



GFWC – Charlotte

CLUB COMMUNICATOR

VOLUME XII NUMBER 6

March, 2009



Spring was in the air for our March meeting (60 degrees). Take a look at the carved melon



swan sculpture and the lovely centerpieces. The latter done by Lee Falik.

The speaker was Dave Sheedy who brought along his wife, Kathleen. He talked on recycling.



Please be sure to note the name and date of the event when passing on items to the historian to use in our Club's scrapbook.

Remembrances . . .



Jan Harms – abdominal problems
Vivian Flower – knee surgery
Marilyn Monroe Hart – ongoing health problems
Wanda Powell – fell and broke her femur
Shirley Hirt's husband, Al, - colon surgery
Neva Mikesell – radiation and chemo for cancer

Membership Memos: change Lisa Blakeney's work number to: 543-3500

New Members since June 2008

Reminder ...

Please complete and submit your *New Member Follow-up Survey*. You received the survey form during your orientation process (blue sheet in the Orientation Packet). If you need another copy of this form, please contact Membership Chair, Cheryl Jackson, ASAP @ cherjack@hughes.net or (517) 543-8020 and she will get the form to you for completion. **Completed forms are due by April 15th** in order for the membership committee to compile results.

Birthdays

Late March

13 Kim Capps
19 Susie Sevitts
28 Sara Biskie
28 Joan Hasselback
29 Carolyn Maier
31 Ana Basterra-Sundquist
31 Dodie Horvath

Early April

06 Sherry Myers
09 Kathleen Rathbun
11 Joyce Sparks
14 Diane Hudson

Anniversaries

05 Sara & Fred Biskie
14 Sandy & Dan Husted



KALEIDOSCOPE — we have 23 members signed up for this Friday, April 17, 2009 event being held at Kellogg Center on the MSU campus in East Lansing. **We will meet at the Charlotte Country Club at 7:15 a.m. to car pool.** Registration, breakfast and shopping at the Emporium is from 8-9 a.m. (Remember, 10% of the profits go to fighting domestic abuse.) The cost is \$60 for MSU Alumni Members and \$75 for non-members. Elliot Engel is the kick-off speaker, followed by two seminar sessions, lunch, and keynote speaker, Chris Hansen. We will be home by about 3:30 p.m. Questions? Contact Linda Foster, 543-3041 or ed@fosterdvm.com (Those interested in trying for scholarships should go to www.gfwc-charlotte.com and download an application form.)



Tea and Tomes Book Discussion Group

"When things are taking their ordinary course, it is hard to remember what matters. There are so many things you would never think to tell anyone. Oh! I will miss the world!" Set in 1956, the Reverend John Ames, who is dying, begins a letter to his young son--an account of himself and his fore bearers. Written in serenely beautiful prose, *Gilead*, is our book selection for March. *Gilead* was the winner of the Pulitzer Prize for fiction in 2005, and was written by Marilynne Robinson. Please join us as we meet at the Charlotte Community Library on Tuesday, March 24, at 1:00 pm. Stormi Stuler will be bringing her teacups-for-one and refreshments will be provided. New members are always welcome.



SNEAK PEEK: Our selection for April 28 will be, *To Kill A Mockingbird*. Join us!

TIME TO REPORT YOUR ESO READING

If you have already become a member of Epsilon Sigma Omicron, it is time to report your reading lists to Brynda Filkins. She needs 1.) the titles and authors of the books you have read since pledging and 2.) the total number of books finished. Reporting is done only once per year. Certificates are issued according to levels attained and are presented at the GFWC State convention in late April. (You need not attend to receive your certificate.) Certificates are issued after you have read a total of 16, 40, 64, or 100 books since pledging. Even though the **reading records are due immediately**, you can continue reading toward next year's certificate(s).

Please send your information to Brynda via email (brynda@usa.net) or postal mail (1209 S. Sheldon St.). She will keep your records for one year, until the next reporting time--usually in March. Thanks to all the 15 women of our club who are ESO members for their diligent reading through the year!

If you would like to join ESO, you need to download the pledge form and information on www.gfwc-charlotte.com The purpose of Epsilon Sigma Omicron is to promote a commitment to lifelong learning and self-improvement through reading.

Stormi Stuler dressed the part for our last book discussion of *March*. She shared information on all her layers of clothing and items of interest typical of the times during the Civil War.



April meeting time change to 11:30 social and 12 noon lunch.

Day in May – registration form included in this issue.

Operation Smile Dolls – bring back by April 3rd meeting at the latest.

Maizie Kineman has been selected as this year's **MY Lead**

Ambassador for Charlotte High School (CHS). Maizie is the daughter of Steven & Marie Kineman of Charlotte. As the MY Lead Ambassador for CHS, Maizie will have the opportunity to attend an all-expense-paid Youth Leadership Conference next spring at Michigan State University. Maizie will have this opportunity thanks to the support of the **General Federation Women's Club - Charlotte**. In addition, MY Lead has presented this opportunity to an additional sophomore ambassador at each high school again this year. Therefore, **Alana Retzer**, daughter of Gerry & Patty Retzer of Charlotte will also be attending the conference. Congratulations to both of these highly qualified young ladies!

MY Lead (Michigan Youth Leadership) is a non-profit organization whose purpose is to develop leadership potential in the youth of Michigan



Super Saturday From Garden to Plate “Getting Back to Basics Demonstrations”

Come and learn:

- The basics of fresh vegetables production overview
- When to harvest and how to store the produce you grow
- How to make your own jams and jellies
- How to can fresh fruits and vegetables:
 - *Using a hot water bath canner for high acid foods
and
 - *Using a pressure canner for low acid foods
- How to prepare foods for your freezer
- How to dry herbs and other foods for long term storage

[Super Saturday](#)

Date: Saturday, March 21, 2009

Time: 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. (lunch will be from 12 to 1 p.m.)

Location: Public Meeting Room

Eaton County MSU Extension

551 Courthouse Drive

Charlotte, MI 48813

Cost: \$10 per person, scholarships available to 4-H

Michigan youth and registered food leaders.

This is open to the general public

Advance registration only. Please contact the MSU Extension office (517) 543-2310 to reserve a seat. Seating is limited.





Mini Trips Update

Meijer Gardens - Butterflies Are Blooming exhibition

Wednesday, April 15, 2009. We will be carpooling to Grand Rapids for a visit to Meijer Gardens. We will have lunch, see the butterflies and also enjoy a guided tram ride through the sculpture park and have time to explore the gardens. Cost is just \$9 each for admission and tram ride (lunch additional). To reserve your spot **CALL NOW or email Jo Vanderstelt**. We will be carpooling from the Charlotte Library parking lot at 10 am and returning in the late afternoon.

Chicago American Girls Store – SOLD OUT

Detroit – Detroit Art Institute & Pewabic Pottery – SOLD OUT

Michigan Women's Historical Center & Hall of Fame

We have members interested in a trip to this jewel right in our own back yard – Lansing and are looking at planning a Friday trip here in the late spring. Please call or email Jo Vanderstelt if you'd like to come with us.

Future Trips

Please let me know of any future trips you might be interested in.

Jo Vanderstelt, Mini Trips Chairperson
543-3133
jovanderstelt@yahoo.com



CLUB MEMBER IS PUBLISHED!
LAURA NEWLAND has published a children's book entitled, *Nicky Boy, I Love You*. It is based on a true story. She had a book signing at The Linen Chest on March 14th and one coming up March 28th at Evelyn Bay. Contact her for more information. (Stacey Buck was the illustrator – Nola's niece.)





BOARD TALK – MARY REMENAK



Dear Members,

It's that month of the year when my "Irish" rises to the top! I have been reading Irish soda bread recipes and anticipating corned beef and cabbage....

The "Luck of the Irish" has certainly been mine. How fortunate for me, that our members stepped forward in the challenging first months of our club year. A year that has flown by!

April will be our final luncheon meeting of this club year. The program, Peckum: Mainstreaming our Developmentally Disabled Citizens, has been requested for several years. I encourage you to attend.

I want to bring you up to date on changes that have been initiated this year. Following the lead of our State executive officers, your board voted that the elected positions of President, Vice President, Historian, Recording Secretary and Treasurer will serve two-year terms. The board also voted to move our Annual meeting from February to April. We wanted to encourage greater attendance (our "warm weather friends" may be back) and hold our Installation Ceremony closer to the end of our club year. Linda Foster will take these recommendations to the By-Laws committee.

At the March meeting, our membership voted to increase our annual dues by \$5.00. For the past five years our National and State dues have increased at a rate of one dollar per year. This increase will cover the increases we have had to absorb.

In an effort to manage expenditures, our members also voted in favor of another board recommendation. Beginning in the 2009-10 Club year, our yearbooks and newsletters will be sent electronically. Anyone who wants hard copies will be asked to pay \$5.00. We are sensitive to members who may not have internet access. A "Buddy" program will match members who are willing to print copies to members without access. If you need a "Buddy" or want to help a "Buddy," please contact Eva Crandall-543-3077. New members will be given a complete notebook at no extra charge.

Happy Saint Patrick's Day!! May your pot be filled with gold and your life with golden friends.

P.S. We will taste GFWC's new fundraising project, "Grounds for Change" coffee, at our April meeting.

Mary



The By-Laws committee has included notification to the membership of proposed amendments to the By-Laws as recommended by the Board of Directors of GFWC-Charlotte. A vote will be taken at the April General Meeting of the Club. Also, Standing Rules were revised to reflect the changes voted on at the March 6, 2009 General meeting as follows:

P. 1

B. Annual dues shall be **\$40.00** for Active Members and **\$50** for Associate Members beginning in the 2009-10 year. **Additionally, copies of the yearbook information and newsletters will be sent out electronically. Those members who want to have hard copies will pay an additional \$5.00 per year. A buddy system has been established for members who need hard copies printed to be matched with a member willing to print copies for them, which would waive the \$5.00 annual charge.**

D. The Club yearbook shall be **available online** prior to the September meeting of each club year.

PROPOSED GFWC-CHARLOTTE BY-LAWS AMENDMENTS – 3/14/09 (to be voted on 4/3/09)

p. 4 Section 4.2 Terms

A. Officers shall be elected for a term of one year or until a successor shall be elected, except assistant to the treasurer, parliamentarian, and (optional) corresponding secretary, who shall be appointed by the president. The term of office for directors shall be two years, two of whom shall be elected in the even calendar years and one in the odd calendar years. All terms of office shall commence on June 1. Eligibility for members of the Board of Directors: members in good standing with previous club experience.

change to:

A. **The president, vice president, recording secretary, treasurer and historian shall be elected for a term of two years. The assistant to the treasurer, parliamentarian, and (optional) corresponding secretary, shall be appointed by the president annually.** The term of office for directors shall be two years, two of whom shall be elected in the even calendar years and one in the odd calendar years. All terms of office shall commence on June 1. Eligibility for members of the Board of Directors: members in good standing with previous club experience.

p. 7 B. Immediate Past President

1. Serve on the Board as an ex-officio member, without voting privileges, for one year at the completion of her term as president (Optional).

change to:

1. Serve on the Board as an ex-officio member, without voting privileges, for **two years . . .**

p. 8 C. The Vice President shall:

6. OPTIONAL: provide a gift for the president at the end of the Club year (not a Club expense).

change to:

6. OPTIONAL: provide a gift for the president at the end of **her two-year term** (not a Club expense).

p. 12 Section 5.2 Annual Meeting

A. The regular meeting in February shall be known as the annual meeting and shall be for the purpose of electing officers and directors, for presenting reports of officers and committees, and for transacting other business that may arise.

change to:

A. The regular meeting in **April** shall be known as the annual meeting and shall be for the purpose of electing officers and directors, for presenting reports of officers and committees, and for transacting other business that may arise.



STATE CAPITOL "DAY IN MAY"

Tuesday, May 12, 2009

Grand Ledge Immanuel Lutheran Church
517 S. Clinton St., Grand Ledge, MI 48837
Buses to & from Michigan State Capitol

Legislation Day is going to be different in a number of ways this year. In the past we invited legislators to come to us for lunch and more times than not, were disappointed by their response. This year, we are going to them! If a legislator did join us, we were engaged in small talk as we shared lunch. This year we are going to give them three "white papers" on issues important to GFWC and ask them for their support.

Before the "Day in May"

- Participants will be given materials to identify their state representative and senator (if they do not know who they are).
- Participants will write a letter to each local legislator, telling them GFWC is coming to town and asking for a few minutes of time.

On the "Day in May" Tuesday, May 12,

- 9:30 am – Gather for coffee and a briefing session at Immanuel Lutheran Church in Grand Ledge.
- Briefing session about the day, the legislative schedule and the issues in the "white papers."
- Take buses to the Capitol.
- Visit legislators' offices, take Capitol tour, attend committee meetings, observe session from the gallery, have photo taken.
- Noon –Lunch (together, but on your own)
- Visit legislators' offices, take Capitol tour, attend committee meetings, observe session from gallery.
- 2:00 pm – Take buses to Grand Ledge.
- 2:30 pm – Debriefing.
- 3:00 pm – Head for Applebee's to support Girlstown's dining to donate. Get your coupons at convention or on line.

REGISTRATION FORM DAY IN MAY MAY 12, 2009

(Copy this form for multiple registrations)

Name _____

Address _____

Club _____

Telephone _____

E-mail _____

Registration Fee: \$10.00

Make checks payable to GFWC MI
(Registration fee includes bus ride, folder of "white papers", "leave behind" GFWC memento.)

Mail registration and check to:

Billie Holliday
14911 Kings Lane
Ocqueoc, MI 49759
989.734.8064

gholl49759@george.lhi.net

Reservation Deadline: May 1

(The lead time is necessary to contract for the type and number of buses we will need)

Questions: Sherry Wellman (517.626.6582)
sherry.wellman@attglobal.net



Suggested attire for GFWC MI
State Capitol Day in May

From the Internet: **TEN TIPS FOR 2009**

#1: Do not get into trouble.



#2: Aim for greater heights.



#3: Stay focused on your job



4: Exercise to maintain good health.



#5: Practice Team work.



#6: Rely on your trusted partner to watch your back.

#7: Save for rainy days.



#8: Take Time to Rest and Relax.



#9: Always smile when your boss is around.

10: Always Remember That Nothing is Impossible!.



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