

The Maryland

Clubwoman

Vol. 92 | No. 6 | Spring 2020



*Clubwomen
give life a
sparkle
by living
the
volunteer
spirit*



The Maryland Clubwoman Staff

Editor:

Michele Thompson

ThompsonMichele17@Gmail.com

TheMarylandClubwoman@Gmail.com

Associate Editor:

Nancy Porter

NancPorter@Gmail.com

The Maryland Clubwoman is published by The GFWC Maryland Federation of Women's Clubs three times per year (Fall, Winter, and Spring).

The Maryland Clubwoman will now be emailed to any member with an email address on file. Email Mikki Stratmeyer, Corresponding Secretary at MicheleStratmeyer@Comcast.net an updated address to ensure receipt of each publication.

Anyone wishing for a print version of the magazine may print this directly.

The editors reserve the right to make changes for length and clarity in any content used in *The Maryland Clubwoman*.

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REMINDER

This is a reminder to all the Clubs asking their Membership Chairmen to send me any club or Member Anniversary to Beverly Death, State Membership Co Chairman, so I can recognize them at the April Convention. The email address is: Beverlydeath@gmail.com.

Don't Forget to Like us on
Facebook!

Click on the Facebook logo to be taken
directly to our page.



Next Issue Deadline

All articles and information for the Fall 2020 issue of *The Maryland Clubwoman* must be turned in to staff by **July 1, 2020**.

Submissions:

Please submit materials for inclusion to TheMarylandClubwoman@Gmail.com. Content may be submitted in form of Word or Google document, or in the body of an email. Files in the .pages (MAC OS) or PDF format will be returned to the sender for resubmission.

Clubwoman Connection: Any club project or activity which is scheduled through the end of December 2021 may be submitted for inclusion.



From the President's Desk

Hello Maryland Clubwomen,

As I sit here composing my final letter as President of the Maryland Federation for *The Maryland Clubwoman*, it is a bittersweet time. It doesn't seem possible that time has passed so quickly since this administration began. What a privilege it has been to serve as President for our state. This opportunity has given me a chance to work with and get to know our dedicated Maryland volunteers.

We have not yet experienced many of the white snowflakes that fall in the winter to beautify our landscape. However, Maryland and areas near and far have been covered with a sparkly blanket of generosity by our clubwomen's activities to add such sparkle to the lives of others. I appreciate the many creative ways you have made our programs successful. Maryland clubwomen have worked diligently to add success to our International President, Mary Ellen Brock's 7 Grand Initiatives. Feel proud of all of your successes. **Maryland Clubwomen are the BEST!** I have read your club reports with delight and pride of the many creative projects for this administration. Thank you for your support of our Military Families Special Projects remembering that entire families deal with the sacrifice of service. Please join us as we host another Convention as a General/Junior Meeting. It will be held again this year at the Crowne Plaza in Annapolis. What a great time to be in our state capitol with fellow clubwomen to share your successes and enjoy the benefit of fellowship with other clubwomen. With the election of a 2020-2022 Administration, it is time to conclude this administration and make plans for a new one. We look forward to seeing you there for a wonderful time. The Call to Convention will be sent separately. **Please make plans to join us April 17 for Junior Fun Night and April 18-19 for the Convention.**



Thank you again for your trust in me to serve as your state president to represent you in the state, regional and International meetings. It has been my honor. I will never forget this wonderful time.

In Federation Friendship,

Dottie Gregg

Dottie Gregg, GFWC Maryland President, 2018-2020



From Your Junior Director

Dear Federation Sisters,

Well what can I say but Winter will be Winter? The weather has been so up and down with temperatures, I don't think the animals or the flowers know what season it is. I have been sick with a cold and cough for much of December and now January. We are getting ready for a much-needed break and heading to Florida. Right now, I am focusing on reports and can't wait to read about all of our club's hard work and what matters to them. I am getting ready to read a book called [Girl, Stop Apologizing](#), by Rachel Hollis. It was recommended at our orientation seminar for the incoming 2020-2022 administration.



As the 2018-2020 administration draws close to the end of its second year, I wanted to take a moment to reflect on what a great experience I have had. I have made so many new friends and traveled to so many great places. I want to add also, that there are a lot of great things in store for the next administration. I would like to thank each and every one of you for your continued support and friendship. I am so very grateful. Our Mid-Winter Rally will take place in Pocomoke, Maryland on February 22nd. This meeting will be hosted by the Junior Woman's Club of Pocomoke City. This will be a great day of fun and service. Please mark your calendars; you won't want to miss it. We are looking forward to our next Official Junior meeting at the Maryland Convention April 18th & 19th at the Crowne Plaza Hotel in Annapolis. We will have a Junior Fun Night on Friday April 17th.

Let's keep making the difference and recording all that we have accomplished. I am still encouraged and look forward to seeing how each Maryland Clubwoman strives to continue the work on the 7 Grand Initiatives and conservation. Thank you for the opportunity to serve GFWC Maryland as Director of Junior Clubs and I look forward to seeing all of you at the 2020 GFWC Maryland Annual Convention!

In Federation Love,

Andrea Lilly
Maryland Director of Junior Clubs, 2018-2020



121st Annual GFWC Maryland Convention

Highlights

"Clubwomen Give Life a Sparkle by Living the Volunteer Spirit"

And

"Take Me Out to the Park"

All Maryland Clubwomen are invited and encouraged to attend the 121st Annual Convention of The GFWC Maryland Federation of Women's Clubs, Inc. at the Crowne Plaza Hotel in Annapolis, Maryland, April 18-19, 2020, where we will Honor the Past and Celebrate the Present. You won't want to miss any of the festivities which begin early on Saturday, so plan to arrive on Friday evening, April 17th for Clubwoman Fun Night from 8 – 10 pm.

On Saturday morning, Maryland Clubwomen are invited to attend the third General/Junior Convention at which you will hear interesting reports in the morning, followed by a Celebrating Our Sparkle luncheon and entertainment by the Convention Club. Saturday afternoon, members will participate in a baby shower for military families as our service project.

Following the afternoon session, a reception hosted by the District Presidents will be held to honor all Club Presidents and GFWC Maryland Clubwomen, Honorary Presidents, the 2019 Outstanding Maryland Clubwoman, Outstanding Junior Clubwoman, Junior Rookie of the Year, and all nominees. On Saturday evening we will enjoy the Women of Distinction banquet, highlighted by a procession of District and Club Presidents. There will also be a Memorial Service for those who passed in 2019. Immediately following dinner, all members are invited to join Christy Swiger at Federation Fun Night: "Night Owls Bingo!". Convention will reconvene at 10:00 a.m. where we'll learn what other clubs have been doing this past year when the awards are announced. You will be treated to a lively Youth Art presentation. After the luncheon, attendees will be entertained by actress Mary Ann Jung who will bring history to life with her portrayal of Elizabeth Cady Stanton. Then, we'll install the 2020-2022 Maryland Officers. Final business will be conducted, and prize drawings will be held before the 121st Annual GFWC Maryland Convention will adjourn for your safe journeys home.

This year's convention promises to be innovative, energizing and fun. Plan to attend and be a part of the excitement!

An Invitation

121st Annual GFWC Maryland Convention
Reception for all Clubwomen following Saturday afternoon session
Saturday, April 18, 2020



121st Annual GFWC Maryland Convention

Guest Speaker and Service Project

Mary Ann Jung, award-winning actress, will portray Elizabeth Cady Stanton as entertainment following lunch on Saturday.



2020 marks the 100th anniversary of Women’s Suffrage so if you don’t know who Elizabeth Cady Stanton is, you should! This 19th-century Seneca Falls pioneer and champion of Woman’s Rights stood out because she had several things other suffragists lacked: a husband, seven children, tremendous writing ability, and a wicked sense of humor. She was also Susan B. Anthony’s best friend and wrote Anthony’s orations. Stanton was also active in winning property rights for married women, equal guardianship of children, and liberalized divorce laws so that women could leave abusive marriages which harmed the wife, the children, and the economic health of the family. Learn about her amazing fight to improve women’s education, clothes, and legal rights, and why she has largely been forgotten.

Operation: Military Spouse Baby Shower Day of Service Project



The April 2020 GFWC-MD Convention will include a Day of Service dedicated to providing necessary baby shower items for military spouses. The birth of a child typically is a time when family and friends gather together to support mothers and father-to-be as they celebrate and navigate their changing family dynamics. However, military parents can experience this time in their lives far away from their home and traditional networks of support. Our GFWC Maryland convention will host a special event to have some fun with our fellow clubwomen and provide assistance to our service families. So, open up your “grandmotherly hearts of love” as you shop for items from this suggested list:

- Receiving blankets
- Wipes
- Baby spoons
- Crib/bassinet sheets
- Bath lotion, baby shampoo
- Baby Health kits (thermometer, medicine dropper, nose bulb, etc.)
- Onesies
- Bibs
- Diaper rash ointment
- Diapers
- Bath towels/wash cloths
- Infant Tylenol
- Bottles
- Swaddling blankets
- Sleepers
- Teething rings
- Hats, booties, socks
- Pacifiers
- Rattles



Directory Update Form

2020-2022 Directory Form

Attention Club Presidents: Use this form for Reporting 2020-2022 Club Officers. GFWC-MD Directory will be prepared using the information you supply.

Please complete this form and mail by June 10, 2020 to:

Brenda Bennett, GFWC-MD Directory Chair

2109 Bypass Road

Pocomoke City MD 21851

bbben360@aol.com | 410-251-6798

CLUB NAME: _____

Date Organized: _____ Date of Federation: _____

Annual Meeting Date: _____

Regular Meeting Dates: _____

CLUB PRESIDENT NAME: _____

Home Phone: _____ Cell Phone: _____

Address: _____

E-mail Address: _____

VICE PRESIDENT NAME: _____

Home Phone: _____ Cell Phone: _____

Address: _____

E-mail Address: _____

RECORDING SECRETARY NAME: _____

Home Phone: _____ Cell Phone: _____

Address: _____

E-mail Address: _____

CORRESPONDING SECRETARY NAME: _____

Home Phone: _____ Cell Phone: _____

Address: _____

E-mail Address: _____

TREASURER NAME: _____

Home Phone: _____ Cell Phone: _____

Address: _____

E-mail Address: _____

ADVISOR/DIRECTOR NAME: _____

Home Phone: _____ Cell Phone: _____

Address: _____

E-mail Address: _____



Resolutions and Bylaw Amendments

In the forthcoming Call to Convention there will be some proposed amendments to our state federation bylaws.

These amendments are being proposed by the Maryland Federation Executive Committee in accordance with Article XVII of the Maryland Federation Bylaws and are necessitated by the proposed slate of officers for the 2020-2022 administration. These amendments will make it possible for the incumbent Treasurer and Junior Director to stand for their office again and will remove term limits for all officers of the state federation. The rationale for these amendments is the inability to find members willing to serve as officers.

When you receive the Call with the proposed amendments please give them your full consideration as they will be voted on early in the convention schedule. As always, if you have any questions regarding these amendments please contact me.

Also, all clubs and districts are reminded that any updates or changes to your bylaws must be submitted to me as bylaws chairman after they have been passed by your club or district pursuant to Article XIV, Section 3.

Thank you,

Cynthia Ann Dykes, Chairman
Maryland Federation Bylaws Committee

Leadership

I have said it before and will no doubt say it again, the first step to being a leader is saying yes when being asked to step up and take on unfamiliar responsibilities. Many of you in our federation have done this in your clubs and/or districts.

This April, our state federation is planning for a change of administration. You may be asked to take on a state chairmanship or other state level responsibilities. Please consider saying yes and not dismissing the opportunity outright. After all, someone thinks you are more than capable of doing the job well or they would not be asking you to serve. If possible, say yes and you will find it a wonderful opportunity to learn and help our state federation. After all, we are only as strong as our members.

Cynthia Ann Dykes,
Maryland Federation Leadership
Chairman



Fundraising Galore

This is a reminder to all of our club women that there will be many fundraising opportunities at our upcoming MFWC State Board Meeting on February 18, 2020 at the Chesapeake Bay Foundation Merrill Center. We will have our 50/50 opportunities, and a terrific array of items at our fundraising tables. Checks and cash are always accepted at the fundraising table. Great buying possibilities will abound at our Annual State Convention in April as well. Vendors, district baskets, 50/50 boards, and of course our fundraising table. Not to worry, "Night Owl Bingo" will be returning as well. Mark your calendars, warm up those lucky number guesses, and start thinking positive about winning a fabulous bingo prize!

Think about how your clubs can plan activities to have fun and make money. Consider Taylor Marie's Fashion Shows as an easy solution. I worked with Maryann Priddy this past October on a fundraising event where 50 women enjoyed watching their fellow members model after a luncheon. They got to purchase any of the items they loved right on the spot. We had 50/50 opportunities, a raffle, and sold the table decorations, raising \$1,000 for our state. All the participants agreed that having a few hours to enjoy each other's company made it a wonderful day. For more information, you can reach out to Maryann for information at 301-471-9171 or maryann.priddy@verizon.net.

TaylorMarie's®
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Add Style, Fashion, and Fun to your next event with TaylorMarie's Fashion Show!

Experience boutique shopping in the ease of your community. Petite, missy, and women's sizes available.

Make your next event a huge success!

Maryann Priddy:
301.471.9171
Maryann.Priddy@Verizon.net

The "Gold Lady" Returns

Bring in your old jewelry and walk out with some "cold, green cash" at our next Convention! Kristine Southworth will be attending our MFWC Convention on Sunday, April 19th. She will be happy to accept your bags of gold and/or silver starting at 9:00am. All you need to do is bring in your tired, old, broken gold jewelry, white gold jewelry, platinum jewelry and even silver jewelry. Kristine will weigh it and pay you cash for whatever you would like to sell. Kristine gives our MFWC 10% of the sale, which does not come out of your pocket. Even if you are not certain if your items are gold or silver, she is able to test it and will determine its weight and value. If your pieces have stones, Kristine can usually take them out for you.

Consider asking your club members or neighbors who are not attending convention to let you bring in their gold. Gold prices have been very high for the last several months, so take advantage of the economy!



GFWC Signature Project: Domestic Violence

Domestic violence has three facets: physical, emotional and mental. The emotional and mental scars cannot be seen. Therefore, sharing the heartache and anguish of being in an abusive relationship is not easy. I was married to a sexual addict.

The boys were three and eighteen months when I learned my husband had an affair. Meeting with an attorney made me realize how hard separation and divorce would be for the boys and without a job at the time. would be quite difficult for me as well. My parents wanted me to move home and they would have added an addition onto their home. But that was not a choice for me to make as I believe marriage is for life.

After months of counseling both pastoral and marriage counseling, we stayed together! Then it happened again with a woman from his workplace and now we had had a third child, fortunately I was working when this occurred. He left and stayed with a friend while we sought marriage counseling again separated and then returned together. No marriage is perfect. Years passed and then the patterns arose again: his late nights, many evening meetings, women calling the house, weekends away for work, more time with male friends, and verbal abuse. Then my friend needed to talk to me! She was crying so hard I thought it's because she was ill. No, she had seen my husband kissing a certain woman in a public place. The marriage was finished! I went to see the counselor again, she gave me the name of detectives, my brother gave me the money to pay the detectives upfront so they could gain evidence of adultery. Then the unbelievable journey began. I got a lawyer (who is now a judge) and the detectives gathered the evidence. He was involved with three different woman which they had on video (I never looked at them). I never turned back.

Since 1998 I have been divorced and I'm happy with my single lifestyle filled with family and friends and volunteering. So being a survivor from domestic violence is a true passion of mine. My goal is to help other women who have been in this type of relationship which can be devastating mentally and emotionally. Fortunately, I did not have to experience physical abuse.

Experiencing mental and psychological abuse takes much longer to heal. My advice to other women is leave this type of abuse because you can survive on your own with support from family and friends.

Marriage should be filled with commitment, devotion, faith and love.

Domestic Violence National Hotline: 1-800-799-7233



Junior's Signature Project: Advocates for Children

Support Andrea Lilly, the GFWC MD Junior Director and her theme "Take Me Out to the Park". Support projects with children that improve conservation to keep Maryland Beautiful. Have club members clean up a playground for children, work with elementary school students to make bird feeders with recycled products, partner with an after school program to plant a community garden or plant flowers or trees. Be creative and have fun.

Partner with March of Dimes and support March for Babies 2020. We hope for the day when all moms and babies are healthy and every step you take makes a difference. March of Dimes remembers the babies we lost and honor them with special tributes throughout the day of the March for Babies. We celebrate with fun activities for your whole family and ours, including NICU graduates. The funds you raise gives hope to nearly half a million babies born too soon each year! Find a March for Babies near you and register your club to gain access to online tools to help reach your goals, including individual and team fundraising pages at www.marchforbabies.org. Be sure to include GFWC and your club in your team name. As a team, set your fundraising goals. Goals are the key to a successful campaign. It's a great way to motivate members and give them a target to shoot for or exceed! Make it a family outing to reach out and have an impact and give a fighting chance for all babies to be born healthy. At March for Babies, more than 3 million people join their family and friends in nearly 700 communities across the nation, and we need hands-on service to make it a success. The Baltimore area event is Sunday May 3, 2020 at Canon Crossing Waterfront Parking Lot. Remember you can always do a virtual walk for babies with your club members.

Members of the GFWC Maryland Western District executive committee gathered from Cumberland, Westminster, and Frederick at Soldier Fit Gym to present a check for \$2,000 to Danny Farrar, co-founder of Platoon 22, for the veterans center in Frederick, Maryland. Each district in the state were given the funds to use for a charitable contribution by the MFWC Convention in April 2020. At the Western District October 2019 meeting, the district voted to donate the funds to the veterans center which will serve all veterans in the state. The comprehensive center furnishes counseling, job training, suicide prevention, a gym, and other services.



Photo from Left to Right: Susan Krichten, Nancy Wynne, Jennifer Farrar, Danny Farrar, Kaye Shoemaker, Carol Fesser, Regina Whitaker, Bonnie Andrews, Carol Bonella.



Parliamentary Pointers

By GFWC Parliamentarian Deen Meloro

When you go to your club meeting, you probably expect the meeting to follow a certain pattern. If *Robert's Rules of Order* is the parliamentary authority of your club, and if your club has not adopted a special order of business, the following is the usual format of business: Reading and Approval of Minutes; Reports of the Officers; Reports of the Boards or Department Chairmen; Reports of the Standing Committee Chairmen; Reports of the Special (Ad Hoc or Select) Committee Chairmen; Unfinished Business; and New Business. Opening exercises are not considered part of the agenda, although it certainly makes things easier for the presiding officer to have *everything* written down. Before the meeting begins, the president should have been given the courtesy of a phone call or email telling her if someone will not be reporting. Then the president will not call on her.

Under each area of business, the president will generally write notes to remind herself of anything that has to be done. Most clubs have certain tasks to do in certain months, such as the nominating committee report or elections, and there may also be business that was postponed until the current month. If there is an item of business that must come up as soon as possible in the meeting, immediately after the minutes have been approved the president will say: "If there is no objection, the Order of Business will be changed." Rarely will a member object, and if that happens, when the president says what needs to come up, the member who objected will most likely drop her objection.

Part of the job of the secretary is to remind the president of items that should be on the agenda. The secretary always gets a copy of the agenda before the meeting starts.

Are We All Doing Our Part?

Since 1984, we've been dedicated to assisting the Chesapeake Bay Foundation in its efforts to Save the Chesapeake Bay, our Greatest Natural Resource. Many of our clubs have added a donation to the foundation in their yearly budgets! I am thrilled to announce to you that our Guest Speaker at our MFWC State Board of Directors Meeting on February 18, 2020 will be the President of the Chesapeake Bay Foundation, Dr. William Baker. We will welcome Dr. Baker for a presentation and at the close of the meeting, all those interested will enjoy a tour of this facility. Please consider making a donation to the Chesapeake Bay Foundation this year, especially if it has been absent from your list of projects to donate to. Make your check out to the Chesapeake Bay Foundation and please mail it to me at: Christy Swiger, 117 Comanche Circle, Millsboro, DE 19966. I will forward your check to the Foundation. Or, you can bring the check to this State Meeting and I will record it and mail it to the foundation.



In Memory of Betty Louise Holman

On December 22, 2019, Betty Louise Holman (nee Roberts) passed away in Baltimore, Maryland. Born in Pretty Prairie, Kansas in 1928, Betty was the only child of Pearl and Hazel. She met her husband, Jim Holman, while they both attended Kansas State University. They moved to Baltimore, where they lived for 57 happy years until Jim's death. She is survived by her children - Jerry and Debbie, and grandchildren - Brian, Mark and James. A memorial service was held at the Chapel of the Angels at Charlestown Retirement Community on Monday, January 6th.

In Memory of Debbie Kaye Spinnenweber

Debra Kaye Spinnenweber, 64, of Cumberland, passed away Monday, Dec. 16, 2019. Born in Cumberland in 1955, she was the daughter of Richard and Gloria Springer. Debbie was preceded in death by her son, Brian P. Spinnenweber, in 2007. She was an active member of the Greater Federation of Women's Clubs, serving as an officer on state, district, and local levels. She devoted much of her life to Civic Club activities. Surviving, in addition to her parents, are her husband, Bruce; daughter, Lauren; sister, Karen and husband, Geri; brother, Richard and wife, Nancy. A memorial service was held on Friday, January 10, 2020 at Scarpelli Funeral Home in Cresaptown, PA.



In Memory of Sylvia S. Eckhardt

Sylvia S. Eckhardt, passed peacefully on Sunday, December 29, 2019. Daughter to Elmer and Easter Shade, she was born on March 24, 1924 in Washington D.C. She held a bachelors and master's degree from University of Maryland. Sylvia was active in the Glyndon Women's Club, and a member of the Glyndon Methodist Church; always caring, showing grace and extending friendship to all. Surviving in addition to her three children, Bruce, Pam, and Debbie are ten grandchildren and twenty-seven great grandchildren. A memorial service was held in Sykesville, MD in late January.

The Maryland
Clubwoman



Clubwoman Connection

February 18, 2020

February Board of Directors Meeting

Hosted by Chesapeake District

*Guest speaker is from the Chesapeake Bay Foundation
Philip Merrill Environmental Center (includes facility tour)
6 Herndon Avenue*

Annapolis, MD 21403

Parking is extremely restricted. Carpooling is required.

February 22, 2020

Junior Mid-Winter Rally

Pocomoke City Town Library

301 Market Street

Pocomoke City, MD 21851

April 17, 2020

Junior Fun Night

Prior to start of convention

Crowne Plaza Hotel

173 Jennifer Road

Annapolis, MD 21401

April 18-19, 2020

GFWC Maryland 121st Annual

General/Junior Convention

Crowne Plaza Hotel

173 Jennifer Road

Annapolis, MD 21401