



# GFWC – Charlotte

## CLUB COMMUNICATOR

VOLUME XII NUMBER 2

October, 2008



### AN OPEN THANK YOU LETTER TO THE OCT. 3<sup>rd</sup> AFTERNOON TEA COMMITTEE

A special thank you to **Mary Jean Baker, Chris Fleischmann, Alice Hayes, Sandy Maatsch, Cynthia Siarny, Judy Whitkopf, Sara Biskie, Karen Ellessor, Lee Falik, Diane Hudson, Susie Moore, Lori Pray, Sue Pruden, Barb Thiel and Lola Wilson**

for the wonderful job you did making the tea a success! You all are the best ever!



Each of you went beyond what I asked and jumped in where ever you were needed to get the job done. Sandy Maatsch and Diane Hudson joined me in preparing food in advance. Many of the servers, Mary Jean, Chris, Lee, Lori, Sara, Sue, and Barb, came to my home early the morning before the tea, loaded the many boxes of china, silver and linens and took them to the church and set the tables. Lee Falik mastered the making of the perfect tea in spite of the many obstacles. Judy, Cynthia, Lola and Sandy handled the kitchen like the pros they are. The servers looked fabulous dressed in black and did a great job serving each course.

Special thanks to Donna W. Johnson who let us use the Johnson family's lovely Limoge china, silver and linens. A special thanks to Judy Whitkopf who shared two sets of her beautiful china and special thanks to Barb Thiel who let us use her two wonderful sets of silver. Another special thanks to Sandy Maatsch who created the outstanding centerpieces for each table.

After the tea, those committee members who could stayed on to help clean-up. I can't begin to tell you how much it meant to me! You even packed my car and what wouldn't fit in my car, Judy Whitkopf put in her car, followed me home and carried it into the house for me.



My heartfelt thanks to each and every one of you who served on the committee! I can't even begin to express how much I appreciate all that you did. Blessings to each of you!

With sincere appreciation, Shirley Rann, Committee Chair

**DUES ARE DUE NOW. ACTIVE \$35, ASSOCIATE \$45. MAKE CHECKS PAYABLE TO:  
 GFWC – CHARLOTTE, MAIL TO P. O. BOX 464, CHARLOTTE, MI 48813**

**Girls Just Want to Have Fun**

November 1<sup>st</sup>, 2008.

7:00-11:00 or Beyond!!

Holiday Inn Express, Meijer Drive

**Schedule of Events**

- 7:00pm Arrival and Registration
- 7:30pm Bay Cliff Health Camp Presentation with Sara Buccilli
- 8:00pm-10:00pm Fun Evening Activities
  - Crafts** – Make & Take – Learn to make Holiday Bows from a professional!  
 Bring 3 yards of ribbon or purchase ribbon that night for \$3.00.
  - Games & Cards** – Apples to Apples, Bridge, Gin and any favorites of yours!
  - Hairstyling Tips** – Learn how the professionals do it!
  - Mary Kay Makeovers** – % of Mary Kay sales will benefit Bay Cliff Health Camp.
  - Manicures** – Bring your favorite hand pampering lotions, finger nail polishes, and other great hand goodies.
  - Operation Smile Dolls** – Bring your own paper and fabric scissors.
  - Paraffin dips** – Before your manicure, come soften your hands!
  - Time in the Pool** – Bring your bathing suit, towel and courage!
  - Yoga** – Bring a yoga mat or blanket, *don't eat past 7pm*, and prepare to chill.
- 10:00pm Cottage Inn Pizza and Sundae Bar (pop machine available-\$1.00) you may bring your own non-alcoholic beverages and snacks.
- 10:30pm Movies, Games and Cards continue. Popcorn provided  
 Bring your favorite DVDs, "Fried Green Tomatoes" Now playing!!
- 11:00..... FUN, FUN, FUN!!!!

**cost**

It is our hope that many of you will join us for an overnight stay. Share a room with your girlfriend or girlfriends! Join us in the morning for a hot breakfast (it's included) and a great start to your weekend!!

Cost-\$10.00 plus a donation for Bay Cliff. You can find the "Want List" on our website [www.gfwc-charlotte.com](http://www.gfwc-charlotte.com). Monetary donations are also accepted. Current requests include: underwear-all sizes, boys & girls (ages 3-17). Dressy clothes-all sizes, boys and girls (dresses for girls and dress shirts for boys) & Arts and Crafts materials.

Overnight accommodations: If we have 1-5 rooms, \$90.00ea/room plus tax, 5-10 rooms, \$87.00ea plus tax, 10 or more rooms, \$80.00ea. Holiday Inn-Phone # 517-521-5000. Please reserve your own room under GFWC.

CVT.....CVT.....CVT.....CVT.....CVT.....CVT.....

YES! I JUST WANT TO HAVE FUN!!

NAME \_\_\_\_\_

I am interested in  Craft  Makeover  Yoga (1 hour)

Reservation deadline-November 1, 2008. Nola Buck will receive your form and money at the Ski Loft (513-1754)

EARS person from our Club, Margie Carter, passes this on from GFWC:

# Ten Commandments for Volunteers

August 1, 2008

1. **Be purposeful.** Know what skills you have to contribute before you arrive on the scene.
2. **Be flexible.** This includes being prepared to do administrative grunt work. (Sorry, not all aid work involves washing babies and hugging orphaned children.)
3. **Be reflective.** Constantly question your motives. Ask yourself why you are helping, think of your motivation, and keep that at the forefront of your mind.
4. **Be receptive.** Learn as much as you can. That said, be wary of engaging for too long with NGO veterans who have become hardened and cynical from their work. Instead, find long-termers with hope still gleaming in their eyes. Then, latch on with open ears.
5. **Be positive.** Take pride in your idealism—it's the only thing that can ward off the inevitability of cynicism's approach in your difficult environment.
6. **Be realistic.** Your idealism can be balanced only by the knowledge that you are not here to save the world, but to play one specific role and that you may never witness the effects of your efforts.
7. **Be independent.** Much of your work will depend on your personal initiative. Be a team player, but do not rely on others to guide you every step of the way.
8. **Be empathetic.** Your ability to succeed will depend entirely on your connection to and understanding of the people you work with.
9. **Be humble.** Don't speak much. Listen. Avoid grandiose conclusions about a problem, community, or philosophy that you were recently introduced to. Act. Think. Feel. But don't come to too many conclusions—they will only halt your experiential learning process.
10. **Have a ball.** Just be sure you've earned it.

Article by Adam Finck, a true humanitarian, who dedicates his life to the fight against violence, poverty, and injustice—he recently returned from two years in Africa, where he worked with the organization [Invisible Children](#). Reprinted from: *divine caroline*

SAVE YOUR YOPLAIT YOGURT LABELS THROUGH DECEMBER  
AND TURN THEM IN AT CLUB MEETINGS TO SUPPORT THE  
FIGHT AGAINST CANCER.



GFWC-Charlotte manned a rest stop for the Charlotte CROP Walk. Pictured are: Nola Buck, Carole Franciscotty, Nancy Holtz, Toni Small, Brynda Filkins and Neva Mikesell.

**Woman of Achievement Award nominations due Oct. 17. Contact  
Lola Wilson. Winner announced at the December meeting.**



## BOARD TALK – MARY REMENAK



Dear Members,

October means sweater days, pumpkins and mums, Breast Cancer Awareness and Halloween (my anniversary!)

“Tea Time with Shirley” was, as the English would say, “Simply divine!” Shirley Rann shared “tea facts” and, with her Committee, served a lovely and delicious High Tea. Thank you, Ladies.

Information update:

- \*Vice President position-Margie Carter and Eva Crandall will fill the position for 2008-09.
- \*Home Tour-Jackie Carr returns as the Co-Chair with Karen Elsesser, assisted by Nancy Holtz.
- \*Photography Interested Group and Prescription Drug Abuse Prevention Awareness held organizational meetings. More information will follow.
- \*SIREN Holiday Tea-If you are interested in participating, please contact me at 541-0382 ASAP.
- \*“Girls Just Want to Have Fun”-Look for the invitation in this newsletter.
- \*Woman of Achievement Award-Nominations due October 17, 2008. Send to Lola Wilson.
- \*New Member Orientation-November 20, 2008

In 1949, GFWC formally recognized National Author’s Day which had been established in 1929. We will observe this significant occasion at our November General Meeting. Author, Carol McCloud will pose the question, “Have You Filled a Bucket Today?” See you there!

Congratulations Laurel Pray for 50 years of membership! We were honored by your presence.



NOVEMBER 7, 2008

### **BUCKET FILLING: A GUIDE TO DAILY HAPPINESS**

Speaker: Carol McCloud,  
author and educator

The Spartan Room, 11:30 Social Hour  
12:00 Luncheon and Meeting  
Cost: \$10



## Bucket Fillers

Please join us in November to hear author, educator, and early-childhood specialist, Carol McCloud, speak about living life to its fullest as a “Bucket Filler.” Bucket Fillers are people who express kindness and love on a daily basis and make the world a better place. Based in Brighton, MI, Mrs. McCloud and her team have given over 600 presentations to schools around the United States and she has spoken to Charlotte area elementary students. Carol’s book, *Have You Filled a Bucket Today?*, a best-selling, award-winning children’s book, will be available for purchase. Reservations are due by Saturday, November 1 at The Linen Chest or at Wildern’s Drug Store.

# REMEMBRANCES

## Happy Birthday

### Birthdays

### Late October

### Anniversaries

19 Laurel Pray  
20 Donna W. Johnson  
22 Connie Fast  
23 Diane Joppie  
28 Shirley Hirt

29 Elizabeth & Steve Siler  
31 Mary & Richard Remenak

### Early November

01 Mary Taylor  
19 Nathalie Weseman

01 Jan & Kris Kelley  
09 "Mike" & Frank Pawli  
09 Pam & Larry Ingalls  
15 Carolyn & Jeff Maier  
28 Jo & Ray Gager

## 2008 Innisbrook Fundraiser:

Second orders delivered to those who purchase items: November 7, 2008

**Uncle Al's Pecans** – last order due Nov. 7 with delivery in December.



**TEA AND TOMES** - Travel with us to 19th century China, when wives and daughters were foot-bound and lived in almost total seclusion, as we discuss these themes (and more) from the book, *Snow Flower and the Secret Fan*, by Lisa See. Within the book is the story of two women--bound in a life-long relationship--whose lives unfold in the messages in a secret writing known only to women. Our book discussion group meets in the Spartan Room of the Charlotte Community Library, Tuesday, **October 28**, at 1:00. Chinese green tea and refreshments will be served. Please join us.



**EPSILON SIGMA OMICRON:** If you enjoy reading, you may wish to consider pledging to ESO, the honorary educational society of GFWC. It is open to all members who commit to lifelong learning and self-improvement through reading. A national reading list is available at [www.GFWC.org/ESO](http://www.GFWC.org/ESO) or any books which interest the member may be counted. Books read to children, at home or through school-reading programs, may also be counted. You simply read and keep a log of the books you've read. Data is collected once a year. Please read the following pages which outline the ESO program and return the appropriate pledge application form, as directed. Twelve women from Charlotte have already pledged. Would you like to join us? Questions? Call Brynda Filkins at 541-3698.

**ESO**  
**EPSILON SIGMA OMICRON**  
**Epsilon ten sautou hoden**  
**“Englighten your own pathway”**

ESO is an honorary educational society open to all per capita paying GFWC members. ESO is a permanent part of the GFWC Education Department. 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 members.

**GOALS:**

- To encourage clubwomen’s pursuit of higher education
- To create an additional means to unite women in volunteerism
- To develop a support network for women returning to school
- To improve current and develop new study skills
- To stimulate systematic home reading and study with minimum supervision
- To encourage the establishment of home libraries and greater use of public libraries
- To encourage the formation of reading/study/discussion groups

**RESPONSIBILITIES:**

ESO members are encouraged to participate in club programs such as

- Reading
- Participating in reading/study/discussion groups
- Working to achieve higher ESO levels
- Continuing to pursue self-improvement through personal study

Reading is, of course, the main responsibility of an ESO member. Members may read from an ESO published reading list (available at [www.GFWC.org/ESO](http://www.GFWC.org/ESO)) or they may choose alternate titles. A report form must be maintained by each member and forwarded to the local chairperson, who, in turn, will forward report totals to the state ESO chairperson. Reporting is usually done once per year. State ESO chairs will issue certificates and awards based on report forms received.

<b>Please complete and retain this document for your records</b>
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**ESO PLEDGE APPLICATION**

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

Phone number: (        ) \_\_\_\_\_

I hereby agree to pursue the goals of ESO and to participate in ESO programs.

Signature \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

**ESO**  
**EPSILON SIGMA OMICRON**  
**Epsilon ten sautou hoden**  
**"Enlighten your own pathway"**

Please complete and return to the person listed at the bottom of the page

**ESO PLEDGE APPLICATION**

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

Phone number: (     ) \_\_\_\_\_

E-mail address: \_\_\_\_\_

I hereby agree to pursue the goals of ESO and to participate in ESO programs.

Date \_\_\_\_\_

Signature \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_ I wish to receive and send my reading record by e-mail. (I prefer to record the titles and authors on my computer.)

\_\_\_\_\_ I wish to receive and send my reading record by postal mail. (I prefer to record the titles and authors on paper.)

Please return to Brynda Filkins • 1209 S Sheldon St • Charlotte, MI • 48813

# RIF (Reading is Fundamental) REVIEW

It is that time of year to roll out RIF. I was reflecting back in time and thought the new members would be interested in some RIF history. When RIF began, we formed a small group or committee which met once a month. The Chair was Terry Sayre and she was very dedicated to the book distributions. Terry was an avid reader herself so this began her legacy with GFWC-Charlotte. She made each book distribution special. We had guest readers from the community, such as the police chief and fire captain; there were parties for the children at Easter time. Once she had the Olivet College theater group present a play to the children at Head Start. She entered the children at Galewood into the National Poster Contest. Terry was a very special person. When Terry passed away several years ago, her family designated RIF as a memorial in her name. People donated money, which the program has been using to purchase books in the last few years.

I have been fortunate to have two very extraordinary women help me with RIF. I would like to recognize them because they are so dedicated to literacy and they are close friends to me:

**JOYCE SPARKS** who has coordinated the Read Me A Story program since it was a project nationally 12 years ago. In the beginning, we had three different sites. In fact, one year some of our husbands read to the children. Currently, the only school involved is St. Mary's. Joyce always has readers signed up and it remains very popular with the school children.

**LEE FALIK** has been helping me with book distributions, stamping books and ordering for the past 10 years. Lee follows Mrs. Noveski, the elementary teacher at Washington Elementary. She first taught kindergarten, then moved on to first grade and currently is teaching second grade. Although we have three book distributions a year, Lee reads to the children once a month she always has a theme for her story time, always a treat and sometimes a costume for a cultural lesson.. Lee definitely shares her artist talents with the class.

Just last year, I have met some new members who have shown interest to keep RIF alive, We welcome them, Jan Kelly, Darlene Freeman and Sylvia Colles. I also invite anyone else who would like to pursue this program.

Any questions please call  
Jenny Lamb, Chair (543-7038)

## REMINDER

Any member that has brought/claimed a potential new member, please confirm with her that she has submitted ALL Membership Application Form items:

\$40 fees | Completed Application | Brief bio

**Due ASAP...**

Additional questions, please contact: Cheryl Jackson  
(517) 543-8020 OR [cherjack@hughes.net](mailto:cherjack@hughes.net)  
543-8020 or @ [cherjack@hughes.net](mailto:cherjack@hughes.net)

# Membership Memos...

Sandy Maatsch new email: [see01@earthlink.net](mailto:see01@earthlink.net)

Last year's directories change Jo Vanderstelt's phone # to 543-3133 & change address to 225 Van Lieu in both last year's and this year's books.

Neva Mikesell new email: [neva.mikesell@wildblue.net](mailto:neva.mikesell@wildblue.net)

Reinstate Jackie Carr and add these new members:



**275 Legacy Park, Apt. #1    517-541-1520    9/2008**  
**Charlotte, MI 48813    [dodiehorvath@yahoo.com](mailto:dodiehorvath@yahoo.com)**  
**B. D. 3/31    A.D. 8/23**  
**Jennifer, Melissa, Amy (adults)**

## **DODIE HORVATH (RON)**

Dodie recently moved to Charlotte from Springfield, OH, where she had lived all of her life. She has three grown daughters and four grandchildren who all live in Columbus, OH. Dodie worked at Speedway SuperAmerica corporate office and through her job met her husband ,Ron, who works for the State of Michigan. She and Ron were married in August, 2008 at St. Mary's Church. Dodie shares, " The most important part of my life is my faith in God. I enjoy daily Mass, bible study, travel, cooking, home, reading, family and friends. I'm interested in joining GFWC-Charlotte in order to learn about my new home town, make friends and to reach out to those around me."



**2576 HARTEL    517-645-7630    9/2008**  
**CHARLOTTE MI 48813    [caidalski@hotmail.com](mailto:caidalski@hotmail.com)**  
**B. D. 2/5    A. D. 9/14**  
**Michelle, Lori, Amy, Jason (adults)**

## **CAROL IDALSKI (RAYMOND)**

Carol has been married to her husband Ray for forty years and has four children, all who are married. Carol and Ray have six grandchildren and one more on the way in March, 2009. She retired as a secretary from the Charlotte Public Schools. Her hobbies and interests include spending time with her family and friends, reading, flower gardening, traveling, crafts, genealogy sewing, photography and scrapbooking. Carol has been a member of St Mary's Catholic Church since 1972. Carol shares, "I would like to join the General Federation Of Women's Club-Charlotte to help in the community, meet new people and help where I am able."



1022 Northway Dr.  
Charlotte, MI 48813  
Joseph (Joe) '07

517-541-3499

[esiler@gmail.com](mailto:esiler@gmail.com)

9/2008

### **ELIZABETH SILER (STEVE)**

Elizabeth was born and raised in Defiance, Ohio a small town in Northwest Ohio an hour south of Toledo, Ohio and an hour west of Ft. Wayne, Indiana. After high school she graduated from The Defiance College with a degree in Elementary Education and moved to Houston, TX . During her time in Houston, she received her Masters of Education degree in Administration from Sam Houston State University. She worked as a teacher and an assistant principal for the Aldine Independent School District . After nine years in Houston, she moved back to Northwest Ohio and was named the principal of Stryker Elementary School in Stryker, Ohio.

After her move, Elizabeth met and married her husband, Steve Siler. They will be married three years this October. Their son, Joseph, was born as they were in the process of moving to Charlotte, in July of 2007. Due to their move and the birth of their son, Elizabeth has been afforded the luxury of becoming a stay-at-home mother over the past year. Elizabeth shares, "This has been the greatest challenge and blessing of my life."

Since coming to Charlotte, she has been seeking ways in which she could become part of the community. Reading about GFWC-Charlotte in local publications, Elizabeth shares, " I believe that I have found and outlet for my creativity, leadership, and public service skills. It would be wonderful to join a group that helps the community and allows women to hone their abilities."

## **SWD CONVENTION**

**NOLA BUCK, MARILYN MONROE HART,  
LINDA FOSTER, MARY REMENAK**



**GFWC MI 2<sup>ND</sup> VP  
MARTY GROLEAU  
SWD MEMBERSHIP CHAIR  
(CHEERLEADER)**



**GFWC MI BOARD MEMBERS  
MARILYN HART, MARTY GROLEAU, CHRIS BURNS,  
SHERRY WELLMAN, FRAN LEONARD**



**Held at the Carnegie Arts Center in Three Rivers, MI 10-2-08**

**YOU are Invited...**



**Thursday, November 20, 2008  
12:30 - 1:30 pm**

at the  
Charlotte Community Library  
Spartan Room

## ***New Member Orientation Meeting***

(Did you know that "we were born" in 1887?)

### ***Let's Celebrate***

Hosted by: 2008-2009 Membership Committee  
~ Light refreshments to be served ~

**RSVP by Friday, November 14**  
to Cheryl Jackson @ (517)-543-8020 or e-mail  
**cherjack@hughes.net**

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You may be asking yourself, "Why should I attend this New Member Orientation Meeting? I've been around here awhile!" We believe the following are some good reasons:

- 1.) maybe you didn't have an orientation, OR
- 2.) maybe you missed yours, OR
- 3.) maybe yours was a *long* time ago, OR
- 4.) **maybe you want to get to know and support our newest members who have joined AND renew your commitment to our club!**

*Whatever your reason(s), WE WANT YOU!*

**Your 2008-2009 Membership Committee,  
Lisa Blakeney, Karen Elsesser, Connie Fast, Cheryl Jackson, Sherry Myers and Susie Moore**



## Mini-Trips Update

**Chicago Holiday Shopping Day** Whether it's window shopping or the real deal mark your calendars for Friday, December 12. This bus trip will be leaving at 8 am for the Michigan Mile and returning at 9:30 pm. The bus will have space for our finds of the day; lunch will be on your own. Cost is \$55 per person. This trip is being sponsored in conjunction with Charlotte Community Education department - 541-5740.

**Detroit – Detroit Art Institute & Pewabic Pottery** This day of art will start with a visit to the DIA for the Art of Norman Rockwell exhibit, lunch, and a trip to Pewabic Pottery. This bus trip is on Saturday, March 28 and costs \$62 which includes a \$10 lunch voucher and is being offered by Nancy Conn at The Hen House, 543-6454. The bus will leave the Hen House at 8 am and return at 5 pm.

**Chicago American Girls Store** Save the date – March 20, 2009. This will be a bus day trip to Chicago complete with our own private tea party. Maybe you have a granddaughter or niece who would enjoy this opportunity. This is scheduled for a non school day. More details to come....

Thanks to Laurie Newland & Kim Byrens for being part of this year's Mini Trips committee. We are all new at this and would appreciate any suggestions from members about trips that you are interested in. We have received a few ideas that are currently being researched. Watch your GFWC newsletter for updates.

Jo Vanderstelt, Mini-Trips Chairperson



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**REMEMBER TO VOTE!**