Greetings, Ladies!

I am sure you know by now our hopes of having an in-person Spring Convention have not come true. COVID-19 has proven to be a strong adversary, and at this point, has won again. We all wish to remain safe from this virus and not be responsible for its spread. As our annual meeting has been changed so too has GFWC’s International Convention. The convention was scheduled for June in Toronto but will now be taking place in August in Atlanta, Georgia. GFWC is hopeful everyone will have received the vaccination by then and feel safe to attend. The June dates will now be for the international board of directors’ meetings.

I am hoping some of you will apply to attend the LEADS seminar in Atlanta. There are funds available to help defray the cost and Maine Leadership Chairman Nancy Ames is willing to help you through the application process. Please consider applying!

Maine will be holding a virtual Spring Convention! The Call is included in this edition of the newsletter. The 2-day meeting will be May 13 & 14 via Zoom. Guest speakers will include GFWC First Vice President Suellen Brazil and there will be a presentation from Pine Tree Camp as part of my president’s project. All awards usually presented at Spring Convention will be announced during the virtual meeting. Clubs have completed their reports and our chairmen have been hard at work putting together their reports and submitting them to GFWC. Thank you clubs and chairmen for your work preparing these reports. They are so beneficial to our organization. Please be aware the Call is a tentative agenda, a work in progress, and may change. I am looking forward to the meeting and hope you will attend. Those of you who are not familiar with Zoom can meet at a member’s house who knows the workings of Zoom. Do not be afraid of it. If I can use it, so can you. I am technologically challenged. I do not do well with change or new things, but I realize I need to keep up or be left behind. Find someone to help you get where you need to be. They are out there.

GFWC has been offering free webinars with our Affiliate Organizations. They are informative and well worth the time, 45 minutes, to participate. Please take advantage of this opportunity to learn more about these wonderful organizations.

Researchers have developed vaccines to help our bodies build antibodies to fight off this virus. I hope you are having success in getting vaccinated. We are on our way to a return to a more normal lifestyle. We will still need to be vigilant about washing our hands, wearing masks in public and social distancing for some time. Better to be safe than sorry.

Your Executive Committee will continue to keep things running smoothly and I know you ladies will continue doing what you can for your communities. This pandemic may have us down, but we are not out. Stay safe.

Looking forward to seeing you all real soon!!

Living the Volunteer Spirit with You – Carol

Stay connected!

www.gfwc.org
www.gfwcmaine.org
## GFWC Maine 2020-2022 Executive Committee

*picture available when available*

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Position</th>
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<tr>
<td>President</td>
<td>Carol Jarvais</td>
<td><a href="mailto:caroljarvais@gmail.com">caroljarvais@gmail.com</a></td>
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<tr>
<td>President-elect</td>
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<td>Treasurer</td>
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<td>Corresponding Secretary</td>
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## District officers:

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<th>Region</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Northern</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Deb Ferrell</td>
<td><a href="mailto:daferrell11@gmail.com">daferrell11@gmail.com</a></td>
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<tr>
<td>Southern</td>
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### Follow inside!

- Community Service Program information
- Our State Clubs news
- Convention updates...
- Dates to remember!
- And more!

### JENNIE AWARD

The Jennie Award is named in honor of GFWC’s founder, Jane Cunningham Croly, who wrote for national newspapers under the pseudonym “Jennie June.”

The award is the highlight to extraordinary women who epitomize the spirit of independence, courage, and persistence in purpose through their roles as club members and elsewhere in the community with family or extended family.

So, ladies, who will be the next GFWC Maine Jennie Award Nominee? The nomination materials of one of your exemplary club members must be sent to:

- Minnie McCormick
  - GFWC Maine Jennie Award Chairman
  - 1130 West Main Street
  - Dover-Foxcroft, ME 04426
  - 207-564-2663
  - budmin@twc.com

More information can be found in the GFWC Club Manual (page 165) or contact Minnie.

**POSTMARKED BY JUNE 1, 2021**

Jennie June traveling bear...?
Hi everyone. I sincerely hope that many of you have already received your first Covid 19 vaccine shot, as well as perhaps your second one. Hopefully, if you have, you were as fortunate as I was and did not have any serious reactions. We can now begin to think about Spring, which is just around the corner. For those of you who volunteer in our public schools on a regular basis, I imagine many of you read to the children in the lower grades. With our next season comes warmer weather when the children can enjoy being outside more, and what fun to visit the students outdoors and share some exciting stories with them. I am sure the teachers know just which books would be fun for them to hear, as well as being remarkably interesting. Most children enjoy listening to someone share an adventure and to also interact with them and ask if they had ever done such a thing that was being described or asking them what they think might happen next. They have such imaginations!! Should the teacher be preparing a special project for her class to do, I bet she would welcome some extra hands to pass out the materials to everyone, as well as assist with tying, pasting, or cutting. Whatever can be done to making the special event easier for all concerned is less stressful for all and more enjoyable. Enjoy your visit with these precious youngsters.

Roberta Dutton Morrill GFWC Maine Education Chairman

Happy Spring my fellow clubwomen!! I am relishing the longer, sunnier days and the light I think I can see at the end of the pandemic tunnel. It has been the most challenging year that any of us have ever gone through I think and the fact that we have stayed together as women striving to continue to better our communities is most commendable.

I hope you have been thinking about ways to include some Health and Wellness topics into your club year 2021-2022I would invite you to Google: GFWC Health and Wellness and explore the topics listed there for ideas. Suggestions are:

- Sponsor and “Healthy Potluck” at one of your club meetings.
- Do a Recipe Makeover to make a favorite healthier.
- Invite a local nutritionist to speak. Hannaford has had one that will come do a program on the “Healthy Stars” project.
- Support your local food pantries.
- Provide care items for cancer patients: blankets, warm socks, moisturizer, lip balm, bottled water, magazines.
- Start a Community Garden or Grow a row to prevent hunger.
- Donate to Shot at Life.
- And of course, Women’s Heart Health

So many, many projects to become involved in, I urge you to pick one!

Sally Manchester GFWC Maine Health & Wellness Chairman
As this is the last Pine Tree Notes for the 2020-2021 year it is safe to say the worse part of 2020 is behind us. The silver lining of 2020 was the time we had for reading. One note from our National ESO Chairman, Tina Daniel is that March is National Nutrition Month. She said Barnes & Noble has a list of books for women on nutrition. March is also National Craft Month. Both of these things were mentioned on the GFWC 2020 2022 ESO Book Club post with a link for a list of craft books. If you would like to join this member only group give me a call so I can invite you to join. Continue to enjoy reading and send in your book reports to me.

Marjorie Coburn-Black ESO Chairman – 207-612-6072 - mhb770@outdrs.net

There are many ways that our clubs can get inspired with "Grassroots" projects in their communities. One way that comes to mind is advocating for civics education in schools, ensuring students acquire an understanding of government. Civics was a required class when I was in high school. I do not know when the class was discontinued but it is necessary that students understand their government. Our democracy is a fragile entity today and I have been reading that the lack of understanding how government works is one of the biggest problems we, as citizens, have. Letters to high schools requesting that civics be reinstated as a required course might "open the door" to that happening.

Another way to aid the community would be to sponsor CPR or first aid classes for moms' groups, childcare providers, teens, and others. Another needed area if working with first responders and local high schools to provide presentation on at-risk driving practices, such as texting and failure to use seat belts. These programs could "save lives" and that is a good reason to present them. Perhaps having another organization "partner" with a club would bring attention to these programs. This would be a way to let people outside our organization learn more about what we do and maybe that might increase our membership if we do this often.

Reach out to your communities and become involved in issues that are important to them. Let us talk with our communities and see how we, as clubwomen, can take part in their projects.

Marjorie Pfeiffer, GFWC Maine Civic Engagement and Outreach Chairman

The Earth is the only home we have. It is our obligation to protect the planet from air and water pollution, deforestation, and other concerns.

GFWC Illinois encouraged daily lifestyle changes and implemented service projects that teach communities how the environment is affected by their actions. The theme is *Bees, Trees, and Seas*:

"We don’t inherit the Earth from our ancestors; we borrow it from our children."

–Native American proverb
• **Bees** and all pollinators are important for our existence. Every third bite of food can be linked to the bees. The Feed the Bee project encourages working with schools and communities to plant or revitalize pollinator gardens.

• **Trees** keep the environment cool, absorb carbon dioxide, provide food, and give us oxygen to breathe. The Plant More Trees program strives to have more trees in the ground to improve sanitation, absorb run off, and provide shade and wind-shelter.

• **Seas** are an integral part of the water cycle. Water, water everywhere but not a drop to drink! Illinois’ fresh water is limited, and clubwomen will strive to protect the water supply by keeping it clean. Cleaning up waterways and protecting water through legislation is a focus to maintain today and in the future.

The longer I live, the more I realize the impact of attitude on life. Attitude is how we react to what happens to us. With this in mind, I choose to be positive!

For the photographers out there, we regret that we could not find a way to view all the wonderful scenes and events that you captured on film...but, to put a positive spin on this, just think of all the wonderful, one-of-a-kind cards that you can make using these “shots”, a piece of double stick tape, and some blank stationary! We hope next year we can hold, not only the photography contests, but the High School Art contest as well.

For those Clubs that were able to figure out ways to hold the Art Shows locally...kudos!

So...keep looking for the beauty around us...stay positive...and stay safe!

Wilma (Billie) Sherman is Art Department Chairman
207-474-5052
wlsherman13@gmail.com
Barbara Hathaway Assistant Art Chairman
207-645-3449
bhaway@myfairpoint.net

Creating effective ways to communicate with your membership is crucial to the HEALTH of your club. Do you really know how your members like to receive information? Print or electronically? If not, you will want to take time to survey them. Are they open to change? If not, you many need to create a MIX of new AND familiar ways of communication. By taking the time to understand the communication style and needs of your membership, your members will feel “heard” and will feel valued.

Ideas of communications:

• Newsletters (print or email)
• Emails
Let me know how I could help you get started!
Maureen Provencal GFWC Maine Communications & Public Relations Chairman

DOMESTIC & SEXUAL VIOLENCE AWARENESS & PREVENTION PROGRAM

Hello members! It is hard for me to believe that this is the last Pinetree Notes before spring convention! Time sure does slip away as we continue with our lives. I hope everyone is safe and continuing to stay healthy. It has sure been a trying time for us all but together we will get through.

URGENT MEMO: This will be my last chance, as your state chairman, to remind, request and plead with you to open your hearts and club's treasury for your donation to our 2021 state-wide high school elder abuse essay scholarship. We are so so close to the $1,000 we need to award to this year's senior essay winner. Please, if you have not done so already, would you take a moment to make a donation in any amount (no amount is too small) and send your check to me (Kathy White, 932 Dean Way, Fort Myers, Florida 33919 before April 20th. Or to my home address: 15 Memorial Drive Winterport, ME 04496 by May 30th) with a memo on the check for Elder Abuse Essay Scholarship contest. Please remember without your donations to fund this scholarship there would not be a scholarship available. Let us continue to educate our high school seniors on Elder Abuse.

I want to thank the Clubs that have donated so far, and wouldn't it be awesome if all our clubs could! I was incredibly pleased with the reports that I received this year. Please continue with the work and creativity you are doing supporting this especially important issue. Without you there would be no change in our communities concerning domestic & sexual violence awareness & prevention.

I would like to remind you that the elders throughout the U.S. lose a minimum of $2.9 billion annually due to elder financial abuse and exploitation. These numbers are staggering, and it shows how important it is to educate everyone especially our youth on this issue. Our scholarship is a great way in doing just that.

As we look forward, let us continue to think “outside the box” and come up with more creative ways to address domestic & sexual violence awareness & prevention. A suggestion is, you may want to invite speakers on Teen Dating, Human Trafficking for sexual purposes, Campus Sexual Assault, or Native American Women awareness as a program for the upcoming year. From having the speaker, a project may come to light that would be beneficial in your community. Just a thought.

Thank you for all you are doing for GFWC Maine's Signature Program. The work is appreciated and noticed.

Katherine White, GFWC Signature Program Domestic & Sexual Awareness & Prevention Chairman
Setting the tone for your organization can be difficult at times, as leadership roles inherently come with demands and a glaring spotlight that can be unforgiving if not handled properly. 

**Be a leader that you would want to follow.**

When setting the tone for your organization always remember to put yourself in your team’s shoes first. If you know that members look forward to coming to club meetings, you have taken a great first step in establishing a culture of success. If the opposite is true, your club cultural climate could be headed in the wrong direction. Assess your club’s activities and how club members interact with each other. Do they respect each other’s ideas and opinions and work together as a team? Are they invested in the club’s projects? Should a new format or ideas be introduced at meetings to increase interest and engagement? Recognize challenges and do not be afraid to propose changes when needed.

**Always be accessible.**

In setting the tone for your club it is always a good policy to make yourself as accessible as possible to your club members. A collaborative atmosphere where people feel comfortable providing their input on any given topic fosters trust within the club, which contributes greatly to a culture of success.

**Always maintain your composure.**

Maintaining your composure always is a key component to setting a positive tone for any organization. If the leader of a club regularly succumbs to the pressures around her and often loses her composure, you can bet the team around her will follow suit. A cool and levelheaded leader helps to foster a calm, steady culture within the organization.

**Stay positive when adversity hits.**

It is a given that every club is going to experience adversity. The pandemic of 2020 taught us that! However, maintaining an eye to the future, keeping a positive outlook, and realizing that every setback is only temporary will have a direct impact on how the members around you react. Showing confidence that brighter days lie ahead, which they always do, imbues that confidence in the members around you and goes a long way towards building a positive culture for your club.

**Make the mission bigger than yourself or the club.**

As the leader of any club, you have the power to inspire. One of the most effective ways to do this is to clearly articulate the mission you have undertaken and what it contributes to the world around you. Whether serving in your club, District, or State Federation, when members fully understand the lasting impact their efforts will have, there is a buy-in and a passion for fulfilling the mission that goes a long way towards creating a sustainable culture of success.

In leadership roles, it is impossible not to contribute to the culture within the organizations we serve. Setting the right tone and staying focused on maintaining it over time can, and should, ensure that leadership efforts have a lasting impact.

**EVERYONE IS A LEADER EVERY DAY**

Let us spin the concept of "everyday leadership!" Here are seven acts of everyday leaders.

- **Commit.** Passion is a strong desire that motivate you to do amazing things. Passion Is an emotion to be acted upon. Without action, passion yields no worthwhile results. Passion Is the fuel for the fire of action. When you have passion for something, you love it even when you hate it. What are you passionate about? Is it gardening, exercising, helping animals, teaching, reading, writing, politicking, volunteering, shopping, organizing, art, or something else? What do you love even when it is not your favorite?

- **Listen.** I have never heard anyone say, "I am a lousy listener!" Almost everyone says, "I am a great listener!" The fact of the matter is that we are terrible at it. Everyday leaders engage their power of listening; listen more than you speak. Listen to experts and fellow enthusiasts, including those you disagree with. Absorb their perspectives, insights, and experiences.

- **Communicate.** You have feelings, experiences, opinions, and a voice. All have value. So, share them often. You become an everyday leader by expressing your thoughts and ideas. Any input from you is better than silence.

- **Be humble.** We all know so-called leaders who are described as arrogant, entitled, and controlling. Do...
not be that leader! See yourself as an everyday person whose experiences and voice matter as much as the next person's - no more and no less than your neighbor's. Think of it as coming from a place of community and in the spirit of making life happier for everyone.

- Innovate. There are formulas for everything, and they are copied and followed. Predictable books and movies, architectural blueprints and housing developments with no originality, meeting agendas that leave little room for innovation, and how about the unspoken rules! You do not have to shock and awe every chance you get but think about offering something fresh to further the conversation or something original to move the ball.

- Learn. If you are human, you have failed. Failure, however, is not an end to the story, it is a beginning. The trick is to "Fail Forward." What did you learn, and what will you change next time? Then, you get back up and keep moving forward. Failure is an everyday leader's protein; it is where the energy comes from.

- Smile! Your smile can change the world. It is a powerful tool. Your smile brings hope, light, acceptance, and gratitude.

Nancy Ames, GFWC Maine Leadership Chairman

In recognition of **Women's History Month**, March is a time for celebrating the contributions women have made throughout history in science, politics, sports, the arts, and many other fields. While figures such as Elizabeth Cady Stanton, Harriet Tubman, Amelia Earhart, and Eleanor Roosevelt are often associated with Women's History Month, there are countless other extraordinary women who have earned their place at the table. Consider scientist Dian Fossey, mathematician Katherine Johnson, astronauts Sally Ride and Mae C. Jemison, and authors Maya Angelou and Amy Tan, to name a few. While the list of women who have made history and impacted the future could be seemingly endless, one woman stands out as a figure that helped pave the road to equality in the military.
**GFWC MIOSAC Club - Northern District**

As the winter winds down and spring approaches, our members continue to make a difference in the lives of others, albeit from a distance. Here we are a year from when the pandemic interrupted our lives, naturally this has included the usual manner of doing club business. Even though we have not been able to meet together more than one time for this club year, we still have kept in touch. Through phone calls, emails, text messages and cards, we are connected through our GFWC sisterhood and friendship. Reaching out beyond ourselves, we are still able to do some of the “armchair” projects (things we do from our own homes) such as make blankets for Project Linus, knit a prayer shall, collect soaps and shampoo for House in the Woods. Something that comes to my mind is one of my favorite Mother Theresa quotes is “Not all of us can do great things. But we can do small things with great love.” Yes, indeed, we can! We recently heard that Mayo Regional Hospital is desperate for volunteers to assist with the on-going COVID-19 Vaccination Clinics. Some of our members will be getting on board with this and serving the community and surrounding area during this unprecedented time. Another project that is being worked up is the creation of Easter cards for the residents in assisted living facilities in this area. While a few members may work on this together, others will be participating from their own home. Cards will be collected and then delivered to their destinations. I am looking forward to “seeing” many members from across the state as we get together for spring convention in May. Let’s make the best of these trying times. 
Suzanne Raymond – President

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**GFWC ARTS Club – Northern District**

The Pittsfield ARTS Club has been working on community projects even though the club has not met since last March. In January, $355.00 was donated to the Children's Benefit group in Pittsfield. This fund benefits students in MSAD #53 in grades Pre-K -8. This money was given as part of a Bakeless Food Sale approach. Members donated dollars in an amount that would have been given for food items if there had been a “real” bake sale. A very worthy project that ties in with President Carol’s theme of “Building a brighter tomorrow... Supporting children today!” February brought members together in a "remote" way when Valentine bags were filled with candy, tissues, paper pads, pens, etc. and delivered to the Pittsfield Boarding Home residents. This is a project that the club does every year, and has been an "in person" event in past years, giving club members a way of brightening Valentine's day for the Home residents. This year, the Covid19 restrictions prevented visiting the Home. Holiday cards have been sent each month to club members with puzzles, information about the holiday and other interesting facts. This is a way of staying "connected" even though we are not meeting "in person." We look forward to resuming our meetings in person as soon as possible. It has been an interesting year, to say the least. Marjorie Pfeiffer – Vice-President

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**GFWC Castine Woman’s Club – Northern District**

Spring forward... at last! The Club is hoping to spread some sunshine in the coming months. As in years past, the Castine Woman’s Club does not hold general meetings in January, February, and March. Due to the COVID pandemic, the Club has scaled back its winter activities.
In the past few months, CWC continued its support of community groups by contributing funds to community organizations such as KidsPeace, Friendship Cottage, and Bagaduce Lending Library. CWC plans to continue to distribute donated face masks and hand sanitizers within the community. The July 4th Pie Sale fundraiser was canceled last year due to the pandemic. Plans for this year’s pie sale are still uncertain. The Club looks forward to the day when in-person meetings and activities can resume safely. The Castine Woman’s Club wishes everyone safe and sunny days ahead!

Valerie Taub – President

GFWC Outlook Club – Northern District

Relatively speaking this has been a quiet year for the GFWC Outlook Club. Meetings have been held virtually via Zoom, with a majority attending but a few who just are not interested in this way of meeting. As president, I am encouraged by those who attend regularly, or continue to support the club in other ways. After feeling our way in this new technology, we have speakers lined up to join us in March (an attorney, on wills and health care directives) and April (Bette Stevens, a local poet, to celebrate poetry month). The club has continued supporting our regular donations, and we did a calendar fundraiser in January to help cover the costs. Membership is down by three, with age and various commitments given as the reasons to withdraw; and we continue trying to find ways to grow membership. Looking hopefully ahead to vaccinations finally allowing for some form of in-person meetings in better weather months.

Libby Wiers – President

GFWC Semper Fidelis Club – Northern District

GFWC Semper Fidelis Club has been in communication with members with the very first newsletter! ‘Club Connections’ has been up and running for 5 months providing updated GFWC and GFWC Maine information. Included are photos from various events and fundraisers.

We honored our furry friends for Groundhogs Day through collections of pet needs for the Somerset Humane Society and included member pet photos in the newsletter! Much amusement of these ‘best buddies!’

Our continued commitment to the Education and Libraries program, members donated new or gently used children’s books laundromats in our community. This has been such a rewarding project that patrons have embraced and look forward to the books placed monthly.

The next fundraiser is our ‘Wine & Chocolate’ raffle to support Pine Tree Camp. A favorite campaign that our wine loving members embrace and those chocolate fans! Our April meeting will be an in-person gathering, with continued safety protocols for members. Our speaker will be a representative from KVCAP and we will kick off our rendition of collecting tampon’s calling ourselves the ‘Tampon Brigade’! LOL!

Looking forward to our GFWC Maine Virtual Spring Convention and making plans to attend the GFWC National Convention in August in Atlanta, Georgia!

Maureen Provencal – President
GFWC Skowhegan Women’s Club – Northern District

The Skowhegan Women’s Club continued to "Zoom" in lieu of in-person gatherings. Several members have received their vaccinations against Covid-19 to keep themselves, their families, and their community safe. Members continued to keep in touch with one another via phone calls, email, cards, and notes. And by doing so, the "fellowship from afar" was a good way to keep spirits up and keep in touch! Our ESO on-line book club discussion continues by "Zoom" under the leadership of Deb Burnham. Co-presidents Billie Sherman and Julie Kosch continue to work behind the scenes to maintain critical club functions. Treasurer Barbara Robbins is keeping the bills paid and Secretary June Nickerson-Hovey is taking care of club notes and correspondence.

We expect to see one another in person in a few months and we are actively planning some limited GFWC Skowhegan summer activities. Best wishes to all our sister GFWC clubs!

Julie Kosch – Co President

GFWC Newport Woman’s Club – Northern District

The GFWC Newport Woman’s Club has not held its regular monthly meetings or any of its fundraising activities due to the pandemic since November. Communications with members are through e-mail and phone calls. We have a member, Linda Stevens, that has made it her mission to call each member once a week to ensure they are doing well and to inform them of any news about the club or other members welfare. We had a retired Senior Master Sergeant Treena S. Nadeau as our veteran speaker. Treena trusted us with her life’s story which included her childhood, military experiences both good and bad, marriage and life since retiring. She has an amazing life story.

We had planned a Christmas party for December but the increasing infections from the virus meant we would have to cancel. Currently our club plans a meeting for March 18th at a local restaurant. We are hopeful that we can resume a monthly schedule and make plans to fundraise for the coming term.

Debbie Ferrell – Secretary

GFWC Juniorette Community Service Trail Blazers – Northern District

Newport Juniorettes have continued to meet. The Juniorettes had $600.00 and three suitcases donated to them for a project to go to Partners for Peace. A few members helped filled the suitcases. Cheryl Stevens and Linda Lougee, the Juniorette mentors, made a small poster of the project. Someone will pick up the suitcases and a check for $600.00. Juniorette Club also donated 5 animal bags for children that accompany a parent to a Partners for Peace Home. Each bag had a stuffed animal, coloring book and crayons, and a book to read.

They also hand printed 123 Valentines for the Bangor Veterans. The girls spent time learning about veterans and why we as American’s support our veterans.

GFWC Westbrook Woman’s Club – Southern District

GFWC Westbrook Woman’s Club held hybrid meetings in November and December and went to virtual meetings in January. At each meeting, the members get updates from GFWC and are encouraged to join...
the Member Portal. At the November meeting I shared the video from the GFWC NER Conference of GFWC President Marian St. Clair “How Does Your Light Shine?” In November we highlighted the Environment CSP for America Recycles Day. Members are donating good, usable shoes to Soles4Souls. One project we have been able to continue is the Sunshine Bags for Westbrook Housing. Members donated small snacks items, personal hygiene items, greeting cards and washcloths handmade by one member to be assembled in a gift bag. In the fall Dunkin Donuts sponsored a Maine Thank A Teacher online contest. Several members submitted the teacher we had donated Dr Suess books to in the spring. The teacher we nominated was one of 10 selected in Maine. We arranged a surprise delivery of the $598 in Dunkin Donuts gift cards to her. The Reverse Advent Calendar Project was a great success! Members donated food valued at $615.65 (just over 200 lbs. of food) to Wayside Food for distribution in Westbrook and the surrounding area to families in need. Members also contributed new toys and craft items for toddlers to teens at the Spring Harbor Hospital. In anticipation of the virtual meetings in 2021, 50 ‘meeting bags’ with a package of hot chocolate, a tea bag, a 100-calorie microwave popcorn and a few candies were prepared for members to take home for the January meeting. Members who had not been able to join in person had a bag delivered to their home. GFWC Maine Carol Jarvais was the speaker for our January 2021 meeting. She shared information on the #IamGFWC social media initiative and the Leadership Toolkit on the GFWC website. President Carol shared her President’s Signature Project~ “Building a Brighter Tomorrow...Supporting Children Today”. Ideas for the project include donating school supplies, hand sanitizer and food to school programs. President Carol shared information for the Pine Tree Camp in Rome, Maine. The camp serves campers with physical and mental disabilities. The goal is to raise money to cover camperships. Since the cancellation of our Lobster Roll Lunch, we have done some smaller fundraising projects. A quilt, donated by a member, was raffled and we held a No Bake Bake Sale. To maintain Covid protocols we did not have any refreshments when we met in person. Members donated the price of a cake, pie, or cookies that they did not have to bake to bring to a meeting. For the February meeting members wore RED for Go Red for Women. Members sent Valentine’s cards to our members that have been unable to attend meetings virtually to let them know we are thinking of them. We heard from Dr. Charles “Chuck” Radis on his experience as a doctor on Peaks Island from 1985-1991. His book, “Go by Boat” will be published in April 2021.
Our March meeting coincided with Read Across America Day. Since we would not be reading to a classroom of children, or collecting books, we celebrated by putting on Your Read Across America Day Hat! Beach hats, vintage hats, fascinators, and fancy hats adorned our heads. In recognition of Women’s History month, we invited Westbrook Police Chief Janine Roberts (retired) to speak about her experience as a woman police officer and the state of policing today. Her commitment to serving the community focused on building respect and trust.

The Westbrook WC is continuing the support of the Westbrook High School Art Show. Student’s submissions will be judged online, and the winners will be recognized by the club. With the end of the club year approaching, we hope to have the Annual Meeting in person. Fingers crossed to members getting their vaccine and everyone staying healthy!

A. Elaine Brickman – President

GFWC Gorham Woman’s Club – Southern District

The Gorham Woman’s Club met via Zoom in February. There was an update on their First Night Kit Project. The club has been putting together personal care items for individuals needing to leave their home due to domestic violence or other issues. There have been several ads in the local Gorham Times paper about the project and the community has responded successfully. The Baxter Memorial Library provided a space for a donation box & others have sent in financial support. The first 10 kits were delivered to Gorham Public Safety in January. Another 25 adult and 7 child kits have been put together and are ready to be delivered.

Club members, Brenda Blair, JoAnn Means & Lori Perez Morse have been getting ready for the High School Art Show. Art teachers were notified in January the club would have an art show this year and the library will be displaying the artwork in April for 2 weeks. The benefit the club has found with Zoom is we are able to include our members currently out-of-state, too.

May everyone have a Happy Spring!

Wendy Bowler – President

GFWC Livermore Falls Women’s Club – Southern District

On a sunny day, your eyes would be drawn to the sites of Mount Washington and the Presidential Range from Ruth’s craft room with its abundance of wraparound windows. During the month of December, Muriel Bowerman, Bette Forbes, Ghislaine Berube and Ruth Gammon created snowmen for the residents of Harris House, an intermediate care facility for individuals with intellectual and physical disabilities. Attached is the photo of snowmen decked out in winter finery.
and I gathered to make valentines for the residents at Harris House. With a provided list of names and details of each of the fifteen residents, we were able to customize each valentine with the blind girl receiving a tactile card.

On Tuesday, March 9th, the Fearless Five will meet again to create shamrock related cards and hats for Harris House residents. St. Patrick’s Day may be a little bit trickier, but once again magic will be created.

In maintaining the desires of our Maine President to build a brighter tomorrow by supporting children today, I reached out to the principal of the Spruce Mountain Middle School to determine how we could partner with her students in grades 4-8. Her only request was for Size 1 sanitary napkins for the girls as the dispensers still contain those awful huge pads that only an elephant could wear. So, the lovely cashiers at Dollar General didn’t flinch when I purchased a package of Size 1’s at the ripe old age of 76. Hopefully, the warmer months will require sports related requests!

Most of the ladies and their spouses have had their Covid vaccines and are anxious to return to “normal”, although normal keeps changing, so I guess normal is not normal anymore.

Have a wonderful summer, Ladies.
Celia Holmes – President

Building a brighter tomorrow... Supporting children today!
GFWC MAINE
DIRECTORY & NEWSLETTER ORDER FORM
2021-2022

Club Name: ___________________________________________
Name: _______________________________________________
Address: ______________________________________________
City: ________________________________________________
Zip Code: _____________________________________________
Phone: ______________________________________________
E-mail address: ________________________________________

______E-Newsletter - Free (4 issues/club year) emailed at no cost
______Newsletter - @ $10.00 (4 issues/club year) Total $_______
______Directory - @ $5.00 Total $_______

Amount Total $________

ORDERS DUE TO CORRESPONDING SECRETARY BY AUGUST 20, 2021

Please make check payable to: GFWC Maine

Mail to: Maureen Provencal, Corresponding Secretary
7 Daisy Lane
Skowhegan, ME 04976
207-474-0701
E-mail: mrprovencal81@gmail.com

For Bookkeeping Records – Do Not Write In This Space

Paid Date: Amount:
Club Check Personal Check Cash

email PTN#______________
hard copy PTN#__________
Directory#_______________
DATES TO REMEMBER:

March 20, 2021: First Day of Spring

April 30, 2021: Registration deadline for GFWC Maine Virtual Spring Convention

May 13 - 14, 2021: GFWC Maine Virtual Spring Convention

June 1, 2021: Jennie June Award Application Due

August 20, 2021: GFWC Maine Directory & Newsletter Orders due
(GFWC Maine Directory Ads will be notified later)

August 27-30, 2021: GFWC International Convention
Atlanta Marriott Marquis, Atlanta, Georgia

Maureen Provencal
GFWC Maine Corresponding Secretary
mrprovencal81@gmail.com