Is it officially the Holiday season? It seems like just yesterday we were gathered at the GFWC Maine Fall Conference! Thank you to those who could attend. A jam-packed day full of information, entertainment, enlightenment, announcements, and commemorating!

GFWC Maine Day, February 14th, 2024; 130 years strong! What will your Club do to recognize and celebrate? Please mark this monumental event and make plans!

GFWC Maine is strong in supporting many different projects and passions. Your embrace to raise awareness to break the stigma of mental health is astounding! From speakers at meetings to the planting of Hope Gardens, you have begun the conversation!

In the recent tragic events that occurred in our state, we are hearing how the mental health system needs help. As we prayed for the victims, we now pray for the survivors...

Talking about Mental Health should be as normal as talking about physical health...

“Hearts that beat to the tune of kindness can change the rhythm of the world”

Maureen Provencal - GFWC Maine President
Preparing to share your news?
As fall has come upon us it is time to start thinking about getting your narratives started.
Remember to put in the who, why, when, and where of each project.
Reports of your ‘Award Entries’ are due to:
Norma Manning
GFWC Maine Vice-President.
Postmarked by January 25th, 2024.
If you have questions, please reach out...
Hope you all have a very Happy Holiday season and stay healthy and safe
207-615-8831 nmanning1940@gmail.com

The General Federation of Woman’s Clubs of Maine would like to express our deepest condolences to those members that knew of Linda C. Brawn, Past GFWC Maine State President 1990-1992. Linda won’t ever fade from our hearts and memories of her years devoted to GFWC Maine. She lived with such passion and everyone who knew her was blessed by her presence.
ENVIRONMENT
DEB BURNHAM - CHAIRMAN

Maine Lawmakers have passed a new and improved bottle bill that modernizes Maine’s Bottle Redemption Program. This simplifies the program while making it more efficient with technological advancements and investments to expand the use of refillable containers. An increase for the handlers of returnables went from 5.5 cents to 6 cents as of September. This saved jobs and businesses in Maine.

Another bill passed to boost offshore wind power that has the potential to launch an entirely new clean energy industry in Maine. More jobs and good pay for Maine.

A safeguard for loons provides them protections from fishermen using certain lead jigs as of September 2024.

40% of garbage is paper or paperboard so STOP and THINK before you print. Ask yourself if it could be saved in a file instead, printed on the back of recycled paper near the printer, or combined with another document.

90% of plastic products cannot be recycled. We think because of the recycling symbols with the numbers 1-5 that all levels of plastics will be recycled. Wrong, more on this in January when I share information from a recent webinar about plastics put on by National Garden Clubs, Inc.

Will be collecting corks at the GFWC Maine Spring Convention!

Tabs were collected last May that netted 20 pounds for $7 from GFWC Maine. My challenge to all of you is to pump up the amount to three times that= 60 lbs. by May 10,2024. This can be done by enlisting support of your friends, neighbors, schools and local library to spread the word about our collection efforts for Ronald McDonald House in Bangor. Remember to flip the tabs for this cause!

ARTS & CULTURE
BARBARA HATHAWWAY CO-CHAIRMAN

High School Student Art Shows, Membership Photography, Literature Short Story and Poetry, and Scrapbook, all fall under the category of Arts & Culture.

Please plan some programs around these themes and participate in programs and projects as club members.

Sponsorship and promotion of the Arts in the community can enrich the lives of many people and especially the High School Students that participate in the District Art Shows. They will always remember that they were part of something important. Sponsorship of student artists will affect their life and the joy of art. Collaboration with the community helps build and encourage the arts and promote GFWC Maine. Encourage the high school art students and art teachers in your area.

The GFWC Maine Directory gives rules for the arts and where you can participate as clubwomen. Start writing and submitting your work. Start taking photos and share your talents with your clubs by entering the GFWC Maine contests at spring conference for a chance to win.

Remember to write your report about your club’s art program and project in Art & Culture.
As we come into the holiday season, I want to share an Icelandic tradition I recently read about. Jolabokaflod— which translates to “Christmas book flood.” On Christmas Eve, books are given and received as gifts, usually wrapped in traditional Icelandic paper and families spend the evening reading together. There is also a chocolate component; rather a small chocolate is wrapped with the book or hot chocolate is enjoyed while reading it. When you are shopping for those around you this year, consider celebrating in Iceland style!

Fall is the time to get cozy and finish preparations for the winter to come. The gray days and falling leaves make me want to cozy up next to the woodstove with a good book. Is your club promoting reading for self-improvement or pleasure? If you are not, I encourage you to look into our ESO program, find a local book club or start one with a group of friends. It doesn’t have to be anything formal, meet for half an hour over coffee or wine, do a Zoom call and eat lunch together. Whatever form works best for you, the important part is taking time for yourself and forming social connections with other women and growing a community where books are treasured.

This time of year brings many opportunities to let citizens know that GFWC Maine is a vital part of the community. With two big holidays in November and December, there are many projects that can be presented. A few that come to mind are pie sales before the holidays, donations to homeless shelters, toys and clothing for needy children, volunteering at libraries, and the lists go on. Be sure to have articles and pictures put into newspapers of the projects you do. If possible, partner with other organizations in projects that you do.
HEALTH & WELLNESS  
SALLY MANCHESTER - CHAIRMAN

The deadline for reporting your Day of Service project is October 31st so everything will be tallied after that, and I am really looking forward to seeing what everyone did and what the total summary will be. Don’t forget it is Covid booster and flu vaccine time once again. I hope you all have or will protect yourselves. Neither of these viruses is anything to get complacent about. Please get immunized, it is how we have eradicated many diseases that used to claim lives.

On a much happier note, let us pause during this upcoming holiday season, count our blessings, do something special for someone else, give an unexpected gift, offer to take someone shopping, invite someone going through a tough time to dinner, hang an anonymous wreath – something special. You will be all the more blessed for your actions. We are in the hands of our Creator. God Bless.

LEGISLATION & PUBLIC POLICY

Election time is fast approaching, and it is important to have your vote count. Also, signing up for the GFWC Legislation Action Center (GFWC member portal) will keep you informed of bills that will be taken up. This is a great way to be kept informed of what is going on in Washington DC. Our opinions matter and contacting our Legislators with our opinion is so easy to do. Maine has less than 20 signed up with LAC. Let’s increase the members from Maine who sign up for LAC. I am sending out information to club presidents who can help you get your name on the LAC list!

Marjorie Pfeiffer - Chairman
As GFWC Maine Club women we are all aware that October is Domestic Violence Awareness Month. I know still on my mind and in my heart, I am grappling with my thoughts and feelings of sadness, compassion, and love for the city of Lewiston and the surrounding areas that are and will continue for a very long time healing their lives after the horrific tragedy of events that unfolded on October 25th. This was the most horrific and tragic event that has ever happened in our State involving domestic violence. Many were saying it would not happen in our state; it only happens everywhere else. In my involvement and education about domestic violence awareness and prevention my answer to the statement is ... It happens everywhere, every single day, in every state nationally and Maine is no exception! Sadly, we are not excluded.

Each domestic violence incident is tragic. The mass shooting was horrific and for reasons we may never ever know or understand why Robert Card did what he did we will forever remember those impacted by his actions. MORE NEEDS TO BE DONE in ALL areas of domestic violence as well as more needs to be done in our Mental Health system as well. Thank you, President Maureen, for working in your administration to shine a light on Mental Health Awareness.

Together as Maine Club women come together, as we have done and will continue to do on important issues, we will continue to address and do the work necessary to educate, inform and discuss what is needed in our communities to eradicate the violence and stigma attached to domestic violence. The Signature Program has a mission and your Chairman is grateful for all that our members have done and are continuing to do! GFWC Maine’s work in the Signature Program still has so much more left to do and I know that more action will be taken within our membership supporting all aspects the program offers.

I want to thank the members of GFWC Newport Woman’s Club for their invitation to address their membership last month. Visiting our Clubs is my favorite part of my responsibility as your State Chairman. My sincerest gratitude for the attentiveness and interest and asking how you can support the Signature Program was so welcomed by Newport members. Your generosity supporting the High School Elder Abuse Essay Scholarship was the “cherry on top” of a wonderful afternoon.

The Success for Survivors Scholarship is yet another way Clubs can make an impact to help the lives of intimate partner violence survivors who are pursuing higher education. Clubs can donate directly to the Signature Project Fund through GFWC. For more information on this project, you can contact me or go the www.gfwc.org/what-we-do/success-survivors/ for the timeline for the 2024 scholarship. This is a GFWC Scholarship Fund. It is not GFWC Maine Statewide High School Essay Elder Abuse Scholarship Award. Two separate scholarships to support and donate.

I heard from members at our Fall Conference that their Club will be supporting the GFWC Maine Elder Abuse Essay Scholarship this year and am pleased to report I have received some donations for the 2024 scholarship. Let's have 100% participation this year!! If you haven't sent your donation to me yet I am anxiously awaiting hearing from you! Checks to GFWC Maine (on memo line Elder Abuse Scholarship) mailed to 15 Memorial Drive Winterport ME 04496.

As we serve others, we are working on ourselves; every act, every word, every gesture of genuine “kindness,” and compassion naturally nourishes our own hearts as well. (anonymous)

Thank you GFWC Maine members for your support to GFWC Maine Signature Program Domestic and Sexual Violence Awareness and Prevention.
GFWC CLUB MEMBERS TAKE THE NATION BY STORM

INAUGURAL GFWC NATIONAL DAY OF SERVICE A SUCCESS

A year ago, the General Federation of Women’s Clubs (GFWC) National Day of Service, September 30, was an idea. Ten months later, it came to pass with participation across the country nothing short of spectacular.

In fact, preliminary results recorded from the “NDS Impact Reports” submitted by clubs indicate that an estimated 194,333 pounds of nonperishable food items were collected and distributed to local food banks, pantries, churches, schools, daycare centers, colleges, and many more organizations to feed families and individuals suffering from food insecurity and hunger. GFWC received approximately 1,000 pledges, with participation estimated at more than 25,000 GFWC members and community leaders across the 50 states volunteering to raise public awareness about food insecurity and collecting and distributing food to those in need.

To witness the impact of GFWC clubs in their local communities, all you had to do was look at social media. There were numerous Facebook and Instagram posts shared. The photos and activity summaries were inspiring and illustrated GFWC at its absolute best – volunteering and making a powerful difference in their communities.
I am pleased to announce the 2024 Maine Jennie June Award recipient. As you know, this is the most prestigious award given to an individual club member. At GFWC Maine Fall Conference this year’s Jennie Award was presented to, oh, but wait, this year’s recipient has already been selected to represent New England Region in the national competition. So, who is it? She is a forty-seven-year member of the GFWC Skowhegan Woman’s Club, Violet “Vi” Ferland.

Vi has served her club with enthusiasm, diligence, and leadership. She has held the office of president twice, vice president four times, secretary for one term, served on the board of directors for fifteen years, and chaired many committees and projects. As an ongoing member of the Publicity, Bylaws, Fundraising, Auditing, Calling, and Legislative Council Committees, Vi has consistently demonstrated her dedication to her club. She has chaired the Scholarship Committee for twenty-three years and continues to do so as she enjoys working with local educators and members to assist worthy high school seniors. As a member of the Education Committee, she joined two other members to teach a special unit on the Nineteenth Amendment to a local girl scout troop so they could earn a specialty badge commemorating the one hundredth anniversary of the passing of the 19th amendment. The GFWC Signature Project is of special interest to Vi. She helped plan, coordinate, and produce six one-hour programs covering family violence topics airing on the local cable television station. Vi also helped develop large tri-fold information panels covering domestic violence power and control language which were displayed in four public buildings. These panels are now being used by family violence educators in the area.

Commitment to her community is evident through all the organizations Vi has been involved with. As a thirty-year member of the Bloomfield Garden Club, she has held many leadership positions. The Skowhegan History House Association has benefitted from her lifetime membership serving at events such as the Heritage Tea and fundraisers. Vi was a nineteen-year-old member of the Coburn Park Commission working to improve the park and keep it open to the public. Working tirelessly for ten years on the Skowhegan Free Public Library renovation project, Vi used her extensive community network of friends and contacts to help bring this community project to fruition. Vi’s faith is an important part of her being. She is a communicant of Notre Dame de Lourdes Church and serves as a Eucharist Minister and provides Communion to individuals in their homes and at nursing care facilities. A member of the Daughters of Isabella, Vi works on many fundraiser events. On a more personal note, for years Vi assisted a neighbor taking him grocery shopping, driving him to medical appointments, and preparing meals for him and his bedridden sister. The man has passed away and Vi visits his sister who now resides in a nursing home. Generosity is her middle name.

During Vi’s ninety-three years she has met life head-on with grace, positivity, and resilience. Married to her husband William, they had two children, a son, Bill, and a daughter, Brenda. Tragedy fell upon the Ferlands as they lost their beloved daughter to brain cancer at the age of nineteen. Vi was her caregiver while working full-time. At the age of fifty-nine, Vi’s husband lost a courageous battle with leukemia. Vi was involved in a violent car crash leaving her with severe head injuries which took her years to overcome. She faced all this with courage and strength and has persevered to serve her club, her community, and her family. As one of her fellow club members said, “Vi is a strong, independent, and courageous woman who consistently places the needs of her family and friends above her own leaving a lasting love in the hearts of those around her.”

I could go on and on, but space does not allow me to talk about the full measure of Vi’s commitment. If you were to “google” commitment, you may even find Vi Ferland’s name. Maine made an excellent choice in choosing Vi for this award as is evident in her selection by New England Region to compete at the national level.

Congratulations to Vi. She is truly deserving of this prestigious award, and we wish her luck at the next level.

CAROL JARVAIS - CHAIRMAN
On October 7th I visited the Outreach Club to talk about the ESO program. I had a lovely time visiting with the ladies. Since then, one more member of the Outreach Club has joined the ESO program, I am happy to say.

On October 11th I had the pleasure of presenting the 1st and 2nd century charms and certificates to Skowhegan Woman’s Club member Kathy Kahler. Congratulations to you Kathy. You are doing a great job.

As we settle into the fall season, please take time for yourself to get in some reading.

Happy Thanksgiving!

Mark your Calendars!

**November:**
- November 11, 2023: Veterans Day
- November 13, 2023: World Kindness Day
- November 16, 2023: National Wreaths Across America Day
- December 19: Jane Cunningham Croly Birthday
- January 25, 2024: GFWC Maine Reports Due (postmarked)
- February 1, 2024: GFWC Maine LEADS applications due
- February 14, 2024: GFWC Maine Day
- May 9–10, 2024: GFWC Maine Spring Convention
  Hilton Garden Inn Freeport Downtown
  Freeport, Maine
- June 28-July 2, 2024: GFWC International Convention
  Hilton Chicago
  Chicago, Illinois

Pine Tree Notes submission Dates:
- January, 2024
- March 8, 2024
The Lubec Woman’s Club began our regular monthly business meetings in September with five new members joining the group. During one of our “Getting to Know You” activities we found that the median age of the members present was 69. We celebrated the results of our July Yard Sale and presented a basket of gifts to Leaf Kraft, our Yard Sale Chair.

For our “National Day of Service” project, our club did not stick to the theme of food security. Our Club donates money to the local Food Pantry at the Lubec Community Outreach Center as well as members volunteering at the Pantry. Instead, we collected feminine products and cash for the purchase of products help girls get to school and women get to work. We collected 24 packages of items, small carrying cases were donated, along with $400 in cash. The supplies were given to the school nurse and the Lubec Community Outreach Center. Our Club will purchase more supplies as they are needed with the money we received.

Our October meeting featured a presentation from our Washington County Sheriff, Barry Curtis, about “Scamming”, a very timely subject.

On October 9th, the winning ticket was drawn for our 500 Raffle (500 tickets at $5.00 apiece, and at least $500 in gift cards). The Raffle is a large fundraiser for us, and community businesses are very generous with their donations of gift cards. Our 500 Raffle Chair is Ruth Arenas, who keeps us organized by asking businesses to donate, as well as setting up times for selling at the local IGA.

We continued our “tradition” of delivering Halloween Treat Bags to the residents of the senior apartments in town. These were gracefully received on Saturday, October 28th.

GFWC Lubec Woman’s Club - Jeanne Drews, Communications Chairman

GFWC ARTS Club - Raejean Hersey, President

GFWC ARTS Club is alive and well. We started the year with 11 members. Having added a new member and a few showing interest. September opening meeting we discussed what we want to do this year.

One project we want to do is bring back the Welcome Table that ran about ten years then Covid hit, and they had to close and since then the church which was used for the free meal has closed and is for sale...So, we as a club would love to bring it back... Big Project but we haven’t given up... will keep everyone informed of our progress. Fundraiser was our next topic.

We have decided to have a boxed lunch available at our voting polls on November 7th. This will include an 8 oz cup of either Chili, Chicken Chili or Beef Barley soup with a biscuit and chocolate chip cookies and a bottle of water all boxed hot and ready to go with spoon and napkin. LOL for $7.00

November meeting is slated for Nov.14th. hoping for more fundraising ideas.

Hoping to do a Breakfast with Santa again.

Working with our Police Chief in Pittsfield who has great ideas and is speaking to us on November 14th.

Guess that is about it for now.

Happy Thanksgiving to all. Stay safe and take care of yourselves.
Our 8th Annual Turkey Drive on November 18th will help stock our local food pantry, The Neighbors Cupboard. We have expanded to 3 donation collection locations this year thanks to our growing Club membership. Our November membership meeting with be “Spice up the Night”, members will bring spices which will be delivered to the food pantry, along with our Turkey Drive donations.

With the help of local community members, our Club has been involved in a project to restore a historic stone trough here in Winterport. “The Blaisdell Trough” is a 19th century horse trough and once work is completed, it will become home to an array of colorful flowering plants.

December is just around the corner, and with it, our annual Christmas Social and Yankee Swap. We will also again, be helping Smith and Wagner Schools to fill the needs of local children during the holiday season.

Thank you to this wonderful group of ladies who every day show their love of our community through their tireless actions!

Falling leaves, falling temperatures........fundraising, volunteering.......November has arrived in Winterport!

Winterport Woman’s Club has been busy these past few months, our community plantings have brightened our summer and fall. We continued with our restoration of Abbot Park, located here in Winterport, planting more flowers and clearing brush. Next, we will be gathering greens and holly to decorate the town for that inevitable transition to a winter wonderland.

A group of members enjoyed a bit of Halloween fun as they volunteered one evening at the Fort Knox “Fright at the Fort” event. Spooky!!!!

Our Club has been working with the Finding our Voices project to spread awareness of domestic violence and abuse during October, Domestic Violence Awareness Month. We also planted more yellow tulips in our Hope Gardens to help smash the stigma surrounding mental illness.

Election Day will find us outside the voting polls selling our 2024 Winterport Community Calendar. This is one of our popular fundraisers. It gives us time to connect with community members, spreading the word about who we are and what we do as a volunteer organization.

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Thank you to this wonderful group of ladies who every day show their love of our community through their tireless actions!
We also celebrated the 110th anniversary of the organization of our club with a special toast to the achievements of women through the years and a delicious anniversary cake. Four members of our club attended the Fall Conference at Maple Hill Farm in Hallowell. We had a lovely “Teddy Bear Picnic” lunch. Our tables were decorated with stuffed Teddy bear centerpieces which had been donated by Del Floyd in memory of her mother Ruth Floyd who was a long-time member of the Research Club and collector of Teddy bears. This was a fun, interesting and entertaining day.

At our October meeting we were very pleased to welcome speakers from the Sexual Assault Response Services of Southern Maine to educate us on the free services they provide to anyone impacted by sexual violence in York and Cumberland Counties. Those services are provided free to the recipient and is an area much in need of volunteer advocates to help those in need of support and assistance.

After being on a summer break for July and August we were happy to be back together for a September “Back To School” Potluck dinner at which there was a delicious variety of dishes to share and enjoy. We also shared “school day memories” and played “back to school bingo” for fun and prizes. For our National Day of Service project, we chose to hold a “Peanut Butter and Jelly” food drive. A tote box was placed at our local supermarket with a suggested list of food items that people could donate to a church food pantry. About 150 food items were collected for this project.

21 Club has had a fun and BUSY fall! We started our year with a yummy potluck and quickly got down to business. One new member was welcomed, and a few guests have come to see what we are all about! We held our fall yard sale on a very rainy day, with less than usual profits, so the committee went above and beyond and two days later, on a beautifully sunny day, went for round two! Another committee held a public supper of ham, squash, scalloped potatoes, and apple crisp. Delicious!
As President and chair of NDS project, I had decided we would need to postpone our food collection day since all who volunteered would be attending and helping at the celebration of live gathering. I called the director of the food cupboard that was to benefit from the day’s collection. I explained our situation and to my surprise, she said it was not a problem, she would take care of everything, we need not postpone! She explained that she has people willing to volunteer at a moment’s notice and since I had done the work of advertising and organizing, they would be happy to stand by and do the collecting. I was so relieved, surprised, overcome, there are still good and caring people out there. I should not have expected any less from the ‘Lady who feeds the people’!

Stay kind…

GFWC Semper Fidelis Club - Karie Watson President

GFWC Semper Fidelis Club members shared a wonderful meal at Lakewood Inn Restaurant for our Fall banquet at the end of September. We were able to get through the meeting portion of our gathering through all the chattering, laughter, and hugs since a lot of us hadn’t seen each other all Summer! As always, the table decorations and favors were perfect thanks to member Jess Gilson!

For National Day of Service, our club decided to organize a food collection at our local Hannaford Supermarket. They agreed wholeheartedly to let us have a space in front of their entrance to display our banner and set up tables for donations as well as information on food insecurity for donors. We advertised in the local newspapers and had everything ready to go leading up to the event. It was a couple of days after our event when I received an early morning phone call from a friend and fellow Club member. She was in tears, relaying the message that a very dear friend, wonderful man, active member of our community and local business owner, had passed away, very unexpectedly, the night before. He was only 61 years old. He left behind an amazing wife and a growing business in our community. You see, Jeff is an irreplaceable community leader, tender heart, and dear friend to the majority of our Club members. His family planned a celebration of life on the very day of our NDS project. Being as close as we all are, we HAD to be there for his family. We were the friends to take the lead and do all the planning, tie up as many loose ends as we could for his wife and family.

As President and chair of NDS project, I had decided we would need to postpone our food collection day since all who volunteered would be attending and helping at the celebration of live gathering. I called the director of the food cupboard that was to benefit from the day’s collection. I explained our situation and to my surprise, she said it was not a problem, she would take care of everything, we need not postpone! She explained that she has people willing to volunteer at a moment’s notice and since I had done the work of advertising and organizing, they would be happy to stand by and do the collecting. I was so relieved, surprised, overcome, there are still good and caring people out there. I should not have expected any less from the ‘Lady who feeds the people’!

Stay kind…
GFWC Skowhegan Woman’s Club has had a busy September and October. We have given away toys, two sets of books, and put-up posters against domestic violence. One member, after washing eight bags of her grandson’s stuffed toys and further dividing them into age categories, on September 14th donated in the Club’s name two bags each to the Skowhegan Fire Department and the Skowhegan Police Department. The agencies welcomed these toys used to soothe children, offering them as a comfort item when dealing with a disturbance, such as a fire, removal from a home, or an accident.

On October 4, members of the Skowhegan Woman’s Club, President Bonnie Chamberlain, Reading Group Chair Kathy Kahler, and member of the board Mary Cayford, met with Library Director Angie Herrick at the Skowhegan Free Public Library to read dedications and to donate books in memory of past members, strong role models of perseverance, initiative, inclusion, and leadership, remarkable women we have admired and appreciated for their lifelong contributions to our community and for their loving kindness.

On October 6, members of SWC, the Town Clerk/Treasurer of Skowhegan, and 2 members of Finding Our Voices (FOV), a non-profit started by Patrisha McLean to work toward stopping the silence surrounding speaking about domestic violence, met at Joe’s Flat Iron Cafe. Our mission was to ask local merchants lining Water Street in Skowhegan to display a poster in their window. These posters displayed a photo of a domestic violence victim along with her own words. The aim of hanging up these posters on the main street in Skowhegan is to encourage viewers to speak about abuse. Each poster also has information about who to call for help. Patrisha McLean has repeated this activity in over 90 towns in Maine. Shop owners were eager to display the photos; some shared their own stories.

Five members attended the Fall Conference. This informative meeting in Hallowell included the announcement that our own Vi Ferland is the GFWC New England nominee for the Jennie June Award. Congratulations, Vi. GFWC Maine leaders encouraged us to increase our membership numbers with a plethora of ideas and supported our fun side by the antics of a talented magician.

Also, to help raise awareness and assist local agencies during October’s Domestic Violence Awareness Month, the Skowhegan Woman’s Club donated books to two local agencies. On Tuesday, October 25, club secretary Sharon Adams and board member Vi Ferland delivered the two collections of five books each to Kennebec Behavioral Health and Family Violence Project in Skowhegan. These children’s books will be used by trained personnel to help address domestic violence with children whose young lives have been affected, with the goal of helping them cope, heal and find peace.

On October 24, cookies baked by four members of SWC were delivered to the Skowhegan Fire Department in honor of Fire Prevention Month. The home baked goods were well received and appreciated. As we journey into a season of thankfulness, let us make time to list our blessings. Included are our sisters in the GFWC. We are grateful for the time we spend with other women who value us, guide us, allow us to be ourselves.
GFWC Westbrook Woman’s Club started its new year on September 19 with Donna Dwyer, President and CEO, from My Place Teen Center located in Westbrook gave the Club an update on the important work being done for our youth in our area. She shared several stories regarding youth that have a caring safe place to come to. Our Club will supply snacks to My Place Teen Center as our contribution in memory of MLK. We are so fortunate to have such a safe and caring place for young folks to go to.

On October 3, we had a wonderful program Riding to the Top Therapeutic Riding Center. The Center is in Windham and enhances health and wellness through equine assisted services. What a great way to assist children with a beautiful horse!

October 17 was a different kind of program for us. Two ladies from Couleur Collection in Falmouth were with us to show us how to coordinate clothes in our wardrobe with other items for some new looks. We had such a good time as our members were models. Gave us some new ideas about what we have in our closet. We felt like queens!

Our Program Committee has done a great job bringing us a variety of topics.

Westbrook Woman’s Club participated in community events at Rock Row and Westbrook Community Center. Good advertisement about our Club and what we do. Our Membership Committee has placed bookmarks in various places around the city about our Club with a contact number. This is working we have had visitors to our meetings and petitions coming in. We will bring in two members at our next meeting with more coming.

Westbrook Woman’s Club is very busy keeping the volunteer spirit, enhancing the lives of others.

GFWC Maine Executive Committee State House Tour
Snapshots...

GFWC MAINE FALL CONFERENCE

[Images of event activities and attendees]