

NEWSLETTER

Louisiana Garden Club Federation, Inc.
January 2013



THE LOUISIANA GARDEN CLUB FEDERATION, INC.

Newsletter

Member of
National Garden Clubs, Inc.
Deep South Region



"Continuing our Legacy of Beautification, Education, and Restoration"

VOLUME LXII

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LGCF 2011-13 OFFICERS:

President

Mary Jacobs
mary_gardens@att.net

President-Elect

Yvette Hebert
ybear330@gmail.com

First Vice-President

Lena Bateman
lbateman5@bellsouth.net

Second Vice-President

Linda Finley
lfinley4101@yahoo.com

Recording Secretary (acting)

Yvette Hebert
ybear330@gmail.com

Corresponding Secretary

Debbie Corales
dcorales@bellsouth.net

Treasurer

Jeanette Gatzman
jgatzman@bellsouth.net

Historian

Mary Jane Peters
maryjanegarden@comcast.net

Parliamentarian

Kristi Rivero
kbrivero@bellsouth.net

The cover photo was taken early this fall by the Newsletter Editor, Pam Langley. It is of a night blooming Cereus (Ephiphyllum hookeri). The plant is easily started from cuttings and the one pictured is from a cutting of Jennifer Granger's, our Circle of Roses Chair. After two years with no blooms living under a large live oak tree, Jennifer suggested moving it to a place where it could get more sun. I moved it late this past spring to a spot where it got sun all morning long and was rewarded with blooms in late summer and early fall. The plant requires little attention and with the right sun exposure it will produce beautiful blooms with a nice fragrance. The only problem is that the blooms open at night and are gone by the next day, so you have to be a night owl to enjoy the blooms in person!

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 SPRING ISSUE (APRIL 2013) IS MARCH 1ST, 2013.

Please send all information for this issue to Pam Langley,
1750 Bilbo St., Lake Charles, LA 70601-6061 • 337-842-2995 (phone) • pamxyz@bellsouth.net

Message from Our President



Dear Garden Club Family,

Fall is in the air! As we gladly say "Good-bye" to these long dry and wet summer days, it is with excitement and renewed interest that we continue to work towards goals of our club.

Congratulations to the District Directors and their hostess clubs for 2012 Fall District Meetings. The agendas were very well organized, and programs were informative and educational. The decorations and food served carried out the themes and were a welcome treat. Thank you for a job well done. At District V's meeting Mary Sue Colvin proudly announced there were three members nominated and elected from the Deep South Region to serve on NGC's Executive Board for 2013-2015.

During our Summer Board Meeting, Jo Ann Pugh, LGCF's Vision of Beauty Calendar Chairman, presented 2012 and 2013 Vision of Beauty Calendars to me. I am so proud to let you know, a creative abstract design titled "Galapagos Islands", was featured for the month of August, 2012, by designer Cecille Revels, from the Lafayette Garden Club. In the 2013 issue, a creative design titled "Under the Oaks" is featured in the November section. The designer is Loraine Newberry from the Lafayette Garden Club. Each design is so beautiful. The last time I had gone to a DSR Meeting, I heard this committee sometimes takes one or two full days to judge all the entries. This is a very competitive application. Congrats to Cecille and Loraine on this gorgeous accomplishment! Be sure and order your Vision of Beauty Calendars from Harriette Charles or Dee Nolan, our Ways and Means Chairman. Thank you for your support of LGCF.

Clara Earl, Landscape Design Program Chairman, submitted an article for Autumn Issue of Newscape, NGC Landscape Design Schools and Councils newsletter. Our state of Louisiana was featured with lots of good information. Thank you, Clara.

Our LGCF State Convention will be held in April, 2013 in Kenner. Yvette Hebert and Executive Board will be installed, for the years 2013-2014. Mary Crumb, Chairman, and Joe Baucum, Vice Chairman are busy putting the final touches for our convention, titled And All That jazz!!! I'm sure you won't want to miss it!!! Please visit our website <http://www.louisianagardenclubs.org> for more information.

Harriette Charles and Dee Nolan have purchased some unique and beautiful items for our Ways and Means Tables, so be sure and check your order. Let us show our support for a job well done.

Our Calendar of events lists the dates of all of our Schools.

Wishing you and yours a Healthy, Successful, and Prosperous New Year!

Love,

Mary Jacobs,
LGCF 2011-2013 President

Circle of Roses



Rusty Hodge

Town and Country Garden Club of West St. Tammany (District VI)

Forty-three years ago when we arrived in St. Tammany Parish, there was only a scattering of widely spaced unique communities and a very few sub divisions. Through this garden club I have made wonderful friends throughout West St. Tammany and they have shared their history, talents and love of community with me.

Our gardens are part of our caring for the environment of the whole planet and we have learned to share and express our concerns. The standard flower show taught me to appreciate the art of arrangement and the craft required to execute the design. The memory of beauty shared remains long after the fragile petals have faded.

My husband, two daughters and two grandchildren tease me gently about my affection for the garden club. Any effort I may have made were never WORK, just something that the garden club needed and hoped that I could help with.

My own Circle of Roses is made up of all the friends I would never have found just in my own neighborhood and for the delightful education they have given me in history, botany, geography and ecology. These special caring ladies with their myriad talents have helped make my life a lovely garden of loving memories.

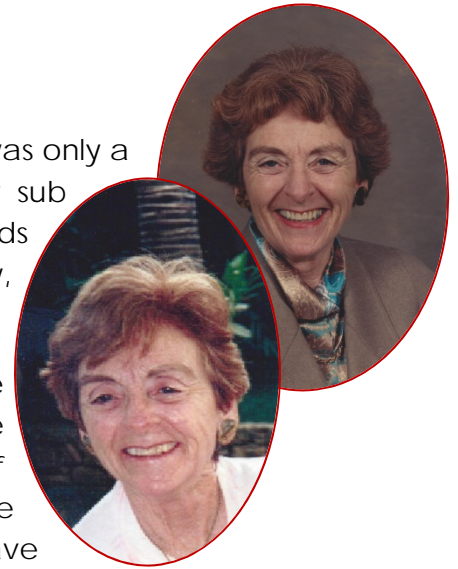
Nancy Conn

West Baton Rouge Garden and Civic Club (District VI)

Nancy was born in Baton Rouge, LA and she and her husband, John, reside in Port Allen, LA. She attended Baton Rouge General School of Nursing where she became a registered nurse. Nancy worked in Baton Rouge at Our Lady of the Lake Hospital in the recovery room, until she went into private practice for Dr. Lon Boucvalt in Port Allen. After eleven years, she retired in 1994.

She has been an active member of Holy Family Catholic Church for 32 years where she has assisted with Vacation Bible School. Nancy had four children, 2 sons and 2 daughters. One son and one daughter are now deceased. She has eleven grandchildren.

Nancy was a member of the West Baton Rouge Garden Club for two years 1981-1982 and rejoined the Club in 1997. She continues to be an inspiration to garden club members, friends and neighbors. Nancy remains active with work in her yard, keeping up with her grandchildren and is an avid reader.



Circle of Roses



We have many ladies in their senior years who have given their time and talents over the many years and we would like to honor them in the newsletter. In order to do this, we are asking each club that wishes to honor a senior member or members this way please submit both a "then" and "now" photograph with a short write-up on the member's garden club activities. This quarter we would like to welcome to our "Circle" two 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: jenjgra53@camtel.net or if you prefer there is a form available at the following link:

http://www.louisianagardenclubs.org/projects/circle_of_roses.pdf

EDITORS NOTE: Please note that our Circle of Roses Chair, Jennifer Granger's email has changed. Her new email address is

jenjgra53@camtel.net

Waste Reduction

It may be too late for this holiday season, but some of these ideas can be used all year round to help in waste reduction.

1. Reuse foam peanuts. Most packaging materials for shipping can be used more than once.
2. Compost your leftover food. It's easy and makes for a great fertilizer!
3. Wrap creatively. Use comics, maps, sheet music, fabric/wallpaper scraps.
4. Make festive recycling bins. They're a great addition for your holiday party and a great activity for kids.
5. Give the gift of time or talent. Take someone to a play, concert or movie. Make your own gift certificates. Offer your talents like photography or financial planning.
6. Help your friends go green. Give planet-conscious gifts like compost bins, can crushers, water timers, programmable thermostats, rain barrels, bird feeders, light timers or bat house.
7. Keep it simple. One thoughtful gift is better than six wrapped packages of unwanted gifts.
8. Don't wrap oversized gifts. Hide them and give clues. Make gift-giving into a treasure hunt.
9. Buy outdoor light strands that are wired in parallel. If one bulb goes bad, the others still work, so you won't be throwing away entire "bad" strands
10. Plan previously-loved or homemade gift exchanges. Books, a restored piece of furniture or a rebuilt bike can be cherished for many years and by many people.

You also may opt out of paper mail all year long at www.catalogchoice.org.

The State Convention is coming to District II

Mark your calendars for April 16-17. The LGCF convention "...And all that Jazz" is being hosted by District II and will be headquartered at the Hilton in Laketown in Kenner on the shores of Lake Pontchartrain.

A Pre-convention fun, fun, fun tour is planned for April 15 beginning with shopping at the French Market, a Jackson Square rendezvous, a tour of St. Louis Cathedral and a wonderful lunch at Muriel's. This will be followed by more shopping and a visit to George Rodrigue's (Blue Dog) Gallery. The New Orleans Historic Collection will hold a special tour just for us.

Then, you get a ride on the St. Charles Street Car from Canal Street to the end of the line at Carrollton and Claiborne where you can enjoy the beautiful gardens of springtime along the way. You will get back to your hotel just in time to freshen up and perhaps go over the levee to the Treasure Chest Casino where continuous shuttle busses run back and forth to your hotel.

The Convention is full of good things--- vendor booths with something for everyone, two luncheons with a beekeeper speaker and a Photographic presentation on the Beauty of the Wetlands. And, capping off the convention is a grand installation banquet at Chateau Estates Country Club. All that and more!

Check the LGCF web site in early 2013 for more information and registration packages.

For further information regarding any of this and especially the Pre-Convention tour, contact the Convention chairman, Mary Crumb at 504-467-6297.



Photo compliments of Coleen P. Landry



Design Corner

Learn how to create this gorgeous Winter Centerpiece design in a video found at

<http://www.floraldesigninstitute.com/>

Leanne Kesler, Floral Design Institute School Director, demonstrates the details of creating this design, including how to create an 'ice crystals' look.

Hurricanes Affect More than Humans

By Coleen Perilloux Landry

Hurricane Isaac struck southeast Louisiana on August 29, 2011, with high winds and rain lasting some 36 hours, the hurricane that just would not go away. It flooded Plaquemines Parish, St. Charles Parish and St. John Parish, doing millions of dollars of damage and displacing thousands of people.



However, people were not the only creatures affected by this hurricane. Two bald eagles that have made their home in Louisiana for the past ten years were in for a big surprise when they returned at the end of September to the wetlands in St. Charles Parish from



their migration in Canada. Their 2,000 pounds nest had been destroyed when the huge cypress tree was snapped in two by the high winds.

These stalwart birds, weighing no more than 15-18 pounds, immediately began building a new nest in a tall cypress tree very close to the old nest. In two weeks' time, it was almost completed with the birds carrying branches in their talons to the top of the tree. After resting for a few weeks, they completed the nest, lining it with moss for the eggs which were

to come.

Hopefully, there will be Christmas eaglets.



LGCF Landscape Design School Report

By Clara Earl, LGCF LDS Chair

We are happy to report that we have 6 new Landscape Design Consultants in Louisiana. Congratulations go to Shirley Corda, Kyle Martin, Anita Petitjohn, Sarah Schoeffler, Kathy Van Ness and Babette Werner.

These ladies completed all four courses with passing grades.

Now we need more LGCF members to step forward and take the courses. The dates for Course 3 will be announced in the early spring.

Congratulations for an effort well done!

Horticulture Corner

Tips for this quarter:

- January:
- Plant tulip and hyacinth bulbs that have been chilling in the refrigerator.
 - Tropical plants can be damaged during winter freezes. You will need to prune freeze damage. Prune the herbaceous tropical plants, such as gingers, soon after the damage occurs. Wait to prune woody tropicals until spring when new growth would start to appear.
 - Don't forget Arbor Day, Jan. 18th this year. Good time to plant trees including pecan trees, citrus and camellias.
 - Veggies such as beets, carrots, cabbage, cauliflower, kale, snow peas and spinach can be planted.
 - If you haven't done so yet – mulch! It's always a good time to add mulch!
 - All citrus should be harvested by the beginning of the month.
 - Peruse seed catalogs for spring plantings. Get a soil test, if needed.
- February:
- Plant bare root roses.
 - Prune fruit trees, but not citrus trees. Wait till June for citrus pruning.
 - Still time to plant veggies listed for January.
 - Place that seed order for spring.
 - Fertilize established citrus trees – wait till March for newly planted trees.
 - Use the soil test results to amend the soil, if needed.
- March:
- Enjoy the Azaleas! Make azalea selections at nurseries now while they are blooming so you can get just the right color bloom. Established bushes should be fertilized as soon as they finish flowering.
 - Plant all those beautiful annuals in the flower beds. Petunias should be planted as early as possible. 'Wave' petunias are suggested to withstand our hot summer months.
 - Hydrangeas should just be sending out new leaves at this time. To change bloom color to pink, add lime to the soil now and in October. To change bloom color to blue, add aluminum sulfate now and in October.
 - Plant sweet potato roots early in the month to produce slips for planting in late April and May.
 - Veggies to plant include snap beans, lima beans, butter beans, cucumber, muskmelons, okra, radish, corn, collards and watermelons.

Information collected from the LSU AgCenter web site: www.lsuagcenter.com

Facts about NGC

National Garden Clubs, Inc (NGC), is the largest volunteer gardening organization in the world. LGCF is a member of NGC. Some additional facts about NGC that you may find interesting:

NGC

- is the largest volunteer gardening organization in the world with 6218 Clubs and 198,595 members in 50 states and the District of Columbia.
 - was founded in 1929
 - is headquartered on grounds adjacent to Missouri Botanical Garden in St. Louis, Missouri
 - publishes *The National Gardener* (available by subscription), a yearly engagement calendar, and many publications as a service to its members
 - offers Life Memberships
 - annually sponsors National Garden Week (week beginning the first Sunday in June)
 - web page: www.gardenclub.org
-

Butterfly Gardening and Conservation

One of the LGCF's current projects is "Louisiana's Butterfly Milky Way – Saving our Monarchs". The goal is to help preserve the migration path of the Monarch Butterfly. You may help by planting any of the following suggested North American native plants that help to support the Monarch butterfly.

MILKWEED:

- Butterfly Weed (*Asclepias tuberosa*)
- Common Milkweed (*Asclepias syriaca*)
- Swamp Milkweed (*Asclepias incarnata*)

GENERAL NECTAR PLANTS:

- Indian Blanket (*Gaillardia pulchella*)
- Purple Coneflower (*Echinacea purpurea*)
- Joe Pye Weed (*Eupatorium purpureum*)
- Scarlet Sage (*Salvia coccinea*)
- Tithonia Torch, Mexican Sunflower (*Tithonia*)
- Zinnia, Dahlia Mix (*Zinnia elegans*)



More information about the project may be found at the following sites:

- <http://www.louisianagardenclubs.org/projects/butterfly.html>
 - <http://monarchwatch.org/>
-

Deeds and Doings

District III

Bayou Vista Garden Club installed a flowerbed at the new Bayou Vista Community Center marquee located on the corner of Southeast Boulevard and Belleview Drive in Bayou Vista. As part of the BVGC special civic development project, pink Knockout roses were planted in recognition of Breast Cancer Awareness month. Pictured from left are BVGC Civic Development Chairman Donna Bucci, Janice Verret, Nancy Marcel, Crystal Marcel, Jean Chauvin, and BVGC President Gloria Roy.



At the September meeting, Margo Racca, of **Lafayette Garden Club** and a past president of LGCF, made an informative presentation on Bromeliads, which she loves to grow and propagate. Margo donated bromeliads for door prizes and a bromeliad, Dyckia 'Red Devil,' for every member to take home.

Shane Bernard, author and doctor of history from Texas A&M, and current historian and curator at E. A. McIlhenny Company presented an interesting talk about his book, *The History of Jungle Gardens*, at the October meeting. Pictured is Jan Wyatt presenting a gift to Mr. Bernard, after his presentation.



Deeds and Doings

Committee Chair Jeannie Richard's Silent Plant Auctions were a rousing success, adding a sizable amount to the Club's treasury. The remaining plants were donated to Habitat for Humanity. Pictured (on the right) during the November Silent Auction is Ms. Richard.



In recognition of her fine work with **Lafayette Garden Club**, Loraine Newberry, former Woman of the Year and Annual Honorary Member, who identifies and demonstrates various plant cuttings at each meeting, was given a Cottage Flowers



photograph album to place photos from her collection of many of the beautiful flowers and plants from her garden. Loraine Newberry is pictured (to the left) with her plant cuttings during the November meeting.

Lafayette Garden Club's November meeting featured Dr. Charles Allen, former biology professor at UL-Monroe, founder and

past president of Louisiana Native Plant Society, and author of several books including Louisiana Wildflower Guide, who gave a slide show presentation on native plants and what to expect from seeds obtained from native plants. Many of the photos were from Dr. Allen's garden. Cecille Revels presented a gift to guest speaker Dr. Allen.



In November, Connie Gremillion and Stacy Lee's Butterfly Committee put in the Butterfly Garden at St. Mary's Learning Center, planting cold-hardy perennials. In the spring, they will plant annuals in the well-established garden, for the children to release butterflies in April. Pictured are Butterfly Committee members at work in the garden: Connie Gremillion, Margaret Hargroder, Sarah Schoeffler, Stacy Lee and Cathy Andrew.



Deeds and Doings

District V

A Blue Star Memorial Marker was dedicated at Delhi, La. on May 11, 2012. The Blue Star Memorial Marker was first presented in Delhi in 1975 and was restored to its original finish in 2012 with the help of the **Delhi Garden Club** and town of Delhi. Pictured (left to right) is Diann McPherson, president of Delhi GC and Barbara Coates at Blue Star Memorial Marker dedication.



District VI

Two members of the **Gardenettes of Ponchatoula** were asked to judge the Springfield Christmas Parade on December 3rd. Pictured are the Gardenettes parade judges (from left) Adrienne Dunn and District VI Director Diane Dufour. Brian Abels, attorney and Springfield native, was also a judge. The judges were given the task of selecting the best Commercial Floats, Trucks & Trailers, Marching Groups and Decorated Cars. All of the participants in the parade were brimming with enthusiasm, so the judges had quite a task at hand to select the best of the best. The Springfield High School and Middle School both received awards. The Gardenettes judged then assisted in awarding the trophies to the winners, along with Springfield Mayor Charlie Martin, and Team City organizer, Denise Martin. The judges were given beautiful, festive Poinsettias as thank you gifts.



Hammond Daily Star columnist Lil Mirando recently shared her surgery experience with her readers. Lil had surgery at North Oaks in Hammond in August of this year. What is usually routine surgery turned out to be more unpleasant than expected. Following her surgery, Lil had to wear a drain, a not-so-pleasant experience for anyone. One of the nurses found a "Bosom Buddy Bag" and presented it to Lil as a "Christmas in August" gift. The Bosom Buddy Bags were made by **Belle Oaks Garden Club**, the **Gardenettes of Ponchatoula** and the **Community Garden Club**. They are cloth bags made for breast cancer surgery patients to hold the drainage gear. The Bosom Buddy Bag proved to be a great help for Lil Mirando as well. An act of giving by three garden clubs had a "ripple effect" to help someone else through a difficult time and it truly was a gift that kept on giving.

Deeds and Doings

District VII

Iowa Garden Club planted two pink Weeks Watercolor rose bushes at the Iowa Branch of the Calcasieu Library on October 30, 2012. These were planted to observe "Plant It Pink" in honor of Breast Cancer Month.

As part of National Planting Day 2012, a native Possum Haw Holly tree was also planted at the Iowa Library. Red, white, and blue snapdragons, pansies, and petunias were planted at the Blue Star Memorial Marker in Lawrence Toups, Jr. Park in honor of Veterans' Day.

Club members helping with these projects were (pictured left to right) Marlene Miller, Chris Fournet, Carolyn Vest, Earline Williams, and Maureen Augustine (not in photo).



The **Diggers & Weeders Garden Club of Lake Charles** participated in Veteran's Day activities this past fall by honoring the father of club member Gloria Byars. Mr. Harold Gournay served as a pilot from 1941 to 1945. He flew 21 missions before being shot down and captured by the Germans. He was a

prisoner of war until being liberated by General George Patton. The club held a short ceremony at the Blue Star Memorial Marker in Lake Charles where they presented Mr. Gournay with a certificate of appreciation. Pictured (left to right) is Barbara Watkins, Nicole Newsome, Carolyn Thibodeaux, Mr. Harold Gournay, Gloria Byars, Cherie Couvillion, Kathy Tell, and Pam Langley, club president.



The Diggers & Weeders Garden Club completed their annual project of decorating the Christmas tree at Landmark of Lake Charles. The club creates decorations from nature and this year the decorations included sea shells and crab shells. Shown in front of the tree (left to right) are Jennifer Granger, Barbara Watkins, Gloria Byars and Cherie Couvillion.

Calendar of Events



2012

December 28 – Jan 2 LGCF Tour to Rose Bowl, Pasadena, CA

2013

January 14-15 LGCF Winter Council, Lecompte
February 12 Mardi Gras
March 24-26 Deep South Regional Convention, Hyatt Hotel, Savannah, GA
April 15 LGCF State Convention Pre-Tour of New Orleans
April 16-17 LGCF State Convention, Hotel Kenner, Kenner, LA
May 24-26 NGC Convention, Sheraton Seattle, Seattle, WA
May 30 – June 2 LGCF Symposium, Woodworth, LA
June 2-8 National Garden Week
July 22 – 23 LGCF Summer Board Meeting, Embassy Suites, Baton Rouge
September 20-25 NGC Fall Board Meeting, Marriott, St. Louis, Missouri

2014

March 4 Mardi Gras
March 26 LGCF State Convention Pre-Tour
March 27-28 LGCF State Convention, Crowne Plaza, Baton Rouge, LA
April 30 – May 3 NGC Convention, Norman, OK
September 23 – 28 NGC Fall Board Meeting, Des Moines Airport, Des Moines, IA

2015

February 17 Mardi Gras
TBA NGC State Convention, Kentucky
TBA NGC Fall Board Meeting, St. Louis, Missouri

2016

TBA NGC State Convention, Richmond, VA
Sept 26- Oct 2 (tentative) NGC Fall Board Meetings, Portland, Maine