



General Federation of
Women's Club - Wisconsin

GFWC - Wisconsin Clubwoman

VOLUME 101 ISSUE 2

JULY 1, 2019

WWW.GFWC-WI

Official publication of the General Federation of Women's Clubs - Wisconsin

Inside this issue:

Messages-Officers/Director.....	2-7
Jr Fall Conference Call.....	8-9
Miles for Smiles.....	10
Mini LEADS 101.....	11
Purses Report.....	12
State Stats/Reports.....	13-17
District Reports/Turning Pt.....	18-19
Program Areas: International Outreach, Education and Conservation.....	20-21
State Awards.....	22-29
Great Lakes Region Conference	30-32
How to Retain Members.....	33
Leadership.....	34
Amendments/Polices and Com- munity Improvement Project.....	35
WIL Sand Cancer wigs story.....	36
Club Corner.....	37-40
Save the Date 2020.....	41
Calendar & Reminders.....	42

You're Invited:

Take a tour of the girlhood home of
Theodora Youmans at 2pm Saturday,
August 17th. The house is located at
19765 W National Avenue, New Berlin.

The tour is part of a national year-long
celebration of the ratification of the 19th
amendment which gave women the right
to vote. Theodora was a state leader in
this movement.

The Theodora Youmans Citizenship
Award has been presented by GFWC-WI
since 1937.



Theodora W. Youmans
b Feb 1, 1863
d Aug 17, 1932

The tour is hosted by New Berlin Historical Society. Thanks to Linda Kay Cook for sharing this information about the tour. Linda is chairman of GFWC-WI President's Project - Turning Point Suffragist Memorial. More on the Suffragist Memorial and how your club can get involved, see page 19.

Your GFWC - Wisconsin Executive Committee

PRESIDENT

Deb Brossard
9386 South Shore Rd
Harshaw, WI 54529
deb.brossard@gmail.com
608-751-2552

DIRECTOR OF JUNIOR CLUBS

Michelle Munoz
39129 N Aberdeen Ln
Beach Park, IL 60083
chellemunoz@hotmail.com
847-910-8698

1st VICE PRESIDENT

Abby Lorenz
1224 N Douman Rd
Oconomowoc, WI 53066
AbbyLorenz@wi.rr.com
H: 262-468-4914
C: 414-350-8713

2nd VICE PRESIDENT

Janice Curtiss
320 Reed St
Plymouth, WI 53073-2343
janicecurtiss@gmail.com
920-838-2007

RECORDING SECRETARY

Nancy Niedziela
N30W29273 Hillcrest Dr - C
Pewaukee, WI 53072
Rniedziela@wi.rr.com
H: 262-367-6512
C: 262-366-1660

CORRESPONDING SECRETARY

Sue Sands
1407 Fox River Dr
De Pere, WI 54115
suesands@new.rr.com
920-337-2188

TREASURER

Nancy Dickman
S68W17666 East Dr
Muskego, WI 53150
nancy_dman@msn.com
nancy-dickman@outlook.com
262-679-1842



Message from our 2018—2020 GFWC - WI President

Greetings Fellow GFWC-WI club members,

I hope you are all enjoying a little bit of respite this summer. It won't be long until our clubs are back in full swing and ready to take on any projects that will benefit our communities.

I am excited to welcome you to the second year of the 2018-2020 Administration! As I reflected on GFWC-Wisconsin's accomplishments just since July 1, 2018, I am truly amazed. Included in this issue of the Wisconsin Clubwoman magazine is the state's annual report that I submitted to GFWC Headquarters earlier this spring. It covered a variety of club projects completed during the 2018 reporting year so I hope you will take a few minutes to review that report and bask in the glory of everything our clubs did to improve our communities. Congratulations on all your efforts!

As a state organization, I am so pleased that we are now able to accept online registrations for meetings and conventions. Implementing the "early bird" discount and raising the late fee has reduced procrastination when it comes to registrations. We are able to utilize PayPal for registration payments and fundraising efforts and have added the "Donate Now" buttons on the website. We are working hard to keep the website up to date and have improved communication with every club by reaching club officers, especially presidents and treasurers, individually and personally. We should be especially proud of the development and implementation of our Investment Policy Statement as well as our GFWC-WI Mini LEADS programming. And I hope you are having fun learning about our "Roots" and are embracing the challenge that Theodora Youmans issued to you at the State Convention for support of the Turning Point Suffragists' Memorial. I am happy to report we are well on our way of accomplishing all we set out to do as articulated in the 2018-2020 Strategic Plan.



Deb Brossard
GFWC - WI President



Reflecting on some personal accomplishments, I am very tickled that I was able to make use of GFWC-Wisconsin's past minutes to share our organization's important role in the Women's Suffrage movement at the State Convention and at a couple of recent club visits. At the urging of the Monroe Woman's Club, I contacted the governor's office for information on the state's intention to celebrate the Centennial Anniversary of Wisconsin's ratification of the 19th Amendment and to initiate the request for a special proclamation shown here.

My neighbor and I made the journey to Madison on June 10 to take part in that Centennial Celebration and retrieve the Proclamation personally. I was proud as your 59th State President, to represent GFWC Wisconsin. My kindred spirit and our third state president, Theodora Youmans, was definitely in the house as well! Her photo is being used in all the State Historical Society's promotional materials. I feel as though we've become good friends through this process! I am making plans and can't wait to attend the Turning Point Suffragist Memorial dedication in Lorton, Virginia, on the centennial anniversary of ratification of the 19th Amendment, August 26, 2020. Can you imagine all our GFWC Suffragist Sisters who will be watching from the great beyond and celebrating with us?!

Finally, I am pleased to report that I have visited a record number of clubs and districts over the past 11 months. I have really enjoyed each and every visit and getting to know individual clubwomen better. My presentations have varied depending on district and club requests and have been well received. I think I've only exceeded my time limit once or twice. Please remember to use the Officer Visit Request Form found in the State Handbook if you wish to invite me, another state officer, or a state chairman to speak at your club or district meeting. We do our best to accommodate all requests.

When I wrote this I was in the final stages of preparation to attend the 2019 GFWC International Convention in Austin, Texas. I will attend both the Pre Board meeting and all convention functions. By the time you read this, I will still be in Texas but after I arrive home, hopefully with a pile of state awards, I will have logged nearly 15,000 miles as your State President since July 1, 2018. It has been a labor of love and I am truly honored and privileged to serve you.

Thank you again for all you do to make our communities better places to live and thrive.

Message from our 2018—2020 GFWC - WI Director of Junior Clubs

Kindness Starts with a SMILE



Welcome to summer, it has finally arrived in my area. What are your summer plans? We had an amazing 2019 Spring Convention. What an exceptional turnout to our annual convention. I was in charge of collecting the shoes for the Nike Re-use a Shoe Program and also collected shoes for Soles for Souls. We collected approximately 400 pairs of shoes that Karen Ostrowski helped me deliver on Friday to the Nike store. Karen's car was loaded to the max with shoes she collected in the Northwoods district. The folks at the Nike Store set out tables for us to unload the shoes in their back storeroom. After convention weekend, I took bags and boxes of "casual" non-athletic shoes to DSW where they collect shoes for the Soles for Souls project. It was definitely a priority to get those shoes out of the back of my car. I want to thank everyone for their continued support to GFWC-WI with the Seven Grand Initiatives. What an amazing first year this has been for me, time does fly for sure. This year alone, I was tasked



with reporting to GFWC all the projects our clubs did in the 2018 year. I attended GFWC-WI Winter Workshop in Waupaca, WI. I can't thank you enough for helping make the "Disney" Wigs for the Children Cancer patients. I'd like to give a shout out to Nancy Niedziela for requesting a wig during Spring Convention. She gave one of the Jack Sparrow wigs to a little guy, Gus, battling bone cancer. He loved his wig and I was overwhelmed with joy when seeing his picture.

In March, a group of us from my local club plus some members from the Pleasant Prairie Woman's Club and we made more wigs. It was a fun afternoon of fellowship and friendship filled with laughter, this is how we spent St. Patrick's Day. I also attended State Convention planning meetings and my regular monthly club meetings. In April, it was more planning meetings, along with planning the Junior Luncheon table settings and Save the Date Cards for Junior Fall Conference. I was also tasked with getting the State Banner for us to have for current and future conferences and conventions, thank you Janice Curtiss for the design, definitely a team effort. Finally, I put together a bag for our collection of Domestic Violence totes.

During our Spring Convention, our guest of honor was Trisha Shafer, GFWC Director of Junior Clubs. The Junior members who attended our Junior Board Meeting received a T-shirt and we all posed for a picture.



So what is next, we are getting ready to attend GFWC Convention in Austin, TX. GFWC-WI Juniors are starting a new fundraiser called – **Miles for Smiles**. This is a Virtual 5k non-competition, but a fun activity for you to challenge yourself, or with friends and family. You can walk, run, hike, treadmill or stroll. We have registration forms included in this edition of the Clubwoman. We are also planning the Junior Fall Conference which will be held at the historic Woman's Club House in Kenosha, WI on Saturday October 12, the official call to convention is also included in this clubwoman. As the Director of Junior Clubs, I appreciate everyone's continued friendship, fellowship and support.

I wish you all a wonderful summer and look forward to spending time with you in the Fall.

In Federation Friendship – Michelle, GFWC-WI Director of Junior Clubs

Officer Report - First Vice President

By: Abby Lorenz



Abby Lorenz
GFWC - WI First Vice President

“The meaning of life is to find your gift.

The purpose of life is to give it away.”

- *Pablo Picasso*

Life would be so much easier if we could look into a crystal ball and know our destiny! Instead we learn from our past experiences and need to be reminded to live each day to its fullest - - and most important, to live in the moment. Being with my GFWC sisters at our monthly Woman’s Club of Pewaukee luncheons, district meetings and State Convention brings me such joy! Witnessing the tremendous power of women as they give so generously to others to make our community a better place is what GFWC is all about. First a woman discovers her gifts and talents, then she looks for opportunities to give it all away.

Spring was full of visits to District meetings throughout our State of Wisconsin. I have been sharing the tremendous benefits of GFWC, helping clubs increase membership, and now in the Membership article below, providing suggestions on how to retain those new members you worked so hard to gain. I’d like to give a special “shout out” to the GFWC Woman’s Club of Kenosha for their outstanding new member recruitment this year: they gained 22 new members! A special Membership “Honorable Mention” has been awarded to the Woman’s Club of Kenosha for their exceptional accomplishment under the direction of Deb Strecker. Congratulations and a special warm welcome to all 22 new members!

At our State Convention, in addition to presenting Membership Awards, I participated in many committee meetings including Amendments and Policies, District Presidents, Strategic Planning, Leadership, Wisconsin’s Own Library, Investment and presented on “The Art of Public Speaking” for attendees in our Mini LEADS (Leadership Education And Development Seminar).

There is excitement in the air as planning has begun with Junior Director-Elect, Tammy Welter, on our upcoming 2020 Administration. Kudos to President Deb Brossard on her outstanding leadership throughout the year. Finally, I wish all the best to each and every one of our GFWC sisters this summer as you discover your talents and gifts ~ and proudly give them away to make your communities a better place to live, work and play!

In Federation,

Abby Lorenz

Officer Report - Second Vice President

By: Janice Curtiss

I would like to give a shout out to all the Clubs to thank you for reporting. I know it is no easy task and most of you probably dread the thought of writing them. But, you did it and I am very proud of all of you! Next a huge thank you to all our GFWC Wisconsin Chairmen for all the valuable information and ideas you pass on to all of us about your departments, for reading all your departments reports and writing summaries for GFWC.

As I pack to travel to Austin, TX for the GFWC International Convention I'm taking all of you with me in my heart. Because I know the volunteer numbers on the screen and winners I hear announced represent all of you and the World is a better place because of all you do.



Janice Curtiss

GFWC - WI Second Vice President

Pictured here is **Janice** with her fabulous husband, **Scott Curtiss** who is a huge supporter of GFWC!

I hope all of you have a wonderful summer and I can't wait to see you all at GFWC-WI Junior Fall Conference, October 12th in Kenosha.

If you need anything please reach out to me via phone 920-838-2007 or **[new email janicemcurtiss@gmail.com](mailto:janicemcurtiss@gmail.com)**



Our State Leadership

Standing L to R: Paula Schlice, Nancy Dickman, Nancy Nieziela, Sue Sands, Janice Curtiss, Laurie Muffler and Michele Fuehrer

Sitting L to R: Abby Lorenz, Deb Brossard, Michelle Munoz and Tammy Welter

Photo taken at State Convention May 2019 in Pleasant Prairie, Wisconsin

Officer Reports continued - Treasurer

By: Nancy Dickman



Nancy Dickman
GFWC - WI Treasurer

The GFWC-WI records are ready for review and ready to begin the next club year!

Summer will bring preparations for the next request on roster updates. Current rosters are in a specific format to allow creation of a member database. Clubs are asked to update the rosters that will be sent rather than providing club documents to the state. Please be assured that information included in the rosters are used only for GFWC purposes and are NOT sold or shared with outside entities.

This member benefit is truly a saver:

The Office Depot/OfficeMax member benefit is HUGE for clubs. As an example, one print job for the convention resulted in spending about \$190 but SAVED \$398 from the retail print cost. Every member can obtain the Office Depot/OfficeMax discount card.

It is worthwhile looking at this discount even if there is not an Office Depot/ OfficeMax nearby. The agreement includes a long list of discounted items available for on-line purchase.



Go online to <https://www.gfwc.org/membership/membership-discounts/> and follow the 'Click here' link to the Office Depot/ OfficeMax site for GFWC members. There is a printable discount card that will provide significant discounts on printing and below retail prices for thousands of office supply and meeting items.

Another Office Depot/OfficeMax tip: Replacement receipts for purchases within the last three months can be requested by calling: 1 800-GODEPOT. Be ready to provide the purchase date, amount and store location. Customer service can almost instantly provide an email replacement receipt for all the items purchased in the transaction. What a great service for members needing those receipts to request reimbursement.

In Federation,
Nancy Dickman

Sue Sands has graciously volunteered to serve the unfinished term of GFWC - Wisconsin Corresponding Secretary position. Here **President Deb Brossard** pins Sue at the last Board meeting in Pleasant Prairie.

Thank you, Sue!

Officer Reports continued - Recording Secretary

By: Nancy Niedziela

Nancy assumed the duties of the Recording Secretary at the May 2018 GFWC-WI State Convention in Brown Deer, attended Executive Committee meetings, Board of Directors' meetings, General Session meetings, executed the minutes and submitted them for approval, attended the Fall Workshop and the Winter BOD meeting in February and assisted the president in the clerical work of the state handbook.

She also created an updated version of the secretary's handbook for future secretaries to use. She also attended part of the GFWC International Convention in St., Louis, Missouri, and the Great Lakes Region Convention in Michigan City, Indiana.

She will be in Austin at the International Convention in June along with the Wisconsin Delegation.

On the district level, she serves as the Rolling Hills District Treasurer and manages reservations for all meetings. On the local level she assembles the Woman's Club of Pewaukee Yearbook, leads the book club, was the chair of the Rolling Hills District Spring 2018 meeting and assisted at all the fundraising and service events of the Pewaukee Club, including getting frozen fingers at Positively Pewaukee's Halloween event. She specializes in taking reservations for events and doing the name tags for both the district and her club. She is currently working on the 2019-2020 Yearbook for the GFWC -WI Woman's Club of Pewaukee and working on the 2020 Convention Planning Committee for the Rolling Hills District.



Nancy Niedziela
GFWC - WI Recording Secretary



A few fun pics from State Convention in May





**Official Call to the 62nd
GFWC-WI JUNIOR FALL CONFERENCE
OCTOBER 12, 2019
WOMAN'S CLUB OF KENOSHA
6028 8th Avenue
KENOSHA, WISCONSIN**

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

Michele Fuehrer, GFWC-WI Juniors, Treasurer
325 Summit Avenue, Oconomowoc, WI 53066

Checks Payable to GFWC-WI JUNIORS

Name _____

Address _____

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

Club Name _____ **District** _____

Email _____

Please check highest office currently held: ____ GFWC-WI Officer ____ GFWC-WI Board Member
____ Member ____ JR Board Member ____ District President ____ Club President

Conference Registration \$35.00 _____ (on or before September 27)

Late Registration \$45.00 _____ (after September 27)

No refunds after October 5, 2019

Saturday Lunch (included in registration)

Meal choices:

Sandwich (Pick one)

- Brat on Pretzel Bun
- Tuscan Chicken on Brioche Bun

Soup (Pick one)

- Broccoli Cheddar
- Minestrone
- Tomato Basil

Please list any Dietary Restrictions: _____

PD \$ _____ Date _____ CK# _____

Tentative Agenda

Friday - October 11, 2019

Arrive – Stella Hotel Kenosha WI

6:30pm - 9:30 pm – Bunco Social – Residence of Loretta Caron – 6107 7th Avenue – Kenosha, WI 53143 – refreshments will be served

Saturday – October 12, 2019

8:30 am - Registration

9:00 am - Call to order

10:15am - Speaker- MACC Foundation (Midwest Athletes Against Childhood Cancer or Cleft Palate Surgeon or Burn Camp Rep)

10:50am - Break

11:00am - Speaker – TBD (Conservation – Recycling)

11:45am - Lunch

12:45pm - Reconvene

12:50pm - Interactive Workshop - What does it mean to be a Board Member

1:50pm - Wrap-Up, Prizes and Announcements

2:00 pm - Adjournment

Please see separate registration form for Mini-LEADS on page 11.

2:15pm - Mini-LEADS Registration

2:30pm- 4:30pm: Mini-LEADS 102

Hotel Information:

The Stella Hotel & Ballroom, 5706 8th Avenue, Kenosha, WI 53140

Phone: 262-842-2000

Please call the number: 262-842-2000 to make your reservation.

Room Rates \$135 Double Queen Rooms. **Reservation must be complete before Sept 11, 2019.** Room Reference: GFWC-WI Juniors

Rooms are available Friday and Saturday October 11 & 12, 2019, if needed.

*(includes the mandated registration fee for JFC as designated in the GFWC-WI Junior bylaws/policies)

GFWC WISCONSIN JUNIORS

MILES FOR SMILES

VIRTUAL 5K



Join US with a Virtual 5k - Everyone can participate.

What is a virtual 5k – It’s a fun Run, Walk, Hike, Bike ride, Treadmill at your own pace, by yourself or with a group, anyone is welcome to join

You pick the activity, go for 3.1 miles or 5k and earn the award while contributing to our special charities.

Simply do the activity and when your done take a picture with your Medal in hand and Race bib, post the pic to our Facebook page: GFWC Wisconsin Juniors
<https://www.facebook.com/gfwcwjuniorpage>

Cost = \$25

Portions of the proceeds will benefit the following organizations:

- 1 – Operation Smile
- 2 – St. Jude’s Children’s Hospital
- 3 – Send a camper to Burn Camp in East Troy, WI

What you need to do to sign up:

Fill out this Form
Checks payable to: GFWC-WI Juniors

Mail to: GFWC-WI Jr. Treasurer – Michele Fuehrer
325 Summit Ave
Oconomowoc, WI 53066



Name: _____

Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

Email address: _____

Club: _____ Phone Number: _____

Once you’re all signed up we’ll mail the Medal & Race Bib and your adventure will begin

All participants receive a Finisher Medal and Race Bib

Contact Michelle Munoz for more information – chellemunoz@hotmail.com

*Participation is at your own risk



**GFWC-WI State Federation Mini LEADS 102
(Leadership, Education and Development Seminar)
A New Experience - Mini LEADS 102**

Saturday, October 12th, 2019 (2:30-4:30pm)

Following the GFWC-WI Junior Fall Conference, Kenosha

Your Leadership Committee has received multiple requests to offer additional 100 level courses so we have expanded our GFWC-WI Mini LEADS University offering to include a 102 session with presentations on Attracting and Retaining New Members and The Art of Delegation.

All Clubwomen are invited and every GFWC Wisconsin Club is encouraged to support members to attend this Mini LEADS 102 session. The seminar will be held in Kenosha following the adjournment of the GFWC-WI Junior Fall Conference.

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

Mary Meek - GFWC-WI Leadership Chairman
5659 Silent Drive, Rhineland, WI 54501

Registration: Due by September 15th

Club Name _____ District _____

Member's Name _____

Address _____ City _____ Zip _____

Email Address _____ Contact Number _____

List all Club, District and State participation including all activities and chairmanships:

List specific questions that you would like to see addressed at this GFWC-WI Mini LEADS 102 session

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

Applicant's Signature: _____ Club or District President's Signature: (optional)

GFWC Signature Program - Purses Report



Thank you to all who donated the purses and contents, brought them to convention, organized and carried them into their destination - Women and Children's Horizons, Inc. of Kenosha!



Here's the story by Deb Strecker, President of GFWC Woman's Club of Kenosha:



The district convention officially ended at 3:00 on Saturday June 4th, but Southern Prairies District/Woman's Club of Kenosha's work was not done. We were asked to take all the filled purses that the members so generously gave. Boxes and boxes of them. Kathy Herr, Maureen Miller and myself loaded the suitcase trolley over and over and filled my car to the brim, along with Maureen's. My CRV was so full, it became a purse mobile. On Tuesday, we delivered the purses back to our Club, recruited members to unload them, count and organize them. Those purses were heavy, full lots of personal hygiene items.



On Wednesday, representatives from Kenosha's domestic violence shelter, **Women and Children's Horizons, Inc.** (wchkenosha.org) brought their empty cargo van and we loaded them up. They were astonished with the



amount and the quality of the purses. They said that they would be able to give them to their clients, have some for a purse auction and to sell at their resale shop, Nifty Thrifty. There were other items donated besides purses, feminine products, wash clothes and towels. **The final count of filled purses was 171!**

GFWC Wisconsin, Inc. 2018 Stats in a Nutshell

Stats and narratives on pages 13-17 have been submitted by President Brossard to GFWC in April 2019

WI Clubs Reporting = 36 of 47 Clubs (77%) **2017-2018 Statewide membership:** 1629 **Projects** = 1,060
Volunteer Hours = 75,322 **Dollars Donated** = \$318,794.47 **In Kind** = \$79,934.44
Dollars Spent (Advancement Areas) = \$30,603.36 **Dollars Raised** = \$185,144.90 **ESO Books read:** 428

GFWC –WI 2018 Report to GFWC

Submitted by: Deb Brossard, GFWC-WI President

SPECIAL PROJECTS/COMMUNITY SERVICE PROGRAMS/ADVANCEMENT AREAS

GFWC Signature Project- Domestic Violence Awareness and Prevention – Clubs across Wisconsin supported this special program by inviting various speakers to club meetings to educate members on their efforts in combating this dreadful fact of life. Members opened their hearts and their pocketbooks to contribute to local Domestic Violence Centers both monetarily and with ‘in-kind’ collections of clothes, purses, sundries, and linens just to name a few. They tied purple ribbons to trees in October and rolled up their sleeves, volunteering time at local Domestic Violence Centers. The Oconomowoc Junior Woman’s Club went above and beyond as they reported volunteering 225 hours, raising \$500.00, and donating \$3,266, and over \$11,000 in-kind items by continuing their affiliation with the Oconomowoc Community Action Committee, which encompasses the Domestic Violence Awareness & Prevention and the Family of the Month committees. Several clubs also reported they hosted speakers on Human Trafficking at their local club meetings and community events. Combined state club efforts totaled 26 projects, 1,459 volunteer hours, \$11,527 dollars donated, and \$18,413 donated ‘in-kind’.

GFWC Juniors Special Program - Advocates for Children – Many Wisconsin clubs chose to support this special program through monetary donations to organizations specializing in the needs of women, children, and families. The Foster Closet found a new partner in the Menomonie Woman’s Club as these members donated money and in-kind items for foster care children recently moved from their homes. Seed of Hope benefited from the Hartford Juniors’ donation of \$1,000 to purchase layettes, formula, and other baby essentials. 2,000 backpacks of food were packed by the Oconomowoc Juniors. Wisconsin clubs did not forget that kids also need to have fun as they went out their way to provide goodies during Trunk and Treat events, and donated monetarily to Special Olympics and the Midwest Therapeutic Riding Program. You might recall that Wisconsin clubs collected thousands of bras last year for Free the Girls and we were challenged to donate .10 cents for each bra to this year donate to the March of Dimes. In true Wisconsin fashion, we were overachievers and raised \$500 toward that effort. Combined state club efforts totaled 16 projects, 314 volunteer hours, \$6,370 dollars donated, and \$8,519 donated ‘in-kind’.

Arts Community Service Program – Supporting the Arts is a passion for the majority of Wisconsin clubs reporting. They donated time and/or treasure to local art centers and councils, museums, and music programs and venues. The Monroe Woman’s Club’s project – All Access Arts, provides free tickets for Monroe students to attend performing arts events in their district and community. The Rhinelander Woman’s Club dabbled in the arts by creating 500 new Christmas cards from recycled ones, distributing them to the elderly and homebound; sponsored a professional actor/teacher to spend a week with 200 8th graders, guiding them to an appreciation for Shakespeare; and providing \$2,500 to expand a public radio broadcast that shares the history and culture of Northern Wisconsin. Arts shows and contests were supported as was the restoration of a local old town theatre. Many clubs across Wisconsin also sponsor local Helen Mears Art Competitions and are proud to bring their students’ works to the annual state convention where additional awards can be won. This has been a proud tradition in Wisconsin since 1927. Combined state club efforts totaled 96 projects, 5,787 volunteer hours, \$26,568 dollars donated, and \$3,490.36 donated ‘in-kind’.

GFWC – WI 2018 Report to GFWC

Submitted by: Deb Brossard, GFWC-WI President

Conservation Community Service Program – Wisconsin clubwomen are not afraid to roll up their sleeves and get a little dirty if that's what it takes to take care of our environment. From Adopt-A-Highway cleanups to eradicating invasive species to beautifying downtowns and local yards and gardens, our clubs are up to the task. Wisconsin clubs were also busy recycling egg cartons, Styrofoam, glass, plastic, aluminum cans, and toner/ink cartridges and one club even saved over a hundred stuffed animals from ending up in a landfill. They cleaned and mended these gently used items, paired them with a book and donated them to local area children. One club and one district also educated their members regarding Wetlands/Watershed management. Combined state club efforts totaled 79 projects, 5,958 volunteer hours, \$27,613.42 dollars donated, and \$2,199 donated 'in-kind'.

Education Community Service Program – Clubs in Wisconsin take pride in GFWC's past and our foremothers' mission of establishing the majority of public libraries in our state. To that end, numerous clubs made monetary donations as well as gifts of books and time to their local libraries. The Bloomer Woman's Club, concerned that our youth is spending too much time on screens, donated funds for a speaker on the subject, educating the Screenagers of Bloomer on the danger of this habit. Every club reporting in this CSP indicated support for various scholarships. In lieu of HOBY, many clubs donate to the "Wisconsin Leadership Seminar" or WILS, an organization that provides high school sophomores with the opportunity and encouragement to recognize their leadership potential through an annual 3-day leadership seminar. Wisconsin clubwomen educated themselves on a variety of topics and serve as tutors, readers and/or mentors across the state. Clubs support local literacy councils and programs with their time and treasure. Local schools also benefit from book and supply drives. Always looking for writing talent, clubs held Short Story, Essay, and Poetry contests and pick the best to forward to GFWC competition. Combined state club efforts totaled 156 projects, 5,293 volunteer hours, \$89,881.57 dollars donated, and \$17,766.65 donated 'in-kind'. In addition, a few Wisconsin clubs reported ESO efforts to the tune of 1,926 volunteer hours and 428 books read. The state ESO chairman is passionate about this project and that is evident in her efforts to promote it across the state. She has recruited several new members and she isn't done yet!

Home Life Community Service Program – Sponsoring blood drives and donating time and nonperishables and sundry items to food and personal essentials pantries are high on the 'to do' list of Wisconsin clubs. Most clubs reported volunteering significant amounts of time in one or the other of these areas. Even the smallest club reporting, Centuria Woman's Club, membership of 8, sponsored and worked at two blood drives in one year! Providing comfort to those who face the challenges of cancer, homelessness, poverty, and mental illness are among the most heart-warming of projects that Wisconsin clubs reported. The Pewaukee Woman's Club stands out for its Little Hats, Big Hearts project (knitted hats for preemies) and for its role as a catalyst to create a Dementia Friendly Pewaukee. The Plymouth Woman's Club sends a monthly basket to a family affected by childhood cancer through Project Angel Hugs. The Stevens Point Woman's Club assembled 100 gift baskets for the family caregivers of hospice patients. Combined state club efforts totaled 174 projects, 13,272 volunteer hours, \$103,871.78 dollars donated, and \$16,937.07 donated 'in-kind'.

International Outreach Community Service Program – Wisconsin clubs seem to excel in supporting the GFWC Partnerships of this Community Service program! Children on the other side of the world felt the warm hugs from our Wisconsin clubwomen that were transported inside the hundreds of Operation Smile blankets and on the paws of many stuffed animals shipped. A variety of animals were purchased through our donations to Heifer International. Wisconsin clubs' monetary donations provided hundreds of vaccines through Shot@Life and collections for the U.S. Fund for UNICEF were also accomplished. Local international efforts included educating members on various cultures through guest speakers and foreign exchange student visits and the Rhinelander Woman's Club sponsored three students at \$2,100 to attend the World Affairs Seminar at Carroll University in Waukesha, WI. Combined state club efforts, not including GFWC Partnership Statistics, totaled 27 projects, 2,260 volunteer hours, \$3,596 dollars donated, and \$1,210 donated 'in-kind'. IO Partnership statistics totaled 22 projects, 1,119.5 volunteer hours, \$3,771.50 dollars donated, and \$2,890.03 donated 'in-kind'.

GFWC –WI 2018 Report to GFWC

Submitted by: Deb Brossard, GFWC-WI President

Public Issues Community Service Program – Wisconsin clubwomen embrace opportunities to support veterans as evident from reports in this CSP. They contribute financially as well as ‘in-kind’ to Veterans’ Homes and Veterans’ Initiatives across the state. They thank veterans through cards and letters and by donating to Honor Flights and Bus Tours to our nation’s capital. Clubs recognize veterans with “Quilts of Valor” and hand knit or crocheted caps, lovingly created by their members. Wisconsin clubs supported local law enforcement in various ways, with the Rhinelander Woman’s Club raising funds for a new K-9 officer and the Muskego Woman’s Club helping their community children, Shop with a Cop. Clubs reported numerous donations to historical and humane societies and homeless shelters and made donations to and rang bells for the Salvation Army. Combined state club efforts totaled 108 projects, 5,150 volunteer hours, \$45,195.20 dollars donated, and \$8,053.33 donated ‘in-kind’.

Communications and Public Relations – Wisconsin clubs take Communications and Public Relations very seriously. You will see us appear in local parades, handing out brochures, seed packets, and candy to make sure our communities know we exist and what we do! All clubs reported excellent internal communication via club newsletters, emails, and phone calls. You’ll see GFWC Road signs posted at town and city entrances throughout Wisconsin and our clubwomen are proud to display the GFWC logo on business cards, stationary, club brochures, display boards and press releases. Wisconsin clubs promoted Federation Day on April 24, 2018 through proclamations and other special events. Clubs are members of their local Chambers of Commerce and have a seat at the table when an action plan to meet a community need is required. We are working hard in Wisconsin so that GFWC is not the best kept secret it used to be. We are proud of our accomplishments and we are not afraid to toot our own horns! The state’s strategic plan includes a component to improve communication to reach the individual club member and the state’s WI Clubwoman Editor and GFWC WI Webmaster do an excellent job of promoting Wisconsin’s message of living the volunteer spirit across the state. Oh, and be sure to follow us on Facebook! GFWC Wisconsin. Combined state efforts totaled 91 projects, 3,296 volunteer hours and \$4,588.36 reported as dollars spent.

Fundraising and Development – Clubs across the state of Wisconsin found a variety of ways to raise funds as they sponsored Fun Festivals, Girls’ Night Out Events, Garden Tours, Auctions & Flea Markets, Game Nights, Rummage and Consignment sales and Arts & Crafts shows. Clubwomen rolled up their sleeves to work at Culver’s Share nights, bake sales, concession stands, brat fries, and spaghetti dinners. They literally sold everything from ‘soup’ to ‘nuts’ and more than a few wreaths and poinsettias to boot! The usual basket raffles and 50/50s are typical for most clubs and some find that just ‘spare change’ can also add up. An interesting new fundraising project brought to the chairman’s attention, was “Take a Class/Teach a Class”. Five opportunities to learn a new skills were offered to members of the Blanchardville community by the Blanchardville clubwomen. A profit of \$725 was realized which is pretty good for a village of approximately 800. Wisconsin clubwomen work hard at fundraising, have fun while doing it, and are gratified when the fruits of their labor result in giving so much back to their communities. Combined state efforts totaled 85 projects, 12,505.25 volunteer hours, and \$184,598.52 raised.

Leadership – In Wisconsin, it is important for each club to identify, grow, and support their leaders in ways that will work for them. The most successful clubs appear to be those who emphasize ongoing leadership training and experiences. They have current leaders who are generous with their ‘secrets of success’ and give others the confidence to step up as a result of their example. Clubs reported the use of board meetings to strategize and standing committees to address the necessary changes in bylaws and policies. Clubwomen develop agendas and work hard to run efficient meetings through the use of parliamentary procedure and good common sense. Wisconsin clubwomen are also proud to serve as leaders beyond the club level. Some of these leaders are supported by their clubs with ‘Dollars for Delegates’. Some clubs are unable to support

More on next page

GFWC – WI 2018 Report to GFWC

Submitted by: Deb Brossard, GFWC-WI

Leadership continued from page before -

leaders monetarily but do so with enthusiasm and willingness to accompany them to district, state, and region meetings. It can be expensive to be a leader but that doesn't stop our Wisconsin clubwomen. They give generously of their time, talent, and treasure to assure that GFWC-WI remains strong and solvent. The 2018-2020 WI President's focus is on Leadership and with that emphasis, came the creation of a state Leadership Committee comprised of past GFWC WI LEADS graduates and our State Director of Junior Clubs. Headed by the dynamic 2017 GFWC WI LEADS graduate, this committee has implemented a WI Mini LEADS program housing leadership documents and training materials on our secured committee members' only webpage. No longer will we reinvent the wheel but willingly share our talent and resources with our club members. WI Mini LEADS is intended to benefit the local clubs, providing officer training so that those members gain confidence and skill at the local level. Will WI Mini LEADS graduates be tapped for state positions? Probably, eventually, but that is not the intent of this leadership training. By nurturing the local leaders we expect this grassroots effort to pay off handsomely. Watch us grow and see us lead! Combined state efforts totaled 155 projects, 13,011.25 hours, and \$17,044.00 dollars spent.

Legislation and Public Policy – Last year Wisconsin's annual report included the efforts of The Woman's Club of West Allis to reinstate cursive writing instruction in the Wisconsin public school curriculum by submitting a new Resolution for consideration at the GFWC-WI annual convention. They knew without a GFWC-WI Resolution on the books, other clubs would not be able to help in this effort to affect our children's future. This resolution was adopted at the 2018 GFWC WI Annual Convention and efforts were ramped up by the state chairman to get this passed in the Wisconsin Legislature. The chairman has presented at all state meetings and has educated clubs on how to help in this legislative process. Watch our progress in the 2019 annual report! Several Wisconsin clubs also engaged in the Grand Initiative of having their members join the Legislative Action Center. I am pleased to report this is an Advancement Area where Wisconsin has doubled the number of projects, more than quadrupled our volunteer hours, and have nearly tripled our dollars spent since the 2017 report! Combined state club efforts totaled 11 projects, 721 volunteer hours and \$2,288 dollars spent.

Membership – Clubs in Wisconsin are trying new ways to attract new members as well as to retain current ones. A volunteer's time is precious and is highly valued. A clubwoman wants to give of herself but will not join or stay a member if the club does not meet her needs. Our clubs are figuring this out and are rising to the challenge. Clubs are providing mentors or big sisters and recognize that if clubwomen do not understand the GFWC organization and all it has to offer its member clubs, they will have a difficult time growing and retaining their membership. The most successful clubs take the time to orient new members and provide occasional refresher courses for veteran members. And they are thinking outside the box, changing meeting days and times to accommodate new members. Membership drives and incentives occurred across the state. New club formation teams and rescue squads have been deployed and have garnered good results. Wisconsin clubs are mixing business with pleasure, making meetings meaningful, and programs educational and informative. The GFWC WI State Membership chairman has a vision, mission, and four objectives which she is carrying out strategically. She has engaged the clubs in two Survey Monkey surveys and has received feedback that our clubs want ongoing communication from the state as well as information on membership issues, knowledge of the benefits of GFWC, LEADS and more. Combined state efforts totaled 86 projects, 3,124 volunteer hours and \$6,683 reported as dollars spent.



GFWC –WI 2018 Report to GFWC

Submitted by: Deb Brossard, GFWC-WI

Women's History and Resource Center – Several Wisconsin clubs donate monetarily to the 1734 Society and to the Women's History and Resource Center. The Rhinelander Woman's Club reported their membership in the Grand Initiative – Million Dollar Club to support upkeep of our International headquarters by donating \$1,000. Interest in learning more about our roots of advocacy is apparent among Wisconsin clubs' efforts. A club celebrating a 120 year anniversary prepared and delivered a skit, "A Meeting of the Rhinelander Woman's Club 1900" which was aired on public radio and delivered on stage, live, complete with costumes and props, at the GFWC Wisconsin Fall Workshop. It aptly portrays our GFWC predecessors as Women's Suffrage was a topic on the agenda! Combined state club efforts totaled 8 projects, 111 volunteer hours, \$2,041.64 dollars donated, and \$52 donated 'in-kind'.

GFWC-WI PRESIDENT'S SPECIAL EMPHASIS/SPECIAL PROJECT

And speaking of Women's Suffrage, Wisconsin clubs have been asked to dig deep and remember their roots of advocacy as they spread their wings on new club projects and initiatives. My President's theme is "Roots and Wings", my emphasis is on Leadership, and my President's Special Project is support of the Turning Point Suffragist Memorial. Wisconsin clubs are rising to the occasion and are engaging suffragist speakers and raising funds for this important memorial to be dedicated on the 100th anniversary of the ratification of the 19th amendment. As indicated in the Leadership section of this report, I created a state Leadership Committee comprised of past GFWC WI LEADS graduates and our State Director of Junior Clubs. Headed by the dynamic 2017 GFWC WI LEADS graduate, this committee has implemented a WI Mini LEADS program housing leadership documents and training materials on our secured committee members' only webpage. No longer will we reinvent the wheel but willingly share our talent and resources with our club members. WI Mini LEADS is intended to benefit the local clubs, providing officer training so that those members gain confidence and skill at the local level. Will WI Mini LEADS graduates be tapped for state positions? Probably, eventually, but that is not the intent of this leadership training. By nurturing the local leaders we expect this grassroots effort to pay off handsomely. Watch us grow and see us lead!



Turning Point Suffragist Memorial: Volunteer hours: 20; Dollars Donated: \$185; Dollars Raised: NA; In-Kind Donations: NA.

OTHER

GFWC-WI is the proud owner of a collection of books by Wisconsin Authors and Illustrators currently housed at the Lane Library, Ripon College, Ripon, WI. Since 2017, our organization has been the fortunate recipient of \$100,000 in discretionary disbursements from the Gwendolyn M. Schulz Charitable Trust. Ms. Schulz was a former GFWC-WI clubwoman and an accomplished Wisconsin author. It was her intention that disbursement from her charitable trust were to be awarded to entities that preserved and publicized significant, worthwhile works of Wisconsin authors. Wisconsin's Own Library fit the bill as such an entity and due to the efforts of a committee formed for the purpose of securing the funds and developing a strategic plan for the growth and promotion of the library, it looks as though GFWC-WI might be able to expect more discretionary disbursements in the future!

District Reports - SOUTHERN PRAIRIES

By: Maureen Miller, President

“Give a Little Bit” is the theme for this Administration of the GFWC Wisconsin Southern Prairies District. Each District member was encouraged to give a little bit of their time, talent & treasure to reach our goals.

Some of the ways we put this motto into play:

- In August at our Board Meeting, each member brought a little something for a “build-a-salad” luncheon” - resulting in a delicious luncheon.
- In October each club was asked to donate an item (or items) for a raffle to fund our annual Health Scholarship – raising 73% of the needed funding.
- Throughout October to May, each club was asked to work in collaboration with all the District Clubs to contribute toward hosting the 2019 GFWC WI State Convention – 100% participation.
- In February, each club was asked to volunteer to be in charge of the various areas needed to “Bee Involved” in the 2019 District Spring Convention – making that day an enriching experience.

Our District’s Clubs have also given time to mentoring other District Clubs in Leadership & Membership issues – helping to strengthen one another – proving: “It is in giving that we receive” (from the Prayer of St. Francis of Assisi). This next year, the Clubs will be asked to put a different spin on this motto - hopefully continuing to be as successful!

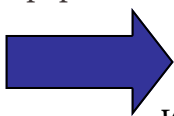


L to R: **Rose Last, Maureen Miller** and **Mary Ellen Sill**. Rose and Mary Ellen are members of the GFWC Edgerton Federation of Women’s Clubs. Photo was taken at the District spring meeting. All clubs in the District received an outstanding award because they all do projects to benefit their communities. Congratulations!

District Reports - RIVERS & LAKES

By: Sue Bednarek, President

The Rivers & Lakes Spring District meeting held on April 30, 2019 in Plymouth was a great success. We took care of some business then enjoyed two entertaining speakers. We had two amazing speakers Emily Hamel and Rodney Schroeter. Emily got us all motivated to get organized to bring order and efficiency in our life so we might have a better version of ourselves. Rodney entertained us with some pulp fiction, and I don’t mean the movie. Rodney explained that “Pulp Fiction” describes a type of creative writing available to the American public in the early nineteen-hundreds. They were called "pulp magazines" because of the low-quality paper used between the covers, they were every popular in the nineteen-thirties and nineteen-forties.



Our Fall District meeting will be hosted by the Princeton Woman’s Club on November 2, 2019 and will be held at Ripon College Lane Library, featuring Wisconsin’s Own Library. I am working on getting some authors to come speak and to be able to share our wonderful library with you all. I would also like to invite the District Presidents from: Northern Lights, Northwoods, Rolling Hills, and Southern Prairies to join us.

District Report - ROLLING HILLS

By: Nancy Dickman, President

The nine clubs of Rolling Hills District had an outstanding 2018.

The clubs accumulated just over 30,000 volunteer hours for 230 GFWC projects and programs and their fundraising efforts brought about \$110,000 back to the district communities. The membership grew to 365 in 2018.

Every club has shown support directly for GFWC programs with a special place in our hearts for Operation Smile. One of the members in the district has taken nearly 60 trips for Operation Smile and all the clubs have caught her spirit in some form for this GFWC partner.

The district holds two member meetings per year and is very proud to say EVERY club was represented at the Spring 2019 meeting with 48 attendees. The members are engaged in every community activity from Blood Drives, Shop with a Cop, pie sales to support city capital programs, school fine arts program support, public library programs, member leadership development, parks and recreation partnerships, and scholarships galore. And... they are thinking of more programs to support as the needs of their communities change.

The district board has already worked to line up the next group of leaders anxious to keep up the momentum with 2020 elections.

In addition, the board has formed a high energy committee already hard at work planning the 2020 State Convention for Ho-Chunk Wisconsin Dells. Consider this an invitation to join your GFWC sisters at the 2020 convention!



Turning Point has requested that donations are made by 12/31/2019; however, they will accept it in the form of a pledge to be paid off before the Memorial is dedicated 08/26/2020.

Challenge donor forms are available from Nancy Dickman, GFWC-WI Treasurer.

GFWC-WI Statewide Donor Challenges **Are you UP for them?**

CHALLENGE FOR CLUBS: GFWC Spooner Woman's Club challenges each Club in the state to donate \$25 to GFWC-WI so that the funds can be pooled and our state organization's name will appear on the donor wall at the Memorial.

CHALLENGE FOR DISTRICTS: GFWC-WI Northern Lights District challenges each District in the state to donate \$1000 to the Turning Point Suffragist Memorial so that all 6 of the GFWC-WI District names will appear on the donor wall at the Memorial.

COMMUNITY SERVICE PROGRAMS

International Outreach

Report by: Loretta Caron, GFWC-WI International Outreach Chairman



This time I'm writing about something that nobody wants to talk about, it is about your Aunt Flo, your monthly friend, that time of the month, or whatever you called it. Did you know there are so many myths around the world regarding menstruation? There I said that word MENSTRUATION!

In rural Nepal, menstruating girls are forced out of their homes and forbidden from contact with people, animals and even plants. This practice of menstrual huts is harmful to them and sometimes fatal.

In Kenya, girls resort to sex to pay for their menstrual towels, risking pregnancy and HIV infection. When schools provide free menstrual supplies and education about puberty and sexuality, fewer girls prostitute themselves – and that saves money that would have been spent on future health.

Even in the most advanced countries, girls do not always have adequate education or the supplies they need. A survey in Scotland found girls miss school during their periods and some cannot afford to buy sanitary products.

In Cambodia, there has been an initiative to improve menstrual education which has resulted in increased attendance at school. In girl's clubs in Ethiopia, boys and girls talk together and learn about menstruation. Instead of the boys teasing they proudly support their female friends and siblings.

So, what can you and your clubs do: Purchase a 'Girls Empowerment Pack' for \$35 from UNICEF. This will provide enough menstrual pads to give 5 girls protection and peace of mind to stay in school. Further educate yourself and your club by watching the 2019 Academy Award winning documentary "Period. End of Sentence" . It is a short 26-minute film available to watch on Netflix. Check out the website <https://www.daysforgirls.org/> there is SO much information from education, advocacy, and even sewing pads for kits.

Finally, to quote the producer Melissa Berton from "Period. End of Sentence" as she said in her acceptance speech "A period should end a sentence – not a girl's education."

Education

Report by: Julie Riemenschneider, GFWC-WI Education Chairman

School is out as I write this article. For me that means I have Wednesday mornings free until September. I will miss volunteering in the combined first and second grade Montessori classroom, but I will be able to catch up on stuff at home.

Thanks to the 29 clubs that sent articles about education to the annual awards contest. Interesting reading and difficult to choose winning projects among so many good ones.

The May newsletter from Sharon Sheridan, National Chair of Education centered on scholarships. Sharon received the education reports from all fifty states. She highlighted information from them including how funds were raised, the amount of money given and qualifications of recipients.



More on page 21 -

Education continued -

This year \$5,580,235.00 was given in scholarships throughout the U.S.A.

GFWC Wisconsin is one of several states that provides scholarships. Wisconsin gives four \$1,000 scholarships to high school seniors who plan to enter the field of health.

Fundraising for scholarships can be creative. For example, a woman's club from Kentucky worked three charitable bingo nights. A club in Maine solicited businesses to donate \$100 each for their Cash for Careers which is for nontraditional education. The Wilmington WC, North Carolina provided three grants and six educational scholarships from one annual fundraiser, the COASTAL LIVING SHOW. Several clubs in Wisconsin funded scholarships from proceeds of arts and crafts fairs.

Other scholarships were given to local teachers working for advance degrees. Another provided three scholarships to single mothers. Another gave a scholarship based on volunteer hours. Some singled-out students who were enrolled in vocational and technology programs.

The Amery Woman's Club holds two cookie sales each year. Profits go to the local public library to fund special programs for kids during the summer. One program is provided by the University of Minnesota Raptor Center. Another program might be an illusionist or a puppet theater. It varies.

There are no education related days or weeks in June. Please remember Flag Day on June 14th.

Keep on funding those scholarships and finding new ways to do so. Pass the piggy bank at a meeting for loose change. It all adds up.

Conservation

Report by: Karen Ostrowski, GFWC-WI Conservation Chairman



Meeting the 1,000 initiatives for the Nike Grind Project is within our reach. 650 pairs of shoes were collected at the state convention. Let's see if we can collect 350 more by December 31. I know some clubs

have turned in shoes in addition to what were collected at state. Please keep statistics and report to me or Michelle Munoz.

Check your cosmetics for toxins. The United States regulates 11 types and Europe and countries regulate 1300 and as a consumer of these products you have a big impact on companies and what they put on your face!

Fun fact the world's largest population of the endangered Hines emerald green dragonfly is found in Door County. The Nature Conservancy of Wisconsin is working to provide suitable habitat for their protection. Learn more at nature.org.



Karen Ostrowski and Betty Lou Janney, Northwoods District President help pack sneakers into Karen's car at Convention!

GFWC –WI Club Awards 2018

Submitted by: Janice Curtiss

Domestic Violence Awareness and Prevention - Chairman – Kay Salewske

Category 1 Best Overall: **GFWC Oconomowoc Junior Woman's Club**; Community Action Committee

Category 1 Single Best Project: **GFWC Woman's Club of West Allis**; WISH (Women in Self-Healing and Hope)

Category 2 Best Overall: **GFWC Blanchardville Woman's Club**; Human Trafficking - Diapers & Christmas Toys

Category 2 Single Best Project: **GFWC Edgerton Federation of Women**; Domestic Violence Center

Juniors' Special Project – Advocates for Children - Chairman – Suz Hooser

Category 1 Best Overall: **GFWC Pleasant Prairie Woman's Club**; Trunk or Treat

Category 1 Single Best Project: **GFWC Oconomowoc Junior Woman's Club**; Juniors Care for Kids

Category 2 Best Overall: **GFWC Hartford Junior Woman's Club**; Seed of Hope

Category 2 Single Best Project: **GFWC Menomonie Woman's Club**; The Foster Closet



Arts - Chairman – Kristina Higbee

Category 1 Best Overall: **GFWC Rhinelander Woman's Club**

Category 1 Single Best Project: **GFWC Monroe Woman's Club**; Art for All Students

Category 2 Best Overall: **GFWC Spooner Woman's Club**

Category 2 Single Best Project: **GFWC Stevens Point Woman's Club**; Arts Month Presentation

Conservation - Chairman – Karen Ostrowski

Category 1 Best Overall: **GFWC Woman's Club of Pewaukee**; Wetlands/Water Monitoring

Category 1 Single Best Project: **GFWC Monroe Woman's Club**; Water Tower Project

Category 2 Best Overall: **GFWC Stevens Point Woman's Club**; Several recycling projects including "Fuzzy Friends"

Category 2 Single Best Project: **GFWC Oconomowoc Junior Woman's Club**; Egg Carton recycling for the Food Pantry

Education - Chairman – Julie Riemenschneider

Category 1 Best Overall: **GFWC Rhinelander Woman's Club**; District Library Tea - Rock the Party

Category 1 Single Best Project: **GFWC Bloomer Woman's Club**; Innovative Teaching Grant

Category 2 Best Overall: **GFWC Hillsboro Woman's Civic Club**; Promoting Upcoming School Referendum

Category 2 Single Best Project: **GFWC Past District Officer's Club**; Easter Seal's Camp Wawbeek

GFWC –WI Club Awards 2018 continued -

Submitted by: Janice Curtiss

Home Life - *Chairman – Deb Strecker*Category 1 Best Overall: **GFWC Monroe Woman's Club**; Christmas StockingsCategory 1 Single Best Project: **GFWC Woman's Club of Pewaukee**; Little Hats, Big HeartsCategory 2 Best Overall: **GFWC Stevens Point Woman's Club**; Hospice Caregiver BasketsCategory 2 Single Best Project: **GFWC Menomonie Woman's Club**; Tie Blankets**International Outreach** - *Chairman – Loretta Caron*Category 1 Best Overall: **GFWC Rhinelander Woman's Club**; Humanitarian Efforts Don't Stop at the BorderCategory 1 Single Best Project: **GFWC Muskego Woman's Club**; Work Together to Lift Each Other Higher Through Operation SmileCategory 2 Best Overall: **GFWC Centuria Woman's Club**; Chickens, Smiles, and Christmas, Oh My!Category 2 Single Best Project: **GFWC Brillion Woman's Club**; Making Smile Bags on a Cold Winter Night**Public Issues** - *Chairman – Diane Cychosz*Category 1 Best Overall: **GFWC Woman's Club of West Allis**; Veterans Kitchen Shower for Milwaukee Homeless VetsCategory 1 Single Best Project: **GFWC Rhinelander Woman's Club**; K-9 PatrolCategory 2 Best Overall: **GFWC Plymouth Woman's Club**; Quilt of ValorCategory 2 Single Best Project: **GFWC Hillsboro Woman's Civic Club**; Rural Hospital Building Project**Communications and Public Relations** - *Chairman – Sue Bessert*Category 1 Best Overall: **GFWC Woman's Club of Monroe**; "Why Reinvent the Wheel - the power of a thumb drive"Category 1 Single Best Project: **GFWC Pleasant Prairie Woman's Club**; "Spreading Holiday Cheer - Decorating the Post Office"Category 2 Best Overall: **GFWC Hartford Junior Woman's Club**; "Grab and Go PD"Category 2 Single Best Project: **GFWC Blanchardville Woman's Club**; "Homecoming Parade Float"**Leadership** - *Chairman – Mary Meek*Category 1 Best Overall: **GFWC Rhinelander Woman's Club**; "Paying It Forward"Category 1 Single Best Project: **GFWC Woman's Club of West Allis**; "Know and Be Known"Category 2 Best Overall: **Lakeland Area GFWC**; "The Little Club That Could"Category 2 Single Best Project: **GFWC Plymouth Woman's Club**; "GFWC-WI Mini LEADS 101"

GFWC – WI Club Awards 2018 continued

Submitted by: Janice Curtiss

Legislation/Public Policy - *Chairman – Sandy Gehin*

Category 1 Best Overall: **GFWC Amery Woman's Club**

Category 1 Single Best Project: **GFWC Woman's Club of Greenfield**; "Women's Court & Civil Conference Meeting updates"

Category 2 Best Overall: **GFWC Brillion Woman's Club**

Category 2 Single Best Project: **GFWC Kenosha Junior Woman's Club**; Legislative Action Center Member Signup

Membership - *Chairman – Abby Lorenz*

Category 1 Best Overall: **GFWC Woman's Club of Hartland**; "Meet N' Greet at Beer Snobs

Category 1 Single Best Project: **GFWC Rhinelander Woman's Club**; "First Ever New Member Handbook"

Category 2 Best Overall: **GFWC Princeton Woman's Club**; "The Little Engine That Could"

Category 2 Single Best Project: **GFWC Blanchardville Woman's Club**; "Got With The Times"

Fundraising and Development - *Co-Chairmen – Mary Kaye Ernest and Marianne Potter*

Category 1 Best Overall: **GFWC Pleasant Prairie Woman's Club**; "Pink - tober Auction"

Category 1 Single Best Project: **GFWC Oconto Woman's Club**; "Deck the Fence Wreath Sales"

Category 2 Best Overall: **GFWC Antigo Junior Woman's Club**; "Craft & Trade Show"

Category 2 Single Best Project: **GFWC Blanchardville Woman's Club**; "Teach a Class/Take a Class"

Women's History Resource Center / 1734 Society - *Co-Chairmen – Sue Sands and Diane Zickert*

Category 1 Best Overall: **GFWC Rhinelander Woman's Club**; "Radio Skit & Live Performance!"

Category 1 Single Best Project: **GFWC Rhinelander Woman's Club**; "Window Display in Downtown"

Category 2 Best Overall: No entries

Category 2 Single Best Project: No entries

GFWC-WI President's Emphasis Project – Turning Point Suffragist Memorial - *Chairman – Linda Kay Cook*

Category 1 Best Overall: **GFWC Amery Woman's Club**; Women's History*

*Only One Report Submitted

Turning Point Suffragist Memorial Donations - Special Appreciation to:

- **GFWC Spooner Woman's Club**
- **GFWC-WI Lakeshore District**
- **Past District Officers club members: Pat Mueller, Shirley Benkert, D'Ann Malloy, Nancy Honadel, Nancy Schrap, Monica Jerich, Dee Keiser**

Helen Farnsworth Mears Art Contest Awards

Submitted by: Gloria Lansin

Class A Painting

1st Raegan Olm De Pere Middle School Woman's Club of De Pere

2nd Jenna Karrmann Menomonie School Menomonie Woman's Club

3rd Megan Haak Nature Hill Intermediate Oconomowoc Junior Woman's Club

Honorable Mention

Isabell Broncatti Kettle Middle School Pewaukee Woman's Club

Lily Jaworski Nature Hill Middle School Oconomowoc Junior Woman's Club

Class A Sculpture

1st Claire Woodward St Frances Cedarburg Woman's Club

2nd Ryleigh Woodford Menomonie School Menomonie Woman's Club

3rd Violet Kleefisch Nature Hill Int. Oconomowoc Junior Woman's Club

Honorable Mention

Marz Thyes Merrill Middle School Oshkosh Woman's Arts

Sara Bannetine St Frances Cedarburg Woman's Club

Class B Painting

1st Abby Yanacek Grace Lutheran Oshkosh Woman's Arts

2nd Brigitle Schlomer St Paul's Lutheran Oconomowoc Junior Woman's Club

3rd Anastacia Glouek St Joseph Dodgeville Woman's Club

Class B Sculpture

1st Janelle Selenka Martin Luther Oshkosh Woman's Arts

2nd Jessica Laridaen Martin Luther Oshkosh Woman's Arts

3rd Charlie Vogen Holy Trinity Oconomowoc Junior Woman's Club



GFWC – WI Club Awards 2018 continued

Submitted by: Nancy Niedziela

I encourage every club to sponsor a writing contest for K-12 students in its local area. There is no need for a district competition. Each club is entitled to submit one poem and one short story in each category. In addition, every single member of the GFWC-WI is encouraged to submit short stories and poems for review to the Member Writing Contest. There is no need for a club or district contest; each member may submit directly to the GFWC-WI. Please see our website for complete instructions and get your entries to me by February 15th, 2020.

Below are the winners of this year's writing contest.

Student Writing Contest

Category 1 Short Story Grades K, 1, 2, 3			
FIRST	Elena Bos	"The Mystery of the Stolen Necklace"	GFWC-WI Monroe Woman's Club
Category 1 Poetry Grades K, 1, 2			
FIRST	William Spear	"My Invention, My Robot"	GFWC-WI Monroe Woman's Club
SECOND	Crosby King	"The River"	GFWC-WI Amery Woman's Club
Category 2 Short Story Grades 3, 4, 5			
FIRST	Dominic Santelli	"Connecting Through Kindness"	GFWC-WI Woman's Club of Kenosha
SECOND	Aubry Davis	"Dance"	GFWC-WI Monroe Woman's Club
Category 2 Poetry Grades 3, 4, 5			
FIRST	Credence Hubert	"A Bat Poem"	GFWC-WI Monroe Woman's Club
Category 3 Short Story Grades 6, 7, 8			
FIRST	Eva Hetland	"Car Crash"	GFWC-WI Rhinelander Woman's Club
SECOND	Ryan Mathiason	"Grave Yard Gone Wrong"	GFWC-WI Monroe Woman's Club
Category 3 Poetry Grades 6, 7, 8			
FIRST	Abigail Bixby	"Close Shaves in an Unfair World"	GFWC-WI Rhinelander Woman's Club
SECOND	Cynthia Gisselle Murphy	"The Keeper"	GFWC-WI Monroe Woman's Club
Category 4 Short Story Grades 9, 10, 11, 12			
FIRST	Megan Novak	"Coffee at Hazel's House"	GFWC-WI Amery Woman's Club
Category 4 Poetry Grades 9, 10, 11, 12			
FIRST	Sophia Whitley	"Where Shall I Take You"	GFWC-WI Amery Woman's Club

Member Writing Contest

Member Poetry			
FIRST	Lisa Lynn Bonack	"Ancestress"	GFWC-WI Woman's Club of Greenfield
SECOND	Nancy Schrap	"Dancing Snowflakes"	GFWC Past District Officers Federated Woman's Club
Member Short Story			
FIRST	Marlene Helen Smith	"Care Giver Cass"	GFWC-WI Woman's Club of Greenfield
SECOND	Mary Fortier	"My Mother, My Role Model"	GFWC-WI Rhinelander Woman's Club

LOST & FOUND: A set of Member Art handmade cards were never picked up after State Convention. The name of the clubwoman who submitted the cards was not attached. So if anyone is missing their cards, please contact Suzanne Hooser, 262-705-3168. Thank you.

GFWC – WI Club Awards 2018 continued

Submitted by: Nancy Schrap



Epsilon Sigma Omicron (ESO) is an honorary educational society open to all GFWC members to provide a structured reading program that is educational and to hopefully stimulate a desire for self-improvement and to life-long learning. ESO materials, including suggested reading lists are available online at www.gfwc.org/what-we-do/community-service-programs/epsilon-sigma-omicron and the gfwc-wi.org website (Community Service Programs, Education, ESO) where you will find an ESO Pledge Application, Reading List and Book Report Form.

Summer is a great time to relax with a good book. ESO has approximately 25 club members who are reading. Complete an application and begin the journey. I will look forward to receiving your reports.

In May, 2019, ESO Awards were given out for the year 2018 at the *GFWC-WI State Convention* held in Pleasant Prairie. Total volunteer hours reported: 1,926; Total number of books read: 428.

Those who reported on four books from four different categories for a total of 16 books:

Tina Tillery – reached Member Level June 2018 – *GFWC Junior Woman's Club of Beloit*

Fran Holloway – reach Membership Level April 2018 – *GFWC Woman's Club of Pewaukee*

Tammy Welter – reached Membership Level March 2018 – *GFWC Junior Woman's Club of Beloit*

Reported four books from ten different categories for a total of 40 books:

Nancy Niedziela – reached Star Level December 2018 – *GFWC Woman's Club of Pewaukee*

GFWC-WI State Award Entries Category I (over 30 membership)

Best Overall Winner: **GFWC Woman's Club of West Allis**: Most new applications in ESO in 2018

Best Single Project Winner: **GFWC Woman's Club of Pewaukee**: Most books read in 2018

GFWC-WI State Award Entries Category II (30 and under membership)

Best Overall Winner **GFWC Past District Officers (PDO)**: Most new applications in ESO in 2018

Best Single Project Winner **GFWC Past District Officers (PDO)**: Most books read in 2018

KEEP ON READING AND REPORTING. For more information, please contact me, **ESO Chairman** Nancy Schrap, 7024 W. Wells St., Wauwatosa 53213, 414-771-6472 nancywischrap@aol.com

2018 Woman of Achievement and Junior Of the Year Awards



L to R Paula Schlice presenting Gail Gilmore with the 2018 GFWC - WI Woman of Achievement Award at State Convention in Pleasant Prairie. This award honors a WI clubwoman who has made an outstanding contribution to GFWC. Gail is a member of the GFWC Woman's Club of Kenosha.



L to R Michelle Fuehrer, nominee; Lisa Miller, recipient; Kristina Higbee, Loretta Caron and Erin Epping, nominee

The JOY annual award spotlights a Junior clubwoman for her leadership in volunteer efforts with an emphasis on her family and community. Lisa is a member of the Kenosha Juniors Woman's Club.

GFWC –WI Health Scholarship Awards 2018

Submitted by: Nancy Dickman

At the recommendation of the Scholarship Committee, GFWC-WI is pleased to award four \$1,000 scholarships to students pursuing health related degrees at the 2019 Annual Convention. Quite by accident, all the recipients either are or will be students at University of Wisconsin – LaCrosse. The 2019 Health Scholarship recipients are:



Amari Conner

Sponsor:
Amery Woman’s Club

District: Northern Lights

Amari plans to pursue a Bachelor of Science in Biology and has ambitions of a Doctorate of Optometry.



Kara Krautkramer

Sponsor:
Wausau Woman’s Club

District: Northwoods

Kara plans to pursue a Bachelor of Science in Biology as a path toward a Doctorate of Optometry with a pediatric emphasis.



Leah Fynaardt

Sponsor:
Muskego Woman’s Club

District: Rolling Hills

Leah is currently working toward a Bachelor of Science in Biology with a minor in Chemistry on the pre-med track. Leah’s goal is to become a Medical Doctor - Orthopedic Surgeon.



Margaret Grimm

Sponsor: Dodgeville Federated Woman’s Club

District: Rolling Hills

Maggie is starting graduate studies in the Physician Assistant program. She completed her Bachelor of Science in Biology at UW-Madison in 2017 along with her CNA and has worked in Uganda to bring health services to remote villages.

All the recipients have expressed many thanks and deep gratitude for conveying the awards to them as they advance their post-high school educations. All the recipients had compelling stories to share.

The committee was very pleased to share that five of the six districts were represented in the applicant pool of 27. All of the applicants were tremendously academically talented and marvelous examples of our next generation. Although it was a challenging task to whittle the field to four recipients, it was truly a privilege to read their applications.

State Convention was treated to an in-person visit by Health Scholarship Award recipient, Leah Fynaardt



L to R: **Nancy Dickman**, GFWC-WI Health Scholarship Committee Chairman; **Leah Fynaardt**, recipient; **Trisha Schafer**, GFWC Director of Junior Clubs; **Michelle Munoz**, GFWC-WI Director of Junior Clubs and **Deb Brossard**, GFWC – WI President

GFWC –WI 2018 Theodora Youmans Citizenship Award



2018 Theodora Youmans Citizenship Award recipient **Barb Oestreicher** and her husband, **Steve Oestreicher**.

Barb Oestreicher of Harshaw, Wisconsin was awarded the Theodora Youmans Citizenship Award for her tireless work organizing and coordinating the Rhinelander Personal Essentials Pantry (PEP) over the last 10 years.

PEP has served hundreds of families in Rhinelander since its inception; Oestreicher recorded numerous hours fundraising, ordering and picking up products, stocking shelves and screening applicants. She has just stepped down from leadership within the last few months yet still volunteers.

Barb was nominated by her club, GFWC Rhinelander Woman's Club. Barb's close friend and sister clubwoman, Connie Griesbach said, "The interesting thing is that now ten folks are doing the leadership job that Barb Oestreicher did for ten years! That tells you how much effort it takes to run PEP. And Barb did it with such a joyful heart."

GFWC –WI LEADS Award 2018

Submitted by: Mary Meek



Suz Hooser was named GFWC - WI LEADS Representative. Suz is in the center accepting her award. Around her are members of the Leadership Committee and/or our state's LEADS members who were present at Convention during the ceremony.

L to R: Kristina Higbee, Melisa Schmidt-Zettle, Abby Lorenz, Michelle Munoz, Janice Curtiss, Mary Meek, Suz Hooser, Sue Bednarek, Loretta Caron and Sue Bessert.

Grateful LEADS recipient: "I am honored to have been chosen for the LEADS position and knowing so many worthy women in our state that it could not have been an easy task for the committee chairs. I am looking forward to learning all I can to be a leader at our Austin Conference. I have been in my local club for 13 years and held many positions along with chair positions at the state level for 4 years. I am hoping to become the junior director for our state and continue to serve on the state level where ever I am needed. Joining GFWC has helped me overcome my fear of public speaking and has made me realize that I can make a difference along with giving me purpose, goals and a whole new family of friends. Thank you for this opportunity and I will try my best to be a great leader." -Suz Hooser



General Federation of Women's Clubs Michigan **Sue Johnson, President**

June 2019

Dear Great Lakes Region Members:

Experience Grand Rapids!!!!
Cool City ** Beer City ** USA

**Join your Federation Sisters September 5-8 at this year's
GFWC Great Lakes Region Conference at the
Double Tree by Hilton Hotel Grand Rapids.**

The Conference Registration Form and Hotel Information are on next page.

We begin Thursday evening, September 5 with our Meet and Greet with Michigan Beer and Wine Tasting and hors d'oeuvres.

Friday, September 6, join us for a tour of the internationally known Frederick Meijer Gardens and Sculpture Park following the Great Lakes Region Board meeting. We will have a docent guided tour of the inside gardens and an outdoor tram ride of the sculpture park. There will be time for lunch and shopping at the gardens! The evening will be the Michigan State Night Banquet showcasing special "sport skits" that will call for state participation which you will hear about very soon.

Saturday and Sunday, September 7 and 8, President Paula Schlice will preside over the Region's business meetings, workshops and banquets with all kinds of surprises along the way!

Join us! One and all!

This Conference is for all members of the Great Lakes Region!
We look forward to seeing each and every one of you!

**REGISTRATION FORM
GFWC GREAT LAKES REGION CONFERENCE**

**September 5, 6, 7 and 8, 2019 Thursday - Sunday
DoubleTree by Hilton Hotel, 4747 28th Street SE, Grand Rapids, Michigan, 49512**

NAME: _____

ADDRESS: _____

CITY:_____ **STATE:**_____ **ZIP:**_____ **PHONE:**_____

CLUB/DISTRICT/STATE/INTERNATIONAL AFFILIATION:

REGISTRATION must be received by August 14 w/check **\$25.00** _____
No refunds after August 16. Late fee of \$25 added if postmarked after August 16.

(9-5) THURSDAY EVENING-HOTEL COURT YARD-MEET & GREET MI BEER & WINE TASTING
W/hors d'oeuvres and 5 drink tasting tickets: **ATTEND YES**____**ATTEND NO**____
\$28.00 _____

(9-6) FRIDAY MORNING FREDERICK MEIJER GARDEN/SCULPTURE PARK TOUR
ATTEND YES____ **ATTEND NO**____ **\$18.00** _____

(9-6) FRIDAY EVENING - GFWC MICHIGAN STATE NIGHT BANQUET
() *Caribbean Chicken with Mango Salsa* **\$28.00** _____
OR
() *Herb Pork Loin with Pine Nut & Raisin Demi Glaze* **\$28.00** _____
w/dessert: *Strawberry Drizzle/ Chocolate & Caramel Drizzle Cheesecake*

(9-7) GLR SATURDAY LUNCHEON - BEER CITY BUFFET **\$27.00** _____
() *Mixed greens, fruit salad, mini Slider Burgers, house-made french fries, (2) mac and cheese, zucchini chips, lemonade & iced tea*

(9-7) GLR SATURDAY EVENING BANQUET
() *Herb Skewered Shrimp/white wine & citrus butter sauce* **\$30.00** _____
OR
() *Braised Short Rib with Herb Roasted Vegetable Puree* **\$30.00** _____
w/dessert: *Carrot Cake with Cream Cheese Frosting*
All Banquet Entrees served with garden salad, vegetable, rolls & butter

(9-8) GLR SUNDAY MORNING - HOT BRUNCH BUFFET **\$21.00** _____
w/fresh fruit, scrambled eggs, smoked bacon, sausage links, potatoes, muffins & danish, coffee and tea

MINI MART SPACE (FOR STATES & CLUB FUNDRAISING) **\$10.00** _____

TOTAL ENCLOSED: _____

PLEASE INDICATE ANY DIETARY/ALLERGY RESTRICTIONS:

MAKE CHECKS PAYABLE TO: GFWC MICHIGAN
MAIL TO: CONNIE HOPKINS, TREASURER, 309 W. SIXTH STREET, EVART, MI 49631

HOTEL REGISTRATION INFORMATION
GFWC GREAT LAKES REGION CONFERENCE
September 5, 6, 7, and 8, 2019 - Thursday, Friday, Saturday & Sunday
Double Tree By Hilton Hotel Grand Rapids, Michigan, 49512
Phone: 616-957-0100

PLEASE SAY THAT YOU ARE WITH GFWC MICHIGAN
HOTEL RESERVATION BLOCK DEADLINE IS: August 14, 2019

Room Reservations at the Double Tree By Hilton Hotel, Grand Rapids, are to be made by calling directly to the hotel at the above phone number and identifying yourselves as members of GFWC Michigan. Your reservation must be guaranteed and accompanied by a first night room deposit or guaranteed with a major credit card.

Room Type: Standard room with two double beds or one king bed beginning Wednesday, Thursday, Friday, and Saturday night: Per night: \$104 + 6% Sales Tax + 5% & 4% City and Occupancy Tax. No microwaves or refrigerators in the rooms. Some fridges may be available for an additional fee. Check with registration when you call.

Breakfast not included, but is available each morning at Ganders restaurant in hotel. Hours: Monday-Thursday 6:30 am-11 pm and Friday-Saturday 7:00 am-midnight. Breakfast Buffet Sunday morning is listed for attendance on page one of this Great Lakes Conference registration form.

Questions and Concerns? *GFWC Michigan Contact:*
Convention Chairman: Donna Brown: C: 269-908-1010 H: 269-948-2790
Email: donnabrown21@sbcglobal.net



GFWC - WI Advancement Area - How to Retain your club Members

Report by: Abby Lorenz, GFWC-WI Membership Chairman

Recruiting new members is one of the keys to the success of our Womens' Clubs. We need new members to bring fresh blood to our clubs to help support and accomplish goals in our communities. While it's important to recruit new members, it's just as critical, if not more so, to retain your existing members. Below are some of the best ways to do this.

Recognize your club members for volunteering. Members join GFWC because they want to help with club projects, and many like to be recognized for their volunteerism. The day a new member joins is when retention begins. Recognition can be through having a ceremony at your club meeting to welcome new members, or by listing and thanking new members in your club newsletter. Send new members a welcome letter!

Rewarding longtime members is an excellent best practice. Remember to thank members for renewing their membership. You can reward long time members with 5-year or 10-year pins for renewing. Include a listing of your veteran members on your website or in your newsletter or Facebook page. By visiting the GFWC Marketplace on their website you can purchase pins reasonably. This small appreciation goes a long way!

The feeling of belonging is a natural desire of humans. It is important for members to feel as though they're part of a community. Clubs can fulfill that need by hosting social events for members.



New friendships can blossom by introducing members to one another. Old members can be "assigned" to new members as mentors and be responsible for interacting with them, engaging them at events and asking them to get involved by serving on committees. Show your members how much you appreciate them!

Remind your members of the value of being a member of your club. Both old and new members should be reminded of the tremendous benefits of being a GFWC Clubwoman. Take advantage of the GFWC Membership Discounts found at GFWC.org. Sign up your new members to receive the

GFWC newsletters as well as the GFWC-Wisconsin newsletters. Tell them how much your club values their membership and all they bring to your club. Benefits of membership can be announced at your year-end meeting, or by writing an article for your newsletter. For a member who went above and beyond, consider having your club President send a personal thank you note to express appreciation for a job well done.

The bottom line with regard to retaining members is to have great customer service. Members who receive attention and recognition are much more likely to remain with the club for years to come. Let them know they are valued. Keep the members first, and retention will follow suit.

GFWC - WI Advancement Areas - Leadership

Report by: Melisa Schmidt-Zettle

Attributes of a great leader

When thinking about your GFWC board, do you think? I think my local board is very diverse and come from different backgrounds. There are attributes that make a leader better.

Motivation-someone that fosters working hard without making people do it. Willing to go the extra mile. Show people you can and will do anything.

Confidence -when giving someone a task be confident that they can do the task. Allow them to ask questions and give feedback. Show them you respect and care about them.

Harmonization-sometimes very hard but very important. Working together and listening to each other makes tasks easier. Another word would be compromising.

Enthusiasm-I think to call this “bring the WOW every time”. The more you show you care and are willing to put the work in. Even if someone may not believe in the whole project you can get them to buy in with enthusiasm.

Take a look at how you bring yourself to events or meetings. Are you bringing the best version of yourself? Are you willing to help or just sign up for one more event? Even if you are not on the board, show the board you want to be there. Stay the extra five minutes to help finish up a project. People will start to notice and take note. You will be surprised when it changes your whole club.

Always being the BEST version of you!

In Federation,

Melisa Schmidt-Zettle

GFWC-WI LEADS Graduate



CONGRATULATIONS: Mini LEADS 101 class May 4, 2019



GFWC - WI Amendments & Policies Committee

Report by: Ruth Diedrich, GFWC-WI Chairman Amendments & Policies Committee

All proposed amendments to the GFWC-WI Bylaws that were published in the March 2019 WI Clubwoman were approved by the membership during the May 2019 State Convention.

Approved amendments can be found in Article IV - Meetings, Article VI - Junior, Juniorette, Collegiate, and Member-at Large Clubs, Article XI - Nomination and Election of Officers, Article XVII - Committees, and Article XXI - Parliamentary Authority.

A current copy of the bylaws has been published on the GFWC-WI website. A copy of the bylaws has also been submitted to GFWC and to the GFWC Parliamentarian as directed by GFWC policy.

The GFWC-WI General Policies have been regrouped and published on the website to make it easier for members to find a policy under a general subject area. The Committee hopes you will find this helpful.

The Amendments and Policies Committee will continue to bring proposed amendments and proposed policy changes to the Executive Committee, Board of Directors, and membership during this administration.

GFWC - WI Community Improvement Program Award

Report by: Tari-Jo Wallner, GFWC-WI Chairman CIP Award

Here we are with six months left to complete our **Community Improvement Project** for this administration. For many of us our clubs do not meet during the summer months. This can give your CIP chairman a perfect opportunity to start compiling their report and scrapbook. As we sift through all the pictures and information, we compiled it often gives us opportunity to reflect and recall things that were not recorded. Thus, giving you the opportunity to have the most complete report possible. You can refer to the report form that is online to be sure you haven't forgotten anything.

If you have not chosen a CIP project it is not too late. The project you choose does not need to be enormous in size or monetary value. What it needs to do is make a difference in your community. That is something the woman of GFWC are familiar with and great at. We make a difference every day in our communities by sharing of our time, treasures, and talents.

Your project needs to be completed by December 31, 2019. With the report sent to me by March 1, 2020. I look forward to reading about all the wonderful things our clubs are doing.

In Federation Friendship,

Tari-Jo Wallner

GFWC - WI participates in WILS (Wisconsin Leadership Seminar)

GFWC-WI Treasurer, Nancy Dickman represented GFWC-WI at the June 2019 WILS (Wisconsin Leadership Seminar) panel on volunteerism. The student leaders heard from six varied volunteer efforts that spanned a one person effort to GFWC's worldwide efforts.

Each panelist provided a background of the type of volunteer work done, and where and how it impacts communities.

GFWC got a cheer for helping educate voters!

These high school students are engaged and anxious to actively participate in their communities. Students were encouraged to submit written questions to the panelists and after the formal discussion, panelists and students had time to converse.



GFWC-WI Treasurer, **Nancy Dickman** represented GFWC-WI on a panel at the June 2019 WILS (Wisconsin Leadership Seminar). The panel discussion revolved around volunteerism. Sarah Perkins, President of WILS has invited GFWC-WI to next year's session!

At least four students came up to Nancy and mentioned they were at the conference through the support of a woman's club in their towns. Another student wanted to find out how to be involved in a woman's club while still in high school and yet another person came forward to say how inspired they were to hear all the impacts GFWC has had on their personal lives that they did not realize until the panel.

Do you remember making the wigs for cancer patients?

Submitted by Nancy Niedziela



Disney character wigs were made at the GFWC - WI Winter workshop in Waupaca last February. Maybe you helped?

Michelle Munoz brought one (the Jack Sparrow) to Nancy Niedziela at Convention to give Nancy's little neighbor boy who is being treated in New York for a rare and aggressive bone cancer. His mom has been staying with him in New York for months and his dad and sister travel back and forth as school and work allow. They took the wig/hat to little Gus (4 years old) over Memorial Day weekend. Gus is thrilled!

It is good news to see our community service at work and the joy it brings.



CLUB CORNER



GFWC Steven's Point Woman's Club

Each year the members of the Stevens Point Woman's Club host a Brat Sale at a local grocery store, permeating the parking lot with the wonderful smells of brats, hamburgers and hot dogs, and spreading the message of GFWC.

The profits will help to fund our current Community Improvement Project; Assisting Portage County Foster Families.

Members pictured are **Bev Butcher**; Master Chef, and **Tari Wallner**, Event Coordinator.

Other member volunteers are **Beth Slezak**; Club President, **Linda Rollins**, **Sharon Mras** and **Diane Cychosz**.



Greeting to all the Past District Presidents,

It was wonderful to see so many of you at our annual meeting in May. I hope you all enjoyed the convention.

I wanted to send this invitation/ reminder to all the Past District Presidents to renew/join our club. Your dues are \$25.00 and you make them payable to the club treasurer Diane Cychosz. You can mail them directly to Diane at 2817 Frontenac Avenue, Stevens Point WI, 54481.

I hope you all have a wonderful summer and I look forward to seeing you in the fall.

In Federation Friendship,

Tari-Jo Wallner

President of the Past Districts President Club

Port Washington Woman's Club



Linda Brown shared a clipping from a local paper on their Dr. Seuss club project.

Two stories from Hillsboro Woman's Club



Hillsboro Woman's Civic Club celebrated Arbor Day 2019 by purchasing and helping to plant a 15-foot oak tree at the City Park. **Rachel Novy** proposed the idea at the April meeting and worked with the City to make it happen.

She is pictured with Vice-President **Jean Traeder** and city workers **Terry Revels** and **Joe Haugh**, who planted other trees purchased by the City.

One of the goals of the General Federation of Women's Clubs (GFWC) is to plant 1,000 trees on Arbor Day.

Rachel Novy has been a member for more than 50 years. She and Jean Traeder are both former district officers.



Members of Hillsboro Woman's Civic Club baked 23 pies (a dozen different kinds!) for Hillsboro's annual Cesky Den (Czech Day) celebration. Many slices were served with ice cream, thanks to Hillsboro County Market's generous donation. Proceeds will go toward the Club's \$5,000 pledge to the new hospital currently being built in town. **Wendy Manser**, **Diana Marshall**, **Doris Picha**, and **Jean Traeder** were part of the sales crew.

CLUB CORNER

Spooner Woman's Club and its challenge to all clubs in the nation

Eco Pledge: A new movement?

BY JULIE HUSTVET
jhustvet@spooneradvocate.com

SPOONER- Spooner Women's Club has launched a project that it hopes could spur a national movement.

The club has branded it Eco Pledge, and the idea is simple but has the potential to put a dent in the amount of garbage going into landfills.

The idea is for everyone to "take the Eco Pledge" and have a reusable sandwich bag in their purse, pocket, or car, and hopefully a tote with a glass container kept on hand in the car, to use for taking their leftovers from restaurants, thus eliminating the need to cart home styrofoam or cardboard take-out containers.

Toward that end, the club researched, created, and is having made locally reusable sandwich bags and totes with a glass spill-proof container. They began selling them last week at Northwind Book & Fiber in Spooner, at the county tourism office on Hwy. 63/ River Street in Spooner, and through club members.

They hope that the Eco Pledge will cut down on single-use packaging, one of the biggest sources of plastic pollution in the oceans and landfills. They would love it if people buy their containers and help support their projects, but more than that they want the idea to catch fire and spread.

The club is a chapter of the General Federation of Women's Clubs, and it hopes the more than 3,000 GFWC clubs across the country will take up the Eco Pledge as their mission, too.

"I think the women's clubs



JULIE HUSTVET

Kari Masters displays the reusable sandwich bags and totes she hopes will help ignite a movement across the city and eventually across the nation.

across the country are very concerned about the environment," said Kari Masters, president of the club. "And I think women's clubs would do it. I think PTA clubs might do it. And we came to that conclusion that the more people start making food-grade reusable containers, the better."

The club uses the money it raises for scholarships, donations to various local organizations, \$1,000 to the library (from book sale proceeds), and Dance for Daughters bags (jewelry and makeup kits for fathers who are out of work to give to their daughters at Christmas).

The club has an annual

book sales during Jack Pine Savage Days in August, and the club wanted to add another fundraiser. So for the past two years, Masters has been looking around for ideas.

Then one day it struck her: She has carried around a reusable sandwich bag for two years to take leftovers home from restaurants. Concerned about all the trash going into the landfill, and all the trash that China is no longer accepting from the United States, she conceived the idea of the reusable sandwich bag and glass container tote as ways to avoid adding Styrofoam and cardboard to-go containers from restaurants.

The only way that would work she said, is if the container is in the car or the bag in a purse or pocket.

The club has some big-picture goals.

"The main one is to keep Styrofoam and cardboard out of the landfill from restaurants," Masters said. "Because we thought about a typical Friday or Saturday night across the country, date night, how much Styrofoam and cardboard was going into the landfill."

They also wanted to provide piecemeal for a seamstress in the area, which they have done. All of the pieces so far have been made by one woman.

And they wanted to cut

down on food waste.

Bags, totes

The containers are glass with locking plastic lids that make them spillproof. The sandwich bags are lined with food- and medical-grade vinyl liner.

A variety of fabrics adorn the outsides of the bags, from colorful abstracts to solids to country-style to children's prints.

Masters said "the kids are going crazy for these," and toddlers love having their own bags for snacks.

It took a lot of legwork, research, and sleuthing to find out whether Eco Pledge was copyrighted, design the products, develop the label, source the vinyl and fabrics,

and make arrangements with the seamstress.

"Probably the biggest thing I learned was getting input from anybody I could," she said.

The products were developed over a pretty intensely focused two-month period.

The original labels were from London, but they were able to get a better price from Los Angeles when they needed more volume.

The easiest way to clean them is to pull the attached liner to the outside and wipe it down. If needed, it can go in the washer and dryer, but it will not last quite as long.

"I'm so happy we got the pricing down to \$10, which I think is reasonable, then obviously the most expensive

part is the appropriate medical-grade," Masters said. She buys it in 10-yards lots, a volume which dropped the price in half. She is trying to find a source for discounting the quilted tote material for the totes.

Those are set at \$20. The totes have enough room to store the large glass container, the sandwich bag, and even some larger Ziplock bags.

"I'm aware that it takes time for people's minds to make these changes, and just like bringing your reusable bags to the grocery store, it takes time," Masters said. "And I think eventually, restaurants will start charging for takeout containers, and when they do that peo-

ple will all of a sudden make it financially worthwhile to bring their own."

"In my discussions with people, they said, Well, what about the diapers that will go into the landfill? What about this? Or what about the take-out order places and things, and the only thing I could come up with is we just have to start somewhere. This is one thing we can do.

"There's a million things to think about, but this is one little thing that if people start doing this, I think it'll make a difference and they'll start applying it to other things that are going in the landfill."



Bring your own container when you eat out. Never take home styrofoam or cardboard again!

**Single use packaging is one of the largest sources of pollution in the oceans and our landfills today*

The Spooner Woman's Club will be selling

- * ECO PLEDGE REUSABLE SANDWICH BAGS**
Lined with food grade plastic - Easy to wash and dry for the next day
Great for packing school lunches
- * ECO PLEDGE TAKE HOME TOTES**
36 OZ and spill proof

For your pocket, bag, purse and car. You can always have one with you.

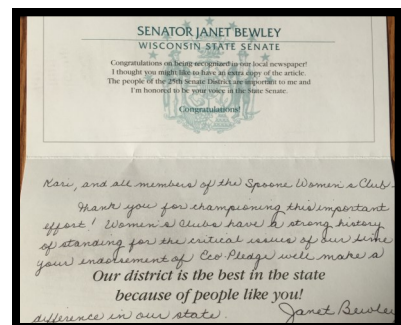
For sale at Northwind Book and Fiber
and at the Woman's Club book sale on Jack Pine Savage Days.

WE CAN DO THIS!




I ask that any club that wants to make bags and totes email me and I will gladly share what we have learned about production and product sources.

Karie Masters, President
Spooner Woman's Club
kari.masters@gmail.com



CLUB CORNER

Hello GFWC WI Sisters from the Woman's Club of Kenosha

Woman's Club of Kenosha

Congratulations to our GFWC Woman's Club of Kenosha's Gail Gillmore, this year's GFWC WI Woman of Achievement. Thank you to the committee for selecting her, she is well deserving of the award. Gail personifies what a GFWC member is and more importantly what she does for her community. She makes the world a better place to live with her actions.

It was wonderful seeing so many of you at the GFWC WI State Convention in Pleasant Prairie. Hosting a convention is a lot of work; however, it was a task made easier working with our Southern Prairies District members led by our queen bee *Maureen Miller*. Our planning meetings held at the WC-K Club were collaborative and fun - always with food. If you feed us, we will work... Lol. GFWC WI President Deb Brossard and Convention Chair Linda Brown were a pleasure to work with. We didn't see them break sweat under the pressure. The "*Mall Mission: Scavenging for a Cause*" was a success. The pictures showed our member spies laughing and having a great time!



I cannot believe that we are preparing for our closing luncheon on June 5th. We will be awarding scholarships to four outstanding young women. Kathy Carr, our scholarship chair reported that this year it was very difficult to select the recipients. She stated there were 38 applications and they all had high GPA's and ranked high in their classes.



Reviewing what we have done since January 2019, we have much to be proud of. First is we have 23 new members = new friends! We have collected, donated, educated, and supported our community and each other. We have collected quarters for the 75th anniversary of *Trees for Tomorrow*, shoes for *Soles 4 Souls*, *Dr. Seuss* books, and personal hygiene items for **Operation Courage is Beautiful**, women in the military. Members participated in **Martin Luther King Day of Service** and **United Way's Readers are Leaders** event!

February being heart health awareness month, WC-K's program was on heart health, diet, stress reduction using alternative medicine and acupuncture. We tackled an international and conservation topic in March with a speaker on "*Saving the Elephants*". We went blue in April for child abuse awareness, planting pinwheels for each documented abused/neglected child in Kenosha county in 2018. We opened the Club to the public to hear a speaker from "*Fight to End Exploitation*" on human trafficking. Our speaker in May was a recovering opiate addict, sharing his struggle and story with a positive outcome.

To date we have completed 5 of the 7 Grand initiatives. And even though we will not officially meet during the summer, we will stay busy recruiting and networking and looking forward to celebrating the 100th anniversary of the 19th amendment. The best is yet to come...See you in Austin! Have a great summer! **In Federation and Friendship, Deb Strecker, Club President**



GFWC Rhinelander Woman's Club

From start to finish our clubwomen plan the Summer Children's Tea for 8 – 12 year olds. The event that's held at our local Library always includes a lesson on etiquette, some type of craft project, a presentation related to the theme and often a tie-in to a book.

The event was held June 26th and this year's theme was "Around the World". A book is read, lesson on the history of tea around the world and small rocks were painted to take home. A highlight was clubwomen shared their family cookie recipes and the cookies with the children! Lots of preparation goes into the day. The annual Tea at the Library has been a summer favorite for close to 17 years!



The annual Summer Children's Tea for 8-12 year olds was held at the Rhinelander District Library in June. It's a wonderful partnership with our club and the Library.

Save the Date !

GFWC-WI Convention 2020

May 14 - 17, 2020

Ho Chunk Resort Casino Hotel and Convention Center –

Wisconsin Dells

Baraboo, Wisconsin

Meet GFWC International President Mary Ellen Brock

**Give a resounding THANKS to President Deb Brossard
and Junior Director Michelle Munoz**

Elect 2020-2022 GFWC-WI Officers

Grow as GFWC Sisters

Outstanding Convention Facilities

4 Restaurants, Spa, Fitness Center

Casino, Local Landmarks



**GFWC
WISCONSIN**



**Dedicated to community
service since 1896**

GFWC - Wisconsin Clubwoman
Editor: Sue Bessert

715-473-4603

bbessert@centurytel.net

Next deadline: Sept 24th

www.gfwc-wi.org

www.gfwc.org



Living the Volunteer Spirit

Stay in tune with all things GFWC!

GFWC Clubwoman Magazine is the premier publication of the General Federation of Women's Clubs, and one of the most useful and beneficial communication tools for informing and educating members.

Published quarterly, the magazine is a source for insightful and informative content that keeps subscribers in tune with all things GFWC.



GFWC Clubwoman Magazine keeps you in the loop of the amazing work of clubwomen around the world!

One complimentary copy of *Clubwoman Magazine* is delivered to each club president at her home address. However, it is not hers alone. This is your club's magazine. Be sure to ask your president to make it available at your next club meeting.

For your personal copy, subscribe online at www.gfwc.org via Marketplace, by mailing in the form, or by contacting Membership Services at 202-347-3168 or 800-443-4392. Annual cost is \$12.

GFWC - WI Dates to Remember:

JULY

- 1 **2019 GFWC Annual Convention** (June 29-July 1)
- 4 **Happy birthday, USA!**
- 27 **Forest Fest, Trees for Tomorrow**, Eagle River, WI

AUGUST

- 14 **Great Lakes Region Conference** registrations must be received
- 17 **Theodora Youmans girlhood home Open House**, New Berlin, WI

SEPTEMBER

- 5-8 **Great Lakes Region Conference**, Doubletree Hotel, Grand Rapids, MI; host GFWC-MI
- 14 **Northern Lights District meeting**, Colfax, WI
- 15 Deadline to register for **GFWC-WI Mini LEADS**
- 27 Registrations due for **Jr Fall Conference**; late fee after 9/27

OCTOBER

- 5 **Northwoods District meeting**, Woodruff, WI
- 12 **Jr Fall Conference**, Stella Hotel, Kenosha, WI
- 12 **GFWC-WI Mini LEADS**, Stella Hotel, Kenosha, WI

NOVEMBER

- 2 **Rivers & Lakes District meeting**, Ripon College Lane Library, Ripon, WI

Our Mission

GFWC-Wisconsin is a statewide volunteer community service organization that promotes individual growth and provides education and training to enrich the quality of life worldwide.

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