



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

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# News 🍁 November 2021

## Calendar of Events

**November 16, '21 - January 4, '22 — Special Feature:  
Festival of Trees**

Themed trees will be on display throughout the gardens. White lights will brighten winter nights until February 23.

**FOR INFORMATION ABOUT TOURS OR  
UPCOMING CLASSES,  
contact Alice or Danny at 828-625-2540  
or [alicegrrrd@gmail.com](mailto:alicegrrrd@gmail.com)**

## We're Thankful for ...



Two of our newest volunteers, Charlene Cassidy, in the hat, and Diane Miller, worked together to create a display of pretty pumpkins.

... volunteers who enthusiastically donate their time, talents and skills to maintain "A Gateway to Somewhere Beautiful."



Linda Reandeau, who has no formal art training, added her creative touch to a pumpkin displayed in the dog garden, which she now tends.

## New Volunteers Lend Artistic Talents to LLFB

Two of our new garden volunteers have wasted no time showcasing their creativity at the bridge.

Before moving from Atlanta to Gerton, west of Lake Lure, in February 2020, Linda Reandeau considered the Flowering Bridge one of the most beautiful small gardens she had ever visited. "As a master gardener, I was used to volunteering in many different project gardens, including the Atlanta Botanical Garden," explains

Linda. She recently joined the LLFB team as a board member and caretaker of our canine-themed garden.

Four years ago, Becky Melton, a retired computer programmer, moved from Clearwater, FL, to Rutherford County, NC, where her husband was born and raised. "My mother was an elementary art teacher," she says, "so art has always been a natural part of my life." Becky enjoys painting on rocks and bricks, and donated her time and talent by painting one of the bear silhouettes in the recent art auction to benefit the Flowering Bridge. She's the new caretaker of the Proven Winners Garden, located near the east entrance to the bridge.

Turn the page to meet more volunteers who've joined our crew this past year. Their example might inspire you to find your own niche at the Flowering Bridge. Visit with our volunteers on a Tuesday or Thursday, when they work in the gardens, or contact Volunteer Committee member Paige Massey for more information: [masseypai@aol.com](mailto:masseypai@aol.com).



Becky Melton decorated a rock with a portrait of Gertrude, a goose who has nested for two seasons in the same spot on the bridge.

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# Our Gardening Team is Growing

In addition to Becky, Linda, Charlene and Diane, who are featured on the previous page, you'll also find these new volunteers working in our gardens:

**David** Although he learned some gardening skills "at his mother's knee," David Efird considers his late wife Charlene, who was involved with the bridge during its infancy, his inspiration for becoming a LLFB volunteer. This longtime resident of the Lake Lure/Chimney Rock area is "glad to help out anywhere."

**Donnie** Master gardener Donnie Phillips, who moved from the Raleigh/Durham/Chapel Hill, NC, area to Edneyville, a town west of Lake Lure, in 2015, was inspired to sign up as a volunteer by others he saw working at the bridge. You'll find him weeding, mulching, transplanting and helping out wherever he's needed.

**Lia** As a longtime Hendersonville, NC, resident and state employee who enjoys gardening, Lia Barth is spending her employee community service leave hours volunteering at the Flowering Bridge.



Lia Barth, left, and Marla Somerville erect a sophisticated scarecrow to greet visitors to the bridge's west entrance.

**Jeannie** After retiring from working for the International Space Station Project in CA, Jeannie Lewis returned to her family roots in the Lake Lure area, where her grandmother was born. She'll be tending one of the tropical gardens.

**Mara** Admiring the scenery along her running route, which takes her across the bridge, inspired our newest volunteer, Mara Butera, to sign up to help out. She's owned a house in Lake Lure since 2013, but moved here permanently from Hollywood, FL, in January.

**Marla** After moving to Lake Lure from Edgewater, MD, in December 2020, Marla Somerville became involved in several local volunteer opportunities, including the Flowering Bridge. She's loving being caretaker of the Whimsical Garden and also has joined the LLFB board of directors.

When Jeannie Lewis took the selfie, below, during one of many visits to the bridge, little did she know she'd soon be a regular volunteer at the LLFB.



No stranger to contributing her talent to the bridge, Lake Lure artist Mara Butera, pictured above, created beautiful stained glass pieces sold in both the 2020 and 2021 art auction fundraisers to benefit the LLFB



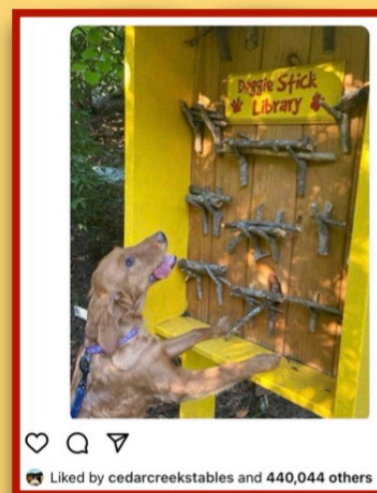
## Thank You, Linda's Plants!



LLFB volunteers, L to R, Marla Somerville, Linda Reandeau, Debbie Clark, Kathy Tanner, Susie Ellis and Lynn Lang unload a truck full of pumpkins, generously donated by Linda's Plants & Shrubs, located in Hendersonville, NC. Check out the November Scrapbook, on the last page of this newsletter, as well as our Facebook Page, to see how we decorated some of these pumpkins for our "Pretty Pumpkins" fall display.

## LLFB Stick Library Goes Viral

During a visit to the Flowering Bridge, Peter Fawcett, of Dunedin, Florida, snapped his dog's photo and posted it on Dogspotting Society, a Facebook community of about 1.8 million people who upload pictures of dogs caught in the act of being dogs. This isn't the first time our doggie stick library has been posted to social media, but certainly the most popular, accumulating enough likes, shares and comments in a short period of time to achieve the prestigious status of "gone viral." The stick library is located in the River's Edge Dog Garden, near the west entrance to the bridge.



[photo by Peter Fawcett]



# November Scrapbook

There's more than one way to decorate a pumpkin! Our creative and resourceful volunteers used a variety of materials to embellish pumpkins for our fall-themed "Pretty Pumpkins" display.

