

Louisiana Garden Club Federation, Inc.

NEWSLETTER



OCTOBER 2020

“Plant America-Bring Nature Home
with Native Plants”

THE LOUISIANA GARDEN CLUB FEDERATION, INC.

Newsletter

Member of

National Garden Clubs, Inc.

Deep South Garden Clubs, Inc.

"Plant America-Bring Nature Home with Native Plants"



VOLUME LXXI

October 2020

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LGCF 2019-21

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Our cover photo was taken by **Margaret Melancon of Azalea Garden Club, District III**. Her African violet (*Saintpaulia*) won first place in the Horticulture Division, Section E (Container Grown) Class 13 of the National Garden Clubs, Inc. Virtual Flower Show Perfect Vision 2020. See story on page 29.

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

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

DEADLINE FOR SUBMISSIONS TO WINTER ISSUE, JANUARY 2021, IS DECEMBER 1ST 2020

Please send all information for this issue to lgcfnewsletter@gmail.com or mail to one of the Co-Editors:

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PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

"Plant America-Bring Nature Home with Native Plants"



This article is coming to you from Shreveport, where a dear friend has opened her home to me during this period of evacuation. An unwelcome visitor named Laura turned our lives upside down and left a trail of devastation behind. She followed me up to Shreveport. Hurricane force winds are extremely rare in Shreveport. Rita was bad. Laura was worse. An employee of Entergy said this is the worst he has seen in his 17 years of working restoration following storms. In the midst of this disaster, God is so good to me. The damage to my house is minimal. In the next block, roofs are completely gone. They are starting over with new rafters. Others will have to be rebuilt from the ground up.

I believe in my theme "Plant America—Bring Nature Home with Native Plants" more than ever. Not one of my trees went down. Without the shade they provide, especially the live oaks, my time outside would be greatly reduced. They are battered, blown, bruised, stripped of leaves, and still standing! A young neighbor who lost his two large trees was amazed. He remembered that I told him the importance of planting natives. He wants to get my advice when replacing his trees. Keep preaching that message. It is absolutely true.

The silver lining is always there. Some time one must look very, very carefully to see it. I see an opportunity to redo my garden design and plantings to make it more conducive to bringing nature home. Another silver lining on the "look and leave" trip home was a hummingbird's visit to the Mexican firebush for nectar. No other birds were seen or heard.

Your garden clubs should be off to a good start for this club year. The yearbooks I've received are beautiful. Your methods and plans for meeting may have changed. Some have chosen not to meet in person until January. You are being creative by meeting outdoors while the weather is pleasant, having meetings online, or other creative means. I applaud you for keeping your projects going.

The Fall NGC Board meeting scheduled for September was cancelled. Instead we had a State Presidents' Meeting by Zoom. I will share the information from that meeting at the Fall District Meetings which are happening soon. Those meetings will also be carried out in a variety of ways. Check the website for registration information. I look forward to seeing you there.

Remember the December 1 deadline for awards applications. I was very proud of the awards you earned in 2019. Do what you can in 2020.

Thanks to all for your concern and prayers. Give thanks every day. Enjoy it with family and friends on Thanksgiving Day. Celebrate the birth of our Savior at Christmas time. The challenging year of 2020 is ending.

Linda Finley

I attached two photos. In one I am on the deck behind my house with the registered live oak still standing. The other shows my house from the street behind my neighbor's debris pile. The live oak in my front yard is standing tall.



EDITORS' CORNER

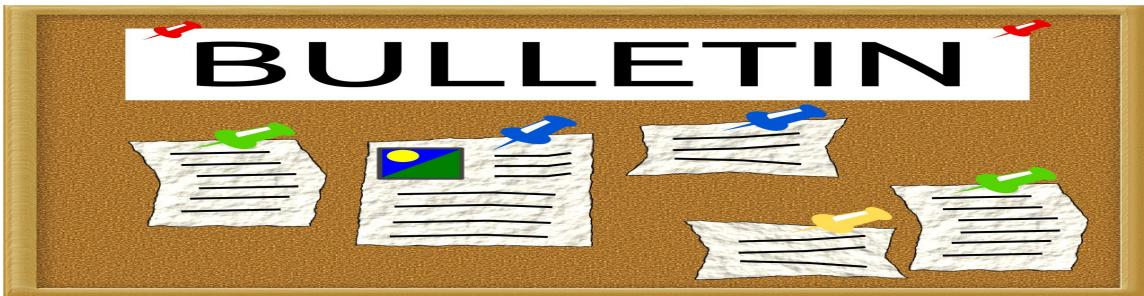


The last few months of 2020 have been very difficult. Many of our clubs have had to change the way they do business. Many of our meetings, flower shows, and other activities have been cancelled.

We hope that all of our members are following health guidelines and staying safe and well. Our hearts go out to those whose homes have been damaged by the storms.

We pray that the coming year will bring better conditions for our members and our country.

Ruth Delhomme and Roxy Blanton, Co-editors



MAUDE VISKELL AWARD HISTORY

This elite group of ladies who had received the Award felt that the Maude Viskell Award should be designated by a special pin in lieu of a certificate and a \$25 check. So, Dot Wu of Terrebonne Garden Club had her daughter Francis Pellegrin, also a member of Terrebonne Garden Club, design a unique pin.

After much discussion among previous winners a request was made to the Louisiana Garden Club Federation Executive Council to change the Award and designate a pin be given for the winner of the Award. Since Summer Board was cancelled due to a hurricane, the vote had to be taken by email. LGCF President Linda Finley sent out the motion to the Executive Council and it was approved.

Then Margo Racca contacted the pin manufacturer that she had used to make the LGCF Past Presidents pins and asked him to make 50 pins. Steve Morgenstern agreed to make the pins for us. The remainder of the money in the Maude Viskell account was moved to the Louisiana Council of Nationally Accredited Flower Show Judges account in the amount of \$1,209.85 by the LGCF Treasurer. The Judges Council added \$990.15 to complete the \$2,200 cost of the pins.

The previous winners of the Award were sent a picture by email and were offered to purchase a pin if desired. Most who received the invitation, wanted the pin and said they would gladly pay \$44 for the beautiful pin. The pins arrived in September 2019 and

are being sold to previous winners with the money received from the sales being placed in the Judges Council to reimburse those funds which were used.

The Award needed to be changed so Kathy Tell wrote the following which will be submitted at the Winter Council in 2020 by Babette Werner for approval by the Executive Council:

AWARD #25 - MAUDE VISKELL DESIGN AWARD

A pin may be awarded annually to an individual earning a top exhibitor award for design staged in an NGC Flower Show, staged by one or more LGCF member clubs. Only one application can be accepted from each individual; however, no limitation is on the number sent from each show. Application must include: letter signed by the show chairman; 8 x 10 color picture of design only taken from front of design to include the total frame of reference (remove ribbons before taking pictures); list names of all plant materials; name of exhibitor; exhibitors club; name of member club or clubs staging show; district; date of show and Show Schedule. See General Rules.

Maude Watson Viskell was from New Orleans. Upon her death March 23, 1968 her husband, Dr. A. G. Viskell, her mother and friends together formed the Maude Viskell Corporation to honor her. The Corporation was established November 21, 1968 with the Louisiana Secretary of States Office. The Agents listed were: Beverly L. Hoffman, Marie P. Palmintier and Sarah D. Merritt. She was a Master Flower Show Judge. She was President of The Federated Council of New Orleans Garden Clubs 1957-1959 and Woman of the Year for that organization in 1959. She was a member of Lakeview Botany Guild where she served as President 1955-1956 and they honored her with Woman of the Year in 1967. She served as LGCF District I Director and Corresponding Secretary. She made many friends in the garden club and is continued to be remembered throughout the years with the Maude Viskell Award for design.

Previous Winners of the Award

- 2018 – Donna Augustine, Lafayette GC, III
- 2017 – Georgie Petitjean, Crowley GC, VII
- 2016 - Donna Mayeaux, Moreauville GC, VIII
- 2015 – Jeanie Richard, Lafayette GC, III
- 2014 – Margaret Hargroder, Lafayette GC, III
- 2013 – Becky Latiolais, Lafayette GC, III
- 2012 - Gerry Craft, LeCompte GC, VIII
- 2011 – Paulette Henry, Terrebonne GC, III
- 2010 – Karen Breaux, Terrebonne GC, III
- 2009 - Dot Wu, Terrebonne GC, III
- 2008 – Georgie Petitjean, Crowley GC, VII
- 2007 – Cecille Revels, Lafayette GC, III
- 2006 – Roxy Chanslor, Lafayette GC, III
- 2005 – Cecille Revels, Lafayette GC, III
- 2004 – Bera Smith, Lafayette GC, III

2003 - Gayle Martien, Lafayette GC, III
2002 – Betty Foret, Opelousas GC, VII
2001 – Diana Powell Melancon, Lafayette GC, III
2000 – Laura Broussard, Baton Garden Club, VI
1999 – Jenny Ann Bordelon, Marksville GC, VIII
1998 – Vicky Fannaly, Gardenettes, VI
1997 - Unknown if any
1996 – Gayle Martien, Lafayette GC, III
1995 – Mrs. Ola Mae Thornton, Kinder GC, VII
1994 – Mrs. Pat Twickler, New Orleans
1993 – Mrs. Marcia Caparotta, Metairie
1992 – Mrs. Theda Booth, Baton Rouge GC, VI
1991 – Unknown if any
1990 – Mrs. Verlyn Bercegeay, Hammond, VI
1989 – Mrs. Peggy Cazes, Baton Rouge GC, VI
1988 – Mrs. Victoria Fannaly, Ponchatoula
1987 – Mrs. Ola Mae Thornton, Kinder GC, VII
1986 – Mrs. Jeanette Gatzman, Baton Rouge GC, VI
1985 – Unknown if any
1984 – Josephine Wiggins, Lafayette GC, III

1983 – Unknown if any
1982 – Mrs. Boyd H. McMullan, Baton Rouge, VI
1981 – Mrs. Charles J. Arthur, New Orleans
1980 – Mrs. Kenneth H. Gore, Grayson
1979 – Mrs. J. O. Banks, Covington
1978 – Mrs. Walter Prudhomme, Gretna
1977 – Mrs. F. M. Thornton, Kinder
1976 – Mrs. Patrick C. Hamilton, Metairie
1975 – Mrs. Lester H. Rose, Covington
1974 – Mrs. Boyd H. McMullan, Baton Rouge
1973 – Mrs. F. M. Thornton, Kinder
1972 – Unknown if any
1971 – Mrs. Marilyn Bordelon, Metairie
1970 – Mrs. Edward L. Schneider, New Orleans
1969 – Mrs. Ercell Perkins, Sulphur
1968 – Mrs. Casey W. Jones, Gretna

REPORT FOR LGCF TOURS

2020 has been a very challenging year for all sorts of reasons!

Our tour to Bavaria and the Biden Oberammergau Passion Play, was all paid for and scheduled for June of this year. But covid 19 has forced that event to be moved to June of 2022.

Our trip to Holland for the tulips in April of 2021, has also been rescheduled for 2022, because of the many unknowns at the time the decision had to be made to postpone.

It is hoped that the visit to the Biltmore for both the fall colors and for the Christmas decorations, will be November 8th and 9th of 2020, for the Biltmore; 10th at Gibbs Gardens and 11th at Callaway Gardens. If in June, it is decided that persons would rather move the Biltmore Tour to 2022, we will adjust the dates at that time.

If any of you are still interested in going to the Passion Play in June of 2022, please let me know as soon as possible, as there are now available spots on that trip. And it is a trip of a lifetime, as this event is only presented every 10 years.

I hope as time goes by, we will have a better understanding of this invisible enemy we are fighting, and will so have control over it!!

I trust each of you are well and all of you are handling this horrible enemy in the best way that each of you can. Please get in touch with me with any questions, or if you would like me to put you on the list/s for any or all of these future planned tours.

Thank you, Naomi Cordill, LGCF

In Memoriam



Annamary Kelly Miester passed away on September 7, 2020. She nurtured a lifelong love of gardening and floral design. She served as president of the Louisiana Garden Club Federation Inc. in 2005-2006, leading the organization through the aftermath of Hurricane Katrina. She held life memberships in the LGCF, Deep South Garden Clubs, and National Garden Clubs. An NGC Accredited Master Flower Show Judge, she served as president of the Louisiana Council of Nationally Accredited Flower Show Judges in 2007.

LIVE OAK SOCIETY REPORT FOR SUMMER 2020

By Coleen Perilloux Landry, Chairman

The Society has gained more than 100 members since the Covid-19 shutdown. And, many of the registrants were very generous with their monetary donations to the Society for the benefit of the trees.

The Live Oak has long been known as the “hurricane tree” because of its strength to withstand the winds and there is so much proof of this after Hurricane Laura devastated southwest and central Louisiana. In Cameron, where few buildings are standing, most of the Live Oak trees are still upright, deprived of their leaves from the winds, but they will releaf soon and give some life to the area.

As of September 8, 2020, the Society has a total of 9,200 members.



On August 26, 2020, I registered these oaks for Julie Rew in Lake Charles, LA. She says they saved her house in Hurricane Laura in the 120 mph winds. The Live Oak spreads its roots wide as well as its canopy and in strong winds it carries the winds over a house. Though battered, they will re-leaf and once more grace her home.

LGCF 2021 Convention Information

Louisiana Garden Club Federation, Inc.

87th Annual Convention

Crowne Plaza Hotel

Baton Rouge, LA

April 26-28-2021

“Louisiana’s Live Oak Legacy”

Tour – April 26, 2021



Houmas House

Plantations in Louisiana are one of the most sought-after attractions throughout the state. Located between Baton Rouge and New Orleans, The Houmas House Estate allows visitors to experience the life on a sugarcane plantation in the 1800's. The mansion has been restored to the antebellum era, reflecting the opulence and wealth this sugarcane farm boasted in the 1880's.

We will tour the gardens and have lunch.

On our return to Baton Rouge we will travel to the Botanic Gardens at Independence Blvd., the location of the Baton Rouge Garden Club of which you will see Julia's Garden and the beautiful butterfly garden.



One more special stop will be included for those who attend the tour.

April 27, 2021
Guest Speaker
Coleen Perilloux Landry



Coleen @ Houmas House

Coleen is LGCG's Live Oak Society Chairman and is the register of Live Oaks and has taken beautiful pictures of the most photographed trees in the world. She will tell us about the history of Live Oaks and her adventures in doing what she does.

April 28, 2021

Guess Speaker

Guy Austin



Gay is the 46th President of National Garden Clubs, Inc.

She is a native of Liberty, Mississippi, now living nearby in the City of McComb. As a youth living in rural Mississippi, she helped with her mother's flower and vegetable gardens. Currently, she continues to grow and harvest fruits and vegetables for family use specializing in making jams and jellies to share with friends.

Gay is a National Garden Clubs Master Flower Show Judge and NGC Flower Show Schools Horticulture Instructor. She is currently on the Executive Committee of both Keep Mississippi Beautiful and the Mississippi Heritage Trust. Since 2006, she has been an active member of the Pike County Master Gardeners, including serving as President. Gay has been a member of the Amite River Chapter of the Daughters of the American Revolution since 1975.

She and her husband, Will, live in a rural part of Pike County, Mississippi. They have five children with spouses and ten grandchildren, along with nine dogs and two cats, all of which bring great joy to their lives.

Many years ago, an NGC officer spoke at a garden club meeting. Her words “the service you give to others is the legacy you leave behind,” have inspired Gay and strengthened her commitment to her family, her community, her state, and National Garden Clubs.

You don't want to miss her presentation on Floral Arranging.

Work Shops

Use of Garden Tools & Exercise

Presented by: Wanda Chase

Member of The Country Club of LA Garden Club

Wanda is the third generation of her family to own and operate one of Baton Rouge's oldest and largest landscape contracting businesses, begun on a shoestring by her grandfather, Mr. James M. Imahara, shortly after World War II.

Wanda's high energy personality will have you wanting to get home and into your gardens.

Building Bee Houses

Presented by: Cindy Moran

President of Baton Rouge Garden Club

Cindy has a world of knowledge of gardening and is a very active member providing leadership in workshops, flower shows, presenting programs to other club, design tips, fund raisers, gardening and is involved in Clean City Contest.

Awards

Presented by: Babette Warner

President of Lafayette Garden Club

Babette is LGCF Awards Advisor/Consultant and she will present the many changes that have been made in awards. She was the 2019 LGCF Convention Chair and is very active with the Master Gardeners Program.

Loofa Gourds

Presented by: Dana Truxillo

We hope these workshops will interest all of you.

Vendors

Moon Lake Designs

The Conundrum Books

Permell Design Fascinators

Catalpa Pottery

Cajun Copper Creations

LGCF – Ways & Means

Receptions

Honoring our NGC President-Gay Austin

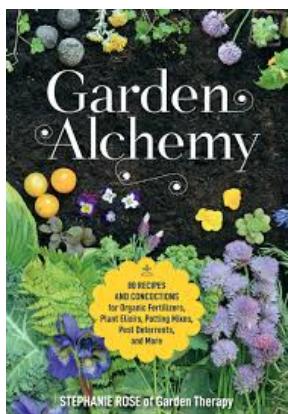
LGCF President 2019-2021-Linda Finley

LGCF President-2021-2023-Roxanna Champagne

Our team is working hard to make this convention we hope you all will want to attend.

The next publication will include the Convention Schedules.

BOOK REVIEW



Garden Alchemy

By Stephanie Rose

Cool Springs Press, 2020

ISBN- 13: 978-0760367094

128 Pages

It's another cookbook....WooHoo!

But it's a cookbook full of recipes to feed your GARDEN! Yes, pages and pages (over 80 recipes) for all kinds of treats for your soil and plants. And, the author provides instructions for simple, at-home tests for your soil composition and pH levels.

As well as instructions about how to improve your garden without chemicals, this book also includes projects you can use to attract beneficial critters into your garden and keep pests away!!

There is also some great info about propagating what you have...for personal use, for sharing, or for selling.

Submitted by Sissy Gall, LGCF Book Review Chair



CIRCLE OF ROSES

Linda A. Brashier

Terrebonne Garden Club

District III



Linda Brashier and her husband Ken have been married for fifty-nine years. They have two daughters and five grandchildren. One daughter, Elissa, lives in Baton Rouge and has three boys and the other daughter, Melinda, lives in Fort Worth and has a girl and a boy. The oldest grandchild has graduated from LSU but the other four are in college at LSU and Texas A&M.

Linda joined the garden club in 1999 when she retired from Banking. She has held several positions in the club: Treasurer, Vice-President, and President for six years. She was District Cleanest City Chairman for four years and worked with the local contest many times. Linda has Master status in three schools: Gardening, Landscaping, and Environmental. She and Beth Erwin chaired Gardening School Series 10 in 2017-2019. She has Life Membership in LGCF, Deep South, and NGC. She is currently LGCF Life Membership Chairman and also District Director for District III. She looks forward to continuing roles in LGCF.

In the last ten years, she has become a Master Gardener and is currently Treasurer. She has also served on the Tree Board of Terrebonne Parish for six years.



CIRCLE OF ROSES

Grace Bush

Terrebonne Garden Club

District III



Grace grew up in St. Landry Parish. She met her husband in Lafayette, spending the first year of marriage in Germany. She is the mother of four children, with 14 grandchildren and 16 great-grandchildren.

She joined Terrebonne Garden Club in 2003 and has entered designs and horticulture in flower shows. She served on the Cleanest City Committee and is a cheerful and willing volunteer. An accomplished cook, her delicious recipes appear in Terrebonne Garden Club cookbooks.

Grace enjoys attending District meetings, garden and home tours, and the monthly meetings. She has made many friends and is always willing to share her prize plants and knowledge with others.

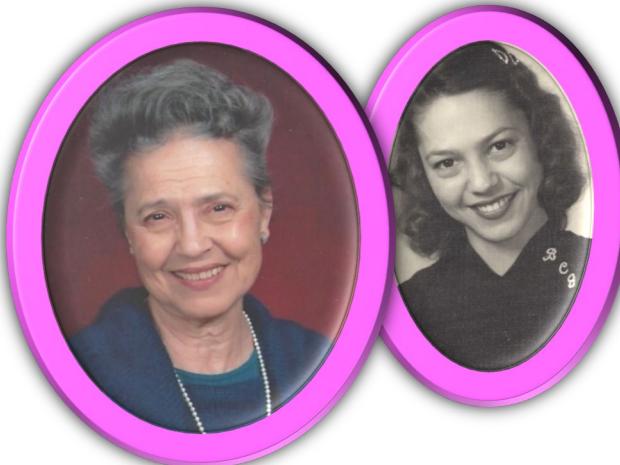


CIRCLE OF ROSES

Bonnie Clement

Terrebonne Garden Club

District III



Bonnie attended a LGCF Convention several years ago in Lafayette, and her roommate was her sister, Betty Foret from Opelousas. She enjoyed the convention and decided to join the Terrebonne Garden club. She was a Home Economist and has been chairman of Horticulture and design exhibits at monthly meetings.

Bonnie has worked on the Blue Star Marker and Cleanest City committees. She always enters designs and horticulture in the flower shows and has won many ribbons.

Bonnie found friendship in the garden club and also learned about floral design and landscape design. She used that knowledge to landscape her home and loves gardening and watching her plants grow.



CIRCLE OF ROSES

Carolyn L. Dupre

Terrebonne Garden Club

District III



I have reached the glorious age of eighty in my life's journey. In this same year, my husband Dennis and I celebrate 60 years of marriage. From that loving union of so many years, we and the Lord have brought forth 3 married children, 7 grandchildren (four married), and 1 great-grandchild on the way.

Dennis and I met in college and eventually both became school principals. After his retirement Dennis went to Diaconate formation for five years, which I also participated in for credit and obtained certification in Catechetical Formation. Dennis is now a practicing deacon at St. Gregory Catholic Church in Houma, Louisiana. I am very active in ministry as well serving in many capacities such as lector, commentator, Extraordinary Minister of Communion, minister to the homebound and nursing home residents, and member of the RCIA which is a training for those who plan on entering the Catholic faith. I am also a member of the St. Gregory Choir. I also lead a weekly faith-sharing discussion group.

Besides being an active member in the Terrebonne Garden club, I am an officer of Kappa Kappa Iota, which is a teacher organization with many philanthropic projects. I also belong to the Steel Magnolias which is a group of ladies from my high school days. We are not only a social group but have become a support for each other as we continue to experience the aches, pains, and joys of the "golden years."

Amidst all of my retirement activities, Dennis and I manage to get away to our camp which is "down the bayou" as we say in South Louisiana. We love to fish in our boat, the "Cajun Dancer", named after another hobby which is dancing. Our camp is the center for family gatherings, great food relaxing, and music. I play the piano and guitar and am joined by children and grandchildren who are musicians as well.

My life has been blessed with each memory that has become a "Circle of Roses" This LGCF recognition will be added to those cherished memories.



CIRCLE OF ROSES

Margaret B. "Sissy" Freeman

Terrebonne Garden Club

District III



Margaret Freeman and her husband Ronnie were married in 1956. They are the parents of four children, two boys and two girls. There are eight grandchildren and six great grandchildren.

Ronnie's work brought them to many places including Lafayette, Louisiana where they lived for eighteen years. The children grew up there and they all graduated from ULL (Lafayette).

Sissy belonged to the Martin Park Garden Club in Lafayette where she was an officer for many years. Sissy and Ronnie moved back to Houma in 1994.

She has been a member of Terrebonne Garden Club for seven years now and she jumped in with both feet. Her cooking skills and table designs make her an excellent hostess. She has been on the committee to select Garden of the Month and Civic Pride Award for seven years.



CIRCLE OF ROSES

Carol Marmande

Terrebonne Garden Club

District III



My family has always had a love for gardens and flowers, and they gave all of us much joy in life.

After retiring from my profession as a registered nurse and social worker, I was invited to join the Terrebonne Garden Club. The members were very knowledgeable and friendly.

I was the Civic Pride Chairman for 5 years and have participated in all the flower shows. I am thankful to be in the Terrebonne Garden Club and look forward to many more.



CIRCLE OF ROSES

Madelyn Tedesco

Terrebonne Garden Club

District III



Madelyn is a retired Pediatric Nurse. She has been an active member of the Terrebonne Garden club since 1980. She was Vice President and President in 1985-1989.

She is a Master Garden Study Consultant, NGC Life Member and LGCF Life Member. Whenever Madelyn enters a flower Show she usually wins the Arboreal Award and Growers Choice Award. She is an avid organic gardener and enjoys fishing with her husband in Grand Isle, Louisiana.



CIRCLE OF ROSES

Janice Gibbon

Community Gardeners Garden Club

District VI



Janice Gibbon of the Community Garden Club of Baton Rouge grew up in Kingsport, Tennessee where she was taught by her mother to plant spring bulbs such as tulips and jonquils. Dogwood trees are her favorite and she enjoys seeing them in the early spring, especially in East Tennessee where they grow well.

Janice graduated from Memphis State University. She had a career in hospital administration and public relations in Pascagoula, Mississippi before moving to Baton Rouge thirty years ago. She worked in the chemical industry after moving to Baton Rouge.

Following her retirement, neighbors noticed her planting flowerbeds in the front yard, and invited her to visit one of their meetings of the Community Garden club. She soon joined and has now been a member for over 15 years. She has served as secretary and president and has served as treasurer for the past several years.

Janice has been married to Dan for 56 years. Together they have 2 sons, 2 daughters-in-laws and five grandchildren.

She says her garden club experiences "have been a fun and educational. I have learned so much about gardening from our members and treasure their friendships very much."



CIRCLE OF ROSES



We have many ladies in their senior years who have given their time and talents over the many years and we would like to honor them in the newsletter. In order to do this, we are asking each club that wishes to honor a senior member or members this way please submit both a "then" and "now" photograph with a short write-up on the member's garden club activities. This quarter we would like to welcome to our "Circle" these special ladies.

If you have a deserving member of your club that you would like to nominate for the Circle of Roses, please send a short write up along with a 'then' and 'now' picture to

LGCF Circle of Roses Chairman

Sarah LeBlanc

307 Bluebonnet Dr.

Lafayette, LA 70508

nanalovespops@gmail.com

337-540-7223 (Cell)

337-534-0187 (Home)

Note from the newsletter co-editors:

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

The "then" and "now" pictures are especially important! We must digitize them also. Please use as large a picture as possible to scan. Please scan each picture individually. The quality of the picture is greatly diminished when there is more than one picture in a scan and each one must be cropped and enlarged. If we must crop someone out of a group picture the resulting quality of the picture is often poor. Please clearly label which picture is "then" and which is "now".

DEEDS AND DOINGS

District I



Debbie Corales joins an honored list of past members of the **New Orleans Federated Council** in being named “Woman of the Year” by President, Mary Ellen Miller. An honor greatly deserved.

She has supported **Council of Federated Garden Clubs** in New Orleans, serving in many aspects including volunteering in City Park Botanical Garden, Decorating for “Celebration in the Oaks”. Her time is also spent Flower arranging at New Orleans Museum of Art. She has participated in Judging “Art in Bloom”. She is a valued member and officer of **Metairie Ridge Garden Club** and the **New Orleans Judges Council**.

DEEDS AND DOINGS

District II

Acres of Green Garden Club held its first meeting since the Pandemic lockdown in September at Ormond Plantation in Destrehan. Plans for continued civic beautification, garden of the month judging, and support for the Metropolitan Home for Women and Children were discussed. Gardens were judged throughout the summer months and winners are: Kay Allen, Marilyn Klotz (twice) and Lynne Ryan.

Pictured are, from left, Coleen Perilloux Landry, president; Liz Bertucci, communications chairman; Eleanore Hebert, scheduling chairman and Betty Spurlock, garden of the month chairman.



The American Bald Eagle has returned from its Canada migration to nest another season in Louisiana. Photo by Coleen Perilloux Landry.

DEEDS AND DOINGS

District III



Azalea Garden Club's Iberia Beautification Award for July went to Kathy and Johnny Mannina of 612 Oak Manor.



The August award went to Dupuy's Animal Hospital at 402 Jefferson Terrance Blvd. Pictured is Christopher M. Dupuy DVM.



The home of Lyle and Alison Weiss, located at 3110 Valery Road, was chosen as Azalea Garden Club's Yard of the Month for September.

DEEDS AND DOINGS

Azalea Garden Club Members Versa Dore and Margaret Melancon were winners in the Virtual Perfect Vision 2020 Flower Show.

With the cancellation of the NGC Annual Meeting in Milwaukee, it also forced cancellation of the concurrent Petite Horticulture Specialty Flower Show Perfect Vision 2020. President Gay Austin proposed a “virtual” flower show as an alternative to keep NGC members engaged. A revised and enhanced schedule dealing with horticulture, design, and botanical arts divisions was quickly written, allowing broad horticulture sections to be subdivided by classification chairmen. There were five specific design types, botanical arts design, and botanical arts-artistic crafts classes. Many of the titles from the original Petite Horticulture Specialty Show were used for the classes.

The Perfect Vision 2020 Virtual Flower Show involved members from more than 35 states and most of the Central and South American affiliates. More than 500 horticulture entries were received; design entries numbered 114, and the botanical arts entries totaled 67. Only blue ribbons and 90+ designations were awarded to the deserving exhibits. The only winners from Louisiana in the Horticulture Division with first place or 90+ were Versa Dore and Margaret Melancon from Azalea Garden Club.

In the Annuals Section Margaret got a 90+ with her *Gomphrena Globosa*. In the Foliage Annuals Section Versa got a 90+ with her *Plectranthus scutellarioides* Coleus. She also got a 90+ in the Foliage Perennials Section with her *Cissus* “Discolor” and a first place in the FNV Section with her *Capsicum annuum* Green pepper. In the Container Grown Section, Versa got a 90+ with her *Vriesea ospinae* and Margaret got a first place with her *Saintpaulia* which is on the cover of this newsletter.



Left: Margaret's *Gomphrena globosa*
Right: Versa's *Vriesea ospinae*

DEEDS AND DOINGS

Members of Lafayette Garden Club met in the home of President Babette Werner for an executive board meeting on August 30. Topics discussed included fundraisers, approval of the budget, Pennies for Pines, and club awards. Discussion on the wording of membership in the bylaws and the addition of night and Sunday brunch meetings were also mentioned. The club's next meeting will be a fall brunch, business meeting and white elephant auction at the home of Kathy Van Ness.

Among those attending the Lafayette Garden Club's executive board meeting were from left, Diana Nolan, ex-officio; Anita Petitjean, president-elect; Babette Werner, president; Kathy Van Ness, corresponding secretary; and Brittany Grissom, treasurer. Also in attendance were Sarah LeBlanc, recording secretary; Linda Broussard, parliamentarian; Linda Demanade, vice-president, Cecille Revels, member at large; and Debbie Grissom, historian.



DEEDS AND DOINGS

District V

Congratulations to our District V Director!



GARDEN DESIGN CONTEST

Summer of SunPatiens -- And our Winner Is...

The last 2 weeks have been such a joy for me to dive into the deep end of the pool and analyze summer plantings. What has typically been an entirely crispy time at the Farm, has now opened with opportunity for colorful and abundant vignettes, whether around the front of my house, in containers, stacked on my porches, lining paths, or integrated with other plantings in textured installations. As I reflect on the variety of SunPatiens implementations over the years at Moss Mountain Farm, I am inspired to do even more. And, with the long-lasting nature of these beauties in my zone, I am considering ways to maximize their display across two seasons: Summer and Fall -- now that is flower power.

I have also been inspired by all of you! I want to send a hearty *Thank You* to everyone who contributed to our online garden community with insights and designs for our 'Summer of SunPatiens' contest. You have heard the phrase 'sharing is caring,' and I believe this to be the case with our friends here--thank you for your images, insights, and questions! I am

DEEDS AND DOINGS

convinced that SunPatiens have an important role to play in the garden; for us here in Central Arkansas, this translates to color, vigor, and volume right up to the first fall frost.

****Our Summer of SunPatiens Designer Winner Is****

Yesterday was a very exciting day, my garden judges and I poured through a healthy cache of submissions featuring your creative installation of SunPatiens. Everyone is to be commended for their work! I want to highlight the submissions of **Julia and Gerald Gilmore**. Their creative use of SunPatiens in the Garden, particularly with tasteful color matching and pairing with similarly colored plants in their border garden caught our eye. Julia and Gerald will receive several goodies shortly from Moss Mountain Farm and SunPatiens!

Now, I also have a bonus! There are two additional gardeners that we selected from random to receive goodies, as well! Please congratulate Kate McGlaughlin and Bettina Abernathy Blalock. They, too, shall receive goodies from SunPatiens and Moss Mountain!

Several of you have had very specific questions about SunPatiens and I have been pleased to see such a high interest level! Please see the official SunPatiens website (<https://sunpatiens.com/>) for additional detail on this plant and also for purchasing information. There are other, somewhat similar, plants in the marketplace; however, please be sure to confirm that you are purchasing actual Sakata SunPatiens (check the logo on the label). I have tried many plants in my day, but have not found alternatives with as good a result in the garden.

P. Allen Smith

Oak Grove Garden Club

OGGC held the first meeting of the season in First Baptist gym so that we could be more socially distant. We went over our handbook to see what events are in store for us this year. Refreshments and decorations were provided by Annie Maxwell, Sandy Waters, and Vivian White Martin pictured below.



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Oak Grove Garden Club members weeded the beds and trimmed the roses at the flag and town park this morning. Participants included Annie Maxwell, Bobby Maxwell, Sandy Waters and granddaughter Kensington Waters, Carol Donohue, Barbara McDaniel, and Rosalie Overby. Thanks to Bobby for taking photos.



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District VI

Despite the rain, these members of the Baton Rouge Garden Center refreshed their native plant garden with pine straw. The garden was dedicated to Julia Gates, a former member of the club. Pictured are Clara Earl and Cindy Moran in the front row. In the rear left to right are Ruby Homayssi, Mary Ann Atkinson, Ruth Delhomme, Jo Ann Ray, and Jo Ann Fryling.



DEEDS AND DOINGS



INSTALLATION OF OFFICERS by Carolyn Todd, Dist. VI Director

Carolyn Todd, District VI Director for the Louisiana Garden Club Federation Inc., installed the incoming **Gardenette** officers for September 2020 to May 2021 at the club's September 9 meeting held on Zoom. Using favorite garden tools, she used them to describe the tasks of each position.

Installed were president Vicky Fannaly, first vice president Sandra Haro, second vice president Sonya Avery, treasurer Ellen Pusey, recording secretary Marilyn Wright, corresponding secretary Cynthia Cummer, chaplain Kathy Bruce, parliamentarian Cricket Ayala.

Fannaly opened the meeting with a roll call where each member was asked to share a pleasant memory or an update on how they were coping with the pandemic. Bruce recited the collect and presented an opening prayer. Pusey sent a treasurer's report.

Committee reports were given by Cummer - Sunshine - who requested that she be notified of anyone who could use a card.

, Karen Moran - birds and conservation - the committee will present reports at each meeting, hopefully with visuals.

, Haro - school labels - some labels are not being printed on some products, so please send in any that you happen to find like Community Coffee.

Bruce - exhibits - if we continue on Zoom, you can still display horticulture and exhibits online.

Jamie LeBlanc - garden of the month - presentations will resume when conditions are more favorable for socializing. Margaret Bailey will be co-chairman at that time.

, Anna Poland - holiday trees - volunteering at the hospital has been temporarily suspended, so it is not sure what will happen when Christmas comes. The Genesis award was last presented

DEEDS AND DOINGS

to a nursing home and will be retrieved when it becomes safer.

Margaret Hardin - live oaks - a large tree was registered across from the post office and Margaret went to the mayor's office and asked him to consider registering some of the trees in neutral areas that belong to the city.

A discussion was held regarding future meetings pending the Governor's projections. Some options were outdoor gatherings, more zoom meetings, and distanced indoor arrangements.

REGISTERING LIVE OAK - JULY 21, 2020 244 N. 5th Street

Measuring the Luke-James Oak at 244 N. 5th Street are Margaret Hardin, Gardenette Live Oak Chairman, and Kathy Bedenbaugh, Representative at Large for the Louisiana Garden Club Federation Inc. The senior tree will be listed in the state registry.

The large live oak tree across from the Post Office on N. 5th Street, was measured by the Gardenettes and found to be in the Centenarian class which includes trees over sixteen feet in girth. Owned by Parker Layrisson, the tree is to be named Luke-James after his sons.

Registration in the Louisiana Garden Club Federation Inc. (LGCF Inc.) is an honor for any tree over eight feet in circumference. The Luke-James Oak was registered and will join the 9,153 senior trees in the state registry, according to Margaret Hardin, local Live Oak Chairman. Assisting her in the process were Vicky Fannaly, Gardenette president, and Kathy Bedenbaugh LGCF, Inc. Representative at Large.

Gardenettes are members of District VI, LGCF Inc., Deep South Garden Clubs Inc., and National Garden Clubs Inc. Coleen Perilloux Landry is the state Live Oak Chairman.



Named Luke-James Oak after his sons, Parker Layrisson noted: "As you can see from this photo of Luke climbing the roots, my boys love this tree. We are so excited that this beautiful centenarian will bear their name in the registry."

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*Live Oak Chairman Margaret Hardin
and LGCF Representative at Large
Kathy Bedenbaugh*



*Live Oak Chairman Margaret Hardin and
Gardenette President Vicky Fannaly*

DEEDS AND DOINGS

GARDENETTES OCTOBER 2020 NEW SLETTER

MEETING – September 14 11:30a.m. - Marilyn Wright is having the October meeting at the Strawberry Board Building in Memorial Park. We will meet outside and possibly in distanced chairs for the Powerpoint presentation by Ronnie Rossie of Northshore Daylily Society - yes, subject is daylilies! **PLANT EXCHANGE** is scheduled in case you want to bring something to exchange. Bought plants are never rejected, or home grown are also fine. Bring an exhibit to brighten the day – “Fall Madness” – designer’s choice using wildflowers, fresh and/or dried materials!

DUES – It’s that time again. Pay \$25 to Ellen Pusey by mail or in person at the meeting.

GUEST SPEAKER – Ronnie Rossie, past president of the Northshore Daylily Society, often has his amazing garden on tour. His plants are not your grandmother’s version of bright yellow blooms, but a dazzling array of color on massive sized flowers. Next time his garden is open to visitors you need to go and see for yourself. Usually published in the Daily Star.

AWARDS – December 1 is the deadline for state awards. If anyone would like to do a horticulture paper, it is an essay on some aspect growing plants. A personal approach is good, backed with facts. A copy must be given to Kathy Bruce who will be sending in the horticulture honor roll for her committee. Vicky will send in the yearbook, garden club achievement and publicity pressbook. Karen Moran is responsible for Special Conservation and Margaret Hardin will do arbor day.

HOSPITALIZED – Our member in Houston/Ponchatoula Debbie Henagan is on the recovery from her stay at Methodist Hospital. She thanks you for the prayers you said on her behalf and the well wishes you sent.

FUNERAL – Bill Moran’s arrangements have been set at Brandon Thompson Funeral Home in Hammond on Oct. 3. Rosary is at 8:00 with visitation following until 10:00. Funeral mass is at 11:00 at St Margaret Catholic Church near Albany off Hwy. 43. A donation to charity was made by Cynthia Cummer in the Gardenettes name.

PAST PRESIDENT – Sonya Avery will be given a gift honoring her office as president for September 2018 through May 2020 at the October meeting. She plans to attend and is looking forward to seeing everyone in person.

DISTRICT VI FALL MEETING: Deadline for registration is September 30. We are responsible for a gift for the raffle. Sandra Haro found this cute item for us to give.



DEEDS AND DOINGS

Hammond Garden Club

WOW!! We almost know what it feels like to be in jail for months and be let out! Twenty-four of the members of the Hammond Garden Club finally met for the President's Tea on Wednesday August 12 at the Oak Knoll Country Club. Maybe there were only six at a table (social distancing you know), and we wore our masks until seated to eat, but we were out, we were socializing and talking to someone other than our family or grocery store employees! Sooo wonderful! Yes, it was different but still wonderful!



DEEDS AND DOINGS

On June 24th, the **Plaquemine Garden Club** donated and planted six crepe myrtle trees in the new Fort Area Park located off of La. Hwy. 1. Mayor Edwin "Ed" Reeves, Jr. and several city employees assisted in planting the trees. The Garden Club received a generous grant of \$250 in organic products from Espoma Plant America which included potting soil and fertilizer that were used during planting to give the trees a good start. Several members who served on the **Arbor Day Committee** that were not able to attend the planting ceremony included *Trish Ramirez, Gwen Baxley, Jaynel Nadler, and Emily Wilbert.*



Those attending the planting included Missy Bertrand, Mayor "Ed" Reeves, Arbor Day Chair, Arlette R. Rodrigue, Linda Panapinto, and Club President, Donna Carville.



DEEDS AND DOINGS

Troy and Frances Tempanaro's home on Bellevue Road in Plaquemine, LA, was chosen as the **Plaquemine Garden Club's June Garden of the Month**. The immaculate front and back yards were the home to many colorful flowering varieties such as Stella D'Oro lilies, zinnias, lantana, sun patience, verbena, double knock-out roses and purple grass growing in well-conditioned beds, blending colorfully with one another.



Plaquemine Garden Club's July Garden of the Month went to Rita Lynn and Jackie Jackie Jackson of 58350 Bayou Road.



DEEDS AND DOINGS



Plaquemine Garden Club's August Garden of the Month

Hidden at the end of graveled Gracie Lane you will find a beautiful 1875-era home owned by Dianne and Jimmy Grace. The house itself has quite a history, but the grounds around the house and the English garden are the work of Dianne who has loved gardening since childhood.



The home of Mr. and Mrs. Nolan J. Bueche, III was chosen by the **Plaquemine Garden Club as yard of the month for September**. The home is located at 59036 Postell Avenue. The yard is so full of color for the summer, it has many variety of flowers and trees, starting with acoma white crape myrtles, a sweet olive tree, homestead purple verbena, autumn fire azaleas, two different shades of vinca, daisy gardenia, a colorful mixture of zinnias, purple lily of the lilies and deep yellow day lilies. The Carolyn Wharton caladiums along with other varieties of caladiums in green and white, reds and pinks highlight the beds with color.

DEEDS AND DOINGS

Plaquemine Garden Club's Fall Projects

Due to COVID 19, the Plaquemine Garden Club will not be physically meeting during the fall of 2020. Not wanting to lose their friendships and sharing opportunities, the Club decided to continue to foster communication with its 79 members in different ways. The Club divided its membership into 8 teams, each with a leader and a co-leader (officer). Each team will complete a project each month individually with assistance from their leaders and other team leaders giving them a chance to "visit" with each other. In turn, the team leaders are sharing their ideas and results with each other.

In addition to the projects, a monthly newsletter is sent to all members.

For September, a Plaquemine Garden Club Member garden flag in honor of their practicing conservation was delivered to each member. A protective mask was made for each member out of various floral fabrics to brighten up their appearance when they are able to get out and about. The 2020-2021 Yearbook and the September newsletter were also delivered to the members.

October's project will be a clay flowerpot for them to decorate and an aloe vera plant to remind us to "heal our nation and our earth."

November's project will be a "let's give thanks for our friendships" goodie bag where the team members will contribute to each other's goodie bag.

And December's project will be an exchange of Christmas cards.

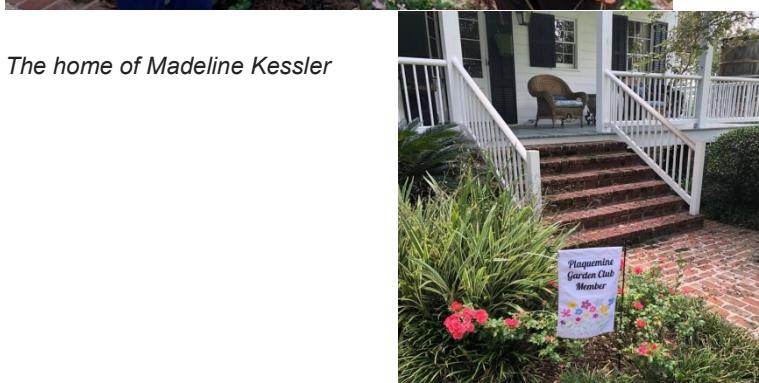


Mona Perrin with President, Donna Carville

DEEDS AND DOINGS



Kathryn Campesi pictured with President, Donna Carville



The home of Madeline Kessler



Susan DuPont pictured with her sign.

DEEDS AND DOINGS

Attached is an article that Michelle Sanders of the [Plaquemine Garden Club](#) wrote about finding, replanting, and using horsetail reed that she found in the "wild" near her home. It's a really good story about native plants and a member's love of flowers.

Always be on the Lookout for Beauty

This year has been such a strange year. I think we can all agree with that. But tucked into the year has been some sweet moments and treasured times. One of the things I will treasure was hopping on the back of the 4 wheeler with my husband and riding in the fields to the levee to find wild flowers to put on the kitchen table and to give to family and friends.



At the time I was just starting what I loosely refer to as my "cutting garden". It's really just a wild area that has flowers that are wild and unkept but just perfect for cutting. It makes it easy to make sweet little arrangements for family and friends during this time when I couldn't just stop by the local store to buy flowers. I had some flowers from my yard but it wasn't much so we would ride to the fields & levee near our house to scavenge for wildflowers to fill in. At first in the spring there were plenty of these Clasping Coneflowers and they were perfect. But the last time we went further along into the summer there weren't any more of my

cherished flowers and I got discouraged. Since my cutting garden still hadn't fully come up yet I still needed some things to fill in. Then I stumbled upon this...



There were TONS of it nestled along the ditches and spreading well beyond (obviously it was quite invasive). I thought it was some sort of bamboo, but I didn't really know what it was...I just knew I loved the look of it, and it would be perfect filler for my arrangements. I cut a bunch of it and took it back with me, still a bit disappointed that I didn't get my wildflowers I had gone out there for. When I got home, I looked it up and did some research. I found out it's called Horsetail Reed Grass (*Equiselum Hyemale* is the botanical name) and it is indeed invasive but very easy to grow. I clipped the few Zinnias from my cutting garden that were bloomed and ready and added them to the handful of Horsetail Reed Grass that I had collected, and it was perfect.

DEEDS AND DOINGS



As soon as I saw what a great addition this would make to my cutting garden, I immediately got the 4-wheeler, a bucket and my potting tools and got some pieces to plant for future use. It has now been planted in a pot in my yard for a couple of months and has thrived.

So, the moral of the story, always be on the lookout for beauty!

DEEDS AND DOINGS

District VIII

MARKSVILLE GARDEN CLUB

Like most everyone else, the coronavirus pandemic has ground our activities nearly to a halt. Meetings were cancelled April and May 2020, and the group has decided not to resume until January 2021. A yearbook is being drafted with updates and cancellations put in place due to Covid-19.

Avoyelles Parish was affected by high winds and some damage from Hurricane Laura, but the worst of the storm stay just west of us. We extend our prayers out to all who suffered from effects of the storm.

While cleaning up, one of our members, Polly Campbell, sent out this prayer and message:

This is the day the Lord has made. Let us rejoice and clean yards in it!

I'm separating debris:

Limbs-to burn

Leaves-for compost

Pine needles-for mulch

If you're willing to bag your leaves instead of burning them, I'll be glad to add them to my compost!

Let's be Green & Clean!



Marksville Garden Club member Polly Campbell and son Alex clean up after

Hurricane Laura passes through.

DEEDS AND DOINGS

MGC has continued some efforts that had already begun pre-pandemic and before the storm. The Marksville Welcome Sign that was landscaped by MGC got some sprucing up in June by some of our members and a city worker, applying more mulch and weeding.



Town of Marksville Welcome Sign after summer spruce up by MGC members in June.

Some of the members took advantage of a virtual tour presented by the LSU AgCenter of Windrush Gardens at the LSU AgCenter Botanic Gardens in Baton Rouge on August 5. The tour of the Gardens by director Jeff Keuhny gave us an inside look of some wonderful landscaping and also the family that donated the property. Since we couldn't travel at the time because of the pandemic, it was a welcome presentation that we could watch online.

MGC members have continued to maintain the planters surrounding the downtown Marksville Courthouse, and much like other gardeners, have utilized the extra free time to beautify their own home landscapes.



MGC President DD LaMartiniere shared African Iris, Obedient Flower, and Spearmint plants and cuttings with fellow members during the summer.

DEEDS AND DOINGS



MGC member Laura Dauzat was chosen for Garden of the Month recipient last spring.



Poolside planting at Laura Dauzat's home.

CALENDAR

2020

- October 13 District VIII Fall District Meeting [INVITATION](#)
October 14 District V Fall District Meeting
October 15 District VII Fall District Meeting **CANCELLED**
October 20 District VI Fall District Meeting [INVITATION - REGISTRATION](#)
October 21 Districts I & II Fall District Meeting
October 22 District III Fall District Meeting [INVITATION](#)
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2021

- March 1-3 LGCF Flower Show Symposium [REGISTRATION](#)
March 21 -23, 2021 DSGC Convention, Huntsville, AL
April 26 2021-LGCF Convention Pre Tour
April 27 April 28-2021 -LFCF Convention - Baton Rouge, LA
May 17-20 NGC Convention, East Rutherford, NJ **CANCELLED**