

Lake and Hills Garden Club

While the winter rains were plentiful, they did not derail the members of the Lake and Hills Garden Club (LHGC) from participating in a collection of activities.

Let's Go Out and Learn | Blue Ridge Orchid Society Show

On February 22, LHGC members attended the Blue Ridge Orchid Society Show at Duke World of Energy. They marveled at over 60 genera ranging from common, “easy to grow” varieties to more rare plants.

1 Lake and Hills Garden Club members recently basked in the beauty of orchids at the Blue Ridge Show: Dee Helvik, Diana Beane, Laura Havran, Chris McSwain, Joy Kuby, Judy Trad, Nan Piotrowski, Karen Pfaff, and Laurie Flanagan (L-R).



Let's Go Out and Learn | South Carolina Botanical Gardens First Friday Walk

On March 1, several LHGC members braved the rain to join Dr. David Bradshaw for the First Friday Walk at the South Carolina Botanical Gardens. After all, Dr. Bradshaw stated, “There is no such thing as bad weather for the First Friday Walk!”

West Piedmont District Annual Spring Meeting and Awards Luncheon



On March 5, the Lake and Hills Garden Club hosted the annual West Piedmont District meeting at the Event Center. A beautiful luncheon with centerpieces, table decorations, and favors echoed the meeting’s theme, “The Secret Life of Pollinators.”

LHGC President Lynn Podge was extremely pleased with the turnout for this year’s event: 109 registrations representing 27 different garden clubs in the West Piedmont District. Lynn had further reason to be pleased this year as the LHGC proudly earned the Presidential Commendation Award from SCGC President, Donna Donnelly. The LHGC also garnered six First Place awards and two Second Place awards.

2 Donna Donnelly (L), Garden Club of South Carolina President, presented Lynn Podge (R), Lake and Hills Garden Club President the Presidential Commendation Award for 2018. The award recognized the LHGC support of Donnelly’s state project, “Feed the Birds.”

In addition to the luncheon and awards presentation, the meeting also featured two fascinating programs. Dr. Walker Miller, local plant pathology and physiology expert, presented the program, “Designing Landscapes for a Sustainable Planet.” Also, LHGC member Laura Havran presented the program “Art in Bloom,” showcasing how to design floral arrangements that complement artwork.



3 LHGC members Laura Havran, Joy Kuby, Diane McGee, and Nan Piotrowski (L-R) designed floral arrangements that interpreted artwork for an Art in Bloom program at the West Piedmont District meeting.

LHGC Meeting Programs | March and April

At the March 8 meeting, LHGC member and accomplished master gardener Laurie Churchill charmed and cajoled club members to think outside the box when it comes to raised beds during her “Raise It Up!” program. Laurie made the observation that the height of a raised garden can be fairly high to accommodate those who have physical challenges. This is a key point as the LHGC will construct a raised garden bed this year at Seneca Health and Rehabilitation.

Join us for our next meeting on Friday, April 12 at 11:30 a.m. (arrive at 11:15 for social time) at the Event Center. Remember to call the Club at 864-944-2151 to make your lunch reservation. Keowee Key resident and “For The Birds” owner Terry Allen will present the program “The Bluebird of Happiness.” If you are interested in joining the Garden Club or attending 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 Event Center.