



Hartford Happenings

December 2007 - Volume 7, Issue 5

Club Christmas Party

A snowstorm set the stage for the Club Christmas Party held on December 4. Dressed in holiday finery, club members feasted on a delicious buffet dinner delivered by the Kettle Moraine Coffee Company. From tasty salads to baked whitefish and bacon-wrapped pork medallions, we finished the meal off with a huge pan of cheesecake and Christmas cookies.

Rather than the ornament exchange held in the past, this year members exchanged "white elephant" items after dinner. When the "take away" game ended, members opened the beautifully wrapped gifts ranging from a bottle of wine to tacky Christmas decorations from the early 70's (or maybe even the 50's). You can bet that some of these items will reappear during next year's party!

Thanks to Cheryl Randall, Barb Pontow, Carol Tautges and Sue Lunger for decorating, arranging the beverages and dinner and orchestrating the White Elephant game.

GFWC Mourns the Death of Former Junior Director

Excerpted from the e-gfwc newsletter dated 12/9/07:

"I share the loss that each of us feels in the sudden death of our dear federation friend, Marta DiBenedetto. Marta served as the 2004-2006 GFWC Director of Junior Clubs and was currently serving on the GFWC Board of Directors as Community Improvement Project Chairman. Many club members are joining me as we travel to Watertown, Mass., to join GFWC Massachusetts club members in paying our respects. This tragic loss reminds us of how fragile life is; how treasured our federation friends are; and how meaningful this time of year is. Such an event brings us even closer as a federation family and reminds us that "in the big things of life we are as one."

Yours, in Federation Service,

Jacquelyn Pierce
GFWC International President

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Remember - there is NO MEETING held in January! See you February 5th.

GFWC-WI Winter Workshop February 15/16 -Stevens Point

Come to the Country Springs Resort and Hotel in Stevens Point this February for the Winter Board Meeting.

Friday begins with a tour of the Point Brewery and lunch before the Executive Committee, Department Chairman and District President/Junior Director meetings in the afternoon. Two workshops will be held after dinner, "Breaking Down the Barriers to Leadership" and "Stroke and Shingles Awareness".

Saturday morning there will be a special meeting for clubs within their new districts to finalize bylaws and nominate next year's District officers. The Juniors are holding a separate luncheon to conduct their Annual Board Meeting, which will include selecting the next Director Elect of Junior Clubs and recognizing the Junior of the Year nominees.

GFWC-WI President Kay Salewske is encouraging all club presidents and interested members to attend this very important meeting. Registration forms are due February 5, and can be found on the state website at gfwc-wi.org or in your *WI Clubwoman* (coming soon).

EMSC Pediatric Bag Project – Washington County

In an effort to coordinate club efforts around the state, Chairman Elizabeth Davy is looking for individual club members to take responsibility for individual county efforts to equip all EMS units with the Pediatric Equipment bag. We've got a good start in Washington County already, with the Kewaskum and Germantown Juniors working locally to fund the bags. The project has received a huge shot in the arm from Wisconsin Kiwanis Clubs, who have committed to work with GFWC help fund this huge undertaking statewide.

A brainstorming session will be held at GFWC EMSC Headquarters (otherwise known as Elizabeth's office in Oconomowoc) on Saturday morning, January 12 to develop a strategy for the coming two years. We have the beginnings of a great time in place, as well as the expertise of those who have been leading the charge up to this point. With Kiwanis willing to underwrite costs, the GFWC focus can shift from major fundraising to overseeing our joint efforts. It would be great if someone from the GFWC Hartford Juniors would be willing to help fulfill our commitment in Washington County. Fire Chief Paul Stephans is reviewing local needs to determine whether Hartford needs equipment at this time – wouldn't it be super if we can help find a way to meet our own needs?

Please contact Debby at 673-6938 if you are interested in helping this incredible project.

Looking Ahead...

12/31 Reporting forms
 Due to Barb Pontow

NO MEETING IN JANUARY

2/3 Regular meeting
2/5 Winter Board Mtg
 Registration Due
2/15-16 Winter Board Mtg.
 Stevens Point

Happy New Year!!

Latest Scam Info – Check it Out and Be Safe!!!

Provided by Linda Hauser

*West Bend Area Chamber
Member Alert
December 20, 2007*

A message from the Chamber Board President, Kirk Emerich...

Scammers are active again, this time using automated telephone systems that instruct you to call a certain number (supposedly a special number set up by your bank or credit union) and "confirm" your credit and/or debit card information, including your PIN (Personal Identification Number). They want you to do this by punching-in the numbers on your telephone key pad.

DO NOTEVER give out your credit or debit card account number, and especially your personal identification number (PIN), to anyone contacting you by telephone, email or direct mail. No bank or financial institution will ever come to you asking for this information; they already have your account number and NO ONE else should have your PIN.

This latest scam involves automated telephone calls instructing the called party to call a toll-free number to update their bank/cu credit or debit card information or risk losing the ability to use it at the end of the year.

If the number is called, the automated system instructs the caller to punch in (using their telephone key pad) their card number and personal identification number (PIN), giving the scammers immediate access to the money in the account.

If you suspect a request for such information is in any way legitimate, contact the financial institution in question by your regular means; that is, call your local office and ask if they have had a reason to contact you, go into your local office and ask for confirmation, or email the institution using their regular web site or email address (do not simply "reply" to an incoming email, and do NOT send to one provided in an incoming email).

A large bank recently ran full-page newspaper ads that sum up a suitable warning to everyone:

Protect Yourself.

*Stop. Do NOT respond immediately.
Think. Why would my bank need this information?
Call. The number on your bank statement, or in the telephone book,
and ask "why?" you've been contacted.*

If you have any questions, YOU call YOUR bank.

*West Bend Area Chamber
Charmaine Jankowski
Member Services Coordinator*

Happy Birthday to...

12/2 Debby Tomlinson
12/17 Cheryl Randall
1/8 Kathy Vogelsang
1/31 Nancy O'Rourke

HOLIDAY EATING TIPS



1. Avoid carrot sticks. Anyone who puts carrots on a holiday buffet table knows nothing of the Christmas spirit. In fact, if you see carrots, leave immediately. Go next door, where they're serving rum balls.
2. Drink as much eggnog as you can. And quickly. Like fine single-malt scotch, it's rare. In fact, it's even rarer than single-malt scotch. You can't find it any other time of year but now. So drink up! Who cares that it has 10,000 calories in every sip? It's not as if you're going to turn into an eggnog-alcoholic or something. It's a treat. Enjoy it. Have one for me. Have two. It's later than you think. It's Christmas!
3. If something comes with gravy, use it. That's the whole point of gravy. Gravy does not stand alone. Pour it on. Make a volcano out of your mashed potatoes. Fill it with gravy. Eat the volcano. Repeat.
4. As for mashed potatoes, always ask if they're made with skim milk or whole milk. If it's skim, pass. Why bother? It's like buying a sports car with an automatic transmission.
5. Do not have a snack before going to a party in an effort to control your eating. The whole point of going to a Christmas party is to eat other people's food for free. Lots of it. Hello?
6. Under no circumstances should you exercise between now and New Year's. You can do that in January when you have nothing else to do. This is the time for long naps, which you'll need after circling the buffet table while carrying a 10-pound plate of food and that vat of eggnog.
7. If you come across something really good at a buffet table, like frosted Christmas cookies in the shape and size of Santa, position yourself near them and don't budge. Have as many as you can before becoming the center of attention. They're like a beautiful pair of shoes. If you leave them behind, you're never going to see them again.
8. Same for pies. Apple. Pumpkin. Mincemeat. Have a slice of each. Or if you don't like mincemeat, have two apples and one pumpkin. Always have three. When else do you get to have more than one dessert? Labor Day?
9. Did someone mention fruitcake? Granted, it's loaded with the mandatory celebratory calories, but avoid it at all cost. I mean, have some standards.
10. One final tip: If you don't feel terrible when you leave the party or get up from the table, you haven't been paying attention. Re-read tips; start over, but hurry, January is just around the corner.

Remember this motto to live by:

"Life should NOT be a journey to the grave with the intention of arriving safely in an attractive and well preserved body, but rather to skid in sideways, chocolate in one hand, martini in the other, body thoroughly used up, totally worn out and screaming "WOO HOO what a ride!"

Have a great holiday season!

(In case you've forgotten...)
2007 GFWC Reporting Statistics



Hours Activity/Project

State President's Special Project: Domestic Violence

_____ Aug 7th meeting with Kay Salewske

Junior Special Project: Advocates for Children

_____ EMSC PED bags

_____ Hartford Christmas Committee

_____ Special Olympics (golf sponsorship - Apr 3rd meeting)

Arts in the Community

_____ Schauer Center (Guys on Ice)

_____ Schauer Center (Late Nite Catechism)

_____ Chandelier Ballroom (October 12th event)

_____ Helen Mears Art contest

Education: Literacy

_____ Scholastic Half-Price Book Sale

Education: Lifelong Learning

_____ Scholarship program

Home Life: Helping Hands

_____ Albrecht Free Clinic (Apr 3rd meeting)

Public Affairs: Community Safety

_____ File of Life project

_____ Identity Theft (Oct 2nd meeting)

Fundraising

_____ Accents (envelope stuffing, mark the park &/or gym for craft fairs, staffing
_____ Expo the fairs, chairmen: vendor calls & planning)

Membership

_____ Act in Oct meeting

Anything else??? (use separate page if necessary)
