Thank You, Lee!

As two new editors take the helm of the Lake Lure Flowering Bridge newsletter, we would like to extend a heartfelt thank you to Lee Armstrong Lumpkin, who has set high standards for chronicling this rewarding community project for the last five years.

Calendar of Events

May-Sept- EXHIBIT: Windows To Somewhere Beautiful

June 27- Growing Herbs in the Kitchen Garden,
led by LLFB’s herb expert and master gardener Charlotte Gardner; 10-11 in the Secret Garden

Permanent Display: Language of Flowers
painted pavers that look like books

WINDOWS TO SOMEWHERE BEAUTIFUL

This stunning hummingbird and vine was painted by Jennifer Gregg, Lake Lure Artist and LLFB volunteer. It can be viewed in the atrium as part of the painted window exhibit on display through September.

REMEMBERING MAYOR KEVIN COOLEY

From our humble beginnings in 2011, Kevin was an ambassador we could count on. He and his wife, Yvonne, had just moved here permanently and we remember his excitement about our “cool project.” A story we love to tell is, in our early design meetings, we saw the immediate need for trash cans on each end of the gardens and “it certainly wouldn’t do to have the normal kind.” Susie Ellis had a picture from Butchart Gardens in Canada of unique wood slab-sided receptacles with living planters on top. The big question was: Who would build them for us? We asked around and Kevin’s name came up immediately. His woodworking hobby came into play for us when he built and installed them. They will be with us for a long time.

In his position as mayor, Kevin helped dedicate our new informational kiosk on April 27. His words about our history, development, and commitment to the community were delivered with true feeling and heartfelt gratitude. It was a special day for us and a memory we will always cherish. Kevin was a member of our Flowering Bridge family and we deeply miss him.

— Kathy Tanner
NEW MURAL

Visitors to the Flowering Bridge will notice a new mural in the Cottage Garden of bright red poppies with a swallowtail and a monarch butterfly hovering nearby. Created for the bridge by a local artist who prefers to remain anonymous, the mural is painted on fencing material six feet tall by ten feet wide and stained with a walnut stain and protectant. The paints are highly pigmented acrylic paints from Nova Color. After painting, the artist applied three coats of UV protectant/anti-graffiti sealer. The mural is on the Appalachian Mural Trail (www.muraltrail.com), which spotlights more than 80 outdoor murals in North Carolina and Virginia, all within easy driving distance of the Blue Ridge Parkway.

LEARNING = INTERACTIVE FUN AT NEW KIOSK

In this photo taken by Lynn Lang, young visitors to the LLFB test their knowledge about butterflies at one of eight panels that make up the new educational kiosk.

True or False? Butterflies taste with their feet. Butterflies are able to chew their food. The sun’s warmth is needed for butterflies to fly and feed. These are some of the statements about which guests can hypothesize, then flip a card to find out if their answers are correct. This section of the educational kiosk titled, “Float like a Butterfly” also includes pictures of eight butterflies and their host plants that can be spotted in LLFB gardens, as well as information on the life cycle of a butterfly, monarch migration, and how to design a pollinator-friendly garden.

The kiosk was designed by committee members Susie Ellis, Alice Garrard, Valerie Hoffman, Lynn Lang, Paige Massey, Kathy Tanner, and Amy Wald.

RING IN SPRING

photos by Alice Garrard

On Saturday, April 27, students from the Lake Lure Classical Academy filled the air with festive music and poetry when the Town of Lake Lure, Flowering Bridge Volunteers, and LLCA students and teachers celebrated Ring in Spring. Mayor Kevin Cooley served as Master of Ceremonies. A ribbon cutting to dedicate the newly installed educational kiosk followed Kathy Tanner’s presentation about the history of the LLFB and recognition of volunteers. Light refreshments were enjoyed by attendees which included almost 200 visitors and local residents.

June 17-23 is pollinator week! www.pollinator.org
May/June Scrapbook

In honor of moms and brides, please enjoy these pictures of roses in bloom at the Lake Lure Flowering Bridge.

photos courtesy of Alice Garrard, caretaker of these ethereal blossoms

Lady of Shalott

White Dawn

Joseph’s Coat

Campfire

The Fairy

Fourth of July

Above All

Pink Cupcake

Graham Thomas