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NEWS FEBRUARY 2016



Our volunteers shared the love, honoring Valentine's Day with hearts and ribbons throughout the gardens.

WINTER ON THE BRIDGE

One might think that not much happens in the LLFB gardens in winter. Certainly this is not growing season and you might see a sign that suggests that "Our garden is sleeping." That doesn't mean that our volunteers aren't working, as witnessed by *Alice Garrard's* photos here. Ever creative, the group brought the spirit of Valentine's Day to the gardens in early February with a combination of red and pink wreaths and bows. Along with our holiday light display that continues to brighten winter nights through February, these special touches gave visitors yet another reason to enjoy our unique location while gathering ideas for their own gardens.



FEBRUARY WORKDAY TAMES ORNAMENTAL GRASSES

There was more winter work to be done and our volunteers braved the cold to do it. The time had come to trim the ornamental grasses in the East gardens. Willing hands and smiling faces were evident as the group met the challenge. And they had fun, too! [Photos by Alice Garrard]



First step is the trimming. Teamwork is needed. Danny Holland holds while Janet Walters cuts.



Nancy Nettles gathers the trimmings.



Jim Walters hauls the cuttings off to compost.

LLFB FEATURED ON COVER OF MOUNTAIN BREEZE



Thanks to *Mountain Breeze* Editor Dave Leestma for featuring the Lake Lure Flowering Bridge on the cover of the March-April edition. The issue is now available throughout the Hickory Nut Gorge with Mike Lumpkin's beautiful

photograph a preview of the spring weather that is just around corner.

CORRECTION AND SPECIAL THANKS

Apologies and special thanks are due loyal volunteer Charlotte Gardner whose name was inadvertently left out of our list of volunteers in the January edition. Charlotte is both a faithful volunteer who co-chairs the herb garden with Janet Walters, as well as a frequent donor of herbs. She is also humble, so her colleague Janet answered the call for any omissions from last month's list with these comments,



"Charlotte has donated almost all of the current plant material in the herb garden. She grows them from seed in her own green houses and brings them to the bridge as the seasons dictate. She never asks for reimbursement and really cannot put a value on the donations, but I think she deserves a mention for her generosity, skill and knowledge of plant propagation. We have rarely had to purchase a plant for that garden." Thank you, Charlotte!



"Sweet Pea" is all decked out for spring and enjoying the sun with her little friend Connor. [Photo by Kathy Tanner]

MORE FEBRUARY SCENES FROM THE LAKE LURE FLOWERING BRIDGE GARDENS

As quickly as those Valentine's Day chocolates were eaten, volunteers gathered at the

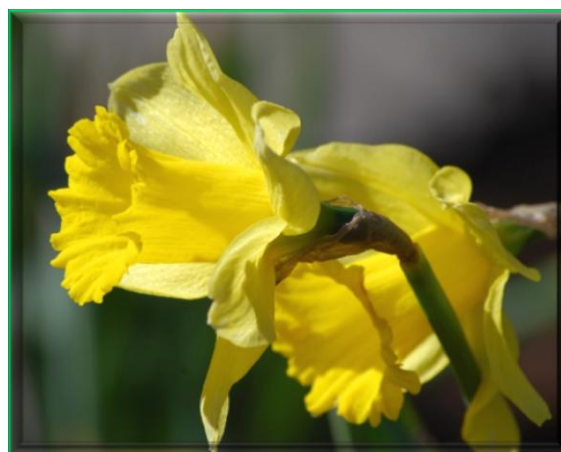


bridge to transform it once again. Red decorations gave way to the "wearing of the green" in honor of St. Patrick's Day, March 17th. Once again, creative ideas unfold in our gardens, often noted in our comment books. A recent visitor's



email said "The entire garden is beautiful and I took away some wonderful ideas for my own home flower gardens. Many thanks to all involved in creating such a delightful space!" [Photos by Kathy Tanner]

[See our Facebook page for more photos.](#)



A sure sign of early spring, daffodils pushing up and their sunny blooms unfolding. Thanks to [U-Pick Daffodils](#) for these gifts. [Photos by Mike Lumpkin]