



KANSAS CLUBWOMAN NEWS

OFFICIAL PUBLICATION OF THE GENERAL FEDERATION OF WOMEN'S CLUBS OF KANSAS

Special points of interest:

- Save the Date
- Nominating Committee
- National Day of Service
- GFWC Kansas Rainbow Club
- New Club Presidents

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GFWCofKansas.org

From Janine's Chair...



Janine Eilert
GFWC of Kansas President
2022–2024

Dear GFWC Kansas Clubwomen,

I sincerely hope that every one of you managed to have a little down time over the summer. Whether your children and/or grandchildren were out of school, and you could spend more quality time together or perhaps you are a teacher

and you had the opportunity to step out of the classroom and breathe. I know it has been a very hot summer, with little moisture for most of us. Fingers crossed that this Fall it cools off and the moisture will return. I hope that we all had time to re-energize because now it is back to work towards another fantastic club year for 2023-2024.

Thank you to the 37 clubwomen who attended the Fall Board in Manhattan, Kansas. Some of you attended in person and others participated via Zoom. Thursday afternoon we completed the National Day of Service Project for GFWC Kansas by sewing bowl koozies. Please read more details about this service project on page 16. On Thursday evening we learned the responsibilities of a club president and a state chairperson/ appointee. That document with the list of responsibilities will be emailed to all club presidents and chairpersons respectively. Later that evening we discussed the possibility of starting a new GFWC Kansas club solely focused on the love of reading and further educational development. Friday of the meeting we listened to a video message from In-

ternational President, Deb Strahanoski and all chairman/appointees that were in attendance presented information about their area of focus. 564 non-perishable food products and hygiene items with an approx. in-kind donation value of \$1,772 were donated to the Cats Cupboard to benefit students on campus. A sincere thank you to all clubwomen who donated those items. On September 22nd all GFWC Kansas Clubwoman are invited to the open house of the new Cats Cupboard on the K-State campus. As soon as I receive the invitation, I will forward it onto club presidents so they can share it with their clubwomen.

Club presidents please remember to email me your monthly collection totals of products that you have donated to food pantries and/or blessing boxes in your community. Perhaps you donated items to your local Senior Center, Residential Care facility, or a drop-in center for homeless youth, if the items are to help with food insecurity, reduce hunger, and/or restore quality of life, then please record your totals, and email me each month. Thank you.

GFWC: *"Make the Whirl Go' Round"* in your community.

Janine Eilert,
GFWC Kansas President
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Clarina Nichols



Nichols was involved in the temperance, abolition, and suffrage movements in the nineteenth century. After moving to Kansas in the 1850s, Clarina traveled throughout the territory lecturing about equality, and gathering signatures on petitions. By 1859 building support for her participation at the Wyandotte Convention. These petitions persuaded the delegates to give Nichols a voice and a platform. The final version of the Wyandotte Constitution reflects Nichols' influence. It included three provisions dear to her heart: women's rights in child custody, married women's property rights, and equality in matters pertaining to public schools.

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President-Elect

New Members

To all clubs, thank you for sending in your annual membership reports. Congratulate yourselves for recruiting 24 new members this year! As we go into the 2023-2024 club year Kansas has 23 clubs with a total of 319 members. Now that you have new members in your club how will you keep them excited about your club and GFWC? Here are several things you can do:

Share the history of your club, state, and national organizations. When was your club federated? What were some of your early events and projects? How much were the dues?

Have an organizational chart of GFWC so each person understands where and how they fit into this great organization we belong to. So, when you speak of the International President, Deb Strahanoski, your members can connect with her and other leadership.

Get your new members involved with something fun and interesting. Find out what they like to do, what they are willing to do. Is one of your new members good with Excel? Have her partner with your treasurer to set up the club's financial activities in Excel. Is she good at designing posters or brochures? Then there isn't a better time to update your club brochure!

Mentorship programs can help with all the above.

Please share your strategies with me and other clubs. I would love to hear from you and would like to include successful strategies in the next edition!!

Decrease in Membership

We are proud of our 319 members, including our newest members. You may notice that the total membership has decreased from last year's number. Membership reports for 2022-2023 club year listed 343 members total and 25 clubs. GFWC of Kansas lost three clubs. Two clubs unaffiliated, one in 2022 and the other in 2023. The third club disbanded in 2023. There are many reasons clubs either disband or unaffiliate. Those are personal reasons to each club. The great news is that Kansas added one club, GFWC Sunflower Sisters in 2022, and may potentially add another club in 2023.

Do you know what would be great? Adding 23 additional new members so that we can maintain our membership from last year.

Membership Challenges Continue

Janine Eilert, GFWC of Kansas President, announced that we will continue the two Membership Challenges for the 2023-2024 club year. These are:

Mae Wenger Club Membership Award

This award goes to the GFWC of Kansas club with the greatest percentage increase in membership.

Monetary Awards

Each club that recruits 3 or more new members will receive a \$50.00 award. These awards will be presented at the next State Convention, April 19 and 20, 2024 in Goddard.

New Club Presidents in GFWC Kansas

Please welcome the following new club presidents for 2023-2024. They have risen to the challenge and deserve pats on the back! Reach out and offer congratulations and words of encouragement.

Andrea Henne, Hutchinson Questers - andreahenne@outlook.com

Stacy Cope, Liberal Woman's Club - slcope@yahoo.com

Peg Chapin, Washington Modern Pioneers - pegchapin@hotmail.com

Kelle Goodman, Ness City Gradatim Club - go2ckansas@gbta.net

Joanna Treas, President Elect

joannatreas@gmail.com

Vice President

It was good to see so many of you at the Fall Board meeting. We had a fun, productive meeting. As part of the program, I handed out guideline information for our upcoming volunteer hour reporting. These guidelines will be emailed to all club presidents and chairmen shortly.

It seems like volunteer hour reporting is still far into the future, but it's not. Now is the time to coordinate and plan with your club members regarding their volunteer hours. My plan is to establish a process and procedure that will make reporting easier ongoing for everyone. We'll be testing it this year. Your feedback is welcome. Look for more information in the December Clubwoman.

Linda Loyd
GFWC Kansas Vice President

Secretary

As I write this in August we can definitely say these are "the dog days of summer!" It is hot and humid. August is such a busy month of summer. School is starting very soon in Wamego, GFWC Wamego Study Club is preparing our 2023-2024 club yearbook, and gardeners are working diligently in their garden patches! I know many clubs are preparing for our National Day of Service projects for September 30th.

As your State Secretary, I have been receiving club dues from our Kansas clubs. What a great job our club presidents and treasurers have done to update their Membership Rosters and pay their annual dues. I have needed to reach out to only one club in Kansas that has not submitted their dues yet. I appreciate that our Kansas clubs sent updated Club Rosters to keep our members' contact information current.

I would like to remind all members that out of the \$25 in dues paid per member, \$10 stays with GFWC of Kansas and \$15 is sent to GFWC International.

Hope everyone has had a safe and enjoyable summer. Let's get ready to start our new GFWC club year with fun activities and hard work on all our community projects. Good luck to each of you in recruiting and welcoming new women into your clubs.

Linda Krebs
GFWC Kansas State Secretary

Treasurer

Since we are approaching the time when GFWC of Kansas Clubs re-start their Club year after a summer break, I thought it would be a good time to review the procedure of receiving income and disbursing funds.

If your Club, or you as an individual has money to be deposited into the GFWC of KS treasury, such as a check for dues, or a donation, or memorial gift, those funds go directly to the State Secretary. Linda Krebs, the current secretary, will then fill out a Receipt, send you or your Club an acknowledgment of the funds, and mail the check plus a copy of the Receipt to the State Treasurer. I, as the current treasurer, will then post the receipt of the funds to the appropriate fund in both a ledger and a computer spreadsheet, and deposit the funds to the GFWC of KS checking account at Community First National Bank in Manhattan.

If you or your Club have expenses to be paid, or need to be reimbursed for an expense you have incurred, such as postage or printing for reports presented at a state meeting, or an invoice for award ribbons for a state contest, that invoice or reimbursement request should go directly to the State President, along with backup documentation, such as the original invoice or receipts for items purchased. Janine Eilert, as the current president, will then fill out a Warrant for payment, and send the Warrant along with the original backup documentation to me for payment. I will write the check, sign it, and return it to the president for her signature, and she then mails the check to the payee.

I hope this makes our rather involved receipts and payments process more clear, but if you have any questions about these procedures, please don't hesitate to contact me, Linda, or Janine.

Carol Hanson
GFWC of KS Treasurer

Lynette Woodard



Lynette Woodard started shooting with a stuffed sock when learning basketball from her brother. She would lead her high school team to win the SA state championship in 1975 and two years later received national recognition as an all-American high school team member. In 1985 Woodard was signed as the first woman on the world-famous Harlem Globetrotters. She played as a Globetrotter for two years before competing professionally on Japanese and Italian teams.

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Mary Ritchie



Mary Ritchie was the first wife of John Ritchie. The Ritchies were abolitionists, prohibitionists, and advocates of women's suffrage. They had come to Kansas in 1855 and were here during the years of instability in Territorial Kansas. They were a part of the underground railroad, which was risky, as it was illegal. Mary Ritchie started the first Woman's Suffrage Association of Topeka and held the first meeting in their house.

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Library Board

The beginning of the fall season brings with it the return of many highly anticipated things, from the launch of a new school semester, to the return of fans in the stands in football stadiums, and most of all a break in the brutal, triple digit summer temperatures. It also marks an annual celebration by schools and libraries across the country of the freedom to read, Banned Books Week.

Per the website bannedbooksweek.org, it began more than forty years ago “in 1982 in response to a sudden surge in the number of challenges to books in schools, bookstores and libraries” and “highlights the value of free and open access to information.” It is championed by all in the book community including librarians, booksellers, publishers, journalists, teachers and readers “in shared support of the freedom to seek and to express ideas, even those some consider unorthodox or unpopular.”

Many popular and respected titles have found their way onto the list of the challenged and the banned over the years. This has included: *To Kill a Mockingbird* by Harper Lee, *The Bluest Eye* by Toni Morrison, *Of Mice and Men* by John Steinbeck, *Charlotte's Web* by E.B. White, *Uncle Tom's Cabin* by Harriet Beecher Stowe, *Fahrenheit 451* by Ray Bradbury, *The Color Purple* by Alice Walker, and *The Great Gatsby* by F. Scott Fitzgerald.

2022 was a remarkable year in the sheer number of challenges that took place. Per the American Library Association's (ALA) Office of Intellectual Freedom, there were “1,269 recorded instances of demands to censor library books and resource,” the highest number of attempted book bans since the office began compiling such statistics more than twenty years ago. It is nearly double the 729 challenges reported in the previous years.

In addition to the increase in the number of challenges, the number of individual titles challenged also rose significantly, from 1,858 in 2021 to 2,571 in 2022. 58% of the challenges were school related and 41% targeted public libraries. Many of them were based on lists of titles compiled by organized censorship groups that ranged from less than ten items to more than a hundred.

ALA's 2023 Banned Books Week celebration will be held October 1-7. This year's theme is Let Freedom Read! and “captures what's at stake for our democracy: that the safety of our right to think and speak freely is directly in proportion to our right to read.”

All Kansans are encouraged to celebrate books, libraries and the freedom to read this fall and all year long. It's a long-standing, annual tradition that could be particularly important now and in the months to come.

Susan Moyer

Nominating Committee

The chairman of the committee is our immediate past president, Jan Moore. The other members of the committee are Sabra Clarke, Juanita Rothaus, Jackie Hays, and Delva Powers. Their contact information is listed below, and they would love to receive phone calls from clubwomen volunteering to step up to the executive committee. GFWC of Kansas needs your help to succeed for the 2024-2026 administration. They are especially looking for clubwomen for the following positions: Vice President and Secretary.

Jan Moore (785) 597-2177

Sabra Clarke (785) 798-7554

Juanita Rothaus (913) 980-4104

Jackie Hays (785) 249-4616

Delva Powers (316) 267-0906

Current vacant positions on the board of directors for the 2022-2024 administration

Leadership Chairperson

Save the Date

April 19th and 20th 2024 are the scheduled dates for the State Convention in Goddard. The meeting will be held in the Multipurpose room of Challenger Intermediate School in Goddard. Accommodation will be at the very recently completed Hilton Hampton Inn in Goddard, which is approximately 3 miles from the Multipurpose room. We will be offering a shuttle service between the hotel and meeting room on the Friday night of the convention. All clubwomen are encouraged and welcome to attend. Please save the date on your calendars and look for the registration forms in the March 2024 issue of the Kansas Clubwoman News.

Creative Club Project Idea

The Crayon Initiative and Staples have partnered together to make recycling crayons that much easier. You can drop off your used or unwanted crayons at any Staples store location across Kansas. There are 3 stores in Kansas: Overland Park, Garden City and Manhattan. Staples will then ship them to the Crayon Initiative as part of their brand-new Writing Tools Recycling Program. Clubs do not pay for shipping, which makes it a win-win project. If your club is interested in starting a Crayon recycling project in their community, please let the state president know so that she can add you to the Clubs helping Clubs information list and other clubs can assist your club by bringing used or unwanted crayons to the State Convention in April of 2024.

Clubs Helping Clubs

As we begin another club year, and another successful year together as GFWC of Kansas, during the recent Fall Board meeting a few clubs asked to become part of the "Clubs helping Clubs" program. Please remember to bring these items to the next state meeting, State Convention, April 19th and 20th in Goddard, KS.

Lawrence Classics

Clean and dry paper egg cartons (NOT POLYSTYRENE/STYROFOAM OR CLEAR PLASTIC). They will be using them for seed starters for the garden project at the O'Connell Children's Shelter in Lawrence. Contact person is Susan Andersen bogartku@sunflower.com

Waterville Shakespeare Club

They have a very strong connection to their local Lions club and help with the collection of hearing aids and eyeglasses. They ask that you do not collect the case that the eyeglasses come in, just the gently used eyeglasses. Contact person is Sharon Teagarden King dhking@bluevalley.net

Goddard Woman's Club

They are collecting plastic bags to be made into benches for their community. Contact person is Gail Jamison gailjamison@sktc.net

Lutie Lytle



Lutie Lytle had moved to Kansas as a child. Lytle was one of only two students in Central Tennessee law school's graduating class of 1897. Her experiences working at an African American newspaper had led her to study law after seeing her own people becoming "victims of legal ignorance." She is reported to be the first African American woman to be licensed to practice in Tennessee, third in the United States, and became the first African American woman admitted to the Kansas bar.

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Mary Katherine White



Mary Katherine White was passionate about horses. Her first was a Shetland pony; when she outgrew the pony, her parents bought a beautiful black horse named Black Satin. In May 1921, there was a tragic horseback riding accident and Mary died due to her injuries. Mary's obituary was reprinted in more than 40 school readers or anthologies of Americana over the next 20 years.

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Creative Writing—Short Story and Poetry

Since school had started, it is time to think about the Creative Writing Short Story and Poetry Contest. This is for all students grade K-12 and all club women. The rules are on pages 33-34 in a previous State Handbook. The waiver, which must accompany each entry, can be found on page 25, also in the State Handbook. All of this information is also on the website.

Please have the following on each page of your entry in the top right-hand corner – author's name, email address, mailing address, phone number, name of GFWC of Kansas club, state federation, category, title of manuscript, and grade level category. The entries must be to me by March 1, 2024. The first place in each category and each area will be sent to international for judging. The Rainbow Club will be giving 1st place - \$15, 2nd place - \$10, and 3rd place - \$5 in each category. If you have questions, please contact me at 620-435-6416 or by email rgea@havilandtelco.com. I will get back to you as soon as possible.

I look forward to hearing from you.

Elizabeth Hemberger
State Creative Writing Chairman

Civic Engagement and Outreach

The USA's capitol is full of museums, monuments and many interesting places to visit, but here are a few Fun Facts about the city and the White House that you may not know.

--Washington, D.C. is named after both George Washington (Washington) and Christopher Columbus (D.C. - District of Columbia)

--The District of Columbia was established by Congress in 1790 and contains many government buildings. The land was originally given by the states of Virginia and Maryland, though Virginia later took back its gift. People who live in the district were not allowed to vote for the US President until 1961.

-- The statue of Andrew Jackson in Lafayette Square (directly across from the White House) was partially made from British cannons that were taken in the War of 1812. It was also the first equestrian statue made in the U.S.

-- The Washington Monument has two different colors because the funding was exhausted halfway through construction. When construction resumed, the builders used stone from a different source.

-- When Abraham Lincoln stayed at the Soldiers' Home during summers, he would often commute the four miles to and from on horseback.

--Herbert Hoover and John Quincy Adams had

the White House alligators as pets in the White House

--The White House has a total of 35 bathrooms.

--The original phone number for the White House in 1878 was simply the number 1. A phone wasn't installed on the President's desk in the Oval Office until 1929.

--There's a bathtub in the basement of the U.S. Capitol! Four marble tubs were installed in 1859 when most senators lived in boarding houses on Capitol Hill that had no running water so they washed at work. One of these baths can still be seen today.

--Theodore Roosevelt allowed his six children to bring their pets to the White House in 1901. As well as many dogs they had a small bear, a lizard, guinea pigs, a pig, a badger, a blue macaw, a garter snake, a one-legged rooster, a hyena, a barn owl, a rabbit, a pony and Baron Spreckle the hen.

--Not all animals at the White House have been pets. During World War I Woodrow Wilson bought a flock of sheep to graze on the White House lawn. Not only did it save the manpower needed for mowing the lawn, they sold the wool to raise money for the Red Cross.

Kathy Baker, Chairman

Food Insecurity

National Day of Service for GFWC of Kansas ~ let's strive for 100% of clubs to register and participate.

Thank you to the following 11 clubs who have already started the process or completed the process of registering.

Ad Astra Wamego, Flint Hills Club of Manhattan, Gardner Athena, Goddard Woman's Club, Gradatim Ness City, Kansas Rainbow, Lawrence Classics, Sunflower Sisters, Wamego Study Club, Washington Modern Pioneers, and Waterville Shakespeare.

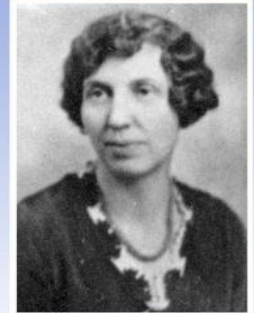
At the Fall Board meeting several clubs talked about their plan of action as to how they were going to volunteer and commit to decreasing food insecurity and hunger in their communities. Ad Astra and Wamego Study have committed to working together in their community by adding non-perishable food items to two different blessing boxes over a 12-month period. Goddard Woman's Club has organized a service day at the Kansas Food Bank in Wichita on September 21st from 10:30am to 12noon. All local clubs are invited to participate. Flint Hills Club of Manhattan have volunteered to stock shelves and bag groceries at their local Breadbasket for those in need. Lawrence Classics will be serving breakfast at the Jubilee Cafe in Lawrence, Kansas. The Jubilee Cafe provides a free breakfast for all those in-need community members in a restaurant-style environment.

If your club already collects food and donates it to a food pantry, works at a Senior Center serving food, and/or delivers meals on wheels etc then you are already participating in decreasing hunger and alleviating food insecurity in your community. Please strongly consider registering your club so that GFWC Kansas will be recognized.

It's not too late to get your club registered for the National Day of Service. To register contact Melanie Gisler, Director of Membership Services, at mgisler@gfwc.org and copy Deb Strahanoski, International President, dstrahanoksi@gfwc.org. Please include the following in your email; state name, club name, point of contact, address, phone number and email. GFWC will send information, articles, and announcements directly to your club. Please see the June 2023 issue of the Kansas Clubwoman News, pages 10 and 11, for more detailed information on the National Day of Service.

Remember to take photos of your clubwomen working together on your National Day of Service project and post them on the GFWC Kansas Facebook page or send/text them to state president, Janine Eilert (316-250-0432) so that she can post them for you.

Kathryn O'Loughlin McCarthy



Kathryn O'Loughlin McCarthy was the first woman from Kansas to serve in the United State Congress. As congresswoman she was active in influencing New Deal agricultural policy. Though her elected political career was brief, Kathryn O'Loughlin McCarthy ably demonstrated that women could withstand the hardships of a political campaign and could be a positive influence for our state at the national level. She led the way for other Kansas women to enter political careers.

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Grace Bedell



On October 15, 1860 she wrote a letter to Abraham Lincoln encouraging him to grow a beard in order to gain more votes. On October 19, 1860, Lincoln responded that he would consider her advice but would not make any promises. However, after Lincoln was elected President he made a stop in Westfield, New York on February 16, 1861 to meet Bedell and show her his new whiskers. Bedell married civil war veteran George Newton Billings when she was 17 and together they moved to Delphos, Kansas.

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By-Laws & Resolutions Update 2023-2024

A new year will always bring some updates to Club by-laws.

UPDATED GFWC BYLAWS

The proposed amendments to the GFWC bylaws were all adopted as presented at the GFWC Convention in Louisville, Kentucky. Shortly after the GFWC Executive Committee approves the updated document, it will be posted in the Member Portal of the GFWC website under resources letter "B". Please reference the newly edited document for your state and local bylaws, as they may not conflict with GFWC bylaws.

UPDATED GFWC STANDING RULES

The GFWC Standing Rules were also updated in Louisville, Kentucky during the Board of Directors meeting. Again, shortly after Executive Committee approves the document, it will be posted in the resources under the letter "S". Several amendments had to do with candidates for a GFWC office. If you are a state with a candidate or considering promoting one, please review these rules.

YOUR GFWC BYLAWS COMMITTEE IS AT WORK

The committee continues its work through the summer months. We will meet via Zoom over the summer and into the fall to discuss amendments, if any, to the GFWC By-laws to be presented in Chicago at the 2024 Convention. These will be given to the GFWC Executive Committee for final review before being published as proposed amendments. This article should help you and your club to stay current. BUT, remember to check and see if there were changes made at STATE Convention also.

Did you change any at Club level? ALL should be reflected in your Minutes and published in new club year books. As, I have stated it would be in the best interest of clubs to include in your year books your updated bylaws and standing rules. That way all members including new ones, would know what is expected. Also easy to send a copy to me to have on hand if questions or problems may arise. I will keep them on file for reference when you call 316-267-0906, write 2455 N. Woodlawn Blvd. Apt.208 Wichita, Ks 67220 or e-mail me delvap2@yahoo.com.

Have a GREAT Club year and remember to be kind!

Delva Powers
By-Laws & Resolutions Chairman

Email Phising

If you are receiving emails from anyone from the executive committee of GFWC Kansas or the International Executive Committee asking for gift cards, wire transfers, money transfers, cash, or checks please do not reply to those emails. You will probably notice that it may state our name, but it is not from our email address. Delete those emails immediately. Please use your judgment, check your emails carefully, and know that none of us would ask for money in such a manor.

Environmental/Conservation

Five ways we can fight Climate Change in Kansas

1. **COMPOST YOUR FOOD WASTE:** Food waste that ends up compressed in a landfill is a huge source of methane, a potent greenhouse gas that's even worse for the planet than excess CO2. Luckily, it's easy to turn your unwanted food scraps and lawn clippings back into rich, organic soil. Whether you're an eco-enthusiast or a total novice, composting is clean, easy and fun.

2. **REDUCE PLASTIC CONSUMPTION:** While you may be noticing a slow shift away from gas-powered vehicles and machinery, the fossil fuel industry is stronger than ever in one particular sector: the creation of plastics. Plastic-based materials take hundreds of years to degrade, meaning every plastic item you've ever owned still exists somewhere on the planet. Just say no to plastic bags!! Buy the cloth bags to use at any store and take them with you. *Remember to throw them in the laundry every week.*

Here are a few ways you can easily make the switch to more sustainable materials: Buy clothing made to last rather than "fast fashion" that will fall apart quickly. Use reusable containers made of sturdy materials like cloth, glass and metal. Avoid wearing fabrics made from plastics like polyester, nylon and acrylic. Invest in a reusable water bottle and encourage others to do the same. Shop from companies that have committed to eliminating wasteful plastic packaging.

3. **IMPROVE YOUR ENERGY EFFICIENCY** The cost of utilities like electricity and natural gas can add up quickly—and you may be paying more than you need to. Energy-saving appliances, better insulation and other home improvements can help you waste less energy while saving money. "People have a lot of ability to change how their utility works," said James Owen, president of the nonprofit group Renew Missouri. His group helped advocate for a new Evergy program called PAYS (Pay As You Save), which allows homeowners to reduce their energy bill by enlisting the utility company itself to make efficiency improvements. The cost of these improvements is

applied to future utility bills, but the total bill must still be lower than what you were paying before. You can learn more about the program on Evergy's website. Check your local energy provider to see if they offer a similar pay program.

4. **PLANT NATIVE PLANTS :** You don't need to be a master gardener to plant something beautiful. Whether you're working with a window box or a sprawling backyard, native plants help natural ecosystems thrive. Deep Roots is a local organization in the K.C. area that educates the public about the benefits of native plants, which include: Their deep roots trap more carbon than non-native plants do. They attract more pollinators and native insects to keep the local ecosystem thriving. Their roots help to prevent flooding by slowing down rainwater and filtering out pollutants. These resilient plants thrive without the need for any chemicals or constant tending. "When I teach people to plant, or when my organization does, I know that we're having a positive impact," says Stacia Stelk, Deep Roots' executive director. You can learn more about native plants and other eco-friendly landscaping tips from Deep Roots' webinars.

5. **CULTIVATE RESILIENCE:** The challenges facing our planet are too big for any one person to handle alone. But many people feel as though they're carrying the mental weight of the climate crisis without any support. Could your GFWC Club start a support group to talk about Climate Change or host a seminar and have a speaker come to share? When people think they are alone... it can be demoralizing. Let your club offer support that people be in community on a regular basis so they have that support.

It is NOT too Late for us to do what we can to fight Climate change in Kansas!

Juanita Rothaus
GFWC Environment Chair

Kay McFarland



Kay McFarland earned her undergraduate and law degrees from Washburn University in 1957 and 1964, respectively. In the 1970s she became the first woman to be elected district judge in Kansas and to have a seat on the Supreme Court of Kansas. She served as Chief Justice of the court from 1995 until her retirement in 2009.

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Susanna Salter



Susanna Madora Salter was elected the first woman mayor in the United States. Nominated on the Prohibition Party ticket by several Argonia men as a joke, Salter surprised the group and received two-thirds of the votes. She was elected in April 4, 1887, just weeks after Kansas women had gained the right to vote in city elections. The 27-year-old woman knew more about politics than her detractors realized.

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Citizenship Essay Competition

Essay topic for 2023-2024: **“Choose a historical figure who demonstrated exceptional citizenship through their actions. Explain their contributions and discuss three ways they inspired you to become an engaged citizen in your community”.**

The new Citizenship Essay Chairperson for 2023-2024 is Char Grelk from the Ladies Reading Club of Junction City. Feel free to contact her at tcgrelk@cox.net or 785-238-5523 for more information about the citizenship essay. Please see the website for all the rules for entering the competition. Each club can submit up to two student essays to the chairperson by February 15th, 2024. A \$500 scholarship will be awarded for the first-place student, runners up for the other placings (second, third and fourth) will be determined by available money in the Citizenship Essay Fund. An information piece about the Citizenship Essay Competition has been sent to each club president to share with local students and their clubwomen.

GFWC Music Auditions

Music auditions will be held March 2, 2024, First Baptist Church, 7th and Jefferson, downtown Junction City.

Entries and fees (\$10.00 per entry) must be returned to the state chairperson by February 20, 2024. Categories are piano, strings, girls voice, boys voice, woodwinds/brass, melodic percussion/percussion.

Please see the website for the rules for entering the competition and the entry forms. Monies will be awarded, how many and how much, as determined by the Music Audition Fund. Note in March of 2023, \$2,500 was awarded in scholarships.

Please contact Florence Whitebread 785-238-2395 or fcwhitebread@gmail.com for more information.

Changes to GFWC Kansas Student Art Competition

Following are changes in rules for this coming year. Please note many clubwomen were asked for their opinions on how to change the art competition to make it a more positive experience for all clubs participating. We will reevaluate after the state competition in April 2024 and adjust accordingly if needed.

1/ a student may only submit one piece from each of the 11 categories (Drawing, Painting, Computer Generated Art, Mixed Media, Sculpture, Ceramics, Jewelry, Fibers, Print-making, Photography, and Miscellaneous.

2/ a club may only submit a maximum of 15 individual student art pieces (inclusive of the Senior Scholarship Collection of Pieces)

3/ a club can only submit a maximum of 5 individual student pieces per category. That means a club cannot submit a total of 15 pieces in just one category. Art shows are a lot more interesting and visually stunning when you have different medium. The Senior Scholarship collection of three pieces (2D and 3D) would be considered by one student.

Please see the website for the updated rules for the student art competition. Best of Show as chosen by the judges \$50. People’s Choice as voted on by all attendees of the state convention \$50. Senior Scholarship Competition \$500 as selected by the judges. Ribbons will be placed on 1st, 2nd, and 3rd place recipients. Contact the art chairpersons with any questions, Myra Stutzman 316-250-1413 cwstutz@aol.com or Vickie Luthi 316-650-6195 vickieluthi@gmail.com

Photography

GFWC State convention in April 2023 held in Wichita had 10 entries in photography. There were two contests, World In Pictures with three categories and GFWC Living the Volunteer Spirit. Nine entries were entered in World In Pictures and one entry in GFWC Living the Volunteer Spirit.

Winners of blue ribbons at the state convention and eligible to be sent on to the GFWC International contest were:

World In Pictures

Our World Up Close entitled "Orange Flower" by Linda Leatherman GFWC Mulvane

Natural wonders entitled "Fence" by Mindy Thieroff, GFWC Ad Astra Wamego
Reflections "Heavens Tranquility" by Cynthia Whitney, GFWC Ad Astra, Wamego

GFWC Living the Volunteer Spirit

"Cleaning the Statue" by Linda Leatherman, GFWC Mulvane

I am so proud and excited to announce that "Cleaning the Statue" by Linda Leatherman of GFWC Mulvane won second place in category 4 at the GFWC International convention in Louisville, Kentucky. Congratulations Linda! Keep taking pictures!

*GFWC Photography Chairman
2022-2024
Shirley A Ferley*

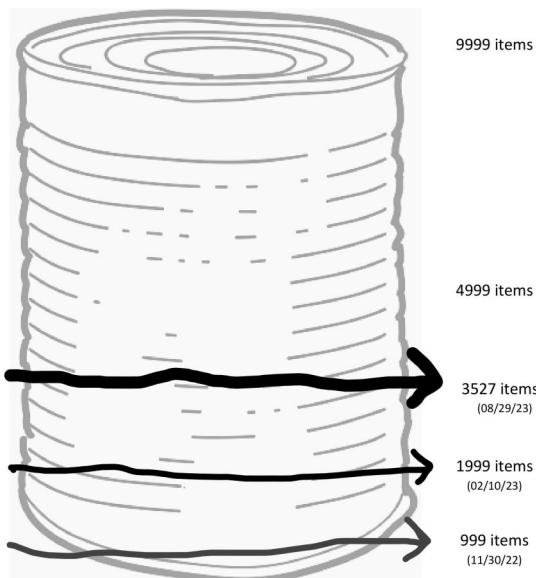
Martha Farnsworth



Martha Farnsworth moved to Topeka when she was 20 years old. She kept a diary for 40 years, and she wrote in the style of some of the sentimental novels of her time. The tone was dramatic with moral sentiments laced within her text. Active in the political and social issues of her time. Martha was elected to the Good Government Club, was a member of the Women's Republican Club, and was a member in many community organizations including: the Coterie Club; Knights and Ladies of Security; Ladies of the Grand Army of the Republic; the Golden Rule Club; Women's Kansas Day Club; and various other groups.

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2022-23 Food Insecurity Challenge



2022-2024 Presidents
Area of Emphasis.

Food Insecurity

Original Challenge, collect 999 items.

Achieved by November 30th, 2022.

Second Challenge, collect 1999 items.

Achieved by February 10th, 2023.

Final Challenge, collect 9999 items by June 30th, 2024.

Current total 3527 items

Amelia Earhart



Amelia Earhart, born in Atchison, Kansas, broke records, and achieved many firsts in the field of aviation for women. She strove to use her international popularity to be a good example and inspire others. She tragically disappeared while making a voyage around the world, which was to be the first of its kind.

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Health and Wellness

Food insecurity—defined by the U.S. Department of Agriculture as lacking enough food to live a healthy, active life—is on the rise. There is lower unemployment, but many Americans are not earning enough to cover the surging cost of living. To make matters worse, cuts to the food-stamp program earlier this year reduced benefits at a time when groceries are 20% more expensive than two years ago. For three years the U.S. Census Bureau has researched food consumption in households. The number of Americans who say they sometimes do not have enough to eat has jumped 23%—from 15.8 million before the pandemic to 19.2 million in the most recent survey, taken in spring 2023. I encouraged all clubs to participate in the National Day of Service.

I have received a message from our National Health and Wellness chair, Dale Fisher regarding Missi McCoy, GFWC Florida Health and Wellness Chairman. Their state federation sponsored a webinar on Senior Safety which they are graciously sharing with all of us. Please see the links in her message. This is a great resource for our clubs. Their webinar for Health and Wellness in Florida was exceptional.

WEBINAR SURVEY: <https://forms.gle/HoNamzYznSQ8nPCn9>

RECORDING: https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=_trD84OUSG4

*Sharon Teagarden-King,
Health and Wellness Chairman*

GFWC Signature Program: Domestic and Sexual Violence Awareness and Prevention

The goal of the GFWC Signature Program is to increase awareness of and help prevent the widespread occurrence of domestic abuse in communities across the nation by working with national domestic violence networks, supporting existing activities, working with various established programs, and initiating educational opportunities for club members and local citizens. GFWC aims to be a powerful voice for those who have no voice.

In partnership with GFWC and community members, we pledge to work together with passion and purpose to advocate for survivors of domestic and/or sexual violence and educate the public on the prevalence of domestic and sexual violence in our local communities and how informing members can improve outcomes for survivors.

The Signature Program has eight areas of focus: Campus Sexual Assault, Child Abuse, Elder Abuse, Human Trafficking for Sexual Purposes, Intimate Partner Violence, Military Sexual Assault, Teen Dating Violence, and Violence Against Native American Women.

For help in Kansas do you know where to direct someone in need.

The 24-hour Kansas Crisis Hotline is 1-888-363-2287 or 1-888-END-ABUSE. The Kansas Coalition against Sexual and Domestic Violence (www.kcsdv.org) lists 25 local Kansas sexual and domestic violence victim advocacy service providers.

I am pleased to announce that GFWC Kansas now has a chairperson for this Signature Program. Gina Rice from Sedgwick Amity. You can contact her at gina_scrappincm@hotmail.com or (316) 217-3233 for ideas that your club could implement to support the GFWC Signature Program.

Rosemary Hour Coordinator

Deceased Clubwomen

In order for us as an organization to remove some of the burden placed on the remaining family members please let our state president, state secretary and Kansas Clubwoman editor know as soon as possible if you have a deceased clubwoman. The president will in turn let the other members of the executive committee know and other club presidents so that condolence cards can be sent, funerals can be attended, and memorials contributed to if appropriate. It is important that we remove a deceased clubwoman's address from the Kansas Clubwoman newsletter mailing list so that the family members do not receive any unnecessary communication from GFWC of Kansas.

New State Appointee "Rosemary Hour Coordinator"

This position was newly created to alleviate the burden of trying to remember and find obituary information in a short period of time before the state convention each year. When a clubwoman passes away during the year and a club has all that incredible information about her life well lived, please gather that material, and forward it to our new Rosemary Hour Coordinator, Roxie Peterson. She will in turn keep all the information until it is needed at state convention by a club to respectfully honor each clubwoman who has passed over the previous year. If your club has an interest in conducting the Rosemary Hour Ceremony at the next state convention, please reach out to Roxie directly.

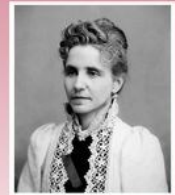
Roxie Peterson
 404 JC Rogers DR.
 Wamego, KS 66547
jrcbpeterson@gmail.com (785) 456-9138

Purple People

Copies of the book The World Needs More Purple People were won by Margaret Ohmes from the Gardner Athena Club and Gina Rice from Sedgwick Amicitie at our Fall Board meeting. Purple is one of President Janine Eilert's colors for this administration. .



Laura M. Johns



Laura M. Johns and her husband James both espoused ideas of industrial, political, and social equality for women. They moved to Salina in the 1880s. During the 1880s, Laura became involved in the Kansas Equal Suffrage Association and even worked three different legislative sessions. She organized a series of congressional conventions in Kansas to promote the cause of municipal suffrage for women. Finally, in 1887 the Kansas legislature passed the bill.

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 STORES OUR
 HISTORY SOCIETY

kshs.org

Kate Scallon Herman



Kate Herman was a teacher for over thirty years at the Kansas School for the Deaf. She became superintendent in 1913 and at the time was the only female head of a state school in the United States. She served as superintendent until her death in 1920.

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Epsilon Sigma Omicron—Zeta Chapter of Kansas

The 2023—2024 ESO Reading Challenge on page 19 was handed out at our Fall Board meeting. The challenge can be used to complete the Pledge Level for ESO membership. You only need sixteen books for the Pledge Level. This challenge has 20 so if you complete it you will have four books toward your next level. If you are still working on the last challenge, that's fine. Keep going. Those books count too. Everyone is welcome to join the challenge just for the fun of doing it. If you like to read, why not?

The ESO Handbook, the ESO Reading List, and the ESO Membership Standards from the State Handbook are available on our website. I would also be happy to email them to you. As always, keep track of your books and send me a list periodically. Some of our members are leveling up quickly.

Linda Loyd
ESO Chairman, lindaloyd05@gmail.com

Kansas Clubwoman Next Issue

News items and articles for the **December, 2023** issue of the Kansas Clubwoman are due **November 20, 2023**. Please feel free to forward your articles to me whenever you have them ready. No need to wait for the due date. I maintain a working copy of the next issue and will insert your article when I receive it. I will always send a reply to confirm that I have received your article. If you don't receive a confirmation, please check with me.

Back issues of the Kansas Clubwoman are archived in our website gfwcofkansas.org.

If you would like to have a digital copy of the Clubwoman emailed to you, please let me know.

Linda Loyd, Editor
lindaloyd05@gmail.com
913-856-8602

Women's History Resource Center

What's new at the WHRC?

The biggest news is the date for the 40th anniversary party: May 1st, 2024, from 3-6 p.m. at HQ. Stay tuned for more details on the event, including info on how to register to attend in person or virtually. Those at HQ are looking forward to celebrating forty years of women's history preservation and access to honoring club women who made it possible, especially International Past President Juanita M. Bryant (1982-1984) who made the WHRD a priority and shepherded the idea into reality. Then Vice President George H. W. Bush officiated at the WHRD opening ceremony on May 1, 1984. along with GFWC International President, Juanita M. Bryant.

The months leading up to the celebration will not be idle! One pre-Anniversary initiative relates to other 40-year GFWC milestones: If 2024 will mark your 40th year as a clubwoman, or if your club or clubhouse turns 40 next year, HQ wants to know about it. Submit stories and photos by emailing them to whrc@gfwc.org with the subject line "40th anniversary", to join in. Merchandise is on the way as well, featuring the new anniversary graphic that was introduced at Convention: another batch of embroidered work totes will be on Marketplace soon, and brand-new enameled pins are on their way.

Jeanne Urban, GFWC Kansas WHRC Chairman

2023-2024 ESO Reading Challenge

The challenge runs from August 2023 through August 2024

Read the book of your choice to complete each prompt, then record the title.

| | |
|--|--|
| A book of literary fiction | |
| A book you should have read in high school, but didn't | |
| A book that teaches you something new | |
| An award winner | |
| A funny book | |
| A book of short stories or essays | |
| A book that doesn't look interesting (read it anyway) | |
| A book about a community | |
| A book outside your comfort genre | |
| A book by an author you've never read. | |
| The shortest book (by pages) on your TBR list | |
| A book about reading, books, libraries or an author/writer | |
| A book you wish you could read for the first time again | |
| A book with a purple cover | |
| A coming-of-age story | |
| A book of your choice | |
| A cozy mystery | |
| A book featuring grandparents. | |
| A book about music or the arts | |
| The first book of a series | |

Emily Morgan



Emily Morgan worked as a nurse during World War I in Europe. She continued working as a missionary nurse in other countries. She was called the "angel of the Yukon" for her work during the 1925 diphtheria epidemic in Alaska. She moved to Alaska in the early 1920s and was appointed superintendent of a hospital. In 1925, she noticed the symptoms of diphtheria in a child and risked her life to vaccinate the townspeople and had to travel in a blizzard to get more antitoxin.

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Sallie White



Sallie White was eight years old when she moved with her family to Atchison, Kansas. She later married William Allen White in 1893. Sallie and Will bought Emporia Gazette in 1895, moving to Emporia that year. Will taught her about newspaper work: she learned to edit copy, read proofs, write society news and features, and all other aspects except selling advertising and setting type. She enjoyed entertaining statesmen, authors, and publishers at Red Rocks.

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National Day of Service Workshop

At the State Board Meeting bowl koozies were created for the National Day of Service Project. Sixteen koozies were totally completed with 4 more near completion. Each club was able to take home a koozie with instructions on how to make more. Many fabric and batting pieces were also available to members to take back to their clubs. Clear plastic sacks, a large GFWC emblem, information about GFWC and contact information for a local club was available to put with a can of food in the local Blessing Box.



GFWC Rainbow Club

Yes You Can ...

- stay connected with GFWC,
- receive the GFWC Kansas newsletter,
- support Creative Writing awards (with your dues),
- contribute to GFWC National Day of Service in your own community,
- read a book for ESO.

All this and more can be accomplished as a member of GFWC Kansas Rainbows. You don't even need to attend a meeting; although, we want to greet friends we haven't seen for years at state meetings in April and August.

Kansas Rainbows was established as a club in 1984 as a way for clubwomen to keep family members (who lived away from home in Kansas or another state) updated on their activities in GFWC Kansas. Today, this state club is a way for you to remain part of GFWC and connected to your GFWC sisters. If you have moved to a town [gasp] without a club or if your local club [sob] has disbanded, you are invited to become a Rainbow sister. Be as active as you are able. Several Rainbow members continue to serve on the GFWC Kansas board. But, feel free to stay at home and read a book, adding to your century list. Some club projects can be accomplished in your own community. As a full-fledged club, Kansas Rainbows can support students for music and citizenship essay competitions; members can recommend someone for us to sponsor. If you would like to join Rainbows, send name and address with dues of \$30.00 to Kate Field, 4108 Bridgadune Drive, Hutchinson, Kansas, 67502-8038.

Kate Field

President, GFWC Kansas Rainbows

GFWC Junction City Ladies Reading Club

Recently the Ladies Reading Club of Junction City, founded in 1875, collected a plethora of items and donated them to the US Department of Veterans Affairs in Topeka. A handmade quilt and 14 beautiful handmade shawls by clubwoman Char Grell were amongst the donated items. Of note the clubwomen assembled 21 men's "ditty bags" and 14 women's "ditty bags". The bags contained deodorant, a toothbrush, toothpaste, combs, shaving cream/gel, razor, hand-cream/body lotion, ChapStick, socks, tissues, pens, a puzzle book, mints, and snack crackers/cookies. Pictured are Marilyn Smith, Dianne Hepler, Lois Galliher, LaQuita Stegeman, new clubwomen Deborah Murray and Pat Foster. Not pictured is Ellen Westerhaus, Club President.



Lucy Eads



Eads was born during a tragic era for the Kansa people. During the early 19th century the Kansas or Kaws occupied much of what would become eastern Kansas. The first woman to serve as principal chief of the Kaw Nation, Lucy Tayiah Eads was born October 4, 1888, in a tipi on the banks of Beaver Creek, Indian Territory, now Oklahoma, to Little Tayiah and Lezitte (Mo Jan Ah Hoe) Bertrand. Named Cha-me "Little Deer," her father was a Kansa Indian and her mother was Kansa and Potawatomi.

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Elizabeth Cady Stanton



Elizabeth Cady Stanton, along with Susan B. Anthony, campaigned for the suffrage cause in Kansas. At the same time an amendment for suffrage for African Americans was proposed. Both amendments failed. African American men were granted voting rights in the 15th Amendment to the United States Constitution.

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GFWC Goddard Woman's Club

Goddard Woman's Club's Books & Blankets for Students in Crisis Project

Since 2016, Goddard Woman's Club Members have created blankets for the "Books & Blankets for Students in Crisis Project". Each school year, counselors from USD 265 Goddard Public Schools are invited to select from the supply of blankets, books and journals to support students who may face a crisis situation, like the death of a parent or sibling. On August 9th, members of the Goddard Woman's Club provided a supply of 50 handcrafted fleece blankets and an assortment of books and journals for the counselors of the 13 schools in the district which serve nearly 6,400 students. The blankets are tagged with a compassionate message, "We hope that this blanket brings you some comfort." A bookplate designates each book as a gift from the Goddard Woman's Club.

Gail Jamison
Club President

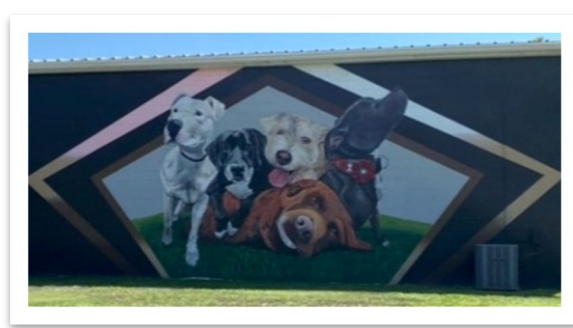


Photo: Goddard Woman's Club Members Janine Eilert, Karen Keatley, Pam Dayhuff and Ruth Wood assisted with the distribution of blankets and books: Megan Alexander, Goddard Public Schools Counselor coordinated the project for the district.



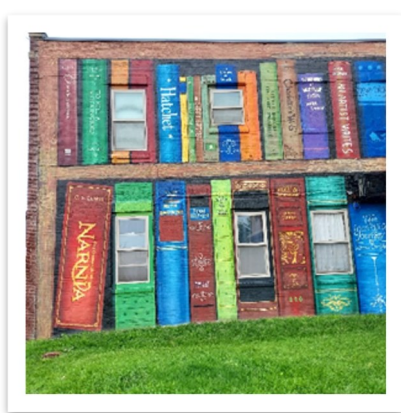
GFWC Ad Astra

The “City of Murals” was the destination of the Ad Astra club women’s day trip this June. A Mural Movement in Clay Center, Kansas has put up 25 new professional murals over the last 2 years. Several artists from several states have brought their talents to Clay Center. We took a walking tour following a mural map through the downtown area to view most of the murals. The murals are beautiful as you can see, by the photos below.

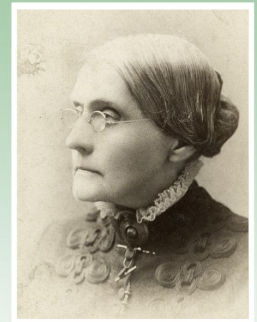


The Tasty Pastry Bakery, a locally owned bakery, was featured in Time magazine several years ago for their famous nut rolls. We had to stop for one and they did not disappoint. We enjoyed a food and craft demonstration at Ginger’s Uptown Boutique. Ginger’s is a well known establishment in Clay Center, known for their apparel, accessories, home décor and kitchenware. Lunch was enjoyed at the 15/24 Brew House Restaurant. House.

Joanie Doperalski. Club President



Susan B. Anthony



Susan B. Anthony, co-founder of the National Woman’s Suffrage Association, came to Kansas several times to campaign for women’s suffrage. In 1867, Kansas was the first state to propose an amendment for full suffrage. Susan B. Anthony and Elizabeth Cady Stanton campaigned for the cause in Kansas. At the same time an amendment for suffrage for African Americans was proposed. Both amendments failed. African American men were granted voting rights in the 15th Amendment to the United States Constitution.

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