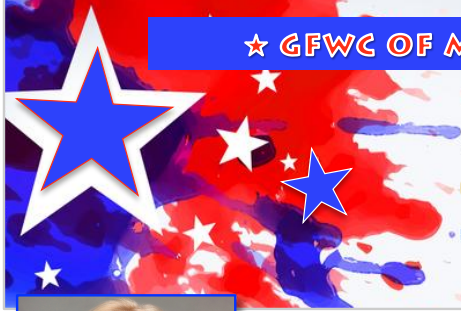


★ GFWC OF MINNESOTA NEWS ★ 2018 MAY - JULY ISSUE ★



**GFWC
SUPPORTS
OUR STARS!**



As I start my year as your state president, I want to thank all my Federation Sisters for all the amazing support you have given me through the years. I would not be here without your support. My first meeting is done as our Fall Workshop is in the books! All our GFWC-MN Department Chairs brought their display boards and each chair had a chance to speak on their chairmanship. Everyone got information for their 2018 Club Annual Reporting and there was a leadership workshop. It was an informative weekend and we had some fun too.

As a lot of you know by now Veterans mean a lot to me so my projects for the next two years will be to help Veterans. My theme is "GFWC-MN Supports our Stars" and the stars to me are our Veterans, their families, and our Military. My two projects will be to raise funds to send a Veteran on an "Honor Flight" to Washington DC and to support the "Eagles Healing Nest" in Sauk Centre and Anoka with supplies. The Eagles Healing Nest's mission is to provide assistance with the healing of the visible wounds of war carried by our service men and women. They currently house veterans from a weekend to years. The average stay is approximately six months before they soar home to their communities and families. More information will follow in future updates. We have a lot to look forward to during this administration. We will be celebrating our 125th Anniversary at our state convention in April 2019. GFWC is dedicated to community improvement by enhancing the lives of others through volunteer service. We have been around for a long time volunteering in our communities and we need to be around for the next 125 years! We have to get back to the basics and let everyone Who We Are, What We Do and Why We Matter.

If you need anything or have a question, please feel free to contact me by phone or email. Always remember "there is no such thing as a dumb question" and if I don't know the answer I will find out and get back to you. As we work together, we will have a great year supporting our Veterans and our communities through volunteer service. Your sister in Federation, Jean Walker

**MARK YOUR
CALENDAR!**



April 24th – FEDERATION DAY
Celebrate the founding of GFWC

GFWC MVR CONFERENCES

September 20 – 23, 2018

Grand Island, NE

September 19 – 22, 2019

Overland, KS

GFWC-MN STATE CONVENTIONS

May 3 – 5, 2019 in Walker, MN

May 1 – 3, 2020 in S.W. District

GFWC ANNUAL CONVENTIONS

June 27 – July 1, 2019 in Austin, TX

June 25 – 30, 2020 in Atlanta, GA

GFWC-MN FALL COUNCIL

July 26 – 27, 2019 in Little Falls, MN

2019 DISTRICT CONVENTIONS

Southeast – April 9th – Silver Lake

Southwest – April

Central – April 8th – Belgrade

West Central – April 13th – Morris

Northeast – April 10th – Hibbing

Northwest – April 6th – Crookston

East Central – April 9th – Golden Valley

Want to know absolutely everything about **GFWC**? Visit the international website at: www.gfwc.org or connect to their other social media platforms:



★ **GFWC-MN Website Chair, Linda Strong has great news!**

"The new GFWC-MN website is up and awesome! Go to www.gfwcofmn.org and check it out! With elections in every club, district and the state there were numerous changes to be posted.

Hopefully, navigation of the site will be easier for viewers, and there is even a link to GFWC-MN Facebook on the front page! I am always looking for photos and updates from your club/district/the state. Send them to me at: stronglinda1@gmail.com. Please note, when sending photos, specify the names and the GFWC positions of the people in your photos." Pictured in a selfie is Linda with Tony, owner of Northland Creative who helped design the new website look. They had a lot of fun during a training session and Linda said he was most patient!



Do you have club news you would like published in this newsletter?

Just paper mail or email your articles and photos to the Editor:

Karla Mayhew, 5243 Minnetoga Terrace,

Minnetonka, MN 55343 or

karlamayhew@comcast.net

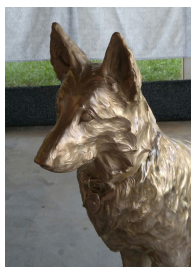
The deadline for the next newsletter is

October 31, 2018



GOT FACEBOOK?

Be a friend on "GFWC of Minnesota"!!
Post your comments, stories and photos!



★ **The GFWC Edina Federated Women's Club was well represented on May 31st at the City of Edina's Dedication Ceremony of a beautiful Bronze Police Dog Sculpture.** The Club members who attended were Lynette Andor, Susan Covnick, Ingrid Emstad, Alta Fossum, Rosie Gubrud, Linda Larson, Jana Ramlet and Barb Waterston. The sculpture honors all canines that have partnered with police officers to provide safety & security for the

Edina community. The lifelike sculpture stands sentinel over all the commemorative plaques of each dog that has served on Edina's Police Force. The Edina Club made a \$5,000 contribution for the creation and completion of this bronze sculpture that is located in a lovely garden setting just outside the Police Station and City Hall.



★ GFWC Potpourri Glenwood Women's Club has it covered!

They made (16) cozy blankets or quilts for Operation Smile (a GFWC Partnership). Operation Smile's new option of making polar fleece with several finishing options and MN winter months of no club meetings was the perfect combination for their success.

Front Row (L to R) Yvonne Anderson, Pat Lepper, Darlene Femrite and Donna Hahn. Back Row (L to R) Marj Lang, Jan Velde and Margaret Warner.



★ GFWC Starbuck Study Club continues to work hard on their Community Improvement Project (CIP) of brightening up the Starbuck Public Beach.

Last year their CIP Project included remodeling and painting the Snack Shack. Also, their new banners and flower beds really added to

the beauty of the beach. This Spring the club added an awning to the Snack Shack to give some shade to those working there. They are also partnering with the Gladys Brang Foundation to build two shade stations along the beach. The Starbuck Beach has been voted one of the top public beaches in the state thanks in part to the caring members of the Starbuck Study Club. Pictured (L to R) are the Club President, Mary Lehtola, and Club Treasurer, Nancy Bakewell (Photo courtesy of Starbuck Times Photographer Zach Anderson).



Karen Kaler, GFWC-MN Historian has an IMPORTANT REQUEST to all District and Club Presidents.

As the Historian for Jean Walker's new 2018-2020 GFWC-MN Administration, I would like to ask all clubs for the next two years to send me your club's **newest Directory, Officer's photos, plus any news on your club projects.**

Also, all District Presidents, please send your **officer's photos, special news, and convention information.**

I want Jean's scrapbook to be full of all of your district's and club's important information and activities. Thank you!

My address is: **13036 Falcons Way, Savage, MN 55378**
or email me at: **karenkaler0505@gmail.com**



*** At their May Meeting, the GFWC Woman's Study Club of Litchfield honored two of their valued members by presenting them with their GFWC 50+ Year Membership pin.** They are Alice Johnson (pictured left) and DeVona Swanson. DeVona has served as president many times and Alice has served on many committees throughout the years. **CONGRATULATIONS to Alice and DeVona!!** We thank you for your fifty years of dedicated service to your Club and commitment to GFWC. Your club looks forward to you continuing your valued contributions to all their endeavors!





★ On May 26th, 12 members of the GFWC Bloomington Federated Woman's Club joined 5000 volunteers placing flags on all of the graves at the Fort Snelling National Cemetery. Decades ago for Memorial Day U.S. flags were planted on each of the headstones, but as the cemetery grew this tradition of remembrance was halted. For the first time in 35 years Minnesota honored every fallen person laid to rest at Fort Snelling. 225,000 flags for 225,000 Heroes. It was a glorious Spring day and the mission could not have been better organized. After preregistering, the club members were assigned a bus number, were trained on how to place the 25 flags they received, and heard a short message from a veteran. After the volunteers placed their flags, they were free to spend time on their own before returning on a bus to entertainment at the Mall of America. Here are the club members who volunteered: Yvonne Godim, Susan Kilby, Jackie Leeson, Barb Nelson, Donnis Olson, Katharine Quigley, Lou Rueff, Janet St. Marie, Gloria Strom, Diane Wubbena, Nancy Nowell and her daughter and granddaughter Molly and Riley Krenz.



★ The MVR hosted GFWC Annual Convention was a huge success! It was lots and lots and lots of hard work and all the volunteers and organizers should be proud of a job well done!



★ GFWC West Suburban Women's Club's Spring Fundraiser was everyone's cup of tea! Eighty members and guests attended a lovely Victorian English Tea. For the occasion, many members loaned the committee their pastel linens, silver services, teapot centerpieces, and dainty porcelain tea cups and saucers. Pictured above are the club members who graciously served the three courses of chocolate covered strawberries, scones, cucumber sandwiches and other delicious tidbits. (Left to Right) Jan Hron, Charli Johnson, Patty Abercrombie, Julie Martin (member's daughter),

Nancy Goldstein, Joan Haldeman, Co-President, Lois Tlusty, Janet Lassell and Irene Pieper. The pretty polka-dot aprons were handmade and donated to the fundraiser by Janet Lassell and were sold at the end of the tea. For everyone's listening pleasure, they were entertained by the "Minnetonka Clippers" Men's Barbershop Singing Group.

During the tea, it was announced that an attending club member, Harriet Lonergan (pictured in red) was celebrating her 101st birthday! Harriet got lots of cheers, applause and everyone sang Happy Birthday.

\$1,775.00 was raised through the fundraiser and individual donations. The money was given to S.A.V.E. "Suicide Awareness Voices of Education". Their work is based on the belief that suicide is preventable and everyone has a role to play in preventing suicide. Through raising public awareness, educating communities, and equipping every person with the right tools, they can truly S.A.V.E. lives.

★GFWC of Delano Women's Club kicked off their "Concert in the Park" summer series with a big bang and a Big Band! The 18 members of 'Bend in the River' Big Band played and sang an amazing array of music from contemporary to jazz/rock. For the finale, band members marched and danced through the audience without missing a beat! There are five more concerts in this year's line-up: "Jack & Kitty", "Jim's Brewers", "West Highway Band", "Roe Family Singers", and "Justus". Every concert is free and is held on a Wednesday evening, most starting at 6:30 pm with the final concert on August 22nd. The club works with local sponsors and applies for grants to pay for the bands. In addition, door prizes are provided by local businesses.

The Delano Club invites you to "Come join the fun! With attendees from Plymouth to Montrose and beyond, our Concert Series is an excellent way to share our club with a wide audience. We never need to cancel or postpone a concert and are grateful to the City of Delano for generously allowing City Hall to be opened in case of inclement weather."



★ The GFWC Nevis Women's Club had a fun and rewarding time making baby blankets for families in the military.

★ Central District installed their new Officers for 2018-20 in April. Pictured right is Vurnie Wilson their new District President.





IN REMEMBRANCE



**Glen Edwin
Loewe
1937 - 2018**

Glen Loewe, age 80, died June 14, 2018 at his home in Henderson. He is survived by his wife of 55 years, Judy, two sons, a daughter, and eight grandchildren. Glen was a proud GFWC Booster Member and enjoyed attending many GFWC conventions and conferences with Judy. He also was a member of the Henderson Lions Club; served on the boards of Kelso-Shelby Mutual Insurance and LeSueur Farmers Elevator; and was a Zion U.C.C. Church Council Member. Glen was born on the family farm in Tyrone Twp in LeSueur Cty, graduated from Henderson H.S. and married

Judy in 1963. He retired in 2001 after driving a truck for 40+ years and he also farmed. Glen and Judy enjoyed traveling together and visited Alaska, Hawaii and New Zealand. Glen will be truly missed by all who knew him. Judy would just like to say in Federation Friendship. . .

"A heartfelt thank you to everyone for their generous outpouring of condolences and donations when Glen passed away. An interesting note, I received 223 sympathy cards and no two were alike. I want to express a special 'thank you' to Karen Kaler for all the years of hugs and chats with Glen."



**Sandy Lee
Stoneking
1942 - 2018**

Sandy Stoneking passed away peacefully at her home in St. Louis Park on May 29, 2018. She is survived by her husband Bradley; two sons, a daughter, and five grandchildren. Sandy joined the GFWC West Suburban Women's Club in 1995 and especially enjoyed being in the club's quilting group. She helped the group sew many beautiful quilts that were donated to many charities including the Ronald McDonald House in Minneapolis. Sandy also enjoyed reading, golfing and was especially proud to

sing and ring in the renown 'Ding Dong Dollies' Bell Ringers Ensemble. Sandy will be truly missed by all her club friends.



★ **A REMINDER from Lucy Larson, GFWC-MN Chaplain & Music Chair for all Club and District Presidents.** . . Don't forget to 'paper mail' me your club obituaries (with photo if possible) to be used in our convention memorial services. Please Include the name of your club; how many years she was in your club; all

club, district & state offices she held; and any club interests she had. Thank you.

Here is my address: **Lucy Larson, P.O. Box 151, Elmore, MN 56027**

(Phone: 507-943-3860 or Cell: 507-525-3510)

Post Script: Also, send a copy of your memorial announcement to:

Karla Mayhew, GFWC-MN Newsletter Editor (karlamayhew@comcast.net).

If you haven't yet subscribed to **GFWC NEWS & NOTES**, what are you waiting for? Signing up is easy and gives you access to timely news items from Headquarters, our partners, and our work on a national and local scale. Simply provide your name, mailing address, email, and club name to GFWC Membership Services Manager Kate Garlick at kgarlick@gfwc.org.



★ **A Message from Mona Gregerson, GFWC-MN Legislation & Public Policy Chair.** . . "Hello Everyone! I hope you are

having a great summer and getting time to spend with your families. I am changing hats this year from Education Chair to being your Legislation & Public Policy Chair. I just wanted to bring a couple things to everyone's attention:

✓ **Don't forget to vote in the MN primaries! Circle August 14th on your calendar.** This will give you an opportunity to determine the names that will be showing up on the ballots in the General Election on November 6th. Minnesota has early voting for the primaries (you do not have to have an excuse). You can vote at your local court house, your local Polling Place or request a ballot by mail. If you have changed your name, changed your address, or have just turned eighteen, you will need to register to vote. Minnesota also has same-day voter registration.

✓ **I know that GFWC-MN President, Jean Walker would love to hear Minnesota's name called out at the next GFWC Annual Convention as recipients of the Legislation/Public Policy Award!** This can happen very easily but it will take every GFWC-MN Club Member. The award is given to the state that has the greatest increase of people signing up for the "GFWC Legislative Action Center". Simply go the gfwc.org website. On the home page, click on "What Do We Do?" That will take you to Public Policy. You will see a window that says "Legislative Action Center". Click on the tab that says "Join the Legislative Action Center (on the right side of the page)". Click "Join Now". Fill out the information sheet and be sure to click the "EMAIL OPT IN" box at the bottom of the page and register. I know that sounds like a lot of steps but it's pretty easy!

✓ **Currently, we only need one more state to ratify the Equal Rights Amendment.** (If you're like me, you probably thought that had happened). MN has ratified.

✓ **Volunteer to be an election judge.** Training is going on right now. We can't claim those hours as we receive compensation for them. That should not, however, stop us from being willing to help in the democratic process."

The GFWC LEGISLATIVE ACTION CENTER is a powerful tool for GFWC's public issues and advocacy efforts. Track bills, contact your local representative, and take action On issues germane to GFWC Resolutions. Go to the gfwc.org website to visit the Legislative Action Center and enroll to receive updates today!



A Message from Pat Stevermer, GFWC-MN Community Improvement Program Chair. . . Has your club created a GFWC Community Improvement Project (CIP)? The contest period is **January 1, 2018 – December 31, 2019.** If you are thinking about a project, get started now! Any project that you do that addresses a specific unique need within the community can become a CIP. You can collaborate with GFWC clubs, partner organizations, professional or other membership organizations, government entities or other non-profit organizations in your community. Are you asking: ✓What does our community need and how do we choose a project? ✓How can our club engage community support and other service organizations? ✓How can our project be funded? ✓What is the long-term effect on the community? Just go to the GFWC website in the 2018-2020 Club Manual for all your answers.

There is an entry form that needs to be completed as well as a project notebook with pictures and supporting materials. Please note: The notebook will not be returned to you and will be housed in the Women's History and Resource Center (WHRC) in Washington DC., so don't forget to make a second copy for your club archives! Monetary awards are provided in each state as well as five awards are given nationally. If you would like a copy of the program criteria and application, or have any questions, please email, write or call:

Pat Stevermer, Community Improvement Program Chair, 720 3rd Ave SW, Sleepy Eye MN 56085 – stevermer@sleepyeyetel.net, 507-794-7112 or 507-920-6513

★ The GFWC Potpourri Glenwood Club had a delightful morning touring the new Department of Natural Resources Building in Glenwood.

MINNESOTA DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES
20070 N. Lakeshore Drive



They heard all about the construction of the building, the energy saving innovations and the safety room as protection from severe weather. The ladies admired the walkways and parking areas laid with permeable brick paving. The grounds are planted with native grasses and the flowers were blooming with yellow coneflowers, purple speedwell and more. And what's a lovely morning touring with the ladies without a nice lunch at a local restaurant? A fine time was had by all. (Article & group photo submitted by Club President, Donna Hahn)

★GFWC Nevis Study Club goes hog wild selling their famous Pig Cookies!!



This was the club's 5th year selling their pink piggies at the annual July Nevis Pig Races. Pictured left is Kay James helping to frost their 520 cookies. Pictured center (left to right) are Lollie Hanson, Dorothy McKinley and Linda Strong. Also, pictured right is Kate Larson. They all look like they are 'in the pink' and having fun selling their famous cookies. Their profit of \$545 will go into the club's Community Improvement Project (CIP) for the Nevis Butterfly Garden.



SORRY! I received so many fantastic articles and pictures that they all wouldn't fit into this newsletter. But never fear, I have them ready for the next edition!! **THANK YOU** for your support and keep the news coming in!!

