

GFWC WISCONSIN DELGATES



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Delegates who attend the 2023 International Convention in Louisville, KY.
 (Back row L to R) Mary Meek, Terri Hudziak, Heather Sturtevant, Michelle Munoz, Kim Bruns, Mary Kaye Ernest, Alexandra Lerch-Gaggl, Deb Strecker, Nancy Niedziela, Sue Schwarten, Sue Sands, Marianne Potter, Sue Bessert.
 (Front L to R) Deb Brossard, Linda Brown, Nancy Dickman, International President Deb Strahanoski, International Director of Junior Clubs Katie Moydell, Suz Hooser, Missy Kimball, Paula Schlice

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MESSAGE FROM OUR GFWC-WI STATE PRESIDENT, NANCY DICKMAN



WELCOME to the 2023-2024 club year! I am excited to launch the second year of this administration. I find when the club year changes, I naturally reflect a bit on the past year as well as build energy for the upcoming year.

The officers and chairpersons have much to be proud of when they consider the learning environment, personal development, and member experiences they infused into GFWC-WI for the first year of the administration. Many of our board members either served on the GFWC-WI board for the first time or are serving in new roles. What better way to encourage personal and club member development than trying something new? Both Workshops focused on personal skill building and the convention speakers exposed us to terrific information that we could apply personally and as club members.

And now – we are headlong into planning an exciting second year.

With each district and club visit I encourage members to say ‘yes’ to an assignment that will encourage learning something new, or teaching someone a task that has become too familiar. I would like to encourage all our members to attend a district, state,

region, or international meeting. GFWC is marvelously complex. There is almost a guarantee to find a program, project, affiliate, emphasis, or new club sister friend that will fuel your volunteerism soul.

I hope you do consider attending those “other” meetings. To entice you, we have TWO Calls to fall meetings in the WI Clubwoman. Perhaps we will see each other in Noblesville, IN for the Great Lakes Region Conference or in Kenosha for the biennial GFWC-WI Fall Junior Conference.

I am thrilled that districts and clubs have started to send Officer Visit Requests. It is truly an honor to come to your meetings and to become better acquainted with you.

Thank you for your dedication to GFWC-WI. We do amazing things for our communities. You already follow my slogan, “Be the Light!” You are brilliant.



MESSAGE FROM GFWC - WI DIRECTOR OF JUNIOR CLUBS, SUZANNE HOOSER

I hope everyone is having a fabulous summer, enjoying family picnics and exploring new places! Most clubs take a break in the summer months, but I am sure you are always turning stones for GFWC.

Junior Fall Conference is just around the corner, and we will be electing the officers for the 2024-2026 Junior Board. If you know of a Junior club member who would love to have a leadership role please reach out to me or Missy Kimball. Director-elect of Junior Clubs is a great leadership role, you would work closely with the Director of Junior Clubs and have many mentors to guide you every step of the way. If



you prefer to lead as a chairperson, there are opportunities for that also. We would love to see new faces that can bring new ideas and vision leading us into new directions. Please consider stepping up and being involved at the GFWC-WI level.

If you just want to get your feet wet by attending a state conference, this is your perfect opportunity. Junior Fall Conference is a one day event and the cost is kept low. We will be exploring issues with Domestic Abuse, how to take lead of your meeting, introduction of the Theodora Youmans recipient, speaker on youth empowerment, completing a service project of making therapeutic items for dementia patients and more. You will also have the opportunity to explore the Civil War Museum with a complimentary ticket.



I look forward to seeing you October 21st and again please consider getting involved at your state level either on the Junior Board or just attending a state meeting.

Advocates for Children’s week is October 22nd through the 28th .

GFWC-WI PRESIDENT'S REPORT TO THE BOARD

This president approached this report to you from the major facets of the role. It is the president's job to understand the roles and tasks of all the committees. From the outset, this administration was dedicated to activities that advanced the Strategic Plan, purposefully appointing NEW board members to encourage leadership development, supporting the districts and clubs in any way these autonomous groups needed or wanted, and committing the time needed to ensure club presidents and members had the access that would help them become comfortable enough to ask for help, or favors, or to simply run ideas in their myriad ways to enhance their clubs.

Rather than a chronology, this report is by area in the hopes it conveys the optimistic commitment and excitement expressed at the installation speech.

Our great state has been represented at these amazing events:

- GFWC International Convention for a week in New Orleans
- The August 2022 multi-day GFWC board meeting in Washington, D.C.
- Hosted a 5-day Great Lakes Region Conference

Planned and conducted the following governance sessions:

- Executive Committee meetings in July 2022, September 2022, November 2022, February 2023, April 2023, and May 2023
- Board meetings in September 2022 in the Northwoods District, February 2023 in the Rivers and Lakes District and May 2023 in the Northern Lights District
- And now, this marvelous annual state convention in May 2023 in the Northern Lights District

In addition, the following workshops were planned and held:

- September 2022 in Stevens Point using a breakout seminar session format and with multiple speakers
- February 2023 in Green Bay that included a remarkable 3-hour Emotional Intelligence session conducted by Missy Kimball and the Leadership Committee, that included several planning sessions, a speaker and a service project, and a delightful surprise visit by GFWC International President Deb Strahanoski (all wonderfully and secretly planned by our State Treasurer)

Since May 15, 2022, it has been a privilege to visit these clubs:

- GFWC Brillion Woman's Club (Rivers and Lakes District)
- GFWC Shorewood Woman's Club (Lakeshore District)
- GFWC Amherst Junction Woman's Club member event (Northwoods District)
- GFWC Kenosha Junior Woman's Club (Southern Prairies District)
- GFWC Edgerton Federated Woman's Club member event (Southern Prairies District)
- GFWC Women's Club of Princeton (Rivers and Lakes)
- GFWC Muskego Woman's Club anniversary banquet (Rolling Hills District)
- GFWC Pleasant Prairie Woman's Club (Southern Prairies District)
- GFWC Blanchardville Woman's Club (Southern Prairies District)

District speaking engagements included:

- 4 district meetings in October Lakeshore (Wauwatosa), RHD (Oconomowoc), Northern Lights (Colfax), Northwoods (Amherst Junction)
- 4 in April RHD (Delafield), Rivers and Lakes (Green Lake), SPD (Monroe), Northwoods (Antigo)

Committee meetings and support of our board leaders is critical. This resulted in participating in:

- A 2-night Mini LEADS held on Zoom
- An open house day at Wisconsin's Own Library at Ripon College and 6 committee Zoom meetings
- 3 Investment Committee sessions to review the status of the investments and to recraft the guidance document
- Multiple Zoom meetings related to the Website redesign
- Design discussions and proofreading the 2 editions of the WI Clubwoman
- Zoom session and emails with the Amendments & Policies committee to prepare for the Winter Workshop committee meeting
- Re-establishing an Ad Hoc Technology Committee and participating in setting work targets
- Attended the GFWC six-session PowerUp Webinars for Legislation and Public Policy and incorporated parts of the information in district speaking engagements

GFWC-WI PRESIDENT'S REPORT TO THE BOARD

A source of pride for this administration is working toward the Strategic Plan. At the start of the fiscal year, an all-member survey was distributed. More than 200 members responded, which is a tremendous response rate for a membership of fewer than 1500!

The results of the survey instantly affected the material presented at the workshops, recast the perspective on how to plan meetings and provided an overview of the changes in member opinions since the last survey in 2014.

Members were VERY clear. The top three reasons to attend a convention were, in order – learning something new, speakers, meeting other club women. The traditional items of Vendors, Fundraising and Awards did not even make the top 10! You'll see some subtle changes in this convention in a direct response to WHAT MEMBERS WANTED.

The top two concerns are meeting cost and location. This administration is focused on making certain meetings are held throughout the state AND every effort is made to have average daily cost below \$80 based on average attendance levels from the last 5 years.

All these touch points, NOT including about 15 trips for site visits in 5 of the districts to firm up meeting venues, several phone calls each day, the 100's and 100's of hours dealing with email, or attendance at regular club meetings, resulted in an impressive 22 in-state visits in 50 weeks.

- Lakeshore – 2 visits
- Northern Lights – 2 visits
- Northwoods – 5 visits
- Rivers and Lakes – 6 visits
- Rolling Hills – 4 visits
- Southern Prairies – 5 visits

There were crushing disappointments in receiving notices from Edgerton and Amherst Junction with plans to disband despite last minute efforts for member drives, and no longer seeing some wonderful friends at meetings as their health fails.

There were amazing successes that include forming a beautiful new Juniette club in Kenosha, seeing district meeting attendance range from 25-57 women, and bringing new talent onto the GFWC-WI board. Membership had a net increase of nearly 100 members with last fall's dues. New presidents are

stepping forward in several clubs. And we hear from schools this next generation is incredibly service oriented – it is up to us to have the programs and projects and a way for them to volunteer that make sense to THEM.

The annual report to GFWC Headquarters rolled our reported volunteer hours for 2022 at nearly 96,000! Congratulations to all the amazing women pouring themselves into their community efforts.

The organization's finances are healthy, thanks to the relentless dedication and work of the women before us. This Executive Committee has a strong fiduciary sense to preserve the health of the organization. Thank you for your attention. Rest assured, this president and this administration are committed to the impressive complexity and continued health of GFWC-WI.



Together
We Make The
Difference!

OFFICERS REPORTS:

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GFWC - WI PRESIDENT-ELECT, LINDA BROWN

**Was That a Surprise!**

This officer attended the GFWC-International convention in Louisville, KY. Tours, Workshops, Meals, Awards, there was so much happening. The biggest surprise came when GFWC-Wisconsin was acknowl-

edged as a **State Federation with a Membership Increase**. I can't tell you how proud I was to hear this. All your hard work paid off and A Job Well Done. A Ribbon was given to each of us attending and we all wore it proudly.

It's time again to start thinking about your membership events for late summer and fall.

Need Help? I am only a text-email-phone call away. Your \$35.00 grant is still available and hope that this will help you have a successful event. Look forward to seeing you all at The Junior Fall Conference, **Saturday October 21st**. I hear that we will have a great day of ideas, food and fellowship, please attend.

Remember:

Every Day is a membership day and one new person at a time is a success!

BIG membership numbers will be a reality in Wisconsin.

Let us make it happen Again!

GFWC - WI SECOND VICE PRESIDENT, ERIN EPPING

I hope you are enjoying your summer! Despite the haziness caused by Canadian wildfires, the weather has been great in my part of the state. But we do need some rain. Keep the farmers in your thoughts so that they may have a bountiful harvest.

Since the last Clubwoman, I have been busy with several activities leading up to our May State Convention and after the convention. I have attended committee meetings including Wisconsin's Own Library, State Budget and Strategic Planning for the 2024-2026 administration. For the committees, I have typically taken the notes for the groups up until recently. I ended up with a fracture in my left hand in June which made typing difficult at first. I'm three weeks into the healing process as I type this, and my hand is working pretty good on the keyboard!

For the May Convention I worked with Nancy Niedziela to review the Awards Booklet to ensure its accuracy. Thanks to Nancy for putting the booklet together. I also prepared and presented the award presentation at the convention. I received feedback about the presentation and will make changes for next year based on that feedback. If you have feedback, please let me know.



Finally, I have updated the State Reporting documents for 2023 reporting! You can find the updated documentation on the GFWC-WI website at url: <https://www.gfwc-wi.org/gfwcwi-reporting> It's not too early to start! The deadline for reporting is January 31, 2024!

GFWC - WI CORRESPONDING SECRETARY, TAMMY WELTER



The full Corresponding Secretary's report was provided at the State Convention in May. There are no updates to share with you at this time.

As a reminder, if any district or club officers have changed, please send or email an updated Notice of Election of Officers form to me so the State

Handbook can be updated with the latest officer contact information.

The form can be located at this url: <https://www.gfwc-wi.org/forms>. If you are prompted for a password, please type VolunteerSpirit.

GFWC - WI RECORDING SECRETARY, SHELLY ISELY

Hopefully you are all having a wonderful summer. It's hard to believe the GFWC-WI State Convention in Eau Claire, WI was two months ago. It was certainly a wonderful and very busy conference.

Thank you to Northern Lights District for organizing and hosting a jam-packed convention at the Holiday Inn South in Eau Claire. The speakers were very educational, the raffles and auctions were a huge success, and the Helen Farnsworth Mears Art Contest and Member Art submissions were inspiring and so creative. We have so many talented members in our state. Congratulations to all of the winners!

Several meetings occurred at State Convention and I have recorded the minutes for each.

- May 4th, 2023, Executive Committee meeting minutes have been recorded, reviewed, and placed on file.

- May 4th, 2023, minutes of the Board of Directors meeting been recorded and placed on file.
- May 5th and May 6th minutes of the State Convention General Session have been recorded and are being reviewed.



At the club level, I am a Director on the Board of Directors for the GFWC Monroe Woman's Club. We have been busy as well and most notably in June we held our annual Family Summer Picnic and presented two quilts of valor to two very worthy recipients. Ellen Weber, GFWC-WI Woman of Achievement, presented the quilts to our two selected veterans.

GFWC - WI TREASURER, MICHELLE MUNOZ



Greetings to All:

Since last meeting, I have attended the GFWC-WI State Convention, GFWC Convention in Louisville, KY.

Summer is a quieter time of year for me, but always available for questions at my email: gfwcwi.treasurer@gmail.com (Please allow a day for me to respond).



Reminder for clubs – GFWC-WI Club dues are due to me by November 1, 2023.

Club dues are \$22 per club member. I also ask that you send your most recent UPDATED club roster when submitting your dues payments to me. Electronic rosters are preferred in Excel format.

I will be sending a reminder email later in the summer to your club's President and Treasurer.

Enjoy the sunshine!!!

SAVE THE DATE

SAVE THE DATE for the Inaugural GFWC National Day of Service Saturday, September 30, 2023

Help Us to End Hunger in the United States By Volunteering or Organizing a Community Service Project

GFWC Clubs can plan to:

- Volunteer at a local food bank
- Organize a food drive
- Raise awareness about hunger issues in the United States
- Advocate to end food insecurity in America

Look in *GFWC News & Notes*, GFWC's Facebook page and website for information and updates.

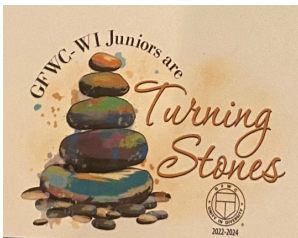
MARK YOUR CALENDARS FOR THE INAUGURAL
National Day of Service
 SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 30, 2023
 Living the Volunteer Spirit | www.GFWC.org | #GFWC23NDS
 Help Us to End Hunger in the United States By
 Volunteering, Donating, or Organizing a Community Service Project

To participate please email Melanie Gisler, Membership Director, at mgisler@gfwc.org and copy Deb Strahanoski, International President, at dstrahanoski@gfwc.org

GFWC-WI STATE CONVENTION



"ARTS Live" Manikins



Junior of the Year - Kelly Witkowski



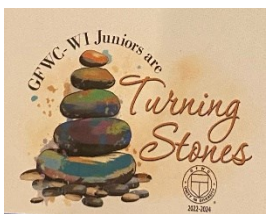
Woman of Achievement Ellen Weber



LEADS Candidate -
Alexandar Lerch-Gaggl

GFWC- WI WOMEN AT GFWC INTERNATIONAL CONVENTION





GFWC Wisconsin Juniors' Walking Challenge for Heifer International

Wear a pedometer, Fitbit, Apple Watch for 6 weeks and report back every week the number of steps you took for that week. At the end of the 6 weeks, we will take an average. The person / club* / district* that averages the highest number of steps **can** win a piece of the prize pool (50% of money collected) and the other 50% will go to Heifer International.

Rules:
 The Walking Challenge will run from August 30th – October 10th. Note: weeks are Wednesday-Tuesday.
 Report the number of steps you took during the week on Wednesday – to Loretta Caron (Jr. Fundraising Chair) via email (Loretta_Caron@sbcglobal.net), or text/ phone call 847-924-5613
 Steps will be averaged over the 6 weeks, with your lowest week thrown out.
 This is open to anybody!!! Friends, neighbors, co-workers, etc. Just make sure club is marked on entry form.
 Cost = \$10
 Mark down if you are a walker or runner. Walkers don't want to be battling against a marathon runner.
 Once we know number of walkers, will figure out exact prize money distribution before we start.
 Winning club / district will pick an organization that **empowers youth** in their area and that organization will receive part of the money raised.
 *District must have 2+ clubs participating
 *Clubs must have 2+ members participating
 Half of money raised will go Heifer International
 Once you are signed up you will get more details
 Winners will be announced at the GFWC-WI Junior Fall Conference on October 21st. Happy Walking!!

Return by August 25th.
 Mail to: GFWC-WI Jr. Treasurer ~ Tammy Welter ~ 1960 Boulder Lane ~ Beloit, WI 53511

Name: _____

Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

Email Address: _____

Club: _____ Phone Number: _____

"X" one in each column Age: < 50 Years Old Amount Enclosed – Check payable to: GFWC-WI Juniors

<input type="checkbox"/> Walker	<input type="checkbox"/> 50-64	<input type="checkbox"/> \$10 Walker / Runner
<input type="checkbox"/> Runner	<input type="checkbox"/> 65+	<input type="checkbox"/> \$_____ Donation to GFWC-WI Juniors
		<input type="checkbox"/> \$_____ Donation to Heifer International

OFFICIAL CALL TO THE 64TH GFWC-WI JUNIOR FALL CONFERENCE



OCTOBER 21, 2023

KENOSHA CIVIL WAR MUSEUM

5400 1ST Ave, Kenosha WI 53140

Registration Form– Please copy this form for each attendee and send registrations to:

Tammy Welter, GFWC-WI Juniors, Treasurer

1960 Boulder Lane, Beloit WI 53511

Checks Payable to GFWC-WI JUNIORS or Register online at www.gfwc-wi.org

Name _____

Address _____

City _____ **Zip** _____ **Phone** _____

Club Name _____ **District** _____

Email _____

Please check highest office currently held: _____ GFWC-WI Officer _____ GFWC-WI Board

_____ Member _____ JR Board Member _____ District President _____ Club President

Conference Registration \$40.00 _____ (on or before September 30th)

Late Registration \$50.00 _____ (after September 30th)

No refunds after October 9, 2023

LUNCH INCLUDED WITH REGISTRATION

Hot pasta dishes with salad, bread and dessert

Along with morning pastry and coffee

Please list any Dietary Restrictions: _____ we will try our best to accommodate.

REGISTRATION INCLUDES ADMISSION INTO THE CIVIL WAR MUSEUM

The history of the Civil War is alive at Kenosha’s Civil War Museum. See the sights, hear the stories, experience the drama in the heart of the mid-west. Though no battles were fought in this region, it played a vital role by providing troops and supplies to the cause. Our 360 degree film, “Seeing the Elephant” offers a one of a kind experience that you won’t forget.



Please bring jars of peanut butter which will be donated to the Shalom Center in honor of the Theodora Youmans recipient.

GFWC-WI JUNIOR FALL CONFERENCE



**GENERAL FEDERATION
of WOMEN'S CLUBS**



Tentative Agenda/order of business subject to change.

Friday - October 20, 2023

Arrive – WYNDHAM GARDEN KENOSHA HARBORSIDE

Possible Comedy Club event- watch for further information

Saturday – October 21, 2023

- 8:00 am Registration
- 8:30 am Call to order
- 9:30 am Presentations
- 9:50 am Break
- 10:00 am Domestic Abuse workshop presentation/Michelle Munoz
- 11:00 am Service project
- 11:45 am Tamarra Coleman, Theodora Youmans Recipient
- 12:00 pm Lunch
- 1:00 pm Leadership presentation
- 1:30 pm Stryv365 Speaker. This youth education nonprofit focuses on developing skills for whatever life throws at kids.
- 2:00 pm break
- 2:15 pm Social Media workshop/Loretta Caron
- 2:45 pm wrap-up, raffle, prizes, announcements.
- 3:15 pm Adjournment

Please enjoy the Civil War Museum

Hotel Information:

Wyndham Garden Kenosha Harborside-5125 6th Ave, Kenosha WI 53140

Phone: 262-658-3281: Please call this number to make your reservation.

Room Rates: \$139 King or \$149 Double Queen Rooms.

Reservation must be complete before Sept 20, 2023. Room Reference: GFWC-WI Juniors

Room rates are available for Friday only.



GFWC-WI State Federation

Mini LEADS U

There is a need for LEADS... join us!

GFWC-WI Mini LEADS 101

(Leadership, Education and Development Seminar)

“Leadership and learning are indispensable to each other” - John F. Kennedy

A VIRTUAL Event – Become a Wisconsin Mini LEADS graduate from the comfort of your own home in just two evenings of 1.5 hours each.

Every GFWC Wisconsin Club is encouraged to sponsor at least one member to attend the upcoming GFWC-WI Mini LEADS 101 seminar. Consider clubwomen who have assumed new leadership roles, as well as members who are potential leaders for your club as both may appreciate the opportunity for leadership education and development. Topics addressed in the seminar include leading effective meetings, parliamentary procedure, conflict resolution, public speaking, GFWC history, and more.

There are two sessions in which we will offer this information. You **MUST** commit to attending **BOTH** sessions in order to complete this Introductory Leadership Coursework.

Session 1: Wednesday, September 13th from 6:30 to 8:00 PM

Session 2: Wednesday, September 20th from 6:30 to 8:00 PM

This is a wonderful opportunity for all Clubwomen to learn more about GFWC at the club, district, and state level by providing participants meaningful information for positive leadership development.

Please complete this registration form for each participant, include the \$10 registration fee, checks payable to GFWC-WI and remit to:

Deb Strecker - GFWC-WI Mini LEADS Program Committee
1104 27th Avenue, Kenosha, WI 53143

Registration: Due by September 1st. This deadline ensures you will receive the seminar materials in the mail before the session.

Member’s Name _____

Address _____ City _____ Zip Code _____

Email Address _____ Contact Number _____

Club Name _____ District _____

Have you attended: District Mtgs _____ State Mtgs _____ International Mtgs _____

List your current Club, District and State involvement including activities and chairmanships:

If you have specific questions that you would like to have addressed at your GFWC-WI Mini LEADS 101 session, please email Deb Strecker at DLStrecker@gmail.com

Applicant’s Signature

GFWC GREAT LAKES REGION CONFERENCE



REGISTRATION FORM



GFWC GREAT LAKES REGION CONFERENCE OCTOBER 5-8th, 2023

Embassy Suites by Hilton

13700 Conference Center Drive South, Noblesville, IN 46060

NAME _____

ADDRESS _____

EMAIL _____

CITY _____

STATE _____ **ZIP** _____

PHONE _____

OFFICER/CHAIRMANSHIP _____

STATE AFFILIATION/CLUB/DISTRICT _____

REGISTRATION (A late fee of \$25.00 to be added to the Registration postmarked after 9/14/2023).	\$25.00	_____
Top Golf - Thursday 6:30 - 8:30 pm 2 Hours Golf, Wings, Veggies, Sweets Cash Bar Available	\$60.00	_____
A Wine Tour of Italy Class at Total Wine 6:30 - 8:30 pm 2 Hours, Wine tasting and snacks	\$30.00	_____
BREAKFASTS and EVENING RECEPTIONS		Free to Hotel Guests
FRIDAY - Indiana State Night Chicken Tuscany	\$ 52.00	_____
SATURDAY LUNCH - Deli Express Buffet Salads, Deli Meats, Cheeses, Desserts	\$ 40.00	_____
SATURDAY - Keep the Candle Burning Banquet 8 oz Filet Mignon	\$ 70.00	_____
MINI MART SPACE (FOR STATE AND CLUB FUNDRAISING)	\$10.00	_____
COACH Purse OPPORTUNITY	\$10.00 (# x \$10)	_____
TOTAL ENCLOSED		_____

PLEASE INDICATE ANY DIETARY RESTRICTIONS _____

Make checks payable to: GFWC Indiana. Send Registration to:
 Kimberly Meyer, 7884 Hedricks County Road Mooresville IN 46158
 Phone: 317-997-3104 Kimberly46158@gmail.com
 Registration must be postmarked by SEPTEMBER 14, 2023

GFWC GREAT LAKES REGION CONFERENCE



Hotel Information:

**Embassy Suites by Hilton Noblesville
Indianapolis Conference Center**
13700 Conference Center Drive
South Noblesville, Indiana, 46060

Group Name: General Federation of Women’s Club Indiana State Federation
Group Code: GFW
Rates valid October 5-8, 2023
\$169/night Includes free made to order breakfast and evening Manager’s reception



Booking link: <https://www.hilton.com/en/book/reservation/deeplink/?ctyhocn=INDNBES&groupCode=CESGFW&arrivaldate=2023-10-05&departuredate=2023-10-08&cid=OM,WW,HILTONLINK,EN,DirectLink&fromId=HILTONLINKDIRECT>

Or Call: 317-674-1900 Or scan this QR Code to book the hotel on your mobile phone.

STATE PRESIDENT’S SPECIAL PROJECT 2022-2024

SUBMITTED BY : SUE BESSERT, CHAIR



Is your club participating in the President’s Special Project – Arts LIVE?

If not, there’s still time to support your town’s non-professional performing arts programs and get money back to your club. The cool thing is when your club donates \$500 toward a local performing arts project, your club is reimbursed \$100 from GFWC-

Wisconsin! A win-win!
As of July 25, 2023, these clubs are part of Arts LIVE:
GFWC Amery Woman’s Club
GFWC Antigo Junior Woman’s Club
GFWC Bloomer Woman’s Club
GFWC Dodgeville Federated Woman’s Club
GFWC Hartford Junior Woman’s Club
GFWC Kenosha Junior Woman’s Club
Lakeside Juniorettes
GFWC Oconto Woman’s Club
GFWC Woman’s Club of Pewaukee
GFWC Woman’s Club of West Allis

Clubs can participate with up to two projects and get back \$100 for each \$500 donated. You’ve got until June 2024. Don’t wait. For ideas and forms, go to the GFWC-WI website: <https://www.gfwc-wi.org/a-gfwcwi-presidents-special-project>. Or give Sue Bessert a call, (715) 889.2342.

GFWC SIGNATURE PROGRAM: DOMESTIC AND SEXUAL VIOLENCE AWARENESS AND PREVENTION

SUBMITTED BY: MICHELLE MUNOZ, CHAIR



Greetings GFWC-WI Clubwomen. I hope this letter finds you having an enjoyable summer.

Since last seeing many of you in Eau Claire for our State Convention, I've had the opportunity to attend the GFWC International Convention in Louisville, KY.

As your Signature Program Chairwoman, I made sure to attend the GFWC Signature Program Workshop given by Trisha Schafer and committee members.

The workshop consisted of an interactive activity of being a victim by being presented with various scenarios of Domestic Violence situations and how a victim may feel after an incident. Then a discussion about the different scenarios about feelings of being the victim.

I am excited to let you know that I will be presenting this activity to our clubwomen at the Junior Fall Conference on Saturday October 21, 2023, for our Wisconsin Clubwomen in attendance to experience. We will also have a DV therapist on hand for a question-and-answer session to go along with the program.

See you in the Fall...

GFWC JUNIORS' SPECIAL PROGRAM-ADVOCATES FOR CHILDREN *SUBMITTED BY: DOROTHY PROTZ, CHAIR*



A reminder to all clubs that **SUNDAY, OCTOBER 22 to SATURDAY, OCTOBER 28, 2023** is **GFWC ADVOCATES FOR CHILDREN WEEK**.

The emphasis for Advocates for Children Week will be to promote a collection of personal hygiene items, clothing, and blankets to local

organizations for children removed from homes due to unsafe conditions. For ideas from our GFWC International Chairman on projects for your club see the GFWC Club Manual at Special Programs.

RESOLUTIONS COMMITTEE

SUBMITTED BY: NANCY NIEDZIELA, CHAIR

Greetings Sisters,

The Resolutions Committee has been at work getting a complete document for Resolutions ready for all to see. The new 2023 document reflects the changes made at the 2023 convention as well as committee changes made to make the GFWC-WI Resolutions similar in order and in format to the GFWC Resolutions. At the 2023 Convention, the membership voted to send back to the committee the new resolution on voting. Since this was a compilation of three separate resolutions, effectively the membership sent back three resolutions to our committee. We have added them to our list to get ready for presentation at the 2024 Convention. The newly revised document on Resolutions has just been posted on the website for your review. Please look at the document, especially the resolutions that must be reviewed, per the bylaws for 2024, in addition to those sent back to

committee. If any club or district has a new resolution to present to committee, it must be done by November 15th to give the committee time to work on it before the publication in the Winter GFWC Wisconsin *Clubwoman*. If any club or district has suggestions for changes to the required review, please submit those as soon as possible to nancyniedziela@gmail.com as soon as possible. Thank you for your cooperation. Enjoy the rest of your summer and we will see you at the Junior Fall Conference in Kenosha! Or perhaps even in Indiana at the Great Lakes Region Conference.

The Committee: Nancy Niedziela, Kim Bruns, Ruth Diedrich, Sharon Phelps, Paula Schlice



Congratulations to the students and their teachers and thank you to the GFWC-WI Clubs that participated in this art contest supporting and encouraging our student-artists. The GFWC-WI Helen Farnsworth Mears Art Contest has honored the memory of Wisconsin's premier sculptor for 96 years. The State winners' artworks are on display at the Oshkosh Public Museum until August 13.

GFWC-WI HELEN FARNSWORTH MEARS ART CONTEST WINNERS

**CLASS A - 2-Dimension
(Painting/Drawing)**

- 1st** Laura Lee - Brown Deer
- 2nd** Ally Haase - Oshkosh
- 3rd** Paizley Kundert - Monroe

CLASS B - 2-Dimension

- 1st** Grace Freimark - Oshkosh
- 2nd** Liam Metzler - De Pere
- 3rd** Fiona Junk - Monroe

DIGITAL

- 1st** Jordan Manske - Rhinelander
- 2nd** Dylan Johnson - Rhinelander
- 3rd** Reid Tischendorf - Rhinelander

**Class A - 3-Dimension
(Sculpture)**

- 1st** Helena Garofalo - Plymouth
- 2nd** Cosette McKeen - Bloomer
- 3rd** Anna Wellington - Dodgeville

CLASS B - 3-Dimension

- 1st** Bryce Schimelfenyg - Pewaukee
- 2nd** Bryce Burke - De Pere
- 3rd** Chloe Sember - Plymouth

HONORABLE MENTION

- Chevelle Lee - Amery
- Claire O'Connell - Brillion
- Violet Renwick - Dodgeville
- Kaitlyn Everett - Oconomowoc, Jr.
- Jossie Bartell - Oconomowoc, Jr.

In 2020, during COVID, art teachers had difficulty teaching art when students did not have materials. The Digital Artwork Category was added to the Art Contest to make it accessible and relevant. My nephew in LA, Erin Epping, and Diane Stoiber were very helpful as I set up this new Digital category.

The first year I was pleasantly surprised with Digital entries in Class A and Class B; every example was submitted so it could be viewed on a screen. In the 2nd year there were submittals in Class A & B. However, some were no longer submitted in digital format. I overlooked the discrepancy and allowed all pieces to be judged as submitted. This year, the 3rd year, there were NO Class B entries and only 2 schools in the State Contest submitted any digital work, some of which were submitted in a print format and could not be viewed on a screen. However, those pieces were judged.

Since COVID has subsided, the Digital Category has taken a backseat to the two traditional categories. Art teachers & students have returned to working with actual art materials for drawing, painting, and sculpture. Even the Art teachers who contacted me to introduce Digital Art are no longer submitting any Digital artwork!

Based on our 3-year experience, we will discontinue the Digital Category.

The website materials for the Helen Farnsworth Mears Art Contest will be updated, removing the Digital Category. It would be wonderful to increase the number of clubs participating in the Art Contest, now in its 97th year. Please contact me at shirleybrabendermattox@gmail.com, if you have comments or questions about the Contest.

ARTS AND CULTURE –continued

YOUTH & MEMBER SHORT STORY & POETRY

SUBMITTED BY: ALEXANDRA LERCH-GAGGL, CHAIR

YOUTH SHORT STORY	TITLES	NAME
Cat 1		
GFWC Monroe Woman's Club	The Mystic Necklace	Savannah Roesch
Cat 2		
GFWC Shorewood Woman's Club	Curse of the Pharaoh's Ring	Wren Elliott
Cat 3		
GFWC Rhinelander Woman's Club	The Duende	Riley Jae Johnson
Cat 4		
GFWC Amery Woman's Club	Fade Into Blue	Katelin Olivia Graski
YOUTH POETRY		
Cat 1		
GFWC Monroe Woman's Club	Winter	Gabriel Wilson
Cat 2		
GFWC Rhinelander Woman's Club	Wintertime	Nora Foat
Cat 3		
GFWC Woman's Club of Pewaukee	Walking Through Cherry Blossoms	Alexander Gaggl
Cat 4		
GFWC Amery Woman's Club	Silent Howls	Emerson Lane Sargent
MEMBERS' SHORT STORY		
GFWC Rhinelander Woman's Club	Winston Churchill	Connie L. Muckelberg
MEMBERS' POETRY		
GFWC Woman's Club of Pewaukee	Fall, Pewaukee Lake	Susan Vetrovsky-Goldstone

MEMBERS ARTS & CRAFTS CONTESTS

SUBMITTED BY: VICKIE RICHARDSON, CHAIR

Thank you to everyone who entered their art into this year's Members Arts & Crafts Contest & Members Photography Contest. There were so many beautiful pieces this year and so many by members and clubs that I have not seen enter in the past handful of years. It is always a joy to see the creativity of others. To see the list of winners, and pictures of most of the art, photographs and manikins please go to GFWC-WI.org, Programs page, Arts and Culture topic and scroll down to the Members Arts & Crafts & Photography area.

convention attendees' favorites being **Amerianna** from Amery Woman's Club, **Bob Ross** from the Members Arts & Crafts Committee, **The Wizard of Oz** from Oconomowoc Woman's Club and **Betsy Ross** from Brillion Woman's Club. We raised \$1200 for El Sistema, whose mission is to participate in the global movement to create community connections through affordable string music instruction for children. To learn more about this organization, check out their website at

<https://www.elsistema-milwaukee.org/> .

I am overwhelmed by the success of our Manikin Auction! We received 30 gorgeous entries, with the

EDUCATION AND LIBRARIES *SUBMITTED BY : SUE SANDS, CHAIR*



The second year of this administration has begun! But first, we need to congratulate the clubs and their members for their great participation in Education & Libraries projects thus far. It was great to read the reports from 2022. Keep up the great job you have and will do in this area. Check out the many books about librarians – from the past and now. One of my favorites is *The Book Woman of Troublesome Creek* by Kim Michelle Richardson. Another book along this same theme is

The Giver of Stars by Jojo Moyes. Both are worth the time to read and may also count toward the ESO requirements! There is a great deal of information in the monthly GFWC Education & Libraries newsletter prepared by Sandy Hauenstein. Check out the GFWC-WI or GFWC websites to view it if your District or Club President has not forwarded it to you.

Happy Reading!

ENVIRONMENT *SUBMITTED BY : GLORIA LANSIN, CHAIR*

First, I want to thank everyone who brought flower seeds to the state meeting. We had over 200 packets of seeds that went to a good home. Second, I have a big concern that all of you could help with. Our butterflies and bees are dying at an alarming rate. The biggest culprit is toxic pesticides found in Round Up. It not only causes cancer in humans, but it is killing our butterflies and bees. Their numbers have continued falling, an example is the Eastern Monarch butterfly declined by 22% and the

Rustic Bumble Bee by 95%. Round Up kills the milkweed that butterflies depend on, and in fact they only eat milkweed when they hatch. So, I am pleading with you to say no to Round Up and any other pesticides you use. As an alternative use a mixture of vinegar and dawn dish soap, it works wonders. No bees, no food, no life.



HEALTH AND WELLNESS *SUBMITTED BY : JOYCE SCHAEFER, CHAIR*



What can I do to reduce my risk of Skin Cancer?

Skin cancer is the most common cancer in the United States. There are various types of skin cancer. The most common types are basal cell skin cancer, squamous cell, melanoma and Merkel cell, unfortunately the list goes on. So, what can we do?

First, don't think it is only summertime, or sunny days to be concerned about our risk for skin cancer. Protection from UV rays is important all year. UV rays are the strongest from 10am-4pm. The UV index forecasts the strength of the UV rays each day. If the UV index is 3 or higher in your area, protect your skin from too much exposure to the sun. So, how do I protect my skin from too much sun exposure?

- **Shade**- you can reduce your risk by staying in the shade. If that is not possible, consider using an umbrella to offer you shade.
- **Clothing**- when possible, wear long sleeved shirts which can protect you from the UV rays.
- **Hats**- for the most protection wear a hat with a brim all the way around that will shade your face, ears, and the back of your neck.

- **Sunglasses**- sunglasses protect your eyes from UV rays and reduce the risk of cataracts.
- **Sunscreen**- Utilize broad spectrum sunscreen that filters out both UVA and UVB rays and has an SPF of 15 or higher. Obviously, higher numbers offer increased protection. It does wear off, so make sure to reapply after being out in the sun for more than 2 hours and after swimming. Do make sure to check expiration dates on your sunscreen, most have a shelf life of under 3 years.

In closing, enjoy the rest of summer, but be mindful of the UV rays. Being outside is wonderful and makes us feel good, we just need to remember to take care of ourselves and make sure our skin is protected.



The **GFWC Style Guide** has been updated! This document is available in the Member Portal under “S” for members to access. The GFWC Style Guide is a great reference for all clubwomen. The Style Guide includes information about GFWC, Brand Identity, general formatting, GFWC Trademark Use Policies, social media guidelines, and much more. Take the time to review this guide.

MEMBER PORTAL ANNOUNCEMENT

It was shared at the GFWC Board meeting that there will be some big digital changes at GFWC. The Marketplace is now managed by an outside service and inventory will steadily be added to the new service. Next, the GFWC website will be significantly updated this year. We were told to stay tuned for more information as the year progresses.

Finally – the member portal is going to be com-

pletely revamped! The timing has not been fully revealed, but it was shared there will be a different level of service, a new sign-in process, and... wait for it, a working search function for all the great tools available in the digital library. As more information is provided to board members, it will be shared with you.

MESSAGE FROM THE WEBMASTER

SUBMITTED BY: VICKIE RICHARDSON

Hi! It’s your friendly neighborhood webmaster here. I hope everyone is still enjoying the new design of the website. I wanted to make sure everyone knows that if you have a problem while on the website, please let me know. In the best-case scenario, send an email to me at gfwcwi.webmaster@gmail.com explaining the issue along with a screenshot of the issue. With that information, I can often reproduce the issue, and fix it on the website. But as we all know, the best-case

scenario doesn't always happen. If you are unable to take a screenshot, please start with an email and we can figure out a different solution that works better.

I hope everyone had a great summer and keep an eye on the website because there are many changes underway.



FUNDRAISING

SUBMITTED BY: *CAROLYN MITCHELL, GFWC-WI FUNDRAISING CHAIR**LORETTA CARON – GFWC-WI JUNIOR FUNDRAISING CHAIR*

In keeping with my idea of putting more FUN in fundraising I would like to have a fundraiser at the GFWC Great Lakes Regional Conference in Indiana. I am asking each club to donate at least 1 (or more) Gift Card with a value of \$10.00 or more. These need to be for national sellers since the members attending will be from at all 5 states. I would like cards for retailers (Walmart, Kroger, Bath & Body) or dining (Olive Garden, I Hop, Cheesecake Factory) or fast food (Starbucks, Dominos, Subway, Buffalo Wild Wings). I would also like to include online sites such as Amazon.

I would like them in my possession by September 15th. I will be packaging these, so the purchaser is surprised by the card they receive. You can mail them to me, or if you are in the southeastern Wisconsin area, I will arrange to meet you to get them. If you would prefer, you can send me a check made payable to me, and I will purchase the cards.

As usual all funds raised will go towards expenses for conventions such as speakers, GFWC guest, etc.

My address is:

Carolyn Mitchell, 8075 N 66th Street, Brown Deer, WI 53223

Roxie Is Going Hog Wild

Roxie is determined to reach her goal of \$275 by year end. She currently weighs in at \$189.54 after her trip to Eau Claire in May.

This fall GFWC-WI Juniors are doing one more walking challenge where half the money raised will go to Heifer International and will hopefully tip Roxie's scale. Look for more information about the walking challenge in this issue of the GFWC-Clubwoman.



LEADERSHIP

SUBMITTED BY: *ALEXANDRA LERCH-GAGGL*

You Could Feel the Zing in the Room

I am Alexandra Lerch-Gaggl, Past President of the Woman's Club of Pewaukee, and had the honor to be chosen as the LEADS Candidate for our state in 2023. I joined our club in 2016, became chair of the Environment and the International Outreach committee, and I finished my presidency in May 2023.

Being the leader of an 88-member-strong-group made me aware that I like to connect people and to facilitate collaborations across the globe. When I get excited about this, a tingle of anticipation spreads throughout my entire body.

I felt the same "zing" in the room, when I first entered the meeting space on the second floor of the Louisville Marriott Hotel on June 9th, 2023. This was the place where other 2023 GFWC LEADS candidates from all states had come together to be welcomed into the GFWC leadership group, to be taught relevant content, and to initiate inspiring personal interactions.

This once-in-a-lifetime-experience has confirmed my personal leadership goal of being a servant leader, who guides with kindness and a vision that is bigger

than myself. My intent is to become a catalyst who is able to unite the many talents and resources in our communities and to empower people to become community leaders who want to make a difference. To start, I am working on sharing my leadership growth with GFWC members in the form of presentations and workshops and on becoming a go-to person for future leaders in this organization.

Thank you for giving me this opportunity.



Alexandra Lerch-Gaggl with Wendy Carriker, GFWC First Vice President



You're Invited!

GFWC- WI Wisconsin's Own Library *Open House*

Saturday, November 11, 2023, • 1:00 – 3:00 p.m.

Lane Library at Ripon College

300 W. Seward Street • Ripon, WI 54971

All are welcome to enjoy our unique collection of books and poetry by Wisconsin authors and illustrators.

Learn the History of GFWC-WI Wisconsin's Own Library

Listen to Live Poetry Readings featuring Dr. Megan Gannon, Associate Professor of English, and Students of Ripon College

Enjoy Refreshments and More!

Wisconsin's Own Library Open House is hosted by GFWC-WI. Funding is provided by the Gwendolyn M. Schultz Charitable Trust.

Admission is Free!

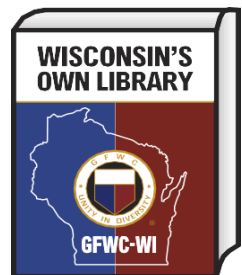
Bonus for GFWC-WI Clubs: For each club member who attends the Open House, your GFWC-WI Club will receive \$10 per person!

Please RSVP by October 27

to Sue Bednarek by phone or email:

920-295-6509

sjbednarek@charter.net



Hurry! Limited Space Available!

WOMAN’S HISTORY AND RESOURCE CENTER (WHRC)

SUBMITTED BY: MARY KAYE ERNEST, CHAIR

It is hard to believe how fast this summer is moving. The GFWC Woman’s History and Resource Center has been working full steam ahead. Two big projects that are being added into the GFWC catalog system are all the nominees and winners for the Jennie June Award and Community Impact Program. The first project that Joanna Church, GFWC Librarian, has put into place is cataloging the issues for the GFWC Club Woman Magazine. This is a major undertaking as some of the early issues of the magazine are missing. If anyone in your clubs have old issues of the magazine (before the 60’s) and might be interested in parting with them, please let me know. They are look-

ing for issues from the thirties into the fifties. Remember to ask Past Presidents and Club women who may not be members of your clubs anymore. Happy hunting!!

Mark your calendar for May 1, 2024, to join Headquarters in celebrating the 40th Anniversary of the Women’s History and Resource Center in DC. For those of you who would like to help recognize this major happening please go online to GFWC Marketplace and purchase one of the new WHRC tote bags. Ideas on how to celebrate with your club will be in the next issue of the GFWC-WI Clubwoman Magazine.

NOMINATION COMMITTEE

SUBMITTED BY: MARY KAYE ERNEST, CHAIR

We are looking for a dedicated GFWC-WI member who has always wanted to be a member of the GFWC-WI Executive Committee. This is a great opportunity to see all that goes on in this wonderful organization. You must have had previous experience on a District Executive Com-

mittee, the GFWC-WI Board of Directors or both along with active membership in a federated club. Please contact any member of the Nominating Committee: Mary Kaye Ernest, Maureen Miller, Sue Bessert, Michelle Black or Julie Saether.

JENNIE JUNE AWARD NOMINEE

SUBMITTED BY: RUTH DIERDICH, CHAIR



The GFWC-WI nominee for the Jennie Award for the 2022-2024 administration is the INCREDIBLE PAULA SCHLICE.

Her nomination form has been forwarded to Dana Jones, GFWC Great

Lakes Region President where it will be judged and if selected as one of the two region winners will be forwarded to GFWC for possible national recognition at the 2024 GFWC International Convention.

Good luck Paula, on the Great Lakes Region level of judging. All of Wisconsin will be cheering you on!

COMMUNITY IMPACT PROGRAM AWARD

SUBMITTED BY: CAROL WOLFENDEN, CHAIR

Has your club had a positive effect on the specific needs of your community?
If so, your club should be recognized!
Just answer these 5 questions for the Community Impact Award by Mar 1, 2024.

- Provide a brief description of the project (50 words or less).
- Describe the project’s scope:
 - Action plan
 - Costs/Funding
 - Community collaboration (if any)
 - Obstacles (if any)
- Explain the results for the community & your club.
- List project public relations & media

- Attach pictures (limit of 10)

See the 2022-2024 GFWC Club Manual for the official entry form.
The Wisconsin winner is awarded \$100!

For more info, contact state chair Carol Wolfenden at wolfenden@mwtnet.net.

DISTRICT PRESIDENTS REPORTS:

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SOUTHERN PRAIRIES DISTRICT

SUBMITTED BY: DEB STRECKER, DISTRICT PRESIDENT



Beloit Junior Woman's Club Blanchardville Woman's Club* Burlington Woman's Club* Kenosha Junior Woman's Club* Monroe Woman's Club* Pleasant Prairie Woman's Club* Woman's Club of East Troy *Woman's Club of Kenosha * GFWC Kenosha Lakeside Juniorette*

The Southern Prairies District members (SPD) continue to sparkle and shine through their actions and volunteerism in their communities. SPD is also very active in the district, state, region, and international levels of GFWC.

Congratulations to this year's GFWC-WI Women of Achievement Award winner GFWC- WI Past President **Ellen Weber** a member of Burlington and East Troy. The Kenosha Jrs. nominated **Tamarra Coleman** Theodora Youmans Award. Both women are passionate community supporters and outstanding human beings. The award and recognition are well deserved.

The Monroe Woman's Club did an excellent job hosting our 2023 SPD spring convention with a garden theme of *Growing GFWC!* We had 32 members in attendance. One of the highlights of the meeting

was the 9 first time members in attendance. **President Dickman** was our keynote speaker and shared **4 F's of Leadership**.

Kudos to all the clubs who did a terrific job reporting. You continue to be awesome. The SPD had many winners at the state convention in Eau Claire. The Manikin contest was spectacular and profitable. We have so many creative and talented women, I won the "Phantom of the Opera"- sorry President Dickman!

Finally, I enjoyed the GFWC Convention in Louisville- our GFWC ladies know how to party, and the GFWC-WI members always sparkle and shine the most. I am looking forward to the SPD Fall Workshop, the Fall Juniors Conference in SPD's Kenosha and the Great Lakes Region Conference in Indiana. I hope to see many of you there!

ROLLING HILLS DISTRICT

SUBMITTED BY : KATHY NOVACK, DISTRICT PRESIDENT



*Boscobel Woman's Club * Dodgeville Federated Woman's Club* Hartford Junior Woman's Club * Hillsboro Woman's Civic Club* Muskego Woman's Club* Oconomowoc Woman's Club * Oconomowoc Junior Woman's Club* Woman's Club of Hartland * Woman's Club of Pewaukee*

The last three months have been a busy and exciting time for the Rolling Hills District. We held our Spring District Meeting on April 15th, hosted by the Woman's Club of Pewaukee. The turnout was terrific. In May, RHD members were out in force at the 2023 GFWC-WI Convention in Eau Claire, WI.



and the Call to Meeting data completed, our next stop is our 2023 RHD Fall Meeting in Boscobel, WI.



Pat Stemper, Lynn Mickelson, Lora McPhillips, Renee Rasmussen, Kathy Novack, Paula Decker, Carol Anderson, and Carol Wolfenden. (Missing from photo – Sue Schwarten)

And most recently, the RHD Board of Directors met on July 24th. With our new proposed budget prepared,

NORTHERN LIGHTS DISTRICT

SUBMITTED BY : SHARI BERG, DISTRICT PRESIDENT



*Amery Woman's Club * Monday Club of Ashland * Bloomer Woman's Club * Colfax Woman's Club * Menomonie Woman's Club * Spooner Woman's Club*

THANK YOU, THANK YOU, to all who attended the 126th GFWC-WI State Convention and made it a great success.

NORTHWOODS DISTRICT

SUBMITTED BY : MARY MEEK, DISTRICT PRESIDENT



*Antigo Junior Woman's Club * Lakeland Area GFWC * Oconto Woman's Club * Rhinelander Woman's Club * Stevens Point Woman's Club * Stevens Point Junior Woman's Club*

The Northwoods District is looking forward to our upcoming program year as we come together for a picnic on August 19th hosted by the clubwomen of the Lakeland Area GFWC. The event will include time for collaboration, leadership development and fellowship following a condensed business meeting and lunch. Our program will be given by local artist, Joan Christgau and all in attendance will have an opportunity to tour the club's community art project, the Brandy Park murals.

Since the March Clubwoman article, the district had a wonderful gathering for our Spring District Convention which was graciously hosted by the GFWC Antigo Jr Woman's Club. The district was well represented at State Convention with four of our six clubs in

attendance and six of our Northwoods clubwomen had the amazing experience of attending the GFWC International Convention in Louisville.

I truly enjoy working with the clubwomen of the Northwoods District. We continue to place an emphasis on membership and leadership development and the district remains committed to support membership recruitment and retention events through our grant program. With the guidance of the district's amazing Executive Committee and Board of Directors, I look forward to another year of successfully supporting our clubs and to fostering growth and relationships throughout the district.

In all that we do, let's strive to Be creative...Be passionate...Be confident!

RIVERS & LAKES DISTRICT

SUBMITTED BY : SUE SANDS DISTRICT PRESIDENT



*Berlin Friends in Council * Brillion Woman's Club * Oshkosh Woman's Art Club * Plymouth Woman's Club * Woman's Club of Princeton * Woman's Club of De Pere*

Congratulations Rivers & Lakes Club members! You did a fantastic job reporting and sharing your wonderful projects from the 2022-2023 club year. The following clubs received recognition and awards at the State Convention in May for Best Single Projects: Arts & Culture – Oshkosh – 150th Anniversary of Helen Farnsworth Mears' Birth
Education & Libraries – Princeton – Library Beautification Project
Environment – Princeton – Groovy Gardens
Fundraising & Development – De Pere – Fashion Cents Style Show
Juniors Special Program Advocates for Children – Brillion – Letters to Santa

Director of Junior Clubs Special Project – Brillion – Inspirational Pencils
Legislation & Public Policy – Brillion – Legislative Action
Website Contest – Princeton

We will soon begin the second club year of this administration. Brillion Woman's Club will host the Fall District meeting. Woman's Club of De Pere will host the Spring District meeting & Helen Mears Art Contest, District Level. Looking forward to another great year of GFWC-WI and GFWC events!



*Brown Deer Junior Woman's Club * North Shore Junior Woman's Club * Past District Officers Woman's Club * Port Washington Woman's Club * Shorewood Woman's Club * Woman's Club of Greenfield * Woman's Club of West Allis*

HELLO FROM LAKESHORE DISTRICT

First, I want to thank everyone for all your prayers and cards. I am sure the prayers helped me get through this terrible surgery I had, and the cards cheered me up when I was feeling down, so thank you to all my GFWC Sisters! I am getting stronger every day and soon will be back to normal. I hope everyone is enjoying the beautiful weather we are having. Our Lakeshore members have been busy holding rummage sales, participating in West Allis

Ala Carte, riding in parades, and holding picnics. Membership is still a problem, and it seems every time we get our membership up our new year begins and a lot of them drop out and then we must start over. Our membership chair, Diane Prondinski is working hard to get our numbers back up again. Lakeshore District is also working hard on the 2024 GFWC-WI Convention. We want to make it special because our own Linda Brown will be installed as the next President! So be looking forward to a great convention with lots of surprises.

SAVE THE DATE



127TH GFWC-WI ANNUAL STATE CONVENTION

HOSTED BY GFWC-WI LAKESHORE DISTRICT

MAY 3-5, 2024
EMBASSY SUITES
BROOKFIELD, WI

Installation of the new board of directors will be held including Lakeshore District's very own Linda Brown. Join us for Tours, Guest Speakers and more.

LET YOUR LIGHT SHINE IN BROOKFIELD AND BEE INSPIRED

WANT TO BE A VENDOR FOR THE 2024 GFWC-WI STATE CONVENTION?

The GFWC-WI Lakeshore District is bringing back vendors for the 2024 GFWC-WI State Convention. We have space for twelve vendors. The fees for each space will be \$35 for spaces without electricity and \$55 for spaces with electricity. New for this convention is that we are reserving up to five spaces for GFWC-WI Clubwomen at a fee of \$0 per space with the understanding that the clubwoman will register to attend the convention. The deadline to sign up for these special spaces is December 2, 2023. Our hope is that clubwomen who have small businesses will want to register for the convention and provide them with an opportunity to offer their wares. Please note, sign up early because if we have multiple vendors

with the same product, vendors will be approved first come, first served.

To take advantage of this opportunity, the application is on the GFWC-WI website at url: <https://www.gfwc-wi.org/2024-convention-news>
 For questions, please contact Erin Epping at 414-355-8780 (cell) or eepping728@gmail.com.



CLUB CORNER

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SOUTHERN PRAIRIES DISTRICT

GFWC BURLINGTON WOMAN'S CLUB

The Burlington Woman's Club has been very excited about our past club year and didn't really want to stop for the summer. So they planned a couple of events for us to get together. One event was a group tour at the Black Point Mansion on Lake Geneva. It was the summer home of Carl Seipp one of the nation's largest beer barons from the 1900's. Although it was rainy, it was a beautiful day to spend walking the gorgeous gardens and this beautiful home on the national historic registry. We will be meeting again in August for an old-fashioned kaffee klatsch at a member's

home to just get caught up before the new club year starts.



GFWC WOMAN'S CLUB OF KENOSHA

The Woman's Club of Kenosha has remained busy throughout the summer. Members collected towels and washcloths for the Shalom Center and we continue to collect clothes for an orphanage in northern India through the Sona Shah Heart Foundation. Members and their families attended a Kingfish game. We were allowed to have an information table and held a 50/50 raffle at the game. The local "100 Women Who Care" held their May event at our club and will be returning in August.

Members held a "Basement Sale", an afternoon "Game Day" and a new member social.

Members continue to make improvements to our Historic Home. We're painting our kitchen, replacing some windows and establishing a perennial pollinator garden. We continue to search for grants and donations to maintain our "home".

GFWC MONROE WOMAN'S CLUB AND GFWC BLANCHARDVILLE WOMAN'S CLUB

JULY 26 CANINE COMPANIONS FUNDRAISER AT HAWKS MILL

Hosted by GFWC Monroe Woman's Club and Blanchardville Woman's Club

1. 2 puppy raisers and 2 Service Dog Graduates were our guests.
2. Volunteers helped work at the event, selling raffle tickets, helping with the Service Dog Bingo, and registrations.
3. Raffle Basket donations / Bingo prize donations
4. Membership forms were available to join either club for any interested visitors.



SOUTHERN PRAIRIES DISTRICT - *continued*

GFWC Pleasant Prairie Woman’s Club

Pleasant Prairie Woman’s Club’s May meeting was a huge success. We donated thousands of dollars back into our community through our June E. Nelson Philanthropic Awards and the Pearl Ruffalo Memorial Scholarship. So many wonderful charities and high school seniors were honored. This is always a club favorite meeting.

Our year does not begin until September, but we are already busy preparing for “Because Pleasant Prairie Cares” - a collaboration with Comfort 4 A Cause and Pleasant Prairie Police Department, a rummage sale, and Safety Day in the Prairie all before our social

gathering picnic we have to catch up with each other before the fun and busy year begins. Pleasant Prairie Woman’s Club hopes all clubs have another successful year of volunteering and friendship.



ROLLING HILLS DISTRICT

GFWC DODGEVILLE FEDERATED WOMAN’S CLUB

Eleven members of the Dodgeville and Hillsboro clubs met informally on June 21, 2023, to learn about each other’s clubs, to share unique club features, and generally to support each other’s GFWC work. Pictured in the gazebo by the lake are (left side, front-to-back) Ginny Lipska, Lynette Potter, Pres. Bridget Dickler, Marty Magalsky, (right side, front-to-back) Donna Schneider, Pat Risch, Jane Jensen, Diana Marshall. Not pictured: Wendy Manser, Jean Traeder, Carol Wolfenden. Five of Hillsboro’s seven members are past presidents.



GFWC WOMAN’S CLUB OF HARTLAND

We are only halfway through summer and already have been very busy. We held a fundraiser at Tabi’s Wine Bar with proceeds going to Angels Grace Hospice. It was very successful, and the best thing is three of our newest members did it all! They are Tabi McBride, Lynne McElfresh, and Lace Etzel. It’s so good to see our new members step up with ideas and, dare I say, energy! The event was not only very good monetarily, but we are also hoping for six new members from the event. We also participated in Hartland’s Hometown



Celebration. With a pie sale on June 30th and the parade on July 2nd. Lots of fun! July is a quiet month for us, but we will hit it again in August with our Annual Meet & Greet to recruit new members. We have added many new members this past year and with all their new ideas, we hope that the coming year will be our best yet!



ROLLING HILLS DISTRICT—continued

GFWC HILLSBORO WOMAN’S CIVIC CLUB

Hillsboro Woman’s Civic Club donated \$100 to the local police department for an initiative entitled “Lights for Bikes”. L-R: Carol Wolfenden, Kay Stanek, Marty Magalsky, Sergeant Chris Kucinsky (Hillsboro Police Dept), Jean Traeder, Doris Picha and Mary Sterba. We plan to give money annually so the youth in our community have appropriate lights, helmets etc. to be safe while riding their bikes. It’ll also encourage good relations with the police & youth!



A pie sale was held on Thursday, July 13th in conjunction with the annual Musicale sponsored by the local library. 33 pies were contributed, and the club earned \$675.00!



GFWC WOMAN'S CLUB OF PEWAUKEE

Doggie Delivery

Police often get calls from citizens who need assistance and protection from abusive domestic situations. Recognizing the GFWC Domestic Violence and Prevention Signature Program, Abby Lorenz as the Club’s Committee Chair of Civil Engagement and Outreach asked for plush dogs during our May membership meeting recognizing that plush dogs can provide comfort to children of all ages who are often innocently caught in the crossfire.

GFWC Woman’s Club of Pewaukee members in May responded with a generous donation of three large plastic bags full of plush dogs. Sherrie Szombathelyi along with Abby brought the bags to the police Station. The Pewaukee Policemen were grateful for the donation and will be keeping them in their squad cars!



NORTHERN LIGHTS DISTRICT

GFWC AMERY WOMAN'S CLUB

To Celebrate Earth Day in April, volunteers were asked to read and share with the students from Amery Elementary and Clear Lake Elementary stories about Eagles and Turtles. Students were asked to share their stories and participate in the discussions. It was amazing to the volunteers how much information the kids had to offer.

Our community mural is finally completed and mounted at the Amery Public Library. It is a beautiful depiction of our community. In conjunction with the library, we will be hosting an unveiling and open house to thank all the community participating in its completion.

The Amery Woman's Club 45th Art and Craft Fair was held on June 17, 2023. The weather cooperated with us and the 95 plus Artists, Crafters, and Food

Vendors were pleased with the crowds and their sales. Over 1000 shoppers were able to make their art and craft purchases, enjoy food options, listen to live music, and spend a beautiful day with family and friends.

Our total proceeds will enable us to add a 4th scholarship next year.



GFWC ASHLAND MONDAY CLUB

GFWC Ashland Monday Club has had a fun filled summer of activities. July 4th the club sold lemonade and cookies at the 4th of July Parade in Ashland.



On July 15, the Club hosted for the Ashland Garden tour, providing information on monarchs, bees and invasive plants and served lemonade and water to those who were doing the garden tour and visiting Menard Park gardens.

In August the club is having an End of the Summer Garage Sale, August 19th, 9AM-2PM, raising funds for many community organizations. Then on August 22nd, the Club will be providing the kids of the New Day Advocacy Center, a domestic abuse shelter with fun activities, face painting, games, ice cream and then hand out school supplies and the socks and underwear from the State Convention.



NORTHERN LIGHTS DISTRICT

GFWC BLOOMER WOMAN'S CLUB

Bloomer Woman's Club held our second annual two day Brat Stand on June 1st and 2nd. We had very hot weather punctuated by an unexpected but much appreciated 45 minute downpour. We worked hard, had fun, engaged with public and exchanged ideas for future programs. We were pleased to make \$1,350: a good start for 2023-2024.

We are meeting on Tuesday afternoons to sew bags for the Homeless Vets Christmas Project. We need to make 50 bags. The ladies have been very creative in obtaining fabrics for these bags. We are using drapes, shower curtains, fabric from garage sales and jeans.

We have also been working at our Elementary School's Butterfly Garden. It has been especially difficult this year with dandelions and thistles popping up everywhere.

We now have a permanent meeting place. We are partnering with the Boomer Senior Center. We now have a place to store our equipment which will make life much easier for the Board. The Senior Center was in danger of closing because no one was using it. Many of our members have been working to keep it open. It will be a great place to meet because there are no stairs.

NORTHWOODS DISTRICT

GFWC RHINELANDER WOMAN'S CLUB

Rhinelanders Woman's Club is focusing on the accomplishments of two local youths.



SOPHIA LAUMANN, was one of four to receive a Health Scholarship at the state level. Hats off to our member, Gail Strid, for guiding Sophia through the application process. Sophia's award was announced at the State Convention in Eau Claire on May 1, 2023. Sophia will be attending UW-Oshkosh and plans to earn a doctoral degree as a Psychiatric/Mental

Health Nurse Practitioner.

Proud moments for Rhinelanders Woman's Club.

Breaking news from the GFWC annual convention in Louisville, KY this June: The winner of the National Writing Contest is Rhinelanders 8th grader, Riley Jae Johnson! Her award-winning short story is titled "The Duende." Riley's story is a spin-off adventure of five sisters in Mexico who Riley met when reading the novel, "Summer of the Mariposas," by Guadalupe Garcia McCall.

In 2023 our club was very pleased to sponsor its fifth

Creative Writing Contest for Rhinelanders students in grades K-8. The Club's goals for this yearly project are to encourage students' imaginative writing, to reward their creative accomplishments, and to send a message of positivity to the community; that is, Rhinelanders youth are awesome!



RIVERS & LAKES DISTRICT

GFWC WOMEN’S CLUB OF PRINCETON

The Women’s Club of Princeton is proud to be recognized for all the hard work done in the last year, we received 3 awards. Princeton Library Beautification Project in Library and Education, Groovy Gardener’s in Environment, and our Club won in the Website Contest for Communications and Public Relations. The “Groovy Gardeners” have continued to add to the gardens at the library in preparation for Princeton’s 175th Anniversary Celebration held July 20-23.

The Women’s Club of Princeton presented a check for \$1,500 to the Princeton Fire Department to purchase LED road flares, stop/slow road sign paddle equipment that will help provide better safety for firefighters and drivers.

Recently our Club presented a check for \$300 to The Giving Closet at Markesan High School. The Giving Closet, run by founder Mrs. Billie Lang, Markesan District School

Special Ed Teacher, provides clothing, toiletries, personal hygiene items, school supplies and more to stu-



dents in need.



Women's Club of Princeton members (back row l. to r.) JoDee Megeath, Vicky Evans, Terry Beck, Sandy Booth and Chris Goulet, (front row l. to r.) Sue Bednarek, Jenny Stelzner, Rose Wick, and Barb Dettman were on hand to present Sara Wilson, Librarian of Mill Pond Library in Kingston pictured far right next to her granddaughter, Jada, a check for \$500 to help the library acquire some much-needed items. Our club has formed a new Library Committee to help smaller libraries in our area.

LAKESHORE DISTRICT

GFWC BROWN DEER JUNIOR WOMAN’S CLUB

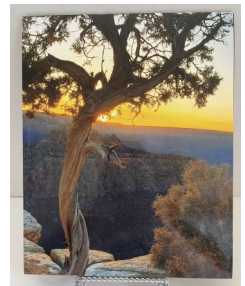
We are an international winner!

In June our club was thrilled to learn that we were honored by GFWC international at the 2023 convention to receive first place in the 2022 GFWC website contest. Visit [BD Juniors](#) to view our award-winning website.

At the May 2023 state convention! GFWC-WI Helen Mears art contest - first place went to Laura Lee, an 8th grade student at BD Middle School, for her untitled painting (of Martin Luther King).



Member Photography Contest-Natural Wonders – first place went to club member Diane Johnson for her photo of the Grand Canyon.



Our 2023 continuing education scholarship went to Dolores Brown. She has a Master of Library and Information Science and was awarded \$1000 towards her pursuing her 1902 educator’s license at UW-Milwaukee.

Other activities were speakers at meetings from neighborhood watch and days for girls; our early bird spring rummage sale, a DIY dog toys/member wine social and June meeting banquet at a local restaurant.

LAKESHORE DISTRICT- CONTINUED

GFWC WOMAN’S CLUB OF WEST ALLIS

At our Scholarship Fundraising Luncheon in April, over 200 guests enjoyed a huge selection of homemade salads, shopped at our popular "Gently used Jewelry and Purses Boutique", and tried their luck at various raffles, including 68 theme-filled baskets! Six members did the six-week "Spring Walking Challenge" offered by the GFWC-WI Juniors. Nine GFWC clubs participated. Our team proudly took first place, with our top walkers logging 725,671 and 606,638 steps. (That’s 320 and 260 miles!!) With our prize money, we are sponsoring West Allis’ Rec Dept. Youth Soccer. The GFWC logo and our club’s



name will be in the City’s fall Rec Dept. Activity Guide distributed to 47,000+ homes. The GFWC-WI Convention, May 4-6, had some very excellent speakers, plus a fun, fundraising auction of concept-decorated “Manikins”. The “Mermazing Mermaid”, created

by our member, Tamara Spredemann, will be our club’s mascot for future meetings!

We weren’t in Indianapolis for the Indy 500, but in May our "Sox and Undies 500" Project came across the finish line with 695 items/pkggs donated for our Vet’s Initiative and "Hope Closet" families. Then, our members’ generosity was seen again for the "West Allis A la Carte" street festival in June where our "Jewelry Boutique" and "Sweet Treats" booths offered hundreds of jewelry items and homemade treats all donated by our members. The over \$500 earned at each booth will be used for future Service Projects.



IN MEMORIAM

Last winter **GFWC Hillsboro Woman’s Civic Club** lost its oldest member, Mrs. Sylvia Schneider. She was 101 years old. Remarkably, she had been a member of the Club for 77 years. She was one of eight local clubwomen who had been members for 50 or more years.

ing president. Sylvia had joined the Hillsboro Club when her husband was fighting overseas in World War II.



Sylvia R. Schneider

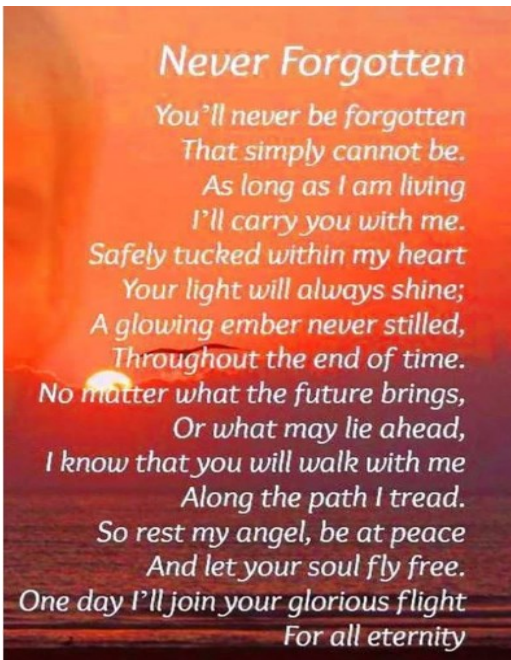
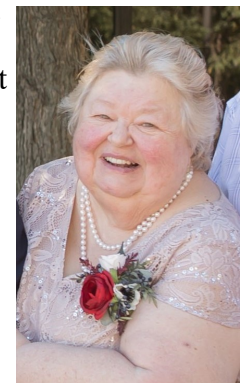
Over the years she had served the Club in many capacities, includ-

In May the **Women’s Club of Princeton** lost long time member Dorothy Bednarek.

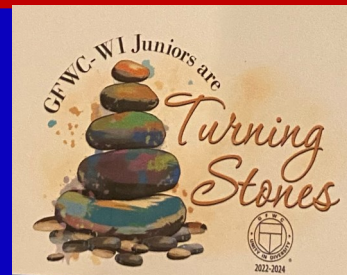
generation club woman.

Dorothy was a member of the Women’s Club of Princeton for 55 years. She served as club president and was treasurer for the Club for over 20 years. In 2004 she informed her daughter Susan that she had paid her dues that she was now a member of the GFWC-WI Women’s Club of Princeton, adding a second

She was proud of all the accomplishments that the club has made in the last several years that brought it back to life. Her smile will be greatly missed.



GFWC WISCONSIN



Dedicated to community service since 1896

GFWC - WI Dates to Remember:

October 5-8, 2023

GFWC Great Lakes Region Conference , Noblesville, IN

October 21, 2023,

Junior Fall Conference, Civil War Museum, Kenosha

November 11, 2023

Wisconsin's Own Library Open House, Ripon College, Ripon, WI

February 9-10, 2024,

Winter Workshop Middleton, WI

May 2-5 2024,

State Convention in Brookfield, WI

June 27 - July 2, 2024,

International Convention in Chicago IL

GFWC - Wisconsin

Clubwoman

Editor

Sue Bednarek

Next deadline:

October 25, 2023

Send articles to:

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Our Mission

GFWC-Wisconsin is a statewide organization dedicated to community improvement by enhancing the lives of others through volunteer service.

GFWC-Wisconsin is a non-profit, tax-exempt charitable organization under Section 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code.



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