

NEWS & NOTES

LIVING THE VOLUNTEER SPIRIT THROUGH GFWC

News & Notes - February 23, 2017



It's Our Time to Shine: 2017 GFWC Annual Convention at JW Marriott Desert Springs Resort and Spa from June 23-26

GFWC Clubwomen have shined throughout the year! We invite you to join us at the pristine JW Marriott in Palm Desert, California to celebrate those accomplishments, learn about new initiatives, and participate in the advancement of the organization.

The GFWC Room Block at the JW Marriott will open March 1. The best way to reserve a room is online at <https://aws.passkey.com/e/15882702>. You may also call for reservations at 760-341-2211.

The Call to Convention will be in the March+April Issue of *Clubwoman Magazine*, which is scheduled for distribution the second week of March. It will contain detailed information regarding travel/accommodations, agenda, tours, projects, awards, and more. Online registration officially opens on March 1 and can be accessed using this link



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 Membership Services Manager Kate

<http://www.cvent.com/d/2vqg5g/4W>, but you may want to first read the Call for a complete understanding of Convention activities.

To help with flight and hotel booking, here is a quick summary of Convention highlights.

Thursday, June 22 – An AM and PM Aerial Tramway and Celebrity Home tour which we are calling “Soaring Heights and Celebrity Sites”

Friday, June 23 – AM tour, Board of Directors meetings, GFWC California hosts “An Evening at the Oasis”

Saturday, June 24 – Opening Ceremony, Partner Luncheon and Workshops, Awards Banquet and “Dice, Dice Baby” Casino Fun Night

Sunday, June 25 – Two Business Sessions, ESO Breakfast, Region Luncheons

Monday, June 26 – GFWC Workshops, Awards Brunch, “Puttin’ on the Ritz” Gala Banquet

We are very excited about the venue, the activities, and the speakers we have in store. We hope you make plans to attend!



Stitching Together a Stronger Community

GFWC Missouri President Janet Ryan aims to celebrate American traditions and aid farming communities through the creation of barn quilts.

Garlick at kgarlick@gfwc.org and you're all set!

Cares and Concerns

GFWC is deeply saddened by the passing of Millie Schumann, the mother of GFWC Legislation/Public Policy Chairman Becky Weber. Our thoughts are with Becky during this time. Condolences can be sent to:

Becky Weber
602 Malone Court
Metamora, Illinois 61548-9121

Funeral Service information:

Gress, Kallal & Schaaf Funeral Home
Hardin, Illinois
Thursday, February 23
Visitation 5 p.m.-8 p.m.
Friday, February 24
10:00am mass
St. Anselms, Kampsville, Illinois

Sadly, we must inform you that **Carol Clark**, GFWC Idaho President from 2010-2012, has passed away. We know GFWC Idaho has lost a great leader. Our thoughts go out to Carol's family and friends. Please send condolences to:

Family of Carol Clark
8841 W. River Beach Lane
Boise, Idaho 83714

The tradition of barn quilts in America began when immigrants from the Rhine region of Germany arrived in the U.S. 300 years ago. Having fled religious persecution in Germany, Amish, Lutheran, and Mennonite settlers began painting small patterns on the ends of barns as a way to honor their heritage. In the early 2000s, an enterprising Ohio resident resurrected the tradition as a means of drawing tourists to small towns. Farmers placed 8 feet by 8 feet squares depicting a single quilt block on the exteriors of their barns or houses.

Organizers of the Ohio project mapped together all of the barn quilts and created a quilt trail for tourists to follow. When other communities heard of the Ohio trails' success, they began replicating the project across the Midwest. President Ryan sees barn quilts as a way to draw tourists to farms, bring diverse segments of society together, educate the public on local products, and add art to communities in a single stroke. GFWC Missouri clubwomen cannot accomplish this endeavor alone. They plan to work with scouts, government officials, craftsmen, farmers, and business leaders. President Ryan is building the required coalition by giving presentations and appearing on local television programs to promote the project.

Missouri clubwomen will also be aided by author and barn quilt expert Suzi Pardon. Ms. Pardon will speak at an April 2018 meeting and hold a class on how to construct a barn quilt square. If you wish to follow the example of our GFWC Missouri clubwomen and construct a barn quilt of your own, free tutorials are available online through [wikiHow](http://www.wikihow.com).

We are certain that President Ryan will achieve her goal of "boosting the local economy, improving communities, and preserving American history" as more and more barn quilts are added to the Missouri landscape.

Read Across America 2017



Anyone who has volunteered to read to children at a local school or worked as a literacy tutor knows the value of a good book. Read Across America Day on March 2 gives

SPRING INTO FUNDRAISING

Spring Fundraising season is right around the corner and so are the State Conventions.

Terri Lynn cannot make it to all of the Conventions, so they are offering your State Convention Planning Committees their

FREE Raffle Program!

They will send all of the needed supplies to get you started and a bountiful Raffle Basket of Terri Lynn products to a lucky winner! Sweet!

Request a Raffle Kit by emailing Kim Graziano at kim.graziano@terrylynn.com or calling today:

(800) 323-0775

terrylynnfundraising.com



Apply for the Croly Award

The Jane Cunningham Croly Award for Excellence in Journalism Covering Issues of Concern to Women, or simply the Croly Award, recognizes journalists who best capture the courage, vision, and

clubwomen an opportunity to promote the GFWC Education Community Service Program and participate in projects that encourage reading. This event takes place every year on Dr. Seuss's birthday, who famously wrote that "You're never too old, too wacky, too wild, to pick up a book and read to a child."

This year, many clubs will participate in Read Across America Day by visiting elementary schools and reading to students. As mothers, grandmothers, aunts, and family friends, clubwomen also read to children at home every day throughout the year. This is especially important as the National Center for Education Statistics reports that children who are read to at home are better readers. But in addition to reading aloud for children, clubwomen love to read for their own enjoyment as well!

Are you a member of Epsilon Sigma Omicron or another book club? If so, you know the value of reading and discussing your opinions about books with others. To celebrate the joy of reading and Read Across America Day, GFWC Education Chairman Chris Sienkielewski is encouraging members to share what they loved about a book they have read. GFWC will post responses and photos to a board on the GFWC Pinterest page, sparking a discussion and allowing clubwomen to see what other members are reading. Learn more on the GFWC blog: www.gfwc.org/read-across-america-2017.

Prepare for Women's History Month

Women's History Month in March gives GFWC a platform to share our nearly 127-year-history of volunteer service. In addition to attending the Women's History Month Reception on March 9, you can get involved in a number of ways on GFWC social media.

Share posts with the hashtag #BecauseofHer

Because of the efforts of clubwomen such as Jane Cunningham Croly, Eleanor Roosevelt, and Lilly Ledbetter, women enjoy more equality and freedom today than many of our forefathers. Starting March 1, GFWC will be sharing posts highlighting the accomplishments of clubwomen throughout history using the hashtag #BecauseofHer. We encourage you to use this hashtag in your posts as well. A hashtag is simply a word or phrase—in this case, Because of Her—preceded by a hash or pound sign

spirit of Jane Cunningham Croly. The Croly Award winner will demonstrate concern for the rights and advancement of women in our society; an awareness of women's strength and bravery; and/or an attempt to counteract existing sexism.

We encourage all clubs, clubwomen, and partners to spread the word to any print, broadcast, or digital publication that may be interested in submitting an entry for this prestigious award. [Click here](#) to download the entry form and guidelines for the 2017 Croly Award.

All applications must be received by March 15, 2017.

Join the GFWC Juniores Instagram!

The GFWC Juniores Instagram officially launched last week and clubs from across the nation are being highlighted. Clubs already featured include GFWC Temple Terrace Juniores (Florida), GFWC Alpine High School Juniores (Texas), GFWC River Bluff High School (South Carolina), and GFWC New Tampa Juniores (Florida). If you would like to learn about the accomplishments of these outstanding clubs, download the Instagram App and follow GFWC Juniores.

Should you wish to have the club you sponsor included on the site, please send a photograph and short description to pr@gfwc.org.

(#). Putting a pound sign before a phrase turns it into a link. Using the hashtag #BecauseofHer will group all posts using this hashtag together, so if you search #BecauseofHer on Facebook or Twitter or click on the link created by the hashtag, you will see all of the posts that have used this hashtag. You can turn any phrase into a hashtag, but some common ones that GFWC uses include #WisdomWednesday, #ThrowbackThursday, and #OnThisDay. Please [click here](#) to read more about hashtags, and send any questions to pr@gfwc.org.

Submit stories of local clubwomen for the GFWC

Pinterest Page

Do you know a clubwoman whose accomplishments have made your town a better place? We would like to showcase these stories on the GFWC Pinterest page as part of Women's History Month. Send a photo and caption describing the work of notable clubwomen in your town, past or present, to pr@gfwc.org.

Update Your Profile Picture and Cover Photo

Stay tuned to the [GFWC Facebook page](#) and *News & Notes* for information on updating your profile picture and cover photos to promote Women's History Month.



You're Invited

This March marks the 31st Women's History Month in which thousands of cultural, historic, and philanthropic institutions around the country will celebrate the contributions of women throughout history. On March 9, GFWC will host our annual Women's History Month Reception at Headquarters. Page Harrington, Executive Director of the National Women's Party (NWP), will speak about the history of the NWP, its Headquarters' recent induction as a National Park Service site, and the importance of including women's history in public spaces.

Founded in 1917, the National Women's Party was host to women who sought to advocate for suffrage. The NWP engaged Congress and the country through the organization of nonviolent protest methods such as marches, pickets, speaking tours, and hunger strikes. Their determination captured the attention of the nation and garnered public support for the women's suffrage movement. Today, the NWP continues its work from the same house in which Alice Paul and fellow suffragists operated. The Belmont-Paul Women's Equality National Monument serves as both a museum and the headquarters of the NWP. Last year, the Belmont-Paul house received its landmark status, and



President Shea Speaks at Rotary Club of Washington D.C.

GFWC International President Sheila E. Shea was invited by GFWC Maryland Clubwoman Tin Tin Raschid to speak at a recent luncheon at the Rotary Club of Washington D.C.

President Shea provided Rotarians with insight into the history of GFWC, as well as information about our headquarters and strong ties in the D.C. community.

Partner Spotlight: Prevent Child Abuse America

This April, we're bringing everyone together to recognize the fact that we all have a role to play in the healthy development of children. It's easier than you think to make an impact on children in your community—mentor, advocate, or donate! Learn more at preventchildabuse.org.

Mentor

Mentor a child or parent in your community by coaching a rec sports team, offering assistance to a new parent, or volunteer to help staff with school programs.

Advocate

Let your elected officials know you support programs that make a difference for families in your community. From home visiting to prevention services, you can call or write your federal, state, and local legislators to tell them you want them to make children a priority!

Donate

Organizations like Prevent Child Abuse America rely on support from individuals like you to keep serving children and families. Every donation makes a difference!

Shot@Life Champion Summit

Next Monday through Wednesday, GFWC clubwomen from all over the country will be joining the United Nations Foundation Shot@Life campaign in Washington, D.C. for the Champion Summit. This is an annual event when they will become trained advocates on behalf of global health funding to save the lives of children in the world's most hard-to-reach areas.

California, Washington, Kentucky, Illinois, Ohio, Florida, and Pennsylvania will have GFWC clubwomen representing them on

officially became a part of the National Park Service. This ensured that the home and the history of the National Women's Party will be preserved and open to the public for generations to come. The NWP celebrated this monumental achievement in April 2016 with an induction ceremony featuring President Barack Obama.

Under the leadership of Page Harrington, the NWP currently works to promote the preservation of women's history, and to advocate for women's history education.

The [Women's History Month Reception](#) will be held from 2-4 p.m on March 9. It is open to all clubwomen, as well as the public. Light refreshments will be served. Please join us for what is sure to be a truly historic and enlightening event!

A Celebration of International Women's Day

Will you be in the Washington, D.C. area on March 8, International Women's Day? Rotary, Oppenheimer & Co., and the World Bank is hosting a "Celebration of International Women's Day" event featuring a discussion about women who have changed the world. Please [click here](#) to register.

In The News

The **GFWC Century Club of Amsterdam** (New York) recently hosted "Planes, Trains, Boats and Fast Cars" for

the Hill, but one way you can help support their efforts is to visit our digital toolkit by clicking [here](#). That's where you will find resources and tools to show support on your social media accounts (to help amplify our message on the Hill).

In April, we will also have our Advocate2Vaccinate challenge, which is a national effort by our champions to impact our members of Congress leading up to World Immunization week. For more information, please email champions@shotatlife.org.

children ages three to ten. This event, which raises money for scholarships, allows children to race cars, design paper airplanes, compete in sailboat races, and participate in other fun activities. [Click here](#) to read an article about this event in the *Leader-Herald*.



Marketplace: GFWC Stylus Pen

The GFWC Stylus pen is great for all clubwomen, and an easy handout for group events. Featuring a stylus tip that works on all touchscreen devices, this high-shine, black-ink pen is available in purple, blue, and teal. Get yours today for \$3 each at the GFWC Marketplace!

[Click here](#) to order yours at the GFWC Marketplace.

Our Contact Information

General Federation of Women's Clubs
1734 N. Street NW
Washington, DC 20036
202-347-3168

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