

Garden Club - March 2018 Scuttlebutt Article

The notion of a National Wildlife Federation (NFW) Certified Habitat isn't new to Keowee Key. In fact, eight Lake and Hills Garden Club (LHGC) members have already had their backyards certified as NFW habitats. What is new about this project is the expanded scope, according to Alice Guzick during her presentation at the February 9 meeting of the Lake and Hills Garden Club (LHGC). The goal is to create wildlife friendly environments at more homes AND in Keowee Key's common spaces. While this goal may sound challenging, a community wildlife habitat has just four requirements: food, water, shelter and spaces to raise young.

Why bother getting Keowee Key certified as a community wildlife habitat? According to Guzick, scientists agree that community wildlife habitats are key to enabling plants, fish, and other animals to produce healthier populations which are able to adapt to longer-term shifts in climate. On a more personal note, Guzick stated that wildlife habitats make our yards come alive. Residents benefit by enjoying landscapes that change with the seasons and yards that abound with small animals, birds, butterflies, and pollinators. Plus, residents can take pride knowing that they are a part of a grassroots effort to improve the world.



Garden Club member Alice Guzick, presenter for the February meeting, on helpful ways we can reach National Wildlife Federation wildlife habitat certification in our own backyards and within our community.



President Laura Havran getting ready to start the meeting of the Lake and Hills Garden Club.

Please join us for this month's LHGC meeting on Friday, March 9, at 11:30 a.m. (arrive at 11:15 for social time) in the Magnolia Room of The Club at Keowee Key®. Remember to call The Club at 944-2151 to make your lunch reservation. The March program entitled, "The Egg Came First - The Monarch Project," will be given by LHGC member Donna Buchanan. An avid gardener who also owns a Texas nursery, Buchanan will speak about her work raising Monarch butterflies from eggs and releasing 15 adult Monarchs from her Keowee Key garden.

Looking ahead, the Lake and Hills Garden Club April forecast is not for showers but for celebrations. The LHGC will celebrate its thirtieth anniversary as a club with a special dinner at The Club at Keowee Key. All former members, members, spouses and guests will be welcome. Special invitees will include nine of the original 60 founding members of the LHGC who still live in Keowee Key. A highlight of this elegant evening will be a presentation by Patrick McMillan, Hilliard Professor of Environmental Sustainability and Director of the SC Botanical Garden. Additionally in April, the LHGC will celebrate its second year participating in the Art Connection's spring show based on the theme "Found Objects."

The Lake and Hills Garden Club always welcomes new members and guests. If you are interested in joining the Garden Club or attending first as a guest, please contact membership chairs, Diana Beane at (304) 546-9110 or Edna Melamed at (864) 944-8791. Monthly meetings are held on the second Friday of the month at The Club at Keowee Key® in the Magnolia Room, unless otherwise stated. The meetings include a program, lunch, and activities that are both informative and enjoyable.



Garden Club members getting in the spirit with the Valentine's Day theme and showcasing the centerpieces. (l-r) Norma Lehan, Lynn Pode, Cilla Hodgson, and Fredi Hallman.