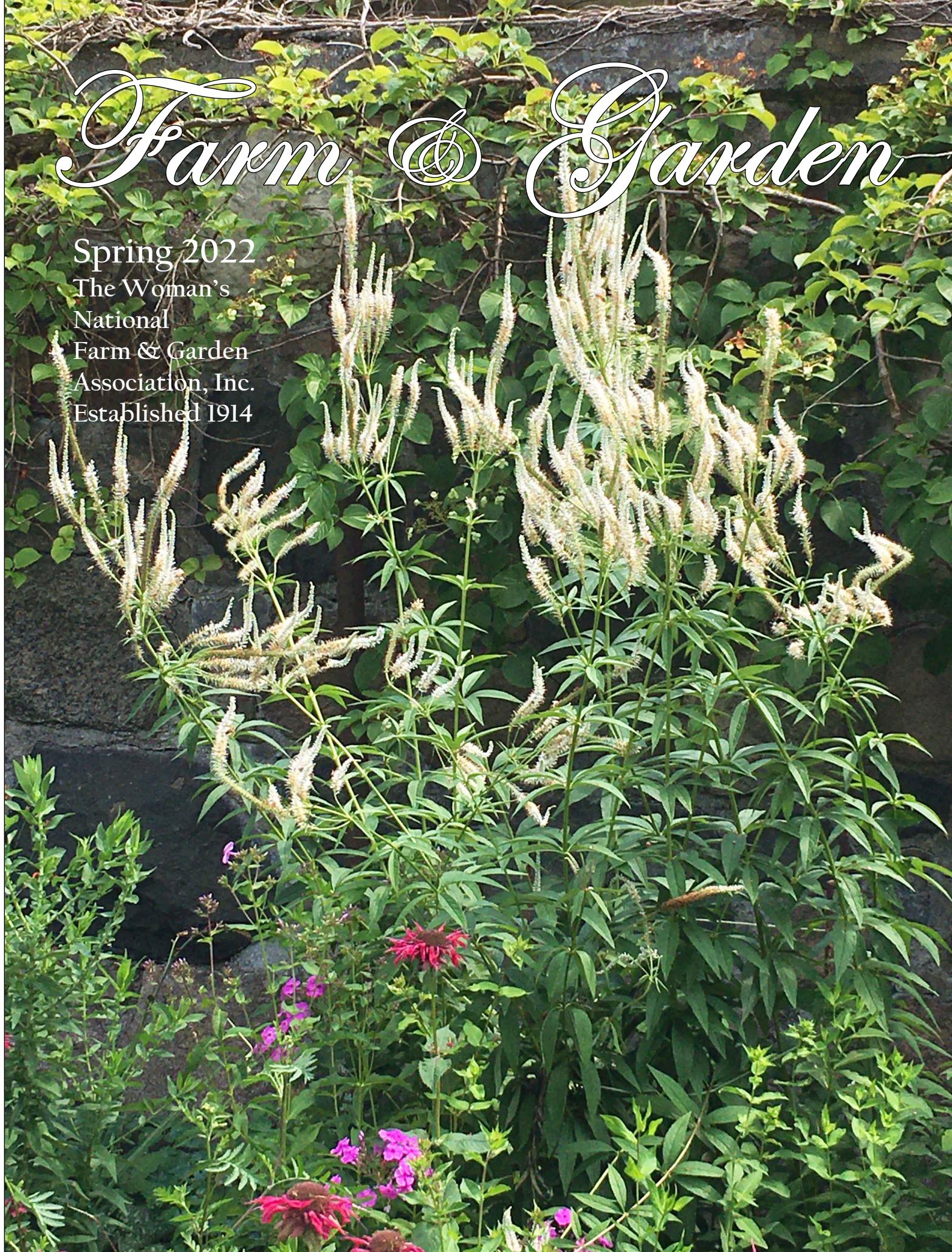


Farm & Garden

Spring 2022

The Woman's
National
Farm & Garden
Association, Inc.
Established 1914



2022 PERENNIAL PLANT OF THE YEAR® ANNOUNCEMENT

THANK YOU, PERENNIAL PLANT ASSOCIATION !

The Perennial Plant Association is pleased to announce the 2022 Perennial Plant of the Year®, *Schizachyrium scoparium* and cultivars.

The Perennial Plant of the Year® program began in 1990 to showcase a perennial that is a standout among its competitors! Perennials chosen for this honor are suitable for a wide range of growing climates, require low maintenance, have multiple-season interest, and are relatively pest/disease-free. The Perennial Plant Association Board of Directors reviews the nominated perennials and selects three or four perennials to be placed on a voting ballot. Perennial Plant Association members vote for the Perennial Plant of the Year® and nominate additional plants for the following year's ballot. In addition, Perennial Plant Association members have access to a flyer, poster, and bench card to assist with promoting the Perennial Plant of the Year®.

The PPA is pleased to promote *Schizachyrium scoparium* and cultivars as the 2022 Perennial Plant of the Year®. The wider selection of *Schizachyrium scoparium* and cultivars allows the perennial expert in any region to select and promote the cultivars that do best in his or her location!

PPA Board members selected top performers in their regions and shared appealing details about each one. Highlights of each selection are below:

Central region - Richard Hawke of the Chicago Botanic Garden selects *Schizachyrium scoparium* 'Jazz' for the Central region. Richard notes, "The striking silvery blue leaves of *Schizachyrium scoparium* 'Jazz' are most comparable to 'The Blues', but at 36 inches tall and 30 inches wide, 'Jazz' is a foot shorter than 'The Blues' and has sturdier stems."

Southern region - Shannon Currey of Hoffman Nursery selects *Schizachyrium scoparium* 'The Blues' for the Southern region. Shannon comments, "In the South, our humidity, high nighttime temps, and wet springs can slow down some Little Bluestem. 'The Blues' is a strong, vigorous grower and has fantastic color. Blues, pinks, purples in the summer followed by reds and oranges in the fall. In the right conditions, it stands out for us."

Canadian region - Tony Post of Brookdale Treeland Nurseries - Valleybrook Farm, chose *Schizachyrium scoparium* 'Standing Ovation' PP25202 for the Canadian region. Tony says, "This selection adds excellent texture to the summer garden. Burgundy highlights add late season interest. Seed heads are attractive, particularly when backlit."

Western region - For the Western region, Nanci Hollerith Allen of MarkWatch Plants notes that *Schizachyrium scoparium* can be a tricky plant unless you have reasonably dry, well-drained soil. She shares two recommended cultivars for the Pacific Northwest and the Rocky Mountain region: *Schizachyrium scoparium* 'The Blues' and *Schizachyrium scoparium* 'Standing Ovation' PP25202.

Great Lakes region - Patty Steinhauser of Stonehouse Nursery chooses *Schizachyrium scoparium* 'Carousel' for the Great Lakes region. Patty says that "This uniquely mounded selection forms a wide clump of blue-green foliage that emerges nearly horizontal and matures into strong, upright stems that remain standing through inclement weather and winter. It takes on pink, copper and orange-red tones in fall topped with tiny seed tufts."

Mid-Atlantic region - Taylor Pilker of Cavano's Perennials suggests 'The Blues', 'Standing Ovation', and 'Jazz'. He also notes, "I like 'Blue Heaven' because it is taller and has good autumn color with a wide range of shades of burgundy and pink."

Central Region



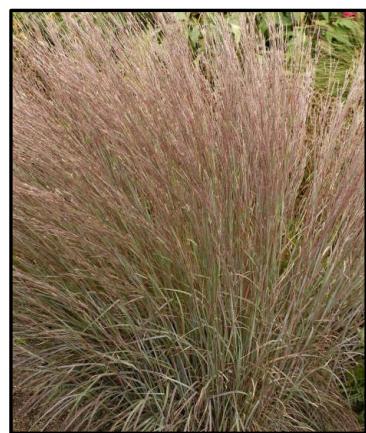
'Jazz'

Great Lakes Region



'Carousel'

Mid-Atlantic Region



'Blue Heaven'

- Photos courtesy of the internet

Reprinted with permission of the PPA.

**WNF&GA 2020-2022
Executive Committee**

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Farm & Garden

the spring and fall biannual magazine of the
Woman's National Farm & Garden Association, Inc.

Volume 107, Number 1

**Fall 2022 magazine
submission dates:
August 1 - 15**

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Port Huron Garden Club, MI Warren Garden Club, MI West Deer Branch, PA



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WNF&GA Member-at-Large *application*

Back Cover

Photo on front cover by Mary Schwark: *Veronicastrum virginicum*: Culver's Root, aka Bowman's Root - Michigan
Photos on back cover, left to right by Tricia Tompson, Louise Shoksnnyder, Plymouth Garden Club, Mary Schwark

President's Message

Happy spring of 2022!

After two years of virtual National Meetings, the WNF&GA looks forward to your participation in the first in-person National Meeting since 2019!

Through the surveys you submitted in the fall of 2021, we listened to your opinions, wants and needs. For sure, you didn't want to ride in buses while wearing masks! We think we have found "a perfect solution," as Jo Ambrose from Pennsylvania's Ambler-Keystone Branch summed up the

current plan. We responded by basing the 2022 National Meeting in southeast Michigan, where the large majority of WNF&GA members reside. Of course, we will still happily accommodate our members from Ohio, Pennsylvania and New York. We Michiganders look forward to being joined by those from outside our mitten state for a very busy tour of the beautiful garden and garden-related venues on our schedule.

The pages of this magazine are full of information about what we'll see and do. You'll find the registration document on page 7, as well as information about many of our venues on page 15. Even our Michigan members are excited about the itinerary! Our meeting registrar is Onita (Oh-NEE-tah) Fitz of the Troy Garden Club. Feel free to contact her with your questions and, if she doesn't know the answers, she will research them or refer you to others who can help.

A WORD TO THE WISE: Don't delay registering. It will be first-come, first-served, and a few of the venues have limited accommodations. A very nice hotel has been booked and the cost is reasonable, but the registration deadline is May 11.

If you're even just **thinking** about attending, I urge you to thoroughly read all the National Meeting-related information. Don't miss the deadlines! And guests are welcome. Financial assistance MAY be available for members.

Changing the subject: Over the last nearly two years, I have focused each WNF&GA magazine on one of four topics: *Honoring our History, Sharpening our Image, Envisioning our Future*. This month, it's time to focus on ***Doing the Right Thing***, which I mentioned when I became WNF&GA president in June 2020. I quoted former Michigan State University president John DiBiaggio who, at the time of his death in early 2020, was eulogized as a man who steadfastly practiced his belief about how important it is to "always do the right thing." It's difficult and, from my own experience, I know how easy it is to fail. But we must always try.

On each monthly agenda of the WNF&GA's Executive Committee, I have consistently placed one statement at the top of the page: "The most important thing we take to the table is our good judgment."



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

Good judgment and doing the right thing go hand-in-hand. Exercising good judgment applies to wise decision-making in so many areas.

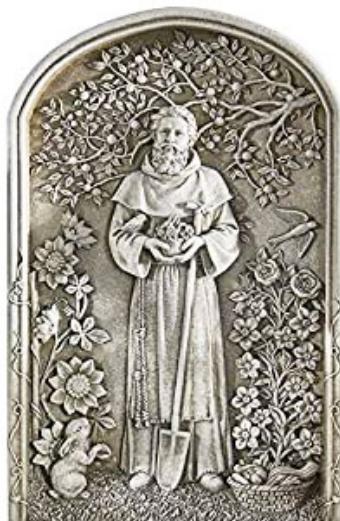
Take, for example, the issue of OPM – "other people's money." Or how about OBM – "our branch's money"? How does your branch make decisions about OBM?

I ask, because I've spoken with some who believe that a branch's funds belong to the individuals within the branch. If your branch is not a designated nonprofit, the concerns MAY be different. But if your branch is an IRS-designated nonprofit, the funds belong to the **organization** to use according to the **organization's stated purpose and mission**. Every decision regarding the use of an organization's funds should be made with the utmost care, with excellent judgment, with the counsel of colleagues and for the purpose of "doing the right thing."

It has been my honor, my privilege, and my pleasure to serve the WNF&GA as president for nearly two years. I shall continue as advisor in 2022-2024. At that point I will have served on the Executive Committee for two years each as a vice president, president-elect, president and advisor. Eight years is a very long commitment, especially at my age! Because of the long commitment, the office of president-elect was eliminated in 2020. If you are asked to serve, six years is still a long time, but please consider doing the right thing by lending your good judgment to the WNF&GA.

Thank you so much to the following WNF&GA members who have been my earnest and ongoing co-volunteers since June 2020: Patty Burnside, Mary Lynne Moellering, Suzanne Smith-Oscilowski, Phyllis Macke, Christine Partch, Cheryl Malin, Leslie Morris-Smith, Mary Pat Ford, Karol Carter and Lenore Treba. Final thanks to our publication partner, QRP Printing in Midland, Michigan. Joy Stewart is my go-to person at QRP. She rocks! Hearty applause for all!

Mary Schwark
WNF&GA president
2020-2022



Do you recognize the fine gentleman portrayed on the left? If not, you can read about him on page 22.

Thank you to Ruth Ellen Mayhall, a member of the Grosse Pointe Shores Garden Club Branch, for sharing his information.

Honoring our History
Sharpening our Image
Envisioning our Future

Doing the Right Thing

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) Bocock	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
Donaldada (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) Hochstettler	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

LIST UPDATED March 2022

Susan Celentano WNF&GA president 1984-1986

Susan, also known during her WNF&GA presidency as Mrs. Paul E. Herbert, was born in Sharon, PA, in July of 1937. D: January 27, 2022



<https://www.legacy.com/us/obituaries/hartfordcourant/name/susan-celentano-obituary?id=32761868>

As a child, Susan moved to Dearborn, MI, with her family. Her father, a civil engineer, was employed by Ford Motor Company. He oversaw the construction of Ford plants worldwide.

Susan graduated from Dearborn High School and then from Michigan State University with a BA in education. After marrying Paul Herbert, she taught middle school students in Michigan for several years. With their two children, Julie Herbert (now Wiles) and Robert Herbert, they moved to Simsbury, CT in 1974. Susan eventually became a grandmother of three. She later married Frank Celentano, also of Connecticut. He survives her.

An active WNF&GA member for more than 35 years, Susan was a founder of the Charter Oak Branch in the Simsbury area. She was also on the board of trustees of ACWW and served a two-year term (1984-86) as WNF&GA president. Horticultural therapy was an ongoing interest.

In early February, I spoke with Susan's daughter Julie Wiles. According to Julie, "Farm & Garden was very important to her, and she enjoyed her time working with the organization." Julie added that, in later years, her mother "still appreciated horticulture" and she "would light up in the presence of flowers." Send cards to Julie Wiles, 109 W. Simsbury Rd., Canton, CT 06019. [Editor's note: Julie Wiles was born at the same Dearborn hospital where my three children were born.]

Condolences to Julia Siefker

Thank you to WNF&GA recording secretary Phyllis Macke for notifying us about the passing of Julia Siefker's mother Marilyn J. (Cramer) Gulkner on November 14, 2021, age 88. She was a resident of Ottawa, Ohio.

We send our condolences to Julia, WNF&GA president from 2012 – 2014. Her mother Marilyn graduated from Defiance College (Ohio), with a BSN in nursing. Marilyn enjoyed a long career in public health.

For additional information, visit:

<https://www.lovefuneralhome.com/obituary/Marilyn-Gulkner>
Julia's mailing address is: PO Box 116, Glandorf, OH 45848. Email: jverhoff300@gmail.com

WNF&GA Annual National Meeting *Call to Meeting Notice*

Please allow this announcement to serve as notice to all registered members
of the Woman's National Farm & Garden Association, Inc.

The 2022 Annual National Meeting will be held
in southeast Michigan from June 1, 2022 – June 5, 2022.

The registration form for the in-person meeting is on page 7 of this publication.

Additional details including the agenda, business and the
program will be provided via email in advance before May 14.

NOTE: A **VIRTUAL** business meeting will be held via Zoom on Saturday, May 14, 2022.

Kathy Beveridge will host the meeting from 10:00 – 11:30 am. Watch for details,
including a Zoom meeting invitation, which will be emailed to you in early May.

Slate of 2022 – 2024 WNF&GA Executive Committee Members

Voting will take place during the May 14 **VIRTUAL** business meeting.

New Executive Committee members will not take office until the **IN-PERSON National Meeting**
on Saturday evening, June 4, 2022, at 7:45 pm.

President – Patty Burnside, Saginaw Garden Club Branch, MI

Vice President – TBD

A & O Treasurer – Mary Lynne Moellering, Rochester Garden Club Branch, MI

E & C Treasurer – Suzanne Smith-Oscilowski, Ambler-Keystone Branch, PA

Recording Secretary – TBD

Corresponding Secretary – Phyllis Macke, Dooryard Garden Club, OH

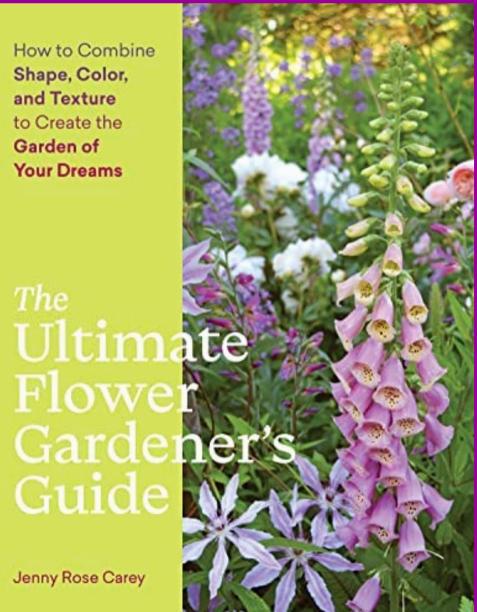
Jenny Rose Carey

is a great friend to the WNF&GA.
She has recently published a new book:

The Ultimate Flower Gardener's Guide

How to Combine Shape, Color and Texture
to Create the Garden of Your Dreams

The book will be released on July
5, 2022, both online and through
retailers. It can be ordered now for
shipping at the time of release.



2022 WNF&GA National Meeting in southeast Michigan – REGISTRATION FORM

June 1 - 5, 2022 ~ NO MEETING REGISTRATIONS WILL BE ACCEPTED AFTER MAY 25, 2022. ~

Guests are welcome! Complete a separate registration form for each member or guest.

See hotel info at bottom of page: Somerset Inn, 2601 W. Big Beaver Road, Troy, MI 48084 Phone: 248-643-7800

Please print neatly. The registrar must be able to read your writing!

Name _____ 1st national meeting? YES NO WNF&GA Member? Or guest?

Address _____ City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Home phone _____ Cell phone _____ Email _____

Emergency contact person _____ Relationship _____ Phone _____

MI Division? YES NO MI DIV office currently held? _____ Branch name _____

Branch office currently held? _____ National office currently held? _____

Traveling from NY, OH, or PA to MI by: Air Car Expected date/time of arrival _____

If staying in a hotel, rooming with _____

DIETARY RESTRICTIONS – IMPORTANT! Check ONE only: NO restrictions Vegetarian

WE NEED TO KNOW: Please list ALL dietary restrictions, if any. _____

IMPORTANT NOTE: (INCL.) = included in registration fee (N-INCL.) = not included in registration fee

WEDNESDAY, June 1, 2022 N-INCL. Details, p. 15

OPTIONAL & ON YOUR OWN - Peony Garden Centennial!

Visit the Nichols Arboretum Peony Garden IN BLOOM!
1610 Washington Heights, Ann Arbor, MI 48109

FRIDAY, June 3, 2022 INCL. except OPTIONALs

9–9:30 am: Arr. at Meadow Brook Hall pkg. lot off Adams Rd.
9:30 am: Enter MBH; meeting opens in dining room.

10–10:50 am: Brunch in the Christopher Wren dining room.

10:50 am: MBH staff presentation: *"Look Up; Look Around"*

11:10 am: Meeting resumes. Meeting concludes at 11:30 am.

11:30 am: Visit MBH 1st floor, gift shop, lower level restrooms

12:15–2:15 pm: Guided tour of Meadow Brook Gardens

2:30 pm: 5-minute drive to Oakland University w/greetings by OU representative at OU's original campus & Matilda Wilson statue; surrounding landscape funded by WNF&GA Hazel Herring Civic Improvement Grant in 2018.

3:30 – **OPTIONAL & ON YOUR OWN:** Visit garden stores: *fleurdetroit*, Bloomfield Twp.; Detroit Garden Works, Pontiac (stores approx. ½ mile apart)

6:00 – 10:00 pm **OPTIONAL & ON YOUR OWN - N-INCL.**
Detroit River Princess Cruise with dinner. **Details, p. 15**

National Meeting Registration Fee = \$ 145.00

Add REQUIRED \$25 late fee 5/15 – 5/25 = _____

Nat'l Arb. Intrnshp. Donation (any amt.) = _____

Total Amount Enclosed = _____

Check payable to WNF&GA National Meeting Fund. 

(N-INCL.) = not included in registration fee

THURSDAY, June 2, 2022 INCL. except OPT. Details, p. 15

8:30 – 11 am: The Ford House & gardens, Grosse Pointe Shores

11:20 am: Arr. St. Sabbas Monastery & Gardens, Harper Woods

12 noon – 2 pm: Tea (lunch) *See mandatory dress code, p. 15.*

3 pm: Depart St. Sabbas 3:30: Arrive Belle Isle; visit Piet Oudolf Garden + Belle Isle Conservatory (Conservatory closes at 5:00 pm). **OPTIONAL DINNER ON YOUR OWN**

SATURDAY, June 4, 2022 INCL. except OPTIONAL

7–8 am: Arr. at Cranbrook Gdns. pkg. lot N. off Lone Pine Rd.

8:30 am: Meet at Sunken Gardens – **Pick up Saturday details.**

8:45–10:45 am: Explore Cranbrook Gardens

11 am–1 pm: Travel to / visit nearby private gardens # 1 & # 2

1–2 pm: Travel to Troy Historic Village; lunch under tent

2–3 pm: Travel to / visit nearby private garden #3

3–5 pm: **OPTIONAL:** Telly's, Uncle Luke's, Somerset Coll.

5–6 pm: Troy Historic Village garden stroll

6–8 pm: Dinner; presentation; installation of 2022–2024

WNF&GA Executive Committee officers; farewell. **Details, p. 15**

Mail completed registration form plus check
to National Meeting registrar: Onita Fitz

2691 Harrington Rd., Rochester Hills, MI 48307-4406

Registration or meeting questions: Contact Onita at

248-830-4508 OR onitafitz@gmail.com

Include "NATIONAL MEETING" in subject line of email.

NO REFUNDS. NO EXCEPTIONS.

\$25 late fee applies May 15 thru May 25, 2022.

NO MEETING REGISTRATIONS AFTER MAY 25 !

MANDATORY St. Sabbas Dress Code
Important details on p. 15

All attendees should drive themselves to venues or share rides
by prior arrangement. **See p. 15 for ride-sharing assistance.**

SOMERSET INN, 2601 W. Big Beaver Rd., Troy, MI 48084 Crumpets Restaurant on premises Details, p. 15

Check in at 3:00 pm Check out at 12:00 noon ~ \$119 OR \$144 per night per room + 13.3 % tax

Reserve by calling the hotel directly: 248-643-7800 Request COURTESY BLOCK RATE for the Woman's National Farm & Garden.

Hotel reservation DEADLINE: May 11, 2022

Websites: somersetinn.com OR reservations@somersetinn.com

WNF&GA Membership ~ March 2022

- submitted by Cheryl Malin, registrar

SINGLE BRANCH MEMBERSHIP

Members-at-Large +		
Comp + Emeritae		19
7 Single Branch Garden Clubs in		
NY, OH, PA		183
SINGLE BRANCH TOTAL		202

MICHIGAN DIVISION MEMBERSHIP

Members-at-large	8
25 Individual Branch	
Garden Clubs in Michigan	<u>1116</u>
MICHIGAN DIVISION TOTAL	1124

WNF&GA TOTAL MEMBERSHIP

1326

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.

Gerry Howard
12735 Scott Road
Davisburg, MI 48350

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

Application Deadline
May 1, 2022

Mail completed application
& photos to:

Gerry Howard
12735 Scott Road
Davisburg, MI 48350

*Application
Deadline
May 1, 2022*

Phone: 248-634-3766

Email: gerryhoward323@yahoo.com

Requirements of 2022 Grant Recipients

1. Submit a final report to Gerry Howard at the above address no later than May 1, 2023.
 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

Contact Information for WNF&GA Directors, Chairpersons & Branch/Division Presidents

Agriculture Director Joette Kunse – 248-620-2984 jkhorses@comcast.net	Finance Chairperson Lenore Treba – 248-362-3738 leetreba@att.net	Magazine Editor Mary Schwark – 248-765-4809 schwark@aol.com
Bess Mueller Floral Arts Fund <i>AND</i> Floral Arts Nancy Matthews – 215-542-6932 fancynancy25@verizon.net	Frances Plate Bequest <i>AND</i> Sarah B. Tyson Fellowship Cindy Nuss – 215-576-6524 Nussci56@gmail.com	National Awards Pat Brown – 586-268-0975 Pathb501946@comcast.net
Burlingame/Gerrity Horticultural Therapy Scholarship JoAnn Preston – 248-528-2647 Jakpre24@msn.com	International Cooperation <i>AND</i> Frysinger Int'l. Project Fund Kay Engelhart – 989-790-1546 kengelhart@hotmail.com	Registrar - National Cheryl Malin – 248-421-6093 Cmalin09@gmail.com
Charitable Affairs Karol Carter – 248-641-9331 karolvet@aol.com	Gardening Director Louise Shoksnnyder – 989-469-4089 louise446@aol.com	Renaud Peterson Nat. Arb. Intr. Natasha Cunningham – 410-271-7083 Natasha44490405@yahoo.com
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 cjdlley@nycap.rr.com
Environmental Director Suzanne Smith-Oscilowski 215-740-7264 suzgarden416@gmail.com	Historian Janet Leingang – 419-523-5 932 djleingang@bright.net	Temple Ambler Arboretum Intern Program Mary Pat Ford – 215-654-1486 mpf6@hotmail.com
Facebook <i>AND</i> Website Leslie Morris-Smith – 215-805-2591 leslm5791@gmail.com	Horticultural Therapy JoAnn Preston – 248-528-2647 Jakpre24@msn.com	Warren Sanders McNaughton Oceanographic Scholarship Leslie Morris-Smith – 215-805-2591 leslm5791@gmail.com (not funded 2022)

OPEN POSITIONS: Communication, Parliamentarian

Division & Single Branch Presidents	Lapeer Wildflowers – Patty Bradshaw pattybshaw@charter.net	Troy Garden Club – Linda Forrester linozfor@att.net
MICHIGAN DIVISION PRESIDENT Jo Sillanpaa – jcsillanpaa@gmail.com	Milford Branch – Linda Smith lsmith26mi@gmail.com	Warren Branch – April Everett april@the-everetts.com
MICHIGAN DIVISION BRANCHES	Moonglow Branch – Ginger Dean gingerdean25197@outlook.com	Waterford Branch – Carrie Sue Cempura cscempura@hotmail.com
Bloomfield Hills – Bobbi Polk Bobbiopolk@gmail.com	Northville Branch – Kathy Galarneau kchmura@aol.com	
Clarkston Farm & Gdn. Club – Diane Putvin dputvin@ymail.com	Plymouth Branch – Marilyn Norgrove garden-gall@comcast.net	NEW YORK, OHIO & PENNSYLVANIA BRANCHES
Country Gdn. Club of Northville – Aleta Lee aletalee@gmail.com	Pontiac Branch – Gerry Howard gerryhoward323@yahoo.com	NY Cambridge Br. President – Bea Peterson beapeterson@gmail.com
County Downs – Pamela Haxton (co-pres.) phaxton6@gmail.com	Port Huron Garden Club – Ginny Paknikar Caring4u@yahoo.com	NY Tri-County Br. Pres. – Joanna Prouty joannaprouty@aol.com
County Downs – Justina Misuraca (co-pres.) jmisuraca@gmail.com	Rochester Branch – Robin McGrath rmmcgrath6@gmail.com	OH Dooryard Br. Pres. – Phyllis Macke pjmacke@gmail.com
Franklin Branch – Cindy Juliano (co-pres.) cindyjuliano@gmail.com	Romeo & Juliet Branch – Kathy Bruggeman kathyselfsfast@gmail.com	OH TAWA Br. Pres. – Rhonda Rainey Rrainey45881@gmail.com
Franklin Branch – Kathy Lorencz (co-pres.) Kathleenlorenz@yahoo.com	Saginaw Branch – Ann Herm adherm@charter.net	PA Ambler-Keystone Br. Pres. – Tessie McNeely TessieMcNeely@verizon.net
Grosse Pte. F. & G.C. – Kate French Missk8@sbcglobal.net	Springfield Branch – Carol Pinkos cpinkos6@gmail.com	PA Bucks County Br. Pres. – Alice Marcy Alice.marcy2@gmail.com
Grosse Pte. Pk. G.C. – Sandra Jackson grossepoinjazz@yahoo.com	Trailwood Gdn. Club – Georgia Randinitis randine@comcast.net	PA West Deer Br. Pres. – Marion Temple Temple1940@comcast.net
Grosse Pte. Shores Branch – Shirley Hartert shirleyharterpta@comcast.net	Trenton Branch – Rose Maki (co-pres.) rose817@comcast.net	PLEASE NOTE: There are several changes to the list since the fall 2021 magazine was published.
Indian Village Branch – Renata Miller miller.renata@yahoo.com	Trenton Branch – Teresa Vallar (co-pres.) tvallar@comcast.net	- 9 -

INTERNATIONAL COOPERATION AND FRYINGER INTERNATIONAL PROJECT FUND

Kay Engelhart & Sylvia Anderson

ASSOCIATED COUNTRY WOMEN OF THE WORLD (ACWW) – is more than Pennies for Friendship and the WE FUND. While we speak to these two topics frequently and are asked to clarify where our collected monies go for these two funds, there is much more to ACWW. For those who follow the work of ACWW in the *Countrywoman* magazine and newsletters you have a chance to help educate your Branch members of these additional issues affecting women worldwide.



ACWW and the
Sustainable Development Goals
A commitment to Agenda 2030

Looking for topics for your Branch Meetings? In line with the 17 SDG's (Sustainable Development Goals), and the resolutions and recommendations proposed and approved by members at the ACWW Triennial conferences, specific dates listed below may help with topics for your meetings. Notice how many align with the goals and work of WNF&GA? How would your members like to pick a topic to coordinate with one of these dates, do a little research, and do a brief (10 minute or so) presentation to your members? What a perfect way to expand your member education with more members involved. There's so much to learn, so much to share and why not involve your members?

- January 24 – International Day of Education
- February 6 – International Day of Zero Tolerance to Female Genital Mutilation; 11 – International Day of Women and Girls in Science; 20 – World Day of Social Justice
- March 8 – International Woman's Day; 22 – World Water Day
- April 7 – World Health Day; 29 – ACWW DAY
- May 15 – International Day of Families; 20 – World Bee Day; 29 – International Day of UN Peacekeepers
- June 5 – World Environment Day; 8 – World Oceans Day; 19 – International Day for the Elimination of Sexual Violence in Conflict; 20 – World Refugee Day
- July 30 – world Day Against Trafficking in Persons; 30 - International Day of Friendship
- August 9 – International Day of the World's Indigenous People; 12 – International Youth Day
- September 29 – World Rabies Day
- October 11 – International Day of the Girl Child; 15 - International Day of Rural Women; 16 – World Food Day (FAO);
- 17 – International Day for the Eradication of Poverty
- November 19 – World Toilet Day; 20 – World Children's Day; 25 – December 11 – 16 Days of Activism to End Violence Against Women and Girls

Check the ACWW website www.acww.org.uk and the United Nations site www.un.org for details.

Attention Branch Presidents/International Committee Chairman: *In accordance with our membership in ACWW, I need to submit a Triennial report of the work of our Branches, Divisions and National association for publication in the 30th Triennial Book of Reports. I ask that you send me your report of your international involvement during the past three years, so WNF&GA report can be filed on time. Your deadline is March 1, 2022! Please just email, no matter how long or short, so your work can be included. Please include the donations you have made to ACWW – Pennies for Friendship, The Frysinger International Project Fund and any other ACWW funds.*

My email is kengelhart@hotmail.com Thank you!

WOMEN WALK THE WORLD! Interested in a fun way to raise funds and awareness of the work of ACWW and your support of rural women around the world? Pick a date on or near the 29th of April; pick a lovely, fun place to walk (a park, the local zoo, a walk along the waterfront). Order some promotion materials from ACWW (on the website) – put out flyers, ask friends and neighbors to participate. Here's one brief report from Sydney, Australia:



Sydney's Phillip Group Walk for ACWW

Phillip Group – the group which comprises the six Sydney metropolitan branches of the Australian Country Women's Association of New South Wales – holds an annual Women Walk the World Event to raise for ACWW. Phillip Group has a very active international committee managed by Margery East who also arranged the 2021 fundraising event – a walk around the beautiful and historic Sydney Harbour. The walkers raised \$350 and enjoyed a day of education, entertainment & fellowship.

.....continued on page 11

.....continued from page 10

Personal Stories

Sarah and Gentrix tell us how their lives have changed

Prior to the installation of the rainwater harvesting system in her village, Sarah spent at least 6 hours a day collecting water from a river 4 kilometres from her house. This contaminated water would be used for all household tasks including cooking, drinking, and washing and without access to water treatment her family was regularly ill with diarrhoea. The tank installed in Sarah's village provides sufficient water to 270 women throughout the year capturing the reliable rainfall that occurs for 11 months of the year and reduces water collection time to just 30 minutes. With this extra time, Sarah is able to put more energy into her farm and vegetable business a rewarding outcome as the income from her vegetable business has tripled and farm production doubled.

"The income from her vegetable business has tripled and farm production doubled"



Gentrix Kalama used heavily polluted water from a seasonal river that is 5 kilometres from her house for general household chores such as cooking, cleaning, bathing, and drinking.

She also used water from the river for making bricks at her home, which she sells to earn an income. However, the river water is often contaminated by dirty surface runoff, animals, and nearby open defecation. During Ufanisi Women Group's project committee's visit, it was obvious there were tadpoles and frog eggs in the river!

According to Gentrix, diarrhoea among children in her household recurred in 2-3 days and spent a significant portion of her income per month on purchasing medicine for diarrhoea. Gentrix is now just 400 meters from one of the 6,000 litre tanks installed with funds from ACWW, with access to safe and clean water for drinking and sanitation at her home. With the time that she saves on water collection, she can invest more time on brick making business, increasing her income. She has also reduced the amount of money she spends on treatment of illness for her household.

6 CLEAN WATER AND SANITATION

TARGET 6-1 TARGET 6-1
SAFE AND AFFORDABLE DRINKING WATER

TARGET 6-4 TARGET 6-4
INCREASE WATER-USE EFFICIENCY AND ENSURE FRESHWATER SUPPLIES

TARGET 6-B TARGET 6-B
SUPPORT LOCAL ENGAGEMENT IN WATER AND SANITATION MANAGEMENT

THE GLOBAL GOALS
For Sustainable Development



Report provided by Kay Engelhart & Sylvia Anderson

Snowbird Gardening

- Louise Shoksnnyder, WNF&GA *Gardening Director*

My husband and I have spent the last 18 winters on the Gulf Coast of Florida. We feel blessed to be able to escape Michigan winters. For most of those years we rented various homes and condos around the Dunedin area. One home we rented had a virtual botanic garden around it! The owner was thrilled to know I was a Master Gardener. Little did she know that my knowledge of Florida gardening was limited!

In 2015 we bought in a lovely mobile home park in Dunedin. The grounds were landscaped when we purchased our home. Space to garden on the lot is very limited, and being present for only a few months of the year hampers serious gardening. There is no constant water source, so one needs to plant with that in mind. I plant some combination pots in February when warmer temperatures are more reliable. They provide some color and food for pollinators in the yard. When we leave in April, I pass along the pots to neighbors who live here full-time.

Looking around the neighborhood, those residents who do garden, opt for colorful foliage, reliable flowering shrubs, succulents, agave and pots of annuals. Annuals, unfortunately, have a short life in Florida's heat. We inherited a large shrub that is always bare when we arrive. It leafs out eventually and even offers a few blooms before we leave. It is a jasmine 'pinwheel.' (See photo.) My neighbor tells me it blooms profusely in the summer!

I also have a type of plectranthus that is very hardy, and it provides purple blooms loved by bees. Croton, agave, ferns and succulents round out our plantings. Our home is situated in shade for most of the day. We also have two towering palm trees on our property. A paid gardener keeps our shrubs pruned and our weeds pulled during the time we are away. Things grow at an alarming rate during the hot, wet months. We would be fined by our community if things weren't kept in check.

One important point that is essential to gardening in Florida is not to overplant. Things can grow very quickly! The type of plants that grow in Zones 8-9 are much different from our Michigan Zone 5. Timing of planting is vastly different too. Tomatoes can grow all winter; flowering annuals can be planted in the winter, and some bulbs too. I plant my Christmas amaryllis here every year and have been rewarded with blooms in April. I love bearded iris; I grow it in Michigan. A company I deal with in Oregon was advertising in their catalog, and I asked for one to be sent to Florida. I got a very nice email noting that iris do not grow well in Florida! I explained that I was a snowbird whose mail is forwarded. Catalogs are not forwarded. The Oregon company complied.

I hope that you have made it through this winter wherever you are, warm or cold. Of course, it's been a pretty daunting winter "up north" thus far. We get reports. It's been cool in Florida too. Not much is flowering and there is frost damage on some of the foliage plants, like banana. Hibiscus shrubs are not blooming and other shrubs aren't behaving as they normally do. But it will warm up; that's a given!



- Shoksnnyder photos, L - R:

1) Blooming succulent with various names:
mother of millions (because of its production
of so many "babies"), aka *alligator plant* or
Mexican hat plant

2) Louise & one of her Florida palm trees
3) Foxtail fern

4) Jasmine 'pinwheel' (-photo courtesy of the internet)

Soil or Dirt?

- by Suzanne Smith-Oscilowski, *Environmental Director*

We garden in soil, but when we wash soil out of our clothing or off our hands, . . . it's dirt! But what is the difference between soil and dirt? The Soil Science Society of America defines dirt as "displaced soil."

Soil is Living.

Fungi, bacteria, insects, worms and organic matter make soil "alive." With its nutrients and minerals, soil supports life and is a complete self-sustaining ecosystem. When the amazing material called "soil" leaves the garden (i.e., it is displaced) on your hands or clothes, it becomes dirt.

Dirt is Dead.

Made of some combination of sand, silt and clay, dirt has no real nutrients or living organisms and is not an organized ecosystem. Cut off from its ecosystem, dirt is no longer productive. Dirt is dead and does not support life.

All soil began as dirt. Natural soil formation takes thousands or even millions of years. Rocks erode into sand and organic matter decays and accumulates. The resulting layers of soil represent time and can tell their history of creation to scientists.

Dirt in your yard can be transformed into soil by adding organic matter such as leaves, vegetable scraps and grass clippings which attract organisms that will break down the organic matter. Yep! That's compost!

Fun Facts about Soil

- Topsoil is the most productive layer of soil.
- Five tons of topsoil spread over one acre will be as thick as a dime.
- One tablespoon of soil has more organisms than there are people on earth.
- Thousands of types of bacteria live in soil.
- Over one million worms may be present in one acre of soil, and those worms can produce 700 pounds of castings each day.
- It takes a minimum of 500 years to form an inch of topsoil.
- Soils are home to a quarter of earth's species.
- Organic farms have 20% more organic matter in their soil. They make soil health a priority to avoid using manufactured chemicals.

SOURCES

Soil Association:

soilassociation.org

Soil Science Society:

soil.org

The World Beneath Our Feet

by James P. Nardi



How many images above contain dirt?

How many images contain soil?

Trends in the Future of Farming

- Joette Kunse, *Agriculture Director*

As we begin 2022, let's look at new trends in agriculture in the United States and beyond. Looking forward, we also need to look back. In 1900 in America, one third of the workforce labored in agriculture, providing food for 76 million people. Statistics in 2020 show that two to three million agriculture workers produce food for 321 million people in America. Projections are that by 2050, the world will need to produce food for 10 billion people.

What are the techniques that farmers will use to expand their food production? This article will primarily address trends and changes in agriculture in the United States.

Technology will impact agriculture with automatic machinery that will serve two purposes: to reduce manual workload and to increase efficiency by automating crucial farming processes.

The Netherlands has developed an automatic strawberry picker which can pick faster and better than human hands. The key will be for scientists to develop how to switch an autonomous picker from crop to crop. Drones are being used to zap weeds, and the precision of drones will remove weeds with less dependence on chemicals to control crops. Weeds can also be zapped with lasers.

Cameras and sensors will help the farmer figure out the best time to plant, illnesses in animals, and irrigation needs. Syngenta, a Swiss agrichemical company, and Phytech, an Israeli company, have developed a monitoring system that includes plant and soil sensors to test moisture, growth and soil health.

Autonomous farm equipment will replace farmers who currently use tractors, balers and threshers. Being able to utilize GPS will help farmers utilize all their property. Electricity and engines have changed farming for the future. Currently, only 2% of global vehicles are electric, but the belief is that by 2030, 24% of vehicles, including agricultural vehicles, will be electric. Block chain technology will provide farmers, as well as the public, with a view of the supply chain: where our food came from, how it was grown and how it was shipped and stored. The average age of today's farmers ranges from about 50 to 58 years old. Millennials are beginning to take an interest in agriculture, and they currently account for 8% of farmers in the U.S. "Some expert agronomists believe that millennials will drive the agriculture industry forward and help it incorporate the newest overall amount of knowledge about technology . . ." according to <https://www.challenge.org/resources/top-agriculture-trends/>

With the continuous investments in Ag Tech, the younger generation may find farming an attractive choice for a business. Millennials, who embraced technology very early, can help agribusiness adopt the full range of automation that will help to increase production and decrease field size and negative impact on the environment.



Monitoring the health of crops and animals with technology is also a trend for the current decade. Drones (photo on left) and devices can monitor illness in animal pens and alert farmers to problems before they become overwhelming. Animals will have smart collars to keep the farmer aware of elevated temperatures and other physical needs of animals.

Vertical farms are being tested. While they currently require a lot of energy, agricultural products can be grown closer to cities, using vertical farming. London is using old bomb shelters to test vertical farming with lights.

Newark, New Jersey has the world's largest vertical farm. Creators of AeroFarms say the vertical farm is 390 times more productive per square foot than a farm field.

Plant-based meats are also a trend, but growth seems to have stabilized in that area. Some agronomists say that between 6% and 10% of meat supply will come from plant-based meat. Genetic adaptations are also on the horizon. Corn, rice and the cassava plant, a native of the American tropics, are all being researched for genetic adaptations.

All the items mentioned above are part of the future of agriculture. Technology tools are adapted to help create less physical labor on farms and better use of time, products and management of agriculture.

Source: Forbes' The Biggest Future Trends in Agriculture and Food Production, by Bernard Marr

www.precisionfarmingdealer.com

<p>OPTIONAL & ON-YOUR-OWN</p> <p>Nichols Arboretum Peony Garden 1610 Washington Heights, Ann Arbor 48109 Peony Garden's 100th anniversary in 2022! If possible, consider visiting BEFORE Wednesday to avoid the 100th anniversary crowds. www.peony.mbgna.umich.edu/node/577/ www.peony.mbgna.umich.edu/visitor-guides</p>	<p>The Ford House & Gardens – 1100 Lake Shore Rd. www.fordhouse.org Grosse Pte. Shores 48236 www.fordhouse.org/visit/estate-map/</p>
	<p>Belle Isle Conservatory – Belle Isle onlyinyourstate.com/Michigan/Detroit/belle-isle-conservatory-dt/</p>

St. Sabbas Monastery – 18745 Old Homestead Dr., Harper Woods 48225

MANDATORY DRESS CODE / RULES: Our guests may walk the grounds and enjoy the beautiful gardens. Please remember that we are located on the grounds of a monastery and that, in order to preserve the unique atmosphere for which our guests have been known to travel hundreds of miles, we ask that standards of dress and behavior be observed. Modest attire is required. **ABSOLUTELY NO VISIBLE TATTOOS; NO VISIBLE PIERCINGS** (except for earrings). No shorts for ladies or gentlemen. For the ladies, slacks to the ankles are fine. No capri pants or leggings. Hemlines are to be below the knee. No low-cut blouses. No bare shoulders. Quarter-length sleeves are acceptable. Sandals are acceptable. No smoking, gum-chewing, or ringing cellphones. No vulgar language and please maintain control of young children. Your cooperation is greatly appreciated.

Oudolf Garden Detroit – Belle Isle
oudolfgardendetroit.org

**RED = INCLUDED/
COVERED BY REG. FEE**

**GREEN = OPTIONAL/
NOT COVERED BY REG. FEE**

Meadow Brook Hall & Meadow Brook Gardens – 350 Estate Drive, Rochester Hills 48309
meadowbrookhall.org
Christopher Wren Dining Room
kazmierblog.wordpress.com/2016/11/15/this-87-year-old-mansion

Matilda Dodge Wilson & Oakland University – 201 Meadow Brook Road, Rochester 48309
www.oakland.edu/about
www.oakland.edu/about/oaklands-history/

OPTIONAL & ON-YOUR-OWN:

fleurdetroit – 1507 Old S. Telegraph Rd., Bloomfield Hills 48302
fleurdetroit.com

Detroit Garden Works – 1794 Pontiac Dr., Sylvan Lake 48320
detroitgardenworks.com

SOMERSET INN

Details on registration form, p. 7

RESERVATION DEADLINE: May 11, 2022

OPTIONAL & ON-YOUR-OWN: Detroit River Princess Cruise with dinner **Must reserve by: May 3, 2022**
Company website: <http://www.detroitprincess.com>
Link to purchase tickets: <http://www.detroitprincess.com/cruiseinfo.php?date=2022-6-3&cid=19022> (\$87 discounted - \$78)
Extensive menu can be found on the web page with the ticket purchase link.

Cranbrook House & Gardens – 380 Lone Pine Rd., Bloomfield Hills, 48303-0801
housegardens.cranbrook.edu

Download Cranbrook's garden exploration app @ housegardens.cranbrook.edu/app

Three private gardens – Addresses and other information about the gardens will be provided at the Cranbrook Gardens at 8:30 am, Saturday, June 4. All other Saturday information will be included.

Troy Historic Village – 60 W. Wattles, Troy
en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Troy_Historic_Village

OPTIONAL & ON-YOUR-OWN (Addresses provided at Cranbrook.)

Telly's – for those who love plants!

Uncle Luke's Feed Store – for those who love garden products!

Somerset Collection – for those who love to shop!

Ride-Share Assistance

For information about driving others or riding with others, email:
schwarz@aol.com

CHARITABLE AFFAIRS 2022 AWARDS

The following scholarships, internships and sponsorships have been funded, except as noted below, by the WNF&GA in 2022 and are available.

SCHOLARSHIPS / INTERNSHIPS

Burlingame/Gerrity

Horticultural Therapy Scholarship - RJEE&AD

Chairperson - JoAnn Preston

Funded - \$1,500.00

Francis Plate Bequest - RJEE&AD

Chairperson - Cindy Nuss

Funded - \$2,000.00

Renaud-Peterson U.S. National

Arboretum Internship - RJEE&AD

Chairperson - Natasha Cunningham

Funded - \$7,500.00

Sarah Bradley Tyson Fellowship - BNYMEE&AD

Chairperson - Cindy Nuss

Co-Trustees-Mary Schwark & Suzanne Smith-Oscilowski

Funded - \$4,000.00

Warren Sanders McNaughton

Oceanographic Scholarship - RJEE&AD

Chairperson - Leslie Morris-Smith

Not funded in 2022

WNF&GA Temple University

Ambler Campus Internship - RJEE&AD; TF

Chairperson - Mary Pat Ford

Funded - \$2,000.00

SPONSORSHIPS

Bess Mueller Fund - RJEE&AD

Chairperson - Nancy Matthews

Funded - \$1,000.00

Frysinger International Project Fund - RJEE&AD

Chairperson - Kay Engelhart

Funded - \$2,000.00

Hazel Herring Civic Improvement Grant - AEPSSE

Chairperson - Gerry Howard

Funded - \$3,000.00

Schlesinger Library - RJEE

Liaison - Carole Jackson Dilley (Mrs. James E.)

Funded - \$500.00 given for storage of WNF&GA documents

See green
box below
for key to
**FUNDING
SOURCE
CODES.**

2021 SARAH B. TYSON

FELLOWSHIP RECIPIENT UPDATE

by Karol Carter, *Charitable Affairs chairperson*

Arena Lewis, WNF&GA 2021 SBT Fellowship recipient, provided an update of her Michigan State University graduate studies, under the direction of Krista Isaacs, PhD assistant professor of International Seed Systems - Department of Plant, Soil and Microbial Sciences at MSU.

In her SBT application, Arena stressed that food security is a major issue facing the world today. Small holder farmers rely on the biodiversity of their seed selection to ensure crop stability, healthy soil and successful production. Seed varieties, well adapted to the local environment, are shared through seed-saving, trade and exchange. The social network of the seed system preserves diversity of seed and also allows for seed informational exchange.

But race, gender, class and socioeconomic status affect the variety and accessibility of seed within a community. Arena noted that there are few studies that focus on how systems of discrimination affect the availability of diverse seed in developing countries. Arena stated: "This is important because equitable seed and resource access is vital to maintain the use and continued evolution of traditional varieties to mitigate the issues of food insecurity and climate change." Through her research, she hopes to explore how seed banks can be used to share diverse seed varieties in an efficient and equitable way.

During the summer of 2021 Arena worked in the Community Sustainability Department at MSU. Her team explored the impact Michigan farmers markets have on their communities and how the pandemic impacted those markets. Their team submitted a paper to the International Journal of Sociology and Social Policy.

Throughout the fall of 2021, Arena focused heavily on her thesis. Data will be based on a review of a collection of interviews of women in self-help groups (SHG) located in Uttar Pradesh, India. The SHG were begun by the nonprofit group RGMVP (Rajiv Gandhi Mahila Vikas Pariyojana). Founded in 2006, the nonprofit works for poverty reduction, women empowerment and rural development in Uttar Pradesh, where the patriarchal system dominates households.

Arena's Research Questions:

1. How has RGMVP changed access to seed?
2. What social and/or cultural changes have come to SHG members?
3. What is the relationship between seed access, production and observed changes in a woman's social capital and empowerment?

Arena's midyear report ended as follows: "As I continue this work, I am frequently reminded of how blessed I am to have the opportunity to participate in such a field as this. This opportunity, however, is due very little to any action of my own, but to the efforts, support and gifts of others, like the Sarah B. Tyson Fellowship."

E & AD – Earnings & Annual Donations

RJEE&AD – Raymond James Endowment E&AD

BNYMEE&AD – BNY Mellon Endowment E&AD

AEPSSE – American Electric Power Stock Share Earnings

TF – Tiberio Foundation

RJEE – Raymond James Endowment Earnings

Hello. My name is Shana Burke.

I was the 2021 intern in the Dogwood Collection at the U.S. National Arboretum. In previous years, I also worked in the Arboretum's Asian Collection before the pandemic. I have always had a passion for working outside and just recently graduated from the University of Maryland, College Park with a bachelor's in agriculture science and technology. I am from deep down in southern Maryland where there are a lot of farms and wooded areas. Working up here in D.C. was a big change for me, as I learned how to drive in the city, which was one of my biggest fears when I first started driving this commute.

The National Arboretum has been a wonderful place for me to gain more knowledge and experience in horticulture. The staff here are very knowledgeable and always present to answer any questions I may have and lead me into the right direction of being a great gardener! My internship in the dogwood collection with George Waters has been a fantastic experience! During my time in the dogwood collection, I have been able to gain more knowledge about the dogwood trees as well as learning how to propagate, and how to properly prune trees. George and I have been working extremely hard to get the garden back in shape like it was before the pandemic. I have been helping George with everything including propagating, pruning, weeding, mulching, and planting. One of my favorite moments was when I got to plant a dogwood tree at the very beginning of the dogwood collection entrance. I am excited to watch that tree grow!

Every day as I worked in the garden, I thought about all the dedicated women from the WNF&GA who made the opportunity possible for me, and I truly appreciated that. On August 23, Mary Ford, her husband, and her dog came to visit me in the garden. George and I were so honored to show her the tree that was dedicated in her name. We had a great visit! I wish I could have met more of the wonderful women in the WNF&GA. Thank you so much for supporting the internship position in the dogwood collection! The experience would have never been possible without your support.

Mary Pat Ford & Shana Burke, August 2021



George Waters, longtime gardener in the Arboretum's dogwood collection, and WNF&GA's 2021 intern Shana Burke, as they finished planting a Ruth Ellen flowering dogwood (*Cornus 'Ruth Ellen'*) in October 2021.

Ambler-Keystone Branch, Pennsylvania – submitted by Cindy Nuss

To help waning bird and insect populations by educating the public about how native plants could be used to create a beautiful and ecologically functional garden, the Ambler-Keystone Branch decided to create a Native Plant Demonstration Garden in the new Twining Valley Park. Once a golf course, the park presented plenty of opportunities for gardening. In January 2020, the head of Parks and Recreation recommended a former putting green for our project. Two side walls of the garden were designed by a Temple graduate, so we had great bones to start. Park employees helped by supplying mulch and removing invasive grasses plus three large yews.

We applied for the Hazel Herring Award in January, but were in lockdown due to the pandemic. In the summer, we gained full access to nurseries and garden centers, plus freedom to work together and access to grant money. Hot and humid days forced us to wait for planting until September. The soil at the edges turned out to be as expected, but the center portion was extraordinarily sandy, forcing a revision to the plan. Many branch members worked two to three times a week until Thanksgiving when we decided to pause until spring. People from our township saw us working and asked if they could help, which resulted in the addition of new members.

While engaged in spring planting, many people stopped to ask about the garden. We received many compliments and thanks from our residents. Summer's chores were mostly watering, weeding and creating new beds. Mother Nature complied and gave us many cooler days with above-normal rainfall. The area truly has come to life with butterflies, bees, birds and insects of all sorts. While weeding in the summer, we heard two little girls delightfully cooing "Ooooh, a monarch!" They watched as the monarchs mated and some laid their eggs on the pink milkweed.

... cont'd. on p. 22



See additional photo, p. 22.

Bucks County Branch, Pennsylvania – submitted by Alice Marcy

Since its beginning in 2010, our branch has grown to 56 members from all areas of a Pennsylvania county that includes the northern suburbs of Philadelphia. Our group meets five times each year (currently virtually) with a presentation from a local Master Gardener or from other garden experts.

The November meeting is a book club discussion. Our choices in 2021 were *Braiding Sweetgrass* by Robin Wall Kimmerer and *Wilding* by Isabella Tree. Inspired by the author Doug Tallamy (*Bringing Nature Home*), a particular interest is an awareness of the importance of native trees, shrubs and plants as the foundation of a healthy environment.

In June, we host an annual 'Designed for Nature' garden tour with our partner Bowman's Hill Wildflower Preserve. The tour features six local homeowner properties that are transitioning to the use of native plants. The garden areas



range from an expansive 19th century farm residence to a suburban yard to a compact in-town border, but each is distinctive and has its own gems.

Since its start in 2016, the event has been a great way to educate and inspire area residents about native plants and to attract new members. Tour proceeds are used to support scholarships for horticulture and agriculture majors at Delaware Valley University, and the summer intern program at Bowman's. In addition to the tour, group outings are a favorite activity because the Philadelphia region, known as America's Garden Capital, is home to over 30 noteworthy public gardens. We have visited gardens at arboretums

... cont'd. on p. 22

Lapeer Wildflowers Branch, MI – submitted by Patty Bradshaw

The charter of the Lapeer Wildflowers Branch of Woman's National Farm and Garden Association was signed on April 23, 2004, by 17 women. The branch was organized by Nora Tebben and EmmaJane Brice (see photo, right above), who were members of the Romeo and Juliet Branches of WNF&GA. Nora and EmmaJane were honored as founders by the Lapeer Wildflowers branch this past year with bricks at the historic Lapeer County Courthouse (see photo, right below).

The Lapeer Wildflowers branch has worked on a number of community service landscaping projects including the Lapeer High School sign, the courtyards at the Center for Innovation, the Lapeer Post Office and the historic Lapeer County Courthouse. As we are a small club, our meetings are sometimes at members' homes, where we share a potluck meal. We also have occasional field trips to local points of interest such as the Mott Applewood Estate in Flint. During the winter, the club stays in touch through monthly lunches at local restaurants.

The premiere event of the Lapeer Wildflowers Branch is Mrs. Tebben's Tea, held each spring at the Huntsman Hunt Club, a beautiful and unique setting in Dryden,. The tea is the main source of funds for the Lapeer Wildflowers Garden Club scholarships, which are presented each year to Lapeer County High School seniors who plan to attend a 2-year or 4-year college or a technical school in the fields of agriculture, horticulture or environmental science. We have not been able to host Mrs.Tebben's Tea for the last two years due to the pandemic, but this year's tea will be on Thursday, May 26, at the Hunt Club.

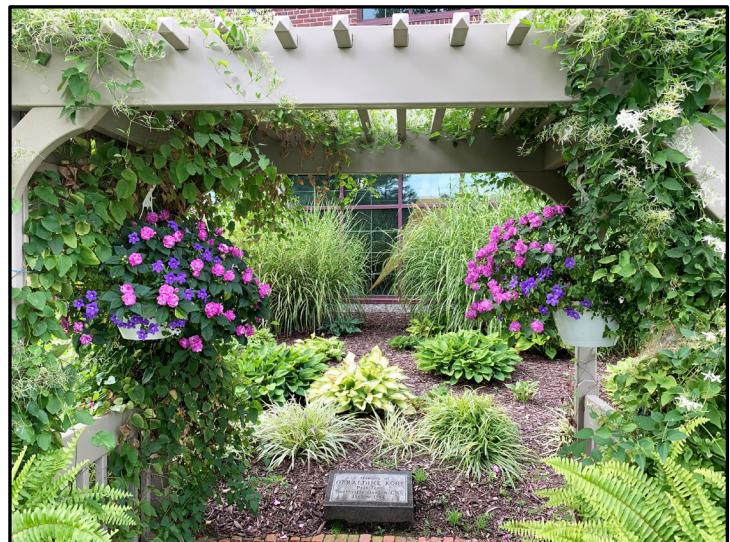


Northville Garden Club Branch, MI – submitted by Kathy Galarneau, with photos by Tricia Tompson



Carpet Garden at the Yerkes House.

From April through October, members of the Northville Garden Club Civic Service Committee – under the direction of Sue Woodsum – plan, plant and maintain several gardens around town. The results of the hard work by Northville Garden Club members are a source of great pride, not only among club members, but among members of the community as well.



Kohs Arbor and daffodil-hosta garden – part of Garden Club Park at the Northville District Library

Plymouth Garden Club Branch, MI – submitted by Mary Prouty

Way back on May 4, 1936, the Plymouth Branch of the Woman's National Farm & Garden Association was organized by Louise Tritten, her mother Alma Spicer and Bernice Weidman. And just in case Plymouth Garden Club (PGC) might be a category on *Jeopardy!*, it's good to know that the club was sponsored by Clara Bryant Ford, WNF&GA president from 1927 – 1934, and the wife of automobile-famous Henry Ford. Nine members were present at President Bernice Weideman's first meeting, but the club's membership grew and flourished within the community and the city of Plymouth. One noteworthy endeavor was the school seedling program that encouraged the planting and care of trees by second graders. The program was spearheaded by Betty Norman, another daughter of Alma Spicer.

Now, nearly 86 years later, would you believe that the legacy has continued? Yes! Marilyn Norgrove – the daughter of Betty Norman, granddaughter of Alma Spicer and niece of Louise Tritten – is our current Plymouth Garden Club president! As we approach our *Third Spring of Pandemic Concern*, we are positively moving forward with our gardening expertise in enhancing downtown Plymouth, Garden Club Park, Veterans' Park and maintaining the landscape encircling the DIA sculpture *Plymouth at the Crossroads*. We are considering fundraisers to continue our support of college scholarships and donations to various charitable organizations. Our roots are alive and well!



- Photos courtesy of Plymouth Garden Club Branch

Above, “To prepare and maintain a garden is to believe in tomorrow.” L – R, Nancy Earle, Karen Sisolak, Jane Libbing and Shirley Dunn

Left, “It takes a whole garden club team to raise a beautiful flower bed.”

(NOTE: photo captions with a hint of well-known quotes)

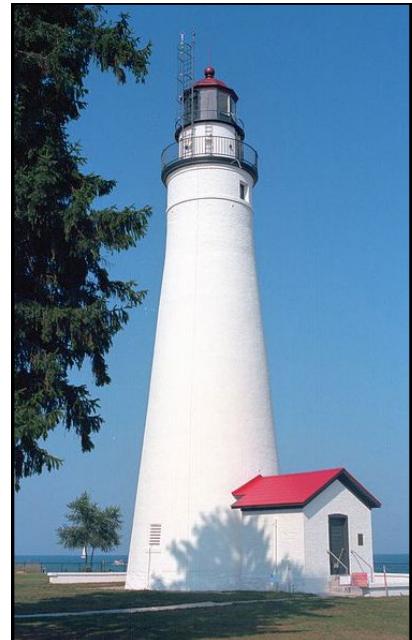
Port Huron Garden Club Branch, MI – submitted by Sandy Sharpe

The last two years have been difficult for everyone. Port Huron Garden Club members are hopeful of being on our way back to normal, and we were still able to assist our community in 2020.

Because our expenses were less than year, we were able to help two of our local charities: *The Council of Aging* and *Safe Horizons*. Both organizations received our monetary contributions. We hoped that our donations would help with the work they do for the elderly and would provide a little cheer for women and children in the shelter. We also donated ten trees to one of our parks.

Our greens sale was a huge success, thanks to innovative thinking to ensure that all involved stayed safe! We sent order forms and payment envelopes to previous customers. Our wonderful team delivered greens to homes and businesses. It was a lot of work, but worth every broken nail to see the joy and happy faces! We will continue in the future because the process worked so well. The funds raised from the sale are used for sprinkler systems, flowers, plants and trees. We also donate to local city organizations and projects.

We are grateful that the work of our club has not stopped. We continue to beautify our city and give back to our community.



Port Huron, a gateway to Canada, is home to the Fort Gratiot Lighthouse, an icon in the community. The oldest lighthouse in Michigan, it was built in 1829.

- Photo courtesy of the internet

Warren Garden Club Branch, MI – submitted by Paula O'Brien

Happy birthday, Warren Branch! The year was 1937 – incredibly, 85 years ago! The Village of Warren was rapidly becoming a hub of activity at Beebe's Corners, which is now the intersection of Mound and Chicago Roads. Seven ambitious women established an organization for ladies with a common interest in gardening and community – The Warren Civic and Garden Club. They learned of the WNF&GA, as well as the Michigan Division. “The rest,” as they say, “... is history.” On February 12, 1940, the original club affiliated with the Michigan Division, and henceforth has been known as the Warren Branch of the Michigan Division of WNF&GA. There was a great deal to learn from being part of a larger organization.

Gradually, Warren's scope of activities expanded to include Civic Improvement, Education and Environmental Concerns, among other things. The Scholarship Program was initiated in 1984 (the year of its first written documentation), and the program has awarded three to four scholarships each year to students of Warren Public and/or Parochial Schools. Fundraising activities included card parties, greens workshops and participation in the annual Village of Warren Homecoming. At that event, members staffed a booth to raffle a handmade quilt, sell plants and dried flowers, and answer garden-related questions. Garden walks were initiated in 1997 and have been well-documented over the years.

The most ambitious project taken on by Warren Branch addressed environmental issues. The Plastic Bag Recycling Project (2000 – 2005) resulted in five tons of plastic bags being kept out of landfills. What an accomplishment! Our branch proudly received awards from both Michigan Division and WNF&GA for our efforts. *... cont'd on p. 22*



- Photos courtesy of the Warren Garden Club Branch:
Above, planting the Human Sundial, L – R: April
Everett, Madelyn Zamora, Ruth Schoenek, Sonia Hulyk
Below, the finished product!



West Deer Branch, Pennsylvania – submitted by Susan Michaelis



Our garden club in West Deer Township seeks opportunities to promote gardening within our community. For over 25 years, we have brought hands-on flower planting to the students of Deer Creek Preschool.

For all the boys and girls, and at no cost to the school, we provide flats of blooming flowers, potting soil, containers, written instructions and a brief verbal lesson on how plants grow. Usually, three or more club members attend, and we assist all children in preparing their containers and transplanting their flowering plants.

The children take their blooming friends home, along with printed care instructions. In that way, we hope to inspire and encourage 3 to 5 year-olds to develop an interest in gardening. In 2021, we helped about 30 youngsters experience the joy of planting something beautiful.

Gardening Assistance Available (a message from your WNF&GA magazine editor)

Who is the official patron saint of gardeners? While visiting the Grosse Pointe Shores Garden Club, Michigan Division, in November 2021, I was asked that question by member Ruth Ellen Mayhall. I should have known the answer but, I'm sorry to say, I did not. Ruth Ellen kindly rescued me. She handed me a photocopy of an article by Leona Woodring Smith, a freelance writer, author and lecturer. The article *St. Fiacre, The Patron Saint of Gardeners* appeared in *Flower & Garden* magazine years ago. The late Woodring, by the way, also authored the book *The Forgotten Art of Flower Cookery*. For those interested in cooking flowers, used copies of the book are still available on Amazon.

St. Fiacre of Breuil was an Irish monk (C. AD 600 – August 18, 670 AD) who was raised in a monastery. He has also been identified as the patron saint of florists and cab drivers, The first one I get; the second one . . . not so much. Wikipedia has an interesting article about St. Fiacre, including the mention of certain other areas – some of them quite weird – of which he is also considered the patron saint.

According to Leona Smith, “The Roman Catholic Church has deemed August 30 as the feast day of Saint Fiacre. Europeans, who have recognized Fiacre as the patron saint of gardeners since the Middle Ages, celebrate this day with special masses, floral processions and pilgrimages.”

Not Catholic myself, but on the recommendation of Catholic friends, I have twice buried small plastic statues of St. Joseph in the gardens of homes we were in the process of selling. (Sometimes one just needs a bit of outside help!) We sold both homes eventually and, as a result, I’m more than happy to share the credit with St. Joseph.

From Ms. Smith: “St. Fiacre’s days at the monastery taught him a deep love of silence, the joys of planting and harvesting crops and an appreciation of nature.” See a modern image of St. Fiacre on p. 4.

Ambler-Keystone, PA . . . cont'd. from p. 18

Fall was busy with many work sessions. As the bees and meadow hawks packed it up for the season, we did final mulching and laid the garden to rest. We are looking forward to spring to see how it all fared over the winter. The head of Recreation & Parks wrote a grant to make the area ADA accessible. The grass paths were replaced by a water permeable walkway. Interpretive signs, plant labels and benefactor signs are also part of the grant. We’re keeping our fingers crossed. We scheduled spring and fall bird walks and plant sales at the garden!



Bucks County, PA

. . . cont'd. from p. 18

commercial farms, and historical sites as well as the home gardens of fellow branch members.

We occasionally meet for craft activities, such as creating winter pinecone wreaths, holiday ornaments and ceramic garden toad abodes. As part of a lasting legacy, our members volunteer community service to support a native plant demonstration garden that will bring beauty and enjoyment to local residents for years to come.

Warren Garden Club, MI

. . . cont'd. from p. 21

In 2004, while attending the WNF&GA National Meeting, we were introduced to the Human Sundial concept on a visit to the MSU Children’s Gardens. We thought it would be truly grand to have one too. In 2006, two long-term members passed away and, fortunately, memorial donations had been requested for Warren Branch. It was our opportunity to make our dream a reality and contribute to the newly opened Warren Community Center. It was an expensive project, so an application for a Hazel Herring Grant was submitted to supplement funds. We were thrilled to receive \$1,600.00 toward the Sundial. Finally, on September 9, 2007, a dedication ceremony was held, complete with a bagpiper. It was a lovely sunny day – just right to try out the new timepiece and honor our members.

Bringing us back to 2022, our members are anticipating a new season of camaraderie and community involvement, starting with Daffodil Day on April 20, and our annual Plant Exchange on May 14. Welcome, spring!

In today’s world, where so many things are temporary, it is a joy to look back and recognize all that can be done when a group of women (and now men too!) with common goals make things happen.

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, 2023.

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

Branch _____	Michigan Division YES <input type="checkbox"/> NO <input type="checkbox"/>
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 2022

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
June 30, 2022.

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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