



PINE TREE NOTES



GFWC MAINE – A member of the General Federation of Women's Clubs

March/April 2020



Greetings to all GFWC Maine club women. It is hard to believe this administration is on its final stretch. It is a bittersweet moment for me, as I write this message to you in the last edition of the Pine Tree Notes as your GFWC Maine President. Although this is my final article, there is still so much to do, so don't think I am going to be slacking for the rest of this administration!

I want to thank each and every one of you, from the bottom of my heart, for all you have done to make my time as president so rewarding. From the warm welcomes I received while visiting your clubs to the overwhelming support of my State President's Project; I can't thank you all enough. And all the fun we have had at Conferences and Conventions!

I hope to see many of you once again at the District Meetings and Art Shows in April, and of course the GFWC Maine Spring Convention on May 14 – 15 at the Hilton Garden Inn in Bangor. This will be a jammed – packed two days, filled with amazing speakers from Honor Flight of Maine and a Human Trafficking Survivor, a visit from GFWC Second Vice President Suellen Brazil, a wonderful 100 Year Fashion Show performed by the GFWC Westbrook Woman's Club, and of course, our final Banquet. You are all "encouraged" to dress in 50 – 60's attire for our "Let's go to the Hop" Banquet. Our special guest will be Elvis himself, so you are not going to want to miss it!

Again, I want to thank all of you for your patients, participation, feedback, and most of all, for all you do for GFWC Maine. You are amazing!

Let's continue to "Be the Change" in the lives of others by creating positive changes through our volunteer service and acts of kindness, both large and small.

In Federation and in Friendship,
Nancy Ames
GFWC Maine President



Stay connected!

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GFWC Maine 2018-2020





GFWC Maine 2019-2020 Executive Committee

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- Our State Clubs news
- ESO
- Northern & Southern District meetings
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- Proposed amendments to GFWC Maine bylaws
- Report of the nominating committee 2020

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Southern	Norma Manning nmanning@maine.rr.com Patricia Carrier peccurrier@yahoo.com
Northern	Libby Wiers mnlbby49@gmail.com

The 2020 GFWC Annual Convention is particularly significant because this year we are celebrating the 100th anniversary of the passage of the 19th Amendment. This year we are remembering the rose and all the brave women and clubwomen who fought for our right to participate in the political process. Throughout our time together in Atlanta, yellow roses will be used to symbolize the suffrage movement and celebrate our right to vote. Yellow roses were worn by suffragists and lawmakers throughout the movement as a sign of support for the passage of the 19th Amendment. GFWC honors and celebrates its clubwomen such as Carrie Chapman Catt, Phoebe Hearst, Julia Ward Howe, and Lucy Stone who helped lead the movement which would secure the vote in 1920. We also honor and remember GFWC International Past Presidents Sarah Platt Decker, Ellen Henrotin, Anna Pennybacker, and Eva Perry Moore who also played major roles in the march towards suffrage. Remember the rose and join us in celebrating with the Georgia Federation, a century of voting, and all of the women who paved the way for us to arrive here! Register for Convention by April 15 to get the early bird rate.



MEMBERSHIP

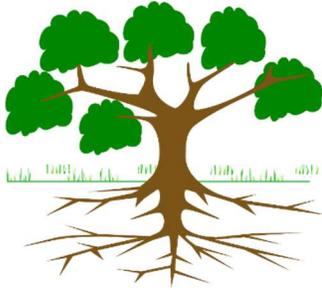


"March in New Members." Just one welcoming member or an effective orientation can make a difference for a new member's comfort and ease. Think back to when you first joined GFWC—what made your experience as a new GFWC member a good one?

CONSERVATION

Help your club's town plan an event to celebrate Arbor Day! It could be a forward-looking celebration of how planting trees will benefit future generations. If a celebration isn't already being planned, don't be shy about having your club take the lead ... and make it an opportunity to share the legacy of GFWC with your community.

Start planning now, if you haven't already! Trees need water to survive, just like humans. A large tree can consume 100 gallons of water out of the ground in one day and discharge into the air as oxygen and water vapor. Participate in the [Arbor Day Grand Initiative](#) on April 24 and leave your mark this Federation Day! Your club's participation will help the GFWC 2018–2020 Administration leave its mark by planting 20,000 trees at the end of Federation Day 2020.



Epsilon Sigma Omicron - ESO



Here we are in March already. Before long we will be thinking about all the things, we will need to do during the spring season. So, while we have a few more weeks of winter weather take advantage of the down time to enjoy reading. Glad to report the GFWC/Skowhegan Woman's Club ESO reading group are meeting once a month at their local library. They talk about the books they have read, exchange books, bring their reporting records up to date and just enjoy the fellowship of kindred spirits. Have questions or need help forming an ESO reading group. Contact me, your ESO Chairman Marjorie H. Coburn Black, 612-6072 or MHB770@outdrs.net

Please Note: the change in my phone number

LEADERSHIP

There are numerous reasons members choose to leave the club. Sometimes it might be due to relocation or conflict in schedule, other times it could be because of lack of leadership and motivation. It is very difficult to gain the respect you deserve as a leader, whether that is in your place of work or within your club. At the end of the day, the qualities of a good leader will motivate club members to work harder to achieve goals and remain part of the club.



Here are five common attributes of successful leaders that can help you keep your members engaged and motivated:

1. **Listening and then listening some more** – As somebody in a position of power where you make the decisions, listening is a top quality to have. It makes fellow club members feel comfortable to approach and confide in you about things they like or dislike about the club. It also makes everyone feel like their ideas are heard, which is why members will want to share more ideas about activities and projects the club can partake in. Being able to listen and ask questions to find out more about the wants of your club members will increase trust in club members and in turn help your club flourish and grow.
2. **Taking a stand, and not being afraid of being wrong** – As part of the leadership committee, you have to make decisions and take stands, whether it means you are supporting the ideas of your fellow club members, or trying to gain support for an idea of your own. Supporting the idea of others and taking a stand for an idea of your own is great, but the important part is knowing when your decision is wrong, and then graciously backing away.
3. **Boosting confidence in others** – A lot of times members leave the club because they don't feel appreciated, become de-motivated, or aren't given the opportunity to participate in projects in the way they had hoped. A good leader recognizes the power of recognition and tries to always boost confidence in others by celebrating club accomplishments through the members. Acknowledging the work of others and celebrating it together with the club, is a simple and easy way to boost member confidence, in that you validate they are doing great work.
4. **Asking for help** - Asking for help shows you respect that individual's expertise and judgement. It makes the person on the other end feel more important and part of a team. It brings forth a sense of unity, and as such you show your club members that their ideas, suggestions, and ability to share their feedback on whatever the topic at hand may be, matters and will be heard.
5. **Owning Mistakes** – As a person in a position of influence, it is no doubt that any failures will lead back to you in some root, shape or form. If the matter is small at hand, rather than playing the blame game and pointing fingers, accept the mistake on behalf of the club and acknowledge the lesson learned. Share how this can be a lesson moving forward and how such mistakes can be avoided. Your members will respect you for not putting other club members down for small mistakes, and will be proud to be part of a club where they are shown that even when mistakes are made, the club sticks together as a family, just as you do in times of celebrations.

It has been an honor to serve as your GFWC Maine Leadership Chairman during the past four years. I wish you all much continued success!

Anne Cress GFWC Maine Leadership Chairman - jkhranch09@gmail.com

HOME LIFE

Hello fellow clubwomen! I know you join me in being ready to welcome spring!! First let me congratulate you all on your reporting and narratives! Great program ideas you will hear about at convention.

WHAT CAN YOU DO FOR AN INTERESTING HOME LIFE PROGRAM?

Consider projects that address issues such as women's health, Alzheimer's awareness, theft prevention, service dog programs, individuals with disabilities, healthy lifestyles, life skill classes (especially important to our young people; budgeting and money management), healthy food choices, cooking classes, exercise classes; childcare classes, preventing prescription drug abuse.



Look in the GFWC Club Manual for more ideas and check out our Partnerships for educational materials. The program ideas are endless.

If there is anything, I can help you with, please don't hesitate to ask. Home Life projects affect our families and all of us. Think outside the box, what interesting and valuable program can your club come up with?

Sally Manchester GFWC Home Life Chairman

PUBLIC ISSUES



House Passes ERA Resolution! The United States House of Representatives voted to remove the deadline for ratification and to have the Equal Rights Amendment added as the 28th Amendment to the Constitution.

Clubwomen across the nation used GFWC's Legislative Action Center to contact their

members of Congress on this issue. This is a huge victory and we thank you for your support but the work is not yet complete.

We must now direct our attention to the U.S. Senate and urge them to take the same action as the House. We hope that we can count on your support in the fight ahead.

Another way to help is to participate in GFWC's Legislative blitz. Plan to have your club members together with family and friends call, email, or write your United States Senators and Representatives on Federation Day, April 24, and urge them to pass Miranda's Law (S.1787 and H.R. 2793) and the 3D Printed Gun Safety Act (S.1831 and H.R. 3265). You are urged to meet with your members of Congress or their staff during the month of April to advocate for these bills. Be sure to reach out early to schedule your meetings. For those who have called, sent messages through our LAC, or even sent your own message through email, we encourage you to ensure that at least three others have done the same. Let's bombard legislators with requests to make our two Grand Initiative bills law.

Marjorie Pfeiffer GFWC Maine Public Issues Chairman – dmgoodwin2@live.com

The Legislative Action Center is a powerful tool for GFWC's public issues and advocacy efforts. Track bills, contact your local representative and take action on issues germane to GFWC Resolutions.

Legislative Action Center

Having GFWC's collective voice heard by members of Congress is essential and the Legislative Action Center holds many of the answers. That's why this Initiative aims for more GFWC members to sign up for the Legislative Action Center by June 2020. If you haven't already signed up, visit the [Legislative Action Center](#) (or go GFWC.org under Public Policy) and sign-up now!

EDUCATION

NYOLO-HOPE PRIMARY SCHOOL UPDATE

GFWC Maine was responsible for the education of children living in South Sudan. When war came to that country, the citizens fled to a refuge center in Uganda. The Sudanese community immediately set up their school. We provided funds for four computers, teacher training, solar panel, generators, school supplies, and tuition money for the orphaned children so they could attend school.

I am happy to inform you of the impact your generosity to these children; all 32 of the 7th grade students passed the test for admission to 8th grade. This is a remarkable achievement. Even though all of the students passed the exam, not all of them will be able to attend. Many of them lack the \$28 yearly tuition. There are 32 students.

I am asking for you to again show your support for the education of these 32 students. If you or your club could sponsor a student it will make a difference in the life of a child.

Checks payable to: MAPSJ and mail to:
Mary Libby
8 Lewis St.
Westbrook, ME 04092.
(I will forward them to Dr. Charles Radis, DO)



Thank you for your generosity,
Mary Libby Immediate Past President GFWC Maine
Education Chairman

DOMESTIC VIOLENCE



GFWC Signature Program - Elder Abuse High School Essay Scholarship. We are **almost** to our goal of \$1,000 for the June scholarship 2020! I am grateful, to all the Clubs and members, that have donated and supported this scholarship with donations and supporting the fundraiser at the GFWC Maine Fall Conference. But we still need to "dig deep" and send in donations. If those Clubs that haven't yet donated could make a donation, we can once again make our goal and hopefully exceed it so, we will have a "surplus" to start the 2021 scholarship after reaching our \$1000 goal for this year.

I will report at the GFWC Maine Spring Convention in Bangor and will be ready with another fundraiser for GFWC Maine members to look forward to as well!
Human Trafficking will be addressed at the GFWC Maine Spring Convention. The story is disturbing, but her triumph is rewarding....
See you in the Spring!

Katherine White GFWC Maine GFWC Domestic Violence Awareness & Prevention Chairman

ARTS

When you think of art, you might think of Rembrandt and go to a gallery to see one of his paintings. You could think about art as expressing yourself in words, voice, paint, or photography. The arts have a healing effect as you express your thoughts and feeling, releasing doubts and fear. It puts you in a better place of joy in your creativity.

It has been said, art is good for your mind, heart and soul. Find that creative outlet to release your joy in the arts. Help someone else remove obstacles that hinder their uncertainty.

Encourage high school student artists to participate in the high school student art show.

Encourage your club members to share their art talents in the writing and photography contests.

Add more art programs to your club schedule and especially supporting the Veteran Art programs to help others heal through their art. Take an art program into the Veteran homes or into a nursing home. Give a little art joy.

Refer to the GFWC Maine Directory, pages 81 to 86, for art rules.

Art will be collected at the GFWC Maine Spring Convention, May 14th, at 8:00am so jurors can start judging at 9:00am. The GFWC Maine member photography can be brought to the show.

Thank you to all the clubs that donated to the Art Department. Thank you to the Southern District Co-Presidents, Norma Manning & Patricia Currier, and to the Northern District President Libby Wiers, for all their efforts to make the art shows happen and for encouraging the high school students.

Barbara Hathaway GFWC Maine ARTS Chairman – bhaway@myfairpoint.net



Can we address the elephant in the room for a moment?...

I'm talking 'check' writing...

Please double check 'who' you are writing to...

Verify the 'amount' and write 'legibly'....

Don't forget to 'sign' the check...

And, one of the **MOST** important pieces is the 'memo'... Please, please, indicate what it is 'for'....

0 1 0 2

DATE _____

PAY TO THE ORDER OF _____ \$ _____

_____ DOLLARS

FOR _____

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Thank you.....

The GFWC Maine Southern District Meeting & Art Show will be held on April 18th at the Westbrook Community Center
 426 Bridge St. Westbrook.
 Registration begins at 10am and the meeting will start at 10:30.
 Fee, which includes lunch is \$5.
 Art needs to be at the center by 9am and judging begins at 9:30.
 Announcement of winners at 11:30.
 Lunch 12 to 12:30.
 A leadership program will be presented by GFWC Maine LEADS Graduates.
 Checks payable to Westbrook Woman's Club.
 Registration requested by April 1st so we are able to plan lunch.
 Hope to see many of you!
 Pat Currier
 GFWC Maine Southern District Co-President



Informational websites:

- www.gfwc.org
- www.gfwcmaine.org
- www.honorflightmaine.org
- www.travismills.org/foundation
- www.sewmuchcomfort.org
- www.shotatlife.org
- www.heifer.org
- www.operationsmile.org
- www.WreathsAcrossAmerica.org
- www.soles4souls.org
- www.arborday.org

www.clynk.com this program through local Hannafords bottle redemption – get your Clynk bags today!

GFWC MAINE NORTHERN DISTRICT MEETING
 DATE/TIME: April 9, 2020, 10-2
 JEFF'S CATERING, 15 LITTLEFIELD WAY, BREWER
 9:00-10:00 Registration, coffee/pastry, art set-up
 10:00-11:45 Business meeting –
 Leadership/Membership workshop, Club President reports
 11:45-12:45 Lunch and time to view art (and vote for peoples' choice)
 12:45-1:00 Announcement by the art judges
 1:00-2:00 Business meeting continued
 COST: \$25.00
 Includes: welcome coffee/pastry; lunch (chef's choice hot item, sliced meat platter, cheese, sliced tomato, lettuce, bread/rolls with butter & condiments, house salad with dressings, chef's choice of dessert and beverages); tax & gratuity and registration fee.
 Please register by **March 25**. Check should be payable to:

Libby Wiers
 PO Box 159
 Saint Albans, ME 04971

CLUBS AROUND THE STATE

Castine Woman's Club – Northern District



Spring forward... already! Winter just whizzed by! The Club is excited to spread some sunshine in the coming months.

The Castine Woman's Club does not hold general meetings in January, February, and March. The Club has scaled back its winter activities. The Castine Woman's Club is planning a number of fun activities and meetings for this spring and summer. The Club plans to resume its regular monthly general membership meetings in April. The Club's general meetings will continue to be held at and generously co-hosted by the Wilson Museum this year. As usual, the community is invited and always welcome. The last official meeting of CWC's 2019-2020 membership year will be held in June. This spring, CWC hopes to plan small group outings to local music and theater venues through a complimentary ticket program offered by Castine's Witherle Library. Tickets are donated by local theaters and music groups to the library. Three Club members and a spouse thoroughly enjoyed the Club's first outing last fall to Bangor's Penobscot Theater for a musical production about Woody Guthrie. As in years past, CWC plans to participate in the GFWC Maine Northern District Art Contest, which usually includes participation by five area Hancock County high schools. In June, CWC plans to assist again with the annual Maja Trivia contest for Blue Hill Peninsula middle school students held at the Wilson Museum. Locals and visitors are looking forward to the Club's yummy and ever popular July 4th Pie Sale. Other summer events are still in the planning stage. The Castine Woman's Club wishes everyone plenty of sunshine this spring!

Val Taub – President

GFWC MIOSAC Club - Northern District



A variety of projects have kept hearts and hands busy during our winter months. In January we held our third annual "Pound Party." This fun in-house fundraiser raised an additional \$200 to add to our scholarship fund. Members simply wrap up an item that weighs one pound and an auction is held with packages going to the highest bidder. Naturally the gifts are wrapped very creatively; with much anticipation the recipient opens her newly purchased item. It may be a pound of homemade fudge or jams and jellies. Then again, it might be a pound of butter or a 16-ounce can of baked beans. This year's item that kept the bids going and going was an intriguing package that turned out to be a \$4.00 bottle of wine – sold for \$30!

In February we made Valentines to give to the local American Legion Post as a way to honor our local veterans. As a show of additional support, a group of members attended the American Legion Thursday night B-I-N-G-O. Good food, good fun, good fellowship.

The club's 42nd annual "Ice-Out Tickets" are currently being sold. Funds go toward our assorted charitable donations.

Making plans toward the next administration, appointments were made for the following committees—nominating committee, budget committee, and the advisory committee.

By the time this newsletter is read, we will have supplied the snacks to support Pine Tree Hospice's Trivia Night. This will take place on March 14th. We have formed a team to participate in the event – and have already decided if (I mean, *when*) we win, we will add it to our donated decorated Christmas tree in next year's Miracle Tree Event (6 passes to ski at Squaw Mountain next winter!).

Coming up in April, members are looking forward to District President Libby Wiers coming to share the presentation on Turning Point Suffragist Memorial.

Peace!

Suzanne Raymond – President

GFWC ARTS Club – Northern District



The Pittsfield ARTS club met in January to make pillows that were distributed to the Brewer Cancer Center. Rae Hersey assembled the pillows and members put stuffing into them. They were taken to the Cancer Center and were greatly appreciated. This could be a yearly project. In February, valentine bags were filled by members and taken to the Assisted Living Home in Pittsfield. This project is a yearly one and is appreciated by the residents of the Home.



The March meeting will be about Arbor Day and the possibility of planting a tree in Pittsfield with the Pittsfield Garden Club as a joint venture. Our April meeting will have Scott Strom as the speaker, talking about State Issues. Meetings have been interesting this year and we look forward to another productive year in the community of Pittsfield.

Marjorie Pfeiffer – Vice-President

GFWC Skowhegan Woman's Club – Northern District



Our club has begun the year with book exchanges at each winter meeting. We changed the venue of February meeting to Billie Sherman's home since we were to create crafts and she has the bulk of materials at her home with space!

March 11th meeting is scheduled to be held at Skowhegan Free Public Library to access the internet in sharing with members our GFWC Maine website and the GFWC.org site to assist members with the wealth of information at their fingertips they may not be aware of at this time. We will go through the



steps of how to join the Legislative Action Center to keep abreast of the many laws our organization supports and has researched. This moves us in the direction of accepting more responsibility as members and continues our legacy of involvement in issues that matter to society. As GFWC members we are strong participants in the process of voting, (19th Amendment)!

Our club has been sponsoring Cabin Fever Free Craft Activities twice a month in the Skowhegan Free Public Library, second and fourth Friday's from January until end of April. They start at 10 and run for an hour or more. Come join the learning but call ahead to reserve your spot as all require a count so supplies can be accurate.

April 15th meeting will find us hearing from, Carol Baldwin, whom will share information and exercises to improve balance and core. We will be back at the Heritage House Restaurant at 11:30 am for this meeting. We continue to work on crafts to sell at the GFWC ME. State Convention May 13 & 14, 2020 in Bangor. Hope to see many of you there to shop for yourself or a friend, as Billie leads our crafts so you know products will be of quality.

Some other activities SWC are involved in: find new ways of earning money to support community organizations that make our area a wonderful safe place to live, reach out to communicate our goals through technology and local events, increase our membership and most of all to continue to enjoy and learn from and about fellow members.

April 20,2020 at 6pm Ann Gass, great granddaughter of Maine Suffragist, Florence Brooks Whitehouse will speak at Skowhegan Free Public Library. She wrote the book, Turning Down the Rose. This timely event is sponsored by GFWC Semper Fidelis and Skowhegan Woman's Club. August 26,2020 will be the official day of the 100th anniversary of 19th Amendment put into law!

If you are in Skowhegan on Memorial Day at 10 am, enjoy the parade and look for our club dressed as Suffragettes along with Skowhegan Girl Scout Troop #2214 also dressed with sashes of that time period. We are continuing to: "Be the Change" and Honor Those Who Serve which have been wonderful mottos as our action goals for the past two years.

Deb Burnham – President

GFWC Semper Fidelis Club – Northern District



SPRING – six letters, a word which promises warmth, beauty and rejuvenation. I am so glad it will soon make an appearance.

January saw us adding a hefty amount to our coffers from a summer collaboration with the local Lions Club. The Lions Club approached us last summer about helping them man their booth at the Skowhegan State Fair in August. We agreed to help and members volunteered hours to work the booth. Our efforts netted us \$750! With our help, the Lions were able to keep their booth operational all ten days of the fair and we were happy for the monetary benefit we received.

Human trafficking is a worldwide problem. Most of us are not aware of how close to home it occurs. Our guest speaker was a victim. She is a local gal who moved to the city to pursue her dream and fell victim to a trafficker. Her presentation was profound and emotional. She related the nightmare she lived and how she got out. She is now sharing her story to raise awareness and help herself heal.

Speaking of raising awareness, who better to mention than Martin Luther King, Jr? This year our ML King Day of Service Project was to prepare 8 pans of lasagna for the local soup kitchen. Members donated all the ingredients needed to cook enough lasagna to feed 50 people. We gathered at the home of a



member who graciously opened her kitchen for us to use. We cooked the noodles, chopped the onions and heated the sauce. We layered everything into pans and placed them in the freezer. The soup kitchen was closed on MLK Day so we delivered the frozen pans of lasagna and garlic bread the next day for them to use. Our ladies enjoyed doing this project.



Our February meeting was held at the public library with Northern District President Libby Wiers in attendance. Libby gave an informative presentation on the Turning Point Suffragist Memorial which is under construction in Virginia. The memorial is scheduled for opening and dedication in August. We are actively involved in selling tickets for a Wine and Chocolate Raffle to benefit the Somerset Career & Technical Center food pantry at Skowhegan Area High School. Twelve bottles of wine (6 red and 6 white) along with chocolate and hand-painted wine glasses will be given to two lucky winners. Looking forward to seeing some of you at our district meeting & art show and at spring convention in May. Till then continue Living the Volunteer Spirit!!

Carol Jarvais – President

GFWC Lubec Woman’s Club – Northern District



News from the Easternmost

The Lubec Woman's Club did not have meetings scheduled for January and February, but that didn't keep members from being busy in our community. Here's a list of the different ways we stayed active: "Grandparent Readers" with the very young primary students at Lubec Elementary School, and working with 8th graders in our "Cash 4 Careers" program with the 8th graders; volunteering at the Lubec Memorial Library and the Lubec Food Pantry; attending School Board meetings; practicing "Tai Chi for Arthritis and Balance" led by member Denise Rule; participating as vendors at the Lubec Market once a month. Plus, LWC members have traveled, attended exercise and yoga classes, and used the winter months for their craft work.

At our March 2, 2020, meeting we got right back "into the groove" with a busy agenda and 19 women attending the meeting, including a new member who joined that day. Plans were made to hold our Ham Raffle fundraiser in April. The membership approved a monetary request from the Fitness Port (located at the Regional Medical Center at Lubec) to purchase needed supplies. We made arrangements for sponsoring the monthly potluck lunch at the Lubec Food Pantry. Club member Ruth Ahrens displayed the Sportsmanship banner that our club has purchased for the school gym. Our Scholarship Committee is gearing up for the spring applications. Denise Rule presented a short program about Tai Chi for Seniors and led the members in some Tai Chi warm ups and simple moves.

Jeanne Drews reporting for GFWC Lubec Woman’s Club

GFWC Newport Woman’s Club – Northern District



The GFWC Newport Woman’s Club has been busy the first few months of 2020. We kicked off the New Year with our annual “Lunch Out” this year at “Angler’s” a local restaurant, where our guest, Libby Weirs, Northern District President, discussed the ins and outs of the Northern District. As in past years, our Martin Luther King Day of Service initiative was held at the Newport Cultural Center here in Newport. This year we worked on making blankets and pillows to fill our commitment to our “Norma’s Dolls Project.” The



blankets and pillows will be added to the hand-crafted cradles which hold a refurbished doll and are donated to children in need at Christmas time. Our February Valentine’s Day Party for Seniors was a great project...one which we would like to expand on for our community. And, of course, this is the 2nd year of our administration...cannot believe how the

time has flown.

Jane Briggs – President

Patawa Club – Northern District



We've had some great speakers so far in 2020. We've had representatives from the Bangor Area Homeless Shelter, Rape response Services and Acadia Hospital on Youth Suicide prevention. All three were great and eye opening.

In January, many members cooked and a few served a meal at the Bangor Area Homeless Shelter. This is a very rewarding project and is our second year doing this.

In March we will be hosting a table at the Literacy Volunteers of Bangor's Literacy Tea. It's a fun event where each table is themed after a children's book. This is a big fundraiser for the Literacy Volunteers of Bangor and we are happy to help again this year.

We have also signed up as a team for the Hike for the Homeless, a walk in April for the Bangor Area Homeless shelter.

For our final fundraiser for our club year we are doing a calendar raffle. All throughout March we will be selling the raffle tickets. There is a prize listed for every day for the Month of April so you get 30 chances to win! Prizes will be drawn at the April meeting.

Caitlin Sullivan & Amy St. Peter - Co-Presidents



Waldoboro Woman's Club – Southern District



Sue Murray, a long-time friend of several in the group, was our guest speaker in January. She shared the experiences that she has had volunteering with group counseling of members of the community who have completed prison terms and are working to control drug and alcohol issues. She was an honest and most forthright speaker and answered many delicate questions regarding local drug and alcohol abuse and incarceration. The February speaker on the subject of "Elvers" was our newest member Renee Grover who stepped up when the guest was unable to attend. Renee, a local businesswoman, has been an elver for close to fifteen years, and so her experiences and information were first rate. Several members didn't have a clue regarding the role of an elver in the world's economy or the history of the fishing for elvers which occurs each spring in Waldoboro. During these meetings, the ladies made plans for the annual Whale of a Sale which will take place on June 27. All table chairs agreed to follow through for another year. The Nominating Committee of Betty Studley, Alice Duff and Eleanor Krause brought a slate of officers for the next biennium: President Carol Hall Perry, Vice President Judi Lawrence, Secretary Jean Lawrence, Ass't. Secretary, Nancy Gault, and Treasurer, Charlotte Gulezian.

Jean Lawrence – Secretary

GFWC Livermore Falls Women's Club – Southern District



After what seemed like a long winter, we returned to our monthly meetings. In February we met at Ruth Gammon's home for our annual "Doris' brunch", remembering a past Club member, Doris Rothrock. We had an array of quiches, scones, muffins, coffee cake and fruit salads to choose from. All were delicious! Our guest speaker was Gary Desjardins, Franklin County chair for Special Olympics. He spoke about the winter Olympics that took place in late January at Sugarloaf and thanked us for making 40 yellow and black scarves for the event. He did mention that next year's colors would be blue and white if anyone wanted to get an early start on knitting. For those wishing to stay, after the brunch we had a workshop making snowmen for the residents of Harris House. In early February the committee to



honor our school bus drivers met and with the help of Club members made a display representing what our Club has done over the years for the community. The committee decided the day before Valentines would be a good time to surprise the bus drivers at the bus garage after they returned from their morning run. A table was set with homemade candies, fudge,



brownies, bags of trail mix and baklava with our poster as a backdrop. The committee has one more event planned and it will be in May. They are having a good time coming up with many ways to honor these dedicated men and women who ensure the safety of our school children daily.

The Art Show committee has been meeting to finalize plans for our Club's Art Show. It will be held on Saturday, March 14th with the winners moving on to the District Show in April.

We continued with our discussions on how we are going to proceed with Soles 4 Souls and Nike Reuse-A-Shoe Program. Another afghan was finished and it will be sent to Togus along with past issues of Downeast Magazines that were donated by Muriel Bowerman.

Our March meeting will be on the 18th. Plans are being made to have an outing at Bates College Planetarium and Museum.

Ellen Young - President

GFWC Westbrook Woman's Club – Southern District



Westbrook Woman's Club started 2020 with a patriotic meeting on January 7. We were entertained by the Westbrook High School Chamber Singers, an honors vocal group. They performed several patriotic songs which fit into our theme for the day. What a wonderful group!

Members of the Club brought in pictures of family members in their uniforms that had served in the military. Stories were shared by Club members about these special people. The pictures were amazing!! Our special program was Arty Ledoux, a veteran. Arty shared his efforts to make a veteran's services office at the municipal level in Westbrook. He has set up an office in the Community Center located in Westbrook and is available to assist Westbrook veterans. Several of our members attended the Grand

Opening on January 17, 2020. What a wonderful support for our valued veterans!

On January 21 the Club enjoyed a delicious international lunch. Our great cooks did a potluck of favorite dishes from foreign countries. Great social time was had by all! It was time for the Club to do our Martin Luther King Day of Service. A collection of \$275.00 was taken from our members to purchase gift cards from Subway, Dunkin Donuts, Westbrook House of Pizza, and Mr. Bagel. These gift cards will be donated to the Public Works Department to use on their long storm days. Pat Currier and Rosemary Holleman delivered the cards to Public Work to their delight and surprise. Our meeting concluded with speaker Julie Cunningham to discuss Color Analysis. Members enjoyed this presentation to give personal hints about looking our best each day.

Our February 4 meeting was dedicated to updating the Club on the Suffragists. Our speaker was Anne B. Gass the author of *Voting Down the Rose: Florence Brooks Whitehouse and Maine's Fight for Woman's Suffrage*. Gass who is Whitehouse's great-granddaughter speaks regularly on Florence Brooks Whitehouse and women's rights. She serves on the Steering Committee of the Maine Suffrage Centennial Collaborative, which raises awareness of the Centennial and encourages activities. She also serves on Maine's Permanent Commission on the Status of Women and as the Maine Coordinator for the National Votes for Women Trail, a project of the National Collaborative for Women's History Sites. A great presentation on this important woman's issue – the vote! Our member, Germaine Grant, wore her suffragist outfit.

Our February 18 meeting was not held due to a storm.

The March 3 meeting was another busy one for the Club. We had a delicious soup lunch with a \$5.00 donation to be used supporting our military. We raised \$231.00 that will be donated to the new Military Support Office recently opened in Westbrook. Our lunch theme was in celebration of Dr. Seuss and our room was decorated in this theme. Mary Libby gave us a history of Dr. Seuss. Members of the Club donated a total of 150 Dr. Seuss books to be distributed to a variety of local schools, daycares, and libraries. Each book had a label reading the book was a gift of Westbrook Woman's Club. For our dessert we had Dr. Seuss decorated cupcakes. What a fun time! We welcomed a new member. The day ended filling Sunshine Bags to be distributed to Westbrook Housing residents. What a day of service to many others in our community!

March 4 our Art Department at Westbrook High School and National Art Society invited members of our Club to come to the Art Department and make our own pieces of art with the assistance of students of the Art class. Ten members of Westbrook Woman's Club joined in a wonderful afternoon of creating our own art pieces. We are excited to see our finished pieces. We will put them on display at our Club art show on March 17. How lucky we are to have such a great relationship with the Westbrook school system.



We will finish out this term with our Club art show, the District art show, and our annual meeting and installation of officers on April 21.

For me what a wonderful term being President of such a great Club!!
Westbrook Woman's Club will be looking forward to "Be the Change".
Beth A. Turner – President

GFWC Gorham Woman's Club – Southern District



While the Gorham Woman's Club is small in quantity, we are great in quality. During the past year we have held 10 meetings, an Art show, a potluck luncheon, a Holiday luncheon and a Scholarship Luncheon. We have awarded \$6,000 in scholarships to deserving Gorham High students, 2 \$500 scholarships, 1 \$1,000 scholarship and 1 4-year \$1,000 per year scholarship.

We have had speakers on CBD (what it is and its uses), The Meaning of Poppies, and a High School Art Show. We have manned booths at the Gorham Market Place and at the Tri-Town Extension Craft Fair, we have participated in Books for Tots, making cloth book bags with at least 2 books in each and distributing the bags to the Elementary Schools in Gorham. In between everything else we have made cards for the patients at the Veterans Home and toys for both dogs and cats to sell.

We have lost two members and gained one this year. We look forward to the coming year with great enthusiasm.

Brenda Caldwell - President

GFWC Juniette Community Service Trail Blazers

* Nokomis Regional High School, Newport, Maine *
GFWC Juniette "Community Service Trailblazer"
visited the Hartland Nursing Home. One resident told jokes and stories of their high school days. Smiles were all around and invitations to come and visit again!



Annual Reporting

Thank you to all the clubs that submitted annual reports this year.

It is always impressive to read about how much each club is doing for their clubs, communities, GFWC Maine and GFWC.

My challenge to the clubs was to send in reports with at least 3 narratives. Wow - great job!

The final step in the challenge for your club to receive a \$30 donation from me is to make sure at least one club member attends the GFWC Maine Spring Convention.

I look forward to seeing you all in May!

Wendy Bowler GFWC Maine Vice-President

Martin Luther King Jr Day of Service – pictures around our state



GFWC Newport Woman's Club



GFWC Semper Fidelis Club



GFWC Skowhegan Woman's Club



GFWC Westbrook Woman's Club



Patawa Club

April 9, 2020: Northern District Art Show/Northern District meeting
Jeff's Catering, Brewer, Maine

April 18, 2020: Southern District Art Show

April 24, 2020: Arbor Day / Federation Day

May 14 – 15, 2020: GFWC Maine Spring Convention
Hilton Garden Inn, Bangor, Maine

June 27 – 30, 2020: GFWC International Convention
Sheraton Hotel, Atlanta, Georgia

August 18, 2020: 19th Amendment 100th Anniversary



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