

HORTICULTURE, CONSERVATION, FLORAL DESIGN & PHOTOGRAPHY



THE LITTLE GARDEN CLUB OF MEMPHIS Member of The Garden Club of America



President's Letter

"The Spring is fresh and fearless And every leaf is new. The world is brimmed with moonlight, The lilac brimmed with dew

Here in the morning shadows I catch my breath and sing-My heart is fresh and fearless And over-brimming with Spring."

-Sara Teasdale (1884-1933)

So much for April's lingering; it was gone before I knew it was here. But, May is full of such promise (everything seems possible in May), that I love it almost as much! Harvey's tomatoes are in, my zinnias are planted, and my roses are showing off in big ways. I will enjoy this last respite until the heat of summer takes over. Speaking of flying time..., I canNOT believe it is time for the May Awards picnic!! Looking forward to gathering at Stephanie Wilson's to commemorate the end of the first "semester" of 2023-24. Thanks so much to our hostesses: Stephanie, Ginger Collier, Katherine Dobbs, Anne Dunavant and Paige Proctor.

Many thanks to those who signed up to volunteer at Carpenter Art Garden on Tuesday, May 9. I know we will get as much out of it as the children and staff.

Zone meeting in Jackson was so much fun and they had to make me leave. Thanks to my partners in crime, Jean Johnston and Elizabeth Williamson, for signing on. More about zone following.

To close out the month, Paige Proctor and I will be traveling to Annual Meeting in Columbus, Ohio. I think of my first Annual Meeting last year, when delegates weren't allowed because of Covid and how LOST I was. I'm so excited to have Paige and to see the friends Mary Call promised I would make along the way!

Wow! Thanks so much for being patient with me over the last year, It's been like drinking out of a fire hose but I've loved every minute. Hope y'all did, too!

love, Émily

Florescence 2023: Metamorphosis



Lisa Snowden and Amelia Crumbly (Natchez Garden Club) accepting the Margaret Clover Symonds Medal at the *Florescence 2023: Metamorphosis* GCA Major Flower Show in Houston.

The *Margaret Clover Symonds Medal* may be awarded to members of GCA clubs in a competitive design class at a GCA Major Flower Show. The arrangement must be an innovative, modern design, creatively combining man-made material(s) with fresh and/or dried plant material (as the schedule permits.) Either individual or joint entries are eligible. The entry must have placed first, second, or third. An entry in a Challenge Class is not eligible to receive this award.

Thanks, Lisa, for doing us all VERY proud!

May Awards Picnic



Thursday, May 4 11:00 a.m. at the home of Stephanie Wilson 4202 Gwynne Road

A Day in LaGrange







Our Nora Witmer and the entire town of LaGrange, TN hosted us for a delightful, sunny visit on April 20. Upon arrival at The Immanuel Episcopal Church, Nora shared an interesting history of the church along with additional commentary from John Tackett who served as architect during its renovation. We continued our day with a walk to Cotton, a historic home owned by Jule Eberlin followed by a trip to her lovely Woodlawn, a home overflowing with Civil War memories and complete with just shorn alpacas!

Nora and Wally welcomed us to their General Store, complete with a crisp fire and flowers from Nora's garden perched on every table. Everyone dashed for shopping at Fern, a true jewel, owned by Sally Treadwell's daughter in law, Allison, along with other stores that had pop up shops just for LGC!

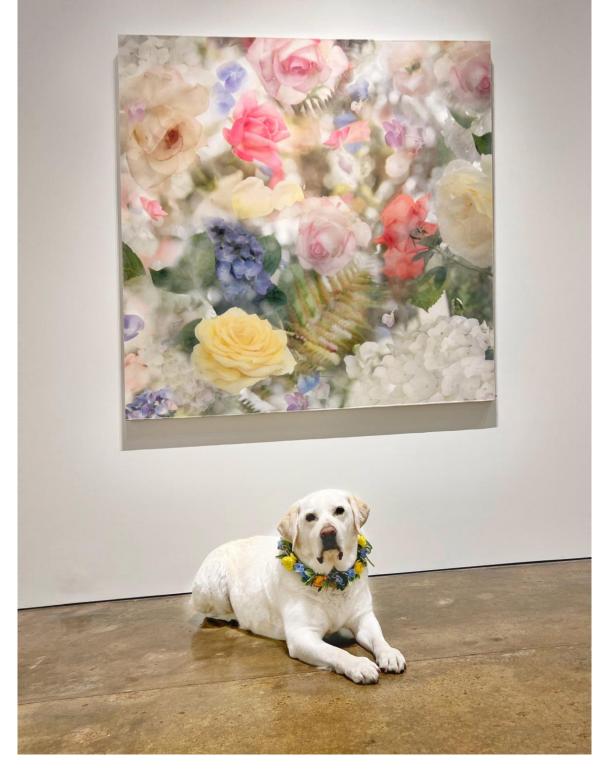
Steve Smith, owner of Tiara, hosted us for champagne and cake at his family's historic home. We concluded our day with a delightful stop at the Witmer's home, Cedar Hall, where we were able to sit and enjoy one another and take in all of the wonderful touches that Nora has added to their home over time. What a treat!

The Civil War arrived on the very doorstep of LaGrange in 1862, less than one week after the fall of Memphis to Union troops. 160+ years later, members of our club bussed to the same community where we escaped the hustle bustle of our daily routines only to relax and enjoy the serene beauty and warm welcome that everyone from LaGrange provided us. This historic community spoiled us from the minute we arrived. We have Nora and Wally Witmer - and all of their dear friends to thank for this marvelous experience!

--Sue and Ruthie

Floral Design





Mimsy and I wanted to showcase our very own LGC member Catherine Erb Sikes. Catherine has created a collection of photographic works of gardens from some of our very own members where she collected flower specimens.

Catherine's love of gardens and especially flowers gave her the inspiration and insight for this collection. When Catherine finds a garden she wants to capture she gathers many specimens from that garden. The flowers and foliage from the garden are placed on multiple layers of glass suspended over a mirror. Catherine shoots through the glass, capturing not only the flowers, but the reflection of the sky above through the mirror. This process allows her to capture the flowers as if they are floating in the air. These specimens and flowers literally paint a picture and capture the garden's personality. After Catherine captures the image, she prints them on film and begins the long tedious task of transferring them onto the panel. This is extremely labor intensive.

Catherine struggled with the title of the exhibition, but she finally came up with "PRESQUE VU". I was not sure what this really meant so I delved into the meaning.

Presque Vu (from French meaning "almost seen") is the sensation of being on the brink of an epiphany. Often very disorienting and distracting, Presque vu rarely leads to an actual breakthrough. Frequently, one experiencing Presque vu will say that they have something "on the tip of my tongue" (how many of us feel that from time to time, I do). Well Catherine had a powerful epiphany, insight, or revelation – without achieving the revelation.

Thank you, Catherine, for sharing your wonderful pieces of art with us.

If you would like to see Catherine's art exhibition it is still at the David Lusk Gallery at 97 Tillman Street, Memphis and will be up until May 13.

Happy Summer to you all.

-- Michelle and Mimsy

Zone Meeting in Jackson











On Tuesday, April 12th, our trusty President, Emily, and I headed to the Zone IX meeting in Jackson, MS. We drove south on 55 with our steering wheel and seat warmers on high, while our precious cuttings from our talented members' yards were staying cool and comfortable! The trip was successful....all hort survived!! And, my first Zone meeting experience was fabulous!

The Jackson Garden Club did an excellent job hosting our Zone IX clubs. The meeting was everything about Eudora Welty. We took a "field trip" to Eudora's historical home and gardens where the Jackson Garden Club served us cheese straws (Eudora's favorite) and wine. Lots of entertainment from our Zone Presidents, but our own Emily Kay knocked it out of the park with her President's speech! I know I am a little bias, but Emily's speech was the best and of course, everyone laughed several times!

Emily and I said a few four letter words and had several battles with plastic wrap while trying to "stage" our beautiful hort. But, finally, seven entries from our club were passed and they were all gorgeous. I am always amazed at what our members grow in their own backyards. Also, Ruthie Taylor, Elizabeth Williamson(our other zone representative), Mimsie Pettit, and Sara Cowens submitted entries in the show. And, WOW! Did they do great or what!?! So impressive! I just love our club. Of course, it is the people in the club that are extraordinary! We should all be proud! Our wonderful horticultural results from the Zone IX show: Lynn Fulton won FIRST place with with her Ming Aralia entry and her sweet shrub won SECOND place. Kim MacQueen's beautiful fern won THIRD place. Leslie Schutt won FIRST place with her twin sister daffodil. Bradley Fogelman's Japanese maple won THIRD place. Ruthie Talyor's clematis won SECOND place, and her challenge entry received an honorable mention!

Elizabeth Williamson won FIRST place for her "A parade of Flowers" Floral Design!! Mimsie Crump entered the botanical arts and won THIRD place! And, our new member, Sarah Cowens, won FIRST place and BEST IN SHOW for her photography entry!

Congratulations to everyone!! The LGC of Memphis ROCKS!!!

--Jean Johnston, LGC Zone IX 2023 Delegate

Dues are Due

It's that time of year again!

Little Garden Club dues for next year are payable by **June 1, 2023**

Actives, Mentors, and Affiliate Members dues are \$300 Life Members dues are \$150

There are three ways to pay:

- by check made out to *The Little Garden Club* and mailed to: Linda Mallory, 141 W. Chickasaw Pkwy, Memphis, 38111
- by Venmo to @lindamallory
- with a credit card via our website. Go to the LGC Member area and choose the "Membership Dues" page to make your payment.

We will have a drawing for a \$100 dues rebate at the May picnic...but you must pay your dues by then to be in the drawing!

Thank you for your PROMPT payment!

-- Linda Mallory

Membership

Foy Coolidge has a new address and home phone number!

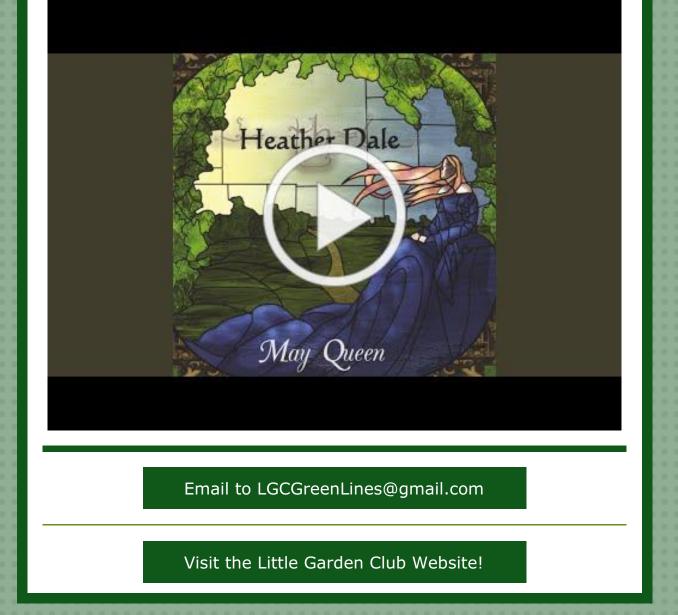
177 N Highland St. Memphis, TN 38111 home - 901-321-1996 same cell - 901-605-3763

May Birthdays



2 Michelle Dunavant
4 Kim Gibson
14 Kate Trammell
20 Jeannie Tabor
25 Liz Crosby

May Queen



The Little Garden Club of Memphis | 5545 Fox Island Rd., Tunica, MS 38676

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