

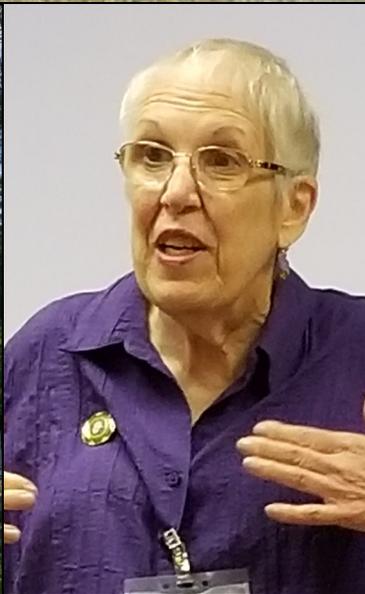
Farm & Garden

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

Fall 2018



Ithaca 2018



Farm & Garden

President

Mary Pat Ford
1322 Kirks Lane
Dresher, PA
215-237-3983
mpf6@hotmail.com

President Elect

Mary Schwark
367 Ferndale
Birmingham, MI 48009
248-593-6182
Schwark@aol.com

Vice President

Position to be filled

Corresponding Secretary

Audrey E. Ehrler
29 Greenbrook Rd. Unit 103
Fairfield, NJ 07004
518-339-4673
dogwood16@hotmail.com

Recording Secretary

Fran Ralstrom
1148 Three Mile Drive
Grosse Pointe Park, MI 48230
313-881-3027
fralstrom@aol.com

E&C Treasurer

Kathleen Welsh Beveridge
1195 Dager Road
Warminster, PA 18974
215-262-1372
kathy@sparknpc.com

A&O Treasurer

Lenore Treba
859 Portsmouth Drive
Troy, MI 48084
248-362-3738
leetreba@att.net

Advisor

Rita Urbanski
2729 Red Fox Trail
Troy, MI 48098
248-540-4249
rzurbanski@gmail.com

**THE MAGAZINE OF
THE WOMAN'S NATIONAL FARM & GARDEN
ASSOCIATION, INC.
Volume 103 No 2 - Fall 2018**

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GET INVOLVED & JOIN US

To form a branch or to join as a single member please contact
Cheryl Malin, National Registrar
707 McDougal Waterford, MI 48317
Cmalin09@gmail.com

The next issue deadline for the magazine is **February 1, 2019**
Send magazine information to
Mary Pat Ford, Editor
1322 Kirks Lane Dresher, PA 19025
mpf6@hotmail.com

Front Cover : Mary Pat Ford
Back Cover : Cindy Nuss

NOTES FROM PRESIDENT Mary Pat Ford

Hello Ladies,
It was great to see so many members who participated in the National Meeting in Ithaca. Thank you. What a time we had. We came together as a team all with common interests looking to our future. We raised a number of concerns about the growth of our organization.

First is membership. As our numbers are decreasing, we need to find ways to add to our membership. There are many ideas being considered, but we must follow through. This can be done by simply encouraging a friend to join. In this respect we are building memberships *and* building friendships. If everyone was successful in this idea our numbers would double.

Second is financial. We need to look into new ways to fully fund our scholarships and to find ways to save on our expenses. One way to fund our scholarships is through the envelope insert which is included in this edition of the magazine. Won't you consider making a donation to one of these worthwhile programs? Every one of these programs could use your support.

Other ways of giving are to include WNF&GA in your:

*wills
savings bonds
charitable lead trust
life insurance policy
retirement plan assets
charitable gift annuity
charitable remainder trust*

More information is on page 5 under "Ways Of Giving."

Another idea is the possibility of opting out of the printed edition of the national magazine. You can elect instead to look at our website to download the magazine or to print it from your computer. We are looking at this idea as an option.

Do you have other ideas or concerns to share? We would love to hear them and put them to work for our organization.

Our next adventure will take place in Toronto Canada on June 5 - 9, 2019. Check out page 14 - 16 for hotel and bus information. Thanks to our planning committee for making this possible. However, they are still looking for your ideas and your help. Please contact Julia Siefker at jverhoff300@gmail.com or 419-233-0064 with your input. Deadline for recommendations is Jan. 1, 2019.

For 2020, we are planning on a visit to Chicago for our National Meeting. What do you know about this city? Have you ever visited Chicago? If you have any input perhaps you could get involved with that planning committee. It is never too early to start and your ideas and suggestions will be greatly appreciated.

I want to thank Leslie Morris-Smith for her involvement in becoming Chairwoman of the Warren Sanders McNaughton Scholarship Program and Nancy Matthews for taking leadership roles in becoming Chairwoman for the Bess Mueller Flower Show Fund and the Floral Arts Program. But there are still positions opened on the national level including Vice-President, Communications Director, Parliamentarian/Protocol and The Schlesinger Library Liaison. Would you consider becoming involved? This is about what we do together as a team, helping us grow and making a difference.

*Make sure to mark your
calendars for **June 5-9**
and join us in
Toronto
Canada for the 2019
National Meeting.*

**I hope you will
join us!**



Mary Pat

Grace E. Frysinger International Project Sharing Emails With Our Members

Kay and Sylvia,

I write on behalf of ACWW to thank you for the donation of \$1000 (which comes to £772.27), received on the 29th August 2018, for the Sustainable Water, Sanitation and Energy Fund. This is a most appreciated contribution. I would be grateful if you could please pass on our thanks to all the members for their generosity.

Donations such as these are what enable ACWW to continue our work in empowering women worldwide to make positive and sustainable progress in their communities and indeed, the world.

Thank you very much for your continued support for ACWW and our very best wishes for the future.

Kind Regards, Sydney Salter, Office Administrator, Associated Country Women of the World
info@acww.org.uk

Hello Sydney,

We're glad to hear you received our donation to the Sustainable Water, Sanitation and Energy Fund. We are pleased to be able to help support this important cause through ACWW. We will pass your thanks on to our members as I know they will be happy to see your appreciation.

Our best to all at ACWW - keep up the great work on behalf of those less fortunate and encourage others to contribute and support these great causes.

Sincerely, Kay Engelhart and Sylvia Anderson Woman's National Farm and Garden Association, Inc.
International Cooperation Chair and Co-Chair

WAYS OF GIVING

You can include WNF&GA in your **will** or trust for a specific dollar amount, a percentage of your estate, or another type of provision to make a gift to WNF&GA and receive potential tax benefits for your estate. If you prefer to restrict your gift to a particular program, just let us know.

You can give gifts of **savings bonds**, but they have tax consequences when transferred to individuals, they may be given to a charity with fewer tax ramifications. If you are thinking about making a bequest to WNF&GA consider funding your bequest with savings bonds.

You can name WNF&GA as a beneficiary of all or a part of a fully paid **life insurance policy** that you have and you may no longer need and you may receive a charitable estate tax deduction.

You can name WNF&GA as a percentage beneficiary of your **retirement plan assets** and your estate will receive the appropriate charitable estate tax deduction.

You can establish a **charitable gift annuity**, a donor makes a gift of cash or appreciated securities to WNF&GA. In exchange the donor is eligible to receive a charitable income tax deduction and receives annual (or quarterly, or semiannual) payments for life. Payment amounts may be made to the donor and are based on the age of the person receiving the payments.

You can set up a **charitable remainder trust** that is established when cash or securities or another asset are transferred into a trust. The donor receives payments from the trust for life or for a term of years (no more than 20). At the end the trust terminates and the assets pass to charity.

You can set up a **charitable lead trust** that is established when cash or securities or another asset are transferred to a trust. The donor arranges for one or more charities to receive payments from the trust. At the end of the trust term, the assets pass to the donor or family members.

You may need to consult your attorney or other advisor before making an estate gift. This information is for informational purposes only and is not intended to act as tax or legal advice. Thank you for your consideration.

Monarchs Are On the Move

I hope that all of you have noticed an increase in our Monarch butterfly population this year. My garden was brimming with Monarchs. Near my gardens on the edge of the forest, there is a large stand of Common Milkweed (*Asclepius syriaca*). I have watched it closely for signs of eggs, larvae (caterpillars) and chrysalis. My Master Gardener Association has included butterfly friendly plants into all of our projects. One that I work on personally is our county medical care facility. What started out as a landscaper's rendition of a rain garden has become an official Monarch Way Station! We have included many plants that Monarchs are fond of including:

Swamp Milkweed (*Asclepius incarnata*),
Butterfly Weed (*Asclepius Tuberosa*),
Whirled Milkweed (*Asclepius verticillate*),
Liatris (*Liatris spicata*),
Joe Pye Weed (Eupatorium) and
Asters to draw them in.

Our efforts have paid off. The garden was alive with orange and black wings all summer. I even spotted a pair of Monarchs mating! By the way, Swamp Milkweed garners more Monarchs than Common Milkweed. It has a lovely white flower and invites more than Monarchs in to pollinate!

There are still other types of Milkweed. I am going to try and find seed for an annual (for Zone 1-8) milkweed called , Tropical Milkweed or *Asclepias curassavica*. It has bright orange flowers like Butterfly Weed and also a variety called



Silky Deep Red, which sports reddish leaves with orange and yellow flowers. There is some controversy about using this plant in the tropics where it becomes perennial and possibly invasive. Also, it is linked to a monarch disease known as OE (*Ophryocystis elektroscirrha*) which results in a high rate of mortality in butterflies infected.

So, if you have property in Florida don't plant this! If spores of OE are on plants grown from seed, they would die in our cold climate, as they could not live through the winter months.

At the very end of this August, a Monarch migration began at Tawas Point State Park. Known as a premier birding area, Tawas Point is also a massing point for Monarchs to fly over Lake Huron on their long trek to Mexico. Monarchs east of the Rockies fly the enormous distance to Mexico each fall. When our day length and temperatures reach a certain point, it triggers their migration. The winds have to be right too. They don't all fly at once. You may see Monarchs as late as November in our area, but these little guys don't stand much of a chance of getting all the way to their final destination.

I hope you are trying to incorporate perennials and annuals into your garden that are butterfly friendly, especially those plants in the *Asclepius* family. Once considered a road side common weed, we now have a better understanding of its importance in the Monarch butterfly's life cycle. A nation-wide initiative to support Monarchs is being made. There are organizations set up to conserve and encourage the public to plant milkweed. The Xerces Society, Monarch Watch, The National Wildlife Federation and the US Fish and Wildlife Service have programs to help Monarchs. A simple internet search will put you in touch with these organizations.

Sources:

Xerces.org Michigan Gardener Magazine

fws.gov "Milkweed for your Garden"

Monarchwatch.org July/August 2018

nwf.org September/October 2018



CHARITABLE AFFAIRS

The Hazel Herring Civic Improvement Grant is awarded to a branch or division requesting help with a civic improvement project. Northville Garden Club, MI Division, was awarded \$800 to further develop a “carpet garden” and a “kitchen garden” at the Yerkes Home in Mill Race Historical Village, Northville, MI. Funds will be used to purchase seeds, flats of plants and vegetables. Vegetables grown will be donated to the Civic Concern in Northville.

Michigan Division has been awarded \$2,200 to design and build gardens around a statue of Matilda Dodge Wilson on the grounds of Oakland University, Rochester, MI. She and her husband donated the land for Oakland University. Matilda Dodge Wilson was WNF&GA president from 1964 – 1966.

The above report was provided by Hazel Herring Civic Improvement Grant chairwoman Gerry Howard.

The Bess Mueller Floral Arts Fund supports judges’ school, flower shows, floral arts programs, workshops and speakers that are open to the public. The fund also provides podium flowers for the annual meeting. The Port Huron Garden Club, MI Division, received a \$200 award. Members are conducting a work shop creating centerpieces for a community horticultural program. An award of \$500 was given to Tri-County Farm & Garden, New York. Their yearly flower show requires new staging, signage and educational handouts. Tri – County would like to add the Challenge Design category to their show; utilizing mechanics and flowers.

This report was provided by The Bess Mueller Floral Arts Fund chairwoman Susan Vette.

The Sarah Bradley Tyson Fellowship is awarded to a woman for advanced study in agriculture, horticulture, or related fields (masters/doctorate) at a school in the United States. Our 2018 recipient is Lina Bernaola Alvarado. She attends Louisiana State University and is a PhD candidate in entomology with a minor in plant pathology. Lina is studying how symbiotic relationships between the rice plant and mycorrhizal fungi affect the plant’s resistance to disease and herbivory. This research will help develop more effective pest management programs for farmers. Lina’s name appears in scientific journal articles including one as the primary author. She recently submitted her abstract for an international conference in Singapore. Her work was accepted and she has been asked to present her paper at the conference. This prestigious honor will help advance her career. Lina would like to work for an agricultural extension helping farmers formulate integrated pest management practices. The \$3,000 Sarah B. Tyson Fellowship award will allow her the opportunity to attend this conference. Because she is currently working for a LSU research lab on a Fellowship she cannot accept additional money through the university without complications. Tyson Fellowship chairwoman, Cindy Nuss, conferred with Mellon Trust and this use of funds qualifies according to the IRS. Lina will submit documentation of expenses including airfare, lodging and conference costs.

Information for this report was provided by The Sarah Bradley Tyson Fellowship chairwoman Cindy Nuss.

Please take the time to review the 2018 Charitable Affairs Report on page 9 summarizing this year’s awards. You will notice that the Warren Sanders McNaughton Oceanographic Scholarship and the Burlingame/Gerrity Horticultural Therapy Scholarship were not funded in 2018. If you would like to see these reinstated then encourage your branch, division and individuals to make donations to support these scholarships. The scholarship money awarded comes from investment earnings which need to grow.

WNF&GA Charitable Affairs 2018

Scholarships / Internships

Francis Plate Bequest: Chairwoman - Cindy Nuss
\$1500 donation given to the **Student Conservation Association**

Sarah B Tyson Fellowship: Chairwoman - Cindy Nuss
\$3,000 awarded to Lina Bernaola Alvarado, PhD candidate in Entomology with a minor in Plant Pathology at Louisiana State University.

Warren Sanders McNaughton Oceanographic Scholarship: Chairwoman – Leslie Morris-Smith
Not funded in 2018

Burlingame/Gerrity Horticultural Therapy Scholarship: Chairwoman – JoAnn Preston
Not funded in 2018

Renaud – Peterson U.S. National Arboretum Internship: Chairwoman Julie Siefker
\$6,900 awarded for the 2018 intern at the U.S. National Arboretum

Sponsorships

Schlesinger Library:
\$500 for storage of WNF&GA documents

Bess Mueller Fund: Chairwoman Nancy Matthews
Funded for \$1,250 (2) Awards given
\$200 awarded to Port Huron Club, MI Division
\$500 awarded to Tri-county Farm and Garden , New York
\$250 for Annual Meeting podium flowers

WNF&GA Temple University Ambler Campus Scholarship:
Chairwoman Mary Pat Ford
\$1,025 for a student of Horticulture

Grace E. Frysinger International Project: Chairwoman Kay Engelhart
\$1000 Provided for a project under the Sustainable Water, Sanitation and Energy Fund

Hazel Herring Civic Improvement Grant: Chairwoman Gerry Howard
\$3,000 awarded for :
Northville Garden Club , MI Division \$800
Michigan Division \$2,200

Hazel Herring Civic Improvement Grant

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.

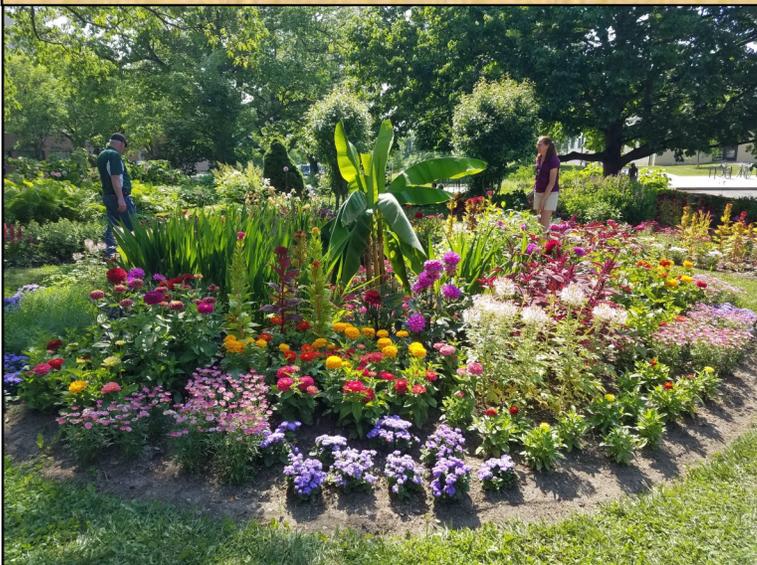
Mail completed application and photos to:

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, 2019**
(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



WOMAN'S NATIONAL FARM & GARDEN ASSOCIATION 2018 - 2019 DIRECTORY

National Officers

President
Mary Pat Ford
1322 Kirks Lane
Dresher, PA
215-237-3983
Mpf6@hotmail.com

President Elect
Mary Schwark
367 Ferndale
Birmingham, MI 48009
248-593-6182
Schwark@aol.com

Vice President OPEN

Corresponding Secretary
Audrey E. Ehrler
29 Greenbrook Rd. Unit 103
Fairfield, NJ 07004
518-339-4673
dogwood16@hotmail.com

Recording Secretary F
Fran Ralstrom
1148 Three Mile Drive
Grosse Pointe Park, MI 48230
313-881-3027
fralstrom@aol.com

E&C Treasurer
Kathleen Welsh
Beveridge
1195 Dager Road
Warminster, PA 18974
215-262-1372
kathy@sparknpc.com

A&O Treasurer
Lenore Treba
859 Portsmouth Drive
Troy, MI 48084
248-362-3738
leetreba@att.net

Advisor
Rita Urbanski
2729 Red Fox Trail
Troy, MI 48098
248-540-4249
rzurbanski@gmail.com

Division President

Michigan Mary Schwark
367 Ferndale
Birmingham, MI 48009
248-593-6182
Schwark@aol.com

Single Branch Presidents

Beacon Hill of New Jersey
Karen Barth
54 Brook Drive South
Morristown, NJ 07960
973-425-0339
ltppear@aol.com

New York Cambridge Branch
Edna Schumacher
7 Jackson St.
Hoosick Falls, NY 12090
518-686-5354

New York Tri-County Branch
Joanna Prouty
926 State Rte. 22A
Hampton, NY 12837
518-796-6731
joannaprouty@aol.com

Ohio Tawa Branch Rhonda Rainey
215 N Main PO Box 22
Rawson, Ohio 45881
419-957-6897
Rainey45881@gmail.com

Ohio Dooryard Branch Pat Kaple
276 Northview Ct.
Ottawa, OH 45875
419-236-1265
patiojak@gmail.com

PA Ambler-Keystone Branch
Cindy Nuss
3274 Susquehanna RD.
Dresher, PA 19025
215-576-6524
Nussci56@gmail.com

PA Bucks County Branch
Karen Kreller
P.O. Box 179
Plumsteadville, PA 18949
215-766-8783
kmkreller@verizon.net

PA West Deer Marion Temple
48 Henry Rd
Tarentum, PA 15084
724-265-2776
Temple1940@comcast.net



2018 - 2019 DIRECTORY

Directors and Chairs

Communication
OPEN

Historian
Janet Leingang
8716 RD 11-H.
Ottawa, OH 45875
419-523-5932
djleingang@bright.net

Loyal Friends Liaison
Audrey Ehrler
29 Greenbrook Rd. Unit 103
Fairfield, NJ 07004
518-339-4673
dogwood16@hotmail.com

Magazine Editor
Mary Pat Ford
1322 Kirks Lane
Dresher, PA 19025
215-654-1486
mpf6@hotmail.com

National Awards
Pat Brown
31616 Lexington Heights
Warren, MI 48092
586-268-0975
Patb501946@comcast.net

Recognitions/Memorials
OPEN

National Registrar
Cheryl Malin
707 McDougal
Waterford, MI 48317
248-421-6093
Cmalin09@gmail.com

Website
Dee Welsh
149 Speer Street
McKees Rocks, PA 15136
412-443-8299
dwelsh149@comcast.net

Charitable Affairs
Karol Carter
5062 Buckingham
Troy, MI 48098
248-641-9331
karolvet@aol.com

Bess Mueller Flower Show Fund
Nancy Matthews
109 Stafford Dr. Ambler Pa. 19422
215-542-6932
fancynancy25@verizon.net

Burlingame/Gerrity Horticultural
Therapy Scholarship
JoAnn Preston
4458 Lancashire
Troy, MI 48085
248-528-2647
Jakpre24@msn.com

Hazel Herring Civic
Improvement Grant
Gerry Howard
12735 Scott Road
Davisburg, MI 48350
248-634-3766
gerryhoward323@yahoo.com

Frances Plate Bequest
Cindy Nuss
3274 Susquehanna Rd.
Dresher, PA 19025
215-576-6524
Nussci56@gmail.com

International/Frysinger Project
Kay Engelhart
1803 Glendale
Saginaw, MI 48638
989-790-1546
kengelhart@hotmail.com

Renaud/Peterson National
Arboretum Internship
Julie Siefker
9355 RDF 11
Ottawa, OH 45875
419-233-0064
Jverhoff300@gmail.com

Sarah B. Tyson Fellowship
Cindy Nuss
3274 Susquehanna Rd.
Dresher, PA 19025
215-576-6524
Nussci56@gmail.com

The Schlesinger Library Liaison
OPEN
Parliamentarian/Protocol
OPEN

Warren Sanders McNaughton
Fellowship
Leslie Morris-Smith
8818 Duveen Drive Wyndmoor PA
19038
215-805-2591
leslm5791@gmail.com

Environment
Suzanne Smith-Oscilowski
416 Gwynedd Valley Drive
Lower Gwynedd, PA 19002
215-740-7264
suzgarden1@verizon.net

Gardening
Louise Shoksnnyder
3970 Hiawatha Trail
National City, MI 48748
989-469-4089
louise446@aol.com

Civic Improvement
Gerry Howard
12735 Scott Road
Davisburg, MI 48350
248-634-3766
gerryhoward323@yahoo.com

Floral Arts
Nancy Matthews
109 Stafford Dr. Ambler PA19422
215-542-6932
fancynancy25@verizon.net

Horticultural Therapy
JoAnn Preston
4458 Lancashire
Troy, MI 48085
248-528-2647
Jakpre24@msn.com

Agriculture J
oette Kunse
9740 Reese Road
Clarkston, MI 48348
248-620-2984
jkhorses@comcast.net

Finance Chair Mary Lynne Moellering
1280 Seville
Rochester Hills, MI 48309
248-651-7005
emlmoellering@wowway.com

2018 - 2019 DIRECTORY

PAST NATIONAL PRESIDENTS

Ruth Gray (80-82)
89 Dirigio Pines Drive
Orono, ME 04473
866-344-3400

Susan Celentano (84-86)
79 Great Pond Road
Apt.233
Simsbury, CT.06070
860-658-1532

Bea Peterson (94-96)
211 Wood Park Lane
Hoosick Falls, NY 12090
518-686-9382
beapeterson@gmail.com

Jean Ehlinger (98-2000)
7000 Aston Gardens Dr. #215
Venice, FL 34292

Kay Engelhart (2000-02)
1803 Glendale Avenue
Saginaw, MI 48638-4055
989-790-1546
kengelhart@hotmail.com

Sylvia Anderson (2002-04)
12 Old Sandown Road
Chester, NH 03036
603-887-4911
sylvial@gsinet.net

Barbara Hochstettler (2004-06)
128 West Yates Avenue
Findlay, OH 45740
419-422-8402
bandjhoch@aol.com

Marla Diamond (2006-08)
22878 E. River Road
Grosse Ile, MI 48138
734-676-6993
marlajdiamond@comcast.net

Mary Bertolini (2010-12)
9934 Cedar Valley Lane
Davisburg, MI 48350
248-245-5300
mgbertolini@aol.com

Julia Siefker (2012-14)
9355 RD 11 Ottawa,
OH 45875
419-538-6739
jverhoff300@gmail.com

Molly Hammerle (2014-16)
32500 Susanne Drive
Franklin, MI 48025
248-855-9231

Rita Urbanski (2016-18)
2729 Red Fox Trail
Troy, MI 48098
248-540-4249
rzurbanski@gmail.com

WNF&GA NATIONAL PRESIDENTS

Mrs. Francis King*	1914-21
Mrs. Russell Tyson*	1921-24
Miss Gertrude Copeland*	1924-27
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Mary Bertolini	2010-12
Julia Siefker	2012-14
Molly Hammerle	2014-16
Rita Urbanski	2016-18

*Deceased



ANNUAL MEETING DETAILS

SAVE THE DATE! EH?
WNF&GA NATIONAL NATIONAL MEETING
TORONTO, ONT. CANADA
JUNE 5TH – 9TH, 2019

Woman's NATIONAL Farm & Garden is going INTERNATIONAL! Join us for a great adventure as we journey to the area of Toronto, Ontario. We will be staying at a lovely boutique hotel appropriately named the Waterside Inn. Located on the west side of Toronto in the village of Port Credit, this unique Mississauga boutique hotel is situated on Lake Ontario! With 94-suites, the variety is sure to please all our members and their guests. In addition, the Breakwater Restaurant, located on the property, is the only restaurant in Port Credit with the Award of Excellence from Wine Spectator, a CAA 4 Diamond Award, and 3.5 Star rating from *Toronto Life*.

Just a short 25-minute drive from downtown Toronto and Pearson International Airport (and the Lakeshore Rd W at Mississauga train station just a walk away from the Waterside Inn) we will be staying at a place like we have never stayed before! The rooms are spacious and elegant with hardwood floors, Persian rugs, European linens, kitchens with appliances, and most have sweeping views of water since the hotel is located right on Lake Ontario and very close to the Port Credit River. Many restaurants, shops, and a huge shopping mall are all located conveniently within walking distance of the Waterside Inn.

Where shall we wander and explore? Casa Loma? The Toronto Botanical Gardens? A supper cruise on Lake Ontario? Second City Comedy Club? A show? CN Tower? Gardens? Museums? And much, much more are all possible!

If you have ever been to Toronto, we would love to hear from you for ideas and recommendations. Please contact Julia Siefker at jverhoff300@gmail.com or 419-233-0064 with your input. Deadline for recommendations is Jan. 1, 2019

An international endeavor such as this takes much more time in planning, so stay tuned to the www.wnfga.org website for registration details and hotel booking info.

When you travel to Canada, you must have a passport, or a passport card or an enhanced driver's license.

TRIVIA QUESTIONS:

1. When does 100 equal 130?
2. What is the nickname for Toronto?
3. What is the NEW 8th Wonder of the World are within an hour or two of Toronto?

TRIVIA ANSWERS

1. When you exchange 100 U.S. dollars for Canadian, you'll get \$130!
2. Hog City
3. Niagara Falls

ANNUAL MEETING DETAILS

Please read carefully. There are several changes from past years!

2019 Woman's National Farm & Garden Association Annual National Meeting in Toronto, Ontario, Canada

Bus Registration Form – 56 passenger Bianco vehicle FIRST COME, FIRST SERVED

Depart from Michigan on June 5, 2019 ~ Return on June 9, 2019

Passenger pickup in two locations: **Laurel Park Place Mall** in Livonia, MI, and the **Troy Community Center** in Troy, MI. The bus will then travel to Port Huron & enter Canada through Sarnia, Ontario.

Attention Port Huron members: It may be possible to schedule a 3rd pick-up in Port Huron.

**NOTE: Documents REQUIRED for land travel through Canada are
(1) a passport OR (2) a passport card OR (3) an enhanced driver's license.**

Total bus cost: **\$150.00**. Deposit: **\$75.00**. To reserve your seat:

Mail your \$75 deposit (anytime **BEFORE** April 15, 2019) AND your final \$75 for receipt **BY** April 15.
OR mail your one-time full payment of \$150.00, which must be received **BY** April 15, 2019.

**Bus reservations received AFTER April 15, 2019, and BY April 30, 2019,
must include an additional fee of \$20.00.**

~ NO REFUNDS ~

IMPORTANT NOTE: If you will not ride the bus **TO & FROM** Toronto, but would like to ride it **AROUND** Toronto, that may be possible *if any bus seats remain available after April 30, 2019.*

The cost for a bus seat while in Toronto will be a one-time payment of \$25 per person.

*****To find out if seats remain, contact Helen Jositas (info below) after 9 am on May 1 (not before!).**

A seat will be held for you provided your payment is received no later than four days after your call.

Please PRINT NEATLY to insure that 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: WNF&GA Meeting Fund. Write "bus deposit" on the memo line.

Mail your check and a completed copy of this registration form (after making a copy for yourself) to:

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

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

I won't ride the bus TO & FROM Toronto, but I may be interested in riding it AROUND Toronto. If so, I will call Helen after 9 am on May 1, 2019, to inquire about availability. Circle: YES

*****If you wish, fill in the blanks above. Next, circle YES immediately above in this box. Finally, mail the form with a check to Helen Jositas to let her know that you may contact her after April 30, 2019.**

ANNUAL MEETING DETAILS

FLORAL ARTS
Nancy Matthews
National Floral Arts Chairwoman
fancynancy25@verizon.net
215-542-6932

Floral Arts

At the 2018 National meeting, the Bess Mueller Fund was discussed and revised. Our new objective allows branches to utilize the Fund for flower shows, floral arts program, workshops and guest speakers that are opened to the public. 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 that are opened to the public. It also provides podium 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: _____ State _____ Zip: _____

Phone: _____ Email: _____

fancynancy25@verizon.net

Please type or clearly print all information.

Tri-County Branch

By Audrey E. Ehrler

I visited The Tri-County Branch in Upstate New York the last week in August. That Branch is in Eastern New York very near the Vermont/New York State Line.

Many years ago the Vermont Division left our organization. A few loyal members continued on when they joined The Tri-County Group that meets in Hartford, New York.

Tri-County was founded by President Louisa King, in Hartford, New York in 1929. Currently, the Branch is preparing to celebrate its 90th year. The Branch has 41 listed in their 2018-2019 Yearbook. There are 29 members from New York, 10 members from Vermont, one member from New Jersey and one member from Florida.



Twenty one years ago, Davene and Jerry Brown purchased Historic Neshoba Island on Lake Bomoseen In Vermont. Prior to that they owned a farm in Hebron , New York. Davene and her Mom, Janet Sheridan of Argyle New York, have been members of the Tri-County Branch for many years. Both women were and have been active members and true leaders in their communities and in WNF&GA for many years.

The Branch has many long standing members who are proud of the history and accomplishments that have occurred through the years. They are a Friendly Group who welcome new members openly. Many of the new members from Vermont and New York have joined our organization due to Davene Brown's friendly and gracious hospitality. I was pleased to meet many of them at the branch picnic held on August 29th at Neshoba Island. They are amazing interesting women with leadership qualities. So, I took the opportunity to speak to them about representation on the National level of WNF&GA. I also thanked them for their generous gift to support the Renaud Peterson Internship at the United States National Arboretum in Washington, D.C.



The Tri-County Branch has held an official flower show every year since Mrs. King Founded the Branch in 1929. They have received many honors and awards for their fine work. The Branch does still have a few trained flower show judges, as does the Cambridge Branch in New York. But, they cannot judge their own flower shows. Our organization supported programs to train judges in the past. But, that program seems to have been dropped in favor of other interesting projects.

Consequently, the Tri-County Branch has found it necessary to call upon The Federated Garden Club of America to send their members to judge our flower shows In New York. The cooperation with the Federated Club has been beneficial and educational.

Cooperative Interaction with other liked minded groups is "A Good Thing!"

Respectively submitted by Audrey E. Ehrler ,

A Different Kind of Garden: The Intersection of Life and Other Plans

By Mary Schwark, President-Elect

“Life is what happens to you when you’re busy making other plans.” Some may remember those words from John Lennon’s song *Dear Boy* (aka *Beautiful Boy*). A nearly identical quote, however, actually pre-dates Lennon’s 1980 song. Cartoonist Allen Saunders is credited with using it in 1957.

If the words seem familiar, but not because of Lennon or Saunders, perhaps the quote rings true because, so often in the hustle and bustle of daily existence, that’s just how life plays out.

Have you ever felt that way about your garden? Maybe you’ve spent chilly evenings searching through your photos, magazines and

catalogs. You’ve made garden sketches – in your head or on paper. You’ve chosen color schemes. You’ve explored plant nurseries online and in person. You’ve prepared your planting areas. You’ve made your plans. List in hand and plastic in your pocket, you’re eager to purchase.

But life happens. Your must-have plants are not available at all or in the colors and quantities you’ve carefully selected. Or you decide that what you’ve chosen will be too costly. Or it turns out that some of your planned purchases are marginal choices for your planting zone. Or all of the above!

Maybe you received a friend’s pass-along plant with excellent planting advice and assurances that it would behave and grow beautifully with minimal care. And maybe, despite your best efforts and intentions, the plant failed. Life happens.

WNF&GA registrar (and also Michigan Division registrar) Cheryl Malin, her husband and their children recently experienced life’s interruption of plans in their family “garden,” specifically in their “genetic garden.” As Cheryl tells the story, “On September 5, Skip and

I, our son Jeff, and his girlfriend Rachel flew to Nashville. Our daughter Darcy was unable to join us due to her MBA studies and nearly continuous travel crisscrossing the country for work.” In Nashville, Cheryl, Skip, Jeff, and Rachel met Jeff’s half-brother Ben and his parents Art and Melinda Klar during the September 6 taping of the *Pickler and Ben Show*, hosted by Kellie Pickler and Ben Aaron. Cheryl describes the show as “a mix of fun and human interest stories, not gossip or politics.” (www.picklerandben.com)

So half-brothers met for the first time. Why the fuss? Life was definitely happening.

Last year Jeff sent his “spit specimen” to *23 and Me*. Because he was adopted from South Korea, Jeff and his adoptive family were not surprised to learn that he is mostly Korean and a little Japanese. He has no major risks for disease and no relatives were listed. Jeff didn’t revisit the website and then moved on.

In May 2018, Jeff received an unexpected email from a young man by the name of Ben Klar. A member of the U.S. Air Force, Ben is stationed near Knoxville,

Tennessee, where he grew up and where his parents still live. Ben had just received his own DNA results from *23 and Me*, and he provided Jeff with evidence that they are half-brothers on their birth father's side. The two young men's paternal haplogroup* codes are identical. Partly because Jeff had moved on from his *23 and ME* experience, he was initially skeptical of Ben's information ... until he confirmed it himself with the company. Jeff and Ben have been communicating ever since.

It turns out that Ben had been born in a South Korean town only a few miles from where Jeff was born about two years later. Both were adopted by American parents.

Jeff has a degree in advertising and works for Finn Partners, a public relations firm in Detroit. It occurred to him to contact *23 and Me* to ask if they might like to use the half-brothers' story for publicity.

Fast Forward to the Nashville trip. The *Pickler and Ben Show* provided roundtrip airfare from Detroit to Nashville and hotel accommodations for one night. The Malins stayed on for a few more days with rel-

atives in nearby Franklin, Tennessee. That afforded them the opportunity to spend more time getting to know the Klars. According to Cheryl, "We had a wonderful time with them and, as a result, we've enlarged our family circle. It has been an exciting and heartwarming experience for all of us."

Consider that the wonderful experience never would have happened if one or neither of the brothers had not "spit in a tube" at all, or if they had used two different testing companies.

The combined Malin-Klar families' story is an exam-

ple of life happening and coincidence at their loveliest. Plan away busily. Spit in a tube. If you meet a previously unknown half-sibling, enjoy your newfound family and celebrate together in a lively city. Or be brave in the garden and choose at least a few of your plants with abandon and adventure. If your vibrant coneflowers revert to a nondescript no-color, appreciate the surprise.

"Life is what happens to you when you're busy making other plans."

** A haplogroup is a group of similar haplotypes. A haplotype is a group of genes in an organism that are inherited together from a single parent.*



NOTE:

The *Pickler and Ben Show* featuring Jeff Malin and Ben Klar aired on ABC in the southeast Michigan market on Monday, September 24, 2018, at 3:00 pm.

Thank you to WNF&GA registrar Cheryl Malin for being willing to share her family's fascinating story.

Jeff Malin on the right, Ben Klar is on the left

The Renaud/ Peterson Internship

The Renaud/ Peterson Internship was established 28 years ago. Past Presidents Marian Renaud and Bea Peterson donated funds to establish this project.

The purpose was to provide extra help to care for The Dogwood Collection during the hot summer months in Washington D.C. And, to give worthy university students the opportunity learn from and work alongside the professional staff at the U. S. National Arboretum.

WNF&GA members have generously continued to support 26 students from many universities throughout our nation. They are “ The cream of the crop” preparing for careers in the field of agriculture, horticulture, biology, landscape design and environmental concerns. We have only missed one year, 1996, due to lack of funds!

Supervisor Horticulturist, Carole Bordelon, has notified me that our 2018 Intern will be arriving in late May. Jaimie Woll, a Graduate of the University of New Mexico, has completed her studies in the field of horticulture. Jaimie is the 27th Intern to work in the Dogwood Collection through the generosity of WNF&GA members.

Another organization has granted Jaimie the funding to remain at the Arboretum for a full 24 weeks, She will be working in both the fern collection and the dogwood gardens until November. We agreed to this joint venture several years ago. Both collections need special attention in the hot summer months, but also in the Autumn! A good fall Clean-up has proven to be very desirable for delicate ferns and dogwoods.

Thank You for your continued interest and support of our beloved dogwood garden. Your generosity has given many fine young students a good start in their chosen careers.

Respectfully Submitted, Audrey E. Ehrler for Julia Siefker WNF&GA Liaison to the U. S. National Arboretum



Intern Update Former intern Andrew Fangmeyer created a Power Point presentation that discussed a project that he completed about the relationship between WNF&GA and the U.S. National Arboretum. He stated, “The project consists of a tour that will highlight a few points of interest while guiding the visitor on a loop through the collection. The tours will be accessible through our free smartphone app, and consist of a few pictures and a short excerpt providing a brief synopsis or history of the specific feature at the given marker. Currently, the tour loops through and highlights some of the donations and joint projects between the WNF&GA and the Arboretum from the past years including the dedication of the collection to Louisa King, the river overlook, the fountain, a few dedicated benches, and special tree plantings, and a mention of some pink poppies that I was gifted by Carrie and Sylvia of the Michigan division of the WNF&GA that we are excited to add to the garden this year.



“My presentation was a bit of a timeline leading up to where we are today in the collection. The experience has been great! I am continuing my education in horticulture and agriculture and plan on pursuing a degree in plant science or some sort of preservation/natural resource management.”

**Woman's National Farm & Garden Association
Endowment to Support that U.S. National Arboretum Intern
for the WNF&GA Dogwood Garden**

The Woman's National Farm & Garden Association conceived the idea for a Dogwood Collection at the United States National Arboretum (USNA) in 1948 and has provided funds for major structural features, specimen trees, and maintenance of the garden since its dedication in 1952. A major challenge of the garden has always been its maintenance. The WNF&GA pays for a summer intern each year to keep the Dogwood Collection in good order. The cost to support the intern increases each year and fundraising often falls short.

The Renaud Peterson Endowment was created during the term of National President Bea Peterson (1994-96). Mrs. Peterson promised to walk from New York to the USNA in Washington DC to raise money to endow the annual internship. The funds she raised were added to another, earlier major gift from Mrs. Marion Renaud and were invested so that only the interest can be expended for the purpose of supporting the annual summer internship. As the costs of the internship have increased, they have outpaced the interest generated by the endowment. Additional fundraising takes place every year to make up the difference.

The funds donated by the New York Division of WNF&GA on the occasion of its ceasing operations in 2017 (\$36,272.55) have been added to the Renaud Peterson endowment fund (\$70,747.42 as of 12/31/2017). Together, these funds are set aside in a restricted endowment that is dedicated exclusively for the support of the annual USNA Dogwood Collection internship.

WNF&GA is gradually migrating all of our Charitable investments, using a dollar cost averaging approach over an 18-24 month period, from a portfolio comprised of nearly 100% fixed income investments that yielded relatively low (4%) return each year to a new indexed funds approach with approximately 55% - 65% equities. This approach will mean more volatility but we believe it will bring superior returns of approximately 7%. The indexed fund approach selected is less expensive to buy and to own but replicates the performance of the market, trending consistently upward over time. With the addition of NY Division funds to the Renaud Peterson Endowment and the gradual increase in returns on WNF&GA investments, we believe the endowment will eventually provide enough earnings each year to support the cost of the internship and will keep pace with cost increases over time.

The leadership of WNF&GA is grateful to the former leaders and members of the New York Division for their generous support that will make it possible to maintain the Dogwood Collection at the United States National Arboretum in perpetuity. This garden is a nationally prominent, lasting legacy of WNF&GA that is available for the enjoyment of all. Within the Dogwood Collection, the sacrifices and contributions of the New York Division, Mrs. Renaud, Mrs. Peterson, and all of the members of WNF&GA will be cherished for all time.

Donations may be sent to our E & C Treasurer, Kathleen Beveridge at 1195 Dager Road Warminster, PA. 18974



The New York Division

FARM & GARDEN DIVISION & BRANCH UPDATES

Bucks County Branch of the Woman's National Farm & Garden Association

By Karen Kreller Bucks County Branch President

We awarded our first scholarship this past May to a graduate student in the Master in Public Policy program at Delaware Valley University in Doylestown. The scholarship enabled Marian Rubin to attend the 2018 Agricultural, Food, and Human Values Society Conference in Madison, Wisconsin, where she co-presented the paper she co-authored with two professors – *“Integrating Food, Farming, and Values: Farmer Perceptions on their Role in Sustaining Agriculture in Bucks County, Pennsylvania.”* We welcomed her as a guest speaker at our September 2018 meeting.

On June 16th, in partnership with Bowman's Hill Wildflower Preserve (BHWP) and Audubon Pennsylvania, we presented the third ***Designed for Nature Garden Tour***, featuring six residential gardeners showcasing their transition to the use of native plantings and creative water management. Members Doris McKay and Jane Neal offered their gardens for the tour this year. Missy Halter chaired the event with the help of an able and enthusiastic committee. Knowledgeable members and BHWP volunteer naturalists provided information and expertise about plants and pollinators. We welcomed people from our sister Ambler Keystone branch: National President Mary Pat Ford, President Cindy Nuss, Jo Ambrose, and Leslie Morris Smith.

Branch President Karen Kreller and member Cathy Mazauskas were pleased to meet many members at the WNF&GA Annual Meeting in Ithaca. First time attendees, we thoroughly enjoyed the venues and activities and meetings – not to mention being chauffeured by Kathy Welsh Beveridge in her van. Thank you to everyone!



Garden tour guest checking out the Bug Hotel at the Neal garden.



Garden tour guests buy native plants from past president Nancy Wasch.



Garden tour host and WNF&GA member Doris McKay in her garden

Temple University WNF&GA Scholarship

Hello WNF&GA members! My name is Hannah Maakestad and I had the honor of receiving the WNF&GA scholarship in my last year at Temple University while pursuing my degree in horticulture. I cannot give enough thanks to the support this provided and how impactful it was in helping me complete my studies. I first fell in love with horticulture when I was 16 after moving from Houston, Texas to the great Pennsylvania. I immediately felt the impact of the lush greens of spring and the summer blooms that quickly followed. Since then, I have been gladly learning more about plants and the natural world that surrounds me. I ardently studied for two years at Longwood Gardens in their professional gardening program which led me to finishing my bachelors of science at Temple. Receiving this scholarship allowed me to take over 18 credits in one semester and not feel the weight that tuition often brings to someone supporting themselves in their educational journey. I was able to focus on my studies and graduate this past December.

Today I am working as a lead floral designer for Terrain at Styers in Glen Mills. I also have opportunities to get my hands in the dirt by working for local private clients designing and installing seasonal containers and gardens. Being able to work creatively with flowers while also using my horticultural knowledge is truly a dream come true. I was often torn between the two disciplines but I have managed to balance my passions and that is something of true reward.

Thank you all for supporting this association and for supporting my journey in horticulture as well.

Kindly, Hannah E. Maakestad

Membership for Members at Large 2019

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 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!

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