



# GFWC Big Rapids Newsletter



November, 2021

*"Words have no meaning until they are put into Action."*

Hello Ladies,

November has arrived with a flurry or two. Thankfully, it's not sticking yet. The holidays are quickly approaching. Please check your newsletters for all that is going on. Thank you to all who helped make our 4B's fundraiser a success. A special "thank you" to Melanie for her leadership. Her organizational skills helped to make it run smoothly.



We are planning our Christmas party and will give you details at the meeting. Please bring your checkbooks to pay for it and your donation for the Christmas family.

Have a wonderful and blessed Thanksgiving!

*Ann*



**Thank  
you for  
everything**



**General Meeting**

**Tuesday, November 9**

**Elks Lodge**

**Program starts at 6:30pm**

**Watch your emails for a survey to fill out and bring to the meeting.**



**MORE DETAILS ON PAGE 3**



**Sending our care, concerns and  
hugs to:**

**Katelynn Bechaz**

**Carl Boroff**

*Sending our sympathy to Jennifer  
Houttiker for the passing of her Mother.*



*Mary Sue Hansen Nov. 5*

*Linda Telfer Nov. 5*

*Pam Muccio Nov. 18*

*Mary Bechaz Nov. 20*

*Ann Stellard Nov. 26*



## Tuesday, October 12 6:30pm at The Elks

The business meeting will begin at 6:30,  
there will be no refreshments.

Our Program will be a representative from Our  
Brother's Keeper

Wearing a mask is suggested



Our **Christmas Party is December 14th**, so we will  
collecting \$10 for our dinner and \$15 for our WISE  
Christmas family. There is more information on the  
next page.

We are continuing to collect:

- \* Greeting Cards for all occasions
- \* Children book donations of nearly new books
- \* Bottle and Cans for BR Scout Fund
- \* Pop can tabs for Ronald McDonald House
- \* Used batteries for recycle
- \* Foster Child Suitcase items
- \* Quarters or check for Heifer International

### **SPECIAL DONATIONS NEEDED**

Please bring to our meeting if you are able.

**\*\*Specific clothing for Our Brother's Keeper**

**\*\* More information on page 5.**

**Mitten Tree is going up on Nov. 15<sup>th</sup> Bring mittens  
scarves, and hats to the tree in **ARTWORKS** lobby.**



Come to Our Annual  
**CHRISTMAS PARTY**  
Tuesday, December 14 at  
6:00pm  
At Ann Stellard's home



Our committee has  
planned a wonderful,  
relaxing evening.

You are welcome to  
bring a friend.

Enjoy a delicious dinner  
and wine.

Visit with your *GFWC*  
sisters and friends

Wrap a few presents  
for the *WISE*  
Christmas family

The Cost is: \$10 for dinner

\$15 for the *WISE* Christmas family

We will be collecting the money at our November meeting.

# GUIDING HARBOR ANNUAL AUCTION MAGICAL MASQUERADE

November 20, 2021

We created a wonderful large Grandparents Gift Basket to donate to the Guiding Harbor Auction. With your help, the gift basket was filled with lot of fun activities for grandparents to enjoy with their grandkids. Thank your for your contributions.



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## CLOTHING NEEDED FOR Our Brothers Keeper

Civic Engagement & Outreach is collecting specific clothing for OBK over the next few months. We hope to give the items to OBK in January. OBK is need of new:

- \* **Socks and underwear for children and women**
- \* **Underwear for men (they have lots of men's socks)**



If you see any sales in coming months and are willing to pick up any of these items, it would be greatly appreciated.

There will be a tote at each meeting to drop items off. Thanks so much.



## Our Annual MITTEN TREE is coming

The tree will be set up on Nov. 15<sup>th</sup> in the lobby of ARTWORKS until December 8<sup>th</sup>.

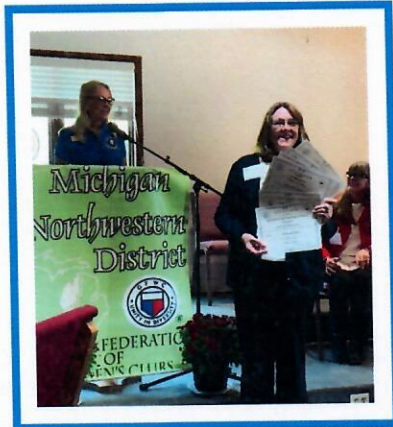
Please drop off any mittens, hats or scarves to share with needy families of our community.



## Northwestern District Convention

The NW District convention was held on Sat. Oct. 16th. It was a time to recognize each club's achievements over the last year as well as learn about new projects for the current year.

- Big Rapids was honored with 13 state awards including Club of the Year. Ann will have them at our meeting for you to see.



Look at all of the 13 state wards that Ann is holding honoring GFWC BR.

Way to go everyone!

Our MI State President, Ruth Ann Northon installed our NW District officers for 2022-2024.

*From left to right:*

Denise Allen, President  
Melissa Povilaitis 1st.VP  
Angela Christie 2nd VP (not pictured)  
Amber Sherman Secretary  
Joan Williams Treasurer  
Joan Boroff Education Foundation Rep.  
Sue Johnson Guiding Harbor Rep.



We got to honor Ruth York for being our 2019 Woman of Achievement.

Jerena presented a wonderful memorial service to honor our GFWC sisters who have passed in the last year.



# *Bags, Baubles, BouBons, & Bites*



Thanks to each of you for helping to make our annual 4 B's party a success this year. We had great participation from you and our committee really appreciate it. Some of you gathered and donated items to sell, some prepared food, some helped set up, or worked during the sale and some stayed to clean up afterward. We couldn't have done it without you.

I want to thank the three people who made the 3 beautiful raffle baskets which earned us \$320 for our General Fund. Thank you, Linda Telfer, Celeste Szczerowski, and Sue Johnson. Through the sale of all the items, we earned over \$1200 for our two charities Artworks Children's Art Program and the Meceola Currie Comfort Home.

Thank you also to our committee who worked diligently preparing, publicizing and presenting a wonderful display of items to sell.

Thank you: Ann Stellard, Celeste Szczerowski, Pat Rossi, Mary Bechaz, Sue Johnson, Jenae Bronkema and Melissa Scheible. What a wonderful team!!

We should all be proud of our accomplishment and hopefully you will be looking forward to next year's party.

Melanie Henry, committee chair



## **Yellowstone National Park**

### **The World's First National Park**

Yellowstone was established as the world's first national park in 1872 and spanning over 2.2 million acres. It is one of the most remarkable and revered travel destinations in the world and the place that defined the very concept of public land conservation. Get a taste of why this park and the larger ecosystem that surrounds it are so special.

Yellowstone's 2 million acres offer bustling tourist attractions as well as a surprising amount of wilderness and solitude. Yellowstone is world-renowned for its wildlife and has the largest concentration of mammals in the contiguous United States. These include everything from river otters and pikas to moose and bighorn sheep, as well as seven large predators: black bears, Canada lynx, coyotes, grizzly bears, mountain lions, wolverines and wolves. Few other places in the country offer enough space for some of these species to roam, earning Yellowstone the nickname "the Serengeti of North America."

But wait, there are more wonders beyond the park boundary. No trip to Yellowstone is complete without a visit to Grand Teton National Park to the south. Visitors will be able to see one of the most spectacular mountain ranges in the world. These distinctive jagged peaks formed on a fault line with no foothills, offering dramatic, postcard-perfect views.

You could easily spend a couple of weeks exploring the natural wonders of Yellowstone National Park. Unfortunately, sometimes you don't have that kind of time. So here a few of the must sees.

#### **#1 – Old Faithful**

On average, the geyser shoots up to 130-140 feet in the air each time and lasts between 1.5 – 5 minutes. Although not as faithful as it used to be, they're still able to predict it's eruption time within a 20-30 minute window. It erupts around 20 times per day so you should have no problem catching an eruption while you're there.

#### **#2– Grand Prismatic Spring**

The Grand Prismatic is definitely one of the most interesting features in the park. It can be found in Midway Geyser Basin. Grand Prismatic Spring is actually the largest hot spring in the United States, spanning 370 feet in diameter and 160 feet deep. Boasting almost every color from the rainbow: red, orange, yellow, green, and blue. These colors are a result of microbial mats around the edges of the mineral-rich water. The amount of color in the mats depends on both the temperature and the ratio of chlorophyll to carotenoids. There are two options for viewing the hot spring. There's a short boardwalk that'll take you right up next to the hot spring. But it can be difficult to get a good picture because of how close you are to the spring. Another option is to take the Fairy Falls Trail for a 1.6 mile walk to an overlook of the hot spring. This route would allow you to see the entire spring at once.



### #3 – Fountain Paint Pot Trail

The Fountain Paint Pot Trail is a short boardwalk trail in the Lower Geyser Basin area. The Fountain Paint Pot is a mud pot that is named for its reds, yellows, and browns. Although, you won't just find mud pots on this trail. In its short 0.6 miles, you'll see geysers and hot springs as well. This trail gives a nice taste of what Yellowstone offers.

### #4 – Artists Paintpots

Artists Paintpots trail is a 1.1 mile lollipop loop that features hot springs, geysers, and mud pots. The trail climbs about 100 feet above the geothermal features which gives you a great view of the hot springs and geysers. This short trail is named Artists Paintpots due to the pastel-colored mud and springs that resemble an artist's palate.

### #5 – Grand Canyon of the Yellowstone

Not only does the park have interesting geothermal features but it also has some of the most beautiful scenery. Venturing away from the geysers and hot springs, make sure you check out the Grand Canyon of the Yellowstone. The Upper and Lower Falls of the Yellowstone River just add to the vastness and grandeur this park has to offer. A number of hiking & overlook options are available in this area so make sure that you check out a few of them.

If you get the opportunity, take in these natural wonders, for even just a day. Yellowstone is very unique and it's no wonder why it was the first to be distinguished as a national park.

## ONGOING DONATIONS :

Greeting Cards for all occasions

Children book donations of nearly new books

Bottle and Cans for BR Scout Fund

Pop can tabs for Ronald McDonald House

Used batteries for recycle

Foster Child Suitcase items

Quarters or check for Heifer International

Plastic grocery bags to be crocheted into sleeping mats for the homeless



## YEARLY PROJECTS:



Foster Child Suitcase project: Collecting books, flashlights, night lights, plush animal, blanket, suitcases or duffle bags. Sue Bean is collecting donations.

Creating mats from plastic grocery bags for the homeless . Get your finished mats to Pat Rossi.

## VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES:



**Project Starburst :** Looking for a volunteer to pick up a weekly Friday evening donation of breads, etc. from Panera

Contact Diane Long at 231-79-5342  
br@projectstarburst.org

**Manna Pantry:** Needs volunteers . If you can help once a week or once a month, it would be appreciated. Contact: Bonnie Clark at 231-408-2940

**DRIVERS NEEDED:** John Klever from DHHS expressed the need for the volunteer transportation program they have for individuals who need transportation to medical appointments and for CPS and Foster Care visits. Volunteers can work as many days a week as they choose and are reimbursed \$.56 a mile.

If you or someone you know are interested in volunteering for this, you should contact John Klever at 231-796-4312 and leave a message. This is his office number and he is still working from home.