



THE
MICHIGAN NEWS
WOMAN'S NATIONAL FARM AND GARDEN ASSOCIATION, INC.

Volume 79, Issue 4

Fall 2022

Michigan Division IN-PERSON Fall Council Meeting – Thursday, October 20, 2022

Berries, Bugs and Snags: Fall Council Meeting presentation by Rosann Kovalcik



Rosann Kovalcik has been watching birds since she was a teenager, when she was introduced to the hobby by Lake Shore High School biology teachers.

Inspired by watching birds in their natural habitats, Rosann realized that the depletion of those habitats has been the single largest cause of bird population decline. In 2019, scientists documented North America's staggering loss of nearly 3 billion breeding birds since 1970. As gardeners, we can restore bird habitat and have a positive effect on bird survival.

Rosann's interest in creating native gardens for birds began in 2000, when she transformed her yard into a certified wildlife habitat, where 139 species of birds have been observed.

Ms. Kovalcik created her presentation ***Berries, Bugs and Snags*** to educate about the importance of each of those elements as they relate to the survival of birds within our environment. Through her presentation, we will learn what birds need in the form of food during their migrations, and for their young in nesting season, and what a snag is and how that element within our landscapes can be ornamental for gardeners and essential for birds.

Rosann has been "Bringing People & Nature Together" in a variety of ways, including leading bird walks at the Edsel & Eleanor Ford House and at Elmwood Cemetery. She donates feeders and bird food at Lake St. Clair Metro Park in Harrison Township and at Whitefish Point Bird Observatory in Paradise, MI, fostering the enjoyment of watching birds in those places.

A resident of Grosse Pointe Woods, Rosann has owned a ***Wild Birds Unlimited Nature Shop*** there for thirty years. The ***Wild Birds Unlimited*** franchise honored Kovalcik with its *Friend to the Environment Award* in 2007, recognizing her community environmental contributions.

Attention, Branch Treasurers!
Dues of \$12 per member should be sent by December 1, 2022.
Make checks payable to:
Michigan Division–WNF&GA
Send to: Suemarie Klimek, Division Treasurer
333 Yerkes Street
Northville, MI 48167
Questions? 734-459-8327 OR smak324@aol.com
Donations for Pennies for Friendship, Daffodil Day, International Tea and the Detroit Zoo may also be sent to Suemarie Klimek.

EXPLANATION OF DUES AMOUNTS
Dues for the Michigan Division portion:
\$6 per branch member

Dues for the WNF&GA portion:
\$6 per branch member

Kovalcik's dedication to bird conservation has been the inspiration for her service on the Board of Directors of both the Michigan Audubon Society and the Detroit Audubon Society, where she has served over the past decade.



The Grosse Pointe Shores Garden Club Branch will host Michigan Division's 2022 Fall Council Meeting on October 20 at the Grosse Pointe Yacht Club. The event's registration form is on page 4 of this newsletter. **Final date to register: October 10**

Michigan Division of the Woman's National Farm & Garden Association FOR YOUR INFORMATION

President	Jo Sillanpaa (Country G.C. Northville) 16625 Winchester Drive, Northville 48168	248-513-6416	jcsillanpaa@gmail.com
Vice President	Sue Malone (Waterford Garden Club) 1155 Shoman Street, Waterford 48327	248-613-5381	smalnewgc@gmail.com
Division (A&O) Treas.	Suemarie Klimek (Northville Branch) 333 Yerkes Street, Northville 48167	734-459-8327	smak324@aol.com
Charitable Treasurer	Pat Brown (Warren Garden Club) 31616 Lexington Street, Warren 48092	586-530-7922	patb501946@comcast.net
Secretary	Barb Lepri (Troy Garden Club) 4532 Whisper Way Drive, Troy 48098	248-321-8291	bjlepri@gmail.com
Representative to National Council	Cheryl Malin (Pontiac & Waterford Brchs.) 707 McDougal, Waterford 48327	248-421-6093	cmalinwgc@gmail.com
Representative to National Council	Charlotte D. Westbrook (Rochester Br.) 5563 Meadow Lane, Shelby Township 48316	586-781-3242	cdwestbrook@comcast.net

Michigan Division – Volunteer Positions

Michigan Division Advisor – Sheila Kneeshaw
kshaw2474@yahoo.com

Michigan Div. Parliamentarian – Mary Lynne Moellering
emlmoellering@gmail.com

Michigan Division Newsletter Editor – Mary Schwark
schwark@aol.com

Michigan Division Webmaster – Kathy Krasity
kathleenkrasity@yahoo.com

Michigan Division Registrar – Cheryl Malin
cmalinwgc@gmail.com

What's Happening & When?

October 20, 2022	IN-PERSON Fall Council Meeting Registration, page 4.
November 1 - 15, 2021	Submit info & hi-res photos for winter 2023 newsletter; distribution in January 2023

Visit Michigan Division & the WNF&GA (national) organization online:

Michigan Division www.michdivwnfga.weebly.com	WNF&GA (national) www.wnfga.org
Member Area:	Member Area:
Password - Sillman2023	Password - Farm100garden

Please take time to explore the two websites. There's much to learn about the history of Michigan Division and the WNF&GA. You'll find bylaws, standing rules and other significant documents. Several years of WNF&GA magazines are posted. Many Michigan Division newsletters are available as well. There's also a how-to document about hosting a Michigan Division council meeting.

VERY IMPORTANT ~ Please report all branch roster changes including: member additions, subtractions, changes of address, phone numbers and email addresses. Also, please tell the registrar that you would like to access the newsletter via the MI DIV website!

 **Who needs to know?**
Cheryl Malin, MI DIV registrar

707 McDougal, Waterford, MI 48327
248-421-6093

REGISTRAR's NEW EMAIL ADDRESS: cmalinwgc@gmail.com

From your Michigan Division president ...

Our summer of 2022 is swiftly slipping away, and autumn will arrive on September 22. I look forward to the colors of fall and the interesting possibilities ahead for our Michigan Division. Those possibilities include acceptance and completion of Michigan Division's strategic plan, as well as our Fall Council Meeting and information about Associated Country Women of the World – ACWW.

Regarding our strategic plan, please see the Michigan Division board of directors' proposal on page 5 of this newsletter. We will entertain discussion of the plan's content at our Fall Council Meeting. In the meantime, you may direct questions to me or to any of our board members. Contact information for all board members is on page 2 (facing this page).

Michigan Division's Fall Council Meeting will be hosted on Thursday, October 20, by the Grosse Pointe Shores Garden Club Branch, which is 13 members strong. Information about the meeting, including the registration form, can be found on pages 1 and 4 of this newsletter.

In the summer online-only issue of the Michigan News, I asked, "What do you know about ACWW?" At our Fall Council Meeting, Kay Engelhart, a member of the Saginaw Branch and a past WNF&GA president, will expand our knowledge of ACWW, whose offices are in London, England. Kay will discuss Pennies for Friendship and the upcoming triennial conference.

Please put the date - **October 20** - for our 2022 Fall Council Meeting on your calendar. I look forward to sharing the time with you.



Jo Sillanpaa



*Jo Sillanpaa, 2021-2023 president
Michigan Division of the WNF&GA*

MICHIGAN DIVISION MEMBERS-AT-LARGE

Those who are not branch members but who wish to become Michigan Division Members-at-Large and receive future MI DIV publications and information may do so as follows: (1) Be or become a WNF&GA member-at-large by completing the application in the national magazine and paying the annual fee of \$15. (2) Complete the Michigan Division application available on the MI DIV website. Include your name, full mailing address, email address and phone number(s), and send the application plus a check for \$6 payable to Michigan Division WNF&GA. Mail to Michigan Division treasurer Suemarie Klimek. *(See mailing address on page 2.) Returning Members-at-Large should renew by December 31.*

Annual Michigan Division membership runs from January 1 through December 31, each calendar year.

Thank You from Daffodils4Detroit

A **HUGE** thank you from Daffodils4Detroit for helping to make the 2022 Daffodil Luncheon a success! A sellout crowd enjoyed the story of Michigan Central's restoration presented by Ford Motor's Carolina Pluszczynski, a Belle Isle update by DNR's Amanda Treadwell, a visit to Oudolf Garden Detroit, a Maurice salad lunch (and delicious lemon layer cake), and our expanded shopping with The Peacock Room, Laurie Tennent Botanicals and Megan Swoyer. The sellout extended to our daffodil tiles, as well as to additional room seating where a portion of our attendees enjoyed more private dining and viewing in an adjoining room! And the centerpieces provided by the branches were spectacular. We even received requests from attendees who wanted to purchase them!

The luncheon raised enough funds to purchase 100,000 Dutch Master bulbs, even after the hefty bulb price increase experienced this year. The bulbs will arrive in late September or so, in time for fall planting on Belle Isle and in Detroit.

-submitted by Robin Heller



Save the Date
~ April 19, 2023 ~
for the next luncheon.

Michigan Division Fall Council Meeting – Registration Form

Thursday, October 20, 2022 AT THE GROSSE POINTE YACHT CLUB

HOSTED BY THE GROSSE POINTE SHORES GARDEN CLUB

Featuring Rosann Kovalcik: *Berries, Bugs and Snags*



GROSSE POINTE YACHT CLUB

788 Lake Shore Road, Grosse Pointe Shores, MI 48236

Phone: 313-884-2500

Directions: Take I-94 eastbound to the Vernier exit, and travel east on Vernier to Lake Shore Road. The GPYC entrance is 100 feet south of Vernier.

MEETING SCHEDULE

9:15 – 10:00 am: Arrival - Check-in - Visit Vendors

NOTE: Vendors will continue selling during breaks.

10:00 – 10:45 am: Breakfast Buffet

10:30 am: MI DIV Business Meeting

11:30 am: Break

12:00 noon: Speaker Rosann Kovalcik

12:45 pm: Door Prizes

1:00 pm: Adjourn

See page one for speaker & presentation information.

Make your check payable to:
Michigan Division WNF & GA

Please mail with completed form to:

Diana Karwowski
34 Shorecrest Circle
Grosse Pointe Shores, MI 48236

Phone: 313-378-7009

Registration questions: Deekarwow@aol.com

Registration Deadline: October 10, 2022

PLEASE NOTE: The registrar will send a confirmation to your email address. No email? Enclose a self-addressed & stamped envelope with your registration.

Name: _____ **Guest? Yes No Phone _____

Street Address _____ City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Email Address (Print clearly to assure receipt of confirmation.) _____

Branch Name (and any current branch office, if applicable) _____

THIS REGISTRATION FORM IS ALSO AVAILABLE ON Michigan Division's website.

REGISTRATION FEE PER PERSON: Breakfast Buffet + speaker \$ 35.00

TOTAL PAYMENT ENCLOSED: \$ _____

**Guests are welcome and should send their own registrations and checks.

YOUR PAYMENT IS TAX DEDUCTIBLE LESS THE \$25.00 VALUE OF YOUR MEAL.

PROPOSAL

Strategic Plan for 2021-2027

Michigan Division of the Woman's National Farm & Garden Association

To form Michigan Division's Strategic Plan for 2021 – 2027, your Michigan Division Board reviewed our national organization's 2013-2015 Strategic Plan. We worked with Diane Putvin, past president of Clarkston Farm & Garden Club Branch, and business partner and coach of DL Consulting, LLC.

We identified the strengths and weaknesses of our organization, and we set a new plan of work and actions to achieve the core values set by this document. Cheryl Malin, registrar and Michigan Division representative to the WNF&GA, will send this document electronically to each of our members for review prior to our October 20, 2022, Fall Council Meeting. We will vote on the proposal's acceptability at that meeting. If you have any questions prior to the meeting, please contact any of our Michigan Division board members listed on page 2 of this newsletter.

Jo Sillanpaa, president
Michigan Division of the WNF&GA

The 2023 National Meeting will be held in Hershey, Pennsylvania in late May - early June.

Watch for additional information in the Michigan Division winter newsletter, to be published in early January 2023, and in the Michigan Division and WNF&GA spring publications available in March 2023.

See the back cover for interesting reflections about the 2022 National Meeting in southeast Michigan.

IN MEMORIAM



On February 27, 2022, the Country Garden Club of Northville said farewell to May Dubuc, a 35-year member. A delightful woman, who was always ready and willing to help, May and her cousin Lillian, a former branch member, created adorable themed outfits to wear while serving as garden walk hostesses. May made flower arrangements for Hospice patients, gardened at senior centers and represented our branch in Northville's 4th of July parade. Her father, who emigrated from England to Canada, taught her to love gardening and the Bible. Born in Canada, May attended Teachers College in Victoria on Vancouver Island after high school. She spent every free moment in Butchart Gardens, and she promised herself that one day she would have a Butchart-inspired garden herself. She did so in her Michigan garden, together with her husband Roger, an American whom she met while he was stationed in Canada in the US Army during World War II. May's garden was on our garden walk five times beginning in 1994, and for 20 years she opened her lovely home and garden for our club's annual potluck luncheon in June. We will miss May's laughter and smile, her generosity and kindness, her love for everyone and her mini Butchart Garden. *—Barb Sturtz*

Branch News

Bloomfield Hills Branch

Thank you to our member Rebecca McNaughton, who happily opened her garden to the WNF&GA's annual National Meeting garden tour held in early June! Rebecca and her gardener Olivia Fuller of Egle Gardens in Howell, Michigan, worked wonders creating spectacular vistas around her home. The garden and grounds were beautiful!

-submitted by Bobbi Polk, president



Left: Rebecca's lupine garden -photo by Bobbi Polk

Above: Olivia Fuller, gardener, & Bloomfield Hills members Rebecca McNaughton & Julie Beals -photo by Mary Schwark

Branch News continued - Clarkston Farm & Garden Club

The Clarkston Farm & Garden Club branch was especially busy this past summer. We began with our very successful Perennial Plant Exchange on June 4, led by Linda Walker and Tina Lewis. About 80 community members exchanged plants.

Later in June, garden club members met at historic Brady Lodge in Clarkston, and honored four graduating high school seniors with \$1,500.00 scholarships. Their parents and grandparents were invited to join the students for a picnic lunch following the presentation.

June and July were also busy as we prepared for the 15th Annual Clarkston Garden Walk, with chairpersons Tia Laderoute and Chris Shull leading the way. About 500 visitors attended the walk, and we so appreciate the six neighbors, who opened their gardens for the club to showcase. Volunteer musicians and artists entertained in the gardens, and they were enjoyed by visitors. Clarkston has great restaurants, and this year we showcased seven of them which provided discounts to our garden walkers.

Just two weeks after putting the garden walk to bed, Clarkston Garden Club members returned for our August meeting and our tradition of creating Lonely Bouquets. Members supply their own garden flowers or buy them. It depends upon what we'll need.

Sixty Lonely Bouquets were created and delivered around the community with the following message: "The Lonely Bouquet; adopt me please. I'm all alone and looking for a home. Can I live with you or a loved one? Please take me." Lonely Bouquets were placed in front of grocery stores, at the post office, at assisted living facilities, at chemo centers, the sheriff's office and at many other businesses and locations in Clarkston.

Sometimes we receive notes from those who took Lonely Bouquets. The following one arrived this year: "Is not lonely anymore! In a wonderful home with a wonderful woman. My daughter loves flowers, especially wildflowers, and she takes me to my Dr. appointments, chemo, radiation and anywhere else I may need to go. So we saw them (lonely bouquet) today and read the note and I told her to take them home where they will be loved ♥. And she did."



If you would like more information about the Lonely Bouquet program, please search the internet or email: clarkstongardenclub@gmail.com. Lonely Bouquet is a worldwide endeavor that was initiated in England and Belgium.

Our fall meetings are a little less hectic than those in the summer, but we have lots of activities to keep us busy. We wish all of you the best end to summer and enjoyment of the warm weather as well as plenty of flowers.

-submitted by Joette Kunse, Public Relations

Creating Lonely Bouquets

L-R: Karen Bolton, Carol Schwarb, Cathy Mooney,

Barb Trueman

-photo by Joette Kunse

Country Garden Club of Northville



The Country Garden Club of Northville enjoyed resuming our long-standing tradition of a potluck luncheon in June. We dedicated it to our beloved May Dubuc, who passed away earlier in 2022. May had graciously hosted our potluck for 20 years. It was a treat to once again taste the delicious assortment of home-cooked foods lovingly prepared by members. We enjoyed fellowship with our members in the lovely Café Garden room at the Plymouth First United Methodist Church, where we hold our monthly meetings. Installation of new officers followed.

Our 2022 garden walk in July was a huge success, in spite of the rain. It was the first time in 28 years that we have had significant rain, and boy did it pour! Garden lovers are a hardy bunch and they were rewarded with six beautiful and unique gardens. Our new staging area, the Greenspace behind the Northville Library, was great for vendors and ticket sales. The canopies withstood the rain and those attending remained reasonably dry. There was a nice assortment of perennials and garden treasures for sale. We're already planning our July 2023 garden walk.

During August we took a breather and we met for refreshments and socializing at the gardens of two members. It is such a pleasure to relax and see the fruits of their labor. Our new club year will begin with our meeting on September 14. Speaker Lillian Dean will present *Creative Compost Soil with a Sense of Humus*. Our October 5 topic will be *Pruning for the Faint of Heart* by Karen Auch. On November 2, Cheryl English will speak about *Birds in the Garden*. Guests are always welcome. For more information, please visit our website: cgcnv.org.

-submitted by Barb Sturtz, president



Country Garden Club of Northville members surround Aleta Lee, immediate past president (front, left) and Barb Sturtz, new president (front, right).

Branch News continued

Franklin Garden Club

The Franklin Garden Club held its annual garden walk on June 8, with four beautiful gardens chosen for their variety and creativity. The garden of our member Sue Leich was showcased. Sue's garden designer Janet Macunovich was present to talk with guests and answer gardening questions. Thanks to the outstanding leadership of Co-Chairs Margaret Bancroft and Barbara Tobaben, the garden walk was a beautiful and well-attended event!

We held our end-of-season picnic at the home of Cindy Schiano. Co-presidents Kathy Lorencz and Cindy Juliano presented certificates to our Hallmark Members, those who have been in the club for 25 years or more: Mary Reid, Jane Roberts, Toni Grinnan, Judy Adelman, Phyllis Ashinger, Enid Brown, Betty Bright, Georgia Charnas, Lavon Cook, Mary Sue Ewing, Joyce Pippel and Lucy Sabbagh. We thanked our outgoing board members, especially Kathy and Cindy, who so ably led us these past two years during the pandemic. We then installed new officers.

Peggy Dufault arranged our six informal visits to members' gardens. The visits took place over a few weeks this summer. Held on Wednesdays, some in the morning and some in the evening, the visits, as always, were a wonderful way to enjoy each other's company and gardens. Below are highlights of the six gardens.

- Cindy Chelovich's garden was our first stop. Working with Judy Partridge, Cindy has completely redone her garden beds since our last visit. She made her miniature garden bigger and better for her nine young grandchildren to enjoy. Cindy says she LOVES her little piece of the planet, and we certainly understand why!
- Mary Sue Ewing hosted the next garden visit. Her gardens cover four acres! She and her husband built a greenhouse for the tropical plants we observed throughout the gardens. The Tapestry Garden, in full bloom, contains many new varieties of coleus, and the dahlias were beginning to blossom.
- We next visited Dianne Wright's garden. When she purchased her house six years earlier, the trees and shrubs were in bad shape, and there were very few flowers. With the help and encouragement of fellow member Barbara Tobaben, Dianne added numerous flowers—many of them from Barbara's garden.
- Our fourth garden visit took place at the home of new member Sandy Debicki. Moving from a condo to a house with 1.25 acres gave Sandy room to garden for the first time in her life! She loves to experiment with her gardens, which contain mostly perennials. Sandy loves color and is very fond of the trees on her lot.
- Sharon Wolf hosted the next garden visit. Over the years in her garden, Sharon has made many changes, which she calls her "mini projects." She has recently worked on the gardens behind her house, where one can see the influence of Judy Partridge, who also worked with Cindy Chelovich.
- We concluded our garden visits at Shelley Krieg's home. When she and her husband bought the property, there were only trees. She began working on her yard with the help of twelve people from her church, from whom she learned a great deal. As a nod to the many animals roaming the property, Shelley refers to her homestead as "Deer Park."

Once again our club participated in the annual Labor Day Franklin Round-Up. We sold plants and rode in the two-block parade in a golf cart. We look forward to the speakers, tours and events arranged for our 2022-23 season by our Program Chair, Marlene Kehoe!

- submitted by Amy Stevenson and Barbara Borden, co-presidents

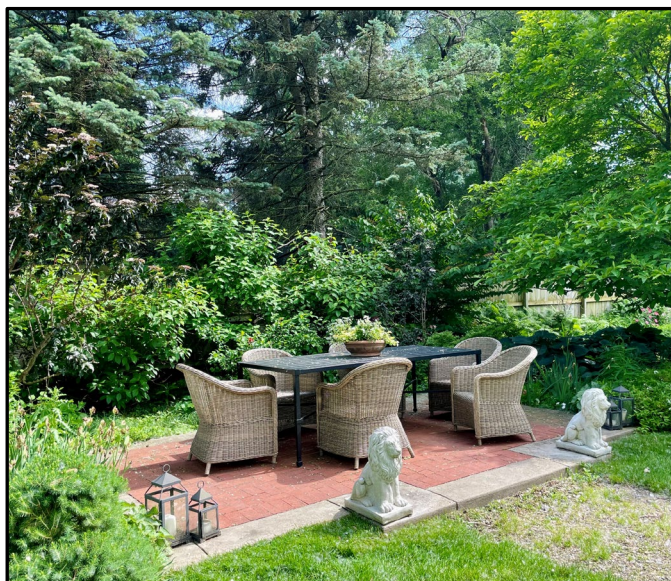
Indian Village Garden Club

The Indian Village Branch of the WNF&GA had planned to return to its annual Indian Village Home & Garden Tour this year. With the pandemic still part of our lives, however, it was decided to have only a "fresh air" tour of gardens. We hope to return in June 2023 with a Home & Garden Tour that includes visits to both the interiors and gardens of historic homes.

Six beautiful, and very different, gardens were featured in the Indian Village Garden Tour. There was a *Spa* garden with a Roman pool, pergola, firepit and hot tub. A *Horticulturalist* garden featured lacecap hydrangea, David Austin roses and dozens of different perennials. The *Environmentalist* garden had a wet meadow: an area covered with a vernal pond in the spring and native wildflowers in the summer. This type of "green" land use reduces the overflow of rainwater into local sewage systems. All the gardens showed how the gardeners, and their guests, could best enjoy nature on a summer afternoon.

Please add us to your 2023 calendar for the returning Historic Indian Village Home & Garden Tour. More details will be available later in 2022.

-submitted by Kathleen Krasity



An Indian Village garden designed for entertaining.

-photo by Kathleen Krasity

Branch News continued

Lapeer Wildflowers

The Lapeer Wildflowers had an outdoor luncheon meeting in July at the lovely home of a garden club member.

After a delicious meal, the major topic of discussion was the restoration of the garden surrounding the flagpole at the Lapeer County Courthouse in downtown Lapeer.

The flagpole was replaced and lighting was added, which left the surrounding area pretty much just a patch of soil.

Although the border around the flagpole will be re-established by the courthouse grounds crew, the garden itself will need to be recreated. The new plantings will be done by the Lapeer Wildflowers Garden Club in the next few months. In addition, the other gardens at the courthouse will need to be maintained. Work also continues at the Lapeer Post Office, at the courtyards at the Center for Innovation and at the Lapeer High School sign, where weeding, watering and some planting have kept us busy.

-submitted by Barbara Reehl



*Left: Lapeer County Courthouse planting area, L-R: Patty Bradshaw, Peggy Warner, Cecelia Montgomery
-photo by Barbara Reehl*

*Below: Al fresco meal & meeting, clockwise from front: Judy Lamphere, Paula Rounds, Emmajane Brice, Peggy Warner, Patty Bradshaw, Karen Callewaert, Barbara Reehl, Cecelia Montgomery, Doris Reber
-photo by Sandy Vukonich*



Plymouth Garden Club

Our last summer get-together at Plymouth Township Park was pleasantly spent demonstrating our gardening artistry. With a simple rock as a canvas, unique accents were created that we could take home and display in our gardens. Our very own artists-in-residence, Jan Anderson, left in photo on right, and Nancy Gorski, right in photo, supplied all that we needed, and they guided us in painting fun designs on rocks. Sharon Bright, photo below, is another artist at work. It just goes to show you that Plymouth Garden Club really does **rock!**

*-text & photos submitted by
Mary Prouty, publicity*



Rochester Garden Club Branch



Pollinators have been a focus of the Rochester Garden Club for decades. We have promoted native plantings and have encouraged providing protection and nesting for native bees by educating our members and the public. Our annual Summer Meeting gave us an opportunity to hear a program from a bee expert – Brian Peterson, founder of “Bees in the D.” (See the photo of a very enthusiastic speaker on p. 9!) Our connection with Brian began 15 years ago when we were able to send him to a beekeeping class on Beaver Island, financed by our Special Projects fund. Brian took what he learned and used that knowledge to start beehives at several local nature preserves. He then spread the word to his fifth grade students about the importance of protecting bees, and he eventually fully invested himself in the future of bees by organizing volunteers and sponsors to set up beehives all over the city of Detroit and southeast Michigan. His presentation about bees gave us a better knowledge of this little hard-working wonder. It is thrilling to know that Brian’s success sprouted from the seed we planted! For more information about “Bees in the D,” please visit <https://beesinthed.com/>

Maintaining the gardens on the grounds of the Rochester Hills Museum at Van Hoosen Farm is a full club effort. Many

Branch News continued - Rochester Garden Club Branch

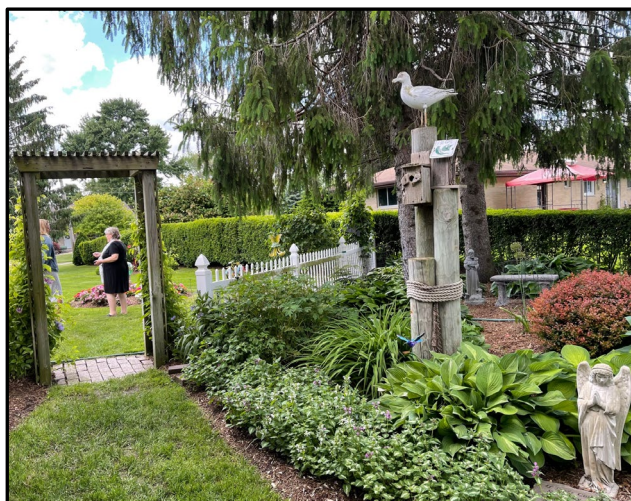
..... continued from page 8

members tend particular areas all summer, but two days a month were added this year so that all members could lend a hand in keeping the Children's Garden in pristine condition. Even a half hour of pulling weeds can make that beautiful garden sparkle!

Rebecca Culley-Healy, a local naturopathic doctor, presented *Spice Rack Herbalism* at a public program held at Van Hoosen Farm in late August. She spoke about the healing properties of our most commonly used herbs. In addition, the Herb Committee shared recipes and tasty samples with participants. We took our medicine...and it tasted great!

Fall's arrival starts our Gifts & Greens Market process. Arrangers meet weekly and begin creating their amazing permanent pieces. Bakers sign up to make the hundreds of cookies needed for our hungry customers. Crafters start their knitting and sewing projects. Because of the sale of the Rochester Administration Building, the Gifts & Greens Market will move to Abiding Presence Lutheran Church at 1550 Walton Blvd, Rochester Hills. We will still offer our wonderful baked goods and gourmet items, fresh wreaths and roping, and unique arrangements and gifts, so we hope to see you on December 1 at the Opening Gala, or on December 2 and 3 for our sale days. Visit our website for more details! www.rochestergardenclub.org - text & photo submitted by Sally Edwards

Saginaw Garden Club



Memorial Service and Planting: On May 4, 2022, the Saginaw Branch held a Memorial Service to celebrate the lives of 13 members of our organization who created, in their own special ways, a legacy of service and dedication to improving the quality of life within our community. The peony is the Saginaw City's and now our Saginaw Branch's flower. With that in mind, 13 peonies will be planted in the gardens of the Cushway House in memory of those special women.

Garden Walk 2022: Members and guests enjoyed the beauty of the gardens selected for this year's Garden Beautification Awards on June 7. Beginning with a walk through the "Land of Honah Lee" and ending with a peek at a steppingstone that read "What is paradise, but a garden..." members celebrated fellow gardeners and the presence of beautiful gardens in our community. (left above)

The Old Potter's Shed: The "Used Potter's Shed" was successfully introduced at the Art & Garden Festival held at Andersen Enrichment Center on June 15. Members donated new and gently used garden related items for resale. Our theme for the day was "Repurpose, Reuse, Recycle."

Cranbrook Gardens & English Tea Day Trip: The opportunity to tour Cranbrook Gardens, complemented by afternoon tea at The Iroquois Club, was afforded members and guests who participated in a planned day trip to see Bloomfield Hills attractions on July 20. Fellowship, flowers, and tea made for a day to be remembered by all participants.

Books in Bloom Fundraiser: Author Viola Shipman will speak about *The Heirloom Garden* on Monday, September 19, at our first annual literary event, our "Books in Bloom" fundraiser which is open to guests. It will be held at Zehnder's in Frankenmuth.

-submitted by Ann Herm, president

Branch News continued - Troy Garden Club



Our club hosted *Kaleidoscope of Gardens*, the TGC's 47th garden walk, on July 13. The weather was cooperative, though hot, humid and sometimes rainy. But it takes more than the weather, high gas prices or a lingering pandemic to discourage garden walk participants. Ticket holders enjoyed six lovely gardens featuring full shade, full sun or in-between. Plein air artists painted in our gardens for the 13th year. Activities at the Troy Historic Village included a plant sale, an arts & crafts boutique and a student art exhibit.

Once again, the big winners will be the 30+ organizations and individuals who will receive donations from garden walk proceeds. Although the 2022 event is history, our Garden Walk Search Committee is already busy locating gardens for 2023. **WNF&GA National Meeting:** Seventeen members attended the June 1-4 meeting. Keeping it local in southeast Michigan allowed first-time attendees an opportunity to enjoy the event.

Civic Service Gardening Project - Troy Public Library – We have maintained two garden beds at the TPL for almost a decade. The smaller bed will be the site of our Peace Planting Project, which was made possible by an anonymous \$6,400.00 donation to WNF&GA. All 32 branches received \$200.00 each. Two members are working on Troy's design. Planting will occur as weather permits. (photo above R)

Civic Service Gardening Project - Troy Historic Village: The village's many programs and rental events keep us busy nurturing their 13 gardens. Recently, member JoAnn Preston applied for a Keep Michigan Beautiful grant. The funding will enable us to update the Memorial Garden which surrounds the flagpole and Blue Star Mothers' (Troy chapter) memorial stone at the THV entrance. Linda Forrester is developing a design. Research guided her to plants which represent qualities of those who serve in the military: loyalty, faith, hope, valor, wisdom, gallantry, remembrance and mourning. Some of the selections include: Shasta daisies, iris, poppies, beebalm, blue salvia, sweet William, cone flowers, black-eyed Susan, red knockout roses, and red-hot poker plants.

Members Only Garden Walk: Nine TGC members opened their gardens to club members for a mid-August tour. The gardens looked splendid despite the heat and drought. It was an enjoyable day! (photo on right) - text & photos submitted by Karol Carter



Above: Troy Public Library planting



L-R: Yolanda Tenorio-Thomas & Jackie Wilson

Trailwood Garden Club

Trailwood members Terry LaBeau and Georgia Randinitis attended the 2022 National Meeting and enjoyed all the activities. The WNF&GA Executive Committee did a marvelous job of coordinating the activities. The gardens we saw were outstanding and the gardeners were very giving of their time. Thank you to all.

Although Trailwood had no 2022 garden walk, we did have a successful Plant and Garden Treasure Sale. Our members had fun working together. It was held at a home that would have been on a garden walk, and the beautiful garden was open to view. That was a nice bonus. In addition, the day was perfect: no rain and no heat.

During the sale, we were approached by gardeners who would like to share their gardens on our 2023 garden walk. We were delighted to hear from them. Hopefully, all will fall into place for next year.



L-R: Trailwood members Terry LaBeau & Georgia Randinitis at the WNF&GA's National Meeting in southeast Michigan. Included was brunch in Meadow Brook Hall's Christopher Wren dining room before touring The Hall's gardens and visiting the Matilda Dodge Wilson statue on the Oakland University campus.



L-R: Elaine Dividock and Elba Fillmore enjoy a pontoon boat ride and meeting at a member's lakefront home during Trailwood's year-ending July picnic.

Funds for a Peace Planting Project have been discussed at our meetings. Members decided to work with Plymouth Township for a suitable area. Township members in charge suggested a tree at the Miller Family Park, which is a walk-to park in a neighborhood. There is no parking lot, but they just added a covered pavilion, and we are having a meeting at the site. We intend to plant a tulip tree, and the planting will occur in September when the weather is better. Plymouth Township will give us a special price since the actual cost will be more than the funds provided by an anonymous donor through the WNF&GA.

Our end-of-the-year wrap-up and picnic were held at a member's lakefront home. It was a hot July day, but a beautiful venue. After enjoying our potluck feast, we all had a good time on a pontoon boat ride and had our meeting on the boat at the dock. What fun!

In October, we will participate in a fall event at the Plymouth Township Park. It will be the event's second year and there will be additional activities. We will be able to promote our branch and the WNF&GA at the event. Ideas include hosting a perennial sale, a garden seeds giveaway & having members present to answer garden questions.

-text & photos submitted by Georgia Randinitis, president

Branch News continued



Warren Garden Club Branch

Summer is winding down and, despite the heat, we have enjoyed some truly beautiful weather and great times! Following a very busy spring, members enjoyed our Annual Potluck Dinner and Silent Auction on June 8. In appreciation of their assistance with various projects this past year, members of Scout Troop #1477, their leaders and the regional leader were in attendance. Another highlight of the evening was the presentation of The Annual Iris Award (our club flower) to Pat Brown, who has made significant contributions to Branch operations since 1999! What could be finer than a bountiful summer feast with our Warren Garden Club friends?

We were blessed to have enthusiastic participation from our membership for a successful Rummage Sale on June 24, 25 & 26. As everyone knows, such activities require weeks of preparation, but the results were well worth it. Our venue was the Warren Village Hall, built in 1922, where we utilized two rooms, as well as the outside area. Along with browsing the sale, customers enjoyed learning a bit of Warren history, as some historical posters and a tapestry are still in the building. Proceeds from the sale benefit our Scholarship Fund. Two scholarships were awarded in 2022, and both graduates are pursuing careers in dentistry.

Our members were saddened to learn of the passing of Joyce Rivard on July 24. Joyce had been a very active member for nearly 40 years. Although she wasn't physically able, she continued to support the Greens Workshop each year. She will be missed!

Our monthly meetings will resume on September 14, when our speaker will present S.A.V.E. (Survive a Violent Encounter) and provide tips on personal safety and awareness of our surroundings. The Fall Council Meeting in October should be a wonderful event. Thank you to Grosse Pointe Shores Branch for hosting! We will wrap up 2022 with Greens Workshop preparations and our Annual Christmas Dinner at the Gazebo Banquet Center.

-text & photo submitted by Paula O'Brien, 2nd vice president



The rummage sale: Warren Garden Club members enjoy ice cream at day's end. L-R: Linda Gardner, Sue Keffer, Madelyn Zamora, President April Everett, Paula O'Brien, Pat Brown – 2022 recipient of the club's Annual Iris Award, Linda Garrison, Mary Stieber

Taking a break at the Michigan Renaissance Festival after working on their competitive Royal Garden are Waterford Garden Club members L-R: Connie Kiefiuk, Carrie Sue Cempura, Cathy Colling



Waterford Garden Club

The Waterford branch has been a busy group of ladies. At the beginning of June, a few of our members were able to attend most of the events at our WNF&GA National Meeting, and it was great to meet members from other branches and states. Later, we Waterford members had our annual spring luncheon and business meeting, and I had a great meal at Fino's restaurant. Some of us were able to make it to the Milford Garden Walk. What a wonderful collection of gardens! We also decided this summer to visit two members' gardens each month. Hosts for June were Connie Kiefiuk and Carrie Sue Cempura.

July found members continuing to work every Thursday, weather permitting, at the Waterford Senior Center or Drayton Plains Nature Center. Members went on a field trip to R & G Landscaping in Hartland for a free garden walk. They specialize in different kinds of hostas. We finished by going out to eat and visiting the Rural King store in Hartland.

We were able to visit the gardens of members Cheryl Malin and Mary VanGeison. Their gardens were vastly different, as one was a lakeside garden, and the other was a cottage garden. A few members were also able to attend the Saginaw Branch tea at the Iroquois Club. It was a great experience.

In August, we started with a walkabout at the Renaissance Festival to choose which gardens we wanted to plant and maintain for the season. We chose three gardens, and a few members were able to accomplish weeding and planting in a couple of days. Renaissance Festival gardening is actually a garden competition, and we hope that those who attend the festival will vote for Waterford's gardens. It has been a fun experience over the past couple of years to participate in something outside of our normal gardens. We were also able to visit the gardens of members Sue Malone and Anne Mobley. Sue's garden had a lot of sun and Anne's had a lot of shade, but they had many of the same plants.

We will start back with our business meetings in September, and speaker Amy Vine will talk to us. In October we will have an evening meeting and we hope to do a fall craft.

-text & photo submitted by Carrie Sue Cempura, president



WNF&GA Michigan Division
707 McDougal
Waterford, MI 48327

PRESORTED
FIRST-CLASS
U.S. POSTAGE PAID
MIDLAND, MI
PERMIT NO. 181

***National Meeting 2022 – Below are thoughts, memories and highlights provided
by Charlotte and Cheryl, your elected Michigan Division representatives to the WNF&GA.***

Part One of the WNF&GA's 2022 Annual National Meeting – the business portion – was conducted virtually on Saturday, May 14, 2022, by President Mary Schwark. The Zoom meeting was facilitated by former WNF&GA Education and Charitable Treasurer Kathy Welsh Beveridge, Pennsylvania Bucks County Branch. The WNF&GA president welcomed attendees and made introductions. She mentioned the Peace Planting Project, funded by an anonymous donor. The project distributed \$200.00 to each of 32 WNF&GA branches for the purpose of helping to fund new or existing public gardens which are tended by branches. Projects must be completed by the close of 2022. Fifty-five members from Michigan, New York, Ohio and Pennsylvania branches registered for the business meeting. The total WNF&GA membership reported was 1,305, including members-at-large and complimentary memberships. Reports were submitted and approved.

Part Two of the WNF&GA's 2022 Annual National Meeting – the exploration portion – began in person on June 1 with an *on-your-own visit* to the Nichols Arboretum Peony Garden in Ann Arbor on the occasion of the garden's 100-year anniversary. Were the gorgeous peonies in bloom just for us? Thursday morning, June 2, the meeting officially began at the Ford House & Gardens in Grosse Pointe Shores. The visit was followed by lunch at St. Sabbas Monastery & Gardens in Harper Woods, and a trip to the Dequindre Cut near downtown Detroit. The latter was a substitute destination because the Grand Prix made Belle Isle inaccessible to those without race tickets. Friday began with brunch in the legendary Christopher Wren dining room at Meadow Brook Hall. Charlotte D. Westbrook gave a brief presentation about the late Kay Rockwell, WNF&GA president from 1978-80. "President Rockwell" (Troy Garden Club member Barb Lepri) greeted meeting attendees. The morning's main presentation – ***Look Up; Look Around*** – was given by Meadow Brook Hall curator Madelyn Rzadkowski. Meadow Brook Garden Club members then led a guided tour of Meadow Brook Hall gardens. Nearby Oakland University was the next stop, where we heard about the school's history and we visited the statue of Matilda Dodge Wilson who, with her husband Alfred, founded the school in 1957. Many members attended the optional evening Detroit River Princess Cruise. Saturday began with a visit to the lovely gardens of Cranbrook as well as to three beautiful private gardens. A box lunch was provided under a tent at the Troy Historic Village. After a late afternoon break, attendees returned to the THV for a delicious dinner, once again under the tent. An exciting live auction became quite a bargaining session that raised \$867.57 for tornado relief and rebuilding at Temple University in Ambler, PA. The final WNF&GA installation of Executive Committee members, including new president Patty Burnside, was a fitting conclusion to the 2022 National Meeting.

Sixty-seven members from Michigan and Ohio branches registered for the meeting. If you did not participate, you missed so much, including numerous outstanding garden-centric venues in southeast Michigan. Yes, the meeting was quite different. Most of us were able to drive ourselves and sleep in our own homes. Although the event was very relaxed and mostly informal, it was FULL of interesting locations, excellent information, great food, beautiful gardens, many friends and lots of fun.

-submitted by Cheryl Malin and Charlotte D. Westbrook

- 12 - **NOTE:** View many meeting photos in the fall 2022 *WNF&GA magazine*, to be published in mid-September.