



Mrs. Earl H. Bourne (Hazel)
16th GCFM President
1955-1957
"Planting the Garden"
163 clubs – 12,436 members



Horticulture became a major interest. Monthly meetings were held at Horticultural Hall. A clinic led by Harold Bent was held at each meeting. Mrs. Leach prepared a brochure "Organization – Purpose – Activities" which was very helpful for a clearer understanding of the advantages of state federation membership.

Three conservation meetings were held – Christmas Greens, Wildflower Preservation and Water. There was increasing interest in Junior Gardening. Programs in progress were continued. La Verne R. Collard was appointed the first bird chairperson. Her biggest project was having the Museum of Science present a bird program for members and their young school children on a Saturday morning. Approximately 200 children and their parents were present. After the lecture, the members and children were invited to visit the museum.

Mrs. William R. Freitas, horticulture chairperson, ended the season with a trip to the Berkshire Garden Center. On May 2, 1956, the second Blue Star Highway Marker was dedicated near New Hampshire on Route 1. Polly Wakefield, Chairperson, distributed Blue Star stamps.

Hazel Bourne and her husband had developed an extensive wildflower garden including wetlands. There was a special tour for board members to visit Mrs. Bourne's wildflower garden. World War II was still fresh in our memories. The Board members were intrigued and proud to know Mrs. Bourne had served as a WAAC during World War II.