President’s Letter

Dear Friends in Federation,

What about those New England Patriots (16-0)? Unbeaten in regular season play! If you are a fan like I am, you often listen to the players being interviewed before or after the game. Over and over again, you hear the refrain, "we've got to play the game for the entire sixty minutes". That's just what the Patriots do week after week, and week after week they have been successful.

I think these words are words that can guide us in anything we do. "We've got to play the game for the entire sixty minutes!" In life, we should be embracing every day, making it the best that it can be. We need to live life - our entire life. We shouldn't be bemoaning the fact that we can no longer do certain things due to age, location and or circumstances, but we should be focusing on what we can and will do. Think of how much fuller our lives would be with that determination, and how much better the world would be with our day to day diligence.

These words can also apply to our work during this administration. It's easy to think that the 2006 - 2008 administration is almost over, and that a new administration will soon be starting with new challenges and opportunities. But the "sixty minutes" of this administration is not over - not yet! We have until May of this year to meet our goals for this administration and to complete our work successfully. Get busy meeting your club goal of $5 per member for the President's Project - the Maine Women's Fund! Write up that report for your Community Improvement Project, as well as reports of other activities. Get those photographs taken, short stories and poems written, and get them to the Arts Chairman by the appropriate deadline. Make plans now to attend Spring Convention on May 8th and 9th in Ellsworth so that you can act on the final draft of the Strategic Plan at Spring Convention. You can do it if you're willing to go the distance and "play the entire sixty minutes"!

Let's make sure that we can all say that we participated fully in the 2006 - 2008 GFWC/MFWC administration - that we indeed were in it "for the entire game!" Happy New Year!

In Federation,

Gloria Leveillee
GFWC/MFWC State President
President-Elect

I want to thank the GFWC/MFWC for sending me to the Orientation in Washington, DC for President-Elects. What an experience it was. We learned a lot, but also had fun. We all want the same goals for our federated clubs.

Now that the Holidays are over we have a few more things to think about before the end of this administration. The LEADS Seminar is the Friday before the GFWC International Convention begins. I would like the District Presidents to check and see if there may be a candidate in their districts. I need to have the applications in my hands so that I can take them to the Winter Executive Board Meeting the first part of February; these also should include a candidate biography.

I am working to fill positions for the next administration, and I still need district presidents, a great position in MFWC. Any questions on LEADS or other things about your duties for the next administration, please contact me. Thank you for the work and help from all the clubs. It will be SPRING before we know it.

Jane L. Shaw
President-Elect

19 Church Lane
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255-3886

Vice President

Snow, snow, and more snow! In between shoveling and scraping off the vehicles, I am dreaming of all the club reports that will be pouring in real soon. Another year has flown right by, and busy as we all are, we must pause and turn our attention to the wonderful accomplishments of the past year and write it down!

Serving as your Vice President, it is quite an honor to be the first to read over the many wonderful and amazing things clubwomen are doing to enhance the lives of those in our communities and beyond. I can’t wait for their arrival in my mailbox. Truly, it is a joy.

As a reminder, your annual club reports should be postmarked no later than January 31, 2008. Please refer to the Nov/Dec issue of Pine Tree Notes for more details (lost the issue? Log onto our website at www.gfwcmaine.org and download the issue!)

After I read the reports and organize them, State Chairmen can expect to receive their packet of club reports by February 25, 2008. The date to keep in mind for the state report is “postmarked no later than March 15, 2008” and sent to the GFWC counterpart.

Happy New Year!

Suzanne T. Raymond
Vice President

935 West Main Street
Dover-Foxcroft, ME 04426
SRayond72@Roadrunner.com
564-8817

Treasurer

As of this writing, GFWC/MFWC has received dues from 22 of our 28 clubs. Pretty darn good! For the others, I would suggest you send dues now for those members who have rejoined and keep up the chase for the stragglers. If you have "snow birds" in your club, it sometimes takes a little longer, particularly if you forgot to snag them before they took off for warmer climates.

Send in the catchers-up and any new members as you get them.

And thanks for being so prompt.....well some of us.

Marjorie W. Wood
Treasurer

PO Box 27
Castine, ME 04421-0027
jernaffe@hypernet.com
326-4876

Corresponding Secretary

So much snow, and now, as I write this, it’s nearly a heat wave... go figure.

There are Directories left, if you or a member of your club would still like to purchase one. They are $5.00, plus $1.99 each for postage costs. They are full of useful and sometimes interesting information for any club member, not just the officers.

Please note email address changes (thank you, Adelphia...) printed immediately following; and the newly-revised By-laws in the center of this issue (a pull-out,
to save for reference?). I have, both intentionally and unintentionally, adjusted the deadlines for the Pine Tree Notes this year. My apologies for the confusion this caused to a few of you. Please be reminded that, on the address page of this publication, there is always a box containing the date of the next deadline for your reference.

Libby G. Wiers
Corresponding Secretary

**Directory Corrections**

**EMAIL**
pp. 19, 20, 21, 23, 27: Sally Manchester - sallyhcfl@roadrunner.com
pp. 18, 34: Rita McGlinchey – smcglinc@roadrunner.com

Repeat reminder: Gloria Leveillee: gleveillee@roadrunner.com
Suzanne Raymond: sraymond72@roadrunner.com

**PRESIDENT’S SCHEDULE**

January 3
GFWC/Outlook Club - Hartland

February 9
GFWC/MFWC Winter Executive Board - Bath

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**District News**

**District 1**

**Gorham Woman’s Club:** This club has enjoyed a busy and giving Christmas season. Besides their usual community work, they have taken on a second library in Gorham by giving book bags, with new books, to toddlers who complete the library’s reading program.

**Research Club of Lim- erick:** ’Tis the season for giving to others, and that is what this club has been doing this holiday season. Members provided Christmas gifts for the Veterans Home, served festive cookies during Limerick “Village Christmas” and provided phone cards and toiletries for Caring Unlimited. After all their hard work, members enjoyed a Christmas Party with a Yankee Swap.

**Kezar Falls 21 Club:** I am sure they are working on all their projects. We will have more from them in the next newsletter.

**Westbrook Woman’s Club** completed another successful scholarship fund raiser in November. Nine hundred (900) Lobster Roll Box lunches were prepared and delivered. They will be able to award at least two $1,000 scholarships in June. This club served as hostesses at the Mad Hatter's Tea held in conjunction with Festival of Trees. Guests were presented with festive hats. Club members were entertained at a Pot Luck luncheon Christmas party by the Westbrook High School Jazz Band under the direction of Phil Rich.

The **Cosmopolitan Club of Bath** observed the holiday season with a Christmas Party Entertainment, Yankee Swap and a visit from Santa Claus. They also did their share of giving by adopting a family and providing them with all the Christmas trimmings. One of their projects at this time of year is giving coats for school children. All schools in Bath are included.

Evelyn L. Meserve
President

**District 2**

Carol Perry, President of the **Waldoboro Women’s Club**, reported the following: October 9th we visited the Botanical Coastal Gardens in Boothbay. Everyone that went was impressed and all said they would love to return. October 18 and 19th we attended the GFWC/Maine Federation of Women’s Club Fall Conference in Lewiston. October 25th a few of us attended the Union Luncheon held at Schooner Cove in Damariscotta. November 13th we had a speaker from the Freedom Riders come visit and speak about how working with horses has handicapped children feel connected and confident. We decorated a Christmas tree for the Lincoln Home and won first prize in their competition for small decorated trees. We raised $75.00 from people’s bids on the tree. We enjoyed their annual thank you party. December 11th we all brought cookies in packages of three to give to
the local nursing home. We collected mittens for needy children. We were all surprised by Santa Claus who came to deliver our presents!

Tina Anzelc, President of GFWC/Semper Fidelis Club, reported the following: GFWC/Semper Fidelis Club held their annual Thanksgiving Pie sale the day before Thanksgiving. This has always been a very successful fundraiser for the club with many customers returning each year. For the first time, Semper Fidelis participated in the Goodwill-Hinckley “Festival of Trees” located at the Goodwill-Hinckley School. Members created a beautiful, mystical Fairy Tree featuring stuffed fairies with hand painted faces created by member Dot Lacasse and fairy wings made by members at our November meeting. In December, members enjoyed an evening visiting the showing of the trees and dinner at a local restaurant. It was decided by the club to participate in the “Festival of Trees” again next year.

Fran Savage, President of GFWC/Skowhegan Woman’s Club reported: The Skowhegan Woman’s Club held their November meeting at the Heritage House with a "Yelling Auction". Mary Turbyne was our auctioneer and had great success with her sales. This always proves to be a very enjoyable meeting. Maxine Russakoff brought an empty bucket for us to bid on and then she would fill it with assorted candies. What a great idea. Thank you, Maxine. This is one of our fund raisers. Attending the FAB Fair was also discussed and the final arrangements will take place at the next meeting. The book "The Voyagers" was bought in memory of Ruth Bess and a "Cookbook for Children" was purchased in memory of Polly McGowan as she truly enjoyed being with children. The two members will be greatly missed. Six of our members attended the Fall Conference and came home rejuvenated with knowledge and great joy. This was Marlene Austin's first Woman's Club Conference which she enjoyed immensely. The December meeting was held on the 14th welcoming three guests. Member, Marjorie Black, gave a demonstration on the techniques of "Japanese Flower" arranging. The ladies were in awe over how easy she made this look. You did a great job, Marjorie. Vice President, Billy Sherman, gave everyone a Christmas card to sign with some Christmas wishes for our Veterans. These will be distributed to our Veterans at the VA Hospital. Thank you, Billy, and all our Veterans. Great idea.

Lucille Lavoie, President of the Livermore Falls Women’s Club, wanted to include the following items that were left out of previous Pine Tree Note Articles: The Livermore Falls Women's Club had their annual theater outing at Lakewood in August. We enjoyed a production of "Nobody's Perfect". We had our organizational meeting in August and set a busy agenda for the coming year. On Sept. 8th we had a bake goods and yard sale in conjunction with the local historical society. Our first meeting of the new year was held on Sept 27th where we enjoyed a flute concert given by club member Nancey Drinkwine. On Sept 29th we held an "All Bread" Bake Sale at the Livermore Falls Apple Pumpkin festival. We had workshops of Oct 4th, 11th and 15th to prepare items for the Fall Conference. Eleven members attended that conference. Our "Act in Oct" meeting is scheduled for Oct 25th. We have invited several people who are considering joining our club. Since then: We held our membership meeting on Oct 25 and were successful in signing 5 new members. We had 2 workshops in November making bibs for the veterans in Togus. Our Christmas lunch in December was held in conjunction with the local Historical Society. Music was provided by Jerry Ellis. Food and money donations were collected for our local food pantry.

Ann Marie Withee-Heald, President of the Madison Woman’s Club, reported that her club has taken a little break over the holidays and will get back into the swing of things in the new year. Carol Jarvais, President of GFWC/The Dove Society, reported the following: GFWC/The Dove Society has many things planned for the winter months. Our Muffins for Membership was a rewarding experience. New members will be joining our club in the New Year. We have adopted a family for the holiday season. Clothing for the 4 family members, toys for the children, and a complete holiday meal will be provided. We will use our club Christmas celebration to prepare the gifts for giving. Our RADA fundraiser is winding down with many satisfied customers. The
wreath fundraiser is one enjoyed by all. We had a great time decorating the wreaths and enjoying each others company. A committee of devoted tree decorators has been busy planning this year’s tree for Good-Will Hinckley’s Festival of Trees. Our website www.thedovesociety.org has been updated and is great to find out about our club.

All of us in District 2 wish you all the Happiest, Healthiest New Year!

Karen Nelson
President

District 3

The GFWC Newport Woman’s Club continues with an active and informative program. In November, our guest spoke about the new “state of the art”, under construction, cancer center that will benefit our entire area. We were educated about new methods used to treat cancer patients. Members brought items for the local food pantry. In December we had our Christmas party at a member’s home and celebrated our 85th Anniversary as a federated club in the GFWC. Our last year’s MYL representative gave a speech about his experience at the Camp. Every year at this time, members bring stamps for Togus veterans, holiday cards for nursing home residents, and items for a box that we ship to a local soldier in Iraq. We continue our program against domestic violence and continue to sell our “Women, You Can’t Beat Them” t-shirts. Contact 938-2405.

GFWC/Dexter Women’s Literary Club has started within their club a new project called the “Member Photography Contest.” Way to go Jane Gilbert for being their first 1st place winner! Members were also encouraged to submit their photos for the MFWC and GFWC photo contests. Congratulations to Corinne Neal for winning the GFWC Jennie Award for the state of Maine!! Members have been busy with a public baked bean supper in September, the Chief of Police speaking to them about identity theft, four members traveling to Fall Conference in October, and another speaker in November on global warming. The Christmas party was held in December and 94 cards, made by members, were distributed to the local nursing home and boarding home.

The GFWC Cosmopolitan Club has taken an idea from the MFWC fall conference and at their meeting in November, members turned a simple piece of fleece into the “coolest” blanket and donated it to Project Linus. One of their members, knowledgeable in origami, taught members how to make ornaments which then adorned the club’s tree at the annual festival of lights held at the local YMCA. The December meeting was celebrated with an old fashioned Yankee swap.

Members of the GFWC/ Miosac Club collected personal care items for WomanCareAegis for their Make A Difference Day Project in October, wrapping some of the items in a purple ribbon to show support against domestic violence. A tree was decorated at the local YMCA with purple ribbons, butterflies and bags of personal care items as well as items for children. They joined the local Kiwanis Community Christmas Campaign and adopted two children for Christmas. What fun was had choosing clothing items for a newborn and a two year old! Their Christmas party was enjoyed by members singing carols, playing games, and exchanging ornaments.

A huge “Welcome” goes out to BJ Frosh, VP of the GFWC/Outlook Club, who has stepped up to become President of the Club. Their Club continues to be busy by participating in a local parade this summer and reading to children after the parade. They continue to support The Somerset House, a safe haven for abused women and their children. In November, monies were raised and personal toiletry items donated to this. They continue to keep track of books read by each member; there is a 25 cent donation for each book read or bought in a swap from another member. Funds will be given to the State President’s project.

Polly Michaud
Gerry Richardson
Co-Presidents
District 4

Megan Mosier of The Acadian Community Woman’s Club reports that in November a financial planner for Union Trust Bank came to speak to members about estate planning, retirement planning, and investing. Those in attendance took copious notes. For the second year, members of the club gathered toys, games and books for needy children in the club’s towns of Gouldsboro and Winter Harbor. This year the parents of sixty-six children were presented wrapped packages in advance of Christmas. In addition, cash donations were accepted to add to the club’s “Community Aid Fund.” Already the club was able to purchase 100 gallons of heating fuel for a destitute family. December also brought a chili supper fundraiser and craft sale. This event, in conjunction with Winter Harbor’s Holiday Shopping Night, proved to be a successful affair raising more than $300. An overwhelming number of members helped cook, set up, serve and clean up. This may become an annual event. Members are excited to welcome all woman’s club members from District 4 for a luncheon and afternoon of Bunco on February 23. The first of what ACWC members hope will be an annual event, this is a wonderful opportunity for women from nearby towns to meet and mingle, exchange ideas and experiences.

Charline Sheridan writes that the Hancock Woman’s Club presented a very interesting program titled “The Art of Aging.” Dr. Kimmel has written and researched about this topic extensively and his presentation was very informative. In October, the Executive Board hosted a Guest Night Dinner. Each member of the Club invited a guest to a delicious full course meal. Dinner was followed by a program presented by Steve Crabtree of Hancock, on the “ins and outs” of forming a Nature Conservancy. Also in October, Ways and Means Committee members Eunice Philips and Jackie Nicholson organized a Domestic Violence Symposium. This well attended event was open to the Community and featured speakers from four area agencies, who are experts in their fields of Domestic Abuse. The agencies represented were Next Step (spousal abuse), Eastern Agency on Aging (elder abuse), Kids Peace (child abuse), and the Hancock County SPCA (animal abuse). In addition to their hour long presentations, each speaker provided resource materials which the club has been distributing throughout the Community at all their functions. A light lunch of sandwiches and finger foods was provided by the members. Florence Reed, Founder and President of Sustainable Harvest International, presented a program at the November meeting explaining her work in Central America in providing education and resources to farmers. The annual Craft Fair was held at the Hancock Grammar School and was a huge success, thanks to the organization of member, Gertrude Wildes. In December, in addition to the annual Christmas Party, the Woman’s Club sponsored a Mitten Tree at the Hancock Grammar School for grades K-4, and, in conjunction with the Grammar School PTA, participated in the annual Santa Fund providing gifts for needy children in our town.

The GFWC/Lubec Woman’s Club sponsored a very successful Thanksgiving Raffle. The basket contained a complete Thanksgiving meal for the lucky winner. GFWC/MFWC President Gloria Leveillee spoke to the group at their December meeting, which was hosted by Susan Baker at the Peacock House. President Gloria stressed the importance of staying connected to GFWC and MFWC. She congratulated the club on its many accomplishments. Instead of Christmas gifts, members made monetary donations to the Ronald MacDonald House in Bangor; and members brought cookies and recipes for the cookie swap. In celebration of the 90th anniversary of the club, members voted to add GFWC to the club name.

Jo-an Page reports that during the fall months of 2007, the GFWC/Narraguagus Women's Club has co-sponsored two health programs open to the public in partnership with the Women’s Health Resource Library in Milbridge. One was a Cardiac Awareness program presented by a cardiovascular health specialist, and the other was a program on the back presented by an orthopedic surgeon. Several club members are volunteering at the Women's Health Resource Library

(Continued on p. 15)
GFWC/MAINE FEDERATION OF WOMEN’S CLUBS
CONSTITUTION AND BYLAWS

As amended by vote at the 2007 Fall Conference

ARTICLE I - NAME

This organization shall be known as the GFWC/Maine Federation of Women’s Clubs.

ARTICLE II - OBJECT

The GFWC/Maine Federation of Women’s Clubs shall be operated for charitable purposes as defined by Section 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code. Its object shall be to bring together the various women’s literary and educational clubs of the state for mutual benefit and helpfulness to others.

ARTICLE III - MEMBERSHIP AND DUES

Section 1. Clubs and organizations desiring to join the GFWC/Maine Federation of Women’s Clubs shall make application to the Corresponding Secretary. The application for each club and organization shall be accompanied by a copy of its constitution or bylaws, showing that its goals be directed toward community service and civic betterment; and that its object is in harmony with the object of the General Federation of Women’s Clubs.

Section 2. Clubs and organizations may be admitted to membership at the Annual Meeting of the State Federation or at any regularly called meeting of the Executive Board, a two-thirds vote of members present and voting being necessary in either case for admission of a club.

Section 3. The GFWC/Maine Federation of Women’s Clubs shall hold Universal Membership in the General Federation of Women’s Clubs. All clubs automatically become members of the General Federation of Women’s Clubs upon their acceptance into membership of the State Federation.

Section 4. Annual State and GFWC dues shall be paid by all members. Members of clubs in arrears for dues shall not be entitled to voting privileges at meetings of the State Federation.

Section 5. Annual State Federation dues plus GFWC per capita dues shall be based upon the number of club’s enrolled members as reported to the District President for inclusion in the MFWC Directory or Newsletter (Pine Tree Notes) and shall be paid to the State Treasurer no later than December 31.

ARTICLE IV - OFFICERS AND PARLIAMENTARIAN/PARLIAMENTARY ADVISOR

Section 1. The State Federation elective officers shall be: President, who shall be a member of the General Federation Board of Directors; President-Elect; Vice-President; Recording Secretary; and Treasurer. A Corresponding Secretary shall be appointed by the President and shall also serve on the Executive Board.

a. The President-Elect shall be installed as President at the next GFWC/MFWC Annual Meeting held in an even-numbered calendar year and shall assume the duties of the office of the President at the adjournment of the Annual Meeting. The State President serves a concurrent term with the GFWC Administration; she shall represent GFWC/MFWC through the conclusion of the GFWC Convention in the even numbered calendar year.
b. In the event a vacancy occurs in the office of President, the President-Elect shall fill the unexpired term. At the expiration of the unexpired term, she may continue to serve for an additional two years in office, provided she has officially declared her intent prior to the Convention held in the odd numbered calendar year.

Section 2. The officers alone shall constitute an Executive Board.

Section 3. No elective officer shall be eligible to the same office for more than two consecutive years except the Treasurer who shall be eligible for re-election.

Section 4. A Parliamentarian/Parliamentary Advisor shall be appointed by the President and in her capacity of advisor, is to attend all Advisory Committee, Executive Board and State Meetings.

Section 5. There shall be no salaried officers. Necessary expenses incurred by officers and Parliamentarian/Parliamentary Advisor in the service of the Federation may be refunded from the treasury by order of the President, countersigned by the Finance Chairman.

ARTICLE V - DUTIES OF OFFICERS

Section 1. The State President:

a. The State President shall preside at all meetings of the State Federation and of the Executive Board and Advisory Committee.

b. The State President shall be an ex-officio member of all Departments and Committees with the exception of the Nominating Committee.

c. The State President shall approve all bills and warrants for the two fiscal years of her administration before they are countersigned by the Finance Chairman and presented to the Treasurer for payment. She shall also have the authority to sign checks in the event the Treasurer is ill or incapacitated.

d. The State President shall represent the Federation at no more than two Conventions of the GFWC. In the election year, the retiring President shall represent the GFWC/MFWC at GFWC Convention: she shall report for her administration and accept all awards that are to be presented to GFWC/MFWC. In the event the retiring President is unable to attend GFWC Convention, the newly elected President shall represent GFWC/MFWC and accept any awards.

Section 2. The President-Elect:

a. The President-Elect shall, in the absence of the President, perform the duties of the President.

b. During any incapacity of the President for a period of thirty or more consecutive days the President-Elect shall, with the approval of a majority of the Executive Board, perform the duties of the President. (See Article IV, Section 1b.)

c. The President-Elect shall be Dean of the District Presidents.

d. After the Fall Board meeting in the odd-numbered calendar year, the President-Elect shall be au
Authorized to plan and prepare the programs of work for her administration as President. She may select state federated club members to carry out the programs.

e. The President-Elect shall appoint a Corresponding Secretary and a Parliamentarian/Parliamentary Advisor for her administration.

f. The President-Elect shall appoint chairmen of Departments, Programs, Standing and Special Committees, and make special appointments to correspond to GFWC special projects.

g. The President-Elect shall be a member of the Educational Loan Fund. (See Article IX, Section 1.)

Section 3. Vice President:

a. In the absence of the President and the President-Elect, the Vice President shall perform the duties of the President.

b. The Vice President shall be the Dean of Departments and Program(s) and Standing and Special Committees.

c. The Vice President shall perform such other duties as are recommended and approved by the Executive Board.

Section 4: The Recording Secretary:

a. The Recording Secretary shall keep the minutes of all meetings of the State Federation and of the Executive Board and Advisory Committee.

b. Once a record book is completed, it will be filed in the Special Collections Room, University of Maine in Orono. Other records, such as awards, may also be filed in this room so long as it is satisfactory with the University and the Executive Board of the GFWC/MFWC.

Section 5: The Corresponding Secretary:

a. The Corresponding Secretary shall conduct all correspondence of the State Federation, as directed, and shall keep a correct list of all clubs belonging thereto.

b. The Corresponding Secretary shall, with the assistance of District Presidents, collect all data for the Directory and furnish typewritten or digital copy of same to the printer. It shall be her duty to edit the Directory, but it shall be the duty of the incoming administration to compile the Directory at the beginning of its term of office.

Section 6. The Treasurer:

a. The Treasurer shall collect all money due or belonging to the State Federation except for special projects so designated by the Executive Board. In such cases, the person receiving the money shall forward the receipts to the Treasurer, retaining a record for the project file. The treasurer shall hold all securities except as hereinafter provided.

b. The Treasurer shall forward per capita dues to GFWC by its stated deadline. State Federations
whose dues have not been received at GFWC Headquarters by established deadlines will be ineligible for representation and voting privileges at GFWC Convention.

c. The Treasurer shall disburse funds on written order of the President, countersigned by the Chairman of the Finance Committee. All checks disbursed must be signed by the Treasurer unless the Treasurer is ill or incapacitated, in which case, checks may be signed by the President. No amounts shall be transferred or withdrawn from any savings account nor any investments sold without signatures of both the President and Treasurer. The funds shall be deposited in a bank approved by the Executive Board. The Treasurer shall be bonded for such sum as the Executive Board may direct, cost of the bond to be assumed by GFWC/MFWC.

d. The Treasurer’s responsibilities continue through the conclusion of the Fiscal Year. An Auditing Committee shall annually audit the accounts of the Treasurer, the Educational Loan Fund Committee Treasurer, and the accounts of any committee chairman or office having charge of any Federation funds. All such records shall be presented to the Auditing Committee by July 31 of each year. The report of the Auditing Committee shall be acted on by the Executive Board.

Section 7: Vacancies:

a. In case of a vacancy in the office of President, the President-Elect shall become President and shall serve the remainder of the term (See Article IV, Section 1b.) She shall retain the responsibilities of President-Elect. The vacancy in the office of the President-Elect shall not be filled for the remainder of the term.

b. In the event of vacancies in both the office of President and the office of President-Elect, the Vice President shall become President and shall serve the remainder of the term.

c. If a vacancy occurs in the office of Vice President, Recording Secretary or Treasurer, the Executive Board shall fill the vacancy. Vacancies in Departments, Programs, Standing and Special Committees, District Presidents and the offices of Corresponding Secretary and Parliamentarian/Parliamentary Advisor, shall be filled by the President except as specifically stated in Bylaws affecting certain committees.

ARTICLE VI - EXECUTIVE BOARD

The Executive Board shall conduct all necessary business of the State Federation during the interim between meetings, except amending the bylaws or modifying any action of the Federation. A report of all meetings shall be given at each State meeting.

If a national emergency shall exist at any time so that holding an Annual Meeting is deemed inadvisable by the Executive Board, the Board is empowered to arrange for election of officers to be conducted by mail. (See Article XI, Section 6 - Elections - Voting Privileges.)

ARTICLE VII - ADVISORY COMMITTEE

The Officers, District President, Department and Program Chairmen, Standing and Special Committee Chairmen and Past Presidents of GFWC/MFWC shall constitute an Advisory Committee whose duties shall be to meet, at the call from the President, as soon as convenient following each Annual Meeting. They shall combine or discontinue lines of work and establish such committees as, in their judgment, are deemed advisable and discuss and formulate plans for the Federation.
ARTICLE VIII - FEDERATION DISTRICTS

Section 1. To facilitate the work of the State Federation, the state shall be divided into Federation Districts, each to be presided over by a District President who shall be appointed by the President.

Section 2. A club or organization belonging to the State Federation must belong to one of the Districts. All clubs or organizations holding membership in a Federation District must previously have been admitted to membership in the State Federation.

Section 3. There shall be two meetings held in each District during the two year period, at least one of which shall be open to all the club members in the District.

Section 4. Each District President shall keep in communication with all clubs in her District and visit them when possible; shall assist the Corresponding Secretary in collecting the data of the clubs in her District in time to publish accurate information in the Directory or Newsletter (Pine Tree Notes). She shall assist in organizing new clubs and shall cooperate in carrying out the work of the Departments. She shall attend Advisory Committee meetings.

Section 5. A registration fee may be charged to defray the expenses of the District meetings whenever deemed advisable by the President of each District.

ARTICLE IX - DEPARTMENTS & PROGRAMS/STANDING & SPECIAL COMMITTEES

There shall be such Departments, Programs, Standing and Special Committees as are required to carry on the work of the State Federation and of the General Federation of Women’s Clubs.

The structure of GFWC includes six (6) Departments, each with pertinent programs: The Arts, Conservation, Education, Home Life, International Affairs and Public Affairs.

Each GFWC administration offers and/or suggests resource material for projects and/or study within each Department and each Program.

STANDING COMMITTEES (Designated in GFWC/MFWC bylaws and in alphabetical order) shall be:

Section 1. There shall be a committee to administer the EDUCATIONAL LOAN FUND and the MAUDE MACKENZIE SCHOLARSHIP FUND of the GFWC/Maine Federation of Women’s Clubs. It shall include five (5) members. A Chairman and a Treasurer shall be appointed by the President: the President-Elect shall serve as a member; and two additional members shall be appointed by the Executive Board. If the President-Elect should be designated to serve as chairman, one other clubwoman shall be appointed by the GFWC/MFWC President to retain the full complement of five members.

The Treasurer shall submit a financial report at each Annual Meeting and shall submit the financial records for audit by the Auditing Committee no later than July 31 of each year. The fund’s financial statement, an analysis of asset balances and an analysis of student loans outstanding, shall be published in the Directory or Newsletter (Pine Tree Notes).

The Treasurer shall be bonded for such sum as the Executive Board may direct, cost of bond to be re-
imbursed from the Educational Loan Fund.

The Educational Loan Fund Chairman’s duties shall include publishing notice of the availability of the loan and scholarship in the GFWC/MFWC Newsletter (Pine Tree Notes) each mid-year and shall provide updated Educational Loan Fund Committee’s Rules of Procedures for publication in GFWC/MFWC Directory.

Section 2. There shall be an ENDOWMENT FUND COMMITTEE of three (3) members whose duties shall be to further awareness of the purpose of the Fund. The interest accrued from funds raised through the promotion of sales items and from endowments and from donations by clubs, provides GFWC/MFWC with operating funds. (See Endowment Fund History in GFWC/MFWC Directory).

Section 3. There shall be a FINANCE COMMITTEE composed of five (5) members which shall include the President and the Treasurer of the Federation and Chairman appointed by the President. Two other members shall be nominated and elected from the floor. This committee shall prepare a budget for approval by the Executive Board. The Chairman shall countersign all vouchers before their payment by the Treasurer.

Section 4. There shall be a HISTORIAN who shall collect and have custody of all State Federation Directories, Club histories, State Spring Convention (Annual Meeting) programs, Fall Conference programs, and files of the Federation Newsletter (Pine Tree Notes) and such records as the Executive Board shall require. She shall give her successor an itemized statement of all properties held by her. She may give an annual report to the Annual Meeting.

Section 5. There shall be an INTERNAL AUDITING COMMITTEE composed of three (3) members from three separate districts. A chairman and two (2) members shall be appointed by the Executive Board and announced at the first Advisory Committee Meeting of the Administration. It shall be the duty of this committee to audit the accounts of the Treasurer, the Educational Loan Fund Treasurer, and any committee chairman or officer having charge of any Federated funds. The financial review shall be completed by July 31st of each year to be acted upon by the Executive Board.

Section 6. There shall be an INVESTMENT COMMITTEE composed of (3) three members and the President and the Treasurer, ex-officio. It shall be the duty of this committee to recommend the investment of funds to the Executive Board.

Section 7. There shall be a NOMINATING COMMITTEE of (5) five members. A Chairman and one member of the committee shall be appointed by the Executive Board and announced at the first Advisory Committee meeting of the administration. One of these appointees shall be a Past President of the GFWC/Maine Federation of Women’s Clubs. Three additional members shall be nominated from the floor. No two members of this committee shall represent the same District. No members shall serve two consecutive terms.

a. The duties of the Nominating Committee are to provide a slate of candidates for each elective office of the GFWC/Maine Federation of Women’s Clubs.

b. The Chairman of the Nominating Committee shall call meetings and arrange for ballot by mail if required.

c. The committee shall appoint a secretary to keep records of meetings and to tabulate ballots.

d. To be eligible, a candidate shall have served as GFWC/MFWC District President, State
Chairman of a Department or a Program, or as a member of a Standing or Special Committee. She shall be endorsed by her club which shall send the endorsement to the President of GFWC/MFWC.

The list of candidates shall be presented at the Fall Conference preceding the Annual Meeting on an election year. The report of the Nominating Committee shall be mailed with the official call to the Annual Meeting in the election year.

Before the election at the Annual Meeting, additional nominations from the floor shall be permitted. Eligibility considerations observed by the Nominating Committee shall be observed for nominations made from the floor. Nominations from the floor shall have had prior permission from the member to have her name proposed.

Section 8. There shall be a POLICY COMMITTEE composed of the Past Presidents of GFWC/MFWC. The immediate Past President shall be chairman for the purpose of calling the committee together. Duties of the Policy Committee shall be to review overall policy for the purpose of smoother functioning of the Federation; to review, consider, and present to the MFWC Executive Committee any recommendations to be voted on for their approval; and to be called upon in an advisory capacity.

Section 9. There shall be a committee on RESOLUTIONS. All resolutions shall be referred to the Resolutions Committee. Resolutions, in order to considered, must be sent to all Federated clubs from the office of the President in the call for the Annual Meeting or for the Fall Conference. Emergency resolutions shall be read aloud to the assembly and referred, without debate, to this committee, which shall consider same and report to the assembly. The committee is empowered to make additions or modifications as it deems best and may frame resolutions of its own. It shall report each day, for action, such resolutions as it has approved. Members have the right to bring before the assembly any resolution which the committee may have rejected.

Section 10. Other Special or Ad Hoc Committees shall be appointed by the Executive Board as necessary. Their duties shall be defined by the Board.

ARTICLE X - STATE MEETINGS

Section 1. The Annual Meeting, also known as Spring Convention, shall be held in May of each year unless otherwise approved by the Executive Board.

Section 2. There shall be a Fall Conference if deemed advisable by the Executive Board.

Section 3. The Official Call to these meetings shall be sent at least six weeks prior to the respective dates.

Section 4. A registration fee may be charged to defray the expenses of the State meetings whenever deemed advisable by the Executive Board.

Section 5. Registration at Annual Meeting and Fall Conference is open to all Federated club members and their guests.

ARTICLE XI - ELECTIONS - VOTING PRIVILEGES

Section 1. All state officers, with the exception of the Corresponding Secretary (who shall be appointed by the President-Elect), shall be elected by ballot at the Annual Meeting for a term of two years.
Section 2. A Nominating Committee shall have presented a slate of candidates for each office. (See Article IX, Section 6 for description of duties of Nominating Committee, opportunity to make nominations from the floor, and eligibility guidelines to be observed).

Section 3. Candidates for office shall be presented at the Annual Meeting. Nominating speeches may be made to furnish information on qualifications of candidates and shall be limited to two minutes.

Section 4. The list of candidates shall be posted in plain view and the election shall be conducted by ballot. A plurality of legal ballots shall elect.

Section 5. Each club member in good standing shall have voting privileges at each of the state meetings.

Section 6. If a national emergency shall exist so that the holding of an Annual Meeting is deemed inadvisable by the Executive Board, said Board is empowered to arrange for the election of officers by mail. If that should occur, circumstances shall be evaluated and instructions for conduct of balloting by mail shall be provided to GFWC/Maine Federation of Women’s Clubs members.

Section 7. Tellers shall be assigned by the Executive Board for the hours of balloting. Tellers shall count ballots and the Chairman of tellers shall present the report to the presiding officer.

ARTICLE XII - QUORUM

Section 1. Representation from seven clubs shall be sufficient to constitute a voting body for either the Annual Meeting or Fall Conference.

Section 2. The quorum for the Executive Board shall be four. Quorum for Advisory Committee shall be ten.

Section 3. Quorum for committees shall be a majority of the members assigned.

ARTICLE XIII - PARLIAMENTARY AUTHORITY

The rules contained in the current edition of Robert’s Rules of Order Newly Revised shall govern this organization in all cases to which they are applicable and in which they are not inconsistent with these Bylaws and any special rules of order this organization may adopt.

ARTICLE XIV - AMENDMENTS

These Bylaws may be amended at any delegated meeting by a two thirds vote of those present and voting, notice of the proposed amendment having been appended to the call for the meeting or presented at a previous meeting.

ARTICLE XV - DISSOLUTION

If this organization should be dissolved, the Executive Board shall comply with the requirements of the Maine Nonprofit Corporation Act and shall, after making provisions for payment of all liabilities of the corporation, dispose of all the assets of the corporation to another organization or organizations qualified under Section 501(c)(3) of the United States Internal Revenue Code.

No assets may be distributed to individual members.
District 5

Circumstances have made it difficult for me to attend to business this fall. My health has improved and my new house is just about completed and I hope to be invited to attend my district clubs’ meetings again this year. I look forward to this year’s Art Contest. It was so exciting to have a state winner from our district. It was also an honor to have a Maude McKenzie Scholarship winner from District 5. There has been discussion about a district project, which I heartily endorse. Hope my district members are still enthused about this idea. I will host a Presidents’ meeting in early December.

Patten Women’s Club continues their amazing work through the summer. Raffle tickets for gift certificates for area restaurants were sold. Members participated in Pioneer Days and Memorial Day Parade and ceremony at the cemetery. Time was spent cleaning and planting at the Patten Memorial Park, an ongoing project of the club. The President tells me the park is beautiful with lovely flower gardens, a gazebo, lights and paved paths.

Winterport Women’s Club planted donated day lilies at the local library and held a day lily sale in June. At the September meeting President Gloria Leveillee attended the 75th Anniversary of the Club. The October meeting will be Membership Night, as an informational night for guests.

Patawa Club of Bangor had a speaker from the Salvation Army’s Teen Power Center. Plans are in the works to provide a meal for this group. In October not one but two Gloria’s joined us. Gloria Tewhey acquainted new members with information about the Maine Leadership Program. President Gloria Leveillee spoke on the importance of being part of the Maine and General Federations. Members will be making fleece lap blankets for the Bangor City Hospital Rehab center at the November meeting. Our annual Christmas auction will take place December 5th.

Old Town Women’s Club has been busy cooking and selling their wares to raise money. We missed them at Fall Conference because of their fund raising efforts. In November, Diane Vatne from the Community Youth Development Study presented a slide presentation showing the improvements within the community, with the youth, since this program’s inception. District President, Lillian Zanchi and two guests from the Newport Woman’s club attended as our guests. In December, a pot luck luncheon was held with Secret Pals revealed and new names drawn. A complete dinner with turkey and all the fixings plus non perishable items and gifts were given to a local family with 6 children and 3 of them plus the mother have severe health problems. A basket was also filled with craft items for the local Library for the afternoon craft time for the school children. At the January meeting we will discuss the increase in dues and the possibility of having to cut some budget items. We will have a Silent Auction to help with the budget. A speaker from the City of Old Town will be invited for the February meeting. The meeting site has changed and is handicap accessible for all and with a large parking lot. We now meet the 2nd Monday of Each month at 1 pm at the First Methodist Church on Stillwater Avenue.
Education

School is back in session and many of you are also back reading to the children...a wonderful activity...another win-win situation. Libraries have been busy...what is nicer than to get a book to read and watch it snow while you get a little R & R, or to escape the bitter weather by indulging in a good read.

I am looking forward to reading the club reports as well as still looking forward to more book reports for ESO.

Maxine Russakoff
Chairman

Home Life

Steps to save smart:
1. Get a Financial Planner.
2. Save aggressively, but invest cautiously. Risk does not always yield reward.
3. Don't skimp on insurance. Unexpected expenses derail savings plans fast, so get enough coverage for health, disability, home and auto. For breadwinners, life insurance is a must.
4. Retirement savings trump college savings. Your kids have their whole lives ahead of them to pay off their loans. You won't have the same luxury.
5. Keep wills and insurance policies updated.
6. Build Equity, Don't tap it.
7. Take advantage of your age. At age 50, in 2007 you can increase your annual 401K contribution from $15,500 to $20,500 and the contribution to your IRA from $4,000 to 5,000.

Safeguard your identity:
1. Don't leave your checkbook and wallet out when strangers visit.
2. Limit credit cards to 2 or 3.
3. Don't assume that what appears to be a mistake on a credit card will clear itself up by the next billing cycle.
4. Don't carry your Social Security Card with you, and cut up old credit cards.
5. Mailboxes with raised red flags alert the mail carrier AND crooks.
6. When devising any password, avoid the most common ones, such as your birth date or your mother's maiden name.

Corinne Neal
Chairman
International Affairs

Let’s all hope that this year may bring some relief to all those places in the world where children and women have to suffer so much with no hope of a better future. We will continue to do our share with contributions to CARE, UNICEF, PLAN USA and other organizations. I would like to thank all the clubs who have sent checks; I have forwarded them all to our treasurer. Please keep them coming. Remember: Think Globally, act locally. Help is desperately needed in many parts of the world and we need to do our best to continue to help.

And now something very, very important: When you prepare your GFWC Annual Report and include your International Affairs contributions, please remember a narrative. The best report will be sent to GFWC for judging for a special award.

On this note I would like to mention that our club in Hancock had a raffle and will do another silent auction in February with the contributions going towards PLAN USA’s raffle. It’s not too late, you still have a chance to be included. If you want to find out a bit more what PLAN USA does, go on their website newsletter@planusa.org. There is some very interesting information about their latest programs, which include "A visit to Plan’s Cyclone Sidr Response Program in Bangladesh", where Cyclone Sidr swept through on November 15th."

Ruth Dietze
Chairman

Community Improvement Contest

While you are doing your reports, write up your Community Improvement Contest entry and send it to me. Entries must be postmarked by March 1, 2008.

For more information, or if you have a question about the contest report, call or email me.

Barbette Schafer
Chairman

Delegate's Fund

The following clubs have made donations to the Delegates Fund:
GFWC/Dexter Women’s Literary Club
GFWC/Lubec Woman’s Club
GFWC/Semper Fidelis Club Skowhegan
GFWC/The Dove Society-Skowhegan
GFWC/Westbrook Woman’s Club
Thank you for your donations which totaled $65.00
Happy New Year!

Ruth Dietze
Chairman

Juanita Pressley
Chairman

Endowment Fund

We would like to thank the following clubs for their donations:
GFWC/Miosac Club
GFWC/Dexter Women’s Literary Club
GFWC/Lubec Woman's Club
GFWC/Westbrook Woman's Club
GFWC/Newport Woman's Club
GFWC/Semper Fidelis Club

We truly appreciate your support.

Minnie McCormick
Chairman

Educational Loan Fund

District Presidents:
Early next month, I will be mailing to you information and applications for our GFWC/Maine Federation of Women's Clubs Interest-free Loans and the Maude MacKenzie Scholarship. Please distribute copies of these to the high school guidance offices in your district. If you have any questions, please e-mail or call me, or a member of the Educational Loan Fund Committee. This year, in particular, it is so important that we assist our graduating seniors as they further their education.

Thanks for your help.

Alida Coates
Chairman

Alida.Coates@Maine.edu
866-2653
Historian

At GFWC, an Orono Woman’s Club scrapbook from the 1930’s and 40’s was found while doing some end of the year cleaning. The thoughtful Director of the Women’s History and Research Center notified President Leveillee. If accepted by Fogler Library Special Collections, this scrapbook will be donated there in the Spring, and possibly scanned for images to be used in the MFWC Timeline 2008.

When you are doing Spring cleaning or rummage sales, please keep in mind there might be materials which would be deeply valued at the MFWC collection at Fogler Library. If you know of books, your club scrapbooks, or other material which may be of interest, at Fogler or for the MFWC Timeline 2008, and would have to be purchased, please bring such items to our attention.

We are working on a first Rough Draft of the MFWC Timeline, eventually to be printed as a trifold brochure to be used for membership and fundraising, with regular updating and improvement for the future. It will be based on the layout of WHRC’s Timeline. If you would like to help please contact me at: fletrichnyc@yahoo.com.

Lo-An Flettrich Chairman

Leadership

I hope all of you have begun the new year with health, happiness and renewed energy.

I encourage you to look at the materials available to clubs from the GFWC website. There are some excellent materials on leadership and developing the leadership in your club. The website is now very user friendly and materials can be ordered online. Take advantage of these resources.

It was wonderful meeting many more of you at the Fall Conference. If I can help you in any way please email me at mklibby@yahoo.com.

Mary Libby Chairman

Membership

A happy and a healthy New year to everyone.

The Each one/Reach one membership campaign has been completed and the winner will be drawn at the Executive Board meeting. As presented in the Sept/Oct Pine Tree Notes, the winner will have her registration and evening banquet at the Spring Convention paid for; 2nd prize, a subscription to Clubwoman; 3rd prize, MFWC Directory.

Congratulations to the clubs that participated and welcome to the new members. Seven clubs were involved and we have 18 new members. As we wind down this Administration, let us keep mind the importance of keeping our programs active and involving the new members. I look forward to meeting each of you at Convention in May.

A reminder to all club presidents: if you are celebrating any anniversaries, please let me know so I can include them in my final report.

Nancy Kenty Chairman

GFWC President’s Project

Wow! We have raised $3,502.00 as of January 3, 2008!!!! Talk about a happy New Year; we are almost there. If I haven't heard from your club yet, pinch your President and/or Treasurer and tell them I am looking for a few good men to help me get to our goal of $5,000 raised. I only need 1,498 George Washingtons, of course the bigger valued men are always welcomed and encouraged to join in on the party.

I haven't heard about many projects or speakers your clubs may have been involved with that would cover the Maine Women's Fund Presidents Project. Let me and President Gloria know how you have incorporated this project in your club activity.

Ann Marie Withee-Heald Chairman

11 Summer Street
Madison, ME 04950

To learn more about MWF: www.mainewomensfund.org

The busiest person is the one who always has time to help someone else.

- From Guideposts
ONLINE REPORTING NOW AVAILABLE!

GFWC has just announced that beginning Tuesday, January 15, 2008, you will be able to report your club, state, and national projects and activities online! You can find the report form and report guidelines at www.GFWC.org/Reporting. ADDED INCENTIVE: To encourage everyone to help them save energy and resources, GFWC offers an incentive to those who report online: each week during the online reporting season (January 15 through March 31, 2008), GFWC will randomly select one club/member using online reporting to receive a $25 gift certificate for the GFWC marketplace (found at www.GFWC.org/Marketplace)!

Of course, if you wish, you can still report by mail or by fax, but choose only one option. If you have any questions, please contact me at ljgneal@msn.com.

Laura Neal
GFWC/MFWC Website Chairman

Maine Youth Leadership (MYL)

Leadership – Volunteerism – Character
www.maineyouthleadership.org

“My experience at the MYL seminar is one that has truly Impacted the way I live my life. It has also given me confidence that I as a person have the ability to truly make a difference.” - 2007 Ambassador

Congratulations and thank you to the Acadian Community Woman’s Club upon joining the 25 of 28 MFWC clubs who are so dedicated to this worthwhile endeavor. . . and in a most generous way.

The dedicated support thus far from the following clubs is tremendously appreciated and THANK YOU !!
The Arts Club
GFWC/Dexter Women’s Literary Club
GFWC/MFWC Westbrook Woman’s Club
GFWC/Lubec Woman’s Club
GFWC/Gorham Woman’s Club
GFWC/Newport Women’s Club
Acadian Community Woman’s Club
GFWC/The Dove Society

The planning for Seminar 2008 is at full throttle with promise to be as outstanding as ever. Nominations are coming in from high schools throughout Maine, but there are many yet to hear from. I would urge all clubs to check with their respective high school to be sure they’ve nominated their sophomore and an alternate. This reminder also makes them aware of their local supporter, your club.

A full scholarship is $200, but any amount given is greatly appreciated. Contributions and questions may be directed to: Gloria Tewhey, MYL Chairman, 3 Valley View Dr., Gorham, ME 04038 (207)839-4157 or gtewhey@maine.rr.com

Gloria Tewhey,
Chairman

GFWC/Newport Woman’s Club celebrates their 85th anniversary
GFWC/Maine Federation of Women’s Clubs

115 years of Volunteer Service

"Changing Lives - Woman to Woman, Friend to Friend"

Pine Tree Notes
Next Deadline
March 1, 2008