



# Wisconsin Gardens

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Winter 2022

## 2022 Convention - Spring is Here!

Karen Merlau, Sheboygan District Director



Our convention co-chairs, Lynnette Rakun and Doris Weber, as well as members of our Lake Shore and Ivy League Garden Clubs, are working very hard to

bring you a wonderful convention. I hope that you will plan to attend. We will be looking forward to seeing you there.

I may have mentioned before that I am a “newbie” to garden clubs and garden club conventions. I was not a member of WGCF the last time the Sheboygan District hosted a state convention.

From my perspective, here’s what I got out of the one convention that I did have the opportunity to attend, so far:

- Meet people from other districts and clubs and our state and region officers. Being raised an “only child” I’m not afraid to attend events on my own.

Not knowing many people, I can tell you that I was warmly welcomed by clubs from other parts of the state. I was even slightly taken aback to find myself sitting next to our state garden club president at that time. No need to feel awkward or anxious, you will be among friends.

- It is an opportunity to visit another part of the state – something you might not get to do on a regular basis. Wisconsin is so varied and it’s nice to be able to travel and see another part of the state.
- Take advantage of education and learning opportunities. We have some excellent programs planned, with something for everyone. Register early, as some sessions have limits on size.
- An opportunity to stay at a top-tier resort or hotel. Efforts are made to hold our conventions at outstanding, yet reasonably priced, accommodations that are unique to their areas. The Osthoff is no exception. Anytime I get an opportunity to attend an event at The Osthoff, I am going to be there.

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*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 2021-2023 Officers:**

**President:**

**Laura Skoff**

W131 N8030 Country Club Drive  
Menomonee Falls, WI 53051  
414-614-6489  
lauraskoff@gmail.com

**First Vice President:**

**Linda McCafferty**

443 Woodview Drive  
Sun Prairie, WI 53590  
608-837-2675  
lkmccm@gmail.com

**Second Vice President**

**Joe Powelka**

5361 Betlach Road  
Sun Prairie, WI 54590  
608-206-4238  
oneplus@chorus.net

**Recording Secretary:**

**Carla Von Haden**

1504 Academy Street  
Elroy, WI 53929  
920-901-3811  
carlav8@centurytel.net

**Membership Secretary:**

**Susan Johansen**

2249 122nd Street  
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:**

**Carol Yee**

5224 Grand Avenue  
Western Springs, IL 60558-1826  
708-927-9937 cell

**NGC President:**

**Mary Warshauer**

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

## Message From Our President



*“You cannot get through a single day without having an impact on the world around you. What you do makes a difference, and you have to decide what kind of difference you want to make.”*

– Jane Goodall

I am in a sunshine state of mind with fresh sparkling snow on the ground and clear blue skies as I prepare for the upcoming winter season. My gardens have been put to rest, family and friends are coming and going in celebration of the holidays, and as 2021 comes to a close, I am reflecting on this past year.

Resolutions are a part of the new year, and as your WGCF President, I have numerous plans for 2022 and our organization. With the assistance of our board of directors, reconnecting with clubs and members is a priority. While we are welcoming new members and a new club in the Fox River Valley District, we need to remember how to listen and educate our existing members. Keep them informed of what’s happening not only within our state federation, but also nationally. Remember what our mission is: To promote the love of gardening, floral design, civic and environmental responsibility.

I will share a couple of my personal resolutions with you, as I have found with the current world situations, this is so important to face each day. More laughter. Learn to laugh at myself more freely. It will lighten my load and lift my heart. More love. As the song goes, don’t save it all for Christmas Day. More fun. That’s a big reason why I joined a garden club. WGCF and NGC have big plans for fun in 2022 while sharing educational opportunities with you:

**April 1-2:** *Landscape Design School, Madison*

**April 24-26:** *WGCF Convention, Elkhart Lake*

**May 17-19:** *NGC Convention, Orlando, FL*

**June 22-23:** *Multiple Refresher, Door County*

So, pack your bags and resolve **yourself** to have some fun with your friends in your garden club organization. Happy New Year!

*Laura*

**Advertising Rates**

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

## Wisconsin Garden Club Federation Announces the 2022 Grant Program

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 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.

Specifically, grants are designed to help local garden clubs with projects that will enhance:

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

For ideas and to view projects that have received grants since inception in 2017 through 2021, visit the WGCF website and click on the heading for awards. The application deadline for a 2022 WGCF Grant is midnight, March 31, 2022. Awards will be announced at the annual WGCF Convention April

24–26, 2022 at the Osthoff Resort in Elkhart Lake. Meeting attendance is not required. Projects should be completed and a feedback report sent by November 15, 2022.

The grant application form and project completion form can be found at the following link on the WGCF website <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 [roghome@frontier.com](mailto:roghome@frontier.com) or by phone 608-692-1816.

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. 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.

Sincerely,

*The WGCF Grant Committee*  
Roger Greathead, Chairman

## Welcome WGCF Second Vice President!

*Laura Skoff*

Please join me in welcoming Joe Powelka, recently appointed as our organization's Second Vice President. Joe belongs to the Sun Prairie Garden Club located in the Madison District where he has served as President, Vice President, Secretary and District Director. He is currently serving his second term on the WGCF Scholarship Investment Committee and has extensive experience serving on other state committees. Joe has served as past President on the national native plant organization Wild Ones as well as serving on their Board of Directors for 17 years.

His wife, Diane, currently serves as WGCF's Native Plant Chairman and previously served as WGCF Recording Secretary.

# Spring is Here!

## Wisconsin Garden Club Federation's 94th Annual Convention April 24–26, 2022 | The Osthoff Resort in Elkhart Lake, WI

Hosted by the Sheboygan District

The beautiful Osthoff Resort, in Elkhart Lake, is the setting for the Wisconsin Garden Club Federation's Annual Convention on April 24–26, 2022. Presentations include floral design, gardening, environmental issues and much more! Dr. George Archibald, acclaimed co-founder of The International Crane Foundation is our keynote speaker. You will not want to miss this special two-day event, sign up today at:

[www.eventbrite.com/e/spring-is-here-tickets-240216864107](http://www.eventbrite.com/e/spring-is-here-tickets-240216864107)

### PRE-CONVENTION ACTIVITIES

#### SUNDAY, APRIL 24, 2022

**11:00 a.m.–1:00 p.m.**  
**Judges Council Lunch and Program**  
*Elkhart Lake B*

**11:00 a.m.–5:00 p.m.**  
**Educational Exhibits Setup**  
*Foyer (from Hotel to Convention)*

**1:00–3:00 p.m.**  
**Members Services/Ticket-A-Tasket/  
Vendors Setup**  
*Villa Gottfried Room A&B*

**1:00–6:00 p.m.**  
**REGISTRATION OPEN**  
*Palm Garden Foyer*

**2:45–4:00 p.m.**  
**Pre-Convention Board of Directors Meeting**  
*Palm Garden Ballroom D*  
*All WGCF Officers, District Directors  
and Committee Members*

**3:00–6:30 p.m.**  
**Member Services/Ticket-A-Tasket/  
Vendors Open**  
*Villa Gottfried Room A&B*

**4:15–5:15 p.m.**  
**Wisconsin Tri-Council Meeting**  
*Palm Garden Ballroom D*

### CONVENTION ACTIVITIES

**6:00 p.m.**  
**Bar Service - Reception**  
*Palm Garden Foyer and Villa Gottfried Parlor*

**6:30 p.m.**  
**Banquet**  
*Palm Garden Ballroom ABC*

**Honoring:** Carol Yee, Central Region Director  
**Special Speaker:** Carol Yee, Central Region Director  
**Speaker:** Tina Lutz  
**Topic:** Spring Floral Designs  
**Awards:** Flower Show and Educational Awards

#### MONDAY, APRIL 25, 2022

*Breakfast on your own*

**7:30–8:30 a.m.**  
**Registration**  
*Palm Garden Ballroom D*

**8:00 a.m.–12:30 p.m.**  
**Member Services/Ticket-A-Tasket/  
Vendors Open**  
*Villa Gottfried Room A&B*

**9:00–11:30 a.m.**  
**94TH ANNUAL BUSINESS MEETING**  
*Palm Garden Ballroom ABC*

**Awards:** Youth and Yearbook Awards

**11:30 a.m.–12:00 p.m.**  
**Registration**  
*Palm Garden Foyer*

**12:00–2:30 p.m.**

**Lunch/Speaker**

*Palm Garden Ballroom ABC*

**Honoring:** Consultants of all Schools

**Presiding:** Laura Skoff, WGCF President

**Speaker:** Gary Bieck, Bronze Award Winner

**Topic:** Turning an Acre of Lawn into A Garden Paradise

**Awards:** WGCF Awards

**2:30–6:30 p.m.**

**Member Services/Ticket-A-Tasket/  
Vendors Open**

*Villa Gottfried Room A&B*

**2:45–3:45 p.m.**

**Breakout Session 1 – Bees & Modern  
Beekeeping**

*Palm Garden Ballroom D*

**Speaker:** Dan Pitsch

**Breakout Session 2 – Playing With Pouring**

*Palm Garden Ballroom E*

**Leader:** Mary Kulhanek

**4:00–5:00 p.m.**

**Breakout Session 3 – Plants for Birds**

*Palm Garden Ballroom D*

**Speaker:** Janet Raddatz

**Breakout Session 4 – Unique  
Hanging Trinkets**

*Palm Garden Ballroom F*

**Leaders:** Doris Weber/Carol Rabe

**5:00–6:30 p.m.**

**Registration**

*Palm Garden Foyer*

**6:30 p.m.**

**Reception - Bar Service Available**

*Palm Garden Foyer and Villa Gottfried Parlor*

**7:00 p.m.**

**Banquet**

*Palm Garden Ballroom ABC*

**Honoring:** Dr. George Archibald

**Presiding:** Laura Skoff, WGCF President

**Speaker:** Dr. George Archibald

**Topic:** International Crane Foundation

**Awards:** Lydia Schafer Award

**TUESDAY, APRIL 26, 2022**

*Breakfast on your own*

**8:00–8:45 a.m.**

**Sheboygan District Meeting**

*Palm Garden Ballroom D*

**8:00 a.m.–12:00 p.m.**

**Member Services/Ticket-A-Tasket/  
Vendors Open**

*Villa Gottfried Room A&B*

**9:00–11:00 a.m.**

**Continuation of Business Meeting/  
WGCF Member Open Forum**

*Palm Garden Ballroom B&C*

**12:00–2:00 p.m.**

**Lunch/Speaker**

*Palm Garden Ballroom B&C*

**Honoring:** Judges Council

**Presiding:** Linda McCafferty, WGCF Vice President

**Speaker:** Mary Kulhanik

**Topic:** *Small Live Auction* followed by “April-Apron Fools” presentation

Ticket-A-Tasket Raffle

Closing of Convention



## Distinguished Guests

### Wisconsin Garden Club Federation's 94th Annual Convention



**Sunday, April 24**  
**Guest of Honor**

**Carol Yee**  
**Central Region Director**

As Central Region Director for 2021-2023, Carol Yee will be our Guest of Honor on April 24. Carol has served as the Garden Clubs of Illinois President from 2013-2015, Vice Chairman on the National Garden Clubs Gardening School Committee and former Chairman of Gardening School Accreditation for the Central and New England Regions. In her free time, she enjoys reading and currently resides in the lovely village of Western Springs, Illinois.



**Monday, April 25**  
**Guest of Honor**

**George Archibald, Ph.D.**

In 1973, when cranes were in a perilous situation and many were on the brink of extinction, Dr. George Archibald, along with fellow graduate student Ron Sauey, established the International Crane Foundation in Baraboo, Wisconsin as the world center for the study and preservation of cranes. His dream was to save the world's crane population, and that notion has been his driving force ever since. Dr. Archibald's visionary leadership in international conservation over the last 50 years has given flight to extraordinary grassroots recovery efforts across the globe. He and his wife, Kyoko, live in the countryside of Wisconsin where they enjoy gardening and aviculture.

## Speakers & Presenters



**Bronze Award Candidate**  
**Gary Bieck**  
**Turning an Acre of Lawn**  
**Into a Garden Paradise**

Gary Bieck has turned over an acre of lawn into gardens that people from all over come to visit.

Many of his beautiful gardens were featured in the *Wisconsin Gardening* magazine, and 13 of his tree peonies were featured in the *Peony: The Best Varieties for Your Garden* book by Carol Adelman & David Michener.

Gary's gardens have been visited by the American and Wisconsin Peony society groups along with many garden clubs. He has successfully grafted tree peonies with a high survival rate, and built a greenhouse to start many of the annual and perennial plants in the gardens. Throughout the years, he has made many longtime friends through gardening.



**Tina Lutz**

Tina has been with the Wreath Factory at Otter Creek in Plymouth since 1998. Her duties there are vast, ranging from creating fresh florals for weddings, being part of the buying team for the store merchandise, store displays, floral arrangements, managing the store, and coordinating the marketing materials, along with the human resources responsibilities. All these tasks keep her on her toes. When asked about her favorite part of the job she stated, "Being able to create things to match the style of each customer. You create for the person you are helping, which gives you the opportunity to be creative."

## Speakers & Presenters Continued



### **Janet Raddatz**

Janet Raddatz is an avid bird watcher. Realizing the importance of habitat for our native species, she restored her yard of grass back to native southern mesic woodland over 20 years ago.

In 2015, Janet became a Wisconsin Master Naturalist. Since 1999, Janet has been sharing her knowledge of Wisconsin's bats and frogs to children and adults. Janet and her husband participate in BRAW – Bluebird Restoration Association of WI – where they monitor bluebird boxes in the spring and summer and report fledge success. They have been the International Crane Foundation Annual Crane Count Coordinators for Sheboygan County since 1998 and have participated in the Crane Count since 1982.

Since 2018, Janet and her husband have led a weekly Discovery Bird Walk at Kohler Andrea State Park. Janet is retired from a career in quality and food safety. She holds a master's degree in quality from Marian College, WI, and a bachelor's degree in biology from the University of Wisconsin-Green Bay.

Janet is a board member for the American Society for Quality and the UW School of Veterinary Medicine.



### **Dan Pitsch** ***Bees & Modern Beekeeping***

Don is an urban beekeeper and president of the Sheboygan County Beekeepers Association. His hives are located in the city of Sheboygan, where Don and his wife reside. Along with mentoring

new beekeepers, he also worked with UW Sheboygan students and their hive located at the campus.

The welfare of the honeybee population and their environment is a major concern of his, and he brings awareness to the plight of the honeybee through presentations. Along with beekeeping, he also enjoys fruit and vegetable gardening, woodworking, and wilderness canoeing.

### **Mary Kulhanek** ***Playing With Pouring***



Mary, a Lake Shore Garden Club member, has been enjoying one-stroke acrylic painting for years and has recently discovered the

world of acrylic paint pouring. Attendees will use different pouring techniques to create three projects with a floral motif.



### **Doris Weber/Carol Rabe** ***Unique Hanging Trinkets***

Carol Rabe and Doris Weber (LSGC member) will lead you through developing a suncatcher trinket using small mirrors, beads, ornamental treasures, fish line, etc. to hang indoors or outdoors.

Projects will be completed during your session for you to take home and enjoy.



# “SPRING IS HERE”

## WISCONSIN GARDEN CLUB FEDERATION

94<sup>TH</sup> Annual Convention April 24 – April 26, 2022 Hosted by Sheboygan District  
The Osthoff Resort, 101 Osthoff Avenue, Elkhart Lake, WI 53020-0151

Name \_\_\_\_\_ Address \_\_\_\_\_  
City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip +4 \_\_\_\_\_  
Phone \_\_\_\_\_ Email \_\_\_\_\_  
District \_\_\_\_\_ Club \_\_\_\_\_

Please check any that apply:

WGCF: \_\_\_ Officer \_\_\_ Board Member \_\_\_ Past President \_\_\_ Club Delegate \_\_\_ Club Alternate \_\_\_ Guest

Make room reservations with The Osthoff Resort at (800)876-3399. Room rate is \$114.00 per night, plus tax. Suites also available. Deadline for room rate is March 30, 2022. Ask for WGCF Convention 2022 rates.

### Events:

Package Plan before March 25, 2022 \_\_\_\_\_ @ \$168.00 per person \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Package Plan after March 25, 2022 \_\_\_\_\_ @ \$188.00 per person \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Includes Registration, two banquets and two lunches with programs. Please make menu choices:

Sunday Banquet: \_\_\_\_\_ Herb Chicken \_\_\_\_\_ Shrimp Curry \_\_\_\_\_ Vegetarian Ragout

Monday Lunch(sandwich): \_\_\_\_\_ Turkey Club \_\_\_\_\_ Ham & Cheddar \_\_\_\_\_ Vegetarian

Monday Banquet: \_\_\_\_\_ Pork Scallopini \_\_\_\_\_ Breaded Tilapia \_\_\_\_\_ Quinoa Paella

Tuesday Lunch: Caesar Salad w/: \_\_\_\_\_ Chicken \_\_\_\_\_ Shrimp \_\_\_\_\_ Vegetarian

List Dietary Restrictions: \_\_\_\_\_

Additional Registration Fee Non-Member \$10.00 \_\_\_\_\_

### Single Events for persons not selecting a package plan:

Single Event \$10.00 \_\_\_\_\_ Multiple Events \$20.00 \_\_\_\_\_

Single Event Late Fee (March 25, 2022) \$20.00 \_\_\_\_\_

Sunday Banquet: \_\_\_\_\_ Herb Chicken \_\_\_\_\_ Shrimp Curry \_\_\_\_\_ Vegetarian Ragout \$48.00 \_\_\_\_\_

Monday Lunch: \_\_\_\_\_ Turkey Club \_\_\_\_\_ Ham & Cheddar \_\_\_\_\_ Vegetarian \$30.00 \_\_\_\_\_

Monday Banquet: \_\_\_\_\_ Pork Scallopini \_\_\_\_\_ Breaded Tilapia \_\_\_\_\_ Quinoa Paella \$48.00 \_\_\_\_\_

Tuesday Lunch: Caesar Salad w/: \_\_\_\_\_ Chicken \_\_\_\_\_ Shrimp \_\_\_\_\_ Vegetarian \$30.00 \_\_\_\_\_

### Breakout Sessions: May select ONE in each time period.

Monday, April 25, 2022 2:45-3:45 PM

1 Bees and Modern Beekeeping (Limit 45) N/C # \_\_\_\_\_ attending

2 Playing with Pouring – brushless acrylic painting (Limit 20) \$25.00 # \_\_\_\_\_ attending \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Monday, April 25, 2022 4:00 – 5:00 PM

3 Plants for Birds (Limit 45) N/C # \_\_\_\_\_ attending

4 Unique Hanging Trinkets (Limit 25) \$20.00 # \_\_\_\_\_ attending \$ \_\_\_\_\_

**TOTAL ENCLOSED \$ \_\_\_\_\_**

Registration fees paid are not allowed by the IRS as a cash contribution. Make check payable to WGCF and send with Registration form to Kathy George, N6475 Rangeline Rd, Sheboygan, WI 53083. **No refunds after April 8, 2022. A 25% handling fee will be retained on all cancellations.**



# Smokey Bear/Woodsy Owl

*Pat Ritchie, Smokey Bear Chairman*

It is getting near the time to think about entries for the Smokey Bear Poster Contest. The entries are due to me by February 1, 2022 so that they can be judged and sent on to the regional level.

Last year the entries all came from the Fox River Valley District, with a little over 60 entries. All of the winners were from St. Edward School in Appleton. The students enjoy the contest so much that they remind their teachers that it's time to do the contest entries. There are two dedicated Garden Club members who see that the information gets to the school and that the posters get to me. Another organization that has continually responded well to

the contest is the Boys and Girls Club. It's a good idea to keep in contact with the arts and crafts program for your local club.

For further information on the contest, contact Pat Ritchie peritchie48@gmail.com OR go to the NGC website gardenclub.org, Youth Contests.

## Smokey Bear Winners 2021

### **First Grade**

Lydia Cove  
St. Edwards School  
Appleton, WI  
Paper Valley Garden Club  
Fox River Valley District

### **3rd Grade**

Sarah Cove  
St. Edwards School  
Appleton, WI  
Paper Valley Garden Club  
Fox River Valley District

### **5th Grade**

Lindsey Van Camp  
St. Edwards School  
Appleton, WI  
Paper Valley Garden Club  
Fox River Valley District

### **Second Grade**

Aubree Zitzelsherger  
St. Edwards School  
Appleton, WI  
Paper Garden Club  
Fox River Valley District

### **4th Grade**

Iley Sprangers  
St. Edwards School  
Appleton, WI  
Paper Vally Garden Club  
Fox River Valley District



# GARDEN CLUBS AROUND WISCONSIN



*Racine Garden Club member Lynda Fuller's garden lady.*



*Milwaukee Art Museum members Laura Skoff, Jan Blooming, and Cindy Howe visit with reindeer at a holiday lunch in Brookfield.*



*Willow River members decorate holiday pots at the Deerfield.*



*Mitchell Park Domes in the Milwaukee District recently visited by MAMGC.*



# Wisconsin Garden Club Federation

HOME ABOUT US NEWS & EVENTS CLUBS EDUCATION AWARDS PUBLICATIONS FORMS  
MEMBERS ONLY



## WGCF WEBSITE: [wisconsingardenclub.org](http://wisconsingardenclub.org)

The website is only as good as the information found on it. Use it to promote your club, district, committee, and state organization. Send photos and a short writeup to: [contactwgcf@gmail.com](mailto:contactwgcf@gmail.com). Generally, whatever is sent is posted within a day or two. If you notice outdated information, let me know.

Thanks,  
*Debby Walters, WGCF webmaster*

## “Puttin’ on the Ritz” Christmas Style

*Nancy Mancusi*



*The display designers, Marge Hass, Nancy Mancusi and Sharon Wein.*

The Wisconsin River Garden Club continued its tradition of decorating a tree for the annual Christmas Tree Walk at the local Wood County Historical Museum. Since our themed state convention never happened this year, we decided to use the idea for our tree display. Gold ornaments, gilded fruit, pearls, and sequined ribbon adorned the tree while a mannequin completed the scene wearing an authentic flapper dress with accessories.

The display was open to the public for two weekends while celebrating the holidays in the community.

## Scholarship Applicants

Garden club members, please spread the news about our national and state scholarships to your friends, relatives, and anyone who knows of a student attending a college or university in the state of Wisconsin. There are lucrative scholarships available to students graduating from high school or becoming juniors, seniors, or graduate students in the next academic year.

The Kitty Larkin National Scholarship of \$4,000 is awarded to one student, presently a sophomore in college. Others include the Myrtle Ogilvie Scholarship of \$1,250, to a prospective freshman in the fall semester; the Irene Straus Scholarship of \$1,000; the five Wisconsin Garden Club Federation Scholarships of \$1,000; and the three Della Balousek Scholarships of \$2,500. The last three scholarships are for junior, senior, and graduate studies.

You can access information and application forms at [www.gardenclub.org](http://www.gardenclub.org). The Community Foundation of the Fox Valley accepts all application forms. They are due February 1, 2022.



## Tri Council Report

Carol Catlin, *Chairman*

Tri Council is composed of three disciplines offered by WGCF; they are Landscape Design, Gardening and Environmental Studies. The courses rotate with each other. This spring, WGCF will offer Landscape Design School with Chairman Gretchen Vest. The school topics and dates can be found on the registration form on pages 17-18 of this issue and on our website under SCHOOLS.

We are looking for a chairman for Gardening Study School. Please consider taking on this responsibility!

This past year Zoom became a popular medium for meetings and classes. The Landscape School was on the Zoom portal and the annual meeting of Tri Council was also held by Zoom.

This is a marvelous tool for gardeners to use when circumstances prevent in-person meetings.

The Tri Council held an in-person meeting at the gardens of Fox River Valley District with Director Sandi Smet. So many flowers were in bloom. The gardens were dazzling. We lunched at Lakeside Park, Fond du Lac, and toured the Green Thumbs gardens in the same park. It was a great day of learning and friendship.

The exciting news is that Tri Council will offer a bi-refresher ( Gardening study and Environmental Study). Chairman Gerianne Holzman organized the event with the help of members. It will be held at the Ridges Environmental Center, Baileys Harbor, WI. Even a fish boil is planned!! Please refer to the Fall 2021 *Wisconsin Gardens* pp 17-18 or the WGCF website for a registration form.



*Milwaukee  
District Mitchell  
Park Domes  
Holiday Display.*

## WGCF Financial Report for Fiscal Year 2020–2021

### INCOME

Dues.....	\$9,923
Sale of Pollinator Signs.....	\$2,562
Capital Gains/Dividends .....	\$8,093
Other Income, Convention, Tax Refund, NGC Conv. Refund .....	\$664

### Wisconsin Gardens Magazine

Revenue .....	\$257
Subscriptions.....	\$860

### President's Project

Tree Planting.....	\$75
West/WGCF Education Fund.....	\$52
NGC Disaster (Club Donations).....	\$150
NGC Pres. Projects (Club Donations).....	\$55

### EXPENSES

Central Region.....	\$100
Convention Expense .....	\$500
Ex. Cmtg. Postage, Misc .....	\$519
Stipends to Clubs.....	\$1,014
Position Bond, License, Fees .....	\$161
Awards/Grants .....	\$2,150
NGC Dues .....	\$1,001
Website .....	\$706
Wis Gardens Magazine .....	\$3,295
West Endowment Fund (Paid Out).....	\$500

For questions about the financial status of WGCF, please contact Treasurer Mary Jane Hull at [hullmary249@gmail.com](mailto:hullmary249@gmail.com).

## Operation Wildflowers - Can You See Me Now?

Diane Powelka, Operation Wildflower Chairman

Have you ever been in tall prairie grasses? While it is so fun to hide in them, they are not what I'm writing about. Instead, I am writing about short prairie grasses which are easy to plant and use in your landscape and containers. Short prairie grasses can be used to provide a short border around your flower beds. They are also amazing in containers along with your annuals or perennials. Just think of all the places you could use them!

One thing to note when planting short grass prairie plants is that those plugs will really need water in that first year. If you are watering your containers or newly planted plants, be sure to give those grasses a slow, steady stream of water. Just because they're prairie grasses doesn't mean they don't need water.

If you want to use some short native grass plants, I think the following will be of interest to you. Prairie grasses as a rule don't move, but get wider slowly over the years. Prairie plants can sometimes move to a better site or disappear altogether.

The grasses to consider include Prairie Dropseed *Sporobolus heterolepis* (2' tall), Side-oats grama *Bouteloua curtipendula* (2' tall), and Little Bluestem *Schizachyrium scoparium* (3' tall). I have seen several hybrid varieties of bluestem, so you if you are looking for the truly native variety check the botanical names.

River Oats *Chasmanthium latifolium* is a neat plant for the fall with its drooping spikelets. I decided one year to replace it and now think of it as a container plant for the fall. Junegrass *Koeleria cristata* is a grass for dry sand, and thin, gravelly soil so it does not work for my clay soil. However, I would like to try planting at Generations Park on the hillside.

Shorter non-grass plants that I like to include:

- Butterfly Weed *Asclepias syriaca* (more milkweed varieties are available). I have Virginia Bluebell nearby, so I know where the Butterfly Weed plant is

located. The Butterfly Weed is a late plant to show up.

- Wild Petunia *Ruellia humilis* is a spreader but low to the ground and is not aggressive in my gardens.
- Prairie Smoke *Geum triflorum* is a beautiful plant that lasts through mid-spring and afterward and has interesting leaves for added interest.
- Marsh Marigold *Caltha palustris* is a beautiful plant for wet areas and it takes care of itself.
- Pasque flower *Anemone patens* looks like it belongs in the cactus family, but is very soft and grows well in dry or sandy soil.
- Birdsfoot Violet *Viola pedate*, Alum Root *Heuchera richardsonii* and Prairie Buttercup *Ranunculus rhomboideus*.
- Bottle Gentian *Gentiana andrewsii* is a beautiful blue color, but I don't have any that will stay in my gardens for more than a year. Maybe it is my soil or just a plant that is very fussy.

Plants sometimes grow where they aren't supposed to, so it is not always easy to tell someone your plant doesn't do well in your full sun only to find out they have the same plant that thrives in the sun – go figure.

I hope this has sprouted some interest in growing grasses come this spring along with some prairie plants that look like they will flourish together. If you haven't tried prairie plants yet why not give them a try? Let me know what plants work for you.



## History of the “And Then Some Award”

Judy Newman, Historian

“Hoe, hoe, hoe, Just grow, grow, grow. And then some!” was Margaret Doornink’s theme during her term as President 1987–1989. “Just grow for beauty’s sake. What’s more delightful than God’s gift of flowers, trees, shrubs, veggies or anything else we grow? Next, grow in your knowledge through opportunities we have in our programs, projects or workshops. We’re NEVER too old to learn something new. And grow in your capabilities through leadership, friendship you can cultivate and then some. “And then some...” A retired businessman was asked what his secret to success was. He replied, “It could be summed up in three little words...” He went on to say he discovered at an early age that most people and top people did what was expected, and then some. They were thoughtful of others, they were considerate and kind, and then some. They met their obligations and responsibilities fairly and squarely. They could be counted on in an emergency, and then some. I am thankful for people like that for they make the world more livable, for their spirit is summed up in the three little words, and then some. *Wisconsin Gardens* Vol. 38 No. 6 November December 1987

In the November - December, 1989 p. 7 of *Wisconsin Gardens*, a new award 31 was announced:

“Each year clubs may honor one of their members for their willingness to serve, giving a little extra, and then some, to accomplish WGCF goals. A brief report must accompany the selection stating one or all of the following: (1) did what was expected of

them. (2) showed consideration and thoughtfulness of others. (3) met the obligations and responsibilities to carry on for achievement (4) friendliness was shown to others (5) unexpected help was given in an emergency, and then some.”

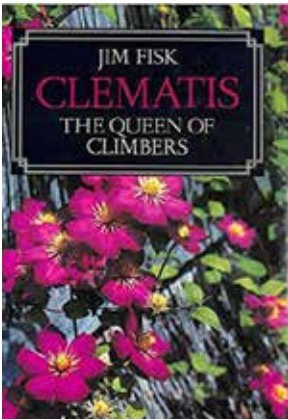
The club’s Executive Committee should make the selection unknown to the proposed recipient, if at all possible. Members may receive the award only once. Entries should be sent to the District Director for elimination and the top entry sent to the State Awards Chairman. When the recipient is chosen, the club will be notified by the District director and should encourage members to attend the State Convention to receive the award.”

All District recipients (one from each District) shall receive a certificate. The donor would furnish supplies for this award for 10 years, at which time the Executive Committee should decide if the award should be continued. The award was continued. The award is a pressed flower picture made by Carol Larson.



# Garden Book Report

Judy Mittelstadt, Green Thumb Garden Club, Fond du Lac, Wisconsin



## Clematis The Queen of Climbers by Jim Fisk

Every year I fall in love with a beautiful flower. This year the clematis won my heart. Many times I have admired the purple “Jackmanii” in people’s yards. Now I have my own!

A few years ago while visiting a botanical garden in Florida I saw “Princess Diana” with her small bell-shaped flower with upturned petals. I never expected to find this plant growing in our cold Wisconsin weather. She now lives next to “Jackmanii” and is very happy. By reading Jim Fisk’s book I found the secrets of planting, training,

and pruning the large varieties of this plant. Red, pink, purple, lavender, and white are some of the colors that can enhance your garden. Fertilizing, watering, location, blooming times, and pruning are some of the subjects in his informative book.

A flowering clematis climbing over a wall, pergola, side of a building or left to meander among your other garden plants is also very rewarding. “Head in the sun and feet in the shade” is important to know to keep this beautiful plant happy. The cold winter days are a great time to plan for the next growing season. Maybe the clematis will find its way into your plans and heart. Happy gardening!

# WGCF Bylaws Changes

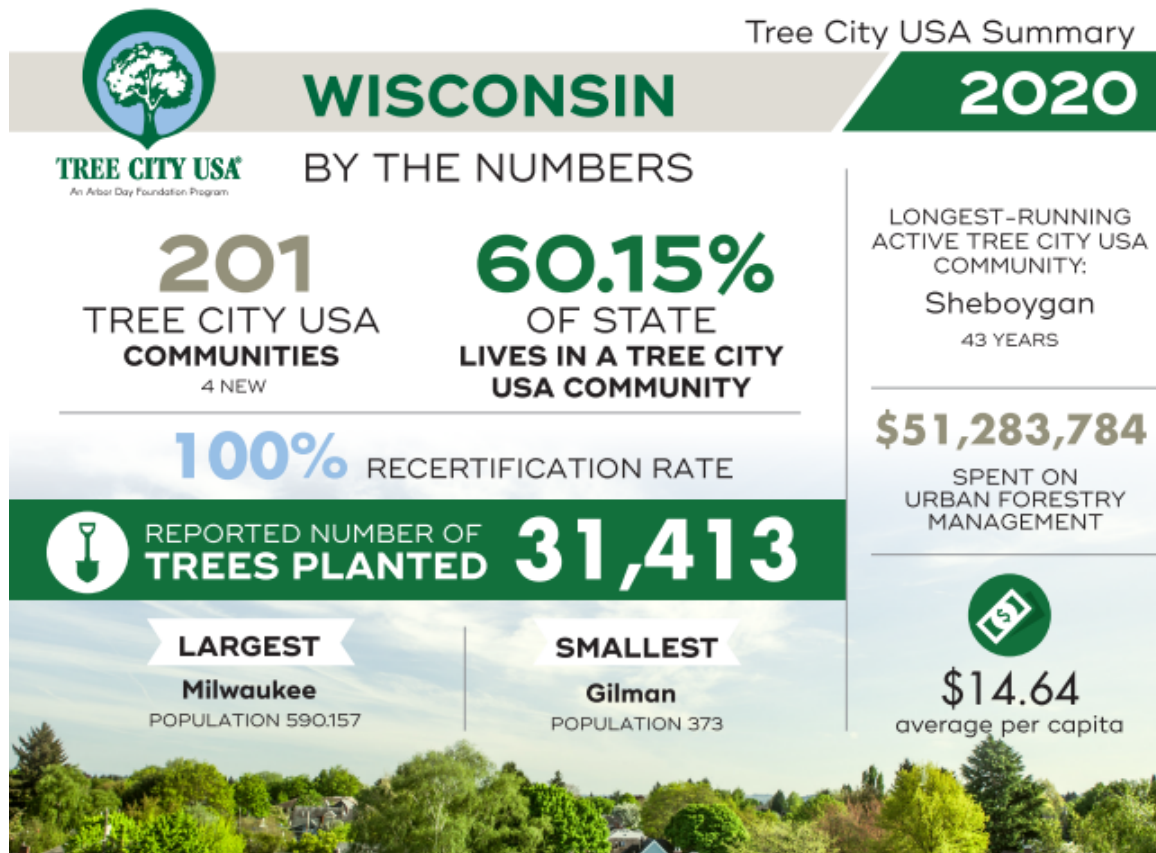
Lynne Ehnert, Organizational Studies Chairman

New proposals by Organizational Studies Committee October 14, 2021

Current	Changes	Will Read if Approved
<p><b>Article X Core Team</b> Section 1 Core Team The Core Team is comprised of the President, First Vice-President/President-Elect, Second Vice-President, the Immediate Past President; and the Recording Secretary; the Parliamentarian shall serve as an ex-officio member.</p>	<p><b>Article X Core Team</b> Section 1 Core Team The Core Team is comprised of the President, First Vice-President/President-Elect, Second Vice-President, the Immediate Past President; and the Recording Secretary; <b>and</b> the Parliamentarian shall serve as ex-officio members.</p> <p><i>Recommendation from Organizational Studies Rationale: Consistency between the all sections By-laws and Standing Rules.</i></p>	<p><b>Article X Core Team</b> Section 1 Core Team The Core Team is comprised of the President, First Vice-President/President-Elect, Second Vice-President, the Immediate Past President; The Recording Secretary <b>and</b> the Parliamentarian shall serve as ex-officio member.</p>

# The Arbor Day Foundation

The Arbor Day Foundation works both internationally and domestically to plant and preserve trees. For this issue of *Wisconsin Gardens* we've included a snapshot showing what the Arbor Day Foundation is doing, specifically in Wisconsin. Below, you will see a summary from the Arbor Day Foundation about its efforts in our state during 2020. If you are interested in more information highlighting the Foundation's efforts, please contact Karen Merlau [kmerlau@tds.net](mailto:kmerlau@tds.net).



## REFORESTATION BY THE NUMBERS

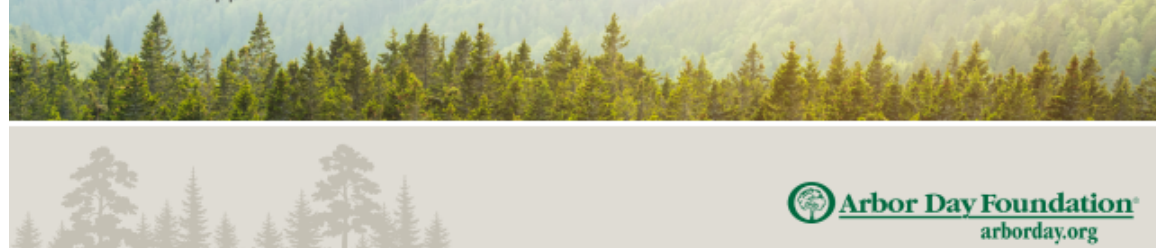
### DOUGLAS COUNTY FOREST AND BAYFIELD COUNTY FOREST

Both Douglas County Forest and Bayfield County Forest are home to a variety of wildlife including threatened, endangered, and sensitive species. These restoration efforts will help replace over-mature trees to provide new, valuable habitat. Douglas County Forest replanting will be focused on riparian area's that will have a direct impact on the health of the Upper St. Croix and Eau Claire Rivers.

**337,660** TREES PLANTED

**1,260** ACRES PLANTED

**2** NATIVE SPECIES PLANTED



REGISTRATION FORM  
Landscape Design School Series 11 - Course 2

April 1-2, 2022  
First Baptist Church

NAME: \_\_\_\_\_  
 PHONE: \_\_\_\_\_  
 ADDRESS: \_\_\_\_\_  
 CITY/ST/ZIP: \_\_\_\_\_  
 DISTRICT/CLUB: \_\_\_\_\_  
 E-MAIL: \_\_\_\_\_

- Fees:  
 Both Days ----- \$95  
 Both Days After March 25 ----- \$100  
 One Day ----- \$50  
 One Day After March 18 ----- \$55  
 Choose date:  April 1 or  April 2  
 Required for NGC Credit: **Circle one.**  
 Complete NGC form 6 or 7 as appropriate.  
 Optional if auditing course.  
 Refresher\* ----- \$5  
 Exam\* ----- \$5

Please see next column  
**ADVANCE LUNCH RESERVATIONS ONLY**

- Friday, April 1, ----- \$15  
 Salad Bar  
 Saturday, April 2, ----- \$15  
 Sandwich Bar

Your confirmation by E-mail? Yes/No

Total Enclosed / Check Number

Please make check payable to:  
WGCF Landscape Design School

See mailing instructions →→→

**LANDSCAPE DESIGN  
 SCHOOL**  
 SERIES 11 - COURSE 2

April 1-2, 2022

First Baptist Church  
 518 N. Franklin Ave  
 Madison, WI 53705-3699  
 (608) 233-1800



SPONSORED BY:  
 WISCONSIN GARDEN CLUB  
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 www.wisconsinclub.org

Laura Skoff, WGCF President  
 W131 N8030 Country Club Dr.  
 Menomonee Falls, WI 53051  
 (414) 614-6489  
[lauraskoff@gmail.com](mailto:lauraskoff@gmail.com)

**THIS COURSE IS OPEN TO THE PUBLIC**

CONTACT INFORMATION

Local Chairman: Vern Lowell  
 3435 State RD 78 | Mt. Horeb, WI 53572-1341  
 (608) 437-8764 [vlowell@mhtc.net](mailto:vlowell@mhtc.net)

WGCF Chairman: Gretchen Vest  
 704 Spring Dr. | West Bend WI 53095-4642  
 (262) 338-6645 [gretchenvest@aol.com](mailto:gretchenvest@aol.com)

WGCF President: Laura Skoff  
 W131 N8030 Country Club Dr  
 Menomonee Falls 53051  
 414-614-6489 [lauraskoff@gmail.com](mailto:lauraskoff@gmail.com)

**Note:**

**IF TAKING THE EXAM, COMPLETE NGC FORM 6.**

**IF REFRESHING PLEASE COMPLETE NGC FORM 7.  
 FORMS CAN BE FOUND ON THE NGC WEBSITE  
 SCHOOLS FORMS & RESOURCES.**

*Those refreshing or those not wishing to become NGC  
 Landscape Design Consultants need not take the exams.*

Mail Check & Registration to:

Sylvia Lowell  
 3435 State Hwy 78N, Mt. Horeb, WI 53572-1341  
 (608) 437-8764  
[slowell844@gmail.com](mailto:slowell844@gmail.com)

No Refunds after March 1, 2022. A 25% handling  
 fee will be retained on all cancellations.



LANDSCAPE DESIGN SCHOOL  
SERIES X- COURSE 4

Class times subject to change due To Instructor schedules

- \*Landscape Design Process: Chris Sina
- \*Designing For Pollinators and Wildlife: Caitlin Blue
- \*Plants in the Landscape TBA
- \*Accessible, Enabling and Therapeutic Gardens Jared Vincent
- \*Structures in the Landscape Paul Skidmore
- \* Redesign of Areas Paul Skidmore
- \* Development of North American Landscape Design: Doug Hadley/Zachary Meyer
- \* Preservation of Historic Site and Structures Doug Hadley/Zachary Meyer
- \* Overused, Often Invasive Plants and Native Alternatives in Your Area: Molly Fifield Murray
- \* Structures in the Landscape Paul Skidmore
- \*Redesign of Areas Paul Skidmore
- Restoration Of Prairie and Oak Savanna at the International Crane Foundation Andy Gossens

\*Examination to be given on these topics  
Plus *The National Gardener* Article

INSTRUCTORS

Doug Hadley, Landscape Architect  
Instructor University of Wisconsin

Zachary Meyer; Landscape Architect  
Instructor University of Wisconsin

Molly Fifield Murray Landscape Architect  
UW Arboretum Outreach Mgr Retired

Jared Vincent, Landscape Architect  
Ken Saiki Design

Caitlin Blue, Landscape Architect  
SSA Design Group

Chris Sina, Landscape Architect  
Ken Saiki Design

Paul Skidmore, Landscape Architect

Andy Gossens, International Crane  
Foundation

REQUIRED READING LIST

REQUIRED READING LIST

National Gardener Magazine  
THE GUIDE FOR STUDENTS AND CONSULTANTS  
found on the NGC website.

HOW TO BECOME ELIGIBLE FOR A  
LANDSCAPE DESIGN CONSULTANT  
CERTIFICATION

Student attendees must:

- 1) belong to a garden club affiliated with a state garden club in NGC.
- 2) have a passing grade of 70% on all exams in the 4 courses.
- 3) complete all 4 courses between 2 to 7 years. Courses may be taken in any order or back to back.

FOR OUR NON-MEMBER STUDENTS

- 1) Courses and exams are open to everyone.
- 2) Consultant Certification Cards are issued only to members of NGC.
- 3) Non-member students successfully completing all (4) courses may apply for Consultant Certification upon joining an NGC affiliated Federated garden club within 6 months after series completion.
- 4) Certificates of Completion are awarded to non-NGC students attending a full series.

REFRESHER CREDIT

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

★★ NGC 4-STAR & 5-STAR MEMBERS★★

NGC 4-Star Members are honored after completing all (4) NGC educational programs.

NGC 5-Star Honorees must refresh to the master level in all (4) programs.



## Upcoming Dates Through June 2022

**February 11-13, 2022**  
**Garden Expo**  
Madison, WI

**May 17-20, 2022**  
**NGC Convention**  
Orlando, FL

**February 17, 2022**  
**WGCF Executive  
Committee Meeting**  
Wausau, WI

**June 9**  
**2022 WGCF  
Executive  
Committee Meeting**  
Wausau, WI

**April 1-2, 2022**  
**Landscape Design  
School**  
Madison, WI

**June 22-23, 2022**  
**Multi-Refresher**  
Door County, WI

**April 24-26, 2022**  
**WGCF Convention**  
Elkhart Lake, WI

**October 13, 2022**  
**WGCF Executive  
Committee Meeting**  
Wausau, WI

**Address changes and corrections should be  
sent to Membership Secretary:**

Susan Johansen  
2249 122nd St.  
New Richmond, WI 54017  
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 the Memorial Donation Form, Tribute Donation Form, and Scholarship Donation Form.



The SHEBOYGAN DISTRICT  
cordially invites you to register for the  
2022 WGCF Convention.

We look forward to seeing you  
April 24-26, 2022 at the Osthoff Resort and  
Conference Center in Elkhart Lake, WI.



**Wisconsin Garden Club Federation**  
709 Brookstone Crest  
Mount Horeb, WI 53572

Non-Profit Org  
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Permit No. 2783  
Madison, WI

wisconsinclub.org

**Deadline for Spring Issue: March 1**  
**Publication Approximately: April 1**

**Coming in the Spring 2022 Issue: Arbor Day, Awards, Birds, Endangered Species, Flower Show Schedules, National Garden Week, Operation Wildflower, Scholarships, Yearbooks.**

## Looking Out My Window

As your Wisconsin Gardens editor for the past 10 years, I have attempted to inspire you with my thoughts and reflections. The inspirations have come from my own backyard, the school garden program, and various local community projects.

I've often thought about our changing landscape and the many beautiful memories I've been blessed with during the seasons of my life. I now find that I'm looking through a different window and I face the reality that cancer is trying to win the battle. Even as this battle continues, I'm learning so much about life, friendships and the importance of positive relationships with others.

In fairness to WGCF and our newsletter, it is time for me to "pass the torch." I deeply appreciate the support of the officers and members of the organization and feel so fortunate to have worked with so many of you.

May you find a way to bless others each day.

*Carla*

### Editor:

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

### Circulation:

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

**Contributors:** Carol Catlin, Lynne Ehnert, Roger Greathead, Mary Jane Hull, Nancy Mancusi, Karen Merlau, Judy Mittelstadt, Judy Newman, Diane Powelka, Lynnette Rakun, Pat Ritchie, Laura Skoff, Gretchen Vest, Carla Von Haden, Debby Walters, Doris Weber.

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