak Chairman and helped register oak trees. Margaret has volunteered to serve dinners during Strawberry Festival, sell chances for the club scholarship fund, and sew bosom buddy bags for local cancer patients (another club community project). While a member of Community Garden Club, she worked the annual Strawberry Festival, and because of her and the other members of Community Garden Club's hard work, the Gardenettes are allowed use of the Strawberry Board Building in Memorial Park.

Margaret joined to learn about gardening, but the fellowship and socializing was an added plus. According to Margaret, "The union of people in friendship to each other is even more meaningful." She enjoys the club's annual Christmas decorating, projects like Bosom Buddy Bags for cancer patients, Garden of the Month and the monthly programs on gardening. As chairman of the Live Oaks Committee, she has encouraged the registering of trees in the Ponchatoula area.



# *CIRCLE OF ROSES*

Marilyn Wright  
Gardenettes Garden Club  
District VI



When she joined the Gardenettes almost a decade ago, Marilyn Wright has used her commitment to serving others to implement many programs that benefit the community. She currently serves as garden club vice president. During COVID, as Garden of the Month and Genesis (commercial, civic landscape award) Chairman, she gave these awards as often as possible despite having to take precautions against the pandemic. She has been a hard worker, going above and beyond to help with other programs such as Bosom Buddy Bags for surgery and cancer patients, scholarship fundraising and holiday decorating.

Marilyn has won the local president's award for best committee work for a couple of years in a row. One of her favorite things is to bring home cooked meals to sick members. Her garden has won Garden of the Month which reflects her hard work there. The club looks forward to her help for many years to come.

A native of Texas, Marilyn and her late husband own a Metairie LA piano company which she turned over to her son when she retired. Marilyn's compassion for the elderly and shut-ins has led to many campaigns to bring them cheer. For some of these she has enlisted the Gardenettes assistance; many, she conducts herself without seeking recognition. She is an active member of First Baptist Church of Ponchatoula LA.



# CIRCLE OF ROSES

The purpose of Circle of Roses is to recognize garden club members in their senior years who have given their time and talents to garden club work. We would like to honor them in the newsletter as well. 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 and achievements. 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**

**2201 Verot School Rd, Cottage 15-A**

**Lafayette, LA 70508**

**[nanalovespops@gmail.com](mailto: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 and please clearly label which picture is "then" and which is "now." 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. It is better to scan rather than photocopy the photo. Photocopying can result in a grainy picture. If you are unable to scan the pictures, please send in the original photographs. Those will be scanned and returned to the Club President or whomever you designate.





# Calendar of Events

## 2023

January 9–10	Winter Council, Headquarters, Lecompte
March 8	DSGC Convention, Tri-Refresher, Kenner, LA (Hilton Airport Hotel)
March 9–10	DSGC Convention, Kenner, LA (Hilton Airport Hotel)
<b>April 1</b>	<b>DUES DUE – State and District</b>
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 1–5	NGC Convention, The Greenbriar, White Sulphur Springs, WV
September 18–20	NGC Fall Board Meeting, Airport Marriot, St. Louis, MO
November 6–11	North/South Louisiana Tour

## 2024

February 29 – March 5	Philadelphia Flower Show
June 2–5	NGC Convention, The Westin Winchester, Denver, CO
September TBA	NGC Fall Board Meeting, Virtual
September 24–30	Portland / Washington Wine Country

## 2025

March 31 – April 5	Texas Bluebonnets (Easter is April 20)
May 19–23	NGC Convention, Omaha, Nebraska