



P.O. Box 125, Lake Lure, NC 28746
 Contact: leearnstrong16@gmail.com

NEWS  **MAY 2017**

CALENDAR OF UPCOMING FREE WORKSHOPS AND EVENTS

- May 23** Often-asked Questions on the LLFB, answered by master gardener and chair of the LLFB Garden Design Committee - Kathy Tanner
- May 27-29** **SATURDAY, SUNDAY AND MONDAY**
 **LAKE LURE ARTS & CRAFTS FESTIVAL
 Visit our booth in Downtown Lake Lure!
- June 13** Nature Walk in Rumbling Bald with area naturalist Clint Calhoun
- June 27** Soil Testing and Amending--led by Polk County Extension Agent Scott Welborn
- August 8** Vertical Gardening--led by LLFB volunteer Debbie Clark
- August 22** Planting to Attract Birds, Not Bears--led by garden guru Mary Ann Brown
- September 13** ****Wednesday - Lake Lure Town Hall**
 Monarch Butterfly Migration
- September 26** Tussy Mussy Workshop--led by LLFB volunteers Paige Massey and Lynn Lang
- October 10** Build a Rock Wall--led by Tom Gorman
- October 17** Return of the Pumpkin People*
- October 24** Hands-on Pruning Class--led by Debbie Clark
- November 7** Fairy Garden Workshop*
 **At Lake Lure Town Hall
- November 28** Wreath, Garland and Swag Making

*These workshops may require additional materials.
 **Unless otherwise indicated, workshops 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.

VISIT OUR BOOTH AT THE LAKE LURE ARTS AND CRAFTS FESTIVAL SATURDAY-MONDAY, MAY 27-29



Our LLFB volunteers have been working for months, crafting an array of handmade items to offer for donations at the Lake Lure Arts and Crafts

Festival May 27-29 in downtown Lake Lure adjacent to the Arcade. These talented folks have designed, created, constructed and painted items ranging from ornaments to plant markers and decorative painted signs and rocks. There are bookmarks and fairy wands for home and garden decor and unique painted tic-tac-toe games. We will also have beautiful photographs of the bridge and gardens on display, too. Every donation adds more beauty to the Lake Lure Flowering Bridge and more renown to our Hickory Nut Gorge.



We appreciate and celebrate here the many

volunteers who gave their time and talent to craft the items to be exchanged for donations to LLFB. Dan Bails, Eleanor Bails, Marta Campbell, Mitsi Chorak, Veryle Lynn Cox, Susie Ellis, Marily Floyd, Charlotte Gardner, Alice Garrard, Tom Gorman, Molly Griner, Danny Holland, Patty Johnson, Bobby Lang, Lynn Lang, Mike Lumpkin, Bill Massey, Paige Massey, Geneva Matteis, Nancy Nettles, Pamela



Paulis, Tonie Smith, Patti Stewart, Kathy Tanner, Sally Tanner, Liz Turner, Amy Wald, Janet Walters, Margie Warwick, Michele Yackel. (More photos of our items later in this newsletter.) [Thanks to Alice Garrard for these photos.]



🌻 DOT VISITORS SEEK OUT OUR BRIDGE GARDENS



Garden Committee Co-Chair Kathy Tanner had an unexpected opportunity to lead a special tour across the bridge and through the gardens in early May. Her account follows here:

"I stopped in to put in some fencing near the Secret Garden. As I pulled in to the parking lot about 8 NCDOT Highway trucks pulled in with me. Then this lovely group of NCDOT bridge engineers from Raleigh piled out of the trucks. Of course, I stopped them to say hello. They are on a tour of NC bridges. One of the fellows had seen our piece on the [Tarheel Traveler](#) in Raleigh and they came our way specifically to see our bridge and gardens. No, they weren't interested in the new bridge but in OURS!!!! I spent 30 minutes talking about everything from decking, waterproofing, drainage to volunteers!!! They had an absolute fit over us! I did a little happy dance!"

Thanks, Kathy, for being the face and voice of the LLFB and for sharing the story and photo with us.

🌻 THE GARDEN PARTY WAS A BREEZE!



Despite wind gusts blowing down the Gorge, toppling chairs and creating crazy hairstyles, we bundled up for our annual meeting (that we call a garden party) and had a fun day telling the LLFB story and greeting our guests with refreshments, too.

🌻 PLANT-A-CHAIR WORKSHOP CREATIONS NOW IN GARDENS

Led by LLFB volunteer Lynn Lang, folks gathered to learn how to turn an old chair (or other furniture item) into a planter. [Right: Lynn's photo by Danny Holland] This has been a popular LLFB workshop in prior years and proved so again this year. The creative results



now appear throughout the gardens, offering visitors ideas for their own gardens at home. Garden Co-Chair Kathy Tanner brought not only chairs but a table or two. The seats of chairs were prepared with screen and soil for best results and the gardeners

began their work. It's great to see how items can be repurposed, turning what is old not only into something new, but a thing of beauty to be enjoyed in our gardens. [Thanks to Kathy Tanner for the chair photos.]



🌻 LLFB WELCOMES TOUR GROUPS



Alice Garrard snapped the photo above as LLFB welcomed members of the Mountain View Garden Club from Waynesville for a tour of the bridge led by Kathy Tanner and Debbie Clark. We appreciate our visitors and ask that tour groups wanting guides contact us in advance to arrange for docents. Call Alice Garrard or Danny Holland at (828 625-2540)

TAKING THE LLFB ON THE ROAD



Our volunteers often step out of the gardens to take our message "on the road." Bill Massey, who regularly works in the gardens alongside wife Paige, also serves as our liaison to the Town of Lake Lure Parks and Recreation Board. In his spare time he speaks on behalf of the LLFB as he did recently during the Joy in the Garden Symposium

presented by the Green Blades Garden Club in Tryon. Thanks, Bill, for representing us well. [Photo from Alice Garrard]

LOCAL ARTISTS CONTRIBUTE THEIR TALENTS TO LLFB

The Lake Lure Flowering Bridge has been the recipient of many gifts through our years. In addition to the hundreds of volunteer gardening hours, we are supported in many other ways, as well. At this year's upcoming Lake Lure Arts and Crafts Festival (LLACF)



May 27-29, two local artists have once again stepped up to help. Vervyle Lynn Cox and Amy Wald created the beautiful mural that graces our West End garden. In addition, each of them has lent her talents in a myriad of ways that have helped our gardens grow. Now they have designed and

donated items for the LLACF that we can exchange for donations there. Thank you, Vervyle Lynn, for the beautiful magnets and thank you, Amy, for the painted items that will be welcome in any garden. We deeply appreciate your continued support. [Photos from Alice Garrard.]



Like us on [Facebook](#) - 2,342 have! We get messages like the one below that was left on May 6th.



LAURA COX: I ALWAYS FIND PEACE & CONTENTMENT ON LLFB, THANK GOODNESS FOR THE ONES WHO MADE THIS IDEA REAL.



Not all that's green is a plant as Marily Floyd's photo of this Carolina anole in the Rock and Succulent Garden demonstrates. Frequent visitors in our area, these little ones are sometimes called "American chameleons" because they can also appear as an olive-brownish color. They are classified as lizards, but not chameleons.



A gorgeous day on the Lake Lure Flowering Bridge in the Hickory Nut Gorge. [Photo from Mike Lumpkin]

WE APPRECIATE YOUR SUPPORT!

<http://lakelurefloweringbridge.org/donate/>