

LOUISIANA GARDEN CLUB FEDERATION, Inc.

# NEWSLETTER



# JANUARY 2018

# THE LOUISIANA GARDEN CLUB FEDERATION, INC.

## Newsletter

Member of  
National Garden Clubs, Inc.  
Deep South Garden Clubs, Inc.  
*"Plant America-Plant Louisiana"*



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### Table of Contents

President's Message .....	3
Editors' Corner .....	5
Bulletin Board .....	6
Book Reviews.....	9
LGCF Tour Information .....	11
LGCF 2018 Convention Information.....	13
Live Oak Society Report .....	16
The American Bald Eagle in Louisiana .....	17
Circle of Roses .....	18
Deeds and Doings.....	25
Calendar of Events.....	54

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**On our Cover:** Our cover photo was submitted by **Pam Langley**, LGCF Scholarship Chair and President of **Diggers and Weeders Garden Club**, District 7. According to Pam, "My confederate rose (Hibiscus mutabilis) has bloomed twice this year; a few blooms in the spring and now it's loaded with buds this fall. The bees like it also!"

If you would like to submit drawings, paintings or photos for the cover of the Newsletter, please email them (or good copies) to [lgcfnewsletter@gmail.com](mailto:lgcfnewsletter@gmail.com) or mail to one of the co-editors listed below.

Co-Editors ..... Ruth Delhomme and Roxy Blanton

**DEADLINE FOR SUBMISSIONS TO SPRING ISSUE (APRIL 2018) IS MARCH 1<sup>ST</sup>, 2018.**

Please send all information for this issue to [lgcfnewsletter@gmail.com](mailto:lgcfnewsletter@gmail.com) or mail to one of the Co-Editors:

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## President's Message

### ***“PLANT AMERICA – PLANT LOUISIANA”***



Well, I am glad we are finally getting some cooler weather. This has been a busy summer and fall for the weatherman, as well as for our Louisiana club members. Hurricanes Irma and Nate certainly tried to get the best of us - but we are, as usual, a resilient state. Many thanks to Deep South Garden Clubs and the NGC Natural Disaster fund for being there when we needed them.

Sherrill Sasser, Representative at Large and DSGC Project Chairman, and I traveled the state to the six District Fall Meetings in October. I am so very proud of the district directors for conducting fun and informative meetings. The programs, meals and venues were enjoyable and educational. It was good to see and mingle with old friends and meet new club members. Good job, Ladies!

On Oct. 25, The Jefferson Parish Council in Gretna granted a Proclamation honoring the National Garden Club, Inc., for creating and continuing to sponsor the Environmental School which was hosted by Better Swamps and Garden Club. Wow, what an honor!

Along with that honor, the Parish Council presented a Certificate of Merit to Better Swamps and Garden Club and to the Louisiana Garden Club Federation, Inc., for their efforts and achievements in the Cleanest City Contest, which led to the Lt. Governor's Beautification Award presented to Jefferson Parish on July 28, 2017.

It was my pleasure to attend the Environmental School, Course 1, in Jean Lafitte under the direction of Joe and Cindy Bacucum. Boy, did I see and learn about a place that was educational and exciting. We had 17 Garden Club members and 7 Master Naturalists attending. (We all passed our test – yay!)

Environmental School Courses 2, 3 and 4 will be held in Abbeville under the direction of Gwen Laneaux, Chairman, and Patsy Hebert, Co-chairman. Check the LGCF website for more information.

On the subject of schools, I invite all club members to take advantage of the educational opportunities that LGCF offers in the Environmental, Flower Show Judges, Gardening, and Landscape Design Schools. The LGCF Website has dates and locations of future schools.

The LGCF 2018 State Convention, "Meet me at the Crossroads in Cenla," will be held on April 17 and 18, in Alexandria. Make your registrations early for a fun, exciting time in the middle of our state "where all roads meet." Chairman, Yvette Hebert, and Co-chairman, Carol Campbell, have planned a great convention with our own NGC President, Nancy Hargroves, attending.

Nancy will give her workshop on "Container Gardening" and will also have a message on her theme, "PLANT AMERICA," for us at the Awards Banquet, April 18. Please show her we support her theme by wearing your "PLANT AMERICA" pins to the convention. The pins can be ordered from Member Services, which can be found on the NGC website.

The Cleanest City Contest (CCC) is almost here again. CCC chairman, Jean Gilstrap, has sent out letters and entry forms to the mayors and parish presidents. Starting dates, information and the rulebook are on-line on our website. Entry forms are due Feb. 1st. District Judging is to be completed by April 12th and State Judging will be April 24-May 3rd. We are proud of this effort to clean up our state and it is the only contest of this kind in NGC.

By the way, there are three awards that are available for those cities that enter the contest. Also available to those cities that are affiliates of Keep Louisiana Beautiful and enter the CCC, they are eligible for a special award from the La. Mayors Assoc. Patsy Hebert is LGCF's Keep Louisiana Beautiful Committee Chairman - see her for information. Remember "Love the Boot, Don't Pollute."

It has been an exciting 10 months serving as your president and getting to know you better. I appreciate all the help and advice from the "many" and I hope all of you had a wonderful Thanksgiving and Merry Christmas. I'm truly looking forward to a GREAT 2018!

**Lena Bateman**



## EDITORS' CORNER



We want to take this opportunity to sincerely thank all those members who contribute in any way to the judging of awards. This is a very time-consuming task. Without these volunteers the wonderful work done by club members throughout the state would go unrecognized.

Thanks also to those who submitted comments about the newsletter. It is very gratifying to know that it has been well received. We encourage you to submit suggestions for improvement and we will try our best to maintain your support.

Ruth Delhomme and Roxy Blanton, Co-editors.



## Gardening School

On November 7<sup>th</sup> and 8<sup>th</sup>, Series X, Course I was presented at the Hammond Research Center by Dr. Allen Owings, Annie Coco and Miles Brashier. It was fun as well as educational. Three students became consultants; Versa Doré, Beth Erwin and Kathleen Van Ness. Two consultants attained Master status; Sarah LeBlanc and Linda Brashier. There were 19 registered for the class, with four being new. New students earned a Gardening School bag. The Hammond Garden Club helped with snacks for the class and a big thank you to them and their President Carolyn Schebel. The students all enjoyed the restaurants of Hammond including Olive Garden, who catered our lunches. The second course of Series X will be held on February 27-28, 2018 at the same location in Hammond. A highlight of that class will be a presentation by Jason Stagg. He is experimenting with growing olive trees at the station. Other instructors will be Dr. Allen Owings, Anne Coco, our own Beth Erwin and Dr. Yan Chen.

A new registration form will be on the LGCF Gardening School web page soon. The deadline to register is February 20, 2018. Course III is planned for the fall of 2018 with Course IV in early 2019.

The same motel that was used for the first class has given us a group rate of \$89.00 per night. The LaQuinta Inns and Suites is at 42126 Veterans Ave., Hammond, LA. That is south of I-12, exit 40. Telephone number is 985-345-4742. To get that rate, mention Louisiana Garden Club. Manager is Tamara. **Reservations must be made by February 5, 2018 to get the group rate.** The research station is at exit 42, Airport Road.





Class members under a *Datura* bush on the grounds.



Instructor Dr. Allen Owings with class in work shed potting cuttings from the grounds.

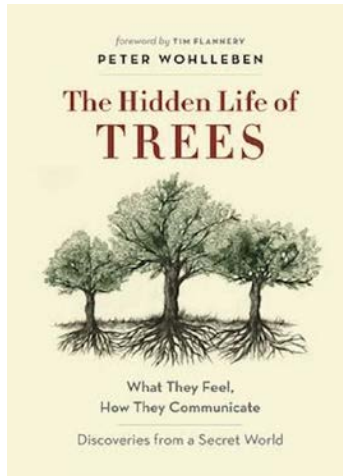


## Environmental School



Better Swamps and Garden Club hosted an Environmental School (Course I, Series V) for the Louisiana Garden Club Federation for two days (Oct 3 and 4) in the Town of Jean Lafitte, Louisiana. Attending the school were fifteen (15) garden club members from across the state, eight (8) master naturalists from the Greater New Orleans area, and a science teacher from the local Fisher Middle and High School --- for a participant count of 24 students. The garden club attendees included President Lena Bateman, Former President Mary Jacobs, 2<sup>nd</sup> Vice President Donna St Louis, District II Director Reba Mackey, District III Director Patsy Hebert, State Environmental School Chairman Gwen Lanoux, Kathy Tell, Nancy Bird, Liz Gremillion, Marietta Clark, Millie Clark, Susan Wilhem, Minnie Guas, and Joe and Cindy Baucum. The school was successful in advancing six (6) garden club members toward being Environmental Consultants, in one (1) member achieving the rank of Master Environmental Consultant (Kathy Tell), and of the refreshing of seven (7) Environmental Consultants. Joe and Cindy were equally pleased with the mix of garden club members and master naturalist aspirants. “The two organizations do not necessarily have the same mission statement or goals, but people who love the beauty and bounty of the outdoors tend to have similar needs, interests, and an intense love of nature,” said Joe Baucum, “The two groups interacted marvelously in class, on breaks, and on the field excursions.” The next three courses of Series V, Environmental School, will be held in Abbeville under the direction of the Abbeville Garden Club: Gwen Lanoux and Patsy Hebert. Joe and Cindy wish Gwen and Patsy every success and the best of good luck.

# Book Reviews



## **THE HIDDEN LIFE OF TREES**

By Peter Wohlleben

Greystone Books, Vancouver, 2015

272 pages

ISBN: 978-1-77164-248-4

Submitted by Sissy Gall, LGCF Book Review Chairman

A walk in the forest will never be the same after you have read this great book. The author convincingly makes the case that a forest is a complex social network. You will be captivated by this idea and drawn in to discover “how?”, within the first few pages.

Do trees have senses of smell and taste? Do they communicate with each other? Do natural forests’ social networks and microclimates differ from those of planted forests? Do trees help each other?

Enjoy the wonderland this book has to offer!



## **Garden Revolution How our landscapes can be a source of environmental change**

**Authors: Larry Weaver and Thomas Christopher**

**Timber Press, Portland OR, 2016, 328 pages, ISBN 978-1-604696-165**

**Submitted by Sissy Gall, LGCF Book Review Chair**

Dare to step away from conventional, traditional gardening practices, and let your garden, or parts of it, evolve with less disturbance of its own ecology!

Have you considered that maybe pulling weeds out, roots and all, significantly disturbs the soil and creates the opportunity for more weed invasion and promotes the germination of dormant weed seeds in the soil? Ugh! Do you spend more time making things grow, or keeping things from growing? Hmm....

The authors of this inspiring book, both with decades of experience and education in landscape design and horticulture, challenge traditional landscape and gardening theory with the concept of understanding the ecological processes of change in our native landscapes and incorporating them into our environments. Bringing our gardens into a sounder relationship with nature results in beautiful, dynamic landscapes that require less labor and are more aesthetically rewarding and environmentally sound. They have proven it over and over again.

Should you stop cutting your grass, and just let it grow up to the eaves of your house? Of course not!! But by applying the common-sense concepts introduced in this book, you might find areas in your landscape that would benefit from evolving over time according to natural processes of change; and have the courage to let your garden tell you what to grow, and what to let go.



## LGCF TOURS INFORMATION

By the time you read this, several of us will have traveled the Rhine River for the Christmas Markets. I trust that all of you had a blessed Christmas and a Happy New Year! This time next year we will be in California to work on a Rose Parade float and experience the Parade first hand—**that is if I get enough to sign-up!!** Only have four who say are interested at this time!! The dates are **December 28, 2018 to January 4, 2019.**

**PLEASE EMAIL ME IF YOU ARE INTERESTED IN GOING TO CALIFORNIA!!** Remember, these trips are not just for LGCF members—but spouses, friends, family. [lgcftours@aol.com](mailto:lgcftours@aol.com)

We have 18 persons going to New York **May 30 to June 7, 2018** (dates had to be changed). I have reserved two additional, double rooms which must be reserved by March, so if there are a few of you who still would like to make this beautiful trip to the Up=state New York's Lake District—let me know. Just to let you know—the airfare and the Broadway Tickets will already be secured, so there is no guarantee on airfare price or show tickets if you sign-on later.

**PLEASE DO NOT CALL OR TEXT ME FROM JANUARY 15 TO MARCH 15, 2019,** as I will be touring Indonesia, Australia and New Zealand—and calls and texts are **VERY EXPENSIVE!!!** I will have access to the Internet—just not sure how often. But I will get back to you as soon as I can.

Naomi Cordill, LGCF Tours Chair

[lgcftours@aol.com](mailto:lgcftours@aol.com) 318.498.0094





2018 LGCF, INC. CONVENTION  
April 17-18, 2018

Holiday Inn Downtown Alexandria

701 4<sup>TH</sup> Street  
Alexandria, LA 71301

*“MEET AT THE CROSSROADS IN CENLA”*

**Monday, April 16, 2017**

4-6 PM Registration - Hallway (Dinner on your own)

**Tuesday, April 17, 2018**

7AM-5PM Registration - Hallway

10AM-5PM Vendors Open - New Orleans Room A Ways and Means - Hallway

7:00-8:30 AM Breakfast - Baton Rouge Room

8:30-9:00AM Headquarters Meeting - New Orleans Room B-C

9:10-9:40AM Finance Committee Meeting - New Orleans Room B-C

9:50-10:50 AM 2017-2019 Club Presidents/District Directors Meeting - New Orleans Room B-C

11:00-11:50AM Executive Council Meeting - New Orleans Room B-C

12:00-2:00 PM Lunch - Hosted by Environmental Consultants Council - Baton Rouge Room

*“Honoring Club Presidents”*

Guest Speaker

Gene Cavalier, Louisiana Department of Agriculture and Forestry

*“LDAF Feral Swine Control Program”*

2:15-2:45 PM Landscape Design Consultants Council Meeting— New Orleans B-C Room

3:00-4:00 PM Workshop - New Orleans B-C Room

*“What Container? Which Design?”* - Janet Ahrens and Marilyn Wellan,

Floral Designers and Sculptresses, River Oaks Square Arts Center

4:10-4:30 PM Environmental Consultants Council Meeting— New Orleans B-C Room

6:00-7:00 PM Reception in the Hotel Lobby (Cash Bar)

*“Honoring LGCF President Lena Bateman”*

7:00-9:30 PM Dinner - Hosted by LCNAFS Judges Council - Baton Rouge Room

Program TBA

**Wednesday, April 18, 2018**

7AM-4PM Registration - Hallway

9AM-4PM Vendors Open - New Orleans Room A Ways and Means - Hallway

7:00-8:30 AM Breakfast - Baton Rouge Room

9:00-9:30AM LCNAFS Judges Executive Meeting - New Orleans Room B-C

9:30-10:00AM LCNAFS Judges Council Meeting - New Orleans Room B-C

10:10-10:50AM Workshop - New Orleans Room B-C

*PLANT AMERICA, “Container Gardening”* - NGC President Nancy L. Hargroves

11:00-11:30AM Gardening Consultants Meeting - New Orleans Room B-C

12:00-2:00 PM Lunch – Gardening and Landscape Design Consultants Councils – Baton Rouge Room

*“Honoring Life Members”*

Guest Speaker

Tammany Baumgarten, Baum Gardens Landscape and Design

*“How to OWN Your Garden”*

2:30-4:00PM LGCF Business Meeting - New Orleans Room B-C

6:00-7:00 PM Reception in the Hotel Lobby (Cash Bar)

*“Honoring NGC President Nancy L. Hargroves”*

7:00-9:30 PM Awards Banquet - Baton Rouge Room

Message from NGC President Nancy L. Hargroves

Louisiana Garden Club Federation, Inc.  
 Registration Form    Convention 2018  
 April 17 - 18, 2018  
*MEET AT THE CROSSROADS IN CENLA*

Name \_\_\_\_\_  
 Address \_\_\_\_\_  
 City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_  
 Phone \_\_\_\_\_ Garden Club \_\_\_\_\_ District \_\_\_\_\_  
 E-mail \_\_\_\_\_

**PLEASE CIRCLE THOSE THAT APPLY**

**LGCF:**            Officer (Includes District Directors & Representatives-at-Large)    Chairman (or alternate)  
                     Former LGCF President    LGCF Life Member    Club President (or alternate)  
                     Delegate (Clubs with 50 or more members)    Club Member    Guest

**DEEP SOUTH:**    Officer            State President            Chairman            DS Life Member    Former DS Director

**NGC:**            Officer            State President            Chairman            NGC Life Member

REGISTRATION	Price	Amount
<b>ENTIRE CONVENTION</b> includes all registration fees and six (6) meals.	\$240	
<b>PART REGISTRATION</b> (A registration fee is required for each day regardless of the number of events one attends.)		
Tuesday, April 17		
Registration	\$25	
Breakfast	\$15	
Luncheon	\$35	
Banquet	\$45	
Wednesday, April 18		
Registration	\$25	
Breakfast	\$15	
Luncheon	\$35	
Banquet	\$45	
<b>LAST DATE FOR REGISTRATION IS MARCH 16, 2018. NO LATE REGISTRATIONS OR WALK INS WILL BE ACCEPTED.</b>		
<b>TOTAL</b>		
Dietary    Vegetarian Allergies		

MAKE CHECKS PAYABLE TO LGCF CONVENTION 2018-DISTRICT EIGHT  
MAIL FORM AND PAYMENT TO REGISTRAR: SUE LEE, 14 SMETAK ROAD, DEVILLE, LA 71328  
EMAIL: [sandjlee@att.net](mailto:sandjlee@att.net) PHONE: 318-767-8702

## 2018 LGCF CONVENTION HOTEL REGISTRATION

April 17-18, 2018

Holiday Inn Alexandria Downtown Convention Center  
701 4<sup>th</sup> Street, Alexandria, LA 71301

Rooms rate is \$128.08 per night (includes taxes) for Two Queen Beds or King Bed

For Online Reservations or Phone Reservations (318-541-8333) use **Code GCF**

The hotel set the reservation cut-off date as 3/16/2018.

## 2018 LGCF CONVENTION MEALS

### Tuesday, April 17, 2018

Breakfast Buffet: Eggs, meat, fresh fruit, breads, rolls, juice, coffee.

Lunch: Shrimp and Potato Chowder, Cobb Salad with all toppings on the side, Dinner Rolls, Strawberry Short Cake with Homemade Whipped Cream, Tea, Coffee.

Dinner: Spinach and Mandarin Orange Salad with Crumbled Bacon, Pecans, and Poppy Seed Dressing, Blackened Chicken Alfredo with Bowtie Pasta, Corn Soufflé, Glazed Baby Carrots, Dinner Rolls, Cheesecake with Strawberries, Tea, Coffee.

### Wednesday, April 18, 2018

Breakfast Buffet: As on Tuesday

Lunch: Fresh Micro Greens with Strawberries, Candied Pecans, Feta and White Balsamic Dressing, Large Natchitoches Meat Pies, Seafood Casserole, Sautéed Vegetables, Dinner Rolls, Amaretto Infused Louisiana Pecan Pie, Tea, Coffee.

Dinner: Baby Sugar Beet Salad, Creole Butter Injected Sliced Pork Tenderloin, Spinach Madeline, Sweet Potato Gratin, Dinner Rolls, White Chocolate Bread Pudding, Tea, Coffee.



# Live Oak Society Report

Since May 1, 2017 to November 11, 2017 the Live Oak Society has acquired 207 new members making a total number of member 8,521.

Beau Chene Garden Club in Mandeville registered scores of their Live Oaks in the Beau Chene Subdivision and the Beau Chene Golf Club registered all of their oaks on the golf course. The City of Mandeville spearheaded a huge registration with the historical value of all the Live Oaks along the lakefront on Lake Pontchartrain. Registrations continue to come in from the other 13 states with St. Simons Island , Georgia being the heaviest contributor in the past three months. Live Oaks are registered in the 14 states in which it grows not just in Louisiana.

Sadly, the Charity Hospital School of Nursing in New Orleans lost its member oak, the Sister Stansilaus Oak, named for the foundress of the Nursing School. It fell over from excessive flooding in New Orleans in August. The Alumni Association of the School plans to plant a new one in its place.

Garden clubs are urged to register Live Oak in their communities and urge city and parish governments to preserve the Live Oaks which are part of Louisiana's heritage. A Live Oak does not become mature for several decades and destruction of just one is a loss to a community.

Pictured is "The Lone Oak" at the Elayn Hunt Correctional Center near Carville where former inmates who have no relatives are buried. (Photo by Coleen Perilloux Landry).

**Submitted by Coleen Perilloux Landry, Chairman, Live Oak Society**





# THE AMERICAN BALD EAGLE IN LOUISIANA

By Coleen Perilloux Landry

Since the banning of DDT, the American Bald Eagle is once again taking its prominent place in Louisiana. For years the pesticide softened the eggshells of the eagles and no babies were hatched. Now, we are seeing more and more nests and the population is growing.

A Bald Eagle does not become mature and able to reproduce until it is five years old when it has acquired its solid white head and white tail feathers. It usually returns to the place of its birth each year to spend the months of October through April. During this time the mature eagles are busy building a new nest, restoring their old nest, laying and hatching their eggs and teaching their young ones to fly and hunt. Then, they migrate to Canada for the hot months, a long and dangerous flight.

I have followed one pair of eagles since 2008 and am almost thrilled and grateful to see them return from Canada in early October. They have stayed in a part of the LaBranche Wetlands in St. Charles Parish. In 2012, Hurricane Isaac destroyed their nine-year-old nest and I watched as they laboriously built a new one in a nearby Bald Cypress tree.

I am also seeing new pairs building nests in the Bonnet Carre' Spillway. Hopefully, our population will grow and thrive in the coming years.

Other places to see eagles and nests in southern Louisiana are Morgan City, the Atchafalaya Basin and along the shore of Lake Verret.

It is important that we protect our National Bird with a clean and safe environment so future generations can appreciate its beauty.



Photos by Coleen Perilloux Landry



## *Circle of Roses*



*Gloria Byars*

*District VII*

Gloria was born in New Orleans on June 24. Her family moved to Eunice LA when she was 2 years old and she lived there until she went to college. Gloria married John Scott Doyle and had 3 sons. He died in 1996 of Cancer. She worked for orthopedic surgeons as a Coding Specialist and Accounts Receivable Department for 16 years before retiring.

Later years she married a man that she grew up living next to and knew all her life, her next-door neighbor, Fred Byars. Besides her 3 sons she now has 16 grandchildren and one great granddaughter.

Gloria joined the Diggers and Weeders Garden Club in Lake Charles in 2002. She has served her garden club through the years in many capacities. She held the position of club Secretary through several terms, held various chairman positions, and currently serves as Club Chaplain. She furthered her gardening education and became a Master Gardener in 2003. Gloria has taken several classes in plant identification, pest control, native plants, and identifying beneficial and harmful insects. Gloria hosted the Clubs 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary in her Moss Bluff home in May 2004.

Crafting, Restoring and Recycling are favorite hobbies of hers. Gloria is currently a vendor and maintains a booth at Peddler's Flea Market in Westlake LA. She enjoys researching her treasure finds.



## *Circle of Roses*

*Pat Garber*

*District VII*



Pat Garber joined the Lake Charles Garden Club approximately 45 years ago. During that time, she held several offices and served as committee chairs when she was not living abroad, as her husband, Ben, was employed internationally. While residing and traveling in foreign countries, Pat always delighted in visiting the gardens in each country.

Pat graduated from LSU in 1952, married Ben Garber, and raised three children, Becky, Jennifer, and Ben. Her hobbies include bridge where she is a Bronze Life Master.

Pat's love for plants was inspired in childhood by a neighbor, Mrs. FW Gangwer who served as President of the Lake Charles Garden Club 1938-39. Pat's mom grew Day Lilies and Amaryllis and her Uncle Marvin Granger was noted and published for his hybridization of native Iris. Some of these plants Pat proudly grows in her garden.



## *Circle of Roses*

*Cathy Andrew*

*District III*



“My interest in gardening and flower arranging began as a child growing up in Lafayette just across the street from the Southwestern Louisiana Institute Horticulture Center on Johnston Street,” said Cathy Andrew. Her mother, Claudia Vige, was a member of the Lafayette Garden Club, and Cathy remembers admiring her lovely arrangements. So, after retiring and being asked to join, Cathy decided the time was right in 2011.

Since then, she has served as Vice President, chaired the Yearbook Committee, co-chaired the Native Plant Committee, served on the Daisy Scouts, and Butterfly Gardens, Civic Pride and Garden of the Month, Flower Show and Membership Committees.

Cathy, nee Catherine Vige’, grew in a six-block radius of the University of Louisiana-Lafayette. She remembers her father, ULL professor Dr. L. Vige’, walking her to the university’s preschool and elementary school. After graduation from Lafayette High and then the University of Southwestern Louisiana, Cathy began her teaching career at Vermilion Elementary and ended it after teaching 33 years at Ascension Day School.

Dean David R. Andrew and Cathy have been married for 59 years. They are the parents of Robert C. Andrew (Susan) of Broussard, Lisa Ellerman (Troy) of Garland, Texas, and David H. Andrew (Nicole) of Youngsville. They have six grandchildren and two great-grandchildren.

“I have enjoyed the opportunity to participate in the many diverse community civic activities of the League of Women Voters,” said Cathy who has been on the leadership team and also served as treasurer. She is a member of La Petite Fleurs Theresian Community, has helped with fundraising for United Way, and participated in the Meals on Wheels program for St. Joseph’s Diner. Cathy is active in her church, St. Mary Mother of the Church. She has been a Eucharistic Minister for 30 years, and served on the Parish Council, Altar Society, and the Décor Committee. The mayor of the city bestowed the Key of the City to her in recognition of becoming a Woman of Excellence.

Of her hobbies, she says she really likes flower arranging now but, “Of course, my grandchildren have always been my favorite hobby.”





## *Circle of Roses*

*Maggie Chaisson*

*District III*



After moving from Marrero to Lafayette in 2007, Maggie Chaisson signed up for the UL potpourri course “Garden Smarter, Not Harder.” The instructor Grace Eyster invited her to attend a Lafayette Garden Club meeting in 2008 and the rest is history.

Maggie has been co-chair of the Civic Pride and Garden of the Month Committee and helped with the Daisy Scout program. She has presented designs and horticulture in the Flower Show during Festival des Fleurs. While doing these, she has developed friendships with members of the club and really enjoys the horticulture part of each meeting. While she loves most all plants, perennials are her favorites, and she appreciates cut flowers in her home.

She has been married to Carl Chaisson for 57 years. Together, they have three children—Brian Chaisson (Kim Russell) of Fayetteville, Ark.; Bonny Botts (Hunter) of Baton Rouge; and Holly Van Beek (Richard) of Carencro. The couple have four grandchildren.

While working for Louisiana Power and Light, Maggie studied business at Tulane. After retiring, she worked in the antique business for ten years.

Maggie completed the LSU Master Gardener program in 2010. She is a member of Sacred Heart of Jesus Catholic Church in Broussard and a member of the “Come Lord Jesus” Bible study. In her spare time, she enjoys reading, gardening, traveling and spending time with family and friends.



## *Circle of Roses*



*Margo Racca*

*District III*

"I think the Lafayette Garden Club is the best in the state," says Margo Racca. After joining the Louisiana Iris Society, Margo felt she didn't have the knowledge to make arrangements with irises. So in 1988, she joined the Lafayette Garden Club to learn how.

Since then, she has served as the Lafayette Garden Club President, from 1993 to 1995 (even after she moved to Iowa, LA., and was forced to commute) and as the Louisiana Club Federation, Inc. President from 2003 to 2005. She is the first Five Star member in Louisiana holding a Master Certification in Environmental Studies, Gardening Studies, Flower Show Judges and Landscape Design. Margo is an International Master Bromeliad Judge and on the board of Bromeliad Society International representing the Central Region. She has been recognized as a NGC Life Member, LGCF Life Member, DSR Life Member and Woman of the Year in the Lafayette Garden Club and Member of the Year in the Iowa Garden Club. She was honored as a Deep South Diamond and Alternate Director.

Margo's mother, living in Vinton, La., traveled to a hospital in Orange, TX., to deliver her youngest child. Margo attended Centenary College in Shreveport and the University of Louisiana, Lafayette. She now works in her husband's Chiropractic office in Iowa.

Margo, nee Margo Holden, and her husband, Dr. Jim Racca, have been married for 58 years. They have four children: Mandy LeBlanc (Kert); Dawn Dartez; Greg Racca (Gina), and Robb Racca (Lorna). They have eight grandchildren and seven great-grandchildren.

While Margo likes all plants, her favorites are bromeliads. She also enjoys growing orchids and many other plant genera. She remains a member of the Lafayette Garden Club and is serving as a recycled President of the Iowa Garden Club.





## *Circle of Roses*

*Dee Nolan*  
*District III*



After a friend told her how much fun the Lafayette Garden Club is, Dee Nolan decided, in 1994, to join. Today she is president of the group of more than 100 members. Dee has also served as second vice president, secretary, and placement and staging chairman for the annual flower show.

When speaking of the Cleanest City Contest, she says, "That's my passion." She is proud to announce that Lafayette won the title as Cleanest City for the past three years and is working on its fourth win.

The Houston native has lived as far south as Venezuela and as far north as Nebraska, noting that her father was in the oilfield. When living in Lafayette, Dee met her husband, Charles, when he was racing sports cars and she was a member of his pit crew. The couple had been married for 50 years when Charles passed away in 2012. They are the parents of two children: Rebecka Didier (Tom) and Charles Nolan Jr. (Carice) all of Youngsville, and they have five grandchildren. She's also the mother of four, four-legged furry babies.

The graduate of Lafayette High School, attended junior college in Nebraska and graduated from Spencer Business College in Lafayette. She worked as a secretary until becoming the office manager for Nolan Bearings, Inc., which her husband founded, until the business was sold in the late 80's.

This busy lady is involved in the Salvation Army Auxiliary, Festival des Fleurs, Republican Women, Friends of the Library, and was past commander of the now defunct Acadiana Power Squadron. She was a Girl Scout and a Cub Scout leader. As a member of the Church of the Covenant United Methodist Church, she

participates in the Bell Choir, has taught Sunday School and Vacation Bible School and participates in the puppet show for the church's October Pumpkin Patch.

She is also a member of a friend's "Scarf Ministry". The group makes homemade (knitted & crocheted) scarves and adds socks, gloves, hats, bibles, an original poem and card, a little candy and puts everything in gift bags and distributes them to the homeless and displaced men and women on Christmas Eve.



We have many ladies in their senior years who have given their time and talents over the many years and we would like to honor them in the newsletter. In order to do this, we are asking each club that wishes to honor a senior member or members this way please submit both a "then" and "now" photograph with a short write-up on the member's garden club activities. This quarter we would like to welcome to our "Circle" these special ladies.

If you have a deserving member of your club that you would like to nominate for the Circle of Roses, please send a short write up along with a 'then' and 'now' picture to

LGCF Circle of Roses Chairman

Georgie Petitjean

1006 East 5<sup>th</sup> Street

Crowley, LA 70526-3952

(337) 783-4545 [gmpetitjean@cox.net](mailto:gmpetitjean@cox.net)

**Note from the newsletter co-editors:**

We think the Circle of Roses is a very special honor and we want to share that making these pages has been a real challenge and learning experience. It would be very helpful if those submitting information would not send it in PDF format. We do the newsletter in Word and then convert to PDF after it is completed. Also, digital pictures are preferred but please send them individually and label them accordingly. This is especially helpful for the "then" and "now" pictures.

# DEEDS AND DOINGS

## *Districts I and II*

### **Acres of Green Garden Club**

Acres of Green Garden Club of Metairie, Louisiana, is celebrating its 60th year. It began in September with a luncheon meeting at the lovely home of Jeanne Garman on Bayou St. John where members toured her greenhouses of bromeliads. Summer activities included the dedication of a Recycling Program at Lafreniere Park which was initiated and spearheaded by Coleen Perilloux Landry, making it the only public park in the New Orleans metro area to have full recycling.

The Club participates in Garden of the Month judging, the Scarecrow Trail at City Park, the Christmas in the Oaks "Mr. Bingle Wreath" at New Orleans Botanical Garden, the philanthropic program at Christmas where they deliver gifts to the Metropolitan Home for Women and Children as they have done for 40 years. Members are looking forward to the annual Christmas Doorway contest.

In spite of the decline in garden clubs, Acres of Green has welcomed three new members in the past six months. Sadly, the club said goodbye to longtime member, Sara Junot, who passed away at the age of 90.

Member Coleen Perilloux Landry presented a Power Point program to Jefferson Parish Council of Garden Clubs on the history of Lafreniere Park which is celebrating its 35th anniversary. From a burned-out race track and clubhouse, it is now a crown jewel of Jefferson Parish with hundreds of trees, lagoons, and play areas. And, Phyllis Stacy entered the Scarecrow Trail at the New Orleans Botanical Garden in City Park. The Club is looking forward in March to participating in "Art in Bloom" at the New Orleans Museum of Art.



Recycling Coleen Perilloux, Mike Lockwood (Director of Environmental Affairs), Sarah LaRock of Environmental Affairs, and Parish President Michael Yenni.

## DEEDS AND DOINGS



Seated: Lynn Courrage, Standing: Phyllis Stacy, Yvette Gagnet and Betty Spurlock. Seated: Lynn Courrage, Standing: Phyllis Stacy, Yvette Gagnet and Betty Spurlock.



Eleanore Hebert, Sharlene Olijnik, Kay Allen, Jeanne Garman, and Coleen Landry.



Phyllis and Scarecrow.



## DEEDS AND DOINGS



Coleen Perilloux Landry right with Jefferson Parish Council of Garden Clubs president Charlene Ardoin at October meeting.



New Member Mary Crumb, Coleen Perilloux Landry, membership chairman and President Yvette Gagnet. Standing is Phyllis Stacy, program chairman.

Sarah Huffman was a member of Acres of Green Garden Club at the time of her death. She was an active member of the Jefferson Parish Council of Garden Clubs and the Louisiana Garden Club Federation as well as a renowned horticulturist, having had a sanseveria that she developed named for her by the British Horticulture Society. Her husband, Harold, an honorary member of the JPCGC, created a prayer garden in her memory at St. Ann's Catholic Church in Metairie, where she was chairman of the altar decorating committee for decades.



## DEEDS AND DOINGS



Members of the Jefferson Parish Council of Garden Clubs decorated the Foundation Center at Lafreniere Park for the Christmas holidays. The Patrons of Lafreniere Park donated the tree and garden club members trimmed the tree and made wreaths for the Center and the front doors. Club members participating are from Acres of Green Garden Club, Chateau Estates Garden Club, Colonial Garden Club, Creative Planters Garden Club, Metairie Ridge Garden Club, Petals of North Bridgedale, Rambling Rose Gardeners, River Ridge Garden Club, Shady Oaks Garden Club and Terrytown Garden Club. General chairman was Coleen Perilloux Landry and decorating chairman was Jackie Ciuffi. The Council will hold its 55th annual Christmas Tea in the Center on December 15.

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Hanging the wreaths on the entrance doors to the Lafreniere Park Foundation Center are Coleen Perilloux Landry, general chairman and a board member of Patrons of Lafreniere; Jackie Ciuffi, decorating chairman; Charlene Ardoin, president of the Jefferson Parish Council of Garden Clubs, and Reba Mackey, District II director of the Louisiana Garden Club Federation.



# DEEDS AND DOINGS PAGES

## *District III*

### **Abbeville Garden Club**

The Abbeville Garden Club met on Monday, September 18th at the home of Susan and Ed Wilhelm. Serving as co hostess was Nancy Schexnaider.

Members arrived early for a tour of the Wilhelms' gardens. Ed Wilhelm shared his passion for collecting and propagating different plant species, including native plants, perennials, azaleas, roses, and fruit trees, with plans for planting an orchard. AGC members enjoyed an interesting and delightful tour.

President Sandy Richard and board members presented an overview of AGC's goals, objectives, programs, and service projects for the AGC 2017-2018 club year. Members also reviewed the goals and objectives of National Garden Clubs, Inc. and the Louisiana Garden Club Federation.

At the end of the business meeting, members participated in a "Plant Swap", exchanging plants which they propagated and/or cared for throughout the year. Information on the plant's identification and care were included.



Abbeville Garden Club Members swapped plants which they propagated and/or cared for throughout the year at their September 18 meeting. Plants included daylilies, fire spike plant, ferns, walking iris, ground orchids, blackberry bush, and fig trees. Pictured left to right are AGC members Karen Hoyt, Susan Wilhelm, Liz Gremillion, Nancy Schexnaider, Ed Wilhelm, Sandy Richard, Mariett Pam Wallace, Denise Files, Gwen Lanoux, Jeanell Duhon, and Patsy Hebert. Members attending, but not pictured were Theresa Bro Sandra Creswell, Juliette Dumond, Judge Edwards, Linda Hedio, Susie Ledet, and Odile Segrest. Abbeville Garden Club is a member of National Garden Clubs, Inc., Deep South Garden Clubs, Inc., and Louisiana Garden Club Federation, District

## DEEDS AND DOINGS PAGES



Abbeville Garden Club hosted the Louisiana Garden Club Federation District III Fall Meeting, “Pearls and Palmettos”, on Thursday, October 26, 2017 at Magdalen Place in beautiful Downtown Abbeville. This very important meeting included visiting representatives from ten of the eleven LGCF District III Clubs and other Districts across the state.

Members of the Abbeville Garden Club - District III Host Club for 2017 – are (standing left to right) Susan DesOrmeaux, Nancy Shexnaider, Odile Segrest, Pam Wallace, Sandra Creswell, Brenda Cross, Karen Hoyt, Juliette Dumond, Denise Files, Elizabeth Edwards, Linda Hedio, Judge Edwards, Susie Ledet, Gwen Lanoux, Ingrid Jones, Ed Wilhelm, Theresa Broussard, Laura Floyd, and Susan Wilhelm.

Seated (left to right) are Marietta Clark, Registration Chairman, Liz Gremilion, Co Chairman of District III Meeting, Patsy Hebert, District III Director, and Sandy Richard, President of Abbeville Garden Club and Co Chairman of District III Meeting.



## DEEDS AND DOINGS PAGES

The Abbeville Garden Club participated in the Giant Omelette Celebration Kid's World Tent on Saturday, November 4, 2107. Educational Activities were centered on the Plant America Theme for NGC and LGCF.

Members read The Saved Seed at 4 different time slots to approximately 16 children. A copy of The Saved Seed was also given away to one lucky student at the end of the day.

During the month of November, AGC members donated The Saved Seed to 10 Elementary schools in the Abbeville Area and volunteered to read in 4 of these schools. Members also gave these books to friends and grandchildren.

Another activity offered on this day was a demonstration on saving pumpkin seeds for drying and planting in the Spring, just as described in The Saved Seed. Children decorated peat pots and planted grass seeds; teaching them the steps in proper seed planting. Approximately 36 children participated in seed planting, with their parents alongside them.

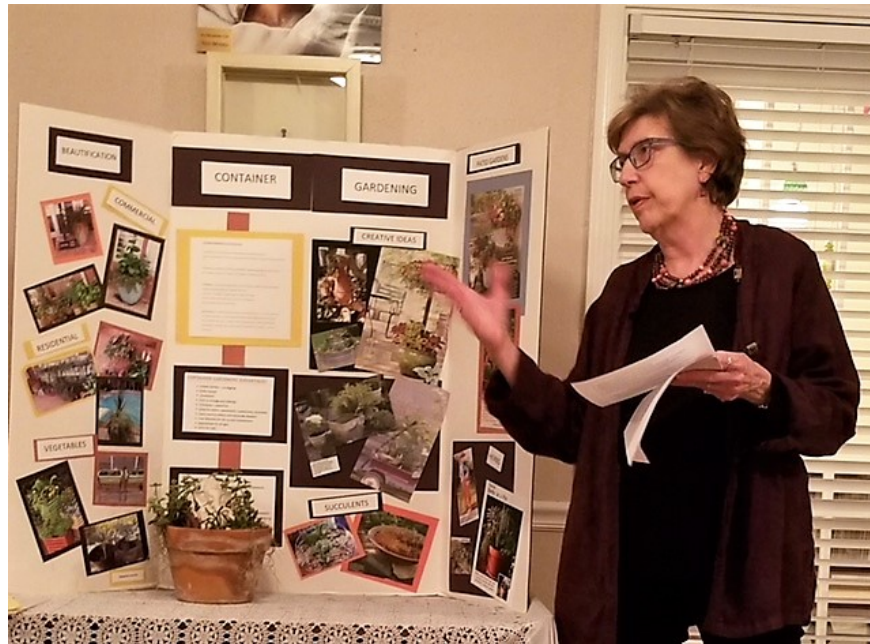
National Recycling Day was also promoted. Recycling of pumpkins used for planting containers was encouraged. Flyers for the Household Hazardous Waste Day in Vermilion Parish were distributed.



Abbeville Garden Club members are pictured at the Omelette Celebration Kid's World Tent. Members, from left to right, are Patsy Hebert, Liz Gremillion, Marietta Clark, Susie Ledet, Pam Wallace, Susan Wilhelm, Gwen Lanoux, Theresa Broussard and Odile Segrest. Member participating, but not pictured is Sandy Richard.

# DEEDS AND DOINGS PAGES

## Azalea Garden Club



*Darnelle Delcambre of the New Iberia Garden Club recently gave a presentation on Container Gardening to Azalea Garden Club.*



**Planting pink rose bushes to celebrate Breast Cancer Awareness Month were Margaret Melancon Millie Comeaux, Versa Dore, Judy Delahoussaye, Linda Davis, Claire Harper, Hermance Schellstede-Pflieger, and Francine Garzotto.**



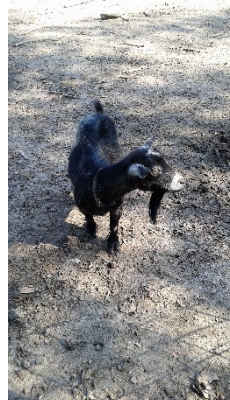
# DEEDS AND DOINGS PAGES

## Lafayette Garden Club

The 2017-2018 Garden Club season began with our new Club president Diana Nolan conducting our September meeting at the Ira Nelson Horticulture Center. The meeting began with all reciting the Collect "For the tender green of growing things, for the mellow soil at our fingertips, for the wonder of life in tiny seeds, for the beauty of growing gardens, for the joy of caring for these, thy bounties, dear Father in Heaven, we thank thee," the Pledge of Allegiance to our Flag, and the Conservation Pledge "I pledge to protect and conserve the natural resources of the planet Earth and promise to promote education so we may become caretakers of our air, water, forest, land and wildlife." President Diana's theme for her term is that we do our best for Our God, our Country, and our Gardens by beautifying our own homes as well as our City, to protect and conserve our natural resources and to encourage civic and roadside beautification.

Among the Agenda for the September meeting was honoring JoAnn Pugh for her service to the Club. Loraine Allain reported on hummingbirds who will be frequenting our area on their route to a warmer climate, reminding Club members to keep their hummingbird feeders filled with a commercial feeder or the formula of 1 part sugar and 4 parts water. Joy Hargrave, Cleanest City Chair, reported on the Project Front Yard summit meeting on community beautification that she attended, where an Environmental Litter Court Workshop was conducted by Rick Moore, St. Tammany Parish Constable and Director of Keep St. Tammany Beautiful.

On October 11, members of Lafayette Garden Club enjoyed a field trip to "Scratch Farm," in Duson where they visited an 18-acre organic farm operated by Jamie Vickery and Kelsey Leger. Members were able to see lots of pigs, chickens, roosters, goats and a Shetland pony. "Scratch" operates a farm kitchen booth at Moncus Park at the Horse Farm on Johnston Street every Saturday morning. On a beautiful fall day, it was so refreshing to stroll around the Farm. Many Club members fondly remembered and talked about their early days being on a farm. Owner Jamie Vickery is pictured among the Farm's pigs.



Greta the Alpine milking goat, a resident of "Scratch" farm loves kids (the human kind) and roaming when she is able to escape through a fence.

Eighteen Lafayette Garden Club members attended LGCF's District III's Fall luncheon meeting "Pearls & Palmettos" at Magdalen Place in Abbeville, on Thursday, October 26. The meeting was led by District III Director Patsy Hebert, who recognized Linda Brasher as the new District Director III elect, and stated that our District III will host the 2019 State Garden Club Convention. After presentation and posting of Colors by Louisiana National Guard, Second Battalion, 156 Infantry Regiment of Abbeville, everyone singing the National Anthem, a welcome address by Abbeville City Councilman Brady Broussard, many reports and a blessing by Father Louis Richard, we enjoyed the lunch. Guest speaker Dr. Barry Ancelet, professor emeritus of Francophone studies and Studies of Folklore at University of Louisiana at Lafayette spoke and entertained us with Cajun facts.

## DEEDS AND DOINGS PAGES



Guest speaker Dr. Barry Ancelet, professor emeritus of Francophone studies and Studies of Folklore at University of Louisiana at Lafayette spoke and entertained us with Cajun facts.

Many door prizes and District III scholarship raffle prizes were awarded, as District III treasurer Iris Roy announced another successful raffle for the District III Scholarship Fund. Before adjourning, Dee Nolan, President of Lafayette Garden Club gave a benediction, then the group from Lafayette Garden Club posed for picture taking.





## DEEDS AND DOINGS PAGES

Bill Bowers, a graduate Agricultural Economist and owner of Classic Golden Pecans in Lafayette, presented a program about pecans and led a Question & Answer session at the Club's November meeting. Mr. Bowers is pictured demonstrating various varieties of pecan, during his talk.



Cynthia Reisinger gave a report on Bees, including a board presentation, speaking about the dramatic decline of honeybees in the U.S. and elsewhere, their importance and how the loss of honeybees could have a devastating effect on agriculture and food supply. Cynthia is pictured standing beside her bee topic poster board.



# DEEDS AND DOINGS PAGES

## St. Martinville Garden Club



The St. Martinville Garden Club members recently celebrated another successful Tour of Homes held on Sunday, December 3, 2017. A special thank you to the hosts and hostesses who opened their homes and businesses for the tour. Special thanks to the City of St. Martinville for the use of the Opera House and to the Tour of Homes committee for an outstanding job. All proceeds will be used for St. Martinville Civic Beautification projects.



*Members of the St. Martinville Garden Club attended the New Iberia Garden Club Christmas Tea. Those in attendance were Lynne Bonin, Christine Berard, Carolyn Myers, Marjorie Melancon, Charmaine Savasten and Ester Perkins. The event was wonderful and enjoyed by all.*



# DEEDS AND DOINGS PAGES

## *District V*

### Garden Gate Study Club



Left to right: LGCF President Lena Bateman presented District V Director Shirley Key with a fifty dollar check award for the district registering one of the two highest numbers in the “Million Pollinator Garden Challenge” program. The award was presented at the District V Fall Meeting; Garden Gate Study Club members and District Director Shirley Key; Collinston Garden Club members attending the District V Fall Meeting.



Garden Gate Study Club chose the local rehabilitation center for women, Fresh Start, to share their Plant it Pink project with. The ladies all worked together to build and plant a beautiful new flower bed with all pink flowers in recognition of Breast Cancer Awareness Month.

# DEEDS AND DOINGS PAGES

## Delhi Garden Club



Delhi Garden Club, Delhi, LA chose to plant a pink rose bush at the City Hall in observance of Breast Cancer Awareness.



District V Delhi Garden Club recently traveled to Richland Parish Produce for a field trip on plant study. Members are pictured touring one of the many greenhouses. Eva Dawson is club president.



# DEEDS AND DOINGS PAGES

## Oak Grove Garden Club

Members of Oak Grove Garden Club traveled to Eudora Arkansas to participate in the Eudora Clubs Tasters Luncheon recently. This club fundraiser helps the Arkansas club in sponsoring their many projects.



## DEEDS AND DOINGS PAGES



Oak Grove Garden Club in District V recently presented the NGC book "The Saved Seed" to 1st grade class at Forest High School. Shown with the class is their teacher, Amy Warren, Lisa Smith, principal, Roselie Overby, Oak Grove Garden Club president, and Shirley Key, District V Director. District V Garden Clubs purchased 39 of these children's books for schools and libraries.

### *District VI*

#### **Baton Rouge Garden Club**



The Baton Rouge Garden Club held its annual Flower Show on November 19, 2017. Pictured from left to right are Nancy Delahaye, 6th District President, Cindy Moran, club Vice President and flower show chairman, Lena Bateman, State President and Debbie Harris, Club President.



## DEEDS AND DOINGS



Congratulations go to Willie Allen for her rendition of the Waltz and Janet Taylor interpreting Zydeco in the Baton Rouge Garden Club's recent flower show " Shall We Dance?". Both won top awards.

### Hammond Garden Club

#### PUMPKINS...WITCHES...AND MEETINGS

It's been a month of meetings, laced with decorative pumpkins and scary witches and ghouls! All of which were at the Hammond Garden Club's October meeting at Melanie Stein's house. It's our go to meeting place for Halloween since Melanie loves to decorate for her favorite holiday! All brought sack lunches and enjoyed a wonderful day in the open air on her deck with the ghosts and goblins!

There was the usual opening with a prayer and Pledge of Allegiance and our President Carolyn Schwebel immediately introduced our guest speaker Sam Dileo, attorney and husband of Sylvia, a club member.

He and a group of people from South East Louisiana Military Organization are having what they have called "A PATRIOT'S BALL" dedicated to our fallen heroes and all in the military. It will be at the Event Center at 1904 Nashville Ave. on November 11, 2017, 6:30 to 10:30 pm.

## DEEDS AND DOINGS

Dinner and dancing with entertainment by the Victory Bells from the WWII Museum in New Orleans and music by the Reggie Sanders Trio. Sam didn't have the information at the time of this meeting but as I am typing this column I understand that the tickets (200) are sold out!

Sounds like it will be a spectacular evening, one of the few things that we get to dress in semi-formal wear, something rarely seen these days and I can't wait!

Before Mr. Dileo graciously accepted to be a guest speaker it was decided to get a group of our members that are on the Wildflower Committee to each pick a wildflower and give a talk about it.

It began with Deborah Garafalo that talked about irises and even had an information board with pictures of different irises. Paulette Hebert spoke about the Golden Rod, Cathryn Rossie told about Ageratum, Pat Benton about the Sunflower and Margaret Hawkins who is the chairperson for that committee told us about the Buttercup. Each had a live sample of their flower and the whole presentation was simply light, fun and informative about the flowers that some call weeds...but we prefer to say they are God's creations that all make our days a little bit brighter.

Carolyn then called on Karen Granier, Secretary for the reading of the minutes and Phyllis diBenedetto, Treasurer for her report. Next was Garden of the Month given by Joy Peterson that went to Sam and Josie Viola at 42131 North Elmwood Park Loop and Jewel Jamal said the Link Award was given to Zaxby's on Morrison Blvd.

After the regular committees had given their reports Carolyn got and gave out information for our hosting the Oct. 24 District Meeting, results of which are later in this column.

She then gave us the information about Course 10 of the LGCF Gardening School which will be held at the Research Center on Nov. 7. Registration opens at 8:30 am, they will be serving coffee and we are requested to bring a few desserts which Pat Graves will donate brownies and Juanita Pearson donuts.

Carolyn then asked for any announcements, new or old. Glenda Nelson asked for volunteers for Keep Hammond Beautiful that would be held at Clark Park, Oct. 21, 8 to 10 am all equipment provided.

Pat Graves told us about an event being held by Tangi Animal Friends at Michabelle's on Nov. 12 from Noon to 3:30 pm. Tickets are \$60.00 and may be purchased in advance by calling Pat at [\(985\)277-3300](tel:9852773300).

All reports given, all speakers finished, door prizes awarded the meeting was closed and the brown bags started un-crunching to retrieve our delicious lunches and have lots of camaraderie amongst friends!

Fast forward to our hosting the LGCF District VI meeting at Michabelle's on Oct. 24, oops make that the 23rd when a group of us met at Glenda Nelson's garage with Phyllis Mire as our "Master Decorator" and us as her mentors we began making the table decorations under her tutelage!

We sure laughed a lot but we sure made some beautiful arrangements! They included pine cone ginger, rust and yellow chrysanthemums, asparagus fern, nandina branches, golden rain tree blooms, buck-eye nuts, berries, greenery and on top, in the middle perched about an 8" pumpkin! They came out beautiful if I do say so myself and it was told to us by many attending the event!

The room was all in white tablecloths including the chairs with a silver cummerbund bow tied around the back. Little white lights glistened everywhere, just a gossamer feeling for such a lovely event!

Each garden club donated a prize worth over \$50 to be raffled, there were some really nice items. Pictures, wine baskets, Christmas and Fall wreaths, one prettier than the next.

Nancy Delahaye, District VI Director opened the meeting, reports were given and Mayor Pete Panepinto welcomed the ladies to our beautiful city as did our President Carolyn Schwebel.

There was a nomination for District VI Director-Elect that was accepted by our president

## DEEDS AND DOINGS

Carolyn Schwebel, quite an honor for her and for our club.

Next was the guest speaker Whitney Wallace from the LSU Ag Center which I introduced...what a busy lady! She belongs to so many organizations and does so many things I don't know how she had time to speak at our meeting! It was a very informative speech and she passed out many folders and brochures to all attending.

A delicious lunch was prepared by Michabelle of baked and sliced chicken breast in a wonderful sauce, with au gratin potatoes, mixed veggies, mixed green salad and decadent chocolate layered cake.

When lunch was over the winners of the raffled items were announced, benediction was said and the meeting was adjourned.

Soon the ladies began leaving picking up a small bag with either pansies, violas or snapdragons inside, a little token given to each for attending the meeting. It was a beautiful day, a wonderful event that we hosted and thank the good Lord we don't have to do it again for 19 more years!



*Mayor Pete Panepinto welcomes the ladies of District VI garden clubs to the city of Hammond*



*Some of the HGC ladies enjoying the District VI meeting. From left Mary Thornhill, Linda Ross, Sylvia Dileo, Lee Collins, Fran Steib and Karen Granier*

Whitney Wallace from the Louisiana AG Center was guest speaker at the HGC District VI meeting



# DEEDS AND DOINGS

## Magnolia Forest Garden Club

Magnolia Forest Garden Club chose Waveland's Ground Zero Hurricane Museum for their September field trip. The museum is not a memorial to a disaster but a tribute to the strength and beauty of the human spirit. It is located in a restored historic school and features exhibits, photography and interactive displays among other items of interest. All who attended were impressed and moved by the experience. Lunch in Bay St. Louis followed the tour.

PHOTO: Left to Right

Seated: Carroll Knowles, Tammy Artalona, Florence Onstad, Mary Jean Herman

Standing: Betty Rose, Beryl Deris, Lynell Braun, Judy Cogle, Alma Dupuy, Georgette Frichter, Carol Carrigan, Joann Round, Janet Bernard



As part of their Adopt-A-School project, Magnolia Forest Garden Club members met with 41 students from St. Margaret Mary's PK3 and PK4 classes. The program focused on "The Saved Seed" which was written by Brenda Moore, who currently serves as a vice president of National Garden Clubs, Inc. Magnolia Forest Garden Club members Sandy Solar, Fay Vogt, Janet Fouert, Janet Bernard and Betty Rose used the book to explain to the children that seeds originally come from nature and saving and planting the seeds from carving a pumpkin at Halloween will produce new pumpkins for the next Halloween. After reading the book, singing songs and Q & A time with the children, they met with the three classes separately and helped each child plant two pumpkin seeds in their own pot labeled with their names on popsicle sticks. The children were very enthusiastic about the process, and the garden club members loved sharing with the children their joy and excitement about gardening and the miracle of growing. Magnolia Forest Garden Club is a member of Louisiana Garden Club Federation, Inc., National Garden Clubs, Inc. and Deep South Garden Clubs, Inc.

**PICTURE:** Left to right: Sandy Solar, Janet Fouert, Betty Rose, Fay Vogt, Janet Bernard





## DEEDS AND DOINGS



Several members of Magnolia Forest Garden Club made decorations for the Christmas tree they will decorate for the City of Slidell's Parade of Trees 2017. The Parade of Trees is part of Christmas Under the Stars in Griffith Park. They are using wine corks to make their decorations, and the title of the tree will be a surprise. The decorations are intricate and time consuming to make, but these ladies always have a good time with their projects.

PHOTO: Several members of Magnolia Forest Garden Club



The Pearl River & Honey Island Swamp Museum and Research Center located in the Town of Pearl River was the location selected for Magnolia Forest Garden Club's November field trip. The Museum and the Veterans Memorial, which is next to the museum, are both interesting and well organized. Several members attended and then enjoyed lunch at a seafood restaurant located close by.

PHOTO - LEFT TO RIGHT:

Front Row: Barbara Burgueno, Nancy Fisher, Carol Carrigan, Lynell Braun, Judy Cogle, Betty Rose, Carol Hodge

Back Row: Fay Vogt, Beryl Deris, Carroll Knowles

# DEEDS AND DOINGS

## Plaquemines Garden Club

Mrs. Brittany Dupont's and Mrs. Ashley Repp's third grade science classes at St. John Elementary School experienced a unique gardening program on Tuesday, September 26, 2017. Ladies from the Plaquemine Garden Club (Dist.VI) presented a program on the importance and uses of plants in our environment, the benefits of soil and water to the plants and the difference in herbs and spices.

Students were shown how to properly plant vegetables in pots as well as in a raised bed garden. Students planted shallot bulbs to bring home and also planted a variety of vegetables and shallots in a 4' by 10' raised bed garden.

A painted gourd birdhouse with the St. John logo and mascot, grown and designed by a club member, was presented to the classes as a remembrance of their day in the garden. The program was concluded with the students learning a rap song on plant growth and development.



The October 10, meeting of the Plaquemine Garden Club was held at the home of Kathleen Cooper. Member Betty LaBauve presented a program on how to prepare fresh greenery to use in decorating our homes for the holidays.

Greeting members was Betty Blanchard. Serving as hostesses were Carol Ann Marionneaux and Jackie C. Simpson. Floral design was arranged by Julie Hebert.

Photograph by Gail LeJeune



## DEEDS AND DOINGS

The November 14, meeting of the Plaquemine Garden Club (District VI) was held at Portobello's Grill in Plaquemine.

Jane Patterson, President of the Baton Rouge Audubon Society was guest speaker. She gave an informative power point presentation on "bringing birds into your back yard."

Greeting members was Joyce S. Hebert. Floral design was by Dr. Charlene Bishop. It was an herb "tree" decorated with clear ball ornaments each holding a different ground herb. Horticulture specimen was given by Jeanne Panepinto on planting snapdragons, ornamental cabbage and pansies.



Left to right: Greeter-Joyce S. Hebert; Floral Designer-Dr. Charlene Bishop; Horticulture Speciman-Jeanne Panepinto; Program Chair Sandi Stassi presenting gift to guest speaker Jane Patterson.



Recipients of door prizes donated by Jeanne.



# DEEDS AND DOINGS

## Ponchatoula Gardenettes

Jessica Tallo was the lucky winner of the concrete bench and rabbit raffled by the Gardenettes during Antique Trade Days in Ponchatoula October 4. Proceeds from the bake sale and raffle went to fund the garden club scholarship fund for a Ponchatoula High School student. Tallo's name was pulled by a young boy whose family was attending the Chamber of Commerce trade event.



Gardenettes October "Garden of the Month" was presented to Lisa Sirman at her home in the St. Joseph Place subdivision.



## DEEDS AND DOINGS



November Gardenette Garden of the Month winners are Brandy and Joseph Hart on Scotch Pine Street in Pine Island subdivision. The couple has a very festive array of plants and autumn decorations, making this an attractive home and garden, according to Pat Walsh, committee member. Presentation was made by Walsh, Ellen Pusey and Karen Moran.



Gardenettes attended the Louisiana Garden Club Federation Inc. District VI Fall Meeting held at Michabelle Inn, Hammond, October 24. The meeting was hosted by the Hammond Garden Club and included 100 garden club members from as far away as Ferriday, Farmerville, Lake Charles, New Orleans and Baton Rouge. Liz Anderson, Karen Moran, Margaret Bailey, Sonya Avery, Margaret Hardin, Vicky Fannaly, Anna Poland, seated Peggy Avery.



# DEEDS AND DOINGS

## Gardenettes at Christmas



Margaret Hardin, Flora Nelson, Jane O'Flynn, Marilyn Wright, Liz Sanderson, Vicky Fannaly, Carol Borgstede, Dale Rieth, Kathy Bruce



# DEEDS AND DOINGS

## *District VII*

### **Sulphur Garden Club**

The Sulphur Garden Club donated corsages and boutonnieres to Sulphur High homecoming students this past week. Kelly Keers, past president and current District VII Director coordinated the event. Keers explained, "with the price of a dress, a suit, hair, makeup and a meal, the expense can become overwhelming. We wanted to add a little bit of beauty to the evening and help defray some of the cost." The SGC ladies were happy to provide the silk flowers, pendants, jewelry, and added sparkle to make the night magical. The Sulphur Garden Club donates annually to various organizations, schools, and other worthy causes. Meeting monthly, the SGC's objective is to encourage civic beauty and to cooperate with other organizations to promote progress of our community.



Sulphur Garden Club members gathered for their annual tree decorating at the Sulphur Regional Library. The tree is decorated with ornaments made out of natural materials. The decorations include Magnolia pods, sweet gum balls, cotton balls, leather leaf fern, dried hydrangeas, princes feather, Chinese lantern flower, potato vine pods, pheasant feathers, ditch weed, trumpet vine pods, Spanish moss, Aspidistra elatior leaves, pinecones, dried okra and pine needles. Dried roses were placed in the tree in remembrance of pasted members. Pictured with the tree from left are, Ruby Guidry, Jackie Farrar, Dolla Farmer, Edie Keys and Carolyn Slack.

## DEEDS AND DOINGS

The Sulphur Garden Club designed and constructed Christmas ornaments made from natural materials, most of which were collected from their backyards. The decorations include Magnolia pods, sweet gum balls, cotton balls, dried Gomphera blossoms, dried hydrangeas, Spanish moss, mistletoe, pinecones, dried okra, bird feathers and bridal wreath. The natural ornaments will be used to decorate a Christmas tree that can be seen at the Sulphur Regional Library during the month of December. This will be the seventh year the Sulphur Garden Club has decorated the Sulphur library's tree.

The Sulphur Garden donates annually to various organizations, schools, and other worthy causes. Meeting monthly, the SGC's objective is to encourage civic beauty and to cooperate with other organizations to promote progress of our community.

Pictured from left to right: Sue Gustin, Edith Keys, JoAnne Dugas, Ruby Guidry, Carolyn Slack, Dolla Farmer, and seated is Jackie Farrar.





## DEEDS AND DOINGS

The Sulphur Garden Club (SGC) donated food to Care Help to assist with the overwhelming demand during the holidays. Care Help food pantry will continue to take donations at their new location, [112 E. Thomas Street](#). The Sulphur Garden donates annually to various organizations, schools, and other worthy causes. Meeting monthly, the SGC's objective is to encourage civic beauty and to cooperate with other organizations to promote progress of our community.

Pictured: Edith Keys; Dolla Farmer; Ruby Guidry; Karen Brashear, SGC President; Jackie Farrar; Sue Gustin; JoAnne Dugas; and Dana Frankland.



In honor of Veteran's Day, the Sulphur Garden Club presents a wreath in memory of all military who served and who currently serve our country. The wreath is displayed at the Blue Star by Henning Museum on Purple Heart Boulevard. The Blue Star, also donated by the Sulphur Garden Club, represents each family member serving in the US Armed Forces.





## Calendar of Events

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**2018**      January 15-16, 2018 LGCF Winter Council  
January 23, 2018 NGC Winter Executive Council Teleconference 11AM-1PM EST  
January 24-25, 2018 Flower Show Judges School Course 1  
  
February 27-28, 2018 Garden Study School 2, LSU Ag Hammond Research Station  
March 27-28, 2018 Deep South Garden Clubs Convention - Memphis TN  
April 17-18, 2018 LGCF Convention - Alexandria - District VIII  
May 21-24, 2018 NGC Convention - Philadelphia, Pennsylvania  
June 2 - 10, 2018 NYC and the Lake District  
June 3-9, 2018 National Garden Week  
July 16 - 17, 2018 Summer Board - Baton Rouge LA  
September 15, 2018 NGC Fall Board Meeting, Orlando FL  
Fall District Meetings:  
October 16 - District VIII  
October 17 - District V  
October 18 - District VII  
October 23 - District VI  
October 24 - District I & II  
October 25 - District III  
December 28, 2018 - Jan 4, 2019 Rose Bowl and parts of California

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**2019**      January 19, 2019 NGC Winter Executive Council TBD  
March 12-13, 2019 Deep South Garden Clubs Convention Jekyll Island GA  
April 9 - 11, 2019 LGCF Convention - Lafayette - District III  
April 29 - May 2, 2019 NGC Convention - Biloxi, MS  
June 2-8, 2019 National Garden Week  
September 28 2019 - NGC Fall Board Meeting - Orlando FL

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**2020**      NGC Fall Board Meeting - North Carolina

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**2021**      NGC Convention, New Jersey | Installation Convention

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