



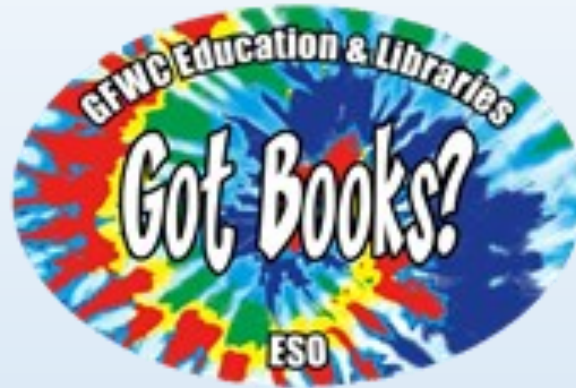
**GFWC 2022-2024**

## **Education & Libraries**

Sandy Hauenstein

sandygfwc@outlook.com

717-943-3531



Newsletter

November 2022

Volume IV

### **Engage Beyond the Page: Meet the Author/Book Review**

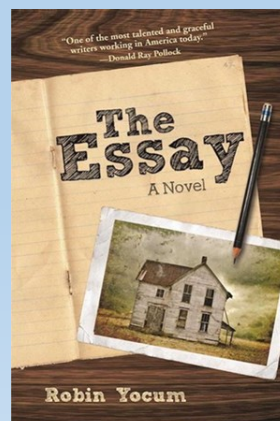
#### **Robin Yocum - GFWC Education & Libraries Honorary Chairman**

Register today to join GFWC for our first Engage Beyond the Page: Meet the Author/Book Review with Robin Yocum. The event will take place on **Zoom** at **7:00 p.m. ET on November 16**. Registration for the event is at [https://us06web.zoom.us/webinar/register/WN\\_YoqAY8sNSd6kTen333F5vg#/registration](https://us06web.zoom.us/webinar/register/WN_YoqAY8sNSd6kTen333F5vg#/registration).

2022-2024 GFWC Education and Libraries Honorary Chairman Robin Yocum is the Edgar-nominated author known for his fiction set in the Ohio River Valley. He is the author of six works of fiction including *The Essay*, our choice for the Meet the Author/Book Review, a novel about a young boy who grew up in a rural town in Appalachian Ohio with little hope for success. It's a story of finding the path that leads outside of one's current situation and the opinions of others. For our members who are educators, it will be a walk down memory lane as you remember students who surprised themselves and the adults who believed in them.

Discussing a book with the author is a rare experience to gain more insight about the book, to learn about various inspirations, and to hear about what the author may be working on next.

*The Essay* by Robin Yocum can be purchased on many online sites. You are encouraged to complete the reading prior to the book review. A brief questionnaire will be sent to those registered approximately one week prior to the book review.



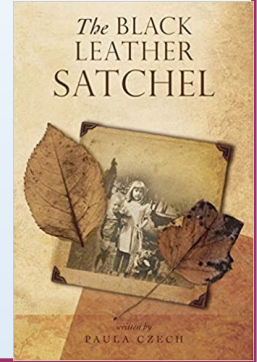
## Member Author Featured

This month we feature Paula Czech Lesmerises, a member of the GFWC-CCC in Concord, NH.

Her memoir is *THE BLACK LEATHER SATCHEL* published in August 2016 has a five star rating on Amazon. The purpose for writing her memoir was to educate the public and facilitate the safety of children.

Paula is a retired RN, a survivor of child sexual assault, and knows the emotional pain experienced by victims. It is devastating and life altering. Parents and concerned citizens must demand a school culture that puts students first, their education and well being must be the primary focus of each day. All adults in the school must avoid shaming students and protect them from bullies and predators. The book is her opportunity to bring understanding and solace to more lives including adult survivors and innocent children.

Contact Paula at [pcl1943@gmail.com](mailto:pcl1943@gmail.com).



## GFWC ESO BOOK CLUB on Facebook—Welcome to all.

This group of more than 1,400 members belong to this online book club and features Education and Libraries project ideas and ESO.

It is a private group and you must ask to join. See GFWC ESO BOOK CLUB on Facebook.

## Women's Clubs and Libraries

The earliest women's clubs, from 1847 to 1889, were developed around prevailing interests of art, history, literature, and travel. Many became known by name as reading and study clubs. Self-improvement appeared to be an underlying theme and a good starting point for women eager to reach out. Recognition of the need for education for themselves and their communities helped propel a keen interest in providing library services to their communities and beyond. Eager to ensure that even isolated areas had access to literature, clubwomen prepared travelling book collections, or book wagons, and sent them by rail and horse, and later by car, to areas beyond their communities.

By 1904, 11 years after the earliest traveling libraries, there were 4,655 traveling libraries with 340,951 books in 34 states where GFWC Federations existed. Books were brought to rural neighborhoods, mining camps, ranches, granges, and mountain districts. Of the 4,655 known traveling libraries, 1,016 were owned and controlled by State Federations and GFWC clubs.

By the turn of the century, 18 state library commissions had been secured primarily through the influence of clubwomen, and clubs had established 474 free public libraries. Clubwomen themselves often served as librarians and fundraisers. The establishment of such community libraries became one of the fastest growing areas of club activities. In 1933, the American Library Association credited GFWC with establishing 75 percent of public libraries.

## BRING THE SPARKLE TO PUBLIC LIBRARIES!

### Education & Libraries—Scholarships

- Establish a scholarship for a local student using these steps: Determine the purpose of the scholarship (reason for awarding it and the target audience, for example—the scholarship could be in honor or memory of a club or community leader, or it might help a student with a special need). Consider a scholarship for a trade school.
- Set a timeline (including development, fundraising, advertising, application evaluation, award presentation, etc.).
- Create the application (incorporating components that fit the purpose of the scholarship, such as essay, resume, transcripts, financial need information, letters of recommendation, etc.).
- Determine the duration of the award (one or multiple years).
- Determine the funding source.
- Select the recipient and plan the award presentation.

## Literary Calendar

### November

National Family Literacy Month

Picture Book Month

8 - Young Readers Day

15 - I Love to  
Write Day

18 - High-Five  
a Librarian  
Day

29—Louisa  
May Alcott's  
birthday



## “Yes, Virginia, There Is A Santa Claus”

Virginia grew up. Yes, THAT Virginia—who became a teacher—encouraging students through the Great Depression, World War II, and the Polio epidemic. “The Santa Claus Girl,” a novel drawn from true events, imagines Virginia’s far-reaching influence and her exceptional gift of inspiration. Set in New York City, December 1952, the story uncovers how a remarkable woman sparks a band of humble do-gooders to overcome the odds stacked against them—and reach for an extraordinary goal.



## November 2022 New Releases

[Friends, Lovers, and the Big Terrible Thing](#) - MATTHEW PERRY

[The Light We Carry](#) - MICHELLE OBAMA

[A World of Curiosities](#) - LOUISE PENNY

[Secluded Cabin Sleeps Six](#) - LISA UNGER

See more at <https://www.booklistqueen.com/september-2022-book-releases/>

## Affiliate Highlight - OPERATION SMILE

- Organize a community event to bring awareness to the work of Operation Smile.
- Request a local medical volunteer speaker from Operation Smile Speakers Bureau to share their stories of medical missions and the patients whose lives are changed through our work.

[www.operationsmile.org/content/community-fundraising-and-service-projects](http://www.operationsmile.org/content/community-fundraising-and-service-projects)

## GFWC LIBRARY REPLENISHMENT FUND

In order to assist GFWC communities affected by man-made and natural disasters, GFWC established the GFWC Library Replenishment Fund. GFWC clubs have a long history of founding, maintaining, and promoting libraries. Grants will be provided to GFWC clubs to help replenish affected libraries in their communities.

### Are you a published author?

We are compiling a list of club-women authors to add to the ESO reading list. Please send your name, contact information, and book titles to [sandygfwc@outlook.com](mailto:sandygfwc@outlook.com).

Check out the 2022-2024 Club Manual in the “C” Resources folder of the [Member Portal Digital Library](#) for many *sparkling* ideas.