NEWS  OCTOBER 2017

“I’m so glad I live in a world where there are Octobers.”
~ L.M. Montgomery in Anne of Green Gables

CALENDAR OF upcoming free workshops and EVENTS

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.

GIFTS FROM OUR NEIGHBORS

Hats off to Bruce Godzik (left) of Coffee on the Rocks in Chimney Rock, and Amy and Chris Brevard of Lake Lure Coffee and Scoop Ice Cream, who regularly contribute coffee grounds to the Flowering Bridge. According to volunteer and master gardener Paige Massey, coffee grounds add nitrogen, magnesium, potassium, phosphorus, and copper to the soil. In winter, when you don’t want to fertilize plants and encourage them to grow, you can use coffee grounds to enrich the compost or mulch that you will be putting on the plants in the spring. Contrary to popular belief, coffee grounds have a neutral PH of 6.5 and are not acidic, so they can benefit any plants you would normally fertilize.

Coffee on the Rocks is open 8am to 6pm daily except Wednesday. Lake Lure Coffee is now open only Saturday 11am to 8pm and Sunday noon to 8pm. [Story and photo from Alice Garrard]

LLFB MURAL HONORED

Left to right: Taylor Hardin (Rutherford TDA) and LLFB Volunteers Paige Massey, Danny Holland, Susie Ellis, Bill Massey, Veryle Lynn Cox, Marta Campbell, Kathy Tanner, Amy Wald, Alice Garrard, Patti Stewart. [Photo by Blaine Cox]

At the October 10th Lake Lure Town Meeting, the Rutherford County Tourist Development Association presented the Lake Lure Flowering Bridge a plaque to honor our mural in the bridge gardens. The mural, designed by Amy Wald and Veryle Lynn Cox and painted by 22 bridge volunteers, was recently placed on the Appalachian Mural Trail. To see the LLFB Mural online, check out LLFB on Mural Trail

JOY IN A GARDEN IS AGELESS

"Looking at the Bat-faced Cuphea - this was a new one for my Grandma, but she really liked it," so reported Dawn Milachouski in a Facebook post with the photo at left. Her post continued: "Today was my grandmother's 90th birthday!! Took her on a tour of the Lake Lure Flowering Bridge to celebrate, then we had a dinner together at her house. Ninety years is a long time to be on this earth; glad that she is still with us and able to get out and about now & again. Thanks to the many people who volunteer and make the bridge such a beautiful place to visit." We thank you, Dawn, and are glad you and your grandmother could share the LLFB.
Local stonemason Tom Gorman graciously agreed to teach an LLFB workshop on building a wall. He was met by nearly 30 folks who wanted to learn the basics. A very experienced craftsman, Tom has demonstrated his prowess on the path that goes through the gardens (including the etched Pathway pavers) as well as the beautiful stone wall at the Welcome Terrace. Everyone had a hands-on experience, gaining the knowledge to plan and build walls for their own gardens. Tom even volunteered to lead a workshop next year on building a fire pit. Thanks, Tom, for sharing your expertise with us!  

[Report and photos from Alice Garrard]

COME JOIN LLFB VOLUNTEERS AND DIG IN THE DIRT WITH US

We're always looking for others to join our family of volunteers. You can add your name to the "Volunteer Tree" in the garden and share special time with others as part of the of the Lake Lure Flowering Bridge family. Most Tuesdays and Thursdays you'll find volunteers in the gardens who can chat with you about how we work and give you an volunteer application form to fill out. Garden Co-Chair Susie Ellis orients new volunteers to make sure that everyone has the information needed. It's a great way for the novice gardener to learn from our many master gardeners and a great way for experienced gardeners to share ideas. You'll find the joy, too, of meeting some of the estimated 35,000 visitors who come each year. For more information, email susieellis59@gmail.com.  

[Photo from Kathy Tanner]

WHIMSY IN THE SHADE GARDEN

We can assure visitors that they will always find something new and creative in our LLFB gardens. Garden Co-Chair Kathy Tanner reports that our volunteers recently created a new shade garden. It is home to several whimsical birdhouses like the truck in Kathy's photo above. Now all sorts of winged creatures are coming to enjoy the area, including the beautiful butterfly Alice Garrard captured in the photo at left.

“I would rather sit on a pumpkin, and have it all to myself, than be crowded on a velvet cushion.”  
~Henry David Thoreau, *Walden*, 1854

NEW DONATION OPPORTUNITIES

The path through the LLFB gardens now extends all the way to Boys Camp Road. It is still to be paved, but welcoming plants are already in. New donor opportunities are available to support the addition of benches, arbor 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

Like us on Facebook - 2,652 have! See more pumpkins there!
It's become a favorite LLFB tradition, the creation of the "Pumpkin People" in October. This year's crop of 30 colorful displays was produced in a workshop October 17. As the photos prove, it's more than people, reflecting the diversity we've come to expect from folks who embrace the idea of turning pumpkins into all manner of things. Thanks to artist Amy Wald for the faces she painted on the "people." [Thanks to Alice Garrard, Kathy Tanner and Blaine Cox for these photos.]

Bill and Paige Massey call these the "Golden Girls."

Alice Garrard named this "Eclipse Mania."

Mitsi Chorak's ice cream cone looks good enough to eat!

Look out! Lynn Lang's caterpillar might be pretty hungry.

Kathy Tanner's witch has quite a sense of style!