

NEWS & NOTES

LIVING THE VOLUNTEER SPIRIT THROUGH GFWC

News & Notes - September 21, 2017



Go Teal for Ovarian Cancer Awareness Month

The Center for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) estimates that more than 22,000 Americans will be diagnosed with ovarian cancer in 2017. If diagnosed and treated early, the five-year survival rate for women fighting this disease is greater than 90



percent. Regular medical checkups and learning about the early warning signs of ovarian cancer are essential. To help raise awareness of ovarian cancer the **GFWC Augusta Junior Women's Club** (Georgia) kicked off September by having their city's fountains dyed teal -- the official color of Ovarian



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

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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

Cancer Awareness Month. However, the club did not stop there. They also placed yard signs, distributed teal bracelets and bookmarks, and even painted their toenails teal! Joining the Augusta club, the **GFWC Bremen Junior Women's Club** (Georgia) sold hand-beaded teal bracelets and raffled a teal purse. The Bremen club is also planning to give out teal bracelets and informational cards at their town's festival in October.

If you would like to follow the lead of the Georgia Junior clubwomen, [download fact sheets](#) from the CDC's Inside Knowledge: Get the Facts about Gynecological Cancer campaign. These brochures are easy to print and distribute at your next club meeting or community gathering. Remember that by "going teal" and drawing attention to the signs and symptoms of ovarian cancer you could help save the life of your neighbor or fellow clubwoman.

GFWC Wyoming Clubwomen Support Veterans and Literacy

GFWC Wyoming State President Leslie Jo Gatti's experiences as a Vietnam-era army veteran led her to select the support of veterans as one of the Special Projects for her administration. "My husband and I have so many family members who are veterans that I tell people we come from families of warriors," said President Gatti. Adjusting back to civilian life following a career in the military can be difficult for service members, especially those that do not have family to support them during the transition, so Leslie made increasing community support the goal of her project.

GFWC Wyoming clubwomen have participated in projects benefiting both veterans and active duty military including: donating clothes through the non-profit Dress for Success to student veterans at the University of Wyoming; sending holiday cards to military personnel overseas; collecting almost \$8,000 in coupons to send to military families in Japan to use in commissaries; crocheting and delivering afghans and throws to VA Hospitals; and participating in Memorial and Veterans Day programs to name just a few. President Gatti is very proud that

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

Address Correction! GFWC Texas Hurricane Relief Fund

We thank the many clubs and clubwomen who have contributed to GFWC Texas' Fund to aid Hurricane Harvey victims. Unfortunately, there was a small error in the ZIP code previously listed in publications. If you would like to support GFWC Texas, send monetary donations to: **GFWC Texas, 2312 San Gabriel, Austin, TX 78705**. Please write "Hurricane Harvey" on the memo line of your check.

New on the Blog!

With Saidie's Cupboard, the **GFWC Salem Woman's Service Club** (Oregon) is making sure low income families who are seeking medical attention for their children have access to hygiene and personal care items. Read the [GFWC Blog](#) to learn more about their project named in honor of past GFWC International President Saidie Orr Dunbar!

Shot@Life Grants

Thanks to the United Nations Foundation's Shot@Life campaign, GFWC is pleased to offer grants to help

every club in Wyoming answered her call and selected to participate in at least one project in support of our veterans.

President Gatti again drew from her personal experience when choosing literacy as her second Special Project. As a retired teacher and librarian, Leslie believes that "education is paramount to success in life." In support of this second initiative, several clubs donated to Raising Readers in Wyoming, a program which works with pediatricians who "prescribe" 30 minutes a day of reading to children. A list of "prescribing" doctors in each county was sent to clubs, and clubwomen raised funds to purchase books for distribution.

Many of the clubwomen promoted literacy by helping out at local Community Development Centers and Head Start schools. Additionally, they sponsored \$3,000 in scholarships and book grants to post-secondary students. By selecting projects dear to her heart, President Gatti has inspired the clubwomen of Wyoming. Under her leadership, the new club year in Wyoming is certain to be more exciting than the last!



September Is Veterans Suicide Prevention Month

Every year, individuals and organizations across the county recognize Veterans Suicide Prevention Month in September. It is an opportunity to increase public awareness about the warning signs of suicide risk, to provide information about the resources

host advocacy and fundraising events, in amounts of up to \$100, to help put a stop to preventable childhood diseases globally. These funds, provided by the United Nations Foundation, are to be used to plan local advocacy events and fundraisers for the Shot@Life campaign. Clubs may use funds to plan their event with a goal of raising more than the original amount awarded. For more information, please view the grant application here

<http://bit.ly/GFWCShotLifeGrant> or contact the GFWC Programs Department.

Vote in the GFWC Shares Polls

The holiday season is fast approaching, and that means it's time for fun treats and traditions. Take a moment to [answer our poll](#) about your favorite Thanksgiving pies, and tell us if you have any holiday charity traditions, and your responses might be included in the November + December edition of *GFWC Clubwoman Magazine*.

Historic Clubhouses

Does your club have a notable or historic clubhouse? If the answer is yes, email pr@gfwc.org. We will be publishing an article and blog post based on your responses. Let us know about the architecture, events, and history that make your clubhouse one-of-a-kind!

available to aid service members in crisis, and to show how much we care for our veterans.

One of the resources available is the **Veterans Crisis Line** which connects veterans and their families with qualified, caring professionals from the Department of Veterans Affairs. Veterans and their loved ones can call 1-800-273-8255 and Press 1, send a text message to 838255, or [chat online](#) to receive support 24 hours a day, 7 days a week, 365 days a year, even if they are not registered with the Veterans Administration or enrolled in VA health care. For more information go to:

www.veteranscrisisline.net



Legislative Action Center

As we announced in last week's edition of *News & Notes*, GFWC will be providing members with regular updates on federal legislative matters. This week we announce passage of legislation that will replenish funding for the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) and a Senate hearing on how the government could hold internet sites accountable for publishing content related to sex trafficking.

Congress took action by combining several key issues and approved legislation in record speed! In a single bill, the debt limit was suspended; a short-term Continuing Resolution was approved to ensure funding for federal programs until December 8 (avoiding a government shutdown); and an



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emergency supplemental appropriation for FEMA was passed. With the additional FEMA allocation, the Small Business Administration (SBA) will be able to better assist businesses and communities recovering from Hurricanes Irma and Harvey by granting low interest loans. Prior to the devastation caused by the hurricanes, FEMA funding was nearly depleted. ([H.R. 601](#), [Public Law 115-56](#)).

Sex trafficking on the internet was the topic of a September 19 Senate Commerce, Science, and Transportation Committee hearing. Legislation ([S. 1693](#)) sponsored by Senator Rob Portman (R-OH) would hold websites liable for knowingly publishing content aimed at enabling sex trafficking. The measure has drawn opposition from some technology companies. Watch the full hearing by [clicking here](#). To review the GFWC Resolution on Human Trafficking (015-820), please visit the "Resources" page of [gfwc.org](#) and download the latest publication of Resolutions.

Do You "Like" GFWC?

Liking a GFWC post is great, but liking the official GFWC Facebook page is even better. When you like one of our posts, you are showing support for the post's content, but when you visit the GFWC page and click the like button at the top, you are showing support for the whole organization.

Liking the GFWC page means that when we post, you will see the update on your Facebook feed, making it easy for you to read, like, and share posts! It creates a community between club members across the country, and raises visibility of all your great accomplishments and the updates we share.

The GFWC Facebook page is close to a milestone. If you haven't already liked our page, do so today and help us reach our goal of 10,000 likes! More importantly, when you like our page – you will become a member of our online community.



Set Sail with GFWC and Princess Cruises

MARCH 21-31, 2018

You're invited to join GFWC International President Sheila E. Shea and your fellow clubwomen for a once-in-a-lifetime experience – sailing the Panama Canal.

While explorers began dreaming of a route between the Atlantic and Pacific oceans over 400 years ago, carving of the 51-mile canal was not completed until 1914. Travel through this man-made wonder of the modern world with Princess, the number one cruise line in the region. Go beyond the locks to explore the wildlife-filled rainforest of Central America. While on the voyage you will dine on fresh, local cuisine, visit colorful towns, and unwind on sun-kissed beaches.

Ports of call will include: Fort Lauderdale, Aruba, Cartagena, Colon, Costa Rica, and Jamaica. Fares for the 10-day tour, departing and returning to Fort Lauderdale, Florida, start at \$1,499 plus additional taxes of \$370 per person. A deposit of 20 percent per person is required by October 1 with final payment due by December 20,

GFWC—Living the Volunteer Spirit



Marketplace: *Living the Volunteer Spirit* Sticky Notes

*Living the Volunteer
Spirit* Sticky Notes are
a must-have for every

busy GFWC clubwoman. These sticky notes are available in light blue with the white GFWC emblem watermark and GFWC - *Living the Volunteer Spirit* tagline, and the GFWC website in a darker blue color on the sticky notes. Each pack contains 50 sheets of 3" x 4" sticky notes. Available for \$1.25 per pad at the [GFWC Marketplace](#).

2017. To reserve your cabin contact Avoya Travel Representative Linda Stone at 866-617-2470.

In the News

For the fourteenth year, the **New Jersey Federation of Women's Clubs** will be sending Christmas stockings to military service members stationed overseas. The **Woman's Club of Parsippany Troy-Hills** requested the help of their friends and neighbors by placing an article in the local newspaper, *The Parsippany Focus*. [Click here](#) to read more about the state's project and view a wonderful example how a club can promote GFWC membership.

Our Contact Information

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