



# NEWSLETTER

Louisiana Garden Club Federation, Inc.



October 2012

# 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 LCVIII

October 2012

NO. 2

### Table of Contents

Presidents Message.....	3
Circle of Roses.....	4
Design Corner.....	8
Live Oaks of Evergreen.....	9
News from Louisiana Design School.....	11
New LGCF Awards for Cleanest City.....	11
LGCF Environmental Study School, Series III.....	11
LGCF 2013 Convention.....	12
Special NGC Project – Protecting our Aquatic Ecosystems.....	12
Book Review.....	13
Award Winners.....	13
National Planting Day: Plant Natives in your Community.....	14
Growing our Memberships and Clubs.....	15
Adopt-A-Park.....	15
Deeds and Doings.....	16
Calendar of Events.....	19

#### LGCF 2011-13 OFFICERS:

##### President

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mary\_gardens@att.net

##### President-Elect

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jgatzman@bellsouth.net

##### Historian

Mary Jane Peters  
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##### Parliamentarian

Kristi Rivero  
krivero@bellsouth.net

**Coleen Perilloux Landry**, LGCF's Live Oak Society Chairman has graciously shared her photos of Evergreen Plantation and has even written a story about the history of the plantation from the view point of one of the largest oaks on the grounds. Coleen, a member of District II, always delights us with her stories and pictures of our majestic Live Oak trees in the South.

Thank you, Coleen, for sharing your talents with us!

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](mailto:pamxyz@bellsouth.net).

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

**DEADLINE FOR SUBMISSIONS TO WINTER ISSUE (JAN 2013) IS DEC 1<sup>ST</sup>, 2012.**

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](mailto:pamxyz@bellsouth.net)

## Message from Our President

Dear Garden Club Family,

The aftermath of Hurricane Issac has affected the lives and homes of many of our families, friends, and neighbors. The strength, support and faith we share and receive from each other will sustain us throughout the coming months.



Congratulations and Special Thank-You for Your Inspirations, Ideas and Much More... Summer Board of July 2012.....

Visual Exhibits- NGC 4 Star Members- Invitations to Fall District meetings, Check from District III State Convention-Awards Workshop-Program on Butterflies and Butterfly Conservation-New Garden Clubs Abbeville and Olla Pinewood-Vision of Beauty Winners for Calendar Designs-2011 and 2012 from District III- Report on NGC's Buffalo Convention-Circle of Roses- Cleanest City Contest Entries-Floriade Tour-Invitation to State Convention in Kenner-and Best for Last...

New Club Presidents -Fellow Officers-District Directors-Past Presidents-Anyone attending Summer Board for the First Time-

Looking forward to your Fall District Meetings!

Mary

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Mary's gift from District III was not completely assembled when she took it out of the gift box at Summer Board. But she had lots of help from her grandchildren in putting it together! She thought she would share a picture with us.



# Circle of Roses



## *Ann Lynell Theriot Braun*

Magnolia Forest (District VI)

Lynell and her identical twin sister were born to Lucille and Stanley Theriot in Covington, LA. She has one older sister and a younger sister. Lynell attended St. Peters School in Covington from 1st through 8th grade. She graduated from Covington High in 1954 and then attended Southeastern Louisiana College.

In high school, Lynell played the clarinet in the band. It was here that she met her future husband, John. He sat between her and her twin in the clarinet section. Lynell and John were married in

1959. They have two sons, two grandchildren and two great grandchildren. In 1964 they moved from Covington to Slidell where Lynell did some substitute work in the public schools while raising her sons. In the early 1970's, she took a full time job teaching 2nd grade at Our Lady of Lourdes Catholic School where she taught for the next 23 years.

In the late 1980's Lynell and John moved to the Magnolia Forest subdivision where she soon joined the Magnolia Forest Garden Club and immediately became involved. Her parents were avid growers of African Violets, Camellias and Orchids which has also become her passion. She loves designing floral arrangements and helping others learn the art. She has held all offices in the garden club including President from 1995-1997. She immediately became active in planning for the annual Magnolia Forest Standard Home Flower Show and soon became Horticulture Chairman, Design Chairman and then Flower Show Chairman. Her husband, John, recently gave Lynell a life membership in LGCF. Lynell also served as President of The Greater Slidell Council of Garden Clubs, Inc. from 2002-2004 and also remains an active member of that organization.

Lynell participates annually in the Art in Bloom exhibit at the New Orleans Museum of Art where she has earned many award ribbons. She also designs floral arrangements for various civic events in the City of Slidell. She tirelessly offers her design skills and knowledge to members and encourages them to enter designs or partner with her for an arrangement. Lynell's hobbies besides the garden clubs are helping John in their own garden, water aerobics, and art classes shared with her two sisters in Covington. She recently completed the instruction for "Eucharistic Minister" at St. Luke Catholic Church in Slidell.



# Circle of Roses



## Lorraine Gautreau

Gonzales Garden Club (District VI)

Lorraine Gautreau joined the Gonzales Garden Club in 1980. She is an active, dedicated member working to make our community and world a better place for future generations. She has held many positions over the years including serving as President from 1994-1997. Lorraine enjoys working and relaxing in her yard and greenhouse. She uses her plants and flowers for arrangements at our meetings and demonstration workshops. She has participated in many flower shows and served as Flower Show Chairman in 1992-1993 and 1993-1994. As Civic Projects Chairman, she worked on many community and state wide beautification projects. Community spirit and pride are some of her favorite projects.



Her interest in people led her to serve on the Membership Committee for 11 years and Benevolence for 14 years. Lorraine was Recording Secretary for 14 years, so if we want to know anything, she is our "Go To" person. She was Parliamentarian, provided Garden Therapy, chaired the Ways and Means Committee and has been our Newsletter/National Gardener Chairman for 19 years.

Lorraine was married to the late Harold Gautreau for 61 years. She has three children and is the proud grandparent of six grandchildren and one great-grandchild. Throughout her children's school years she was a mother who volunteered countless hours in various ways.

She has been a member of St. Theresa Catholic Church all of her life. She volunteers her time at church helping, during the holidays, with the distribution of food baskets to the needy and contributing to the food pantry. She also has helped with countless meals through the church bereavement committee.

Lorraine is an active member of the United Daughters of the Confederate. She also enjoys dancing, traveling, reading and eating out. Lorraine continues to bring her warmth and love of life to her family, our Club and to our Community.

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# Circle of Roses



## Vera Booth Hardman

Covington Garden Club (District VI)

Vera Booth Hardman was born June 17, 1928, in Folsom, Louisiana, and has been a resident of the Northshore all of her life. She graduated from Lyon High School in 1945. In 1947, Vera married Howard Goodwyn, Jr. who was the assistant publisher of *The St. Tammany Farmer*, a family owned weekly newspaper. In 1949, Vera found herself a widow with a nine month old daughter, Karen. To support her daughter, she went to work alongside her sister-in-law for the next fifty plus years, seeing the paper progress from the Linotype machine to today's computerized methods. In 1953, Vera married John Hardman and they had one son, Jay, in 1959.



Vera has admired and supported the Covington Garden Club and its impact on the community. *The Farmer* supported and covered the meetings and activities of the club. She attended the fashion shows and flower shows. She was a genuine friend of the club. When her daughter, Karen Courtney, became publisher in 1995, Vera joined the club and continued to provide positive support for all our club endeavors. Vera Hardman is a treasure for steadfast and continuous support of the Covington Garden Club for over 60 years.

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## Myra Mire

Gonzales Garden Club (District VI)

Myra Mire joined the Gonzales Garden Club in 1989. Dedicated in her service to the club she has served in the positions of recording secretary (3 yrs.), civic projects chairman (2 yrs.), program/yearbook chairman (9 yrs.), hospitality chairman (14 yrs.), membership committee (1 yr.), vice-president (2 yrs.), president (2 yrs.), parliamentarian (3 yrs.), Arbor Day chairman (7 yrs.), newsletter/National Gardener chairman (3 yrs.), membership committee (14 yrs.), and yearbook chairman (11 yrs.).



Myra has been married to her husband Harold for 59 years. She is the mother of five children, has nine grandchildren, and one great-grandchild. Also, she has a special motherly bond of over 40 years with an exchange student who lived in the Mire's home and still lives in the area. She is a lifetime and active member of St. Theresa of Avila Catholic Church.

# Circle of Roses



Myra is a retired home economics teacher whose goal was to mentor students on becoming homemakers which was more than just cooking and cleaning. She is still held in high regard by her former students. The community has also benefited from her summer sewing classes at the local high school, cooking classes at Gulf State Utilities, and her participation in Delta Kappa Gamma. Her interests through the years have included bridge, golf, staying fit, and, of course, gardening. Two of her greatest gardening adventures were attending the Chelsea Flower Show in London and going to Costa Rica to view its flora.

Myra is like a spring garden in bloom; she brightens up the space around her and gives happiness to those who cross her path!

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## *Barbara (Betty) Plummer*

Covington Garden Club (District VI)

Barbara (Betty) Plummer was born on Thanksgiving Day, November 23, 1937, in New Orleans, Louisiana. At three weeks of age, she moved to Folsom, and she has remained on the Northshore her entire life. Betty started dating her husband, Cyrus Plummer, in high school, and they continued courting through college. They married after they graduated in 1959 and settled in Covington, Louisiana. The Plummers had three children, two boys and a girl. They have been blessed with six grandchildren, and six great-grandchildren, with a seventh on his or her way.



In college, Betty worked for Dr. Gallo as a dental assistant. Upon graduation, Betty became a secretary for the School Board. She joined the Covington Garden Club in 1968, and then took a leave of absence in 1972. She rejoined the club in 1998 and has become a mainstay in our club. A cheerful, willing, and competent volunteer, Betty has tirelessly served our club in innumerable offices and chairmanships. She served as club president from 2004-2006 and again from 2008 thru 2010. The past two years, she has served as president of the Executive Board.

In addition to this, she is a Master Garden Study School consultant, a Master Landscape Design School consultant, and has completed two of the four Flower Judging schools. Betty has regularly participated in our flower shows and exhibits, winning ribbons and accolades for her work. She has perfect attendance for the past seven years, with this year being her eighth. When you think of a perfect Garden club member, Betty Plummer fills the bill, volunteering to pick up trash for cleanest city, making flower arrangements for various garden club and civic activities, and finding the silver lining in any situation. She is truly a treasure and has earned her place in the Circle of Roses.

# 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. This quarter we would like to welcome to our "Circle" six 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](mailto:mimijane1971@yahoo.com) or if you prefer there is a form available at the following link:

[http://www.louisianagardenclubs.org/projects/circle\\_of\\_roses.pdf](http://www.louisianagardenclubs.org/projects/circle_of_roses.pdf)

## DESIGN CORNER

The two designs shown below were done by Green Dahlia, a floral design business owned by Catherine Epright, an accredited member of AIFT. See more at <http://www.greendahliaflorist.com/contemporary.php>



Shelter Arrangement (Beehive Giniger is sheltered by Anthurium leaves, accented with Amaranth, Thistle and Curly Willow)



Mimicry and Tension (Nautilus Shells mimic each other, creating tension that is relieved by the miniature Phalaenopsis orchid)

# Live Oaks of Evergreen

## Live Oaks of Evergreen

by Coleen Perilloux Landry

*If live oaks could speak in people language, the more than 300 live oaks of Evergreen Plantation in Edgard in St. John the Baptist Parish, Louisiana, would tell wonderful stories; stories of births and deaths, joy and sadness, historical events and of all the people who made up this tapestry of a grand plantation on the Great River Road along the Mississippi.*

*Therefore, I have taken the liberty of telling the story from the viewpoint of the patriarch and largest live oak at Evergreen, one who lives behind the main house and carries a girth of 24 feet, a magnificent size.*

I was born on one of the largest and most intact plantation complexes in the South which today boasts of 37 buildings on the National Register of Historic Places. Four-fifths of the thirty nine buildings are antebellum, including 22 slave cabins in their original double row configuration. Evergreen has the highest designation and joins Mt. Vernon and Gettysburg in being granted landmark status for its agricultural acreage.

In the mid to late 1700's, when I was just a mere sapling, the Heidel family, one of the first families to establish the Louisiana German Coast, settled on the land where I live and grew food stuffs to feed the French people of New Orleans who did not have room or ability to grow their own. By 1780, they converted their farm to an indigo plantation worked by 100 slaves.



In 1790, one of the sons, Christophe Heidel and his wife, Charlotte Oubre, converted the plantation to sugar cane and built a two story villa in the Creole manner about 100 yards from my young toes.

After they died in 1799, one of their daughters, Magdelaine, who was the widow of Pierre Becnel, moved into the big house with her eight children in 1801. Evergreen was a very lively, active place and I barely could keep up with all the happenings. Magdelaine's children married relatives (as was common in those times), four of them married their Heidel cousins next door at the plantation now known as Whitney. Drozen, her youngest son, married his niece, Emily Brou, and they had one son, Pierre Clidamant Becnel who was born on Evergreen in 1803, the year Napoleon sold Louisiana to the United States. Unfortunately, the poor little boy lost his parents to yellow fever. He lived at Evergreen with his grandmother, Magdelaine, and in 1823 he married his cousin, Magdelaine Brou, and set up residence in New Orleans. Because of his family fortune from sugar cane on Evergreen, he was a very wealthy man and could take his time finding his way in the world.

Despite his Creole heritage and culture (Creole meaning of German descent in the New World), he was fascinated by the American architecture which he saw springing up in the American part of New Orleans, Greek Revival. He left us for a while and went to Philadelphia where Greek Revival architecture was the rage, and he studied all facets of it. A year later he returned home to Evergreen to plan to build the fine classical home that you see today.

In 1830, after his grandmother died, he purchased the plantation and remodeled the house. Inside the Greek Revival façade is still the simple Creole home of his childhood. When he died in 1854, childless, his only legacy was Evergreen.

Evergreen's slaves were mostly American slaves from Africa and they provided the labor that was required to sustain and enrich the large agricultural work. The Quarters area of the plantation housed these workers and their families. A live oak allee' lined the road on each side with houses behind the oaks. Built of native cypress wood, each house contained a double brick fireplace for warmth in the winter and for cooking. A chicken yard, outhouse and vegetable garden was provided behind each house. A commissary and infirmary was part of the Quarters complex.

During sugar cane harvesting, the men and women worked long days and nights to get the cane to the mill. In between planting season and harvest season I saw many babies born and baptized, Saturday night dances, sicknesses and fever epidemics. In the hot summers, my sister oaks shaded the Quarters and carried hurricane winds over the houses. And, in all seasons the allee' of 92 oaks stood as a sentinel, guarding the houses, the people, their secrets and their spirits. The oaks

## Live Oaks of Evergreen

watched over the people in the Quarters until 1944 when the last person moved out. Today, they still stand guard over the empty cabins and the history of time gone by.

However, I digress from my chronological progression of Evergreen. In 1844, the Becnel family sold Evergreen to Alfred and Edward Songy who worked the place until the beginning of the Great Depression. Evergreen was empty and lonely for 14 years. After being owned by Creole families who filled the house with many little children for almost 200 years, an era had come to an end.

But, all was not lost. In 1944, a lady who liked “to fix up houses” bought the property. Mrs. Matilda Geddings Gray of Lake Charles began extensive restoration, completing the work in 1950 and my heart began to sing once more.

She must have found my sister oaks in their allee’ in the Quarters very beautiful because she decided to grow another allee’ of 122 oaks a short distance away from me on the upriver side. She painstakingly chose oaks that had grown wild in and around the cane fields and moved them into place, creating an allee’ from the River Road leading to the cane fields. The oaks needed constant watering to survive the transplant and with the still primitive systems of the 1940’s in rural Louisiana it was not easy to haul water. However, her persistence paid off and today the magnificent allee’ of oaks form a beautiful cathedral aisle with branches touching and crossing each other as they reach up to the sky.

Mrs. Gray meticulously restored all the smaller buildings around me, the old kitchen and unique outhouse, and two garconnières that are now guest houses. The pigeonnaires, built in the early 1800’s, once used to house pigeons and doves which French Louisiana people kept for eggs and flesh and manure for gardening, stand as grand reminders of my childhood not far from me. Across the parterre garden is my twin sister (girth 23’1”) and she and I often converse at midnight about the happenings of the times.

In 1971, Mrs. Gray died and her niece, Matilda Gray Stream, became the owner of Evergreen. Mrs. Stream is now overseeing a major restoration program at Evergreen, a program to preserve what is here and to learn all that can be told of the slaves, their habits, diets and their lifestyles. If only I could tell them.

The fields of Evergreen are full of sugar cane growing to harvest. Six days a week, guests from all over the world walk past my old toes as they tour the house and grounds. No one ever stops to ask me anything but I am here, waiting, if they ever should.

Note: The live oaks of Evergreen are being measured for membership in the Live Oak Society, a task which will take some time.



Mrs. Matilda Geddings Gray



LGCF patriarch oak at Evergreen

## LGCF NEWS

### Report from the Louisiana Landscape Design School

*By Clara Earl, LDS Chair*

The LA Landscape Design School will conduct Course 2, Series 18, on **October 30-31, 2012**, at the Baton Rouge Garden Center, 7850 Independence Blvd., Baton Rouge, LA. Class start 8:30 am and finish about 4pm. The Course includes 10 hours of lecture provided by LSU Professors and other local Professional Architects.

On a historical note, the National Council of State Garden Clubs started the Landscape Design Study Programs in 1958, our Louisiana Study Programs began in 1962. JoAnn Christopher and George Alice Dupuy were in the first "Critic Classes" finishing in 1964. The name "critic" was changed to "Consultant" several years ago; "Study Program" was changed to "Schools" a few years ago.

Our new Emeritus Consultants are George Alice Dupuy, Patsy Eames and Camille Lacy. Our new Master Consultants are Donna Bucci and JoAnn Ryan. In 2011, Karen Breaux and Lynn DiVincent, and in 2012, Raymonda Guidroz and Paulette Henry achieved Consultant status. We will have 4 or more attaining their Consultant Status after completing their courses in the fall.

A special thanks to Gail Lonibos for serving as our registrar. A thank you also is extended to LGCF members who assisted during the school.

The February School, Course 1, had 14 students, 11 consultants, 2 master refreshers, 16 non-members for a total of 43 registered plus our professors and committee members for a total attendance of 53. Also, we had 3 NGC members from Ohio and 2 from Kentucky.

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### New LGCF Awards for Cleanest City

*Reported by Eleanor Talley, LGCF Awards Advisor*

AWARD # 31A - CLEANEST CITY OVERALL IMPROVEMENT AWARD

This award shall be given to the entrant that shows the most overall improvement in a year as determined by the LGCF State Cleanest City Chairman. No application is needed for this award.

AWARD #31B – CLEANEST CITY INNOVATIVE CONCEPT AWARD

This award shall be given to the entrant that has the most innovative concept (slogan, or creative idea) promoting the LGCF Cleanest City Contest. Applications should be sent to the LGCF Cleanest City Chairman. Use LGCF Award Application form. Do not answer questions 1-6.

For more Awards see <http://www.louisianagardenclubs.org/projects/awards.html>

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### LGCF, Inc. Environmental Studies School, Series III

Courses I & II which had been scheduled for September 25, 26, 27, and 28, 2012 in the Town of Jean Lafitte have been **postponed** to an undetermined date in the Early Spring of 2013.

Co-Chairmen – Cindy and Joe Baucum  
P. O. Box 168, Barataria, LA 70036  
504-689-4243 theanchorage (at) att.net

### LGCF 2013 Convention

To be held in Kenner, LA  
Pre-convention Tour: Monday, April 15  
Convention: **April 16 and 17, 2013**  
Hotel Kenner New Orleans Airport  
4535 Williams Boulevard  
Kenner, LA 70065  
www.hotel-kenner.com  
Group Code: LGCF  
Group Rate: \$ 99 (Double or Single)  
Phone: 504-273-7455  
Phone: 504-712-0504  
Fax: 504-712-0109

**Chairman:** Mary Crumb  
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mlcrumb444@bellsouth.net.  
**Vice-Chairman:** Joe Baucum  
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Barataria, LA, 70036  
(504) 689-4243, Cell Phone (504) 214-6044  
theanchorage@att.net.



**District II** is busy working on the 2013 LGCF Convention (see info above) and more plans of what they have in store for us are coming. Keep up to date at:

<http://www.louisianagardenclubs.org/meetings/conventions.html>

**District IV** is working on a date to hold their district meeting and should be announced soon. Keep checking:

<http://www.louisianagardenclubs.org/meetings/district.html>

### Special NGC Project - PROTECTING AQUATIC ECOSYSTEMS

*Mary Sue Colvin, Chairman*

Award Applications for PROTECTING AQUATIC ECOSYSTEMS Projects  
Awards offered for Small, Medium and Large Club winners in each NGC Region  
National Winners selected in Small, Medium and Large Club Categories

ALL Award Money to be distributed in 2013

24 Regional Winners 3 National Winners

Application guidelines available on NGC Website,

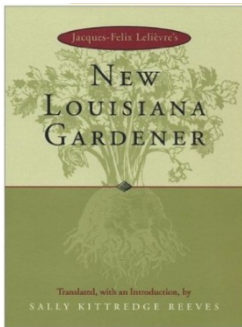
The National Gardener and Keeping in Touch

Applications received by Project Chairman, Mary Sue Colvin  
from today's date until March 15, 2013

In the event there are less than 24 Regional Award Winners,  
that money will be apportioned to the winning applications.

**Book Review**

*By Dolla Farmer, LGCF Book Review Chairman*



New Louisiana Gardener, Nouveau Jardinier de la Louisiane by Jacques-Felix Lelievre’s, translated by Sally Kittredge Reeves. : Louisiana State University Press, 2001 in cooperation with the Southern Garden History Society. Hardcover, 186 pages  
ISBN 0-8071-2479-6, \$29.95

Nouveau Jardinière de la Louisiane, was the first and is one of only two known French-language gardening manuals written in America in the nineteenth century by Jacques-Felix Lelievre. “New Louisiana Gardener” has been translated to English with an introduction detailing the author’s reason for coming to America and publishing it in Francophile New Orleans by Sally Kittredge Reeves. This delightful period peace and innovative work can be enjoyed once again by both gardening enthusiasts and historians. The mindset is a fundamental belief that a well-informed Louisiana gardener can overcome an array of challenges by employing scientific methods, with the timing regulated by the study of astronomy, and an understanding of the movement of sap. The Vilmorin family’s nursery in Paris was one of the sources from which Lelievre would have ordered seeds and it is still operating today. You will be led into a new world of knowledge about both gardening and French horticultural history.

[www.amazon.com/Jacques-Felix-Lelievres-New-Louisiana-Gardener/dp/0807124796](http://www.amazon.com/Jacques-Felix-Lelievres-New-Louisiana-Gardener/dp/0807124796)

**Award Winners**

*By Linda Finley, LGCF Deep South and NGC Awards Chairman*

**AND THE WINNERS ARE.....**

Those words usually cause us to pay attention. We want to know if our names are on the list of winners. Several LGCF clubs were on the lists of award winners from the Deep South Region and NGC, Inc. for 2011. They were winners because they did worthy projects, took the time to document them and applied for the awards.

Now is the time to work on getting your club on the list of winners for 2012. Start by applying for and LGCF award. Then also apply for DS and NGC awards. The awards rules, deadlines and applications may be found on the websites: DS—[www.dsregion.org](http://www.dsregion.org) and NGC--[www.gardenclub.org](http://www.gardenclub.org) Applications should be sent the State Awards Chairman, Linda Finley.

**DEEP SOUTH WINNERS FROM LGCF 2011**

**Award #4-National Gardener Award**

Louisiana Garden Club Federation, Inc.

**Award #5-Public Relations Award**

Ai 1st Place: Ferriday Garden Club, Ferriday

**Award #6-Membership Award**

Louisiana Garden Club Federation, Inc.

**Award #9-Tree Planting Award**

Ai 1st Place: Ferriday Garden Club, Ferriday

**Award #13 Historic Preservation/Restoration Award**

Aii Honorable Mention: Washington Garden Club, Washington

**Award #16-Butterfly Conservation Award**

Ai 2nd Place: Better Swamps & Gardens, Jean Lafitte

Aii 1st Place Washington GC, Washington

**Award #18-Adopt-A-Park Award**

Aii 3rd Place: Chateau Estates GC, Kenner

**Award #19-Community Action Award**

Aii Honorable Mention: Chateau Estates GC, Kenner

**Award #25-Arbor Day Award**

Ai 1st Place: Ferriday Garden Club, Ferriday

Aiii 2nd Place: Lafayette Garden Club, Lafayette

**Award # 27 Roadside Beautification Award**

Ai 2nd Place: Ferriday Garden Club; Ferriday

## LGCF NEWS

### Award #31-Publicity Press Book Award

- Aii 2nd Place: Crowley Garden Club, Crowley  
Aiii 1st Place: Lafayette Garden Club, Lafayette

### Award #33 Yearbooks Award

- A1 2nd Place: Bayou Vista GC, Bayou Vista  
A2 3rd Place: Gonzales Garden Club, Gonzales  
A3 1st Place: Crowley Garden Club, Crowley  
A4 1st Place: Shady Oaks GC, River Ridge

- A5 3rd Place: Alexandria GC, Alexandria  
A6 3rd Place: Lafayette Garden Club, Lafayette  
B 2nd Place: Jefferson Parish Council of GCs

### Smokey Bear/Woodsy Owl Poster Contest Award

- 2nd Place: Audrey Baldo, 3rd Grade, Kenner

### Youth Sculpture Contest Award

- 1st Place: Lauren DesRoches, 6th Grade, Shady Oaks GC, River Ridge

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## LGCF, INC. WINNERS OF NGC AWARDS 2011

### #1 Civic Achievement – The Kellogg Civic Achievement Award

OVERALL WINNER—Ferriday Garden Club (Ai)

### #10J Junior and/or Intermediate Garden Club

OVERALL WINNERS (TIE)—Little Shadows Garden Club (Sponsor, Shady Oaks Garden Club)

### #13 Publications—Manuals

CERTIFICATE OF MERIT—Jefferson Parish Council for Harmony with Nature

### #16 Yearbooks—Deep South Region

- A. Garden Clubs  
3. (30-44) Crowley Garden Club  
4. (46-69) Shady Oaks Garden Club

### #44 Publicity Press Book—Deep South Region

Aiii Lafayette Garden Club

### #68 Video/CD/DVD

Ai Acres of Green Garden Club (Coleen Landry, Night Blooming Cereus)

### Standard Flower Show Achievement Awards

#22 Holiday Standard Flower Show  
C. District V “Holidays of the Four Seasons”

### NGC Youth Sculpture Contest for Fourth—Eighth Grade

First Place 6th grade—Lauren Des Roches (sponsor Shady Oaks Garden Club)

### NGC Scholarship Winner of Deen Day Sanders Scholarship

Amanda Beerens

**A ROUND OF APPLAUSE TO ALL OUR WINNERS,  
and many, many thanks to all the clubs who submitted their applications!  
Mary Jacobs, President**

## National Planting Day: Plant Natives in Your Community

*Reported by Camille Stakes, LGCF Litter/Reclamation/Recycling/Waste Management Chairman*



Keep America Beautiful thanks its affiliates, partners and other organizations and individuals to already committing to plant 215,000 trees, shrubs and native plants on or around National Planting Day, which takes place across the country beginning Sept. 8. We've already surpassed our initial goal and would like to ask you to help us continue the forward momentum!

National Planting Day begins Sept. 8 and will run through Nov. 30 annually. The program is designed to encourage the planting of native species from your region of the country, which protect wildlife and enhance biodiversity. You can go to [plantnative.org](http://plantnative.org) to search for natives by state.

More information is available at [getgrowing.org](http://getgrowing.org), where you can register for National Planting Day.

### Growing Our Membership and Clubs

*By Roxanna Champagne, LGCF Membership Promotion Chair*

Have you asked a neighbor or friend to attend your garden club meeting lately? Asking friends or neighbors who are interested in gardening, flower arranging, native plants, environmental issues, or meeting new friends is one of the easiest and best ways to grow your garden club. We are now on the second half of the Deep South project, "Building Membership." Let us try and grow our individual clubs as well as looking for new clubs interested in becoming federated garden clubs. The biggest cheerleader for finding and encouraging new federated garden clubs is Jean Gilstrap, better known as our state Cleanest City Chairman. She is always beating the bushes while she canvases the state during the State Cleanest City judging. I have lost count of how many new club formation packets I have given her! Since January of this year LGCF welcomed two new clubs, Abbeville Garden Club, District III, and Olla Pinewood Garden Club, District VIII. The Abbeville Garden Club which started with 7 members has grown to a membership of 21. Olla Pinewood has 14 members. **Welcome to LGCF Abbeville and Olla Pinewood!**

I would like to share a few statistics with you on LGCF membership. Unfortunately, LGCF membership has decreased by 84 members for a total of 2,648 members as of August, 2012. Even though we gained two new clubs, one club, Gueydan, resigned. At this time, there are 98 federated garden clubs in Louisiana. On the positive side, I would like to note (excluding Abbeville and Olla Pinewood) that Chateau Estates increased their membership by 12. Tied for second place with the addition of 6 new members each are Baton Rouge Garden Club and Crowley Garden Club. Great job! At this time we need to focus on growing membership in individual clubs and mentoring new clubs into the federation. In order to help you in this task, you can access the new club formation packet on the LGCF website. Included in the packet are tips for growing and retaining club membership in existing clubs, as well as information and forms necessary for the formation of new federated garden clubs. To access this information please go to [www.louisianagardenclubs.org](http://www.louisianagardenclubs.org) and click on the tab, Index A –Z, then under "ABOUT US" click on "Membership – join a club." Once on the Membership in LGCF, Inc. Page, click on the yellow box in the center of the page. A PDF document will pop up with the information I have mentioned. If you have any questions or suggestions on membership, please don't hesitate to contact me at [roxannachamp@cox.net](mailto:roxannachamp@cox.net). With your help, I am looking forward to growing LGCF!

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### ADOPT-A-PARK

*By Gail Lonibos, LGCF State Adopt-A-Park Chairman*

**Purpose:** To encourage garden clubs to establish city, mini, pocket or subdivision parks and/or enhance specific areas in existing parks. Adopt-A-Park was established as a Deep South Region Award in 1987 and is sponsored by LGCF.

Adopt-A-Park is a worthwhile endeavor. All you have to do is:

1. Encourage your members to adopt a local park or at least a portion of a local park. It can be an entrance to the city sign or to a subdivision or even around the blue star marker, but not just a flowerbed. Please plant a tree or several trees. A pocket park or a petite park could be done to beautify your community.
2. Ask your mayor and council for assistance. Also, try to include the youth and/or youth clubs.
3. Take before and after pictures of whatever you do.
4. Encourage your club to have a sign made designating your adoption of the park. Include the name of your club, and that you are a member of the Louisiana Garden Club Federation, Inc.
5. Plan a ceremony and invite your local officials, other clubs, newspaper, etc.
6. If you already adopted a park, you may update or change the work that has already been done and send this in for an award.

For further information, contact:

Gail Lonibos, LGCF State Adopt-A-Park Chairman  
42353 Greens View Drive  
Gonzales, LA 70737-8587  
225-257-4740 OR [glonibos@yahoo.com](mailto:glonibos@yahoo.com)

## Deeds & Doings

### District III

News from **Lafayette Garden Club** as reported by Henrietta Boriskie, Publicity Chair

Lafayette Garden Club's June and July activities included Club member Norman Balliviero's presentation of workshops on photographing flowers and digital camera photography, held at the Ira Nelson Horticulture Center Meeting Room. Pictured is the group attending Norman's July workshop.



Club members toured the gardens of R. J. Dumesnil, at his Youngsville Highway home in Broussard, on June 13. Featured were many potted plants around the pool area, and Mr. Dumesnil spoke to the group on container gardening.

The Louisiana Garden Club Federation has awarded Lafayette the Cleanest City title for 2012. The news was delivered to City-Parish President Joey Durel by Jean Gilstrap, the Cleanest City Contest Chairman. The award was presented to Tom Carroll, Public Works Director, by Mrs. Gilstrap and LGCF President Mary Jacobs on Thursday, June 14, at a reception at Lafayette

City Hall. Lafayette Garden Club is proud of Cleanest City Chairman Jan Dennen and her Committee for its work in helping the Lafayette Consolidated Government's Public Works staff prepare for the judges' visit. Pictured are the awardees, recipient, Public Works Department employees, Lafayette Garden Club President Roxanna Champagne and Cleanest City Chairman Jan Dennen.



Lafayette Garden Club members attended Summer Board on July 23 and 24, at Embassy Suites Hotel in Baton Rouge. Pictured at the Judges' Dinner are Babette Werner, Roxanna Champagne, JoAnn Pugh and Diana Nolan of Lafayette Garden Club, and Claire Robicheaux of Opelousas Garden Club.



## Deeds & Doings

A gourmet luncheon for Garden of the Month and Civic Pride Committee members was hosted by Anita Petitjean, Co-Chairman, at her Walkers Lake home on Friday, August 17. Anita and Co-Chairman, Kathy Van Ness, gave tips on criteria for selecting the best of the better homes and



businesses, as well as Committee procedures.

The group and guests, Mary Ann

Armbruster and Liz Battard, are pictured at the luncheon. Club President Roxanna Champagne is pictured with the two luncheon guests.



On July 23rd, **Terrebonne Garden Club** members enjoy the bidding for the floral designs at the Monday night dinner at Summer Board. Sherri's bid won the design by Georgie Pettjean and Margo Racca. Left to right are Dot Wu, Linda Brashier, Sherri Labbe and Paulette Henry.



On July 24th, at the luncheon, the table

centerpieces were decorated hats donated by the clubs. Dot Wu stands by her "hat" which tied for first place. It was a black wrought iron hat using sprayed palm, papyrus and a red anthurium. The gloves placed by her hat were her mother's.



## District VII

**Rayne Garden Club & Live Oak Society** register trees, by Lisa Soileaux.

Tree-lined driveways, country lanes and lawns throughout Acadiana are filled with beautiful live oak trees. The Rayne Garden Club is presently making an attempt to register those stately live oak trees with the Live Oak Society. With almost 7,000 trees now registered with the Society in 14 states, only 82 from Acadia Parish and nine in Rayne are presently registered. The club is in the process of registering all the live oak trees in the Acadiana area with a girth of at least eight feet. There is no fee to register the trees with the society, with members of the Rayne Garden Club providing all the paperwork for registration and partaking in the measurements.

The Live Oak Society was founded in 1934 by Dr. Edwin Stephens, the first president of Southwestern Louisiana Institute (now the University of Louisiana at Lafayette). The society promotes the culture, distribution, preservation and appreciation of the live oak tree, scientifically known as *Quercus virginiana*. The Live Oak Society began with 43 members chosen by Stephens and now boasts 6,898 members in 14 states, and is under the auspices of the Louisiana Garden Club Federation, Inc.

## Deeds & Doings

The first president (tree) was the “Locke Breaux Oak” in Taft, which was lost in 1968 due to air and ground water pollution. Its successor and current president is the “Seven Sisters Oak,” formerly known as “Doby’s Seven Sisters.” The owner who first named the tree was Carole Hendry Doby, one of seven sisters. The “Seven Sisters Oak” is located in the Lewisburg area of Mandeville on the shore of Lake Pontchartrain. Estimated by foresters to be 1,200 years old, the tree has a girth of over 38 feet. This oak is also the National Champion on the National Register of Big Trees.

The first vice-president is the “Middletone Oak” in Charleston, SC, with a girth of 31 feet. The second vice-president is the “St. John Cathedral Oak” in Lafayette, measuring 27 feet. The “Lagarde Oak” in Luling is third vice-president and measures 29 feet. The “Martha Washington Live Oak” in Audubon Park in New Orleans is fourth vice-president and measures 28 feet in girth. The largest registered stand of 249 live oaks is located in City Park of New Orleans.

As you can see, Louisiana is well represented with the Live Oak Society, and the Rayne Garden Club is working hard to make sure Acadiana’s live oaks are represented, as well.

Members of the Rayne Garden Club join Rayne home owner Robert Credeur to measure one of eight live oak trees at his home to be registered with the Live Oak Society, a project presently being sponsored by the club. Pictured on the right are Rayne Garden Club members in attendance were, from left, Martha Pierret, Judy Guidry, Helen Garrett, Hazel Prevost, Lisa Soileaux, Sepha Guidry, home owner Robert Credeur, Julia Breaux and Caliste Breaux, contact person.



Members of the **Rayne Junior Garden Club** who participated in the educational design division of the 2012 Standard Flower Show presented by the Rayne Garden Club were joined by State Garden Club President Mary Jacobs. Junior Club members are, from left, Allie Moore, Sydni Prevost, Mia Lormand and Brittney LaCroix.



Members of the **Rayne Garden Club** were joined by city officials to place two crepe myrtles at the Walter Kennedy Memorial Park in Rayne in observance of Arbor Day 2012. The plants, donated by the Rayne Garden Club, will be part of an expanded beautification plan for the park. In attendance for the event were, from left, Mayor Pro Tem Paul Molbert, Building Inspector Donnie Ousse,

Street Department Supervisor Robert Senegal, Garden Club members Judy Guidry and Hazel Prevost, Mary Faulk, Garden Club Chairman Lisa Soileaux, Garden Club President Julia Breaux, and Mayor Jim Petitjean.



# Calendar of Events



## 2012

### October LGCF Fall District Meetings

Oct 1	District VIII
Oct 2	District V
Oct 3	District VII
Oct 4	District III
Oct 5	District VI
TBA	District IV
Oct 16	District I and II

Oct. 30-31 Landscape Design Study, Baton Rouge

## 2013

January 14-15	LGCF Winter Council, Lecompte
March 24-26	Deep South Regional Convention, Hyatt Hotel, Savannah, GA
April 16-17	LGCF State Convention, Kenner, LA
May 23-27	NGC Convention, Seattle, WA
<b>April 30 – May 2</b>	LGCF Symposium, Woodworth, LA
June 2-8	National Garden Week
July 22 – 23	LGCF Summer Board Meeting, Embassy Suites, Baton Rouge