



Volume 72, Issue 2
Spring 2021

Wisconsin Gardens



WE'RE NOT FOOLING! WGCF Virtual Convention on May 1st *Puttin' on the Ritz*

Dress up in beads and boas or stay in your pajamas!

SCHEDULE:

- 9:00 a.m. Welcome by President Lynne Ehnert, Pledge of Allegiance, Invocation
- 9:15 a.m. *Native Orchids* by Andrea Weissgerber
- 10:00 a.m. WGCF Annual Business Meeting, with President Lynne Ehnert presiding
- 12:15 p.m. Lunch break
- 1:00 p.m. *Designing Your Garden with Hostas* by Tammy Borden
- 2:00 p.m. Installation of 2021-2023 Officers, with NGC President-Elect Mary Warshauer
- 2:30 p.m. Awards Presentation by Laura Skoff
Virtual tour of Bronze Award winner, Larry Conrad's gardens,
narrated by Mary Ellen Sedlachek

Floral designs will be posted throughout the day.

Registration is required. Registration deadline: April 27, 2021.

Online Registration information is posted on the WGCF website.

The ZOOM link will be sent to you when you have registered.

IN THIS ISSUE			
President's Message	2	Gardening Schools	6
Convention Information	3	Operation Wildflower	7
Arbor Day Education	4	Old World Wisconsin	8
WGCF Website	4	Gardening Webinars	9
Clubs Around the State	5	Water Garden Plants	10
National Garden Week	6	Dates to Remember	11

Gardening for Good

Education

Service

Friendship

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.

WGCF 2019-2021 Officers:

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NGC President: Gay Austin
NGC Headquarters:
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www.gardenclub.org

A Message from our President

Trees are plants that have strong roots and help to maintain a strong foundation for forests. Strong roots are also ties that bind us together as an organization. I am excited to say that we found a way to demonstrate we have strong roots in this organization.



Though we ended up having to cancel our in-person WGCF Convention, we did find a way to schedule a Zoom meeting for a day to get our annual business meeting done and still find time to have programs, awards and installation of officers. It will be a new experience for some of us, well most of us. While we may have zoomed before, we have not had our annual convention in this manner. I do encourage you to try something new. While it will be different, it will still afford us the opportunities to all get together, to get the business of the organization done, and still have some time for fun.

This has been a tough couple of years, but we all maintained strong with our commitment, dedication, and promoting the love of gardening. Things were not ideal, but I am proud of what we did accomplish. While not everything came to fruition, it was not for a lack of effort.

We have some very dedicated members that helped to plan a National Convention, a State Convention (twice). Programs and tours were lined up, centerpieces were designed, budgets were proposed, themes were determined and give-aways were crafted. Countless hours of planning by dedicated people. Thank you all so much for your part!!

We managed to have Flower Show School Course 4, a Flower Show Symposium, a virtual Flower Show sponsored by Madison District, Landscape Design School Course, and an Environmental School Course 3. All demonstrating there is a way to get things done. Thank you all for your hard work in putting that together and everyone for your participation.

We had a Blue Star Marker Dedication on a very cold October day in 2020. There was a great turn out; even with the bad weather, we had many dedicated people attending the event.

Our Grants Committee continued their hard work and dedication behind the scenes providing opportunities to our members to obtain additional funds for projects for our members. Our Scholarship Committee also worked hard reading through applications. We had more applications for NGC awards than we have had in the past few years. So even though we were not having many in-person meetings, we were still accomplishing projects.

Look at all the trees we were able to plant across the state. While the pandemic put a damper on this a bit, we still have time to make up for it! Let's see if we can still reach the goal of planting one tree for each garden club member in the state. Remember the "each one plant one" goal. Plant some roots!

These are only a few of the projects that we can be proud of. I am thankful that we do have strong roots that will keep us together. I hope that it will remind us that we can do things differently and creatively; and still be a strong organization. While the war with the pandemic is not over, it seems that we can start to be able to venture out. I hope that you are all so anxious to see your garden club friends that you get out and get together this summer and prove we still have much to accomplish. This has been a tough couple of years, but when the going gets tough, the tough get going. Are you tough?

Lynne

ADVERTISING RATES

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

**Please note: This is the Registration Form which was sent via email and is also available on the WGCF Website. Please complete your Registration online. If you have any questions, you may contact Gerianne Holzman geriannewgcf@gmail.com
For more information, contact Carol Catlin crca34@gmail.com**



**Wisconsin Garden Club Federation
Annual Convention
May 1, 2021 9:00-3:30
via ZOOM**



WGCF is going virtual with our 2021 Annual Meeting. We invite all members to enjoy free educational seminars, learn more about WGCF and celebrate our award recipients. Club delegates must attend the business meeting to vote on our slate of officers and important bylaw changes. The convention is free and provides a great opportunity to reconnect with fellow garden club members. For more information, please contact Carol Catlin, Convention Chair at crca34@gmail.com.

SCHEDULE

- 9:00 Welcome by President Lynne Ehnert plus Pledge of Allegiance, Invocation
- 9:15 *Native Orchids* by Andrea Weissgerber
- 10:00 WGCF Annual Business Meeting with President Lynne Ehnert presiding
- 12:15 Lunch Break
- 1:00 *Special Hostas for Your Garden* by Tammy Borden
- 2:00 2021 – 2023 Officer Installation by NGC President-elect Mary Warshauer
- 2:30 Awards Presentation by Laura Skoff

SPEAKERS

- **Andrea Weissgerber** – Andrea conducts the Orchid Conservation project at the Riveredge Nature Center. She enjoys preserving and restoring native plant communities, especially rare species.
- **Tammy Borden** – Tammy’s garden includes 600 varieties of *Hostas*. She is the executive vice president of the American Hosta Society and is the author of *A Perennial Life*.
- **Mary Warshauer** – Mary is the NGC President-elect. From New Jersey, Mary is a flower show judge and along with gardening, enjoys taking walks and reading. Mary encourages us to play outdoors.

SPECIAL FLORAL DESIGNS

Honorary floral designs premier at the following times.

- 9:00 Honoring WGCF members lost during the last two years – Kitty Larkin, designer
- 9:50 Honoring WGCF President Lynne Ehnert – Lynette Rakun, designer
- 12:50 Honoring WGCF President-elect Laura Skoff – Helen Surridge, designer
- 2:00 Honoring NGC President-elect Mary Warshauer – Carolyn Craig, designer

REGISTRATION

Please register for this **FREE** event to receive the ZOOM link to attend. To register, download this page to your device, complete the following, save to your device **using YOUR NAME as the file name**. **Send completed registration form to Gerianne Holzman at geriannewgcf@gmail.com. Thank you! DEADLINE TO REGISTER IS APRIL 27, 2021.**

Name	
Email	Phone
Club	District

Please check all that apply:

- Executive Committee Board of Directors Club President Club Delegate*

* The club president is the automatic club delegate unless she/he is serving on the Executive Committee or the Board of Directors; then another club member serves as the club’s delegate. In addition, larger clubs may add the following number of additional delegates: 25 – 49 members = one additional delegate, 50 – 74 members = two additional delegates, 75 or more members = three additional delegates.

Arbor Day April 30

Karen Merlau, Arbor Day Chair

Tree City USA

Perhaps you have seen this sign in a town as you've traveled around the state. Have you ever wondered what it really means?

Tree City USA is an Arbor Day Foundation program designed to support and recognize municipalities who intentionally promote the care and planting of trees in their community.

This program started in 1976 and there are currently over 3000 communities that have qualified for the recognition. The communities range from huge metropolitan areas like New York City and Chicago to small villages, like Elkhart Lake and Baraboo, Wisconsin. There are currently 195 communities in Wisconsin who have the designation.

Here is what is required to receive the recognition:

1. You need to have a tree board or department. It is a group or a few individuals who oversee and are legally responsible for the trees on municipality-owned land.
2. You need to have a tree care ordinance. This will direct the planting, maintenance, and removal of trees in the municipality.
3. You need to fund support for trees in your community with a budget of at least \$2 per capita.
4. Have an annual Arbor Day proclamation/observance.

There are many benefits to joining this program including honoring your community by promoting it as being a desirable place to live and educating citizens about the importance of trees.

Arbor Day in Wisconsin is April 30th this year. Watch for an Arbor Day observance in your area and attend if you can. Consider becoming a member of the Arbor Day Foundation to support the planting and care of trees in your community.



Photo courtesy of Arbor Day Foundation.

WGCF Website

Debby Walters, Webmaster

Up and Running!

After much discussion and planning, WGCF's new website is live. Please check it out at wisconsin-gardenclub.org. The site contains information about the organization (almost everything you want to know), clubs and their locations, and our news and events. The site's menus have been redesigned so it is easier to locate the information you need. If you have suggestions for improvements, please use the Contact Us form on the website and submit them. If you spot information that needs updating, the same form should be used.

Local clubs can also submit garden tour, plant sale, and other outreach activities to include on the WGCF calendar. Send the information to contactwgcf@gmail.com and it will be added to the calendar. Make sure to include the pertinent information: Who, What, Where, When and Cost (if any). Attach a flier or link to more information and that can be added to the calendar also.

Many WGCF members have a strong interest in floral design. It has been suggested that the webpage feature the designs of WGCF members and examples of the various design types. That page is in need of design photos. Please take a moment to email a picture with your name and the floral design type.

News from Around the State

Botany, Belles and Beaus Garden Club

Debby Walters

WGCF Garden Clubs are always on the lookout for ways to garden for good. In a recent article in *Keeping in Touch*, the Rake and Hoe Garden Club of Westfield, NJ adds a bit of beauty (mini-arrangements) to the local Mobile Meals program. The Botany Belles and Beaus Garden Club of central St. Croix County thought this was a wonderful idea, and contacted local Meals on Wheels programs operated by the Senior Centers to see if they would like mini-arrangements for Valentine's Day. The centers were excited about the idea so the club set to work.

Using individual yogurt containers which were set into folded boxes created by a club member with pink/red carnations, baby's breath, and assorted greenery for fill. Some masked members met in Wendy Kramer's heated garage and assembled mini-Valentine's Day arrangements. These colorful arrangements along with a few chocolates were delivered with meals in time for Valentine's Day. The club received phone calls expressing appreciation.

Working with lovely flowers, creating with garden club friends, and spreading some cheer . . . what a wonderful way to spend a cold winter morning! Members had such fun that this activity will probably be repeated.

Thanks so much to the Rake and Hoe Garden Club for sharing an idea that makes a difference. Hopefully clubs continue to share successful programming so the rest of us can adopt and adapt ideas.



Members of Botany, Belles and Beaus Garden Club created these lovely arrangements to be delivered with the Senior Meals.



Photos by Debby Walters



National Garden Week

Doris Weber, National Garden Week Chair

This week is a perfect time to promote your garden club with special programs, tours, garden walks, plant sales or projects that might be of interest to the public. Why not put the WELCOME sign out to invite them to these events!

Plants or florals could also be presented to libraries, town halls, schools, or local stores. Any way to show off your talented garden club work and get a bit of publicity out might help you gain a few new members for the club.

Posters proclaiming National Garden Week are available from NGC member services or contact me at (920)467-3266 or email doris@johnngweber.com

National Garden Week is celebrated June 6th thru June 12th, 2021

NGC Gardening Schools

Lucy Valitchka, Gardening School Chair

Current NGC Gardening School Zoom Courses for 2021

Gardening Consultants may refresh their knowledge or certification via Zoom courses held in other states than Wisconsin. Many of these Zoom courses fill up fairly quickly. Consultants refreshing may take any course they desire to refresh. The same system applies to someone who wants to become a consultant. Students may start at any course. They don't have to start with Course 1. However all four courses must be taken & passed to become a consultant.

To check on the courses that are being offered via Zoom, go to the NGC website at www.gardenclub.org. Go to Schools & scroll down to Courses being offered. That should give the most current information, and will direct you to the Registrar for the course.

Wisconsin Garden Club Federation is not planning a Zoom class for Gardening School at this time. All consultants who need to refresh their certification, or members who want to become a consultant, need to take advantage of what is being offered through Zoom classes in other states. This is an opportunity to find out how other states run their schools and learn new ideas. It is a time & money-saver because you take the course online. No travel or hotel expenses are needed. All you pay is a registration fee. Take advantage of these opportunities now before all future courses may return to only in-person schools. Who knows, however, if Zoom classes become more popular with students they could become a very good alternative to in-person classes. Please contact me if you need more information about Gardening School.

Lucy Valitchka, WGCF Gardening School Chairman lmvalitchka@new.rr.com

Operation Wildflower

Diane Powelka, Chair

“One is the loneliest number you’ll ever do” (remember that song? Three Dog Night in 1969)

That must be what it’s like to be a bird and have no other mates to share a life with. I heard that a Meadow Lark was singing and no response. What does this have to do with Operation Wildflower? Some birds are not finding the food they need to carry on in life. Some plants have insects that might seem a problem but are helpful to birds. The tent worm structure might look unsightly but has plenty of caterpillars for birds to eat and the tree will survive the infestation. Birds need places to build nests, as some birds are very territorial and need extra space. How can we help?

If someone is asking for advice on planting a tree or shrub, you can share a list of native trees or shrubs that will work in their space. Key word - space. How much space will your tree or shrub need when it is fully grown. Will this area have the amount of light it will need, or the correct soil?

If you live in an apartment or do not have room in your landscape for another shrub or tree, think about setting money aside for someone else to put in a native shrub in their landscape. Does your club celebrate Arbor Day? What a great time to put in a shrub or tree! Another suggestion for your club might be to have a collection for native shrubs. Find out what park, botanical garden or arboretum might be looking for money for native shrubs. Generations Park needs some native shrubs, and I will be asking for a donation from our club members. To ensure the tree or shrub will be protected from browsing deer, we will be putting poles in the ground and chicken wire around them with the shrub’s name.

Native vs. non-native for flowers in trees, shrubs, and flowers: Natives are the plants with flowers that most insects prefer. Since scientists do the research on this I do not need to stand and count the insects on my native or non-native plants. It already has been done. So many things are in action that we do not see as flowers are also looking for potential pollinators.

The current WGCF President’s Project “Little Sprouts for Saplings”, provides a great opportunity for gardeners to promote our President Lynne’s project. Again, *look for places to plant native trees*. Native trees and shrubs improve the diversity of our local environments. Native oak trees host caterpillars for over 550 butterfly and moth species. Non-native ginkgo trees host just five.

Remember do not use insecticides, herbicides, or fertilizers in your landscape for native trees or shrubs. These chemicals only create problems for the wildlife that thrive on native species.

I have supplied a list of some shrubs and trees that you might find useful for your difficult area:

Green Alder - <i>Alnus crispa</i> - Upland sand species	Hill’s Oak- <i>Quercus ellipsoidalis</i> - poor sandy soil
Speckled Alder- <i>Alnus rugosa</i> - lowland marsh	Sweetgale - <i>Myrica gale</i> - Water loving shrub
Apple Serviceberry - <i>Amelanchier grandiflora</i>	Bladdernut - <i>Staphylea trifolia</i> - very shade tolerate
Sand Serviceberry - <i>Amelanchier sanguinea</i>	Hazelnut - <i>Corylus americana</i> - will grow on poor soil
Indigo Bush <i>Amorpha</i> - <i>Amorpha fruticosa</i> - Flood plain shrub	White Spruce - <i>Picea glauca</i>
Bog Rosemary - <i>Andromeda glaucophylla</i> - Moist acid soil	Eastern White Pine <i>Pinus strobus</i>
Bog Birch - <i>Betula glandulifera</i> - wetlands	
American Hornbeam - <i>Capinus caroliniana</i> - will grow in deep shade	
Leatherleaf - <i>Chamaedaphne calyculata</i> - bog shrub	
Sweetfern Sage - <i>Comptonia peregrina</i> - sandy soil and sun	
Black Ash - <i>Fraxinus nigra</i> - cold wetland tree	
Green Ash - <i>Fraxinus pennsylvanicum</i> - grow on low clay soils	
Creeping Snowberry <i>Gautheria hispidula</i> - wet moss soils in deep shade	
Oldfield Juniper - <i>Juniperus communis depressa</i> - Dry native plantings	
Thimbleberry - <i>Rubus parviflorus</i> - Prefers moist limey soil with half shade	

Old World Wisconsin

Judy Newman, Historian

Buildings at Old World Wisconsin were gathered from all parts of the state and restored on 576 acres of rolling, wooded land in the southern unit of the Kettle Moraine State Forest. It is located on Hwy. 67 just south of Eagle, Wisconsin. Interpreters in period clothing pursue tasks commonly done by rural people in Wisconsin in the 19th and early 20th century.

The site officially opened in 1976. WGCF donated \$1000.00 for the landscaping of the Ketola farm, one of the Finish farms. The house built in three sections came from Bayfield County. The Milwaukee District voted to pay \$1500.00 for the landscaping of the Dutch homestead which never materialized. The district increased their gift to \$3000.00 for the permanent plantings at the Visitor's Center in 1979. The building, is known as the Lueskow house, restored half-timber 1850 German home. In 2019 it become the Garden Store near the parking area. In 1979 the Milwaukee Art Center Garden Club donated \$1000.00 to the Kvaale home. It is one of the Norwegian farms with fields filled with sheep and a garden filled with plants for dyeing wool.

The site has several areas; the Visitor Center where they are bringing in a tavern and building a beer brewery this summer, Crossroad Village, a German area with three German farms and one Polish home, a Finish Area with two Finish farms, and a Norwegian area with two Norwegian farms and Raspberry School from near Lake Superior.

Each of the gardens are unique. Designed and planted with vegetables, fruits, herbs grown for the time period and the origin for the family. All of the historic gardens are maintained by volunteers. Marcia C. Carmichael's book, *Putting Down Roots*, is filled with tips of how to garden with heirloom plants.

The site is planning to reopen this summer. Please visit the Old World Wisconsin website for more information. We have been having special tours. When the site is fully open there are trams to take visitors to the various areas. It is a fun, educational experience for everyone of all ages.

Judy Newman, WGCF Historian and Old World Wisconsin Historic Gardener



Finnish Ketola garden



The Schulz Farm garden in the German area with 72 four-foot square garden beds

Photos by Judy Newman



The vegetable garden on the Schottler Farm in the German area of Old World Wisconsin

Sheboygan District welcomes

Karen Merlau

of Lake Shore Garden Club,
as our District Director for 2021-2023.



*Sheboygan District Thanks
Gretchen Vest
for her many years of leadership
for the District.*

*We appreciate all that you've
done for us, and with us!!*

Information for your Yearbooks:

NGC President 2021-2023
Mary Warshauer
57 Buena Vista Ave.
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Mwarshauer@gardenclub.org
phone 732-513-2671
Theme: Plant America: Play Outdoors

Central Region 2021-2023
CR Director
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708-246-6704
708-927-9937 cell
MSCYee@hotmail.com
Theme: Plant America: Sow the Seeds and Keep
Growing
CR Alternate Director
Laural DeBoer
421 B South Barrington RD
Wauconda, IL 600084-3486

Gardening Webinars

Are you looking for gardening webinars to attend? Melinda Myers will be hosting the following seminars::

Helpful Ideas for New Plant Parents	April 15	6:30 p.m.
Be A Part of the Solution -Plant a Landscape that Makes a Difference	April 21	6:30 p.m.
Well Loved Wisconsin Garden Plants	April 27	6:30 p.m.
Top Plants for Rain Gardens, Water Gardens, Shoreline Gardens	May 12	6:30 p.m.
Planting Your Rain Garden	May 13	6:30 p.m.

The virtual seminars are free, but registration is required .
Go to www.MelindaMyers.com to register for any webinar.

On the website, you will also find many video and audio presentations related to gardening.

Grow Beautiful, Low Maintenance Gardens that Keep Lakes and Waterways Healthy

by Melinda Myers

Our lakes and waterways make Wisconsin a special place to live. If you are lucky enough to live on or near one of these bodies of water, it is easy to appreciate your role in protecting them. But even those living in spaces, large or small, away from them have an impact on our waterways' health and beauty.

Avoid aggressive and invasive plants whether gardening along a shoreline, managing a water feature, growing a rain garden, or tending a more traditional landscape space. Not only will you help the environment, but you will reduce your workload trying to manage plants that can take over the landscape and those that invade and damage our natural spaces.

Look first to natives when ordering plants for new or existing gardens. More nurseries are providing native and suitable water plants for Wisconsin gardens and waterways. Avoid online sources that are selling invasive plants that are harmful and not permitted to grow in Wisconsin. The University of Minnesota Sea Grant Extension Program published a helpful Water Garden Plants brochure, featuring invasive plants to avoid in the Great Lakes region as well as attractive and hardy native alternatives.

Avoid invasive aquatic plants that have escaped and are upsetting the natural balance in some of our waterways and lakes. These invaders crowd out native plants, compromise wildlife habitat and reduce water quality.

Assess what is already growing in your water feature, shoreline plantings, rain gardens and landscape. Some plants that were once considered outstanding have been found to be invasive. Remove and dispose of these. Place in a clear plastic bag marked invasive and throw in the trash.

This is also a good time to eliminate those aggressive plants that take over your garden, water feature or shoreline planting. They require too much of your time to keep them in check and crowd out other plants that provide diversity of color, form, and texture as well as food for pollinators and birds.

Purple loosestrife was a popular garden plant selected for its beautiful blooms and adaptability. It spreads by seeds and roots that readily root and grow in moist soil. This feature has helped it escape gardens and invade our wetlands.

Japanese knotweed is a large plant that can quickly take over gardens and shorelines. Once established, plants can grow roots nine feet deep and spread 60 feet. These aggressive rhizomes (underground stems) can travel under roads to find sunlight on the other side. They even push through pavement, causing damage to walkways and roads.

Yellow flag iris' beauty masks its invasive nature. It tolerates wet and dry soils, wetlands, and floating aquatic mats. This adaptability gives it an unfair advantage to native plants in those areas. Its seeds or pieces of the rhizome can spread, establishing plantings in wetlands, forests, bogs, swamps, marshes, streams, and ponds. Its presence not only crowds out native plants but traps sediment, disrupting the flow of water.

Remove and properly dispose of any of these and other invasive plants from your landscape and water features. Report any invasive plant infestations to the Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources. And spread the word, enlisting the help of fellow gardeners and landowners to do the same.

Together we can make a difference growing beautiful gardens, creating shoreline plantings, and maintaining water features while protecting our lakes and waterways.

Melinda Myers is the author of more than 20 gardening books. Myers' website is www.MelindaMyers.com.



Once a popular garden plant, purple loosestrife spreads by seeds and roots that readily root and grow in moist soil, enabling it to easily escape gardens and invade our wetlands.

Photo courtesy of MelindaMyers.com



Yellow flag iris' beauty masks its invasive nature. Its seeds and pieces of the rhizome can spread, establishing plantings in wetlands, forests, bogs, swamps, marshes, streams, and ponds, crowding out native plants and trapping sediment that disrupts the flow of water

Photo courtesy of Granberg

DATES TO REMEMBER

- April 22 Earth Day
April 23-24 Landscape Design School, Virtual
April 30 Arbor Day
May 1 WGCF Convention, Virtual
June 6–12 National Garden Week
June 30 WGCF Executive Board Meeting,
Rothschild
October 14 WGCF Executive Board Meeting,
Rothschild
November 1-2 Central Region Convention,
Middlebury, IN

2022
February 17 WGCF Executive Board Meeting,
Rothschild
April 24-26 WGCF Convention

IN MEMORIAM



Beth Hartley Chapman

WGCF members were saddened by the passing of Beth Hartley Chapman, who died in October 2020.

She enriched the world around her through her devotion to her family and generous contributions of her time and talents to the community and arts.

The list of Beth's accomplishments and activities to help further the quality of life in the community is long. She held official positions and board memberships in many community organizations including WGCF, Milwaukee Art Museum Garden Club, and spearheaded the gardens at the Villa Terrace.

Many members mentioned her contributions, and Muriel Shervey summarized with this comment: "Beth set a wonderful example as a true leader and friend".

ADDRESS CORRECTIONS

should be sent to Membership Secretary:

Susan Johansen
2249 122nd St.
New Richmond, WI 54017
715-781-6825
h23j19@gmail.com

Information for Executive Board Meeting June 30, 2021

Holiday Inn Express
1000 Imperial Ave
Rothschild, WI 54474
(715) 355-1111

Price is \$109 plus tax per night . Poolside rooms are \$119 - \$129 plus tax.

Mention WGCF block of rooms when reserving.

Tributes, Memorials, Scholarship Donations

Tributes honor any living person for contributions to the Wisconsin Garden Club Federation. Tributes also honor members who already are life members.

Funds derived from Tributes support Wisconsin Scholarships or the WGCF Ruth West Continuing Education Fund.

Memorials honor any deceased member or friend of the Wisconsin Garden Club Federation.

Funds derived from Memorials support Wisconsin Scholarships or the WGCF Ruth West Continuing Education Fund.

Clubs or individuals may make donations to the WGCF Scholarship Fund. This is also a way of honoring a club member with a Life Membership in WGCF (\$50).

Each of these forms can be found on the WGCF website. On the opening page of the website, click on "Forms", and you will find Memorial Donation Form, Tribute Donation Form, and Scholarship Donation Form.

Wisconsin Garden Club Federation



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Mount Horeb, WI 53572

wisconsingardenclub.org

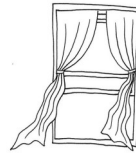
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Deadline for Summer Issue: June 20 — Submissions Welcome

Publication approximately: July 1

Coming in the Summer 2020 Issue: Design, Landscape Design, Annual Financial Report. Articles also requested from members, please consider writing about your garden club, activities, club projects, etc.

Looking out my window, my mind fills with ideas of projects for my yard and gardens. Then the next minute, I have to face my doubts and find myself thinking, “I can’t accomplish that” or “how could I ever do that?” I let myself get discouraged and defeated before I’ve even started the projects. I’m allowing a myriad of excuses defeat me. It’s time to work with myself again on turning negatives into positives.



After thinking about myself, my thoughts turn to our Garden Club and community organizations. How often do the negatives ruin our plans for a project? Do we lose members in our Clubs because we want to keep doing things the same way year after year? Do we lose enthusiasm and opportunities when we dismiss the new, creative ways of doing things?

Everyone says it — “this has been a year like no other” — a year when we have found new, innovative ways for holding meetings, visiting family & friends, viewing gardens and taking on community projects. It’s been a year when we’ve learned about being resourceful and resilient, creative and innovative.

Let’s celebrate our “new normal”. We don’t have to go back to the “same old, same old” ways. Let’s celebrate what we have learned during the pandemic. Let’s celebrate what we can do!!

Carla

*“We cannot all do great things, but we can do things with great love..”
— Mother Teresa*

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