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NEWS JANUARY 2019

COMMUNITY CALENDAR

- January 1-31** Winter Lights on the LLFB
- February 2** 14th Annual Ground Hog Day Celebration - Chimney Rock State Park
- February 8** Souper Supper Competition & Dinner Riverside Event Center

For more complete event information, check the websites of the [Town of Lake Lure](#), [Chamber of Hickory Nut Gorge](#), [Chimney Rock State Park](#)

WE ARE ON THE MAP

The Roadtrippers website suggests that a great stop on a winter road trip in North Carolina is Chimney Rock/Lake Lure. It's yet another instance of attention that comes to our area for its natural beauty, as well as the uniqueness of the Lake Lure Flowering Bridge which provides a perfect view of Chimney Rock. [CHIMNEY ROCK & LAKE LURE ROADTRIPPERS](#)



*"If Winter comes,
can Spring be far
behind?"*
~Percy Bysshe
Shelley

LIKE US ON [FACEBOOK](#)- 3,150 HAVE!

Photos this page by Mike Lumpkin

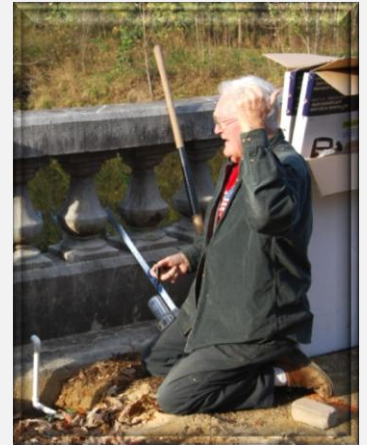
IN MEMORIAM: CHUCK WATKINS



We are deeply saddened to say farewell this week to Chuck Watkins who, along with wife Joselyn, was among the founders of the Friends of the Lake Lure Flowering Bridge and a dedicated volunteer who gave so many hours to the gardens. Chuck was both a

member of our board and an integral member of the hard-working infrastructure team. Our hearts go out to his loving wife, their children and grandchildren and extended family.

From our earliest efforts, Chuck was always ready to make things happen. In 2012 Chuck oversaw the milling of the bridge surface, the smoothing process that was the first step in converting the roadway on the bridge. In 2013 he worked with Charlie Yelton to lay the conduits for electrical and irrigation. Chuck and Charlie led the team that brought the beautiful lampposts to the balustrade, reminiscent of those that were a part of the 1925 bridge. Year after year, project by project, Chuck brought his knowledge and commitment to our "Gateway to Somewhere Beautiful."



Chuck will be remembered for his expertise, graciously given, and for his smile, his hugs and his sunny attitude. He touched our hearts, raised our spirits and left his fingerprints on the bridge and in our hearts. Rest in peace, dear friend.



*A life well lived is
a precious gift of
hope and strength
and grace
from someone who
has made our world
a brighter, better place.*

~ Author Unknown

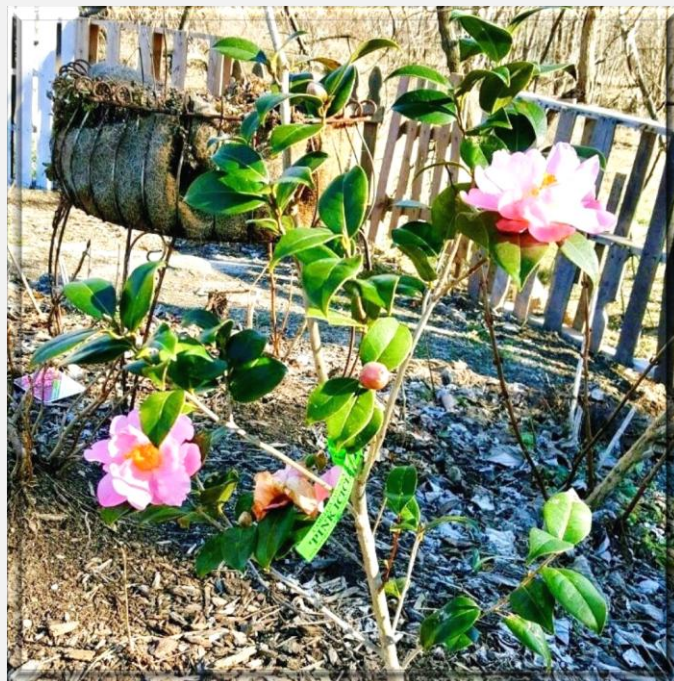
PAINTED ROCKS FIND A NEW GARDEN HOME



Painted rocks appear in our gardens from time to time, some placed by our own gardeners and some that find their way in the hands of our visitors from near and far. Volunteer and LLFB Board member Danny Holland shared pictures of one of these with a flower on one side and "St. Augustine Rocks" on the other.

A little research uncovered a Facebook page for the St. Augustine Rocks group and more information about painted rocks in general. The "craze" for painting something inspiring or cheerful on rocks has swept the country over the past few years. The idea is to leave the rocks for someone else to find, spreading joy while creating moments of "discovery" for those who find them.

There is information on the internet about how to join the movement and the St. Augustine Rocks group on Facebook shares tips about how to begin. [St.. Augustine Rocks](#)



Pink Icicle Camellia ~ Jennifer Gregg

"January is the quietest month in the garden. ... But just because it looks quiet doesn't mean that nothing is happening. The soil, open to the sky, absorbs the pure rainfall while microorganisms convert tilled-under fodder into usable nutrients for the next crop of plants. The feasting earthworms tunnel along, aerating the soil and preparing it to welcome the seeds and bare roots to come."
- Rosalie Muller Wright



JANUARY SCRAPBOOK



Purple Iris ~ Alice Garrard



Doggie Mah Jong Lingers into the Year of the Pig (2019)
~ Alice Garrard