



GFWC – Charlotte

CLUB COMMUNICATOR

VOLUME XI NUMBER 3

November, 2007

NEW MEMBERS ATTEND ORIENTATION 11/15



Barb Lahr, Carole Franciscotty, Sylvia Colles, Neva Mikesell, Barb Fulton, Connie Fast, Carole Barnett-Stopper
Darlene Freeman, Lisa Blakeney and Diane Hudson (left to right)
Absent: Mary Taylor and Jo Vanderstelt



Membership Committee: Sherry Myers, Cheryl Jackson (Chair), Sara Biskie, Laurie Newland
Marlene Darin



Sponsors: Linda Foster, Sara Biskie, Karen Elsesser, Sue Pruden, Cheryl Jackson
Nola Buck

(SEE ARTICLE ON PAGE 8)

Reminder: Nola needs your report sheets by Dec. 31 so our year-end reports can be completed. You can bring yours to her at the Dec. 7th meeting, e-mail it to her at dougbuck@att.net , or mail it to her by Dec. 31.



BOARD TALK – NOLA BUCK



Dear members,

As I sit down to write, my thoughts are with each and every one of you. Hoping you are able to be with your loved ones during the coming Thanksgiving holiday. Our thoughts are with those of you who have lost a loved one or are coping with illness in the family. Let's remember those in our community who are struggling to meet their basic needs. As in the past, the board has decided to ask members to donate to the SIREN Eaton Shelter. A wish list was passed out at the November General meeting. If you did not get the Wish List, please let me know and I will see that you get one. You can bring the items to the Christmas Tea at Peace Lutheran on December 7, or the items can be delivered to The Ski Loft before December 15. There will also be baskets at the Christmas Tea for those wishing to donate to the Heifer International Fund and the Art & Nursing Scholarship. The Tea will honor past presidents and new members. Speaking of new members, haven't we been honored with a group of talented new members who have a lot to offer us? Welcome ladies.



The November meeting at the Eaton County Medical Care Facility buzzed with fellowship. Marsha Richard and Diana Bourne gave us information on long-term health care that we all need to ponder. I encourage all of you to look into the seminars on long-term health care that the Medical Facility plans to offer. Also, new members were introduced. (See related article.)

This is the time of year that we start thinking about recognizing ladies who have gone above and beyond the call to serve our club and community. The Woman of Achievement Award will be presented at the Christmas Tea. Please check the article in this newsletter regarding the Ms. Federation, the Athena and the Community Excellence awards. Is there someone in GFWC-Charlotte that you think is deserving of special recognition? If so, please nominate them for one of the above awards.

I also need to remind committee, department, project or program chairpersons that I need year-end reports from all of you by December 15, 2007. If you have questions, let me know.

I am looking forward to seeing all of you at the Christmas Tea. The Chorus always gets us in the mood for Christmas. Come and enjoy the fellowship and all those great goodies provided by the Christmas Tea committee.



TEA AND TOMES: If you would rather read non-fiction than fiction, then this is the month to join us at our monthly book discussion. On November 27, our book selection will be "Left to Tell: Finding God Amidst the Rwandan Holocaust," by

Immaculee Ilibagiza. This is the amazing, true story of a Tutsi college student who hid in a small bathroom for three months during the Hutu-led genocide of her family, school mates and neighbors in Rwanda, Africa. Please request the book on inter-library loan and join us for an engaging discussion. We meet at the Charlotte Community Library, from 1:00 to 2:30 pm, on Tuesday, November 27. Sneak Peek: There is no book club in December, but there will be information about the Great Michigan Reads program in which our club is participating.



NOMINATIONS UPDATE

Your nominating committee is delighted to report that our Board for 2008-9 is nearly complete. Eleven members said, "YES!" Of course, as you know, it takes twelve people for our Club to continue.

WANTED:

ONE VICE-PRESIDENTIAL CANDIDATE

A candidate should possess the following qualities:

- 1-Values friendships (the more girlfriends the better)
- 2-Good listening skills (you need not have all the answers--we are a democracy)
- 3-Patience (if you have potty-trained a child or house broken a pet you know what this means)
- 4-A sense of fun (Life should be enjoyed, not endured)
- 5-Ability to walk and talk simultaneously (it's helpful getting to the podium)
- 6-Love of chocolate (I just think this is important)

More importantly:

- 1-Desire to serve (an opportunity to effect positive change)
- 2-Commitment to community (Quality of Life)
- 3-Possess a caring heart (enables one to appreciate others)

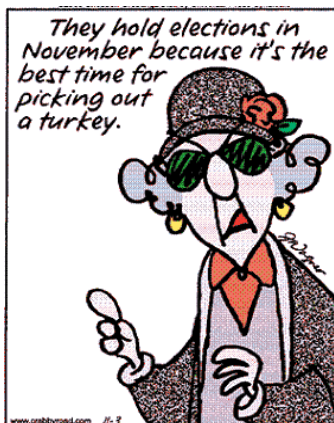
Finally:

MYTHS TO DEBUNK

- 1-It's too hard! You won't know what to do. Not to worry, it is all written down--just fill in the blanks.
- 2-Public speaking will make you pass out. I have never seen this happen!
- 3-This commitment means no personal time. Nola spent last summer weekends on her boat!
- 4-It is too much work! GFWC is a well-oiled machine that exists because, 12 board members, 10 Committees/45 volunteers, and 19 Departments/35 participants work together to create a thriving organization.
- 5-You do not possess leadership qualities. YES YOU DO! It is an inherent quality in our members.

GFWC-IT'S A VOLUNTEER THING! Please call us...

Nominating Committee-Jeannette Sommer (543-2766), Kim Byrens (543-2015), & Mary Remenak (541-0382)



Remembrances . . .

Kathleen Rathbun, death of her husband, **Joe**

Eilene Christensen – health issues

Lola Wilson – cataract surgery

Sally Jewell's husband, **Floyd** – health issues



Barb Thiel – new granddaughter, **Caitlin** Thiel, 11-7-07,
7# 8 oz. 21 ½ parents – Michael & Nicole Thiel

Mary Jean Baker! – re-elected to the City Council

Charlene Sutherland's husband **Bill** – Rotary's
Community Pride Award for his efforts in getting the
CPAC in Charlotte!



Birthdays and Anniversaries

November – last half of month

28 Brynda Filkins

28 Jo & Ray Gager

December

06 Mary Kroodsmas
06 Peg Michael
08 LeAnn Green
08 Mary Jean Baker
16 Neva Mikesell
17 Kim Byrens
22 Chris Fleischmann
22 Irene Young
28 Patty Retzer
29 Jan Harms



06 Okja & Hak Kim
11 Sherry & Fred Myers
11 Darlene & Doug Freeman
15 Dyna & Jerry Lehman
16 Karen & Jim Elsesser
19 Patty & Gerald Retzer
19 Sharon & Jerry Kubica
27 Christi & Tom Dutcher

January – first half of month

01 Carol Monroe
07 Shirley Rann
08 Bobbie Kane
15 Nancy Oliver
15 Beth Wildern
17 Sharon Adams

01 Marilyn & Bruce Hart
14 Elsie & Jim Wiltse

SIREN/Eaton Shelter Wish List

Household items, personal need items, first aid/medicines, cleaning supplies, “Birthday Bag” items (cake mixes, gift wrap, paper plates, etc.), Miscellaneous (gas cards, phone cards, school supplies, mittens, etc.), paper products, baby items, non-perishable food items.



Meadow Brook Hall Holiday Walk
Bus Trip - Monday Dec. 10th

We have a total of 14 going on our Meadow Brook Hall Holiday Walk Bus Trip! We will tour the mansion, have lunch, and enjoy a shopping stop at Canterbury Christmas village on the way home.

We are all meeting at the Charlotte Country Club at 7:55 AM to form carpools, and leave at 8:05 for Midway Motor Lodge in Lansing to get on the bus. Please be on time so we can leave on time. I will have your tickets for you that morning. If you wish to drive on your own, please contact me to get your tickets in advance.

Karen Elsesser
Mini Trip Chairperson
517-857-2727

Lola Wilson – new email:
jlwilson@att.net



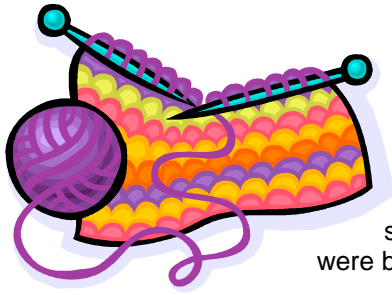
When you are making out your Christmas card list this year, please include the following:

**A Recovering American Soldier
C/O Walter Reed Army Medical Center
6900 Georgia Avenue, NW
Washington, D.C. 20307-5001**

Innisbrook Fundraiser

To our club members who purchased and sold products from the **Innisbrook** catalog: Thank you very much! This year's profit of \$354.00 will be used to support our club's many projects.

Lee Falik



Ladies--Keep working on those

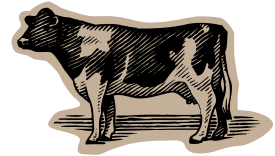
"Hats for Newborns"!

Thanks for the 175 hats you and community members have made since our last Annual Report. In the last year, over 300 babies were born at HGB. Any questions? Contact Sara Biskie @ 543-0815

An eagle was sitting on a tree resting, doing nothing. A small rabbit saw the eagle and asked him, "Can I also sit like you and do nothing?" The eagle answered: "Sure, why not." So, the rabbit sat on the ground below the eagle and rested. All of a sudden, a fox appeared, jumped on the rabbit and ate it.
Moral of the story:
To be sitting and doing nothing, you must be sitting very, very high up.

Heifer International

Our Club's International project for 2007-8



In last month's newsletter, I wrote a rather lengthy description of the actions and goals of Heifer International. To review, the major focus of the organization is to help end world hunger. After receiving donations to cover the expense, a living animal is given to a family in need, whether it be in the United States or, more commonly, in a foreign country. In addition to the animal, assistance is given in educating the recipient as to how to care for and raise the animal. One of the offspring of the gifted animal is given to another community member. The gift, then, continues to grow as the benefits are passed on and on. The standard of living for the initial family and then the community improves. Often, women are the recipients of the gift, and they are able to become more self-sufficient. (Empowerment of women is one of the goals of GFWC.)

The last opportunity to donate to Heifer International through GFWC-Charlotte for this club year will be at the December tea. If you are unable to attend the meeting and wish to contribute, please mail your check to me at P.O. Box 218/Charlotte, and I will add it to the collection. When all of the donations are in place, our club's collection and selection of the gift will be sent. What a wonderful way to share our blessings with others in need!

Thank you!!!

Lee Falik

P.S. Last year I shared a personal story about giving the gift of a goat to a recently-married, ex-girlfriend of one of my sons. She had vehemently desired a pet goat when she was dating my son (Hope there is no psychological association!!), and such a gift was not possible. I am pleased to announce that the "marital goat" was delivered via a donation to Heifer International...much to the delight of her family!



Downtown Urn Decorating – gals met at the Ski Loft at 10:00 a.m. on November 10th. Thanks, Nola and Nancy for heading this up! Nice to see new and long-time members participating!



Karen Elsesser organized a mini-trip for about 20 GFWC-Charlotte gals and guests to attend a Holiday Decorating program at Southern Exposure, November 13, 2007. It was a warm evening – “temperaturewise” and fellowshipwise.” A delicious pork dinner (plus hot toddies) was enjoyed by all, as we were entertained with decorating ideas. Following dinner, we were divided up into small, manageable groups to go from area to area to be shown inexpensive, beautiful decorating ideas. A great gift shop was the final stop of the evening.

“FIVE MORE WOULD BE HEAVEN IN OCTOBER ‘07!”



The membership committee challenged all general members to participate in the Fall Membership Drive which the national GFWC organization and GFWC Michigan endorsed: “Five More Would Be Heaven in October ‘07.” We are delighted to report that with your help we exceeded this goal and have welcomed twelve new members! Thank you to everyone who made this happen.

On Thursday, November 15, members attended the *New Member Orientation Meeting and 120 Year Celebration* in the Spartan Room of the Charlotte Library. The celebration, hosted by our Membership Committee, provided a chance to welcome and support our newest members and to renew our commitment to our club. Light refreshments were served.

Membership Chair Cheryl Jackson introduced the following individuals: Linda Foster, GFWC MI State Protocol Chair and SWD Education Foundation Representative; Marilyn Monroe-Hart, SWD Parliamentarian; Karen Elsesser, 2004-2006 GFWC MI Woman of Achievement Chair; GFWC-Charlotte board members; GFWC-Charlotte club members and the membership committee consisting of Sara Biskie, Marlene Darin, Laurie Newland and Sherry Myers.

Our new club members include Carole Barnett-Stopper, Lisa Blakeney, Sylvia Colles, Connie Fast, Carole Franciscotty, Darlene Freeman, Barbara Fulton, Diane Hudson, Neva Mikesell, Mary Taylor and Jo Vanderstelt. You’ll want to introduce yourself to these ladies when you see them at club meetings!

President Nola, Vice President Mary and Cheryl presented information from the New Member Orientation packet about GFWC, GFWC MI, and GFWC-Charlotte. Members were reminded that GFWC is one of the world’s oldest nonpartisan, nondenominational women’s volunteer service organizations. We are dedicated to community improvement by enhancing the lives of others through volunteer service. During the program, our new members learned facts about the Federation and how regions and districts are organized. We were all reminded that we are part of something much larger than our Charlotte club. There are thousands of clubs in the United States and globally more than 20 countries have GFWC clubs. It is an advantage to be part of a Federation because there is power in numbers.

New members were informed about their responsibilities to the club as *active* members. At the close of the meeting, a “Passing-on the Light” ceremony was held. It was stated that this represents the spirit of GFWC--Unity of Purpose, Diversity of Opportunity. Let us pass on our knowledge and enthusiasm to our new members!

Remember to get your articles in by the 15th of each month for *The Club Communicator* to:

Linda Foster, 316 Beech St., Charlotte, MI 48813; 543-3041;
egfoster@cablespeed.com or to:

Gloria Wilson, 410 East 3rd St., Charlotte, MI 48813; 543-7618 or
541-5750 (wk) wilsong@charlottenet.org

There is no issue in December!

AWARDS

Each year we recognize members for their special talents.

The Woman of Achievement Award will be presented at the December Tea.

Other awards are:

- 1) **Ms. Federation Award.** This award is presented to a member who has an avid interest in promotion and support of Federation goals and programs. She should have sponsored a new member during her GFWC career. She should have attended any GFWC district, state, national or international conference.
- 2) **Athena Award** is presented at the Annual Chamber of Commerce Dinner to an individual for business or professional accomplishments, for community service and especially for mentoring others and providing a role model to encourage women to achieve their full leadership potential.
- 3) **The Community Excellence Award** is also presented at the Annual Chamber of Commerce Dinner to someone for their service to the community.

If you would like to nominate someone for one of these awards, please contact Nola Buck for the application.

Kaleidoscope 2008 - A Day for Women



Kaleidoscope A Day for Women Friday, April 25, 2008 Kellogg Center

Keynote Speaker **CLINTON KELLY**

CO-HOST, of TLC's "WHAT NOT TO WEAR"

Clinton Kelly is a fashion consultant and media personality, best known for his warm humor and stylistic flair as co-host on the makeover reality show *What Not to Wear*.

Prior to becoming co-host of *What Not to Wear*, Kelly honed his fashion sensibilities and expertise while working as a freelance writer and editor in New York. Following stints as contributing editor at *Marie Claire*, and deputy editor at *Mademoiselle*, Kelly became the executive editor of *DNR*, a weekly magazine for the men's fashion and retail trade. It was while working there that *What Not to Wear* decided to recast its male lead and reached out to Kelly. After three auditions and two short weeks, Kelly became the new co-host, alongside Stacy London, of *What Not to Wear*.

A man who's biggest fashion pet peeve is "the casualization of America," Kelly advocates that "If you don't have fit, you don't have anything," stressing the importance of learning the basics: shoulder seams should sit on your shoulders, your jackets should always close, your buttons shouldn't pull, and your pants should hang about a half-inch from the ground. After hosting *What Not to Wear* for over four years and one hundred episodes, he has reached the height of fame debunking fashion myths, offering smart shopping tips, and making over some of fashion's biggest challenges.

Kick-off speaker, ?? – Key-note speaker, Clinton Kelly; Seminars – Emporium – Continental Breakfast – Luncheon This sells out fast, so let Linda Foster know. (I will call those who signed up at the opening meeting.) We leave Charlotte at about 7:30 a.m. and are back by 3:30 p.m. We car pool from the Charlotte Country Club. I do not have cost information yet. This is a terrific day-long program for women held at Kellogg Center at MSU. [543-3041, egfoster@cablespeed.com]

*Happy Holidays!!! See you at the
tea December*



**GFWC - CHARLOTTE
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