CALLED OF UPCOMING FREE WORKSHOPS AND EVENTS

April 12  Photographing in Nature and the Garden, Part I, Learning the Basics, led by local naturalist Clint Calhoun
April 17  Photographing in Nature and the Garden, Part II
April 24  Gardening and Feeding to Attract Ruby-Throated Hummingbirds, led by Master Gardener Eleanor Bails (Town Hall, Back Entrance)
May 29  Identifying and Dealing with Invasive Species, led by Clint Calhoun (Town Hall, Back Door)
June 19  Container Gardening with Edible Plants, led by Master Gardener Charlotte Gardner
July 24  Water Gardening, (Town Hall), led by Master Gardener and Garden Writer Debbie Clark
July 31  Hybridizing Day Lilies and Hostas, led by Debbie Clark (Town Hall Back Entrance)
August 21  Repurposing Found Objects as Garden Accents, led by Master Gardeners/LLFB Volunteers Lynn Lang, Eleanor Bails and Mitsi Chorak
September 25  How to Build a Fire Pit, led by local craftsman Mark Hoek

All classes are free and open to the public at 10am at the west end of the bridge unless otherwise indicated. For more information, call 828-625-2540.

CLINT CALHOUN LEADS APRIL 12 PHOTO WORKSHOP

Our first free LLFB workshop for 2018 will be "Photographing in Nature and the Garden," led by local naturalist Clint Calhoun. If you want to see why Clint is just the expert we need to help you get the best results, take a look at his blog to see the photos he posts there.

Clint's Blog  He calls his blog "Meanderings and Ponderings" and fills it with both words and pictures about the Hickory Nut Gorge, including documentation about the effects of the Party Rock fire and the way the landscape has recovered from that. Clint is also the Town of Lake Lure Environmental Management Officer. Check out his responsibilities at Lake Lure EMO Calhoun

WE HAVE AN LLFB WISH LIST

This new swing on the Chimney Rock end of the gardens was donated and constructed by LLFB volunteers Susie Ellis and Mike Payne. [Photo from Susie Ellis]

One of the ways you can support LLFB is to donate items on our Wish List. In addition to the inviting swing above, we are seeking donations of other items on our list. Some of these (costs included) are: several fountains ($400-1000), a living wall ($800), several benches ($150-400) and a trellis ($300). For each item or service donated, we are able to put our financial resources to great use! We will gratefully acknowledge your gift in the gardens.
Thanks to Alice Garrard for this photo of an early bloom in our March Tiptoe Through the Tulips display.

LLFB volunteer Mitsi Chorak has a gift for painting and can turn an ordinary rock into a message or an animal or a flower or almost any whimsy you can imagine. As the volunteers plan ahead to the Lake Lure Arts and Crafts Festival, they continue to create items to sell there as a way to fund LLFB, with Mitsi leading them in painting rocks March 7th at Town Hall. Once again, our volunteers have found ways to support the gardens while having a lot of fun and fellowship. [Photo from Alice Garrard]

We gather to ask for your support

The Lake Lure Flowering Bridge was developed and has grown over its first five years because of the generosity of our donors. Once each year in the spring, we ask again for your support in a special mailing campaign. This year under the leadership of Board Member Bill Massey, volunteers gathered at Lake Lure Town Hall to share the work of assembling the mailers, adding their own personal notes of gratitude to previous and potential donors. As it is with most LLFB endeavors, the sharing of the work is done with comraderie as well as purpose.

We appreciate all donations, none is too small nor too large. You can also visit our website to Donate. Thank you!
**LLFB AND MURAL TRAIL IN CAROLINA COUNTRY**

The Appalachian Mural Trail's story will be sent to readers of *Carolina Country* magazine in April and May. Our LLFB mural is spotlighted, deemed "one of the most unusual." *Carolina Country* is a monthly consumer magazine with a paid subscription of 700,000, reaching more than 2 million readers in North Carolina. Published continuously since 1946, *Carolina Country* is distributed to families, farms and businesses across the state on behalf of North Carolina's electric cooperatives. *Mural Trail in Carolina Country*

Volunteer Debbie Clark created this and other "mini-homes" that are on display in the LLFB miniature garden. [Photo from Kathy Tanner]

Alice Garrard captured the Lake Lure Academy garden's raptor against a spectacular cloudy sky.

**MARCH SCRAPBOOK**

*We Love Our Volunteers*

Photos by Alice Garrard

Volunteer Pamela Paulus takes care as she learns painted rock artistry. LLFB continues to prepare for the Fall Lake Lure Arts & Crafts Festival

Heyward Nettles is a bundle of energy in the gardens, always lending a hand with whatever is needed

Paige Massey is all smiles as she creates a wooden snowman for the Arts and Crafts Festival.

Kathy Tanner and Patti Stewart enjoy crafting together.