



GFWC – Charlotte

# CLUB COMMUNICATOR

VOLUME XVIII NUMBER 4

January, 2015



Fran Fuller, Membership Chair,  
& President, Dianna Rabey,  
honor

**Elsie Wiltsie for 25  
years of continuous  
membership.**



## New Members Introduced:

Charamy Cleary, Linda Yeager and Amy Krizek  
(sponsors are Brynda Filkins, Jeana Rohrs and Jan Day,  
respectively)



## Meet new members:



### **Sandra Guernsey**

I am a new resident to Charlotte, I moved here after I retired in August 2014. I attended MSU and worked in Lansing early in my career. For retirement, I was seeking a small town with proximity to Lansing and I was anxious to leave metro Detroit. For 30 years I worked in HR as a benefits manager, working for mid-size manufacturing companies, living in various cities. I have lived in all 6 of the Great Lakes States. For the last 9 years I worked for Wayne State University administering their retirement programs. I enjoy reading, historical non-fiction, family history/genealogy, art (as in decorating and rehabbing houses). I am seeking part time activities in grant writing or teaching. I have a family of 3 dogs (1 JRT age 13 years and 2 rescue dogs – senior Brittany’s) and 2 cats. My extended family lives in Hastings.

**(see database for contact information)**

### **Charamy Cleary**

Charamy was born and raised in Grand Rapids and settled in Eaton Township when she married her husband. Charamy has two boys ages 17 and 7, and lives on the family farm with her husband Thad. Charamy enjoys being an active member of the community. Her past activities include volunteering for the Women to Work program at the Center for Women in Transition in Holland and volunteering for the Eaton Rapids Public Schools including being a reading mentor and classroom assistant. Charamy worked several years for the State of Michigan administering grants for water quality and farmland preservation. Charamy currently serves as the Clerk for Eaton Township and enjoys gardening and being outdoors.



**(see database for contact information)**

## Changes to Little Green Booklet:

Marlene Darin – new email: [fred.marlene.darin@gmail.com](mailto:fred.marlene.darin@gmail.com)

Pam Jarvi – delete home phone and use cell: 517-282-1599

Dyna Lehman – new email: [dynalehman@gmail.com](mailto:dynalehman@gmail.com)

Sherry Pabst phone: 517-652-1564

Ann Garvey: 4724 Packard Hwy.; 517-281-0131, [anngarvey0727@gmail.com](mailto:anngarvey0727@gmail.com)

Martha Limauro – use cell number: 313-268-8145



**The secret to a well-balanced life is a cup of tea in one hand and a book in the other.**



**Tea and Tomes:** Please join us as we meet on January 27 to discuss the novel, *Heft*, by Liz Moore. Former academic, Arthur Opp weighs 550 pounds and hasn't left his rambling Brooklyn home in a decade. When his life intersects with the son of a former student, it transforms both their lives. The *Philadelphia Inquirer* said, "A bittersweet novel, *Heft* is people by men and women so isolated by their fear or rejection, they've ceased to seek meaningful connections." Written in engaging and quirky voices, *Heft* not only alludes to Arthur's morbid obesity, but to the weight of true feelings and the courage needed to confront them. We serve tea and great conversation beginning at 12:45 and ending at 2:30pm in the Charlotte Community Library's Spartan Room. We welcome new members and readers.

**Sneak Peek:** February 24, 2015, *The Invention of Wings*, by Sue Monk Kidd (Book Box of 8 copies available)

**ESO:** Information for our Honorary Reading Society-Epsilon Sigma Omicron-can be found on [gfwc-charlotte.com](http://gfwc-charlotte.com) ESO pledges simply keep track of the number of books read during the year and report the totals once per year. It's a great way to start out the new year! You do not have to be a member of the book discussion group to pledge ESO. Questions can be directed to Brynda Filkins at [brynda@usa.net](mailto:brynda@usa.net) or call 541-3698.



**USED BOOKS FOR SALE!** Are you looking for a reading bargain?

Look for our Used Book table at every GFWC meeting. The prices of 50 cents and \$1 can't be beat! **We welcome your purchases and your donations.** The money collected is used by the members of Tea and Tomes for book related projects. So, grab a good read for a good cause!

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## GFWC-Charlotte Goes to the Museum

Following our 125 anniversary celebration, our club was approached with an opportunity to present our story to the public. Courthouse Square director, Julie Kimmer, offered a small space on the upper floor which was, appropriately, the Ladies Room! Fortunately, we have an abundance of historic artifacts that are stored at the old sheriff's residence and overseen by Jeannette Sommer. She and I met; looked at the room and devised a plan that would tell our story. The challenge was to narrow our selections and present an interesting and historic display. Come take a look! Although, you may want to wait for warmer weather!  
Museum hours: Monday-Thursday 9:00-4:00 and by appointment 543-6999.  
Mary Remenak





## Board Talk – Dianna Rabey



This is the month for writing, something I have never enjoyed doing, but since I have been an officer in GFWC-Charlotte, I have realized that even at my age it is good to challenge yourself and I have been surprised that I really have something to say. Of course, that is only with the expert help of "Comma Woman" (Carol Rossio) who checks everything I write.

First, I want to thank all of you who have turned in committee reports and volunteer hours; they will make writing the annual report much easier. I do this, as do we all, not to be rewarded but to document what we have accomplished and to help those that take this on after us.

I know that I have not picked a Community Improvement Project but our State President, Fran Leonard, did not pick one at first either; she said she wanted us to reconnect with GFWC. I thought this was wonderful because I wanted to connect to GFWC-Charlotte. There is so much I still don't know about being president and what that involves that I would like to work on defining what each committee does and what the chairpersons' jobs really are.

As president, it is very hard asking someone to do a job that you don't entirely understand yourself. My hope is that by next year, or by the end of my presidency, we will have a folder for each committee with directions to follow to achieve the result this committee wishes to accomplish.

If you are currently a chairperson of a committee, I would like you to start thinking of the steps it would take to do your job if you were new to our club. This is a wonderful legacy we could leave for those that follow us. Too often we do the same job over and over again because we know it and we are comfortable doing it, but we need to be sharing what we do with others so that they can challenge themselves and we can share and teach other members.

My goodness I didn't know I could get so excited about this. I hope you will share my enthusiasm for learning more about GFWC-Charlotte and how you can help define it.

I should probably mention that I will not be at the February meeting at Crosswalk Teen Center. It is going to be a wonderful meeting and you will get a chance to see the challenging goals the students and Rick Todd have set for themselves. Is there a way we can help? In my absence, our Vice President Fran will do a great job running the meeting and I hope to be there (on screen) with Face Time.

Please keep up your walking and any other exercises you do and stay healthy. I do look in the book and have started to add my own minutes. See you in March!



## *Christmas 2014 at Rotary*

Jan Harms, Marlene Darin, Patty Green, Patty Retzer, Jane Karlzan, Lori Pray, Jo Vanderstelt, Carol Rossio  
Peggy Nichols, Wendee Morse, Joyce Sparks, Sandy Maatsch, Pam Rinckey, Linda Foster, Sally Jewell  
Jeannette Sommer, Joan Hassleback, pianist, Nancy Hoskins, director, Carolyn Maier



After Rotary, we also sang at the **Medical Care Facility**.  
Below at the **Christmas Tea**.



# Membership Memos

## Remembrances . . .

Lisa Jackson – grandma. Charles Benjamin Chargot 12/19/14  
Fran Rush's husband, Matt – hip replacement surgery  
Bobbie Kane's husband, Frank – health issues

## Birthdays

19 Shelby Butler  
21 Lori King  
23 Chris Olson  
26 Cheryl Jackson

## Anniversaries

### Late January

20 Martha & Mike Limauro

### Early February

02 Marian Johnson  
03 Eva Crandall  
03 Lola Wilson  
04 Barbara Fulton  
15 Mona Ellard

07 Bev & Dick Trumley  
09 Betty & Jim Crandall



## February 6<sup>th</sup> program

**Crosswalk Teen Center**, 103 W. Lawrence, 11:30 a.m. social time, lunch at noon, speaker: Rick Todd, Director. Reservations due by noon on January 31<sup>st</sup> online; pay \$10 (exact change, please) at the door if eating. No shows are committed for payment unless their spot is resold. Need help? Contact Linda Foster 543-3041. Questions? Contact Fran Fuller 517-645-2573.

### Go Red for Women

Have you ever noticed that so many of our members wear **RED** to the February GFWC-Charlotte meeting? You may think it's only because February is the month we celebrate Valentine's Day. But did you know February is also the month set aside by the American Heart Association to bring awareness to women's heart health? **National Wear Red Day**® — the first Friday each February — is a special day set aside to bring attention to this silent killer of women. We are all encouraged to wear **RED**, raise our voices, know our cardiovascular risks and take action to live longer, healthier lives. So let's all wear **RED** to our February meeting to celebrate Valentine's Day and to call attention to the leading cause of death for American women-heart disease.





## Hand to Hand

Begun in 2011, the goal of Hand to Hand was to create a network of members willing to lend support to a fellow club member in a time of need. Our goal in 2015 remains the same. We are here to offer our help by preparing and delivering a meal, driving to appointments or elsewhere, sending a card or note, chatting, making a home or hospital visit or whatever is needed. Our

success depends on you. Please contact a H to H volunteer or myself when you know of a member who needs a little support.

Quotation: When good comes from you; good will come to you.

Mary Remenak  
[lovetthouse designs@yahoo.com](mailto:lovetthouse designs@yahoo.com)  
517-541-0382

## Mini Trips



### Do time in Jackson **POSTPONED**

*Spring – date to be announce cost = \$30*

This 5 Star-rated tour begins at the famous Michigan Theatre with an interactive history of Jackson's historic Territorial Prison and the present State Prison. Tales of infamous inmates and stories of crime, punishment and reform are presented. After a short bus ride, we will explore Michigan's first state prison, now a residential artists' village including studios and galleries. Lunch is included in the \$30 fee. [www.historicprisonstours.com](http://www.historicprisonstours.com)

## **FEBRUARY “MINI” MINI TRIP ANNOUNCED**

The English Inn, Tuesday, February 10<sup>th</sup>, 12 noon

Because of weather concerns, we are staying close to home with a lovely luncheon at Eaton Rapids' historic English Inn on February 10<sup>th</sup>. We will gather at the Inn at 12 noon for lunch and then enjoy a tour of the Inn, including their beautiful guest rooms and, weather permitting, the grounds and other hospitality options. Lunch at your own expense; car pool if needed. Contact Jo Vanderstelt or Jan Day to reserve.

Trips carpool from Al!ve – park near the pavilion · All trips can accommodate only a limited number of participants, spaces will be filled first come first serve · Non members are always welcome to join us on our mini trips

Any ideas for future trips let us know –  
Jo Vanderstelt 517-281-1301 [www.jovanderstelt@yahoo.com](http://www.jovanderstelt@yahoo.com) or Jan Day 513-833-1246  
[www.jan\\_day@ymail.com](http://www.jan_day@ymail.com)

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**GFWC – CHARLOTTE HAS BIG PRESENCE AT SIREN/EATON TEA IN NOVEMBER**



**Margie Carter's table won Best Traditional**



**Sue Pruden's table**



**Patty Retzer's table**



**Best of show winner**



**Sonnie Cody's table**



**Sherry Pabst's table**

## New Members Orientation 11-20-14



## PAST PRESIDENTS HONORED AT DECEMBER TEA



Those present: Karen Elsesser, Margie Carter, Donna W. Johnson, Linda Foster, Sandy Maatsch, Joyce Sparks, Sylvia Colles, Sara Biskie, Mona Ellard, Lori Pray, Lee Falik, Ginny Aitken Lewis, Nola Buck, Jeannette Sommer, Carol Monroe, Bev Trumley, Mary Remenak

**Peggy Nichols, Sandy Maatsch, Donna W. Johnson, Linda Foster, Patty Greene**



**Joyce Sparks, Sharon Kennedy**



**Christmas Tea was enjoyed by all.**

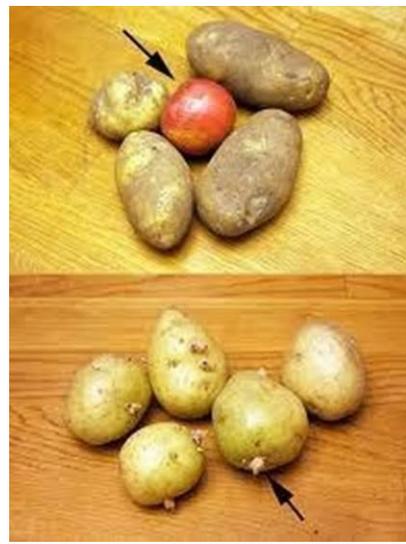
**Lori King & Lola Wilson**



Use a can opener to open those endlessly-annoying blister packs and avoid cutting yourself.



Put an apple in with potatoes to keep them from sprouting.



Remember to get your articles in by the 15<sup>th</sup> of each month for *The Club Communicator* to:  
Linda Foster, 316 Beech St., Charlotte, MI 48813; 543-3041;  
[ed@fosterdvm.com](mailto:ed@fosterdvm.com)



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