

NEWS & NOTES

LIVING THE VOLUNTEER SPIRIT THROUGH GFWC

News & Notes - December 7, 2017



Home for the Holidays

For the second time GFWC's 51st International President Sheila Shea opened the doors of 1734 N Street for the annual Holiday Open House. "It was a wonderful experience to greet more than 150 clubwomen, partners, neighbors, and friends as we celebrated the season at GFWC Headquarters. Clubwomen traveled from as far away as Delaware, New Jersey, and Texas to be with us." said President Shea.

Guests enjoyed appetizers and refreshments as they toured our historic home and viewed the beautiful holiday decorations donated by clubwomen through the years. Entertainment was provided by Music Chairman Emily Smith, who graciously journeyed from Alabama to be with her Federation family on this special occasion, and Janice Conant from Delaware. President Shea's Assistants deserve a round of applause for ensuring the house was festooned with wreaths, garland, and candles prior to our guests' arrival. Visit GFWC's Facebook page

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

to see additional images of the event by photographer Josh Triggs.

Of course, Headquarters is not the only GFWC organization holding a Holiday Open House this year. Clubs across the country will be welcoming their communities and exhibiting the Federation spirit over the coming weeks. If you would like to promote an event to your fellow clubwomen, post a photo and advertisement on GFWC's App. That way, we can all learn from your ideas and join in the fun.



New Ideas for Recruitment

Increasing membership can seem daunting, but there are always new methods to pursue! The **GFWC Franklin Woman's Club** (New Jersey) recruited 22 new members in just two months aided by their new publicity campaign, including enhanced advertising efforts and a website makeover.

Since September, the **GFWC Windsor Woman's Club** (Connecticut) has installed 14 new members. They attribute the success to their Open House event, advertising at their town's farmers market, and reaching out to strangers in grocery stores and nail salons. As they like to point out, there are potential recruits everywhere! The **GFWC Fort Walton Beach Woman's Club** (Florida) knows this too, so they designed invitation forms for members to carry with them wherever they go to share with neighbors, church members, and even hairdressers.

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



Happy Birthday 100th Birthday Theresa Law!

On December 13 **Theresa Law** will celebrate her 100th birthday! Theresa has been a member of the GFWC Yucaipa Woman's Club (California) since 1953 and has held many leadership positions over the years. She remains an active member and is currently serving as the Parliamentarian of the club's evening section. This year, Theresa will be honored as the first Grand Marshall of the annual Yucaipa Lions Club Christmas Parade. Members of the Yucaipa Club will be riding in decorated cars and following Theresa in front of the parade.

Read the Latest GFWC Blog Post

With winter just around the corner, cold weather is upon us. GFWC clubs have been busy preparing by collecting coats

The **GFWC Needham Women's Club** (Massachusetts) held an event called "Her-ricane". Members invited guests to learn about the club and support their state's Disaster Relief Fund. They collected \$1,000 and the club pledged an additional \$100 for each of the nine members who joined, resulting in a total of \$1,900. By engaging them in a fundraiser, prospective members could see firsthand the impact GFWC can have.

Remember, if your club has a terrific recruitment idea but requires financial assistance, GFWC offers Membership Grants. These \$50 Membership Grants are distributed four times annually. The Club Grant Application Form can be downloaded by [clicking here](#).

We wish you luck with your next recruitment strategy!

Break the Ice

An icebreaker is an activity to welcome or warm up the conversation among participants in a meeting or workshop.

They can facilitate introductions, help with team building, introduce new learning concepts, and energize the group. If you would like to learn more about this topic, [click here](#) to read Leadership Committee Member Mary Beth Williams' article from the November + December issue of *GFWC Clubwoman Magazine*.

Annual subscriptions to *GFWC Clubwoman Magazine* are available through the online [Marketplace](#) for just \$12. *GFWC Clubwoman Magazine* is one of the most useful and beneficial communication tools we have to inform and educate our members. Published bi-monthly, the magazine is a source for insightful and informative content like Mary Beth's recent article.



and other winter wear to donate so that everyone, regardless of their income or circumstances, can stay safe throughout the season. Read the latest addition to the GFWC Blog to find out how the **GFWC Bowling Green Junior Woman's Club** (Kentucky) and the **GFWC Salem Woman's Service Club** (Oregon) are making sure their communities are kept warm this winter.

http://bit.ly/GFWCBlog_winter

Communication & Public Relations Newsletters

Are you looking for tips on how to update your club's website? Are you searching for ideas on how to improve your communication skills? If the answer is yes, then the Communications & Public Relations Committee has you covered. The committee's informative monthly newsletter is now available on gfwc.org. Past editions of the newsletter can be found by visiting the [Resources page](#) and selecting the letter "C".



Wreaths Across America Day

Quick Tips on Parliamentary Procedure

By GFWC Parliamentarian Shirley Gomes

ADOPTION OF A MOTION OR ACTION WITHOUT A MOTION

In cases where there seems to be no opposition in routine business or on questions of little importance, time can often be saved by the procedure of ***unanimous consent***, or as it is formally called, ***general consent***. Action in this manner is in accord with the principle that rules are designed for the protection of the minority and generally need not be strictly enforced when there is no minority to protect.

The correction and approval of minutes is an example of business that is normally handled by unanimous consent. A formal motion to approve or correct the minutes is not necessary, although such a motion is not out of order. Whether or not a motion for correction or approval has been offered, the chair asks, ***"Are there any amendment or corrections to the minutes?"*** (pause) When there is no response to the chair's inquiry, the chair says, ***"There being no corrections to the minutes, the minutes are approved as read or approved as corrected."*** The minutes are thus approved without any formal vote.

Another example: Assume that a speaker whose time has expired in debate on a motion asks for two additional minutes. If the chair thinks that all members will approve, the chair may handle the matter as follows:

Chair: ***If there is no objection the member's time will be extended two minutes... .. (pause) Since there is no objection, the member's time is extended two minutes.***

The last tip to help a meeting move along quickly is on adjournment. When it appears that there is no further business, instead of waiting for a motion to adjourn, the chair can ask, ***"Is there any further business?"*** (pause) If there is no response, the chair can then say, ***"Since there is no further business, the meeting is adjourned."***

For all of the tips offered, if the history or custom of your club is to do otherwise in handling these business matters, it is best to discuss these procedural tips with your members as ***"teachable or learning moments"*** before implementation. Discussion

Please consider taking part in [National Wreaths Across America Day](#) on December 16. This annual event, at which wreaths are placed at graves, aims to honor our nation's veterans and ensure they are remembered for their sacrifice. Ceremonies will take place at Arlington National Cemetery and at over 1,200 additional locations in all 50 states, at sea, and abroad.

If you would like to participate at the Arlington National Cemetery event, you are welcome to join President Shea, local clubwomen, and the GFWC staff as we volunteer on Saturday, December 16. GFWC's volunteers will meet at 8:30 a.m. in front of the Women in Military Service for America Memorial. Wreath placement will begin at 9:15 a.m.



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before change is very helpful and improves the flow of communication at your meetings.

Legislative Action Corner

Members of Congress have returned to Washington to complete negotiations on major pieces of legislation before the end of the year.

TO DO LIST:

- Provide FY 2018 Federal Appropriations – current funding expires December 8;
- Set spending levels for FY 2018 and FY 2019 for defense and domestic programs;
- Tax Reform;
- Raise the Debt Ceiling;
- Stabilize the health insurance market;
- Children’s Health Insurance Program reauthorization;
- Maternal, Infant, and Early Childhood Home Visiting Program reauthorization; and
- Determine Immigration solutions for the Dreamers, undocumented immigrants brought to the U.S. as children.

The GFWC Legislative Action Center is a powerful tool for GFWC’s public issues and advocacy efforts. Track bills, contact your local representative, and take action on issues germane to GFWC Resolutions. [Click here](#) to visit the Legislative Action Center and enroll to receive updates.



Marketplace: Time to Shine Sunglasses

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In the News

The **Woman’s Club of Newton Square** (Pennsylvania) recently received media attention as a result of their 70 years of volunteer service. Diane Hagan, a member of GFWC for 38 years, was quoted as saying, “I like this club because it’s really active and the members are friendly and fun. These women are so talented and so giving. If anything goes wrong, they are the first to step in and help. These women are real movers and shakers.” Learn more about this stellar club by reading the [County Press](#).

that it's our "time to shine." Not only do the lenses offer stylish appeal, but they also offer UV400 protection. Available in black, blue, pink, purple, and red for \$5 each at the [GFWC Marketplace](#).

Our Contact Information

General Federation of Women's Clubs
1734 N. Street NW
Washington, DC 20036
202-347-3168
www.gfwc.org

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