

Farm & Garden

The Woman's National Farm & Garden Association, Inc.

Fall 2017



Cincinnati 2017



Farm & Garden

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GET INVOLVED & JOIN US

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NOTES FROM PRESIDENT RITA URBANSKI

Can you believe another summer has come and gone? I hope you discovered something new about your garden, a new plant, sun where there was shade, or maybe shade where there was sun, or just a new spot to sit and enjoy the surroundings. I discovered that I should just grow the “weeds” and forget the other plants. I would always have a lush garden.

I also hope that you discovered that you have talents and skills to do things that you didn’t think were possible. Maybe some of those skills will open up a new avenue of service, hopefully to WNF&GA. Every Branch is looking for new leaders. If you are not ready to take an office, you might chair some committee. You would be surprised at how much you can accomplish with the help of your fellow members. At least sign up to be on a committee. Let this be the year you let your anxieties go, and try something new.

Our Cincinnati meeting last May was a success. In addition to the “regulars” we had eleven first time attendees. We spent some time educating the newcomers on our organization and the way it works. It helps them to better understand our meetings. Of course, we also saw gardens and

heard some wonderful speakers talking about their projects. New and old friendships were enjoyed.

We selected a new project from ACWW for Frysinger funding. Read the article to learn more about it. Enthusiasm about this project was outstanding. Remember we can fund these projects only as long as we receive donations to continue it. Maybe this is something your branch would like to support.

Shortly after the National Meeting, I went to the final New York Division meeting. They voted to dissolve the division. With only two branches, it is impossible to get division officers. The two branches will operate independently, but will also have a joint meeting or get together each year. They have decided to have their scholarship fund donated to the National Arboretum Internship. New York members Bea Peterson and Audrey Ehrler, both, who devoted much time and energy to the arboretum, will be honored with this donation along with two other ladies, Elizabeth Sackett and Helena Duncombe, founders of their scholarship fund. We thank New York for helping us with this important national project.

As we are looking to the end of another year, collecting our dues, and updating our membership lists, think about what you can do to bring new members into your branch. Some branches are seeing an upswing in their numbers. Try bringing a friend to a meeting, making your presence known at community functions, advertising

in a local paper, or setting up an information table at a local nursery. Let your community know that we are a great group of women and men, anxious to educate and bring beauty to our neighborhoods.



*Make sure you mark
your calendars for
June 6-10
and join us in the
Finger Lakes
region of New York
for our
National Meeting.*

Hope to see you then!

Rita



*Faith K. Tiberio
1925-2017*

The Precious Gift Of Time

Our dear Past President, Faith K. Tiberio, was an accomplished, generous and gifted leader who touched many lives in a positive manner.

Personally, for many WNF&GA members, Faith was a wise mentor and trusted friend.

I shall miss Faith for many reasons. But most of all, for her precious gift of time!

Faith always found the time to listen to my concerns and my bold ideas. Faith's thoughtful and kind words of encouragement helped me to pursue my goals, to follow my instincts and to improve my communication skills.

Faith was a true educator. One of the very best teachers in my lifetime.

It is difficult to say good bye to a friend of twenty plus years. I shall miss her sound words of advice, her friendship, her beautiful smile and her

Precious Gift Of Time!

Audrey E. Ehrler -WNF&GA Corresponding Secretary



These pictures were taken at Temple Ambler Campus for the 100th Anniversary of our founding. They include past presidents above from the left, Mary Bertolini, Marla Diamond, Sylvia Anderson, Faith Tiberio, Bea Peterson, and Susan Celentano. At top right, Julia Sieker.



What is an Heirloom?

An heirloom is something carefully tended over the years and handed down for future generations. It could be a priceless artifact, a piece of furniture, or a piece of jewelry.

It could also be a special plant — one lovingly grown season after season, its seeds passed down for gardeners to plant and enjoy again and again. Often, these cultivars are chosen because they are the most prolific, the most disease resistant, or the most drought tolerant. Today, the members of the Woman's National Farm & Garden Association are creating an heirloom to hand down for future generations. We are compiling our stories, our recipes, and our wisdom of farm and garden to share with each other and all who come after us. These items have special value because they remind us of our history, of the arts of canning, sewing, gardening, and farming, and of our shared humanity.

In 2009 Faith Tiberio asked our members for heirloom stories to incorporate into a publication titled "Heirlooms." Here is her feature in this endeavor.

The Trouble With Looking For Trouble

By Faith Tiberio, Past-President, past member of WNF&GA Mayflower Branch

So often we speak glibly of trust. And just as often we are surprised when solidly confronted with the need to do just that— trust — when common sense dictates other-wise. Grandmother always made it clear that she was on the side of common sense. Grandfather seemed to be just the opposite. Who could tell?

Of such a time I now write...years and years after the event and yet that seemingly small conflict changed my own outlook and is still fresh in my mind. So fresh, in fact, that I can almost see the bright blue cloudless September sky overhead; I can almost hear the crunch of the iron-rimmed wagon wheels grinding on the tiny stones of the dirt road along with the sturdy plod-plod of the team. Again, I can almost smell the lush ripening perfume of the 1929 crop of Concord grapes from the vineyards that stretched out on either side. A sweet memory, that, from my childhood on the farm.

Grandfather and I sat on the wagon in silence. Even now, Grandfather seems to be an almost reclusive, mysterious figure. He seldom spoke, but when he did, in spite of the fact that he had immigrated to this country from Denmark through Schleswig-Holstein, he spoke without any accent. His English was flawless, and only once did I ever hear him speak his native tongue, which you will share with me, later on. He had been recruited from university graduate engineering studies to work on heating systems for the Pullman Sleeping Car Company, retiring later to farm on the shores of Lake Erie below Arkwright Hills.

He stood 6 feet 3 inches, thin almost to the point of being gaunt, but erect with deep sunk pale blue eyes that seemed always to be observing something very far away.

By contrast, Grandmother's merry eyes of iris color, twinkled when she spoke, which was constantly. She laughed easily. No matter how many unexpected folk sat down to table, she always had enough. Grandmother walked, talked and distrusted. She watched every penny and Grandfather's every move as a cat might monitor a door mouse.

On this morning, she called after Grandfather, "When you trade the eggs for the sugar, mind that he doesn't take advantage. Watch out." "Watch out" was always her parting counsel. Grandfather made no reply. He tipped his cap to her and clucked to the team. Presently, we arrived at the blacksmith's shop, which stood in the back of the general store. The blacksmith's was a warm, oily place, open-doored. To my little girl's eyes, it seemed like a big, black cave with a one-eyed beast — that one eye a glowing red that suffused the space around the furnace.

Grandfather eased the rattling wagon with its loose rim down the short tree lined driveway beside the general store. No chestnuts grew there, just sugar maples, and when we drew up to the smithy, Grandfather jumped down, tethered the team and spoke to Herman Davis, the smith, whose brother Ed ran the general store. "Need shoes?" the smithy asked. "You could have called the truck to come by your place." Grandfather said, "I need a rim fixed on one of the wheels."

Herman Davis allowed that he could fix it, and with that, Grandfather motioned me to follow him with the eggs into the store. There the local farmers could buy or trade; they could find anything from harness, sugar, yard goods and tea. Grandfather handed Ed

Davis, the store-keeper, a list but Ed, looking up at Grandfather who was considerably taller, said, "Will, before I put up your order, I want you to take a look at this offer from the New World Spreader Works. It's a beauty, all right and I'll be selling a lot of them when you boys get your grape money."

Oh, if Grandmother had only been there!

Now, the main Concord Grape crop went to Welch.

Grandfather shipped some of his crop by rail to New York City in beautifully made wooden baskets with copper wire handles, but the big money from the harvest came much later in mid-winter.

Grandfather's pale blue eyes shifted with interest to the black and white dimensions of the spreader's machinery. About this time, three of the farmers from nearby our vineyards came in and they, too, studied that material after exchanging greetings and some local gossip. A new farmer named Plogget had bought a place that had poor vines and the rumor was that he himself seemed questionable.

In the end Davis sold five spreaders that day, including one later in the morning to the "questionable" Plogget. All five of them did it with a simple handshake. Once at home, Grandfather told grandmother about the spreaders.

"Watch out, she said. "That's fine for you, Will. You need a new spreader and, if push comes to shove, you have some money put by. But how about the others? How about that new fellow, Plogget? I tell you, Davis is in for trouble."

A shadow passed over Grandfather's face. But he said nothing.

By the time the spreaders arrived the following April, the economy had deteriorated. But half with hoe and half as if in defiance, the farmers walked their teams to the back of the general store, lined themselves up in a row atop the new spreaders, and had Ed Davis take a photo-graph of them...that same photograph a prize possession in each descendant's family now. As it happened, Davis had not been paid, but he remained unconcerned. "I'll bill you, boys, after the next grape crop. I know things are tight and I trust you."

In due time, bills did arrive. Grandfather, on his next trip for supplies, settled up in cash, shook Davis' hand and went his silent way. Grape crops came and went, times got worse, and then, one awful day, the smithy and the store went up in flames due to a careless toss into the oil at the smithy. Grandfather said, "I ought to see how Ed Davis is fixed." For once, Grandmother said nothing.

Grandfather said, "He sent all of us bills, except the Plogget fellow. He moved somewhere after he lost his farm, and Davis couldn't find an address." "But," Grandmother said, "I thought you paid right after you got the spreader."

Grandfather answered, "I'm sure I did, but Ed's books went up in flames with the buildings, and he thinks one of us didn't pay."

Grandfather called on each of the farmers and let them know how things stood. All of them had received bills and all of them felt sure they had paid quite soon after the spreaders arrived, but the thought of Davis and his trusting them as he always had, made a sticking point. Secretly, all four of them thought that the bankrupt Plogget was the man who hadn't paid, but no one except Grandmother said so. "Watch out" she said. That summer, a new general store rose up like a Phoenix, but the smithy was never rebuilt. Instead, a Davis Blacksmith truck went from farm to farm as needed. And, as it turned out, every farmer, no matter how cash-strapped, paid again for his spreader. A letter and mail order draft came from Plogget post-marked Canton, Ohio. Grandfather said to Grandmother late one evening as they were sharing some tea, "Davis called us all to the store. He said he knew he could trust us... then he began to cry. But for you boys to take responsibility for each other...by golly, that's something. Then he returned our money."

Grandmother said in a soft voice, "I guess if one works with the land, a special sense of right and wrong comes with it."

Grandfather, from across the table, rolled up a tiny white ball of white bread and with a gesture that was not meant for us children to see, he said in his native tongue, "Watch out." And playfully tossed it her way.

She laughed. "You watch out, Will." And tossed it back.

Faith Tiberio is now one of our heirlooms, may the memory of her be an inspiration to us to be passed down to future generations.

INTERNATIONAL COOPERATION

International Cooperation July 2017

It is with great pleasure that we send a huge THANK YOU, to you, the members of Woman's National Farm and Garden Association, for looking forward, taking the leap to change the scope of the Frysinger International Project and becoming engaged in the decision making process to choose the 2017 Frysinger International Project.

Area: Africa - East, West & Central. Society: Uyoma Food Security Self Help Project: Project No. 1025: Agok women revolving credit scheme for food security, nutrition, and education support has received a \$2000.00 check to partially sponsor this project, thanks to those who have supported the Frysinger International Project Fund (formerly the Grace E Frysinger International Fellowship Fund). In brief: This organization initially held group meetings in the target village, situated on the shores of Lake Victoria, to plan the project. The community members chose fresh fruit growing, poultry rearing and fish farming as their preferred project activities.

The beneficiaries will be resource-poor women householders, grandmothers caring for children, orphans and unemployed young people. Many of these have been forced into illegitimate livelihoods such as prostitution, or have had to give up school because of a lack of money for school necessities. They will be given training and support to engage in the project activities in order to have legitimate, dignified source of income and improve their diet.

As with our past project support, we will receive periodic reports from ACWW as they are received. Remember, these projects are strictly monitored.

Speaking of the past: the 2016 Frysinger International Project: **South Africa - Water Harvesting for Completion of Yenzanathi Community Garden Project No. 1005**, if you'll recall that Sylvia Anderson, Sheila Kneeshaw and I had the pleasure of meeting the Project Coordinators at the ACWW Triennial Conference in Warwick, England last August. And through that connection we had an ongoing flow of information about the trials and tribulations and many great successes the Yenzanathi Community had with that project. As you'll see by the final report (page 9) this community used the expertise and resources available to make not only the Garden project a success (yes, those are cabbages the members are carrying in the photo), but were able to provide a water pump for the Goxhill Primary School - 200 pupils and no water supply. Can you imagine - no running water?

So you see, your donations to this fund are used wisely and with great success for so many who would otherwise go without. YOUR DONATIONS DO MAKE A DIFFERENCE IN THE LIVES OF MANY! And this fund only grows by your donations.

We are always pleased to share ACWW / International Cooperation with our members. Sylvia was the guest speaker this spring for the Annual Meeting of New York Division. Also attending that meeting was President Rita Urbanski. Kay will speak to the Saginaw Branch in the Spring of 2018 for their International Cooperation Day meeting. Sheila is happy to share her experiences and we are always available to answer questions.

Remember, to learn more, to share more, and to understand more of our International connection, you can join ACWW as an individual member and support the work of this amazing organization. You'll receive the Countrywomen magazine, with which you can share information with your members in your newsletters and at meetings. Their web site is www.acww.org.uk

Most sincerely, Kay Engelhart

FINAL REPORT

South Africa—Water Harvesting for Completion of Yenzanathi Community Garden Project—No. 1005



The original plan for this project was to install a solar-powered pump to bring water to the surface at the Yenzanathi Community Garden, to complete the work carried out as a result of project 0980 'Drilling a Borehole for Yenzanathi Community Upliftment Project Garden'.

Bernadine Hay, the Project Coordinator for FWI's of Kwazulu Natal, has communicated regularly with ACWW Central Office and advised that, unfortunately, the borehole dug earlier had collapsed while the engineers were attempting to change the pipework, and that it would not be cost-effective to do any more work on it. She took advice from experienced contractors and also worked with 'Food and Trees for Africa' (an organisation which has already done some training of the beneficiaries). It was decided that the best way forward would be to change the focus of the project to water harvesting, using water tanks, one of which had already been built thanks to project 0980. The new plan was to enlarge a ditch which is fed by a spring, leading to

a dam, and to pump the water from there to the tanks, from where it would be gravity fed by drip irrigation pipes directly to the plants.

The Projects Committee Chairman approved this change and the work was carried out:- two further water tanks were built, trenches were dug, pipes and connecting hoses were laid, valves were secured to prevent wastage, and a generator was installed to pump the water up to the tanks.

Now that water points are positioned over a large area, there is the capacity to increase the size of the vegetable garden. The beneficiaries are harvesting fresh vegetables successfully and sending any surplus produce to local markets.

The funds provided for this project were managed very carefully and the Chairman approved a suggestion to use the surplus to provide a water pump for Goxhill Primary School, which has 200 pupils but no water supply (just rainwater tanks), and only pit latrines to use as toilets.



Hazel Herring Civic Improvement Grant

The Troy Garden Club, MI Division, would like to share our completed 2016 Hazel Herring Civic Improvement Grant project. Our application requested assistance with funding to provide a landscaping makeover to the Troy Historic Village's Township Hall. This building serves as the public entrance to the Village and office space for the Village staff. The THV is operated by the Troy Historical Society, a 501(c)(3) non-profit.

Club member Rita Urbanski met with the Village's executive director, Loraine Campbell to collaborate on a plan. Loraine's wish was that the new entrance would convey to any passer-by ; "This is a history museum." Since Troy was founded as a farming community, the idea emerged to combine farming with planting into the new look. The Village's resident blacksmith helped to select "elderly" farm implements that could be incorporated as garden sculpture in the landscape. These artifacts were in storage on the property. This element fulfilled our theme of a history museum focused on farming.

In the fall of 2015, City of Troy employees, Village volunteers and Troy Garden Club members removed the horribly overgrown shrubs and plantings along the entire front and side of the building. After considerable soil amending, some plants were added that fall including a small service berry tree, flowering shrubs and grasses. In late spring of 2016, after receiving the much appreciated WNF&GA Hazel Herring Civic Improvement Grant, the landscaping project continued with the addition of limelight hydrangeas, pink dwarf lilacs, Hypericum, a gold cone juniper, wild berry coneflowers, banana crème Shasta daisies, pink speedwell, variegated Euonymus, bright green Spiraea, perennial geraniums, variegated coral bells, and salvias. The gold cone juniper apparently did not like the location. After giving it a year to get comfortable, it was replaced this spring.

The Troy Historic Village staff and the visiting public enjoy the new look made possible by the WNF&GA grant.
(SEE PHOTOS ON PAGE 11 and 13.)

Hazel Herring Civic Improvement Grant Application

Application being made by (Branch Name): _____

Division (If Applicable) _____ Number of Members: _____

Project title: _____

Project cost: _____ (Estimated, if necessary)

Person submitting application: _____

Address: _____

Phone _____ FAX/e-mail: _____

Application must include the following:

1. A completed application form
2. A written description, no more than three pages in length describing the Project, the Goal, Sweat Equity (who will be involved in the project) and the Total Cost for completion.
3. A copy of this application should be sent to the Branch and Division President for their records.
4. Four digital photos in a .jpg format to be emailed or sent with the application on a CD-Rom to be used in Power Point presentations.

Mail completed application and photos to:

Gerry Howard

212735 Scott Road

Davisburg, MI 48350

Phone: 248-634-3766

gerryhoward323@yahoo.com

Grant recipients are then required to:

Submit a report to Gerry Howard at the above address no later than **May 1, 2018**

(to be processed in time for the Annual Meeting)

and include the following:

1. Brief description of the completed project
2. Include 4 photos as described above.
Please mark with Branch/Division name, date of project and title.
3. Name of person who made application, telephone, e-mail and address

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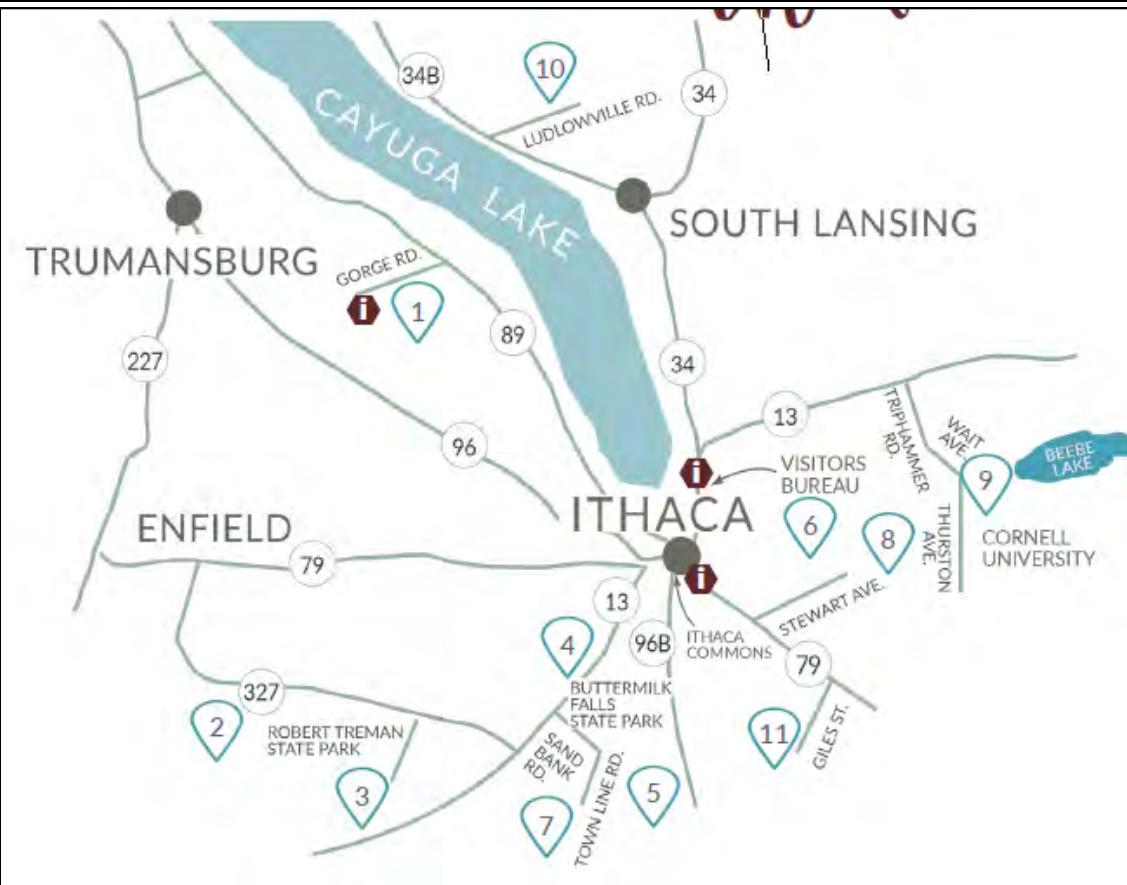


WNF&GA NATIONAL PRESIDENTS

| | |
|---------------------------|---------|
| 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 | 98-2000 |
| 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



1. Taughannock Falls
2. Lucifer Falls at Robert Treman State Park
3. Enfield Falls at Robert Treman State Park
4. Buttermilk Falls at Buttermilk Falls State Park
5. Pulpit Falls at Buttermilk Falls State Park
6. Ithaca Falls
7. Lick Brook Falls
8. Cascadilla Falls
9. Triphammer Falls
10. Ludlowville Falls
11. Businessman's Lunch Falls

**Save the Dates for the WNF&GA's
2018 National Meeting: June 6 – 10**
in New York State's magnificent Finger Lakes Region
INCLUDING
Incredibly Interesting Ithaca!

If history is an interest, you may enjoy visiting:
https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Ithaca,_New_York

The City of Ithaca occupies land at the south end of Cayuga Lake. At 38 miles from north to south, Cayuga is the longest of the Finger Lakes, and its greatest glacier-created depth is 435 feet. At the time of the first European contact, the area was controlled by the Cayuga Indians, one of five nations of the Iroquois League. Today, Ithaca may be best known by non-residents as the home of Cornell University. Watch for full information and a registration form in the next WNF&GA magazine.

Under consideration for our visit are Cornell University & Botanic Gardens, Ithaca College and Natural Lands, Robison NY State Herb Garden, Mundy Wildflower Garden, Cayuga Nature Center, Taughannock Falls State Park, Cornell Teaching Dairy Barn and Orchards, and the Treman Center. We'll view waterfalls, savor fabulous food and visit farm-based breweries and wineries.

Shoppers will enjoy an outdoor pedestrian mall with 100 retail venues.

Be Prepared:
If you will travel to and from Ithaca through Canada,
you must have a passport,
or a passport card or an
enhanced driver's license.

ANNUAL MEETING DETAILS

Why not book your Ithaca hotel room early?

Country Inn & Suites 1100 Danby Rd., Ithaca NY 14850

King and Two-Queen Suites \$159.00 per night for one to two adults. Additional price per person cost - \$15 per night

13% room tax

Non-Smoking Hotel ~ Includes Breakfast Call the hotel directly to book: 607-256-1100
OR

Go to www.countryinns.com/ithacany

Type: **WFARMG** in the promo box.

Booking deadline: May 23, 2018

2018 Woman's National Farm & Garden Association Annual National Meeting
in the Finger Lakes Region of New York State

Bus Registration Form

Depart from Michigan on June 6, 2018 ~ Return on June 10, 2018

Please put the dates on your calendar. We always have fun at our annual WNF&GA National Meetings! In 2018, we will visit the Finger Lakes Region of New York State. Our headquarters will be the Country Inn & Suites in Ithaca, NY.

A trip description and hotel booking information are in separate boxes on page 14 & 15.

From Troy, MI, the bus will head east through Canada, and the trip to Ithaca will take approximately 8.5 – 9 hours, stops included. We will keep you posted about other pickup points.

The bus is FUN! Please plan to join us.

Driving yourself? NO charge to park at the hotel.

**NOTE: Documents REQUIRED for land travel through Canada are
a passport OR a passport card OR an enhanced driver's license.**

Total bus cost: \$150.00. Deposit: \$75.00. To reserve your seat, send your deposit as soon as possible.

The final payment of \$75.00 will be due on or before April 15, 2018. **NO REFUNDS, PLEASE.**

Please PRINT NEATLY to insure your information can be recorded accurately.

Name _____ Branch _____ Division _____

Street Address _____ City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Home Phone _____ Cell Phone _____

Email address _____ Member _____ OR Guest _____

Make deposit of \$75.00 payable to: WNFGA Meeting Fund. Write "bus deposit" on the memo line.

Mail your check and a completed copy of the registration form (make a copy for yourself) to:

Helen Jositas, 2834 Shannon Dr., Oakland, MI 48363

Questions? Contact Helen: 248-766-2300 OR rjositas@aol.com

ANNUAL MEETING DETAILS



Used with permission, Ithaca Visitors Bureau. Photo credit: From top left, clockwise: Cayuga Waterfront -Kristian Reynolds, Plantations botanical garden Julie Migura, Taughannock Falls - Brad Marzolf, Summer Evening at Stewart Park- Brad Marzolf ,Ithaca Falls- Ithaca Visitors Bureau.

FLORAL ARTS
Sue Vette
National Floral Arts Chairman
susanvette@att.net
248-435-8916

Floral Arts

At this year's National meeting the Bess Mueller Fund was discussed and revised. Our new objective allows branches to utilize the Fund. The Fund will provide a monetary incentive to stimulate an active interest in the floral arts.

Bess Mueller Fund

Supports Judges School, Flower Shows, Floral Arts Program, Workshops and Speakers. It also provides flowers at each annual meeting. The applications are received by the floral arts chair and money dispersed by the E&C treasurer."

Bess Mueller Floral Arts Education Fund

Application

Branches can apply to the Floral Arts Chair prior to March 1.
Note: The money awarded may not fund your entire project.

Branch: _____

Project Title: _____

Event Date: _____

Estimate Expenses: _____

Description of Project: _____

Person Submitting Application: _____

Address: _____

City: _____ Zip: _____

Phone: _____ Email: _____
Susanvette@att.net

Please type or clearly print all information.



What is an invasive species?

An invasive species is a non-native species that causes environmental harm to human, animal or plant well-being.
Invasive species:

1. Mature and reproduce quickly.
2. Spread aggressively.
3. Cause major disruption in the areas in which they are present.

An invasive species may be invasive in one part of the country but not in another. Lake trout are native to the Great Lakes but are considered invasive in Yellowstone Lake where they displace native cutthroat trout. European honeybees are non-native but provide pollination and honey production services so they are not considered invasive.

How do invasive species spread?

People are most often responsible for the intentional and unintentional spread of invasive species:

1. Insects can be transported in wood, shipping pallets and packaging materials.
2. Ballast water from boats and ships may carry aquatic species.
3. Plant material can escape into the wild.
4. Exotic pets may be accidentally or deliberately released into the wild where they can breed.

Why are invasive species so harmful?

1. Many invasive species have no predators to control their populations.
2. Without predators, invasive species can breed and spread quickly.
3. Native wildlife may not have evolved defenses against the invader.
4. Native species may not be able to compete with invasive species that have no predators- the natives must divide their energy between the new invasive species and the pre-existing competitors.
5. Invasive species can interfere with native species breeding or may kill native species young.
6. Invasive species can change the ecosystem by destroying or replacing native food sources.
7. Aggressive non-natives can destroy biodiversity by over-running and outcompeting natives.

What are some examples of invasive species that have become big problems?

- Mammals- Nutria, or swamp rats, dig in the banks of the rivers and rip out plants causing erosion and destroying native habitat for muskrats, crabs and fish.
- Reptiles/Amphibians- Burmese pythons in the Florida everglades have resulted in populations of native deer, muskrats, marsh rabbits, bobcats and possum have declining by as much as 99 percent.
- Aquatic- Zebra mussels' five-year lifespan and high reproductive capacity means each mussel can produce about 100,000 offspring that will reach maturity. The large mussel population results in less food (plankton) for native aquatic species.
- Fungi- Dutch elm disease is spread by elm beetles and has devastated native populations of elms that had no resistance to the disease.
- Virus- West Nile virus is spread by mosquitoes and has caused harm to humans and wildlife, especially birds.



- Birds- Starlings were introduced into the US by Shakespeare fans in the 1890's, they outcompete native cavity-nesting birds, destroy nests and eggs, can consume whole fields of wheat and transmit disease

(European starling was brought to the US in an effort to introduce all animals, referenced in Shakespeare's writings, to North America.

Photo Credit: Tim Felce)

- Insects- Emerald ash borer insects sparkle bright green but their larvae have killed millions of ash trees across the Midwest and Northeast.

Photo Credit: United States Department of Agriculture-Hungry Pests



- Plants- Japanese knotweed grows aggressively along roadsides, wetlands, wet depressions and stream and river banks where it outcompetes native plants and releases an inhibiting chemical to suppress the growth of natives.

Japanese Knotweed is wildly aggressive and can crowd out all nearby vegetation.

Credit: Minnesota Department of Agriculture

What can we do to limit the spread of invasive species?

The most effective way to stop the spread of invasive species is to prevent them from being introduced and established in the first place.

1. Plant native species in your garden.
2. Learn to identify invasive species and remove them before they get established and spread.
3. Keep your boots, gear, boats, tires and garden tools clean so they don't inadvertently spread seeds and insects.
4. Buy firewood near where you will be using it to prevent the spread of invasive insects and pathogens.

FARM & GARDEN DIVISION & BRANCH UPDATES

Pennsylvania Bucks County

On June 17th, over 120 people participated in the ***Designed for Nature Garden Tour*** presented by the Bucks County (PA) Branch, in partnership with Bowman's Hill Wildflower Preserve (BHPW) and Audubon Pennsylvania. Six residential gardeners, including three members of our Branch, showcased their transition to the use of native plantings and creative water management. Member Cyndee Anstey, lead organizer of the event, built on the success of last year's tour. "People who go on the tour are really excited to learn more about plants that they can bring to their own gardens, actually seeing them in a habitat where they are thriving, and seeking to contribute in their own way to sustaining biodiversity." Native plants are available to purchase during the tour. Gardens vary in size from small Borough plots to large properties, and from a casual look to a more manicured presentation. "I am already hearing about possible gardens for a 2018 tour," said Cyndee.

As University of Delaware Professor Doug Tallamy said in his book **Bringing Nature Home**, "As gardeners and stewards of our land, we have never been so empowered – and the ecological stakes have never been so high."



Member Barbara Brown's garden featured three native bee houses.

Member Nancy Deni paints a rain barrel to raffle at the tour.



FARM & GARDEN DIVISION & BRANCH UPDATES



Tri County Flower Show

It was a spectacular show thanks to Betty Churchill's beautiful outdoor mural and setup. Also thanks to Ruthie Ricketson and her husband Bruce for staging inside the Masonic Hall. It truly transformed the setting into a Seaside retreat. In the design division, 16 designers received a total of 16 blue ribbons, 9 red ribbons and 3 yellow ribbons in 28 different designs. Jackie Barg received the Lorraine Bardin Petite Rosette for her design in the tidepool treasures category, as well as the Betty Monahan sweepstakes award in horticulture. Janine Thomas received the Wallman/Weiss creativity Rosette for her design in the beach category. First time designers Karen Campbell, Karelia Melendi and Jan Spielberger all received blue ribbons. In the horticulture division, Molly Biggs Celani received the Nancy Rathbun Rosette for most outstanding horticulture entry. It was a fabulous succulent collection displayed in her hypertufa container. 13 gardeners entered 91 entries which received 59 blues, 25 reds, 5



yellows and 2 honorable mentions. Peggy Lynch setup the education division entitled, " seashells by the shore". Rachel Quackenbush hosted the welcome table and recorded over 170 folks who attended. Outside other members sold raffle tickets, plants, and baked goods. All proceeds from the day went into our scholarship fund which go to graduating local high school seniors who will study fields similar to our garden club's mission.



First picture- Rachel Quackenbush welcomes visitors to "By the Beautiful Sea."

Second picture - Molly Celani presents Jackie Barg with Betty Monahan sweep-stake and the Lorraine Bardin petite award for for her design in "Tide Pool Treasures," an 8" design.

Third picture -Children enjoy the entrance to our show.

Fourth picture - Janine Thomas' outstanding Wallman/Weiss creativity award design "The Beach."

FARM & GARDEN DIVISION & BRANCH UPDATES

Rochester Garden Club Supports High School Science Studies
Two environmental science teachers in the Rochester School District had a problem. Each teacher wanted to give his students a better opportunity to learn about the environment, but there was not enough money in the budget to fulfill his wishes. To solve their problem, the teachers applied for a special projects grant from the Rochester Garden Club, and

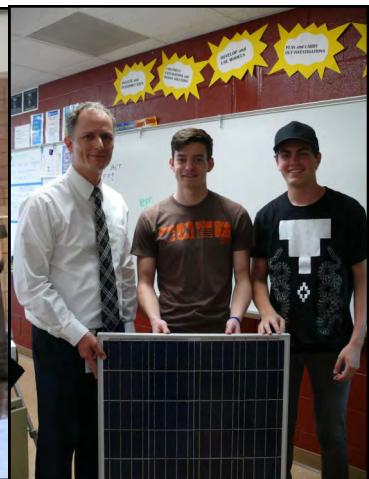
the club responded with grants totaling over \$4000.

At Rochester High School, the Advanced Placement (AP) Environmental Science classes perform aquatic studies on Paint Creek and Trout Lake in the Bald Mountain Recreation area. Students don waders to enter the water, collect samples and measure critical elements that can indicate the water quality of the system. In years past, students did not have enough waders for everyone, which limited the time each student could participate in the study. "Every year I hear students say that they wanted to get into the water but couldn't because of the lack of waders. With more waders, we can be more efficient and the saved time will allow me to enhance other parts of the trip," explained science teacher Brandon Shurter.

At Stoney Creek High School, AP Environmental Science teacher Don Wilson was struggling to improve his classroom green house and hydroponics system. He built much of it himself, and used limited resources to keep the green house barely operational. The lack of grow lights reduced the active growing season to a few months per year. His dream was to purchase high quality lights and a solar power system to operate the hydroponic system and some of the grow lights. "Now that we can grow plants reliably, we can use them for Environmental Studies, Botany, Biology, and even some Microbiology classes," explained Wilson. "In addition, we can start vegetables to be transplanted to the raised bed gardens on the school grounds."

One of the missions of the Rochester Garden Club is to support environmental education in the greater Rochester Community. In addition to educational grants, the club offers full scholarships to the week-long 4-H Environmental Summer Camp to qualified middle school students, and supports one graduating senior each year, who will be studying environmental science, agriculture or horticulture with a college scholarship of \$1500. Funds for these grants, scholarships and other community services performed by the Rochester Garden Club are raised through the annual Greens Market, a holiday destination for hundreds of area shoppers seeking beautiful, affordable holiday arrangements and handmade gifts. The sale begins the week after Thanksgiving. The club also sponsors the Rochester Garden Walk held this year on June 15.

Visit www.RochesterGardenClub.org for details.



Picture on left is club member Susan Gerrits and teacher Don Wilson from Stoney Creek in the green house with the grow lights.

The second picture is a group from the AP Environmental Science class with their teacher Brandon Shurter in the center rear. Also, at left is club member Susan Gerrits. They are displaying the waders that were purchased with the money.

The third picture shows teacher Don Wilson and students Isaac Kozak and Miles Vedder displaying the solar panel.



Nora Tebben was honored with the National Judges Council Chair Emeritus award at a tea named in her honor. Mrs. Tebbens Tea is hosted by the Lapeer Wildflowers Branch and has just celebrated its 11th year.



Glorious Shade: Dazzling Plants, Design Ideas, and Proven Techniques for Your Shady Garden By Jenny Rose Carey

Shade is one of the most common garden situations homeowners have, but with the right plant knowledge, you can triumph over challenging areas and learn to embrace shade as an opportunity instead of an obstacle. *Glorious Shade* celebrates the benefits of shade and shows you how to make the most of it. This information-rich, hardworking guide is packed with everything you need to successfully garden in the shadiest corners of a yard. You'll learn how to determine what type of shade you have and how to choose the right plants for the space. The book also shares the techniques, design and maintenance tips that are key to growing a successful shade garden. Stunning color photographs offer design inspiration and reveal the beauty of shade-loving plants.



Membership for Members at Large 2018

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, 2018
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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