



# NEWS & NOTES

YOUR WEEKLY UPDATE ON GFWC NEWS

July 13, 2023

## Junior & Juniorette Leadership Certification Program

One of the greatest takeaways a clubwoman can get from GFWC is leadership experience. Since our Junior Clubs are geared towards younger women, many of these members are developing their professional careers. Our leadership tools are infrequently used at the club level and are a missed development opportunity for clubs and clubwomen alike. By developing a club-level leadership program, members can take on more roles in their club, their career, and in the community and be more comfortable running for district and state positions.

To qualify, clubs will need to complete six monthly leadership activities. They must cover at least six of the eight topics listed below.

1. GFWC History
2. Self-Development
3. Team Development
4. Strategic Thinking and Acting
5. Innovation
6. Fundraising
7. Legislation
8. Communication and Public Speaking

A comprehensive list of both GFWC and external training material to be utilized for the completion of this program is available in the Digital Library under "J".

Clubs will submit a summary of the leadership activities completed and number of members in attendance for each session by May 15, 2024, to be recognized at next year's Annual Convention. Clubs will also be listed on the website as a "Junior Leadership Designated Club" and are encouraged to self-promote as well.

If your club intends to participate, please submit the form to the Director of Junior Clubs, Katie Moydell, at [kmoydell@gfwc.org](mailto:kmoydell@gfwc.org) by **October 1, 2023**.

I hope you will join me in providing training that is relevant to the needs of Junior members and will provide GFWC with leadership for the future.

In Junior Love,



Katie Moydell  
Director of Junior Clubs

LEADERSHIP RESOURCES

JUNIORETTE FORM

JUNIOR FORM

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## 2023 GFWC Annual Convention Photo Gallery

View and download photos from this year's Annual Convention.

VIEW GALLERY



## National Day of Service

SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 30, 2023

*Living the Volunteer Spirit*

[www.GFWC.org](http://www.GFWC.org)

[#GFWC23NDS](https://twitter.com/GFWC23NDS)

### GFWC Clubs Get Creative for the GFWC National Day of Service

GFWC Woman's Club of Manassas, Inc., from Manassas, Virginia, along with their public library, are hosting a canned goods sculpture contest. The theme of the sculptures will be book characters in keeping with their public library partner. They are recruiting teams from other local organizations, such as American Heritage Girls, Rotary Club, and Boy Scouts, to be paired with sponsors to design and execute their sculptures on September 30th.

Five clubs from GFWC Florida; GFWC Juniorette Club of Jupiter-Tequesta, GFWC Jupiter-Tequesta Junior Woman's Club, Woman's Club of Jupiter-Tequesta, of Tequesta, Florida, and GFWC Woman's Club of Stuart, of Stuart, Florida, will be attending the "Empty Bowls at the Gardens" event together on September 30. Empty Bowls at the Gardens is an event benefiting their county food bank.

GFWC Woman's Club of Essex County, in Aylett, Virginia, will serve dinner to the Haven Shelter ladies and their kids on September 50.

GFWC Brown Deer Junior Woman's Club of Brown Deer, Wisconsin, is holding a non-perishable food drive in conjunction with their Fall Rummage Sale.

There are so many ways to participate in GFWC's National Day of Service. Your local food bank always needs food and volunteers, but maybe they already have volunteers for September 30. Or your local shelter has enough volunteers to make dinner for their constituents on September 30. Your club is only limited by members' imaginations. If your club would like to see some ideas for projects, look at the Club Project Ideas in the NDS Toolkit in the Member Portal.

My Digital Library > Resources > N > NDS Toolkit > NDS Club Project Ideas

To participate in the inaugural NDS, please email Melanie Gisler, Director of Membership Services, at [mgisler@gfwc.org](mailto:mgisler@gfwc.org) and cc Deb Strahanoski, GFWC International President, [dstrahanoski@gfwc.org](mailto:dstrahanoski@gfwc.org)

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## Send Birthday Wishes

GFWC Tennessee has a member from GFWC Morristown Ladies Reading Circle who turns 100 on July 21st. Her name is Virginia Anderson, and she joined LRC in 1960 and remains an honorary member. Her granddaughter, Robin Townsend Geddy, reached out to one of the members of Virginia's club, and requested birthday correspondence from GFWC. Let's help the members of GFWC Morristown Ladies Reading Circle and send Virginia Anderson lots of birthday wishes!

Please send Birthday cards to:  
Virginia Anderson  
19423 Chestnut Field Court  
Houston, TX, 77094-1122



## Oregon State President's Project

# Keep Oregon Green

By: Wendy Wheeler Jacobs, GFWC Oregon State President

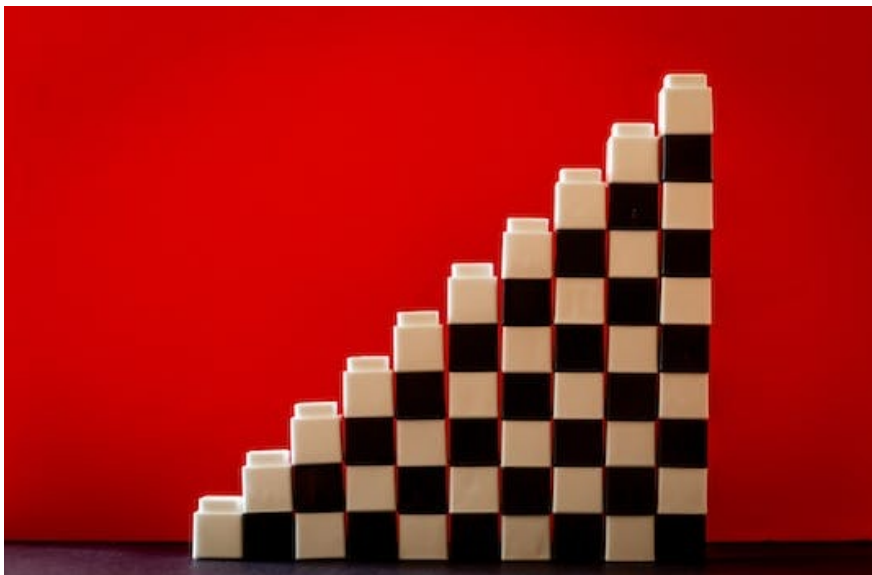
Oregonians refer to this time of year as “fire season” and are often reminded of this by the smell of wood smoke and hazy air outside. Here in the West, our fire season seems to start earlier and end later each year. Over the past few years, we have experienced devastating fires that have impacted everyone in the state... whether they experienced personal loss, supported a friend or loved one impacted, or had to breathe in a hazardous zone of the Air Quality Index. AQI is a household term here, something you check before you go outside for a walk or even make a trip to the grocery store. Needless to say, fire prevention and preparedness are something we think about a lot.

As an outdoor enthusiast and long-distance trail runner, seeing the impacts up close to our beautiful state landscapes prompted me to find a project that could help educate clubwomen on what we could do to prevent fires and protect ourselves, our homes, and our communities. After all, 90% of wildfires in Oregon are caused by humans.

Keep Oregon Green was started 80 years ago and is the longest-standing “Keep Green” state program in the nation. KOG’s mission is to promote healthy landscapes and safe communities by educating the public about everyone’s shared responsibility to prevent human-caused wildfires.

At our State Convention, we featured the CEO of Keep Oregon Green as our guest speaker. She was an outstanding representative of their mission and provided an entertaining presentation that featured KOG’s work over the years. Our President’s Project Chairman followed up with a presentation on the various KOG partners and gave specific examples of projects clubs could manage or participate in. This provided a wide range of opportunities to get involved... from financial to “boots on the ground” type efforts, so every club could find something to engage with our state project. Some clubs have already made donations to the cause or are involved in planting trees and other environmental projects designed to Keep Oregon Green. To encourage immediate participation, attendees at the convention left with a tree seedling of their own.

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## Building Blocks of Leadership

By: Candi Aubin, Leadership Committee Member

“Trust, honesty, humility, transparency, and accountability are the building blocks of a positive reputation. Trust is the foundation of any relationship.” - Mike Paul, Former Major League Baseball Player

**Awareness** — A GFWC leader requires AWARENESS that she understands her unique position. She seeks out knowledge of the organization and its members at all levels.

**Vision** — Uniting people around a VISION and making the necessary choices about what and what not to do helps an organization own its sense of purpose and accomplishment. GFWC leaders use the GFWC Strategic Plan as the path for uniting the vision at the grassroots level.

**Confidence** — An essential building block to making good things happen, CONFIDENCE in leaders builds a strong following. This confidence in the leader builds confidence within the organization. Communication—Good COMMUNICATION for GFWC leaders is listening and hearing what is being said to you. It is not only speaking clearly but ensuring you are being understood and writing clearly with respect to others’ opinions.

**Trust** — A trusted leader will experience less scrutiny. Trust is the glue that binds the leader to her followers, creating and building a broad organizational culture of TRUST.

**Gratitude** — Showing appreciation for a job well done is great for the morale of your members, especially when the GRATITUDE is spontaneously generated from within and shows an affirmation of goodness and warmth.

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## Done-In-A-Day Projects

Health & Wellness

GFWC members are the helping hands for Health and Wellness. You are crafting “smile bags” and gowns for Operation Smile, assembling comfort kits for parents of NICU patients for March of Dimes, and sewing pillows for cancer and heart surgery patients. GFWC club members have found ways to creatively fulfill the objectives in the areas of disease prevention, nutrition, and physical and emotional well-being.

Here are some projects to help your club get involved:

**Magic Yarn Project** - Members cut and bundle “yarn hair” and/or crochet magical wigs and character beanies for children undergoing treatment for cancer. For more information, instructions, and patterns, visit <https://themagicyarnproject.com/start-here>.

**Coping Kits** - Fill bags or baskets with items to deal with stress and anxiety, such as journals, sensory fidget toys, stress balls, stickers, books related to mindfulness, pens, and pencils. Include a suicide prevention helpline silicone bracelet. Distribute the Coping Kits to schools, counseling organizations, or doctors’ offices.

<https://www.supportstore.com/wristbands-suicide-prevention-awareness-purple-turquoise.html>.

**Goodie bags for Meals on Wheels Clients** - These bags may contain a seasonal non-edible favor and literature on nutritious food choices, safe food handling, and chair exercises. Include a “brain teaser” or puzzle for mental stimulation.

**Safe Trick-or-Treating** - Participate in your local Trunk-or-Treat. Prepare Halloween bags with non-food items for safe trick-or-treating for children with food allergies. Members dress in costumes and decorate their trunks with club-identifying decorations.

These are just a few Done-In-A-Day Project ideas that will offer fun club fellowship while positively affecting those in need. Have Fun!



## Volunteers in Action: GFWC Delaware

GFWC Delaware showed their support for Ukrainian women by presenting this stunning art piece. The embroidery by artist Deborah Johnson was given as a gift of love from GFWC Delaware to the Mitzi Perdue School for Girls in Ukraine.

In a collaborative effort, each flower was individually stitched by different parties. American Red roses representing the USA, Sunflowers for Ukraine, Peach Blossoms for Delaware, Forget Me Nots embroidered by an Alaskan tribe member, and pink roses by

young mothers from a Delaware school were stitched to contribute to the gift from GFWC Delaware!

The base Ukraine silk was dyed by artist Johnson to match the blue color of the Ukraine Flag. The piece is entitled “Embracing Ukraine Lives.”

Submit a story about the awesome things YOUR club is doing in the community to [PR@gfwc.org](mailto:PR@gfwc.org).

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