



## **GFWC Top Projects**

*From the 2020 Award Entries*

These programs and projects were selected as the Top Projects by the GFWC Special Program, Community Service Program, and Advancement Area Chairmen. The lists were comprised from the State Award Entries and Club Creativity Award Entries submitted by state chairmen.

**Table of Contents** *(Click to proceed to a specific area when viewing electronically)*

**JUNIORS' SPECIAL PROGRAM: ADVOCATES FOR CHILDREN**

**SIGNATURE PROGRAM: DOMESTIC AND SEXUAL VIOLENCE AWARENESS  
AND PREVENTION**

**ARTS COMMUNITY SERVICE PROGRAM**

**CONSERVATION COMMUNITY SERVICE PROGRAM**

**EDUCATION COMMUNITY SERVICE PROGRAM**

**EPSILON SIGMA OMICRON – ESO**

**HOME LIFE COMMUNITY SERVICE PROGRAM**

**INTERNATIONAL OUTREACH COMMUNITY SERVICE PROGRAM**

**PUBLIC ISSUES COMMUNITY SERVICE PROGRAM**

**COMMUNICATIONS AND PUBLIC RELATIONS ADVANCEMENT AREA**

**FUNDRAISING AND DEVELOPMENT ADVANCEMENT AREA**

**LEGISLATION/PUBLIC POLICY ADVANCEMENT AREA**

**MEMBERSHIP ADVANCEMENT AREA**

**WOMEN'S HISTORY AND RESOURCE CENTER ADVANCEMENT AREA**



## **JUNIORS' SPECIAL PROGRAM: ADVOCATES FOR CHILDREN**

### **World's Largest Swim Lesson**

GFWC Junior Federated Woman's Club of Chester (VA) planned The World's Largest Swim Lesson and partnered with American Family Fitness in Colonial Heights, Virginia, to offer free swim lessons and CPR training for the community. The event was inspired by the rescue of a member's daughter from drowning in a neighborhood pool by another member. The club raised funds for additional free swim lesson packages through American Family Fitness that were raffled at the event.

### **Sensory Hallway**

GFWC Menominee Woman's Club (MI) created a sensory hallway to welcome students to school and to help students with emotions, excess energy, and positive imagery. Members and teachers placed decals on the floor as an obstacle course, then brightened the white walls by creating a mural that complemented the nature theme on the decals. Finally, colorful hands were painted at different levels on the walls where students could work off excess energy by doing hand push-ups.

### **Peyton Heart Project-Suicide Awareness**

GFWC Prairie State Woman's Club (IL) members crocheted 3,000 hearts with quotes on each to support the Peyton Heart Project (PHP), an effort that aims to end bullying and the stigma surrounding mental health issues by giving out handmade hearts representing those lost to suicide. Peyton Hearts were given out at the GFWC Illinois Convention welcome table and distributed to teens and churches. The PHP requested more hearts to help meet the demand. Clubwomen sent 1,500 more and collected yarn for the project.

### **Happy House Black History Program**

GFWC Newbern Woman's Club (TN) organized the first annual Black History Program for the Happy House in Newbern, which (in 1940) was the first Black school to provide after-school programs for low-income children. The program celebrated local Black History leaders and taught children about African American history, the history of African dance, and African American artists such as famous singers and actors. Head wraps, sashes, decorations, and programs were given to guests.

### **Green Thumb Gardening Club**

GFWC Woman's Club of Vista (CA) provided nutrition education by participating with and supporting the efforts of a gardening club working with elementary school children. Meetings were held at a local elementary school multiple times a year. Students participated in hands-on activities focused on nutrition, gardening, composting, and food preparation. Students also created nutrition signs for the garden and served as tour guides, which provided opportunities to share their new knowledge with their classmates.

### **Christmas for Mom**

GFWC Florentine Evening Club (MS) created an opportunity for children at the Center for Violence Protection to select a Christmas gift for their mother. The children were able to pick from a wide a variety of donated jewelry for the ideal gift.

### **St. Jude Dream Home**

GFWC Bluegrass Junior Woman's Club (KY) joined a local construction company that partnered with St. Jude to bring the St. Jude Dream Home Program to Lexington, Kentucky. Members sold raffle tickets at \$100 each for an opportunity to win the St. Jude Dream Home. Clubwomen handled correspondence with their community and St. Jude Children's Research Hospital including ticket retrieval, ticket processing, volunteer recruitment, and hosting Open Houses for the Dream Home with public tours.

### **Child Abuse and Neglect Awareness**

GFWC Mesquite Club of Las Vegas (NV) hosted their local Chief Deputy District Attorney from the Juvenile Division at their club meeting to present information about laws regarding the investigation of child abuse and neglect. Information was also shared highlighting remedies for child abuse and neglect such as parenting classes, anger management classes, and support from Child Protective Services. Members left the program aware that, when in doubt, always report.

### **Laundry Room Wash and Read—Promoting Literacy**

GFWC Boise Columbian Club (ID) collected children's books, labeled them with the name of the club, and then distributed them to low-income apartment complexes. The books were placed in the laundry rooms provided for residents. Children were encouraged to read while waiting for laundry or to borrow a book and return it.

### **Purses for Premies—Prematurity Awareness**

GFWC Charleston Junior Woman's Club (SC) collected gently used and new purses, handbags, and totes for a fundraiser with March of Dimes and the Medical University of South Carolina (MUSC). Purses were donated from club and community members. They were sold at the November MUSC Holiday Market as part of National Prematurity Awareness Month. Proceeds were donated to March of Dimes and the Neonatal Intensive Care Unit at the Medical University of South Carolina.



## **SIGNATURE PROGRAM: DOMESTIC AND SEXUAL VIOLENCE AWARENESS & PREVENTION**

### **Wine, Women & Purses**

GFWC of Central Oregon conducted a Wine, Women & Purses domestic violence center fundraiser. The club enlisted help from the community and Chamber of Commerce for donations, sponsorships, and ticket sales. Members secured 37 “loaded” purses filled with items valued at \$50 or more that were then offered by silent or live auction. Members donated appetizers and desserts, while wine and beer were contributed by a winery and brewery. Shelter needs spurred bidders’ participation in a “Raise the Paddle” that netted over \$10,000.

### **Benefit to Construct Domestic Violence Shelter**

GFWC North Myrtle Beach Woman’s Club (SC) members helped plan and sponsor a benefit event, Carolina Music in the Park, to raise funds for the construction of a Horry County Domestic Violence Shelter. Previously, Myrtle Beach did not have a domestic violence shelter. Collaborating with city and county groups to raise necessary funds, the club designated \$20,000 to help sponsor the event. Multiple live country music entertainers participated in the ten-hour event and planners expected 8,000 to 10,000 attendees.

### **Crisis Intervention Center Support**

GFWC Grundy Center Woman’s Club (IA) invited Palermo Clovers members to join them for a presentation. A speaker from the Crisis Intervention Center, which serves victims of domestic violence and sexual assault, spoke to the clubwomen and 4-H members. The clubs made and donated bags to the Center that were created from washcloths and filled with basic essentials like toothpaste, toothbrush, comb, shampoo, conditioner, soap, and lotion.

### **Angel Shots Need for Assistance**

GFWC Austintown Junior Woman’s League (OH) educated five restaurant bartenders and servers about Angel Shots. Laminated reference sheets and business cards explaining Angel Shots were provided for distribution to female patrons. A guest having a bad first date could order an Angel Shot to signal the bartender/server of the need for assistance. Ordering an Angel Shot on the rocks or with lime signaled the guest needed serious assistance. Well-received, the club continued domestic violence awareness and prevention efforts.

### **Support of Buffum Center**

GFWC Warwick Women’s Club (RI) was recognized for 40 years involvement with the Elizabeth Buffum Center that serves the most vulnerable in their community. The Center was the club’s Community Improvement Project and continues to be an important part of their club work. The club holds a permanent position on the Board of Directors and members serve on the fundraising committee, two subcommittees, and fulfill the annual holiday “wish list” of the Center’s families.

### **Transitional Housing Apartment**

GFWC San Diego Woman's Club (CA) has sponsored a transitional housing complex apartment since 2004. The 25-member club furnished the apartment and provided food, paper products, and other items. As the family transitions out, they may take needed household items and furnishings as they settle into new housing. Members clean, refurnish, and replenish the apartment for the next family. They also give family members in the apartment three gifts from their wish list.

### **Purple Power**

As the GFWC Illinois State Project, the state chairman adopted the Signature Program theme of Purple Power and sold purple awareness bracelets, held a purse raffle, and received donations from Districts and clubs to fund the Success for Survivors Scholarships. Clubs donated 70 purses used as state convention table decorations and donated them to shelters. Clubs were asked to prepare toiletry bags for men and teenage boys, children's backpacks or bags, elder abuse kits, and purses for women affected by domestic violence.

### **Rape Victims Clothing Closet**

GFWC Agawam Junior Woman's Club (MA) contacted the YMCA to offer assistance. The YMCA Director requested specific clothing for rape survivors. Victims must leave their own clothing at the hospital for forensic testing and need clothing to wear home. The club applied and received one of the GFWC MA Domestic Violence/Sexual Assault Awareness Grants for \$500. The grant, as well as member donations, were a tremendous help in restocking the YMCA clothing closet.

### **Go Forth with Confidence Scholarship**

As the GFWC New Hampshire State Project, the state chairman developed a Go Forth with Confidence Scholarship. The chairman presented the idea to the GFWC New Hampshire Executive Committee, Board of Directors, and then to the full membership. GFWC NH voted to put \$1000 in the state budget to start the scholarship fund. The scholarship was awarded to survivors going to a college, technical institute, trade school, or completing a certification.

### **Elder Abuse**

As the GFWC Maine State Project, the state partnered with Maine's Council for Elder Abuse Prevention and Legal Services for the Elderly to raise awareness about elder abuse. The state chairman contacted both organizations and suggested they partner for a state-wide high school essay scholarship contest on elder abuse. The \$1000 scholarship was awarded on June 15, World Elder Abuse Awareness Day, at the State Capitol. There, the student author and recipient of the \$1000 scholarship read the winning essay.



## **ARTS COMMUNITY SERVICE PROGRAM**

### **Musical Petting Zoo**

GFWC Woman's Club of Manassas, Inc. (VA) sponsored a musical presentation of “Peter and the Wolf” for third graders. Members provided the teachers with a CD and after learning the story and characters of the symphony, the club arranged a musical petting zoo with sixteen high school band members with instruments. Students visited each station where band members played their instrument and talked about their involvement with music.

### **Art History Teachers**

GFWC Zehlions of Thief River Falls (MN) worked with elementary schools to teach art history. Members divided fourth and fifth grade classes (five to six classes per grade with 25 to 30 students each) and taught four to five lessons throughout the year about well-known and modern artists. Students also had hands-on sculpting with Play-Doh or made chalk murals. Members coordinated lessons to prevent repetition, so every student studied eight to 10 artists.

### **Monetary Donations Create Music for Many**

GFWC Fort Benton Woman's Club (MT) donated \$1,500 to the high school band program for the repair of instruments. The new band director inherited many school-owned instruments that required repair before they could be used by students.

### **Fire Hydrant Make-Over**

GFWC Reynolds Woman's Club (GA) painted rusty-looking fire hydrants along the main streets like strawberries since Reynolds is the home of the Georgia Strawberry Festival. After discussing the project with the Mayor and Fire Chief, four designs were approved: Strawberry, Dalmatian, Bubble Gum Machine, and a Bookworm. Members scraped off old paint, cleaned and prepped with red base paint, and artistic members created the hydrants’ new designs.

### **Decorating the Dog**

GFWC Woman's Club of Clayton (NC) members transformed the community garden into Snoopy’s Playground for holiday celebrations. Lights and holiday decorations surrounded the three-foot Snoopy flying his airplane (10 feet high with 20 feet wingspan) centerpiece, created from materials members had. The garden shed became Snoopy's doghouse with fire hydrants created from large garbage cans. The gazebo became a sleigh and cutouts of Snoopy and dog bones lined the fence surrounding the garden.

### **Designing Silk Scarves**

GFWC Twentieth Century Study Club of Midland (TX) members designed scarves for the women at Fairhaven, a center for survivors of abuse. White silk scarves were placed in plastic bags, water and various colored dyes were added to the bag, which were squeezed repeatedly. The scarves were removed and ironed resulting in a variety of beautiful, multi-colored scarves. When the scarves were delivered to Fairhaven, members also provided free manicures and pedicures for the women.

### **Theatre Performances for Pre-Schoolers**

GFWC Woman's Club of Colorado Springs (CO) partnered with the local theatre to provide theatrical performances for low income pre-school children. Members welcomed children, parents, and siblings and ushered them to their seats. For many children, it was their first theatre experience. Over 150 children enjoyed the summer and fall performances. After the show, the children were taken on-stage to meet the actors and ask questions.

### **Special Arts Festival**

GFWC Aiken Woman's Club (SC) has coordinated a Special Arts Festival in conjunction with South Carolina's Special Olympics Spring Games for 33 years. The festival offers hands-on art experiences for approximately 650 students with disabilities. Many of the participants are unable to compete in the Special Olympics games due to the nature of their disability. The club and three other organizations fund the festival, and over 20 organizations provide volunteer workers.

### **National Youth Art Month**

GFWC Stone's River Woman's Club (TN) commemorated National Youth Art Month with a variety of activities, including "Storybook Art," a crayon art show for second grade students who create covers of their favorite books; "Self Portraits," with fourth graders depicting themselves as animals; and "Picture This," a photography contest for eighth grade students. Entries were displayed at a club meeting, the local library, and with photographs in the local newspaper.



## **CONSERVATION COMMUNITY SERVICE PROJECT**

### **Tree-mendous**

GFWC Papillion Junior Woman's Club (NE) co-hosted the Papillion Arbor Day Celebration with the Papillion Tree Board. A poster contest was held for fourth grade students at the Papillion Schools with the theme, "Tree-mendous," to teach students the importance of trees. Over 100 posters were entered, and winners received prize money and took part in the Arbor Day celebration at the park. Gold shovels were used to help Tree Board Members plant the trees.

### **Repurposed Cards**

GFWC Tuesday Club of Columbia (MO) members met one or two times each month to create repurposed cards from discarded greeting cards, magazines, and calendars. The greeting cards were cut up and the magazines and calendars were used for punched out shapes (flowers, leaves, butterflies, snowflakes, etc.), which were glued onto card stock to create the cards. A total of 1,929 cards were made and given to six agencies to distribute.

### **Green Partner**

GFWC Woman's Club of Smithfield (VA) members took GFWC Conservation guidelines to heart and became the first civic club in their town to be recognized by the State of Virginia as a Virginia Green Partner in 2019. This was obtained when the club pledged to have "green" meetings, recycling, bringing their own cups to meetings instead of using plastic, and utilizing email rather than paper newsletters.

### **Earth Day Litter Pick Up and Beautification Day**

GFWC Fuquay Varina Junior Woman's Club (NC) celebrated Earth Day with an event titled, "Clean the Quay." The event was publicized through their website, social media, and word of mouth. Club members and volunteers walked over two miles of road frontage to collect trash and recyclables. Over 12 trash bags were filled with litter from their watershed and creek system. Gloves, vests, and bright pink FVJWC shirts were worn for safety.

### **Discovery Garden**

GFWC Hollidaysburg Area Women's Club (PA) volunteered for weekly maintenance tasks and with the annual plant sale at the Discovery Gardens, a non-profit, 14,000 square yard handicap-accessible community garden in Legion Memorial Park in Hollidaysburg, PA. In the spring, members conducted garden tours and planted annuals with elementary school students. The garden tour taught children about the fragile nature of ecosystems and instilled respect and appreciation for the garden.

### **Ribbon of Love Garden**

GFWC Benton Woman's Club (KY) members worked on planting a Ribbon of Love Garden in the Benton Plaza area to raise awareness about breast cancer and to honor survivors. All the flowers placed in the garden were in hues of pink and white. The club members spent many hours planting, watering, and maintaining flowers through the summer (May through September).

### **It's Spring Story and Craft Hour**

GFWC Les Dames de Gueydan (LA) co-sponsored an "It's Spring" story and craft hour at the Gueydan Public Library. A spring story was read and then a creative spring craft was completed. The children were also given packets of Morning Glory seeds to plant at home as a gift from the club. A fitting Chinese proverb, "all the flowers of all tomorrows are the seeds of today," complemented each packet of seeds.

### **Laundromat Library Program**

GFWC Bristol County Women's Club (RI) recycled and reused books for the Laundromat Library Program. Gently used books were recycled in eight laundromats in Bristol, East Providence, and Riverside, RI. The laundromats were given at least 12 books every month and readers could take books home or share them while using the laundromats. The program reduces the volume of books in landfills and recycles them to those who need and enjoy them.

### **Used Sneaker and Shoe Collection**

GFWC Wilbraham Junior Women's Club (MA) reached out to the community and high school Cross Country Track Team to collect used sneakers and shoes. The collection was advertised in the local paper and drop off bins were placed throughout town. Shoes that could be recycled were brought to Nike for their Reuse-A-Shoe Campaign while those that could be reused were given to the Soles4Souls Campaign. Over 300 pairs of shoes/sneakers were collected.

### **Recycle Crafts Night**

GFWC Gulf Shores Woman's Club (AL) held a Recycle Crafts Night to make fun Christmas decorations and ornaments using recycled items. Decorations and ornaments were made using paint, paper, wine corks, jars, styrofoam, glue guns, staple guns, and various other items. The event gave members an opportunity to be creative with items that might otherwise have been thrown away while having fun and being creative.



## **EDUCATION COMMUNITY SERVICE PROGRAM**

### **Children’s Activity Kits**

GFWC Hudson Woman’s Club (NH) created themed activity kits for their local library children’s room. The kits include books, puzzles, worksheets, and crafts. Members created a kit around the Woman’s History theme this year. This kit contained books, posters, and memorabilia related to the vital role women have played in the development of our nation. Once bags were completed, citizens were able to borrow them from the library.

### **Reality Store**

GFWC Chesterton Woman’s Club (IN) conducted the Reality Store Program for Duneland School System eighth graders. Students were given a predetermined salary they could earn in their profession at age 28. During the Reality Store they visited tables where they paid expenses such as taxes, housing, childcare, utilities, etc. Some ended in bankruptcy, while others had money left over. Reality Store connected classroom, career, and family expectations that mirrored real life scenarios.

### **Chair—ity Auction**

GFWC Thomaston Woman’s Club (CT) held a creative fundraiser for their scholarship fund. They began by acquiring chairs through tag sales and donations. Then, they found community residents who were interested in designing a decorative chair. Six chairs, two rockers, one piano bench, one child’s antique bench, and one stool were painted and displayed in various businesses throughout town, which generated a lot of interest for bidding on these items at auction.

### **Snuggle Bug Reading Club**

GFWC Parkersburg Woman’s Club (WV) coordinated Snuggle Bug Reading Clubs for several second-grade classrooms in the county school system. Each student received a tote bag, three or four books, a soft fleece blanket, and a flashlight, so they could continue to read at home. During the initial meeting, members read stories, and then students were given their new supplies and encouraged to read under their blankets with the aid of the flashlight.

### **Adult Literacy Fundraiser**

GFWC Junior Woman’s Department (TX) directed a scrabble tournament to raise \$20,000 to provide help with an adult literacy effort. Club members participated in checking-in members, monitoring tables, keeping score, and providing food and beverages. The effort aided local adults who wanted to improve reading, writing, and English-speaking skills, and assisted those who want to earn a GED.

### **Great Seal of the United States**

GFWC Suburban Woman's Club of Lexington (KY) led a program on the Great Seal of the United States that was presented to fifth graders. The one-hour educational session was held over a two-day period. Discussion included the use of particular symbols, the reasons for choosing them, and citizenship. Students received a packet that included puzzles, word fill-ins, and terms pertaining to the Seal, plus an uncirculated one-dollar bill with the seal printed on the back.

### **Reading Party**

GFWC Atlanta Woman's Club (GA) members volunteered every month at the Atlanta Reading Center's Reading Party. During the hour-long party, children gathered in a circle, introduced themselves, and were paired with a volunteer who shared a story. They enjoyed a healthy snack and selected a book to take home. With books in hand, they rejoined the circle where each received pajamas and applause. Background checks were a required component of volunteering.

### **Spelling Bee & Literacy**

GFWC Boys Charity Group (NJ), is a unique club of 18 young males. They each took on a specific role for their annual spelling bee fundraiser, including set-up, clean-up, consolation prize presenter, door prize organizer, registration, flyer designer, and refreshment coordinator. Overall, they raised \$175.00 for literacy charities. They purchased books at a book sale and donated them to a school in need. The remaining money was used to buy school supplies during the club's annual backpack drive.

### **FLOW—Free Little Library on Wheels**

GFWC Woman's Club of Panama City (FL) sponsored a Free Little Library on Wheels that traveled throughout Bay County offering free books to schools and the community. Many community libraries were decimated by Hurricane Michael, and this library on wheels helped restore books and reading in the area. Better World Books donated a semi-truck load of 20,000 books. Members sorted, categorized, and re-packaged these books for the FLOW van that holds about 500 books. Children received one-three books each.

### **Rainbow Factory**

GFWC Woman's Club of Elkins (WV) supported an arts field trip for 27 special education students with a project known as the Rainbow Factory. The Community Arts Center provided space and helped with materials, the school district arranged transportation and communication, and the club assisted with art activities and provided food and drinks. The students benefited from this opportunity to explore freedom of expression in a stress-free environment.

## **EPSILON SIGMA OMICRON – ESO**

### **Book Club in the Park**

GFWC Capital Woman's Club (WA) met during the summer at the park for Music in the Park. It created a nice atmosphere for visiting, bonding, and discussing all the books members read since their last meeting. During winter months, they met at different restaurants. They learned many interesting facts about the Appalachian and Pacific Crest Trails, U.S. Presidents and their families, and various other topics.

### **Book Nook at Food Pantry**

GFWC Tuesday Club of Columbia (MO) maintained the Book Nook at their local food pantry. Children were encouraged to visit the Book Nook while their parents shopped at the pantry. Members go twice a week to restock books on shelves and clean and tidy the nook. Children could take a book with them when they visited. All books were donated by members. This project is the work of 18 ESO club members.

### **Dr. Seuss Books and T-shirts**

GFWC New Mexico (NM) Epsilon Sigma Omicron chairman established a competition for members to decorate a child's t-shirt with a Dr. Seuss or other book theme. All materials were washable. Each t-shirt and a Dr. Seuss book were donated to a domestic violence shelter. This proved to be such a popular idea that a college work study group asked if they could join, so the contest was opened for two categories—GFWC and others with a creative desire.

### **Dr. Seuss Birthday Celebration**

GFWC Village Improvement Association Federated Woman's Club (FL) joined forces with the Early Learning Coalition of North Florida to celebrate Dr. Seuss' Birthday with four special reading and art programs at two local daycare centers. One member volunteered to be the Cat in the Hat.

### **State Convention Book Exchange**

GFWC Ohio Federation of Woman's Club's (OH) ESO chapter held a book exchange at their state convention. Clubwomen wrote down their favorite book that they had read the past year on a white card. A new ESO reading list was prepared from those cards after the convention. Books were also exchanged, and if a member did not bring a book, the state chairman brought one for her! Over 45 women participated.

### **Reading with the President**

GFWC Batesville Woman's Club (MS) members created a blog on Facebook based on the GFWC Mississippi President's "Reading with the President" ESO project. The blog gave state clubwomen a forum to discuss the monthly President's Picks, as well as an opportunity to discuss themes of the book and to suggest books as companions to the current reading selection.

### **Sesquicentennial Literary Event**

GFWC Woman's Club of Clayton (NC) hosted a Sesquicentennial Literary event which brought Scott Mason, the Tar Heel Traveler, to present his latest book and speak on his travel experiences in North Carolina. The ESO group designed a bookmark to note the 100-year anniversary of the club and the Sesquicentennial of Clayton. Each attendee received a bookmark and the tables were decorated with books.

### **Interactive Story Time at Local Nursery**

GFWC Tracy Woman's Club's (CA) ESO group hosted an interactive story time at Tracy's Nursery and Garden Center. Books were read to groups of 12 children and their adult family members. Songs accompanied by a club member and a variety of interactive books and puppets kept the children, ages three to seven years, engaged during the reading sessions.

### **Book Clubs at Dairy Queen**

GFWC Woman's Club of Rio Grande City (TX) and the GFWC Florence J. Scott Study Club (TX) continued their mutual tradition of meeting the second day of each month at the local Dairy Queen to discuss titles, exchange ideas, and write ESO book reports. Drinking Texas Blizzards is an essential element of the friendly and productive monthly gatherings of two South Texas clubs.

### **Trip to Author's State Park**

GFWC Orange Park Woman's Club (FL) ESO members read *History of Tea* before attending a sister club's anniversary tea. Next, they read *Cross Creek*, a memoir of Marjorie Kinnan Rawlings, author of *The Yearling*, and later took a day trip to the state park named for her. The park includes the author's restored home, which is a prime example of "Florida cracker architecture," a vernacular style suited to Florida climate that was popular from the 1860s to the 1930s.



## **HOME LIFE COMMUNITY SERVICE PROGRAM**

### **We Fidget A Lot**

GFWC Jubilee Woman's Club (AL) designed and created throw-sized pillows adorned with different items such as ribbon, fleece, and buttons, plus sensory activities provided by pockets, zippers, and buckles. The pillows provide comfort to anyone who benefits from focused sensory tasks. Posting photos and directions on Facebook provided others with the information on how to make Fidget Pillows.

### **Operation Warm: Take One, Leave One**

GFWC Mississippi Juniette Diamonds (MS) noticed that there were students without coats. To fill the need, the Diamonds set up a coat rack across the street from the Junior High School. Advertising on social media opened the project to the public so that anyone in the community was welcome to participate. Members monitored the rack each day after school, to replenish with additional coats as needed.

### **Sleep in Heavenly Peace**

GFWC Lake City Women's Club (MI) members learned that young children in their community did not have beds to sleep on, but instead slept on the floor or sofa. In one weekend, all 30 members worked with volunteers to build 10 beds in a local parking lot. Not only did this open the community's eyes to the need, but many people also stopped to help put the beds together.

### **The Sandwich Brigade**

GFWC Wampanoag Women's Club (RI) coordinated with The Boys and Girls Club to help provide a safe place for teenagers to gather. The teens had designated time for homework, sports, games, dinner, and to have someone they can talk to who will listen. The members provided sandwiches, cookies, fruits, and drinks each month.

### **The Unicorn Fund**

GFWC Ossoli Circle (TN) supported the Unicorn Fund, a charitable organization that helps underprivileged children in Tennessee and runs a secondhand store to provide much-needed resources. Members collected household items and clothing to donate to the Unicorn boutique throughout the year. Additionally, at Christmas, members donated 150 shoebox gifts and other toys that were distributed to children in need.

### **Family Feud**

GFWC Century Club of Amsterdam (NY) paired with The New York Oncology-Hematology Center in Amsterdam to host 76 cancer survivors, their guests, nurses, and doctors to celebrate National Cancer Survivor Day with a Family Feud theme. After a nutritional lunch, guests formed "family" groups and played for prizes.

### **Comfort Backpacks**

GFWC Woman's Club of Rock Hill (SC) donated Comfort Backpacks to the Rock Hill Police Department Advocacy Program. The backpacks were distributed to children in need due to child endangerment conditions. The backpacks were filled with personal hygiene essentials for the children to carry with them as they moved to a new chapter in their lives.

### **Home Cooking for Health**

GFWC Goochland Woman's Club (VA) promoted healthy living and better nutrition with large, printed, eye-catching cards that included the signature line, "Courtesy of the GFWC Goochland Woman's Club." The cards offered simple and easy to prepare recipes with no more than 5 ingredients. The project was inspired by work in conjunction with the food pantry that promoted good nutrition through home-cooked meals.

### **Helene Foundation Beauty Boxes**

GFWC Junior Woman's Club of Raleigh (NC) gathered items such as cosmetics, jewelry, fuzzy socks, chocolates, personal notes of encouragement, and journal/pen sets to create Beauty Boxes that were given to clients at the Helene Foundation, a non-profit organization that provides support to mothers undergoing cancer treatments.

### **Dignity Quilts**

GFWC Lamoille Women's Club (NV) members, after reading about Dignity Quilts, created quilts according to specifications and donated them to their local funeral home. These quilts are placed over a body when it is removed from a home, hospital, or nursing home.



## **INTERNATIONAL OUTREACH COMMUNITY SERVICE PROGRAM**

### **Farm Fun**

GFWC Woman's Club of St. Matthews (KY) created their own Heifer International farm to address global hunger. At each monthly meeting, a lunch was served that featured an animal chosen for the farm (chicken salad, chocolate rabbits, etc.). Members made contributions for their meal based on what would have been spent in a restaurant. The resulting farm included chickens, ducks, geese, goats, alpacas, water buffalos, heifers, rabbits, pigs, goats, honeybees, and fish.

### **Bras for Bucks**

GFWC Woman's Club of Enfield (CT) supported Free the Girls, a non-profit helping sexual trafficking survivors in Africa and Central America establish their own micro-business selling bras. An invite for the event, held at a local winery, was extended to their community using their club's website, Facebook page, newsletter, and the winery's Facebook page. Attendees were asked to bring new/gently used bras. The fun event resulted in 182 bras and three new members!

### **The Belize Connection**

GFWC North Pinellas Woman's Club (FL), after learning about needs in Belize during a presentation from Pathlight, partnered with two other Florida clubs to assist two GFWC Belize clubs. Backpacks, sewing kits, and school supplies were donated, and books were collected for the Belize Juniorettes and students. Members of the clubs are planning a visit in 2020 to deliver these donations to schools.

### **Children's Holiday Party**

GFWC Ebell Club of Irvine (CA) provided a memorable Christmas for children at the St. Theresa's Orphanage/School in Ensenada, Mexico. Members, friends, two schools, a dance group, the local parish, and community members contributed gifts, food, supplies to make angels, stockings, and hygiene products for the girls. Members drove to the orphanage for a party with games, Santa, and gifts. A monetary donation was also made.

### **Days for Girls International**

GFWC Woman's Club of Tidewater (VA) invited others to help them make Days for Girls kits. Days for Girls increases access to menstrual care in over 100 countries, where girls are not allowed to attend school during their menses due to lack of feminine hygiene. Two sewing guilds and Gamma Pi Society helped make kits that included a drawstring bag, eight liners, two waterproof shields, two pairs of underwear, washcloth/soap, Ziplock bags, and instructions. Over 100 kits were made.

### **The Global Village Project Tea**

GFWC Atlanta Woman's Club (GA) supports an intense tutorial program for girls ages 7-18 in the Atlanta refugee community so they can successfully integrate into local schools. Each quarter the club hosts a tea where the girls present a program to show their progress to their parents. Members provide decorations, tea, refreshments, and a gift bag for each girl.

### **High School UN Model**

GFWC Hudson Woman's Club (NH) assisted the Alvirne High School Model UN by organizing a food drive to collect basic staples for African refugees. Members added peanut butter and other items to complete 12 boxes for the families. One club member assisted students by providing transportation to the church where families picked up the boxes.

### **Human Trafficking Education**

GFWC Woman's Club of Elkins (WV) worked with UNICEF USA to educate their community on Human Trafficking. After consulting with Project Rescue for current information and learning about the issue, the chairman presented a workshop for her club. She also presented information on teen trafficking at West Virginia Girls State. Handouts, with information on how to recognize possible victims and unsafe situations were provided at the events and local schools.

### **School Safe Zones in Kenya**

GFWC Wake Forest High School Juniorette Woman's Club (NC) officers met with Church World Service representatives to learn about their mission to build new schools or upgrade existing ones, and they decided to engage their members in the effort. The club organized a Share Night at Culver's, a local restaurant, to raise funds, with members serving food and providing tip jars for donations. The event was advertised at their high school and members proudly wore their Juniorette T-shirts at the fundraiser.

### **Sewing Peace**

GFWC Vernon Township Woman's Club (NJ) collected used sewing machines to donate to Sewing Peace using social media and word of mouth. Many donors expressed an emotional attachment to their machines or shared stories about them, but happily made the donation knowing the machines would change the lives of people in developing countries. In all, 56 machines were collected and donated.



## **PUBLIC ISSUES COMMUNITY SERVICE PROGRAM**

### **Hometown Heroes Banners**

GFWC Hollidaysburg Area Woman's Club (PA) honored local veterans and current servicemen and women by sponsoring 32 Hometown Heroes Banners. Clubwomen created each banner with a photo of the honoree, plus name, rank, military branch, club, and GFWC logo. The Patriotic Banners and new American flags were displayed on lampposts for festivities of Memorial Day through Veterans Day. After banners were taken down, they were presented to the veterans or family members.

### **National Night Out Against Crime**

GFWC Munster Junior Woman's Club (IN) assisted their police department with a National Night Out Against Crime. Members organized months in advance by soliciting sponsorships and distributing posters to businesses. Members arrived early to help with set-up. The event included children's games, bounce houses, magic shows, K-9 demonstrations, a display of emergency vehicles, door prizes, and fireworks. Car seat checks, medication collection and disposal, and safety bingo for the seniors were also offered.

### **Serving Women in the Military**

GFWC Bitterroot Woman's Club (MT) learned that clothing and other items were needed at the only Idaho Veteran's Hospital where women veterans are offered a treatment program for PTSD, substance abuse, and/or military sexual trauma, sometimes in the only clothes they own. Members collected clothes and personal items to help found the Women Veteran Clothes Closet. Learning that some of the women veterans were pregnant, 47 baby showers were held. Other communities in the state are now mirroring this program.

### **Year of Kindness for Homeless Veterans**

GFWC Junior Cyberlinks Club (OH) focused on homeless veterans and adopted the Veterans Haven. Members pledged a year of kindness ensuring something special was done every month. In January, soup, snacks, and hygiene items were delivered; February, pasta dinners and valentine cards were supplied; March, pizza was enjoyed; and in April, Easter Blessing bags were donated. Members also provided Christmas stockings for the holidays. Members loved the opportunity to lift the spirits of these veterans in need.

### **Random Acts of Kindness**

GFWC Murry Woman's Club (KY) performed random acts of kindness for first responders. Lunch was provided for firefighters at two fire stations and for emergency medical technicians at the ambulance service. Gifts and snacks were given to law enforcement agencies and 66 free community Thanksgiving meals were delivered to the city's fire stations.

### **Monthly Care Package for Soldier**

GFWC Marlborough Junior Woman's Club (MA) supported one area soldier each year with a monthly package sent to the soldier. Members reached out to his family to learn about his interests. They included personal notes from members tucked between homemade cookies. In December, the soldier received two club packages—enough for him to share with members of his platoon. Being remembered with a package from home is so important for our servicemen and women.

### **Appreciation for Women in the Military**

GFWC West Virginia Rupert Woman's Club (WV), in response to the GFWC President's Grand Initiative on Women in the Military, located local community women serving in the military. Winter throws were sent to each with a Christmas card that thanked them for their service, along with small puzzle books, devotional books, and other treats. For the servicewomen, the project was a welcome reminder that people back home care about them.

### **Hoods for Heroes**

GFWC Woman's Club of Palatka (FL) learned a fireman's cancer risk is one in three. They contacted Hoods for Heroes and learned better hoods were available for \$125.00 each. Knowing that 26 hoods were needed, they got busy with fundraising. The club held several events, bagged groceries for tips, and wrote checks. Not only did they raise enough money to buy hoods for the Palatka firefighters, they also supplied them to the Interlachen Fire Station as well.

### **Martin Luther King Day of Service**

GFWC Dublin/San Ramon Woman's Club (CA) set up workstations on Martin Luther King Day to support the 7 Grand initiatives by: making 25 "Seatbelt Snuggles," a pillow that cushions the pressure of a seatbelt over chemo ports; cutting blankets for Operation Smile and local shelters; writing letters to Blue Star Mothers; and sorting toiletries for shelters. Each member also signed a large banner which was displayed at City Hall for a week.

## **COMMUNICATIONS AND PUBLIC RELATIONS ADVANCEMENT AREA**

### **Woman's Suffragist Movement Float**

GFWC Muskego Woman's Club (WI) utilized the city's annual parade theme of 100% Americanism to enter a Woman's Suffragist Movement float. GFWC and club logos were featured on the float along with period-dressed, sign-holding, and sash-wearing members. The club received a first place award for the float's uniqueness and adherence to the theme, raising visibility of the club and GFWC.

### **Color Me Lexington**

GFWC Woman's Club of Lexington (MO) reprinted a coloring book titled "Color Me Lexington," which was first printed in 1977 by the club with pictures drawn by local artists. It tells the history of their town in pictures. They also included information about the club and what they do in the community. This project taught many children and families about the town's history and the GFWC Woman's Club of Lexington.

### **GFWC Snowperson**

GFWC Eastlake Women's Club (OH) participated in a community project displaying an eight-foot snowperson. The snowperson was designed by the club and included the GFWC logo and the club name. It was painted by a local high school art class. This project was a unique way to engage the community and get the club's name in the public.

### **Mural on GFWC Clubhouse**

GFWC Benson Woman's Club (AZ) celebrated their 100<sup>th</sup> Anniversary in April 2020. To celebrate this milestone, a local artist painted a mural on one side of their clubhouse that depicts the portraits of 13 charter members. It showcases the women on a background of the Arizona flag, with the club name and the year founded. The mural and a GFWC road sign created interest in the mission of the club and another local GFWC club.

### **Suffragist Program**

GFWC Potpourri Glenwood Club (MN) presented a program on suffragists at their fall get-together that was attended by a member of the local Rotary Club. Impressed with the program and its historical significance, the visitor invited the club to repeat the program at an upcoming meeting of the Rotary Club, which they were glad to do.

### **Our Story in Video**

GFWC Northboro Junior Woman's Club (MA) created a promotional video to present at their September Potluck Dinner and at the Apple Pie Café during Northborough's Annual Harvest Celebration. Photographs, arranged to the song "You've Got a Friend in Me," highlighted the club's projects and showed the fun and camaraderie enjoyed by members while working together in the community.

### **Networking and Partnering**

GFWC Woman's Club of Arlington (NJ) takes every opportunity to share their rich club history and projects with town residents and the broader community through in-person and online communications. The club also partners with several community organizations, which has increased prospective club membership. Handwritten notes add a personal touch to their efforts to welcome and encourage women to attend meetings and events.

### **Website and Social Media**

GFWC Woman's Club of Fullerton (CA), founded in 1902, utilizes a variety of social media platforms to reach out to the community, including Instagram and Facebook, which are updated weekly. They also continue to update and expand their website, which caught the attention of Ocean Subaru of Fullerton, after being optimized for search engines. The local business was so impressed by the projects highlighted on the club's website that they donated \$57,383 to the club's "Share the Love" campaign.

### **4<sup>th</sup> of July Community Celebration**

GFWC Lutz Land O'Lakes Woman's Club (FL) raised club awareness with their 4<sup>th</sup> of July Community Celebration and Parade by utilizing multiple strategies to promote the event that offered a run/walk, live auction, cake and pie contest, Honorary Mayor competition, and free tents for community sponsors. Street banners and social media posts on Facebook and Instagram advertised the event, while T-shirts, a club membership tent, and customized winner ribbons provided promotional opportunities at the event.

### **Library Display**

GFWC Joyce Wargo Reading Club (IN) promoted their community involvement in various programs and projects, including ESO, by organizing a library display using funds from a GFWC Membership Grant. In their creative display, the club exhibited many artifacts including the club banner, highlighted books read, and emphasized that the club was more than just a book club. Club brochures and bookmarks were provided for visitors to take as a giveaway.

## **FUNDRAISING AND DEVELOPMENT ADVANCEMENT AREA**

### **Calendar of Historic Women – Unique Calendar Sale**

GFWC Laramie Woman's Club (WY) celebrated women of historical significance to Wyoming by researching, preparing, and selling a unique calendar. The 15-month calendar featured photographs and information about the accomplishment of these pioneering women. The calendar also contained photographs of current club members in period costume, including a descendant of one of the historic women.

### **Speedy Fill and Squeaky Clean – Service Station Attendants**

GFWC Papillion Junior Woman's Club (NE) partnered with a local convenience store and volunteered as gas pump attendants on Saturdays for a month. The club members pumped gas and cleaned windshields for customers. The convenience store owner donated one cent for every gallon of gas sold during the month, and customers donated by placing money in a decorated container.

### **Golf Around Town – Golf Themed Fun Day for the Community**

GFWC Swartz Creek Woman's Club (MI) worked with local businesses to create a "golf course" throughout town. Each business sponsored a "hole" on the course and created a unique game to be played at that location. Course maps and score cards were distributed at the park, and as players finished the course, cards were returned at the park. Winners received prizes, and everyone had the opportunity to bid on silent auction items and play games of heads or tails.

### **What's The B-U-Z-Z? – Adult Spelling Bee**

GFWC Murray Woman's Club (KY) sponsored an adult spelling bee. Teams of three paid an entry fee to participate. Others in attendance paid an admission fee. Teams could purchase a "spelligan" or pay to pass on a word (prices were lower if purchased in advance). In the first three rounds, an eliminated team could pay to re-enter the bee.

### **Dinner for a Week – Local Restaurant Raffle**

GFWC Woman's Club of Perry Hall (MD) held a Dinner for a Week opportunity. Local restaurants donated gift cards. Enough gift cards were donated to award three levels of prizes, each consisting of a week of dinners.

### **Stock Your Cellar – Wine Raffle and Silent Auction**

GFWC Junior Woman's Club of Raleigh (NC) held their annual Stock Your Cellar Wine Raffle. Bottles of wine were donated by local wine retailers, restaurants, and wineries. The drawing took place at a local restaurant, which donated a percentage of the evening's sales to the club. A silent auction of donated merchandise was conducted at the event and online.

### **Havana Nights – Style Show and Luncheon**

GFWC Woman's Club of Aransas Pass (TX) held its annual style show luncheon. The theme was Havana Nights, and the event included a salsa dancing demonstration, the latest spring fashions for the family, and a Cuban meal. A local television anchor served as emcee for the 500 guests. Nearly 50 baskets and other prizes were raffled.

**Barktoberfest – Pet Festival**

GFWC Munster Junior Woman's Club (IN) held its fifth annual Barktoberfest at a local bark park and began the day with a Bark for Life Walk. The event included door prizes, a basket auction, vendors, activities, demonstrations, a costume contest, and photo opportunities for guests and pets.

**Tailgate Treasurers – Sports Raffle**

GFWC East Springfield Junior Woman's Club (OH) took advantage of a game between rival teams to springboard a raffle project. The prize package included tailgating items and two tickets to the game. The winning ticket was drawn on Facebook Live.

**Get Your Butts Over Here – Smoked Meats Sales**

GFWC Jubilee Woman's Club (AL) set out to find a fast fundraiser. They worked with a local store that is known for delicious food and Boston butts. The project was held on the weekends of the Super Bowl and the 4<sup>th</sup> of July. Members printed tickets, took orders, and scheduled pickups.

## **LEADERSHIP ADVANCEMENT AREA**

### **Planning is Key**

GFWC Orangevale Women's Club's (CA) Executive Board created a Strategic Plan to guide the club into the next decade. Specifically, the plan considered community needs and determined what types club projects to implement to meet their service goals.

### **Working Together**

GFWC Four Corners Junior Woman's Club (FL) set a club goal in 2019 to become more visible and active in their two closest communities. They met with the city managers to determine how their club might partner with them. By the end of the year, there was ongoing communication and interaction among the two cities and the club.

### **Preserving History**

GFWC Morris Woman's Club (IL) moved their club documents to Google Drive to increase accessibility for officers and members. In addition to governing documents and current club materials, the effort also ensured the preservation of prior minutes and treasurer's reports, and other records provided by past club presidents.

### **Stepping Up when Most Needed**

GFWC of Holden Beach (NC) worked through heartbreak to ensure meetings and events took place despite the unexpected and tragic loss of their club president. Club leaders and members came together to assist in all club activities and to support the clubwoman's family.

### **Bright Ideas**

GFWC Dahlonga Woman's Club (GA) created a club manual that Community Service Program (CSP) Chairmen were able to review for ideas and projects. Even though they had a State Yearbook as a resource, the club thought an easy-to-access manual customized to their needs would be helpful. The book was shared with the club's CSP Chairmen at a workshop at the beginning of the club year.

### **Sharing Club Leadership**

GFWC Woman's Club of Martinsburg (WV) provided leadership seminars that included historical information and an overview of duties. Each member was given the opportunity to fulfill a monthly duty at the club meetings, which engaged all members in building leadership skills and preparing for the club's future.

### **Determined to Grow**

GFWC North Clackamas Woman's Club (OR), which federated in 2018, had lost half their members by January 2019. The remaining members committed themselves to rebuilding the club. To change direction, they dispensed with an executive committee and now utilize all members to make decisions. The position of Secretary is rotated, and instead of donating money they focus on donating time. By becoming member driven, the club has also become more cohesive.

### **Educational Tools**

GFWC Ripley Women's Club (OH) incorporated "KEYS" as teaching tools for January to May: K—Knowledge of the Organization, E—Everyone can be a Leader, Y—Yes to New Ideas, and S—Spotlight Member Successes. Members received a sponge as a reminder to "soak up" the lessons. Five mini-lessons were created: You Can't Please Everyone, Don't Let Fear of Making a Mistake Hold You Back, Comparison is the Thief of Joy, Don't Wait Around, and Life is too Short so Do What Makes You Happy.

### **Taking on a New Role**

GFWC Rhinelander Woman's Club (WI) encouraged members to participate in Leadership seminars, apply for GFWC LEADS, and GFWC WI LEADS U. Program graduates were inspired to take on a leadership role in the club, District, or State Federation.

### **Clubwomen Nurture Each Other**

GFWC Maude Martin Study Club (AL) recruited young people to ensure the future of GFWC and their club. They sponsored the GFWC Tri M Juniorette Club and provided leadership education, training, and skills development. The two clubs jointly completed community and fundraising activities. GFWC Maude Martin Study Club selected an outstanding Juniorette member who would benefit from financial assistance and paid her club dues. They encouraged Junioresses to prepare for future leadership positions.

## **LEGISLATION/PUBLIC POLICY ADVANCEMENT AREA**

### **Minimize Amount of Single-Use Plastics**

GFWC Woman's Club of Coconut Grove (FL) conducted a plastic-free initiative to minimize the amount of single-use plastics affecting local ecology and marine life. They formed the Florida Plastic Free Coalition, including local businesses, non-profit organizations, and concerned citizens, to work on local and state legislative initiatives to reduce and/or eliminate single-use plastics. They successfully lobbied for passage of a local resolution supporting action by the state legislature. Information on Coalition efforts was displayed in the Florida State Capitol Rotunda.

### **Equal Pay for Equal Work**

GFWC Olympia Woman's Club (WA) hosted a panel discussion on "Equal Pay for Equal Work." Invited speakers addressed various topics including equal pay, pay negotiation, business planning, and the Equal Rights Amendment. The club gave partner organizations an opportunity to set up information tables so attendees could learn about local resources.

### **Women's Historical Calendar**

GFWC Laramie Woman's Club (WY) spearheaded efforts of GFWC Wyoming to create a Wyoming Women's Historical Calendar marking the 150<sup>th</sup> anniversary of women's suffrage in the state, recognizing that Wyoming was the first state to grant the vote to women. To produce the calendar, members researched and compiled information about prominent Wyoming women, and they found individuals to pose as these women for the calendar.

### **Postcard Posse**

GFWC Woman's Citizenship Club (CO) is in an area with limited Internet service. To communicate with legislators about bills included in GFWC's Brand Initiative, "Recognize the Red," the club became the Postcard Posse. The club purchased and stamped postcards and held three postcard-writing parties where members wrote postcards to state senators and congressman representing their area. Members asked legislators to support the 3D Gun Safety Act, Miranda's Law, and the Violence Against Women Reauthorization Act.

### **Students Preparing for Legislative Action**

GFWC Woman's Club of West Covina (CA) worked with the local high school to provide a program that asked students to review proposed legislation, debate the legislation, and determine how they would vote if they had the opportunity. The club also provided a pizza party to the students to thank them for their participation.

### **Vaping Among Teens Resolution**

GFWC Juniorette Diamonds of Picayune (MS) worked with their advisors and the Mississippi chapter of the American Heart Association to formulate a proposed resolution dealing with the subject of vaping among teens. The resolution was unanimously approved at the GFWC Mississippi State Convention in April 2019 and was forwarded to the GFWC Resolutions Committee.

### **Legislative Issues**

GFWC Dedham Junior Woman's Club (MA) devoted an entire club meeting to an issue of legislative importance. The meeting focused on domestic violence awareness and prevention and included a dialogue on legislation that was needed at the local and state level. Members also discussed the Violence Against Women Reauthorization Act of 2019 and wrote postcards to legislators advocating for the passage of the Act.

### **Petition to Support Miranda's Law**

GFWC Northwest Suburban Woman's Club (IL) decided to send a single petition asking their congressman to support the passage of the Miranda Vargas School Bus Act instead of sending individual postcards. The petition measured 2' x 3', and traveled to several club events so all members could sign it in red. This method of gathering the members' signatures also allowed clubwomen the opportunity to discuss and understand the proposed legislation.

### **Legislation and Public Policy Priority**

GFWC Holden Beach Woman's Club (NC) made legislation and public policy a club priority. Discussion of GFWC's legislative work was held at their new member orientation. New members were given handouts containing local, state, and national legislators contact information, and the town's administrative guide. Members received this information electronically. Legislation and public policy were a feature in their monthly newsletter. The club ensured members were enrolled in GFWC's Legislative Action Center and the GFWC-NC legislative alerts.

### **Keeping Members Aware and Involved**

Three members of GFWC Selbyville Community Club (DE) attend every meeting of the Town Council so the club could be aware of issues being considered and voted upon at the local level. Members who attended the meeting gave reports to club members, allowing them to be involved in specific issues of importance to the club and community. Issues addressed included improvements to the town's infrastructure and traffic safety measures aimed at protecting pedestrians.

## **MEMBERSHIP ADVANCEMENT AREA**

### **Bee A Volunteer**

GFWC Cartersville Woman's Club (GA) held a recruitment event with the theme "Bee A Volunteer." Bee items were used throughout, from invitations to table decorations and a handbook titled "Bee A Volunteer." A speed-dating format was employed for potential members to learn about the Community Service Programs. The evening ended with a fun game of BEE-INGO and everyone in good spirits and wanting to know more.

### **Use of Social Media**

GFWC Morris Woman's Club (IL) went all out to use social media to showcase their club and recruit new members. The social media platforms included: All-For-Good.org, craigslist, Instagram, Facebook, club website, Google Phone Number, and Text Remind. Text Remind is an educational app that can be used by non-profits to send out text reminders, and it is FREE. They also used Google Drive to make documents accessible to its members.

### **Creative Way to Find New Members**

GFWC Rexburg Civic Improvement Club (ID) took a unique approach to attracting new members. They visited each business in their medium-sized town and asked them to sponsor an employee as a member of the club. The business learned about the club and what they do for the community. Some businesses donated to the club, as well as giving a sponsorship.

### **Celebrating Member's Contributions to the Club**

GFWC Junior Federated Woman's Club of Chester (VA) added a unique twist to recognizing their Member of the Month. The monthly ballot vote that recognizes a member for going above and beyond is announced as a surprise, when a sign, bearing the club's logo, is placed in the yard of the honored member for a month. The sign enhances the name recognition of the club and is also a great conversation starter.

### **New Club Member Category - FRIENDS**

GFWC Fort Walton Beach Women's Club (FL) focused on new member recruitment and retention of established members. Recognizing the many obligations and limitations some women have such as home, work, or health issues, the club developed a new club member category: FRIENDS of the Fort Walton Beach Women's Club. FRIENDS pay membership dues, participate in annual fundraisers if they can, support the President's Project, and encourage new membership. In return they receive the monthly newsletter, a name tag, and club manuals.

### **Themed Membership Drive**

GFWC Platte City Study Club (MO) held an October themed membership drive in a church fellowship hall. The theme was GFWC County Fair. They set the room up in four sections: personal creations, crafts, games, and refreshments. Guest enjoyed looking at quilts and other items made by members and playing old-fashioned fair games like ring toss. Fall inspired refreshments were served and the room was decorated with fall décor.

### **Recruitment with a New Twist**

GFWC Woodford County Woman's Club (KY) tried a different approach to recruiting new members. To reach out to younger members, they distributed "Let's Get Together" invitations at the Annual Twilight Festival. The informal gathering highlighted the many ways the club serves their community in a relaxed setting. The club had eight new members join after attending the Get Together.

### **Coffee and Cookies Gatherings**

GFWC Woman's Club of Raleigh (NC) held monthly Coffee and Cookies Gatherings for prospective members. These were informal events where current and new members were able to share information with guests. They explained the mission and structure of The Woman's Club of Raleigh, GFWC-NC, and GFWC. Guests were given literature about the club and invited to the next general meeting. Guests were also given a bookmark with the Collect for Clubwomen printed on it.

### **The Day the Teddy Bears Have Their Picnic**

GFWC Northboro Junior Woman's Club (MA) used their year-end club meeting in a creative way to encourage members to return. Each member brought a much-loved Teddy Bear or other stuffed toy to introduce as their guest during roll call. Teddy Bear themed decorations were used. Each member was asked to bring an additional new teddy bear to the meeting to be included in donation bundles for children in foster care.

### **Juniorette Membership Drive and Mixer**

GFWC Warren Juniorettes (OH) maximized promotion of their membership campaign. To make students aware of their kickoff event, flyers were posted around school inviting those interested in attending. Information was also posted on Facebook and other media outlets. At the event, club brochures, projects, and pictures were displayed, and the club president shared plans for future meetings and projects. Folders, schedules, and brochures were distributed and reviewed with each guest.

## **WOMEN'S HISTORY AND RESOURCE CENTER ADVANCEMENT AREA**

### **Votes for Women**

GFWC Hemet Woman's Club (CA) participated in the Hemet Christmas Parade with a plan to make the public aware of the anniversary of the 19<sup>th</sup> Amendment. Members dressed in period costume, wore a "Votes for Women" sash, and rode in a convertible in the parade route. They carried suffragist signs and a large banner proclaiming, "Hemet Woman's Club Celebrating 110 Years of Community Service."

### **Service is our "Special-TEA"**

GFWC Kanawha Woman's Club (VA), founded in 1978, counted down the days to May 20, 2019, the 40<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the club's GFWC Charter. The president's theme, Service is our Special-TEA, inspired the idea for members and their guests to celebrate with an afternoon tea. An authentic tea menu and proper service was researched, and the history and etiquette of royal tea traditions were shared. An oral history highlighting the club's projects and programs over the past 40 years was featured.

### **Scrapbooking Club History**

GFWC Women's Club of Paramus (NJ) spent over 300 hours preserving their club's history with a scrapbooking project. Members worked on current scrapbooks by taking pictures and posting them. For past years, members identified and logged events and photographs chronologically, preserving not only the pictures but the history of the club.

### **Windows into the Past**

GFWC Miami Women's Club, Inc. (FL) hosted a meeting featuring Bee Hines, the first black woman hired by the Miami Herald as a writer, and preservation leader Enid C. Pinkney, who worked to ensure the role of African Americans in Miami's history is acknowledged. These two "windows into the past" communicated what life was like growing up in Miami from the 1940s to the present day.

### **Historical Service at the Old Meeting House**

GFWC Bethany Woman's Club (WV) organized an original project for their club and community history: an old-fashioned church service at the Old Meeting House, the first church in their community. The members and guests wore period clothing from the 1800s. To keep with tradition, the worship service was modeled after the time of the original founder, Alexander Campbell. After the service, the club provided refreshments.

### **A Little History Lesson**

GFWC Evart Woman's Club (MI) members gave a little history lesson at every meeting. To do so, a member chose a famous or well-known local woman and related stories about her life or how she became famous. One member chose Gloria Vanderbilt, the fashion icon and mother of Anderson Cooper, who inherited five million dollars at age 18 months. This project highlighted local history and the strong, interesting women who are part of it.

### **Passage of the 19<sup>th</sup> Amendment Celebrated**

GFWC Selbyville Community Club (DE) celebrated the upcoming anniversary of the passage of the 19<sup>th</sup> Amendment by marching in costume in the Selbyville Halloween Parade and carrying banners/placards telling the history of the suffrage movement. Members paused at the reviewing stand while the announcer narrated the significance of the costumes and banners to onlookers. Applause and cheers showed the crowd's support for women's voting rights.

### **“Road to Vote” Holiday Tree**

GFWC Skowhegan Women's Club (ME) invited a Girl Scout troop to help decorate a tree at the Redington Memorial Assisted Living Home. The theme was the 100<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the 19<sup>th</sup> Amendment. Scouts were given information, quizzed on knowledge of voting and the 19<sup>th</sup> Amendment, and a mock election was held. After choosing and researching a woman from 14 high-profile suffragists, each Scout wrote a report to be used in decorating the “Road to Vote” holiday tree.

### **Women's Suffrage Centennial Coalition**

GFWC Monday Club of Johnson City (TN), one of GFWC's original clubs, formed the Women's Suffrage Centennial Coalition during the summer of 2019. They planned centennial activities including acquiring all white costumes, sashes, and hats to wear during events. They also secured a proclamation declaring August 18 as the Centennial Celebration of the Ratification of the Amendment. Tennessee's vote was the deciding vote for passage of the 19<sup>th</sup> Amendment that gave women the right to vote.

### **Women's History and Resource Center Birthday Party**

GFWC Eldorado Women's Club (IL) hosted a Women's History and Resource Center (WHRC) birthday party for attendees at the GFWC Illinois State Convention. A short history of the Women's History and Resource Center was given by the WHRC state chairman and a birthday cake was served by the club. Each attendee received a WHRC brochure and instructions as to how they could become a member.