

NEWS & NOTES

LIVING THE VOLUNTEER SPIRIT THROUGH GFWC

News & Notes - June 1, 2017



Remembering Marijo Shide

It is with great sadness that we announce the passing of Marijo Shide, GFWC International Past President from 1980-1982, on Monday, May 22, 2017.

Born and raised in Grand Forks, North Dakota, Marijo managed her father's grain-testing laboratory until she married Don Shide, a lawmaker and farmer. The couple settled in Larimore, ND and community improvement became the focus Marijo's active volunteer career — a career that culminated in becoming GFWC's 33rd International President.

President Shide assumed office during a turbulent time in America's history and at a point when volunteers were greatly undervalued. However, she was among the first to answer President Reagan's call for a "rejuvenation of the volunteer spirit" and her term included many impressive accomplishments. From launching a marketing campaign to promote Federation, to oversight of the first GFWC Distinguished Volunteer Awards, to the creation of a national crime prevention program, President Shide's administration not only achieved its many goals but

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

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made a lasting impact on our organization. As remarked by GFWC International President Sheila Shea, Marijo fulfilled her life-long belief that "Volunteer service is the rent we pay for the privileges we enjoy."

During her term, President Shide traveled extensively in order to visit GFWC international affiliates, to attend the eighth International Congress of Women in Germany, and to participate in the 60th anniversary of the National Federation of Woman's Clubs of the Philippines. When asked about meeting clubwomen from such different cultures President Shide stated, "They spoke different languages, had different levels of education, lived in different economic circumstance, but the interesting thing was that the women were the same...these were givers, not takers. It was an awe-inspiring adventure. And to meet people who are in service to others and to be part of it — I guess I enjoyed everywhere I was and was happy to be there."

At the conclusion of her administration, Marijo returned to Larimore but she did not stop volunteering with either her local club or the many other organizations she supported. President Shide went on to serve six-years on the State Board of Higher Education, to receive the U.S. Air Force Distinguished Public Service Award in 2009, and to accept the Henry Havig Award for Community Service — the highest recognition given to her community's civic society leaders.

A memorial service for President Shide will be held at 4:30 p.m. on Thursday, June 1 at Parkwood Place in Grand Forks, North Dakota. Additional information regarding funeral arrangements and condolences has been posted to [GFWC's website](#).

Lazy Days of Summer.....NOT!

By Jan Allen, GFWC Leadership Committee Chairman

Most of our GFWC clubs take the summer off. However, I would like to add a little twist to your summer plans. These less eventful days of the club year can be a great time to do some learning, planning, and bonding. Here's some ideas on how to

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

Congratulations to GFWC Melbourne Woman's Club

The **Melbourne Woman's Club** (Florida) has won the GFWC video contest! If you have not yet viewed their response to the question, "What does being a GFWC clubwoman mean to you?" [click here](#) to see their amazing work.

GFWC Membership Is "The Real Deal"

Congratulations to the many GFWC clubs who took the Membership challenge of "52 Pick-Up-A Membership Tool" and reported their successful stories. Thank you for sharing the creative Membership events planned and implemented. Your efforts have really reaped incredible results! Now, the hard work begins. Involve your new members and keep their enthusiasm fresh and contagious. Help these ladies find the right programs and projects that match their talents and expertise. Matching the right members to the right volunteer opportunities will help retain them in the future. Thanks for sharing that GFWC Membership is The Real Deal!

use summer downtime to get ready to begin September with a **ROAR!**

R – Have a Retreat. Take a weekend to bond with your officers, or even the entire club. Regular business and board meetings are tough venues to get to know someone on a personal level. Time together over food and activities can lead to wonderful conversations and great ideas.

O – Hold an Orientation for new members and officers. New members need to know how your club operates, and what the club expects of them. Encourage them to join or even chair a committee!

A – Attitude Readjustment. Has your club hosted the same fundraiser for years? Have they been successful in attracting new members? Consider new speakers and new projects for the CSPs. Invite members to brainstorming sessions. Remember, no idea is a bad idea. Everything is on the table. Involve everyone – collaboration invites creativity.

R – Realistic Strategic Planning. I harken back to my corporate days when endless strategic planning sessions led by very expensive consultants accomplished little. Avoid that scenario by bringing your leaders together for a healthy discussion on your goals and where you want to be at the end of the club year. Focus on a couple of realistic, doable, awesome projects and go for it!

I miss my club friends over the summer months. These summer “to do” lists can bring everyone together and give you enthusiasm for your upcoming club year. Best wishes for a wonderful summer!



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Vote in the GFWC Shares Poll!

Participate in the following poll and your responses might be included in the July + August edition of *GFWC Clubwoman Magazine*.



GFWC Pennsylvania Works to Enrich, Educate, Empower – Every Child, Every Day

For a teacher, school administrator, mother, and grandmother, there can be no higher priority than children. Because GFWC Pennsylvania President Lois Richards has been all four roles, she knows that children must be “enriched, educated, and empowered every day” in order to have a successful future. It is only with proper support from both family and community that children will flourish and become productive, well-adjusted citizens.

President Richard’s goals for her administration’s Special Project include encouraging clubwomen to expand work on their current projects and to develop new programs focusing on children. One project recently completed by Pennsylvania’s clubwomen is the creation of fun gift bags filled with crayons, coloring books, stuffed toys, and other child-friendly items for donation to hospitals and homeless shelters. Pennsylvania clubwomen created 450 care packages during this year’s annual business meeting and state convention. Imagine the 450 smiles these gift packages created when received by 900 little hands!

To generate additional funds for the support of children, GFWC Pennsylvania is selling pins engraved with President Richard’s theme “Every Child, Every Day”. Proceeds from the pins and 50/50 raffles held during each of six fall district meetings have been given to local charities to improve the health and welfare of children in their schools and communities.

Road trips are a great way to travel the land. If you were planning an unforgettable road trip, where would you go and who would you take? Email your responses to pr@gfwc.org.

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>

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

It is clear that GFWC Pennsylvania's clubwomen have wholeheartedly embraced President Richard's agenda. So far, 127 projects have been accomplished brightening the lives of countless children!

Partner Spotlight: St. Jude Children's Research Hospital

For the second year, GFWC is showing support of St. Jude Children's Research Hospital by participating in the St. Jude Walk/Run to End Childhood Cancer as a national team. Held each September, this event brings together communities in 63 cities across the United States. Participating in this year's event can be a fun way for you to join your fellow clubwomen to help St. Jude continue their mission of finding cures to save many young and precious lives.

Getting involved is easy! Join the GFWC team today by visiting www.fundraising.stjude.org/gfwc to register and become a member of the GFWC team in your city. Recruit your fellow clubwomen to become team members and ask your friends and family to join as well. Finally, walk/run with us in September to raise money for the kids of St. Jude. GFWC clubs raised over \$31,000 for St. Jude at last year's Walk/Run. Our goal is to raise \$ 35,000 this year. Please join us in the St. Jude Walk/Run to End Childhood Cancer.

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

GFWC North Pinellas (Florida) clubwoman Debbie Struk recently received the 2017 Men and Women of Distinction Award. Debbie was recognized for her many volunteer activities including the Book Fairy Project. The goal of the project was to recycle gently used books back into the community. Over the last 12 years, 30,000 books have been distributed. [Click here](#) to learn more about Debbie's outstanding accomplishments in her community.



Marketplace: 2018 Buy a Day

Have you ever wanted a day all to yourself? You can have your own day, literally, with the 2018 Year in Pictures Calendar. GFWC offers members the opportunity to "buy a

day" in the calendar. Purchase a day for yourself, a friend, your club, and/or your State Federation through the [GFWC Marketplace](#). It is the perfect way to recognize special people and events, and share them with the GFWC community!

Guidelines:

- The last day to Buy A Day is September 30, 2017.
- Please select the day you would like to purchase from the dropdown menu.
- Include your message (For example: Happy Birthday Ashley! Love, Nina).
- Only one message is permitted per day with 50 characters maximum, text only and no graphics or clip art.
- The 2018 Year in Pictures Calendar will be featured as a bonus pull-out in the November+December issue of the *GFWC Clubwoman Magazine*.
- One copy of the November+December *GFWC Clubwoman Magazine* featuring the 2018 Year in Pictures Calendar is included with purchase.
- Everyone who purchases a day will be acknowledged in the GFWC 2018 Year in Pictures Calendar.

Days are allocated on a first-come, first-served basis, determined by date and time of the reservation, and when payment is received. If you purchase a day that has already been reserved, GFWC will contact you to choose an alternative day.

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