



Oregon Clubwoman

NEWSLETTER



A publication of the GFWC Oregon Federation of Women's Clubs

Spring 2021

Inside this Issue:

Page 2: From your President

Page 2: Upcoming Events

Page 3: Leadership Recap

Page 4: Leadership Tips

Page 5: LEADS, Books

Page 6: Art Contest

Page 6: Saidie Orr Dunbar
Education Fund

Page 7: Federation Day, ESO

Page 8: Club Bingo

Page 9: Call to Convention

2020-2022 OFWC Officers

President:

Karen La Voie

1st Vice President:

Wendy Wheeler-Jacobs

2nd Vice President:

Barbara Chavez

Treasurer:

Lisa Anderson

Recording Secretary:

Laurel Jones

Corresponding Secretary:

Heather Thomas

Parliamentary Advisor:

Mary Accettura

2021 OFWC Annual Convention

Adapting During a Pandemic

Due to Covid-19 restrictions in Clatsop, the OFWC will not be able to hold our 2021 Convention In Astoria as planned on May 14-15.

After discussing with your Executive Committee members, it has been decided to divide the convention into 2 meetings .

2021 Convention Part 1 - May 15th on Zoom

We still need to wrap up some of the OFWC 2021 business items prior to the end of the club year. Holding Part 1 of the convention will allow us to do that. Since it is still not safe to meet in person at this time, we felt it was best if we hold a virtual meeting.

One important item to be discussed is the revisions to the OFWC By-laws. The proposed changes to the by-laws will be emailed separately. Please take the time to review them before May 15th. Any questions should be sent to Pam Briggs at pmbriggs@msn.com.

2021 Convention Part 2 - Date & Location to be announced soon!

Lets start off the new club year in the fall of 2021 and begin anew! Part 2 of the state convention will be held in the fall in conjunction with the fall board meeting.

It will be a fun meeting with awards, fundraising and great information to get the club year off to a fantastic start!

See 2021 Convention Call on Page 9



From the OFWC President...

We are just a couple of months from the end of the 2020-2021 club year; perhaps, the most taxing year most of the GFWC Oregon clubwomen have ever dealt with. Not much has been 'normal', but that seemed to just keep our clubwomen on their toes, looking for ways to take care of club business, and thereby, care for those in need in their communities. I have been so impressed with all you have done in these most trying times.

Reporting has been completed for the 2020 year; always, a challenging process. Not only did we have some new GFWC programs this year, we, also, had a number of new OFWC Chairpersons. But everyone, from our Club Presidents on, did, exactly, what our clubwomen do. They dug in and tackled the challenges that were before them and got the tasks done, turning in great reports, narratives and statistics; all to the correct people and on time! Thank you for all your great efforts.

If I have not yet been to one of your club meetings, I would love to visit you. Zoom would be great or a socially distanced masked meeting works too. It's a great way for me to meet your club members and to see/hear first-hand what is happening in your club. Contact me at karenllavoie@gmail.com or 503-701-0465 (text or call).

GFWC INTERNATIONAL CONVENTION CHANGES

The dates and location of the 2021 GFWC International Convention have changed. Due to the ongoing pandemic, the convention will now be in Atlanta, Georgia, at the beautiful Marriott Marquis, from August 27-30, 2021. Go into the GFWC member portal to register for this wonderful event.

2021 Upcoming events:

April 10	Fine Arts Contest, Virtual
May 15	OFWC Convention, (Part 1) Virtual
August 27-30	GFWC Convention, Atlanta, Georgia
September 9-12	Western States Region, Colorado Springs, CO
Fall (Date TBA)	OFWC Convention (Part 2) & Fall Board Meeting

Leadership Seminar Re-cap

Due to Covid restrictions and with everyone's safety in mind, the OFWC Leadership Conference was held, virtually, on March 13th, via *Zoom*.

OFWC Leadership Chair *Pam Briggs*, First Vice-President *Wendy Wheeler-Jacobs* and President *Karen La Voie* worked hard to put together a seminar that was interesting and informative.

Twenty-six attendees took part in the two hour workshop, including our guest speaker, Shannon Bailey, the GFWC National Leadership Chair. There were two panel discussions that addressed very timely topics. Each panel was composed of three members from different clubs.

The topic tackled by the first panel was "*How Has the Pandemic Impacted Clubs?*" They addressed questions dealing with meetings, fundraising, activities, membership, making accommodations in those areas and the lessons learned from these new experiences. The second discussion was focused around *Building & Engaging New Leaders*.

These panelists had been members of OFWC for varying amounts of time. The tips learned from each discussion are posted in this newsletter. A number of short videos were shown throughout the morning, each with a different message, all pertaining to leadership.

Two videos about the *Hugh O'Brian Leadership Program* were played. The first one was a general overview of the program, which has long been one of the GFWC Affiliate Programs. HOBY is in 19 countries worldwide and in all fifty states. HOBY has been in Oregon since 1984 and takes place at Willamette University in Salem. The second HOBY video was filmed at an Oregon conference a few years ago. It was great to hear our First Vice-President, Wendy Wheeler-Jacobs, talking about her experience involving HOBY, both as a student and then, as a mentor.

One of the highlights of the seminar, was having the *GFWC Leadership Chair, Shannon Bailey* be a part of our program. She was so personable and engaging and spent time showing us how to use GFWC's Member Portal, which can be a huge stumbling block for many. Her talk about the GFWC Leadership Toolkit helped bring it to life and made it much less intimidating to use. We so appreciated her taking the time to spend the whole seminar with us.

We received very good feedback from our attendees and we are already looking forward to next year's Leadership program and finding ways to develop future leaders for the Oregon Federation of Women's Clubs.

Building and Engaging New Leaders

Tips captured from our leadership seminar panelists

- ◇ Be willing to volunteer, don't be afraid to raise your hand or step up
- ◇ Assess your strengths and weaknesses and seek out opportunities that are a good fit
- ◇ Be involved in your club and what is going on, make decisions that help your club
- ◇ Ask others to step up to a role, or delegate other opportunities for them to grow
- ◇ Attend OFWC or GF WC meetings/events to understand the big picture
- ◇ Utilize the tools and resources available, like those in the Leadership Toolkit
- ◇ Learn by doing; see every new opportunity as a learning experience
- ◇ Even if you don't succeed the first time, keep trying
- ◇ No one wants to see you fail; Lean on your GF WC family to learn and grow together
- ◇ Prepare in advance, and practice to help overcome fears like public speaking
- ◇ Practice 'Unity in Diversity' by accepting differing opinions
- ◇ Remember that as a leader your responsibility is to bring out the best in others
- ◇ Be kind!
- ◇ Take time to make decisions knowing that they impact others
- ◇ Ask for help when necessary and don't take everything on yourself
- ◇ Practice self-awareness to recognize that it's not all about you but the position/role
- ◇ Apply for **LEADS**
- ◇ Seek out a mentor...either from GF WC or outside the organization for a different perspective
- ◇ Plan ahead. Failure to plan is a plan to fail.
- ◇ Identify what is most important and do that first
- ◇ Evaluate and determine the level of involvement you want to have and make that a goal



Meet your OFWC 2021 LEADS Participant!

I am so thrilled to be able to introduce the 2021 Oregon LEADS participant, *Leslie Ristine*. Leslie is a member of the GFWC of Central Oregon club.

She joined the club in 2019 and even though she was a brand new member stepped right in as she helped with projects, attended meetings and began to learn about the Federation. She became a co-President in 2020 and has already attended OFWC State meetings. Her enthusiasm and willingness to serve have been an asset to her club.



Leslie will be attending the 2021 GFWC LEADS Seminar at the GFWC Convention in Atlanta this summer.

Pam Briggs, OFWC Leadership Chair



Books, Books, Books!

Our clubs and club members have done an AMAZING job distributing the Leveled Reader Books we were so lucky to acquire.

I have been excited to see and hear about the places that have received books and how you have all been so creative in distributing them during the pandemic.

You've done a great job, but don't stop yet!! We started with about 54,000 books and are now down to only about 11,000.

Keep thinking of places to distribute them. Summer is almost here and with schools getting back in session maybe you can work with your local schools (especially those serving a high number of low-income students) and arrange to provide books for them to send home with kids when school closes for the summer?

Let me know how many books you need and we will figure out a way to get them to you! **You can contact me (Pam Briggs) at pmbiggs@msn.com or 541-974-1193 (text or call).**

Fine Arts Scholarship Contest

The OFWC Fine Arts Scholarship Contest will be held virtually this year on **Saturday, April 10th**.



The Awards ceremony will take place over **ZOOM** at 2:00 pm. If you would like to attend, contact Allison Belisle at sajcb@yahoo.com to get the link.

This year we are able to offer the following scholarship amounts.

Vocal:	\$1,000
Instrumental:	\$1,000
Visual Arts:	\$400
Essay:	\$200

Topic: ***Unity in Diversity***

As a reminder, we are constantly fundraising to increase funds for future contests. Please refer to the *Fine Arts Scholarship* page on the OFWC website to find ways you can donate to this fund. We take individual and club donations.

Saidie Orr Dunbar Nursing Education Fund

The ***Saidie Orr Dunbar Nursing Education Fund*** was established in 1956 to recognize her contribution to public health in Oregon. She is considered the “Founder of Public Health Nursing in Oregon.” She was the only Oregon clubwoman to serve as GFWC President, being elected in 1938.



Over the years the Fund has been administered by the American Lung Association and the Oregon Federation of Women’s Clubs. Recently the American Lung Association indicated they no longer wished to be a Trustee of the Fund.

We are in the process of completing the paperwork to make OFWC the sole Trustee. This change in the Trustees for the Fund will require a number of bylaws changes which will be addressed at the OFWC May meeting.

The Scholarship is awarded to a person studying nursing, particularly in the area of public health.



April 24th is Federation Day!

Did you know that *April 24th is the official Federation Day* for the General Federation of Women's Clubs?

What are you doing to celebrate? Last year some of us gathered together (with masks) at the **Mt Scott Cemetery** in Portland to place roses on the grave of *Saidie Orr Dunbar*, a past OFWC President and the only Oregon member to serve as a GFWC International President.

This year we are going to continue this tradition by placing red roses at the grave sites of Saidie Orr Dunbar and other influential women from OFWC. If you would like to join in this new OFWC Federation Day tradition, please email Pam Briggs at pmbriggs@msn.com.



Epsilon Sigma Omicron

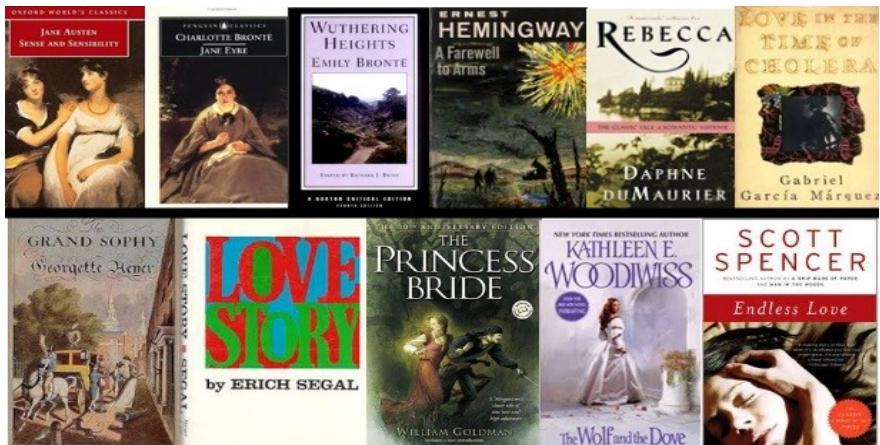
Epsilon Sigma Omicron (ESO) is an honorary educational society open to all dues paying GFWC federated club members.

Over 60 years ago, the ESO program became a permanent part of the GFWC Education Department. Through ESO, clubwomen are given direction in planned reading for self-enrichment and personal growth.

ESO provides clubwomen with a structured reading program that is educational and stimulates a desire for self-improvement. Members can participate in ESO as part of a reading group or on their own. The program provides membership, awards and certificates, pins, reading lists, and a framework in which to pursue continued self-improvement through reading.

The ESO Handbook and reading lists are on the GFWC resource site.

If you are interested in joining the OFWC ESO or learning more, please contact me, Glenda Peters at glenda.peters@comcast.net.



GFWC BWC FUNDRAISER



"SHELTER FROM THE STORM"

BINGO

THURSDAY, MAY 20, 2021
6:00 - 8:00 PM
ZOOM

\$25 FOR EACH BINGO CARD
ONE CARD GOOD FOR ALL 10 ROUNDS

PROCEEDS TO SUPPORT THESE ORGANIZATIONS

- *GFWC BEAVERTON WOMAN'S CLUB
- *PCC SCHOLARSHIP FOR SINGLE PARENT
- *SUNSHINE FOOD PANTRY
- *DOMESTIC VIOLENCE SHELTER
- *HOMEPLATE FOR HOMELESS YOUTH
- *EDWARDS CENTER FOR DEV. DISABILITIES

PADDOLE RAISE: 100% OF PROCEEDS TO PCC SCHOLARSHIP

REGISTRATION: <http://www.beavertonwomansclub.com>

Sign up through Tickets Sales on the website or mail \$25 check or cash per bingo card to: GFWC BWC PO Box 143 Beaverton, OR 97075
Include your name and email address. Due by May 14 th.
Bingo card and ZOOM link will be sent once registered.

Designated Donations Graciously Accepted!!



Call to 2021 OFWC CONVENTION

GFWC Oregon Federation of Women's Clubs



“Part 1”

Saturday, MAY 15, 2021

The Annual Convention is going to look a little different this year. It appears the current COVID restrictions will probably continue for at least the next couple months which means we will not be able to realistically plan on an in-person meeting in May.

Pre-registration is required so we can make the appropriate arrangements with the web program. Here are some meeting details:

Date: Saturday, May 15, 2021 on **ZOOM**

Time: 9:00 am - 9:30 am Sign in, chat and social time

9:30 - noon

Tentative Agenda:

Roll Call

Approval of Minutes, 2020 Convention

Officer Reports

By-law Review

Cost: **FREE!**

Registration Information:

Please email **Heather Thomas** at gfwcthomas51@gmail.com with this information by **May 8th**:

Name, club name, email, phone number

The link for the Convention will be emailed to those registered a couple days prior to the meeting.

If you have questions, please contact Karen La Voie at karenllavoie@gmail.com.

