



P.O. Box 125, Lake Lure, NC 28746

lakelurefloweringbridge.org

Eleanor Bails, editor, lfb.newsletter@gmail.com

Alice Garrard, associate editor/photographer

LLFB HOSTS NATIONAL CONFERENCE PARTICIPANTS

Flowering Bridge: Growing Community and the Local Economy was one of the nine mobile workshops at the conference of National Association of Community Development Extension Professionals held in Asheville during the second week of June. Sixteen community development professionals toured the LLFB, then were transported to the Lake Lure Inn where the agenda included presentations by Kathy Tanner, Garden Co-chair and Chair of the LLFB Board of Directors; Susie Ellis, Garden Co-chair and Volunteer Coordinator; Alice Garrard, Education Co-chair; and Bill Massey, Treasurer and Fundraising Chair. Other speakers were Shannon Baldwin, Lake Lure Town Manager, and Jim Walters, Chair of the Lake Lure Parks and Recreation Board. Informal Q and A sessions with refreshments followed the talks.



NEWS JULY 2019

Calendar of Events

July 25- Demos: Turning Ordinary Objects Into Garden Art led by master gardeners Mitsi Chorak, Lynn Lang, and Eleanor Bails; and volunteer Margie Warwick 10-11, Welcome Terrace and Secret Garden

August 22- Gardening for Success! led by gardening guru Maryann Brown 10-11, Town Hall (back entrance)

Through Sept- EXHIBIT:
Windows To Somewhere Beautiful



WE'RE ON THE TRAIL!

The Rosalynn Carter Butterfly Trail, based in Plains, GA, is a program inspired by Former First Lady Rosalynn Carter to help increase habitat for monarchs and other species of butterflies. Because both nectar and host plants that attract many varieties of butterflies are grown on the bridge, Joy Dyer, GA master gardener, encouraged her sister, Paige Massey, LLFB volunteer and local master gardener, to apply for the LLFB to be included on the Rosalynn Carter Butterfly Trail. Check out the informative website as well as our listing: #169 in the list, *Public Gardens OUTSIDE Plains, GA* at

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rosalyncarterbutterflytrail.org



BUSINESS SALUTE TO GARDENWOODS

A huge shout-out goes to Gardenwoods for helping secure several striking fountains that serve as tranquil water features on the bridge and supervising their installation. The shop and nursery, which opened in 2011, provide customers with unique, quality products for the home and garden, and gifts for any occasion.

The Garden Café opened for breakfast and lunch in spring 2017, expanded hours to 7 am - 9 pm on Friday, and added Saturday dinner by reservation. Customers enjoy creative as well as traditional, locally sourced food in the comfort of the dining room surrounded by local works of art, or dine al fresco on the covered patio.



Gabe Harden, pictured above, and Bill Ramaskewich, president and vice president of the company, are passionate about fostering youth interest in culinary art and other skilled trades as well as raising funds for Alzheimer's.

Future plans for expansion include the addition of several greenhouses and a farmers market. Gardenwoods and the Garden Café are located less than a half hour east of the Lake Lure Flowering Bridge at 4250 U.S. 64/74A Hwy., Rutherfordton.

[photo by Eleanor Bails]



What's all the buzz

...about bees? Local beekeeper and educator Laura Shields recently led a fascinating class on bees and beekeeping to a captive audience in the Secret Garden.



PLANTS FOR ALL SEASONS

One of eight panels that makes up the new educational kiosk titled "Plants For All Seasons" validates that the Lake Lure Flowering Bridge has something to offer every season of the year. Lists of plants that grow in each of the four seasons accompany enticing photos taken on the bridge in spring, summer, fall, and winter. Symbols indicate if a plant provides food for birds, is considered deer resistant, or is attractive to pollinators. In the center of it all, the "Plant of the Month" is showcased in a vintage frame. This month's featured plant is "Bat-Faced Cuphea."



Before strolling down the park's paver pathway, a mom stops by the educational kiosk to look at a list of summer plants she and her young son might see.

Look! We're Official!

Our beautiful new sign proclaims our location and completes the west end development.



July Scrapbook - Windows To Somewhere Beautiful

visitors can enjoy the views through September.

All of the windows were created by our volunteers or local artists.



Jennifer Gregg's painted hummingbird hovers in the atrium near the birds atop the Tranquility Fountain.



Mitsi Chorak's wisteria window hangs from an arbor nestled in a shady spot near the east entrance of the bridge. It captures the reflection of the path and garden that it faces.

[photo by Kathy Tanner]



Pamela Paulus painted red posies and cheerful ladybugs on the rustic frame that encircles "literary art" in the West Cottage Garden.



Two squirrels and a frog frolic in a meadow of colorful flowers in Amy Wald's scene painted on an octagonal window near the west entrance to the bridge.



Monarch butterflies flutter among daisies and coneflowers in Mitsi's pretty hand-painted creation located in the Lake Lure Classical Academy Garden, which she tends.

You'll find Eleanor Bails' stenciled koi and water lilies near the waterfall by the LLFB's west entrance.



Susie Ellis installs her window, a replica of the Flowering Bridge logo, in the atrium.



Hanging side-by-side near the bridge's east entrance are windows that adorn the gardens tended by Paige and Bill Massey. Paige painted woodland critters on her window. Jennifer Gregg painted the locomotive at the request of Bill, who is a model train aficionado.



Michelle Kreitman's painting of graceful wisteria extends onto the vintage frame and adds a touch of Victorian charm to the Welcome Terrace.

