



GFWC-Big Rapids, Inc. Newsletter

November, 2024

By the time you read this, Halloween will be over and we will be preparing for Thanksgiving. In the mean time, we have the 4Bs, Guiding Harbor Auction, Veteran's Day and our special military guest speaker this month. There is a lot of things coming up along with preparations for December events and our Christmas Party. As always, we stay busy with our volunteer work and some social activity tossed in.

Sue Johnson, President (231)349-5137
Linda Telfer, 1st Vice President
Delores Simpson, 2nd VP(Membership)
Leona Royer, Secretary
Ann Stellard, Treasurer
Melonie James, Parliamentarian
Linda Telfer, Newsletter Editor

Due date for the newsletter is the 25th of each month.

I want to thank the ladies that attended the Great Lakes Region Conference in Mundy Township. There were 4 first time attendees that went from Big Rapids and it was the first time attending a Great Lakes Region Conference for approximately 25% of the 106 in attendance.

Thank you again for all you do.

Sue

MARK YOUR CALENDARS!

November 7—4Bs Fundraiser at Artworks, 4-7 pm

November 9—Guiding Harbor Fundraiser, 6-10 pm, Baronette Renaissance, Novi

November 12—Club Meeting @ Elk's 6:00 Social/6:30 meeting

November 16—MILEADS—Midland, 9:30 am—4:00 pm

December 10—Club Christmas Party

Meeting Checklist

A FRIEND

Can Tabs

Batteries

Sneakers

\$ for Heifer Intl.

Used Greeting Cards

Birthday Bag Items

\$20 Christmas Party

\$15 WISE Family Christmas



NOVEMBER BIRTHDAYS

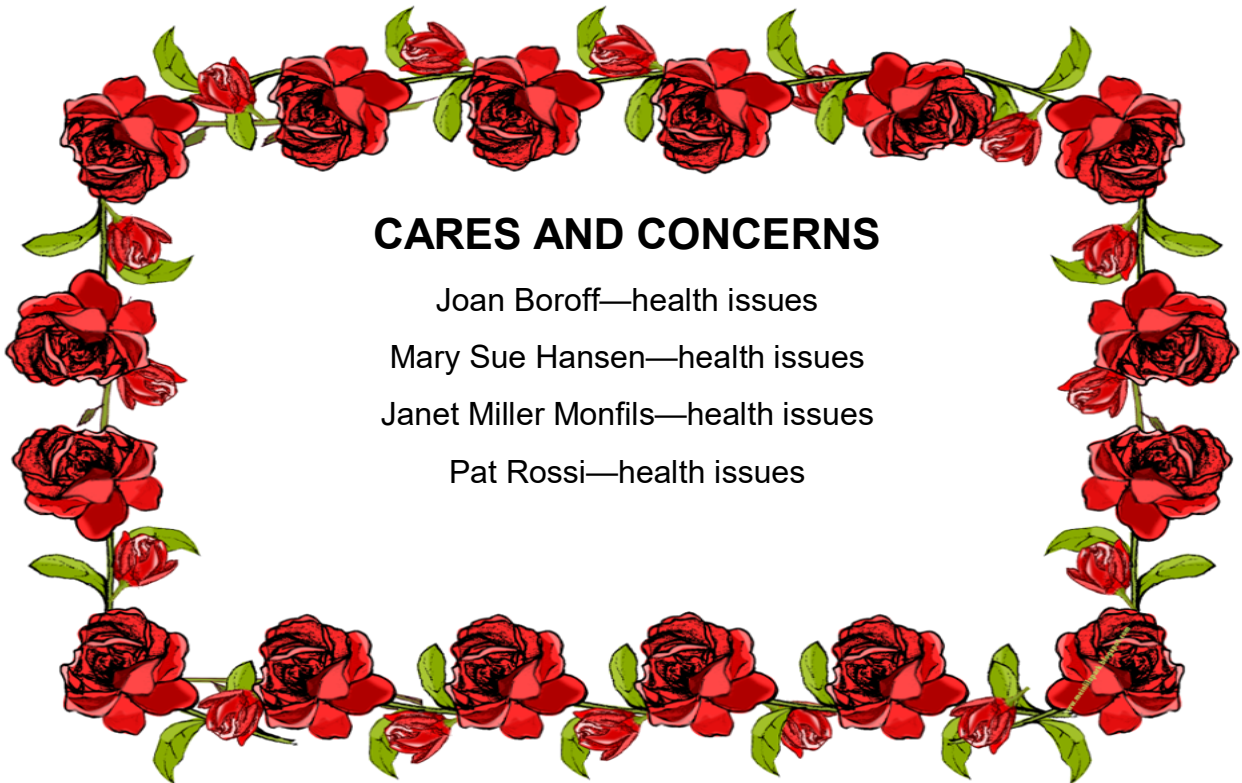
5—Mary Sue Hansen

5—Linda Telfer

18—Pam Muccio

20—Mary Bechaz

26 Ann Stellard



CARES AND CONCERNS

Joan Boroff—health issues

Mary Sue Hansen—health issues

Janet Miller Monfils—health issues

Pat Rossi—health issues

GFWC Tidbits . . .



International—There have been 8 GFWC International Presidents from the Great Lakes Region with the first one from Illinois in 1894.

Michigan—The “Flying Fortress” purchased by the Michigan State Federation of Women’s Clubs was in overseas action in World War II. The wording Michigan Women’s Clubs G.F.W.C. was painted on the side of the plane.

Big Rapids—The Big Rapids Woman’s Club original club colors were green & white and the flower was the white carnation. They also had a club creed which you will get in next month’s newsletter.

UPCOMING EVENTS

GFWC-Big Rapids 4B's Fundraiser

(Bags, Baubles, Bon Bons & Bites)

GIRLS' NIGHT OUT!!



Thursday

November 7, 2024

4:00-7:00 p.m.

Artworks—106 N. Michigan Ave.—Big Rapids

Gently used purses, jewelry and accessories will be available to purchase for \$1.00-\$10.00 and boutique items priced accordingly. All proceeds from the above will be donated to the Children's Programs at Artworks.

We are currently accepting donations of SLIGHTLY USED PURSES,
JEWELRY AND SCARVES.

Drop Off Locations: Artworks Lobby—106 N. Michigan Avenue, Big Rapids
Lerner, Csernai & Fath Office—15505 Waldron Way—Big Rapids
DesNoyers Agency—416 Linden Street—Big Rapids
Lakes Realty—8520 100th Avenue—Canadian Lakes

NEXT CLUB MEETING

Tuesday, November 12, 2024

Social Time 6:00 pm and Meeting Begins at 6:30 pm

203 E. Pine St (The Elk's) - Big Rapids

Guest Speaker via Zoom



GUIDING HARBOR FUNDRAISER

November 9, 2024

6-10 p.m.

The Baronette Renaissance

27790 Novi Rd.

Novi, MI

***Christmas
Party***

DECEMBER 10, 2024

6:00 PM SOCIAL TIME

6:30 PM DINNER

At

The Yellow Window

Cost is \$20 per person and \$15 for the WISE family Christmas. Bring an edible gift to exchange (\$10 limit). More information will be shared at the club meeting.

WHAT'S BEEN HAPPENING...

FALL HIGHWAY CLEAN-UP



Four members were able to complete the GFWC-Big Rapids fall highway pick up on October 1. It was a beautiful night and only four bags of garbage was collected as well as a few returnable cans. Thank you to those who participated.

GARDEN WORK CONTINUES . . .

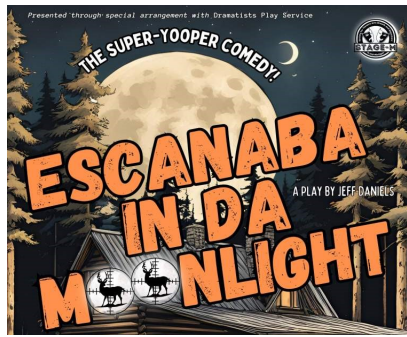


The Post Office Garden was put to bed for the winter with the exception of the petunias that are still blooming. The gardeners couldn't find it in their heart to take them out yet. Thank you to the four club members who worked on this.

NORTHWESTERN DISTRICT MEETING



Seven club members and a special guest were able to attend the Northwestern District meeting held in Evart on October 12th. A lot of information was shared, friendships made, and everyone laughed a lot.



Great turnout for “Escanaba in da Moonlight” and the dinner before the play. Eleven members and a guest were able to enjoy dinner on the patio of the Gypsy Nickel enjoying a beautiful fall evening. Members travelled to the play following dinner to enjoy this Stage M performance.

BOOKS FOR HELEN DEVOS CHILDREN’S HOSPITAL



to

GFWC Big Rapids Education and Libraries CSP contributed 15 new books to Adalee’s Library. All donations will be delivered cancer patients at the Helen DeVos Children’s Hospital in November. Pictured are St Mary’s School secretary and Delores Simpson.

GFWC GREAT LAKES REGION CONFERENCE

Five club members attended the Great Lakes Region Conference to learn more about GFWC. Yes.... There is more to learn. International President Suellen Brazil was one of the speakers and shared with us the importance of a presence in Washington D.C. as well as the membership behind GFWC in making things happen. Friday evening members dressed as Rosie the Riveter.



We Can Do It!



Halloween Story Time at the Library



The Education and Libraries CSP assisted with the Halloween Story Time event at the Big Rapids Library. GFWC had treats ready for the 22 children that attended with their moms, dads and grandparents.

FLOWER OF THE MONTH

(Sponsored by Environment CSP)



A beloved holiday plant, the poinsettia (*Euphorbia pulcherrima*) is known for its striking red leaves and small, compact yellow flowers that bring a festive touch to homes. While poinsettias are typically purchased annually, the perennial shrub can last for several years when cared for properly.

The plant is relatively low maintenance but can be short-lived when not given an ideal environment for growth. But with the proper light, water, temperature, and soil, your poinsettias can thrive throughout the holiday season—and may even rebloom next year.

How to Care for Poinsettias

While poinsettias are generally easy to care for, they require some routine attention to ensure they last for more than a few weeks.

Light

Your poinsettia plant requires adequate light in order to survive the holiday season. It should be placed near a south, east, or west-facing window where it will receive at least six to eight hours of bright light daily, says Melinda Myers, gardening expert and host of the Great Courses *How to Grow Anything* [DVD series](#). “Fold the edges of the foil wrapper (if present) down, allowing light to reach all parts of the plant,” she says. Do not place it in direct sunlight, as this can scorch the edges.

Soil

Poinsettias need a quality potting mix that retains moisture but is well-drained to avoid root rot. The holiday plant also prefers soil that is slightly acidic.

Water

Water whenever the top inch of soil is dry, and the pot is lightweight. Don’t let the soil dry out completely. “Water thoroughly and pour off excess water,” says Myers. “Do not allow the plant to sit in water that collects in the saucer, foil, or decorative wrapper.”

Temperature

Temperature is important when caring for poinsettias. “Poinsettias prefer temperatures between 65 to 75 degrees Fahrenheit during the day and slightly cooler at night,” says Kerri Zwack, senior grower at [Longwood Gardens](#). “Avoid placing poinsettias where temperatures are inconsistent or below 50 degrees Fahrenheit. They also do not do well in temperatures over 85 degrees Fahrenheit.”

Fertilizer

Poinsettias are heavy feeders when they’re growing. “Feed them with an all-purpose low rate of fertilizer at every watering throughout the growing season, from spring through early fall,” says Zwack. “Avoid getting fertilizer on the leaves since this can burn the leaves.” There’s no need to fertilize poinsettias during the holiday season.

From: [MarthaStewart.com](#)