

# *Farm & Garden*

*Fall 2014*

*Celebrating Our 100th Year*





The Faces  
Of Our  
100 Year Celebration!



# Farm & Garden

## IN TOUCH

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## JOIN US & GET INVOLVED

To join for single membership, see page 23 or to form a branch of Woman's National Farm & Garden Association, please contact Leslie Morris-Smith 8818 Duveen Dr. Wyndmoor, PA 19038 [leslie.morris-smith@gmail.com](mailto:leslie.morris-smith@gmail.com)  
The deadline is **February 1, 2014** for the next issue of *Farm & Garden*.

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**Front Cover :** Our 100th Anniversary Celebration Group Ambler, Pa.  
**Back Cover :** Capitol Building Washington D.C. M.P. Ford

# PRESIDENT'S UPDATE MOLLY HAMMERLE

*H*ello Everyone!

It is an honor to serve as your new President. I am excited about it and a little apprehensive since we seem to be losing quite a few members lately. I would like to make growing this organization the theme for my Presidency. Please invite friends or other people who would be interested in WNF&GA to come to a local club meeting and let us see if we can grow our membership. Let us give it a try. You can do this.

*Molly Hammerle*

## Reflections of Past President Julia Siefker

Greetings from my beautiful Ohio! I deferred my President's report at the 2013-2014 Annual Meeting due to the action packed time we enjoyed while celebrating the 100 year Anniversary of Farm & Garden in Ambler, PA. back in May. In 2012-2013 I also presented an abbreviated report, so I have combined both years of my Presidency in this writing. Once again I want to send a huge **Thank you!** to all members who made my term serving as your National President the experience of a lifetime. I am pleased to present my report as follows:

In the two years I served as National President of the Woman's National Farm & Garden Association, I have seen our organization through a gamut of projects, milestones, and challenges. Starting with the annual meeting in 2012 in Pittsburgh, where I took over the reins, my main focus was overseeing the project of the renovation of the head house at the Ambler Campus of Temple

University into the WNF&GA Visitors Center. This required four trips to the Philadelphia area to meet with the staff at Ambler and the Temple Vice-Provost to work on a wide array of tasks. This included (but is not limited to!) rewriting the original agreement to include completion bench marks for the project, surveying the construction site, keeping in contact with our oversight committee headed by Sheila Chlebdá, and promoting the completion in 2014 for the 100<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Celebration. During my trips I attended both the Ambler Keystone and Bucks County Branch meetings. I was privileged to attend Rhapsody in Bloom, the Ambler Campus annual fund raiser at the home of Maureen Thompson. It was very exciting to get to attend the Philadelphia Flower Show in 2014.

In 2013, I visited the National Arboretum in Washington DC and toured the Louisa King Dogwood Gardens. It was a delight to meet with the current intern and the Arboretum staff to see for myself what a truly amazing site the gardens are and the responsibility that lies with Farm & Garden to maintain them. Every member should put the Arboretum on their "Bucket List". I must add that we have a great liaison in Audrey Ehrler and her dedication & commitment to this for WNF&GA. Thanks Audrey!

Another major priority was seeing through the completion and implementation of the new WNF&GA By-Laws, Standing Rules, & Strategic Plan. These projects were initiated by past President Mary Bertolini with the assistance of Kathy Welsh-Beveridge and the special committee appointed by President Bertolini in Columbus, Ohio. Our organization owes a

huge debt of gratitude for these forward-thinking members who presented us with these relevant, streamlined, user-friendly working documents that serve us well.

With the help of our E&C Treasurer Susan Hunt, I was able to visit the Schlesinger Library for Women's Studies on the campus of Harvard University. With Susan by my side, we spent hours poring over documents archived there from our beginnings to research the beginning of our Education and Charitable Affairs Scholarships. Presenting our material to the Finance Chair & Executive Committee and with their assistance, we were able to develop a formula to calculate the percentage of monies each scholarship should receive at the end of each fiscal year. With this formula, our organization is now able to give more scholarships after a hiatus until the finances were resolved.

While at the Schlesinger, we were also able to obtain photographs for use of the 100<sup>th</sup> Anniversary publication. I also traveled to Michigan to secure several boxes of photos and memorabilia &



Julia cutting the 100th Anniversary cake.

delivered them to the committee in Philadelphia to be used for the publication. I thank Kay Englehart and Rita Urbanski for their assistance in that endeavor. As Ex Officio of every committee, I have enjoyed greatly overseeing the Centennial Book Committee. Originally titled "A Continuation of the Chronicle," this project has now morphed into a huge endeavor that will encompass our entire 100 years. I am so excited to see it when it is published! In order to accomplish more business of the organization, monthly phone conferences were held so that the Executive Committee could meet and discuss everything Farm & Garden. A great deal of time was spent planning the 100<sup>th</sup> Anniversary meeting held in May 2013 in Ambler, Pa.

In 2010 the Frysinger Exchange Program was voted by the membership to be put on hiatus. At the 2014 annual meeting, I appointed a special committee to review the purpose of the Frysinger and present recommendations on alternate methods of promoting Grace Frysinger's vision. This committee will present its recommendations at the 2015 Annual meeting in Washington D.C. Our organization remains a long standing member of the Associated of Country Women of the World. As President, I received and maintained correspondence as needed with the ACWW. The Ohio Division remains a member of the Country Women's Council, and as Division President I also had those responsibilities.

Overseeing the revamping of the website (WWW.WNFGA.ORG) has taken a major chunk of time. While it is still currently under construction, it has become an easier, user friendly-site and a Members Only section has been included, along with PayPal and on line Annual National Meeting registration capabilities. Web Mistress Dee Welsh, along with Leslie Morris-Smith have been instrumental in serving our organization during all developments. Their dedication to this project is amazing. I have also remained very active at the Ohio Division level. In 2013, the Ohio Division was on the verge of dissolving due to lack of interest of the Branch members to serve as officers. I am currently finishing the second year of my

term as Ohio Division President. For the past 4 years I have coordinated the Ohio Division Annual Geranium Sale which is our Spring Fund raiser.

In 2013 and 2014 it was an honor and a privilege to attend the Michigan Division Spring Annual Meeting and also to attend Daffodil Days on Belle Isle at the Detroit Yacht Club for 4 of its 5 years. On the Branch level, I have attended almost every meeting of the Dooryard Garden Branch and hosted a meeting once a year, usually the "big one" in my farm shop where we make & create items for our Spring Plant Sale that is our major fundraiser for our Rosemary Lammers Memorial Scholarship.

The highlight of my presidency was presiding over the 2014 100<sup>th</sup> Anniversary celebration and Annual Meeting. It was an amazing event that I think anyone who was able to attend, even just one event, could feel how special it was. And also appreciate all the time and hard work the Planning Committee put into such a successful time. Huge thanks go to Ambler Keystone & Bucks County Branches for serving as our hostesses for 5 days, and the staff at Ambler Campus for their part in the dedication of the new WNF&GA Visitor Center festivities. It was amazing to see six past National Presidents in attendance: Susan Celenano, Bea Petersen, Sylvia Andersen, Faith Tiberio, Marla Diamond and Mary Bertolini. What a lineup of talent and dedication to our organization.

I am proud to have been a part of the Executive Committee and their foresight to develop the Visionary Award. It gave me a chill to read the names on the plaques of the women who have been chosen to be honored as extraordinary & foresightful leaders in our organization.

The duties of National President are endless: writing a column for the Spring & Fall issue of the Magazine, writing updates for the website, approving all written communications & promotions, coordinating monthly telephone meetings, researching and maintaining budgets, traveling, corresponding (both e-mail & snail mail), answering inquiries as they arise on the website, attending meetings, everything that a National President has to do to preside over a

100<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Meeting, and staying in touch with the membership. Sometimes it seemed like a full time-plus job! Two of the major challenges I faced as President was serving without a President-Elect or Vice President during my second year. However, it was amazing at how people reworked their commitments and others stepped up and made it much easier. There are too many to list here without fear of leaving someone out. So thank you to all for all your help. But they didn't do it for me; they did it for all our members!

As I look at the work and accomplishments that took place during my tenure, I am troubled that membership of the WNF&GA is on a decline. Branches are dissolving at a pace faster than new ones form. The organization at the National Level is working hard at trying to develop plans, ideas, and programs to promote growth at the Division and Branch levels.

Consistently I have reached out and asked for input, ideas, and suggestions on how we can grow & rise back up to the grandeur that we enjoyed years ago. But all the input in the world will not work if we don't see members willing to commit further and harder to make this happen. I challenge each member to look in her heart and search for what she can put forth. We need members to give that extra mile.....and yes, I do realize how hard that can be in this day and age of our own family & careers, devotion to God, child rearing, and all our other commitments.....the list goes on of what competes for our precious time. Was I stretched beyond my limits as your National President? Yes, I was. Did I feel hopeless at times? Yes, I did. Did I consider giving up? Oh yes, I most certainly did. But I stuck it out and I can't begin to try and explain the tremendous sense of accomplishment I felt when I left Ambler last May. It was all worth it.

As I close, I thank the Woman's National Farm & Garden Association for this most wonderful opportunity to serve you and I look forward to many more years of involvement in WNF&GA in my Dooryard Branch, the Ohio Division, and my new role as National Advisor.

Respectfully Submitted,

*Julia Siefert*

## INTEREST AREA GARDENING

### Sustainable Gardening

Louise Shoksnyder  
Gardening Director  
Michigan Division  
Rochester Branch

When I was asked to write about sustainable gardening, I was unsure exactly what that meant. Honestly, I had an idea of what the term sustainable meant, but I had to do a little research to make sure I was on the right track!

After some Internet searching and reading in my own library of gardening books, I discovered that I have been practicing sustainability for years. I was doing the “in” things and didn’t realize this was considered sustainable. Basically it is gardening in an environmentally friendly way. Sustainable gardening is a mind set, a life style that enables one to leave as small an impact on the planet as possible. In most cases, sustainable gardening is improving the environment where it is practiced.

As gardeners, what practices should we follow to be creating sustainability? Easy! You probably do most of these things already. Using mulch, composting, practicing integrated pest control (IPM) for both weeds and insects, conservation of water, use of native plants and saving seed are all sustainable gardening practices. As an organization, WNF&GA has adhered and encouraged these practices. By the way, have you registered the native plants you have planted for the

100,000 Native Plant initiative for the 2014 Centennial? It’s not too late to do so. See the National Website for information.

Why is mulching a sustainable practice? Using mulch helps in water retention, weed control, and will eventually improve the structure of the soil beneath it as it breaks down. The best mulch is what you have on hand, such as leaf compost or pine needles. Short of that, use purchased bark chips. Just make sure the bagged product you use is from sustainable foresting practices. Dyed mulches probably aren’t the best choice either. Go for the natural stuff.

Integrated pest control is a practice I learned as a Master Gardener trainee. The topic somewhat bored me at the time. I have never been one to use many chemicals. They have always made me nervous. I avoided growing things like roses that demanded the use of pesticides or fungicides. But, being a Master Gardener meant I had to suggest or instruct others in the correct way to handle pests. Ignore the problem and it will probably go away. Try hand picking the offending bug or use a spray of cold water to get rid of them. Naturally occurring allies against insect pests are the beneficial insects already in your garden. By growing nectar-rich plants, you are inviting beneficial insects into your

garden.

The use of broad screen pesticides would take out all insects in the area, good or bad. Don’t plant like plants (like tomatoes and potatoes) together. This would provide a large plate for insects that would bother that type of plant. There are all kinds of organic sprays, such as herbal sprays and pepper sprays that you can concoct at home. Whatever you choose to do about a pest, *think* first before you act. How will your choice of action affect the environment?

Remember, healthy plants are less attractive to pest insects.

Weeds are best dealt with by hand. Weeding is good exercise and I find that routine weeding keeps me looking at my garden and recognizing issues I need to attend to. Find a hand tool you like, such as a dandelion digger or a narrow bladed trowel. Weed-killing sprays may be made at home. Using vinegar and other ingredients at varying amounts is the current thought on organic homemade sprays. However, the verdict is still out on the safety of these sprays to precious perennials, vegetables and annuals. Plus the effect on soil is also in question. So be aware that nothing we introduce into the garden and soil is without effect.

#### Sources:

National Wildlife Federation [www.nwf.org](http://www.nwf.org)  
Sustainable Gardening [www.sustainable-gardening.com](http://www.sustainable-gardening.com)  
Planet Natural [www.planetnatural.com](http://www.planetnatural.com)

The Truth About Organic Gardening, Jeff Gillman, Timber Press, 2008.

The Gardener’s Bug Book, Earth-Safe Insect Control, Barbara Pleasant, Storey Publishing, 1994.

Easy Composting, Jeff Ball, Robert Kourik, Ortho Books, 1992.

## Master Gardener Grant

Are you interested in taking the Master Gardener Course offered by state Extension Services? Did you know that WNF&GA offers a scholarship to members who are interested in taking the course? Check for information on our website, [www.wnfga.org](http://www.wnfga.org), under Education, Grants, Marla Diamond Master Gardener Grant. In Michigan the cost of taking the Master Gardener Course has gone up quite a bit. It might be worth your time to check into this opportunity. This is my 20<sup>th</sup> year as an Advanced Master Gardener and I have found it to be a very rewarding volunteer program. The Michigan Master Gardener Association has been newly formed and is keeping the program running smoothly. Master Gardeners are trained by each state college extension professionals. Classes are forming for the fall, and probably are available to those of you in other states as well. Below is a list of state extension web pages with information on their Master Gardener programs.

Massachusetts: <http://massmastergardeners.org/>

Ohio: <http://mastergardener.osu.edu/?q=counties>

New Jersey: <http://njaes.rutgers.edu/mastergardeners/>

Pennsylvania: <http://extension.psu.edu/plants/master-gardener>

Michigan: [http://mg.msue.msu.edu/become\\_a\\_master\\_gardener\\_volunteer](http://mg.msue.msu.edu/become_a_master_gardener_volunteer)

New York: <http://www.extendonondaga.org/natural-resources/community-horticulture-and-gardening/master-gardeners/>

Planting native plants, appropriate to your climate and environment is important. Native plants will be hardier, draw in beneficial insects, and need less fertilizer and water. They are easier to grow than plants we have to fuss over. Take action against non native, invasive plants that might be on your property or in your community. These include:

Purple loosestrife  
(*Lythrum salicaria*),  
mustards (*Brassica*),  
Autumn Olive  
(*Elaeagnus umbellata*)  
Common reed  
*Phragmites australis*

These are a few of the invasive aliens that threaten our natural environment. This sounds like so much work, but it really isn't. As I said at the beginning, aware, concerned gardeners have been putting these practices in place for years. We are the guardians of the earth!



Katydid on Hibiscus  
Flower

## INTEREST AREA ENVIRONMENT

### Practicing Sustainability For a Better Environment

Suzanne Smith-Oscilowski  
Environmental Director  
Pennsylvania Division  
Ambler Keystone Branch

#### *W*hat is sustainability?

Sustainability is the ability or capacity of something to be maintained or sustain itself. According to the US EPA it's a simple principle: Everything that we need for our survival and well-being depends, either directly or indirectly, on our natural environment. Sustainability creates and maintains the conditions under which humans and nature can exist in productive harmony, that permit fulfilling the social, economic and other requirements of present and future generations.

#### Why sustainable landscapes?

Sustainable landscapes reduce water demand, filter and reduce storm water runoff, provide wildlife habitat, reduce energy consumption, improve air quality, improve human health and increase outdoor recreation opportunities.

Here are six practices that will help create a sustainable home landscape or garden.

#### Catch, Conserve and Use Water

Include rain barrels, rain gardens and hardscaping alternatives in the home

landscape. Rain barrels are easy to install and save money and time by providing a source of free water. Be sure to connect a soaker hose and leave the rain barrel spigot open to create an automatic watering system. Rain gardens slow the flow of water allowing water to infiltrate as they create habitat for native species. Instead of a concrete walkway, consider a stepping stone walkway which allows water to infiltrate between the stones.

#### Reduce Fossil Fuel Usage

The air pollution emitted by one hour of mowing equals twenty miles in a car. Lawn and garden equipment emits 5% of all ozone-forming VOCs (volatile organic compounds) which are linked to negative health effects and climate change. Most gardening equipment operates between 85 – 110 decibels and may contribute to gradual hearing loss for individuals as well as drowning out the garden's pleasant sounds of nature.

#### Reuse, Recycle and Renew Your Waste

Use a mulching mower and allow grass clippings to provide nutrients and organic matter for better lawn health. Create a compost pile to return valuable nutrients back into your garden's soil. Reuse plastic pots and when their useful life is complete, recycle them through a local nursery or recycle program. Electric chippers generate less air pollution than gas powered chippers.

#### Plant Selection

Select drought resistant lawns, shrubs and plants. Native plants will generally perform well and have few problems in your garden once they are established. Incorporate a wide variety of plants to provide habitat for insects and wildlife

and to reduce damage from pests and diseases. Include plants with seeds, nuts or fruits to feed wildlife and birds. Avoid invasive plant species.

#### Garden Design

Lady Bird Johnson wrote in *Wildflowers Across America* (1993), "Wherever I go in America, I like it when the land speaks its own language in its own regional accent." Sustainable garden design should harmonize with and reflect the local ecosystems. Instead of using lawn as the foundation of the yard, determine how much turf is actually needed for children or pets and replace turf grass with native plants. Locate trees to shade and cool the home. Incorporate perimeter plantings in raised berms to create wildlife corridors and allow water to be retained on the property.

#### Maintenance

##### Lawn

Fertilizer runoff rates are significant on turf grass. Do not fertilize before a rain event and do not over fertilize. Tolerate a low level of weeds in your lawn. Mow grass no lower than three inches to shade out weeds and keep the soil surface moist.

##### Garden

Spraying pesticides puts harmful chemicals into the environment and kills all insects - beneficials as well as pests. Tolerate minor insect damage and learn which plant diseases are truly harmful and may warrant control. Some diseases may look unsightly but will not affect the health of the plant such as leaf spot and leaf galls. Incorporate organic material from the compost pile as a long lasting, natural fertilizer.

#### Sources

Environmental Protection Agency

[www.epa.gov/sustainability/](http://www.epa.gov/sustainability/)

Sustainable Sites Initiative

[www.sustainablesites.org](http://www.sustainablesites.org)

Missouri Botanical Garden

[www.missouribotanicalgarden.org/sustainability/](http://www.missouribotanicalgarden.org/sustainability/)



Eastern Black Swallowtail Caterpillar

**100,000 Native Plant Project**  
**Date Change**

Recognizing the importance of native plants, the WNF&GA has taken on the ambitious challenge of planting 100,000 native plants to celebrate our 100<sup>th</sup> Anniversary. We have recorded thousands of plantings and are eager to add your plantings to our project tally.

Want to participate but didn't send your information?

**\*Bring your plant list to the 2015 National Meeting and Suzanne will gather the data and add it to the project totals.\*\***

Guidelines for counting 100,000 native plants:

Estimate all of your previous native plantings and continue to record all new native plantings. The tally began in June 2012 and continues through May 2015.

All individual and branch planting activities will count, including native plantings in your home garden or a friend's garden due to your influence.

When scattering wildflower seeds, estimate the number of seeds spread.

**How to Record Your Native Plantings**

Snail mail your plantings to:

Suzanne Smith-Oscilowski

416 Gwynedd Valley Dr.

Lower Gwynedd, PA 19002

Email your plantings directly to Suzanne at

[suzgarden1@verizon.net](mailto:suzgarden1@verizon.net)

**Garden Club of America's  
 Elizabeth Abernathy Hull  
 Award**

Congratulations to our Environmental Director Suzanne Smith-Oscilowski, who was presented with the Garden Club of America's prestigious Elizabeth Abernathy Hull Award. She received this award this past spring, while working as an Educator at the Wissahickon Valley Watershed Association. This annual award recognizes outstanding achievements of only seven individuals nationwide who are furthering the early environmental education of children. She was chosen for honoring Miss Hull's common-sense approach to environmental awareness by inspiring her students to appreciate the beauty and fragility of our planet.

## INTEREST AREA AGRICULTURE

### Growing Your Own Grains

Sylvia Wilson  
Agriculture Director  
New York Division  
Cambridge Branch

The vegetables are in abundance: zucchini fill one's baskets- kale, Swiss chard, beet greens, lettuce, just to list a few with the hopes the root vegetables will continue to have the nice hot days with the occasional rains. Corn is so sweet this year, tomatoes are ripening, blueberries are ready to pick and will follow with peaches and plums. The markets in ones area are a picture to see, colors and selections a delight, nutrition in all displays.

There is more interest this year in growing grains. Driving in agriculture areas one will view corn fields growing so high that you wonder how tall it will be before it can be harvested. Other grains wheat, barley, rye are a picture to see waving in the breeze waiting to be cut and baked to some delicious breads, cereals and other creations.

These grains are not as difficult to cook as one might think. Your local food store or supermarket should have the grains in small packages with directions. The health value of these whole grains is the same as fresh vegetables and fruits. Quinoa, buckwheat and amaranth cook in only minutes and are great in salads, stuffing for tomatoes and zucchini. Millet is high in minerals with a nutty flavor, buckwheat can be used in place of potatoes. Grains have endless ways to incorporate in a meal, any leftovers refrigerate and keep well for a few days.

The history of corn states there is some uncertainty as to when corn first went to Europe. Some say it went back with Columbus to Spain, while others

report that it was not returned to Spain until the second visit of Columbus. Corn in the United States was called maize or Indian Corn which has different meanings in other countries.

Corn is often classified as dent corn, flint corn, flour corn, popcorn, sweet corn, waxy corn and pod corn. Dent corn is the major type cultivated in the United States. Early expeditions show that the corn growing areas extended from southern North Dakota to the middle of Kansas and Nebraska, to Colorado, Arizona and New Mexico. It was not until the vast technological advances in the early 1940s that yields increased. Today acreage is less than in early years but plantings have increased in the more favorable areas of the corn belt. Iowa and Illinois are major corn growing states. Although few people are involved in the production of this major crop, many jobs are associated with this industry.

There are many uses of corn today: heating in specialized stoves and furnaces, feed stock for animals, ethanol in fuel, the delicious sweet corn that is a summer staple. Not to mention the corn stalks that are used for fall decorations. Corn is also used in making insulating materials, adhesives, paint, paste soaps, packing materials, and antifreeze. Ears of corn is even carved into the columns in the United States Capitol building!

Wheat was first grown in 1602 on an island off the Massachusetts coast. Wheat is well adapted to harsh environment and is mostly grown on windswept areas that are too dry and too cold for the more tropically-inclined rice and corn. Wheat is used mainly as a human food. It is nutritional, concentrated, easily stored and transported, and easily processed into various types of foods. Unlike any other plant-derived food, wheat contains gluten protein, which enables a leavened dough to rise by forming minute gas cells that hold carbon dioxide during fermentation. This produces light textured bread. Various classes of wheat are used for different purposes. Red winter wheat is grown principally in the eastern states.

Soft wheat is softer in texture and lower in protein than hard wheat. Wheat

of this class are generally used in cakes, biscuits, pastry, and other types of flour. Soft white wheat is grown mainly in the northwest areas of the country and is used mainly for pastry flour, shredded and puffed breakfast cereals. Much of the wheat used for livestock is a by-product of the flour milling industry. Wheat is known to be the backbone of life. More foods are made from wheat than any other grain. It provides more nourishment for more people worldwide than any other food. Nutritionally, wheat is rich in carbohydrates for energy, protein for growth and development, Vitamin B for the digestive system, calcium for healthy bones and teeth and iron for the blood. Wheat is believed to have been a staple in life for over 8,000 years.

Oats were brought to North America with other grains and planted on the Elizabeth Islands off the coast of Massachusetts. George Washington had several hundred acres of oat planted about the Revolutionary War time. The United States is one of the leading producers of oats along with Canada, Finland, and Russia. These areas have the cool, moist climate which oats adapt to. Some winter oats are grown in the United States, but most are spring oats produced in the north central states.

Oats were first grown in the United States for horse and livestock feed. The increase for human consumption came when nutritional experts discovered the great value of beta glucans. Daily usage of this water soluble fiber present in oat bran is highly recommended since it helps to prevent heart disease. Many breakfast cereals and bread products are made from oat flour or rolled oats products. Another oat product has been used as an antioxidant and stabilizer in ice cream and other dairy products. This is just a bit of history about the grains that are a very important staples in our diets.

There is a growing interest with those who want to leave the crowded city life to sustain a home in rural areas. Local colleges are providing classes in the science of gardening and the ecology of local foods. Our population is eager to learn more of "living off the land," with grains being an important part of this interest.

# WOMAN'S NATIONAL FARM & GARDEN ASSOCIATION 2014 - 2015 DIRECTORY

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### **Chair**

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Audrey Ehrler, Marla Diamond, Bea Peterson, & Rita Urbanski at Chanticleer

# 2014 - 2015 DIRECTORY

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# 2014 - 2015 DIRECTORY

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## Floral Arts

OPEN

## Parliamentarian/Protocol

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## WNF&GA NATIONAL PRESIDENTS

Mrs. Francis King*	1914-21
Mrs. Russell Tyson*	1921-24
Miss Gertrude Copeland*	1924-27
Miss Marion Roby Case*	1927
Mrs. Henry Ford*	1927-34
Mrs. Howard W. Lewis*	1934-37
Mrs. Murray Boocock*	1937-41
Mrs. F. Wayland Ayer*	1941-44
Mrs. Paul Burrage*	1944-46
Mrs. Margaret B. Carey*	1946-48
Mrs. Hubert Carter*	1948-50
Mrs. Henry P. Williams*	1950-52
Miss Gertrude Warren*	1952-54
Mrs. F.B. Llewellyn*	1954-56
Mrs. Homer N. Sweet*	1956-58
Mrs. Helen M. Sanders*	1958-60
Miss Elizabeth C. Miller*	1960-62
Mrs. Benjamin D. Hold*	1962-64
Mrs. Alfred G. Wilson*	1964-66
Mrs. Nelson B. Sackett*	1966-68
Mrs. David Burger*	1968-70
Mrs. Fred G. Garrison*	1970-72
Mrs. Miles N. Clair*	1972-74
Mrs. Richard D. Latham*	1974-76
Mrs. Robert K. Hanson*	1976-78
Mrs. Parker P. Rockwell*	1978-80
Miss Ruth Gray	1980-82
Mrs. Jack H. Herring	1982-84
Mrs. Susan Celentano	1984-86
Mrs. H. James Renaud*	1986-88
Mrs. C.F. Kirschler, Jr.*	1988-90
Mrs. William M. Nolan*	1990-92
Mrs. William Slattery*	1992-94
Mrs. Charles Peterson	1994-96
Mrs. Julius P. Zeigler*	1996-98
Mrs. Jack Ehlinger	1998-2000
Mrs. Neil Engelhart	2000-02
Mrs. Webster Anderson	2002-04
Mrs. James Hochstettler	2004-06
Mrs. James Diamond	2006-08
Mrs. Joseph Tiberio	2008-10
Mary Bertolini	2010-12
Julia Siefker	2012-14

\*Deceased

# ANNUAL MEETING DETAILS

**May 13 to the 17 2015**

Doubletree by Hilton Bethesda  
Washington DC

8120 Wisconsin Ave. Bethesda, MD 20814-3624  
(301) 652 2000

Bethesda.DoubleTree.com

1-800-955-7359 and request the group rate for Woman's National Farm & Garden Association or the Group SRP/Code: WF5.

Guests can go online to [www.doubletreebethesda.com](http://www.doubletreebethesda.com), click on the Reservations Tab, enter dates and on the Special Accounts Section enter WF5 for the Group/Convention Code.

The Cost is \$159 a night for up to 4 people

Check website and upcoming spring issue for more detailed itinerary

**BREAKFAST WILL BE INCLUDED IN RESERVATION FORM ON WNF&GA  
INDIVIDUAL REGISTRATION FORM.**

## A CAPITOL GOOD TIME IN WASHINGTON DC!

Join us for a great time as we journey to Washington DC May 13-17th, 2015 for our WNF&GA Annual Meeting! This meeting marks the end of the 100th Anniversary Celebration of the founding of our wonderful organization in 1914. Plan to arrive Wednesday and join us for a wine and cheese reception/meet & greet. On Thursday we will travel for a day of activities at the National Arboretum where the highlight will be the planting of the ceremonial 100,000th Native Tree & enjoy workshops and tram tours. Other highlights will include 2 full meeting sessions for business, an evening event at the Kennedy Center, an after dark guided tour of the National Monuments, the ever popular Floral Arts workshop, a semi-formal Gala Dinner & Silent Auction on Saturday night, great food, and so much more!

The Planning Committee (Jenny Rose Carey, Julia Siefker, Rita Urbanski, Audrey Ehrler, Susan Hunt, Kelly Oklelesson, Shiela Kneeshaw, and special planner Carole Bordelon of the National Arboretum) is working feverishly to develop a Capitol Good Time for you!

Finalized details, registration form and fees, hotel registration info, and activity/meeting session's info will be posted on the [wnfga.org](http://wnfga.org) website by February 6th! (For those members who prefer paper format all info on the website will also be in the spring edition of the Magazine!) Julia Siefker will serve as our Annual Meeting Registrar this year so if you have any questions please contact her at 419-233-

## MEETING ITINERARY

### **MAY 13 WEDNESDAY**

3-5 & 7-9 PM REGISTRATION HOTEL LOBBY  
7-9PM WELCOME RECEPTION AT THE HOTEL

### **MAY 14 THURSDAY**

BREAKFAST  
EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEETING  
ANNUAL MEETING SESSION  
A DAY AT THE NATIONAL ARBORETUM  
(tours/workshops/ planting of the 100,000th tree)  
GROUP EVENING ACTIVITY (TBA)

### **MAY 15 FRIDAY**

BREAKFAST  
ANNUAL MEETING SESSION 2  
A DAY AT THE CAPITOL  
EVENING TOURS (TBA)

### **MAY 16 SATURDAY**

BREAKFAST  
A DAY AT THE CAPITOL  
GALA DINNER & SILENT AUCTION

### **MAY 17 SUNDAY**

DEPART  
Meeting Registrar is Julia Siefker  
9355 RD 11 Ottawa, OH 45875  
419-538-6739  
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# ANNUAL MEETING DETAILS

## The Dogwood Collection at the United States National Arboretum

The Dogwood Collection straddles a long, open ridge between the Gotelli Collection of Dwarf and Slow Growing Conifers and the steep slopes leading down to the Anacostia River. The lazy Anacostia passes by in a wide bend and can be seen from two overlooks in the collection. The Woman's National Farm and Garden Association provided the impetus and financial support that led to the planting of the collection in 1952. Today, the long grassy fairway that leads to the fountain at the far end is lined with scores of mature dogwoods that bloom throughout the spring and summer months. The show starts in March with the yellow flowers of the cornelian cherry, *Cornus mas*. Flowering dogwoods grace the collection in mid spring, and the Chinese dogwoods bloom heavily as late as early June. Red fruits follow in summer, and leaves turn to coral, burgundy, and red in September and October. Winter frosts highlight the red fruits and the artistry of flower buds ready to unfold in the first warm days of spring. Many visitors come here throughout the year because of the spectacular views of the Anacostia River and the quiet, restful ambience of the collection. Source: <http://usna.usda.gov/Gardens/collections/dogwood.html>

The WNFGA has sponsored and funded several major projects at the **U.S. National Arboretum** in Washington, D.C.:

- **A Dogwood tree** is purchased and planted in honor of the outgoing National president.
- **Mrs. Francis King Dogwood Garden**, dedicated in 1952 in memory of our first president.
- **The Douglas Overlook**, the Memorial Fountain in the Dogwood Garden.
- **The Helen Macdonald Sanders Garden and Flag Pole**, marking the Arboretum's entrance.
- **The Diamond Jubilee Pavilion in the Gotelli Garden**, commemorating our 75th anniversary in 1989.

We hold representation on the **National Arboretum Advisory Council** and support **Friends of the National Arboretum (FONA)**.

## Time to See the Dogwood Garden in Our Nation's Capital Depart May 13, 2015 Return May 17, 2015

If you attended our centennial celebration in the Philly area, you heard firsthand about our Lousia King Memorial Dogwood Garden in the National Arboretum and the wonderful intern program we support there. As a fitting close to our first 100 years and the beginning of the next era, we will be traveling to Washington D.C. for our 2015 annual meeting. A bus from Michigan will be taking us to Bethesda, Maryland where we will be staying at the Doubletree Suites on Wisconsin. There will be rest stops and a stop for lunch. We will again start in Troy, with stops in Plymouth, the Trenton Area, and Toledo. Linda Coughlin will be your bus captain.

The cost will be \$170. The \$80 deposit will remain the same .

Get your deposit in early as seats will sell out. The final payment of \$90 is due on April 10, 2015.

NO REFUNDS PLEASE

### D.C. Bus Registration Form

Name \_\_\_\_\_ Branch \_\_\_\_\_ Division \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_ City \_\_\_\_\_ St. \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_

Phone \_\_\_\_\_ Cell Phone \_\_\_\_\_

E-mail \_\_\_\_\_ Member \_\_\_\_\_ Guest \_\_\_\_\_

Make a deposit of \$80 payable to: National Meeting Fund with "bus deposit" on the memo line.

Send check and a copy of this form to:

Rita Urbanski, 2729 Red Fox Trail, Troy, MI 48098  
Contact me at 248-540-4249 or [rzurbanski@gmail.com](mailto:rzurbanski@gmail.com)

# ANNUAL MEETING DETAILS



## SILENT AUCTION 2015

**YOU** are to be thanked for this year's overwhelming success through your generous contributions and powerful bidding. This upcoming meeting, tote along an appealing item or two (whether large or small), that will stimulate an exciting round of bidding. As a Farm & Garden tradition, this rousing auction is held during Saturday evenings festivities.

Sue Vette  
Michigan Division Troy Branch  
[susanvette@att.net](mailto:susanvette@att.net)



A lively auction!

# ANNUAL MEETING DETAILS

## THE FLORAL ARTS

It's Floral Arts time !!!!

We had a wonderful time creating center pieces for Saturday night's dinner tables and will do the same this year. It will be informal as to style and arrangement, but some of our WNF&GA pros will be there for direction or use your own inspiration.

Please per-register on the registration form and include \$5 to defray the cost of supplies.

Join us for a frenzy of Floral Arts creativity, and still have time for more fun afterward!"

Contact :

Kay Buszek [rkbuzsek@gmail.com](mailto:rkbuzsek@gmail.com)



Dianna O'Riordan from MI Romeo & Juliet Branch poses with her centerpiece.



Loretta Minervini from Cambridge Branch, NY Division not only makes beautiful arrangements, but she made her hats and jewelry for every day.

### Please Send Your Photographs

If you take pictures at the annual meeting in Washington DC, please remember to send them to the WNF&GA Magazine. Please include names of the people in the picture. Please share your activities, ideas, gardening tips, recipes, and fundraiser ideas from your Division & Branch . Send to the editor  
Mary Pat Ford  
[mpf6@hotmail.com](mailto:mpf6@hotmail.com)

## FARM & GARDEN AWARDS

## WNF&GA MEMBER OF THE YEAR 2013-2014

The nominee for the 2013-2014 Member of the Year has been with the Woman's National Farm & Garden Association since 2003. In addition she has a long history of being involved with several other garden associations, including Master Gardeners and quote: "Has left her thumbprint throughout the county."

She is known for her teaching skills, designing, mentoring, and philanthropic work. She puts in many long hands-on volunteer hours. One bit of advice she always shares is that "Everyone is a leader."

She attained Master Gardener status in 1996 and achieved Advanced Master Gardener in 1997. She is a founding member of the Saginaw Valley Master Gardener Society and has served in numerous offices for that organization. In addition, she serves on the Speakers Bureau and is a trainee mentor. She has been member of the steering committee for the Andersen Enrichment Center Art & Garden Festival for 9 years. She was also instrumental in getting the Downtown Saginaw Farmers Market back up and running and serves on its Board of Directors. She is a charter member of the Saginaw Hosta Society.

On June 6, 2013, she received the Charles Platt Horticulture award that celebrates outstanding achievements. She encourages excellence and promotes education in art and horticulture through the Arty Soil and Garden Market & Luncheon from the Saginaw Art Museum.

Currently this nominee serves as both the Michigan Division President, serving 29 branches and as National Recording secretary. She has in the past served as Branch president, 1st Vice President, Branch Secretary, headed the Civic service group, planned and implemented gardens at the Andersen Enrichment Center, Community Center, Juvenile Center, & Celebration Square Children's Zoo. She plans meetings and arranges for speakers and volunteers for monthly branch meetings. Being instrumental in getting the Bylaws rewritten was a major undertaking for her.

She is described as a ringleader that organizes a group to get things done. She has a passion for gardening that she loves to pass on to others. Just like the ripple of a pebble, her fingerprint keeps spreading farther and farther.

It is a great honor and privilege that I present to

### **Judy Henning, WNF&GA'S Member of the Year**

## VISIONARIES

Of the

Woman's National Farm & Garden Association

Honoring past Members who are the  
pillars of WNF&GA

by implementing forward thinking and bringing  
change to our organization that is still relevant today.

Few can see into the future,  
even fewer have the courage to step up to the challenge to  
effect change that makes a difference through the decades.

1975-1984 Martha Nolan

AWARDED THIS 29TH DAY OF MAY, 2014

## WNF&GA VISITORS CENTER

Hello Everyone. First off, congratulations on a wonderful, successful and fun 100<sup>th</sup> Anniversary. I truly enjoyed your celebration and I want to thank you for including me as both a member of the organization and as a representative from Temple University Ambler. Although I only see you maybe once a year, I always feel so welcomed. For me, it's like going to summer camp where I just pick up the friendship where it was left off, with no time lapses in between. I hope you were all pleased with the event. Kudos to all who made this wonderful occasion a great success!

If I may, I would like to take this opportunity to personally thank the Woman's National Farm & Garden Association and to each and every member for their loyal and generous support over these past years. Thanks to your organization the Ambler campus has continued to grow in both beauty and importance. Your scholarships have provided much needed financial support to so many of our hard working and dedicated students. I hope you realize just how important your scholarships have been and continue to be for those fortunate enough to be selected as the Woman's National Farm and Garden student scholars. The financial struggles many of our students face is very real, and I hope you realize the incredible impact of your scholarships. Your scholarships have truly enabled many women to complete their coursework here at Ambler in the fields of horticulture and landscape architecture.

I would also like to thank everyone for making the Woman's National Farm and Garden Association's Visitors Center, a beautiful reality. I, along with everyone who sees the progress being made on the Visitors Center are completely amazed at how completely transformed it is inside. They are doing a beautiful job with the project and I hope when visitors from the WNF&GA come to Ambler they will agree, it is far nicer than most of us could imagine. It's bright and cheerful. The space inside is wonderful, and many can already envision workshops and meetings being there. A few examples of the interior renovation, when completed, will include: a kitchen with Corian countertops, finished off with a coffee pot and an electric tea kettle. The interior colors will be warm earth tones, with new tables and chairs. In my opinion, The WNF&GA Visitors Center has truly become a warm, pretty, welcoming entrance into the Ambler Arboretum and Campus. Thank you for your patience, your guidance, and your resolve to see this dream become a reality. Please let me know if and when you can visit. I would love to show you the Visitors Center and I hope when you do see it you will be as pleased and pleasantly surprised as I am. Best wishes,

Linda Lowe  
Director of Development  
Temple University Ambler Campus and  
School of Environmental Design



If you would like to see your name or a favorite family member or friend on a Giving Tree leaf, the prices are :

**Copper leaves : \$100,**  
**Silver leaves : \$500,**  
**Gold leaves : \$1,000.**

Each leaf can hold up to four, short lines of text.  
For more information or to purchase a leaf please contact Linda Lowe, Director of Development for the Temple University Ambler Campus and School of Environmental Design. 267.468.8440  
[linda.lowe@temple.edu](mailto:linda.lowe@temple.edu)  
Or send a check to Linda at :  
Temple U. Ambler,  
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Ambler PA 19002



## FARM & GARDEN EDUCATION

### The Renaud/Peterson Internship Program

Our 2014 Intern, Sarah Moore, arrived at the U.S. National Arboretum in early June and is currently working in the Dogwood Collection. A graduate of Wheaton College in Norton, MA. Sarah received a 24 week grant to study and gain more experience in the field of Landscape Architecture at the Arboretum. We are sponsoring her for 12 weeks and another organization has agreed to support the remaining 12 weeks. She will be able to spend three seasons at the Arboretum and will leave there in mid-December.

This Autumn, Sarah will help plant the President's Tree in honor of Past President, Julia Siefker. She will be helping Head Gardener, George Waters, improve various areas in the Dogwood Collection and the Fern Valley Collection. After our Spring General Meeting last May, I accompanied Julia Siefker to the U.S. National Arboretum in Washington, D.C. We met with Staff members Carole Bordelon and Scott Acker to discuss plans for our visit there in May of 2015. Our new Loyal Friend, Kelley Okleson, joined us at that meeting. She is working with meeting planner Julie Siefker, to plan your next adventure. I am looking forward to seeing you all there in May of 2015 when we dedicate the 100,000th planting in the Dogwood Collection.

Thank you once again for your generous support toward this ongoing project that helps fine young scholars like Kelley and Sarah achieve their career goals. After meeting Kelley at our general meeting, I think we all realize that our support stretches far beyond their personal goals. We are supporting our Nation's future leaders Your donations should be sent to our E & C Treasurer,

Susan Hunt

238 Causway Street Medfield,  
MA. 02502

Checks should be made out to WNFG&A with Arboretum Internship on the memo line Respectfully Submitted by,  
Audrey E. Ehrler

### National Arbortum Intern

To the WF&GA,  
Hello, I am the current intern in the Dogwood Collection at the National Arboretum, and am fortunate enough to also be the intern for Fern Valley. I have always had an avid interest in



plants thanks to my background as a Girl Scout and having been raised with a small garden, and recently graduated with a BS degree in Biology from Wheaton College in Massachusetts. I grew up in a residential town in New Hampshire surrounded by woods, so DC was a big change for me! Working in the arboretum definitely helped me get used to the city. This internship has been a fantastic opportunity, and has taught me that I want to work in an environment that includes both outdoor fieldwork and research.

This internship has also taught me that I am more interested in agriculture than horticulture. I have made some amazing connections through the Arboretum and have learned many basic plant care techniques that will help me in pursuing a career in agriculture. During my internship I have focused on enhancing the aesthetics and educational components of the garden, including pruning and caring for the trees, weeding, mulching, and adding labels to the plants. One of the main missions of the Arboretum is to educate the public about different species and varieties of horticultural plants, and ensuring all of the plants in the collection are labeled is the most straightforward way of doing so.

Thank you for helping the Arboretum to put forth such a wonderful opportunity for young plant-minded people like myself, and thank you for promoting the art and science of plants to women around the globe. I have had an amazing experience here, and it would not be possible without your philanthropy.

Many thanks,

Sarah Ann Moore

### The Goodness, Generosity and Kindness Of Strangers

The colorful flag ceremony at Temple Ambler University campus last May will forever be a lasting memory. Each banner or flag represented the pride with which we carry on our work in the name of our organization. Every flag there, except for one, was designed and created by Branch or Division members. The Grace E. Frysinger Fellowship banner, which was carried in the ceremony, was designed and quilted a stranger to our organization. When Mary Bertolini had requested flags for the meeting, I had the idea to sew a banner in honor of our International Exchange Program. I was worried that my stitching would not be as perfect as it used to be in past years. Numb finger-tips and tired old eyes sometimes lead to disappointment. I could have given up on that idea, but the idea could not leave me. Last winter, at my church, I asked if anyone knew a quilter who could help me to create a flag or banner. I had brought along several WNFG&GA magazines and the brochure about the Frysinger Exchange Program. I was hoping that someone at the meeting would take an interest in our organization. One of our teachers borrowed that literature.

A few days later, I got a call that Ann Salisbury, a prize-winning quilter, would make that banner and that she had all the material needed to start sewing right away! About two weeks later my doorbell rang. The finished product was delivered and it was a perfect replica of the Frysinger symbol. When I offered to pay, Ann would not take any compensation for her time and her efforts. It was her way of saying "Thank You" to our organization for all our efforts to help our nation these past 100 years. I told her that her flag would be donated to the artifact collection at Temple Ambler after the flag ceremony (page 23). When the news reports are full of bad news, I like to think of folks like Ann Salisbury and I smile. The Goodness, kindness and generosity of strangers is all around us. If we ask for help they become our friends. With time, they will become fellow members. Audrey E, Ehrler-2003 Frysinger Exchangee to the United Kingdom

# FARM & GARDEN DIVISION & BRANCH UPDATES

## OHIO DIVISION REPORT

The Ohio Division held its Spring Annual Meeting in April 2014 at the Sycamore Lake Winery near Columbus Grove, Ohio. More than 30 members, representing all four Branches, (Dooryard, Nature's Housekeepers, Nature's Seedlings, and Tawa) were in attendance at this lovely venue.

Hosted by the Dooryard Branch, a delicious and eye catching array of appetizers were enjoyed. The following officers will continue to serve for the second year of their terms: Division President Julia Siefker, Vice President Ann Hermler, Secretary Carol Schortgen, & Treasurer Janet Leingang. The Division awarded two scholarships, each in the amount of \$1000, to two young ladies who are students at the University of Findlay. Dooryard Branch awarded a \$500 scholarship to a young lady from Putnam County Ohio, who is pursuing a post-secondary education in the field of Horticulture/Agriculture. All the Branches donate to various local programs and activities that work towards the enrichment of their communities.

In May, the Division held its Fifth Annual Spring Geranium Sale which raises funds for operational and scholarship expenses of the Division. The Ohio Division and its Branches continues to donate to the Pennies for Friendship Program of ACWW to help offset operational expenses at their

world headquarters, located in London, England. The following members traveled to Ambler to participate in the 100th Anniversary National Annual Meeting: Kaye Doud, Margaret Latham, Janet Leingang, Diane Patton, Carol Schortgen, and Julia Siefker. The Ohio Division and Dooryard Branch proudly displayed flags in the Parade of Flags at the Dedication Ceremony of the new Woman's National Farm & Garden Visitors Center at the Temple Ambler Campus on Thursday May 27, 2014. Respectfully submitted,  
Julia Siefker  
Ohio Division President

## “ROOTS” SHOW HELD IN HONOR OF WNFGA NEW YORK DIVISION

Tri-County's annual flower show was held as a tribute to the aims and goals of WNF&GA and in celebration of this year's 100th anniversary. It was dedicated to our two dear members, Anne Weiss and Bernice Wallman, who recently passed away. They were such a huge part of the success of our Branch and its annual flower show. On a beautiful day, August 9, we opened the doors of the Masonic Hall in Hartford, NY to invite the public in to see our flower show ROOTS . Ruth E. and Bruce Ricketson again had transformed the mundane hall into a museum-like room. If there were an international award for the staging of a show, they definitely would have received it!

The show takes much planning, measuring, collecting of mechanics and staging to present

a show. All of our materials are stored in the attic of the Hartford Civil War Enlistment Center. It takes trucks and many hands to retrieve all that we need. We have to set up a sort of bucket brigade to bring the items from upstairs into the waiting trucks to take down the street to the Masonic Hall. But before we even get those items, we first have to go into the Masonic Hall and give it a thorough cleaning.

By Friday morning more of our members started arriving to set up their designs and enter their horticulture specimens. The education/conservation table committee works on their table as well. Horticultural entries chair Mary Kellogg was overwhelmed with over 60 entries this year. Members had been instructed to fill out their own forms but information is always needed that keeps Mary very busy. Design entry forms are different than the horticultural entry forms and more than once, people got confused. So many members went above and beyond to make our show another success.

Thank you for all the help and thank you for those who stayed after and returned the staging to the attic and cleaned up and put back everything as the Masons would want it. Furthermore, thank you Bea Peterson, who so graciously judged our show along with the Federated judges:

Liz Gee and Gwen Swertfager.  
NY Division Founders Day  
Wednesday September 17 11 AM  
Cambridge United  
Methodist Church  
41 Main Street

## FARM & GARDEN DIVISION & BRANCH UPDATES

### Inspirational Gardens; Inspirational Volunteers Troy Branch Mary Schwark

Thursday, September 11, a significant date in our country's history, was chilly and cloudy, but it didn't stop 13 Troy Garden Club members from attending a mini-garden walk. The event was organized to honor and thank those who gardened at least one day in 2014 at the Troy Historic Village. Many more members were eligible to participate but were unable to do so.

Many thanks to TGC members Sue Vette, JoAnn Preston and Pat Guibord, who planned the visits to Gilda's Club in Royal Oak, St. Anastasia Church in Troy, Sacred Heart Church in Auburn Hills and Christ, Our Light Church in Troy. Members completed the outing with lunch at Camp Ticonderoga to support and thank them for their garden walk generosity.

Sue Vette arranged for visitors to explore not only Gilda's Club's gardens, but also the beautiful and comforting interior of the clubhouse, which began life 100 years ago as a private residence built from a Sears kit. Over the years, the building was used for various purposes, and was acquired by Gilda's Club in the mid-1990s. In early 2014, the facility experienced a rupture of its fire suppression system, and much of the house was flooded. It was damaged to the tune of several hundred thousand dollars. Repairs, including a new kitchen, were completed after months of work. The building, including the whimsical hand-painted murals for children in the lower level, has now been rehabilitated. Gilda's Club, named in honor of comedienne Gilda Radner, who succumbed to ovarian cancer, serves cancer patients and their families and friends with support groups, counseling and healing activities.

Carol Corbin, a participating garden owner at our 2013 garden walk, guided us at St. Anastasia. One of nine regular gardeners at the church, Carol provided extensive plant lists that reflected her excellent organizational skills. No wonder she's the church's garden coordinator! Her list covered many lovely individual gardens on the church grounds and were so helpful to us as visitors. Jo Ann Preston was our liaison to Saint Anastasia.

The Sacred Heart gardens contain many beautiful areas, as well as inspiring sculptures. Sacred Heart garden coordinator Pat Guibord demonstrated her method for involving many families in maintaining the gardens. She displayed a tri-fold board with photos of the nearly 40 planting areas. Each spring, church members select those areas for which they'll be responsible during the ensuing gardening year.

Pat also arranged for our visit to Christ, Our Light Church. In May 2013, the church was founded as a combination of two parishes. Father Don Demmer designed the new gardens, which were completed in the summer of 2014 by B. & D. Landscaping. Thank you to TGC member Bev Hydo, who shared the details of the new gardens' design and construction. They are brand new and "brand beautiful."

Comments by participating TGC members: Pat Guibord: "I was touched by the inside tour of Gilda's Club and their gardens and I was grateful to the TGC members who identified certain plantings [at Sacred Heart] and let me know what needs to be done with them."

JoAnn Preston: "If you can enjoy a cold day in the garden, you are truly blessed. It was wonderful seeing the beautiful gardens and the work of our friends and members."

Karen Yard: "The colorful gardens we visited were truly labors of love from many volunteers. The Gilda's Club staff shared the many resources they offer – very informative. I thoroughly enjoyed the day."

Tina Schultz: "I really enjoyed the outing. The agenda was A+"

Sue Vette: " 'Gilda's Girls,' including the volunteer gardener, were cordial and informative. The gardens displayed year-round peace and tranquility."

Barb Lepri: "It was impressive to see volunteerism at work. A very enjoyable day."

Yolanda Tenorio-Thomas: "It was a lovely event. Chilly yes; disappointing, no. Thank you again for the opportunity."

Judy Francis: "One member and I were overwhelmed almost to tears. I felt the open arms of love and compassion that Gilda's Club has provided to so many suffering individuals, families and friends. The resources they offer in the form of educational materials, support groups, activities for young and old and the beautifully maintained gardens all help in the healing process. I was also inspired by the three other gorgeous gardens that have been sacrificially maintained by volunteers who work there because of their passion for gardening, bringing beauty into our world."



The Beacon Hill Branch of New Jersey regret that they were unable to attend the 100th Anniversary Celebration in Pennsylvania. New member Anne Marie Kling (left) proudly displays the flag she made for her new branch. Bonnie Lespina (right) seated next to her is helping to show off the flag .

**Club Branch  
of the  
Woman's National  
Farm & Garden Association  
will host Michigan Division's  
62nd annual International Tea\*\*  
at Meadow Brook Hall,  
a National Historic Landmark  
and the former home of  
Matilda Dodge Wilson,  
WNF&GA national  
president from 1964-1966.**

**In 2014, Meadow Brook's gardens  
were designated as a  
Proven Winners Signature Garden.  
Meadow Brook Hall  
is the Troy Garden Club's  
generous co-host  
of the 2015 International Tea!**

**PLEASE SAVE THE DATE:  
Thursday, August 27, 2015**

**The International Tea™**



Jane Neal  
Pennsylvania Division  
Bucks County  
Branch participated in  
the Greenery Work-  
shop offered this past  
December.



Bea Petersen,  
Audrey Ehrler and  
Sylvia Andersen  
happily display the  
Grace E. Frysinger  
Fellowship banner.  
This banner was  
created by  
award-winning  
quilter,  
Ann Salisbury.

## Membership Request for Members at Large

New Member Name \_\_\_\_\_  
Address \_\_\_\_\_  
Email \_\_\_\_\_  
Telephone \_\_\_\_\_  
Secondary Contact Information- In Case We Loose Touch With You  
\_\_\_\_\_

*Members at Large is a designation for members who are loyal friends and do not have the convenience of a branch but wish to be involved with the organization. Loyal Friends receive all national communication including the magazine **Farm & Garden** published twice yearly.*

Annual dues

\$15.00

*Make checks payable to Woman's National Farm & Garden Association (WNF&GA)  
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