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NEWS 🌸 🌺 🌺 March 2017

🌟 CALENDAR OF UPCOMING FREE WORKSHOPS AND EVENTS 🌱

March 28  Living Easter Basket Project
April 11  Growing Roses with local rosarian Steve Earnest
April 22  Saturday, 11AM - 3PM
          EARTH DAY ~ Chimney Rock Riverside Park (with special children's activities)
April 25  Garden Design, Lake Lure Town Hall, led by master gardener, garden writer and blogger and LLFB volunteer Debbie Clark
May 9   Drip Irrigation, led by master gardener and LLFB volunteer Bill Massey
May 16  Planted Chairs Workshop, led by master gardener and LLFB volunteer Lynn Lang
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!
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

**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.

WE WELCOME NEW MEMBERS TO THE LLFB BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Two new members will participate in their first meeting of the Lake Lure Flowering Bridge Board in early April. Longtime volunteer Charlotte Gardner will become our Secretary as Susie Ellis leaves that post to become Garden Co-Chair with Kathy Tanner. Volunteer Patti Stewart joins the board in an at-large capacity with the departure of Chuck Watkins, who will continue to be a supportive member of our Infrastructure Committee. Chuck has been a valuable resource to the Board and we both appreciate his contributions and are grateful that he will continue to be an active volunteer.

Charlotte Gardner is a longtime LLFB volunteer who leads the Herb Garden design and maintenance as co-chair with Janet Walters. Charlotte and her husband have lived in the area since 1989. She is a Master Gardener and an active community volunteer both with LLFB and other organizations. She worked at the Lake Lure Inn for 14+ years, most of that time as Dining Room Manager. She is currently Secretary for the Polk Master Gardener’s Association—for several years now—as well as for the past 4 years on the Lake Lure Village Resort Board. Retired now, she enjoys crafts as well as gardening.

Patti Stewart and her husband Jim moved to the Mill Spring area in 2010 from Cincinnati, Ohio. They grew to love the mountains and the community of Lake Lure. Not one to "sit around," Patti served as the Lake Lure Newcomers president for 4 years. After stepping down from that position she now sits on the boards of the Hickory Nut Gorge Outreach and Mountains Branch Library. Patti also enjoys performing with the Lake Lure Cloggers and playing the bells in the Fairfield Chapel Bell Choir.

"It was one of those March days when the sun shines hot and the wind blows cold; when it is summer in the light, and winter in the shade." - Charles Dickens
**GENEROUS DONORS KEEP OUR GARDENS GROWING**

As each new feature appears in our gardens we are reminded of the generosity of our donors. When we opened the Sensory Trail last year, **Dr. Troy Tevis of Tri-City Optometric** in Forest City stepped up to underwrite the mobile phone tour. We thank Dr. Tevis for graciously agreeing to continue his support for our second season of the audio tour.

![Master Craftsman Robert Yellico and sons Angelo and Robert install one of the new benches in the atrium. [Photo by Kathy Tanner]](image)

Two benches that will provide rest for visitors in our new atrium on the Chimney Rock end of the bridge were generously underwritten with a donation from **Fairfield Mountains Chapel**. Designed and crafted by Robert Yellico, the seats of the benches are made of white oak.

**MARK YOUR CALENDAR NOW COME TO OUR GARDEN PARTY SATURDAY, MAY 6**

Save the date! We had so much fun last year that we're doing it again. Join us for the **2017 LLFB Annual Garden Party on Saturday, May 6**, as we celebrate the achievements of the past year and look forward to the future together. It's the weekend before Mother's Day and we'll have some wonderful blooming gifts to purchase for that occasion along with refreshments and fun. Bring the kids for a scavenger hunt. More information to come in next month's newsletter.

![Photographer Blaine Cox captures the drama of the atrium and arbor on the west end of the LLFB, complete with the glory of a blue Carolina sky.](image)
Volunteers Heyward Nettles and Danny Holland, assisted by Charlie Nettles, install a new trellis at the Secret Garden gate.

Thanks to always loyal LLFB volunteer Heyward Nettles for his creation of the trellis in these photos from Alice Garrard. This adds immediate interest as well as another opportunity for climbing plants to add more beauty to our gardens. There's always something new!

"And tulips, children love to stretch
Their fingers down, to feel in each
Its beauty's secret nearer."
~ Elizabeth Barrett Browning

"I love spring anywhere, but if I could choose I would always greet it in a garden." ~ Ruth Stout