



**GFWC
SUPPORTS
OUR STARS!**



★ **Greetings from the GFWC MN President, Jean Walker**

I hope everyone had a fantastic summer and enjoying our fall weather. Time has flown by for me, the summer is gone, and fall is here. First, I would like to thank everyone for all they do for GFWC-MN, our clubs, and our communities. You are valuable to our organization. I hope you help me to advocate for our veterans and children; promote leadership among our clubs; and volunteer in our communities. We have accomplished a lot in the last 100 years. Yes! GFWC-MN will be celebrating 100 years of living the volunteer spirit at the 2019 State Convention in Walker, MN.

GFWC-MN Program Chairs, my hope is that you are sending information to the District Presidents so they can send it on to our clubs. We need to keep our clubs informed on what is happening with our programs. **Club Presidents**, please share the information you receive with your board and members.

If you would like me to visit your club or district, please email me or give me a call. jmwalker1992@gmail.com or 218-686-1829.

Karla says she has received lots of great articles for this issue so I will keep my message short so she can get lots of information published.

Your sister in Federation, Jean Walker

Always remember, GFWC is a TEAM effort and, "There is no 'I' in TEAMWORK".

"The strength of the team is each individual member. The strength of each member is the team." – Quotes by Phil Jackson



★ **GFWC-MN First Vice President, Linda Blue has an IMPORTANT Reminder for all Club Presidents. . . Your "2018 Club Annual Report" is due to me no later than January 20, 2019!**

If you need the GFWC Statistical Reporting Forms, you can get them on the gfwc.org website, or contact me and I can send them to you. Brag about your club, do a narrative with a description of what you did, include a picture if you want to. Narratives are not difficult to do, nothing complicated. Just write as if you are explaining your project to a stranger. Include how many club members were involved, how many hours it took and how you went about the project. Be sure to include the final result. You can do as many narratives as you want. If you decide not to do any narratives, please take the time to fill out and send me just your Statistical Report Forms reporting all your projects, contributions, hours, etc. It is so important to document all the fine work our clubs are doing, so **lets make this the year that 100% of our clubs send in their report!**

Contact me if you need assistance or have questions and mail your report to: **Linda Blue**

29973 293rd Street

Waubun, MN 56589

lblue1982@yahoo.com

Home: 218-935-2411 / Cell: 218-849-2232

**MARK YOUR
CALENDAR!**



April 24th – FEDERATION DAY

Celebrate the founding of GFWC

GFWC MVR CONFERENCES

September 19 – 22, 2019, Overland, KS

September 17 – 20, 2020, S. Dakota

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 13th – Redwood Falls

Central – April 8th – Belgrade

West Central – April 13th – Morris

Northeast – April 10th – Hibbing

Northwest – April 6th – Crookston

East Central – April 9th – Golden Valley



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

JANUARY 29, 2019



GOT FACEBOOK?

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



★ **Mona Gregersen and the GFWC-MN Education Chair, Pat Mumm have the answer to your question. . What is GFWC's ESO?** ESO stands for "Epsilon Sigma Omicron", an honorary educational society open to all GFWC federated club members. Over 90 years ago, the ESO program became a permanent part of the GFWC Education Department. Through ESO, clubwomen are given direction in planned reading for self-enrichment and personal growth. If you go to the gfwc.org website and search for ESO, it will take you to more information including ESO's history from 1928, goals, the five levels of ESO, and a suggested reading list. The GFWC of Minnesota's ESO Chapter was established in 1933. Members can participate in ESO as part of a reading group or on their own individual personal reading pursuit. The society provides awards, certificates, pins, reading lists, and

a framework in which to pursue self-improvement through reading. Many clubs combine a club program with ESO related activities, such as reading awareness and book promotions.

✓ **Joining ESO is easy.** Just go online, fill out the 'Pledge Form' and start reading. For each book you read, fill out the brief 'Book Report Form' with a short comment on what you thought of the book. **Please send your Book Report Forms to: Pat Mumm, 47881 310th Street, Hancock MN 56244 or patmumm@gmail.com. If you have any questions, call Pat at 320-392-5451.**

ESO members are recognized for reaching five levels. Once a member reaches one hundred books, she can move into 'century awards'. In the eighty-five year history of GFWC-MN ESO, we have one member from Duluth who read and reported on 600 books and sent her Book Report Forms it to the GFWC-MN Education Chair!! This past year, Kay James received recognition for having read and reported on 100 books. Pat Mumm and Minette Johnson received recognition for reading and reporting on sixteen books and proudly wear their ESO pin. Pictured above is Pat Mumm (right) getting her award from Mona Gregersen.

✓ **IMPORTANT NOTE to Club Presidents:** If your club has avid readers or a book club that are not interested in joining ESO, **Pat Mumm would still like you to send her a list of the book titles read by your members.** Also, don't forget to report your club's reading achievements in your club's 2018 Annual Report under the 'Education Category'. Pat would love to have some big numbers to brag about when she writes up her 2018 State Report.

✓ **At the Fall Workshop,** Pat Mumm, Mona Gregersen and Kay James got together and talked about how the GFWC-MN ESO could change and keep going forward. Kay had attended an ESO Breakfast at the GFWC International Convention and got many new ideas. She discovered that many states have created their own State Reading List that included the list from GFWC headquarters. Pat would like to establish a '**Minnesota Reading List**' that would be determined by our Minnesota club members. **Pat would like all members to send her your book title/author suggestions for the list.** You do **not** have to be an ESO member to send in your suggestions. Pat will have future newsletter articles on possible changes to the number of books to read in the different categories and maybe even some new categories. So, with the Minnesota winter coming, it would be a perfect time to curl up, get cozy, read a good book and report it to Pat (wine is optional)!



★ **A little generosity can go a long way.** When members of the military wear their uniforms in public, they are often met with salutes and kind words. But you can take it a step farther! You can't put a price tag on the time, effort, and sacrifices that members of the military make, but you can still give back. Show your gratitude for a soldier by paying for their restaurant bill. Your club can make *GFWC "Thank You, Your Bill Has Been Paid"* cards, pass them out to all your members, and have everyone keep them handy in their purse. Next time you see a uniformed soldier at a restaurant, you can tell the waiter you'd like to pay for the soldier's meal. It will mean the world to them to know that their time, efforts, and sacrifices have been

acknowledged. The card itself can include a longer message thanking them for their service. Presenting the soldier with a handmade card is a personal touch that not only shows GFWC gratitude in action, but also shows to the soldier that your club's appreciation for members of the military is not a one-time event but something you've dedicated yourselves to. Paying for their bill is sure to touch their hearts and show them how appreciated they are by their community. And who knows, they might just pay it forward and help someone else, creating a GFWC domino effect of good deeds!



★ **The GFWC Bloomington Federated Woman's Club doesn't meet in June, July, and August, but that doesn't stop them from getting together, having fun and living the volunteer spirit.**

On July 18th they had their Annual Picnic at Joan Petroff's home. Twenty-nine clubwomen attended and brought delicious food for the potluck lunch. Barbara Smith, whose family owns a vineyard in New York state, contributed fantastic wine to accompany the delicious food! Along with the good food and wine, the generous members brought a huge collection of school supplies to donate to VEAP (Volunteers Enlisted to Assist People). VEAP is a Bloomington social services

organization whose programs promote access to healthy foods, stable housing and transportation. They also contributed \$135 so VEAP could buy the most needed items. Also, on August 9th, clubwomen worked at VEAP for three hours sorting school supplies. (Pictured above L. to R.) Rochelle Carlson, Julie Storlie, Janet Ste. Marie, Joyce Yohnke, Nancy Nowell, Donnis Olson, Jackie Leeson, and Lee Claar. Here's a happy note: Rochelle Carlson was not a member on August 9th, but the club was delighted to install her as a new member at their September 19th General Meeting! **Welcome Rochelle!!**

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. **If you would like to send a club article & photo to N&N, email them to: pr@gfwc.org.**



★ On October 25th, the GFWC Grand Rapids North Star Women's Club prepared and served a Soup & Salad Dinner for the Itasca County Historical Society's 26th Annual Meeting. Pictured left, the club also presented a \$500 check to Lilah Crowe, ICHS Executive Director (and club member). The money was raised at a recent "Crazy Days" Fundraiser. Throughout the years, the club has supported and partnered with ICHS in their fundraising.

★ GFWC Potpourri Glenwood Women's Club had a very busy and rewarding Autumn! ★



The new club officers provided the leadership to help the club make things happen. Pictured right are the Officers in a 'group hug' (front L. to R.) President, Donna Hahn; Vice President, Carolyn Rust (back L. to R.) Historian, Vera Finnes; Secretary, Cindy Krattenmaker; Treasurer, Barb Odden.



Their September Garage Sale was a great success despite the disagreeable weather. V.P. Carolyn Rust headed the event that was held in her mother's perfect garage! The \$900 raised will go to the club's local charities. Pictured left (L. to R.) are Colleen Gandrud, Judy Golberg, Darlene Femrite and Carolyn Rust with lots of fun finds!



In early October, the Glenwood Public Library's children section got some "eyes on you" club attention. Pictured left (L. to R.) are Carol Lietzau, Pat Zaffke, Darlene Femrite, Donna Hahn and Audrey Lommen putting all the books in order after the children's heavy usage over the summer. Checking categories, authors, and call numbers are all details that needed attending to.

In Mid October, the club took steps to show their support for the "Someplace Safe Walk Against Domestic Violence". Club members joined others and walked down Glenwood's main street and also served food to the walkers. The school's "Students Against Destructive Decisions" provided lots of walkers, signs for a healthy life style, and of course a contagious spirit! Pictured right (L. to R.) are club walkers Margaret Warner, Audrey Lommen, Yvonne Anderson, Darlene Femrite and Mary Beth Fox.



Kindness is growing around Glenwood echoing our GFWC Collect's last line, ". . . And O Lord, let us forget-not to be kind." and GFWC Potpourri wants to be part of it. In the club's September Meeting the program was 97 year old Margaret Pederson's "Be Kind" Presentation. Pictured far left (L. to R.) are President, Donna Hahn, Margaret Pederson and Program Chair, Colleen Gandrud. 'Be Kind' was started by Margaret and several area women because they were deeply concerned about our world and especially children. Her message resonated with the club members' and sparked their involvement.

The community responded to the Be Kind Movement throughout the summer with finding the town's 'random acts of kindness' which were published in the local newspaper.

Influenced by Margaret's Be Kind movement, "Rachel's Challenge" is now a Minnewaska Area School's sponsored program. Rachel was the first student killed in the Columbine school shooting. Her parents started this program in her memory based upon Rachel's paper, "My Ethic; My Code of Life." Rachel's hope was that a single act of kindness would become a "chain reaction" that would spread around the world.

Margaret worked with the school for a community event. She led the full gymnasium in three cheers: "Be Kind!!!" "Just try it!!!" "I will!!!" and the GFWC Potpourri clubwomen joined in! Margaret Pederson is indeed an inspiration to the Glenwood community and proved you're never too old to fulfill your wish of being a cheerleader! After the emotional pep rally, over one hundred community members encircled the students in the gym with a 1,000 foot-long 'Chain of Kindness'. Clubwomen helped finger knit this chain from summer to mid-October. Pictured above is clubwoman Jan Engbrecht at the event receiving the chain from two school football players.



★ Ever thought about the **POWER** of a pair of shoes? The **GFWC Starbuck Club** does!! They donated shoes to "Soles4Souls", a nonprofit organization that creates sustainable jobs, provides disaster relief, and helps children go to school through the distribution of shoes and clothing around the world. Since the beginning of their enterprise in 2006, S4S has distributed over 30 million pairs of shoes in 127 countries and all fifty U.S. states. Every single one of those pairs made a difference in people's lives. Pictured right (L. to R.) are: Barb Wilson, Mona Gregersen, Joann Holten, Lorie Billehus, Nancy Samuelson, Rae Ann Staples, Mary Lehtola, Barb Johnson, Audrey Erickson and Bonnie Haugen.

Did you know that Souls4Souls is one of GFWC International President, Mary Ellen Brock's "Seven Grand Initiatives"? Check it out on the GFWC website or soles4soles.org.



★ On a Tuesday afternoon, the **GFWC Nevis Women's Club** held a 'Friendship Tea' to recruit new members. Each club member invited a friend, sent them a formal invitation, and followed up with a reminder call. A committee Of three members, Gail Walters, Kate Larson and Melissa Zinke organized the fun event and received a \$50.00 Membership Grant from GFWC Headquarters. At the tea, members shared the history of GFWC and their club, their strategic plan for the future of the club, and the enrichment of belonging to a GFWC club. The afternoon was delightful and the club gained five new members! **Congratulations Nevis!**

★ The **GFWC Nevis Women's Club** prepared their **5th Annual Fundraiser Dinner for the Headwaters Intervention Center in Park Rapids**. This year the ladies decided on a new menu of one of America's favorite comfort foods – homemade meatloaf! The meal included mashed potatoes & gravy, corn, coleslaw, rolls and dessert. The first task of the Supper Organizer, Linda Strong, was to make sure all 50 meatloaf pans would fit nicely in the ovens at the Legion kitchen. Prep stations were set up and at the finish line were 50 pans of meatloaf with all the fixings! The dining patrons loved it and the ladies were flooded with well deserved compliments. The Intervention Center Fundraiser cleared \$2600! The club ladies stated, "It was a wonderful day spending time together chatting and laughing as we worked (alas, there was no whistling!)". Also, the club provided support to the center with gift cards, personal items, and pajamas. The ladies went on to say, "When the Center needs something special, they just have to give us a call."



Jody Pribyl & Melissa Zinke



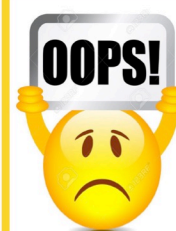
(L.to R.) Mary Adams, Judy Anderson, Marilyn Luksik, Kay James



Linda Strong
President
Of GFWC-MN
Central District

*"The 2019 State Convention
Will be a GFWC Fun Celebration
"Mark you calendars" we must say!
For the 3th, 4th and 5th of May.*

*To the 'Northwoods' we will go
Hopefully, there'll be no snow!
Central District sends you their invitation,
The Casino in Walker is your final destination."*



SORRY! I received so many fantastic articles and photos 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 your news coming in!!

★ **GFWC-MN Website Chair, Linda Strong** wants to remind everyone to checkout the **GFWC-MN website**, gfwcofmn.org for all the latest Minnesota news. It's awesome! Hopefully, navigation of the site has become easier for viewers, and there is even a link to GFWC-MN Facebook on the front page! Linda is always looking for photos and updates from your club/district/or state. Send them to: stronglinda1@gmail.com. Please note, when sending photos, specify the names and the GFWC positions of the people in your photos.

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

