

NEWS & NOTES

LIVING THE VOLUNTEER SPIRIT THROUGH GFWC

News & Notes - April 20, 2017



Celebrate Federation Day

There are only a few days left until GFWC Federation Day! On Monday, April 24, GFWC will celebrate 127 years of *Living the Volunteer Spirit*. This event marks the day in 1890 when 63 clubs came together to form the General Federation of Women's Clubs in New York City under the leadership of GFWC founder Jane Cunningham Croly. Today, with over 80,000 clubwomen and 3,000 clubs, we continue to stand together and celebrate Unity in Diversity.

In the spirit of coming together to recognize our dynamic past and exciting future, we are excited to launch a special video contest this Federation Day. We encourage you to take the time at your next club meeting and film a 30 to 60 second video with your club answering the question: "What does being a GFWC clubwoman mean to you?" You can use your smartphone to film the video—[click here](#) for some tips and best practices. Once you're happy with the video, email it to pr@gfwc.org. Videos will be shared on the GFWC Facebook page, and members will vote for their favorites. We encourage you to be as creative as you'd



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

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

like with your videos! Let's show the world what being a GFWC clubwoman is all about.

Voting for the club videos will begin May 15, 2017, and the winning club will be announced June 1. The winning club will receive a \$100 gift card for the GFWC Marketplace. Stay tuned to the [GFWC Facebook page](#) for more details.



Protect the Environment this Earth Day

GFWC clubwomen have been and continue to be advocates for conservation and protecting our environment. Whether collecting used cell phones and ink cartridges, picking up trash in town, or teaching youth about recycling, clubwomen promote conservation in a variety of ways throughout the year. On Saturday, April 22, millions of people will observe Earth Day. As stewards of the environment, clubwomen across the country will use this annual event as an opportunity to share the ways their club makes a positive impact on the world. This is also a great time to read about the [GFWC Conservation Community Service Program](#) in the *GFWC Club Manual*.

How does your knowledge of Earth Day compare to that of a fifth-grader? With the help of her aunt, GFWC Conservation Chairman Angela Cutrera, fifth-grader Jaci Tidwell wrote a blog about the environment to raise awareness of Earth Day. Test your knowledge and learn about how you can promote Earth Day by reading her post on *GFWC.org*: <http://www.gfwc.org/earth-day-2017/>.

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

Cares and Concerns

With great sadness we announce the passing of Past GFWC Arizona President (1978-1980) **Priscilla Cook** on April 3. Priscilla also served as GFWC Arizona Director of Junior Clubs from 1954-1955. Our thoughts and prayers go out to Priscilla's friends and family. Please [click here](#) to sign the online guestbook.



FUNDRAISING

From Our Family to Yours

Since 1936, Terri Lynn's proven fundraising programs have raised healthy profits for hundreds of GFWC clubs nationwide. Put over 75 years of experience to work for you!

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We Need You! 2017 Service Project in Cooperation with United Service Organization

The 2017 Annual Convention Service Project is looking for a few good women to assist in creating 800 Rack Packs for our veterans returning from deployment. The purpose of the Rack Pack is to provide our soldiers with the basic necessities needed for the first 48 hours after returning home.

The Rack Packs will feature the USO and GFWC logos as well as a 3" x 5" thank-you card. The kits will be assembled on Monday, June 26 during the "Thanks for the Memories" Awards Brunch. Here's how attendees and non-attendees alike can help GFWC reach our goal.

Each of GFWC's eight regions will be in charge of a specific Rack Pack item. Those attending Convention may choose to bring the items in their luggage (please follow TSA guidelines). For clubwomen not attending Convention, or if your luggage is already filled to the brim, the best way to help would be to send a check to Headquarters made out to GFWC and with "2017 Service Project" in the memo line. Your donation will be used to purchase supplies at the Sam's Club or Costco in Palm Desert at the time of Convention. Please **do not** send toiletries to Headquarters as in previous years.

Please remember only travel-sized items will fit. No perishable items, aerosols, or alcohol based items.

Great Lakes Region: Travel-sized Toothpaste

Middle Atlantic Region: Travel-sized Toothbrushes (individually wrapped)

Mississippi Valley Region: Travel-sized Body Wash (for men and women)

New England Region: Laundry Pods

South Central Region: Travel-sized Shampoos

Southeastern Region: Travel-sized Stick Deodorants (for men and women)

Southern Region: Drink Mixers (Crystal Light/Kool-aid) and Snack Items (Gum, Hard candy, snack-sized Beef Jerky)



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 GFWC International President Sheila Shea and members of the GFWC staff **Tuesday, April 25 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.

Western States Region: Disposable Razors and Shave Gel
Packets

Thank you in advance for participating and please contact Derek
Tennant at DTennant@GFWC.org or 202-347-2938 with any
questions.



Dare to Dream of a World without Hunger

Many Americans are unaware of the prevalence of hunger in their communities. Without visiting shelters, volunteering at food banks, or participating in food collections, it is easy to assume hunger is rare in a country such as ours. Sadly, one in four children or more than 50 million Americans never know where or if their next meal will be obtained.

GFWC Virginia President Fran Edwards is working to alleviate food insecurity through her Special Project, Dare to Dream. President Edwards has three goals for the project:

1. To educate communities on the growing number of individuals in need of food assistance.
2. To advocate for state legislative support of agencies providing food to those in need.
3. To raise funds, volunteer, and provide supplies for food programs.

Virginia clubwomen are well on their way to achieving their goals. Numerous fundraisers and food collections have occurred

**Please let us know if you plan to
join us by calling 202-347-3168.**



Travel to Aruba with the GFWC Juniors!

GFWC Director of Junior Clubs Jolie Frankfurth invites you to the Caribbean island of Aruba January 25-28, 2018. During the tour, you will stay at the all-inclusive Barcelo Aruba Resort located in Palm-Eagle Beach.

While on the trip, each traveler will assist the GFWC Women's Club of Aruba during the Day of Service. You will have your choice of helping with one of two projects the club regularly supports. The Dress a Child Project provides over 300 local children with a complete outfit once a year, while the Medio Ambiente Goes to School Project donates lunch boxes and water bottles to all first grade students on the island.

The trip rate is \$825 per person (double occupancy) and payment is due September 1, 2017. The fee includes three nights deluxe accommodations, all meals, a cocktail party with the Women's Club of Aruba, round-trip ground transportation to and from the hotel, and taxes/fees. A \$70 per person

around the state. The group also developed a special project, Birthday Bags, to help children. Birthday Bags were prepared during the Virginia midwinter board meeting, and given to clients at food distribution centers so that economically disadvantaged children may enjoy a celebration like their peers. Each bag contains party favors, balloons, a cake mix, and other items required for a child's party. Because of Birthday Bags, many Virginia children and their families have been able to celebrate their special day.

President Edwards' administration theme was inspired by the *Wizard of Oz* song that says, "the dreams that you dare to dream, really do come true." The effort of Virginia's clubwomen is certainly fulfilling the dreams of many families who wish for nothing more than a reliable source of nutrition.



Pinwheels with a Purpose

GFWC clubwomen are among the most active supporters of Prevent Child Abuse America's (PCAA) pinwheel garden awareness campaign. PCAA is working to change the way our nation thinks about child abuse by focusing on community activities and public policies that prioritize prevention.

As pinwheel gardens appear across the nation, more and more members of our communities will stop to think about the safety of children. Headquarters has heard from dozens of clubs who have planted gardens from California to North Carolina. You may see the location and a photograph of each club-sponsored

deposit will hold one of the 32 available rooms.

For additional information visit www.gfwcjunortour.com or call Abora Travel Agent Diania Pimenta at 813-563-2404.

Interested in Advertising in the 2017 GFWC Annual Convention Program?

The Convention Program will be distributed to each clubwoman when they register in Palm Springs, California. The program contains meeting schedules, maps of the convention center, a complete agenda, exhibitor profiles, and information on local attractions. The program also provides an excellent opportunity to recognize the achievements of your Federation sisters.

[Click here](#) to find advertising rates, artwork specifications, submission deadlines, and the commitment form.



pinwheel garden by [clicking here](#) and viewing our new interactive map.

We would like to express our gratitude to GFWC-DC and the Pierce Arrows clubs for co-sponsoring the pinwheel garden at Headquarters. As you can see from the photograph above, members of the DC club including International President Sheila Shea and DC President Sharon Butler planted 250 pinwheels donated by the Pierce Arrows at 1734 N Street. The beautiful garden is certain to draw attention to this most worthy of causes.

Partner Spotlight: Canine Companions for Independence



Our 3,000 volunteers across the country contribute to the success of Canine Companions every day, including the women of GFWC. During the month of April, National Volunteer Month, we are celebrating this group of amazing individuals and sharing our gratitude with all of our supporters.

We depend on volunteers at all levels: breeder caretakers, puppy raisers, chapter members, training center volunteers and event volunteers. Many of these volunteers incur expenses themselves, which helps Canine Companions put its resources to other uses.

Over half of our volunteers are puppy raisers or breeder caretakers. They bring these dogs into their homes and care for them, socialize them and raise them. They are crucial to the foundation and success of our assistance dogs.

Want to get involved in other ways with your fellow GFWC clubwomen? Canine Companions has often been designated as a special club, district, or state GFWC project. For more information on volunteer opportunities, visit

Help Us Reach 10,000 Facebook Likes

There's no denying the power of numbers! GFWC's Facebook page is quickly growing, and we are proud to have over 9,500 likes. We think we can reach 10,000 likes by the kickoff of the 2017 GFWC Convention in Palm Springs, but we need your help. From now until June 24, we encourage you to invite your friends to like GFWC's Facebook page. Simply visit www.facebook.com/GFWCMembers and click on "Invite friends to like this page" on the column in the right hand corner.

In The News

The **Northboro Junior Woman's Club** (Massachusetts) was profiled in the *Community Advocate* for hosting the 10th STEM Conference for girls. The event featured women leaders in the fields of science, technology, engineering, and math, giving the young women an idea of what a career in STEM looks like. [Click here](#) to read the article.

<http://www.cci.org/get-involved/ways-to-volunteer/service-clubs.html>.

Another simple way to support us: Visit cci.org/USAToday daily until May 12 and vote to help us win \$100,000 from the USA Today Network.



Marketplace: GFWC Vest

This polyester vest is lightweight, soundless and water resistant. The armholes feature Lycra binding for added mobility while the back features concealed vents for added ventilation. Full-zip front, stand collar, front hand pockets and shock cord drawstrings at the hem provide extra wind protection. Contoured

lines offer a fitted, feminine look. The black vest also features the GFWC emblem, embroidered in white on the left chest.

Available in sizes Small-2X, for \$30 each.

S: 6/8; M: 10/12; L: 14/16; XL: 18; 2X: 20

Get yours today at the [GFWC Marketplace](#).

Our Contact Information

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