



June 25 – 29, 2016
★ GFWC International Convention
Baltimore, MD

Friday, July 22 – Saturday, July 23, 2016

★ GFWC-MN Workshop

Little Falls, MN

September 22 – 25, 2016

★ Mississippi Valley Region (MVR) Conference
Excelsior Springs, MO

★ East Central District held their 103rd Annual Convention. On April 12th the GFWC Bloomington Federated Woman's Club hosted



the event at the MN Valley Country Club. Pictured right is the out-going President Jan Bunting pinning the new President, Joan Petroff from the Bloomington club. The day included two informative workshops: an AARP Speaker spoke about "Frauds & Scams Perpetrated on Seniors" and "Habitat for Humanity" updated us about their work in our area. The Keynote Speaker was Vernita Carter, President of "Breaking Free", an organization that helps women break free from prostitution and sex trafficking. Special guest, GFWC-

MN President, Pat Stevermer was happy to Install the new 2016 - 2018 Officers:



President, Joan Petroff; President Elect, Karla Mayhew (WSWC); Vice President, Barbara Waterston (Edina); Secretary, Kathleen Hewitt (Golden Valley); and Treasurer, Jennifer Halvorson (Delano).



★ Central District Convention was Held April 2nd in Nevis



The Terrapin Music, Art & Wellness Centre hosted the convention and the theme was "Your Natural Inspiration" that proved to be a natural wonder! The Mother Earth inspired program showed them the value of nature's essential oils.

GFWC-MN President Pat Stevermer was on hand to install their re-elected 2016-2018 Officers: Linda Strong, President; Carol Huffman, Vice President & Historian; Donna Mae Smieja, Secretary; Pat Nedved, Treasurer.





★ GFWC Grand Rapids North Star Women's Club held their annual "Pajama Party and Sock Hop". The clubwomen are pictured with Men's Program Director, John Downing from Advocates for Family Peace (AFFP) in Grand Rapids. New slippers, socks, nightwear, sweatshirts, and a cell phone with a total value of approximately \$1800 were donated to their local AFFP organization.





- ★ The Starbuck Study Club GFWC Were Named "Volunteers of the Year" (Pictured Left) are the clubwomen who attended the Starbuck Chamber of Commerce Membership Dinner to receive their club award. Also at the dinner (Pictured Right) were ★Clubwoman Joann Holten and her husband Jerry who were named Starbuck's July Heritage Days Parade Marshalls in honor of their years of service to the community and their endless volunteering to make Starbuck a better place to live.
- ★ Also, the Starbuck Study Club recently celebrated their 90 years as a federated club and their 50% growth in membership.



★ Edina Federated Women's Club GFWC states that their Sojourner's Project was a "rewarding endeavor". For Valentines Day club members created sixteen beautiful gift bags and baskets containing notepads, slippers, lotions, perfume, jewelry, scarves, etc. and donated them to the Sojourners Domestic Violence Shelter. Also as part of their project, they prepared two meals for the shelter.



- ★ Member Rosie Gubrud (pictured above right with President Barbara Waterston) received an award at the City of Edina Volunteer Award Reception. Barb states "Rosie represents what volunteering is all about in EFWC".
- ★ There are lots of 'budding artists' at the Edina Federated Women's Club GFWC. Pictured below are club ladies at the Edina Art Center enjoying wine & cheese while painting their masterpieces.



Meet Linda Blue, our 2016 GFWC-MN L.E.A.D.S. Candidate!!



Linda is from the Northwest District's GFWC Library Club in Mahnomen and is currently our new GFWC-MN 2nd Vice President. She is looking forward to attending the Leadership Education And Development Seminar (LEADS) in Baltimore at the 2016 Annual GFWC International Convention.



At the club's March General Meeting, President Karla Mayhew (right) and the Membership Committee, presented Dorothy Jackson with her 'GFWC 50 Year Member Gold Pin' along with a red rose and a Certificate of Appreciation for her support and commitment.







City of Royalton

👍 In Memoriam





Newsletter Volume 16 Issue 3 May/June 2016

Royalton Women's Study Club

The Royalton Women's Study Club was formed in 1907 as a way for the local women to leave their homes and discuss books, current events and help out where they could. But the GFWC-

General Federation of Women's Clubs started much earlier than that. Back in 1868, when

professional journalist, Jane Cunningham Crolv was denied entrance to an all male dinner honoring novelist Charles Dickens, she formed her own woman's club named Sorosis.

From that day on it has grown to nearly 100,000 members. The Royalton Chapter of the GFWC has done a lot through the years that many of us don't know about. The women started the first library in Royalton by raising funds for WPA (Works Progress Administration-New Deal) to build it. They assisted in the establishment of Me-

While diverse in age, interests, and experiences, all clubwomen are united by a desire to create positive change in their communities.

> morial Park and still help out with Hands of Hope, in Morrison County. The women support the Fine Arts, as well as host the Art in the Park festival in June. These are only a few things the Royalton chapter has done locally. But they also support the International GFWC. In 1986, the GFWC started programs to protect and preserve endan-

gered species. Since the 1990s, the GFWC has supported the passage of the Family and Medical Leave Act and support handgun control. The GFWC helps many organizations they feel are

worthy of their sup-

However, the local chapter needs the help of a new genera-They are in tion. need of fresh younger ideas and able bodies to take part in the events and let their voices be heard. There will be a meeting on Saturday. May 21, 2016 at 9:00 am located in the Royalton Community Center. Become a member and let the next generation be

heard.



Phyllis M. Erickson, age 74, of Glenwood, died Thursday, February 25th after a courageous battle with Autoimmune Hepatitis. She was a member of GFWC Potpourri Glenwood

1941 - 2016

for 21 years and served as historian and contributed to the club's many projects. Phyllis's words of support

to new officers were "You can't do it all". Her gentle spirit and friendly personality were valued in her GFWC club. She will be missed. Phyllis was born in Brooten, MN. She was born a twin and said that was one of the best things that happened to her. Phyllis attended a one-room country school and graduated from Brooten High School. She also attended Lutheran Bible Institute. In 1962, she married her husband Dennis and they raised one daughter, two sons and enjoyed eleven grandchildren. They purchased a farm south of Glenwood where she lived until Dennis' death. Phyllis was full of energy and worked hard on the family's dairy farm.

Editor, Karla Mayhew is always looking for your club's news. Please keep sending her your great pictures and articles to: karlamayhew@comcast.net Or 5243 Minnetoga Terrace. Minnetonka, MN 55343



★ THANK YOU to The Golden Star Juniorettes for playing such an active roll at the GFWC-MN State Convention! They led the Pledge of Allegiance and their Juniorette Pledge: "I pledge my loyalty to the Juniorettes clubwomen by doing better than ever before what work I have to do; by being prompt, honest, courteous; by living each day; and trying to accomplish something not merely existing." They were very busy volunteers selling tickets for Lucky Bucks; handing out the door prizes, and transporting the district gift baskets to the banquet room.



Pictured are the Juniorettes helping to carry all of our donations for Jan Logan, Executive Director of Detroit Lakes Crisis & Resource Center. Jan (back row middle) was the guest speaker at the GFWC-MN Convention's Sunday Brunch.



The Juniorettes made colorful and yummy M&M treats that they served at the GFWC-MN Convention's Saturday Night Reception held for the new in-coming State Officers and our special guest Mary Ellen Brock, GFWC

International First Vice President. In honor of 'May Day' they also brought their treats to the Sunday Brunch.





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★ The Friday Night Pajama Party honored Marietjie Robberts for her dedicated service to GFWC in her Club, her District and State. She will be moving to Cleveland, OH to be near her children and grandchildren. Marietjie, "thank you" for your years of support and commitment to GFWC. . . we wish you health & happiness in your new home. We will miss you. Come back and see us at a future convention!!



★Guest Speaker Siri Freeh, 2012 Miss Minnesota, Registered Nurse and Public Ambassador for the Lillehei Heart Institute, spoke to us Saturday about ways we can do

'Spring Housecleaning' for our mind and body. You can start today to reduce life's stresses and care for your heart.





★ GFWC-MN President, Pat Stevermer was presented with a lovely matted picture in appreciation and warm thanks for being our 2014-2016 State President.

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Pat in turn said, "I want to thank you for the opportunity to have served as your GFWC-MN State President. Continue to support your club, district and state officers and 'Living the Volunteer Spirit'. A special thank you to my officers, Chairs and everyone who served GFWC-MN during my 2014-2016 administration. This organization needs many hands to make light work."

Pat goes on to say, "It was a pleasure this year visiting all seven District Conventions in April as well as installing your new officers. It is always great seeing everyone and sharing my GFWC-MN news. It involved 2,400 miles and 45 hours in my car! Thank you again for being stars of GFWC!"





Their Theme is "COME BUILD WITH US!"

(left to right) President, Pat Mumm; President-Elect, Jean Walker; 1st V.P. Jennell Jorgenson-Johnson; 2nd V.P. Linda Blue; Treasurer, Pam Mithun; Secretary, Nancy Salmi



★ The East Central District was well represented at the State Convention with (15) attending from five clubs! — Bloomington, Golden Valley, West Suburban, Cosmopolitan, and Edina.



Be Patient, our Website "gfwcofmn.org" is getting a face lift! It's coming back soon even bigger & better!!

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PROPOSED RESOLUTION Recommended by the GFWC of Minnesota

(013 or 015 Jurisdictional Perpetrator Loophole)

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WHEREAS, The General Federation of Women's Clubs has long been concerned with the health, welfare, and psychological well-being of women and children; and

WHEREAS, there exists a loophole regarding jurisdictional responsibility for investigations, law enforcement, and legal justice as applied to tribal women and children who are assaulted by non-tribal members; and

WHEREAS, the original language of the 2013 reauthorization of the Violence Against Women Act (VAWA) sought to close that loophole; and

WHEREAS, said language covering the non-spousal / non-domestic partner perpetrator was dropped from the final reauthorization of VAWA; and

WHEREAS, VAWA is scheduled again for reauthorization in 2017; and

WHEREAS, non-tribal perpetrators of violence against tribal women and children are not held accountable for their offenses which:

- •Leaves the women and children of our nation's reservations vulnerable;
- •Leads to hopelessness and depression;
- •Discourages reporting of such crimes;
- •Is an impetus for young girls to run away leaving them vulnerable to trafficking;
- •Has generational effects and reinforces family dysfunction;
- •And violates human rights principles and standards; therefore

RESOLVED, that the General Federation of Women's Clubs urges its member clubs to:

- •Educate membership on this inequality in the law;
- •Propose and support resolutions at local political caucuses to increase awareness of the issue; get proposed remedies into political party platforms; and arouse the consciousness of legislators to the end that future change in VAWA to be inclusive of all violence against women and children;
- •Educate member of Congress as to this grave injustice;
- •Support the establishment of dual jurisdictional courts (tribal/state) where applicable as a way around the jurisdictional loophole in the law as it applies to non-tribal perpetrators.

For background information see Louise Erdrich's novel "The Round House", winner of the 2012 National Book Award. Erdrich's fiction powerfully captures the effect of the loophole in the U.S. law known casually as the 'jurisdictional question' or to hear the legislators' rationales for dropping the rectifying provisions to the 2013 reauthorization to VAWA go to: www.pbs.org/newshour/bb/law-uneven-justice-seen-reservations-victims-domestic-violence/



 ★ Our Special Guest was GFWC Intl.
 1st Vice President Mary Ellen Brock



Mary Ellen shared with us news from GFWC Headquarters, helped us find our leadership style and put fun into our meetings. She installed our 2016-2018 Officers and was honored along with the new Officers at the Saturday Night Reception after the banquet.

Mary Ellen sent Pat Stevermer a lovely "Thank You" note. She said: "I so enjoyed being at the Minnesota State Convention. Please tell the members thank you for being so warm and welcoming that I felt right at home. It was very evident to me how much they enjoy each other and their time together. I wish them much success in the next two years and hope someday to be with them again.

Much Love, Mary Ellen.

P.S. Minnesota clubwomen are the first ones to ever get up and see me off at 6:00 a.m. I was very touched!"

★ During the Memorial Service by GFWC-MN Chaplain



twenty-one lovely glass stars were hung on a lighted tree representing the twenty-one GFWC sisters that we lost in 2015. Also, Lucy gifted one of her husband Luke's handmade stars to each attendee of the convention.

Thank you Lucy and Luke for your kind thoughtfulness!

Registration for GFWC of MN Fall Council 2016

Why: International Convention report, reporting, service dogs. district presidents workshop, program chairmen workshop, and much more. When: Friday, July 22 and Saturday, July 23, 2016 Where: St Francis Center, 116 8th Avenue SE, Little Falls, MN St. Francis Center: Overnight housing is available in the area that once was dormitories for the students when they had boarding school for girls. Each room has two or more beds, but members can request to use one of the rooms as a private room. Shower rooms are private, but bathroom facilities are shared. Fee: \$37.00/person/night for private room. \$25.00/person/night for shared room. Marcia Goff 320-632-0695 for a room reservation For rooms at motels in the area please call directly to each motel Bring: Books for Federation Mall Book Sale and something for the Lucky Buck auction if you'd like to contribute. *********************************** Advance Registration by Wednesday, July 15, 2016 (No refunds after this date) Name_____ Address Phone____Email____ Club ______District_____ Note: Check all that pertain __State Officer/Chairman _____District President _____Club President _____Club Delegate New member or 1st time attendee to Fall Council/Workshop Meals: \$ 7.00 Continental Breakfast: (fruit, roll, juice, coffee) \$16.00 Dinner Friday evening: \$11.00 Lunch Saturday: \$10.00 (pays for cost of Fall Council) Registration: **Total** Make checks payable to: GFWC of MN

Send checks to: Pam Mithun, Treasurer

46653 208th Street Morris, MN 56267 320-589-2911