

# **GFWC - Wisconsin Clubwoman**

General Federation of Women's Clubs - Wisconsin

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# Join us in Waupaca February 18-19!

Take advantage of the early bird discount!

It's Winter Workshop time! Who's invited? YOU!

It is open to everyone -Club members, leaders, GFWC-WI Board of Directors and, most importantly, you.

We have lined up several great educational speakers that you won't want to miss related to mental health



Pictured here at the 2020 Winter Workshop left to right: Ina Trummer, Julie Saether, Linda Brown, Mary Meek, Barbara Pontow and Mary Kaye Ernest.

awareness. Stay connected with our great group of gals.

See the Call in this newsletter pages 6-8. Or try our easy on-line registration by scanning the QR code with your mobile device.

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# Message from our GFWC-WI State President, Abby Lorenz

The start of the New Year is a perfect time to reflect on your 2021 accomplishments and challenges, and begin to make plans where you want 2022 to take you and your Club. I am so incredibly proud of each of you for your volunteerism in your community. GFWC is all about helping to improve the lives of others. What a beautiful gift your service has been! You are making a difference with your loving hands and giving hearts! As Helen Keller said,

# "The best and most beautiful things in the world cannot be seen or even touched - they must be felt with the heart."



Abby Lorenz GFWC - WI President

I invite everyone to make the New Year a transformational year dedicated to giving back to your community. Try to be openminded and open-hearted while maintaining a healthy and balanced MIND-BODY-SPIRIT. Be creative, have fun, and do something new in 2022!

There is a famous quote, "If you always do what you've always done, you always get what you've always got." Reach new potential by thinking outside the box. GFWC Wisconsin sisters, I encourage you to continue to shine your lights for all to see. The world needs what you have to give.

Know that I humbly serve as your State President and appreciate your efforts and gifts of kindness, no matter how large or small. As you complete your Club reporting this month, we will soon realize all the good our State has done to make our world a better place. I look forward to reading your Club project reports due January 31. Feel free to contact me or any of our Executive team if you have any questions. As always, we are here for you!

Finally, remember to register now to attend our GFWC-WI Winter Workshop in Waupaca February 18-19. Take advantage of the early bird discount! We have several great educational speakers lined up that you won't want to miss related to Mental Health Awareness. It is open to everyone including Club members, leaders, GFWC-WI Board of Directors and, most importantly, *you*. See the Call in this newsletter for details. Try our easy on-line registration by scanning the QR code with your mobile device.

I wish you all a happy, healthy and spirited New Year!

In Federation Friendship, Abby Lorenz GFWC-WI State President



# **Message from GFWC - WI Director of Junior Clubs, Tammy Welter**

I hope you all had a Happy & Safe Holiday Season.

Since you last heard from me, I sent an ornament for the GFWC Holiday Tree. I put out a "Junior Notes" email and I have attended a GFWC WI Executive Board meeting, a GFWC Director of Junior Clubs Meeting and a Strategic Planning Meeting. All meetings were on Zoom. I know some of you are tired of Zoom, but it does make getting everyone together easier when we all live in different parts of the state and country.

I can't believe it is 2022! That means it must be REPORTING time! I hope you all find something to report on and I want to encourage Junior Clubs to submit someone for the Junior of the Year Award. I love reading about all the things the clubs did throughout the year and it is a great way to find new project ideas.

I look forward to seeing some of you at the Winter Workshop Meeting next month. Stay safe and stay healthy.

In Junior Federation,

**Tammy** 





Tammy Welter GFWC - WI Director of Junior Clubs 2020—2022



# Officer Report: GFWC - WI First Vice President/President-elect

By: Nancy Dickman

Moving into the new year means a change in focus from First Vice President to President-elect and it is all about "plans for GFWC-WI's future". The time since the last newsletter has set that planning stage with two Strategic Planning Committee meetings and preliminary discussions on budget line items. It is safe to say your leadership team has an eye on what will be meaningful for GFWC-WI members not only for the next administration but for years to come.

A major undertaking is recruiting for GFWC-WI Board Members. While there will be mailings to the current board members to gauge interest in continued service, it is crucial that ALL members know they can express interest for board service. Serving as a committee member or other board member is a marvelous way to learn more about the workings of GFWC and GFWC-WI.

Be sure to check www.gfwc-wi.org Forms and Calls for the 2022-2024 GFWC-WI Board Form. This form will provide information on board positions and ways to express your interest.



Nancy Dickman

GFWC - WI

First Vice President/President-elect

Committee participation is an important leadership and "connection" opportunity for the President-elect. Since October, there were monthly Executive Committee meetings, two Strategic Planning meetings, an Investment Committee meeting, and a Wisconsin's Own Library Committee meeting. The Strategic Planning and Budget Committees will continue meetings over the next few weeks to draft the plans for member review at the Annual State Convention in May 2022.

It is a privilege to serve as your GFWC-WI President-elect. Thank you for your kind and encouraging support.



## Officer Report: GFWC - WI Second Vice President

Let's Get Ready-Let's Get Set-Let's GO-Report electronically!

Deadline: January 31, 2022

Well, here we go again! It's that time, end of year REPORTING. This requirement is an important step for our clubs, members and districts to accomplish. This year, I have a 100% goal that all clubs reportelectronically and I say we can do it.

Clubs are still struggling with the pandemic and reporting has changed, but reaching out to the clubs to tell them we will help has been a priority. Faith and determination, Wisconsin will succeed. Every dollar and every minute will put this state over the top.



By: Linda Brown

Linda Brown

GFWC - WI

Second Vice President

#### GFWC-WI Website is a perfect place to start!

All forms have been changed and reviewed and ready to go! GFWC-WI chairmen will need all the forms and reports to be filled out so their reporting will run smoothly and completed and sent to international headquarters for review.

#### **Toot Tour Own Horn!**

Your donations and kindness counts. Projects, fundraisers and meetings certainly picked up this year and I am looking forward to reading all the reports and see what you have been up to.

#### A Great Team makes for great reporting!

Always remember that we are here to help you answer questions, concerns and help with problems. All you need is to reach out and we will get whatever you need. Team Members: Linda Brown, Suz Hooser and Nancy Niedziela

Happy Healthy New Year 2022!

# Officer Report: GFWC - WI Corresponding Secretary By: Nancy Niedziela



Nancy Niedziela

GFWC - WI

Corresponding Secretary

The season from the Annual Convention to the Winter workshop in the odd numbered year when the Juniors host the Fall Workshop, is a bit more relaxed for me. I attended the Junior Fall Workshop in Brown Deer, the Wisconsin's Own Library Reception in November, and helped prepare the Call to the Winter 2022 Workshop. I am looking forward to receiving all your registrations for the Winter 2022 Workshop and am excited to see you all again in Waupaca.

I am still the secretary of the Rolling Hills District and an active member of my local club, the GFWC Woman's Club of Pewaukee. In addition, as Corresponding Secretary, I serve on the Communications Committee. I am also chair of the Resolutions Committee and my committee is currently working on reviewing, revising, and proposing resolutions for the Winter Workshop in Waupaca.

I thoroughly enjoy serving as your GFWC-WI Corresponding Secretary. Thank you for allowing me to serve.

# **Announcement of The Call to meeting**

# GFWC-WI Winter Board of Directors' and Working Committees' Meetings

Friday, February 18 & Saturday, February 19, 2022 Ramada Waupaca Hotel, 110 Grand Seasons Drive Waupaca, WI 54981

Address					
City		10.		Zip	
Phone	(Required	to reach you) Email			
Name of Club	Please	e check highest office currently	held		
		GFWC-WI Officer	_	GFWC-WI Junio	or Board Membe
	_	District President	_	Member	
District		GFWC-WI Board Member		Guest	
		Club President			
In Person Registrations (either USPS or online)	Early on or	mark/Complete on or before 1/2 Bird Discount of \$5 Postmark/0 before 1/12/22. Cash will be re vent. Do not deduct from your	omplet efunded		12 To Table 1
Virtual Registrations (online only) Note: If you are a Virtual Attendee, please	000000	oleted by 2/12/22		\$30.00	<u> </u>
not sign up for meals.	Docto	marked after 1/22/22			
Late Registration	POSEI	narkeu arter 1/22/22		\$45.00	
Registration Deadline	2/4/2	22			
Friday Dinner Buffet at Ramada Waupaca H	lotel – Cash	Barat			
5:30, Dinner served at 6:30 p.m.				\$ 30.00	
Tossed Salad with Dressings, Roasted Chick	en. Baked H	Haddock.		3 30.00	ÿ <del></del>
Mashed Potatoes, Gravy, Vegetables, Dinne					
Saturday Continental Breakfast at Ramada	Waupaca H	otel -			
FREE for Hotel Guests 7am-10am					
Saturday Lunch Buffet at Ramada Waupaca Hearty Chili, Crackers, Shredded Cheese, Sc Sub Sandwiches, Fresh Baked Cookies, Milk	our Cream, I		of Mini	- \$27.00	
Extra Event					
Friday Evening Project – Heart Hands-On Co	raft	No charge: just RS	VP!	YES	NO

Name:					
Workshop Tota	al:				
Dietary Restrict	tions:				
Make Checks Pa	ayable to GFWC-WI				
Mail To:			RNIEDZIELA @ WI.RR.	сом	
Nancy Niedziela N30 W29273 H	a illcrest Drive, Unit C		262-366-1660		
Pewaukee, WI	53072				
	ations and payments a arting December 15, 20	\$18000 B			
	ur credit card or PayPal postmark and must ad	\$P\$\$\$\$\$\$\$\$\$\$\$\$\$\$\$\$\$\$			
deadlines for d online.	iscounts or penalties. S	can QR code to register	四的粉碎系		
PD\$	Date	CK#	NP\$	Bal\$	

#### HOTEL INFORMATION

Ramada Waupaca Hotel, 110 Grand Seasons Drive, Waupaca, WI 54981 Phone 715-258-9212

ACCOMMODATIONS: We have rooms blocked for GFWC-WI at Ramada Waupaca Hotel on Friday, February 18, only.

RATE: \$90 plus taxes; 2 Queen beds, double occupancy; or 1 King bed

RESERVATIONS: Please call 715-258-9212 and ask for the "GFWC Wisconsin room block"

Rooms include a coffee maker, flat screen TV, and free Wi-Fi. Hotel features an indoor heated pool (open 6am-1:30am), free breakfast and fitness center.

Book your room by February 5, 2022 as our room block rate is not guaranteed after February 5.



#### TENTATIVE AGENDA: 2022 Winter Board & Working Committee Meetings

Friday, February 18: All meetings will be conducted on site at Ramada Waupaca Hotel; Casual dress/GFWC attire is appropriate.

12:00 pm: Amendments and Policies Committee Meeting

2:00 pm: Resolutions Committee Meeting 3:00 pm: Executive Committee Meeting

4:00 pm: Registration opens

4:15 pm: District Presidents' Meeting

4:15 pm: Communications and Public Relations Committee Meeting

5:30 pm: Social Hour; cash bar

6:30 pm: Dinner at Ramada Waupaca Hotel

8:00 pm: Project: Hands-On Heart Craft for February Heart Month

9:30 pm: GFWC-WI Evening activity concludes

# Saturday, February 19: All meetings will be conducted on site at Ramada Waupaca Hotel; Casual dress/GFWC Attire is appropriate

7:00 am to 10:00 am: Breakfast Buffet is included in the price of the sleeping room.

7:30 am: Leadership Committee Meeting

8:00 am: Registration opens and will remain open until 9:55 am

8:00 am: Budget Committee Meeting

9:00 am: Strategic Planning Committee Meeting

9:00 am: Nominations Committee Meeting

10:00 am: Call to Order of the 2022 Winter GFWC Wisconsin Board of Directors' Meeting

Business: Amendments/Policies; Resolutions; Reporting & Awards Logistics

11:30 am: Presentation – Bob Adams from Foundations for Living, Waupaca

12:00 pm: Lunch

1:00 pm: Presentation – Deb and Tim Schmidt of Fresh Hope for Mental Health, Waupaca

1:30 pm: GFWC-Wisconsin Board of Directors' Business resumes
 2:00 pm: Presentation – Erin Epping on Google Drive Transitions
 2:30 pm: GFWC-Wisconsin Board of Directors' Business resumes

3:00 pm: Adjournment of the 2022 Winter GFWC Wisconsin Board of Directors' Meeting

3:00 pm: Mini-LEADS 102 (3-5pm - Separate Registration Required)

Immediately following the GFWC-WI Board of Directors' Meeting Adjournment, the 2022-2024 Executive Committee Candidates and Incoming District Presidents will meet for 45 minutes.



# Presenting



# GFWC-WI Mini LEADS 102 Opportunity

(Leadership, Education and Development Seminar)

Saturday, February 19, 2022 (3:00-5:00pm)
Following the Winter Board & Working Committee Meetings in Waupaca

You ask and we really listen! Valuable feedback was provided in the online survey from the October GFWC-WI Mini LEADS 102 session following Jr. Fall Conference. We received requests for information on the topics of Encouraging Members to Become Leaders, Membership Development and Why Are YOU Doing What You Do. To answer the request, your GFWC-WI Leadership Committee has developed another Mini LEADS 102 program to be held on Saturday, February 19, 2022 following the Winter Board & Working Committee Meetings in Waupaca. This live session will be a combination of presentations and round table discussion in addition to some personal development activities. ALL GFWC-WI clubwomen are welcome to attend.

Please complete this registration form, include the \$10 registration check payable to **GFWC-WI** and **remit to:** 

GFWC-WI Leadership Committee, c/o Mary Meek 5659 Silent Drive, Rhinelander, WI 54501

Registration Form: Due by February 4,	<b>2022</b> – We must have a minimum of 10 participants to hold this event.
Club Name	District
Member's Name	
	Zip Code
Email Address	
List all Club, District and State participat	on including all activities and chairmanships:
Have you attended: District Mtgs	State Mtgs International Mtgs
	to be addressed or information that you want covered in the round table
Applicant's Signature	

#### It's time to award "Junior of the Year

Submitted by: Suzanne Hooser, Junior Director-elect

Each Junior club is encouraged to designate a "Junior of the Year" for the 2021 club year. "Junior of the Year" should be selected based on her overall work in the federation including state, district, & club involvement. Your club may also designate a "Member of the Year" in which the club designates the parameters of the award.

#### Some additional criteria to consider:

- Ability to interact positively with other members
- · Ability to listen and communicate
- Attendance at club meetings and events
- Board position(s) held
- Community participation outside her club (other organizations and positions)
- Cooperation
- Dependability
- Enthusiasm and positive attitude
- Impact on your club in the past year
- Innovative ideas and creativity
- Leadership potential
- Length of time the person has been in the club
- New ideas implemented
- Number of committees/projects in which she has participated
- Number of committees/projects she has chaired
- Open mindedness
- Sense of humor
- Willingness to share ideas

#### **REMINDERS & TIPS:**

- 1. Club President should fill out the "2021 Junior of the Year Submission Form" be sure to fill out both the point section and the narrative.
- 2. Deadline is March 1, 2022.
- Submit your entry to: Suzanne Hooser, 4307 Washington Td Kenosha Wi 53144 email, suzhooser@yahoo.com
- 4. Members can find the JOY award form on the website and on next page of this newsletter.
- 5. You may submit only one nominee per club, per year to the state level.
- 6. The nominee should be a member in good standing within your club for at least one year at the time of her award.
- 7. It is recommended that the same individual not be awarded this award two years consecutively.
- 8. However, an outstanding member should have the opportunity to be honored more than once over the course of her service as determined by her local club's Executive Board. Your club will decide how she will be honored locally. If your nominee is not recognized at your club level until after Convention please still submit a nominee. We will work around that if she is selected as the State "Winner".
- 9. Nominees may be recognized in an issue of this GFWC-Wisconsin Clubwoman newsletter.
- 10. The "Junior of The Year" will be determined by the GFWC-WI Junior Board. In case of a conflict or tie, three non-GFWC members will be selected to review the applications and select a winner.
- 11. The "Junior of the Year" may be announced at the state convention (May 2022).



# 2021 Junior of the Year Award Submission Form

Club Name		
Club District		
Honoree's Name & email (will not		
be contacted prior to Awards)  Name & email of Person Submit-		
ting		
, ang		
		Points
Club Work:		
1. Number of years as a member	5+ years (10 points); Under 5 years (5 points)	
2. Club President	Past or Present (10 points)	
3. Club Executive Board	Past or Present (5 points)	
4. Jr. Special Project/CIP Chairman	Past or Present (5 points)	
5. Fundraising Chairman	Past or Present (5 points)	
6. Committee Chairman	Past or Present (5 points)	
7. District/State Board Position(s)	Past or Present (5 points)	
Other GFWC Work:		
8. Attendance at any district, state,		
region or international meeting /		
convention (in 2019)	(5 points/meeting - max of 30 points)	
Total Points	(mayimum of 75 naints)	
(add points from 1-8 above)	(maximum of 75 points)	
Comments:		
(Please limit to 250 words or less)		

Please send this completed form by <u>March 1, 2022</u> to Suzanne Hooser, 4307 Washington Road, Kenosha, WI 53144 or Email suzhooser@yahoo.com

# Wisconsin's Own Library, a GFWC - WI treasure!

By: Carol Wolfenden, Wisconsin's Own Library (WOL) Committee; photography by Nancy Dickman

GFWC-Wisconsin has a treasure, Wisconsin's Own Library. This unique collection of more than 5,000 volumes by Wisconsin authors and illustrators was initiated by Mary Rennebohm, wife of Governor Rennebohm, in 1948. She persuaded the Wisconsin Federation of Women's Clubs to be a sponsor.

Originally housed at the executive mansion in Madison, the collection outgrew its space and moved to UW-Madison, the State Historical Society, UW-Milwaukee, and Beloit College. To celebrate the collection at its current home, the Lane Library at Ripon College in Ripon, Wisconsin, GFWC-WI hosted an open house on November 13, 2021. Club women from around the state attended.

To highlight the updated collection's emphasis on Wisconsin poetry, the afternoon program featured Ripon College's first poet-in-residence, Dr. Steve Bellin-Oka. Dr. Steve's position as poet-in-

-continued on next page









Above: GFWC-WI President Abby Lorenz welcomes the audience to the Wisconsin's Own Library open house at Lane Library at Ripon College in November.

residence is a new position on campus and is co-sponsored by GFWC-Wisconsin. Dr. Steve is the 2019 winner of the national Vassar Miller prize in poetry. The second reader at the open house was Dr. Peggy Rozga, 2019-2020 Wisconsin Poet Laureate. Attendees browsed the collection as they enjoyed the musical entertainment and refreshments.

GFWC-Wisconsin has established partnerships with Ripon College, the Wisconsin Poet Laureate Commission, and the Woodland Pattern Book Center. These partnerships have been supported by disbursements from the Gwendolyn M. Schultz Trust. Dr. Gwendolyn was a member of GFWC-Wisconsin; her wishes to "collect, preserve, publicize, and put to use significant, worthwhile works of Wisconsin writers" dovetails the mission of Mary Rennebohm so many years ago.









Above: Carol Wolfenden of the WOL Committee addresses those in attendance at the November 13th open house.

*Left:* GFWC Wisconsin President 1992-1994 Mary Kaye Ernest, and WOL Committee member

*Below:* **Dr. Peggy Rozga**, 2019-2020 Wisconsin Poet Laureate shares some poetry verses.



# **GFWC Junior Special Program: Advocates for Children**

Report by: Sue Bessert & Suz Hooser, GFWC-WI Special Program Co-Chairmen



# There's still time to contact your local library. Would you pitch in?

It's easy! Make a contact to your local public library and ask two things:

- 1. Permission for display of bookmarks from Prevent Child Abuse Wisconsin and Children's Hospital of Wisconsin. Sample bookmark shown here.
- 2. Confirm Public Library's mailing address and main contact for delivery of the bookmarks.
- 3. **By February 28, 2022,** email Sue Bessert the okay by your public library and the mailing address and contact information for delivery of the bookmarks.

The bookmarks will be shipped to your Library by Prevent Child Abuse Wisconsin later in March for display in our libraries by April. April is National Child Abuse Prevention Month. Note: there is no cost to the Library.

Some of you may wish to reach out beyond your local community and contact other public libraries in neighboring communities within your district. Awesome! Go for it. Let's cover the State, if we can!

Attention: Clubs in Waukesha County—one very ambitious and connected clubwoman, Karen Kjensrud has agreed to contact libraries in these towns: Big Bend, Brookfield, Butler, Delafield, Eagle, Elm Grove, Menomonee Falls, Mukwonago, New Berlin, North Lake/Merton, Oconomowoc and Sussex; along with libraries in Jefferson County. So we're covered in these towns.

If you have questions or would like to learn more, please contact Sue Bessert -

bbessert@centurytel.net

715-889-2342

Thank you!

You can make a difference in the lives of a child.



# SAVE THE DATE

Come join the Rivers and Lakes District as it hosts the **125th GFWC-WI Convention** at the Blue Harbor Resort in Sheboygan

May 12 to 15, 2022.



Lakeview rooms, suites, villas available. Waterpark. Beacon Restaurant.

Starbucks at the Shoreline Café. On the Rocks Bar. SPA. Shopping at the Boutique.

Many fine shops and restaurants nearby in downtown Sheboygan.

Area attractions: Bookworm Gardens, John Michael Koehler Arts Center, Sheboygan County Historical Museum, Lottie Cooper Shipwreck, May Environmental Park, Indian Mounds Park and much more!

725 Blue Harbor Drive, Sheboygan, Wisconsin

#### **COMMUNITY SERVICE PROGRAMS**

## **Civic Engagement & Outreach**





# Monthly To Do's - 2022

Looking for ideas for 2022?

Check out these monthly ideas:

**January** – For MLK Day, organize a club day of service at a local food pantry by donating essential goods and sorting and organizing their shelves.

**February** – February is "Heart Health" Month. Sponsor a CPR or first aid classes for a moms' groups, childcare providers, teens, and others.

**March** – Collaborate with a local bookstore or library to create a prominent display of nonfiction books that commemorate Women's History Month in March.

**April** – We think about money in April with "Tax Day." Share fact sheets with members and friends, including "The Top Ten Financial Scams Targeting Seniors," and "Eight Tips for How Seniors Can Protect Themselves from Money Scams."

**May** – With upcoming proms and school soon getting out for summer, work with first responders and your local high schools to provide presentations on at-risk driving practices, such as texting and failure to use seat belts.



#### **Education and Libraries**

Submitted by: Julie Riemenschneider, Chairman



Not a lot to report except I am enjoying time for reading. I did read one of the recommended books at GFWC International convention: "Grace and Grit" by Lily Ledbetter. I really enjoyed her true story as a woman working in a man's job at Goodyear Tires.

Club Presidents: Look for the January Education and Libraries newsletter from Tina Reese. I forwarded her letter to you to share with club members.

#### **Important Dates in January**

- International Creativity Month
- It's Okay to be Different Month
- National Braille Literacy Month
- National Get Organized Month
- National Mentoring Month
- Reach Your Potential Month



#### **Environment**

Submitted by: Karen Ostrowski, Chairman



I just saw an ad on TV that only 30% of recyclables make it into recycling. After traveling to other states it's not hard to believe.

2020 was the first year the resort where we stayed in Missouri had recycling (prior to that we brought it home). We are truly lucky to live in a state that

has promoted recycling since the early 70's and the list of recyclables continues to grow.

Our township has sponsored an appliance, electronics and tire event for the past four years with a small fee for some items.

This coming year I would like all clubs to keep track of how many plastic bags are recycled, reused or repurposed. For example using them to line waste bins instead of buying them. This could be a fun state project.

Speaking of which I will be looking forward for your reports including Trees For Tomorrow.

#### COMMUNITY SERVICE PROGRAMS

#### **Health & Wellness**

Submitted by: Marianne Potter, Chairman



Happy New Year to one and all!

Annually we are given the opportunity to "recreate" ourselves on January 1. Resolutions and goal setting seem to be a must for many clubwomen. However, when we are given the opportunity to report our club's accomplishments, we are allowed to reflect on our successes and projects that may need more development. Please remember to celebrate your club's successes. Do not bog members down with "what if's" but look at what was accomplished during a year of challenges.

Health and wellness comes from within. Small goals, such as taking a 15 minute walk daily or following the new dietary guidelines for Americans can be achieved and are sustainable. Does your club provide members the opportunity to support each other's health and wellness goals? Clubwomen always are willing to help those we believe need it. Unfortunately, sometimes it is important to look at how we can support each other with our physical and mental health.

COVID-19 guidelines are changing as the virus mutates. The CDC is continually updating its guidelines for quarantining and isolating. Please remember that while COVID has created physical health problems, it has also affected many Americans mentally. Young children may not feel comfortable in certain situations because they have not seen you in more than a year, or being in a crowd, even the size of a club meeting, may create anxiety for some. Patience and understanding for others' feelings and actions are important.

As your current chairman, I encourage you to report and share your club's successes. Pictures are always welcome! Best wishes for a healthy, happy 2022.

Marianne Potter 1031 Hearthstone Place Plover, WI 54467 715-498-9798 mariannepotter@charter.net

# \$1,000.00 Health Scholarship Program

Submitted by: Shelly Isely, Chairman

Scholarships are awarded each year by GFWC-WI to Wisconsin graduating high school students and adult students who are pursuing careers in the health field. The recipients of the scholarships will be notified in late April and will be invited to and honored at the awards banquet at the GFWC-WI State Convention in May 2022.

All District Presidents will be sent an email in January 2022 with guidelines for Club Presidents and Club Scholarship Chairs, as well as an information document to be shared with schools. If you have questions, please contact your District President or the Committee chairman, Shelly Isely (shellyisely@Yahoo.com).

The 2022 on-line application form will be active in January. Watch for that detailed email from your District leadership before sharing information with schools.

Ideally, we would love to see applications from EVERY district. Good luck to all the applicants!



# **Leadership Education and Development Seminar (LEADS)**

Submitted by: Mary Meek, Leadership Chairman

Are you thinking about taking the next leadership step in your club, your district, at the state level? Are you interested in gaining the skills and confidence necessary to take that step? Then the 2022 LEADS program might be just for you!

The LEADS program is held annually on Friday before the official opening of the GFWC International Convention and each state is eligible to send one participant. It is a full day of activities and includes topics such as conflict resolution, public speaking, leading an effective meeting, time management and parliamentary procedures. Additionally, you will meet other clubwomen from across the U.S. and gain a wealth of knowledge about GFWC!

If you are interested in applying to be the 2022 Wisconsin LEADS candidate, or simply want to learn more about the program, please visit the state website, www.gfwc-wi.org, under the "Leadership" tab. An information document including the application is there for your convenience.

Remember, applications are due to Michelle Munoz, GFWC-WI LEADS Selection Chairman by January 31st.

# **Advancement Area: Leadership** Submitted by: Missy Kimball, Leadership Committee member Article by Jan Allen, former GFWC WI State President

When I took over as president of my Junior Woman's Club — on a designated afternoon a station wagon pulled up to the front of my house. The whole back end of the car was packed from floor to roof with stuff including a three-drawer filing cabinet. In the filing cabinet was every club directory and newsletters for the past 40 years. Also, the transition included taking over a box of silver — serving trays, pitchers, punch bowl...

Now when I talk about passing the baton, I am not talking about unloading all the "crap." What I am focusing on is the sharing of valuable information you have gleaned over these two years that will keep your successor from having to reinvent the wheel.

So, let's put a list together of what you can start assembling for the sweet angel that will be taking over from you.

- All of your notes organized in a notebook to pass along to the next chair.
- I am talking about a three-ring binder with your notes, agendas, programs organized in chronological order. For now Just three-hole punch your stuff and stick it in a notebook.
- List of important dates and deadlines.
- List of important dates newsletter due dates, Board Meetings, committee meetings, conferences, conventions, etc.
- Dollars spent.
- What did you spend money on...travel, registrations, supplies, mailings, etc.
- List of important contacts.

Besides the wonderful staff at GFWC and our Executive Committee, is there anybody else that is important to you doing your job – partners, suppliers, former chairs, the custodian to the building you meet in, the caterer, the secretary at the church. Again, keep a running list.

- Have a telephone conversation to answer any questions.
- About two months before you step aside plan a telephone conversation with your successor. Some things are better discussed one on one.
- Never say, "Now when I was chair...."
- Guess what ...nobody cares.
- Do not be offended if the next chair chooses to do things differently.
- Of course, they are.... And they have a different perspective, different experiences, different co-chairs, presidents, etc.
- Let the next chair BE.... walk away and let her make the job hers.
- Once you have fed her up with all the resources. Wish her good luck. Tell her you will be here for whatever she needs. And, walk away!

Just so you know....it will say more volumes about you about how you end your role and hand it off diplomatically than the job itself!

## **Technology Committee**

Submitted by: Erin Epping, Chairman

The Technology Committee has been busy meeting regularly and making plans to improve technology use throughout the state since we last reported.

At the February Winter Meeting, the technology committee will be presenting how administration turnover will be accomplished between the current administration and the next administration. If you are a board member, a board of director member, or chairperson and have files on your computer, you will learn how to easily transition those to your successor at the meeting. We are excited about sharing the process with you! (Note, it does not involve paper, thumb drives, or email!)

At the State Convention in May we are planning to share why websites are useful for clubs and how to begin the process of developing one. If your club is interested in having a website, please come to the State Convention to learn more.

## **Community Impact Program Award**

Submitted by: Carol Wolfenden, Chairman

GFWC-WI members are AMAZING! In spite of the pandemic, clubs have found ways to safely make their communities, and the world, a better place!

Earn some recognition (and potentially some money) for your efforts. Participate in the Community Impact Award Program. Here are the highlights:

What project(s) has your club done from Jan. 1, 2020 – December 31, 2021?

Fill out the application. (All club presidents have received the application and information from Abby Lorenz & Carol Wolfenden.) This year's version is much shorter than the previous form.

Submit your entry by March 1, 2022.

Mail or email it to:

Carol Wolfenden wolfenden@mwt.net

S 464 Tower Road 608/489-2209

Kendall, WI 54638

Contact Carol with any questions. Thanks!



## **Resolutions at Winter Workshop**

Submitted by: Nancy Niedziela, Resolutions Chairman

The following Resolutions are being reviewed by the Resolutions Committee for presentation at the Winter Workshop. These resolutions will be presented to the Executive Committee (EC) at the Winter Workshop in February 2022. If the EC accepts them, these resolutions will be read to the GFWC-WI Board of Directors at the Winter Workshop and will appear in the Call to Convention in the next issue of the GFWC-WI Clubwoman.

**Arts and Culture -- #1** 

**Environment** -- #4, #5

**Education and Libraries -- #1** 

**Health and Wellness** -- #5, #8, #14, and #9 which was sent back to committee at state convention.

Civic Engagement and Outreach -- None

**Public Issues** -- #1, #, #6, #11, #19, #23, #24, #25, #27, #2

In addition, the Resolutions Committee will be proposing a few additional resolutions.

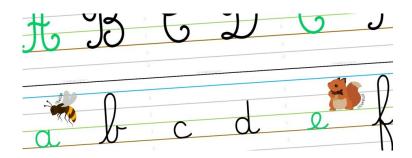
If you have any questions, concerns, or comments about any of these resolutions, please get them via email to Nancy Niedziela, Resolutions Committee Chairman, by **January 20, 2022**.

RNIEDZIELA@WI.RR.COM

# Legislation update

Here is an update on the cursive writing bill and I'm sorry to say it is not good news.

As of Tuesday, December 21st, Nancy Honadel heard from David Specht-Boardman who is a policy advisor for Senator Joan Submitted by: Linda Taylor, Legislation & Public Policy chairman



Ballweg of the 14th Senate District. As our bill moved further through the process, school administrators contacted many legislators with concerns, particularly the mandate that would be placed on the schools. Others were persuaded by some schools that said they still opt to teach cursive through other subjects, like Art as one example.

Since this happened we have lost some votes and support for the bill. Unfortunately, this makes it unlikely that the bill will move forward given the loss of support.

Thank you for all of your efforts with this project.

# **District Reports**

**SOUTHERN PRAIRIES:** Beloit Juniors \* Blanchardville \* Burlington \* Edgerton \* Kenosha Juniors \* Monroe \* Pleasant Prairie \* East Troy \* Kenosha

Submitted by Julie Saether, District President

#### Greetings!

In looking back on 2021 one of my goals was to visit the clubs in the District so I could meet the presidents and members in person and get a feel for how each club works.

I have visited Monroe and Burlington this past spring and East Troy and Kenosha Jr's this past fall. All the clubs did a wonderful job of making me feel welcomed! It has been delightful to visit them and learn about each club's uniqueness and activities that they do!

I look forward to visiting Pleasant Prairie, Beloit Jr's and Edgerton this winter and spring! (I had visited Woman's Club of Kenosha in November 2020).

Upcoming **Southern Prairies District** Events: Our Board meeting is February 22 via Zoom and our Spring District Convention is April 26 (location to be determined).



Julie Saether

GFWC – WI District President

Southern Prairies

2020-2022

ROLLING HILLS: Dodgeville \* Hartford Juniors \* Hillsboro \* Muskego \* Oconomowoc

Juniors\* Oconomowoc \* Hartland \* Pewaukee

Submitted by Sue Schwarten, District President



Sue Schwarten GFWC – WI District President Rolling Hills

2020-2022

Happy New Year everyone,

Seems like the year just flew by.

**Rolling Hills clubs** are doing their best to continue with their charitable work. Also, membership has increased in several clubs. We are getting ready for our spring meeting which will be in April, and we will hold our art contest and announce scholarship winners.

We ask each club to give a short account of what they did over the past year. Good ideas are shared and some clubs add them to their plans for the coming year.

This is the time a new board will be installed. It is exciting to look ahead and see the plans for the coming year.

Hope all of you stay healthy and happy.

# **District Reports**

#### Happy New Year!

As we launch into 2022, we begin by reflecting on 2021 and we can certainly reflect with pride at the results of our strength and determination. Club reports which are due January 31st, will record our organization's significant accomplishments and our success in supporting our respective communities throughout the year. For Northwoods District clubs, the projects include the Brandy Park Mural Project, Kindness for Kids, Veterans Christmas Wreaths Across America, Annual Craft and Trade Show, Tinsel Trail, King Veteran's Home robotic pets, caregiver baskets for Area Hospice, and Salvation Army bell ringing. I applaud these amazing endeavors especially knowing that we continue to deal with the challenges of COVID.

The **Northwoods District** Spring Convention is scheduled for April 30, and will be hosted by the GFWC Stevens Point Woman's Club. We look forward to a time of fellowship and celebration as we show our support of one another while attending to district business.

Until we are together, please stay safe and remain strong!



Mary Meek GFWC – WI District President Northwoods 2020-2022

LAKESHORE: Brown Deer Juniors \* North Shore Juniors \* Past District Officers \* Port Washington \* Shorewood \* Greenfield \* West Allis Submitted by Erin Epping, District President

Greetings and Happy New Year from **GFWC-WI Lakeshore District**. The Lakeshore District clubs have been busy leading up to holiday season and are working on plans for the spring. The Lakeshore District has updated our scholarship application and now have an online version for students to use. The online application is found at url: https://www.gfwc-wi.org/awards-scholarships Thanks to the state for allowing the districts to share our applications via the state website.

Lakeshore District is busy seeking volunteers for our next administration. The board will be voted upon and installed at our annual District meeting scheduled for April 25, 2022 at Alioto's in Wauwatosa, Wisconsin.



Erin Epping
GFWC – WI District President
Lakeshore
2020-2022

# RIVERS & LAKES: Berlin Friends \* Brillion \* Oshkosh Arts Club \* Plymouth \* Princeton \* De Pere Submitted by Sue Sands, District President



Sue Sands

GFWC – WI District
President

Rivers & Lakes
2020-2022

Members of clubs in the **Rivers and Lakes District** are busy planning and making arrangements for the 2022 State Convention at the Blue Harbor Resort in Sheboygan. The 125<sup>th</sup> Annual Convention will be held May 12-15. Look for more information in this issue of the Clubwoman or from your Club President. Hoping to see you in May!

Election times are coming up for many of our clubs. Are you willing to step up and be a club officer? Think about it—you would be able to share your leadership skills, to serve your community and to work closely with members of your local club. Hats off to those who have already made the commitment.

Rivers and Lakes District plans to meet in De Pere on April 20, 2022. The meeting will be at the De Pere Community Center and hosted by the Woman's Club of De Pere. The District Helen Mears Contest will be held at this time.

### NORTHERN LIGHTS: Amery \* Ashland \* Bloomer \* Colfax \* Menomonie \* Spooner Submitted by Julie Riemenschneider, District President



Julie Riemenschneider GFWC – WI District President Northern Lights 2020-2022

Greetings and Happy New Year!

I surely hope we will see the COVID-19 variations diminish or become controlled this year.

I do not have any news from the **Northern Lights District.** Some or most of our clubs do not meet in the winter. The Amery Woman's Club plans to meet for lunch one day in January for those who stay up north. That will be a fun way to keep in touch.

Happy New Year GFWC WI sisters,

The **Woman's Club of Kenosha** (WCK) had a very busy 2021, fourth quarter. Even though the pandemic has created unique challenges and remains challenging as I write this article, we have continued to live the volunteer spirit and support our community.



In October, we had three major events. At our October meeting, we had the pleasure of an awesome performance from Jessica Michna. She took us on an enlightening journey of the Suffragist Movement with her program **Women Who Dared.** 

October 15<sup>th</sup> our **Denim and Diamonds** fundraiser for Domestic Violence Awareness and Prevention: Teenage Awareness was a success. Attendees have requested a repeat of the event, a sure sign that a good time was had by all.

We held our inaugural Howl-O-Ween Pet Parade and Costume

**Contest** with funds earned going to Canine Companions. Canine Companions was represented by "Ollie' the most recent trainee and his trainer Catherine Rupp. He charmed everyone with wonderful demeanor.

In November, we continued our tradition of honoring our hero veterans at our meeting. Due to the generosity of Ellen Weber's Chicken Coop Quilters, we presented two beautiful quilts to two deserving veterans who also happen to serve on the Kenosha Police Department. In fact, one of the recipients is part of the canine patrol and was presented a special patriotic quilt depicting dogs. He brought his canine partner, Lily who demonstrated her job to find electronic devices, such as cell phones.



We held a streamed down Holiday Craft and Bake sale on November 6<sup>th</sup>. We continued to pursue our conservation goal to collect 10,000 corks to be recycled. Along with help from the community we made our goal. Our newly formed **WCK Juniorettes** have been an invaluable asset to the WCK as they counted most of the corks. On a side note, they also helped at the Howl-O-Ween Pet event, manned the bake sale table, and acted as hostesses at the Christmas tea.

We got into the spirit of the holidays, with a traditional Christmas tea with a talented pianist who led the group in carols. We enjoyed delicious holiday treats, English scones with clotted cream and jams, lemon tarts, pecan pastries, Christmas cookies and more...The historic WCK Clubhouse is beautifully decked out for the holidays! We love showing it off.

Our last event of the year was open to the public, a program for **Surviving the Holidays** for people who have lost a loved one recently or are still grieving, knowing holidays can make it worse.

We look forward to what opportunities and adventures 2022 brings. We wish everyone a joyful, peaceful, healthy, and prosperous year!

Living the Volunteer Spirit since 1891 - Deb Strecker, WCK President

#### **GFWC Woman's Club of De Pere**

#### The GFWC Woman's Club of De Pere found a treasure of its past!

While cleaning out a closet at the local community center, an amazing discovery was made (tucked away in a plastic bag on the top shelf). A Bicentennial quilt was in that bag; it was part of a 1970's fundraising project of the Woman's Club of De Pere.

At the time members sold fabric squares for 50 cents. De Pere family members provided their signatures which were then embroidered onto red and white squares that became part of the quilt. Notable signatures on the quilt also include President Gerald Ford, U. S. Senator William Proxmire and Wisconsin Governor Patrick Lucey.

On October 20, 2021 the Woman's Club of De Pere presented the "discovered" U. S. Bicentennial quilt to Kim Boyd, president of the De Pere Historical Society. The quilt will be displayed at the White Pillars Museum in De Pere.





Photos above are pictures at the October 2021 presentation of the recently discovered Bicentennial quilt, a 50 year old project of the **GFWC Woman's Club of De Pere.** 

# Good press received from the local newspaper for this amazing discovery!

THE PRESS TIMES, NOVEMBER 19, 2021



#### De Pere bicentennial quilt

At the De Pere Historical Society's annual dinner last month Barb Spitzer presented a U.S. Bicentennial quilt to McKim Boyd, right, De Pere Historical Society precident. The quilt is the result of a 1975 fundraiser by De Pere Woman's Club members who sold fabric squares for 50 cents. De Pere family members provided their signatures which were than embroidered onto red and white squares that became part of the quilt. Notable signatures include President Gerald Ford, U.S. Sen. William Proximire and Gov. Patrick Lursy. Boyd said. The quilt will be displayed at the White Pillare Muşeum.

#### **CLUB CORNER**



#### **GFWC Hartford Junior Woman's Club**



Above is the installation of **Angie Boyer** as a member of the Hartford Juniors at the Merry Chef Christmas celebration by **Barbara Pontow**.

Pictured on left are our Cancer Capes leaders: **Sue Edquist** and **Sue Lisko**.

When a club member of the **GFWC Hartford Juniors Woman's Club** was undergoing radiation therapy for breast cancer, she was given her personal "cape" to bring to each session. The cape made of fleece, was soft, comforting and practical---think poodle skirt around the neck. Her enthusiasm and leadership made this a club project. Members were quick to donate fleece in varied colors and patterns. Capes were cut, and pockets were attached to hold locker keys. The finished capes were delivered to Small Stones Wellness at Froedtert Hospital Cancer Center in West Bend.

#### Hillsboro Woman's Civic Club



 ${\it Photo courtesy of HILLSBORO SENTRY-ENTERPPRISE}$ 



Seated (I to r): Doris Picha, Donna Schneider, Mary Sterba, Wendy Manser.

Standing (I to r): Diana Marshall, Karen Stanek, Janice Walker, Marty Magalsky, Jean Traeder, Carol Wolfenden. Not pictured: Nicolette Naumann (photographer, member, newspaper editor).

**GFWC-WI Hillsboro Woman's Civic Club** celebrated its 90th anniversary in November. One clubwoman commented, "We should have champagne, cookies, and chocolate at all our meetings!" The organization began in November 1931 when the village president announced a meeting for "all women interested in the welfare of Hillsboro." The official minutes of the meeting noted that "an organization of civic-minded women could do much for our village, and library in particular." Those sentiments have guided the Club for 90 years.

#### **GFWC Beloit Junior Woman's Club**







# The Beloit Junior Woman's Club members turned 120 toilet paper rolls into "pumpkins" to be distributed in a care package to the Meals on Wheels clients.

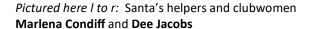


They also stuffed new and gently used purses with personal items. The purses were donated to our local domestic violence shelter.

#### **GFWC Rhinelander Woman's Club**

Last month members of the **Rhinelander Woman's Club** became Santa's helpers to assist the local Kindness for Kids group. Our ladies received lists of gift suggestions from families in the community (submitted through Oneida County Social Services) and then "shopped" through tables of donated items.

Besides filling bags for Santa, club members donated 30 fleece blankets and a dozen pairs of slippers. Our Food-for-the-Mind team provided several boxes of children's books!





#### **CLUB CORNER**



"Best Bra Contest" held by the GFWC Brown Deer Junior Woman's Club has a record-making year. Shown here are the many bras hanging at Libby Montana's Bar and Grill.

At our October meeting, we enjoyed a program with Canine Companions. Catherine Rupp, volunteer puppy raiser since 2010, brought her nine-week old puppy-in-training, Oshi. They were joined by Melanie, a young woman who recently received her service dog, two-year old Dasher, from the organization. Canine Companions for Independence is a nationwide organization that provides service dogs to a variety of disabled individuals from children as young as five years old on up to adults.

#### **GFWC Brown Deer Junior Woman's Club**

What a comeback! The **Brown Deer Juniors Woman's Club** and Libby
Montana's Bar and Grill were able to hold
its "Best Bra Contest." This year's event
was a record making year! There were 33
bra entries and \$2700 was raised for
Cynthia's Breast Cancer Giving Circle.
From donating raffle prizes, to selling
raffle tickets, to decorating bras, to inviting friends to the event, our membership
worked hard to make this a great event.

There were a few new things at this year's contest: A new game that was a lot of fun, Pluck a Duck, and a spouse of one of our own members was a guest bartender for the evening and donated all his tips to the event. Also, Libby's donated the prizes to the bra entry winners. Please visit our website at **Best Bra Contest History** to read about our Best Bra event which was started in 2009. For information about our recipient, please visit Cynthia's.



GFWC has been a supporter of the organization since its inception in 1975. Catherine provided information about the organization, the types of people who are eligible to receive a service dog and about the puppy training process. Melanie gave insight into her road to getting Dasher, the type of training she received, what Dasher helps her do and how she handles him in public. Catherine and Melanie also answered many questions from our group about their experiences.

Best of all, everyone in attendance got the chance to hold Oshi! For more information about the organization, visit https://canine.org.

#### **GFWC Woman's Club of West Allis**

West Allis winter "welcomings" - In November the GFWC Woman's Club of West Allis welcomed 39 members and women interested in our club to a wine and cheese evening event. In



addition to socializing and refreshments, there was a presentation on reflexology/wellness and club activities. We have welcomed 5 new members this club year.

The **Filled Purse Project** totaling 32 purses, filled with gift cards and personal items, were shared with the WISH Group & clients of the Hope Closet at holiday time. The project was valued at \$1,120.



The Village At Manor Park (assisted living facility) and our West Allis Woman's Club members again gathered new toys for holiday giving to 32 children of Hope Closet and needy children in the community. Members also contributed to the Police Department Sign up Genius for victims' wishes for adults and children. Over \$3,000 in cash and gifts were donated. The club's Domestic &

Sexual Violence Committee provided hours to implement the projects.

The **Harvest of Books Program** for Kindergarten-age children in West Allis/West Milwaukee Schools was held. Three of our members read a book to each of 5 classes. Afterward each child picked a book to keep and received bookmarks. Extra books were donated to the classroom libraries. Club members donated over 150 books for the program throughout the year. The children were so excited to receive the books. And of course, this encourages reading.

A new behavioral treatment facility will open in West Allis this month. Granite Hills Hospital will have 120 beds and will have in-patient and eventually outpatient services. Nine club members toured the facility and were impressed with the soothing color décor and art, gym, dining room, group activity, treatment and patient rooms. With behavioral needs of the community, this will be a needed resource.

Holiday cheer was spread in our club and the community. Before the club holiday party, homemade cookies were



Photo on left, I to r: Carol Ziehler, Jan Pisarek, Lynne Loosen, and Sue Sanders with car load of toys!

Photo above: Village At Manor Park staff and clubwoman **Tamara Spredemann**, second from right



dropped off and cookie boxes assembled, for sale at the December party. The club earned over \$400. The food, music and fun uplifted our spirits. The club donated to the West Allis Christmas Parade and 4 members rode in a member's festive red convertible. The club's card making group lifted spirits of seniors in four care facilities in December with their handmade cards with a candy treat included. We are imagining the number of smiles on faces of those who receive them! Happy New Year to all!

## Living the Volunteer Spirit

## GFWC WISCONSIN



Dedicated to community service since 1896

GFWC - Wisconsin Clubwoman Editor: Sue Bessert

715-889-2342

bbessert@centurytel.net

Next deadline: February 24, 2022

www.gfwc-wi.org

www.gfwc.org



#### **GFWC - WI Dates to Remember:**

#### **JANUARY 2022**

12	Early Bird GFWC-WI Winter Workshop
20	Questions, comments about <b>Resolutions</b> , contact Nancy Niedziela
22	Late GFWC-WI Winter Workshop
31	Club Reports need to be emailed or postmarked on or before
31	Club GFWC LEADS candidate application and support materials due
FEBRUARY	
4	Deadline registration GFWC-WI Winter Workshop
4	Deadline registration GFWC-WI Mini LEADS
5	Hotel deadline GFWC-WI Winter Workshop
12	Virtual attendance GFWC-WI Winter Workshop
13	GFWC-WI Writing Contest entry deadline
18-19	GFWC-WI Winter Workshop, Ramada by Wyndham, Waupaca, Wisconsin
19	GFWC-WI Mini LEADS, Ramada by Wyndham, Waupaca, Wisconsin
24	Deadline for submissions - "GFWC-WI Clubwoman" spring issue
28	Complete calls to public libraries for Advocates for Children
MARCH	
1	Community Impact Program application due
1	Junior of the Year (JOY) application due
15	Reports due to GFWC by GFWC-WI Board of Directors (program area)
APRIL	
1	Theodora Youmans Award entries due
1	Health Scholarship applications due - application on website
15	Woman of Achievement Award entries due
	Registration deadline - State Convention
	<b>District Conventions:</b> Rivers & Lakes - <b>April 20</b> ; Lakeshore - <b>April 25</b> ; Southern Prairies - <b>April 26</b> ; Northwoods - <b>April 30</b>
24	GFWC Federation Day
MAY	
12-15	<b>GFWC-WI State Convention</b> , Blue Harbor, Sheboygan, Wisconsin, hosted by Rivers and Lakes District

#### **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.