

PENNSYLVANIA CLUBWOMAN

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



Volume 103 Issue 1 September 2022



PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Dear Friends,

First and foremost, a great big THANK YOU for all your kindness and condolences in the tragic loss of my dear brother, Conrad. Those who met him at the installation ceremony at our convention in April saw firsthand why it was a pleasure to work with him. We worked together since childhood. To those who sent Mass cards, sympathy cards, and came to the wake, it was greatly appreciated. It serves as a reminder that our members are a fantastic collection of caring and compassionate women.

The theme, "Light the Way," encourages us that with each sunrise there is an opportunity to make a positive difference in someone's life. Let's all be that ray of sunshine for others every day.

Hopefully, those of you who attended Summer Leadership Conference found it to be well worth your time. Congratulations and many thanks to all who contributed to its success! The evaluations have been very positive, and the suggestions have been noted. Next year, we will be back in State College for SLC.

The President's Project, Operation "We've Got Their Six" – Supporting Military and Veterans, is very near and dear to my heart. Having worked with Veterans in our fly-fishing program for the last 14 years, the satisfaction of seeing the healing and transformation occur is so gratifying. Our Veterans became empowered and inspired to volunteer and help their fellow Veterans. This domino effect is triggered by total strangers reaching out and showing them appreciation, kindness, and boosting their self-esteem. The President's Project Chairman, Mary Seyfert, is a knowledgeable volunteer with our Veterans with years of experience. She has great projects for you to track. These will be ongoing for the entire administration. We would like to have the first set of totals reported by the end of the year so we can post the progress on our website. Other deadlines for totals will be added and announced.

We will continue with our Photo Fridays on our Facebook page. Dena has been doing a terrific job and will need information from you. Please share your projects and events.

Thanks again to my fellow clubwomen who truly "had my six" during this difficult time. I look forward to seeing you on the Fall District tour. Until then,

In Federated Service and Friendship,

Heide Marie

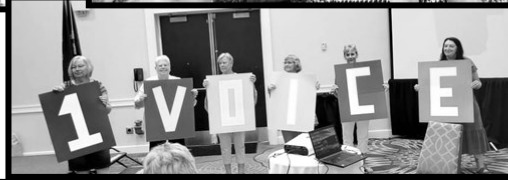
Heide Marie Cebrick, President
GFWC Pennsylvania



Highlights of the Summer Leadership Conference



GFWC PA
*It's a
volunteer
thing!*



GFWC Pennsylvania Convention/Business Meeting
Thursday, May 4—Sunday, May 7, 2023
Pittsburgh Marriott North
100 Cranberry Woods Drive
Cranberry Township, PA 16006

Be part of the LIMELIGHT as we share the successes of our federated clubs in...

Lighting the Way!



GENERAL FEDERATION OF WOMEN'S CLUBS
MIDDLE ATLANTIC REGION
Delaware, New Jersey, New York and Pennsylvania
<https://gfwcmiddleatlanticregion.org/>



***Call to 2022 Middle Atlantic Region
Annual Conference***
Mary Pat Marcello, President

***Joy in Service, Pride in Achievement,
United in Friendship***

Welcome to New York
"Each One Bring One"

You and your sister members are invited to join fellow GFWC clubwomen at the Annual Conference of the Middle Atlantic Region to be held at

The Marriott Albany
189 Wolf Road
Albany, NY 12205

Thursday, October 6 to Sunday, October 9, 2022

Your conference hotel is conveniently located just off Interstate 87 and is convenient to Albany International Airport (ALB).

HOTEL RESERVATIONS:

The sleeping room rate is \$125 (plus 14% state & local taxes) for a Standard Double Queen room OR Standard King room. Please make your reservations early.

FOR HOTEL RESERVATIONS:

Call the hotel directly 518-458-8444 between 9:00AM and 4:00PM

Group Code: GFWC- NY MAR

Call Donna Sherrer at 516-354-0401 with any questions

DEADLINE FOR RESERVATIONS - September 21, 2022

APPROPRIATE ATTIRE:

Tours: Casual; comfortable shoes
Conference Business Sessions: Business Casual
Evening Banquets: Dressy

REGISTRATION FORM
GFWC MIDDLE ATLANTIC REGION ANNUAL CONFERENCE
October 6 - October 9, 2022

REGISTRATION DEADLINE: SEPTEMBER 15, 2022

NAME: _____

ADDRESS: _____

PHONE: _____ EMAIL _____ STATE _____

CLUB _____ STATE PRESIDENT STATE DIRECTOR/JUNIOR CLUBS

GFWC/MAR POSITION _____ 2022 GFWC LEADS Graduate?
(2022 LEADS graduates pay no registration fees)

Registration Fee: \$30.00 _____

Pre-paid raffle opportunities (information on next page) \$20.00 _____

Thursday, October 6:

Barnsider Restaurant \$42.00 _____

Dinner Meal Choice (pick 1) (Includes salad bar, vegetable or baked potato, dessert):

8 oz top sirloin 8 oz chicken teriyaki 7 oz baked haddock

Friday, October 7:

***Schuyler House Tour & Lunch (information on next page) \$35.00 _____

Lunch Meal Choice (pick 1) (beverage & steak fries):

Hamburger Turkey Club wrap Veggie Wrap Fish Sandwich Rueben

New York State Night Banquet \$45.00 _____

Meal Choice (pick 1):

Chicken Bruschetta Parmesan Crusted Haddock Vegetarian Lasagna

Saturday, October 8:

Luncheon - Cold Salad Buffet (egg, tuna, chicken, quinoa) \$35.00 _____

Saturday Banquet \$45.00 _____

Meal Choice (pick 1):

Pork Tenderloin Lemon Pepper Flounder Quinoa Stuffed Pepper

Sunday, October 9:

Breakfast Buffet \$32.00 _____

TOTAL REGISTRATION AND MEALS \$ _____

Please check here & advise on reverse if you have any special dietary needs/food allergy.

I plan to contribute to the canned food collection to benefit the Albany area Regional Food Bank

*** I acknowledge that transportation to the tour and luncheon will be via pre-planned carpools.
(initials) Please complete Tour Sheet (next page) and include with your registration.

Please mail the registration forms and check made payable to GFWC MAR to:

JoEllen Cortapasso
33 Ontario Road
Bellerose Village, NY 11001

For any questions/dietary needs, call or email Donna Sherrer at 516-354-0401 or fox09@aol.com

GFWC JUNIORS' SPECIAL PROGRAM: ADVOCATES FOR CHILDREN

Cathleen Wink, Chairman
catwink2@yahoo.com



OUR FOCUS for 2022 – 2023 will be “Sleep in Heavenly Peace.”

Sleep in Heavenly Peace is a group of volunteers dedicated to building, assembling and delivering hand-made twin beds to children and families in need. They give kids dignity, comfort, and peace of mind. With so many great charities providing clothing, meals and toys, little help goes to something as permanent as providing suitable beds and bedding. SHP is dedicated to finding those young children living without the luxury of sleeping on a bed or even laying their heads on a pillow. Their mission is to partner with organizations, businesses, and individuals to build beds and deliver them to kids in need!

The General Federation of Women’s Clubs Pennsylvania will be collecting NEW twin size pillows, blankets, and comforters for those beds. SHP already receives sheet sets from another organization but they are in need of the pillows, blankets and comforters. They can accept only new packaged goods. This chairman is asking that you collect these items throughout the year. Then bring them to the convention in 2023 at the Marriott in Cranberry Township. We will present them to the Mars branch. I will put a report form on the GFWC PA website soon.

Sunday, October 23rd thru Saturday, Oct. 29th is GFWC Advocates for Children Week. GF WC has partnered with the Children’s Advocacy Centers (CAC) to promote a juice box challenge. The challenge is to donate a juice box to your local Child Advocacy Center. Juice boxes help CAC staff build rapport with children as they discuss difficult issues.

GFWC SIGNATURE PROGRAM: DOMESTIC AND SEXUAL VIOLENCS AWARENESS ANDS PREVENTION

Jean Pieczynski, Chairman
jpie5@verizon.net

October is National Domestic Violence Awareness Month. Recognize it in some way. Purple is the color – wear something purple, hand out purple ribbons, or do a project using the color purple.

GFWC PA wants to help those who have no voice. In partnership with GFWC and community members, we pledge to work together to advocate for survivors of domestic and/or sexual violence and educate the public on domestic and sexual violence in our local communities and how informing members can improve outcomes for survivors.

Hotline numbers are a valuable resource for those who are mandated by law to report suspected abuse. Most hotlines are staffed 24 hours a day, seven days a week with professional crisis counselors. They can offer crisis intervention, information, literature, and referrals to thousands of emergency social service and support resources. All calls are confidential.

The Pennsylvania Coalition Against Domestic Violence Hotline in Pennsylvania is 1-800-932-4632; the National Domestic Violence Hotline is 1-800-799-7233.

To report child abuse or neglect in Pennsylvania, call Childline at 1-800-932-0313.

A great project is to create flyers or cards to publicize hotline numbers.

..... : A NOTE OF THANKS FOR YOUR EFFORTS IN 2021! :

: Since my article was inadvertently missed in the June 2022 edition, I wanted to make sure that the efforts of our clubwomen in the area of
: Civic Engagement were acknowledged – So as the PAST 2020-2022 Chairman of Civic Engagement and Outreach, I would like to
: say: *Congratulations, ladies, on your excellent accomplishments, in spite of pandemic caused challenges! 176 projects were reported*
: *along with 6,786.5 volunteer hours, \$39,070 donated, and \$36,512 of In-Kind donations.*

: *Please report all Operation Smile hours, etc. for 2022 in your 2022 annual report Thank you for your generosity in service to*
: *others. -- Karen Stauffer*
:

COMMUNITY IMPACT PROGRAM AWARDS

Cheryl Brooks, Chairman
cherylbrooks49@yahoo.com

The Community Impact Program Awards are designed to encourage and recognize the positive effects a club can have on specific needs in their community. As GFWC's longest standing project, the Community Impact Program Awards has evolved since its introduction to members in 1949, yet still the goals remain the same: to reward clubs for effective community projects that benefit from opportunities for growing club membership, enhancing leadership skills, building relationships with individuals and community groups, and creating public awareness of the club and GFWC. Community Impact Projects should make a visual, physical, or emotional impact at the grassroots level. They are projects that bring awareness to what GFWC volunteering is all about

AWARD PERIOD January 1, 2022 to December 31, 2023

GFWC State Awards First Place \$100

CONTEST DESCRIPTION

Each Community Impact Program Award Entry Form can feature one project based on community need or the Community Connection Initiative from one of the Special Program Areas and/or Community Service Programs. *The selected project must be undertaken by a club and accomplished during the award period of January 1, 2022 to December 31, 2023.*

MARCH 1, 2024 Entry Deadline

Club entries must be sent to Cheryl Brooks, state CIP Chairman via email or mail, postmarked/timestamped no later than this date. The Official Entry Form can be found in the 2022-2024 GFWC Club Manual beginning around page 180. Additional information and ideas for projects begin around page 176 of the Club Manual.

GFWC WOMEN'S HISTORY & RESOURCE CENTER

Marcia L. Wilson, Chairman
mlwilson@pa.net

Every club does something over the course of a year that relates to women's history and women's accomplishments. After all, that's who we are!

Examples include:

- ◆ Celebrate Women's History Month or Women's Suffrage with a special meeting or a special program
- ◆ Donate a book to your library on women and their accomplishments
- ◆ Have a speaker or program on women in history, or give a quick informational presentation at each meeting on an influential woman
- ◆ Share the GFWC Timeline of accomplishments with your members
- ◆ Participate in a local history event by showcasing the history and contributions of your club or of Federation
- ◆ Have your club become a member of the GFWC 1734 Society, which helps to preserve our International Headquarters in Washington, DC with a minimum level of membership at only \$17.34 annually
- ◆ Have your club become a friend of the GFWC Women's History and Resource Center, which maintains an extensive archive of women and volunteering that is used by students, scholars and other interested people with a basic Friendship of \$30.00 per year
- ◆ Have your club become a member of the GFWC Pennsylvania 1895 Society, formed to preserve our past and ensure our future with a minimum donation of \$18.95 each year
- ◆ Educate your members on these opportunities to contribute individually
- ◆ Or use your creativity for a project especially suited to your club!

1895 Society Contributors

Southeastern District

Woman's Club of Perkasio

Federated Women's Club of Hershey

GFWC PENNSYLVANIA ESO



Judi Stankowich, Chairman
judistakowich@atmc.net

Do you like to read?

If you answered yes, this is the project for you! The only requirement is that you tell the state chairman what you have read. You earn certificates, get a monthly e-newsletter, and join with thousands of GFWC women who are doing the same thing.

Involve your club members. Who can read the most books during the year? Recognize members at club meetings. Highlight a book read by a member at each meeting or include suggested books in your club newsletter. Have a trade books table at club meetings – members can bring some or take some.

Send in your application. Follow that with a list of books you have read in 2022 and the chairman will help you get started. It's easy. It's fun. It's FREE!! Contact the chairman for everything you need to be part of this fun project.

JENNIE AWARD

Lois A. Richards, Chairman
lrichards208@outlook.com

It's that time of year to begin searching for the next Pennsylvania Jennie Award nominee. The Jennie Award is the only national honor bestowed by GFWC that recognizes individual members for personal excellence. Club members are nominated by their clubs to compete at state, regional, and national levels for the Federation's highest honor.

The Jennie Award is named in honor of GFWC's founder Jane Cunningham Croley, who wrote for national newspapers under the pseudonym "Jennie June." The criteria, rules, and a fillable form can be found in the Membership Portal of the gfwc.org website. Some information is also on the GFWC Pennsylvania website (gfwcpennsylvania.org) under Advancement Areas/Forms and Downloads.

In short, the nominee must be someone who has been with GFWC for a minimum of five (5) years and has a strong commitment to family, GFWC, and Community. The completed application with a title page and letter of introduction, plus a digital color photograph and any supporting documents (up to 25 pages), letters of endorsement from the club president and from a representative from another organization must be submitted to the Chairman postmarked by June 1, 2023.

Calendar of Upcoming Events

IMPORTANT DATES

EVENT / DISTRICT	DATE	LOCATION	TIME
GFWC PA Northwestern Fall District Meeting	September 30, 2022	Perkins Meadville, PA	TBD
GFWC PA Southwestern Fall District Meeting	October 1, 2022	Slippery Rock University	TBD
GFWC Middle Atlantic Region Conference	October 7 - 9, 2022	Albany, NY	
GFWC PA North Central Fall District Meeting	October 15, 2022	The Village Pantry Tyrone, PA	TBD
GFWC PA Southeastern Fall District Meeting	October 21, 2022	Indian Valley Country Club Telford, PA	TBD
GFWC PA Northeastern Fall District Meeting	October 22, 2022	Pocono Farms Country Club Tobyhanna, PA	TBD
GFWC PA South Central Fall District Meeting	October 29, 2022	Brothers Diner Mechanicsburg, PA	TBD
GFWC Finance Committee and Executive Board Meeting	November 4, 2022	TBD	TBD
GFWC PA Board Meeting	November 5, 2022	TBD	TBD
GFWC Holiday Reception	December 7, 2022	GFWC Headquarters Washington, DC	

Fall District Meeting Dates Set

Mark your calendars and plan to attend YOUR District meeting! Our District Directors have sent or will be sending the Calls with all of the details for the district meetings. President Heide will be there to meet you as well as State and District Chairmen, Club Presidents and of course your fellow clubwomen. **Make plans now to attend!**

NORTHWESTERN DISTRICT

Ann Harned, District Director
1947aharned@gmail.com

Who knows the song "Make new friends but keep the old.? One is silver, and the other, gold??" This seems appropriate for our clubs. My theme is "LET'S TREASURE THE SILVER AND THE GOLD." I will be using a treasure chest as our District's symbol. I want all the clubs to work on gaining new members and keeping their "seasoned" members, but most of all to stay part of the GFWC PA.

The Fall Meeting for the Northwestern District will be on **Friday, September 30, 2022, at Perkins Restaurant in Meadville.** Please plan on attending. This will be a great time to get acquainted with them, along with other club members from our District.

SOUTHWESTERN DISTRICT

Chelynn Curci-Lang, District Director
chelynn@me.com

I'm very excited to announce that our Fall District Tour will be held on **Saturday, October 1, 2022, at Slippery Rock University.** The Call, outlining all the details will be sent out soon so plan to be with us as we learn more about the programs set for this Administration.

Let's celebrate the Southwestern District! I'm looking forward to seeing you!

NORTH CENTRAL DISTRICT

Geny Barthelmes, District Director
cmbgeny@gmail.com

Hello North Central Clubs! I'm so excited to be part of the new 2022-2024 Administration and I am looking forward to seeing you all at our next district meeting on **Saturday, October 15th, 2022, at the Village Pantry in Tyrone.** We will have many things to plan and discuss.

Please be on the lookout for your North Central District Call, Registration Form, and for more details about the meeting. **"TOGETHER WE CAN ACCOMPLISH MORE!"**

SOUTHEASTERN DISTRICT

Kathy Cassel, District Director
kathymcassel@gmail.com

The theme for the 2022-2024 Southeastern District will be, "DO SOMETHING SPECIAL FOR SENIORS." I'm asking each club to adopt a senior or retirement facility. Everyone had a hard time during the pandemic, but so many of our seniors were very isolated.

I hope that many of you attended the Summer Leadership Conference to get all the latest information firsthand. If you didn't, you should have received it at the parley held on August 13, 2022. Our first District Meeting will be held **Friday, October 21, 2022, at the Indian Valley Country Club in Telford.** Hope to see you there!

Club Presidents. We are looking forward to seeing you there!

NORTHEASTERN DISTRICT

Judy Grace, District Director
jagrace@ptd.net

This Director is honored to represent the great GFWC Northeastern Pennsylvania Women's Clubs. Our theme is, "SERVING OUR COMMUNITIES."

Our Fall District Meeting will be held on **Saturday, October 22nd, at the Pocono Farms Country Club, 700 Lake Rd., Tobyhanna.** Everyone is invited to attend. Although the date for the spring Festival of the Arts has been established - March 25, 2023 - a venue has not been decided. There was a lunch "Meet and Greet" for the members of the new GFWC Northeastern Board on July 16th at Boulder View restaurant in Lake Harmony. This gave our group a chance to get to know one another before we get down to business.

SOUTH CENTRAL DISTRICT

Karen Stauffer, District Director
karendee44@hotmail.com

The "LIGHTHOUSE BEACON will be SHINING LIGHT" on the activities of this district for the next two years!

Come join us for an informative Fall District Meeting on **Saturday, October 29, 2022, at Brothers Family Dining, 705 Gettysburg Pike, Mechanicsburg,** from 11 am to 3 pm. Lunch will be individually ordered from their menu. More details will be shared in the official Call that will be mailed to all Club Presidents. We are looking forward to seeing you there!

General Federation of Women's Clubs Pennsylvania

Heide Marie Cebrick, President

Susan Kling, Co-Chairman
susangfwcwrwc@yahoo.com

Cindy Troutman-Myers, Co-Chairman
ctmyers@ptd.net

2022-2024 FUNDRAISING ITEMS

Travel Tumbler for Hot or Cold Drinks with Straw

Blue with "Light the Way" Logo in White

\$11.32 + 0.68 tax = \$12.00



Toscano 6 Bottle Wine Tote

Burgundy with Pennsylvania Logo in White

\$9.44 + 0.56 tax = \$10.00

Pocket LED Flashlight

Blue with "Light the Way" in White

\$7.55 + 0.45 tax = \$8.00



State President's Pin

\$4.72 + 0.28 tax = \$5.00

General Federation of Women's Clubs Pennsylvania

Heide Marie Cebrick, President

Susan Kling, Co-Chairman
susangfwcwrwc@yahoo.com

Cindy Troutman-Myers, Co-Chairman
ctmyers@ptd.net

ORDER FORM

Name _____

Club _____

District _____

Email _____

Phone _____

ITEM	QUANTITY	TOTAL
Travel Tumbler with Straw \$12 Each		_____ X \$12 = _____
6 Bottle Wine Tote \$10 Each		_____ X \$10 = _____
Pocket LED Flashlight \$8 Each		_____ X \$8 = _____
State President's Pin \$5 Each		_____ X \$5 = _____
	TOTAL AMOUNT DUE	_____

Make Checks Payable to ***GFWC PA Fundraiser***

ARTS and CULTURE

Marianne Heck, Chairman
m_heck@neo.rr.com

The Arts Booklet is on its way. Once complete, it will be posted online and sent to all clubs.

Last year's book can get you started. There are some changes this year. Student Photography is allowed to be matted. As they do not go on to the National, we can allow this change. They do need to be matted and/or mounted for easier handling.

The other change is in the arts. Kindergarten has been added to Division 1. A new category, Division 5, has been added to high school arts. The category is Digital Art. It will be judged separate from the other art divisions. This is an important category to support as it is one that is in high demand in the many different areas like advertising, film making, and cartooning. These students will be able to go on to art school or a job upon graduation for their future success.

Of course the crafts have changed with the President's project well represented. Literature and the other Member categories remain the same. Happy Projects and don't forget Culture, as well.

HEALTH and WELLNESS

Mary Fenstermacher, Chairman
m80fenstermacher@gmail.com

Happy and dedicated members are the most important ingredients for the success of local, state, and GFWC clubs. As Chairman of the Health and Wellness committee, I am asking you to invite a club member for coffee or tea; join a member for lunch or dinner; or just meet as a group to chat. I am also suggesting that you call (by phone) each member at least once a month just to say "I miss you." Let's make every member feel valuable and welcome.

We are not "Walking in their Shoes." Any one of these thoughts may brighten a member's day. Since our clubs vary in size, I am asking Club Presidents to implement a few of these thoughts in a way that is best for their club.

A friend is a gift right from the start, a blessing from God, and a hug for your heart.

CIVIC ENGAGEMENT AND OUTREACH

Judy Schwambach, Chairman
schwambacj@comcast.net

The GFWC Civic Engagement and Outreach Committee reminds Pennsylvania GFWC members that each of us is a part of a larger society and is responsible for undertaking actions that will create a better quality of life and foster a sense of community – locally, regionally, nationally, and globally.

Volunteering is one of the best ways to put civic duty into action and it is often the first step in building a stronger connection to community. There are other ways to contribute, such as advocating, fundraising or donating, and problem-solving. Locally, even supporting small businesses and keeping an eye on your neighbor can play a part in improving your community.

Civic Engagement and Outreach Programs are encouraged including Citizenship; Crime Prevention; Safety and Disaster Preparedness; the Needy, Hungry, and Homeless; and our Military Personnel and Veterans.

During this Administration, clubs are encouraged to do projects in seven general areas. One of each of these topics will be discussed in each Clubwoman Newsletter.

- ◆ Safety and Disaster Preparedness
- ◆ Crime Prevention – establish a neighborhood watch program and report suspicious activities.
- ◆ The Needy, Hungry, and Homeless – organize a clothing drive or food pantry.
- ◆ Our Military Personnel and Veterans – create awareness about the three primary health concerns of military personnel.
- ◆ Canine Companions – become familiar with the many organizations that sponsor canine support.
- ◆ Heiffer International, Operation Smile and UNICEF.
- ◆ March of Dimes, St. Jude's Hospital, and NAMI – learn about these organizations and support them in as many ways as possible.

COMMUNICATIONS, PUBLIC RELATIONS, & SOCIAL MEDIA

Dena Hughes, Co-Chairman
denagfwcpa@outlook.com

Welcome to the 2022-2024 administration. We are continuing to share the “Good News” of your clubs with our “Photo Friday” posts on our Facebook and Twitter pages. We will promote the positive aspects of GFWC and GFWC PA by posting a picture and/or article each week highlighting a community service project, a fundraiser; an accomplishment of your club or club member; an award presented to a student or an upcoming club event.

In order to do this, we need your help. Please send your pictures by email to Dena Hughes at denagfwcpa@outlook.com. Remember to note who is in the picture, what the occasion is, and when it happened or will take place. From time to time I will self-source content for the post from your club social media accounts.

Please feel free to share with me via email your link to your pages so that I can follow your pages and keep on top of your accomplishments. I will also be sharing ,on our GFWC Pennsylvania Facebook page, topics that support the Community Service Programs of GFWC.

I hope that you will share these posts on your club pages so that we can help elevate the mission of GFWC. Are you following our Facebook and Twitter pages?

<https://www.facebook.com/GFWCPennsylvania>

<https://twitter.com/gfwcpennsylvania>

EDUCATION and LIBRARIES

Sue Hardenbrook, Chairman
vsranch1@comcast.net

The focus of Education and Libraries for this term is **Libraries**. Many libraries were started by GFWC clubs and continue to be supported by our members.

One project suggestion is to donate books or collections to the library on a specific subject such as STEM books, GED materials, children’s books or women authors. The library has more buying power than a regular consumer, so contact the library director and talk about what subject you would like to donate toward and what an appropriate amount would be. You can also ask the librarian what books they need or would like to add to their collection and donate funds for that.

There are also many other ways to support the library. Encourage members to join the “Friends of the Library” group. Support their book sale fundraisers by donating used books, helping to sort donated books or working at the book sales. Support other fundraisers such as “dine-outs” and theater nights.

There are many more project ideas and websites to refer to listed in the GFWC Club Manual. Sign on to GFWC.org and the member portal to access the manual.

MEMBERSHIP

Diane Lake, Chairman
dianemlake@live.com

Do you value your members? If you want to attract and keep members, **value them**. People tend to gravitate to where they feel most valued. Are you listening to their ideas and respecting them intellectually and personally? When members feel appreciated, they will also feel they are making a difference. No matter how large or how small their input is on a project acknowledgement of their effort needs to be commended.

Acknowledgement can be as simple as verbal recognition, either private or public. The more members feel appreciated, the more they will remain members and the more effort you will see from them. Each member’s time, talent and treasure is important for club success. Make a space in your club newsletter for member recognition or specifically include it in your agenda at your meetings.

Each member is an important piece of the puzzle – the club. I recommend reading “A Piece of the Puzzle” – Eight Traits of a Quality Teammate by Kevin Kush, M.A.

LEADERSHIP

Sue O'Day, Chairman
suegfwc@gmail.com

Leadership Education And Development Seminar is a program through GFWC intended to identify members who have the potential and the desire to assume leadership positions in GFWC. The seminar will help you gain the confidence and commitment necessary to pursue leadership positions in your club at the county, district, and state levels. At the recent GFWC convention selected members from across the country were engaged in an all-day seminar where they learned policies and procedures, conflict resolution, time management, and tips and techniques for pursuing leadership opportunities. Plus, making new friends along the way!!!

Think you have what it takes to further your leadership skills and share your knowledge with the rest of your fellow club members? THEN apply for LEADS. Any club member can be a potential leader!!! One member is selected from the entries received to represent Pennsylvania at next year's GFWC Convention being held in Louisville, KY. Some expenses are covered through GFWC and GFWC PA to help defray the costs. Information on how to apply and what is needed may be found in the member's portal on the GFWC website. (Information on how to access the member portal was on the handout from the Summer Leadership Conference.) Feel free to contact me with any questions (LEADS class of 2017) or reach to any fellow alumni of LEADS, Heide Cebrick, Sara Ruppel, Diane Lake, Lois Richards, JoAnn Propcheck, and most recently, Carrie Wood - just to name a few.

LEGISLATION / PUBLIC POLICY



Shelly Smolnery, Chairman
mamolnery@yahoo.com

The GFWC Legislative Action Center (LAC) is the primary tool that GFWC uses to educate and mobilize its members. Members who sign up for the LAC receive updates on specific legislation GFWC is supporting. These updates let members know when to contact their national legislators about a bill. To realize the full potential of this tool, however, members must sign up for the LAC. You can sign up for the LAC by going to the GFWC website (GFWC.org), clicking on the "What We Do" tab, then clicking on Legislation/Public Policy, and finally scroll down to click on the image that says, "Legislative Action Center." From here, members will click on the blue button that says, "Join Now." The direct link to the LAC is <https://cqrengage.com/gfwc>.

Members fill in their name, address, and email address then click in the boxes under "Remember Me" and "Email Opt-In" in order to receive the notifications issued by GFWC and then "TAKE ACTION" by responding to the notifications that the member supports. Members are encouraged to share information from the LAC notifications with their family, friends, and local community.

"Be the One Voice" that makes a change.

ENVIRONMENT

Sue Morrow, Chairman
sjmorrow7@gmail.com

Greetings caregivers of planet earth. Welcome to the 2022 – 2024 term. I'm really excited to talk about new ideas for how we can become the best stewards for our environment.

How do you define a treasure? For me, it means something of infinite value. That's what I think about when someone wants to talk about conservation. How would we live and what would our world look like without clean air and water, national parks and forests, and abundant animals to enrich our lives? Will you agree to adopt a project this year that will benefit your community?

Our National Parks and public lands need our support. Consider volunteering on September 24 for National Public Lands Day. It is the largest single-day volunteer event of its kind. You can visit <https://www.dcnr.pa.gov> to learn about conservation in PA state parks. Or start planning now for activities for National Gardening Day April 14 and Earth Day April 22.

The GFWC Community Connection Initiative is Sparkling Seeds, Brilliant Butterflies, and Glamorous Garden Gloves! So get ready, because we are going to learn all we can about how community gardens enrich our world.

Let's make a pact to find ways to cherish the treasure that is our world.

CLUB NEWS



The **Community Club of Collegeville** donated \$800 to the Power Pack Program at Perkiomen Valley School District.

Power Pack is a non-profit weekend food program for Perkiomen Valley School District students experiencing food insecurity.

Pictured to the left, left to right are: Sarah Evans Brockett, Laura White, club President JoAnne O Donnell, Jackie Lichtenstein, club member Kathy Rogalski, Marilyn Kellogg, and club member Karen McCaslin.

The **GFWC Woman's Club of Indian Valley** has a special tradition of honoring Senior Girls of the Month from Souderton Area High School.

It is a highlight of our meetings to meet the girls and learn about their lives and future plans. The Girls of the Month and their mothers are guests at our annual May luncheon. Pictured below are the girls who were recently honored at Franconia Heritage Banquet Center.



The members of the **GFWC West-Side Woman's Club** responded to a statewide Club challenge, raising \$375 for GFWC PA's effort to support the statewide "Fill a Glass with Hope" project.

Fill a Glass with Hope® is a partnership formed among Feeding Pennsylvania and member food banks, the Pennsylvania Dairymen's Association, and American Dairy Association Northeast that raises funds to enable member food banks to purchase fresh milk directly from their local dairies in order to distribute it to families in need.

To increase donations to Fill a Glass with Hope, GFWC – West Side chanced off a "Wellness Basket" filled with items to promote wellness for the mind and body, including a Woodhouse Day Spa gift card.



At a recent meeting discussing the project are, from left to right are Christina Kinsman, Health and Wellness committee member; Eileen Gallagher, Secretary; Betty Bauman, Vice President and "Wellness Basket" recipient; Gina Rushkowski, President; Karen French, Treasurer and 2020-2022 GFWC Northeast District Director; and Nancy D'Amico, Health and Wellness Chairman.

CLUB NEWS

On May 10, 2022, the **GFWC Rostraver Woman's Club** hosted an annual Belle Vernon Area High School Senior Girls tea at the new Leopard Hall in Rostraver, PA.

After two years of restrictions, the club was finally able to host over 60 senior girls and teachers that accepted the invitation, several members of the club, and a guest speaker.

The theme this year was *Chari-Tea*.



The tea featured a small fashion show presented by two local boutiques Rodeo Drive in Perryopolis and Jazzy Boutique in Belle Vernon. The activities also included a game featuring famous women who are very involved in community service and charity. The girls donated slightly used bracelets and small accessories to the charity.



The lunch included delicious sandwiches, scones, and desserts presented by the Serendipity Tea Room and Connie Sewchek. Club members served the tea and refreshments.

Following a long-standing tradition, the girls dressed up and wore fancy hats to the luncheon.



Recognition was given to three graduates for outstanding community services. This year, "Women of Service" awards were given to Kayla Robare, Klaire Temoshenka, Arianna Shernisky. Not only did they receive a small gift but also a book with dedication was sponsored by the club and given to the high school library.



Melanie Taylor, local celebrity and co-host of Bubba Show 100.7 STAR radio was an inspirational speaker encouraging young women to reach for their dreams and not be discouraged by negative comments.

The club gave away prizes for the hats competition (vintage, prettiest, and club's choice). The winners were: Mackenzie Martin, Eliza Czerniak, and Jessica Zdrojewski.

It was a successful event enjoyed by all!

Cups collected by the club members during the year were given to the girls as a souvenirs. Centerpieces, teapots with flowers, were raffled as door prizes.



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PRESIDENT'S PROJECT OPERATION "WE'VE GOT THEIR SIX"



Mary Seyfert, Chairman
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The phrase "We've Got Their Six" originated with World War I fighter pilots. They used directions to correspond with hours on the clock, where 12 o'clock was forward and 6 o'clock was behind. This phrase means "We've got your back." It highlights loyalty and cooperation, letting someone know that you will be around to help them in any way you can.

GFWC Pennsylvania President's Project, Operation We've Got Their Six, encourages members to support our military personnel and veterans through programs involving education, volunteering and donation. Focus areas include:

Assist your local VA Hospital or Facility:

To locate a veteran's facility in your local area, go to <https://www.VA.gov/find-locations>. Once you select a facility, look for the "In The Spotlight" section to find the link for Volunteer or Donate. Follow the link to find volunteer opportunities, contact information for the Voluntary Services Program Coordinator and donation suggestions.

Educate Club members about Post-Traumatic Stress (PTS):

Invite a healthcare or support-group professional to your Club meeting to share information about the symptoms of PTS and ways to interact with or help a friend or family member who may be exhibiting warning signs.

Sew and donate Dignity Clothing Protectors:

A sewing project that allows a man or woman living in a veteran's facility to have dignity at the dining table. The project transforms a button-down shirt into a bib but maintains the appearance of a shirt. Directions can be found on the GFWC Pennsylvania website.

Support Active Military Personnel and their Families:

Consider making a monetary donation to the USO's Bob Hope Legacy Reading Program, which allows a deployed soldier to read a bedtime story to their child.

I'm looking forward to seeing all of you at your District meeting this fall!