



Farm & Garden Newsletter

Woman's National Farm
& Garden Association 2023



President's Message

*"We might think we are nurturing our garden,
but of course, it's our garden
that is really nurturing us." - Jenny Uglow*

Gardening truly does nurture our souls from the first green peeping through the snow to the last flower wilting from frost. As the Beatles sang "It's a magical mystery tour." Of course, we all know the science and botany behind gardening, but the flora that Mother Nature produces is magical. Overnight, spectacular flowers appear on stems that were bare the day before. And, lucky us, we get to "tour" through all the beautiful trees, shrubs, plants, and flowers everywhere we travel during summer.

Not only do we enjoy the fruits of our labor in our own yards and gardens, but we can also delight in all the public gardens thanks to gardeners like members of WNF&GA and other gardening groups. Gardens bring such joy and elevate everyone's spirit all year long -- but especially during summer.

Thank you, fellow gardeners, for planning and maintaining all the gardens throughout our communities. Your efforts affect and influence more people than you probably imagine. So, keep on promoting beautification, conservation, and education in your hometowns while admiring the works that Mother Nature provides to us that require no work on our part. They just magically appear year after year.



Patty Burnside
WNF&GA National President
2022-2024

Executive Committee

President

Patty Burnside
11640 W. Freeland Rd. Freeland MI 48623 pb@chartermi.net
989-284-3455

Vice President Open position

Recording Secretary

Jackie Wilson
6949 Fredmoor Dr. Troy MI 48098 jackiew1985@comcast.net
248-321-2152

Corresponding Secretary

Phyllis Macke
128 Cherry Ridge Run Ottawa OH 45875 pjmacke@gmail.com
419-969-0210

Administration & Operations Treasurer

Mary Lynne Moellering
1280 Seville Rd. Rochester Hills MI 48309
emlmoellering@gmail.com
248-651-7005

Education & Charitable Treasurer

Suzanne Smith-Oscilowski
416 Gwynedd Valley Dr. Lower Gwynedd PA 19002
suzgarden416@gmail.com
215-740-7264

Advisor

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

**Please feel free to contact us at any time
with questions or concerns.**



IMPORTANT

If your branch has changed officers – especially Presidents or Communication Chair – please notify

1. Cheryl Malin, Registrar
248-421-6093
cmalinwgc@gmail.com
2. Patty Burnside, President
989-284-3455
pb@chartermi.net

Without current contact information, it is not possible to send pertinent messages to you or your branch members.

Bylaws Updated

At the National Meeting, updates to the Bylaws were adopted. If you have not read them recently, they contain a wealth of information about the functioning and operation of WNF&GA. The [Standing Rules](#), i.e. Practices and Procedures, could not be updated until the Bylaw's revisions were made. They will be reviewed this year and updated at the next National Meeting. The new [Bylaws](#) are available on our website.



www.wnfga.org

Members section

Password: Farm100garden



Country Garden Club of Northville

Summer is here! This is always a busy time for our branch, as we are hosting our 29th Annual Garden Walk on Wednesday, July 12. We have 6 outstanding gardens this year, in addition to vendors you won't want to miss. Tickets can be bought through [Eventbrite - 29th Annual Northville Garden Walk](#) or at Gardenviews in downtown Northville. This is our biggest fundraiser of the year with the monies raised going to scholarships and donations to local organizations.

Throughout the year we have been volunteering at Oakmont Senior Center assisting the residents with flower arranging. Flowers are donated by our local Trader Joe's. If there are left-over flowers, we use them to make "lonely bouquets". Lonely bouquets are left around town with a little note, "The Lonely Bouquet - Please adopt me! We're all alone and looking for a new home. Perhaps we can brighten your day or that of a loved one?". We hope by leaving these around we bring a bit of random cheer to our community.

And speaking of community, we have been helping to maintain many gardens around town. Our crown jewel is the garden at the Northville District Library. Members mulch, weed, plant, trim, and even re-paint the statue when needed. In addition, we work on the garden in front of the Post Office and maintain 2 gardens at the Living and Learning Enrichment Center whose mission is to enhance the lives of participants with disabilities. One is a sun garden; one garden is a shade, so we can house any plants that are donated!

Other activities include volunteering with the Township Beautification Committee; attending regional events, like Daffodil Days, an initiative which celebrates the planting of Daffodils across Detroit; and our monthly meetings where we have varied and knowledgeable speakers on all topics garden and garden related.

Our branch also has the honor of being home to the outgoing MI Division President, Jo Sillanpaa. Thank you, Jo, for all you've done for our branch and the Michigan Division!

For more information on our branch and our other activities, please see our website – cgcnv.org.



Library Garden Photo credit: Shay Leonard



Fall display in front of the Post Office
Photo credit: unknown



Garden Club Members at Daffodil Days - Kristen Bros, Bette Widak, Neyssa Gill, Jackie Wiewiora, Joan Pado, Therese Oldani, Shawna Biondo-Savin, Laura Williams, Barb Sturtz



Oakmont Flower Arranging - Kathryn Novak, Rita Brincat, Therese Oldani, Barb Sturtz, Kathy Clark, Neyssa Gill Photo credit: unknown



Living and Learning Garden Workers - Shawna Biondo-Savin, Neyssa Gill, Shay Leonard, Kristen Bros, Jackie Wiewiora Photo credit: Shawna Biondo-Savin

Springfield Garden Club Branch

Our branch lives up to where we live.... adopting "SPRING" literally. After a long winter, our membership met in March at the Civic Center where we were invigorated with the energy of the dynamic George Papadilis from Telly's Greenhouse. His excitement was contagious and motivated us to think about planting our gardens with new varieties of old favorites.

April is when our club's activities shine with 7,000 daffodils that we've planted throughout the township. Each year our efforts are appreciated with yellow blooms everywhere.

Our club has a long history of making a commitment to downtown Davisburg beginning over 20 years ago with barrels filled with flowers that are now beautiful large stone planters. This commitment is alive and well in Davisburg and is bigger and better than ever. A lot of changes are happening in our little gem of a town. The existing dam is being removed and will reveal a very walkable downtown Davisburg with the addition of new paths and new businesses. The planters that we fill every season show that our club is an integral part of this growth.

At our May meeting (which was also National Garden Meditation Day) our gardeners enjoyed a yoga presentation that geared us up for a safe and healthy way for us to prepare our gardens and afterwards enjoy the beauty that we've created.





*Carol Pinkos, Past President; Pat Smolen, President; MaryAnn Strelchuk, Vice-President; Carolyn Wood, Past Vice-President; Pat Read, member
Article and photo by Carol Pinkos*



*All members of the Springfield Garden Club
now wear these jackets with pride.
Happy Gardening!*

This past May 11th some members enjoyed Spring Council meeting at the Birmingham Community Center hosted by the Troy Garden Club. A wonderful way to spend the day with fellow gardeners. We continue to encourage our members to take advantage of all the WNF&GA has to offer.



WOMAN'S NATIONAL FARM & GARDEN ASSOCIATION, INC.

Annual National Meeting - [Draft Minutes](#)

May 27, 2023

I Call to Order

- The meeting was called to order at 10:08 am by President Patty Burnside, Saginaw Garden Club Branch.
- Kathy Beveridge, Bucks County Branch, PA opened with a brief tutorial on using Zoom.

II Invocation

The invocation was given by Kathy Beveridge, Bucks County Branch, PA.

III Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag of the United States of America

The Pledge of Allegiance was led by Rita Urbanski, Troy Garden Branch.

IV Welcome/Introductions

- A. A quorum was reached with 52 attendees.
- B. President Patty recognized past presidents in attendance.
 - Kay Engelhart, Saginaw Garden Club Branch, MI
 - Rita Urbanski, Troy Garden Club Branch, MI
 - Mary Pat Ford, Ambler Keystone Branch, PA
- C. President Patty recognized the Executive Committee.
 - Suzanne Smith-Oscilowski, E&C Treasurer

- Mary Lynne Moellering, A&O Treasurer
- Phyllis Macke, corresponding secretary
- Jackie Wilson, recording secretary
- Lenore Treba, finance committee chairperson
- Rita Urbanski, past president advisor

D. Roll Call

- Jackie Wilson, Troy Garden Branch and WNF&GA recording secretary, invited members to view everyone.
- Zoom will provide a list of all who were in the meeting.
- Those branches represented:

Bloomfield Hills, MI	3	Waterford, MI	1
Clarkston F & G, MI	2	NY Tri-County	1
Franklin, MI	1	OH Dooryard	4
Indian Village, MI	1	PA Ambler-Keystone	4
Lapeer Wildflowers, MI	1	PA Bucks County	8
Northville, MI	2	Members at Large	1
Pontiac, MI	1		
Rochester, MI	4		
Saginaw, MI	6		
Troy, MI	12		

V Approval of Minutes from 2022 National Meeting

- The minutes were amended to identify Sheila Kneeshaw as a member-at-large.
- The amended minutes will be filed as submitted.

VI Administrative & Operations Treasurer - Mary Lynne Moellering, Rochester Garden Club, MI

- A&O 2022 Treasurer's Report, 2023 Budget, and 2023 YTD Report
- All be filed for audit.

VII Education & Charitable Treasurer - Suzanne Smith-Oscilowski, Ambler Keystone Branch, PA

- Correction page 18 should reflect PNC Bank Checking account balance 12/31/2022.
- E&C 2022 Treasurer's Report, 2023 Budget, and 2023 Treasurer's YTD Amended Report
- All will be filed for audit.
- Suzanne provided an explanation as to how scholarships are funded from investments.

VIII Financial Chairperson - Lenore Treba, Troy Garden Club, MI

Lenore reviewed the financial statements prepared by both treasurers and found them to be in order.

IX President - Patty Burnside, Saginaw Branch

Presented highlights of 2022-2023.

X National Registrar - Cheryl Malin, Waterford Branch and Pontiac Branch, MI

Total WNF&GA membership for 2023 at 1,267. Information provided in [meeting packet](#) on page 22.

XI Michigan Division President - Josephine Sillanpaa

Details in [meeting packet](#), page 23

XII Branch Updates

- Tri-County Branch, NY; Ohio Dooryard Garden Branch; Ambler Keystone Branch; Buck's County, PA Branch
- Details in [meeting packet](#), pages 24 - 28

XIII Charitable Affairs – Director Karol Carter, Troy Garden Branch

Details in [meeting packet](#), page 29

XIV International Cooperation & Frysinger Project Fund - Representative Kay Engelhart, Saginaw Garden Club

- Kay shared her recent trip to Malaysia.
- Details in [meeting packet](#), page 34

Break for guest speaker, Bevin Cohen on the Seed-Saving Movement.

XV [Bylaws](#) and Proposed Bylaw Motions 2023

Motion1:

On the recommendation of the Executive Committee of the Women's National Farm & Garden Association after review, discussion and evaluation of the Bylaws, it is moved that Article IV, Section 3,B which reads *"At least ten (10) people are required, five (5) of whom may also be members of another Branch within the Division,"* be deleted.

Because the recommendation is made by the Executive Committee, no second is required.

Motion Carried

Motion 2:

On the recommendation of the Executive Committee of the Woman's National Farm & Garden Association after review, discussion and evaluation of the Bylaws, it is moved that a Section G be added to Article V which will read *"G. Executive Committee Advisor*

1. Act in an advisory capacity to the Executive Committee.
2. Does not participate in any votes of the Executive Committee.
3. All past presidents are available for advice."

Because the recommendation is made by the Executive Committee, no second is required.

Motion Carried

Motion 3:

On the recommendation of the Executive Committee of the Woman's National Farm & Garden Association after review, discussion, and evaluation of the Bylaws, it is moved Article VI, Section 2, B be amended to read *"The election shall be by ballot unless there is only one candidate per office or position in which case the vote may be by voice at either in-person or virtual meetings."*

Because the recommendation is made by the Executive Committee, no second is required.

Motion Carried

Motion 4:

On the recommendation of the Executive Committee of the Women's National Farm & Garden Association after review, discussion and evaluation of the Bylaws, it is moved that Article VIII, Section A, A be amended to read *"The Executive Committee shall consist of the President, the Vice-President, the Recording Secretary, the Corresponding Secretary, the Administrative and Operations (A&O) Treasurer, the Educational and Charitable Fund (E&C) Treasurer, and the Immediate Past President who acts as Advisor to the Committee or a designee approved by the Executive Officers if the immediate past president is unable to serve in an advisory capacity."*

Because the recommendation is made by the Executive Committee, no second is required.

Motion Carried

Motion 5:

On the recommendation of the Executive Committee of the Women's National Farm & Garden Association after review, discussion, and evaluation of the Bylaws, it is moved that Article VIII, Section 5 be amended to read *"The Executive Committee may conduct meetings by conference call. The Recording Secretary will take minutes at these meetings and distribute them per Article IV, Section 5, D."*

Because the recommendation is made by the Executive Committee, no second is required.

Motion Carried

Motion 6:

On the recommendation of the Executive Committee of the Women's National Farm & Garden Association after review, discussion, and evaluation of the Bylaws, it is moved that Article XI, Section 4 amended to read *"Proposals concerning expenditure of funds over seventy dollars (\$70), not provided for in the adopted budget, shall require approval of the Executive Committee."*

Because the recommendation is made by the Executive Committee, no second is required.

Motion Carried

XVI Prizes of \$25 gift cards for a major seed company awarded to the following:

1. Jackie Wilson
2. Ann Herm
3. Lenore Treba
4. Nancy Matthews

Adjournment – Patty Burnside, Saginaw Branch

- Patty thanked Kathy Beveridge for organizing the Zoom meeting and thanked members who attended.
- Meeting adjourned at 12:14 pm

Submitted by Jackie Wilson, Troy Garden Club Branch

WNF&GA Recording Secretary

DUE DATES FOR NEWSLETTER ARTICLES

To include all branches, directors, and chairpersons, I randomly assigned due dates for newsletter articles. If you can't do your designated newsletter issue, please ask another officer to write the article. You can also contact someone else from the list who has a later deadline and trade months. *Please, let me know if you make a trade.*

If you have a new branch board president or communications officer, please

1. Pass this deadline information to the new branch president.
2. Notify Cheryl Malin and me immediately.

Presidents: Please look at this as an opportunity to brag about your branch's history, members, projects, outreach, focus areas, activities, accomplishments, ways of doing things, interest areas, or anything else you would like to share with the Association.

Directors and Chairpersons: This is your chance to let the members know the details of the role you play, tell the history or background of your committee, attract others to your committee, or encourage someone to assume your role when you are ready.

JLY - AUG 2023

- National Awards - Pat Brown patb501946@comcast.net

<p>ISSUE</p> <p>AUG. 15, 2023 ARTICLE DEADLINE</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Environmental Concerns - Suzanne Smith-Oscilowski suzgarden416@gmail.com • Articles from branches <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Pontiac Branch – Gerry Howard gerryhoward323@yahoo.com ○ Waterford Branch – Carrie Sue Cempura cscempura@hotmail.com ○ PA West Deer Branch – marion temple temple1940@comcast.net ○ Trailwood Garden Club – Georgia Randinitis randine@comcast.net ○ Northville Branch – Dana Whelan kchmura@aol.com
<p>SEPT – OCT 2023 ISSUE</p> <p>OCT. 15, 2023 ARTICLE DEADLINE</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Gardening (open position) • Report from ACWW - Kaye Engelhart kengelhart@hotmail.com • Articles from Branches <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Lapeer Wildflowers – Patty Bradshaw pattybshaw4513@gmail.com ○ Milford Branch -Susan Absher medusastare@yahoo.com ○ Clarkston F & G Club – Joan Harbaugh joancharbaugh@gmail.com ○ PA Ambler-Keystone Branch –Tessie McNeely TessieMcNeely@verizon.net ○ OH TAWA Branch – Rhonda Rainey rainey45881@gmail.com ○ Troy Garden Club – Linda Forrester linozfor@att.net
<p>NOV – DEC 2023 ISSUE</p> <p>DEC. 15, 2023</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Charitable Affairs - Karol Carter karolvet@aol.com • Agriculture - Joette Kunse jkhorses@comcast.net
<p>JAN – FEB 2024 ISSUE</p> <p>FEB. 15, 2024</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Articles from Branches • MI Division's annual reports for 2023 - Sue Malone smalnewgc@gmail.com • Articles from Branches <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Franklin Branch (co-pres.) - Barbara Borden bborden123@gmail.com & Amy Stevenson amystevenson960@gmail.com ○ Romeo & Juliet Garden Club - Kathy Bruggeman kathysellsfast@gmail.com ○ Grosse Pointe Shores Branch – Shirley Hartert shirleyhartertpta@comcast.com ○ Plymouth Branch - Judy Krieman jjkrieman@gmail.com ○ PA Bucks County Branch – Barbara Shaeffer bjshaef@gmail.com
<p>MAR – APR 2024 ISSUE</p> <p>APR. 15, 2024</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 2024 Nominations announced for 2024 – 2026 (Nominating Committee) • National: Call to Meeting 2024 - Patty Burnside pb@chartermi.net • Articles from Branches <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Saginaw Branch – Kathy Meinschein kmeinl77@gmail.com ○ Port Huron Garden Club – Ginny Paknikar caring4u27@yahoo.com ○ County Downs – (co-pres.) Pamela Haxton phaxton6@gmail.com & Justina Misuraca jmisuraca@gmail.com ○ NY Cambridge Branch – Bea Peterson beapeterson@gmail.com ○ Moonglow Branch – Ginger Dean gingerdean25197@outlook.com

MY – JU 2024
ISSUE

JUNE 15, 2024

Announcement of elected Executive Committee for 2024 – 2026 (Nominating Committee)

- Articles from Branches
 - Bloomfield Hills - **Bobbi Polk** bobbipolk@gmail.com
 - Trenton Branch (co-chair) – **Rose Maki** rose817@comcast.net & **Teresa Vallar** tvallar@comcast.net
 - NY Tri-County Branch – **Joanna Prouty** joannaprouty@aol.com
 - Indian Village Branch – **Renata Miller** Miller.renata@yahoo.com
 - Rochester Branch – **Jenny VanDusen** jenvandusen@comcast.net



Celebrate

