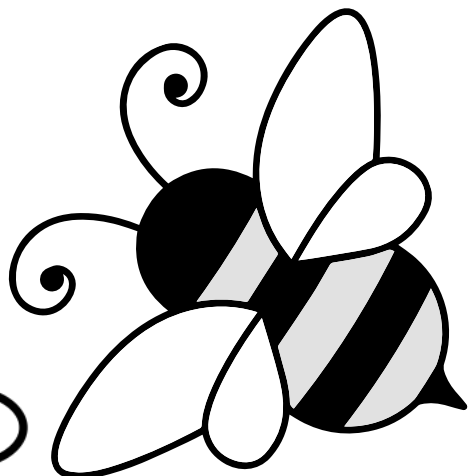
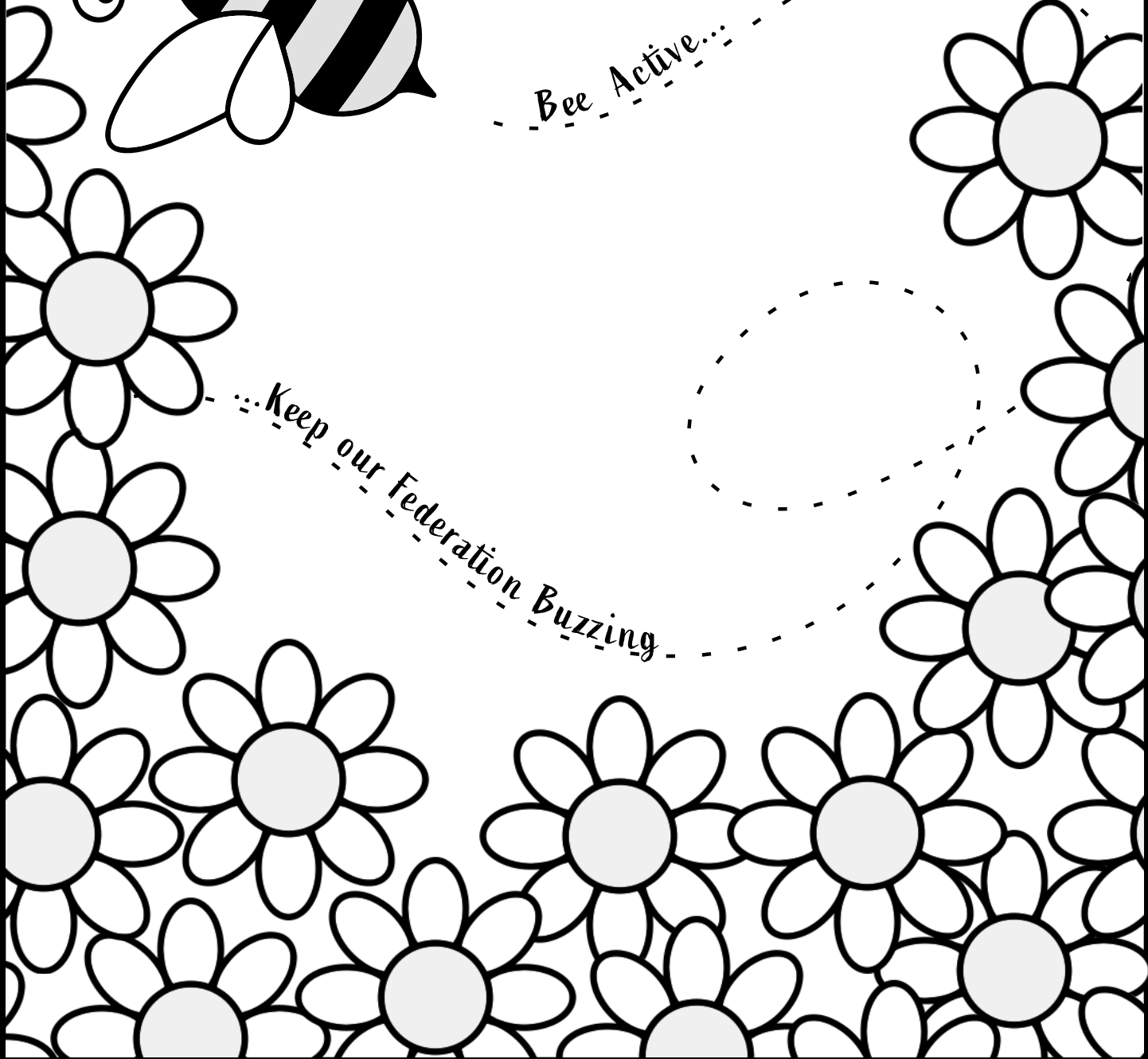


The Maryland Clubwoman



Bee Active...

Keep our Federation Buzzing



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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, or the black and white version directly.

Next Issue Deadline

All articles and information for the Fall 2021 issue of The Maryland Clubwoman must be turned in to staff by July 5, 2021

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 2022 may be submitted for inclusion.

Convention Alert:

The GFWC MD convention will be virtual, on Saturday, April 17, 2021. Please look for the agenda and details in the Call to Convention which will be sent out by email. We felt this is still the best decision for all of our members.

The support of our Armed Forces Personnel families via a baby shower will still be held during the convention. You are asked to continue giving your support as you did last year by donating gift cards, knitted or crochet baby blankets this year.

Date Reminder:

The MFWC February Board of Directors Meeting will be held on Tuesday, February 16th via Zoom. Please refer to the Call for more information.

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From The President's Desk



Hello Maryland Clubwomen,

With a dusting of snow, sometimes an avalanche, we enter this month of remembering. Valentines Day approaches and candy merchants, florists answer the desires of people wanting to express their caring to those they love. In our Federation I believe the camaraderie we build, the bonds of caring we strengthen both help to create a sense of year-round “valentine’s days” at our meetings and in our charitable work. This work shines in the reports sent in by Maryland clubs. These reveal that Maryland clubwoman have lived up to Stephen Grellet’s thoughts: “I expect to pass through this world but once; any good thing therefore that I can do, or any kindness that I can show to any fellow-creature, let me do it now; let me not defer or neglect it, for I shall not pass this way again.”

Though many clubs have had to hold their meetings via Zoom their members have continued to attend them. This has kept the clubs vital. We are living in a time, so to speak, of successful experiment and the Maryland clubwomen are displaying all the resources that women so wonderfully possess. We’ve learned a new meaning of the word Zoom. Learned there are many nooks in our homes that we can change or clean. Learned to keep a mask handy at all times.

But for a change, now you are invited to attend a Board of Directors meeting. It will be held on February 16, 2021 at 10 a.m. There is much information to be shared at this meeting. It is my sincere hope that as many of you as possible will be able to attend. Please follow the directions you received in the call to register for this meeting so that you will receive the link to this Zoom meeting

Like the world of nature is “sleeping” waiting to revive with the warmth of Spring, so in December and January are gathering of all Maryland Federation clubs were not held. This is usual, but now, it is time to awaken, gather, so plan on attending this February 16 meeting

Be sure to keep April 17 on your calendar for our Annual Convention. It will be held virtually, so the agenda and meeting link will be sent to you in March.

In Federation Friendship,

Karen-Marie Wasik

GFWC Maryland President, 2020-2022



From Your Junior Director

Dear Federation Sisters,

Well, what a year 2020 has been. To say we have done everything different is an understatement. I can say that I have learned a lot about Zoom, Big Marker and Webinar's. That being said 2020 also brought us joy with births, weddings, and family togetherness and was a much-needed break for many. Working from home was a norm and shopping on-line became a way of life. It slowed the pace a little to let lists get accomplished, books read, and renovations completed. I can say it brought communities together. I witnessed firsthand where there was a need there were federation members that came up with a way to help. We have been busy hosting most meetings via zoom along with our Mid-Winter Rally held this past weekend.

Right now, I am focusing on reports and can't wait to read about all of our club's hard work and what mattered to them during this unprecedented year of the Pandemic, I'm nicknaming the reports "COVID-19 The Year to Remember". The 2020-2022 administration got off to a slow late start, but we are ready to roll now and looking forward to what we can do in 2021-2022. Regardless of how we do it, we can still stay involved. I have a feeling the new norm will take place in the Fall of 2021. I am very hopeful but foremost the safety and welfare of every clubwoman is a top priority.

I would like to thank each and every one of you for your continued support and friendship. My family, my Pocomoke Juniors and my Junior Board have been a huge part in helping me continue as Junior Director. I am so very grateful. We are looking forward to our next Official Junior meeting at the Maryland State Convention April 17th whether we meet in person or via virtual zoom it will be a day to remember. Let's keep making the difference and keep recording all that we have accomplished. No matter how small it may seem, everything makes a difference. I am so proud of the Juniors and all Maryland Clubwomen. Let's keep Maryland safe and beautiful. 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 2021 GFWC Maryland Annual Convention! Hoping for Happiness & Health in 2021!

In Federation Friendship,

GFWC Maryland Junior Director, 2020-2022



GFWC Southeastern Region Meeting Report

Day One

**Friday Evening, November 6, 2020
6:00 PM to 7:30 PM**

On Friday evening, we were welcomed to the meeting by SER President Peggy Barnes. After SER President Barnes opening the meeting, GFWC President Marian St. Clair, President-Elect Deb Strahanoski, and 2nd Vice President Wendy Carriker greeted attendees, thanking them for attending. Afterwards, SER Fundraising Chairman Babs Condon announced the results of the virtual Horse Race fundraiser “Run for the Roses”, proceeds of which benefited the GFWC Capital Campaign. The hard-fought competition saw Maryland clubwomen donating \$1,200 for this fundraiser, bringing us into third place.

GFWC Southeastern Region Meeting Report

Day Two

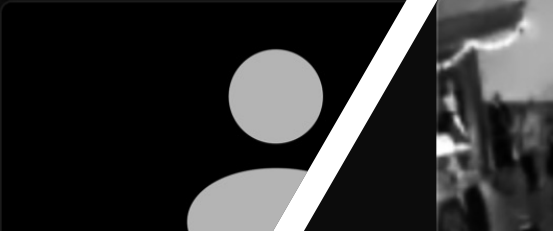
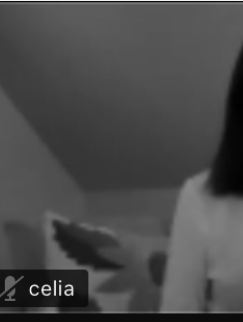
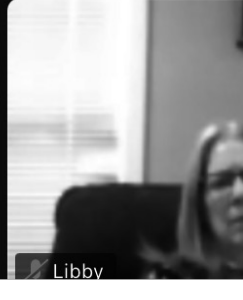
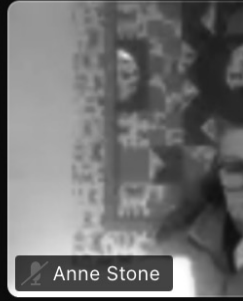
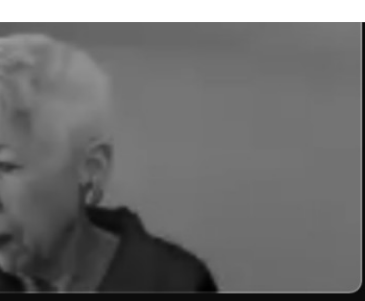
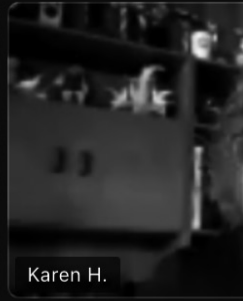
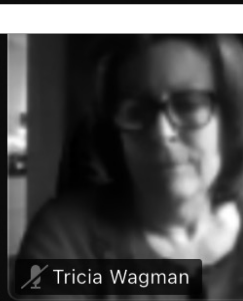
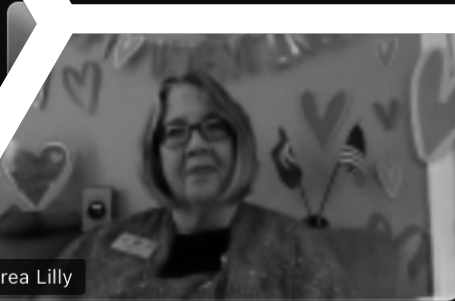
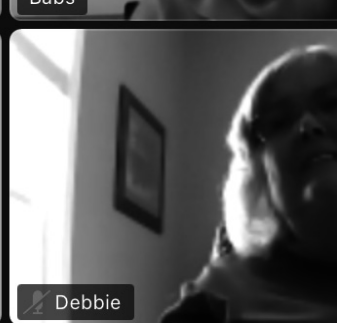
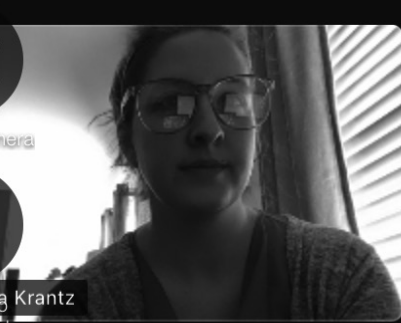
**Saturday, November 7, 2020
1:00 PM – 4:00 PM**

Saturday's portion of the meeting was called to order at 1:00, and started with inspirational words from SER Chaplain, Irene Stamper. Following, nominations for the Nominating Committee were announced and chairmen gave reports on Communications and Public Relations, GFWC Signature Program, Legislation, and Fundraising.

Afterwards, GFWC President-Elect Strahanoski addressed clubwomen and reports from State Presidents were shared, including that from Maryland President Karen-Marie Wasik. Reports from Committee Chairs resumed, with Membership, Leadership, Juniors' Special Project, and Capital Campaign reports being shared.

After committee reports, our keynote speaker, International President Marian St. Clair addressed clubwomen, sharing inspiring words in this era of COVID-19. State President reports then continued, and the Maryland State invitation to the October 2021 SER meeting was made by Babs Condon, Past SER President and Past International President, 2016-2018 and Rosemary Thomas of Women's Club of Westminster.







Mid-Winter Rally 2021

The members of GFWC Maryland Juniors and guests gathered via zoom on a clear but chilly day. The host club for this meeting was the GFWC Junior Woman's Club of Chevy Chase. We had a wonderful meeting celebrating a day of friendship, fun and service. The theme for the day was "Winter's Healing". We took count of who wore red, hearts, snowflakes and federation attire. We held a business meeting, had reports from Junior Special Projects chairman and GFWC Signature Program chairman. A paper heart craft activity was presented and our fundraising chairman presented our fundraisers. A special Program on women's health issues was presented by our own Tricia Wagman, with an emphasis on heart health. Prizes were given to the club with the most members attending. We attempted to show a video and had discussion from Chevy Chase on their adopted program of "Youth Art for Healing" a nonprofit Bethesda based organization. Donations were given toward this worthy cause. A zoom scavenger hunt was conducted and a prize awarded to the winner. Two tickets were raffled off for a tour of Hillwood Estate by the JWCCC. Attendees also learned about future fundraisers and upcoming events.

What another amazing successful day for all involved even though virtual. Highest attendance of any Junior Meeting within the last several years.

Club Categories for Awards

Clubs designated with an asterisk are Past District Presidents Clubs and do not usually report

Category 1 (Members 15 and under):

| | <u>Members:</u> |
|---|------------------------|
| GFWC Centennial Club of Western District* | 12 |
| GFWC Jr. Woman's Civic Club of Cumberland, Inc. | 6 |
| GFWC Jr. Woman's Club of Pocomoke City | 14 |
| GFWC Jr. Woman's Club of Westminster, Inc. | 14 |
| Emeritus Club* | 7 |
| Myrtle Club* | 5 |

Category 2 (Members 16-30):

| | <u>Members:</u> |
|--|------------------------|
| The Town and Country Club of Greensboro | 16 |
| GFWC Woman's Club of Dundalk, Inc. | 18 |
| GFWC Wicomico Woman's Club, Inc. | 18 |
| GFWC The Wednesday Club of Sandy Spring | 18 |
| GFWC Laytonsville Woman's Club | 20 |
| GFWC Silver Spring Woman's Club, Inc. | 20 |
| GFWC Joppatowne Woman's Club, Inc. | 21 |
| The Woman's Club of Cecil County, Inc. | 22 |
| The Woman's Club of Perry Hall, Inc. | 25 |
| GFWC Jr. Woman's Club of Chevy Chase, MD, Inc. | 25 |

Category 3 (Members 31-60):

| | <u>Members:</u> |
|---|------------------------|
| GFWC Metropolitan Community Club of Montgomery County | 34 |
| Woman's Club of Bethesda, Inc. | 50 |
| Severn Town Club, Inc. | 50 |
| University Park Woman's Club, Inc. | 51 |
| Frederick Woman's Civic Club, Inc. | 58 |
| GFWC Woman's Club of Laurel, Inc. | 58 |
| GFWC Civic Club of Oakland, Maryland, Inc. | 60 |
| The Woman's Club of Glyndon, Inc. | 60 |

Category 2 (Members 61+):

| | <u>Members:</u> |
|--|------------------------|
| GFWC Woman's Club of Chevy Chase, MD, Inc. | 217 |
| GFWC Woman's Club of Linthicum Heights, Inc. | 133 |
| GFWC Woman's Club of Westminster, Inc. | 75 |

GFWC Contest Deadlines

Special Programs Awards

| | <u>Amount</u> | <u>State Deadline</u> |
|--------------------------|---------------|-----------------------|
| Domestic Violence | \$50.00 | Deadline has passed |
| Juniors' Special Project | \$50.00 | Deadline has passed |

Community Service Program Awards

| | <u>Amount</u> | <u>State Deadline</u> |
|-----------------------------|---------------|-----------------------|
| Arts & Culture | \$50.00 | Deadline has passed |
| Civic Engagement & Outreach | \$50.00 | Deadline has passed |
| Education & Libraries | \$50.00 | Deadline has passed |
| Environment | \$50.00 | Deadline has passed |
| Health & Wellness | \$50.00 | Deadline has passed |

Advancement Plans Awards

| | <u>Amount</u> | <u>State Deadline</u> |
|----------------------------------|------------------------------|-----------------------|
| Communication & Public Relations | \$50.00 | Deadline has passed |
| Fundraising and Development | \$50.00 | Deadline has passed |
| Leadership | \$50.00 | Deadline has passed |
| Legislation/Public Policy | \$50.00 | Deadline has passed |
| Membership | \$50.00 | Deadline has passed |
| Women's History & Resource | \$50.00 | Deadline has passed |
| Community Impact Program | 1st-5th Place Cash awards | March 1, 2021 |

Special Awards

| | | |
|--------------------------------------|--------------|---------------------|
| Giraffe Award "Stick Your Neck Out"* | Non-monetary | Deadline has passed |
| President's Prize** | \$100.00 | March 15, 2021 |

*Giraffe Award – Stick Your Neck Out – award will be presented to each club that does project directly benefiting children during the fourth week of October.

**A "President's Prize" of \$100 plus an award certificate for a club that best interprets the GFWC holiday theme – "It's a Wonderful World".

Contests

| | <u>Amount</u> | <u>GFWC Deadline</u> |
|---|---------------|-----------------------------------|
| Newsletter Contest | Non-monetary | March 1, 2021 (to State Chairman) |
| Photography Contest\$50-\$100 "The World in Pictures" "Living the Volunteer Spirit" | May 15, 2021 | |
| Website Contest | Non-monetary | March 15, 2021 |

Please Note

The deadline for all other club Community Service Program and Special Project reports has passed.

Unless otherwise indicated, members/clubs must submit entries for state judging prior to entering GFWC contests. After the state judging, GFWC Maryland Chairmen will submit winning entries to GFWC for national judging. Please see your GFWC Club Manual for complete details on all contests and awards. Entry guidelines vary greatly. GFWC also awards a certificate to one state federation, in each membership category, for each of the GFWC Community Service Programs and Projects.



Rules for Outstanding Maryland Clubwoman



Rules for Outstanding Maryland Clubwoman are posted at the GFWC Maryland site. Please check with your club president who has received the rules, cover sheet, and directions last fall. All nominations are to be sent to Karen Wasik, GFWC Maryland State President.

Remember that current members of the GFWC Maryland Executive Committee, honorary GFWC Maryland State Presidents, former recipients of the OMC Award, and Junior club members are not eligible for this award. Juniors have their own award. Make sure the cover sheet is fully filled out and signed by the club president or designated person in the case that the president is the nominee. The separate narrative of 500 words or less must not give nominee's name, the club's name or any information that would identify the person. The narrative's main emphasis should be on what the member did for the club this past year. Additional background including club involvement over the years, along with any district and state activities may be included.

To be eligible, all entries must be postmarked by March 1, 2021. Please mail to:

Karen Wasik

GFWC Maryland State President

t6 Harrow Gate Court

Potomac, MD 20854-6115

Bylaws and Amendments

Pursuant to Maryland Federation Bylaws, Article XVII, any proposed amendments to the bylaws should have been submitted to the bylaws chairman and committee by February 1st. Therefore, it does not seem that we will be having any amendments to our bylaws to consider at this year's convention/annual meeting. We did make some last year as discussed in my article in the winter 2020 issue of this publication. I encourage all clubs and districts, if they have not already done so, to adopt bylaw amendments similar to our state bylaw Article XVIII Emergencies. A copy of the current bylaws as amended August 27, 2020, is in the new Maryland Directory and can also be found on the Maryland Federation website at www.gfwcmd.org.



As a reminder to all clubs and districts who have amended or are in the process of amending their bylaws, per Article XIV, Section 3 of the Maryland Federation Bylaws, you need to send a copy of the current bylaws your club or district passes and under which it operates, to me as state bylaws chairman to make sure there is no conflict with our state bylaws.

GFWC LEADS Applications

This issue includes the GFWC Maryland Informational Sheet and Application for the GFWC Leadership, Education, and Development Seminar (LEADS). Each year, our state selects one candidate for this enriching program held the day before the GFWC International Convention begins. GFWC contributes to the attendee a stipend of \$250 and one-half (1/2) of the room charge for two (2) nights at the official convention hotel. Additionally, the Maryland Federation contributes \$300 towards the attendee's expenses. Please consider applying or encouraging someone from your club in whom you see leadership potential to apply. I can assure the attendee will find the program a rewarding experience.

The application deadline is February 1, 2020, and though only one person is selected, we hope to receive many applications from which to choose. Anyone who is interested in

LEADS is encouraged to apply using the GFWC Maryland LEADS Application which follows. The application is also available on the state website www.gfwcmdweb@gmail.com. My contact information is at the bottom of the application. Please contact me with any questions.

Babs Condon

Maryland LEADS Chairman

410-303-6967

GFWC Maryland Newsletter Contest

Ladies,

The deadline for the GFWC MD Newsletter Contest is March 1, 2021.

Please mail to Jo Miller, Chairman, 14003 Cedarwood DR SW, Cumberland, MD 21502 or email jjmil68@verizon.net.

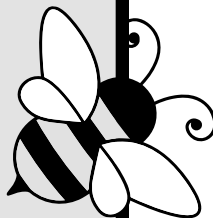
Review the GFWC Manual for rules, criteria and guidelines for the Newsletter Contest.

Looking forward to reading and judging LOTS and LOTS of newsletter.

Warmly,

Jo Miller

GFWC MD Newsletter Contest
Chairman



Community Engagement and Public Relations

Public relations and community outreach have been difficult with COVID restrictions in place for most of the past year. But with the warmer weather and the continued vaccine rollout, engaging with our communities in person should become easier and safer. In what I hope will be the last months of quarantining, let's focus on what we can do right now to promote our clubs.

Getting New Members: Under normal circumstances, we can recruit new members through events open to the public. Start preparing now for when that is possible again. Be sure your club is up to date with your membership application (i.e., are all questions on the form current? Is your application easily accessible online so you can send it to a prospective member when needed?) Does your Facebook page or website look appealing to someone who may be interested in joining your club? This is also a great time for your members to start thinking of friends, neighbors, and colleagues who may enjoy becoming members themselves. Also, think about possible events to welcome prospective or new members when it's safe again to do so. At my club, we're working with our city's historical society to plan an evening talk where prospective members can learn about the rich history of both our club and our city.

In-house Fundraising: Since in-person fundraisers open to the public have been cancelled, consider creative ideas for in-house fundraisers. At our club, we normally hold spring/fall fundraisers with outside vendors where anyone can stop by and shop. With that option not available to us this year, we instead held fundraisers among our members. For example, last November we hosted an Online Holiday Marketplace, where we partnered with national companies that offer fundraisers for nonprofits, such as Sees Candies or Usborne Books. To set up an in-house fundraiser, advertise to your members in your club's newsletter with a link to a webpage on how to participate, and ask them to forward to friends and relatives. The companies give a percentage back to your club for items sold. Even better: It's all online – no need to worry about social distancing! Another fun idea from my club is to hold a drawing each month for a basket made by one of our members. The member who designs the basket donates the items for the basket and the tickets are \$5.00 each. We have great fun at our meetings where we show off the basket on Zoom and draw the winner's name.

Community Outreach: Even now, it's still important to think about how your club can serve the needs of our communities. My club found a

is harder than telling an organization that you have been supporting for years that you just can't do it this year. But if we work together, we can still find enriching and rewarding ways to serve those in need despite the unusual circumstances of the past year.

I've laid out a few ideas that worked for my club, but I'm sure you can come up with others. While these can be trying times, they also present an opportunity to innovate. Who knows, you just might come up with an idea that you stick with even after the pandemic subsides. As the GFWC-MD Communications and Public Relations Chair, I would love to hear what you and your clubs have already come up with. Feel free to send me your ideas at marysher@comcast.net.

way to continue to serve our local homeless shelter while abiding by its COVID-related restrictions on in-person visits and homemade food: instead of cooking a meal ourselves, we ordered dinner from a restaurant and had it delivered. Think outside the box for effective ways to give back to the community while also staying safe. Now, more than ever, envision how you can work with other nonprofits in your area to crowdsource ideas and pool resources. Nothing

Community Impact Program Award

The past year brought many changes to how clubs approach their work, with flexibility and ingenuity taking center stage. To work with these changes, GFWC updated the CIP Award which is now the Community **Impact** Program (previously known as the Community Improvement Program).

This Program is designed to recognize club projects that meet the numerous and changing needs of their communities. It also provides opportunities for clubs to increase membership, develop members leadership skills and create positive public relations of club activities.

Clubs may submit entries for up to 3 projects that have had a meaningful impact on problems in their community. Projects can be “done in a

day”, monthly or long-term. The focus should be on the positive impact that a club has had on a specific need in the community. The award period is January 1, 2020 to December 31, 2021. The deadline for the 2020-2022 CIP is March 1, 2022. You will find the application has been simplified and the awards opportunities have increased. For all the details on how to enter, download the Community Impact Program Award section of the Club Manual within the “awards” sub-folder of the “Club Manual” located in the Member Portal’s Digital Library.

I look forward to receiving your entries.

Reno Eitel
Community Impact Program



Staying in Touch During a Pandemic

Are you on Facebook

Facebook is a great way to stay in touch with fellow clubwomen, and stay apprised of what other clubs are doing amidst the pandemic. Be sure to [join the Maryland Federation Facebook group](#) as well!

Join Slack

Slack and other team messaging platforms are a great way to stay in constant communication with each-other.

You can use Slack to share documents, photos, and more!

Host a Zoom Party

As we've learned, Zoom fatigue is real. Combat that by switching up your usual get-togethers! Host a wine tasting, baking party, or painting party to reconnect with your club. this is also a great way to recruit new members!

What Ideas do you Have?

Share your ideas for a fun get-together, or just ways to stay in touch, with your fellow clubwomen!

Travel the World

Take your club on a [virtual tour](#) of famous landmarks and museums without ever leaving home!

Movie Night

Host a virtual movie night for your club using platforms like [Netflix Party](#) or [TwoSeven](#).

Treat your clubwomen by dropping off popcorn and candy kits!

Fundraising in a Virtual World

Challenge Your Members to a Fundraising Competition

Encourage your clubwomen to create Facebook fundraisers and compete to raise the most -- the winner receives a prize!

Host a Spring Cleaning Virtual Garage Sale

Embrace spring cleaning, and sell your unwanted clothes and goods in an online garage sale on Facebook Marketplace. Advertise that 100% of proceeds go to a good cause.

Restaurant Fundraiser

Partner with a local restaurant for a giveback night where a percentage of sales go back to your club! To make it COVID-safe, ensure your fundraiser includes curbside pickup.

50/50 Raffles: A Classic

Sell raffle tickets to family, friends, and neighbors. Half the pot goes to the raffle winner, and half the pot stays with your club!

Virtual BINGO

Who doesn't love a good game of BINGO? Invite friends for a night of virtual bingo and sell BINGO cards to raise money.

Virtual Classes

Secure a yoga teacher, chef, or artist to donate their time to a virtual class night. Sell tickets to the class, advertising that 100% of proceeds go to your organization.



Arts & Culture

The GFWC Arts and Culture Community Service Program encourages members to promote and support art and cultural programs in their clubs and communities, and to expand understanding on every level, from local and regional to national and international. Our goal is to create projects that include crafts, dance, drama, food, music, and other manifestations of art and culture that develop skills, awareness, and appreciation. It is designed to inspire clubwomen and ignite within them a desire to make the world a more beautiful, thoughtful, and caring place.

Project Ideas

- Make homemade holiday cards for nursing facility residents or Meals on Wheels recipients
- Make Mother's Day wreaths for assisted living residents
- Be crafty – make homemade gifts for birthdays or other occasions.
- “Hire” student jazz combos, string quartets, student chorus to perform at a club events. This can be done via a zoom meeting.
- Explore museums online with Google Arts and Culture or visit Art Galleries and Art Museums through their websites for virtual gallery tours. Visit Van Gogh Museum in Amsterdam; take a safari in Serengeti National Park. You want to tour the Eiffel Tower and have never been to Paris, you can virtually. Go to the Google Arts and Culture website at artsandculture.google.com, click on Eiffel Tower and you're there.
- Hold a recycled art contest for art projects made using recycled materials.
- Help build, paint, and decorate a Little Free Library
- Include a category in Art Contests that is specific to special needs children. Many times, these students never receive recognition for their creativity.
- Feature art or art forms that are indicative of another culture at monthly club meetings.
- Research and learn more about well known international ballets, operas, musical composers, museums, and artists. Share with club members.
- Learn about Native American culture and its various forms from one part of the country to another. When traveling, visit museums on Native American culture, such as the Indian Pueblo Cultural Center in Albuquerque, New Mexico and the National Museum of the American Indian located in Washington, DC.

These are just a few project ideas. Be creative, start a new project, have fun. Explore other ideas at [gfwc.org/club manual](https://gfwc.org/club-manual).

Education & Libraries

As we have progressed through the year of COVID restrictions, clubs have been searching for and implementing, ways to proceed with projects using Zoom and other methods while avoiding close contact and possible exposure to the virus. Additional problems have arisen because for these same reasons, the ability to raise funds has been greatly reduced.

However, some clubs have managed to come up with ideas which are clever and meet the above criteria. One club mapped every Little Free Library in their community, published the map for people to use, and by collecting gently used books from their members and families, managed to keep those Little Free Libraries well filled for use by the community. Another club created their own Little Free Library which was placed outside their clubhouse and kept it filled with books for all ages. As many of our teachers are teaching virtually, it would be helpful to contact some teachers to find out what supplies their students might need to keep up with their classwork. Clubs can collect these supplies and deliver them to students who may have no other means to get them. Curbside pick-up is another way to get these supplies to children without exposing anyone to COVID. A large club could support several teachers in this manner. Small snacks might be included. After watching the endless lines of cars waiting to get food at food distributing points, I thought perhaps somehow paperback children's' books could be handed out by club volunteers. Again, these could be gently used books for little expense. Some of our libraries are creating "craft to-go kits" to be picked up. A club could help its local library create such kits or could distribute them (again on a grab and go type distribution) themselves. Be sure to have written instructions included of course! Zoom has become very much of our lives. Virtual Book Clubs for various aged readers including Young Adults are a possibility. Virtual story-hours are a possibility for preschool children and kindergartners would be easy to arrange with club members doing the reading. Don't forget the adults as well! Assisted living and senior congregate living facilities would also benefit by receiving gently used books from our homes.

Hopefully, many of these suggestions can be done at a minimum of cost. The time is hopefully coming soon when we can expand our work in the community by once more working together face to face in a broader and hands-on face to face manner. Until then, remember we can continue to serve our communities, albeit in smaller fashion.



Environment

On Bees

Our GFWC MD President Karen-Marie Wasik, has established the motto “Bee Active...Keep Our Federation Buzzing” as the 2020-2022 motto. Not only for our state federation is this a wonderful motto, but it also helps stress the important role bees play in our lives.

According to the USDA Website on Pollinator information www.usda.gov/pollinators, bees are responsible for one in every three bites of food we eat. That is a staggering thought, isn't it? Sadly, bee populations are in decline. Most likely this decline is from a variety of factors such as a parasite in a bee's trachea, chemical use and loss of habitat and flowers. We all can do our part to help reverse this trend by planting native bee-friendly plants. The University of Maryland's Extension Website offers valuable tips: <https://extension.umd.edu/mg/about-program/pollinators>. Also, curtail pesticide chemical use which can include herbicides, insecticides, miticides, and fungicides.

Last October at the Woman's Club of Chevy Chase, there was a zoom presentation to the club's new Garden Section by Maureen Jais-Mick a Montgomery County beekeeper and honey producer. That fascinating presentation introduced many to a new world in the lives of bees. Did you know there was a Maryland Beekeeper's Association? www.mdbeekeepers.org. There is a plethora of information online where a person can educate themselves about the importance of bees in our lives. Just from perusing a website bigslanbees.com, did you know “a single bee will produce 1 tablespoon of honey in its lifetime”?

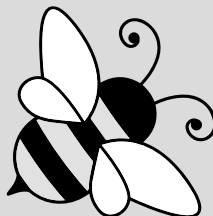
As we buzz about, think about how we are virtual beekeepers in the work we do the serving our clubs and communities. Collectively, we produce gallons – wouldn't you say?

Leadership

The winter 2020 issue of the GFWC Clubwoman magazine has a wonderful article by Shannon Bailey, GFWC Leadership Committee Chairman 2020-2022, entitled “Make Leadership Development a Priority!”. If you do not already subscribe to this publication or do not see it through your club, please subscribe as soon as you can. It is a wonderful source for ideas, valuable information and all things GFWC.

This article outlines the Leadership Toolkit that the GFWC Leadership Committee has developed and provided for our use. It is a digital collection of topics available through the GFWC Member Portal that will be frequently updated to assist all GFWC members in “their personal enrichment and leadership development.” The Toolkit is comprised of three sections: (1) Leadership Development is Personal Development, (2) Leadership Development of Members, and (3) Club, District and State Leader Resources.

Please check out the Toolkit on your GFWC Member Portal, or if you don't have one, open one. Help yourself, your club and our state federation excel in leadership!



Juniors' Special Project: Advocates for Children



Herbert Hoover said, "Children are our most valuable natural resource." The Juniors' Special Program mission is for clubs to protect these valuable resources by making a difference in the life of a child by being an advocate. The special focus of the Advocates for Children Program for the 2020-2022 administration is

- To Advocate for art curricula and outdoor activities at schools for all students, including those with disabilities, and to highlight the value of art and outdoor programs as therapy and enrichment for children with emotional, mental, and physical challenges
- To advocate for education and training that helps parents and other caregivers be the best advocate possible for a child in emergency and other health situations.

As you know many school systems are faced with budget cuts especially in the areas of arts and outdoor programs. The hope is clubs can come up with some creative projects to help support these much-needed programs.

Children also depend on the advocacy of others especially parents and caregivers, to protect and promote their interests in an emergency or long-term health situation.

First-rate health care should be available to everyone and family voice and choice is essential in providing the

best healthcare plan for each unique situation. Educate yourself and others about medical resources and organizations that will help you be the best advocate possible for children.

GFWC also encourages advocacy and projects that will assist and protect children in crisis, including those experiencing:

- Child abuse
- Depression and suicide
- Foster or residential care
- Homelessness
- Human trafficking
- Life-threatening illness
- Poverty

The latest GFWC Club Manual is accessible online in the new GFWC Membership portal has a list of 47 projects your clubs can do to advocate for children.

Here are a few of the projects to consider helping to inspire your club members to advocate for children. During this pandemic many of these projects can be done from home or virtually.

- Advocate for art curricula and outdoor activities for your local schools by reaching out to local officials about the importance of these programs. Partner with your PTA to encourage parents to join the advocacy effort.



Juniors' Special Project: Advocates for Children

- Check if local schools qualify and have applied for funds under Every Child Succeeds act if art funding is cut or eliminated.
- Highlight the role art plays in student education by partnering with a local business, such as a café, to display student art in a public forum.
- Be inspired by the Dreaming Zebra Foundation to collect and donate used art and music supplies to local schools and activity centers.
- Research art supplies that work best for special needs students, such as thick markers rather than crayons, and ensure local teachers have a ready supply.
- Help fourth grade students secure their own Every Kid Outdoors Pass through the Outdoor Alliance for Kids, which will provide them free access to National parks across the country.
- Undertake projects that provide a sense of security for children in foster care, such as making or customizing duffel bags for carrying their clothes and/or creating overnight kits with hygiene and comfort items.
- March of Dimes - participate in a virtual walk for the March for Babies.
- Operation Smile help support surgeries with necessary equipment and medications to enable the delivery of the safest surgeries.
- PCAA Present Child Abuse America by hosting your own pinwheel garden and pinwheel activities.
- St. Jude Children's Research Hospital by making waiting room fun bags for children with fun things to do as they wait to see the doctor.
- United Nations Shot at Life Campaign by promoting World Immunization Week.

These ideas are just the kindling to spark ideas for your clubs to develop, be creative with and build upon to make them your own. Connect with GFWC Affiliate Organizations. Undertake these and other projects with the GFWC Affiliate Organizations that fit within the guidelines for the Juniors Special Program Advocates for Children.

GFWC Juniors' Special Program Advocates for Children is initiating a challenge for clubs to stick their neck out by undertaking a service project that directly benefits children during GFWC Advocates for Children week. Complete the Giraffe Award application form which can be found in the GFWC membership portal. The Giraffe Award will be presented at the Junior Business Session of the GFWC Annual Convention in 2021 to honor all State Federations that participate in the challenge project. An award certificate will be provided to each club that undertakes a project directly benefiting children during the fourth week of October. Remember to work with your club members, be giraffes and stick your necks out with creative and fun your projects that will support and advocate for our children.



Membership

In this edition, we would like to share tips on retaining, growing, increasing engagement and being relevant and visible in our community during a Pandemic. It is important to find creative ways to turn in person events into virtual experiences. It has been stated that virtual events have increased participation and engagement. We all have become very creative during these times and would love to hear your success stories!

Retention

- Skills and Interest survey share how talented members are and leverage their strengths and interests and provide opportunities to develop more
- Celebrate successes – personal and professional
- Recognize anniversaries, birthdays and accomplishments
- Announce member of the month/quarter. Club members or community organizations may submit nominations. Award can be a small flower arrangements or gift card for a carry-out at a local restaurant
- Keep in touch
- Send congratulation cards for anniversaries and milestones
- Send thinking of you cards – just because
- And of course Get Well cards and/or hand written notes

Growth

- Have competition for members to invite potential members
- Ask members to sponsor a new member for her first year
- Create a virtual and/or paper business card to share contact information or programs highlights
- Encourage members to participate or become members of other organizations. Look for opportunities to partner with other programs to find common interest and members. Examples include: Homeowner or civic associations, Historic Societies, Boards of Trade, Meals on Wheels, Transitional Shelters, Tutoring, Reading and Virtual Field trips,

Engagement

- Partner with Scouts this spring to use your clubhouse as a pick-up location for “Spring Mulch Sale”
- Hold Virtual Parties
- Book/movie club
- Dance parties
- Yoga or Workout
- Trivia Night (GFWC, your local club highlights and current events)

Membership

- Closet Exchange

- Destination

(share pictures and experiences of past travels)

- Cocktail hour
- Online BINGO
- Preserving GFWC and family historical artifacts
- Hold Fundraisers and announce how you will use the funds that are raised
- Pampered Chef, Mary Kay, Avon

Visibility

- Stay active on your social media platforms
- In addition to posting your events and announcements, reshare those of local interest, support your programs and club member interest. BE A VALUABLE RESOURCE
- “Act as a Community Connector” resource (Membershippuzzle.org): People want information, people want to feel less alone, people want to feel useful, people want to process, to feel and to be witnessed feeling, people want material help.
- Keep your website, social media accounts and materials updated. Be sure to respond timely to membership inquiries
- Contact your local newspaper and schedule

an interview. Share all of the wonderful accomplishments and make a membership appeal

- Post current and past events on social media
- Support community activities by reposting an event, donating or volunteering. Ask members to share pictures on social media and “tag” your club
- Place a sign in the yard to advertise monthly activities and how to stay in touch
- Be a resource within your community
- Share links to events, local and state websites, parks and recreation
- Sponsor a Shred and/or electronic recycle day and add an AMVETS pickup
- Promote local businesses by holding a fundraiser at a restaurant or small business
- Create a Youtube channel to share your stories, store events and interviews
- Conduct online “Interest surveys”, that support programs that you are sponsoring then invite those ladies to participate in that program and consider membership
- Promote GFWC Discounts

Also remember to check the valuable GFWC Membership website for other great suggestions and ideas.



Parliamentary Procedure

Taken from: www.robertsrules.org

What Is Parliamentary Procedure?

It is a set of rules for conduct at meetings that allows everyone to be heard and to make decisions without confusion. Okay – but why is Parliamentary Procedure Important? That’s easy! It’s a time tested method of conducting business at meetings and public gatherings. It can be adapted to fit the needs of any organization. Today, Robert’s Rules of Order newly revised is the basic handbook of operation for most clubs, organizations and other groups. So it’s important that everyone know these basic rules! These rules are relatively simple:

Organizations using parliamentary procedure usually follow a fixed order of business. Below is a typical example:

1. Call to order.
2. Roll call of members present.
3. Reading of minutes of last meeting.
4. Officer’s reports.
5. Committee reports.
6. Special orders --- Important business previously designated for consideration at this meeting.
7. Unfinished business.
8. New business.
9. Announcements.
10. Adjournment.

Members use motions to express themselves.

A motion is a proposal that allows the entire membership to take action or a stand on an issue.

There are four Basic Types of Motions. Main

Motions: The purpose of a main motion is to introduce items to the membership for their consideration. They cannot be made when any other motion is on the floor, and yield to privileged,

subsidiary, and incidental motions. **Subsidiary Motions:** Their purpose is to change or affect how a main motion is handled, and is voted on before a main motion. **Privileged Motions:** Their purpose is to bring up items that are urgent about special or important matters unrelated to pending business. **Incidental Motions:** Their purpose is to provide a means of questioning procedure concerning other motions and must be considered before the other motion.

How are Motions Presented?

1. Obtaining the floor
2. Make Your Motion
 - a. Say, “I move that we ...” rather than, “I move that we do not ...”
3. Wait for Someone to Second Your Motion
4. Another member will second your motion or the Chairman will call for a second.
5. If there is no second to your motion it is lost.
6. The Chairman States Your Motion
 - a. The President will say, “it has been moved and seconded that we ...”
7. Putting the Question to the Membership
 - a. The Chairman asks, “Are you ready to vote on the question?”
 - b. If there is no more discussion, a vote is taken.
 - c. On a motion to move the previous question may be adapted.

Voting on a Motion:

The method of vote on any motion depends on the situation and the by-laws of policy of your organization. There are five methods used to vote by most organizations: By voice, by roll call, by general consent, by division, and by ballot.

Tree-Mendous Maryland

Let's think Spring!

We don't know what 2021 has in store, but I know we will be able to plant our trees from Tree-Mendous Maryland this Spring and Fall!

The planting usually occurs within one year of the donation during the Spring and Fall. All trees come from American native plants in Middle River, MD. Land managers choose the native tree species that fits the location for best survivability rates. Each donation of \$40 buys a native tree that is 5'-7' tall in 5-gallon containers and is planted on public land in the county of the club that makes the donation.

Remember, the entire month of April celebrates Arbor day so please plan on purchasing a tree or trees during that time. Thank you for supporting the gift of trees and celebrating Maryland's forests!

To make a gift, please follow the guidelines below:

Write a check for \$40 per tree and make the check payable to Maryland Department of Natural Resources, or donate online at <http://dnr.maryland.gov/forests/Pages/treemendous>.

Mail your donation to:
Tree-Mendous Maryland
Tawes State Office Building E-1
Annapolis, MD 21401

Mark "MFWC" on your check, or use Visa or Mastercard to order a tree online. All trees will be planted on public land in Maryland. For more information, please call 410-260-8510 or email tree-mendous.dnr@maryland.gov

Bettie M. Sipple Memorial Endowment Fund

This Maryland Federation fund is invested in special savings accounts and certificates of deposit where they are generally permitted to grow. These funds are sometimes used to augment funds the Maryland Federation uses to operate. The amount that can be withdrawn and how often it can be drawn upon is limited.

Support of this fund becomes increasingly important as Maryland Federation numbers decline. Therefore, every club is encouraged to include a contribution to this fund in its yearly budget as a line item. Contributions can be voluntary, in honor or memory of former club presidents or deceased members, or made individually. For honorariums or memorials, an appropriate acknowledgement is sent to the donor as well as the family in question.

If your club does not already do so, please consider making this a line item in your upcoming budget.



The Maryland Clubwoman



Clubwoman Connection

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|--|--------------------------|
| February Board of Directors Meeting | February 16, 2021 |
| GFWC Women's History Celebration | March 3, 2021 |
| GFWC Maryland Convention | April 17, 2021 |
| GFWC Federation Day | April 24, 2021 |
| GFWC International Convention | June 25-28, 2021 |