



## Farm & Garden Newsletter Woman's National Farm & Garden Association 2024



### President's Message

From the number of inquiries I've received, I know many of you are really excited about this year's National Meeting in Hershey, PA. It promises to be a lot of fun. This issue of the National Newsletter outlines the information needed to register for it, secure a seat on the bus (optional), book a room in our block of discounted hotel rooms, review the itinerary, see the due dates, and more. The information also is available on our Facebook and webpage, and through the branch presidents.

A few people have asked why we are going May 16 - 19 and not in June. The Resorts' Sales Manager in charge of arrangements indicated we could save money, the gardens will be in bloom (except for the roses), the temperature and climate are more tolerable then, and we will avoid the after-school rush of vacationers.



I sincerely hope you will all join in for fellowship, fun, and, of course, the annual meeting, events, and tours.

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

Please allow this announcement to serve as notice to all registered members of the Woman's National Farm & Garden Association that the 2024 National Annual Meeting will be held May 16 - 19 in Hershey, Pennsylvania

The business sessions of the meeting are scheduled for Friday, May 17 and Saturday, May 18 for the purpose of all business matters of the organization brought before the Executive Board and general membership attending.

A full business meeting agenda will be available on the WNF&GA website at [www.wnfga.org](http://www.wnfga.org) after May 1, 2024.

Sincerely,  
Patty Burnside  
WNF&GA President 2020-2024



### Executive Committee

#### President

Patty Burnside  
11640 W. Freeland Rd., Freeland, MI 48623  
[pb@chartermi.net](mailto:pb@chartermi.net)  
989-284-3455

#### Vice President Open position

#### Recording Secretary

Jackie Wilson  
6949 Fredmoor Dr., Troy, MI 48098  
[jackiew1985@comcast.net](mailto:jackiew1985@comcast.net)  
248-321-2152

#### Corresponding Secretary

Phyllis Macke  
128 Cherry Ridge Run, Ottawa, OH 45875  
[pjmacke@gmail.com](mailto:pjmacke@gmail.com)  
419-969-0210

#### Administration & Operations Treasurer

Mary Lynne Moellering  
1280 Seville Rd., Rochester Hills, MI 48309  
[emlmoellering@gmail.com](mailto:emlmoellering@gmail.com)  
248-651-7005

#### Education & Charitable Treasurer

Suzanne Smith-Oscilowski  
416 Gwynedd Valley Dr., Lower Gwynedd, PA 19002  
[suzgarden416@gmail.com](mailto:suzgarden416@gmail.com)  
215-740-7264

#### Advisor

Rita Urbanski  
246 Parkwood Circle, St. Augustine, FL 32086  
[rzurbanski@gmail.com](mailto:rzurbanski@gmail.com)  
248-961-0705

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



Complete information on the National Meeting, sessions, tours, hotel, bus from MI, shuttle bus, activities, etc. can be found in this newsletter.

## Michigan Bus Registration

2024 Woman's National Farm and Garden Association Annual Meeting  
Depart May 16, 2024, Return May 19, 2024

- Bus captain: Jackie Wilson, Troy Garden Club
- The Troy Police confirmed that the bus can be parked at the SmartBus Lot next to their station. In addition, members who are taking the bus can park their car in this lot as well. The Troy Police station is located on Town Center Drive.
- The WNF&GA National Meeting will take place in beautiful Hershey, PA. The bus ride from MI will take approximately 8 hours. It will start in Troy at 6:00 am sharp with pick-up points planned as needed. Those taking the bus need to be at the departure site by 5:30 am to check in.
- There will be rest stops and a stop for lunch at Cracker Barrel on the way to Harrisburg/Hershey.
- Departure from Harrisburg will be on Sunday, May 9 at 7:00 sharp. On the return trip there will be rest stops, lunch at Eat 'n Park, and a very brief stop at the Flight 93 Memorial (No fee; a self-guided tour of the grounds. The visitor Center is also self-guided with a park ranger who provides basic information. The bus company highly recommended this site.)
- Bottled water will be provided. Please bring snacks to share.
- The cost of the bus is \$325 which includes using the shuttle bus between events. **A deposit of \$165 is due by 3-15-2024** to secure your spot on the bus. The **final payment of \$160 is due by 4-15-2024**. **NO REFUNDS PLEASE**
- Those seats not booked will be available for \$40 to members who did not ride the bus from MI but who want to use the shuttle service between events. This will be on a first come, first served basis.

Hershey, PA Bus Registration form:

Name \_\_\_\_\_ Branch \_\_\_\_\_  
Address \_\_\_\_\_ City \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_  
E-mail \_\_\_\_\_ Member \_\_\_\_\_ or Guest \_\_\_\_\_  
Phone \_\_\_\_\_ Cell \_\_\_\_\_

Make check payable to: National Meeting Fund with "bus deposit" on the memo line.

Send your check and copy of this form to: Helen Jositas, 1622 Boulder Court, Rochester MI 48306. Her contact information is 248-766-2300 or email [hjositas@gmail.com](mailto:hjositas@gmail.com) if you have any questions.



## Drawing

All branches with members attending the National Meeting are asked to bring a branch donation item or gift basket for the Saturday Dinner Gala. Individuals are also welcome to donate items. Any and all types of items are welcome. Members may purchase tickets to drop in a container by each item she/he wishes to win. One winner will be drawn from the tickets for each item. The

Michigan Division is in charge of this event; please contact MI President Sue Malone at [smalnewgpc@gmail.com](mailto:smalnewgpc@gmail.com) or 248-613-5381 to let her know what you will bring and when and where to drop your donation. Thankyou.



## WNF&GA National Meeting – Registration Form

### Hershey, PA – May 16-19, 2024

**PLEASE PRINT NEATLY - - MUST BE LEGIBLE TO THE REGISTRAR!**

Complete a separate registration form for each member and guest. **NOTE:** Registration fees are **NON-REFUNDABLE**.

Name \_\_\_\_\_ 1<sup>st</sup> National Meeting? ☐ yes ☐ no Member ☐ (or) guest ☐  
Address \_\_\_\_\_ City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_  
Home phone \_\_\_\_\_ Cell phone \_\_\_\_\_ Email \_\_\_\_\_  
Emergency contact \_\_\_\_\_ Relationship \_\_\_\_\_ Phone \_\_\_\_\_  
Division \_\_\_\_\_ Current Division office held \_\_\_\_\_ Branch \_\_\_\_\_  
Current Branch office held \_\_\_\_\_ Current National office held \_\_\_\_\_  
Arriving by ☐ Air ☐ Bus ☐ Car Expected date \_\_\_\_\_ Expected time of arrival \_\_\_\_\_ AM ☐ PM  
Rooming with \_\_\_\_\_ or need a roommate? ☐ Yes ☐ No  
Check one: ☐ No dietary restrictions ☐ Vegetarian ☐ Vegan List ALL dietary restrictions \_\_\_\_\_

**PLEASE NOTE:** All meetings and activities are included in the registration fee unless otherwise indicated by **N.I.** (not Included).

#### **Shuttle Bus**

If there are any open seats on the MI bus, you may reserve a seat to be shuttled between events at the National Meeting. The cost is \$40 on a first come, first served basis.

#### **\$239 National Meeting registration fee**

\_\_\_\_\_ **Late registration fee of \$25 (April 1 – 15, 2024)**

\_\_\_\_\_ **\$40 Shuttle bus fee (Optional)**

\_\_\_\_\_ **Total**

#### **Thursday, May 16, 2024**

Hotel check-in, dinner on own (**N.I.**)  
6:00-7:30 Registration, receive meeting packet  
8:00 Meet & Greet in hotel bar, cash bar (**N.I.**), wear lanyards

#### **Friday, May 17, 2024**

Breakfast on own (**N.I.**)  
8:00-8:30 Registration, pick up meeting packet  
9:15 Depart for Hershey, 10:00 arrive at Chocolate World  
10:00 Welcome from WNF&GA President Patty Burnside  
10:10 -2:15 Chocolate World Adventure & lunch  
2:30-4:30 Hershey Gardens' Tour  
4:30 Depart for hotel  
5:00-7:00 Dinner on own (**N.I.**)  
7:00 Business meeting: Session 1 – ACWW Presentation

#### **Saturday, May 18, 2024**

Breakfast on own (**N.I.**)  
9:00 Business Meeting: Session 2 – Annual meeting including 2 presentations by Suzanne Smith-Oscilowski on scholarship and budget  
11:30 Depart to Tanger Arboretum  
12:20-1:00 Box lunch in Carriage House at Tanger Arboretum  
1:00 Tours of Tanger Arboretum & Wheatland Manor House, displays, video, visitor center, gift shop  
4:30 Depart to hotel  
5:30 Time on own  
7:00 Banquet Gala, speaker on Crevice Garden

Make your check payable to **WNF&GA National Meeting Fund**

& mail with the registration form above by **April 1, 2024**, to  
Ann Herm,  
2024 National Meeting Registrar,  
675 S. Linwood Beach,  
Linwood, MI 48634

Questions? Contact Ann at 989-714-6555 or [adherm@charter.net](mailto:adherm@charter.net). Include "National Meeting" in subject line of your message.

\$25 Late fee April 1-15, 2024

No registrations accepted after April 15, 2024

**NO REFUNDS NO EXCEPTIONS**

#### **Hotel Booking Information – Book your own room**

Crowne Plaza – Harrisburg/Hershey  
23 South 2<sup>nd</sup> St., Harrisburg, PA 17101  
717-234-5021 [www.CrownePlaza.com/cp-Harrisburg](http://www.CrownePlaza.com/cp-Harrisburg)

Request Courtesy Block Rate for WNF&GA for a 2 queen room  
\$119 per room per night, plus 11% occupancy & sales tax  
Cutoff date: April 15, 2024

Parking available – first come, first serve  
Parking discounted to \$15 per day, unlimited in/out privileges

Hint: There is a 3% charge for credit cards. You may want to pay by check.



## More Information



### Crowne Plaza Hotel

- Amenities – 24-hour business center, indoor pool, fitness center, free high-speed internet, evening reception
- Local attractions – Hershey Amusement Park featuring over 70 different rides and attractions (open

on Saturday and Sunday before Memorial Day), Giant Center/Concert venue, Hershey Stadium

- Restaurant Row – restaurants, pubs, clubs, nightlife
- Carlisle Fairground – home to regional car shows
- State Capitol - State Government Complex
- National Civil War Museum – one of the largest
- Lancaster and Amish Country – 30 miles south
- Susquehanna Riverfront

### Hershey Gardens

- Open 9 am to 5 pm
- Guided group tour including orchid highlights in the Butterfly Atrium
- 11 themed gardens
- 23-acre botanical garden and arboretum
- Milton & Catherine Hershey Conservatory, The Welcome Pavilion, Educational & Horticultural Wing, Garden Shop, Butterfly Atrium, The Children's Garden, Zoology Zone



### Chocolate World - Adventure I

- Hershey's Great Candy Expedition – train-themed cinematic adventure; explore colorful, candy-filled worlds
- Create Your Own Candy Bar - dream up your candy bar, choose the ingredients, design your wrapper
- Hershey's Unwrapped – interactive theatre show led by a pair of zany "tasteologists"
- Hershey Trolley Works – take a ride through the town of Hershey on a trolley tour for a live show packed with fun facts, laughter, history, and chocolate samples
- Lunch options – soup, salad, sandwiches, sliders, pizza, desserts
- World's largest Hershey store



### Louise Arnold Tanger Arboretum – in Lancaster

- "Home to a large variety of mature species of trees from around the world, pollinator gardens, and an American Conifer Society Reference Garden"
- A place of rest and relaxation to enjoy nature's beauty
- [Maps and tree labels provided](#)
- [An accredited Arboretum, Level 1, by ArbNet](#)
- Includes a tour of Wheatland, the beloved, 1826 home of 15<sup>th</sup> U.S. President James Buchanan



### Crevice Gardens: Life Between the Cracks

Banquet speaker, Kevin Kelly, Master Gardener, Dauphin Country

Crevice gardening is a form of rock gardening that allows alpine plants to grow in tight spaces between flat pieces of rock turned on end, often at an angle to mimic natural stratified rock formations. If you have ever noticed plants growing within the cracks of your sidewalk, you have seen the basic concept of crevice gardening. Crevice gardening is becoming increasingly popular, and Kevin will share his experiences creating and maintaining a crevice garden on his property.

## International Cooperation and Frysinger International Project Fund September/October 2023

"7 Days in May! – Halfway Around the World!"  
The Associated Country Women of the World  
30<sup>th</sup> World Triennial Conference, Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia



Arriving from around the world, we were but 4 of 460 society members whose first stop was registration, hosted by the lovely, welcoming, and I may add, very efficient members of the Women's Institute of Pahang – our host society, along with Central Office staff.

Smiles, hugs, and a lot of catching up began in the spacious lobby of the hotel. Many arrived early to take time to soak up the sights and sounds of Malaysia; tours were booked, and plans made to fill our pre-conference free time with activities, meet new friends, and spend precious time catching up with old friends. But it was not all play time with informational Welcome Sessions and Area Meetings held prior to the opening of the conference.

### The Opening Ceremony!



The Parade of Flags - one for each member country of ACWW – is always a breath-taking event, especially when your country's flag is brought forward to stand at attention throughout the conference.

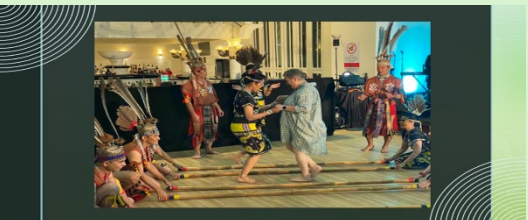
We were honored to be welcomed by His Majesty the King of Malaysia, who gave the Ceremonial Opening of the 30<sup>th</sup> Triennial World Conference; Her Majesty the Queen of Malaysia, who presented the Welcome Address; and His Royal Highness The Regent of Pahang who gave the Royal Keynote Address. ACWW World President Mrs. Magdie de Kock presented the Opening Address.

### The Conference!



The business of the Conference was broken into 9 sessions over several days filled with reports from Area Presidents, Committee Chairmen and Officers. Twenty-two Resolutions, Constitutional and By-Law Amendments were presented, discussed, and voted upon. (See below.)

There were many additional highlights to our week with day trips to preselected destinations: National Craft Institute; Indigenous People's Complex; Forest Research Institute of Malaysia; Multimedia University. And, for most of us, a once-in-a-lifetime experience was dinner at The Royal Palace, hosted by Her Majesty Queen Aziza. The elegant dinner, complete with an orchestra, singers, and local dance troupes for entertainment ended with The Queen graciously sharing several rooms of the Palace for our viewing.



Evening meals throughout the conference highlighted the multi-cultural lives of the Malaysian people: Malay, Chinese, and Indian. A mock Malaysian wedding was performed, dancers in beautiful costumes performed traditional dances, singers chose members to participate, and smiling dancers led members in a line dance around the large dining room nightly! Culture is everywhere in Malaysia, and we were fortunate to be able to enjoy so much of it firsthand and up close!

Excitement built when the representative of the Visitor and Convention Bureau of Ottawa, Canada, presented the official invitation to conduct our 31<sup>st</sup> World Triennial conference in Ottawa, Canada, April 2026! So, first things first: join ACWW, as you have to be a member in good standing to attend; learn about ACWW, about Ottawa, Canada; and be prepared to pack your bags for a short journey to our neighbor to the North and see for yourself just how important we all are in executing the work of ACWW worldwide.

### The Closing Ceremony!



The closing Ceremony, following completion of all the business brought before this international body is as impressive as the opening ceremony, with final words, thoughts, and the retiring of the flags for another three years, until we meet in Ottawa. Thanks to Hamimah and Im (left), and all the WI Pahang members for making this conference a

wonderful experience for all.

I mentioned many arrived early to take in the sights on Mainland Malaysia, but several took advantage of being Halfway Around the World and spent several days post-conference on East Malaysia – the Island of Borneo, the state of Sarawak. Jo Sillanpaa, Kathy Meinschein and Jo's daughter, Rayline Manni, took just such a journey. Be sure to ask them about it.

### Impressions!



When asked, as first-time attendees to an ACWW conference, what impressed them the most: it was the people, the culture, the friendliness both of conference attendees and the general population of Malaysia that were their first comments. Of the conference I think we all agreed, the formality leaves an impression on all of us as the proceedings are run by English rules. The preparedness of everyone involved was evident

throughout.

And most of all is the fact that 460 people, from various economic, cultural, and educational backgrounds come together with one goal in mind: to make this a better world for all our sisters, their families, and communities. Rural Women in Action, ACWW exists to do just that, and we were all privileged to represent you, to make conscious decisions on your behalf to help make it happen.

### Join ACWW!

We hope you'll all consider joining ACWW – your membership matters. Rural Women don't want a hand-out, they just need a hand-up! And we can help. Collections at every meeting for the Rural Women in Action Fund (formerly Pennies for Friendship) are the life blood of ACWW, the organization and projects that make things happen in a positive way for our Sisters around the world. Your help is needed and greatly appreciated.

If you have any questions, would like a branch presentation, or more information on programs, projects and how you can help, please check the website [www.ACWW.org.uk](http://www.ACWW.org.uk) or contact me at [kengelhart@hotmail.com](mailto:kengelhart@hotmail.com)





## Resolutions Approved:

### Establishment of Rural Women's Employment Action Plans:

"That ACWW urges all governments to address the particular needs of rural women by working with women's representative groups to establish, implement and regularly monitor a Women's Employment Action Plan which ensures access to training and education; fair, equitable and safe employment practices; working conditions and remuneration; access to resources such as finance materials, technology and land/property and; including but not limited to, advice on career, business and entrepreneurship."



### Addressing Food Waste:

"Be it resolved that ACWW facilitates both action and advocacy on the issue of food waste, recognizing that food waste occurs throughout the global food supply chain, and that coordinated action is required to mitigate food loss and wastage at every stage."

### Rural Gender Impact Analysis:

"That Associated Country Women of the World urge governments to apply both a Rural Impact Analysis and Gender Impact Analysis when considering plans, policies, and programmes to ensure the intersectionality of being women and living rurally are taken into account in order to reduce the adverse impact of proposed plans, policies and programmes on rural communities."

*Copy by Kay Engelhart*

*All photos by Kay Engelhart, Kathy Meinschein, Jo Sillanpaa, Rayline Mannie and CWC USA*



## Updates to the Hazel Herring Civic Improvement Grant from Suzanne Smith- Oscilowski

The Hazel Herring Civic Improvement Grant for 2024 is \$5000. Funds may be awarded

to more than one WNF&GA branch or division. Projects may include community grants, landscaping of historic landmarks or community properties, establishment of playgrounds, open space parks, picnic areas and similar endeavors which will benefit and improve public spaces. The project can be a phase of a continuing project or a new project.



The application deadline is May 1, 2024. For more information and to view the application, visit [WNFGA.ORG](http://WNFGA.ORG) . Look under the Charitable Funding- Internal Grants tab.

## Sources

Some quotations and parts of this newsletter are from [Fine Gardening](#) magazine, the Hershey Gardens website at [Home - Hershey Gardens](#), the Chocolate World website at [Unwrap Your Chocolate Adventure | HERSHEY'S CHOCOLATE WORLD](#), and the Tanger Arboretum website at [The Louise Arnold Tanger Arboretum - LancasterHistory](#). Please check out these sites for more in depth information on the locations we will be visiting at the National Meeting 2024.

## Bucks Branch, WNF&GA

The major event of Bucks Branch, WNF&GA continues to be the annual “Designed for Nature” Garden Tour which features homeowners transitioning to using native plants in their gardens. The tour in June, 2023, was very successful, selling 400 tickets. The strong educational component supported by the presence at the tour of experts from Bowman Hill Wildflower Preserve (BHWP), Bird Town, Bucks County Audubon, and Master Watershed Stewards aides helped visitors in understanding the ecological value of native plants. In preparing for the June 2024 Garden Tour, there is excitement about including the historic Margaret Mead House Garden among the properties being featured. A new initiative this year is the involvement of several members in propagating native plants for the tour plant sale.

Our member Jeannine Mitchell received the “Unsung Hero” award for her work as Chair of Doylestown Township Environmental Advisory Committee (EAC) and for being the innovative force behind the Native Plant Demonstration Garden which has received awards from the Pennsylvania Horticultural Society and the Land Ethics Award from BHWP. Our group’s peace garden is integrated into the Demonstration Garden. Jeannine’s home garden was on the first Designed for Nature Garden Tour, and she continues to lead important environmental restoration projects.

At our November meeting, our member Susan Talia DeLone was inspired by the discussion of *Finding the Mother Tree* by Suzanne Simard. Susan recently had her “Ramblings of a Native Plant Gardener” column published in the Bucks County Herald newspaper. Susan plans to publish a column seasonally to educate the public about the importance and beauty of native plants.

In addition to book discussions and speakers at meetings, there were trips to a member’s spring garden, a tour of “Federal Twist” garden in Stockton, NJ, and a visit to Jenny Rose Carey’s property, “Northview.”



Left.to.right;Terry.Carroll;Jane.Neal;Barbara.Shaeffer;Cheryl.Ewer;Mary.Jo.Buckwalter;Missy.White;Karen.Kreller;Jeannine.Mitchell;Jan.Filios

By Barbara Shaeffer, Recording Secretary



## Proposed Bylaws Changes

Please read the following proposed bylaws changes to be voted on at the National Meeting.

Current bylaw: Article V, Section 5, B, 1 (under duties of the vice-president)

“Serve as the Planner for any National Meeting called by the Executive Committee or Council.”

Proposed change: Delete

Rationale: It is too much work for one person. Having more than one person allows for more input.

Current bylaw: None

Proposed change: Add Article V, Section 5, H: Executive Committee or Council:

“Serve as the planners for any National Meeting called by the Executive Committee or Council.”

Rationale: Replaces the vice-president as National Meeting Planner. Fills a necessary role.



## Standing Rules Changes

After approved changes in the Bylaws in the last few years, is time to revise, update, and make the Standing Rules sync with the Bylaws. You can find the current Standing Rules which are not updated on our website at [www.wnfga.org](http://www.wnfga.org) in the Members' Section. At the National Meeting, members will be asked to approve the proposed, revised, and updated Standing Rules published below.

## WOMAN'S NATIONAL FARM & GARDEN ASSOCIATION INC. 2024 Proposed Revisions and Updates to the Standing Rules

**Mission statement of WNF&GA:** “WNF&GA will improve our communities and the world through education and activities related to our objectives and goals.”

### ARTICLE I: WNF&GA Interest Areas

- A. Agriculture
- B. Charitable Affairs
- C. Communication
- D. Environmental Concerns
- E. Gardening

### ARTICLE II: Interest Area Directors

- A. Each Interest will have a director.
- B. Roles of Directors
  - 1. Oversee the organizational structure and success of the Interest; help facilitate the activities.
  - 2. Appoint members to specific roles as needed.
  - 3. Accept and judge the awards applications from specific roles.
  - 4. Communicate the names of the award recipients to the National Awards Chairperson.
  - 5. Provide articles on the Interest Area for the national magazine/newsletter and website.
  - 6. Present and submit a written report at each National Meeting.
- C. Directors:
  - 1. **Agriculture Director:** In addition to the duties listed in II B, promotes farming and agricultural related practices within WNF&GA.
  - 2. **Charitable Affairs Director:** In addition to the duties listed above in II B,



- a. Coordinates any specific activity that pertains to distribution of funds relating to 501(c)(3) status.
  - b. Make scholarships available to anyone desiring to further the aims and purposes of the organization and who meets the necessary requirements.
  - c. Post a standard scholarship application form on the official website.
  - d. Meet with any designated members responsible for scholarship, fellowships, internships, grants and awards; advise decisions when necessary.
  - e. Appointed chairpersons may include governance of the following charitable funding:
    - i. Sarah B. Tyson Fellowship: Awarded annually to a post-baccalaureate, full-time graduate student who is studying, or will study, at an accredited institution in the United States and who wishes to pursue a career in agriculture, horticulture, or related fields of study.
    - ii. Burlingame/Gerrity Horticultural Therapy Scholarship: Awarded to a student enrolled in a bachelor's or post-baccalaureate degree program in horticultural therapy. The student is chosen by the college.
    - iii. Renaud-Peterson U.S. National Arboretum Internship: Awarded every year and designated for work at the Louisa King Dogwood Garden at the National Arboretum in Washington, DC. Every two years, funds a dogwood tree planted in the US National Arboretum to honor the outgoing president of WNF&GA.
    - iv. Bess Mueller Grant: Supports judges' school, flower shows, floral arts programs, workshops, and speakers that are open to the public. It also provides podium flowers at each National Meeting. The applications are received by the Floral Arts Chairperson, and money is dispersed by the Education and Charitable Account Treasurer.
    - v. The WNF&GA Temple University, Ambler Campus Internship: This "matching gift" is given every year by the *Faith Tiberio Foundation* and awarded to two students in landscape design and/ or horticulture. The Director of the Ambler Arboretum chooses the recipients.
    - vi. WNF&GA Scholarship for the Study of Conservation and Natural Resources Management: Awarded annually to a post-baccalaureate, full-time graduate student who is studying, or will study, at an accredited institution in the United States, and who wishes to pursue a career in conservation and natural resource management or related fields of study.
    - vii. Hazel Herring Civic Improvement Grant: Awards the annually accrued interest from the American Standard Stock to branches.
      - a) The annual amount for distribution will be provided by the Education and Charity Treasurer.
      - b) Is awarded upon completion of an application form.
      - c) Money can be used as a starter fund for a submitted project, completion of an existing project, or to help a "stalled project" along the way.
      - d) No project can receive assistance twice.
      - e) The chairperson will keep accurate records of any project receiving assistance and present a written report to the Gardening Director to award the grant.
3. **Communications Director**: In addition to the duties listed in II, B,
- a. Coordinates all forms of communications within the organization.
  - b. Duties include appointment of positions as needed.
    - i. Archivist: Sends WNF&GA meeting minutes to digital storage as directed by the President.
    - ii. Awards Chairperson: Accepts the names of candidates deserving of awards from the National organization as submitted by Branches, Divisions and the President.
    - iii. Memorials Chairperson: Collects from branch Membership Chairpersons the names and their branches of members who have passed away during the tenure of the current President; announces the names of these members at the Annual Meeting; gives the list to the magazine/newsletter for publication.
    - iv. Founder's Day Chairperson: Coordinates celebration of this event.
    - v. Historian: Keeps memorabilia for the current President, compiles it in duplicate as a

scrapbook; one copy for the President upon completion of her term and a second copy to digital storage.

vi. International Cooperation / Frysinger Representative:

- a) Attends and reports on international meetings relevant to WNF&GA.
- b) Collects money for Rural Women in Action (ACWW projects) at meetings.
- c) Oversees the Frysinger International project implemented with approval of the director and the Executive Committee.

vii. Magazine/Newsletter Editor:

- a) Responsible for preparing and proofreading the magazine/newsletter for publication.
- b) Clears all publications with the President.
- c) Publishes news about Divisions, Branches, and articles of interest in accordance with the objectives and goals of WNF&GA.
- d) Posts Member at Large/Gift Subscription renewal notices.

viii. National Registrar:

- a) Responsible for revisions to the mailing list; provides current membership information for the Magazine/Newsletter Editor and the President.
- b) Issues charters to new Branches and Divisions, as approved by the Executive Committee and Parliamentarian.
- c) Reports membership totals at the National Meetings.
- d) Provides accurate information regarding the growth and decline of WNF&GA.

ix. Protocol Chairperson:

- a) Oversees the order of seating and flow of events at WNF&GA events.
- b) Sends out invitations and notices to those seated at reserved/guest tables and receiving lines.
- c) Assures guest speaker has accommodations.

i. Website Chairperson:

- a) With the approval of the President, posts articles as submitted for publication on our webpage.
- b) Forwards inquiries for information/scholarship requests to those responsible, with approval of the President.

**Article III: Environmental Concerns Director:** In addition to the duties listed in II B,

- A. Fosters any project related to environmental stewardship.
- B. Keeps members informed of methods to maintain or improve the environment.

**Article IV: Gardening Director:** In addition to the duties listed in Item II B,

- A. Functions as a horticultural resource for WNF&GA.
- B. May appoint individuals to assist in
  - 1. Civic Improvement:
    - a. Encourages and inspires members to beautify their communities.
    - b. Presents examples of what members have done in the past year.
    - c. Acts as chairperson for the Hazel Herring Civic Improvement Grant.
    - d. The money cannot completely fund a project.
  - 2. Floral Arts:
    - a. Receives applications for the Bess Mueller Grant and reviews them with the Gardening Director.
    - b. Distributes funds from the Bess Mueller Grant through the Educational & Charitable Treasurer.
  - 3. Horticultural Therapy:
    - a. Offers advice on horticultural therapy projects to branches and divisions.
    - b. Presents a workshop at the National Meeting featuring activities that members may incorporate at the branch level.
    - c. Serves as Chairperson of the Burlingame/Gerrity Horticultural Therapy Scholarship Committee.



**Article V: Bylaw Committee:**

- A. Led by the current Parliamentarian.
- B. Receives suggestions for bylaw and standing rule amendments/changes.
- C. Presents amendments and changes in writing to the Executive Committee and the Council for consideration.

**Article VI: Finance Committee:**

- A. Composed of the Finance Chairperson, President, Vice-President, and the two Treasurers.
- B. Provides an overview of the Educational and Charitable Funds which allows the committee to maximize return of generated funds back to the community.
- C. Presents the proposed annual budget to the Executive Committee for approval.
- D. Presents the proposed annual budget to the Council.
- E. Will conduct a review of the books of both the Administration & Operations Treasurer and the Educational & Charitable Treasurer at the end of each fiscal year except in the year that a professional audit or review is conducted.

**Article VII: Dues:**

- A. Single Branch or Division annual dues for members are \$6.00.
- B. Member at Large annual dues are \$15.00 and are sent to the Administrative & Operations Treasurer.

**Article VIII: National Meeting:**

- A. The Executive Committee determines the location of the National Meetings based upon the following criteria:
  - 1. Hotel with an adequate number of guest rooms and meeting space to accommodate the Executive Committee, Council Members, and general membership based on past attendance.
  - 2. Dining facilities on site.
  - 3. Proximity to transportation.
  - 4. Touring attractions in the area.
- B. The Executive Committee negotiates a contract with the facility.
- C. The President reviews and signs all contracts.
- D. The Executive Committee:
  - 1. Finalizes catering needs.
  - 2. Finalizes tour schedules and transportation to tour site(s).
  - 3. Sets the registration fees based on meeting room rental, catering, and tour costs, plus 15% for incidentals, divided by the anticipated number of attendees.
  - 4. Posts the registration form on the website, in the national magazine/newsletter, to all branch and division presidents to pass along to members, and on our Facebook page.
  - 5. Assigns a Meeting Registrar.
  - 6. Secures reports from officers, directors, division presidents, single branch presidents, and others as directed by the President to be included in the registration packet.
  - 7. Sends the reports for the registration packets to the Corresponding Secretary for copying. The copies are distributed to the National Meeting attendees. Only the business portions of a copy will be published on our website.
  - 8. Prints name tags and fills information packets for attendees.
  - 9. Attends to details during the meeting as necessary.
  - 10. Presents written report to the Executive Committee and Administrative & Operations Treasurer within 6 (six) weeks of the conclusion of the meeting.

**Article IX: Angel Fund:**

- A. Money donated by members to lower costs of attending a National Meeting.
- B. Distributed by the National Meeting Registrar, who keeps a record of the recipients.
- C. Awarded to a first-time attendee at a National Meeting to help with the registration fee.
- D. Angel Fund Assistance is given to a member in good standing only one time during membership with WNF&GA.
- E. May help with costs of the National Meeting if overruns are encountered.

#### Article X: Standing Rules:

- A. Motions of continuing action adopted by members in good standing who are present and voting.
- B. Adopted to implement provisions of the bylaws and to furnish guidelines of policy and procedures for officers and committees in the performance of their respective duties.
- C. May be amended or rescinded by a two-thirds (2/3) vote of those members present and voting without previous notice.
- D. May be temporarily suspended by a majority vote.

### Branch Flags

Branches have been inquiring when their flags from the 100<sup>th</sup> Birthday Celebration on the Temple Ambler campus will be returned. You may recall that a devastating tornado hit the campus in 2021. While cleaning up after the disaster, archived materials, including the branch flags, were packed into containers for preservation. Currently, it is unknown where those containers are temporarily stored. Suzanne Smith-Oscilowski, who is frequently on-campus, is trying to locate their whereabouts and will keep branches informed when they are found.

### Two Heads are Better than One

We all know the truth behind this title. Quotations abound about friendship, like the ones below.

*Sometimes, being with your best friend, is all the therapy you need. -Unknown*

*I would rather walk with a friend in the dark, than alone in the light. -Helen Keller*

*A true friend accepts who you are, but also helps you become who you should be. - Unknown*

*Sometimes you meet a person and you just click—you're comfortable with them, like you've known them your whole life, and you don't have to pretend to be anyone or anything. -Unknown*



Think of all the wonderful members you've met through WNF&GA. I'd be willing to bet one or two of them have become your best friends. You probably admire their intelligence, leadership, work ethic, sense of fun, ability to get things done, and ability to work on WNF&GA projects with you.

Since friends often have the same interests and similar personalities, imagine taking all those great qualities to the next level. It's easy to do. Get together with your special friend and become co-presidents of WNF&GA.

My term ends in June, and the Executive Committee would love to have you and your friend share the joy and leadership you two already have. There are plenty of willing veteran officers on the Board to help you. It is only a two-year commitment and such an opportunity to help shape the future of Woman's National Farm and Garden Association.

You'll provide "therapy" for each other, never have to feel like you are in "darkness," become the "member you should be," and continue "clicking" as you co-chair with one of your best friends. Indeed, in this case, two heads are better than one -- oh, and a lot of fun.

Please contact me if interested at [pb@chartermi.net](mailto:pb@chartermi.net) or 989-284-3455. I can answer any questions you may have and calm your fears. Just step up. C'mon, you two can do it together!

Patty Burnside,  
President of WNF&GA  
2022 – 2024

