



GFWC Big Rapids Newsletter



March, 2022

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

Hello Ladies,

The days are getting longer and the weather is getting warmer. Spring is on its way!! Many changes are coming. We will be holding our elections at our March meeting. We need a quorum, so please try to attend the meeting either in person or ZOOM. We are still looking for someone to be treasurer so let us know if you are willing to step up. We will also have sign up sheets available for next year's CSPs and committees.

Our state convention is April 21-24. It will be held in Grand Rapids this year so easy to get to. Mark your calendars and get your registrations in. It's a fun getaway!

Let's finish out this year with a blast!



Ann

Our next meeting is Tuesday, March 8



6:30pm

At the Elks

**Program presented by Education and
Libraries CSP**

Join the fun and dress in Green

Remember: MARCH is Women's History month



Welcome

TO OUR NEW MEMBERS:

Judy Nicklas

Shellee Behrend

Karin McKean

Happy Birthday!

Melanie Henry 3/5

Joyce Iltis 3/5

Jerena Keys 3/15

Jennifer Houttekier 3/17

"March's birth flower is the daffodil. It's all too appropriate that cheerful yellow flowers represent the first month of spring." ---FTD





Our General Meeting

Tuesday, March 8th

6:30pm Elks



Program is presented by the Education & Libraries CSP

Join the fun and wear **GREEN** to our meeting.
Linda will present a gift for the best outfit.



Important: Please attend this meeting either in person OR via ZOOM because we need your vote on our biannual ELECTION of OFFICERS. We can't accomplish this without you being with us. Thanks!

Things to bring to the meeting are:

Can Pull Tabs

Batteries for recycling

Quarters or check for Heifer International

Ongoing Collection of Recyclable **clean pop cans or bottles** to help the Big Rapids Scouts camp fund — Drop donations at Sue Johnson's office. If possible it would be appreciated if you indicate how many items are in the donation on the outside of the bag .

Project Smile completed projects (deadline April)

Foster Care Suitcases items: teen age books, and cuddly blankets (They have everything else.)



127th Annual State Convention

April 21-24

Double Tree Hilton Hotel
Grand Rapids

The Call to the Convention was emailed to you with the registration forms. The deadline for registration is March 21st. Since it is in Grand Rapids, hopefully you will consider attending. You are welcome to come for the entire convention or just come for a day or two. We can even organize a car pool. Let Ann know if you would like to attend.

Help Create a Michigan product Gift Basket for the Convention

As our NW District Rep (Education Foundation), I would like to make a basket of Michigan made products to be auctioned off at our state convention. Any items that our members would like to bring to the March meeting would be greatly appreciated!

The proceeds go to the GFWC Education Foundation Scholarship fund.

Thanks, Joanie





GOOD NEWS

Thanks to our members: Ann Stellard, Linda Telfer, Pat Rossi, Dee Van Horn, Melanie Henry, Mary Bechaz and Jerena Keys, we were able to deliver 50 Valentine floral gifts for Patterson's Flowers. We were rewarded with a \$258.50 donation to our club.



Way to go ladies!



February 11th, Pat Rossi and Melanie Henry delivered Valentine gifts to the 12 Women Veterans at the Grand Rapids Home For Veterans. Each woman received a Valentine, a purse with a color coordinated scarf, necklace, bracelet, lotion and body mist. The gifts were greatly appreciated.



Thanks to our members who participated in the Great Backyard Bird Count in February. We were part of 318,000 people representing 192 countries that reported 7,091 species of birds identified. Well Done! (If you participated, let Sue J. know.)

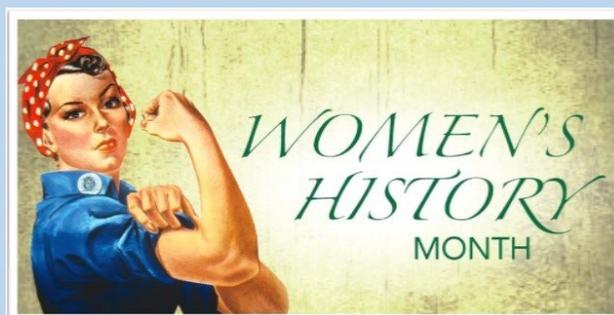


Hopefully you were able to enjoy the many events of the Big Rapids Festival of the Arts. If you attended any of the events, please let Jerena know.



February was **Women's Heart Health month**. We gathered at our meeting all dressed in red and were enlightened by information on keeping our hearts healthy. We all gathered with Linda Telfer, our queen for the day, with this sign to Love Your Heart!.

MARCH is



Enjoy Your Retirement Linda!

Linda was presented with a recipe for retirement....

DRINKS....



SLIPPERS.....



BOOKS...

CONGRATULATIONS LINDA!



A TIARA



And to complete it, a COMFY ROBE!

Sequoia National Park



Established September 25, 1890, to protect the *Sequoiadendron giganteum* (giant sequoia) from being logged, Sequoia National Park is our country's second national park. It is in California's Sierra Nevada mountains and is adjacent to Kings Canyon National Park. In addition to its huge sequoia trees, many grouped in the Great Forest, it also features Mount Whitney and Moro Rock for climbing enthusiasts; Crystal Cave, an underground cavern with streams and stalactite rock formations; and campgrounds, lodges, and a tented camp for overnight stays.

Many people visit the park to see the giant sequoias including the General Sherman Tree which is the world's largest tree measured by volume. It is 275 feet tall and over 36 feet in diameter at the base. It is believed to be over 2,000 years old although another tree, the President Tree, is believed to be over 3,200 years old. The giant sequoia trees have the largest mass while California's coastal redwoods are the world's tallest trees. In addition to the 8,000 trees in the Great Forest, other groupings of trees include The House and Senate groves, as well as many magnificent trees along the Congress Trail.

When planning a trip to Sequoia's 404,063 acres, there are four main areas to consider visiting: the foothills full of wildflowers, the Giant Forest and Lodgepole areas, Moro Rock, and Mineral King, a subalpine valley. Since 84 percent of Sequoia and Kings Canyon National Parks have been designated as wilderness, the land is accessible only by foot or horseback. Wildlife normally seen in the park include bobcats, foxes, ground squirrels, rattlesnakes, and mule deer. Mountain lions and the Pacific fisher also exist but sightings are rare. There are no longer any grizzly bears in the park.

I have traveled in Europe, hiked in the Swiss alps, and lived on both coasts but visiting the sequoia trees has been a highlight in my life. One feels very small next to them but close to God at the same time.

Submitted by Carrie Franklund