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Pine Tree Notes

GFWC Maine Newsletter
November / December 2015



Our Past Will Determine Our Future



President's Letter

Marjorie Goodwin
DMGoodwin2@live.com



Dear Fellow Clubwomen, that dreaded "white stuff" is nearly upon us! The North Country has already seen it and I am sure it won't be long before we see it too. The beauty of Fall has been outstanding this year. I am always awe struck at the beauty of the valley behind my house. It is like looking at a tapestry every time I look my back door.

I thank all of the clubwomen who attended the Fall Conference in Bangor. What a good time we had! The entertainment was great after the banquet...the speakers were so interesting the next day.....I think I can safely say that a "good time was had by all".

Mary Ellen Brock, GFWC Vice President, was our special guest. She told us that the secret ingredient in club work is "fun". She told us that if we keep our members challenged with new projects, fulfilled with meaningful service and enthused with fun aspects, we would never have to recruit another new member as the laughter and satisfaction of our present members would draw them to us. Fun is easy to add to our club. She, then, gave us many examples of "fun" meetings. I saw many attendees writing down as much as they could of what she said and I hope to hear that some clubs are trying these "fun" things this coming year. Mary Ellen was a great addition to our Conference and I am sure that she enjoyed getting to know "Maine clubwomen".

It has been a special joy for me to attend club meetings as your President. I have been welcomed warmly wherever I have visited a club. It never fails to amaze me that Maine clubwomen do so much in their communities. This is in addition to the attention given to the Community Service Programs of Art, Conservation, Education, ESO, Home Life, International Outreach and Public Issues. Thank you for supporting these GFWC programs. I look forward to reading your reports on these programs.

The President's Project, "Elder Abuse Awareness", has truly been embraced by the clubwomen in Maine. Thank you for bringing attention to this so important topic. I really feel in my heart that this topic is not being "swept under the rug" any longer. When I see a bumper sticker that says "no excuse for elder abuse", it really gets my attention. (I still have bumper stickers available if anyone would like one.)

As this administration "winds down", I want each of you to know that I feel extremely blessed to have had the good fortune of being your President. I have learned so much from the clubwomen in GFWC Maine! I look forward to our Spring Convention in South Portland next May and will start planning events specifically for you once the holidays are over.

As we celebrate the holidays in the coming months, let's take a moment or two to remember those in our communities that have little to celebrate and try to do something special for them. A card or a phone call means so much to so many.

I wish each of you a "Happy Thanksgiving and a Merry Christmas". Enjoy the holidays with family and friends.

In Federation love,
Marjorie Goodwin,
GFWC Maine President

Proud member of the General Federation of Women's Clubs

**President-elect**

Mary Libby
MKLibby@yahoo.com

**Vice President**

Nancy Ames
NancyAmes76@gmail.com

What a colorful Fall we have had – I hate to see it end! Just a reminder,

Club Reports are due by January 15th. I am excited to once again read all the amazing projects the GFWC Maine Club's have done this past year. If you have any question, feel free to contact me (my phone # and e-mail address are in the Directory) and I will help you out in any way I can!

Nancy Ames
GFWC Maine Vice-President

**Recording Secretary**

Carol Jarvais
RJ Jarvis@myfairpoint.net

**Treasurer**

Sheri Walsh
swalsh1964@gmail.com

**Corresponding Secretary**

Wendy Bowler
WendyBowler@gwi.net

**Parliamentary Advisor**

Libby Wiers
mnlbby49@gmail.com

Attention LEADS Candidates

Earn 50 points for your club towards the Carolyn Lombardi Traveling Trophy by submitting your LEADS Application
(50 pts total per club)

Meet & create friendships with like-minded women from throughout the country / world.

LEADS may include the following:

- Presentations on conflict resolution, public speaking skills, and time management
- Explanation of GFWC resources, materials, and assistance
- Discussions on GFWC policies, procedures, and parliamentary law
- Tips and techniques for pursuing leadership opportunities

Application deadline – February 1, 2016
Complete your application and send it to:
Mary Libby, GFWC Maine President-elect

For more information go to gfwc.org
Search under "Members"

Help Wanted

There are still positions available for GFWC Maine 2016-2018 administration.

Excellent working conditions and outstanding rewards. Many if not all of the available positions can be done at your convenience.

The qualifications for all positions are: dedication to volunteer service; ability to work hard for the benefit and well being for those in need.

The salary is too immense to mention.

Positions available: ESO Chairman; District Presidents 3 & 4; Endowment Fund; Membership; Delegates Fund; Jennie Award; Public Relations.

If you are interested in any of these positions please contact President Elect Mary Libby at mklibby@yahoo.com or 854-0201.

DISTRICT PRESIDENTS

District 1 Nancy Kenty
NanKey59@maine.rr.com

District 2 Joyce Noonan
JANoonan@beeline-online.net

District 3 Jane Le Vie
LeVie6@yahoo.com

District 4 Sheri Walsh
SWalsh1964@gmail.com

CLUB NEWS

DISTRICT 1

GFWC Westbrook Woman's Club

The Westbrook Woman's Club is up and running. October brought many exciting things. The New England Regional Conference was held in Newton, MA 2 of their members attended and had a wonderful time.

The club's first meeting was a Tea For Two and All Of You, what a great party, china teacups with tea sandwiches and dessert. Members were encouraged to bring guests. The guest speaker was GFWC Maine President Marjorie Goodwin.

Then off to the state conference; a great time was had by many. The guest speaker was Mary Ellen Brock, GFWC 1st Vice President, what a delightful lady. She brought many fun raising ideas for consideration. Back to the second meeting of the month with a speaker on Exercise by member Dori Flynn it was interesting to see what you can do sitting in a chair as well as standing that are easy for all to do.

Now for the beginning of November with our annual Lobster Roll Lunch Boxes. Have a great fall.

GFWC Gorham Woman's Club

The Gorham Woman's Club has had a good beginning.

3 Members attended the GFWC New England Regional Convention and 2 were able to attend GFWC Maine Fall Conference.

The speakers at the September meeting introduced members to Canine Champions, a GFWC Home Life Partnership Program. It was interesting watching the interaction between the dogs and owners. You could see why there is so much time taken to make sure the personality of the individual and dog match up as well as having a companion that can assist with the individual's needs.

Canine Companions is the oldest and largest assistance dog program providing trained dogs for children, adults, and veterans with physical disabilities. Canine Companions breeds and trains their own dogs to get the temperament, intelligence, focus, health, and work ethic needed. At eight weeks old, puppies are placed with volunteer puppy raisers who raise the puppies for 15 months, teaching basic obedience commands and socialization skills. Then they return the dog to Canine Companions for six months of professional training to learn the 40+ commands they need to know to do tasks for people with disabilities. Individuals receiving the dogs only pay a small registration fee, all other expenses for raising the dogs if from contributions and volunteers.

At the October Potluck meeting, the club celebrated their 90th anniversary. Marjorie Goodwin, GFWC Maine President, was the guest speaker. Marge enlightened the group about what was happening 90 years ago and then spoke on Elder Abuse Awareness. Each member discussed their first years as a club member and received member recognition pins

for years of service in the club.

Club members also met for 2 workshops. They are making pet pull toys, which will be sold throughout the year, with the plan to provide toys and funds to the Canine Companions program. (The 2 dogs at the September meeting certainly were happy to receive pull toys.) The club also had a workshop to create more of their tatted stationary.

November 21st the club will have a table on a Christmas Craft Fair to raise funds with the pet toys and stationary, among other items donated by club members.

May everyone have a peaceful and joyous holiday season.

GFWC Research Club of Limerick

Fall is in the air and we have frost on the pumpkins. The Research Club of Limerick started the fall festivities with their annual Potluck Supper in September, featuring as guest speaker, Riley Gaetjens, delegate to Maine Youth Leadership and the granddaughter of a member. She gave a detailed report of her experience and an account of where and how she plans to use her learning's. Her gratitude expressed for the opportunity the club was able to give her was a warm fuzzy for everyone.

In September, two members were represented at the NER Conference in Newton, MA. This was a **first** for one of the two and an eye opener it was. New friends were made, and a greater understanding of what GFWC is doing in our neighboring states gave much food for thought.

Heifer International was the focus for the October meeting. Jan Schroch, the daughter of the founder (Dan West) of Heifer was the speaker. The organization's goal is to relieve poverty and hunger by

working with communities to establish principles of sharing and gender equality. The Heifer Project now ships 49 kinds of livestock to 30 countries. An inspiring film showing the positive effect the project has had on the women in a small village in Nepal was also enjoyed. Stimulating discussion followed and a check for \$200 was presented from club members. Two members were represented at Fall Conference. This is always a fun fall gathering.

October 31, dressed in Halloween costumes, members will collect for UNICEF at local supper market. A 50/50 raffle is planned for Election Day, Nov. 3rd., This to support the GFWC Maine President's project – Elder Abuse Awareness, and November's meeting will address Domestic Violence. Speaker Clare Fortune-Agan will be representing Caring Unlimited, the Domestic Violence unit here in York County.

DISTRICT 2

GFWC Semper Fidelis Club

The GFWC Semper Fidelis Club is gearing up for another eventful year. The Club doesn't meet during the summer months, but started up in September with their Fall Banquet at The Heritage House, always a Club favorite! Several members attended an Open House at the Skowhegan Library for a tour of the beautiful renovations that have been made. GFWC Semper Fidelis Club has been a longtime supporter of this and many other projects at the Library, including a recent donation of \$500 towards the Library's kick-off campaign for a new elevator.

The October meeting welcomed Barbara Joseph, who spoke on Reiki and other relaxation and health issues. The Club's second meeting in October, "Cocktail's &

Cupcakes" Membership Drive, focused on Domestic Violence. The Club was fortunate to have Kathy White, GFWC Maine Domestic Violence Awareness Chairman and Kelly Smith from the Family Violence Program as speakers. Club members brought in "gently used" pocketbooks and filled them with women's personal care items to be donated to the Somerset County Domestic Violence Shelter. Many new faces attended this meeting, so hopefully in our next report we will be announcing a few new members!

GFWC Livermore Falls Women's Club

In August, the club donated \$450 to the Livermore Library in memory of Jackie Deshaies, past Co-President, who passed away in December of 2014. A donation was also made to the Treat Memorial Library in Livermore Falls in memory of Marge Smith who also passed away in December of 2014. She drove the book mobile for years.

On August 14th the club had a planning meeting which was very productive and it looks like a very exciting year. On August 26th, 19 members made a trip to Lakewood Summer Theatre to see "Nice Work If You Can Get It". They enjoyed lunch at Lakewood Inn before the play.

The club's lawn sale in September made \$457.35. The first meeting of the year was held at LaFleur's restaurant in Jay. Gail Slade presented a program entitled, A Walk Through GFWC History 1860 to 2000. Posters were displayed in the dining area. Members were asked to bring in vintage clothing or artifacts and matched them to the posters of that era. Fun and memories of the past were shared.

October's meeting was at the Baptist Church in North Livermore. Marge Goodwin and Joyce Noonan,

were the guest speakers. Marge played the State Of Maine song on the piano and members sang. A touch of Halloween was added to the event by the presence of the Good Witch (Marion Hogan-Posa) and the dark witch (Lisa Townsend). Homemade soups, salads, finger rolls and desserts were served. The members were pleased that Marge and Joyce were able to join them for a fun filled afternoon.

GFWC Skowhegan Woman's Club

As summer came to an end, so too did the Concerts in the Park. At the last concert, the winner of the Lobster Raffle was drawn. The winner of eight lobsters was Sue Ellen Lexier, a member of the GFWC Skowhegan Woman's Club. The beautiful weather, good music, and wonderful food, earned us \$700 and the club was able to bring in an additional \$475, for the Scholarship fund with the raffle.

The September meeting was a buffet luncheon at the Heritage House. It was wonderful to see everyone again. Programs for the year were distributed and the budget approved. Members were given a list of the businesses that placed an ad in the GFWC Maine Directory and were reminded that when the opportunity arises, say, "Thank you for supporting the GFWC Skowhegan Woman's Club." A motion was made and passed for the club to have a vendor table at the Garden Club Federation of Maine Fall Conference in October. Recycling was emphasized and items were made using recycled plastic bags, bottles, and glass, pressed flowers, and paper.

At the October meeting, Judy Shaw, from the Department of Professional and Financial Regulations, the Office of Securities, spoke to the club on the many types of elder abuse and fraud, the signs to watch for in

order to recognize abuse, and what to do if you think someone is being abused. Members hung 16 large purple bows along the fence at Coburn Park where the Domestic Violence Candle Light Vigil was to be held preceding the Speak Out the municipal building. Members were invited to partner with the Methodist Church in a project to knit or crochet items for Newborns in Need. Patterns are available. Craft days at the Redington Home has resumed. The October project was to decoupage leaves onto jars that would hold a battery votive candle. Residents had a good time.

DISTRICT 3

GFWC ARTS Club Pittsfield

The Pittsfield ARTS (Always Ready to Serve) club met at the home of club member Carol Ouellette for their first meeting of the fall.

Delicious potluck was enjoyed and welcomed two new members into the club. During the business meeting, the club spoke about a few fundraisers and decided to prepare a Thanksgiving basket for a needy family.

The October meeting was held at the Pittsfield Public Library and the guest speaker for the evening was the commander of the local American Legion Post #32. The post is the club's Community Improvement Project recipient. The American Legion Post purchased a partially burnt out building in Pittsfield hoping to turn it into a meeting hall and a place to hold public events. They have run into some problems and financing is a big concern. They may not be able to continue the project as it was planned. They thanked the club for their donation of \$300 and gave the club an appreciation award.

A wonderful fall meeting was held in Bangor at the Hilton Garden Inn.

President Marge put together a great program. The speakers were awesome covering such topics as elder abuse, legal services for the elderly, and other services available to the elders. Many questions were asked of the panel members and club members were encouraged to keep an eye on their family, friends, and neighbors.

A special guest for the fall conference was Mary Ellen Brock, the international GFWC 1st Vice President. She was an excellent speaker and along with other important events going on at national, she mentioned many fundraisers that clubs are doing that are fun and profitable. She said the main thing that clubs should be doing is having "fun".

The club's November meeting will be held on Tuesday, November 17th at the Pittsfield Public Library. The speaker for the evening will be Jane LeVie, GFWC Maine District 3 President. Everyone looks forward to seeing Jane and introducing her to many club members she has not yet met.

GFWC / Dexter Women's Literary Club

The GFWC/Dexter Women's Literary Club held their annual secret auction and membership social in August. President Laura collected the club membership survey forms that were passed out at the May meeting, members received the club program for the year, and a new club member was formally initiated into the club. Unfortunately, Connie Crosby, a 37-year member, passed away August 11th. At the close of the meeting, club secretary, Mary Morancie, showed members a parchment scroll, which she received from the local librarian. It was found in the basement of the library when they were cleaning it out. The scroll was from the early 1940's and was a proclamation in regards to the Maine State and the

local Dexter Woman's Literary Club. The scroll is now being kept at the Dexter Historical Society for safekeeping.

September's guest speaker was a nurse practitioner from Dexter Family Practice. She spoke about environmental allergens and irritants, naming several common causes and what can be done to alleviate the symptoms.

The annual baked bean supper was held October 3rd, and what a success! A lady came in and paid for the next 3 people, and a man who received a free meal ended up donating \$100! 4 members attended the GFWC Maine Fall Conference.

Marcy King, owner of Millside Fitness, spoke at the October meeting about physical fitness and what classes and equipment are available at her gym. A few club members said they would sign up as members! At the end of the meeting, club members surprised Laura Neal with many birthday cards and a handmade quilt made by Jane Gilbert, wishing her a happy birthday and thanking her for being club president for so many years. Needless to say, it was a complete and wonderful surprise!!

Laura Neal
President
GFWC/Dexter Women's Literary Club

GFWC Newport Woman's Club

The GFWC Newport Woman's Club, "Living The Volunteer Spirit" is doing just that. Jane LaVie, District #3 President joined us for the September membership meeting. One application for membership was read and a new member was voted at the October meeting. Several personal care items were gathered to send to deployed soldiers. Several (1/3 of our membership) attended Fall

Conference in Bangor. "Sparkle", the 10th Annual Chamber of Commerce fundraiser has been held and featured a Halloween theme. Several members attended in costume. This has been the club's major fundraiser for several years. To see the club in action, find them on their new Facebook page:
GFWC Newport Woman's Club

GFWC Outlook Club of Hartland

GFWC/Outlook Club of Hartland was on hiatus over the summer, but the committee got their calendar scheduled, it was printed and mailed to members prior to the October meeting. This first meeting of the club year is always a favorite as it begins with a potluck dinner and included attendance by a guest that it is hoped will join the club permanently. On a sadder note, Ida Briggs, 96, a 50+ year and very active member who had moved to CT two years ago to be nearer family, passed away on October 23. Her cheerful enthusiasm has been missed, but her notes were enjoyed by all. She was definitely a role model to club members.

Patawa Club Bangor

Patawa members chose the Elderly as their focus for this year. Penobscot County Sheriff Troy Morton joined the group for an informative presentation on identity theft, scams, and fraud with a focus on minimizing the risk to seniors. Patawa will hear from a representative from Eastern Area Agency on Aging at their next meeting. The Patawa Ways and Means committee has organized a Thirty-One fundraiser this Fall which will also be available online. To participate or see what else Patawa Club is up to, visit us at facebook.com/PatawaClub.

GFWC MIOSAC Club Dover-Foxcroft

The Club hopes everyone had a wonderful summer. The weather was wonderful. The club started their summer by purchasing 20 U.S. flags to be placed on West Main Street in town. Members noticed that only East Main Street was decked out and that West Main Street was lacking in showing the town's patriotism and it is a well-traveled thoroughfare. The money used came from the club's Ice Out fundraiser. Barbara Austin, Chairman of the project, touched base with Town Manager, Jack Clukey, who enlisted the help of the town maintenance crew to hang the flags. They were up before Memorial Day as desired. Townspeople were very pleased and many contributed to this expense so it will be possible to keep up this project and replace torn or missing flags in the future.

On September 16 the Advisory Committee held a porch party at Pat Jones home. This is done most years as a prelude to the club's first meeting in October. It was so very enjoyable. They provided delicious dips and appetizers and everyone brought pot luck. The committee handed out club programs for the coming year.

The club had their first meeting of the year on October 6 at their meeting place at Thayer Parkway. The Advisory Committee provided food at the "Catching Up With Casseroles" titled evening. The committee consists of Mae Johnson, Minnie McCormick and Pat Jones. The food was delicious. The meeting followed the meal and a discussion about what the club would be doing to help at the upcoming Fall Conference in Bangor. President Vicki Moschella said she would provide pumpkins and Carol Kilpatrick would decorate them for the banquet tables. Vicki and Suzanne Raymond served as helpers at the sign-in table.

Anne Cress, Vicki Moschella, Suzanne Raymond, Dot Tonick and Athalie Burke attend the Fall Conference at the Hilton Garden Inn in Bangor. All five attended the banquet on October 7, whereas Anne, Vicki and Suzanne attended the conference on October 8. As usual, everyone thoroughly enjoyed this event and seeing old friends and making new ones.

On October 20, program chairman Suzanne Raymond introduced our beloved GFWC Maine State President, Marge Goodwin. Marge spoke about events that happened in 1936, the year our MIOSAC Club was organized. It was interesting to learn of these events. She also mentioned how pleased she was with her Project, Elder Abuse. It has been a successful project statewide. The meeting was adjourned and card making for Operation Write Home was started. Seventy cards were made and labels attached saying Operation Write Home and the name of the club in case someone wishes to send a thank you.

The club has many interesting meetings coming up including a talk about Senior Day Care, The USO organization, D-F Fire Chief telling about safety at home, County Emergency Management Agency and other topics throughout 2015-2016.

Happy Fall everyone and then, because we can't stop it, Happy Winter!!!



Winterport Women's Club **GFWC**

The club year has started out with lots of excitement. The September meeting is the new members drive and it was very successful. Members put a little twist on it and hosted a homemade ice cream social. The ice cream was made by Maine Senate President Michael Thibodeau and his lovely wife Stacy, who live in our hometown of Winterport. We gained one new member that evening with another lady joining our membership at our October meeting.

The Club selects the recipient of the Spirit of America Tribute winner from Winterport each year and this year the Winterport Neighbor's Cupboard was chosen as the recipient. They were presented with a certificate from the Club and enjoyed the evening's festivities. There are hopes of gaining a few members from this group of volunteers.

At the October's meeting members were fortunate to have Marge Goodwin, GFWC Maine President, attend and talk about her President's Special Project, Elder Abuse Awareness. President Goodwin was given a check for \$200 to go towards her special project. October is Domestic Awareness Month and as in the past the town was glowing purple with lights through the main street. Purple mums were planted in the window boxes and planters in the village area, with the town's municipal sign showing the Winterport Woman's Club GFWC supports Domestic Violence Awareness Month.

At November's meeting, members will hear from the President, of the Neighbors Cupboard, on what is going on at the Neighbor's Cupboard and how the club can continue to help supply their neighbors with the necessary supplies, especially over the holiday season, when the need is even

greater. Members will bring in canned goods to replenish the cupboards shelves. The idea behind this meeting is sharing the harvest with our neighbors.

December's meeting is the club's Christmas Holiday Party. It will be a time of celebrating all the wonderful gifts everyone has been blessed with this past year and members will be the giver of gifts to those in need instead of ourselves.

On the fundraising front the club has again had a very successful year with providing the Community Calendar. This is the Club's 55th issue of the calendar. The support and sales of the calendar will allow the Club to continue the work of the special projects we support.

Members are looking forward to learning and living the volunteer spirit in our community.

Our members wish each and everyone a very happy and joyous season!

DISTRICT 4

GFWC Castine Women's Club

The Castine Woman's Club members have been as busy as beavers again this year with successful fundraisers including both a Winter and Spring Bridge Luncheon, a town meeting food concession, Fourth of July Pie Sale, and a July Flash in the Pans concert. A CWC art auction planned for last summer is postponed until next year. The Club was pleased to award \$3,000 in scholarships to local students in June. Community improvement fundraisers included Dinners-at-Noon earlier this year.

In addition to prepping club members' houses for the winter, CWC members have been busy with fun fundraising events this fall. Scholarship fundraisers included participation again this October in

Castine's Pumpkin Fest with a CWC-hosted bake sale and pumpkin-cooking contest coordinated by CWC President Jeanmarie Reed. In November, the Club held its ever popular annual Election Day Bake Sale.

The Club kicked off its 2015-2016 membership year with its September meeting, the annual Autumn Tea, in the newly renovated barn at the Wilson Museum. Members enjoyed pouring tea from CWC's sterling silver tea set while participating in a rousing game of Maja Trivia hosted by member Patty Hutchins.

CWC's annual luncheon meeting was held at Markel's Bakehouse in October. In November, CWC member and Maine Maritime Academy instructor Sue Hazlett spoke and shared a slide show of Alaskan wildlife. In December, the Club is excited about the holiday gathering at the Wilson Museum. As a special treat, Treasurer Sam Friedlander will demonstrate how to make one or more of her delicious culinary delights.

The CWC wishes everyone the most joyous and delicious of holiday seasons!



**GENERAL FEDERATION
of WOMEN'S CLUBS**

The GFWC Leadership Education and Development Seminar (LEADS) program is intended to identify GFWC members at the grassroots level who have the potential and the desire to assume leadership positions in GFWC beyond their club. Participation in LEADS can help these members gain the capabilities, confidence and commitment necessary to pursue and achieve higher office and serve with distinction. The LEADS program is held annually the day before the official opening of the GFWC Annual Convention. It is a full day of activities, and includes breakfast and lunch.

ARTS DEPARTMENT

Art can be an expression for understanding, and to celebrate culture and diversity. Words can form images in the mind that an artist can paint into a composition. Seeing with emotion is just what an artist does that can be seen in the completed artwork, art that can make you feel that emotion. An idea presented in fine art visual or audio, can lend itself to emotions of joy or sadness, understanding and to celebrating and to motivating a person to action. May we, as GFWC Maine members, continue our actions to promote the arts in our clubs, and communities and may our clubs collectively continue to provide generous donations for the work of the art department. May we continue to be promoters and volunteer for and in the arts. We are all needed to cover the large State of Maine in reaching out to the high school students and art teachers to accomplish our high school art shows in each district. It is most rewarding to a student to win at our district high school art show and go on to enter our spring convention art show and even more rewarding to learn that the student is preparing an art portfolio for preparation to enter college. We have given the precious hand of friendship and encouragement that is ever lasting. That student will say, "I remember when I entered the GFWC Maine art contest." They will remember the experience. They will learn and grow because they were encouraged by a group of dedicated women. So I ask each club to continue your district student art shows and donate to the art department.

Thank you to all the clubs that donated for 2015 and if your club hasn't donated, please consider a donation soon.

Those who love writing need to start to write as the March deadline arrives sooner than you think. We need more entries. Write that poem or short story and send it in to me. The directory has directions for entering properly. The member photography contest has had excellent photos entered and even if you have won before you can continue to enter. It is always a delight to see what you capture.

I have been the art department chair for several years now. It has been interesting to accomplish several additional elements including updating the student art show rules so computer generated art could be entered; having a speaker at Convention from the Maine Arts Commission; and a letter of encouragement from Dahlov Ipcar, a prominent Maine artist. A rule change has also been suggested for the addition of color &/or black and white photo contest for high school students. Photography is taught in the high schools and can be a lucrative career.

Also the inclusion of a natural nature medium to the list of allowed mediums for the art rules is needed as natural nature mediums are also taught in the high school and have shown up at the art shows.

This is a fun department to meet many people and learn about what's going on in the arts and enjoy the art shows and receptions, while fellowshiping with the members and students. If you have an interest in art and enjoy organizing you may be just the right person to help with the art department. Give some thought to it and volunteer. Share your ideas and be creative. Until then, celebrate the arts!

Barbara Hathaway, Painter of Sunsets
Arts In The Community
bhaway@myfairpoint.net

HOME LIFE

There is a new pilot program out now for the Northeast Region of Canine Companions for Independence. It is called the Donation Can Program. Please consider having your club put out attractive donation cans at businesses around town. Place an order for the desired number of cans with Erica Henschel, Volunteer Coordinator for Canine Companions Northeast Region. You may reach her at ehenschel@cci.org or call her at 631-561-0236. Clubs are to collect the cans by December 31, 2015, and send a check payable to Canine Companions for Independence. Please write "GFWC Can Project" on the memo line and mail to Canine Companions for Independence, Attn: Erica Henschel, 286 Middle Island Road, Medford, NY 11763. Please consider this worthwhile program as it takes an average of \$50,000 to train and ensure a quality partnership for one working human-canine team. Canine Companions for Independence is the oldest and largest provider of assistance dogs in the country, and relies solely on the generous donations of individuals, foundations, corporations, and service organizations such as GFWC. For more information, please contact Erica Henschel, GFWC Home Life Chairman.

If you were unable to receive the "Inside Knowledge: Get the Facts About Gynecological Cancer" packets at The GFWC Maine Fall Conference, I still have some available, and will send them to you free of charge! Just contact me at ljgneal@gmail.com.

Laura Neal, GFWC Maine Home Life Chairman



DELEGATE'S FUND

A big THANK YOU to those who attended the GFWC Maine Fall Conference and "took a chance" on the many Delegate's Fund Raffles. Your support is ALWAYS appreciated! Our committee is already looking for "unique treasurers" for the Convention in May and, as always, your Club can support us by making a donation directly to the Delegate's Fund.

ENDOWMENT FUND

Thank you ladies for another successful raffle to support the Endowment Fund at the GFWC Maine Fall Conference in Bangor recently. With your help we added \$150 to this fund.

Muriel, Ruth and I look forward to seeing all of you again at the Spring Conference.

Please continue your support and send any donations to:

Maureen Provencal
7 Daisy Lane
Skowhegan, ME 04976

Thank you!
Maureen Provencal
Endowment Fund Chairman

MAINE YOUTH LEADERSHIP

By supporting Maine Youth Leadership, we women of the GFWC Maine demonstrate what a difference can be made in our respective Maine communities. The four-day MYL Seminar each Spring aims to give over 100 high school sophomores the skills they need to bring about positive change. It allows the chosen students to find their voice and realize their opinions matter. The Seminar is designed to give them leadership and advocacy skills to work towards creating change on issues important to them. We only wish every student could be given this opportunity and training.

Thank you to the **GFWC Gorham Woman's Club** for the generous contribution of a full scholarship for the next Seminar, the first received this year. I look forward to and hope for the always generous support of other clubs. See page 72 of GFWC Maine Directory for MYL info.

A MYL THANK YOU TO YOU ALL! !

Gloria Tewhey, MYL Chairman

INTERNATIONAL OUTREACH COMMUNITY SERVICE PROJECT

Missed you all at State Convention so I am just sending out this reminder about the challenge for International Outreach... In October of 2014, I threw out the challenge that if a club reported both years on activities, programs and projects that the club was involved in for International Outreach, and that at least a portion in either of those reports highlighted at least one thing that was done for each of our partners, that I would volunteer to do a mutually agreed upon activity for one of your club projects.

As a reminder, our International Outreach Partners are Shot@Life, Unicef, Heifer International and Operation Smile. Just imagine saving a child's life by providing needed vaccines through Shot@Life... or what about providing funds to help communities have access to water - an important part of what Unicef does...love farm life? providing an animal through Heifer International for a family can often be the one thing needed to break the cycle of poverty... and who doesn't like to see a child smile, and Operation Smile does these life-changing operations that allow children born with a severe facial disfigurement to finally do just that!

I thoroughly enjoyed reading the reports I read last year, and look forward to the ones I will receive for this year. My club has been actively trying to meet the challenge, and it's been great learning more about these dedicated and far-reaching programs. Give some thought, get busy, and see what you can do to meet the challenge, but more importantly, help out our brothers and sisters in this world that have far less than we do.

Gloria Leveillee, Chairman

Operation  Smile


HEIFER
INTERNATIONAL

shot
@life

Invest in a healthier world.
Immunize a child.

GFWC MAINE PRESIDENT'S SPECIAL PROJECT – ELDER ABUSE AWARENESS

WOW, WOW, WOW! That is my response to all the members that attended the fall conference in Bangor. What an amazing conference! This chairman is still on a high from the excitement and energy that was shown for your support of the President's Special Project. President Marge and I want to thank you all for purchasing the special edition, made in Maine, purple GFWC Maine domestic violence shovels! With the sale of the shovels & GFWC Maine, members are well on their way to shoveling the path, on the Informational Highway, towards Elder Abuse Awareness!!

I am pleased to share with you that the sale of shovels, at the conference, totaled \$270. And because of the generosity of the owners of Mt Waldo Plastics, Senator Michael and Stacy Thibodeau, I was able to get enough shovels to cover those who hoped I could get extras. The extra shovel sales brought in another \$305! So, the grand total, for the sale of shovels, totaled \$575 for the President's Special Project. Thank you, Thank you, to those who purchased the shovels. It is because of your generosity that we will be able to make an impact on raising awareness about Elder Abuse in Maine. Another donation, was given to this Chairman, for speaking at their Club on the Special Project, as a speaker gift. I thank the GFWC Semper Fidelis Club for their generosity towards the President's Project.

This Chairman would like to thank all the Clubs that have donated to this project so far: GFWC Research Club of Limerick, GFWC Lubec Women's Club, GFWC Gorham Woman's Club, GFWC MFWC Westbrook Woman's Club, GFWC Skowhegan Woman's Club, Patawa Woman's Club and the Winterport Woman's Club GFWC have been made to date. We still have six months of this administration left, so there is plenty of time for members to decide what they can do to make a donation to this timely issue and worthy project. Remember no amount is too small; every penny can make a difference when added to the totals. As Chairman, I would love to see every single one of our Clubs participate on the Elder Abuse Awareness Project. There are many ways to participate. Become creative and let me hear from you. Then don't forget to REPORT what you did.

As I mentioned at the conference, President Marge and I are working with Judith Shaw, from the Maine Council for Elder Abuse Prevention and Jaye Martin, from the Maine Council for Elder Abuse Prevention to partner with GFWC Maine, to jointly sponsor, a statewide essay contest for graduating seniors. Marge and I have a meeting this month with Judith and Jaye to work on finalizing the pilot project for this administration. As soon as we have it ready to provide the information and what the responsibilities will be for club women & it will be sent out to all Club Presidents. Stay tuned and more will come in the next PTNs in January. I am very excited about this partnership!

We have an opportunity to inform and educate all ages on this issue. It is an inter-generational issue. The information you are gaining to educate yourselves, members and the community in which you live will help to make our state and homes a safer and happier place for everyone. This is an important issue and I am proud of our clubwomen for addressing it and making a difference! Please continue to keep up the good work you are doing. I look forward to reading all your reports.

Kathy White
GFWC Maine Presidents Special Project
Elder Abuse Awareness Chairman
GFWC Maine Domestic Violence Awareness
Chairman



Special Edition, made in Maine,
purple GFWC Maine domestic
violence shovels



Dear GFWC Maine Members,
Thank you so much for all the wonderful cards, e-mails, phone calls and visits during my recent illness. This has been a life-changing event for my wife and me. We have been blessed to have so many great friends. Anne is very fortunate to belong to GFWC. Through her association with all the members from Maine, I have gotten to know many of you. Your encouraging words, thoughts and prayers have meant a lot during my recovery. While there is still a long road ahead, I am feeling stronger with every new day.

Sincerely,
Bob Cress



Members at Patawa's September meeting held at Lynne Darling's summer home on Phillips Lake



1/3 of GFWC Newport Woman's Club membership attended GFWC Maine Fall Conference



The Teacher's Mafia Lounge & attendees at the 2015 GFWC Maine Fall Conference Banquet



**GENERAL FEDERATION
of WOMEN'S CLUBS**

Living the Volunteer Spirit!



Mary Ellen Brock, GFWC 1st Vice-President & Marjorie Goodwin, GFWC Maine President, at the 2015 GFWC Maine Fall Conference in Bangor Maine.



**2015 GFWC Maine
Fall Conference**



“Our Past Will Determine Our Future”



*Wendy Bowler
GFWC Maine
Corresponding Secretary
PO BOX 732
Gorham, ME 04038*

**Pine Tree Notes
Deadlines
January 8, 2016
March 4, 2016**

**GFWC MAINE
123 Years of Volunteer Service**