

GFWC/Iowa Clubwoman



GFWC
est. 1890
**GENERAL FEDERATION
OF WOMEN'S CLUBS**
IOWA

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Bettendorf Balloon Festival

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Granger Women's Club*

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A complete version of the *GFWC/Iowa Clubwoman Newsletter* is available on the GFWC/Iowa website: www.gfwciowa.org.

GFWC/Iowa Executive Board Members, GFWC/Iowa Club Presidents/Officers and GFWC/Iowa Standing and Special Committee Chairmen and members contributed to the content of this newsletter. Future articles and photographs may be submitted at any time to GFWC/Iowa Headquarters and are subject to the approval of the Editorial Committee.

Message from the President

Greetings GFWC Sisters:

Welcome to the summer newsletter.

Thanks to everyone who was able to come to the GFWC/Iowa 2025 State Convention. Due to the change in dates, some members were not available, but others were; so again, thanks to everyone who was able to attend.

Thanks to all the program chairs for the great job they did reading reports and then presenting winners at the convention.

Once again, we had a record number of pictures that were amazing. Can we outdo that number for next year?

We had fewer entries for Creative Writing this year, so the first-place kids' entries are included in this year's Creative Writing books. Hopefully, next year there will be more entries, both adult & youth.

Shannon Bailey, GFWC Director of Junior Clubs, was a fun and informative addition to the convention. She was able to give us information on GFWC resources and parliamentary procedures. We also learned that we as

women have a Power Pose as we can do anything.

Anastasia Basquin, (this is my daughter, Stasi) Chief Victim Liaison & Community Outreach Specialist from the Linn County Attorney's office, gave a presentation on how the court system handles all victims, including those from domestic violence. Many questions were asked and answered.

Thanks to the Adel Women's Club for the wonderful salad luncheon they provided on Saturday at convention. I also want to thank Linda Hueser and Rose Dory for showing Shannon Bailey the sites of Des Moines.

Seven of us just returned from the GFWC International Convention in Atlanta, Georgia. It was great catching up with friends from near and far. Hopefully, you have seen many pictures on the GFWC/Iowa Facebook page.

Save the Date – The Mississippi Valley Region Conference is September 18-21, 2025. It will be at the Beardmore Event Center in Bellevue, Nebraska. They have a fun time planned for



us. More information will be coming soon. If you have never attended the Region Conference, you are missing out on a great time.

Looking forward to another great year with GFWC!

Mickey Coonfare



GFWC/Iowa State Convention, May 2025

Award Winners

Community Service Programs

Arts and Culture

Silver — Friendship and Service Club, Akron
Chairman's Choice — Adel Women's Club
Creativity — Adel Women's Club

Civic Engagement and Outreach

Silver — Woman's Club, Maquoketa
Chairman's Choice — Adel Women's Club
Creativity — Solon Women's Club

Education and Libraries

Silver — Woman's Club, Maquoketa
Chairman's Choice — Friendship and Service Club, Akron

Environment

Silver — Aurelia Women's Club
Chairman's Choice — Woman's Club, Maquoketa

Health and Wellness

Silver — Friendship and Service Club, Akron
Chairman's Choice — Solon Women's Club

Special Projects

Domestic and Sexual Violence Awareness and Prevention

Silver — Woman's Club, Maquoketa
Chairman's Choice — Lake City Monday Club
Creativity — Solon Women's Club

Advocates for Children

1st Place — Baldwin Woman's Club
Chairman's Choice — Rural Woman's Study Club, Jesup

GFWC Advancement

Communications & Public Relations

1st Place — Woman's Club, Maquoketa
Chairman's Choice — Lake City Monday Club

Fundraising

1st Place — Solon Women's Club
Chairman's Choice — R.A.R.E. Club, Walker

Leadership

1st Place — Baldwin Woman's Club

Legislation & Public Policy

1st Place — Solon Women's Club
Chairman's Choice — Rural Woman's Study Club, Jesup

Membership

1st Place — Adel Women's Club
Chairman's Choice — Baldwin Woman's Club

Special Program

Women's History & Resource Center

1st Place — Bancroft History Assembly, Creston



Silver Award Photos



Domestic and Sexual Violence Awareness and Prevention Silver award being presented to *Womans Club, Maquoketa*



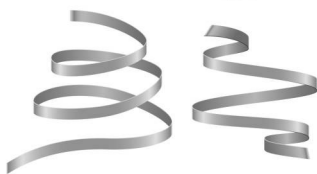
Civic Engagement and Outreach Silver award being presented to *Woman's Club, Maquoketa*



Education and Libraries Silver Award being presented to *Woman's Club, Maquoketa*



Environment Silver award being presented to *Aurelia Women's Club*



Pictured left:
Health and Wellness Silver award being presented to *Friendship and Service Club, Akron*

1st Place and Chairman's Choice Award Photos



Fundraising 1st Place award being presented to *Solon Women's Club*



Fundraising Chairman's Choice award being presented to *R.A.R.E. Club, Walker*



WHRC 1st Place award being presented to *Bancroft History Assembly, Creston*



130th Club Anniversary certificate being presented to *Maquoketa Woman's Club*

Award Winners

Photography

Our World Close Up

- 1st Place** — Daina Powers, Peterson Tuesday Club, "Nest in Plant Hanging Basket"
2nd Place — Linda Hueser, Granger Women's Club, "Soaring Free"
3rd Place — Joni Click, Peterson Tuesday Club, "Hats off to Harvest"

Natural Wonders

- 1st Place** — Rose Dory, Granger Women's Club, "Beauty in Glass"
2nd Place — Linda Hueser, Granger Women's Club, "A Passing Storm Over the Gulf"
3rd Place — Rebecca Shrimpton, Granger Women's Club, "Nature's Crystal Fantasy"

Reflections

- 1st Place** — Lisa Gottschalk, Woman's Club, Maquoketa, "Day on the Mississippi"
2nd Place — Janet Pasco, Adel Women's Club, "Central Garden"
3rd Place — Linda Hueser, Granger Women's Club, "Sunrise Reflections"

GFWC Living the Volunteer Spirit

- 1st Place** — Mickey Coonfare, 5 Seasons' Women's Assoc., Cedar Rapids, "Teddy Bear Toiletry Packets for Children transitioning into Foster Care"
2nd Place — Peg Anderson, Progressive Chautauqua Circle, Creston, "Painting Be-Kind Rocks"
3rd Place — Kris Smith, Granger Women's Club, "Stopping Traffic"

Creative Writing

Category 1 — Essays (500 Word Max)

Special Category—Spreading Your Wings

- 1st Place** — Kay Karsten, 5 Seasons' Women's Assoc., Cedar Rapids, "The Phone Call"
2nd Place — Barb Long, 5 Seasons' Women's Assoc., Cedar Rapids, "Spreading My Wings"
3rd Place — Judy Shimek, R.A.R.E. Club, Walker, "It was My First Time"

Essays — General

- 1st Place** — Dorothy Powers, 5 Seasons' Women's Assoc., Cedar Rapids, "Message from Nam"
2nd Place — Marsha Fisher, Adel Women's Club, "Numbers in Succession"
3rd Place — Kay Radl, Guttenberg Book Club, "Mistaken Identity"

Category 2 — Short Stories (2,000 Word Max)

- 1st Place** — Sue Hass, Peterson Tuesday Club, "The Home Place"
2nd Place — Judy Shimek, R.A.R.E. Club, Walker, "What a Summer"
3rd Place — Paula James, Adel Women's Club, "My Grandma Survived Hurricane Helene"

Category 3 — Poetry (8-50 Lines)

Special Category — Spreading Your Wings

- 1st Place** — Ann Tell, Aurelia Women's Club, "Like a Monarch"
2nd Place — Jeanne Schwab, Exira Study Club, "Dating After Sixty"
3rd Place — Paula Joiner, Adel Women's Club, "Something New"



Award Winners

Creative Writing (cont'd)

Poetry — General

1st Place — Marsha Fisher, Adel Women's Club, "Zinnias"

2nd Place — Marylyn Gillespie, Lake City Monday Club, "Things Change"

3rd Place — Shirley McAdon, Adel Women's Club, "Spirits Soar"

Category 4 — Limericks (5 Lines)

1st Place — Marylyn Gillespie, Lake City Monday Club, "Once was a Woman"

2nd Place — Shirley McAdon, Adel Women's Club, "So Much Beer"

3rd Place — Linda Levy, 5 Seasons' Women's Assoc., Cedar Rapids, "Seventy-Five"

YOUTH CONTEST

(All entries were submitted by Friendship and Service Club, Akron)

Category 1 — Short Stories (2,000 Word Max)

Grade Level K, 1 & 2 — 1st Place — Ariana Topete, "My Monster"

Grade Level 3, 4 & 5 — 1st Place — Amelia Brown, "Bunny on the Run"

Grade Level 6, 7 & 8 — 1st Place — Shelby Groom, "Birds of a Feather or Scales of a Fish"

Category 2 — Poems (8-50 Lines)

Grade Level K, 1 & 2 — 1st Place — Cynthia Boie, "Summer"

Grade Level 3, 4 & 5 — 1st Place — Aria Trobaugh, "Responsible"

Grade Level 6, 7 & 8 — 1st Place — Quinton Hart, "Masks"



GFWC/Iowa State Convention, May 2025

More Convention Photos



Pictured above: Left—GFWC/Iowa President Mickey Coonfare and GFWC Director of Junior Clubs Shannon Bailey.

Right—Mickey Coonfare, Mickey's daughter Anastasia Basquin and Shannon Bailey

Pictured left: 1st-time attendees to state convention: Cheryl Parker, Rural Woman's Study Club, Jesup; Jane Person, Adel Women's Club; Patty Moser, Exira Study Club; Lori Tabbert, Adel Women's Club; Robin Dirks, Friendship and Service Club, Akron

Pictured right: The clubwomen of GFWC/Iowa who attended state convention, with Shannon Bailey at the front taking a "selfie"



GFWC International Convention, June 2025



Pictured left:
GFWC/Iowa President Mickey Coonfare and
GFWC/Iowa President-Elect Ann Zlabek
during the convention's opening procession with
the Iowa state flag



Pictured above:
Karen Martinek, Sandy Phillips and Eileen Hageman,
members of the Solon Women's Club
which was awarded Honorable Mention
in Domestic Sexual Violence and Prevention



GFWC/Iowa Club Highlights

Mental Health Awareness

Rose Dory, Granger Women's Club

GFWC/Iowa Granger Women's Club decided at our April's meeting to have the May meeting at the EUMC Methodist Church's Farmers Market with dinner for the start of our 2025 season. The event for the public would be a good venue to bring awareness to Mental Health and support the church as well.

For the event, the club designed 14 tulips and signage for Mental Health Awareness to be posted outside the church's entrance. When patrons arrived for the Farmers Markets' various offerings, they viewed this display.

Our club partook of the free will offering dinner of ham balls, as we were graciously

granted access to have our meal and meeting in the church's separate activity room.

The goal of awareness about mental health was accomplished, as we had lots of comments on our display of yellow tulips as well as our club members' presence that night.



GFWC/Iowa Federation of Women's Clubs

3839 Merle Hay Road, Suite 201

Des Moines, Iowa 50310-1321

Phone: 515-276-0510

E-mail: gfwciowa@qwestoffice.net

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