



The Heartbeat



PLANT › RECYCLE › PICK IT UP



December 2020

Volume XI Issue 3

MAY YOUR
HOLIDAY SEASON

be filled with

PEACE

and JOY



The mission of the GFWC-Mississippi Federation of Women's Clubs, Inc. is an organization of women whose goal is personal enrichment leading to volunteer service that benefits the community, state, nation and world.



Founded on May 25, 1989 and a member of the General Federation of Women's Clubs Since 1904.

GFWC-MFWC Headquarters & Elected Officers



GFWC-MFWC Headquarters
2407 North State Street
Jackson, Mississippi 39216

2020-2022 Elected Officers

Sherri E. Reid
President
Cosmopolitan Club
Southern District

Carolyn Tedford
Vice President and Dean of Chairmen
Poplarville Woman's Club
Southern District

Theresa H. Buntyn
President-elect,
Advisor to District Presidents
and State Membership Chairman
GFWC-MFWC Decatur Woman's Progressive
Club
Central District

Deana T. Pittman
Secretary
GFWC-MFWC Batesville Woman's Club
Northern District



Belinda Peacher
Treasurer
GFWC-MFWC Florentine Evening Club
Central District

In This Issue

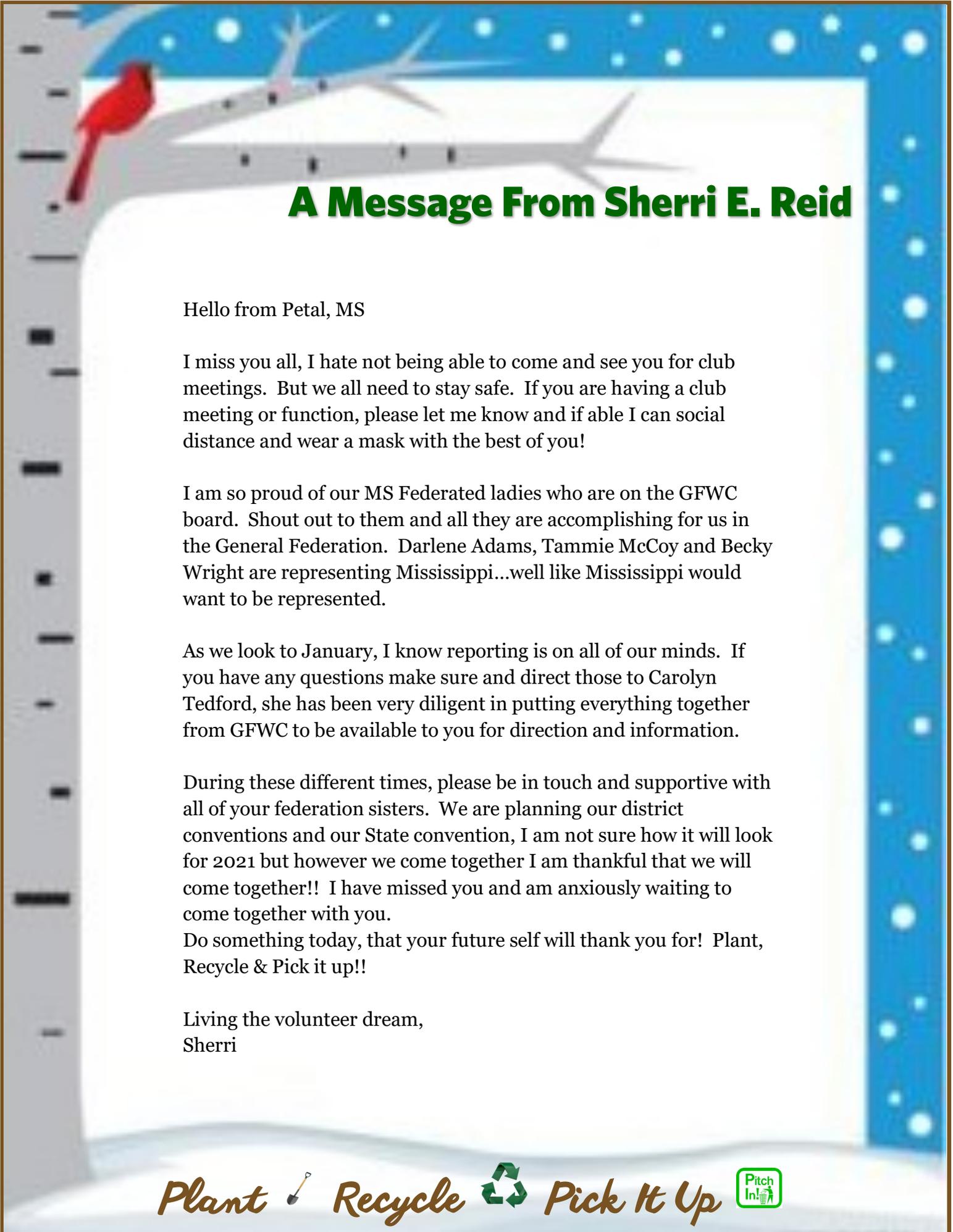


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GFWC-MFWC Headquarters & Elected Officers	2
A Message from Your State President Sherri E. Reid	4
Exploring Our Roots	5
December Events	7
Christmas GFWC-MFWC Style	8
Epsilon Sigma Omicron (ESO)	10
GFWC-MFWC Reporting Guidelines Update for 2020	11
Disposing of Your Christmas Tree	15
Important Dates	17
Deadlines Approaching	18
Save the Date	19
General Federation of Women's Club Latest News	
GFWC News	21
Support GFWC	26

The GFWC-MFWC Newsletter "The Heartbeat" is published by the GFWC-MFWC. All submissions are welcome. Photographs are encouraged. Mail articles and/or photographs to Lisa A. Harris, 822 SCR 115 S, Raleigh, MS 39153 or email to lisaharris@outlook.com. Questions or comments, contact Lisa at (601) 940-1519.



A Message From Sherri E. Reid

Hello from Petal, MS

I miss you all, I hate not being able to come and see you for club meetings. But we all need to stay safe. If you are having a club meeting or function, please let me know and if able I can social distance and wear a mask with the best of you!

I am so proud of our MS Federated ladies who are on the GFWC board. Shout out to them and all they are accomplishing for us in the General Federation. Darlene Adams, Tammie McCoy and Becky Wright are representing Mississippi...well like Mississippi would want to be represented.

As we look to January, I know reporting is on all of our minds. If you have any questions make sure and direct those to Carolyn Tedford, she has been very diligent in putting everything together from GFWC to be available to you for direction and information.

During these different times, please be in touch and supportive with all of your federation sisters. We are planning our district conventions and our State convention, I am not sure how it will look for 2021 but however we come together I am thankful that we will come together!! I have missed you and am anxiously waiting to come together with you.

Do something today, that your future self will thank you for! Plant, Recycle & Pick it up!!

Living the volunteer dream,
Sherri

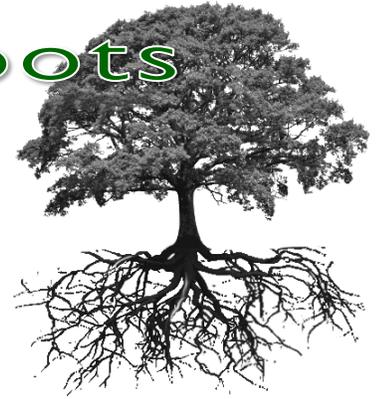
Plant  *Recycle*  *Pick It Up* 

Exploring Our Roots

"A History of the Mississippi Federation of Women's Clubs"

Administration of Mrs. H. J. (Mamie F.) Wilson

1936 - 1938



- 🌳 Twentieth President of the MFWC from Hazelhurst, MS.
- 🌳 The theme of her administration was, "Building for a More Intelligent Citizenry."

Highlights of this Administration

- Mrs. Wilson is the subject of one of the most famous stories about the MFWC. The gist of the story is that the Mississippi Highway Department planned to widen North State Street where the Federation Headquarters is located. If this widening took place, a magnolia tree in front of the headquarters would be sacrificed. To protest this proposed action, accounts exist stating that Mrs. Wilson climbed up into the tree and sat there until the Highway Department gave up its plan to cut the tree. This event supposedly occurred in the late 1930's. The editor of this history was unable to document this from records of the period.
- The thirty ninth annual convention of the MFWC, held in Greenwood in November 1937, was presided over by Mrs. Wilson. Highlights from the convention are:
 - Eighteen new clubs and three hundred seven new members.
 - During her annual report to the convention, Mrs. Wilson summarized some of Federation accomplishments:
 - ◆ The first being the completion and furnishing of the Headquarters, the organization of many Junior Clubs and the work being done to build an annex to Charity Hospital for the treatment of indigent cripples and cancer patients.
 - ◆ Working with the Research Club of Jackson, the Federation had funded the purchased of two iron lungs for the treatment of polio victims.
- The fortieth annual convention of the MFWC was held in Jackson, MS at the Edwards Hotel in November, 1938. This convention highlighted Mrs. Wilson's theme of "Building for a Better Citizenry" and was the fortieth anniversary celebration of the Federation.
 - Highlights from this convention include the following:
 - ◆ Thirty seven clubs and one affiliated organization had joined the Federation in 1938 and that 1,483 delegates had attended club institutes in the spring of 1938.
 - ◆ As a member of the Mississippi Library Commission, Mrs. Wilson had worked for the passage of the General Library Law and for increased appropriations for library work in the state.



(Continued on page 6)

GFWC Women's History and Resource Center - Exploring Our Roots

(Continued from page 5)

- ◆ In honor of the Federation's fortieth birthday, a historical pageant, THE FLOWERING OF THE DISTAFF, was presented. This pageant highlighted the history of education of Mississippi women.
- ◆ Another special event was a banquet sponsored by the Pioneers and Past President's Club, at which portraits of the Federation's founder, Mrs. Coleman, and its second president, Mrs. Weems, were unveiled.
- ◆ The Public Health Committee reported achieving its three goals: the establishment of a state Safety Committee by Governor White, the passage by the Legislature of the Uniform Drivers License Law, the establishment of the Highway Safety Patrol, and that public safety instructions had been made a part of curriculum of every state school.

Source: "A History of the Mississippi Federation of Women's Clubs 1898-1998" by Tommye Hogue Rosenbaum, 1998, Commemorating The Centennial of the Mississippi Federation. Published by the GFWC Mississippi Federation of Women's Clubs, Inc., 2407 North State Street, Jackson, MS 39216. Copyright 1998 by Tommye Hogue Rosenbaum for the Mississippi Federation of Women's Clubs, ISBN: 0-935515-32-1.



Mr. Joel Serafin is looking for information on his grandmother, Mrs. W. R. Stricklin.

Mrs. W. R. Stricklin was a member of the 20th Century Club in Newton from 1933-1945 and was the club's President multiple times. In 1937, she was the Historian for her district at a statewide meeting. Her report was selected as best in the state. Mr. Serafin is in the middle of a family research project and I would like to have a copy of her report and any other info about her you may have.

If you have any information on Mrs. W. R. Stricklin and/or know where Mr. Serafin can find any information on his grandmother, please email

this information to Lisa A. Harris at lisaharris@outlook.com.

Thanks, Lisa



its the most DECEMBER wonderful time of the year

Notable Monthly Events

- Handwashing Awareness Month
- National Identity Theft Prevention and Awareness Month
- Read a New Book Month
- National Drunk and Drugged Driving Prevention Month
- Safe Toys and Gifts Month
- Universal Human Right Month
- World AIDS Awareness Month

GFWC Notable Events

- 3rd - Virtual Hill Briefing: Addressing Elder Abuse During COVID-19 ([Link](#))
- 9th - 2020 GFWC Remote Holiday Celebration ([Link](#))

- 10th - Jane Addams Day ([Link](#))
- 19th - National Wreaths Across America Day ([Link](#))
- 19th - Jane Cunningham Croly Birthday ([Link](#))

Notable Dates

- 1st - World Aids Awareness Day
- 6th - Repeal Day. The 21st Amendment ends Prohibitions.
- 7th - Pearl Harbor Day
- 10th - Human Rights Day
- 13th - International Children's Day
- 21st - Winter Solstice - shortest day of the year.
- 25th - Christmas Day & Jesus' Birthday
- 31st - New Year's Eve



Food Holidays:
DECEMBER IS NATIONAL
EGGNOG MONTH



Christmas GFWC-MFWC Style

2020 Christmas Events sponsored by GFWC- MFWC Clubs.



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Every year, GFWC-MFWC clubs host/sponsor Christmas Events in their community which brings the joy of Christmas to many individuals. These events help support the projects of local clubs through out the year. Some of the projects being funded from these events are The Dolly Parton Imagination Library in Bruce, MS; Scholarships in Picayune, MS; fallen veterans in Okolona, MS and Palmer Home for Children, and Banah Free Clinic. If you would like to participate in or donate to any of these events, please contact the sponsoring club.

- ◆ Christmas Pilgrimage Tour of Homes, presented by Civic Woman's Club of Picayune. When: 2 - 6 p.m., Saturday, December 5th. Advance sale tickets \$10.00 available from club members and at Melinda' Fine Gifts. Proceeds fund scholarships to local students.
- ◆ "Tis The Season Tasting Take-Out, sponsored by the Cosmopolitan Club. When: Saturday, December 5th, between 11:00 a.m. and 12:30 p.m. in front of Petal Middle School. \$10.00 for meal and cookbook. Contact any Cosmo Club member for tickets or call (601) 270-3004 for more information.
- ◆ Christmas Online Auction is sponsored by the GFWC-MFWC Fine Arts Club of Bruce. This auction will benefit the Dolly Parton Imagination Library for the Bruce area. When: November 30th - December 4th.
- ◆ Virtual Christmas Auction sponsored by the GFWC-MFWC Homochitto Heritage Club. When: December 1st to December 8th. Please make plans to join us in our first ever Virtual Christmas Auction. Like and follow us on Facebook for more details.
- ◆ The 11th Annual Rudolph Run is Virtual for

(Continued on page 9)

GFWC-MFWC President's Special Project

(Continued from page 8)

2020. This event is sponsored by the Pontotoc Juniorette Club and will help support their charities of Palmer Home for Children and Banah.

- ◆ Wreaths across America is sponsored by the GFWC-MFWC Lanier Club. Remember the fallen. Honor those who serve. Teach the next Generation. When: Saturday, December 19th at 11:00 a.m. at the Carnegie Library in Okolona, MS.

- ◆ Movie in the Park, The Polar Express, is sponsored by the Purvis Woman's Club. When: Saturday, December 12th. Admission is free and there will be individually wrapped cookies and hot chocolate!

If your club event is not listed, please contact Lisa Harris with what, when, where and cost.

For events that were added after this newsletter was published, please visit our facebook page for a complete listing.



Merry Christmas

May the message of
Christmas fill your life with
joy and peace.

Best wishes to you and
your family during this
holiday season.

Greetings from the GFWC-
Mississippi Federation of
Women's Clubs, Inc.

GFWC Education and Libraries CSP



ESO (Epsilon Sigma Omicron)



Submitted by Laura Ann Trigg, GFWC-MFWC ESO Chairman.

Greetings my fellow GFWC-MFWC club members! I hope your Club's year is off to a great start. As your GFWC Epsilon Sigma Omicron or ESO chairman, I wanted to take this opportunity to encourage each of you to join the ESO program.

While we are all staying as safe as possible during the COVID Pandemic, there is no better time to devote our time to reading. Joining ESO is as simple as following the guidelines on our GFWC-MFWC website. ESO provides clubwomen with a structured reading program that is educational and stimulates a desire for self-improvement.

Members can participate in ESO as part of a reading group or on their own. The program provides membership, awards and certificates, pins, reading lists, and a framework in which to pursue continued self-improvement through reading.

First you apply then begin reading! It is that simple. Always remember, "Books are the quietest and most constant of friends; they are the most accessible and wisest of counselors, and the most patient of teachers". – Charles W. Eliot

Visit our website at [GFWC_MFWC_ESO \(gfwc-mfwc.org\)](http://GFWC_MFWC_ESO(gfwc-mfwc.org)) for more information on the GFWC and GFWC-MFWC ESO programs. This page also includes such ESO Resources as the Handbook, Pledge Application, Book Report Form and Book Reading List and GFWC-MFWC President's Pick Reading List. Both the Handbook and GFWC Reading List have been update for the 2020-2022 administration.

I look forward to hearing from my fellow federated sisters. You may contact me for further information or questions at trigg1@wcsdms.com.

ESO Reading with the President Challenge
December 2020 Selection of the Month

Nature's Best Hope
by Douglas W. Tallamy

Category:
Conservation and Ecology or Home and Garden

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Note from Sherri E. Reid about her President's Pick of the Month.

I am so excited to share this book with you. It definitely goes along "Do something today that your future self will thank you for" .

It can be a bit overwhelming at first but it gives each one of us responsibility for conservation. Very readable, he shows you how the problems are fixable and does so in a very simple manner.

I hope you enjoy the book and are able to put some of his ideas into practice.

GFWC-MFWC LEADS

(Leadership Education and Development Seminar)

Submitted by Melba Watkins, GFWC-MFWC Leadership & LEADS Chairman

For many of us the last several months have been a steamroller of challenges which have, in many cases, put our club work and responsibilities on the back burner. Certainly, I am one of those but the time is now to get on the move and get things done. 2020 is nearing an end and 2021 brings new areas to be addressed.

My duty is to organize and plan the LEADS workshops and at this point a decision has been made to send a representative for both 2020 and 2021 to the summer convention. That means twice as much leadership being able to learn from GFWC and to meet new friends.

I need for each club president to email, text or call me with the name of your LEADS nominee so that I can begin working with them on our workshop. At this point, I don't know if we will be doing a virtual or an in-person meeting but we will work that out soon.

I look forward to hearing from you soon, hopefully, within the next week.

Thank you for your assistance and your continued volunteer service, locally and worldwide.

Melba Watkins
GFWC-MFWC Leadership/LEADS Chairman

From Editor:

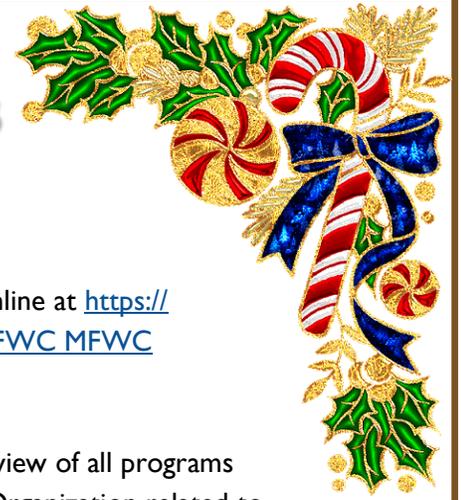
The GFWC-MFWC LEADS Introduction Letter and Application Form can be found on our website at this location -

[GFWC Awards Contests \(gfwc-mfwc.org\)](http://gfwc-mfwc.org).



GFWC-MFWC Reporting Guidelines

Update for 2020



Submitted by Carolyn S. Tedford, GFWC-MFWC Vice President.

Once again the time of reporting and award entries is almost upon us. The resilience, creativity and agility of our clubs and clubwomen have never been more evident than during the circumstances of 2020. Despite the challenges of this year each of you and your clubs have made a vast impact on our communities and the lives of others. We can't wait to read your reports which will reflect all the innovative ways that you have accomplished this feat in the face of the challenges of this year. I want to encourage you to share your stories through reporting to give others insight and momentum to continue making a difference in the lives of others as well as to celebrate the successes of your club.

The GFWC-MFWC Reporting Guidebook, Report Card and Cover Sheet have been updated to reflect the GFWC changes and updates. The Reporting Cover Sheet is posted on the website. You will need to read each area closely to plan your programs, projects, and ensure that you report correctly in the specific programs. The Reporting Guidebook contains instructions for successfully completing reports for GFWC-MFWC President's Special Project, GFWC-MFWC Special Emphasis Programs, GFWC Special Programs, GFWC Community Service Programs, and GFWC Advancement Plans. The Guide has been designed to provide step by step instructions to ensure Club Presidents understand how to fill out the reporting GFWC-MFWC Report Cover Sheet and program narratives.

As you work through the changes made by GFWC and the extenuating circumstances of this year please know that YOU ARE NOT ALONE!!! We are here to help you. Do not hesitate to reach out to me or the chairmen. I will be contacting Club Presidents this month to check in to see if there is any questions or issues that I can help clarify. I am available to meet with clubs and/or members to go through the changes and answer questions. Contact me at 601-310-0377 or at carolyntedford@outlook.com.

All the forms you need are in both the 2020-2022

Reporting Guide and online at [https://www.gfwc-mfwc.org/GFWC MFWC Forms.html](https://www.gfwc-mfwc.org/GFWC%20MFWC%20Forms.html).

Listed below is an overview of all programs areas and any Affiliate Organization related to that project.

GFWC-MFWC SPECIAL EMPHASIS PROGRAMS

- **GFWC-MFWC PRESIDENT'S SPECIAL PROJECT**
"Plant ▶ Recycle ▶ Pick It Up." Any donations to Heifer International for the following programs: Water For Life, Gift of Trees and Honeybees can be counted under this project. GFWC-MFWC Chairman for this program is Mikayla Shelton.
- **GFWC-MFWC State Institutions**
GFWC-MFWC Chairman for this program is Jeannie Pittman
- **GFWC-MFWC MS Public Broadcasting**
GFWC-MFWC Chairman for this program is Libby D. Everett

Please note that each of the above GFWC-MFWC Special Emphasis Projects have a reporting page of their own. Don't forget to complete it when filling out your reports.

GFWC SPECIAL PROGRAMS:

- **GFWC SIGNATURE PROGRAM: DOMESTIC VIOLENCE AND SEXUAL ASSAULT AWARENESS AND PREVENTION.**
There are no Affiliate Organizations at this time for GFWC Signature Program. GFWC-MFWC Special Emphasis Project is *I Support the Girls – Mississippi*. GFWC-MFWC Chairman for this program is Deana T. Pittman.
- **Juniors' Special Program: Advocates for Children**
Affiliate Organizations associated with this program are March of Dimes, Operation Smile, Prevent Child Abuse America (PCAA), St. Jude Children's Research Hospital, United Nations Foundation Shot@Life Campaign and UNICEF USA. GFWC-MFWC Co-Chairmen for this

(Continued on page 13)

GFWC Leadership - Reporting

(Continued from page 12)

program are Kaye Wright and Tammy Griffin.

GFWC COMMUNITY SERVICE PROGRAM (CSPs)

■ ARTS AND CULTURE

Affiliate Organizations associated with this program are Heifer International, March of Dimes, Operation Smile, Prevent Child Abuse America (PCAA), St. Jude Children's Research Hospital and UNICEF USA. GFWC-MFWC Co-Chairmen for this program are Amy A. Jacobs and Abby May.

■ CIVIC ENGAGEMENT AND OUTREACH

Affiliate Organizations associated with this program are Heifer International, HOBY, March of Dimes, Operation Smile, Prevent Child Abuse America (PCAA), St. Jude Children's Research Hospital, United Nations Foundation Shot@Life Campaign and UNICEF USA. GFWC-MFWC Chairman for this program is Theresa T. Berryhill.

■ EDUCATION AND LIBRARIES

Affiliate Organizations associated with this program are Heifer International, HOBY, Operation Smile, Prevent Child Abuse America (PCAA), St. Jude Children's Research Hospital, United Nations Foundation Shot@Life Campaign and UNICEF USA. GFWC-MFWC Chairman for this program is Meri F. Newell.

■ ENVIRONMENT

Affiliate Organizations associated with this program are Heifer International and UNICEF USA. GFWC-MFWC Special Emphasis Project is the President Special Project of Plant ▶ Recycle ▶ Pick It Up. GFWC-MFWC Chairman for this program is Pamela R. Maxwell

■ HEALTH AND WELLNESS

Affiliate Organizations associated with this program are Heifer International, March of Dimes, Operation Smile, PCAA, St. Jude Children's Research Hospital, UNF Shot@Life Campaign and UNICEF USA. GFWC-MFWC Chairman for this program is Bethany Flint.

GFWC ADVANCEMENT PLANS (APs)

■ COMMUNICATION AND PUBLIC RELATIONS

GFWC Communication and Public Relations projects are promoting club programs, events, and fundraising. GFWC-MFWC Chairman for this program is Sharon Hudson.

■ LEADERSHIP

GFWC-MFWC Special Emphasis Project for Leadership is MS LEADS. GFWC-MFWC Chairman for this program is Melba Watkins.

■ LEGISLATIONS/PUBLIC POLICY

GFWC-MFWC Chairman for this program is Annajeral Knight.

■ MEMBERSHIP

GFWC Membership theme for 2020-2022 is Hat's Off. GFWC-MFWC Special Emphasis Project for Membership is the Value of One Member. GFWC-MFWC Chairman for this program is Theresa H. Buntyn.

■ FUNDRAISING & DEVELOPMENT

GFWC-MFWC Chairman for this program is Diane Rouse.

■ WOMEN'S HISTORY RESOURCE CENTER (WHRC)

GFWC-MFWC Chairman for this program is Miranda Vaughn.

■ EPSILON SIGMA OMICRON (ESO)

GFWC-MFWC Chairman for this program is Laura Ann Trigg

REPORTING GUIDELINES FOR 2020-2022

- To report your club's statistics in each of the Community Service Programs (CSP) and Advancement Plans (APs), complete one GFWC-MFWC Report Cover Sheet for each CSP and APs. Activities for Affiliate Organizations such as HOBY, St. Jude Children's Research Hospital, March of Dimes, Operation Smile and others will be included in the Community Service Program (CSP) area for documentation purposes and are no longer a separate report. That is all you are required to do for reporting. You can improve your chances of winning an award by submitting a narrative report and supporting material in each Community Service Program and Advancement Plans. Reports should cover club activities from January 1 through December 31 of the previous year.
- Narrative reports are limited to **three** single-spaced pages. Only the front side of a page can be used...no printing on both sides of the paper. Narrative information should include if applicable:
 - WHY did you help them?

(Continued on page 14)

GFWC Leadership - Reporting

(Continued from page 13)

- WHAT did YOU do?
 - OUTCOME or Impact on the Community or state
 - Project Hours (Number of actively involved members x hours each)
 - Monetary donations from Clubs or Members
 - In-Kind Donations from Members
3. 2020 Definitions from GFWC for State Statistical form.
- Community Service Projects are the programs and projects members initiate and participate in to serve their communities, including projects with GFWC Affiliate Organizations.
 - Number of Projects is the numerical account of the programs and projects initiated and participated in by the clubs in your State.
 - Volunteer Hours is the amount of time that members worked on club approved programs and projects.
 - Dollars Donated is the monetary amount given to Community Service Programs and projects. Dollars donated does not apply to Advancement Plans.
 - In-Kind Donations reflect the monetary value for goods provided to Community Service Programs and projects. Download the latest copy from the GFWC Member Portal, My Digital Library, Resources, Letter I, In-Kind Donation Guide.pdf.
 - Dollars Spent are costs incurred by members, clubs or GFWC-MFWC to achieve Advancement Plan goals. Advancement Plans are Communications and Public Relations, Leadership, Legislation/ Public Policy, and Membership.
 - Dollars Raised reflects the dollars earned from fundraising and development programs and projects.
4. Supporting material is limited to three pages. Only the front side of a page can be used ... no printing on both side of the paper. Supporting material may include newspaper clippings, pictures of members/projects, resolutions, certificates, minutes from other organizations, thank you notes, correspondence, copies of checks, etc.
5. You must use a Report Cover Sheet with each report. Attach the completed cover sheet to the narrative and supporting material. Our MFWC report form is three pages. Print out and use the one that corresponds to
- the report you are compiling.
6. Other programs are the GFWC Signature Program: Domestic Violence and Sexual Assault Awareness and Juniors' Special Program: Advocates for Children. Report club statistics for these programs on the appropriate Report Cover Sheet, using one cover sheet for each of these areas.
7. **Cross reporting is NOT allowed with the exception of three areas.**
- The GFWC-MFWC President's Special Project (PSP) "Plant Recycle Pick It Up" can be reported under both the GFWC-MFWC PSP and GFWC Environment CSP.
 - State Institutions can be reported under both GFWC-MFWC State Institution and one of the following GFWC CSP
 - Mississippi State Schools for Deaf and Blind, Ellisville State School and other State Schools can be reported under Education and Libraries.
 - Mississippi State Hospital at Whitfield, MS and other State Hospitals can be reported under Health and Wellness.
 - State Veteran's Homes projects can be reported under Civic Engagement and Outreach.
 - Mississippi Public Broadcasting can be reported under both GFWC-MFWC MPB and Education.
8. These GFWC-MFWC Special Emphasis Project, GFWC-MFWC President's Special Project (PSP) "Plant Recycle Pick It Up", GFWC-MFWC Special Emphasis: State Institutions and Mississippi Public Broadcasting, have their own report forms; however, clubs will still need to complete one Report Cover Sheet for each of these when submitting reports.
9. In order for your club's reports to be judged:
- Club dues must be postmarked on or before January 1st of each year
 - Reports must be postmarked on or before February 1st. **Please note: if the postmark deadline falls on a Sunday or Holiday the form must be postmarked prior to postmark date.**
 - Copies of club reports must be mailed via first class mail to the following:
 - Sherri E. Reid, GFWC-MFWC President. Send copies of GFWC-MFWC Report Cover Sheet and narrative for each report. Do not send

(Continued on page 15)

GFWC Leadership - Reporting

(Continued from page 14)

supporting documents.

- Carolyn S. Tedford, GFWC-MFWC Vice President/Dean of Chairmen. Send 3 copies (1 original and 2 copies) of GFWC-MFWC Report Cover Sheet, narrative and supporting material for each report.

SPECIAL REPORTING TIPS

- Read the GFWC Guide for each Special Program, CSP and APs.
- Follow the GFWC Guide. This is what makes award-winning clubs.
- Report everything that your club does - if unsure where to report a project, just put in the place where it makes the most sense.
- The number of members involved in the project cannot exceed the number of club members - even if you work with another group - you just have X number of members.
- 1935 Society and 1734 Society go under Women's History and Resource Center.
- HOBY should be included in Education and Libraries CSP Report.
- ESO. Projects involving ESO should be reported under Education & Libraries CSP, adhering to GFWC guidelines for ESO. ESO Books Read (from the GFWC ESO List and the MFWC ESO list) and Hours should be reported on the Statistical Form under ESO.
- Youth Art should be reported under Arts & Culture.
- GFWC Clubwoman should be reported under Advancement Area – Communications.
- In order to “count” for reporting, the activity must be a club-sanctioned event or a club approved event or project.
- Several clubs put monthly report forms for general members in their handbook and have a door prize drawing for those who turned in a report form for that month.
- You may split report, i.e., funds raised, publicity, and the project – but you cannot count in three places. Please make a note when you split report (for example: dollars



raised reported under Fundraising).

JUDGING PROCESS

- State Chairmen will judge your report. Neither the GFWC-MFWC President nor GFWC-MFWC Vice President judges any reports.
- Awards will be given to all areas reported on the GFWC-MFWC Statistical report. There will not be separate awards for partnerships as they are included in the CSP reports.
- Chairpersons do not judge reports in their district.
- Awards for five placements or top five scores will be granted to each District for the CSP, Advancement Plans, GFWC Signature Programs and GFWC-MFWC Special Emphasis Programs. Clubs will be awarded these five places according to the top scores at each District Conventions in 2021 and 2022. Clubs will also be awarded at the State level for the top five scores at the State Convention in April.

REPORT FORMS:

- A fillable GFWC-MFWC Report Form is available at GFWC-MFWC website at this location http://www.gfwc-mfwc.org/GFWC_MFWC_Forms.html.
- Be sure to pay close attention to the instructions at the bottom of the form. Be sure to check our website at the beginning of January for the latest Reporting Form.
 - If you have questions about how to report, please contact GFWC-MFWC Vice President Carolyn Tedford at (601) 310-0377 or carolyntedford@outlook.com.
 - For questions concerning how to use the reporting form or if you are having problems with the form, please contact Lisa A. Harris at (601) 940-1519 or lisaharris@outlook.com.

Remember that your volunteer hours help us to pay our property land lease on which our beautiful headquarters sits. If you don't want to do a full report for judging, please consider filling out a GFWC-MFWC Report Form so that we can capture all volunteer hours for our lease payment.

Happy Reporting.

Disposing of Your Christmas Tree

Source: Dispose of Your Christmas Tree at <https://www.lowes.com/n/how-to/dispose-of-your-Christmas-tree>.

When Christmas is over and it is now time to dispose of your live Christmas tree in a safe, environmentally-friendly manner using these tips and get ready for a fresh start in the new year.

Don't wait for your tree to dry out before removing it. As trees dry out, they become more likely to become fire hazards. First, remove the tree stand, tree skirt, all ornaments and lights before throwing out your live Christmas tree. Have a bucket or other large container nearby to dump water that may have collected in the tree stand.

Next, use a large, plastic tree bag to cover the tree before removing it from the inside of your home. You can also use an old blanket or sheet to wrap around the tree. This will prevent needles and sap from making a mess on your carpet or hardwood floors.

Finally, carry the tree to the curb, making sure not to obstruct any roads or sidewalks. Arrange for pickup by your local

yard waste management program if you don't already have this service.

Tree Clean Up

Dry trees begin to drop their needles, creating a larger mess for you to clean up. Sweep up scattered pine needles with a broom instead of vacuuming. Needles can clog and damage vacuum cleaners.

Check for water damage to your flooring after removing the tree. Overwatering during the holidays may have caused water to spill over or collect at the base of the tree stand. If there's water damage, clean and steam carpets to prevent mold buildup.

Recycle your Christmas Tree

Many communities offer curbside pickup of Christmas trees after the season is over. Check with your local county waste management department for specific guidelines.

General best practices include:

- Clean the tree of all ornaments, tinsel and lights.
- Cut the tree into 4 ft. portions for easy curb pickup.



- Cut smaller trees into chunks to fit inside your yard waste container.

Also, check with your local recycling center for free drop-off locations. Oftentimes these centers will chip and shred your tree for use as mulch or as part of soil erosion programs. Your Christmas tree mulch can be used as an erosion barrier for lake and river shoreline management or as soft bedding for parks and playgrounds in your community.

Get Creative with your Christmas Tree

With a little imagination, your Christmas tree can be used for a multitude of purposes after the holidays are over.

- Pond Habitat — Sink pieces of your tree into a backyard pond as a refuge and feeding area for fish.
- Decorate — Cut pieces of this year's tree to use as

(Continued on page 17)

GFWC-MFWC President's Special Project & GFWC Environment

(Continued from page 16)

ornaments on next year's. Thin slices of the trunk create a blank canvas that can be decorated and then strung with a piece of ribbon.

- Bird House — Stand your tree or a few of the larger branches in your back yard as an organic feeder and sanctuary for birds. Place pinecones filled with peanut butter and birdseed in the branches along with

strung popcorn and fresh orange slices. The birds will appreciate the food, and you can enjoy some



great winter bird-watching from your window.

- Coasters — Cut and treat discs from the tree trunk to

use as coasters.

- Mulch — Chip up the trunk and branches to create mulch for your garden come spring. You can also place entire branches under trees and shrubs as temporary winter mulch.

Caution

Never burn a pine tree in your fireplace or stove. Evergreen trees

contain high levels of flammable turpentine oils and may cause flare-ups and chimney fires.

The best of all gifts around any Christmas tree: the presence of a happy family all wrapped up in each other.





Important Dates (Overview)

January 2021	
1 st	GFWC-MFVC State & District Club Dues must be postmarked by this date each year for club reports to be judged and to be eligible for awards. Please note: District Dues must be sent to your District Treasurer.
February 2021	
19 th	2021 GFWC-MFVC Finance Committee & Executive Committee Meeting at GFWC-MFVC Headquarters, Jackson, MS
20 th	2021 GFWC-MFVC Winter Executive Board Meeting and Judging Day at GFWC-MFVC Headquarters, Jackson, MS
March 2021	
6 th	GFWC-MFVC Central District Convention , Raleigh, MS
13 th	GFWC-MFVC Northern District Convention
20 th	GFWC-MFVC Southern District Convention , Bude, MS
April 2021	
18 th -24 th	GFWC Volunteers In Action Week
24 th	GFWC Federation Day
22 nd -24 th	GFWC-MFVC Annual State Convention , in Flowood, MS. The Central District will be hosting this convention.
For a complete listing of Important Dates, click here .	

Postmark Deadline:

Please note: if the postmark deadline falls on a Sunday or a Holiday, the application/form must be postmarked prior to postmark date.



DEADLINES

approaching

WHEN WHAT

JANUARY 2021

- 1st GFWC-MFWC **State Club Dues** must be postmarked by this date each year for club reports to be judged and to be eligible for awards
- 1st GFWC-MFWC **District Club Dues**. Please note: District Dues must be sent to your District Treasurer

FEBRUARY 2021

- 1st GFWC-MFWC **Club Reports** must be postmarked by this date each year for reports to be judged
- 1st GFWC-MFWC **Challenge Grant applications, Hebron Memorial Scholarship applications and GFWC Writing Contest entries** must be postmarked by this date each year to be eligible for consideration
- 10th **GFWC-MFWC Lead applications, Clubwoman of the Year Award applications and Juniette of the Year (JOY) Award applications** must be postmarked by this date each year to be eligible for consideration
- 15th GFWC-MFWC **Scrapbooks and Yearbooks** must be postmarked by this date each year to be eligible for consideration

MARCH 2021

- 1st GFWC-MFWC **Club History Report Form** must be postmarked by this date each year
- 1st GFWC-MFWC **Sarah Peugh Butterfly Scholarship applications and Jennie Award** must be postmarked by this date each year to be eligible for consideration
- 15th **GFWC-MFWC Club Newsletters and Club Websites entries** must be postmarked by this date each year to be eligible for consideration



Save The Date

April 22-24, 2020



Mark your calendar! Set a reminder!



DON'T MISS THE 122ND ANNUAL STATE CONVENTION



Convention to be held in Flowood, MS.

Plans could change due to COVID-19
restrictions.



General Federation of Women's Club



1734 N Street, NW
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Phone:
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800-443-GFWC

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GFWC News

GFWC Leadership Toolkit Now Available!

By Shannon Bailey, GFWC Leadership Chairman



Make leadership development a priority and download the [GFWC Leadership Toolkit](#) available in the Member Portal's Digital Library (filed under "L" Resources). The GFWC Leadership Committee has developed this comprehensive resource to support you in the following three areas.

Leadership Is Personal Development

Explore topics that may serve you in your family life and professional life, as well as in your club work: powerful presentation skills, time management, goal setting and vision casting, and more. Discover your unique strengths and learn the principles of empowered wellbeing. A list of Leadership & Personal Development Resources includes recommended books, websites, Ted Talks, and podcasts with free subscriptions.

Leadership Development of Members

Learn how to identify potential club leaders, delegate responsibility, and turn members into leaders within your club, District, and State Federation. Build effective teams, set a cooperative tone, and instill a healthy club culture. A checklist is available for leadership transition so that new leaders can feel completely prepared to move into their new roles.

Club, District, and State Leader Resources

Everyone has influence and everyone can be a leader! These topics are operational, providing the tools for clubs to function well. Leaders can feel confident in running a club or State Federation thanks to information about agendas, bylaws, protocol, parliamentary procedure, officer responsibilities, and budgets. Membership topics include: hosting a new member orientation, the benefits of membership, and GFWC's history and structure. There are also resources on social media, club communications, and legislative involvement.

Pick a few topics from the [Toolkit](#) and add them to your personal leadership toolkit today. If you have a leadership role in your club, District, or State Federation, incorporate these resources into your plans and spread the word among your members. Great leaders make a difference!



GFWC NEWS

Registration Open: Remote Holiday Open House



The Holiday Open House, hosted by GFWC International President Marian St.Clair, will welcome you into the historic GFWC Headquarters in Washington, DC, to experience a bit of holiday magic! Inspired by the 2020 holiday theme, *It's a Wonderful World*, the home's entry and entertainment areas feature a sparkling winter wonderland accented with woodland wildlife. See the holiday transformation of 1734 N Street, hear about a few of the President's special embellishments, and learn more about the history of our beautiful building.

Register through the [GFWC Member Portal](#) by **December 14!** After logging in, select "Events" and then "2020 Remote Holiday Open House."

GFWC Marketplace: Vest

GFWC International President Marian St.Clair is sporting the newest must-have for your wardrobe! This comfy [Federation blue GFWC vest](#) is made of easy-to-wash polyester and goes perfectly over any outfit to stay warm. Wear it as an outer layer outdoors or indoors, or as an additional layer under your coat for those blustery winter days coming up! This vest is available in small, medium, large, XL, and XXL. [Order yours today.](#)



December 19: Give a Living Memorial to Veterans

By Nancy Greenberg, GFWC Civic Engagement and Outreach Community Service Program Chairman

"We are forever indebted to those who have given their lives that we may be free." –President Ronald Reagan



Join our nation as it celebrates National Wreaths Across America Day on Saturday, December 19, 2020. Fresh evergreen wreaths are a living memorial to veterans and their families.

According to the Wreaths Across America organization: "There is no better time to express our appreciation than during the hustle and bustle of the holiday season. Each December on National Wreaths Across America Day, the mission to remember, honor, and teach is carried out by coordinating wreath-laying ceremonies at Arlington National Cemetery as well as at more than 1,600 participating locations, to show our veterans and their families that we will never forget their service."

Clubs can support Wreaths Across America by donating to the national organization: sponsoring a \$15 wreath for a veteran, signing up as a fundraising group, or placing wreaths at a local or national cemetery. If there is not a Wreaths Across America ceremony program near your club, consider becoming a location coordinator for a cemetery in your area. There is no cost to host a Wreaths Across America ceremony. You have the option of fundraising for your own program or attending a ceremony at a statehouse or state veterans cemetery.

For additional information, visit www.wreathscrossamerica.org. On this website, you can also subscribe to the [Wreaths Across America Newsletter](#).

WREATHS across AMERICA

Remember the fallen. Honor those who serve. Teach the next Generation

Saturday, December 19, 2020 at 11:00 a.m.
Carnegie Library, Okolona, MS

Sponsored in part by the GFWC-MFWC Lanier Club

GFWC News

Now Available: Annual Program Statistics Report

Thanks to each and every club that reported activities, volunteer hours, and dollar and in-kind donations to their states for the 2019 calendar year! Since March 2020, GFWC Headquarters has been busy totaling all of the progress made in 2019 to further GFWC's Signature Program, Juniors' Special Program, Community Service Programs, and Advancement Programs. Visit the [Annual Program Statistics page](#) on GFWC's website to see the results!

On a desktop device, the [magenta printer icon](#) along the right side of your screen generates a printer-friendly version of the content.

Meet the Affiliates Webinar Now Available

GFWC is excited to announce the launching of GFWC's newest webinar "Meet the Affiliates," now available on [GFWC's YouTube channel](#). This inspiring new webinar will introduce you and your club to each of our nine Affiliate Organizations from the comfort of your own home or at your next club meeting.

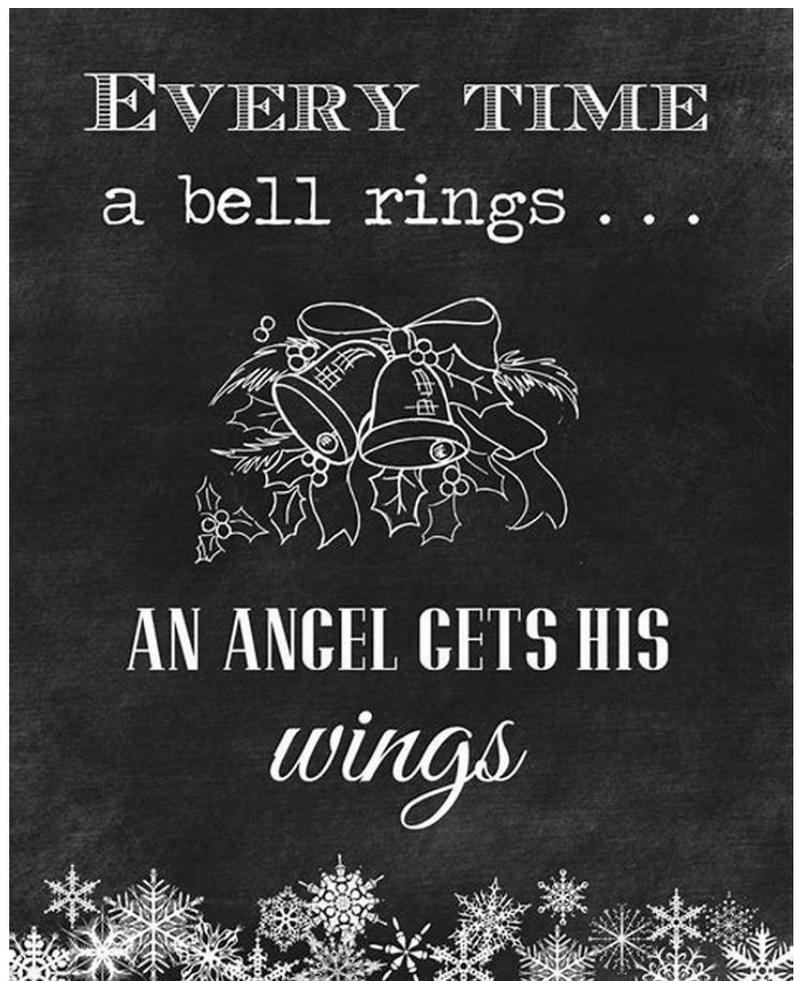
The work that GFWC clubs complete with our Affiliates helps to accomplish the goals of our Special and Community Service Programs. The new CSP structure created in this Administration allows you to dive even deeper into the work of our Affiliates by expanding the scope in which we engage with each organization. It is important that you and your club understand the projects that each Affiliate Organizations promotes and how they can create an impact in your community and beyond. GFWC hopes that you will be inspired by this webinar and that it will move you to bring the work of our Affiliates to your clubs, communities, and State Federations.

St. Jude's New Volunteer Management System

For more than 60 years, ALSAC has raised the funds necessary to support St. Jude Children's Research Hospital. As an organization that implements more than 30,000 events a year, it saw the need for a tool that would be more inclusive of an army of volunteers in day-to-day operations.

The new Volunteer Management System makes it easy for volunteers to serve the organization. You can search for volunteer opportunities, register to serve, and track your volunteer hours all in one place. ALSAC would like to ensure volunteers have all of the tools and resources needed to effectively serve in their roles, and this new system does exactly that.

[Create your profile](#) to stay connected!



TORONTO

2021 GFWC ANNUAL CONVENTION

JUNE 26 - JUNE 28



JOIN US AT THE SHERATON CENTRE TORONTO

**JUNE 25
LEADS**

**Board of Directors Meeting
GFWC Canada Night**

**JUNE 26
Opening Ceremony**

**JUNE 28
Gala Banquet**

Support GFWC

Support GFWC When You Shop at Amazon.com

Help strengthen GFWC's volunteer programs the next time you shop at Amazon.com by making your purchases through GFWC's Amazon.com affiliate link. The link enables members to direct **up to 0.5% percent** of your total purchases to the Federation. For more information, [click here](#).

amazonsmile
You shop. Amazon gives.

Let Your Flag Fly

The time has never been better to let our Emblem-spangled banner wave. GFWC Flags come in 3'x5' and 4'x6' sizes. You can also order a GFWC Podium Banner or Road Sign. Prices start at \$35.00. The GFWC flag is a perfect, highly visible, and easily portable way to brand any event, publicity table, or speaking engagement. Go to [GFWC Marketplace](#) to place your order today.



GFWC Marketplace: 2020-2022 Administration Pin

Have you ordered your 2020–2022 Administration Pin yet? It's an initial step you can take in joining this Administration to light a path toward the future! This brightly-colored pin features a rising sun, a symbol of new beginnings. The back is magnetic for your convenience. Celebrate the start of the 2020–2022 Administration and order your pin (\$5.00) in [GFWC Marketplace](#).



Renew Your Magazine Subscription Online

A new feature has been added to the [GFWC Member Portal](#) that allows you to renew your one-year GFWC *Clubwoman Magazine* subscription online! Once logged into the portal, go to the Marketplace tab and then select "Education Add-Ons." A one-year *Clubwoman* subscription should then be the only option on the next page.

GFWC Notebook

Get creative with service projects that follow local social distancing guidelines. This unique spiral-bound notebook is the perfect place to write your innovative ideas on how to make a difference in GFWC's five new Community Service Program areas: Arts and Culture, Civic Engagement and Outreach, Education and Libraries, Environment, and Health and Wellness! It features a 1929 cover of *General Federation News* that has a beautiful illustration of GFWC Headquarters. Get yours for \$12 in the [GFWC Marketplace](#).

