



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

Volume 79, Issue 1



Winter 2022

## 2022 Daffodils4Detroit Luncheon Update

We are planning an in-person 2022 Daffodil Luncheon. Let's hope that the pandemic cooperates after two years of disruption. We will have a fun special tour, a new artist and an interesting topic! Start your day on Wednesday, April 20, 2022, with a tour of the Oudolf Garden Detroit on Belle Isle, beginning anytime between 10:00 and 11:30 am.

Luncheon at the Detroit Yacht Club will be next. Botanically-inspired wares from the Peacock Room will await you at the top of the staircase. Also available for sale will be daffodil notecards, daffodil tiles and works from our new featured artist Megan Swoyer. The latest on Michigan Central Station will be the speaker's focus after lunch.

Visit with friends sporting cheerful spring and daffodil-inspired attire, and admire the luncheon centerpieces supplied by our Farm & Garden branches. Hope to see you on this special day!

- Robin Heller, chairperson, D4D



*Devin Lyons, City of Detroit floriculture supervisor & Robin Heller, D4D chairperson, along with the city's Dutch bulb planting machine, October 27, 2021*

- photo by Mary Schwark

- articles above by Robin Heller

## Update on 2021 Planting

Have you ever seen the bulb planting machine in action? This year, it made fast work of the 120,000 Dutch Master bulbs which were purchased with proceeds from the 2021 virtual Daffodil Luncheon.

On average and in good soil, the equipment, purchased from The Netherlands and shown below, can plant 30,000 bulbs per day. During the fall of 2021, the City of Detroit planted the bulbs on both Belle Isle and in the medians and parks of the city.

Special visitors Mary and Bill Schwark (photo below) made an extra donation to observe the planter in action on Daffodil Hill in late October 2021.

In addition, the MDNR donated 12,500 bulbs for planting along the new Iron Belle Trail on Belle Isle.



- photo by Robin Heller



The next WNF&GA annual **National Meeting**, June 1 – June 5, 2022, will be held in southeast Michigan.



Your spring national magazine, *Farm & Garden*, - featuring **National Meeting details** - will be published in early March.

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

<b>Co-President</b>	<b>Marcia Mandell</b> (Country G.C. Northville) 248-478-3391 18894 Milburn, Livonia 48152	mjmandell2012@gmail.com
<b>Co-President</b>	<b>Jo Sillanpaa</b> (Country G.C. Northville) 248-513-6416 16625 Winchester Drive, Northville 48168	jcsillanpaa@gmail.com
<b>Vice President</b>	<b>Sue Malone</b> (Waterford Garden Club) 248-613-5381 1155 Shoman Street, Waterford 48327	malonewgc@gmail.com
<b>Division (A&amp;O) Treas.</b>	<b>Suemarie Klimek</b> (Northville Branch) 734-459-8327 333 Yerkes Street, Northville 48167	smak324@aol.com
<b>Charitable Treasurer</b>	<b>Pat Brown</b> (Warren Garden Club) 586-530-7922 31616 Lexington Street, Warren 48092	patb501946@comcast.net
<b>Secretary</b>	<b>Barb Lepri</b> (Troy Garden Club) 248-321-8291 4532 Whisper Way Drive, Troy 48098	bjlepri@gmail.com
<b>Representative to National Council</b>	<b>Cheryl Malin</b> (Pontiac & Waterford Brchs.) 248-421-6093 707 McDougal, Waterford 48327	cmalin09@gmail.com
<b>Representative to National Council</b>	<b>Charlotte D. Westbrook</b> (Rochester Br.) 586-781-3242 5563 Meadow Lane, Shelby Township 48316	cdwestbrook@comcast.net

### Michigan Division Positions - Unelected

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

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

Michigan Division <a href="http://www.michdivwnfga.weebly.com">www.michdivwnfga.weebly.com</a>	WNF&GA (national) <a href="http://www.wnfga.org">www.wnfga.org</a>
Member Area:	Member Area:
NEW password - Sillman2023	Password - Farm100garden

Please take time to explore the two websites. 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 Spring or Fall Council meeting. Many thanks to the webmasters: Sally Edwards (MI DIV) and Leslie Morris-Smith (WNF&GA).

### What's Happening & When?

February 1 - 15, 2022	Submit info & hi-res photos for spring 2022 newsletter. Distribution will be in March 2022.
<b>PLEASE SUBMIT AFTER JANUARY 31.</b>	
April 20, 2022	Daffodil Day on Belle Isle
Date & location TBD	Michigan Division Spring Council Meeting

**VERY IMPORTANT: Tell us, please. We won't know if you don't speak up! Please report all branch roster changes:** 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 [cmalin09@gmail.com](mailto:cmalin09@gmail.com)

## From your Michigan Division co-presidents ...

*Happy New Year, everyone!*

With 2021 behind us, we look forward to socializing more normally. Plans are already moving along for an in-person Daffodil Day luncheon on Wednesday, April 20, 2022. Our Spring Council Meeting date and location are still to be determined.

### **Speaking of Daffodil Day . . .**

As Michigan Division co-presidents, we participate on the committee which plans the annual daffodil fundraising luncheon at Belle Isle's Detroit Yacht Club. (See the dropdown tab in the Michigan Division website for photos of past luncheons.) In October 2009, Cecily O'Connor, Bloomfield Hills Branch, organized a Detroit Yacht Club luncheon with Lynden Miller as speaker. Lynden spoke about the Daffodil Project in Manhattan, and an idea was born. In April 2010, Claudia Scioly organized the first Daffodil Day luncheon. Robin Heller, a member of the Grosse Pointe Farm & Garden Club, and also a member of the DYC, has now chaired the Daffodils4Detroit (D4D) committee since 2014. Please see important information from Robin on pages 1 and 14 of this newsletter.

Just over three years ago, D4D fulfilled its initial pledge to plant 650,000 daffodil bulbs on Belle Isle – one for each resident of the City of Detroit. Bulb planting has taken place under the direction of Barry Burton, project manager, General Services Department, Landscape Design Unit, City of Detroit. Perhaps you saw the results of Barry's work in the narrated slide show which he presented during our virtual 2021 Daffodil Day event.

The success of our partnership with Detroit inspired an expanded effort into the tri-county area for a total goal of four million bulbs, once the project is complete. As of fall 2021, 2.75 million bulbs had been planted. How you can help: We encourage each branch to contribute \$100 or more as you plan your donations for 2022. Each \$100 will



Jo Sillanpaa

purchase 500 bulbs. If we all pitch in – individuals, branches, local businesses, friends and neighbors – we can raise funds for the remaining bulbs. Please put on your benevolent thinking caps.

**Other Michigan Division board projects:** (1) One of our primary concerns in early 2022 is to bring onboard a volunteer webmaster to learn from current longtime MI DIV webmaster Sally Edwards, Rochester Branch. The new person will eventually take on full webmaster responsibility. Please help with the search by sharing your suggestions – possibly your own branch's webmaster? (2) We have completed two out of three Presidents' Gatherings. We will complete the third and last gathering in the spring of 2022. It will bring together branch presidents, or their representatives, from our



Marcia Mandell

branches in the northeast area of Michigan Division. (3) We are also nearing completion of our five-year strategic plan. Projects included in the plan were generated by the board of directors, as well as by those who attended our Presidents' Gatherings. We will share the plan with you in our spring newsletter. (4) Work also continues on a trifold brochure about our Michigan Division and how it relates to our branches and our national organization.

**Michigan Division of the WNF&GA continues to work for you!** Please feel free to contact any of our board members with suggestions, questions or concerns. (See names and contact information on page 2 of this newsletter.) With your help and input, we will encourage the branch/division relationship to be fun and encompassing. With that in mind, we wish you an enjoyable winter as you sip a cup of your favorite warm beverage while perusing your gardening catalogues and planning your next garden projects.

Marcia Mandell & Jo Sillanpaa, Michigan Division co-presidents, 2021 - 2023

See yellow box, page 4: D4D Donation Categories.

Please see chairperson Robin Heller's historical summary of Daffodils4Detroit on page 14.



### **To Michigan Division members:**

Your creative participation is needed to provide table centerpieces for Daffodil Day. An article on page 6 explains how your branch members can help.

Lady Bird Johnson: *"Where flowers bloom, so does hope."*

## UNDERSTANDING

### 2022 WNF&GA AND MICHIGAN DIVISION DUES

**Dues for the Michigan Division portion:  
\$6 per branch member**

(Branches with financial hardships should have contacted MI DIV treasurer Suemarie Klimek to discuss the nature of their branch's hardship, for which no written proof was required.)

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

**The following modification applies ONLY to the year 2022, and not to subsequent years.**

In February 2021, the WNF&GA Executive Committee voted to permit branches to reduce their 2022 national dues to \$3 per branch member.

**BUT, if your branch was NOT experiencing financial hardship in 2021, the WNF&GA is very grateful to those MANY branches which submitted the full 2022 dues of \$6 per member.**

## Daffodils4Detroit Donation Categories

Successful fundraising for non-profits relies upon the generosity of those with whom they share common interests.

Is there anyone who doesn't love daffodils? Please consider a generous branch or personal donation to **Daffodils4Detroit** in one of the following categories:

**DOUBLE GOLDEN** – \$5,000 + includes acknowledgement on the website, social media, on-site signage, from the lectern, as well as a commemorative Daffodil Day tile.

**GOLDEN LONG** – \$1,000 - \$4,999 includes acknowledgement on the website, social media, on-site signage, as well as a commemorative Daffodil Day tile.

**TRUMPETER** – \$500 - \$999 includes acknowledgement on the website, social media, and on-site signage.

**Do you know that, each year, the WNF&GA national organization offers FUNDING OPPORTUNITIES for special BRANCH activities? NOW is the time for your branch to request funding for a worthy project!**



### HAZEL HERRING CIVIC IMPROVEMENT GRANT

Choose a **CIVIC IMPROVEMENT PROJECT** which your branch would like to undertake in your community. See page 18 of the fall 2021 WNF&GA magazine. Complete the application. Send the requested materials on time or early to the designated chairperson.

### BESS MUELLER FLORAL ARTS EDUCATION

Choose a **FLORAL ARTS EDUCATION PROJECT** which your branch would like to undertake in your community. See page 19 of the fall 2021 WNF&GA magazine. Complete the application. Send the requested materials on time or early to the designated chairperson.

**Don't miss your branch's opportunity! Read page 7 of the same WNF&GA magazine edition referred to above (fall 2021) to learn how much funding went UNALLOCATED in 2021.**

**Questions? Email Karol Carter, WNF&GA Charitable Affairs chairperson:**

**[karolv@aol.com](mailto:karolv@aol.com)**

Editor's note:

Below are two recipes from Grosse Pointe Shores Garden Club member Diane Karwowski. While the Michigan Division newsletter rarely features recipes, as one of those who enjoyed Diana's spectacular lunch in early November 2021, I would feel selfish for not sharing with you the recipes that she so generously shared with her guests. Thank you, Diana!

**Sweet Potato & Apple Casserole . . . from Diana Karwowski**

Prep: 20 min      Cook: 50 min      Serves: 6

An easy casserole – the perfect combination of sweet & savory!

**INGREDIENTS:**

- 4 sweet potatoes (about 2 ½ lbs.) peeled & cut into 1" dice
- 4 small apples (or 3 large) – peeled, cored & cut into 1" pieces
- ½ cup unsalted butter, melted
- ½ cup dark brown sugar
- ¼ cup maple syrup
- 2 tsps. pumpkin pie spice
- ¼ cup pecans, chopped
- salt to taste

**DIRECTIONS:**

Add potatoes to a large pot. Cover with water. Bring to a boil over high heat & cook until the potatoes *just start to soften*.

They will continue cooking during subsequent baking.

Preheat oven to 350 degrees F, and spray a 9"x13" casserole dish with nonstick spray. Drain the potatoes and place them in the prepared baking dish. Add the apples.

In a small bowl, mix the melted butter, brown sugar, maple syrup and pumpkin pie spice. Pour mixture over the apples and potatoes and stir to combine.

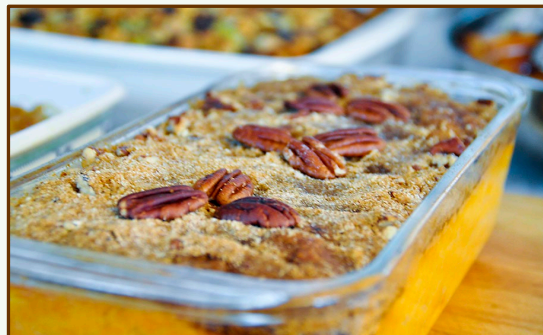
Place in oven and bake for 25 minutes. Remove from oven & top with pecans. Return to oven and bake for 5 minutes more to toast the pecans.

**RECIPE NOTES:**

**Root vegetables:** Sweet potatoes can be replaced by or combined with other root vegetables such as turnips or parsnips.

**To Make Ahead:**

Prepare casserole as directed and cover tightly before refrigerating up to 48 hours. Remove from the refrigerator at least 30 minutes before baking. Bake as directed.



**Chicken a la Crescents . . . from Diana Karwowski**

- ½ cup crushed croutons
- ¼ cup chopped pecans
- 1 package (3 oz.) cream cheese with chives
- 2 tbsp. butter, softened
- ½ tsp. lemon pepper seasoning
- 2 cups cooked white chicken
- 1/3 cup (2 oz.) drained mushroom pieces, chopped
- 1 can crescent rolls (Pillsbury are best.)
- 3 tbsp. butter, melted
- Sauce: canned chicken gravy (1 – 2 tbsp. chives added)

**DIRECTIONS:**

In a small bowl, combine crushed croutons & nuts. Set aside.

In medium mixing bowl, combine cream cheese, 2 tbsp. soft butter and lemon pepper seasoning. Mix.

Stir in chicken and mushrooms. Set aside.

Separate triangles of dough. Spread each with about ¼ cup chicken mixture. Roll up into a ball. (It works!)

Dip rolls in melted butter and coat each with crumb-nut mixture.

Place on ungreased cookie sheet in a 375 degree F oven. Bake for 15-20 minutes until golden brown.

Serve with warm chicken gravy.

**DIANA'S NOTES:** She used Kroger Seasoned Herb Croutons. To the canned chicken gravy, Diana added some dry white wine, fresh thyme, pepper and a dash of salt. She used parchment paper under the crescents to prevent burning.

*How about warm  
comfort food on  
a brisk winter day?*

## Flower Centerpieces for Daffodil Day April 20, 2022

The Daffodils4Detroit committee invites all Michigan Division branches and members who attend Daffodil Day to **LEND** flower centerpieces – **five per branch** – for use at the event. Please note: **Following the event, the centerpieces will be taken home by those who brought them!**

### SPECIFICATIONS:

- 45 centerpieces will be needed.
- Centerpieces do not have to match.
- Use **simple clear glass vases** of any shape.
- Place a small ID label on the underside of the vase.
- Finished centerpieces should be **no more than 14” tall and no wider than 12” in diameter.**



All, or at least 50%, of the floral material should be daffodils. Feel free to be creative with the other 50%, provided daffodils are dominant.

*Centerpieces may be taken to the Detroit Yacht Club during open hours on Tuesday, April 19, or they may be delivered to the DYC no later than 10:30 am on Daffodil Day, Wednesday, April 20.*

*Questions? OR . . . notify Michigan Division that your branch will participate. Email:*

**Marcia Mandell:** [mjmandell2012@gmail.com](mailto:mjmandell2012@gmail.com) and/or **Jo Sillanpaa:** [icsillanpaa@gmail.com](mailto:icsillanpaa@gmail.com)

## Branch News

### Bloomfield Hills Branch



While the Bloomfield Hills Garden Club does not have specific news for Michigan Division’s winter newsletter, President Julie Beals has confirmed that they will play an important role in the WNF&GA’s 2022 National Meeting in June. Stay tuned.

### Clarkston Farm & Garden Club

By the time you’re reading this edition of the Michigan Division newsletter, the Clarkston Branch will have wrapped up their Wreath, Roping and Cemetery Blanket sale, made about 50 custom arrangements for the community and sold some of their crafty items on our online store. We chose not to have an in-person Greens Market this year.

But 2021 was a good year for us. We held our Perennial Plant Exchange and our 14<sup>th</sup> garden walk in the community.

In addition, we were honored by the Michigan Nursery and Landscape Association (MLNA) for managing the landscaping and plantings at the library for over 60 years. (See related Feature Article in the **Fall 2021** Michigan Division newsletter, p. 11.)

The Clarkston Branch suggests that other branches research the MLNA Community Landscape Beautification Award given in August. Paperwork is due in late June to nominate your branch for their efforts in the community. We have a hardworking group of women and men in the Michigan Division of the Woman’s National Farm & Garden Association, and it’s nice to have our work reviewed. Visit <https://www.mnla.org> for more information. We know that, in our community, many citizens have no idea who does the landscaping, weeding and watering at the library, or who plants and maintains the planters in downtown Clarkston.

The award gives more visibility to all the Clarkston Branch’s work, and it may attract new members to our branch. If your garden club applies for and receives the award, perhaps your branch may grow as well. For more information contact: [clarkstongardenclub@gmail.com](mailto:clarkstongardenclub@gmail.com)

*- submitted by Joette Kunse, Clarkston Branch communications director*



*Right: Photo of the Michigan Nursery & Landscape Association award which stood at the front of the Clarkston Independence District Library in 2021*

## Branch News continued



### Country Garden Club of Northville

Country Garden Club's annual garden walk on July 14, 2021, was a spectacular success. Drove of guests turned out to view five beautiful gardens and six patio gardens. It was the very first garden walk for many of our guests, and everyone enjoyed the gardens, the music and a gorgeous day.

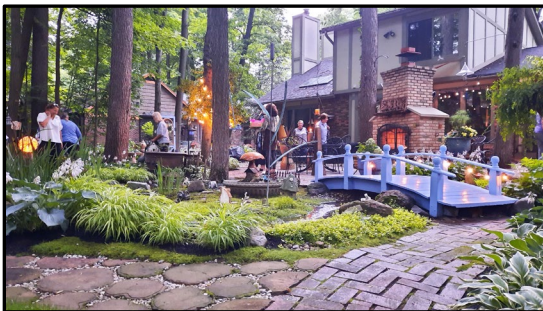
Our club is so relieved to be post-Zoom in terms of meetings. We missed socializing with our gardening buddies. The September meeting had us smiling with Jan Bills's delightful program: *Comfort, Ease and Simplicity in the Garden*. October speaker Keith Berven's talk on dahlias was very timely and interesting. The November speaker, Allen Chartier, provided fascinating facts gleaned from his 50-year interest in hummingbirds. Our January 2022 program by Laurie Medrea will be about *Winter in the Garden*, and February will be fun with Celia Ryker's *Trail Stories of a Hiking Gardener*. Guests are welcome: [www.cgcnv.org](http://www.cgcnv.org).

Barb Sturtz and Kathryn Novak attended the October 2021 Troy Garden Club meeting. They were totally impressed with the Troy Club members. They are very involved and dynamic ladies. There was a feeling of excitement in the air at the meeting. It is a fun and interesting group.

We were shown the *Detroit News* and *Free Press Homestyle* article about Troy's October 2020 pop-up walk, *Spooktacular Gardens*. Inspired by Rochester Garden Club's July 2020 pop-up walk, the Troy event was planned with eight weeks' lead time, and it featured seven members' gardens. One of the gardens showcased a display (inspired by MacKenzie-Childs) of black & white pumpkins plus a hand-painted table that were created by the member's daughter. Kathryn was inspired, and she spent the following weeks with paintbrush in hand. It was soon obvious that painting pumpkins with a black and white checkerboard pattern was much more difficult than it looked. The diamond pattern was even more challenging. When the final pumpkin was complete, something wonderful happened. While delivering the weekly flower arrangement to the Northville Library, Kathryn noticed that the display case was empty. Our club typically decorates the 12' display case in April to promote our July garden walk. It was unusual that a group had not signed up for November, and the library was more than happy when we asked to decorate it. Two days later, using every painted pumpkin and more, Kathryn and Barb created a display with the theme of Thanksgiving – Fall – Family. The beautiful display stayed up for all of November.

Later in 2021, our club decorated a Christmas tree for Mill Race Village's 2<sup>nd</sup> annual Festival of Trees fundraiser on the 3<sup>rd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> of December. We chose a gardening theme for our tree. Live decorated trees were displayed throughout December.

- text & photos submitted by Kathryn Novak



Above: One of Country Garden Club of Northville's 2021 garden walk venues



Left, above & right:

Display cases at the Northville Library, featuring Kathryn Novak's painted pumpkins and other items of fall interest

Northville Library installations by Kathryn Novak and Barb Sturtz



## Branch News continued

### Franklin Garden Club



As fall began to arrive with milder temperatures, waning plants and flowers in our gardens, we looked forward to a year of exciting and interesting activities organized by our program dynamo Sheila Marshall. Fortunately, this year she will have help from one of our newest members, Marlene Kehoe.

We are celebrating the branch's new Franklin Garden Club Facebook page and Instagram site which were painstakingly developed in November by Cindy Juliano, our co-president. We look forward to recruiting new members through this outreach. There is a myriad of beautiful photos and a bit of history on our club, which is quite entertaining.

Franklin's Broughton Garden (photo on left) underwent a major re-vamping during the summer of 2021. It was spearheaded by several hardworking members: Barbara Tobaben (assisted by her husband), Dianne Wright, Margaret Bancroft and Anne O'Neil. Additionally, a resident in the community who is a dahlia aficionado, worked with our members to add many tubers. The beauty of their efforts is highlighted in the same photo.

In September, we traveled to the Piet Oudolf Garden on Belle Isle where we heard an informative presentation on the garden's early stages, the logistics of planting Piet's massive selection of plants, and the trials and tribulations which presented challenges in developing Michigan's "Diamond on Belle Isle." What an experience it was to walk the pathways

while admiring the perennials that adorn the grounds!

Then, in October, our members became farmhands at Forgotten Harvest's 130-acre farm in Fenton. We toiled in the fields with great enjoyment as we soaked up fresh country air while picking eggplant. Staff members provided a great overview of the phenomenal number of pounds of produce raised on the farm and how the work is completed. Once we finished picking the eggplant, we took on the job of filling bags for distribution to their clientele.

Program chairperson Sheila Marshall prepared a wonderful luncheon for members at our November meeting. Members begged her for the recipe. Following the luncheon, we watched the beautiful documentary *Five Seasons: the Gardens of Piet Oudolf*. It's an excellent production that takes you to many of his gardens as they pass through the four seasons around the world.

We ushered in December and the holiday season with a delightful luncheon at the Village Club in Bloomfield Hills. A fashion show featuring our own members as models highlighted the day.

We will spend time this winter focusing critical eyes on our constitution and bylaws to determine if they need to be updated.

- submitted by Kathy Lorencz, Franklin Garden Club co-president



L to R: Franklin "farmhands" at Forgotten Harvest's Fenton Farm – Margaret Bancroft, Sheila Marshall, Cindy Juliano, Dianne Wright, Barbara Tobaben

### Grosse Pointe Shores Garden Club

We had the distinct pleasure of having our national WNF&GA President Mary Schwark as our guest and speaker at our November meeting. Mary lives about an hour away and it was a delight to have her personally share the history of Woman's National Farm and Garden Association. We are getting to be a small group of about 12-13 members.

We voted unanimously to remain in our national organization even though our membership is declining by attrition. We are blessed to have a few new members who are eager hostesses with extraordinary culinary and entertaining skills. Mrs. Schwark was able to join us as we sampled such skills by member Diana Karwowski, our hostess. We celebrated two more birthdays at our November meeting. Pat Tapper hosted our meeting in October. Previous meetings were held outdoors with pandemic precautions, one of them in Ruth Ellen Mayhall's lovely garden. Happy is the club that is able to meet again as we did in our "normal" past to enjoy fellowship in-person and a wonderful speaker!

Unfortunately, in early summer we lost our most senior and longtime member Jean Hodges, who passed away at the age of 100. We were able to celebrate her 100<sup>th</sup> birthday at an outdoor drive-by parade extravaganza, . . . continued on page 9



## Branch News continued

### Grosse Pte. Shores Garden Club

... continued from page 8  
complete with local police and fire departments joining our parade with sirens, flowers, decorations and cupcakes. We have lost others due to their moving away after falling and suffering fractures or after illnesses.  
- submitted by Shirley Hartert, president of Grosse Pointe Shores Garden Club.

**Editor's Note:** After enjoying lunch prepared and served by GPSGC member Diana Karwowski, I can attest to the club members' culinary skills. Diana kindly shared two of her lunch recipes. You'll find them on page 5 of this publication.



Grosse Pointe Shores Garden Club members, L to R: Pat Tapper, Nancy Butcher, Dyan Manion, Dolores Serra, Shirley Hartert, Ruth Ellen Mayhall, Diana Karwowski, Diane Karabetsos, Susan Richner, Margie Prokop, Georgie Richner - photo by Marv Schwark

### Plymouth Garden Club

Visitors to downtown Plymouth will have no problem noticing the new Detroit Institute of Arts (DIA) installation of a unique sculpture entitled **Plymouth at the Crossroads** by Vito Valdez. It stands in front of the large Wilcox House, just a stone's throw from Kellogg Park.

In partnership with the **Plymouth Downtown Authority**, the Plymouth Garden Club was asked to enhance the sculpture by planting and maintaining a selection of perennials and annuals. PGC gardener Dorothy Simescu, along with member gardeners Marilyn Norgrove, Jan Dersey, Mary Lu Stone, Nancy Earle, Jan Evans and Karen Sisolak, planted colorful chrysanthemums and lovely sumac accents to circle the sculpture. A stunning honeysuckle vine trails out of the vase to literally top off the piece of art.

There was a well-attended unveiling ceremony on September 17, 2021. The **Hometown Life** newspaper, cameras and reporters were on hand to cover the event. You can read about our branch and the "Dazzling Park-Themed Sculpture . . ." in the September 22, 2021, article by Ed Wright in *Hometownlife.com*.

Also of newsworthy mention was our first indoor Plymouth Garden Club monthly meeting on November 8. After more than a year of absence, we masked up and enjoyed a presentation of *Spontaneous Flower Arrangements* or *What You Can Do with What You Have!* It was delightfully delivered by PGC gardeners Judy Krieman, Fran Niemiec and Ann Hause. They demonstrated how to use vines and clippings from your yard, along with grocery store-purchased flowers, to create lovely last-minute centerpieces for your next party. While Judy and Fran used containers of the thrift store variety, Ann used ceramic pieces designed and made by her daughter Carrie ([heldceramics.com](http://heldceramics.com)). Their practical how-to DIY tips were a good way for us to restore and renew our time together.

- submitted by Mary Prouty



Above, L – R: Plymouth Garden Club planters pose with the sculptor at the DIA unveiling of **Plymouth at the Crossroads**. They are Jan Dersey, Mary Lu Stone, Jan Evans (partly hidden), Marilyn Norgrove, Dorothy Simescu, sculptor Vito Valdez, Nancy Earle, Karen Sisolak

Below, L – R: Spontaneous flower arrangers are Fran Niemiec, Judy Krieman, Ann Hause.



## Branch News continued



### Rochester Garden Club Branch

Winter brings a different feel with it – quieter days, fewer activities, reflective time with a cup of tea while watching the snow fall. It also presents opportunities for learning and gathering together to share food and fun. The Rochester Branch holds an annual Herb Soup Luncheon that fulfills all those opportunities. A favorite event, it is always very well attended. Our wonderful cooks use herbs, old and new, to whip up flavorful delights. Have you ever tried Potato Leek Soup? Or a crusty bread with swirls of oregano and basil baked inside? Recipes, stories and laughs are always part of such a special day!

The Arts & Crafts chairpersons have planned workshops for members that will keep the creative juices flowing. No matter if the workshop is painting, knitting or embroidery, their mantra is “Yes, you can do it.” One upcoming workshop will have members learning Sashiko, a type of traditional Japanese embroidery or stitching used for the decorative and/or functional reinforcement of cloth and clothing.

While we are all waiting for our “Michigan spring” to arrive, reading about gardening can fire up the imagination. One recommendation is *How Plants Work*, by Linda Chalker-Scott. Another is *Landscaping with Native Plants*, by Lynn Steiner. If those choices are too tame for you, look for *Wicked Plants, the Weed That Killed Lincoln’s Mother & Other Botanical Atrocities*, by Amy Stewart. Learn about the dark side of your landscape.

- submitted by Sally Edwards



Examples of Sashiko embroidery

### Romeo & Juliet Branch

Romeo & Juliet members had their 1<sup>st</sup> annual (annual, because it was so much fun!) *Dead Flower Arrangement Contest*. As we bade goodnight to our gardens and put them to sleep until 2022, we gathered interesting dead flowers into arrangements and took them to our meeting to be judged by our peers. We each chose our favorite three and put our votes in a can. The top three vote-getters were awarded prizes according to totals. The contest caused many smiles and was so much fun. It’s truly surprising how much beauty there is, even if the plant material is no longer all green. It was a wonderful homage to the end of our gardening season.

- submitted by Kathy Bruggeman, president

Top right photo, all contest participants, L – R:

Nancy Pihlaja,  
Kendra Smith – 2<sup>nd</sup> place  
Kathy Oliver  
Shirley Gizinski – 3<sup>rd</sup> place  
Wanda Rybak  
Lori Brubaker  
Marian Hampson  
Sandra Baber – 1<sup>st</sup> place

Kathy Bruggeman – photographer



1<sup>st</sup> place

2<sup>nd</sup> place

3<sup>rd</sup> place



## Branch News continued

### Trailwood Garden Club

Trailwood Garden Club cancelled their 2021 garden walk, but three members – Shelley Hansen, Cathryn Pennebaker and Ann Warne – opened their gardens to the club in July. Shelley and her husband had relocated and were looking for ideas to expand their garden. Cathryn installed a rain garden in 2019 and it was featured on our garden walk. As of now, the plants have filled their spaces and are doing nicely. Ann’s English Garden was delightful and featured numerous clematis.

During 2021, we were able to have our meetings at the Plymouth Township Hall, and in September, it was time for planning and discussion. The 2022 garden walk was put on hold, but for our next fundraiser we plan to hold perennial and garden treasure sales in both the spring and fall. Since several members take off for warmer climates following the end-of-year holidays, we do not meet in January or February. We hope to have field trips when appropriate.

In October of last year, we participated in a new event held at the Plymouth Township Park: **Celebration of Fall Colors**. It was sponsored by the newly formed Environmental Leadership Commission. We provided answers to garden questions and we also distributed free seeds. Other participating groups were Friends of the Rouge, Davey Tree, Friends of Miller Woods, Plymouth Historical Commission, Gray’s Greenhouse, Plymouth Pollinators and the Plymouth-Canton Arts Council. There were activities for children, one of which was to approach each participating group and ask a question. Attendance for the day was over 100.

Carly Cirilli from the Plymouth Pollinators made a presentation at our October meeting. The pollinator group has been very active and, during the spring of 2022, we plan to help them plant a pollinator garden at Plymouth’s soccer park. Also in October we welcomed two new members to our branch.

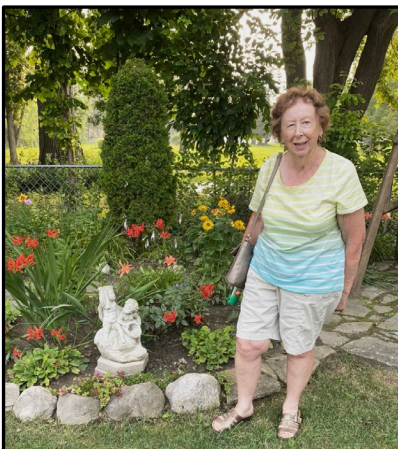
November’s presentation was **Continuous Color in the Garden**, which featured perennials, shrubs, small trees and other fillers. Laurie Medrea, from Willow Greenhouse, has extensive horticultural experience. She gave us a very useful handout and pointed out that it takes time to make good plans for the future in an already established garden.

To round out the year, our 2021 Christmas party – including games, gifts, funky socks and lots of food – was fun for all. Wishing our best to all branches in the coming months!

*-submitted by Georgia Randinitis, president*



*Left:  
Carol Gardener  
perfectly coordinates  
with the surrounding  
garden.*



*Left:  
Ann Warne,  
owner of one of  
Trailwood’s 2021  
featured gardens*



*Above, L – R: Towered over by a cup plant are Trailwood members Marilyn George, Cathryn Pennebaker, Georgia Randinitis and Elba Fillmore.*

## Branch News continued

### Troy Garden Club



In September 2021, members of the Troy Garden Club happily began their 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary year with an in-person meeting, the first in nearly 18 months. Moving cautiously – and not fully comfortable with the usual bountiful buffet tables of member-provided food – our BYO lunches were just fine.

October was a grand month for expanding our Daffodils4Communities project at the Troy Historic Village and Troy Public Library gardens.

Halloween at the Troy Historic Village (see photos on right) is an annual event we take seriously. The print shop



*A not-so-Little Mermaid*



*Deborah Hancock & her aquarium*

building required décor adhering to an ***Under the Sea*** theme. Deborah Hancock, our creative Halloween chairperson, hosted an aquarium workshop. Members helped her paint appropriate scenery, which included schools of fish, seaweed, stones and a turtle. Members made seashell necklaces, and they passed out treats to children who attended the event.

November and December meetings focused on philanthropy. November marked our 20<sup>th</sup> year of participation in the ***Festival of Trees*** (nine holiday trees decorated by members), an event which benefits the Children’s Hospital of Michigan Foundation. Traditionally we support Troy People Concerned (TPC), an agency founded in 1974 to help Troy residents in crisis. In November, members donated non-perishable food and paper goods for TPC’s food pantry. In December, proceeds from a successful ***Beautiful Books*** combination sale and donations event benefited TPC again to the tune of \$900. Members also participated in ***Hanging of the Greens*** at the Troy Historic Village.

We will continue in-person monthly meetings in January so that we may enjoy our monthly speakers and the camaraderie among members. Planning is already well underway for our 47<sup>th</sup> Troy Garden Club walk, ***Kaleidoscope of Gardens***, on Wednesday, July 13.

– text and photos above submitted by Karol Carter



*Nine TGC holiday trees & seven out of nine tree trimmers*



*Judi Milidrag & her Festival of Trees creation*



*TGC President Linda Forrester & tables of Beautiful Books*

L – R: three photos by Mary Schwark

### Warren Garden Club



While 2022 is already well underway, our members are anticipating a much better year! Last year actually ended on a positive note for us. We were blessed with a spectacular day in November to wrap up the fall cleanup in the Courtyard at the Warren Community Center. Tasks included a daffodil planting at the main entrance, since the previous batch needed a refresher. What a welcome sight that will be in the spring!

Our Greens Sale and workshop had been in danger of cancellation, but we were able to hold it after all. That was such good news for our Scholarship Fund! Another memorable holiday event was ***The Laying of the Wreaths Ceremony*** at the historic Warren Union Cemetery. The Boy Scouts in our sponsored Troop #1477 placed wreaths on 24 graves of veterans, some dating back to the Civil War.

... continued on page 13

## Branch News continued

### Warren Garden Club

... continued from page 12

We concluded the year with a lovely Christmas dinner at our favorite venue, the beautiful Gazebo Banquet Center.

Our branch is moving into 2022 with some new programs and, hopefully, a field trip or two. We have been able to resume our meetings on-site at the Warren Community Center. Plans include a rummage sale in June to further bolster our Scholarship Fund. We will keep you posted on the dates and location. Meanwhile, best wishes and good health to all in 2022!



- text submitted by 2<sup>nd</sup> VP and Program Chairperson Paula O' Brien

- photo above courtesy of the internet

### Michigan Division Member-at-Large Application

Michigan Division membership requires you to:

- (1) first be or become a WNF&GA member-at-large;  
(application in all issues of *Farm & Garden* national magazine)
- (2) not be a member of a Michigan Division branch;
- (3) complete the application below;
- (4) pay a \$6 annual fee to Michigan Division WNF&GA.  
(mailing information below)



Are you already a WNF&GA (national) member-at-large? Circle one: YES NO

If NO, you must first become a WNF&GA (national) member-at-large. [See (1) above.] OR you may simultaneously apply for Michigan Division & WNF&GA at-large memberships.

Date of this application for Michigan Division Member-at-Large \_\_\_\_\_

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Street Address \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_

Email address \_\_\_\_\_

Cell phone # \_\_\_\_\_ Home phone # \_\_\_\_\_

Secondary contact (friend or family member) information in case we lose touch:

Name \_\_\_\_\_ Contact's email \_\_\_\_\_ Phone # \_\_\_\_\_

Mail your completed application and your \$6 Michigan Division member-at-large fee to:

Suemarie Klimek, Michigan Division Treasurer

333 Yerkes Street

Northville, MI 48167

Email: [smak324@aol.com](mailto:smak324@aol.com)

Phone: 734-459-8327

*If you know a Michigan resident who would like to join Michigan Division and the WNF&GA, but who doesn't live close to a branch, please share this application with that person.*

### Michigan Division Branches

Bloomfield Hills Garden Club\*  
Clarkston Farm & Garden Club\*  
Country G. C. of Northville\*

County Downs Garden Club  
Franklin Garden Club\*  
Grosse Pointe F. & G. Club

Grosse Pointe Park G. C.  
Grosse Pointe Shores G. C.\*  
Indian Village Garden Club

Lapeer Wildflowers Garden Club  
Milford Garden Club  
Moonglow Garden Club  
Northville Garden Club

Plymouth Garden Club\*  
Pontiac Garden Club  
Port Huron Garden Club

Rochester Garden Club\*  
Romeo & Juliet Garden Club\*  
Saginaw Garden Club

Springfield Garden Club  
Trailwood Garden Club\*  
Trenton Garden Club

Troy Garden Club\*  
Warren Garden Club\*  
Waterford Garden Club

\* BRANCH NEWS IN THIS ISSUE

## Condensed History & Chronology of the Daffodils4Detroit Project . . . by Robin Heller

**October 13, 2009** – Lynden Miller speaks at a luncheon at the Detroit Yacht Club about the Daffodil Project in Manhattan. The luncheon was organized by Cecily O'Connor, Bloomfield Hills Branch (tickets: \$85 & \$125 for daffodil patrons)

**April 27, 2010** – 1st Daffodil Luncheon organized at the DYC by Claudia Scioly, AA branch (tkts: \$25 WNFGA members; \$35 guests)

**2012 Luncheon Notables** – (a) Aislinn Scofield creates the signature image/notecard using the Lady Bird Johnson quote, “Where flowers bloom, so does hope.” The notecard was distributed as a luncheon favor. (b) Daffodil Project announces the vision of celebrating each life in the Detroit region by planting 4,000,000 bulbs.

**2012 Michigan Division Council Meeting** – Michigan Division approves Daffodil Project as a Division project beginning in 2013.

**2017 Luncheon Notables** – (a) Introduction of **Daffodils4Detroit** name and steps for planting expansion from Belle Isle into Detroit (b) City of Detroit proclamation – envisioned and shepherded through the process by Michigan Division member and former president Sheila Kneeshaw – that the third Wednesday in April would be Detroit Daffodil Day (c) D4D receives Spirit of Detroit award from the City of Detroit.

**September 2017** – D4D receives the President’s Award, **Keep Michigan Beautiful’s** highest award.

**April 25, 2018** – City of Detroit announces goal to plant 1,000,000 daffodils in the city by 2020.

**Fall 2018** – D4D reaches goal of 650,000 bulbs planted on Belle Isle, representing one bulb for each City of Detroit resident.

**2019** – 10<sup>th</sup> annual Daffodil Day luncheon

**2020** – In-person luncheon was cancelled due to the pandemic; donations were accepted.

**2021** – Committee holds VIRTUAL Daffodil Day due to pandemic; donations were accepted.

### *In Memoriam*



Mary Frances  
Hrynik

Troy Garden Club member & former vice president, plus club photographer, meeting hostess, website manager, & garden walk head hostess, among many other responsibilities

d. December 7,  
2021

Mary was a Troy Garden Club member since 1995. As well as a talented & fabulous gardener, she had a thirst for knowledge of all kinds. In 2007 she became an advanced Extension Master Gardener Volunteer and, in 2009, she joined the Meadow Brook Garden Club. Mary is survived by her husband Tom of 59 years. They were true world travelers! She is also survived by two siblings, four children, their spouses, 14 grandchildren & 10 great-grandchildren.



Susan Theresa  
Chambers  
Franklin Garden  
Club member &  
former president

Michigan  
Division  
president  
2015-2017

d. December 27,  
2021

Susan’s family kindly suggested donations in her honor to the Michigan Division of the Woman’s National Farm & Garden Association. Donations can be sent to MI DIV Treasurer Suemarie Klimek. (Her address is on p. 2 of this publication.)

Susan was a longtime member and leader of the Franklin Garden Club. A dedicated participant in the Michigan Division D4D committee, she was a free spirit and always told it like it was. With a great sense of humor, and an equally great collection of beautiful hats, she was one of those women who always looked fabulous while wearing her hats! She loved her family and grandchildren. Susan was predeceased by her husband Mark and is survived by two children, their spouses, three grandchildren and a brother.

## 2022 Daffodil Day Luncheon Registration Form

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

10:00 – 11:30 am: Tour *Oudolf Garden Detroit* on Belle Isle.

11:00 am: Luncheon check-in begins.  
Peacock Room pop-up shopping and  
botanically-inspired wares by artist Megan Swoyer

12:00 noon: Lunch is served. MENU: Maurice Salad, rolls & butter,  
Lemonade Layer Cake, signature non-alcoholic D4D beverage  
*The cash bar will include Spring Mimosas.*

1:00 pm: A representative from Ford Motor Company  
will speak about the Michigan Central Train Station  
& the Corktown Campus.



**Wednesday, April 20, 2022**

Detroit Yacht Club, Belle Isle

Register for Daffodil Day!

**\$45 - THRU March 31, 2022**

**\$55 - April 1 THRU April 12, 2022**

REGISTRATION DEADLINE:

April 12, 2022

BLUE DAFFODIL TILE! – Purchase early or on April 20 – \$50 per tile, tax included. ***LIMITED QUANTITY***

Make registration/tile/donation check payable to: **Michigan Division WNF&GA.** Mail check & completed registration to:

Pat Brown, 31616 Lexington, Warren, MI 48092

Questions: patb501946@comcast.net OR 586-530-7922

**Easy payment option – Use *PayPal* or a credit card:** ONLINE PAYMENTS of \$45 per person thru March 31 and \$55 per person thru April 12. If registering online, provide all info requested of registrants. Purchase online: PayPal or credit card @ [www.michdivwnfga.weebly.com/daffodils4detroit-day-2020.html](http://www.michdivwnfga.weebly.com/daffodils4detroit-day-2020.html) FOLLOW PROMPTS.

**PLEASE NOTE: The above website will be active after January 20. You may then purchase tickets and shop at the online store.**

Guests per table: Maximum of EIGHT (8). Please check ONE OPTION immediately below:

1. \_\_\_\_\_ I am reserving an entire table of 8. A check is enclosed & all 8 names are listed below.
2. \_\_\_\_\_ Please seat me with other members of my branch.
3. \_\_\_\_\_ NO SEATING PREFERENCE: Please seat me at any open table.
4. \_\_\_\_\_ I would like to sit with the 7 attendees listed below. They will register separately.

NOTE: All 7 additional registrations & payments must arrive by April 12 to preserve the full table.

\_\_\_\_\_ MV \_\_\_\_\_ MV \_\_\_\_\_ MV \_\_\_\_\_ MV  
\_\_\_\_\_ MV \_\_\_\_\_ MV \_\_\_\_\_ MV \_\_\_\_\_ MV

**REQUIRED:**

If ONE person is sending ONE check for multiple attendees, list all names below & circle M (Maurice Salad) *or* V (Vegetarian) AFTER EACH PERSON'S NAME.

Your name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

City, State, Zip \_\_\_\_\_

Phone & Email \_\_\_\_\_

Your MI DIV branch name \_\_\_\_\_

Check one only: Maurice Salad \_\_\_\_\_ OR Vegetarian \_\_\_\_\_

Additional dietary restrictions? \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_ Lunch @ \$ 45 (through 3/31/22) \$ \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_ Lunch @ \$ 55 (through 4/12/22) \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_ Lunch @ \$100 (includes program listing) \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_ Additional Donation (for daffodils) \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_ BLUE daffodil tile @ \$50 each \_\_\_\_\_

SAME TILE DESIGN – NEW COLOR

TOTAL OF ENCLOSED CHECK \$ \_\_\_\_\_

NOTE: No confirmation will be sent. Please make a copy of your registration form and check.



WNF&GA Michigan Division  
707 McDougal  
Waterford, MI 48327

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*Watch for updated information in the 2022  
spring newsletter about Michigan Division Council  
meetings and the WNF&GA National Meeting.*



### **Michigan Division Speakers Bureau**

Is your branch seeking speakers as some branches return to in-person meetings? The Speakers Bureau list is on Michigan Division's website. See page 2 of this newsletter for details about website access. Go to **Members Area** (password required) and then to **Resources** on the lower right side, where you will find the second topic, **Speakers Bureau**, as well as contact information.

Would you like to recommend a speaker? The list is updated as suggestions arrive. Questions? Please email Joette Kunse (1) to suggest good speakers or (2) to request that you receive recommendations for your branch.

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– Joette Kunse, Speakers Bureau chairperson

[jkhorses@comcast.net](mailto:jkhorses@comcast.net)