

NEWS & NOTES

LIVING THE VOLUNTEER SPIRIT THROUGH GFWC

News & Notes - September 22, 2016



GFWC Participates in Honor Flight

Our nation's veterans have sacrificed so much to ensure our freedom and safety. GFWC strives to honor veterans for their service, and proudly supports the Honor Flight Network, a national organization dedicated to transporting veterans to visit their memorials in Washington, D.C. With an estimated 640 WWII Veterans dying each day, the time to ensure these incredible heroes can travel to D.C. at no cost is now. There are currently 21,032 veterans on the Honor Flight's waitlist, with WWII veterans being a top priority, followed by veterans from the Korean War and Vietnam War. GFWC clubs nationwide are supporting Honor Flight at several of the 130 Honor Flight hubs in 42 states by raising money, writing thank you letters to veterans, accompanying veterans on their trips, or welcoming veterans as they return from Washington, D.C. **GFWC Florida** is a major supporter of Honor Flight of West Central Florida, and sent veterans off and welcomed them back with much fanfare and celebration on Tuesday, September 20.



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

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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.

GFWC International President Sheila E. Shea and GFWC staff were proud to welcome veterans from this Honor Flight to the Air Force Memorial in Arlington, Virginia on Tuesday. Watching as the veterans visited a memorial dedicated to their service reminds us of the importance of always remembering those who sacrificed so much for the United States. To learn more about the Honor Flight Network, please visit www.honorflight.org.



Three Reasons Why You Should Join a Book Club

As fall club and State Federation newsletters began arriving at Headquarters, we could not help but notice how many contained reviews or announcements of book club selections. As the clubwomen of **GFWC Oviedo Woman's Club** (Florida), the **Clifton Community Woman's Club** (Virginia), and **Sawnee Woman's Club** (Georgia) can attest, there are many benefits to joining a book club.

1. You will be exposed to reading material that you might otherwise pass over. You may find out that you enjoy *The Rumor*, just as Tric Heepe of **GFWC Fayette County ESO** predicted you would in *GFWC Indiana Clubwoman Magazine*, even though you would never have picked it up at the local book store on your own.
2. Book clubs are all about life-long learning. The book club will keep you in touch with the world. It's easy to get so busy in

Simply provide your name, mailing address, email, and club name to GFWC Membership Services Manager Kate Garlick at kgarlick@gfwc.org and you're all set!



St. Jude Walk/Run to End Childhood Cancer

Get excited about the upcoming GFWC/St. Jude Walks happening all over the United States! Play this St. Jude video: <http://bit.ly/2djfkXJ> to stir up enthusiasm in your club.

Is your club participating in the St. Jude Run/Walk to End Childhood Cancer?

Share your event with your community and local media by distributing a press release! Simply download the template located at <http://bit.ly/2cVU2eu> and fill in information to reflect your club. To learn more about the St. Jude Run/Walk Challenge and Childhood Cancer Awareness Month, check out a blog post from Advocates for Children Chairman Deb Allen and GFWC Director of Junior Clubs Jolie Frankfurth: <http://bit.ly/GFWCStJude>.

our own lives that our personal learning stagnates. Book clubs ensure you are aware of current books and authors.

3. It is just fun to get together! All book clubs no matter how serious entail some chit chat. As clubwomen everywhere know, we thrive on friendship and book clubs are a great place to make and keep friends.

As GFWC Federation club members, you need look no further for the opportunity to participate in a book club or structured reading program. Epsilon Sigma Omicron (ESO) was established in 1928 by the Indiana Federation of Clubs as an honorary educational society with the goal of providing direction in planned reading for self-enrichment and personal growth. Today, the program is available in most states and provides membership, awards and certificates, pins, and a reading list. ESO is a diverse program with state chapters customizing their programs based on clubwomen's needs and their communities. As an ESO member you will follow the guidelines of your state.

Learn more about ESO by visiting <http://bit.ly/GFWCESO> or by contacting Education Program Chairman Chris Sienkielewski.

Help tell the GFWC Story! A Call for Oral Histories

In the early 1990s, the Women's History Resource Center (WHRC) launched a nationwide effort to verbally collect the histories of our illustrious clubwomen. The project resulted in an impressive collection of over 200 oral histories, ranging from International Past Presidents and region presidents to members of local committees and average clubwomen. These tapes and transcripts are an invaluable resource to clubwomen and researchers alike who are looking to garner a more personal account of over 100 years of GFWC's history.

While this effort was an admirable start, the project is still underway. The WHRC would like to continue to expand this collection of personal histories. However, we can't do it without your help! If you would like to share your GFWC experiences, please contact WHRC Manager Alyssa Constad at aconstad@gfwc.org to set up a date and time. Histories can be



Club Manual: FAQs

In each issue of *News & Notes* we will be addressing questions received about the *2016-2018 Club Manual*. Here are two of the most frequently asked questions received this week.

QUESTION: Have any new committee members been appointed?

ANSWER: Yes. Judi Stankowich (Southeastern Region) became a member of the Communications and Public Relations Committee and Linda Dodds (Mississippi Valley Region) has joined the Fundraising and Development Committee.

QUESTION: Are the bylaws included in the *Club Manual*?

ANSWER: No. The bylaws are a separate document available under the Resources tab on GFWC.org. You may also download the bylaws by clicking this link <http://bit.ly/GFWCbylaws>

given over the phone, so location is not an issue. Our history is important and we need you to help tell our story!



GFWC Introduces New Discounts Exclusively for GFWC Clubwomen

GFWC members are now eligible to receive discounts on goods and services, insurance, and travel. Among the national companies offering special price reductions for clubwomen is **American Hearing Benefits**.

American Hearing Benefits is the only major American owned and operated hearing aid manufacturer. The company's hearing benefits program provides you and your family access to free hearing consultations and discounts on hearing aids through our nationwide network of 3,000+ hearing professionals.

Click [here](#) or call [\(888\) 885-7930](tel:888-885-7930) to schedule your FREE CONSULTATION and receive your discounts now.

Information about all of the companies involved in the new GFWC discount program can be accessed on GFWC's website at <http://bit.ly/GFWCMemberDiscounts>

Calling All Women Entrepreneurs!

Project Entrepreneur, launched by Rent the Runway Foundation in partnership with UBS, is on a mission to increase the number of women building high-growth, economically impactful companies.

Applications are open until November 21, 2016. Project Entrepreneur will welcome 200 top applicants to New York City for the Project Entrepreneur Weekend Intensive Seminar on April 7-8, 2017, featuring hands-on workshops, in-depth talks, networking opportunities, and a live pitch competition, where the finalists compete for a \$10,000 grant to build their business and a spot in our five-week accelerator program hosted at Rent the Runway. Complete details on how to apply can be found [here](#).

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International Update: The International Women's Club of Porto Alegre

In honor of the 2016 Olympics in Brazil, the International Women's Club of Porto Alegre (IWCPA) created the "First Serve" program to provide food for children living in low income areas. The main beneficiary of the program is Triska Sport Center, a school located on the outskirts of Porto Alegre. The Center improves self esteem and encourages a healthy lifestyle through tennis classes, art training, and nutritional daily meals.

While working on charitable projects, the women of IWCPA also found time to bring their voice to politics in Brazil. Club members participated in a march against corruption on August 30. The march was one of the many demonstrations taking place throughout Brazil calling for the impeachment of the President, Dilma Rousseff.

[\(800\) 323-0775](tel:8003230775)

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In The News

The **Sonoma Valley Woman's Club** (California) is celebrating the centennial of the completion of its clubhouse and hosting an open house to display all the club has done to improve the community throughout the years. The club's incredible accomplishments and history, including helping to save the San Francisco de Solano mission after the 1906 earthquake, are profiled in an article in the *Press Democrat*. [Click here](#) to read the article and learn about how the club is working to recruit new members.



75 YEARS

Partner Spotlight: United Service Organizations (USO)

The **USO's Campaign to Connect** is aiming to send

1 million messages of support and gratitude to our service members in their 75th Anniversary year. To do that, we need the support of every proud American.

To take part, all you have to do is visit www.uso.org/GFWC and submit a message of support. That's it. The USO will take care of delivery.

In no time at all the USO will have your message displayed in centers across the world. As our service members go about their day protecting us, all they will have to do is visit their USO center on base to see a groundswell of support from back home.



Marketplace: GFWC Gavel

Perfect for your club president or leadership, this American Walnut finish gavel (10.5") features a jewelers brass band

customized with printing of the GFWC color emblem and General Federation of Women's Clubs. Purchase yours today for \$30 each at the [GFWC Marketplace](#).

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