



Oregon Clubwoman

NEWSLETTER



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

Fall 2023

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2022-2024 OFWC Officers

President:
Wendy Wheeler-Jacobs

1st Vice President:
Barbara Chavez

2nd Vice President:
Sheila Wilson

Secretary:
Ann Lanz

Treasurer:
Pam Briggs

Parliamentary Advisor:
Joann Wheeler

Corresponding Secretary:
Heather Thomas

The deadline for submissions for the Winter Clubwoman newsletter will be February 1, 2024

Western States Region in Oregon



OFWC members gather on State Night with special guest Smokey Bear

The Oregon State Federation was proud to host the 2023 Western Region Conference on August 25-27 in Redmond. Approximately 160 federation members and guests from the western states of Oregon, Alaska, California, Colorado, Idaho, Montana, Nevada, Utah, Washington, and Wyoming attended the conference along with the GFWC International President, Deb Strahanoski. The conference theme was "Volunteers Shower Love".

Before the Conference, there were two days of fun tours of Smith Rock, High Cascade Lakes, Mt Bachelor, wine tasting and a shopping day in Sisters. Guest speakers were Andi Buerger of Voices Against Trafficking, Alison Perry for Central Oregon Veterans Ranch and Cari Wood, Athletic Trainer with Redmond High School. Deb Strahanoski, GFWC International President was the keynote speaker at the Saturday night banquet. Oregon also hosted a Country Store fundraiser, and thanks to Mary Accettura's leadership and the fabulous donations from club members across the state, it was a huge success!

Our OFWC member, Pam Briggs was elected to be the next president of the Western Region for the 2024-2026 administration. Congratulations Pam!

Thank you to all the Oregon Federation members that were a part of this event, which only happens in Oregon every 10 years.

OFWC Convention Recap, Continued



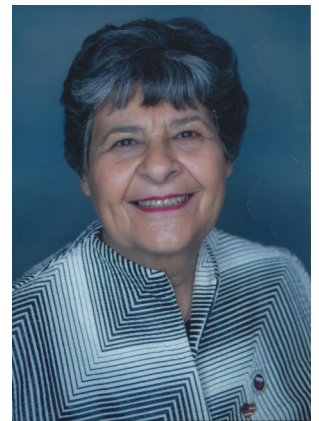
The lovely table decorations at WSR were provided by GFWC of Central Oregon, GFWC Oregon City and GFWC Beaverton

Jenny June Award

Congratulations to Mary Accettura, our Oregon Jennie June Award recipient! Mary received her Jennie June Award Certificate at the WSR Conference in August.

The Jennie June Award, given directly to individual club members, is relatively new. Begun during the 2004 - 2006 administration at first it was intended to award work within GFWC and its states and clubs, but that criteria have expanded over the last twenty years to include volunteerism in the member's community and with her family.

Mary was also the recipient of the Oregon Clubwoman of the Year Award and received her award at the OFWC Convention in May 2023.



MEMBERSHIP IDEAS FROM GFWC

Tired of asking individuals to join your club and hearing their response – “I don’t have time to volunteer now....” Here is a concept that the GFWC Membership Committee wishes to offer....’Micro-Volunteerism.’ Ask instead for them to be involved with a project that is short in commitment, a quick activity for them. Basically, Micro-Volunteering mirrors everyday good citizenship by people to complete simple tasks that benefit others. Non-members can become involved with club projects that could eventually lead to them becoming members! It will help the exposure of our club by getting our name out in the community, plus get a helping hand with a project or fundraisers. Example; “Can you help me with a shift at our club fundraiser this Saturday?” Allow your non-member individuals an opportunity to feel they still can make a difference in the community.

Try this concept, Micro-Volunteering may be an innovative way to add additional volunteers that may become prospective GFWC Members for your club!

Joann Wheeler
Member of the GFWC Membership Committee

From the OFWC President...



I am still beaming from a successful Western States Region Conference that Oregon Federation hosted at the end of August. We may be a small state when it comes to total members, but we can come together in a big way. I know many of our clubs don't even meet in the summer months, and yet you dedicated your time to help with this event. I want to express my sincere thanks for your time, efforts, donations and participation that led to an enjoyable event for club members across our 11 Western States and our guests from the GFWC executive board. You make me proud to be part of OFWC!

There are a couple of things going on this Fall that I want to call your attention to. **The first** is the GFWC National Day of Service, coming right up on September 30th. If you can't organize an event exactly on that day, that is fine, it's more important that your club registers and participates. The National Day of Service (NDS) is where all of GFWC comes together in service to highlight an area of need, take action to address the need, and raise public awareness about its importance. All our clubs are encouraged to join in and organize events in their communities for this year's NDS... It's also a great opportunity to invite guests to participate in your activities and introduce them to the benefits of GFWC. This year's NDS issue of focus is food insecurity. See more later in this newsletter.

The second event happening soon is Fall Board....we will be meeting in Beaverton on October 28. Everyone is invited to attend and we will have a Halloween theme! See the Call in this newsletter.

Finally, we have had to change the date previously published for the State Convention in May due to construction at the hotel. The new dates are May 10-11, 2024. Please mark that on your calendar.

In Federation,
Wendy Wheeler-Jacobs

Upcoming events:

October 25, 2023	OFWC Executive Committee Meeting, Zoom
October 28, 2023	OFWC Fall Board, Beaverton
March TBD	Leadership Seminar, Silverton
May 10-11, 2024	OFWC Convention, Monarch Hotel, Clackamas

GFWC Oregon City Woman's Club

The GFWC Oregon City Woman's Club has been busy since the last newsletter. We placed red carnations at the graves of our past Presidents for Memorial Day; held our annual garage sale at a members beautiful barn; sold 200 hanging flower baskets; picked up the wilted flowers after Memorial Day at a local cemetery; presented our yearly scholarships for \$2500 each to 2 local high school students; attended the event honoring the restoration of the fountain at the John McLoughlin House (the original fountain was gifted to the community in a public celebration on June 18, 1911 by the OCWC as a memorial to Dr. John McLoughlin and we donated funds to this most recent restoration); in August we volunteered with Start Right, the group that puts together school supplies for those in need and also in August 4 members attend the Western States Regional Conference at Eagle Crest.. We just held our first meeting after summer break and are looking forward to new events and fundraisers. Happy Fall You All.



GFWC Salem Woman's Service Club

GFWC Salem Woman's Service Club invites you to join them in collecting new and gently used shoes for the Soles4Souls program. Men's, women's and children's shoes of any size and style are needed. Clean out your closets. Ask friends, family and neighbors to do the same and then just bring them to the OFWC Board of Directors meeting in October. Salem Woman's Service Club will take care of packing and mailing them to Soles4Souls.



**DONATE
SHOES**

It's time for Annual Club Reporting!

It's not too early to start preparing for our annual reporting. Your club reports are due to your OFWC Chairman by **February 15, 2024**. More information on report writing and Community Service Programs will be presented at the OFWC Fall Board Meeting on October 28.

Arts & Culture – Cindy Rasmussen
Education & Libraries – Gail Aldridge
Health & Wellness – Alice Hayden
Domestic Violence Awareness – Heather Thomas
Leadership – Leslie Ristine
Membership – Sheila Wilson
ESO – Glenda Peters
WHRC – Barbara Chavez

Civic Engagement – Barbara Chavez
Environment – Sheila Wilson
Legislation & Public Policy – Pam Briggs
Advocates for Children – Karen La Voie
Communications – Jamie Rockwell
Community Impact – Joann Wheeler
Fundraising – Brenda Dilley

Opportunities for Clubwomen

Western Region Bags

GFWC Oregon Federation of Women's Clubs was happy to be the hosts for this year's Western Regional Conference that was held in Redmond, Oregon. As Club members who had registered for the Conference arrived, we provided each of them with goody bags. Oregon purchased these bags and we had extras left over.

You can see by the bags that they do indicate Oregon 2023. Clubs can request the bags to give to members. My Club GFWC Polk County Service Club took 15 bags, I have reservations for 15 from GFWC of Central Oregon. If your club would like some of these bags, please send me a note with how many you wish to have.

No cost but it would be nice that members had these in their possession!

Heather Thomas, gfwcthomas51@gmail.com



Shot @Life

To kick off a 6-week period of advocacy this fall, Shot@Life is hosting the virtual *Mobilize to Immunize* Summit for volunteer advocates on September 29. Participants will hear from global health speakers about the status and innovations surrounding zero-dose children (children who have not received any vaccines) around the world. They will also connect with fellow advocates and strengthen their advocacy skills during breakout sessions. Anyone based in the U.S. is welcome to apply [here](#) (applications are open through September 25).

Community Impact Program Awards

DO NOT miss this opportunity to be rewarded as a Club for your effective Community Projects!! Cash awards are available from GFWC for your reports of how your GFWC Club created public awareness and benefitted your community! The reporting is for projects done January 1, 2022 to December 31, 2023. Start planning now and collecting the photos and information that you used during your project! The guide for the Community Impact Program is listed under Awards, Contests, and Grants in the GFWC Manual, plus was handed out earlier to each club.

The deadline for submission to the State CIP Chairman, Joann Wheeler is **March 1, 2024**.

The first place entry from Oregon will be sent on to GFWC for judging, plus be awarded \$100 for the State Award! Oregon has won one of the top five awards in the past, so start planning your report and review the Award Guide to assist you on key points to include in your report! Please contact me if you have additional questions!
GOOD LUCK

Joann Wheeler

OFWC Community Impact Award Chairman

Environment

I encourage all of the clubs to conduct a new environment project before the end of the calendar year. Would love it if one of the clubs could find out where to recycle old prescription bottles. I know some can go in your weekly recycle bins, but is there other places that take them as well? Again, I ask you to consider Wreaths Across America. You would help put out Wreaths on December 16 at a military cemetery near you. I have checked and there is one near each of the clubs. www.wreathsacrossamerica.org Click on volunteer, then you can find a close cemetery by putting on your zip code.

Sheila Wilson, *Environment Chairman*

Membership

As we come back from our summer break and start our new club year, it is a great time to invite and welcome new members. Ideas to find potential new members . . . Ask your members to bring a guest to your meetings and events or with fall and pumpkin time, hold a meeting and invite guests to attend, at a pumpkin patch and carve pumpkins (doesn't have to be at a pumpkin patch, just a place to carve them). A reminder your websites are a great place to list membership information and who to contact. And, Facebook is a good place to let everyone know what the club is up to. Ask members to share posts with their friends. I am here to help, if needed and possibly attend a membership event.

Sheila Wilson, *OFWC 2nd Vice President*

Fundraising

Fundraising by predicting the future.... How about inviting a psychic medium to do a reading for about an hour? The club can sell tickets and have silent auction or raffles. For Halloween, your club can host a psychic fair including psychics, tarot and palm readers. You can also have vendors with jewelry, leather goods, oils, massages and cleansing sessions. Creating new and unique events are a fun way to make money, have fun, and attract new members.

Brenda Dilley, *Fundraising Chair*

Signature Project

Most Clubs have been meeting after a break for the summer. For some of us it was a busy time during the summer.

As your State Chairman I would like to see each club collect used cell phones that they can donate to their local shelter. These cell phones are used by Domestic Survivors as well as Sexual Survivors for an emergency phone only. These are provided by the shelters to those who have been affected. Some shelters actually collect the phones then sell them back to the companies for money that is then used by the shelter in helping those in need. For an example: Our partnership with Shelter Alliance has raised: **\$3,943.71**. This amount of money to a shelter goes a long way.



Please send your clubs final donations of used cell phones to me by 1/2/24 so that I can report just this project on our report to GFWC.

Heather Thomas, *Domestic and Sexual Violence Awareness and Prevention Signature Project Chair*

GFWC National Day of Service

What is GFWC National Day of Service?

The General Federation of Women's Clubs (GFWC) is united in its dedication to volunteer community service. The **National Day of Service (NDS)** is a day in which all GFWC comes together in service to highlight an area of need, take action to address it, and raise public awareness about its importance. State federations and clubs will participate by organizing Community Service Programs (CSP) in their communities as part of NDS. It's also a great opportunity to invite guests to participate in your NDS activities and introduce them to the benefits of GFWC.



National Day of Service

SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 30, 2023

Living the Volunteer Spirit

www.GFWC.org

#GFWC23NDS

How can you help solve food insecurity in the United States?

To initiate the planning process, GFWC encourages you to contact your local food banks and food pantries — wherever people go for food — to find out how best to be of service. For example, a club can sponsor a food bank, pantry, or food program to organize a volunteer activity with fellow club members, family, and friends. Ask every member of your club to invite a friend who is not presently a member to participate and experience GFWC in action.

Who should you invite to participate?

Use the activity to motivate and inspire your friend(s) to join GFWC. The benefits of community service not only make a person feel good, but it helps to build meaningful friendships and bonds that will last a lifetime.

Ideas for NDS Activities:

Volunteer at a Local Food Bank

Food Drives: Connect directly with the local food bank to determine how your club can be of service. They will welcome the support and donation of time and food.

Raise Awareness About Hunger: Reach out to your local media to introduce NDS and the cause being promoted. Ask the reporter to mention NDS and how people can participate and donate. Also, use social media to discuss food insecurity with members of your community, clubs, schools, church groups, and others.

Advocate to End Food Insecurity: Use GFWC's Legislative Action Center (LAC) to interact with your federal and state elected officials to advance a bill or introduce legislation that helps to end hunger by funding programs specific to the issue.

NDS Information & Updates:

Every week until September 30, GFWC will make announcements, provide project ideas, and discuss food insecurity. Be sure to check out the weekly electronic newsletter, *GFWC News & Notes*; Facebook and Instagram; and website, www.GFWC.org. Stay tuned for additional resources, including a tool kit and a media kit.

Resources to Locate Your Local Food Bank & Food Service Programs:

Second Harvest – [food near me – Second Harvest \(2-harvest.org\)](http://foodnearme-SecondHarvest(2-harvest.org))

Feeding America – [Find Your Local Food Bank | Feeding America](http://FindYourLocalFoodBank|FeedingAmerica)

Type “food banks (your state)” into your search engine

Find churches with food banks in your state – [https://save.lovetoknow.com/Churches with Food Pantries](https://save.lovetoknow.com/Churches_with_Food_Pantries)

For More Information About Food Insecurity:

US Department of Agriculture – <https://www.fns.usda.gov/fact-sheet/usda-support-for-food-banks-emergency-food-system>

Office of Disease Prevention and Health Promotion – <https://health.gov/healthypeople/priority-areas/social-determinants-health/literature-summaries/food-insecurity>

National Public Radio, *Food Insecurity in the US By the Numbers* – <https://www.npr.org/2020/09/27/912486921/food-insecurity-in-the-u-s-by-the-numbers>

How to register?

Please contact Melanie Gisler, Director of Membership Services, at MGisler@GFWC.org; and, copy Deb Strahanoski, International President, at DStrahanoski@GFWC.org to register. Be sure to include the following in your email: Club Name, Point of Contact, Address, Phone Number, and Email.

OFWC Dues Information

October 15th: Dues are DUE!!

January 15th: Dues must be received or the club member is not counted in the official statistics for OFWC or GFWC and will be unable to vote at the OFWC Convention.

General Members: \$30

Member-At-Large: \$35

Juniorette: \$15

Dues include: GFWC (National) and OFWC (State) dues for the fiscal year from July 1st – June 30th

Send dues to: Pam Briggs, OFWC Treasurer
197 Lake St SE, Albany, OR 97321
pmbriggs@msn.com
541-974-1193

- Send this information with your dues payment: Club membership list that includes each paid member's name, address, phone, email address and year that they joined OFWC (not the year they joined their current club).
- Even if all your members have not paid dues by October 15th, PLEASE send the payment and membership list for those who HAVE paid. Additional payments can then be sent for the remaining members at a later time.
- Also send a copy of your membership list to your OFWC 2nd Vice-President, Sheila Wilson (skwilson3@msn.com)

Please contact Pam Briggs, OFWC Treasurer if you have any questions regarding dues.

Congratulations to the GFWC North Clackamas Woman's Club for being the first club to turn in their initial dues payment! It's never too early to get that first payment turned in, then you just send in additional payments as more members pay their dues.

Call to Fall Board



OFWC Fall Board Meeting

October 28, 2024

Murrayhill Clubhouse

11010 SW Teal Blvd, Beaverton, OR 97007



Hosted by the GFWC Beaverton Woman's Club

8:30 - 9:00 Registration, Morning Treats
9:00 - 1:30 Meeting and Lunch (Soup & Salad)

All State Officers, Club Presidents, Special Fund, Program and Committee Chairmen are expected to attend. Other members are also welcome! If you are giving a report, please remember to email it to Anne Lantz, OFWC Secretary in advance.



Service Project:

We will be learning about and supporting the McKinney-Vento Homeless Assistance Act

The McKinney-Vento Homeless Assistance Act is a federal law created to support the enrollment and education of homeless students. McKinney-Vento is intended to provide homeless students the same educational opportunities as housed students by removing as many barriers to learning for homeless students as possible. A McKinney-Vento representative will be coming to tell us more. In order to assist these homeless students, we are asking that you consider bringing grocery store gift cards as a donation. These can include: Fred Meyer, Safeway/Albertson's, Rite Aid, Target, CVS, Basics Market (Aloha area), WINCO, Wal-Mart and similar.

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REGISTRATION: \$25.00 (Includes meeting and lunch expenses)

Deadline is October 21, 2023

Mail your check out to OFWC and mail with registration form to:

Heather Thomas, OFWC Corresponding Secretary
5354 Melrose Ct N.
Keizer, OR 97303
503-508-3569

NAME: _____

CLUB: _____

POSITION (State office, club president, program chairman, etc.):
