



Key Notes

It's Time

Mary Jo Murphy, GRWC IL Signature Project Chairman

The temps are cooling down and the air is crisper. The mums are showing off their fabulous variety of color. The stores are filled with orange and black Halloween everything. Fall is here! And it is time for GFWC Illinois Clubwomen to PURPLIZE! Wear PURPLE – the color of Domestic Violence Awareness Month.

This is the month to at least discuss how your club will show support for the dignity of all women, particularly those caught in the demeaning web of domestic violence. How will your club raise the level of awareness in your community?

Choose something fun that you know family, friends, neighbors, enjoy doing with you... especially if they knew that they could make a difference in the lives of victims. Consider the things you probably already do in small groups or in your neighborhood. Sell plants, hold a bridge party, a bunco night, a clothing collection to donate to a local shelter, a bake sale, a bike hike, go golfing together one more time before the leaves cover the course, have a night at the bowling alley, or a wine and cheese get together held strictly to raise funds to benefit Domestic Violence

Prevention. Trivia nights are great fun, so are 5K runs, and toy sales and unusual fashion moments!



Pick a project or plan a program, then PURPLIZE IT!! Wear PURPLE, paint your nails PURPLE, serve PURPLE treats, raffle off something fabulous all wrapped in , you guessed it, PURPLE! Be proud that you are doing something to honor the dignity and well-being of women who can't do this for themselves.

Invite your local shelter volunteers and residents to attend and participate in your fun event. Honor your guests and your members with special purple ribbons. Wear YOURS all month long. AND , make it mean something.

When someone finally asks you, "What's with all the PURPLE?". It's OK to say that, sadly, it is the color of skin that has been bruised. But we are proud to belong to an organization that is working steadfastly to put an end to domestic violence. We can and we do make a difference. Be sure to let me know what you did at reporting time... Thank you for caring!!

National Wreaths Across America Day: December 17, 2016

Gerri Eck, GFWC IL Public Issues Chairman

From Wreaths Across America website:

A boyhood visit to Arlington National Cemetery left a big impression on Morrill Worcester—one he never forgot.

*Decades later, in 1992, his company's surplus of 5,000 wreaths and his desire to have them placed at Arlington kicked off an annual tribute that went on quietly for over ten years. With national interest in the project having grown so greatly, in 2007 a dedicated group of volunteers formed Wreaths Across America as a non-profit 501-(c)3 to continue and expand the mission to **Remember, Honor, and Teach.***

Each December on National Wreaths Across America Day, their mission to Remember, Honor and Teach is carried out by coordinating wreath-laying ceremonies at Arlington National Cemetery, as well as over 1,100 additional locations in all 50 U.S. states, at sea, and abroad.

Can you help? Can your club or district help? Monetary donations are appreciated, volunteers to help lay the wreaths at each grave, and help is especially wanted with cleanup. Want additional information? Here's the link for

The form on the opposite page can be used to sponsor a wreath at Abraham Lincoln National Cemetery. Want to find a participating cemetery closer to you? Go to the website [Wreaths Across America](http://www.wreathscrossamerica.org), or <http://www.wreathscrossamerica.org/#join-us> for other cemeteries participating if you want to find one closer to you.

REMEMBER
our fallen U.S. veterans.

HONOR
those who serve.

TEACH
your children the value of freedom.

Wreaths Across America Mission

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Wreaths Across America 2016



LET NO HERO BE FORGOTTEN

Sponsor a Wreath for a Veteran's Grave at Abraham Lincoln National Cemetery Elwood, Illinois

Name of Sponsor or Business: _____

Address: _____

****GRAVE SPECIFIC REQUESTS CAN NOT BE DONE ONLINE****

If so, you must complete this form for each Veteran you are sponsoring a wreath for and mail to the address below.

Veterans Name: _____

Section & Grave Marker #: _____

Contact Phone Number: _____

Will you be there to place the wreath yourself? Yes _____ No _____

Make Check or Money Order Payable to: Wreaths Across America and mail to:

OCP WREATH PROJECT C/O Debbie 10255 Donna Dr. Dittmer, MO. 63023

****Sponsorships for 2016 MUST be received by Nov. 21st 2016**

Individual sponsorship: 1 Wreath \$15.00 _____

Family: 4 Wreaths \$60.00 _____

Business: 10 Wreaths \$150.00 _____

Corporate: 100 Wreaths \$1500.00 _____

****Please note that you are 'sponsoring' wreaths to be placed on "ANY VETERANS" grave.

However, if you need a grave specific we will try our best to make it happen.****



Make a Difference Day: Saturday, October 22, 2016

We all have opportunities every day to change the world, whether we're adopting a Highway to patrol for litter or volunteering at a local shelter to help the homeless. It's amazing what just a small effort by an individual or group of individuals can do to change the world, or at least their local neighborhood. **Make a difference Day** was established to help encourage us to take one day a year to try to make a difference in the world.

History of Make a Difference Day
Originally created in 1992 by **USA Weekend** magazine, Make a Difference Day has seen a great deal of support from various organizations throughout the years, and most recently has been transferred over to **USA Today** as its primary sponsor and organizer. USA Today provides a central location for people to gather their information and report what they're doing locally to Make a Difference.

Since its creation Make a Difference Day has helped to encour-

age thousands of people across the nation to start making an actual difference in the world. Contributions to making the world a better place have ranged from gathering stuffed bears for firefighters to give to injured and frightened children, to organizing relief efforts for victims of natural catastrophes like Hurricane Sandy. Overall **Make a Difference Day** has spurred people to make a difference in themselves, and the world.

How to Celebrate Make A Difference Day

The ways to celebrate Make a Difference Day are limited only by your imagination, and your willingness to contribute your time and efforts to changing the world. You can start celebrating by alerting people on social media to the upcoming opportunity to make a difference, and then its time to get truly ambitious.

Organize a food drive for your local Food Banks to help the hun-

gry and the needy, approach businesses for donations to homeless and domestic violence shelters. You can even volunteer with your local blood bank or at a free clinic to help sign people in. There are hundreds of opportunities for those interested in changing the world to get involved, and dozens of organizations you contact to help you get involved.

Remember, making a difference doesn't have to involve a grandiose gesture, it can be as simple as buying a coffee for a co-worker who's looking down, or lunch for a homeless person just trying to get through the day. You can even donate your old clothes and blankets to shelters to help people get back on their feet and stay warm.

From: <https://www.daysoftheyear.com/days/make-a-difference-day/>



Editor's Note #1: this issue has been purplized in support of Domestic Violence Awareness month.

Editor's Note #2: Send your club's news to Carol Jablonski at carolajablonski@att.net. Photos are also appreciated.

Receiving this email forwarded from a friend? [Click](#) to sign up to receive *Key Notes* directly to your inbox!

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