

NEWS & NOTES

LIVING THE VOLUNTEER SPIRIT THROUGH GFWC

News & Notes - July 6, 2017



It's Our Time to Shine: The 2017 GFWC Annual Convention

From June 23-26, GFWC clubwomen gathered in sunny Palm Springs, California to celebrate their achievements, make new Federation friends, learn from the many workshops and speakers, and enjoy their *Time to Shine*.

Even prior to the official opening of Convention, the excitement was well underway thanks to the "Evening at the Oasis" State Night Banquet hosted by the amazing members of GFWC California. The fun continued through Saturday's Opening Ceremony, the Junior Awards Banquet, and the "Dice Dice Baby Casino Night". At the Junior Awards Banquet, the Millie Crom Award for Excellence in Junior State Leadership at the Platinum Level was granted to Martha Casassa (GFWC Massachusetts), Preshus Howard (GFWC Kentucky), and Amanda Guidry (GFWC Tennessee). These were just three of the many individuals, clubs, and State Federations that would be recognized for their outstanding contributions to GFWC and their



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

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dedication to *Living the Volunteer Spirit* during this year's Convention.

Among the many Convention highlights was the inspirational speech by author Mary Lou Sanelli; a comedy performance by Dr. Ken Kern who is a physician and highly trained hypnotist; the singing of Karyn Charvet and Becca Wagman; and the dancing of our own Executive Committee at the "Thanks for the Memories" Awards Brunch. The Awards Brunch was also notable due to the attendee's completion of 850 Rack Packs as part of a Service Project benefiting the Bob Hope USO located in Palm Springs.

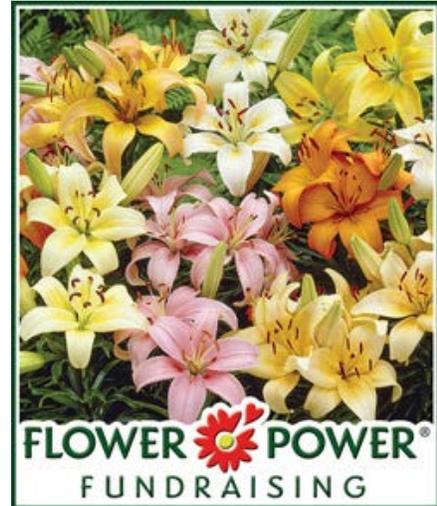
Convention gave members the opportunity to learn more about GFWC Partners through presentations at the "One Shining Moment" Partner lunch, at workshops, and at training sessions. As indicated by the numerous awards presented by each Partner, clubwomen have continued to support these worthy charities. There is no doubt that our efforts are improving communities and creating a better world for all.

As International President Sheila Shea said in her remarks, "We are here because of you--to celebrate you! Because *It Is Our Time to Shine!*" While the 2017 Convention has concluded, GFWC clubwomen will undoubtedly continue to shine and brighten countless lives.

[Click here](#) to view a wonderful Convention video by Josh Triggs of 3MI Photography.

We look forward to meeting you in St. Louis for the 2018 Convention!

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



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2017 LEADS GRADUATES!



Congratulations to the 2017 LEADS Class!

The Leadership, Education, and Development Seminar, better known as LEADS, is one of GFWC's most successful training tools. Started in 2002, LEADS has provided GFWC with hundreds of well-trained, and enthusiastic leaders. The 2017 LEADS class learned about GFWC history, how to make a successful presentation, conflict resolution, leadership skills, and much more in this day-long seminar. Congratulations to this year's graduates!

To learn more about LEADS, visit <http://www.gfwc.org/membership/leads-ilts>.

2017 Awards Program

The many awards given out at Convention will be recorded in the 2017 GFWC Convention Awards Program. As soon as the program is completed, it will be made available in the Resources section of GFWC.org and announced in a future issue of *News & Notes*.

In the News

GFWC Rhinelander Women's Club (Wisconsin) is hosting an exhibit entitled, "Wisconsin Remembers: A Face for Every Name". The art work honors the 1,161 Wisconsin veterans listed on the Vietnam Veterans Memorial in Washington, D.C. Photos of the veterans were collected by volunteers from throughout Wisconsin over the past eight years. Friends and family of those who were killed in Vietnam submitted photos, but so did students, teachers and others who simply wanted to put a face to the names listed on the memorial. Wisconsin is just the fifth state in the nation to find a photo for every resident lost during the war.

Read the full article featuring the Rhinelander Club, and find additional information about the traveling exhibit on [Wisconsin Public Radio's website](#).



Aela Callan Receives the Jane Cunningham Croly Award for Excellence in Journalism

During the Gala Banquet at the 2017 GFWC Annual Convention, International President Sheila E. Shea presented documentary filmmaker and journalist Aela Callan with the Jane Cunningham Croly Award for Excellence in Journalism Covering Issues of Concern to Women. The award recognizes media professionals who best capture the courage, vision, and spirit of GFWC's founder and pioneering journalist Jane Cunningham Croly. Recipients of the award demonstrate an interest in the advancement of women; an awareness of women's strength and courage; and attempts to counteract sexism in our society.

Aela Callan was selected for her eye-opening documentary, *Good Morning Pakistan: Journalist under Threat*, produced by Al Jazeera's 101 East program. The film follows the lives of journalists in Pakistan's tribal areas and effectively illustrates the incredible risks faced by female reporters in the area every day. Callan reveals how women's stories would go untold if not for the tireless work of reporters at Peshawar's Tribal News Network.

During her distinguished career, Callan has produced more than two dozen documentaries, won multiple gold prizes at the New York Festivals Film and Television Awards, and received the prestigious Walkley Award for Excellence in Journalism in her native Australia. Callan believes that great story telling can change lives in forgotten corners of the globe. "I want my

daughter to grow up in a world where women everywhere are equal and their voices are heard," Callan said.

At the conclusion of her acceptance speech for the Croly Award, Aela pledged the prize she received from GFWC to starting a scholarship fund for female journalists in Pakistan. Discover Callan's award-winning work for yourself by viewing her documentary on [101 East's website](#).



Marketplace: The Real Deal Membership Playing Cards

Used for both recruitment efforts and good plain fun, the [Real Deal Membership Playing Cards](#) are the perfect fit for any club. This

deck of playing cards features clubwomen from various locations and their description of what GFWC means to them. The cards cost \$5 per pack at the [GFWC Marketplace](#).

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