Happy Fall GFWC Maine!

My favorite time of the year!

As we busy ourselves in the ‘collecting and gathering’ spirit, let us remember to be good to ourselves. Take time for you as you prepare for this ‘giving’ season.

What a wonderful start for your GFWC Maine President! Kicking it off at the GFWC New England Region Conference in Providence, Rhode Island! Our own GFWC NER President Libby Wiers was outstanding, and the conference was wonderful! GFWC President Deb Strahanoski and GFWC President-elect Suellen Brazil were present to support our New England Region! GFWC Maine had a strong presence with 19 members! Informative, educational, emotional, and FUN! Your President brought back new ideas and many Clubs as well! Mark your calendars for next year in Connecticut!

Preparing for the GFWC Maine Fall Conference I found myself excited, nervous, and finally relaxed... What a day! This Conference promised to be jammed packed with new ideas, surprise appearances, resources made available, programs highlighted, and the uncomfortableness of Mental Health, and a whole lot of HUMOR! Thank you to those who attended and presented, I truly cannot do it without any of you.

The Yellow Tulip Project was received with great success with all Clubs participating across our state planting ‘Hope Gardens’ in their communities. I can hardly wait till spring for the bloom!

Enjoy the blessings surrounding you every day and especially through your holiday celebrations.

Soar with love, Maureen Provencal GFWC Maine President
When I read this quote it spoke volumes to me on our Signature Program. Each one of us are only one, but we are still one! I do not expect any ONE to do everything, But I know each ONE of you can do something. GFWC Maine clubwomen are the most dedicated, motivated, and compassionate volunteer women I know. Your support to the Signature Program has had a tremendous impact on our communities statewide. As your Chairman, I want to do my best to inspire you and your clubs to do what you can to continue to learn and educate our communities on the awareness and prevention of this violence that encompasses so many lives, young and old.

Each month there is an area or areas of awareness dates that your Club members may be interested in learning about. Inviting a speaker to a meeting is always a good way to learn more and possibly see how your members could help.

November is Native American Heritage Month. Are you aware that approximately half American Indian and Alaska Native women have experienced sexual violence. That murder is the third-leading cause of death to American Indian and Alaska Native women. There is so much more to learn and ways to help with resources that are available through GFWC manual at www.gfw.org member portal. Check it out, these women need our help.

November 25th is International Day for Elimination of Violence Against Women. This would be a good day to flood Facebook and social media with the awareness of this important day for women especially using #iamgfwc.

Please continue to send your checks to support the State-wide elder abuse essay contest scholarship. This Chairman was very pleased with the donations, in memory of Wendy Bowler, and donations for the raffle at Fall Conference. All proceeds will be going to the essay scholarship fund. I know Wendy was smiling down on your generosity to continue to fund the scholarship. I will always accept checks, for this important state project from your club, and individual club members that may want to donate in memory of a loved one. Mail your checks to Kathy White, 15 Memorial Drive, Winterport, Maine 04496 to earn credits for the Carolyn Lombardi Award. Keep in mind at the GFWC Maine Spring Convention there will be a special prize drawing for all who participate this year in support of the scholarship!!

Your Chairman is happy to speak at any of your meetings May through December. My information is in our directory. Enjoy our beautiful Maine Fall sweater weather!

Katherine (Kathy) White GFWC Maine Signature Program Chairman
Wonderful to see so many at GFWC Maine Fall Conference!! What a great, informative and cram packed, fun, one day conference it was! Sorry if you missed it!

Health and Wellness – what is the difference? According to our GFWC Club Manual “The primary difference is health is the goal and wellness is the active process of achieving it”. We cannot always choose the state of our health, but we do have the conscious choice to make active decisions towards wellness. Wellness has a direct influence on overall health which is essential to living a healthy, happy, and fulfilled life.

COMMUNITY CONNECTION INITIATIVE: Let’s Get Fit Within our Communities Important!!!! Regular physical activity, aerobic, muscle strengthening, and balance training. Regardless of age, ability, ethnicity, shape or size, everyone can experience the benefits of physical activity.

Check out the Health and Wellness section of the GFWC Club Manual under the member portal. It has suggestions for contacts, programs, and topics that your club might like to explore and adopt. Remember the GFWC Affiliate Organizations: Canine Companions, Heifer International, March of Dimes, Operation Smile, Shot at Life, UNICEF USA. Happy Exploring!!

DON’T FORGET: Get your flu shot, Get your next Covid Booster, Wash your hands frequently, Make healthy food choices, Get some exercise. You care for so many, take care of yourself.

Sally Manchester Health & Wellness Chairman
GFWC Leadership Education and Development Seminar (LEADS)

The GFWC Leadership, Education, and Development Seminar identifies GFWC members at the local level who have the potential and desire to assume leadership positions in their State Federations and/or GFWC on the national level. Participation in GFWC LEADS can help up-and-coming leaders gain the capabilities, confidence, and commitment necessary to pursue and achieve higher offices and serve with distinction.

GFWC LEADS is typically held annually on the day prior to the official opening of the GFWC Annual Convention. The program may include the following:
- Overview of various leadership skills.
- Explanation of GFWC resources, materials, and assistance.
- Outline of GFWC policies, parliamentary procedure, and protocol.
- Discussion of tips and techniques for pursuing personal growth and developing leadership opportunities.

Contact your GFWC Maine Leadership Chairman for application questions. Applications due February 1st, 2023

Elaine Brickman GFWC Maine Leadership Chairman

ENVIRONMENT

Each day we can do something to keep our environment pristine for today and the future. The Natural Resource Council has a Brooke Award given to six action driven youth making a difference. One student, Ana of Yarmouth proposed a bill, LD 99, which asked Maine Retirement Fund to not invest in fossil fuels but take that 1% and invest in positive areas that impact our planet. If our youth are concerned let’s join and keep making changes too.

Since we are getting ready for the colder weather here are a few tips to consider:
- Reduce your oil consumption by investing in heat pumps. Rebates offered by our state may be just enough reason to act.
- Check out hybrid water heaters which allow choice to heat your water.
- Turn off some of your electronics to lessen their use of electricity while not in use. 75% of electricity used to power our electronics is consumed while the products are turned off. The average desktop computer idles at 80 watts, while a laptop idles at 20 watts! Idle power consumes more electricity than all the solar panels in America combined.
- Only 10% of energy in a light bulb is used to create light but 90% is heat. Compact fluorescent light bulbs (CFLs) use about 80% Less electricity than conventional bulbs and last twelve times longer.

Think about donating to GFWC affiliates such as:

- **Heifer International** helps hungry people feed themselves by teaching them to raise chickens, cows, etc. Did you know that your donation will go **twice** as far if you send money by **November 7th**, act today!
- **UNICEF is working** to bring clean water across the world. One out of eight people lacks access to clean water even today in 2022.

**November 15 is America Recycles Day.**

Debra Burnham Environment Chairman
Have you ever wanted to meet an author to discuss a book? Understand where the characters came from? Or know what the inspiration was for the content? GFWC is proud to announce our first Engage Beyond the Page: Meet the Author/Book Review with Robin Yocum. The event will take place on Zoom at 7:00 p.m. ET on November 16.

2022-2024 GFWC Education and Libraries Honorary Chairman Robin Yocum is the Edgar-nominated author known for his fiction set in the Ohio River Valley. He is the author of six works of fiction including *The Essay*, our choice for the Meet the Author/Book Review, a novel about a young boy who grew up in a rural town in Appalachian Ohio with little hope for success. It’s a story of finding the path that leads outside of one’s current situation and the opinions of others. For our members who are educators, it will be a walk down memory lane as you remember students who surprised themselves and the adults who believed in them.

Discussing a book with the author is a rare experience to gain more insight into the book, learn about various inspirations, and hear about what the author may be working on next. *The Essay* by Robin Yocum can be purchased on many online sites. You are encouraged to complete the reading prior to the book review.

Register today to join GFWC and Robin Yocum for this exciting opportunity. A brief questionnaire will be sent to those registered approximately one week prior to the book review.

Member Author Featured

This edition we feature Linda MacRitchie Graf, a member of the Delmar Progress Club, Delmar New York; She is a valued member and author. Linda MacRitchie Graf is a retired, award-winning art educator, following a new direction after four decades of teaching children of all ages in upstate New York. She has an MS in education from State University College at Buffalo. She loves to spend time playing with her grandkids, when not reading, gardening, or drawing. Her book, *Treasure in the Trunk* is a wordless picture book to be enjoyed by all.

GFWC LIBRARY REPLENISHMENT FUND

In order to assist GFWC communities affected by man-made and natural disasters, GFWC established the GFWC Library Replenishment Fund. GFWC clubs have a long history of the founding, maintaining, and promoting libraries. Grants will be provided to GFWC clubs to help replenish affected libraries in their communities.

University of Maine Senior Tuition Waiver

[https://umaine.edu/dlladvising/senior-citizen-tuition-waiver/](https://umaine.edu/dlladvising/senior-citizen-tuition-waiver/)

The University of Maine System Board of Trustees has developed a tuition waiver, which focuses on Maine residents who will reach the age of 65 years or older during the semester in which they enroll, who are seeking to take undergraduate university courses for personal enrichment and/or, to attain their first undergraduate degree. The policy, adopted in 2012, states:

“*The Board of Trustees authorizes the waiver of tuition and Board-approved mandatory fees for senior citizens who register for undergraduate courses on a credit or audit basis at any university of the University of Maine System.*”

Registration

Senior students wishing to enroll in classes or receive advising services regarding this opportunity are encouraged to visit or call the DLL Advising Center.

HOW TO ENROLL IN A CLASS

To start your search for available courses, please visit the Undergraduate Catalog listing of courses.

*Please note: courses are subject to change. You may wish to contact us to be certain your desired course is still available.*

- If you do not require any assistance, you may simply submit your request on-line.
- If you would like to speak with us by phone, please call our office at 207.581.3143.
It was wonderful seeing everyone at the GFWC Maine Fall Conference. If your Club did not get a copy of the Arts & Culture Community Service Program from the GFWC Club Manual, please let me know and I will mail you a copy. The Manual is also available at www.gfwc.org website. The Arts & Culture section is full of ideas that your Club might incorporate as the year progresses.

The Manual is only one important reference for your Club. Be sure to read your GFWC Maine Directory. On pages 80-83, the many creative contests that are available are explained, starting with the High School Art Contest. The rules for the Creative Writing Contests for Clubwomen are found on page 81. The rules GFWC Photography Contests follows on pages 82-83.

On page 78-79 of the GFWC Maine Directory is the information regarding Club Scrapbooks. The Club minutes are the official record of the activities of each Club. However, the Club Scrapbooks offer to each Club, the opportunity to create a visual history as well as a written history of the member participation. While researching for the GFWC Skowhegan 140th Anniversary Celebration, I have had the opportunity to browse through many scrapbooks.

In our 2007-2008 Scrapbook, I found the following:

A missive went out for all to hear
that poetry is to be encouraged this year.
So, taking on the challenge to do as asked,
poems were added to introduce each task.
  Some poems are long,
  some are short...but
  all serve the same purpose
  which is to report.
  So have some fun
as you browse through this book,
  Stop to read...
  don’t just look!

Billie Sherman GFWC Maine Arts & Culture Co-Chairman
MEMBER APPRECIATION

You can never say “thank-you” enough! Let your membership know how grateful you are by celebrating their GFWC service with **GFWC Recognition Pins:**

- GFWC Gold Pins are awarded by GFWC to 50-year members. The member’s club president must request the Gold Pin, free of charge, by filling out a request form available at GFWC.org in the Member Portal. If State Federation and District leaders also want to recognize long-term members at their meetings, they may request information about recent Gold Pin recipients in their area from GFWC Membership Services at GFWC@GFWC.org.
- GFWC Silver Pins, recognizing 25-year members, may be purchased through the GFWC Marketplace.
- Other pins available for purchase through the GFWC Marketplace include 5-year, 10-year, 15-year, 20-year, 30-year, 35-year, 40-year, 55-year, 60-year, 65-year, and 70-year pins.

Honor and celebrate your members. Members are more likely to remain enthusiastic about a club that has a positive and fun outlook. Members do not join a club to be recognized, but everyone needs and appreciates affirmation. Positive words can mean a lot. Look for opportunities, such as after a successful fundraiser, to have an awards ceremony with some fun certificates, such as “Duct Tape Award,” for the member who can fix anything, or how about the “Little Miss Sunshine Award,” to a member who is always smiling. Share a laugh and make them feel special at the same time!

Nancy Ames GFWC Maine Membership Chairman

JENNIE AWARD

The weather these past couple of months, for the most part, has been wonderful. Warm days and cool evenings make us realize summer has ended and fall is upon us. Mother Nature has worked her magic painting trees with rich reds, oranges, and yellows for us to look upon in awe. As the leaves turn brown and drop to the ground, I am reminded to get my plantings done for spring. Ah, there is my cue which brings me to the reason for this article.

I planted thinking seeds in your minds about the GFWC Jennie Award in the last edition of the Pine Tree Notes. I asked you to be thinking who the person is in your club you could nominate for the Jennie Award. Remember, this is the only award presented by GFWC to an individual. This club member will be considered for her lifetime achievements through her club work, in her community and within her family.

At the recent GFWC Maine Fall Conference I added fertilizer to my planting by providing you with the history behind the Jennie Award. I reminded you of the trials and tribulations faced by our founder Jane Cunningham Croly. Jane was an independent woman of courage and persistence. This is the kind of woman we are looking for in your club. The woman who epitomizes the spirit of Jennie June through her lifetime role as a volunteer within your club, her community, and her family. I, also, mentioned I would be reminding you of what needs to be done to get your nomination completed.

The seeds have been planted, the fertilizer mixed in, and the instructions as to how to complete the nomination process have been provided to you. Your club president received a packet of information on the process, and I am sure she will be willing to share it with you to get you started. You can also find all the information in the club manual in the Member Portal. I am reminding you to get the process started now as time has a way of flying by especially at this time of year when we are all so busy. Your nominations must be postmarked by June 1, 2023, for consideration.

I leave you with warm wishes for the holiday season which is already upon us. May your homes and hearts be filled with love and laughter and the new year bring you happiness.

Carol Jarvais GFWC Maine Jennie Award Chairman
21 Club of Kezar Falls

21 Club started its year with a delicious potluck and two guests. President Jean welcomed potential members and talked about ways to connect with women in the community who might be interested. We wrapped September up with a meeting at the local historical society and more guests!

Our October meeting back at the church was a work session of stuffing “Books for Babies” bags. 21 Club sews book bags and fills them with books for new babies and even a couple for siblings, or for baby to grow into. Each bag contains information about resources for new moms, such as library services, medical services, and best literacy practices. The bags are given to the town clerks of Porter and Parsonsfield for distribution.

President Jean attended the Fall Convention and is eager to share all the good information she gained at the next club meeting. Our tulips for the Yellow Tulip Project were planted in the Parsonsfield Town Park. The local garden club was recruited to help dig holes in preparation for planting. Planting was scheduled for Tuesday, Oct 24, but because of weather forecasts and garden club support, we planted on Saturday! We can’t wait to see our Hope Garden bloom. Establishment of a second garden is being planned for the park in Porter next year.

Our yard sale was highly successful this fall, and a public supper is scheduled for Oct 26. Ham and scalloped potatoes, YUM!

To round our start off, we welcomed one new member, and four women who have been to are than one meeting and are ready to join as well.

21 Club is soaring into its 102nd year with renewed vigor and purpose!

Jean Stanley – President
GFWC Skowhegan Woman's Club

September and October have been busy for us. At a lunch meeting on September 14, we hosted John Romac, the Volunteer Coordinator of the Travis Mills Foundation which works to recalibrate wounded veterans who served from September 11, 2001, to the present. John presented a slide show of the grounds and accommodations available for veterans and their families. He explained how these invited men and women are encouraged to relax and reconnect with their families during their week-long retreat. Four club members visited the Foundation’s Open House in August to learn more about President Bonnie’s aim to support the Foundation’s mission.

September 15, 16, and 17, we made and sold pies for a fundraiser as we had done in 2021-2022. Instead of using a member’s kitchen for three days, we rented the kitchen of the Centenary Methodist Church. This facility was familiar to some members enabling ease of working, was big enough to accommodate our many cooks, had two large gas ovens able to bake multiple pies at once, and had a cooling area with an outside door for customer pickup. This fundraiser, spearheaded by Deb Burnham and Sue Ellen Lexier, netted over $700, our reward for three days of labor producing 60+ pies.

President Bonnie Chamberlain has targeted Domestic Violence for project work. She and Vi Ferland joined members of the Family Violence Project for a vigil at the Skowhegan Community Space and a panel discussion at the Town Office on October 6. The event was sobering. The panel discussion information about activities within Somerset County reassured us that much was being done within the county to address this issue. As we all know, more needs to be done. The Club has supported many projects over the years, including a yearlong video program shown on a local TV channel using skits and discussions to highlight the many types of domestic violence. This year our club has created a set of posters which have been placed in public areas to bring awareness to the community. The posters have been displayed in the Municipal Building, the Public Library, the Redington-Fairview General Hospital, and in the community room of the Centenary Methodist Church. The committee (Deb Burnham, Vi Ferland, Sharon Adams) used a trifold board to highlight negative words that are often used to demean a victim, countered with positive expressions that a victim could use to validate self-worth. The Family Violence Project of Somerset and Kennebec County supplied pens, stickers, bookmarks, pamphlets, pins + to be set out with each poster. We are pleased with the community feedback. Our plan is to continue our outreach throughout the year.

On September 18, Marjorie Coburn Black, Sharon Adams, and Bonnie Chamberlain attended the 100th Anniversary Celebration of the GFWC Newport Woman’s Club. Such a momentous milestone.

GFWC State President Maureen Provencal joined us for our monthly meeting and lunch October 12. Maureen spoke about her major programs for the year, especially the Yellow Tulip Project. We listened, agreed with her need to spread the word about Mental Health Awareness, and reflected on how our club can help.

The Conference on October 15 drew members, Billie Sherman, Barbara Hathaway, Sharon Adams, and Bonnie Chamberlain to the Senator Inn. We enjoyed the opportunity to mix and mingle with other club members, laugh, share ideas, be inspired, and learn ways to help our communities combat mental illness. Our own Billie Sherman and Barbara Hathaway displayed ways to incorporate Arts and Culture into the club agenda with a handsome poster and display.

Looking forward to November, we are busily preparing for our own Anniversary: 140 years! Invitations have been sent. Please RSVP and celebrate with us on November 10.

Bonnie Chamberlain – President
PATAWA Club

The women of PATAWA started the 2022-2023 year off running. At the end of last season and through the summer we were able to spark some interest in our club through social media posts which led to a handful of new members joining!

In September, we had Shirar Patterson, Executive Director of the newly renamed, Heart of Maine United Way, come to speak to our group. There are 3 basic areas covered by United Way: meet basic needs, prevent, treat, and support recovery from substance abuse, and help all children have quality early learning experiences.

Maureen Provencal, GFWC President, came to see our group in October and talk to our ladies about the various ways they could become involved at the state level including the Fall Conference being held at the Senator Inn in Augusta, ME. Maureen shared more information about the President's project - the Yellow Tulip Project and "Smashing the Stigma" on mental illness. PATAWA planted their Hope Garden for the Yellow Tulip Project on October 25th at the Brewer Rec with the help of their 5th-grade afterschool participants. It was a wonderful event! We planted nearly 120 tulips!

We deemed November - Newcomer November and promised our members an extra ticket to the wine raffle for every newcomer they bring to the meeting. Together Place will be presenting to our group on November 2nd. The Together Place is a peer-run recovery center that empowers people living with mental health challenges and/or substance use disorder to make informed decisions about their recovery. We are collecting hats and scarves to donate to Cancer Care of Maine for those that have lost their hair due to chemotherapy.

Our members will also be donating turkeys to "Free the Z Turkey Drive" at the end of November to round out our fall activities.

Amanda Cupps – President
**GFWC Winterport Woman’s Club**

Winterport Woman’s Club celebrates our 90th Anniversary this year! It is a time to reflect on our past years of service to our community and generate excitement for opportunities to come. Club members enjoyed tea and light refreshments at Tea Maineia to commemorate the occasion.

We resumed our in-person meetings in September with a “New Beginnings” Potluck. Our current members enjoyed some wonderful food while discussing upcoming community projects and welcoming three new members to our club.

In observance of Domestic Violence Awareness Month, our October meeting included a presentation by our own Kathy White, GFWC Signature Program Chairman on Domestic and Sexual Violence Awareness and Prevention. Kathy also shared with us the 2022 Elder Abuse Scholarship winning essay.

With the fall weather, several club members met to continue work on the restoration of Abbott Park which is in Winterport. Our club has been sprucing up the park, digging tree stumps, clearing brush and planting flowers. On your next trip down Main Street, be sure to take a few minutes to stop and enjoy a stroll through the park.

Two major Club fundraisers take place in November, the sale of our 2023 Winterport Community Calendar and our annual Turkey Drive. Club members set up at our local voting polls in November each year to greet community members and sell the calendars. It is a great opportunity to connect with old friends, make new ones and spread the news about GFWC. Our Turkey Drive to support The Neighbor’s Cupboard, the local food pantry, is in its 7th year. We always enjoy standing outside at Tea Maineia and On-The-Run, two local businesses on Main Street, waving to those passing by to entice them to stop and donate. This successful event always brings together both community members and those that are just passing through town, and the generosity of all who stop to say hello and donate is heartwarming.

Our Club is assisting the Hampden Academy senior class this year with a community service project called “Seniors to Seniors.” The project involves senior citizens that live in Hampden, Newburgh, Winterport, and Frankfort. The goal of the project is to help keep senior citizens safe by delivering a bucket of sand/salt to them in December.

We are also participating in the Yellow Tulip Project, planting bulbs that were provided through the GFWC Fall Conference. Springtime will find yellow tulips brightening our town and “smashing the stigma around mental illness.”

Members of our Club have attended several GFWC events and Anniversary celebrations these past few months. Each event provided a great opportunity to connect with our GFWC sisters and learn what other clubs are doing.

We are looking forward to our annual holiday celebration in December, and spending time this winter planning for the return of our extremely popular perennial plant sale to be held May 2023.

Julie Burgess — President
GFWC Westbrook Woman’s Club

Westbrook Woman’s Club has had a busy summer. We have moved to the Westbrook Community Center permanently. The address is 426 Bridge St., Westbrook, ME. Our meetings are still held on the first and third Tuesday with meetings starting at 1:00 pm.

The Club gathered at DiMillo’s Restaurant on Tuesday, September 6 to enjoy a delicious lunch and received our yearbook for our new year.

The first meeting of the Club was September 20. Greg Post, Director of the Community Center, attended our meeting to welcome Westbrook Woman’s Club to the building. He shared with us the many activities that are going on in this complex. What is ironic about this building that it was the Fred C. Wescott Middle School and several of our Club members had taught school in this building. A walk down memory lane!

Our October 4 meeting was about gardening with a representative from Petal Farm Gardens. Ideas about fall planting to enjoy in spring. We had flowers to bring home and enjoy. The Club wore pink for breast care awareness.

At our October 18 meeting a representative of Maine Needs gave a very informative presentation about how they assist those in need with donations they receive from the community. Members wore purple for Domestic Violence.

The Club has taken in a new member and have several more potential members. Our Membership Committee has been busy improving our Member Program to improve attracting members, as well as, retaining members.

Westbrook Woman’s Club had 4 members attend the GFWC New England Conference and 9 members attend the GFWC Maine Fall Conference.

Our Club has a very busy schedule of activities ahead of us. Looking forward to the Holiday Season! Wishing our Club members, the blessings of the Season and remember the Volunteer Spirit!!

Beth Turner – President

GFWC Research Club of Limerick

GFWC Research Club of Limerick does not meet in July or August, however we did join in with the Limerick Historical Society for an impromptu yard sale, earning a few hundred dollars for our club and sharing an enjoyable day together.

In September we met for a "potluck" supper, bringing a dish from our country of origin. Needless to say, we enjoyed many delicious dishes and interesting stories of where these recipes came from.

We also held our installation of officers for the coming two years.

A costume party was the highlight of our October meeting with members sharing stories of Halloween’s gone by. The ladies outdid themselves dressing up and it was so much fun to see each new arrival as they entered.

Sally Manchester presented a program on the history of the Baptist Society Cemetery, delving into researching this topic and bringing us back to our club roots.

Our club focus this year is membership and becoming better known in our community for the work we do and the interesting programs we must share.

Jackie Foglio – President
GFWC MIOSAC Club

The club year got off to a great start! Our first meeting began with our traditional “souper supper.” Having not been able to do so for the past couple years it was extra special. We were blessed to have 3 guests present as well as our new member that we gained during the summer. President Minnie McCormick performed Laurie Ducat’s induction ceremony. Although a brief ceremony, it is always special to have a formal moment to appreciate a new member and it’s always a pleasure for the club president to pin the member with the GFWC membership pin! We are positively looking forward to witnessing that again real soon!

Unfortunately, the next day, as many of you have heard, Minnie fell and broke her wrist and ankle. Surgery was needed, Minnie is now back home and making progress, but it will be a while before she is back to herself again.

Four members had a grand time at GFWC Maine Fall Conference! It is always good to see old friends and meet new ones. GFWC Maine President Maureen Provencal led a very well planned educational and highly engaging meeting. GREAT speakers and presenters!

For the second club meeting, Vice President Wendy Hutchins jumped right in with both feet and did an excellent job leading us through the business at hand. The Yellow Tulip Project was described in detail by Anne Cress and several days later a group gathered at the Marion Doore Park and planted the Hope Garden. We are looking forward to seeing the fruit of our labor in the spring!

The program that evening was very informative, presented by member Betsey Ryan. She shared about the history of women’s clubs and more specifically, the history of GFWC and the many accomplishments.

The club is in the final stages of its big fundraiser, the Area Business Directory, and plans are underway for some winter projects that we do to help those less fortunate than ourselves.

In closing, President Minnie wishes everyone a wonderful fall! (Fall as in autumn, that is!)

Suzanne Raymond – Treasurer

GFWC Castine Woman’s Club

Jack Frost is on his way! The Castine Woman’s Club continues to suspend Club meetings due to the unpredictable surges of the COVID-19 pandemic. The Club looks forward to resuming meetings when conditions are safer and more stable. The Club hopes to resume holding its popular fundraising event, the Election Day Bake Sale, for the presidential election in November 2024.

The Club continues to quietly contribute to, and support community projects and needs. By year’s end, the Club will make its usual annual donations to area organizations.

CWC applauds all your wonderful work and wishes you all cozy holidays ahead!

Valerie Taub - President
Our club’s meeting year runs from September to May each year. This past May we held our annual meeting and potluck lunch. We had the great pleasure of having Suzanne Raymond conduct the installation of our officers for the 2022-2024 term. Ann Hardwick became our President, Jen Davis, our Vice-President. Deb Ferrell, Secretary, and Jane Briggs, Treasurer, both carried over from the previous term.

While our monthly meetings end in May there is much going on during the summer. Our Ways and Means Committee met and collected donated gift cards and lottery tickets and had a beautiful basket assembled by Kim Lovely of the Blooming Barn in Newport. We sold raffle tickets before and during the Newport Riverwalk Festival for our 7th and most successful season yet.

Norma Leighton’s grandchild won the basket and was excited as she is in college and needed the funds. Norma said she buys all her grandchildren tickets. Norma is a GFWC Newport Club member.

Meanwhile the Calendar committee was meeting and arranging our next season’s meeting calendar. Our club members along with few students and a teacher planted 140 yellow tulips at the Nokomis High School/Middle School in support of our GFWC Maine President Maureen Provencal’s “Mental Health Matters” and the Yellow Tulip Project.

A third special committee has been meeting for nearly two years planning for an event to celebrate our club’s 100th anniversary. Here is the result of that planning.

Here’s to 100 Years

The GFWC Newport Woman’s Club recently celebrated 100 years of Volunteer Service and Community Action with a celebratory tea held on Sept 18, 2022, at the St. Martin’s Episcopal Church. GFWC Maine members and community members enjoyed a delicious tea presented by the extraordinary women of St. Martin’s Church.

Members pitched in with their own collection of china teacups to make a beautiful table setting. President, Ann Hardwick, and 50-year member Gerry Richardson welcomed members throughout Maine to the festivities. Donna Berry, Vice-Chair of the Newport Selectboard extended remarks on the outstanding community work the Club has accomplished over the 100-year span. Goody Gilman, grandson of charter member Rose Gilman, was on hand to make the connection from present day to those who started the Club 100 years ago. Following refreshments, President Hardwick offered a ceremonial toast followed by the cutting of an Anniversary Cake. Nokomis’ own Drama and Music Department heads Lisa and Dean Neal presented a musical program of “Music through the Ages” which was thoroughly enjoyed by all present. GFWC Newport Woman’s Club wished to thank all who had a part in making our celebration such a success...” Here’s to the next 100 years!!”

Deb Ferrell - Secretary
The GFWC Semper Fidelis Club is in the planning stages for our 85th Anniversary Celebration!! Stay tuned for more on that in the coming months.

A kickoff to this administrative year began with members attending the GFWC New England Region Conference in Providence, Rhode Island, as new ideas and information would be shared among members. The GFWC Maine Fall Conference was well attended by GFWC Semper Fidelis and members showed support to our own member Maureen Provencal, GFWC Maine President! Members assisted in centerpieces, the AniMeals project, and the Yellow Tulip Project. More information shared to Club to implement throughout the year.

Members have been busy with annual fall fundraisers including a ‘Thankful Spirits Raffle’ (basket full of Made in Maine beers, ciders, wines and other ‘Made in Maine’ goodies) and our annual poinsettia sale. In November we will begin our annual Rada sale and we will be baking up a storm for our day before Thanksgiving Pie Sale, (always a sellout)!

We have participated in KVCAP diaper drive and Bangor Savings Banks peanut butter and jelly drive. Planting yellow tulip bulbs at the Somerset County Jail with female inmates proved to be an emotional and encouraging project. These women wrote letters, poems, and drew art pieces to share before the actual plantings. GFWC Semper Fidelis members were moved by the gratitude shown by these women that they were not forgotten and provided a voice. A ceremony in the spring when these tulips emerge, will bring us back together with these women or new...

GFWC Semper Fidelis members volunteered to help fill food bags for the Skowhegan Backpack Program; an ongoing program feeding members of the community. The ‘November Days of Giving’, another program to provide food for students during winter vacation, has members completing 10 boxes to participate in.

Loads of fun things planned for December but more on that later!

Karie Watson – President

"CLUB ANNUAL REPORTS ARE DUE!"

It’s that time of year again!!

Annual club reports should be postmarked no later than January 25th, 2023.

One copy will be sent to me and be sure to make a copy to be retained in your club files. The state chairmen can expect to receive their packet of club reports from me by February 20, 2023.

Norma Manning GFWC Maine Vice President
It was brought to our attention that the Treasurer's Reports in the 2022 GFWC Maine Directory inadvertently did not get updated from last year’s edition. For this we apologize and if you would like the report that should have been inserted, please send me an email, and I will send it to you.

Thank you,
Jane Briggs GFWC Maine Treasurer

Just a reminder that dues to GFWC Maine are $21.00 per club member and are due by January 1, 2023

GFWC Maine Presidents Project

DATES TO REMEMBER:

November: National Native American Heritage Month
November 11, 2022: Veterans Day
December 17, 2022: National Wreaths Across America Day
December 19, 2022: Jane Cunningham Croly Birthday
January 25, 2023: GFWC Maine Reports Due (postmarked)
February 1, 2023: GFWC Maine LEADS Applications due
May 11-12, 2023: GFWC Maine Spring Convention
               Hilton Garden Inn
               Bangor, Maine
June 9-12, 2023: GFWC International Convention
                Louisville, Kentucky

Pine Tree Notes submission dates are:
➢ January 13th, 2023
➢ March 10th, 2023
GFWC New England Region Conference Providence, Rhode Island 2022

GFWC International President Deb Strahanoski & GFWC President-elect Suellen Brazil

GFWC International President Deb Strahanoski & GFWC NER President Libby Wiers

GFWC Maine!
GFWC Maine Fall Conference 2022

Governor Janet Mills
1st female governor in the state of Maine!

Josie Levey & Suzanne Fox
Yellow Tulip Project

Menopause

A little bit of Fundraising...
AniMeals

Are you uncomfortable?

GFWC Programs...

GFWC Maine Past Presidents! Busy, Busy, Busy!

Let’s get ideas!