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Pine Tree Notes (November-December 2016)

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Pine Tree Notes

GFWC Maine Newsletter
November / December 2016



Living the Volunteer Spirit with Sparkle & Shine



President's Letter

Mary K. Libby



It is just wonderful to be given the opportunity to share my project with my GFWC sisters.

As a former teacher I know the impact education or lack of education makes in a person's life. Just what we refer to as basic skills must be available to all.

One of my physicians, Dr. Charles Radis, DO is chairman and medical director of Maine-African Partnership for Social Justice (MAPS) an organization based on Peaks Island, Maine. Over several years, Dr. Radis told me about the work being done in Kit, South Sudan, Africa. One of the projects MAPS was trying to fund was a school. Upon learning about the school, I knew immediately that this was a project for GFWCMaine and I had to do it. It has been in the planning stages for 4 years. Finally, we are on our way!

Their need is great and my goals are high! There are 331 children in the primary school –grades 1-8. Nine teachers, who are sometimes paid, teach. At last count 32 orphans were unable to attend school because there wasn't anyone who could pay the \$50 per year for them. They are in need of very basic school supplies; paper, pencils, pens, notebooks, chalk, planning books for teachers and students, text books and computers. Gardening equipment is needed since the school children are planting trees including fruit trees saplings. This is a hands on learning opportunity for the students as well as a need for the community. They would love to have some sporting equipment for activities.

The school building has become multi-purpose. A training class for repairmen for their wells was held there. The PTA meets there as does other community functions.

Our goals are to provide for the needs of the school and the children. We want every child in this village to be able to attend school; we want to supplement the teachers' salaries so they will be able to continue their work, and we want to show that people 6,000 miles away care.

There are several ways to measure the success of this project. One measurement of this success will be the amount of money and in-kind donations. My goal is \$10,000.

This measurement of success is based on the number of children who attend school. At our Fall State Conference we raised enough money for 16 of the 31 orphans to attend school for one year. The donations were made spontaneously from the floor as the result of a challenge.

The most important measure of success is one we may never know about: the opportunities that were opened and what the students did with them. Nelson Mandela said that the one true way to peace is education. We may never know about the student who became a leader in their village, or the student who became a teacher or a doctor or a farmer. These are the true measures of success. We will be having email and picture contact with the children and school. It is a wonderful way for us to see our efforts in action. The children and school staff will also have the opportunity to put faces to the people who are helping them.

One of our statewide fundraisers is our "Message in a Bottle." Each club was given a 20oz water bottle. A 20oz water bottle holds \$100 in dimes. We have asked clubs to fill them up 2-3 times. There have been many suggested ideas such as having a luncheon with the price being a roll of dimes!

We are also selling individual water bottles with our project's logo on it. As a fund raising incentive, the manager of the hotel where we are having our spring convention, is donating a room for 1 night for clubs to raffle off.

GFWC Maine Women are generous and committed to this project. I know that the children in Kit, South Sudan will be blessed with our efforts and so will the women of GFWC Maine.

"Let there be peace on earth and let it begin with me."

Living the Volunteer Spirit with Sparkle and Shine.

In Federation love,
Mary K. Libby
GFWC Maine President

Proud member of the General Federation of Women's Clubs

REMINDERS

To all Clubs please keep putting out your Dimes in a Bottle at each meeting to collect the dimes for Mary's special project. Also, keep bringing in the school supplies to go to the school in Kit, South Sudan, Africa. It is important that we, who are so fortunate, can generously support our President's special project. Each Club working together will make this happen!

Please submit to Beth A. Turner, Corresponding Secretary at lincbethturner@gmail.com submissions for the next Pine Tree Notes by January 31. Information for the Spring Convention will be in this publication. Articles received after January 31 will go in the next Pine Tree Notes.

From Joyce Noonan – We will be having our GFWC Maine Club auction at our convention in May. Have you decided what you are donating for the auction? She is looking forward to hearing from you.

CHANGE OF ADDRESS

Roberta Morrill
4 Emily Lane #3
Windham, ME 04062
207-893-8313

Megan Libby
65 Long St.
Brunswick, ME 04011

**President Elect**

Nancy Ames
NancyAmes76@gmail.com

**Vice President**

Carol Jarvais
RJ Jarvis@myfairpoint.net

**Recording Secretary**

Wendy Bowler
WendyBowler@gwi.net

Treasurer

Sheri Walsh



swalsh1964@gmail.com

**Corresponding Secretary**

Beth A. Turner
lincbethturner@gmail.com

Looking forward to receiving articles
for the PTN – keep them coming.
Next deadline January 31.

**Parliamentary Advisor**

Libby Wiers
mnlbby49@gmail.com

Vice President's Message

I am excited to be serving as your Vice President and looking forward to what this term has in store. Becoming better acquainted with your clubs and members is one of my goals over the next two years. President Mary has selected a project close to her heart which will benefit the educational needs of children. I can't wait to see what you ladies do to support it.

Which brings me to the main responsibility of my office – reporting. Everyone dreads the process but we so benefit from the results. We get to tell everyone how great we are and how much we accomplish for our clubs and for our communities. We have to “toot” our own horn “cause no one will do it for us.” If we don't report no one knows who you are or what you are doing. Your reports put Maine on the map at GFWC headquarters and tells them loud and clear that we are alive and thriving. I see us as being like the residents on the speck of dust in the Dr. Seuss book, “Horton Hears a Who”. If we don't report (toot our own horns) no one knows who we are here. So, I look forward to reading the wonderful things you will “toot” to me in your reports.

Remember...it's all about the Report!

Yours in Federation –
Carol

DISTRICT PRESIDENTS

District 1 Norma Manning
NManning@maine.rr.com

District 2 Linda Burdo
LindaBurdo@gmail.com

District 3 Marjorie Goodwin
DMGoodwin2@live.com

District 4 Marjorie Goodwin
DMGoodwin2@live.com

CLUB NEWS

DISTRICT 1

GFWC Westbrook Woman's Club

We started September off with a social gathering at DiMillo's Restaurant in Portland with 26 members and 2 guests attending. A fun time and a good meal was enjoyed by all.

Our September meeting began with a great catered luncheon at Westbrook Warren Congregational Church. Then we discussed plans and potential projects for the coming Club year.

October was a busy month making and finalizing plans for the November lobster roll lunch project.

A few of the Conference attendees gave us feedback on some of the discussions held and in depth information on the project chosen by State President, Mary Libby. They also commented on the fun time and great meals.

We voted to participate in the Salvation Army's bell ringing again this year. Members signed up for time commitments.

Guest speakers for the first October meeting were the Flag Ladies of Freeport. They

explained how they started the flag waving after 9/11/2001. People were gathering to have a candle vigil. They hesitated about taking a flag to this event but got a strong feeling they should do this. After hearing all the cheering and horn blowing, they knew this was the right thing to do. As they shared some of their experiences you could have heard a pin drop and there were many weepy eyes. Their talk was terrific and very informative.

Guest speakers at our second meeting was a representative from the Foster Grandparent Program and one of their volunteers "Granny Fran" a 15 year volunteer. She gave us a detailed report how volunteers, teachers, and children all benefit from this program.

We closed our meeting with a brief talk by our Superintendent of Schools who discussed the money needed to improve a couple of our elementary schools and an addition to the Middle School. Cost of this would be born by the taxpayers.

A busy start to our year!!

Marian Sturtevant
President

GFWC Gorham Woman's Club

October had the Gorham Woman's Club gathering for a Pot Luck lunch and games. A special presentation was made by Wendy Bowler to Alice Keddy for all her work with the Libraries which all members donated to, "Books for tots" and a special book bag was made for Alice, she has done this for over 20 yrs. and the Tots look forward to their bag at the end of May each year.

November was card signing for the Scarborough Veterans Home. JoAnn Means headed this program up and all members donated Christmas cards and signed them for the folks at the Home.

December was GWC gathering, in-between snow storms, at Nancy Kenty's home for Pot Luck lunch, Nancy had made a special desert and table favors, it was very festive.

January meeting will have our State President, Mary Libby as our speaker, weather permitting.

Happy New Year.

Gorham Woman's Club
Allene Bowler, President

GFWC Research Club

The 21 Club of Kezar Falls joined us for our November meeting. Mary Libby our GFWC Maine State President and Dr. Charles Radis were to join us for the evening. Due to a mix up in dates Dr. Radis couldn't join us but Mary made the meeting later than scheduled. We held our business meeting despite the 21 Club being in attendance and had our refreshment time. We were so glad that Mary was able to come as she presented her President's Project with her passion for this cause. After her telling us about the Maine-African Partnership for Social Justice and the Sudan school. She was given a bin full of school items that had been collected by both club members.

On Election Day some of our members were used as part of the election team monitors, although this is a paid position we are still representing our club and took the opportunity to talk to women about coming to our meetings!

December is a very busy month for our club. On Saturday, December 3rd we participate in our town's Tree Lighting. We hold a Christmas Carol sing along around the town's bandstand (we had it painted as one of our projects and keep flowers planted around it too.). After the sing along we treat the town to a cookie and hot cocoa party in our old town hall. Many attend and I've noticed that other towns in our general area are now doing a similar function.

We have our annual Christmas party as our meeting. Members bring their gifts for the veterans, and Caring unlimited. Our Historian, Nina Stitson challenged us to find a 25 cent gift for our Yankee Swap as she had read in one of her reports that our club members years ago had brought 10 cent gifts for their Yankee swap. It was a challenge but fun to see what the ladies were able to find.

DISTRICT 2

GFWC Livermore Falls Women's Club

We hope that everyone had an awesome Thanksgiving, Christmas and New Year's, and looking forward to what 2017 has to bring us! We started out our year in September with a Tea. At this meeting we installed our new officers for 2017-2018. President: Marion Hogan-Posa, Vice President: Ellen Young, Secretary: Madeleine Wininger and Treasurer: Christine Fournier. We have added this year a Parliamentarian: Frances Berry. We were excited to present ESO awards to Nancy Connant for Century, Ruth Gamman for Torch and Linda Burdo for Torch.

At our October luncheon at LaFleurs Restaurant we were excited to have a presentation of Vintage clothing. It was a wonderful program that was enjoyed by all with much interaction from our members. It was fun looking at some of the clothing and accessories and thinking, wow, I had an outfit like that.

We have been supporters of Safe Voices for many years with our gently used purses filled for the shelter to hand out. This year we were asked to donate a Gift Certificate. The certificates were used to give out Thanksgiving dinners.

In December each year, we have a Holiday Luncheon with the Historic Society. We enjoyed a luncheon and listened to Christmas music. We collect cash and food for our local food pantry.

We would also at this time like to thank Barbara Letalian, who retired as our Treasurer after many years of faithful service. She did a spectacular job. Now she gets to sit in a regular chair and enjoy!!!

GFWC Waldoboro Woman's Club

The June Whale of a Sale, held to fund the scholarship program of the club, netted over \$3,000. The club was able to give five \$1,000 scholarships to graduating seniors and six to continuing education scholarships for the 2016 year.

Nine members of the club gave 123 volunteer hours to the Waldoborough Historical Society over the summer months. Other members volunteered as hostesses at the Old German Church during July and August. The club hosted a reception after the Annual Service on August 7.

In September, Judi Lawrence was elected to serve another term as president with Carol Blodgett, vice president, Charlotte Gulezian, treasurer, and Jean Lawrence, secretary. Plans were made for an Election Day Bake Sale, a tradition that supports the scholarship program. Alice Duff will serve as chair.

The October meeting featured guest Bill Michaud who spoke on "Walking the Appalachian Trail Part II." He stressed hints for thriving on the trail, especially the Five P's Statement: Prior Planning Prevents Poor Performance, a good motto for any undertaking. The Audit Committee of Alice DePatsy and Dona Williams reported the club's books to be in "extreme right order."

GFWC Skowhegan Woman's Club

The GFWC Skowhegan Woman's Club had a busy summer. At the Coburn Park concert series (8 Sunday evenings), the members sold baked goods, sandwiches, and cold drinks. At "Run of the River", members sold pies. Members volunteered at Lakewood Theater sewing, ironing, and ushering. In September, we supported their show for the school children, by donating money to cover the cost of the costumes.

September was the beginning of the regular meetings, starting off with Dale Jandreau updating us on the library elevator project. In October, Tammy Barker from Somerset Communications told us about their program for staying safe at home and an elder calling program. In November, Ginny Jewell from Ginny's Natural Foods, spoke about the value of good nutritional sources and service events she hosts at her business. December featured our annual auction. The

members decorated cookies with over 200 children during the Holiday Stroll, and painted birdhouses and decorated a tree at the Redington Home, (which took 1st place).

In Jan., we will hear about beneficial herbs, and have an ESO meeting after the regular meeting.

A special event being sponsored by the club is a "Winter Craft Series" to be held at the Skowhegan Free Public Library on the 2nd and 4th Thursdays of Jan., Feb., and March, 10AM-12noon. This is free to the public and the crafts will be able to be finished in one session. The 6 crafts featured are: card embroidery, vintage card making, jewelry basics, stained glass, watercolor basics, and crocheting. Craft chairman Billie Sherman will be leading the sessions.

Our club was saddened to lose a wonderful member, Dot Cleaver, this fall. She was so devoted to her community and always kind, a true friend to all. We shall miss her dearly.

Happy New Year!

DISTRICT 3

GFWC ARTS Club Pittsfield

The Pittsfield ARTS club started off their club year with a pot luck supper on September 13th at the home of Carol Ouellette. It was wonderful catching up with each other and finalize some plans for the club year.

On October 11th the club met at the Pittsfield library and the speaker for the evening was MCI art teacher Jason Farson. He told about what was going on at the art department at the school and hopefully they will have some art for the district art show coming

up next April. A nice donation was given to him for material needed in his art department.

On October 19th the ARTS club will host a "Meet the candidates Night" at the Pittsfield council chambers. The club looks forward to hosting these prior to Election Day.

On November 8th (Election Day) the ARTS club will host a "Lunch to Go" at the polls for a fundraiser for the club. In the past this has been a success and it is great exposure for the club. It also provides people coming to vote to grab lunch and also see what the club is doing to support their community.

GFWC/Dexter Women's Literary Club

The GFWC/Dexter Women's Literary Club held their annual Election Day bake sale at the polls and it was a huge success! The club took in \$435.01! Many baked goodies were made by club members, and four members "manned" the tables until all the items were sold by about 2 PM.

At the November club meeting, members brought in unwrapped Christmas gifts for teens which were donated to the Dexter Sunshine Club to put together and distribute. Guest speaker was our very own GFWC Maine President Mary Libby who talked about her goals for her administration and about her President's Project.

In December, 3 club members made dozens of sugar cookies for children to decorate after the town's Christmas parade. The club also held its annual Christmas party on December 6th at the town hall. Club members signed Christmas cards which were distributed to the local nursing home. There was

Christmas music, games, a lot of food, and fun had by all!!

Laura Neal
President
GFWC/Dexter Women's Literary Club

GFWC MIOSAC Club Dover-Foxcroft

We happily kicked off our new club year on September 14th at the home of our Treasurer, Pat Jones for a porch party. All members brought a dish to share while we caught up with all the news of our summer happenings! It is always such a fun time to get together after being apart for a few months. The Advisory Committee passed out our new club handbooks with all the programs, dates and information for the 2016-2017 club year. After reviewing the new booklets, a brief meeting ensued to discuss the New England Region Conference and the new GFWC Maine state pin that has been developed for this administration's fundraiser. We are happy to report thirteen of our members are now sporting these new pins!

Suzanne Raymond attended the GFWC New England Region Conference in Warwick, R.I. September 30th through October 2nd. She gave us a full report of all that went on during this informative gathering of clubwomen from all the New England States. Suzanne is serving on the Standing Rules Committee of the GFWC NER Board of Directors during this administration. Anne Cress is also serving on the GFWC NER Board of Directors as a member of the Leadership Committee, but was unable to attend this Conference.

The first formal gathering of our new club year was October 4th with a "Souper" Supper provided

by our Advisory Committee, Suzanne Raymond, Barbara Austin and Minnie McCormick. We enjoyed homemade soups and stews along with freshly baked breads and desserts. It was great to be "up and running" again! We welcomed a new guest who decided to become a permanent member by the end of our gathering. Her name is Wendy Hutchins. We are all so excited to have some "new" blood and "young" blood among us!! Thanks to Roxy McGlaulin for bringing her new neighbor to all of our GFWC lives!

Five members of the GFWC Miosac Club attended the GFWC Maine Conference in Auburn on October 11th and 12th. Those attending were Vicki Moschella, Rheba Michaud, GFWC Miosac Club Vice-President, Anne Cress, GFWC Miosac Club President, and Suzanne Raymond and Minnie McCormick, both members of the GFWC Miosac Club Advisory Committee. While attending the Conference, Suzanne Raymond, GFWC Maine Chairman of International Outreach, gave a delightful overview of our work with Heifer International, Shot at Life Campaign, Operation Smile, and UNICEF. Anne Cress, GFWC Maine Leadership Chairman, spoke with the membership about what it takes to be an effective leader. Vicki Moschella, Chairman of GFWC Maine Conservation, gave a talk about our partnership with GFWC, "The Nature Connection". She explained this program to our members and gave some examples of how and what we can do as citizens to help and improve our environment.

Our gathering on October 18th was at the old Central Hall in Dover-Foxcroft which is in the process of being rejuvenated into, "The Commons at Central Hall". When the renovations are finished, this building will

become a vibrant community center featuring The Senior Commons, an active senior center; The Highlands, an adult day service center (ADSC); and The Commons Event Center. This hall will service the needs of Dover-Foxcroft and seven surrounding towns with services that have been wanted and needed for such a long time. When completed, this project will cost just under two million dollars. This project began in 2009 and will hopefully be completed by the spring of 2018. Some phases of development will be completed much sooner. The majority of the money to restore this building into a much needed facility has been by individual pledges and by local businesses.

Our immediate Past State President and current District 3 President, Marjorie Goodwin, came to this gathering for a tour of the site and to speak to our members about President Mary Libby's Special President's Project, the Nyolo-Hope Primary School in Kit, South Sudan. Marge has a vested interest in the old Central Hall building and its restoration, as she was a Dover girl for several years.

The gals of the GFWC Miosac Club wish you all a Happy and Joyful Holiday Season and a Very Happy New year!

Anne Cress
GFWC Miosac Club President

Winterport Women's Club **GFWC**

The Winterport Woman's Club GFWC is gearing up for a busy new year of community service! Our 2016-17 Board of Directors includes:

Denise Young, President
Kathy White, Vice President
Gloria Aurelio, Secretary
Kathy Urquhart, Treasurer

Cindy Seekins, Mardi Coggeshall,
Jackie Watson and Joan Bowman

You may have noticed the purple lights shining nightly at many of our downtown businesses and municipal organizations. These have partnered with our club to recognize October as Domestic Violence Awareness Month. Our club continues to work with New Hope for Women in Belfast to help those affected by domestic violence, dating violence, and stalking, and provide educational resources to assist our community in creating a safer and healthier future.

We are excited to announce "Share the Harvest" our very first turkey drive on Saturday, November 12, from 9:00 a.m. to 12:00 noon at the fire station on Main Street. We ask our community neighbors and friends to help us to stock the Winterport Neighbor's Cupboard, which is in need of 50 Thanksgiving turkey dinners this year. You may drop off a turkey, a check made out to Winterport Woman's Club or gift card in the amount of \$10 to a local supermarket, or any additional non-perishable food items to us that morning. You may also contact Joan Bowman at 226-3757, or any club member to arrange another time. Please help us share the harvest with our neighbors in need this fall!

In addition to our holiday help for local children and contributions to the Neighbor's Cupboard and the Town Fuel Assistance Fund, our members always enjoy some winter fun along the way. In December we will celebrate at our annual Christmas Social and Yankee Swap with delicious food, holiday music, laughter and fellowship. In January we will enjoy learning about and sipping fine tea with Debbie Holmes of TeaMaine on Main Street. We invite and encourage all women who are interested to join us at one or all

of these events! Contact President Denise Young at 557-1250 (dee2791@hotmail.com) or any club member to learn more.

And remember to visit our table at the polls on November 8 to purchase a Winterport Community Calendar for the great price of \$5! This fundraiser helps us to continue the Hampden Academy scholarships, light the Christmas wreaths on Main Street, and to fund many more of our charitable projects.

GFWC Lubec Woman's Club

The June Whale of a Sale, held to fund the scholarship program of the club, netted over \$3,000. The club was able to give five \$1,000 scholarships to graduating seniors and six to continuing education scholarships for the 2016 year.

Nine members of the club gave 123 volunteer hours to the Waldoborough Historical Society over the summer months. Other members volunteered as hostesses at the Old German Church during July and August. The club hosted a reception after the Annual Service on August 7.

In September, Judi Lawrence was elected to serve another term as president with Carol Blodgett, vice president, Charlotte Gulezian, treasurer, and Jean Lawrence, secretary. Plans were made for an Election Day Bake Sale, a tradition that supports the scholarship program. Alice Duff will serve as chair.

The October meeting featured guest Bill Michaud who spoke on "Walking the Appalachian Trail Part II." He stressed hints for thriving on the trail, especially the Five P's Statement: Prior Planning Prevents Poor Performance, a good motto for any undertaking. The Audit

Committee of Alice DePatsy and Dona Williams reported the club's books to be in "extreme right order."

GFWC Castine Women's Club

The **Castine Woman's Club** has been busy these crisp fall days prepping our gardens and houses for the winter along with hosting enlightening talks and planning fun fundraising events.

CWC meetings for the 2016-2017 membership year will be graciously hosted by CWC Vice President Patty Hutchins and her Wilson Museum staff at their newly renovated barn, the Hutchins Education Center. Meetings usually begin with an optional social/bag lunch with a host-provided dessert and coffee/tea.

On September 6, CWC members and others from the community kicked off the new membership year with an entertaining presentation by author Stu Silverstein on "Building and Baking in a Clay Oven." Attendees eagerly accepted sourdough starters provided by Stu.

CWC's annual luncheon meeting was held on October 4 with a business meeting followed by a talk by Kasey Smith, founder of EterNav, which uses new technologies to explore alternatives in making final arrangements for deceased loved ones.

On November 1, members and the community enjoyed hearing from CWC board member Danielle Mutty with travel tips and an impressive slide show on "Traveling After Retirement."

For the December 6 meeting, the Club is excited about ringing in the holiday season with a talk by

art book author Carl Little on "Maine Art."

Recent fundraising events included a wildly successful art auction in August and the Club's annual Election Day bake sale.

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

Save the Date

GFWC Spring Convention

**May 11-12, 2017
At Hollywood Slots Hotel
And Casino Bangor Maine**

Come join the Fun! Special guest Speakers Dr Charles Radis, Wind Over Wings, The Maine Warden Service, Deb Strabonowski GFWC International Vice President.

And keep an eye out for more info coming soon on how to win a free night for the conference !

Room Rate \$89 Plus tax. Reservations can be made by calling **1-877-779-7771 option 3.**

Please make sure you have booked your room no later than April 14.

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***Small things, done in great love, bring joy and peace.***



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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.



GENERAL FEDERATION  
of WOMEN'S CLUBS

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## **NEWS FROM LEADERSHIP**

One of the first things to remember is this: Before you are a leader, success is all about growing yourself. When you become a leader, success is all about growing others. If you can look in the mirror and honestly say to yourself every day, "I am okay with who I am and what I am doing with my life," then you are off to a great start. You must like who you are before you can expect others to see you in the same light. Be good to YOU! Be yourself truthfully. Accept yourself gracefully. Value yourself joyfully. Forgive yourself completely. Treat yourself generously. Balance yourself harmoniously. Bless yourself abundantly. Trust yourself confidently. Give of yourself

enthusiastically. Express yourself radiantly. Empower yourself prayerfully. Be the kind of person you want others to look up to with respect and honor. If you practice these rules daily, you will gain more confidence in your ability to lead others. Saying, "Yes, I CAN do that!" will become easier to say in all aspects of your life. Have you ever noticed the people who are the most active and involved are the ones who are not afraid to try something new? If they are afraid, they soon discover the only thing to be afraid of is the word "afraid."

Perhaps participating or volunteering for something you thought you could never do, or maybe was out of your comfort zone is a good place to start. The more you get involved, the more you will want to get involved. If you don't believe this is so, please talk to Norma Manning of the GFWC Westbrook Woman's Club. Norma is a prime example of a lady going beyond her comfort level, and yet discovering she is having the time of her life! We must be willing to take a risk at leadership roles at the club level and beyond into our districts and State. Each of us has the opportunity in life to leave our imprint on the world. How we choose to relate to neighbors, friends, loved ones and even strangers in our daily lives, leaves its mark. Some people through career choices spend time directly or indirectly shaping the world we live in; others contribute enormously through volunteer work. There are endless ways we can all use our lives to make a difference. Every action, big or small, paid or unpaid, taken individually or as part of a group, has an impact. *Connect with*

others, support members and their guests to learn all they can about GFWC. *Encourage* members to attend and actively participate at meetings or in an activity that interests them. *Empower* members to take a chance, step out of your own little world and learn about leadership roles. YOU CAN do this! I have confidence in you as future leaders to go forth and promote GFWC as, "We Live the Volunteer Spirit with Sparkle and Shine"!

Happy Holidays!

Anne Cress  
GFWC Maine Leadership  
Chairman

## **NEWS FROM MEMBERSHIP**

As GFWC Maine President Mary Libby begins her new administration, let's kick it off by having all clubs participate in GFWC's "It's The Real Deal" campaign! This is a nationwide year-round membership recruitment campaign.

**GO FISH FOR MEMBERS:** report how many new members your club recruited for June, July, and August (reports due to me by September 1st).

**BRIDGE THE GAP:** report to me by December 1st how many new members were recruited during September, October, and November. **GAME OF HEARTS:** new members recruited during the months of December, January, and February (reports due to me by March 1st). **52 PICK UP - A MEMBERSHIP TOOL:** new members for March, April, and May (reports due to me by June 1st).



Neighbors, friends, co-workers, and family all deserve the chance to be a part of GFWC, because GFWC has, does, and will continue to change lives for the better. It is important we learn how to invite and encourage women to become part of our clubs so that our communities can continue to improve through the work of GFWC volunteers and programs. Member recruitment is an ongoing process that requires the focus and commitment of all your club members. Be determined to succeed with your recruitment efforts! GFWC is offering a \$50 grant to help clubs with their recruitment efforts.

To apply go to:

Laura Neal,  
GFWC Maine Membership  
Chairman



## PUBLIC ISSUES

I want to thank GFWC Maine President Mary Libby for appointing me as State Chairman for the Public Issues Community Service Program. This community service program is designed to actively connect members with effective projects and activities related to civic and social responsibilities. This program focuses on the following areas: Citizenship, Military Personnel, Emergency and Disaster Preparedness, and Safety and Crime Prevention. I hope that you will consider

projects that address issues such as running for office, voter registration, democracy, disaster preparedness, road safety and supporting our military personnel.

Throughout this administration, I will be giving you information and ideas through the Pine Tree Notes and possibly presentations at State Meetings on how you can center some of your club work around these important issues. I will also give you more detailed information on some of our GFWC partners under this Community Service Program - the Kettering Foundation, United Service Organization (USO) and Sew Much Comfort.

I am looking forward to hearing about your activities through your reports in January, and hope that I can serve as a resource for you to assist in any way your club needs to plan or complete programs in this community service program.

Gloria Leveillee  
GFWC Maine  
Public Issues Chairman



## ESO

Hi Everyone!

Well the move is FINALLY over. My new address to send any book reports to is 65 Long St Brunswick, Maine 04011

If anyone has copies of your recent book reports/list of books read please forward them along also. I have no recent reports from the last year or so and I

want to make sure you get the credit for your reading.

Southern Mid Coast Women's Club has donated 105 books valued at approximately \$300.00 to the President's Project.

Megan Libby ESO Chair



.....  
***“Don't limit your  
challenges –  
challenge your  
limits.”***

## 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.

I look forward to and hope for the always generous support of our clubs. See page 72 of GFWC Maine Directory for MYL info.

### **A MYL THANK YOU TO YOU ALL! !**

Gloria Tewhey, MY L Chairman

### **INTERNATIONAL OUTREACH COMMUNITY SERVICE PROJECT**

I am 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!

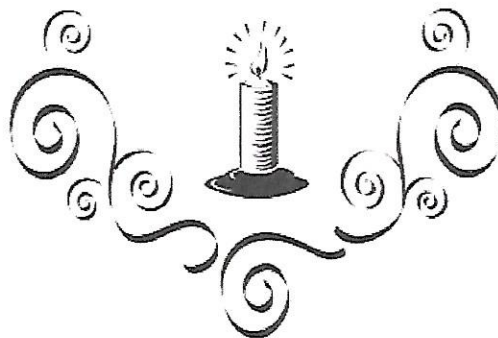
I thoroughly enjoyed reading the reports I read last year, and look forward to the ones I will receive for this year. My club has been actively trying to meet the challenge, and it's been great learning more about these dedicated and far-reaching programs. Give some thought, get busy, and see what you 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

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*Do not let what you cannot  
do interfere with what you  
can do.*

\*\*\*\*\*



### **Upcoming Events GFWC Maine:**

**February 18, 2017**  
Mid-winter Executive Meeting,  
Westbrook, ME

**May 10-12, 2017**  
Spring Convention  
Hollywood Casino Hotel, Bangor,  
ME

**Fall 2017** – District Conferences

**February, 2018**  
Mid-winter Executive Meeting,  
Westbrook, ME

**May 10 & 11, 2018**  
Spring Convention  
Best Western, Waterville, ME

## GFWC COMMUNITY SERVICE PROGRAM – EDUCATION REPORT

Hopefully, our clubs are thinking about implementing creative plans to raise money for scholarships and other educational funds. The best plans to think about and share are ones that our clubs have tried and found to be very successful. You may not be able to do exactly as have been done, but I know the ideas will be useful to suit your needs.

One club joins with a regular bridge club meeting twice a year and the club members provide a particular luncheon depending on whether the event is held in the winter months or in the spring. The luncheon gets the bridge players, and the players can see how effective the club members serve the community in their volunteer role to raise money for scholarships, and perhaps attracts new members. If your community does not have bridge clubs, perhaps there is a group who plays bingo or bunko.

Another club has an event in the fall appropriately called the Pumpkin Fest Cooking and Bake Sale. Not only club members, but also community citizens and local businesses collaborate therefore joining with others for a community outreach-program to raise scholarship money

Another club has raised scholarship money by their annual lobster roll sale. Last year over 1,000 rolls were sold to businesses, schools, and the community, showing how effective they are in presenting scholarships to three high school seniors at their awards night with \$1,000 each.

Most of our clubs help in volunteering in their local schools and libraries. Some clubs provide school supplies to students. One club provided free passes to children and their family (up to four) to the Maine Children's Museum in Bangor. Our donations to sponsor a girl to attend Dirigo Girls' State, or a sophomore to attend the Maine Youth Leadership Program, or to the GFWC Maine Educational Loan Fund reach out to many of our youth.

The Epsilon Sigma Omicron reading program offers a reading incentive to our members to explore various reading so we can enrich our lives.

Mary Libby, our State President, is focusing her project on education.

I will be looking forward to hearing from all the clubs next spring about their special events which have been very successful!

Roberta Dutton Morrill,  
Education Chairman

## GFWC INTERNATIONAL RESEARCH

If you are looking for a way for your club to have a global impact, look no further! GFWC continues to partner with four very reputable service programs. There are many other ways to support our international outreach efforts as well - everything from hosting a social event for international students in your area to knitting hats to send to children in Haiti. Your grassroots thoughts and efforts will always be appreciated.

Have you heard? The GFWC 2016-2018 Club Manual is now available on line. Please refer to it often for details about the GFWC Partnerships in the International Outreach Program Area (and a wealth of other information!)

- Heifer International
- Shot at Life
- Operation Smile
- UNICEF



I have some very exciting news to share with you. While at the GFWC Convention this past June, I was thrilled to hear Bonnie Keuhne, (our contact person - Operation Smile Development Officer, Community Relations) announce **"We're launching a campaign to raise \$150,000 and sponsor an Operation Smile medical mission."** A limited number of volunteer positions will be available on this mission." Wow!! A GFWC sponsored mission! The goal is to raise the money by June 2017, so let's get on board! GFWC Maine clubwomen are to be commended for the money raised during the 2010-2012 Administration whereby over \$5,000 was sent to Operation Smile and benefited 24 children with corrective surgery. This of course not only provided them a "smile" but a life! Yes, indeed! Our clubs **can** change children's lives! Whether \$5 or \$240, I am challenging each club to donate to this special campaign. *I pledge to donate \$10 for every club that makes a donation by April 30, 2017.* More details will be forthcoming from GFWC and I will keep you informed!

Smile, because you can! ☺

Suzanne Raymond

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## FUNDRAISING –AUCTION May 11,2017

Happy New Year! Now that the holidays are over it is time to start thinking about our upcoming auction..... I know it seems like it is a long ways off, but it will sneak up on us fast. We would like to have each club donate something. As I said at Fall Conference, we are not looking for Flea Market items.

Below are some suggestions or ideas, I am sure clubs can think of many more. Don't forget to let us know what you are donating.

**Joyce Noonan**  
**Fundraising Chairman**  
[janoonan@beeline-online.net](mailto:janoonan@beeline-online.net)  
**207-474-9451**

|                 |                   |
|-----------------|-------------------|
| Theater Tickets | Windjammer Cruise |
| Antiques        | Gift cards        |
| Jewelry         | China/Crystal     |
|                 | Symphony Ticket   |

### Services:

- House painting*
- Gardening*
- Estate Planning*
- Preparing a will*
- Tax preparation*

|                         |                           |
|-------------------------|---------------------------|
| <b>Week at Camp</b>     | <b>Concert tickets</b>    |
| <b>Red Sox Tickets</b>  | <b>Collectables</b>       |
| <b>Paintings/prints</b> | <b>The use of a condo</b> |
| <b>Plane tickets</b>    |                           |

## **GFWC NEW ENGLAND REGION**

### **PRESIDENT**

**Debra Capuano**  
16 Helper Drive, Warwick, RI 02818  
401-885-0077 | debracapuano@gmail.com

### **VICE-PRESIDENT/ PRESIDENT ELECT**

**Mary C. Baird**  
11 Quail Hollow Circle, Sandwich, MA  
02563  
508-428-0246 | cogrn@comcast.net

### **SECRETARY**

**Nancy Greenberg**  
11 Lori Lane, Londonderry, NH 03053  
603-537-1756 | ngreenberggfwc@comcast.net

### **TREASURER**

**Jeanne Waseleski**  
1 Queens Peak Road, Canton, MA 06019  
860-693-1541 | auction46@comcast.net

## **STATE PRESIDENTS**

### **CONNECTICUT**

**Helen Barakauskas**  
8 Nutmeg Lane, Farmington, CT 06032  
860-674-1023 | barkyhd@aol.com

### **MAINE**

**Mary K. Libby**  
8 Lewis St., Westbrook, ME 04092  
207-854-0201 | MKLibby@yahoo.com

### **MASSACHUSETTS**

**Elfriede K. Parker**  
6 Masons Street #19, Pepperell, MA 01463  
978-433-6749 | EParker6749@verizon.net

### **NEW HAMPSHIRE**

**Phyllis Appler**  
62 Glen Drive, Hudson, NH 03051  
603-883-6440 | pappler@earthlink.net  
603-345-8252 c

### **RHODE ISLAND**

**Angela Libman**  
5 Bow Run, Saunderstown, RI 02874  
401-294-4739 | alibmam74@gmail.com  
401-218-5218 c

### **VERMONT**

**Joyce Lindamood**  
PO Box 92, Springfield, VT 05156  
802-885-4690 |  
802-591-0071c



GENERAL FEDERATION  
of WOMEN'S CLUBS

## **“Living the Volunteer Spirit with Sparkle & Shine”**

*Beth A. Turner*  
*GFWC Maine*  
*Corresponding Secretary*  
*324 Bridge St. #1*  
*Westbrook, ME 04092*

Pine Tree Notes  
Deadlines

January 31, 2017  
March 6, 2017

**GFWC MAINE**  
**124 Years of Volunteer Service**