

August Scuttlebutt

WHAT IS THE GARDEN CLUB

The Lake and Hills Garden Club (LHGC) is a fairly active group both within the Keowee Key community and in the surrounding area. The club is affiliated with the National Garden Clubs, Inc., South Atlantic Region, the Garden Club of South Carolina, Inc., and the West Piedmont District. As such, the efforts of the LHGC are focused on varying topics and efforts throughout the state of South Carolina. In October each year, the LHGC sponsors a silent auction and luncheon to raise funds to support the various projects and efforts of the club.

Monthly programs are held on the second Friday of the month at 11:15 at the Club at Keowee Key. Featured speakers share their knowledge and expertise with the membership, which is followed by a luncheon. The club does not have a program in either July or August. New members are always welcomed. If you are a gardener or interested in learning more about gardening in South Carolina, please contact any of the 86 members of the LHGC or Lynn Podes (lynnpode@mac.com 586-770-7422) for further information.

CURRENT ACTIVITIES

Although there is no formal program in July and August, members are busy with different projects and activities in the summer months.

2019 Auction

Susan Hansen, 2019 Auction Chairperson, has been meeting with her committees that are organizing the annual fund raiser to be held on October 28, 2019, at the Club at Keowee Key. The teams are securing items for different raffle baskets and collecting items for assembling the table decorations and centerpieces. The entire club membership is securing those unique things for contribution to the silent auction, as each member is responsible for a contribution valued at a minimum of \$50.

Seneca Healthcare and Rehabilitation Center - Raised Garden Project

Laurie Churchill is leading a team of 19 volunteers to work on the gardens at the Seneca Healthcare and Rehabilitation Center. While originally planning to refurbish the raised garden, members soon learned that much more was needed. Some of the residents had bird feeders outside of their window; however, the feeders appeared very dilapidated and in need of cleaning and repair. Unfortunately, of the 45 birdhouses, only 24 were salvageable. Accordingly, kits were purchased for those that required replacement and for those windows lacking feeders. The team worked with residents to assemble and install the 81 hummingbird, suet, tube, and tray feeders outside of resident's windows. Five bluebird houses assembled with residents and installed on poles with baffles already have bluebirds nesting in them. Brightening the surroundings are the replanted raised bed as well as 28 flower pots. With more than 130 work hours on behalf of LHGC members, the team continues to visit this facility on a weekly basis for maintenance of the project.

After the major work was done, the area qualified for the National Wildlife Federation's Backyard Wildlife Habitat certification. Laurie submitted the application for the award on behalf of the center and it was readily granted.

