

To 2025-2026 Board of Directors,

Re: Proposed programs and events.

Members, I have listened to you, heard your compliments and heard your desire to support me in this coming membership year. Additionally, I have heard your suggestions for improvements. Some might seem like complaints, but I choose to hear and accept them as goal to work towards. I'm a people pleaser and always try to find the middle road and keep as many people as possible happy and satisfied.

With that being said, I have several ideas for programs and events that surely will make us all proud to be LPGC members. In this document I will make a short description of the possibilities I am recommending. I certainly will consider supporting any or all of these and any additional ideas I receive and will welcome. Some have already begun or will be started very soon.

1. Club website – Domain name: lakeplacidgardenclub.org, Private member portal password is LPGC@2025. The website has been active for approximately one month. Traffic to the site is increasing each time I review the stats. I'm receiving positive comments. I have created the site and monitor it as well as continually adding content. Much of the success of the site is due to the help I receive from **Sue Rood and Wendy Parent**. Both give me ideas and proof the site for content and typos.

2. News You Can Use - This will be a monthly newsletter in .pdf and eBook form. The first issue will be published on May 15, the day after the May general membership meeting. Members that do not have internet email access will receive a newsletter by snail mail. The monthly newsletters will contain a review of the previous months' activities, as well as upcoming events and projects. There also will be short stories, quizzes, games, and links to online registering for events and meetings. **Sue Rood and Wendy Parent** are major contributors to the newsletter, each holding the title of "Wordsmith."

3. Ongoing program and events. I recommend continuing all from the 2024-2025 programs and events as outlined in the proposed budget.

4. New events /Scheduled (Member benefit)

June 11 - Rock Painting and nature walk. Registration is on the club website. Planned by **Vicki Maxwell & Doris Rohner**.

July 9 – Ice Cream Social. Registration is on the club website. Planned by **Vickie Maxwell & Doris Rohner**

December 17 – Progressive Dinner Party, Culinary Crawl. Registration is available on club website. Planned by **Doris Rohner**

Stained glass project - This event is in the process of being planned. It will be a garden related craft project. Details will be released soon. Presented by **Doris Rohner & Ernie Bell**.

5. Plant studies

Multiple Plant studies. Scheduled throughout the membership year. Details will be available soon.

October 22 – Plant Study. The Allure of Carnivorous Plants. Registration is on website. These plants studies will be presented by **Jeannie Dietl**.

6. National Wildlife Certification (Member program that will enhance the community) Anyone can create a welcoming haven for local wildlife. Turning your yard, balcony, container garden, schoolyard, work landscape, or roadside greenspace into a Certified Wildlife Habitat® is fun, easy, and can make a lasting difference for wildlife.

Getting certified is not hard to many of us. There is an easy 5 minute quiz to see if your yard supports wildlife. <https://www.riddle.com/view/5yCRCAGe>. To learn more and get certified visit https://www.nwf.org/Native-Plant-Habitats/Plant-Native/Habitat-Essentials?_ga=2.78645012.1428156692.1734018228-273471583.1734018228.

This program will be presented by **Vicki Maxwell & Doris Rohner**.

7. Seed Exchange Program (Member & community involvement)

Seed exchanges/swaps – [a chance for gardeners to get together and exchange favorite and extra seeds](#). The National Seed Swap Day is the last Saturday in January. The next one is January 31, 2026. A seed swap party of an ongoing seed swap exchange can be held with the membership or become a community involved project. This idea will be presented by **Sue Rood & Doris Rohner**

8. Highlands County Master Gardener Program (Member Program that enhances the community) Several members are currently certified. The Florida Master Gardener Volunteer Program recruits individuals who are interested in gardening and enjoy sharing what they learn with others. Participants complete a 50-hour (or longer) training course sponsored by the University of Florida and the local county Extension office.

County Coordinator: David Austin Coordinator Phone: (863) 402-6540
Coordinator Fax: (863) 402-6544 Coordinator Email: davidaustin@ufl.edu

The program will be presented by **Doris Rohner and member master gardeners**.

9. LPGC Community yard contest (YOM). This program celebrates our members love of plants, flowers, and all-around garden aesthetics. It engages the community of Lake Placid by highlight homes that display front-yard landscapes that best represent the community. Members nominate homes for the YOM award. A panel of pre-selected member judges select homes in categories established by the YOM committee. Each winning home is

presented with a special LPGC temporary plaque for its front yard to showcase that it is selected. This program will be presented by **Ernie Bell and Doris Rohner**

10. 75th Anniversary Celebration (Planning for 2028 Celebration) This is a way to easily generate a large amount of income that will benefit and provide a catered 75th anniversary celebration.

This program will be presented by **Sandy Rosch**.

11. Change in membership meeting venue – See additional information regarding venue recommendation. Presented by **Doris Rohner**

By implementing these initiatives, we not only enhance our local environment but also foster community engagement and fulfill the desires previously expressed by our members during the budget planning process.

By approaching the coming season this active we, the garden club members share our passion for gardening and become more environmentally responsible.

Friendship, Joy, New Beginnings,
Doris Rohner