

GFWC Illinois Metamora-Germantown Hills Junior Woman's Club
September 14, 2011



Welcome Back Ladies! I hope everyone had a wonderful summer! I look forward to what our club can and will accomplish this year for our community!

Juniors – Quilting Volunteers and Community Together!

Dee Sokol, President
P.O. Box 954
Metamora, IL 61548
Home: 309.383.2142

114 Somerset Drive
Germantown Hills, IL 61548
Mobile: 717.799.1317

MEETING CHECK SHEET

Please feel free to print this check sheet to organize yourself for the meeting!

X	Bring to meeting:		X	Sign-ups:
	Scissors			Help make the folders for the Pediatric Supportive Care at Children's Hospital.
	Fabric Scraps for Smile Dolls			Craft Show Volunteer
	Binding Tape for Smile Gowns			Bake Brownies, Cookies for Armchair Travel
	Ideas for Jr. Month, Week in Oct.			Plates, Napkins for Armchair Travel
	Ideas for Make a Difference Day in Oct.			Sew Smile Bags
				1 Drink / 1 Food for Oct. Meeting

MARK YOUR CALENDAR

Fire District Meetings - First Tuesday of every month, 7 pm @ Germantown Hills Fire Station.

General Meeting – September 26, 2011

Junior Joint Fall Conference with Wisconsin – October 7th to 8th, 2011

Board Meeting – October 11, 2011

Junior Month is October

Junior Week is October 17th to the 22nd, 2011

Make a Difference Day – October 22, 2011

General Meeting – October 24, 2011

'Armchair Travel' - Tuesday Nov. 1, 2011, 6:30-8:30pm, Metamora Township High School, Room 200

Germantown Hills Craft & Vendor Show - November 5, 2011

Cancellation of Community Service Program Chairman and their team members to Host General Meetings:

In the past there were 'hosts' for the general meetings, since we are dwindling in numbers and usually have a lot of excess waisted in food and drink this has been cancelled for the 2011-2012 club year.

If two people want to volunteer to bring one food item and one drink item to a meeting, that will be discussed at the meeting the month prior, open to all at the General meeting. This is to protect a 'program' from feeling they cannot meet the demand for the meeting.

Replacing 'Hosts' will be scheduled events, these events tentatively & yes – subject to change are as follows:

September = Executive Board / Magnet Making Project

October = Membership / Magnets and a UNICEF Trick or Treat Party

November = Dress for Success Presentation

January = Make Valentine's

February = Pound Auction

March = Spring Garage Sale Preparation

April = Educational Fun Trivia Game

May = Installation Banquet Committee

COMMUNITY SERVICE PROGRAM REPORTS:

International Outreach: "Armchair Travel" – We are going to put on a program with the foreign exchange students from MTHS on Tuesday Nov. 1 (11/2 – 2 hrs) at the high school. Each of the 5 students will be able to talk about their country/show a slide show. We will then have their host families talk about what it is like to have a foreign student as part of their household. Lastly, we will have Mrs. Lisa Trimble of "Youth for Understanding" speak about how you go about becoming a host family/exchange student. This is a way to inform the community about the foreign exchange student program, learn a little bit more about other parts of the world without the expense of travel, and ask questions. We will be serving light refreshments and acting as the evening's hosts; the school will provide the audio-visual equipment. I am asking members to donate baked goods, paper products, and act as hostesses.

Smile Bags – The second project that International Outreach will undertake this year is to put together 'Smile Bags' for Operation Smile. I have a simple pattern for a drawstring bag if anyone is willing to sew during the year. I will have the instructions available at meetings if anyone is interested. If anyone has any leftover fabric, old pillow cases, cording or ribbon, or if you would like to purchase fabric let me know. We will also need to collect items for the bags: sample-size shampoos, wash cloths, combs, bars of soap (small hotel size), sample size toothpaste, small (3x3") mirrors, child size toothbrushes, small stuffed animals, small 8 ½" x 11" color books, 8-pack crayons. We can ask businesses for these. We can do this over the course of the club year and send these in the spring. We are also working with the Metamora Woman's Club on making Smile gowns. They are in need of binding tape – black, white, blue, green and fabric scraps to make Smile dolls. If you would like to cut out gown patterns for them to sew, they will provide the fabric. Talk to Nancy and she will provide details.

Special Projects:

Operation Backpack – Thank you to Donna Cross, Nancy Rodier, and Kelli Zaremba for supporting the Woodford County Heartline and Heart House Operation Backpack (School Supply Drive) in July. We donated 127 items for the drive.

Sundaes at Sunset – Thank you to Kelli Zaremba for hosting the Sundaes at Sunset and incorporating the social to help “Focus on the Kids.” Thanks to Elyse Anfinson, Mary Behn, Donna Cross, Deirdre Nelson, Melissa Rhoades, Nancy Rodier, Dee Sokol, Becky Weber and Kelli Zaremba for attending the social and donating 375 school supplies plus \$20. We donated 54 items plus \$20 to Heart House and 321 items to Germantown Hills Intermediate School. Heart House does not have the storage space to keep all the supplies. They took what they could use now and suggested that we donate the rest to a local school.

Pediatric Supportive Care at Children’s Hospital - Suzan Shane-Gray asked if our club would be interested in making folders for families that have lost a child. They have memory boxes, but need something to put letters from doctors, nurses, etc. and notes in. She said it would be nice if we could make a pretty folder to hold the papers to give to the families. We thought it would be nice if we could make around 40 folders. At the September General Meeting, there will be a sign up sheet for those interested in helping decorate the folders. Any questions, please contact Becky Weber at 383-4843.

STANDING COMMITTEE REPORTS:

Ways and Means: Kroger Grocery Cards – Don’t forget to contact Nancy Rodier for a Kroger grocery card. The cards are easily reloaded at the Service Desk, and then you use it just like a credit card when you check out. We need \$5000 min. to get a 3% rebate check. This is an easy way of raising money for the club; please do your part and help MGHJWC with this easy fundraiser. This summer we received a check for \$178.98 which will go into the General Fund. I would like to thank Donna Cross, Nancy Rodier, Kathleen Nackers, and Mary Behn for making this possible.

Uncle Al’s – Do we want to sell Uncle Al’s again and what is the deadline to have the orders in? Does anyone want to head up this Fall fundraiser? Please plan to discuss at the September General meeting.

Website: All comments or suggestions regarding the Club website should be sent to Nancy at rodier@mchsi.com. If you catch any mistakes, please let me know so that I may try to correct it.

Website Calendar - Anyone wishing to place any events on the website calendar please submit to Nancy. Give name of event, where it is held, contact person, time of event, and any other pertinent information.

Suggested Websites of Interest – This month’s website is www.momster.com. This website is a place for moms of preteens and teens to share information. If anyone has a website that they would like to promote – let me know.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Finance: Proposed Budget for 2011-2012 will be presented at the September General Meeting. A copy was presented at the Board Meeting on Tuesday, September 13, 2011. A copy is available upon request prior to the General meeting, please email Treasurer, Melissa Rhoades. Vote will occur at Sept. General Meeting.

Dues are due at the September General Meeting. All dues checks / and or dues CASH need to be turned in by Oct 15th to the GFWC organization. If anyone has any financial difficulty and is unable to pay their dues in September please speak to Dee Sokol or Melissa Rhoades prior to the meeting on September 26th.

Thank you – Melissa

Membership: At the September and October meetings members will be asked to help make Marble Magnets for the Craft Show in November. These magnets will be sold by club, 2 for \$1.00. Please bring a scissors with you to the meetings to participate. Any questions please see Kelli Z.

Please follow along with me through the **Past, Present, and Future** of Membership for 2011.

PAST

Members have been diligently working throughout the summer at different events to show our club involvement in the community. What did we do? In June we had a Tiny Tots booth at Old Settler's Days and passed out flyers for club. In July, I had a cookout and enjoyed the company of fellow members and my neighbors. Additionally, we participated in the E-116 Cruise In, serving BBQ sandwiches and talking to potential members. This wasn't a huge crowd by we had 2 ladies that we talked to in great detail. I'll keep my fingers crossed! In August, we assisted MTHS and the Metamora Food Pantry in collecting and delivering non-perishable items from the "emphasis" night at the MTHS football game. Then we had our annual Membership Gathering in the form of an ice cream social. This was not supported as well as I had hoped, but we did have one potential member and family that brought school supplies. We were able to donate a large list of items to Heart House and Germantown Hills Elementary School. Thank you to all of those who took time out of your busy and HOT summers to support the different events in many different ways. Hopefully you

PRESENT

Keep it simple is my personal motto for this year. Let's refocus our club goals to match the priorities of our membership and communities. Think about what projects can have the most impact or what fundraisers would be the best "bang for our buck". By utilizing a straightforward approach to club projects we can grow closer and stronger.

Almost ¾ of our membership works outside the home and many have children. Weekday, daytime projects may prove difficult to always find the amount of members to support the event. Consider pre-planning and reducing the number of projects over the course of the year. Ask yourself what resources do we have? How much time do we have to devote to projects? Be selective. The more opportunity a member has to plan ahead the more support a project can potentially receive.

Additionally, evaluate the projects that are done every year. Is there a project that no longer fills a need or is losing interest with members? Can we retire this project or turn it over to another organization? There is only so much time and resources that we can give. We must surrender something to make room for new things. This was the recommendation in the summer 2011 Club Woman magazine.

I would like to make time and room for new life in our club. Involve any woman from close to home to other nearby communities. YOU are our BEST source of advertising. Ask a friend to the next general meeting.

FUTURE

At the September general meeting I would like everyone to fill out a brief survey. This membership survey will give insight to **how** you personally found out about club, **what** reasons you became a part of the organization, and your **expectations** of our group for the Future. Please think about these things in advance and include your ideas on who, where, and how to target potential members. I cannot do this alone. By asking for your suggestions and experiences I hope to grow our club to get more manpower!

To get your mind thinking here are my answers to the above questions:

I was introduced to club by a former member; she simply invited me to a meeting. My reason for joining club was to make friends in my community and to get involved! My hope for club is that we strengthen our relationships amongst members and have MORE FUN! To target more members we have placed an ad in the Metamora HS sports program and we will have a booth at the Germantown Hills annual craft fair held on 11/5/11.

I look forward to all of your great insight into our club's inner workings and hope for a wonderfully successful year!

Let's all be MGHJWC – Magnificent, Generous, Honest, Jewels of this Woman's Club!

Kelli Zaremba ~ Vice President