

B-4: Vickie Kornegay Award

Submitted by: Harbor Island Garden Club

Brief summary and objectives:

During the month of October, Harbor Island Garden Club has endeavored to create additional attention for our community in support of Breast Cancer Awareness Month by decorating the entrance and exit to Harbor Way Garden with pink ribbons and bows. The garden is a one-acre site maintained by the Club for the Town of Wrightsville Beach since 1995. The pink ribbons and bows were placed at the entrance, as well as the exit in honor of breast cancer survivors and those who are remembered.

A brief history for the start of the Pink Mission is that in 1992, Alexandra Penney (at the time was editor-in-chief of *Self* magazine) and Evelyn Lauder (breast cancer survivor and senior executive for Estée Lauder) teamed up to create a pink ribbon event. The pink ribbon, the feminine color so chosen to symbolize health, has become synonymous with breast cancer awareness. The global awareness that has been raised through the pink ribbon has helped increase early detection of breast cancer, make women more aware of the importance of doing regular breast exams and increase funds directed toward finding a cure.



Harbor Island Garden Club members worked together on September 30 to create a rememberable entrance to Harbor Way Garden.

The creation of pink ribbons and bows were placed at the main entrance and the exit of our garden. The committee purchased several styles of ribbon that would flow with the wind as a constant reminder for those who have been touched by Breast Cancer. The cost for the decorations were less than \$50.00 and were 100% assembled and hung by club members. The main entrance to the garden is on the John Nesbit Loop, a walking and running path, adjacent to Town Hall. The decorated arbor has a high visibility as people exercise and thousands of cars drive past it everyday.

The decorations on the entrance, further enhanced the focal point on the Loop and added a new dynamic for the month of October. Feedback provided information that the decorated entrance created a welcoming visual invitation for people to spend time in the garden and reflect on the meaning of the Breast Cancer Awareness Mission.

The club is pleased with the results and plans to do this as a yearly event. Next year we may expand the decorations to all arbors, bringing the visuals of "Pink" from every direction.

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Involvement of club members and other organizations:

The Pink Ribbon Project started with an original committee of three. They asked for a few other member volunteers to support the effort and easily became a team of ten. Together they were able to create this beautiful entrance in an afternoon with the help of some planned pre-work. Members bought, measured and cut the ribbons ahead of time to make the afternoon simple and easy to complete.

Project expenses and means of funding:

The funding for these ribbons came from the Harbor Island Garden Club budget of money designated for the Pink Ribbon project.

Continuing involvement, follow-up, maintenance:

It is our hope to do this project as a yearly event to show our support of Breast Cancer Awareness with additional ribbons at every arbor entrance to the garden.

Attach or insert photos, digital photos:

See the following pages for additional photos from the event.



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