

# NEWS & NOTES

LIVING THE VOLUNTEER SPIRIT THROUGH GFWC

News & Notes - January 26, 2017



## Cervical Cancer Awareness Month

Do you know the facts about cervical cancer? January is Cervical Health Awareness Month, a perfect time to get educated about the cancer that nearly 13,000 women in the United States are diagnosed with every year. Knowledge is key when it comes to cervical cancer, as vaccination and screening make this disease almost always preventable.

The Inside Knowledge: Get the Facts About Gynecologic Cancer Campaign has multiple resources that can help you stay informed and spread awareness. Consider sharing [this fact sheet](#) about cervical cancer at your next club meeting. The fact sheet includes valuable information such as when you should get tested for cervical cancer, symptoms and causes, and more.

"I'm living proof that screening can find cervical cancer at an early stage, when treatment works best." This quote from Tamika F., a cervical cancer survivor, is just one of the many [inspirational stories](#) from survivors that you can read on the Inside Knowledge website.



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

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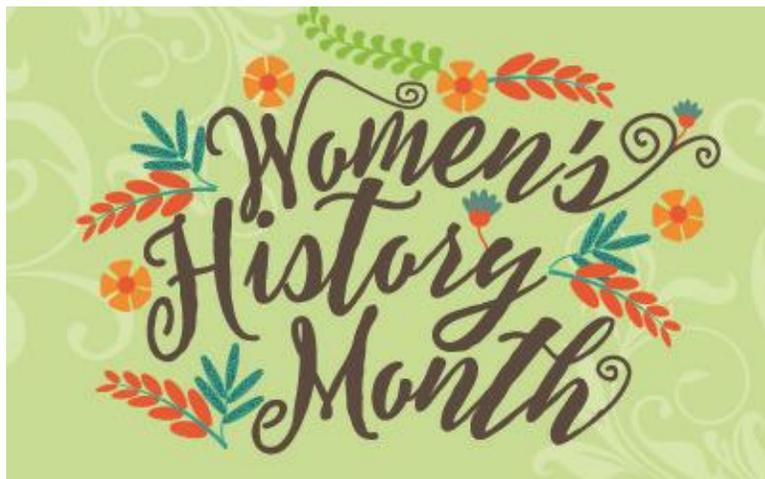
## Subscribe to News & Notes

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 Membership Services Manager Kate

Check out all the resources offered by the Inside Knowledge: Get the Facts About Gynecologic Cancer Campaign by [clicking here](#). Learn more about supporting women's health by reading the [Home Life Section](#) of the *GFWC Club Manual*.

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## Women's History Month Reception

This March marks the 31st Women's History Month celebration. Thousands of cultural, historic, and philanthropic institutions around the country will celebrate the rich and formidable contributions of women throughout history. On March 9, GFWC will host our annual Women's History Month Reception at Headquarters. Page Harrington, Executive Director of the National Women's Party (NWP), will speak about the illustrious history of the organization, and its current endeavors to educate the public on the women's rights movement.

Founded in 1917, the National Women's Party was host to women advocating for suffrage. The NWP engaged Congress and the country through the organization of nonviolent protests, such as marches, pickets, speaking tours, and hunger strikes. Their determination and grit captured the attention of the nation and garnered public support for the women's suffrage movement. After the passage of the 19th amendment in 1920, Alice Paul, founder of the NWP, knew their work was just beginning. In 1923, Paul wrote the Equal Rights Amendment, which the NWP advocated for throughout the remainder of the 20th century. Today, Page Harrington leads the National

Garlick at [kgarlick@gfwc.org](mailto:kgarlick@gfwc.org) and you're all set!

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## Cares and Concerns

We ask that all GFWC clubwomen keep their Federation Sisters impacted by the recent devastating storms in their thoughts. As communities in Mississippi, Georgia, and Florida grieve and rebuild, we will stand beside them offering both our sympathy and assistance.

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It is with a heavy heart that we announce the passing of Leonard (Len) Koch on January 15. The husband of Ste. Genevieve Past Club President Sue Koch, Mr. Koch served as secretary-treasurer of the GFWC Booster Club. Please remember Sue and her family in your prayers.

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[Quinn Grace McCourt](#), granddaughter of Fundraising and Development Committee member Linda McCourt, passed away on January 15. We send our condolences to Linda and her family. You may express your sympathy online at [www.nelsonberna.com](http://www.nelsonberna.com).

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## Statistical Forms Tips & Hints

The deadline for submitting Annual Statistical Forms is fast approaching. If you have any advice for your Federation Sisters on how to best compile the information or tips for writing award

Women's Party in its charge for better education and the preservation of women's history.

**The Women's History Month reception will be held from 2 p.m-4 p.m, March 9.** It is open to all clubwomen, as well as the public. Light refreshments will be served. Join us for what is sure to be a truly historic and enlightening event!

*Please note that the date of the event was incorrectly listed in the January + February issue of GFWC Clubwoman Magazine.*

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## Building Homes and Improving Lives in Minnesota

GFWC Minnesota President Pat Mumm has been involved with [Habitat for Humanity International](#) for more than 10 years. She was a founding member of the Stevens County affiliate and has assumed several leadership positions within the organization. "It has become my second favorite charity, GFWC of course being the first," says President Mumm. Therefore, Habitat for Humanity was the natural choice when selecting the Special Project for her administration.

Founded in 1976, Habitat for Humanity partners with people all over the world to assist them to construct or improve a place they can call home. Habitat homeowners participate in the build alongside volunteers and pay an affordable mortgage. With the support of volunteers like GFWC Minnesota, Habitat homeowners achieve the stability and independence they need to create a better life for themselves and their families. Habitat currently works in 1,400 communities across the U.S. and in over 60 countries, and has helped 6.8 million people.

If you or your club are interested in participating, consider joining a Women Build event. Started in 1991, the Women Build program allows any woman who wishes to help construct a home take part. No experience is necessary. Volunteers work under the guidance of construction professionals, and also alongside other volunteers and future Habitat homeowners. [Search here](#) to find out if a Women Build event is occurring near you.

entries, please send them to [pr@gfwc.org](mailto:pr@gfwc.org). We will gather your responses into a blog post readily accessible to all members.

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## SPRING INTO FUNDRAISING

Spring Fundraising season is right around the corner and so are your state conventions.

Terri Lynn cannot make it to all of the Conventions, so they are offering your club their *FREE Raffle Program!*

They will send all of the needed supplies to get you started and a bountiful Raffle Basket of Terri Lynn products to a lucky winner! Sweet!

Request a Raffle Kit by emailing Kim Graziano at [kim.graziano@terrilynn.com](mailto:kim.graziano@terrilynn.com) or calling today:

**(800) 323-0775**  
[terrilynnfundraising.com](http://terrilynnfundraising.com)



Of course, Habitat for Humanity needs more than volunteers to continue their work. No home can be built without construction materials. To meet these needs, GFWC Minnesota is raising funds to help purchase the materials for their planned GFWC Build Day. So far, clubs have held golf tournaments, a pork chop supper, and manned a booth at a local fair.

We congratulate President Mumm and all GFWC Minnesota clubwomen for their outstanding work supporting Habitat for Humanity. Because of them, an underprivileged family will soon have a decent home and the foundations on which to build a better life.

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## Puppy Shea Update

Canine Companions for Independence Puppy Shea II, named after GFWC International President Sheila Shea, is settling in to his new home with Kathleen King, his volunteer puppy raiser! Kathleen reports that Shea is a smart and happy puppy, and doing very well working on basic commands. Kathleen, a clubwoman in California, says Shea adds a little humor to her home as well by getting the case of the hiccups three to four times a day! Stay tuned to the [GFWC blog](#) and social media for updates on Shea's journey to becoming an assistance dog.

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## GFWC 2017 Annual Convention in Palm Springs, California

Get ready for the GFWC 2017 Annual Convention and the California sunshine! Convention registration and room reservations will be available starting March 1.

Basic information concerning Convention can currently be found on [GFWC.org](http://GFWC.org). Further information, including the full agenda, will be available in the Call to Convention in the March+April issue of *Clubwoman Magazine*. The Call to Convention will also be available online in March.

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## Editor's Note

Last week's edition of *News & Notes* featured the Grand Bahama American Women's Club's outstanding contribution to relief efforts following Hurricane Matthew. Their partner organization was incorrectly listed in the article. The credit should have been given to the Grand Bahama Canadian Women's Club.

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## In The News

The **GFWC La Verne/San Dimas Woman's Club** (California) contributed to the funding of benches that will allow seniors with dementia a peaceful place to sit outside at the Community Senior Services Enrichment Center in



Claremont. Read more about the project in this [Daily Bulletin Article](#).

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### **Partner Spotlight: Operation Smile**

Since June 2016, hundreds of GFWC clubs have been working diligently to raise funds for the Campaign for Children's Smiles – a medical mission funded by GFWC clubwomen with the opportunity to join a mission in 2018. As fundraising continues, Operation Smile wants to remind you of a very important question: Why do we all work so hard to take care of the children who need us? At Operation Smile, the answer is simple – What if this was your child? From the fathers, mothers, grandparents, and siblings of our patients, thank you for continuing to help us provide free, safe surgical care to so many in need around our world. To learn more about Operation Smile and start working towards changing a child's life, please get in touch with Vicki Rusu-Ebert at [victoria.ebert@operationsmile.org](mailto:victoria.ebert@operationsmile.org).

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## Democracy in Action

International President Sheila E. Shea, members of the Executive Committee, Board of Directors, and GFWC members from across the country were in Washington, D.C. for meetings this past week. This afforded many the opportunity to participate in GFWC's Democracy Reception just ahead of the historic events of subsequent days. Several were able to attend inauguration ceremonies and activities of the 45th President of the United States. Additionally, members participated on an individual basis in the Women's March on Washington and in cities around the nation. Our participation in democracy remains a foundation of the Federation. We must be ever mindful of the need to protect our position as a non-partisan, unbiased voice of reason especially in times of great consternation and potential unrest.

*Pictured at the 2017 Democracy Reception: Francesca Rivera-Castillo, First Vice-President Marian St.Clair, Director of Junior Clubs Jolie Frankfurth, International President Sheila Shea, Diana Castillo, Secretary Suellen Brazil, Bianca Linville, and Maria Castillo*

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## Marketplace: Club President Pin

This pin is a staple for any GFWC Club President. The full color GFWC emblem is featured on a black background set on gold one-inch diameter Club President pin. Pin comes with a butterfly backing allowing pin to attach

to any of your clothes. Available for \$10 at the GFWC Marketplace.

[Click here](#) to order yours at the GFWC Marketplace.

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