

Scuttlebutt, January 2020: Lake and Hills Garden Club

“Cheers to a new year and another chance for us to get it right” (Oprah Winfrey). The Lake and Hills Garden Club (LHGC) was fortunate to accomplish several “right” things in December 2019 and looks forward to putting more “right” into action in 2020.

South Carolina celebrates Arbor Day on the first Friday of December, rather than on the National Arbor Day date in April, so that trees can be planted during the dormant season. Every year, the LHGC commemorates Arbor Day by donating and planting trees with students at Seneca schools. This year, not only did the LHGC plant trees at Keowee Elementary but also, for the first time, at Seneca Middle School. Mrs. Deborah Belflower, a Seneca Middle School Science teacher, discussed the value and importance of trees. Engaged students dug the hole for the tree and planted it themselves. Mrs. Belflower is the daughter of Doloris Capelle, an original member of the LHGC and a past President.



LHGC Arbor Day Chair Maria Calderwood, President Lynn Pote, and Seneca Middle School students beam with pride next to the tree they planted on Arbor Day.



Trees also featured prominently in another LHGC project in December, the Hospice of the Foothills Christmas tree. The Garden Club’s Nutcracker themed tree “Clara’s Dream” was awarded First Place in large trees, as well as best of Best Of Show at the Festival of Trees for Hospice. Kathleen Fosha and Nan Piotrowski chaired the project, assisted by Kay Cilensek, Jan Espie-Steffen, and Joy Lutz.

2LHGC Design Chairs Nan Piotrowski and Kathleen Fosha stand proudly near their First Place and Best in Show Christmas tree at the Hospice of the Foothills Designer/Sponsor Reception.

One year in the planning, the tree featured a child's bejeweled red pointe shoes, Tchaikovsky themed ornaments, and Nutcracker ribbons. The tree was complemented by a fabulous lantern, built by Al Fosha, containing a downlit Nutcracker.

3Wanda Heffelfinger, Karen Pfaff, Laurie Flanagan, and Peggy Gates admire "Clara's Dream," the Garden Club's award-winning nutcracker inspired Hospice tree.



At its December 13 meeting, the LHGC featured a delightful program of beloved holiday songs performed by the talented Seneca High School Madrigal singers, under the direction of Ms. Diane McFarlane. The 2019 Year in Review slideshow highlighted the Garden Club's many successful projects and programs that supported both the Keowee Key and Seneca communities. The LHGC officers for 2020 were also installed: President, Lynn Pode; Co-Vice Presidents, Laurie Flanagan and Karen Pfaff; Treasurer, Ginny Cooper; Corresponding Secretary, Nancy Tilley; Recording Secretary, Chris McSwain.

Join us for the first meeting of the new year on Friday, January 10 in Vista South at The Club at Keowee Key®. Remember to call The Club at 864-944-2151 to make your lunch reservation. Keowee Key resident, Clemson Camera Club member, and writer Ellen Mimms will share a brief slideshow, "Spring is Around the Corner," featuring the Keukenhof Gardens outside of Amsterdam.

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 in the Vista South Ballroom. The meetings include a program, lunch, and activities that are both informative and enjoyable.