

NEWS & NOTES

LIVING THE VOLUNTEER SPIRIT THROUGH GFWC

News & Notes - November 9, 2017



Honoring America's Finest

On Saturday, November 11, we will celebrate Veterans Day. Originally known as "Armistice Day," this annual remembrance acknowledged the end of World War I. It was on the 11th hour of the 11th day of the 11th month in 1918 that all finally became "quiet on the western front." Unfortunately, peace did not last and further generations of America's bravest were called to duty. In 1954, President Eisenhower declared November 11 as Veterans Day to expand the day of recognition to every service member.

GFWC clubwomen have been active supporters of America's military from that first Armistice Day and through all the Veterans Days that have followed. Here are two examples of how clubwomen continue to illustrate their support in 2017:

On November 8, the **GFWC Glendale Woman's Club** (Arizona) hosted its annual Community Business Luncheon. Each attendee was asked to bring an in-kind donation for Mary Ellen's Place. A woman's shelter dedicated to aiding female veterans,

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

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

Mary Ellen's Place provides a comfortable and safe environment for women reintegrating into the family and social atmosphere they cherish. "Our members have worked diligently towards each of our club's goals this year, but this event is the one closest to our hearts as we salute our country's veterans who have given so much for the freedoms we enjoy," stated Club President Grace Kobjek.

On Saturday, the **GFWC Madison Heights Women's Club** (Michigan) will continue its tradition of venerating our nation's heroes by hosting their annual Veteran's Day Luminary Ceremony. After being led to the town's center by two drummers, veterans will be asked to share their thoughts and name their branch, unit, and years of service. This casual community event is open to the public and all are invited to pay their respects at the local memorials. Prior to the event, tealights will be placed along the sidewalks by club members and they will remain lit throughout the service.

If your club has not already selected a Veterans Day activity, consider showing your support of veterans by taking part in one of our Partner's initiatives. Through the United Service Organizations (USO) you can [send a message](#) of appreciation to service members and their families around the world.

Whether attending a quiet ceremony or writing an expression of gratitude, please take time this Saturday to recognize the courageous men and women who fought and sacrificed to protect you.

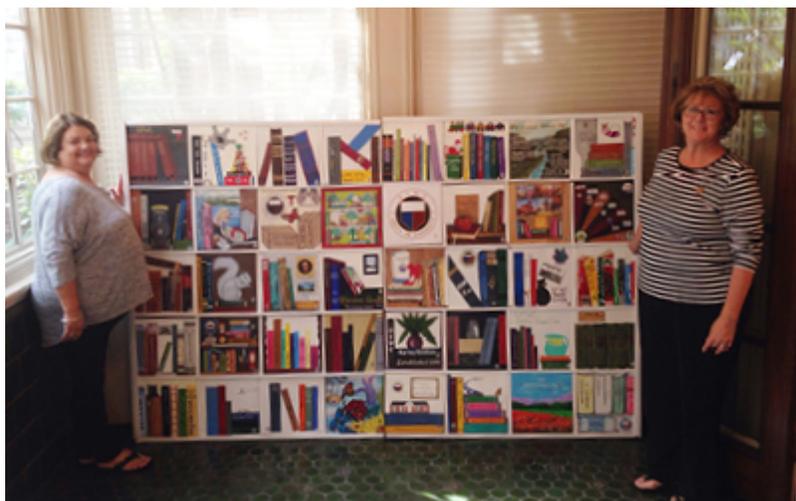
Membership Services Manager Kate Garlick at kgarlick@gfwc.org and you're all set!

Help Publicize the GFWC Success for Survivors Scholarship

GFWC is now accepting applications for the 2018 GFWC Success for Survivors Scholarship. GFWC members and clubs are encouraged to promote and share information about the scholarship with your local/state coalitions, universities and colleges, vocational schools, and domestic violence shelters. To further publicize the scholarship, we have created a [press release template](#). Personalize the template and submit it to your local newspaper.

GFWC remains committed to assisting domestic violence survivors. The number of scholarships distributed is determined by the generosity of clubwomen. Please consider contributing to the GFWC Domestic Violence Awareness and Prevention Fund. One hundred percent of monetary contributions are distributed as scholarships.

undergoing medical procedures or who are in the foster care system. Beginners and experienced crocheters are welcome, and they often teach each other. The clubwomen look forward to the weekly meetings because whether they have engaging conversation or needed quiet time, the camaraderie of women is satisfying, and the fact that they're helping children makes it even more so. We hope Ann Marie's objective inspires you to find your own joy in your next project!



Headquarters Happenings

Stop by Headquarters to see the GFWC Tennessee Barn Quilt Square display. Barn quilt squares are traditionally painted on barns or large displays, and hung in "trails" across the country. Barn quilt trails are typically community projects intended to draw attention to local landmarks and aesthetics. In the spirit of community, each of the 42 GFWC Tennessee clubs were asked to paint a small wooden quilt square. The squares are designed to look like a shelf in a library, in honor of GFWC's historic work with public libraries. Clubs were also asked to use their square to represent different aspects of their club's history or of their major accomplishments. You can see GFWC Tennessee's beautiful work at Headquarters from now through January!

Every year, the historic GFWC Headquarters is transformed into a holiday wonderland, complete with a floor-to-ceiling Christmas



Be the Hero

There could not be an easier way to be the Hero and support your cause. Earn 50% profit and the bulbs get delivered directly to your supporters. They are 100% guaranteed, with no minimum order and no upfront cost required! Order your free sales supplies to start your door to door fundraiser or build your online campaign today!

Raise fantastic profits, all the while beautifying your community and rejuvenating Mother Earth.

Earn 50% profit from sales!

An extra 5% from every sale goes directly to GFWC to support national projects.

www.FlowerPowerFundraising.com/GFWC or call 1-888-833-1486.

Quick Tips on Parliamentary Procedure

tree, traditional holiday décor, and a buffet of delicious treats! This year we invite you to once again join us in celebrating the season at 1734 N Street NW, Washington, DC 20036 on **Wednesday, December 6** from 3 p.m. to 6 p.m..



GFWC's Southern Region Joins the Just Too Sweet Campaign

Imagine what it is like to have to prick your finger ten to twenty times a day or to give yourself four to five shots of insulin daily. Over the last 11 years, Annabelle Bunch has had approximately 23,000 finger pricks and 29,000 shots of insulin. She is a teenager living with Type 1 Diabetes (T1D) and these are her everyday realities.

Annabelle's platform as Miss Mississippi's Outstanding Teen 2018, *Just Too Sweet*, is designed to promote awareness, advocacy, and action to find a cure for T1D. Type 1 Diabetes is an autoimmune disease in which a person's pancreas loses the ability to produce insulin – a hormone essential to turning food into energy. Annabelle is committed to helping others through *Just Too Sweet* by educating her community, raising funds for the Juvenile Diabetes Research Foundation (JDRF), and empowering those who live with T1D to embrace life and create their own definition of normal.

In June 2016, *Just Too Sweet* was announced as Southern Region President Jo Anne Reid's philanthropy project for her administration. As a featured speaker at the GFWC Southern

**By GFWC Parliamentarian
Shirley Gomes**

A Member in Good Standing

Members in good standing are those whose rights as members are not under suspension as a consequence of disciplinary proceeding or by operation of some specific provision in club bylaws. A member may thus be in good standing even if in arrears in payment of dues. Individual rights may still be exercised unless bylaws state otherwise. Club bylaws must be specific about when membership rights would end by stating that a member who has not paid dues by (specific date) will be dropped from membership rolls.

Basic rights of an individual member to attend meetings and vote, make motions or nominations, speak in debate, or give previous notice are otherwise protected and cannot be suspended without due process.

[Click here](#) to download a fact sheet on Commonly Used Parliamentary Motions.

In the News

At their October meeting, members of the **GFWC Mocksville Woman's Club** (North Carolina) listened to a presentation by guest speakers Patrick and Carolina Brown. The couple operates a school in Managua, Nicaragua through their charity Samaritans International of Waxhaw. The school currently educates over 240

Region conferences in Jacksonville, Florida and Atlanta, Georgia, Annabelle discussed her struggle with diabetes and promoted her book, *Sweet AB*, and upcoming jewelry collaboration with Kendra Scott. A portion of funds raised through the sale of Annabelle's jewelry line will benefit JDRF. In support of Annabelle's campaign, the Southern Region held a Bunco tournament and purse raffle at their most recent conference. Combined with personal donations the Region was able to follow in Annabelle's inspirational footsteps and contribute \$2,225 to JDRF.

[Click here](#) to read Annabelle's complete platform statement as Miss Mississippi's Outstanding Teen 2018.

students from preschool through graduation. "Many graduating students are the first in their families to read, write, or complete a primary school education," stated Patrick Brown. Read the [Davie County Enterprise Record](#) to learn more about the Mocksville Club and projects it supports.



Happy Birthday Minnie Bell Johnson

By GFWC Oregon President Mary Accettura

Minnie Bell Johnson, a 39 year member of the Portland Woman's Club (PWC) in Portland, Oregon, was born on October 13, 1917. Minnie Bell is celebrating her 100th birthday and we, the members of the Portland Woman's Club, want to tell you about this wonderful woman.

In the mid 1940s, Minnie Bell moved with her husband to the Portland, Oregon area to begin her life as a wife and mother. As her children started school, she entered the workforce. She was a driving force in the desegregation of the Portland area. One of the stories she has told us is my favorite. She applied for a job at our local department store. She was told she could have a job

as a maid, she replied that she only cleans the toilets in her home.

She proceeded to the office of Mr. Meier, owner of the company, met with him and told him that they were "both minorities", he agreed and she was assigned as a retail clerk in the women's suit department. She worked at Meier and Franks for many years.

Minnie Bell enjoys good health, has a very positive outlook on life and still attends our monthly meetings. She has held all offices in the club and was Treasurer of the club for ten years. Minnie Bell has been a lifelong Portland Trailblazer Basketball team fan, and when I say lifelong, I mean in the Trailblazer's life.

We congratulate Minnie Bell, we wish her a very Happy Birthday, and of course, more years to enjoy her family and her friends.

If you know a clubwoman celebrating her 100th birthday, please alert the Communications and Public Relations Staff by emailing pr@gfwc.org.

Legislative Action Corner

Domestic Violence: The Brady Campaign and Center released a [new report](#) which highlights the tragic implications of what happens when domestic abusers have access to firearms. The report outlines troubling loopholes in the current background check system that allows stalkers and certain individuals convicted of domestic violence misdemeanors to purchase and use guns to threaten, injure, and kill victims of domestic violence. GFWC supports legislation to fix these loopholes, S. 1539 and H.R. 3207.

Sexual Assault: On October 23, the Senate approved S. 1766, the Sexual Assault Forensic Evidence Reporting (SAFER) Act, which would reauthorize, strengthen, and extend the Sexual Assault Forensic Reporting program to fight the nationwide rape kit backlog. The bill also ensures pediatric forensic nurses are eligible for training, which addresses the need for pediatric sexual assault nurse examiners in responding to children

suffering from abuse. The bill has been referred to the House Judiciary Committee.

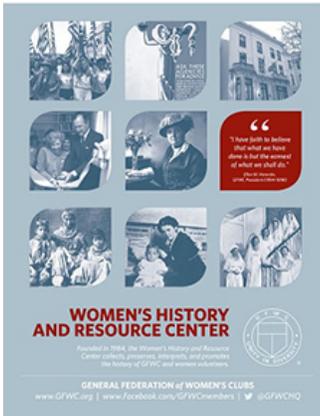
Elder Abuse: On October 18, the President signed into law S. 178, the Elder Abuse Prevention and Prosecution Act, which establishes certain requirements for the Department of Justice with respect to investigating and prosecuting elder abuse crimes, and amends federal criminal law to expand telemarketing fraud to include “email marketing” fraud.

Children’s Health Insurance Program (CHIP)

Reauthorization: On November 3, the House of Representatives approved H.R. 3922, the Community Health and Medical Professionals Improve Our Nation (CHAMPION) Act which reauthorizes CHIP and extends federal funding for important public health priorities, including Community Health Centers, the Special Diabetes Programs, the National Health Service Corps, Teaching Health Center Graduate Medical Education, Family-to-Family Health Information Centers, the State Abstinence Education Grant Program renamed the Youth Empowerment Program, and the Personal Responsibility Education Program to prevent teen pregnancy.

Still Pending: Maternal, Infant, and Early Childhood Home Visiting (MIECHV) program reauthorization.

The [GFWC Legislative Action Center](#) is a powerful tool for GFWC’s public issues and advocacy efforts. Track bills, contact your local representative, and take action on issues germane to GFWC Resolutions. [Click here](#) to visit the Legislative Action Center and enroll to receive updates.



Marketplace: GFWC History Timeline

The GFWC History Timeline includes important milestones and photographs covering GFWC history from 1890 to the present. The publication is printed on heavier paper, with larger font size and photographs, making it easier to read and display. Use

this as a resource for club programs on GFWC's history!
Available for \$2 each through the [GFWC Marketplace](#).

Our Contact Information

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