



PINE TREE NOTES



GFWC Maine Newsletter
January/February 2013



Volunteer Stewards...Joyfully Serving and Giving to Others



President's Letter

Anne Cress
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Greetings to all my dear GFWC Maine friends, and a "Happy New Year" to each and everyone! I do indeed hope your holidays were filled with joy for your loved ones, as well as for your fellow man. The holidays were dampened this season with the tragedy in Newtown, Connecticut. Our prayers continue to be with the residents of Newtown, and all the members of the community who lost a loved one.

I know as you receive this newsletter, you will have completed your annual club reports and submitted them to Mary Libby and me, and will have made a copy for your own records. As I write this article, I can tell you I am very excited to read what wonderful and creative things you have done in your communities! It will be a pleasure to submit GFWC Maine's report to our Headquarters in Washington,

D.C., and let them know what this great group of women in the northeast are doing for our citizens! I am so hopeful I will see many narratives with your reports. While narratives are not imperative, they do greatly improve our chances of winning an award in our category when we are in Hollywood, Florida attending the GFWC Annual Convention in late June and early July 2013.

Through the end of December, I can say it has been an honor to visit eight clubs throughout Maine. I am scheduled to visit the GFWC Outlook Club in Hartland on January 3rd, the Livermore Falls Women's Club on January 24th, the Waldoboro Woman's Club on March 12th and the GFWC Gorham Woman's Club on March 14th. Thank you to all the clubs who have issued an invitation to me. What a joy to meet the women of the clubs I don't generally see at our Conferences or Conventions. It is always a pleasure to see the many friends in those Clubs I have had the opportunity to bond with at our GFWC events over our many years together!

It was an honor to attend the GFWC Board of Director's Meeting in Alexandria, Virginia in late November and early December. It is always wonderful to renew old friendships and make new ones from across the country. November 29th was a day for Board members to participate in a volunteer service activity. I chose to attend a lovely older home in Alexandria called, "The Friends of Guest House". This is a 501(c 3) organization that offers structure, supervision, support, and assistance to non-violent female ex-offenders seeking to improve their lives and break the cycle of incarceration. A typical Guest House resident is a young adult who has been convicted of a non-violent crime and has suffered physical, emotional, and/or sexual abuse. There were approximately forty of us who volunteered our services to work on multiple activities with the residents, including decorating the Christmas tree inside the home, hanging wreaths and garlands on the outside, cooking and decorating holiday cookies, and writing letters of hope and caring to more than 100 young women who are still incarcerated with

little or no family contact. It was truly an inspirational experience spending time with these young women at “The Friends of Guest House”.

While attending the GFWC Board Meeting, many members went to GFWC Headquarters in Washington, D.C. on Saturday, December 1st, and enjoyed a wonderful buffet breakfast while touring our historic building including the “GFWC Marketplace”, and the archival area of the Women’s History and Resource Center. Our GFWC Headquarters was beautifully decorated for the holidays in Victorian motif with our Maine ornament hanging from the tree. Minnie McCormick of the GFWC Miosac Club designed this lovely piece for the tree.

As difficult as this is to believe, the next edition of the Pine Tree Notes will contain the “Call to Spring Convention”! As a “heads up”, the GFWC Maine Spring Convention will be held at the Merry Manor Inn in South Portland on May 9th and 10th with the Executive Committee meeting on Wednesday, May 8th prior to the start of Convention. It will be an exciting time ladies, one you won’t want to miss! Mark the dates on your calendar to attend!!

Thank you to all of those who have embraced and supported the President’s Special Project, “Newborns in Need”. The donated items of baby clothing, fabrics and materials, essential care products, handmade afghans and blankets that have been received, is fantastic! The need is

great, and your continued support will be very much appreciated by the families who receive these beautiful items for their precious little babies! As in all things, “Together We Can Make a Difference”! A new chapter of “Newborns in Need” has been chartered in the Dover-Foxcroft area called, “Newborns in Need, Piscataquis County, Maine Chapter”. Congratulations to the area GFWC clubwomen and surrounding community citizens for getting this chapter up and running!

I recently saw a bumper sticker. I can’t remember the exact wording, but it went something like this. “If we could all remember the power of love is greater than the love of power, we could achieve peace in our world.” Our GFWC theme song, “Let There Be Peace On Earth”, is a powerful song. Let us all remember in our daily lives the words of this song, “Let there be peace on earth and let it begin with me”.

God Bless You All!
With Federation Love,
Anne H. Cress
GFWC Maine President
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President-Elect

Marjorie Goodwin
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Happy New year to everyone! Another year beginning and this is the time to make plans for the coming year. What do we want to accomplish? Now is the time to look into our communities and identify the needs, if any. There

are many places to look.... schools, libraries, hospitals, nursing homes...and the list goes on. If the task seems too big, we can partner with other organizations. You’ve heard the saying “two heads are better than one”. How about changing it to “two organizations are better than one”. We are all busy these days but there are needs in a community that should be addressed by someone—and who better than an organization dedicated to changing lives by doing public service. As we prepare for the coming year, let’s be active, vocal and visible in our communities. President Anne’s theme describes clubwomen very well.....”Volunteer Stewards Joyfully Serving and Giving to Others”.

It is with great pleasure that I announce GFWC Maine DOES have a selected candidate to represent us as a LEADS ambassador for 2013. The candidate will be announced at our GFWC Maine Spring Convention on May 9th and 10th at the Merry Manor Inn in South Portland. I look forward to seeing you in May. Mark your calendars and plan to bring a car full of clubwomen to the convention. It is a time to renew old acquaintances and meet new friends. This is an event NOT TO MISS!

Enjoy these Winter days (even if the temperature is “minus”) and Spring will be here before we know it. Take some time “just for you” and be ready to get “out and about” doing the work that all clubwomen do.

In Federation,

Marjorie Goodwin
GFWC Maine President-elect
PO Box 266
Clinton, Maine 04927



Vice President

Mary K. Libby
mklibby@yahoo.com

Here we are at the last day of 2012. The day of resolutions, parties, and reflection. I never make resolutions although there are many I should make. Resolutions usually make me feel like a failure since I rarely keep them. Instead, I prefer to reflect on the past year's events -the good, the bad, and the ugly, and especially reflect on the affect these events have had on me. If there are things that weren't what I wanted them to be, I try to decide how they could have been better. For those events that were what I wanted them to be, I look at what and why they were successful.

One of the most meaningful events of the past year was becoming GFWC Maine Vice President. It is such an honor that fellow club women have entrusted this office to me.

With this honor also comes great responsibilities. Once again club reporting changed and it has been my duty to see that all clubs are informed of the changes. Before you can teach others, you have to understand it yourself; I'm fairly certain I have it under control and will be able to help clubs. We shall see.

We spent a lovely Sunday afternoon this fall celebrating Skowhegan Woman's Club's 130th birthday celebration. The club members did a fantastic job with the program. We were especially entertained by Maxine Russakoff who, dressed in period clothing, gave a monologue of the club history. She was perfect.

In November, Carole Quint, president of the Westbrook Woman's Club and I traveled to a meeting of the Southern Midcoast Woman's club. They had a very interesting speaker who spoke of his trip to Mt. Everest and how he recycles used oxygen tanks.

I am always happy to receive invitations to visit clubs. Please invite me any time - to a special program or just to get to know each other better.

I hope your holidays were all that you wanted, and you were surrounded by those you love.

In friendship,
Mary

Recording Secretary

Nancy E. Ames
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Treasurer

Gloria P. Leveillee
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Hello everyone,
I would appreciate it if you would send correspondence to my

Florida address until I return to Maine:

Gloria Leveillee
726 Stokely Lane
Lakeland, Florida 33803

Enjoy the winter... And see you in the spring!

Corresponding Secretary

Sheri Walsh
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I have just a few copies of the Directory left. Please let me know if you would like one. Directory Correction – Page 4 Summer Board of Director's Meeting - Wednesday, July 17, 2013.

The next deadline date for the Pine Tree Notes will be **March 1, 2013**. There is no wiggle room on this date due to Spring convention and getting the call out to everyone.

I would like to request again that all Pine Tree Note submissions be in 12 point font – Times New Roman – single spaced – and NO BOLD print. It takes hours to reformat each and every article submitted when they come in 11, 12, 14 font, and a variety of typeface. I thank you in advance for your cooperation. It saves a lot of time and helps me get the PTN to you in a timely manner.

Sheri Walsh
Corresponding Secretary

Parliamentary Advisor



Sally Manchester
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CLUB NEWS

District 1

The clubs of District 1 have had a wonderful start to this administration.

Eight members of the **Westbrook Woman's Club** registered attendees at the New England Region Conference. Four members attended the GFWC Maine Conference in Ellsworth where they delivered the baby gifts from the shower they had for Newborns in Need.

During October they collected old cell phones for recycling to support the National Coalition against Domestic Violence and had table tents printed with statistics about Domestic Violence that were placed on the tables weekly during the Community Meal.

Three new and one rejoining member were officially welcomed at the November 6 meeting, the day prior to the Lobster Roll Fundraiser, which sold 971 lobster rolls to help provide two scholarships for graduating seniors.

December 4 was Westbrook Woman's Club day at the Festival of Trees. They hosted the Mad Hatters Tea Party for nursing

home residents and other seniors. Members were delighted to have GFWC Maine District 1 President, Sally Manchester and her mother-in-law join them for the Tea Party. (Thank you so much, ladies, Ruth and I had a wonderful time and loved the music!) On December 18 they enjoyed a Christmas luncheon catered by the church and were entertained by the Westbrook High School jazz band.

The **Gorham Woman's Club** had an informative November meeting relating to physical therapy and keeping active. Mary Brumet from Back In Motion Physical Therapy mentioned that improving how a person walks could make an improvement in her balance and even joint pains. It was recommended that having your posture and walking evaluated can provide good ways to improve and/or prevent future issues. Back In Motion provided gift certificates to anyone present interested in having an evaluation.

In December, many club members met for a nice lunch at the Pine Crest Bed and Breakfast in Gorham. From enjoying an 8-cheese quiche to the double chocolate cake the group shared memories of favorite Christmas gifts from long ago, members enjoyed the company of current friends.

The January 2012 meeting will feature writer and speaker, Lenora Trussell, RN and author of the book, "Circling the Drain", a collection of end-of-life journeys. She will be discussing how not to lose our memories as we age. The

February meeting will have a nutritionist from Hannaford to inform the group on how to make healthy choices while grocery shopping.

The Gorham Woman's Club sends wishes to everyone for a safe, warm and healthy winter. May the 2013 year be fulfilling and enjoyable for everyone.

In November, the **21 Club** met at a local artisan's home. We toured his workshop and he showed us how he cuts and polishes rocks that his wife makes into beautiful jewelry. It's always interesting to discover the talent in our community. At this meeting we voted on our annual donation to the Salvation Army for Thanksgiving food baskets for local families in need. Our members are known for their delicious pies, so we've started a fund raiser of selling pies for Thanksgiving.

In December, 18 members of 21Club partnered with women from the Sacopee Valley Health Center and the Methodist Church to pack toys for 60 families, approx. 170 children. This is truly a case of 'many hands make light work'. We look forward to doing it again next year.

21 Club is a group of women that enjoy working together AND socializing together. We had a lovely Christmas party at a local restaurant. Each of us brought a stuffed animal to be donated to the Sacopee Valley Health Center for kids in crisis. We also each brought an ornament to be swapped. It was a fun evening

with lots of good food and laughter.

The **GFWC Research Club** reported that their November book swap was a good introduction to interesting reads for snow bound days and for that reason they do not hold meetings in January and February.

Their December Red Bow project, supporting “The Wounded Heroes of Maine” was well received and our annual tree lighting, carol singing with cocoa and cookies for the community started the season with joy.

Our December meeting and Christmas party welcomed three new members to our club and a rousing Yankee Swap was enjoyed by most.

Plans for a membership display at our local library in January or February and preparation for March Town Meeting food table is in the works.

I didn't hear from GFWC Southern Mid-Coast Women's Club, but know they have been busy enjoying programs and working diligently on membership. I hope to see many of you at spring convention in Portland—close to us!!!! Enjoy the sunny days which are getting longer and it will be warmer soon!!

District 2

November brought a whirlwind of activity for the **Waldoboro Woman's Club** starting off with the traditional fund raising Bake

Sale held at the Town Office on Election Day. The tables were groaning with freshly baked breads, cookies, dessert bars, cakes and pies; each treat lovingly prepared and donated by our Club Members. Immediately following the Bake Sale, members swung into action for the Thanksgiving holiday and once again, the tables were groaning with donations of non-perishable foods and generous donations of cash and time to support our local Food Pantry so citizens in need of Thanksgiving provisions could celebrate a Thanksgiving dinner with their family.

Then came the Christmas season and the talented members spent endless hours knitting, collecting toys for tots in need for distribution by the Fire Department, and again amassing non-perishable foods and cash for the Food Pantry for citizens in need of provisions for Christmas dinner.

The club welcomed a new member bringing the club membership to twenty-six members! Club members celebrated the season with a delightful, festive pot luck luncheon at our December meeting, featuring a luscious baked ham and roasted turkey with all the fixings! It was a wonderful, inspiring, gratifying couple of months' activity.

The club will begin the New Year tending to Club business, starting working group meetings to inject fund-raising activities with some new ideas for membership consideration, and learning to be

better citizens from upcoming guest speakers – January will be addressed by one of the scholarship recipients and February members will learn how to keep themselves and community members safer and more healthy!

Meantime, the Waldoboro Women's Club, GFWC Maine sends warmest wishes for 2013, and wishes for good health and happiness to all!

GFWC Skowhegan Woman's Club members celebrated the 130 Anniversary of their founding in with a silver tea. 2012 also commemorated 120 years federated. Highlights included a history of the founding prepared and presented in period costume by our club Historian, Maxine Russakoff. Billie Sherman wrote and read a special poem for the occasion and Marjorie Goodwin sang the Federation Song, Pine of Maine. State President, Anne Cress attended as did several other state offices and members from around the state.

At the November meeting members voted to have the Pee Gee Hydrangea as the club flower. Marge Black explained that it was chosen because of its beauty in the fall and because it is an old plant that could very well have been used by club founders. DVDs of the celebration will be put in the Skowhegan History House and hopefully the archives at the University of Maine.

In December, members participated in the community holiday celebrations by selling crafts at the school fair and

making Christmas decorations with small children at Santa's Village downtown. The club even had a special "Santa's helper," Sheri Walsh, joined the club at both events. Sheri pitched right in and lent a hand. It was great to have her visit.

December also means "Annual Yelling Auction." A fun time was had by all; money was raised for the club, members cleaned out some of the treasures they had around the house, presents, decorations, and sweets were bought to take home.

All in all 2012 was a very good year and we wish our GFWC Federation sisters a Happy & Healthy 2013.

GFWC/Semper Fidelis Club has had a busy Fall.

In November, members enjoyed a speaker on cheese making from a local producer and owner of Crooked Face Creamery. After sampling a couple of different kinds of her delicious handcrafted farmstead cheeses, many members bought some to bring home and enjoy.

In December, the club purchased gifts for a family from the Domestic Violence Project. Along with money from the club treasury, members also donated, making a wonderful Christmas for this needy family. Members also donated funds to help two families in need from the local school system. For the second year, members decorated a tree at the Redington Home (for the elderly), and this year won second place. (*I saw the tree it was absolutely*

stunning - Sheri) The club won a \$25.00 gift certificate to Pizza Hut which they gave to their adopted Christmas Domestic Abuse Family.

All had a great time at the annual Christmas party, enjoying a fun filled Yankee Swap and delicious sandwiches and treats from their refreshment committee.

The club sent their thoughts and prayers and a donation to fellow GFWC club, the Newtown Woman's Club, to help in their efforts to raise funds for the Sandy Hook Elementary School victims' families.

Now, with the 2013 Community Calendars delivered and the second annual successful Poinsettia sale behind them, members are ready to begin the New Year. First up will be sea glass soap making with President Joyce Noonan from GFWC/Skowhegan Woman's Club. It should be Fun!

The GFWC Dove Society of Skowhegan met on December 19, 2012 at the home of Carol Jarvais for their Christmas meeting/party. The club had another exciting wreath sale this year. Members all agreed that the wreaths (that they decorate themselves) are the most beautiful ones around. The club also finalized their annual RADA cutlery sale, which is also very popular. This Christmas the club adopted two families in need of help from the Family Violence Project. With the clubs' budgeted amount and member contributions these families had many wonderful things under the tree. These families are displaced from

homes due to violence and members were happy to help.

After a fun and exciting Yankee swap gift exchange, participants enjoyed a wonderful meal cooked and provided by members.

The club is pleased to have a new member joining them next month and there are several others who have expressed an interest in becoming members.

Their next meeting will be on January 16, 2013 at the Margaret Chase Smith library.

The GFWC/Livermore Falls Women's Club has slowed for the holidays...well, sort of! They had a fantastic election day bake sale dedicated to the local food cupboard, Tri-Town Ministerium Food Cupboard. This covers Livermore, Livermore Falls and Jay and members were delighted to present them with a check for over \$800.00! They held their annual joint Holiday Luncheon with the Livermore/Livermore Falls Historical Society. This event is always dedicated to the same food cupboard providing package goods and money and brought in over \$400.00 in cash as well as packaged goods. Club Co-President Jackie Deshaies has made this Food Cupboard her project and we are pleased to support her this way.

An order was sent to Heifer International in the name of the club for a flock of geese, a flock of chickens, and rabbits. Members love the organization that self perpetuates the gift by making it a requirement to pass along the first offspring to other

families. They also teach the new owners how to care for the animals or plants.

Members are working on their reports and the New Year is promising some great new activity and the club members' wish better health to all those who have struggled with those issues in 2012. Wishing you all a Happy New Year!

District 3

In November, the **GFWC/Dexter Women's Literary Club** held their annual bake sale at the polls on election day. All the delicious pies and baked goods were sold within 5 hours. The club raised \$262.50! This is always a fun fundraiser for the members. At the November meeting, members brought in teenage Christmas gifts to give to the Sunshine Club to distribute to families in the community. Club President Laura Neal showed members the certificate the club received from the GFWC President recognizing the club's 120th anniversary. The Mystery Member Speaker was Corinne Neal...she taught club members how easy it is to paint! She will definitely return to show other club members her special gift for painting at a future meeting. In December, club members went to a Christmas party and potluck luncheon at President Laura Neal's house. The food and punch were wonderful and Laura got to demonstrate how her Keurig coffee machine works...everyone loved it! Members signed cards for the local nursing homes and caught up on the goings-on with other club members who haven't

been able to attend meetings. Members played Christmas Bingo, unwrapped the presents with oven mitts, and did a Yankee Swap. Club members then sang "The Twelve Days of Christmas" (which no one knew all the words to) to wrap up the end of the party.



Barb Austin, Co-Chairman of the Dover-Foxcroft Kiwanis "Adopt-A-Child" Christmas program, came to a meeting in November to share about how this wonderful program operates. The GFWC Cosmopolitan Club has participated for many years by adopting a child and purchasing the warm winter clothes and a toy or two that help provide a nice Christmas for a child who would not otherwise have the opportunity. It was very interesting to for members to hear about how the names are received, how Dover-Foxcroft Kiwanis partners with Penquis CAP and the area schools. . . and of course, the **many** groups, organizations, churches, and individuals who help out. As in the past, the club members adopted a child and were pleased to be able to provide the items on the child's need/wish list, including hat, gloves, jacket, snow pants, jeans, and a great big set of matchbox cars to go with a

"village floor pad" to use the cars and trucks on. About 130 or so children benefit from this outreach program and GFWC Cosmo members are proud to do what they are able to, to help support this tremendous project. December, being such a busy time of year, members decided to forgo the business meeting and opted instead to meet at the Wagon Wheel in Abbot to enjoy lunch together. Club member Doris Scott gave each member a little bell, and she asked that each one hang it somewhere in her home as she prepared for the holidays, and to make a wish for the club! Let's hope these wishes come true!!

The **GFWC/MIOSAC Club** met on November 6, 2012 where members saw the award Maine Secretary of State Charles Summers presented to GFWC Maine's President (and MIOSAC Club member) Anne Cress, to honor Maine's 100 years of incorporation. Members also had fun learning to make Christmas cards, using CricutTM cut shapes, stamps, ink, glue and card stock. Much fun was had by all! November 20th's meeting saw the Club collecting \$236.00 and calling for volunteer shoppers to provide Christmas for two children adopted from the annual Kiwanis Adopt-A-Child program. The Club adopts two children every year. The program was presented by Dover-Foxcroft's former (retired) postmistress about her trip to India for her daughter's wedding. She displayed the Indian garments and jewelry that she wore, as well as pictures of the ceremony and celebrants. The stories about the

traffic, having wedding clothes made to order in two days, participating in a multi-day celebration, and being immersed in a completely different culture from that of the U.S. were fascinating. During both meetings, the Club continued to collect items for the Bangor Ronald McDonald House. The Club held its annual Christmas party on December 5th. The clothing and toys that Club shoppers purchased for the children adopted for Christmas were on display. Members enjoyed visiting with each other, eating good food lovingly prepared by the hostesses, and participating in a Yankee swap of gifts. We are now past the Winter Solstice and the shortest day of the year, and Christmas. Happy New Year to all!

The **GFWC/Outlook Club** of Hartland had a very interesting program at the November meeting. Ellen Bridge, pastor of the United Methodist Church in Newport and a club member, presented a brief history of the Salvation Army and how it operates to assist those in need in our area. The December meeting was a celebration of Christmas with games, trivia and stories presented by hostesses, Helene Libby and Janet Stedman. A new member, Joyce Weymouth, was welcomed at this meeting!

The **GFWC Newport Woman's Club** welcomed a new member at their December meeting. Mary Cate Cole recently moved to Newport. As she surfed the web she came upon the GFWC Headquarters site. Her interest

was piqued and she searched for a club in or near the town she had just moved to. Headquarters contacted GFWC Maine's Membership chairman Carol Jarvis, who in turn contacted a member of the Newport Club. We welcome Mary Cate to GFWC. It's good to see the system at work! Club members collected personal care items to be sent to a member's granddaughter serving in Afghanistan. Three very large boxes were sent to be dispersed to her unit. Seamstresses and knitters are busy creating for several different projects. The Newport Club does not recess during the Winter but we are at the mercy of the weatherman. We are hopeful that all our scheduled meetings will be able to be held.

The **Patten Woman's Club's** December meeting was a large meeting with 20 members present. The club had the meeting and discussed a dinner that was to be done for the local health center for a fundraiser on December 20. They also donated to Toys for Tots and collected money for the library as is done yearly in December. A light lunch followed that all enjoyed and then a Yankee Swap.

The **Pittsfield ARTS(Always Ready to Serve) Club** has had a busy fall. At the November meeting club members enjoyed a talk from the director of the local food pantry. She spoke of the needs and the services of the local pantry. A donation was given and the members expressed their desire to help if there is anything needed. The club held their

annual Christmas Craft Auction on Sunday December 2nd. The weather was not good but it was decided to hold the auction just the same. Mostly club members enjoyed the afternoon and came away with some wonderful items made by their fellow club members. The club was pleased to raise almost \$600.00 for the club treasury. A wonderful Christmas party was held on December 10th at the home of Valory Slymon. The club had decided previously not to do a gift exchange but to give to a local charity instead. Over \$100 was given to the local fuel assistance program. Gifts were collected for the local Women's Domestic Shelter. A carload of gifts were given to the shelter in hopes of making their Christmas a little brighter. The January meeting will be at the Warsaw middle school and the club will enjoy music from their band. The holidays have been fun and we have been able to help some people as well.

At their November meeting, members of the **Pittsfield Tuesday Club** heard a member of the Pittsfield Historical Society speak about what was being planned to improve the condition of the railroad depot building which is being used as a place to display memorabilia of Pittsfield. The Pittsfield Tuesday Club members enjoyed their annual Christmas dinner at Raejean Hersey's home in December. After a delicious meal, the members played Christmas word games. The club will not be having a regular meeting in January or February. Meetings

will resume in March at the Pittsfield Library at 1:00 pm on the second Tuesday of the month.

District 4

The **Castine Woman's Club** hosted a second successful and well attended political forum this past fall, this time for candidates running for town selectman.

The Club held its annual Election Day Bake Sale on November 6, 2012. As always, the voters appreciated the home-baked goodies. The proceeds go toward the CWC Scholarship Fund.

GFWC Maine President Anne Cress and Minnie McCormick were well received as they shared details on the "Newborns in Need" project at the CWC November 7 meeting at the Wilson Museum. Club members are now busy knitting through the winter months.

President Val Taub and Delegate Jean Devereux attended the November meeting of the Women's Legislative Council of Maine. It was an informative day focusing on elder care of which Jean enthusiastically shared with CWC members in December. What a great group of women at the Council, many of whom are GFWC Maine members.

On December 4, the CWC met at the Trinity Episcopal Church, the Club's temporary home while Emerson Hall, the Club's usual meeting site, is under renovation. Members gathered to make holiday centerpieces and swags, both for themselves and for ill members. Inspired by a rousing

presentation by Maxine Russakoff (ESO Chair) at Fall Conference, CWC President Val Taub encouraged Club members to resurrect Epsilon Sigma Omicron reading group at CWC. Fingers crossed.

The Club does not hold general meetings in January and February, but does have a number of activities lined up. The CWC will host its annual Winter Bridge Luncheon on Thursday, January 24. On Tuesday, January 29, the first of three 2013 winter Dinner-at-Noon lunches will be held to benefit the Community Improvement Project. There will be two more Dinners-at-Noon on February 26 and March 26. In recognition of CWC's 100th Anniversary in 2013, small historical presentations are being planned during the meals.

When members come together again to meet on March 5, speaker Sue Walsh will update the Club on "Economic Development in Castine." GFWC Maine members are always welcome at this or any other CWC meeting or event.

The Castine Woman's Club is excited to celebrate its Centennial in 2013!

Best wishes from Castine Woman's Club for a Healthy and Happy New Year 2013!

The GFWC Narraguagus Women's Club met November 8 for lunch at the Milbridge House. After the luncheon the group traveled to Cherryfield to the EDGE Educational Building.

Charlie Harrington, Director of The EDGE Educational Programs, gave the Club and guests an informative talk on the after-school programs available for area children. The programs are to improve academic performance, explore career options and to learn problem solving and technology-based skills. Presently, over 500 students are participating in these programs.

The Club presented the Chairman of the Milbridge Fire Department Auxillary, Sheila Wallace-Leighton, with 68 children's hats, mittens/gloves and scarves. These items were given out to area children at the Auxillary's "Meet and Greet Santa" event at the Milbridge Safety Complex. The Club received donations of hats, mittens, gloves and scarves for this project from two out-of-state ladies who heard about our projects through our members.

A donation of \$100.00 was given to the Milbridge Area Merchants Association (MAMA) for their "Breakfast with Santa" project. What a great event for the families in the area! It is a wonderful sight to see the different generations participating in this holiday gathering. Breakfast is served along with musical entertainment and dancing. Children meet Santa and have their picture taken with him. All the children receive a gift from Santa.

The members once again chose to give Christmas presents to a deserving young person in Washington County rather than exchange gifts. The Club

coordinated this project with the Washington County Children's Program in the Machias area. The WCCP Outreach Coordinator, Sonja Ramsdell, furnished the club with a name of an individual and a list items the young person could use--from toys to clothing and underwear. The gifts were presented to Sonja Ramsdell at the Club's Christmas Luncheon Meeting on December 11 held at the home of Barbara Kneeland. What a great way to spread holiday cheer to a deserving child.

A committee will furnish goodies, paper products and balloons for the Valentine Parties to be given at the Grace Home and the Milbridge Sunrise Home. The club meetings will be recessed until April 4.

In November, **The Lubec Women's Club** met for lunch and a brief business meeting at a local restaurant, then went on to tour the Burnham Tavern Museum in Machias. The Tavern was built in 1770 and has been maintained since 1911 by the local chapter of the Daughters of the American Revolution. Our tour guide was in period costume and offered an entertaining and informative glimpse into the days when the Tavern witnessed the first naval battle of the American Revolution.



Things weren't as green on a chilly day in late fall as the photo suggests but we had a great time anyway.

Just before Thanksgiving the club conducted their annual Turkey Raffle. Actually it's for several turkeys and all the trimmings to go with each of them. Members staffed a table at the local market to sell tickets, local folks responded well as usual and were able to raise more than \$500 for their scholarship fund and other projects. One of the winners asked to see that the prize went to a family that needed it and the club members were able to arrange that through the local food bank.

After their formal meeting in December (during which members collected cash donations for the food bank) members treated themselves to a cookie swap, well....., swap and tasting. Each member was asked to make four dozen of their favorites, three dozen to be "swapped" and the fourth dozen to be donated later in the week to a community Christmas party for local seniors. Seven or eight members then served at the party, the guests especially enjoyed their elf hats. Sorry, no photos, you'll have to imagine the rather large hats on rather small heads.

Best wishes to all for a happy, healthy and wonderful new year!

Committees

ARTS

Cause

I took my children to see several artist's work including "Blackie" Bernard Langlais, Lousie Nevelson, Andrew Wyeth & Winslow Homer. They wanted to hug the lion in Bernard's front yard and laughed at painted toilet seats by Nevelson. They were in awe of the seascapes they saw at the Farnsworth Art Museum.

Each child, now adults, is artistic and creative in their own way, as they create websites, brochures & photography that requires an eye for art. I'd like to think that those excursions helped to foster their art interests, just like a trip to a paper mill and receiving a ream of white paper helped to foster and encourage my art.

Many thanks to the following for supporting the High School Art, Membership Photography and Writing Contests for 2012.

Castine Women's Club
Lubec Women's Club
GFWC The Dove Society
Gorham WC
Livermore Falls WC
Miosac WC
Patawa WC
Semper Fidelis Club
Skowhegan WC
Westbrook WC

I have painted scenes across the USA, and in Jamaica, Canada and Nova Scotia, but still find Maine the beauty that touches me as no other place can.

If, you love to write, please enter the Creative Writing Short Story

and Poetry Contest. Send entries to me by March 1, 2013.

Make your art talent a priority. I hope to see you at the art show in the spring, till then, think ART!

Barbara Hathaway, Art Chairman
bhaway@myfairpoint.net

ENDOWMENT FUND

Happy New Year! Hope your holiday was healthy and merry. We had a successful Fall Conference and with the help of my committee we made \$142.00.

Thanks to the creativity of Ruth Gammon and Muriel Bowerman, we had some unique Dove Ornaments and also a very proper Mr. and Mrs. Pilgrim for a raffle, which made for an interesting table . Thank You Ruth and Muriel.

I also want to thank each and every Club for their donations. Thank You for your generosity.

See you in May with more interesting crafts.

Nancy Kenty

ESO

Epsilon Sigma Omicron

Cold weather....hot cocoa... with marshmallows.....soft music in the background AND a GOOD BOOK!!!! Put your pj's on early, create one night minimum for YOURSELF. You don't even have to feel guilty about things

that are not yet done...you ARE DOING something!

They may think you are just goofing off or being lazy (unproductive). You aren't... you are on assignment....the ESO list calls you. I expect to hear from lots of you now that the holidays are over and your New Years Resolutions beckon.

Maxine Russakoff,
PO Box 6
Skowhegan, ME 04976
maxphil2002@yahoo.com
474-2631

MEMBERSHIP

All the hustle and bustle of the holidays is gone and the new year is upon us. All clubs have completed their reporting (PHEW!) and are ready to tackle more club work. As your membership chair I feel it is one of my responsibilities to ask you to remember all the hard working ladies who have been club members for some time. It is also one of my responsibilities to ask you to recruit new members into your clubs.

I would be remiss if I didn't remind you that our long time members have not heard of all the wonderful benefits we receive from our parent organization, GFWC, in quite a while. Wouldn't it be a good idea to reintroduce them to all these benefits? At one of your meetings you could take a few moments to review what federation is all about and what it offers to its members. You will be amazed by everything you may have heard in the past but had forgotten. There are also

many new things that some of your members probably aren't even aware of. Have a Re"Member" Orientation to revisit and refresh everyone's memory. What a great way to regain this information, hearing it again together and learning about all that's new!! Perhaps this will help to retain some members and refuel their tanks to keep doing all the great work they all do.

Remember the importance of having a new member orientation. I recommend you hold an orientation for all new members. Your new members are completely in the dark when it comes to GFWC. You need to educate them as to what GFWC is today, what it has accomplished in the past, and where it is headed. New members have to be told all the good things we accomplish within our communities, but they also must be told of our accomplishments as part of a larger organization and of the benefits of belonging to that organization.

We work hard on our club projects helping our communities through our volunteerism. We must be resolved to work hard to retain our members. We must keep them interested and informed. We must keep up with change and embrace it. The returns will be rejuvenated members who can't wait for the next project and who recruit new members to join them.

So, in this new year let's make it the responsibility of all of us to re"member", review, renew, reintroduce, reeducate, refuel,

retain, and recruit for the future of GFWC. Go GFWC Maine!

Don't forget to "dig out your boots" for the winter recruitment season now in full swing and be ready for the spring season which will be upon us before you know it.

Membership – the Soul of the Federation! It's not possible without YOU!!

Carol Jarvais
Membership Chairman

JENNIE AWARD

Who among us really shines like a star through her volunteer service to her club, her community and her family? Is she hiding out there among your members?

We'll bet she is too modest and unselfish to say. "Look at me, I'm wonderful". So it's up to you to discover your club's shining star and tell everyone about it.

The Jennie Award, a national GFWC recognition program honors one clubwoman who exhibits the spirit of independence and courage exemplified by our GFWC founder Jane Cunningham Croly, better known by her pseudonym "Jenny June".

Nominations for the "Jennie Award" will be judged on the following areas:

Commitment to Club

The nominee should demonstrate growth in her leadership positions

including volunteer programs & projects; promotion of the club, and share an active role in both membership retention and growth. Her commitment should be continuous throughout her club years.

Commitment to Community

Addressing personal commitment to community needs and concerns. not just in her club activities, but through volunteer service to other community organizations such as schools, hospital, workplace, scouting, YWCA, elected or appointed leadership positions.

Commitment to Family

The nominee should exemplify outstanding concern for the well being, health and welfare of one, or more, persons on an ongoing basis. That person(s) could be older, younger, part of the nominee's family, or an extended family member.

As you can see, the Shining Star we are seeking is an exceptional woman who has devoted her life to others through volunteerism. Now that you have that special GFWC woman in mind, here's what you need to do:

1. Get the official nomination form at www.GFWCmaine.org
2. Furnish a photo of the nominee (5"x7" or smaller)
3. Include 2-3 media articles with stories of successful projects the Nominee participated in

4. Letter of endorsement from the President of her GFWC club and Letter of endorsement from another organization

5. Complete the official Nomination Form

6. Write a written narrative of 500 words, or less, stating why you Believe your nominee should win the "Jennie Award"

7. Submit the nomination form and all supporting materials to: (keep a copy for your club)

Barbette Schafer,
Jennie Award Chair
154 Seymour Cove Road,
Bowerbank, ME 04426-5405
bschafer@mainstream.us

MUST BE POSTMARKED BY JUNE 1, 2013 (so get moving)

Lastly, pat yourself on the back for completing a job well-done!

The GFWC "Jennie Award" will have eight (8) regional finalists. The regional winners will receive round-trip transportation to attend the 2012 GFWC Annual Convention in Charlotte, NC in June, 2012. The successful winner will receive the award from the GFWC International President for her lifetime achievement.

This is the highest honor bestowed by GFWC International. And you can puff with pride that your best friend is recognized as our Shining Star.

Barbette Schafer, Chair
GFWC Jennie Award

PRESIDENT'S PROJECT

Newborns in Need

Happy New Year to all. Hope your Christmas was merry and bright. Snow has been falling and causing problems here.

Anne and I are pleased to have attended eight clubs and will visit GFWC/Outlook Club in January. Thank you all for your generous donations to Newborns In Need. We have a warehouse of items and they continue to come in. We were blessed with a huge box of fabric I hope to get into soon. I am waiting for the time when we can give items away. Being the holiday season, we have not had our informational meeting. I am hoping January will allow us to do that.

Clubs that have sent donations are GFWC/Dexter Women's Literary Club, GFWC/ Lubec Woman's Club, GFWC/Miosac Club, GFWC/Gorham Woman's Club, GFWC/MFWC Arts Club and GFWC The Dove Society.

Individual pledge cards are Barbara Glover, Anne Cress, Danielle Mutty, Mary Kate Cole and Betsy Willey.

More details on Piscataquis County Chapter in the next edition.

See you all in the spring. Have a wonderful, safe winter.

Love to all,
Minnie McCormick
budmin@myfairpoint.net

MaineYouth Leadership www.maine youth leadership.org Leadership – Volunteerism – Character

Recruiting is underway for the 2013 seminar to be held May 30-June 2 at the University of Southern Maine in Gorham. MYL looks forward to making a difference in the lives of young people as they are impacted in a positive and life-changing way. We continue to be grateful and thank the many dedicated people who make this seminar happen. Every one of them gives of their time and talent so that your donations go directly to benefit the students. MYL is grateful indeed to our Maine clubs for the support and investment in Maine's young people!

Thank you to the following clubs for their generous contributions:

GFWC/MFWC Miosac Club
GFWC/Lubec Woman's Club
GFWC Dexter Women's Literary Club
GFWC/Gorham Woman's Club
GFWC/Narraguagus Women's Club
GFWC/MFWC Westbrook Woman's Club

"MYL taught me so much! As an individual, I am even more motivated to participate in my community; and the program has taught me to take initiative to lead others. MYL has not only taught me about myself, but it has also touched me deeply. I am so grateful that I was able to be a part of this great experience." - 2012 Ambassador

Thank you to the clubs who are yet to contribute for their consideration.
(See p. 63 in new Directory).

A full scholarship is \$250, but any amount given is greatly appreciated. Contributions and questions may be directed to:

**Gloria Tewhey,
MYL Chairman,
3 Valley View Dr., Gorham,
04038 (207)839-4157 or
gtewhey@maine.rr.com**

DELEGATES FUND

"Thank you" to the following clubs for your support of the Delegates Fund:

GFWC/The Dove Society
GFWC/Dexter Women's Literary Club
GFWC/Gorham Woman's Club
GFWC/Lubec Woman's Club
GFWC/Westbrook Woman's Club

I hope you have a healthy, happy new year as you continue your club activities.

Juanita Pressley
Chairman

Washington, DC Trip

March 10-14, 2013!
Ladies, here is the final information for the Washington DC trip!!!!

After talking to a couple of tour companies, I have decided to go through Tourbusters, of Falmouth Maine. This is LOCAL owned and I have worked with him before. I also have a price and date! It will be \$675 based on double occupancy. You can email for the complete itinerary.

You would need to make a 50% deposit at the time of booking and the remainder due 30 day prior. You can call Barry (owner) at 781 8896 to book or if you have any questions. Just tell him you are calling about the GFWC Maine bus trip, or Megan's trip.

You can call me at 766-6642 or email at southernmidcoastwc@gmail.com.

We do need a minimum of 45 people to do this trip. This is not just for club women! Bring a friend! AND if they are not a member yet we'll have the WHOLE bus ride to get them to join!

INTERNATIONAL OUTREACH

Hello everyone and Happy New Year! I am sure you are all familiar with the four International Outreach Partnerships. GFWC has, but it never hurts to be reminded about them. Heifer International, which specializes in gifts of livestock to farmers.

Operation Smile International, which repairs cleft lips and cleft palates.

Shot @ Life, which works on

vaccines for children. UNICEF, which makes sure children have access to health care and immunization, clean water, nutrition and education.

As always if your club is supporting CARE please send that donation directly to me or our lovely treasure Gloria, I have received a donation from the Westbrook Women's club but am not sure what Gloria has received.

When planning your programs consider adding an international flare. You could host a high school foreign exchange student and or college or university foreign student luncheon or dinner and have them tell you about their country.

Maybe you could celebrate and learn more about Chinese New Year, Cinco De Mayo, St. Valentine or St. Patrick they are from a different land aren't they? You could have a party, history lesson, even bring in entertainment that would represent that country.

Sending money to causes and helping out is very important, but we also need to be educated about what is happening in our world so we can better understand each other.

I will be looking forward to reading all about the International things you gals are up too.

Peace, Joy and Love,
Ann M. Withee-Heald

PUBLIC RELATIONS

WANTED! A volunteer to maintain the GFWC Maine website. Due to the passing of Jason Raymond, who set up and maintained the website since its beginning, new information has not been uploaded on the website.

If this is your area of expertise, this volunteer position would not require a lot of time (at least after the initial start-up time). Currently the website is on space "rented" from Lunarpages. GFWC Maine pays the hosting cost of approximately \$150 annually. Perhaps the right candidate would prefer to set up the website at a different location and build it from the ground up. It is important to note that Suzanne Raymond has MOST of the information in a format that could be emailed to the new webmaster, if starting from scratch is the preferred method. To view the current website go to www.gfwcmaine.org.

The webmaster's role is to *upload* the submitted documents, not *create* the documents. That information is provided to the webmaster by the Public Relations/Website Contact Chairman (who typically receives the document from a member requesting information to be posted on the website). If approved, she forwards it to the webmaster to upload to the website.

If you, or someone you know, would like to help, please contact me or one of the GFWC Maine

executive board officers. Please, don't delay! We need your help!

Laura Neal
GFWC Maine Public Relations
Chairman
ljneal@gmail.com



GFWC Maine State President, Anne H. Cress on her recent visit to the GFWC Headquarters in Washington, D



**Pine Tree Notes
Next Deadline
March 1, 2013**

GFWC/Maine
120 years of Volunteer Service

Sheri Walsh
GFWC Maine Corresponding Secretary
PO BOX 884
Ellsworth, ME 04605