



# GFWC - Charlotte

## CLUB COMMUNICATOR

VOLUME XXIV NUMBER 4

January, 2021



### GFWC-Charlotte December Tea Honoring Past Presidents and New Members

Had to be cancelled due to Covid-19 restrictions.

Did you know that about 20% of our membership is composed of Past Presidents? Here they are:

BAZAIRE BISKIE BUCK COLLES DARTT ELLARD ELSESSER FALIK FOSTER



FULLER MONROE-HART INGLIS JACKSON MAATSCH MONROE PRAY RABEY



REMENAK SOMMER

AND ONE NEW MEMBER IN 2020: LORI KROLL



**THANK YOU FOR YOUR SERVICE!**

Also, thanks to those who served as president, but are no longer members.

**Honorary Membership** bestowed to Connie Bazaire & Ieva Inglis for 50 years of continuous membership in the Club:

Connie

Ieva



President 1991-92  
Outstanding Club Woman 1996-97  
Mrs. Federation 1998-99  
Active in chorus & Mobile Meals



President 1982-83  
Held many state positions

**25-YEAR MEMBERSHIP PIN WILL BE AWARDED THIS YEAR TO:  
CAROLYN MAIER  
AND RECOGNITION TO  
SHIRLEY RANN (NOW AN INACTIVE MEMBER)**

CAROLYN



Choir Director 2007-17



SHIRLEY

President 1997-98  
Club Woman of  
The Year 1998-99  
Mrs. Federation 98-99  
SWD Conservation  
Chair 2000-02

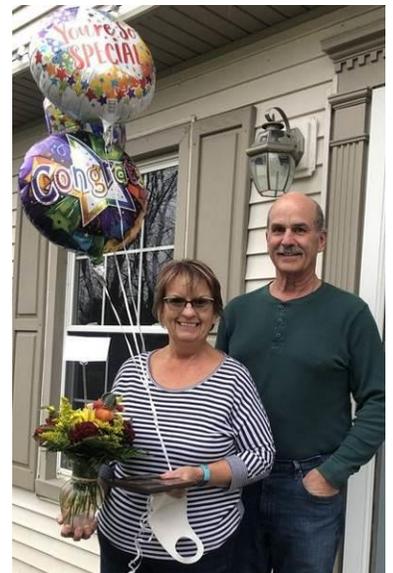
- Cards to Shirley Rann c/o Renae Bartlett, 47404 Pine Crest Dr., Shelby Twp., MI 48317 .Birthday 1/7; active from '95-'14 & (inactive for six years due to health issues) = 25 years.

**LORI KROLL, FLANKED BY SPONSORS PAT CAMPION & BARB VANDERMOLEN AT ORIENTATION MEETING CONDUCTED BY SHERRY MYERS, MEMBERSHIP CHAIR & ASSISTED BY LIINDA FOSTER**



**SHERRY PABST IS CHOSEN AS MS. FEDERATION**

**Sherry was surprised in “publisher house clearing” fashion due to Covid restrictions. An official ceremony will be held at a later date.**





## Lauraine Paladino – died December 28, 2020

Lauraine was a relatively new Club member and the mother of Michelle Taylor.

A complete obituary was sent to all the Club members.

## THE SHOW MUST GO ON. . .SEXTET FROM THE CHOIR FULFILLED PROVIDING MUSIC FOR THE COMMUNITY THIS SEASON.

Because of the Covid virus, the whole choir was not able to meet and practice, so a sextet met regularly at the Pray Funeral Home and provided a taped version of music to share with the Club, Rotary and made available on our website for others in the community to enjoy.



Mary June Garn, pianist; Patty Greene, Director & soprano; Peggy Nichols, soprano; Pat Champion, second soprano; Lori Pray, second soprano; Joan Hasselback, alto; Pam Rinckey, alto

## Merry Christmas from the whole chorus!



Patty Retzer, Patty Greene (Director), Mary June Garn (pianist), Carolyn Maier, Donna Leahy, Peggy Nichols, Mary Heightchew, Julie Dartt, Pat Champion, Marlene Darin, Chris Reist, Jane Karlzan, Cathy Rudnitsky, Pam Rinckey, Lori Pray, Linda Foster, Val Reisen, Judy Whitkopf, Jannette Sommer, Carol Rossio, Joan Hasselback (absent), Sandy Maatsch



## Tea & Tomes via Zoom 11/24/20 – Brynda Filkins our leader



### TEA AND TOMES:

On January 26, our book club members will be discussing *The Alice Network* by Kate Quinn. Two women--a female spy in France and an American socialite--are brought together in a mesmerizing tale of courage and redemption. The book is available in hardcover and audiobook from the Charlotte Community Library. It is also available on the Hoopla app as an ebook or audiobook. This will be a Zoom discussion, beginning at 1:00; a link will be provided by Brynda a day beforehand. If you are not a regular member of Tea and Tomes and would like to join in, please email [brynda@usa.net](mailto:brynda@usa.net) and let her know.



**Sneak Peek** : February 23: *Madam C.J.Walker: entrepreneur and self-made millionaire*. P. Graham. A brief book only available on Hoopla.

**ESO**  
**EPSILON SIGMA OMICRON**  
**Epsilon ten sautou hoden**  
**“Enlighten Your Own Pathway”**



ESO is an honorary educational society open to all GFWC members. The purpose of ESO is to promote a commitment to lifelong learning and self-improvement through reading. It is intended to offer a path to self-enrichment and personal growth for all members, **not just those who participate in a book discussion club**. **What do you have to do?** Fill out a pledge form (download available at [www.gfwc-charlotte.com](http://www.gfwc-charlotte.com)), keep track of books you read for the year, and report that number to Brynda Filkins, [brynda@usa.net](mailto:brynda@usa.net) in December. Call Brynda if you have questions at 541-3698.



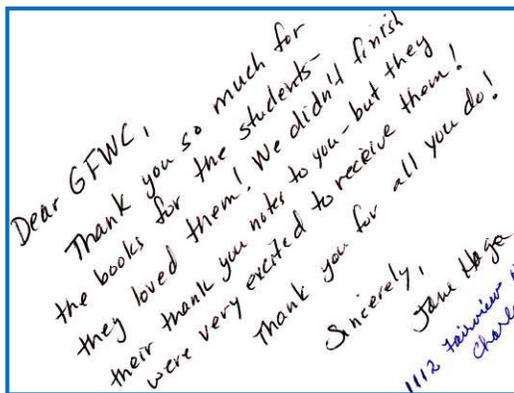
**Lorraine Green, Chair**

[rainraingreen@gmail.com](mailto: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

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## **Christmas Kiddies Wrapping Session cancelled due to virus.**

**Board note: meeting this month is January 20<sup>th</sup> at 9 a.m. – virtually!**

### **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 virtual February meeting to celebrate Valentine's Day and to call attention to the leading cause of death for American women-heart disease.

## **February 5, 2021 GFWC-Charlotte Meeting**

The General Federation of Women's Clubs-Charlotte will hold its monthly meeting on Friday, February 5, 2021 via Zoom. The speaker is Jennifer Trotter, CEO, Guiding Harbor/Girlstown. Join in at 12:30 for some social chat, and the meeting will begin at 1:00 p.m. You will be issued an invitation a couple of days ahead of the meeting. If you have problems connecting on Friday, contact Linda Foster at 517-543-3041.

Facebook humor: What did the bra say to the hat?  
You go on a head. I've gotta give these two a lift!



## Board Talk – Chris Reist



This may seem late, but the greeting is heart felt no matter the time. "Merry Christmas and Happy New Year" to you and yours. What a year "2020" has been. Lock downs, no dining out, (lots of new recipes tried), living rooms becoming classrooms and offices, face time and phone calls to see and talk with family and friends. The list goes on and on. New meanings to old words, social distancing, mandatory face masks, and sanitizing everything, including us. Washing our hands till they look like prunes. I did look up in the dictionary the meaning of "zoom." Zoom means, "moving fast" or zoom in and out with a camera lens. Zoom does not means clicking on a link, with a password and joining a meeting with video and audio to conduct business. And through it all, we have been moving forward one step at a time. Friends and family have been tested for Covid, and we have lost several to this not-yet-understood disease. Many have tested positive but had healed at home. A vaccine is available, but it will be months until we all are given the two doses. And yet this past year we have laughed and cried, seen the beauty of our world, celebrated life, and found new and exciting ways to follow our dreams.

GFWC has redefined our many projects and meeting. Local, district, state, national and international meetings are now all Zoom meetings. Our monthly meeting for February 5 will be on Zoom. Our speaker will be from Guiding Harbor. As will our monthly Board meeting on January 20th. And we move forward from there. Please continue to check your emails as more information will be sent, along with your link to join future meetings and activities.

As I close for now, I thank each of you for all you do for GFWC, our churches, our families, community and yourself. Never forget to take care of yourselves too. You are amazing women.

We are still collecting socks for our district's challenge. Please donate socks of all sizes to a charity of your choice. Just let me know how many, please.

Stay warm, laugh lots, and be safe in all you do. See you in February.

Voting results for the proposed amendment to the Bylaws: 66 "present and voting". 63 "yes"; 3 "no". Amendment was approved.

### Recycling:

I expect many of you continue to collect those metal can tabs, printer ink cartridges, old cell phones and Box Tops for Education. I found out the recycling center in Charlotte also takes the plastic caps on bottles so that is something else we can collect. It may be a while before we can meet in person again and it will be either the April or May meeting before I will be able to attend. So..,if your pile of things is getting bigger than you want, feel free to deliver them yourself. Be sure to let me know how much you contribute so I can include it in our yearly report. Ink cartridges go to the local library, metal can tabs are delivered to the Ronald McDonald House in Lansing, cell phones can be dropped of at Siren, the plastic caps can go to the recycling center, and the Box Tops for Education are turned in by using the app on your phone.

Thanks, Sara Biskie, [slbiskie@sbcglobal.net](mailto:slbiskie@sbcglobal.net)





## \$500 Nursing and \$500 Arts Scholarship Available through GFWC MI

Any student in the community, male or female, young or mature, current student or re-entering student is eligible to apply for a \$500 scholarship to pursue a career either in the field of arts or a nursing degree. These scholarships are provided by the General Federation of Women's Clubs Michigan. These are in addition to the scholarships that GFWC-Charlotte awards to graduating seniors at Charlotte High School. Each year, GFWC-Charlotte donates \$50 to this GFWC Michigan scholarship program. GFWC-Charlotte has been successful in the past in having endorsed several winning applications and would be pleased to again submit qualified local applicants to continue that tradition. If you know someone planning a career in arts or nursing, encourage them to apply.

Applications are available at the Charlotte High School guidance office, Sparrow Eaton Hospital administration office on the second floor, and at the Charlotte Community Library. To fill out an application online, click on this link:

The online applications are in a "fillable" format and will need to be saved to your computer, then printed.

[http://www.gfwc-charlotte.com/Downloads/Arts\\_and\\_Nursing\\_Scholarship\\_Application\\_2018\\_fillable.pdf](http://www.gfwc-charlotte.com/Downloads/Arts_and_Nursing_Scholarship_Application_2018_fillable.pdf)

**Completed applications should be mailed to GFWC-Charlotte; PO Box 464; Charlotte, MI 48813 BY January 15<sup>th</sup>.** The current GFWC-Charlotte president will add her signature to completed applications when they are received, provide a letter of affirmation and forward them to the state chairman by February 1<sup>st</sup>.



**EDUCATION FOUNDATION**



**AVAILABLE**

### Want to learn something new? Pursue a new skill or career goal?

**GFWC MICHIGAN Education Foundation: A Scholarship Program for GFWC Michigan clubwomen.** Each year, our Southwestern District is allotted monies for scholarships. These scholarships are available for active club members of at least one year to pursue the on-going adventure of learning. As continuing education is the key to knowledge, these scholarships can be used for developing or enhancing a career skill; for attending seminars, workshops or conferences; for discovering talents or areas of interest; or for updating academic course work. Application is easily done by email and forms and requirements are available on the Club website, [www.gfwc-charlotte.com](http://www.gfwc-charlotte.com) on the *downloads* tab. There is a helpful Education Foundation Fact Sheet under the *Education Foundation tab* on our homepage. Contact Nancy Gensel, [nc.gensel@gmail.com](mailto:nc.gensel@gmail.com) or 517-980-1202 with questions or for more information.

The purpose of this Foundation is to help GFWC MI club women with continuing education. It does not mean one must be working toward a degree. Our scholarships are meant to support our club members in learning more about what is of interest to them and utilizing this knowledge for the benefit of club and community. The ability to pay is not a consideration. Several of our members have taken advantage of this opportunity in the past.

LINDA FOSTER (543-3041; [ed@fosterdvm.com](mailto:ed@fosterdvm.com)), GFWC MI Education Foundation Scholarship Committee Chair

GFWC – Charlotte  
Women’s Health – **January 2021**

This month’s Women’s Health Theme is **TEAM**

*TEAM* is our THEME for January... a time when the new year *usually* inspires us to create resolutions and ponder the possibilities for projects, travel, gatherings and more. Yet, here we are in January 2021, still in the midst of a pandemic that has revealed just how impactful and enduring it can be. The way out is the way through and even though we can’t get close to one another, we must work together; we must team up to rebuild and recover our families, our neighborhoods, our communities.

Our inspiring woman in health for this month is **Amie Batson**, who serves as Executive Director for WomenLift Health. She spoke recently about how women leaders are having notable success in their response to COVID-19. She said, “... women leaders are showing the world how collaboration, empathy, a focus on evidence, combined with decisiveness are particularly effective right now.”

Ms. Batson earned a BA in economics from the University of Virginia and an MBA from the Yale University School of Management. Ms. Batson’s 30-year career in global health includes positions with the World Health Organization, UNICEF, the World Bank, USAID, and PATH. During her three-year appointment with USAID, Ms. Batson served as the senior deputy assistant administrator leading the agency’s engagement in the President’s Global Health Initiative.

Throughout her career in global health, Ms. Batson has been a leader in innovation and **partnership**. She was one of the original drivers behind the creation of the Global Alliance for Vaccines and immunization. These efforts provided billions of dollars for global health and helped to vaccinate millions of children against polio, pneumonia, measles, and other vaccine-preventable causes of death. They are involved with work on COVID-19 strategies now.

Ms. Batson has been an advocate of seeking innovation from unexpected places. Though it was written in 2017, her article [“How an Argentine Car Mechanic Might Prevent 250,000 Deaths”](#) notes many creative examples of how ideas can lead to health solutions that are sustainable and can save lives, especially in some of our most vulnerable populations.



**December is a time to work together, even if from afar.**

*“Distance is a bad excuse for not having a good relationship with somebody. It's the determination to keep it going or let it fall by the wayside; that's the real reason that the relationships continue.”* – James McAvoy

*“Nothing makes the earth seem so spacious as to have friends at a distance; they make the latitudes and longitudes.”* – Henry David Thoreau

**Women’s health tips for this month:**

- Keep a journal. Write about the things that make you feel connected and part of something bigger than you... even if you are alone for the time being.
- Use technology to safely connect virtually to people. Don’t know how? Learn how.
- Observe and talk with others about important things happening in your community. Who is working to make a difference; how can we help from afar, as communities rebuild?

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

Linda Foster, 316 Beech St., Charlotte, MI 48813; 543-3041;  
[ed@fosterdvm.com](mailto:ed@fosterdvm.com)

# Membership Memos

## Remembrances . . .

Marilyn Monroe Hart – gall bladder surgery

Dyna Lehman – husband, Jerry, died 12-11-20 from Covid. **Dyna says thank you to all the members who sent her cards. They were very much appreciated.**

Amy Krizek – broken arm

Marlene Darin – new grandson, Logan Frederick Darin, born 12/9/20 at 3:tt p.m., 7# 9 oz., 19”,  
parents are Arelys and Keith

Beth Wildern – health issues

Michelle Taylor – death of her mother, Lauraine Paladino, who was also one of our members.

Sylvia Colles – sister extremely ill.

## Birthdays

## Anniversaries

### Late January

20 Amy Slot

26 Cheryl Jackson

30 Barb & John VanderMolen

### Early February

03 Eva Crandall

04 Barbara Fulton

07 Becky Dolman

09 Sue Ainslie

15 Mona Ellard

09 Betty & Jim Crandall

**Note:** Change Fran Rush’s address to: 4864 Arbutus Lane, Beulah, MI 49617 and delete her home phone.

Marianne Struckmeyer has a new address: 1906 W. Kilgore, Kalamazoo, MI 49008.

Linda Foster has dropped her landline. Her old home number is now her cell: 517-543-3041



## Mini Trips

 still on hold.

Trips carpool from Alive – 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!

## Twelve Things to Consider (Humor)

1. The dumbest thing I ever bought was a 2020 planner.
2. I was so bored I called Jake from State Farm just to talk to someone. He asked me what I was wearing.
3. 2019: Stay away from negative people. 2020: Stay away from positive people.
4. The world has turned upside down. Old folks are sneaking out of the house & their kids are yelling at them to stay indoors!
5. This morning I saw a neighbor talking to her dog. It was obvious she thought her dog understood her. I came into my house & told my cat. We laughed a lot.
6. Every few days try your jeans on just to make sure they fit. Pajamas will have you believe all is well in the kingdom.
7. Does anyone know if we can take showers yet or should we just keep washing our hands?
8. This virus has done what no woman has been able to do. Cancel sports, shut down all bars & keep men at home!
9. I never thought the comment, "I wouldn't touch him/her with a 6-foot pole" would become a national policy, but here we are!
10. I need to practice social-distancing from the refrigerator.
11. I hope the weather is good tomorrow for my trip to the Backyard. I'm getting tired of the Living Room.
12. Never in a million years could I have imagined I would go up to a bank teller wearing a mask & ask for money.



**GFWC - CHARLOTTE**  
**P. O. BOX 464**  
**CHARLOTTE, MI 48813**

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