

NEWS & NOTES

LIVING THE VOLUNTEER SPIRIT THROUGH GFWC

News & Notes - May 25, 2017



Honoring Our Military

President Ronald Reagan began his 1986 Memorial Day address at Arlington National Cemetery with these eloquent words, "Today is the day we put aside to remember fallen heroes and to pray that no heroes will ever have to die for us again. It's a day of thanks for the valor of others, a day to remember the splendor of America and those of her children who rest in this cemetery and others."

GFWC clubwomen have striven to remember our fallen soldiers and support active members of the military, since the Federation's founding. From raising funds to buy aircraft during World War II, to advocating for legislation allowing female WWII pilots inurnment rights in Arlington National Cemetery, to support of the United Service Organization (USO), clubwomen have never failed to appreciate and recognize the sacrifices of the bravest among us.

In the past, women largely supported their servicemen from the home front. This was particularly true during WWII, when

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

nearly 6 million women entered the U.S. workforce to fill positions left by enlisted men in factories and munitions plants. The symbolic representation of these women was “Rosie the Riveter” and to this day women who served in these vital jobs are referred to as “Rosies.” GFWC is proud to say that many Rosies are also members of our Federation.

Over the last few weeks, GFWC has collected the names and stories of our Rosies for an upcoming article in *Clubwoman Magazine*. In honor of Memorial Day, we would like to share the story of one these extraordinary women, Jennifer Marie Conaway McMullen, with you now. [Click here](#) to read Jennifer’s account of working as riveter in a Lockheed aircraft factory and marrying a WWII airplane pilot.

This Memorial Day let us salute the contributions of all our American heroes, both those who have passed and those still in our lives, by listening to their stories and keeping their memories alive.



Project Linus Comforts Children in Need

It all began on Christmas Eve 1995 when an article by Pulitzer Prize-winning photojournalist Eddie Adams appeared in *Parade Magazine* and touched the heart of Karen Loucks. The article was entitled “Joy to the World” and spoke of a courageous three-year-old girl who had been fighting leukemia for more than half her life. Charlotte Barry-Williams, the little girl’s mother, was quoted as saying, “Laura has unusual compassion for others, I guess part of the reason is that she has

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



Red Nose Day

GFWC Headquarters thanks all of the clubs who participated in Red Nose Day. Red Nose Day works to end child poverty – one Red Nose at a time. Money raised through purchasing a Red Nose at your local Walgreens or Duane Reade store supports programs that ensure children in need are safe, healthy, and well educated. Half of all funds donated will be spent in the United States on projects close to home. The other half will be allocated to some of the most disadvantaged communities in Latin America, Africa, and Asia.

[Click here](#) to view the GFWC Facebook album of Red Nose Day photographs.

experienced so much pain herself. A special 'blankie' has helped Laura get through years of intensive chemotherapy. She takes it to the hospital whenever she goes for treatment."

To Karen Loucks, Laura's story was unforgettable and motivated her to begin providing homemade security blankets to Denver's Rock Mountain Children's Cancer Center. Thus, Project Linus was born. Today, Project Linus is comprised of nearly 400 chapters across the United States and provides blankets to children involved in stressful or traumatic situations. Project Linus coordinators accept new, handmade, washable blankets and afghans for donation to children up to 18-years of age. The [national website for Project Linus](#) provides guidelines on what kind of blankets are suitable and multiple types of [blanket patterns](#).

If you would like to join the American Women's Club of Toronto (Canada), the Austintown Junior Women's League (Ohio), and ACC Woman's Club (North Carolina) in their support of Project Linus, [click here](#) to visit their website and learn what chapter is located nearest to you.

Pictured is the ACC Woman's Club (North Carolina). GFWC Headquarters thanks the club's Public Relations and Social Media Chairman Hillary Luton for providing the image.

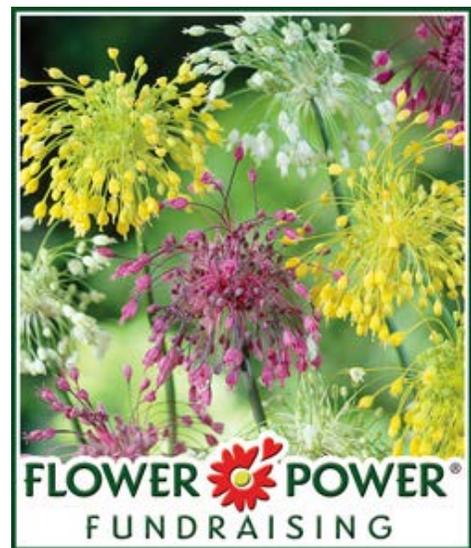


Last Week to Register for Convention!

The 2017 GFWC Annual Convention is fast approaching. The deadline for registration is Thursday, June 1. Please visit

Cast Your Ballot in the GFWC Video Contest

In the spirit of coming together to recognize our dynamic past and exciting future, GFWC is hosting a video contest. Each of the three finalist submitted a video answering the question, "What does being a GFWC clubwoman mean to you?" Now, clubwomen across the nation are invited to vote for their favorite entry. View the efforts of **GFWC Connecticut**, **GFWC Melbourne Woman's Club** (Florida), and the **Nevada Mesquite Club**, before casting your ballot by [clicking here](#). Voting will take place from May 15 to May 31. Contest rules allow for a maximum of one vote per person, per day.



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

<http://www.cvent.com/d/2vqg5g/4W> or contact Derek Tennant (202-347-2938) to secure your spot.

Need ground transportation? If you are flying into Palm Springs International Airport, check out Skycap Shuttle at 760-272-5988 or AM/PM Shuttle at 760-409-8826. Both companies offer significantly reduced prices for group reservations.

For those with everything booked, here's a potential suitcase packing checklist.

- Formal attire for the Gala, comfy clothing for the tour, cocktail/business for dinners, business casual for most other meetings, flip-flops and sunscreen for the pool
- Donations for the USO Service Project and California Dreamin' Raffle
- Shopping money for the awesome vendor merchandise
- A camera to capture the amazing views

If you can, leave a little empty space...because you'll need it to carry back all the ideas, information, and memories from the 2017 Convention!

GFWC Oregon Continues Their Literacy Legacy

GFWC Oregon President Mary Accettura's love of reading was inspired by attending her local library's story hour as a child and has only grown stronger over time. Today, President Accettura is rarely found without a book and generally has at least five volumes cluttering her bedside table. Therefore, when she was asked, "What will be the Special Project for your administration?" literacy was the natural and immediate response.

Of course, this is not the first time Oregon clubwomen have supported literacy projects. The Oregon Federation arose when 13 women's clubs joined forces to urge creation of the state's public libraries in 1899. As a result of their combined advocacy efforts, legislation was passed that formed the foundation of Oregon's current public library system.

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.

Travel to Aruba with the GFWC Juniors!

GFWC Director of Junior Clubs Jolie Frankfurth invites you to the Caribbean island of Aruba January 25-28, 2018. During the tour, you will stay at the all-inclusive Barcelo Aruba Resort located in Palm-Eagle Beach. With direct access to the beach you may enjoy time in a hammock on the sand or in the water engaging in sports such as snorkeling, windsurfing, or diving. The resort also features a spectacular swimming pool and opportunities to relax in the stunning gardens.

While on the trip, each traveler will assist the GFWC Women's Club of Aruba during the Day of Service. You will have your choice of helping with one of two projects the club regularly supports. The Dress a Child Project provides over 300

The assistance of GFWC Oregon clubwomen remains essential when it comes to promoting literacy programs. As President Accettura says, "literacy is the key to a successful and productive life." Yet, in Oregon 32 percent of third grade students have been found to read below grade level. When considering only economically disadvantaged children the percentage rises to 45 percent. One of the outstanding programs President Accettura is asking clubwomen to consider replicating in their own communities to improve literacy is "Books on the Bus."

Launched by a bus driver seeking a means of controlling rowdy students on their way to and from school, Books on the Bus provides free books to students during their commute. The program not only had the expected outcome of keeping students engaged in a meaningful activity while bus drivers focus on safe transportation, but it also proved to have many additional benefits. One of the primary benefits is that underprivileged children, many of whom live in homes without a single publication, now have the opportunity to own their first book and discover the joy of reading.

GFWC clubwomen like President Accettura excel at identifying public ails and addressing them through grassroots projects and advocacy. The work of the Oregon Federation in their century long commitment to literacy exemplifies how our organization has made a difference in American culture and continues to fight for progress.

Partner Spotlight: UNICEF

Human trafficking has been reported in all 50 states, this is an issue impacting all of us within our own communities. California, New York, Florida, Ohio, and Texas have the highest rates of human trafficking. Human trafficking and forced labor reaps profits of \$150 billion annually. Over five million children are victims of human trafficking and forced labor. **You can make a difference!**

Please continue to support UNICEF USA's End Trafficking project through fundraising, education, and advocacy! Please contact

local children with a complete outfit once a year, while the Medio Ambiente Goes to School Project donates lunch boxes and water bottles to all the first grade students on the island.

The trip rate is \$825 per person (double occupancy) and payment is due September 1, 2017. The fee includes three nights deluxe accommodations, all meals, a cocktail party with the Women's Club of Aruba, round-trip ground transportation to and from the hotel, and taxes/fees. A \$70 per person deposit will hold one of the 32 available rooms.

For additional information visit www.gfwcjuniorstour.com or call Abora Travel Agent Diania Pimenta at 813-563-2404.

Wear Orange for Gun Violence Awareness

Join the fight to end gun violence by wearing orange on June 2, National Gun Violence Awareness Day. The Wear Orange movement began as a way to honor Hadiya Pendleton, a 15-year-old victim of gun violence in Chicago. Hadiya's friends chose orange because it is the color hunters in the woods wear to protect themselves. Since 2013 the campaign has grown into a national movement to remember all victims of gun violence. Learn more at <https://wearorange.org>

Manager of Global Cause Partnerships Mansi Mehta at mmehta@unicefusa.org for the resources listed below.

- The *Not My Life* documentary which portrays the cruel and horrific reality of trafficking occurring across the globe
- A guide to the documentary which may be used to facilitate a discussion after the screening
- A fair trade event fundraiser idea to host after the documentary screening (or separately)
- Human Trafficking bingo sheets
- GFWC donation forms
- Fundraising toolkit

Should you wish to learn more, or have questions please plan to attend Mansi's workshop at the upcoming Convention!



Marketplace: GFWC Infinity Scarves

The GFWC infinity scarf is made of lightweight and slightly sheer fabric, measures 21" x 70", and is

seamed together to create a loop. Our custom looped scarf provides high fashion appeal so you can look and feel your best whether you are dressing up or down! Wrap yourself in this soft and silky Viscose scarf, a perfect stylish GFWC accessory. Scarves are available in black with white lettering and white with purple emblems for only \$20 each. [Click here](#) to order yours at the GFWC Marketplace.

Help Welcome The Honor Flight

GFWC has become part of the Day in D.C. routine for Honor Flight West Central Florida missions and we have once again been asked to help roll out the red carpet for these true American Heroes. GFWC Florida does an outstanding job of sending them off and welcoming them home in the airport...and with GFWC headquartered in Washington D.C., we have experienced first-hand the tremendous privilege of welcoming the buses filled with honorees and guardians alike. Join GFWC International President Sheila Shea and members of the GFWC staff **Tuesday, June 6 at 10:00 a.m.** at the United States Air Force Memorial located at 1 Air Force Memorial Drive Arlington, Virginia - and experience this amazing program for yourself. All you need is a smile, handshakes and hugs to share, and a love of country.

Please let us know if you plan to join us by calling 202-347-3168.

In The News

The **GFWC Tifton Twentieth Century Library Club** (Georgia) recently received media attention for hosting their second annual fashion show. Proceeds from the dinner and program will allow the club to award a college scholarship in honor of two beloved teachers from the area. [Click here](#) to read the full article.

Our Contact Information

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

[Unsubscribe](#) | [Manage email preferences](#)

