

PENNSYLVANIA CLUBWOMAN



Official Publication of the
General Federation of Women's Clubs Pennsylvania

Volume 101 Issue 5 September 2019



FOOT NOTES

Its time to kick off the next year of the administration. We have accomplished much in one year. We have stepped, and stepped, and stepped some more. We have raised money for Canine Companions, Shot at Life, our local libraries, our food banks, and our schools - just to name a few.

I am so proud of the members of the Pennsylvania Federation. It was an honor to represent you in Austin Texas at the GFWC Annual Convention. At the convention, we won: three (3) photography awards; a HOBY award; Shot at Life Bronze and Silver awards; and six (6) clubs were recognized for their donations to Canine Companions. Two (2) individual clubs were honored under the club creativity category: an Honorable Mention went to the Town and Country Woman's Club for their program in WHRC; and the New Century Club of West Chester won the club creativity award in the Education CSP for their Toddler Tote Bag Project. A report was given on the status of the **7 Grand Initiatives** by GFWC President Mary Ellen Brock. President Brock also added **3 Brand Initiatives** for the next year. The first two involve Legislation that GFWC hopes to help pass, and the third one involves the 100th Anniversary of Women winning the right to vote. More detailed information will be sent out via email, and posted on the web site, and included in the bulk mailing.

*I would like to challenge the Pennsylvania clubwomen with the **Five Life Savers Initiatives**:*

1. Continue collecting the **Wands for Wildlife**.
2. Continue supporting the **Canine Companions for Veterans Project**
3. **Prayers for Veterans and Active Duty Military**
4. **Hats, Gloves and Scarfs project for Women's Shelters**
5. **Wagons for St Jude's Children's Hospital**

More information on these initiatives is included in the bulk mailing to Presidents sent in August.

I just returned from another successful Summer Leadership Conference. "Thank You" goes out to Nancy Spannuth and Nancy San Julian for their hard work organizing this event. We learned about: bias; protocol; the efforts of local fire companies; cloud storage; HOBY seminars; membership; new Presidents Project goals; a GFWC Signature Project contest; and ,of course, we enjoyed Penn State Creamery Ice cream. Also, after many years at Penn State, we finally "graduated".

I am looking forward to meeting with you on the District Tour or at your club meeting. Good Luck for a successful club year.

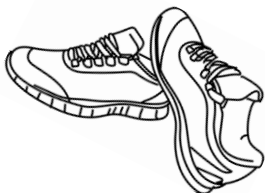
Living the Volunteer Spirit,

Shelly

GFWC Pennsylvania
President



GENERAL FEDERATION
of WOMEN'S CLUBS



Presentation of Awards at the 122th Annual Business Meeting/Convention

General Federation of Women's Clubs Pennsylvania

Shelly Smolnery, President

Clubs Donating to PENNIES FOR THE ARTS:

GFWC WOMAN'S CLUB OF SPRING TOWNSHIP, GFWC WOMAN'S CLUB OF MILTON, GFWC HOLLIDAYSBURG AREA WOMAN'S CLUB, GFWC MECHANICSBURG, UPPER ALLEN WOMAN'S CLUB GFWC, FEDERATED WOMEN'S CLUB OF HERSHEY, GFWC PA WOMEN'S CLUB OF SPRING GROVE, GFWC MEADVILLE WOMAN'S CLUB, GFWC WOMAN'S CLUB OF BADEN, GFWC SAXONBURG DISTRICT WOMAN'S CLUB, SOUTHEASTERN DISTRICT, SOUTHWESTERN DISTRICT, NORTHEASTERN DISTRICT, GFWC PLYMOUTH, GFWC PENNSYLVANIA - BANGOR, GFWC PA NAZARETH WOMAN'S CLUB

Clubs Donating to HOBY:

ABINGTON HEIGHTS CIVIC LEAGUE, INC., GFWC COLONY CLUB OF AMBLER, GFWC PENNSYLVANIA BANGOR, COMMUNITY CLUB OF COLLEGEVILLE, GFWC EAST PETERSBURG, FEDERATED WOMEN'S CLUB OF HERSHEY, GFWC WOMEN'S COMMUNITY CLUB OF LITTLESTOWN, GFWC MEADVILLE WOMAN'S CLUB, GFWC WOMAN'S CLUB OF MILTON, WOMAN'S CLUB OF PERKASIE, POCONO MOUNTAIN WOMEN'S CLUB, GFWC SAXONBURG DISTRICT WOMAN'S CLUB, GFWC PA WOMEN'S CLUB OF SCHWENKSVILLE, GFWC PA WOMEN'S CLUB OF SPRING GROVE, GFWC WOMAN'S CLUB OF SPRING TOWNSHIP, UPPER ALLEN WOMAN'S CLUB GFWC, GFWC WARRIOR RUN WOMAN'S CLUB, THE NEW CENTURY CLUB OF WEST CHESTER, GFWC WESTERN POCONO WOMEN'S CLUB

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PRESIDENT'S PROJECT

Dawn L. Himler, Chairman

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724-836-3764 or dhimler@comcast.net



“Heigh-ho, Heigh-ho,” a Stepping we will go, and boy did you “Step it Up.” It took me three days to tally all the numbers! Both the President and I are thrilled with the response from the members. A total of 185 members kept track of their steps and five (5) clubs participated in or sponsored a 5K walk. Congratulations to all of you. I broke the numbers down and this is what we have:

- All six (6) districts participated; 109 members made it to Albany with Pluto; 21 met Pluto in Albany, and then joined Minnie Mouse in Orlando; and five (5) members traveled to Albany with Pluto, then joined Minnie Mouse in Orlando, and topped off their trip by attending the GFWC International Convention in Austin.
- An additional 50 members are almost to Albany. All in all, we completed a total of 211,697,718 steps from late July to March. Which means we stepped to Albany, Orlando and Austin 36 times!

What a great first year! Keep up the great work and continue to count your steps. Who knows? By this time next year we could have more members completing more of the destinations, which also include Parsippany, New Jersey at 434,000 steps, Atlanta, Georgia at 1,586,000 steps and Anaheim, California (home of Disneyland) at 5,124,000 steps.

JUNIORS SPECIAL PROGRAM ADVOCATES FOR CHILDREN



Judy Grace, Chairman

1120 Manatamany Drive, Pocono Lake, PA 18347

570-643-8742 jgrace@ptd.net

GFWC partners with St. Jude's Hospital for Children. At St. Jude's, the children are moved from place to place for treatment and tests. Wheelchairs are very uncomfortable for them. So, they are shuttled around in little red wagons. These are more comfortable for the children and seem to work very well.

Seeing that there is a continuing need for wagons, President Shelly Smolnery has issued an initiative for GFWC Pennsylvania. The goal is for our State to raise money for as many wagons as possible.

Each wagon costs \$100. You can help by using your imaginations to think of ways to raise money in your clubs, counties, and districts. You will see Shelly at your District Meetings with Minnie Mouse riding a little red wagon and carrying a red box for donations. How wonderful it would be to fill that box at all District Meetings with 100% club participation.



Checks should be made out to **GFWC Pennsylvania**. Please write “wagons” on the lower left-hand note line.

HUGH O'BRIAN YOUTH (HOBY) LEADERSHIP



Central PA: Carol Foley
21 Wagner Street, Hummelstown, PA 17036
717-566-0637 cfoleye@aol.com

CENTRAL

At the seminar this year, GFWC Pennsylvania presented a program explaining our organization and volunteer work in general. We also sponsored one of the community service activities. Vicky Ann Trimmer organized a Jared Box Project, and the students attending the seminar brought the items to be placed in the boxes. The 40 students at this session filled 352 boxes which were donated to a local hospital. Thanks to all the clubs who donated money to help with this project. The students also decorated pillow cases with fabric markers, and these were donated to a local domestic violence shelter. The session was a wonderful way to help children and market our organization.

Eastern PA: Pat Cummings
326 Paxson Avenue, Glenside, PA 19038
215-887-7282(H) 570-878-8333 (C)

EASTERN

The weekend of June 13 - 16, 2019 was a perfect time at Albright College in Reading, PA to welcome 191 HOBY ambassadors. Eleven GFWC Pennsylvania local clubs donated or sponsored students. The A-TEAM (35 of our high school returning ambassadors) welcomed everyone, checked in the new ambassadors, and directed everyone to meeting rooms, dorms, etc. We are fortunate to have so many interested alums. Our Leadership Team of 14 has 13 alums from PA East, New Hampshire, and New York. The facilitators were mostly alums along with eight (8) friends of HOBY alums. Eastern PA HOBY are happy to say their seminar is planned and carried out by the Corporate Board made up of 98% HOBY returning alums. We are fortunate to have so many dedicated volunteers.

Western PA: Melissa Somerville
305 Star Grille Rd, Cabot, PA 16023
724-352-2604 msmelis949@zoominternet.net

WESTERN: Washington and Jefferson College, Washington, PA June 14-16, 2019

Thank you to all of those clubs who have sponsored a student at HOBY or who helped with the seminar in any way. The HOBY seminar is a good starting point for these students to become leaders in our society. Now it's time to contact your school district to obtain a name of a sophomore that the guidance counselor feels is a candidate for the seminar. If your school has not responded in the past, please keep trying. Many schools have not budgeted for this event, so clubs pay the full cost of the seminar. If this is not in your club's budget, any amount sent to HOBY is appreciated. If you know of a sophomore, you can sponsor him or her independently. Remember that home-schooled students are eligible. **We owe it to the next generation to prepare them with the leadership skills they will need to move into adulthood.**

Remember to invite the HOBY student to speak at a club meeting. They love to share their seminar experience.

"The 1895 Society"

Preserving Our Past & Ensuring Our Future

The 1895 Society was formed in 2015 to raise funds for GFWC Pennsylvania administrative costs and to avoid raising the annual dues.

The purpose of the 1895 Society is to help fund the expenses associated with maintaining the existence of GFWC Pennsylvania.

Membership Levels:

\$18.95	Certificate of Appreciation
\$189.50	GFWC Pennsylvania 1895 Society Pin & Certificate
\$1,895.00	GFWC Pennsylvania 1895 Society Pin, Pen & Lifetime Membership Certificate

Members will be recognized by District each year in the Program Booklet at the GFWC Pennsylvania Annual Business Meeting and Convention, and periodically in the Clubwoman Newsletter. The Deadline for recognition in the Convention Program is March 31 each year. Annual memberships expire on June 30.

*Now is the time to make an investment in our organization!
Your support is greatly appreciated.*

PUBLIC ISSUES

Toni Mangretta, Chairman
372 Washington Ave., Apt. D, Oakmont, PA 15139
412-999-6935 campconny13@aol.com

Thanks to everyone who sent me a picture of Flags. They were wonderful! I received over 100 pictures. Also, thanks to all of our Club Women who send me information to pass onto our Ladies throughout our State.

Did you know Pennsylvania Department of Military Veterans Affairs (DMVA) offers an **Honoring Our Veterans** or the new **Honoring Our Women Veterans** license plates for your vehicles? This is a great way to show patriotism and to support Veterans in need! The cost of a Veterans license plate is \$36, with \$15 dollars benefitting **PENNSYLVANIA'S VETERAN' TRUST FUND (VTF)**. This organization issues grants to statewide charitable organizations that aid Veterans service organizations and county directors of Veterans' Affairs. These valuable advocates use available grants to assist Veterans in need of shelter and necessities of living, among other services. To find out more about the VRF programs visit www.vtf.pa.gov.

WARRIOR WOMEN

“The women are invisible when they serve. You never read about them in the history books. They don't toot their own horns. Women have always been resilient and have delivered when a job needs to be done. I t was just that the public didn't read about them or didn't know.”

Women have become a crucial part of the United States all-volunteer military, and their story often goes untold. Today, women comprise nearly 15 % of the nation's active military and nearly 20 % of the reserves and National Guard. More than 300,000 women are among the 2.8 million members of the military who have deployed to Iraq and Afghanistan since 2001.

Among that new generation of Veterans is Julia Slifko, a student in the University of Pittsburgh's Doctor of Audiology Program. Julia has nearly 14 years of active and reserve service in the Air Force. A munitions technician who served in Iraq and Afghanistan, Slifko witnessed the best and worst of military life. She says some of the meanest, baddest, most-amazing people she stood side-by-side with in combat were women. Slifko was inspired to enlist after the events of 9/11.



LEADERSHIP - ATTENTION CLUB PRESIDENTS

Mary Fenstermacher, Chairman
4348 Wendy Way, Schwenksville, PA 19473
m80fenstermacher@gmail.com

READY-SET-GO! September is rapidly approaching and with it comes the start of a new year.

As we look back over the last year, and we meditate, and ask ourselves: Was I always prepared?; Did I speak slowly and loud enough for EVERYONE to understand and hear what I was saying?; Did my club achieve the goals that we set?; Did I delegate assignments and share tasks?; Did I create enthusiasm?; Did I welcome my guests?; Did I have fun and enjoy my year?

This next year, our BEES will again be very active. Should you need their help, please contact one! Each club will be encouraged to nominate a LEADS candidate. Leadership is going to assist the membership committee by encouraging all clubs to introduce guests and invite them to attend the next meeting (a phone call is a good idea). Always remember to thank your members for their dedication and faithful service.

Since the disastrous happening of 9-/11, GFWC and GFWC-PA has had the membership sing “Let There Be Peace on Earth” at the close of their meetings. I would like to suggest that all Districts, Counties and Clubs adapt this practice at the close of their meetings. The BEES believe in God and Country!

Remember... “Kindness is a chain reaction.”
(taken from a Life is Good shirt).



MEMBERSHIP

“Be in the game”

Cathy M. Wink, Chairman
1733 First Street , New Brighton PA 15066
724-846-1391 catwink2@yahoo.com

The focus for the membership team this year will be to retain and recognize members. You did a fantastic job getting new members and this chairman knows you will continue to work on expanding your club’s membership. If I can help you in any way, please let me know.

GFWC has a suggestion for you to **retain** members. They recommend having a fun GFWC Federation refresher. This education process is essential for instilling a sense of pride and purpose in both new and seasoned members. All members should be knowledgeable about GFWC, which has many programs designed to keep members informed and connected. Remember to include the motto “Unity in Diversity”.

Some of the GFWC tips include:

- Encourage members to subscribe to the GFWC Clubwoman Magazine and News & Notes (a free, weekly electronic newsletter). You can sign up at <https://www.gfwc.org/membership>.
- The GFWC Manual lists out all the programs and projects and partners supported by GFWC. It can also be found on their website.
- The history of our organization is an important part of our success. Visit the GFWC Women’s History and Resource Center, which collects, preserves, interprets and promotes the historical, social, and political contributions of GFWC and women volunteers.
- Be aware of the GFWC and GFWC Pennsylvania Bylaws and Resolutions.
- Encourage attendance at district, state, region ,and national events. These meetings are open to all members and truly show the influence of GFWC in our world.
- Incorporate state or club facts in fun Federation quizzes, puzzles or games based on board games or TV game shows. Don’t just give your club members dry facts.

In the next article we will talk about conducting the meeting with respect for your members’ time.

EDUCATION COMMUNITY SERVICE

Sara Ruppel, Chairman
41 Rosewood Lane, Marietta, PA 17547
717-917-0722 winnie442@gmail.com

Did you know that GFWC offers a \$200. Focus on Literacy Grant to clubs? This is due to the generosity of Proctor & Gamble. Information and an application is available at: <https://www.gfwc.org/membership/awards-contests-and-grants>. You may also call the Programs Department at GFWC Headquarters at 202-347-3168 for an application.

The funds may be used for a new or established project your club has to promote literacy. Some possible uses may include:

- Purchasing books for a community tutoring or after school program.
- Sponsoring a poster contest in the local elementary school/schools that stresses the importance of reading.
- Using the grant to give monetary awards to the participants.
- Purchasing books and other needed materials for your existing literacy program.
- Having a holiday party for tutors and students, an after-school program, or childcare center and using the funding to purchase refreshments and small gifts.
- Purchasing books for an adult literacy or ESL class in your community.



The project ideas are endless, and I know your club could put the \$200 to excellent use in your community. I encourage you to apply today!

LEGISLATION / PUBLIC POLICY



Gaylene Hunter, Chairman
16 Farmhouse Road, Mountain Top, PA 18707
570-751-6144 gaylene37@yahoo.com

A bipartisan Task Force on Lead Exposure recently released recommendations based on their findings. State Senator Lisa Baker stated, “We have known for awhile how debilitating lead exposure is to the health and development of children. Recent revelations of tainted water in homes and schools have raised additional alarms.” Senator Baker and senator John Yudichak have introduced State Senate Bill 312, which would require universal blood testing for children. Often, by the time symptoms such as loss of appetite, nausea, anemia, and tremors occur, it is too late for effective treatment. Senator Judy Schwank has introduced Senate Bill 39, which would require that all children’s daycare centers have their water, soil, paint, and dust tested for lead ,as part of their licensing process. Additionally, Senator Gene Yaw will be introducing legislation that would mandate that all school drinking water be tested.

It is important to be proactive in this matter. Please contact your state legislators and urge them to support these current bills and upcoming legislation. Let’s keep Pennsylvanian children safe from lead poisoning.

CONSERVATION COMMUNITY SERVICE

Sue Hardenbrook, Chairman
90 Buckthorn Drive, Carlisle, PA 17015-4303
717-243-9872 vsranch1@comcast.net

GFWC Pennsylvania introduced *The Five Life Savers Initiatives* at the Summer Leadership Conference. The initiative under Conservation is **Wands for Wildlife**. This Reuse and Recycle item was introduced last year. Used mascara wands can be washed with soap and water, sent to the wildlife rehabilitation center and used to help remove fly eggs and larva from the fur of animals. The wands work great because the bristles are so close together, and gentle to use on injured and orphaned wild animals receiving care.

Go to the Wands for Wildlife website www.AppalachianWild.org for a form to send with your donation. Please get the package weighed and send it with the correct postage amount to Wands for Wildlife, P.O. Box 1211, Skyland, NC 28776. Remember to count the wands, record the postage cost and report under Conservation for 2019.

Another Recycle opportunity can be found at www.FreeTheGirls.org. Collect gently used bras that are then donated to women in developing countries to sell at their local market place. This provides a safe, powerful, economic opportunity for women by giving them the ability to make money and make a better life for themselves and their families.



If you have some *not so gently* used bras, there is still a recycle possibility. Remove the placket with the eye hooks to be used to help mend turtle shells. More to follow in next newsletter.

FUNDRAISING

Donna Napoleon, Chairman
42 Russell St., Baden, PA 15005
724-869-7481 dnapoleon42@comcast.net

Just getting back from the Summer Leadership Conference, and I was so happy to see so many familiar faces from the fall tour.

Minnie Pearl, of our GFWC Pennsylvania Fundraiser Committee, was excited to introduce our new fundraising items, **Garden Flags**. These 13''x19'' flags can not only adorn your yard, but can be placed on your house, fence, garage, shed, or even indoors. They add a great splash of color wherever you decide to place them.

The designs are **Beautiful Hibiscus** (flowers), a beautiful **Summertime** design, **Flamingo**, and a **Welcome Pineapple**. The cost of the flags is \$5. each.



Here is what we have left in jewelry stock from our established fundraisers: Five (5) pink stone bracelets, Four (4) *Believe* necklace and earring sets, one (1) silver *Fearless* set, one (1) brass *Blessed* set, and 1 brass *Hope* set. Garment Bags are still available at a **SALE** price of \$10. each.- remember too that they make a great closet organizer for wrapping paper, and other wrapping needs.



Necklace & Earring Sets



Beaded Stone Bracelets



Garment Bag

Ladies, I can't "Thank You" enough for all your support. Minnie and I hope to see ya'all on the Fall Tour.

ARTS COMMUNITY SERVICE

Anita Keiser, Chairman

511 Brown Avenue, Milton, PA 17847-2371
570-742-7241 anitakeiser@vewrizon.net

It's a new year . Time to look back at your photos from 2019 to see if you might have that award-winning photo. Or, get out and take some photos while you still have time! The GFWC Arts Contest accepts photos or literature taken or written, from January 1 – December 31, 2019. Not a photographer? Put your writing skills to use in the poetry or short story contest.



If your club still promotes the arts in our schools, now is the time to send them your information. Contact your local schools to get contest information out to them early. Don't know where to start? Contact your Literature Chairman, Karen French, or Arts CSP Chairman, Anita Keiser for more information.

Here are a couple of ideas on how clubs may support the Arts Community Service Program. Think outside of the box, put a new slant on an idea, and adapt it to your club work. With all projects/programs, think diversity - work with or for other groups or highlight diversity as the theme.

- Decorate a city park or municipal plaza with oversized greeting cards. The cards are constructed of 4' x 4' pieces of wood painted with a holiday greeting. Celebrate diversity by recognizing the many holidays that take place during December.
- Establish scholarships for students studying the arts such as literature, drama, or music. This could be to attend an arts school or summer camp.
- If your District has a Youth Art Contest, consider having the Chairman add a category that is specific to special needs children. Many times, these students never receive recognition for their creativity.

COMMUNICATIONS, PUBLIC RELATIONS & SOCIAL MEDIA

Donna Malone, Chairman

500 Belair Road, Hollidaysburg, PA 16648
814-502-6125 donna.malone1623@gmail.com

All the rules for the Website and Newsletter Contests were included in the August Bulk Mailing. **PLEASE READ AND FOLLOW THE RULES EXACTLY.**

These are not the complete rules, just some important things to remember.

- The **website** homepage must contain a link to www.GFWC.org.
- The **website** must include contact information for at least one member, defined as email address, telephone number, and/or mailing address.
- The **website** may continue to be updated after the contest deadline date.



NEWSLETTER CONTEST RULES

- Only one newsletter issue per club may be submitted.
- The newsletter must have been printed and clearly dated during the contest year (January 1-December 31).
- The front page of the newsletter must prominently display the official GFWC emblem and mention membership in GFWC. Refer to the GFWC Stylebook for GFWC Trademark Use Policies at www.GFWC.org.
- Newsletter entries must include the contact information of at least one member, defined as an email address, telephone number, and/or mailing address.
- All entries must be printed and sent via postal mail, postmarked no later than January 15th in the year in which they will be judged, and sent to me with the envelope clearly marked: GFWC PA Newsletter Contest.
- Clubs with an electronic newsletter must follow the same entry rules. Printed copies of electronic newsletters are required.

Your entries for both the website and newsletter contests must include a cover letter and an essay. **PLEASE REVIEW AND FOLLOW THE COMPLETE RULES INCLUDED IN THE BULKMAILING. Contest Rules for both are also available on our website: at www.gfwcpennsylvania.org.**

DOMESTIC VIOLENCE AWARENESS AND PREVENTION

Marian B. Wellington, Chairman
711 Elgin Rd. Newtown Square, PA 19073-3202
610-353-1079 tweetymarian@yahoo.com

Do you know a child or young woman between the ages of nine and 19? This is the primary age group for human trafficking, which is the emphasis for Domestic Violence Awareness and Prevention in 2019-2020.

What is Human Trafficking? Human trafficking, believed to be the 3rd largest criminal activity in the world, involves the use of force, fraud, or coercion to obtain some type of labor or commercial sex act. Two (2) facts to consider:

- The younger the child the better for trafficking because it is more profitable.
- Traffickers use the malls and the Internet to coerce young unsuspecting children. According to the U.S. State Department, Human Trafficking is one of the greatest human rights challenges of this century, both in the United States and around the world. Trafficking is found in every state and in every country.

OPERATION WARM-UP HATS, SCARVES, GLOVES/MITTENS CONTEST

Dates of the Club Contest October 1-31, 2019
Report Form - Postmarked by November 15, 2019

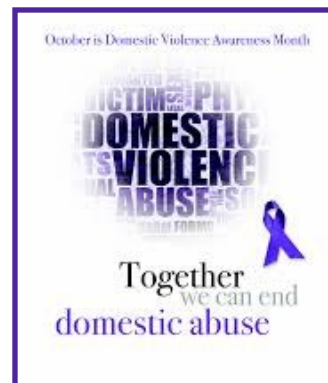
HELP

PARTICIPATE

WIN

Can your club help? Hats, scarves, gloves, and mittens are needed by women and children in Pennsylvania's Domestic Violence Shelters. *You can help by participating in the Operation Warm-Up Contest.*

To participate, club members can knit or buy hats, scarves, gloves and mittens for women and children. Bring the items to your October or November meeting for donation to your local shelter. **Awards** will be given at the GFWC Pennsylvania Convention to the three (3) clubs that collect and donate the most combined total number of items: One (1) award for a small club; one (1) award for a medium size club (25-50); and one (1) award for a large size club (over 50). To be considered for an award, a club member **must fill out the Report Form** on how many total items were collected and donated by the club. Please send the completed report form to Marian Wellington. Mailing information is on the report form.



HOME LIFE COMMUNITY SERVICE

Hollie Stevenson, Chairman
114 Aubrey Drive, Butler, PA 16001-1274
724-991-6121 hollie@ccistravel.com

GFWC Pennsylvania 15K for K9s Challenge Continues!



Thank you, Pennsylvania women, for doing such a fabulous job collecting quarters (and bills) for the Canine Companions. Last year we donated a grand total of \$3270. Thank you to all the clubs that participated! We are going to continue the program with one slight change! Due to your enthusiasm, I have slightly adjusted the goal for 2020! Instead of 1K for K9s it is 15K for K9s! That's 15,000 quarters or \$3750!!

VETERAN'S INITIATIVE GFWC is working with Canine Companions for Independence on its Veteran's Initiative. Canine Companions has provided many assistance dogs to injured service men and women who are returning from wars. For a Veteran making a new start putting his or her life back together from an injury, an assistance dog can provide the help they need to regain independence. **I was just informed that the Canine Companions are starting a pilot program in the Northeast region of the United States at the end of this year, specifically for Veterans experiencing PTSD!!**

If your club doesn't already have a doggie bank, I would encourage each club to either to make or purchase one. Remember, at each club meeting or any other function, pass around the bank! Members would be encouraged to donate any quarters they have in their wallet (bills are always welcome). All club donations will be collected at the state convention. Please bring your doggie bank!!

If you have any questions, please feel free to contact me.

GIVE THE GIFT OF AN ALPACA

Dario Mayta's family received an alpaca from Heifer. The gift of an alpaca has changed their lives forever. By buying an alpaca gift donation for charity, you can provide a struggling family with a lifetime of opportunities. Your donation will provide an alpaca to a family in need, along with training and education of its care, you can:

- Provide warmth with clothing and blankets made from dense soft wool.
- Allow families to purchase medicine with the profits from wool sales.

Heifer International provides llamas and alpacas to families living in high altitudes in the Andes Mountains of South America. Few other animals can withstand the harsh conditions. The gift of an alpaca means a child will finally get a chance for an education, thanks to the monies earned from selling the wool. A family will have the opportunity to provide and care for themselves, and be one step closer to lifting themselves out of poverty.

HEIFER IS CELEBRATING THEIR 75TH ANNIVERSARY.

Calendar of Upcoming Events**2019 FALL DISTRICT TOUR**

DATE	DISTRICT	LOCATION
September 28	North Central	To be announced
October 5	South Central	Warriors Mark Alpaca Farm, Warriors Mark, PA
October 18	Southeastern	Holiday Inn, Morgantown, PA
October 19	Northeastern	Boulder View Tavern, Lake Harmony , PA
October 25	Northwestern	Perkins, Meadville, PA
October 26	Southwestern	Butler Country Club, Butler, PA

2020 DISTRICT FESTIVALS OF THE ARTS

DATE	DISTRICT	LOCATION
To be announced	North Central	To be announced
March 13	Northwestern	Perkins in Meadville, PA
March 14	Southwestern	Smokin' Toads, Sarver, PA
March 21	Northeastern	Genetti Hotel, Wilkes-Barre, PA
March 21	Southeastern	Copperfield Inn, Limerick, PA
March 28	South Central	Warriors Mark Alpaca Farm, Warriors Mark, PA

OTHER IMPORTANT DATES

DATE	EVENT	LOCATION
October 10, 2019 to October 13, 2019	GFWC Middle Atlantic Region Annual Meeting and Conference	The Sheraton Parsippany Hotel 199 Smith Street Parsippany, New Jersey

CLUB NEWS

GFWC Pennsylvania - Bangor donated new and used bras to project “**I Support the Girls.**” *I Support the Girls* collects and distributes essential items to women experiencing homelessness, impoverishment, and distress.

70 new and used bras, camisoles, exercise bras, and hygiene products were collected. 35 bras were given to Pocono Area Transitional Housing (PATH) - this organization gives women who experience a housing crisis and are on the verge of homelessness temporary housing and related support services. Their goal is that each resident’s family will be able to not only *obtain*, but *maintain* permanent housing.

The remainder of the items collected were mailed directly to “**I Support the Girls.**”

This project is being chaired by Carolyn Smith and Heidi Bates.

The club, under chairman Ellen Prudenti, is also collecting school supplies for the **Slater Family Network**.

Pictured (left to right): Director of PATH Sharon Taylor, and Carolyn Smith.



The **Community Club of Collegeville** recently installed new officers for the 2019 - 2020 Club Year.

Pictured (left to right) are new officers: Treasurer Mary Fenstermacher, Recording Secretary Kathleen Wilkins, and Director Denise Satterthwaite. Also pictured is Sherry Jesse, current club President.

This club will soon reach its 100th year anniversary!

1895 Society Contributors

GFWC Intermediate League of Butler

Federated Women’s Club Of Hershey

CLUB NEWS



The GFWC Montgomery County Past President's Club held their annual luncheon and meeting on June 6, at Indian Valley Country Club.

Seated and pictured in the front row (left to right): Hazel Krier, Violet Kriebel, Charlotte Smith, Treasurer Kay Simon, and President Jean Whitko,

Standing and pictured in the top row (left to right): Glenda Ellis, Mary Fenstermacher, Barbara Hartenbauer, Pat Cummings, Liliias Lewis, Secretary Peggy Selheimer, Evelyn Reese, Nancy Parke, Vice President Terry Pilcicki, Judy Hahn, Carol Gavin, and Mary Jane Flood.

Missing from the photo is Babs de Frenes.



The GFWC Dillsburg Woman's Club closed out their 2018-2019 club year with a celebration of service and friendship at the Boiling Springs Tavern on May 14th.

Pictured on the left (sitting, left to right): Mary Bressler, Jane Alexander, and Carolyn Gochenauer.

Pictured on the right (standing, left to right): Luanne Peroni, Babs Varilla, Tina Warholic, Peggy Schweitzer, Gerry Hartman, Pam Eichelberger, Marinell Reeves, Faye Myers, and club president Janine Guinter.

Pictured to the right is Dillsburg's Quay Park. The club owns and maintains the park. As a membership drive, an Ice Cream Social will be held at the park on August 28th.



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GFWC Pennsylvania Clubwoman (USPS #425-960) is published four times a year: March, June, September and December by the General Federation of Women's Clubs Pennsylvania. The subscription price of \$4.00 is included in the dues. Periodical postage is paid at Mechanicsburg, Pennsylvania.

Postmaster - send address changes to:

General Federation of Women's Clubs Pennsylvania
4076 Market Street, Suite 211
Camp Hill, PA 17011-4200



GENERAL FEDERATION OF WOMEN'S CLUBS PENNSYLVANIA State Headquarters, 4076 Market Street, Suite 211, Camp Hill, PA 17011-4200

NEWS FROM GFWC DIRECTOR OF COMMUNICATIONS

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2019 Croly Award Winner Resides in PA - GFWC HONORS SELENA REZVANI WITH NATIONAL JOURNALISM AWARD - July 9, 2019 (Washington, D.C.)

The General Federation of Women's Clubs is pleased to honor Selena Rezvani with the 2019 Jane Cunningham Croly Award for Excellence in Journalism Covering Issues of Concern to Women for her exceptional video journalism piece: Interrupting Gender Bias Through Meeting Culture. Rezvani is a journalist for *Forbes.com* and *Philadelphia Magazine* who specializes in women's career issues.

The award, which recognizes journalists who best capture the courage, vision, and spirit of GFWC's founder and pioneering journalist Jane Cunningham Croly, was presented by GFWC International President Mary Ellen Brock during the organization's 2019 Annual Convention in Austin, Texas. Croly Award winners demonstrate a concern for the rights and advancement of women in our society; an awareness of women's strength and courage; and/or an attempt to counteract sexism.

In her [TEDx Talk](#), Rezvani explores how men and women can negotiate the workplace together to reimagine the future through everyday meetings. She presents simple actions that can disrupt bias, boost women's voices, and make a shift. These actions include making sure women are represented at the meeting table in the first place, giving everyone equal airtime, and creating the conditions where people want to participate and contribute.

Selena Rezvani's work has been featured in Maria Shriver's *Shriver Report: A Woman's Nation Pushes Back From The Brink*. She has been quoted, interviewed and/or profiled by *The LA Times*, Oprah.com, Todayshow.com, *Harvard Business Review*, ABC, and NBC. She also wrote an award-winning column on gender and leadership (2012 Croly Award) for *The Washington Post* which explored nuanced issues women face at work. Additionally, she was a commentator on the NPR-syndicated radio show "51 Percent." She also wrote an award-winning book on women and negotiation skills at work called *Pushback* (winner of a 2012 Silver Axiom Book Award), as well as the career guidebook *The Next Generation of Women Leaders*.

The General Federation of Women's Clubs is a unifying force, bringing together local women's clubs, with members dedicated to strengthening their communities and enhancing the lives of others through volunteer service. With nearly 80,000 members in affiliated clubs in every state and more than a dozen countries, GFWC members are community leaders who work locally to create global change by supporting the arts, preserving natural resources, advancing education, promoting healthy lifestyles, encouraging civic involvement, and working toward world peace and understanding.