



## Officers

## President:

A. Pat Deck

## 1st Vice President:

John Darin

## 2nd Vice President:

Betty Stone

## Rec./Corr. Secretary:

Flo Jagielski

Treasurer/Membership/  
Historian:

Dorothy Wood

## Directors for 2015/2016:

1. Lois Adams
2. position open

## Directors for 2016/2017:

1. Henrietta Baczewski
2. Jerald Stone



## Committees:

## ISA Award

John Darin

## Travel Trophy

Lois Adams

## Raffle

Henrietta Baczewski

## Parliamentarian

Marion Schmidt

## Newsletter editor:

Barbara Miller

## Pat Deck, President

lpdeck@sbcglobal.net

**Newsletter editor needed for 2017!**

A reminder to all members: A new editor for the newsletter is needed starting in Jan., 2017. The current editor steps down, after the next 3 issues. Walk-me-through-it coaching is available.

**Not getting the BCSEM Newsletter?**

Check to be sure you have paid your dues for 2016. If your dues are unpaid, you may not be on the mailing list. Send dues to Treasurer Dorothy Wood.

### BCSEM loses good friend and long time supporter Cassie Miller

Casimera Wolyniec Miller, friend to beautification, passed away on December 30, 2015. She was 92 years old and faithfully served BCSEM and Keep Michigan Beautiful, Inc. in many capacities. She served as President of BCSEM from 1985-1987 and for many years was editor of the *Messenger Newsletter*. She remained active in BCSEM until about 10 years ago. Cassie was known for her vibrant personality and diligent work on behalf of the organization. She was also known for getting lost going to many functions but it was always a celebration when she arrived.

Cassie received her college degree after she was married and had three children. She went on to serve as Children's Librarian in Hamtramck. After retiring, she and her husband moved to the country in Highland Township where she loved living in their retreat in the woods. There she became active in the Highland Township Beautification Commission. She hosted several BCSEM meetings at their cottage.

Cassie leaves behind 3 children and 9 grandchildren. She is missed.



1096 Bedford  
Grosse Pointe Park, MI 48230



March, 2016

Our next quarterly meeting is being hosted by the city of Ferndale on **Thursday March, 17th.** at Blumz 503 E. Nine Mile Road, Ferndale, MI 48220. See you there!

**CALENDAR**

**APRIL 13 KMB'S**  
CELEBRATE SPRING AT  
THE GAZEBO IN WARREN

**JUNE 16 QUARTERLY**  
MEETING IN AUBURN  
HILLS

**JUNE 30 ISA NOMINA-**  
TION DEADLINE

**SEPT. 16 (TENTATIVE)**  
**QUARTERLY MEETING**  
IN BROWNSTOWN  
TOWNSHIP

**DEC. 8 (TENTATIVE)**  
**QUARTERLY MEETING**  
IN HUNTINGTON  
WOODS WITH OAK  
PARK

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# Beautification Council of Southeastern Michigan

Area 1 of Keep Michigan Beautiful, Inc.

## President's Message: Lessons in Beautification

It is a privilege to serve as your BCSEM President for 2016. As many of you know, I served previously as President in 1999 & 2000. Thanks for your vote of confidence and thanks to the Board that will serve with me. Our gratitude to Jim Keehn for serving so ably as our President these past two years.

Having served continuously on the Grosse Pointe Park Beautification Commission since 1985, the Board of BCSEM since 1995 and Keep Michigan Beautiful, Inc. since 1999; I have learned some lessons regarding beautification that are worth sharing with you.

1. Beautification enhances the quality of life in a community. It gives people a sense of community pride and identity and makes them feel welcome where they live. Everyone should feel a sense of responsibility for the beauty of their community starting with where they live and extending beyond their personal property.

2. Beautification projects and programs do not need to cost a fortune. Volunteers and donors are the backbone of many beautification projects. It is important to recognize

and honor beautification projects and programs. If you don't, people may feel their efforts aren't worthwhile.

3. Beautification is contagious. Your project may inspire someone else to do a project. Let's not be responsible for setting a bad example for others.

4. Don't take beautification for granted. Weeds and litter accumulate faster than flowers. Beautification requires an organized effort and you don't need to be a master gardener to be involved. Success can be achieved by volunteers and professionals working hand in hand.

5. Beautification is more than planting trees and flowers. It includes the clean-up of littered or industrial sites, the recycling of materials and the preservation of historic sites.

6. Beautification can create a positive economic climate in a community. It is a magnet for business and tourism. When did you ever want to visit a dump? Beautification improves the market value of property.

7. Beautification promotes healthier communities. When litter and hazardous waste are removed, you reduce the threat of disease and injury.

(continued: p. 2 President's Message)

*"Beautification  
creates  
cleaner, greener,  
healthier,  
happier, and,  
safer  
communities."*

### President's Message continued from page 1

8. Beautification promotes safer communities. Criminals often occupy blighted buildings and hide behind overgrown landscapes.

9. Beautification promotes mental health in communities. Order and beauty has a calming effect on people. Beauty soothes the soul and inspires the spirit.

10. Beautification is good for the earth. It promotes stewardship of our resources and helps us leave a better place for future generations. It enables us to be an advocate for environmental awareness.

In general, beautification creates cleaner, greener, healthier, happier and safer communities. As we are about to enter another growing season, ask what can I do to make my home and community a more

Beautiful place to live? What projects can I get involved with that will enhance the quality of life in my community? How can I help honor those who volunteer their time for such projects?

Maybe you can nominate someone for the BCSEM Individual Service Award or for a Keep Michigan Beautiful Award? April and May have been designated as "Clean-up Days" in the State of Michigan. Can you spearhead a project in your local community or join an ongoing project? What lessons have you learned in your local beautification groups? Share with us. We would love to hear from you.

Yours for a beautiful Michigan,  
Pat Deck

### 2015 Individual Service Award Winner by John Darin

The Beautification Council of Southeastern Michigan has long been recognizing outstanding community volunteers and contributors to our Mission of encouraging and assisting active participation in the beautification and improvement of our

communities. The 2015 BCSEM Individual Service Award winner exemplifies those qualities.

BCSEM is proud to recognize **Mr. Andrew Llewellyn**, from the City of Grosse Pointe Farms, as the recipient of the 2015 BCSEM Individual Service Award! By way of this Individual Service Award, BCSEM is recognizing Mr. Llewellyn's volunteer efforts and contributions to help beautify his community

over the years. The Individual Service Award was presented at the BCSEM Autumn, 2015 Quarterly Meeting in Flat Rock. Mr. Llewellyn has been an active, participating member of the Grosse Pointe Farms Beautification Advisory Commission for over 13 years. In his volunteer capacity, he

has given generously of his time to coordinate the Commission's annual Spring Flower Plantings, the Public Works Employee Appreciation Lunch, and the City's Beautification Awards Program. In addition, Mr. Llewellyn was also instrumental in the City's significant nightscape lighting project that illuminates Grosse Pointe Farms landmarks and landscaping.

Although he does not seek attention for himself, his friends and colleagues in the BCSEM member community of Grosse Pointe Farms felt that he would be truly deserving of this honor and nominated him, stating that, "During his time on the Commission he has made an ongoing effort to improve quality of life in the City."

BCSEM would like to acknowledge and thank the City of Grosse Pointe Farms for their partnership and collective efforts in beautifying their community, for their stewardship of our precious environment, and for their support and nomination of Mr. Llewellyn! We would like to thank Mr. Llewellyn for his tireless volunteerism, and for providing a wonderful role model to his fellow citizens.



Photo of Mr. Llewellyn provided by G. P. Farms & used with permission.

### Ferndale — March Quarterly Meeting Host

Ferndale will be the location of the Spring Quarterly Meeting for BCSEM. The Ferndale Beautification Commission has been reenergized and was enthused to offer to host our March meeting.

The Ferndale Beautification Commission is an advisory commission appointed by the mayor with city council approval. There are 7 citizen volunteer members of the commission and up to 4 non-voting, ex-officio members from the city departments, i.e.; Public Works, Police, Parks and Recreation, City Planning.

Major annual projects of the commission include but are not limited to:

- An annual Perennial Exchange in May.
- Beautification Awards (Residential and Commercial) given for the months of June, July & August.
- "Cone Flower" Award in August. This is the city flower.
- Block Award given in September.
- "Booo-tification Award" given in October for Halloween decor.

loween decor.

- Holiday Lights Award given in December for the best use of holiday lights and decor.

The site of the meeting will be Blumz...by JRDesigns, an award winning, full service floral and event company located in downtown Ferndale. At the helm for Blumz, are Jerome Raska and Robbin Yelverton. They have two locations for their business; one in downtown Detroit on Library Street and the other on 9 mile Road in Ferndale. Jerome and Robbin are highly credentialed and well respected retailers and educators in the floral industry. They are also very civic minded and active in the community. Robbin is President of the Ferndale Beautification Commission and Jerome is the past president of the Ferndale Area Chamber of Commerce. Between the two of them, and a great team of employees, they have managed to not only survive the worst economic downturn in recent history but are growing and thriving. They are honored to have you meet in their "home".

### Welcome to Ferndale by Mayor David Coulter

You often hear people say that their city is "a great place to live, work and play." In the case of Ferndale nothing could be truer.

Ferndale has become a favorite local and regional destination known for its shopping, dining, entertainment, arts and culture, and bike/walkability. The City of Ferndale's vibrant downtown district makes it a prime spot for events that draw thousands - from the legendary Woodward Dream Cruise to the Funky Ferndale Art Fair and everything in between. On the other side of town, Ferndale's industrial corridor is thriving, housing large-scale production operations, tech startups, a national food brand, and more. The hundreds of businesses operating here in Ferndale are consistently recognized as "Best of"

award winners by Hour Detroit, Metro Times, Channel 4, the Daily Tribune and more.

But at the end of the day, it's about more than stats and figures, awards and accolades - it's about community and quality of life. And here in Ferndale, we have both in spades. Our people - business owners, entrepreneurs, residents, and visitors alike - are active and engaged. Our neighborhoods are safe and strong, and home and property values continue to grow. Ferndale truly is a city on the rise.

Whether you find yourself here to shop, dine, attend an event, start a business, or put down roots, I welcome you "home" to Ferndale. I think you will find that it really is a great place to live, work, and play.

### Nominate for the BCSEM 2016 Individual Service Award

We invite all BCSEM member communities to nominate their outstanding volunteer for the BCSEM Individual Service Award for 2016! Mail nominations to John Darin by June 30th. To nominate an individual volunteer in your community, go to [www.bcsem.org](http://www.bcsem.org). In the right-hand column, click on ISA Nomination Form, and an interactive form will pop up with further instructions. Good luck!



**You're invited to Celebrate Spring  
April 13, 2016  
at the Gazebo in Warren**