



Special points of interest:

- Save the Date
- Nominating Committee
- National Day of Service
- GFWC Kansas Rainbow Club
- Membership

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KANSAS CLUBWOMAN NEWS

OFFICIAL PUBLICATION OF THE GENERAL FEDERATION OF WOMEN'S CLUBS OF KANSAS

From Janine's Chair...



Janine Eilert
GFWC of Kansas President
2022–2024

Dear GFWC of Kansas Clubwomen, thank you to all the clubwomen who attended the 127th Annual State Convention in Wichita. We accomplished a lot during those 2 days together. We all had an opportunity to listen and get to know our International Treasurer, Becky Wright. She talked about all things "Membership Matters" and FRAN. Who do you consider and reach out for to be part of

your club?

F = friends and former members, R = relatives, A = adversary or adventurous people, N= neighbors. Remember that members germinate at different paces, that is what makes a beautiful garden. Recruit with enthusiasm. Other highlights of the convention were that we had 18 first-time attendees, six legacy clubwomen, 10 past-state presidents, past GFWC international president Dr Rose Ditto (2008-2010) and past GFWC Director of Junior Clubs Lee Humphrey (1990-1992) all in attendance.

Thank you to the many clubwomen from the various 17 clubs in attendance at state convention for donating approximately \$1,447 worth of in-kind donations to the 2 summer camps for youth with diabetes. Mackenzie Tade from Great Plains Diabetes talked with us about the importance of camp to these students. She described the chronic disease and all the ups and downs that these children must regulate on an hourly basis.

A sincere apology to Ruth Linville from the Flint Hills of Manhattan club. With all the excitement of the convention and presenting the Legacy certificates I failed to recognize her as a legacy clubwoman. Her mother, Mary L Erbe was part of the Friday Reading Club from Thayer, Kansas. Congratulations to Ruth for being a Legacy Clubwoman.

I respectfully request that when clubs complete their membership rosters and return those to the state secretary, Linda Krebs, by June 1st, please note on

the paperwork when your club was officially federated. Some clubs were in existence long before they were federated, that is also important information for us as a state to collect and notate on the state membership reports. For example, The Ladies Reading Club of Junction City has a history dating back to 1876. In 1883 they became part of the Social Science Clubs of Kansas and Western Missouri. The Social Science Clubs of Kansas were federated as a sole state entity during the 1893~1895 administration. The Ladies Reading Club from Junction City has been federated for approximately 130 years. I incorrectly stated at state convention that the GFWC Mulvane Federated Women's Club was the longest standing federated club in GFWC Kansas. They have been federated for close to 110 years and their members are in possession of their original charter membership certificate.

It is with great pleasure that I can announce that GFWC Kansas has filled the President-Elect position for the remainder of the 2022-2024 administration. Joanna Treas was nominated and elected at the state convention on Friday night. The role of President-Elect includes being the Dean of Club Presidents and the Membership Chairperson. She will be assuming her new role at the next executive committee meeting. Please read her bio in this copy of the Kansas Clubwoman News.

The National Day of Service that GFWC International is coordinating is scheduled for September 30th. There is more information about this project included in this newsletter. I challenge all clubs in GFWC Kansas to register and participate in some way to help alleviate Food Insecurity in your community. "Make the Whirl go 'Round" in your community.

Club Presidents please remember to email me monthly and let me know how many items your club has collected and donated to a local food pantry, and/or blessing box.

Fall Board meeting is scheduled for Thursday August 24th and Friday August 25th in Manhattan, KS. Please save the date on your calendar. An additional meeting to consider attending is the Mississippi Valley Region Conference in Branson, Mo on September 14th~17th. Club Presidents will receive more information about those two meetings in early July. "Let the Fun begin with Every Spin."

Janine Eilert, GFWC Kansas President
kiwieilert@sbcglobal.net (316) 250-0432



“It is good to realize that, if love and peace can prevail on earth, and if we can teach our children to honor nature’s gifts, the joys and beauties of the outdoors will be here forever.”

– [Jimmy Carter](#)

President Elect

My husband, Chip, and I have lived in 5 states since we married in 1989. We had two children before the moves began so they traveled and experienced much along with us. I was born in Fort Worth, Texas. My family moved to El Dorado, Kansas when I was 9 years old where I completed 4-12 grades. I attended ESU, KSU and graduated from KU.

Chip was born and raised in Shawnee, Kansas when it was still a small town. He attended KSU and graduated from MidAmerica Nazarene University in Olathe, KS. Both Chip and I have strong ties to Kansas.

My life as a volunteer started early with my mother. She was a true volunteer for the needy. I have worked for several organizations who truly believed in giving back to their communities and I participated in many activities through them. When we moved to Batavia, Illinois I stumbled on my first farmers market in that community and the *General Federation of Women’s Clubs*. The Batavia club participated in the farmer’s market weekly. We put up a canopy and sold baked goods to raise funds for chosen benefactors. We also put out brochures in order to raise awareness on domestic and sexual violence, cancer, heart health, St. Jude’s Children’s Hospitals, CASA and other important issues and organizations. I spent 3 years involved in Batavia Woman’s Club. During my last year I chaired the committee for our annual Fashion Show and Dinner. We raised over \$10,000 that went to Mutual Ground, a shelter for domestic abuse victims.

When we moved to Seward, Nebraska I walked into an exhibit sponsored by the Seward Woman’s Club. In 2021 I attended LEADS in Atlanta, GA. While in Seward I held the positions of Treasurer and Club President.

Chip and I moved back to Kansas in July of 2022. Hopefully our last move. Now I am a member of the Flint Hills Club in Manhattan and look forward to all the activities and shared experiences I will have with the wonderful women in Manhattan and in all the other clubs across Kansas.

*Joanna Treas
President-Elect*

Vice President

We certainly had a wonderful State Convention this year. It was good to see so many of you there. I hope we’ll see you at the Fall Board meeting.

I am putting away the past club year, getting ready for the year to come. I’d like to suggest that before you get too busy with your summer plans, that you make some notes about your volunteering and service hours for the first part of this year. It will make next year’s reporting easier not to have to remember back to the first of the year.

I hope you all have a great summer.

*Linda Loyd
GFWC KS Vice President*

Secretary

Hello Summer! It may have been a mild Winter for Kansas this year, but I am ready for Spring and Summer! How about you?

GFWC Kansas State Convention, held in Wichita, on April 21-22, 2023, was a wonderful success! We should all thank our enthusiastic State President Janine Eilert, GFWC Goddard Woman's Club, GFWC Sunflower Sisters, Janine's wonderful family, Sabra Clarke, and all of the other wonderful GFWC members that assisted, for the fun, informative, and inspiring State Convention! 17 clubs were represented between the two days, and we were privileged to have Becky Wright, GFWC International Treasurer as our special guest speaker. It was a great weekend!

The clubs that attended the Convention picked up their Club Rosters there, and I have mailed the Club Rosters to those clubs that were not in attendance. **Please check the addresses, email addresses, and telephone numbers for your membership and make any corrections as needed. Add in NEW members and if you have lost a member, please delete the information from your Roster.** Mark the colored column to the far right if your member would like to receive the Kansas Clubwoman News by email ONLY. This saves many dollars for printing and postage. Also, if the Newsletter is received by email, all the photos are in color, and you will receive it earlier than those that get it by U.S. Mail!

Club member dues are \$25 per person: \$10 is retained by GFWC of Kansas and \$15 is remitted to GFWC International. Please be sure to submit your updated Club Rosters and dues payment by June 1, 2023. If you have not done so, please put it into the mail to me as soon as possible. My contact information is:

Linda Krebs, Secretary, 124 Riverview Dr., Wamego, KS 66547

785-313-4191 lindafredkrebs@gmail.com

If you have any questions or I can help in any way, please contact me at the cell phone or email above.

Good luck to all of our great GFWC clubs of Kansas this summer. Let's plan another fun-filled year with projects to reach and help our communities and enjoy the camaraderie of our GFWC sisters!

*Linda Krebs
State Secretary*

Treasurer

Finally! It's good to be back in my office and at my computer after a three-week hiatus! The main event during that time off was the annual reunion of my sorority pledge class of 1959. This year I hosted eight of the "girls" in Manhattan. We had a wonderful week in an Airbnb at Tuttle Creek Lake, and I was proud to show off Manhattan and my little part of Kansas. A big Shout Out to Wamego and Waterville! We enjoyed spending a day in each of your towns, and experiencing the unique activities you have to offer.

After a wonderful State Convention in Wichita, we are off to a food start in the 2023-2024 fiscal year with an unaudited beginning balance of \$43,576.14 in the treasury. In addition to the cash, GFWC of KS holds investments in the form of 12 certificates of deposit totaling \$127,675.04 in three different banks. That total breaks down as follows:

GFWC of KS General Fund:	Two C.D.'s totaling \$30,142.59
Art Fund:	One C.D. in the amount of \$7,280.00
Citizenship Fund:	One C.D. in the amount of \$1,106.53
Music Fund:	Three C.D.'s totaling \$22,586.25
Scholarship Fund:	Four C.D.'s totaling \$56,559.67
The Schwarz Family Endowment for Art & Music Fund:	One \$10,000 C.D.

Interest on these C.D.'s vary from a low of 0.20% to a high of 3.95%. Each one is invested for a term of 24 or 36 months. During the 2022-23 fiscal year, the various funds received a total of \$1,413.01 in interest from the C.D.'s.

Carol Hansen, GFWC of KS Treasurer



"If future generations are to remember us with gratitude rather than contempt, we must leave them something more than the miracles of technology. We must leave them a glimpse of the world as it was in the beginning, not just after we got through it."

– Lyndon B. Johnson



“Within National Parks is room — glorious room — room in which to find ourselves, in which to think and hope, to dream and plan, to rest and resolve.”
— Enos Mills

Library Board

SUMMER READING IS NOW!

Public libraries across the state and country are buzzing with the launch of their summer reading programs. This is “bread and butter time” for libraries as their activity heats up while that for media centers and schools cools down. Both have a staunch commitment to children’s literacy with the goal to help students develop their reading and comprehension skills and a solid partnership to make that happen.

Library summer reading programs usually include setting reading goals by number of minutes or books read and offering incentive prizes along the way to keep them paging toward the finish line. These goals are usually set by age range such as pre-kindergarten, elementary school age and middle school and high school age. The plan is that these goals will keep kids reading throughout most of the summer so they keep their skill level at or above where it was when they left school in May and return in the fall ready to read and learn for their new grade.

For many years, most libraries worked on their own to develop fun themes and graphics to structure and illustrate their programs and prizes. Today, many of them are part of the nationwide Collaborative Summer Library Program (CSLP) to coordinate their efforts, give them greater purchasing power, etc. Per CSLP, they “provide the tools and resources needed to make running a summer program affordable and successful for all participating libraries.”

The collaborative program was first launched in Minnesota in 1987 when ten of its regional library systems “developed a summer library program for children, choosing a theme, creating artwork and selecting incentives that public libraries in the regions could purchase and use.” When it was later broadened to other states, many jumped on board, including Kansas, so they could share “ideas, expertise and costs to produce a high-quality summer reading program for all.”

The program currently includes representation from all 50 states, the District of Columbia, American Samoa, Bermuda, the Cayman Islands, Federated States of Micronesia, Guam, and the Mariana Islands. The representative from Kansas is Sandy Wilkerson, Library Services Consultant from the North Central Kansas Library System located in Manhattan. And, recently Dawn Krause, NCKL Assistant Director, left her position there to become the new CSLP Executive Director. With that, Kansas is well understood and represented in the program.

One benefit of participating in the collaborative program is that families who relocate during the summer months may be able to just pick up where they left off with the reading program they started in their previous community. This is particularly so for military families who often make the transition to a new duty station in the summer season.

The current summer reading theme is All Together Now, a perfect choice for the uncertain time in which we live and the efforts to help understand the importance of unity and community. Next year it’s Adventure Begins at Your Library followed by Color our World in 2025. Though the theme has yet to be named, dinosaurs will be the focus in 2026.

They say it takes a village to raise a child and so, too to conduct a summer reading program. Please say a silent thanks to all of those involved in making it happen and encourage your family, friends and neighbors to enroll their kids in a reading program soon. It will be fun for them and they likely won’t even realize that they are preparing to enter their next school year.

Susan Moyer

Save the Date

“Let the Fun begin with Every Spin.”

Upcoming Fall Board Meeting August 24th and 25th, Manhattan, KS

The Fall Board Meeting will be Thursday August 24th and Friday August 25th, 2023, in the KSU Alumni Center, Manhattan (1720 Anderson Ave) in the Tadtman Boardroom on the 2nd floor. This is a bigger room than what we used in 2022. The room has a very impressive view over Memorial Stadium. On Thursday and Friday there will be a Zoom option for those members who cannot attend in person. If you wish to “dial in”, please make sure that you have access to a computer or tablet with a microphone and a working camera. A block of rooms for Thursday night will be available at the Holiday Inn across the street. Parking is free at the Alumni center and at the hotel.

I will send out a “Call to Board Meeting” to all club presidents, past state presidents, chairman and appointees in early July. Club Presidents please pass the information onto all your clubwomen.

Food Insecurity will continue to be the area of emphasis for my administration. For those who are not familiar the “Pride of Wildcat Land” has now opened a food pantry for all band students in the new Tracz Family Band Hall (under memorial stadium). I am requesting that if you choose to attend the Fall Board meeting in person, please bring non-perishables and/or personal hygiene items that will be donated to the band food pantry. Please strongly consider having at least 2 clubwomen from your club attend the meeting. “Give it a Whirl”, attend a state meeting for the 1st time, learn about the role of a state chairperson, and understand the job of a club president.

Clubs Helping Clubs

The 3 clubs (Wamego Study, Gardner Athena, and Goddard Woman’s Club) received an abundance of items that they needed to help them complete projects for their individual clubs. Thank you to all the clubwomen who gathered items and brought them to the state convention. The collection table was OVERFLOWING with all the items (clean and label free prescription bottles, coat hangers, and plastic bags). The clubs don’t have exact numbers of how much was collected at state convention but approximately 250 empty prescription bottles, 275 coat hangers and 10+ pounds of plastic was donated by state clubwomen.

I would like to continue this state project of “Clubs helping Clubs”. If your club needs help collecting items for a project in your community that you think would be otherwise thrown away or recycled by clubwomen, please reach out.

I can do things you cannot, you can do things I cannot; together we can do great things.” – Mother Teresa



“A national park is not a playground. it’s a sanctuary for nature and for humans who will accept nature on nature’s own terms.”

– Michael Frome



“When I was about fifteen, I went to work at Yosemite National Park. It changed me forever. Nature had carved its own sculpture, and I was part of it, not the other way around.”
– Robert Redford

Scholarship Committee

We had an occurrence that I could not find happening before in our history. Our general scholarship of \$1,000 has been given to our recipients in two installments. The qualified student is given the first half at the start of the fall semester. We then confirm that the recipient remains in good standing with the school and is enrolled in the spring semester before we send the second half of the money. Well, our recipient did not enroll again in the spring. We went ahead and gave the remaining funds to their scholarship foundation at Dodge City Community College.

We have decided to simplify the process and avoid this issue in the future by disbursing all of the funds in one installment, in the fall. There really wasn't a compelling reason to continue to split the award into two payments. This change will be effective in the fall of 2023.

*Lisa Stoller and Ila Stone,
Scholarship Committee Co-Chairs*

Civic Engagement and Outreach

As promised at State Convention, here are some unique project ideas gleaned from club reports.....I apologize for not being able to print club names with them ...that would take up a LOT of room! There are more ideas in the Club Manual which is on the GFWC website (under Civic Engagement and Outreach).

- created Veterans Day Cards
- researched all county cemeteries for Veterans records for the Historical Society
- volunteered with the Kansas Guardian Program providing support for adults in managing their finances and health
- donated outdoor games for community events
- First Ladies Program—at each meeting a First Lady was reported on (Martha Washington, etc.) where many known and unknown facts were shared. At the May luncheon, members came in period dress, some had a dish a First Lady liked to serve, and a matching game was played with prizes for the most correct answers.
- club program on a county courthouse which is now on the National Register
- Veterans Day program at grade school. Students wrote thank yous to honor local Veterans. Cookies were served
- made pillows for a dog shelter
- crocheted hats for cancer patients, school children and homeless
- sewed bibs for nursing homes and rehab
- for Meals on Wheels at Christmas gave each one a flashlight wrapped in a pair of fuzzy socks with a note saying “Have Yourself a Bright and Cozy Little Christmas”
- bag of peanuts to police, firemen etc. with a note saying, “We’d be NUTS not to appreciate all that you do!”

Here is a neat way to sign things: *[Club Name] Volunteering in support of our community since [date of charter]*

THANK YOU to all of our TERRIFIC CLUBWOMEN who work so hard every day in SO many different ways!

Kathy Baker, Chairman

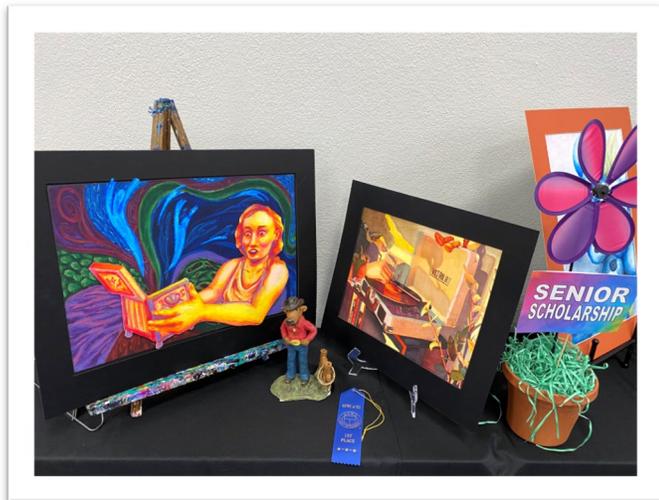
Nominating Committee

The chairman of the committee is our immediate past president, Jan Moore. The other members of the committee are Sabra Clarke, Juanita Rothaus, and Jackie Hays. Their contact information is listed below, and they would love to receive phone calls from clubwomen volunteering to step up to the executive committee. GFWC of Kansas needs your help to succeed for the 2024-2026 administration. They are especially looking for clubwomen for the following positions: Vice President and Secretary.

- Jan Moore (785) 597-2177
- Sabra Clarke (785) 798-7554
- Juanita Rothaus (913) 980-4104
- Jackie Hays (785) 249-4616

Current vacant positions on the board of directors for the 2022-2024 administration
 Leadership Chairperson
 Chairperson for Signature Program: Domestic & Sexual Violence Awareness & Prevention

State Arts and Creative Crafts Results – 2023



172 pieces of Student art, crafts and photography were brought to our State Convention from six clubs. It was amazing to view the creativity from these students. Entries were from the following categories.

Ceramics-7, Drawing-60, Fiber-3, Jewelry-5, Miscellaneous-5, Mixed Media-22, Painting-20, Photo-11, Printmaking-12, Sculpture-12. Senior Scholarship, which consists of three pieces, had five entries.

Best of Show was awarded to Dylan Hawks of Norton. Senior Scholarship was awarded to Hannah Wiebe of Goddard.

In our Clubwoman entries, 20 pieces were displayed.

Myra Stutzman and Vicki Luthi
Arts and Creative Crafts Co-Chairs



“Stepping out onto any lookout, you are invited to connect with an amazing example of some of the most unusual terrain on this planet, making you feel as though you are stepping foot on the edge of another world.”

— Stefanie Payne, *A Year in the National Parks: The Greatest American Road Trip*



“In a world that is becoming increasingly virtual, the parks remain places of visceral beauty. Places where we can remember that we are but a small part of the life on this planet, and that it is a truly wonderful planet and the only one we've got.”
— Nevada Barr

Creative Writing Contest Results

There were 20 entries in the Creative Writing Contest. Youth had 10 poems and 7 short stories. The club women had one poem entry and one with a poem and a short story.

POETRY

Category 1

- 1st “Kansas” Greyson Gehrt Alma Alma Ladies Reading Circle
- 2nd “Football” Ryver Randles Alma Alma Ladies Reading Circle
- 3rd “School” Aubrey Schutter Wamego Alma Ladies Reading Circle

Category 2

- 1st “Ocean” Baylee Howard Alma Alma Ladies Reading Circle
- 2nd “The Fishing Trip” Ellinor Pfannenstiel Alma Alma Ladies Reading Circle
- 3rd “Sun and Moon” Alex Glotzbach Alma Alma Ladies Reading Circle

Category 3

- 1st “Nature” Eli Wertzberger Alma Alma Ladies Reading Circle
- 2nd “Where Trees Begin” Brayden Thornton Alma Alma Ladies Reading Circle
- 3rd “Stress at Work” Calvin Lynch Alma Alma Ladies Reading Circle

Category 4

- 1st “Quietus's Regard” Isabel Reed Lecompton GFWC Questers

Club Woman

- 1st “My Powhattan” Anita Pfister Hutchinson GFWC Questers
- 2nd “The Last Football Season” Verna Davidson Delphos Women's Club

SHORT STORY

Category 1

- 1st “The Python” Kade Mayer Alma Alma Ladies Reading Circle
- 2nd “The Best Birthday” Jace Prater Alma Alma Ladies Reading Circle
- 3rd “Best Friends” Cash Toney Alma Alma Ladies Reading Circle

Category 2

- 1st “A Christmas Miracle” Gwynneth Reed Lecompton GFWC Questers
- 2nd “Memories of a Notebook” Molly Larsen Gardner GFWC Questers
- 3rd “Miles Morales” Kooper Runnebaum Alma Alma Ladies Reading Circle

Category 3

- 1st “Me, Myself, and I” Emmy Reed Lecompton GFWC Questers

Category 4

No entries

Clubwoman

- 1st “My Sister Barbara” Anita Pfister Hutchinson GFWC Questers
- Thank you to all who entered the contest.

Elizabeth Hemberger State Creative Writing Chairman

Environmental/Conservation

This information comes from Tina Neese, the GFWC International Chair for Environment from her May Newsletter:

RESOLVED, That the General Federation of Women’s Clubs urges its member clubs to:

- Support the use of green products and substitution of non-hazardous products for household cleaners, yard care, and car maintenance;
- Promote public awareness of the dangers of improper disposal of household hazardous waste;
- Encourage local and state agencies to provide and promote public participation in recycling, household hazardous waste “drop off” programs, collection days, and permanent collection sites, and to provide educational materials through the classroom, publications, and the media;
- Encourage retailers and manufacturers to reduce over-packaging, to promote recycling within their businesses, and to provide information to households on safe disposal and recycling;
- Support legislation that encourages continued development of and standards for green products, and encourages efforts to increase appropriate recycling.

What are ways your club can support this resolution?

A simple idea is to have a workshop on how to make “green” cleaning products. For mild cleaning, mix 1/2 cup vinegar, 1/4 cup baking soda, and 4 to 8 cups hot water in a spray bottle. You can substitute 2 teaspoons of borax for the baking soda. Add a few drops of essential oil to any mixture to give it a fresh scent.

GFWC 2022-2024 Environment CSP

There are four target areas in this CSP:

1. Preserve Resources:

This area relates to but not exclusive of forestation, Earth Day activities, reduction of energy consumption, air and water pollution, wetland conservation, water projects, disposable of waste, and gardening. Club

Project Example: Prepare a presentation about your watershed for your community. Discuss water quality threats, including the dangers of polluted runoff and ecosystem loss.

2. Protect Wildlife and Domesticated Animals:

This area relates to but not exclusive of birding projects, Audubon Society, native plants for animal food, Department of Natural Resources, preserving Wildlife Management Areas, endangered species protection, wildlife protection, and animal shelter and humane society support. Club Project Example: Be a bird watcher; contribute by gathering scientific data.

3. Live Sustainably:

This area relates to but not exclusive of recycling, zero waste projects, the Environmental Protection Agency, sustainable gardening, locally grown food, renewable energy, reduce consumption of purposes, reusable items, and upcycling of items. Club Project Example: Host a fun time with upcycled items for purchase.

4. Beautify Communities and Enjoy Nature:

This area relates to but not exclusive of adopt-a-highway, clean-up days, nature walks, teaching others about nature, yard of the month, garden tours, master gardening, plant and tree identification, hiking and biking, national and state parks, and clean water projects. Club Project Example: Be a part of your community’s Clean and Beautiful program, host a trash pick-up day in your community, or volunteer at a national or state park.

Let me encourage you to consider these CSP ideas as you plan your Club Programs for the 2023-2024 Club year. I hope you all have a wonderful summer and hope to see many of you at the Fall Board meeting.

Blessings!

Juanita Rothaus
GFWC Kansas Environment Chairperson



“Without wilderness, we will eventually lose the capacity to understand America. Our drive, our ruggedness, our unquenchable optimism and zeal and elan go back to the challenges of the untrammelled wilderness.”
– Harvey Broome



*“In wilderness is
the preservation of
the world.”*

– Henry David
Thoreau

National Day of Service

INFORMATION TO START PLANNING

The **General Federation of Women’s Clubs (GFWC)** is united in its dedication to volunteer community service. The National Day of Service (NDS) is a day in which all of GFWC comes together in service to highlight an area of need, take action to address the need, and raise public awareness about its importance. State federations and clubs are encouraged to join in and organize community service programs (CSPs) in their communities as part of the NDS. It’s also a great opportunity to invite guests to participate in your NDS activities and introduce them to the benefits of GFWC.

This year’s NDS issue of focus is food insecurity. To initiate the planning process, GFWC encourages you to contact your local food banks and food pantries – wherever people go for food – to find out how best to be of service. For example, a club can sponsor a food bank, pantry, or food program to organize a volunteer activity with fellow club members, family, and friends. Ask every member of your club to invite a friend who is not presently a member to participate and experience GFWC in action. Use the activity to motivate and inspire your friend to join. The benefits of community service not only make a person feel good, but it helps to build meaningful friendships and bonds that will last a lifetime.

Here are suggestions for NDS activities:

- **Volunteer at a Local Food Bank**
- **Food Drives:** Connect directly with the local food bank to determine how your club can be of service. They will welcome the support and donation of time and food.
- **Raise Awareness About Hunger:** Reach out to your local media to introduce NDS and the cause being promoted. Ask the reporter to mention NDS and how people can participate and donate. Also, use social media to discuss food insecurity with members of your community, clubs, schools, church groups, and others.
- **Advocate to End Food Insecurity:** Use GFWC’s Legislative Action Center (LAC)

to interact with your federal and state elected officials to advance a bill or introduce legislation that helps to end hunger by funding programs specific to the issue.

Information and updates about NDS will be in the weekly electronic newsletter *GFWC News & Notes*, Facebook, Instagram, and website, www.GFWC.org. Every week until September 30, GFWC will make announcements, provide project ideas, and discuss food insecurity. Stay tuned for additional resources including a tool kit and a media kit.

Start planning today!

Locate your local food bank and food services at the following links:

Second Harvest - [food near me - Second Harvest \(2-harvest.org\)](http://foodnearme.org)

Feeding America - [Find Your Local Food Bank | Feeding America](http://FindYourLocalFoodBank.org)

Type “food banks (your state)” into your search engine

Find churches with food banks in your state - [https://save.lovetoknow.com/Churches with Food Pantries](https://save.lovetoknow.com/Churches-with-Food-Pantries)

Find information about food insecurity at the following links:

US Department of Agriculture - <https://www.fns.usda.gov/fact-sheet/usda-support-for-food-banks-emergency-food-system>

Office of Disease Prevention and Health Promotion - <https://health.gov/healthypeople/priority-areas/social-determinants-health/literature-summaries/food-insecurity>

National Public Radio, Food Insecurity in the US By the Numbers - <https://www.npr.org/2020/09/27/912486921/food-insecurity-in-the-us-by-the-numbers>

To register or for more information, contact Melanie Gisler, Director of Membership Services, at MGisler@GFWC.org and copy Deb Strahanoski, International President, at DStrahanoski@GFWC.org. Please include the following in your email: Club Name, Point of Contact, Address, Phone Number, and Email. GFWC will send information, articles, and announcements directly to your club.

Food Insecurity

Knowing the Facts

1. Most of the people that “Feeding America” (200 food banks in total) serve come from households with at least one working adult.
2. 40 million Americans struggle with hunger.
3. Children face hunger at higher rates than any other population group in the USA. There are over 12 million children in the USA living without consistent access to enough food.
4. 78% of the counties in the USA with the highest percentage of people at risk of hunger are in rural America.

Make Hunger Disappear

Recognizing the issue is the first step in making it disappear. In Kansas we have 3 food banks that cover the 105 counties in the state. (www.kansasfoodsource.org)

- Kansas Food Bank (covers 85 counties)
- Harvesters (16 counties in KS, 10 counties in MO)
- Second Harvest (4 counties in northeast KS)

National Day of Service for GFWC Kansas ~ let’s strive for 100% of clubs to register and participate.

1. To register contact Melanie Gisler, Director of Membership Services, at

MGisler@GFWC.org and copy Deb Strahanski, International President, at DStrahanski@GFWC.org. Please include the following in your email: Club Name, Point of Contact, Address, Phone Number, and Email. GFWC will send information, articles, and announcements directly to your club.

2. You don’t need to have your plan of action to participate worked out to register. Headquarters just needs to know that your club is interested in receiving more information.

Whether your clubs decide to volunteer at one of the 3 food banks in Kansas, and/or collect non-perishable items and then deliver to local food pantries it is up to your club how you choose to participate.

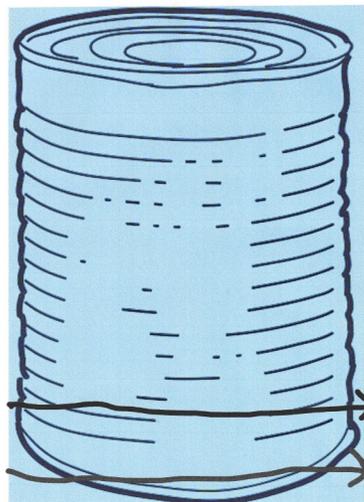
3. Participating on the actual day (September 30th) is not mandatory. Some food banks are not open on that Saturday. The goal is to get participation close to that day, in the month of September.

4. At the Fall Board Meeting in August we will have more information on the statewide plan. We will also have GFWC signs for each club to collect if they wish so that their club can pose for photos during their National Day of Service project.



“If the national park is, as Lord Bryce suggested, the best idea America has ever had, wilderness preservation is the highest refinement of that idea.”
– Wallace Stegner

2022-23 Food Insecurity Challenge



9999 items

4999 items

1999 items (02/10/23)

999 items (11/30/22)

2022-2024 Presidents Area of Emphasis.
Food Insecurity
Original Challenge, collect 999 items.
Achieved by November 30th, 2022.
Second Challenge, collect 1999 items.
Achieved by February 10th, 2023.
Final Challenge, collect 9999 items by June 30th, 2024.
Current total 2002 items



Music Audition Results

Twenty-five hundred dollars (\$2,500) in scholarships was awarded to five music students on Saturday, March 4, at the General Federated Women's Clubs of Kansas Music auditions held at the First Baptist Church in Junction City. The students receiving \$500 scholarships included two from Junction City in vocal music: Kora Muniz-Lorenzo and Daphne Brown; from Minneapolis, Kansas on piano, Jeremiah Young; from Manhattan, Rebekah Pickering on Cello; and from Hutchinson, Scarlett Pfister on Piccolo.

These auditions were started in 1925 by Mrs. J. Abbie Clark Hogan, a local Junction City violinist and member of the Junction City Ladies Reading Club. She was a noted violinist over Europe and the United States and wanted to recognize and promote local music students. It's my hope more GFWC Clubs across the state will develop a good relationship with local music teachers and school music departments. Judges for the March 4 auditions remarked how well the students were prepared and the wonderful talent.

Florence Whitebread
Music Chair

Epsilon Sigma Omicron—Zeta Chapter of Kansas

During the past club year ESO grew from eleven to fifteen members. We read 383 books for a total of 2,681 volunteer hours. These statistics were reported to our International ESO Chairperson.

At our State Convention meeting we decided that for a summer project we would read a book by a Kansas author of our choice. We will discuss our choices during the ESO meeting at Fall Board. It's always fun to get new book suggestions. There will be Zoom call for that meeting so that everyone who wants to can participate. Did you enjoy the book challenge? There will be a new one in August for the coming year.

As always, keep tracking your reading and send me your lists periodically. I'm keeping track so that we will know when you reach your next reading level. Please let me now if you have any questions or need anything. Encourage your fellow clubwomen to join. All you have to do is read.

Linda Loyd
ESO Chairman, lindaloyd05@gmail.com

Kansas Clubwoman Next Issue

News items for the **September, 2023** issue of the Kansas Clubwoman are due **August 20, 2023**. Please feel free to forward your articles to me whenever you have them ready. No need to wait for the due date. I maintain a working copy of the next issue and will insert your article when I receive it. I will always send a reply to confirm that I have received your article. If you don't receive a confirmation, please check with me.

Back issues of the Kansas Clubwoman are archived in our website gfwcofkansas.org.

If you would like to have a digital copy of the Clubwoman emailed to you, please let me know.

Linda Loyd, Editor
lindaloyd05@gmail.com
913-856-8602

*"Wilderness is a
necessity... there must be
places for human beings
to satisfy their souls"*
— John Muir

Health and Wellness

KANSAS GFWC CHALLENGE- GIVE THAT GLIMMER AND GLOW!

I am throwing out this challenge to all Kansas GFWC Clubs to have increase Health and Wellness programs and here are some guidelines. So start planning your Glimmer and Glow ladies!

Regular physical activity – aerobic, muscle strengthening, and balance training – is one of the most important things you can do for your health. Regardless of age, abilities, ethnicity, shape, or size everyone can experience the benefits of physical activity. Considering the facts provided, GFWC clubs are encouraged to plan a year-long project that will promote physical activity for any age group.

- Partner with a home improvement store and other service organizations such as a Lions Club or Boy Scouts to purchase and build playground equipment for a shelter or special needs facility.
- Partner with a sports store to provide fitness apparatus for a senior center or nursing home and sponsor classes in their use.
- Plan a fitness trail in your community.
- Partner with a shopping mall to sponsor walking clubs which include weekly or monthly physical fitness and nutrition presentations.
- Work with local schools to implement the Presidential Youth Fitness Program in their curriculum.

PROJECT IDEAS

- Provide “Physical Funding” for mental health programs.
- Celebrate National Nutrition Month in March with a healthy potluck dinner at your club’s monthly meeting. Or, organize a community event, such as a “Recipe Makeover Contest,” which transforms a favorite dish by cutting calories and increasing its nutritional value.
- Invite a local nutritionist to provide a club program on eating healthy. Establish/expand a community or school garden to provide fresh and nutritious produce for local soup kitchens and food pantries.
- Promote nutrition during the Fruits and Veggies – More Matters Month in September.
- Learn about and share information on

social media about National Health Observances such as Save Your Vision Month (March), and Childhood Cancer Awareness Month (September). To find a comprehensive list, visit Health.gov.

- Provide care items for cancer patients, such warm blankets and socks, moisturizers and lip balm, water and hard candy, and diversions such as books, magazines, crossword puzzles, and more.

A request from Operation Smile

Presently, on the GFWC service project. We are in dire need of blankets/quilts and No-No Armbands (splints). Currently the generic Operation Smile Dolls, Generic Bags and Patients gowns production is on hold for us due to the overwhelming donations. Will let you know when to resume that said project. If, by chance that projects have already been cut and finished to ship, please do send them to headquarters.

If you are able, we are in dire need of supplies for the smile kit, these are take home supplies after surgery given to each patient, you can find them on the list on the GFWC 2022 service projects. The list is coloring books thin (11” x 8” or 8” x 5”), shampoo (hotel size or 1.7 oz.) toothbrushes (both kids and adult), toothpaste 1.0 oz or travel size with expiration date of May 2025).

May we request also to gather Child Life Therapy Supplies and Smile Kits. We are in dire need of the following toys: Balls (soft foam/rubber/blowup); Basketball with hoop; Building block sets; card games; combs (wide tooth/detangling type) no pocket comb; Connect 4; construction paper, dolls (Barbie style; dolls (little figures/Marvel Figures; Jump Rope; Markers; Matchbox cars; Paper, Play-doh; puffer balls; Pull-along toys; puzzles; Rubik’s Cube; Hand fidget spinners; Stacking toy sets; Stickers; Stuffed Toys (medium size, clean, not dirty, stained or over used; toy medical kit, Yo-Yos; any activity toys for kids. Most of the items listed are found in Orientaltrading.com.

For more information please contact-communityrelations@operationsmile.org or call 757-321-7645.

Sharon Teagarden-King
Health & Wellness Chairperson



“There can be nothing in the world more beautiful than the Yosemite, the groves of the giant sequoias and redwoods, the Canyon of the Colorado, the Canyon of the Yellowstone, the Three Tetons; and our people should see to it that they are preserved for their children and their children’s children forever, with their majestic beauty all unmarred.”

– Theodore Roosevelt



GFWC Kansas Rainbow Club

This statewide club was originally established by Mae Wenger in 1984 for all clubwomen who were part of a disbanding club but wanted to maintain their connection to GFWC. Any clubwoman can join the club during the year to maintain their membership in GFWC Kansas.

Club dues are \$30 and can be sent to the Kansas Rainbow Club Secretary/Treasurer Elizabeth Hemberger. 1220 W. 20th Avenue N., Argonia, KS 67004. Checks payable GFWC Kansas Rainbow Club.

The main focus of the GFWC Kansas Rainbow Club is to support the statewide Creative Writing (Short Story and Poetry) competition. Monetary gifts and a portion of the club dues support that competition financially.

If your club is in the process of disbanding and you wish to maintain your connection and support of GFWC Kansas, please strongly consider being part of GFWC Kansas Rainbow Club.

“As a woman of color, my history with the park is a bit different. My experience was not as a Rosie the Riveter; that tended to be a white woman’s story. Black women had been working outside their homes ever since slavery.”
– Betty Reid Soskin, oldest National Park Ranger in the United States

GFWC OF KANSAS APPLICATION FOR RAINBOW MEMBERSHIP

Membership in the GFWC Kansas Rainbow State Club entitles you to the state newsletter, to attend meetings of the State Board, to attend the State Conventions and to enter contests. You are also eligible to hold positions on the State Board of Directors. Join today to keep up with what is happening in GFWC of Kansas.

Date: _____ Dues: _____ Annually (June 1st ~ May 31st)
Check: _____ Cash: _____
Name: _____
Address: _____ Phone: _____
City: _____ State/Zip+4: _____
Email: _____

New: _____ Renewal: _____ Gift: _____

Do you wish a copy of the GFWC of Kansas Clubwoman? Email: _____ USPS: _____

This membership can be given to anyone, even if they don’t live in the State of Kansas. Send application and dues to GFWC Kansas Rainbow Secretary/Treasurer.

Membership

Our state had 42 new clubwomen registered for the 2022~2023 club year. Of the 25 clubs in GFWC Kansas, eleven clubs registered new clubwomen. GFWC Kansas has a total of 343 clubwomen. That is an increase in clubwomen for the first time in over 10 years. Congratulations GFWC Kansas.

New Club Sunflower Sisters

The newest club in GFWC Kansas had 5 of its 6 members in attendance at the state convention. Pictured left to right, Jeanna Maley, Tammy Eilert, Becky Wright International Treasurer, Janine Eilert, Emily Eilert and Grace Eilert.



Mae Wenger Club Membership Award

The club that had the greatest percentage increase was GFWC Gradatim from Ness City. They had a 47% increase in membership. Flint Hills from Manhattan had a 33% increase and Ad Astra from Wamego had a 16% increase in membership. Pictured left to right are, Sharon Glenn, Sabra Clarke, Kelle Goodman, Cynthia Rice.



New Attendees at State Convention

There were 18 first time attendees at the state convention. There were Joan Meyer from GFWC Ad Astra Wamego; Joanna Treas GFWC Flint Hills Club Manhattan; Margaret Ohmes GFWC Gardner Athena; Mary Walker and Georgina Morris GFWC Goddard Woman's Club; Cynthia Rice GFWC Gradatim Ness City; Marsha Field and Nancy Mies-Simonetti GFWC Hutchinson Questers; Shayla Elder, Cindy LaRue and Linda Leatherman GFWC Mulvane Federated Women's; Sandy Herzet and Gina Rice GFWC Sedgwick Amity, Emily Eilert, Grace Eilert, Tammy Eilert and Jeanna Maley GFWC Sunflower Sisters, Kathy Ouellette GFWC Washington Modern Pioneers. Thank you to all for attending your first state convention. We hope to see you at future meetings. Not all the first-time attendees are pictured below.



Legacy Clubwomen

Legacy Clubwomen in attendance at the state convention were Emily Eilert, Grace Eilert, Ruth Linville, Joan Meyer, Anita Pfister, and Fran Zerby. Each of these ladies had either a mother, grandmother or great grandmother who were GFWC Kansas Clubwomen before them.

GFWC Membership Challenge

Congratulations to GFWC Ad Astra Wamego (5 new members), GFWC Flint Hills Manhattan (4), GFWC Gradatim Ness City (8), GFWC Ladies Reading Club Junction City (5), GFWC Liberal Woman's (4), GFWC Mulvane Federated Women's (4) and GFWC Sunflower Sisters (6) for recruiting new clubwomen. Each of those clubs received \$50 from GFWC Kansas and a certificate at the state convention.

"We must GROW to SURVIVE and THRIVE."



"The generation of our kids are more mindful of how we haven't always taken care of the planet, and with climate change affecting everything, they are demanding action. Nature is more resilient than we think, if we are intentional about it."
 – Barack Obama, in an interview with TODAY



“The National Park System is huge — not only does it include the beautiful outdoor spaces that everyone knows and loves, but also sites that tell the story of our country.”

– Deb Haaland, *in an interview with the U.S. Department of the Interior*

GFWC Wamego Study Club

Nearly one hundred years ago, on May 2, 1923, twelve women met at the home of Catherine Hughes to organize a study club. Wamego Study Club began as an educational forum. Its early purpose was: “Self and Mutual Improvement.” In January of 1924 they voted to join what is now GFWC or General Federation of Women’s Club and the club added service projects to their agenda.

In 1923, programs presented by the members were current topics of the day and that continues into 2023. Our programs this year have included a tour of the historic train line, depot, Weaver Hotel and Opera House in Waterville, Christmas cookie decorating by Amanda’s Cookie Colony, music program and historical instrument demonstration by Prairie Larkspur, Dr. Antonina Broyaka speaking about Ukraine, Pottawatomie County Sheriff department’s Drone Unit and Bluestem Electric Cooperative.

We have also focused on several service projects including donations to the Wamego Library for their summer reading program, Community Care Ministries, Ronald McDonald House, and the VA Hospital in Topeka.

On Wednesday, April 26th, the club celebrated this hundred years of learning, giving and service. With the support of the Kaw Valley State Bank Heritage Club, we climbed aboard the bus and went to Kansas City to New Theatre. We had a wonderful dinner and a performance of “Million Dollar Quartet”.

It was a great celebration in recognition of 100 years of friendship, learning and service. Wamego Study Club visited Bluestem Electric

Cooperative on Monday, May 15th.

Michael Morton explained to concept of a Coop and how it works. In 1999 Bluestem grew out of a consolidation of P R & W Electric Cooperative founded in 1940 and C & W Rural Electric Cooperative founded in 1938. The purpose of Bluestem Electric is to provide its members with quality electric service at a reasonable cost and with good business practices.

Bluestem serves parts of Pottawatomie, Riley, Wabaunsee, Jackson, Clay, Washington, Cloud, Ottawa, Dickinson, Geary and Marshall counties. The Wamego area is served by three entities, Wamego electric, Energy and Bluestem.

In addition to electric services, Bluestem working through a partnership with the US Department of Agriculture Rural Development supports and works with businesses and industries to make application for funding through several different loan programs for new start-up business, expansion of existing businesses and community facilities. They also offer up to 10 scholarships to high school seniors whose parents or guardians are members of Bluestem Electric Cooperatives

After explaining the programs we adjourned to the truck barn for demonstrations of the safety program. The employees receive training and special clothing to protect them from the danger of working around live electricity. They demonstrated how electricity can enter through your hand and travel through your whole body including your organs and exit though another part of your body. Using a hot dog and an orange we had a visual picture of how this happens. A steel belted tire can amplify the electricity with a burning tire. He shared that if we are in a car or school bus that has had contact with an electrical wire we are safer staying in that vehicle. If you decide that you are getting out, you should jump out and then shuffle or hop away.

We left with a great appreciation for the men that work on our power lines.

Jackie Hayes,
President



GFWC Ad Astra

Joanie Doperalski, Joan Meyer, and Rose Ditto attended the 127th KANSAS GFWC CONVENTION, April 21-22, 2023 at the Hawthorn Suites in Wichita, Ks. Our club received the following awards: Mindy Thierolf and Cynthia Whitney received first place ribbons for their photography entries. These photo-



graphs will be sent on to International Headquarters for further judging. Joanie Doperalski received two red second place ribbons for her photography entries. Barb Depew received 3 blue first place ribbons



for her craft entries, Donna Goehring donated two quilted bags to the Marketplace and submitted a handmade quilt, receiving

a green ribbon. Ad Astra was recognized as one of the Membership Challenge winners and received a \$50 check for adding 5 new members to their club membership. Joanie Doperalski was one of the winners for the book giveaway, The World Needs More Purple People by Kristen Bell and Benjamin Hart. This is a fun and joyous read aloud about embracing things that bring us together as humans. Janine Eilert, GFWC KS. President, loves the color purple. Purple was carried out throughout the convention including centerpieces, program covers, goodie bags, etc., even this book giveaway. Ad Astra also received a Runner Up Certificate in the Civic Engagement and Outreach division for the program on The Faith Market. Joan Meyer, along with Anita Pfister from Hutchinson Questers, were recognized as Legacy members to honor their mothers, Eunice Sunderland and Mae Wenger, from the GFWC Neo Century Club in Powhattan, Ks. Congratulations, ladies.

A delicious salad supper was served at our last meeting of the year. Plans for the upcoming club year was discussed.

A day trip is in the June plans to visit Clay Center and view the 25 murals painted on the city buildings throughout town.

*Joanie Doperalski
President*



“Just looking at that huge canyon [I recognize] the grandeur and the beauty and how small we are, what a great, immense responsibility we have as American Indians to be stewards of our resources.”

– “Chuck” Sams III, first Native American director of the National Park Service, in an interview with OPB



“If you drive to, say, Shenandoah National park, or the Great Smoky Mountains, you’ll get some appreciation for the scale and beauty of the outdoors. When you walk into it, then you see it in a completely different way. You discover it in a much slower, more majestic sort of way.”

– Bill Bryson

GFWC Washington Modern Pioneers Study Club

Nine members of the Washington Modern Pioneers Study Club help keep the food bank stocked and help handing out food on Mondays. One member is in charge of the food bank. Members also donate canned goods. Last year 347 hours were spent helping.



GFWC Shakespeare Study Club

We greeted in Spring by greeting many of our nation’s First Ladies. Each member was to portray a First Lacy during our March meeting and we all had to guess who we were. It was fun and soooo educational. Amazing what we found out behind closed doors.

April we hosted our Valley Heights art students with a reception at the library. Their art work had been on display for the public to view and judge for People’s Choice Award. Valley Heights art teacher Kaci Smith did an “Art Walk” with the students who told about their creations. The blue ribbon winning art pieces were taken to the GFWC Convention in Wichita by Art Chair Jeannette Bergquist and President Sharon Teagarden-King. We are hoping to bring in new members in May with several invitations going out. Keep your fingers crossed!



GFWC Flint Hills Club



Members gathered at the home of Shelly Cantrell on Dec. 6, 2022 for our annual soup luncheon. At the luncheon we collected gifts to make a family's Christmas brighter. We were matched with a small family through the Junior League of the Flint Hills Adopt a Family program. Shopping to bring light to a little boy's eyes on Christmas is a treat. Members L to R: Joanna Treas, Prudence Fager, Janice May, Fran Zerby, Ruth Linville, Loleta Sump, Shelly Cantrell, Carol Hanson and Jane Willich.

On April 4, 2023 the GFWC Flint Hills Club held a tea to honor the 40th anniversary of our charter. The tea was held in the newly renovated Woman's Club Building. This is the building where our charter meeting was held in 1984. The Addair Law Firm is the current owner and occupant, the firm was delighted to let us honor our 40th year where it all began. Invitations were sent to the state officers and the Wamego Clubs. Officers Janine Eilert, President and Secretary Linda Krebs were in attendance.



Our club is lucky to still have four charter members. The charter members were recognized and presented a corsage and a memento. Charter members L to R: Janice May, Prudence Fager, Fran Zerby, and Carol Hanson.



“The parks attract us in a deeply spiritual way; they are a place where so many of us have had a transformative moment; where we had our sense of place in the universe confirmed, or at least we were awakened to.”
 – Ken Burns



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Editor-in-ChiefJanine Eilert
GFWC of Kansas President 2022 - 2024
1502 S Auburn Hills Ct
Wichita KS 67235-3437
Phone: 316-250-0432
kiweilert@sbcglobal.net

Editor.....Linda Loyd
381 Birch St
Gardner, KS 66030-1724
913-856-8602
lindaloyd05@gmail.com

www.gfwcofkansas.org

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