



NEWS & NOTES

YOUR WEEKLY UPDATE ON GFWC NEWS

MARCH 23, 2023



2023 GFWC Annual Convention

[Register for
Convention](#)

[Book Your
Room](#)

Early Bird Deadline: Register by April 1 at 5:00pm ET

[Register for Convention](#) by the **April 1** Early Bird deadline to enjoy savings (through the DERBY DEAL). Tours are filling fast, the Twilight Tour is almost at capacity, but we have room on the Friday tour – sign up now! View the [Convention Agenda Page](#) for the preliminary schedule, available as a printable PDF or as an interactive calendar.



Convention Program Ads Due March 30

If you want to place an ad in the 2023 Annual Convention Program, please [complete the form](#) and return it to [Nishu Raina](#) by Thursday, March 30.



Race to the Finish Fundraiser

It's a fast track to the finish, get in on the fun by purchasing tickets during online convention registration for just \$25 per sheet.

Additional tickets will be available onsite in the “Race to the Finish” fundraiser room.

The more tickets you place in the "containers of interest," the better your odds! Giveaway items will be showcased in the SHOW opposite the Business Sessions ballroom.

When choosing what to donate, consider items that go together to make a sure bet, like a wallet with gift cards, or a purse with a coordinating scarf. If you, your club, or your district would like to donate an item to the fundraiser, please [click here](#) for the donation form. Since many attendees will be traveling, it is always appreciated when giveaway items are relatively small and lightweight.

The following are examples of great giveaway items to donate and win:

- Jewelry – Small, light, and wearable, the perfect combination!
- Electronics/Gadgets – Tablets, fitness trackers, cameras
- Purses – Enough said.
- Gift-of-the-Month Subscription – Give a gift that lasts year-round without the hassle of packing it up.
- Wine, cheese, flowers, coffee, chocolate.

[Download the Donation Form](#)



Author Robin Yocum

Tickets \$20 Each

Enter the [My Name in Print](#) Opportunity Drawing for the chance to have your name in a published book.

GFWC will host a Fundraiser throughout the Convention program dates. All proceeds go to the **GFWC Access to Education Fund Scholarship** for low-income and at-risk students who have demonstrated a determination to succeed in their educational goals.

One lucky member will get her name in a book written by Robin Yocum, the Edgar-nominated author known for his fiction set in the Ohio River Valley.


Buy Tickets when you [register for Convention](#) or
Call Nishu Raina (202-628-2478)

All are welcome to enter. You do not need to be present to win.

New GFWC Marketplace Coming Soon!

We are excited to announce that a new GFWC Marketplace experience is coming to you in mid-April!

The **GFWC Marketplace is closed temporarily** while we undertake a major renovation to the site. Stay tuned for a redesigned store, enhanced user experience, and new products for you to purchase for yourself and the clubwomen in your life. We will keep you up to date on our progress and announce the launch date of the new GFWC Marketplace in *News & Notes*.




THE GFWC LEARNING GATEWAY SERIES

FOR THE ENCOURAGEMENT AND ADVANCEMENT OF WOMEN: GFWC MEMBERS ARE ENCOURAGED TO PARTICIPATE IN THE GFWC LEARNING GATEWAY WEBINAR SERIES TO LEARN DIRECTLY FROM THE 2022-2024 GFWC HONORARY CHAIRMEN.

MARCH 22 @ 7 P.M. – Advocacy Challenges: Overcoming Roadblocks and Building Coalition Support by Stephenie Foster, Founding Partner of Smash Strategies, Honorary Chairman for GFWC Juniors' Special Program

APRIL 18 @ 7 P.M. – Chocolate, Chardonnay, and Chanel - The Power of Personal Behaviors in Health and Wellness by Nagi Kumar, Ph.D., Cancer Chemoprevention and Initiatives Moffitt Cancer Center, Honorary Chairman for Health & Wellness Community Service Program

APRIL 25 @ 7 P.M. – Drawing Connections: Prevention Demands Equity by Monika Johnson Hostler, President of the National Alliance to End Sexual Violence, Honorary Chairman for GFWC Signature Program

 GENERAL FEDERATION
of WOMEN'S CLUBS

April 18 at 7:00 p.m.

[Chocolate, Chardonnay, and Chanel - The Power of Personal Behaviors in Health and Wellness](#)

April 25 at 7:00 p.m.

[Drawing Connections: Prevention Demands Equity](#)



Minnesota President's Project: Heroes Everywhere

by: Linda Blue, GFWC Minnesota President

This term the Minnesota State President's project is "Heroes Everywhere." Each club has been asked to recognize a group of heroes that helped get us through the last 2 years. These heroes include doctors and nurses but also recognize volunteers that supported food banks, teachers, EMTs, grocery store clerks, firemen, truck drivers, delivery drivers, linemen that kept the power on, and pharmacists.

Anyone and everyone who risked their own health to help the rest of us survive the past 2 years.

The clubs can take on one project for the month, term, or year, whatever the club thinks would best benefit their community. For example, one club has decided to take homemade cookies to the nursing staff at the hospital and the workers at the electric company. Each time they leave cookies, they leave a note thanking them for the work they do and telling them the gift is from the GFWC club.

The GFWC Nevis Women's Club had an all-day seminar on Empowering Women to Lead with guest speakers and a panel discussion that was open to the public. They had over 300 people attend. It was a wonderful and inspiring program.

We are busy planning our upcoming state convention, where our guest speaker is [Hope for Justice](#). We will be working on a service project filling backpacks for them. In addition to that, we are busy planning our LEADS class for the state convention. We have a great group of ladies from all over the state working to pull everything together.



Shot@Life - Advocate to Vaccinate

From March 20 – April 30, Shot@Life supporters around the country will *Advocate to Vaccinate*, speaking to their members of Congress and their communities about the importance of fully funding global childhood immunization programs, including UNICEF, CDC, and Gavi, the Vaccine Alliance.

All GFWC members are welcome to join in the push to ensure #VaccinesForAll. Whether you have five minutes or an hour, there are ways for you to get involved. [Sign](#) the latest petition to send a message to your congressional offices. See our [advocacy toolkit](#) to

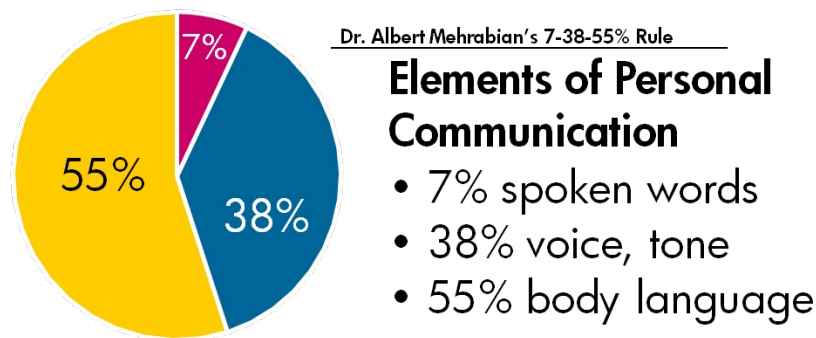
find out about other ways to use your voice this spring—such as calling your legislators, writing an article for a newsletter, or meeting with your congressional offices.

Shot@Life is a campaign of the United Nations Foundation that aims to ensure that children around the world have access to lifesaving vaccines. Through public education, grassroots advocacy, and fundraising, we strive to decrease vaccine-preventable childhood deaths and give every child a shot at a healthy life no matter where they live. Find out more about the partnership between GFWC and Shot@Life at shotatlife.org/gfwc.

It's Not What You Said...It's How You Said It

by: Jan Allen, GFWC Membership Committee

Take a moment to view Dr. Albert Mehrabian's 7-38-55% Rule.



This means that only 7% of what we convey is about the words we use when communicating with someone. Thirty-eight percent is about our tone, and 55% is about body language. So, what is email? Email is just words. You cannot see the writer's face or understand their tone. A telephone call involves tone and words.

Here is the formula: $\frac{\text{Words} + \text{Tone}}{\text{Body Language}} = \text{Meaning}$

One needs to hear the words and tone and see body language to clearly understand what is trying to be communicated. Remember that the more important the message, the more critical it is to have an in-person meeting. If not in person, a telephone call so the respondent can hear the tone. Email is intended to convey short messages.

Here is an example: Your club is trying to decide on a fundraiser. The president asks two members to present their cases at the podium. The member suggesting a luncheon fashion show enthusiastically states, "I am so excited to put this fundraiser forward. I have a vendor who will support the fashion show, we can hold it at the VFW Hall, and the club members can prepare the food. We stand to raise much money."

The second member suggesting a spaghetti dinner sheepishly

approaches the podium, clears her throat, and states, “We can make the most money from the spaghetti dinner if we cook everything.”

Who do you think makes the most impact? Which fundraiser would you vote for?

It’s not what you said, it’s how you said it!



March 23 is National Puppy Day

Paw yeah! GFWC Affiliate [Canine Companions®](#) the first and largest provider of service dogs for people with disabilities, is celebrating National Puppy Day on Thursday, March 23. Tune in and watch the livestream puppy cam, available from 6 a.m. to 9 p.m. PT/ 8 a.m. to 11 p.m. CT/ 9 a.m. to 12 a.m. ET!

Watch our adorable future service dogs snuggle, romp, wrestle, and snooze – as well as learn more about the work that goes into raising and training puppies to be successful Canine Companions service dogs.

There will be three scheduled presentations by some of Canine Companions staff to share more insight about puppies and puppy raising on March 23:

- 9 a.m. PT/ 12 p.m. ET: Introduction and meet the puppies
- 12 p.m. PT/ 3 p.m. ET: Puppy socialization and feed the pups!
- 3 p.m. PT/6 p.m. ET: Puppy raising and its impact

Visit canine.org/puppy to learn more. You can even sign up to get a reminder email when the puppy cam goes live.

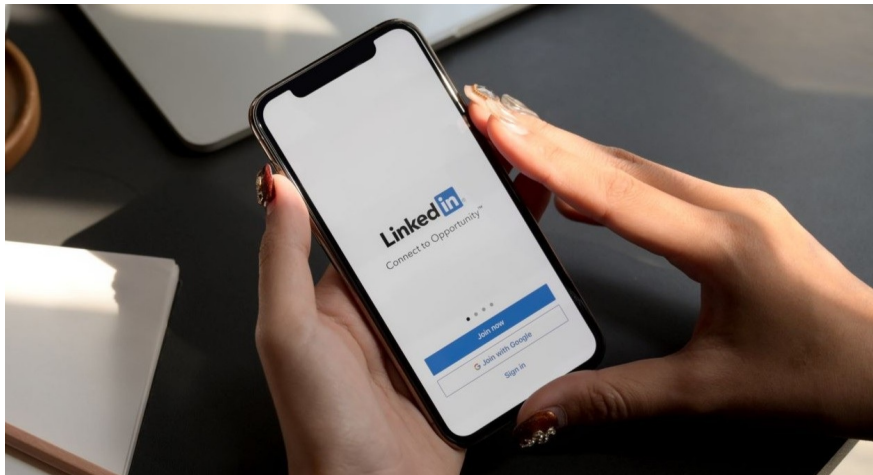
GFWC members or clubs may also be interested in changing a life by **sponsoring a future service dog**. For just \$240 (equivalent to \$10 a month), you can sponsor a puppy’s two-year journey to become a service dog and help a child, adult, or veteran lead life with greater independence. Visit canine.org/sponsorapup to learn more. **Please

include “GFWC” when entering the billing address information so Canine Companions knows of your support!

Your sponsorship will include:

- A Sponsorship Kit mailed to the address provided within the first month, including:
- Official sponsorship certificate
- Plush “Scottie” or “Narha” puppy with custom nametag
- Highlight card with special information and fun facts on your sponsored puppy
- A custom magnet and set of stickers featuring your puppy
- A 2023 Canine Companions puppy calendar (while supplies last)
- Email updates on what the puppy is learning, how they have grown and what’s coming next in their journey.
- Additional mailed pieces, including a birthday card and an announcement when the puppy enters the final phase of the journey to become a service dog.
- The impact of a lifetime of independence for a child, adult, or veteran with a disability!

We are so appreciative of the GFWC’s long-standing support. Learn more about Canine Companions and how they empower people with disabilities to lead more independent lives through an expertly trained service dog today. Visit canine.org.



Connect on LinkedIn

by: Loretta Caron, GFWC CPR Committee Member

LinkedIn is the world’s largest social network for professionals to connect, share, and learn on the internet. Think of it as a professional version of Facebook, but you are connecting with colleagues, classmates, or professional acquaintances. Some key stats:

- 850 million users worldwide
- 180 million users in the U.S.
- 79% of LinkedIn users are age 18-34

You can access LinkedIn from a desktop or a mobile app. You can use it to find a job, strengthen professional relationships, or learn new skills. Your profile acts as an interactive resume. You can participate in relevant groups and join groups based on your

interests. You can even blog about what you know. LinkedIn's publishing platform allows users to publish blog posts that are accessible to thousands of readers.

More than half of LinkedIn members donate to non-profits, and 60% are interested in volunteering! In your profile, there is a special spot to add "Volunteering" think of this spot as your very own GFWC branding spot on LinkedIn.

If you are in the job market, adding volunteer experience can help you stand out as a candidate. It shows you are community minded and like to help people. Volunteering experience also translates into leadership skills which can help you land that job.

Finally, did you know [GFWC](#) is on LinkedIn? Follow Us Today! Every time you like, comment, or share one of GFWC's posts, your connections on LinkedIn can see General Federation of Women's Clubs! Talk about a viral branding effect.

Volunteers in Action



Village Improvement Association Rehoboth Beach, DE

The mayor of Rehoboth Beach, DE, honored the Village Improvement Association by proclaiming that Monday, March 20, 2023, would be Village Improvement Association (VIA) Day. The proclamation honored Women's History Month and recognized and celebrated women's achievements over the club's 114 years of serving the City of Rehoboth and surrounding area.

The proclamation cited the club's many contributions in education, support for the homeless, scholarships, and community beautification efforts, to name a few. It also stated that the club's 240 members make a positive difference in the community.

The formal proclamation was declared on Friday, March 17, and a reception honoring VIA members was held at the VIA clubhouse on Monday, March 20. Stan Mills, Mayor of Rehoboth Beach, several City Commissioners, GFWC Delaware State President Patricia Rodriguez, and GFWC Delaware Sussex County Vice President Mindy Goss attended the reception and participated in the celebration.



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