

SDGC SCHOLARSHIP CHAIRPERSON

The Scholarship Chairperson is a rewarding and important position in many ways. First, it is the purpose for the Garden Club's fundraising. Second, it supports local high school students to further their higher education. In the past, the Garden Club donated \$2000 per year, per student going into a "science field". This year, 2023, the amount will be \$3000 per year, per student.

CHAIRPERSON(S) RESPONSIBILITIES and PROJECT TIMELINE

In March, the Allegan Foundation Programs Officer is contacted to ensure that everything, particularly funding, is in order. A minimum of \$5000 needs to be in our account. Also, it is important to make sure the previous year recipients received and used their scholarship funds.

Next, clear and consistent communication with the counselors at Saugatuck and Fennville high schools is established to discuss the Garden Club's criteria for our scholarship and fine tune the details. A rough timeline is established as to when the recipients and the Garden Club will be notified. Then the schools give us general information regarding the students and their college choices. After the recipients are chosen, the Garden Club's Publicity Committee is contacted, informing that committee of the scholarship winners; pictures of the students are shared, and their college selections revealed.

Each school gives us the date of their Awards Ceremony and the chairperson(s) attends each one. The student is then congratulated, and some photos are taken. In the past, the Garden Club has also invited them to be introduced at a luncheon or regularly scheduled meeting, but because of Covid and the students' summer work schedules, it has not recently been possible.

Finally, a yearend report is submitted to the Garden Club Board.