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NEWS AUGUST 2017

CALENDAR OF UPCOMING FREE WORKSHOPS AND EVENTS

- September 13** ***Wednesday - Lake Lure Town Hall*
Monarch Butterfly Migration - led by
conservationist Joyce Pearsall
- 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--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.



In the photo above from Alice Garrard, Mary Ann Brown leads the August workshop she called "Planting to Attract Birds, Not Bears." Considering the many sightings of bears in our area this summer, this was a timely and important session. Bears have been spotted locally ransacking garbage cans (even those protected by wire and wood enclosures) and eating from bird feeders on decks and in yards.

LLFB JOINS THE APPALACHIAN MURAL TRAIL



The Lake Lure Flowering Bridge is now part of the Appalachian Mural Trail, listed on their website as a "3-D Living Mural." Murals included on the trail are within an easy drive of the 469-mile Blue Ridge Parkway (BRP) with directions on the Mural Trail website from the nearest BRP milepost. Ours is Milepost 384. Visitors to the BRP last year were estimated at 17 million! The mural trail is featured in the Blue Ridge Parkway Directory & Travel Planner, listed in the Parkway's calendar of events with links to the mural trail web site and featured in the BRP mobile Travel Planner application. [Mural Trail](#) Also see the story about our mural that appeared in the [Asheville Citizen-Times](#). Other Hickory Nut Gorge murals in Chimney Rock and Chimney Rock State Park are also on the Appalachian Mural Trail.

LLFB FEATURED ON WSPA MORNING SHOW

When a WSPA-TV news crew featured Lake Lure and Chimney Rock on their morning show's "Hometown Spotlight," Volunteer and Garden Co-Chair Kathy Tanner told our story well as always. Throughout the show, beginning at 4:30AM, various parts of our area were shown off in brief segments. The spotlight turned to the story of the LLFB at 7:15 and we're confident that Kathy made many new friends for us and encouraged visitors from all over Upstate South Carolina to see for themselves what our volunteers have created. You can link to our segment of the show here - [LLFB on WSPA](#)



SPECIAL THANKS TO TWO OF OUR FAVORITE FELLOWS

We are very lucky to have so many volunteers who bring their special talents to the LLFB gardens. It's really a challenge to properly thank all who serve so graciously and selflessly, but we keep trying. This month we say thank you to two guys who always bring their "A game" to LLFB.

Bobby Lang, an irrigation expert who ran his own irrigation design company in Florida, just keeps answering the call to find ways to keep the right amount of water on everything. Wherever the gardens grow, he designs and installs the pipes to get the water to the plants. Thanks, Bobby, for all you do.



Master carpenter Heyward Nettles volunteers regularly with wife Nancy, hauling mulch, planting, weeding and whatever else is needed. In addition, he has ideas and the willingness to bring them to life. Heyward built the beautiful secret garden gate and a trellis that Lynn Lang suggested, adding his special skills to the LLFB. Thanks, Heyward, for always being there for us.



GARDEN LISTS NOW AVAILABLE ON OUR WEBSITE

Garden Co-Chair Kathy Tanner estimates that we have 1200 species on view in our gardens. Our visitors ask lots of questions about the names of individual plants and flowers that thrive in the LLFB. Thanks to local artist Amy Wald, there are lists of the plants in each garden. People often remark on a particular plant they might try at home, so now these lists are posted on our website for those who want a reminder of what they found while visiting.



[LLFB Garden Map and Lists](#)

Like us on [Facebook](#) - 2,596 have!

BREATHE IN THE BEAUTY OF OUR NEW GARDEN AREAS



Last month we thanked Painters Greenhouse in Old Fort for their generous donation of plants at the end of their selling season. Now those plants have become the new Country Garden on the Chimney Rock end of the LLFB. Included in these additions are a bog garden, a shade garden and an English garden. The plants will also be part of a new sun garden on the West End. [Painters Greenhouse](#)

CONTINUING DEVELOPMENT CREATES NEW OPPORTUNITIES FOR DONORS

As we continue to develop the Chimney Rock end of the gardens toward Boys Camp Road opportunities arise for our donors to support the addition of benches, arbors and other special features. Donations from \$250-\$750 for various installations will be eligible for recognition. For more information, contact Marily Floyd at mountain.floyd@gmail.com

LLFB is a non-profit and all-volunteer community group. We thank you for your support! Any donation is appreciated. Become a Pathfinder and place your message along our walkway on a brick for a donation of \$200.



[Donate Online Here](#)



HICKORY NUT GORGE COMMUNITY CALENDAR

- September 26 HNG Annual Meeting
Riverside Event Center
- September 28 Music Thursday-Village Vinyl Band
Chimney Rock Gathering Place
- December 7 Chamber Annual Holiday Fundraiser
Lake Lure Inn, 6-10PM

LLFB RECOGNIZED IN LAKE LURE TOWN COUNCIL



Thanks to Lake Lure Town Council Member Steve Webber, liaison to the Parks and Recreation Board, for his comments (below) about the LLFB in the August 8th Town Council meeting. We deeply appreciate Steve's support!

Work on the West end is continuing at a rapid pace. The irrigation has been installed and mulch is being moved into place. The English Country Garden has now been installed. The new arbor footings were poured and that structural work continues. A tentative parking lot plan has been developed and is with the Town Manager. Work is continuing on security and a camera system.

It is important to recognize our public works department for their cooperation and invaluable assistance in accomplishing a great deal of the heavy labor at the bridge, especially with the irrigation system.

On July 29, a crew from the Discovery Channel spent two hours at the Flowering Bridge, filming and interviewing. Credit to Lynn Carnes for sending them our way by describing the bridge as the most unique feature in Lake Lure. I understand the piece will air in January. In Shannon Baldwin's words this is "priceless coverage". Shannon has also described the Flowering Bridge as a "Tourism Machine". It is slightly more rare than the upcoming full eclipse, but Shannon was right both times.

The bridge was also recognized by the Appalachian Mural Trail which is a showcase for the visual creativity of WNC. The trail follows the Blue Ridge Parkway and all the murals featured are within driving distance of the Parkway. You can learn more about the Mural Trail at muraltrail.com. Not only was the door mural of great interest, Doreyl Cain, the director, walked the bridge and loved it. She further said in her email, "It's like walking through an art mural".

Many kudos to the entire Flowering Bridge organization and all of the dedicated volunteers that support it. Your accomplishments are unequalled and you represent the finest Lake Lure has to offer. [He sent a special note afterward to amend the last sentence to add praise for our volunteers from Chimney Rock.]

TELLING OUR STORY FAR AND WIDE



We have visitors! Our Education Co-Chairs, Alice Garrard and Danny Holland, welcomed 50 folks from all over North Carolina in a AAA/Our State group for a guided tour with 8 volunteer docents August 18th. They will be going home to share the beauty of the LLFB with family and friends.

Then a group of 7 journalists came to attend the Dirty Dancing Festival and toured the LLFB August 20. They were from Forbes Travel Guide, Allegiant Air's In Flight magazine, Back Road Planet, Adventure Mom, Play Party Plan, X Travel Blog and Stark Insider. Kathy Tanner made sure they will have lots of good stories about our gardens to help us spread the word. Thanks to Michelle McConnell Yelton of McConnell Group PR for including us in their visit.

Zinnias by Day from Mike Lumpkin



Roses in Rain from Alice Garrard



Sunflowers by Moonlight from Alice Garrard



Most photos not otherwise credited are by Mike Lumpkin