

PINE TREE NOTES



GFWC/MFWC Newsletter
March/April 2009



“It Is Better to Give than Receive”



President's Letter

I can't believe that I am writing a message to the MFWC so soon. We had the GFWC/MFWC Winter Executive Board Meeting at Libby Wiers' home. I went to Winter Harbor February 21st to the District #4 meeting & lunch, then we played Bunko in the afternoon. GREAT time was had by all. Sheri Walsh & District #4 will share the planning of the Spring Convention.

I will be going to District #1 or District #3 meeting on April 18. I hope one meeting starts early and the other later in the day and then perhaps I could go to both meetings. Wish me luck!

Anyone that wants a table at the Marketplace should please let me know. First come, first serve. This is a good way to make money for your club and see old friends as they come to shop.

I just saw a copy of the GFWC Clubwoman for January/February 2009. Maine was in the

news more than once, with a mention or a picture of Olympia Snowe, Susan Collins, and the late Margaret Chase Smith, along with the past presidents, Gloria Leveillee and Katherine White talking with Lilly Ledbetter of Alabama. I was with them. What an honor to see Lilly Ledbetter and talk with her.

I am looking forward to the Convention in Ellsworth. The membership awards and many others will be given out during this Convention. Let's see if we can have more women attend than in the fall!

Yours in Federation,

Jane L. Shaw

Bring donation items to Spring Convention!
See pages 10 & 12 for Domestic Violence agency and Food Pantry suggested items. Please be generous!



President's Schedule

March 10 - Waldoboro WC
March 12 - GFWC/Gorham WC
March 19 - Women's Legis. Council
April 18 - District 1 and District 3
April 21 - GFWC/MIOSAC Club
April 23 - Livermore Falls WC
May 2 - ELF Committee
May 6-8 - Spring Convention Ellsworth
June 12-15 - GFWC Convention Cleveland

Inside News

Officers	Page 2
District Presidents	Page 3
Departments	Page 8
Committees	Page 9
Tidbits	Page 13
NER Candidates	Page 14
Proposed Resolution	Page 15
Call to Convention	Page 16
Report Form	Page 19

Officers



President-Elect

Can you believe it is time to be thinking about Spring Convention? It has been such a busy season, with life in general as well as winter with all its added challenges - we are piled up to our eyeballs in snow in my neck of the woods. While my schedule seems to be very tight and often I feel pressed for time, it is good to know that spring *is* actually just around the corner.

The deadline for this newsletter has arrived far too quickly, but for some odd reason I do feel a bit of comfort in knowing that I am not alone in feeling short on time. We all face that, don't we? "So much to do and too little time." We are all busy women. Have a moment to spare and we never have far to go to find a task that needs to be done!! However, it is important that we grab a moment or two and curl up with a good book or take that nice hot bath filled with bubbles or bath salts with just the right fragrance. Many of you are well involved with local high school art contests and preparing for district meetings, district art contests, planning local fundraisers, and the like. Just remember to take a break now and again and enjoy some down time. Oh, I know "it's better to give than receive" but sometimes we need to give ourselves a moment to relax - we are much more able to serve with a good attitude and a good smile. ☺

I hope we have a great turnout in Ellsworth for our annual convention - mark your calendars (May 7-8, 2009) save some dollars and treat yourself "to a nice vacation" as Marjorie Wood once put it.

I am excited and pleased to announce the LEADS candidate for 2009 is Barbara Austin, GFWC/Miosac Club President. I know she will have a wonderful time on June 12th in Cleveland as well as learn a lot. We all know she will come home even more passionate for GFWC! Congratulations Barb!!

Cheers,

Suzanne T. Raymond
President-Elect



Vice President

Just wanted to let you ladies know, the groundhog that said we have six more weeks of winter, doesn't even LIVE in Maine! Keep in mind, he said that a month ago, and it still looks very white out there to me!

It has been a joy to read all the wonderful Club reports and narratives. I would like to thank the Club Presidents, or their assigned reporters, for taking the time to review what their Clubs have done and to tally up the "numbers". The reports have

been sorted into categories and sent on to our State Chairmen.

I'm sure we will all enjoy hearing from our Department and Committee Chairmen at the Spring Convention about all the many wonderful things the Clubs have been doing. Awards and certificates "spring" from the narratives submitted by our Clubs! Come to Spring Convention and join in the fun as your Club President comes forward to receive that special award for what YOU and YOUR Club have accomplished!!

To the State Chairmen, thank you for taking time to compile these narratives into a report and submitting them to your GFWC counterpart. Our Club members have volunteered many hours and money to change lives and enhance our communities. Always be generous with your appreciation for their work.

I look forward to seeing all of you at the Spring Convention in Ellsworth on May 7th and 8th. You will learn, make forever friends, come home with new ideas, have fun, and be happy and proud to be a GFWC/MFWC volunteer!

Anne H. Cress
Vice President





Recording Secretary

Minnie B. McCormick



Treasurer

Gloria P. Leveillee



Corresponding Secretary

A most important reminder, the next Pine Tree Notes deadline is: **August 1**. CLUB PRESIDENTS: Please send your news to the District President ahead of this deadline to give her time to compile the district report which she sends to me..

Another club year wraps up with an exciting awards Convention. I will have forms available for those clubs collecting Directory ads and order forms for Directory and Newsletter subscriptions. I know some of you like to take care of this early.

I am sick to death of winter, look forward to the coming of spring and hope to see all of you in Ellsworth!

Libby G. Wiers
Corresponding Secretary



Parliamentary Advisor

Katherine L. White

District News



District 1

It may be March, but you couldn't prove it by looking out the window, however daylight savings time begins soon and we have already gained almost 2 1/2 hours of daylight since our shortest day. The women of District 1 have not been in hibernation during this long winter.

GFWC/Westbrook Woman's Club heard Megan Libby, daughter of Mary Libby at their January meeting. She gave a most informative and interesting talk on the various music boxes that can be seen and heard at the Musical Wonder House in Wiscasset. They were also very pleased to welcome 4 visiting members from the Livermore Falls Woman's Club. They held their annual mid-winter luncheon in January and were delightfully entertained by Sue Poulin, award winning writer and performer who also happens to be the daughter of one of their deceased members. In February they enjoyed a "hands on" activity by bringing lotions, soaps, nutritional bars, Jell-O cups, crackers and breads to fill 30 Sunshine Baskets for local shut ins. At their second meeting in February, they welcomed me to speak about updates in women's heart health and encouraged members to become involved in the GFWC "Step For the Roses" walking campaign. We all showed off our pedometers.

The **GFWC/ Cosmopolitan Club of Bath** does not meet in January and February, but has been very busy with clubhouse duties. They are sad to report the loss of longtime, hardworking member Faith Sherwood on Feb. 16th. She was 97. In March they will have a program on Conflict Resolution, featuring Maine's 2008 LEADS graduate, Mary K. Libby. In April, MFWC chairman, Gloria Tewhey will speak about Maine Youth Leadership. They are also busy planning a yard and bake sale for May 2nd (you're invited), and their Annual Senior Tea for Morse High School seniors which has been a tradition since 1953!

The **GFWC/Research Club of Limerick** does not meet in January and February either, but reports that their Red Bow sale netted \$805.00 which was divided between the two local food pantries in Limerick. We also supplied winter clothing to students at the elementary school. They are looking forward to seeing the High School Art at the March meeting and will be selling refreshments at the Limerick Town Meeting on March 14th.

Members of the **GFWC/ Gorham Woman's Club** are looking forward to a visit by State President, Jane Shaw at their meeting. Their April meeting will include an art display of Gorham High School students' work and a talk by last year's Main Youth Leadership participant. Plans are underway for their annual Scholarship Luncheon in April, their biggest fundraiser. They are also using Hannaford Food Store's

“Clink” account to purchase supplies for the luncheon. Club members also bring donations of staples for the local food pantry to each meeting in keeping with President Jane’s theme of giving.

The **21 Club** of Kezar Falls is equally busy with many activities, the details of which we will hear at our District 1 meeting on April 18th at the Cressey Rd. Methodist Church in Gorham. Plan to be there for registration and coffee at 9:30AM meeting will start at 10:00AM. We will have an interesting meeting, high school art display, discussion of the winners and lunch. Hope to see you there.

Sally E. Manchester
President



District 2

We start this report with a short “history” lesson. In 1907, the **Waldoboro Woman’s Club**, along with 9 other Lincoln County Women’s Clubs, were instrumental in starting an assisted living facility called The Lincoln Home. Since that time, and as the only club of the original ten clubs that is still federated, the **Waldoboro Woman’s Club** remains very involved in fundraising events that benefit the Home. One such event was held in December when trees were decorated and sold with all the proceeds going to the Home. (A recent up-date was given to club members by Lynn Norgang, the Lincoln Home Administrator, at their February

meeting.) Also in December, members collected donations for the local food pantry, contributed hand knitted mittens to the local Head Start Program, and learned about the Waldoboro Volunteers which is a new volunteer program.

In December, both the **GFWC/Semper Fidelis** and **GFWC/The Dove Society** adopted families through the local Domestic Violence Shelter and provided those things necessary to make their holiday special.

In January, the **Waldoboro Woman’s Club** reported that they “...went to the dogs” when area minister, Rev. Bev Blasidell, brought Petra, her black lab, to demonstrate their service dog program. While they “went to the dogs”, the **GFWC/Livermore Falls Women’s Club** reported that they “...traveled south...”. After having lunch at DeMillo’s, they traveled to **GFWC/Westbrook Women’s Club** where they enjoyed a lovely program on the Musical Wonder House Museum in Wiscasset. The program included listening to music boxes, learning about them, and left members wanting to take a trip to the museum to see many more. “A lovely tea was served afterwards giving us time to socialize with our Westbrook “sisters”. **What a great idea...** we should “share” more time with other clubs! The **GFWC/Skowhegan Woman’s Club** explored “The Business of Being a Clubwoman”. The program topic was found in their

1936 -1937 Fifty-fourth Annual Program and, from the same program booklet, the members were reminded of the Club Woman’s Creed, which states “I believe in individual responsibility for every interest of the Club, mutual sympathy and appreciation of results.”

GFWC/Livermore Falls Women’s Club has only one formal meeting in the winter but they report that they are never idle! They met at a restaurant in Jay for their annual “Doris’ Brunch”...a “scrumptious buffet brunch” was reported... and, from there, on to a “Scotch” auction... liquid ???...you will have to ask them!

For February, **GFWC/The Dove Society** hosted two Longaberger basket parties with a third planned for February. These are leading up to a week-long “Scholarship” basket event. This has been a very important fundraiser for the club with money going to their very successful scholarship program. The **GFWC/Skowhegan Woman’s Club** had an administrator of the Redington-Fairfield Memorial Hospital as a speaker. Members were given an update on the new construction at the hospital. When the “Healing Garden” is near completion, the Hospital will work with club members in choosing a bench for the garden. Money raised from craft sales will be used to purchase the bench. The club members reported that they are still holding monthly craft sessions at one of the local assisted living centers and participated at the FAB Fair which was sponsored by the Skowhegan Chamber of Com-

merce. Also involved in the FAB Fair, were members of the **GFWC/Semper Fidelis Club** who reported that members are staying "fit" by participating in the "Step for the Roses" program. The club members also helped with the Winter Carnival at Lake George. The **GFWC/Livermore Falls Women's Club** held a workshop in February where they filled gift bags for the elderly and shut-ins. The bags, filled with toiletries, pens, puzzle books, fruit cups, and books, were custom made to fit over a small box of tissues so that, when the "goodies" are removed, the attractive tissue holder can be used. One made with some special touches was taken to a member of their club, Irma Bowles, who is at the Sandy River Center for Health Care in Farmington.

Membership is going up... **GFWC/The Dove Society** reported three new members, the **Waldoboro Woman's Club** held an Orientation for their four new members (which was very informative and organized), and the **GFWC/Skowhegan Woman's Club** has one new member.

The District 2 Co-Presidents have had the pleasure to visit **GFWC/The Dove Society** (in November where we participated in a kitchen-swap), the **Waldoboro Woman's Club** (in February with Valentine sweets and a brunch provided by the hostesses. The hostesses included two new members who are in the process of opening a restaurant in Waldoboro. As Suzi Barbee reported, "Are we glad to have them!") and Marjorie visited

GFWC/Semper Fidelis where a self defense program was given by members of the Skowhegan Police Department.

We end this report on a sad note. The **GFWC/Livermore Falls Women's Club** regrets to report that they lost a beloved member in the person of Billie Gammon in January.

Wilma (Billie) Sherman
Marjorie Black
Co-Presidents



District 3

The **GFWC/ MIOSAC CLUB** has been busy through the fall and winter months with informative meetings and the planning of projects and fundraisers. We have enjoyed speakers on breast cancer awareness and the Susan G. Komen "Walk for the Cure", eldercare and the rising costs in this area of care and on the offerings of the Eastern area Agency on Aging. The club adopted two children during the annual Kiwanis Christmas Project and decorated a tree for the YMCA Festival Of Trees. Our club's tree was festooned with pink ribbons and purple bows-symbolizing the clubs commitment to increasing awareness of domestic violence and breast cancer. Donated food was wrapped as gifts and placed under the tree to be donated to our local food pantry. We were entertained with a Yankee swap at our holiday party and in the new year were treated to a pro-

gram on the Holy Land. Members have been busy knitting prayer shawls for a local church, and quilting lap robes and quilts for the Veterans Home in Bangor and also for Project Linus. Our annual Ice Out Contest began Feb. 15th and will run till March 31st. The person guessing the time and date closest to the actual ice going out of Sebec Lake will win a \$100 cash prize. Planning is also in full swing for our local Art Contest to be held at the beautifully restored Center Theatre in town in late March. During these cold and snowy winter evenings our club has enjoyed our Bi-monthly meetings as a way of staying connected to friends, fighting cabin fever and working on worthwhile projects, but we all are wishing for an early thaw and warmer days.

The **GFWC/DEXTER WOMEN'S LITERARY CLUB** doesn't meet from January to March, but 6 club members signed up for the GFWC Step For The Roses Program, and one club member submitted her photos for the MFWC/GFWC photography contests.

GFWC/ COSMOPOLITAN CLUB of Dover-Foxcroft is trying a few new things. We experimented with moving our meeting time back an hour to accommodate the early sunset this time of year. Unfortunately, it has resulted in lower attendance at our meetings instead of more. We are also going to try raffling a gift card to a local supermarket as a fund raiser and there has been a lot of interested discussion and planning for that. We celebrated Chinese New

Year's (the year of the OX, supposedly good for getting things done) with gingerbread and Chinese Checkers. All those Valentines that we made (and that were hung on our YMCA Christmas Tree) were delivered to the residents of two local boarding homes. Also for Valentines' Day, we supported the local women's shelter in their Valentine's Ballroom Dance by providing lovely floral centerpieces for the tables. We are planning for a local art contest later this spring in conjunction with the GFWC/MIOSAC CLUB, with the entries moving on to the District Art Show.

In October **GFWC/ARTS Club** members visited a home in Newport. The owner showed us his 100 foot high windmill and explained how it produces electricity to supplement his existing power supply for his farm and residence. That month the club also sponsored a "Meet the Candidates Night" at the Pittsfield Town Council Chambers. Area candidates running for various offices were invited to speak and the public was invited. We were proud to have our own Valory Slymon on hand to speak to the group and field questions. Valory is the club past president and ran for the Maine House of Representatives in November. Our November meeting was held at the Pittsfield Town Hall. Kathryn Ruth, the town manager spoke about community projects, plans to assist area residents this winter, and other timely issues. Also in November, two teams of club members and friends were part of a group of volunteers who partici-

pated in 'Operation Keep ME Warm". Each team received kits of supplies such as sheets of plastic, caulking and other materials. They were assigned several homes to winterize with the permission of the owners. This project was aimed at helping our senior citizens and persons with disabilities who receive heating assistance. Our teams, combined with others, completed more than 25 homes. One Friday in January found 14 of our members preparing and serving lunch for 44 area residents at the "Welcome Table". This is a free weekly luncheon for anyone who would benefit from a warm place to socialize and enjoy a nutritious meal. Our homemade soups, breads, fresh fruit and tasty desserts were a huge success. Club members gathered at a meeting room at Cianbro in February to fill colorful bags with goodies for the local boarding facility. One of our loyal members delivered them to residents and attended their Valentine party.

Marjorie Goodwin
Raejean Hersey
Co-Presidents

CONGRATULATIONS!



Barbara Austin
GFWC/MIOSAC Club

2009 LEADS Candidate



District 4

The **Acadian Community Woman's Club** along with community members gathered on Super Bowl Sunday for an afternoon of scrapbooking. A potluck lunch provided delicious dishes. Two members, Sherry Young and Dolora Conley, provided their scrapbooking expertise.

February found members selling Tupperware as a fundraiser. A catalog party proved to be an extremely easy fundraiser netting 40% of the total sales or roughly \$300.00. The District 4 meeting was held at the Masonic Hall in Winter Harbor followed by a luncheon of soups, sandwiches and delicious desserts. Several members along with members from the 5 other clubs in District 4 stayed through the afternoon for the second annual District 4 Bunko game. March brings the Annual High School Art Contest. This year's contest will be hosted by the Acadian Community Woman's Club at Winter Harbor's historic Hammond Hall. Winners will have their works displayed at the Ellsworth Public Library for the month of April. Our contest includes just half of District 4, Castine, Hancock and Winter Harbor. The remaining three clubs hold their annual contest in Machias. Preparations are underway for our annual Memorial Day parade and ceremony in Winter Harbor. We also look forward to a yoga workshop, a visit from an herbalist, our traditional June banquet and annual July Bazaar for which members are crafting and collecting white elephant goods, this fundraiser usually earns the club as much as \$700.00.

February was a good month for the **Hancock Woman's Club** to come out of hibernation! The monthly meeting, "Game Night", gave members a chance to socialize over games. The Club was represented at the District 4 meeting in Winter Harbor on February 21st. This meeting is a great way to share ideas with the other clubs about all their different activities and projects, and the hospitality of the Acadian Community Woman's Club who hosted the delicious lunch and the fun afternoon of Bunko was greatly appreciated. The March meeting will be the annual "International Students Night", when AFS foreign exchange students who attend local high schools will tell about their own countries, and talk about their experiences in this country and their host communities. Everyone enjoys the special refreshments. The April meeting will feature a program on music. Also in April, the club will hold its annual indoor yard sale in the Hancock Grammar School auditorium. This event, coming at the beginning of the yard sale season, always draws a good crowd, and with the sale of hot dogs, sandwiches, and desserts contributed by members, it's a good way to raise funds for scholarships and the clubhouse. We're looking forward to seeing good friends and meeting new ones at the Spring Convention!

The **GFWC/Lubec Woman's Club** continues to sing at the nursing home each month. Their other activities during January and February were postponed due to the winter storms that have

plagued Downeast Maine this winter.

The **GFWC/Narraguagus Women's Club** received \$147 in donations for the local food pantry. Several members and guests hosted the Valentine's Party at the Narraguagus Bay Health Care Facility on February 12th. Todd Yonkman played the guitar. Residents, staff and guests enjoyed a sing-a-long. The local florist donated the centerpiece it was presented to the resident who had been at the facility longer than anyone else. Decorations and flowers were given to the Milbridge Residence Home to enjoy. On February 13th the ways and means committee held a "Sweet Treats Sale" at the local supermarket. The club raised \$268.75. Four club members attended the District 4 meeting conducted by District 4 President Sheri Walsh in Winter Harbor. GFWC/Maine Federation Women's President Jane Shaw attended and provided information on the State organization's events and projects. She reminded the group about the spring convention that is to be held in Ellsworth. She is looking for volunteers. After the District meeting, the Acadian Community Woman's Club hosted District 4 clubs for an afternoon of fun, food and fellowship. The participants learned to play bunko and had a wonderful time and everyone left with a gift. The Acadian Community Woman's Club served soup, sandwiches and desserts. It was nice to get together with members from the Winter Harbor area, Hancock,

Lubec, Machias, Milbridge and Castine. The GFWC/Narraguagus Women's Club will resume its regular meetings on April 6. A special thanks to Sheri Walsh for organizing the District 4 meeting!

Sheri Walsh
President



District 5

Winterport Woman's Club/GFWC has been very productive this administration. President Kathy White reports they worked together with the Volunteer Fire Department and co-sponsored a Spaghetti Sauce Contest and Fundraising Dinner. All proceeds were donated to the town's fuel assistance fund. The judges for the spaghetti sauce contest were: Town Manager Phil Pitula, Representative Mike Thibodeau, Eastern Maine Community College Chef, Russell Flewelling and Channel 5 Weatherman Todd Simcox. The winning sauce recipe was won by Shirley Philbrick. The sauce was used at the spaghetti supper held the following Saturday. A fun and profitable fundraiser!

They donated \$150.00 to the Good Shepherd Food Bank in Brewer with the funds being credited to their local pantry, The Neighbor's Cupboard. In addition, they had speaker from the Food Bank at which time the club donated nonperishable items.

Donations were provided to a woman who had recently arrived in the community, with only

the items she could put in her car. With 2 daughters, the need was great. Over \$300.00 in donated items were given including sheets, pillowcases, pillows, hand and dish towels, stoneware set of dishes, baking dishes, toaster oven, plastic containers, assorted pans, toaster, cups, paper products, cutlery, lamps, gloves, mittens, scarves, and jacket.

The club has also donated five 8-foot folding tables to the Victoria Grant Community Building which is used by the town's organizations and citizens. The old, heavy, well worn tables were in dire need of being replaced. In Kathy's words, "We saw the need and did the deed."

They've had a program on Homeopathic Remedies with guest speaker/club member Mary Goodman, RN. Another meeting was a brown bag luncheon and discussion on the concerns dealing with the loss of members and how to energize members to take on leadership positions. It is interesting to note that they decided to create a questionnaire to be mailed to all the current **and** past members in hopes that it will help will provide some solutions with membership issues.

Suzanne Raymond,
President-elect
Reporting for District 5



Departments



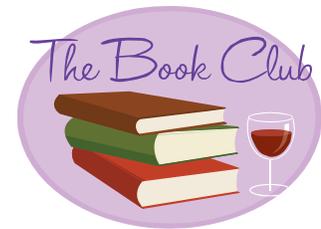
Arts

The multi-tasking required of the Art Department has taken on another report aspect where participation in the club member contest areas of writing, poetry and photography are reported to GFWC. The Creative Arts Program rules are in the MFWC Directory on pages 77, 78, & 79. Photos must be matted and labeled correctly. This is time for the member's talent to shine.

Arts in the Community Program has a focus on promoting all the arts, visual and audio. Clubs can provide programs and projects that highlight youth and support art education in schools, during March, Youth Art Month. That's where the high school art show are so important. Please try to keep those going. Another project could be providing the library or school with art books. Join in an artist workshop, take art or music lessons, take an art retreat with a Maine artist. MFWC have reported theater volunteering, craft workshops

for senior centers, playing the piano and singing in a choral group. Pick a project and add it to your program; just one more program for the arts. Have fun. Invite the public. You may enlist another member.

Barbara Hathaway
Chairman



Education

Do you remember whose birthday is celebrated on March 2? Hints:

.... a favorite of all ages
...wears a rather special hat
...eats strangely colored food
...writes in rhyme

You must have guessed by now: Dr. SEUSS. One of our favorite days to gather with children and read together those wonderful imaginative books. GFWC is partnering with Reading Rockets to read across America especially on that special day.

Another special day, honoring Beverly Cleary, who wrote many favorite books for children of various ages, is April 12th. It is D.E.A.R. Day..... drop everything and read. April 13 - 19 is Week of the Young Child and Children's Book Week is May 12 - 18.

Also under Education is the wonderful ESO (Epsilon Sigma Omicron) ... a self improvement, self-enrichment and personal growth program. We have received data to welcome 2 new members and other pledges. For information, e-mail max-phil2002@yahoo.com and see the GFWC web site...under programs...ESO...Book of the Month selections, Masterpiece and Film Club are new innovations. You may also download the 2007 booklist. There will be a lot more winter days and nights that could become a time of enchantment. ENJOY!!!

Maxine Russakoff
Chairman

Committees



Educational Loan Fund

Just a reminder to District Presidents and Club Presidents that applications for the Maude MacKenzie Scholarship and interest-free loans must be received at my address NO LATER THAN MAY 1. Thanks for spreading the word to our high school seniors, with regard to these opportunities for financial assistance as they begin their first year of college.

Please contact me with any questions you may have. The ELF committee will be meeting on Saturday, May 2, for final decision on applications.

Alida Coates
Chairman
866-2653
alida.coates@Maine.edu



Endowment Fund

Thanks to the 10 Clubs that have sent in donations to the Endowment Fund. There is still time to get your donation in before Spring Convention. I will be away on a family mission from April 2 -April 28. It would be best to get your checks in before that time if possible. Otherwise target closer to the end of April.

Hopefully, you are saving your funds to attend the Spring Convention, May 7 & 8. It takes many singles to make a whole and Maine Federation needs each of us to do our part. Besides, Conferences and Conventions are fun and educational. If you've never been, come and meet your fellow clubwomen from around the state. Ellsworth is a great place to visit so hopefully, everyone will make that extra effort to join us in spite of these hard financial times. Looking forward to seeing everyone there.

The latest donation to the Endowment Fund came from Skowhegan Women's club. If I've missed mentioning your club's donation please let me know and I'll get it in the next newsletter.

Patricia Smith
Chairman

Do an interview!



Historian

March is Women's History Month. I'm hoping those I spoke to at the fall conference have followed through on doing club histories or interviewed club members for the GFWC Oral History Project. I have sent off the reporting information on history projects to the GFWC and in doing so realized how valuable our scrapbooks are as history resources for future clubwomen. I hosted a Patawa Club reunion last fall and had several old scrapbooks for guests to enjoy. Our founding club members were extraordinary women!

If you do submit your club history or oral history to GFWC be sure to send a copy to me for our archives in the special collections at the University of Maine. We have gathered a great deal of information for these archives. The publication *WHRC Guidelines for Preserving and Writing Club History* can be found online at GFWC.org.

Lillian Zanchi
Chairman





Domestic Violence Awareness

Domestic Violence (DV) is still filling the newspapers and news programs in the State of Maine with horrific stories on abuse. Sadly because of the bad economic times DV shelters are seeing a rise in clients. When hard times "hit" the families with losing their jobs, higher prices for necessities such as gas and food, and not enough money to fill all the needs, tempers flare and family members including pets are the ones that are "hit" with the anger.

We, as Maine Federation Women, have begun to do our part in helping to put a stop to DV in Maine communities. I was very pleased to receive reports from the clubs that did report ... Thank You! I am the optimist and I was hoping to have 100% reporting, but we fell way short of that this year. Let me help you in suggesting ways in which your club can support a DV project or program next year in your club. 100% reporting in DV will be our goal. Will you join me? Contact me and we will work to help find the niche for your club in supporting our cause.

President Jane has asked me to ask the members attending our convention in May to bring needed items for the Next Step Domestic Violence Agency for donations to their shelter. I spoke with the program manager and she was thrilled to hear that we were willing to help out. The items that she said they **never have enough**

for their shelter are: **Twin Size Sheets (new or very gently used) and Flashlights.** She shared with me that many of the clients and the children suffer from Post Traumatic Stress Syndrome and they need flashlights to feel safe at night. I hope each club or members attending our Convention will think about bringing one or more of these items to donate. They will be presented to The Program Director, Kelly, at Friday's morning session.

Keep our Vision clear ... Domestic Violence happens to one woman at a time, one teenager at a time and one child at a time. We ... GFWC/MFWC club women can be the "Voices with a Vision" to help end the cycle of abuse in Maine.

Katherine White
Chairman



Jennie Award

REMINDER ~ WILL YOUR CLUB BE NOMINATING A MEMBER FOR THE JENNIE AWARD? I'm sure there are worthy candidates in many clubs throughout our state. Nominees will be judged on their outstanding commitment to their club, community and family. Please refer to the Jennie Award pamphlet under Special Projects in the 2008-2010 GFWC Club Manual for Contest Rules, Public Relations Guidelines, Judging Criteria and Nomination Form. Each club may nominate only one member. Please submit the Nomination

Forms and supporting materials to President Jane Shaw by **June 15, 2009** for state-level judging. Remember ladies, this is the highest honor bestowed by GFWC. Good Luck!

Lynnette Gravel King
Chairman



Leadership

I have had the pleasant task of reading narratives that Clubs submitted with their reports. While the number of reports was small, the projects described were great. Thank you to all clubs who submitted reports.

Mary Libby
Chairman



Maine Youth Leadership

MotivateME

Leadership
– Volunteerism –
Character

www.mainejuvenileleadership.org

This is a reminder to the clubs who don't want to miss being recognized in the Seminar program as a generous supporter of a sophomore to this empowering experience. I thank the many clubs who helped follow-up with their high school in assuring that a student be chosen. We now have a great roster of sophomores scheduled to be in attendance in June at the University of Southern Maine in Gorham.

Thank you so much to the following clubs for their generous donations:

GFWC/Gorham Woman's Club
 GFWC/Lubec Women's Club
 Patawa Club
 Waldoboro Woman's Club
 GFWC/Dexter Women's Literary Club
 GFWC/ Research Club of Limerick
 GFWC/Newport Woman's Club
 GFWC/Westbrook Women's Club
 GFWC/The Dove Society
 GFWC/MFWS Pittsfield Arts Club
 GFWC/Narraguagus Women's Club
 GFWC/Skowhegan Woman's Club

I hope to hear from the other clubs who so generously give each year. Help is needed now more than ever. These kids are our future and there could be **no better investment.**

A full scholarship is \$200, but any amount given is greatly appreciated. Contributions and questions may be directed to:

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

Celebrate membership!



Membership

March is Women's History Month. The following is from an article written by Tammy Guensler, a GFWS Membership Committee Member 2008-2010, and I am sharing it because it is full of good information:

Can you imagine the excitement about women's history in March 1889?

New York City's Sorosis Club was planning its 21st anniversary celebration for March 1889 when club founder Jane Cunningham Croly proposed an ambitious plan. Recognizing the growing interest in women's clubs, "Jennie June" invited clubwomen from around the country to gather in New York City to discuss their clubs and "the influence exerted upon the communities in which they exist." This conference was held on March 20, 1889 in Madison Square Theater in New York. The result was inspiring. In her history of the women's club movement, Jennie June writes, "The gathering of these women, their collective personality was a revelation of a new force in progressive womanhood.....There was nothing aggressive in this work, no effort at propaganda; only the opening of doors and windows of souls, and consequent light and sunshine flowing in upon other minds and souls."

Sorosis president Ella Dietz Clymer coined our motto, "We look for unity, but unity in diversity" at the March 1889

conference. When the clubwomen convened in April 1890 to ratify their new constitution and bylaws, GFWS was born.

The GFWS Advisory Board in 1890 reported the following being among the first questions asked and answered:

- 1 "When is the best hour for a club to meet - ten in the morning or three in the afternoon?"
- 2 "Is it ever advisable to meet at seven or eight o'clock in the evening?" "Do clubs of several hundred members flourish, or are they unmanageable and apt to go to pieces?"
- 3 "Do clubs ever become so expensive that women of moderate incomes are obliged to retire from them?"
- 4 "Is it not wise, if possible, to combine in a club professional women, women of leisure, and tradeswomen?"
- 5 "Does not each learn something from the other that they would lack if divided from each other?"

We ask many of the same questions today, though our achievements have multiplied over the years. Clubwomen have improved their communities and the nation through their advocacy of many important issues, including women's suffrage, child labor and juvenile court laws; the Pure Food and Drug Act; the establishment of national parks; the preservation of Native American culture; peacetime uses of technology; support of libraries and liter-

acy; wartime civil service; the establishment of the United Nations; and Equal Rights Amendment.

Pride in passion for 118 years of GFWC history can be a powerful motivator when working to increase our membership. Over 118 years as Clubwomen! We have a history that should make each of us more than proud! We face a future that needs our power and tenacity as women-- others, grandmothers, great grandmothers, and community volunteers-- as much or more now than when those women who worked for their 'rights as women' began to organize our women's clubs. We must continue to focus on volunteering, creating awareness of GFWC's leadership and accomplishments, and building the spirit of GFWC with pride in our creative and inspired volunteer projects in every community.

As we approach Women's History Month, we hope each club, district, state and region will try to document its history and biographies of GFWC clubwomen who have made and are making important contributions to their communities. Use the resources of the GFWC Women's History and Resource Center to help begin a history project. [Refer to the WHRC program manual and download guidelines for ideas {http://gfwc.org/content_1337.cfm}]

The WHRC will celebrate its 25th anniversary at a special event at GFWC Headquarters in Washington, D.C. on March 12, 2009. Recognizing the long relationship between GFWC and

'Good Housekeeping', and our shared interest in consumer advocacy, Miriam Around of the Good Housekeeping Research Institute, will speak on the history of GH's consumer testing laboratory and the 100th anniversary of the Good Housekeeping seal. The February/March 2009 issue of GFWC Clubwomen Magazine will celebrate this milestone anniversary, and will include a special insert highlighting treasures from GFWC's art and artifact collections.

Yes, the GFWC clubwoman, a woman in history, has made an impact and will continue to do so with each and every program and project! Do we make a difference? Our passion, enthusiasm, attitude, motivation, pride, and power, coupled with vision and opportunity, are the gifts we bring to our communities. Our projects are diversified and our members bring a multitude of creative talents. Perhaps the real Magic of our Membership is that we care about our communities, our nation, our world and each other. CELEBRATE!

This is part of an article that was from the GFWC Western Region and I have the entire article should you like to see it. Have a good spring and I will see you in May at Convention.

Nancy Kenty
Chairman



MFWC President's Project

“The Food Pantry: Partnering with Good Shepherd Food Bank” is the President's Project for 2008-2010.

I have received contributions from several clubs; a few people have sent me packets of Shaw's receipts; and one club has even sent in their report form! Our gracious thanks for your support.

Are you aware that you, or friends and family, can donate to GSFB directly to our project online, safely and securely? Paste this address into your web browser to find 'our' page at the GSFB website: http://gsfb.org/how_to_help/donate/MFWC.

In reading the District submissions, I see that many clubs have been supporting their local food assistance programs. This deserves another thank you . Please don't forget to report this local activity - it all counts in our tally for this state project. The report form can again be found inside the back page of this newsletter. Deadline for donations and report forms, in order to be included in the totals to date for Spring Convention, is **May 1!**

The 50/50 raffle at Fall Conference seemed to work quite well. We will repeat this in Ellsworth, so come armed with money! Remember the catch: the winner is honor-bound to donate 50% of her winnings to her

local food assistance program. So maybe this really is 50/25/25???

You are being asked, please, to bring donations - these will be used as centerpieces at lunch on Friday, then presented to Loaves & Fishes Food Pantry. Suggested donations: canned items: tuna, baked beans, protein foods, fruit, veggies; also: elbow macaroni, bath tissue, hygiene/ personal care items.

I hope to have a visual display of our progress as well as other pertinent information available in Ellsworth. See you there!

Libby Wiers
Kendra Chubbuck
Co-Chairmen



Necrologist

To all Club Presidents:

Don't forget to send me the names of your deceased members by **May 1** so that they will be remembered in our Memorial Service at the Spring Convention. I am hoping we won't have many, but those who have left us deserve to be remembered. You may phone me at 854-6721, or e-mail me at JosieJohn@Juno.com, or mail to 30 Liza Harmon Drive, Apt. 407, Westbrook, ME 04902.

Ethelyn S. Chase
Necrologist



**Public Relations
& Website**

Believe it or not, spring is one of the best times to use Public Relations. Coming up are the District Art Contests, and don't forget that Federation Day is April 24th. This would be a great time to do a little P.R. about your club, MFWC, and GFWC...so put notices in your local newspapers to showcase these events, get out your club brochures and pamphlets, put on your MFWC/GFWC shirts and pins, and put out your posters and club banners!

You will see some new things on the MFWC website. One thing your club could do to make it even better is to send me your photos and some news about your special event or anniversary...so far I haven't heard from any clubs, and I know you have lots to brag about, so please drop me a line! Check out GFWC's website as well. The latest program they have going on is The Step For The Roses Program. What a great way for club members to get fit and stay healthy! Save these website addresses under "FAVORITES" on your computer: www.gfwc.org and www.gfwcmaine.org

Laura Neal
Chairman



Tidbits



Appreciation

Dear Friends....

Thank you for the many cards and notes that you sent following my husband Marshall's death. Your words mean very much to me and it is so endearing to think that you were sharing moments with me. Don't ever think just because you may not know a person very well, or so many other cards will be sent, that it doesn't matter very much. I used to feel that way myself, but never again. It does matter, very, very much. Thank you, dear friends, for helping me to make this period of my life a little better.

Marjorie Wood



Meeting Dates

2009

- May 7-8 - Ellsworth
Spring Convention
- June 13-15 - Cleveland, OH
GFWC Convention
- July 15 - Skowhegan
Summer Committees
- October 8-9 - Lewiston
Fall Conference
- October 16-18 - Massachusetts
New England Region

2010

- May 6-7 - Orono
Spring Convention
- June 12-15 - Omaha, NB
GFWC Convention



Directory Corrections

The following have sent email updates of the change from verizon.net to myfairpoint.net, but I suspect that you would be reasonably safe to simply substitute **myfairpoint** in any email that still says **verizon**:

Corinne Neal (pp. 16, 30)
Elaine Tetlow (pp. 20, 31)
Carol Jarvais (p. 20)
Kimberly Duncombe (p.34)
Minnie McCormick (p. 12)
Ruth Dietze (pp. 16, 67)
Maureen Provencal (p. 35)
Sheri Walsh (pp. 14, 17, 29)

Other recent changes:

Laura Neal (pp. 27, 30)
ljgneal@gmail.com
Suzanne Snapp (p. 21)
LSnapp@roadrunner.com
Nancy Kenty (p. 26)
nanknty_1@msn.com

ELECTION!

Candidates for NER President

During the 2010-2012 Administration, it will be Maine's turn to fill the position of New England Region President. This must be voted upon at Spring Convention in Ellsworth. The following two Past State Presidents are pursuing this opportunity.



Katherine White 2002-2004

Katherine (Kathy) White is seeking election for the GFWC/New England Region President. Kathy started her Federation work in 1982 when she joined the Winterport Woman's Club. For 26 years she has served her club, her district, state and GFWC with pride and enthusiasm. Kathy was nominated and elected, the first year of her membership, to be a board member and has been on the WWC board in one capacity or another ever since. She served on several committees and chairmanships before being elected President in 1990-1992. She is currently serving as the Club's President. At the District level she served as District 2 President. At the state level, currently she is serving as the Parliamentary Advisor. In the past she has held the offices of 2nd Vice President, 1st Vice President, President Elect and President. While serving as Maine's State President her special emphasis was placed on "Family Well-Being and Healthy Communities," establishing a scholarship that was presented to the Office of Substance Abuse Services.

Kathy has served on several committees and chairmanships for GFWC New England Region. In 2006-2008 she served as the NER Vice President. She co-chaired the NER conference in 2006.

On the GFWC level, serving as State President 2002-2004, she was elected Recorder

for Judy's Gems. In the 2004-2006 administration she was appointed to the International Liaison Committee. In 2005 she was appointed to serve as a GFWC Mentor and is currently still in that position. 2006-2008 served on the Leadership Committee. 2008-2010 she is serving on the Domestic Violence Committee. Kathy represented Maine and worked on the registration table for the "Vital Links" Award Ceremony in New York City in 2008, sponsored by the National Domestic Violence Hot Line.

Some highlights of other organizations: Kathy served on the National Council Drug Dependency of Maine as a Board Member, Secretary, Vice President and President. Is a past member of the Bangor Junior League, chairing a national project "Women to Women". She is Past President of the Winterport Health Council and served on the board of the Maine Coalition for Healthy Communities.

Kathy is married to her high school sweetheart and best friend, has two wonderful married sons and a married loving daughter. She and hubby delight in spending time with their "angelic" grandchildren. They own and operate WHICO, Welding, Maintenance and Repair Company.

Kathy's commitment and passion as a GFWC volunteer, promises to serve to the best of her ability as the 2010-2012 GFWC/NER President. Your consideration is greatly appreciated.



Libby Wiers
1998-2000

A third-generation club-woman, Libby joined the GFWC/Outlook Club in 1976. An active member for 33 years, she has served in all offices, some more than once.

Early MFWC involvement includes Endowment Fund Committee, Music/Dance Division Chairman, Arts Department Chairman, Convention Chairman and Leadership Chairman. Elected as 2nd VP for 1994-1996, she actually served as 1st VP when that member resigned her position; then, President-Elect, 1996-1998 and State President, 1998-2000. Her State President's Project was "Launching Lifelong Learners", promoting higher educational aspirations in Maine's students.

More recent MFWC positions: ESO and Education Department Chairman, 2000-2006; Chairman of By-Laws and Policy Committees, 2000-2002; Parliamentary Advisor, 2004-2006; currently, Corresponding Secretary, 2006-2010, and President's Project Co-Chairman, 2008-2010.

She has served on several GFWC Committees: Libraries 2000, 2000-2002; Community Improvement, 2002-2004; Credentials, 2004-2006; Empowering Women, 2006-2008. She was Co-Chairman of the NER Conference in Maine in October 2000 and currently serves as NER Treasurer, 2008-2010. She also has served as Treasurer, 2006-2008, of GFWC/Maxine's Millennium Belles, her Past State Presidents'

club; and currently as Secretary, 2008-2010.

Married to Michael for nearly 39 years, they have two grown sons and two busy grandsons. A former teacher of learning disabled students, Libby currently manages subsidized housing for the elderly and disabled, doing business as LGW Property Management, LLC. She has been active in her community as Brownie Scout leader, volunteer reading tutor, town budget committee, SAD 48 Music Boosters, and most recently and long-term as a volunteer for the local Tri-Town Food Cupboard. She is also active in her church community, formerly a Sunday School teacher, member of the Parish Council and lector, now choir member and cantor for over 20 years.

With a love for GFWC and a strong belief in the good that it accomplishes in our communities, Libby seeks your vote for the office of New England Region President for 2010-2012.



Proposed
Resolution

The following Resolution has been proposed by the Resolutions Committee and will be acted upon during a business session of Spring Convention in Ellsworth. Come prepared to discuss and vote.

Davida Barter, Chairman
Gloria Leveillee
Barbara Jones
Suzanne Raymond

HUNGER AND MAINE
CITIZENS

GFWC – HOME LIFE

WHEREAS, The skyrocketing cost of our gasoline and heating fuels will continually increase food costs thus affecting families' ability to purchase sufficient food; and

WHEREAS, Children's futures are adversely affected by the long-term consequences of hunger and malnutrition; and

WHEREAS, Many of our elderly, especially during Maine winters, could be faced with having to make choices between food, fuel and medicine; and

WHEREAS, Many hard-working families are having trouble making ends meet in these difficult times; Therefore

RESOLVED, That GFWC/Maine Federation of Women's Clubs go on record as wholeheartedly supporting financially the 2008-2010 GFWC/MFMC President's Project, The Food Pantry, Partnering with Good Shepherd Food-Bank; and further

RESOLVED, That GFWC/Maine Federation of Women's Clubs encourage each of its clubs and its membership to adopt a food pantry, food bank, soup kitchen or shelter in their area and to support them financially or with volunteer services.

**GFWC/MAINE FEDERATION OF WOMEN'S CLUBS
Call to Spring Convention - Thursday & Friday, May 7 & 8, 2009
Holiday Inn - Ellsworth, Maine**

"It Is Better to Give than Receive"

TENTATIVE AGENDA

Wednesday, May 6, 2009	2:00 PM	GFWC/MFWC Executive Board Meeting
Thursday, May 7, 2009	8:30 AM	Registration Marketplace Coffee and Tea Available
	10:00 PM	Business Session Reports & Awards Speaker: Jackie Thurber, Loaves & Fishes Food Pantry
	12:00 PM	Roses Are Red Luncheon Honoring our District & Club Presidents Speaker: Maine Youth Leadership representative
	2:00 PM	Business Session Reconvenes Reports & Awards Proposed Resolution: Hunger and Maine Citizens Candidate for NER President Polls & Marketplace open following session
	6:00 PM	Social Hour/Receiving Line
	7:00 PM	St. Valentine's Banquet Honoring our GFWC/MFWC Past State Presidents Speaker: Peter Loiselle, Weight Loss Success (in a Busy World) Entertainment - possible school music group, TBA
	9:30 PM	Reception in President's room
Friday, May 8, 2009	8:00 AM	Memorial Breakfast
	8:30 AM	Registration Marketplace Polls open
	9:30 AM	Business Session Reports & Awards
	12:00 PM	Domestic Violence Awareness Luncheon Honoring our Department, Program and Project Chairmen Speaker: Kelly Brown, Next Step Domestic Violence Agency
	1:30 PM	Business Session Reports & Awards
	3:00 PM	Adjournment

Holiday Inn - Ellsworth, Maine
GFWC/Maine Federation of Women's Clubs
Spring Convention - May 7 & 8, 2009

"It Is Better to Give Than Receive!"

Guest Room Rates

\$80.20 (tax included)/night/room (no more than 4 people)

RESERVATIONS MUST BE RECEIVED BY THE HOTEL NO LATER THAN April 25, 2009

Early reservations are encouraged, particularly if you have special requests. Late requests will be subject to room availability. To receive contract rates, refer to Code FWC or Maine Federation of Women's Clubs when making your reservation. Rooms must be guaranteed to an individual credit card or by advance deposit. Individual cancellations must be received by 6:00 PM on arrival date in order to avoid a no-show charge of one night's room and tax.

To expedite check-in, you should give the hotel the following information:

- Arrival and departure dates
- Estimated time of arrival
- Room preference (first floor/second floor, single, double/double, all non-smoking)
- Credit card type to be used for payment, including number and expiration date
- Home address

Hotel facilities include: Business services, wireless data connection, cardio fitness center, sauna and pool
In-room amenities: Cable TV, wireless connection, hair dryer, coffeemaker and daily newspaper

Check-in time 3:00 pm - Check-out time 12:00 PM

Holiday Inn, 215 High Street, Ellsworth, Maine 04605
(207) 667-9341

Visit www.holidayinn.com for more information on this hotel.

Directions from I-95 North or South: Take Interstate 95 to Exit 182A (Bangor). Follow I-395 East. Take Exit 6A and follow Rte 1A to Ellsworth (about 25 miles). At first set of lights (4 way intersection), go straight. This puts you on Rte 1 & 3. Holiday Inn will be about 1 mile down on right at 2nd set of lights.

Directions from Rte 1 (going south): Follow Rte 1 South into Ellsworth. As you enter traffic after yield sign, move into left lane. Take a left at 1st set of lights. This will put you into our parking lot. Maine Coast Mall is next to hotel.

Directions from Rte 1 (going north): Follow Rte 1 North up the coast to Ellsworth. As you enter Ellsworth, at 2nd set of lights, take a right. This is Rte 1 and 3. Go to 2nd set of lights and take a right. This will put you in hotel parking lot.

GFWC/Maine Federation of Women's Clubs
Spring Convention - May 7 & 8 - Holiday Inn - Ellsworth, Maine

REGISTRATION FORM

Name: Name for nametag:
Address:
City/State/Zip:
Telephone: E-mail
Name of Club/Position:
GFWC/MFMC Position:

Registration Fee - [] Thursday \$15.00 [] Friday \$15.00 [] Both days \$25.00
(Register early for Early Bird Discount - see below...)

IMPORTANT

- 1. Make check payable to GFWC/MFMC for total of meals and registration fee.
2. Please complete a separate registration form for each attendee.
3. Mail registration form and check by April 27, 2009 to: Sheri Walsh, PO Box 555, Winter Harbor, ME 04693-0555, Phone 963-0979, Email: shermike@myfairpoint.net.
4. Please note that no refunds will be possible after May 3.
5. Early bird discount - Mail registration form and check postmarked on or before April 21th and qualify for a \$10.00 discount for two day registration, or a \$5.00 discount for a one day registration!



Thursday Lunch:

Business Lunch Buffet \$15.00

Thursday Dinner:

Baked Haddock \$25.00
Roast Turkey \$25.00
Vegetarian Lasagna \$24.00

Friday Breakfast

Full American Buffet \$12.00

Friday Lunch:

Soup / Deli Buffet \$16.00

Please note that meal prices include tax and gratuity.

Registration Fee

I qualify for Early Bird Discount! (deduct \$10 or \$5)
(see above)

TOTAL

Please indicate any special dietary need and we will try to accommodate you:

GFWC/MFVC President's Project - Club Reporting *

Club donation to GFWC/MFVC President's Project \$_____

Club donation to local food-assistance program \$_____

Individual members' donations
to GFWC/MFVC or local programs \$_____

Value of in-kind donations to local programs
(food collections...) \$_____

Volunteer hours on behalf of local programs _____hours

Name of Club _____

Name of person reporting _____

Phone No. of person reporting _____

Date sent: _____

* Send a form after each donation/collection/program **OR**
send one with totals for this club year (July 2008-May 2009)

Please note that donations via MFVC/GSFB website will be tallied separately by GSFB for purposes of our final totals, as will the value of Shaw's receipts, and should **NOT** be included here.

Send form to: Libby Wiers, PO Box 159, Saint Albans, ME 04971

DEADLINE: May 1, 2009

GFWC/Maine Federation of Women's Clubs



116 years of Volunteer Service



"It Is Better to Give than to Receive"

**Pine Tree Notes
Next Deadline
August 1, 2009**

Libby Wiers
Corresponding Secretary
PO Box 159
Saint Albans ME 04971-0159