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This "bear pair" is part of a woodland scene painted inside of a silhouette of a bear that will be displayed on the bridge this fall.

[Artwork photos by Amy Wald]

Beautiful Bears

The bridge will be a *beary* special place this fall when silhouettes of bears embellished with original artwork by the Lake Lure Artists will be on view throughout our gardens. The special feature, titled "Beautiful Bears," will be on display from September 11 through October 24.

So they'll be fit to withstand the weather, the 18-inch-tall by 24-inch-wide bear cutouts are made from sanded and sealed marine grade plywood. After the artists applied their creative touches to the pieces, a topcoat was added for protection and attachments were secured to the backs of the frames so that the bears can either be hung or stand on a stick base.

Don't miss the opportunity to own one of these pieces of original artwork to display in your own home or garden. All of the bear silhouettes will be sold at an online auction via Bidding Owl, held October 15-24. Proceeds from the auction will benefit the Lake Lure Flowering Bridge. Watch for information about the auction on our Facebook Page and our website.

News ♦ September 2021

Calendar of Events

September 11 - October 24 – Special Feature:

Beautiful Bears

See adjacent article for details.

Tuesday, September 28, 10 a.m. – Composting 101

Class led by Garden Co-chair Debbie Clark
Flowering Bridge Compost Center (west end)

Tuesday, October 26, 10 a.m. – Seed Harvesting, Saving, Sharing and Seed Swap

Class led by a panel of Flowering Bridge Volunteers
Flowering Bridge Welcome Terrace (west end)

FOR INFORMATION ABOUT CLASSES OR TOURS,
call Alice or Danny at 828-625-2540
or email alicegrrrd@gmail.com

Celebrating Summer's End



These young ladies wouldn't let the season wind down without spending some family time at the bridge. See more photos of kids on the bridge in this month's scrapbook.

[photo by Lynn Lang]



Each piece is as unique as the artist who created it.



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Kathy Tanner, shown on the left, helps one group of class participants place plants in a small frame designed for creating a vertical planter. The three planters class attendees helped create at the conclusion of the class are shown below.

Vertical gardens are gardens where plants grow up or out of a vertical structure, instead of in the ground. Examples on the Flowering Bridge include the “Mirror, Mirror on the Wall” attraction, as well as the “living roofs” of Petunia’s Hideout and the doghouse in the River’s Edge Dog Garden. Our hayrack planters, hanging baskets, tiered planters and plants growing on trellises are also samples of vertical gardens.

In her bridge-sponsored class, “Vertical Gardening and Living Walls,” held last month on the LLFB’s Welcome Terrace, Kathy Tanner, master gardener and garden co-chair of the Flowering Bridge, shared her knowledge and experiences of creating vertical gardens and living walls. Vertical gardens can brighten both indoor and

outdoor spaces, provided suitable plants, well draining potting soil and materials that will withstand being wet are chosen to create them. Planters to make vertical gardens are commercially available, however; online and printed resources provide a myriad of ideas for D.I.Y. vertical gardens. Kathy suggests using durable materials, such as PVC pipe, that can withstand being wet, or spraying protective coatings to waterproof homemade containers.

The highlight of the class was when attendees were invited to break into groups, and after a short demo, were encouraged to participate in planting one of three containers suitable for vertical gardening. This was followed by drawing names of three lucky winners, each leaving with a new garden creation.



“Mirror, Mirror on the Wall,” installed last summer on the west end of the bridge, is an artistic composition of vertical planters and mirrors.

Humongous Hydrangea Blooms!



These visitors from Stockbridge, Georgia, couldn’t believe their eyes when they saw the size of the blooms of ‘Phantom’ hydrangea. This amazing shrub, located near the garden shed and new children’s garden, is a paniculata, a species of hydrangea that thrives in full sun.

Who is the Mystery Visitor?

Who is this gorgeous guest on the bridge? The sculpture, on display near the LLFB parking lot, was created and donated by local resident Katerina Roys, who used wire, fabric and branches from a bush to create this “fun, fashionable scarecrow garden-lady figure.”





September Scrapbook

These young visitors were caught on camera striking some cute poses and enjoying themselves on the bridge.

[photo credit: Alice Garrard & Lynn Lang]

