

2016-2017 Year District 23

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**GFWC Illinois** 

Freeburg Woman's Club- District 22 **100th Anniversary Clubs:** Newton Woman's Club-

**Domestic Violence Awareness & Prevention:** 374 projects • 12,914 volunteer hours • \$65k donated **Advocates for Children:** 264 projects • 5,896 volunteer hours • \$53k donated Arts: 682 projects • 18,786 volunteer hours • \$61k donated **Home Life:** 940 projects • 23,893 volunteer hours • \$139k donated **Public Issues:** 834 projects • 18,895 volunteer hours • \$54k donated International Outreach: 227 projects • 4,661 volunteer hours • \$51k donated **Education:** 630 projects • 17,654 volunteer hours • \$157k donated **Conservation:** 488 projects • 13,118 volunteer hours • \$16k donated **Club Fundraisers** 3040 projects • 44,556 volunteer hours • \$991k raised



122nd Annual GFWC Illinois Convention Featured: Bylaws Amendments / Resolutions Revisions / Exploration Stations Grant Writing Workshops / Anti-Human Trafficking Program Homeless Veterans Service Project

projects • 260,395 volunteer hours • \$599k donated <

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**President's Challenge:** "Let's Make Change" raises over \$10,000!

SET

SAIL



**GFWC** Illinois donates \$19, 415.29 to PCA!

GFWC Illinois Children's Research Foundation (CRF) Junior Woman's Club

**Juniorettes AND** 

DONATIONS

\$ 312 K

IN KIND

to TWO new clubs:

**3FWC Illinois Naperville** 

A publication of the GFWC Illinois Federation of Women's Clubs



IN MEMORIAM : Donna McKeown, Antioch Woman's Club

Bee Meyers, Woman's Club of Aurora

Diana Taylor, Past District 17 President

#### **Sympathy & Support Extended to:**

Becky Weber, GFWC Illinois Legislation/Public Policy Chairman, on the passing of her mother Millie Anne.

Lois Farber, GFWC Illinois Past State Board Member, on the passing of her husband Henry.

Janet Behling, Antioch Woman's Club, on the passing of her daughter Susan

Cherie Sieger, GFWC Illinois Director Elect of Jr Clubs, on the passing of her father-in-law Kenneth.

Barb Hoffman, District 12 President, on the passing of her brother Mark.

Gerri Eck, GFWC Illinois Public Issues Chairman, on the passing of her brother James.

#### <u>Suuport and Get Well Wishes</u> <u>Extended to:</u>

Terry Lahue, GFWC Illinois Convention Treasurer

Kathy Koran, GFWC Illinois District 6 President, for her upcoming surgery.

Karen Erb, GFWC Illinois Website Coordinator, for her recovery from surgery.



#### Got any plans on June 23 - June 26th, 2018?

Captain Phyllis and First Mate Jeanette would like to personally invite every member to the June 2018 GFWC International Convention which will be held in St. Louis, Missouri. This is the first time a GFWC Convention will be hosted by a Region and not just one State. Mississippi Valley Region will be our hosts and include seven states: Minnesota, North and South Dakota, Iowa, Nebraska, Missouri and Kansas. Start making plans now to join your Federation Sisters from across the country and around the world, next June 23rd through 26th to celebrate our achievements and the election and installation of Deb Strahanoski as GFWC First Vice President and Trisha Schafer as GFWC Director of Junior Clubs 2018-2020. We can absolutely guarantee you will have a great time ... and we can drive to St. Louis - no airfare needed.

#### **GFWC Illinois Executive Committee**

President: Phyllis Skubic Director of Junior Clubs: Jeanette T. Wells President Elect: Shelli Fehr Vice President Northern Region: Carol Jablonski Vice President Central Region: Teresa Sanford-Shipplett Vice President Southern Region: Alice Betlach Secretary: LeeAnn Conlon Treasurer: Michelle Schultz Parliamentarian: Jacquelyn Pierce, RP

#### MAGAZINE CREW

Editor in Chief: Phyllis Skubic Managing Editor: Natalie Kuchar Garling Please send your articles, photos, and suggestions to: nrkuchar@yahoo.com

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## **GFWC ILLINOIS MEMBERS- LIVING THE VOLUNTEER SPIRIT!**

#### SET SAIL... EXPLORE THE POSSIBILITIES!

Phyllis Skubic, GFWC Illinois President



I hope you are enjoying summer and are rejuvenating and re-energizing for the up-coming Club Year. It's incredible to think we are into the second year of this administration. We've accomplished a lot but there are numerous items still on the To-Do-List.

I just returned from 'sunny and warm' California (record setting warm of 120+ degrees) and the GFWC International Convention. It was an honor to represent GFWC Illinois' hard working members. There were 18 members in attendance to celebrate your achievements. You will find a complete list of all the awards received within these pages. My congratulations to the clubs and members recognized and to all of the GFWC Illinois Chairmen and to our Dean of Chairmen Shelli Fehr, for all your time and efforts in putting the information together that is submitted to GFWC each year! You all did a fantastic job.

This fall and winter will bring something new to our clubs and districts. Members of the Executive Committee and the Board of Directors will be visiting your District meetings. The Strategic Planning

Committee is working to finalize the logistics of State Board Members attending District or Club meetings to answer questions, present information if needed, and share resources available to every member and club. The real value will be having the opportunity to just get to know our best and most valuable resource: the members of GFWC Illinois. On behalf of the GFWC Illinois Board of Directors and Executive Committee – I can't wait to get this project started.

I'm really looking forward to seeing you at the Great Lakes Region Conference in Oak Brook, September 15<sup>th</sup> – 17<sup>th</sup>. It will be tons of fun and an overload of information. Please join Jeanette and I as we welcome GFWC International President Shelia Shea, GFWC President Elect Mary Ellen Brock, GFWC Great Lakes Region President Lin Wilken to Illinois.



Keep Sailing and Exploring all the Possibilities of GFWC!

#### **Helping Design Better Lives**

Jeanette T. Wells, GFWC Illinois Director of Junior Clubs



WOW... is all I can say about our GFWC Illinois Convention this May. For those of you that attended, I think you would agree it was one of our best conventions. We learned, we laughed, we worked and we celebrated. We started with LEADS, which was a day packed full of great leadership topics. There were several workshops including Grant Writing, Club Fixer-Upper and Club Treasurer Update. We participated in a Service Project making t-shirt bags for the homeless veterans that consisted of a men's t -shirt and toiletries. You out-did yourselves for bringing enough items to make over 500 t-shirt bags! We were lucky enough to have Jolie Frankfurth our GFWC Director of Junior Clubs there as our GFWC Officer. It was great having her there, as she shared a lot of information with our members and before she left, she actually said, she could see herself as a GFWC IL member. What a compliment! My favorite part of the weekend was our Junior Business Session. I told everyone I wanted it to be like a party, and I wanted to make some noise. You came through, as we had almost 100 members in attendance and the room was bursting with enthusiasm. It was fun celebrating the accomplishments of our GFWC IL Juniors...Helping Design Better Lives.

Now we are into the summer, when most clubs take a "break" from club work. I know some of you are working at local area festivals, farmers markets, working at camps or holding garage sales and probably many other projects. Please remember no matter what you do, keep track of your activities, expenses, and hours so your summer club work can be reported. Please consider a project for St. Jude's, March of Dimes, Prevent Child Abuse Illinois or CRF (Children's Research Foundation). All of these organizations are reported under Junior Special Programs. I would love to see every club report at least one thing for the 2017 club year. I know you

are all out there helping design better lives, and we want to hear about it.

I am sure by the time you are reading this, Summer Seminar Region Meetings are over. I hope you attended and got a lot out of it. Remember your attendance at that meeting can be reported. Let us know what you liked about the meetings and what you think we could add to make it better.



Good luck this Fall as you begin your new club year. If you need assistance or advice, your GFWC IL Junior Executive Committee is here to help! We are just a phone call, e-mail or text away and would love to help in any way we can!

#### LIFE OF A CLUB REPORT

Shelli R. Fehr, President Elect/Dean of Chairmen & Loretta Revesz, Dean of Junior Chairmen

Thank you to all the clubs that reported their activities for 2016. Look through the cover of this magazine and all the pages within to see more information on all the ways we've made a difference!

The information in the reports you send us takes on a life of its own once our chairmen receive it. Not only do they tally the statistics from all the reports they receive, they also look for the 10 best projects to send to their counterpart on the GFWC International Board of Directors. The GFWC Chairman then selects the Top Ten Projects in the entire international organization in their area and those get published on the gfwc.org website. The 2016 Top Ten Projects will be published later this summer.

This year, GFWC Illinois also published its Top Ten Projects for its members. These were distributed to attendees at the GFWC Illinois State Convention in May. But, for those of you who were unable to attend, and are interested in learning about new projects, the projects will be published on the gfwcillinois.org website. There will be 10 projects each listed for Arts, Conservation, Education, Home Life, International Outreach, Public Issues, Domestic Violence Awareness and Prevention, Prevent Child Abuse/Advocates for Children, Communication and Public Relations, Leadership, Membership, Fundraising, and Women's History and Resource Center. We are certain you will find these lists valuable and hope you are able to take advantage of the new and innovative ideas being shared.



Loretta Revesz (left) Shelli R. Fehr (right)

Switching gears, we also want to advertise our desire and ability to attend club and district meetings to update members on the reporting process. We have two different reporting workshops available and

would love to visit anyone who would like a refresher. Contact either Loretta or Shelli now to schedule your workshop. Don't wait until January. The earlier you schedule, the easier the process will be. We are eagerly awaiting your calls or emails. We promise you won't be disappointed! Shelli R. Fehr Loretta Revesz 309-737-3884 847-212-5619

shellifehr@hotmail.com



District 3 Palos Heights Woman's Club Elenor Hawley Jeanette Meyer

District 5 Clarendon Hills Woman's Club Carol Haughey Lombard Service League, Inc. Betty Kolls Darlene Wingard Past Presidents' Club of DuPage County Jackie Haddad

District 7 Franklin Park Woman's Club Jean Dawson

#### District 11

Woman's Club of Kankakee, Illinois Shirley Landis Barbara Simmons

Somonauk Community Jr. Woman's Club Madelyn Crouch Margaret Hardekopf Barbara Tuttle

#### **District 13**

District 12

**Chadwick Federated Woman's Club** Carollynn Fink **Oregon GFWC Woman's Club** Elinor Patrick Shirley Rogers Thomson Woman's Club Jean Smith

**District 16** Femmes Unir Women's Club of Bartonville Mardell Thornton Dorothy Gilmore

District 17 Gilman Woman's Club Jane Cowsert Ruth Sovoie Pontiac Woman's Club Phyllis Ryan Marcia Weber

#### **District 18**

Danville-Iliana Woman's Club Flo Pankey Kathryn Seidler Fairmount Woman's Club Sharon Hoag Ruth Young Fithian Woman's Club Beth Cannon Georgetown Ladies Community Club E.J. Leasure

**District 22** East Alton Woman's Club Catherine Colter

#### **COMMUNICATION, LEADERSHIP, MEMBERSHIP**

#### Carol Jablonski, Northern Region Vice President COMMUNICATIONS & PUBLIC RELATIONS

Do you remember your first day back at school and having your first assignment being, "What I Did on My Summer Vacation"? I dreaded those assignments, mainly because my dad worked during the summer, and we stayed home in our Chicago bungalow. How did I make that assignment work? I embellished and wrote about it in an upbeat way. The cruise on my bike searching and collecting empty soda bottles became a treasure hunt, culminating with a trip to the corner store cashing in those bottles for penny candy. The rare opportunity for a trip to Marquette Park *and* to Rainbow Cone became a high seas adventure. Monkey bars and a large Rainbow cone – those were treasures beyond compare.

What is your club or district doing this summer? Are your committees hard at work with plans for an awesome club year? Are you on a committee? Will you be the one to describe "What I Did This



Carol Jablonski (left), Alice Betlach (center) Teresa Sanford-Shiplett (right)

Summer" in an upbeat, positive way? Can you provide the basic information and make it upbeat? How about trying a theme for your report, program or project? It's as simple as using President Skubic's theme of a sailboat and her theme: "Set Sail . . . Explore the Possibilities". Brainstorm for ideas, and you will be amazed at the number of ways you can hoist your sails and explore the possibilities your report, program or project can take.

## Teresa Sanford-Shiplett, Central Region Vice President LEADERSHIP

"A good Captain starts with a willing heart, a positive attitude, and a desire to make a difference!"

No one is a born leader—everyone can develop leadership skills and everyone can benefit from using them. First, take time to honestly analyze yourself. Learn to understand yourself. It's the first step to understanding others. Consider these important questions....What kind of leader am I? One who wants to help solve problems? A leader who helps people progress? How do others see me as a leader?

Identify areas for improvement. Ask yourself these questions: Do I try to be aware of how others think and feel? Do I try to be help others perform to the best of their abilities? Am I willing to accept responsibility? Am I willing to try new ideas and new ways of doing things? Am I able to communicate with others effectively? Am I a good problem solver? Do I accept and appreciate others' opinions and perspectives? Am I aware of current issues and concerns in my community? Then, after analyzing your strengths and weaknesses----<u>take action!</u>

One way to do that is to attend a LEADS workshop in the future; another way is use other leaders as role models. There are leaders in GFWC that are making a difference - follow their lead! Stay tuned for more ways to help upgrade your skills in future issues.

## Alice Betlach, Southern Region Vice President MEMBERSHIP

**Recruit! Recruit!** – There are almost as many reasons to join a General Federation of Women's Club as there are members. Here are just a few - making friends, having fun and feeling needed, continuing to learn leadership skills, accomplishing something worthwhile, making an impact – you get it!

So, the question! How do you find these wonderful women who want to experience these benefits of belonging to your GFWC Club? Have you *asked* someone to attend one of your club meetings, and offered to pick her up and bring her through the door of your meeting place?

One good way to start is to remember to invite FRANK to come to a meeting:

F - Ask one of your "friends" who already knows what you do with your club in your community.

R - Ask a "relative" to check out a meeting with you - maybe your sister or your daughter or your mother.

A – Ask an "acquaintance" – the checker at the grocery store, or the bank teller, or your hairdresser– someone who asks about your nametag or GFWC pins.

N - Ask your "neighbor" to be a tagalong with you to your next meeting.

K - Ask a mother with "kids" who needs some interaction and activities to help her fit into the community.

Membership recruitment on an individual basis is personal and proves to be more of a long-lasting method. Remember to follow up once she joins to make sure she remembers the meetings and serve as her sponsor/mentor as she moves into active membership in your club!

## **Reflections of GFWC International LEADS**

#### Elena Lipinski, GFWC Illinois LEADS Candidate Elgin Junior Woman's Club, District 11

**C** is for Conflict Resolution Rules and Skills.

What beautiful surroundings at the JW Marriott Desert Springs Resort and Spa in Palm Desert, California – palm trees, five sparkling outdoor pools, two championship golf courses, exotic birds and the San Jacinto mountains in the background! A perfect backdrop for the 2017 GFWC Annual Convention and Leadership Education and Development Seminar, LEADS for short!

Each of the forty-two LEADS participants learned their ABCs at the Friday, June 23 seminar: **A** is for the Accomplishments of GFWC through the years, including professional journalist Jane Cunningham Croly being inducted into the National Women's Hall of Fame in 1994 for mobilizing the "previously untapped and unorganized sisterhood of capable American women that would reshape American society" in 1868 when she organized the Sorosis woman's club. **B** is for Body Language, including how to read it and considerations of which to be aware.



Elena Lipinski (right)

In addition, each participant was able to learn much more to put into her LEADS toolbox:

L is for Leadership Development and how to be a Positive Leader.

E is for Education about Legislation Advocacy Do's and Don'ts, increasing Membership, Parliamentary Procedure, Preparing and Giving Presentations, and Protocol.

#### And

**D** is for Development of the Why, When and How of Reporting, How to Reduce Stress, Why we Volunteer, and the Why or Mission of the WHRC

**S** is for Seminars or, according to Merriam-Webster, "a meeting in which you receive information on and training in a particular subject", something each LEADS participant is expected to head up once returning to her home state.

Each LEADS participant was nourished through LEADS in three ways. First, each lady received **physical nourishment** since both a continental breakfast and a lunch were provided. Second, the **mental nourishment** each club woman experienced through eight fifteen minute sessions in addition to another six half-hour sessions was off the charts. This was due to each speaker being extremely well-versed in her topic. Our own Becky Weber was especially knowledgeable about Legislation and Advocacy as well as Public Education and awareness of members through the GFWC Legislative Action Center. However, she gave us a third type of nourishment in providing **emotional nourishment** through her **passion** for this cause. So, let's remember the following quote from François de la Rochefoucauld, a French author,

#### If we resist our passions, it is more through their weakness than from our strength.

Let us act from a position of strength, not weakness, as we embrace GFWC, an international women's organization that is dedicated to community improvement by enhancing the lives of others through volunteer service. Let's join forces with our federation sisters from near and far as we participate in programs and projects that positively impacts the lives of others around us. Let us remember that right now **"It's Our Time to Shine"**.



## LEADS @ GFWC Illinois Convention

19 GFWC Illinois Clubwomen set sail and then anchored ashore for LEADS Workshop in May! Our presenters at this event were right on the mark. One of the highlights was the super address by Jolie Frankfurth, GFWC Director of Junior

Clubs, on "What is a Leader?" WOW- she really knows how to deliver! Jolie came as a rather well known name but she left as a friend to all. We enjoyed having her join us. We were also delighted to have most of our own EC able to attend the LEADS workshop. Growing your leadership skills never ends. The attendees not only received a certificate of completion but also for the first time received the new Illinois LEADS pin.

"Wisdom is knowing the right path to take. Leadership is taking others with you!"





LEADS Graduate Pin available to any member who has attended Illinois LEADS. Cost is \$5 through Fundraising.



#### Barbara Potter, GFWC Illinois ESO Chairman

We are inviting all Illinois Club Women to read <u>Left Neglected</u> by Lisa Genova this summer. This book was recommended by many library book clubs. We are going to share our discussion of this wonderful book with a group Facebook page where we can comment on the book. The goal is to introduce good books to all Illinois Clubwomen even if you are not an ESO member. Please read the book and join the Facebook page to share what you thought of the book. Participating in the discussion is strictly voluntary. You may read the book and read what others say about it without commenting yourself. This is OK because we are all learning from the experience. The goal is to spread the word about good literature, and thus improve our knowledge of the world around us.

A little about the author: Lisa Genova is the New York Times bestselling author of Inside the O'Briens, Love Anthony, Left Neglected, and Still Alice. Her first novel, Still Alice, has been adapted into a film. Lisa graduated valedictorian from Bates College with a degree in biopsychology and holds a PhD in neuroscience from Harvard University. She travels worldwide speaking about

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Alzheimer's disease, traumatic brain injury, and autism. She has appeared on *Dr. Oz, The Diane Rehm Show*, CNN, *Chronicle*, Fox News, and Canada AM and is featured in the Emmy Award–winning documentary film *To Not Fade Away*. She lives with her family in Massachusetts.

There will be more detailed information about using the group Facebook page for this activity during the Summer Seminar meetings.

Want to join? Search for "GFWC Illinois Readers" on



Beverly Hills 370 District President, Annette Andretich Gross, is bonored to represent these women.....they are dedicated to their communities, to GFWC, and the world!

Beverly Hills JWC together at GFWC IL Third District



**Pinwheels For Prevention**- For the second year, **Glenwood JWC** is again distributing pinwheels at the Glenwood Easter Egg Hunt. Pinwheels were given to the first 125 children attending. The Easter Bunny was delighted to lend his support to this event.



**Lansing JWC** working on plans for the Good Neighbor Parade in May





Palos Park Woman's Club, President Lucy Crocilla, accepts the Eugene Simpson award. This club also participated in Pinwhweels for Prevention.

The **Morgan Park Woman's Club** has been donating books to local public grammar schools since 2000. The goal of the project is to stimulate enthusiasm and interest in reading in the lower grades.

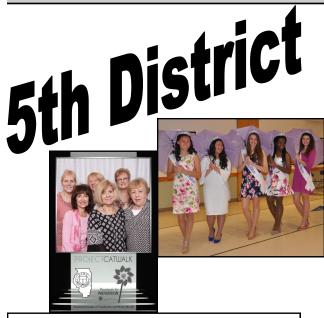


TORNA BAUMPH TO



Morgan Park JWC proudly sponsored their 5th Annual Work Out to Wipe Out Domestic Violence Event in March. The proceeds of this event are donated directly to our local 501(c)3 agency that advocates for victims of domestic violence (A New Direction Beverly Morgan Park, or A.N.D.). Children Exercise at one of the events. They were also a participant in Pinwheels for Prevention.

Palos Heights Woman's Club - Membership Appreciation Tea celebrated their Membership's extraordinary volunteer work and charitable giving with Christmas Tea. The evening was planned with the theme of the historical Marshall Field's Walnut Room. Their community was also decorated with Blue Pinwheels, and members were given the opportunity to purchase paver bricks in memory of loved ones/events.



Lombard Junior Woman's Club recently presented the 87th Lilac Court during the annual Tiara Presentation, held at the Maple Street Chapel on March 14. Lilac princesses are active ambassadors to the community during Lombard's lilac time festival and throughout the year. Stepping off the ceremony, each princess is introduced to the community, taking her Royal walk down the main aisle of the church to receive her bouquet and sash and then takes her place on the Royal crowning chair. As part of the ceremony each princess is given the opportunity to wear the original queen's crown, placed by the director of the Lombard Historical Society. Following the temporary "crowning", each princess is officially presented with her tiara by two members of the Lombard Service League. The LJWC has have proud sponsors of the scholarship program since 2002 supporting our future woman leaders.

Following the 2017 Lilac Court Tiara Presentation, the newly crowned princesses take time out for a fun springtime photo.

Pictured are 2017 Lilac Court L to R:Liana Pavese, Emma Peca, Taylor Balsitis, Kyla Denwood and Amanda O'Brien.

Darien Clubwomen at the Blue Ribbon Fashion Show



Indian Head Woman's Club Presidents Irene Macke and Renetta Kazmierczak celebrating the club's 31st Birthday at their meeting.

Indian Head Park painted and donated 55 onesies to the Cradle for unwed mothers through Catholic Charities. A club member then took this idea to her church and the women, men and children made at least 50 onesies. This member delivered all onesies in person to the Cradle.



Franklin Park Woman's Club had a membership drive in conjunction with the Franklin Park Library Wonderland Tea held afternoon. We had about 40 in attendance. We had Pat Maggio Dristrict 7 President, Marie Saeli FPWC President , and club members Jeanne Liedtka, Terry Grbac and Helen Piotrowski there to represent GFWC. It was a lovely way to spend a cold, rainy Saturday afternoon!





The Elgin Junior Woman's Club hosted its Third Annual Pinwheel Palooza at the Elgin Police Station on April 8th to bring awareness for Prevent Child Abuse. The event boasted approximately 125 people in attendance, 13 vendors who had various activities for the kids, a family fun walk, a canine police demonstration, and a presentation from author Amy Logan who read "A Girl With A Cape". The event even made the front page of our local newspaper! It was a beautiful day, and a fun and successful event to raise awareness in our community!



Plainfield Junior Woman's Club has completed 31 Service Projects in and around the community since August! April & May brought 5 more service projects, in addition to their biggest fundraiser- Spring Fling Casino Night on April 21st, raising over \$50,000 and benefiting 6 local non-for-profit organizations.

Oswego Junior Woman's Club raised \$12,000 at their 2nd annual Red Carpet Fundraiser in February. All proceeds went toward scholarships for college-bound seniors at Oswego High School and Oswego East High School. They also donated to local families in need and supported the Vietnam Moving Wall in Oswego as well as sponsored two Leaders to attend the Illinois Leadership Seminar in June 2017.





GFWC Manhattan Woman's Club has provided lunch for veterans and ROTC members from Lincoln Way High School that perform the Memorial Day Ceremonies at 6 cemeteries and the Memorial Stone in Manhattan for the past 26 years. This year there were 39 Veterans, ROTC members and their families that enjoyed the luncheon.

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**13th District 13th District** 



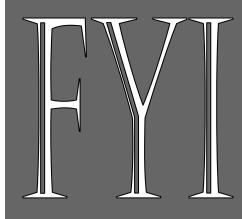




On Saturday March 18th, the GFWC IL Polo Evening Women's Club had their fundraiser. We had a lunch and a Chinese auction. We served Pulled Pork Sandwiches with chips and a choice of many salads and a choice of many desserts. We decorated with a St. Patrick's Day theme. The pictures show our decorations and items that our guests could win from the Chinese auction.

On Friday April 7th the GFWC IL Polo Evening Women's Club planted pinwheels. Our Mayor read a proclamation. Two newspapers were present. We planted pinwheels at the three schools in Polo and on the corner of State Highway 26 and Mason St.(our main downtown area).

Two pictures show our mayor reading the proclamation on Hwy 26 and just after. Left to Right are Theresa Lannen, Karen Digby, Mayor Doug Knapp, Mary Cimino, Ginny Snodgrass, and Louise Hall.



## PLEASE MAKE NOTE OF OUR GFWC ILLINOIS HEADQUARTERS INFORMATION:

GFWC Illinois 5 East Van Buren St. Suite 208 Joliet, IL 60432 Phone: (815) 724-0195 Email: gfwc-illinois@sbcglobal.net Website: www.gfwcillinois.org

14/15th District



Abingdon Juniors are a small but active group of woman on a mission. Our mission is to make our community a better place to live. Here are a few ways our members work within our small community:

During Make A Difference Day members painted on pillow





cases which were then given to a domestic violence shelter along with new pillows and gift cards and games for family use. In the fall Halloween costumes were purchased by the members and sent to Peoria's Children Hospital. This hospital is an affiliate of the St Jude's Association. During the Share Your Heart campaign in December we organize red paper hearts with names of children who need some heartfelt Christmas cheer. These children receive clothing, toys, shoes or boots if needed and coats. This year 30 families were helped with 63 kids receiving gifts at Christmas time. The families also were given a \$30 dollar gift card to a local store for items for their homes. 75 coats were distributed to local children in the school district and to two domestic violence shelters in a nearby city. Twenty four fleece blankets along with a stuffed animal for each one were given to the two city hospital emergency rooms. They were designated to be given to children who were taken to the emergency room during the Christmas holidays. A Trivia Night is held to help us raise funds for many of our projects. This is a fun way to collect funds and help the community see who we are and what we do in our community. Middle School High Honor students are awarded special medals during their banquet in the spring. The Abingdon Juniors gave the students Olympic type medals as a recognition of their hard work. Two Blue Pin Wheel gardens were planted at each of the two banks in town as a focus for April's Prevent Child Abuse month.

GFWC Hampton Rapids Jr. Woman's Club members are committed to volunteer service to improve the local communities of Hampton and Rapids City, Illinois, along with meeting needs of the greater Quad-Cities area. Recent projects of the club include furnishing an apartment for a family for World Relief; collecting food and personal care items for the Watertown Food Pantry; donating items to the domestic abuse shelter Winnie's Place; The Oasis, an organization that gives away free clothing, furniture, and household goods to needy families; Bethany for Children and Families; and Dress for Success. In addition, members made craft gifts for clients of Addus adult day care and assisted local Boy Scouts and Girl Scouts with badges and projects. Continuing projects include picking up trash along Rt. 84 for Adopt-a-Highway, displaying pinwheels during Child Abuse Awareness month, assisting the Hampton Historical Society with fundraising events, and maintaining flower beds at the Welcome Signs and the Hampton Heritage Center. Members have also improved the parks in Hampton by purchasing a bench and picnic table for the Carl

Monson Park and purchasing two trees and a bench for the Gladys H. Ryherd Park. Fundraising for a picnic table for the Ryherd Park is the club's current project.



**17th District** 

Bloomington Normal Junior Woman's Club members donating to The Baby Fold in Normal, Illinois.





Members of the GFWC Gilman Woman's Club planted a "Pinwheels for Prevention" pinwheel garden along Route 24 to demonstrate our commitment to the prevention of child abuse. As the symbol for child abuse and neglect prevention, the pinwheel is an uplifting reminder of childhood and the bright futures that all children deserve. Every day is a call to action and an opportunity for each of us to recognize that we all play an important role in children's lives. All children deserve great childhoods because our children are our future. We must work to build communities that are committed to families and to the support and services they need to raise strong, healthy, and successful children. Let each one of us be the force that keeps the pinwheels for prevention spinning. It is the hope of the GFWC Gilman Woman's Club that every child will be raised in a healthy, safe, and nurturing

environment. All children deserve great childhoods!

Those in the picture include: Kathie Dietz, Rev. Carol Lange, Korene Scharp, Carley Meyer, Barbara Uehle.

GFWC IL Metamora Woman's Club supplied 24 boxes of food to 12 veteran families for Easter. Club members Judy Riggert (Chairman of the Public Issues), Mary Ann Spencer, and Sandy Madsen shopped for supplies, and Arlene Rush and Sue Devine helped them pack the boxes. Monetary donations totaling \$888 were collected from the Club, individual members, and from the Christian Union Church mission program. After spending \$686.92 on food, \$201.08 was given to the Woodford County Veteran's Administration to be used for assistance requests. This is the ninth year that Metamora Woman's Club has participated in this program.





Fairbury Woman's Club President with granddaughter at Pinwheel Garden Event.

Fairbury Woman's Clubwomen Denise Doran and Lisa Gibson pictured with Easter Baskets for food drive at local schools





Fairbury Woman's Club members and some of the 30 Citizens of the Year nominees at their June Event. This project was stated 30 years ago.



17th District Spring Convention Awards

The 18th District located in East Central Illinois has 82 members from 5 clubs: Danville/Illinois Woman's Club, Fairmount Woman's Club, Fithian Woman's Club, Georgetown Ladies

Community Club, and the Woman's Club of Bismarck. We are "Women Identifying Needs and Giving Service. Our Wings Are Made to Fly!" The butterfly is our symbol and Preserving Our Natural Resources our emphasis.

In August, our Board held an orientation meeting at the Environmental Education Center at

Kennekuk County Park. A naturalist from the Vermilion County Conservation District shared information with our group in November. At our District Board meeting in March, a speaker from the Eco-Justice Collaborative told us about their work in cleaning up the Dynegy Coal Ash Pits along the Middle Fork River which is Illinois only National Scenic River. Teresa Sanford-Shipplett shared information about monarch butterflies with members at our District Convention. The district held a raffle for a butterfly basket with the proceeds to be used to improve a butterfly garden and purchase plants that attract butterflies in our county parks. The 18th District also participated in the Wreaths Across America project held at the VA in Danville. For our district unity project, members brought sheets, pillows, towels, blankets, and toiletries to our district convention. These items were donated to Crosspoint at the Y shelter in Danville. The 18th District formed a team to raise funds for the PCA Illinois Walk for Children.

The wings of the clubs in District 18 have truly taken flight!

Danville/Illiana has donated pajamas and socks to a local mission, given candy to 4 nursing homes, taken gifts to the VA in Danville, and given pop tabs and personal care items to a Ronald McDonald House.

The Fairmount Woman's Club is making pillows to place under arms, aprons to hold wires, and knockers to stuff in bras for women to ease their recovery after breast cancer surgery. They have also collected \$80 for Pennies for Art, sold Terry Lynn Nuts and candies as their main fundraiser, donated socks for the patients at the VA in Danville, and given coloring books and crayons to the children at the domestic violence center in Danville.

The Fithian Woman's Club participated in the local July 4th parade, provided desserts for the fire department fish fry fund raiser, collected school supplies for students and made treat bags for staff at local schools, held a program "Jacob's Journey" which featured a recovering drug addict for members and their community, collected clothing, bus passes, and gift cards for the VA in Danville, decorated a Christmas tree to raise funds for the local food pantry, and held a Breakfast with Santa. We also celebrated our 50-year members!

The Georgetown Ladies Community Club partnered with the Lions Club at the local corn hole bag tourney, sponsored the Little Miss and Mister Georgetown contest, donated and helped with the Georgetown Fair Ping Pong Ball Drop, made baked items for local service providers, partnered with the library for a Safety Fair and Halloween costume contest, sponsored The Kris Kringle Craft Show and the annual Holiday Parade, donated coats and gloves for the local coat drive, purchased wreaths for Wreaths Across America at the Danville VA, purchased items for the Vermilion County Animal Shelter, assisted with Christmas Baskets in their city, and delivered Valentine treats to seniors.

The Woman's Club of Bismarck held a basket raffle at the Lions Fish Fry, invited charter members to their 60th Anniversary celebration, worked with Lions to provide a handicapped accessible sidewalk for the park, purchased mulch for a park playground, participated in the homecoming parade, donated underwear and socks to an area volunteer who provides clothing to students in need, held an auction to raise monies for art programs in their local schools, donated to Thanksgiving and Christmas food baskets for families in need, held a cookie sale at an area hospital, donated money to school libraries, held a bake sale at the Lions Pancake Day, prepared Valentine's Day cookie plates for senior citizens, made Valentines for veterans, and planted pinwheels for "Pinwheels for Prevention" in their community.





Long standing Nokomis Woman's club member Cathy Pavolko (right) was instrumental in receiving a monetary award for the Nokomis Woman's Club for her Community Service Award Essay Submission. A park bench was purchased for the city park.

The Nokomis Woman's Club purchased a Christmas Tree and planted it in the city park. Each year, members decorate the tree with red, white and blue lights and bows to honor the military men and women.





Nokomis Woman's Club donated funds toward the building of their community's Walking Path in Memorial Park. Each year, members give generously of their time toward the maintenance of the flower beds and rest areas.



Margie Eisenbarth and Patty Burris, members of Nokomis Woman's Club, collect donations for Land of Lincoln Honor Flight, their primary charitable organization. Clubwomen make and sell items at their two craft shows each year.

Cheryl Maguire, Co-President of Wood River Woman's Club has been elected mayor of Wood River. She is the first woman mayor in Wood River.







Mascoutah Tuesday Woman's Club's yearly Breakfast with Santa event and parade event.

Freeburg Woman's Club celebrates their 100th anniversary with GFWC Illinois President, Phyllis Skubic in attendance.

23rd District







Centralia Junior Woman's Club: When one visits Centralia, there is a beautiful welcome sign landscaped and maintained by the Junior Club.

Centralia Woman's Club: At the beginning of a month in spring, Centralia Woman's Club has found is the best time to have their \$100 grocery raffle fundraiser. The ladies set up in the store and sell chances 1/\$1.00 or 7/\$5.00. The store donates \$25.00, club \$75.00 and the rest is profit! They got the idea from the Newton Club in our district.

Farina Woman's Club: This club not only makes monthly donations to their local food pantry, but also helps provide shoes for the local schoolchildren.

GFWC Newton Woman's Club: This club is busy preparing for its 100<sup>th</sup> Anniversary in May. They had an official photo taken to observe this occasion, as well as officially adding GFWC to their name. They also took it to the streets by participating in their local parade, with candy and their official magnetic signs for vehicle, so everyone knows their name!

St. Francisville Woman's Club: This club initiated the Wreaths Across America program at their Veteran's Memorial and local cemeteries. Keeping the WAA slogan of honoring Veterans by Remembering the fallen, Honoring those who serve and Teaching the children the value of freedom. They also spearheaded the "Church Ladies Cookies" drive to help raise funds for the county schoolchildren food backpack program. 52 dozen cookies were baked, delivered and sold at a weeklong yard sale benefitting the organization.

Vandalia Woman's Club: These ladies made 69 jars of cookie mix contributing \$483.00 for the community to have the "WALL DOGS" paint a historical mural on the outside wall of a building. They also made a difference by donating children's socks for needy children. Two plots of land, in the downtown area, have been loaned to the club to keep them beautiful and alive with plants.

Spring means scholarships, as our District and local clubs award money to deserving students!







One of many winners at the Town & Country Days, sponsored by Eldorado Woman's Club.



Herrin Woman's Clubwoman donate their time to the Annual Waffle Breakfast, raising funds for Domestic Violence awareness among other causes .

Marion Woman's Club donates funds toward Miss Illinois contest event held at Marion Cultural Civic Center.

Jaclyn Hancock, 25th District President, and the 25th District Pig, supporting the Pennies for Arts contest at the GFWC Illinois Convention.





25th Disrrict funds support LEAA (Little Egypt Art Association). Pictured is the LEAA Art Winner.

Debbie Rossberg crocheted children's blankets for the Anna-Jonesboro Women's Club to donate to the Two Rivers Child Advocacy Center and Children's Medical Resource Network.



The Anna-Jonesboro Women's Club presented a donation to the Shop with a Cop and Fireman program in Jonesboro. From left are clubwomen Mary Light, Martha Ann Webb and Jane Bauer, who presented a check to Jonesboro City Clerk Barbara Casper.









## GFWC Illinois Leadership Education And Development Skills Seminar



#### Oh, The Places You'll Go With LEADS!

It's not often you get a second chance but here it is!! Come, set sail with us as you develop your skills in leadership and discover your potential as a leader. **LEADS** helps new and on-going leaders gain capabilities, confidence, and the commitment necessary to pursue and achieve higher leadership positions.

Take the next step and climb aboard! You will enhance your public speaking, learn more about time management and organization, explore some leadership styles, discover resources available plus learn more about our organization.

Pull up anchor and join us in **Effingham** on **Friday, November 3, 2017** at the GFWC Illinois Fall Board of Director's Meeting at the Thelma Keller Convention Center / Holiday Inn. The cost is \$30.00 and covers your lunch and all materials. Seminar will run 10:30 a.m. - 3:30 p.m. Registration will start at 10:00 a.m.

This is a REPEAT of our May 2017 LEADS Seminar held prior to the start of the 122<sup>nd</sup> Annual Convention, so we are asking that only NEW participants attend. A great opportunity for incoming District Presidents, new Club President's, District or Club officers and members! The event is open to everyone including our own state board members if they haven't attended before. Set your course and sail away with LEADS!

Fill out the registration form on the following page and mail it in with your check to Illinois GFWC Headquarters! **Registration deadline is** <u>October 13th</u>, 2017.

All LEADS attendees are invited to stay for the GFWC Illinois Board of Director's Meeting which will begin on Friday afternoon. Additional meal reservations are required if you wish to stay.

ARRR....the treasure will be yours. "On and on you will sail. And I know you'll sail far and face up to your problems whatever they are! Will you succeed? Yes! You will indeed 98 and <sup>3</sup>/<sub>4</sub> percent guaranteed" (with help from Dr. Seuss).

For more information please contact:

Teresa Sanford-Shipplett GFWC Illinois Leadership Chairman & Central Region Vice President Email: <u>sanford@abingdon.net</u> [309] 462-3909 or cell: [309] 368-6722.

Registration on the following page!

## **GFWC Illinois LEADS**

## Leadership Education And Development Skills



Oh, The Places You'll Go with LEADS!

Friday, November 3, 2017 • 10:30am- 3:30pm \$30 Fee

Thelma Keller Convention Center / Holiday Inn 1202 N. Keller Drive • Effingham, IL 62401

This workshop is a repeat of the May 2017 LEADS: New Participants Only

#### **REGISTRATION FORM**

Club Name	District
Member's Name	
Address	
City	State
Email	
Home Phone Number	
List Club Activities including all club	

#### **REGISTRATION DEADLINE: October 13, 2017**

Make Checks Payable to GFWC Illinois Mail to: GFWC Illinois 5 East Van Buren Street, Suite 208 • Joliet, IL 60432







18 members from GFWC Illinois attended the GFWC International Convention in Palm Desert, California and they accepted some BIG awards on behalf of the fantastic work of our clubwomen across the state!



Club Creativity Award GFWC Fairview Heights Woman's Club, District 22 Volunteer Art Teachers for their school district due to budget cuts

Short Story Writing Contest

Conservation First Place Award

Education

Club Creativity Award - Honorable Mention GFWC Mount Prospect Woman's Club, District 7 Books donated for the 3R's Program (Reading Reduces Recidivism) 1235 in 2016

GFWC Member Second Place Award

Lauren Tetrick, Homer Glen Junior Woman's Club, District 11





Club Creativity Award GFWC Woman's Club of Aurora, District 11 125th Anniversary Celebration in 2016

Fundraising & Development First Place Award

GFWC Signature Program- Domestic Violence Awareness & Prevention

Third Place Award for our Monetary donations

Juniorette Participation Awards

GFWC Plainfield Juniorette Club / GFWC Joliet Juniorette Club / GFWC Naperville Juniorette Club



## Canine Companions for Independence

Top Dog Supporter -- GFWC Illinois / Dog Lover Supporter -- Island Lake Woman's Club, District 10 & District 11 Happy Tails Supporter - Mount Prospect Woman's Club, District 7 & Naperville Woman's Club, District 5

# THANK YOU!

**GFWC Illinois Presents PCA Illinois With Donation at Convention** 

Phyllis Skubic, GFWC Illinois President



Due to your generosity and the resounding success of the 20<sup>th</sup> Annual Blue Ribbon Luncheon and Fashion Show, we were able to present Roy Harley a check for

\$19,415.29!!!



#### GFWC Illinois President's Challenge Donation Update: " Let's Make Change" 2016-2017

Phyllis Skubic, GFWC Illinois President



WOW! Take a look at our Grand Total Donations below toward the "Let's Make Change" Challenge! Thank you doesn't come close to expressing my deep appreciation for your overwhelming support of "Let's Make Change". Your generosity will help change the lives of countless children, now and far into the future! As each of the four recipients spoke and shared videos of their work at our Convention, it reaffirmed how much each organization needs our help financially... and how many lives we can continue to change!

EASTER SEALS	. \$2,188.00
Illinois Leadership Seminars (ILS)	. \$1,700.00
CHILDREN'S RESEARCH FOUNDATION (CRF)	. \$3,480.25
ST. JUDE CHILDREN'S RESEARCH HOSPITAL	. \$2,910.05

Let's Make Change and see what we can do in 2018!!





## invites you to SAVE THE DATE for a

Fabulous Girl's Night Out of Beauty

October 6, 2017 6:30 p.m. - 10:30 p.m. Autobahn Country Club, 3795 Centerpoint Way Joliet, IL 60436

At this casual night out with girlfriends, enjoy mini-facials, hand and feet scrubs, paraffin treatments and other spa "like" treats. There will also be fun Girl's Night Out friendly raffles, merchandise and special vendors to enjoy. Of course, no "Night Out "would be complete without a fabulous menu. And have we got something special for you; a decadent menu prepared by the Autobahn's Award Winning Chef!

SAVE THE DATE, and let us whisk you away to a night of relaxation and beauty indulgence while supporting Deb on her GFWC Journey!



GFWC Illinois 5 East Van Buren St. Suite 208 Joliet, IL 60432

## Don't Forget!



Take advantage of the Reporting Workshops offered by Shelli Fehr, GFWC Illinois President Elect / Dean of Chairman and Loretta Revesz, Junior Dean of Chairmen! See Page 4 for more information and contact Shelli or Loretta to schedule your workshop NOW!



Attend your District Meetings! You'll be able to chat with fellow clubwomen in your district AND with GFWC Illinois Board Members. They're traveling all across the state to assist members with anything they need!

#### **UPCOMING EVENTS**

Great Lakes Region Conference September 14–17. 2017 DoubleTree by Hilton Chicago/Oakbrook Oakbrook, IL

DEB'S DIAMOND DIVAS Fabulous Girl's Night Out of Beauty October 6, 2017 Autobahn Country Club Joliet, IL

> Make A Difference Day October 28, 2017 Report Due November 4, 2017

GFWC Illinois LEADS Seminar November 3, 2017 Thelma Keller Convention Center / Holiday Inn Effingham, IL

> GFWC HOLIDAY OPEN HOUSE December 6, 2017