

Farm & Garden

THE WOMAN'S NATIONAL FARM & GARDEN ASSOCIATION, INC.



FALL 2016



Farm & Garden

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GET INVOLVED & JOIN US

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NOTES FROM PRESIDENT RITA UNBANSKI

As summer fades into autumn hopefully, you can look back at something new you tried in your garden. Did you experiment with a new plant, rejuvenate an old bed, eliminate plants that require too much care, or maybe just find a new way to keep the garden growing in all the heat and extreme weather conditions, I engaged in a project with the 7 and 8 year-olds in my neighborhood, growing purple potatoes in a half whiskey barrel. They are thrilled with the prospect of having many purple potatoes to eat this fall. We planted four small potatoes in the bottom and as they sprouted, added more layers of soil until the barrel was full. Once the greens turn yellow we will dump it out and hope to find good results from our labor.

We need to look at new things we can try to do for WNF&GA. It has been only a few months since we met in Nashville for our meeting and the election of a new board. Please check the directory to see who is serving you in this new term. After two years of work and many meetings, the Frysinger committee came up with a new direction for our international exchange. We are now working on supporting an international project. Watch for more news from our international chair, Kay Engelhart.

Floral Arts has been a waning activity. We have money in our funds that is not being used and little emphasis is being placed on having

flower shows. New York division has one of the only ongoing flower shows. A committee was proposed to take a look at where we are, what we would like to do, and how we best can use the money. Sue Vette of Michigan agreed to chair the committee. If you would like to be involved, please contact her at susanvette@att.net. Meetings will be held by conference call so your location is not important.

We still have need for a few chairs. The Communications Director oversees all forms of communication within the organization. We have a full roster of chairs under this director who are busy working in their areas. As director your responsibility is to oversee activities of the chairs, help facilitate their jobs, present articles of interest in the various areas to the National Magazine, and prepare a report of the activities for that year to the national meeting.

Under the gardening Director, we are in need of a new Horticultural Therapy Chair. Your job is to provide ideas on projects to the branches or in the magazine. You also will chair the Burlingame scholarship for horticultural therapy. Currently this scholarship is on hold until the principal is rebuilt.

Chairs for a couple of the scholarship programs would like to be replaced after years of holding those positions. Maybe it is time for you to try something NEW on the national level. Expand yourself to something different and make new friends. A little time from a lot of people makes the work easier. If you have any questions on any of these positions or would like to volunteer, please contact me anytime.

Hopefully we can keep you informed on all that is going on in our organization. Watch for the directory, by-

laws and minutes of meetings to be added to our member section of the web site. I will be sending out e-blasts to the presidents of our divisions and branches on a regular basis so they can make you aware of what is coming up and what is new. Be sure to read your magazine which comes out in the fall and spring. Branches and members at large be sure to get your dues in on time so we can maintain a more accurate mailing list for the magazine. Dues go to our A&O Treasurer Lenore Treba (leetreba@att.net) and our new registrar is Cheryl Malin (cmalin09@gmail.com). Make sure Cheryl gets, throughout the year, any changes of address, new members, and names of those who no longer belong. Don't wait until the end of the year for these changes that can be made anytime.

There is much going on and much to be done. Join us. We can use your help to make this the organization you want it to be. Let us know about concerns you may have and whether or not you like what we are doing. Plan now to join us in Cincinnati for our Annual Meeting 2017. I am waiting to hear from you,

Rita



*Check Out the
New Fruits
in the
Supermarket Aisle
of the Local Grocery*



Pluots bred at Kingsburg Orchards, Kingsburg, CA. Copyrighted picture

Take a walk around the fruit aisle in your local supermarket and you will see a variety of new fruits:

Plumcots, Apriuns, Pluerry, Peacharines, Orangelos, and Apple Pears. Some of these fruits have been around for over a hundred years but are just making their appearance on grocery shelves beyond California.

Originally many of the cultivars we call fruits, vegetables and flowers today grew in the wild in ancient times but were not thought to be edible. As the need for food increased with population, these plants were examined as possible food sources. As pilgrims and settlers moved to North America, they brought seeds with them from Europe. So the early fruits and vegetables had been cultivated in Europe prior to being introduced in the United States.

Fruit breeders have been working on grafting and hybridizing fruits and vegetables for over 100 years in the United States. Luther Burbank is one of America's well known early botanists and is credited with developing over 800 strains and varieties of plants, fruits, flowers, grains and vegetables.

One of Burbank's successes was the Santa Rosa plum developed in 1930. While Burbank developed over 113 varieties of plums, 20 are still

commercially grown and important to the economy of California and South Africa.

Burbank's keen observation and immediate recognition of desirable characteristics of a plant made him a successful botanist. While he had no formal training in botany, and only a high school education, Burbank's is credited with bringing plant breeding into the modern science.

While not a fruit, Burbank's work on the Russet Burbank potato helped revive potato crops around the world. Potato blight had destroyed crops in Ireland and Europe bringing chaos to the country and famine. Burbank's blight resistant potato revived potato farming and the Russet Burbank or Idaho potato as it is commonly known is used for McDonalds french fries today.

Burbank had only four acres of land in Santa Rosa, California, but he cross bred his plums, plus July Elberta peaches, Flamingo Gold Nectarines, Wickson plums, Freestone peaches, and white blackberries.

With Burbank working in California, Peter M. Gideon was working on fruit breeding at the University of Minnesota in 1853. Gideon bred the Wealthy apple (continued on page 6)

which grew well in the northern exposures of Minnesota. Gideon was credited with grape breeding and breeding pink blueberries with the blueberry flavor. From the continued work at University of Minnesota, an experimental station developed in 1868 having developed the Honeygold apple in 1969, peach, almonds, and continued improvements of gooseberries, grapes, plums, pears, raspberries, strawberries, apricots, cherries and currants through their fruit breeding.

University of Arkansas is another center of fruit breeders coming out in 2013 with a thornless blackberry bush. Fruit breeders are looking for quality plant adaptation, plant health, and yield for today's farmers according to the University of Arkansas website.

Fruit breeders look at two things in their selective breeding. They choose the seed parent and the pollen parent. By selectively bringing two things of good quality, they develop outstanding quality fruits according to Glen Bradford, owner of Bradford Farms and PQ Genetics, a California fruit breeder.

Bradford says they breed their plants in the natural state and pollenate by hand or with bees. Bradford's company has 25,000 hybrids a year and one out of a thousand becomes a commercial variety of fruit.

According to a Wall Street Journal article about Bradford, "To cross fruit varieties, Bradford chooses a female parent, or "mother" tree, and brings the male component, the pollen, directly to it. Workers remove the petals and pollen-producing anthers of every flower, leaving only the pistil. Workers touch the pistil, by hand, with pollen taken from the "father" tree, such as a different peach or nectarine." Bradford works with growers including Kingsburg Orchards in Kingsburg, California who grow new varieties of peaches and apricots as well as the Apple Pear. The Apple Pear is not new to the United States, with seeds for the trees coming to California in 1849 when the Chinese labors came to work in the California Gold Rush.

But the Apple Pear is a new fruit to many on the East Coast and Midwest. Costco stores carry Apple Pears for a short period in the early fall.

Kingsburg Orchards, who grow Apple Pears say, "For the most part, Apple Pear varieties are round in shape, with white flesh, giving them an appearance and texture similar to an apple. They have a refreshing pear flavor. There is no need for store-level ripening as Apple Pears ripen on the tree and are harvested when they are ready to eat. The long storage life of the Apple Pear is one of its strong selling points...they will store for 10 to 14 days at room temperature; three to four weeks in the crisper of a refrigerator; and up to three months in a commercial fruit cold storage facility."

So when you stroll down the grocery store aisles, look for many of the newly bred fruits. These fruit breeders are not using genetically modified crops but breeding naturally with selection and pollination.

Sources:

horticulture.uark.edu/research-and-extension/fruitbreeders/;

[www.britannica.com/biography/Luther Burbank/](http://www.britannica.com/biography/Luther_Burbank/);

www.arboretun.umn.edu/fruitbreeders/;

www.kingsburgorchards.com/;



Apple Pears grown at Kingsburg Orchards, Kingsburg, CA.
Copyrighted picture

Wall Street Journal, "When Apricot Met Plum...In the Search for Perfect Fruit, Breeders Create Odd, New Hybrids" Sept 7, 2011.

INTERNATIONAL COOPERATION

Grace E Frysinger International Fellowship becomes the Frysinger International Project!

By direction of the National President and Board the Frysinger Special Committee, formed in 2014, proposed a new scope and use of the existing Frysinger International Exchange donated funds to the attendees at the 2016 Annual WNF&GA Meeting in Nashville. The membership overwhelmingly approved this change and we move forward with the new scope.

We, the committee, thank you for your support of this endeavor and for continuing the vision of Grace Frysinger focus on international understanding.

Moving forward: These are the details voted upon in June for the Frysinger International Project:

Objective:

- To fund and support an International Project that has been vetted and approved by the ACWW Projects Committee and is in need of funding.
- To work with Associated Country Women of the World (ACWW), a chartered charity headquartered in London, England, to select and support our chosen project.
- The ACWW Projects Committee receives applications from countries around the world. They are very thorough: requiring detailed plans, need, community impact, requested funds, ongoing development, education plus much more.
- The amount of funding necessary will depend on the project chosen.

Project:

ACWW provides, upon request, a list of available approved projects needing either full or partial funding. From the list members will be able to choose a project that may:

- align with our goals and focus
- take us out of our element and stretches us to step out of our comfort zone.
- combine both.

Coordinator:

ACWW will monitor the project and report progress to WNF&GA.

The WNF&GA International Chair and ACWW together will oversee the progress and report to the membership.

Many ACWW project reports (both in progress and final) are published quarterly in the ACWW Country Woman Magazine which is sent to each current ACWW member.

Funding:

Currently the Frysinger International Fund balance is approximately \$8,300 USD.

The Fund would provide one half (1/2) of the chosen project's funding, but not more than \$5,500 USD

The Fund balance would be left to grow (donations and interest) for use as seed money for another project in possibly 2 to 4 years, depending on funding. (continued on page 8)

- All money raised for and beyond the 2016 matching funds will be deposited in the Frysinger International Fund for future project support.

Membership Challenge:

- To MATCH the funds provided by the Frysinger International Fund thus replenishing the fund for future project support.
- To TAKE OWNERSHIP of the chosen Frysinger International Project and be creative in fundraising activities.
- To LEARN about the Society, the country, the needs and the real results this project will have on the people involved including how it will impact us!
- With the help of the International Chairman and Committee.

Results:

- Four (4) ACWW vetted projects were presented for vote by our membership with the following chosen as the project they most wanted to fund. Our completed funding application was submitted to ACWW, and we were advised that our choice, indeed, still needed partial funding. Partial funding had been received in the interim.

AFRICA - SOUTHERN
 COUNTRY: South Africa
 SOCIETY: FWI's of Kwazulu Natal (Federated Women's Institutes)
 PROJECT: Solar Pump for Completion of Project 0980 - Yenzanathi Community Uplift Project
 PROJECT NO: 1005
 ACWW GRANT: £2,328** (Approximately \$3,343 USD)

The FWI's of Kwazulu Natal applied for this grant to complete their previous project because it was found that the hand pump envisaged in the original project was inadequate. In the original project, a borehole was dug and a 1,000 litre water storage tank and tap were installed, together with a hand pump. However, due to the sever drought in the area, the water level in the borehole has dropped to 95 metres, and it was difficult for the women to bring water to the surface to fill the tank.

The plan now is to purchase and install a solar pump and two solar panels to address this problem. The FWI's and their expert advisors are confident that with this type of pump, it will be possible to ensure a regular water supply so that vegetables can be grown in Yenzanathi community gardens on an ongoing basis. Thus it is hoped that the community, including a children's crèche, will have a sufficient supply of water and can increase their production of nutritious vegetables.

** The amount shown is made up of the project grant actually being sent to the implementing societies, plus 20% monitoring costs, which are always set aside for each project grant over £2,000. ACWW regards the monitoring of its projects as being of paramount importance.

We are happy to report, a check in the amount of \$1,652.88 USD has been sent to ACWW, confirming our support of this worthwhile project! We await updates as they occur and will pass the information on to you, our supportive members.

Please contact your International Cooperation Co-Chairs, Kay Engelhart kengelhart@hotmail.com and Sylvia Anderson sylvia1@gsinet.net with any questions. In the near future, we'll be sharing some fun and different ideas to encourage fundraising to replenish this Fund so we may continue to support international projects in need.

(Project updates on page 18)

INTERNATIONAL COOPERATION

NEWS FROM THE ACWW 28TH TRIENNIAL CONFERENCE

Kay Engelhart, International Chair

Many of you are aware the 28th Triennial Conference was held August 17th- 23rd, 2016 at the University of Warwick, Coventry, UK. Three Farm and Garden members attended on your behalf: Kay Engelhart representing National WNF&GA; Sheila Kneeshaw representing Michigan Division and Sylvia Anderson, though a member of Farm and Garden, representing New Hampshire Circle of Home and Family as their current President. Sylvia and Kay have a long history of ACWW membership and involvement and participation at these conferences and while this was a first for Sheila, we're sure not her last. These members sent periodic updates to all the Branch and Division presidents, with the hopes they will cascade these 'jottings' to their members so they could follow along.

These are truly amazing events - this one had 435 Delegates from 43 countries making decisions for the future directions of ACWW and another nearly 250 observers to support and learn during the entire conference. The flags from the 73 countries in which ACWW has members were marched in at the opening of the conference with the flag of England leading as the host country... the Australian Flag lead the way out of the auditorium, ending the conference and leading the way to the 2019 Conference in Melbourne, Australia.

Please consider joining ACWW as an individual member and support this world charity. The more you learn, the more you'll understand Farm and Garden's involvement for so many decades. You will receive the quarterly Countrywoman Magazine to share with your friends both in and out of Farm and Garden. Help us make it a better world.... one member at a time.

8/21/16 Hello from the very busy and fun 28th Triennial Conference at the University of Warwick, just outside Coventry, England. Sheila, Sylvia and I arrived at our appointed times early in the week and have been non-stop ever since. First of course was wending our way to the campus from Birmingham and registering then finding our "dorm-rooms" at the furthest end of central campus. Kid you not, we are really in Arthur Vick 3 - the furthest dorm from the main meeting venue, and dining room. But all in all, we are in pretty good shape and can walk it with much more ease than many.

The plenary sessions (meetings) have been back to back, and covering everything from finance to Area President reports, Executive reports and the process of deciding which resolutions and recommendations will become part of the next trienniums' business. Elections took place early in the week, but results were only announced this afternoon. President Ruth Shanks will again serve another term as World President, while our new Area President is Jo Ellen Almond from Indiana Extension Homemakers Association. Sheila is making many new friends and learning about the protocol and procedure under English Charity law... much different in many ways than ours in the USA.

Sylvia and I are also meeting up with many OLD friends as well as making new ones - one of the reasons for attending these triennial meetings and renewing relationships.

Great news!!!! Sylvia and I have met the two delegates from the Kwa Zulu Natal branch in South Africa!! They are so excited about meeting the representatives of the organization that has sponsored the solar pump for the well - that we approved in June in Nashville as the first Frysingher (continued on page 10)

From left to right: Rosemary Killam, Bernadine Hay, Sheila Kneeshaw, Sylvia Anderson and Kay Engelhart. Rosemary and Bernadine are the F.W.I. Yenzenathi Project Coordinators of the South Arica society in Kwa Zulu Natal, the society which we supported the purchase and installation of the solar pump for the water well - in our first Frysinger International Project funding.



International Project !!!! We have exchanged addresses and will be able to receive more current information as the days go by. They are currently waiting for the pump and solar panels to be delivered and installed. Nice going Farm and Garden - it means the difference between crops and no crops for many and fresh water. Please know we really are involved with the business of ACWW and look forward to sharing with you all very soon.

Tuesday - 8/23/16

Well, the week has flown by and we are now preparing for our flights home tomorrow. We have completed the business of the conference: The finances, the operation of Central Office, the Specified Committee reports; the resolutions and recommendations, including an Emergency Resolution presented by the European Area, have been presented, discussed, debated and voted on; the installation of officers and Area Presidents has taken place; the approval of the location for the 2022 Conference given by the voting membership; the closing ceremony where all 73 country flags of the member societies of ACWW have been retired until the 29th Triennial Conference in 2019.

Today 6 buses headed off in different directions to see Manor Houses, 300 hundred year old mills, gardens and many other sites. Lunch was prepared by the lovely ladies of the West Midlands WI's (Women's Institutes) in quaint meeting houses in various villages around the area. Oh, and what a spread they set out !!

Tonight is dinner, finish packing and hopefully a good nights' sleep prior to an early trip to the airport via taxi. I've ordered two separate DVDs to share, and together we will compile our thoughts and pictures for a presentation for branches interested in learning more about International Cooperation and our association with ACWW.

Triennial Conferences are interesting, you learn a lot about the various committees and certainly if you open your hearts and minds, you'll learn a lot about each other. Women love to share what their organizations are doing, what they are in need of and of course learn about each other.

As for Sheila, Sylvia and I, we are looking forward to the 29th Triennial conference in Melbourne Australia in 2019.... more details to come as we receive them. We hope you'll take an interest in the International Focus of our organizations and take time to schedule an International meeting in your branch / club this year. Educational - Always! Boring- Never! What an interesting world we live in and with our help we can make it a little better for some not as fortunate as we. Many hello's and many good bye's have taken place - until we meet again as we know we will.

Sheila, Sylvia and Kay

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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
Molly Hammerle	2014-16

*Deceased



ANNUAL MEETING DETAILS

WNF&GA's 103rd Annual Meeting will convene in the Queen City – Cincinnati, Ohio – from May 17 – May 21, 2017. Be sure to pack your tiaras!

Accommodations have been secured at a wonderful venue which, appropriately for gardeners, is on Vine Street. The Hilton brand has repurposed a beautiful 1926 downtown Cincinnati building as two hotels under one roof: a Hilton Homewood Suites with 100 rooms and a Hampton Inn & Suites with 144 rooms. Four room configurations are available. WNF&GA reservations in either hotel must be made no later than April 21, 2017. A daily breakfast buffet is included in the room rates: from \$175 - \$199 per night, one to three persons per room, depending upon the selected room configuration.

The Homewood and Hampton, which opened in April 2015, are among the newest hotels in the Queen City's down-town. A major construction project converted the former Cincinnati Enquirer newspaper building (1926-1992) into the two hotels. The building itself was added to the National Register of Historic Places in 1985, and its style is classified as a combination of Art Deco and Art Moderne. Hotel management has offered to take a limited number of WNF&GA attendees on a hotel tour. Details will follow.

The hotels are within easy walking distance of many downtown locations including Fountain Square, dozens of restaurants, Cincinnati's professional football and baseball stadiums (possible tours for annual meeting guests), Smale River-front Park and Carol Ann's Carousel. The city's busy Findlay Farmers Market is also nearby.

**2017 Annual Meeting
of the WNF&GA
Visit the queen ...
the Queen City, that is ...**

Cincinnati

Ohio

**Save the Dates!
May 17 – 21, 2017**

Wonderful gardens, beautiful accommodations in a downtown building on the National Register of Historic Places, good food, sightseeing on the river,

Graeter's ice cream, plus a few surprises! Watch for registration details in the next WNF&GA magazine.

Questions? Contact
WNF&GA VP Mary
Schwark schwark@aol.com

Schedule of Events*

Wednesday, May 17

Hotel registration & annual meeting check-in
Live theatre performance - Aronoff Center for the Arts

Thursday, May 18

Breakfast at the hotel
Tour of Historic Spring Grove Cemetery Gardens
Krohn Conservatory - tour PLUS
special butterfly exhibit: The Majestic Monarch
Riverboat historic sightseeing cruise
Dinner on your own

Friday, May 19

Breakfast at the hotel
Annual meeting – 1st session at the Civic Garden Center,
PLUS tour of adjacent Hauck Park
Private garden tour
Dinner at Newport Landing, Kentucky
Linda Kreidler, speaker – Building a Garden

Saturday, May 20

Breakfast at the hotel
Annual meeting – 2nd session at the hotel
Findlay Farmers Market & Over the Rhine
Smale Riverfront Park & Carol Ann's Carousel
Dinner & silent auction at hotel
Andrea Schepmann, speaker – *Krohn Conservatory*

Sunday, May 21

Departure following breakfast
Bus will stop at A.J. Rahn Greenhouses
on the way out of town.
All attendees are welcome to stop & shop.

*PLEASE NOTE: Some activities
may be subject to change.

ANNUAL MEETING DETAILS

Homewood Suites and Hampton Inn & Suites
617 Vine Street, Cincinnati, OH 45202

Hampton Inn & Suites Downtown Cincinnati, OH Hotel
617 Vine Street, Suite A, Cincinnati, Ohio, 4520
513-354-2430 <http://hamptoninn3.hilton.com>

Homewood Suites by Hilton Cincinnati-Downtown
617 Vine Street, Suite B, Cincinnati, Ohio, 45202
513-354-2440 <http://homewoodsuites3.hilton.com>

2017 Women's National Farm and Garden Association Annual Meeting Not quite so far but a lot to see in Cincinnati, Ohio !!

Depart May 17 Return May 21, 2017

This year our WNF&GA National Meeting will take us to Cincinnati, Ohio.
We will stay at a historic hotel the combined Homewood Suites and Hampton Inn on Vine Street.

Cincinnati is known for their Park Systems.

Plans are being made to visit many of them and may include a couple private gardens and a cemetery!

Our bus ride will only be approximately 5 hours. Once again we will start in Troy with pick-up points planned as needed. The bus is FUN, please plan to join us.

If you drive, the hotel will be charging
\$25 a night to park your car.

Please put the dates on your calendar and come join the fun we always have at the Annual Meeting!!

The bus cost will be \$140. The deposit will be \$70. Please get your deposit in to reserve your seat on the bus.

The final payment of \$70 will be due on April 1, 2017

NO REFUNDS PLEASE

Cincinnati Ohio Bus Registration Form

Name _____ Branch _____ Division _____
Address _____ City _____ St. _____ Zip _____
Phone _____ Cell Phone _____
E-mail _____ Member _____ Guest _____

Make a deposit of \$70 payable to: National Meeting Fund with "bus deposit" on the memo line.

Send check and a copy of this form to:

Helen Jositas, 2834 Shannon Drive, Oakland, MI 48363

Contact me at 248-766-2300 or email rjositas@aol.com

ANNUAL MEETING DETAILS

FLORAL ARTS

Floral Arts provides an opportunity for WNF&GA members to enrich their knowledge of design and horticulture.

The chance to showcase your individual artistry and your ability to nurture competitive specimens can be fulfilled by participating in a Flower Show.



The enthusiasm is there but we are limited because currently we have a minimal amount of qualified judges. I would appreciate a response as to whether anyone would be interested in attending Judges' School or a Judges' Symposium.



PLEASE RESPOND BY OCTOBER 1

Dry arrangements are a part the schedule. This includes fall preserve materials that would add interest such as skeletonized leaves, pods, gnarled Stems or roots. Gomphrena or globe amaranths dries and retains its color and ornamental oregano 'Kent Beauty', lends a delicate cascading effect.



Keep in mind that you are only limited by lack of trying.

Sue Vette,
National Floral Arts Chairman
susanvette@att.net

248-435-8916



ANNUAL MEETING DETAILS



SILENT AUCTION

WE HAD FUN,
the
Silent Auction
provides an
entertaining
competitive atmos-
phere which this year
benefited the



Internship Fund for the
National Arboretum.

It is thrilling to see how
each year the items
vary but the
enthusiasm mounts.

Let's plan on more FUN
next year by stock piling
items starting
NOW.

We want to encourage a
frenzy of bidding,
so be imaginative
or re gift an
appealing treasurer.



I am grateful for
YOUR
support and
that of
Michigan's Troy Branch
in assisting with
this venture.

Sue Vette

Michigan Division
Troy Branch

susanvette@att.net



FRYSINGER INTERNATIONAL PROJECT



Photos from the Yenzenathis women's projects.... Kwa Zulu Natal

(Top) Women proudly displaying their winter cabbage crop. The women put a mixture of sand and water on their faces to protect their faces from the harsh sun.

(Bottom left) Lydia Hlope on her way to a training session

(Bottom right) The gardeners in action planting spinach.

We thank you for your support of this endeavor and for continuing the vision of Grace Frysinger focus on international understanding.

Please consider donating to this worthwhile cause.

Send donations to E&C Treasurer Kathy Beveridge
1195 Dager Road
Warminster, PA 18974



FARM & GARDEN EDUCATION

Renaud-Peterson Internship Grant Update

Greetings from Ohio! I am delighted to be serving as the WNF&GA Representative to the US National Arboretum, where every year a college student is selected to serve a 12 week course in the WNF&GA Dogwood Collection through our Reynaud- Peterson Internship Grant 2016. Audrey Ehrler, our past representative, stepped down last Spring at the Annual Meeting in Nashville and she left some big shoes to fill! Our organization can't give enough praise and gratitude for serving our members so well for the past 10 years. (For a great refresher on this Grant, please refer to the Spring issue of the Magazine; Audrey wrote a lovely column!).

This year the RPIG awarded \$6,641 to sponsor Leah Pyne, a delightful young lady who has been doing a wonderful job, despite the heat, in the Dogwood Collection. See next column to read all about her and what she's accomplished this summer.

As is the tradition for outgoing past National Presidents, a beautiful dogwood has been planted at the Arboretum for Molly Hammerle, 2014-2016 term, in honor of all her service as the National President. Molly now serves as Advisor to the



George Waters and the tree dedicated to former WNF&GA President Molly Hammerle. *Cornus kousavar. chinensis* 'Madi-II' Mandarin Jewel®.

National Executive Committee and remains very active within her Michigan Division.

If you ever get the chance to visit the US National Arboretum and our famous Dogwood Collection, you are sure to be delighted. I also would like to hear about your visit! You can contact me at jverhoff300@gmail.com or 419-233-0064. Be sure to send pictures.

The RPIG is a long standing grant program within our organization. Totally funded by donations, this internship maintains one of the crown jewels in the WNF&GA crown, the Dogwood Collection of the NA in Washington, D.C. To make a donation, contact the current E/C Treasurer, Kathy Beveridge, at her info listed on page 3 in this magazine.

Respectfully Submitted,

Julia Siefker
WNFGA/RPIG
Representative to the
US National Arboretum

Intern at the Arboretum

My name is Leah Pyne and I am this year's intern for the Dogwood collection at the National Arboretum. I was born and raised in Fairbanks, Alaska and spent the better part of my childhood outdoors hiking, canoeing, gardening, swimming, blueberry picking, skiing, sledding, skating, and generally just being outside. I love being outdoors in nature and can't imagine a job I would enjoy that meant I had to stay inside at a desk. I got my undergraduate degree in biology from Principia College in Illinois, but near the end of college I became more interested in horticulture and less in the research aspects of biology.

After graduation I spent two months in Kenya taking a hands on permaculture design course with Sadhana Forest, a non-profit organization dedicated to providing water security and reforestation to arid parts on the world. When I returned I went to DC for a three month internship with the Smithsonian Gardens where I worked with the horticulturists at the National Museum of American History. It was a great three months and while there I heard about internships with the National Arboretum and became interested in applying. Between my internship with the Smithsonian and my current internship with the National Arboretum, I spent spring semester at my alma mater designing and implementing a native landscape around the Science Commons. It was my first experience with landscape design and it was a real learning experience. I am proud of the landscape I created, but there are many things I would do differently for the next designs.

Now I am here at the US National Arboretum working in a six month combined internship, funded (continued on page 20)

by WNF&GA in the Dogwood collection and by Lahr Symposium proceeds in the Fern Valley native collection. I am having a great time learning and gaining good experience with knowledgeable people. I split my time between both gardens that I am interning in and also helping with propagation.

In Fern Valley I am working on creating and evaluating signs showing the different host plants of ten local butterflies and caterpillars. These signs are for pollinator week, which is in mid-June, and will go out in the garden, each by their host plant, for a week or two each year. In the Dogwood collection I get to do a lot of pruning which I love because it feels like sculpting. There is also a good amount of pulling out invasive vines that threaten to smother the trees on the edge of the collection. George Waters, the main gardener for Dogwoods, knows every tree in there and the story behind it, and there always is a story behind it whether it was how much fruit the big *Cornus mas* produced last year or about how the original hemlocks that lined the collection are being incorporated back into the encroaching forest. My intern project in the Dogwood collection is to research the Rutgers dogwood hybrids, figure out which hybrids we have in the collection and if they are still in good condition and then figure out which of their available hybrids we don't have and should get.

Rutgers hybrids were developed by Dr. Elwin Orton at Rutgers University in New Jersey from crosses between the native *Cornus florida* and the Asian species *Cornus kousa*. He wanted to develop a hardier species of dogwood to be grown because the American *Cornus florida* was under of attack from insects and disease which was causing a lot of damage in both ornamentals and woodland dogwoods. It took Dr. Orton twenty-five years of testing different hybrids in different environments and against the American varieties to release his "Stellar Series"® in the 1990s. This series is hardier and more resistant to dogwood borer, anthracnose and powdery mildew, all of which had plagued the *Cornus florida*. Since the release of the "Stellar Series"®, Dr. Orton continued working on hybrids and released the "Jersey Star"® series, a cross between *Conrus kousa* and *Cornus nutalli*, in 2004.

The dogwood collection at the National Arboretum has many of the Rutgers hybrids in the collection but we are missing some of the newly released varieties and have only one specimen of others. So far the collection has ten of the fifteen hybrids available on the market. My job is to document the location and health status of the trees that we have in the collection and make sure we have what we think we do and that it is thriving, and then to make a list of the varieties that we will need to order to complete our Rutgers collection. It's been a fun project so far. Many of the trees are already mapped out and so are easy to find, while others have only recently been installed and their records aren't up to date with their locations and so it becomes a scavenger hunt to find them.

It's been a fun first few months here at the arboretum getting to know the horticulturalists and gardeners and the group of interns that work here. I really appreciate being given the opportunity to be here through funding by the WNF&GA, I wouldn't be able to have the great experience here without it. I enjoy the work that I am doing, I like the people that I am working with, and I am looking forward to watching how the arboretum changes through the half year that I am here.

Franklin Garden Club

Looking out into this endless and bountiful summer, I give thanks to our Creator. Thanks for our beautiful earth of which we are stewards and thanks for the friendships we make in this lovely group we call the Franklin Garden Club.

All of us no matter what our beliefs are, agree that we, as gardeners, will continue to preserve this corner of our own special world, especially for our children, grandchildren and beyond. Franklin had many committee meetings organizing our Garden Walk which we presented on June 15th. It all began with a cup of coffee served to the Artisans who had arrived to set up their tents and wares. Sue Clayton was seen setting up flags at the gardens designated to be on tour and the ticket Chairs Pat Ciagne and Sue Ruby were getting organized. Co-chairs Pat Hamburg and Roberta Cornwell were checking all those last minute details. I am happy to report it was! All of our Garden Clubs know that the hard intense work involved for the funds raised, go to scholarships and towards funding those many organizations! Celebrating our Walk's outcome we have a potluck salad lunch and lift a glass or two to toast another successful year!!

The endless summer continues as members open their gardens to share with us the challenges and delight of gardening. Some plants are sometimes exchanged, along with lots of conversation with our "best buds"!

So while writing this article, summer is not finished. Fall is approaching and we look forward to a new season and welcoming friends. Life is good as we like to say, and as always, our club wishes our neighboring clubs the joy and love we share of gardening. Rita Kerr

FARM & GARDEN DIVISION & BRANCH UPDATES

Lonely Bouquets The Clarkston Farm and Garden Club

An idea that has spread across the world came to the village of Clarkston, Michigan on August 2. Twenty five "lonely" bouquets were left in parks, businesses, governmental offices, and senior residences for individuals to find and adopt them and ultimately take them home. The Lonely Bouquet project has a motto of "Spreading Smiles One Flower at a Time".

The Lonely Bouquet started in Europe and has spread around the world. The founder, Emily, says, "The project was simple, asking local gardeners to spread some joy with flowers through-out the local countryside." Pam Marin, a new member to the Clarkston Farm and Garden Club had participated in the Lonely Bouquet project in North Carolina while visiting a relative and shared the idea with the club members. At the August meeting, 25 members visited the Gateway, a local florist, and created 25 bouquets to spread around the village and township. The project is fairly simple according to founder Emily.

1. Pick fresh flowers.
2. Arrange in small recycled jar
3. Add a signature and "take me" note.
4. Leave the flowers somewhere for someone to pick up.

The example of a note from the Lonely Bouquet website is, "Adopt me, please! I'm all alone and looking for a new home... perhaps I can live with you or a loved one? Our flower friends would love to hear from us and find out where we ended up? Please let them know at: [www.facebook.com/The Lonely Bouquet](http://www.facebook.com/TheLonelyBouquet) or email me at an address of your choosing.

The Clarkston Farm and Garden Club utilized the help of a florist with the project. Each member paid \$12 and we had water bubbles on the stems of the flowers so they would not wilt. Marin had created a list of places in the community that bouquets could be taken and a note similar to the one above. Members delivered the bouquets to the appointed places and we did receive feedback from some of our bouquets. A mother about to become an empty nester with her only child going off to college, wrote a note to the club after finding a bouquet in the park. A woman who was having a difficult day stopped in to a local printer and was surprised to find a bouquet for her sitting on a shelf. The local township clerk, who was readying her office for the primary election the next day was surprised with a bouquet. Bouquets on the Lonely Bouquet website have been shared in Mexico, Hong Kong, all over the United States, South Africa, Australia, Brussels, Finland, England plus many more countries. Google The Lonely Bouquet or check them out on Facebook for more information.

You may email the Clarkston Farm and Garden Club at clarkstongardenclub@gmail.com for more information.
Joette Kunse 248 620 2984 jkhorses@comcast.net

HAZEL J. HERRING CIVIC IMPROVEMENT GRANT APPLICATION

Application being made by (Branch name): _____ Number of branch members: _____
Division _____ Project Title _____
Cost (estimate, if necessary) _____ Person submitting application _____
Phone number _____ Address: _____
FAX/email _____

Application must include the following:

1. Completed application form.
2. A written description, No More Than Three Pages in length, describing the Project, the Goals, the Sweat equity (who will be involved in project and work involved, and the Total Cost for Completion.
3. A copy of this application should be sent to the Branch and Division Presidents for their records.
4. FOUR digital photos in a .jpg format to be emailed or sent with the application--photos or a CD-ROM (for possible use in a power point presentation). MAIL COMPLETED APPLICATION by May 10, 2016 TO:
Gerry Howard 12735 Scott Rd. Davisburg, MI. 48350

FARM & GARDEN DIVISION & BRANCH UPDATES

Grosse Pointe Shores Garden Club Branch

Welcoming four new members this year infused the club with younger ladies with an invigorated passion for cultivating our local soil. They encouraged us to reconsider our past participation in the Trial Gardens at the Grosse Pointe War Memorial. We contacted the Grosse Pointe Garden Center which is the umbrella group over our many Grosse Pointe Garden Clubs and they developed a new garden bed for us to be included in the friendly local garden club competition. Our Club Secretary, Margie Prokop, winters down in Florida and returned with unusual and intriguing photos of a Florida garden center promoting their plants growing in a discarded loveseat covered with yards of green moss. This year's theme for the trial gardens was revealed to feature quilt gardens. We looked on the internet at the Amish Quilt Gardens in Indiana for design ideas.

The GPSGC trial garden committee members are of various ages ranging from their 90s to their late 60s; some having physical limitations after joint replacement surgery. Quilting had been a hobby for two of our new members as well as their aunt, Gladys, so there were limitless ideas discussed. Considering members' physical aspect the decision was made to use Margie's concept of moss covered discarded Queen Anne style chair and attempt to grow a living "quilt" of plant materials in a "crazy quilt design". This allowed a handicapped accessible garden for all members to participate and enjoy. A "quilt" was made of black landscape weed preventer cloth with poof pockets to retain moisture and contain the soil. Then the "garden quilt" was draped over the moss covered chair as though a reader had been interrupted while reading under a lovely quilt and left the scene. The chair was set into a bed of sun tolerant ferns covering a "floor" in the woods. Also included is a white birch log with a living plant "pillow" for a foot rest among the ferns.

High heat and humidity have been a challenge to keep all of our gardens looking lovely all summer long. A

great big thank you to all of our faithful seasoned members as well as our new gals who have helped to revitalize our group to "get our hands back into the dirt." After all, life began in a garden and we are most comfortable getting back into gardening again: putting into practice the skills we learn from our wonderful speakers of the past. Please stop by the Grosse Pointe War Memorial and enjoy the gorgeous quilt garden patterns created by our other garden clubs....they are very creative and spectacular this year! Our club looks forward to meeting with WNF&GA members around our area, sharing ideas and speakers.

Shirley Hartert, President
Grosse Pointe Shores Garden Club



One Hundred Years of Growing and Giving:
Woman's National Farm and Garden
Association 1914-2014

Our Centennial book is a soft cover edition that encompasses the history of our organization with greater emphasis on the post-Chronicle years 1984-2014. The 100th celebration is included in the publication. The book is filled with pictures and features the founding history, the presidents, interest areas, leaders and special projects.

Overall the book is divided into decades in order to provide a greater understanding of the events that influenced each era, with special emphasis on interest areas and projects that developed along those themes.

Cost is \$20

Contact

Mary Pat Ford mpf6@hotmail.com

Or

Rita Urbanski rzurbanski@gmail.com

One Hundred Years of Growing and Giving:
**Woman's National Farm
and Garden Association**
1914-2014



Membership for Members at Large 2017

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 due by December 31, 2016

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

Mail to Lenore Treba

859 Portsmouth Drive Troy, MI 48084

248-362-3738 leetreba@att.net

We are so happy to have you join us!

Join Today!



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