



P.O. BOX 125 LAKE LURE NC 28746  
 Contact: [leearmstrong16@gmail.com](mailto:leearmstrong16@gmail.com)  
[www.lakelurefloweringbridge.org](http://www.lakelurefloweringbridge.org)



## NEWS JULY 2016

### CALENDAR OF FREE PUBLIC EVENTS

- AUGUST 9** DRIP IRRIGATION FOR YOUR GARDEN  
Led by bridge volunteer Bill Massey
- AUGUST 23** PLANT PROPAGATION  
Led by bridge volunteer and master gardener Debbie Clark
- SEPTEMBER 3** MONARCH BUTTERFLY UPDATE  
\*\*2:00 PM WITH TAG & RELEASE OF BUTTERFLIES
- SEPTEMBER 13** FALL GARDENING WITH HERBS
- SEPTEMBER 17** DEMO: MAKING FEEDERS & NESTING MATERIALS FOR BIRDS (RAIN DATE SEPT. 24)
- SEPTEMBER 27** PRUNING PRESENTATION AT LAKE LURE TOWN HALL
- OCTOBER 11** PREPARING YOUR GARDEN FOR WINTER
- OCTOBER 18** RETURN OF THE PUMPKIN PEOPLE!
- OCTOBER 25** COMPOSTING, INCLUDING COMPOSTING WITH WORMS
- NOVEMBER 15** FAIRY GARDENS
- NOVEMBER 29** MAKE A MOSAIC GAZING BALL FOR YOUR YARD OR GARDEN

**\*\*Unless otherwise indicated, classes will be held at 10:00 AM in the Outdoor Classroom at the west (Chimney Rock) end of the bridge. In case of rain, they will be held in the Community Hall at Lake Lure Town Hall. For more information, call Alice Garrard or Danny Holland at (828) 625-2540.**

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### HIGHLIGHTS IN THE GARDENS: SAY HELLO PLANTS

Throughout the gardens, visitors find little signs that introduce interesting plants with the salutation "Say Hello." These plants, highlighted for their unique qualities and sometimes colorful histories, include descriptions researched and written by our volunteers. This month we share here two more of our "Say Hello" plants.

**ROSE GARDEN:** This Old Rose hybrid, called Munstead Wood, was introduced by David Austin Roses in 2007 and named for the home of British garden designer Gertrude Jekyll in Surrey, England. Each flower has approximately 74 petals. Munstead Wood won the gold medal for fragrance at the Japan Rose Society Trials in 2011 and the Cornelia Vanderbilt Cecil award for most fragrant rose at the Biltmore International Rose Trials in Asheville, NC, in 2014. English roses make particularly good tree roses because of their vigor and bushy growth habit; their rich fragrance is an added delight. Created using three buds grafted to a single stem at a height of three feet, the tree rose depends on the firm support of a strong stake. This is our first tree rose. *[Thanks to Alice Garrard for photo and information.]*



**ROCK AND SUCCULENT GARDEN:** Fire Sticks (*Euphorbia tirucalli* "Rosea") is also known as "sticks on fire" or pencil tree." Often referred to as a cactus, this succulent can grow to 25 feet, but usually reaches heights of 4 to 8 feet. It first became popular in the United States in the 1980's after a mass planting at the Getty Center in Los Angeles. The plant is sometimes red on the tips, but fades to the yellow shown in our photo in summer, becoming redder in winter, though it doesn't tolerate freezing temperatures. **Warning: Handle this plant carefully as the sap can be an irritant. Gloves and protective clothing are recommended.** *[Thanks to Alice Garrard for photo and Danny Holland for information.]*





The glorious mural designed and created by local artists and volunteers is a colorful backdrop in the Cottage Garden.

## LLFB CELL PHONE AUDIO TOUR AND OUR GARDENS' BEAUTY GET HAPPY RESPONSES

We are delighted to report that visitors are using and giving us positive feedback on our cell phone audio tour. Among the comments left by users was this: "It's amazing how much we saw with the cell phone tour that we had missed"...(in a previous visit.) "We cannot wait to come back after you've added even more...it was a great vacation." These folks came during the day, then came back one evening, discovered the audio tour and expressed their added enjoyment enthusiastically.

As always, visitors who filled out the guest books in our information mailboxes along the path were generous with their praise. Below are some quotes from recent weeks:

"Loved this garden and also using the audio on our cell phone! The volunteers were so friendly and informative!!" -- Atlanta, GA and Cleveland, TN

"Thank you for this awesome gift of a garden. Being British, I love the free-flowing country garden feel. Keep up the good work." Newcastle, UK

"Hats off to Gardens! I used the cell phone tour! Very informative--great idea."-- Clarkesville, GA

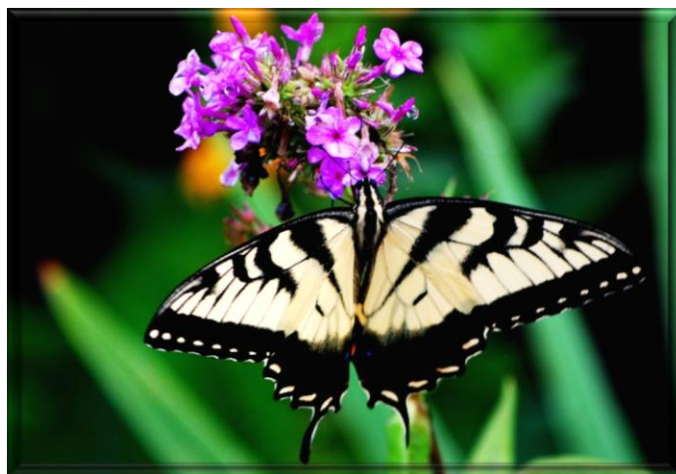
"Very beautiful and awesome repurposing of an old bridge." -- Florida

"Thank you! We loved all of your beautiful gardens." -- New Hampshire

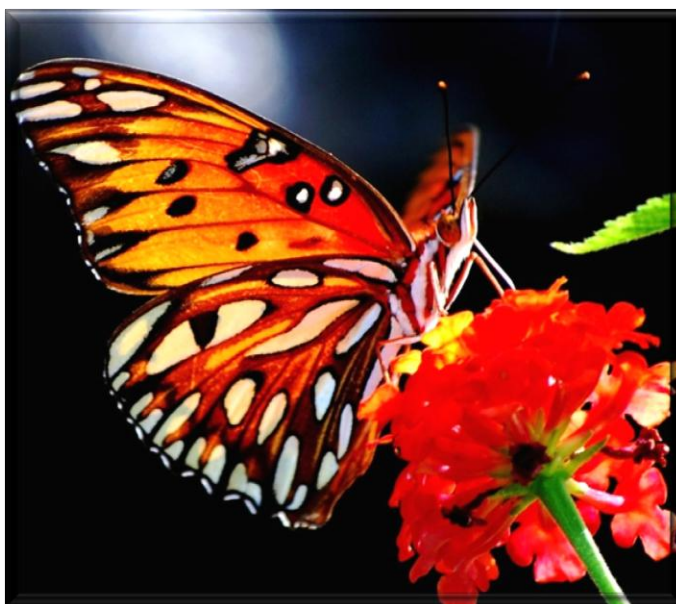
They come from near (Asheville) and far (Santiago, Chile) and share their joy with words and even pictures. They praise our volunteers for their dedication and hard work. We are grateful to our donors who support us with their encouragement and their dollars.

Unless otherwise noted, photos by Mike Lumpkin.

## SOME LLFB VISITORS WING THEIR WAY HERE



Eastern Tiger Swallowtail Butterfly



Tentatively identified as a Gulf Fritillary Butterfly

Yet another joy of the Lake Lure Flowering Bridge gardens is the visiting butterfly and moth population. Going out on a limb to identify them, we share the photos above and more on the next page. The seemingly infinite variety of these creatures gives the novice pause in pinpointing exactly which one we see. We've tentatively identified the beautiful creature above as a Gulf Fritillary. Some species even have more than one color in appearance as a form of camouflage. Regardless of errors made, it's a real joy to see them flitting about among the blooms, effortlessly touching down, then moving on. They feast on the nectar found in our flowers and puddle in our gardens, drinking from shallow muddy areas to get the salt and amino acids they need. They will land on flat stones to warm their wings on cool mornings.



"Butterflies are self-propelled flowers."

~Robert Heinlein



## RANDOM GARDEN PHOTOS

Editor's Note: A little boy I know has become enamored of the word "random." It tickles me so that I thought it would be fun to title the following garden photos this way. Enjoy!



Regarding this photo from Alice Garrard, she says "Our twice-blooming iris might become a thrice-blooming iris."



The Common Buckeye migrates from the south to colonize most of the U.S. and southern Canada. The eyespots may be used to scare away predators.



Notice the bee in this coral drift rose. Photo by Alice Garrard



Garden volunteers recently found this wren's nest and tried to give it safe haven until the little ones hatch. Thanks to Alice Garrard for this photo.



Kathy Tanner shared this photo of the atrium posts in place awaiting further framing with locally crafted ironwork. This is part of the extension of the garden path toward Boys Camp Road on the Chimney Rock end of the bridge. Thanks to our volunteers who are making this happen.



"Rest is not idleness, and to lie sometimes on the grass under trees on a summer's day, listening to the murmur of the water, or watching the clouds float across the sky, is by no means a waste of time." ~ John Lubbock