

Brief tour of the decades

Early Years New Hampshire's Littleton Garden Club was **started in 1938**. It was founded as an offshoot of the Colonial Club. The Colonial Club which had been running since 1894 was a community driven organization. They landscaped some town owned properties as well. LGC continued the community focus and commitment to civic beautification. The Colonial Club disbanded in 1994 at the time of their 100th anniversary.

In the **thirties and forties**- many flower shows and garden tours took place. Often, the Littleton Community House and barn was used for events. During WWII a special project sent seeds to England to feed families with enough vegetables for a year.

In the **fifties and sixties**- large landscaping projects for parks and youth contests such as the "Keep NH beautiful" art poster contest were held. The group helped landscape the Lakeway Elementary School and the Littleton Hospital grounds. The sixties brought programs on conservation with discussion of the book "Silent Spring" by Rachel Carson.

The **seventies** included a sponsored flower show at the Frost Place in Franconia. Flea markets, plant sales, flower shows & card party fundraisers were used to fund the beautification account. Civic pride was important and membership topped 100.

The **eighties** included a 50th anniversary celebration. The group was involved with environmental conservation in Franconia notch & planted trees & shrubs there. Main Street beautification included planters at Thayers Hotel and plantings at the community center.

The **nineties** continued with Lilac bush sales for fundraising and beautification. Members took part in community parades. Dunkin' Donuts gardens were planted in honor of the victims of the Oklahoma bombing (April 95). Garden therapy and youth programs continued,

Millennium and beyond Educational and enrichment programs remain strong at LGC. Civic beautification projects and ongoing garden maintenance at the Opera Center and other locations continue. In 2010, members helped with landscaping at the Adair property (Olmsted brothers design). The Veteran's "Let Freedom Ring" memorial and gardens were moved to Main St. bank plaza after a big grant was received.