

NEWS & NOTES

LIVING THE VOLUNTEER SPIRIT THROUGH GFWC

News & Notes - October 27, 2016



Celebrate GFWC Advocates for Children Week

This week, GFWC is celebrating the 17th anniversary of the Juniors' Special Program: Advocates for Children. Although the program itself is fairly new in the scope of GFWC's 126-year history, advocating for youth and supporting children all over the world is a core part of GFWC values and tradition. From working to end child labor to improving public schools, clubwomen have fought for the rights of children for 126 years. Read more about the history of GFWC's involvement in child advocacy and what clubs are doing to celebrate Advocates for Children Week in a post on the GFWC blog: <http://bit.ly/2fceA7t>

Clubs show they care by addressing specific needs in their communities, like the **West Valley Federated Women's Club** (California) did when they provided clothing for their local hospital after they were informed that many children leave the emergency room in a towel because their clothing is needed as evidence. Clubs also support Advocates for Children on a



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

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Members Get Scary for a Good Cause!

Fall is here, and that means crisp days, changing leaves, and Halloween festivities! Many clubs are celebrating by hosting haunted houses, trick-or-treat events, and costume parties. The **GFWC Grundy Woman's Club** (Virginia) will be hosting a 'trunk or treat' in historical downtown Grundy. Members of the **GFWC New Tampa Junior Woman's Club** (Florida) recently organized a [reverse trick-or-treat](#) event where children in costumes brought Halloween treats to residents of an assisted living facility. The **GFWC Sebastian River Junior Woman's Club** goes all out with their haunted house, which they have titled "Terror on Main Street." This year will be the club's 36th year running the event. Members work together to build, paint, and decorate props for the haunted house. In Connecticut, the **GFWC Woman's Club of Greater New Milford** partners with other organizations in their community to host the Haunted Trail. Clubwomen volunteer for this event, with part of the proceeds benefiting the club and other important causes. Whether you're volunteering in a club event, trick-or-treating, or watching a scary movie, we wish you a safe and fun Halloween! Be sure to check out the GFWC app this weekend for photos of clubwomen getting in the Halloween spirit across the country.

Kindly RSVP by November 30 to gsoriano@gfwc.org, or [click here](#) for more information and to register online.

GFWC Introduces a New Benefit of Membership

GFWC members are now eligible to receive discounts on goods and services, insurance, and travel. National companies such as Office Depot, Red Roof Inn, and Avis are offering significant price reductions to GFWC clubwomen. For instance, **with Collette Guided Tours GFWC members can save up to \$100 on tour packages around the world.** Collette's diverse travel collection features inclusive land tours, river cruises, rail journeys, family vacations, and more. From Italy to Australia to the Canadian Rockies and beyond, Collette takes care of the details while you experience the world.

Visit GFWC.org to learn about this discount and many more.

November Honor Flight

GFWC is committed to supporting our nation's veterans and is proud that our members are major supporters of the [Honor Flight Network](#), a national organization dedicated to transporting veterans to visit their memorials in Washington, D.C. GFWC International President Sheila E. Shea and staff were incredibly proud to welcome veterans from the Honor Flight of West Central



Wreaths Across America

Join GFWC on December 17, 2016 as we honor our nation's fallen veterans and participate in Wreaths Across America Day. GFWC International President Sheila E. Shea and staff will visit Arlington National Cemetery to participate in a wreath-laying ceremony, and we encourage you to join us! If you aren't able to make it to Washington, D.C., consider participating in one of the 1,100 additional locations of Wreaths Across America. Learn more by visiting <http://www.wreathscrossamerica.org>. If you're interested in joining GFWC in D.C. this year, please email gfwc@gfwc.org.

Florida back in September. GFWC will be greeting another Honor Flight in Washington, D.C. in November, and we invite you to join us in recognizing our nation's veterans, especially as we prepare for Veteran's Day on November 11. For more details, please call 202-347-3168 or email gfwc@gfwc.org.

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Replenishing Our Public Libraries

Tying together clubwomen's generous financial contributions and passion for literacy with our mission of community



improvement through volunteer service is the [GFWC Disaster Relief – Library Replenishment Fund](#). The fund was created to assist public libraries that have been affected by natural or manmade disasters. Due to flooding in Rainelle, West Virginia and a fire in Mill City, Oregon, your donations have recently aided two GFWC clubs in rebuilding their local libraries.

The **Mill City Women’s Club** (Oregon) made the public library their primary concern long before disaster struck. The library is almost exclusively staffed by club volunteers, the board consist solely of clubwomen, and club members run the summer reading program. Since the Mill City Library was destroyed by fire in August of 2015, clubwomen have been instrumental in the rebuilding process. While a new site was donated by the local Presbyterian Church, it is an empty shell and much more is required to restore the library. Your donations will be utilized to purchase needed books, computers, and supplies.

Rainelle, West Virginia experienced a historic flood on June 23, 2016. Many homes and businesses were destroyed, including the public library, which was filled with over five feet of water. For this small town, the public library served many functions beyond distributing books — it was a place where citizens could go for entertainment and leisure, where low-income students were able to access the internet and complete school assignments, and where educational courses were taught.

GFWC – WV Rupert Woman’s Club is one of the organizations working to reopen this vital resource to the community. With the assistance of the GFWC Disaster Relief grant, they are much closer to making their goal a reality.

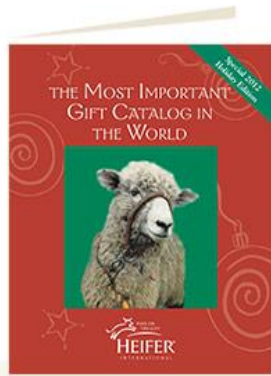
If your public library is in need of a Disaster Relief grant, please contact the Programs Department at Programs@GFWC.org. Donations to the fund are accepted through the [GFWC Marketplace](#) or by calling GFWC Headquarters at 1-800-443-GFWC.

Thank You

We would like to thank all of the clubs who have provided GFWC Headquarters with copies of their newsletters. Please continue to send copies to pr@gfwc.org or 1734 N Street NW, Washington, DC 20036.

In The News

GFWC Castana Jr. 76’ers (Iowa) were recently featured in the *Mapleton Press* for their revitalization of the shelter at Castana Park. Thirty years ago the club had the open-sided shelter house erected in the park and several picnic tables built. It was in need of a new roof and substantial repairs. To fund the project, the club applied for and was awarded four different grants. We applaud the hard work and determination of these outstanding clubwomen.



Partner Spotlight: Heifer International

The 2016 Holiday Gift Catalogs are in! Check out what gifts of hope your club can give to help end global hunger and poverty.

Whether your club decides to send a girl to school or provide a flock of chicks to a family in need, you will

be empowering women and their families to break out of a life of hunger, poverty, and hopelessness. You can order the new catalog for your club right [here](#). You can also share more about Heifer at your club meeting by ordering a GFWC Program Kit at www.heifer.org/gfwc. Let us know what your club is doing and how we can support your efforts by emailing gfwc@heifer.org.



Marketplace: GFWC Address Labels

These professional address labels are full color and include GFWC's emblem. Premium quality address labels are perfect for any correspondence. You have the option of including your club name and title on the labels. Labels are .75 inches tall by 2.25 inches wide. Purchase in quantities of 144 for \$20, 288 for \$27, or 360 for \$35. Shipping is included in the cost. Get yours today at [GFWC Marketplace](#).

Our Contact Information

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