

NEWS & NOTES

LIVING THE VOLUNTEER SPIRIT THROUGH GFWC

News & Notes - October 5, 2017



Raise Breast Cancer Awareness: Early Detection Is Key

October is Breast Cancer Awareness Month, an annual campaign to bring attention to the symptoms of breast cancer, the value of early detection, and available treatment options. While approximately 1 in 8 American women will be diagnosed with breast cancer during their lifetime, most will survive if the cancer is found early. You can help make a difference by spreading word of the importance of mammograms and by supporting breast cancer awareness events. Here are examples of two GFWC clubs doing just that:

For more than twenty years, **GFWC Williamson Woman's Club** (West Virginia) has partnered with the local Health Department and the West Virginia Breast and Cervical Cancer Screening Fund to sponsor Breast Cancer Awareness Day the first Monday in October. This year's event included the traditional candle lighting ceremony in memory of those lost to breast cancer and the hanging of a wreath. Additionally, a luncheon was held and featured a Bring Your Own Bra (BYOB)

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

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Simply provide your name, mailing address, email, and club name to GFWC Membership Services Manager Kate

decorating contest. The event's keynote speaker was Jayne Ryan, an oncology nurse and member of GFWC Hamlin Woman's Club, who shared information about the non-profit [Knitted Knockers](#). During her presentation, Jayne explained that Knitted Knockers provides handmade breast prosthesis to women who have undergone mastectomies. Jayne also spoke of the organization's need for volunteers to knit the prosthesis.

The **Gulfport Women's Club** (Mississippi) supported the [Susan G. Komen Race for the Cure](#) by making monetary contributions, by participating in their "Tinkled Pink" program, and by taking part in the annual walk. The club has several members who are breast cancer survivors and many more whose lives have been touched by the disease. Club President Vanessa Edwards-Wasson stated, "It is very important to get the word out about breast cancer research, treatments, and support." While walk attendees were not required to wear pink tutus, the club has always encouraged members to do so. "It is simply so much fun," Wasson remarked. The club hosted a tutu making night prior to the race and over half of the club's members donned their creations during the event. As a result, one Gulfport clubwoman received the "Most Pinked" award for her outfit at the conclusion of the race.



Florida's Junior Clubwomen: Guardian Angels for Children

GFWC Florida Director of Junior Clubs Kelly Holmes wants every child, no matter their circumstances, to have a support system.

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

Cares and Concerns

We send our condolences to the family and friends of Past GFWC Maine President [Gloria Tewhey](#). Gloria served as president from 1992 to 1994 and her Special Project involved the support and growth of the Maine Youth Leadership annual conferences. Condolences may be sent to 3 Valley View Drive, Gorham, ME 04038.



New on the Blog!

Hosting a fall festival is a well-loved tradition many GFWC clubs share, as it's a perfect way to engage with their communities and celebrate the season together. Read the GFWC Blog to learn about clubs that bring together fun, food, and fundraising for the whole family!

http://bit.ly/GFWCBlog_fall

Kelly recognizes that many children in Florida's foster care system have no one to advocate on their behalf. To help these vulnerable children Kelly is asking Florida's clubwomen to support the [Guardian Ad Litem \(GAL\)](#) program through donations and by becoming guardians themselves.

Kelly's Special Project has touched the heart of many clubwomen and proven highly successful. In 2016 alone, Florida clubs reported 42 projects, 1,366 volunteer hours, \$5,048 in monetary contributions, and \$6,294 of in-kind donations. The clubs have gone above and beyond by creating a host of thoughtful projects. They have assembled birthday bags with party materials and gift cards to purchase a cake and a present, and have also collected Halloween costumes. These projects allow children in foster care to experience the enjoyment of childhood despite their difficult situations. Kelly said, "These children don't get birthday celebrations like other children. They don't get taken trick-or-treating. We have had such strong feedback to what we are doing. It is emotionally overwhelming to consider children in foster care and how the simple things we give our own children are taken for granted."

In addition to donations, the Guardian Ad Litem program seeks caring adults to act as court advocates and much more. A GAL volunteer often becomes a role model, mentor, educational surrogate, friend, and most important a consistent, loving adult on whom the child can rely. Kelly is hopeful that due to her promotion of the program more clubwomen will accept the challenge of becoming a GAL volunteer.

With an adopted daughter, the selection of her Special Project was a deeply personal choice for Kelly. "I think about all the children who don't get the chance my daughter got to have a forever family and it breaks my heart." Through her Special Project, Kelly and Florida's clubwomen are ensuring that children without a parent's support at least have a guardian angel.

GFWC App Contest: Advocates for Children Week



Juniors' Special Program: Advocates for Children Week

Trying to figure out how to put your passion for children into action? [Download this plan](#) by Chairman Deb Allen to discover a full week's worth of activities.

Quick Tips on Parliamentary Procedure

By GFWC Parliamentarian
Shirley Gomes

VOTING ON SUBSIDIARY MOTIONS: MAJORITY OR TWO- THIRDS?

All subsidiary motions require a majority vote with the exception of two motions – Previous Question and Limit or Extend Limits of Debate which require a two-thirds vote.

Previous Question is the motion used to bring the voting members to an immediate vote on the pending question (s).

Limit or Extend Limits of Debate is the motion that can limit debate by

The official GFWC App is a convenient way to stay connected with clubs all over the country and see the great projects and events they support.

To celebrate this year's Advocates for Children Week, GFWC is offering a contest! We're challenging clubs to upload a photo during the week on the official GFWC App and show how their club is making a difference for youth. Each club who uploads a photo will have their name entered into a raffle for the chance to win a \$100 gift card.

The Juniors' Special Program: **Advocates for Children Week takes place from Sunday, October 22 - Saturday, October 28**, and it's a time for clubs to find ways to support youth in their communities and around the world. Share a photo of your project or event on the GFWC App and you just might win the prize!

Don't know how to share a photo on the app? We're here to help. The official GFWC App is available for free on iPhone iOS and Android. First, find out how to download them by [clicking here](#).

Legislative Action Corner

Early Childhood Home Visits

On September 26, the House of Representatives narrowly approved legislation by a vote of 214-209 to reauthorize the Maternal, Infant, and Early Childhood Home Visiting Program for five years. Unfortunately, the bill included a provision requiring states to provide matching funds by fiscal year 2020. Please join GFWC and other child advocacy groups in urging the Senate and Congress to adopt alternative legislation ([S. 1829](#)) instead of the approved House of Representatives bill.

Domestic Violence Awareness Month

This year marks the 30th anniversary of Domestic Violence Awareness Month (DVAM). First observed in October 1987, Domestic Violence Awareness Month is focused on three key concerns: mourning those who have died as a result of domestic

reducing the number or length of speeches permitted – or it can extend the limits of debate by allowing more and longer debate than under the regular rules of debate.

Majority means “more than half” of those present and voting. Two-thirds vote of members is the expressed approval of those present and voting. It sometimes requires a standing vote, voice vote, or roll call vote if the chair is in doubt.

Now Available the Fall WHRC Newsletter

In this quarter's edition of the [WHRC Newsletter](#), we explore the role GFWC played in the establishment of free libraries around the country. Many GFWC clubs got their start as literary circles. As their initiatives and numbers grew, so did their accomplishments, and many clubs saw it as their duty to make sure their communities had access to books and literacy education. The stories in this newsletter, which span from Florida, to New York, to Alabama, recount how clubwomen turned free public libraries from an idea into reality.

violence, celebrating those who have survived, and connecting those who work to end violence.

To further the goals of Domestic Violence Awareness Month join the [GFWC Legislative Action Center](#). Together we will urge Congress to provide federal funding to support domestic violence shelters and prevention programs; advocate for laws protecting victims of intimate partner abuse from gun violence; and oppose legislation that would enable known offenders to purchase weapons. Current legislation opposed by GFWC includes bill [H.R. 3668](#) which deregulates gun silencers, and bill [H.R. 38](#). H.R. 38 would allow domestic violence offenders to cross state lines to purchase weapons their state of residence prevents them from owning. These bills could have fatal consequences for families and law enforcement officers.



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GFWC Florida on the TODAY show!

Honor Flight Network, a non-profit organization created to recognize America's veterans, transports our heroes to Washington D.C. to visit and reflect at their memorials. Missions are made possible due to the volunteer efforts of guardians who accompany veterans and ensure that their missions are a safe, memorable, and rewarding experience.

Each year, the GFWC New Tampa Junior Woman's Club (Florida) sponsors a guardian. This year, Rebecca Browning was the lucky clubwoman selected to attend the September 26 mission. Also in attendance as guardians and representing the New

In the News

GFWC Bridgeport Junior Woman's Club (West Virginia) and the local Kroger Supermarket are hosting their second annual "Grocery Grab" shopping spree fundraiser with all proceeds to benefit the area's backpack program.

Tampa club were GFWC Director of Junior Clubs/Past President Jolie Frankfurth, New Tampa President Melanie Otte, Parliamentarian/Past President Jennifer Lee, and Past President Michele Small. Serving as a guardian from the GFWC Plant City Junior Woman's Club was Lindsay Atkinson.

The clubwomen/guardians met the veterans they would be accompanying at 4 a.m. on Tuesday. While waiting for their flight and enjoying a quick breakfast, one World War II veteran played his harmonica and was later featured on the Today show. [Click here](#) to view a video of his performance and be sure to keep an eye out for our GFWC clubwomen.

At the conclusion of their trip, the veterans were welcomed home by over a thousand community members. Many GFWC clubs were represented among the well-wishers including: GFWC Fabulous Flamingo Flock Cyber Club, GFWC Woman's Club of Tarpon Springs, GFWC Tampa Woman's Club, GFWC New Tampa Junior Woman's Club, GFWC Pinellas Seminole Woman's Club, GFWC Brandon Service League, GFWC Clearwater Women's Club, and GFWC Plant City Junior Woman's Club.

The grand prize winner will be awarded a two-minute grocery shopping spree. According to club co-presidents Anna Matheny and Elizabeth Rice McDow, the Bridgeport Juniors are committed to their state's Special Project, "Feed Our Future," and have been actively supporting backpack programs and school food pantries. To learn more about this exciting fundraiser, read the full article in [The Exponent Telegram](#).



Marketplace: Columbus Day Sale

Celebrate Columbus Day with GFWC. Enjoy a 5% discount on your order when you shop at the [GFWC Marketplace](#) on Monday, October 9, 2017.

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