On our cover for this Fall issue was submitted by Kay Allen and Phyllis Stacy of the Acres of Green Garden Club in District II. It showcases the varied talents of the Acres of Green club members. The lush greenery in the background sets off the beautiful Phalaenopsis in the foreground as well as the unique hand painted birdhouses. Thank you Phyllis and Kay 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.

Editor .............................................. Pam Langley, 1750 Bilbo St., Lake Charles, LA 70601-6061, 337-842-2995

DEADLINE FOR SUBMISSIONS TO WINTER ISSUE (JAN 2014) IS DEC 1ST, 2013.

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

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MESSAGE FROM OUR PRESIDENT

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

This “hummingbird” has been busy flying in all directions. Since my last message, your president has attended the NGC Convention in Seattle, Washington and has had the very special privilege of presiding at the 2013 LGCF Summer Board Meeting, “Nature’s Gifts”, in Baton Rouge, LA. A very, special thanks to Laura Broussard, Chairman of the Summer Board Meeting, and my very special helpers Jeanette Gatzman and Willie Allen. You all make my job so much easier!

What a treat you missed as Beth Erwin, District V Director taught us how to “Create a Power Point Presentation” on our computers. It was so well received that there is certainly the possibility of a follow up to this workshop. What a great experience, Beth. Thanks!

The Eighth District Judges Council program, “Nature’s Secrets”, wowed us with outstanding arrangements. Members in the audience were called upon to join the designers in creating designs in individually unique containers. Thanks to all who made this successful and such fun with Lena Bateman as the emcee. Then… a wild and furious bidding began to see who would take home these coveted designs and one of a kind container!

Deep South Regional Unified Project Chairman Sherrill Sasser and Co-Chairman Diane Watson presented a most informative workshop, “Community Gardening”, which is the Deep South Regional Unified Project for 2013-15. Please consider starting a community garden in your community. Sherrill has all the information you need to begin this project. The information can also be found at dsregion.org. Many at the workshop were pleased to report that their community already has community gardens. Many, many thanks extend to Sherrill and Diane for all their work in getting this workshop together.

Club Presidents and Life Members were honored at a wonderful luncheon. Thank you to all the great Club Presidents who work so hard to guide their membership into participating in such wonderful projects around their communities. Club Presidents are the motivators for their club members. None of us can accomplish anything unless we work as teams. Let us get credit for doing all the great projects that are done and apply for an award. The process has been simplified… so apply, apply, apply!  

Life Members were honored for their contribution to LGCF, Deep South and NGC. Life Membership usually is to “honor worthy members who have made valuable contributions in various fields of garden club work, and through donation (LGCF-$100, Deep South-$50, NGC-$200)”, LGCF Handbook, page 42. There is no price that can be placed on the service that Life Members have carried out in the name of gardening. The monetary donation goes to worthwhile projects (Scholarships, Headquarters, any other worthwhile project or program) for LGCF, Deep South and NGC. Thank you, Life Members, for your continuing work in helping to carry out the goals of LGCF, Deep South, and NGC.

During the Club Presidents’ and Life Members’ luncheon, we bid “adieu” to our Summer Board Chairman, Laura Broussard. She is a very special lady who has been an inspiration to all of us and has planned and implemented the Summer Board Meetings with great flair for the past twenty-five (25) years. We cannot say enough about Laura and all she has done for LGCF. I do believe that Laura was overwhelmed by the “Proclamation from the City of Baton Rouge”, the “LGCF Presidential Citation”, a beautiful ceramic magnolia (our state flower), and a bouquet of beautiful flowers. We know that just because Laura is stepping down from this chairmanship, we have not seen the last of her. We all love you Laura! Job well done!

Closing the luncheon honoring Club Presidents and Life Members, we were certainly entertained by “One of Nature’s Small Gifts” as Tom Jackson presented his DVD, “Hummingbirds in the Garden”. Prior to the DVD presentation, LGCF Birds (Conservation/Natural Resources) Chairman Emily Winners gave a most October 2013 LGCF Newsletter
informative presentation on hummingbirds including the symbolism and cultural beliefs about “hummers”. Not only was the presentation informative but meditative and prayerful as we watched the “hummers” hover around Tom. They seemed to love perching on Tom’s arms, hands and fingers. Thank you again Emily and Tom for reminding us about the “small gifts” we sometimes miss in our own backyards. What a wonderful way to close Summer Board and go home with hope in our hearts and with pride in being a gardener. Bring on those projects! We can do them!

In addition to these members, I would like to thank all members who shared their gifts and talents in some way to make this Summer Board Meeting meaningful. You are greatly appreciated!

As soon as this “hummer” returned home, preparation was begun to attend the August Environmental School in Lafitte, LA. I must say, Co-Chairmen Joe and Cindy Baucum did an outstanding job. There were several informative, outstanding speakers and I, personally, came away with thoughts of hope for the future. Finally, public officials, environmentalists and other entities are working together to discover the best plans for our state and the Gulf Coast. I know when I attended the NGC Convention in Seattle, WA and talked with our Deep South Garden Club Presidents (LA, MS, AL, GA, FL, TN), especially those along the Gulf Coast, we all expressed a strong concern not only about coastal erosion but about what is happening to our water supply.

I strongly encourage everyone to attend these courses and become informed about our environment. I can hardly wait for the next two courses. Joe and Cindy have a challenging task ahead of them. Thank you so much Joe and Cindy for chairing this school for LGCF and its membership. PS We did have much fun together, too!

As always, please let me share these words with you:

Live Like a Hummingbird

Legends say that hummingbirds float free of time, carrying our hopes for love, joy and celebration.

Hummingbirds open our eyes to the wonder of the world and inspire us to open our hearts to loved ones and friends.

Like a hummingbird, we aspire to hover and to savor each moment as it passes, embrace all that life has to offer and to celebrate the joy of everyday.

The hummingbird’s delicate grace reminds us that life is rich, beauty is everywhere, every personal connection has meaning and that laughter is life’s sweetest creation.

Carolyn Rubinstein & Papyrus (online)

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

Yvette Hebert, LGCF President
Berneda Birdsong  
Northeast Garden Club (District VI)

Berneda Birdsong married the love of her life, Lafayette Felix Birdsong, in 1941. Their union was blessed by 5 sons, 29 grandchildren and 4 great-grandchildren. Lafayette passed away in 1993.

Berneda Birdsong joined Northeast Garden Club in 1979. She was asked to join by Marie (Mary) Anthony, who, herself, was inducted into the Circle of Roses in 2012. Berneda happily recalls that Mary picked her up and drove her to her first meeting. That was certainly an excellent day for Northeast Garden Club because over the 34 years that Berneda has belonged to Northeast she has held all offices and served on every standing and continuing committee. In the days, when Northeast Garden Club had fund raising projects each year, Berneda twice made exquisite hand crocheted Afghans to be raffled as our fund raising project. Due to problems with her vision and failing health, Berneda no longer regularly attends meetings; but hers are the first dues our treasurer receives each year – she still serves Northeast faithfully in spirit and encouragement as well as membership.

Berneda Birdsong has long been a valued member of our entire community. She has faithfully served Annunciation Catholic Church in so many ways, especially using her gardening talents as a member of Altar Guild and both she and her husband did much toward building and supporting Annunciation Catholic School. Berneda has always used her talents for civic good and our small town is blessed to have such a dear resident.

AND by the way Berneda’s personal gardens were always a delight to behold – welcoming and interesting and as unique as the lovely lady who planted them.
Frances Harry
Bogalusa Garden Guild (District VI)

Frances "Fran" Harry joined the Bogalusa Garden Guild in 1977 and immediately became a leader. During her 37 years, she has served on every committee, including the hospitality, membership, program, civic & yearbook. She has served as secretary, treasurer, reporter, historian, vice president and president.

It was during her Presidency in 1992 that the traditional Christmas dinner and gift exchange was held at Lake Choctaw Lodge. Native greenery, pine cones and berries decorated the lodge and pine tree Christmas candles light added ambience. Dinner was served on fine china, crystal and silver. It was a moment to remember.

Fran was instrumental in setting up the clubs by-laws and for giving orientation to new members to make them aware of their duties as a garden club member. Fran became the yearbook chairman in 1996 and has served in this capacity for 18 years.

Fran has been very active on the civic committee. She served as President of the Magic City Council and has worked on special projects committee for several years. Following Hurricane Katrina, she was instrumental in replanting the crepe myrtles on Louisiana Avenue and participated in the Cleanest City Contest working closely with the Mayor’s office.

In addition to garden club, Frances has always been actively involved in the church, the community and in civic projects. She was President of the Bogalusa Civic League, Secretary of the Board for SASAC Substance Abuse Center, Officer for the Washington Parish Genealogy Society, a board member of the Museum of Cassidy Park. She was one of the original organizers of the Bogalusa Wild Game Cook Off, which is held annually to fund the museum. She is currently secretary for the Mile Branch Settlement, a committee of the Washington Parish Fair Board. She and her husband, Jack, were recently honored at the Washington Parish Fair as the Mile Branch Honorees for 2012 for nearly 20 years of service to the Fair Association. Francis has a special love for her hometown and has worked tirelessly to help it thrive.

Francis "Fran" Williams Harry was born in Tylertown, Mississippi and moved to Bogalusa as a very young child. She has been a resident of Bogalusa since that time. At the age of 17, she married the love of her life, Jack Harry, and they recently celebrated their 65th wedding anniversary on June 6, 2013. Jack and Fran have one daughter, Beth Willett, who resides in Prairieville, Louisiana and she has two children, Jodi Williams and Ryan Williams, both of Baton Rouge. Ryan and his wife, Sarah, have blessed them with four beautiful great-grandchildren, Cade, Caleb, Riley and Trace.
Rachel Lanford  
Mt. Hermon Garden Club (District VI)

Our friend Rachel Lanford is a long time member of the Mt. Hermon Garden Club. Rachel joined the Mt. Hermon Garden Club in 1976. With the support of her husband Charles Lanford, she has served in all club officer positions and is our current president. She retired from the Agriculture & Forestry Department in 2000. Intertwined with many different roles in her life, she is the mother of 4 children, 2 step-children, 10 grandchildren & 7 great-grandchildren. Rachel serves as pianist and soloist in her church.

Rachel went to Flower Show School and became a Flower Show Judge. She recently served as Chairman in our last Flower Show School.

Not having enough to do, she belongs to 3 more clubs; Home & Garden of Franklinton, Mt. Hermon Homemakers and Bogue Chitto Homemakers.

With all that Rachel does, it would not be possible without her love of nature and all its beauty. This was the reason she has taken on so many tasks.

Hope you keep up the good work. Congratulations, with all our love, from the Mt Hermon Garden Club.

Mary Parsley  
Franklinton Home and Garden Club (District VI)

Mary Parsley, is a dedicated member of Franklinton Home and Garden Club of District VI. Mary has been an outstanding club member for many years. She is married to Bennie Parsley, a retired military Veteran. They have three children, seven grandchildren and eight great grandchildren.

Mary's favorite prayer is the 'Serenity Prayer'. She says it gives her comfort in her daily life. She is a member of Canaan Baptist Church. She is an avid gardener and a master of many crafts. She ran a florist for twenty years, and a bakery making beautiful and delicious wedding, shower and birthday cakes.

Mary has continually promoted the NGC objectives as she has served in every office of the club. She has served as President for five tenures and she continues her service as Treasurer for the past seven years. Mary presents garden club programs to clubs and is always diligently searching for new ideas to pass along to members. We know of no one who is more deserving of the honor of being selected to join the Circle of Roses. Home and Garden is proud to call her our special rose and celebrate this wonderful recognition with our sister garden club member. Congratulations to Mary from all of our members. We appreciate everything you do for Home and Garden Club We salute you, our friend!
Genevieve B. Ardoin
Magnolia Garden Club of Ville Platte (District VII)

Genevieve B. Ardoin obtained a B. A. degree from Dominican College of New Orleans in 1957, the same year she married Jake Ardoin, a prominent Evangeline Parish farmer. The Ardoins are the parents of four children, 12 grandchildren and soon will have two great-grandchildren.

Genevieve joined the Magnolia Garden Club in 1957. Her aunt, Lura Jane Dupre Aswell, asked her to be her driver when she attended landscape and flower show classes to become a judge. Genevieve was a student at the same time as her aunt.

Genevieve has chaired a Cotton Festival Flower Show. She was on the original committee for the annual Christmas Lighting of the Oaks on Ville Platte’s Main Street and each year she chairs the judging of the lighting of homes and businesses for Christmas. Genevieve has given neighboring towns the information needed to form a garden club as well as attending state conventions, district meetings and flower shows. She was a winner at the Yambilee flower show in Opelousas. She is a member of the Friends of the Chicot Arboretum, loves gardening and plants for the butterflies. She is an avid bird watcher and has planted many trees. Her favorite flower is the Bird of Paradise.

Genevieve served on the church council for Our Lady Queen of All Saints Catholic Church. She served as chairman of their blood drive and a family fun day. She has worked with Acadiana and Mamou Hospices. In order to become a “Queen’s Angel” under the Good Samaritan Law, she attended seminars to be certified. She cared for patients by making home visits. Genevieve is a member of a rosary group, has been a CCD teacher, served as hostess for Sacred Heart Homecoming activities, and works with the Sacred Heart School Foundation.

Joyce Miller Coreil
Magnolia Garden Club of Ville Platte (District VII)

Joyce Miller Coreil was married to the late Charles Burke Coreil. They were the parents of two sons – Badge is deceased and Chad and one grandson. She has a bachelor and master’s degree in education and taught in the elementary grades for 38 years. Joyce has been a Magnolia Garden Club member for 15+ years and has served as historian and president. She has been a member of the following committees: Blue Star Memorial, Lighting of the Oaks, Cleanest City Chairperson, the District VII meeting held in Ville Platte. She takes pictures for the Garden of the Month/Award of Merit, and has prepared scrapbooks and taken pictures for the Cleanest City Contest and President’s scrapbooks. She has exhibited in club flower shows often using antique materials from a family store.
Honors received by Joyce are as follows: The Lions Club Woman of the Year in 1978; Louisiana Cotton Festival Colonel in 1999; The Chamber of Commerce and Tourism Sesquicentennial Woman in 2008 celebrating Ville Platte’s 150th birthday; and Beta Sigma Phi Epsilon Sigma Social Sorority Girl of the Year three times.

Joyce has belonged to the Evangeline Parish Volunteers for Family and Community Education for nine years. She has been president and is club photographer for all events. She has served on Arbor Day Committees for the Memorial Garden. She sews for Health Units, raised A reader bags for hospitals and volunteers for Arc Valentine Party, the Easter Egg Dye Party for the nursing home and judged 4-H food contests. ✨

Joyce was a Publicity Director for the Louisiana Cotton Festival. She served a co-chairman of the luncheon for many years, was director and sponsor of Cotton Boll/Cotton Blossom first grade festival and Tournoi art projects. As a member of the American Legion Auxiliary, Joyce chaired Miss Ville Platte Contests and princesses to other festivals. When the Lions auxiliary was active, she served as secretary, president and treasurer and judged area children pageants. As a Beta Sigma Phi Epsilon Sigma Sorority member, she has served as president, secretary, and historian. She has prepared many scrapbooks for presidents and worked on the scholarship committee.

When her children were young, Joyce served as CCD teacher, 4-H chaperone. FBLA volunteer and chaperone, baseball team mom and scorekeeper, Cub Scout den mother and assisted with Mrs. Louisiana America Pageant, the Miss LA USA-Miss LA Teen USA pageant.

Joyce lives in a retirement (MeMaw) Home behind her son’s home. She raises a vegetable garden for spring and fall, and potted plants and beds surrounding her home. She is fascinated by humming birds and butterflies. She collects anything and everything with hummers and maintains six feeders in her yard. She enjoys playing pokeno and Rummie Kube. She belongs to a come Lord Jesus Bible Study Group and attends seasonal Broadway series productions at the Heyman Center. She enjoys movies, cooking, traveling and doing volunteer work at Sacred Heart School. 😊

Emma Jane Fontenot
Magnolia Garden Club of Ville Platte (District VII)

Emma Jane Fontenot, a native of Ville Platte was married to the late Leland Fontenot for 58 years. Their family includes three daughters, eight grandchildren and ten great-grandchildren. Emma has been a member of the Magnolia Garden Club for 42 years. In recent years she has been inactive due to the illness of her husband who was suffering from Alzheimer’s.

Emma has won many Cotton Festival Flower Show awards including the Creativity Award six times, the Cotton Award, the Tricolor and the horticultural Award of Merit numerous times. She has taught flower arranging classes to her daughters and a number of little girls of club members and most recently a sorority. She has served on committees for the Lighting of the Oaks and for many Arbor Day celebrations.
Emma was a Girl Scout leader for 15 years. She taught religion classes and served as a room mother at school. She has been a Pink Lady Volunteer at the local hospital for many years, was Lions Club Woman of the Year in 1973 and helped with the pictorial guide for Sacred Heart's Sesquicentennial. She has served on the Council on Aging and the Country Club Boards and is a member of Martha’s Helpers and a rosary group.

She enjoys smocking and making fancy baby clothes.

Mary Lynn F. Landreneau
Magnolia Garden Club of Ville Platte (District VII)

Mary Lynn F. Landreneau joined the Magnolia Garden Club in 1973. She had served as Vice-president and Reporter and has been the Secretary for almost 30 years. She has exhibited horticulture in the club’s Cotton Festival Flower Show; won the Creativity Award in 1996 and the Cotton Award in 1993. She has received many Awards of Merit for Special Education Cotton Exhibits at the club’s flower shows. At the present time, she writes the monthly newspaper articles of the selection of the Garden of the Month/Business or Governmental Award of Merit. She has served on the Arbor Day committees and on the Lighting of the Oaks Committee.

Mary Lynn has been an avid member of the Evangeline Volunteers for Family and Community Education, the “Cajunettes.” She was selected as Outstanding FCE Cajunette member in 1993. Other honors she has received are the Lions Club Woman of the Year in 2002-2003, Cotton Festival Parade Marshall in 1993, Ville Platte Humanitarian of the year in 2002-2003, the Heritage Manor Nursing Home Individual Award in 2002 and the Catholic Daughter of the Year in 2007.

She has served on the Jean Marie Laran Museum Board and the Ville Platte Ladies Golf Association, having served as secretary in both organizations.

Mary Lynn and Gary O. Landreneau have been married for 57 years. They are the parents of three sons, five grandchildren and one great grandson.

Mary Lynn was an elementary school teacher for 33 years. When Sacred Heart Catholic Church printed a Sesquicentennial Pictorial guide in 2004, Mary Lynn was in charge of the pictorial guides. She is a member of a Come Lord Jesus study group.

She has held every office in the Ville Platte Lions Auxiliary and worked on every committee the club sponsored. She has served on the committee for the Cotton Festival Princess Luncheon choosing the Cotton Pickers, the singing group of the festival and choosing their costumes. She has worked with the Lions club Radio auction cataloguing their items and answering the phones. She has also worked their little court contests and many of their other projects.
Elsie Manuel has been a valuable member of the Magnolia Garden Club. Her husband was the late Henry Lee Manuel. They were the parents of a daughter and a son. They have five grandchildren and nine great-grandchildren.

Elsie is a very talented flower show exhibitor. She has won in design and horticulture in numerous Cotton Festival Flower shows. She was a winner of the coveted Creativity and Cotton Awards. She has served the club as flower show chairman and hostess. She enjoys all gardening but landscape is her favorite. In her younger years, she was a member and club secretary of a homemakers club.

When the Ville Platte Art League was formed, Elsie served as president. She is also a talented artist. She was a winner for six consecutive years and was honored with Best in Show one year.

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” nine 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 70526-3952, (337) 783-4545, gmpetitjean@cox.net.
Design Corner

The designs pictured on this page were created and showcased at the 2013 LGCF Summer Board Meeting in Baton Rouge. They were created by members of the Eighth District Judges Council and guests from the audience. The Council’s program, “Nature’s Secrets”, was interesting to watch and exciting to bid on also!
Book Review
By Sissy Gall, LGCF Book Review Chairman

The Garden Diary of Martha Turnbull, Mistress of Rosedown Plantation

This is history, autobiography and gardening rolled into one very special book!! Discovered in a descendant’s attic in the 1990’s, Martha Turnbull’s fascinating diaries were given to the LSU Archives for safekeeping. Edited and annotated in 2012 by Suzanne Turner, professor emeritus of landscape architecture at LSU, it is now available in a beautiful hardbound edition, or Kindle.

The Garden Diary of Martha Turnbull, Mistress of Rosedown Plantation
Author: Martha Turnbull
Editor: Suzanne Turner
Louisiana State University Press, 2012
pp. 416
ISBN: 0807144118
$26.46 hardbound book or $17.24 Kindle
Available at Amazon: http://www.amazon.com/gp/product/0807144118

LGCF Gardening Consultants Council Report
By Mary Ellen Miller, Gardening Consultants Council President

The Gardening Consultants met at Summer Board in Baton Rouge. We are excited about moving forward with our organization. Gail Lonibos, Recording Secretary for the Gardening Consultants Council, distributed our new yearbooks to all present.

Carrie Martin, G. C. School Chairman announced that the next school (Series 9, Course1) is planned for January 9 & 10 in Lafayette. Roxanna Champagne will be the course chairman so we can expect it to be informative with a touch of fun. Please tell your garden club members about the course.

There is something new with Gardening Consultants. We have a monthly newsletter "What's Growing", being sent by E-Mail to all Gardening Consultants in the State and others requesting the publication. In it is information on vegetable and herb gardens, annual gardens, foundation plantings and current pests, insects and blights. We have monthly contributions from horticulture experts from the major gardens in the New Orleans area and from LSU Ag Center. There are also guest articles of interest each month.

If you have something in horticulture going on in your section of the State or have something of interest you would like to contribute please contact Eleanore Capretto, Corresponding Secretary for the Gardening Consultants Council. Eleanore has been doing a wonderful job as Editor. We now have three editions published. If you would like to receive "What's Growing" and are not on our list please contact Eleanore at ecapretto@cox.net.
Lake Charles Garden Club Celebrates 80 Years
By Camille Stakes

DOWN A GARDEN PATH (EARLY YEARS)

The American Press of February 18, 1932 contained an article titled, “City Wide Garden Work Begins With Zone Divisions.” Lead by Mrs. Emma Michie of Majestic Hotel fame and Mrs.W. H. Haskell, chairman of the forestry and park division of the Enterprise Club, the article signaled a determined and organized effort to make the little city of Lake Charles more attractive to tourist and conventions.

A general meeting was held on March 11, 1932 at the Association of Commerce building. Mrs. Michie was elected president of the new club, formerly titled the Lake Charles Garden Club. The city was divided into 7 zones, with a chairman assigned to each zone. To keep the cost to minimum most of the work would be done by volunteers and cuttings from landscape gardens would be used. The Rotary Club pledged their assistance to the new undertaking.

The first project of the Lake Charles Garden Club was to plant 800 trees throughout the city, redbuds, oleanders and crepe myrtles. Club members assisted homeowners in landscaping their yards, issuing bulletins explaining types of bushes and flowers best suited for this region and how to plant and maintain them.

During April 1932, 35 members of the New Orleans Garden Club visited Lake Charles. They were received at the Majestic Hotel by almost 100 members of the Lake Charles club. The two day visit consisted of trips to Prien Lake to view the homes and gardens there. A reception was held at the home of Miss Matilda Gray and a complete tour of the city was given the next day. The guest expressed their delight in the trees lined shady streets of Lake Charles and the beautifully landscaped yards and foundation plantings.

In 1933 the club was formerly organized with By-Laws, at this time it was decided that the club would meet on the second Tuesday of each month. This is still the monthly date of the garden club meeting.

In 1934, Miss Alice Snodgrass was elected president. During this time, the Lake Charles American Press with the help of the Garden Club sponsored a garden contest. Prizes for the most beautiful yard were given and citizens anxious to exhibit their prize blooms were encouraged to enter them in flower shows held in Muller’s Department Store and Burden Campbell furniture store each month.

The club became federated in 1935 as a member of the National Garden Club, Inc. We are also a member of the Deep South Region and The Louisiana Federated Garden Club, Inc.

The beautification of the lake front was started in 1935. The J. A. Bell’s gave their home to the city of Lake Charles for the use of the cities clubs. Many entertainments were held there, including a Christmas program that featured a drive to the lighted gardens and homes of the city. I was also this year that the Lake Charles Club became Federated as a member of the National Council of State Garden Clubs. That year 115 clubs members from Texas, led by the Garden Club of Waco and including members from other towns in Texas visited Lake Charles. At this time members of the club presented a minstrel show at Central School to raise money for planting on the grounds around city hall.

In 1936 a new project of the Garden Club was to plant a rose garden on the vacant lot at the corner of Pujo and Hodges streets. The roses were to given to the city for use in civic gatherings and were distributed to hospitals, churches and shut ins. Many citizens were asked to order a rose bush to plant and 300 red rose bushes were eventually planted. The first bouquet from the community rose garden was sent to the
registration desk of the convention of the State Medial Society at the Majestic Hotel. In July 200 blossoms were sent to the wards of St. Patrick’s Hospital.

The year 1939-40, 90 gardens were entered in the American Press contest for the best garden. The state convention for Louisiana Garden Clubs was held in Lake Charles between the years 1940-42 and the first state flower show. During the next 4 years the Garden Club started a junior garden club at Oak Park Elementary school and introduced litter prevention contests in schools parish wide.

On May 30, 1949 the club installed a water fountain on Enterprise Blvd, as a memorial to the World War II dead. The fountain was later moved to Memorial Hospital and eventually to the Civic Center where it stands today. During the succeeding years each president left her imprint on the city with various civic projects, lectures, demonstrations, flowers shows and more junior clubs. Members organized an Azalea Trail in Lake Charles, planting 400 azaleas. Again, clubs from Texas came to admire and exclaim. Members continued to hold flower shows in various businesses throughout the city and encourage the organization of new garden clubs, such as the one for the officers wives at Chennault Air Force base.

It would take a book to list all the projects, achievements and awards, many of them national of the Lake Charles Garden Club. Projects such as having Lake Charles designated as an official bird sanctuary location, writing a grant to purchase plants for the new Prien Lake Park, providing and planting landscaping for the I-10 welcome center, planting and maintaining a wild flower exhibit at the Calcasieu Imperial Museum, planting and maintaining the brick flower boxes at the civic center are just a few examples.

The first Cleanest City Contest was started by the Louisiana Federation of Garden Clubs in 1958 and Lake Charles has participated except for the six years after Hurricane Rita. The city has won many times and credit goes to the ladies of the garden clubs who work to keep the public and city officials involved.

Current projects include a garden therapy for senior citizens at a local retirement facility and a partnership with Evergreen Ministries to plant flower boxes at Tuten Park. The junior garden club, now at College Oaks Elementary continues to meet monthly. Eighty years old, the Lake Charles Garden Club still continues to promote the ideals and goals stated at the very first meeting: to beautify and improve their city, the city of Lake Charles.

In Memory of Helen Blue Garrett

On July 12, 2013 our beloved friend Helen suddenly lost her battle with cancer. She was a valued member of the Rayne Garden Club and LGCF. Helen held offices in almost every capacity and served her club members proudly. She loved God and her country. Helen accepted life as a life, met challenges head on and was always willing to help. She saw beauty in simple things and loved the gifts of nature.

Helen was a beautiful person with a New Orleans flare and the grade of a true southern lady. She will be sadly missed by all who knew her and loved her.
Landscape Design Schools Scheduled for November and January
By Clara Earl, LA Landscape Design School Chair

The Louisiana Landscape Design School will be held on November 19-20, 2013 at the Baton Rouge Garden Center, 7950 Independence Blvd., Baton Rouge, LA.

This 2 day, 10 hour, course is taught by LSU professors and local professional Landscape Architects. This is “Course III” of 4 courses conducted in a 2 year period.

Sponsors include the National Garden Clubs, Inc., the Louisiana Garden Club Federation, the LA Landscape Design Consultants Council and the LSU Robert Reich School of Landscape Architecture.

Topics to be covered in Course III include Color in the Landscape; Landscape Design Accessories; Landscape Design for Maintenance; Design on the Land, Regional Expression; Development of Landscape Architecture and Design 1840-1940; Introduction to Urban Design; Parks, Playgrounds and Conservation Areas; Graphics Interpretation; Guidelines for Evaluating Landscape Design, and “Spotlight on Local Landscapes: Walden Subdivision-an Indigenous Landscape”.

Registration starts at 8:00 am and class begins at 8:30am. Registration is required and due by Oct. 31, 2013.

The cost is $55.00 to audit, $60.00 for the NGC registration and includes the syllabus and snacks. It is open to Garden Club Members, Master Gardeners and the Public. A box lunch or salad is extra and a brown bag from home is acceptable.

For a registration form or additional information, you may contact Clara Earl at clarae2003@yahoo.com or at 225-937-5570.

Course IV will be held January 29-30, 2014, same location, same hours, different topics.

LGCF 2014 Convention
By Tom Wood, Publicity Chairman

The “Wheels on the LGCF Convention Bus” will begin touring of “Louisiana At Its Best” on March 26, 2014. The bus will be at the Crowne Plaza Hotel, 4728 Constitution Ave, Baton Rouge, LA.

It will begin with a tour on March 26th. We will visit the Imahara’s Botanical Gardens in St Francisville where lunch will be served.

That evening a buffet will be provided, followed with entertainment by “Class & Sass”.

On March 27 & 28, there will be speakers, entertainment, and recognition of club presidents, club members, life members, “Circle of Roses” and rewards.

LGCF members please join us as we celebrate our 80th Convention in our great state of Louisiana.

Reminder - Check the Directory!
Please remember to consult the on-line directory before mailing award applications. Many chairs have changed! For example, you need to mail your yearbooks to Mary Crumb, our new Yearbook Chair, and Circle of Roses initiates need to be sent to Georgie Petitjean, our new Circle of Roses Chair.
Horticulture Corner

Fall Gardening Tips

October - Redbor kale may be planted from now through Feb for an edible that's pretty enough to be placed in the flower bed. Fall is a good time to plant herbs that don't like our hot summers such as parsley, dill, cilantro, and chives. Rake fall leaves and add to your compost pile or save to use as mulch.

November - Plant old fashioned sweet pea seed for flowers in spring. Buy tulip bulbs mid-month, refrigerate 2-3 weeks for planting next month. Plant blueberry bushes, fig and citrus trees now thru Feb. Mulch tender plants to prepare for cold winter temps.

December - Plant bare root roses at the end of this month and beginning of next month. Beets, Swiss chard, and spinach are some winter vegetables that can be planted in our area this month and next.

Summer Board Memories

One of the most notable events at the recent Summer Board meeting was the farewell address to Laura Broussard, our Summer Board Chair. Laura is stepping down from her chair after 25 years of service. We all shared in the heartfelt thanks that was extended to Laura for her many years of service. Thank you, Laura, for a job well done!

Pictured on the left is our President, Yvette Hebert, thanking Laura Broussard for her many years of service as Chair of the LGCF Summer Board Meeting.

Environmental Incentives/Environmental Awareness Report (Air, Energy, Land and Water)

By Cindy Baucum, Environmental Incentives/Environmental Awareness Chair

The Louisiana Department of Environmental Quality’s website is a great resource for those wishing to keep abreast of our state’s air, land and water issues. The website is continually kept up-to-date on the latest information pertaining to the status of our environment (spills and fines, air pollution/conditions, water quality, etc.), educational opportunities, awards, and updated regulations. There is also a link to the agency's informative electronic monthly newsletter, “Discover DEQ”.

I encourage each one of you to take the time to visit this website at www.deq.louisiana.gov and view its many links to our environment.
Better Swamps and Garden Club (District II) hosted very successful Courses I and II, Series III, of the LGCF Environmental Studies School (ESS) on August 20 through August 23, 2013. According to Joe and Cindy Baucum, Co-Chairmen of the ESS, the attendance was record-breaking with 43 individuals participating in the two courses and the quality of those taking part couldn’t have been more superb. Among those attending was Yvette Hebert (President, LGCF), Sarah McReynolds (President, Texas Garden Clubs), three former Presidents of LGCF (Margo Racca, Donna Bucci, and Mary Jacobs), three District Directors (Tricia Ortalano, Roxanna Champagne, and Jennifer Granger), a District Director from Texas (Judith Bussey), the Schools Chairman from Mississippi (Melanie Gousset), a club member from Mississippi (Linda Thompson), a club member from Tennessee (Jeri Melton), and a host of wonderful people from Louisiana.

Joe and Cindy admit to spending an enormous amount of time recruiting faculty for the school and selecting excellent field trip sites and opportunities. Among the chosen instructors were three PhD’s, an environmentalist attorney, and eight other teachers, all of whom were skilled, knowledgeable, and experienced in ecological fields. The first field trip was a guided boardwalk nature stroll at the Jean Lafitte National Park and Historical Preserve. The second was a swamp-tour boat ride down the Barataria Waterway and attached bodies of water to observe the flora and fauna of the wetlands and the structures implemented by man to help slow the erosion of those precious pieces of essential land.

“The biggest thrill of the school”, according to Joe and Cindy, “was the moment when Margo Racca received her five-star Master Consultant pin --- the first in the State of Louisiana!”

Joe and Cindy thank all of those who attended Courses I and II, and welcome everyone to participate in Courses III and IV, probably to be presented in Jean Lafitte on June 3, 4, 5, and 6, 2013.

Pictured on the right are Linda Finley and Margo Racca with Joe and Cindy Baucum presenting them certificates of completion for refreshing and receiving their Master status in Environmental Studies.
LGCF Fall District Meetings Schedule

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Dist.</th>
<th>Day, Date (Oct)</th>
<th>Registration Time</th>
<th>Location</th>
<th>Fee</th>
<th>Send To</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>I &amp; II</td>
<td>Thurs., 24</td>
<td>10:00 am</td>
<td>Salty Swine at Timberlane Country Club, #1 Timberline Dr., Gretna, LA 70056</td>
<td>$32.00</td>
<td>Billie Massa 139 Citrus Rd River Ridge, LA 70123</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>III</td>
<td>Tues., 15</td>
<td>9:00 am</td>
<td>Petroleum Club of Morgan City, 500 Roderick St., Morgan City, LA 70380</td>
<td>$30.00</td>
<td>Iris Roy PO Box 236 Patterson, LA 70392</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>IV</td>
<td>TBA</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>V</td>
<td>Tues., 22</td>
<td>9:00 am</td>
<td>Rayville United Methodist Church, 905 Louisa St (US 425 North), Rayville LA 71269</td>
<td>$27.00</td>
<td>Sherrill Sasser 438 Highway 569 Ferriday, LA 71334</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>VI</td>
<td>Fri., 11</td>
<td>9:30 am</td>
<td>The Castle 47168 Hwy. 10 Franklinton, LA 70438</td>
<td>$25.00</td>
<td>Billie Sue Alford 1600 Meadowlea St, Bogalusa LA 70427</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>VII</td>
<td>Wed., 16</td>
<td>9:30 am</td>
<td>Indian Hills Country Club 1141 E. Prudhomme St. Opelousas, LA 70570</td>
<td>$25.00</td>
<td>Betty Foret 7929 Highway 31 Opelousas LA 70570</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>VIII</td>
<td>Thurs., 17</td>
<td>9:30 am</td>
<td>Pineville Community Center 708 Main St. Pineville, LA</td>
<td>$30.00</td>
<td>Liz Coco PO Box 111 Simmesport, LA 71369</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Bayou Vista Garden Club Celebrates Its 20th Anniversary
Submitted by Janice Verret

The Bayou Vista Garden Club began as an answer to the devastation in our area from Hurricane Andrew in 1992. Bayou Vista Garden Club was founded by Floriece Tisdale in 1993 and BVGC became a member of the Louisiana Garden Club Federation in 1994. The original focus of the club was on Civic Development Projects, which continues to be our prime goal today.

Members receiving 20-year recognition of service to the BVGC were Donna Bucci, Donna Richard, Gloria Roy, and Jo Ann Ryan. Special guests included St. Mary Parish District 4 Councilman Glen Hidalgo and wife Gwen and former BVGC Presidents Flo Tisdale and Marjorie Turner. Presidents’ scrapbooks were displayed for viewing.

The membership hosted the September 20th Anniversary meeting by preparing a delicious meal. Members Kim Alcina, Donna Bucci, Donna Richard, Jo Ann Ryan, Dawn Thomason, and Janice Verret decorated the tables using unique themes which included china tableware, stemware, and floral centerpieces.

Donna Bucci, BVGC President 2013-2015, created the anniversary floral design, Celebrating 20 Years, using the following plant materials: Bird of Paradise blooms and blades (Stralitzia), variegated ginger, polka dot aspidistra, star begonia, verbena, liriope, caladium, leather leaf, and bear grass.

Kim Alcina, Environmental Awareness Chairman, presented the new "Upcycling" project which is the process of converting waste materials or useless products into new materials or products of better quality or of better environmental value. For September, Alcina re-purposed old books for shelves, birdhouse roofs, tablerunners, and bookmarks.
The 2013-2014 yearbooks and updated BVGC membership brochures were distributed to members. Donna Bucci provided pots of the Louisiana native iris Laura Louise for members. The door prize winner was Gloria Roy. New members are encouraged to join us at our next meeting which will be October 14, 6:30 P.M. at the Bayou Vista Community Center.

Gardening Study School to be held in Lafayette

The LGCF Gardening Study School Council has announced that Series 9, Course 1 of Gardening Study will be held January 9-10, 2014 at the Ira Nelson Center, 2206 Johnston Street, Lafayette. The course fee is $55. Accommodations are at the Hilton Garden Inn, 2350 W. Congress Street, Lafayette at the rate of $99 a night. Recommended reading Living with Plants, by Schuman. Required for those taking for credit, The National Gardener Magazine label available by contacting National Garden Clubs Member Services at 1-800-550-60. Those wishing to register should send the $55 fee, their name and contact information to Gardening Study Schools, Dorothy Delaune, 216 Shady Pond Lane, Covington, LA 70435.

For questions call or email Carrie Martin at 985-893-3285, mart3285@bellsouth.net or Dorothy Delaune at 985-893-0493, RDGDELAUNE@aol.com.
Deep South Awards
The following Deep South awards were not announced at LGCF Summer Board due to an oversite.

Deep South Treasures

A Petite Advanced-Standard Flower Show Presented by the Deep South Region of National Garden Clubs, Inc.
Dates: Monday March 25- Tuesday 26, 2013
Hyatt Regency Savannah in conjunction with Deep South Regional Convention 2013

EDUCATIONAL EXHIBITOR AWARD
Section A. Educational Exhibits
"Projects to Treasure"

Louisiana- Membership:  What are the Building Blocks to Success?
Second Place-Red Ribbon-  Linda Brashier District III
Deep South Regional Chairman

Section D: Louisiana (Mary Jacobs)
"Continuing Our Legacy of Beautification, Education, and Restoration"

Class 10: " Beautification": a Miniature design made from roadside-collected plant materials; staged in a portion of a gray acrylic shadowbox (total area available for design: 7" h x 7"w x 4" d.) Nothing may be adhered to acrylic.

First Place................................. Susan McNeese, District VI
Second Place ......................... Betty Plummer, District VI
Third Place ............................ Joyce Profitt, District VI
Honorable Mention .................. Donna Moran, District VI

Class 11: "Education": a Small Collage Design staged on a black wooden easel provided by committee. Collage is to be 8" square.

First Place & AWARD OF DISTINCTION .... Charlotte Reso, District VI
Second Place ............................... Linda Ryan, District VI
Third Place ............................... Donna Truxillio, District VI
Honorable Mention ................ Minnie Posey, District VI

Class 12: "Restoration": a Small Traditional Mass Design interpreting one of Louisiana's many plantations. Plantation is to be named on plant material card. Staging is on a round paper lace doily (designer may choose doily from a selection offered by committee or may provide his/her own round paper lace doily).

Rosedown Plantation - First Place......................... Linda Ryan, District VI
Laurel Plantation- Second Place ............................. Charlotte Reso, District VI
Oak Alley Plantation-Third Place .......................... Rachael Langford, District VI
Nottoway Plantation-Honorable Mention ................ Susan McNeese, District VI

Note from the Editor – Directory Corrections
Beth Erwin, out of the goodness of her heart, has agreed to take on the Directory responsibilities for LGCF. If you have any corrections or updates for the directory, please direct them to Beth at kcrew@ne-tel.net.
**District I & II**

Members of District I and II have been working to help the N.O. Botanical Garden to achieve "Plant Museum" status. We have been checking for name tags and taking pictures of plants, leaves and flowers.

Pictured above are Nancy Click, LGCF Historian and member of Lake Terrace Garden Club; Mabel Himel, Master Gardener and member Of Lakeview Botany Guild; Elizabeth and Kaitlyn Prokop, teenage granddaughters of Molly Prokop; Molly Prokop, Master Gardener, President of Shady Oaks Garden Club; Betty Gibbs, Master Gardener, President of Jefferson Parish Council of Garden Clubs and member of Rambling Rose Garden Club; and Mary Ellen Miller, Project Chairman, President Gardening Consultants Council, and member of Lake Forest Garden Club and Shady Oaks Garden Club.

**District II**

Submitted by Daria Vincent, District II, President, Rambling Rose Gardeners Club.

As President of Rambling Rose Gardeners Club for 2013-2015, I am very excited. Our club has a wonderful group of ladies whose names are Duchess Brian, Lynne Cashio, Angie Cole, Carol Fourmaux - Recording Secretary, Betty Gibbs - Vice President, Joan Gist, Elaine Lescale, Billie Massa, Sharon Massa, Curtis Perez, Betty Rena, Stephanie Tompson - Treasurer, and Virginia Warren.

The Theme of our Yearbook (cover picture depicting stepping stones/fern/spider plants around tree/deer) for 2013-2014 is, Plants of the Earth Will Teach US. Every month I have always looked forward to our meetings. Even when Betty Rena was enthusiastically talking to me about the Garden Club and inviting me to be a member, I was already breathing that fresh air and picturing days of going outside to see my garden take on new growth and beauty from ideas taken from each of our ladies. Indeed, Plants of the Earth Will Teach US. Let's have the enthusiasm, of whether we have a small or large garden, to promote the importance of its beauty in our world.

Our Yearbook for 2013-2014 is in Memory of Cherry Robinson (pictured with her smiling face on the right). She was loved and cherished by all and will be very much missed.
**District III**

**Abbeville Garden Club** and Keep Abbeville Beautiful Members Sandra Creswell and Patsy Hebert spoke about recycling to area Cub Scouts for their 2013 Summer Day Camp at Camp Steen in June. The presentation focused on reducing, reusing, and recycling waste materials. Plastic bags, plastic bottles, and newspapers were highlighted as easy materials to recycle, even though our parish recycling program has been temporarily halted. Composting and disposal of tires were also discussed.

Ms. Sandra and Ms. Patsy stressed the importance of recycling for the protection of our environment and the future of our landfill. Cub Scouts were encouraged to sign a poster which stated “Starting Today, I Pledge to Recycle More...” The poster will be displayed for National Recycle Day Activities this coming November.

KAB and AGC plan to work continually with the Cub Scout troops in order to make a difference in our parish environment, as we follow the National Garden Club theme “Making a World of Difference – Choices Matter”. Together we can work to make wise choices for saving and protecting our Planet Earth and its natural resources.

Pictured above right are Sandra Creswell (L), Keep Abbeville Beautiful Chairman, and Patsy Hebert (R), Abbeville Garden Club President. They are both members of the Abbeville Garden Club, Louisiana Garden Club Federation, and National Garden Clubs, Inc. They are also members of Keep Abbeville Beautiful, Keep Louisiana Beautiful and Keep America Beautiful.

**District VI**

**Magnolia Forest Garden Club** recently held a Summer Social at a local restaurant for members & their husbands to visit. This was also a farewell dinner for Johnnie Ruth & Howard Rogillio who are moving to Texas. Nancy O’Bryan, 1st Vice President, presented Johnnie Ruth Rogillio, our past President, with a beautiful metal sculpture of a “fleur de lea” as a going away gift from our club. Johnnie Ruth has held many offices over the years, & will be sorely missed. The club meetings will resume in September. Pictured above right are Mary Jean Herman, Janet Fouert, Beryl & L.J. Deris. Pictured below left are Lenny & Carroll Knowles, Andy Leonard, & Rocky Solar. Pictured below right are (Front row) Fay Vogt, Georgette Frichter, (Back row) Carroll Knowles, & Johnnie Ruth Rogillio.
District VII
Jennifer Granger, District VII Director; Margo Racca, past LGCF President; Kathy Tell, LGCF Web Master; and Pam Langley LGCF Newsletter Editor recently attended a new garden club organizational meeting in Welsh. Potential new club members were encouraged and given pointers on organizing the club. We are in hopes that in the near future we will be able to introduce the new Welsh Garden Club. Pictured below are the District VII members that attended and prospective members of the new Welsh Garden Club.

The Diggers and Weeders Garden Club of Lake Charles held a luncheon in honor of Kelsey Broussard in August. Kelsey was awarded first place in the Deep South Region Youth Sculpture Contest, and a Certificate of Commendation for her sculpture in National competition. She also entered NGC’s Poetry Contest placing 3rd at the National level within her selected category. Kelsey won the honor by submitting an Acrostic poem: a writing in which the first letter of each line, when put together, spells out a word. Her poem joined other winners in a printed poem booklet “Protecting Our Aquatic Friends - Anthology of Poetry by our Youth”. Shown on the right is Diggers and Weeders President Pam Langley presenting a certificate to Kelsey Broussard. Kelsey is the granddaughter of Kathy Tell, LGCF Web Master.

Antirrhinum is a genus of plants commonly known as snapdragons. Now is the time to add snapdragons to your garden to brighten your landscape from fall through spring. They are available in a range of sizes and colors. Blooms come in red, pink yellow, white, orange or purple and will flower off and on through fall and winter and then explode with flowers to greet the spring. Snaps prefer a sunny location with slightly moist, well-prepared soil that has good drainage. Combine them with other blossoms such as the spiky blooms of foxgloves or place them behind mounding flowers such as calendulas, pansies, violas, and alyssums. You can also accent their blooms by combining them with the foliage of kales, cabbages and mustards.
Calendar of Events

2013

October LGCF Fall District Meetings:

11   Dist VI   Friday
15   Dist. III  Tuesday
16   Dist. VI   Wednesday
17   Dist. VIII  Thursday
22   Dist. V   Tuesday
24   Dist. I & II  Thursday

Oct. 28-30  Flower Show School, Course I, New Orleans
Oct. 31  Yearbooks due to Yearbook Award Chairman
Nov. 1  Awards in hands of chairman by December 1
Nov. 19-20  Landscape Design School, Course III, Baton Rouge
Dec. 1  Newsletter Deadline for Winter Issue

2014

Jan. 9-10  Gardening Studies School, Course I, Ira Nelson Center, Lafayette, LA
Jan. 22-24  NGC Executive Council Meeting, New Orleans, LA
Jan. 29-30  Landscape Design School, Course IV, Baton Rouge Garden Center
Feb. 3-4  LGCF Winter Council Meeting, Headquarters House, Lecompte

March 1  Newsletter Deadline for Spring Issue
March 26  LGCF Pre-Convention Tour
March 27-28  LGCF Convention, Crowne Plaza, Baton Rouge, LA (Deep South Director Gloria Blake will be our guest)

April 12-14  Deep South Region Convention, St. Petersburg, FL (Hilton St. Petersburg Bay Front)
April 30 – May 3  NGC Convention, Norman, OK

June 1  Newsletter Deadline for Summer Issue
June 1-7  National Garden Week
July 21-22  LGCF Summer Board, Embassy Suites, Baton Rouge, LA (NGC President Linda Nelson will be our guest)

Sept. 1  Newsletter Deadline for Fall Issue
Sept. 23 – 28  NGC Fall Board Meeting, Des Moines Airport, Des Moines, IA

October LGCF Fall District Meetings - TBA

Oct. 31  Yearbooks due to Yearbook Award Chairman
Dec. 1  Newsletter Deadline for Winter Issue