



# NEWS & NOTES

YOUR WEEKLY UPDATE ON GFWC NEWS

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January 16, 2025

## GFWC: Exclusive Online Resources

### CALL FOR NOMINATIONS: Jane Cunningham Croly Award

*Deadline: Wednesday, April 30, 2025*



Jane Cunningham Croly,  
Professional Journalist,  
Founder of the General  
Federation of Women's  
Clubs

Nominate a journalist in your community for the prestigious ***Jane Cunningham Croly Award for Excellence in Journalism*** also referred to as the Croly Award, to recognize their merits in journalism!

This highly coveted GFWC award is presented biennially to a journalist who embodies the core essence of Jane Croly's spirit of advocacy by addressing issue of women's equality and social justice.

The winner will be announced during the 2025 GFWC Annual Convention, June 7-9, in Atlanta, with room and travel expenses fully covered. Please click [here](#) to download the form.

## Join GFWC in Atlanta Georgia, June 6-9!



The 2025 GFWC Annual Convention is sure to be an event to educate, engage, and empower members. Stay at the luxurious Omni Atlanta Hotel at Centennial Park and enjoy four on-site dining destinations just steps away from downtown attractions. Reserve your room by **May 12, 2025**, and don't miss out on the excitement of this year's GFWC Annual Convention!

[Book Now](#)

### THE GFWC LEARNING GATEWAY SERIES



**2025 webinars start at the end of this month. Find more information and register for upcoming webinars at [GFWC.org/events](https://www.gfwc.org/events)**

**January 27, 2025, at 7 p.m. ET - ESO Beyond the Page, Mystery with a Mission**

Amy Peele, GFWC Education and Libraries/Health and Wellness Honorary Chairman

Purchase books by Amy Peele [here](#).

<https://bit.ly/3AkgYoc>

**February 5, 2025, at 7 p.m. ET - Heart Health Awareness Month**

**Jude Mabone**, GFWC Health and Wellness Honorary Chairman

<https://bit.ly/48Epc7g>

**February 11, 2025, at 7 p.m. ET - The Role Storytelling Plays in Advancing a Brand and Building Membership**

Leslie Capps, GFWC Communications Honorary Chairman

Purchase "[Turn Your Story Into Business Gold](#)" by Leslie Capps

<https://bit.ly/3UI3Srs>



## **“Oh, The Things We Can Do!” To Encourage Literacy and Love of Reading for all Ages**

By: Diane Bell, GFWC Colorado State President

The GFWC Colorado President's Project is to provide comprehensive, high-quality care and education for ALL children, and work with literacy centers focused on building success through literacy, one child at a time.

We encourage GFWC Colorado clubs to conduct projects or participate in established projects in their communities, donating books, getting involved with reading programs, joining a book club, tutoring, establishing or supporting a "Little Library," and joining the Colorado ESO book club. One of the district collected books in English and Spanish to help support the smallest school district in Denver.

GFWC Colorado has started a state-wide book club, CFWC Reads, to encourage the love of reading among our club members. Our ESO chairman selected our first book, which a Colorado author wrote. We had our first successful discussion at the Colorado Fall Board meeting and have chosen another book for the Spring Convention. Colorado clubs are encouraged to discuss the selections at local club meetings to engage all members.



During the administration, we will monitor the difference that Colorado members make in encouraging literacy and the love of reading. It will be exciting!

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## The Importance of “Thank You”



By: Janine Eilert, Communications  
and Public Relations Committee  
Member

It is a common courtesy to say, “Thank you” for a gift, kind gesture, or a positive compliment. There is power when you take the time to thank someone. It can make people feel recognized, build confidence, foster a sense of camaraderie, and develop better relationships.

It is important to show gratitude to members, GFWC leaders, sponsors, and guests for their contributions to our club. Special guests at meetings should receive a thank you card in addition to a small gift. Consider using [GFWC stationery](#) available in the Marketplace so guests remember which organization you represent. Following a club event, it is appropriate to thank sponsors, contributors, and speakers who attended. Social media is an excellent way to express appreciation by tagging those individuals and highlighting them with photos. Of course, thanking them in person and publicly is highly recommended.

Show appreciation to your members for leading a project and their dedication to the club. Many clubs present awards annually to say “Thank You” to members. Your GFWC District, State, and international leaders always enjoy a thank you card via the mail, text, or social media. Always recognize potential new members for attending your meeting with an invitation to your next meeting.

When writing your thank you note, it is important to highlight why you are thanking that person with details. Consider adding your own special touch with a phrase, symbol, or personalized card stock.

Most importantly,

“Always say Thank You; It’s the greatest gift you can give someone.” – Maya Angelou



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# New Year, New Healthy Habits



*Trending*  
**GFWC 40oz Tumbler**  
**\$35 + shipping**

Did you make a New Year's Resolution to drink more water? Pick up a 40oz GFWC tumbler to keep your water cold for up to 12 hours. The tapered base conveniently fits most cupholders, making this your go-to travel mug.

[SHOP NOW](#)

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## “Be the Voice” for the Signature Program!

By: Kim Fulcher, GFWC North Carolina State President

Our GFWC Signature program promotes awareness, prevention, and education opportunities for eight focus areas. These focus areas are highlighted throughout the year using color to promote awareness of issues. As GFWC members, we can “be the voice for those who have no voice.” What does this mean? We can “be the voice” by advocating for survivors, providing education to the public, and utilizing GFWC resources.

A new resource is now available in the Member Portal, under the Signature Program within the Digital Library. The document lists current state coalitions that provide awareness, prevention, and education to support domestic violence and human trafficking survivors. State Coalitions can provide speakers to meetings, offer educational opportunities, attend vendor events, and be a resource for club, District, and State meetings.

Most focus areas have a month that is considered their “advocacy” month. Many GFWC programs may be emphasized during established advocacy months. These can be used to plan for your club year.

- **January**, Human Trafficking-**Blue**, Stalking Awareness Month-**Yellow**;
- **February**, Teen Dating Violence Awareness Month-**Orange**;
- **April**, Child Abuse Awareness Month-**Blue**, Sexual Assault Awareness Month-**Teal** (Campus, Military, Native American);

- **May**, Missing & Murdered Indigenous Person Awareness Day (**Red** hand over mouth) May 5;
  - **June** Elder Abuse Awareness Month-**Purple**,
  - September, National Suicide Prevention Month (**Purple** & **Teal**);
  - **October**, Domestic Violence Month-**Purple**, National Bullying Prevention Month-**Blue**;
  - **November**, Native American Heritage Month-**Red**, Veterans Day (Military Sexual Assault)-Nov 11.
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## **Volunteers in Action: GFWC Palos Park Woman's Club (IL)**



At their annual holiday party, 60 members and friends of the GFWC Palos Park Woman's Club (IL) gathered to celebrate the holidays and collect gift cards for victims of domestic violence. Gift cards ranging from \$10-\$50 were donated to purchase gas, groceries, food, and clothing for women and children starting a new life. A total of \$1,415 in gift cards was donated to the Crisis Center for South Suburbia (CCSS) Auxiliary at Neat Repeats, the second-hand store operated by the CCSS Auxiliary.

**Want your club project to be featured in an upcoming issue of  
News & Notes?**

Simply send your full club name, State Federation, and 100 words  
describing your club's favorite project to [PR@GFWC.org](mailto:PR@GFWC.org).  
Make sure to add a great action shot or two that brings your project to life!



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