

Farm & Garden

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

Fall 2019





Toronto 2019 Annual Meeting

Farm & Garden

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**THE MAGAZINE OF
THE WOMAN'S NATIONAL FARM & GARDEN
ASSOCIATION, INC.
Volume 104 No 2 - Fall 2019**

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Front Cover : Mary Pat Ford
Back Cover : Cindy Nuss

NOTES FROM PRESIDENT Mary Pat Ford

Hello again,

We are in the first weeks of autumn and it seems that there is still so much to do in the garden. Every time I complete a chore and take it off the to-do list, another chore is added. Many major projects were completed, but having two gardeners in the household, new ideas are always being discussed, formulated, designed and added to the list. We live in an old farmhouse that needs work as much as the garden, but when the weather is nice, garden work always takes preference.

This year we have a new visitor to our gardens - the spotted lantern fly. A beautiful invasive insect, it was first found in Berks County, Pennsylvania (about 40 miles away from us) and it eats more than 70 types of plants including fruit trees, grapes, hops, as well as pine and oak trees. The lanternfly has specialized mouth parts that it uses to penetrate a plant to suck out the sap, weakening the plant. The spotted lanternfly has caused more damage in less time than any invasive insect in our region, and it is multiplying more rapidly than anyone can learn how to handle it. Its egg masses sticks to houses, decks, railings and patios and the adult clings onto a variety of hard surfaces, including cars, trucks and trains, allowing it to travel and

further infest the region. It also produces a gooey excretion, or "honeydew," that attracts insects and a sooty mold that can kill an already weakened plant. A fungus has been found that kills the insect, but a more practical method of killing these leaf jumpers is to just stomp them.

We are also suffering from the emerald ash borer which has killed all of our ash trees. It is amazing how many standing dead trees surround our neighborhood. We lost a large prized Japanese maple in our garden. This year it did not leaf out and still stands as a reminder of what once was in the corner of the garden. This part of the garden is full sun now, so I've adding another job to the list, moving shade loving plants to another location and adding sun loving plants to these beds.

The 2020 Annual National Meeting will be held in Louisville, Kentucky on June 3 -7. All members are invited including members-at-large. We will stay at the Embassy Suites Louisville Downtown
501 S. Fourth Street,
Louisville, KY 40202
Direct: 502 813 3813
embassysuites.com.

Reservations can be made with the hotel by calling 502.813.3800. Next press the option for reservations and request the negotiated group rate for the WNF&GA 2020 National Meeting block (Group Code: WNF). The rooms

will be offered for \$189 a night plus a \$16.07% tax.

I encourage you to join us for the 2020 Annual Meeting. Your attendance helps us with the cost of the venues we visit and all of our expenses. Significant others are also invited and encouraged to attend. I am looking forward to seeing you in Louisville. Just put it on your to do list.

*Make sure to mark your calendars for **June 3-7** and join us in **Louisville Kentucky** for the **2020 National Meeting**. Everyone is invited! I hope you will join us.*



Mary Pat

In Memory of Dorothy Zippel

Past president of the Pennsylvania Division, Dorothy Zippel, passed away on April 16, 2018. Dorothy was a long-standing member of WNF&GA. Dorothy was a member of the Berkley Hills Branch in Pittsburgh, PA. Under her leadership, the Branch supported horticultural projects at public schools and senior care facilities nearby. Dorothy also took great interest in civic community projects in the Pittsburgh area. Her love of nature and gardening was truly evident in her daily life. It is not at all surprising that Dorothy's peers requested that she represent them as President of the PA Division.

Many of you may remember meeting this kind, friendly woman and her daughter Susan at the annual National Meetings. Dorothy's loyalty and dedication to our organization, her community, and her friends and family will be remembered for many years to come.

We are so grateful for the generous donation given by the Zippel family to support the Renaud/Peterson Internship Program at the Dogwood Collection in the U.S. National Arboretum. A future intern will be able to carry on many of the ideas that Dorothy Zippel fostered and supported. When we support scholars interested in horticulture, farming, environmental sciences, biology, landscape architecture and gardening, we secure our future.

In 2020 we will be supporting the 29th intern to learn and work in the beloved Dogwood Collection we have built and maintained since 1932. If you are interested in donating to this project, please contact our E & C Treasurer, Kathleen Beveridge. kathy@sparknpc.com

Respectfully submitted by Audrey E. Ehrler - Liaison to the U. S. National Arboretum



Dorothy and Susan Zippel

Fall Clean-Up of Your Garden

Haven't we always been told that we need to tidy up the garden beds in the fall? This meant cutting back perennials, raking leaves from beds, making every thing neat. This would prevent disease and insects from getting a foothold. If I didn't get to all the prescribed work in the garden, I felt great guilt all winter. But, on second thought, is it the best treatment of our environment? Can our fall chores be lightened for a very noble reason?

Actually, there is more than one reason not to clean up your garden beds in the fall. According to Doug Tallamy in his seminal book [Bringing Nature Home](#), it is a far better thing to keep the garden messy in the fall. There are at least six reasons to quell the urge to clean up in the fall.

First we want to provide cover for our native bees. Many bees use plant debris to overwinter. Bumble bees, mason bees and leaf cutter bees are among the pollinators who need hollow stems and open ground to hibernate. Queen Bumble Bees burrow into the ground, while Mason Bees have left eggs to mature in hollow stems. Butterflies are another group of insects that use the garden for shelter. They use

leaf litter, bark and dead plant stems to overwinter either as adults, pupae, or eggs. They stay dry and warm in the dead litter of our gardens.

Ladybugs especially over winter in groups in leaf mulch, in rock crevices, or at the base of a plant. We all know that ladybugs are great predators, especially in their larval form. The Asian ladybugs that infiltrate our homes are another story!

Birds relish the messy garden. Seed heads provide food for our native songbirds and migrating birds too. The insects that are protected there in the winter may become a meal for the bird's young in the spring.

Predatory insects, like those in the Lacewing family, spend the winter sleeping in our gardens. They balance the population of pest insects. And finally, the messy garden can be a thing of splendor when snow and frost cover seed heads, seed pods and grass stems. Standing plant stems trap snow and that provides insulation to a dormant plant. Certain plants, like sedums, offer beautiful forms in the winter garden. The spent heads of echinacea, rudbeckia, and grasses have great winter interest for people viewing from the warmth of home. Since I am in Florida for the winter months, I really don't care what it looks like! Sorry....

If you can't help yourself and must be busy in the fall, rake leaves and mulch them. Use them on the garden beds, mulch leaves into your lawns, and create compost piles. If you just can't stand the messy garden look, leave a part of it untouched. Something is better than nothing.

We all have our own level of tolerance. If you need things to do, dig up bulbs that aren't winter hardy and plant spring bulbs. There's lots you can do while the weather holds.

If your neighbors or homeowners' association question your messy garden, explain to them why you are leaving it in this way. Maybe they will join the team! Again, we all have a level of tolerance, and you can't leave yourself vulnerable to fines or ill feelings.

So, lean back, enjoy the fall color, and relax! You are helping the environment by being lazy!

Sources:

Habitat Network, Becca Rodomsky-Bish;
National Wildlife Federation,
Melanie Radzicki McManus;
Doug Tallamy, [Bringing Nature Home](#)



A Must-Read

It's that time again. Another Board of Officers will step down in June. They have given of their time and talents to lead your organization. Now it is time for you to step up. Our slate of officers includes: President, President-elect, Vice President, A & O Treasurer, E & C Treasurer, Recording Secretary and Corresponding Secretary.

We have candidates for President and the two Treasurers, but we need you to fill the other spots. Our monthly board meetings are by phone and we have an annual meeting for all members. Your bylaws explain the duties of each office. Please feel free to contact any officer with questions.

We need leadership to keep our organization moving forward. Since moving to Florida, I have been made aware of the plight of the sea turtle. I recently read, "Watch the sea turtle. He only moves forward by sticking his neck out." Are you willing to stick your neck out to keep us moving forward? I will be waiting to hear from you.

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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*, for which 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.

Consult your attorney or other advisor before making an estate gift. The information above is for informational purposes only and is not intended to act as tax or legal advice. Thank you for your consideration.

What I Learned from Chickens!

I had an idea that when I moved out to the country, life would be a little simpler. I would have the time and space to raise some of my own food. Seeing chickens walking around a yard as we drove by a country home would always elicit a squeal from me, and a yearning to have the same.

Shortly after moving out of town a year and a half ago, we got into the chicken-raising business. I use the term “we” loosely. My husband was excited building the coop, seeing the chicks and eating the eggs. That is where his interest ended! Fortunate-

ly, being the “Mother Hen” that I am, I embraced our new dependents and the responsibility with enthusiasm.

I thought that four chickens would be a manageable number to raise and meet our needs. I quickly learned that state law required the purchase of a minimum of six chicks at a time. “Really?” The young man at the tractor supply store demonstrated to us how to tell a female from a male chick. He said: “If you pull on the wing and a V shape indentation appeared, it meant it was a female. He diligently checked the wings and was satisfied that we had our six females.” He then introduced us to the aisle that contained all of our start up needs: water feeder, food

feeder, heat lamp and cedar shavings for bedding. Seventy five dollars later, we walked out of the store. Our grandchildren excitedly carried the box of chicks while my hubby loaded the rest of the gear into the trunk.

As we drove home he just looked at me smiled and said, “I hope that we get a lot of eggs.” Things went smoothly for the little chicks, in spite of being held, squeezed, and dropped repeatedly by our excited grandchildren. Within a couple of weeks the cute yellow chicks had

begun to sprout long feathers and took on an unpleasant, ugly duckling appearance. They began to jump and test out their wings. We knew that it was time to move them from the wooden box to a full-sized coop.

The research began! Try the internet to get coop plans. There are hundreds out there and they come in all shapes, sizes, and themes! I studied the plans and became familiar with the basic needs: a raised perch for the chickens to roost on, with about a foot of perch space for each bird; food and water feeders placed away from the perches to keep free of droppings, laying boxes for the eggs, one box for every three to four birds. Good ventilation and ample place to run are also important. We began with a basic plan that boasted it could be built in a weekend! Two weeks later our coop was ready for the growing flock.

Soon after moving the birds to their new home, we started hearing an early morning “cock-a-doodle-doo” each day. Being new to chicken rearing I began to question my city girl smarts. Do hens make the same calls as roosters, I asked myself? After a few weeks of putting up with the early wake-up calls, we determined that we had a rooster and that the tractor supply guys’ sexing method was faulty! I asked around to see if there was anyone who wanted a free rooster and finally found a nice home for him at our niece’s little farmyard. The next day, to our dismay, we woke to another “cock-a-doodle-doo.” We had yet another rooster in our flock. The trouble for me with roosters is that they are aggressive, domineering, don’t earn their keep and can fertilize the eggs being produced by the hens.



My husband recounted this dilemma to his golf buddies one day and a plan was hatched. One of the guys said that he had watched his grandmother butcher chickens when he was a young boy. Although he had never done it himself, he was willing to give it a try. He decided to bring his grandchildren along so that they could experience this memory-making event! One day while I was out, the group met behind the barn and managed to butcher and procure the meat needed for a batch of chicken noodle soup. Finally, we were down to a flock of four chickens, my idea of the ideal size. Sitting out on our back porch a few mornings later, we couldn't believe our ears. "Cock-a-doodle-doo" was coming from the coop! We couldn't believe it, half our original batch had been roosters! It didn't take long for hubby to put his newly learned butchering skill back in practice. We had a nice dinner of rooster that evening, and it tasted just like chicken!

The time from birth to laying their first egg is on average five months. The time will vary with each variety of bird, but it is in the range of four to six months. Chickens will produce about six eggs a week for two years before production will start to taper off. Things that will affect egg production are available fresh water, food, stress and daylight. Waiting for the arrival of our first egg was like waiting for our first-born to arrive. I'd go out to the coop daily to check for an egg, only to find the boxes empty. When the big day arrived I excitedly carried the egg to show my husband. He was as excited as I. Then I placed it in the little wooden eggcup that I had as a child and took first photos! I emailed the pictures to my family in Canada and they acted excited too. Soon we were getting two and three eggs a day!

I was never certain of the number of eggs when the grandchildren collect-

ed them from the coop. Quite often they got dropped on the way into the house or on one occasion the 4 year-old grandsons decided to have an egg fight and came in empty-handed but covered in egg shells, or should I say with egg on their faces. Our son-in-law helped us out by making an "egg basket" with the rule that eggs have to be placed in the basket when taking them to the house. Our rate of return improved greatly with this gift.

During winter months, egg production will fall off unless the chickens are provided with artificial light. We placed the heat lamp that we purchased for them as babies, in the coop for the winter and the egg production did not drop off at all. It also provided extra warmth during cold days.

About the time that our first chicks began to lay eggs, we decided to get some more baby chicks. This time I elected to get them from a more reliable source and called the hatchery in La Rue, Ohio. Once again, I was told that state law requires you to buy six at a time. I ordered six Comets, described as the favored brown egg layer at farmers markets. I requested all females, please. They told me for a fee they would have the chicks sexed on the day they are hatched. They explained to me that a person who is proficient in sexing comes to the hatchery and can deter-

mine the gender, only on the day they are born. After that you will just need to wait and see. They also told me that I would need to pick them up on the day they are hatched because they didn't have room to house them.

A few weeks later, grandsons in tow, we drove to La Rue to claim our girls. Upon arrival we learned that it was our lucky day. We got to pick another for free! I immediately asked if the free ones were female and she reassured me that they were. The boys looked over the box of free chicks and picked a really cute black and white one, a barred Plymouth Rock. We now had a flock of ten!

How and when to introduce new chicks to a flock takes skill and diligence. Chickens in a flock have a definite pecking order and establishing it can be brutal! I researched different techniques and questioned



Continued on page 10



friends who have flocks to learn the best method. I waited until the chicks were about the same size as the older birds to put them in the same coop. For a few weeks prior to that I placed the wooden box of new ones in close proximity to the coop to help them all become familiar with each other. It is recommended that you put branches or objects in the coop that the younger ones can hide under for protection.

When I combined them, the older birds immediately started attacking and pecking at the new coop mates. It got so violent that I had to remove the new birds to keep them from being harmed. After three attempts, several days apart, the birds' order was established. Each bird knows its place and allows the most dominant to have first grabs at food and water. Interestingly, the black and white Plymouth, who looks the most different from the rest, was at the bottom of the pecking order! It took several weeks for feathers to grow back on her neck that was left bare from the pecking.

Raising chickens is very environmentally friendly. I supplemented their diet with food scraps from the kitchen. The waste material from the

coop is used to fertilize the garden, which in turn produces more food. I used wood shavings from my husband's woodshop as bedding in the coop. Nothing is wasted!

A coop should be cleaned out weekly to keep the risk of infection down. Cleaning took me about fifteen minutes to shovel out the soiled bedding and replace it with clean. Fresh water should be available to chickens at all times. An egg is comprised of seventy five percent water, so clean water is vital to egg quality. There was great reward in going to the coop each day and collecting seven to nine eggs. I was able to supply family and friends with great-tasting eggs. Our eldest grandson even got a few customers and sold some of the eggs. When the egg is laid, it is covered in a "bloom" by the chicken. This bloom will keep bacteria from penetrating the porous eggshell. Because of this bloom, eggs can be left out of the fridge indefinitely. In Britain, eggs are not refrigerated in their grocery stores. Once an egg has been washed, the bloom is removed and eggs must be refrigerated.

We were aware that some of our eggs were getting so large that we could not close the egg carton. A friend, who had been raised on a farm, warned us that a really large egg could cause a hen to hemorrhage to death. I was saddened to discover one of our girls dead in the laying box shortly after he had warned us about this. Our chickens and the eggs were always a source of entertainment for our visitors, young and old alike. At peak production we were getting an average of eight eggs a day. We enjoyed giving the eggs away and serving our organic free-range eggs in our kitchen.

When I was diagnosed with cancer this summer I thought that caring for the chickens would not be something I would be able to do for several months. My neighbor graciously accepted my offer to give the whole lot to him. The day that I delivered the chickens, I spent quite a few minutes explaining to our neighbor about chickens and how to care for them. He patiently waited for me to finish, and quietly smiling, replied, "We had ten thousand chickens at home when I was a kid".

Chickens have been an important part of our culture as evidenced by all the references to them in our everyday language: whether we're walking on egg shells, strutting your stuff, chickening out, going home to roost, hatching an idea, counting your chickens before they hatch, scratching out a living, being hen-pecked or having a hen party, saving for our nest egg, putting our eggs in one basket, ruling the roost, running around like a chicken with its head cut off, getting up or going to bed with the chickens, feeling cooped up or flying the coop.

Sometimes a farmer would try to market a chicken born in the fall or winter as a spring chicken, which was thought to be a better producer and more valuable. Thus the phrase was coined "she's no spring chicken" a phrase some of us may relate to!



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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)
246 Parkwood Circle
St. Augustine FL 32086
248-961-0705
rzurbanski@gmail.com

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
Rita Urbanski	2016-18

*Deceased



ANNUAL MEETING DETAILS

SAVE THE DATE!

WNF&GA ANNUAL NATIONAL MEETING

Louisville, Kentucky June 3 –7

Woman's National Farm & Garden is going to the races!
We will travel to Louisville Kentucky, home of the Kentucky Derby.
We will stay at the Embassy Suites Louisville Downtown

501 S. Fourth Street,
Louisville, KY 40202
Direct: 502-813-3813
embassysuites.com

Reservations can be made with the hotel by calling 502.813.3800. Next , press the option for reservations and request the negotiated group rate for the WNF&GA 2020 National Meeting block (Group Code: WNF)
The rooms will be offered for \$189 a night plus a \$16.07% tax.

Reservation deadline is May 13, 2020

Check out www.wnfga.org for registration details and hotel booking info.



ANNUAL MEETING DETAILS



Toronto Paint Night.
Held at the hotel and run by a former student of Mary Pat Ford. Thank you to Alexis and her mom Audra for the creative outlet. We had a blast!

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 open 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 Programs, workshops and speakers that are open to the public. It also provides podium flowers at each annual meeting. The applications are received by the Floral Arts Chair and money is 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.

CHARITABLE AFFAIRS

WNF&GA Charitable Affairs Report 2019

Scholarships / Internships

Francis Plate Bequest: Chairperson – Cindy Nuss
Funded - \$1,500
\$1,500 donation given to the **Student Conservation Association**

Sarah B Tyson Fellowship: Chairperson – Cindy Nuss
Funded - \$4,000
\$4,000 awarded to Paige Bradley, PhD candidate in Environmental Science, Policy & Management at UC Berkeley

Warren Sanders McNaughton Oceanographic Scholarship: Chairperson – Leslie Morris-Smith
Funded - \$1,000
\$1,000 awarded to Erika Alvarado, MS candidate in Marine Biology at University of Hawaii

Burlingame/Gerrity Horticultural Therapy Scholarship: Chairperson – JoAnn Preston
Funded - \$500
No applications received. Recommend to build on the fund and to review application process.

Renaud-Peterson U.S. National Arboretum Internship: Chairperson – Audrey Ehrler
\$6878.00 awarded

Sponsorships

Schlesinger Library: Liaison – none to date
\$500 for storage of WNF&GA documents

Bess Mueller Fund: Chairperson – Nancy Matthews
Funded - \$1,000
\$550 awarded to Tri-County Branch NY
\$250 for Annual Meeting podium flowers

WNF&GA Temple University Ambler Campus Arboretum Intern: Chairperson – Mary Pat Ford
Funded -\$3,000

Hazel Herring Civic Improvement Grant: Chairperson – Gerry Howard
Funded - \$3,000
\$850 awarded to Lapeer Wildflowers Branch of MI Division

Grace E. Fryinger International Project: Chairperson – Kay Engelhart
Funded - \$1,000

CHARITABLE AFFAIRS

The Bess Mueller Floral Arts Fund supports judges' schools, flower shows, floral arts programs, workshops and speakers that are open to the public. It provides podium flowers at each annual meeting.

The Tri-County Branch of New York was awarded \$550 to support their August 10, 2019 Floral Arts & Horticulture Garden Show. The Tri-County Branch planned to purchase design reference books and sponsor a design workshop open to the public. Their goal was to enhance their educational efforts through the purchase of floral arts materials to be distributed to the public at their show. A "Youth Category" was added to the 2019 show. Members purchased plants for youth groups to grow and display at the show. The branch will also purchase new stands to improve the floral arts display.

Tri – County Branch was also the recipient of the 2018 Bess Mueller Floral Arts Fund. President Joanna Prouty commented; "Tri-County Branch is very appreciative of our ability to enhance our annual floral arts show in 2018. We feel we had the best show yet and hope to continue to improve."

This report was provided by the Bess Mueller Floral Arts chairwoman Nancy Matthews.

The Hazel Herring Civic Improvement Grant is awarded to a branch or division requesting help with a civic improvement project.

Lapeer Wildflowers Branch of Michigan Division submitted an application entitled "Lapeer Post Office Gardens." They requested \$850 to do five gardens at the Lapeer Post Office which will benefit and be visible to the entire Lapeer community.

When the Lapeer Wildflowers were looking for a project that would benefit downtown Lapeer, one of the garden club members noticed the "sorely neglected" gardens at the post office. The member approached the new postmaster, Mr. Corwin, with an offer to restore five of the six gardens. Mr. Corwin gladly accepted the offer and the Lapeer Post Office Project has become a gratifying effort for the Lapeer Wildflowers. The members have been diligently working on this extensive project and deserve grant support for the garden work.

The Lapeer Wildflowers Branch project completely captures the spirit and intent of the Hazel Herring Civic Improvement Grant.

This report was provided by the Hazel Herring Civic Improvement Grant chairwoman Gerry Howard.

The Sarah Bradley Tyson Fellowship is awarded to a woman for advanced study (masters/doctorate) in agriculture, horticulture, or related fields at a school in the United States.

The 2019 Sarah B. Tyson Fellowship award went to Paige Stanley, a PhD candidate majoring in Environmental Science, Policy & Management at the University of California, Berkley.

Paige is researching the agro-ecological and climate mitigation potential of adaptive multi-paddock (AMP) grazing as compared to the intensive farming practices used by industrial animal production. Current large-scale animal production results in high greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions, high soil erosion, soil carbon loss, water quality decline, biodiversity loss, reduced resiliency to climate change and negative social externalities. Paige has found that AMP shows great promise for carbon sequestration on a small scale so now she plans to measure it over time and over multiple geographic locations on a large scale. The under-represented group is the rancher and his/her livelihood. She will combine her scientific research with interviews of farmers to determine how federal policy changes can help to encourage regenerative farming practices like AMP.

CHARITABLE AFFAIRS

The Tyson Fellowship allowed Paige to attend the Colorado State University Summer Soils Institute. It is a soils science training program designed for agricultural research. It is crucial for her to gain experience and training for her future research. Paige's application's closing paragraph: "I was inspired by Mrs. Tyson's story – both of her passion and her trailblazing of women in agricultural careers. I would be honored to continue her legacy in some small part through this award by advocating for women in agriculture and conducting research to improve the livelihoods of ranchers."

This report was provided by Sarah Bradley Tyson Fellowship chairwoman Cindy Nuss.

Warren/Sanders/McNaughton Oceanographic Scholarship is awarded for graduate study in oceanography.

Erika Alvarado was awarded the Warren/Sanders/McNaughton Oceanographic Scholarship for the 2019-2020 school year. Erika will pursue a MS in Marine Biology at the University of Hawaii in Manoa, Hawaii. Her field of interest is macroalgae. She noted that Hawaii contains unique ecosystems of algae especially in the mesophotic zone of the ocean. (The zone is the middle light zone of the ocean located from 100 feet to 490 feet below the surface. It is found in tropical and subtropical regions.) This zone has large numbers of algae species that have yet to be described. Erika stated in her application, "Insight into the zone of the ocean can provide important clues about the connectivity of the flora surrounding the Hawaiian Islands. This is becoming important as climate change influences the state of our world's oceans." She has experience with conducting independent research projects. Her long-term goal is to become an educator and also conduct research. She feels that having an advanced degree will make her a more "effective and interesting instructor." As a university student she is also interested in increasing diversity in the field of science.

Information for this report provided by Warren/Sanders/McNaughton Oceanographic Scholarship chairwoman Leslie Morris-Smith.

Burlingame/Gerrity Horticultural Therapy Scholarship had no applicants this year. It was the recommendation of chairwoman JoAnn Preston to build on the fund and review the application process. She was asked to develop an appropriate scholarship application to be reviewed by the WNF&GA Board. Upon approval it will be placed on the WNF&GA website.



The Renaud/ Peterson Internship

Once again, I would like to thank all our WNF&GA members for supporting the internship program at the U.S. National Arboretum in Washington, D.C. Your donations have been helping worthy students learn and grow while working in the Dogwood Collection for the past 28 years.

Hannah Imhoff arrived at the Arboretum in late May, 2019. She has completed her third year at the University of Maryland. Hannah will return to her studies in the field of Environmental Science in late August. The Arboretum staff has been pleased with Hannah's performance.

If you are interested in supporting the Renaud/Peterson Internship, please send your donation to our E & C Treasurer: Kathleen Beveridge at 1195 Dager Road Warminster, PA. 18974.

You are always welcome to the United States Arboretum when touring the Washington, D.C. Metro Area. The Dogwood Collection is a very special place and a testament to the long standing spirit of cooperation between WNF&GA and the USNA.

Respectfully submitted, Audrey E. Ehrler-Liaison to the United States National Arboretum

Dear Ms. Ehrler and members of the Woman's National Farm and Garden Association,

My name is Hannah Imhoff, and I am the intern for the Dogwood Collection this summer at the National Arboretum. I wanted to reach out and thank you for sponsoring my internship, and inform you about myself and the work you allowed me to do. I am a senior at the University of Maryland in College Park, and I study Wildlife Ecology and Management in the Environmental Science and Policy program under the College of Agriculture and Natural Resources. I am also a double major, and I'm pursuing a studio art degree as well during my time as an undergraduate.

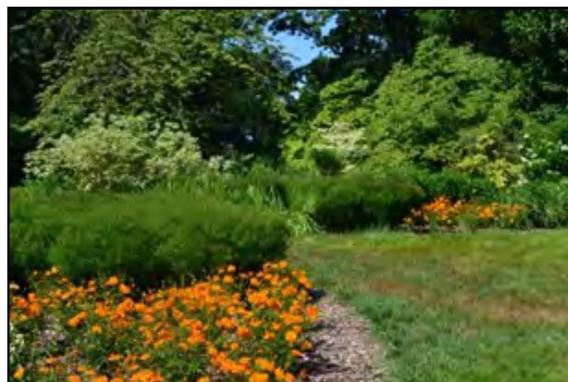
The National Arboretum has been a wonderful place to gain not only employment but experience and knowledge. The staff here are so knowledgeable, constantly answering my questions and providing me with interesting experiences and opportunities. While I had some gardening experience coming into this position, I have been able to expand my wheelhouse and learn more about things such as propagation, pruning, irrigation, etc. I was also able to complete an individual project monitoring pollinators within the Dogwood Collection, which not only allowed me to provide observations for other staff at the arboretum, but also gain experience working with wildlife. Furthermore, I was provided with the experience of attending the Mid-Atlantic Invasive Plant Council's 2019 Conference, where I learned a great deal about invasive plant management and made connections within the field.

All of this would not have been possible without your sponsorship, and I greatly appreciate all of my experiences this summer. Your presence is truly felt here at the Arboretum, and I always think of the women who have shaped this place as I pass each dedicated tree. The work of your organization inspires me as a young woman in the STEM field, and I hope to stay in contact with WNF&GA for years to come. Thank you again for your sponsorship and support of my time at the National Arboretum.

Sincerely,
Hannah Imhoff



*Head Gardener, George Waters with
Hannah Imhoff*



Tri-County Branch

RuthE (yes, spelled correctly) & Bruce Ricketson again transformed the Masonic Hall into a room of beauty for our annual Tri County flower show. This year's title was "Let's Go to the Movies" and it certainly was a hit. Every year we hear this is the best show yet and this year did not disappoint us. With her talents, Betty Churchill again transformed a mundane outdoors to an inviting welcome to our guests so they would want to come in and see what else was inside.

The Tri County Branch recently received a monetary grant from WNF&GA which was spent on the mechanics necessary for flower show staging. We continue to get compliments on the transformation of the room and the staging needed for a show.

In the design division, 16 designers received a total of 16 blue ribbons and 12 red ribbons in 28 different designs. Jan Burselson received the Lorraine Bardin Petite Rosette for her design in the small design class entitled "Hot Buttered Popcorn." Jan also received the Nancy Rathbun Rosette for most outstanding horticulture entry which was a collection of succulents.

Janine Thomas received the Wallman/Weiss rosette for the most creative design with her arrangement in the duo class "On Moonlight Bay", Jackie Barg received the Betty Monahan sweepstakes rosette in horticulture for receiving the most blues in the horticulture division. First time designer Janet Klaneski received a blue ribbon for her arrangement in "Dinner & a Movie."

In the horticulture division, our gardeners entered 102 entries and received 62 blues and 37 reds and 3 yellows. Many of our members met the three challenges of an angel winged begonia, a collection of succulents and a collection of coleus. In the education division, Peggy Lynch set up the "Cleaninaters" plants which clean our air according to NASA.

Our youth division "Short Subjects" was photographs of beautiful mandalas made with flower petals and leaves by five year old children in Salem, NY under the guidance of



RuthE Ricketson



Paula Kreig. Rachel Quackenbush hosted the welcome table and recorded over 100 folks who attended. Outside members sold raffle tickets, plants, and baked goods.

All proceeds from the day went into our fund for scholarships which are awarded to local graduating high school seniors who will study in the fields similar to our garden club's mission.

Jan Burselson received the Nancy Rathbun Award for her outstanding horticulture entry



FARM & GARDEN DIVISION & BRANCH UPDATES

Margaret Latham Receives the Visionary Award



Margaret Latham with National
President Mary Pat Ford

Margaret Latham received the Visionary Award for her work with WNF&GA. Margaret, who is from the TAWA Branch, always attended National meetings and always was the first one to volunteer if a job needed doing. She was supportive of every project F&G undertook and attended many ACWW World conferences. She felt these conferences and ACWW were very important in the world and in our organization. She is from Ohio and held many offices. She chaired a variety of National committees over the years as well. She often spoke at National meetings. There was no one in the organization who worked harder than she did for F&G. She was absolutely one of its strongest supporters. Congratulations, Margaret!

Happy 90th Birthday Saginaw Branch!

The Saginaw Branch in Michigan had their 90th birthday celebration. Congratulations to the president of the branch, Stella Thelem and to the Saginaw's members.

In memory of:
Jodie Johnson,
Kappy Taylor,
and
Lois Timm

Rochester Garden Club

Carole Bordelon has notified WNF&GA that the teakwood bench in honor of the former N.Y. Division will arrive at the Arboretum later this month. We will inform the members when it is placed in The Dogwood Collection. Congratulations to Carol on her retirement from the National Arboretum!



Tri-County Branch

Our National President Mary Pat Ford and her husband Hugh arrived at our Flower Show on Thursday and stayed until Sunday. Not only were they able to see our show and how we set it up and knock it down but they joined in and helped us along the way.

As they live very close to Temple Ambler Campus, they transported the slate plaque, and delivered it to the University, where it will be on display. This is the plaque that we had designed to recognize our outstanding members, past and present, who had contributed so much to our New York Division and to the National level. The funds they helped raised have been donated to the National Arboretum in Washington, DC. Due to circumstances beyond our control, the plaque was not able to be displayed in D.C. A lovely bench is there with a small plaque recognizing our contribution.

Temple University WNF&GA Scholarship

Dear WNF&GA Members,

My name is Kate Dolan, and I want to thank you for supporting my education through the award of the WNF&GA scholarship towards this coming semester at Temple Ambler. I am currently beginning my second year of Temple's Masters of Landscape Architecture, and could not be more thrilled with my decision to pursue this field of study; it is a discipline that perfectly combines my interests in nature and environmental issues, art and design, and restoration. At Temple, I am learning about native plants and ecosystems, and how landscape architecture has the unique ability to shape how humans interact with the environment. The projects done by landscape architects affect not only the environment, but social and economic aspects in the surrounding areas by boosting aesthetics and morale, promoting physical activity, and shaping how people and communities interact. But what I love about Temple's program specifically is the emphasis it puts on environmental restoration and sustainability. It understands that for all of the benefits to the community, we have an equal opportunity to fulfill our duty as stewards to the earth. We can work to reverse the negative effects of years of degradation to the land, and we have the opportunity to engage and interest others in nature and in environmental issues, and hopefully promote sustainability.

My first year at Temple provided me with skills that helped me get a summer internship at a local firm, Orsatti & Stuart, where I am learning about commercial and township landscape projects. With this experience, and my education from Temple, my goal is to focus on restoration in urban areas. I hope to be able to take an advanced understanding of ecosystem structures and design, and create spaces that thrive both ecologically and anthropologically. I would like to be able to reverse the negative effects that we have had on the earth and in our communities. Through such restoration, I would hope to improve air and water quality for local inhabitants, improve overall morale, health, and human interaction in communities, boost opportunity for public education and awareness, and promote culture and healthy lifestyle habits.

It is with your generosity that I'm able to work toward this goal. Thank you so much!

Membership for Members-at-Large 2020

Name _____
Address _____
Email _____
Telephone _____
Secondary Contact Information (In case we lose 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, 2019
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!

Woman's National Farm &
Garden Association, Inc.
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Waterford, MI 48317

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