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NEWS SEPTEMBER 2017

CALENDAR OF UPCOMING FREE WORKSHOPS AND EVENTS

- 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.

LLFB EDUCATION COMMITTEE LOOKS TOWARD 2018

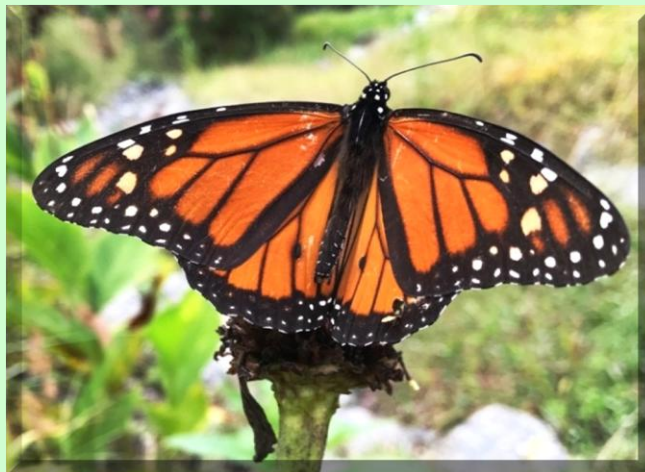
Workshops and classes like those in the calendar above are organized and scheduled by the LLFB Education Committee. The group met recently and decided to offer fewer classes in 2018 than in 2017 to allow time to host more tours on the bridge in conjunction with the International Equestrian Games, as well as crafts parties for the Fall 2018 Arts & Crafts Festival. Eleanor Beals and Paige Massey will co-chair the Arts & Crafts Committee and work closely with Marily Floyd. Alice Garrard will handle promotion.

Dates for 2018 classes will be coordinated with Lynn Lang and Kathy Tanner as they schedule special events. This will allow more time for volunteers to carry out their ongoing gardening responsibilities.

The committee will meet again in October to finalize class topics. If you have suggestions for 2018 classes or workshops, contact Alice Garrard or Danny Holland: call 828-625-2540 or text 212-966-2328.

Like us on [Facebook](#) - 2,622 have!

THE MONARCHS ARE HERE!



The vivid photo above of a male monarch was snapped by volunteer Lynn Lang as she worked in the gardens September 28th. You can tell it is a male, Lynn reports, because of the small black dots on the veins in the hindwing. Females don't have these dots.

Lynn was instrumental in gaining certification for LLFB as a Monarch Waystation. We provide milkweeds, nectar sources and shelter to sustain the butterflies as they migrate through North America. This work is critical to conservation of the species.

We welcome the beautiful monarchs back and love seeing them fluttering all around the gardens. Thanks to Lynn for her enthusiasm for these long-distance travelers. They add grace and beauty to LLFB. For more information - [Monarch Waystations](#)

SUN GARDEN BRINGS NEW GROWTH TO WEST END



What was once just a grassy area at the corner of Boys Camp Road and Memorial Highway is now the Sun Garden, home to an array of plants. A planning team of volunteers - Kathy Tanner, Susie Ellis, Lynn Lang, Debbie Clark and

Paige Massey - designed the area with 18 hydrangeas, 3 Dynamite Crape Myrtles, 3 Japanese Maples (unique varieties from Mr. Maple nursery in Flat Rock), and the remainder of the donated perennials from Painters Greenhouse. Kathy says there will be a path to walk through the garden, benches, bird baths, bird houses, and a waterfall. This will provide a picturesque addition along the highway as it connects the Town of Lake Lure and Chimney Rock Village. {Thanks to Alice Garrard for the photo of Kathy Tanner watering in the new plants}

WE WELCOME OUR VISITORS



Our visitors come in groups small and large and we are happy to see them, one and all. Estimates indicate perhaps 35,000 come each year. There are usually volunteers working in the gardens on Tuesdays and Thursdays who are happy to greet guests and share their knowledge. Most groups come to the bridge unannounced, but we do supply docents if the group contacts us in advance. The people enjoying a rest with a view in the picture above were part of a group of 25 seniors from the Catawba Valley Baptist Church in Morganton. To schedule a tour, contact Alice Garrard or Danny Holland. You can call 828-625-2540 or email dbholland@bellsouth.net. Tours are free, but we are a nonprofit and donations are always appreciated. [Report and photo from Alice Garrard]



On September 13, area conservationist Joyce Pearsall presented an LLFB-sponsored talk at Town Hall on monarch butterfly migration. A highlight was the tagging and release of a monarch. [Photos by Alice Garrard]

TUSSY MUSSY IS A GIFT OF FLOWERS THAT TELLS A TALE

On September 26, volunteers Lynn Lang and Paige Massey led a workshop at Town Hall on *The Tussy Mussy: The Language of Flowers*. These dainty nosegays, or "talking bouquets," have been around for hundreds of years but became especially popular in Victorian England in lieu of sonnets. In each Tussy Mussy we created, the flowers were chosen especially for our volunteers: pink carnations for beauty and affection, chrysanthemums for cheerfulness, baby's breath for festivity, and pachysandra for a touch of green representing renewal. We hope visitors to the bridge experience all these things. [Report from Alice Garrard. Photo from Lynn Lang]



COME SEE OUR WEST END DEVELOPMENT WITH NEW OPPORTUNITIES FOR DONORS

Come visit to see how we continue development of the Chimney Rock end of the gardens toward Boys Camp Road. New donor opportunities are becoming available 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.

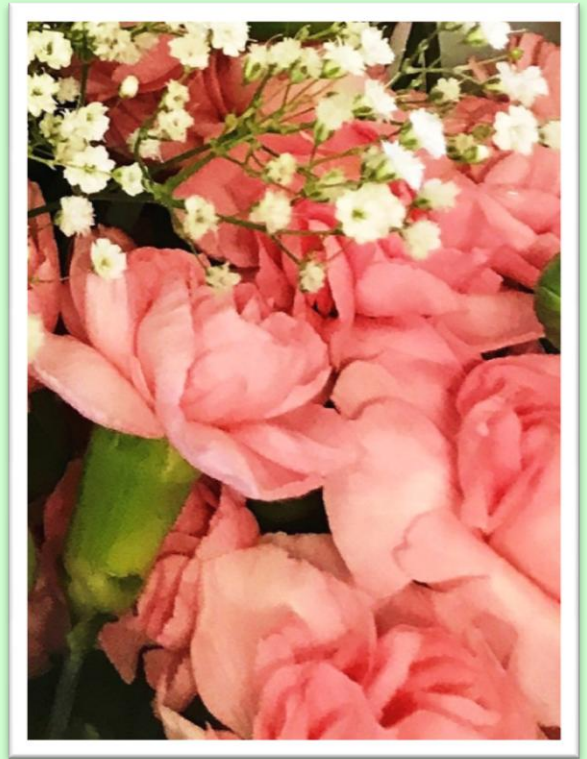


[Donate Online Here](#)

HICKORY NUT GORGE COMMUNITY CALENDAR



December 7 HNG Chamber Annual Holiday Fundraiser
Lake Lure Inn, 6-10PM



*"Flowers are a proud assertion that a ray of beauty outvalues all the utilities of the world."
~ Ralph Waldo Emerson*



[Photos not otherwise credited are by Alice Garrard]
Special thanks to Mike Lumpkin for proofreading.