



NEWS & NOTES

YOUR WEEKLY UPDATE ON GFWC NEWS

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May 1, 2025

GFWC: Exclusive Member Resources



Don't miss your chance to connect, celebrate, and be inspired! We are excited to see the hundreds of members who have registered for this year's GFWC Annual Convention in Atlanta!

If you missed the registration deadline yesterday, please email Nishu Raina, GFWC Events Manager, at nraina@GFWC.org.

[Visit Convention Page](#)



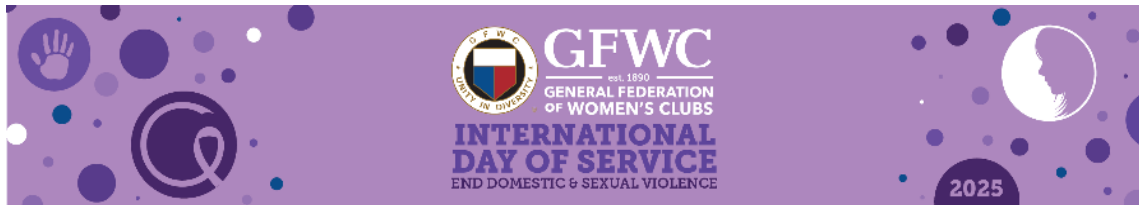
Did you buy a Convention T-shirt? Match Your Tourmates!

Show Your GFWC Pride in Atlanta!

Don't forget to wear your GFWC Convention T-shirt during the **Experience Atlanta Tour on Thursday and Friday**—you'll be representing GFWC in the community!

Haven't ordered yours yet? No worries! You can **add a shirt to your registration online** and pick it up next to the registration area in Atlanta.

Let's show Atlanta the power of GFWC spirit—one shirt at a time!



Teen Dating Violence

Advocate & Educate

Teen Dating Violence (TDV) is a type of Intimate Partner Violence that can take place in person or virtually/electronically. Some examples include repeated texting or posting sexual pictures of a partner online without consent. Due to their youth and inexperience, teens can think teasing and name calling are a normal part of a relationship. But these behaviors in fact can turn abusive, developing into more serious forms of violence that oftentimes goes unreported.

According to data released by the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention's Youth Risk Behavior Survey and the National Intimate Partner and Sexual Violence Survey, millions of teens are affected by TDV in the U.S. each year.

Here are some projects to consider for the *2025 GFWC IDS* on September 27:

- Organize an information session at a local school for parents and teens about TDV between September 21-27.
- Sponsor art classes for local high schools in which students make posters about dating abuse and domestic violence awareness and prevention. Encourage the use of photography, computer graphics, and artwork to make the posters unique. Work with your local library or community center to post finished artwork for the entire community on September 27.

- Develop an educational program for pre-teens and teens to learn safe and healthy relationship skills between September 21-27. Provide handouts with information on a resource to help should they identify as experiencing TDV.
- Partner with local middle and high schools to host interactive workshops or assemblies on healthy relationships, warning signs of abuse, and how to seek help during the week of GFWC IDS.
- Develop resource kits for teens that include hotline cards, info on digital safety, self-care tools, and local support services. Partner with youth organizations, community centers, or shelters to distribute the week of GFWC IDS. Include GFWC-branded materials and affirming messages.
- Volunteer with youth-led organizations or programs that promote peer advocacy and teen leadership on dating violence prevention. Sponsor training for peer educators during the week of GFWC IDS.

United We Can End Domestic & Sexual Violence!

Please note due to the sensitive nature of your volunteer activities, when working directly with survivors, these organizations will require some initial training to help prepare you.

To learn more about GFWC IDS and to [register](#), visit: www.GFWC.org/ids/.

Register Today!

2025 GFWC International Day of Service Registrant List

To join the list visit the [GFWC Member Portal](#).

27 New Registrants as of May 1, 2025

STATE FEDERATIONS

GFWC Kentucky
GFWC Texas
GFWC Wisconsin

GFWC DISTRICT

GFWC NC District 3, NC

INDIVIDUAL CLUBS

ARKANSAS

GFWC Stuttgart Junior Woman's Club

CALIFORNIA

GFWC Santa Fe Springs Women's Club
GFWC Tracy Woman's Club
GFWC Woodland Hills Woman's Club

CONNECTICUT

Windsor Woman's Club of CT & GFWC

DELAWARE

GFWC Delmar New Century Club
GFWC Women's Club of Milton

KENTUCKY

GFWC Woman's Club of Madisonville

MASSACHUSETTS

GFWC Marlborough Junior Woman's Club

MICHIGAN

GFWC Hastings Women's Club

NORTH CAROLINA

GFWC Dunn Intermediate Woman's Club
GFWC NC Kings Mountain Woman's Club

SOUTH CAROLINA

GFWC St. Andrews Woman's Club

TEXAS

GFWC Clover Club of Kaufman
GFWC Fairfield History Club
GFWC Women's Club of Cotulla

VIRGINIA

GFWC Bedford Woman's Club
GFWC James River Junior Woman's Club

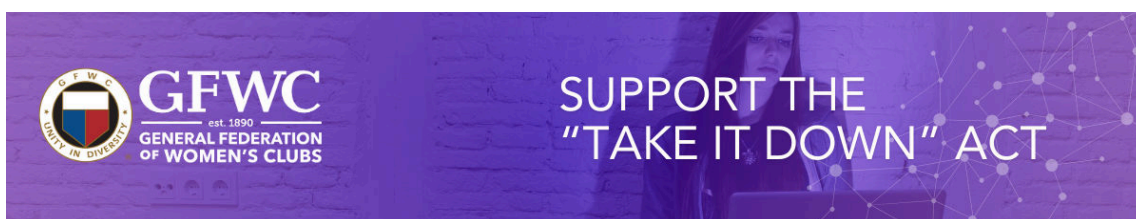
GEORGIA
GFWC Sylvania G.E.M.S.

WISCONSIN
GFWC Burlington Woman's Club
GFWC Rhinelander Woman's Club

ILLINOIS
GFWC Lombard Junior Women's Club

KANSAS
GFWC Hutchinson Questers

This list shows registrants from the last week. For a full listing of all 405 participating clubs, please visit www.gfwc.org/ids



WAY TO GO! Thank you to our GFWC Clubwomen who joined the Legislative Action Center and Took Action.

The TAKE IT DOWN Act has been passed by Congress and is on its way to the President for signature!

Because of you, victims of sexually explicit images posted on social media will be able to fight back against their perpetrators. The Act criminalizes the publication of these images, both authentic and computer-generated, requires social media platforms to remove these images, and provides law enforcement the tools needed to hold these perpetrators accountable.

Never underestimate the power of our collective voices!



GFWC
est. 1890
GENERAL FEDERATION
OF WOMEN'S CLUBS

**WOMEN'S HISTORY &
RESOURCE CENTER**



The May blog from the Women's History and Resource Center is ready for spring! Take a look at a piece from our American Decorative Arts ceramics collection: the North Dakota Vase, by clubwoman and artist Margaret Kelly Cable.

[Click to Read](#)



Honoring Those Who Serve

by: Jen Nowak, GFWC Massachusetts President



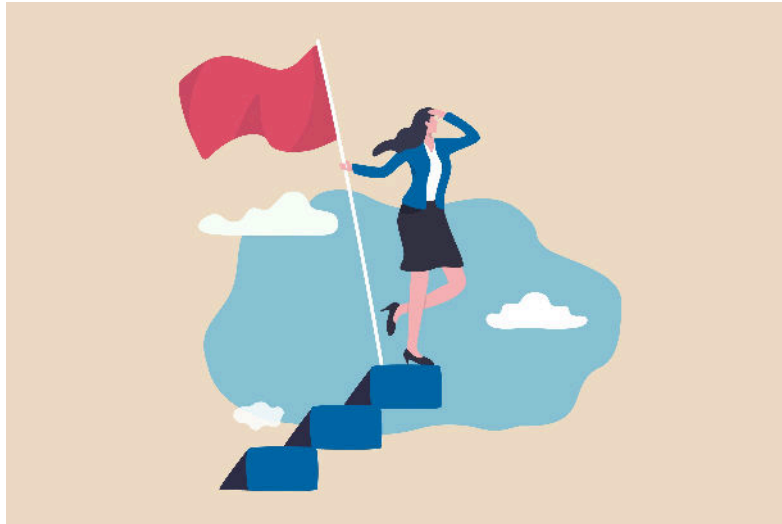
In photo (l to r): Commanding Officer Captain Jessica Rozzi-Ochs USCGC Brogue Eagle, Terry Rouvalis GFWC MA 1st VP, Jen Nowak GFWC MA President, Darlene Coutu GFWC MA Treasurer, A. Elaine Brickman GFWC MA 2nd VP, Commanding Officer Captain Billie J. Farrell USS Constitution

Honoring those in the armed services is a crucial way to express gratitude for their selfless service while protecting our freedom. Both enlisted members and veterans put their lives at risk to serve the country, often facing hardships supporting their families. Supporting these heroes and their family members is a way to acknowledge the lasting impact of their service. The GFWC Massachusetts State President's focus project is working with Project New Hope, Inc., which offers vital emotional and physical support programs for the military and wonderful outreach programs for family members.

Amazing ways Project New Hope, Inc. helps alleviate some financial burdens are through a food pantry. It includes a baby pantry filled with food, diapers, clothing, and toys; a summer Farmers Market offering free, fresh fruits and vegetables; the Back-to-School Backpack Brigade; and Operation Jeepers Christmas. There are plenty of choices clubs can support.

The US Coast Guard Museum Foundation (USCGMF) is another area the Armed Forces members support. After attending a USCGMF reception aboard the USCGC Brogue Eagle,

hearing firsthand about the new National Coast Guard Museum opening in 2026, adding this to GFWC Massachusetts' focus areas was simple. Meeting two women Commanding Officers—the Captains of USCGC Brogue Eagle and the USS Constitution was inspiring. Learning about the leadership opportunities offered to women in the USCG has solidified the support of this program. GFWC Massachusetts has raised funds and purchased a Commemorative Paver and is looking forward to the opening of this history-making, innovative museum.



Don't be a Boss! Choose to be a Leader!

By: Anne Engelhardt, GFWC Leadership Committee

GFWC is a wonderful volunteer organization that offers all of us so many leadership opportunities. If you want to lead, just step forward and let us know. Have you ever worked with a leader who was more like a boss during your volunteer work? A boss only knows their way of how things are done. She uses her authority to control others and then takes credit for all the good work. A boss places blame on others for breakdowns and doesn't take any responsibility for her own mistakes. A boss can make you feel controlled and unempowered. So, I ask you this question, "Would you want to work with that kind of person again?"

Or have you ever worked with a leader who is positive, encouraging, enthusiastic, and has an open mind to other people's ideas? That kind of leader values your skills and takes a team approach. She gives everyone a voice and hears all opinions. She uses the word "we," not "I," when talking about a project. If things don't go as planned, she takes responsibility and regroups to create a better outcome. She makes you feel empowered and motivated. If that is the type of leader you want to work with, learn and remember to be that kind of leader yourself.

The choice is yours. Don't be a boss! Choose to be a Leader!



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Volunteers in Action: GFWC Yankton Women's Club (South Dakota)



GFWC Club Members (l to r): Vicki Swensen, Pauline Akland, Karen Henriksen, and Cindy Filips

To Lead is To Serve

In commemoration of GFWC Volunteers in Action Week, April 20-26, and GFWC Federation Day, April 24, **GFWC Yankton Women's Club** members helped with the **Keep Yankton Beautiful** Great American Cleanup on Saturday, April 26. They cleaned the Memorial Park in Yankton, SD, by picking up trash and branches. Pauline Akland, GFWC club member, had her grandchildren, Kohen (5) and Gabbie (3), in tow to help. It's never too early to get the kids involved.

** GFWC became a Federation on April 24, 1890. GFWC Volunteers in Action Week and GFWC Federation Day are celebrated annually. This year marks GFWC's 135th Anniversary.*

**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.
Make sure to add a great action shot or two that brings your project to life!



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