

FORWARD

The 75 Year History of the WISCONSIN GARDEN CLUB FEDERATION

This is a brief history of some of the activities and accomplishments of the Wisconsin Federation since it was organized in 1928. It does not include everything members have done across the state, but an overview of 75 years of

There has been a special emphasis on community service, conservation, the environment, horticulture, flower arranging, trees, birds, and education by sponsoring schools and symposium, youth, scholarships, and flower shows. WGCF has and continues to support Central Region and National Garden Clubs, Inc. with their projects. This is a time to reflect on past activities and accomplishments, to appraise the present status and to move forward into the future.

Material for this book were extracted from issues of *Wisconsin Gardens*, minutes of the Executive Board and Board of Director meeting, historian 's files, and the *50 Year History* compiled by Eleanor Browy.

The committee's goal was to present a concise, factual history of the first 75 years of the Wisconsin Garden Club Federation.

A special thank you to Lois Ballard, Della Balousek, Carol Catlin, Carolyn Craig, Carol Larson, Jeanne Patton, Judy Salzwedel, Julie Schoenike, Muriel Shervey, and Helen Surrige for providing some of the information for this book.

Judy Newman, Chairman
Pat Dvorak
Kitty Larkin
Colleen Weiler

WISCONSIN GARDEN CLUB FEDERATION is a gardening organization whose members share the love of all aspects of gardening. The enthusiasm for sharing and learning fueled the formation of garden clubs seventy-five years ago. Congratulations to the members, past and present, who built and sustained this organization!

A book has been written reflecting the work of the members of garden clubs. The events contained in this book highlight only some of the many deeds and people instrumental in building this organization. The events reflect the commitment of members who serve each other and their communities. The State of Wisconsin has been enriched by the work of garden clubs during the past seventy-five years!

In addition to the projects beautifying our communities, we are proud of our projects conserving Wisconsin's natural areas. We are also proud of all of the students who have received scholarship monies from Wisconsin Garden Club Federation and our parent organization, National Garden Clubs, Inc. Thank you to all of the members who have helped conduct flower show schools, gardening study schools, landscape design schools and environmental schools. Congratulations to all of the graduates!

Our Legacy includes many awards given to non-member citizens whose contributions to gardening are outstanding, members who do outstanding work overall (Lydia Shafer) and in Horticulture. We celebrate all the award recipients during our long years of organization.

WISCONSIN GARDEN CLUB FEDERATION is a remarkable testament to the commitment and talent of each member for more that seven decades!

Carol Catlin

WGCF President 2001-2003

NGC PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

CONGRATULATIONS TO THE WISCONSIN GARDEN CLUB FEDERATION ON THEIR 75TH ANNIVERSARY!

The very first state convention I attended, representing NGC, was right here in Wisconsin. I was overwhelmed by the majesty of Wisconsin. I experienced the beauty of LaCrosse on the banks of the Mississippi River in the spring of 2001, and later watched in sadness as the Mississippi flooded LaCrosse that summer. It took great fortitude, commitment and leadership to overcome the devastation. Everyone worked together to bring the city back to life, and it now blooms again.

When I think of Wisconsin, I think leadership. Your members are building the vision of National Garden Club for our garden club members. Your own Kitty Larkin, as 2nd vice president of NGC, chairs key committees building programs for garden clubs of today and for those of the future. Julie Schoenike and Colleen Weiler serve as members of the NGC Board of Directors. The Central Region is ably lead by Regional Director Barbara Wesley and her Alternate Nancy Gotham, who use their skills to strengthen the programs NGC offers to you.

I'm so impressed with you state president, Carol Catlin. She is experienced, organized, and gracious. With your help, she and her board will keep Wisconsin on the "cutting edge" with programs in all venues of state and national concerns as you follow her theme "Our Gardens grow: Beauty, Knowledge, Civic Pride". Within the state of Wisconsin, your leadership has resulted in many NGC programs benefiting local communities through participation in P.E.T.A.L.S.; Two Million Trees; Habitat for Humanity; and NGC School programs.

In 1967-69, Mrs. Charles O Dean, NCSGC 20th president installed in Milwaukee, spoke of her commitment and he aspirations: "let us look over unfinished America with a green vision for the beauty of tomorrow, putting our dreams of tomorrow into action today".

Mrs. Dean set a personal standard of excellence for the first 75 years and it is easy to see that this standard of excellence will continue in the upcoming years leading to the century mark as Wisconsin continues to build the vision of National Garden Clubs through the dedication and action of the local garden clubs.

Lois Dupre' Shuster, President
National Garden Clubs, Inc. 2001-2003

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EMBLEM

The Seal Emblem was adopted at the Annual Meeting, in November 1935. The design was drawn by Mr. H. J. Sonn, a member of the Oakfield Garden Club of Oakfield, Wisconsin.



The violet, the state flower, is in the center of the map of Wisconsin. The robin, the bird, and the sugar maple, the state tree, are on either side. Radiating from the back are the rays of the sun. Then behind these are the pines of Wisconsin's forests. The lettering around the rays is the name of the Federation.

Because the above emblem was too detailed and difficult to reproduce, it was decided to have a contest to design a new emblem in 1984.



The simplified design, which included Wisconsin's state flower, the wood violet, and the name of the organization, was done by a creative Wisconsin artist, Elton G. Kraft of Lake Geneva. He was presented a \$100.00 prize at the annual meeting in LaCrosse. The new design was adopted at the 58th Annual Meeting in 1985.

MISSION STATEMENT

Wisconsin Garden Club Federation provides education, resources and opportunities for its members to promote and share the love of gardening, floral design, and civic and environmental responsibility.

Accepted Oct. 2001 for approval at the 75th Annual Convention, 2002.

COLLECT

TO THE GLORY OF GOD and in grateful appreciation of His manifold expressions of beauty, we, The Wisconsin Garden Club Federation proudly acknowledge our horticultural stewardship; and humbly seek, by faithful service and undeviating purpose to be worthy of our ancestor conservationists, who preserved for posterity the myriad bounties of nature, and to emulate those early horticulturists, who through experiment and continued endeavor increased and developed them.

Let us be ever mindful of our heritage, considering it a sacred duty to protect and conserve those natural resources so generously loaned to each of us for the infinitesimal span of a life time. Let us remember that the vision of beauty, the urge to create it, and its ultimate appreciation lie deep in the heart of everyone. And let us learn, O God, that only through increased knowledge and patient perseverance comes eventual success.

In our design for daily living and in our constant association with others, let us reflect in order, harmony and loveliness of our gardens. And let us rejoice in the faithful recurrence of the seasons, knowing that each brings its own abundant and diversified glory. So may we draw courage and inspiration; realizing that we all, in our individual spheres according to our given capacities, may make lasting contributions to the goal of horticultural achievement, now and forever, down through the ages.

By Helen Hussey Champlin
September 1946

Adopted at the 19th Annual Convention, October, 1946.

WISCONSIN GARDEN CLUB FEDERATION

75 Year History

1928

In 1928 a few scattered garden clubs met in Lake Geneva to hear a talk by Mrs. Frederic Fisher, president of the Garden Club of Illinois, with the idea of organizing a federation of garden clubs in Wisconsin. Under the auspices of the Wisconsin Horticulture Society and the Lake Geneva Horticultural Society, a meeting July 19-20, 1928 was held July 19-20, 1928 to "Urge the Wisconsin garden clubs to federate and do things in an organized way."

An October meeting was held at the Milwaukee Public Museum with Mr. Huron Smith, publisher of *Wisconsin Horticulture* and Curator of the Milwaukee Museum presiding as temporary chairman. The clubs represented were: Beloit, Delavan, Elkhorn, Hawthorne of Hales Corners, Kenosha, Madison, Milwaukee Country Horticultural Society, Sum-Mer-Del, Waukesha and West Allis Garden Clubs.

Mr. H. J. Rahmlow, Secretary of the Wisconsin Horticultural Society and Editor of *Wisconsin Horticulture*, became the corresponding secretary of the Garden Club Federation of Wisconsin. His industry and inspiration were vital factors in organization of the Federation, having participated actively in setting up its constitution, directing its early activities and managing the first large flower show and flower judging schools. He was instrumental in promoting the growth of membership throughout the state.

Constitution & By-Laws and Nominations Committees were formed.

The **1st Convention** was held in December 1928 at the Milwaukee Public Museum. The organization became federated remaining affiliated with the Wisconsin Horticultural Society. Mrs. R. H. Malisch, Hales Corners, was chosen as president; Mrs. C. W. Vaughn as vice-president; Mrs. A. W. Sperber as secretary-treasurer, and Mr. H. J. Rahmlow, corresponding secretary.

Some excerpts from **First Constitution and By-Laws**: "The object of the organization shall be to help garden clubs throughout the state; to stimulate and develop interest in and broaden the knowledge of gardening; to aid in the protection of trees, plants and birds, and promote civic beautification....

"Any organized, active garden club or horticultural society in Wisconsin whose purpose is the same as the object of the organization is qualified for membership....

"A Board of Managers shall be formed to govern the policy of the organization. This body shall consist of one person duly elected by each affiliated organization. Such delegate shall present proper credentials signed by the local president and secretary. The president, vice-president, and secretary-

treasurer of the state organization shall be ex-officio members of the Board of Managers....

The **By-Laws** stated that the Executive Committee shall be the governing body of the organization while the Board of Managers or convention is not in session.

The annual dues shall be 50 cents per member. (10 cents to WGCF and 35 cents to Horticulture Society for a magazine, 5 cents to National Council.)...

From the Historian's file:

Mrs. Caroline E. Strong, West Allis, was not only one of our first garden club members, but she is credited with the honor of organizing the first garden club in the state. Subsequently assisted in organizing many other clubs and horticultural societies. With her vision of doing things in an organized way, she urged the federation of clubs and took a leading part in setting up the Wisconsin Garden Club Federation. She served as a member of its first Executive Board.

Mrs. Strong recommended that the Federation affiliate with the Wisconsin State Horticultural Society because of the service they could render the garden clubs. She edited the page 'About the Home and Garden' in *Wisconsin Horticulture*, the society's publication, designated as the official publication of the Federation.

For many years, Mrs. Strong had charge of the amateur flower department of Wisconsin State Fair making the department one of the outstanding exhibits in the country.

1929

During the first years of the Federation, the **Executive Committee** met each month. At the first Executive Committee meeting held in January, 1929 at the home of the president Mrs. Caroline Strong of West Allis, it was decided that a state flower show should be held during June 1929, and that a state meeting of the federation be held later in the summer or early fall.

It was decided to hold an annual convention in connection with the State Horticultural Society. A special section for garden club news would be included in the *Wisconsin Horticulture* magazine.

The **first state flower show** was held in June at the Loraine Hotel in Madison. There were many large commercial exhibits as the show was patterned after the Chicago Flower Show. Mr. Rahmlow was general chairman. An admission charge of 25 cents was made.

2nd Annual Convention was held November, 1929 at the Raulf Hotel in Oshkosh. Mrs. Malisch was reelected president as were most of the other officers. The meeting was fairly well attended by the 14 clubs in the Federation: Jefferson, Racine, Pierce County, Kenosha, Hawthorne, Milwaukee County Horticultural Society, West Allis, Waukesha, Sum-Mer-Del, Elkhorn, Superior, Hill Crest, Oshkosh, and Madison Garden Clubs.

Wisconsin became a member of the newly formed Organization of the National Council of State Garden Club Federations

1930

The first **judging school** was held on March 6, 1930. It was held at the Milwaukee Auditorium for the benefit of those who were to take part in the State Flower Show in June.

The second annual **Wisconsin Garden and Flower Show** was held in June 1930 at the Milwaukee Auditorium. There was a large exhibit by the Cooper Peony Gardens of Kenosha along with other commercial exhibits including pottery, bird baths, garden supplies and shrubs.

This show proved to be a decided success artistically, but disastrous financially. With the high rental of the Auditorium and very few people venturing into the heart of the city to view the show held on a Saturday and Sunday in the unusually hot weather, the show suffered a loss of about \$450.00. The Wisconsin Horticultural Society paid this loss.

3rd Annual Convention was held November, 1930, at the Loraine Hotel in Madison. There was a large flower show with many commercial exhibits. Mrs. William Bowers was elected president. Twenty-three clubs with 827 members composed the Federation. This was a gain of nine clubs in one year.

1931

Realizing the need and demand for **flower arrangement schools**, the Federation adopted as one of its leading projects education in flower arranging. A school was held at the Milwaukee Art Institute, February 19, "to stimulate the interest of members to become judges and also to help the exhibitor to display a more perfect exhibit at the coming State Fair and Garden Show." Some of the subjects covered were 'General Principles for Judging Flower Show Schools', 'How to Judge Cut Flowers' and a demonstration on proper flower holders, plus arrangements for table settings.

The **second judging school** was held at the Hotel Plankinton in Milwaukee in May 1931 with 77 attending. There were two classes for judging perfection and two for artistic arrangements.

The judging papers for each visitor were graded and winners announced. The official judges told how they had placed the arrangements officially and discussed the principles of flower arranging. This was followed by presentations from three speakers on flower show procedure and judging.

It was decided to hold the **state flower show** in the Horticulture Building at State Fair Park in June, 1931. The building was filled with beautiful gardens and exhibits. It proved to be successful financially, adding a substantial balance

to the permanent fund. Non-members of garden clubs could not compete in shows.

The **1931 Summer Meeting** was held at the Pines, Racine Park, in Kohler, in August with about 650 in attendance. It was an outdoor meeting with talks on 'Ideals of Gardening', 'Gardening Citizenship', and on the Better Homes Movement. A report shows that there were 26 clubs and 988 members in the Federation.

4th Annual Convention was held at the Avalon Hotel, Waukesha in November, 1931. There were 33 clubs and 1,222 members in the Federation. All previous conventions were held in conjunction with those of the Wisconsin Horticultural Society.

It was recommended that the **Board of Managers** organized to govern the policy of this organization shall include one person to be elected from each club having 50 members or less and two from clubs with more than 50 members. The first vice president shall be the Chairman of the Board. The Executive Committee was composed of the president, first and second vice presidents, recording secretary-treasurer, corresponding secretary and one elected from the Board of Managers were ex-officio members.

Mrs. Malisch, 1st Federation president, member of the Hawthorne Garden Club in Hales Corners, became the 4th vice-president of the NCSGC for the term on 1931-1933. This was the first time an officer had been elected from Wisconsin. Mrs. Malisch, with the national legislative chairman, recommended "that before the Council grew to unmanageable size, the country should be divided into seven regions with Regional Chairman, who would be Vice-Presidents of the Council. Upon the approval of this recommendation by NCSGC, the national format was changed and Mrs. Malisch no longer was the 4th vice-president. While NCSGC vice-president, she was invited to the Home Builders and Home Owners Conference in Washington, D.C. called by President Herbert Hoover.

1932

The **national organization** was divided into regions early in 1932. Wisconsin was in the North Central Region with Illinois, Iowa and Kentucky. (See Section on North Central Region)

The **3rd flower judging school** was held at the Plankinton Hotel in Milwaukee in April with 66 in attendance.

A large **state flower show** held at the Horticulture Building in State Fair Park in June showed a profit of about \$200.00.

At an **Executive Committee** meeting in July, 1932, in Milwaukee, it was voted that beginning September 1, one-half the membership fee be collected for the balance of the year. The Federation received 5 cents and the Horticultural Society 20 cents for each membership. Any new club joining between July and September 1st would be charged 35 cents for dues.

The **summer meeting** was held at Terry Andrae State Park near Sheboygan, in August. There were over 200 members in attendance with 476 persons attending the luncheon in Kolher.

The **Menasha Garden Club** was the first club in the state to establish a garden center.

The **5th Annual Convention** was held at the Schroeder Hotel in Milwaukee in November 1932. Most of the 32 clubs were represented. Mrs. James Livingston was elected president for the next year.

The **state was divided into districts** to create more interest in the Wisconsin Garden Club Federation and increase our membership. The districts were to be: Milwaukee County, Waukesha County, South Central Wisconsin, Southeastern Wisconsin, Fox River Valley, Northern Wisconsin, Central Wisconsin, and Southwestern Wisconsin. There were no definite boundaries and the chairmen of the districts were to be elected by the Board of Managers.

All clubs were asked to elect their officers during January or not later than February each year so that a complete list could be published as soon as possible.

1933

A large **summer meeting** was held at Kohler in June with a small show which included classes for junior clubs held by the local clubs. The charge for this show was 15 cents. While the show was artistic and there were a large number of exhibits, the attendance was small. The Board of Managers of the Federation decided to discontinue the State Flower Show for the duration of the depression.

The **6th Annual Convention** was held in the State Capital in Madison in November in conjunction with the Wisconsin State Horticultural Society. Lunches were served at local churches. A tour of the State Capital was the main attraction plus several good programs and workshops.

All officers were reelected for the next year, except the first vice-president who was moving out of state. A new state committee on legislation was appointed.

The **Speaker's Fund** was organized with the Hillcrest Garden Club of West Allis contributing \$10.00 to "provide good speakers for the annual meetings". Each club was asked to donate \$1.00 to the Fund.

The **Junior Clubs** at this time were: LaBelle Garden Club, Oconomowoc; Art Institute Garden Club, Milwaukee; Sum-Mer-Del Garden Club, West Allis; Wauwatosa and Racine Garden Clubs.

1934

In 1934 only **District Flower Shows and Judging Schools** were held:
May 22, Milwaukee District at the Milwaukee Gas & Light Building.
May 23, Southern District in Elkhorn
May 24, Fox River Valley District in Oshkosh
June 9-10, Central District in Wisconsin Rapids.

Each district show had to have a member of the Executive Board on the staff. An educational program on arranging would be held in connection with each show. These programs took the place of the state flower arranging schools.

The **7th Annual Convention** was held at the Racine Hotel in November still in conjunction with that of the Wisconsin Horticultural Society. The attendance was the largest in the history of these meetings. There were now 50 clubs and 1,459 members -- an increase of 343 during the year.

The **Constitution and Bylaws** were in the process of revision. The officers were elected for one year only. Mrs. Charles Jahr, Elkhorn, was the new President.

Three Certificates of Merit were awarded at the banquet to outstanding horticulturists in the state. This is the first time these certificates were recorded.

1935

The 1935 **Business Executive Board Meeting** was held August 17, at the Agricultural Hall, University of Wisconsin campus, Madison. The following amendments to the Constitution and Bylaws were approved:

- adoption of the position of 2nd vice president.
- the Executive committee would now be composed of the elected officers and the retiring president.
- the word "Wisconsin" was added to the name, making it The Wisconsin Garden Club Federation.
- three members were appointed to compose the nominating Committee.
- the Bylaws could only be amended at the Annual Meeting.

Once again Wisconsin had a member on the National Board of Directors when Mr. H. J. Rahslow, Madison, was appointed Legislation Chairman for the 1935-37 administration.

The **8th Annual Convention** was held in November, 1935, in the Schroeder Hotel, Milwaukee. Mrs. E. R. Durgin, Racine, was elected president for a one-year term. Governor Philip LaFollette spoke at the luncheon. There were many exhibits of floral and berry arrangements suitable for Thanksgiving and Christmas decorations designed by Mrs. Chester Thomas and Arthur Taylor of Milwaukee. "Idle Thoughts of a Dirt Gardener" was the title of the talk by Harry

R. O'Brien, a writer, from Columbus, Ohio. The following comment was made during an award presentation, "Not until this dinner will the identity of the person chosen for the annual award for outstanding work be disclosed. The person so honored must be more than 60 years old." The membership of the Federation was reported as 62 clubs and 1,734 members -- a gain of 317 members in the past year. The Superior Garden Club had the largest membership of 118, with Racine next with 93 members.

A **Seal Emblem** of the Federation was chosen by the Executive Board, (See page 2 for a description). The design was drawn by Mr. H. J. Sonn, a member of the Oakfield Garden Club.

The **state flower shows** were discontinued for the next year or two.

A set of colored lantern slides had been arranged in a program: entitled "**Twenty-five Selected Flower Arrangements.**" The lecture was prepared by J. B. W. Wells, Madison. A small fee of \$10.00 was charged for the use of the slides and lecture. This money was used to pay the cost of having the slides made. Mrs. Wells had a list of members who consented to be lecturers.

Club members felt that the November dates were rather late and preferred to meet starting in October, 1939. Separate conventions were planned with the cooperation and assistance of the Wisconsin Horticultural Society,

A **forest conservation Project for Wisconsin School children** was originated by a Racine woman, Mrs. Frank Quimby, as state chairman of Junior Garden Clubs, The goal was to establish a children's forest. The school children of Racine were the first to enroll 100 percent. The Wisconsin Garden Club Federation Clubs worked untiringly to have the conservation law passed. With the teaching of conservation compulsory in all Wisconsin schools, the junior division pledged itself to do everything in its power to further the work. The regional forester agreed to set aside a section of the Nicolet National Forest in northern Wisconsin, known as the Wisconsin School Children's Forest.

On **Arbor Day**, each school would have a conservation program. Children were invited to bring their pennies (which they have been saving throughout the year) as a patriotic gesture of helpfulness. Governor LaFollette set aside the week in which Arbor Day occurs as Conservation Week. The children planted under the slogan, 'four pines for a penny'. Uncle Sam would plant a thousand trees per acre for each \$2.50 voluntarily contributed. (The forest was dedicated in a special program July 27, 1940)

1936

A **series of broadcasts covering garden subjects** was sponsored over Radio Station WHA at Madison.

A **pamphlet, "Wisconsin Flower Shows"**, was prepared for the use of the clubs. It covered the set-up of a flower show and all the organization necessary to have a successful show; it sold for 15¢ each with the profit to go in a Flower Show Fund.

The **18th National Flower and Garden Show** was held at the Milwaukee Auditorium from April 10-18, 1936. Mrs. Ralph Hibbard, Milwaukee, was general chairman with Mrs. Chester Thomas as chairman of the judging committee. Thirty clubs entered the competition. One thousand dollars was allowed for expenses of the amateur exhibitors. The show's profit was \$32.14 of which \$5.00 was given to the general chairman in appreciation of her work and \$27.14 was put in the Flower Show Fund. A total of \$543.00 was given in prizes.

A **school for judges** was held April 14, in the Milwaukee YWCA. A fee of \$1.00 was charged and 127 attended.

A **summer meeting** was held August 5, in the gardens of Mr. and Mrs. Rasmussen of Oshkosh with 200 attending. This was more of a garden party than a business session.

9th Annual Convention opened at 4 p.m. in the Loraine Hotel in Madison on October 14-15. With 7 new clubs organized in the past year, there were 63 clubs and 1,730 members

The **fiscal year** was changed to December 1 through November 30.

The treasurer's report of October 1, 1936, showed a balance of \$76.42 in the General Fund, \$26.89 in the Speakers' Fund and \$233.62 in the Flower Show Fund for a total worth of \$336.93.

1937

The **two-day Summer Meeting** of the Federation was held in July in Sturgeon Bay with a visit to Potowatomi Park campgrounds. The program included a tour through one of Wisconsin's most beautiful counties, camp fire meetings, outdoor exercises, and talks by park experts.

10th Annual Convention was held at the Athearn Hotel in Oshkosh in October. There were 250 in attendance

Five new clubs joined the Federation in the past year, but with three clubs dropping, there were 66 clubs and 1,834 members.

Mrs. Chester Thomas retired as state president after a full two years of achievements within the Federation. Mrs. J. Martin Johnson, Ripon, was elected for a one-year term, 1937-8. In her acceptance speech, Mrs. Johnson proposed that the Executive Board meetings be held in three sections of the state, the first on December 1 in Milwaukee.

1938

11th Annual Convention was held at the Hotel Foeste in Sheboygan on September 30 and October 1, Friday and Saturday.

Mrs. E. A. St. Clair, Wauwatosa, was elected president. She would assume office on December 1, a policy adopted at this convention for each new administration.

1939

The Wisconsin Garden Club Federation became affiliated with the **Wisconsin Wildlife Federation**.

Two new projects were introduced: (1) **Plant Testing** by garden club members with records of all materials listed. (2) An **Award of Merit** was offered to filling stations in the Roadside Beautification program.

The State Fair Federation voted to take over the **Flower Exhibits for the state fair** that summer.

It was voted that an allowance of \$35.00 be given to the state president to attend the National Convention in Denver, Colorado. However, there is no record in the minutes that she did attend.

The **7th Annual Central Region Meeting** was held Tuesday, October 10, 1939 and the **12th Annual Convention**, 'Wisconsin Day' was held October 11 at the Pfister Hotel, in Milwaukee. Prof. Aldo Leopold spoke on "Our Conservation Needs". The president of the National Wildlife Foundation spoke

on "The National Program of Conservation Education." It was reported that there were 81 clubs and a membership of 2,388. Thirteen more clubs joined the federation that day. Each delegate received a mimeograph copy of chairmen's annual reports -- the first time this had been done.

Mrs. Charles H. Schuele, Oconomowoc, was elected Wisconsin president and took office December 1, 1939.

1940

On May 17-19, the Federation resumed holding State Flower Shows when a large show was held at the Wauwatosa Recreational Building with Dr. Carl Schwendener, vice-president of the Milwaukee District and a member of the Men's Garden Club as general chairman. It was an outstanding success, both financially and educationally. The profit of \$172.33 was put in a reserve fund for future flower shows,

The Town and Country Garden Club of Lake Geneva held a Flower Arrangement Clinic and Lecture featuring Dorothy Biddle, editor of *GARDEN DIGEST*, at the Lake Geneva High School Auditorium on Friday, July 19, 1940. Flower arrangements and table designs were covered at a cost of 50 cents.

On July 27, 1940, the Dedication of the 1,200 acre **Children's Forest** in the Nicolet National Forest was held. This project was started by the Juniors Chairman in 1936.

The **13th Annual Convention** was held in October at the Hotel Loraine in Madison, where Mrs. C. H. Braman, Waupaca, was elected president. It was stressed in the business session that club member participation in programs was an excellent method to keep clubs active, interested, and progressive.

The Board of Directors met December 10, 1940, in Milwaukee. The Wisconsin Horticultural Society proposed the creation of a joint committee on trial gardens and plant testing. Chairman of the Federation Committee was Mr. J. C. Ward of Fort Atkinson. This committee established eight trial gardens in Elkhorn, Fort Atkinson, Fox River Valley (Oakfield), Madison, Sheboygan, Superior, Waupaca and Faustus. The Horticultural Society gave \$50.00 toward the cost of plant material in these gardens

1941

During the 1940-41 term, five judging and flower arranging schools were held with a total attendance of 235. Five students received Master Judges Certificates and nine received Assistant Judges Certificates.

The state flower show committee made these recommendations: (1) a committee should be appointed to exhibit in all classes not filled five days

before the show; (2) a sum should be set aside to pay the expenses of the judges.

The **Roadside Development** report stated the last Wisconsin Legislature set aside a sum of money for the development and care of roadside parks and waysides--a big step forward. Last year 40 waysides were added to the 76 already under state control. Four hundred places were identified to be purchased as funds became available.

14th Annual Convention was held at the Hotel Retlaw in Fond du Lac in October, with the Ledgeview and Fond du Lac clubs in charge. Sam Campbell, Wisconsin naturalist and nationally known as "the Philosopher of the Forest", spoke at the banquet on "The Human Side of Nature", illustrating his talk with natural color motion pictures of Wisconsin's northwoods.

Mrs. Frank Quimby of Racine was elected state president. District Chairmen and state officers were elected. Thirty-two clubs were represented with a total registration of 221.

1942

Mrs. Chester Thomas was elected General Chairman for the State Flower Show to be held on May 22-24, 1942. This was the last large show for some time, because wartime conditions made it impossible to continue. A profit of \$324.76 was realized and put into the reserve flower show fund.

Two successful **Victory Harvest Shows** were held in August and September of 1942. Much was written about Victory Gardens and emphasis was placed on garden club members helping with ideas for these gardens.

The **15th Annual Convention** was held in October, 1942, at the Pfister Hotel in Milwaukee. Workshops were held to help with victory gardens. A small flower show emphasized the growing of vegetables. There were 87 clubs, 2,286 members and five Districts in the Federation: Sheboygan, Fox River Valley, Madison, Milwaukee and South Central.

At the close of the administration, Mrs. Quimby said: "During the past the big job has been to retrench as much as necessary without weakening the Federation. Your Board has tried to make the necessary adjustments wisely. District meetings were held as well as regional meetings. With the war it was necessary to have fewer meetings, but efforts of state and district chairmen should continue"

The newly elected president, Mrs. H. S. Bostock, Madison, held the first board meeting of the newly elected officers and members of the Board immediately after the afternoon program. This was the first time in the history of the Federation that the new board met before the old board had finished. The

meeting was held with the consent of the members of the old board to eliminate much traveling.

1943

In the spring of 1943, the garden clubs planted hardy perennials 350 Jack pines and oaks as well as 300 shrubs at **Camp McCoy**. The Federation donated chairs and hammocks for the area. Mrs. Lois Page Cottrell supervised this project.

At the same time at **Truax Field**, the Federation provided 1,287 deciduous trees, 66 evergreens, 7,798 deciduous shrubs and 41 flower gardens. About \$10,000 was spent. Mrs. Walter Dakin, second vice president, was in charge of this project. She received the Kellogg Award for the Federation from National Council for this outstanding accomplishment. (Ed. --The Kellogg Award from National Council was started in 1937. This was the first time it came into Wisconsin.)

Mrs. Chester Thomas served as the **war service chairman** and led the project of the Federation, which made 400 scrapbooks, 6,000 glasses of jelly and many wreaths and swags for Christmas.

At a **Victory Garden Conference** held in Chicago, Wisconsin received praise from the national leader for the success of Victory Gardens in the state.

A midsummer **meeting of the Executive Board** was scheduled but never held. At the September 14, 1943, meeting, it was voted not to have a convention in 1943, but to consider a joint convention with the Wisconsin Horticultural Society. This joint meeting was never held because of the war.

What would have been the **16th Annual Convention** in 1943 was never held due to World War II. The Federation held a one-day "Business Meeting" October 20, at the Plankinton Hotel in Milwaukee. Officers were elected and reports given. Mrs. Ray Sewell was elected president for the next year. It was adopted that elections should be held by mail for the duration of the war.

Living Memorials and Bird projects were stressed for 1943-44. Blue Bird Trails were established in the Madison District.

The national chairman of **Roadside Development** in 1943-45 was Mrs. Charles L. Dean of Madison.

1944

In April 1944, the **National Scholarship Program** was established. The first scholarship given was for \$600.00.

17th Annual Convention was held at the Astor Hotel in Milwaukee, Friday and Saturday, October 6-7, 1944, with talks on "Harmony in the Colored Border", "Tulips", "Orchids", "Memorial Highways in the Post-War Period" and "Music of the Out Doors." There were five Districts in the Federation with 82 clubs and 2,026 members.

Mrs. Walter Dakin, Madison, was elected president for 1944-45. She said: "To be president of a State Federation in wartime offers a real challenge. Gas rationing, travel restrictions, size of proposed meetings were constant considerations."

1945

Genevieve Clarke Dakin was also editor of the *State Federation Handbook*, which was financed by the Wisconsin Horticultural Society. The first Handbook was created to assist in the orientation of officers and chairmen. The sections were: Objectives, Membership, Affiliations, National Council--What is it? What is the Federation's relation to the National Council? Federation Executive Board, Board of Managers, Districts, Dues, Duties of Officers and Chairmen as other helpful information. It did not replace or include the Constitution and By-Laws. The Handbook was distributed at the 1945 National Board of Directors Fall Meeting in New York. Many states requested extra copies.

Mrs. Dakin continued as chairman of the Truax Field project for which she received a Certificate of Appreciation from the Army Air Forces.

Mrs. John West, Manitowoc, was Chairman of the thirteen state committees. Special projects included Radio, Roadside Development, and a State Flower Show.

Rulings of the Office of Defense Transportation made it necessary to cancel the Annual Meeting of National Council scheduled for May 2 and 3, 1945, at the Biltmore Hotel, New York City. Each State President was instructed to conduct a 'Special Meeting of Delegates' between March 15 and May 1, to elect National Council Officers for 1945-1947.

The first observance of **National Garden Week** was in April 1945.

The Manitowoc Garden Club, the Two Rivers Garden Club and AAUW Garden Club of Manitowoc held a large flower show on September 2, 1945, with Mrs. John West as general chairman. "Flowers for the Bride" won a National Award for its theme being carried out so beautifully. This was one of the first flower shows, which did not emphasize small gardens.

18th Annual Convention was held in October at the Hotel Pfister in Milwaukee because of governmental regulations on conventions. The ruling is

that during wartime only 50 people besides the 'metropolitan area' may attend a convention. It was decided to hold a one-day convention so that delegates would not crowd the hotels overnight. The theme was "Horticultural Service" which was emphasized by floral and foliage decorations. The National President, Mrs. William Champlin, talked on the spiritual side of gardening. Mr. Jens Jensen, a noted naturalist of Ellison Bay, Wisconsin, spoke on "Living Memorials", urging garden club members to participate in beautifying school grounds. Rev. Alfred Otto of West Bend was elected president. The meeting concluded with a movie on Roses by the Jackson and Perkins Company. There were 164 registrations and a profit of \$39.21 was realized.

The **Blue Star Memorial Highway Program** was started by National Council early in October 1945. The proposed north-south route through Wisconsin was Highway 51, which runs from New Orleans to the northern border of Wisconsin. It was dedicated as Wisconsin's Blue Star Memorial Highway at this 18th Annual Convention. At the National Convention in 1949, the Federation received a Certificate of Achievement for cooperation in the establishment of the Blue Star Memorial Highway.

1946

The **19th Annual Convention** held in October 1946, in the Retlaw Hotel at Fond du Lac. This was the first two-day convention since 1940 with a registration of 295. Mrs. John West, Manitowoc, was elected president and had the slogan "Work for Your Federation and You Will Love It". There were 96 clubs and 2,861 members.

During this term, dues were increased to 75 cents per member; convention registration was increased to \$1.00, the Federation became incorporated and adopted the **Collect** of National Council as well as the proclamation designating the first week in June as "Wear a Garden Flower Week".

The **Collect**, written for National Council and adopted as the official Collect, was given for the first time by the author, Helen Hussey Champlin, at the September 1946 meeting of the National Board of Directors in Tulsa, Oklahoma.

To stress more work with **junior gardeners**, a conservation scholarship was proposed. The project afforded everyone the opportunity to give less than 3 1/3 cents toward a gift for a Wisconsin student in preparation for a lifetime of service to our land.

After her election, **Mrs. John West** commented, "The keynote of this administration was sounded at the convention of our Federation when the group requested its new president to appoint a committee to bring the Constitution and By-laws up to date. Since this need for more adequate rules for the transaction of business and the protection of our officers had been urged for so long by our

most outstanding, capable leaders, I felt greatly honored to have been chosen to undertake the direction of this task."

The committee appointed to revise the Constitution and Bylaws in preparation to file Incorporation papers was composed of district chairmen. Serving with the president were Mrs. Fred C. Marquardt, Milwaukee; Mrs. William F. Wilke, Sheboygan; Mrs. Lawrence Skillgred, Fox River Valley; Mrs. Edward Holberg, South Central; and Mrs. Martha Lowry, Madison.

The changes made before filing **corporation papers** were that there be at least 10 members in each club in two classes (active and honorary), 2 candidates for each office consisting of one-year term of office. Officers may succeed themselves. The state convention would be held in the first half of October with the Regional meetings would be held the third week of November. The legislative body, known as Board of Managers, should include the Executive Board, Board of Directors and official delegates of clubs. The Executive Board consisted of the elected officers. The Board of Directors included elected officers, appointive officers, district presidents, and state committee chairmen.

Dues were to be 75 cents per member, paying January 1st each year, with 5 cents going to National Council, 20 cents to the Federation, and 50 cents to the Wisconsin Horticultural Society. Each member would receive a copy of the *Wisconsin Horticulture* magazine. The fiscal year would begin on January 1.

1947

The revised Constitution and Bylaws were approved at the Annual Meeting, October 9, 1947, and filed with the Secretary of State of Wisconsin on October 10, 1947.

The **Annual Tulip Tea** was held the week after Memorial Day in 1947 on the five acre estate of Mr. and Mrs. John West on Lake Michigan in Manitowoc. Over 500 people "gazed upon the 16,000 tulips and other flowers that make the gardens among the loveliest of the lake shore section."

The **World Gardening** program had its beginnings with the "Seeds for Peace" project. Nationally over \$40,000 and 17 1/2 tons of vegetable and flowers seeds and 900 sets of garden tools were sent to European countries under the Marshall Plan.

The flower arranging and judging schools held in Wisconsin in the past had not been accredited by National Council. On September 9th and 10th the **first nationally accredited school** was held at the Milwaukee Art Institute with Miss Emma Schipper of Milwaukee as general chairman. Fifty-nine took the examinations. Mrs. West personally paid the school's deficit of \$58.00.

In 1947 the National Council *BULLETIN* was redesigned and renamed *The National Gardener*, with six issues per year instead of eight, and with an

increase in quality of paper and appearance throughout as well as in reader interest.

This is the exact copy of a letter from Mrs. John West written August 1, 1977, about her term of office:

"My term as President of our Federation will never be forgotten because it was I who took steps to free it from the Wisconsin Horticultural Society dominated by Mr. Rahmlow, the Secretary who was always a member of our Executive Board. Before my presidency, somehow he had gotten the Federation into the National Council of State Garden Clubs- we are in fact charter members.

However, he managed to keep us out of becoming a part of the National Council simply by paying our dues and allowing \$25.00, which covered the registration fee, should any one of our Presidents wish to go to the National Convention. Up to my time no one had gone because they couldn't afford to. I decided to go - the meeting was in Tulsa - Several of the women were very nice to me and I came home all fired up to take on some of their programs.

Mrs. Inez Hamilton was a flower arranger on the National Flower Show staff. She told me she would come to Wisconsin if I could get a school set up. By paying most of the bills the school was accomplished. Emma Schipper (now deceased), a member of the Art Center Garden Club, was chairman. This raised the devil with the Horticultural Society because Mr. Rahmlow insisted we use what he called Merit Judging at our Shows.

I also took on the Blue Star Memorial Highway program for our state. All of this became extremely difficult due to the Hort. set-up. So at midway in my term, I decided to take steps to free us of this domination - because I discovered no Wis. president was eligible to accept a chairmanship in National Council to an office because our Bylaws provided for a 1-year term only for President. This happened to me when I was asked to become a member of the Nominating Committee of the Nat. Council.

It was at this point I got a committee together to write a new Constitution and Bylaws that would provide for 2-year terms and take us out of bondage. --This caused a battle. The Federation lost many members, those who stood in Mr. R's corner. (They later formed the other state garden club thing).

The big mistake I made was not to take on another year as President after this went thru. I was afraid to because it might appear my motives were personal. The big argument was 'What will we do for a magazine?' We always had 3 or 4 pages in the Wis. Hort. Soc. publication. I promised we would have our own publication so I planned the format of *Wisconsin Gardens*, edited it, and paid for the

thing for one year. I got a few ads, the money for these I put in a 'kitty' for the insurance of the magazine

During our District visitations that year I collected \$100.00 and established our Conservation Scholarship.

Friends in Lake Geneva, who had a very strong and influential club, gave me a most wonderful convention. We toured several beautiful summer homes, boat rides, etc. 300 came - A lecture on time-lapse photography - the first one ever given by our speaker was most exciting.

So, to sum it up - I started the National Council Flower Show Schools, the magazine, *Wisconsin Gardens* - The Conservation Scholarship and took steps to give us our most wonderful and outstanding Federation. I am proud of this though it cost me dearly at the time. I lost friends whom I had worked with and loved - and felt the heavy burden of beginning the Federation all over again - However, it was worth it.

In my day all Presidents had to write up her years' accomplishments in long hand. It was a good way to fit the personalities and events together. We also had to submit a photograph of ourselves to accompany the story. This must still be in the files. The magazine will not appear there as this was done after my term was over. Some details may be forgotten - it's been a long time you know.

Fondly, Ruth West."

The **20th Annual Convention** was in October 9 -10 at Horticultural Hall in Lake Geneva. Mrs. F. J. Fitzgerald, Menasha, was elected president.

In December, the Federation officers and state chairmen toured the state to conduct Regional meetings. This was the first time Regionals had been conducted so early in the year. The object in doing this was to have clubs obtain information prior to making out their programs for the year. Later these Regional meetings became equivalent to the current President Conference Days.

The executive Committee decided, "that we dispense with our 1948 State Flower Show because of high prices of labor, materials and the economic situation."

1948

The **National Book Service** was instigated in March 1948. The first mailings were from Philadelphia.

The Wisconsin Garden Club Federation assisted at the **1948 Centennial Exposition** by providing flower arrangements in four rooms: A kitchen of 1860, The Soldiers' Aid Society Workroom of 1864, An Office of 1874, and A Suffrage Parlor of 1917.

For the first time, two **Judging Schools** were held in one year. Course II was on May 6-7, in Milwaukee and Course III was held in Wausau on October 19-21.

The **21st Annual Convention** was held in October at the Pfister Hotel in Milwaukee, at the same time as the annual meeting of the Central Region. Wisconsin, Illinois, Indiana, Michigan, and Missouri were the five states in the Region. All were represented at the meeting.

It was reported that \$909.50 had been contributed by the Wisconsin clubs for the **Seeds of Peace Program**.

Mrs. Clarence Fiebrantz was elected president for the first two-year term, 1948-50. She took office in time for the regional meetings tour. Five meetings were to be held: Plymouth, November 22nd; Kenosha, November 29th; Fort Atkinson, November 30th; Madison, December 1st; and Seymour, December 2nd. Only executive officers were to make the tour for an "informal exchange of information." These meetings "are to be known as a 'Club Institute' and arranged by the 2nd vice president. Several new policies were presented."

In 1948, Mrs. Oliver Rundell of Madison, a member of our Federation, became co-editor of the *Wisconsin Horticultural Society* magazine.

Mrs. Rundell was also the editor of a separate issue of *Wisconsin Gardens* published as a 20th ANNIVERSARY ISSUE. It had 24 pages and many paid advertisements.

1949

In April 1949, an annual Wisconsin Garden Club Federation **Achievement Award** was inaugurated. "It will be presented at each state convention to clubs or club members who have made an outstanding contribution to horticulture, to conservation, to the promotion of gardening among you, or who have done distinguished civic work in making permanent improvement for public betterment in town or countryside."

The first "*Handbook for Flower Shows* was published as a pamphlet by National Council in April 1949 to aid in standardizing the judging schools."

The first newsletters by a state president were published starting in 1949 by Mrs. Clarence Fiebrantz.

At the Executive Board meeting on April 5, 1949, a **sixth district** was organized in the state to be known as the Northwest District. It was to include Superior south to LaCrosse.

Mrs. L. Lloyd Berrall, author of the book on color, came from New Jersey to be the instructor on Flower Arrangements for Course IV of the Flower Show Schools. The tuition for this Course was \$5.00.

The **22nd Annual Convention** was held at the Hotel Wausau in October 1949, with 260 registrations. The advance package plan registration was \$5.95. There were 106 clubs and 3,347 members in the six districts. Six of these clubs joined during the year. Dr. Ralph Norem of Oshkosh completed the first list of gardens of members.

The Federation had purchased 200 **flower arrangement calendars** to sell at \$1.00 each. A Garden Center (Market) was established and the \$76.00 profit from the calendars was the first money in the Fund. The Garden Center then purchased 25 Judging Handbooks from the National Council as its next project.

At this convention, it was voted 70 to 32 to **disaffiliate with the Wisconsin Horticultural Society**. Federation dues were \$1.00 per member of which \$0.70 went to the publication, \$0.20 to the general fund and \$0.10 for dues to the National Council. National Council had increased their dues from \$0.05 to \$0.10, starting January 1950 -- the first rise since 1929.

Wisconsin Gardens, the first Federation publication came out in November 1949 with Mrs. F. J. Fitzgerald as editor and Mrs. John West as co-editor, both past presidents of the Federation.

The schedule set up for the first issues of the magazine was: November 1949 Convention Issue, December 1949 Christmas Issue, January-February 1950 Conservation Issue; March 1950 Directory Issue; April 1950 Flower Show Issue, May 1950 Tours Issue, June - July 1950 Midsummer Issue, August - September 1950, and Convention 1950.

The State Special Achievement Award for civic projects was presented to the Bluemound, Ravenswood, Wauwatosa and Galecrest Garden Clubs for the restoration of the Lowell Damon House.

1950

The fifth course of Exhibiting and Judging Schools was held April 19-21, 1950, at the Community House in Oconomowoc. This completed the **first series of Nationally Accredited Flower Show Schools** in Wisconsin. Seven judges completed the series.

The State's House and Garden Flower Show was held June 7-8, 1950, in the Oconomowoc Lake Area. Arrangements, exhibits, displays and gardens were viewed in eight homes. The second series of Judging Schools started September 12-14, 1950, at the Vocational School in Fond du Lac. The course fee for members was \$5.00 including lectures and examination.

The **23rd Annual Convention** was held October 5-6, 1950, in the Hotel Racine, with 254 registrations. The Annual meeting was held at the First Methodist Church. It was reported that all of the 2,500 Federation Handbooks that had been printed were gone and that it now needed updating.

The dues were increased to \$1.00 per member.

The state established a **Bronze Medal Award** to be given to a non-member for outstanding work in Conservation or Horticulture.

Mrs. Ervin Kulow, Waukesha, was elected as state president. Plans were completed to hold a horticulture clinic in each district with strong emphasis on the fact that the Federation was sponsoring them.

1951

The Federation presented "**Garden Week in Wisconsin**" May 24-25, 1951, in Lake Geneva with a flower show and garden tour. A Tulip Tea was held at "West of the Lake" on June 3. On June 7, the Coulee Region had a garden tour. On June 8, a flower show and two historic homes were visited in West Salem. In all, there were 14 Standard Flower Shows in the state, but no large state show.

A series of **garden clinics** sponsored by the Federation were held at vocational schools in the larger cities. Outstanding nurserymen and horticultural experts from the University cooperated with the Federation in making these clinics possible and authentic. They consisted of a series of lectures on various phases of landscaping and gardening in this locality and were well attended. The fact that they were open to the public for a slight charge made them a distinct service by the Federation.

Mrs. Raymond Watts of the Morton Arboretum, Lisle, Illinois, spoke at the **24th Annual Convention** at the Wisconsin Hotel in Milwaukee, October 3-4, 1951. Her book, *READING THE LANDSCAPE*, had received countrywide recognition. At this meeting, it was reported there were 95 clubs and 2,830 members of the Federation.

In the business meeting, the Board of Managers approved the printing of the revised Constitution and Bylaws. The 4,000 copies printed cost \$533.52, of which Mrs. West paid \$50.00. Each club received a free copy by mail in August 1952.

Upon resignation of the president, Mrs. Linus Roehm, West Salem, was elected president and she emphasized, "Economy and Promptness -- Be prompt on everything. Be economical, too."

The **Garden Therapy** chairmanship was established. The Federation supported a bill in the state legislature "proposing a \$200,000 annual appropriation for specific road improvements in Wisconsin" became a law in 1953.

1952

"Wisconsin celebrates its 25th anniversary this year (1952). Our motto is 'Forward, Forward with all our projects and undertakings.' ... We are giving conservation scholarships at our University, and two of the districts gave additional ones in their areas. Three individual members gave scholarships at the University of Wisconsin."

The **Silver Anniversary Convention** was held October 1-2, 1952, at the Loraine Hotel in Madison. A 25-year History of the Federation was read by Mrs. H. B. Morrow. A large state flower show, "Spotlighting the Years", decorated the Crystal Ballroom. Seven clubs were added in 1951-52, bringing the total to 98 clubs with 2,900 members.

To complete the 1951-53 administration, it was necessary to elect a state president. Mrs. A. C. Garnett, Madison, first vice president, accepted the position.

The **Wisconsin Judges Council** was organized in Madison October 1, 1952, during the state convention with a charter membership of 16 nationally accredited judges. It immediately became affiliated with the National Council Judges Council. Mrs. Fred C. Marquardt, Hales Corners, was elected the first Chairman. Judges received certificates as a Nationally Accredited Flower Show Judge.

In December 1952, The Executive Committee voted that a copy of *Wisconsin Gardens* should be sent to each club president for the club's file. In a meeting one year later it was reported that this had not been done yet. "It would definitely be started right away and all copies published so far were to be sent."

1953

Series II of the Flower Show Schools was completed with Course V on June 22-24, 1953, in Manitowoc. There were 23 members who had completed three courses of this series to become junior judges.

The **26th Annual Convention** held September 30-October 1, 1953, at the American Baptist Assembly in Green Lake had Mrs. William J. Walters, New Jersey, national president, as the honored guest. A flower show, "Nature's Gifts", was held in Morehouse Hall. Members were asked to vote for the best fresh flower and the best dried flower arrangements. There were 105 registrations, with 72 of the 92 state clubs represented.

It was approved that state dues be raised 25 cents with 10 cents going to the Magazine Fund and 15 cents to the General Fund.

The Bylaws were changed to read that the state convention be held in the later part of September so that there would be time to prepare for State Officers' Days before the 30th of November.

Mrs. D. F. Stilling, Oconomowoc, was elected president for 1953-55. The first vice president was approved to serve as Chairman of Standing Committees.

The Outlook Committee launched a lending library "for the purpose of giving greater service to the clubs in the Federation."

Charter membership for the Federation in the newly organized Wisconsin Roadside Council was approved.

The **Northwest District** was too large; it was divided into the Coulee Region District and the Superior District.

The **Scholarship Program** was increased to give a scholarship of \$100.00 each to Stevens Point State College and the University of Wisconsin to a student majoring in the conservation field."

A **new series of Flower Show Schools** was sponsored by the Madison District with Course I on October 11-13, 1954. The Milwaukee District also planned to sponsor a series.

1954

The **27th Annual Convention** with the theme "Outdoor Wisconsin" was held in September at Green Lake with 414 in attendance. It was reported that there were 102 clubs and 3,017 members. Mrs. D. F. Stilling recommended an increase in state dues to \$1.25 with 80 cents to the magazine, 35 cents to the State Budget and 10 cents to National Council for dues.

The editor of *Wisconsin Gardens*, Mrs. Charles H. Gill, recommended that there be only six issues of the magazine, each issue having four more pages. To avoid a loss, \$200.00 in advertising would be needed for each issue.

1955

The new **Wisconsin Audubon Camp** at Hunt Hill, near Spooner opened in June. It was the first camp in the Upper Midwest. Miss Lenore Wilson, a faculty member of Wisconsin State College, LaCrosse, was the first to receive a two-week scholarship to the camp from the Federation.

The **28th Annual Convention** was held in September at the Dell View Hotel in Lake Delton, with the theme "The Importance of Our State Committee

Chairmen." The attendance was 232. The decorative theme of the convention was the Madonna. A flower show was held at the same time. Mrs. George Swearingen, West Bend, was elected president for 1955-57.

1956

The **29th Annual Convention** was held in September at the Hotel Retlaw, Fond du Lac, with the theme "Wisconsin, The Beautiful." There was no flower show at this meeting. There were 307 registrations.

It was adopted at this meeting that officers shall hold office for a period of two years, serving until the adjournment of the state convention at the close of their second year in office. Officers may not succeed themselves in office. Officers shall be elected in the odd-numbered calendar year. The Districts were asked to consider changing their bylaws to have their officers serve the same two years.

For explanation: The Board of Managers was the ruling body of the Federation and met at the annual meeting. The Executive Board consisted of the elected officers, district presidents and parliamentarian. This Board met separately at the convention to elect state chairmen and then met monthly or bi-monthly to conduct necessary business between the meetings of the Board of Managers. All their actions needed the approval of the Board of Managers, whose members received copies of the minutes.

It was announced that Mrs. Clarence Fiebrantz, past president, was appointed to the National Council Resolutions Committee for the next term.

The large **state flower show**, "Suddenly...It's Christmas" was held in St. Paul's Episcopal Church in Milwaukee, November 14-15, 1956. A red and green rosette was awarded a Christmas Show Award from National Council.

1957

The **30th Annual Convention** was held in Sheboygan, during September with the theme "Thirty Years of Education, Inspiration and Service." Mrs. H. H. Christensen, Janesville, was elected president. Mrs. Swearingen, retiring president, was appointed as National Legislation Chairman. There were 303 delegates. National Council had 12,000 clubs and 400,000 members; Wisconsin had 112 clubs with 3,110 members.

It was voted that the monthly meetings of the **Executive Board** be changed to every three months.

There were 21 accredited flower show judges, 28 junior judges and 2 flower show instructors in Wisconsin. It was voted that the president of the Judges Council should become a chairman on the Board of Managers.

Thirty-two members had attended the **Trees for Tomorrow Camp** at Eagle River. The members worked "to put teeth in the Anti-Litter Law" which put a \$25.00 fine on violators.

A cash award of \$10.00 was offered by Mrs. Bostock, past president, to be known as the **Bostock Junior Award**. It was accepted by the Executive Board and voted to be used as an annual award to Juniors.

Mrs. George Swearingen, a past president, was proposed as a nominee from Wisconsin for Central Region Director.

In the Historian's Report: "The most important achievement of the Federation in 1957 was the landscaping of 11 acres surrounding the new Memorial Hospital in Oconomowoc" by the clubs in the area at a cost of \$6,000. Another big project was the landscaping of the pool and dormitory at Camp Waubeek for Crippled Children and Adults at Wisconsin Dells.

1958

The **31st Annual Convention** was held in September in Wisconsin Rapids with 337 registrations. The theme was "Learning by Participation" There were 124 clubs and 3,185 members with 337 registrations. The state theme was "Civic Beautification Thru Garden Club Participation".

The **Appreciation Fund** was started to permit voluntary contributions of five cents made each year by federation's members for the purpose of getting a National Council life membership to be given to our State President upon entering the office. A chairman was appointed to execute its collection. Disbursement of accrued funds to be controlled by the Outlook Committee, with the usual approval of the Executive Board, keeping in mind past Presidents who do not have this life membership.

A state **Landscape Design Chairman**, Mrs. Charles DuBois of Madison, was appointed and approved at an Executive Board meeting in Wisconsin.

1959

The **32nd Annual Convention** was held in September at the Hotel Pfister, Milwaukee with the theme "World Friendship Through Gardening." The registration fee was increased to \$2.00; however, 445 paid it. It was voted to add the position of third Vice-president to the Executive Board. She would serve as General Chairman of Standing Committees. The Federation consisted of 3,279 members in 7 districts and 121 clubs. There were 30 committee chairmen appointed.

A fee of 50 cents was set for the State Officers' Days in the Districts. Mrs. Bradley Turner (Cathryn), LaCrosse (now in Milwaukee), traveled with the

officers and gave a program in each district of arrangements and decorations entitled "Holiday Prelude". Her fee for all programs was \$20.00.

Mrs. Malcolm Jodell, Superior, was elected president. The theme for her administration was "Better Programs, Better Gardens and Better People."

"In my ten years in the legislature I introduced a billboard control bill each year and you supported all of them," said Governor Nelson in a message conveyed to the 1959 convention. "As a consequence of your efforts and others, the bill controlling outdoor advertising on highways was passed." The bill provided "for roadside control over sections of the 11,000 miles of state trunk highways."

1960

The **33rd Annual Convention** was held in September at Nippersink Manor Resort in Genoa City with the theme "Gardening in Recreation." The Central Region Meeting was held September 14 and 15, with Mrs. George Swearingen of West Bend as Director. There were 132 clubs with 3,343 members in the Wisconsin Federation.

The Governor in proclamation declared September 11-17 as **Wisconsin Garden Club Week**.

Among the Outlook Committee's recommendations was a \$50.00 scholarship to the **Trees for Tomorrow Camp** near Eagle River; no more than \$500 for the landscaping at Central Colony, a home for retarded children at Mendota near Madison; to continue the scholarship of \$100 for a conservation student at Stevens Point and a scholarship of \$103 to the Audubon Camp.

Until 1960, State Officers' Days were held annually. At the business meeting, it was voted to hold them bi-annually in the election year only before the 30th of November.

The proposal to hold flower show schools sponsored by the Federation received much discussion. The matter was tabled and a committee appointed to study all the costs to the Federation to hold a series.

It was proposed at the Executive Board meeting that Wisconsin ask for the 1963 National Convention. However, it had been assigned and the next available date was 1967. It was voted to extend an invitation for the 1967 National Convention to be held in Milwaukee.

In 1960, there were 39 accredited judges, 15 student judges, 3 with life certificates and 1 honorary judge.

Permanent notebooks were distributed to all state chairmen containing their duties and helpful suggestions. These were to be used this term adding all

materials and then passed on to the next chairman. This was the first time the chairmen had notebooks. It would be the responsibility of the 2nd vice-president to see that succeeding chairmen received them.

"My first year as State President we held a combined State Convention and Regional meeting; this was held in the South Central District. I believe this was the second time that Wisconsin was hostess to the meeting. Mrs. Jamie H. Johnson was guest as she was President of National Council.

The project of providing a playground and fencing of Central Colony was undertaken during my term and with Mrs. Wells of Madison heading the committee we were able to hold the dedication ceremony on the last day of the convention. As our guest we had the Honorable Governor Nelson, who gave a short talk on the excellent work we had done.

Money was also sent in for a bench to be put in the Lincoln Memorial Park at Springfield, Illinois; this was done after much discussion by the board members at that time.

At this time we worked very hard to get legislation passed for the control of roadside signs. Mrs. Krueger and Lydia Shafer attended many meetings in Madison to get this bill passed. Many articles were written in all the papers in the cities of Wisconsin during my term as we had such opposition. More Blue Star Memorial markers were placed and some were replaced due to road construction.

We were urged at this time by National Council to change our election to the spring but the board felt our members were not ready for it and voted it down..."

Sincerely, Agnes Jodell

1961

The theme of the **34th Convention** held in September at the Loraine Hotel in Madison was "Forward." Mrs. A. J. Shafer, Madison, was elected president and her theme was "Know Your Members." There were 147 clubs and 3,584 members, 10 junior clubs with 141 members. There were 40 judges after the last series of schools. The final credentials report showed a total of 509 registrations -- the largest number ever attending a state convention.

A tour of the Children's Picnic and Recreational Area at Central Colony and dedication services in the afternoon was followed by a tea at the Governor's Mansion. Wisconsin Garden Clubs gave \$1,096.90 along with contributions from many other individuals and organizations to landscape a park with picnic, recreational and nature areas to be used by the retarded children of Central Colony and their families.

In September, a group called **The Nature Conservancy** had been formed to work to preserve our virgin forests and prairie lands. The Executive Board and the Federation membership received a request for funds. No action was taken at the time.

The Federation had five delegates on the **Wisconsin Roadside Council**. Forty-six clubs also had memberships.

The first **Christmas Symposium** by the Federation was held October 25, 1961, at Turner Hall in Madison. A profit of \$500 was realized.

1962

35th Annual Convention held in September, in the Auditorium in LaCrosse had the theme "New Horizons" with an attendance of 334. There were 4-foot floral arrangements on each side of the convention hall carrying out the theme and depicting seven of the major industries in LaCrosse.

A schedule for conventions was proposed so that a district could be prepared well in advance when its turn was coming up.

National Council voted to increase its dues to 25 cents per member starting in 1962. This action brought up the proposal that Federation dues be increased to \$1.50 to be divided with 80 cents to *Wisconsin Gardens*, 45 cents to the General Fund and 25 cents to National Council. Approval was voted and went in force immediately. Junior dues to National Council were \$1.00 per club.

The Trees for Tomorrow scholarship was discontinued. The Nature Conservancy was supported in the amount of \$300.00.

In the business session, it was voted and passed that the president should receive **full expenses to the National Conventions and the Central Region Meetings**, plus a postage allowance. The treasurer and first vice-president were allowed \$100 each for expenses. Each state chairman was to have an allowance of \$10 for expenses.

1963

The theme of the **36th Annual Convention** held in September in Manitowoc was "Our Natural Heritage: The total registration was 417. There were 150 clubs, 3,490 members in seven districts. This was an 8% increase in membership for the year. There were 40 judges, 12 student judges, 2 master judges, and one landscape design critic (who had taken the courses in Michigan.)

There was a \$2.00 registration fee for those made within one week of the convention and \$2.50 for late registrations. This was the first time an extra charge was made for late registrations. The same fee was to be paid for full-time or part/time attendance.

The "Progress Through Beauty" Contest, sponsored by **Sears Foundation** was introduced and encouraged. The Federation was awarded a \$2,000.00 grant from the Sears Foundation to be divided into seven grants, to be presented to the garden clubs to encourage work in community beautification. The Sears

Foundation requested five delegates from Wisconsin to attend a conference in October with all expenses paid as part of the Community Beautification Program.

Mrs. Joseph Clark, Milwaukee, was approved to be general chairman for the National Convention to be held in Milwaukee in 1967.

The **Lydia Shafer Award** was established in of memory past state president, Lydia Shafer, through a donation from her husband. (See Lydia Shafer Award Recipients list)

1964

Governor John W. Reynolds issued a proclamation declaring May 17-23, 1964, as Wisconsin Garden Club Week in recognition of the numerous outstanding accomplishments of the Wisconsin Garden Club Federation.

The first **Conservation Day** was held; the Federation co-sponsored the first Conference on Long Range Resource and Conservation Planning.

The **37th Annual Convention** was held in September at the Coach House Inn in Milwaukee with a registration of 478. Membership had increased to 153 clubs and 3,735 members. The package plan of \$14.00 for members was approved included registration, two breakfasts, two luncheons, and one banquet.

Wisconsin garden clubs received five National Awards for flower shows and one for the DePere Garden Club's civic project.

The **Lydia Shafer Award** was presented for the first time to Mrs. John West. Lydia wrote as president: "The unsurpassable beauty which Mrs. West has achieved on six acres overlooking Lake Michigan is a lesson in vision, perseverance, faith and love of nature for everyone who sees it."

1965

The **Wisconsin Roadside Council** celebrated its 25th anniversary on March 25, 1965, in Madison. The Federation played a major part in the 'Keep Wisconsin Clean and Beautiful' campaign.

It was approved that the Hostess District of the State Convention would be responsible to supply advertisements for one page on the convention issue of the *Wisconsin Gardens* to help defray the cost of the magazine.

A student in conservation from Appleton received the Helen S. Hull National Scholarship of \$500.00. A National Special Achievement Award was given Mrs. John West. Five National Flower Show Awards and a 100% Permanent Home Citation were received at the national convention. Wisconsin also received the Regional Director's monetary award for the greatest increase in membership.

Twenty-three clubs were awarded \$2000.00 for entering the **Sears Beautification Program**.

The **38th Annual Convention** “Nature’s Alphabet - Appreciation, Beautification, and Conservation”, was held in September at the Northland Hotel in Green Bay. The registration fee was increased to \$2.50. The total registration was 435. The slate of state chairmen was presented for approval of the general assembly for the first time, before it had been done at the first meeting of the Board of Directors following the Annual Meeting. There were 159 clubs with a membership of 3,585.

With the theme, “**Each One Plant One**”, the goal was to report to National Council in 1972 that WGCF had planted 3506 trees, one for each member.

The first **Landscape Design Study Course** was held October 18-20 in the Wisconsin Center, in Madison with 135 attending. Jean Hapke was the chairman.

1966

A civic beautification workshop was held March 20, in Milwaukee. Eleven clubs received **Civic Development Awards** through Sears, Roebuck & Co.

The **39th Annual Convention** with the theme “Wisconsin Indian Echoes” was held at the Dell View Hotel in Lake Delton in September with 440 registrations. There were 153 clubs in the Federation.

The **Fox River Valley District was divided** into the Wisconsin Valley District and the Fox River Valley District effective following the 1967 annual meeting.

Members of the Federation voted to contribute \$2,000.00 for a fountain and surrounding plants at the Governor’s Mansion.

1967

The first series of **Landscape Design Study Courses** was completed when Course IV was held April 18-20. Wisconsin now had 17 Accredited Landscape Critics, 16 students completed this Series. The Wisconsin Landscape Critics Council was organized with 17 charter members at the 40th Annual Convention.

WGCF was host to the 38th National Convention held June 4-8 at the Pfister Hotel in Milwaukee. The package plan fee was \$65.00 (See National Council History for more information)

The **40th Annual Convention** was a one-day convention because of all of the time spent preparing and enjoying the National Convention. It was held at the Lake Lawn Lodge, Delevan September 26, with the theme “Red Sails in the

Sunset” There were 155 clubs, 3,587 members with registration of 399 to the convention.

State Life Memberships were activated. Charter memberships were to be continued until the opening of the 1968 convention. The fee was \$50.00. (See WGCF Life Member List)

A **pin for the President and Past Presidents** of the Federation was proposed with funds from the Appreciation Fund.

A committee was appointed to study the possibility of establishing the “**Memorial Fund**” for the purpose of participating in more causes of garden club interest.

Permanent **district boundaries** were established bringing the total of eight districts: Coulee, Fox River Valley, Indianhead (changed now to one word) Madison, Milwaukee, South Central, and Wisconsin Valley.

The Maple Bluff Garden Club created a fragrance garden for the blind at the State Executive Mansion in Madison winning the top civic beautification award. They received \$250.00, which was part of the \$2,000 grant from the Sears Foundation.

1968

The **41st Annual Convention** was combined with the Central Region Meeting at the Holiday Inn in La Crosse in October. The theme was “Beauty is Vision, Service, Truth”. The registration was 239. There were 157 clubs with a membership of 3,632.

It was voted that the annual reports of officers and chairmen should be published in *Wisconsin Gardens* rather than mimeographed for delegates only.

All states in the Central Region were urged to participate in the **World Gardening** program. Nicaragua was assigned as the ‘sister state for Wisconsin. From the contributions of members to the World Gardening Fund a check for \$100.00 was sent to a Catholic Mission in Nicaragua for seeds and \$91.00 for tools as part of the Partners for Alliance program. A part of the project was working with young people and their 4-H Clubs that were comparable to our 4-H clubs.

The first year for the Bright of America, fund raising project, consisting of floral notecards netted \$147.36 for the Ways and Means Fund. They were floral notes.

A Federation embossing seal was now available for certificates for the Awards Program.

The Federation was to establish a **Memorial Fund** with interest being used for projects in the state rather than constantly asking for contributions. The Blue Star Highway Project was not successful in Wisconsin due to the State Highway Commission regulations so the balance in the fund was transferred to the Memorial Fund.

The Revisions Committee recommended the elimination of the office of third-vice president with the duties relating to membership reassigned to corresponding secretary and the Conference Day planning to the first- vice president.

At the close of this meeting, there were 22 charter **Wisconsin Life Members**. (See WGCF Life Member List)

1969

The **42nd Annual Convention** was held in September at the Executive Inn in Sheboygan with the theme "Beautiful Wisconsin - Our Pride and Purpose". All of the 374 registrants enjoyed the many workshops and programs. There were 158 clubs with 3,638 members, 11 junior clubs and 2 high school garden clubs in the Federation.

The **Smokey Bear Coloring Contest** for juniors was actively supported with many entries at all ages in the National contest.

Sears Roebuck & Co. donated two thousand dollars to twenty-two clubs for outstanding civic development programs; Ripon Yard & Garden \$350, Grow 'Em and Show' Garden Club \$175 received the largest amounts.

The **Judges Council** introduced a new award for the best-written flower show schedule to be given for the first time at the 1970 annual meeting.

The **Wisconsin Life Members** organized at a breakfast meeting during this convention with the State Treasurer acting as presiding officer. Miss Grace Miller, Racine, was elected as its first chairman.

It was approved that designations for Accredited Judges and Landscape Design Critics be added to the registration badges, where appropriate, starting at the next annual meeting. A silver star would designate Wisconsin Life Members and a gold star, National Life members on registration badges.

1970

The **43rd Annual Convention** was held in Wausau with 304 registrations. There were 158 clubs, 3,638 members, 11 junior clubs and two high school garden clubs. A feature of the convention was a flower show, "Building Pathways to National Council Ideals", with flower arrangements

interpreting national and state objectives. West Salem Garden Club received the highest Sears Award of the thirty club receiving awards.

Work was started to obtain tax-exempt status 501 (c) (3) for the Federation with up to \$250.00 designated for legal expenses.

Mrs. Harvey Reese was certified as a Flower Show Instructor.

1971

The **44th Annual Convention**, "Ideas - Forward", was held September at the Hotel Pfister in Milwaukee. There were 158 clubs, and 3529 members with a registration of 420 to the convention. The New Horizons and Western Acres Garden Clubs staged a flower show, Highlight-Skylight at the Skylight Theater for the enjoyment of the convention attendees.

Mrs. McAvoy reported that in cooperation with the University of Wisconsin state nursery at Boscobel, garden club members planted over 41,000 trees.

\$500.00 was given to the proposed Nature Center at the **Ridges Sanctuary** in Baileys Harbor. The Outlook committee proposed that the Wisconsin Garden Club Federation become a life member of "The Ridges Sanctuary". The \$50.00 fee was to be used toward the purchase of land and maintenance of property.

Two full resident tuition conservation scholarships were given from funds contributed by clubs, to be subsidized by Federation funds if necessary

\$500.00 was given toward the establishment of the Wisconsin Garden Club Film and Photography Library of Landscape Design at the Steenbock Memorial Library of the College of Agriculture and Life Science at U-W Madison from the accumulated interest fund.

The **Leona Sharpe Wilmuth Garden Therapy Award** in the amount of \$25.00 was accepted.

The masthead of *Wisconsin Gardens* was changed to the present one in 1971 when Mrs. F. C. Jacobson became editor. The previous editor was Mrs. William Debelak.

1972

The bluebird count had increased because of the construction of proper houses by the garden clubs and the Audubon Society,

WGCF was declared **tax-exempt** under Section 501 (c) (3).

A new cover design was introduced for the *Wisconsin Gardens* magazine.

Two full resident scholarships were given; one to a student in Conservation at Stevens Point and one to a student in the School of Landscape Architecture U-W Madison. One \$500.00 per year scholarship was given to a student in Horticulture-Floriculture at Gateway Technical Institute in Kenosha.

One Junior High Student and a chaperone were selected from each district to attend “Trees for Tomorrow” camp to study Ecology.

The fiscal year was changed to be April 1 through March 31, with the annual meeting to be held in the spring.

Sparta Garden Club received the Sears “Civic Development Medal” for their park project.

The **45th Annual Convention**, “Montage ’72”, was held at the American Baptist Assembly grounds. “Front Page” a beautiful Standard Flower Show attracted 459 convention delegates and visitors in between the busy schedule of programs and workshops. There were 162 clubs with 3612 members.

1973

The **46th Annual Convention** was held in September at the Sheraton Inn, in Madison with the theme “Appointment with Tomorrow: There were 339 in attendance. “Changes and Challenges for Tomorrow” was Eleanor Browy’s theme during her term of office as WGCF President. There were 154 clubs with a membership of 3,348.

A Film and Photo Library of Landscape Design was created for the University of Wisconsin - Milwaukee.

\$500.00 was donated to the Todd Wehr Nature Center, Whitnall Park Botanical Garden Library. The money would establish the WGCF Library and/or Permanent Visual-aid exhibits.

WGCF donated \$250.00 to help the victims of the earthquake in Managua, Nicaragua. (A thank you letter was received in 1974 for funds received to plant coconut trees.)

Three full tuition 1 year Scholarships were given: One scholarship at the U-W, Stevens Point in Conservation; one at the U-W Madison in Landscape Architecture and one at the U-W, Green Bay College of Environmental Science. Two full one year Horticultural Aids Scholarships were given to the Milwaukee Area Technical College, West Allis Campus.

\$500.00 was allocated to landscape a unit at the **Heritage Hill** project in Green Bay in the ‘Maple Grove ‘ section of the park.

WGCF contributed \$11,055.76 to National Council’s Permanent Home Fund.

The **St. Croix District** was formed to include four clubs. The tentative boundaries to be Highway 8 on the north, Highway 27 on the east, Highway 10 on the South and the St. Croix River on the west.

\$1,000 was allocated to landscape a unit at the Ethnic museum “**Old World Wisconsin**” at Eagle.

1974

The Federation received “the Golden Rose of Sharon Award” from The American Korean Foundation for their World Gardening program.

Classroom teachers were provided with a curriculum guide, “**People and Their Environment**” (PATE) to provide education through action.

Mrs. Ervin Mueller and Mrs. Alex Stahl attended The A.C.E. (Action Committee of the Environment) seminar in Washington D.C.

Environmental Improvement Program (E.P.I) Seminar - “Food for Thought” sponsored by NCSGC was held at the Schlitz Club House in Milwaukee with over 154 attending. The EIP program was the largest adult voluntary ecology program in the United States. Sears allocated over a million and half dollars to the EIP program.

The **47th Annual Convention**, “Indianhead Colorama”, was held in September Telemark Lodge in Cable with a registration of 365. There were 3,480 members in 157 clubs.

A Ways and Means project was a stitchery kit of the WGCF emblem, which sold for \$9.95.

Operation Wildflower was first introduced as a National Council project.

For the first time, the federation sponsored a **State Flower Show School**.

1975

The **48th Annual Convention**, “The Past Is Prologue”, was held in May at Fox Hills, in Mishicot near Manitowoc, with 345 in attendance. This was the first spring convention. There were 157 clubs, 3,558 members, 13 junior clubs, 2 intermediate clubs and 3 high school garden clubs. The officers served from September 1973, to May 1975 – a shorter term—in order to start a new fiscal year for the Federation. With the shorter year, a one and one-half day convention was held. The business was conducted at the Awards Banquet.

The first **Memorial Service** for departed members was held at the close of the morning business session.

A decision was made to place \$100.00 in a Savings Account each fiscal year to be accumulated when it is Wisconsin's turn to provide a Central Region Director.

Lee Kuether was installed as president. Her theme was "This Land of Promise" The president's project for the term was to provide landscaping for selected spaces at Old World Wisconsin.

The National Environmental Improvement Program was changed to the Civic Concern Program. Several workshops were conducted throughout the state to explain the program.

The Operation Wild Flower focus was to bring native wildflowers to our highways.

World Gardening continued to work with Nicaragua, Wisconsin's sister country, to provide materials and technical assistance.

1976

The "**Liberty Tree**", a NCSGC bicentennial project, was to plant trees on public grounds. On April 23rd, Arbor Day, an 18-foot American Beech tree was planted on the north side of the State Capital in Madison. Over \$300.00 was contributed by clubs for this tree commemorating the Bicentennial Year. There were tree planting activities in many districts and individual clubs.

The Federation purchased a used mimeograph machine from Mrs. Schoenecker for \$50.00 to cut down on the expenses of printing materials. Individual Accounts were charged 1 cent per sheet and 25 cents per stencil, plus postage.

The **49th Annual Convention** was held in May at The Abbey in Fontana on Lake Geneva with 301 attending. There were 157 clubs, 3,525, members, with 15 junior clubs and 3 high school clubs. Four new clubs were accepted.

The Scholarship Fund and the Memorial Fund were combined to become the **WGCF Memorial-Scholarship Fund**. All contributions were to be put in an escrow account with only the interest being used for annual scholarships. Donations could honor living members as well as deceased members.

State Flower Show, "Post Card America" was held in August, in the Roncalli High School, Manitowoc. There was a tour and tea at the John West gardens. A profit from the two-day show of \$4,558.35 was added to the WGCF Memorial-Scholarship escrow account.

Joan Behm was editor of *Wisconsin Gardens* magazine from 1971-1977.

1977

The **50th Annual Convention** was held in May at the Midway Motor Lodge in LaCrosse with the theme "What is Beautiful is a Joy to All". Mrs. William Hedley, recently installed National President, was the honored guest and speaker at the Awards Banquet. Jeanne Patton's theme was "Sing Out Our Promise". There were 150 clubs, 3,352 members, 15 junior clubs and 3 high school garden clubs in the Federation.

The delegates approved the return to a fall convention starting in 1978.

The project at **Heritage Hills** in Green Bay was completed and open for tours.

The American Land Trust Project for juniors, "A Mile of Pennies for Partners in Preservation", proposed by National Council, was accepted as a state project. It took 16 pennies a foot, \$875.00 per mile. The goal was that each Region could complete one mile.

A **Wisconsin Life Membership** of \$50.00 paid all future WGCF and National Council dues but not District or local dues. The purpose was to promote Scholarships. Interest earned from the Life Membership account purchased scholarships. The Savings Account of the Life Members totaled \$4,633.11 at the end of 1977.

1978

Eighty-seven garden clubs contributed \$3,000 to the **Cedarburg Bog**, an American Land Trust project.

51st Annual Convention was held in April at the Holiday Inn and Holidome in Stevens Point. This convention celebrated 50 years of the Federation with a theme "My Treasures Lie Not in Jewels Rare" with 294 registrations. The membership report showed 152 clubs, 3,407 members, 14 juniors clubs, and 1 high school garden clubs.

Wisconsin welcomed two new **Nationally Accredited Flower Show School Instructors**: Mrs. George Pluemer, Appleton, in Horticulture and Mrs. Lyle Swartz, Elm Grove, in Artistic Design.

Districts were billed \$20.00 for a cover for *Wisconsin Gardens*. When Penny Frey from Superior became editor of the *Wisconsin Gardens*, the printing of the magazine was moved to that city.

Mrs. Calmer Browy wrote the 50 Year History of the Federation.

\$600.00 was sent to **CARE** in Guatemala and \$450.00 was contributed to the International Human Assistance Program (IHAP) through World Gardening.

\$10.00 was sent to National Council to become a Patron of the 50 Year History of NCSGC.

1979

There was a change of the fiscal year and a change of convention to the fall. The final deadline for the state award applications was July 1.

The first **Gardening Study Course** in Wisconsin was held March 28-29, 1979 in Madison.

Four thousand dollars was given to the Prairie restoration project at the **International Crane Foundation**. This was designated as WGCF's 50th year special anniversary gift to NCSGC.

Operation Wildflower linens became available at J.C. Penny through a program sponsored by Spring Mills and NCSGC to fund roadside beautification projects.

A **Membership-at-large** status became available to members who reside in an area where there is no federated club. Those members paid \$4.00 dues - twice as much as regular membership.

The **Kuether District Membership Award**, a traveling trophy, was accepted to be awarded to the District having the greatest percentage of increase in membership.

The **52nd Annual Convention** was held in September at the Valley Inn in Neenah with the theme, "These Things Are Ours." Leone Schneider was installed as president. There were 140 clubs, 3,103 members, and 410 registrations to the convention.

Garden clubs in the Federation were invited to support the 10-acre prairie restoration project, "I'm a Prairie Flower. How About You?", at the **International Crane Foundation**. The prairie was part of a large Ecosystem. The worldwide restoration program was to preserve the remaining species of cranes in the world and to restore and preserve their natural habitat. There was a contest to name the prairie. The winning entry was "Federation Fields" submitted by Margaret Clark. In conjunction, an environmental education center for students and the public was established.

There was discussion about starting a State Headquarter's Fund.

A 50-cent registration fee for President Conference Days was approved.

The October Environmental Education Workshop held at Wehr Nature Center in Hales Corners had the theme "Environmental Investigation of Water and Habitat".

1980

"Historic Sites along the Garden Path" was the title of the state environmental improvement project. The goal was to compile a book recording historic sites restored, preserved and maintained by Garden Clubs throughout the state.

The **53rd Annual Convention** was held in September at the Marriott Hotel in Brookfield with the theme "There is a Harvest for Every Season". There were 140 clubs, 3,133 members and 426 registrations to the convention.

The final payment of the pledge of \$4000.00 was paid to the International Crane Foundation for the prairie restoration project.

WGCF held a Triple E Conference (Energy, Environment and Education) November 15 at Mosquito Hill in New London.

Wisconsin participated in Exhibition 50 in Washington DC marking the conclusion of the 50th Anniversary Year of NCSGC by staging a magnificent interpretative design and providing a series of photos documenting a land use project. Gerda Muller organized this project.

WGCF members assisted The Nature Conservancy in acquiring 120 acres of the **Chiwaukee Prairie** located along Lake Michigan halfway between Chicago and Milwaukee as a Land Trust Project. Gen Crema, Land Trust Chairman, had a Chiwaukee Prairie slide program available at no cost to garden clubs.

Members wearing "I Got One" buttons were recognized as having participated in NGCSC new membership promotion.

1981

P.A.T. (Plant Anniversary Trees) was the tree planting project promoted by NCSGC and the U.S. Forest Service. A 75th anniversary tree was to be planted for each member of the Federation.

WGCF received a thank you from CARE for a \$225 donation.

A campaign was held to promote during National Garden Week the first week in June.

A WGCF Logo charm or tie tack was made available to members for purchase.

There were 259 entries received in the Smokey Bear - Woodsy Owl Contest this year.

It was announced that Sears Roebuck Co. would no longer sponsor the Civic Concern Awards program.

The **54th Annual Convention**, "I Am Cultivating The Seed He Is Planting", was held in September at the Concourse Hotel in Madison. Bob Thomas, a nationally know floral designer and author, provided a creative design program. There was a tour of the Executive Mansion gardens and the International Crane Foundation facilities and plantings at the Federation Fields Prairie. There were 129 clubs and 2,782 members with 333 registrations.

Doris Swartz was installed as president. Her theme was "Germinate-Cultivate-Educate."

1982

Clubs were invited to provide scholarships for youth to attend the Nature Adventure Camp at the Environmental Station located near Amherst Junction.

Indianhead and St. Croix Districts hosted the 55th Annual Convention held in October at Mt. Telemark Lodge in Cable following the Central Region Meeting. The theme was "Treasures Beyond the Freeway". There were 132 clubs, 2,814 members with 240 registrations.

Tributes were given for active garden club members and friends for the first time in addition to the Memorials given to the Memorial-Scholarship Fund which was established to honor and remember those garden club members, friends or relatives who have passed away.

1982 was designated as the Year of the Eagle to increase awareness about the Bald Eagle, the need to protect the eagle and its nesting sites. The use of DDT and other chemicals in the environment was stopped.

1983

An environmental seminar, "Eco Focus of the Eighties", was held at the new World Headquarters of the Sentry Insurance Company in Stevens Point.

The Executive Board voted to finance the Black Lake Trail identification signs as a gift to the U.S. Forest Service in celebration of their 50th Anniversary. The four-mile trail is located in the Chequamegon National Forest along Black Lake, 35 miles north of Park Falls.

The **56th Annual Convention**, "Reflections" was held in September at the Grand Executive Inn, Sheboygan. There were 130 clubs and 2,774 members with 290 registrations. Kitty Larkin was installed as WGCF President with the theme "Planning Tomorrow's Resources Today."

The president, Kitty Larkin, represented WGCF as a member of the Governor's Arbor Day Commission, which continued for six years.

WGCF was invited to appoint a member to serve on the "Trees of Tomorrow" Advisory Board for a three-year term.

Jeanne Patton of Madison passed the job of editor of *Wisconsin Gardens* to Marge Schmitt of Milwaukee.

Ethel Post informed WGCF members that there were 21 Rustic Roads in Wisconsin.

WGCF was awarded a signed limited edition print of Owen Gromme's painting, 'Flight Over Hokkaido' for their contributions to the Prairie Intern Program. Betty Pomeroy won this framed print through the purchase of "opportunities".

1984

Environmental Seminars, "Day of Discovery", were held May 4th at the Ice Age Park near Kewaskum with 27 participants, May 9th at the Interstate Park near St. Croix Falls with 72 participants and May 16th at Bay Beach, Green Bay with 44 participants.

The State Environmental Project, "Green Acres", was a cooperative venture with the U.S. Forest service to replant 100 acres of trees in the Chequamegon National Forest. Incentives for this project were "I AM A TREE PLANTER" tags and certificates from the U. S. Forest Service. Each district received a "Grandchild Tree", a blue spruce, to be used as an award to the club selling the most trees. The "Grandchild" was a seedling from the 1983 Whitehouse Christmas Tree, which was cut from the Chequamegon National Forest.

At the NCSGC Convention, Wisconsin received the Bronze Seal - Award No. 23 which was awarded to the state federation for completion of the prairie restoration at ICF and the Prairie Intern scholarship program,

To help celebrate **Arbor Day**, 117 copies of *Wisconsin's Famous and Historic Trees* by R. Bruce Allison and Elizabeth Durbin were purchased for \$3.00 each to be given to each member club for distribution to a school or library.

The **57th Annual Convention**, "Candidates on Review", was held in September at the Americana in Lake Geneva. A State Standard Flower Show, "A Day in the Life of a Candidate", featured invitational designs by WGCF's Past Presidents. There were 117 clubs, 2424 members with 286 registrations to the convention.

Six hundred dollars from **World Gardening Fund** were used for the project, "Care for the Earth".

1985

Wisconsin Garden Clubs contributed over \$1200.00 to support the "**Lady of Liberty**" campaign, an NCSGC project to raise \$100,000 to restore and preserve the Statue of Liberty-Ellis Island.

The Dandyliners accepted 176 innovative recipes for the cookbook "**Please Eat the Daisies**". 1000 were printed at a cost of \$2.00 each to be sold for \$5.00.

The EEA Flower Show, "**Floral Fly-In**", held July 30 through August 1, at the American Legion Post on the Lake in conjunction with the EEA Convention in Oshkosh, had WCGF flying high. Members were invited to "BE A PATRON" as a fundraiser for this flower show: Pilots \$25, Co-Pilots \$15, Crew \$10, Passengers \$5. "Crafts in Bloom", a bountiful ways and means display on the second floor, was to be a No. 1 fundraiser. Marge Schmitt was awarded the Ruth West Award, porcelain rose, for her creative mobile design, "Wind Tossed". This venture was not as financially fruitful as anticipated.

The National Arbor Day Foundation presented WGCF with the National Arbor Day Award for its "Green Acres", Care for the Earth, Tree Book, and the Governor's Arbor Day committee activities.

Copies of '**Dump the Slump**', membership ideas, authored by Jeanne Patton were reproduced and distributed to each garden club.

The **Convention Rotation** will be: 1985 Coulee District; 1986 Wisconsin Valley; 1987 Milwaukee; 1988 Fox River Valley; 1989 Madison; 1990 Indianhead - St Croix; 1991 Sheboygan; 1992 South Central.

WGCF purchased 125 copies of "**Garden Pilgrimage Directory**", a Central Region Project, to be given as a service to each club.

There was a contest to design a new, simplified emblem. The original emblem was detailed and difficult to reproduce. The new simplified design, including the wood violet, was designed by Elton G. Krafft of Lake Geneva.

Wisconsin Gardens Directory began listing members by their first names.

The **58th Annual Convention**, "Coulee Splendor", was held September 10-12 at the Radisson Hotel in LaCrosse. Attendees took a Mississippi River Tour aboard the La Crosse Queen. Carolyn Craig was installed as WGCF President. Her theme was "Visibility Through Action". There were 119 clubs, 2441 members, with 303 registrations to this convention.

Kitty Larkin became the co-editor of *Wisconsin Gardens*.

1986

The **Larkin Life Membership Award** was created to be given to the District having the greatest percentage of increase in Wisconsin Life Memberships.

A Mid Summer Madness Seminar was held in July at the International Crane Federation. Some of the topics included the Restoration of the Federation Fields Prairie, Endangered Plants, and the Aldo Leopold Reserve. The **Federation Fields** were dedicated with President Carolyn Craig representing the Federation.

Members were encouraged to contact their senators were encouraged to sponsor legislation to the control of purple loosestrife in wetlands.

The **59th Annual Convention**, "Nature All Around US", was held in September at the Holiday Inn in Wausau. There were 110 clubs, 2,233 members with registrations 250 to this convention.

The **Doris Swartz Award** was created to be presented to the Club having the most outstanding Design Program for the club year.

A donation of \$650 was made to Nature Conservancy for the **Chiwaukee Prairie** from the sale of the "Dwarf Lake Iris" napkins. WGCF provided an additional \$200.00 which was matched by the Wisconsin Natural Areas Match Grant Program. The prairie was dedicated in the spring of 1987 when the Purple Fringed Gentians and White Ladies' Tresses Orchids were in bloom.

1987

National Council encouraged clubs to participate in the "Plant a Living Legacy to the U. S. Constitution" as a Civic Development project. The only living things remaining alive in 1987 that were alive in 1787 when the

Constitution of the United States was signed are the trees that bridge the time between now and that historic date.

A 3-year project to assist the Olbrich Botanical Society in a major expansion was undertaken. The goal was to raise \$10,000 over a 3-year term. If each member contributed \$6.00 over three years the goal would be attained. Necklaces were available for donations of \$100.00 and \$50.00; bricks for \$25.00. This was to be our permanent home with storage, meeting facilities, and a permanent address at no charge.

Earl Meyer from the DNR proposed to work with WGCF on the 1988 **Smokey Bear Poster Contest**. WGCF's main job would be to coordinate the program and generate local prize money. The DNR would prepare news releases, duplication and mailings to schools, as well as inexpensive incentives for contestants.

A **Waste Awareness Conference** was held June 2-3 at the Trees for Tomorrow Camp, Eagle River, with Julie Schoenike and Karen Allen as chairmen. The focus was on hazardous chemicals in our homes and environment.

The **60th Annual Convention**, "Rainbows and Roses", was held in September at the Red Carpet Inn, in Milwaukee with a membership of 2226 in 111 clubs and 300 in attendance. Margaret Doornink was installed as president. Her theme was "Hoe, hoe, hoe, Just grow, grow, grow, And then some."

1988

District directors began providing 17 copies of reports to exchange with the officers and *Wisconsin Gardens* editors.

Operation Wildflower Project - Wildflowers were planted at four or five rest areas along Highway 51 in cooperation with the Wisconsin Transportation Commissioner.

A **Ground water Protection Conference** held in June was co-sponsored by Shell Oil and NCSGC at the U-W La Crosse. Ilone Underheim, as Environmental Concerns Chairman, was the seminar chairman.

A Landscape Design School series was co-sponsored by the Wisconsin Garden Club Federation and the Federation of Garden Clubs of Minnesota in Eau Claire.

The **61st Annual Convention**, "Sparkle, Spangles, and Bright Shiny Beads", was held in September at the Oshkosh Hilton Hotel. There was a groundwater program followed by a boat tour. There were 104 clubs, 2144 members, and 263 registrations.

Funds from the dissolved administrative structure of **Wisconsin Life Members** became part of the WGCF Memorial-Scholarship Fund. The membership became HONORARY only, all monies were placed in the Memorial-Scholarship Fund. All Wisconsin Life Members were to pay state dues. To honor active club members for their outstanding contributions to gardening and/or their communities Tributes were implemented.

Plans for the 1991 National Convention to be held in Milwaukee were under way under the leadership of Kitty Larkin and Colleen Weiler.

Carol Catlin, WGCF **Operation Wildflower** Chairman, worked with the Department of Transportation to promote wildflower plantings along Wisconsin highways. A presidential citation in a document frame was presented to D.O.T. maintenance people.

Ellen DeSmidt offered a pin as a personal incentive to purchase a National Life Membership for \$100.00.

WGCF cooperated with seven Wisconsin environmental centers to offer a summer residential camp program at the Central Wisconsin Environmental Station in Amherst Junction.

Two plaques were purchased to be placed in our permanent home to commemorate the Lydia Shafer recipients and the Bronze Award recipients.

1989

New **WGCF Handbooks** were distributed to WGCF Officers and Chairmen, District Directors, and each Club President to be handed on to the successors.

The "**And Then Some Award**", a VIP Award, was offered by Margaret Doornink. Each year, a district may honor one of their members for their willingness to serve, giving a little extra, and then some, to accomplish WGCF goals.

"**A Book of Memories**" was created to record Award Winners, i.e. Lydia Shafer, Bronze, Horticultural Achievement, Scholarship recipients, Wisconsin Life Members, National Life Members, WGCF Presidents and other Honorees.

It was recommended that the Lydia Shafer Trophy remain a sterling silver bowl until the price becomes prohibitive, then the trophy become a silver-plated reverse bowl.

The **62nd Annual Convention**, "Expo-Extraordinaire in Eau Claire", was held in September at the Civic Center, hosted by the Indianhead and St. Croix Districts. There was a display and contest of items created from recycled items,

“Most Practical, Most Beautiful- Most Hilarious”. Elaine Seeliger was installed as president. Her theme was “Open Your Doors - Make New Pathways, As you Communicate, Educate and Cultivate our Environmental Growth and Concerns.” There were 101 clubs, 1,944 members with 155 registrants.

A \$150.00 scholarship was awarded to a Prairie Intern at the International Crane Foundation.

A Flower Show Symposium, “Autumn Splendor”, was held in Milwaukee in November.

1990

A **Solid Waste Management Conference**, “Dealing with Our Waste - Challenges for the 90’s”, was held in Appleton in June, co-sponsored by Shell Oil Company with 190 in attendance. With the \$500.00 surplus from the conference, the book, *50 Simple Things You Can Do to Save the Earth*, was given to all of the clubs.

The **63rd Annual Convention**, “The World is Ours to Garden”, was held at the Concourse Hotel in Madison. There were 94 clubs, 1,977 members with 229 registrations.

Membership dues were increased to \$6.00 per year. Member-at-Large dues were increased to \$10.00.

A supplement to the **Handbook** to include 16 pages of tools for individual clubs and their members (i.e. samples of by-laws, simple parliamentary procedures, installation ceremonies) was distributed.

The President is to schedule an **Executive Committee Meeting** annually at Olbrich Gardens, one in Wausau, and one in the president’s home district or at her discretion.

A **five-year plan** for all schools was approved to be in the minutes and incorporated into the WGCF Handbook. Symposiums are to be scheduled by the Outlook Committee.

Ruth West donated \$10,000 to the support of WGCF. The expenditure of these monies was to be based on the goals Ruth West has always seen for WGCF.

The **Ruth and John West Educational Endowment Fund** was established with the surplus funds from the 1989 Central Region meeting held in Green Bay. The purpose of this fund is to support WGCF sponsored schools

WGCF furnished a small office at Olbrich Gardens for \$1430.00 in excess of our pledge. A phone was installed permitting a Plant Doctor to use this office.

1991

\$1000.00 was sent to NCSGC for the **Friendship Garden** at the National Arboretum in Washington D.C.. Each member was requested to donate \$1.00. Elaine Seeliger attended the dedication on April 24.

The **64th Annual Convention** “Lakeshore Splendor”, was held in September at the Holiday Inn in Manitowoc. There were 93 clubs, 2083 members with 276 registrations. Liz Murken was installed as president. Her theme was “It’s Our World to Protect, to Promote and to Publicize”. Her president’s project was increasing the monies available for scholarships.

CARE invited members of WGCF to attend a reception to honor its contributors.

The DNR encouraged WGCF to plant trees this spring and to publicize our Arbor Day Activities.

1992

An Environmental Awareness Conference, “Challenges and Choices for a Better World” held in April at MATC in Milwaukee was co-sponsored by Shell Oil and WGCF. The attendance was small at this Saturday conference.

Members were asked to contribute 25 cents per member toward a 26-foot tall gazebo, which was presented to the Franklin Park Conservatory in Columbus Ohio in observation of the Quincentennial Celebration of Columbus’ voyage of discovery in 1492. This was the NCSGC President’s project and part of “Ameriflora ‘92”. Wisconsin was one of the few states with 100% participation in this project.

The **65th Annual Convention**, “Reflections”, was held in September at the Interlaken Resort in Lake Geneva. There were 93 clubs, 2058 members with 234 registrations to the convention.

A Landscape Design Symposium, “Designing with Nature” was held in September at the Clearing, in Ellison Bay.

Liz Murken and Nancy Gotham were selected to design and create a display entitled “Discovery” for the NCSGC exhibit and attend the celebration in October at the U.S. Botanical Garden in Washington D.C.. The horticulture display was limited to one plant family. They chose graminiae or grass family.

Ivy League Garden Club proposed the designation of the entire route of STH 23 as a “Blue Star Highway”. A marker was installed in the Sheboygan Veterans

Memorial Park at the extreme east end of State Highway 23, which goes west to Darlington.

Civic Development grants of \$200.00 were given to each of the districts for community projects. Indianhead did a hardy landscape planting on the campus of UW-Superior. Madison district assisted the Arbor Hills garden club at plantings along the west Beltline Highway. Milwaukee district planted the area around a kiosk at Havenwoods Environmental Center. St. Croix worked with the Amery Garden Club to establish a wildflower garden on a 5-acre tract on Balsam Branch River. Sheboygan district used hardy landscape plants to help landscape Sheboygan's County Veterans' Memorial Park; Fox River Valley developed a bird sanctuary. Wisconsin Valley did plantings at the Wakely Inn in Wisconsin Rapids and in Stevens Point.

The number of issues of *Wisconsin Gardens* was reduced from six to four, Winter, Spring, Summer and Fall. Jeanne Patton continued to provide articles of in-depth information about a wide variety of plants. "Horticultural Hints" were provided by Margaret Doornink

1993

"The Living Earth", a pilot school, was the first **Environmental School** in the nation. Eighty-three attended this school April 1-2, at Mosquito Hill near New London. Twenty students completed this series of four schools/courses in 1994.

WGCF donated to the Disaster Relief Fund for victims of hurricanes Andrew and Iniki as requested by National Council.

A scholarship benefit luncheon and design program "Extravagante Floral" featuring Senora Gilda de Garcia from Mexico was held May 5, 1993 at the Country Inn Hotel and Conference Center in Pewaukee.

Wisconsin received \$800.00 in commissions from the sales of *Blooming Good*, an NCSGC cookbook.

The Shell Oil incentive grant program, "PETALS", Protect The Environment Through Action, Learning and Service, was initiated. There were 18 applications for Shell Oil incentive grants of \$500.00 each.

A \$100.00 donation was given to the **Center for the Development of Hardy Landscape Plants in Minnesota**. Wisconsin won Central Region's Unified Project Award for having the most effective way of teaching what the Regional Project, the Center for Development of Hardy Landscape Plants, does and can mean for your future.

The **Memorial-Scholarship Fund** was increased by \$4,200, which was President Liz Murken's special project, "Wisconsin Dollars help Fund Our Scholars".

The **66th Annual Convention**, "Coulee Panorama", was held in September at the Radisson Hotel in LaCrosse. There were 95 clubs, 2,002 members with 187 registrations.

Newly installed president, Nancy Gotham, theme was "Gardening for a Better World". The state project during her administration was the Karner Blue Butterfly/Abel Prairie at the Crex Meadows in Grantsburg. The goal was to provide a suitable habitat for the endangered Karner Blue Butterfly and other butterflies. For a donation of \$25.00, a small butterfly pin was given the donor. For a \$50.00 donation, a large butterfly pin was given and the donor's name was inscribed on a plaque at the visitor center at Crex Meadows. Over \$10,000 was received to restore the 20-acre prairie.

The battle to stop the spread of **Oak Wilt** across Wisconsin was led by Lenore Landry, WGCF Oak Wilt Chairman. November 11, 1993 at Olbrich Gardens in Madison, a formal resolution was signed by Nancy Gotham for a 1994 Urban Forestry Grant from the Wisconsin Natural Resources. WGCF was awarded an \$11,500 matching grant with donated labor and in kind donations, totaling \$17,500, for a total project cost of \$29,000. With cooperative efforts of U-W Extension, Wisconsin DNR and WGCF, educational materials were developed (slide presentation, printing handouts, displays, and a video) which were distributed to UW Extension Centers, garden clubs, and libraries across Wisconsin. Over 300 videos were distributed to WGCF District Directors, every WGCF Club president, the 90 UW Extension offices and major libraries in Wisconsin.

1994

District directors were to ask the schools to encourage youth to enter the national poetry contest.

To encourage more flower shows, Dorothy Nelle Sanders, WGCF Schedule Chairman wrote a series of "Sample Standard Flower Show Schedules" which were published in *Wisconsin Gardens*.

Dr. George Archibald, the "crane man of the century", received the Gold Seal from NCSGC for his work at the International Crane Foundation. He was responsible for providing habitat and a breeding program for the world's fifteen species of cranes, seven of which are endangered.

The **67th Annual Convention**, "Celebrate Gardening", was held in September at the Holiday Inn Holidome and Convention Center in Stevens Point. There were 93 clubs, 2045 members with 193 registrations.

The Flower Show Schedule Award, a traveling silver trophy, to be presented for the best schedule for a Standard Flower Show was adopted.

A membership promotion paid cash to the three clubs with the most new members, the district with the highest percent increase and the district forming the most new clubs.

The office of WGCF was taken over by the staff at Olbrich Gardens, in other words WGCF endowed a small office to Olbrich Gardens.

Olbrich Garden's offer to place a plaque on a bridge in a perennial garden bridge for a gift of \$1,000 for five years was approved. A plaque on the Perennial Garden Bridge would read "A Gift from the Wisconsin Garden Club Federation". The money was used to fund a student-intern program.

The Chiwaukee Prairie Preservation Fund named a new self-guided trail the Gen Crema Trail in honor of Gen Crema a charter member of Four Seasons Garden Club and WGCF Life Member.

1995

The new **Nancy Gotham Endangered Species Award #35** was approved to be given to the garden club with the most comprehensive program(s) on endangered species whether it be bird, mammal, fish, insect or plant. Program/s given may be informational background, how to preserve or conserve or how to propagate or promote continued existence of said specie(s). Monetary award to be given annually.

Marge Schmitt retired as editor of *Wisconsin Gardens* after twelve years of service.

The **68th Annual Convention**, "So the World May Eat", was held September 12-14 at the Country Inn Hotel in Waukesha. There were 84 clubs; 1,884 members; with 262 registrations. Barbara Wesley was installed as president. Margot Diekmann created and invited members to enter the BYOTB, Bring Your Own Tote Bag, contest. Her theme was "WE CARE":

- World Gardening
- Ecuador - Planting Seeds for Self Sufficiency
- Conservation
- Activities for Youth
- Reaching Out for Members
- Emphasis on Beautifying Our World

Her project was CARE related to educating women in proper planting, harvesting and the preparation of nourishing food. Pins made of recycled glass could be purchased for a \$10.00 donation to help eliminate hunger. \$2,060.00 was donated to CARE during her term.

Five WGCF member's (Mary Evanott, Carol Hafz, Doris Hughes, Mary Scopp, and Nancy Gotham) poems were published in *Wildflower Expressions* by NCSGC.

Wisconsin was honored for its 100% participation \$10.00 per club in the Wildflower Seed Court project. President Nancy Gotham attended the dedication in Austin, Texas.

Doris Swartz was one of twelve volunteers to assemble floral arrangements for a huge picnic on the South Lawn of the White House. She considered the opportunity a "Once-in-a-life-time-thrill".

1996

Ten garden clubs received PETALS incentive grants from Shell Oil for a total of \$4,350. Colleen Shore applied for and received for a state grant incentive of \$500.00 to plant trees at the governor's mansion. June A. Potter of the Tomah Parkway Garden Club, and a Board Member of the Wisconsin Executive Residence Foundation Planting chaired this project.

The **69th Annual Convention**, "Explore St. Croix Valley: We'll A'Peel to You!", was held in September at the Best Western Hudson House in Hudson. There were 86 clubs, 2,079 members with 120 registrations.

The WGCF year was changed to get in sync with NCSGC. The fiscal year of WGCF would be from June 1 through May 31. The Annual Meeting would be in the spring starting in 1997.

1997

Kitty Larkin was installed as the NCSGC 4th Vice President starting the progression to be installed as the first NCSGC President from Wisconsin in 2005.

The **70th Annual Convention**, "Times - - They Are A'Changing", was held in April at the Oshkosh Hilton in Oshkosh. There were 92 clubs, 2079 members with 176 registrations.

A **database** of the WGCF members was created to assist in keeping a current, complete list of the membership. This database is to be maintained by the membership secretary.

WGCF President Eileen Knox's theme was WE SERVE. Her president's project was to provide prairie plantings around the visitor center at the (Richard) **Bong Recreation Area** near Union Grove. Violet pins were given for each \$25.00 donation. A \$500.00 incentive grant from Shell Oil Company provided the "seed money" for this project.

The Governor's Garden Party, was held June 25, 1997. Garden club members designed floral designs and viewed the gardens. WGCF members had donated money to match funds from a previous PETALS grant to purchase a tree.

Environmental School Series II, Course I was held September 10-12 at Mosquito Hill, New London.

1998

Eleven garden clubs applied for and received \$2900 incentive grant money from Shell Oil Company.

The **71st Annual Convention**, "Gardening Through the Years", was held in April at the Radisson Inn in Madison. There were 73 clubs, 1647 members, with 206 registrations.

In recognition of Irene Straus, the Olbrich Garden Club donated \$18,000 to be invested in a special fund for scholarships.

"Gently used"/"Tiffany and Targe" jewelry was collected and sold by Barbara Wesley to fund the expenses for the 2005 NCSGC Convention in Milwaukee when Kitty Larkin will be installed as Wisconsin's first National Garden Club President. Reba Esslinger donated a beautiful quilt, which yielded over \$5,520.00 toward the expenses of the 2005 Convention.

The J.F. Magee School, an Environmental School for eight years in Sheboygan provided opportunities for students to make endangered species from recyclable materials for a Science Fair display during Earth Week. They had a Junior Garden Club of forty members sponsored by the Cool City Garden Club.

1999

The **72nd Annual Convention**, "Northern Exposure" was held in April at Barker's Island Inn in Superior. There were 73 clubs, 1,689 members with 173 registrations to the convention. Deen Day Smith, President-Elect of NCSGC and Honored Guest, presented a extraordinary design program on table designs.

Because of the increasing cost of the silver bowl for the Lydia Shafer Award, it was recommended that future recipients receive a Waterford crystal bowl.

WGCF was awarded \$1000.00 for the state PETALS projects based on the book of evidence prepared by Judy Newman at the National Convention in Atlanta.

The ElmBrook Garden Club received the \$1000.00 Exxon Civic Achievement Award for their Wet Mesic Prairie Restoration Project at the

Elmbook Nature Center in Brookfield. Sturgeon Bay Home and Garden Club received \$500.00 for their Heritage Garden project.

District boundaries were to be along county lines.

Coulee: Crawford, Richland, Sauk, Adams, Vernon, Juneau, Monroe, Jackson, Trempealeau, Buffalo, and LaCrosse.

Fox River Valley: Florence, Forest, Langlade, Marinette, Menomonie, Oconto, Shawano, Waupaca, Outagamie, Brown, Waushara, Winnebago, Green Lake, Marquette, and Fond du Lac.

Indianhead: Douglas, Bayfield, Ashland, Burnett, Washburn, Sawyer, Barron, and Rusk.

Madison: Rock, Green, Lafayette, Grant, Iowa, Columbia, and Dane

Milwaukee: Kenosha, Racine, Walworth, Jefferson, Waukesha, Milwaukee, Dodge, and Ozaukee.

St. Croix: Polk, St. Croix, Pierce, Pepin, Dunn, Eau Claire and Chippewa.

Sheboygan: Sheboygan, Calumet, Manitowoc, Kewaunee and Door.

Wisconsin River Valley: Iron, Vilas, Oneida, Price, Taylor, Lincoln, Marathon, Clark, Wood and Portage.

A Scholarship Investment Committee was created to be responsible for all scholarship monies and the maintenance of all scholarship accounts.

Julie Schoenike, newly installed president, chose as her project establishing an **Oak Savanna** at the Appleton Memorial Park Arboretum and Gardens in Appleton. Wooden oak leaf pins were available for a \$25.00 donation.

Treasurer's books were placed in a computerized system permitting more accurate tracking of income and expenses.

Seven garden clubs received \$2,250.00 in PETALS incentive grants plus a \$500.00 grant for the Oak Savanna Project, WGCF's president's project.

2000

The **73rd Annual Convention**, "Tulips Two Thousand" was held in April at the Holiday Inn in Manitowoc. One of the highlights of this convention was the Standard Flower Show, "Millennium 2000", staged in the hotel's atrium. There were 71 clubs, 1672 members with 246 registrations.

Sheboygan District sold tulip bulbs especially named "Tulip 2000" by Breck Bulb Company to help promote the convention. It was a pink tulip with a white edge.

Dr. Edward R. Hasselkus, curator at the Longenecker Gardens, educator at the University of Wisconsin - Madison and crab apple specialist, was awarded NCSGC Award of Excellence at the WGCF Convention in Sheboygan. He was a WGCF scholarship recipient in 1948. He was an instructor at Landscape Study and Garden Study Schools. In 1997, he was presented the WGCF Bronze Award.

Mary Zittel, Sheboygan District, created a design for Barbara May's book "*Designs Made Easy*" which was published by NCSGC.

2001

The **74th Convention**, "Coulee Kaleidoscope", was held in April at the Radisson Hotel in LaCrosse. Some of the highlights were a photo contest and floral designs by members of the WGCF Judges Council featuring artwork of artists from the LaCrosse Artists Guild. There were 71 clubs, 1668 members, with 160 registrations .

Carol Catlin was installed as WGCF President by Lois Schuster, NGC President-Elect. Carol chose "Our Gardener's Grow: Beauty, Knowledge, and Civic Pride" as her theme. Her president's project was the continuation of the Oak Savanna Project. She obtained a grant to publish *My Favorite Flower*. Garden club members across the state were invited to write about their favorite flower to be included in the book.

The monies in the Memorial-Scholarship Fund were granted to the Community Foundation in the Fox River Valley with 5% of the interest from the principal to be used annually for scholarships.

Northwest Judges Council prepared designs to be included in "*Seasonal Happenings*" a book published by NCSGC.

Carol Catlin created a web site for WGCF.

Kitty Larkin completed fifteen years as editor/co-editor of *Wisconsin Gardens*. She was the editor for fifteen years winning several publication National Awards for WGCF. .

2002

The **75th Annual Convention**, "Our 75th Anniversary, A Sparkling Celebration" was held in April at the Ramada Inn and Conference Center in Wausau.

BRIEF HISTORY OF NATIONAL COUNCIL, NATIONAL COUNCIL MEETINGS & CONVENTION HELD IN WISCONSIN

The National Council of State Garden Club Federations (NCSGCF) organizational meeting was held May 1, 1929. . Thirteen of the nineteen state Federations attended, and reports of the other six had been received. The charter members of the National Council were: Iowa, Connecticut, Florida, Illinois, Maryland, Massachusetts, New Jersey, New York, Ohio, Oregon, Tennessee, Texas, and **Wisconsin**.

By the end of 1929, there were 24 state Federations, adding North Carolina, Virginia, Kansas, National Capital Federation, Georgia, Mississippi, West Virginia, Pennsylvania, Rhode Island, Oklahoma, and South Carolina. The above state federations were listed as charter members, representing approximately 850 garden clubs.

From 1929 to 1935, all work of National Council was carried on from the home of officers and chairmen. In 1935, headquarters were established at the Rockefeller Center in New York.

The **National Council Life Members** Program was started in 1929 with only five members at the end of the first year.

The **columbine** was selected at the official flower of NCSGC in 1939

At the National Convention in 1935 the **name of the national organization** was changed to The National Council of State Garden Clubs. There were 33 state federations.

October 12-13, 1939, the National Council of State Garden Clubs held its Fall Conference at the Hotel Pfister in Milwaukee. Mrs. Frederick A. Wallis of Paris, Kentucky, was national president. Mrs. E. Clair of Wauwatosa was Wisconsin state president. The District Chairmen were: Mrs. H. S. Bostock, Madison; Miss Merle Rasmussen, Fox River Valley; Mrs. Roy Sewell, Milwaukee; Mr. Henry Winn, Sheboygan; and Mrs. E. Sorenson, South Central District.

A flower show held on the Mezzanine of the hotel during the three days won a purple ribbon "for Flower Show Achievement" from National Council. The meeting closed with a tour of gardens along Lake Drive followed by a tea at Milwaukee Downer College.

The first National Garden Week was held April 1945 to coincide with the birth date of J. Sterling Morton who pioneered Arbor Day in 1872 in Nebraska.

The Blue Star Memorial Highway program was adopted in 1945-1947/

In 1947-1949 World Gardening was started as a part of the Seeds for Peace program aiding European countries of the Marshall Plan with tools and seeds.

Up to April 15, 1949, there were 300 National Council Life Members. From Wisconsin were Miss Lillie Kohler, who joined in 1939; Miss Merle Rasmussen who joined in 1943; Mrs. Gilbert Shell and Mrs. Clarence Schultz who join in 1945.

Groundbreaking ceremonies for National Council Headquarters were held on May 12, 1957, in the Missouri Botanical Gardens in St. Louis, on the six and two-tenths acres of ground with Mrs. John S. Lehman of St. Louis presiding.

National Council was incorporated under the laws of the State of Missouri as a not-for-profit organization and a charter was adopted in 1958.

The Landscape Design Committee was established in 1952 as part of the Flower Show Schools program. In 1958 National Council made it a separate committee with Prof. Hubert B. Owens of Georgia as Chairman as Landscape Study Schools were established.

Headquarters for National Council was moved from New York City to the new building in St. Louis on December 1, 1958.

Mrs. William Hedley was the National Convention Chairman for the first national convention at Headquarters on May 10-14, 1959, with Mrs. Orval Sutter as chairman of the meeting.

The new Headquarters in the Missouri Botanical Gardens was dedicated May 10, 1959, with a tea and elaborate ceremonies. The Wisconsin Federation received a "Citation in grateful appreciation of their 100% participation in the building of a National Garden club Headquarters." Only 24 state federations were so honored.

Some of the gifts given to National Headquarters from Wisconsin are: Crystal ashtray for South Foyer Corridor by the Federation, Desk for office of secretary by Milwaukee District Garden Clubs. Other donations to National Headquarters included a brass planter for office of secretary by Milwaukee Art Center and an alabaster ashtray for Kellogg Hall. The lilac plantings on the grounds were done by the Central Region.

The first **National Council Calendar** was printed in 1960. The Smokey Bear coloring contest was initiated.

The Life and Master Judges Certificates were organized and developed by the National Flower Show Schools Committee in 1960. Advanced Refresher Courses first were introduced.

June 4-8, 1967, WGCF hosted the 38th National Convention "Forward, Serve and Conserve" at the Pfister Hotel in Milwaukee. The package plan fee was \$65.00. Everyone received a gold plated ginko leaf pin provided by George Watts. There was a trip to "West of the Lake" with a luncheon in Manitowoc for the Executive Committee. There were tours of the Milwaukee Public Museum, Boerner Botanical Gardens, Mitchell Park Domes, a Table Show at George Watts Fine China Shop and more. A flowering crabapple tree was planted in honor of our National President at Boerner Botanical Gardens, donated by Milwaukee District Garden Clubs.

In 1969-1979 Shell Oil helped sponsor at least 12 conferences on environmental issues.

In 1969-1971 Sears, Roebuck & Co. donated \$100,000 for environmental programs, which required community involvement and cooperation.

PATE (People and Their Environment) put 50,000 books in classrooms as gifts to teach youth about conservation in 1971-1973

Garden Study Courses were adopted in 1977.

WGCF members attended the Environmental Conference on Clean Air and Acid Rain in Maryland in 1981.

Between 1985 through 1987 WGCF members gave to the Liberty-Ellis Island Fund, a project sponsored by NCSGC.

WGCF hosted the National Convention, "**The World Thorough Our Gate**", April 28 through May 2, in 1991 at the Hyatt Regency in Milwaukee. A tree was planted in conjunction with a tour of Boerner Botanical Gardens in honor of our National President, donated by Milwaukee District. The convention design program given by Doris Swartz and Elaine Jo was taped for club programs as part of WGCF President Elaine Seeliger's project.

The groundbreaking ceremony at National Council Headquarters expansion was held. The WGCF Logo was woven into the floor tapestry for visitors at our permanent home in 1997.

Beginning in 1997, the National Presidents' project for two terms was to create a **butterfly garden** at the U.S. Butterfly Botanical Garden located near the U.S. Capital in Washington D.C. The butterfly garden included plants that would attract butterflies, a bronze sundial and benches featuring butterflies and roses. Four special butterfly ornaments were sold for \$15.00 each to help fund this project as well as other items.

Julie Schoenike, Liz Murken, Muriel Shervey and Kitty Larkin represented Wisconsin at the National Garden Party Symposium in Washington D.C. held at the National Botanical Garden site of the future Butterfly Garden in 1999.

“**Time in Bloom**”, national flower show held in May 2000 in San Diego preceding the National Convention. Liz Murken, Ilone Underhiem entered the design classes, Colleen Weiler entered a Creative Craft class, Bev Kohl, Peg Buck, Julie Schoenike, and Judy Newman entered horticulture. Bev won the Arboreal Award, the highest award received by a WGCF member.

In 2001, NCSGC’s new name, National Garden Clubs. Inc. (NGC), was adopted at the National Convention in Chicago.

National Council Conventions hosted by Wisconsin

June 4-8, 1967 Pfister Hotel, Milwaukee
{Forward, Serve, and Conserve}
April 28 - May 2 ‘91 Hyatt Regency, Milwaukee
{The World Thorough Our Gate}
May 2005 Four Points Sheraton, Milwaukee

NORTH CENTRAL REGION

The national organization divided the country into regions early in 1932. Wisconsin was in the North Central Region with Illinois, Iowa, and Kentucky. (Michigan joined late in 1932, Indiana in 1933, Missouri in 1939. Minnesota was not organized yet.)

The **first regional meeting** was held October 3, 1932 in Des Moines, Iowa, with President Hoover as the main speaker. The program included establishing garden centers, schools for flower judging and the sponsoring of flower shows – all projects of National Council.

Mrs. Joseph H. Brewer, Michigan, was elected the first Regional Director. Later she became a National President.

The **second regional meeting** was in Hinsdale, Illinois in 1933.

The **third annual meeting** of the Region was held September 28, 1934, in Lexington, Kentucky. Mrs. Harry E. Bullard, Menasha, was Regional President and announced her theme for her administration, as "Friendship Is the Loveliest Flower in the Garden." (The first time any theme was noted).

The **fourth annual regional conference** was held in Lake Geneva in September 1935. Mrs. Charles A. Jahr, state president, was in general charge of events. In the three days, tours were made to Draper Hall in Oconomowoc, gardens in Fox Point, River Hills and on North Lake Drive in Milwaukee, to several estates in the Lake Geneva area, thru the Wychwood Arboretum and bird sanctuary and to the Yerkes Observatory in Williams Bay.

The six states in the Region each had fifteen delegates present, Wisconsin, Michigan, Illinois, Iowa, Indiana and Missouri. The first vice-president of National Council from Kentucky attended. Kentucky had just left the Region, so was not represented as a state.

The **fifth regional conference** was held at Ames, Iowa, November 16-18, 1937, with Jens Jensen as the main speaker, who emphasized the planting of native shrubs and flowers, A Garden Short Course as sponsored by the Iowa State College was presented.

"The Gardeners' Luncheon was arranged so that each of the twelve tables, seating from 10 to 30 persons, was provided with a topic leader and hostess. The topics included Fruit Gardening, Orchard Management, Shade Tree Conference Wild Life Conference, Exhibiting and Judging, For Rock Garden Lovers' Garden Photography, the Rose Clinic Garden Peeves and Grouches, Lawns, Maintenance and Weeding, Garden Birds, Flower Arrangements, and Flower Painting.

At this meeting the National Council President, Mrs. O. W. Hynes from Hillsdale, Illinois talked on 'Management of Large and Small Shows', emphasizing the planning time, publicity and staging planning. There were 40

states in National Council with 130,000 members, including Bermuda and British Columbia.

In March 1939, the **Regional Meeting** was held in Chicago in conjunction with the Chicago Flower Show where the state president was one of the judges. The Wisconsin Federation gave \$25.00 to Illinois to the Abraham Lincoln Memorial Garden at Springfield.

The North Central Regional Meeting was held in October in conjunction with the Fall National Council Meeting in French Lick, Indiana. As part of the program each state was asked to do an exhibit. Wisconsin's exhibit was done by Miss Merle Rasmussen, Oshkosh emphasizing horticulture, "It was declared the finest" at the Regional Meeting.

At the 9th Annual Meeting of the Central Region at Dearborn, Michigan, September 23-24, 1941, a report said there were 700 garden clubs and 20,000 members in the six states of the Region.

In May 1959, the Board of National Council created a special project, "World Gardening." At present all states are involved in the program.

Mrs. George Swearingen was elected Regional Director for 1959-61. During her term the regional project was a drive to increase subscriptions to *THE NATIONAL GARDENER*, with the addition of 1,977 new subscriptions. The theme of her two-year term was "Central Region, Keystone of National Council." (St. Louis in Missouri is part of Central Region.)

In a meeting September 28-29, 1959, in Des Moines, Iowa, all states were asked to send \$25.00 each to set up a floating fund for the Region. Minnesota having joined in late 1957, there were now seven states. Each state furnished a flower arrangement for the program. Wisconsin was responsible for a large vertical one.

The **World Gardening Program** was introduced as being a Regional project in 1963. Each state was to contribute toward a scholarship for a student from the East to study at one of our agricultural schools.

The 43rd Annual Central Region Meeting was held at the Sheraton Mayfair Motor Inn, Milwaukee in September, 1975. The total attendance was 231, of which 158 were from Wisconsin. The theme was "Wisconsin Naturally - With Horizons Old and New." Mrs. Vernon S. Conner, National President, came from Florida to be the honored guest. The banquet program "12 Originals" included flower arrangements by members of Wisconsin Judges Council.

A celebration of Central Region's 50th Anniversary was held at the Telemark Lodge, in Cable October 10-12, 1982. Highlights of the convention included a program presented by Colleen J Weiler "Collecting and Creating". Her program

included tips and techniques on how to create unusual arrangements with natural materials - using dried flowers, weed pods, grasses, nuts and berries. Colleen created arrangements for a book, *Pods, Wildflowers and Weeds in their Final Beauty*.

A display of exhibition tables "Setting Your Table With Flair" delighted the eye. Workshops entitled "Nature's Gifts Thru the Eyes of An Artist" were entertaining and informative: From the Earth to the Woven Fabric was presented by Mrs. Thorval Toft, Mrs. Frank Jacobson demonstrated African and Japanese indigo dye works, and Mrs. Richard Scheller shared Flower and Ink Artistry. A soils demonstration, "A Worm's Eye View" by Myrtle Ogilvie completed the workshops.

Central Region's Unified Project was the International Crane Foundation, the World Center for the Study and Preservation of Cranes near Baraboo in 1982. WGCF members were asked to contribute to Federation Fields Prairie and the Student Scholarship Fund. At the Central Region Meeting in Cable, George Archibald, Ph.D. of the International Crane Foundation told about "The Egg Lift from the Top of the World" - an account of the transfer of 12 hatching eggs of the Black-necked Crane from Tibet to Baraboo. Ginny the Crane and Konrad Liegel enriched Dr. Archibald's program. Support of the Central Region Project, the Prairie Intern Scholarship Fund, was phenomenal. The loss of Tex and the other rare cranes at the ICF was tragic but the Prairie Intern program continued. "Love a Scholar - Send a Dollar" was the theme of the new scholarship program to support the WGCF scholarship fund and the prairie intern at the ICF.

Kitty Larkin was installed as Central Region Director in 1987. The Rainbow Connection" was her theme. The first *Central Region Newsletter* was sent to the Central Region Representatives and State Chairmen.

As a participant in the Central Region project, it was approved that WGCF donate \$150 for the renovation and perpetual care of the Wisconsin Bench at Lincoln Memorial Garden in Springfield, Illinois.

The Central Region logo was created in 1987.

WGCF hosted the Central Region Meeting held in Green Bay in 1989. A non-competitive art show, "The Beauty of Being Creative" added to the event.

Central Region Director, Bev Kelter's theme was "Gardening, Growth and the Future" in 1993. Her project was "Tree"mendous Releaf or to encourage every garden club member to plant trees. Kitty Larkin was the chairman of a contest with monetary awards for the most comprehensive program in the awareness, promotion, planting and preservation of trees.

WGCF hosted the 64th Central Region Meeting, “Together We Can” in October at the Grand Geneva Resort and Spa in October of 1996. Everyone enjoyed a Standard Flower Show, “Always Creating Beauty”.

During Veva Schreiber’s term, the Unified Project theme was “Walk Down New Paths”. Clubs and members were encouraged to apply for a series of new awards: “Pathways into Our Gardens”, “Pathways to Publicity”, “Pathways to Youth”, etc. Central Region PETALS Project was “Plant a Smile” between 1999-2001.

The Menomonee Falls Garden Club represented WGCF with the landscaping of garden for the viewing and pleasure of the residents of Linden Grove Nursing Home.

At the 68th Central Region Meeting in Bloomington MN, the Painted Lady was adopted as the Central Region butterfly. The Purple Coneflower was adopted as Central Region’s wildflower. The Central Region flag was revealed during the annual meeting. It has the emblem of Central Region, four painted lady butterflies with scattered stems of purple coneflower. A gold fringe trimmed the edges. Wisconsin had many entries in the “Discover the Magic”, an artistic craft and fine arts show. Carol Larson received an award for her framed ‘floral memories’ of pressed flowers.

In 2000, **Central Region Life Memberships** were available for \$50.00. Seventeen WGCF members became Charter members receiving a Central Region Life Member Pin.

Barbara Wesley was installed at Central Regional Director at the National Convention at the Chicago Hilton, May 5, 2001. Barbara’s theme was “Diversity- Celebrate its Treasures”. Nancy Gotham was designated the Alternate. Clubs were encouraged to participate and report on all Habitat for Humanity projects, Barbara’s Central Region Unified project.

The Chickadee was adopted at the Central Region bird at the Convention in Cedar Rapids, Iowa in 2001.

CENTRAL REGION DIRECTORS FROM WISCONSIN

1959-61 Mrs. George Swearingen *

Theme: “Central Region, Keystone of National Council.”
(St. Louis in Missouri is part of Central Region.)

1973-75 Mrs. H. B. Reese (Irene)
{Beauty is Our Business}

1987-1989 Kitty Larkin, Menomonee Falls
{The Rainbow Connection}

2001- 2003 Barbara Wesley, West Allis
{Diversity- Celebrate its Treasures}
[Habitat for Humanity]

LYDIA SCHAFFER AWARD

This is the highest award any garden club member can receive and is known as the Lydia Schaffer Award. This award is to:

- Perpetuate the memory of a beloved president of WGCF.
- Encourage, stimulate, and foster all facets of garden club work.
- Give recognition to individuals who typify the special characteristics of courage, loyalty, devotion, leadership and giving of themselves exemplified in the life of Lydia Schaffer.
- Honor outstanding achievement in advancement of the aims and goals of WGCF.

Following is a list of the hardworking, devoted garden club members who have received WGCF's highest award.

- 1964 Mrs. John West (Ruth), Sheboygan District*
- 1965 Mrs. Olive Longland, South Central District*
- 1966 Mrs. Harvey Reece, (Irene), Fox River Valley District
- 1967 Mrs. Harry Bostock, (Elise), Madison District*
- 1968 Mrs. J. Martin Johnson, (Muriel), Fox River Valley District
- 1969 Mrs. Charles Schultz (Jennie), Sheboygan District*
- 1970 Mrs. Alex Stahl (Florence), Milwaukee District*
- 1971 Mrs. Ervin Kulow (Gladys), Milwaukee District*
- 1972 Mrs. Percy Newman (Mildred), Fox River Valley District*
- 1973 Mrs. Mrs. Clarence Hapke, (Jean), Milwaukee District*
- 1974 Mrs. David Buchta, (Edna), Milwaukee District*
- 1975 Mrs. Ervin Mueller, (Gerda), Milwaukee District*
- 1976 Mrs. Fred Schoenecker, (Georgia), Milwaukee District
- 1977 Mrs. Lyle Swartz, (Doris), Milwaukee District
- 1978 Mrs. Fred Cobb (Amanda), Fox River Valley District*
- 1979 Mrs. Rena Stuhr, Coulee District*
- 1980 Mrs. Ray McCann, (Annette), Milwaukee District*
- 1981 Mrs. John Thompson, (Olive), Madison District
- 1982 Mrs. Merton Van Buskirk, Indianhead District
- 1983 Mrs. Roy Straus, (Irene) Madison District*
- 1984 Mrs. Thorval Toft, (Ruby) Sheboygan
- 1985 Mrs. Myrtle Ogilvie, Fox River Valley District
- 1986 Dorothy Nelle Sanders, Milwaukee District
- 1987 Kitty Larkin, Milwaukee District
- 1988 Marie Pluemer, Fox River Valley District
- 1989 Marjorie Schmitt, Milwaukee District*
- 1990 Peg McAvoy, South Central District
- 1991 Jeanne Patton, Madison District
- 1992 Ruth Smith, Milwaukee District
- 1993 Julie Schoenike, Sheboygan District
- 1994 Carolyn Craig, St. Croix District
- 1995 Lois Ballard, South Central District

- 1996 Elaine Seeliger, Fox River Valley District
- 1997 Margaret Doornink, St. Croix District
- 1998 Pat Dvorak, Milwaukee District*
- 1999 Mary Elizabeth (Liz) Murken, Fox River Valley District
- 2000 Nancy Gotham, Indianhead District
- 2001 Barbara Wesley, Milwaukee District
- 2002 Colleen Weiler, Milwaukee District
- 2003 Merle Klug, Indianhead District
- 2004 Julie Schoenike, Sheboygan District
- 2005 Carol Larson, Indianhead District
- 2006 Delores Rhyme, Coulee District
- 2007 Judy Newman, Milwaukee District
- 2008 Carol Catlin, Fox River Valley District
*deceased

BRONZE AWARD RECIPIENTS

The state established a Bronze Medal Award to be given a non-member for outstanding work in Conservation or Horticulture at the 23rd Annual Convention held October 5-6, 1950.

- 1955 Mrs. Mary Nye Hayes, Superior
- 1956 Alvin Peterson, Onalaska
- 1957 Wakelin McNeel (Ranger Mac), Madison
- 1958 Edward Sanders, Racine
- 1959 Mrs. F. L. Larkin, Milwaukee
- 1960 Paul Olson, Madison (Educator)
- 1961 Herbert Vander Bloemen, Manitowoc
- 1962 Guido Rahr, Manitowoc
- 1963 Dr. T.O. Goeres, Lodi
- 1964 Miss Emma Toff, Sturgeon Bay
- 1965 Jacob R. Jacobson, Chetek
- 1966 John F. Zoerb, La Crosse
- 1967 John E. Voight, Milwaukee
- 1968 (None Awarded)
- 1969 James Zimmerman, Madison
- 1970 Father Michael Dineen, Waukesha
- 1971 Roy Lukes, Sturgeon Bay (Ridges Sanctuary & Newspaper columnist)
- 1972 N. N. Rowe, West Salem (Work with the youth at the Outdoor Educational Center)
- 1973 Andrew Osterheim, Superior (Naturalist, education & photography)
- 1974 Lois Rasmussen Nestel, (Cable Conservation education)
- 1975 Lee Hanson, Milwaukee (Milwaukee County Horticulture Agent)
- 1976 Bernard Brouchoud, Sheboygan
- 1977 Mr. & Mrs. Lawrence Maurin, West Bend
- 1978 Mr. & Mrs. John Kysilko, Jim Falls near Cadott
- 1979 Cora Stencil Vanderperren, Green Bay
- 1980 Mr. Alan Pape, Milwaukee (Old World Wisconsin)
- 1981 Mr. Wilfred Gesch, Sr., Cedar Grove (Environmental educational program for the Sheboygan School District)
- 1982 Mr. Elmer Swenson, Osceola,
- 1983 Mr. Jack Brumer, Sheboygan, (Wildlife Refuge near Plymouth)
- 1984 Phillip Fogel, Lake Geneva
- 1985 Jeanne G. Smith, Coulee (Kickapoo Area Naturalist)
- 1986 Mary Klug, South Central (Old World Wisconsin)
- 1987 Stanley Hill, Madison (Director of Olbrich Gardens)
- 1988 James W. Walczak, Milwaukee (MATC Instructor)
- 1989 Paul Hartman, Fox River Valley (Green Bay, Brown County Horticulture Agent)
- 1990 Dr. Allen Young, Milwaukee (International Crane Foundation)

- 1991 Floyd Johnson, Milwaukee, (Rosarian)
- 1992 Nancy Ragland, Madison, (Olbrich Gardens Director)
- 1993 Philip Rutter, Coulee
- 1994 Dr. Richard Wilke, Wisconsin Valley (Environmental School)
- 1995 Mary E. Koutsky, South Central
- 1996 Dr. Terry Ferris, St. Croix, (U-W River Falls, Assisstant Dean of College of Agriculture)
- 1997 James S. Anderson, Fox River Valley (Director of Mosquito Hill, New London)
- 1998 Dr. Edward R Hasselkus, Madison (Professor U-W Madison)
- 1999 Michael H. Heim, Hayward
- 2000 Emily Hickey, (Sheboygan) Baileys Harbor (Her unusual gardens)
- 2001 Robert E. Lee, Coulee District
- 2002
- 2003

**WGCF CREATIVE HORTICULTURAL ACHIEVEMENT
AWARD**

Presented to a member who has made an outstanding contribution to horticulture through: A literary production, book, brochure, creative horticulture, such as, developing a new plant variety or creating an outstandingly beautiful garden and sharing it with others

- 1980 Mrs. Wm. Sachtjen, (Marilyn) Waunakee, (Book on herbs)
- 1981 Mrs. Melvin Bausch, (Lynn) Mequon (Hybridization of irises)
- 1982 Mrs. Peter Wisniewski (Rita) Milwaukee(Roses)
- 1983 Joe and Florence Hackel, Fox River Valley
- 1984 (None Given)
- 1985 (None Given)
- 1986 Janet Lahl, Milwaukee (Herbs)
- 1987 Colleen Weiler, Milwaukee(Designing with dried plant materials in *PODS*)
- 1988 Dory Kimball, Fox River Valley (Creating & sharing her prairie and herb garden)
- 1989 Marianne (Polly) Rabion, Milwaukee (Creating a garden for the handicapped)
- 1990 Jill Price, Milwaukee (Perennial Gardens)
- 1991 Nancy Gotham, Indianhead (Perennial Gardens)
- 1992 Margaret Doornink, St. Croix (Newspaper Articles)
- 1993 (None Given)
- 1994 Diane Holzchuh, Milwaukee
- 1995 Joan Shriver, Milwaukee (Trees)
- 1996 (None Given)
- 1997 Betty Zimmerman, Wisconsin Valley
- 1998 Carol Larson, Indianhead
- 1999 Judy Newman, Milwaukee (Work at the Elmbrook Nature Center)
- 2000 Jean Buchanan (Her garden and work with civic groups and projects, 4-H)
- 2001 Arlita Parsons (She created handicapped accessible gardens along a 500 foot path on the Shores of Lake Superior)
- *deceased
- 2002

PAST PRESIDENTS OF WGCF
({ President's Theme}, [President's Project]

* deceased

- 1928-30 Mrs. R.H. Malisch, Hales Corners*
- 1930-32 Mrs. William Bowers, Milwaukee*
- 1932-34 Mrs. James Livingston, Milwaukee*
- 1934-35 Mrs. Charles Jahr, Elkhorn*
- 1935-36 Mrs. E.R. Durgin, Racine*
- 1936-37 Mrs. Chester Thomas, Milwaukee*
- 1937-38 Mrs. J. Martin Johnson, Ripon
- 1938-39 Mrs. E.A. St. Clair, Wauwatosa*
- 1939-40 Mrs. Charles Schuele, Oconomowoc*
- 1940-41 Mrs. Charles Braman, Waupaca
- 1941-42 Mrs. Frank Quimby (Wilda), Whitewater*
- 1942-43 Mrs. H.S. Bostock (Elise), Madison*
- 1943-44 Mrs. Ray Sewell, Milwaukee*
- 1944-45 Mrs. Walter Dakin, Madison*
- 1945-46 Rev. Alfred Otto, West Bend*
- 1946-47 Mrs. John West, (Ruth), Manitowoc*
- 1947-48 Mrs. F.J. Fitzgerald, Menasha*
- 1948-50 Mrs. Clarence Fiebrantz (Gretchen), Milwaukee
{Enjoy Your Garden Club}
- 1950-51 Mrs. Ervin Kulow (Gladys), Waukesha*
- 1951-52 Mrs. Linus T. Roehm, West Salem*
{Economy and Promptness -- Be prompt on everything.
Be economical, too}
- 1952-53 Mrs. A.C. Garnett, Madison*
{Unity and Co-operation}
- 1953-55 Mrs. D.F. Stilling (Josephine), Oconomowoc*
- 1955-57 Mrs. George Swearingen (Irma), West Bend*
{How Good It Is To Give}
- 1957-59 Mrs. H.H. Christensen (Pearl), Racine*
{Civic Beautification Thru Garden Club Participation}
- 1959-61 Mrs. Malcom Jodell (Agnes), Superior*
{Better Programs, Better Gardens and Better People}
{A playground and fencing at Central Colony}
- 1961-63 Mrs. A.J. Schafer (Lydia), Madison*
{Know Your Members}
- 1963-65 Mrs. Harvey Reece (Irene), DePere*
{Dimensions in Living}
- 1965-67 Mrs. Alex D. Stahl (Florence), Milwaukee*
{Let Your Light Shine}
- 1967-69 Mrs. Cathryn Turner, La Crosse*
- 1969-71 Mrs. Percy Newman, (Mildred), Sturgeon Bay*
{Pursue with Projections'}

- 1971-73 Mrs. Fred Schoenecker, (Gerogia), Sussex
{Ideas - Forward into Action}
- 1973-75 Mrs. Calmer Browy, (Eleanor), Madison*
{Changes and Challenges for Tomorrow's Needs}
- 1975-77 Mrs. Wesley D. Kuether, (Lee), Manitowoc
{This Land of Promise}
[Old World Wisconsin?]
- 1977-79 Mrs. Robert Patton, (Jeanne), Madison
{Sing Out Our Purpose and Promise}
[Prairie at the International Crane Foundation?]
- 1979-81 Mrs. Ralph Schneider, (Leone), Appleton*
{Basic Beauty and Energy}
[Membership]
- 1981-83 Mrs. Lyle Swartz, (Doris) Elm Grove
{Germinate - Cultivate - Educate}
[International Crane Foundation, Baraboo]
- 1983-85 Mrs. Robert Larkin, (Kitty) Sussex
{ Planning Tomorrow's Resources Today}
[“Green Acres” Replanting 100 acres of trees in the
Chequamegon National Forest]”
- 1985-87 Mrs. James Craig, (Carolyn), New Richmond
{Visibility Through Action}
- 1987-89 Mrs. Margaret Doornink, Baldwin
{Hoe, hoe, hoe, Just grow, grow, grow, And then some!}
- 1989-91 Mrs. Walter Seeliger, (Elaine), Markesan
{Open Your Doors - Make New Pathways, As you
Communicate, Educate and Cultivate our
Environmental Growth and Concerns}
[Olbrich Gardens]
- 1991-93 Mary Elizabeth Murken, Oshkosh
{It's Our World to Protect, to Promote and to Publicize}
[Wisconsin's Dollars Help Fund Our Scholar's,
Memorial Scholarship Fund]
- 1993-95 Nancy Gotham, Superior
{Gardening for a Better World}
[Karner Blue Butterfly/Abel Prairie at the Crex Meadows
in Grantsburg]
- 1995-97 Barbara Wesley, West Allis
{WE CARE}
[World Gardening - providing seeds for community
gardening in Ecuador]
- 1997-99 Eileen Knox, Brookfield
{WE SERVE}
[Bong State Recreational Park, Landscaping Visitor
Center]
- 1999-01 Julie Schoenike, Clintonville
{Growing is Our Business}
[Oak Savanna at the Memorial Park and Gardens in
Appleton]
- 2001-03 Carol Catlin, Menasha
{Our Gardeners's Grow: Beauty, Knowledge, and Civic
Pride}
[Oak Savanna at the Memorial Park and Gardens in
Appleton]
- 2003-05 Judy Newman, Menomonee Falls

WGCF CONVENTIONS

1. 1928, December 6-7 Milwaukee Public Museum, Milwaukee
10 Clubs
2. 1929, November 13-15 Hotel Raulf, Oshkosh
14 Clubs
1930, August 7 Summer Meeting, White Elm Nursery,
450 Attended Oconomowoc
3. 1930, November 19-21 Loraine Hotel, Madison -
26 Clubs; 837 Members
1931, August 12 Summer Meeting The Pines, Kohler
650 Attended
4. 1931, November 3-4 Avalon Hotel, Madison
33 Clubs; 1,222 Members
1932, August 11 Summer Meeting, Terry Andrae State Park
200 Members attended with 475 attending the luncheon in Kohler
5. 1932, November 10 Schroeder Hotel, Milwaukee
32 Clubs; Representatives from most of the clubs
1933, June 16-18 Summer Meeting in Kohler
6. 1933, November 9-10 State Capital, Madison
1,116 Members
7. 1934, November 10-11 Raine Hotel, Racine
50 Clubs; 1,459 Members; Largest attendance in history
1935 No Summer Meeting
8. 1935, November 14-15 Schroeder Hotel, Milwaukee
62 Clubs; 1,734 Members
1936, August 5 Summer Meeting Gardens of Mr. & Mrs.
200 Attending Rasmussen, Oshkosh
9. 1936, October 14-15 Loraine Hotel, Madison
63 Clubs; 1,730 Members
1937, July 24-25 Summer Meeting Sturgeon Bay
10. 1937, October 14-14 Athearn Hotel, Oshkosh
66 Clubs; 1,834 Members; 250 Registrations
1938, July 30-31 Summer Meeting Whispering Pines in the
Chain O'Lakes, Waupaca
11. 1938, Sept 30 -Oct 1 Hotel Foeste, Sheboygan
(unknown)
1939, July 29-30 Summer Meeting, Hotel Wausau, Wausau
12. 1939, October 10-11 Pfister Hotel, Milwaukee
81 Clubs; 2,388 Members
13. 1940, October 1-2 Loraine Hotel, Madison
(Attendance unknown)
1941 July 26-27 Summer Meeting at Baraboo and Devil's Lake
60 Attended
14. 1941, October 2-3 Retlaw Hotel, Fond du Lac
32 clubs; 221 Registrations
15. 1942, October 1-2 Pfister Hotel, Milwaukee
87 clubs; 2,286 Members
16. 1943, October 20 Plankinton Hotel, Milwaukee
82 Clubs No Convention, Business Meeting only
17. 1944, October, 6-7 Astor Hotel, Milwaukee
82 Clubs; 2,026 Members
18. 1945, October 11 Pfister Hotel, Milwaukee
167 Registrations
"Horticultural Service"
19. 1946, October 10-11 Retlaw Hotel, Fond du Lac
96(92) Clubs; 2,861 Members; 295 Registrations
20. 1947, October 9-10 Horticultural Hall, Lake Geneva
102 Clubs
21. 1948, October 7-8 Pfister Hotel, Milwaukee
(at the same time as the Central Region Meeting)
22. 1949, October 13-14 Hotel Wausau, Wausau
106 Clubs; 3,347 Members; 260 Registrations
23. 1950, October 5-6 Hotel Racine, Racine
254 Registrations
24. 1951, October 3-4 Wisconsin Hotel, Milwaukee
95 Clubs; 2,830 Members
25. 1952, October 1-2 Loraine Hotel, Madison
98 Clubs; 2,900 Members
26. 1953, Sept 30-Oct 1 American Baptist Assembly, Green Lake
92 Clubs; 105 Registrations with 72 clubs represented
"He Who Preserves Our Precious Heritage of Nature's Gifts
Love Others Besides Himself"
27. 1954, September 15-16 American Baptist Assembly, Green Lake
102 Clubs; 3,017 Members; 414 Registrations
"Outdoor Wisconsin" (with Central Region)
28. 1955, September 14-15 Dell View Hotel, Lake Delton
232 Registrations
"The Importance of Our State Committee Chairman"
29. 1956, September 12-13 Retlaw Hotel, Fond du Lac
110 Clubs; 307 Registrations
"Wisconsin, the Beautiful"
30. 1957, September 11-12 Foeste Hotel, Sheboygan
112 Clubs; 3,110 Members; 303 Registrations
"Thirty Years of Education, Inspiration and Serving"
31. 1958, September 10-11 Moravian Church, Wisconsin Rapids 124
Clubs; 3,185 Members; 337 Registrations
"Learning by Participation"
32. 1959, September 15-16 Pfister Hotel, Milwaukee
121 Clubs; 3,279 Members; 445 Registrations
"World Friendship Through Gardening"
33. 1960, September 13 Nippersink Manor Resort, Genoa City
132 Clubs; 3,343 Members

- “Gardening in Recreation”(With Central Region)
34. 1961, September 13 Loraine Hotel, Madison
147 Clubs; 3,584 Members; 509 Registrations
“Forward”
 35. 1962, September 11-12 Auditorium, LaCrosse
334 Registrations “New Horizons”
 36. 1963, September 11-12 Holy Innocents School, Manitowoc 150
Clubs; 3,490 Members; 417 Registrations
“Our Natural Heritage”
 37. 1964, September 15-16 Coach House Inn, Milwaukee
153 Clubs; 3,735 Members; 478 Registrations
“Dimensions in Living”
 38. 1965, September 28-29 Northland Hotel, Green Bay
159 Clubs; 3,585 Members; 435 Registrations
“Nature’s Alphabet - Appreciation, Beautification and Conservation”
 39. 1966, September 27-29 Dell View Hotel, Lake Delton
153 Clubs; 440 Registrations
“Wisconsin Indian Echoes”
 40. 1967, September 26 (1 day) Lake Lawn Lodge, Delavan
155 Clubs; 3,587 Members; 399 Registrations
“Red Sails in the Sunset”
 41. 1968, October 1-3 Holiday Inn, LaCrosse
157 Clubs; 3,643 Members; 239/324 Registrations
“Beauty is Vision, Service, Truth” (with Central Region)
 42. 1969, September 23-24 Executive Inn, Sheboygan
158 Clubs; 3638 Members; 374 Registrations
“Beautiful Wisconsin - Our Pride and Purpose”
 43. 1970, September 22-24 Midway Motor Lodge, Wausau
158 Clubs; 3,638 Members; 304 Registrations
“Building Pathways”
 44. 1971, September 22-23 Pfister Hotel, Milwaukee
158 Clubs; 3,529 Members; 420 Registrations
“Ideas-Forward”
 45. 1972, September 27-28 American Baptist Assembly, Green Lake
159 Clubs; 3,468 Members; 459 Registrations
“Montage ‘72”
 46. 1973, September 18-20 Sheraton Inn, Madison
154 Clubs; 3,348 Members; 339 Registrations
“Appointment with Tomorrow”
 47. 1974, September 24-26 Mt. Telemark Lodge, Cable
155 Clubs; 3,480 Members; 365 Registrations
“Indianhead Colorama”
 48. 1975, September 28-29 Fox Hills Inn & County Club, Mishicot
157 Clubs; 3,558 Members; 345 Registrations
“The Past Is Prologue”
 49. 1976, May 17-19 The Abbey, Fontana
154 Clubs; 3,525 Members; 301 Registrations
“A Time of Promise”
 50. 1977, May 18-20 Midway Motor Lodge, LaCrosse
150 Clubs; 3,352 Members
“What is Beautiful is a Joy to All” 50th Anniversary”
 51. 1978, April 18-20 Holiday Inn & Holidome, Stevens Point
152 Clubs; 3,407 Members; 294 Registrations
“My Treasures Lie Not in Jewels Rare”
 52. 1979, September 25-27 Valley Inn, Neenah
140 Clubs; 3,103 Members; 410 Registrations
“These Things Are Ours”
 53. 1980, September 16-18 Marriott Hotel, Brookfield
140 Clubs; 3,133 Members; 426 Registrations
“There is a Harvest in Every Season”
 54. 1981 September 15-17 Concourse Hotel, Madison
129 Clubs; 2,782 Members; 333 Registrations
“I Am Cultivating The Seed He Is Planting”
 55. 1982, October 12-14 Mt. Telemark Lodge, Cable
132 Clubs; 2,814 Members; 240 Registrations
“Treasures Beyond the Freeway” following the CR Meeting
 56. 1983, September 15-17 Grand Executive Inn, Sheboygan
130 Clubs; 2,774 Members; 290 Registrations
“Reflections”
 57. 1984, September 11-13 Americana Resort, Lake Geneva
117 Clubs; 2,424 Members; 286 Registrations
“Candidates On Review”
 58. 1985, September 10-12 Radisson Hotel, LaCrosse
119 Clubs; 2,441 Members; 303 Registrations
“Coulee Splendor”
 59. 1986, September 9-11 Holiday Inn, Wausau
110 Clubs; 2,233 Members; 250 Registrations
“Nature All Around Us”
 60. 1987, September 8-10 Red Carpet Hotel, Milwaukee
111 Clubs; 2,266 Members
“Rainbows and Roses”
 61. 1988, September 13-15 Oshkosh Hilton, Oshkosh
104 Clubs; 2,144 Members; 263 Registrations
“SPARKLES, SPANGLES and Bright Shiny Beads”
 62. 1989, September 12-14 Civic Center, Eau Claire
101 Clubs; 1,944 Members; 155 Registrations
“Expo-Extraordinaire in Eau Claire”
 63. 1990, September 11-13 Concourse Hotel, Madison
94 Clubs; 1,997 Members; 229 Registrations
“The World is Our Garden”
 64. 1991, September 10-12 Holiday Inn, Manitowoc

- 93 Clubs; 2,083 Members; 276 Registrations
“Lakeshore Splendor”
65. 1992, September 15-17 Interlaken Resort, Lake Geneva
93 Clubs; 2,058 Members; 234 Registrations
“Reflections”
66. 1993, September 21-23 Radisson Hotel, LaCrosse
95 Clubs; 2,002 Members; 187 Registrations
“Coulee Panorama”
67. 1994, September 13-15 Holiday Inn, Stevens Point
93 Clubs; 2045 Members; 190 Registrations
“Celebrate Gardening”
68. 1995, September 12-14 Country Inn Hotel, Waukesha
84 Clubs; 1,884 Members; 262 Registrations
“So the World May Eat”
69. 1996, September 10-12 Best Western Hudson House, Hudson
86 Clubs; 2079 Members; 125 Registrations
“Explore St. Croix Valley: We’ll A’Peel to You!”
70. 1997, April 15-17 Oshkosh Hilton, Oshkosh
92 Clubs; 2079 Members; 176 Registrations
“Times - - They Are A’Changing”
71. 1998, April 23-25 Radisson Inn, Madison
73 Clubs; 1647 Members; 206 Registrations
“Gardening Through the Years”
72. 1999, April 20-22 Barker’s Island Inn, Superior
73 Clubs; 1689 Members, 173 Registrations
“Northern Exposure”
73. 2000, April 25-27 Manitowoc Holiday Inn, Manitowoc
71 Clubs; 1672 Members; 246 Registrations
“Tulips Two Thousand”
74. 2001, April 2-4 Radisson Hotel, LaCrosse
71 Clubs; 1668 Members; 160 Registrations
“Coulee Kaleidoscope”
75. 2002, April 18-20 Ramada Inn & Conference Center, Wausau
69 Clubs; 1632 Members;
“Our 75th Anniversary, A Sparkling Celebration”
76. 2003, Brookfield
77. 2004 Paradise Shores
78. 2005 Madison
79. 2006 Appleton
80. 2007 Barker’s Island
81. 2008 Koehler

SCHOOLS

WGCF State Flower Shows

- 1950 House and Garden Show, Oconomowoc
- 1952 October 1-2 “Spotlights in the Years”, Loraine Hotel, Madison with the 25th annual convention.
- 1954 September 15-16 “Analysis of Beauty” American Baptist Assembly, Green Lake
- 1956 November 14-15 “Suddenly...It’s Christmas”, St. Paul’s Episcopal Church, Milwaukee.
- 1975 August 7-8 “Postcard America” Show and Tour, Roncalli High School, Manitowoc
- 1976 August 7-8 Rahr Civic Center Manitowoc
- 1984 September 12-13 “Day in the Life of A Candidate” Convention, Americana, Lake Geneva
- 1985 July 30 - Aug 1, “Floral Fly-In” Legion on the Lake, Oshkosh
- 1996 October 21-23 “Always Creating Beauty” Grand Geneva Resort & Spa, Lake Geneva (Part of the CR Annual Meeting)
- 2000 April 25-27 “Millennium 2000”, Convention, Holiday Inn, Manitowoc
- 2003 Brookfield
- 2006 Appleton

WGCF’S NATIONALLY ACCREDITED INSTRUCTORS

Irene Reese, Emeritus
Doris Swartz, Design Emeritus
Marie Pluemer, Horticulture Emeritus
Liz Murken, Design Instructor
Judy Newman, Horticulture Instructor

Judging Schools

- 1st Judging School March 6, ‘30 Milwaukee Auditorium
- 2nd Judging School May 14, ‘31 Plankinton Hotel, Milwaukee; 77 attended
- 3rd Judging School April 28, ‘32 Plankinton Hotel, Milwaukee
- 4th Flower Arranging School April 27, ‘33 Milwaukee Public Library

Flower Arranging & Judging School

May 18, ‘38, Fort Atkinson; May 19, ‘38, Menasha

June 10, ‘41, Kohler; June 2, ‘41, Menasha

Course I September 9-10, ‘47 Milwaukee Art Institute (59 took exams)

Course II May 6-7, 48 Milwaukee Art Institute

Course III Oct 19-21, 48

Course IV ‘49

Course V April 19-21, ‘50 Community House, Oconomowoc

Series II Course IV June 3-5 ‘52 Woman’s Club, Janesville

Series II Course V June 22-24, ‘53 Manitowoc

The first “Handbook for Flower Shows” was published as a pamphlet in April 1949 to aid in standardizing the judging schools by National Council.

Flower Show School (New Series)

Series I & Course	Date	Location	Instructors
Course I	Oct 11-13, '54	Madison	H: Struckmeyer; D: Durnlop
Course II	May 3-5, '55	Madison	H: Pettit; D: Kistner
Course III	October 12-13, '55	Madison	H: Struckmeyer D: Kistner
Course IV	Oct 17-19, '56	Madison	H: Wood D: Conway
Course V	Sept 26 & Oct 3-4, '57	Madison	H: Holmes D: Barton
Course I	April 18-19, '56	Wauwatosa	H: Stuckmeyer D: Bluhm
Course II	April 24-26, '57	Wauwatosa	H: Stuckmeyer D: Bluhm
Course III	April 15-17, '58	Racine	H: Searles D: Hirsch
Course IV	Feb 2-4, '59	Milwaukee	H: Searles D: Simpson
Course V	Jan 25-27, '60	Wauwatosa	H: Prof. Quinlan D: Dunlap
Course I	June 27-29, '57	LaCrosse	H: Struckmeyer D: Kistner
Course II	May 14-16, '58	LaCrosse	H: Vance D: Bluhm
Course III	June 15-17, '59	LaCrosse	H: Searles D: Kistner
Course I	Mar 24-26, '60	Madison	H: Searles D: Sutter
Course II	Oct 19-21, '60	Madison	H: Struckmeyer D: Nolte
Course III	May 3-5, '61	Madison	H: Struckmeyer D: Haddoz
Course IV	July 30-Aug 1, '64	Madison	H: Searles D: Schulke
Course V	Aug 3-5, '65	Madison	H: Kildow D: Mueller
Course I	Aug 18-20, '64	Green Bay	H: Searles D: Mueller
Course II	April 20-22, '65	Green Bay	H: Kildow D: Sutter
Course III	Nov 3-5, '65	DePere	H: Searles D: Schulke
Course IV	Sept 20-22, '66	DePere	H: Prof Cott D: Simpson
Course V	Mar 28-30, '67	Green Bay	H: Link D: Mueller
Course I	Sept 27-29, '60	Milwaukee	H: Pettit D: Nolte
Course II	June 24-26, '61	Wauwatosa	H: Milne D: Haddox
Course III	Mar 14-16, '62	Milwaukee	H: Honeywell D: Creighton
Course IV	Feb 26-28, '63	Milwaukee	H: Kildow D: Simpson
Course V	Sept 23-25, '63	Milwaukee	H: Gartner D: Simpson
Course I	Jan 12-14, '65	Milwaukee	H: Searles D: Mueller
Course II	Sept 15-17, '65	Milwaukee	H: Kildow D: Sutter
Course III	June 1-3, '66	Milwaukee	H: Prof. Cott D: Schulke
Course IV	Jan 10-12, '67	Hales Corners	H: Pratt D: Mueller
Course V	Sept 12-14, '67	Milwaukee	H: Link D: Phillips
Course I	Oct 6-8, '65	Superior	H: Kildow D: Hagen
Course I	Sept 24-26, '68	Milwaukee	H: Kildow D: Phillips
Course II	April 29-May 1, '69	Milwaukee	H: Johnston D: Schulke
Course III	Jan 6-8, '70	Milwaukee	H: Jackson D: Blome

Course IV	Oct 27-29, '70	Milwaukee	H: Pettit D: Hagen
Course V	June 6-10, '71	Milwaukee	H: Quick D: Hagen
Course I	Oct 15-16, '68	Madison	H: Pettit D: Schulke
Course II	May 507, '70	Madison	H: Harrington D: Hagen
Course III	July 13-15, '71	Madison	H: Gundell D: Anderson
Course IV	June 13-15, '72	Madison	H: Quick D: Jensvold
Course V	April 11-13, '73	Madison	H: Quick D: Bloome
Course I	Sept 15-17, '70	LaCrosse	H: Cramer D: Sutter
Course II	June 24-26, '71	LaCrosse	H: Quick D: Hagen
Course I	Sept 12-13, '72	Mitchell Park, Milwaukee	H: Guthrie D: Leber
Course II	Oct 29-31, '73	Mitchell Park, Milwaukee	H: Quick D: Reece
Course III	June 3-5, '74	Mitchell Park, Milwaukee	H: Guthrie D: Hagen
Course IV	Sept 8-10 '75	Mitchell Park, Milwaukee	H: Dunn D: Blome
Course V	April 5-7 '76	Mitchell Park, Milwaukee	H: Quick D: Blome
Mil Dist Course I	May 8-10 '78	Milwaukee	H: Pluemer D: Satterlee
Mil Dist Course II	Oct 23-25 '78	Elkhorn	H: Dunn D: Leber
Mil Dist Course III	May 12-13 '79	Hales Corners	H: Dunn D: Christensen
Mil Dist Course IV	May 7-9 '80	Elkhorn	H: Pluemer D: Walker
Mil Dist Course V	Mar 24-26 '81	Elkhorn	H: Gilhausen D: Swartz
First Schools Sponsored by WGCF			
Series I, Course I	June 4-6, '74	Appleton	H: Guthrie D: Leber
Series I Course II	April 8-9, '75	Appleton	H: Croots D: Lang
Series I Course III	Sept 29-Oct 1 '75	Green Bay	H: Quick D: Reece
Series I Course IV	Oct 4-5, '76	Appleton	H: Quick D: Reece
Series I Course V	Mar 28-30 '77	Appleton	H: Gilhausen D: Leber
Series II Course I	April 3-5, '78	Spooner	H: Pluemer D: Satterlee
Series II Course II	Sept 25-26 '78	Eau Claire	H: Dunn D: Walker
Series II Course III	April 23-25 '79	Eau Claire	H: Pluemer D: Walker
Series II Course IV	April 12-13 '80	Eau Claire	H: Gilhausen D: Iseminger
Series II Course V	June 8-10 '81	Eau Claire	H: Gilhausen D: Iseminger
Series III Course I	May 11-12 '83	Madison	H: Belz D: Swartz
Series III Course II	Oct 5-7 '83	Madison	H: Belz D: Walker
Series III Course III	May 22-24 '84	Madison	H: Pluemer D: Brindle
Series III Course IV	June 25-27 '85	Madison	H: Gilhausen D: Swartz
Series III Course V	Sept 23-25 '86	Madison	H: Gilhausen D: Walker
Series IV Course I	May 17-19 '88	Oshkosh	H: Arnott D: Brindle
Series IV Course II	Oct 24-26 '88	Manitowoc	H: Arnott D: Brindle
Series IV Course III	May 9-11 '89	Oshkosh	H: Link D: Leber

Series IV Course IV April 23-25 '90 Manitowoc H: Pluemer D:Swartz
Series IV Course V October 16-18, 90 Oshkosh H:Pluemer D:Swartz

Series V Course I Sept 27-28 '93 Milwaukee H: Gilhousen D:Brindle
Series V Course II April 25-26 '94 Milwaukee H:Christiansen D: Strother
Series V Course III Oct 31-Nov 1 '94 Milwaukee H: Pluemer D: Swartz
Series V Course IV Aug 7-8, '95 Milwaukee H: Arnott D:Moran
Series V Course V Aug 20-22 '96 Milwaukee H: Pluemer D: Swartz

Series VI Course I Sept 18-19 '00 Oshkosh H: Schumann D:Moran
Series VI Course II April 23-25 '01 Oshkosh H: Gilhousen D: Moran
Series VI Course III Sept 17-19 '01 Oshkosh H: Schumann D:Mather

H - Horticulture
D - Design

Symposiums

July 26-27 '67 Madison Advanced Refresher H: Searles D: Knight
June 23-25 '70 Milwaukee H: Searles D: Haddox
June 19-21 '73 Milwaukee Marriott Inn H: Pettit D: Hamel
June 20-21 '83 Milwaukee Sheraton Mayfair H:Quick D: Michaels-Paque
Nov 1-2 '89 Milwaukee Sheraton-North H: Belcher D: Johnsrud
June 4-5 '96 Milwaukee Sheraton Mayfair H: Schumann D:Tucker
June 10-11 '99 Waukesha Country Inn H: Smith D: Krallman

Landscape Design

Landscape Design Committee was established in 1952 as part of the Flower Show School program. In 1958 National Council made it a separate committee with Prof, Hubert B. Owens of Georgia as Chairman.

Series I Course I Oct 18-20, '65 Wisconsin Center, Madison
Series I Course II April 26-27, '66 YMCA, Milwaukee
Series I Course III Oct. 25-27, '66 Wisconsin Center, Madison
Series I Course IV April 18-20, '67 Wisconsin Center, Madison
Series II Course I Oct 13-14, '70 Wisconsin Center, Madison
Series II Course II June 15-17, '71 Wisconsin Center, Madison
Series II Course III Oct 16-17, '72 Wisconsin Center, Madison
Series II Course IV April 24-25, '73 Wisconsin Center, Madison
Series III Course I Oct 28-30, '74 Wisconsin Center, Madison
Series III Course II April 28-29 '75 Wisconsin Center, Madison
Series III Course III Oct 27-29, '75 Wisconsin Center, Madison
Series III Course IV Sept 13-14 '76 Wisconsin Center, Madison
Series IV Course I May 1-3, '78 Wisconsin Center, Madison
Series IV Course II Nov 13-15, '78 Wisconsin Center, Madison
Series IV Course III Jun 25-27, '79 Wisconsin Center, Madison
Series IV Course IV Nov 2-4, '81 Wehr Nature Center, Milwaukee
Series V Course I April 18-19, '83 Schlitz Audubon Center, Milwaukee
Series V Course II Nov 7-8, '83 Schlitz Audubon Center, Milwaukee
Series V Course III April 30-May 2 '84 Schlitz Audubon, Milwaukee
Series V Course IV Oct 22-23 '84 Schlitz Audubon Center, Milwaukee
Series VI Course I Oct 12-14 '87 St. Bede's, Eau Claire
Series VI Course II April 18-19 '88 St. Bede's, Eau Claire
Series VI Course III April 24-26 '89 St. Bede's, Eau Claire
Series VI Course IV October 16-18 '89 U-Minnesota Arboretum
Series VII Course I April 20-21 '95 English Lutheran Church, LaCrosse
Series VII Course II Oct 19-20 '95 English Lutheran Church, LaCrosse
Series VII Course III April 18-20 '96 English Lutheran Church, LaCrosse
Series VII Course IV September 17-19 '96 English Lutheran, LaCrosse

WGCF LIFE MEMBERS

First mentioned in the early 50's but with fee of one hundred dollar with no mention of anyone joining for a fee of \$100.00 until 1967. WGCF Life Memberships were activated at the meeting September 26, 1967 at the Lake Lawn Lodge in Delavan. It was voted that charter memberships be continued until the opening of the 1968 convention. The fee was \$50.00. There were 22 charter life members have a ♥ in front of their name.

Landscape Design Symposium

Sept 23-25 '92 The Clearing, Ellison Bay "Designing with Nature"
 Oct 13-15 '86 George William College, Lake Geneva
 "Elements of Garden Design"
 July 18-19, 00 Landscape Design & Garden Study Symposium U-W
 Superior, Superior

Gardening Study

Series I Course I Mar 28-29,79 Olbrich Park, Madison
 Series I Course II April 15-16,80 Olbrich Park, Madison
 Series I Course III Mar 31-Apr 1, 81 Olbrich Park, Madison
 Series I Course IV Oct 5-6, 81 Olbrich Park, Madison
 Series II Course I April 18-19 '88 Ag. & Extension Center, Green Bay
 Series II Course II Nov 14-15 '88 Ag. & Extension Center, Green Bay
 Series II Course III April 3-4 '88 Ag. & Extension Center, Green Bay
 Series II Course IV Sept 25-26 '89 Ag. & Extension Center, Green Bay
 Series III Course I Sept 26-27, '91 U-W River Falls, River Falls
 Series III Course II April 23-24, '92 U-W River Falls, River Falls
 Series III Course III October 1-2, '92 U-W River Falls, River Falls
 Series III Course IV April 15-16 '93 U-W River Falls, River Falls
 Series IV Course I Sept 24-26 '96 Olbrich Gardens, Madison
 Series IV Course II Mar 11-13 '97 Olbrich Garden, Madison
 Series IV Course III September 24-26, '97 Olbrich, Gardens, Madison
 Series IV Course IV March 11-13 Olbrich Gardens, Madison
 Series V Course I Oct 3-4 '01 Sturgeon Bay,

Environmental Studies School

Series I Course I April 1-2, '93 Mosquito Hill Nature Center, New London
 (1st NCSGC The Living Earth - Environmental Studies School)
 Series I Course II Oct 26-27, '93 Mosquito Hill, New London
 Series I Course III April 6-7, '94 Mosquito Hill, New London
 Series I Course VI 16-18, '94 Rahr West Art Museum, Manitowoc
 Series II Course I Sept 10-12, '97 Mosquito Hill, New London
 Series II Course II April 2-4, '98 Mosquito Hill, New London
 Series II Course III Sept 17-18, '98 Mosquito Hill, New London
 Series II Course VI Oct 7-8, '99 Horicon Marsh Int. Ed. Center, Horicon
 Environmental Seminar March 15, '82 Sentry Insurance, Stevens Point

	Name	City	District	Year
1.	♥Mrs. Grace Miller*,	Racine	Milwaukee	1968
2.	♥Mrs. Flavian Leinfelder, *	La Crosse	Coulee	1968
3.	♥Mrs. Alex D. Stahl (Florence)*	Milwaukee	Milwaukee	1968
4.	♥Mrs. Cathryn Turner *	Green Bay	Fox River	1968
5.	♥Mrs. B. Ethel Pomeroy, (Betty)*	Milwaukee	Milwaukee	1968
6.	♥Mrs. Eugene Muenzberg, (Dorothy)*	Milwaukee	Milwaukee	1968
7.	♥Mrs. Fred Schoenecker, (Georgia)	Sussex	Milwaukee	1968
8.	♥Mrs. Joseph A. Clark, (Margaret)	Milwaukee	Milwaukee	1968
9.	♥Mrs. Richard A. Scheller, (Marian)	Milwaukee	Milwaukee	1968
10.	♥Mrs. Lyle Swartz, (Doris)	Elm Grove	Milwaukee	1968
11.	♥Mrs. Robert Patton, (Jeanne)	Madison	Madison	1968
12.	♥Mrs. Si Swalheim *	Arlington	Madison	1968
13.	♥Mrs. Rischmueller Kolberg (Marie)	Wauaukee	Madison	1968
14.	♥Mrs. Earl Landphler (Rachel)*	Madison	Madison	1968
15.	♥Mrs. Harvey Reece (Irene)*	DePere	Fox River Valley	1968
16.	♥Mrs. Arthur Sanders, Jr. (Dorothy Nelle),	Wauwatos, Mil		1968
17.	♥Miss Gertrude Bonzelet*	Oshkosh,	Fox River Valley	1968
18.	♥Mrs. Percy Newman (Mildred)*	Sturgeon Bay,	Sheboygan	1968
19.	♥Mrs. Thorval Toft, (Ruby)	Sturgeon Bay,	Sheboygan	1968
20.	♥Mrs. John Raup, (Mary)	Lake Geneva,	South Central	1968
21.	♥Mrs. Myron Goldschmidt, (Mona)*	Madison	Madison	1968
22.	♥Mrs. Floyd Buschke	Madison	Madison	1968
23.	Mrs. Ervin Mueller, (Gerda)*	Milwaukee	Milwaukee	1968
24.	Mrs. James Dewey, (Peggy)	Madison	Madison	1969
25.	Mrs. Calmer Browy (Eleanor)*	Madison	Madison	1969
26.	Mrs. Kitchell Sayre (Lucy)*	Edgerton	South Central	1969
27.	Mrs. Karl Baehr*	Berlin,	Fox River Valley	1970
28.	Mrs. David Buchta (Edna)*	Racine	Milwaukee	1970
29.	Mrs. R.W. Miller	Lake Geneva,	South Central	1970
30.	Mrs. Milton Spoehr (Mary)	Berlin,	Fox River Valley	1970
31.	Mrs. William Debelak (Albena)*	Milwaukee	Milwaukee	1970
32.	Mrs. Floyd Piehl	Kenosha	Milwaukee	1971
33.	Mrs. Clarence Hapke, (Jean)*	Elm Grove	Milwaukee	1971
34.	Mrs. George Schukar	Wisconsin Rapids,	Wisconsin Valley	1972
35.	Mrs. Charles Trifilette, (Edna)	Superior	Indianhead	1972
36.	Mrs. Ervin Kulow (Gladys)*	Milwaukee	Milwaukee	1973

37. Mrs. Leonard W. Dunn (Erra)*	Madison	Madison	1973	83. Mrs. Fred Cobb (Amanda)	Green Bay,	Fox River Valley	1977
38. Mrs. Anthony Schemmer*	Colby,	Wisconsin Valley	1973	84. Mrs. Vernon Olson (Gertrude)	Sturgeon Bay	Sheboygan	1977
39. Rena Stuhr	LaCrosse	Coulee	1973	85. Miss Elizabeth Hanson	Sturgeon Bay	Sheboygan	1977
40. Mrs. J. Martin Johnson	Ripon,	Fox River Valley	1973	86. Mrs. Thomas Willoughby, (Ethel)*	Milwaukee	Milwaukee	1977
41. Mrs. Clare Hutson	Madison	Madison	1973	87. Mrs. Gustav Heinecke	Sheboygan	Sheboygan	1977
42. Mrs. Clarence Nielsen, (Blanche)*	Milwaukee,	Milwaukee	1974 & 1986	88. Mrs. Walter Roehrborn (Freida)	Sheboygan	Sheboygan	1977
43. Mrs. Albert Post, (Ethel)*	Milwaukee	Milwaukee	1973	89. Mrs. Albert Kasper (Virginia)	Madison	Madison	1978
44. Mrs. Theodore Wisniewski, (Rita)	Milwaukee	Milwaukee	1974	90. Mrs. Scott Lowry (Janet)	Oconomowoc,	Milwaukee	1978
45. Mrs. John West, (Ruth)*	Manitowoc	Sheboygan	1974	91. Mrs. Earl J. Simon	Brookfield	Milwaukee	1978
46. Mrs. Rudolph Jungemann, (Addy)*	Arlington	Madison	1974	92. Mrs. Frank G. Quimby (Wilda)	Whitewater,	South Central	1978
47. Mrs. Robert Gottschalk (Helen)	Wisconsin Rapids,	Wis. Valley	1974	93. Mrs. Henry Dvorak (Pat)	New Berlin	Milwaukee	1978
48. Mrs. J. Russell Synhorst, (Marjorie)	Wausau,	Wisconsin Valley	1974	94. Mrs. Gilbert Hallman (Anita)	Milwaukee	Milwaukee	1979
49. Mrs. Everett Ravn, (Isabelle)	Madison	Madison	1974	95. Mrs. Fabian Sonntag (Wilma)	Sheboygan	Sheboygan	1979
50. Mrs. Ralph Schneider (Leone)*	Appleton,	Fox River Valley	1974	96. Mrs. Eugene Stahl (Emma)	Sheboygan	Sheboygan	1979
51. Mrs. Raymond Groves *	Madison	Madison	1974	97. Mrs. Charles Brockmeyer (Jean)	Milwaukee	Milwaukee	1979
52. Miss Pauline Groves*	Lodi	Fox River Valley	1974	98. Mrs. Cecil Sanders (Flo)	Elm Grove	Milwaukee	1979
53. Mrs. Norman Bass (Ruth)*	Madison	Madison	1974	99. Mrs. William Ahrens (Marion)	West Allis	Milwaukee	1979
54. Deon Prell*	East Troy	Milwaukee	1974	100. Miss Karen Timonen	West Allis	Milwaukee	1979
55. Mrs. Edwin Schultz (Charlotte)	Arlington	Madison	1974	101. Mrs. Edward Gagnon	Green Bay,	Fox River Valley	1979
56. Mrs. Patrick McCormick	Madison	Madison	1975	102. Mrs. James Craig (Carolyn)	New Richmond,	St. Croix	1980
57. Mrs. Don Neuendorf	Stevens Point,	Wisconsin Valley	1975	103. Mrs. David Beebe	Sheboygan	Sheboygan	1980
58. Mrs. William Filber (Dorothy)	Hales Corners,	Milwaukee	1975	104. Mrs. Robert Larkin (Kitty)	Sussex,	Milwaukee	1980
59. Mrs. Maurice Cooper	Edgerton,	South Central	1975	105. Mrs. Robert J. Allen (Karen)	Chippewa Falls,	St. Croix	1980
60. Mrs. Russell Jacobson	Sheboygan	Sheboygan	1975	106. Mrs. Theodore Lawton (Nancy)	Elm Grove	Milwaukee	1980
61. Mrs. Charles Schultz (Jennie)*	Sheboygan	Sheboygan	1975	107. Mrs. Albert Scott	Wauwatosa	Milwaukee	1981
62. Mrs. B.F. Winn, (Lela) *	Wisconsin Rapids,	Wisconsin Valley	1975	108. Mrs. Melvin Behm (Joan)	Berlin,	Fox River Valley	1981
63. Mrs. Milton Westfall (Phyllis)	Sturgeon Bay,	Sheboygan	1976	109. Mrs. Douglas Ogilive (Myrtle)	Hortonville,	Fox River Valley	1981
64. Mrs. Emil Hanson	Sturgeon Bay ,	Sheboygan	1976	110. Mrs. Elmer Hauge	Neenah,	Fox River Valley	1981
65. Mrs. Max Spencer (Helen)	Oshkosh,	Fox River Valley	1976	111. Mrs. Kenneth Smith (Ruth)	Brookfield	Milwaukee	1981
66. Mrs. Wesley D. Kuether (Lee)	Manitowoc	Sheboygan	1976	112. Mrs. Glenn Gerdes, (Dorothy)*	Superior	Indianhead	1981
67. Mrs. Herbert Hentzen	Milwaukee	Milwaukee	1976	113. Mrs. Malcom Fell	Manitowoc	Sheboygan	1981
68. Mrs. Donovan Peterson (Tess)	Elm Grove	Milwaukee	1976	114. Marguerite Ruppel	Sheboygan	Sheboygan	1982
69. Mrs. Ray McCann (Annette)*	Milwaukee	Milwaukee	1976	115. Mrs. Vincent Saeman (Bernice)	Cross Plains	Madison	1982
70. Mrs. Joseph Oblack (Francis)	Milwaukee	Milwaukee	1976	116. Mrs. Jack Swedish (Phyllis)	Elm Grove	Milwaukee	1982
71. Mrs. John Butcher (Ada)	Wauwatosa	Milwaukee	1976	117. Mrs. James Goldschmidt (Pat)	Vernoa	Madison	1982
72. Mrs. E. S. Puzzo (Hazel)	Racine	Milwaukee	1976	118. Mrs. Eugene Kanabay	Neenah,	Fox River Valley	1982
73. Ms. Mary Dawson	Tomah	Coulee	1976	119. Mrs. George Pluemer (Marie)	Appleton,	Fox River Valley	1982
74. Mrs. Terry Nelson (Margaret)	Sheboygan	Sheboygan	1976	120. Mrs. Chester Held (Vi)*	Milwaukee	Milwaukee	1982
75. Mrs. Charles Sigmund (Nancy)	Elkhorn	South Central	1976	121. Mrs. William Chapman (Beth)	Milwaukee	Milwaukee	1982
76. Mrs. Walter Gennrich (Jackie)*	Manitowoc	Sheboygan	1976	122. Mrs. Robert Reimer (Phyllis)	Hales Corners,	Milwaukee	1982
77. Mrs. Alvin Rein (Mary)*	Manitowoc	Sheboygan	1976	123. Mrs. Edgar Weiler (Colleen)	Brookfield	Milwaukee	1982
78. Mrs. Alfred W. Schroeder (Lydia)	Manitowoc	Sheboygan	1976	124. Genevieve Crema	Kenosha	Milwaukee	1982
79. Mrs. Clarence Braun (Dorothy)	Berlin,	Fox River Valley	1977	125. Mrs. Elinar Erickson (Heneritta)*	Milwaukee	Milwaukee	1983
80. Mrs. Alfred Heinz (Gertrude)	Manitowoc	Sheboygan	1977	126. Mrs. Fred Lillington (Agnes)	Manitowoc	Sheboygan	1983
81. Mrs. Norbert Nevid (Barbara)	Elm Grove	Milwaukee	1977	127. Mrs. George Schilstra (Ida)	Sheboygan	Sheboygan	1983
82. Mrs. Adrian Duszynski (Pamela)	Madison	Madison	1977	128. Mrs. Walter Seeliger (Elaine)	Markesan,	Fox River Valle	1983

129. Mrs. Mildred Moderow*	Markesan, Fox River Valley	1983	175. Delores Rhyme	West Salem	Coulee	1986	
130. Mrs. Robert Horn (Delores)	Manitowoc	Sheboygan	1983	176. Norma McDermott	New Richmond	St. Croix	1986
131. Mrs. Victor H. Schmitt (Marjorie)	West Allis	Milwaukee	1983	177. Mrs. Carol Miller	New Richmond	St. Croix	1986
132. Mrs. Walker Wallner (Donna)	Brookfield	Milwaukee	1983	178. Mrs. Ev Utgaard (Evelyn)	Star Prairie	St. Croix	1986
133. Mrs. James Gotham (Nancy)	Superior	Indianhead	1983	179. Eileen Knox	Brookfield	Milwaukee	1986
134. Mrs. Michael Sacher (Iris)	Sheboygan	Sheboygan	1983	180. Mrs. Hugo Erdmann (Marjorie)	Menasha, Fox River Valley		1986
135. Mrs. Donald Burley(Rose Marie)	Superior	Indianhead	1983	181. Gloria Johnson	St. Francis	Milwaukee	1986
136. Mrs. Eric Harder	Fox Point	Milwaukee	1983	182. Gay Burmeister	Lake Geneva, South Central		1986
137. Maud Lambret*	Onalaska	Coulee	1983	183. Peg McAvoy	Lake Geneva, South Central		1986
138. Mae Wooden	Onalaska	Coulee	1983	184. Lois Ballard	Evansville	South Central	1986
139. Mrs. Vilas Young (Evelyn)	West Salem	Coulee	1983	185. Jeanne Kappel	Madison	Madison	1986
140. Mrs. Victor Huebner (Hazel)	Sheboygan	Sheboygan	1984	186. Helen Corbett	Chippewa Falls, St. Croix		1986
141. Mrs. Gerhardt Koehn (Ida)	Valders	Coulee	1984	187. Theresa Ripp	Cross Plains	Madison	1986
142. Mrs. Harold Lemkuil (Marion)	Sheboygan	Sheboygan	1984	188. Catherine Hafemeister	Hales Corners	Milwaukee	1986
143. Mrs. Edwin Rich (Jean)	Sheboygan	Sheboygan	1984	189. Mrs. William Burger (Helen)	Neenah	Fox River Valley	1987
144. Mrs. Howard Kaems (Ruth)	Sheboygan	Sheboygan	1984	190. Lucille Keppel	Sheboygan	Sheboygan	1987
145. Jennie Farris	LaCrosse	Coulee	1984	191. Sadie S. Root	Hortonville, Fox River Valley		1987
146. Mrs. Floyd Sias	Onalaska	Coulee	1984	192. Mrs Fred Shaw (Gladys)	Sheboygan	Sheboygan	1987
147. Verna Lambert	Onalaska	Coulee	1984	193. Joan Shriver	Milwaukee	Milwaukee	1987
148. Mrs. Virgil Thompson	Onalaska	Coulee	1984	194. Evelyn Eyermann	Green Bay, Fox River Valley		1987
149. Phyllis Landmeyer	Onalaska	Coulee	1984	195. Sue Key	East Troy	South Central	1987
150. Mary Herzog	Onalaska	Coulee	1984	196. Annyce Hubbard	Elkhorn	South Central	1987
151. Mrs. Kenneth DeSmidt (Ellen)	Madison	Madison	1984	197. Elinore Pfeffer	Appleton, Fox River Valley		1987
152. Mrs. Alvin Kliment	Manitowoc	Sheboygan	1984	198. Elise Crouch	Manitowoc, Fox River Valley		1987
153. Mrs. James Gschwend	Madison	Madison	1984	199. Sharon Warner	New Richmond	St. Croix	1987
154. Mildred Johansen	Manitowoc	Sheboygan	1984	200. Mrs. Roger Schoenherr (Audrey)	Sun Prairie	Madison	1987
155. Mrs. Jerald Schoenike (Julie)	Clintonville	Sheboygan	1984	201. Mrs. Arthur Schnell (Evelyn)	Sheboygan	Sheboygan	1988
156. Margaret Doornink	Baldwin	St. Croix	1984	202. Mrs. Clarence Salzwedel (Judy)	Sheboygan	Sheboygan	1988
157. Mrs. Erwin Albrecht (Doris)	Brookfield	Milwaukee	1984	203. Mrs Walter Gager (Donna)	Elm Grove	Milwaukee	1988
158. Mrs. John Derkson (Esther)	Elkhorn	South Central	1985	204. Mrs. Nick Spannagle (Helen)	Sheboygan	Sheboygan	1988
159. Mrs. Rudolph Stock	Manitowoc	Sheboygan	1985	205. Mrs. William A. Robish (Ann)	Manitowoc	Sheboygan	1988
160. Mrs. Frances F. Lombard	Madison	Madison	1985	206. Mrs. David Wachholz (Gianna)	Markesan, Fox River Valley		1988
161. Liz Murken	Oshkosh, Fox River Valley		1985	207. Erna Whitehouse	Markesan, Fox River Valley		1988
162. Mrs. Thomas Belson (Sue)	Elm Grove	Milwaukee	1985	208. Mrs. Robert Eschweiler (Joan)	Mequon	Milwaukee	1989
163. Mrs. Harold Wesley (Barbara)	West Allis	Milwaukee	1985	209. Mrs. Fred Marquardt (Erma)	Hales Corners	Milwaukee	1989
164. Mrs. Warren Carstensen (Betty)	Brookfield	Milwaukee	1985	210. Mrs. Edward Mullen	Hayward	St. Croix	1989
165. Juanita Kasper	Brookfield	Milwaukee	1985	211. Mrs. Harry Coisman (Anne)	Sturgeon Bay	Sheboygan	1989
166. Louise Reisdorf*	Madison	Madison	1985	212. Maryalis Russell	Chippewa Falls, St. Croix		1989
167. Muriel Shervey	Chippewa Falls, St. Croix		1985	213. Sue Swanson	Power Lake, South Central		1989
168. Mary Evanoff	Kenosha	Milwaukee	1986	214. Marjorie Severson	Duluth, MN	Indianhead	1989
169. Barbara Cook	Chippewa Falls, St. Croix		1986	215. Elvera Jacot	Baldwin	St. Croix	1989
170. Mrs. Joseph Musil-Schmid	Manitowoc	Sheboygan	1986	216. Elizabeth Slayton (Betty)	Wausau, Wisconsin Valley		1989
171. Dorothy E. Schwarz*	Menomonee Falls, Milwaukee		1986	217. Laura Miller	Racine	Milwaukee	1990
172. Mrs. G.C. Augustine (Patricia)	Manitowoc	Sheboygan	1986	218. Margaret Lyon (Peg)	Madison	Madison	1990
173. Elizabeth Jacobson	Sheboygan	Sheboygan	1986	219. Helen Allen	Manitowoc	Sheboygan	1990
174. Judy Newman	Menomonee Falls, Milwaukee		1986	220. Mary F. Granger	Manitowoc	Sheboygan	1990

221. Sandy Nelson	New Richmond, St. Croix	1990	266. Ilone Underheim	LaCrosse	Coulee	1993
222. Helen Andruskevicz	Green Bay, Fox River Valley	1990	267. Pat Schwartz	Sparta	Coulee	1993
223. Gloria M. Omerod	Racine Milwaukee	1990	268. Lois Summerfeldt	New Richmond	St. Croix	1993
224. Della Balousek	Verona Madison	1990	269. Bettie Tree	Green Bay	Fox River Valley	1993
225. Carol Lokken	Madison Madison	1990	270. Susan Beck	New Richmond	St. Croix	1993
226. Irene Straus	Madison Madison	1990	271. Clara Ausen Westergard	Racine	Milwaukee	1993
227. Elinor Waterman	Madison Madison	1990	272. Reba Eslinger*	Spooner	Indianhead	1993
228. Rose Mayer	Wauwatosa Milwaukee	1990	273. Reginald Huebl	Ripon	Fox River Valley	1994
229. Margot B. Dickermann	Milwaukee Milwaukee	1990	274. Judy Paulson	New Richmond	St. Croix	1994
230. Ellen Martino	Racine Milwaukee	1990	275. Barbara Beetow	Lake Geneva	South Central	1994
231. Sister Nancy Reisdorf	Madison Madison	1990	276. Lorna Connors	Oshkosh	Fox River Valley	1994
232. Donna M. Woods	Sturgeon Bay Sheboygan	1990	277. Dawn Mozgawa	Madison	Madison	1994
233. Willie Betts	Racine Milwaukee	1990	278. Norma Gruenwald	Oshkosh	Fox River Valley	1994
234. Eileen Van Dyk	New Richmond, St. Croix	1991	279. Byron Murken*	Oshkosh	Fox River Valley	1994
235. Anja Johnson	Superior Indianhead	1991	280. Regina A Yurkowitz	Appleton	Fox River Valley	1994
236. Eileen Zdanowski	Manitowoc Sheboygan	1991	281. Phyllis Olson	Elkhorn	South Central	1994
237. Virginia Breitback	Kaukauna Sheboygan	1991	282. Peggy Grubbs	New Richmond	St. Croix	1995
238. Mrs. James Dawson (Violet)	Elmhurst, IL	1991	283. Margaret Marsh	Sun Prairie	Madison	1995
239. Hazel Donnelly	Menasha, Fox River Valley	1991	284. Ernastine H. Emerson	Spooner	Indianhead	1995
240. Konnie Jerabek	New Richmond St. Croix	1991	285. Deen Day Smith	Norcross GA		1995
241. Lenore Landry*	Madison Madison	1992	286. Murlyn Dietze	Brookfield	Milwaukee	1995
242. Marilyn Crawford	Green Bay, Fox River Valley	1992	287. Leona J. Mitchell (Lee)	Wausau	Wisconsin Valley	1995
243. Bessie Lesperance	DePere Fox River Valley	1992	288. Rosalind Hack	Mequon	Milwaukee	1995
244. Carol Catlin	Menasha Fox River Valley	1992	289. Karla Geiger	Milwaukee	Milwaukee	1995
245. Phyllis Griebner	Milwaukee Milwaukee	1992	290. Marilyn Vogel	Milwaukee	Milwaukee	1995
246. Rose Marie Hassman	Sheboygan Sheboygan	1992	291. Bonnie Van Dyk			1995
247. Catherine Hill	Hartland Milwaukee	1992	292. Merle Klug	Spooner	Indianhead	1995
248. Alice Shoemaker	Sparta Coulee	1992	293. Jean Musch	Spooner	Indianhead	1995
249. Elaine A Schiess*	Lake Geneva South Central	1992	294. Marge Leszczynski	Spooner	Indianhead	1995
250. Helen Surridge	Milwaukee Milwaukee	1992	295. Edith Pederson	Superior	Indianhead	1995
251. Virginia Ness	Markesan Fox River Valley	1992	296. Betty Freid	Oshkosh	Fox River Valley	1995
252. Eileen Tuhy	Belgium Milwaukee	1992	297. Barbara Munic	Duluth MN	Indianhead	1995
253. Marlene White	Manitowoc Sheboygan	1992	298. Gale Gust			1996
254. Carol Larson	Superior Indianhead	1993	299. Mildred Oakey	Madson	Madison	1996
255. James Gotham	Superior Indianhead	1993	300. Shirley Hedrick	Hayward	Indianhead	1996
256. Marion Mooney	Appleton Fox River Valley	1993	301. Patricia Adler	Spooner	Indianhead	1997
256a. Jacqueline Frederick	Oshkosh Fox River Valley	1993	302. Pam Archambeau	Superior	Indianhead	1997
257. Gloria Ann Wright	Milwaukee Milwaukee	1993	303. Ardis Sabel	Ripon	Fox River Valley	1997
258. Vera Jaeger	Howards Grove Sheboygan	1993	304. Peg Rieckman	Oshkosh	Fox River Valley	1997
259. Carole Hopp	Wauwatosa Milwaukee	1993	305. Evonne Durand	Spooner	Indianhead	1997
260. Doris Giassel	Fond du Lac, Fox River Valley	1993	306. Kathy Murphy			1997
261. Alice Goldstein	Kenosha Milwaukee	1993	307. Leslie Plourde	New Richmond	St. Croix	1998
262. Jane Schmidt	DePere Fox River Valley	1993	308. Marcie Armstrong			1998
263. Barbara Krebs	Sun Prairie Madison	1993	309. Tamela Raiten	Kendall	Coulee	1998
264. Nancy T. Ragland	Madison Madison	1993	310. Doug Jaeger	Waukesha	Milwaukee	1998
265. Lucy Valitchka	Appleton Fox River Valley	1993	311. Laurayne Schlieff*	Spooner	Indianhead	1998

312. Gerianne Holzman	Madison	Madison	1998
313. Hildegard Kolell	Menomonee Falls	Milwaukee	1998
314. Mary Brodzeller	Madison	Madison	1998
315. Jean Denu	Madison	Madison	1998
316. Kim Marie Lawrence	Oshkosh	Fox River Valley	1998
317. Christine Mc Ginnis	Hudson	St. Croix	1998
318. Marjorie Snow	Spooner	Indianhead	1999
319. Peg Buck	Brookfield	Milwaukee	1999
320. Donita Bruder	Menomonee Falls	Milwaukee	1999
321. Alexandra Lawrence (Sandy)	Ephriam	Sheboygan	1999
322. Jean A. Nethery	Richfield	Milwaukee	1999
323. Leone Freund		Milwaukee	1999
324. Lani Becker	Colgate	Milwaukee	1999
325. Donita Bruder (Tribute)	Menomonee Falls	Milwaukee	1999
326. Rose Marie Hassman (Tribute)	Sheboygan	Sheboygan	1999
327. Marlene Decker	Oshkosh	Fox River Valley	1999
328. Kim McCarty	Menomonee Falls	Milwaukee	1999
329. Carol Bessler	Fox Point	Milwaukee	1999
330. Arla Galow	Brandon	Fox River Valley	1999
331. Elizabeth Rosandick	Wisconsin Rapids,	Wisconsin Valley	1999
332. Jacqueline Hogenson	Mequon	Milwaukee	1999
333. Sandy Nelson	New Richmond	St. Croix	2000
334. Helen Surrige	Shorewood	Milwaukee	2000
335. Marilyn Freye	Sheboygan	Sheboygan	2000
336. Cherrill Hiest			2000
337. Carol Knuth	Wausau	Wisconsin Valley	2000
338. Marilyn Fuchs	Spooner	Indianhead	2000
339. Kay Vaughan	Milwaukee	Milwaukee	2000
340. Charlotte Tewles	Milwaukee	Milwaukee	2000
341. Esther Hume	Milwaukee	Milwaukee	2000
342. Margaret Clark (Tribute)	Milwaukee	Milwaukee	2000
343. Winifred Eide	Madison	Madison	2000
344. Mary Ellen Sedachek	Oshkosh	Fox River Valley	2000
345. Diane Powelka	Sun Prairie	Madison	2000
346. Betty Braun	Franklin	Milwaukee	2000
347. Rene Findlay		Milwaukee	2000
348. Clyde M. Knox*	Brookfield	Milwaukee	2001
349. Sylvia Becker	Wausau	Wisconsin Valley	2001
350. Mary Zettel	Maplewood	Sheboygan	2001
351. Dolly Koel	Spooner	Indianhead	2001
352. Dorothy Schueler		Fox River Valley	2001
353. Marion G. Balousek	Madison	Madison	2001
354. Walter Seeliger*	Markesan	Fox River Valley	1979
355. Mary Taucher	Oak Creek	Milwaukee	2001

CENTRAL REGION LIFE MEMBERS in WISCONSIN

Central Region Life Memberships were activated at the meeting September 26, 2000 at the Central Meeting in Bloomington Minnesota. It was voted that charter memberships be continued until the opening of the 2001 convention. The fee was \$50.00. Charter life members have a ♥ in front of their name. Deen Day Smith, National Garden Club President, was presented with the 1st Central Region Honorary Life Membership.

2. ♥Kathleen Larkin	Menomonee Falls	2000
15. ♥Pat Dvorak	New Berlin	2001
26. ♥Carole Hopp	Wauwatosa	2001
39. ♥Eileen Knox	Brookfield	2000
40. ♥Hildegard Kolell	Menomonee Falls	2000
50. ♥Liz Murken	Oshkosh	2000
51. ♥ Judy Newman	Menomonee Falls	2001
62. ♥Julie Schoenike	Clintonville	2000
63. ♥Elaine Seeliger	Markesan	2000
65. ♥Muriel Shervey	Chippewa Falls	2001
73. ♥Doris Swartz	Elm Grove	2001
76. ♥Barbara Wesley	West Allis	2000
83. ♥Della Balousek	Madison.	2001
85. ♥Carol Catlin	Menasha	2001
87. ♥Nancy Gotham	Superior	2001
97. ♥Helen Surrige	Milwaukee	2001
100. ♥Colleen Weiler	Brookfield	2001

NGC LIFE MEMBERS in WISCONSIN

The National Council Life Members Program was started in 1929 with only five members at the end of the first year.

62.	Miss Lillie Becketts*	Kohler	1939	4149.	Mrs. Wm. Chapman (Beth)	Milwaukee	1984
	Miss Merle A. Rasmussen	Oshkosh	1943	4150.	Mrs. R. J. Reimer (Phyllis)	Hales Corners	1984
139.	Gilbert E. Snell	Sheboygan	1945	4245.	Mrs. Elmer Pfeffer (Elinore)	Appleton	1984
300.	Mrs. Clarence Schiltz	Neenah	1945	4249.	Mrs. James Craig (Carolyn)	New Richmond	1984
393.	Mrs. Eric Martin	Edgerton	1952	4447.	Elizabeth Jacobson	Mexico	1984
	Mrs. Clarence Fiebrantz	Milwaukee	1954	4538.	Mrs. Kenneth DeSmith (Ellen)	Madison	1985
618.	Mrs. George L. Swearington*	West Bend	1957	4546.	Mrs. Adrain Duszynski	Madison	1985
674.	Mrs. H. H. Christensen*	Janesville	1958	4548.	Mrs. Douglas Ogilvie (Mrytle)	Hortonville	1986
696.	Mrs. Malcom Jodell (Agnes)*	Superior	1959	4569.	Mrs. Rena Stuhr	Onalaska	1986
785.	Mrs. A. J. Shafer (Lydia)*	Madison	1961	4688.	Mrs. Robert Rhyme (Delores)	West Salem	1986
900.	Mrs. Harvey H. Reece (Irene)*	De Pere	1963	4706.	Mrs. Edgar Weiler (Colleen)	New Berlin	1986
989.	Mrs. L. G. Stewart (Betty)	West Allis	1965	5159.	Margaret Doornink	Baldwin	1986
1000.	Mrs. Mitchell Sayre (Lucy)*	Edgerton	1965	5238.	Mary E. Brodzeller	Madison	1987
1028.	Miss Grace Miller*	Racine	1965	5239.	Clare Ausen Westergard	Racine	1987
1045.	Mrs. Alex Stahl, (Florence)	Milwaukee	1965	5244.	Louise A. Reisdorf	Madison	1987
1114.	Miss Clara L. Ruder,	Wausau	1966	5330.	Audrey Schoenherr	Sun Prairie	1987
1146.	Mrs. John West (Ruth)*	Manitowoc	1966	5495.	Mrs. Walter Roehrborn	Sheboygan	1988
1185.	Mrs. Cathryn Turner	LaCrosse /Milwaukee	1967	5496.	Dorothy Gerdes	Superior	1988
1345.	Mrs Percy Newman (Mildred)*	Sturgeon Bay	1969	5697.	Julie Knapp Schoenike	Clintonville	1988
1492.	Mrs. Christen J. Pedersen*	Lake Geneva	1970	5717.	Elaine Seeliger	Markesan	1988
1566.	Mrs. Fred Schoenecker (Georgia)	Sussex	1971	5741.	Louise B. Schwab	Middleton	1989
1808.	Mrs. Calmer Browy (Eleanor)*	Madison	1973	5788.	Mrs. Donald Havens, (Marjorie)	Milwaukee	1989
1820.	Mrs. William Debelak*	Milwaukee	1974	5952.	Ellen Martin	Racine	1989
2001.	Mrs. Wesley Keuther (Lee)	Manitowoc	1975	5965.	Marjorie J.(A.) Schmitt	West Allis	1989
2353.	Mrs. Robert Patton (Jeanne)	Madison	1977	5984.	Joan G. Eschweiler	Mequon	1990
2432.	Mrs. David Buchta (Edna)*	Racine	1977	5985.	Mrs. Clyde Knox (Eileen)	Brookfield	1990
2529.	Mrs. T. F. Wisniewski*	Madison	1978	5991.	Margaret McAvoy	Lake Geneva	1991
2535.	Mrs. Thorval Toft (Ruby)	Sturgeon Bay	1978	6050.	Ann Coisman	Sturgeon Bay	1992
2611.	Mrs. John K. Raup (Mary)	Lake Geneva	1979	6057.	Liz Murken	Oshkosh	1992
2910.	Mrs. Ralph Schneider (Leone)*	Appleton	1979	6088.	Margot Diekermann	Bayside	1992
3358.	Mrs. Lyle W. Swartz (Doris)	Elm Grove	1981	6089.	Ethel Post*	Milwaukee	1992
3465.	Mrs. Thomas Willoughby (Ethel)*	Milwaukee	1982	6109.	Theresa Ripp*	Cross Plains	1992
3534.	Mrs. Ervin W. Mueller(Gerda)*	Milwaukee	1982	6111.	Mrs. Henry Dvorak (Pat)	New Berlin	1992
3593.	Mrs. Fred Marquardt (Erma)*	Hales Corners	1982	6112.	Ruth Kaems	Sheboygan	1992
3612.	Mrs. George Pluemer (Marie)	Appleton	1982	6113.	Karen Timonen	West Allis	1992
3659.	Mrs. Robert Larkin (Kitty)	Sussex	1982	6200.	Mary Swarthout	Fall River	1992
3818.	Mrs. Charles Brockmeyer (Jean),	Fox Point	1983	6489.	Elaine Scheiss*	Lake Geneva	1992
3858.	Mrs. Vincent Saeman (Bernice),	Cross Plains	1983	6492.	Muriel Shervey	Chippewa Falls	1992
4057.	Betty Ethel Pomeroy*	Milwaukee	1983	6493.	Gloria Omerod	Racine	1993
4058.	Mrs. Michael Sacher (Iris)	Sheboygan	1983	6504.	Hazel B. Donnelly	Menasha	1993
4059.	Mrs. Fabian Sonntag (Wilma)	Sheboygan	1983	6505.	Susan E. Beck	Wausau	1993
				6534.	Leora Mitchell	Wausau	1993
				6693.	Nancy Gotham	Superior	1993
				6771.	Judy Newman	Menomonee Falls	1993
				6831.	Della Balousek	Madison	1993
				6858.	Maryalis Russell	Chippewa Falls	1993

6859. Reba L. Eslinger*	Spooner	1993
6872. Irene Straus	Madison	1993
7141. Barbara Wesley	West Allis	1994
7697. Eleanor Waterman	Madison	1995
7726. Joan Schaup	DePere	1996
7822. Dawn Mozgawa	Madison	1996
8038. Margaret Lyon	Stoughton	1998
8039. Doug Jaeger	Waukesha	1998
8040. Carole Hopp	Wauwatosa	1998
8049. Carol Catlin	Menasha	1998
8325. Ruth Hatch	Muscoda	1999
8326. Myrtle E. Franklin,*(Memorium)	Muscoda	1999
8339. Mary [Frankin] Atkinson	Mt. Horeb	2000
8380. Carol Lokken-Bostad	Cottage Grove	2000
8529. Michael Balousek	Chicago	2001
8530. Gabriela Lopes	Chicago	2001
8544. Rose Marie Hassman	Sheboygan	2001
8551. Helen Surridge	Milwaukee	2001
8592. Joyce Beth	Two Rivers	2001

Blue Star Highway Memorial Program

The Blue Star Memorial Highway Program was started by National Council early in October 1945. Rather than memorials of stone or bronze statues or buildings commemorating a hero or a battle, Garden Club women visualized a living memorial. This nationwide living memorial projected a ribbon of dedicated highways across the country in every state with markers at appropriate locations such as state lines, entrances to towns, and rest areas. The blue star was the centerpiece of the memorial sign because it symbolized the blue star on the World War II service flag which hung in homes of service men and women as a tribute. Originally initiated to honor World War II veterans, the mission of the Blue Star Marker was expanded to include all men and women who had served, were serving or would serve in the Armed Forces of the United States.

A proposed north-south route thru Wisconsin was Highway 51, which runs from New Orleans to the northern border of Wisconsin, Highway 2. It was dedicated as Wisconsin's Blue Star Memorial Highway at the 18th Annual Convention, October 11, 1945. At the National Convention in 1949, the WGCF received a Certificate of Achievement "for cooperation in the establishment of a Blue Star Memorial Highway".

WISCONSIN'S BLUE STAR MEMORIAL HIGHWAY MARKER LOCATIONS

Beloit - Dedicated, May 30, 1951

Located in Riverside Park on the west side of Highway 51. Overlooking the Rock River, South Central District was to care for it.

McFarlan - Dedicated, October 2, 1952

Located in a city park on the west side of Highway 51 was financed by the West Side Garden Club, located next to Babcock Memorial Park.

Portage - Dedicated, November, 1952

Located in Blue Star Park, west side of Highway 51, the Portage Garden Club was in charge of locating the site, dedication and maintenance.

Westfield - Dedicated, 1951

Located ten miles north of Westfield in a Highway 51 Rest Area on the east side of the highway. The Westfield Garden Club was to develop as a bird sanctuary.

Rothschild - Dedicated, 1950

The Fox River Valley District financed the marker and initial planting, but the Wausau club maintained it. It was moved to a highway rest area at the junction of Highway 34 and 51 near Wausau in the 1990's.

Hurley - Dedicated, 1955

Located at south entrance to the city on Highway 51 at Veteran's Legion Post 58 at 3rd Avenue South and Veterans Drive.

Superior - Dedicated, May 15, 1952

Located at Belnap Street (Business Highway 2) at Hill Avenue at the first stop light west of the Tourist Center.

Ashland - Dedicated, July 18, 1957

Located on Highway 2 across from the County Courthouse in a City Park overlooking the bay naming U.S. Highway 2 from Hurley to Superior as a Blue Star Memorial Highway

Sheboygan - Dedicated, October 11, 1994

Located in Sheboygan County Veterans Memorial Park adjacent to Highway 23 at Taylor Drive. Ivy League Garden Club

Elm Grove

Wood

WISCONSIN'S BLUE STAR BY-WAY MARKER LOCATION

Manitowoc - Dedicated 1994

Located at Cary Ferry Site.

In 1987, Local American Legion Auxiliary units were approached for their assistance in locating the Markers, and to determine their interest in landscaping and keeping the sites maintained. Beloit voted to provide perpetual care. The marker is in a city park and flowers had been planted. McFarland reported that the marker had been lost. Rothschild had a nicely landscaped marker and the Legion Auxiliary was their Memorial Day service at the site. Hurley has a marker; no additional information available. Ashland reported that their marker was being maintained in good condition. It is located in a City Park on Highway 2. Two other markers had been erected by WGCF placed on either side of the road. These were placed in memory of the World War I Armed Forces.

HISTORY OF WGCF SCHOLARSHIP PROGRAM

. Since 1987, students at UW-Madison, UW-Stevens Point and UW-River Falls have received most of the scholarships. The universities have been very selective of the students that they recommend for the scholarships; thus all applicants have been highly talented students deserving of our monetary support.

For many years, earnings derived from permanent scholarship fund investments, plus annual scholarship donations by clubs and individual members and memorials have funded WGCF Scholarships. In 1987, Wisconsin Life Members voted to place all Life Member funds in the new Memorial-Scholarship Fund.

The Memorial-Scholarship Fund was invested in extremely conservative accounts – certificates of deposits, etc., until recent years. In 1999, a Scholarship Investment Committee was formed to oversee permanent investments and improve our return. The Memorial-Scholarship Fund was granted/invested with the Community Foundation of the Fox Valley Region, Inc. In 1988, there was \$23,500 in the permanent scholarship funds; currently there is \$67, 595 in the accounts.

In June 1998, Della Balousek, President of the Olbrich Garden Club, presented a check for \$18,000 to WGCF to establish, a permanent investment fund to honor Irene Straus with a \$1000 scholarship given in her name each year. The fund was to be segregated from other WGCF scholarship money and invested in the stock market.

The WGCF Scholarship Committee has been very pleased to have had a National Council Scholarship recipient year since 1987. Including our four year Tempie Dahlgren scholarship winner in the late 1980's, seventeen National Scholarships have come to Wisconsin in amounts of \$3500 or \$4000, and totaling \$62,000. In addition, WGCF provided three to six \$1000 scholarships per year, a total of fifty-two WGCF Scholarships worth \$52,000. This includes the Irene Straus scholarships. To summarize, **since 1987, sixty-nine state and national scholarships have been awarded in Wisconsin totaling \$114,000.**

Carolyn A. Craig, Scholarship Chairman
1987 to Present

AWARD

AWARD

(Listed and numbered as in *WGCF Award Booklet*)

1. The Lydia Shafer Award is the highest award a garden club member can receive. Lydia Shafer was known for her enthusiastic approach and untiring efforts to promote the objectives of WGCF. She set an example of courage, loyalty, devotion, and leadership for garden club members to follow. Lydia and A. J. Shafer were married June 25, 1926. Their only child, A. J. Jr., was born March 25, 1927. He died of injuries received as a quarterback in the Wisconsin-Iowa football game in November 11, 1944. Lydia often said that she and A.J. would have to carry on in a way to make A.J. Jr. proud of them. They achieved that goal together.

In 1962, at La Crosse, Lydia as president of WGCF opened the convention. She passed away the following year, October 8, 1963. Created this award as evidence of his grief, A.J. said, "I hope I can rejuvenate myself and begin to demonstrate an attitude which would make both Lydia and Allen proud of the way I carry on. Please God to allow this to be the right thing to do and to help me to achieve it." He set up a trust at a Madison bank whereby each year a silver bowl was purchased and given in her memory until 2000. In 1988, the Lydia Shafer Trophy remained a sterling silver bowl until the price became prohibitive, then the trophy became a silver-plated reverse bowl and later a Waterford crystal bowl in 1999. (See list of Lydia Shafer Award recipients)

2. The Bronze Award (1954) Presented to a non-member for exceptional and outstanding accomplishments in any field that advances WGCF objectives. The work should be recognized as a definite and stimulating influence within the State. Bronze Medal Award was changed from a medal to a plaque in 1969 for economic, availability and usefulness reasons.
(See list of Bronze Award recipients)

3. The Creative Horticulture Award (1980) Presented to a member who has made an outstanding contribution to horticulture through: A literary production, book, brochure, creative horticulture, such as, developing a new plant variety or creating an outstandingly beautiful garden and sharing it with others. First listing of this award, Horticulture Achievement Award, was in the 1974 January-February issue of *Wisconsin Gardens*. This award was first given in 1980. (See list of Creative Horticulture Award recipients)

A similar award, a green ribbon for literary or creative horticulture was presented in 1955. In 1965, this award was called the Special Achievement Award #3.

4. Silver Seal Clubs (1968) Originally this award was the BLUE RIBBON CLUB CERTIFICATE. All clubs that met the ten requirements received this award: delegate(s) to convention, Standard Flower Show, field trip, community project, \$5.00 to scholarship, horticulture display at a meeting, 1 member attend a school, sponsor a junior club, 25% membership subscriptions to *TNG*, and sponsor a garden center.

Currently, the Silver Seal Award is a certificate requiring a scrapbook containing one year's record of club activities scoring 85-90 points.

5. Gold Seal Clubs (1968) Originally was #4-TRICOLOR CLUB CITATION. A certificate was awarded each club meeting the following five requirements: 4 regular meetings, at least one landscape project, plant at least one tree, 100% subscriptions to *TNG*, and sponsor a garden center.

Currently, the Gold Seal Award is a certificate requiring a scrapbook containing one year's record of club activities scoring 91 points or above.

6. Garden Club of the Year (1959) a traveling silver trophy. Originally this award was a gold ribbon given to the club in Wisconsin, which has done outstanding work in its community. A book of evidence was required starting in 1967. It was titled Superior Club Citation in 1968. In 1971, the award was a traveling silver trophy. There was a scale of points for the ten requirements: Standard Flower Show with all member participation, all member participation in a project(s) of community interest; garden study program with two outside speakers; yearbook; scrapbook; representation at all state and district meetings; dues paid; 60% attendance to 9 club meetings; 100% subscriptions to *TNG*; participation of members in local, district and state such as judges, critics, and offices; and sponsor a Junior Club or Garden Center.

Currently, the Traveling Silver Trophy is presented to the garden clubs whose achievements do the most to promote the objectives of WGCF, as well as supporting its projects, and are so distinctive as to merit its being cited as Outstanding Garden Club in Wisconsin. A scrapbook is required to score the highest point value.

7. Ruth West Horticulture Award (1957) This award started as a \$25.00 monetary award to be presented to the club having the most outstanding horticulture program through out the current year. In 1979, Ruth West increased the amount to \$35.00 "to keep up with inflation".

8. Conservation Award (1967) To the club having well-balanced year's conservation activities, including a field trip and over excellence on program. Award will be determined by outstanding work in natural resource development, such as watersheds, erosion, reforestation, wildlife refuge, wise land management, preservation or natural resources, a/o waste awareness.

Gerda Debelak served on the Outlook committee for a period of three years, the Scholarship Committee of the Wisconsin Life Members and chairman of the WGCF Special Project - Old World Ethnic Museum at Eagle. She was responsible for the ideas and implementation of the Prairie Restoration at the International Crane Foundation and the follow-up project of the educational Prairie Internships.

9. Wisconsin Civic Achievement Award (1965) A certificate may be presented to a club, clubs, or district for civic achievement in any of the following

categories: Civic Achievement, Preservation of Beauty, Operation Wildflower, Rustic Roads & Historic Trails. In 1965, this award was called the Special Achievement Award #4. In 1968, it was called the Civic Beautification Award with a bowl to be awarded to a continuing project.

10. World Gardening Award (1968) A certificate presented for the most comprehensive program of World Gardening.

11. Program Award (1965) A certificate presented to the club submitting three dated programs; two may be brief, one to have research and presented during the current year on the same subject. The program(s) must stimulate interest in gardening and may be adaptable to clubs of comparable size.

12. Leona Sharpe Wilmeth Memorial Therapy Award (1965) A monetary award presented for the most outstanding program in garden therapy. A wide variety of therapy could be recognized, such as a project conducted with the participation of a group within an institution, hospital or centered upon the rehabilitation of a single handicapped person.

Leona Sharpe Wilmeth was the daughter-in-law of Pat Wilmeth. Leona, 80 in 1966, had a lifelong interest in history and the world of nature, including birds. She believed in the healing powers of nature and for that reason this award was established. Patricia was the State Garden Therapy Chairman from 1966 and continues to give the monetary award each year to a club and to a district.

13. Certificate of Merit (1958) presented for a meritorious project or accomplishments not covered by any other award to club/clubs, member, district. This award may once have been the Special Recognition Award, Award of Appreciation. At one time this award was to recognize fundraising project(s).

14. Kuether District Membership Award (1979) a traveling trophy, to be awarded to the District having the greatest percentage of increase in membership figured from the last Executive Committee meeting before the convention of the previous year, to the last executive meeting before convention of the current year. In honor of Lee Kuether, Past president 1975-1977.

15. Yearbooks A scale of point for the yearbook awards was first printed the Vol. 1, Issue 3, Dec. 1949, p. 14. A list of the clubs receiving yearbook awards appeared in the October-November 1952 issue of *Wisconsin Gardens*.

16. Flower Show Achievement Award (1953) One award, a purple ribbon, for each district, if merited was available in an article by Erma M. Marquart in the May, 1953 issue *WG*.

17. Holiday Flower Show (1954) A purple ribbon was awarded to a club or clubs and a district sponsoring a Standard Christmas Flower Show.

18. Home & Garden Show (1957) A purple ribbon was awarded to club(s) and district sponsoring a Home & Garden Show.

19. Red, White & Blue, Patriotic Show (1957) A purple ribbon was awarded to club(s) sponsoring a Red, White & Blue Patriotic Show.

20. Wisconsin Judges Council Educational Award This award was to be presented to an exhibit scoring 95 or above, receiving the Educational Award in a Standard Flower Show. In 1968, the Brown and White Education Rosette was presented to the outstanding education exhibit recommended by the judges of the show.

21. Flower Show Schedule (Traveling Silver Trophy) (1969) This trophy was presented to the club, clubs, a judge's council or group of judge's councils or district submitting the best schedule for a Standard Flower Show. In 1970 and in 1971, Mildred Newman took care of the engraving and polishing of this trophy.

22. Certificate of Appreciation to a Plant Society (1974) A certificate to be presented to a plant society for a specialized Flower Show at which Nationally Accredited Judges are invited to judge. Formally was #22.

23. Bostock Memorial Junior/Intermediate Achievement Award (1957) Originally, the \$10.00 Bostock Junior Award was offered by Mrs. H.S. Bostock, Madison. It was to be given in the form of books on gardening to the first three winners in a designated Junior contest. Mrs. Bostock was president of WGCF from 1942-1943.

The amount of this award was increased to \$15.00 in 1985. It is currently sponsored by the Madison District.

24. School Gardener Citation (No longer exists) (1965) A Citation was given for outstanding program or achievement.

25. Edna Buchta Junior Yearbook Award (1973) to be presented to a Junior Club for the most outstanding yearbook; the work of the club member/members.

Edna, from Racine, became active in garden club activities starting in 1957. She was Milwaukee District Garden Club Woman of the Year in 1971. She was a flower show judge, state and national Juniors chairman for many years.

26. Junior Garden Club of the Year (1953) A junior garden award, a blue ribbon, was available to each district in 1953.

27. Intermediate Garden Club of the Year (1968) A certificate to be presented to the Intermediate Garden club most successful in promoting all phases of garden club work.

28. Larkin Life Membership Award (1986) was to go to the District having the greatest percentage of increases in Wisconsin Life Memberships figured from the last Executive Committee Meeting before the Convention of current year to last Executive Committee Meeting before Convention of current year the award to be a traveling plaque with descriptive plaque attached. An additional small plate with proper district name and year will be added.

Kitty was WGCF President from 1983-1985, Central Region Director from 1987-1989. Currently she is 2nd Vice President of NGC to be installed as NGC President in 2005 in Milwaukee. She was an editor of *Wisconsin Gardens* for fifteen years. She also served on many committees at the district, state, region and national levels.

29. Doris Swartz Award (1986) This award was to be presented to the Club having the most outstanding Design Program for the Club year. Clubs should notify the WGCF Yearbook Chairman if they are applying for this Award. The applications are then presented to the WGCF Awards Committee.

Doris was WGCF President from 1981-1983 and Design instructor of Flower Show School. She was a National Chairman. She served on many committees at the district, state, region and national levels.

30. Wisconsin Landscape Critics' Council Award (1988) A monetary award presented to a garden club which has made the most significant contribution in providing, planning and planting for one of the following projects: Commercial property, Church, Public building, Park, Waterfront, etc. Plans for the project must be approved by an A.S.L.A. Architect.

31. The "And Then Some Award" (1980) A VIP Award offered by Margaret Doornink. Each year club's may honor one of their members for their willingness to serve, giving a little extra, and then some, to accomplish WGCF goals. A brief report must accompany the selection stating one or all of the following: (1) did what was expected of them. (2) showed consideration and thoughtfulness of others. (3) met the obligations and responsibilities to carry on for achievement (4) friendliness was shown to others. (5) unexpected help was given in an emergency, and then some.

All District recipients (one from each District) shall receive a certificate, but the top entry given a special certificate. Donor would furnish supplies for this Award for 10 years, at which time the Executive Committee should decide if the award should be continued.

Margaret was WGCF President from 1987-89. She wrote many interesting horticulture articles for the *Wisconsin Gardens*. She served on many committees at the district, state and regional levels.

35. 32. Elaine Seeliger Environmental Awareness Award (1991) A \$50.00 award to be given to a federated club having an overall and well-balanced year's activities in one or more of the following areas of environmental awareness: a.

Study of laws concerning reclamation and/or recycling; b. Methods of yard waste control and its disposal; c. Research and study of household waste business and industrial waste in the community, area or state; d. Promotion or public awareness dealing specifically with Solid Waste Management; e. Education or legislative activity in Environmental Awareness.

Elaine was WGCF President from 1989-1991. During her term there was an emphasis on environmental awareness across Wisconsin and the nation. She served as chairman of the Environmental Schools as well as many other committees at the district, state and regional levels.

36. 33. Ruth Smith Evaluation Award (1990) A traveling trophy-silver bowl to be given to the Wisconsin Judge writing the best flower show evaluation each year. When the bowl is engraved completely, it should be given to the judge having her name on it most often. Then, the award can be retired, or someone can determine if they would like to sponsor the same. Ruth is a Master Flower Show Judge and served as Flower Show Evaluation Chairman for many years. Ruby Toft sponsored the first traveling trophy in 1978. This trophy was retired after Ruth Smith received it three times in 1988. Rudy is a Flower Show Judge. She was the WGCF Awards Chairman when she initiated the award to encourage judges to improve the flower show evaluations, which are required to accompany all flower shows applying for National Council awards.

37. 38. 34. Murken Memorial-Scholarship Fund Award (1993) A traveling trophy to be presented to the District that gives the *greatest amount of money per capita* to the Memorial-Scholarship Fund, from which interest provides the fund for our scholarships; based upon contributions received by the WGCF Treasurer from January 1 to December 31.

Liz was WGCF president from 1991-1993. Increasing the funds in the scholarship fund was her president's project. She has held many offices and served on many committees at the district, state, regional and national levels.

35. Nancy Gotham Endangered Species Award (1995) to be given to the garden club with the most comprehensive program/s on endangered species whether it be bird, mammal, fish, insect or plant. Program(s) given may be informational background, how to preserve or conserve or how to propagate or promote continued existence of said specie/s. A monetary award could be given annually.

Nancy was WGCF President from 1993-1995 and Central Region Alternate 2001-2003. She served on many committees at the district, state, region and national levels.

Eileen Knox

Carole Hopp

Previous 27. Mrs. Garden Club of the Year (1967) A traveling crown with a bouquet of red roses was awarded Mrs. Fred Schoenecker in 1967. The district director whose district had the greatest number of awards based on the number of clubs would receive this award. In 1969, it was determined the award would be determined on a percentage based on the number of awards won in her district, so that each district director has the same opportunity to receive the award. It was discontinued in 1979.

Discontinued awards : Membership Awards, Scrapbook Awards, Civic Beautification Project (Sears), National Gardener Subscription Award, Myrtle Roehm Junior Essay Award, Youth Program Certificate of Merit, Convention Award, Wisconsin Gardens Award, District Membership Award, Continuing Project Award, Wisconsin Garden Club Award (to an individual), Illuminated Certificate of Distinguished Service to a State President, Mildred Newman Monetary Award, 1970 Wisconsin Sears EIP Award, Mini-Flower Show Award, Schoenecker Essay Contest Award,