



Volume 67, Issue 3  
Summer 2016

# Wisconsin Gardens

## **President's Project: Hilary Grace Healing Garden**

**Janis Dixon, Nancy Sloan, President's Project Co-Chairs**

As you can see from the picture (below left), there's been lots of progress on the Hilary Grace garden. All the planters have their drainage mats. The cement pavers are complete in the center courtyard and alcoves. The metal underlayment for the ramps is in and the pergolas for a seating area and the patient therapy garden are up. They also started delivering the gravel in the perimeter planters.

WGCF has made the official garden work schedule! Our volunteers planted their adopted pots from June 20th through June 24th. The garden planners are saving back one pot to be planted by Hilary Grace's family. Their plan is for purple snapdragons, which were a favorite of hers.

The kaleidoscope sculpture will be the last annual area to be installed. They waited until June 30th, as they didn't want to risk damaging it.

For my next installment, Hilary Grace Healing Garden will be complete. If we're this excited after only 12 months, I can only imagine how the hospital team is feeling about a project that has been years in the making. Stay tuned!

Donors to the President's Project since the last publication: Western Acres Garden Club, Lois Harr and family in memory of Jack Harr, Tilling Thyme Garden Club, Lynne Ehnert, Diane Powelka, Sandra Ingram, Willow River Garden Club, Sun Prairie Garden Club, Linda McCafferty. Thank you to all our generous WGCF members!



*Amazing progress has happened at the Hilary Grace Healing Garden (left photo). Project Co-Chairs Nancy Sloan and Jan Dixon admire the adopted planters with WGCF President Gerianne Holzman (right photo).*

## *Gardening for Good*

*Education*

*Service*

*Friendship*

## Tri-Council Tour

Carol Bessler, Secretary



### Tri-Council Summer Tour Thursday, July 14, 2016 ~ Green Bay, WI

The day began at 9:30 AM at the Green Bay Botanical Gardens, located at 2600 W Larsen Road. This is one of the finest botanic gardens in the country.

Following the tour at the Botanical Gardens, members and guests gathered at The Cannery Public Market, at 320 N Broadway #110, for lunch at their restaurant. The Cannery is located in a real circa 1917 former vegetable cannery, in the heart of Green Bay's Historic Broadway District. A short meeting followed lunch and then the group headed to Hazelwood House.

Hazelwood House Museum is Green Bay's only historical house open to the public that is still on its original site, located in the Astor Historic District, 1800 South Monroe Avenue. Its ten rooms are decorated to reflect the elegance of the 1880s and 1890s Victorian period.

This event was a wonderful day with Tri-Council friends.

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WGCF is a not-for-profit educational organization founded in 1928. It is a member of National Garden Clubs, Inc.

**Mission: WGCF provides education, resources and opportunities for its members to promote and share the love of gardening, floral design, civic and environmental responsibility.**

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#### ADVERTISING RATES

Size	WGCF	Other
Full page	\$150	\$200
Half page	\$75	\$100
Quarter page	\$37.50	\$50
Bus. Card	\$20	\$20



## From Our President . . . . .

Can it really be 12 months since I was installed as your WGCF president? Wow, time moves swiftly! It has been a joy and honor to serve you during the past year. I proudly shared your accomplishments and our WGCF plans with garden club members from across the country during the recent NGC convention, last fall's NGC board of directors meeting and the CR convention. While talking to other state presidents, it is comforting to hear that other states face similar challenges of aging members, loss of clubs and nurturing new leaders. NGC provides wonderful resources for all of us. Please check out their website and the WGCF website for a plethora of information.

As I look back over the last 12 months, it is exciting to see all of our accomplishments and our strategic plan in full swing of implementation. The last year brought our new updated website on-line which includes:

- Fully interactive forms
- Complete updated WGCF Handbook
- Fundraising opportunities
- Public outreach
- Updated and up-to-date information for our members

We maintain an active presence on Facebook and continue to update our image as we reach out to our communities. The marketing team will work on an outreach packet for use across the state for other tabling opportunities. Our new grants committee is ready to work and will create procedures for accepting grant applications from individual clubs. The membership team created a lovely membership promotion brochure. All clubs have received several copies. Contact Vern Lowell if you need more brochures for an event. The style of the brochure is part of our WGCF "branding" to coordinate all printed and electronic media. This creates an identifiable WGCF style.

We are trying to inject "new blood" into our committees by reaching out to club presidents and district directors for names of potential committee members. New participants will bring new and innovative ideas. Streamlining meetings by participating on-line via GoToMeeting has saved time, money and effort of the committee members. The meetings are efficient and well run. Respecting people's time is being done at the Executive Committee and annual meetings with all reports being submitted electronically prior to the meeting. In the next year, we will eliminate anyone's need to travel half a day to attend the Executive Committee or Annual Business meeting. All of these meetings will be centralized and held in Wausau.

Over the years, some WGCF members have shown disappointment in hosting our annual business meeting and convention in the spring. This is a VERY busy time of the year for gardeners and garden-related vendors and speakers. Depending on the weather and location, it is also a difficult time to find gardens to tour. We will experiment for the next two years by separating the annual business meeting from the education component of our conventions. The potential of the Central Region meeting in Wisconsin in October 2017 provided a great opportunity for this experiment as we then are not planning two conventions in one year. In 2017, our annual meeting will be in Wausau in May and the new Garden Education Summit (GES) will be in the Wisconsin Dells in October. Promoting the GES outside of our organization is a great outreach opportunity. Plans are underway to set up the GES to also be a Tri-Refresher. Help is needed to make this a successful event.

I am so grateful to all of the members, clubs and districts for their generous donations to the Hilary Grace Healing Garden. To date, we have raised over \$4000 with half of this going back to our districts for *Gardening for Good* projects in their own communities. The team at UW-Hospital in Madison has embraced our idea of "Adopt a Pot" to provide volunteer opportunities for our members to design and plant annual planters with seasonal interest in the Healing Garden. The garden officially opens in early July. If you are in Madison, stop at UW Hospital and check it out.

I came across the following quote from Vince Lombardi and feel it embraces what we do as garden club members. It seems to go well with our new WGCF tagline: *Gardening for Good: Education, Service, Friendship*. Enjoy all of your individual and team efforts during these glorious months of summer.

*Gardening for good,  
Gerianne*

*"Individual commitment to a group effort - that is what makes a team work, a company work, a society work, a civilization work."* - Vince Lombardi



## CONGRATULATIONS 2016 AWARD WINNERS!!



**LYDIA SHAFER  
AWARD**  
*Ginger Wierman*  
*St. Croix District*  
*with Gerianne Holzman*



**BRONZE AWARD**  
**and Convention Speaker**  
*Roy Rogers*



**CREATIVE HORTICULTURAL  
ACHIEVEMENT AWARD**  
*Carol Catlin with*  
*President Gerianne Holzman*



**GARDEN CLUB  
OF THE YEAR AWARD**  
*Lake Wissota Garden Club,*  
*St. Croix District*

*Club President Barb Barrickman*  
*with Gerianne Holzman*

*Lake Wissota Garden Club*  
*also received*  
**RUTH WEST  
HORTICULTURE AWARD and**  
**GOLD SEAL AWARD**



**CONSERVATION AWARD**  
**and NANCY GOTHAM**  
**ENDANGERED SPECIES**  
**AWARD**  
*Elmbrook Garden Club*

*Club President Laura Skoff*  
*with Gerianne Holzman*



**KUETHER DISTRICT  
MEMBERSHIP AWARD and**  
**MURKEN MEMORIAL**  
**SCHOLARSHIP FUND**  
**AWARD**

*Sheboygan District*  
*Doris Weber and Lynnette Rakun*  
*accepting award from Gerianne*



**LARKIN LIFE  
MEMBERSHIP AWARD**  
*Milwaukee District*  
*Lynne Ehnert, Director*



**RUTH SMITH  
EVALUATION AWARD**  
*Wendy Kramer*  
*with Gerianne Holzman*





**FLOWER SHOW SCHEDULE  
AWARD**  
*St. Croix District*  
*Wendy Kramer, District Director*  
*accepting award from Gerianne*  
*Holzman*



**WISCONSIN JUDGES COUNCIL  
EDUCATIONAL AWARD #22**  
*Floral Designers of Wisconsin*  
*Club President Carol Catlin accepting*  
*award*



**DESIGN AWARD**  
*Lake Wiscota Garden Club*  
*Club President Barb Barrickman*  
*accepting award*

## WGCF STANDARD FLOWER SHOW AWARDS:

- |        |   |                               |
|--------|---|-------------------------------|
| #17-1a | Standard Flower Show sponsored by One Club<br>"Beauty in Wisconsin" | Floral Designers of Wisconsin |
| #17-2a | Small Standard Flower Show Achievement Award<br>"Fire Fest"         | Creative Floral Arrangers     |

**WGCF AWARDS** - - *Procedure for applying for any of the awards and the Award Criteria is listed in the WGCF Handbook and on WGCF website.*

## "And Then Some" Awards

Lois Harr, Coulee District  
Lynne Slat, Fox River Valley District  
Julie Hustvet, Indianhead District

Jim & Gloria Davies, Madison District  
Liz Murken, Milwaukee District  
Char Travis, Sheboygan District

Carol Howe, St. Croix District



*And Them Some" Award Winners Liz Murken (left photo), Char Travis (center photo), and Carol Howe (right photo) are congratulated by WGCF President Gerianne Holzman, and thanked for their dedicated service to their Clubs, Districts and WGCF.*



## **CONGRATULATIONS 2016 AWARD WINNERS!!**



For the Pat Dvorak Yearbook Theme Award, there was a tie between Milwaukee Art Museum (left photo) and Bay Gardeners (photo at right).



### **YEARBOOK AWARDS**

#### **CLUBS HAVING 13-17 MEMBERS**

Bay Gardeners  
Floral Designers of Wisconsin

Indianhead District  
Milwaukee District

3rd Place  
Honorable Mention

#### **CLUBS HAVING 18-22 MEMBERS**

Elmbrook Garden Club

Milwaukee District

1st Place

#### **CLUBS HAVING 23-29 MEMBERS**

Tilling Thyme Garden Club  
Lake Wissota Garden Club  
Bangor Garden Club

Coulee District  
St. Croix District  
Coulee District

1st Place  
2nd Place  
3rd Place

#### **CLUBS HAVING 40 OR MORE MEMBERS**

Milwaukee Art Museum Garden Club  
Green Thumb Garden Club  
Mound View Garden Club

Milwaukee District  
Fox River Valley District  
Madison District

1st Place  
1st Place  
2nd Place

### **SMOKEY BEAR CONTEST WINNERS**

All winners are from St. Edwards School in Appleton. The Paper Valley Garden Club in the Fox River Valley District submitted the entries.

First Grade Winner - Hailey Lamers  
Second Grade Winner - Rowan Howard  
Third Grade Winner - Courtney Van Pay

Fourth Grade Winner - Miranda Romnek  
Fifth Grade Winner - Jack Vosters

### **Step into Spring - One More Time**

**Gerianne Holzman**

THANK YOU to all of the members of the Sheboygan District for welcoming us to Step into Spring at the WGCF's 89<sup>th</sup> Annual Convention. You overwhelmed us with all of the incredible details, exceptional venue and wonderful food. Doris Weber and Lynnette Rakun are especially thanked for organizing a wonderful group of individuals to meet all of our needs. Thanks to our sound and media specialist Greg Rakun and his team for your expertise. Finally, thank you to Mary Kulhanek for keeping us laughing while we readily opened up our pocketbooks to support the WGCF. The auctions were so fun, people didn't want to leave!

Much appreciation to the WI Judges' Council for their Step into Spring flower show and thank you to all the convention workers, speakers, members doing demos and education. Congratulations to all of our award recipients! Job well done everyone!



## Step into Spring - Convention Highlights

Doris Weber

WGCF members were all invited to "Step Into Spring" as the Sheboygan District's two garden clubs hosted the 89<sup>th</sup> WGCF Annual Convention at the Osthoff in Elkhart Lake May 15<sup>th</sup> thru 17<sup>th</sup>.

There was plenty to see and do for members attending this convention. Starting with the annual business meeting, there were vendors, tisket-a-tasket baskets, educational exhibits, silent and live auctions, standard petite flower show, awards, demos, four workshops; and of course, great speakers and programs. Also, the shoe drive took a large jump when all the attending members brought in their many bags of slightly used shoes and the count increased rapidly.

Speakers and programs consisted of: Kelly Bahrs, telling us about the Christopher Farm and Gardens; Elizabeth Wieland, delighting us with the story of Bookworm Gardens; Bronze Award Winner Ray Rogers, encouraging us to use unusual and tropic plants in containers and his love for succulents; Kristia Wildflower, entertaining us with her flower facts, folklore, and acting as fairy godmother. What wonderful stories each one of them had to share with WGCF members!

We enjoyed hearing Danielle Kamps, of the UW Foundation inform us on the update of the Hilary Grace Healing Gardens. Cora Demler gave us insight on her future and thanked us for her scholarship money given by the WGCF Scholarship Fund. New this year at the convention was the amazing live or (lively at times) auction run by Lake Shore Garden Club member, Mary Kulhanek and her team of helpers. Loads of fun and lots of laughs and money raising besides!

The four workshops were filled beyond capacity and enjoyed by all who attended. Craig Harms shared his knowledge on the edible landscape and growing for food and function. Tina Nohl gave us a one hour lesson in creating a fresh and natural arrangement and using every piece of greenery and floral. Laura Sauermilch presented information on reduce, reuse, recycle and using vinegar around the house in your everyday clean-up. Christine Shilts had fun planting in fun, fabulous, and funky containers of all shapes and sizes.

Lynnette Rakun and Doris Weber, co-chairs of this convention and members of the Sheboygan District, hope you did learn something new, met new or old friends, had lots of laughs, as we gathered for the 2016 WGCF Convention. If you were intrigued with the area and didn't get to see it all, we invite you to come back to this beautiful area for another visit.



***2016 Convention -- A time for workshops & speakers, entertainment, auctions, displays and lots of fun!!***



## Memorial Service

Elvera Jacot

### “Flowers in Heaven”

I hope there are gardens in heaven, with wild flowers all around.  
Lining each of the golden streets~I'll miss them if they are not found.  
I'll volunteer to tend them, to water and pull the weeds.  
To watch as they grow to full flower from tiny seeds.  
It wouldn't be heaven without them,  
I hope God grows flowers in heaven for garden club members up there.  
By Jenifer Hammeal of Ocala, Florida.

This year's Memorials were given to the following: Karen Timonen, Dianne Selkey, Eleanor Hinich, Carla Krueger, Phyllis Swedish, Roger Olsen, Elizabeth Barr, Ella Mae Jenicek Koranda, Gladys Shaw, Anne Coisman, Muriel Vogel, Jae Westphal, Arlene Engelheart, Doris Steenbock, Delores Rhyme, Ken DeShambo, Janis Fuerst, Donna Woods, Adele Whiting, Ramona Joann Zutter, Jeannine Meyer, and Joyce Klugow.

Gracious God and merciful Father, whose eyes are on the sparrow and who loves the lilies of the field, we give you thanks for these garden club friends who are no longer with us.

We thank you for their friendship.

We thank you for their contribution to garden club work.

We thank you for their leadership and wisdom.

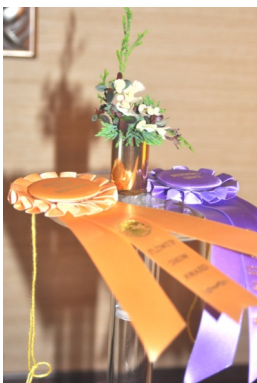
We thank you for their openness of mind and willingness to help.

We thank you for their integrity, kindness and loyalty.

You comprehend our grief and understand our tears; and as we say

Farewell let memories of them linger in our hearts.

Amen



**Step into Spring Petite Standard Flower Show**



## **WGCF Judges Council**

**Marion Books, President**

The WGCF Judges Council had an eventful year. Our Annual Meeting was held at the 2016 Convention with sixteen members present. The Council is composed of the NGC Flower Show Judges residing within the state who choose to join. The purpose of the Council is similar to the stated purpose of flower shows—to stimulate interest in horticulture and floral design, to convey to the community the objectives of NGC, to educate the public and to provide a creative outlet for personal expression as well as to network with WGCF and NGC members with similar interests.

Wisconsin Judges Council is divided into three areas – the Southern Judges Council, Northeast Judges Council and Northwest Judges Council. Flower shows were held in all three areas of the state for a total of six flower shows and what a variety they were. From Judges Council Shows, to a Volunteer Firefighters Festival, to the annual show at the Wisconsin State Fair. The culmination was our WGCFJC Petite Standard show at the Osthoff during the Annual WGCF Meeting and Convention in May. All the designs were designated as five or eight inch displays and showed extensive creative thought and ability, showcasing talents of the exhibitors.

Horticulture exhibits were also limited to small or miniature specimens and displayed the knowledge and abilities of exhibitors to grow beautiful award worthy plants.

Of course, if there is a Standard Flower Show it will be evaluated or judged. Each of the NGC Accredited Judges is required to evaluate and exhibit at shows to remain in good standing. These shows also provided an opportunity for judges to earn judging and exhibiting credits.

Wisconsin members are fortunate to have three Nationally Accredited Flower Show Instructors: Liz Murken and Helen Surridge in Design and Judy Newman in Horticulture.

This year we also had several members choose to request Emeritus Status. This means they are no longer required to exhibit or judge at shows. Even though this requirement is waived, please remember that they have extensive experience and much information to share with members. They are a formidable resource for any member interested in Design, Horticulture and Special Exhibits.

Plans for this next year include several Flower Shows, a Symposium and the start of the Flower Shows sequence of four sessions. Anyone interested is encouraged to participate in these.

Come and join us. We hope to see you there.

## **Step Into Spring Petite Standard Flower Show**

**Wendy Kramer, Special Exhibits Chairman**

The Wisconsin Judges Council sponsored a Petite Standard Flower Show in conjunction with the WGCF “Step Into Spring” May annual convention. As a member of the Wisconsin Judges Council, I participated in the flower show as the Special Exhibits Chairman. The Special Exhibits Division included Educational Exhibits, Photography, and Artistic Crafts. I was impressed with the talent and creativity of our WGCF members!

The three Educational Exhibits included table top displays on “Spring Ephemerals”, “Worm Composting” and “Pressed Flower Designs”. These displays provided information on each of the topics and the exhibitors did an excellent job.

The Photography Section was a new adventure for our flower show. Oh, what talent we have in our state! I received 36 photographs for the five different classes in this section. I mounted the photographs and then had them judged by three judges in my area (Western Wisconsin). One judge was a UW-River Falls Professor, photography instructor, retired; one was an editor and photographer, public affairs, retired (has also received award recognition for his work); and a student of photography.

The Artistic Crafts exhibits included a decorated treasure chest, an ornament for a special event, a decorated ball, a topiary, and a decorated notecard with dried plant material. Our members are very talented and all of these exhibits were delightful.

The purposes for holding a flower show are to educate the public, to stimulate interest in horticulture and floral design, to provide an outlet for creative expression, and to convey to the community the objectives of NGC. I would like to thank everyone who exhibited in the flower show and to those who were able to enjoy the experience.

## News from Clubs around the state

### Lake Wissota Garden Club

**Barb Barrickman, President**

Forty years of memories and friendships were remembered at a "Digging Down to our Roots" anniversary celebration on May 12th. It was a fun night filled with laughs as we played Botanical Songburst and reviewed pictures of 40 years of garden club projects. It is amazing how well we can identify ourselves and other club members from the back in the familiar leaning over pose!

With our annual plant sale on June 4, it was a busy month of digging and dividing in our own gardens as well as other community gardens. It's a great way to learn more about plants as we find unusual varieties or see how others have combined varieties to create a beautiful garden.

LWGC is proud to claim the 2016 Lydia Shafer award winner, Ginger Wierman, as our member. It was a joy to see her surprise at the state convention when the announcement was made. Ginger leads by example and we are blessed to have her at the helm of many club projects including the plant sale and Wisconsin Native Wildflower garden. We also share her with the entire state as she is active on many state and district committees and leadership positions. Ginger joined two other Lydia Shafer award winners in our club. The others are Muriel Shervey and Karen Allen.

We are also blessed to have the "best of the best" awards committee chair ever in Muriel Shervey. Muriel has used her 40 years of experience in the WGCF and LWGC in applying for many of the awards that are presented by the state annually. Her efforts documenting our work throughout the past year allowed us to net five awards this year. Not only did we proudly claim our awards but we are also \$300 richer due to the financial rewards that accompanied them. So, a big THANK YOU, to Muriel, the WGCF awards committee and all of our members for allowing me to claim the following awards at the state convention: The Ruth West Horticultural Award, the Design Award, Yearbook Award #15 2nd place, Gold Seal Club award and GARDEN CLUB OF THE YEAR!



*Congrats Lake Wissota Garden Club – Great efforts!!*

### Racine Garden Club

**Submitted by Lynn Felle**

#### "Growing gardeners since 1927"

The Racine Garden Club members have been very busy this past spring preparing for two big events. The 2016 Summer Magic Garden Tour and the renovation of our beautiful Williamsburg Garden, in lovely downtown Racine.

Julie and Chris, along with their committee members, have been working effortlessly preparing for a wonderful tour this summer. After touring nearly 20 private gardens throughout Racine, they narrowed it down to six gorgeous gardens to be showcased on our 2016 Summer Magic Garden Tour, on Sunday, July 10<sup>th</sup>. In this year's gardens visitors were able to view gorgeous woodlands, walk through mossy paths, and get inspiration from beautiful, whimsical and antique yard art. At one of the tour locations people could view flowers and vegetables growing in harmony along with butterfly gardens and fantastic historical buildings.

The Racine Garden Club members have been working tirelessly removing plants and bushes from our community garden to prepare for the newly planted Williamsburg Garden. The Williamsburg Garden was established in 1976 for the bicentennial celebration and this year, being our 40<sup>th</sup> anniversary, our members felt it needed a facelift. So with the help of our members, our garden will be replanted with new beautiful trees and plants. Next time you're in the Racine area, come spend some time and enjoy our beautiful Williamsburg Garden and our wonderful downtown shops.

Also this past spring, our club awarded six Horticultural Scholarships to five deserving students who are attending Gateway Technical College. Each year our club members work hard to raise funds for the scholarship through our 2<sup>nd</sup> Treasurers Sale or our Summer Magic Garden Tour. The Racine Garden Club has been growing gardeners since 1927 and we are happy to see that our mission of "Growing Gardeners" will continue on for the future of Racine. Congratulations to all of our 2016 Scholarship Winners.

Looking ahead to 2016-2017 membership year, we again hope to increase our membership 10 percent or more as we have done the past 5 years. Our many events, (informative speakers, hands-on garden projects, the wonderful annual bus trip in August, etc. all provide our members with knowledge and many rewarding experiences. The members of the Racine Garden Club are dedicated to education, conservation, and community projects.



## Tilling Thyme Garden Club

**Kristin Nussdorfer, President**

Tilling Thyme Garden Club is celebrating its 20<sup>th</sup> anniversary. This year Tilling Thyme members have been active in supporting an endeavor with the Sparta High School Earth Club to promote sustainability. The Earth Club initiated a purchase of a Dehydrator for the high school to recycle its food waste. Tilling Thyme has provided financial contributions – along with the help of the school district as well as community donations. Members are also volunteering during the lunch hours on the “tray line” to separate recycling, trash and food waste. It has been fun for the members to be involved with the students to see first hand their interest and dedication. It is also rewarding to see the students take a genuine interest in their environment. This is a natural alliance and important cause for our club to continue being supportive and interested in what the students are doing. The positive side of the coin is reflected in what the Earth Club is doing at the high school to reduce its footprint on the environment and the district financially. For several years the students have worked in conjunction with the Polar Bears International, an organization that fosters science-based research by climate scientists for several years. The district recycling and sustainability program has been expanded under the 18 student members. It should be noted that in 2009-10 the students collected over 5 ½ tons of recycled products from the polar bear recycle barrels they placed in the community and in 2012 two hundred community members helped the students plant 600 trees. These projects symbolize their recognition for the need for sustainability.

The Dehydrator is the first of its kind to be installed in a high school in the United States. Before the dehydrator, the school used to dump its garbage compactor, which is

filled with cafeteria waste, up to two times a month at a cost of \$115 to pull it and \$49 a ton for the waste to go into the landfill. Now, with the dehydrator in full operation, the compactor has only been dumped five times the entire year. To date, that's 13-plus tons of food waste recycled. The byproduct is a nutrient-rich soil amendment that the school plans to sell for a suggested donation, with the money raised going toward a district account to be used for district children in need.

Tilling Thyme was host to the Spring Coulee District Meeting in late April. Our theme was “Gardening is Our Cup of Tea.” The highlight of the meeting, however, was a presentation by the Earth Club advisor and teacher, Joe Cook, and a student member on their endeavors. Their interest is very contagious. The community has been very supportive and additional dehydrators have been proposed – partnering with a local nursing home and grocery store to handle their food waste. It appeared that the other garden clubs attending the District Meeting enjoyed the presentation and were impressed with the endeavors of the students. There were buckets of the soil amendment available and were readily snatched up.

In June, we will carry forth the theme, “Gardening is Our Cup of Tea,” with a float in our local festival's “Butterfest” Parade. Members have fun designing the float and riding in the parade! We continue to maintain three community gardens. In June we have a progressive garden evening with appetizers, main course and dessert at three member gardens. We will be travelling to a daylily garden in July where new daylily varieties are propagated. The members are actively involved in promoting sustainability and encouraging “Gardening for Good”.



*Tilling Thyme Garden Club members Kristin Nussdorfer, Lois Harr, Bobi Cripe, and Marie Grewal welcomed gardeners to the Coulee District spring meeting (photo on left) and during the program, a Sparta High School student and Joe Cook of Sparta High, informed gardeners about the bio-digester which is used at their school (right photo).*

*– Photos by Bobi Cripe*

## WGCF TRI-COUNCIL UPDATE

June 2015 through May 2016

Vern Lowell, Tri-Council Chair

### ACHIEVEMENTS FOR THE PAST YEAR:

- Completed a successful trial period for managing School finances through Tri-Council Treasurer and Funds and received approval by the Executive Committee at the 2016 Convention to continue this procedure
- Completed a well attended Landscape Design School Series X with a small surplus
- Completed Environmental Studies School, Series V thru Course 3  
Course 4 completed in June 2016
- Hosted a well-attended 2015 Summer Tour to Monk Gardens, Leigh Yawkey Woodson Art Museum and Gardens, and Blue Star Marker tended by Blue Star Garden Club
- Planned a Pre-Convention Tour to Bookworm Gardens in May 2016, but had to cancel due to low reservations resulting from time constraints.

### TRI-COUNCIL GOALS FOR JUNE 2016 THRU MAY 2017

- Successfully complete Series V, Course 4, of Environmental Studies School with a small surplus
- Successfully complete Garden Studies Schools Series VIII, Courses 2 and 3
- Host a successful Summer tour to Green Bay Botanical Gardens and Hazelwood House in July 2016  
(See complete details elsewhere in this newsletter)
- Plan a Tri-Refresher to be held in conjunction with the WGCF Educational Summit and Central Region Meeting in October 2017.

Current Membership: 26 as of 5/5/2016

Financial balance: \$3524.45, including the \$300 seed money for three schools, as of 5/5/2016

## Treasurer's Year End Report - May 31, 2016

Lynnette Rakun, WGCF Treasurer

At the end of the 2015/2016 year the WGCF Balance Sheet showed Assets of \$5,821.93 in checking, \$6,739.38 in savings and \$65,088.21 in restricted funds in Vanguard Investment funds and Certificates, for Total Assets of \$77,649.52.

Income included \$10,838.00 in total membership dues, \$3,472.75 in Ways & Means and \$1,312.50 in Wisconsin Gardens' advertising revenue. The 2016 State Convention income was \$ 17,691.50 and the Tisket-a-Tasket raffle raised \$1,212.00. Total income for the year was \$45,386.86.

Some significant expenses for the year include NGC Dues \$564.00, Executive Meeting & Mileage Expenses \$1,7808.02, Officer Travel Expenses \$2541.26, Ways & Means Expenses \$965.66 and Wisconsin Gardens'

printing and postage \$9,281.66. Convention expenses totaled \$16,658.01. In addition \$957.04 (\$747.04 from Markesan Gardeners) was given to the Scholarship Fund; \$45.75 to the NGC Presidents project; \$213.00 to Natural Disasters USA; \$26.00 to Natural Disasters International and \$4,255.50 to the WGCF Presidents Project (Hilary Grace Healing Garden). Total expenses were \$44,225.98.

The Net Income for the year was \$1,160.88. The income WGCF is receiving from the VERY SUCCESSFUL 2016 Convention Shoe Drive will be booked in the 2016-2017 Financial Year.

Complete Balance Sheet and Income & Expense Reports are available from Treasurer Lynnette Rakun.

## Gardening Study School

Lucy Valitchka, Gardening Study School Chair

Since the last issue of *Wisconsin Gardens* we have completed Series VIII Course 1 of Gardening Study School at the Fox Valley Technical College, Appleton, WI. Twenty students attended Friday, April 8<sup>th</sup> and 23 Saturday, April 9<sup>th</sup>. Ten students successfully completed the three required exams. Nine consultants refreshed.

We are pleased to announce that Carla Von Haden from Elroy, Coulee District, completed her studies for Gardening Study School at Course 1. She completed her other courses during Series VII. The courses may be taken in

any order, but usually students complete them in the same series, if their schedules permit.

Carla has received her Consultant card, which is good for five years, before she has to refresh. Congratulations to Carla for this achievement.

We encourage all WGCN members and the public to take advantage of these National Garden Club accredited schools.

The registration for Series VIII, Course 2, is included in this edition of *Wisconsin Gardens*. Take a look at it and consider attending September, 9-10, 2016.



*A snowy day in April is a great time to be checking the soil (photo at left), or touring the Fox Valley Technical College greenhouse with FVTC instructor James Beard (photo at right).*



## FAIR REDEFINED: FLOWERS, ART, IMAGES

**A Standard Flower Show**

Presented by

**Floral Designers of Wisconsin Garden Club**

Member of

National Garden Clubs, Inc.

Central Region

Wisconsin Garden Club Federation

Milwaukee District Garden Clubs

**Thursday, August 11, 2016  
through**

**Sunday, August 14, 2016  
Daily, 9:00 A.M. to 9:00 P.M.**

**State Fair Park Horticulture Building**

**640 S. 84<sup>th</sup> Street**

**West Allis, Wisconsin, 53214**

**Free Admission to all State Fair Attendees**



*Fox Valley Technical College instructor Roxanne Rusch-Oleson and Marion Books admire one of the plants in the FVTC greenhouse during the tour (center photo). Instructor Marilyn Davis (right) and WGCN members Carol Catlin, Pat Ritchie and Judy Newman work hard on dividing a plant during the Plant Propagation session of Gardening Study School (lower photo).*



### Environmental School Finishes Strong

Tri-Council closed out Series V of Environmental School Friday and Saturday, June 17 and 18, 2016 at the fabulous Environmental Center of Concordia University, Wisconsin located on the shores of Lake Michigan in Mequon. Course 4 was well attended, with 9 students taking the exam and 8 other students refreshing, proctoring, acting as State and Local Chairperson or Registrar, many of us wearing two or more hats. We were happy to hear from several repeat instructors we met at previous courses as well as a few instructors new to some of us. Water ecology, sustainability, phytoremediation (the use of plants to clean up contaminated sites), aquatic plants and

animals, and wetlands were the main topics. A highlight of the school was a boat tour to the Horicon Marsh to experience all aspects of this kind of environment up close and personal. Perhaps most important, we received some helpful ideas for teaching these concepts to children and had an opportunity to share ideas on how we might take action to become effective water stewardship leaders in our own communities. All of us left with a greater appreciation for wetlands and the need to protect them for the good of our earth and all the people, plants, birds and animals that need each other to survive and thrive.



*Members who attended Environmental School thoroughly enjoyed their tour of Horicon Marsh (above) and seeing the cranes and other birds (photo below), as well as having fun during class activities (above right)*



## Celebrating 100 Years of National Parks

A Standard Flower Show Presented by

**Fox River Valley District**

**Sunday, September 17, 2016**

**1:00 to 5:00 PM**

**Northland Mall**

**Appleton, Wisconsin**

**Entries open to all members of WGCF**



## New consultants

Landscape Design School, Series 10 concluded in September 2015. The school was well attended and resulted in five new Landscape Design consultants. They are: Wendy Kramer, Vern Lowell, Pat Ritchie, Denise Schoster and Debby Walters. Joan and Larry Goebel completed their course in Florida and have also achieved Landscape Design Consultant status. During the school, both Lucy Valitchka and Marion Books achieved Master consultant status. Congratulations to all!

Landscape Design School introduces attendees to the basic principles of landscape design. Students incorporate these principles into personal gardens and promote positive changes in communities. Participating in the course develops a greater sense of appreciation, pride and knowledge about private, public and historic gardens. The school addresses a wide range of topics. This includes history of landscape design, landscape design process, basics of a site plan, color and structure in the landscape, designing for the environment, plant selection – including native species and evaluation of landscapes.

## Jumping Worms

Vern Lowell, Environmental Concerns Chair

### Jumping Worms: The Latest “Thug” to Watch For in Your Gardens

Bernie (Bernadette) Williams, the Wisconsin DNR expert on worms, presented an interesting, entertaining, but alarming discussion on jumping worms at the Madison District Annual Meeting in May 2016. We learned that these Asian natives are dangerously invasive and have been found in Wisconsin, primarily in Southeastern Wisconsin and along the I 94 corridor between Milwaukee and Madison. They upset our soil chemistry making it more difficult for our native plants, including trees, and insects to thrive. These worms resemble European earthworms, but come in different colors and can reach up to 8 to 12 inches in length. Adults do not survive our Wisconsin Winters, but their eggs do. So we may see new worms in our garden soils come early to mid Summer. At

that time look for small, very active “jumping” worms on the soil surface after rains. Also note disturbed soil that resembles coffee grounds when you are weeding, planting or introducing new plants to your garden.

There is currently no known method of eradication, though studies are being conducted at Olbrich Gardens and the UW Arboretum. Yes, they both are infested. Any worms found should be disposed of in the trash. Equally important, let other gardeners know about your discovery. Even more important, email your find to [Invasive.Species@wi.gov](mailto:Invasive.Species@wi.gov) so they can monitor the spread of these thugs. For more information visit [dnr.wi.gov](http://dnr.wi.gov), keyword “jumping worm”. The brochure copied below provides more identification information. This field guide is on the DNR website.

**Commonly mistaken for jumping worms.**

**European nightcrawler (*Lumbricus terrestris*)**

- Body is pink or flesh-toned with a well-defined raised clitellum further down on the body.
- Generally larger, slower, and produce slime when handled.
- Nightcrawlers live deep below the soil surface.

**European nightcrawler**  
Raised clitellum, further from head

**Jumping worm**  
Smooth clitellum, closer to head

More information at: [dnr.wi.gov](http://dnr.wi.gov), keyword “jumping worm”  
To report a sighting, email: [Invasive.Species@Wisconsin.gov](mailto:Invasive.Species@Wisconsin.gov)  
DNR PUB FR-550a 2015

**JUMPING WORM FIELD GUIDE**

**Jumping worms (*Amyntas* spp.) dwell on the soil surface and eat leaf litter. They can turn up almost anywhere from urban parks, to suburban backyards, to rural forests. Because they reproduce on their own, a single worm can start a new population. You can help prevent jumping worms from spreading to new areas by knowing what to look for.**

Photos by Colleen Robinson

**The jumping worm's appearance and behavior allow for easy identification.**

- Jumping worms are brown to grayish black.
- The smooth, cloudy white to gray clitellum (lighter colored band) completely circles the body near the head end.
- The body is rigid and does not produce slime like many other earthworms.
- They thrash wildly and may shed their tail in defense.
- They live on the soil surface and in the leaf litter.

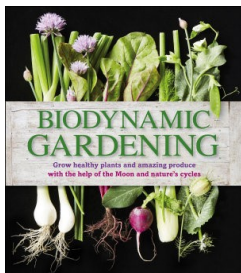
**Clitellum**

**Jumping worms remove a protective layer from the soil surface. This changes how the soil looks and feels. Where there are jumping worms, the soil becomes grainy and can look like coffee grounds (right photo).**



## Book Review

Kay Villa



### *Biodynamic Gardening*

Monty Waldin,  
DK – Penguin Random House,  
2015 255 pages  
Suggested Retail: \$22.95

This is one of the most unusual gardening books I've ever encountered and it's a fascinating read. I'm familiar with the concept of gardening by moon and nature cycles (AKA old fashioned gardening); but this is the most comprehensive book that I've ever seen on the subject. Leaders in this field refer to it as "biodynamic gardening" which simply means nurturing the soil and reconnecting with the cycles of the seasons.

The first chapter covers gardening basics ~ making compost, using water wisely, bringing wildlife to the garden, companion planting, and seed saving. The book gets very interesting in chapter two when the author provides information on plant remedies and fertilizers made only from natural materials (e.g., weeds, garlic, yarrow, absinthe, cattle horns, tree barks, and pine nuts); and these recipes are included in the book. Chapter three highlights garden planning based on the cycle of the year, soil fertility, crop family groups, and crop rotation. It discusses the best days within each month throughout the calendar year to carry out activities for a specific plant group (e.g., root days would focus on the planting of carrots, beets, and onions and this should be done about two to three days before a full moon).

The resource section of the book provides the names and addresses of biodynamic organizations, suggested books to read, and where to purchase biodynamic calendars. It's a great source to learn more about how our ancestors approached gardening and how it might be applied in a modern world.

## Let's Make Monarchs Wisconsin's State Butterfly

Lynn Laufenberg

Monarchs make an incredible migration from their wintering grounds in Mexico to Wisconsin each year. Unfortunately, monarchs are losing habitat in the Midwest, along their migration route and in Mexico. WGCF members have the opportunity to encourage their legislators to make monarchs Wisconsin's state butterfly and raise awareness of this beautiful creature. A sample letter for sending to legislators is provided on the WGCF website. You can access the form letter on the site. Take a moment to send it in today.

## Shoes, Shoes, Shoes!!!

Mary Kulhanek, Member Services Chair

Quick! Calculate  $177 \times 25 + 7 = ???$  Oh, and then take that answer  $\times 2$ . What do you get? An enormous pile of shoes in a garage in Sheboygan Falls still waiting for pickup!! See photo below!!

That means that as of press time I am not able to tell you the amount of money earned in our Step Into Spring Shoe Drive, but I can tell you that it was a resounding success! For everyone who donated, who begged, who sorted, who tied, who banded, who bagged, who lugged, who snuck them over and over again into my porch, who made a separate trip with a carload from Elroy, WI or from Madison, WI with a trailer load, who had her husband move his car out on the street in early May, who hauled them to the February Board Meeting, who bought them at garage sales or thrift stores, who arranged for leftovers from rummage sales, who showed up at Gardening Study School with them, who arranged separate drives at their church or library, who helped their neighbor clean out her closet, who made room in their convention-going car to deliver them, and all the other stories I didn't hear about, ( pant, pant, pant, gasp) **THANK YOU FOR ALL THE SHOES!!!**



Joanne Welch (left) and Mary Kulhanek, members of Lake Shore Garden Club of Sheboygan, give an idea of a portion of the results from the Shoe Drive. Joanne is the garage owner who offered to store the shoes on her husband's side of the garage.



## Flower Show Information

Liz Murken, Flower Show Schools Chair

I decided to write about one of our Design Types, an Assemblage. It must always be a three-dimensional Abstract Creative Design. So what is an Abstract Creative Design? It is a phrase used to identify those designs in which there is an emphasis on non-realism, non-naturalism and non-representation.

Since the Handbook for Flower Shows requires that an Assemblage in a Standard Flower Show include found objects (non-art objects), abstraction proves more challenging since non-art objects must also be disparate (differ in origin). By being disparate, the utility for which the found objects were made does not suggest a single realistic application or theme, and are chosen solely for their contribution as expressive of color, texture and form. Their differences are essential to Abstract Creative Designs so that the final design is non-representational.

As with all designs entered into a Standard Flower Show, plant material must be included; but in an Assemblage, it must be subordinate to the found objects. In order for

the found objects to dominate and differ from each other, it is suggested that there be at least three found objects included in the composition,

Decorate wood is still naturalistic plant material and cannot be used as a found object. However, plant materials manufactured or crafted into items for utilitarian purposes and with distinct names, such as, rope, basket, milled lumber, cotton and linen fabric, place mat, etc. may be considered found objects.

I would like to take this opportunity to encourage more clubs to sponsor a Flower Show in the near future.

Materials for this article came from the *Handbook for Flower Shows and Designing by Types*, publications of National Garden Clubs, Inc.

## WGCF Website

Debby Walters, Webmaster

### WEBSITE USAGE

Have you visited the WGCF webpage lately? If so, you were one of 765 unique visitors to the webpage during the month. The analytics don't tell us how many visitors are WGCF garden club members or how many just stumble across the page, but we do know that several inquiries have been made about joining a club. The more exposure the organization gets, the more likely it is to grow.

WGCF is an excellent umbrella organization, but much of the "action" takes place at the local level. A club highlights page has been added to the webpage, your submissions are needed to demonstrate how active this group is. Also if your club or district is hosting a special event, send the what, who, where, and when information to [contactwgcf@gmail.com](mailto:contactwgcf@gmail.com) and it will be added to the calendar on the website.

## St. Croix District

wishes to

**congratulate its members on the accomplishments and the awards received at the 2016 WGCF Convention.**

- #1 – Lydia Schafer – Ginger Wierman, Lake Wissota
- #5 – Gold Seal Club – Lake Wissota
- #6 – Garden Club of the Year – Lake Wissota
- #7 – Ruth West Horticulture Award – Lake Wissota
- #15 – Yearbook – Lake Wissota – 23-29 members
- #23 – Flower Show Schedule Award – St. Croix District
- #24 – Ruth Smith Evaluation Award – Wendy Kramer, Botany Belles and Beaus
- #27 – Design Award – Lake Wissota
- "And Then Some" – Carol Howe, Willow River

The hard work and dedication to WGCF ideals has shown itself in the awards presented to the clubs and individuals.



*Follow Wisconsin Garden Club Federation on Facebook*



It was an honor to represent the members of the WGCf at the 2016 NGC Convention and Annual Meeting in Grand Rapids MI. From the beginning of the Tri-Refresher at the Meijer Sculpture Garden to the convention Awards Banquet Finale, we felt welcome and stayed very busy. The Meijer Gardens are a recommended "must-see" destination for all garden enthusiasts. In addition to the amazing outdoor sculptures, a children's garden and Japanese garden delight visitors of all ages. During the rest of the meeting, we received information on the following items.

- Ames Tools are still available for free – apply on the NGC website (the Central Region applied for and received the most tools of any region!)
- Kathy Romine, long time NGC employee, has retired
- Visit the National Wildlife Foundation's website to find the Native Plant Finder – put in your zip code and up pops native plants for your area
- Our own Lynne Ehnert led a wonderful workshop on using *The Frightened Frog* book to work with kids – a companion book is in the works
- Leadership was highlighted in a workshop – visit the NGC website for resourced on leadership – wonderful quote: *No one cares how much you know until they know how much you care.* (<http://www.gardenclub.org/projects/presidents-projects/leap-into-leadership.aspx>)
- Central Region is pursuing status as a 501c3 non-profit organization
- A new pollinator publication is available for free download through NGC – search "Pollinator Power"

Entertainment abound with Three Men & a Tenor (guest starring our own Jerry Schoenike as Elvis), Doug Tallamy speaking about Bringing Nature Home (chickadees feed their young 5,000 insects prior to fledging) and the 100<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the National Parks (every fourth grade in the country has free access to the National Parks, along with their families, during the "Every Kid in a Park Program" <https://everykidinapark.gov/get-your-pass/>)



WGCf President Gerianne Holzman accepted awards from NGC President Sandra Robinson (above left). WGCf members take time out for a "photo moment" in the midst of Convention workshops and sessions (above photo). "Wisconsin's own Elvis" (Jerry Schoenike) provided entertainment during the Convention (above right). WGCf President Gerianne Holzman and Central Region Director Judy Newman (back row) gather with other State Presidents from the Central Region (photo at left). Our own "Frightened Frog" Lynne Ehnert taught others how the book can be used with children (photo at right).



## REGISTRATION FORM

Gardening Study School Series VIII-Course 2

Sept. 9-10, 2016

Fox Valley Technical College

NAME \_\_\_\_\_

PHONE \_\_\_\_\_

ADDRESS \_\_\_\_\_

CITY/ST/ZIP \_\_\_\_\_

DISTRICT/CLUB \_\_\_\_\_

EMAIL \_\_\_\_\_

### Fees:

Both days----- \$50

Both days after Aug. 26----- \$55

One day----- \$30

One day after Aug. 26----- \$35

Choose date: \_\_\_ Sept. 9 or \_\_\_ Sept. 10

Required if taken for NGC credit

Refresher----- \$5

Exam----- \$5

### ADVANCE LUNCH RESERVATIONS ONLY

(provided by FVTC Food Service)

Friday, Sept. 9----- \$12

Saturday, Sept. 10----- \$12

Circle Yes/No for your confirmation by e-mail

Total enclosed/Check Number \_\_\_\_\_

Please make check payable to:

WGCF Gardening Study School

See mailing instructions for Registrar, Jeanne Baum

## CONTACT INFORMATION

Local Chairman: Marion Books  
W8490 Cty MM, Hortonville, WI 54944-9801  
(920) 779-6656 gemabooks@att.net

WGCF Chairman: Lucy Valitchka  
N2695 Meade St., Appleton, WI 54913-8349  
(920) 733-0568 lmvitchka@new.rr.com

WGCF President: Gerianne Holzman  
7437 Terrace Ave., Middleton, WI 53562-3154  
(608) 345-6097 geriannewgcf@gmail.com

### Registration Contact:

Jeanne Baum, Registrar

N2670 Meade St, Appleton, WI 54913-

(920) 731-9140 kjebaum@gmail.com

No refunds after August 22, 2016. A 25%  
handling fee will be retained on all  
Cancellations

## LODGING

Comfort Suites Appleton Airport  
(920) 730-3800  
3809 West Wisconsin Ave. Appleton, WI 54914

Comfort-appleton@wiscohoteis.com  
www.wiscohoteis.com

Rate: \$89.00 expires on 8/9/2016  
Use code: Wisconsin Garden Club Federation

## GARDENING STUDY SCHOOL SERIES VIII - COURSE 2

Sept. 9-10, 2016

Fox Valley Technical College  
Agriculture Building

1825 N. Blumound Dr., Appleton, WI 54912

920-735-5691—FVTC Security # for emergency, only

www.fvtc.edu

Check the above website for campus map  
Enter campus on south round-a-bout  
Follow signs to Agriculture Building



### SPONSORED BY

WISCONSIN GARDEN CLUB FEDERATION

www.wisconsinclub.org

Gerianne Holzman, President  
7437 Terrace Ave.  
Middleton, WI 53562  
(608) 345-6907  
geriannewgcf@gmail.com

This Course is Open to the Public





## GARDENING STUDY SCHOOL SERIES VIII-COURSE 2

(Class times subject to change due to instructor's schedules)

### FRIDAY, Sept. 9, 2016

8:00-8:25 a.m.-----Registration  
8:25-8:30 a.m.-----Announcements  
8:30-10:00 a.m.-----TBD  
\*Growing Fruit  
10:00-10:15 a.m.-----Break  
10:15-11:45-----Paul Glebke  
Irrigation & Water  
11:45 a.m.-12:30 p.m.-----Lunch  
12:30-1:30 p.m.-----Kitty Larkin  
Backyard Habitat for Endangered Species  
1:30-1:45 p.m.-----Break  
1:45-3:15 p.m.-----Tom Jensen  
Lawn Alternatives & Growing Grass  
3:15-3:45 p.m.-----Exam Review

### SATURDAY, Sept. 10, 2016

8:00-8:25 a.m.-----Registration  
8:25-8:30 a.m.-----Announcements  
8:30-10:00 a.m.-----Roxanne Rusch-Oleson  
\*Plant Diseases & Garden Pests  
10:00-10:15-----Break  
10:15-11:40-----Roxanne Rusch-Oleson  
\*Plant Diseases, Garden Pests & tour  
11:45 a.m.-12:30 p.m.-----Lunch  
12:30-2:30 p.m.-----Joy Perry  
\*Growing Vegetables  
2:30-2:45 p.m.-----Break  
2:45-3:15 p.m.-----Exam Review  
3:25-6:25 p.m.-----Exam

\*Exam to be given on these topics  
Open book for Plant Diseases & Garden Pests  
May use book, "Botany for Gardeners"

## INSTRUCTORS

Paul Glebke  
Appleton Store Manager  
Reinders  
Solutions & Supplies for the Green Industry  
  
Kitty Larkin  
Former National Garden Club Inc. President  
  
Tom Jensen,  
Landscape Management Sales & Horticulturist  
Vande Hey's Landscape & Garden Center  
  
Roxanne Rusch/Oleson  
Horticulture Instructor  
Fox Valley Technical College  
  
Joy Perry  
Senior Lecturer Emeritus  
Dept. of Biological Sciences  
University of Wisconsin, Fox Valley

## STUDY GUIDES

National Garden Clubs, Inc. no longer requires a text book for Gardening Study School. Outlines provided by instructors are the preferred study guidelines. Attendees may purchase the text "Botany for Gardeners". The 3<sup>rd</sup> edition, by Brian Capon, is available in paperback or as an on-line version.



## ELIGIBILITY TO BECOME A GARDENING STUDY SCHOOL CONSULTANT

Student attendees must:

Belong to a garden club affiliated with a state garden club in National Garden Clubs, Inc. (NGC)  
Earn a passing grade of 70% on all exams in the four courses.

Complete all four courses between 2 to 7 years.  
Courses may be taken in any order or back to back.

## FOR NON-MEMBER STUDENTS

Courses and exams are open to everyone.  
Consultant Certification cards are issued only to members of NGC.

Non-member students successfully completing all (4) courses may apply for Consultant Certification upon joining an NGC affiliated Federated garden club within 6 months after series completion.

Certificates of Completion are awarded to non-member students attending a full series.

## REFRESHER CREDIT

Refresher Credit for Consultant and Master Consultants is granted within one to five years following receipt of Consultant or Master Consultant Certification.

## NGC 4-STAR & 5-STAR MEMBERS

NGC 4-Star Members are honored after completing all (4) NGC educational programs.  
NGC 5-Star Honorees must refresh to the Master level in all (4) programs.

# **2016 By-Law Revisions of Article V, Article VII, and Article XI.**

**Sylvia Lowell, Organizational Studies Chairman**

During the 2016 WGCF convention and annual meeting held at The Osthoff, delegates passed the following By-Laws. Corresponding revisions are also made to The Standing Rules. Copies of updated By-laws and Standing Rules will soon be available on the WGCF website. Proposed revisions were published in the Winter issue of *WISCONSIN GARDENS*.

## **ARTICLE V: DUES AND FEES**

**SECTION 2:** Member clubs shall pay annual per capita dues of ten dollars (\$10.00) for individual membership to WGCF Treasurer by June 1. This payment includes a membership to NGC.

**SECTION 6:** Each member-at-large shall pay fourteen dollars (\$14.00) which shall accompany the membership application and shall thereafter pay dues of the same amount to WGCF for each fiscal year June 1 through May 31. The fourteen dollars (\$14.00) shall include annual NGC dues.

## **ARTICLE VII: DUTIES OF ELECTED AND APPOINTED OFFICERS**

**SECTION 2:** The Duties of the President are:

- j. Maintain a timeline of this position's duties to be passed on to a successor at the Fall Executive Committee meeting of the even numbered year.
- k. Send an e-mail to the WGCF treasurer prior to using a debit card stating amount and purpose of expenditure.
- l. Secure and send to the WGCF treasurer original debit card receipts of transactions that contain the name of the vendor, Location, contact information, listing of what was purchased and date within two weeks.
- m. Each receipt shall contain the name of the officer using a debit card. Failure to comply may result in the loss of the use of a debit card as determined by the Executive Committee.
- n. Each officer designated to use a debit card shall be responsible for it.
- o. Loss of a debit card shall be reported to the WGCF Treasurer and WGCF financial institution immediately. Said officer will immediately cancel the debit card and request a replacement.

**SECTIONS 3 AND 4:** The Duties of the Vice-President/President-Elect are:

Each item listed above for the WGCF President will also be listed in Sections 3 AND 4 but the lettering is different.

**SECTION 5:** The Duties of the 2<sup>nd</sup> Vice President are:

- b. To serve as a member of the Finance Committee.
- e. Maintain a timeline of this position's duties to be passed on to a successor at the Fall Executive Committee meeting of the even numbered year.

**SECTIONS 6, 7, 9 AND 10:** The Duties of the Recording Secretary/Membership Secretary, Parliamentarian, District Director are; (The item below is inserted in each section listed but lettering is different for each section.)

Maintain a timeline of this position's duties to be passed on to a successor at the Fall Executive Committee meeting of the even numbered year.

**SECTION 8:** The Duties of the Treasurer are:

- a. Inform and assist members, clubs and/or District about procedure to be a 501©(3) organization and to obtain a Wisconsin Tax Exempt (CES) number.
- b. Maintain all records of subordinate clubs pertaining to WGCF's Tax Exemption Umbrella.
- l. To secure Commercial Crime Coverage Insurance. This document is to be filed with the Recording Secretary.
- m. Maintain a timeline of this position's duties to be passed on to a successor at the Fall Executive Committee meeting of the even numbered year.
- n. Reconcile debit card statements using receipts provided by designated officers.

*(continued on page 22)*

## ARTICLE XI: STANDING COMMITTEES

**SECTION 6: The Finance Committee** shall be comprised of the Second Vice-President and four additional voting members, one of whom shall be a Former President.

### SECTION 12: Schools and Symposiums

- a. A Bank account may be opened by the Tri-Council Treasurer and Local Flower Show School or WGCF Symposium Chairman.
- c. All accounts shall bear two signatures; the local Flower Show School Chairman and WGCF Treasurer ; OR the WGCF Symposium Chairman and WGCF Treasurer OR the Tri-Council Treasurer and WGCF Treasurer.
- d. All money advance from the Ruth and John West Education Fund to each school by WGCF must be returned to WGCF and said Fund.
- f. Income and expenses paid for Gardening Studies, Landscape Design and Environmental Studies shall be managed by the Tri-Council Treasurer.
- g. The Tri-Council Treasurer shall keep detailed records of income and expenses separately for each course of each school.
- h. At the conclusion of each four course school series, Gardening Studies, Landscape Design and Environmental Studies, any excess of income over expenses will be returned to WGCF and the Ruth and John West Education Fund. The Tri-Council Treasurer may retain \$100 per School in order to maintain a School account managed by Tri-Council.
- i. If Gardening Studies, Landscape Design or Environmental Studies expenses exceed income, the Tri-Council Treasurer will request reimbursement for those excess expenses from the WGCF Treasurer. This money is to be taken from the Ruth and John West Education fund.

## A GARDENER'S PRAYER

Let us give thanks:

For generous friends with hearts as big as Hubbard squash and smiles as bright as their blossoms;  
For feisty folks as tart as apples;  
For continuous friends who, like scallions and cucumbers, keep reminding us that we've had them;  
For crotchety friends as sour as rhubarb and as indestructible;  
For handsome friends, who are as gorgeous as eggplants and as elegant as a row of corn, and the others, plain as potatoes and so good for you;  
For funny friends who are as silly as Brussel sprouts and as amusing as artichokes, and serious friends, as complex as cauliflower and as intricate as onions;  
For friends as unpretentious as cabbages, as subtle as celery, as persistent as parsley, as delightful as dill, as endless as zucchini, and who, like parsnips, can be counted on to see you through the winter;  
For old friends, nodding like sunflowers in the evening-time and young friends, coming on as fast as radishes;  
For loving friends, who wind around us like tendrils and hold us, despite our blights, wilts, and withering's;  
And finally, for those friends now gone, like gardens past that have been harvested, but who fed us in their times that we might have life thereafter;  
For all these, we give thanks. Amen.

Source: the late Rev. Max Coots, who was Minister Emeritus of the Unitarian Universalist Church in Canton, New York.



*Congratulations from  
the St. Croix District to  
Ginger Wierman ,  
Lake Wissota Garden Club  
St. Croix District  
on receiving the Lydia Shafer  
Award at the 2016 WGCF  
Convention.*



## Dates to Remember

### 2016

- July 22 – 23 Madison District Garden Tour,  
Madison area
- Sept 9 – 10 Gardening Study School, Appleton
- Sept 26 – Oct 2 NGC Fall Executive Board Meeting,  
Portland, ME
- Oct 7 - 9 Central Region Convention,  
Springfield, IL
- Oct 20 WGCF Fall Executive Committee  
Wausau

### 2017

- Feb 15 WGCF Awards Committee – Wausau  
(evening meeting)
- Feb 16 WGCF Winter Executive Committee –  
Wausau
- April 21 – 22 Gardening Study School, Appleton
- May 5 WGCF Annual Business Meeting,  
Wausau
- May 16 – 21 NGC Convention, Richmond, VA
- June (TBA) WGCF Summer Executive Committee  
Meeting, Wausau
- August (TBA) Flower Show Symposium
- Sept 8 – 9 Gardening Study School, Appleton
- Sept 12 - 15 NGC Fall Executive Board Meeting,  
St. Louis, MO
- October 6 - 8 Garden Education Summit &  
Tri-Refresher, Wisconsin Dells

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### Memorial Scholarship Fund Donations

Please make checks payable to  
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# Wisconsin Garden Club Federation



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**Deadline for Fall Issue: September 1 — Submissions Welcome.  
Publication approximately October 1.**

**Coming in the Fall 2016: Award Application, Birds, Blue Star/Gold Star Markers, Book Review, Horticulture, Life Members, National Gardener, Olbrich Gardens, Tax Exemption, and Scholarships**

**Articles also needed by members, please consider writing about your garden club, activities, club projects, etc.**

As I'm looking out my window this morning at the garden that needs tending, I'm thinking about the energy and enthusiasm that we are continually seeing in the children who attend the school gardening classes. (Maybe I'm secretly wishing for that energy so I can attack the gardening tasks in my own yard.)



Gardening with children continues to be fun and educational for all of us, adults and students, and I'd like to share a few observations with you about the summer school classes:

- Older students who have been in previous classes get great enjoyment from teaching the youngsters what they've learned about gardening, whether it's about how to use the various tools or how to plant a seedling.
- Some of the younger students (5 & 6-year-olds) are very content to just dig in the dirt, not necessarily to plant something – they just enjoy digging and discovering! (And we adults working with the class begin to wonder if their lives are too filled with videos & electronics & the latest “fad toy” that they have missed the fun of the “good old sandbox”.)
- Very few students in our classes are squeamish about insects, bugs or worms. Each insect that they find is something they wish to show to the adults or to each other.
- We “olders” must be careful in our presentation of information. When I recently told the students about the environmental concern of “jumping worms”, there were a few students who wanted to see if they could get the earthworms they found in our garden, to jump.
- Children are fascinated by the growth and changes of plants in their garden. They will notice if a strawberry has slightly changed color from one day to the next, and will quickly notice the sprouting seeds in the garden.

Hopefully you have opportunities for working with children, either your own children, grandchildren, or children of others, and are experiencing this same joy of learning and discovering right along with the young gardeners. We can all play a part in helping younger gardeners to discover the joy of gardening.

*Carla*

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