



GFWC Menominee Women's Club
General Federation of Women's Clubs
www.gfwcmenominee.org
January 2026
Editor: Martha Harding, 906-290-9244



A Collect for Clubwoman

Keep us, O God, from pettiness;
Let us be large in thought, in word,
in deed. Let us be done with fault-
finding, and leave off self-seeking.
May we put away all pretense and
meet each other face-to-face,
without self pity and without prejudice.
May we never be hasty in judgment
and always generous.
Let us take time for all things;
make us grow calm, serene, gentle.
Teach us to put into action our better
impulses, straight-forward and unafraid.
Grant that we may realize it is the little
things that create differences,
that in the big things of life we are at
one. And may we strive to touch and to
know the great common human heart
of us all and
O Lord God, let us forget not to be kind!
Mary Stewart 1904

GFWC Mission Statement

*"GFWC-an international
women's organization dedicated
to community improvement by
enhancing the lives of others
through volunteer service."*

GFWC Menominee Dates

January 7, 2026

The January 7th general club
meeting will be held at Riverside
Country Club, 3459 14th Avenue, in
Menominee.

Check-in and social time begin at
11:30am, lunch will be served at
noon. The program and business
meeting will follow. The cost is \$20
per person, checks are preferred.

The Menu is Lemon Pepper Cod,
Cheesy Broccoli Soup, and a
Carrot Cake Cupcake for dessert.

The program will be Spies Public
Library presented by Tarra
Gamelin, Director.

Please let your caller know if you
have any dietary restrictions
associated with the menu. Also,
please remember to RSVP to your
caller before 5pm January 2, 2026.

A Look Ahead

December 31, 2025

Deadline for Officers, CSP Chairs, and
Members to submit reporting info to
Vice Presidents Donna Suchovsky and
Tina Porod

January 21, 2026

GFWC Board Meeting, Spies Library,
9:30 am

February 4, 2026

Bring a Friend Day!

GFWC Menominee General Meeting at
Riverside Country Club, 3459 14th
Avenue, in Menominee

February 10, 2026

All Things Chocolate at the Pullman
House, N2190 US4, Menominee, MI,
4:30 – 7:30 pm. See page 2 of this
newsletter for ticket information.

GFWC MI and National Dates

February 11, 2026

International Day of Women and Girls
in Science

February 16, 2026

President's Day Observed

March is Women's History Month

March 5, 2026

GFWC Women's History Celebration
and Equal Pay Day

March 8, 2026

GFWC Women's History Month
Reception

March 8, 2026

International Women's Day

April 19-25, 2026

Volunteers in Action Week

April 24, 2026

GFWC Federation Day

April 23-26, 2026

GFWC MI State Convention



Spreading 'Sunshine'

Janet Conklin

Is there a GFWC
Menominee Club Woman
who is having surgery, ill, or needs
a little 'Sunshine'? Please let our
Sunshine Gal, Janet Conklin, know
about it so she can send a card.
715-923-3859.

Club Presidents' Message

Co-Presidents

Eileen Beyer 906-792-8374

Martha Harding 906-290-9244

Here we are once again perched
on the precipice of the new year,
2026! We wish each GFWC
Menominee member and her family
a happy and healthy New Year.

GFWC Reporting for 2025

Our club has made donations of
how many \$\$ during this calendar
year? We have worked on how
many projects and spent even
more hours volunteering?

Why are there no numbers in the
above sentence? Because our
deadline for reporting is December
31, 2025! There is still time to email
us any remaining reports of
volunteer activities during 2025.

We are very grateful for the many
reports which have already been
submitted to Donna, Tina, Eileen,
and/or Martha.

In January, we will compile all the
submitted reports by CSP or by
specific category. We then will
complete and submit all forms to
GFWC Michigan.

How can members help with reporting?

Please submit your
hours with project information to
Donna, Tina, Eileen, or Martha by
December 31st. Their email
addresses and phone numbers are
in your Membership booklet.

On behalf of GFWC Menominee
Women's Club we **THANK YOU**
and we **APPRECIATE** the time,
talent, creativity, and generosity
you have given to our Club in 2025.

Happy New Year

Membership

Judy Reid, Chairperson
906-792-9186



Happy New Year! Looking forward to a tremendous 2026 GFWC Year! Looking ahead to our February 4, 2026, general meeting. Even though we are encouraged to invite friends to any of our general meetings, **February** is designated as **'Bring a Friend Day.'** So, think about who you will be inviting to attend with you. Let us share our GFWC Story to those we know, let them hear that GFWC Menominee Women's Club exists and that they too can be a part of the club. We want to actively participate in our GFWC MI Membership recruitment program called 'Pursuing the Pearls.'

Treasurer & Fundraising

Pat Brukardt, 906-792-8147

All Things Chocolate

Judy Bramschreiber,
Chairperson, 906-863-2052

Mark your calendars for **Tuesday, February 10, 2026**, 4:30pm to 7:30pm, All Things Chocolate will be held at the Pullman House. **Tickets are \$15 per person and will be available at Jack's Fresh Market in Menominee from January 5 to noon February 10.** Tickets will also be available at the door at the price of \$20 per person. Judy may need additional help. Please contact her at 906-863-2052 to let her know if you are interested in helping with the event.

Wreath Sale Fundraiser

Thank you GFWC Menominee members for bows, balls, cones, and your time spent decorating and selling wreaths. The wreath sales net is about \$6,348.98!

Thank you, Bethel Lutheran Church, for the use of your multipurpose room! GFWC is a non-profit organization. All the proceeds will be donated back into our community.

GFWC Menominee Women's Club Donations

Donations are designated funds raised by our club and are determined by our club's Donation committee. Members are asked to submit suggestions to the committee. The following 3 newsletter items are for donations made by our club in December 2025.

Club Donation to Haven of Hope Homeless Shelter

At the December 3, 2025 GFWC club meeting Co-Presidents Eileen Beyer, center, and Martha Harding, right, presented a club donation of **\$2500 to Haven of Hope Homeless Shelter** board member Cassie Emmers, left.



Club Donation to St. Vincent de Paul Menominee Conference Food Pantry

On December 17, 2025 GFWC Menominee Co-President Eileen Beyer (left) presented a club donation of **\$3,356 to St Vincent de Paul Menominee Conference Food Pantry** manager Tom Hoyt (right). Menominee SVDP is grateful to everyone who has supported its efforts to help the needy residents in our County.



Club Donation to the After School Cooking Program

On December 17, 2025 Co-President Eileen Beyer (right) and Ruth Wesoloski (left) made a presentation of **\$500** to the program manager of the Menominee High School After School Cooking Program. Nate Djupstrom (center).



Arts and Culture

Christine Bomstad Chairperson,
906-290-9419



Art on Grocery Bags Project Connie DoBoy, Project Coordinator

This project brought together 3 schools (Blesch, Stephenson, and St John Paul II Catholic Academy) and two grocery stores (Jack's Fresh Market, in Menominee and Gary's Quality Foods, in Wallace). Christmas themed grocery bags were decorated produced by the children at the three schools. Teachers reported that students enjoyed the project and store managers shared that staff and customers loved receiving the bags. The bags spread joy throughout the community.

Civic Engagement and Outreach

Judy Reid, Chairperson
906-792-9186

Decorating Cookies at the Cottages

Danielle Duke, Liaison



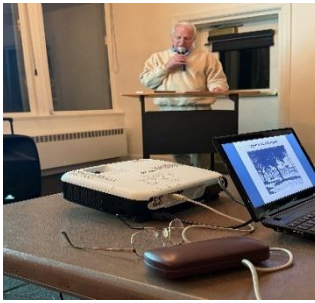
L-R Judy Reid, Lauryn Albaugh, Lilly Cormia, Danielle Duke, Renee Herrild, and Marty Turner

The Cottages kitchen staff baked 288 (24 dozen) cutout Christmas cookies to be decorated by its residents and GFWC Meno clubwomen. The Cottages provided all the frosting, sprinkles, and toppings.

Six clubwomen signed up and decorated from 10 am – 11:30 am. The residents who attended this special activity were delighted to share the project and had a fabulous time. Once the cookies were decorated, they were placed into festive bags to be distributed to area Police Stations, Fire Stations, Hospital / Doctors' offices, and Dentists' offices where the employees were happy to receive them

Menominee Historical Museum News, Tina Porod, Liaison

The Menominee Historical Society held its annual meeting on Thursday, December 11, 2025 at The Riverside Country Club. At this meeting we voted on officers for next year and talked about the various activities that we did this year. The museum organization is open, and all interested individuals are invited to attend. There were 9 GFWC Menominee Women's club members in attendance. If you are interested in becoming a member of the Museum organization, please contact Donna Suchovsky, 402-740-2271 or Tina Porod, 715-923-5991 for more information.



Michael Kaufman presented a program on the rich history of Menominee.



The Salvation Army
Karen Sutek, Liaison
920-676-3119

On Friday, December 5, ten (10) GFWC volunteers rang the Salvation Army bells at Jack's in Menominee from 9:00 a.m. to 7:00 p.m. The Salvation Army reported that we raised \$1043.76. A **BIG** thank you to all the volunteers and it was great to help add a little cheer and good will to many families.

The Salvation Army Angel Tree also used GFWC helpers with setup, sorting, packing gifts, distribution, and cleanup. Shown below are GFWC Members Karen Sutek and Franci Mullen



Resurrection Food Pantry
Ruth Wesoloski, Liaison
906-863-2232

The last six weeks have been busy for our conference of volunteers. For the first time ever, we participated in the Marquette (MI) Ch. 6 Annual Can-a-thon Drive for UP food pantries. With the help of many businesses, local churches, and individuals over 6700 nonperishable food items were collected as well as cash donations of approximately \$1750! We also gratefully received a donation of

canned goods from the students at St. John Paul II Academy and over 300 cans of food from a project conducted by the Menominee High School Leadership class. On December 15th, volunteers assembled 157 boxes of food and a few hygiene products which were distributed on Tuesday afternoon, December 16.

Education and Libraries

Diane Shepard, Chairperson
920-606-9384

Thank you so much for your generosity supporting BOOKS FOR CHILDREN. Members contributed 347 books which were valued at \$1200. The books were donated to Blesch Elementary School.

Shown below is member Ginny Scott dropping off her donation on a table filled with Books for Children!



We also helped at Spies library with Santa Saturday and family night!

Pennies for Spies Library

Please keep collecting your pennies and bring them to our next general meeting!

Epsilon Sigma Omicron (ESO)

Karen Sutek, Coordinator
920-676-3119

Please submit your lists of books which you have read with the following information, Title, Author, and date read to Karen Sutek on or before 12/31/25. ESO is always welcoming new members and please let me know if you are interested.

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Environment

"D" Bachand, Chairperson
860-303-4174

Our next CSP meeting will be held on January 16th, at 10am at the Spies Library.



The Environment Committee is Collecting!

Just a reminder that the Environment Committee will now collect the Pop Tabs for Ronald McDonald House.

Health and Wellness

Barbara Jones, Chairperson
312-858-0102

Happy and Healthy New Year to all.

The Health and Wellness CSP members appreciate all the recipes that have been shared at our monthly meetings and hope that you are finding some to try. Please stop by our station at the next meeting to see what recipes look good and that you are looking forward to tasting.

Health and Wellness CSP members Kim Smith, left, and Sally Broetzman, right, served wonderful samples of tasty Hors d'oeuvres at our December 3 meeting.



Our next Health & Wellness Walk and Talk will take place at 9 am on January 17th at Marinette's REC center. We hope that you will stop by and join us.

American Red Cross Blood Drive

Judy Bramschreiber, Coordinator
906-863-2052

The next Red Cross blood drive in Menominee will be in the spring and will be announced at a later date.

Photos from our December 2025 Club Meeting

Thank you to The Goodfella's (Dave Ebsch and John Wills) who entertained us with their lovely holiday music and invited us to sing-along with them.



Our GFWC Menominee Education CSP hosts a Book and Magazine Table at each meeting. Items are donated by members and all funds generated are donated back into our community.



Shown in this photo is Education CSP Chair Diane Shepard and member Anne Kelly behind the table, member Sylvia Blom is on the end of the table, and member Bea Ellsworth is in front of the table perusing the books on offer.

GFWC MI News to Know



GFWC Public Policy & Legislation

Ruth Wesoloski, Chairperson
906-863-2232

From the GFWC National website: One of the Legislative Efforts during the 118th Congress:

Rape Kit Backlog

The Debbie Smith Act reauthorizes funding to law enforcement to analyze untested rape kits. DNA analysis is one of the most important methods to investigate crimes and improve the capacity of state and local prosecutors to bring these cases to court.

Status: Congress enacted H.R. 1105, Public Law 118-72.



For more information go to <https://baycliff.org/> or email baycliff@baycliff.org



Guiding Harbor

Ellen Wertepny,

GFWC Menominee Liaison,
920-676-6223

For more information go to <https://guidingharbor.org/>