

**Kettle Moraine Garden Club Board Meeting**  
**September 15, 2025**  
**North Lake Library**

**Attending:** Pam Angst, Sue Blott, Susan Esslinger, Sarah Spencer, Amy Wolf, Pat Kraft, Becky Druml, Kari Pietsch-Wangard, Jamie Mallinger, Meg Schoenecker, Connie Tjarksen, Julie Petri, Kris Hieb

**President Pam Angst** called the meeting to order at 9:33am. Corrections to the August meeting: Add to Ways and Means that the check from Waukesha Education Foundation was received in July and voided by Kari. A motion to approve the August 18, 2025 corrected minutes was made by Susan Esslinger, seconded by Sarah Spencer. **Motion approved.**

**Treasurer's Report:** Kari Pietsch-Wangard

**Operating: \$44,609.62 Civic: \$43,664.84 CD: \$15,997.19 Money Market: \$12,732.25  
Cash Balance 8/31/25 \$117,003.90 Difference from 7/31/25 -\$3,566.54**

There was a large amount added to the Lady Bug (Judge) memorials from donations for Mary Rickmeier. This will be posted in the newsletter. The largest expenses were annual dues paid to GCA (\$5,580).

There was a discussion whether or not to increase the Photography budget \$120-\$150 for printing photos for display each month. This would make it easier on the chairperson vs collecting \$2.50 to \$5 from each entrant. Meg Schoenecker made a motion to increase the Photography budget an extra \$150 annually to help with photo printing. No-one seconded and the motion did not pass. In the future, the chairperson will continue to determine the entry fee budget for each photography entry.

Pam Angst made a motion to accept the Treasurer's Report as presented, seconded by Becky Druml. **Motion accepted.**

**Communications:** Pam Angst for Anne Frigo. Jamie Mallinger. Anne is out of town, therefore the October newsletter will be delayed and newsletter articles will be due September 29. The website is up to date and Jamie will be updating the website with Holly Berry information. To ease some of the burden on the newsletter and communications chairs, the newsletter in 2026 will be as follows: Midwinter—this will continue as is as it is imperative for the upcoming Holly Berry fundraiser. May and June will be combined as Spring newsletter. July and August will be combined as Summer newsletter. September and October will be combined as Fall newsletter. This will ease the redundancy from the Monday emails and the burden on the committees to write so many articles (four instead of nine).

**Membership:** Julie Petri. No proposals for next year. Julie will make an announcement at the general meeting.

**Programs:** Pam Angst for Diana Markus. The general meeting is at the Oconomowoc Public Library at 1pm. Karen and Diana will be there to set up at 11am. The speaker is Melissa Harwick from At Home Organics speaking on A Deep Drive into Dahlias.

**Conservation:** Becky Druml. There will be a hands-on canning class September 22, 8-10:30am for \$55 that includes supplies and a jar of salsa. Book Club at Birch and Banyon Coffee discussing the book, The Mighty Red by Louise Erdrich, on October 7 at 10:30am.

Becky has an article from UW-ext about a new invasive species, Japanese Stiltgrass that she will mention at the general meeting and put in an article for the newsletter.

**Horticulture:** Sarah Spencer. The Club challenge, Marigold, was added to the general meeting horticulture challenges. There will be a meeting next month to discuss the challenges for next year. The GCA Shirley Meneice virtual conference is this Thursday and coincides with the general meeting but it will be recorded for the general membership.

**Floral Design:** Amy Wolf. No workshop this month. Still looking for a judge for the general meeting. October challenge is Sustainable Fall Centerpiece (for exhibition only). FD committee meeting on October 21, 1:30-3pm at Amy's home. The committee is currently working on HB table centerpieces and Connie Tjarksen will let them know the exact number needed.

**Photography:** Meg Schoenecker. A committee meeting was held to discuss the challenges for 2026. A summary in review is completed. Meg will give Deanne the name for the Photography Award of the year.

**Holly Berry:** Pam Angst. A meeting will be held after this Board meeting.

**Ways and Means:** No report.

**Awards:** Pam Angst for Deanne Olson. The \$750 budget that was passed at the last meeting does not include the two new awards of \$440 for Sallie Manegold and Grace Friend. A motion was made to add \$440 this year only for these new awards by Susan Esslinger, seconded by Julie Petri. **Motion approved.**

**Garden History and Design:** Pat Kraft. No report.

**Nominating:** Susan Esslinger. The proposed 2026 Board of Directors is as follows:

President: Pam Angst

Vice President: Sue Blott

Recording Secretary: Elizabeth Meier

Communications: Anne Frigo (newsletter) Sue Blott and Anne Frigo (Website)

Treasurer: Kari Pietsch-Wangard

Conservation Chair: Jack Bothwell

Chair-elect: Mary Braunreiter

Horticulture Chair: Sallie Siepmann

Chair-elect: Linda Klimowicz

Floral Design: Amy Wolf

Chair-elect: Pat Kraft

Photography Chair: Amy Bruss

Chair-elect: Jill Repp

Program Chair: Karen Gardner

Chair-elect: Stacy Bader

Ways and Means: Paddy Kieckhefer

Chair-elect: Cheri Theisen

Past President/Ex Officio: Susan Esslinger

Awards/Founders Fund: Deanne Olson

Bulletin: Kathy Friend

Garden History & Design Chair: Sonja Durkee

Chair-elect: Becky Druml

Historian: Julie Petri

Holly Berry: Committee driven with Executive oversight

GCA Judges Chair: Sally Ruf

Membership Chair: Susan Esslinger

Chair-elect: Cindy Johnson

Nominating Chair: Susan Esslinger

