

Louisiana Garden Club Federation, Inc.
NEWSLETTER
April, 2010



Penny Crawford

THE LOUISIANA GARDEN CLUB FEDERATION, INC.

Newsletter

Member of
National Garden Clubs, Inc.
Deep South Region

"Protect and Conserve our Natural Resources"



VOLUME LVIV

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The cover art is the work of **Penny Crawford** of the Westchester Estates Garden Club of Slidell (Dist VI). Penny has done several botanical drawings and the one of the cover is called Blue Flag Iris. Thank you, Penny for sharing your beautiful artwork 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.

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DEADLINE FOR SUBMISSIONS TO SUMMER ISSUE (JULY 2010) IS JUNE 1, 2010.

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 the President



The first day of spring is one thing, and the first spring day is another. The difference between them is sometimes as great as a month.
~Henry Van Dyke

Spring is a busy time for garden club members! We jump wholeheartedly into planting in our gardens, beginning civic projects and preparing for our Deep South Regional Convention to be held in Natchez, Mississippi in March; our own Louisiana Garden Club Federation Convention in New Orleans in April and our National Garden Club, Inc. Convention to be held in Atlanta in May.

The Seventy-sixth LGCF Convention hosted by District I in New Orleans will be a very special time in our history as we celebrate 75 years as a service organization to our communities and our state. Our warm and beautiful National Garden Club President, Renee Blaschke will be our special guest. I'm sure she would love to meet each and every member of our Federation! Make plans to attend all of the festivities!

Very soon we will see the fruits of our labor as we view the yellow carpet of thousands of daffodils planted by LGCF members last fall in honor of the NGC "Golden Days" project. Spring is an ideal time of year to become involved in community gardens through schools, 4-H clubs and scouts. Spread the word to help "Beautify Blight" and assist in feeding low income families.

"A bird doesn't sing because it has an answer. It sings because it has a song." --Maya Angelou. Just as the bird sings, LGCF members have much to sing about as well! We have many activities and projects that improve our communities and schools (Gardening Study, Environmental Studies, and Landscape Design, and a Judges Symposium) that help challenge our minds. Gardening Study School Course III will be held March 24 and 25, 2010. Landscape Design School will be held June 16 and 17, 2010. The Judges Symposium will be held Aug 31, Sept 1 and 2, 2010. Check the LGCF website for the dates of the next Environmental Studies School. Share this information with your neighbors, friends, relatives and acquaintances and invite them to one of your garden club meetings. Enthusiastically asking people to join your club is a personal way of letting them know that they are wanted and needed.

I have to interject at this point that I took the Environmental Studies School, Courses I and II in Lake Charles in February. I had more fun, learned so much and enjoyed every minute of this school that I can't wait to go back. It is by far the best school that the NGC offers. If you didn't go to the school, you missed something absolutely fascinating and wonderful! Make plans to attend the next courses!

Congratulations to Terrebonne Garden Club, District III who won another \$5,000 Green the Gulf Grant from NGC for a total of \$9,000 for installation of native trees and shrubs along the Bayou Boardwalk in historic downtown Houma. Good work ladies!!

Mark your calendars for June 6, 2010 (D-Day) for the Dedication of the "Freedom Isn't Free" Blue Star Memorial Marker at the World War II Museum in New Orleans. This project was funded by the generosity of LGCF Members who wanted to honor our military for their service in the past, as well as the present and the future.

Coleen Landry, Live Oak Society Chairman has reported that she has registered 202 new trees since this administration began at the end of April, 2009. Please register our beloved Live Oaks during this the 75th Anniversary of the Live Oak Society.

Message from the President

Preparations for our Cleanest City Contest are in full swing. Communities are involving city workers, youth groups and concerned citizens to make their towns shine for the Cleanest City Judges. Become involved in your town's "Trash Bash", ridding your town of litter improves the quality of life on so many levels!

The LGCF will be the hosts for the 2011 Deep South Region Convention to be held at the Hilton in Lafayette on March 13-15, 2011. This is a state-wide project, not a district project. We will need the help of every district in the state to make Louisiana shine! I know that our members will show the entire Deep South how to have a good time! We need quality items for the Deep South Region Raffle. If you have an item for the fund-raising raffle, please email Diana Nolan at DianaN963@att.net.

"The future belongs to those who believe in the beauty of their dreams"- Eleanor Roosevelt

Love and His Peace,



LGCF CAN HELP HAITI

Dear Garden Club Friends,

Garden club members across the nation have asked how we as garden club members can be of help to the victims of the terrible earthquake in Haiti. A special fund is being set up to help with water purification systems in Haiti. Please consider sending a donation to the NGC World Gardening Chair with an earmark of "Haiti" for potable water for those who desperately need it. Please see the email (included below) from NGC President, Renee Blaschke. Feel free to send this to all garden club members and to anyone that you know- it is for a great cause (we all know that Louisianans are the most generous people)!

Thanking you in advance for your generosity!

Donna

In response to our members wanting to help people in Haiti, the Executive Committee has approved a recommendation from Barbara Wesley, World Gardening/International Natural Disasters Chair, to help with water issues for Haiti. We will be working through Global Partners-Running Waters, the same organization we partnered with when assisting Guatamala. The Executive Committee will ask for ratification of this action at the Annual Convention in Atlanta. However, donations can be accepted immediately for this newly established fund.

The focus of this project will be to provide biological filtration to several sites serving Haitian children, including the orphanage in Port au Prince and seven schools in the mountainous Amazones area. Our donated funds will be used to purchase simple filters that remove 99.9% of harmful bacteria and protozoa. Checks should be made payable to NGC World Gardening, earmarked Haiti, and mailed to NGC Headquarters, 4401 Magnolia Avenue, St. Louis, MO 63110-3492.

Through this project, NGC can provide clean, life-giving water to some of the people who most desperately need it. Thank you.

Renee Blaschke, NGC President

CIRCLE OF ROSES

HELEN PURDY

Denham Springs Garden Club (District VI)

Helen is a native of North Carolina. She got her love for gardening from her mother and father growing up there. She moved to Denham Springs in 1976. She became a garden member two years later and has been a member for the past 30 years. What drew her interest in joining a club, were the projects they had to beautify our cities. The highlight of her years in the garden club was when she served as one of the judges in the cleanest City Contest. She has been on the calling committee for years. She also has helped with a number of projects and fundraisers.

Helen was married in 1961. She has three children. She graduated from University of North Carolina Chapel Hill in 1950.

Over the years some of the work she has done includes Girl Scout field and camp director, Recreation Therapist and a bank teller. As a Hospital Recreation worker with the Red Cross she spent 2 years in Okinawa and Japan. From the fall of 1991 to 2007 she lived and worked on the LSU campus as a fraternity housemother.

Helen has been a great friend and a role model to all of us in the garden club. We just couldn't think of a better "Rose".



ADELINE DEWAILLY

Shady Oaks Garden Club (District II)

In 1985 Sylvia Giovingo invited me to join the Shady Oaks Garden Club. What a wonderful 25 years it has been!

As Chairman for Garden of The Month & Community Gardens Awards Committees, I realized there were many beautiful gardens cultivated by Club members & non members.

At my first flower show I was coaxed to enter an arrangement. How scary! With help from Audry Kachler's and Joanne Christopher's workshops, I did it and won a blue ribbon for my "Bitter Sweet" arrangement. BEGINNERS LUCK! Later, I got honorable mention in the miniature division flower show. The theme was "Camellia's Grill" and the coffee cup I used in my arrangement was ruled "too big. It was all a wonderful learning experience with the help of Club members who never criticized, but were always willing to help.

At one of the Club meetings it was decided that Club lunches were too elaborate and thereafter should be limited to salad & dessert. I was food chairman for this first scaled down lunch and we served spinach salad & dessert. What a let down!

As a Shady Oaks Garden Club member for twenty-five years, I have made many friends and learned many things about flower arranging & gardening.

THANKS FOR THE MEMORIES!



CIRCLE OF ROSES

ANNAMARY MIESTER

Lakeview Botony Guild (District I)

Annamary taught first grade for 5 years before marrying and becoming a stay-at-home mother to 3 children, Alison, Mark and Don Jr. She joined Pratt Park Garden Club in 1967. After serving as chairman of the photography, yearbook, ways and means, horticulture and numerous other committees, she became president of the club serving 3 terms.

Annamary attended Judges School in Shreveport becoming an accredited judge and at present is a Master Judge. She is also a Gardening Consultant.

Upon moving to Lakeshore, she joined Lakeshore Garden Club and became active in Lakeview Botany Guild. After holding many Chairmanships, she became President and was named Botany Woman of the Year in 1991, 1996, 2002 and 2003.

Moving to Metairie had her joining still another Garden Club, Rambling Rose. In this club, she served as Yearbook Chairman for many years. After holding numerous chairmanships in the Federated Council of New Orleans Garden Clubs, she served as President in 1987-88 and was named "Woman of the Year." in 1988.

On the State level Annamary served as Memorials Chairman, Life Membership Chairman, Convention Co-Chairman, District I Director, Corresponding Secretary, Historian and Parliamentarian. She became President of the Louisiana Garden Club Federation, Inc. in 2005 in the wake of Katrina and was elected President of the Nationally Accredited Flower Show Judges in 2007.

She served as Corresponding Secretary of the Deep South Region and was chairman of Roadside Beautification in 2007.

She holds Life Memberships in the Louisiana Garden Clubs, Inc., in the Deep South Region, and National Garden Clubs, Inc.

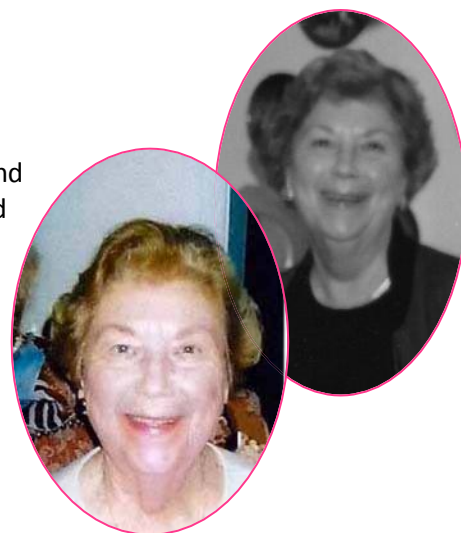


AUDREY KACHLER

Shady Oaks Garden Club (District II)

Audrey joined Shady Oaks Garden Club in 1967. She has been a loyal and hardworking member for all these years. She has served as President and chaired many committees. Audrey has a love of flower arranging and has been "Flower Show Chairman" and mentor to the novice arrangers joining our club. She has served as "Sunshine Chairman" for 10 years heading our club's efforts to bring food and toys to needy families throughout the community. As tour chairman for 12 years, she has encouraged the love of gardens throughout Louisiana, Mississippi and Texas as she promoted friendships within our group.

Audrey has made many friends through her association with Shady Oaks Garden Club and counts her garden club years as some of her happiest moments.



CIRCLE OF ROSES

BEULAH OSWALD

Shady Oaks Garden Club (District II)

Beulah Oswald joined Shady Oaks Garden Club in 1976. Garden clubbing has been an experience like no other. The horticultural and artistic learning experience has been outstanding and the friendships most rewarding. She has held every office in the club, having served two terms of two years each as president. She serves as East Bank Civic Beautification Chairman for the Jefferson Parish Council of Garden Clubs and has served in various capacities, including president of the Civic Beautification Association of Jefferson, Orleans, Plaquemines, and St. Bernard Parishes. She serves as Civic Beautification Chairman of the River Ridge Community Association and has served on the board of directors of the Louisiana Urban Forestry Council.

The educational programs available through garden clubbing have enabled her to become a Master Landscape Design Consultant and further her love for civic beautification. In 1989 she was one of the two Shady Oaks members called upon to form a parish-wide civic beautification agency which she continues to coordinate for the parish. In 1990 she became founding president of the non-profit Jefferson Beautification, Inc. and continues her service to the organization as Volunteer Executive Director. To date, Jefferson Beautification, Inc. has raised funds totaling over \$1,600,000 for tree planting, beautification, environmental awareness, and project maintenance. In 1998, as a member of the Jefferson Parish Greenspace Taskforce, she led the charge to lobby for preservation of an 18 acre tract of land which was slated to be clear cut for soccer and baseball fields. She has continued since that time to work to establish the area as an Arboretum and Environmental Education facility.



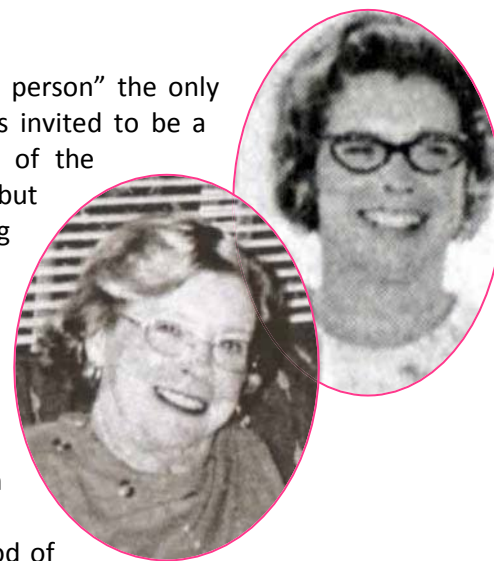
BEVERLY CARROLL

Aurora Plantation Gardeners (District I)

Garden Clubbing was a totally new experience for me. While a "people person" the only clubs I'd belonged to were the Girl Scouts and Bridge clubs. In 1964 I was invited to be a member of Aurora Plantation Gardeners, a new club on the West Bank of the Mississippi River in Orleans Parish. At first I thought the ladies a bit snobbish but this Club has been the most "growing-up" experience for me, both in gardening and social interaction. In 1972 I was installed President. Again in 1984 I was asked to serve as President. In 2010, here I am, President again.

For me, being President, is like the Southern Lady who dons a wide brim hat, a cool glass of tea in hand, and tells the gardener what to plant and where. We have had many projects, both in gardening and in the community. Our members are very cooperative. We work together to make Aurora Plantation Gardeners the success it is. Through this interaction we have become good friends, each and every one of us.

It has been my wonderful gift to be a member of this extended sisterhood of Lady Gardeners. Our members are very cooperative. We work together to make our Club the success it is.



CIRCLE OF ROSES

BILLIE MASSA

River Ridge Garden Club (District II)

Billie was born in Homer, La. but has lived in New Orleans, La. since she was 15. She has been married to Manuel Massa, a Building Contractor, for 57 years. They have 3 sons and two daughters, 5 grandsons and 7 grand daughters and one precious great granddaughter. Billie has been a continuous member of a garden club since 1959. She served as an Officer and/or Chairman many times on the Garden Club level, Jefferson Parish Council of Garden Clubs (JPCGC), District II, Louisiana Garden Club Federation, Deep South Region and National Garden Clubs, Inc. She also chaired a Deep South Region Convention and a LGCF, INC. State Convention and was a Club President and Woman of the Year, JPCGC, INC. President and Woman of the Year, District II Director, LGCF, INC. President and Deep South Regional Director. She is a Life Member of JPCGC, INC., LGCF, INC., Deep South Region and NCG, INC. Billie has also served as President of the Civic Beautification Association of Jefferson, Orleans, Plaquemines and St. Bernard Parishes. She has won numerous Doorway Decorations Contests Blue Ribbons and Rosettes. All of her volunteer years have been devoted to Garden Club related activities.



BOBBIE HARRIS

DeRidder Gardenettes (District VII)

Bobbie Harris has been a proud member of the DeRidder Gardenettes for over twenty-five years. She has served as secretary, auditor, chairperson of caladium bulb sales, district secretary, and member of garden forum, spring fling, program, and telephone committees.

She has enjoyed attending state and district meetings, flower shows, and garden and home tours; she has especially liked the monthly meetings and interesting programs.

Bobbie taught school for over thirty years. She was married to Harold for almost sixty years. He is recently deceased. They have four sons, eight grandchildren, and identical twin granddaughters.

She enjoys growing amaryllis and caladiums. She is a member of First United Methodist Church in DeRidder, United Methodist Women, and serves on the Beauregard Memorial Hospital Auxiliary.



CIRCLE OF ROSES

CAROLEE R. WAGNER

Point Study Garden Club (District I)

CaroLee joined the Buena Vista Garden Society in 1982 when she and her husband, Frank, moved to Algiers Point. Afterward she became a flower show judge, joining the Judges Council. A committed leader in the garden club arena, she was elected President of the Federated Council of New Orleans Garden Clubs from 1994-96 and then District I Director from 1997-98. In 2000, she organized The Point Garden Study Club for night meetings where husbands and wives could join together. CaroLee earned her Master Gardener certificate along the way of her garden club travels and was selected Woman of the Year in 2002. From 2003-05 she was president of the Civic Beautification Association. In 2007, she and Frank celebrated their 50th wedding anniversary. CaroLee continues to be active in District I events and to lead The Point Garden Study Club sharing her time, energy, expertise and enthusiasm.



CATHERINE B. HEALEY

Metairie Garden Club (District II)

Membership in Metairie Garden Club since the mid 1950's has meant over 50 years of close friends and good fellowship. I was president of the club from 1960 – 1961. It has also been very educational. Our members and speakers have always been generous with their knowledge and skills in gardening, flower arranging, and horticulture. As a club we have always supported the beautification of Metairie, the cultivation of trees, especially oak, and the promoting of birds through the creation of a bird sanctuary in Metairie Playground, the oldest playground. (In June, 2003, the playground was renamed, the Wally Pontiff, Jr. Playground).



FRANCES P. VINCI

Metairie Garden Club (District II)

As I am presently living in an assisted living facility, I am unable to continue my rewarding twenty-five plus years of garden clubbing. These past years have taught me how to embrace the earth, beautify the environment and share prize plants and knowledge with others. I have been growing Sweet Basel, Mint and Stevia in containers in the facility's courtyard. It is a refreshing sight for all to enjoy. I was president of Metairie Garden Club from 1959 – 1960.



CIRCLE OF ROSES

CHARLOTTE LE NOIR

Metairie Garden Club (District II)

As a member of the Metairie Garden Club, I have gained so much knowledge about plants and flowers - When, Where, How to plant and how to arrange flowers not only for flower shows, but for my own pleasure. Most of all I have formed friendships that I will treasure forever!

Our club participated in many civic beautification projects in Metairie and we also worked with neighborhood schools, promoting anti-litter programs. We established a bird sanctuary in Metairie Playground, observing Arbor Day each year by planting a tree in the bird sanctuary in honor of a past president. For many years we maintained the neutral ground area around a memorial marker honor those who gave their lives while serving their country.

The one thing I have tried to pass on to others, especially my children, is something I read once in a garden book, "A thing of Beauty is a Joy Forever"



ELIZABETH WALTHER

Metairie Garden Club (District II)

"My participation in the Metairie Garden Club revolves around all the friends I have made and the nuances of floral arrangement. I have always favored the Orient and its simplicity. Garden Clubs offer a myriad of opportunities to their members - to learn about better gardening practices, new seeds and plants on the market, floral arranging methods, community involvement, making lasting friendships, and leadership training. Each facet has an attraction for its members. We are all grateful for having been a part of such an outstanding organization." Elizabeth Walther has served as President of the Metairie Garden Club three terms: 1966-67, 1975-76, and 1987-88.



JANE BOSWORTH

Metairie Garden Club (District II)

I was a child of the depression in the late 1920's. I have always loved to be near the earth. My parents took us north of the lake for fresh air and lunch in the spring. We dug up wild violets, daisies and planted them at home in Mother's garden along with sweet peas along the fence. I planted tomatoes on the south side when I was older. We gave away sweet peas and tomatoes at harvest during the summer and shared tips on what to do to prune suckers. I love to share the knowledge and bounty of my garden. I was president of the Metairie Garden Club from 1976-1978 and 2007-2008.



CIRCLE OF ROSES

DOLORES S. MASSON

Lakeview Botany Guild (District I)

In 1984 Dolores joined the Lakeview Botany Guild shortly after her marriage to Harry who supported her with his artistic talent. After joining, she was asked to be the Guild's photographer which gave her the opportunity of meeting all the members. You know how clubbers enjoy being "in pictures"! She accepted many chairmanships and in 1988 was elected as their President serving two terms. Woman of the Year was bestowed on the club level as well as in the New Orleans Council. She was elected President of the New Orleans Council and currently serving as treasurer since Katrina and prior to that time. She served as District I Director and LGCF registration chairman for two of the District I Conventions held in New Orleans in past years. On the LGCF level, naming a few, she was credential, memorial and life member chairman, Corresponding secretary and representative -at-large. Currently she is co-chairman of the upcoming 75th LGCF Convention, treasurer and registration chairman.

After Katrina, residing in the Lakeview area, she lost her home as many of her dear club members experienced. She was determined to find them and regroup the Lakeview Botany Guild and then served as their president for two years. Being a late bloomer to garden clubs, she remarked this gave her a great opportunity to meet and make many friends throughout the state. Dolores has one son, one granddaughter and two precious great-grandchildren and enjoys visiting them in Tennessee.



GLORIA RUIZ

River Ridge Garden Club (District II)

Gloria was born in Paincourtville, LA and after marrying her husband, John, lived out of state before settling in Jefferson Parish in an area now know as River Ridge. Gloria joined Shady Oaks Garden Club over 40 years ago and is a past President. She is one of the Charter members of River Ridge Garden Club. She has been President 5 times and held numerous other offices and Chairmanships.

Gloria is very active in other organizations such as Longue Vue House and Gardens, Parkway Promenade of Jefferson Parish Delta Playground Golden Agers as well as her church, St Mathews, where she attends Bible class and once sang in the choir.

Gloria's French background has given our club many entertaining moments. She will sing French Christmas Carols for us. Gloria is our Auctioneer for the club's auction; we never know what country French character she will be dressed like or what story she has for us. This has been her way to help our club raise money for the projects we do each year. Thank you, Gloria, for all your many years of hard work for our club.



CIRCLE OF ROSES

JOSIE BURVANT

Fleur de Lis Garden Club (District I)

Josie Burvant, a retired medical technologist, is a charter member of Fleur de Lis Garden Club. In 1957 Josie and her husband Bob, now deceased, both native New Orleanians, moved to a beautiful new subdivision, Algiers, on the Westbank of New Orleans. There Josie and a group of neighboring ladies formed a garden club. It was named Fleur de Lis, French for flower lily.

Josie has been an active member and has served the garden club twice as president. She has held every office and chaired many committees. She enjoys flower arranging and using her skills doing arrangements for her home. Her present interests are gardening, reading and travel.

Josie's greatest pleasure is her family. She has seven children, 16 grandchildren, 4 step-grandchildren and one step-great grandson.



MADELINE WAGNER

Shady Oaks Garden Club (District II)

Madeline has been a loyal Shady Oaks Garden Club member for over 46 years. She is always willing to chair any committee with perfection. She has served as President for two, two-year terms and has been club secretary. She has been Flower Show Chairman and has a great love of horticulture. She has chaired many committees within the club including Social Chairman, Sunshine Chairman, Tour Co-Chairman, Yard Garden Tour, Civic Beautification, and Telephone Committee. She is always willing to host meetings and functions or have tours of her home.

Madeline has been very active in Community fund raising outside of the club. We are very proud of her efforts as Community Service Co-Coordinator of the March of Dimes from 1980 to 1990.

We continue to adore Madeline's wonderful sense of humor and her contagious giggle. Overcoming health issues over the past few years, Madeline has made amazing contributions, with her time and professionalism, assisting with communications to all of the members of Shady Oaks Garden Club. Madeline has a true love for our community and the environment.



ELAINE BOUDREAUX

Terrytown Garden Club (District II)

Elaine Boudreaux was one of the Founders / Charter Member of Terrytown Garden Club in 1961. She's been a member of LGCF for 47 years. Elaine started a Youth Terrytown Garden Club in the early 70s, held the office of President for two years along with many other positions. It's been an asset having Elaine share her experience, of Gardening & LIFE along with a lot of laughter and Fun!



CIRCLE OF ROSES

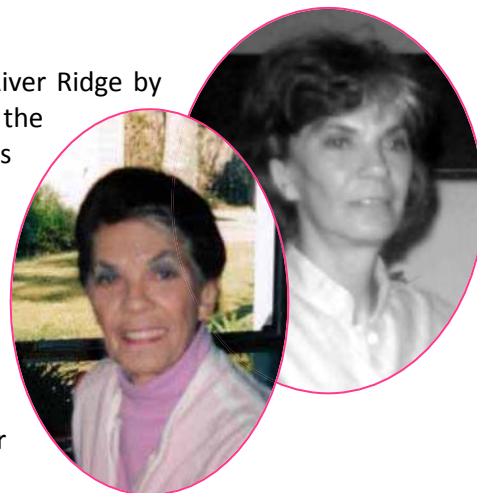
MAXINE CITRON

River Ridge Garden Club (District II)

Maxine is from California and came to the Jefferson area now known as River Ridge by way of New York with her husband Adrian. Maxine joined the garden club of the area and served as its president and became a Judge with the New Orleans Judges Council. In 1977 she founded the River Ridge Garden Club and became its first president, a job she has held several times. She has held many jobs. Maxine is a very talented painter and flower designer. She has given many programs on flower design, participated in numerous flower shows and doorway contests while a member of River Ridge Garden Club.

Maxine was chairman of our Plant Sale for many years and always contributed many plants from her garden that helped raise money for the club's projects. She enjoys helping with our Garden Therapy projects and Arbor Day Programs.

Thank you Maxine for founding the River Ridge Garden Club and all the work you have done over the years to make it such a success.



VIVIENNE NEELY-MARTIN

Shady Oaks Garden Club (District II)

Being included in the Circle of Roses as a long time member of Shady Oaks Garden Club is one of the most cherished honors I have ever received. As a working member of our Civic Beautification Committee, I have been rewarded in knowing a group of hard working gardeners accomplishing the goal of providing beauty through the planting of garden beds all around River Ridge. A special benefit of this group has been a birthday luncheon group who are my closest caring friends. I also learned a tremendous amount of horticulture knowledge,

Most of my efforts in Shady Oaks have been directed toward the planting and maintenance of the various garden beds. I have served as Treasurer of Shady Oaks Garden Club and as chairman of various committees. For fifty years this garden club has supplied the River Ridge community with areas of gardening excellence and beauty, and I really appreciate being one of its recognized senior members.



LOIS SEIBERT

Terrytown Garden Club (District II)

Lois Seibert has been a member of Terrytown Garden Club since 1965. She has held the office of President for 8 years, First VP - 5 years, Recording Secretary - 3 years and many Chairmanships: Garden of Month, Program, Publicity, Social and Scrapbook Chairman. At the District Level, she was on the JPCGC as Recording Secretary for one year. Lois is very active in the community, she's Involved in the Christ the King Knights of Columbus, Christ the King Women's Club, Terrytown Lions Club, and the Theta Golden Age Club. In her spare time, she enjoys dancing, theatre and decorating.



CIRCLE OF ROSES

MARLENE ROGERS ALVAREZ

Terrytown Garden Club (District II)

Marlene Rogers Alvarez has been a member of the Terrytown Garden Club since 1972. She has held the office of President for 5 years, First VP for 4 years, Second VP for 26 years and many chairmanships including; Horticulture, Conservation, Awards/Design, Librarian/Scrapbook, Program, Garden of the Month, Telephone, Ways & Means and Yearbook. Marlene has been awarded for her talents numerous times with flower show wins, Award of Distinction and Tri-Color. In her spare time she enjoys decorating, sewing, pottery and jewelry making. In April 2010, Marlene is expecting her first grandchild ... a VERY exciting moment in her life. Marlene is the daughter of Esther Rodgers whom was a Charter Member of Terrytown Garden Club and also received the "Circle of Roses" honor.



EDWINA FRECHE

Terrytown Garden Club (District II)

Edwina Freche has been a member of Terrytown Garden Club since 1979. She's held the office of Recording Secretary for 8 years and Membership Chairmanship for terms. She was chosen as "Woman of the Year" in 2004. Along with gardening, Edwina is very active in the community especially the Christ the King Knights of Columbus Auxiliary for 52 years and other church organizations.



JANET NOBLE

Terrytown Garden Club (District II)

Janet Noble has been a member of Terrytown Garden Club since 1985. She has held office as President for 5 years, First VP for one year and Recording Secretary for two years. At the District Level, she has been Recording Secretary of JPCGC for two years and is currently Corresponding Secretary for the Council. During her many years in gardening, she's been involved in Christmas in the Oaks for ten years, the Scarecrow Trail and participated in numerous flower shows. Janet has been the recipient of the "Woman of the Year" award for five times. In her spare time, Janet loves to design with Fabric.



CIRCLE OF ROSES

BETTY RENA

Rambling Rose Garden Club (District II)

I have been in garden club work for 35 years. I started in 1969 in Early Bird Gardeners, which was a garden club formed through the North Lake Villa Civic Association in my neighborhood. After 10 years the club disbanded and I joined Westgate Garden Club and Bissonet Garden Club.

Then in 1980 I formed Avant Gardeners and we were active for 11 years.

I started judging school around 1975 and became a master judge for National Council In horticulture and artistic design. After retiring from judging, I took 6 years off and was not in any garden club.

After my husband died, I joined Rambling Rose Garden Club where I am presently a member.

I chose Louisiana iris as my specialty while I was studying for judging, and also became an American Iris Society judge, which was a requirement being a Louisiana iris judge.

I grow a lot of native plants and ornamental vegetables. I like anything old and grow over 150 roses, mostly old antique roses.

I have won many top awards in horticulture in District I and II Council garden club shows, mostly in cut specimens.

I love gardening and have enjoyed every minute of it.



A Simple Definition



They may not be on their hands and knees weeding the healing garden, but they are there with refreshments. They may not be modeling at our style show any longer, but they are still selling the most raffle tickets. These are our TREASURES... these are our ROSES.

Carrie Martin, Covington Garden Club (VI)

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 feature many very gracious ladies who are known throughout the state. Welcome to our "Circle," 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.

2010 LGCF CONVENTION AGENDA

Monday, April 12, 2010

9:00 - 5:00 Pre-Convention Tour
(Dedication of Native Plant Garden in Botanical Garden, City Park)

Tuesday, April 13, 2010

10:30 - 4:00 Registration Open
(Registration closed during meals & Special Events)

9:00 - 9:30 Headquarters Committee Meeting
9:30 - 10:00 Finance Committee Meeting
10:00 - 11:00 District Directors Meeting
11:00 - 12:00 LGCF Executive Council Meeting

Lunch on your own

2:00 - 2:30 Judges' Executive Council Meeting
2:00 - 2:30 Diamond Jubilee Committee Meeting
2:30 - 3:30 Judges' Council Meeting
3:30 - 4:30 Gardening Consultants Council Meeting
4:30 - 5:30 Landscape Design Consultants Meeting
7:00 - 9:00 Welcome, New Orleans Style Party
(Wear your District Sashes - Let's Second Line!)

Wednesday, April 14, 2010

7:30 - 4:00 Registration Open
9:00 - 4:00 Sales Room Open
(Registration & Sales Room closed during meals & Special Events)

8:00 - 9:45 "A Diamond in the Rough" Breakfast
(Speaker, Paul Soniat, Director of Botanical Garden, City Park)

10:00 - 12:00 Formal Opening of Convention
First Business Meeting

12:15 - 2:30 "Thinking Emerald Green" Gardening Consultants Council Luncheon
(Speaker, Garret Graves, Governor's Chairman of Coastal Restoration & Protection Authority)

2:30 - 3:30 Club President's Meeting
4:00 High Tea at Windsor Court
(Honoring National Garden Club, Inc. President, Renee Blaschke, Deep South Region Director, Mary Sue Colvin, and Louisiana Garden Club Federation, Inc. President, Donna Bucci)

Dinner on Your Own

Thursday, April 15, 2010

7:30 - 4:00 Registration Open
9:00 - 4:00 Sales Room Open
(Registration & Sales Room closed during meals & Special Events)

8:00 - 9:45 "Polishing the Topaz" Landscape Design Consultants Breakfast
(Non-Competitive Awards)

10:00 - 12:00 (Memorial Service) Second Business Meeting
12:15 - 2:30 "Pearls of Wonder" Judges' Council Luncheon
(Honoring Club Presidents & Life Members) (Competitive Awards)

3:00 - 4:00 Break-out Sessions
(Environmental Studies - Linda Finley; IRS non-profit filing - Jane Stacy; Community Gardens - Jean Fahr)

6:00 - 7:00 Happy Hour (Cash Bar)
7:00 75th Diamond Jubilee GALA Banquet
(Speaker: Renee Blaschke, NGC, Inc. President)

Getting to Know your LGCF Officers



President Donna Chauvin Bucci

Donna is a member of the Bayou Vista Garden Club in District III and has been active with the garden club for 17 years. She has held many positions in her local club. She has served as chairman of many areas including Civic Development, Awards, and Environmental Awareness, Parliamentarian, Recording Secretary and as President of Bayou Vista in 1995-97. Statewide, Donna has served as LGCF Arbor Day Chairman, Historian, 2nd Vice President and now as President. Donna has also been Deep South Chairman for 2 Million Trees and Wildlife and Endangered Species.

Donna was the 2nd born of six children and she has one husband (which she claims is all she could possibly handle). They have one daughter and one son, both of which are married, and they have 4 grandsons and 1 granddaughter. Donna is a retired nurse who enjoys traveling, spending time with the family, scrapbooking, crossword puzzles, reading, but mostly traveling. Donna shares, "I truly enjoy all of our garden club members and I value their friendship!"



President-Elect Mary Jacobs

Mary has been a member of District II's Chateau Estates Garden Club for 25 years. She served as chairman of many committees including Doorway Contests, Awards, Publicity, Beautification Committee, and Council Delegate. She served as LGCF Historian and is now President-Elect. Mary has also served as LGCF Chairman of the Gardening Study School.

Mary is retired from management of the family business and she enjoys gardening and gourmet cooking. She has four sons and one daughter, three granddaughters and three grandsons.



First Vice President Kathy Bedenbaugh

Kathy is currently serving as LGCF First Vice President and has previously served as 2nd Vice President. She served as Club President from 2000-2002 in the Ponchatoula Gardenettes of District VI. She also designed a butterfly garden in Ponchatoula. She has been active in garden clubs for 17 years. Kathy is currently serving on the Louisiana State Parks and Recreation Commission. She is a former president of Friends of Longue Vue in New Orleans and the Ginger Ford Habitat for Humanity in Hammond.

Kathy is currently an Interior Designer but has worked as Human Resource Manager and Store Manager for D.H. Holmes in New Orleans. Kathy was also once a Fashion Model in New Orleans.

Kathy is married to Garnett Bedenbaugh and she has 5 children, three step children, and eleven grandchildren. Kathy also enjoys gardening, painting and reading.

Getting to Know your LGCF Officers



Second Vice President Lena Bateman

Lena has served two terms as LGCF Treasurer and now holds the seat of Second Vice President. Lena has been a member of the Ferriday Garden Club in District V for 10 years. There she served as Club President for four years, Beautification Chairman, and District V Director from 2003-05.

Lena has been married for 46 years to Hugh A. Bateman and they have a son, a daughter, three grandsons and one granddaughter. Lena and Hugh are active members of the Sevier Memorial United Methodist Church in Ferriday, holding many offices. Lena is a retired 20-year Baton Rouge banker who enjoys gardening, cooking, fishing and babysitting her grandchildren.



Recording Secretary Yvette Hebert

Yvette was a member of the Terrebonne Garden Club in Houma for 9 years before moving to Alexandria where she joined the Alexandria Garden Club and has been a member there since 1986. That makes a total of 33 years of active membership in the Garden Club. Yvette served as Club President in both Houma and Alexandria. She has been Yearbook Chairman for several years, Treasurer and several other chairmanships. Statewide she has held positions of Treasurer, Historian, Finance Chairman, Newsletter Business Manager, and Representative-at-Large.

Yvette's husband, Joe, is a CPA and CFO for Ratcliff Construction. They have three Children and 8 grandchildren. Yvette has worked as a Medical Technologist, Director of Religious Education and on the Tribunal at the Diocese of Alexandria, but is now retired and working harder than ever. Her hobbies include sewing, quilting, and reading, visiting plant nurseries, fabric shops and hardware stores. Yvette is a Master Flower Show Judge and a Master Landscape Consultant.

In Yvette's own words: "I am so grateful and thankful for all the wonderful ladies in my own Alexandria Garden Club, District VIII and the LGCF who have been my friends all these past years and who have mentored me when I was starting out and encouraged me along the way. What a blessing to know such a group who love gardening and who are being stewards of the very precious gifts given to us by the Lord!"



Corresponding Secretary Jo Ann Ryan

Jo Ann has 17 years of service with the Bayou Vista Garden Club of District III. She has served as Club President, held many other club offices and has chaired several committees. She is currently serving as the Deep South Region Girl Scout Liaison and the LGCF Corresponding Secretary. She also has served as LGCF Blue Star Memorial Committee Chairman.

Jo Ann has been married to Don M. Ryan for 38 years and they have two children and 2 grandchildren. Jo Ann taught Pre-Kindergarten (4 year olds) for 25 years before retiring. Her hobbies include gardening, golf and pickle ball.

Getting to Know your LGCF Officers

In Jo Ann's own words: Garden Club has been a blessing to me. I joined my local garden club because I was experiencing the "empty nest syndrome". I was looking for something to do and to say the least; I have not been bored since. I have met so many wonderful people and I cherish their friendship. I have learned so much by attending my local garden club meetings as well as conventions and our NGC schools. When I think of the world around me I am reminded of the words of the Psalmist, "The earth is the Lord's and everything in it, the world, and all who live in it." It is my prayer that we (garden club members) will take seriously the challenge and responsibility to be caretakers of our world so the next generation can enjoy it as we do.



Treasurer Linda Finley

Linda has been an active member of the Lake Charles Garden Club in District VII for 8 years. She has served as Club President and District Director.

Linda is retired from McNeese State University where she held the position of Registrar for many years. She is now currently serving as Chairman of the LGCF Environmental Studies School with the first school held in Feb. 2010. She also serves as treasurer of the McNeese Federal Credit Union Board and of the Calcasieu-Cameron Retired Teachers Association; parliamentarian of the Southwest Louisiana Master Gardeners and secretary of the Southwest Louisiana Garden Festival Steering Committee.



Historian Kristi Rivero

Kristi is a self employed event florist, Talia Flower Artist. There are beautiful displays of her work on the web site Taliaflowerartist.com. Kristi also finds time to be active in her local club, Belle Chasse Garden Club of District I. She has been a member for 8 years and has served as Club President and is currently serving as Secretary of the Federated Garden Clubs of New Orleans.

Kristi and her husband, Byron, have three children, Tera age 14, Seleste age 11 and Talia age 10. Her hobbies include heirloom seeds, knitting, biking, blogging, drawing, baking and cross stitching. She also finds time to teach Sunday School at the First Pentecostal Church of Chalmette.

A Floral Vacation

The **Rayne Garden Club** cordially invites you to their presentation of a Standard Flower Show titled "A Floral Vacation", Friday, April 23, 2010, at the Rayne Cultural Center, 1023 The Boulevard, Rayne, La. 2 to 4 p.m.

Design Corner

WORDS - WORDS - WORDS EXACTLY WHAT DO THEY MEAN?

Written by Harriet Osborne, Master Judge & Design Instructor

If you have had the responsibility of writing a flower show schedule, or at least the Design Division of a schedule, you are aware of just how important every word you use is to the smooth running of the show itself. Simple errors in the use of terminology can affect the meanings, and consequently the interpretations by the designers who enter your flower show.

There is one area that has proven to be most troubling to many involved in the flower show.... not just the exhibitors, but the Classification Chairmen and the judges as well. It involves the staging of designs and the wording associated with it. The Handbook uses the term "frame of reference" when referring to the space (the height, the width and the depth) in which a designer must restrict her/his design. The schedule should always include actual dimensions for every class, unless unlimited, or in the case of a Placement Show, every exhibit. Today, many instructors, judges, etc. are using a different term. It is "within a space". It means exactly the same as frame of reference.

An inexperienced designer may be apt to interpret either of these terms as meaning that it doesn't really matter how small the design is as long as it stays within the given dimensions. This is wrong. Dimensions are given not only so that a designer knows her/his boundaries, but also so that the design that's created is in pleasing proportion to those dimensions.

With the printing of the 2007 Handbook, pages were devoted to design staging and how specific wording in the schedule controls the staging. Here is where we appear to be most confused.... particularly, when a background panel or frame/s, or both are to be used in a class. Whenever the word "in" or "within" is used, it should be understood that all the components included in the design must stay within the given dimensions of the space, the background panel, or the frame. It's as simple as that.

When the word "incorporated" is used, the understanding is that a panel/s or frame/s must be involved in the design, not merely serving to outline the total height and width. The designer can conform to that requirement by simply attaching components to a background panel. On the other hand, the designer may choose to include in her/his design, self supported diverse shaped panels, smaller than the total space, in the background, middle ground and/or foreground, but always within the frame of reference. The purposes for such panels are: to add interest, to improve the balance, to increase the perception of depth, and/or to conceal a mechanic, such as a light.

When we "incorporate" a frame, it becomes an intricate part of the design. For example, vines or wire may wrap around a portion of the frame, or a cluster of plant material may be attached around the frame. In these instances, the frame can never be as large as the "frame of reference" for two reasons. First, by encircling the frame with some material you would be exceeding the dimensions of the space assigned and secondly, by placing the frame in the foreground or middle ground, perspective will cause the frame to visually appear larger than the background even though, in reality, it may not be.

There is a third possible wording for our schedules. It is one that must be used whenever the Designer's Choice Award is being offered. It is "using" a background/s or "using" a frame/s, or "using" a background/s and frame/s. The understanding is that the designer must "use" these staging props, but in any of the earlier mentioned ways she/he chooses. Of course, if the schedule says nothing about staging requirements, other than *frame of reference* dimensions, the designer is free to use any staging technique appropriate to her/his design type and/or location.

Design Corner

Many schedules today will say, "Staged on a table (or a floor space), within a space _"high X — "wide X _"deep. Designer is to use innovative staging." This leaves the choice of props entirely up to the designer, yet she/he knows that the judge is going to be looking for unusual staging in each design not merely a design in a volume of space. It could be any of the above possibilities, or others such as: table or floor pedestals, table or floor columns, boxes, lighting, motorized turntables, etc.

If you are Schedule Chairman for your club's next Small-Standard or Standard Flower Show, consider the possibilities, choose your words carefully and through those words add excitement and variety to your show. Additionally, be sure to refer to the *Handbook for Flower Shows*, pp. 305-308 for necessary inclusions and should you like some help or review for errors, please do not hesitate to send your rough draft to me so that mistakes can be caught before your final printing.

Mail to: Harriet Osborne, 4026 Lake Sherwood Ave. East, Baton Rouge, LA 70816. Allow approximately two months for review before you plan to distribute the schedule. □

Horticulture Corner



Once your daffodils have finished blooming, you may want to cut them back to clean up the look of your flower beds – but wait! Bulbs use these leaves to transform energy from the sun for next year's flowers. Leave them alone until their foliage turns yellow and begins to wither. Then you can just pull the dried leaves away with your hands.



If you need a bush for a small space, consider the new "Razzle Dazzle" crape myrtles. These new hybrids will grow to a height of 3-4 ft and spread about 4 feet in width with a nice rounded shape. The leaves resemble a regular crape myrtle, but smaller. They come in shades of pink, red and white. Growing these crape myrtles is easy. Like most other shrubs and flowering plants, it needs well-drained rich soil in full sun. Once it is established (usually after the first year) it is fairly drought tolerant. Deadhead to keep it blooming into early fall.



April is the month to plant caladiums. Caladiums grow in shade, but do well with some morning sun. Some newer varieties claim to be suited for sun. If you prefer immediate color, you can purchase transplants in 6-in pots for planting in late April to mid March. Leaf colors come in white, pinks, roses, and reds. In some areas Caladium tubers may overwinter without being dug, but in south Louisiana, winters tend to be too wet and if the tubers are left in the ground they may rot.



Common yarrow (*Achillea millefolium*) is a native to Louisiana. It grows to 3 ft. and branches near the top. The leaves are alternate, 3-5 in. long with many leaflets on each side of the midrib and these are further divided into smaller leaflets giving them a delicate lacy appearance. Flower heads are large compact clusters at the top of the stem. Flowers are usually yellowish white, but pink ones do occur. □

Landscape Design



Study Program: Course II Series XVII

Sponsors: National Garden Clubs, Inc.
Louisiana Garden Club Federation, Inc.
Council of Louisiana Landscape Design

Location: Baton Rouge Garden Center
7950 Independence Blvd.
Baton Rouge, Louisiana

Date & Time: June 16 - 17, 2010 8:30am to 3:00pm

Contact: Margaret R. Comeaux, Chairperson
215 Public Road
Rayne, La. 70578
337-334-4315/337-581-4910
Email — mrcomeaux@aol.com

Costs: \$55.00 per person
\$5.00 test cost
Lunch is provided for a small fee

Registration Form

Mail to: **Margaret R. Comeaux**, Landscape Design Study Program
215 Public Road
Rayne, Louisiana 70578-7610

Please make check Payable to: Landscape Design Study Program

_____ Enclosed is \$55.00 to cover cost of Tuition and Manual.

_____ Enclosed is \$5.00 for Exam fee or Refresher Fee.

Name: _____

Phone: _____ Cell: _____

Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

Email address: _____

Garden Club: _____ District: _____

Deadline for registration is June 1st, 2010

District Reports

DISTRICT VI

Minnie Posey, District Director

'Hats Off' and "Cheers" to Gonzales Garden Club ladies and their president, Janis Poche, for hosting the Fall District meeting in Oct. If you missed our meeting, you missed a great time, delicious food and the fellowship of garden club friends. These ladies showed us a great time and hospitality that was outstanding. Everyone received a door prize to take home. We all were so happy to have our State President, Donna Bucci with us and all our special guests.

The Dist. VI Bottle Cap Challenge winners were as follows: 1st place, Ponchatoula Gardenettes, president Diane Dufour with over 18,000 bottle caps' 2nd place went to Baton Rouge Garden Club, president, Sally Daigle with over 5,000 caps; 3rd Place went to Home and Garden Club, president, Dana Truxillo with over 27,00; 4th place went to Covington Garden Club, president Betty Plummer with over 25,00; and 5 Place went to Mt. Hermon Garden Club, president Joyce Proffitt with over 15,00; Honorable Mention went to Magnolia Forest, Joann Round; Gonzales Garden Club, Janis Poche; Community Gardeners, Hazel Hagan; Westchester Estates Garden Club, Joann Rome. Congrats to everyone who participated in the Recycling Challenge! We collected over 32.000 bottle caps.

Home and Garden Club is sponsoring the Woodsy Owl Poster Contest for the 4th graders in the parish schools for the first time. They are hoping for lots of entries from these young folks. In November, they did Gardening Therapy with ladies from Riverside Apartments. This project will continue to the Flag Pole, two Nursing homes and local Museum. Home and Garden Club will be celebrating their 65th anniversary with a Standard Flower Show in April. Congrats for all the years of service and dedication.

Baton Rouge Garden Club just hosted a beautiful show on November 21st entitled "Elvis is in the Building" with Jeanette Gatzman as Chairman. Many lovely designs were displayed at the show as well as many outstanding horticulture entries. Many lucky winners in the design division. Thanks to all who came to the Washington Parish Fair Flower Show this year. It was a great success!

Several of District VI Garden clubs donated to the "Freedom isn't Free" Project. The goal was met and Mary Hazen thanked everyone at the Fall Meeting for chipping in to help. Plan a trip to New Orleans next year for the dedication of the blue star marker at the Veteran's Museum.

District VI CLEAN CITY JUDGING will be going on soon. Amite, Hammond

and Covington are to be judges on March 23rd and Denham Springs and Baton Rouge will be judges on March 24th according to District VI Clean City Chairman, JoAnn Fryling of Baton Rouge, LA.. Good luck to our cities entered and great appreciation to the judges who will take on this great responsibility. Thanks you everyone and good luck!

Plaquemine Garden Club was recognized for donating the highest amount, 500.00 in support of costs for the Convention. It is still not to late for a club to donate. District VI donated one hundred dollars and received a certificate also. These ladies have it going on!

Many of our clubs will be beginning to select new officers for the coming year so I am asking you to Please email me your new President, name of club and her mailing information, telephone contact and email address.

Ponchatoula Gardenettes sent me a report and photo that they made a Mr. Bingle wreath for Christmas in the Oaks. Several other clubs did take wreaths home from the Fall meeting so Dist. VI again gave full support to this project. I hope to get to N. O. for a visit during the holidays. They also just sponsored a parish wide garden club meeting and had great attendance and a great program. Kathy Bedenbaugh and Donna Bucci, State President atteded.

Bogalusa Garden Guild, president Clara Seal, is had a Christmas dinner and fund raiser in December. They always have a wonderful meal and lots of fun bidding on handcrafted items. Mt. Hermon just had a Spring Show this past Saturday, February 27 th, which was a beautiful show with many lovely designs. Susan McNeese served as Chairman of the show.

District Reports

The members of Belle Oaks Garden Club would like to invite you and your club members to A Standard Flower Show on April 21, 2010 from 1-4:30pm. It will be at the Tangipahoa Tourism Convention and Visitors Bureau, 13143 Wardline Road, Hammond, LA 70401. It is free and open to the public. For more information, call Cindy Boyer, President, 985 429-9707, or e-mail cindydonald3@yahoo.com

Many of our clubs continue to do wonderful projects, such as bird feeders in their gardens, Flower Shows, Horticulture Exhibits, grow native plants, plant butterfly gardens, Gardening Therapy, Arbor Day Plantings, Youth Projects and Clubs, "Golden Moments" projects planting yellow daffodils and Plant it Pink national project.. Also our district is gearing up for Clean City Contest. The Projects are many and different. Thank you for promoting our garden club objectives this year.

We have 23 clubs in our district. Please go on the LA website and take a look at all the projects and activities clubs are doing in our district. I have encouraged all garden clubs to report their activities to the website for the Deeds and Doings Section of the Newsletter. Please let me hear of all the great projects you are doing also! Kathy Tell and Pam Langley are doing a great job and keep us well informed.

LAST BUT CERTAINLY NOT LEAST: District VI Garden Club Presidents and club Members, please get your reservations in for our 75th year celebration at the State Convention in New Orleans coming up in April. March 13th is deadline to get them in without a penalty. Go on LA web site to get the form for mailing in. Also please make your banner to help in our parade at the Tuesday night party celebration. I will send directions. District VI colors are royal blue and gold ribbon down the center. Make those hotel reservations also! Encourage all your ladies to come participate and celebrate this great occasion that will never come our way again!

DISTRICT VII

Lindy Taylor, District Director

Garden Clubs in District VII are all geared up for the summer growing season. They are working diligently in their gardens to repair the ravages of the cold, wet Winter and Spring that we have endured. The local clubs have incorporated programs and speakers from various fields of expertise in horticulture and home gardening to give them added incentive to shape up and improve their landscapes.

LSUAgCtr Extension Office under the direction of St. Landry Parish agent, Vince Deshotel , teamed with the Washington Garden Club to present a day long program of free gardening classes with presentations by LSU Ag Ctr staffers Dan Gill, Don Ferrin, Allen Owings, Ron Strahan, and Carlos Smith covering herbicides, pesticides, lawn management, native plants, ornamentals and tropicals for the landscape. DeRidder Garden Club hosted Keith Hawkins, Beauregard Parish LSU AgCtr Extension agent, with a presentation on " Best Management Practices". Crowley Garden Club will be hosting "Summer Gardening for the South" with Valerie Fabacher, Garden Center Manager at Stines at their April meeting while Opelousas Garden Club hosts Vince Deshotel, LSU Ag Extension agent who will talk about "General Use of Pesticides in the Garden". Dalton Durio will present a program on daylilies to the Washington Garden Club at their April meeting. Diggers & Weeders Garden Club enjoyed a field trip to the gardens of Retired US Army Major General Erbon Wise. Iowa Garden Club will visit "Almost Eden" Gardens, DeRidder Garden Club will tour Shangri-La Gardens in Orange, Tx. and Kinder Spade & Hope Garden Club will tour the gardens of Mr. & Mrs. Charles Wilhelmi. Spade & Hope Garden Club members are completing a "Flower Pot" quilt that will be raffled on April 24th to assist the Allen Parish Hospital Board with their efforts to secure a mobile testing unit.

Focus for the clubs during this season includes conducting plant exchanges, recognizing local "Garden of the Month" winners and observing National Garden Week in June. The Rayne Garden Club invites you to attend their Standard Flower Show, "A Floral Vacation" on Friday, April 23rd at the Rayne Cultural Center, 1023 The Boulevard, Rayne from 2-4pm.

District Reports

Chairman, Linda Finley and Co-Chairman, Margo Racca report that Environmental Studies Courses I & II have just been completed by Donna Bucci & JoAnn Ryan, pictured here with Jim Connally of Tyler, TX, one of the instructors.



DISTRICT VIII

Patti Killen, District Director

Alexandria Garden Club most significant project this year was the Placement of a Blue Star Memorial By-Way Marker in the Heritage Park of England Airpark. The dedication was held on Pearl Harbor Day, December 7, 2009. LGCF President Bucci was in attendance along with many local and State dignitaries. Due to the vision and labor of the Alexandria GC the Genealogy Library, the Rapides Parish Main Library and the Huie Dellmon House gardens will bloom with a wonderful display of daffodils in the spring and Historic Kent House will feature the Louisiana Iris.

City improvement and town beautification have been the focus of the Lecompte Garden Club. The GC hosted a public meeting with speaker Jean Gilstrap. A second meeting included information on assistance from outside sources. The Town will partner with the Garden Club, Business Owners, the Rotary and the schools to set a plan in motion. Another project was to learn more about awards and to increase the number of applications. Eleanor Talley gave the Club excellent information. Lecompte's Junior Garden Club is still very active with new projects.

Marksville Garden Club has certainly been visible in their community. They participated in Marksville's Bi-Centennial activities, Pioneer Day and their Oak Tree Project. The GC 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 and recycling.

Moreauville Garden Club is taking a few minutes at each meeting so that every member has the opportunity to make a presentation on an item or section from the Handbook for Flower Shows. Their goal is to help new members understand the guidelines for growing, designing and exhibiting and to help seasoned members review. They will sponsor a Flower Show in May called "Celebrating Life." Moreauville regularly has a Standard Flower Show with a 19-member Club.

Each Club in the Eighth District has accepted assigned tasks to work toward an outstanding 2011 State Convention with Chairperson Libby Dupuy and Co-Chair Diane Bordelon.

Herbloom Plants that Tell Cultural Stories

Willow Tree – Its bark was used by the ancient Greeks and Native Americans to counter fever and pain (aspirin).

Eastern Red Cedar – Legend credits the origin of the name “Baton Rouge” (red stick) to the red wood of the cedars observed on the bluffs near Baton Rouge. Also used with ironing of clothes.

Yapon – Berries were used by Native Americans in rituals to induce vomiting hence the scientific name *Ilex vomitoris*. Indians also used the berries to make a tea that was high in caffeine content.

Cast Iron Plant – Gets its name from its ability to tolerate low light and dry conditions.

Submitted by Bera Smith, Lafayette Garden Club (III)

District I



Pictured L-R is Accredited Flower Show Judges Harriet Charles of New Orleans in District I and Minnie Posey of Franklinton, LA in District VI who attended a Symposium entitled, "Know It...Grow It...Show it", in Greenwood Mississippi on February 16 & 17th. Much information on judging daffodils, tulips, Amaryllis and flowering branches was learned. Also Pot et Fleur designs were studied as well as Mono Botanical designs were studied and used for point scoring exams. Horticulture Instructor was Jim Schmidt from the University of Illinois and Design instructor was Barbara Baker from Ft. Worth, Texas. Serving as Chairman was Melanie Gousset. The ladies arrived in town with the snow falling and cool, cool temperatures. Fifty ladies attended the Symposium from Texas, Tennessee, state of Washington, and Missouri as well as Mississippi and Louisiana.

District III

Arbor Day, Friday, January 15, found Lafayette Garden Club members and Lafayette Consolidated Government out planting a live oak tree on Camellia Boulevard, a Memorial to deceased spouses of Lafayette Garden Club members: Ed Martien, husband of Gayle Martien and Joe Turk, husband of Rena Turk. Pictured with Lafayette Consolidated Government President Joey Durel are Lafayette Garden Club President Dr. Margaret Hargroder, Committee members Aline Arceneaux and Suzanne Ambler, Mrs. Martien and Mrs. Turk, Sarah Schoeffler, Jeff Olivier and Gil Futch, Bera Smith, Deborah Hawthorne and Jeanie Richard.



Following that ceremony, a reception and tea were held at the downtown Lafayette Public Library, in recognition of the registration of the live oak in Mary's Garden "*Le Livre-Chêne dans le Jardin de Marie*" (the Book Oak in Mary's Garden). Lafayette Garden Club Committee members for this event were Diana Nolan, Gretchen Stewart and Claire Torry. Garden Club President, Sona Dombourian, Director of Lafayette Parish Library; and Dr. Margaret Hargroder, Lafayette Garden Club President.

The holiday decorated University of Louisiana at Lafayette Alumni House was the setting for our annual Christmas Tea, on Wednesday, December 9. A special event was the recognition by President Margaret Hargroder and Membership Chairperson Claire Moody, of our new members, Babette Werner, Gretchen Stewart, Kathy Van Ness and Jan Wyatt, who were wearing specially prepared nametags done by Roxanna Champagne. Aline Arceneaux was recognized and presented with a bouquet of roses in honor of her induction into the Circle of Roses. Also recognized but not able to attend was Grace Eyster who is also inducted into the Circle of Roses.

Deeds and Doings

District VI

The Gonzales Garden Club Hosted the Fall District IV Meeting of the Louisiana Garden Club Federation, Inc. on Oct 30, 2009 at the Holiday Inn on Highway 30. The GGC welcomed garden clubs from twenty different locations from all over the state as far away as Shreveport with the total of 70 people attending the meeting. The picture on the right shows members at the meeting.



The Hammond Garden Club, as has been its practice for many years, presented its semi-annual scholarship of \$500.00 to a deserving Southeastern Louisiana University student. This semester's recipient is Rachel Varnado, a Horticulture student at SLU, nominated by Dr. Sid Guedry, the department head.

The Top 28 Girls Basketball tournament was held in Hammond in March at Southeastern Louisiana University. The Hammond Garden Club was asked to provide flowers for the event and made over 2 dozen arrangements which graced the tables and halls of the University Center.

Back in December it was "Tis the Season" as these Home and Garden Club members wrap special presents for another special child of the CARE AND SHARE PROJECTS by Home and Garden Club; L-R Jo Jane Kern, Mary Parsley; Chairman of Care and Share, Gayle Rester; Rachel Lanford, and Charlotte Reso; on the Right side of photo is Cathy Sapia, Vice President and in background is Chaplain Polly Carter.



Mt. Hermon Garden Club held a standard flower show on Saturday, Feb. 27th entitled "Glitz and Glamour of Mardi Gras" at the local Rurtian Club in Mt. Hermon, LA. Many horticulture exhibits and designs were viewed by the public. Congrats on an outstanding show! Pictured L-R Susan McNeese, Chairman of the show; Minnie Posey and Janet Baham and Rachel Lanford (not shown), who served as judges, Club President, Joyce Proffitt and Flower Show Co Chairman, Jamie Messina. The ladies dressed up in Mardi Grad costumes and made their show events more special. They even had a special Youth Exhibit! Members are encouraged to attend flower shows to learn more about design and horticulture.

Home and Garden Club took their annual tour to visit the Crosby Arboretum at Picayune Mississippi on Thursday, January 14th for a program entitled, "Mother Nature Shows Us How to Go Native". The Arboretum is a premier native plant conservatory in the southeast area of Mississippi. It features a variety of plant communities that represent the native flora of the Pearl River drainage basin. Included in this property of 64 acres is a savanna exhibit, a woodland exhibit and an aquatic exhibit.



Deeds and Doings

The 'Pinecote Pavilion' is a Mississippi Landmark and has received many architectural awards. The club members were graced with good weather and were able to take the walking tour. Of great interest was the bog area with the pitcher plants, which although not in their prime bloom period were visible. A controlled burn of the bog area was being prepared, as it was explained by senior curator and guide, Patricia Drackett, which will help maintain the fertility of the area and stimulate the native pitcher plants. There was much information to be gained on the walk with explanatory signs. A gift was presented to Mrs. Drackett by club president, Dana Truxillo, for her informative program.

After working up an appetite on the walk and ending the interesting and educational tour, the club members then ventured off to Paul's Pastries and several took advantage of picking up a King Cake for later enjoyment and also eating some of the most delicious pastries anywhere. Members attending were Nellie Jenkins; Sue Gerald; club Secretary Kathy Andre; Rita Wood; Dana Truxillo, Club President; Cathy Sapia, Vice President and Home and Garden club Chaplain, Polly Carter. Several members of the club were out due to illness.

All agreed the special tour with gardening friends was an enjoyable experience as the journey ended with this special thought for the day.

District VII

The Diggers and Weeders Garden Club recently toured retired Major General Wise's gardens just North of Sulphur, LA. Members, pictured her with General Wise, enjoyed a tour of over 200 blooming camellia bushes. General Wise was a gracious host and tour guide. He started planting camellias in 1969 and his hard work and love of flowering plants are evident in the many different types of flowering trees and bushes in his gardens. He opens his gardens to the public when the azaleas are in bloom.



District VIII

Marksville Garden Club Celebrates Arbor Day - The Marksville Garden Club celebrated Arbor Day by planting a tree on the grounds of the Hypolite Bordelon Museum on Tunica Drive. The Historic Hypolite Bordelon Home was the chosen site because it is a project of the club aimed at educating visitors to the tourist center of the town and calling attention to the beautiful native plants growing in the home's gardens. Following a ceremony, during which the Arbor Day Prayer was read, garden club members directed the planting. A Sweet Olive Tree was placed near the side windows to lend beauty and fragrance to the site for all visitors to enjoy. Present for the occasion were: Back Row: Libby Dupuy; Kate Moreau, club president; Eileen Brouillette, Hypolite Bordelon Museum Docent; Sherill Laborde and Marian Braud. Front Row: Dr. Paula Childress, Arbor Day Committee Chairperson; George Alice Dupuy and Anita Goulas.



National Garden Clubs New Project

"Beautify Blight...Love is ... Cultivating a Community Garden"

"Beautify Blight" has received a monetary contribution for Awards to be given to the individual Regions. The idea is to promote community "vegetable" gardens throughout our eight (8) Regions and the International Affiliates, which will be counted as one (1) additional Region.

We hope this small incentive will encourage more clubs to participate within their communities. With more Community gardens perhaps the monetary contributions will also grow.

The Award money will be divided between two (2) categories.

CATEGORY 1: "Beautify Blight"...A three (3) member team composed of a garden club, sponsored organization and a sponsored organized youth group establishing a community vegetable garden on an unsightly piece of land. The objective is to supply a soup kitchen or homeless shelter.

BOOK OF EVIDENCE: A before and after set of photos, one (1) or two (2) page description of the project and those involved; a statement about it being a one (1) or two (2) year endeavor.

AWARD: A 1st Place Award of \$50.00 will be given in each of nine (9) Regions if warranted; ribbons will be awarded to 2nd and 3rd Place winners.

DEADLINE FOR CATEGORY 1— JANUARY 20, 2011

CATEGORY 2: Existing "Community Vegetable Gardens"...The purpose of which has been to supply & provide for a homeless shelter and soup/church kitchen. This project has to have been in place for a MINIMUM of the last three (3) years.

BOOK OF EVIDENCE: Garden Clubs will provide photos of the progress of project; a two (2) page description of how, when where, who is involved and purpose of initiating garden.

AWARD: A 1st Place Award of \$35.00 will be given in each of the nine (9) Regions if warranted; ribbons will be awarded to 2nd and 3rd Place winners.

Each Regional Chairperson or persons of "Beautify Blight... Love Is ... Cultivating a Community Garden" will send no more than five (5) candidates for Category 2 to the National Chairperson of "Beautify Blight", Jeanne T. Nelson, no later than January 20, 2010.

For additional information contact:

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In Commemoration
Emily Sue Deville

Editors Note: This last January LGCF lost a dedicated member when Sue Deville passed away. Sue spent many years as editor of the LGCF Newsletter, and that job, the current editor has learned, entailed many different tasks. As a tribute to Sue, some members asked to share with LGCF members the eulogy that was written by Sue's son, Gil, Jr., and presented by Margo Racca on January 17, 2010. Here is that eulogy.

(This eulogy was composed by Gil, Jr. in remembrance of his Mother, but gives all the glory to God for its content.)

May we begin:

Once we enter this world from our mother's womb, we begin our life by familiarizing ourselves with our surroundings. In doing so, we must make decisions to adapt as our surroundings are constantly changing. These decisions that we make, sometimes several in a minute, affect not just our lives but that of love ones as well as total strangers. As we continue on our journey in life, our past decisions are retained as memories for whoever was affected in this massive universe. But in our life we seldom quiet our minds long enough to savor the past memories and or weep for our decisions that injured another heart. So, we continue traveling on our mission of life attempting to seize every opportunity that is presented before us. If you are blessed, you may actually come upon an opportunity that fulfills something deep within the heart and stimulates a fire so intense that nothing can extinguish the flames. One could actually say these may be the thoughts of Sue Deville.

Sue's decision relatively early in life directed her toward a life of service to others: Order of Eastern Star, Garden Club, Daughters of Liberty, ABWA, Daughters of the Confederacy, LA Genealogical Society, American Nursing Association, Museum Director and certainly more that we are all not aware of. From the memories that are shared, one could be led to believe that she contained that massive flame within and rode it to the fullest of her dreams. Her contributions to life will be spoken about for many years and equally missed.

So here we are, in our present state of life, gathered together to bid farewell to our dear friend, mother, grandmother, Sue Deville, on her journey into eternity to join the loved ones that have already made the transition. May each of us quiet our minds from time to time, examine our conscience, and continue to seek the opportunities surrounding us and attempt to touch as many hearts and lives as she has.

Farewell Sue.



Calendar of Events



2010

- April 13-15 LGCF Annual Convention, Doubletree, New Orleans
- May 14-16 National Garden Clubs, Inc. Convention – Omni Hotel, Atlanta, Georgia
- June 6 Dedication of the Blue Star Memorial Marker, WWII Museum, New Orleans
Everyone is invited!
- June 6-12 National Garden Week
- June 16-17 Landscape Design School Course II, Series XVII, Baton Rouge Garden Center
- July 19-20 LGCF Summer Board Meeting, Embassy Suites, Baton Rouge
- September 23-26 NGC Fall Meeting, Great Falls, Montana

Louisiana Garden Club Federation- Fall Meetings

- October 12, 2010- District VI
- October 13, 2010- District I & II
- October 14, 2010- District III
- October 19, 2010- District VII
- October 20, 2010- District VIII
- October 21, 2010- District IV
- October 22, 2010- District V

December 1 Award Applications due (with exception of Publicity Press Book)

2011

- January Louisiana Garden Club Federation- Winter Board Meeting, Lecompte, LA
- March 1 Final report of Officers and Chairmen due to Newsletter
- March 14-15 Deep South Convention- Hilton, Lafayette, LA
- April 13-15 Louisiana Garden Club Federation Convention- Paragon Casino Hotel, Marksville
- May 27-29 National Garden Clubs – Convention, Marriott Hotel, Washington, D.C
(Installation Year)
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2012

- May 16-19 National Garden Clubs Convention– Adams Mark Hotel, Buffalo, NY
- September 25-29, NGC Fall Board Meeting- Little Rock, Arkansas
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2013

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