



NEWS & NOTES

YOUR WEEKLY UPDATE ON GFWC NEWS

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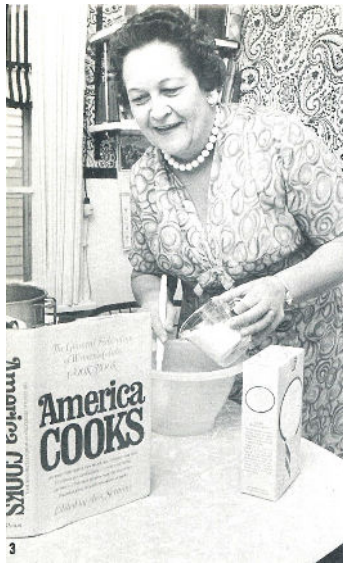
November 7, 2024

GFWC: Sense of Purpose

Celebrating Veteran's Day: Civic Engagement & Outreach



GFWC members have long had a heart for recognizing and supporting our nation's veterans. Members are encouraged to research local or national programs that support our military. The United States Department of Veterans Affairs can direct you to assistance programs for those currently deployed, military families, and/or veterans. If your club wants to work specifically with women veterans, contact the Women Veterans Program Manager at your VA Medical Center or local residential living or assisted living manager.



WHRC: From the Archives

As we approach the holiday season, the November issue of the WHRC blog focuses on club cookbooks in the Archives. Read about the wide variety of cookbooks in the collection, learn about some of the historical and cultural insights these books provide... and check out a few recipes that might be a good fit for your table this year!

[Read Now](#)



GFWC Cre-Ser, Brazil

GFWC International Affiliates Update

By: Nancy Ames, GFWC International Liaisons Chairman

GFWC is an international organization that is making a global impact. The first GFWC International Club, Bombay Sorosis of India, was founded in 1868 shortly before Jane Cunningham Croly founded the original Sorosis Woman's Club in

New York City. Over time, the number grew to 81 international clubs in 55 countries. Fast forward to 2016, this number had dropped to 16 clubs in 12 countries. At the start of this administration, there were 19 international clubs in 15 countries, totaling 2,556 members. With great interest from GFWC leadership and the committee, that number has increased with the addition of several new clubs, including the GFWC Women's Steering Committee Curacao with 540 members, bringing our total international membership to 21 clubs with over 3000 members, with a few more possibilities in beginning stages.

GFWC International Liaison Committee members will each collaborate directly with four international clubs through newsletters and make a more personal connection via Zoom.

The process for building new GFWC International Affiliate clubs and membership is being updated, including the membership application, sample bylaws, and steps for starting an International Affiliate club. This information will provide good information and the process for members who travel abroad or those with friends and relatives in another country who may be interested in starting a new club.

Just like clubs in the United States, GFWC International Affiliate Clubs work in their communities with a great focus on helping those in need and changing lives.

Contact Nancy Ames at nancygfwcomes76@gmail.com if you have a lead on forming a new International Affiliate club.

Cares & Concerns

We are saddened to share the passing of Jo Rousseau, GFWC Maryland Past State President (2000-2002). Her funeral arrangements and obituary are available [here](#).

If you would like to express condolences, please send them to:

Mr. Jerry Rousseau

12570 Yardley Dr.

Boca Raton, FL 33428



Enthusiasm, Kindness, and Friendship in Action

By: Rose Logston, 2024-2026 Great Lakes Region
President

The enthusiastic members of the GFWC Great Lakes Region “Celebrated Positive Connections” as they gathered to be “Educated, Engaged, and Empowered” in Michigan. We enjoyed the wonderful weather as we toured Frankenmuth and wondered how we would get those special Christmas ornaments home safely.

On Friday night, we celebrated “Rosie the Riveter,” the cultural icon that represents the women who worked in factories and shipyards during World War II. and offered a special tribute through a Rosie parade. The outfits were creative, with our own GFWC International President and President-elect participating in the fun.

The weekend’s agenda was full of presentations and educational opportunities. One of the highlights was the 2024 LEADS graduates sharing their seminar experiences and how the program has helped them become more confident in their leadership potential.

Instead of choosing a single project for members, they were encouraged to focus on projects they felt passionate about and for which they could encourage renewed enthusiasm. The “Great 8” state leaders shared their goals for their respective states and plan to engage members about established goals.



Janie Surman, GFWC LEADS graduate presented on Saturday under the direction of Shelli Fehr, GFWC Leadership Committee member.

The members did not forget their hurricane-affected Federation sisters and donated funds to go directly to those in need. Attendees also brought items for the Whaley Children's Center, which was chosen by the GFWC Michigan State President. Over \$1,500 in goods and gift cards were presented to the president of the children's center at our luncheon.

I am very proud to be the president of our great Region and proud of the commitment of our members as they are *Living the Volunteer Spirit*.



The GFWC Annual Giving Program

By: Linda Babeuf, GFWC Annual Giving Committee

HONOR THE LEGACY - SUSTAIN THE FUTURE

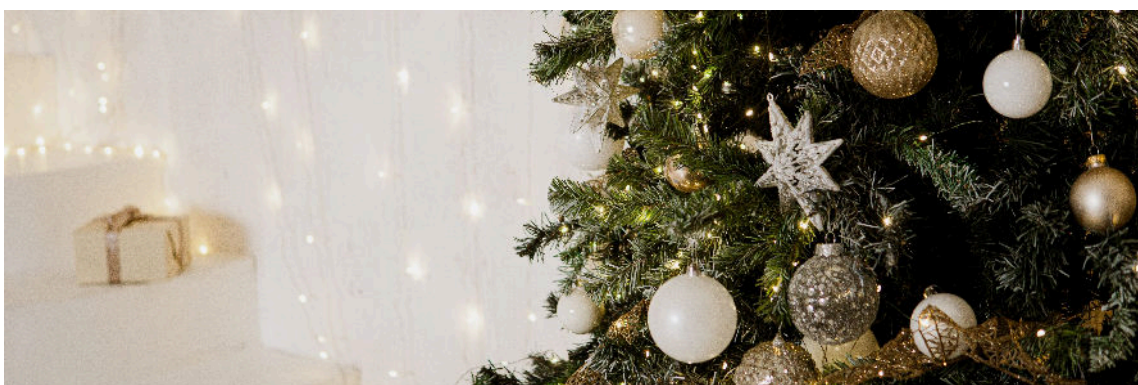
What does GFWC mean to you, and how do you feel about the history and accomplishments of this International Organization? How do you feel when you wear the GFWC Emblem, or someone asks you to explain GFWC? Hopefully, you feel a sense of immense pride for the accomplishments made over the last 134 years, the service members have given, and the passion and enthusiasm members have for the work we have ahead.

Have you visited GFWC's home at 1734 N Street NW in Washington, DC? If not, it is well worth the visit. The GFWC International President resides at the Headquarters during her term, and the headquarters buildings are always a hub of activity. GFWC Headquarters hosts committees, dignitaries, and special events and is home to the history of our organization found inside the Women's History and Resource Center. What a jewel the GFWC Headquarters is and must remain.

It is up to us, GFWC members, to sustain the future of our organization. An international organization that has given so much to us. We must place value on the existence of a physical home for GFWC just as our foremothers did in 1922 when they rallied and fundraised to purchase this magnificent landmark.

How can you help? Through the Annual Giving Program, members are encouraged to become recurring donors to GFWC. Donating at your determined level consistently, whether monthly, quarterly, or annually, provides individuals, clubs, states, etc., a way to support our organization. Members and donors have the opportunity to make donations and direct their funds to the area(s) of their choice. GFWC has made a significant impact on us and throughout the world over the years, and it is now time for us to honor its legacy and ensure its future.

Commit to GFWC Today



Unwrapping the Joys of the Holidays

Get ready to be dazzled this holiday season as the GFWC International President and her design team prepare a breathtakingly festive setting, perfect for celebrating the Season of Giving. Every corner of the grand drawing room will be transformed into a magical wonderland, reflecting the joy and warmth of this cherished time of year. Each carefully crafted element is meant to capture the true spirit of giving, honoring traditions, and welcoming all into a space filled with kindness and unity.

Mark your calendar for the GFWC Holiday Open House on Wednesday, December 4, where guests will be welcomed into a celebration of generosity and connection.

Take a moment and RSVP at memberportal.gfwc.org/events if you have not already done so.

If you are planning to bring a group, please contact GFWC Events Manager
Nishu Raina at NRaina@gfwc.org



Members of the General Federation Boosters, circa 1977

Join the GFWC Boosters!

Do you have a volunteer service-minded significant other who supports you in your GFWC club projects? Perhaps they would like to join a community of supportive partners. Then the GFWC Boosters may be the group for them, especially at the GFWC Annual Convention!

Joining the GFWC Boosters means being part of a group that values service, collaboration, and positive change. Whether you have a passion for volunteering, event planning, or simply want to connect with like-minded people, there is a place for you here.

Members of the GFWC Boosters, are committed to advancing the mission of the General Federation of Women's Clubs (GFWC) by supporting projects that uplift and empower those around us. From community outreach to advocacy and resource development, or just "hanging out at Convention," we stand as a collective force dedicated to making a difference.

GFWC Boosters meet at the GFWC Annual Convention, participate in convention activities with club members, and plan events.

If you know someone interested in joining or have any questions, please reach out to, Laurence Chia, at gfwc.boosters.pres@gmail.com. Let's work together to expand our membership to include others who support GFWC and make our vision a reality!

A promotional banner for Budget SUVs. On the left is a black SUV. The right side has a dark blue background with white and orange text. The text reads: "GET LOW RATES ON SUVS", "Rent & save on SUVs for as low as \$319/week.*", "*Terms Apply", the Budget logo, and a "Book Now" button.

GET LOW RATES ON SUVS
Rent & save on SUVs for as low as
\$319/week.*
*Terms Apply  [Book Now](#)

Take advantage of Budget's SUV sale and enjoy the luxury of renting a roomy and cozy SUV for only \$319 per week! Whether you're organizing a family vacation, a quick weekend getaway, or simply require additional space for your belongings, this incredible deal is made for you. Don't let this opportunity slip away – reserve your SUV today and embark on your journey with absolute assurance.

Book now using offer code R584749 and coupon **MUWZ055**.

[Book with Budget](#)



Volunteers in Action: GFWC Suburban Woman's Club of Pompton Plains (NJ)

At the end of October, members of the GFWC Suburban Woman's Club of Pompton Plains helped to "Light Up the Town for Breast Cancer Awareness" by decorating the grounds of the Pequannock Township town hall with signs and luminaries.

Send messages through the GFWC Legislative Action Center to your legislative representatives to support eliminating Out-of-Pocket Costs for Supplemental Breast Cancer Screenings [here](#).

Read more about GFWC's Resolution to support Breast Cancer (170-020) in the 2024 GFWC Resolutions, located in the GFWC Digital Library.

Please send your full club name, State Federation, and 100 words on your project to PR@GFWC.org



GFWC Headquarters
1734 N ST NW | Washington, DC 20036
www.GFWC.org

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