



GFWC – Charlotte

CLUB COMMUNICATOR

VOLUME XIII NUMBER 7

April, 2010

2010-12 OFFICERS INSTALLED AT APRIL MEETING



Pictured: Immediate Past President, Mary Remanek; Parliamentarian, Linda Foster; Historian, Sharon Adams; Director (1 year), Sue Berger; Vice President, Sylvia Colles, President, Margie Carter

Others: Secretary, Sharon Kubica; Treasurer, Marlene Darin; Assistant to the Treasurer, Kathy Tomlanovich; Corresponding Secretary, Sally Jewell, Directors (2 years), Mary Jean Baker and Elizabeth Siler [Installation done by Past President, Sara Biskie, who used a rainbow of colors theme.]



Margie Carter presents a gift of appreciation to Mary for her outstanding two years of service to the Club as President.

Sylvia Colles introduces new member, Nancy Pick. Sponsor is Linda Foster





BOARD TALK – MARY REMENAK



April showers came this morning: the forsythia is glorious and squirrels have, once again, bitten the blossoms off all of my daffodils! Oh my...

Thank you Sara Biskie for giving us an enjoyable and thoughtful Installation of Officers. Congratulations to our new Board members. We are in good hands!

May looks to be a terrific month! As our club year comes to a close, we will have many opportunities to share activities together. Here is our calendar:

May 7-Our final club meeting of the year-**Brainstorming**. Come to Margie's with your brown bag lunch and help us plan our 2010-11 club year.

May 12-Southern Exposure mini trip-lunch, craft and a tour!

May 13- 63rd Annual Senior Tea-I encourage your attendance to support our new president and honor our student guests and their families.

May 15- Kind News deadline-Looking for a way to encourage young students and support education? Sponsor a KIND News subscription. Contact Carol Rossio at 543-4172.

May 21-Guest Night-Come and learn about cheese and winemaking at home. There will be tasting!!

May 22-Craft Class-Come to Stormi Stuler's and make a floating necklace.

May 26-"Day in May"-Join us for a "mini trip" in our state's capital city, Lansing. See March *Club Communicator* for details.

Arrivederci, Mary

Remember to get your articles in by the 15th of each month for *The Club Communicator* to:

Linda Foster, 316 Beech St., Charlotte, MI 48813; 543-3041;
ed@fosterdvm.com



Membership Memos . . .

New email: **Peggy Nichols**: pegnick@att.net
New: **Darlene Freeman**, 1395 S .Lacey Lake Rd..
djh403@yahoo.com

Margie Carter's mom died.

Cynthia Siarny – more surgery.

Wanda Powell - Happy 90 Birthday! There will be an open house in her honor on April 18 at the Lawrence Avenue Methodist Church from 1:30 – 4:30 p.m.

Sherry Meyers – grandma to Cooper born 3/20

Cheri Smith – gravely ill daughter



Zelma DeHaan died March 31, 2010. She was born May 25, 1909, so almost 101! Zelma was born in Belgium and arrived in the US in 1920. She was a graduate of Charlotte High School and Bronson Methodist Hospital in Kalamazoo. Member of Lawrence Avenue Methodist Church. She married Henry DeHaan in 1937 and he preceded her in death in 1970. Services were held on April 3 at Burkhead-Green Funeral Home. Zelma would have been a 50-year Club member this coming fall. Though she couldn't participate in Club activities in recent years, she was always interested in what was going on. She was in the Burcham Hills Retirement Center for the last few years.

Birthdays

Anniversaries

Late April

21 Wanda Powell
22 Peggy Nichols

May

07 Sylvia Colles
21 Kathy Tomlanovich
28 Sally Jewell

06 Fran & Matt Rush
08 Susan & Ralph Davis
19 Susie & Harry Moore



Welcome new member, Nancy Pick. Bio and contact information in separate attachment.

"That's what I love about reading: one tiny thing will interest you in a book, and that tiny thing will lead you onto another book, and another bit there will lead you onto a third book. It's geometrically progressive--all with no end in sight, and for no other reason than sheer enjoyment."

Juliet Ashton in *The Guernsey Literary and Potato Peel Pie Society*



Tea and Tomes: Please join us on Tuesday, April 27th, at 1:00 for our monthly book discussion. We meet in the Spartan Room of the Charlotte Community Library and new members are always welcome. This month our discussion centers on the isle of Guernsey in the Channel Islands between England and France. These islands were occupied by the Nazis during World War II. *The Guernsey Literary and Potato Peel Pie Society* by Mary Ann Shaffer and Annie Barrows, reveals a cast of characters--a circle of remarkable friends--who formed the Society as a cover to protect themselves from the Germans. The book celebrates literature, love, and the power of the human spirit. You'll want to read it and join us.



Sneak Peek: May 25th, *Three Cups of Tea: One man's mission to promote peace...one school at a time* by Greg Mortenson.

Epsilon Sigma Omicron, ESO, annual awards for 2010.

Our club has 18 active members who have pledged to ESO. We are "enlightening our own pathway" through reading, in order to stimulate learning and self-improvement, which is the main purpose of the society. Anyone can pledge to ESO at any time; details and required forms are available on the website.

Altogether this year, our 18 members have read over 827 books! Certificates of achievement will be awarded at the GFWC State Convention in May. Locally, certificates will be awarded at the May Tea and Tomes meeting. Following is the list of ESO members who will be receiving certificates:

Member (16-39 books): April Brooks, Le Ann Green, Mary Kroodsma, Sandra Maatsch, Sue Pruden, Elizabeth Siler.

Star (40-63 books): Mary Jean Baker, Sara Biskie, April Brooks, Sylvia Colles, Lee Falik, Le Ann Green, Sue Pruden, Mary Remenak, Cynthia Siarney, Elizabeth Siler, Lola Wilson.

Torch (64-99): Mary Jean Baker, Sylvia Colles, Lee Falik, Brynda Filkins, Lori King, Lola Wilson.

Century (100-199): Brynda Filkins, Lori King, Lola Wilson.

2nd Century (200-299): Marilyn Monroe-Hart

Congratulations to our ESO GFWC-Charlotte readers!





RE-DEDICATION OF BENNETT PARK TREE MEMORIAL GARDEN

GFWC Charlotte was instrumental in the formation of a Tree Memorial Garden in Bennett Park in 1989. The City of Charlotte has kept track of the funds received since the inception. The Tree Memorial Park has grown with trees, pavers and perennials over the years. The second phase of the Garden has begun by extending the Memorial Garden with more pavers extending among the trees. Focal points such as benches and flowerbeds are also being added.

All members of GFWC-Charlotte are encouraged to attend the Re-dedication Ceremony of the Bennett Park Tree Memorial Garden scheduled for April 22 at 11:00 a.m. at Bennett Park. Residents of Charlotte are invited to attend. Mayor Dee Smith will preside over the Re-dedication. Come and see the changes being made and support our community in this venture.

Memorial donations to honor friends, family or citizens in the community by planting a tree or shrub at various locations, provide a living tribute and beautifies the community. Gifts may be tax deductible. Checks should be made out to City of Charlotte Bennett Park Memorial Tree Garden and sent to City Hall, 111 E. Lawrence Ave., Charlotte, MI 48813.

If you have a craft(s) you would like to enter in the GFWC MI contest at the Convention, please contact Mary Remenak after April 19 and before May 12.



Knitters--have you been avoiding our skull cap project because you don't like to work with black yarn? The good news is they can be made in earth colors such as blue, brown & green as well as black. A reminder--the yarn must be 100% wool. Contact Sara Biskie, slbiskie@sbcglobal.net or 543-0815 if you need a pattern.

Observations on Growing Older

*~Your kids are becoming you...
and you don't like them....
but your grandchildren are perfect!
~Going out is good.
Coming home is better!
~When people say you look "Great" ...
they add "for your age!"
~When you needed the discount you paid full price.
Now you get discounts on everything ...
movies, hotels, flights, but you're too tired to use them.
~You forget names ...
but it's OK because other people forgot they even knew you!!!
~The 5 pounds you wanted to lose is now 15 and you have a better chance of losing your keys
than the 15 pounds.
~You realize you're never going to be really good at anything especially golf.*



*~Your husband is counting on you to remember things you don't remember.
~The things you used to care to do, you no longer care to do, but you really do care that you
don't care to do them anymore...
~Your husband sleeps better on a lounge chair with the TV blaring than he does in bed.
It's called his "pre-sleep".
~Remember when your mother said "Wear clean underwear in case you GET in an accident"?
Now you bring clean underwear in case you HAVE an accident!
~You used to say, "I hope my kids GET married ...
Now, "I hope they STAY married!"
~You miss the days when everything worked with just an "ON" and "OFF" switch..
~When GOOGLE, ipod, email, modem ...
were unheard of, and a mouse was something that made you climb on a table.
~You used to use more 4 letter words ...
"what?"... "when?" ???
~Now that you can afford expensive jewelry, it's not safe to wear it anywhere.
~Your husband has a night out with the guys but he's home by 9:00 P..M. ...next week it will
be 8:30 P.M.
~You read 100 pages into a book before you realize you've read it..
~Notice everything they sell in stores is "sleeveless"?!!!*

*~What used to be freckles are now liver spots.
~Everybody whispers.
~Now that your husband has retired
you'd give anything if he'd find a job!*

*~You have 3 sizes of clothes in your closet
2 of which you will never wear.
~~~~But old is good in some things:  
old songs  
old movies  
And best of all OLD FRIENDS!!*



[from the Internet]



## **LINEN CHEST TO CLOSE –**

**OWNER & CLUB MEMBER, JEANNETTE SOMMER**

Jeannette has been in business for 27 years. Her gift store serviced the community well over the years. She also generously let us drop off our meeting reservations at the store for many years. We wish her well in retirement!

## **Second Drug Abuse Awareness Campaign Begins**

The Club is asking local businesses, doctors and dentists to participate in an awareness project by displaying posters and brochures that will inform the public of the dangers of youth abusing prescription and over-the-counter drugs. Soon dates for safe disposal for unwanted medicines held by the County Department of Resource Recovery will be announced.



### **Mini-Trips Update**

#### **Southern Exposure Luncheon**

What a way to start Spring! On Wednesday, May 12 we will be going to Southern Exposure for a luncheon made just for us. While there we will also tour the gardens and make a bottle of herbal vinegar. Cost is \$38 and reservations are due by May 1. We will be carpooling from the Charlotte Country Club at 11:15 and be home about 5:00. Call Jo at 517-281-1301 for more details.

#### **Future trip ideas**

Anyone interested in a day trip to IKEA in Canton call Jo.

Jo Vanderstelt, Mini Trips Chairperson



## **READING IS FUNDAMENTAL (RIF)**

In 1966 a former teacher, Margaret McNamara took a bag of books to four boys in Washington D.C. whom she tutored in reading. When she told the children they could each choose a book to keep, their astonishment and delight led her to discover that they, and many of their classmates, had never owned any books. By the next summer, Mrs. McNamara had organized a group of school volunteers and in the fall of 1966 launched a book distribution program they called Reading Is Fundamental.

Today RIF is a national organization supported by the Department of Education, national foundations, and community groups at the local level. RIF has consistently grown over the years and during last year alone RIF volunteers across the country distributed books to 4.4 million children. The goal of RIF has remained the same since 1966, to provide children in need with high quality books at no cost their families. The mission of RIF is to help children understand the value of books, develop a greater interest in reading, and motivate parents and children to read together.

For the past nine years, GFWC-Charlotte has supported a RIF program in Charlotte. \$700 per year has been budgeted for RIF. Beautiful books are selected by the GFWC-Charlotte RIF committee and purchased at a very low cost through Scholastic Publishing Co. Two book distributions are held each year, one in the spring and one in the fall. Last year we distributed a total of 386 books to children in Charlotte schools.

Currently, we have three volunteers on the GFWC-Charlotte RIF committee. Last year these volunteers studied catalogs of books, ordered books, stamped each book with, "This is a gift from GFWC-Charlotte and RIF" stamp, and distributed books to students at Galewood, Washington, and Weymouth schools. This year we are working to include Parkview.

During a book distribution, each volunteer visits selected classrooms, reads stories to the children and displays the books so that each child is able to choose a book. We find that just as in 1966, many children have never owned books of their own and are thrilled to be able to choose and keep a book to take home. Some children take a long time in deciding on a book because of their excitement over having so many wonderful books from which to choose.

The RIF committee, on behalf of these children, would like to thank the members of GFWC-Charlotte for their continued support of this tremendous program. We believe RIF is one of the very worthwhile ways GFWC is serving our community.

If you are interested in volunteering for RIF, please contact Darlene Freeman or Jan Kelley.

Submitted by Darlene J. Freeman

## Here's a Second Chance . . .



As of April 1<sup>st</sup>, unused **Education Foundation** funds from all districts were pooled and are available. Contact Linda Foster (543-3041) for more information if you are interested in applying for a scholarship.

**KALEIDOSCOPE PARTICIPANTS MEET AT  
THE CHARLOTTE COUNTRY CLUB FRIDAY,  
APRIL 16, AT 7:15 A.M.**



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