



# GFWC – Charlotte

## CLUB COMMUNICATOR

VOLUME XI NUMBER 2

October, 2007



### JUDY WHITKOPF HONORED FOR 25 YEARS OF CONTINUOUS MEMBERSHIP!

Marilyn Monroe Hart (right) presents her with a certificate. Judy has chaired our Uncle Al's Fundraiser for several years and sings in the chorus.

### OPENING LUNCHEON SEPTEMBER 21<sup>ST</sup>

THE COMMITTEE  
CHECKS IN  
ATTENDEES



### MEMBERS AND GUESTS LOOK OVER OUR "INFORMATION FAIR" MATERIALS

CHECK OUT OUR WEBSITE  
[www.gfwc-charlotte.com](http://www.gfwc-charlotte.com)



## DEAN PARK DEDICATION OCTOBER 2, 2007

Rotary Club finishes up the construction of a pavilion which includes bathroom facilities and turns the project over to GFWC-Charlotte to do the landscaping in the spring. Pictured are several of our members at the dedication. Shirley Rann is doing a photo documentary of this project, which is our 2006-08 Community Improvement Contest project.



PRESIDENT NOLA BUCK WITH  
GFWC MI 1<sup>ST</sup> VP, SHERRY WELLMAN



CYNTHIA SIARNY, MARY REMENAK, JANET SINKE



**children's books, and gave a very moving talk. Many purchased her books after the program.**

## OCTOBER 4<sup>TH</sup> MEETING FEATURES AUTHOR, JANET SINKE

**A nurse for 35 years when she was diagnosed with Parkinson's Disease and took up a childhood love of writing. She is now an accomplished writer of**

## Upcoming Mini – Trips

**HOLIDAY DECORATING ON A SHOESTRING WORKSHOP** at Southern Exposure Herb Farm Tuesday Nov. 13th. Carpool will be leaving Charlotte Country Club at 5:40 pm. You must have registered and paid for workshop to attend. Food will be served at the workshop. To inquire if there is space available, call Southern Exposure at 269-962-1255.

**MEADOWBROOK HALL HOLIDAY WALK BUS TRIP.** Monday Dec. 10th. GFWC-Charlotte has blocked 15 seats. Payment must be made to Karen Elsesser no later than Friday Nov 2<sup>nd</sup>. \$78 includes bus trip, lunch at Meadowbrook and shopping at Canterbury village. Bus leaves Lansing at 8:45 am and returns around 6:00 pm. Sign up sheet will be at Oct. 5<sup>th</sup> meeting. Please mail checks to 7231 Monroe Road Springport, MI 49284 payable to Karen Elsesser. \$78 each.

Questions can be directed to Mini Trip Chairperson Karen Elsesser at 517-857-2727



SAVE YOUR YOPLAIT YOGURT LABELS AND TURN THEM IN AT CLUB MEETINGS TO SUPPORT THE FIGHT AGAINST CANCER. OCTOBER IS BREAST CANCER MONTH.

### BIRTHDAYS

19 Laurel Pray  
20 Donna W. Johnson  
12 Diane Joppie  
28 Shirley Hirt

### ANNIVERSARIES

#### October

31 Mary & Richard Remenak

#### November

19 Nathalie Weseman  
28 Brynda Filkins  
01 Jan & Kris Kelley  
09 "Mike" & Frank Pawli  
15 Carolyn & Jeff Maier  
18 Lori & Rich King  
28 Jo & Ray Gager



**YOU** are Invited...



**Thursday, November 15, 2007  
1:30 - 2:30 pm**

**at the  
Charlotte Community Library  
Spartan Room**

***New Member Orientation  
Meeting***

(Did you know that "we were born" in 1887?)

**Let's Celebrate  
120 Year of Membership!**

**Hosted by: 2007-2008 Membership Committee**  
~ Light refreshments to be served ~

**RSVP by Friday, November 9**  
**to Cheryl Jackson @ (517)-543-8020 or e-mail [cherjack@hughes.net](mailto:cherjack@hughes.net)**

You may be asking yourself, "Why should I attend this New Member Orientation Meeting? I've been around here awhile!" We believe the following are some good reasons:

- 1.) maybe you didn't have an orientation, OR
- 2.) maybe you missed yours, OR
- 3.) maybe yours was a *long* time ago, OR
- 4.) **maybe you want to get to know and support our newest members who have joined AND renew your commitment to our club!**

*Whatever your reason(s), **WE WANT YOU!***  
*Please RSVP by November 9<sup>th</sup> as directed above.*

your 2007-2008 Membership Committee,  
Sara Biskie, Marlene Darin, Cheryl Jackson, Laurie Newland and Sherry Myers

**REMINDER**

Any member that has brought/claimed a potential new member, please confirm with her that she has submitted ALL Membership Application Form items:

\$40 fees | Application | Brief bio

**Due by the October 15<sup>th</sup> deadline, as part of our FALL  
DRIVE!**

Go to the [www.gfwc-charlotte.com](http://www.gfwc-charlotte.com) website for the updated New Member Application Form and GFWC-Charlotte Profile Brochure.

## WELCOME NEW MEMBERS



### CONSTANCE "CONNIE" FAST

I was born on October 22, 1942. I lived in the Charlotte area the majority of my life. My parents were Lynn and Mary Shaw and I have one sister, Harriet Converse. I graduated from Charlotte High School and Michigan State University.

I have recently retired from work with the Barry County Substance Abuse Services where I served as a therapist and clinical supervisor for the past eighteen years. I am excited to experience the next phase of my life!

I have three daughters and two granddaughters. They all live in Michigan. Caring for my granddaughters for the past two years on Monday has been a great joy. I love working in my flower beds and being outdoors. Being an avid MSU basketball fan, I attend many of the games. I am a service oriented person, have a strong faith in God and love life!



### CAROLE FRANCISCOTTY

I currently live in Grand Ledge with my son and his family. I work in Charlotte at Wildern's Drug Store as a Durable Medical Equipment Biller.

I was born in Albion, Michigan on September 8<sup>th</sup>, 1942. My parents, Lester and Mary Jean McClure lived in Eaton Rapids where I went to school until 4<sup>th</sup> grade, which time I moved to Charlotte. I graduated from Charlotte High School in 1960.

I have 3 children, Christopher Barnhill, Teresa Huggins and Rebecca French. Christopher lives in Grand Ledge, Teresa lives in Colorado and Rebecca lives in Arkansas. I have 7 grandchildren ranging in ages 9-19

years that live in all three states, MI, CO and AR.

I married for the second time in 1980 and moved to Connecticut where I lived and worked in Hartford, CT for 10 years. I was a Real Estate Agent and also an Insurance Representative for Colonial Life and Accident Company. In 1990 I moved to Colorado where I lived and worked for 10 years. I had a 10 acre ranch with Horses and enjoyed riding and caring for the horses. I moved back to Charlotte in July, 2000 to be closer to my family. I have one brother and 4 sisters all of whom are in the Charlotte area. One of my sisters is Tyfanie Garity who is very well known in the Charlotte Community.

I enjoy my family and friends everyday. I like the outdoors such as camping and gardening. I make Music Boxes for enjoyment as it is a gift that keeps on giving. I also enjoy helping people, especially older folks. I like reading and have joined the Book Club locally.



## **NEVA MIKESELL**

Born in Union County, Indiana, December 16, 1933; had 2 brothers, oldest died when I was 3; other killed in World War II when I was 12; moved to Indian River, Michigan 1948; graduated from Petoskey High School in 1951; went to work for State of Michigan in 1951; started to work for Michigan House of Representatives in 1953; worked for Congressman Knox in Washington, D.C. 1956; married Willard Mikesell November 2, 1957; gained two wonderful

stepchildren, Kathy & Tom; 1st daughter Ann born Sept. 10, 1959 2nd daughter Terri born November 9, 1962; son Jim born December 18, 1964; became 1st female Journal Clerk in House of Representatives 1962, attained my single engine land pilot license 1967; retired 1995; member 1st Congregational Church; life member VFW Aux. 2406 (past president); member American Legion Aux. 42; lady Eaton County Shriner's Club; volunteer worker Hayes Green Beach Hospital; traveled a lot; both parents deceased; lost my husband Sept. 30, 2003 - married 45 years.



## **MARY TAYLOR (CHUCK)**

I was born in Minneapolis, Minnesota. At the age of four my family moved to Jackson, Michigan where I spent my childhood. I attended Lumen Christi High School. After graduation I went to Aquinas College. I received my B.A. with an emphasis in elementary education.

I married my husband, Chuck, whom I had met in college. We started our family and had three children. During this time we lived in Ohio and then moved to California where we lived for ten years. I taught school and Chuck worked in sales management. Chuck and I then decided to move our family

back to our home state of Michigan.

My children, Andy, Joe and Chrissy, attended Charlotte Public Schools and I taught kindergarten in Eaton Rapids for ten years. After seventeen years as a classroom teacher I started a career in school administration when my youngest child left for college. I served as the principal of Maplewood School in Vermontville for one year and then at Parkview Elementary here in Charlotte for five years. I am now the Associate Superintendent of Curriculum for Charlotte Public Schools.

My children are grown and Chuck and I have two grandchildren. We have lived in Charlotte for eighteen years and enjoy the community.

## *REMEMBRANCES . . .*

**Eilene Christensen – health issues**

**Nathalie Weseman – cataract surgery**

**Dorothy Leeser's son, Neil – eye surgery**

**Sandy Maatsch's son, Jim – surgery**

**Beth Wildern – became a grandma!**

**[Be sure to share your joys, concerns and sorrows with me, so that I can include you on this list.]**

## **2007 Innisbrook Fundraiser**

Distribution of catalogs: at The Linen Chest

Second phase of orders due: October 5, 2007

Second delivery of orders: November 2, 2007

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Thank you for your participation in the Innisbrook fundraiser. I'll keep you posted on our success!

### **Our Club's International Project for 2007-2008**

#### **Heifer International**

Each year our club selects an international project in which to participate. After much interest and support from **you**, our club members, we held a highly successful fund drive in 2006-2007. The board decided to continue our support of Heifer International.

Last year, because of your generous donations, our club was able to purchase a llama, a "Flock of Hope" (which consisted of chicks, ducklings, and goslings), and tree seedlings. Several members passed along a catalog to family members and received donations to Heifer International as Christmas or birthday gifts. What a wonderful idea!!!

Some of you may be unfamiliar with Heifer International. It is an organization established in 1944 that works to help end world hunger through the gift of farm animals AND education. Since its inception, people in 125 countries have been assisted, including families in 38 states in the United States.

Instead of providing families with a non-renewable source of food (a bag of flour or rice, powdered milk, etc.), Heifer International provides a family with an animal AND knowledge. Information about the animal as well as training and education relating to animal care and farming practices supplement the initial gift. A family's health and standard of living improve with the benefits that the gift of one animal provides--which might be milk, eggs, wool, fertilizer, or draft power.

Ultimately, the gift is "passed along," as the offspring of a family's animal are given to other families in need. Within a community, one gift becomes multiple gifts, and an entire community is assisted.

I will have a basket available for your donation at the November and December meetings. Of course, cash will be accepted. If you decide to write a check, please make it out to GFWC-Charlotte. If you are unable to attend either of these meetings, please send your contribution to P.O Box 218/Charlotte. When all of the donations have been collected, the board will determine this year's gift and will send one check to Heifer.

*Thank you for your support of our club's international project!!*



## BOARD TALK – NOLA BUCK



As I write this letter fall weather is arriving. The leaves are slowly changing and my garden is waning. Didn't we have a great **Home Tour?** The home owners and committee worked very hard and I think they are now taking a big sigh of relief. Thanks also to Joey Pray who took pictures of all the houses, to Ed Foster for getting the information on the website, and to Chris Fleischman who created drawings of the houses. If you have ideas for homes for future home tours please let Jackie Carr know.

The **Mini Trip to Southern Exposure is full.** Karen Elsesser is still taking reservations for the **Meadow Brook Holiday Walk.** Check the newsletter for further details.

Wasn't **Grandma Janet's** presentation at the October General meeting thought provoking? Many people purchased books for themselves or to use as gifts. It was great to have four new members join and to have many prospective members in attendance. It was also great to have Sherry Wellman, First Vice President of GFWC MI, visit us. The next meeting will be at the Medical Care Facility on November 2 with Social Time at 11:30 a.m. and lunch at noon. **Uncle Al's** orders can be turned in at that time. Please be aware that your reservations need to be in by Saturday, October 27. If you do not have your reservations in on time, plan to attend without lunch. The reservations are usually called to the caterers on the Monday before the meetings. You **should not** expect co-chairs to add your name after Saturday.

The **Nomination Committee** needs to develop a slate of board members for 2008 – 2009 before the end of the year. If you are interested in becoming a member of the board, please let Jeannette Sommer know.

There will be a **New Member Orientation Meeting** on November 15. See the article in this newsletter for further details.

The **October Board meeting** will be Thursday October 18 at 11:45 a.m. at the Cochran Centre. All members are welcomed to attend.

**Woman of Achievement** nominations are due October 18. This is also the time to be thinking about who in the club might be deserving of the Ms Federation, the Community Excellence, or the Athena award. There will be nomination forms for these awards available at the November meeting.

In closing let me remind you to check out your yearbook, the website and this newsletter for many different ways you can become involved in GFWC-Charlotte.



At the October meeting, Linda Foster gave a tribute from the Club to Josephine Johnson who had been a member of the Club since 1932-33, and past president. Copies were presented to the family and one will be placed on file.



**TEA AND TOMES Book Discussion Group** welcomes new participants to the October 23rd meeting. This month we will be discussing "The Secret Life of Bees," by Sue Monk Kidd. The novel is set in South Carolina in the beginning days of the Civil Rights movement. Several themes weave around race, home, family, and love lost and found. The group meets at the Spartan Room of the Charlotte Public Library at 1:00pm. Each member

brings their own drink; tea bread or cookies are provided. See you then!

**Sneak Peak:** In November, we will read the biography of Immaculee Ilibagiza in her story, "Left to Tell: Finding God Amidst the Rwandan Holocaust."



One is never too old to learn to use the internet! Make use of our website!

[www.gfwc-charlotte.com](http://www.gfwc-charlotte.com)



Nola shows the Club the new sign to be placed at the Snell Park entrance to Charlotte. The Club will purchase one of these each year for each of the entrances to the city.

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;

[egfoster@cablespeed.com](mailto:egfoster@cablespeed.com) or to:

Gloria Wilson, 410 East 3<sup>rd</sup> St., Charlotte, MI 48813; 543-7618 or 541-5752 (wk)

[wilsong@charlottenet.org](mailto:wilsong@charlottenet.org)



Southwestern District Convention October 4, 2007 at Kalamazoo Ladies' Library Association. Marilyn Monroe Hart and others look at books to buy to support the Education Foundation. The Ed Foundation table shows the endowment book and items to be raffled. SWD Officers were installed by Sherry Wellman, GFWC MI 1<sup>st</sup> VP, including Linda Foster as secretary. Marilyn Monroe Hart serves as District Parliamentarian.



**GFWC - CHARLOTTE**  
**P. O. BOX 464**  
**CHARLOTTE, MI 48813**



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AWARENESS MONTH**