

GFWC Illinois



Creating Leaders, Changing Lives

Clubwoman

Magazine

Step Away from Abuse



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FALL 2011
Volume 81
No. 02



In This Issue...

IN EARSHOT OF THE EDITOR...

By thy rivers gently flowing, Illinois, Illinois...

I just can't seem to get that tune out of my mind lately. Could it be the fall season is coming up or maybe I'm getting in the mood for warm days and cool nights. I really think it is due to all the many experiences I have with GFWC and serving on the Illinois Board. Many times we overlook what is right in our own backyards and opt for the glitz of cities like Las Vegas, New York, or Los Angeles. We seem to forget that we have such treasures right here in Illinois.

O'er thy verdant plains a growing, Illinois, Illinois...

GFWC Illinois has given me an opportunity to see the best, the unusual, and the fun side of many different towns and their backyards. Where else would a group of women meet in small towns across the state other than our organization? Where else would we make friends from the top to the bottom of a state and claim years of kept friendships? I am so lucky to be part of this organization known as GFWC and to have the opportunity to explore the many backyards of Illinois.

Rita Jaffe

(my backyard Franklin Park & McHenry)

GFWC Illinois Clubwoman Editor

Executive Board Articles—starts on page 3
Community Service Projects Articles—starts on page 6
Articles on the Clubs—starts on page 16
Leads Article—starts on page 12
Blue Ribbon Fashion Show—starts on page 15

On the Cover...At the September Board Meeting in Savanna, IL, Domestic Violence Awareness was paramount on the President Nancy Willis' agenda. Step Away from Abuse was the headliner that got members to commit to donating socks to abuse shelters. October is Domestic Abuse Awareness Month.

GFWC Illinois Executive Committee

President Nancy H. Willis
Director of Junior Clubs . . . Candy Godbee
President-Elect Patricia Heitman
Northern Region VP Diane Addante
Central Region VP Shelli Fehr
Southern Region VP Sandy Rae Hutchings
Secretary Karen Wrzesinski
Treasurer Karen Meyer
Parliamentarian Jacquelyn Pierce

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prjaffe@ameritech.net 815/578-0073

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North Chicago St., Suite 406, Joliet, IL 60432-4395



With Our Sympathy

GFWC Illinois sends sympathies to the following members who have recently lost love ones:

Terry LaHue's sister Katie Seitz

GFWC Members:

Mary Burcham
Newton WC (GFWC IL) - District 23
Dorothy Clevenger
Pekin WC (GFWC) - District 16
Ethel Dallenger
Fairbury WC (GFWC IL) - District 17
Rosie Hornsby
WC of Princeton (GFWC) - District 16
Nancy Kohl
Lombard Junior WC, Inc. - District 5
Janean Raker
Pekin WC (GFWC) - District 16
Judith Ritzer
Wood River WC - District 22
Lillian Sanders
District 25

GFWC ILLINOIS CLUBWOMAN Magazine is published 4 times a year and is free to all GFWC Illinois members in good standing. The editor reserves the right to edit any copy used in the magazine.

... Nancy's Backyard

Dear fellow GFWC Illinois Clubwomen,

Today is an absolutely gorgeous Fall day! Clubs are bustling around preparing for all their community festivals. There is no end to the list of things that your community needs volunteers to help with! Just as we all have personal home maintenance work to complete and things on that Summer To Do List that MUST be done before the dreaded "S" word happens (in case you were wondering – that word is SNOW)... I'm certain your clubs all have a To Do List that needs attention. Why do I mention this? ...because sometimes I have trouble getting motivated to do the work that needs to be done... not that any of you have trouble with motivation... but, the experts tell us that there are THREE main reasons WHY PEOPLE VOLUNTEER. Here are those reasons..

Affiliation – to get to know & to stay connected to people who share their passions

Appreciation – to be acknowledged for contributions to their communities

Accomplishment – to have something to do & know they have made a difference

You can use these reasons to help motivate both existing members and potential new members.

Affiliation – provide FUN opportunities for your members. Everyone should head home after a meeting or event feeling BETTER than they did when they arrived!

Appreciation – say Thank You! Appreciation does not have to be expensive. A simple "Thank You for your help" will go a long way. Remember to say Thank You where others can hear you. Knowing that their time is valued makes members more willing to say "Yes" when asked to volunteer the next time.

Accomplishment – don't just meet to meet. Learn something. Make something. Fix something. Plan something. And remember to celebrate when it's completed!

Personally, I would suggest that you invite potential members to join you, not based solely on what they can DO with your club, but instead, based on who they can BECOME with you! The General Federation of Women's Clubs motto, Unity in Diversity, makes us the best organization in the world! GFWC Clubs allow their members to grow without outgrowing their "fit" in the club. Think about who you were, at what stage in your life you were when you joined GFWC. Now look at who you have BECOME. I'll venture to guess that those two women are not the same people. I'll bet that the lady you see in the mirror today is more confident, has learned new skills, is more aware of the issues that affect our world, is more compassionate, is more outgoing, is more open to change & diversity, is more focused, is surrounded by more friends, is more motivated, is more organized,... You get the picture! You have grown (and not just from eating all the great food that goes along with club work). You have BECOME a wonderful Human BEING, sometimes in spite of all the DOING.

Don't you want every woman you know to have the chance to BECOME all they can be? Now to paraphrase an old Army slogan... "Be all you can BE – Join GFWC!"

Take care!

Nancy

... and Forget NOT to Be KIND!



Nancy's Backyard – Thomson

Junior Backyards...



Candy Godbee, GFWC Illinois Director of Junior Clubs "Belief Box"

H.G. Wells once noted, "Man must not allow the clock and the calendar to blind him to the fact that each moment of life is a miracle and a mystery." Do you live as if each moment is a miracle and a mystery?

As volunteers in our communities, everyday we see people facing struggles in life. We see the needs and try to find ways to improve those lives and our communities. Most of us feel we are blessed with a roof over our head, food in our stomachs and happiness. But the sad fact is that we have a lot more to do to help more people feel the same way.

Here are some mental attitudes that can help you live as if each moment were truly a miracle and a mystery. First, don't let preoccupation with whether you are succeeding or whether you are achieving your goals distract you from being aware of the present moment. Then focus. Concentrate on the great things you are doing rather than worrying about bad ones. Concentrate on doing the next task well rather than worrying about past failures or about what others will think about you if you should "mess up." And get a picture in your mind's eye of your goals. Finally, keep your mind on the task at hand. Don't think about the next project. Thinking about the present will help the future take care of itself.

The Juniors of Illinois and Wisconsin recently held a first ever, joint fall conference. There were workshops on Membership and Leadership, speakers and sharing GFWC friendship. We talked about each person having their own "Belief Box." What is in that box is a result of the family we grew up in, the culture we grew up in and even our work environment, to name a few. Let's say your belief box contains thoughts such as: "We can't gain new members", or "We can't seem to grow over 12 members", or "Our club never reports." The result will be that you will never grow beyond those beliefs. Write down what you believe. Put it in a box, and remind yourself of those beliefs. If it's not in the box, you won't achieve it.

As you approach each "Season of Recruiting" for GFWC, realize that if you start my believing that you can't get any new members, you probably won't. As you close out the calendar year for reporting, if no one expects reports to be written, they won't be.

As clubs start their new year, we try to make every community and every citizen safe, healthy and educated. Aren't those areas what we are most known for? When you study the GFWC Community Service Programs and Advancements, you will see that there is still a lot of work to do. GFWC provides the resources available to assist you. If you do not have access to www.gfwc.org, please be sure to contact the state chairmen and officers. We are here to help every member achieve their goals and fill their "Belief Box" with good things.

This and every moment are full of magic and wonder. Give it your full attention. When you come to know how precious the present moment is, you'll understand the mystery we call life and be able to share more of it as "Loveable, Huggable Volunteers."

Jr. Love and Bear Hugs,
Candy

Candy Godbee's Backyard – Kempton



... Junior Backyards



Trisha's Backyard – Princeton
Trisha Schafer
GFWC Illinois Director Elect of Junior Clubs



Illinois Juniors are off to a great start for the season! The Junior Executive Committee (EC) held a meeting in August where the following topics were discussed; **"Filling the Den" Project** (new "bears" are added for each new member gained and the "den" will be displayed at Convention in May), the completion of Junior anniversary pins, sourcing pictures for the Junior **"Where in the World is GFWC"** web page, and the development of a Junior Policy Manual.

The EC was thrilled to learn that our state has several groups in the process of chartering new Junior Clubs!! If you know of an area or group that would like to consider forming a GFWC-IL Junior Club, please contact your Director of Junior Clubs, Candy Godbee or myself and we'll get them going!

Our first Junior Board Meeting was held on October 7th & 8th in Kenosha Wisconsin, as we joined the Wisconsin Juniors for their Fall Conference. The gathering was filled with workshops on Membership, Leadership and Club Networking. Our Illinois board members brought socks in support of the **"Step Away from Abuse"** project for Domestic Violence Shelters for Make a Difference Day.

GFWC-IL members are truly an inspiration of integrity, hard work and friendship! It was a pleasure to hear of the wonderful projects and recognition that our clubs have accomplished for Junior Week October 23rd through 29th, and Junior Day on October 24th. You are **Loveable**, for ALL that you give of yourself, for the many challenges you overcome to do good for others, and for the passion that you bring our clubs. You are **Huggable**, for being there for your friends, community, country and world!! The Junior Board and I have great expectations of all the projects & programs that will happen this year in Illinois and we look forward to helping you make them a reality!

From the Backyard of Vermilion...

Summer Story Hour (July) with the community children and the Juniors of Vermilion County Junior Women's Club.



Officer's Backyards...



Patricia Heitman
GFWC Illinois President Elect / Dean of Chairmen

Manhattan – Pat's Backyard

It's time to start thinking about reporting again. Most of the Club Presidents should have received their club's reporting packets by now. Please go through the packet and make sure that everything listed on the Checklist is included; if you are missing something, please let me know.

The Reporting Procedure will be basically the same for this year. Please review the Reporting Procedure included in the reporting packet. If you have any questions or concerns, please call (815.478.3084) or email (auntpatty44@gmail.com) me with your questions.

Few things to remember – all reports are due February 1, 2012 covering the calendar year of January 1, 2011 through December 31, 2011. Be sure to use your membership number that is listed in the 2011-2012 GFWC Illinois Yearbook that was received in your reporting packet. Report only the hours on club approved projects and programs.

Plan ahead – please do not wait to the last minute. Happy Reporting!



DEBRA (DEB) STRAHANOSKI
Candidate for the office GFWC Treasurer 2012-2014

It is with great pride that the GFWC Illinois Federation of Women's Club supports Debra A. Strahanoski for the office of GFWC Treasurer for the 2012-2014 administration. Debbie has been a committed and valuable member of GFWC Illinois for over 23 years. She exemplifies all the traits of the ideal clubwoman and will be asset to GFWC in this leadership role.

At the GFWC Illinois Federation of Women's Clubs' 116th Annual Convention, Rock Island, Illinois at the assembly of General Business I, it was unanimously voted by the members of GFWC Illinois to support Debra A. Strahanoski for the office of GFWC Treasurer for the 2012-2014 Administration.

Deb's diverse involvement in all levels of GFWC has proven her dedication, leadership abilities, dependability, and high level of energy and unending enthusiasm. She will continue to be a great asset to GFWC!

She is going to need the GFWC Illinois votes, so please consider attending the GFWC International Convention June 14-17, 2012 in Charlotte, North Carolina. For more information go the GFWC website, www.gfwc.org/Convention.



**Best Wishes from the
GFWC Illinois Members**

...Officer's Backyards

PIERCE'S PARLIAMENTARY POINTERS

ORDER IN THE COURT

by Jacquelyn Pierce 2010-2012 GFWC Illinois Parliamentarian



Pierce's Parliamentary Pointers...Did You Know?

Did you know? A woman says on average 4850 words in 24 hours.

Did you know? The number of votes on each side should be in the minutes when the vote is by ballot.

Did you know? Leonardo da Vinci invented scissors.

Did you know? The chair must always call for the negative vote even on nearly unanimous votes.

Did you know? Rubber is one of the ingredients in bubble gum.

Did you know? Honorary membership confers the right to attend meetings and to speak.

Did you know? The face of a penny can hold about 30 drops of water.

Did you know? A member may vote for or against his motion.

Did you know? The first novel ever printed on a typewriter was "*Tom Sawyer*" by Mark Twain.

Did you know? That the 11th edition of RONR (*Robert's Rule of Order*) was unveiled at the 38th Biennial National Association of Parliamentarians Convention. The GFWC Illinois Parliamentarian was present at this convention and will introduce this new edition at the GFWC Illinois December 2011 Board Meeting.

Article by Website Coordinator , Karen Erb

Did you know that Facebook has almost a billion subscribers now? A recent workshop at the GFWC International Convention pointed out that Social Media is far more effective than the traditional methods your club has always used for public relations.

Your club is probably having trouble getting your local newspapers to print articles about your projects and fundraisers. What would you put on Facebook or My Space or Linked In or Twitter? How about a reminder that a meeting is coming, or a fundraiser, or a service project? The subscribers to your page WANT to hear what you are doing. Please join Facebook and go to the new GFWC Illinois page and "Like" us. Then be sure to go back there and post lots of information about what is happening in your club. In fact, the GFWC Workshop recommended every club get their own Facebook page. We even have one club in Illinois that only meets on Facebook...the GFWC Illinois Cyber Stars. Anyone can join that club. I invite you test your technology and become Facebook savvy.

Karen's Backyard – Silver Lake, Wisconsin

Congratulations to **Linda Bowlby** who has been selected as nominee for the Jenny Award from Illinois.
Good Luck at the Great Lakes Conference selection.

Linda's backyard is Cerro Gordo



Getting Involved...

International Outreach Community Service Program Jaclyn Hancock, Illinois State Chairman

Hot News:

1. **Heifer International** — Breaking news with Heifer. They just announced a huge commitment to help rebuild Haiti.
2. **UNICEF** - There will soon be an announcement of a joint project with UNICEF and GFWC Clubs. The monetary goal will be \$50,000.
3. A thank you letter from **Operation Smile** stated that GFWC State Federation gave over \$78,000 in cash donations this year. In addition, GFWC provided over \$98,000 worth of handcrafted items and donated materials. The hospital gowns, blankets, arm bands, Smile dolls and Smile bags were comforting and cheerful to the children receiving surgery from Operation Smile. For \$240 for the surgery, lives were changed for- ever. The Paula Cutler Award will be presented in each membership category to recognize fundraising achievements at the 2012 GFWC Convention.
4. **Plan USA** has a new official name -**Plan International USA**. Clubs are encouraged to support “Because I Am A Girl” program. This program fights gender inequality, promotes Girl’s rights and lifts millions of girls out of poverty.
5. **INMED** Partnerships for Children works to rescue children from the harm of disease, hunger, and abuse. INMED will be introducing a new program, “Face The Challenge Campaign”.
6. **CARE** would like to send you the “I Am Powerful Action Kit”. Clubs can view the DVD. The website is [www. Care.org](http://www.Care.org).

This is Jaclyn Hancock signing off for now.

Jaclyn’s Backyard – Marian



HOME LIFE COMMUNITY SERVICE PROGRAM

Mary Truitt – Chairman turitt@att.net 618-283-1534



It was just one hundred and eleven years ago that the Home Life Department (Home Life Community Service Program) of the General Federation of Women’s Clubs was created in 1900. GFWC believed that “the study of household economics is as through and systematic a matter as was already devoted to the study of history, art and literature.” These departments had been developed by this time.

Over the years the members developed programs in Home Life to educate rural women and fought for legislation protecting the rights of mothers and children. In Illinois the Home Life Department was split into Home Life and Health Departments feeling that each was of great importance.

Today the Home Life goals are to identify needs and educate members and communities to meet those needs with successful and innovative programming. These programs would be developed by the creativity of the club members. These programs would be reported as **Collaboration** information.

The second goal is to integrate the elements of the Home Life Community Service Program in the community by introducing members and communities to **partner organizations with national affiliations** that improve the lives of those in need. These are reported under **Partnership** information.

...Community Service Programs

Mabel Lou Weber

Community Improvement Program Award Chairman

1142 Arbor Circle

Lindenhurst, Illinois 60046

847.265.3152 Email-mabellou@msn.com

The two year program for the **COMMUNITY IMPROVEMENT PROGRAM AWARD** is coming to a close. Your entries should be postmarked by Thursday, March 10, 2012 and sent to Mabel Lou Weber, GFWC Illinois Community Improvement Award Program Chairman, 1141 Arbor Circle, Lindenhurst, Illinois 60046. The project book must not exceed seven pounds, nor measure more than 15 x 20 inches. Be sure you have filled out the entry form/cover sheet. I look forward to receiving many project books and read about your Community entries. The award will be presented at the GFWC Illinois State Convention in May 2012.

GFWC Signature Project and GFWC Illinois President's Special Emphasis: Domestic Violence Awareness and Prevention Article by Karel Volpert

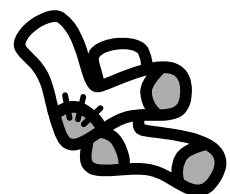


GFWC Illinois members can help domestic violence survivors "Step Away From Abuse" by participating in the GFWC Sock Project. We are asked to place a pair of new socks in a quart-size clear plastic baggie and attach a label with the message of support and encouragement: *"As you begin your new life and step away from abuse, we hope you will find comfort and warmth as you walk into your newly found freedom."* In addition, we can share love and warmth by bringing socks for the children of survivors. We should share the socks with our local domestic violence shelter. Information about the project can be found on the GFWC website. In addition, there is a template on the GFWC Illinois e-Flash or on the GFWC Illinois website for the labels on which you can add your club, district, and/or state name before you print them for each of the bags of socks. GFWC suggests using Avery Name Badges 5395 (2.33 x 3.38) for the labels. Thank you for your support of the GFWC Sock Project as a State Wide Make a Difference Day Project. GFWC Illinois clubs are encouraged to continue to participate in the Sock Project throughout this Administration.

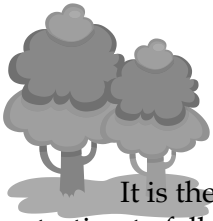
Members throughout the state are asked to sign a GFWC Illinois Domestic Violence Awareness and Prevention pledge card. In doing so, we pledge to take a stand against domestic violence. Club members are encouraged to say this pledge at their club meetings. The pledge cards are found on the GFWC Illinois e-Flash and on the GFWC Illinois website.

GFWC Illinois is honored to continue working with the Illinois Coalition Against Domestic Violence (ICADV), the powerful state wide voice for battered women and their children. More information about this organization can be found on their website: www.ilcadv.org. We can assist in the efforts of the ICADV by sending monetary donations to GFWC Illinois Headquarters. Members, also, can help raise money for the Coalition by purchasing a domestic violence awareness and prevention bracelet.

Members can make a difference in the lives of domestic violence survivors around the country by helping them pursue their education and training dreams through the GFWC Success for Survivors Scholarship Program. GFWC will award eight domestic violence survivors with a \$1,000 scholarship in June 2012. More information as well as the application for the scholarship is available on the GFWC website. Donations should be sent to GFWC Illinois Headquarters. Last year, GFWC Illinois donated \$1,000 to Success for Survivors. Let us accept the challenge of raising an additional \$1,000 this year so that we can provide another scholarship for a survivor of domestic violence.



Getting Involved...



Conservation Report Diana Taylor, Chairman

Diane's Backyard – Cullom

It is the time of year that most of us are planting bulbs, mums, and trees. In some areas, the leaves are starting to fall and many of you will be raking leaves. If you have a container, somewhere in your yard, you can begin to put the leaves in this container, to add to your mulch. If you are going to do this, go on the internet and find out how to do this properly. Some of the Clubs might want to give money to their Park District to buy bulbs. If you are a small club, give them money to help replace trees in your community.

Maybe you are looking for a new refrigerator, washer, or dryer, sometimes when you buy these appliances, you are also looking for somewhere to get rid of the old ones. You may have some one that would take these appliances off your hands and would collect money from these old appliances.

One thing that you may want to recycle is the shingles off of your roof. If you need a new roof, contact your local Illinois Department of Transportation and see if they are taking the old shingles. They use the shingles by grinding them up and using for the roads.

Your Club could also volunteer to help clean up in the Park Districts. You can also volunteer to help in the spring with projects that need to be done, like painting the bleachers for the baseball field.

Just a reminder that you can put out corn for the squirrels and you need to put out food for the birds.

Pledge Card Domestic Abuse Awareness

As a member of the GFWC Illinois Federation of Women's Clubs,
I pledge to take a stand against domestic violence.

I recognize that against domestic violence threatens the lives
of women and children and the health of entire communities.

I recognize that domestic violence is everyone's business
and we must all take a stand to prevent abuse.

I promise to get involved in the effort to reduce domestic
violence in my city, my state, my country, and my world.

Signed _____

Domestic Abuse Awareness



Distribute a pledge card to each of your members and ask each to sign the pledge and keep it in her purse so that the pledge can be recited at each meeting. Please report to Karel Volpert the number of pledges signed in your club when you do your reports next January. Be sure to also report the number of people times the amount of time devoted to reciting this pledge. Karel is the Illinois Domestic Violence Awareness Chairman. If your club does not have a DV Chairman, please make this report anyway.



Karel Volpert speaks about
GFWC Illinois President's
Special Emphasis
Domestic Violence
Awareness Program

Jackie Pierce,
GFWC Illinois
Parliamentarian, listens
intently.



...Community Service Programs

Literacy is a Great Concern

Article by Elaine Bush, Education Chairman &
Patti McNaught, Junior Education Chairman



Our greatest concern in Education is **Literacy!** What areas has your club discovered in your community to help others with literacy? Are there new needs as you assess your community? Call your community library and schools to volunteer!

One new area being covered by GFWC is supporting libraries and schools who have been affected by disasters in recent months. Check with libraries in your area! The **GFWC Disaster Relief--Library Replenishment Fund** has been established. For more information see www.GFWC.org and click under Disaster Relief Fund. Grants are available to help! Up to \$500 is available to GFWC clubs whose communities are affected by a disaster. Grant applications provide direction. Obtain them at MMount@GFWC.org

Another new opportunity is available to help our soldiers and veterans. Both groups appreciate books for education and entertainment. You may volunteer to be a shipper or make donations. A shipper collects paperback books and ships them directly to the soldiers/veterans. You may find more information at www.books-forsoldiers.com

Each club has another great opportunity by reporting the activities your club has conducted for Education this year. Most of your reports will be under Collaboration Projects - projects to help your community directly. When you have contacted a National group on a project it will be reported as a Partnership one. Please check to see your local group i.e. Friends of the Library make contributions to the national group in order for you to report under Partnership. We look forward to reading about the many activities of your club. *'Volunteer wings'* are at work in our local communities!!!

Elaine's Backyard—Centralia & Patti's Backyard—Genesco

Wanda Burklow, Chairman Health Community Service Program

Wanda's Backyard is Eldorado



November is National Alzheimer's Month. Please note that (3) three of the best things that you can do to prevent this disease, is to eat right, exercise, and use your mind. November is National Diabetes Awareness Month. That means to lay off the pumpkin pie and watch your sugar intake especially over the holidays. About 25% of all seniors, age 60 and over have diabetes. Make sure you have the necessary screenings and eat right and exercise. Whether you have diabetes or in a category that might be at risk, this simple advice is important to you. November is also Lung Cancer Awareness Month. Promote national *"smoke out day"* on the 17th of this month and help rid smokers of this bad habit that effects their well-being.

December is National Stress Month. Now, who would have stress n December? December 4-10, 2011 is Wash Your Hands Awareness Week. Let's keep those nasty viruses at a minimum with a good washing of our hands to deter the spreading of colds and the flu.

Remember to get your flu shot if you are able to take one. The flu shot is needed by those in some high risk categories to prevent further deterioration of the body's immune system. Ask your doctor if you should also take the pneumonia shot which is good for five years. Keep healthy by practicing these easy tasks. Thank you for a wonderful year and HAPPY HOLIDAYS TO ALL OF YOU FROM ME!

Leads Program...

Becky Weber's Backyard—Metamora



GFWC Illinois LEADS

(Leadership Education And Development Seminar)

Becky Weber
GFWC Illinois LEADS Chairman
602 Malone Ct.
Metamora, IL 61548
309-369-1133
mweber@mtco.com

Jeanette T. Wells
1595 Ardmore Ave.
Glendale Heights, IL 60139
630/865-4765
jeanette.wells@indiana-ins.com

Kathy Koran
5436 S 73rd Court
Summit, IL 60501
708/516-8259
georgekoran@aol.com

Illinois LEADS is designed to identify members at the club & district level who have a potential and desire to assume leadership positions in this organization. Illinois LEADS will provide participants with the knowledge, capability, confidence and commitment to work more effectively.

The GFWC IL LEADS seminar will be held prior to the GFWC Illinois Board of Directors Meeting
Thursday, March 1, 2012 at the Decatur Convention Center, Decatur, IL. From 11:00 am to 5:30 pm.

The day will be full of activities, including lunch. The cost of the seminar is \$30.00.

All clubs and/or districts are encouraged to send one or more participants.

Participating Districts are encouraged to help finance the LEADS participant from their district for cost such as lunch at the seminar.

GFWC IL LEADS MAY INCLUDE THE FOLLOWING:

Presentations on public speaking, cultivating leadership, leadership opportunities and presentations by GFWC Illinois leaders and their diverse experiences and question & answer time.

Explanation of GFWC and GFWC IL resources, materials and assistance available to clubs and officers.

CRITERIA FOR PARTICIPATION IN GFWC IL LEADS:

Participants must be an active dues paying member.

Exhibit an interest and willingness to pursue higher leadership positions.

Agree to share information gained from participation in GFWC IL Leads with others in her club and district.

Has **not** attended a previous **GFWC International** Leads Program

SELECTION PROCESS:

Each club (General, Junior & Juniorette) may send candidate(s) who meet the criteria for the GFWC IL LEADS seminar.

The GFWC LEADS participant will be chosen from among those attending the GFWC Illinois LEADS seminar.

She should be prepared to file the **GFWC LEADS application** **(with 2 letters of support from active GFWC members)** along with the **GFWC Illinois application**.

~ APPLICATION FORMS ~
MUST be postmarked by Feb. 1, 2012 to:

Becky Weber
602 Malone Ct.
Metamora, IL 61548
mweber@mtco.com



...Leads Program

GFWC ILLINOIS LEADS Application Form and the \$30 registration fee

Must be postmarked by Feb. 1, 2012 to:

Becky Weber
602 Malone Ct.
Metamora, IL 61548

Club Name _____ District _____

Applicant Name _____

Address _____

City _____ Zip Code _____ Email: _____

Day Phone _____ Evening Phone _____

List club activities including club positions and chairmanships:

Have you attended: District Meetings _____ State Meetings _____ GFWC Meetings _____

Applicant

Club President or District President



Leads Program...

SUBMIT TO YOUR STATE FEDERATION

Name _____
Address _____
Phone () _____ E-mail _____
Club _____ District _____

ABOVE INFORMATION SHOULD BE CONCEALED DURING JUDGING PROCESS

List all local club offices and/or chairmanships held* _____

List all district offices and/or chairmanships held* _____

List GFWC club/district programs/projects in which involved* _____

List positions at district/state/national level in which you are interested* _____

ARE YOU WILLING TO:

- defray costs to attend GFWC LEADS not covered by GFWC or state? Yes _____ No _____
- return to the state and share what you have learned at LEADS? Yes _____ No _____

DEADLINE FOR SUBMISSION (date determined by state federation):

* If more space is needed, please complete answers on reverse side of this form.

RETURN THIS FORM, ALONG WITH TWO LETTERS OF SUPPORT FROM ACTIVE GFWC CLUB MEMBERS, TO:

Your designated state federation LEADS selection representative

>> GFWC LEADS application adapted from a form developed by Lee Humphrey, GFWC Kansas

Find this form online at www.GFWC.org/Forms



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~ APPLICATION FORMS ~

MUST be postmarked by Feb. 1, 2012 to:

Becky Weber
602 Malone Ct.
Metamora, IL 61548

...Discover These Backyards

Macomb Woman's Club (GFWC) - District 14

International Visitor Leadership Group Visits Macomb

Article by Gail Lester

Macomb was the host to seven visiting members of the International Visitor Leadership Program, on Thursday, August 18, 2011. The Program arranged by the Institute of International Education, invites visitors to the United States under the auspices of the Department of State's International Leadership Program. The goal of the program is to increase mutual understanding through communication at the personal and professional levels. The program brings participants to the United States from all over the world each year to meet and confer with their professional counterparts and experience the U. S. first hand. Since 1962, hundreds of individuals have visited the U.S. in the program.

Accompanied by an English Language Officer from Washington, D.C., the seven members are visiting the United States to examine the impact of the nonprofit sector in promoting women's Political participation, economic opportunities, and access to education and health care. They also examine the partnerships between government and non-government organizations in addressing global women's issues. They also look at organizational leadership, developing volunteerism, fund-raising, and advancing their missions to benefit women in their countries.

Visiting members came from the Bahamas, Botswana, Tiokweng, Egypt, Hong Kong, Mozambique, Palestinian Territories, and the Philippines. They met at Western University Morgan Hall with three members of the Macomb Woman's Club who discussed the various aspects of a volunteer organization with them. Macomb's President Marilyn Hopper, Co-Secretary Gail Lester, and Past President Sally Sallee spoke about the various interests of the group and shared information with the visitors.



From the Backyard of Columbia GFWC Illinois Columbia Woman' Club District 22

These garden girls from the Park Committee plant and care for the flowers throughout the city.

Left to right: Charlotte Hooch, Grace Volkbert, Dee Steppig, Norma Roeber, & Carol Fries

Not Shown: Shirley Langhans & Kathy Stechmesser



Discover These Backyards...

District 21

Judith Hampson, President
Carolyn Riggs, Director of Junior Clubs

Assumption Woman's Club	Nokomis Woman's Club
Batchtown Woman's Club	Sangamon Valley Junior Woman's Club (GFWC)
Brussels Woman's Club	Taylorville Woman's Club
Woman's Club of Springfield (The)	

The **Twenty-First District** is proud to report that four of our six clubs won state awards at the 2011 Convention in Rock Island. Awards were won in Conservation, Education, Home Life and Health Community Service Programs. Two clubs won awards in Fund Raising and two clubs won in Prevention of Child Abuse. Congratulations to these clubs.

A member of the Brussels Woman's Club entered a photograph in the State Arts and Crafts contest at the State Convention. Her entry received a first place award and was sent on to GFWC for judging there. At the GFWC International Convention in Milwaukee her photo took a second place award. The photo was titled *"Supporting Our Troops."* Four members of two district clubs belong to the ESC reading society and received certificates this year. Congratulations to these members.



PCA "Walk For Children" June 2011 District 21

The one Junior Club in the district joined the largest general club in volunteering to work at the fund raising raffle table at the 16th Annual Prevent Child Abuse Conference. These two clubs are making plans to volunteer again this year at the 17th annual conference. For the two years the conference was held in Springfield, over \$900 each year was raised by auctioning off baskets donated by GFWC Illinois Clubs. Six members of the two clubs spent several hot hours working with *"Spider Man"* at the 2nd Annual Prevent Child Abuse *"Walk For Children"* at Lincoln Park in Springfield this past June. The Woman's Club of Springfield was proud to be one of the sponsors of the event.



District 23

Shirley Hoffeditz, President
Cindy Rogers, Director of Junior Clubs Districts 22 & 23

Centralia Junior Woman's Club	Newton Junior Woman's Club (GFWC Illinois)
Centralia Woman's Club (The)	Newton Woman's Club (GFWC Illinois)
Effingham Women of Today (GFWC Illinois)	St. Francisville Woman's Club
Farina Woman's Club (GFWC Illinois)	Sandoval Woman's Club

District 23 in Southeastern Illinois is made up of eight General and two Junior clubs. Centralia and Newton Generals and Juniors work well together. I am happy to report that all clubs have increased their membership with various new member orientations and by just asking people to join them. The district gives a scholarship every year and this next year we will be giving two of them. One, which is given about every four years, will be in the arts. The other one will just be a general one. All clubs are still working together to benefit the community that district meetings are held in by bringing canned food etc. At our December meeting we will have our annual auction to raise funds for the district. We also participated in the Victoria's Secret bra donation and several of our communities benefited from them. As a district we will also be donating a basket for the Blue Ribbon fashion show raffle. I think the thing that makes our district special is our members. We all get along so well and have representation from every club on our district board. We usually have representation from each club at district meetings even though some members have to travel over a hundred miles to attend. It is my pleasure and gives me great honor to serve as their president.

...Discover These Backyards

District 22 Helen Crause, President

Collinsville Woman's Club (GFWC Illinois)
Columbia Woman's Club (GFWC Illinois)
East Alton Woman's Club (GFWC Illinois)
Fairview Heights Woman's Club (GFWC)
Federated Woman's Club of Greater Belleville (GFWC Illinois)
Freeburg Woman's Club of Freeburg, Illinois

Highland Woman's Club
Ladies Coterie-Granite City (The)
Mascoutah Tuesday Woman's Club, Inc.
Millstadt Civic Club
Nancy's Bluebirds (GFWC Illinois)
Trenton Woman's Club (GFWC-IFWC)

The Twenty-Second District is comprised of eight counties located in the Southern Region of Illinois. We have fifteen federated clubs in our District with over 440 members. Our District had a wonderful Summer Seminar/Workshop in August. We had a great turnout and all of the clubs took sacks of project information home with them, along with some prizes for best decorated sack lunch bags or boxes.

At our Fall Open Meeting, many clubs reported on their accomplishments and projects. One club had a Quilt Raffle with the proceeds of \$831.00 donated to their local city park. They also donated to the Community Concerts in the park. Another club participated in a five week Summer Reading Program at their local library. Shopped for groceries to feed the children at the Leu Civic Center and staffed the cake stand at their local homecoming. One club gave three \$500.00 College Scholarships and three "*Young Author Awards*" checks for \$25.00 along with a certificate. Held a "*Trash or Treasure Sale*" with proceeds of \$737.00 donated to their local food pantry. They donated \$200.00 towards the purchase of a new clock at their local pool and on "*Teacher Appreciation Day*" took donuts, coffee and orange juice to their local schools and placed these goodies in the teacher's lounge. Another club made individual Hygiene Kits and took them to Booth House. Cooked and fed those in need at a local church café. Several clubs had Blood Drives and donated deserts to their local fire departments for their annual "*Fish Fries*." One club collected 272 used pair of shoes and donated them to the "Shoe Man Water Project".

Our clubs are planning and doing many things this fall. Many clubs are selling pecans; and most clubs are participating in the **GFWC Socks for Abused Women**. They are also collecting for UNICEF. Another club is having a "*Trivia*" night with all proceeds going to the Patches and Badges (Shop with a Cop) program with their local police departments. One club is raising money in hopes of erecting a gazebo in honor of their past club Presidents. One is holding a "*Tea/Fashion Show*" and planning the annual "*Santa Breakfast*." Most clubs are collecting food for "*Word Food Day*" and toys for the Toys for Tots Program.

Twenty-Second District is looking forward to the next year. We are working on many new projects and enjoying each other's accomplishment and company. On Friday October 14, 2011, I became the new District President as our present District President Rose Chadwick had to resign her position due to some health problems and on her doctor's advice. I look forward to serving the Twenty-Second District in the coming year. I am very proud of all the clubs and their club programs.

District 25 Jaclyn Hancock, President

Anna Jonesboro Woman's Club
Carbondale Federated Women's Club
Cobden Woman's Club

Eldorado Woman's Club (GFWC Illinois)
Herrin Woman's Club (The)
Marion Woman's Club (GFWC Illinois)
Mound City Woman's Club



The GFWC Illinois District 25 is united in achieving a better life for our communities, our state, and our world. Our ladies enjoy being together and enjoy activities for the betterment of society. It's exciting and fulfilling to hear the proud voices ring of what each member does. Many have physical impairments. for example, we have several blind women plus in addition cane caring ladies. We also have the younger women. Each person contributes in her own way. We all help each other. P. Godwin said, "*The true source of cheerfulness is benevolence.*" Cheerfulness is the off-shoot of goodness. Our District is comprised of these kind of women. We are proud of each other, our clubs, our District, and our GFWC. We believe in our missions. We are forever striving for giving and making the world a better place.

"Not he who has much is rich but he who gives much."

Discover These Backyards...

Backyard of Hines Hospital

Northern Region Summer Conference July 16, 2011
Linus Lap Blankets Production Line



Antioch Woman's Club—District 10

Dolores Abderholden receives her 50 year pin and certificate from President Elect Maureen Fremgen and President Audrey Lyle.



GFWC Illinois Manhattan Woman's Club

Members of this club participated in the President's *"Challenge For Fitness"* this summer. Our members accumulated 1,733 hours with exercise, walking, biking, gardening, and other activities.

Back Row: Joyce Anderson, Lynda Adkins, Pat Heitman, Maria Rayson, Kenna Brier, Karla Kendal, Lori Zeman & Serena Perosa

Front Row: Faith Cromwell, Shelia Stark, Stacy Prindville, President Pat Hileman, Loretta Sartore, & Noreen Bormet



...Discover These Backyards

The Backyard of Arlington Heights District 7 – First Ladies WC

On July 30, 2011, The First Ladies of Seventh District celebrated their 20th Anniversary at the Arlington Heights home of member, Florence Vogel. A light lunch, cake & coffee were served. The members also had a white elephant sale as a fundraiser for a charitable donation.



Front Row: Lois Buenger, Lona Guyer,
Mary Henderson, Florence Vogel,
District 7 President Pat Maggio,

Back Row: Beth Magoon, Terry Grbac, & Janice Kretschmer

From the Backyard of Belvidere...

Mary Lou Poulter, President

Belvidere Woman's Club – District 4

Hurray for the new 25 year pins!! At our September Meeting we were able to recognize those members who have been in our club for more than 25 years, seventeen (17) of them to be exact. We also recognized four (4) fifty year members and two (2) over sixty year members. It was a great time for our club members and we are so happy that GFWC came up with the new 25 year pin!! Our club membership is at ninety-one (91) at this time, and we hope to keep adding.

Over 25 Years: Cowen, Laurie; Craig, Ruth; Erwin, Dorothy; Gesell, Norma; Greve, Pearl; Hove, Mary; Hyland, Nancy; Kelly, Mitzi; Peterson, Phyllis; Ralston, Anna; Simeral, Robinette; Sparks, Darlene; Specher, Lois; Strothman, Gwen; Sturm, Alice; Wilke, Marion; Wolf, Peggy

Over 30 Years: Brannah, Joan; Christopherson, Irene; Dague, Virginia; Hindert, Marjorie

Over 60 Years: Garrigan, Ruth (67 Years); Miles, Louis (69 Years)



Blue Ribbon...

Debbie's Backyard – Joliet

Deb Strahanoski, debbie@wjscpa.net / 815-953-4829
GFWC IL Blue Ribbon Fashion Show Chairman

MARK YOUR CALENDARS for **Saturday, March 31, 2012** for the 15th Annual Blue Ribbon Luncheon and Fashion Show! Location will be the Bolingbrook Golf Club (Bolingbrook, IL) in the elegant Reagan Ballroom. This event is a fun and energetic way to raise desperately needed funds for PCA IL and the abused children of Illinois. Details, directions and information will be included with club invitations, which will be mailed in January 2012.

Congratulations!!! **ARGO-SUMMIT, BEDFORD PARK WOMAN'S CLUB - District 6!** for winning \$100 for the third year in a row! This hard working club made 18 reservations for the Fashion Show in 2011! They received \$100 for items needed to carry out club business or to subsidize a club project!!! This incentive will be offered for 2012...this could be YOUR CLUB so start making plans to make the most club reservations for the 15th Annual Blue Ribbon Luncheon and Fashion Show.

We are once again encouraging clubs and members to donate a themed basket worth a minimum of \$50.00. It can be worth more, but we would like the baskets to be a \$50.00 value. If you or your club cannot support this request, we would like to ask you to please make a monetary donation (checks payable to GFWC ILLINOIS) and the committee will use your donation towards building baskets.

The annual fashion show, is a part of our State Project, *"Our Promise...A Safe Place for Every Child"* - the prevention of child abuse. Thank you for all that you do to enrich the lives of children. Looking forward to seeing you on **March 31, 2012**.

GFWC Illinois Special Project

Our Promise "A Safe Place for Every Child"



Teresa Sanford, Chairman



What a heart gives away is never gone. It is kept in the heart of others! Most of us have heard of the trials and tribulations of too many neglected and children. These stories make us feel uncomfortable, as it should, but what about the kids we see as the "average Joe." These children also need to be on our radar. All kids today are subject to bullying, cyber bullies, and internet dangers. Check with local police departments to gather information or have them present a program to your members or the community.

Your support of local programs educating members and the families of the local community is very important. PCA (Prevent Child Abuse) Illinois help educate communities as well as families. Purchasing GFWC Illinois stained glass angels or your monetary donations support PCA efforts. The district and the individual that sells the most angels will receive a special gift this year at our annual convention. Thank You for all you have done in the past.
Remember our promise ... A safe place for every child!

Teresa's Backyard – Abingdon

...Blue Ribbon

SAVE THE DATE

SATURDAY MARCH 31, 2012

GFWC Illinois Federation of Women's Clubs



15th ANNUAL BLUE RIBBON LUNCHEON & FASHION SHOW



Bolingbrook Golf Club

2001 Rodeo Drive, Bolingbrook, Illinois

(just off I--55 at exit Weber Road - 25 miles south of Oak Brook)

Social
Luncheon
Fashion Show
Raffles

11:00am
12:15pm
1:15pm
3:00pm



Invitations will be issued...

For further information contact
Deb Strahanoski, Fashion Show Chairman
815--953--4829 / email - debbie@wjscpa.net



Getting Involved...

From the Backyard of Peoria

Sandra Behrends sent this Editor a "Pick-me-up-memo"
It is worth the share...

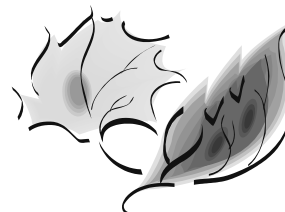
Copied from the GFWC Federation of Women's Clubs
Ceremonies, Inspirations and Devotionals 2007

If My Body Were A Car

If my body were a car, this is the time I would be thinking about trading it in for a newer model. I've got bumps and dents and scratches in my finish and my paint job is getting a little dull, but that is not the worst of it.

My headlights are out of focus and it's especially hard to see things close. My traction is not graceful as it once was. I slip and slide and skid and bump into things even in the best of weather. My whitewalls are stained with varicose veins. It takes me hours to reach my maximum speed. My fuel burns inefficiently.

But here's the worst of it – Almost every time I sneeze, cough or sputter... either my radiator leaks or my exhaust backfires!!!

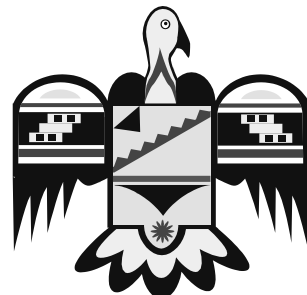


One way of getting involved is by doing...

So your radiator leaks and your exhausts my backfire some but every member can participate in projects or programs their clubs offer. Love to take pictures with you camera? Take a few of the best and submit them to the State Art Community Service Program for judging. Do you dabble in poetry or short stories? Again, the State Art Community Service Program would loved to read your works and share them with others.

One way of getting involved is by doing...

With fall now here there are many American Indian PowWows in progress, check your local papers or your club's chairman for additional information. On a crisp autumn day an outing to see the American Indian culture can be both fun and educational. The American Indian Center of Chicago will hold their 58th Annual PowWow on November 19 & 20, 2011 at Navy Pier on the lake front. Sound like an outing to you? Take the time to explore this opportunity and report to your club the experience you had by getting involved and doing.



...Logo Vote

One of the GOALS set by our Strategic Planning Committee & adopted by the GFWC Illinois Board of Directors last administration was the establishment of a PERMANENT – GFWC Illinois logo which would be defined in our Bylaws. In an attempt to make the Bylaws changes run smoothly at convention in May 2012, we are asking EACH MEMBER to register your unofficial “vote” for your choice of Permanent Logo.

Please **mail** your vote to Nancy H. Willis, 3458 IL Rt 84, Thomson, IL 61285 **OR email** at nhw31@hotmail.com **BEFORE November 15th**. Your votes will be counted. Your collective favorite will be the logo proposed by the Bylaws Committee as the PERMANENT GFWC Illinois Logo to be OFFICIALLY voted on at convention May 2012.

FOUR options are shown below. Please note that IF you select a color version, it will also be acceptable to be used as a black & white version. I attempted to give you an idea of what those black & white versions would look like. But, my computer photo shop skills being what they are... I was not able to remove the shadowing from the shield in the black & white versions for this issue of the magazine. Please note that the black & white versions will be simple lines of the shield – not the gray/black shadowed shield versions you see below.



#1



#2



#3



#4

PLEASE call me, Nancy, at 815-273-3900 (days) or 815-259-1113 if you have any questions about the LOGOS.



GFWC Illinois Federation of Women's Clubs
81 North Chicago St., Suite 406
Joliet, IL 60432

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Backyards of Summer Time **GFWC Members Having Fun in the Sun**



Jackie Bow Ties Members at Lily Lake, WI
Summer Meeting August 13, 2011

Summer Get-Together of Franklin Park Members

Terry Grbac, Judi Riess, Marian Faro,
Helen Piotrowski, Rita Jaffe, Joan Nurczyk
Lona Guyer, Beth Gherardini, Florence Carlson



Bismarck Woman's Club at the
Homecoming Parade

