



NEWS & NOTES

YOUR WEEKLY UPDATE ON GFWC NEWS

February 22, 2024

Join us for our Annual Women's History Month Celebration



2024 GFWC Women's History Month Celebration

Federation Fashion: an exhibition of GFWC International Past President gowns
GFWC History in Fifteen Objects: A look at some rarely-seen artifacts from our collection. Presented by WHRC Librarian Joanna Church.

March 6, 2024
2:00–4:00p.m.

GFWC Headquarters
1734 N ST NW, Washington, DC 20036

 **GFWC**
GENERAL FEDERATION
OF WOMEN'S CLUBS

Light Refreshments will be provided

Each year, GFWC hosts a celebration of Women's History Month. This free, in-person event is an annual favorite – and we'd love you to join us! Click the button below to register.

Register



Women's History Month Celebration Speaker: Jude Maboné

Jude Maboné was crowned Miss District of Columbia on June 10th, 2023. She is the proud daughter of two U.S. Navy veterans, a heart health and athlete safety advocate, and a small business owner. When she is not working at Seward & Kissel, LLP, a DC-based financial services focused law firm, she enjoys pampering her dog, Waffle, and serving alongside a variety of organizations including:

the Honor Flight Network, the American Heart Association, and Simon's Heart. When she is not working at Seward & Kissel, LLP, a DC-based financial services focused law firm, she enjoys pampering her dog, Waffle, and serving alongside a variety of organizations including: the Honor Flight Network, the American Heart Association, and Simon's Heart. Jude's unexpected diagnosis of heart disease as a teenager led her to become a champion of heart health equity, raising over \$42,000 for the American Heart Association, leading CPR and AED trainings, and lobbying in the House of Representatives for increased medical research funding for the National Institutes of Health's National Heart Lung and Blood Institute. Despite the adversity she's faced, Jude ran four years of Division I cross country and track at American University, where she graduated with her Bachelor of Arts in International Studies. Jude is looking forward to her next chapter as she recently applied to business school and anticipates starting her Master of Business Administration program this fall.

Women's History Month Celebration Speaker: Joanna Church

Joanna joined GFWC as WHRC Librarian in late August 2022, picking up the reins from the many dedicated staff and volunteers who have worked to maintain and share the organization's historic archives and collections. A Maryland native, she has a Bachelor's degree in Anthropology from Grinnell College (IA) and a Master's degree in Museum Studies, concentrating on cataloging

and registration, from the George Washington University (DC). With over twenty years of experience in small museums, and a love for women's history and stories, Joanna is dedicated to growing the WHRC collection, building on its strengths, and working to make it more accessible both online and in-person.



2024 GFWC Annual Convention



Catch up with your Federation Sisters – There's nothing better than catching up with longtime friends. GFWC Annual Convention allows you to reunite with all your Federation Sisters from around the world, share ideas and inspiration, and celebrate everyone's accomplishments with GFWC contests and awards. **Registration will open in early March.**

Hotel Bookings for the 2024 GFWC Annual Convention are Now Open

[Book Here](#)

For room booking questions, please contact the Hilton Chicago at (312) 922-4400

2024 Convention Exhibitor Registration

We are pleased to offer you the opportunity to participate in the 2024 GFWC Annual Convention, June 27 – July 1, 2024, at the Hilton Chicago.

Please click on the button below to register as a GFWC Exhibitor.

After completing your information, you will be given the option to select a space and location on the Exhibitor Showcase Map. Space is limited and will be assigned on a first-come, first-served basis. GFWC Members receive a discounted booth rate.

We look forward to you sharing your products and services with our members in Chicago.

If you have any questions, please contact Nishu Raina at 202-347-3168 ext.124 or Nraina@GFWC.org.

- State Officers: The elected state officers of the President-elect; First, Second, and Third Vice Presidents; Secretary; Corresponding Secretary; Treasurer; and the Director-elect of Junior Clubs.
- State chairmen: appointed to the GFWC Community Service Programs; GFWC Signature Program, GFWC Juniors' Special Program, Communications and Public Relations, Fundraising and Development, Leadership, Legislation/Public Policy, Membership, and the Women's History and Resource Center
- National Organization, International Affiliate, City or County Federation: One voting delegate for each such organization.
- Club Level: Two members from every Woman's Club, Junior Woman's Club, or Juniorette Club of 20 or fewer members may be voting delegates. For each additional 10 members (or a major fraction of 10), 1 more delegate may represent the club.

How do I ensure that I get credentials?

- A delegate must pay the registration fee for the entire Convention.
- Attendees paying daily registration do not have voting privileges.
- The Call to Convention will have the **registration desk hours**. Each delegate must pick up their own credentials **during** GFWC Registration hours.

For further information regarding dues, credentials, and representation, refer to the GFWC Bylaws ARTICLE V Dues and Finance Section 5.2 Dues., ARTICLE VIII Conventions, and ARTICLE XII Committees Section 12.1 Standing Committees. E) Credentials.

Amending Bylaws Proposed Amendments

By: GFWC Bylaws Committee

When amending proposed amendments to bylaws, whether a local club or national organization, they must be within the guidelines set by the group's parliamentary authority, in this case, Robert's Rules of Order Newly Revised, 12th edition. The change to proposed amendments must be within the "scope of notice," meaning when proposed amendments require a previous notice (such as for bylaws or special rules of order), the change the members wish to make cannot be greater than the proposed amendment. For example, a club wants to raise the scholarship amount awarded from \$500 to \$1000. An amendment to increase the amount to \$1100 is not allowed, but to change the amount to \$750 would. The amount must be between \$500 and \$1000. The reason is that while all members should have received the notice of the proposed amendment, not

all may be present for the vote. The rights of the absent members are protected by not allowing a number greater than \$1000.

The same principle applies to an amendment that substitutes a paragraph or article. The proposed substitute is open to amendment but not to amendments that increase it or introduce new changes. For instance, the club's bylaws committee has proposed and given notice that they wish to substitute the paragraph concerning the annual dinner with one that proposes an annual picnic due to rising food costs. A motion to include the holiday tea party is not in order, as the proposal only concerns the annual dinner.

Confusing? Perhaps a little. Just remember that to protect the rights of absent members, no amount can be amended to be larger than the original proposed amendment, nor can a new item be introduced.

GFWC Marketplace: Tumblers and Pullovers Now Available



Order GFWC branded tumblers and pullovers on the GFWC Marketplace:
<https://gfwc.allegiaromeooville.com/login>

Cares & Concerns

GFWC is saddened to report the passing of Nancy L. Lombardo, GFWC Ohio State President (2000-2002). Her obituary is available [here](#).

We are sad to report the passing of Roberta “Bert” Alberti (Mrs. Patrick), GFWC Florida State President (1994-1996). Alberti was GFWC Florida State President during its Centennial Year, 1994.

Cards can be sent to her husband:

Pat Alberti

5113 NW 57th Drive

Coral Springs, FL 33067



Legislative Corner

By: Juliet Casper, GFWC Legislation/Public Policy Chairman

To encourage participation in the democratic process, this monthly column aims to inform members about current legislation and programs that are germane to the GFWC Resolutions. It also highlights important actions of Congress and the White House, and provides follow-up information about GFWC Legislative Action Alerts.

Club Connection Initiative

During the 2022-2024 Administration, GFWC members, clubs, and states have been challenged to complete the Legislation/Public Policy Scavenger Hunt. The deadline for submitting the form to Committee Chairman Juliet Casper (jcasper9200@gmail.com) is **May 1, 2024**, and can include activities done by that date. Members, clubs, and states scoring the highest points will be recognized as Legislative Superstars at the 2024 GFWC Convention in Chicago, Illinois.

For inspiration and motivation, here's a photo of members of GFWC Paradise Valley Junior Woman's Club in front of the Arizona State Capitol Building with State Senator Christine Marsh. The club presented a "Leave Behind" folder to Senator Marsh and to the aide of State Representative Terech. The folder included a one-page document with GFWC-AZ historical legislation and a short list of GFWC Paradise Valley Junior Woman's Clubs' achievements. Also included in the packet was a GFWC Brochure and the handouts "GFWC's 2020-2022 Legislative Successes" and "2023 Legislative Priorities," obtained from the GFWC website. The club issued a press release with this information and the photo with a contact person's name, email address, and phone number. This one event marked off several items on the Scavenger Hunt, and wearing GFWC attire and name tags gave the club bonus points.



Kids Online Safety: On January 31, the Senate Judiciary Committee held a hearing to create pressure on Congress to pass legislation to protect kids online from child sexual exploitation. GFWC has utilized the Legislative Action Center to support the following bills: STOP CSAM Act (S. 1199), EARN IT Act (S. 1207), the SHIELD Act (S. 412), Kids Online Safety Act (S. 1409), and the REPORT Act (S. 474, H.R. 5082). During the January 31 hearing, the Judiciary Committee heard from the CEOs of Meta, Discord, Snapchat, TikTok, and X (formerly Twitter), who were grilled on their policies, lack of trust and safety personnel charged with taking down illicit materials, and the lack of safeguards for children on their platforms. Parents of victims filled the hearing room and have continued to highlight the critical need for action. GFWC works in coalition with the National Center on Sexual Exploitation on this Advocates for Children initiative.

Anti-Trafficking: On February 13, the House of Representatives passed the Frederick Douglass Trafficking Victims Prevention and Protection Reauthorization Act (H.R. 5856), providing a four-year reauthorization for the Trafficking Victims Protection Act to ensure an integrated, whole-of-government response to fighting human trafficking. The program was originally authorized in 2000 and has strong bipartisan support.

Condemning Sexual Violence in Wartime: On February 14, the House of Representatives overwhelmingly approved H. Res. 966 condemning all rape and forms of sexual violence as weapons of war, including those acts committed by Hamas terrorists on and since October 7, 2023. The resolution also calls on all nations to criminalize rape and sexual assault and hold accountable all perpetrators of sexual violence, including state and non-state armed groups.

Federal Appropriations: Congress has until early March to approve the FY 2024 spending bills or face a government shutdown. A separate supplemental spending bill providing funds to Ukraine, Israel, Taiwan, and humanitarian assistance for Palestinians in Gaza was approved by the Senate on February 13 with bipartisan support, but consideration in the House of Representatives seems uncertain. GFWC has clubwomen in both Ukraine and Taiwan, and strong policy in support of NATO (140-190 Global Peacekeeping). Want to know more: GFWC Resolutions can be found at www.GFWC.org, What We Do, Legislation/Public Policy.

It is hoped Congress will conclude these FY 2024 negotiations as time is running out. The State of the Union is March 7 and the President's FY 2025 budget will be released March 11, starting the new FY 2025 appropriations process.

Child Tax Credit Renewal: On January 31, the House of Representatives passed the Tax Relief for American Families and Workers Act (H.R. 7024) which renews the Child Tax Credit. Low-income families eligible for the credit would see more benefits, although it is not as generous as the provision passed in 2021, lifting millions of children out of poverty. The measure also expands the low-income housing tax credit and makes permanent the expired research and development tax deduction. GFWC supported the Child Tax Credit in 2020 through its Legislative Action Center alert system.

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Volunteers in Action: North Myrtle Beach Woman’s Club (SC)



Clubwomen from the North Myrtle Beach Woman's Club gathered to bag candy donated by members at their February meeting so many in their area could receive a "sweet" distribution for Valentine's Day! Enough candy was donated to fill 80 bags, and the remaining candy (approximately 10 lbs.) was donated to a local organization called Hopes Kitchen (a ministry dedicated to helping needy individuals and families). Members delivered bags for home-bound seniors to Helping Hand (which provides necessities to those in need), North Strand Housing Shelter (which provides emergency and transitional housing for those experiencing homelessness), the Veterans Resource Center (their mission is to end veteran homelessness), and Sea Haven (provide a safe place for youth in crisis). The remainder was delivered to our local firehouses and police departments.

Submit photos and a short story about the awesome things YOUR club is doing in the community to PR@gfwc.org.



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