



GFWC ILLINOIS

Volume 97, June 2020

CLUBWOMAN

A PUBLICATION OF THE GFWC ILLINOIS FEDERATION OF WOMEN'S CLUBS

CONNECTING ONE LAST TIME

BY SHELLI FEHR, GFWC ILLINOIS PRESIDENT 2018-2020



What do you say about the end of an administration? You mention its defining moments, those things that occurred during the two years members will remember in the years to come, events and activities such as:

- Seven new clubs were welcomed into GFWC Illinois! Those chartered as new clubs are: Brookfield Woman's Club, District 6; GFWC Northwest Suburban Woman's Club, District 7; Ladies for Leadership of GFWC Illinois Juniette Club, District 10; GFWC White Oak Junior Woman's Club, District 11; Lincoln-Way GFWC Junior Woman's Club, District 11; GFWC IL Coal City Juniette Club, District 12, and GFWC Douglas County Area Junior Woman's Club, District 19.



■ *The flag ceremony at the 2019 GFWC Annual Convention in Austin, Texas. From left: Shelli Fehr, GFWC Illinois President, Cherie Sieger, GFWC Illinois Director of Junior Clubs and Deb Strahanoski, GFWC First Vice President.*

- We celebrated the 125th Anniversary of GFWC Illinois, first at a special banquet during the 2019 state convention and then, on the anniversary day, October 12, 2019, and in the actual building, the Peoria Woman's Club building. This special program was held to commemorate those visionaries from long ago. Special thanks goes to Chairman Phyllis Skubic and her team for all the successful activities that were held for the past two years.
- A new 2020-2023 Strategic Plan was adopted. This was due to the hard work of a dedicated team of members, led by Chairman LeeAnn Conlon, who have the foresight to carry this organization into the next 125 years.
- The GFWC Illinois Board of Directors, state board meetings, and state convention were all restructured, addressing the needs of today's busy member.
- Living Lands and Waters was introduced to the membership. Members learned from presentations how vividly trash and illegal dumping impacts our environment.
- A new fundraising campaign, Fellowship 125, was formed in honor of the 125th Anniversary and in memory of past GFWC International and past GFWC Illinois President Jacquelyn Pierce, who was this president's Professional Registered Parliamentarian at the time of her passing.

Those are the moments that this officer will remember, those that define this Administration. But the highlight was Reaching Out to the members and Connecting with them on a personal level. As this chapter ends, keep Reaching Out. Connect with your club members and communities. They need us now more than ever. *Sine Die!* ■

"In any moment of decision, the best thing you can do is the right thing, the next best thing is the wrong thing, and the worst thing you can do is nothing."

— Theodore Roosevelt, 26th U.S. president

NEWS FROM THE LILY PAD

BY CHERIE SIEGER, GFWC ILLINOIS DIRECTOR OF JR. CLUBS 2018–2020



Wow! What a very different and memorable two years this has been. I truly did not expect to say my “good-bye” in this format. But “*When life gives you lemons, make margaritas,*” I always say. I certainly hope that you read this through because everything I am writing now is coming from the heart. And my heart aches that I cannot say this to you in person.

Let me start by saying I could not have had the administration I had without my Junior Executive Committee (Elena, Amy, Sue, Terri and Loretta) and my Junior Board of Directors. They have been so amazing and patient with me. They took all my FROG antics and leaped at the chance to play along. They took all the changes made and the hiccups that happened “behind the scenes” with grace. I am so happy most of them have chosen to continue on the Junior Board journey in the next administration. Good luck to you all!!!

I have to say the BEST experience during these past two years was visiting the Junior clubs and the district meetings or club events. To meet as many of you as I physically could was such a great honor for this Director. Sitting in your club meetings and learning about your projects, activities and fundraisers had me feeling great about the future of your club and our organization. I can quite honestly say that **EVERY** club I met impressed me so much I walked away saying, “I want to join!”. I had plans and invitations to attend several other clubs and district conventions before my term ended, but it was not meant to be. But I can proudly and humbly say that I visited a club meeting or attended a club event of **29 of our 40 clubs** (not including district meetings). I was so close! Chartering three new Junior Clubs was also so inspiring!

Traveling was the second-best experience of this journey. I traveled to the very top of our state all the way down to the bottom. I traveled west and east and many places in

between! Traveling to represent **you** and our state at GFWC Headquarters in Washington, D.C., was such an honor. I traveled to states and cities that I never thought I would ever see, all while making new friends from these states that will be lifelong sisters to me. I can honestly say I would get a lump in my throat when I had the honor of carrying the Illinois flag at GFWC Convention and the Great Lakes Region Conferences.

I cannot end this article without thanking, from the bottom of my heart, a few of the people who helped me on this journey. Becky Weber and Donna Cross, you two will always hold a special place in my heart; Marsha Vaughn, you followed me from the get-go and were so supportive; Jeanette T. Wells, the “T” stands for teacher as I learned so much from you; Loretta Revesz, your coaching and inspiration helped in so many ways; and Gerri Eck, thanks for being my travel buddy. All the past State Directors – you know who you are – thank you for your advice and your guidance. I never made it to the border of “Crazy Town” because of you! Shelli Fehr – I have learned so many life lessons because of you. The GFWC IL Executive Committee – our time on Marco Island was a true bonding experience. There are so many more, I don’t mean to leave you out, but space is limited.

And finally – thank YOU, the Junior and Woman’s Club members of GFWC Illinois. Thank YOU for your confidence in me and thank YOU for the honor of serving as your GFWC Illinois Director of Junior Clubs 2018–2020. It is because of YOU that these past two years were toadally UnFROGettable!!!

Best of luck to the 2020–2022 administration, you will all BEE great, LIGHTING the way for GFWC Illinois. ■



“Every day is a new opportunity. You can build on yesterday’s success or put its failures behind and start over again. That’s the way life is, with a new game every day, and that’s the way baseball is.”

— Bob Feller, Hall of Fame pitcher for the Cleveland Indians

GFWC ILLINOIS 2018–2020 EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

President: Shelli Fehr
Director of Junior Clubs: Cherie Sieger
President Elect: Teresa Sanford-Shipplett
VP Northern Region: Karyn Charvat
VP Central Region: Barb Potter
VP Southern Region: Helen Crause
Secretary: Karen Meyer
Treasurer: Annette Andretich-Gross
Parliamentarian: Jackie Pierce, RP

GFWC ILLINOIS 2020–2022 EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

President: Teresa Sanford-Shipplett
Director of Junior Clubs: Amy Vicioso
President Elect: LeeAnn Conlon
VP Northern Region: Annette Andretich-Gross
VP Central Region: Cathy Marsoun
VP Southern Region: Helen Crause
Secretary: Barb Potter
Treasurer: Deb Hazlett
Parliamentarian: Diane Addante

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JIVE FROM THE HIVE

BY TERESA SANFORD-SHIPPLETT, GFWC ILLINOIS PRESIDENT 2020-2022

“Bee-Lieve You Can”

Bee-Lieve You Can is the theme chosen for the next administration. The BEE, no surprise, is the symbol. Here is why the bee is the focus — the more I learn about the bees, the more I admire their intelligence. Not only do bees have a language of their own, they are democratic. They research, share information, make collective decisions, all for the betterment of the whole. Doesn't that sound like GFWC?

This is exactly what we do each and every time we meet. Like the honeybee, we work together to make the hive or the organization, in our case, viable. All for one and one for all!

The goals for this term will be to increase membership/clubs, increase communication resources, build leadership skills, and help our environment. Here are six Grand Initiatives to help us achieve these goals. Why six? Bee-cause the honeybee cell has six sides. BEE Challenged:

1. **Environment: Feed the Bee** – Work with schools and communities to plant or revitalize pollinator gardens.
2. **Education and Libraries: Bee a Reader for Real** – Read or donate factual books to schools and libraries that teach about global issues and the environment.

3. **Civic Outreach: Bee the Change** – Reach out to support centers of all kinds in your community – Advocacy, Domestic Violence, Disability, Veterans, etc. Light up your community!
4. **Health and Wellness: Bee about Body, Mind, and Spirit** – Strengthen mental health, yoga, and so on.
5. **Membership: Bee on my Bonnet** – Add a new club in each district and a Bee button will be added to my Bee Bonnet.
6. **Leadership: Bee a LEADer** – Clubs and districts add new members to expanded LEADS workshops.

Learn from the past, live in the present, Bee-lieve in the future.

Let's not just talk about it... Let's BEE about it, because I BEE-LIEVE YOU CAN! ■



SHINE ON WITH AMY

BY AMY VICIOSO, GFWC ILLINOIS DIRECTOR OF JR. CLUBS 2020-2022

“Shine On”

This is truly an honor for me to be representing GFWC Illinois as the Director of Junior Clubs for the 2020-2022 Administration. The theme for the Junior Administration is “Volunteers Light the Way...Shine On Juniors,” using the flashlight as my symbol. Flashlights provide illumination when there is no stationary permanent light source or there is an inadequate light source. This seemed fitting to me as our clubs provide “light” for their communities when there is no permanent or inadequate light. Our clubs become the needed and necessary “lights” – so SHINE ON!



For this Administration, I would like to support organizations that help the **Mind, Body and Spirit**.

- **For the Mind:** An emphasis on Mental Health and Addiction. This is a special emphasis dedicated to Loretta Revesz who had to step down for this Administration. This would have been an emphasis of Loretta's and we'll see it through!

- **For the Body:** We will be supporting the Dare2Tri organization, which is an Illinois-based 501(c)(3) not-for-profit organization with the mission to positively impact the lives of athletes with physical disabilities and visual impairments by developing their skills in paratriathlon. Dare2tri changes lives by boosting individuals' self-esteem, confidence and self-worth.
- **For the Spirit:** As Dr. Seuss said, “A person is a person no matter how big or small.” It is with this quote in mind that we will emphasize the growing need to be aware that human trafficking exists in all of our communities. Only when we work together will we be able to stop this horrific crime against humanity. Therefore, I will be working with Reclaim13 – an Illinois-based 501(c)(3) organization committed to freeing children from sexual exploitation.

Thank you! I look forward to serving all of you and helping you be the light to SHINE ON! ■

WELCOME 2020-2022 GFWC ILLINOIS LEADERS!

GFWC IL PRESIDENT ELECT LEEANN CONLON

As President Elect I'm looking forward to working with the Executive Committee and Board of Directors, which will give me an opportunity to make new GFWC Illinois friends, as there are many members that I haven't crossed paths with! I'm excited to streamline the reporting process for all, and as Strategic Planning Chairman, I'm really looking forward to implementing our new goals – most importantly the new organization structure for the 2022-2024 administration. I'm super excited to use new tools such as Zoom and podcasts, which will make it easier to connect and communicate, and **BEE**ginning the journey with you with a sound **Body, Mind and Spirit**. ■



GFWC IL CENTRAL REGION VP CATHY MARSOUN

I am so excited to be serving GFWC Illinois as Central Region Vice President. I plan to attend every district at least once during this first year. I hope to encourage all club members to step up into new roles in GFWC. I want to work with all districts, clubs and members to set goals – and to help them achieve these goals. ■



GFWC IL TREASURER DEB HAZLETT

I am excited about assuming the role of Treasurer and I look forward to working closely with the Executive Committee, Board of Directors, Administrative Assistant and our investment advisors to achieve the following goals:

- Assure our investments are safe and yet working at capacity for us.
- Continue to find ways to cut costs and spend wisely in all areas of our organization.
- Keep administration and membership informed of our financial decisions and status. ■



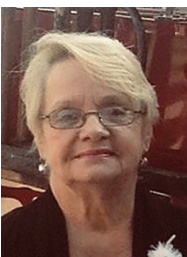
GFWC IL NORTHERN REGION VP ANNETTE ANDRETICH-GROSS

Leadership is something we all are capable of and can share. You need to aspire to growth and to build skills. GFWC IL needs what you have to give! Trying something new, outside your comfort zone, actually makes you feel more alive! Sometimes all you need is 20 seconds of insane courage to say "I can do that!" Something great is in your future and you can help guide GFWC IL to grand experiences. ■



GFWC IL SOUTHERN REGION VP HELEN CRAUSE

I have always heard that this world is made up of leaders and followers. I do not believe this. In the next two years I am going to work with my other VP's and we are going to find leadership qualities in all of our members. We plan to grow and expand our leadership qualities and opportunities. Looking forward to working with you and hope to see you at Summer Seminar. ■



GFWC IL SECRETARY BARBARA A. POTTER

Greetings to all my GFWC sisters. Next club year will be super, great, fantastic! We are making plans now so we'll be ready to go when we meet again. Wonderful adventures and experiences are waiting. As Secretary I am ready to record all our actions. Keep connected and get ready for action.

Thanks for connecting with me. ■



"The challenge of leadership is to be strong, but not rude; be kind, but not weak; be bold, but not bully; be thoughtful, but not lazy; be humble, but not timid; be proud, but not arrogant."

— Jim Rohn, Author, entrepreneur and motivational speaker

WELCOME 2020-2022 GFWC ILLINOIS JUNIOR LEADERS!

GFWC IL DIRECTOR ELECT OF JR. CLUBS | **PATTI KUCHAR**

Patti Kuchar joined the Coal City Junior Woman's Club in 1982. She has been club president five times and treasurer/financial advisor too often to count. Patti is active on the district level and served on the state Junior Board as District Junior Director, Junior Treasurer for 3 years, and as Northern Region Junior Director under Deb Strahanoski's administration, sharing leadership duties with Martha Bein, NRVP.



Patti is excited to be on Junior Board once again, learning all she can by working alongside Amy Vicioso. She is looking forward to serving as Director Elect of Junior Clubs and working with LeeAnn Conlon, President Elect. ■

GFWC IL JUNIOR TREASURER **MARIA F. URIBE**

As Junior Treasurer, my goal is to oversee, prepare and present a budget for new or ongoing work and to ensure that record-keeping and accounts meet the conditions of the Junior State Organization. I'm excited to be able to contribute ideas to the Junior Executive Committee and to work with the team. It is also an honor to be able to step up into a leadership role in the State Junior organization. This will give me a taste of what it's like being one of the State's leaders. ■



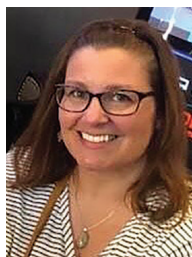
GFWC IL DEAN OF JR. CHAIRMEN **KAREN HILL-DAVIS**

I have been a member of the Homer Glen Junior Woman's Club since 2013. I have enjoyed serving as a GFWC IL clubwoman in several capacities, with some of the most recent positions being a Club Advisor, District 11 International Outreach Chair, and State Junior Membership Chair. I am looking forward to working on the Junior EC this Administration as the Dean of Junior Chairmen. I am excited to see the new and innovative programs our clubs will sponsor. I look forward to working with our committee chairwomen as we build on our strong history of community service and advancement programming along with expanding the communication and resources available to clubs. I especially look forward to increasing the reporting of the many programs and activities our amazing clubwomen across the state engage in on a regular basis. ■



GFWC IL JUNIOR SECRETARY **MARIE MUELLER**

I have been married to my husband Mike for 17 years and have two children, Jeremy and Caitlyn. I am a licensed professional geologist and work full time as an environmental consultant. I have been a proud member of the Downers Grove Junior Woman's Club for 15 years. It was when I was the Reporting Chairman with my club that I was introduced to GFWC IL 5th District and GFWC Illinois, eventually becoming the 5th District Director of Junior Clubs, a position I held for the past 3 years. I am very excited to be the GFWC Illinois Junior Secretary and serving on the 2020-2022 Junior Board. ■



GFWC ILLINOIS FELLOWSHIP 125 DONATIONS



Shelli Fehr
Annette Andretich-Gross
Teresa Sanford-Shipplett
Janice Bates

Helen Crause
Deb Strahanoski
Karen Meyer
Lou Brown
Phyllis Skubic
Sandy Christofanelli
Diane Addante
Amy Vicioso
Michelle Schultz
Jo Koenig

LeeAnn Conlon
Roberta Lindstrand
Debbie Bach
Jacquelyn Pierce
Barbara Potter
Joyce Schroeder
Carol Rich
Patsy Sherrard
Jeanette T. Wells
Lisa Kasar

3rd District Morgan Park Woman's Club
5th District GFWC Illinois
5th District Junior GFWC Illinois
7th District GFWC Illinois
7th District Mount Prospect Woman's Club GFWC
19th District Tuscola Woman's Club

UNFROGETTABLE JUNIOR SHINING STARS



KAREN TAYLOR |
GFWC IL Somonauk JWC
District 12
2019 Junior of the Year



LEEANN CONLON |
Lemont JWC
District 5
**2019 Outstanding
Junior Service**



**AMANDA "MANDI"
GRABOW** | Princeton JWC
District 17/16
**2019 Junior Sparkplug
Award**



CHERIE SIEGER |
Coal City JWC
District 12
**2019 Lifetime
Achievement Award**



ELENA LIPINSKI | Elgin JWC
District 11
**2019 Lifetime
Achievement Award**



2019 | BY THE NUMBERS

While the conclusion of the GFWC Illinois 2019–2020 administration has been rather “unusual,” the year itself had many accomplishments. Here are just a few of the numbers from 2019:



Total Projects: 5,859

Total Hours: 245,461

Dollars Donated: \$835,087

In Kind Donations: \$256,232

Money Raised: \$870,986

2020 GFWC LEADS CANDIDATE | SUE HAA

Sue Haa from District 5, Darien Woman’s Club, has been selected as the 2020 GFWC Illinois LEADS representative. Here’s a bit of background about Sue.



Sue will serve as GFWC Illinois 5th District President for 2020–2022. Her latest position as First Vice President/Dean of Chairmen gave Sue knowledge about the many clubs in this district and the opportunity to interact with most of the chairmen on the district board of directors.

Sue served as president of the Past President’s Club of 5th District. Her involvement with the Darien Woman’s Club has been wide-ranging since she joined in 1983. She held numerous offices and chairmanships both before her club presidency and after.

Sue has also been active in the community, serving on the local school district board and local youth club board. ■

MAILCHIMP!



The inaugural issue of the MailChimp newsletter “Bee Enlightened” will be launching soon. If you have not yet signed up to receive communications from GFWC Illinois, now is the time. Go to www.gfwcillinois.org and enter your e-mail address where it says “**Sign up for communications from GFWC IL.**” Don’t delay!

JENNIE AWARD 2020 CANDIDATE | DONNA CROSS

The GFWC Jennie Award honors one clubwoman from each GFWC Region for outstanding commitment to club, community, and family. They are chosen by their clubs to compete at state, region, and national levels for their outstanding personal commitment to club, community, and family.

The GFWC Jennie Award is named in honor of GFWC's founder, Jane Cunningham Croly, who wrote for national

newspapers under the pseudonym, "Jennie June." The award highlights those extraordinary clubwomen who epitomize her spirit of independence, courage, and persistence in purpose through their roles as volunteers within their clubs, elsewhere in the community, and as members of a family or extended family. Although GFWC has many awards for states and clubs, the GFWC Jennie Award is the only national honor that recognizes individual members for personal excellence. In fact, it is the highest honor bestowed by GFWC.

The 2020 Jennie Award candidate from Illinois is Donna Cross. Her friend, Becky Weber, GFWC Illinois Director of Junior Clubs 2004-2006 and GFWC Junior Director 2012-2014, writes:

Unassuming – the best way to describe Donna Cross. During her 31-year membership in GFWC, Donna has consistently gone above and beyond in her volunteer service to our community. She is most comfortable behind the scenes and behind the camera lens, serving as club president for five administrations. Donna's love for Federation and our community spurred her to continually either hold an office or a chairmanship or two each administration. The name Donna Cross is synonymous with the Metamora-Germantown Hills Junior Woman's Club!

Donna was a dedicated Cross Country Mom for nine consecutive years. She was always the "go to" mom. The Cross Country Team and parents were very involved in the Metamora Relay for Life. Donna worked tirelessly raising money and working with the American Cancer Society.

According to one of her five sisters, Donna is the thread that holds their large family together and is always the "go to sister" in the family of 75!!! ■



■ GFWC Illinois Jennie Award candidate Donna Cross (center) accepts her certificate at the 2019 Great Lakes Region Conference from GFWC Great Lakes Region President Paula Schlice, GFWC Illinois Director of Junior Clubs Cherie Sieger, GFWC Illinois President Shelli Fehr and GFWC International President Mary Ellen Brock.



GFWC Illinois
Deb's
Diamond Divas

GFWC Illinois and Deb's Diamond Divas salute "Our Gem" Deb Strahanoski, GFWC 1st Vice President.

For your enthusiastic service to our Federation and your dedication to mentoring so many clubwomen, we thank you Deb.



GFWC ILLINOIS 2020–2023 STRATEGIC PLAN A NEW PLAN IS APPROVED



GFWC ILLINOIS
2022 STRATEGIC PLAN
OUR FUTURE DEFINED

The Strategic Planning Committee is excited to announce that the GFWC Illinois 2020–2023 Strategic Plan was approved at the February 22, 2020 General and Junior Board of Directors meetings. Other accomplishments in support of the previous plan include:

- Obtained the use of free teleconferencing services for virtual meetings
- Presented an overview of the working budget income & expenses supporting our operations; and presented an overview of the various charitable financial trusts held by GFWC Illinois and their restrictions on use
- Conducted a membership survey to obtain information related to the demographics of our members related to age, use of technology, number of years in club, etc.
- Conducted a survey of district leadership to gain insights on how districts function today

The 2020–2023 Strategic Plan identifies five areas of focus:

- Shore up our financial stability for both our short-term and long-term needs
- Communicate more often and more easily to the individual club member, making information more readily available and accessible, and build our brand

- Implement a new organization structure in May 2022
- Retain and reenergize our current members through extensive mentoring and other membership programs, while at the same time focus on new club generation
- Build a leadership pipeline

The purpose of GFWC Illinois is to guide and strengthen the activities of our member clubs. In an effort to be true to that purpose, a new organizational structure is under development – one that adapts to the needs of the emerging membership, leverages the talents and skills of its members, and one that is supported by sound financial practices.

Stay tuned as the work progresses on the new organization structure, as it will be presented at the September 2020 GFWC Illinois Board of Directors meeting.

The GFWC Illinois 2020–2023 Strategic Plan can be found on our website at: www.gfwcillinois.org > MEMBERS CENTER (password: gfwc-member) > STRATEGIC PLANNING > GFWC Illinois 2020–2023 Strategic Plan. ■

“It takes as much energy to wish as it does to plan.”

— Eleanor Roosevelt

CONGRATULATIONS 25- & 50-YEAR MEMBERS!

25-YEAR MEMBERS

DISTRICT 3

GFWC IL Morgan Park Woman's Club

Donna Dalton

DISTRICT 5

Darien Woman's Club

Marie Anderson
Paula Banks
Anne Marie Christenson
Evie Fagan
Pam Kanner

Lombard Junior Woman's Club, Inc.

Margie Nilson

Past Presidents Club of

DuPage County

Karen Wrzesinski

DISTRICT 6

Argo-Summit, Bedford Park Woman's Club

Judy Regep

GFWC Indian Head Park Woman's Club

Gerri Eck
Carol Coleman
Marilyn Barc
Irene Mache

DISTRICT 7

Mount Prospect Woman's Club GFWC

Ethel Brodl
Jeanne Brown
LaVergne Lutiger
Pat Mottweiler

DISTRICT 11

Woman's Club of Aurora

Ester Amos

DISTRICT 12

GFWC IL Morris Woman's Club

Lynn Shearin

DISTRICT 13

Oregon GFWC Woman's Club

Bonnie Elliott

DISTRICT 19

GFWC IL Tuscola Woman's Club

Barb Utterback
LeAnn Vaughn
Kathy Frye
Ellen Hall
Rhonda McCumber
Darlene Wiesener
Donna Lamb



DISTRICT 25

GFWC IL Marion Woman's Club

Jaclyn Hancock

50-YEAR MEMBERS

DISTRICT 11

The Mokena Woman's Club

Virginia Backhaus
Joan Fleckenstein
Carmen Smallwood

DISTRICT 19

GFWC IL Tuscola Woman's Club

Mary K. Kalmar
Mary Williams
Catherine Kellogg
Wilma Allen
Carol McCarty
Tammy Davis
Kathryn McCumber



Please Note: These names were reported to GFWC Illinois headquarters by the April 1, 2020, deadline for inclusion in the annual "Recognition" booklet that would have been passed out at the 2020 Convention.

IN MEMORIAM | REMEMBERING THOSE WE LOST

Please Note: These names were reported to GFWC Illinois headquarters by the April 1, 2020, deadline for inclusion at the 2020 Convention.

DISTRICT 3

GFWC IL Morgan Park Junior Woman's Club
Colleen McGrath

DISTRICT 4

Marengo Woman's Club
Janice Perkins

DISTRICT 5

Lombard Service League
JoAnn Scheiwiller
Glendale Heights Junior Woman's Club
Joyce Hundhausen

DISTRICT 6

Argo-Summit, Bedford Park Woman's Club
Kathy Koran
Judy Pollick

DISTRICT 7

Mount Prospect Woman's Club GFWC
Pat Manzella
Rosemarie Grier
Shirley Doyle

DISTRICT 10

Morton Grove Woman's Club
Helen Menarik
Ethel Jensen
Helen Borse
Cyndie Ebert
Libertyville Woman's Club
Katherine Hanson

DISTRICT 11

Jackie's Bow Ties
Jacquelyn Pierce

Woman's Club of Aurora
Esther Amos

DISTRICT 12

GFWC IL Morris Woman's Club
Lynn Shearin

DISTRICT 13

Oregon GFWC Woman's Club
Sharon Wagner

DISTRICT 19

GFWC IL Tuscola Woman's Club
Marge Conn
Mary Carmack
Teddy Eddleman

DISTRICT 22

Highland Woman's Club
Virginia Schuerman

DISTRICT 25

GFWC IL Marion Woman's Club
Ruth Blackburn
Betty Deaton



In thinking of what our dear Jackie might say to all who are missing her, these words touched me deeply. It's almost like I can hear her saying them. I hope they bring you some comfort.

— Karyn M. Charvat



■ **Jacquelyn Pierce, GFWC International President 2006–2008 & GFWC Illinois President 1992–1994**

To Those I Love

By Isla Paschal Richardson

*If I should ever leave you,
Whom I love
To go along the silent way...
Grieve not.
Nor speak of me with tears,
But laugh and talk of me
As if I were beside you there.
And when you hear a song
Or see a bird I loved,
Please do not let the thought of me
Be sad...for I am loving you
Just as I always have...
You were so good to me!
There are so many things
I wanted still to do...
So many things I wanted to say to you.
Remember that I did not fear...
It was just leaving you
That was so hard to face.
We cannot see beyond...
But this I know,
I loved you so... 'twas heaven here with you.*

THANK YOU CLUBS THAT REPORTED FOR 2019!

Congratulations to the following GFWC Illinois clubs who reported for the 2019 year. Awards will be given out at the Summer Seminars in July.

DISTRICT 3

Beverly Hills Junior Woman's Club, Inc.
Lansing Woman's Club (GFWC Illinois)
Morgan Park Woman's Club, Inc.
Palos Heights Woman's Club
Palos Park Woman's Club

DISTRICT 4

Belvidere Woman's Club
Marengo Woman's Club

DISTRICT 5

CRF Junior Woman's Club
Darien Woman's Club
Glendale Height Junior Woman's Club
Lemont Junior Woman's Club
Lisle Woman's Club
Lombard Junior Woman's Club
Lombard Service League, Inc.
Naperville Woman's Club
Wheaton Junior Woman's Club

DISTRICT 6

Argo-Summit, Bedford Park Woman's Club
Indian Head Park Woman's Club

DISTRICT 7

Mount Prospect Woman's Club GFWC
Northwest Suburban Woman's Club (GFWC)

DISTRICT 10

Antioch Junior Woman's Club (The)
Antioch Woman's Club
Libertyville Junior Woman's Club (The)
Morton Grove Woman's Club
Waukegan Woman's Club (GFWC Illinois)

DISTRICT 11

Elgin Junior Woman's Club
Fox Valley Junior Woman's Club (GFWC Illinois)
Homer Glen Junior Woman's Club
Joliet Junior Woman's Club (GFWC)
Manhattan Woman's Club (GFWC Illinois)
Mokena Woman's Club (The)
Woman's Club of Aurora (The)

DISTRICT 12

Coal City Junior Woman's Club (GFWC Illinois)
Morris Woman's Club
Prairie State Woman's Club
GFWC IL Somonauk Junior Woman's Club

DISTRICT 14/15

Abingdon Junior Woman's Club (GFWC Illinois)
Annawan-Alba Woman's Club
Geneseo Woman's Club (GFWC Illinois)
Hampton Rapids Junior Woman's Club (GFWC)
Junior Woman's Club of Rock Island
Macomb Woman's Club (GFWC)

DISTRICT 16

East Peoria Woman's Club (GFWC)
Princeton Junior Woman's Club
Princeville Woman's Club

DISTRICT 17

Bloomington-Normal Junior Woman's Club (GFWC Illinois)
Fairbury Woman's Club (GFWC Illinois)
Gilman Woman's Club (The GFWC Illinois)
Junior Cyber Stars (GFWC Illinois)
Lincoln Woman's Club, Inc. (GFWC)
McLean County Woman's Club (GFWC Illinois)
Metamora-Germantown Hills Jr. Woman's Club (GFWC Illinois)
Metamora Woman's Club
Woman's Club of Cullom (GFWC Illinois)

DISTRICT 18

Danville-Illiana Woman's Club (GFWC Illinois)
Fairmount Woman's Club
Fithian Woman's Club
Georgetown Ladies Community Club
Woman's Club of Bismarck (GFWC Illinois)

DISTRICT 19

Atwood GFWC Illinois Woman's Club
Champaign-Urbana Junior Woman's Club, Inc. (The)
Decatur Woman's Club (GFWC)
Newman Woman's Club, Inc.
Tuscola Woman's Club

DISTRICT 21

Brussels Woman's Club (The)

DISTRICT 22

Collinsville Woman's Club (GFWC Illinois)
Columbia Woman's Club (GFWC Illinois)
Federated Woman's Club of Greater Belleville (GFWC)
Highland Woman's Club
Mascoutah Tuesday Woman's Club, Inc.
Wood River Woman's Club

DISTRICT 23

Effingham Women of Today (GFWC Illinois)
St. Francisville Woman's Club
Vandalia Woman's Club (GFWC Illinois)

DISTRICT 25

Anna Jonesboro Woman's Club
Eldorado Woman's Club (GFWC Illinois)
Herrin Woman's Club (The)
Marion Woman's Club (GFWC Illinois)

WHERE IN THE WORLD IS GFWC?



■ Gina Fritz (left) & Sandy Christofanelli

Travel may have come to a stop as of recent, but Sandy Christofanelli and Gina Fritz posed for this photo on a trip to Montenegro and the Adriatic Sea in 2018. Please send us photos of **YOU** wearing your **GFWC apparel and pins** (even club T's) when you are out and about. E-mail the photo and a short paragraph about where the photo was taken to gfwciclpr@gmail.com. We will make every effort to showcase these submissions in one of our communications. ■

GFWC ILLINOIS ISABELLA CANDEE CONTRIBUTIONS

The GFWC Illinois Isabella Candee Foundation gratefully acknowledges all contributions.

Congratulations to **Marge Nelson!** Her cumulative contributions to the Isabella Candee Foundation have exceeded \$5,000. She has now reached the level of a Pearl Contributor and will receive a Benefactor Pin with an inset pearl and have her name engraved on a Benefactor Plaque at GFWC Illinois Headquarters.

Congratulations to **Patricia Heitman!** Her cumulative contributions to the Isabella Candee Foundation have now exceeded \$3,000. She will receive a bar to add to her Isabella Candee Patron Pin.

Thank you all for taking part in “ensuring the future” of the GFWC Illinois Federation of Women’s Club!

PAST & PRESENT DISTRICT PRESIDENTS OF CENTRAL REGION

*In Memory of Carol Ely
In Special Recognition of Carolyn Riggs*

DISTRICT 3

Beverly Hills Junior Woman’s Club, Inc.
Club Donation

DISTRICT 5

In Honor of District Club Anniversaries

Diane Addante

*In Memory of Kathy Koran
In Special Recognition of Pat Heitman’s Birthday*

LeeAnn Conlon

In Memory of Kathy Koran

Ruby D. Feeley*

In Memory of Kathy Koran

Bonnie Heydorn

In Memory of Kathy Koran

Carol Jablonski

In Honor of Pat Heitman

Jo Koenig

*In Memory of Kathy Koran, Raymond Bottens & Jackie Pierce
In Honor of Debbie Bach*

Lombard Junior Women’s Club, Inc.

Club Donation

Lombard Service League, Inc.

Club Donation

DISTRICT 6

In Memory of Kathy Koran

Argo Summit, Bedford Park Woman’s Club

In Memory of Kathy Koran

GFWC Indian Head Park Woman’s Club

Club Donation

Past Presidents Club of 6th District*

In Memory of Kathy Koran

Gerry Eck

*In Memory of Kathy Koran
In Honor of Organization of Past State Board Members of GFWC Illinois*

Marge Nelson

In Memory of Marilyn Caron, Cathy Janik, Lois Santerior, Kathy Koran, Jacquelyn Pierce, Maryanne Eck, Mr. Lahue & Raymond Bottens

Friends & Family

In Memory of Kathy Koran

DISTRICT 7

GFWC Mount Prospect Woman’s Club
Club Donation

Past Presidents & Officers Club of 7th District
125th Anniversary

DISTRICT 11

In Memory of Kathy Koran

Jackie’ Bow Ties

In Memory of Members who passed away this year

Pat’s Patio Pals

In Honor of Pat Heitman

The Mokena Woman’s Club

125th Anniversary

Martha Bein

*In Memory of Kathy Koran
In Honor of Pat Heitman’s Special Birthday*

Pat Heitman

In Memory of Dick Potter, Marguerite Winston, Narcissa Ramsey & Peg Steinhebel

Debbie Monteith*

In Memory of Kathy Koran

Deb Strahanoski

In Memory of Kathy Koran

DISTRICT 12

GFWC IL Prairie State Woman’s Club

In Memory of Kathy Koran

GFWC IL Somonauk Junior Woman’s Club

Club Donation

Phyllis Skubic

In Memory of Kathy Koran

DISTRICT 13

Janice Bates

In Memory of Kathy Koran

DISTRICT 14/15

Shellie Fehr

In Memory of Kathy Koran, Cindy Rivnyak & Janice Perkins

Teresa Sanford-Shippett

In Memory of Kathy Koran

DISTRICT 16

GFWC Lacon Woman’s Club

125th Anniversary

Eleanor Flinn

In Memory of Kathy Koran

DISTRICT 17

Donna Cross

In Memory of Kathy Koran & Jacquelyn Pierce

GFWC Lincoln Woman’s Club, Inc.

125th Anniversary & Club Donation

Patsy Sherrard

Personal Donation

DISTRICT 19

In Honor of Doris Lain

In Special Recognition of Atwood GFWC IL Woman’s Club

In Special Recognition Of Attendance: Tuscola Woman’s Club, Mary Camach & Mary Conn

Newman Woman’s Club, Inc.

Club Donation

Judy Sochor

In Memory of Dorothy “Dot” Beldon

DISTRICT 21*

In Memory of Jacquelyn Pierce

DISTRICT 22

In Memory of Mrs. Vi Hightower

GFWC Illinois Nancy’s Bluebirds

In Memory of Jacquelyn Pierce

Wood River Woman’s Club

Club Donation

Woman’s Club of Champaign-Urbana

In Memory of Doris Lain

DISTRICT 23

In Special Recognition of Julie Ivers

In Memory of Jacquelyn Pierce

GFWC IL Effingham Women of Today

In Memory of Katie Kroeger

GFWC IL Farina Woman’s Club

Club Donation

GFWC IL Newton Woman’s Club

125th Anniversary

Julie Ivers

In Memory of Kathy Koran, Jacquelyn Pierce & Nancy Janes

DISTRICT 25

GFWC IL Eldorado Woman’s Club

In Honor of President Wanda Burklow

The Herrin’s Woman’s Club

Club Donation

GFWC IL Marion Woman’s Club

In Memory of Ruth Blackburn & Betty Deaton

Thank you to all clubs that participated in the Isabella Candee Foundation 125th Anniversary Challenge during this administration.



*denotes first-time donors

23rd ANNUAL GFWC ILLINOIS BLUE RIBBON FASHION SHOW & LUNCHEON

SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 27, 2020 | BOLINGBROOK GOLF CLUB
2001 Rodeo Drive, Bolingbrook, Illinois 60490

TICKETS

\$50 | Adults

\$20 | Children 12 or under

SCHEDULE OF EVENTS

- 11:00 a.m. | Doors open
- 12:00 p.m. | Luncheon
- 1:00 p.m. | Fashion Show



The 23rd Annual Blue Ribbon Fashion Show & Luncheon returns to the emerald green fairways of **Bolingbrook Golf Club**. You don't want to miss this fun afternoon of friendship, food and fashion as we join together to raise funds for our longtime partner **PREVENT CHILD ABUSE, ILLINOIS**. Fashions will be presented by **Mary Ann Shop** and **Karisma Boutique**. Groups reserving tables of ten will be entered into a special prize drawing. Our Promise? A Safe Place for Every Child... AND a wonderful feeling of enjoyment for you and your guests! ■

RESERVATION FORM

NAME _____

CLUB _____ DISTRICT _____

ADDRESS _____

CITY _____ STATE _____ ZIP _____

PHONE _____ E-MAIL _____

PLEASE RESERVE _____ TICKETS AT \$50 EACH (Adult) = \$ _____

PLEASE RESERVE _____ TICKETS AT \$20 EACH (Children 12 and under) = \$ _____

I AM UNABLE TO ATTEND BUT PLEASE ACCEPT THIS MONETARY DONATION \$ _____

TOTAL ENCLOSED \$ _____

Make check payable to **GFWC Illinois** | Mail to **Mary Jo Murphy, 30W025 Laurel Court, Warrenville, IL 60555**
or pay online at www.gfwcillinois.org/events

RESERVATION DEADLINE: SEPTEMBER 11, 2020

Please include preferred seating requests with this form and the committee will do its best to accommodate.

Please let Gerri Eck know if you are still bringing your basket to the September Fashion Show that you were planning to bring to the Fashion Show in April. If not, please make pick-up arrangements with Gerri (815) 641-1285, gerriECK@gmail.com or Karen Wrzesinski (630) 881-7105, karenwrzesinski29@gmail.com.

If you have questions about the Fashion Show please call Gerri Eck at (815) 641-1285 or Betty Koran at (708) 244-2474.

GFWC ILLINOIS FEDERATION OF WOMEN'S CLUBS SUMMER SEMINAR | JULY 23-25, 2020



“BEE ENLIGHTENED!”

IT HAS BEEN QUITE A YEAR SO FAR! I Bee-Lieve we can still reach all our goals and make this next year one that can be a honey of one at that! The State Officers and State Committee members are looking forward to connecting with clubwomen from across Illinois as we begin the new 2020-2022 Administration with Summer Seminar. Presenters will share the new information from GFWC in the Community Service Programs (Arts and Culture, Civic Engagement and Outreach, Environment, Education and Libraries, Health and Wellness), Advancement Areas (Communications & Public Relations, Fundraising, Leadership, Legislation, Membership, and Women's History & Resource Center), and Special Projects (Domestic and Sexual Violence Awareness & Prevention, Advocates for Children, and Our Promise: A Safe Place for Every Child). Outside speakers may also share news you can use in your clubs and districts. PLUS, this year we will be presenting the awards that would have been distributed at our Annual State Convention! All the more reason to bring your members to the meeting held in your very own region. Attendance awards will be given to the club and district that has the largest number of members present per capita. We will also have a mini Officer Training Session in place of the cancelled June Officer Training in Bloomington. Don't miss out! Save the date so you can BEE with us as we buzz on into your region of the state. ■

REGISTRATION: 8:30-9:00 a.m. | SEMINAR: 9:00 a.m.-3:00 p.m.

SOUTHERN REGION

Thursday, July 23, 2020

First United Methodist Church
127 N. Fourth Street
Vandalia, IL 62471
(618) 283-3684

CENTRAL REGION

Friday, July 24, 2020

Holiday Inn Hotel & Suites
3202 E. Empire Street
Bloomington, IL 61704
(309) 662-4700

NORTHERN REGION

Saturday, July 25, 2020

Location TBA

RESERVATION FORM

Complete this registration form and include the names of each person for whom reservations are being paid. Please use the reverse side if you need additional space. The registration fee includes your resource materials, lunch, presentations and more!



Cost: \$30.00 per person

Please **CIRCLE** date attending:

Southern Region
Thursday, July 23

Central Region
Friday, July 24

Northern Region
Saturday, July 25

NAME _____ CLUB _____

NAME _____ CLUB _____

NAME _____ CLUB _____

NAME _____ CLUB _____

DISTRICT _____ NO. OF RESERVATIONS _____

TOTAL ENCLOSED \$ _____

Please send ONE check payable to **GFWC Illinois**

Mail to **GFWC Illinois | 5 East Van Buren Street, Suite 208 | Joliet IL 60432-4224**

RESERVATION DEADLINE: JULY 10, 2020

GFWC ILLINOIS WELCOMES 2 NEW CLUBS!

LINCOLN-WAY GFWC JUNIOR WOMAN'S CLUB OF ILLINOIS

We are the Lincoln-Way GFWC Junior Woman's Club of Illinois. We became a chartered club on September 4, 2019, with 12 members. Our club was founded by our President, Candyce Jordan, and Vice President, Joanna Seebeck. We meet the first Wednesday of the month at Trinity Services in New Lenox. Unfortunately, our first fundraiser had to be cancelled with the state shutdown but we are working to come up with another way we can continue to provide support for our community. We are very excited to have the opportunity to be a part of such a great organization and hope we can make it proud! ■



GFWC DOUGLAS COUNTY AREA JUNIOR WOMAN'S CLUB

The Douglas County Area Junior Woman's Club was chartered October 17, 2019, at the Tuscola Public Library with 20 members present. In a few short months, the club has grown to 42 members.

"This club was created with working-age women in mind, although we have no age or residency requirements," said Kayleigh Rahn, Club President. "People are incredibly busy in today's world, so our club offers an outlet for community members with a volunteer's heart to provide service on their own time."

In their inaugural year, the club hosted a food drive, collected funds for the Salvation Army Red Kettle campaign, hosted a bake sale, collected money for a local teacher battling cancer, and organized the food pantry at the local high school.

"The number of resources we have within our club is quite incredible," Rahn said. "I believe this club has the potential for great impact within our community." ■



"Volunteers don't get paid, not because they're worthless, but because they're priceless."

— Sherry Anderson

GFWC SHINING STARS



DEBRA STRAHANOSKI |
Joliet Junior Woman's Club
**GFWC President Elect
2020-2022 & Chairman
of the Strategic Planning
Committee**



PATRICIA HEITMAN |
Manhattan Woman's Club
**President of the
Great Lakes Region
2020-2022**



OTHER GFWC ILLINOIS MEMBERS SERVING GFWC FOR THE 2020-2022 ADMINISTRATION:

Diane Addante, *Legislation/Public Policy
Committee*

Debbie Bach, *Capital Campaign Committee*

Karyn Charvat, *Chairman,
Communications & Public Relations Committee*

Shelli Fehr, *Membership Committee*

Teresa Sanford-Shipplett, *Illinois State
President*

Trisha Schafer, *Signature Program Committee*

Phyllis Skubic, *Budget & Finance Committee*

Amy Vicioso, *Illinois Director of Junior Clubs*

Becky Weber, *Bylaws Committee*

Jeanette T. Wells, *Fundraising Committee*

Thank you for your service to GFWC!

DOES YOUR CLUB HAVE A WEB PRESENCE?

Do you know what happens when somebody clicks on your club name on the GFWC Illinois website? If not, check it out! Go to www.gfwcillinois.org, click on the top tab **GFWC Illinois** and then select either **GFWC IL General Clubs** or **GFWC IL Junior Clubs**. If your club is not listed here, you do not have a web presence through GFWC Illinois. Or maybe your information just needs updating. Either way, you need to contact the Communications & Public Relations committee so we can update or create a page for you.

This year we will continue to update individual club web pages so that each club in GFWC Illinois has its own web page with current information OR a link to your own website. If you have not already submitted updated information for your club, you can find the form in the Members Center (**password: gfwc-member**) under **OTHER 2018-2020 GFWC IL FORMS > Club Web Page Update Form**. The new pages will look similar to this:



If you are light on information, please send a few digital photos or your club logo and we will try to include them if possible.

Please send updated club information and photos to gfwcilcommunications@gmail.com. ■

Need a LOGO?

If you need the GFWC Illinois (state), GFWC Illinois (Teresa's), GFWC Illinois Juniors (Amy's) or GFWC Illinois Juniores logo, please visit gfwcillinois.org and select "**GFWC IL LOGOS**" from the "**COMMUNICATIONS**" tab at the top menu bar. Here you will find assorted logo files that can be downloaded. Please use the logos on all of your publications to promote GFWC! ■



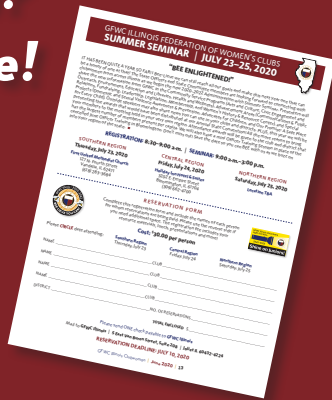
**THE DEADLINE FOR STORIES & PHOTOS FOR THE
NEXT ISSUE OF THE CLUBWOMAN IS JULY 15, 2020.**



GFWC ILLINOIS
 5 East Van Buren St.
 Suite 208
 Joliet, IL 60432-4224
www.gfwcillinois.org

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Sign up now for Summer Seminars! Did your club win an award? Find out there! Registration form is on page 13.



TOP TEN LIST OF GREAT MEMORIES

BY TRISHA SCHAFFER, GFWC DIRECTOR OF JUNIOR CLUBS 2018-2020



Hello to my GFWC Illinois friends! I cannot thank you enough for all your support these past two-plus years of my GFWC journey! Serving on the General Federation of Women's Clubs Executive Committee has been an amazing experience.

While I thought this "top ten" was a fun idea, I can tell you that first, choosing only ten favorites is tough, and second, putting them in any kind of ranking order is just not fair! LOL! Although... Number one and two are spot on!

My top ten favorite memories from the last two years while representing the fabulous members of GFWC are:

- #10** – Staying at our GFWC Headquarters on the 5th floor and bonding with the EC members (Deb and I just "extra" bonded!)
- #9** – Having the BEST EC travel partner, Deb Strahanoski. Lots of great memories on our trips to HQ and back to Illinois!
- #8** – Washington, D.C. outings and tours with the EC and Board of Directors.
- #7** – Being a Traveling Officer to State Conventions/Conferences in Wisconsin, Washington, Oregon, Virginia and Florida (but very sadly missing Nebraska, Louisiana and Illinois).
- #6** – Awarding the Millie Crom Award of Excellence, both years, to the State Directors. These ladies gave dedicated leadership to their states and spearheaded fantastic initiatives in their individual states for causes they are passionate about!

- #5** – Sharing accomplishments, challenges, and sorrows with GFWC clubwomen worldwide.
- #4** – A national club, "Trisha's Trailblazers," formed in my honor.
- #3** – Getting the opportunity to work with and learn from our 16 State Directors of Junior Clubs and the Junior Executive Committee.
- #2** – Participating in the Turning Point Suffragist Memorial groundbreaking ceremony in Occoquan, Virginia (January 2020).
- #1** – Laying a wreath on the Tomb of the Unknown Soldier at Arlington National Cemetery, with GFWC International President Mary Ellen Brock, GFWC President Elect Marian St. Clair, and GFWC 1st Vice President Deb (August 2019).

(And, by the way, there are WAY more than ten wonderful memories!)

I am sure we all feel like this Administration came to a weird, all too anticlimatic end. But through these last few months I have noticed that through adversity and rough times, THIS is when GFWC Juniors truly Make a Difference!

Congratulations to all of you for the amazing accomplishments that you achieved in 2018-2020. ■

*In Federation Friendship and Love,
 Trisha Schaffer, GFWC Director of Junior Clubs 2018-2020*