

Final | Lake and Hills Garden Club September 2018 Scuttlebutt Article

If birds of a feather really do flock together, then get ready for a fabulous 30th Annual Lake and Hills Garden Club (LHGC) Luncheon and Auction, “Birds of a Feather.” This year’s event will be held in the Keowee Key Event Center on October 22 with the Silent Auction beginning at 10:30 a.m. and the luncheon at 12:00 p.m. To prepare, the LHGC Auction Committee put their talents in creative overdrive during the summer, particularly, the Raffle and Auction Teams.

The Raffle Team, comprised of Judy Stevens and Judy Cowman, assembled fantastic new raffle packages while maintaining some of the more popular ones, all with a minimum value of \$300. New to the Auction is the *All About Me* package which includes various types of popular pampering: massage, manicure, pedicure, facial, haircut, a basket from The Healthy Olive, and a wine tasting and lunch for two at Victoria Valley Vineyard. Another new raffle package, *Come Fly with Us*, begins with a plane ride for an awesome aerial view of Keowee Key and Lake Keowee, capped off by a Champagne Dinner for Two at The Club. Back by popular demand is the *Clemson* package which is rumored to include a signed football from a Clemson celebrity. Not to be outdone, Keowee Key assembled its own *Family* package which includes pickleball, tennis and golf lessons provided by the respective Club pro’s, as well as bowling in Seneca and a kayak rental donated by the North Marina staff. A full day boat rental completes this package. Raffle tickets will be on sale in the near future for these packages, as well as others contributed by the Wine Emporium, Vangeli’s, and Your Pie, just to name a few. Marge Kingsley, Auction Chairperson explained: “This annual fundraising event is only successful because of the support of our community and the many efforts and cooperation of our members.”



Judy Stevens, Judy Cowman and Julia Stapleton (left to right) work with Paul Trehearne of the Wine Emporium to develop the perfect wine basket for the Garden Club Luncheon and Auction.

Susan Hansen and Peggy Gates, the Table Decoration Team, prepared diligently as well, designing table centerpieces that creatively combined the 2018 Auction theme “Birds of a Feather” with succulents. To get started, Susan and Peggy scoured flea markets and antique stores for unusual containers - like seashells - that would lend themselves to eye-catching designs. Then, they experimented with the designs themselves, aiming for striking and unusual arrangements to highlight carefree succulents. All centerpieces will be available for purchase the day of the auction.



Peggy Gates, Co-Chair of Table Decorations for the Garden Club Auction and Luncheon, experiments with different ideas for succulent planters.

Please make plans to attend the September 14 meeting at 11:30 a.m. in the Magnolia Room of The Club at Keowee Key®. Remember to call The Club at 864-944-2151 to make your lunch reservation. Ray Hiler, a member of the Oconee County Beekeepers Association, will present a program entitled, “Bee Aware,” during which members will learn about the current shortage of honey bees and their importance in our environment. Immediately after the meeting, LHGC members will *Go Out and Learn* as they tour Keowee Key’s Community Gardens and discuss various gardening methods and soil amendments.

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 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.