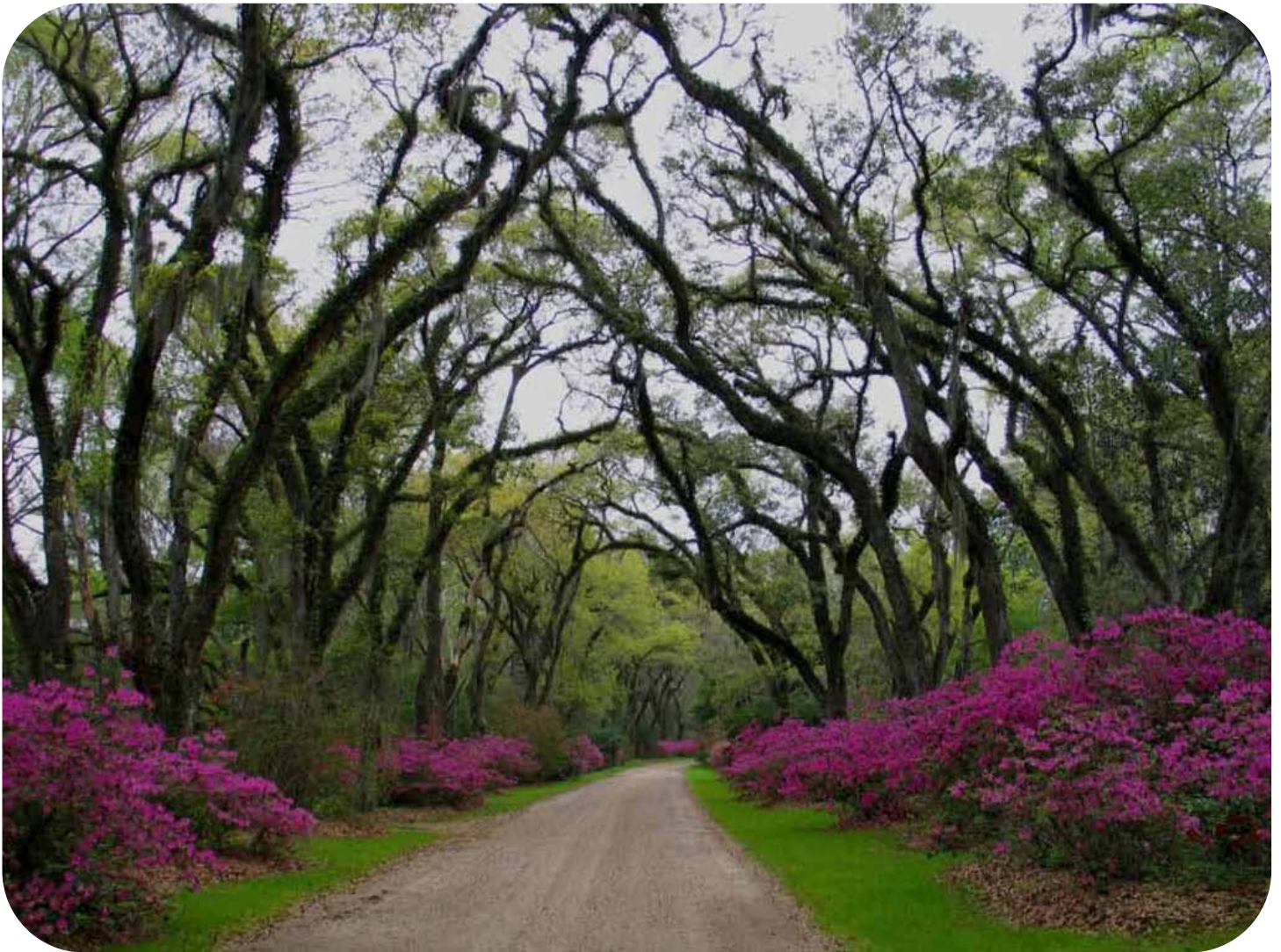


Louisiana Garden Club Federation, Inc.

NEWSLETTER



April, 2011



THE LOUISIANA GARDEN CLUB FEDERATION, INC.

Newsletter

Member of
National Garden Clubs, Inc.

Deep South Region

"Protect and Conserve our Natural Resources"



VOLUME LVV

April 2011

NO. 4

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The gorgeous cover photograph was taken by **Coleen Perilloux Landry**. The picture shows an allee' of Oaks in St. Francisville. Coleen is chair of the Live Oak Society. Another great photo is included in Coleen's report in the LGCF Committee Report. Thank you, Coleen, for such a beautiful cover picture!

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 SUMMER ISSUE (JULY 2011) IS JUNE 1ST, 2011.

Please send all information for this issue to Pam Langley,
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PRESIDENT'S REPORT

LGCF President 2009-2011, Donna Bucci

What an honor and privilege it has been to serve as President of the Louisiana Garden Club Federation for 2009-2011. All of our members have embraced the theme of this administration; "Protect and Conserve Our Natural Resources". I thank all of the LGCF Officers, District Directors and Chairmen who have dedicated themselves wholeheartedly to the goals of our organization. Club Presidents and Garden Club members have been invaluable in accomplishing numerous projects and activities- we appreciate your hard work!

This was a momentous time for the LGCF as we commemorated our 75th Anniversary with a year-long celebration, culminating with a Gala at our LGCF Convention in downtown New Orleans. Renee Blaschke, our National Garden Club President graced us with her presence and reveled in the festivities.

Our Summer Board meetings were eventful, entertaining and educational. Laura Broussard, Summer Board Chairman was a delight to work with and succeeded once again! Our 2009 meeting "Diamonds in the Rough" welcomed our Deep South Region Director and President's Luncheon speaker, Mary Sue Colvin and DSR Alternate Director, Margo Racca as our guests. The meeting also featured a Workshop by Pam Langley, Newsletter Editor and Kathy Tell, Webmaster on "Navigating Around the LGCF Website and Newsletter". These ladies held an excellent seminar and left our members wanting more. What an asset they are to the LGCF! Jean LaCaze and Shirley Mondello, Deep South Region Project Chairmen also held a workshop to introduce DSR Director, Mary Sue Colvin's theme; "Protecting Our World" "Living Green-Living Clean". The recycling skit featuring the "Trashy Ladies" was wonderful. Great job Jean and Shirley! And who can forget the "Date Line Fashion Stroll" featuring the Diamond Jubilee Committee Members: Linda Finley, Johnnie Ruth Sturgeon, Jeanette Gatzman, Donna Bucci, Delores Ivy, Shirley Brown, Mary Ellen Miller (filling in for Dolores Masson), and Libby Dupuy. These ladies had us howling as the members modeled attire from each of the past decades of the LGCF from the 1930's to 2000.

Our 2010 Summer Board took on a more humorous theme: "Everything Old is New Again". Our workshops included a very informative one on "Awards" given by Eleanor Talley, Awards Advisor; Kathy Bedenbaugh, 1st Vice President; and Lena Bateman, 2nd Vice President. Members responded by submitting more awards than ever on the DSR and NGC levels and brought much pride to the LGCF! Thank you ladies! The President's luncheon featured our members wearing "vintage hats", and our speaker selected Jeanette Gatzman's hat as the winner.

The Fall District Meetings were outstanding- each one unique, enlightening and welcoming. Thank you to the District Directors and members for the warm hospitality that was given to all of the LGCF Officers and chairmen in attendance.

We have documented great success with the Deep South Unified Regional Projects: "Protecting Our World" "Living Green-Living Clean". Our members have improved their communities and learned how to better preserve our world.

NGC President Renee Blaschke's theme "The World Around Us: Love It-Beautifully It- Protect It" was also well received. Members planted thousands of daffodil bulbs in honor of our past members in the April 2011

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"Golden Days" project and contributed to a clean water supply for Haiti after a devastating earthquake.

One of my goals this administration was to have all 4 NGC Schools "up and running". I was not totally successful, but the Gardening Study Schools completed Series VIII, Course IV. The Landscape Design School is again functioning with Series XVII, Course III having just completed. A brand new Environmental Studies School began in Lake Charles with courses being held "back-to-back" according to new NGC Guidelines. This school has been a great success and has 10 Consultants! The Flower Show School was not able to start this term, but plans are in the works to have the first course in August 2011 in District VI.

A new project "Freedom Isn't Free" was received with great enthusiasm as well. Members donated money to fund a Blue Star Memorial Marker at the WWII Museum in New Orleans. The marker was dedicated June 6, 2010. Funds are still being accepted to supply all Military Installations in our state with a Blue Star Memorial By-Way Marker in honor of our service men and women.

Our own Cleanest City Contest and Live Oak Society are shining stars in the LGCF. Thank you Jean Gilstrap and Coleen Landry for performing such phenomenal jobs! I must also thank Eleanor Talley as LGCF Awards Advisor for helping us with the awards process and allowing our clubs to receive accolades for their wonderful projects and hard work!

On a sad note, we lost two noteworthy Past LGCF Presidents: Zelda Rose and Ducie Heaney. May their legacies live on through the members of the LGCF.

To Mary Jacobs, LGCF President-Elect, I wish you well in all of your endeavors. You are dependable, kind and so willing to make the LGCF successful. You have an exciting two years ahead of you. Thank you for all of your assistance and friendship these last two years.

To all of the Officers, District Directors and Chairman of the LGFC, I send a heart-felt thank you for jobs well-done! It has been a sincere pleasure to work with you and to see our successes. I could not have done anything without you!

I extend a special thank you to Jo Ann Ryan, LGCF Corresponding Secretary who has been my "right-hand", "listening ear", and traveling companion for me these last two years. You have lightened my load and honored me with your friendship.

The "backbones" of this organization are the Club Presidents and members. You are the ones who accomplished the projects that improved your communities and proved that through you, many good and worthwhile undertakings can be achieved. My sincere gratitude is extended to you!

To all of the Past LGCF Presidents you have given me advice and support and you have my gratitude. I offer a sincere thank you to Margo Racca. As a mentor, she has given many hours of assistance, guidance and patience. I appreciate you more than I can say.

We have had a very fruitful two years. We have learned better ways to protect our environment and conserve our natural resources. We have formed friendships and working partners. We have learned much and will continue in the next administration and those that follow. May we always remember that "no man is an island" and that by working together there is nothing that we cannot accomplish. I wish you peace!

LGCF President 2009-2011, Donna Bucci

PRESIDENT ELECT

LGCF President-Elect 2009-2011, Mary Jacobs

The first year of my term, 2009, serving as President-Elect, my theme was, "Together our Diamond District Directors Can Make A Difference", celebrating LGCF's 75th Anniversary. Our State Convention was held in Monroe of that year and I carried on with the tradition of my new name "Mom". I was responsible for the Eight (8) District Directors, to guide, inform, and advise them of important dates, projects, and themes, for National Garden Clubs, Deep South Region, and LGCF.

I presided at The District Directors' Meetings for State Conventions, Summer Board Meetings to discuss updates on calendar of events, newsletter, website and reports of committee chairman. Handouts and an outline for each meeting were necessary to keep our meeting rolling along, since time was of essence. LGCF Chairmen, were invited to attend if they had some important business to discuss, and I appreciate their time and effort and help.

The Club President's Meeting was re-introduced by Donna Bucci's foresight and wisdom. Mary Sue Colvin, our Deep South Regional Director introduced this wonderful program during her term as President of LGCF. I look back on the first club's presidents meeting, the room was filled to capacity, extra chairs were being brought in....because I had announced, "Everyone is welcome to attend",,,,,,prospective presidents, interested members. The Awards Advisor and committee gave informative reports, questions were answered, and hopefully everyone learned something new.

As I traveled across our beautiful state, to attend the Fall District Meetings, I am so proud of our District Directors! Their reports of outstanding projects, fund raising events, flower shows, LGCF Schools, too many to mention, reflect their hard work, enthusiasm, and sharing of their talents with the members in their respective district! I am so grateful for the warm hospitality extended to me, and my "goodies-edible and non-edible" were really a "treat"....merci!

I had the honor of judging the Cleanest City Contest, and this was a highlight of my term. Chairman showed so many aspects of our villages, towns, and cities, our two weeks of traveling went by so fast!

I attended National Conventions in Houston, Fall Board Meeting in St. Louis with our State President, Donna Bucci.

The year 2010 was a Special Year, with the Celebrating of LGCF's 75th Year Gala held at the DoubleTree in New Orleans, decorating our umbrellas, framing our Post Cards-Invitations. Our Chairman and Co-Chairmen are to be commended on a successful and fun celebration! From 2010-through March 1, 2011, I am counting my Blessings, for fellow officers, and for you, Donna, for your guidance, sense of humor, friendship, patience and Updating my Books for President-Elect, and President. As I continue on this year of 2011, I am so grateful to District II for giving me the honor to represent you.

LGCF President-Elect 2009-2011, Mary Jacobs

FIRST VICE PRESIDENT

1st Vice President, Kathy Bedenbaugh

My term as 1st Vice President of the Louisiana Garden Club Federation, Inc. is quickly drawing to a close! I have faced many challenges during these past two years, some more difficult than I had anticipated. And yet, I have learned much.

I have learned that true friends will always be there when you need them no matter what problem arises and for that I am thankful. I have called upon many garden club friends numerous times during these past two years and have always gotten help and sound advice.

I'm still learning much about our organization and I know that I still have much more to learn if I am to continue serving on the LGCF, Inc. Executive Board. With the help of those that have been there previously, I know that I will receive much needed guidance to do a good job.

As the LGCF, Inc. Awards Chairman, I have seen and read about the many wonderful projects that our state clubs have created and completed in their communities. I received 43 Award #1 applications this year opposed to 40 last year. The members' hard work definitely shows in these projects. Maintaining good relationships with mayors and public officials has been a priority when the clubs planned projects. By working with our senior citizens and youth on projects many have gained better confidence in their abilities. Clubs continue to send articles to newspapers to show the communities what good work their clubs are doing. By planting trees, cleaning waterways, giving design presentations, promoting our Clean City Contest and dedicating Blue Star Markers, clubs have brought much awareness to our communities and especially to our young people. Your clubs should be proud of the wonderful projects you have accomplished in your communities.

It is obvious when I receive the lists of award winners from the different chairman that many of the same clubs apply for awards each year. I know that many other clubs complete projects that qualify for some awards, but, they don't take the time to apply. Our LGCF, Inc. garden club members are very creative, resourceful and definitely committed to making a difference in the lives of all of our citizens in our local communities and they need to make their accomplishments known to other members in our state.

This chairman received more applications for the Maude Viskell Award than last year. There were definitely some outstanding designs and the judging by the Mississippi Flower Show Judges was a difficult one.

I have enjoyed traveling around the state with the other Executive Board members and being given the chance to meet other members. I have made many new friends through these travels that will be lasting. And I look forward to working with many of you in the next two years.

1st Vice President, Kathy Bedenbaugh

SECOND VICE PRESIDENT

Second Vice President, Lena R. Bateman

As Second Vice President of this administration, I have enjoyed my responsibility of promoting the Deep South and National Garden Club Awards. I want to thank all of the garden clubs in the Louisiana Garden Club Federation for applying for awards that represent the wonderful project that

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they have accomplished during this term. I have tried my best to promote, inform and consult the garden clubs of Louisiana on these awards.

LGCF had several Award Workshops for the past two years in the hopes to increase the applications on all level of awards, LGCF, Deep South and National Garden Club Awards. We have had an increase in the applications, and as a result, we have had an increase in the number of State, Deep South and NGC awards applied for by LGCF clubs. Applying for awards does not have to be hard. With the great projects that LGCF clubs are doing, reading the award guidelines, collecting all the information and making a book of evidence, nothing is more rewarding than having your club's name announced as a winner at a LGCF, Deep South or National Convention. Donna was a proud President when she was called to the stage in Natchez, MS. at the 2010 Deep South Convention to accept the award for the state with the most Deep South Award winners. I want to take this opportunity to congratulate all the award winners during this administration and encourage all the garden clubs of Louisiana to keep up the good work with those great projects and apply, apply and apply.

Even though we did not have many Publications for this Chairman to supervise, we had many LGCF Publications submitted for a National Garden Club Award. When I looked at these awards presented, I knew that The Louisiana Garden Club Federation had been doing its part in preparing many worthwhile publications, i.e. A State Convention Manual, The Cleanest City Publication, a Native Plant Publication, the Washington Garden Club Cookbook, three garden club Websites and the LGCF Website.

It has been a pleasure to work with this administration, and I appreciate all the advice and cooperation that has been given to me for the past two years. I have learned much about being an officer of LGCF but probably the most important one is that you cannot do any job alone, it takes the cooperation of many people. Thank you to the Louisiana Garden Club Federation for the privilege to serve you.

Second Vice President, Lena R. Bateman

RECORDING SECRETARY

Recording Secretary, Yvette Hebert

This officer has recorded all the minutes of the 2009-2011 Administration. An accurate record has been kept of all proceedings of LGCF. Minutes have been sent in a timely manner to the committee for approval with finalized copies sent to the appropriate officers. Since LGCF is now using technology, this office has been able to save money and expedite the process by emailing the minutes to all involved in this process. A book of LGCF Minutes for the 2009-2011 Administration will be placed in the archives at the State Headquarters in Lecompte, LA

This officer has traveled the state of Louisiana for Annual Conventions, Summer Board Meetings, District Fall Meetings and Winter Executive Council Meetings. This officer attended The National Garden Clubs Convention in Houston, Texas in 2009 and the 2010 Deep South Region Convention in Natchez, Mississippi.

What a privilege it has been to serve with President Donna Bucci and the very capable officers of the Louisiana Garden Club Federation, Inc. As I traveled the state, I met so many hard working members who love to garden (grow and show), are concerned about their environment and want to beautify

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their surroundings for all, especially those who will follow in our footsteps. Without the local members in the local clubs, there would be no LGCF. So to all the members, I salute all of you and ask the Lord to help us to continue our mission.

I have learned and assimilated so much from everyone I met, and I look forward to serving LGCF in my next position as President-Elect.

Recording Secretary, Yvette Hebert

CORRESPONDING SECRETARY

Corresponding Secretary, Jo Ann Ryan

It has been an honor and a privilege to serve the Louisiana Garden Club Federation and my dear friend, President Donna Bucci, for the past two years.

This officer has accompanied President Bucci to National Garden Club, Deep South Region, and Louisiana Garden Club Federation conventions and meetings. What a wonderful opportunity it has been to see how these three great organizations work together to accomplish the goals and objectives of the NGC.

This officers has made stationary available to members at all LGCF meetings.

Many miles have been traveled, many friendships renewed, and many new friends made. Thank you for giving me the opportunity to serve this wonderful organization; it has been a pleasure and a joy.

Corresponding Secretary, Jo Ann Ryan

HISTORIAN

Historian, Kristi Rivero

It has been a pleasure serving as Historian for the past two years. Serving as Historian has allowed me to learn more about our Louisiana Garden Club Federation and the inspiring people who are an active part. I attended as many functions as possible and recorded the doings through notes and photographs. Thanks to everyone from all corners of Louisiana who sent photos, newspaper clippings and information that made my job infinitely easier. Thanks to our tireless President Donna Bucci who displayed such patience in working with me.

Historian, Kristi Rivero

Representative-At-Large

Mary Lou Robertson – 2009-2011

As Representative-At-Large 2009-2011, it has been my privilege to serve with President Donna Bucci, the LGCF Officers, Chairmen and members. I have attended and participated in State Conventions, Deep South Conventions, Summer Board Meetings, Winter Board Meetings and District Meetings.

At the request of our President, I researched and acquired a power point slide projector, which was purchased with funds from the proceeds of the Summer Board Meetings. This equipment is being stored at the Baton Rouge Garden Center to be used by the various study programs sponsored by LGCF.

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This officer also researched and acquired a speaker system with microphones to be used at the Winter Board Meetings and other state functions. This equipment will be kept by the State President.

It has been an honor to serve in this capacity and represent our Louisiana Garden Club Federation. I look forward to serving the next two years.

NGC Flower Show Stimulus Package

The NGC Flower Show Committee has prepared a stimulus package to encourage clubs to hold Standard Flower Shows. The package will contain a model schedule for a Small Standard Flower Show (SSFS) with choices of titles that a club may adapt to suit their needs. Other items in the package will include entry tags with information on where to order them and how to complete them and samples of appropriate awards ribbons. Any club that has never had a flower show or has not had a Small Standard Flower Show in the past five years is eligible to participate. A Certificate of Achievement will be awarded to clubs that complete this new venture.

More information is available at

www.gardenclub.org/Schools/FlowerShowSchools/FlowerShowStimulus.aspx

The Basics of Pruning

Some reasons to prune shrubs and trees are

- To remove dead, diseased and other unwanted wood.
- To reduce plant size to manageable proportions.
- To maintain size and form for planting design specifications
- To rejuvenate old plants.
- To produce improved flower quality.

Most pruning operations can be taken care of with four basic tools. These include a small pruning saw, lopper shears, hedge shears and hand shears. Use the proper tool for the job. High quality tools are a good investment and will last for many years if properly maintained.

Emergency pruning maybe done any time a problem arises. The keys to successful pruning are timing, location of the cuts, how the cuts are made and the amount of wood removed. Pruning for flowering shrubs depends on the time of the bloom. Prune late winter and spring flowering shrubs after they flower. If spring flowering shrubs are pruned during the winter, flower buds will be removed. Examples in this category include azalea, spirea, mock orange, quince, hydrangea, weigelia, forsythia, gardenia, camellia, viburnum, deutzia and flowering almond.

Summer flowering shrubs are pruned from mid to late winter, before spring growth. Some plants in this group are crape myrtle, oleander, vitex and althea. Most evergreens not selected for flowering should be pruned in the dormant (winter) season, but some pruning may be done throughout the year.

Condensed from the LSU AgCenter Web page.

District I – Diane Baur, Director

Can't imagine summarizing my theme for the past two years, "Refresh...Rebuild...Reunite...with Friends and Celebrate", into a couple of paragraphs. First I must say, the experience has been rewarding. Serving under our great president, Donna Bucci, has been an honor and a privilege. I want to say thanks to so many people for introducing me to the how's and why's of the LGCF, especially my "Mom", Mary Jacobs, LGCF President-Elect. Because of the tireless work of so many dedicated garden club ladies and men, I can say I have been proud to serve as your District I Director for the past two years.

To kick off my two years as District I Director, it was exciting to be involved in celebrating "75 Years of Brilliance" of the LGCF. And did we "shine like diamonds! A tour of several uptown gardens, lunch on the lawn at Longue Vue Gardens, "High Tea" at Windsor Court and a special program was held dedicating the Native Plant Garden in the City Park Botanical Garden. Through the efforts of the "dream team", Mary Ellen Miller, Eleanore Capretto and Dolores Masson, the convention was a great success.

To the delight of many, young and old, the Scarecrow Trail in the City Park Gardens brought ooh's and aah's to those who attended. And for the first time, miniature scarecrows 12" - 15" tall were placed throughout the Miniature Train Garden. Our garden club ladies never ran out of ideas for the large scarecrows and members encouraged their children and grandchildren to enter in the mini scarecrow category. Thanks to Mary Ellen Miller, the enthusiasm grows each year.

With the help of so many club members in District I and II, the beautiful wreaths and decorations for Celebration in the Oaks turn City Park into a " Mr. Bingle" Wonderland. Hours of decorating, deadlines to meet, together with a labor of love creates this yearly celebration which Mary Ellen Miller dedicates her time to each year. In addition, a Special Children's Program for physically challenged children is held every year and Betty Bagert makes sure that each child receives a bag of goodies.

Our clubs also participate in many other activities throughout the year. The Green Thumb Garden Club continues to restore and preserve the De La Ronde Ruins. The Lake Terrace Garden Club is working on recruiting new members and will continue the spraying program for the buckmoth caterpillar in their neighborhood. Several members of the Lake Forest Garden Club put their energy into projects in City Park, flower arranging and growing herbs and vegetables. Two of our once very active clubs, Buena Vista Garden Society and The Point Garden Study Club, have had to disband.

Several of our garden clubs are involved in community outreach. Two of our clubs, Fleur De Lis and Tall Timbers Garden Clubs are involved with Lighthouse for the Blind showing them how to care for and help with plantings. Lakeview Botany Guild collects toiletries to bag for the homeless. Belle Chasse Garden Club does some garden therapy with special needs children at Belle Chasse Grammar School. Aurora Plantation Gardeners donated \$2,000.00 toward a new garden for the Jefferson Chamber Foundation Academy. An additional donation of \$400.00 was given to House Of Ruth, an organization that helps people get back on their feet after losing a home or job.

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Thanks to the generosity of so many garden clubs statewide, the "Freedom Isn't Free" Project to raise money to erect a Blue Star Memorial Marker at the National World War II Museum in New Orleans was a success. The money collected went beyond the cost of the marker.

The Smokey Bear/Woodsey Owl poster contest continues to draw participants from area schools. Thanks to Betty Bagert for her dedication.

Once again, a Flower Show entitled "Laissez Les Bon Temp Rouler" will be held at the Pavilion of the Two Sisters. Committee people, Dottie Hebert, Gail Bowling and Judy Leonard, are more than helpful and need participants to make the Flower Show a success. Don't forget the horticulture...we need lots!

District III - Mary Jane Peters, Director

It is my pleasure to report on the many activities and accomplishments of District III. Our Presidents meetings have been very informative and productive. One of the goals of LGCF President, Donna Bucci was to encourage garden clubs to apply for LGCF, Deep South and NGC awards. District III won numerous LGCF awards, Terrebonne Garden club, Bayou Vista Garden Club and Lafayette Garden Club won Deep South Region Awards at the Convention in Natchez, these clubs also won several NGC Awards in Atlanta. Terrebonne Garden Club and Bayou Vista Garden Club received NGC grants in 2009 and 2010. District III won the Betty Baggert Membership Growth Award in 2010.

District Fall meetings have been very successful in 2009-2010 with well over 100 garden club members attending. Lafayette Garden Club and Gueydan Garden Club hosted a delightful and energetic 2010 fall meeting. The many talents of this 100 member club were evident with their "Rhythm and Hue" theme. The Fall meeting was very informative, creative, and was executed with much enthusiasm. Attending the fall meetings were the District III Scholarship winners. Jacob Boudreaux was the recipient of the 2009 District III \$1,000 Scholarship, and he is a horticulture major at USL. Rachel Adams is the recipient of the 2010 District III \$1,000 Scholarship.

Seven communities were sponsored for the LGCF Cleanest City Contest in 2009. State winners were Gueydan, Houma, St. Martinville, Morgan City and Lafayette and 9 cities entered in 2010, and the winners were New Iberia, Gueydan, Morgan City and Scott.

Many garden clubs have worked on beautification programs in their communities. Thibodaux Garden club has a litter and clean up campaign, "Keep Thibodaux Super Clean", and they have an annual Tour of Backyard gardens in the spring. Franklin Garden Club helps the program "Don't Trash Franklin" and the Garden Club maintains two Flower Beds at the Franklin Cemetery. New Iberia Garden Club landscaped a Habitat for Humanity home for the benefit of the community.

Several clubs have worked on Civic Development projects. Breaux Bridge Garden Club weeds, plants and maintains three entrances to their city park. Also the garden club maintains planters at the Chamber of Commerce. New Iberia Garden Club maintains the Butterfly Gardens in the Civic Center. Azalea Garden Club maintained the flower bed at the city entrance and maintained the flower bed in New Iberia's historical district.

The St. Martinville Garden Club in 2009 unveiled an oak tree sculpture with the names of departed members etched in its metal leaves. The Memorial tree is rooted next to City Hall in close proximity to

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the Evangeline Oak, Acadian Memorial and Cultural Center. The club continues to enhance the plaza that has been created with landscaping, lighting and benches.

All garden clubs in District III were involved in Arbor Day celebrations and many Live oak and Cypress Trees were planted throughout the District. Azalea Garden club planted four live oak trees at the new Park Elementary School in Iberia Parish. Terrebonne Garden Club planted a live oak tree at Mulberry School in Houma. Morgan City Garden Club celebrated Arbor Day by planting a tree in honor of their past presidents. Patterson Garden Club planted a miniature magnolia tree at the Patterson Branch Library. St. Martinville Garden club planted a live oak tree at the East Side Housing Project. Lafayette Garden club planted live oaks and cypress trees at 21 different parish schools. Breaux Bridge Garden Club planted a Fir Tree in the park, and garden clubs members will decorate the tree for the citizens of Breaux Bridge to enjoy for the holiday season.

Bayou Vista Garden Club continues to plant trees, maintain existing trees and install bird baths for the Bayou Vista Bird Sanctuary. Another focus is the education of youth and adults in protecting bird habitats and providing food and shelter for the birds.

In April 2010, Bayou Vista Garden Club, Morgan City Garden Club and Patterson Garden Club all in St. Mary Parish had a Flower Show together. For the first time almost all garden clubs in District III have Flower Shows.

Sandra Blanco, Cecille Revels, Mary Jane Peters completed four courses at the Environmental School in Lake Charles to become Environmental Consultants. Donna Bucci and Jo Ann Ryan completed requirements for Environmental Consultants in 2010.

All garden clubs in District III worked very diligently during the past two years participating in many activities that make our communities a better place to live.

It has been a pleasure to serve as your District Director.

District IV – Delores Ivy, Director

In 2009-2010 District IV had six garden clubs. Delores Ivy, Mary Dunn and Shirley Roberts served as Co Directors.

Fleur de Lis Garden Club had only fourteen members on roll with an average attendance of 7. Since the numbers were so few, it was hard to get a speaker for programs. They visited different nurseries in the city and surrounding towns and went to several programs at the Agricultural Centers in Bossier and Caddo Parishes.

Hosston Garden Club's continuing projects were donations to a scholarship fund for horticulture students, beautifying the grounds of Hosston Middle School, maintaining plantings at a Blue Star Memorial, and helping needy families at Christmas by providing food and gifts.

Mansfield Garden Club has a "Garden of the Month" program for a private residence and a business. They are responsible for the landscaping around the Old DeSoto Parish Log Courthouse. They plant bulbs on interstate exchanges and have monthly meeting reports in their newspaper. They also have a yearly flower show for their club. They make contributions to World Gardening Fund, LGCF Endowment Fund and National Gardening Project.

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Minden's continuing projects are planting bulbs in some of the parks, supporting the nature trail, and recognition for the "Yard of the Month". They decorate a gazebo downtown for a city lighting project.

Pierremont Hills Garden Club plants and maintains beds at the Cedar Grove Library and at the Blue Star Memorial at LSU-S. They donate to the Pink Ribbon Garden in Betty Virginia Park and plant trees at the Northwest Louisiana Veterans Home in Bossier City. They donate to the World Gardening/Natural Disasters fund and to local organizations.

Rivercities has several community projects. They do regular maintenance of the Healing/Meditation Arbor and porch flowerpots at Grace Home, which is for the care of the terminally ill. They plant and maintain the beds at the Broadmoor Library, plant trees at the Northwest Louisiana Veterans Home and help in activities for the veterans. They also make donations to worthy causes.

The District Project for 2009-2010 was to improve and maintain the Fragrance Garden for the Blind at Barnwell Center. They allowed District IV to take over the maintenance and to dedicate the garden to Anne Lackey with a plaque.

In October our Fall Luncheon was held. "Diamonds are Forever" was the theme and over fifty people attended

The spring flower show had to be cancelled due to lack of participants.

2010-2011

District IV has only four clubs in their membership. Fleur de Lis disbanded its club due to small numbers. Hosston Garden Club withdrew from the federation to be an independent club.

The four clubs, which remain in the district, are Minden, Mansfield, Pierremont Hills and Rivercities. Each club is continuing their ongoing activities and projects, which are listed in the 2009-2010 section of this report.

Rivercities has added an additional project. They have two members go to each meeting of the garden club formed at the Northwest Louisiana Veterans Home. They are there to answer questions and help the veterans.

Rivercities provides materials for special activities, which the veterans select.

Pierremont Hills Garden Club celebrated their club's fiftieth anniversary with a luncheon.

The Fall Luncheon was held at Barnwell Art and Horticulture Center. Only twenty-five people were present.

District V - Peggy K. Murray, Director

LGCF District V currently consists of fifteen garden clubs that have continued decades long traditions of service to their communities. A good number of the clubs have applied for State and Deep South awards for various projects they began and/or completed during the past two years.

Projects undertaken by District V clubs include planting and maintaining flower beds at many district schools, constructing signs and planting flower beds at town entrances, landscaping areas around

LGCF DISTRICT DIRECTORS 2009-2011 REPORTS

gazebos in their communities, planting trees throughout their towns, providing planted concrete containers for their towns, and improving chosen thoroughfares in their communities. Conservation education and recycling projects were a large part of our garden clubs' activities. Most clubs initiated and completed specialized projects for their towns.

Under the able and enthusiastic guidance of District V's Cleanest City Contest Chairman, Beth Erwin, a good number of our cities competed in the 2009 and 2010 Cleanest City Contests. During these two years, Collinston, Ferriday, Jonesboro and Marion won First Place in their categories and two other cities placed in the competition.

The above mentioned activities not only greatly enhanced the appearance of District V towns but also provided invaluable example to other citizens, and especially to the youth of our communities. Our youth will be the future of our garden clubs and will be the ones to continue lifelong devotion to beautifying and improving our communities.

Besides the Director, the officers for District V for this term were, Sherrill Sasser, District Director-Elect, Evelyn Greer, Secretary, Dolly Smith, Treasurer, and Eleanor Talley, Parliamentarian. These ladies were invaluable in their assistance to the Director during this term. With the support of the officers and the creative and knowledgeable aid of Protocol Chairman, Johnnie Ruth Sturgeon, and garden clubs in District V, we were able to host very successful, informative and entertaining Fall and Spring Meetings. And, again, Cleanest City Contest Chairman, Beth Erwin, served our district superbly. The Director, and, I'm sure, all the garden clubs in District V, truly appreciate the support of all who contributed to the success of our district during the past two years.

District VI - Minnie Posey, Director

Thank you to all the garden clubs who participated in Arbor Day this year. I hope you all took photos of your project and had your club reporter get an article in the newspaper. You will be ready to submit for Arbor Day Award before December 1st. Kathy Bedenbaugh does a very good job and continues to encourage clubs to apply for awards. The planting of trees is an accomplishment that we all can be so proud of for our towns and communities. I appreciate all of you for your dedication of planting trees in Louisiana.

Just a reminder for you to pay dues on April 1st and they are late June 1st. Please mail them to Linda Finley. District VI dues should go to Billie Sue Alford. I am sure Mrs. Linda and Mrs. Billie Sue will appreciate you taking care of this. You can go on the LA Garden Club website and click on A-Z and find the Treasurer's report for sending in dues.

Congrats to Baton Rouge Garden Club for their recent Tablescares Production to raise funds for scholarships. They do a great job!

Ponchatoula Gardenettes have really been busy and sending in information to the website so take a look at their projects. Home and Garden Club also has been busy planting a tree at the local Museum in Franklinton. They were so proud of their Woodsy Owl Posters winners this year, also. The Woodsy Owl Poster project was chaired by Dana Truxillo. Mt. Hermon Garden Club just had a beautiful flower show with twenty four designs and these ladies put on a fantastic showing. They also had youth entries which were adorable. If you missed this show, it was worth the trip.

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I wanted to thank all of you who brought entries for recycling to our Fall Meeting in Baton Rouge. It was a super day and Baton Rouge ladies did an outstanding job hosting District VI. Thank you to a wonderful meal and program. Congrats to all the ladies who won on their recycling entries. I was definitely impressed! Jo Ann Fryling and her granddaughter presented a lovely program on recycling. I loved the idea of anyone who littered that the trash would come back and stick on them. Sure would cut out a lot of littering in our state.

I am not exactly sure how many towns are entered in Clean City but know they will be judging in April for District so want to wish your clubs a successful effort in this contest. Jo Ann Frying is our District Clean City Chairman and Jean Gilstrap is the State Chairman. Amite has been a District winner for two years. Hammond won state last year and is to be commended for their efforts as well as Baton Rouge. Let me hear if you have questions on clean city or call Jo Ann or Jean.

Bogalusa Garden Guild held a great fund raiser and held an auction of craft and plant items. They invited guest and fed them a meal and the bidding never stopped until all their items were gone. Congrats to you on your efforts. Northeast Garden Club and Southeast Garden Clubs are also busy with civic projects. Gonzales Garden Club has also had a very successful club year.

Hope your bulbs all came up this year and are looking good. Let me hear from you on them and I am sure Jo Ann Fryling will be requesting photos again so please take pictures!

News is coming forth from National that garden clubs are going to be challenged more than ever next year to pursue membership drives to increase garden club members. I hope this will be a challenge to your club today to begin making your plans in this effort for next year. Some clubs are already working on this effort.

Convention is coming soon on April 13 – 15, 2011. There is a tour also on April 12 the day before convention begins. To find out all the details go on line and get the forms to attend. Take a club member with you and enjoy this great event! Hope to see all of you there in Marksville. Gardening Sisters, Minnie Posey, Dist. VI Director

District VII - Lindy Taylor, Director

Over the past 2 years, the 14 local federated garden clubs that make up LGCF District VII have been actively supporting the goals and objectives of LGCF and NGC through the programs and projects that they adopt at the local level in communities throughout Acadiana. We have submitted a new application for membership from Jennings Garden Club, and look forward to welcoming them as club #15 in our district.

Dedicated local Club Presidents have worked diligently to provide leadership, growth, educational programs, and meaningful community enrichment and enhancement projects in their towns and cities.

Despite a struggling economy, clubs have been successful in fund raising efforts to beautify their towns, promote conservation efforts, plant and clean their roadsides and public places, restore and beautify historic sites. Clubs recognize and celebrate Arbor Day, establish and maintain Blue Star Memorial Markers, recognize outstanding local home gardens with "Garden of the Month " yard signs, provide funding and support services for youth and senior programs, and adopt parks and schools in their towns.

LGCF DISTRICT DIRECTORS 2009-2011 REPORTS

The 14 clubs in District VII have managed to maintain their membership levels by providing interesting programs and meaningful projects for their members. The total membership number is currently at approximately 365 members. Most of the clubs will be installing new officers this month for the 2011-2013 term. The District Director wishes to thank the current officers of the District and the dedicated Club Presidents for the excellent leadership and spirit of co-operation that has been extended over the past 2 years of her term.

District VII Garden Club has awarded a \$1000 scholarship (through LGCF) to a college junior or senior who is studying in a horticulture related field for the past 2 years of this office. The scholarship program is funded by donation from local clubs and through the fundraiser held in conjunction with the District VII Fall Meeting. We all look forward, with anticipation, to the Fall Meeting on Friday, October 14th, 2011 hosted by DeRidder Garden Club.

The following events will take place in the District between April 1st and June 30th :

The Magnolia Garden Club of Ville Platte is participating in Cleanest City Contest.

Kinder Garden Club hosts annual "Little Miss/Mr. Kinder" pageant on April 2nd.

The Washington Garden Club & The Opelousas Garden Club will co-host "Bayou Blossoms", a small standard flower show, on Saturday, April 2nd at the Washington Garden Club

Headquarters located at 308 N. Church St, Washington. The show is open to the public, with an exhibitors reception, between 1:30 -4:00 pm.

Iowa Garden Club enjoy a horticulture study field trip to SHANGRI LA Gardens in Orange, Tx. on April 9th.

Kinder Garden Club hosts "Miss Kinder" contest on April 16th.

DeRidder Garden Club travels to Hodges Gardens State Park for a horticulture field trip on Saturday, April 28th.

Crowley Garden Club hosts "Hotel California-A Tribute to the Eagles", their 31st annual Standard Flower Show on Thursday, April 28th at the Grand Opera House of the South, 505 Parkerson Ave., Crowley, from 1:00-5:00 pm.

The Rayne Garden Club will host "Rhythm of the Flowers", a standard flower show, on Friday, April 29th at the Civic Center Green Room, Gossen Drive, Rayne, LA. Open to the public 2:00- 4:00pm.

The Washington Garden Club presents "Il Sont Partis", High Tea with a Triple Crown theme on Sunday, May 1st at 2pm at the Wolff Banquet & Reception Hall on Main St. in Washington. Tickets are \$35, with proceeds dedicated to historic preservation. Advance ticket sales only! Refer to clubs website for detail: www.washingtongardenclub.org .

Lake Charles Garden Club and Diggers and Weeders Garden Club of Lake Charles are working together on tidying up for the Cleanest City Contest.

Crowley Garden Club travels on May 11th to Shangri La Botanical Gardens in Orange, Tx.

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District VIII - Pattie Killen, Director

It has been an enjoyable honor to serve as District VIII Director the past two years. It was also educational and exciting to become more involved and aware of club activities in the Districts and to learn more about the organization of LGCF and the motivation of the officers at the State level. Serving as Director presented an opportunity to visit with old friends and to meeting people interested in gardening and design from all over the State. The District VIII Director-Elect, Fran Anderson, will enjoy working without clubs and her duties as Director. Our members joined the "National Golden Days Project" by planting 3,800 bulbs. All clubs encourage Civic Pride by sponsoring "Garden of the Month" project and each group hosts flower show every other year.

Now, all eyes are on Marksville and the LGCF Convention April 12-15, 2011. Garden Club members from all over out State will come together to enjoy the culture of this area, educational programs and a variety of fun activities which include the Pre-Convention Garden Tour, Tea at a special home, and a pig roast. Our members have accepted assigned tasks to insure an outstanding State Convention. We are proud of our Chairperson Libby Dupuy and Co-Chair Diane Bordelon.

Marksville Garden Club has certainly been visible in their community. They participated in Marksville's Bi-Centennial activities, Pioneer Day and an Oak Tree Project. They landscaped the local walking trail, lighted the town Atrium at Christmas, manned a booth at the Farmers' Market, and assisted in a shed raising at the Charter School. They also sponsored instructional programs for the community on Edible Gardening, design, horticulture, recycling, and Care and Pruning of Live Oak Trees. It is not surprising that the Marksville Garden Club received the Chamber of Commerce Outstanding Organization Award. They continue to assist the Avoyelles Public Charter School and are working on a Memorial Rose Garden in memory of Deanna Roy.

The most significant project of the Alexandria Garden Club was the purchase and placement of a Blue Star Memorial By-Way Marker in the Heritage Park of England Air Park. The dedication was held on Pearl Harbor Day, December 7, 2009. LGCF President Donna Bucci was in attendance along with many Local and State dignitaries. Alexandria GC is proud of its two members who are veterans: Mrs. Lucille Gates and Mrs. Martha McBurney. Alexandria members planted daffodils at the Genealogy Library, the Rapides Parish Main Library, the Huie Dellmon House as well as in their own gardens. They are meeting monthly in their new home at the Visitor's Center, Historic Kent House. The Club provides support for the Kent House Herb Garden and Garden Therapy Programs. Each year, the City of Alexandria and the City of Pineville are sponsored in the Cleanest City Contest. Both cities won in their respective categories. We owe a special thank you to Diane Lawton, Local Cleanest Chair.

City improvement and town beautification were the focus of the Lecompte Garden Club. Jean Gilstrap was the speaker at one of the public meetings and other meetings were held to discuss information on clean-up assistance from outside sources and to organize and plan for the cleanup. The Garden Club partnered with the Town, Business Owners, the Rotary and the schools to set the plan in motion. Lecompte won first place in the District and the State in its category for the first time in 30 years. The club also partnered with Best Metal Recyclers and Carter C. Raymond School to recycle newspapers, magazines and aluminum cans. One of the Club's youngest members, Emily Winners, won the State, Deep South and National Awards with her blue bird project. Emily has presented many programs and was written up in the State Blue Bird Society Newsletter. Their Standard Flower Show, "A Salute of Walt Disney," won the Silver Tray Award. Lecompte is proud of its very active Junior Garden Club.

LGCF DISTRICT DIRECTORS 2009-2011 REPORTS

Moreauville Garden Club's most important projects are Arbor Day, the promotion of bird protection and planting wildflowers. They sponsored a beautiful Flower Show called "Celebrating Life." Since it is such a small group, many members create two or more designs. The Club is often called on for floral arrangements for community events. Three of the judges from Moreauville, Liz Coco, Diane Bordelon and Carla Gauthier are very active, often accepting invitations to judge in Louisiana and sometimes out-of-state. Moreauville's goal is to help new members understand the guidelines for growing, designing and exhibiting and to help seasoned members review. At each meeting a member has the opportunity to make a presentation on an item or section from the Handbook for Flower Shows.

My job as District Director would not have been as enjoyable had it not been for the cooperation of the Presidents: Laura Murchinson, Alexandria GC; Kate Moreau, Marksville GC; Ann Dorgant, Moreauville GC; and Fran Frances, Leconte GC.

Elements of Design

The five main elements of design include Form, Space, Texture, Line and Color. Understanding of these five elements will allow for the creation of floral designs which are pleasing to the eye, and display the natural beauty of the flowers to their greatest effect.

Form is the three dimensional shape of a floral design, which includes the overall height, width and depth of a design. Traditional forms include the basic round, symmetrical triangle, asymmetrical triangle, crescent, fan shape and the Hogarth curve. Contemporary forms include vertical, horizontal, oval, cascade and geometric.

Space can be either positive or negative space. Negative space is the emptiness left around each flower or mass of flowers; it is the empty area between the plant materials and flowers. Positive space is the area within a design that is occupied by a material. Both positive and negative space should be planned within a design.

Line provides the shape of the arrangement. Line is the element that allows the eye to move smoothly from one part of the design to another. Vertical lines imply strength and formality. Horizontal lines cause a feeling of serenity. Diagonal lines tend to imply motion, while curved lines provide gentleness to a design.

Texture involves the visible surface quality of the materials in a floral design. The mixture of flowers with similar textures creates harmony and unity, while the mixture of flowers with dissimilar textures increases depth and visual interest.

Color is perhaps the most important element of a floral design. It is the dominate element seen by the viewer. Color excites, inspires, emphasizes and communicates. The selection of color can be responsible for a design looking marvelous, or hopelessly dull. There are many different ways to combine various hues, shades, tints and tones to create a pleasing design.

If you are interested in learning more about floral design, you should consider the LGCF Flower Show School program. For details you may contact Minnie Posey, 40643 Hwy 1056, Franklinton 70438-5721, (985) 839-4125 or (985) 515-3631, e-mail: mposey24 (at) aol.com, website:

www.louisianagardenclubs.org/schools/fss.html

LGCF Youth Activities Report

Janice Verret, Chairman

Louisiana Garden Club Federation member clubs sponsored thirteen Youth Garden Clubs for 2010-2011. Award applications were submitted in LGCF award categories #3 A-H.

LGCF clubs participated in the following National Garden Club contests: Smokey Bear/Woodsy Owl posters, High School Essay, Poetry, and Youth Sculpture. Also, clubs have partnered with Girl Scout troops on projects to fulfill requirements for the NGC Girl Scout Native Plants Patch. Adult garden club projects and activities have included participation by Junior Garden Clubs and individual area youth.

Requirements for a youth garden club are 5 members and 5 activities annually. Registration fees are \$1.00 per club annually paid to the State Treasurer. Registration forms are submitted to the Youth Activities Chairman. Sponsoring LGCF adult clubs should submit award applications by December 1. The NGC Youth Garden Club Handbook is available in the Member Services Catalog on the NGC website.

All requirements, forms, and awards can be found on the LGCF Website which links to Deep South Region and National Garden Clubs.

Website Report

Kathy Tell, Chairman

This chairman was tickled pink to receive an NGC award for the LGCF, Inc. website! Thank you, everyone, for your contributions which helped our website win this award.

The website regularly receives club news from Lafayette Garden Club, Gardenettes Garden Club, Magnolia Forest Garden Club, and Home and Garden. I am pleased to announce and congratulate four clubs that have taken and ran with my recommendations of creating their own website using the free Weebly.com site. They are Bayou Vista Garden Club, Patterson Garden Club, Diggers and Weeders Garden Club, and Sulphur Garden Club. You have done a splendid job! Washington Garden Club and Rivercities Garden Club also maintain separate websites. All of these have links from the LGCF, Inc. website and they can be found at

<http://www.louisianagardenclubs.org/districts.html>

It is important that clubs and school chairmen continue to submit their information to the website, as this is an integral part of LGCF, Inc.'s communication, not only with its members but also with the general public.

Whilst I have been devoted and passionate about maintaining the website for the past six years, I have been given the opportunity to move into other levels of LGCF, Inc. Therefore I encourage any member that has a desire to undertake this position to please contact the LGCF, Inc. president.

I would like to say thank you to Donna Bucci for giving me the opportunity to serve as her chairman.

Headquarters Report

Sara Marshall, Headquarters' Trustees Chairman

Headquarters' Trustees met in committee on Monday, January 18, 2011. All Trustees were present. A budget for the coming year was presented and accepted.

The Trustees expressed their appreciation for the generous donation by the Diamond Jubilee Committee for the new sign now placed in front of our home, and for the two concrete tables and benches placed in the back garden. The sign is very handsome and the two tables with their benches enhance the inviting atmosphere in the garden for picnics and relaxation. The Diamond Jubilee Committee also donated a Blue Star Byway Marker to be dedicated on Tuesday, April 12, 2011 at Headquarters.

All projects proposed and voted on last year have been completed: Back screen door has been replaced with a plastic coated metal one; butler's pantry has been painted; and a latch was installed on bathroom door.

Consideration at present time is installation of a sturdier hand rail for street level steps to correspond with aesthetic quality of new sign. Ongoing donations are being received for this purpose. Also, the Trustees hope to replace back fence and renovate front closet where records are kept.

Carlos Smith donated a generous amount of spring bulbs and they were planted by members of Lecompte Garden Club. Trustees are very grateful and know they will add more beauty to our home.

Sad to report that our long time resident caretaker, Maria Burns, has given us six months notice she will be leaving. Maria has been a great and faithful asset in keeping our home and garden clean, neat and alerting the local chairman of any needs or repairs concerning the property.

Headquarters Trustees Members: Fran Francis, Local Chairman; Margo Racca, Sybil Colicchio, Harriette Charles and Sara Marshall, Chairman.

Land Trust/Nature Conservancy

Libby Dupuy, Chairman

Louisiana reels from yet another blow to our natural resources with the British Petroleum oil spill. Hurricanes with resulting flooding in our state and drought in the central and upper parts of Louisiana have wrecked havoc in the last few years. Government Agencies and conservation organizations in our State are hard at work to restore and protect our fragile environment.

Louisiana Garden Club members are taking notice after hearing several programs reminding our members just how fragile the balance of nature is in Louisiana. Michael Massimi of the Barataria-Terrebonne Estuary Program spoke at Summer Board this past year, regarding preservation and restoration efforts in that 4.2million acre region between the Atchafalaya and Mississippi Rivers. The organization strives to rebuild and protect the estuary for future generations. DVDs were given out to members to show to their clubs on "Harvest to Restore" listing steps taken by this organization. LGCF members heard from Charles Fryling of the dangers of losing the Atchafalaya Wetlands through logging of cypress trees in the Basin. Our members were reminded not to use cypress mulch, as many living trees are being sacrificed and ground up as mulch. Garrett Graves, the Governor's

LGCF COMMITTEE CHAIRMEN REPORTS

Chairman of Coastal Restoration and Protection spoke at the LGCF Convention of 2010 on how Louisiana's natural world can be helped.

Many individual garden club members are active in their communities tying together with other organizations to save our habitat. Members and their families belong to Spring Bayou Restoration which is an organization formed to restore that vast natural area for families to use once again for fishing. Garden Clubs have taken steps to provide habitat for Blue Birds to nest and raise their young. Garden club members and their families have taken part in forming the Grand Cote Wildlife Refuge. This organization is set up to protect land and water especially for wildlife and its habitat.

Garden Club members continue to visit and enjoy the State Arboretum in effort to learn and identify native plants and wildlife.

LOUISIANA LANDSCAPE DESIGN SCHOOL

Clara Earl, Chair

In April 2010, the pre-convention garden tour for LD credit was coordinated by Jo Ann Christopher and Dottie Hebert. Betty Foret coordinated the record keeping. Because of this tour, several of the master consultants good standing status is extended to December 31, 2015.

In August 2010, course 2 was held at the Baton Rouge Garden Center in Baton Rouge. Betty Foret served as Acting LD School Chair. Approximately 25 people attended.

The Louisiana Landscape Design School, Course 3, Series XVII, was held February 22 and 23, 2011, at the Baton Rouge Garden Center, Baton Rouge, LA. Forty members and friends were registered: 21 students, 13 consultants refreshing either to attain or maintain their master consultant status, 1 was sick and 5 audits. The Professors were Dr. Neil Odenwald, Dana Brown, Charles Fryling, Jr., Jennifer Harbourt, and Justin Lemoine. Gail Lonibos served as Registrar. Several Consultants provided assistance to allow the 2 days to run smoothly.

Hopefully, the dates for Course 4 will be confirmed and announced soon.

CLUB YEARBOOKS

Sherri Labbe', Chairman

LGCF members submitted fifty-four yearbooks in 2009 and forty-two outstanding yearbooks for 2010 Awards. The past two years have resulted in 54 yearbooks that scored 95 or above.

All results were forwarded to the LGCF Award Chairman for LGCF Awards presentations. There was a 1st Place winning yearbook in each of the 7 size categories. All 1st Place winners were sent on with the applications for point scoring of NGC Award #16.

Thank you for allowing me to serve as your chairman for Club Yearbooks. It has been a pleasure to get to know the Garden Clubs through their work to further the goals of LGCF and NGC.

LIVE OAK SOCIETY

Coleen Perilloux Landry, Chair



These oaks at Evergreen Plantation in Edgard, LA are on the National Historic Registry. Photo by Coleen Perilloux Landry.

The Live Oak Society has had a tremendous surge of membership in the past several months due largely to three controversial matters concerning the destruction of live oak trees.

At ULL (University of Louisiana at Lafayette) plans to cut six live oaks (*Quercus virginiana*) brought protests from garden clubs, alumni and tree lovers all over the country. One alumnus wrote from Iraq begging the president of the university to spare the trees. LGCF, Inc. members signed petitions and wrote letters and the chairman of the Live Oak Society worked with newspaper and television people in Lafayette on behalf of the trees. It has brought awareness to the campus just how important the live oaks are.

Another tree named "Mr. Al" was embroiled in a battle two years ago with the Louisiana Department of Transportation and the Live Oak Society stepped in to help. The tree has been saved and the road is being rerouted.

The Youngsville Oak was also in danger of being destroyed by the DOTD but with protests and pleas, it is will be moved by a company that specializes in moving huge trees. And, yes, with enough money, huge live oaks can be moved because their roots spread wide, not deep, thus making them easier to move.

LGCF COMMITTEE CHAIRMEN REPORTS

In January and February when the surge of 58 registrants came in, I thought back to a yearly report I read from 1968 that said "we had a great year and registered five live oaks." In 2010 some 186 trees were registered and already in 2011 some 58 trees have been registered.

We are making a difference. We are making people appreciate the Live Oak and making them realize how important it is to save our precious heritage, our legacy for future generations.

Let your local governments know the importance of the Live Oak; let the Department of Transportation, the Governor's Office and the Lieutenant Governor's office know of your interest to save these trees. Don't sit there until the tree is gone and then mourn it. Save it now!

Blue Star Markers

Gail Lonibos, Blue Star Marker Chairman

By the end of this term, Louisiana will have dedicated (52) Highway Markers, (5) Memorial Markers, and (17) By-Way Markers for a total of (74) Blue Star Markers and with a total of (9) missing markers and (1) destroyed.

Below are the Markers that were dedicated during this term:

- District III, April 26, 2009, Berwick Garden Club-Highway - Hwy.182, 300 Patti Dr. Berwick
- District VIII, December 7, 2009, Alexandria Garden Club -By Way - Heritage Park, Alexandria
- District I, June 6, 2010, Louisiana Garden Club Federation - Memorial - The National WWII Museum, New Orleans
- District II, November 6, 2010, (1) Jefferson Parish Council of Garden Clubs, Highway 3134 (Leo Kerner/Lafitte Parkway) & (2) Better Swamps & Garden Club Highway 3134 (Town of Jean Lafitte)
- District I, November 11, 2010, LGCF and Creative Planters Garden Club, Memorial Louisiana's Medal of Honor Park, 1292 Barriere Rd., Belle Chasse

Two more Markers will be dedicated before the 2011 Louisiana State Convention in April. One Memorial Marker on April 6 by the Chateaux Estates Garden Club in District II at Kenner Veteran's Park and the other a By-Way on April 12, at the LGCF Headquarters in LeCompte celebrating LGCF 75th Anniversary (1934-2009) in District VIII.

- Covington Garden Club is replacing a Highway Marker that was destroyed at the St. Tammy Fire Dist. 12, Station 124 at the intersection of LA Highway 22/36.
- DeRidder Garden Club is ordering a By Way Marker to be dedicated sometime in 2011.
- Thibodaux Garden Club has a By Way Marker that needs to be dedicated.
- Petals of North Bridgedale will be purchasing a Highway Marker to be placed on Transcontinental and Argonne St., Metairie and will be dedicated in the summer.

Joe E. Baucum, Jefferson Parish Council of Garden Clubs and Better Swamps and Gardens President of District II has been very busy acquiring cooperative donors for District II and LGCF to help dedicate, refurbishing and replace lost Markers. He is having the Highway Marker that was located at the Huey P. Long Circle West Bank refurbished, stored and will be rededicated after the completion of the bridge construction. Joe is hoping to replace the Marker that once was dedicated and has been missing from the New Orleans Airport.

LGCF COMMITTEE CHAIRMEN REPORTS

Garden Clubs that would like to dedicate a Marker but are financially unable; should consider contacting other organizations in their community for help.

This Chairman has informed the District Directors of the increase cost of the Markers, effective May 1, 2010 and had materials at the Blue Star Marker display that was of importance at the LGCF Convention.

It has been an honor and a privilege to serve as the 2009-2011 LGCF Blue Star Memorial Chairman for the past two years. It was very rewarding to be part of the NGC's program honoring our men and women who have served, are serving or will serve in our Nation's Armed Forces.

DISTRICT VIII JUDGES COUNCIL

Carla Gauthier, President

My my ... time flies when you are having fun. As my two year term as District VIII judges Council President comes to an end, I can reflect on all the wonderful times we have had. By far, the old friendships that grew and the new friendships that were made were the best part.

The first program we implemented was the "Hen and Chick" design program, where we paired an accredited judge with a student. Our chicks have become hens in their own right. Our chicks were the seven new student judges from District VIII garden clubs. Our accredited judges were paired with a student and acted as their mentors. It was truly a very successful program over the two years and a great learning experience as well.

To our delight and surprise, District V judges Council (10+ members) asked to join our Council. Our first meeting will be in March and we are looking forward to welcoming them and sharing ideas. This will bring our Council membership to 29+, thus making us the largest in the state. Also we have two president-elect positions that will be filled by District VIII judges; Yvette Hebert, as LGCF President - Elect and myself as 1st Vice- President of LCNAFSJ. I will be passing the gavel on into the very capable hands of Mrs. Virgins Webb. Her skill as a designer is well known. She will do a fabulous job. I want to truly thank all my fellow judges council members for their support throughout my term.

ART in BLOOM

The photo on the left is from the web page:

picasaweb.google.com

Picasa web albums are free to use and fairly easy to set up. You may view many other 'Art in Bloom' pictures by going to the web site and entering *Art in Bloom* in the Search Photos box. You will find many examples of floral designs imitating works of art.



Circle of Roses



Claire Roussel

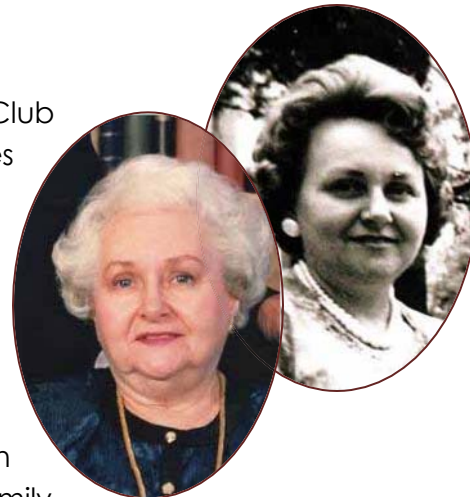
Fleur de Lis Garden Club (Dist. I)

Claire Roussel is a charter member of the Fleur de Lis Garden Club which was organized in 1957. She has served on many committees and held office several times. She was honored to have been selected Woman of the Year in 1970. At 88 years old she still enjoys attending meetings and socials.

She especially enjoyed the flower arranging workshops which sparked a creativity that gave her much pleasure throughout the years. In addition to participating in the flower shows, at which she won several ribbons—including Best in the Show, she also, on occasion, helped beautify the sanctuary of her church. Her family delighted in her arrangements that adorned the table for special occasions.

Claire was very instrumental in forming the Fleurettes, a junior Garden Club for the daughters of the Fleur de Lis members who wanted to share with their daughters the knowledge, pleasure and excitement of belonging to such a creative organization.

Claire was married to her beloved husband Allyn "Rock" for 67 years before his recent death in November 2010. Rock was always very interested and supportive of her garden club activities. He especially enjoyed the socials that included the husbands. Through the years, Claire and Rock have been kept young-at-heart by their four children, five grandchildren, and three great-grandchildren, with the fourth on the way.



Inez Barras

Lafayette Garden Club, New Iberia Garden Club (Dist. III)

Inez Barras, member of both the Lafayette and New Iberia Garden Clubs, joined the New Iberia Garden Club sixteen years ago after retiring from The Singer Company where she worked for twenty eight years.

Inez was active with the New Iberia Club from early on joining various committees. She was on the Live Oak Society Committee, registering over fifty trees in their first year with the program. She also chaired the flower show and served as vice president of the New Iberia Garden Club for four years.

Inez moved to Lafayette in 2002 and joined the Lafayette Garden Club while still maintaining her membership with the New Iberia Garden Club. Inez quickly got involved with the Lafayette Garden Club and serves on many committees, including the annual flower show. She has served as the Social Chair for the last six years and was selected as Lafayette Garden Club's Woman of the Year in 2009.

Inez was married to Alberie J Barras. They were married thirty-eight years when he died in 1986. She is the mother of four, two sons and two daughters, all of whom attended USL, now UL of Lafayette and the grandmother of seven. She also has five great-grandchildren who are the joy of her life.



Circle of Roses



Betty Amacker

Denham Springs Garden Club (Dist. VI)

Betty's passions are her family and flowers. She and her high school sweetheart of almost 53 years moved from Washington Parish to Baton Rouge, LA in 1968, and in 1971, they moved to Denham Springs, LA on 5 acres of land with three little children.

Betty's knowledge of horticulture stems from her love of gardening, which is evident at her home. She spends many hours working in her gardens, even in the winter, growing camellias, blueberries, sweet pea, herbs and other winter crops. Betty is always eager to share her plants, cuttings, and seeds with everyone. She makes little purse pouches and fills them with seeds to give to friends. Betty attributes her love for flowers to her mother, her grandmother and her mother-in-law. She is growing flowers from her grandmother who passed away in 1973 and mother-in-law who passed in 2004.

After Betty's retirement from nursing, she joined the Denham Springs Garden Club and soon thereafter was elected President. She is also a member of the Baton Rouge Camellia Society, the Baton Rouge Orchid Society and is a Denham Springs Master Gardener. However, her garden club is where her heart is. Betty has held most offices and served on several committees every year, which she enjoys very much.



Opal Breland

Home and Garden Club of Franklinton (Dist VI)

Opal Breland is an active member of District VI Home and Garden Club of Franklinton and has been for many years. She is a member of Hillcrest Baptist Church. Opal is a retired nurse and the mother of one son, Billy Ray Breland. Her husband, Bill, passed away several years ago with a illness. She is a proud and supportive grandmother of three grandsons.

Opal has served on many committees in our club and has been the first one to show up when there is work to be done. She served as Business of the Month Committee Chairman for over ten years and has served on the Garden of the Month selection committee. Opal has served as Chaplain, Parliamentarian and Vice-President several times in our club. Opal has also served numerous times as Chairman of the Mile Branch Settlement "Sylvest Parlor" which Home and Garden decorates it for Christmas and provides sitters. This is an old-time village located on the parish fairgrounds and is an annual club project. She still serves as Chairman. She also helps in the Washington Parish Fair Flower Show each year. Opal is very dependable, outgoing and always promoting and sharing garden club work and its objectives with her many friends and neighbors. We are so proud of her work with the local Church "Help Center" providing much food for the needy in our parish. She is to be commended for these efforts that help so many! She has been involved with helping school children that are in need in the local schools providing coats,



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toothbrushes, toothpaste and other care items for them. This is done with reverence and secret so that no one ever knows the child in receipt of help.

Opal still continues to plant roses, which is her favorite and keeps her flower beds with many kinds of blooms and her front entrance lovely with favorite flowers. We are proud to nominate Opal Breland for the 'Circle of Roses' honor as she is our special friend and will always be our special Rose, which has brought many good memories of garden club work along the way. We tip our hats to a wonderful Lady that we all love and are so proud to know and call, friend! Opal is truly a shining diamond that adds many facets to everyone she meets with love, laughter and deeds of kindness.

Mary Helen Smith Charleville

West Baton Rouge Civic & Garden Club (Dist. VI)

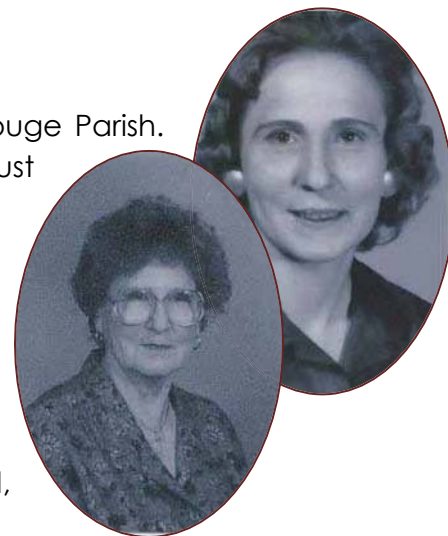
Mary Helen Smith Charleville is a lifelong resident of West Baton Rouge Parish. She was born on September 14, 1931 in the small village of Sunrise, just north of Port Allen, and lived there until 1951.

Mary Helen began school at a little one room schoolhouse in Sunrise that contained three grades. After the first year, Sunrise School closed and she attended Port Allen Elementary and High Schools. After graduation, she attended LSU.

In 1951, Mary Helen married James Charleville, also a lifelong resident of West Baton Rouge. They had four children — Mark, Carol, Beth and Jan.

Mary Helen is a member of the West Baton Rouge Presbyterian Church which she has attended for 70 years. She and several of her friends organized the Modernaires Dance Club. Mary Helen then joined a group of civic minded women and began the West Baton Rouge Women's Club, which is still active today. Later she joined the West Baton Rouge Garden Club and continues to enjoy the fellowship, programs and civic projects it sponsors.

In her garden, Mary Helen has enjoyed especially her Camellias, Sasanquas and Crepe Myrtle trees, but dear to her heart is her fig tree, that stands on the side of her house. It was moved three times to make room for Jim's projects, but now remains — "right where it is".



Bobby Jo Coleman

West Baton Rouge Civic and Garden Club (Dist. VI)

Bobby Jo Weems Coleman, the fifth child to Frances Wiggins and John Williams Wiggins in Hall Summit, LA. The family was expecting a boy and the boy was to be named after her maternal grandfather Robert Wiggins and her fraternal grandfather Joseph Weems, surprise a girl, thus Bobby Jo.

The family moved to Port Allen, LA in 1942, where Bobby Jo met the love of her life, William Charles "Bro" Coleman. They were married at the First Baptist Church in 1948, and reared four children, all of whom live in Port Allen. Bobby Jo and "Bro" have been blessed with 12



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grandchildren, one grandson deceased, and 8 great grandchildren. Bobby Jo and "Bro" have been married 63 blessed years.

Mrs. Sue Whitehead, a founding member of the West Baton Rouge Civic and Garden Club, invited Bobby Jo to join the garden club in early 1950. Bobby Jo and her sister Hildred Smith, deceased, also a long time member of the garden club had such grand flower shows in the 1950's and until recent years.

Bobby Jo's life has been filled with family, church, friends, music, bowling, swimming, sewing, and a real zest for gardening. She is still an active member of the Garden Club which has been serving our community for 82 years.

Mary Jane Kahao

West Baton Rouge Civic and Garden Club (Dist. VI)

Mary Jane Fly born in Shanghai, China, was the eldest child of Edythe Redmond of Halifax, Nova Scotia, Canada and William Anthony Fly, USN, of Summit, Mississippi. Because her father was in the Navy, the family moved often coming back to the United States after duty in the Philippines and Hawaii. In 1945 she received a BA in Music and married Kenneth Hanson Kahao, USNR, of Allendale Plantation, West Baton Rouge. After WWII ended, they returned to his family home where he worked as an overseer, later manager. Their children are Martin III, USAF (ret.); Ken, Jr. owner of Comprehensive I.; Eve, Lawyer; Roger, General Contractor.

Superintendent of Schools, Remi Levergne, asked Mary Jane to begin a school music program in West Baton Rouge elementary schools, and work on teacher certification. In 1964, after the children were in school, she received her MS in Library Science and became a Reference Librarian, Humanities Division of the LSU Library (now Middleton). Later she served as Head of the LSU School of Library and Information Science. Music Libraries and Rare Book Restoration was the subject of a six months sabbatical spent in New York, Florence, London and Paris. In 1981, she received an MA in Children's Literature from Simmons College in Boston.

Since retirement and a cancer survivor, she has enjoyed her grandchildren and traveling. After 62 years of marriage and Kenneth's death in 2007, Mary Jane has moved into St. James Place in Baton Rouge enjoying the Camellia Garden and singing with the Snazzy Singers which she began there.

Mary Jane has served on the Boards of Family Counseling, Cancer Services of Greater Baton Rouge, Baton Rouge Symphony, West Baton Rouge Museum, Magnolia Cemetery, Old State Capital Associates, and as a founding member of the West Baton Rouge Historical Association and Louisiana Public Broadcasting. She served as president of the Junior League, Baton Rouge Symphony Auxiliary, West Baton Rouge Historical Association, Friends of the LSU Library, Beta Zeta Chapter of Beta Phi Mu (honorary) and the Edward Howell Family Association.



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Katherine P. Mouch

West Baton Rouge Civic and Garden Club (Dist. VI)

Katherine was born in Baton Rouge on May 28, 1931 to Paul and Viola Prejean and was the sixth of eleven children.

She attended Sacred Heart School in Baton Rouge until 1940. Her family moved to Addis in June, 1940 where she attended Levert Addis School, then Brusly Elementary where she graduated in May, 1950.

She married her childhood sweetheart, Roy T. Mouch on December 20, 1952. Roy was home on leave from the Army and they returned to California where they lived until May, 1954. After an honorable discharge, they returned to Addis with their first son, Roy T. Mouch, Jr. They now have seven children — 4 girls and 3 boys and 50 grand and great grandchildren. Katherine and Roy celebrated their 57th wedding anniversary in December, 2010.

Katherine is very involved in many clubs and activities and is a Eucharistic Minister at St. John the Baptist Catholic Church in Brusly. She loves traveling, dancing, flower gardening, cooking and spending time with her family and friends.



Mary Whittington

Community Gardeners of Baton Rouge (Dist. VI)

Mary has been a Community Gardeners member since 1993 after retiring from LA Department of Transportation after 17 years. Mary joined to be with her friend and told everyone she was the least likely person to be called a gardener. She was joining for the fun times, liked the field trips, food and fellowship. Mary is known to plant plants upside down. Thank goodness for her since of humor.

Mary has held several offices and served as chairman on most projects, enjoying all her activities. She is a charter member and has been active in Baker Christian Church for fifty years and a volunteer for the Auxiliary at Lane Regional Medical Center in Zachary for five years. She currently holds the office of Parliamentarian/Historian and has volunteered with the Susan G Koman Race for the Cure.

Mary is a three time twenty year cancer survivor. She credits her club members for being wonderful women with the amazing gift of love and knowledge of plants, shrubs, trees and all things of God's creation. They not only taught me of those things, but they also became a support group during my twenty year battle with breast cancer and the time I spent taking care of my totally bedridden husband until he passed away. I still do not have their knowledge and talents, but I am honored to see their beautiful yards and admire their handiwork. Most of my gardening is done in pots and when they bloom it is a great source of joy to me.



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Phyllis Bloch

Alexandria Garden Club (Dist. VIII)

Napoleonville native, LSU graduate and wife of Tim Bloch, Phyllis Barton Bloch has been a resident of Alexandria, LA since 1948. She was invited to become a member of the Alexandria Garden Club in 1970 and has been very active since then.

Initially, Phyllis served the club as Corresponding Secretary, Yearbook Chairman, Horticulture Chairman, Vice President and President (1977-79). She served in several positions at the District level, eventually becoming the LGCF Eighth District Director. In that capacity, she met and worked with people all over Louisiana. During this time, she served as Chairman of the LGCF State Convention (held at Hodges Gardens). The next step was to the state level where Phyllis was elected and served as President of the Louisiana Council of Nationally Accredited Flower Show Judges. She is a Life Member of the LGCF. She served as a member of the Eighth District Judges Council and enjoyed holding workshops and judging at flower shows around the state. She is presently a Master Judge Emeritus and credits Martha McBurney for much of her inspiration.



Phyllis says one of her fondest memories of her years in the Alexandria Garden Club is spearheading the reorganization of the Lecompte Garden Club and seeing it become such a dynamic organization. Phyllis has given many programs and demonstrations statewide and says she enjoys sharing what she has learned with others... "I have loved being associated with every garden club member I've ever met."

Mildred Chandler

Alexandria Garden Club (Dist. VIII)

Mildred was born May 10, 1921 (with the proverbial green thumb) and raised in Alexandria, LA. She and her husband Frank shared 72 years of marriage and have been blessed with three children, three grandchildren and three great-grandchildren.

Over the years, she has explored, photographed and appreciated the gardens of Japan, England, Scotland, Ireland, Germany, Austria and Switzerland.

Mildred has been an active member of the Alexandria Garden Club for over forty years. She was a pioneer in "locally-grown ingredients" having planted and maintained her own fruit trees, vegetable and flower gardens for over thirty years. She grew tomatoes, bell peppers, butter beans, cucumbers and squash, among others. She has always been an outstanding cook and earned a reputation among family and friends for preparing fresh foods simply and beautifully in order to enhance the experience at the table. Her grandchildren often said she should have had her own gardening and lifestyle television show...long before Martha Stewart, Rachel Ray and Giada made them popular!



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Mary Corley

Alexandria Garden Club (Dist. VIII)

Mary Crow Corley was born in Pointe Coupee Parish on August 6, 1912. She was married to C. I. Crow and they enjoyed 58 years of marriage together. Mary worked for Sears in Alexandria and throughout the war years, at Fort Polk, Maryland, Illinois, Massachusetts, and Pennsylvania. After the war she worked at Huey P. Long Hospital in Pineville, and retired from there after 25 years of service.

Mary has had a life-long interest in gardening and had her own first flower garden when she was twelve years old. She has always loved horticulture and has received numerous awards through the years. She has a special interest in preserving the old fashioned flowers of yesteryear and she has propagated many by growing them from cuttings and seeds. These include green roses, delicate white Easter roses, calicanthus, flowering almond, wild passion flowers, including those of a rare red color. She has also grown from seed native wild orange trees and Calamondin orange trees. She has shared cuttings from these specimens with interested friends and fellow gardeners.

Mary joined the Alexandria Garden Club in 1994 and has been an active member since then. She has helped to choose Garden of the Month recipients and has herself participated in several flower shows, winning a blue ribbon for her "Best is Less" design featuring an unusual variety of ginger lily. She has won numerous other awards through the years. She continues to serve on the hostess committee at the age of 98. Her favorite flower has always been sweet peas.



Camille Lacy

Alexandria Garden Club (Dist. VIII)

A native of Alexandria, LA, Camille Lacy has been associated with the Alexandria Garden Club since she was a member of its Junior Garden Club in the 1950's. She says that her grandmother, Mrs. A. A. Daspit, lived and breathed garden club. Mrs. Daspit also had a bedding plant nursery, was a florist, and was among the first certified flower show judges in the state. She bred the "Sunset Giant" marigold which is the club's official flower. One of Camille's hated chores as a child was moving water hoses to the azaleas and camellias in her grandmother's yard in the sultry summer heat. Little did she know that as an adult she would love gardening...and would move more hoses.

Camille has never been a garden club officer, but has participated in numerous flower shows and served on many committees for her club for years. She has "collected gardens" in Europe and has done slide show presentations for area garden clubs and organizations.



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After attending the Landscape Design Schools in the 1970s taught by the wonderful LSU Landscape Architecture professors, she returned to school and earned an associate degree in Ornamental Horticulture from LSU-Alexandria. She has been a licensed Louisiana Landscape Contractor and licensed Horticulturist. In addition she is a "Gardening Consultant" and "Landscape Design Consultant" and has judged in the "Cleanest City" competition.

When Dr. Carlos Smith began the Master Gardener courses in Central Louisiana, Camille returned to class to learn more from her former horticulture professor and earned that certification as well. The Rapides Parish group of Master Gardeners has created, revived, and continues to maintain the parterre and the vegetable and herb gardens at Kent Plantation House. This property on Bayou Rapides Road in Alexandria is Central Louisiana's 1800s historic house museum and includes authentic outbuildings and extensive grounds. The Alexandria Garden Club meets there monthly. She also helps maintain the grounds of her church, St. Timothy's Episcopal, where the priest calls her "Yard Lady."

Married to the late Arthur Lacy, a cattle broker, Camille and her husband had three girls between them. Her daughter and three granddaughters live and garden in Normandy, France, where they tend to vegetable gardens, an apple orchard, and espaliered pear trees. The love of gardening continues.

Martha McBurney

Alexandria Garden Club (Dist. VIII)

Martha McBurney was born December 6, 1922, in Moultrie, GA. After graduating from Vanderbilt University with a degree in nursing she served in the U.S. Army Nurse Corps. She met her future husband, Lt. R. Y. McBurney. As an Air Force wife she moved frequently and did not have an opportunity to join a garden club – the only plants she grew were "mother-in-law tongue" and philodendron which she gave away whenever she moved.



When her husband retired in Alexandria, LA in 1975 she was invited to join the Alexandria Garden Club. She served on numerous committees, as Treasurer and President. In LGCF she served as District VIII Director, Corresponding Secretary for President Sara Weiss, President of Louisiana Council of Nationally Accredited Flower Show Judges, and as a committee member of NGC.

Martha is a Master Landscape Design Consultant, a Master Accredited Flower Show Judge, and a member of WAFA. She is a Life Member of LGCF, Deep South Region, and NGC. Her most cherished position was chairman of Flower Show Judges School in 2007-2008 with nine students graduating as Nationally Flower Show Judges. Martha is presently serving as programs chairman of the Alexandria Garden Club.

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Maria Roberts

Alexandria Garden Club (Dist. VIII)

Maria is a native of New Orleans and spent her childhood in Bunkie, LA. She is a graduate of Loyola University College of Pharmacy. She and her husband Bill have been blessed with five children and three grandchildren.

A member of the Alexandria Garden Club for over thirty years, she has served on the state level as Horticulture Chairman and State Convention Chairman, at the district level as Director and as Treasurer of the District VIII Flower Show Judges Council. Locally she has served in many capacities. While serving as President of the Alexandria Garden Club, Alexandria received the Cleanest City Award. She applied for and received grants for civic beautification.

A love for gardening provides fresh flowers year around both for herself and friends. She is a National Accredited Master Flower Show Judge and participant in many flower shows.



Billie Alice Craig Ryland

Alexandria Garden Club (Dist. VIII)

Billie Alice Craig Ryland was born down on 2nd Street in Alexandria, Louisiana in 1929. Her father, Mr. William Craig, was the gardener in the family and was especially fond of roses. She attended Central Grammar School, Bolton High School, and graduated from Louisiana College with a degree in Sociology. She worked at the Department of Public Welfare for many years, working under the directorship of Mrs. Violet Leger. She also served for 14 years as Area Director of the American Heart Association/Louisiana for the nine Central Louisiana parishes.

She has been married to Evert Ryland for over 60 years and has five children, 17 grandchildren, and 2 great-grandchildren. Since marriage, Billie and Evert have made their home in Pineville. They are active members at Emmanuel Baptist Church in Alexandria.

Billie has been a member of the Alexandria Garden Club for 19 years. She has served as District 8 Area Director as well as President of her club. She has held various state and district positions as well as chairing committees in her own club. Arbor Day celebrations and tree plantings have been especially important to her in her Garden Club career.



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Joe Betty Sterkx

Alexandria Garden Club (Dist. VIII)

Joe Betty is a native of Alexandria and joined the Alexandria Garden Club in 1973. She has held every office at least once, sometimes twice. The Alexandria Garden Club is very active in the community with its many civic projects and Joe Betty is proud to participate in those. She has also been a realtor for a number of years and with her husband has renovated many homes in Alexandria's Garden District. She is and has served as a Board Member for the Garden District Neighborhood Foundation, River Oaks Arts Center, Historical Association of Central Louisiana, Kent Plantation House, Partners in Literacy, Colonial Dames of America,

Daughters of the American Revolution, United Daughters of the Confederacy and has served as a St. Francis Xavier Cathedral Trustee. Her son and daughter, their spouses and three grandchildren live in New Orleans, but Alexandria Garden Club activities are still tops on her calendar!



Sylvia Tumminello

Alexandria Garden Club (Dist. VIII)

Sylvia was born in Glenmora, LA to Jacques and Blanche Savoy in 1918. In 1940, she married John Tumminello and together they raised four children. At present there are six grandchildren and four great-grandchildren.

Since 1954 she has been a very active member of the Eighth District Council of Nationally Accredited Flower Show Judges achieving the title of Master Judge, is a Landscape Design Critic and Master Critic and Consultant, a charter member of the Louisiana State Beautification Committee, a member of the Louisiana Society for Horticulture Research, the National Camellia Society, a State Life member of LGCF, and a Life Member of the NGC. She has been Treasurer of the Louisiana National Accredited Judges Council, and Publicity Chairman for the 8th District. In 1964 she was one of fourteen contestants selected in the nation to participate in the 9th National Sterling Bowl Rose Tournament held by Jackson Perkins Co. in Newark, NJ placing second nationally. She was the tri-color winner of Louisiana's first Festival of Roses held in Hodges Gardens.

Many of Sylvia's distinctive flower arrangements have been published in Better Homes and Gardens, the National Gardener, the National Calendar, the LGCF Calendar, the Louisiana Magazette, and four books. She has won many tri-color awards, blue ribbons and Awards of Distinction both locally, statewide, and nationally.

Over the last five decades she has tirelessly shared her artistry and expertise by teaching and giving many exhibits, demonstrations, lectures, conducting classes in flower arranging and horticulture, as

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well as judging and organizing countless flower shows. On the state level she has chaired several committees including: Community Gardening, Garden Therapy, Scheduling, Scholarship, State Floral Exhibition Committee/Artistic Designs and enthusiastically worked with Cleanest City judging in both state and district levels.

Throughout her years in the Alexandria Garden Club, she has been Parliamentarian; Custodian; and 1st, 2nd, and 3rd Vice President. She has actively served as the sponsor of the Junior Garden Club, chaired and served on several committees including Civic Beautification, Orientation for new members, Publicity, Flower Shows, Yearbook, Arbor Day, Scholarship, State Parks and Nature Trails, and Community Gardening.

Lenora Yeager

Alexandria Garden Club (Dist. VIII)

Leonora Yeager was born in New Orleans, LA in 1928 and moved to Alexandria when she was six months old. She has lived in Pineville/Alexandria since that time. When she was nine, her family moved to a country home in Pineville that had been beautifully landscaped. She was fascinated by all of the trees, shrubs and bulbs and soon began to learn their names. Her mother was the source of much of the knowledge she acquired and helped her appreciate the beauty that surrounded her.



Years later, she and her mother were able to travel the world and drink in the wonderful plants and different environments from Europe to the Orient, and to Australia and New Zealand. As the oldest of a very large family, her father inspired Lenora, her brothers and sisters to grow a garden and enjoy eating "fresh from the source". This is something she still enjoys!

Lenora has in her life been honored to belong to two garden clubs. The first was in her twenties. Now, since her retirement of over twenty years, she has been a happy member of the Alexandria Garden Club. For her, it has been a great learning experience for gardening and a wonderful source of friends with like interests. She held a number of positions and was the Horticultural Chairman for approximately ten years. She has assisted with many flower shows and enjoys displaying the many interesting specimens from her garden.

Lenora became a Master Gardener as a youngster at the age of 75. Way to go MOM!!! She also is a volunteer at Kent Plantation House having worked with a group to build and maintain a kitchen garden. In this endeavor, she and the others work with the Youth Challenge Group exposing them to the joys of gardening and of volunteer work.

So many people have been the beneficiaries of her plants and her knowledge. Even her grandson says he may not be able to grow them, but because of her, he can certainly name them! This was written by her grateful daughter.



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," 18 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 Jennifer Granger, Circle of Roses Chairman, 10263 Gulf Hwy, Lake Charles, LA 70607, or email: mimijane1971@yahoo.com.

Welcome!

Please join Lindy Taylor, District VII, and the LGCF family in welcoming our newest member club, **Jennings Garden Club**. The President is Cynthia Hoffpaur, Sandra Patin is VP and Mary Tietje is the Treasurer. They currently have 15 members. This makes a total of 15 clubs in LGCF's District VII.

A real big WELCOME TO THE FAMILY to the members of Jennings Garden Club!!

Frostproof Gardenia

(Excerpt from Dan Gill's article on LSUAgCenter.com)

The Louisiana Super Plants program is an LSU AgCenter educational and marketing campaign that highlights tough and beautiful plants that perform well in Louisiana landscapes. The first selection to be promoted this spring is a great new gardenia variety called Frostproof (*Gardenia jasminoides* Frostproof).

The Frostproof gardenia was chosen for the Louisiana Super Plants program for a variety of reasons.

This evergreen shrub produces fragrant, double, velvety-white flowers heavily in May and then sporadically through the summer. This gardenia is known for its prolific flower production.

Frostproof, as its name implies, is more cold-hardy than other gardenias, although this is not as much of a factor here in Louisiana. Still, this gardenia can be counted on to hold up through even unusually cold north Louisiana winters.

Experience indicates Frostproof is tough, adaptable and not as finicky as some other gardenia varieties.

**LOUISIANA GARDEN CLUB FEDERATION
2011 STATE CONVENTION AGENDA
MARKSVILLE**

Tuesday April 12, 2011

9:30AM-3:00PM Pre-Convention Tour, Alexandria
3:30 PM Dedication Blue Star By-Way Marker
Headquarters, Lecompte

Wednesday, April 13, 2011

9:00AM-5:00PM..... Registration Desk Open
9:00 - 9:30 AM Headquarters Committee
9:30 -10:00 AM Finance Committee Meeting
10:00 -11:00PM LGCF Executive Council
LUNCH ON YOUR OWN
12:30 - 1:00PMJudges Executive Council Meeting
1:00 - 2:00PM Judges Council General Meeting
2:00 - 3:00PM Gardening Consultants Meeting
3:00 - 4:00PMLandscape Consultants Meeting
4:00 - 5:00 PM District Directors Meeting
5:00 - 6:00 PMClub Presidents Meeting
7:00 - 9:00 PM Welcome Party – Cochon de Lait
(Cottonport Bank, Marksville)

Thursday, April 14, 2011

8:00AM - 4:00PMRegistration
8:00AM - 5:00PM Vendors Open
BREAKFAST ON YOUR OWN
10:00AM - 12:00 PM Formal Opening of Convention
First Business Meeting
12:15 - 2:30PMLuncheon
Gardening Consultants and Landscape Design Consultants
Honoring Club Presidents and Life Members
Speaker - Carlos Smith
4:00 - 5:30PM Tea Honoring Donna Bucci, LGCF President
and Mary Jacobs, LGCF Prsident-Elect
Home of Kathy Lemoine, Longbridge
7:00 -10:00PMAwards Banquet

Friday, April 15, 2011

8:00AM - 12:00PMRegistration
8:00AM - 5:00PM Vendors Open
BREAKFAST ON YOUR OWN
10:00 - 12:00 Noon Second Business Meeting
12:15 - 2:30PMLuncheon Honoring Judges Council
Chapeaus, Creativity and Courage
Speaker - Virginia Webb
2:30 - 6:00PM Free Time
6:00 - 7:00PM Reception for incoming LGCF President Mary Jacobs
Hosted by District II
7:00 - 10:00PMInstallation Banquet

Saturday, April 16, 2011

8:00 - 9:30AM2011-2013 Officers & Chairmen Orientation Breakfast
(Breakfast is on your own. It may be eaten prior to the meeting or it may be
brought from the Buffet and eaten at the tables in the Meeting Room)

***NOTICE.....REGISTRATION IS CLOSED DURING ALL MEALS**



Please print legibly and fax to Reservations Reservation Group Block: Louisiana Garden Club Federation, Inc.

Manager: Marcus Logan
Fax : 318 – 240 – 6601
RES ID # : LFGA20G

Arrival Date: 04/12/11
Departure Date: 04/16/11
Reservations must be made by: 03/22/11

Name _____ Number in Party: Adults ____ Children ____

Company Name _____

Email Address _____

Address _____ City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Business Phone _____ Sharing with _____

Arrival Day / Date _____ Departure Day / Date _____

Please select method of payment:

Credit Card # _____ Exp. Date _____ Authorization # _____

Signature _____ Check # _____

PLEASE SEND ME A CONFIRMATION BY EMAIL TO: _____

ACCOMMODATIONS AND RATES

The cut-off date for reservations is listed above. All reservations must be made by this date to assure group rate. Reservations made after this date are confirmed only subject to general availability and at prevailing rates. Please circle your choice of accommodations. A credit card or deposit of one night's room rate is required to secure rooms. Room rates quoted DO NOT include 13% tax. Rates are for single or double occupancy per room. Additional person in a double room is \$30.00 per night.

Please circle your room rates per day:

	Tue	Wed	Thur	Fri
Deluxe Tower Room	\$129.00	\$129.00	\$129.00	\$129.00
Standard Room	\$99.00	\$99.00	\$99.00	\$99.00

Pools, Spa , Coffee Shop, Retail Stores, 2100 Slots, 48 Table games, Triplex Cinema, Fitness Center, Business Center, Golf, 6 Restaurants, OTB, Nightclub, Legends Steakhouse, Kids Quest, Video Arcade

Paragon Casino Resort. 711 Paragon Place. Marksville. La. 71351. Reservations # 800.642.7777. Main Hotel # 800.946.1946

Lafayette Garden Club

and



Present



FIRST WATER GARDEN TOUR

Five Lafayette/Broussard Area Private
Water Gardens

Sunday, May 15, 2011

12 p.m. to 5 p.m.

\$12 in advance or For information, call
\$15 day of tour Kelly Suire 337-288-0552
at featured homes or
Jo Ann Pugh 337-247-5526

Checks and reservations to:

Lafayette Garden Club
Post Office Box 51366
Lafayette, LA 70505

Tickets are also available from the following
vendors:

Jim Stone , 1823 Jefferson Street
Native Sun Nursery, 4000 Johnston Street
and 1401 West Broussard Road
Wild Birds Unlimited, 137 Arnould Blvd.

In the event of inclement weather, the tour
will take place on Sunday, May 22, 2011

ENVIRONMENTAL STUDIES SCHOOLS OF LOUISIANA

Linda Finley and Margo Racca
have announced tentative dates of
August 23 – 26, 2011,
for Series II, Courses I & II.

For more info, click on the following link

<http://www.louisianagardenclubs.org/schools/environmental.htm>



Does Your Garden Need a
Few Finishing Touches?

NCAGC's Landscape Design
Council has a NEW BOOK
to help

THE CREATIVE GARDEN

The 130+ full color
photographs in THE
CREATIVE GARDEN offer a wide range of options --
some to add a touch of drama, others to double the
garden's view, create elegant flourishes or an eye-
catching feature, camouflage less-than-lovely objects,
apply new uses to old items, or illustrate common-sense
ah-ha's for those difficult areas which each garden seems
to have. Also, look beyond the specific captions for
nuances which will further excite your garden creativity.

This 44-page book (written by Nancy Burns and Poss
Tarpley, LDC) contains over 130 color photos in an 8.5"
x 11" format. Cost is only \$10 each for NGC members
and Master Gardeners, \$14 for non-members, plus
shipping (\$2.50 for 1 copy. For 2 to 5 copies: \$4.90).

Please make checks payable to fundraiser: "Landscape
Design Council." Mail order and check to:

The Creative Garden, 3702 Bethwood Court, Upper
Marlboro, MD 20772-7787

Contact n.burns@cox.net for more information or
questions.

Plant it Pink

(Article by Minnie Posey)

Charlotte Reso was the winner of a recent Home and Garden Club of Franklinton raffle for a lovely ceramic bird house. National Garden Club, Inc. and Susan C. Komen for the Cure, the largest breast cancer organization, announced Plant it Pink, a multi-faceted initiative designed to support Susan G. Komen for the Cure's mission to save lives and end breast cancer forever. A new bird house can now be ordered to support cancer by going on web, www.gardenclub.org (on the left side look for Special Projects and then click Plant it Pink) to check out the Plant it Pink Project if you are interested in purchasing the new bird house which is now available to help support the Cure. Dana Truxillo served as chairman for the Birdhouse Raffle for the club. Congratulations to Charlotte Reso on being our winner this year! The funds raised will help with the club's many projects in the community. Nellie Jenkins is the club president.

Pictured on the right, Minnie Posey of Home and Garden Club presents the lovely ceramic Birdhouse to the lucky winner, Charlotte Reso. Charlotte is a new member and it was noted she was the first person to get her tickets in. The birdhouse is the first one designed for the "Plant It Pink" Project to fight breast cancer. A new birdhouse is now available. There may be a few left of the first one designed!



LGCF Youth Activities



Bayou Vista Garden Club sponsored Louisiana East Girl Scout Daisy Troop #20310 in a project to fulfill the requirements for the National Garden Club's Native Plants Patch. After weeding the flowerbeds, the girls planted native Louisiana irises and crinum lilies at the Bayou Vista Community Center Gazebo.

Wildflower Conservation Book

Beth Erwin, Wildflower Chairman, has completed her draft of the book depicting the plants on our Conservation List. 500 copies are being printed and will be for sale at \$10 each at the LGCF Convention.

Louisiana Native Plant Society 2011 Grant Applications

The Louisiana Native Plant Society (LNPS) was founded in 1983. LNPS is a state-wide, non-profit organization, funded primarily with annual dues and a native plant auction. Its purposes are:

- To preserve and study native plants and their habitats.
- To educate people on the value of native plants.
- To educate people on the need to preserve and protect rare and endangered species.
- To promote the propagation and use of native plants in the landscape.
- To educate people on the relationship between our native flora and wildlife.

2011 grant applications are now available to organizations and students. Applications must be completed and received no later than July 31, 2011 to be considered for funding. LNPS anticipates awarding two grants of \$500 each. Expectations are that one grant will be awarded to an organization and one to a student. Recipients will be selected and announced August 31, 2011 or at the next annual meeting.

Grant applications may be found at www.lnps.org/docs/LNPS_2011_grant_application.pdf or you may request copies of the grant applications by emailing jduncan@fs.fed.us.

Recycling Facts

From Camille Stakes, Chairman Litter/Reclamation/Recycling/Waste Management

The American Forest & Paper Association (AF&PA) recently released results of its 2010 Community Recycling Survey. The study shows that 87 percent of the population has access to curbside and/or drop-off paper and paperboard recycling programs.

The AF&PA Community Survey is a comprehensive national study that measures and tracks the growth of access to community-level paper and paperboard recycling in the U.S. The 2010 study is the latest in a series of such studies funded by AF&PA and conducted by R. W. Beck since 1994.

Paper recycling access was an important factor in helping the industry exceed its 60 percent recovery goal three years ahead of schedule. In 2009, a record-high 63.4 percent of the paper used in the U.S. was recovered for recycling.

Key findings from the survey include:

- 87 percent of the U.S. population (273 million people) have access to curbside and/or drop-off paper recycling programs, including:
 - 63 percent of the U.S. population (193 million people) have access to curbside recycling programs
 - 68 percent of the populations (213 million) have access to drop-off recycling programs
 - Continued growth in curbside recycling programs employing single-stream collection systems
-

Habitat for Humanity Grants

One-time grants are available for a Habitat for Humanity Landscaping Projects. Submit applications to

Sandra Blanco
P. O. Box 573
Berwick, LA 70342

by July 1, 2011.

Requests of fifty (\$50.00) to one hundred fifty (\$150.00) dollars will be considered based on applications. The project is to be completed by July 15, 2012. A report of expenditures and before-and-after pictures are to be submitted upon completion.

Include in the application a sketch of the landscape plan, plants to be used, a budget, in-kind support and garden club participation. Landscaping should include some permanent plantings. Limit applications to three (3) pages.

[These grants have been made possible with funds raised with the recycled jewelry sales.]

Award Advisor Announces Changes in LGCF Awards

From Eleanor Talley, LGCF Awards Advisor

Award changes ratified at the Winter Council are as follows:

In Award No. 12, Conservation Project Award, the phrase "cleaning of bodies of water and/or wetland." There will be monetary awards for the winners. Donna Bucci will sponsor this Award. See Award descriptions.

Award No. 13, The Beauty of Life Garden Award sponsored by Mary Hazen and Kathy Bedenbaugh will be a new Award. A freestanding, acrylic, Louisiana shaped, traveling plaque will be awarded annually to a federated state garden club for the most outstanding, permanent, pink rose garden. See Award descriptions for particulars.

Changes in the Award #25 Maude Viskell Design Award are: Application must include: letter signed by the show chairman; 8X10 color picture of design only taken from the front of design to include the total frame of reference (remove ribbons before taking pictures); a 3 x 5 card listing names of all plant materials.

A Cleanest City Challenge Award , No. 30 will be a new award in honor of Mrs. Dorothy Ann Norworthy George sponsored by Collinston Garden Club. A trophy will be awarded to the Louisiana village, town, or city that wins the Louisiana Garden Club Federation State Cleanest City Contest three consecutive years. See Award descriptions for particulars.

Publicity Press Book Awards, Award #22 winners are recognized by club sizes. These categories have been changed to be in line with National Garden Clubs Award guidelines. Small Clubs will membership of 29 or less; medium clubs will be 30-99 members, and large clubs will be 100 members and over.

LGCF Headquarters News

The Diamond Jubilee Committee, better known as the "Diamond Girls" have been working overtime to make our Headquarters Home SHINE!!! New things at the 1606 Water Street, LeCompte location are two new concrete round tables with benches, making a great place to picnic when visiting Headquarters. New signage in front of the house identifies it as Louisiana Garden Club Federation Headquarters, Inc. The sign is one that should stand the test of time, as it is made of the best materials, with a



Picture courtesy of Pauline Humphries, LeCompte

post of cast aluminum. A new Blue Star By-Way Marker will soon go up in

front of the grand old home, with dedication set for April 12, 2011, immediately following the Pre-convention tour set in Alexandria. – Article submitted by Libby Dupuy

Appeal from Headquarters Trustees Chairman, Sara Marshall

Headquarters trustees met at the LGCF Winter Council in January 2011. They discussed different needs of our Headquarters House. The new items donated by the "Diamond Girls" are very nice, but now it is more evident that other items need updating. Trustees outlined three items that they hope to get done in the near future:

1. Replace the fence in back that borders the garden on two sides.
2. Redo the front closet that holds LGCF records with new shelves and replace the "cardboard" walls with cedar to help preserve our records.
3. Replace the railing at the sidewalk and steps level. A new railing along with the new sign would really add to the curb appeal of our Headquarters.

Our headquarters' home was purchased and furnished by garden club members back in the '70s and '80s one dollar at a time collected at conventions, district meetings, etc. Please remember that donations can still be made by all of the LGCF member clubs and individuals to enhance and preserve our home. Let's show some pride in our Headquarters House and help support it!

Butterflies

When choosing plants for your gardens this spring, consider planting for the butterflies. Choose flowers that provide lots of nectar, such as salvias, pentas, lantanas, coneflowers, verbenas, and summer phlox. Add host plants for caterpillars to feed on, including parsley, dill, and milkweed. A shallow dish, filled with moist sand, offers a place for a drink. Butterflies love to bask in the sun; add a few flat rocks so they can rest between flights.

DEEDS AND DOINGS

District III

The Christmas Lighting Ceremony was sponsored by the Bayou Vista Garden Club at the Bayou Vista Community Center. BVGC members decorated the center. Santa was on hand and a free bicycle drawing was held for children in attendance.



As part of Arbor Day observance, Bayou Vista Garden Club members gathered at the Bayou Vista Community Center to dedicate a Savannah Holly to Janice Verret in honor of her service as Bayou Vista Garden Club President from 2007-2011. The grounds surrounding the Bayou Vista Community Center are a dedicated bird sanctuary and this evergreen tree will provide additional food and shelter for this bird habitat.



Lafayette Garden Club and Lafayette Consolidated Government

observed Arbor Day with a program and ceremonial planting of a live oak tree on Camellia Boulevard at Cambridge Drive, on Friday afternoon, January 21. This live oak tree, donated by Lafayette Garden Club, was dedicated in memory of Club members Grace Eyster, Zoe Lynch, Lou Fuselier, Barbara Nelson and Bulent Ovunc, spouse of Club member Bercis Ovunc.



Pictured on the left are Lafayette Parish President Joey Durel, Gil Futch, Grounds Maintenance Supervisor and Jim Foret, of the Department of Renewable Resources at University of Louisiana at Lafayette, Lafayette Garden Club President Dr. Margaret Hargroder, Aline Arceneaux and Suzanne Ambler, of the Arbor Day Committee, as well as City/Parish officials

DEEDS AND DOINGS

and Lafayette Garden Club members. Suzanne Ambler welcomed everyone to the ceremony, and introduced the speakers.

Jim Foret and Gil Futch talked about tree care, stating that the City of Lafayette is a Triple Crown Tree City, awarded by the Arbor Day Foundation, for meeting the standards of Tree City USA, which includes University of Louisiana at Lafayette's Tree Campus Award, recognizing its practice of sound campus forestry by engaging the campus community in environmental stewardship. Aline Arceneaux, Chair of the Arbor Day Committee, read the poem "What is a Tree," by Tamil Nadu, which was written for a 1989 Children and Trees Project in India.

Garden Club President, Margaret Hargroder, spoke about Lafayette Garden Club, partnering with Trees Acadiana's Arbor Day Schools' project of sponsoring twenty local schools in planting live or pod cypress trees and tree seedlings. Karla Theall, Schools' Arbor Day Committee Chair, said that the Committee also provides each school with a Club sponsor, if requested, as well as educational material and a framed certificate to memorialize their tree.

Following the March meeting, Lafayette Garden Club members toured the Baton Rouge Recycling Center, which meets the National Garden Club's conservation and educational goals. Nick McBee,



of the Recycling Center, addressed the group and led a tour of the Recycling yard. McBee stated that trucks from Houston, New Orleans and Lafayette arrive weekly, delivering recycle materials, and that the business is self-sustaining, supported by sale of recycle material, such as old newspapers being sold to Georgia Pacific. The group observed that Recycle Center owner, Mr. Cheatham, and his sons run a very efficient, Christian-like business. Pictured are Lafayette Garden Club members, with Nick McBee, in the yard at the Baton Rouge Recycling Center, as well as a view of stacked papers in the Recycle

Center yard. Before returning to Lafayette, the ladies lunched at Drusilla's in Baton Rouge.

Lafayette Garden Club joins Water Gardens Unlimited in presenting its annual Tres Jolie event, a Water Garden Tour in the Acadiana area, to be held on Sunday, May 15, 2011, from 12 p.m. to 5 p.m. The self-guided tour will allow you to venture through five private, beautifully landscaped gardens, with water gardens that include playful Koi and goldfish, as well as native aquatic plants. Sybil Allis, Tres Jolie Committee Chair, stated that refreshments will be served. Cost is \$12 per person, in advance, or \$15 on the day of the tour at the featured homes. Tickets/booklets will be sent with your reservation to Lafayette Garden Club, Post Office Box 51366, Lafayette, LA 70505, and are also available from the following vendors: Jim Stone (1823 Jefferson Street), Native Sun Nursery (4000 Johnston Street and 1401 West Broussard Road), Wild Birds Unlimited (137 Arnould Boulevard). For information, call Jo Ann Pugh of Lafayette Garden Club at 337-247-5526 or Kelly Suire of Water Gardens Unlimited at 337-288-0552.



DEEDS AND DOINGS

Flower Show Chair, Inez Barras, announces the annual Flower Show, will be held Friday and Saturday, April 1 and 2, in conjunction with Jardin de Medicin (a program about medicinal gardening) at the Vermilionville Cajun & Creole Living History Museum & Folklife Village, located at 300 Fisher Road in Lafayette. Small, standard floral designs by Garden Club members will be judged for awards, and will be on display for viewing.

Congratulations to Glenda and Norman Balliviero, who were awarded the Louisiana State Horticulture Society's 2011 plaque and life membership, at the LSHS Annual Conference, for their contribution to Horticulture in Louisiana through Education.

District VI

The Slidell, Louisiana **Westchester Estates Garden Club** recently held their annual White Elephant sale at the home of member Ginger Meyer. The sale is a fund raiser for the club. Each member brought the treasures they no longer wanted to be auctioned off at the sale. Member, Frances Blanchard served as the auctioneer, encouraging the members to bid higher for the items they wanted. The sale was a big success with each member leaving the meeting with new treasures for their homes. Hostess, Ginger Meyer ended the meeting by serving a tasty luncheon to the members. In the pictures below from left to right are 1) Frances Blanchard as auctioneer, 2) Joan Zimmerle with purchase and 3) Ginger Meyer with purchase.



Ponchatoula garden clubs combined meetings in an annual tradition as **Community Garden Club** hosted the **Gardenettes** at their building in Memorial Park Thursday January 20.



Peggy Avery, Community president, opened the meeting and welcomed their guests. Carol Borgstede led the pledge of allegiance, and Nell Richards gave an opening prayer. Other members included Flora Nelson, Margaret Harden, Mel Summers, Ellen Pusey and Beverly Drude.

Pictured on the left are Presidents, Diane Dufour and Peggy Avery.

Avery presented Gardenette president Diane Dufour with a check for the Butterfly Garden. The donation was made in honor of Lois Newman Drury, Community's long standing treasurer who passed away last year. A suitable planting will be made in her memory at the garden. Both clubs are members of the Louisiana Garden Club Federation Inc.

DEEDS AND DOINGS

A program on the annual Mr. Bingle wreath display at Christmas in the Oaks was given by Pat Sweeney and her daughter Tonya Ferguson who made the Gardenette wreath. Tonya and Pat are pictured on the right. The club's entry in the Mr. Bingle Goes Around the World, was part of the New Orleans City Park Christmas in the Oaks . They took their Mr. Bingle on a cruise and photographed him in nine countries including the United States, Mexico, Honduras, Aruba, Barbados, etc. The wreath is a picture documentary of Mr. Bingle's adventures, and was on display in a special area at the park.



Ferguson displayed the wreath at the meeting and told all the adventures that they and Mr. Bingle had gathering the photos. Gardenette Margaret Bailey gave the history of the Mr. Bingle snowman.

Gardenette Joan Morse announced February 20 as the Master Gardener's annual Camellia Stroll across from the Experimental Station on Old Covington Highway. She stated that there were over 500 plants, among which is a rare camellia known to be the only one of its kind in the United States.

Gardenettes Aimee Marcombe and Adrienne Dunn announced a Valentine Boutique to be held February 10 from six to eight in the evening at Marcombe's main street store "It's Just Me." They invited everyone to attend.

Other Gardenettes in attendance but not previously mentioned were Mona Middlebrook, Janice Hickey, Cheryl Kuhn, Louise Steadman, Vicky Fannaly, Sandra Haro, Peggy Austin, Cricket Ayala, Margaret Bailey and Dale Rieth.

Six redbud trees were planted at the Kiwanis Park flagpole to honor all veterans by the **Ponchatoula Gardenettes** as part of their Arbor Day ceremonies. Three tulip poplars were also planted to replace some of the trees planted last spring for Arbor Day.

Mayor Bob Zabbia presented an official Arbor Day proclamation. Dianne Crimm, Kiwanis president and Jim Perrin, Kiwanis president-elect were in attendance. Representing the Gardenettes were president Diane Dufour, Arbor Day chairman Kathy Bedenbaugh, Joan Morse, Dale Rieth, Janice Hickey, Peggy Austin, Cricket Ayala, Margaret Bailey, Pat Sweeney. City workers present were Saul Ross, Edward Pines, Ponchatoula City Safety & Special Projects Wayne Aymond, Ponchatoula City Street Dept. supervisor Charles Zweifel

Gardenette president Dufour began the program with a welcome and brief history of Arbor Day. She then dedicated the six red bud trees in honor of all veterans. The Louisiana Garden Club Federation Inc. of which the Gardenettes have belonged since 1943, encourages all their member clubs to observe this occasion each January.

According to Dufour, trees play a very important part in our lives. They provide cooling shade, block cold winds, attract birds and wildlife, clean our water, help purify our air and add grace and beauty to our homes and communities.

Local historian Perrin gave a brief history of the Kiwanis park. Kiwanis president Crimms thanked the garden club for their work in the butterfly garden and at the Kiwanis Hut.

The city prepared the ground for the six red bud trees in front of the Kiwanis Hut around the flag pole and took care of replanting the trees that had not survived from the previous year.

DEEDS AND DOINGS

The city workers also replaced tulip poplar trees that had died from last year's planting- two in front of the Homestead, planted in memory of Sue Cutrer and Terry Ann McMahon. And they replaced the tree in the Butterfly Garden that was dedicated to Peggy April. All three trees were tulip poplars.

The planting of trees was started with Mr. and Mrs. J. Sterling Morton in Nebraska in 1850. There were no trees in Nebraska at that time. On April 10, 1872, the state of Nebraska observed the first Arbor Day. The ceremony of planting trees is now observed around the world.



Planting trees with friends (pictured above)! Honoring all veterans with six red bud trees are Ponchatoula City Safety & Special Projects Wayne Aymond, Ponchatoula City Street Dept. supervisor Charles Zweifel, Gardenettes Peggy Austin, Kathy Bedenbaugh, Kiwanis president elect Jim Perrin, Gardenettes Margaret Bailey, Pat Sweeney, Cricket Ayala, Ponchatoula City Streets employee Saul Ross, Gardenettes Diane Dufour, Janice Hickey, Kiwanis president Dianne Crimm, Gardenette Dale Rieth, Garnett Bedenbaugh, Mayor Bob Zabbia Ponchatoula City Streets employee Edward Pines.

Following the December business meeting, the **Magnolia Forest Garden Club** enjoyed a gift exchange and luncheon, with each member providing a favorite holiday dish. The club's "Lunch Bunch," a group that enjoys getting together for lunch occasionally, also enjoyed a relaxing holiday meal at a local restaurant followed by an apparel gift exchange. The members modeled their gifts, which added to the fun.

Monthly business meetings continued after the first of the year, with horticulture, nature reports and programs such as "How to make suet Baskets" and "Herbal Cleansers to Purify the Body." Members also enjoyed an informative and interesting presentation/demonstration titled "Mounting Bromeliads on Wood." After the program, several members worked together, using information from the previous program, to create flower arrangements for the Slidell Art League's exhibit titled "Fragile Boundaries" presented by artist Peggy Hesse.

DEEDS AND DOINGS

Arbor Day was celebrated at Sixth Ward Elementary School by planting a Magnolia Tree and an interesting and educational program on the history of Arbor Day, the environmental importance of trees and fascinating facts about the Magnolia tree presented by Janie Balcer, the club's Adopt-A-School chairman.

We won first place with our Mardi Gras decorations on the subdivision's entrance signs in the Slidell Beautification Committee's Mardi Gras decorating contest.

We also recently participated in the Slidell Memorial Hospital Regional Cancer Center Brick Campaign which allowed us to purchase a brick paver to be placed in the Center's Healing and Reflection Garden. Funds raised will support keeping equipment and services as current as possible.



Magnolia Forest Garden Club members from left: Nancy Fisher Lynell Braun, Carol Carrigan, Joann Round, Flo Johnston, Nancy O'Bryan, Janet Fouert, Carroll Knowles, Margo Necaize, Billie Carpenter, & Janie Balcer with the newly planted magnolia Tree.



On the left, Magnolia Forest Garden Club members from left: Flo Johnston & Joann Round decorating the subdivision's entrance signs for Mardi Gras.



Pictured on the right is Magnolia Forest Garden Club member Florence Onstad modeling her apparel.



Shown on the left is one of Magnolia Forest Garden Club's collaborative flower arrangements for the Slidell Art League.



On the right is Member Lynell Braun's flower arrangements for the Slidell Art League.

DEEDS AND DOINGS

The February 15th meeting of the **Westchester Estates Garden Club** was held at the home of Joan Zimmerle and co-hosted by Alice Green. After the club business was discussed and the members enjoyed a delicious lunch prepared by Joan and Alice. Penny Crawford



instructed the members on how to make and care for a terrarium garden. The members brought a container and the plants for their gardens and Penny brought the needed supplies. Each member went home with a delightful little indoor garden.

Pictured on the left is Tina Sims and Alice Green, and on the right is Penny Crawford and Liz McHugh. Sent by Member, Ethel Zansler, Publicity.



Home and Garden Club, president Nellie Jenkins, has planted 600 daffodil bulbs at the Franklinton courthouse. They are in full bloom now and the community has raved over them. The courthouse won business of the month for March 2011 because of the beauty they have brought to the courthouse and the community. Wow!



Washington Parish Garden Club Council plans for 100th anniversary of

Washington Parish Fair in Franklinton, La. Pictured on the right are (L-R) Rachel Lanford of Mt. Hermon Garden Club; Billie Sue Alford, Southeast Garden Clippers, Sec/Treasurer of Council and Co Chairman for Flower House; Margaret Ryals, Bogalusa Garden Guild; Minnie Posey, Home and Garden Club and President of W. P. Garden Club Council and Fair Flower Show Chairman for 2011; Nellie Jenkins, President of Home and Garden club; Rose Nastasi, President of Southeast Clippers; Eddie Montgomery, Southeast Garden Club member and President of Bogalusa Garden Club



Council; Front Row is Vaiden Barlow, Bogalusa Garden Guild and Vice President of Council; Gloria Fortenberry, Southeast Clippers and Jackie Smith, President of Franklinton Garden Club. Ladies teamed up with great ideas to plan for the upcoming 2011 Washington Parish Fair celebrating one hundred years. All clubs are in District VI (Photo by Minnie Posey)



Shown on the left is Washington Parish Garden Club Council Officers L-R Billie Sue Alford, Sec/Treasurer; Minnie Posey, President of Council and here she receives tray from Rachel Lanford in appreciation; Vaiden Barlow, Vice President of the Council and Rachel Lanford, Mt. Hermon Garden Club. (Photo by Minnie Posey)

Calendar of Events



2011

- April 12 LGCF Pre-Convention Tour, Alexandria
- April 13-15 LGCF Convention- Paragon Casino Hotel, Marksville
- April 30 St. Mary Parish's LGCF Garden Clubs Standard Flower Show at Patterson, LA. For more info call (985) 395-5261.
- May 15 "Tres Jolie" First Water Garden Tour, by Lafayette Garden Club and Water Gardens Unlimited
- May 27-29 National Garden Clubs Convention, Marriott Hotel, Washington, D.C (Installation Year)
- June 5-11 National Garden Week
- June 15-19 World Association of Flower Arrangers 10th World Flower Show, Boston, MA
- July 18-19 LGCF Summer Board Meeting
- Aug 23 – 26 Tentative Dates for LGCF Environmental Studies School Series II, Courses I & II

LGCF Fall District Meetings:

- October 4 District III
- October 5 District I & II
- October 6 District VI
- October 11 District VIII-Alexandria
- October 12 District V-Winnsboro
- October 13 District IV-Shreveport
- October 14 District VII-Deridder

2012

- May 16-19 National Garden Clubs Convention– Adams Mark Hotel, Buffalo, NY
- September 25-29 NGC Fall Board Meeting- Little Rock, Arkansas

2013

- May 24-26, National Garden Clubs Convention- Doubletree Hotel, Seattle, WA- (Installation Year)