



GFWC Celebrates 125 Years of Federated Service & Unveils 125th Anniversary Stamp

125
LIVING THE
VOLUNTEER
SPIRIT



Ordering information on page 7



SYMPATHY AND SUPPORT TO FAMILIES FOR:

Pat Maggio (President of 7th District, Past Presidents and Officers Club), whose mother passed away in February.

Beverly Junior Woman's Club, District 3, reported that **Gretel Foushi** passed away late February.

Oregon Woman's Club, District 13, reported the death of Jim Brubaker, husband of member **Sandie Brubaker**.

Decatur Woman's Club, District 19, reported the loss of **Betty Fletcher** in March.

Alice Koesterer of the Freeburg Women's Club, District 22, passed away.

Gordie Heitman, husband of immediate GFWC IL Past President, **Pat Heitman**, District 11, passed away after a long illness.

The Belvidere Woman's Club, District 4, mourned the loss of four members: **Alice M. Johnson**, **Geraldine (Jerry) Sanders**, **Pearl L. Greve**, and **Ruth Knott-Ross**.

GFWC IL Woman's Club of Kankakee, District 8, reported the passing of **Betty Hitzman**.

GFWC IL Gilman Woman's Club, reported that 50 year member **Kathryn Hawthorne** passed away.

A WORD OR MORE FROM CAROL

"What's your job?" was the question I asked the members of the GFWC IL Board of Directors to answer in this edition. We can usually look in our bylaws for some guidance on this, but it never seems to capture all that we do.

The women serving you on the GFWC IL Board of Directors and GFWC IL Junior Organization put a lot of time and effort to communicate and deliver news and information that you and your club can adopt and adapt for use in your club and community. But don't take my word on this, read it for yourself here in this issue, or at the GFWC IL website, gfwcillinois.org, in our e-newsletter, Key Notes.; not to mention the wealth of information at the touch of a keystroke at GFWC's website, gfwc.org.

GFWC ILLINOIS EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

President: Diane Addante

Director of Junior Clubs: Karyn McCarthy

President Elect: Phyllis Skubic

Vice President Northern Region: Elena Lipinski

Vice President Central Region: Judy Sochor

Vice President Southern Region: Alice Betlach

Secretary: Betty Peters

Treasurer: Janice Perkins

Parliamentarian: Jacquelyn Pierce, RP

SAD NEWS

We lost a great volunteer with the passing of GFWC Illinois Past President, Rudelle Goodwin (1980-1982). Rudelle was 103.

From Lou Brown: "I served as Vice President Central Region when Rudelle was President. She was a very sweet and caring lady. She was very active in her community and enjoyed volunteering. She was very enthusiastic about Federation. I drove her to all of the Central Region District Conventions each year that she was President, and I have some very fond memories of our time together."



Did you know? Rudelle was a member of the Bloomington/Norman Woman's Club for 75 years.

THE KEY TO YOUR MAGAZINE

Editor in Chief: Diane Addante

Managing Editor: Carol Jablonski

Please send your articles, photos, and suggestions to:

carolajablonski@att.net

or: 818 Tamarack Drive, Darien, IL 60561

. . . volunteers are the key

THE KEYS TO BEING PRESIDENT . . .

Diane Addante, GFWC IL President

What do I do as President of GFWC Illinois?
A lot!

The President has general supervision of the work of GFWC Illinois and directs the activities at Headquarters. It's great to work with Deana on your behalf.

Additionally, I am the liaison between GFWC and the GFWC Illinois Board of Directors. The President attends GFWC Board Meetings twice a year and receives numerous communications from GFWC which it is my responsibility to share with GFWC Illinois via the Executive Committee and Board. I am the chairman of the GFWC Illinois delegation at GFWC Convention. As President Elect, I attended Incoming Leadership Training and an Orientation in preparation for the office.

I also serve on the Great Lakes Region Board of Directors.

One of my favorite duties is presiding at GFWC Illinois Executive Committee and Board Meetings. At present, there are two per year outside of Convention and both bodies meet at Convention. These meetings require selecting sites that can accommodate our group, including hotel reservations as needed. Meal selections are also necessary. Agendas are prepared and Calls are sent to invite members to the meetings. I attend any special meetings of the board, such as Strategic Planning. Additionally, the President is ex officio member of all committees and attends their meetings as well.

In the first year of the administration, the President organizes the Board Orientation for the new Board.

The President is very involved in the preparation and proofing of the State Yearbook. She also assists with proofing the Reporting Packet as needed.

I have elected to prepare monthly President's letters and also direct other communication, including additions to the website, as needed.

A privilege that comes with the office is appointing the Convention Committee, Historian, Parliamentarian, Special Committee Chairmen and members to the Strategic Planning Committee, one from each region.

All contracts for GFWC Illinois activities are reviewed and signed by the President. She is also co-signer on checks and investment account activity.

The President plans and supervises each Convention during her term of office. Easily the most time consuming and stressful aspect of the job. Also, the most rewarding.

Another favorite duty is attending District and Club meetings and functions. It's great to connect with clubwomen across the state! Generally, most Districts have their annual meetings in the spring, which makes that a very busy time. It's nearly impossible for one person to get to all Districts at that time, but we try and get an Officer to each one. Presenting Anniversary Scrolls to clubs is an important role we play at those meetings. I plan to visit each District during the administration. I also attend club functions when invited and the schedule allows.

It is a busy job, but I am enjoying it immensely. The great clubwomen of GFWC Illinois make it an honor and a privilege to serve as your 59th President. Don't hesitate to contact me if I can be of help to you in any way.



Diane Addante



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Illinois.GFWC](http://www.facebook.com/Illinois.GFWC)



Karyn M. McCarthy

ONE VOICE

Karyn M. McCarthy, GFWC IL Director of Junior Clubs

WOW is about all I can say about our 120th Annual GFWC Convention! What a wonderful celebration of accomplishments, ladies! I so enjoyed seeing everyone, congratulating the winners and meeting new friends; I hope you did as well.

Congratulations to our three Junior State Leadership Award winners: **Out-standing Junior Service** - Janet Scaliatine, Lombard JWC; **Junior of the Year** - Teresa Osterloo, Encore Club; **Spark Plug Award** - Michelle Johnson, Metamora-Germantown Hills JWC.

These ladies are outstanding examples of what it means to be a volunteer. Thank you ladies for all you do!

And a big shout out to Amy Vicioso, 11th District Director of Junior Clubs, who will be attending GFWC Convention in Memphis as our 2015 LEADS Representative! I have no doubt you will represent us well, Amy, and we look forward to hearing all about your LEADS experience in an upcoming issue of *Clubwoman* Magazine!

As we officially turn the page and enter Year Two of this administration, I'd like to invite all Junior clubs to participate in a challenge designed to help support our Junior Special Project: Children's Research Foundation. All Junior Clubs who donate \$250.00 or more to CRF via GFWC Illinois between June 1, 2015 and April 15, 2016 will

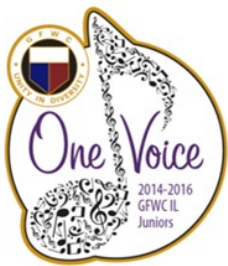
be included on a special plaque which will be presented to Pat Broggi at the 2016 GFWC Illinois Convention in Springfield. May 2016 will mark 40 years since our very first donation to CRF back in 1976, and as we prepare to celebrate that special anniversary next May, I'd like to award them with a sizable donation. You'll be hearing more about this special challenge over the next coming months, but please consider this as you plan your 2016 budgets and philanthropic distributions.

Juniors, THANK YOU for your hard work and commitment, not only to your clubs, but to the towns and communities of Illinois!

AS GFWC IL DIRECTOR OF JUNIOR CLUBS . . .

The job duties of the GFWC IL Director of Junior Clubs are pretty straightforward as outlined in the bylaws section of the Yearbook. They include directing the activities of the Junior Organization as well as representing the Junior Organization at our State Convention, at GFWC Convention and at Great Lakes Region meetings. I have and will continue to uphold those duties, but the position also calls for motivating and encouraging our members to strengthen their roots in GFWC and in their clubs. By visiting different districts and clubs throughout the state, I hope to accomplish this! I also maintain our social media presence and keep our Junior website updated with meeting information and resource information.

Above all, it is the honor of the office that I treasure most. Having been given the privilege of traveling to other states, towns and communities to talk about Juniors with other like-minded women has brought me such joy, and I look forward to doing so again in this 2nd year of this administration.



. . . volunteers are the key

THE KEY TO YOUR POSITION . . . WHAT'S MOST IMPORTANT TO YOU?

Phyllis Skubic, GFWC IL President Elect / Dean of Chairmen

I feel there are three KEY issues which are all equally important while serving as President Elect. The first is to support the President and assist her in any way needed. The second is to continue to learn as much as possible about the inner-workings of GFWC Illinois and plan for the following Administration, working hand-in-hand with the Director Elect of Junior Clubs. The third part is serving as Chairmen of the Strategic Planning Committee. A committee tasked with defining the goals and objectives for GFWC Illinois to meet the needs of our *Organization* and our *Membership* for the next five years, 2016 – 2021.

As Dean of Chairmen, I have just one KEY objective . . . to help and assist in any way needed. Working with State Chairmen to help pass along information to our club members on the programs of work supported by GFWC and the Partnership agencies. Also assisting the leaders of our Illinois Clubs, with reporting the tremendous volunteer service they give to their communities each year. Making the reporting process as easy as possible so Clubs and Chairmen have a good experience – one they enjoy doing, instead of something to dread doing each year!



Phyllis Skubic

Cherie Sieger, GFWC Illinois Junior Dean of Chairmen

I could not be more proud of the accomplishments of all the clubs that earned awards at State Convention in May. It was so fun to announce winners of awards certificates!!

What is most important to me as GFWC Illinois Junior Dean of Chairmen? It is for clubs in all of Illinois to understand reporting and don't dread the process of reporting. In July, start your reports of projects your club did so far, January through June. You will get a jump on reporting and will not feel overwhelmed come next January.

What is also important to me is to make the process of reporting as "painless" as possible for clubs and the process of judging the reports as "painless" as possible for the chairmen. I feel it is my job in this position to make the reporting process as streamlined as possible for all involved. What is also important to me is to have ALL CLUBS reporting their projects as well as their donations. We are SO close to achieving 100% of clubs reporting!! If your club did not report for 2014, for whatever reason, please give it a try. Will your club earn an award? That's not for me to predict, but your reporting will let others know what you are doing. If you are a small club with just a couple of projects, use your One Voice to shout out what you are SO proud of – YOUR CLUB and YOUR amazing projects you do for your community!

We are here for you to help make the reporting process a pleasant experience so you can be even MORE proud of your club and its accomplishments.



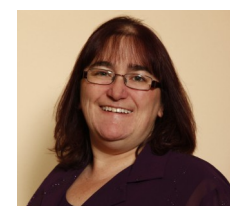
Cherie Sieger

Jeanette T. Wells, GFWC IL Director Elect/Dean of Directors

Everyone can read the duties of this office in the Standing Rules of the Junior Organization. Though, I believe that all the duties listed are important, I feel the most important, even though it is not specifically listed, is to work with the Director of Junior Clubs, in full support of her, the Junior Organization and GFWC.

Being the supporting cast member is almost as important as being the leader. This is the opportunity to watch and to learn, and step in when assistance is needed. If that means you are sitting in on a meeting that the Director cannot attend, then do it! If that means you need to console her or another member of the EC/Junior Board or just listen after a difficult moment, then do it! If that means you need to fetch something for her or stop at the store to get something, then do it! The more you do for her and with her, the better prepared you will be for your position as Director of Junior Clubs.

Everyone needs to continue to learn to grow. That is what I am doing so that I can be more prepared to serve. The first thing you learn as a Junior is the Junior Pledge: I pledge my loyalty to the Junior Club Women, by doing better than ever before what work I have to do; by being prompt, honest, courteous; by living each day trying to accomplish something, not merely to exist.



Jeanette T. Wells



Alice Betlach

*Congratulations to
Metamora-
Germantown Hills
JWC, District 17, for
recruiting 3 new members
& Lombard JWC, District
5, for recruiting 4 new
members. These clubs
reported as part of GFWC's
Seasonal Recruitment
Campaign and appeared in
recent issues of the GFWC
Clubwoman Magazine.*

MEMBERSHIP

Alice Betlach, GFWC IL Vice President, Southern Region

One year tucked in already!! Gee whiz! What a journey it has been! My first realization of what this position meant to me was when I was standing in the reception line following the Installation of the 2014-2016 GFWC Illinois Officers. I was so nervous – yet really excited! Everyone was so encouraging! Wow!

I have gained so many experiences through EC meetings, Board of Directors meetings, Regional meetings, and District meetings. The duties to accompany this position are detailed in the GFWC IL Bylaws, Article V, and among them is that of serving as a liaison between the EC and District Presidents, and helping to strengthen communication throughout the organization. As Membership Chairman, my focus became recruiting, retaining, and honoring members! When February arrived, I was excited to see the rewards of all the recruitment efforts and add up all of the additions to GFWC Illinois. Celebration of the accomplishments of GFWC Illinois clubwomen at our 120th Annual Convention was the greatest joy!

Looking forward to beginning a new club year! Let's grab our set of "keys" and do it!

"A Proud Past and a Promising Future with Friends" **Seasonal Recruitment Program Continues**

Seasonal recruiting, welcoming, and incorporating new members must involve everyone. Member recruitment is an ongoing process that requires the focus and commitment of all members. Wherever you go, you are bound to meet someone with whom you can talk and share information about GFWC and your club.

Appointing a Membership Chairman is an important indication of your club's dedication to recruiting new members, and can make a world of difference to the future of your club. She, together with her committee, will organize recruitment events to assist with the enlargement of your club's membership. Your entire membership will attend and participate at the events. Presenting an orientation program will allow your new members and prospective members to learn more about your club and your involvement with GFWC.

Be . . . the KEY to increasing our membership for 2015-2016!

COMMUNICATIONS/PUBLIC RELATIONS

Judy Sochor, GFWC IL Vice President, Central Region

As Central Region Vice President I am responsible for helping the 7 Districts in my region, which includes 64 clubs and 1370 members.

It is my duty to help clubs understand the GFWC Illinois goals, structure and processes. I serve as the liaison between the Executive Committee and the District Presidents.

I am to act as a mentor to new clubs.

I am to stimulate and promote GFWC communications and public relations by giving reports at the District and State meetings.

I attended District conventions and got to know the District Presidents, club presidents and club members in each of these districts. It is so interesting to see all the great things clubs and their members are doing in their communities.

It is an honor and privilege to be Central Region Vice President.



Judy Sochor

. . . volunteers are the key

LEADERSHIP

Elena Lipinski, GFWC IL Vice President, Northern Region

My position involves:

- attending all GFWC Illinois Board of Director and Executive Board meetings,
- writing articles for the GFWC Illinois Clubwoman magazine (four to date),
- judging Illinois leadership reports annually (81 for 2014) and writing an article for the convention booklet as well as a GFWC Illinois and GFWC report,
- giving speeches when asked, (two at District 11 meetings), and verbal reports at State Board meetings, (two to date),
- preparing materials, such as binders, for the Northern Region District Presidents and Junior Directors for a September gathering,
- securing speakers for the annual GFWC Illinois LEADS, registering the attendees, having the GFWC LEADS applications judged and sending one candidate's credentials to GFWC,
- providing a place and speakers for the annual Northern Region Meeting
- meeting fabulous GFWC Illinois clubwomen equally passionate about making a difference in their community!



Elena Lipinski



GFWC IL JUNIOR LEADERSHIP

Patti McNaught, GFWC IL Junior Chairman

As GFWC IL Junior Leadership Chairman, I was so honored to present four outstanding Illinois Juniors with prestigious leadership awards at 2015 State Convention. Twenty-eight fantastic leaders were nominated from all over the state. I thank two Junior esteemed members who helped judge and select three for the honors. Each honoree received a lovely music box and a certificate.

The GFWC IL Spark plug Award was presented to Michelle Johnson of the GFWC Illinois Metamora-Germantown Hills Junior Woman's Club. The GFWC IL Junior of the Year was presented to Teresa Osterloo of the GFWC IL Junior Woman's Encore Club. The GFWC IL Outstanding Junior Service Award was presented to Janet Scaliatine of the GFWC IL Lombard Junior Women's Club.

Our own GFWC IL Director of Junior Clubs, Karyn McCarthy, earned her Lifetime Achievement Award.



Patti McNaught

GFWC 125TH ANNIVERSARY STAMP

Go to GFWC's Marketplace, gfwc.org, to buy a sheet or more of this commemorative stamp, celebrating GFWC's 125th anniversary. A sheet of 24 stamps is \$15.00.





*Loretta Revesz
(above)
and
Janice Perkins
(below)*



WHAT A TREASURER NEEDS TO KNOW

Janice Perkins, GFWC IL Treasurer

Loretta Revesz, GFWC IL Junior Treasurer

Some of the general duties of the GFWC Illinois Treasurer and GFWC Illinois Junior Treasurer include writing checks and collecting money at events such as state board meetings, Blue Ribbon Fashion Show, Conventions as well as other miscellaneous events where money may be involved. The Treasurer is one of the people who is authorized to sign checks as part of the "two signatures" policy used for all checks.

The GFWC Illinois Treasurer makes deposits into the bank checking account and broker investment accounts. The Junior Treasurer makes deposits into the Junior Organization's checking account.

The GFWC Illinois Treasurer monitors the checking and broker account activity. Monitoring the Broker Account involves knowing the requirements of the individual funds and maintaining balances as needed. The broker account has become more important this year because we are using it as a checking and credit card transaction area also. Due to this, we have been able to lower certain transfer expenses as well as having to work less with the timing of the movement of funds. The Treasurer is responsible to do online fund transfers, after consultation with the President, Diane Addante. Due to the delicate nature of these issues, we are instituting a Finance Committee to help advise the Treasurer in certain areas and to set up appropriate policies and procedures to protect our funding as well as to protect the Treas-

urer. As of the writing of this article, there has been one meeting to begin work on these issues. The Junior Treasurer is a member of the Finance Committee but does not monitor the Broker Account.

Both Treasurers work with a committee to set a formal budget each year. Another important aspect of this job is to write reports for the Executive Committee, the General Board, and the General Membership. After the books have been closed for the year, the books are audited and the Treasurers meet with the auditors to help answer questions which may arise. Both the Illinois Treasurer and the Junior Treasurer are responsible for the collection of dues.

The GFWC Illinois Treasurer works very closely with the Junior Treasurer. They collaborate on articles, the dues process, and presentations. Both the Illinois Treasurer and the Junior Treasurer are responsible to pay close attention to the money coming into the state and going out. They have the obligation to ensure full financial transparency to the membership.

It really helps to have a decent understanding of on-line banking procedures, some degree of accounting knowledge, and be computer literate.

It's been a fun time in the old town this year!

SECRETARY

Betty Peters, GFWC IL Secretary

The position of Secretary is critical to the history of the Federation. The secretary is charged with keeping accurate minutes of all meetings, including the annual convention. I have found the position to be challenging and rewarding. The President depends on her secretary to take accurate notes and transcribe them in a timely fashion. This is where the challenge comes in. The rewarding part is when the minutes have been transcribed and found accurate (sometimes after minor corrections). As a member of the Executive Committee, the secretary is also a member of the Strategic Planning Committee. This has involved additional time and travel, but it is worth it to be a part in planning the future direction of GFWC Illinois.

After completing the first year of my term as Secretary, I feel that I have learned a lot and feel more comfortable in the position and better understand the various duties involved.



Betty Peters

... volunteers are the key

HONORING OUR 50 YEAR MEMBERS

District 3

Palos Heights WC

Jeanne Marbach

Shirley Wedlock

Marj Hultquist

Jeannine Morey

Doris Tortorici

Palos Park WC

Betty Polson

District 8

Paxton WC

Natalie Riecks

District 10

Antioch WC

Angela Maras

District 19

Newman WC

Carolyn Dennis

Tuscola WC

Mrs. W.A. Bozarth

Carol McCarty

*If we missed your name, please have your club president
submit your name to your district president.*



GFWC Gold Pins are awarded to 50 year GFWC members. These are awarded at GFWC Illinois Convention, and they are free. 25 year members are also recognized at convention with a certificate, unless prior arrangements are made with the Membership Chairman.

HOME LIFE COMMUNITY SERVICE PROGRAM

Marsha Vaughn, GFWC IL Chairman

Cyndi Fulco, GFWC IL Junior Home Life Chairman

First as State Home Life Chairman, I developed a presentation for the Northern Region Meeting for July 2014. A one page article was prepared for the Meeting booklet which included projects and partnerships information. As Home Life Chairman, I distributed pamphlets/brochures from Partnerships or agencies to District Presidents.

In October, I toured Easter Seals in Joliet and learned the services offered to clients. There was new technology which offered assistance to the clients to aid in their ability to learn to walk with special walkers. Families are allowed to borrow books, DVDs, or learning toys from the library. They also offer daycare there.

Collaborations were encouraged, so together we wrote articles for the GFWC Illinois *Clubwoman* magazine and prepared reports for Board meetings. We have answered questions in person, on the phone and by e-mail

from clubwomen across the state. It was an opportunity to discuss Home Life issues and make new GFWC Illinois friendships.

Cyndi, Junior Home Life Chairman, has worked with many clubs, helping them develop and implement projects within their clubs and throughout their communities to promote a healthy lifestyle. We hosted a Breast Cancer Awareness forum in which we invited doctors, physiologists and holistic providers to offer a complete look at the signs, the emotions and the options of breast cancer. We held a Heart Healthy forum that included the teaching of the use of a defibrillator to all our members.

This year has been an exciting and interesting one. Thanks to everyone for your participation in Home Life projects and Partnerships. "Volunteers are the Key to GFWC" and this refers to all of you.



*Cyndi Fulco, left
Marsha Vaughn, right*





PUBLIC ISSUES

Karen Meyer, GFWC IL Chairman

Debbie Monteith, GFWC IL Junior Chairman



*Debbie Monteith, top
Karen Meyer, below*



Serving as a Chairman for GFWC Illinois is a wonderful honor. It is especially wonderful that our Military and Veterans issues are the focus of this administration. As a new chairman in a new administration you have the opportunity to attend a chairman orientation, meeting the other chairs on the board, and to learn in more detail the goals of the new administration. Your first assignment as a team is to prepare for Summer Region Meetings and includes researching all aspects of the Community Service Program and the related Partnerships, then preparing the presentation for Summer Region Meeting with the goal of getting everyone's club year off to a great start by providing the latest information and resources. We attend State Board meetings

where we share new details on other areas clubs can be involved in relating to your Chairmanship. We also work together to research and write articles for the *Clubwoman* magazine.

After the start of the year you start receiving all reports submitted. It is inspiring to read about the projects that the clubs are involved in, selecting those for awards, writing the report to share with GFWC and finally the opportunity to recognize the winners at Convention. And finally, why would we recommend that you consider this? The best part of being a GFWC IL Chairman is the many new friends you make throughout Illinois!

The GFWC Illinois Federated Woman's Club of Greater Belleville recently received the "Group of the Year Award" from the Jefferson Barracks Hospital Veterans Facility for the work they do for the Veterans. Congratulations to President Ann Housden and members!



*Sara Gilbert, left
Jo Koenig, right*



EDUCATION COMMUNITY SERVICE PROGRAM

Jo Koenig, GFWC IL Chairman

Sara Gilbert, GFWC IL Junior Chairman

Thanks to all of the clubs and club women for devoting your creativity and time toward Education projects this year. Clubs are doing amazing things to support adults, children, schools, and families in the pursuit of learning.

This year, our emphasis focused on providing local communities with needed resources to support education. This included creation/continuation of scholarship programs, partnerships with libraries and local schools, and support of HOBY and Illinois Leadership Seminars. In addition, our "Children's Literacy Fill the Shelves" project promotes providing books to children and families with limited access to literacy materials.

... volunteers are the key

INTERNATIONAL OUTREACH COMMUNITY SERVICE PROGRAM

Barbara Potter, GFWC IL Chairman

Kim Kalafut, GFWC IL Junior Chairman

We first heard the words "Unity in Diversity" in 1889 spoken by Sorosis Club President Ella Dietz Clymer at a conference of 61 women's clubs. We are still united and we are still working on diversity. Our job as International Outreach Chairmen is to educate clubs in programs that reach out to improve the lives of all the citizens in our world. In order to reach this goal, we are available to visit club and district meetings and talk about a variety of programs. Our partners in International Outreach include: UN Foundation Shot@Life (www.ShotatLife.org), U.S. Fund for UNICEF (www.UNICEFUSA.org), Operation Smile International (www.OperationSmile.org), and Heifer Project International (www.Heifer.org). We also want to support Helping Babies Breathe (www.HBB@aap.org).

Please call on us for more information. We can mail, e-mail, phone, or visit to help your club or district with projects that improve the lives of all the citizens in our world no matter how diverse they are. Barbara Potter, GFWC IL Chairman, Barb@PotterRentals.com, 815-265-4407 and Kim Kalafut, GFWC IL Junior Chairman, foot8@comcast.net, 815-715-4796.



*Kim Kalafut, right
Barbara Potter, left*



CONSERVATION COMMUNITY SERVICE PROGRAM

Elaine Bush, GFWC IL Chairman

Amee Lee, Junior Chairman

Many of our clubs have found a way to beautify their community through their actions under the area of Conservation. What is your club's Conservation focus? Is recycling at the top of your list or it is the community flower garden or vegetable garden to help nourish individuals in your community? American Recycle Day is November 15! Make plans for a special observance.

Are you able to enjoy more monarch butterflies since we have become aware of the need to help them? Some have found that purchasing butterfly weed plants moves the project along faster than planting the seeds. Habitat for Bees have also become a concern in our state.

As your club sets their budget for the year, include the Shawnee National Forest. By the clubs sharing their funds on the Monetary Project Contribution Form, we are able to plant more trees to continue the benefits of the forest in our state. This has been a GFWC Illinois project for over 30 years! Must be mailed by December 31 to count as a 2015 project!

Don't forget to recycle your wine corks. ReCork.org is still looking to recycle real cork into new products. There are many collection sites within the state. Let's see which club can collect the most corks to be recycled.

Have you found a project in your community which needs to be funded? Outline the project with a description of the benefits of completing it as well as how to carry out the project. Each state is able to submit a project to receive funds from GFWC. Include this in January on your Conservation reporting.

Each GFWC IL club and member is a part of the KEY to carrying out the work of Conservation!



*Elaine Bush, left
Amee Lee, right*



GFWC ILLINOIS 120TH ANNUAL CONVENTION

Diane Addante, GFWC IL President

The flurry of activity in the month leading up to Convention was pretty incredible! Patti Kuchar handled reservations like a champ, Phyllis Nightlinger collected great items for welcome bags, Bonnie gathered door prizes, which we all love, and what can I say about Terri?! She was in constant contact with the hotel, worked directly with the a/v company to make sure our PowerPoint presentation worked, she actually prepared the awards PowerPoint presentation and a million other details. She was a breeze to work with and her attention to detail warms my heart! Cherie acquired excellent vendors and put up with a lot from some of them. Jackie Haddad made sure we had a Color Guard and a wonderful singer for the National Anthem. Districts 5, 6, 11 and 22 were outstanding banquet hostesses. Special thanks to my fellow clubwoman Sandi Schultz for the place cards for Thursday and Saturday functions, and Nancy Spartz and Cathy Tufano for their work on Fun Night. I loved all the hats! Carol Jablonski, yes the same one who does the magazine, worked on name badges and generated the banner we had for Friday and Saturday. The Arts & Crafts Room had lots of interesting pieces. Deana – All the booklets and the meal cards at Thursday and Saturday functions were compiled and copied by her. She too, did a million and one things to keep us organized. Of course, half the fun is working with Director Karyn McCarthy! She brought Jarrett Payton and PADS in as speakers, facilitated a well-received workshop and did a wonderful job presiding at the Unity Luncheon and the Junior Business Session. Her enthusiasm, leadership and thoughtfulness are a joy!



Wednesday – The day included the LEADS Workshop, welcoming GFWC President Elect Sheila Shea and dinner with Hawaiian Dancers. Everyone looked beautiful and the dancers were very calming. What a start!!

Thursday – First off, the video greeting from GFWC President Babs Condon worked! Amy Logan, author of “The Girl With The Cape”, was terrific. Endorsing Pat Heitman for GFWC Great Lakes Region Secretary and Debbie Strahanoski for GFWC 2nd Vice President were proud moments. The Memorial Service was stirring. The reading of the Proclamation declaring April 24 as GFWC Day in Illinois (albeit received on May 12) made my day. Having Jim Hmurovich from PCA America and Roy Harley and staff from PCA Illinois in attendance for Federation Banquet was a privilege. The check presentation to PCA Illinois for \$15,550 was a special moment. I was so pleased that Amy Vicioso was named our LEADS Representative to GFWC Convention. So many worthy candidates – how lucky is GFWC Illinois?

Friday – Lt. Governor Sanguinetti AND Jarrett Payton first thing in the morning? Yes! The Unity Luncheon was beautiful, and it is always great to see Pat Broggi for CRF! The Junior Business Session was fun and we even had Eleanor Roosevelt in the house! As portrayed by Leslie Goddard. Fun Night was elegant, well, until we became horses! Thanks for wearing your hats; there is something so glamorous about a hat.

Saturday – Conclusion of the awards, the Piggy Parade, the endorsement of Trisha Schafer for GFWC Director Elect of Junior Clubs and all the heartfelt sentiments at the conclusion of the event (and the relief, let's be honest) made for a wonderful last day of Convention.

I know that there were problems with the elevators – I was stuck in them too! And the vendors were a bit of a hike. My apologies for that. The primary activities were all relatively accessible and that, honestly, was my biggest concern. In Springfield, there will be no problems with this as everything is in close proximity.

All in all, we felt good about things and learned for next time. I had a great time and hope you did too! Convention is a wonderful way to make new friends, reconnect with federation sisters and celebrate our accomplishments as an organization.

It is a privilege to serve as your President and I look forward to representing you in Memphis.



... volunteers are the key



FROM OUR GFWC ILLINOIS DISTRICTS

District 3

Annette Andretitch Gross, President

We in **Third District** take great pride in our clubwomen and their dedication to the GFWC. This year special recognition of members was given to 19 twenty-five year members and 6 fifty year members at the 2015 Illinois Convention. **Morgan Park JWC** held their 3rd annual “Work Out to Wipe Out Domestic Violence” Benefit Day. Eighteen community fitness business instructors offered 23 different fitness events. Their efforts resulted in \$8500 in direct contributions to the local domestic violence center.



Morgan Park WC (files date back to 1889) and **Morgan Park JWC** (files date back 80 years) continue to preserve their community's history at the Ridge Historical Society. They gather club programs, project information and events that are archived and are open for research and referral. **Memorial Day and 4th of July** found clubwomen participating in their community parades. **Lansing JWC** road in cars and **Palos Heights WC** road in a trolley...smiling clubwoman distributed candy along the routes of their parades. Our members never miss an opportunity for fundraising . . . they sell plants, chocolates, nuts and cheesecakes.

Lansing JWC annually hosts a dinner for their local veterans. **Glenwood JWC** has participated in Carson Pirie Scott community days for many years, which has yielded many dollars for their philanthropies. And, of course, the beginning of the school year will find clubs collecting school supplies for the benefit of many. **Palos Heights WC** will host a Pig Roast in August at Lake Katherine.

THE CLUBWOMEN OF THIRD DISTRICT ARE BUSY WITH FAMILY, COMMUNITY AND FRIENDS!!



District 8

Sarah Austiff, President

Eighth District Ladies are busy, industrious women supporting most of the projects presented to us through GFWC National and GFWC IL Federations. Many potluck dinners, luncheons, bake sales, and festivals are participated by members with lots of baked goods prepared. Programs for meetings were very interesting with a Civil War Nurse Protrayal, the local Humane Societies, Tombstone Tales, Candy bouquets, projects for Veterans and Operation Smile, and lots of parties for every Holiday.

Summertime does not make idle time for the women of 8th District. June 7th was the Kankakee Strawberry Festival with the Women's Club of Kankakee selling their Strawberry Bread and Strawberry Floats. Gilman Woman's Club has a lot of summertime functions with the returning of Old Boys and the Super Saturday in the Fall.

One club supports the Education Foundation to enhance learning for the students in their District. They are active in a book club and a poetry club where the members write a poem to share at their next meeting. School supplies are donated to the students who need them in an emergency, and it is also their Make A Difference Day project.

Another club sponsors an Annual 5K run/walk. The event takes cooperation from local businesses, community & club members. The profit made is used for field trips for the local students. Four field trips will be sponsored this year by the club.

TOTAL PROJECTS 192 TOTAL MEMBERS 48 TOTAL HOURS 1280 TOTAL MONIES \$8,993.32

“OUR HATS OFF TO ALL VOLUNTEERS”



... volunteers are the key

District 18

Nancy Gray, President

Our Eighteenth District is made up of five clubs, which include 79 members. We celebrated our volunteer projects and programs at a District Convention hosted by the Fairmount Woman's Club. The theme of the Convention was "Pennies for Art". Clubs decorated and displayed their "Piggies". Four of the piggies were brought to State Convention to be entered in the "Piggy Parade". Entertainment included Piggy Trivia. We were pleased to have Judy Sochor, Central Region Vice President in attendance.

Speakers for our District meetings have reflected my emphasis of "The Needs of Children, in Our Communities and Throughout the World". Karel Volpert spoke about the Fair Hope Children's Clothing Ministry in Danville. Rose Gates oversees a backpack food program in three Danville schools. Barbara Potter, GFWC Illinois International Outreach Chairman, explained about the UNICEF Shot @ Life Program. In addition, our individual clubs do many projects involving the needs of children. It's amazing to realize the huge impact our small district can have on children in our area and beyond.



Lou Brown

GFWC ILLINOIS ISABELLA CANDEE FOUNDATION

Lou Brown, GFWC IL Chairman

The Isabella Candee Foundation was established in 1987 to create an investment structure from which interest would be withdrawn and placed in the general fund to help offset the budget. Contributions are tax deductible as allowed by law. Recognition of contributions are done at the GFWC Illinois Convention. The dates for listing in the next Convention booklet is April 21, 2015 to April 20, 2016. Contributions are to be mailed to the GFWC Illinois Headquarters; checks made payable to GFWC Illinois. All Memorials, honorariums and recognitions will be acknowledged. A donation to Isabella Candee Foundation is a KEY for our future.

MAKE A DIFFERENCE DAY (MADD) AND COMMUNITY IMPROVEMENT AWARDS PROGRAM

Evelyn Dill, GFWC IL Chairman

This chairmanship is about getting clubs involved in projects that improve life for the entire community, keeping them informed of important dates, and encouraging them to report their successes. Result: awarding certificates and cash for their efforts.

Dates to remember:

October 24, 2015 – the national day of volunteering to make a difference in lives of others, personality or in the community.

November 1, 2015—send report of your project to this chairman

January 1, 2014—date to start Community Improvement project & **December 31, 2015**—date to complete project.

March 1, 2016 - date project notebook including narrative descriptions and supporting materials **Postmarked on or before** to this chairman.

Judging Criteria:

25 Points – Project Selection--Community Need & Process (how the needs were addressed) & Selection Process (methodology used in choosing project).

50 Points – Project Development--Action Plan (plan details, execution & efforts), Community Collaboration (partners involved) & Persistence of Effort (obstacles & how challenges were addressed).

25 Points –Project Evaluation--Degree of Success (specifics of achievements) Permanence of Achievement (Long-term effect on the community), Changed Attitudes and Practices (increased community awareness and impact on community).

Go to www.GFWC.org/ClubManual for award entry form/cover sheet & all information.



Evelyn Dill

GFWC ILLINOIS STATE PROJECT

“OUR PROMISE...A SAFE PLACE FOR EVERY CHILD”

Karel Volpert, Chairman



Karel Volpert

“Our Promise . . . A Safe Place for Every Child” is a project that has been in existence for 21 years. GFWC Illinois and Prevent Child Abuse Illinois have shared the same vision to help communities understand and raise awareness of the prevention of child abuse and neglect, while we strive to educate and to ensure a healthy, loving, and nurturing environment for children across Illinois. In 2002, “Our Promise...A Safe Place for Every Child” became the GFWC Illinois State Project.

As State Project Chairman, I feel it is important to provide information and suggestions for programs and projects that will help GFWC Illinois members keep Our Promise as we strive to provide a safe place for every child. It began at the three Regional Summer Seminars. Information was shared about child abuse and prevention.

At the PCA Illinois Conference held in November, GFWC Illinois clubwomen were asked and provided items for 30 raffle baskets and raised \$771 for PCA IL. In addition, I was able to attend sessions at the Conference and learn more about “Caring for Today’s Children & Safeguarding Their Tomorrow”.

At the Fall State Board meeting, members reflected on a poster with 87 blue ribbons representing the 87 children in Illinois who died because of child abuse during the past year. Members were asked to take a ribbon from the poster and wear it in memory of the children who had died.

At the State Board Meeting in February, GFWC Signature Project Chairman, Mary Jo Murphy, and I led members in the planting of a “Pinwheels for Prevention” pinwheel garden. In addition, PCA Illinois materials were displayed.

The 2015 Blue Ribbon Luncheon and Fashion Show Chairman, Becky Weber, orchestrated a very successful fundraiser in April for Prevent Child Abuse Illinois.

Clubs were encouraged to plant “Pinwheels for Prevention” pinwheel gardens in April. Thirty-one clubs planted or tried to plant pinwheels. A banner was made which listed the clubs who participated. In addition, clubs sent photographs of their gardens which were displayed at the State Convention and on the GFWC Illinois website.

At the State Convention, brochures and posters from PCA Illinois, Save Abandoned Babies Foundation, and DCFS were available for members to take back to their clubs and communities.

The Illinois Walk for Children: Be a Superhero to Every Child was held on June 6 in Springfield to raise monies for Prevent Child Abuse Illinois. The GFWC Illinois team raised \$2,662.

I am honored to hold the position of State Project Chairman. Feel free to contact me at 217-497-7616 or karelvolpert@gmail.com.

A CHALLENGE

The KEY to keeping “Our Promise . . . A Safe Place for Every Child” is your support!

We want to get back to the basics on our project contributions. All clubs or members who donate \$100 or more to Prevent Child Abuse Illinois between June 1, 2015 and April 15, 2016 will be featured on a banner displayed at the 2016 GFWC Illinois Convention. These donations can be cash contributions to the Blue Ribbon Fashion Show (however, not monies used to purchase prizes) or donations sent to PCA Illinois on our Project Contribution Form. Checks can also be sent to Headquarters with a note on the memo line stating the donation is for PCA Illinois. Our goal is to have a **record-breaking** check to present to PCA Illinois next year at the State Convention.

. . . volunteers are the key

PIERCE'S PARLIAMENTARY POINTERS

Jacquelyn Pierce, GFWC IL Parliamentarian, NAP Registered Parliamentarian

According to Robert's Rules of Order, the Duties of the Parliamentarian include the following:

- The president, knowing in advance the business to come before the assembly, should confer with the parliamentarian before the meetings open, and during recesses, in order to anticipate any problems that may arise and to avoid as much as possible frequent consultation during the meetings.
- There is no set rule for the number of additional functions a parliamentarian may be asked to perform as a permanent appointee, such as teaching classes and the like.
- During a meeting the word of the parliamentarian should be limited to giving advice to the chair, and, when requested, to any other member.
- It is the duty of the parliamentarian – as inconspicuously as possible – to call the attention of the chair to any error in the proceedings that may affect the substantive rights of any member or may otherwise do harm.
- The parliamentarian should be assigned a seat next to the chair, so as to be convenient for consultation in a low voice.
- After the parliamentarian has expressed an opinion on a point, the chair has the duty to make the final ruling and, in doing so, has the right to follow the advice of the parliamentarian or to disregard it.
- A member of an assembly who acts as its parliamentarian has the same duty as the presiding officer to maintain a position of impartiality, and therefore does not make motions, participate in debate, or vote on any question except in the case of a ballot vote.
- Unlike the presiding officer, the parliamentarian cannot temporarily relinquish his position in order to exercise such rights on a particular motion.
- If a member feels that he cannot properly forgo these rights in order to serve as parliamentarian.



Jackie Pierce

SCHOLARSHIPS

Nancy Willis, GFWC IL Chairman

My job is to encourage YOU to share one of the Keys of Knowledge to unlocking the future with students in your community. You can share that Key with others by sharing with them opportunity to apply for one of our available scholarships which can be used to expand their knowledge.

DISTRICT Presidents, I ask that you take a few minutes to talk to your CLUB Presidents about scholarships. They are the Key for getting the scholarship forms into the right hands.

Club Presidents do NOT have to be the person who distributes the scholarship forms.

Encourage Club Presidents to ask for a member who is passionate about learning to:

- Take applications to your High School counselors.
- Take applications to the financial aid office at your local Community College or University.
- (A student does not have to be a first year college student to apply for a scholarship.)
- Spread the word about the scholarships to your neighbors, your colleagues, your churches.

Club Presidents DO have to SIGN the application forms. This is one critical step that often hinders the student's application from being processed. I highly recommend the Club Presidents SIGN THE FORMS – BEFORE giving them to your school counselors to give to the students. This will prevent last minute frantic phone calls and missed opportunities for applicants.

It's a shame for scholarships to go unawarded when there are students who need financial help.

Don't carry around the Key that will help open the Door of Knowledge for some student just because you like to hear the jingle . . .

Lighten your heavy purse and share the Scholarship Key with a student in need!



Nancy Willis

HINSDALE JUNIOR WOMAN'S CLUB CELEBRATES ANOTHER SUCCESSFUL YEAR

Anna Fiascone, President

The members of the Hinsdale Junior Women's Club recently announced their year-end donation totals: \$18,000 that will be split among 18 local charities (all nominated by members) and \$200,000 to its main beneficiary, Bridge Communities, a local nonprofit that helps homeless families attain self-sufficiency. This continues the Hinsdale chapter's history of success in fundraising and community partnership. When asked how the chapter manages to raise these levels of funds year after year, club president Anna Fiascone says, "It's really a team effort. There's no way we could do it without the commitment and dedication of our members." Benefit co-chair Elizabeth Dziedzic agrees, "The team we assembled this year to work toward this goal was outstanding. We had women from all different walks of life: working women, stay-at-home mothers, attorneys, former marketing experts, creatives. And we tried to leverage their talents in ways that would directly affect and improve our campaign."

Dziedzic goes on to say that the team responsible for this year's benefit (held in February) was composed of 26 women and divided into sub-committees focused on underwriting, auction donations, and marketing, among others.

The underwriting committee focused on targeting local businesses and larger corporations that have connections to their area. Their solicitation package included different levels of sponsorship opportunities, each level coming with increasing perks, leading up to the "Principal Sponsor" level, which included co-branding at the event. The group secured a Principal Sponsor, as well as eight others also at high-level sponsorships, in addition to many others at lower levels.

A second subcommittee secured donations for the live and silent auctions at the event. The team analyzed past auctions to identify top-selling items as well as items that didn't get much interest. The group focused on finding auction packages that were one-of-a-kind experiences, or packages that were sports-themed. By contrast, items for women's health and beauty, while easy to get, were the least-bid-upon. The live auction included a stay in a villa on the Italian Riviera, a vintage motorcycle, diamond-and-pink-sapphire earrings, a VIP concert tour of the upcoming Maroon 5 concert, and a private dining experience at Chicago's exclusive Girl & The Goat restaurant. The silent auction included more than 200 packages. One of the bigger donations became a raffle prize: a week-long stay in Maui, Hawaii. With tickets at \$100/each and a limit of 200 tickets sold, that raffle alone brought in \$20,000. After the live auction, a paddle raise took place, in which bidders could donate funds directly to the charity.

A third subcommittee worked to build a marketing campaign. Articles in several local publications ran in the months leading

up to the event. A full social media marketing campaign was launched, using Twitter, Facebook, Instagram, and Pinterest to reach members directly (and members' connections through tagging, etc.). The Facebook reach proved the most successful and the marketing team was able to put together a one-page sell sheet that the underwriting team could use for businesses showing the visibility of members in the organization. Additionally, the marketing team created a video combining elements of the charity as well as teaser clips of what was to come at the event. The marketing team used the video on their ticket-purchasing website (greatergiving.com) and also cross-promoted it on social media. Pinterest was also heavily leveraged as the team geared up for the event, showing pins for clothing and mask ideas, building momentum and excitement for the event.

Other committees within the club worked to raise money for the legacy funds: charities other than the main philanthropy in the area to help leave a legacy for HJWC. Two different committees worked on this project: the Legacy Walks team and the Legacy Repeat Boutique team. The Legacy Walks team encouraged members to volunteer to walk in one of three walks and try to raise \$200 minimum from friends and family as sponsors. Just asking friends and family members to sponsor them in walks, the team of approximately 50 walkers raised nearly \$10,000.

At the same time, the Legacy Repeat Boutique team collected and organized members' gently used items for a huge resale event. The team worked with a local church to use the gymnasium for the sale. Members shopped at a preview night before the sale opened to the public on Friday morning. The team advertised the sale in local papers and through social media. The sale brought in just over \$8,000.

Still to come, the chapter's newest committee, the International Committee, is hosting its own event to help raise additional funds for women in need across the world. A summer party is planned, complete with its own raffle and silent auction. The party is expected to raise an additional several thousand dollars.

"It's an amazing accomplishment and the result of so much hard work," Fiascone says. "But I don't think it would be possible if our members hearts weren't in the right place. Every one of us knows that we're doing this to help people in our world, and especially in our community, who are homeless or who are fighting cancer or who need help getting their children services for special needs. I think that, at the end of the day, when we're fortunate enough to get to attend these events and work to host these things, we all know how blessed we are. That's very motivating."

. . . volunteers are the key

GFWC IL CONVENTION 2015: IT'S A WRAP

Terri Soehrmann, GFWC IL Convention Chairman

Convention 2015, IF IT NEEDS TO BE VOLUNTEERS ARE THE KEY truly showed that GFWC Illinois clubwomen are the key to making things happen and with ONE VOICE, good things can and do happen when we work together.

Thank you to all who attended, whether this was your first convention or your 101st (I doubt that anyone has been to more than that, but if you have I would love to hear from you) we hope that we provided something that will bring you back. We provided several workshops, several presented by our very own club women, Teresa Sanford and Karyn McCarthy. We were educated by Edward Jones Investments. Some of us actually got to spend some time with Eleanor Roosevelt. The Convention Committee devoted many hours to making this a memorable event.

It truly was a convention of FIRSTs

First time attendees, we had many

First time hosting a meal function, I know several women experienced this

First time getting stuck in an elevator with good friends, if not they quickly became that.

First time.....what was your FIRST? Would love to hear from you.

One of our major firsts was presenting your CLUB name on the big screen as an AWARD winner. Awards were presented with a little more flair this year. After some initial technical difficulties, the presentations went well. We were able to truly recognize all of our clubs, in big and bold letters on a screen, as they richly deserve. We also brought greetings from GFWC President Babs Condon via YouTube for all attendees to see and hear. It was our first scheduled a/v event of the convention and when it succeeded, we all breathed a sigh of relief! Special thanks to Cally Larson, Oswego JWC, for use of her projector which saved us \$\$\$.

The entire convention committee looks forward to seeing you again in 2016. We will be installing a new administration and continuing our Key traditions.

Mark your calendars

When: May 12-14, 2016

Where: Abraham Lincoln Double Tree, Springfield

Many, many more detail to come



Terri Soehrmann

*From Wednesday
(above)*

Through

Saturday (below),

*Terri sported a smile
throughout GFWC IL
Convention*



DATES TO REMEMBER

GREAT LAKES REGION CONFERENCE

10- 8-15 to 10-11-15 GFWC Great Lakes Region Conference, Toledo, Ohio

MADD (MAKE A DIFFERENCE DAY)

October 24, 2015

BLUE RIBBON FASHION SHOW

April 2, 2016 at the Bolingbrook Golf Club



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IN THIS ISSUE

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involvement with
GFWC Illinois

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