

“Opportunities of Kindness Will Help Us to Persevere



2021

GFWC Woman's Club of Westminster

CO PRESIDENT'S COLUMN

HAPPY SPRING!

It is wonderful to see the bulbs popping up and to see buds on the cherry trees. The warmth of the sun's rays helps us get a spring to our steps as we move forward with GFWC projects and events.

The April 13th meeting will begin at 12:00 with our chat time. The focus of this social time will be for our members to share in Just two sentences a memorable travel moment either locally, in the US or internationally.

The speaker will be Caroline Babylon sharing about the local food pantry, their mission, needs and outreach services. Please continue gathering shoes for the Soles4Souls project as well as pick up extra grocery items for the food pantry collection.

Hope you all are doing well. We are in the process of planning an outside meeting for May 11. Stay tuned for more information.

Linda and Norma Jean

CALENDAR

2021

April 1– Open registration for GFWC Annual Convention, Atlanta

Sunday, April 4 – [Happy Easter](#)

Tuesday, April 13 - General Meeting
ZOOM 12 noon- Meeting begins 12:30
Wear blue and white

April 16, 17 – GFWC Maryland Federation Annual convention.
See announcement below.

April 20 - 10:30 – 11:30 am.
Soles4Souls & Food Drive Drop Off
Non-Profit Bldg. Parking Lot

April 22 – National Jelly Bean Day

April 23 – Newsletter Deadline

April 24 – Federation Day & Belle Grove Square “clean the garden” day. 10 AM

See 5-page attachment at end of newsletter for state convention information

Here is some information about the [State of Maryland Woman's Club Convention](#) which will be held virtually on Saturday, April 16 and April 17. You do not need to register but You must let me know (Linda Witter, campmh@verizon.net) by March 28th if you plan to attend virtually.

Linda
campmh@verizon.net



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. If you would like to donate, please bring your donations to the Food and Shoe drive.

COMMUNITY SERVICE PROGRAMS

CIVIC ENGAGEMENT AND OUTREACH

There will be a Soles4Souls Shoe Collection and a Food Drive on Tuesday, April 20 from 10:30 – 11:30 am. Please bring donated shoes secured with a rubber band. Non-perishable food stuffs and microwaveable items are welcome at the same time. We are also collecting personal care and cleaning supplies. The American Warrior Project collection will be scheduled for the fall, but if you have any items now, you are welcome to drop those off at the same time. See you at the Non-Profit Building Parking Lot on April 20, 10:30 – 11:30 am.

Soles4Souls - Providing shoes for disaster relief, helping people in developing countries start their own businesses and repurposing the shoes and putting them to good use keeps them out of landfills and extends their lifespan.

GFWC Annual Convention 2021

This year's convention will be held at the Atlanta Marriott Marquis hotel. Book now to attend and enjoy the attractions that surround the hotel and reserve your chance to enjoy all the hotel amenities. GFWC's group rate is \$129 (King or 2 Double) The room block closes at midnight on Wednesday, August 4th. If you wish to make your reservation by phone call 1-888-236-2427. Registration for the event opens April 1. Check out the GFWC's website for more information.



MLK Day of Service – Access Carroll



As you may recall, we celebrated Martin Luther King Day of Service in January by joining with the Junior's to give Thank You bags to various emergency service agencies. We carried on with gifts bags to the hospital staff and to fire stations in Union Bridge and Taneytown. With the money remaining from your generous contributions,

we prepared 36 gift bags for the tireless workers at Access Carroll and delivered them on St. Patrick's Day. They were so appreciative of being remembered. These generous people give care and support to our community members who are in need. We thank Access Carroll sincerely for going above and beyond in the work they do.



77 "Little Dresses" were sent to the "Wings Of Faith" in March to be delivered to Navajo Native American Reservations by Pilot Jeff Gasteiger in early May. He is promising pictures to follow. This is our first shipment in our collaboration with this organization, who provides goods and services to 9 different Native American groups (mainly Navajo and Apache) in 29 locations throughout the southwest.

A Message from Heifer International.

Please accept my sincerest gratitude for your recent donation to Heifer International. Your gift is powering important work that flows from values-based partnerships. The support of donors like you has helped to lift up more than 34 million families since 1944.

Thank you, Melanie Kapinos,



COMMITTEE REPORTS

BENEFICIARY COMMITTEE ANNOUNCEMENT



Thanks to our members and committee members, we are pleased to announce that our monetary donation this year will be given to the Westminster Fire Department. Our first responders deserve all the help we can give during this trying time and we hope that this contribution will benefit where needed.

MEMBERSHIP “CONGRATULATIONS” –

At the March Annual Business Meeting fourteen women were recognized for milestone membership anniversary years. Highlights and/or memories of the years as GFWC members were shared. Membership anniversary pins and letters were sent to each of them. The following ladies were recognized: 5 years – Kathleen Hutzell, Pat Minnich, Lorraine Stoner, Barbara Vransy; 10 years – Suzanne Albert, Robyn Allers, Gini Bosse, Janet Buchanan, Connie Kidder, Nancy McCrickard, Kathy Rittler, Dinah Smelser; 15 years – Judi Martin-Johnson and 40 years – Joann Barlow. *****

The primary focus of the Membership Committee during this year has been communication with members. Majority of our members were contacted in the Fall and Winter. The remaining members of club will be contacted this next month. We look forward to when we can see each other face to face.

FUNDRAISING REQUEST



WESTMINSTER will hold its Flower and Jazz Festival on Saturday,
May 8, 2021.

GFWC has been invited to participate by selling our cookbooks, ornaments and handing out membership information. In keeping with the Governor's mass gathering restrictions the event will be held in three different locations and participation will be limited. We are looking for volunteers to “sit” the table from 10 am – 4:00 pm. If you are willing to help please let me know your availability for a two hour shift that day. Thanks. Bev.

Beverlycreations47@yahoo.com RSVP BY: April 2

**AN IMPORTANT ANNOUNCEMENT FROM LESLIE KREBS-WHITE, CO-PRESIDENT
JUNIOR WOMAN'S CLUB**

I want to let you know of an event the Juniors are involved in and wanted to give you the opportunity to partner if you would like. For sexual assault awareness month in April, the Juniors have created a team with Rape Crisis Walk a Mile in Her Shoes event. Any members are welcome to join our team or donate to the cause! Registration is only \$10. It is a virtual event, so if they chose to walk, they can do in their neighborhood, park, etc. Norma Jean is on the committee (and Board) and can provide any further information if needed. Thanks very much.

Here is the link if anyone would like to join our team or donate:

<https://runsignup.com/Race/41610/Donate/OeiSHwYch0tyOgQ>



MEMBER PROFILE

I was born at Union Memorial Hospital, Baltimore in 1944 and was raised in the city. My sister and I had an upbringing typical of those of us raised in the post war era. Kids walked to and from the movies, school, and each other's houses by themselves. Our family was tightly knit with one set of grandparents living a block away, the other set lived a half block further up the street and our apartment was a half block beyond that. We took for granted the solid and nurturing environment in which we grew up. Only in later years did my sister and I realize we had been the recipients of a treasure freely given by the generous hearts around us. Human frailties aside, they made sure we knew that we were loved. Priceless.

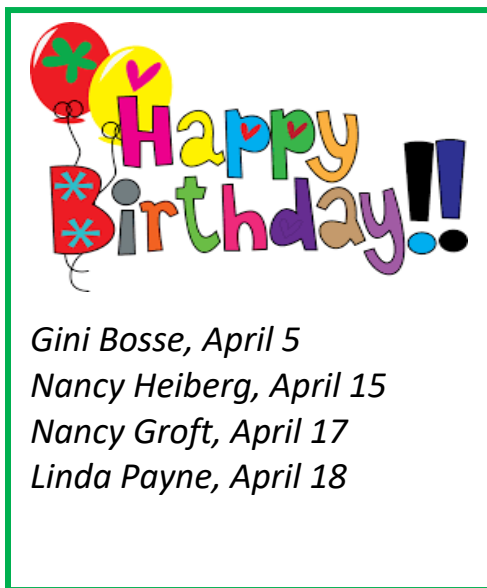
To see what I built on this foundation, consider my varied job history. College consisted of two years at the newly opened Catonsville Community College and two years at Towson State where I earned my BS in education and did additional graduate studies. Seventeen years teaching in Baltimore County schools was rewarding, but I began to chafe at living in one place and with one job. So, I left teaching and became part-owner in a delicatessen. I really liked the work and would have continued, but my husband's job took us to Dallas. I got my first waitressing job at the age of 42 at a tearoom. Next, I decided to become a legal assistant and studied for two years to get my degree at Southern Methodist University.

CONTINUES BELOW

My contracts teacher hired me to be his legal assistant, so I worked for three years at a downtown firm in Dallas. Husband changed jobs, so off to Chicago. I became the office manager of two of the suburban offices for a large law firm based in the city. Then my husband got transferred back to Maryland; telecommunications industry was very transient. I worked as a Records Manager for an emerging DC company that went bankrupt after three years. Off to Baltimore City's Inner Harbor to work as the administrative assistant to a VP at Sylvan Learning Centers. Husband took a new job at which point I informed him that my working days were over.

Ten more years of bouncing around and then we returned to Maryland and eventually settled in Westminster. We have been very happy here for fifteen years now. The club has played a big part in making this so and I am grateful for the friendships I have formed and the opportunity it gives me to use some of the skills I have picked up along the way.

Look for the Easter “Chick” below to find the identity of our member.



Look Carefully!



Americans buy over 120 million pounds of chocolate candy for Easter. Keep up the good work!



Yep! The surprise member profile is our one and only CLARE BERENT!



General GFWC Westminster News

- Janet Buchanan's father died peacefully in Texas on March 1st, a few hours after she arrived. Please remember her with prayers and cards. Her address: 20 Liberty Hall Road, Fairfield, PA. 17320
- Carroll County Re-cycling Day, Saturday, April 10th, 8:00 AM.-12:00 noon Household Hazardous Waste and Shredding Event, 1250 Old Meadow Branch Rd.
- Belle Grove Square Clean Up Day, Saturday, April 24, 10 AM
- Seeking a 10 x 10 tent, table and chairs for Flower and Jazz Festival, May 8th
Contact BeverlyCreations47@yahoo.com. Also need volunteers to set up tent at 9 am and take down at 3:30 pm.
- Westminster's RESTORE to benefit Habitat for Humanity is now OPEN in the former Antique Mall near Random House.
- Celebrate Earth Day 2021 as global partners unite for 3 parallel climate summits on April 21-22.

Hope you enjoy my tunes! Do your grandkids know about my arrival?



