

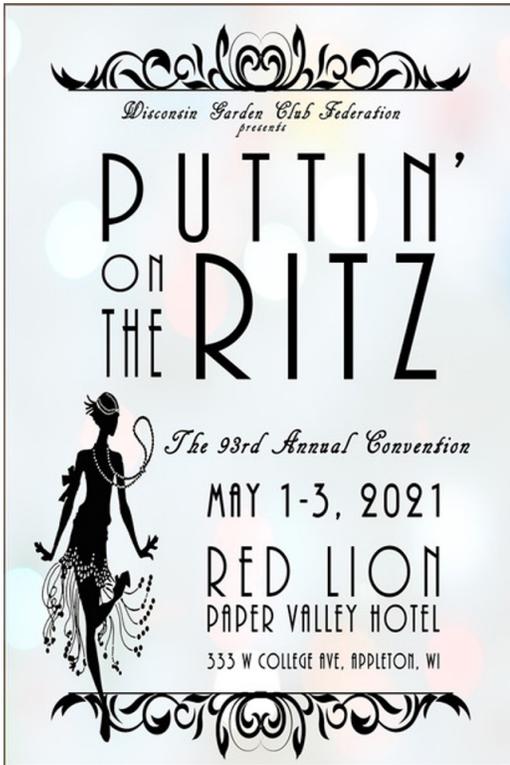


Volume 72, Issue 1
Winter 2021

Wisconsin Gardens

Wisconsin Garden Club Federation Announces the 2021 Grant Program

Roger Greathead, WGCF Grant Chair



If you are wondering what to do after receiving your COVID vaccination, why not plan an in-person project with your Garden Club Zoom friends to build or renovate a garden in your local community. One of the benefits of belonging to the Wisconsin Garden Club Federation (WGCF) is the ability to receive support and funding for WGCF club-related projects. The WGCF Grant Committee is very pleased to announce that it is accepting applications from its member garden clubs for grants up to \$250.

Grants are designed to help local garden clubs with projects that will enhance:

- Community beautification
- Horticultural education
- Community gardening
- Environmental stewardship
- Gardening for good

Grants are not designed to support annual operating expenses but may be used to either start a new program or provide matching funds to contribute to the extension of an existing program. Please note that it is expected that the Club or District applying for the grant will actively participate in the project. Projects where the money is passed on to another organization without any involvement of WGCF members will not be funded.

The application deadline for a 2021 WGCF Grant is midnight, March 31, 2021. Awards will be announced in the spring. Projects should be completed and a feedback report sent by November 15, 2021.

The grant application form and project completion form can be found at the following link on the WGCF web site:

<http://www.wisconsinclub.org/awards/grants/>

If you have any questions about the grant program, these should be directed to Roger Greathead either by e-mail at:

roghead@frontier.com or by phone 608-692-1816.

We hope many WGCF Clubs and Districts will find this program beneficial to their members and local community, and we look forward to supporting your project.

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Gardening for Good

Education

Service

Friendship

A Message from our President . . .

It was in great anticipation that thousands of green thumb enthusiasts, designers and educators from around the world would gather in Milwaukee for the 2020 National Garden Club Convention. The speakers were lined up, the centerpieces were designed, and the entertainment was scheduled, for an unforgettable week of what was supposed to be a showcase of our fair city and remarkable state. The Coronavirus and COVID-19 pandemic was in its infancy, and the world was shutting down faster than a tulip affected by a hard frost. Plans for the NGC Convention and the WGCF Convention were shelved and our focus turned to our own gardens and landscapes. With relatively nothing to do in the outside world, and the majority of the population working from home, flower gardens and planting beds boomed and exploded across the area. This diversion from “normal life” enabled even the most novice of gardeners to express their talents and creativity through the blossoming of flowers, trees, and plants.



What we did not realize, that this crazy turn of events in our normal lives, enabled us and others, the time to showcase our imagination and creativity to design and cultivate some of the best and most beautiful flower and design ideas ever. Nurseries and garden centers were suddenly out of product and the waiting time for new materials increased. Guess what?...Everyone was gardening.

All of our hard work as stewards for the hobbyists of gardening, preservation, and civic and environment responsibility surely paid off as numerous new individuals were introduced into our love and passion.

It is now our responsibility to build on the gardening success of last year and continue to sponsor, educate, and lead by example to not only our peers, but to the new crop of people willing to get on their knees and get their hands dirty. Even though we may not be able to provide an open forum for our teachings and values, we still can provide the resources and knowledge to help beginning naturalists and our youth continue on the great history of gardening in Wisconsin.

We have continued to implement our programs that include the local planting of trees, the completion of a new Blue Star Marker, the awarding of scholarships to deserving youth, and the continued updating of our State Garden Club website. We have also strived to accomplish goals and standards that were and have been established throughout the years. The Wisconsin State Garden Club Executive Committee has met regularly and will continue to do so, ensuring that all of our State members have the knowledge and resources to spread our word, and make this Club the best possible. We thank you for all of your hard work at both the local level and the state level.

As we look to 2021, we must remember that our mission and goals for the future remain the same, and we must continue to spur on new growth, not only to new growth coming out of the ground, but to continue to grow the organization and to look to those who have now taken an interest in our pastime.

(President's Message continued on page 3)



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:

President: Lynne Ehnert
W143 N6828 Aspen Dr.
Menomonee Falls, WI 53051-0925
262-251-0452
lehnert@wi.rr.com

President-Elect: Laura Skoff
W131 N8030 Country Club Dr.
Menomonee Falls, WI 53051
414-614-6489
lauraskoff@gmail.com

Second Vice President: Linda McCafferty
443 Woodview Drive
Sun Prairie, WI 53590
608-837-2675
lkmccm@gmail.com

Recording Secretary: Carla Von Haden
1504 Academy St.
Elroy, WI 53929
920-901-3811
carlav8@centurytel.net

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

WGCF Treasurer: Mary Jane Hull
709 Brookstone Crest
Mount Horeb, WI 53572-3393
608-437-2478
hullmary249@gmail.com

Central Region Director: Jodi Meyer

NGC President: Gay Austin
NGC Headquarters:
4401 Magnolia Avenue
St. Louis, MO 63110
www.gardenclub.org

ADVERTISING RATES

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

Garden Expo 2021 Virtual Design Program

Gerianne Holzman (geriannewgcf@gmail.com)

The members of the Madison District Garden Club and WGCF have always been very active supporting Garden Expo and most recently with terrific floral designs. With Expo going virtual this year, we cannot host a traditional Flower Show and do not have time to put together a virtual show. Instead, we invite all of you to participate in a virtual floral design program. We ask you to choose one, two or even all five of the following “classes” and put your creativity to work. We all need something fun to do and what better way to spend some of our stay at home time than playing with flowers...in January!

Design Classes

1. Zoom – miniature design, close up image needed
2. Virtual – virtual landscape, e.g. pot-et-fleur, terrarium, dish garden, etc.
3. Learning – incorporate school related items
4. Wi-Fi – industrial/tech look
5. Internet - illuminated design, be sure your lighting is obvious in the photo

Procedure

1. Pick your theme or themes from the list.
2. Create your design.
3. Photograph your design in front of a plain wall, staging panel, underlay, etc. We want to see your design, not what is behind it.
4. Send your high quality images to Gerianne in jpg format by January 22, 2021.
 - a. Include design theme
 - b. Include list of plant material
 - c. Include your inspiration or thoughts about your design
 - d. Include size of design for class 1
5. Gerianne will create a presentation with your images and information and convert to a video for showing during Expo.
6. Designs will NOT be judged.
7. **DEADLINE FOR SUBMISSION JANUARY 22, 2021.**

Thanks for participating, have fun and we cannot wait to see what you put together. Feel free to contact Gerianne with any questions.

2021 Garden & Landscape Expo February 20 & 21

The Wisconsin Garden & Landscape Expo will be a virtual experience for 2021. Virtual expo attendees of the free event will enjoy two full days of live and interactive educational sessions with experts and gardening professionals, a live exhibitor mall, virtual garden tours captured at the peak of the summer season, opportunities to pose questions to the UW-Madison Extension Horticulture Team in open Q&A forums, special activities for kids and families and a beautiful garden photo competition. Guests will be able to participate in the event on their personal computers, phones and tablets. To access the Expo and register (registration is free), go to the website: wigardenexpo.com

President's Message – continued

It seems the plans for the future are a bit more promising with the development of the vaccine for the COVID-19 virus. Hopefully, we will all have a chance to be immunized soon and be able to get back to socialization. While we have projects in the works to plant trees through our “Little Sprouts for Saplings” program, we have some rebuilding to do in our individual clubs and the WGCF organization. While this task seems daunting at times, it is not impossible. But it is important.

Be creative and have fun. Isn't that why you joined a garden club to begin with? It is something you enjoyed. Our WGCF State Convention to be held in Appleton in early May is our next opportunity to prove we are strong and we believe in what we love. Come have some fun!

Lynne

NOMINATIONS FOR WGCF OFFICERS: 2021-2023 Term

Peggy Grubbs, Nominations Chair

The Nominating Committee is pleased to nominate the following members for WGCF State Officers: Laura Skoff, President; Linda McCafferty, 1st Vice President; Susan Johansen, Membership Secretary; and Mary Jane Hull, Treasurer. We are still looking for nominees for 2nd Vice President and Recording Secretary. If you have an interest or wish to nominate someone, please contact Peggy Grubbs at: peggymcgrubbs@aol.com

Laura Skoff, President Milwaukee District

My introduction to a garden club began with a friend and a pumpkin. It was one of those "why don't you join me" moments followed by an evening of socializing and an autumn floral design made from a spray painted pumpkin. I was hooked....sign me up! And so the WGCF journey started and almost thirty years later, I am still a member of the Elmbrook Garden Club where I have served as Recording Secretary, Vice President and President a few times. Though we are a small club we have maintained a 17 acre nature preserve with new butterfly gardens, educated our members with incredibly talented and interesting speakers and embarked on great field trips. Last spring I joined the Milwaukee Art Museum Garden Club which has recently presented numerous Zoom meetings with tours and speakers.



My history of involvement with our organization includes serving as Recording Secretary for the Milwaukee District, WGCF and Central Region Life Membership, and achieving NGC Environmental and Gardening Consultant status through our outstanding educational schools. I am anxiously awaiting our spring Landscape Design school! As a member of Tri-Council, I enjoy our summer field trips and served as a tour guide at our 2018 Gathering for Gardeners.

On the state level, I have served as Awards and Endangered Species Chair, Second Vice President and recently First Vice President where I chair the Strategic Planning Committee and implemented our latest fundraiser (colorful Pollinator Yard Signs). I was the Tour Chair for our planned 2020 NGC Convention to be held in Milwaukee this past May, which unfortunately was cancelled due to our nation's health pandemic. While this was a huge disappointment for all that were involved, it presented our small committee and me an opportunity to create fun & interesting tours and really SEE what the Milwaukee area has to offer gardeners!

In my free time I volunteer as a Docent at the Milwaukee County Zoo where I educate the public on animal species conservation and share stories of their individual history. I belong to the Elm Grove Woman's Club where I have served as Recording Secretary and am presently on the Strategic Planning Committee. The experiences of world travel as a "people" person is my fondest interest and my hobbies include photography, gardening, ice skating and swimming.

I am both excited and honored to serve as your President and am looking forward to hearing your ideas along with contributing my leadership to implement them!

**Linda McCafferty, 1st Vice President
Madison District**

In 1991 I became a member of Sun Prairie Garden Club and six months later was nominated to run as Treasurer. Six years later Diane Powelka was running as Madison District's Director and asked me to be her Vice Director. The following term I was Director with Sylvia Lowell as my Vice Director. What an honor. Since then I have served all positions on the SPGC Board.



Because of my involvement with the American Legion Auxiliary and VFW Auxiliary providing assistance to Veterans and active military personnel and their families, 2009 WGCF President Carol Catlin asked if I would be interested in being Chair of the Blue Star Memorial Committee. I agreed, provided my husband could act jointly with me, proposing I take care of the paperwork and he use his communication skills which he has perfected so well over the years! We still hold this position; it is a perfect fit for our lives which involve all things military.

The first year of my term as Second Vice President was uneventful as I began to “learn the ropes” of my eventual progression to WGCF President; however, this second year was certainly something that could not be considered typical with the onset of COVID-19. It considerably changed all of our lives whether we wanted it to or not. The first NGC and WGCF Conventions I would attend as a member of the Executive Board were cancelled as were hundreds of events throughout the nation and state including fundraisers and club meetings. We masked, social distanced and held electronic meetings and I learned from Lynne and Laura as they adapted to the circumstances and learned new methods to transact WGCF business. I expect that the term of my next anticipated position, if so elected, will evolve to a more “normal” situation, whatever “normal” will mean after progressing through the pandemic which consumed us so much this year; hopefully, I will not disappoint.

**Susan Johansen, Membership Secretary
St. Croix District**

I joined the Willow River Garden Club in 2009. Although my interests are not in planting gardens, there are many other activities I enjoy: learning about floral design, visiting gardens, workshops and of course, fellowship. Running our club's Gertens fundraiser is one of my committee duties as well as putting together and printing our club yearbook.



I am currently serving as Club Treasurer, District Treasurer, WGCF Membership Secretary and WGCF Finance Committee Chair.

**Mary Jane Hull, Treasurer
Madison District**

I have always been an avid gardener and membership in WGCF has given me access to many wonderful gardening opportunities. As a member of MoundVue Garden Club, I have been active in creating garden spots in our parks for area residents to enjoy. I think a local garden club does lots to promote gardening in their area.



I have been treasurer for WGCF for two years and glad that my experience in accounting has been of value to the Federation. During these two years, I have organized our files so that important documents can readily be found and our financial records can easily be traced. Hopefully in the next two years, I can improve on what I have done so far. I thank the members for the opportunity to work with many wonderful people. As a Federation we can together offer many benefits to all our area clubs.

Welcome to "Puttin' on the Ritz" 2021 WGCF Convention

On behalf of the Fox River Valley District, we welcome Wisconsin Garden Club Federation members and friends to enjoy "Puttin' on the Ritz" in Appleton, WI.

The Convention takes place at the Red Lion Paper Valley Hotel and Convention Center on vibrant College Avenue in downtown Appleton. A few steps away is the Trout Art Museum, and across the street is the Building for Children with hands-on exhibits. A block away is the Appleton Performing Arts Center which sponsors top Broadway plays. And, inside the hotel is the Packer-themed restaurant with many memorable pictures and objects of previous Packer players and coaches.

The NGC President-Elect, Mary Warshauer, will be our Honored Guest. She will give an inspiring message from Headquarters and goals for her administration of 2021-2023. Some of the topics that will be covered include eagles, hostas, orchids, mushrooms, laughter yoga. An NGC accredited Judge will provide a memorable design program. Don't forget to wear your 1920's best!!

A tour to the Bronze Award winner's garden will be offered Saturday and a short video of Larry Conrad's gardens will be presented at the Awards and Installation of WGCF Officers for 2021-2023.



Convention Committee: Liz Murken, Decoration
Chairman; Marion Books, 2021 WGCF Convention
Co-Chairman; Carol Catlin, 2021 WGCF Convention
Chairman; Sandi Smet, Fox River Valley District Acting
Director



Karen Witucke, Fox River Valley District Director

Sunday, May 2, 2021

- 12:00 p.m.— 2:00 p.m. Luncheon Presiding: Lynne Ehnert, WGCF President
Design Program “Roaring Twenties” by Edie Dyer-Wilson
Announcements
- 2:30 p.m. — 3:30 p.m. Breakout session 1: “Native Orchids”
Andrea Weissgerber, Research Ecologist for the
Orchid Conservation Project at Riveredge Nature Center
- 3:45 p.m.— 4:45 p.m. Breakout session 2: “Hostas”
Tammy Borden, Master Gardener
- 5:30 p.m. Reception Honoring WGCF President Lynne Ehnert and NGC President-Elect
- 6:30 p.m. Awards Banquet Presiding: Lynne Ehnert, WGCF President
Introduction of NGC President-Elect, and Remarks
Bronze Award: Introduction of Award winner, and Remarks
Installation of WGCF Officers 2021-2023, NGC President-Elect
Awards Program Doris Weber, Awards Chair
Announcements

Monday, May 3, 2021

- 7:00 a.m. — 9:00 a.m. Registration Jeanne Baum and Committee
- 7:00 a.m. — 9:00 a.m. Credentials Judy Pitcher
- 9:00 a.m. — 10:00 a.m. FRV Sales Table Members
- 9:00 a.m. — 10:00 a.m. Tisket a Tasket Nancy Mancusi
- 9:00 a.m. — 10:00 a.m. FRV Raffle Ann Gratton
- 7:30 a.m. — 9:30 a.m. Breakfast Presiding: Linda McCafferty
Program: “Identifying Edible Fungi”
Final Credentials Report Judy Pitcher
Final Registration Report Jeanne Baum
Courtesy Resolution
Benediction
Announcements
Adjournment WGCF President Lynne Ehnert
- 10:00 a.m. Post Convention Board of Directors Meeting Presiding: Laura Skoff
- 11:30 a.m. Wisconsin Judges Council Meeting Presiding: Wendy Kramer
Program Gerianne Holzman
Installation of Officers, Wisconsin Judges Council 2021-2023
- 12:00 p.m. Luncheon Presiding: Wendy Kramer
Adjournment

Directions to Red Lion Paper Valley Hotel

333 W. College Ave., Appleton, WI 54914

From southern Wisconsin: Take Hwy 41 to Appleton. Exit at College Ave. to the right. Go East to 333 W. College Ave. The parking garage is immediately north of the hotel, on Superior St. Turn right onto Superior St. and park. The ramp has a hotel entrance on the 3rd level of the parking garage.

From western Wisconsin: Take Hwy 10 to Appleton and exit to north Hwy 41. Take 41 to College Ave. Follow above directions.

From northern Wisconsin: Take Hwy 41 to College Ave. Follow above directions.

“Puttin’ on the Ritz”

WISCONSIN GARDEN CLUB FEDERATION 93rd ANNUAL CONVENTION

May 1, 2 and 3, 2021

Red Lion Paper Valley Hotel

333 W. College Ave., Appleton, WI 54911

(920) 733-8000 1-800-733-5466

Name _____ Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip + 4 _____

District _____ Club _____

Email confirmation _____ Phone _____

Check all that apply:

- | | | |
|--|--|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> NGC Officer | <input type="checkbox"/> WGCF Chairman | <input type="checkbox"/> NGC Acc'd Flower Show Judge |
| <input type="checkbox"/> NGC Board Member | <input type="checkbox"/> WGCF Life Member | <input type="checkbox"/> Student Flower Show Judge |
| <input type="checkbox"/> NGC Life Member | <input type="checkbox"/> District Director | <input type="checkbox"/> Landscape Design Consultant |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Central Region Board Member | <input type="checkbox"/> Club President | <input type="checkbox"/> Prov. Landscape Consultant |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Central Region Life Member | <input type="checkbox"/> Club Delegate | <input type="checkbox"/> Gardening Consultant |
| <input type="checkbox"/> WGCF Former President | <input type="checkbox"/> Club Alternate | <input type="checkbox"/> Environmental Consultant |
| <input type="checkbox"/> WGCF Elected Officer | <input type="checkbox"/> Club Member | <input type="checkbox"/> Former Lydia Shafer Recipient |
| <input type="checkbox"/> WGCF Appointed Officer | <input type="checkbox"/> Guest | <input type="checkbox"/> New Member since June 1, 2020 |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Number of years a WGCF member | | |

Make room reservations with the Red Lion Paper Valley Hotel at (920) 733-8000 or 1-800 733-5466. The rate is \$104 plus tax for run of the house, single or double occupancy. A Concierge room is \$134 plus tax. Deadline is April 1, 2021.

Events:

Package Plan before April 1, 2021 _____ \$168.00

(Includes: Two Banquets, Two Breakfasts One Lunch and Registration fee)

Package Plan after April 1, 2021 _____ \$188.00

(additional registration information on next page)

Single Events. Late fees apply after April 1, 2021

Tour of Larry Conrad’s (gratuity of your choice to Sandra Smet, money collected will go to Conrad’s gardens)

Saturday Banquet, Program and Registration fee	_____	\$ 63.00
Saturday Banquet, Program and Late Registration fee	_____	\$ 68.00
Sunday Breakfast, Program and Registration fee	_____	\$ 38.00
Sunday Breakfast, Program and Late Registration fee	_____	\$ 43.00
Sunday Luncheon, Program and Registration fee	_____	\$ 50.00
Sunday Luncheon, Program and Late Registration fee	_____	\$ 55.00
Sunday Banquet , Program and Registration fee	_____	\$ 61.00
Sunday Banquet, Program and Late Registration fee	_____	\$ 65.00
Monday Breakfast, Program and Registration fee	_____	\$ 38.00
Monday Breakfast, Program and Late Registration fee	_____	\$ 43.00

Breakout Sessions :

#1. “Native Orchid Current Research”	2:30 p.m.--3:30 p.m.	_____	\$ 10.00
#2 “Hostas”	3:45 p.m.--4:45 p.m.	_____	\$ 10.00

Total Enclosed: _____

List food allergies:_____

Make checks payable to WGCF, with Registration form.

Send to: Jeanne Baum, Registrar, N2670 Meade St., Appleton, WI 54913

kjeabaum@gmail.com

(920) 731-9140

Convention Speakers and Presenters

Andrea Weissgerber

Andrea grew up in Milwaukee and learned about nature on fishing trips with her dad and playing in the garden. Her interests include preserving and restoring native communities and rare plants through an eclectic and multidisciplinary lens. She graduated from UW-Madison in 2019 with a Master in Science in Restoration Ecology.



At UW, Andrea became a distinguished Graduate Fellow and was awarded several scholarships, one from WGCF!! Her graduate thesis work focused on the distribution, ecology, and threats of a state threatened species, the white lady's slipper orchid (*Cypripedium candidum*). The beautiful lady slipper embodies the health of the wet prairie it calls home.

She works at Riveredge Nature Center for the Orchid Conservation Project where she studies a multitude of native orchid species.

Tammy Borden

Tammy will present new hostas and discuss popular hosta varieties, and show how to incorporate them in pleasing designs.

Tammy is a Master Gardener and has over 600 varieties of hostas in her yard. Her yard was featured on the 2019 National Hosta Society convention tour. She is the Executive Vice President of the AHS and has authored the book "A Perennial Life".



Virtual Gardening Webinar Series

Melinda Myers who was a Speaker at the 2017 "Digging in the Dells" Conference offers free Virtual Gardening courses. Each course will be from 6:30 to 7:30 p.m. To register for the courses, go to www.melindamyers.com

The following courses will be offered:

- | | |
|-------------|---|
| January 20 | Grow Flavorful & Nutritional Herbs Indoors |
| January 27 | Low Maintenance Houseplants for Low Light Situations |
| February 3 | Organic Control for Houseplant Pests |
| February 10 | Getting Started Growing Vegetables & Flower Gardens |
| February 17 | Growing Nutritious & Flavorful Edibles Indoors |
| February 24 | Low Maintenance Gardening for Loads of Beauty & Health Benefits |
| March 3 | 10 Ways to Spice Up Your Garden with Summer-Blooming Bulbs |

Blue Star Marker Memorial Dedication

October 23, 2020

Peggy Grubbs, WGCF President 2017-19

The dedication event was the culmination of four years of hard work to put up a Blue Star Marker and get it dedicated at the Loop Trail in Houlton, WI.

As part of my term as President of the Wisconsin Garden Federation, I chose a project in our part of the state that would honor service members of all of the U.S. Armed Forces who have defended the United States of America. This marker is one of 17 in Wisconsin and the first in our area.

We designed a garden and memorial with the help of Earthworks in River Falls. Together with St. Croix County, Office of Community Development, we were able to make this a reality. Many thanks to all of the garden clubs throughout the state and individual donors who contributed to the project. A special Thank You to the Ann Marie Foundation and St Croix County for also helping with the cost.

Thanks to our friends from Madison and Milwaukee who braved the heavy snow between Eau Claire and Menominee to get to the dedication. Thanks to Carol Howe, chairperson of this project, and to Susan Johansen for all of their help from conception to completion.

Thanks to New Richmond VFW Post 10818 for the presentation of colors, to Deacon Robin Major for his invocation, and to Anne Anez for an amazing rendition of the Star Spangled Banner. It was a wonderful dedication in the snow and cold!

A special Thank you to my son-in-law Bernard Francis for his service and for unveiling the marker, and to my family for supporting all of us throughout the past 4 years.

It is a lasting legacy and a wonderful addition to the Loop Trail Crossing. Stop by and see it if you are in the area!





Presentation of Colors by New Richmond VFW Post 10818



During the Dedication Ceremony, Peggy thanked all who donated funds and assistance toward the President's Project and Blue Star Marker, as well as all who attended the ceremony on a snowy October day.



Unveiling of the Blue Star Memorial Marker by Bernard Francis, Peggy Grubbs and Peggy's family



Congratulations to Former WGCF President Peggy Grubbs and Carol Howe, Chair of the President's Project, on completion of this project!

Photos contributed by Gerianne Holzman & Peggy Grubbs

Wisconsin Judges Council

Wendy Kramer, President

The Wisconsin Judges Council typically meets during the WGCF Annual Convention. However, 2020 was turned upside down and inside out with most in-person gatherings cancelled. Thus, this is what also happened to the Wisconsin Judges Council meeting. We did keep in touch electronically with each other throughout the year.

- Updates to the 2017 Handbook For Flower Shows were received from the NGC Flower Show Committee and forwarded electronically to our members.
- The By-Laws have been updated to reflect that the Secretary may serve two terms in the same office (approved at the 2019 meeting).
- In June and July, our members were asked to use the annual convention theme of “Puttin’ on the Ritz” and give a floral design, botanical arts project and/or horticulture from their garden to a friend, stranger, or business. This activity was intended to try and keep our members connected and “pay it forward” during these difficult times.



Carolyn Craig shared her Itoh peony, *Paeonia lactiflora* x *Paeonia suffrutcosa* ‘Hillary’ with residents, staff and visitors at the Deerfield Gables Care Center in New Richmond. Carolyn’s daughter, Dana, was also present to enjoy this sharing opportunity. The peonies interpret the theme by being gorgeous and eye-catching! (Photo at left)

Carol Larson sent a birthday floral gift that her grandson requested in July. It traveled 160 miles for the occasion and was well received by all accounts. The container was recycled, and it even was returned to Carol after the flowers faded, so it can be recycled again! What a way to be “Puttin’ on the Ritz” with this beautiful birthday design. (Photo at right)



I made a floral design using an inverted, painted recycled sour cream container. The plant material includes *Zantedeschia* flowers and leaves and *Allium sativum* scapes from my garden. The interpretation of “Puttin’ on the Ritz” reminded me of white gloves and a black top hat! This was given to a girlfriend. (Photo at left)



The Wisconsin Flower Show Judges sponsored a “Fall Floral Fantasy Symposium” in Sheboygan which was highlighted in our *Wisconsin Gardens* Fall 2020 issue.

Hopefully, we will see each other again in 2021. Stay well and stay safe.

Wendy Kramer, WJC President

Ordering Trees

Karen Merlau, Arbor Day Education Chair

Now is the time to start planning and ordering trees for this spring. Information for our 2021 county tree sale has arrived at County Departments.

There are many good sources for trees, including the Arbor Day Foundation. Most counties in Wisconsin sell trees once a year through their Planning and Conservation Departments in smaller bundles of 10 trees or sometimes even as individual trees. Another good source for trees is the Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources, although the minimum quantities are 100 and up, which may deter some. Most orders for county sold or DNR trees are due by the end of January or February for pickup in your area in late April.

Be sure to plan to protect any trees that you plant from predators. We live in an area with a very high deer population and it would not be possible anymore to raise young trees to maturity without the use of protective tree tubes. (*Left photo, below*)

The tree grows inside this tube for many years protected from being nipped by deer, rabbits and rodents. Another problem is that the bucks like to rub their antlers on young trees and do damage to the bark or kill the tree entirely in doing so. (*Right photo, below*)

The tree tubes can be purchased through your county tree sale or through private vendors. They come in various lengths. I have used the 4' and 5' lengths and definitely prefer the 5' type. By the time they grow out of the 5' tube they seem to be beyond the browsing height of most deer. With the 4' length, I have found that deer can still nip them as they emerge from the tube.

You should purchase wooden stakes to firmly secure the tube. They normally come with a fine mesh net to cover the open top of the tube. It helps to keep wasps from building nests inside the tube. So watch out for that hazard! I have also found that the open top of a tree tube can be hazardous to some young birds. I think they perch on top and sometimes fall inside the tube and are unable to fly out.

We can look forward to Arbor Day which is Friday April 30, 2021. You'll be all set by placing your tree order soon.



Tree with protective tube



Tree with damage to bark on lower part of tree

News from Clubs around the State

Racine Garden Club Submitted by Lynn Felle

As I begin to compose this article, I have to reflect back on the past year. January 1st, 2020, was to be the beginning of a new and exciting decade for us all. With the pandemic hitting, we have had to learn a new way of life. The Racine Garden Club was looking forward to hosting our biannual garden tour in July, and two wonderful bus trips, but because of the state mandates regarding COVID-19, both trips and our garden tour had to be cancelled. One thing that hasn't been cancelled is our beautiful city garden. In May, our members gathered with gloves, hand tools and of course masks, to clean, prepare, and plant our beautiful Williamsburg Garden. I hope that many of you had a chance to take a ride and visit the garden. If you did, you may have noticed the new informative sign in the garden.

When our members are watering and weeding the garden, they are asked by visitors the history of the garden. So about a year ago, at one of our monthly meetings, Carol Knutsen brought this matter up for discussion. After many ideas were discussed, signage was selected as the way to move forward. A committee was formed of four members, Carol Knutsen, Carolyn Seeger, Bonnie Sommer, and Mary Ellen Chovan. The committee invited the curator of the Racine Historical Museum to visit the garden and give recommendations on what we could add to the garden that would give the history for our visitors. They discussed many different ways to accomplish this and a sign with the history of the garden was chosen. Next, the committee worked on gathering historical information to be included on the sign, the color and size of the sign and the location in the garden. They contacted several sign companies in Racine, and chose Michaels Sign Company. Mid summer of 2020, the sign was delivered and installed.

The garden was established in 1976 as a gift to Racine in honor of the United States Bicentennial. The commission asked the Racine Garden Club, which was formed in the fall of 1927, by a group of gardening enthusiasts, to landscape the 38 by 45 foot lot next to the firehouse. There were plans at that time to restore and establish the Firehouse 3 Museum. Many times since 1976, the Williamsburg Garden has been memorialized in honor of members who have worked above and beyond to improve and restore the garden.

The garden includes two benches for Racine citizens to rest and enjoy her beauty. Both benches were purchased in honor of garden members, Millie Bassinger and Pat Suminski. Also, a beautiful urn was installed in memory of a past garden club President, Eleanor Erment.

The Racine Garden Club members continue to care for the garden which serves to commemorate the city's celebration of the Bicentennial.

The Williamsburg Garden is located at 6th and Grand Avenue, next to the 1881 Engine House No. 3 Firehouse. ^{SEP}



Spoooner Garden Club

Submitted by Ruth Batulis

Spoooner Garden Club voted to support rebuilding the raised beds at our local Helping Hands Garden program at Spoooner Elementary School. The garden is for the primary grades and literally "gets them to sink their hands into the dirt and their curious minds into the marvels of nature" said Christi Alt, teacher. Nikki Halverson, coordinated the fund drive and has also organized the garden education process and planting in the garden for the last four years. She also coordinated with the lunch staff to create a harvest meal for the entire school. "We are so happy to teach kids lessons about plants, but also healthy eating, healthy living and growing your own food" said Halverson.

The Spoooner Garden Club presented a check for \$1,000 for the rebuilding project and other members supported the project at \$250. *(Photo, below left)* Pictured are Ruthe Batulis, President, Spoooner Garden Club, Nikki Halverson and Christi Alt, making the presentation for the project.



When Spoooner Garden Club member Ellen Schmitz, a valued Life Member passed away this year, her family named Spoooner Garden Club as the recipient of memorials to her. The family ultimately decided to have a custom bench built in our signature park downtown, Centennial Park, which SGC maintains each year. Members gathered with her husband Dave and son Ted for a ribbon cutting. Additionally, the memorial funds will provide scholarships for the next four years for students who will study various environmental science and agriculture curriculums, in alignment with the scholarships provided by Spoooner Garden Club. *(Photo, above right)*



Ivy League Garden Club

Submitted by Kathy George & Gretchen Vest

Ivy League Garden Club met at Canns Floral & Greenhouse in Sheboygan after store hours to create holiday arrangements.

Paper Valley Garden Club

Submitted by Mary Heiting

Successful Pollinating by Paper Valley Garden Club

Paper Valley Garden Club was awarded a grant for \$1600.00 from the Kerwin Foundation. What a wonderful addition to allow our gardeners the opportunity to grow pollinating plants to help the environment as well as our own flowering vegetable gardens.

Each individual was allowed to pick five plants from a list of plants prepared by member Sue Mings. That encouraged our members to diversify and coordinate with the soil types in their gardens.

We received the plants in spring and placed them in our gardens/pots to grow. Watching and caring for them over the summer was exciting to see the pollinators come.

The Garden Club also ordered Pollinator Garden signs to display our efforts in each individual garden.



Sun Prairie Garden Club

Submitted by Diane Powelka

Sun Prairie Garden Club has added a feature to their Club meetings by having a Bird Chatter time, in which everyone will be reporting on what they are observing the birds doing.

Comments at a recent meeting:

In 2020, first robin sighting was March 1st.

Cranes in Wisconsin – do some overwinter?

Swans were observed between the Village of Blue River and the City of Boscobel.

Owls start nesting in February with a courtship

Horticulture

Larix laricina – Tamarack

Sue Donohue, Horticulture Chair

Tamarack, is Wisconsin's only native deciduous conifer. Tamarack, a member of the Pinus family, is a gymnosperm (meaning needled) that loses its needles every fall in the same way our deciduous trees do. The needles grow on spurs in clusters 10-20 per spur, are soft to the touch unlike other pines and in October, they turn a beautiful golden yellow and drop. When trying to identify the tree, even in the winter, the spurs are a great way to make an identification.

Tamaracks grow in all but 11 counties in Wisconsin. Most of those 11 counties are in the western part of the state. These majestic trees need moist to wet soil (standing water is good) and are intolerant of drought, heat, pollution and shade. While they can be grown in a large-scale yard with the moist conditions, be aware of the shallow roots and mulch well. Also be aware that these trees are fast growing (up to 3' per year when young) and will reach a mature size of 30-50' tall by 10-15' wide.

Small cones are produced and will persist on the tree for 2-5 years. New cones are produced annually and some years a tree might produce up to 20,000 cones.

Because we love our natives, so do the birds. Tamarack is a favorite habitat for osprey and great grey owls and some species of warbler, sparrow and woodpecker. On the ground, the tamarack provides food for snowshoe hares, porcupines and red squirrels.

So next time you are walking out in nature, look around and see if you can find this beautiful, native conifer.



Update at Generations Park

Diane Powelka

Generations Park now has a privy and it is on the main trail.

With people coming out to the park and bringing little ones, it is a great relief to find a facility to use after a car ride and prior to walking the trails. It was quite the process but it is well constructed and sturdy.

If you are planning a field trip please check it out, Generations Park. The best time to see ephemerals is the month of May. We are working on expanding the trails. I will keep you updated on the process.

With social distancing, it is easy to walk and feel safe. Thanks for reading about Generations Park.

LANDSCAPE DESIGN SCHOOL

April 23-24, 2021

Course 1

Landscape Design School will have a new look for the upcoming series. There will be a greater emphasis placed on private gardens. Some of the classes will remain the same but several new classes have been added. Meeting will be by Zoom for at least the first course. Additional information will be available on the WGCF website when course information and instructors are finalized.



National Garden Clubs, Inc. Environmental, Gardening and Landscape Design Schools REGISTRATION FORM ADDENDUM

Registration Form
Addendum

This form is for use by those who may have registered before the course format changed to Zoom.

Dear ES, GS, LDS Students and Refreshing Consultants,
Please supply the following additional information, so that we may assist you in having a positive virtual school experience, and return via email by April 16, 2021 (Date) to:

Sylvia Lowell, 3435 State Rd 78, Mt Horeb WI, 53572-1341 608-437-8764 (Course Registrar)

NAME

slowell844@gmail.com

EMAIL

REGISTRANT PLEASE COMPLETE

Name _____

Address _____

Email _____

Primary Phone _____ Cell Home Secondary Phone _____ Cell Home

If possible, please provide a secondary phone in the event that we need to assist you with problems on another device during the course.

Device you will be using: Desktop Laptop iPad Tablet

Note: Smartphones are NOT permitted as a device to take the Zoom Course, unless they are being used for "hotspot" connectivity.

Have you checked that the camera on your device is working? Yes No

Have you checked that the integrated microphone on your device is working? Yes No

Have you checked that your speakers are working? Yes No

What Operating System you will be using?

Microsoft Windows Apple Mac IOS Apple IOS on iPad Android on Tablet

Have you used Zoom before? Yes No

Important: All participants are requested to attend a mandatory **ORIENTATION** to perform a technical check

DATE _____ TIME _____

Please save the date on your calendar. A Zoom invitation will be emailed to you. Thank you!

For any questions, please contact:

Gretchen Vest, 704 Spring Dr. West Bend WI 53095 262-338-6645 (Course Chairman)

NAME

gretchenvest@aol.com

EMAIL

WGCF PROPOSED BYLAW CHANGES

At the October 14, 2020 meeting of the WGCF Executive Committee the following changes to By-Laws were approved. Final approval of By-Law changes will be asked of delegates at the Business Meeting during the convention in May.

WGCF Bylaws – Proposed Changes – insert bold, delete cross-outs

BYLAWS

Current Wording	Changes	Will Read, if approved
<p>Article II Corporate Seal The corporate seal shall be inscribed with the following: “Wisconsin Garden Club Federation.”</p>	<p>Article II Corporate Seal The corporate seal shall be inscribed with the following: “Wisconsin Garden Club Federation.” Other than for official use, no one may use the name Wisconsin Garden Club Federation, the initials WGCF (when referring to the organization) or its official logo without the written permission of the Wisconsin Garden Club Federation Board of Directors. Permission must be granted with a positive vote of at least three-fourths of the members of the Board of Directors.</p> <p><i>Rationale: protect the name and logo of the WGCF from unofficial use.</i></p>	<p>Article II Corporate Seal The corporate seal shall be inscribed with the following: “Wisconsin Garden Club Federation.” Other than for official use, no one may use the name Wisconsin Garden Club Federation, the initials WGCF (when referring to the organization) or its official logo without the written permission of the Wisconsin Garden Club Federation Board of Directors. Permission must be granted with a positive vote of at least three-fourths of the members of the Board of Directors.</p> <p>Rationale: protect the name and logo of the WGCF from unofficial use.</p>
<p>Article VI, Section 3 Officer Elections Officers shall be elected by ballot at the first business meeting of the Annual Convention in odd- numbered years. In the event that there is only one nominee for any office, a viva voce election may be held. Before the election, additional nominations from the floor shall be permitted.</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. A plurality vote shall constitute an election. 2. Officers shall be elected for a term of two years or until successors are elected. No elected officer shall serve more than one term in the same office except the Treasurer and Membership Secretary. An officer who has served more than half a term is considered to have served a full term in that office. 	<p>Article VI, Section 3 Officer Elections Officers shall be elected by ballot at the first business meeting of the Annual Convention in odd- numbered years. In the event that there is only one nominee for any office, a viva voce election may be held. Before the election, additional nominations from the floor shall be permitted.</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. A plurality vote shall constitute an election. 2. Officers shall be elected for a term of two years or until successors are elected. No elected officer shall serve more than one term in the same office except the Treasurer, Recording Secretary and Membership Secretary. An officer who has served more than half a term is considered to have served a full term in that office. No officer may serve more than two consecutive terms except the Treasurer who may serve up to five consecutive terms. <p><i>Rationale: WGCF can benefit with experience of recording secretary and it is hard to fill positions.</i></p>	<p>Article VI, Section 3 Officer Elections Officers shall be elected by ballot at the first business meeting of the Annual Convention in odd- numbered years. In the event that there is only one nominee for any office, a viva voce election may be held. Before the election, additional nominations from the floor shall be permitted.</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. A plurality vote shall constitute an election. 2. Officers shall be elected for a term of two years or until successors are elected. No elected officer shall serve more than one term in the same office except the Treasurer, Recording Secretary and Membership Secretary. An officer who has served more than half a term is considered to have served a full term in that office. No officer may serve more than two consecutive terms except the Treasurer who may serve up to five consecutive terms.

WGCF Bylaws – Proposed Changes – insert bold, delete cross-outs

<p>Article VI, Section 7 Emergency Elections In the event of a state or national emergency, which prevents elections from being held at an Annual Convention, elections may be held by mail according to a recommended procedure in <i>Robert's Rules of Order, Newly Revised</i>.</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Ballots shall be mailed to all eligible voting delegates. 2. A plurality of the ballots returned to the Recording Secretary prior to the established deadline on the ballot shall determine the results. 3. The officers' term shall begin immediately upon receipt of the report of the election by the President. 	<p>Article VI, Section 7 Emergency Elections In the event of a state or national emergency, which prevents elections from being held at an Annual Convention, elections may be held by mail according to a recommended procedure in <i>Robert's Rules of Order, Newly Revised</i>.</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Ballots shall be sent by electronic device or mailed to all eligible voting delegates. 2. A plurality of the ballots returned to the Recording Secretary prior to the established deadline on the ballot shall determine the results. 3. The officers' term shall begin immediately upon receipt of the report of the election by the President. <p>Rational: Allows for electronic voting.</p>	<p>Article VI, Section 7 Emergency Elections In the event of a state or national emergency, which prevents elections from being held at an Annual Convention, elections may be held by mail according to a recommended procedure in <i>Robert's Rules of Order, Newly Revised</i>.</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Ballots shall be sent by electronic device or mailed to all eligible voting delegates. 2. A plurality of the ballots returned to the Recording Secretary prior to the established deadline on the ballot shall determine the results. 3. The officers' term shall begin immediately upon receipt of the report of the election by the President.
<p>Article XII, Section 1 Nominating Committee The Nominating Committee shall be composed of nine members: a Chairman and one representative from each District.</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. The Chairman shall be appointed by the President-Elect and approved at the Pre-Convention Board of Directors Meeting. 2. The Chairman and the members of this committee shall be presented to the Board of Directors at the Annual Convention in the odd-numbered year. 3. To be eligible for the chairmanship of the Nominating Committee, the candidate shall have been a member of the Board of Directors for a minimum of four years. 4. To be eligible to serve as a District representative on the Nominating 	<p>Article XII, Section 1 Nominating/Personnel Committee The Nominating/Personnel Committee shall be composed of nine members: a Chairman and one representative from each District, consist of a chairman, one representative from each WGCF district and the immediate Past President.</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. The Chairman shall be appointed by the President-Elect and approved at the Pre-Convention Board of Directors Meeting. 2. The Chairman and the members of this committee shall be presented to the Board of Directors at the Annual Convention in the odd-numbered year. 3. To be eligible for the chairmanship of the Nominating Committee, the candidate shall have been a member of the Board of Directors for a minimum of four years. 	<p>Article XII, Section 1 Nominating/Personnel Committee The Nominating/Personnel Committee shall consist of a chairman, one representative from each WGCF district and the immediate Past President.</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. The Chairman shall be appointed by the President-Elect and approved at the Pre-Convention Board of Directors Meeting. 2. The Chairman and the members of this committee shall be presented to the Board of Directors at the Annual Convention in the odd-numbered year. 3. To be eligible for the chairmanship of the Nominating Committee, the candidate shall have been a member of the Board of Directors for a minimum of four years. 4. To be eligible to serve as a District representative on the Nominating

WGCF Bylaws – Proposed Changes – insert bold, delete cross-outs

<p>Committee, the candidate shall have served as a District Director or as a delegate to the Annual Convention.</p>	<p>4. To be eligible to serve as a District representative on the Nominating Committee, the candidate shall have served as a District Director or as a delegate to the Annual Convention. <i>Rational: clarify membership and appointment of chairman of the Nominating Committee and update name of committee.</i></p>	<p>Committee, the candidate shall have served as a District Director or as a delegate to the Annual Convention.</p>
<p>ARTICLE XV AMENDMENT OF BYLAWS These Bylaws may be amended at any Annual Convention of WGCF by a two-thirds vote of those present and voting. Official notice of proposed amendment(s) or revision(s) shall be published in the Winter issue of <i>Wisconsin Gardens</i>.</p>	<p>ARTICLE XV AMENDMENT OF BYLAWS These Bylaws may be amended at any Annual Convention of WGCF by a two-thirds vote of those present and voting. Official notice of proposed amendment(s) or revision(s) shall be published in the Winter issue of <i>Wisconsin Gardens</i>. If a WGCF Convention cannot be held in the event of a National emergency these Bylaws may be amended by a two-thirds vote, by mail or electronic ballot, following procedures outlined in Article VI, Section 7. <i>Rational: Provides Bylaws to be changed during a time of national emergency.</i></p>	<p>ARTICLE XV AMENDMENT OF BYLAWS These Bylaws may be amended at any Annual Convention of WGCF by a two-thirds vote of those present and voting. Official notice of proposed amendment(s) or revision(s) shall be published in the Winter issue of <i>Wisconsin Gardens</i>. If a WGCF Convention cannot be held in the event of a National emergency these Bylaws may be amended by a two-thirds vote, by mail or electronic ballot, following procedures outlined in Article VI, Section 7.</p>

BYLAWS

Current Wording	Changes	Will Read, if approved
<p>Article XI, Section 12 Schools, Symposiums and Refreshers Schools, Symposiums and Refreshers</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> The Tri-Council Treasurer and Local Flower Show School or WGCF Symposium Chairman may open a bank account. Each account shall use the WGCF Federal Identification Number. 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. All money advanced from the WGCF Ruth West Continuing Education Fund to each school, symposium or refresher by WGCF must be returned to WGCF and the WGCF Ruth West Continuing Education Fund. Each account shall exist for the duration of the series, and the account shall be closed with any balance returned to the WGCF Ruth West Continuing Education Fund within 60 days of the completion of the series. Income and expenses for Gardening, Landscape Design and Environmental Schools shall be managed by the Tri-Council Treasurer. The Tri-Council Treasurer shall keep detailed records of income and expenses separately for each course of each school. At the conclusion of each four-course school series (Gardening, Landscape Design and Environmental School), any excess of income over expenses will be returned to WGCF and the WGCF Ruth West Continuing Education Fund. The Tri-Council Treasurer 	<p>Article XI, Section 12 Schools, Symposiums and Refreshers Schools, Symposiums and Refreshers</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> The Tri-Council Treasurer and Local Flower Show School or WGCF Symposium Chairman State Judges' Council Treasurer may open a bank account. Each account shall use the WGCF Federal Identification Number. 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 or the State Judges' Council Treasurer and WGCF Treasurer. All money advanced from the WGCF Ruth West Continuing Education Fund to each school, symposium or refresher by WGCF must be returned to WGCF and the WGCF Ruth West Continuing Education Fund. Each account shall exist for the duration of the series, and the account shall be closed with any balance returned to the WGCF Ruth West Continuing Education Fund within 60 days of the completion of the series. Income and expenses for Gardening, Landscape Design and Environmental Schools and Refreshers shall be managed by the Tri-Council Treasurer. Income and expenses for Flower Show Schools and Symposia shall be managed by the State Judges' Council Treasurer. The Tri-Council or State Judges' Council Treasurer shall keep detailed records of income and expenses separately for each 	<p>Article XI, Section 12 Schools, Symposiums and Refreshers Schools, Symposiums and Refreshers</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> The Tri-Council Treasurer and State Judges' Council Treasurer may open a bank account. Each account shall use the WGCF Federal Identification Number. All accounts shall bear two signatures: the Tri-Council Treasurer and WGCF Treasurer or the State Judges' Council Treasurer and WGCF Treasurer. All money advanced from the WGCF Ruth West Continuing Education Fund to each school, symposium or refresher by WGCF must be returned to WGCF and the WGCF Ruth West Continuing Education Fund. Each account shall exist for the duration of the series, and the account shall be closed with any balance returned to the WGCF Ruth West Continuing Education Fund within 60 days of the completion of the series. Income and expenses for Gardening, Landscape Design and Environmental Schools and Refreshers shall be managed by the Tri-Council Treasurer. Income and expenses for Flower Show Schools and Symposia shall be managed by the State Judges' Council Treasurer. The Tri-Council or State Judges' Council Treasurer shall keep detailed records of income and expenses separately for each course of each of their respective schools, refreshers or symposia. At the conclusion of each four-course school series, refreshers or symposia any

<p>may retain \$100 per school in order to maintain a School account managed by Tri-Council.</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> If Gardening, Landscape Design or Environmental School 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 WGCF Ruth West Continuing Education Fund. 	<p>course of each of their respective schools, refreshers or symposia.</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> At the conclusion of each four-course school series, refreshers or symposia (Gardening, Landscape Design and Environmental School) any excess of income over expenses will be returned to WGCF and the WGCF Ruth West Continuing Education Fund. The Tri-Council or State Judges' Council Treasurer may retain \$100 per school in order to maintain a School account managed by Tri-Council or State Judges' Council. <p>If Gardening, Landscape Design or Environmental School a school, refresher or symposium's expenses exceed income, the Tri-Council or State Judges' Council Treasurer will request reimbursement for those excess expenses from the WGCF Treasurer. This money is to be taken from the WGCF Ruth West Continuing Education Fund. Rationale: allow state judges' council to manage funds of schools and symposia to align with tri-council's management of funds of other schools and refreshers.</p>	<p>excess of income over expenses will be returned to WGCF and the WGCF Ruth West Continuing Education Fund. The Tri-Council or State Judges' Council Treasurer may retain \$100 per school in order to maintain a School account managed by Tri-Council or State Judges' Council.</p> <p>If a school, refresher or symposium's expenses exceed income, the Tri-Council or State Judges' Council Treasurer will request reimbursement for those excess expenses from the WGCF Treasurer. This money is to be taken from the WGCF Ruth West Continuing Education Fund.</p>
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DATES TO REMEMBER

FEBRUARY

February 17 WGCF Executive Board Meeting

February 20-21 Wisconsin Garden Expo— Virtual

APRIL

April 23-24 Landscape Design School,
via Zoom

April 30 Arbor Day

MAY

1-3 WGCF Annual Convention,
Appleton

ADDRESS CORRECTIONS

should be sent to Membership Secretary:

Susan Johansen

2249 122nd St.

New Richmond, WI 54017

715-781-6825

h23j19@gmail.com

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.

*The Milwaukee District
Congratulates*



*The Milwaukee Art Museum
Garden Club*

*on 100 years of advancing the joys
of gardening!*

Wisconsin Garden Club Federation



709 Brookstone Crest
Mount Horeb, WI 53572

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wisconsingardenclub.org

Deadline for Spring Issue: March 15

Publication approximately: April 1

Coming in the Spring 2021: Arbor Day; Awards; Flower Show School & Evaluations; Horticulture; National Garden Week; and Operation Wildflower. Articles also needed by members, please consider writing about your garden club, activities, club projects, etc.

Looking out my window, there are a few key words occupying my thoughts: challenges, obstacles and opportunities. As we think about our present circumstances, are we viewing the challenges as obstacles or opportunities? I've been involved in several recent conversations about the pandemic and what will our Garden Clubs do.



All of this causes me to think back to a time, several years ago, when my dear nephew was diagnosed with muscular dystrophy. I would often find myself thinking about the things he would never be able to do, such as never being able to run, jump or do the things that other kids his age could do. I tried to develop a habit of countering each of those negative thoughts with a positive affirmation, such as "he will be able to learn, to read, love, explore and experience nature" and the list goes on and on. That habit has been helpful to me in many situations. I will admit that I do occasionally have to be reminded of that approach but it is definitely helpful. Scott's life was shortened by MD but our family tried to do many things to give him opportunities. He even had a raised U-shaped garden that his Aunt Carla made out of scrap wood - it was built so he could drive his wheelchair up to the garden to tend his plants. He felt such pride in being able to share the vegetables with his family!

How are you viewing this pandemic and time you are spending at home? Do you see obstacles or opportunities? How about trying this approach of turning the challenges into opportunities? In this issue of *Wisconsin Gardens*, you will find various options for virtual classes & webinars, Virtual Garden Expo, as well as considering how these times might lead to gaining new members or thinking of new projects? My wish for each of us is that we continually look for opportunities!

Carla

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