- Next General Meeting is:
- November 11, 9:30 a.m.
- SS Cyril & Methodius Church hall

GFWC est. 1890 GENERAL FEDERATION OF WOMEN'S CLUBS Gun Lake Area INC

GFWC MI 1895

For news and details of statewide GFWC activities - gfwcmi.com

Hello, Gun Lake Area ladies!

You may have heard (or experienced!) that at our Mix n Mingle event in September we had an activity which asked members and guests to share some of their personal skills. Members shared: "Organized, Friendly, Cooperative, Good baker, Crafter," etc.! What a wonderful variety we have of accomplished, generous, and creative women. Whatever your initial reasons for joining GFWC Gun Lake Area, I do hope you're discovering that participating helps you to bloom right where you're planted.

When you think about all that we do, know that it is also important for the details and summaries of our many projects to be documented and reported to GFWC International. This is the month to finalize our reports so they can be submitted by December. Statistics and information about what we choose to support in our communities can give significant credence to our voice as a women's organization.

More of the things we do – here are some coming up this month:

- Recognition of American Veterans at the Yankees Springs Township Veterans Memorial on November 7, and in a special ceremony during our November 11 meeting.
- On the evening of November 7, we are invited to Harboritaville for a fun fundraising event at the Guiding Harbor, which supports Michigan children and families.
- We'll pack up lots of bagged snacks for school children (Hand2Hand) and distribute member-donated scarves & mittens for kids who could use some extra winter protection.
- We'll be preparing our annual Thanksgiving baskets generously filled with a variety of foods.

Enjoy reading about these events and much more inside this club newsletter...

Hope to see you in November!
D.J.

"If you have a garden and a library you have everything you need!"



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GENERAL FEDERATION OF WOMEN'S CLUBS
Gun Lake Area INC

NOVEMBER



Dates to Remember

- 11/3 Hand2Hand 6 PM
- 11/5 Sewing/Needlework Club 1 PM
- 11/7 Veterans Recognition Service 11 AM
- 11/7 Guiding Harbor "Harboritaville" 6 PM
- 11/11 Veterans Day
- 11/11 General Meeting 9:30 AM
    - Bring wrapped book for "Blind Date with a Book"
    - Sign up for Thanksgiving Basket items
- 11/14 Green Acres Craft Market 9 AM – 2 PM
- 11/16 Book Club 9:30 AM
- 11/18 Cards/Games 1 PM
- 11/19 Sewing/Needlework Club 1 PM
- 11/19 Club Excursion to KVC 418 Culinary Arts Restaurant 9:15 AM
- 11/23 Thanksgiving Baskets delivery 10 AM
- 11/26 Thanksgiving
- 12/2 Board Meeting 9 AM

Future Events:

- 12/1 Hand2Hand
- 12/2 Board Meeting
- 12/3 & 12/17 Sewing/Needlework Club 1 PM
- 12/5 Christmas Bazaar
- April 22-25, 2027 GFWC-Michigan Convention





November Birthdays

11/01	Kathy Watson
11/17	Mina Vanelderen
11/19	Wendy Potyraj
11/19	Terri Starr
11/24	Wendy Opatik
11/25	Donna Podbevsek
11/25	Onawa Terburg

Keep Collecting...

- Aluminum Can Tabs (Audrey Bartlett)
- Old Eyeglasses (Marte Roach)
- Used Batteries (Karol Monroe/Sandy Marcukaitis)
- Empty Pill Bottles (Bottle caps with caps) (Mina VanEieren)
- Ink Cartridges (Marcia Heroux)







MEMBERSHIP

For more updates and photos-Visit our Facebook page - click here

Chair: Katie Ambrose

Member Excursions

Our November excursion will be November 19 to KVC 418 Culinary Arts restaurant for a 3 course meal served by the students. Cost is $33.00 per dinner. Sign up sheet will be at the next meeting.

"CHRISTMAS IN OCTOBER???" UPDATE

The sewing group would like to extend a big "Thank You" to all of the members who made purchases at our early Christmas Craft Sale at the last meeting. Thanks to your generous support, we were able to add $462 to the general fund. **Be sure to attend the Craft Sale in December to see what else we come up with.**

Due to the upcoming early election, Thanksgiving, and Christmas, the sewing group will be meeting on November 5 and 19. Our December dates will be December 3 and 17.

Submitted by Diane Conley







Turn everyday shopping into fundraising dollars

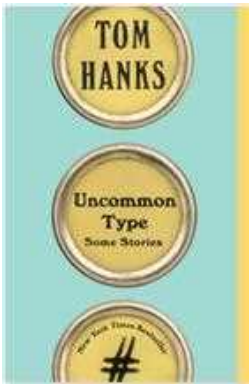
RaiseRight.

Simply the right way to fundraise

October income was $30.20

Orders will be collected and checks deposited after the meeting Nov 11th and order placed on the 12th. **This is a great time to think about Christmas gifts and those stocking stuffers.** Don't forget the mailmen/women, teachers, hair stylists, etc. There are lots of $10 cards available.See Katie Ambrose if you have questions or would like to start getting cards.

Book Club



- Meets November 16 – 9:30 a.m.
- UNCOMMON TYPE by Tom Hanks
- Meet at Ruth Perino's home
- Always meets the third Monday of the month at 9:30 a.m.
- All are welcome
- Text Ruth Perino with questions.
- See the club's Facebook page for more details.

- December 21: TWICE by Mitch Albom
- January 18: CALAMITY CLUB by Kathryn Stock
- February 15: THE THINGS WE NEVER SAY, by Elizabeth Strout



- Book Club sponsored tree theme for Martin Library Festival of Trees Fundraiser is children's book, Chicka, Chicka, HO HO HO by William Boniface

- Please bring books read in book club to the general meeting if you are willing to share with others who read from our list but cannot attend meetings.
- November general meeting will again have a "BLIND DATE WITH A BOOK" selection.



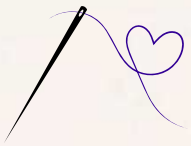
- Wrap a book beautifully in brown paper with a blurb giving a genre and hint to help with selection.
- If you don't wish to wrap one yourself, get it to Melanie who has offered to wrap for us.
- Any that fail to sell will be offered at the bazaar in December.

Cards and Games

- November 18, 1 PM, **look for updated location to follow**
- Always meets the third Wednesday of the month at 1 PM
- All are invited, come join in the fun!
- Please, let Nancy Molt know if you are attending.

Knitting/Quilting/ Sewing Group

- November 5 & 19: 1-5 PM
- Meets every other Thursday at Diane Conley's home
- Call Diane with questions



Welcome

Welcome to our newest members!

Pennie Lewis
onecentlewis@gmail.com
616-406-5099



Kellie Simmons
269-217-7196
kelliesimmons@bestversion media.com



COWBOY CAMPFIRE FUNDRAISER – UPDATE

YEEHAW! We had a great time at the Cowboy Campfire fundraiser. The GFWC Gun Lake gals and hubbies came out as well as Donna Brown and Renee Beduhn from GFWC Hastings! We had chili and hotdogs, chips and desserts. The highlight was all the prizes people got to win, such as a cruise in an antique car with a stop at an ice cream shop, or a $25 gift card and a refillable popcorn bucket from Celebration Cinema. All told we earned $645. As the host club of the 2027 convention, these funds will be used to enhance this event.



Submitted by: Katie Ambrose













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MS. FEDERATION

NEWS RELEASE — OCTOBER 2026

GFWC Gun Lake Area, Inc.

The General Federation of Women's Clubs (GFWC) Gun Lake Area, Inc. has selected Raeanne Renner for the 2026 GFWC MI Ms. Federation Honors. Raeanne will represent her club at the Honoree Banquet during the GFWC Michigan 2027 State Convention in Grand Rapids. Raeanne met the requirements for the Ms. Federation Honor, by promoting GFWC project/programs, attending GFWC MI State Conventions, participating in multiple GFWC Southwestern District (SWD) meetings; and she recruited at least one new member.

Raeanne joined GFWC Gun Lake Area Inc. (GLA) in 2019 and quickly stepped into leadership, becoming the Civic Engagement Community Service Program (CSP) Chair just a few months later—a role she faithfully held for four years. She went on to serve as Club Vice President (2022-24) and President (2024–2026). As past club president, she continues to attend Board meetings in an advisory capacity. Raeanne is an active and enthusiastic participant in many of her club's social and enrichment activities, including Cards and Games, Arts in the Afternoon, Sewing, Excursions, Book Club; and spontaneous group lunches. Throughout her club career, she has served on and contributed to numerous committees, projects, and fundraisers such as the golf outing for Scholarships, Pontoon Progressive Cruise, Raise Right Gift Cards, and more. She continues to take a strong role in Civic Engagement projects; and, currently serves as co-chair for the 2027 GFWC MI State Convention being held in Grand Rapids. Raeanne continues to be a dedicated promoter of her club and its mission. She is a perfect example of what a GFWC Ms. Federation truly is. Her club is very proud of her.





Submitted by: Fran Leonard, Ms. Federation Chair
Cell: 616-828-7707
franleonard@charter.net



ARTS & CULTURE

Chair: Patricia Velie

Community Events: November

Allegan County Arts Council - November 14 - May 8, 2027, Youth Art Classes, specific Saturdays at Brave Art from 11 a.m. - 1:30 pm, Cost $35/session. For more information: 269-264-4150 or clarejc7906@yahoo.com

GFWC Sun Lake Area Sewing Club meets every other Thursday at Diane Conley's home - Thursday 1 p.m. November 5 & 19 (Note date changes).

Wayland Union Schools -
November 6 - Wayland Union Theater Fall Production, "The Somewhat True Tale of Robin Hood", 7 pm, Fine Arts Center
November 7 - Wayland Union Theater Fall Production, "The Somewhat True Tale of Robin Hood", 3 pm and 7 pm, Fine Arts Center

Hastings Performing Arts Center -
November 14, Riders in the Sky, 7 pm.

Environment

Co-Chairs: Ruth Perino & Joan Wire







Environment Co-Chair, Joan, as our Madam Dragonfly, reminds members to turn off lights from 11:00 p.m. to 6:00 a.m. during migration period from August 15 to November 30 to protect migrating birds and insects that navigate at night, as well as butterflies which are disturbed from rest with lights on at night.

Submitted by: Ruth Perino

Health & Wellness

Co-Chairs: Shelley Herjerman & Marcia Heroux

Visit the club Facebook page for more updates and photos - click here





Green Acres is one of the senior centers we interact with a few times a year in our attempt to give back to our Senior community! This is another opportunity for us to go visit our senior and shop for some holiday goodies!

Submitted by: Marcia Heroux

Dates for Hand2Hand 2026-2027 school year



November 3, December 1, January 5, February 2, March 2, April 6, May 4 (all are the first Tuesday of each month)

Join us at 6 p.m. at Gun Lake Community Church for packing food for weekend meals for 140 children.

For those who have signed up for information already, an email will be sent a few days ahead of the schedule as a reminder. It is always your choice if you want to pack that month.

Pudding cups and Jiffy cornbread mix are specifically requested at this time, but any shelf-stable food is appreciated.

Food or monetary donations are accepted and deeply appreciated. If you cannot make it to the monthly meeting, my home is a drop-off site. Please contact Nancy Molt with any questions you may have.



Our Mission

The General Federation of Women's Clubs Michigan is dedicated to enhancing the communities, the lives of its members and others through volunteer service.

"Living the Volunteer Spirit"

Thanksgiving Basket project status:

We will be purchasing 16 turkeys for the baskets using jingle jar finds previously collected.

Please know we are looking for volunteers to sign up for the following basket items still open per our sign-up sheet…

- 4 cans of cranberries
- 8 boxes of Mac and cheese
- 8 cans of spiced pumpkin pie mix
- 16 cans of evaporated milk
- 4 large cans of fruit for Jell-O
- 8 boxes of 1-gallon ziplock bags
- 16 wide rolls of foil, 25 sq. ft. or more

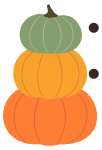
- <u>Perishable items (to be delivered November 20–21</u>
- 16 dozen eggs
- 16 packages of dinner rolls
- 16 boxes (2 ea.) refrigerator pie crusts
- 6 1-pound boxes of salted butter



We are still in need of volunteer drivers to deliver the baskets on Monday, November 23, at 10 a.m. to:

- TK Delton
- TK Middleville
- Wayland
- Martin (or our local food pantries)





- Please let us know if you can help with any of these pending items or delivery.
- The sign-up sheet will be out on the table again at our November 11 General Meeting, or contact Shelly Heijerman or Marcia Heroux.



Thanks to Cindi Healey for ordering the laundry baskets and wrapping supplies to enable us to put this all together with a bow!

Special thanks to Gloria B. for the dish cloths and jar opener we will be including in our baskets this year!



The last 2026 senior center delivery of beautiful winter hats (thank you, Nancy Whitley), books, puzzles, and stuffed animals will be made the first week in December, just in time for some holiday cheer.

We're sharing our appreciation of all those who make this possible; it truly takes a village!

thank♡you

Shelly and Marcia





"Leadership is not about being the best. Leadership is about making everyone else better."

D.J. Madden, GFWC-GLA President, 8351 Willson Dr., Middleville MI 49333 616-304-908. DJmadden4GWCW@gmail.com

Julie Dart, GFWC SWD President, 501 Stine Road , Charlotte, MI 48813, 517, 541,9481

Diane LaBree Campbell, GFWC MI President, 4101 S Sheridan Rd, #258, Lennon, MI 48449 , (810) 241-3313

Officers, CSP Chairs & Coordinators 2026-2028

- President: D.J. Madden
- Co-Vice Presidents: Beth Pechumer & Cindi Healey
- Treasurer: Mina VanElderen
- Recording Secretary: Virginia Norton
- Correspondent Secretary: Ruth Perino
- Past President: Raeanne Renner
- Arts & Culture: Pat Velie
- Civic Engagement: Rosy Chatterton
- Education & Libraries: Marte Roach

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- Environment: Joan Wire & Ruth Perino
- Health & Wellness: Shelley Heijerman & Maria Heroux
- E-Notices: Beth Pechumer & Cindi Healey
- Membership: Katie Ambrose
- Memory Book/Historian: Donna Pedbeyssek
- Parliamentarian: Sue Carlsen
- Public Relations: Marcia Heroux
- Newsletter Editor: Loretta Beebe
- Sunshine Committee: Rose Visscher & Mina VanElderen
- Webmaster: Erin Rives

Please remember to visit our club website (gfwcgunlake.org) for information on scholarships, fundraisers, club events and all things GFWC - Gun Lake Area!

All information intended for the December newsletter should be submitted to Lori at Loretta.Beebe@gmail.com by November 23, 2026.