

Lake and Hills Garden Club - May 2018 Scuttlebutt Article | Final

“Thanks for the Memory” was Bob Hope's signature tune, but it was also the perfect theme for many of the Lake and Hills Garden Club (LHGC) April activities. Importantly, April marked the thirtieth anniversary of the club's founding.

Longtime LHGC member Barbara Shaver delighted both old and new members of the Garden Club with her April 13 meeting program entitled “A Walk Down Memory Lane.” Serving as our “tour guide,” Shaver charmed club members by leading them through a photographic journey of the club's first 30 years. Shaver highlighted LHGC projects, events, and trips including: 100 pink dogwoods planted around The Club and along the Leisure Trail, formal flower shows, Hunnicutt Cemetery historic preservation, Calhoun House and Wren House Christmas decorations, Nimmons Bridge Road litter patrol, SC Botanical Garden butterfly garden installation, and Habitat for Humanity houses. These LHGC projects over the past 30 years clearly fulfilled the club's mission to stimulate knowledge and love of gardening, to aid in the protection of plants and wildlife, and to encourage civic beauty. And LHGC members - both old and new - were thankful for the memory of the last 30 years.

The “Thanks for the Memory” theme culminated on April 24 with a special Thirtieth Anniversary dinner celebration at The Club. Invitees included LHGC founding members, current members and their spouses, as well as interested members of the Keowee Key community. The celebration began with a social and passed hors d'oeuvres. Guests were then seated at tables where elegant centerpieces set the mood. Adorned with white hydrangeas and white Casablanca lilies, vases glowed with floating pearls and tea lights, thus blending the SC Garden Club's “Feed the Birds” project with the LHGC's thirtieth anniversary.

The first guest speaker, Dr. Patrick McMillan, Hilliard Professor of Environmental Sustainability and Director of the SC Botanical Garden, captivated guests with his presentation, “Gardening for Life,” which illustrated how we all can create gardens, landscapes, and natural habitats that encourage life for birds, bees, and wild animals. The Garden Club then presented Dr. McMillan with a \$3,000 donation which will help build a full-fledged birding garden, including a bird-viewing platform, at the SC Botanical Garden. The LHGC also presented a donation of \$1,000 to the second guest speaker, Donna Donnelly, President of the Garden Club of South Carolina. This donation will help the Garden Club of South Carolina make a long-term impact on the bird population by educating members how they can make the transition from just feeding birds to cultivating habitats in which the birds can feed themselves.

However, the LHGC is not resting on its laurels of the past 30 years. The numerous West Piedmont District 2018 awards, which the Garden Club recently garnered in March, are creating new memories. First place awards went to the President's Report by Laura Havran, the Garden Club's Yearbook co-chaired by Carolyn Mitchell and Kathleen Fosha, Arbor Day Planting chaired by Maria Calderwood, Garden Therapy chaired by Chris McSwain, and a special Club

deck project chaired by Linda Kayser.

Please join us for this month's LHGC meeting on Friday, May 11, 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 864- 944-2151 to make your lunch reservation. If you are curious about plant specimens along the Natural Heritage Trail (NHT) at the SC Botanical Gardens, NHT Manager Allison Kelly will provide the answers in her program entitled "That's Growing in Clemson? "

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.



