

# NEWS & NOTES

LIVING THE VOLUNTEER SPIRIT THROUGH GFWC

News & Notes - August 4, 2016



## Give a Child the Chance to Learn

Every child returning to school this year needs a fresh set of notebooks, sharpened pencils, colorful crayons, and a backpack to put it all in! These supplies give students the tools they need to have a successful school year. However, with the National Center for Children in Poverty reporting that [more than 16 million children](#) in the United States live below the poverty line, school supplies can be hard to obtain for many underprivileged children. When a family of four makes under \$23,550, it can be difficult to cover even essential expenses like housing and food. Additional expenses at the beginning of the school year can really add up for many families. That's what makes the school supply drives hosted by GFWC clubs so important. Members are donating more than just pens and paper—they are giving students a chance to learn.

There are countless ways to host a school supply drive in your community. You can follow the lead of **GFWC of the Denville-Rockaway Area** (New Jersey) [who set up collection sites](#) around town so supplies could be donated as people are doing

GFWC — an international women's organization dedicated to community improvement by enhancing the lives of others through volunteer service

## Subscribe to News & Notes

If you haven't yet subscribed to *News & Notes*, the best source for all things GFWC, what are you waiting for? Signing up is easy and gives you access to timely news items from around Headquarters, our partners, and our work on a national and local scale.

Simply provide your name, mailing address, email, and club name to GFWC

their shopping or grabbing a cup of coffee. In Oklahoma, the Cornerstone Creations Department of the **GFWC McAlester Fortnightly** donated school supplies to the Youth Emergency Shelter, providing notebooks, backpacks, and more for children at the shelter. For more creative ways to support education in your community, [download](#) the Education Community Service Program from the 2016-2018 *GFWC Club Manual*.

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### Community Improvement Program 4th Place Award Winner—GFWC Woman's Club of Laurel

More than half of the students at Scotchtown Hills Elementary School are eligible to receive free or reduced-priced meals during the school day because their families earn less than federal poverty thresholds. While this provides adequate nutrition during the school week, it means children may go hungry during weekends and school vacations. **GFWC Woman's Club of Laurel** (Maryland) is helping to fill this need with their Tummy Tamers project. The project provides backpacks with two breakfasts, two lunches, and snack foods for 20 students at the end of each school week. The children who receive the backpacks are selected by school officials and remain anonymous to protect them from potential embarrassment. While members of the Laurel club may never meet the students who benefit from their generosity, they know they are having a substantial impact. The club continues to look for new ways to increase funding and expand the number of children reached.

Membership Services Manager Kate Garlick at [kgarlick@gfwc.org](mailto:kgarlick@gfwc.org) and you're all set!

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### Grow Your Fundraiser

What other program provides you with the gratification of running a successful fundraiser that supports your cause, the pleasure of planting bulbs, the joy of watching them grow and the satisfaction of beautifying your community!

Fundraising with Flower Power produces benefits every step of the way.

Start your fundraiser today and find out how gratifying it is to fund raise with flowers!

**Earn 50% profit from sales!** An extra 5% from every sale goes directly to GFWC to support national projects.

[www.FlowerPowerFundraising.com](http://www.FlowerPowerFundraising.com) or call 1-888-833-1486.

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We thank GFWC Woman's Club of Laurel for helping to ensure students in their community have a happy and healthy childhood.

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## Honoring Margaret M. (Peggy) McLane, the Southern Region Recipient of the Jennie Award

This year's Southern Region Recipient of the Jennie Award is Margaret M. (Peggy) McLane, a member of the GFWC Woman's Club of Panama City, Florida.

Since joining GFWC shortly after

retiring in 2005, Peggy has served in numerous leadership positions, implemented several successful projects, and touched the lives of countless individuals in her community. Learn more about Peggy's lifetime of volunteer service on the GFWC blog: <http://bit.ly/PeggyMcLane>

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## International Update: Porto Alegre

The club women of the AB International Women's Club of Porto Alegre, Brazil, have been meeting twice a month to discuss politics, psychology, arts, and the biographies of people who

## Be Inspired by the Top Ten Projects!

An edible books festival. A birthday party for children at a local shelter. Eco-kids in Nature. These are just a few of the creative and life-changing Top Ten Projects that are now being featured daily on the [GFWC Facebook page](#). This series will continue throughout the rest of the year as we list the top projects from each area. Check in every day for a new project that will inspire you to take action in your community, and be sure to share every post to show your support for GFWC.

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## Download the 2016-2018 Club Manual

Celebrate the beginning of GFWC International President Sheila Shea's administration by downloading the 2016-2018 *GFWC Club Manual*!

President Shea is excited to kick off her administration by releasing this valuable membership tool, which is filled with hands-on projects and ideas that your club can implement on a local level.

Visit <http://bit.ly/GFWCClubManual> to download the manual.

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## Changes to Epsilon Sigma Omicron (ESO) for the 2016-2018 Administration

ESO is the honorary educational society open to GFWC federated club members.

have had an important role in their areas of interest. During these gatherings not only do varied discussions ensue along with interesting debates, but strong connections among the club women are also established. The Porto Alegre club also celebrates club member birthdays and the June birthdays were celebrated with a tea in the Sao Pedro Theater Foyer. Meanwhile, they still continue with good work for their community by delivering blankets to the Maternal Child Organization.

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## March of Dimes Working to Protect Families From Zika Virus

The March of Dimes is extremely concerned about the risks of the Zika virus and birth defects to pregnant women and babies. We are a national leader in providing up-to-the-minute information and materials for women and families on our website and social media in both English and Spanish. Learn more at [marchofdimes.org/zika](http://marchofdimes.org/zika) or [nacersano.org/zika](http://nacersano.org/zika). Our #ZAPzika outreach campaign tells everyone the steps you need to take—share this with your friends:

- **Use spray, keep mosquitoes away:** Make sure it's EPA registered.
- **Say you will, embrace the chill:** Use air conditioning and window screens if possible.
- **If it's wet, it's a threat:** Remove still water.
- **Get protected, not infected:** Wear clothes that cover your arms and legs to prevent bites.

From its founding over 60 years ago, the ESO program has been a permanent part of the GFWC Education Department. While past administrations had both an ESO Chairman and an Education Community Service Program Chairman, going forward there will be only an Education Chairman. Please review the [2016-2018 Club Manual](#) and the updated [ESO Handbook](#) to see how this change affects ESO Awards submissions. An updated Reading List will also soon be available through the GFWC website.

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## Take the GFWC Shares Polls!

Vote in the following polls and we will include the results in the September+October issue of *Clubwoman Magazine!*

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The 2016 GFWC Annual Convention will be one that is remembered for years to come. Whether learning how to pick a crab, getting into the rhythm with Drum Café, or celebrating wonderful wacky women with Suzy Toronto, clubwomen shared countless special moments. What did you enjoy most from this year's Convention? Vote today!  
<http://poll.fm/5n493>

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Many clubs take a small break during the summer, but that doesn't mean members aren't proactively planning projects and ideas to share when they meet up again in September! What are

- **If you suspect, then connect:** Call your health care provider if you are at risk of infection.
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## Marketplace: Get Your Shine On Tee

Share the GFWC love with this limited edition shirt from GFWC! Made of 100%, pre-shrunk cotton, this shirt features a favorite tagline across the chest - GFWC Get Your Shine

On. Available in sizes M to 3XL in yellow with blue lettering. It is the perfect shirt for club activities, and is only \$5 at the [GFWC Marketplace!](#)

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you most looking forward to in the next club year? Visit <http://poll.fm/5n91m> to vote now!

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From watching the leaves change, to apple picking, to Halloween, autumn is a beautiful time of year. In preparation for the September+October issue, we want to know what you are most excited about this fall.

Visit <http://poll.fm/5n91n> to vote today!

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## In The News

### Danville Illiana Woman's Club

(Illinois) utilized an article in the local newspaper to tout their accomplishments and invite new members to join the club. The original Danville Woman's Club was formed in 1895, and at its peak there were approximately 350 members. Today, the number of members may have decreased, but their support for the community has not. Danville clubwomen support Ronald McDonald House, Salvation Army, and female veterans at the local VA. Congratulations to Danville Illiana Woman's Club for celebrating 121 years of service and thank you for your efforts to increase membership! [Click here](#) to read the article.

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