



NEWS *APRIL 2013*

AT LAST! PLANTING DAY ON THE BRIDGE

Thanks to all the wonderful helpers who came to work on Saturday, April 6. Thirty folks worked to put plants in the garden beds on the bridge. After many long months of planning and preparation, seeing the plants go into the soil was



exciting. Once again, our community has proven its volunteer spirit and made a dream come true. Volunteers in groups planted the planters according to maps and plant lists they were given, mulched the East End garden, mulched the planters, and had a lot of fun! (See smiles below.)



LAKE LURE CLASSICAL ACADEMY STUDENTS PLANT THEIR RAPTOR GARDEN

On April 10, the Lake Lure Classical Academy Club and their teacher, Mr. Ryan Lubbers, came to the bridge to plant their garden. Saundra Nelson, Susie Ellis, and volunteer Barbara Marsh were there to work with the children. Saundra brought trowels and plants, a wheelbarrow and shovel and helped the children transport mulch to their garden. The LLCA mascot is a raptor, so you will recognize their garden by the eagle sculpture rising above it.



THANKS FOR MAKING THE PLANT SALE TRULY A BLOOMING SUCCESS!

Despite the very cool morning on April 20, customers came out to support the Bridge during our plant sale. Thanks to everyone who came to buy plants and tee shirts. The Garden Committee deserves credit for the many hours and much effort put into the planning, digging, repotting and



sharing of ideas. Thanks to other volunteers who helped with finding pots, repotting, digging, transporting and setting up in the rain and cleaning up even though many of you were bone tired, not to mention being good sales people who were so welcoming to the shoppers. You made it all fun and profitable for the Bridge. Events like this will enable us to continue to preserve and maintain this wonderful community treasure.






MEET THE GARDEN PLANNING COMMITTEE

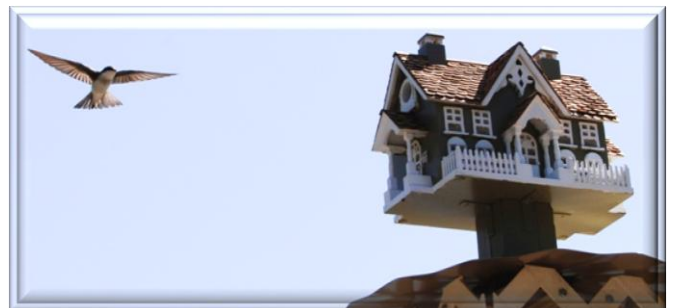


Saundra Nelson, Terry Ashley, Susie Ellis, Kathy Tanner and Mary Ann Brown take a breather during the plant sale.

When you walk across the bridge and wonder who dreamed up the imaginative themes for the garden beds, remember the five folks above, our garden planning committee. Their passion and creativity have come to life for all to enjoy. We asked them to tell us why they garden.  **Saundra describes herself this way:** *Thanks to my mother, grandmother and aunts, I honestly believe I knew the names of most plants before I knew my ABC's! I delight in beautiful plants and flowers and love visiting gardens everywhere. My husband Carl and I made Lake Lure our permanent home in 1999. Very soon after, I joined the local Garden Club and served as co-president for a couple of years. My knowledge and appreciation continue to grow, as does my commitment to making the Lake Lure Flowering Bridge a place we are proud to share with all who come to this area.*  **Terry tells it like this:** *I got into horticulture when my mom, sister and grandmother gave me plants and cuttings to go with my first house. At 26 I decided I didn't want to build houses any longer and went to the local library to glean all that I could about my new found love. Since then I have been a landscaper and nursery owner. I got my only formal*

horticulture education at Trident Technical College in North Charleston, SC. Going on my 27th year professionally, I have considered it to be one of the biggest blessings in my life. If you Google my name or Ashley's Plants, there is another bio there that I filled out for my first Farmer's Market.  **Susie says:** *I am originally from Hendersonville and I've been coming to Lake Lure since I was a young girl. After raising our children in Charlotte, my husband Charlie and I made the house we built here in Lake Lure our permanent home, returning to this slice of Heaven on Earth. I have always loved to "piddle" in the dirt but will never claim to be a true gardener. I just love the beauty and joy that plants provide, and enjoy the challenge of making things grow.*

 **Kathy's story:** *I started loving gardening in my early 20's. Kenneth's mother, Catchy Tanner, was an avid gardener and taught me so much. I became involved with Wing Haven Gardens, Charlotte, NC in the 1980's and volunteered there as a docent, children's program coordinator, and President of the Wing Haven Society Board. I enjoyed gardening in my small cottage garden at our first house, sun perennial gardening at our next, horse farm gardening, and now here on the lake! I was co-founder and first president of the Planters Punch Garden Club, now in its 27th year.*  **Mary Ann says:** *I come from a family of gardeners. My first recollection as a 4 year old child is helping my parents propagate azaleas. My little sister would bring me a little bucket of cuttings. My job was to put them in rows in the cold frame. My garden in Virginia was a shade garden and now I have the fun of learning how to garden with sun plants. I love native plants, especially native grasses and flowers. Don't ask me to grow an African violet. I am hopeless.*



This swallow has found our birdhouse on the bridge!



 **YOU'RE INVITED!**

**TUESDAY, APRIL 30 AT 6:00 PM
AT THE 1927 ARCADE COMMERCE
BUILDING IN LAKE LURE**

Come hear about the new vision for the Hickory Nut Gorge Chamber --and bring a friend. Refreshments will be served. This meeting is sponsored by the new Arcade Grill.

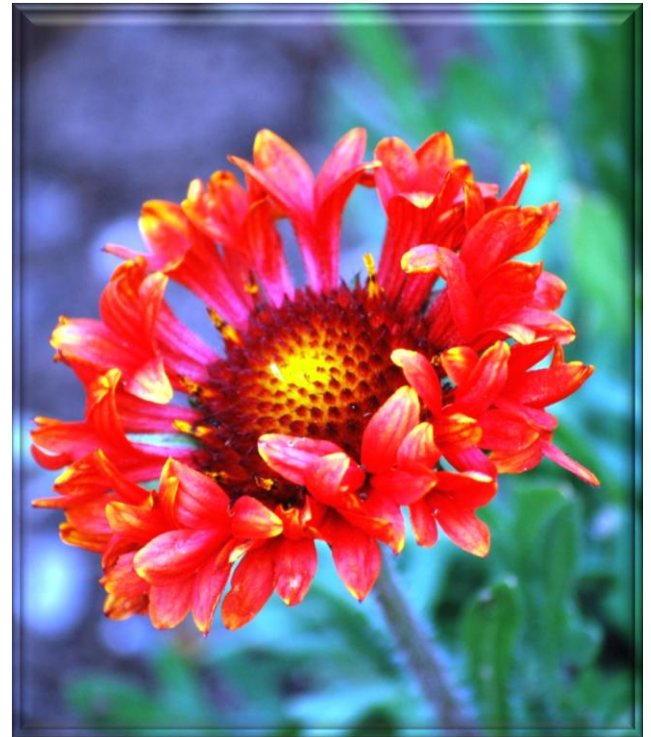


**NEW WAYS TO HELP
MAINTAIN THE LAKE LURE
FLOWERING BRIDGE -- DONATE!**

Don't forget that you can donate in a number of ways now and every gift helps in our mission to preserve and enhance the Rocky Broad Bridge.

- #1 - Go to our website at lakelurefloweringbridge.com and make a secure credit card donation.
- #2 - Put your check in an envelope and mail it to: Lake Lure Flowering Bridge, PO Box 125, Lake Lure 28746.
- #3 - Put your cash donation into the beautiful donation box in the East Gardens.

You can also donate your time as a volunteer--it's fun and really satisfying to see our gardens grow and know that you've had a hand in it.



Just one of the many beautiful blooms in the gardens.



This will become a familiar sight--people enjoying the gardens as they walk across the bridge.



**JOIN US AT THE SPRING-GO
FESTIVAL IN CHIMNEY ROCK
AND BECOME A MEMBER OF THE
FRIENDS OF THE
FLOWERING BRIDGE
SATURDAY, MAY 18**

*"To turn a dream into reality
requires a moment in the
present when the hope of the
future becomes greater than
the fears of the past."*

- Rev. Marcus F. West, Jr.