



Farm & Garden

Fall
2020

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

Established
1914

Honoring our History

How many of the following past WNF&GA presidents (full list on p. 5) can you identify without peeking? Bonus points if you know the decades when they served! (answers on page 15)

PHOTO CREDITS: (1) *A CHRONICLE: THE HISTORY OF WNF&GA*, by Martha A. Nolan; (2) *ONE HUNDRED YEARS OF GROWING & GIVING: WNF&GA 1914 - 2014*, by Maureen S. Thompson, Mary Pat Ford, Jenny Rose Carey; (3) THE INTERNET



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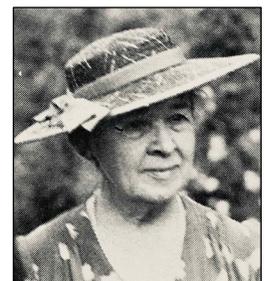
9. _____



10. _____



11. _____



12. _____

**WNF&GA 2020-2022
Board of Directors**

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Farm & Garden

the spring and fall biannual magazine of the
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CONTENTS – FALL 2020

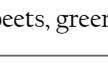
Front Cover		Photo – Rochester Branch's <i>No Frills Garden Stroll</i>
2		Photo Quiz – WNF&GA Past Presidents
4		WNF&GA President's Message <i>A Chronicle: The History of the WNF&GA</i> WNF&GA President's Pin
5		WNF&GA's Past Presidents Photos . . . We'd Like Photos! Oprah
6 - 7		Elected WNF&GA Board Members: Bios and Photos
8		Excerpts from <i>A CHRONICLE: THE HISTORY OF WNF&GA</i>
9		Contact Information – Directors & Chairpersons Division & Single Branch Presidents Social Media Update by Leslie Morris-Smith
10 – 11		International Cooperation Committee & Frysjinger International Project Fund submitted by Kay Engelhart
12		Fresh from the Farm by Louise Shoknsnyder Where Do Insects Go in the Winter? by Suzanne Smith-Oscilowski
13		Maintaining Healthy Honeybees by Joette Kunse
14		Registrar's Report by Cheryl Malin
15		Answers to the Photo Quiz
16 – 17		Branch News: Bloomfield Hills, MI Dooryard, OH Pontiac, MI Romeo & Juliet, MI
18		Going Green! Hazel Herring Civic Improvement Grant <i>application</i>
19		Bess Mueller Floral Arts Fund <i>application</i> Member-at-Large <i>application</i>

Photo on front cover by Mary Schwark:

Iresine 'Blazin' Rose' in Jane Giblin's wild and wonderful garden in Rochester Hills, MI

Photos on back cover by registrar Cheryl Malin: her bountiful harvest of golden beets, green beans, collards, kale & zinnias in Waterford, MI

President's Message

Saturday, June 6, 2020, was an unprecedented day for those WNF&GA members who, for the first time, participated via webinar in the organization's annual National Meeting.

Many thanks and congratulations to all who prepared for, rehearsed and conducted the event. They include Kathy Welsh Beveridge, WNF&GA's immediate past E & C treasurer, and the owner of Spark Nonprofit Consulting. Assisting Kathy were webmaster Leslie Morris-Smith, as well as Jo Ambrose, plus 2016-2018 president Rita Urbanski, and 2018-2020 president Mary Pat Ford.



Mary Schwark, 2020-2022 WNF&GA president - photo by Christina Whan

Additional thanks to the 80-some WNF&GA members who registered for and attended the National Meeting. The event's three hours passed surprisingly quickly. Without question, the efficiency was due to the organizers' attention to detail and "practice - practice - practice" throughout the week preceding the meeting.

While "Webinarville" wasn't nearly as much fun as Louisville would have been, participation was worthwhile for all to see how business could still be conducted - with ingenuity and persistence - from New York State to Ohio and from Pennsylvania and Florida to Michigan. Our organization's forebears would be proud!

Speaking of forebears, please see the complete list of past national presidents on page 5. At long last, they all have first names!

Your new board members, who were elected to their positions and installed by immediate past advisor Rita Urbanski on June 6, have already been working diligently on behalf of the WNF&GA. Please see pages 6 and 7 of this magazine for brief biographies and photos of your six elected officers.

Regarding the photo above, I was pleased and honored to be able to wear the beautiful president's pass-along pin that is on loan to me through mid-2022. If you have never seen the pin or are not familiar with its history, you can view a close-up photo of it on this page to the far right. You can also read about the pin and see a drawing of it on page 8.

The pin's design and history are also discussed in *A Chronicle: The History of WNF&GA* by former national president Martha (Marty) Nolan. See page 134 of her book if you happen to own one of the 300 copies printed in 1985. I was so pleased

to win my copy at the National Meeting in Ithaca, NY. I wish I knew who kindly donated that fascinating book to the 2018 meeting's fundraiser. (See photo on left and below left.)

The pin, as well as the WNF&GA gavel, are described on page 10 of the softcover book *One Hundred Years of Growing and Giving: Woman's National Farm and Garden Association 1914-2014*. Many of you have copies of the book and a few copies are still available for purchase. Current advisor Mary Pat Ford was editor of the softcover book and she also edited the *Farm & Garden* magazine for several years. With this issue of the publication, I thank Mary Pat for her long service as I begin a second new responsibility as magazine editor.

The last time I became a serious student was in the autumn of 2006, upon beginning my Master Gardener Volunteer class, and I've continued to "study" ever since. Since then, I have often discussed the following with other Master Gardener Volunteers: Through MGV training, one begins to grasp not how much one has learned or knows, but rather how much one has **NOT** yet learned and does **NOT** yet know! That is an inspiring, albeit sobering, realization.

Reading the *Chronicle* has turned me into a student yet again. Tales of the WNF&GA's long, rich and multi-layered history remind me of the more-than-200-year-old quote by French writer Jean-Baptiste Alphonse Karr: "The more things change, the more they stay the same." I hope that you will also have an opportunity to spend time with the *Chronicle*. There's comfort in continuity. But while many WNF&GA issues are eventually resolved, others continue to require attention and action.

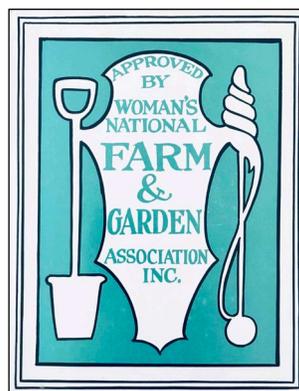
With your support, over the next two years I will focus with attention and action on the following four areas:

Honoring our History

Sharpening our Image

Envisioning our Future

Doing the Right Thing



A Chronicle: The History of WNF&GA - by Martha Nolan (The title is on the book's spine.)



WNF&GA national president's pass-along pin (actual size) See page 8 for details.

WNF&GA Past National Presidents

1914 – 2020

(The list was updated September 2020. Please note several changes from previous fall magazine lists.)

Louisa (Mrs. Francis) King*	1914 – 21
Sarah B. (Mrs. Russell) Tyson*	1921 – 24
Miss Gertrude Copeland*	1924 – 27
Miss Marian Roby Case*	1927
Clara B. (Mrs. Henry) Ford*	1927 – 34
Mabel (Mrs. Howard W.) Lewis*	1934 – 37
Miriam (Mrs. Murray) Boocock*	1937 – 41
Martha L. (Mrs. F. Wayland) Ayer*	1941 – 44
Eva (Mrs. Paul) Burrage*	1944 – 46
Margaret (Mrs. Truman F.) Barbier*	1946 – 48
(later known as Mrs. Margaret B. Carey*)	
Edith (Mrs. Hubert) Carter*	1948 – 50
Elma (Mrs. Henry P.) Williams*	1950 – 52
Miss Gertrude Warren*	1952 – 54
Beatrice (Mrs. F. B.) Llewellyn*	1954 – 56
Elizabeth (Mrs. Homer N.) Sweet*	1956 – 58
Helen (Mrs. Ian) MacDonald*	1958 – 60
(later known as Mrs. Helen M. Sanders*)	
Miss Elizabeth C. Miller*	1960 – 62
Anne (Mrs. Benjamin D.) Holt*	1962 – 64
Matilda (Mrs. Alfred G.) Wilson*	1964 – 66
Elizabeth (Mrs. Nelson B.) Sackett*	1966 – 68
Anne (Mrs. David) Buerger*	1968 – 70
Anne (Mrs. Fred G.) Garrison*	1970 – 72
Carolyn (Mrs. Miles N.) Clair*	1972 – 74
Donalda (Mrs. Richard D.) Latham*	1974 – 76
Mae Louise (Mrs. Robert K.) Hanson*	1976 – 78
Kay (Mrs. Parker P.) Rockwell*	1978 – 80
Miss Ruth Gray*	1980 – 82
Hazel (Mrs. Jack H.) Herring*	1982 – 84
Susan (Mrs. Paul E.) Herbert	1984 – 86
(later known as Mrs. Susan Celentano)	
Marian (Mrs. H. James) Renaud*	1986 – 88
Rita (Mrs. C.F.) Kirschler, Jr.*	1988 – 90
Martha (Mrs. William M.) Nolan*	1990 – 92
Phyllis (Mrs. William) Slattery*	1992 – 94
Beatrice (Mrs. Charles) Peterson	1994 – 96
Blodwyn (Mrs. Julius P.) Zeigler*	1996 – 98
Jean (Mrs. Jack) Ehlinger	1998 – 2000
Kay (Mrs. Neil) Engelhart	2000 – 02
Sylvia (Mrs. Webster) Anderson	2002 – 04
Barbara (Mrs. James) Hochstetler	2004 – 06
Marla (Mrs. James) Diamond	2006 – 08
Faith (Mrs. Joseph) Tiberio*	2008 – 10
Mary Bertolini	2010 – 12
Julia Siefker	2012 – 14
Molly Hammerle	2014 – 16
Rita Urbanski	2016 – 18
Mary Pat Ford	2018 – 20

* deceased

Photos – We’d Like Photos!

Do you ever take a great photo – accidentally or on purpose – and then wonder, “How did I get so lucky?”

About five years ago I attended an annual garden symposium in Michigan. There were four well-known speakers, one of whom was a garden photographer from Washington State. For your magazine editor, his was the most significant and memorable presentation that year. Many sophisticated cell phones of that era, he said, were already capable of taking extremely high-quality images, often better than those taken with 35 mm cameras. We saw beautiful magazine covers whose photos – his! – were captured by a sophisticated cell phone. Imagine how much more photographic capability has been engineered in the last five years!

When you’re out and about, if you capture truly “Wow!” **high-resolution** images that you’re willing to share with WNF&GA members, please send them for possible inclusion in a future WNF&GA magazine. Be sure to include your name, the subject, plus where and when the photo was taken. **Equally important:** Please provide your written permission for photo publication in *Farm & Garden*. Type “Photo for *Farm & Garden*” in the subject line and email to: schwark@aol.com

It’s Good for Oprah!

Is it Good for the WNF&GA?



According to an Associated Press article that appeared in Michigan’s *OAKLAND PRESS* newspaper on July 28, 2020,

“O, The Oprah Magazine is ending its regular monthly print editions with the December 2020 issue after 20 years of publication.” The article further explained that the magazine is “not going away.” Instead, it is becoming “more digitally-centric.”

As of July 28, Hearst - publisher of the magazine since its debut - had not explained why they would no longer create a “regular print edition.” They did say, however, that their decision was a “natural next step.”

Won’t you join me in thinking about how the WNF&GA can begin to smartly and strategically follow Oprah’s lead? Let’s take a “natural next step” – maybe a baby step – to gradually and partially, if not fully, move toward becoming “digitally-centric.”

The benefits can be many. Stay tuned!

- your *Farm & Garden* editor

Meet Your 2020-2022 WNF&GA Executive Board of Directors (in alphabetical order by first names).
Also serving on the board as advisor is immediate past president Mary Pat Ford.

Christine Partch – Tri-County Branch, NY

Christine Partch, corresponding secretary, retired from teaching after 34 years and joined the Upstate New York Tri-County Branch after being invited by Davene Brown. Christine describes leaving her first meeting with the feeling that she had just met one of the most articulate, intelligent and kindhearted group of women with whom she had ever had the pleasure of sharing time.

Although she grew up in a large family of vegetable gardeners, Christine didn't become a "fan" of gardening until she had her own home in Upstate New York. There she was befriended by Agnes, an elderly neighbor. Agnes instilled a new appreciation of gardening, giving her roots and bulbs to plant, and introducing her to the joys of perennials.

Christine has three daughters and two grandchildren, and she volunteers extensively for several other organizations.

Mary Lynne Moellering – Rochester Br., MI

Mary Lynne Moellering, A & O treasurer, grew up in the farming community of Sunnyside, WA. After graduating from Washington State U., she worked as a computer programmer at Lockheed Missiles & Space in Sunnyvale, CA. Soon after meeting her future husband Ed, he left Lockheed to work in Louisiana at Chrysler Space – rocket builders for Apollo Space Missions. After they married, Mary Lynne also worked at Chrysler until she became a stay-at-home mom of one and then two. Ed's Chrysler career continued in Michigan. They are grandparents of two.

How could Mary Lynne not be a gardener, with connections to "sunny" locations in WA, CA and LA? She joined the Rochester Branch after reading about the club's Greens Market. She has held every elected office in her branch plus Michigan Division offices and other national positions.

Phyllis Macke – Dooryard Garden Branch, OH

Phyllis Macke, recording secretary, is married to Tim, her Ottawa, OH high school sweetheart. After a few years in Painesville, OH, they returned to their hometown. They have three married children and are grandparents of seven. After her youngest began school, Phyllis held various jobs while she also became a self-taught computer expert. She helped build a computer lab in her children's school and, for 23 years, was the part-time network administrator and computer instructor for grades 1 – 8, plus their teachers.

Following retirement, Phyllis and her husband found time to take the Master Gardener Volunteer class and Phyllis joined Dooryard. Very active in her community, she has been a Scout leader and soccer coach and continues to hold many volunteer positions such as president-elect of her church's Altar Society and president of Dooryard Garden Branch.

Mary Schwark – Troy Garden Club Branch, MI

Mary Schwark, president, is a retired *profesora* of Spanish as well as a former nonprofit arts administrator. Married for "a very long time" to Bill, she is the mother of three and is *Ita* (short for *abuelita*) of seven grandchildren.

First, she is a fan of her family and then, in no particular order, a fan of gardening, words, writing, dance (spectator!), chocolate, desktop publishing, preparing Thanksgiving dinner, movies, music of all kinds (choral, symphonic, opera, rock, jazz, musical theatre), art and most sports – especially baseball. She and Bill have traveled frequently in the US and abroad but, since 2009, mostly to New Zealand and Australia to visit their younger daughter and her family.

Mary is a past president of both the Troy Garden Club and Michigan Division. She is also a Master Gardener Volunteer, and she *loves* to organize special events.

Patty Burnside – Saginaw G.C. Branch, MI

Patty Burnside, vice president, describes herself as a hometown girl from a blue-collar family. Her parents had high expectations for Patty and her three younger siblings. She learned domestic skills from her mother and through 4-H. From her father she learned how to garden and how to use tools. From both parents, she learned dozens of worthwhile skills and strategies.

Patty, a teacher for many years, is retired. She currently focuses on being a volunteer for organizations in which she is especially interested. Her husband of 48 years still works, although he keeps promising to join her in retirement.

Patty has many hobbies, and she and her husband Gordon always shelter two or more rescue dogs. They live in the woods outside a small town, and their home is surrounded by extensive gardens.

Suzanne Smith - Oscilowski

Ambler-Keystone Branch, PA

Suzanne Smith-Oscilowski, E & C treasurer, has been the educator for the nonprofit Wissahickon Trails for 10 years. Following state standards and based on school districts' curricula, Suzanne's programs – both in the classroom and in the "field" – provide environmental and conservation education for K-12 students in local public and private schools, including special education schools.

With an MBA, a degree in horticulture, a Master's degree in teaching, and a K-12 Pennsylvania special education teaching license, Suzanne's work experiences are diverse. Her financial analyst job is history: she didn't like working in an office. She's an organic gardener, beekeeper, birder, runner, road cyclist, snowshoe-er, and – with husband Alex – a hiker. She is also the mother of two adult children.

Meet Your 2020-2022 WNF&GA Executive Board of Directors

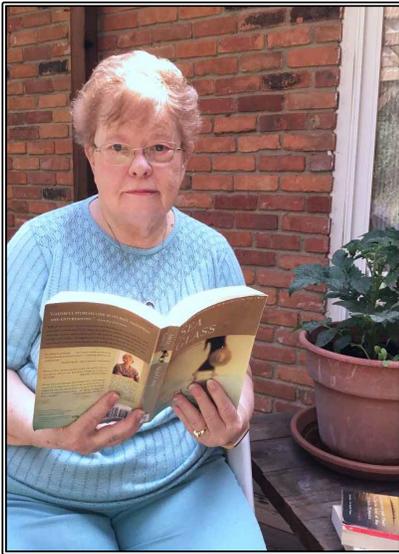
(doing some of the things they enjoy)



Left: At one of her favorite places to shop, the Vermont Country Store in Rockingham, is Christine Partch, WNF&GA corresponding secretary. Christine is a member of New York State's Tri-County Branch.



Right: Deadheading in Margaritaville is Mary Schwark, WNF&GA president. Mary is a member of Michigan's Troy Garden Club Branch.



Left: Enjoying a good book, a thriving plant and perfect weather is Mary Lynne Moellering, WNF&GA A & O Treasurer. Mary Lynne is a member of Michigan's Rochester Garden Club Branch.



Right: Between beautiful beebalm and dazzling daisies is Patty Burnside, WNF&GA vice president. Patty is a member of Michigan's Saginaw Garden Club Branch.



Left: Sharing her gloriously tall and colorful sunflowers is Phyllis Macke, WNF&GA recording secretary. Phyllis is a member of Ohio's Dooryard Garden Branch.



Right: Happy when she's hiking and running is Suzanne Smith-Oscilowski, WNF&GA E & C treasurer. Equally happy running partners are L., border collie Asta Mae, and R., yellow lab Dakota. Suzanne is a member of Pennsylvania's Ambler - Keystone Branch.

From *A CHRONICLE: The History of Woman's National Farm and Garden Association, Incorporated, 1914-1984*, by Martha A. Nolan

page 69 – The WNF&GA Gavel

“In October 1947 the Executive Board and Council convened in New York City. Miss Gertrude L. Warren presented a gavel to the Association, revealing that it had been made with wood from the White House. She explained that during the Coolidge administration, when repairs were being made to the White House, a passer-by suggested to Mr. Coolidge that something be made of the discarded lumber. It had been used by 4-H clubs for gavels which were given to 4-H camp delegates. It was at that time that Miss Warren received the gavel presented to the Association.”



page 91 – *The Gardener's Prayer*

O Lord, grant that in some way it may rain every day, say from about midnight until three o'clock in the morning, but you see it must be gentle and warm so that it can soak in; grant that at the same time it would not rain on campion, alyssum, helianthemum, lavender, and the others which You in your infinite wisdom know are drought-loving plants – I will write their names on a bit of paper if You like – and grant that the sun may shine the whole day long, but not everywhere (not, for instance, on spirea or on gentian, plantain-lily and rhododendron), and not too much: that there may be plenty of dew and little wind, enough worms, no plant-lice and snails, no mildew, and that once a week liquid manure may fall from Heaven. Amen.

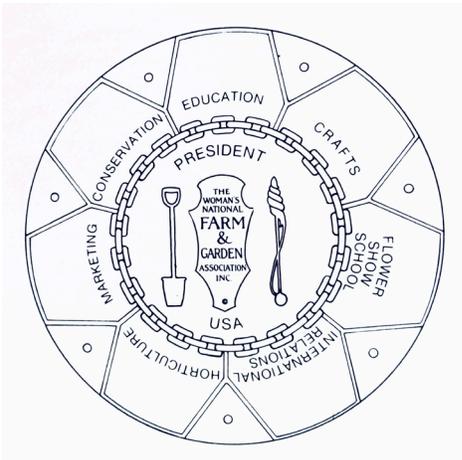
Karel Capek
Garden Digest April 1942

page 134 – The President's Pin

(The bracketed and italicized names below were added by the magazine editor.)

“In March 1964 the suggestion was made that the Association should consider making available a pin suitable as a gift to retiring national and division presidents as tokens of esteem and appreciation for their interest and loyal service. A committee consisting of Mrs. [*Helen*] Frank Knight Sanders (formerly Mrs. Ian MacDonald), Mrs. [*Carolyn*] Miles Nelson Clair, Mrs. Fredericks Jones and Mrs. Lloyd H. Thomas was appointed. The design, prepared by Mrs. Thomas, was authorized in 1968 at the Annual Meeting of the Association in Cherry Hill, New Jersey.

“The Association pin is worn only by the national president during her term of office. It is then passed to her successor. As a gift of the Association, a replica of the pin is presented to the retiring president. National presidents whose service preceded the year 1968 had pins made at their own expense.



“Mrs. David B. Buerger, national president 1968 – 1970, was the first to wear the President's pin while in office. She received it at Fall Council meeting in October 1969 and wore it to the White House where Mrs. Richard M. Nixon welcomed members of the Association for tea.

“The President's pin, designed by Mrs. Lloyd H. Thomas in 1968, features the Association emblem encircled by a gold-on-white linking chain surrounded by a seven-petaled flower of green enamel over gold. Each petal is engraved with one of the Association's major endeavors – education, crafts, flower show school, international relations, horticulture, marketing and conservation. The center of each recessed triangle is set with a diamond. The pin is inscribed with the words “President” and “U.S.A.” The pin measures 1 3/8 inches in diameter.”

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Civic Improvement Gerry Howard – 248-634-3766 Gerryhoward323@yahoo.com	Hazel Herring Civ. Imprv. Grant Gerry Howard – 248-634-3766 Gerryhoward323@yahoo.com	Schlesinger Library Liaison Carole Jackson Dilley – 518-677-7095 cjdilley@nycap.rr.com
Environment Director Suzanne Smith-Oscilowski 215-740-7264 suzgarden416@gmail.com	Historian Janet Leingang – 419-523-5932 djleingang@bright.net	Temple Ambler Arboretum Intern Program Mary Pat Ford – 215-654-1486 mpf6@hotmail.com
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NY Tri-County Branch President – Joanna Prouty
518-796-6731 joannaprouty@aol.com

OH Dooryard Branch President – Phyllis Macke
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OH TAWA Branch President – Rhonda Rainey
419-957-6897 Rrainey45881@gmail.com

PA Ambler-Keystone Branch Pres. – Jo Ambrose
215-616-2441 jo_ambrose@hotmail.com

PA Bucks County Branch President – Alice Marcy
267-614-5817 Alice.marcy2@gmail.com

PA West Deer Branch President – Marion Temple
724-265-2776 Temple1940@comcast.net

Need help setting up a FB page for your branch?

Contact WNF&GA webmaster
Leslie Morris-Smith: leslm5791@gmail.com



Social Media Help Branches Grow

The WNF&GA encourages branches to promote their activities through social media by using webpages, Facebook (aka FB) or both.



Rather than building, funding and maintaining websites, some branches create FB pages. The latter are free to users and are easy to update with current information. Facebook offers nonprofit community groups a no-cost way to publicize branch activities and to reach others with similar interests. To access links to the websites of some branches and one division, visit the WNF&GA website: <https://wnfga.org/aboutus/division-branch-info/>

One prime example of the benefits of using social media is The Bucks County Branch's promotion of their annual Native Plant Garden Tour, raffle and plant sale on Facebook. Their membership increased from 24 to 54 over the next two years. Another example is the Ohio Dooryard Branch which regularly uses FB to communicate with its members.

Facebook helps branches build camaraderie, engage with members, grow into the future, and share information and ideas. WNF&GA's FB group, created ten years ago, allows National Meeting attendees to stay in touch with other branches' members between meetings. After the June 2020 meeting, 40 more people linked to the group page, and it has now been "liked" by nearly 100 current and former members. You will need a Facebook account to add photos and stories to the WNF&GA page, but not to view the page. Access FB here: <https://www.facebook.com/groups/wnfga>

- submitted by Leslie Morris-Smith, Webmaster - 9 -

International Cooperation Committee & Frysinger International Project Fund

During the 2020 Virtual Annual Meeting of WNF&GA, Inc., members were reminded of the good works done by ACWW with our annual contribution from the Frysinger International Project Fund, combined with others. Thanks to a contribution from the F&G unrestricted funds added to the contribution from The Frysinger Fund we were able to send a check for \$2,000.00 USD for the WE Fund: Sustainable Water, Sanitation and Energy focus. The member vote taken of those attending the annual meeting decided to support this focus as they felt it is the basic necessity of everyone. It's important to suggest you all go to the ACWW website and see for yourself the important results from previous donations <https://www.acww.org.uk/index.html> click on projects. You'll be amazed at the great results around the world.

In order to continue our support of ACWW with both Pennies for Friendship and funding the Frysinger International Project Fund:

WHAT IF? In addition to branch and division collections for Pennies for Friendship, EACH member donated just \$1.00 per year to support Pennies for Friendship?

WHAT IF? In keeping with the 2016 member agreement to fund the Frysinger International Project Fund, EACH member donated just \$1.00 per year to support the Frysinger International Project Fund?

WOULD YOU MISS IT? PROBABLY NOT!

Once you read about the people who are willing and able to learn, share and build their communities through WNF&GA and other organizational help, I think you'll agree: \$2.00 per F&G member per year is very little to ask. They are not asking for a hand-out - just a hand up! We Can Do More!

I encourage each branch and division to take this to their members, I think you'll be surprised at the positive response! Add it to your annual donation sent to the WNF&GA Treasurer designating how much for each fund. Now, in answer to questions about ACWW, I hope the following information

helps. As always, don't hesitate to contact either Sylvia or me - we're here to help!

Yours in ACWW,

Kay Engelhart and Sylvia Anderson

What does ACWW do?

The Associated Country Women of the World is an International Non-Governmental Organisation and pursues its charitable objectives through its member societies, individual members and networks of non-member Non-Governmental Organisations. Together, we represent more than 80 countries around the world.



We do this through advocacy, partnership, sharing knowledge and local activities. This includes using our Consultative Status with the UN and its Agencies to represent rural women, facilitate better access to better information resources, funding community development projects and training programmes.

Known by members and supporters globally by our acronym ACWW, we are proud to have celebrated our 90th Anniversary in 2019. It was marked by the 29th Triennial World Conference, held at the Melbourne Convention and Exhibition Centre in Australia.

ACWW was founded in 1929, and registered as a charity in 1984.

By 2017, ACWW had grown to 445 Member Societies in 82 Countries.

In 2017, we moved to our new Central Office in South East London.

The lifeblood of our organisation is our membership. From the smallest branches to vast umbrella organisations, and individuals around the world, we rely on these generous and passionate supporters who allow us to invest in empowering women.

Our focus remains securely on supporting and advocating for women in rural communities, which requires investment in project development, advocacy and core administrative costs. We are very grateful to our membership and supporters globally for their donations to Pennies for Friendship and Projects funds.

Since 1977, we have invested more than £4 million in development projects.

Our projects are run with local partner groups, ensuring that they are relevant & sustainable.

We feel it is vital to monitor and evaluate our projects and measure their impacts.

At the heart of ACWW's work is women's empowerment, and our projects are a crucial contribution to a safe, sustainable, progressive future for women and communities worldwide. We believe our model of responsive funding - reacting to the needs of a community rather than dictating what they need or should have - is critical for female empowerment. We implement responsive funding through small-scale, community-based projects which are led by local women.

We work with partner NGOs, organisations, and groups in their own local communities to ensure that we are reaching the right people, and that the projects funded are relevant and are making a sustainable difference.

Our special emphasis on partnering with local groups means that we avoid the costs, and risks, of having aid workers deployed around the world. Working with local people means that we can support local methods, culturally relevant solutions, and ensure that empowerment and independence are by-products of every project funded.

ACWW's Membership comes together every three years for the Triennial World Conference. This week-long event is the opportunity to vote on and pass new policies, elect the Board of Trustees, and appoint volunteers to the Specified Committees. It also allows members to renew friendships and meet many new people from all over the world.

The Resolutions and Recommendations passed at each Triennial World Conference become the foundations of our policy, and are the mandates for ACWW member societies to act on in the three years ahead. Over the years, we have passed ground-breaking policy resolutions, including those on Female Genital Mutilation (1998 and 2013), Breast Feeding (1977), and support for the United Nations and its Agencies (1947).

We are proud to have held Consultative Status with the United Nations since 1947, as well as with its associated and supporting agencies such as the Food & Agriculture Organisation and United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO). We believe that international collaboration and the forum for high level discourse are crucial. At every opportunity, we take the opportunity to advocate for our members, and ensure that the voices of rural women are heard at the international as well as national and local levels.

Excerpt from: ACWW Website, with update

Kay Engelhart and Sylvia Anderson

“Fresh from the Farm”– Motto of WNF&GA President Clara Ford, Creator of WNF&GA’s Roadside Markets Concept



Flower gardening is my favorite form of gardening, but vegetable gardening is also right up there as a favorite way to “play in the dirt”! I grow my vegetables in a Community Garden - fenced and safe from four-legged pests! In late summer, I am rolling in tomatoes, cucumbers, green beans and herbs. Sharing the bounty with family, neighbors and friends is great. And I preserve some of my produce by canning, so we can enjoy the taste of fresh vegetables, grown by me in a way that I know is safe to consume.

I also enjoy produce that I purchase from our farmers market. It’s a happening place! With a recent surge in such markets, nearly every town has one. What a great way for farmers to get their produce to the public! When I go to our Northeastern Region Farmers Market in Tawas City, MI, I see my friends, enjoy the fresh breezes from Lake Huron, and just savor the moment.

There is a connection between farmers markets and the Woman’s National Farm & Garden Association. Yes, the word “farm” is in our name! When we were founded in 1914, farms were more a part of our lives than they are today. Our founders were influential women of their time, and they worked with the government to form Farmerettes, women working on farms during World War I. It was an amazing program that enabled farmers to feed both our troops abroad and our homeland population. The organization of Farmerettes – Woman’s Land Army of America – and the hard labor of women working on farms enhanced the Suffrage Movement, which we celebrate this year.

The second national president, Sarah Bradley Tyson, put an emphasis on education. She wanted the needs of women in farming and gardening to be met. Today, WNF&GA gives annual scholarships to women in her name. The recipients are doing fantastic work in their studies of horticulture, the environment, and other associated areas. Most are doing post-graduate work. Mrs. Tyson wanted to strengthen “sentiment” for country, as opposed to city life, and she wanted to spread interest in work on the land. Our magazine, *Farm & Garden*, was developed to educate readers about landscape gardening and floristry, as well as about poultry and dairy farming.

By 1927, our then president, Clara Ford, wife of Henry Ford, started the idea of roadside markets. “Fresh from the Farm” was her motto for that program. She developed a design for an easily constructed farm stand. A prototype was built and she took it to various garden shows, to our own National Meeting, and to other garden clubs. (*Photo below.*) A system was developed for farm markets to be inspected. If the stand passed the test, our new logo, the Spade & Distaff, was displayed at the stand. (*Editor’s note: See the Bloomfield Hills Branch article on page 16.*) That program continued until 1936, when it was discontinued due to problems in maintaining inspections and standards. Mrs. Ford’s little idea helped farm wives earn money during the dark days of the Great Depression.

Many of the farmers who sell at our regional farmers market are women. A graduate of Michigan State University, our state’s land grant school, one of the young women sells her produce, as well as meat (hauled to the market in a freezer!) from the cattle that she raises. The meat is delicious! She is putting her education to work.

I hope that you have a farmers market nearby. Farmers market shopping is a joy. Remember that the word “farm” is in our name. Let’s support our local farmers and eat local!
- *by Louise Shoksyder, Gardening Director*

Sources:

[A Chronicle: The History of Woman’s National Farm and Garden Association, Inc., 1914-1984](#), Martha A. Nolan, 1985, Leshner Printers, Inc.

The Henry Ford Museum, www.thehenryford.org

[Hats Off to the Women Who Made Our History](#), Allyson M. Hayward, 2006, a History of New England Farm and Garden Association, Inc.

[One Hundred Years of Growing and Giving: Woman’s National Farm and Garden Association 1914-2014](#),

Maureen S. Thompson, Mary Pat Ford, Jenny Rose Carey, published by WNF&GA.



- photo of Clara Ford courtesy of The Henry Ford Museum

Where Do Insects Go in the Winter?

In the summer, insects can be seen everywhere. Bees and butterflies are among the flowers; ants crawl purposefully; crickets and katydids sing; mosquitoes and flies annoy us. These bugs disappear once temperatures drop. Where do they go?

Let's look at some of the strategies insects use to survive the cold winter:

- Migration – Some insects avoid the cold by migrating to warmer places. The monarch butterfly travels thousands of miles to spend winters in California or Mexico. Monarchs surf air currents to allow them to cover such great distances.
- Diapause – Similar to hibernation, insects will seek some sort of shelter from the cold, as they stop growing and wait for warmer temperatures. In mosquitoes, this dormancy can occur at different stages of their life cycle.
- Overwintering as nymphs – The nymphs of dragonflies, damselflies, mayflies and stoneflies live in ponds and streams. They continue to grow all winter as they feed below the ice.
- Laying eggs – Some insects don't survive the winter; instead they lay eggs before they die. The eggs hatch in the spring. Crickets, praying mantises, grasshoppers and katydids, gypsy moths and many spiders (which are not insects, but rather arachnids) do the same.
- Antifreeze – Some insects produce their own "homemade" antifreeze, known as cryoprotectants, to keep their bodies from forming ice crystals. Woolly bear caterpillars curl up in leaf litter with their homemade antifreeze.
- Huddling up – Honeybees huddle together in their hives using collective body heat to keep each other warm. Ants and termites stick together and survive by going a little deeper underground. Native lady beetles gather together and hibernate under tree bark or in the nooks and knots of trees.
- Hiding – Some bugs seek warm places to hide. The invasive stink bug will wait out the winter in warm, dry buildings.

While bugs respond to temperature variations, the most significant key to winter survival is determined by the number of hours of daylight. As days shorten, bugs initiate their overwintering strategies.

- *by Suzanne Smith-Oscilowski, Environment Director*

Sources: Smithsonian Institution, University of Delaware, University of Pennsylvania, Michigan State University Extension, Xerces Society.

How do honeybees survive the winter?

- When hive temperatures drop below 64 degrees, bees cluster in a carefully organized compact ball.
- Interior bees generate warmth by vibrating their wing muscles; outer bees are still and act as an insulation layer.
- The colder the temperature outside, the tighter the cluster.
- Honeybees take turns enjoying the warmth in the middle of the huddle and then move to the outside.
- The queen bee remains in the middle of the ball of bees all winter.
- Worker bees toiled long hours in the fall, collecting nectar to feed and maintain the colony until spring...hopefully it will be enough!



Left: Honeybee
- photo
courtesy of the
Internet

Left: Overwintering gypsy
moth eggs

- photo courtesy of the
University of Rhode Island



Above: "The Honeybee Huddle"
Honeybees overwinter in a carefully organized,
compact cluster.

- photo courtesy of *Scientific Beekeeping*

How Can We Maintain Healthy Honeybees in North America?

Pollinators in the U.S. are responsible for one of every three bites of food we eat, according to the U. S Department of Agriculture. Most U.S. pollinators are honeybees. The latter consist of seven species, all domesticated and none of them native to North America. They arrived with early European colonists to provide a source of candle wax.

Globally, scientists have been concerned about vanishing honeybees and Colony Collapse Disorder (CCD) for at least 10 years, according to Australia's "*The Conversation.*" CCD appears to have begun after 2005.

Losing bees means more than a world without honey, according to Alison Pearce Stevens in an article, "Why Are Bees Vanishing." She states, "Insects and bees play a major role in producing all kinds of food . . . The fewer bees we have, the fewer different kinds of foods [we'll find] at our grocery store, including meat and dairy."

According to *Bee Informed Partnership's* latest survey in 2019, U.S. beekeepers lost nearly 40% of their colonies. Many causes of decline include crop diversity, poor beekeeping practices, loss of habitat, pesticides, diesel fumes, and *Varroa* mites (parasitic in bees).

According to the *Los Angeles Times*, in 2018 the California Center for Biological Diversity conducted a report on neonicotinoids in pesticides and concluded that there is a significant risk to bee populations which are brought in to pollinate crops in the state's 45 billion dollar agricultural industry. Scientists in Great Britain studied whether bees could get hooked on neonicotinoid-laced foods and found that bees can detect the presence of that pesticide. From Richard Gill, Department of Life Sciences at Imperial College in London: "We know that nicotine is an addictive property, so we could make the inference that maybe these neonicotinoids may have similar addictive properties that affect the bees' brains." Behavioral experiments suggest that may indeed be the case. Studies show that pesticides and diesel fumes reduce bees' forage efficiency by disturbing chemical communications in their brains. Modern intensive agricultural practices disturb both bee nutrition and bees' brains.

To help maintain a healthy honeybee population in North America, we can (1) plant native plants, (2) avoid the use of pesticides, especially those with neonicotinoids, in our gardens, (3) encourage less frequent grass mowing, and (4) support the efforts of the Bee Informed Partnership, a nonprofit associated with the University of Maryland and the Honey Bee Health Coalition.

- by Joette Kunse, WNF&GA Agriculture Director

Sources:

[More Bad Buzz for Bees: Record Number of Honeybee Colonies Died Last Winter](#), by Susie Neilson, June 19, 2019, NPR.org

[Nearly 40% decline in honey bee population last winter 'unsustainable' experts say](#), by Julia Jacobs, ABC News.go.com, July 9, 2019

[Why Are Bees Vanishing](#), by Alison Pearce Stevens, January 10, 2014, Science News for Students.

[Bees](#), NewScientist.com

[Bees develop a taste for some pesticides the way humans get addicted to nicotine, say scientists](#), by Bopha Phorn, August 30, 2018, ABC News.go.com



- photo courtesy of Pixabay.com

WNF&GA Membership ~ *September 2020*

- submitted by Cheryl Malin, registrar

SINGLE BRANCH MEMBERSHIP

Members-at-Large +	
Comp + Emeritae	24
7 Single Branch Garden Clubs in	
NY, OH, PA	<u>195</u>
SINGLE BRANCH TOTAL	219

MICHIGAN DIVISION MEMBERSHIP

Members-at-large	6
25 Individual Branch	
Garden Clubs in Michigan	<u>1244</u>
MICHIGAN DIVISION TOTAL	1250

Charitable Affairs 2020 Awards

Karol Carter, Charitable Affairs chairperson

The following scholarships, internships and sponsorships were funded by the WNF&GA. They were announced on June 6, 2020, to those WNF&GA members who attended the virtual National Meeting via Zoom webinar.

Scholarships / Internships

Francis Plate Bequest: Chairperson – Cindy Nuss
\$2,000 awarded to Student Conservation Association

Sarah Bradley Tyson Fellowship: Chairperson – Cindy Nuss;
Co-Trustees – Louise Shoksnnyder & Davene Brown
\$4,000 awarded to Eliza Nobles, accepted to University of Pennsylvania's Master of City Planning program. Focus will be on urban design and ecology.

Warren Sanders McNaughton Oceanographic Scholarship:
Chairperson – Leslie Morris-Smith
\$1,000 awarded to Rae Taylor-Burns, PhD Student in ocean sciences at the University of California, Santa Cruz. Through her studies, she hopes to quantify the economic benefits of flood protection provided by coastal marsh habitat in the San Francisco Bay. (See expanded information in column on right.)

Burlingame/Gerrity Horticultural Therapy Scholarship:
Chairperson – JoAnn Preston
Funded - \$500.00 No applications were received in 2020.

Renaud-Peterson U.S. National Arboretum Internship:
Former chairperson – Audrey Ehrler \$7,300 awarded
New chairperson – Natasha Cunningham

WNF&GA Temple University Ambler Campus Internship:
Chairperson – Mary Pat Ford
Awarded - \$2,000

Sponsorships

Schlesinger Library: Liaison – Carole Jackson Dilley
\$500 given for storage of WNF&GA documents

Bess Mueller Fund: Chairperson – Nancy Matthews
Funded - \$1,000 Awarded - \$300 to Tri-County Branch, NY

Hazel Herring Civic Improvement Grant:
Chairperson – Gerry Howard
Funded - \$3,000
\$2,810 awarded to Pennsylvania Ambler-Keystone branch

Fryinger International Project Fund:
Chairperson – Kay Engelhart
Funded - \$2,000

Warren/Sanders/McNaughton Oceanographic Scholarship - 2020

Upon awarding the 2020 scholarship, chairperson Leslie Morris-Smith stated:

“It is my honor to recommend that Rae Taylor-Burns receive the WSM Oceanographic Scholarship for 2020. Rae is pursuing completion of her PhD in ocean sciences by applying her engineering and environmental management degrees to her study of coastal science at the University of California at Santa Cruz.”

In her application, Ms. Taylor-Burns described her career goal as follows: *To help coastal communities cope with climate change.* She said, “Coasts around the world are centers of population and commerce and are home to ecosystems essential for food production carbon cycling. Enabling these places to cope with climate change is vital. Climate change is the problem statement of my generation, and this scholarship will support my pursuit of a graduate degree and a career that further deepens my understanding of the issue, and enables me to play a role in addressing it.

“My background in engineering gives me the tools and quantitative skills to understand the physics underpinning hydrodynamic models. My goal for this project is to produce science that seamlessly feeds into decision-making processes, and provides useful and needed information to managers. This project combines my backgrounds in engineering and environmental management, and results have potential to inform policy both in San Francisco Bay and in estuaries across the West Coast.”

Page 2 photo identification:

1. Hazel Herring	1982	-	1984
2. Eva Burrage	1944	-	1946
3. Susan Celentano	1984	-	1986
4. Louisa King	1914	-	1921
5. Mae Louise Hanson	1976	-	1978
6. Matilda Dodge Wilson	1964	-	1966
7. Bea Peterson	1994	-	1996
8. Kay Engelhart	2000	-	2002
9. Faith Tiberio	2008	-	2010
10. Sarah B. Tyson	1921	-	1924
11. Martha A. Nolan	1990	-	1992
12. Clara B. Ford	1927	-	1934

Bloomfield Hills Branch – *If Clara (Mrs. Henry) Ford Could See Us Now!*

The Bloomfield Hills Branch of WNF&GA has been on hiatus. We miss seeing and being with our gardening friends. We have, however, taken this social distancing time to focus on our own gardens, farms and porch pots. In addition, we have gathered photos of our members' porch pots and gardens to share with the membership. We are hopeful for a local garden walk in the near future.

We feel so blessed to live in Michigan, the Land of Lakes. Several of our members travel north to enjoy Pure Michigan and have wonderful gardens at their northern Michigan lake cottages. Below is a photo of one Bloomfield Hills Garden Club member's gardening efforts. She has a working farm and sells her vegetables and fruits at her roadside stand . . . which our founder, Clara Ford (Mrs. Henry Ford) would be so proud of, as



Above: Official roadside stand; photo courtesy of *A Chronicle: The History of WNF&GA* by Martha A. Nolan



Above right: Bloomfield Hills member's 2020 roadside stand. The sign says, "Take what you can use. Leave what is fair. ORGANIC"

that was her goal as president of WNF&GA . . . to provide and sell fresh vegetables and fruits via roadside stands. (Photos on left.)

We are so proud of our branch, 125 members strong and so dedicated to our mission. We look forward to the day when we can be together and strive to fulfill our mission of gardening, farming, horticulture, improving the environment, educating our youth about the importance of farming and gardening, and raising funds for organizations that meet our mission statement.

- submitted by Julie Beals, president

Editor's note: See "Fresh from the Farm," by Louise Shoksnnyder, page 12.

Dooryard Garden Branch – *How Are We Going to Fund Scholarships for 2021?*

The year is 2020, and Dooryard members have had to adjust to a new normal. All clubs stopped! And then we said, "Wait! What can we do to continue to be together in some small way, and how can we continue our normal mission?"

Dooryard Garden Branch, in Putnam County, Ohio, continued to communicate, mostly through email and, in a smaller way, using Zoom and Facebook. At a normal April meeting, we would have potted up plants from our gardens to sell at our annual plant sale. Our sales have usually raised money to fund two \$500 scholarships for students who are studying agriculture or horticulture. The 2020 meeting was cancelled and so was the annual plant sale.

The question came up via Zoom: "How are we going to fund scholarships for 2021?" One member suggested we hold a sale of fall bulbs to friends and family. Such a sale could be accomplished via website and phone, so there would be no need to go face-to-face. We finished the sale on August 1, 2020, and we raised over \$400 – not as much as we hoped, but better than nothing.

- submitted by Phyllis Macke, president



Dooryard Garden Branch officers, left to right: President Phyllis Macke, Vice President Mary Jo Bockrath, Treasurer Holly Huber, Secretary Cathy Fortman

Pontiac Garden Club Branch – *Happy 80th Anniversary!*

Pontiac Garden Club Branch in Michigan is celebrating its 80th anniversary in 2020 - if you can call not being able to meet until at least October “celebrating”!

The branch has plans to completely redo our herb garden at the historic Moses Wisner home in Pontiac. It is owned by Pontiac’s Oakland County Historical Society. After years of just upgrading plantings, we need to do a complete overhaul of the entire garden.

It didn’t help when an archaeological dig was done under the herb garden several years ago, and the clay on the bottom was put on the top! We always try to plant herbs that would have been in an 1850s herb garden. That was the decade when Michigan Governor Moses Wisner established his farm on the site. We will do more research and find needed historic herbs.

The project will be planned and started during our anniversary year, so the herb garden will be completed by next spring. Our branch has plans for interesting speakers and meetings – when the current restrictions are lifted.

- submitted by Gerry Howard, president

Editor’s note: For more information about the history of the Wisner House & gardens, visit: ocphs.org/the-governor-moses-wisner-house/



- photos courtesy of the Oakland History Center at Pine Grove website

Romeo & Juliet Branch – *A Plot of Land, a Peace Dove, a Podium, a Post Office*



The Romeo & Juliet Branch in Romeo, Michigan has lovingly cared for several public gardens for over 25 years.

The club owns a plot of land located inside the historic Romeo Village Cemetery, which was dedicated during the Civil War. Many years ago, the club was granted a deed from the Village of Romeo. Owning the plot of land allowed us to locate our Peace Dove Memorial statue within a garden on all sides.

In addition, we care for the plantings surrounding the cemetery podium, where many speeches are given. The Romeo Post Office is also maintained by Romeo & Juliet. Members of the community are very appreciative and have offered club members many compliments and expressions of gratitude over the years.

- submitted by Kathy Bruggeman, president



Above left: Peace Dove Memorial in Romeo & Juliet Branch’s garden plot at the Romeo Village Cemetery

Left: Cemetery podium featuring plants cared for by Branch members

Right: Post office gardens tended by members



INVITATION TO “GO GREEN!”

Farm & Garden, the WNF&GA magazine is posted on the website (www.wnfga.org).

You're invited to access it online instead of receiving a paper copy. All magazine issues since 2009 are posted there. Just click on the heading *Magazine*. Choose the *online version!* Already, 84 of our members have elected to “GO GREEN.” Just think . . . by joining them, you will help WNF&GA save money, which can then be used to fund the programs our organization supports! Let's “GO GREEN.”

- submitted by Cheryl Malin, WNF&GA registrar

Hazel Herring Civic Improvement Grant Application

Application made by (branch name) _____

Number of branch members _____ Michigan Division? YES ____ NO ____

Project title _____

Total cost of project \$ _____ ✓ one: Estimate? ____ OR Exact? ____ Amount requested \$ _____

Name of person submitting application _____

Address (#, street name, city, state, zip) _____

Phone number(s) HOME _____ CELL _____

Email address (Write neatly to assure accuracy.) _____

The application process must include the materials listed below, which should all be sent together, if possible.

1. Send the completed application form via regular mail or via email.
2. Send a written description – 3 *typed* pages maximum – describing the project, the goal, the sweat equity (who will be involved in the project) and the total cost of the completed project.
3. Provide copies of the completed application to the submitting member's branch &, if applicable, to the division president.
4. Send four digital photos in a .jpg format **WITH THE APPLICATION**. If the applicant is unable to send photos via email, provide the name of the person who will send or has sent the digital photos separately.

Mail completed application
& photos to:

Gerry Howard
12735 Scott Road
Davisburg, MI 48350

*Application
deadline:
May 1, 2021*

Phone: 248-634-3766
Email: gerryhoward323@yahoo.com

Requirements of 2021 Grant Recipients

1. Submit a **final report** to Gerry Howard at the above address **no later than May 1, 2022**.
2. Include in the report:
 - a. a brief description of the completed project
 - b. four digital photos of the completed project (with identification of branch/division name, title of project and date of project completion)
 - c. name of person who submitted the application, along with phone number, email address and mailing address

BESS MUELLER FLORAL ARTS FUND APPLICATION INFORMATION

Nancy Matthews, National Floral Arts Chairperson, fancynancy25@verizon.net, 215-542-6932

Following a change which was proposed, discussed and formally approved at the 2018 National Meeting, branches may use the Bess Mueller Fund in support of events as listed in paragraph 2 below. THE EVENTS MUST BE OPEN TO THE PUBLIC. The Fund will provide a monetary incentive to stimulate an active interest in the floral arts.

Specifically, the Bess Mueller Fund may be used to support judges' schools, flower shows, floral arts programs, workshops and guest speakers. The fund also provides podium flowers at each annual National Meeting.

Applications for funding are received by the Floral Arts Chairperson listed above. The funds are disbursed by the E & C Treasurer.

BESS MUELLER FLORAL ARTS EDUCATION FUND APPLICATION

Applications must be received by the National Floral Arts Chairperson by March 1, 2021.

IMPORTANT NOTE: The amount awarded may not fund your entire project.

Branch _____ Michigan Division YES ___ NO ___

Project Title _____

Brief Description of Project _____

Event Date _____ Event Location _____

Estimate of Total Expenses \$ _____ Amount Requested \$ _____

Person Submitting Application _____ Phone _____

Mailing Address _____
street city state zip

Email Address _____

WNF&GA Membership Application for Members-at-Large 2021

Name _____

Address _____
street city state zip

Email address _____ Telephone # _____

SECONDARY contact information in case we lose touch with you: _____
name

street city state zip phone email address

WNF&GA Member-at-Large is a designation for loyal friends who do not have the convenience of nearby branches, but who wish to be involved with the organization. Loyal friends receive all national communications, including the biannual magazine *Farm & Garden*.

Annual Dues: \$15.00 payable by
December 31, 2020.

MAKE CHECKS PAYABLE TO: WNF&GA.

Mail your \$15.00 check & this completed form to:
Mary Lynne Moellering Phone: 248-651-7005
1280 Seville Rd., Rochester Hills, MI 48309
Email: emlmoellering@gmail.com





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Farm & Garden
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Cheryl's
Summer
Harvest

