Our cover this quarter is graced with a lovely White-throated Magpie-Jay (Calocitta formosa) that was photographed by Kathy Bedenbaugh. The Gardenettes Garden Club of Ponchatoula holds a yearly photo contest. Last year the categories were birds and butterflies and this Magpie-Jay won first place in the bird category. Vicky Fannaly submitted the photo and shared their web address (http://gardenettesgardenclub.weebly.com). Next time you’re surfing the web, check out their photo contests – I guarantee you will enjoy! Thank you Gardenettes for sharing!

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 (April 2015) IS March 1st, 2015.

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
MESSAGE FROM OUR PRESIDENT

“Nature’s World Where Everything Belongs”
Symbol: Hummingbird

Fall was in the air as I traveled the state in October to the District Meetings. How marvelous it is that we are such a diverse state with each District placing its own footprint in the environment. Each District had such wonderful exciting programs: Floral Design, “Threatened & Endangered Species in Southern Louisiana”, Horticulture (“Nutrient Deficiencies in Ornamentals”) and “Delightful Discoveries at Every Bend” in Iberville Parish. I thank each District Director, sponsoring club(s) and all those who worked so hard to make each District Meeting so successful!

New educational opportunities are available through the Landscape Design School which will be held in Baton Rouge, LA at the Baton Rouge Garden Center, 7950 Independence Blvd. Course I Series XIX will be January 26-27, 2015 and Course II Series XIX will be January 28-29, 2015. These will be back to back courses. You may take both or one. Anyone may attend. See our website [lgcfinc.org] for registration forms and information about the school.

Please get your 2015 LGCF Convention Registration in early and make your hotel reservations. The convention will be held April 22-23 at the Isle of Capri Hotel, Lake Charles, LA. On April 21 there will be a tour of Shangri LA Botanical Gardens and Nature Center, Orange, Texas. All of the above events are on the website just waiting for you to get your information and register to attend! Great programs have been planned as you enjoy your meals. You won’t want to miss Awards Night and the Installation of New Officers as we say so long to one administration and welcome to a new one.

Please remember that the Cleanest City Contest Forms need to be submitted by February 1, 2015. District Judging will take place March 16-20, 2015 and State Judging will take place April 7-17, 2015. Good luck to all those entering the contest. As LGCF has said many times before, when you enter you already have won, because it shows the desire of the community to want to be litter free and beautiful!

Another school in the works will be Flower Show School, Course I, July 30, 31, August 1, 2015. It will be held in Lafayette, LA at the Ira Nelson Horticulture Center. It’s not too early to place these dates on your calendar for we all get busy and forget. More information is on the website (lgcfinc.org).

Also, place on your calendar, the dates for Environmental Schools I and II which will be September 22-25, 2015 in the Monroe area. More information will be on the website (lgcfinc.org) at a later date.

I hope all of you had a plentiful Thanksgiving, a very Merry Christmas, Happy Holidays and a joyous New Year! Let us all continue to hope for “Peace on Earth”…

January 2015

LGCF Newsletter
MESSAGE FROM OUR PRESIDENT

Let there be peace on earth and let it begin with me.
Let there be peace on earth, the peace that was meant to be!
With God as our Father, brothers all are we.
Let me walk with my brother in perfect harmony.

Let peace begin with me. Let this be the moment now.
With ev’ry breath I take, let this be my solemn vow;
To take each moment and live each moment in peace eternally!
Let there be peace on earth and let it begin with me!

Words by Sy Miller and Jill Jackson

Until next time in “Nature’s World Where Everything Belongs”…

Yvette Hebert, LGCF President

Excerpt from Dear Abby’s list of New Year’s resolutions:

Just For Today: I will live through this day only. I will not brood about yesterday or obsess about tomorrow. I will not set far-reaching goals or try to overcome all of my problems at once. I know that I can do something for 24 hours that would overwhelm me if I had to keep it up for a lifetime.

Just For Today: I will be happy. I will not dwell on thoughts that depress me. If my mind fills with clouds, I will chase them away.

Just For Today: I will improve my mind. I will read something that requires effort, thought and concentration. I will not be a mental loafer.

Just For Today: I will make a conscious effort to be agreeable. I will be kind ad courteous to those who cross my path, and I’ll not speak ill of others. I will improve my appearance, speak softly, and not interrupt when someone else is talking.

Just For Today: I will refrain from improving anybody but myself.

Just For Today: I will do something positive to improve my health. If I’m a smoker, I will quit. If I am overweight, I will eat healthfully – if only for today. And not only that, I will get off the couch and take a brisk walk, even if it’s only around the block.

Just For Today: I will gather the courage to do what is right and take the responsibility for my own actions.
COLLEEN GANGOLF
Lakeview Botany Guild (Dist. I)

Colleen Gangolf joined Lakeview Botany Guild in 1957 at the age of 31. Her mother, Edna Eagan was President in 1958 when Colleen chaired the club's first junior group called the “Lil Sprouts.” This special group consisted mostly of the club member's daughters and they assembled flower arrangements, taught horticulture and authored rules for the flower shows.

Colleen still enjoys gardening on a daily basis and has participated in the Lakeview Botany Club for over 58 years. Over her tenure, she has chaired multiple events such as the Installation Luncheon, the Christmas Tea brunch and the Patio Party, including cooking the entire dinner that was served. As a participant in standard flower shows, she has won numerous awards earning multiple blue ribbons. Unfortunately all of Colleen’s ribbons were destroyed in Hurricane Katrina.

Colleen has presented numerous gardening programs at other clubs in addition to Lakeview Botany. At the age of 89, she remains active in our club providing valuable experience and mentorship. Colleen is an icon in the New Orleans gardening community and it would indeed be an honor for her to be inducted into the Circle of Roses.

BEVERLY STANLEY
Lakeview Botany Guild (Dist. I)

Beverly Stanley has been active in the Federated Council of New Orleans Garden Clubs, Inc., since 1990. She first joined the Greater Pines Village Garden Club where she was an active member for 15 years and served the club in many capacities. For three consecutive years, from 1993 to 1996, she held the position of President, and she served as Treasurer from 1991 to 1992 and from 2001 to 2005. Beverly was honored by Greater Pines Village twice as woman of the Year, for 1992-1993 and 1999-2000. She also chaired numerous committees, including Budget, Small Ways and Means, Awards, Remembrance, Yearbook, and Garden Therapy and held the post of Librarian. Following disbandment of Greater Pines Village after Hurricane Katrina, Beverly joined Lakeview Botany Guild, where she currently serves as chair of the Telephone Committee. In addition to her involvement in these two clubs, Mrs. Stanley served as President of the Federated Council of New Orleans Garden Clubs, District I, from 1996 to 1997, and she was honored as the Federated Council Woman of the year for 2003-2004.
**BETTY CALLENDER**  
*Lafayette Garden Club (Dist. III)*

Betty and her now deceased husband, Lt. Col. Alvin Callender, moved to Lafayette in 1957. She worked for the State of Louisiana until she retired in 1980; whereupon she immediately joined the Lafayette Garden club.

Betty has always been active in community projects and a supportive and loyal member of Lafayette Garden Club. Her love of design and horticulture enabled her to assist friends with their flower arrangements for weddings, as well as gifting her church with arrangements for various occasions. For Betty, the love of her garden is best realized in the early morning hours when the dew is still on the roses and the birds are singing their songs.

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**JANICE DENNEN**  
*Lafayette Garden Club (Dist. III)*

“I had no idea what to put in the ground here,” says Janice Dennen, thinking about when she first moved from California to Lafayette. “So I took a class and the president of the Lafayette Garden Club was teaching it. She brought me right into the Lafayette Garden Club in 1991. I couldn’t have done better that that.”

For years she chaired the Civic Development and Cleanest City committee. She has participated as a hostess for monthly meetings, been on the Civic Pride/Garden of the Month Committee, worked at flower shows, even winning blue ribbons for her “special” fern that grows wild.

Janice Zilar Dennen was born on February 22, 1930 in Miami, Oklahoma. She and her husband of 65 years, Jack, have four daughters, seven grandchildren and eight great-grandchildren.

Schooled as a teacher, Janice taught English and history. She also taught homebound handicapped children. “I love to read,” says Janice. Laughing, she said her hobby is sleeping because of medication she is taking. In the past she loved gardening and cooking. “Now I’d rather go out and eat.”

Janice is a member of the First Christian Church.
Earlene Garber  
New Iberia Garden Club (Dist. III)  
Earlene was born in 1928, is married, has one daughter and one grandchild. She has been an active member of the New Iberia Garden club since 1999. She worked as an English Teacher and School Supervisor until her retirement. She held the position as New Iberia Garden Club (NIGC) President for one term and has held the position of Parliamentarian for several terms. Earlene has served the Horticulture Committee for NIGC all throughout her membership. She is a member of the American Hemerocallis Society, Delta Daylily Society, American Camellia Society and Southwest LA Daylily Club and has served as in some fashion on their boards. She has given many talks to area garden clubs on Daylilies, Herbs, and Camellias. She has also provided her home for garden tours given by local and national garden clubs. Her home is located on a 5 acre garden consisting of Daylilies, Camellias, Live Oaks, Oriental Magnolias, Crinums and Antique Roses. Earlene continues to be active in her garden and the NIGC garden club continuing to educate through knowledge of gardening and Parliamentary Law.

ANNE MELETON  
Lafayette Garden Club (Dist. III)  
“I remember bringing home so many beautiful plants from the Lafayette Garden Club meetings and my husband would plant them”, recalls Katharine Rosenblath Meleton, who goes by Anne. “He loved plants.” And so does Anne. “I like to propagate plants, and I’ve learned the hard way with lots of mistakes”.  
Anne became interested in gardening after taking a horticulture class at the Ira Nelson Center with Barbara Nelson. “I loved it,” she says.  
In 1978, Anne joined the club. For a long time, she was committee chairman of Cleanest City. She has opened her home for the club’s Christmas Tea and the Spring Luncheon. She has volunteered to help at flower shows and has hosted meetings. For years, she entertained Flower Show judges at lunch prior to the judging.  
While Anne has been involved in Duplicate Bridge, tennis and Vermilionville (as a charter member of Friends of Vermilionville) on and off for years, the one constant that has never changed is the Lafayette Garden Club. “The garden club has always been there,” she says.  
Anne was born on November 14, 1926 in Shreveport. She and her late husband, Pierce, an architect, are the parents of five children, seventeen grandchildren, and four great grandchildren. Today her commitments are to her church, the Theresians, and the garden club. She is a member of Les Petit Fleur Theresians and St. Pius and St. Patrick’s Churches.

January 2015  
LGCF Newsletter
LORAINNE NEWBERRY
Lafayette Garden Club (Dist. III)

Loraine Landry Newberry attributes her love of gardening to her father's grandmother who lived in a cabin on the family sugarcane farm where native plants grew everywhere. She remembers that whenever they ate something with seeds, her great-grandmother insisted they plant them. Later, they would check to see what came up. Often enough it was nothing, but from this early beginning, her love of growing things has itself grown and grown.

She said there was a magazine called the Progressive Farmer through which you could buy ten packs of zinnias for a dollar. She convinced her great-grandmother to buy them and she planted a row along a fence. Shortly after that came a rare snowfall. Loraine, then ten years old, created a makeshift greenhouse out of newspapers held down by bricks. The zinnias survived, bloomed and attracted crowds of admirers, many of whom back then had never seen a zinnia.

For the past twenty years, Loraine has provided educational information on plants she has grown, studied, and then displayed for the benefit of the Lafayette Garden Club. She has authored "Horticulture Hints" in the club's yearbook.

In her years as a Garden Club member, she has participated in flower shows and spoken to numerous other clubs about gardening. She is presently a member of the Louisiana society of Horticultural Research and the African Violet Club.

She sings with the Ladies Altar Society Choir and the Mixed Choir at Sacred Heart Church in Broussard. For eight years, Loraine decorated the church altar for masses, weddings and funerals only stopping after double knee replacement. This excellent 'Cajun Cook' also volunteers to bring food to bereaved families. She also has another hobby: she plays bourré twice a week.

The octogenarian was born on the family farm in Broussard in July of 1934. She graduated from St. Cecilia School back when the school went all the way to the twelfth grade. Loraine is married to James Newberry. She has three living children and three that she lost.
CIRCLE OF ROSES

BERCIS OVUNC
Lafayette Garden Club (Dist. III)

“When you spend a little time in the garden, it takes your worries away,” says Bercis Zaralioglu Ovunc. And she should know. Bercis cared for her husband at home after a diagnosis of Alzheimer’s.

“It was a hard time,” she remembers. She lost 87 pounds and attributes gardening and swimming as helping her cope. Even today, Bercis swims two miles three times a week.

Bercis joined the Lafayette Garden Club in the early ‘80s. Throughout the years, she has participated in flower shows, hosted meetings and participated in design exhibits.

She says she has nothing but admiration for club members. “I learned a lot from them. I learned to be patient. They gave me a lot of courage. I love those ladies.”

The octogenarian has always loved flowers. Bercis was born on June 4, 1928 in Istanbul, Turkey. She always has a big garden with bouquets of fresh flowers from the garden throughout her home.

Bercis moved with her husband, Bulent, from Turkey to Canada in 1965. They in 1967, they moved to Louisiana where Bulent became a professor of engineering at Southwestern Louisiana Institute, now the University of Louisiana at Lafayette. Because of his research work, they travelled throughout the world.

Bercis used to enjoy sewing and knitting, but arthritis has stopped that. She loves cooking and entertaining. This “people person” loves her family and friends, and, of course, her garden. She has one daughter, Ayse, Ayse’s husband Grant McCracken, whom she considers a son, and one grandson, Grant, Jr.

CLAIRE DEGANNES TORRY
Lafayette Garden Club (Dist. III)

Claire DeGannes Torry was born on the twelfth of August 94 years ago in Trinidad. She has lived in Venezuela and Florida then moved to Lafayette in 1992 to be closer to her daughter.

Fifteen years ago, Claire became a stamp collector. She still collects today, especially stamps from Trinidad. But “gardening is my big thing,” she says. Today her gardening is done on her Broussard patio, which is home to numerous potted plants. “Begonias are my specialty,” she said.

She joined the Lafayette Garden Club when she arrived in 1992 and has been involved in the club’s activities ever since. She has participated in flower shows, in club outings such as field trips and projects, has provided design exhibits for meetings and has served as hostess chairman for many
years. Claire is a member of the African Violet Club, the St. Martinville Garden Club and the Friends of St. Martinville Library. She enjoys reading and attending church.

Claire was married to Malcolm Torry, new deceased, for 70 years. She has seven children, twelve grandchildren, and five great-grandchildren.

The spunky octogenarian says she will try everything, even to playing golf and tennis. She claims that while she loves plants, she is not very knowledgeable. We find that hard to believe.

Louise Pons Williams
Pierremont Hills Garden Club (Dist IV)
Louise joined the Pierremont Hills Garden Club a half a century ago in 1965. A lot of flowers have bloomed since then and a lot of flower shows, community projects, meetings with informative programs and installation luncheons have taken place. Many long time and wonderful friendships have been made and it has really been a blessing to look back and remember it all.

Louise has served on just about every committee in the garden club. She has been President three years, served as President of the Shreveport Garden Club Council. She was on the R. S. Barnwell Garden and Art Center Board for several years. Louise states that it has been a wonderful experience being a member of the Pierremont Hills Garden Club and she looks forward to many years to come.

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” ten 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

Humming Birds in Louisiana
The Ruby-throated Hummingbird is Louisiana’s only breeding hummingbird species. The preferred habitats are swamps and other woodlands. Breeding commences almost as soon as the first summer residents arrive from tropical wintering grounds. The male does not participate in nest construction, incubation, or raising the young. These jobs are left to the females who establish their own territories centered on the nesting site.
Pre Convention Tour

April 21, 2015

*Shangri La Botanical Gardens and Nature Center, Orange TX and*
*A “Southern Afternoon” at Henning Cultural Center, Sulphur LA*

Join us on a walking, birding, botanizing, boating, and just plain fun trip to Shangri La Botanical Gardens and Nature Center in Orange, Texas.

*Limited space – filled on a first come bases!*

Meet at Henning Cultural Center, 923 Ruth Street, Sulphur, LA 70663

**Boarding is at 10:45a.m. with departure promptly at 11**

There will be ample parking for our members to leave their cars while we travel to our destination.

Tour includes motor-coach, driver gratuity, boxed lunch, entrance to gardens, boat tour, followed by tea and desserts at Henning House.

**Lunch**

Upon arrival at Shangri La Botanical Gardens and Nature Center we will lunch at the Star and Crescent Moon Cafe. Each box lunch includes choice of sandwich or salad, chips, fruit, cookie and bottled water.

**Botanical Garden Tour**

Lead by a knowledgeable guide to provide information and interpretation. The 252 acre area contains a cypress swamp, bird blind, botanical gardens and nature center. An over 1,000 year old Bald Cypress exists on the property. Bring a hat, binoculars, hiking shoes, camera, and clothes to fit the weather. The walk is a little over one mile and takes approximately 1 hr 45 min. All paths are wheelchair accessible.

**Outpost Tour**

At the Nature Discovery Center you will board a pontoon boat and take a short ride on Adams Bayou in the Cypress/Tupelo Swamp. A knowledgeable guide is on board to provide information and interpretation. The tour takes approximately 1 hr 15 min.

We will board the bus at 3 p.m. for departure from ShangiLa at 3:15

"Southern Afternoon" Honoring 2013 - 2015 LGCF Officers

Our tour will culminate at Henning Culture Center with desserts, coffee, tea and punch, and if you like, a self-guided walk in the park. *Henning House* houses traveling exhibits and local artists throughout the year. *The Grove at Heritage Square* is set in the midst of a pecan grove, the pedestrian park features fountains, walking paths, flower beds, sitting areas and Wi-Fi.

Locate your car and depart for check-in at the hotel! Happy Conventioning!

**OTHER INFORMATION about the garden/boat tour**

For the enjoyment of all guests on the Outpost Tour, all cell phones must be silenced and passengers must refrain from using cell phones or other electronic devices for the duration of the boat ride.

To accommodate large groups members may be split into two groups. Each boat accommodates 26 people.

In the event that the garden tour is canceled due to weather, an admissions voucher will be issued for you to use when visiting on your own in the future.

Six wheelchairs are available. If you need one, please secure someone to assist you in pushing it around the gardens.
**Name ____________________________________________________________**

**Address______________________________________________________________________________________________________________**

**City_________________________________________ State_______ Zip_______________________**

**Email ________________________________________________________ Phone (______) –_______**

**Garden Club ______________________________________________________________________ District _____________**

Circle all that apply to indicate your status for Registration and Credentials

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Local Club</th>
<th>Member</th>
<th>Club President</th>
<th>Delegate/Alternate</th>
<th>Guest</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>LGCF, Inc</td>
<td>Officer</td>
<td>Chairman</td>
<td>Life Member</td>
<td>Past President</td>
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<tr>
<td>Deep South</td>
<td>Officer</td>
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<td>Past DSR Director</td>
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<td>NGC</td>
<td>Officer</td>
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**Due date March 30, 2015**

Due to contract meal guarantee, NO registrations accepted after April 3.

Please make an(x) in the desired boxes.

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<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Name of meal</th>
<th>Price</th>
<th>Amount</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Tues 4/21</td>
<td>Pre-convention Tour: Botanical Garden &amp; Tea (Bus, Tip, Lunch, Garden/Boat Tour, Tea/Desserts)</td>
<td>$50.00</td>
<td>$</td>
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Check (☑) One - Only if you are attending the Pre-Tour - Boxed Lunch includes chips, cookie, fruit and bottled water.

- ☐ Turkey Club - turkey, lettuce, tomato, Swiss cheese served on a croissant.
- ☐ Ham Club - ham, lettuce, tomato, Swiss cheese served on a croissant.
- ☐ Park Avenue Salad - diced grilled chicken on a bed of baby field greens, feta, Parmesan cheese, bacon, pecans, cranberries and a side of dressing.

**April 22 – 23**

Entire Convention (all events listed below) | $190.00 | $

I want to register for a portion of the Convention. (A registration fee is required for each day regardless of the number of events one attends)

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<th>Name of meal</th>
<th>Price</th>
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<tr>
<td>Wednesday</td>
<td>Registration</td>
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<tr>
<td>4/22</td>
<td>Breakfast</td>
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<td>4/22</td>
<td>Luncheon</td>
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<td>Banquet</td>
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<td>Thursday</td>
<td>Registration</td>
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<td>4-day leeway</td>
<td>Late Fee if registration is postmarked after March 30</td>
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NO registrations accepted after April 3

Total Amount I am enclosing: Total Amount: | $       | $

Dietary: 
Vegetarian___________
Allergies:__________________________

Make checks payable to **LGCF Convention 2015**

Mail form and payment to:  Dr. Pam Langley, 1750 Bilbo St, Lake Charles La 70601-6061
Hotel Reservations
Tuesday, April 21, 2015 - Friday, April 24, 2015

The Isle of Capri Lake Charles Tower Hotel will provide rooms at a special group rate starting Tuesday, April 21, 2015 and ending on Friday, April 24, 2015

**Your choice of one king bed or two queens $99.00 + tax**

Room Rates are currently(2014) at 13.25% tax

**CUT OFF DATE: April 9, 2015**

After the April 9, 2015 cut-off date no reservations will be accepted at the special group rate. Guests will be accommodated on a SPACE AND RATE AVAILABLE BASIS.

**CHECK-IN TIME** is 3 p.m. and **CHECK-OUT TIME** is 11 a.m.

Make reservations by calling 1-888-ISLE-VIP (1-888-475-3847).

It is imperative that you state the **group code** __GARDEN__

**GUARANTEED RESERVATIONS**
Guarantees are required for all rooms. To guarantee a reservation a major credit card number is required at the time the reservation is made. The credit card will not be charged only if the reservation is cancelled by 6 p.m. on the day of arrival.

**About Your Room**
All rooms are referred to as Junior Suites. Nearly a year and half after renovations first began, the Isle of Capri Casino Hotel held a ribbon cutting ceremony on Aug. 27, 2013 for their $15 million Tower Hotel renovations project.

They are contemporary designed rooms located just steps away from the convention center. The Junior Suites are furnished with pillow-top mattresses. Amenities also include complimentary wireless Internet, flat-screen televisions with cable programming, a work desk, complimentary local calling, in-room safe, soaker bathtubs, a hair dryer, coffee maker, and iron with an ironing board.
2015 LGCF CONVENTION MENU
Hosted by District VII

Wednesday, April 22, 2015

Fluffy Scrambled Eggs
Bacon
Breakfast Potatoes
Assorted Breakfast Breads and Pastries
Jams, Honey, Butter
Orange Juice
Coffee and Hot Tea

- = - = - = - = - = -

Fresh Romaine Lettuce w/ dressings on the side

*Baked Lemon Pepper Caribbean Catfish*
Saffron Rice
Sauteed Fresh Green Beans w/ Squash
Coconut Pie

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Classic Caesar Salad
w/ Herb Croutons and Freshly Grated Imported Cheese

*Tender Medallions of Beef over Peppercorn Demiglaze*
Garlic Potatoes Rosette
Steamed Broccoli
Warm Banana’s Foster Bread Pudding with Whiskey Sauce
Warm rolls, iced tea and coffee

Thursday, April 23, 2015

Fluffy Scrambled Eggs
Sliced Ham
Fresh Baked Biscuits and Gravy
Orange Juice
Coffee and Hot Tea

- = - = - = - = - = -

**Build Your Own Soup & Sandwich Bar**
Cole Slaw & Potato Salad
Sliced Turkey, Honey Ham, Roast Beef
American, Swiss and Cheddar Cheeses
Assorted Breads and Rolls, Condiments
Shredded Lettuce, Sliced Tomato, Bermuda Onion and Pickle Spears
Sliced Fresh Fruit
Freshly Brewed Iced Tea

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Mixed California Greens w/ Italian and Ranch dressing on the side

**New Orleans Grilled Chicken Breast**
*topped w/ Creamy Crawfish Sauce*
Saffron Rice
Steamed Asparagus
Warm rolls, iced tea and coffee
Strawberries in Grand Marnier with Creamy Fraiche
The Yearbook, A Garden Club’s Bible
By Coleen P. Landry

I had the wonderful opportunity of observing the judging of some of Louisiana Garden Club Federation’s yearbooks for the year 2014-2015. It occurred to me that those books are the heart and soul of the clubs and that so many of them are the history of our lives.

Through the years, especially since digital photos and printing have come about, the books are so professional and colorful. The creativity of the covers amazed me. And, each part of the state has its own flavor and ways of doing things.

While State Yearbook Chairman Mary Crumb along with her two assistants, Lee Baraldi and Willie La Nasa, diligently and fervently worked on the judging, I had the opportunity to browse through many of the books. I was particularly touched and impressed with the Terrebonne Garden Club book as they celebrate their 85th year. Do you realize their club was formed when the United States was in the grip of the Great Depression and about to go into World War II? These marvelous ladies wrote a lot of their history in this year’s yearbook, some nostalgic and some great humor. Their cover, front and back, symbolized all that is good in Terrebonne (good earth). Cypress trees in a water setting could not say southern Louisiana more than they have. I was amused by a story told of removing a plaque they had placed in a part of the Parish many years ago because roadwork was coming through. It said the piece of marble still sits empty, waiting for the roadwork.

Gardening Seminar
The Northeast Louisiana Master Gardeners announce the 5th Annual Gardening Seminar, “Gardening Through the Ages”. To be held January 17, 2015, at the West Monroe Convention Center, 501 Ridge Avenue, West Monroe, LA. Time: 7:30 a.m.—12:30 p.m. Admission: $20.00. Pre-registration Preferred - Walk-ins Welcome.

Keynote speaker: Peter J. Hatch, professional gardener and historian with 38 years experience in the restoration, care, and interpretation of Historic landscapes.

Also speaking are William Welch, Professor and Texas AgriLife Extension Service Landscape Horticultural Sciences at Texas A&M University And author of ‘Antique Roses for the South‘; and Chris Wiesinger, Graduate of Texas A&M University, owner of The Southern Bulb Company near Tyler, Texas, a member of Texas AgriLife Extension Service, and was dubbed ‘The Bulb Hunter’ in a 2006 New York Times feature story.

To register, send your name, address, phone number, email address and a check for $20 made payable to NELAMG to NELA Master Gardeners, 704 Cypress, West Monroe, LA 71291. For more information contact Laura Hardin, 318-680-9252.
Louisiana Landscape Design School
Course I   Series XIX - January 26-27, 2015
Course II Series XIX – January 28-29, 2015
Baton Rouge Garden Center
7950 Independence Blvd
Course Fees:  $60 (Audit $55)
More info:  
http://www.lgcfinc.org/landscape-design-school.html
Or contact Clara Earl: www.clarae2003@yahoo.com

NGC Flower Show School
Course I
July 30, 31 and August 1, 2015
Ira Nelson Horticulture Center
2206 Johnston St, Lafayette, LA
More Info:  
http://www.lgcfinc.org/flower-show-school.html

LGCF Garden Study School
Course III
February 23-24, 2015
Ira Nelson Horticulture Center
2206 Johnson St, Lafayette, LA
More Info:  
http://www.lgcfinc.org/gardening-study-school.html

New Orleans Judges Council Members
Creative Design Hands-On Workshops
Two Dates: Tuesday, June 2, 2015
Thursday, July 9, 2015
Garden Study Center, New Orleans City Park
Time: 9:30 a.m. – 3:30 p.m.
Fee: $30 payable to NO Judges Council
Mail to Mabel Himel, 6677 Canal Blvd., NO, LA 70124
Include email and phone #
In Remembrance
Margie K Jones, departed this life on Thursday, October 23, 2014. She was born in Algiers Louisiana on February 18, 1926. Margie is the founder and a dedicated member of Creative Planters Garden Club since 1958, likewise a former president. She was a Master Judge Emeritus of the LA Council of Nationally Accredited Flower Show Judges and New Orleans Council of NAFSJ past president. Margie was a life member of the National Garden Clubs Inc, the Deep South Region, the Louisiana Garden Club Federation Inc and the Jefferson Parish Council of Garden Clubs Inc. past president (1991-93 ). She held many offices in these clubs and was the recipient of numerous awards for her diligent service including the Jefferson Council's coveted Woman of the Year Award (1987). Foremost, Margie was recognized and always will be remembered for her generous contributions and tireless support of these organizations.

NGC Photo Contest
The National Garden Club Membership Committee would like to see the essence of NGC Membership portrayed through your photos with captions. What does NGC Membership mean to you and your State or Local Club? Give it some thought and take some pictures that best convey the idea of NGC Membership. Then, join in the photo contest!

Entries may originate in any format but must be submitted electronically. All entries must be the original work of a national or international member and free from copyright restrictions. Members are member clubs, groups of member clubs, State Garden Clubs, NGC Regions, and International Affiliates.

The photograph should be a .jpeg or .jpg format with the highest resolution possible. Digital manipulation of the photograph is permitted. A release form for everyone depicted in the photograph, including minors, must be included. Release forms are available on the NGC website. Entries must be received by March 15, 2015.

More information may be found at:
http://www.gardenclub.org/awards/membership-photo-contest.aspx

NGC in Need of Our Support
In the November issue of Keeping In Touch, NGC President Linda Nelson addressed the concern of finances of the NGC. For the past 20 years the annual dues were 50 cents per member. She is asking for an increase of 50 cents making annual dues one dollar per member and is asking for our support in this matter. More details may be found at:

Ruby-throated Hummingbirds
Chicks hatch naked and blind, but when fed a protein-rich diet of insects and nectar, they develop rapidly. Pinfeathers emerge at about 1 week of age and the eyes open a few days later. Nestlings leave the nest at 18-22 days of age by which time they are as large as an adult. The female continues to feed the young birds for about a week while they develop foraging skills.
Deeds and Doings

Districts I & II
On September 22nd members of New Orleans Flower Show Judges Council and friends joined to decorate the large urns at the Museum of Art. We were all proud of our creations and for representing NGC to the community.

From right to left front row: Donna StLouis, Debbie Corales, Debra Johnson, Zana Newell, Mabel Himel. Back row: Mary Jacobs, Mary Ellen Miller, and Sharon Massa.

Garden Clubs from Districts I and II helped in decorating for Celebration in the Oaks held in City Park of New Orleans. Three winners of the Mr. Bingles wreath contest are shown below.

Shown in the photo on the right, members of garden clubs of the Jefferson Parish Council of Garden Clubs decorated the Lafreniere Park Foundation Center in Metairie. Betty Gibbs, president of the Council, and Coleen Landry, a member of Acres of Green Garden Club and a member of the Park's Advisory Board, coordinated the event.
Deeds and Doings

**District II**

**Acres of Green Garden Club**, as part of its environmental studies program, toured the recently restored New Basin Canal Lighthouse on Lake Pontchartrain. Hurricane Katrina had seriously damaged the Lighthouse and Hurricane Gustave did more damage. The group learned of the environmental impact that Lake Pontchartrain has on the area and the ecology system of the Lake. In the photo on the right, from left to right are Lynne Ryan, Charlotte D'Angelo, Barbara Richard, Madeline Polizzi, Yvette Gagnet, President Phyllis Stacy, Lynn Courrege and Coleen Landry.

**Rambling Rose Gardeners** had a Horticulture Flower Show in October at Sharon Massa's house. Members brought a huge array of cuttings, potted plants, succulents and cacti. What a spectacular learning experience! If your club does not hold a Horticulture Flower Show, I can't explain to you what you are missing. Reba Mackey was our Judge. Besides delightfully awarding members their ribbons on winning plants, she also explained helpful ways to create a more attractive, award-winning specimens. Thank you, Reba. Daria Vincent, won BEST IN SHOW for a Sempevivum Centennial (pictured on the right), and Betty Gibbs won GROWERS CHOICE (pictured on the left). For our Philanthropic, members brought can goods to be donated to Second Harvest Food Bank whose mission is to end hunger by providing food access, advocacy, education, and disaster response.

In November, Rambling Rose Gardeners had a Thanksgiving Pot Luck at Daria's house. What a wonderful time we all had! Daria gave a Program on using Epsom Salt (or Magnesium Sulfate) in gardens. We also had a Cookie Swap affording members a bag filled with an array of deliciously baked cookies. For our Philanthropic, members brought unwrapped gifts to be donated to Ronald McDonald House who helps keep families together to improve healing in children. Also, each member left with a brand new pair of gardening gloves to further their gardening endeavors.

Some members from Rambling Rose Gardeners lent a helping hand to help decorate Lafreniere Foundation Center for the Jefferson Parish Council Garden Club, Inc. Christmas Tea in December. JPCGC members joyfully had their "Wreath" pictures taken by Daria, Historian of JPCGC. What a blast! Rambling Rose Gardeners will celebrate their December Christmas Luncheon and Party at Chateau Country Club enjoying fine dining, exchanging gifts, and valued fellowship, as they look forward to having a Merry Christmas!
Chateau Estates Garden Club’s October meeting featured members presenting designs and horticulture reports. Shown in the picture on the right are Co-President Stanley Henderson (left) in back of the floral design, “Mum’s the Word”; Co President Pat Golemi and Denise Woodward holding poster displays of the horticulture report, “Catching your Prey”, that included fascinating facts about the Venus Fly Trap.

District III

The Abbeville Garden Club gathered for their regular monthly meeting at the home of Liz Gremillion on Monday, November 17, 2014. Sandra Creswell served as co-hostess and guest speaker for the meeting.

Creswell, Lafayette Master Gardener, presented a program on plant propagation. She demonstrated plant propagation methods for different types of plants and plantings in unusual containers. The technique of mounting bromeliads on drift wood was also shown in detail and the final product given as a door prize.

Pictured on the right, from left to right are Guest Speaker Sandra Creswell, Lafayette Master Gardener and Abbeville Garden Club Member, Sandy Richard, AGC Vice-President of Programs, and Liz Gremillion, Abbeville Garden Club Member and meeting hostess, admiring the different plantings and containers designed by Creswell.

Members of the Abbeville Garden Club, Keep Abbeville Beautiful, Lafayette Garden Club and Lafayette Master Gardeners Association participated in the 26th Annual Southern Garden Symposium & Workshops, October 10 - 11, 2014, in St. Francisville, Louisiana. Among those participating were, pictured left to right, Anita Petitjean, Lafayette Garden Club Historian, Patsy Hebert, Abbeville Garden Club President, Babette Werner, Lafayette Parish Master Gardeners Association President, Cynthia Risinger, Lafayette Garden Club President, and Sandra Creswell, Keep Abbeville Beautiful Chairman and Abbeville Garden Club Member.
Members of the Abbeville Garden Club attended the Louisiana Garden Club Federation District III Fall Luncheon Meeting, “Spice It Up!”, hosted by the St. Martinville Garden Club on Tuesday, October 14, 2014. The members received information concerning LGCF committees and projects. Guest speaker Tina Savoy Guidroz’s presentation on floral design was informative and inspiring.

Pictured from left to right are Yvette Eleazar Hebert, Louisiana Garden Club Federation President and native of Abbeville, Roxanna Champagne, LGCF District III Director, and Abbeville Garden Club members Patsy Hebert, Karen Hoyt, Sandra Creswell, and Liz Gremillion.

Abbeville Garden Club members traveled to New Orleans for a field trip in lieu of their October meeting. The members toured New Orleans Botanical Gardens, Longue Vue House and Gardens, and American Aquatic Gardens and Gifts. Local restaurants were included on the tour.

Pictured (at right) in the beautiful Longue Vue Gardens (standing left to right) are AGC members Susie Ledet, Jeanel Duhon, Gwen Lanoux, Marietta Clark, Pat Webb, Cindy LeBlanc, Sandra Creswell, Mary Trahan, and Liz Gremillion. Kneeling from left to right are Sandy Richard, vice-president of programs who planned the trip, and Patsy Hebert, club president. Not shown is photographer and guest Diane DeJean.

At Lafayette Garden Club’s September meeting of the new Garden Club year, members received new yearbooks, which were planned by Roxanna Champagne, Jan Wyatt and the Yearbook Committee and is dedicated to the memory of former members, Betty Bowen Wiggs and Bera Joiner Smith. It is prefaced on Cynthia “Cinde” Risinger’s President’s Message of “Get involved: make a difference”.

A favorite Master Gardener, Theresa Guidry, the first Certified Square Foot Gardener Teacher in Louisiana, among other accomplishments, gave a talk on Square foot Gardening, and demonstrated a simple productive gardening system in boxes – no weeding, no digging or tilling, just amazing!

Jo Ann Pugh discussed the clubs Habit for Humanity project and mentioned that a thank you note was received from the Harris family for Lafayette Garden Club’s contribution to the landscaping of their new Habitat for Humanity home. Special thanks went to Dean Kopfler for her help and to all Club members who have contributed plants to Habitat for Humanity.
Lafayette Garden Club President Cinde Risinger stated that last spring’s Festival des Fleurs, held in partnership with Ira Nelson Horticulture Center and the Lafayette Parish Master Gardeners, was profitable. Additionally, a sponsorship of $1000 from JimStone Company, and $1000 from the proceeds of the Lafayette Parish Master Gardens and Ira Nelson Horticulture Center’s Festival des Fleurs.

At the October meeting, Edna Wheeler was chosen as designer of a Synergist design. Cecille Revels, a design judge, explained the requirements for this design and showed how Edna’s design (pictured on the right) displayed these requirements.

Many Lafayette Garden Club members attended the District III Fall Meeting "Spice it Up!" on Tuesday, October 14, which was hosted by the St. Martinville Garden Club at the Magnolia Park Recreation Center. After the meeting, which was chaired by District III Director Roxanna Champagne, all present enjoyed a delicious meal followed by an interesting program on creating tablescapes presented by Tina Savoy Gautreaux, a Louisiana licensed florist. The St. Martinville Garden Club members were wonderful hosts and lived up to their District III theme “Spice it Up.” Several Lafayette Garden Club members won raffle prizes, with raffle tickets’ proceeds being donated to the District III College Scholarship Fund. Pictured is the Lafayette Garden Club group with Louisiana Garden Club President Yvette Hebert at the District III Meeting.

Rosemary Florsteadt reported that the bird of the month is the Blue Jay, and Club members took a test to identify pictures of popular birds in our area, with a prize bag of bird seed being given to those with perfect scores. Pictured is Rosemary Florsteadt with Lorraine Allain, Co-Chair with Rosemary of the Bird Program and Lafayette Sanctuary Committee, giving a presentation on birds during a Garden Club meeting (shown in the photo on the right). Rosemary reminded us that some hummingbirds are still around and recommended that we keep feeders, water and shelter available for them.

The October meeting featured Sarah LeBlanc, President of the Landscape Design Council and former District Director and a District Cleanest City chairman, and member of the Lake Charles Garden Club, presented a program on Irresistible Terrariums and demonstrated how to make a Terrarium, which creates an easy and appealing design for one’s home viewing and that can be enjoyed in all seasons. Ms. LeBlanc (pictured on the left) gave four of these terrariums to some lucky Garden Club members who won them in a drawing.
Deeds and Doings

Tina Hebert, a license floral designer and owner of Sunflowers Floral Studio, at the Club’s November meeting demonstrated a stunning topiary arrangement for a home, and presented a program on Unique Floral Arrangements. Tina is shown in the photo on the right.

Jan Wyatt of Lafayette Garden Club’s Protecting Aquatic Ecosystems reported that the Bayou Vermilion Preservation Association had a very successful symposium in May titled “Water Weekend.” Jan also reported that because of this, the Vermilion River Alliance has been formed, which consists of parish presidents and mayors of major cities in parishes along the river, who meet monthly to discuss different issues that affect the Vermilion River.

Garden of the Month/Civic Pride Chair Jan Vinning discussed recognition being given by her Club Committee, which selects outstanding gardens of local homes and businesses. A viewing of all winners of Garden of the Month and Civic Pride awards can be seen at Lafayette Garden Club’s website Lafayette Garden Club.org’s homepage, under the Civic Projects link.

District VII

The Welsh Garden Club planted 4 pink drift roses in the existing Welsh Museum flower bed. The objective of this project was to honor of breast cancer survivors and remember all breast cancer victims during the month of October. A reception was held on Wed., October 29th. Members, shown in the picture on the right, presented a plaque to the Welsh Museum honoring breast cancer survivors and victims.

The Crowley Garden Club planted pink drift roses and pink petunias in front of the Acadia General Hospital in observance of October as Breast Cancer Awareness Month. Pictured are members of the Crowley Garden Club and administrators and staff of the hospital.
Deeds and Doings

The Diggers and Weeder Garden Club of Lake Charles opted to recycle old Christmas Cards for one of their annual projects. Club members made ornaments for the Christmas tree at Landmark Retirement Home by using old Christmas cards and dried okra was used to make Santa Clause ornaments. Show on the left are members decorating the tree.

District VIII
Brandi Woolam, B.S. Agricultural Science, Research Associate with Dean Lee Research Station at LSU was the program speaker at the November meeting of the Marksville Garden Club. Brandi's program on "Managing Those Pesky Weeds" was very informative and interesting. Her presentation on the common problem weeds in the Avoyelles area elicited many questions and problem solving ideas. Pictured on the right is Brandi Woolam.

Horticulture Corner
Roses, by LSU AgCenter

Roses are sold in containers or bare root, and generally become available at nurseries around January or early February. It is best to purchase and plant roses in late winter or early spring so they can get established before beginning to bloom.

Avoid purchasing bare root roses after February when they have already begun to sprout in the package. Container roses can be planted as late as May with acceptable results, but an earlier planting is much better. You also may plant roses in the fall if you find them available.

Roses planted during the intense heat of summer must deal with stressful weather conditions while trying to get established in the landscape. Generally speaking, refrain from planting roses in June, July, August, and early September.

An important consideration in deciding the location of rose plantings in the landscape is the growing conditions they need. Do not plant roses in partly shady or shady areas. They must have at least six to eight hours of direct sun daily to perform up to your expectations. Any shade they receive should, ideally, come in the afternoon. Morning sun helps dry the foliage early in the day which can help reduce disease problems.

Roses also need excellent drainage, so avoid low areas that stay wet. (An exception is the swamp rose, Rosa palustris scandens, which thrives in wet soil.)

More information on growing Roses may be found on the LSU AgCenter Website.
Calendar of Events

2015

January 19-20  LGCF Executive Council Meeting, Headquarters House, Lecompte
January 26-27  LA Landscape Design School Course I, Baton Rouge Garden Center
January 28-29  LA Landscape Design School Course II, Baton Rouge Garden Center

February 23-24  LGCF Garden Study School, Course III, Ira Nelson Horticulture Center, Lafayette

March 1  Newsletter Deadline
March 10  Report of Expenditures due to LGCF Treasurer (Officers & Chairmen)
March 24-25  DS Region Convention, Birmingham AL

April 21  Pre-Convention Tour - Lake Charles
April 22-23  LGCF Convention - Lake Charles LA

May 11-18  NGC Convention - Louisville KY
May 14-20  LGCF Tour Northern California

June 1  Scholarship Applications Due
June 1  Newsletter Deadline
June 2  NO Judges Council Hands-On Workshop, Garden Study Center, New Orleans City Park

July 9  NO Judges Council Hands-On Workshop, Garden Study Center, New Orleans City Park
July 20-21  LGCF Summer Board Meeting, Baton Rouge
July 30-Aug. 1  NGC Flower Show School, Course I, Ira Nelson Center, Lafayette

Sept 1  Newsletter Deadline
Sept 15-19  NGC Fall Board Meeting - St. Louis MO

Dec 1  Newsletter Deadline

2016

Feb 15-17  Louisiana Judges Symposium
April 12-13  LGCF, Inc. Convention - Vidalia LA
May 2-6 (not final)  NGC Convention, MI
Sept 19-25  NGC Fall Board Meeting - Portland ME