



**GFWC – Charlotte**

# **CLUB COMMUNICATOR**

**VOLUME XI NUMBER 4**

**January, 2008**

## **PAST PRESIDENTS HONORED**



## **MARILYN MONROE-HART RECIEVES “WOMAN OF ACHIEVEMENT” AWARD**

**DECEMBER 7, 2007 TEA**

**(see related articles p. 2)**

**50+ -YEAR PINS PRESENTED**



**Lola Wilson**

**Marilyn Monroe-Hart**

**President, Nola Buck  
Jean Bearup  
Donna W. Johnson**

## **PAST PRESIDENTS:**

**BACK:** Sara Biskie, Karen Elsesser, Lori Pray, Jeannette Sommer, Joyce Yates, Jo Gager, Marilyn Monroe-Hart

**FRONT:** Jenny Lamb, Donna W. Johnson, Linda Foster, Sandy Maatsch, Marian Johnson, Joyce Sparks

The past presidents in attendance were introduced by current President, Nola Buck and presented with a beautiful red rose.

## **Woman of Achievement Award – Marilyn Monroe-Hart**

Marilyn has been a member of our Club for ten years. In addition to “working up the chairs” and serving as the 2006-07 President, she has served as parliamentarian and chaired the By-laws Committee, Nominating Committee, “Libraries 200 & Beyond,” kept track of the nametag box (and donated supplies for the nametags), served on the Senior Tea Committee, December Tea Committee, regular club meeting committees, Home Tour Committee, etc. She has also been active at the District level as parliamentarian and has agreed to serve in this capacity at the GFWC MI level 2008-10!

Marilyn regularly supports club, district and state level functions, such as Legislation Day, conventions, and board meetings. She is active in the chorus, book club, RIF, beautification, and club fundraisers. The Club won several awards through her efforts of reporting the year she was president. She is always willing to step in and lend a hand. (She also brings with her a dedicated and most helpful husband, Bruce, who is almost a GFWC-Charlotte member.) She promotes fun and fellowship with her traveling hat. (She is camera-shy, however. See the past presidents’ picture.)

She is active in the Methodist Church, Maple City Chapter #218, O.E.S., and is a HGB Hospital volunteer.

Congratulations, Marilyn!

## **50-Year Pins –**

Jean Bearup and Donna W. Johnson were presented with the 50-year pins now available for such honorees. Both of these ladies had received Gold Cards previously, but the Club wanted them to also receive the pin. It was so nice to have Jean be able to join us, as her health has kept her from many meetings recently. Donna Johnson shared a bit of Club history with us and brought memorabilia for us to look over, as well. (Picture below.) President Nola Buck also shared some history with us.





## **HONORARY MEMBER PEG MICHELS DIED 12-17-07 AT 99!**

Peg was an active member until her health prevented her from doing so. She was a member for 70 years! She loved to play bridge, and adored cats.

### **The Chorus Entertained - this is a “before” shot:**



Members present include: Marlene Darin, Jan Harms, Pam Ingalls, Dorothy Leeser, Christi Dutcher, Mary Beth Wiechert, Vivian Flower, Jo Vanderstelt, Judy Whitkopf, Marilyn Monroe-Hart, Diane Hudson, Lori Pray, Barb Thiel, Joan Hasselback, Linda Foster, Jeannette Sommer, Marian Johnson, Joyce Sparks and Sandy Maatsch. Conductor is Carolyn Maier; pianist is Nancy Hoskins. Jenny Haskill accompanied on the flute (Absent were Sally Jewell and Shirley Rann.)

**The chorus also sang at the Rotary Club December 11<sup>th</sup>.**



**Club members enjoy the refreshments at the tea, held at the Peace Lutheran Church.**



**“THE HAT” GETS PASSED AGAIN!**



**GFWC-Charlotte is recognized on the 2007 Ride-A-Thon T-shirt, for donating to their program.**



## THE SENIORS' BREAKFAST SPECIAL

We went to breakfast at a restaurant where the 'seniors' special' was two eggs, bacon, hash browns and toast for \$1.99. 'Sounds good,' my wife said. 'But I don't want the eggs.' 'Then I will have to charge you two dollars and forty-nine cents because you're ordering a-la-carte,' the waitress warned her.

'You mean I'd have to pay for not taking the eggs?' my wife asked incredulously.

'YES!!' stated the waitress.

'In that case I'll take the special.' my wife said.

'How do you want your eggs?' the waitress asked.

'Raw and in the shell,' my wife replied.

She took the two eggs home.

DON'T MESS WITH SENIORS!!! We've been around the block more than once.



## MOBILE MEALS PARTNERS WITH EATON COUNTY UNITED WAY



Joni Risner, Executive Director, Eaton County United Way

Linda Foster, President, Mobile Meals, Inc. of Charlotte

Lori Pray, Treasurer, Mobile Meals, Inc. of Charlotte

Linda and Lori made a presentation to the Eaton County United Way Board on November 28<sup>th</sup> to make them more aware of how our program got started, and how it functions today. The benefits to our subscribers were emphasized, as well as the fact that it is totally run by volunteers 365 days a year. Specific success stories were shared, as well. We pointed out that the meals are prepared by Hayes Green Beach Hospital and subsidized by United Way, and that the program is a special project of GFWC-Charlotte, where the president always serves on the Mobile Meals Board during her term of office.

# NEW MEMBERS HONORED AND ORIENTATION HELD



FRONT: Neva Mikesell,  
Darlene Freeman, Carole  
Barnett-Stopper, Carole  
Franciscotty, Barb Lahr  
BACK: Sylvia Colles,  
Connie Fast, Diane  
Hudson, Pam Ingalls, Jo  
Vanderstelt

Pam Ingalls, Jo Vanderstelt, Mary Taylor



## MEMBERSHIP MATTERS . . .

Elly Peterson new email: [BandH-Shrader@bresnan.net](mailto:BandH-Shrader@bresnan.net)

Jo Vanderstelt's phone number should be: 543-3113

Lola Wilson email: [wilsonjl@att.net](mailto:wilsonjl@att.net)

New members since November, 2007: Carole Barnett-Stopper, Lisa Blakeney, Sylvia Colles, Connie Fast, Carole Franciscotty, Darlene Freeman, Barb Fulton, Diane Hudson, Pam Ingalls, Barb Lahr, Neva Mikesell, Mary Taylor and Jo Vanderstelt

**(Directory pictures, information, and write ups printed in an update – if you don't have yours, contact Linda Foster). I will bring them to the February meeting.**

## REMEMBRANCES . . .

Health issues: Shirley Hirt; Gloria Wilson; Eilene Christensen; Cheryl Jackson; Donna W. Johnson; Sally Jewell's husband, Floyd; Shirley Rann's husband, Dick

Death: Honorary Member, Peg Michel; brother of Diane Hudson

## BIRTHDAYS

### LATE JANUARY

19 Gloria Wilson  
21 Lori King  
26 Cheryl Jackson

## ANNIVERSARIES

29 Sally 7 Floyd Jewell

### EARLY FEBRUARY

02 Marian Johnson  
03 Eva Crandall  
03 Lola Wilson  
04 Barb Fulton  
05 Jackie Carr  
09 Cynthia Siarny  
15 Mona Ellard  
16 Barb Curtis



07 Bev & Dick Trumley  
14 Carole & John Barnett-Stopper  
16 Jo & Dan Vanderstelt  
25 Barb Fulton & Richard Butman

# Heifer International

## GFWC-Charlotte's International Project

At the December Tea, during her announcement concerning the book club, Tea and Tomes, Brynda Filkins mentioned the book that the group had read for the November gathering, Left to Tell: Finding God Amidst the Rwandan Holocaust by Immaculee Ilibagiza. Coincidentally, Brynda had just read an article in a Heifer International publication about Heifer's work in Rwanda and their innovative idea to help promote peace by the gifting of calves back and forth between rivaling factions. Because this action helped to bring a sense of community and sharing to people who had earlier been enemies, the project became known as "Cows for Peace."

When I returned home, I "Googled" (computer term to seek information from a variety of sources) "Cows for Peace" to learn more. One site related the story of a woman in Rwanda whose husband and son were massacred in front of her. She, her daughter, and her parents needed to hide themselves and live in abject poverty with absolutely no hope for a worthwhile future...maybe no future at all. After hearing about, applying for, and receiving a cow from Heifer International, the woman's life changed dramatically. With the proceeds from her cow's prolific milk production, she was ultimately able to provide her family with adequate food and shelter. She ultimately adopted five orphaned children.

It is with **utmost gratitude** to the ladies of GFWC-Charlotte who contributed to this year's international project that I am able to announce that not only did we collect **enough money** to purchase a "**Cow for Peace**," but we are also able to send another family a pig, sheep, or goat, and provide another family with a flock of chicks. **I cannot thank you enough for your generosity!!!**

Lee Falik



## TEA AND TOMES:

Come one, come all to this month's book discussion group! On **January 22**, Tea and Tomes will participate with library groups across Michigan in the Great Michigan Reads Program. The selection of this year's "Michigan" author is Ernest Hemingway and his "**Nick Adams Stories**," which are loosely based on Hemingway's own coming-of-age summers spent in Charlevoix. The book is a series of short stories and can be read as a whole or in parts. Books may be obtained through the library or purchased at Meijer. This meeting will be open to the public as a community service of GFWC-Charlotte. Please join us on Tuesday, January 22, from 1:00-2:30 pm at the Charlotte Community Library. Tea and goodies will be served.



## Kaleidoscope 2008 - A Day for Women



**Kaleidoscope A Day for Women**  
**Friday, April 25, 2008**  
**Kellogg Center**

**Keynote Speaker**  
**CLINTON KELLY**  
**CO-HOST, of TLC's "WHAT NOT TO WEAR"**

**Kick-off Speaker**  
**FLORINE MARK**  
**President & CEO of Weight Watchers**



Just as soon as I have details, I will contact those who have indicated an interest: Leeser, Sparks, Elsesser, Mikesell, Crandall, Maatsch, Donna M. Johnson, Remenak, Retzer, Fast, Franciscotty, Marian Johnson, Lamb, Lehman, Lola Wilson, Gager, Jackson and Biskie. If you would like to be added to the list, please call or email me. 543-3041

[egfoster@cablespeed.com](mailto:egfoster@cablespeed.com) Brochures should be out very soon. I have been notified that registration is January 21<sup>st</sup>. The cost is \$60 for Alumni Members and \$75 for non-members. Checks should be made out to "Linda Foster." For those going away, please contact me before you go to make arrangements with me.

A reminder that this is a day-long program which includes a continental breakfast, kick-off speaker, two seminar sessions, lunch and the key-note speaker. We leave Charlotte about 7:15 a.m. and get back by 3:30 p.m. This sells out immediately!!

**MY Lead** Ambassador for Charlotte High School is Meghan Butler. Thanks to the support of GFWC-Charlotte, Meghan will have the opportunity to attend an all-expense-paid Youth Leadership conference next spring at MSU. MY Lead (Michigan Youth Leadership) is a non-profit organization whose purpose is to develop leadership potential in the youth of Michigan. Approximately 175 students are expected to attend this three-day conference.

# Meadowbrook Hall Holiday Walk Bus Trip



A great time was had by all who attended the Dec. 10th bus trip to Meadowbrook Hall, the former estate of Alfred and Matilda Dodge Wilson. It is the fourth largest historic house museum in the United States.

The day began at 8:30 a.m. when the bus pulled out of Mid Way Best Western in Lansing. The conversations on the bus were in full swing and before we knew it we were pulling into Oakland University, the site of the estate. The bus let us out at the front door of the mansion and we went inside to have a wonderful lunch before the tour, including pecan pie!

The tour of the mansion was informative and fun. The decorations were beautiful and there were Christmas trees (we estimate 30-50) and swags and mantel decorations everywhere. There are 110 rooms in this house, 88,000 square feet of living space, plus the grounds etc. We could imagine ourselves living there with the staff of servants waiting on us for our every need. Reality returned when our tour time was up, and we boarded the bus for the shopping part of the day.

A short trip over to Canterbury Village gave us almost 2 hours of shopping time. There were many shops there and lots to see. Favorites were the Christmas Shop, with many items 50% off, and the Quilt shop. Marlene Darin won the "best shopper" award. She needed the assistance of shopping buddy Sharon Kubica to help her carry her purchases to the bus. Karen Elsesser is going to make her first quilt for her grandson after being inspired at the quilt shop.

It was a relaxing, fun day and we all got to know one another a little bit better. Nothing is better than that. Anyone else have an idea for the next trip? Let us know....we are always ready to "hit the road" to new places!



## BOARD TALK – NOLA BUCK



Welcome to 2008. I hope you had a great holiday with family and friends. To those of you who are ill or have family members who are ill, we wish you health. Honorary member **Peg Michel** passed away in December. Our condolences go out to her family. We will have a remembrance of her at a future meeting. The **Christmas Tea** set the spirit for the Christmas season. The choir was fabulous, as usual. It was great to see past presidents and honorary members in attendance. They have been the backbone of our club in years past. Donna W. Johnson's thoughts and display about GFWC were enlightening. Congratulations are due for **Marilyn Monroe-Hart**, recipient of the GFWC-Charlotte Woman of Achievement Award. Thanks also to Jeannette Sommer for returning the Rudolph hat to its original owner, Marilyn Hart. Thank you to Peace Lutheran Church for graciously allowing us to meet at their church. The Tea committee did a fantastic job, the treats were scrumptious and the room looked so festive. Your response to the collections to the **Heifer Fund and the Arts and Nursing Scholarship** was heart-warming. See the article in this newsletter about the Heifer Fund. A great big **THANK YOU** TO each and every one of you involved in the Christmas Tea.

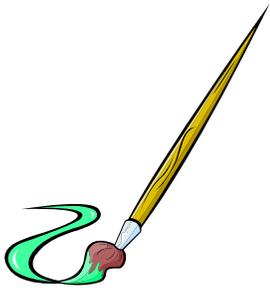
The trip to **Meadowbrook** was great fun. The weather cooperated and we had dry roads. The Meadowbrook Manor was financed with money from the Dodge estate. It was decorated for Christmas and our luncheon was served at the Manor. All wished they could have spent more time touring Meadowbrook. Afterwards the group shopped at Canterbury Mall where they found some very neat items. Thanks to Karen Elsesser for organizing this mini trip.

Thanks also to all who donated to the **SIREN/Eaton Shelter** baskets. We delivered \$500 worth of goods, gifts cards and money. Siren expressed their gratitude for everyone's kindness.

**The February meeting** will be the annual meeting and installation of officers. The nomination committee tells me that we do have a full slate of officers. Mona Ellard has agreed to do the installation ceremony. Be sure to thank her for her graciousness. The meeting is February 1 at the Charlotte Community Library "Spartan Room". It is a brunch meeting with social time beginning at 10 a.m. and Brunch at 10:30. The cost is \$10 which needs to be turned into The Linen Chest or Wildern's by January 26. Here is the program committee's challenge. This meeting is to feature **you**. What are your talents? Is it photography, writing, sewing, cooking, reading or what? Surprise us. Let Lee Falik know what you plan to bring. My focus this year has been you as an individual. I hope you have become more acquainted with each other through involvement in the club.

**Legislation Day** is Wednesday, February 13. The cost is \$30 for registration and lunch. If you plan to attend, bring your payment to the February meeting, as registrations are due by February 5. Transportation can be discussed at that time.

**BY NOW, YOU SHOULD HAVE RECEIVED A COPY OF PROPOSED CHANGES TO THE BY-LAWS. THESE WILL BE VOTED ON AT THE FEBRUARY 1, 2008 MEETING. IF YOU HAVE QUESTIONS OR NEED A COPY, PLEASE CONTACT LINDA FOSTER AT 543-3041 OR [egfoster@cablespeed.com](mailto:egfoster@cablespeed.com)**



– Christine Waugh-Fleischmann is having a show of her paintings at the East Lansing Public Library for the month of January. Pass the word along!

Annual Business Meeting and Installation of Officers  
Friday, February 1, 2008

When Women’s Club was first organized, some of the original “missions” were to give women an opportunity to gather, to become acquainted with one another, and to make connections. Nowadays, we sometimes only see one another on a monthly basis and aren’t aware of each others outside interests.

In response to suggestions presented at the last brainstorming session, the planning committee decided to invite us, the members, to bring to the meeting and to display something of interest to us in the world outside of our meetings. Your selection might be in the area of a hobby or vocation. **There are no rules.**

In order to be prepared and to have enough display space, it would be helpful—but not necessary—to contact me before the meeting. You may call me at: 543-6729 or email me at:  
[mleefalik@hotmail.com](mailto:mleefalik@hotmail.com).

Lee Falik



Clinton, Eaton, Hillsdale, Ingham & Jackson Counties

*Need help or want to help?  
Dial 2-1-1!*

Central Michigan 2-1-1 is a free phone service that provides callers with information about and referrals to human services for every day needs and in times of crisis. 2-1-1 is available 24 hours a day, 7 days a week, 365 days a year. The service is available to residents of Ingham, Eaton and Clinton Counties.

By dialing 2-1-1, callers are connected with a trained information referral specialist who can discuss the caller's needs and give them the information and/or agencies they can contact for assistance. Callers can receive referrals to receive help with:

- Food, shelter, and clothing,
- Substance abuse services,
- Rent and utility assistance,
- Child abuse and neglect
- Tax assistance,
- Personal and household needs,
- Youth programs,
- Counseling,
- Volunteer opportunities and much more.

2-1-1 is brought to the area by the Capital Area United Way and area partners. For more information go to [www.centralmichigan211.org](http://www.centralmichigan211.org)



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