

GFWC Woman's Club of Pewaukee Book Club

All members of the GFWC Woman's Club of Pewaukee are welcome to attend discussions for one book, for two, for all. We meet on the **SECOND THURSDAY** of every month at the Pewaukee Area Historical Society's Steele Barn at 11:30 for byo bag lunch and 12 noon for discussion. During the winter months, we meet at various restaurants. To be added to the book club email list, please email Nancy at nancyniedziela@gmail.com. Look for updates in the president's newsletter, on the website, and in Nancy's emails to those on the book club list.

September 11, 2025 *The Old Man and the Sea* by Ernest Hemingway ESO: Fiction, Classic
This book is about resolve and power in aging, about facing up to the world, and about knowing that you don't always win, but you still wake up and face the sea. There is heroism in this minimalism, a heroism we can all achieve. **1:30 to 2:30 Discussion, no lunch.**

October 9, 2025 *Florence Gordon* by Brian Moron ESO: Fiction, General
Morton's intelligent, layered portrait of a feisty, independent older woman is an absolute joy to read, not only for its delightful wit but also for its dignified appraisal of aging and living life on one's own terms.

November 13, 2025 *Lots of Candles, Plenty of Cake* by Anne Quindlen ESO: Memoir/Biography
In this irresistible memoir, the #1 New York Times bestselling author writes about her life and the lives of women today, looking back and ahead – and celebrating it all – as she considers marriage, girlfriends, our mothers, faith, loss, all that stuff in our closets, and more.

December 11, 2025 *Arthur Truluv* by Elizabeth Berg ESO: Fiction, General
The tale of an elderly man and a teenager who come into each other's lives at just the right moment. Richly complex characters and clear prose. Redemptive without being maudlin.

January 15, 2026 *The Thursday Murder Club* by Richard Osmon ESO: Fiction, Mystery
In a peaceful retirement village, four unlikely friends meet weekly in the Jigsaw Room to discuss unsolved crimes; together they call themselves the Thursday Murder Club. **Judy Risic will be the discussion leader for this month.**

February 12, 2026 *The Secret Life of Sunflowers* by Marta Molnar ESO: Memoir, Biography
A gripping, inspiring novel based on the true story of Joanna Bongser, Vincent Van Gogh's sister-in-law. When Hollywood auctioneer finds her famous grandmother's diary while cleaning out her New York brownstone, the diary isn't her grandmother's. It belongs to Johanna Bongser, Vincent Van Gogh's sister-in-law who inherited all his paintings. **Mary Dietz will be the discussion leader.**

March 12, 2026 *The Small and the Mighty: 12 Unsung Americans who Changed the Course of History, from the Founding to the Civil Rights Movement* by Sharon McMahon ESO: American History
In *The Small and the Mighty*, Sharon McMahon proves that the most remarkable Americans are often ordinary people who didn't make it into the textbooks. Not the presidents, but the telephone operators. Not the aristocrats, but the schoolteachers. Through meticulous research, she discovers history's unsung characters and brings their rich, riveting stories to light for the first time. This is a book about what really made America – and Americans – great. McMahon's cast of improbable champions will become familiar friends, lighting the path we journey in our quest to make the world more just, peaceful, good, and free.

April 9, 2026 *The Last List of Mabel Beaumont* by Laura Pearson ESO: Fiction, Romance
This is a beautifully written story of friendship, love, loss and second chances. Mabel and her unlikely gang of colorful characters will leave you feeling warm, hopeful, and satisfied.

May 14, 2026 *The Wisdom of Sally Red Shoes* by Ruth Hogan ESO: Fiction, General
Masha is drowning. Once a spirited, independent woman with a rebellious streak, her life has been forever changed by a tragic event twelve years ago. Unable to let go of her grief, she finds solace in the silent company of the souls of her local Victorian cemetery and at the town's lido, where she seeks refuge underwater – safe from the noise and the pain.

June 11, 2026 *Jacqueline in Paris* by Ann Mah ESO: Fiction, Historical
Twenty-year-old Jacqueline Bouvier arrives in war ravaged 1949 Paris for a junior year abroad, temporarily released from her mother's pressure for a brilliant marriage, to live with a widowed countess and former resistance spy. Well-researched historic detail.

July 9, 2026 *Goddesses Never Age: The Secret Prescription for Radiance, Vitality and Well Being* by Christiana Northrup ESO: Health and Medicine
Though we talk about wanting to "age gracefully," the truth is that when it comes to getting older, we're programmed to dread an inevitable decline: in our health, our looks, our sexual relationships, even the pleasure we take in living life. But as Christiana Northrup, M.D., shows us in this profoundly empowering book, we have it in us to make growing older an entirely different experience, both for our bodies and for our souls.

August 13, 2026 *How the Penguins Saved Veronica* by Hazel Prior ESO: Fiction, General
A curmudgeonly but charming old woman, her estranged grandson, and a colony of penguins proves it's never too late to be the person you want to be in this rich, heartwarming story.