



GFWC – Charlotte

CLUB COMMUNICATOR

VOLUME XXI NUMBER 4

January, 2018

JANUARY

TEA HIGHLIGHTS:



Jeannette Sommer is awarded her 50-year membership pin by GFWC MI President, Donna Brown and the club bestowed Honorary Membership to her.

Cheryl Jackson is awarded her 25-year membership pin.



GFWC MI President Donna Brown & GFWC MI President-elect Sue Johnson present Fran Fuller with a GFWC calendar with Fran's winning photo.

**TRISH SWENSON –
WOMEN AT
RISK (WAR) SOLD
FAIR TRADE
JEWELRY**



**SIREN/EATON SHELTER – thanks us
for monies raised from the Tea**

**Sylvia & Gary Colles &
Katey VanAllsburg
“Keeping Tyme”
entertained us with
Christmas Folk Songs**



Club Fundraisers

JANUARY





Lorraine Green, Chair

rainraingreen@gmail.com

Home: 517-543-5048

Do you know of someone in our club who could use a hand – ride to appointments, meal brought in, receive a card, visitor, listener, shopper, etc.? Contact Lorraine



Sandra "Sonnie" Kay Cody of Charlotte, Michigan | 1937 - 2017

Sonnie was a member of GFWC-Charlotte since 1998. She was a willing worker on many committees. Sonnie served as a driver and coordinator of Mobile Meals for many years. After she was widowed and her health deteriorated, she moved to Associate Status and went into Hope Landing. She died on Christmas Day. Our condolences to her family, which includes her sister, Sue Pruden, also a GFWC-Charlotte member.

From News & Notes : Legislative Action Corner

Federal Appropriations for Family Violence Prevention

Current federal funding for programs to assist domestic violence shelters, rape crisis centers, and programs to help victims of child abuse, among others, expires December 8 and Congress must either pass an omnibus FY 2018 spending bill or another short-term continuing resolution to keep the programs going. If neither is approved, there will be a government shutdown and no services funded by federal dollars can be provided. If you see your member of Congress during the Thanksgiving holidays, please urge them to pass an omnibus spending bill, so these programs can do this important and critical work in our communities.

Tax Reform

Both the House of Representatives and the Senate are considering comprehensive tax reform proposals. Congressional leaders and the White House hope to have a final bill before the end of the year.

Important to GFWC are the proposals regarding:

- Increasing the charitable 14 cents mileage rate deduction for volunteers (GFWC Resolution 015-660 Valuing Volunteers); and
- Allowing tax deductions for medical expenses (GFWC Resolution 013-270 Long-Term Care).

In addition, the Charitable Giving Coalition strongly urges the inclusion of a universal charitable deduction available to all taxpayers. This would assure that contributions to 501(c)(3) charities are not taxed by the federal government and that taxpayers who currently take the deduction for their gifts will continue to be incentivized. The Coalition is concerned that doubling the standard deduction and providing a short-form for filing will dramatically reduce the number of taxpayers who make charitable donations. The Congressional Joint Committee on Taxation estimates such action will result in a loss of \$100 billion over ten years. Therefore, the Coalition urges Congress to provide a way for all taxpayers to obtain deductions for charitable contributions, regardless of whether they itemize. The overall goal is to ensure that our communities and charities thrive and remain strong, diverse, and effective.

ARM KNITTING 11-16-17

Led by Joni Risner (back)
Linda Foster
Fran Fuller

A fun evening of learning a new skill.



Board Talk – Fran Fuller



As we start this New Year I can't believe there are only a few months left in my Presidency. As they say..."time flies when you're having fun". After reading the reports that were submitted I can see where we did have fun this past year. The pictures in the newsletter show plenty of smiles when we are together. Whether it's decorating the downtown urns in subzero weather or tying blankets for Operation Smile, we are having fun!

Speaking of reports, I would like to thank you for turning in your volunteer/enrichment hours and annual committee reports. It makes compiling information for the state report so much easier.

Our next meeting will feature a panel of speakers from various non-profit businesses in the Charlotte area. "Love Reaches Out" is the program title and we will hear from Eaton Community Palliative Care, The House of Ruth and an update on Charlotte Rising. The American Heart Association's "Go Red for Women" movement reminds us that the first Friday in February is "National Wear Red Day" which brings attention to women's heart health. So wear **RED** to shine a light on this silent killer and the leading cause of death for American women.

For all of you who will be traveling to warmer places this winter I wish you safe travels and look forward to seeing you when you return. You can always keep up on what we are doing by visiting our web and Facebook pages and reading the *Club Communicator*. Hope to see the rest of you on February 2nd.

GO RED FOR WOMEN



Have you ever noticed that so many of our members wear **RED** to the February GFWC-Charlotte meeting? You may think it's only because February is the month we celebrate Valentine's Day. But did you know February is also the month set aside by the American Heart Association to bring awareness to women's heart health? **National Wear Red Day**® — the first Friday each February — is a special day set aside to bring attention to this silent killer of women. We are all encouraged to wear **RED**, raise our voices, know our cardiovascular risks and take action to live longer, healthier lives. So let's all wear **RED** to our February meeting to celebrate Valentine's Day and to call attention to the leading cause of death for American women-heart disease.

Membership Memos



Remembrances . . .

Marilyn Monroe-Hart's husband, Bruce – broken hip & chronic leukemia
Donna W. Johnson – health issues; death of sister-in-law, Roxie Walker
Brynda Filkins – family health issues
Sue Pruden – death of sister, Sonnie Cody, and sister-in-law, Roxie Walker
Hope Dixon – health issues
Sharon Kubica – death of her father.
Sharon Adams – knee surgery; son's health issues

Birthdays

Anniversaries

Late January

19 Shelby Butler
21 Lori King
26 Cheryl Jackson

20 Martha & Mike Limauro
30 Barb & John VanderMolen

Early February

02 Marian Johnson
03 Eva Crandall
03 Lola Wilson
04 Barbara Fulton
10 Charamy Cleary
15 Mona Ellard

07 Bev & Dick Trumley
09 Betty & Jim Crandall

Booklet Corrections, additions, updates, etc. :

You get the booklet when you pay your dues. Proofread and let me know changes!

Add Elizabeth Siler's cell phone: 517-231-4886

Marian Johnson's new address: The Village of Heather Hills, 1055 Forest Hill Ave., S.E., Apt. 93A,
Grand Rapids, MI 49546 (same phone)

Shirley Hirt' new address: 1900 Danbury E., Okemos, MI 48864; C: 517-667-1693

Past President, Jenny Lamb – jennylamb47@icloud.com ; C: 732-737-5979

WELCOME NEW MEMBER TAMARA LOBSIGER



Tamara grew up in Bay City & Saginaw, got a Bachelor's from Central Michigan University and Master's from MSU, and taught school for 43 years. She lived in Dimondale and has two children. She was widowed in 2016 and now lives in Charlotte. She enjoys quilting, reading, teaching Sunday school and traveling.

NOTE FROM MARIAN JOHNSON – as a good many of you know, I have moved from Charlotte to Grand Rapids to be closer to two of my children. It is bitter sweet to leave Charlotte, my friends and memories, but exciting to be near family and open the door to new friends. As I look back, it's been a wonderful 59 years of GFWC - from serving in almost every office to years of Gourmet Club and chorus since the 70's. I started the chorus and directed for a long, long time. We sang for State, Regional and International conventions, had lots of fun and a few tears, and made life-time friends and memories. My thanks to all those I had the pleasure of working with, and my best wishes to the Club for the future. (See new address above.) I would love to hear from you, and welcome you anytime you are in Grand Rapids.

New Member Orientation



Mary June Garn – sponsor Pat Campion
Tamara Lobsinger – sponsor Sue Farlin
Judy MacInness – sponsor Lorraine Green



Board: Julie, Sherry, Fran & Jeana



TEA AND TOMES:

Our January reading selection is *The Great Gatsby* by F. Scott Fitzgerald. In this classic, we have a peek into the culture of the Roaring '20's. Fitzgerald weaves a story of love, loss, excess and wealth that has become an example of the American Experience. Meet Nick Carraway, Jay Gatsby, Daisy Buchanan and a cast of characters who help to weave a story that became an instant classic at its printing in 1925. The world changed after WWI and the characters in *The Great Gatsby* provide a framework for this time in history. Join us on January 30, 12:45 - 2:30 at the Charlotte Community Library in the Spartan Room for our discussion.

Our February reading selection will be *The Handmaid's Tale* by Margaret Atwood. It is a time after war in the not so far off future. The world as people knew is gone and the rules of society have changed dramatically. The new government has decided that handmaids are necessary to continue desired bloodlines of the most elite in society and the government. We will meet on February 27 to discuss *The Handmaid's Tale*.



Mini Trips Update



Any ideas for future trips let us know –
Jo Vanderstelt 517-281-1301 jovanderstelt@yahoo.com or
Sharon Kennedy sharonkennedy65@gmail.com 608-322-0626

Trips carpool from Al!ve – park near the pavilion · All trips can accommodate only a limited number of participants, spaces will be filled first-come first-serve basis. Non-members are always welcome to join us on our mini trips

December 6th Mini-Trip to the Courthouse – Russian Tea – Inna Phelps

Inna is from Russia and she shared Russian Christmas traditions, music , tea, apple pie and a yummy torte, along with sharing an extensive collection of Russian artifacts. She is quite the comedian and story teller! It was a fun day with lots of laughs.



Kaleidoscope – save the date – Friday, September 7, 2018 – day-long program for women at MSU, East Lansing. Cost is \$100, includes breakfast, lunch, kick-off speaker, key-note speaker and two breakout sessions. Sign-up sheet at meetings. Sign up if you have interest in being contacted closer to the time with more specifics.

7:45 A.M. – 3:00 P.M.

8:15 BREAKFAST

**9:00 A.M. ELLIOT ENGEL, KICK-OFF SPEAKER
SCHOLAR/AUTHOR/PLAYWRIGHT**

10:35 – 11:30 SESSION I

11:45 – 12:40 SESSION II

1:15 LUNCHEON

**2:00 TBA, KEYNOTE SPEAKER,
Cost is \$100. We will car pool.**

I will be pulling this together in April and May.

Please email me at ed@fosterdvm.com or call 517-881-9381 **to add your name** to the list. Sign up if you have any interest. I'll double check with you in May to see if you are still interested and to find out your breakout choices. *Linda Foster*

PAST PRESIDENTS HONORED AT DECEMBER TEA . . .



Those present: Dianna Rabey, Sylvia Colles, Jeannette Sommer, Marian Johnson, Sandy Maatsch, Linda Foster, Donna Johnson, Mary Remenak, Nola Buck, Sara Biskie, Cheryl Jackson, Lee Falik, Lori Pray

NEW MEMBERS HONORED AT DECEMBER TEA . . .

**Sue Farlin, Sponsor –
Tamara Lobsiger**

**Pat Campion, Sponsor –
Mary June Garn**



**Sherry Myers, Membership Chair
Judy MacInness – sponsor Lorraine Green
Ginny Baxter – sponsor Sharon Adams**

February program: Sharing the Love in Charlotte

The General Federation of Women's Clubs-Charlotte will hold its monthly meeting on Friday, February 2, 2018 at the Eaton Area Senior Center, 804 S. Cochran. Club members will have the opportunity to hear speakers from the House of Ruth, Charlotte Rising and Eaton Pallative Care.

The deadline for luncheon reservations is **12:00 noon, Saturday, January 27, 2018.** Please register on-line by that day. If you need assistance please call Linda Foster and she will help you. The luncheon cost is \$10.00. We ask that you have the exact payment amount at the door. 'No Shows' are committed for payment. Social time begins at 11:30 a.m. with lunch and meeting following at 12:00 noon. If you have any questions, please contact Jeana Rohrs at 652-3333.

December Tea Collage



CHORUS SANG AT THE TEA AND ROTARY

THEY ALSO SANG AT THE MEDICAL CARE FACILITY,
HOPE LANDING AND SENSATIONS



Patty Greene, Director; Peggy Nichols, Donna Leahy, Marian Johnson, Sandy Maatsch, Pam Rinckey, Linda Foster, Jeannette Sommer, Mary June Garn, pianist; Jane Karlzan, Pat Campion, Joan Hasselback; Julie Dartt, Marlene Darin, Lori Pray, Jo Vanderstelt, Carolyn Maier, Chris Reist, Judy Whitkopf, Carol Rossio



The chorus presented Marian Johnson with a floral tribute for her years as our director (1975-78; 1982-December 2006). Marian has moved to Grand Rapids. Director Patty and Pianist Mary June received large bell ornaments.



Relaxing before singing at Rotary.





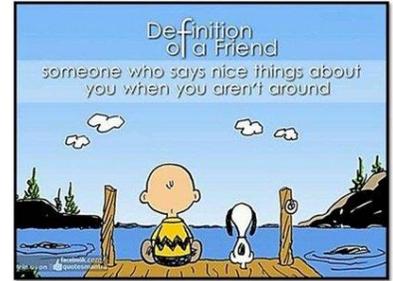
Singing at Rotary



Christmas Kiddies' Wrapping

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

ESO: Ladies, please consider pledging to Epsilon Sigma Omicron, a GFWC honorary reading society. Any member can join and new members are always welcome! The idea is to "enlighten your own pathway" through reading. Pledges keep a record of books read during the calendar year and report the totals once per year. There is a national ESO reading list through GFWC (www.gfwc.org), or you may choose your own titles. Full information is available at www.gfwc-charlotte.com under downloadable forms. Brynda Filkins, 541-3698, is happy to answer any questions and get you started. Read to learn, to laugh, to lead.



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www.gfwc-charlotte.com
www.facebook.com/GFWCCharlotteMI
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