"If you build it, they will come..." This time the creation was not a baseball diamond in a movie cornfield, but a garden on a real bridge that draws many visitors every day to stroll and revel in the beauty that grows here. They come to wander among the plants, gaze at the flowers and marvel at the butterflies that share their joy in the peace and beauty that surrounds the path.

Charlotte Gardner reports that she and Janet Walters, co-chairs of the LLFB herb garden bed, led a tour group through the bridge gardens September 8th, followed by lunch at LaStrada Restaurant. The group came from Mill Spring's Lebanon United Methodist Church. This Women's Group has been in existence for 41 years. They meet monthly for devotions, a featured speaker, fellowship and a potluck lunch. Charlotte, who is a member of the group, as well as its Secretary, also led them on a tour of the gardens last year in September and the ladies all wanted to return again this year as they enjoyed the gardens so much. Donations were made by the group in appreciation of all of the hard work by our volunteers to create this beautiful venue. [Tour photo by Charlotte Gardner]

UPCOMING EVENTS IN THE GARDENS

There is a lot to anticipate in the gardens and the Hickory Nut Gorge yet this year. You are welcome to take part in the activities listed below. For more information, contact Alice Garrard at alicegegrrd@gmail.com.

Wednesday, October 14  Return of the Pumpkin People Workshop (Rain date is Friday, October 16)
Tuesday, November 3  Remove Pumpkin People
Friday, November 6  Fairy Gardens Workshop
Tuesday, December 1  Decorate Bridge for the Holidays
Saturday, December 19  Light Up the Gorge begins
For the third year, artist and LLFB volunteer Veryle Lynn Cox not only brings her amazing talents to the design of an LLFB holiday ornament, but involves others in the creation of these unique commemorative items. Again this year other LLFB volunteers are joining in the painting of the ornaments. With Veryle Lynn's guidance folks have been gathering in her lakeside studio to help paint a limited quantity of ornaments that will then be fired and glazed before we offer them to donors. These are very special keepsakes that add beauty and joy to our homes during the holidays. We are sincerely grateful for her gifts and for sharing the process with us. The design will be revealed in the next issue of our newsletter with information about how you can obtain one or more.

Photos in this story by Blaine Cox

Beautyberry glows in the LLFB gardens in September.

Paige Massey, Geneva Matteis and Bill Massey enjoy lending a hand and a paintbrush in Veryle Lynn's studio.

Autumn is a second spring when every leaf is a flower. ~Albert Camus