



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

Volume 78, Issue 2

Spring 2021

Daffodils are dauntless & they're in bloom

... or will be soon! Wednesday, April 21, 2021, 11:00 am

2021 Daffodil Day Program

Please join Barry Burton, head of landscape design for the City of Detroit, as he takes us on a trip around the city to show us beautifully restored or newly created parks. Due to the pandemic, the tour will be **VIRTUAL**, but the program will include a daffodil map of the city so you can go on a **REAL** adventure on your own. *(See yellow box, page 3.)*

Barry's tour, plus daffodil-related items from The Peacock Room and Laurie Tennent, will be presented virtually on Wednesday, April 21, beginning at 11:00 am. We will post Zoom registration information on the Michigan Division Daffodils4Detroit web page in late March. Detroit is a city of flowers. Don't miss it!

Please note sponsorship information on page 3.

History of the Event

When we started planting daffodils on Belle Isle, no one could have foreseen that the project, now named Daffodils 4 Detroit, could have grown to two million bulbs planted, a partnership with the City of Detroit, and a city festooned with restored parks and new gardens.

We started with one central idea, which was to make something beautiful, and if we couldn't make it perfect, we made it spectacular. Detroit in 2008 seemed to be a city without beauty and without hope. In the time of COVID, it is doubly important for us to know that hope is everywhere. In two months, that hope will bloom as daffodils.

Two years ago, we fulfilled our pledge to plant 650,000 daffodil bulbs on Belle Isle, one for each resident of Detroit, and we reinvigorated our partnership with the City of Detroit. Working together, we have planted bulbs all over the city. The partnership has also allowed the city to spend more money on other plants, shrubs, and re-landscaping.

Enjoy Daffodils All Year Long!

Laurie Tennent Botanicals has captured daffodils on Belle Isle and in Detroit. Enjoy Laurie's images on her scarves, trays, pouches and journals as she shares her daffodil inspired product line. To shop and support Daffodils4Detroit during the month of April, log onto: www.lauriennentbotanicals.com.

Rachel Lutz of *The Peacock Room* will host a live sales event on Zoom following the virtual program. It will be your opportunity to see Rachel describe and display botanically inspired wares and to make your selections as you watch her program.

Daffodil Day tiles are available in blue this year from our artist at *Whistling Frog Pottery*. Order online at the Daffodils4Detroit webpage on the Michigan Division WNFGA website. (See tile photo on right.) Our popular daffodil notecards (image on far right) are available for sale to commemorate 2020 and 2021 Daffodil Days.

LAURIE TENNENT
 BOTANICALS



- D4D information submitted by Robin Heller and Cecily O'Connor

Michigan Division of the WNF&GA For Your Information

Executive Committee 2019 – 2021

President	Sheila Kneeshaw (Member-at-Large) 2474 Iroquois, Detroit 48214	313-821-7480 48214	kshaw2474@yahoo.com
First Vice President	Marcia Mandell (Country G.C. Northville) 18894 Milburn Street, Livonia 48152	248-478-3391 48152	mjmandell2012@gmail.com
Second Vice President	Jo Sillanpaa (Country G.C. Northville) 16625 Winchester Drive, Northville 48168	248-513-6496 48168	jcsillanpaa@gmail.com
Division Treasurer	Patricia Brown (Warren Branch) 31616 Lexington Street, Warren 48092	586-268-0975 48092	patb501946@comcast.net
Charitable Treasurer	Lenore Treba (Troy Garden Club) 859 Portsmouth Drive, Troy 48084	248-362-3738 48084	leetreba@att.net
Secretary	Vicki Guntenaar (Troy Garden Club) 19425 Georgia Street, Roseville 48066	303-807-4364 48066	vguntenaar56@gmail.com
Representative to National Council	Cheryl Malin (Pontiac Garden Club) 707 McDougal, Waterford 48327	248-421-6093 48327	cmalin09@gmail.com
Representative to National Council	Charlotte D. Westbrook (Rochester Br.) 5563 Meadow Lane, Shelby Township 48316	586-781-3242 48316	cdwestbrook@comcast.net

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

Michigan Division www.michdivwnfga.weebly.com Member Area Password: skneeshaw2021	WNF&GA (national) www.wnfga.org Member Area Password: Farm100garden
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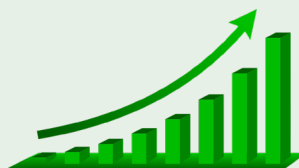
Mary Schwark—newsletter editor & MI DIV advisor

What's Happening & When?

April 21, 2021	VIRTUAL Daffodil Day, pp. 1 & 3
May 1 – 15, 2021	Submit info & photos for summer ONLINE-ONLY newsletter
May 6, 2021	VIRTUAL Spring Council Meeting, p. 5
June 5, 2021	VIRTUAL National Meeting, p. 14

See MI DIV Calendar of Events, page 4.

Going green is going up!



Thank you for helping Michigan Division save resources and costs by agreeing to receive your newsletters electronically. Need a hard copy? It's easy to access and print your own from MI DIV's website.

When you read digital newsletters or print your own copies, everything is in color. Please try it, and then join those who have already gone green. Notify registrar Cheryl Malin (box with arrow immediately to the right) that you're willing to take a trip on the GO GREEN ship.

LET US KNOW: How can we find out when your contact information changes?

Please report all branch roster changes: member additions, subtractions, changes of address, phone numbers and email addresses. Also, please tell the registrar that you want to read the newsletter on the MI DIV website. You can also print it from the website!



Call or email:

Cheryl Malin, MI DIV registrar
707 McDougal, Waterford, MI 48327
248-421-6093 cmalin09@gmail.com

From Sheila Kneeshaw, your Michigan Division president ...

To all the members of Michigan Division of the WNF&GA, thank you for the opportunity to have been your president for 2019-2021. This will be my last article written as the president of Michigan Division as I now move to the position of advisor to the board of directors.

My time as president has been very rewarding and challenging at the same time. Health issues slowed me down and COVID-19 shut down all of us. I must, however, take this opportunity to thank the present board members for all of the assistance and support that they gave me during the past two years. I truly could not have continued on without their help, and also the help of Mary Schwark, board advisor and newsletter editor, and Mary Lynne Moellering, parliamentarian.

Last year, the Daffodil Day Luncheon was cancelled due to COVID-19. This year, via Zoom on April 21, an online presentation will be given by Barry Burton. See the information in the yellow boxes on pages 1 and 3 of this newsletter. I am also looking forward to seeing you on May 6, 2021, for our Spring Council Meeting which will be held via Zoom as well. See the meeting information on page 5. Chairing that meeting will be my last official act as Michigan Division president.

Again, thank you. Please stay safe and well.

Sheila Wade Kneeshaw, president
Michigan Division of the WNF&GA



- photo by Jeanne Bolcer

2021 Daffodil Day Zoom Program Participation – Donation: \$25 per person

DATE: Wednesday, April 21, 2021, 11:00 am ~ Zoom tour of parks in the City of Detroit

VIRTUAL TOUR GUIDE: Barry Burton, the city's head of landscape design

VIEW: Thousands upon thousands of dauntless daffodils.

REAL TOUR: On your own, using a specially created daffodil map, visit the city's daffodils when in bloom.

REGISTER SOON: Mail your check* for \$25 per person to the address at the bottom of this page, OR

BEGINNING IN LATE MARCH: Register and pay online: www.michdivwnfga.weebly.com

*check payable to Michigan Division WNF&GA

Choose to be a D4D benefactor: YOU can make a Daffodil Difference!

The **2021** fundraising goal is **\$20,210**.

That amount will purchase over **100,000** daffodil bulbs!

Sponsorship of Daffodils4Detroit makes a significant impact on our ability to purchase and plant daffodils. Your generous support comes with the following benefits:

Double Golden

\$5,000+

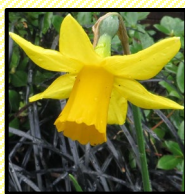
Acknowledgment on the website, social media, the video virtual tour & commemorative **framed** Daffodil Day tile.



Golden Long

\$1,000 - \$4,999

Acknowledgment on the website, social media, the video virtual tour & commemorative Daffodil Day tile.



Trumpeter

\$500 - \$999

Acknowledgment on the website, social media & the video virtual tour.



To support Daffodils4Detroit and to be included in our acknowledgments, please make your check payable to the **Michigan Division WNF&GA**, and mail it to Michigan Division treasurer, Pat Brown, 31616 Lexington Street, Warren, MI 48092, prior to **April 7, 2021**.

Please Send Donations
for
**Pennies for Friendship, Daffodils4Detroit,
International Tea and the Detroit Zoo to:**

Pat Brown, Michigan Division Treasurer
31616 Lexington St.
Warren, MI 48092

Questions? 586-268-0975 **OR**
patb501946@comcast.net

Daffodils4Communities



Thank you to the Michigan Division branches which have created daffodil projects in public places. We hope all other branches will soon do the same.

When branches create Daffodils4Communities projects, they complement the Daffodils4Detroit program. One new example of such a program is Daffodils4Saginaw.

Daffodil icons on the Branch News pages will continue to appear next to the names of participating branches.

MICHIGAN DIVISION SPRING & SUMMER CALENDAR

APRIL, GREAT DIXTER SPEAKER: Bloomfield Hills Branch virtual fundraiser featuring Aaron Bertelsen, author and head gardener at Great Dixter House & Gardens in Northiam, East Sussex, England. Invitations will be sent to all branch presidents for them to share with all Michigan Division members.

MAY 15, Saturday, PLANT EXCHANGE: Warren Garden Club – 10:00 am – 12:00 noon, United Methodist Church, 5005 Chicago Rd, Warren.

MAY 22, Saturday, SPRING PLANT SALE: Waterford Garden Club – 9:00 am – 3:00 pm at the Waterford Senior Center, 3621 Pontiac Lake Road, Waterford.

MAY 27, Thursday, MRS. TEBBEN'S TEA – TENTATIVE: Lapeer Wildflowers

JUNE 5, Saturday, PLANT EXCHANGE: Clarkston Branch – 8:30 – 9:30 am; village parking lot, corner of Main and Washington in downtown Clarkston. Bring a plant for exchange and pick up a new plant to take home. Masks & social distancing are required. *Plan to arrive by 8:30 am.* No cost. Additional information: clarkstongardenclub.org

JUNE 9, Wednesday, 35th GARDEN WALK: Franklin Garden Club – 10:00 am – 4:00 pm & 6:00 – 9:00 pm. A self-guided tour through beautiful private gardens in Franklin, Birmingham & Bloomfield. Artisan Market on the Franklin Village Green, 9:00 am – 5:00 pm. Advance tickets: \$12 at the Franklin Village Boutique, 32716 Franklin Rd., downtown Franklin OR purchase them online at: 2021franklingardenwalk.eventbrite.com. Tickets on June 9: \$15 only at the Gazebo on the Franklin Village Green, 32325 Franklin Rd., Franklin.

JUNE 17, Thursday, GARDEN WALK: Rochester Garden Club – 10:00 am – 5:00 pm. A self-guided tour through six local gardens, including the Children's Garden that Rochester members maintain at the Van Hoosen Farm. Native plants will also be for sale on the same day and will be ready for pickup at the Farm. www.RochesterGardenClub.org

JUNE 19, Saturday, GARDEN WALK: Milford Garden Club – 10:00 am – 5:00 pm. Showcasing six interesting and outstanding gardens in the Milford area. www.themilfordgardenclub.org

JULY 14, Wednesday, GARDEN WALK: Country Garden Club of Northville – 9:00 am – 4:00 pm. Seven gardens, including a "Walk Within a Walk" – several condo gardens, each with its own personality and charm. Interesting vendors and live music at our downtown Northville staging area.

JULY 14, Wednesday, 46th GARDEN WALK: Troy Garden Club presents *Anniversary Gardens*, with seven private gardens, to celebrate their 50th year of service; 9:30 am – 3:00 pm & 5:00 – 8:30 pm. Arts & Crafts Boutique and Plant Sale from 9:00 am – 6:00 pm at the Troy Historic Village, 60 W. Wattles Rd., Troy 48098. Info: www.TroyGardenClubMI.com or 248-535-5955. Facebook: Troy Garden Club 2021 Garden Walk. \$12 advance tickets at Auburn Oaks, Telly's, Troy Historic Village, Uncle Luke's. On July 14, \$15 tickets sold only at the Troy Historic Village. RAIN OR SHINE.

JULY 17, Saturday, GARDEN WALK: Moonglow Garden Club presents seven beautiful gardens in the City of Trenton; 10:00 am – 4:00 pm.

JULY 21, Wednesday, GARDEN WALK: Clarkston Branch – July 21, 2021 – more info on clarkstongardenclub.org

Michigan Division Spring Council VIRTUAL Meeting

Thursday, May 6, 2021 ~ 10:00 am – 1:00 pm

**SAVE THE
DATE!**

NO MEETING FEE – Zoom Registration Required.

Additional attendance and registration information

provided in early to mid-April. *Attendance limited to 100.*

Informal Chat during Sign-In ~ Call to Order and Roll Call

Business Meeting including Election of 2021 – 2023 Officers

Installation of 2021-2023 Officers (See slate of officers below.)



Presentation by Matthew Ross, director of Continuing Education at Longwood Gardens:

Gardens In and Around the Great Lakes

A bubbling brook spans the overlook from a post-industrialized complex, now a demonstration hub for sustainable cities of the future. An expansive green roof is buzzing with bees sitting high atop a historic auto plant, and a revitalized asylum featuring an array of native plantings is etched with the first touch of frost. Those are not your typical garden experiences but are only the start of a journey that spans the coastlines and communities of the Great Lakes, from the massive open garden tours in Buffalo, to the formal gardens of the Royal Botanical Garden of Burlington, and even a quaint walk along the shores of Lake Michigan. There is no shortage of great garden splendor within the Great Lakes. Join plantsman and educator, Matthew Ross as he takes us on a journey of some of the lesser-known gardens and landscapes in his captivating presentation.

Matthew Ross is known for his insatiable appetite for garden exploration. He is a passionate advocate for public gardens with a special affinity for the underappreciated and unheralded gardens. Ross is the Director of Continuing Education at Longwood Gardens and is responsible for the development and delivery of over 175 programs annually. Prior to his arrival at Longwood Gardens, Matthew spent six years in Toledo, Ohio, where he worked as a horticulturist at Toledo Botanical Gardens, instructed nearly 20 courses as an educator at Owens State College, and developed a 5-acre urban farm and training center. He is a proud graduate of Michigan State University, where he earned his bachelor's and master's degrees in Horticulture Science with an emphasis on Landscape Design and Urban Forestry. He is excited to present on some of his favorite gardens in the Great Lakes region.

Slate of 2021-2023 Michigan Division Board Officers

The slate of officers will be voted on during the Michigan Division meeting on May 6, 2021.

Co-Presidents: Marcia Mandell & Jo Sillanpaa – Country Garden Club of Northville

Vice President: Sue Malone – Waterford Garden Club

A & O Treasurer: Suemarie Klimek – Northville Garden Club

Charitable Treasurer: Pat Brown – Warren Garden Club

Secretary: Barb Lepri – Troy Garden Club

Representative to the National Council: Cheryl Malin – Pontiac Garden Club

Representative to the National Council: Charlotte D. Westbrook – Rochester Garden Club

Nora Tebben - loved & missed by many . . .

I knew Nora quite well. Her passing is sad, even though her age had been catching up with her.

- Mary Lynne Moellering, Rochester Garden Club

Such a lovely lady. Glad she had a long life.

- Tina Downen, Rochester Garden Club

She was one in a million!

- Kathy Lorencz, Franklin Garden Club

With regard to Nora Tebben, she was our president, Bloomfield Hills Garden Club, from 1958-1960. I think she was one of our youngest presidents ever. She was well respected and a hard worker in our garden club. One beautiful story: during one of our membership meetings many, many years ago, a past president was sitting next to Nora, who noticed that she did not have a president's pin on her lapel. Discussion ensued about why she was not wearing her pin. Past President Lynn Stinson remarked that she had never received one. At that time, Nora removed her pin and gave it to Lynn. Lynn has shared with me that gesture, and Nora's pin means so much to her. Now, ALL of our past presidents have pins, and perhaps one day they will follow Nora's lead and do the same.

- Julie Beals, Bloomfield Hills Garden Club

Thanks for sharing Nora Tebben's obituary. I didn't really know her, although I did enjoy several teas, and the beautiful grounds of the Huntsman Hunt Club. She did sound like a remarkable lady.

- Bev Hydo, Troy Garden Club

My memories of Nora, from a number of Michigan Division and National Meetings, are of a kind, quiet lady whose smile could light up the room. She was very unassuming, but I always thought she had an air of elegance about her. Everyone was always in awe of her extraordinary floral-arranging talents. She will definitely be missed by many.

- Paula O'Brien, Warren Garden Club



Edited excerpts from a mid-2015 article written by Claudia Scioly (current member-at-large & former Ann Arbor Branch member) and provided by her for inclusion in this newsletter:

The annual Mrs. Tebben's Tea, Thursday, June 11, 2015, sold out in under two hours. Many guests and members who registered late were turned away. The event has a growing reputation and has garnered a dedicated audience, even among Red Hat ladies and the local community. If you want to attend next year, pay close attention to the process and deadline!

As always, I enjoy Mrs. Tebben's Tea as much or more than most events I attend during the year. Mrs. Tebben's presence and her hospitality are highpoints of the day. She has her own table with selected guests and she entertains us with a quiet elegance and grace, [qualities which] I think she has nurtured since she was a young girl.

The Lapeer Wildflowers set an example for all of us. Although only 15 members, they bring all their efforts together seamlessly to provide for the event of the year. The Silent Auction has a remarkable array of gifts, accessories, services, and plants, and the proceeds benefit their Scholarship Fund as do the proceeds from the Tea.

The setting for the day is so lovely and serene, it just begs for you to pull up a chair and relax by the lake with a good book. Fortunately, the Lapeer Wildflowers make sure that, after mingling and viewing the silent auction items, we proceed to our tables because lunch is being served. Prepared by Executive Chef Thomas Chappell, it is not only delicious, but beautifully presented. Plates are accented with flowers and herbs. Most of the produce is harvested from the property or is grown at Tebben Farms: the rhubarb which complemented the panna cotta, morels from the woods atop the soup, and herbs from the farms.

All courses are complemented with a selection of perfectly served tea in beautiful bone china cups. Many of the flowers were peonies. It is that time of year. Exuberant purple, pink and pinkish-white blooms splash out of the clear glass vases and float willy-nilly about as if they were just freshly cut from the garden, which they probably were.

OUR PRIDE IS SHOWING !



How do you show pride in and support for the Woman's National Farm & Garden Association? How can others find out about our organization?

Members now can buy apparel and accessories with our logo from our online store.

Over the past 100 plus years, the WNF&GA has made a difference, yet many people are unaware of our accomplishments. Our organization is vital and dynamic! Purchase our online products for the purpose of

honoring our history & sharpening our image!

Become visible in our communities and start conversations, which we hope will lead to greater recognition and increased membership. Let WNF&GA continue setting and achieving goals through horticulture and agriculture over the next 100 years.

***NOTE:** All apparel is either ladies or unisex, except the 2 men's jackets which are provided for ladies who prefer a fuller cut.*

To purchase the above WNF&GA online products and more, go to:

<https://farm-garden2021.itemorder.com> for details and contact information.

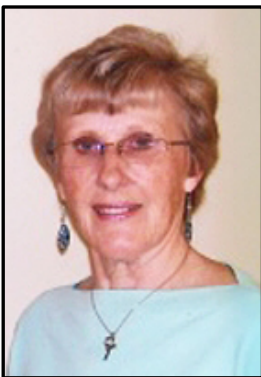
Deadline to order: April 15, 2021

Examples to the right and much more on the ordering website . . .



Troy Garden Club *continued from page 12*

In Memoriam

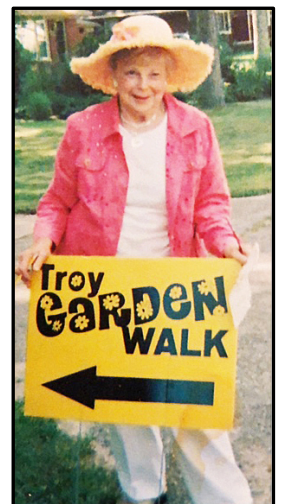


d: December 7, 2020

Kay Davis joined the Troy Garden Club in 2003, after retiring from teaching for many years in a small suburban Detroit school district. She was a lovely, quiet, gentle soul, and she had a small but magnificent garden and pond, which she opened twice for the club's annual garden walk. Although Kay had no children, her landscape designer and his family became her great friends. His children called her "Grandma."

d: December 31, 2020

Lillian Foxa was fun, vivacious and stylish. In addition to being a member of the Troy Garden Club, she was a Razzle Dazzle Red Hatter. She participated in Bible study, Gilda's Club, and the Altar Society at St. Peter churches in Harper Woods and Mt. Clemens. Lillian loved theatre, including as a performer. She was also an excellent cook as well as a charming hostess. Lillian loved a good party, and her passing occurred on New Year's Eve. She is survived by a daughter, four grandchildren and two great-grandchildren.



Branch News

Bloomfield Hills Garden Club Branch



Our club sends condolences to Nora Tebben's family with her passing. Nora joined the Bloomfield Hills Garden Club in 1950 and served as our president in 1958-1960. Nora was granted Honorary Membership several years ago and was very well respected among our members.

We are planning to have our biannual fundraiser virtually in April, featuring our guest speaker, Aaron Bertelsen, author and head gardener of Great Dixter House and Gardens located in Northiam, East Sussex, England. We are very excited to secure such a prestigious speaker! All garden club presidents will receive formal mailed invitations as well as electronic invitations to share with their members.

Please feel free to join us for this wonderful opportunity. It is not often that we can enjoy a speaker from across the pond . . . but with Zoom, anything is possible! Proceeds from this event will be granted to organizations that meet our mission. We are proud to report that our club granted over \$16,000.00 this past year to several local 501(c)(3) organizations.

We continue to remain engaged during this time and are looking forward to spring and daffodil blooms!

- submitted by Julie Beals, president



Aaron Bertelsen, author and head gardener at Great Dixter House & Gardens

- photo courtesy of the internet

Clarkston Farm & Garden Club



Anita Andes, CF&GC blogger

2020 has been a long year with COVID 19 floating around, mask-wearing, social distancing and not seeing our friends in the Clarkston Farm and Garden Club. President Denise Putvin calls member, Anita Andes, our "spirit chairman." As we Zoomed for meetings, tried to figure out the Greens Market and Wreath and Roping sale, and just talked about what each of us was doing to stay well, Anita Andes began to write the "Get A Life Blog." She entertained us, made us smile and got our imaginations working overtime.

Anita is a talented club member, who has chaired our Greens Market committee for a number of years, so we know her talent with greenery and bows but we didn't realize the extent of her talent in creative writing. She says her blogs "contain moments in my life that have surprised me or stories about other garden club members."

Andes shares that she has never blogged before. Another member in the club urged her to share her writing talent, and the rest is history. Members of the Clarkston Garden Club have received thirteen

blogs in our emails throughout the many months of lockdown. They make us smile and reflect on life. Her entertaining "Get A Life" blogs can all be found on the front page of the ClarkstonGardenClub.org website. Following are short snippets from Blog #6:

"At last there's time to pull a few weeds which have brazenly crept in between the blades of grass in my 'prized' lawn."

"Now I'm telling you, that if you just get down at grass level, it's amazing what you'll see! If you're like ME, you'll see a lot more than just WEEDS . . . !"

Chapter 1 ~ THE SCENE: "There I was, at the curb, where most of the weeds had popped up. I started working, but soon found myself enchanted with that micro world that we never actually think about as we stroll across the lawn. I watched a few ants and other insects hustling along down there in the shade of the grass blades. Busy, busy, busy! Two of the ants weaved through that grassy jungle, all six of their legs performing in perfect precision, and I thought, "Where are you going in such a hurry?"

Chapter 2 ~ "But the performance continued and got even BETTER! About a foot to my right, I was thrilled beyond words to see that TWO ANTS had climbed up onto a thick, gray-green, matte-finished blade of (extremely fibrous and sturdy) crabgrass. Were they surveying "the world ABOVE the lawn floor" for some reason? Both of them kept repositioning their bodies in different directions while moving their antennae. It looked like a dance of sorts! . . . They became Ant-thonny and Ant-toinette. Yeah! They were the 'Fred and Ginger' of the ant world! 'Ant-toinette' could do everything 'Ant-thonny' could do, except in high heels and backwards! (YAY! GIRL POWER!)"

And there's more: the soldier ant with the dead body, plus lots of info about ants. Visit www.clarkstongardenclub.org (front page) and read the rest of this blog and others also. You too will smile at the insight of Anita Andes, our fellow Michigan Division Woman's National Farm and Garden Club member.

The Clarkston Farm and Garden Club is awaiting spring as many of you are also! We wish you the Irish Blessing, "May good luck be with you wherever you go, and your blessings outnumber the shamrocks that grow."

- submitted by Joette Kunse, communications director

. continued on page 9

See page 4 calendar listings for Clarkston Farm & Garden Club's
June 5 plant exchange and July 21 garden walk.

In Memoriam Jeanne Molzon died in February, leaving a long trail of good deeds. A Clarkston Farm & Garden member for over 20 years, she held several offices and chairmanships. Our first garden walk chairperson, she remained on the committee for all 13 years. Always prepared, including when planting downtown, she would arrive with a broom so dirt wouldn't be left on the sidewalks. Jeanne loved to weed at the library and, with her stool, she kept working until she finished each task. She also loved Greens Market and creating arrangements for the holiday sale. Jeanne was named Citizen of the Year in Clarkston because of her work on many community projects. She loved her family and had photo-filled walls of them in her home. Jeanne will be missed for her contributions and for the friend she was to the members of the Clarkston Branch. *- submitted by Joette Kunse*



Country Garden Club of Northville

What a crazy year! Getting together with our gardening friends has always been an enjoyable experience. This year required ingenuity to accomplish our goals, but with the help of modern technology, we feel that the Country Garden Club of Northville has succeeded!

Due to restrictions, our first meeting of the year was in the president's backyard. *(See photo below left.)* Guest speaker Mary Spencer spoke about *Herbs in the Garden*. She demonstrated a wonderful recipe for fresh ricotta infused with rosemary, thyme and other herbs that we might have in our own gardens. My family has been enjoying fresh batches all winter! In October we met outdoors at an open shelter in Hines Park. We created beautiful fresh flower arrangements using a faux floral pumpkin as the vase. November was a little unsettling as we weren't quite sure how to proceed. We planned the rest of the year and decided Zoom meetings were the way to go! We spent several days in November holding practice meetings. We were apprehensive about actually mastering the Zoom technology, but we did! Now we hold all our meetings safely on Zoom!

Our December speaker was our own past president, Marcia Mandell, who gave an interesting overview of the history of the WNF&GA. Our January and February speakers provided lots of valuable information about butterflies and mason bees. We learned tips to maintain good environments to keep attracting pollinators to our gardens. One important tip for keeping mason bees is to maintain a small dish of wet clay soil on the ground near their houses to give them access to what they need to seal off their houses' cardboard incubator tubes.

We look forward to our garden walk fundraiser on July 14. We have six great regular gardens and a surprise bonus: a collection of seven small "patio" gardens that can be viewed at a single stop on the walk. *(See Kathryn Novak's message below.)*

Also, we will soon head into the four gardens that we maintain throughout the Northville community. Members will gather for spring cleanup. Our newest garden is at the Living and Learning Education Center (LLEC) that was described in the winter Michigan Division newsletter. The center was designed to help older youth and young adults on the autism spectrum to get job training, as well as social and communication experience. We have planted and will maintain a garden that will eventually include a maze lined with sunflowers. The new lavender field is a project that the young clients will farm this year. They will grow, harvest and package the blossoms to sell. A cutting flower garden for future bouquet sales will be another learning experience. Despite the unusual past year, we are proud to have met our challenges while continuing to enjoy virtual fellowship with our gardening friends. *- submitted by Aleta Lee, president*



Pre-Zoom era backyard meeting of CGC of Northville

Kristen Bros, chairperson of LLEC garden - photo by Neyssa Gill



Clematis 'Jackmanii' - photo by Kathryn Novak

Note from member Kathryn Novak: Countdown has begun for the 2021 Northville Garden Walk. We can hardly wait to show off the beautiful gardens chosen two years ago. The lockdown last year didn't daunt our participants. They took full advantage of an extra summer to nurture, primp, plan and love their gardens into absolute perfection. Be prepared for an outstanding walk on Wednesday, July 14. Talented member Rita Brincat has created beautiful glass plate flowers for gardeners' thank you gifts.

Branch News continued

Franklin Garden Club

On Wednesday, June 9, the 35th Franklin Branch Garden Walk will offer a self-guided tour through beautiful private gardens in the area which includes Franklin, Birmingham & Bloomfield.

An Artisan Market on the Franklin Village Green will be open from 9:00 am to 5:00 pm. Garden walk hours will run from 10:00 am to 4:00 pm and from 6:00 to 9:00 pm. Tickets are \$12 in advance at Franklin Village Boutique, 32716 Franklin Rd. in downtown Franklin, or they can be purchased online at: 2021franklingardenwalk.eventbrite.com.

Tickets will be \$15 on the day of the event. Check in at the Gazebo on the Franklin Village Green, 32325 Franklin Road, Franklin Village. Proceeds will benefit horticultural scholarships for students in Michigan.

Visit franklingardenclub.org.

- submitted by Dianne Wright,
Franklin Garden Walk publicity

Right: 2019 Franklin Garden Walk venue
- photo by Mary Schwark



Lapeer Wildflowers



There has not been much going on with our branch this past year, which I believe is true of many clubs. We did manage to do some work this past summer on our projects at the Lapeer Post Office, the Lapeer Courthouse, and the Center for Innovation. We weeded and mulched in masks while socially-distanced! We also had some masked, socially-distanced outdoor meetings in the summer.

We have not met since September. We were not allowed in the school and no one felt comfortable having a meeting in her home. We have sent scholarship applications to our high schools and hope to award at least one scholarship this spring. Our hope is to be able to resume work on our community projects and meet this spring, weather permitting!!! Mrs. Tebben's Tea is tentatively planned for May 27, but that will depend upon the Huntsman's policy on gatherings this spring. We will let everyone know that decision after it is determined.

We are saddened by the passing of Helga Peltonen on January 1, 2021. Helga had been a Wildflowers member since 2018. Helga made it to many meetings in spite of mobility issues. She enjoyed the meetings and the fellowship and she will be missed. - submitted by Barb Reehl, secretary

In Memoriam

Helga Peltonen was born in September 1940, in Augsburg, Germany. She met Robert Peltonen while he was serving in Germany. They married in 1957 and moved to the United States to begin their life together. Helga owned a seamstress shop called Helga's Alterations in Lapeer. She was a member of St. Timothy Lutheran Church in Otisville, as well as of the Lapeer Wildflowers, the Red Hat Society, Eunice Society and the Lapeer Area Community Educational Outreach. Helga enjoyed sewing, gardening, knitting, crocheting, baking, cooking authentic German food, traveling, watching the Detroit Tigers, and spending Friday nights with the girls. She is survived by four children, nine grandchildren, five great-grandchildren and one sister.

Moonglow Garden Club

Moonglow Garden Club will sponsor the organization's 2021 garden walk in Trenton on Saturday, July 17, 10:00 am to 4:00 pm. Seven beautiful gardens will be featured in the city of Trenton! See Michigan Division's calendar of events on page 4 for Moonglow garden walk details.

In Memoriam

Moonglow member Beverly Evans (photo on right) passed away peacefully at home on May 31, 2020, at the age of 89. She left behind beloved children and grandchildren. She lived on Grosse Ile and was an active contributor to the Grosse Ile community. She was also an avid gardener with Master Gardener certification, and she was a dog lover. Bev was active with the Moonglow Garden Club of Trenton and had also been involved with the Trenton Garden Club. Bev was well-loved and she will be deeply missed.

- submitted by Glenda Albright



Branch News continued

Plymouth Garden Club

Here are some “quotable” and very positive *Springing Forward Thoughts* from our seasoned gardeners:

- ❖ In the fall we planted 150 spring bulbs, so it is with great anticipation that we await the unfolding of our spring garden. The birds and butterflies do love our newly landscaped little front yard and we have really enjoyed it during this pandemic. – *Jan Dersey*
- ❖ I am looking forward to my spring-blooming flowers: tulips, daffodils, lilacs. Ready to get in the soil and spruce up for planting. – *Fran Niemiec*
- ❖ It will be nice to gather again, enjoying each other’s company with a delicious brunch. My quest has been picking two ornamental trees to replace the front yard’s ancient crabs that bloomed faithfully and then began to shed their leaves all summer. Dogwoods, redbuds and serviceberries lead the list, but those magnolias...ugh...decisions, decisions. Soon we will be in our yards digging away. – *Susan Kenney*
- ❖ In Plymouth, I am mostly looking forward to the evolution of my rain garden’s third season and the blooming of my newly planted bulbs. At the cabin, I am always greeted by my ferns and my naturalized daffodils blooming in the front yard. Both make me happy. – *Ann Hause*
- photo on right by *Nancy Sutherland, Trailwood Garden Club*
- ❖ The sunshine of early February reminded me that soon I will be able to see its benefits outside as my garden re-emerges. I can walk about the neighborhood and see the splendor to come. Sunshine means hope. – *Marilynn Kokoszka*
- ❖ Tulips usually bring thoughts of the beauty ahead. This year it’s the possibility of meeting with our Plymouth Garden Club ladies. – *Shirley Zaetta*
- ❖ Looking forward to more sunshine, digging in the dirt, and watching for my hostas to start sprouting after their long winter’s nap. – *Shirley Connors*
- ❖ I wait patiently for spring to arrive with hellebores, winter aconite, snowdrops, spring beauties, mayapple, etc. My yard comes alive in spring. It just takes my breath away whenever I walk out the door! – *Marilyn Norgrove*
- ❖ Just digging in the soil, no matter what I’m planting, is relaxing and renews my sense of being. – *Billie Barton*



Spring is like perennial flowers planted in our gardens. We look forward to its coming back every year. Enjoy spring 2021!

- submitted by *Mary Prouty, Plymouth Garden Club Michigan Division newsletter publicity*

Rochester Garden Club



We continue to hold board and general meetings via Zoom and our general meetings have had some very informative speakers that the membership has enjoyed while being inside during the cold weather. We look forward to being together this summer in the warm weather and sunshine.

We’re excited to report that we are starting to schedule some of our summer outdoor events. Our annual nursery crawl, where we shop at 2-3 nurseries in the metro area, will be held in May, and officers will be inducted at our June picnic which will be held at the Rochester Hills Museum at Van Hoosen Farm.

Mark your calendars! We will host the annual Rochester Garden Walk on Thursday, June 17. Enjoy a self-guided tour through six local gardens including the Children’s Garden (see photo on right) that Club members maintain at the Van Hoosen Farm. Native plants will also be for sale the same day and ready for pick up at the Farm. Details are still being planned.

Our Van Hoosen Committee will partner with the Horticulture committee to offer “Mornings in the Garden,” plant and planting discussions at Van Hoosen Farm. Those informal programs will be held on Wednesdays during the summer and will be free to the public. Dates and topics for each will be shared on Facebook and on our website, RochesterGardenClub.org.



Rochester Garden Club’s frog and cow welcoming committee at the Van Hoosen Farm Children’s Garden

- photo by *Pat Hambleton*

-submitted by *Robin McGrath, president*

Branch News continued

Saginaw Garden Club



The Saginaw Branch of the Woman's National Farm and Garden Association has been affiliated with the Saginaw Children's Zoo since 1995. Our original project involved site beautification through flower plantings. In the years 2003 and 2004, members volunteered in the gift shop, concession stand and the exhibits until zoo staff were hired. Saginaw's WNF&GA has sponsored a garden at the Children's Zoo since the beginning of the Adopt-a-Garden program, and it has continued year after year. The preceding information was provided from Saginaw's WNF&GA historical records.

Last year was challenging with the pandemic, but with scheduling time to work at the garden, wearing masks and practicing social distancing, our garden was planted. During the summer and fall, our members did a great job of weeding, watering and keeping the garden looking wonderful! Some members worked in the garden alone, while others brought their grandchildren or neighbors.

With the arrival of fall and Halloween, the garden was made festive with pumpkins, ghosts and decorations to celebrate the season. The Children's Zoo garden has been a fun project for Saginaw members. They feel that the garden will continue to grow and bloom for many years. - submitted by Saginaw Branch member Linda Pollard



-photo courtesy of the Saginaw Children's Zoo

Troy Garden Club



Merrily we Zoom along, Zoom along, Zoom along! Troy Garden Club Zoomed into 2021, offering our members their first virtual monthly meeting with a speaker. Mary Schwark, our ZOOM master host, coached us through the process.

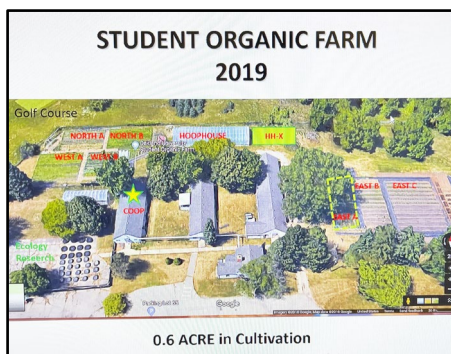
A timely January topic, **Making Maple Syrup the Tollgate Way** was presented by Tollgate Farm manager, Roy Prentice. Traditionally our February speaker is George Papadelis, the hands-on owner of Telly's

Greenhouse. His presentation's theme is always about the newest varieties of annuals, perennials, and even vegetables that he will sell in the current year. Normally "What's New in 2021" would attract a few dozen guests who, like our members, want to be the first to know. Mary Schwark developed a concept called **25 @ \$25**, which allowed guests to virtually view George's lecture plus the remaining six programs scheduled for 2021. The first 25 guests to donate \$25 to the TGC were able to register to attend the lectures of their choosing. We hope they will continue to enjoy the experience and will visit us "in person" when normalcy returns.

We are pleased to announce our new TGC officers: President – Linda Forrester, Vice President – Patrick Hardy, Treasurer – Jeanne Bolcer, Recording Secretary – Patty VanLehn, Corresponding Secretary – Judi Milidrag. In January, Rita Urbanski was granted Ongoing Honorary Membership in the Troy Garden Club. She joined the club in 1998, and over the years she served on numerous committees and held officer positions at the local, state and national levels.

The first Troy Garden Walk was held on June 12, 1974. The event has become our principal annual fundraiser. The pandemic managed to derail our streak of what would have been 46 consecutive garden walks in 2020. We hope that on Wednesday, July 14, 2021, we will be able to host #46, RAIN or SHINE, pandemic permitting. Seven private gardens can be visited, and garden walkers can enjoy the Midsummer Arts & Crafts Boutique and Plant Sale at the Troy Historic Village. The TGC branch will celebrate our golden anniversary in September 2021, so "**Anniversary Gardens**" became our 2021 garden walk name. Also lost to the pandemic this year is our garden walk student art competition for 2021. Writer and artist Megan Swoyer has donated the use of one of her watercolors for our garden walk's graphic image.

We look forward to the 2021 gardening season at the Troy Historic Village. Even with pandemic shutdowns, last year we averaged 20+ members monthly, and everyone enjoyed that time in the sun and soil. We hope to see everyone virtually on April 21 for "Daffodils are Dauntless." - submitted by Karol Carter



- Troy Garden Club's March 10 Zoom presentation by Dr. Fay Hansen: Oakland University Student Organic Farm (photos of actual Zoom screen)

Warren Garden Club



2021 is well underway with a new slate of officers to guide us for the next two years. Congratulations to President April Everett, Recording Secretary Linda Gardner, Corresponding Secretary Jacqueline Slongo, Treasurer Patricia Brown, and 2nd Vice President/Program Chairman Paula O'Brien. Regrettably, we were not able to enjoy our Annual Christmas Dinner & Installation of Officers due to the coronavirus, but our leaders are still carrying out their duties! On December 12, we gathered at the Warren Union Cemetery. Boy Scout Troop #1477, which we sponsor, participated in the Laying of the Wreaths on 24 veterans' graves, some dating back to the Civil War. It is a lovely ceremony that really takes one back in time.

We are ready for the new year, and ideas are popping. President April has brought us into the age of technology with Zoom meetings for the Board and for members. Truly fascinating! The focus at this time is on outdoor activities that all can enjoy, since not all members have computer access. Warren has a new Pocket Park at the historic Beebe's Corners intersection of Mound and Chicago Rds. Our branch is donating a dawn redwood tree in memory of deceased members. We hope to have a ceremony at planting time. All are anticipating resumption of the Plant Exchange. It will be held on Saturday, May 15, from 10 am – 12:00 noon at the United Methodist Church at 5005 Chicago Rd, Warren. Field trips to Seven Ponds Nature Center, and to Red Oaks Nature Center, are also under consideration. Our home base, the Warren Community Center, has not yet resumed full operations. We anticipate, though, that by the time spring arrives, we will once again have access to the Courtyard there for our primary civic service gardening project.

I am certain all will agree that spring cannot come soon enough!

- submitted by Paula O'Brien, 2nd VP & program chairperson

John L. Beebe who, back in the early 1800s, set up a tollgate, collecting fees that went into maintaining a road that was ten feet wide and made of oak planks that spanned the marshy area. The amount of the toll varied by vehicle type and weight, or number of axles. Back then, farmers and their families traded at Beebe's Corners at Chicago Road and Main Street (now Mound Road)."



- Historical Beebe Pocket Park; photo by Warren Historical & Genealogical Society

Editor's note: According to the City of Warren's website, "In the spring of 2021, a gazebo will be erected, [as well as] a flag pole, and flower gardens, which the Warren Garden Club has offered to help maintain. . . . Beebe Pocket Park is named after Mr.

Waterford Garden Club

The Waterford Garden Club recently enjoyed two presentations via Zoom in February and March. In February, Jan Bills of **Two Women and a Hoe** spoke about **Comfort, Ease and Simplicity** in the garden, and in March, George Papedis of Telly's Greenhouse explained what is new for 2021. Both presentations were excellent and they really upped our Zoom meetings. Plus, it got all of us excited to tackle some projects in our gardens this year.

The club will hold its Spring Plant Sale on Saturday, May 22, 2021, at the Waterford Senior Center, 3621 Pontiac Lake Road, from 9am - 3pm. We will sell perennials and houseplants from our gardens and homes. The sale will be held outside this year.

The club lost three longtime members late last year with the passing of Christine Hampton, Ann Hooper and Theresa Guellec. Their experience and presence are greatly missed.

- submitted by Sue Malone, president



In Memoriam

Christine Hampton - d: November 28, 2020

Chris was one of the friendliest people you could ever meet. The club benefited from her natural ability to create beautiful Greens Market arrangements, and many times she demonstrated to the club how to make arrangements. At one time she owned two florist shops and came by her talent naturally.



Ann J. Hooper - d: December 8, 2020

Ann was a longtime garden club member, with a zest for life. She was always smiling, happy to see everyone, and she treated everyone like family. Loving wife of Gene Hooper and dear mother to Cindy (John) Johnson, Greg (Jane) Hooper, Steven Loper, Patti Grendel, Shari (David) Lucyk and Rick (Michelle) Hooper. Also cherished by nine grandchildren, five great-grandchildren and her cat Sheba.



Theresa M. Guellec - d: December 22, 2020

Upon attending her first garden club meeting, Theresa volunteered to be treasurer, which she did for many years. She was sweet and fun-loving. Theresa was an avid china painter and also a registered nurse. She graduated from Mercy College in Detroit and worked locally at a pediatrician's office for many years. Beloved mother of Cynthia (Kevin) Kish, Michael (Kathy) Guellec, Patrick Guellec & Theresa Garrett. Dear grandmother to seven and cherished by five great-grandchildren.

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

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

that the 2021 Annual National Meeting will be held

VIRTUALLY

via webinar on Saturday, June 5, 2021, 10:00 am to 1:00 pm

Additional details, including the agenda, all business, and the program,
will be forthcoming via email and other communications in April and May.

Thank you to Kathy Welsh-Beveridge!
Kathy has once again agreed to be our webinar host.

Sincerely, Mary Schwark
WNF&GA National President, 2020 - 2022

Annual National Meeting Information – Something NEW !

We may not be able to *physically* travel and tour in 2021, but we can still participate *virtually*. We are counting on you and your branch to help. With your input, meeting attendees will “travel” to your branch and will “tour” with you. If enough branches participate, we will divide the material into separate “travelogues” of approximately 20 – 30 minutes.

Please let me know by March 20 (schwark@aol.com) if your branch will participate in one of the ways mentioned below. Utilize this “Something NEW” project to learn, share and have fun!

- **SEND A 3-5 MINUTE VIDEO** (1) about your branch history, or (2) of your branch members engaged in a branch activity, or (3) about a branch project, or (4) of a special garden nearby.
- **OR SEND 20 – 30 HI-RES DIGITAL PHOTOS** of your branch members (1) in a branch activity, or (2) in a branch project, or (3) of a special garden in your area.
- **REQUIRED: A 100 – 200-word WHO – WHAT – WHERE – WHEN – WHY – HOW EXPLANATION OR LIST** that identifies and explains your VIDEO or PHOTOS.

Your materials may feature past events. Search your branch archives for photos. Or feature new activities if you're able. Given our current “moving away from the pandemic” status, please do not feel that you must feature new events and activities unless you have, or can acquire, the material.

What will others enjoy seeing? **WHAT WOULD YOU ENJOY SEEING?** Think of the project as both educational and entertaining – perhaps with an emphasis on entertaining!

DEADLINE FOR MATERIALS: May 3 - 5, 2021 **SEND:** via email or snail-mailed flashdrive.

PLEASE DO NOT ADD MUSIC OR VOICE-OVERS. THEY WILL BE ADDED IN THE PRODUCTION PHASE.

QUESTIONS? schwark@aol.com **NEED HELP?** Ask a techie grandchild!

Many thanks to Julia Hofley for sharing information about the
Perennial Plant Association's 2021 Plant of the Year.

(Reprinted with acknowledgement)

<https://www.nurserymag.com/article/ppa-announces-2021-perennial-plant-of-the-year/>

PPA announces 2021 Perennial Plant of the Year

Perennials chosen for this honor are suitable for a wide range of growing climates, require low maintenance, have multiple-season interest and are relatively pest/disease-free.

Posted by Julianne Mobilian

Perennials chosen for this honor are suitable for a wide range of growing climates, require low maintenance, have multiple-season interest and are relatively pest/disease-free.

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

The PPA is promoting *Calamintha nepeta* subsp. *nepeta* as the 2021 Perennial Plant of the Year. Like a cloud of confetti, tiny white flowers (sometimes touched with pale blue) appear from early summer to fall on this plant. Undemanding and dependable, it provides the perfect foil for other summer bloomers and foliage. This full-sun perennial has a low mounding or bushy habit, ideal for the front of the border, rock gardens and more.

While durable and pest-free, *Calamintha nepeta* subsp. *nepeta* also checks two important boxes for gardeners: bees and other pollinators work the flowers throughout the summer and the aromatic foliage is deer-resistant.

Learn more about the 2021 Perennial Plant of the Year at www.perennialplant.org/page/2021PPOY



Above & right: *Calamintha nepeta* - photos courtesy of the internet



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Woman's National Farm & Garden Association

2021 VIRTUAL National Meeting

SAVE THE DATE: Saturday, June 5, 2021

See details on page 14 and in the spring 2021 national magazine.



Michigan Division Speakers Bureau

Do you need speakers? Especially those who are willing to Zoom? You can find the Speakers Bureau list on Michigan Division's website. Details about website access are on page 2 of this newsletter. Go to **Members Area** (password required) and then to **Resources** on the lower right. There you will find the second topic, **Speakers Bureau**, as well as contact information.

To recommend good speakers, please email Joette Kunse and share your information. She will contact potential speakers and will ask if their information may be shared with Michigan Division branches.