

# ANNUAL REPORT

2009

GENERAL FEDERATION OF WOMEN'S CLUBS OF VIRGINIA

“Service, the Debt of Education”



**A Compilation of Reports  
Distributed at the 103<sup>rd</sup> Annual Convention**

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Dulles Marriott  
Dulles, Virginia

# GENERAL FEDERATION OF WOMEN'S CLUBS OF VIRGINIA ANNUAL REPORT 2009



## **GFWC VIRGINIA PRESIDENT EMMA JEAN WISE “A SYMPHONY OF SERVICE”**



Let's tune up and sing the praises of the volunteer clubwomen of GFWC Virginia! I can run the scale from A to G, starting with awesome and amazing! Fact is, you were once again terrific – and, the facts are – 605,589.45 volunteer hours on 10,009 programs/projects with (percussion section please) \$2,923,997.13 raised/donated!!!

All this by the 160 clubs who reported of our 206 total number of clubs. Our membership numbers were down (6313) and yet, the hours given and money raised or donated were UP! Like last year, Home Life's Helping Hands in the Community claimed the top numbers across the board with Education in the Community coming in second. Numbers remained strong in Leadership and Membership.

We were definitely “in the game” as 4 new clubs were organized in 2009 (2 General and 2 Juniorette) and a Club Membership Grant Program was developed. The spotlight was on Leadership as the second GFWC Virginia LEADS was held and our GFWC LEADS participant, Arlene Vinion-Dubiel, represented Virginia at GFWC Convention in Cleveland.

We brought home awards from Cleveland in the areas of Resource Conservation, Focus on Health, Focus on Financial Issues, WHRC and the Operation Smile Paula Cutler Award.

Tidewater District hosted Convention 2009 in Williamsburg and Shenandoah District welcomed us to Staunton for Conference 2009. We had as our special guest at the one day Conference, Missi McCoy, GFWC Director of Junior Clubs. Our Jennie Award winner, Lucy Harris, was announced.

Volunteers assisted with the educational tours at the State Fair for the 23<sup>rd</sup> year! We also continued to enjoy our long standing affiliation with Operation Smile, HOBY and Easter Seals. Plans were made for Legislation Day. All scholarships were awarded in the first year due to the number of highly qualified applicants. The Long Range Planning Committee was renamed the Strategic Plan Committee and continued its very thorough review of our organizational structure and operation. Increased utilization of the Website is ongoing. The Arts & Crafts Study Committee evaluated changes made to the annual contest and recommended additional adjustments.

There were economic challenges in 2009 with investment earnings down and expenses up! The Budget & Finance Committee continued to monitor our finances and a committee was appointed to study current publication practices. Ad sales for the Clubwoman continued with moderate success. The Executive Committee pulled an “All Nighter” to review Bylaws, Standing Rules and Policies. The Endowment Fund continued to grow.

The State Project has grown steadily and is projected to top \$100,000! The P. Buckley Moss ornament and brooch to benefit the VA Tech Memorial Fund have sold well. The support of this fundraising effort has been awe inspiring to say the least.

It has been an honor to represent GFWC Virginia at the Southeastern Region meeting and the GFWC Board of Directors Meeting and Convention as well as the Holiday Reception at GFWC Headquarters. It has been my pleasure to travel the Commonwealth visiting clubs and districts and sharing in special events. I logged over 10,000 Federation miles in 2009!

As the administration and our Symphony of Service draws to a close, I thank each of you for allowing me to serve.

**GFWC VIRGINIA 3<sup>RD</sup> VICE PRESIDENT/  
DIRECTOR OF JUNIOR CLUBS  
LORI ROCKER**



Congratulations GFWC Virginia Juniors! You are an amazing group of ladies and have once again risen to great heights as you captured stars in 2009. Your volunteer efforts have resulted in 65,226 volunteer hours on 1,724 projects, and donated/contributed \$673,738. Thirty-nine Junior and Juniorette clubs reported their achievements in 2009. What a wonderful way to celebrate our 85<sup>th</sup> year of service to GFWC Virginia!

Virginia Juniors participated in projects under all departments, programs and special project areas as outlined by GFWC and GFWC Virginia. You are to be commended on a job well done! In the GFWC Departments, Virginia Juniors participated in 884 projects contributing 20,100 volunteer hours and \$375,928.

The Home Life – Helping Hands program received the highest support with 262 projects, 5,765 hours and \$142,167. Junior clubs supported local, statewide and national organizations. Locally clubs supported food pantries, homeless shelters, group homes, sheltered workshops, animal shelters, and holiday programs for the needy. Combating hunger and helping those less fortunate was a focus for many of the clubs as 16 supported local food pantries through working shifts, in-kind donations of food and toiletries, and monetary donations. During the holiday season, 20 clubs adopted families, showed their angel wings by fulfilling angel tree wishes, and provided holiday meals resulting in monetary and in-kind donations of over \$15,000. Easter Seals Virginia continued to receive support of clubs through supply donations, contributions to the playground fund, and camperships. Chapters of national and international organizations such as March of Dimes, Habitat for Humanity, and Canine Companions also received support. The Home Life - Women’s Health program received the second highest level of support. Members are raising awareness, taking action and advocating on health issues from healthy living, cancer, heart disease, Autism, Down’s Syndrome, Alzheimer’s, and Cystic Fibrosis. In total, 123 health related projects consisting of 3,094 volunteer hours and \$41,022 were accomplished.

The Education Department followed Home Life in support. Education initiatives included adoption of new teachers, sponsored scholarships and reading programs, and supported libraries through books for babies and monetary support. In all, 159 projects among the two program areas – Education in the Community and Focus on Literacy, resulted in 4,597 hours and \$64,323 in donations. Juniors also supported the GFWC Virginia State Project through donations of over \$4,500 toward the purchase of the Virginia Tech ambulance.

In the GFWC Special Projects, Virginia Juniors participated in 840 projects resulting in 45,126 volunteer hours and \$297,810 contributed. Junior clubs met the challenges of Membership through 217 projects that yielded 6,281 volunteer hours and \$16,502. Twelve clubs realized a gain in membership through recruiting and two Junior clubs sponsored new Juniorette clubs! Way to go ladies! Clubs continued to invest in retention by offering babysitting, secret pals, mentors, and social events. Clubs invested in Leadership through 243 projects, 5,859 hours and \$13,135 in contributions. You are sending delegates to District, State, and GFWC meetings, ensuring your club officers are prepared with transition meetings and training, and looking to the future through support of HOBY. Great job ladies! Juniors continued to focus on enhancing the lives of children through their support of the GFWC Junior Special Project – Advocates for Children and Education projects. Advocates for Children garnered support through 72 projects, 2,011 volunteer hours and \$40,340 contributed. Projects ranged from purchasing school supplies and activity bags for emergency rooms, to sponsoring child abuse prevention activities, holiday programs for needy, and children activity booths at local fairs.

GFWC Virginia Juniors are shining examples of what volunteers can do when they put their hearts, minds, and muscles into making a difference. You are accomplishing great things and are an inspiration! Thank you for the honor of serving as your Third Vice President/Director of Junior Clubs! This administration has provided memories, star moments, and friendships that will last a lifetime. I leave you with a quote from Harriet Tubman, “Always remember, you have within you the strength, the patience, and the passion to reach for the stars to change the world.” You are doing that each and every day! Keep up the great work and keep reaching for the stars!



**GFWC VIRGINIA**  
**1<sup>ST</sup> VICE PRESIDENT/PRESIDENT ELECT –HOPE ROYER**  
**ASSISTANT JUNIOR DIRECTOR-LORI CHEVALIER**

It has been our focus to identify members' leadership qualities and abilities and to develop leadership and management skills. It was our privilege to participate in Incoming Leadership Training Sessions while at the 2009 GFWC Annual Convention, in Cincinnati, in June. Lori and I participated in the program planning and implementation of the GFWC Virginia Conference in August, as well as facilitating two Leadership Workshops. 29 GFWC Virginia club women from across the state attended 2009 Virginia LEADS in Staunton, the day after Conference. It was our pleasure to plan, implement and facilitate this successful, one day event. As President Elect, I had the privilege of joining GFWC Virginia President and Director of Junior Clubs at the Summer GFWC Executive Board Meeting in Lexington, Kentucky, and to visit prospective hotel sites for 2010 Convention and 2010 Conference. Lori and I attended Incoming Leadership Training Sessions while at the 2009 Southeastern Region Meeting in Bethesda, Maryland. We attended the four day GFWC 201-2012 Orientation Meeting in Washington, DC, in November. We attended all regular, and called, meetings of our respective Executive Committees, Executive Boards, Budget and Finance and Endowment Committees. Further activities as First Vice President/President Elect/Leadership Chairman and/or Assistant Director of Junior Clubs/Leadership Junior Chairman included: 4 articles, Jennie, GFWC LEADS and Virginia LEADS "promotions" for publication in The Virginia Clubwoman; leadership presentations at two district-wide workshops and at ten clubs in three districts; "In the Spotlight" communication with members of the GFWC Virginia Executive Board, district Leadership Chairmen and Junior Chairmen and with GFWC Virginia Chairmen and Junior Chairmen.

GFWC Virginia Leading Ladies deserve a standing ovation for the role they have played in the putting leadership in the spotlight. Bravo to State, District and Club Officers, Chairmen and Junior Chairmen! It has been a privilege to serve GFWC Virginia. Lori and I thank you for allowing us to walk the red carpet to "Put Leadership In The Spotlight And Find The Leading Lady In You."



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**GFWC 2<sup>ND</sup> VICE PRESIDENT-**  
**DALE FISHER**

GFWC Virginia, our districts, and our clubs did "get in the game" to promote membership objectives and strengthen our Federation. The GFWC Virginia leadership team realized the importance of investing in the future of our organization and implemented a Club Membership Grant Program allocating \$500 from the Membership Fund. Clubs could apply and receive up to \$100 in funding for a recruitment or retention project. Districts sponsored game nights, membership S.W.O.T. assessment workshops, and utilized a district/club buddy system. Two districts and two Junior clubs worked diligently to form new General and Juniorette clubs.

Our 2009 GFWC Virginia Convention was an educating and celebratory event. This officer and your GFWC Virginia Junior Membership Chairman, Sheila Ridout conducted an early-bird Membership Workshop. Club anniversary certificates were presented, GFWC Gold and Silver Service Pin holders were recognized, GFWC Star Pins were awarded and new member Top Recruiters were congratulated. A GFWC Virginia "Federation – Get In The Game" Photo Contest was also conducted. Sheila and I presented two Membership S.W.O.T. exercises at GFWC Virginia Summer Conference and distributed materials. Each workshop attendee received the new GFWC Virginia automobile window decal. Remaining inventory was sold through GFWC Virginia Headquarters.

This officer reported at the GFWC Virginia Executive Board Meetings and attended meetings of the GFWC Virginia Budget & Finance Committee, Endowment Fund Committee, and Long Range Planning Committee. I attended Southeast Region Conference in Bethesda, MD, participated in Shenandoah District's Fall Workshop, enjoyed Lee District's game night, and presented membership programs to several clubs. This officer has corresponded with our District Membership Chairmen on a regular basis, sharing project ideas, program updates, and reporting information. Personalized postcards were sent to all clubs that submitted a club membership report commending them on a particular project and extending thanks on behalf of GFWC Virginia for their commitment to membership. Sheila and I have submitted articles to The Virginia Clubwoman. New Member Recruitment Coupons, forwarded from your District 2<sup>nd</sup> Vice Presidents, have been recorded and letters of welcome have been sent to 236 new Virginia clubwomen.

Congratulations to all clubs for affording your members meaningful fellowship and avenues of community service. You should all be proud of the accomplishments of your clubs and our Federation.

Thank you all for the opportunity to serve GFWC Virginia. It has been an honor to work with the general & junior Executive Boards, a pleasure to promote our membership goals, and a blast establishing lifelong friendships along the way.

**GFWC VIRGINIA SECRETARY  
WANDA BURLEY**



As GFWC Virginia Secretary, I have recorded the minutes of the GFWC Virginia Convention and GFWC Virginia Conference as well as the meetings of the GFWC Virginia Executive Board during the past year. I have attended meetings of the GFWC Virginia Executive Committee, GFWC Virginia Budget and Finance Committee, and the GFWC Virginia Endowment Committee. In June, I attended the GFWC Convention in Cleveland, Ohio. The GFWC Virginia Junior Secretary / Treasurer, Christine Kerkeslager, and I have submitted articles with information for club and district secretaries to the *Virginia Clubwoman*.

It has been a privilege for this officer to work with the other members of the GFWC Virginia Executive Board as well as the members of the Junior Executive Board during this administration. Thank you for the opportunity to serve as the GFWC Virginia Secretary and to record the history of our Federation for the past two years.

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**GFWC VIRGINIA TREASURER  
FRAN EDWARDS**



As this officer ends her second term as treasurer, a certain melancholy feeling arises. It has been so much fun serving as treasurer—working with such dedicated women, learning much more about federation, and developing new friendships along the way. I will miss the position but know that other responsibilities are on the horizon and that the friendships will endure forever.

The basic duties of this position have been carried out in a timely manner—paying monthly bills, completing monthly disbursements, and providing reimbursements as vouchers have been presented. Also bank statements have been reconciled and the working account has been verified as accurate with both reports forwarded to headquarters on a monthly basis. All dues have been paid to GFWC and reimbursement of dues has been made to the Junior account.

During this past year, with the help of GFWC Virginia Junior Treasurer, Christine Kerkeslager, articles were submitted to each edition of the Virginia Clubwoman. Meetings of the Budget & Finance Committee, Executive Committee, and Executive Board have been attended with reports on the status of the federation accounts presented at each meeting as well as conference and convention. Every effort was made to see that the funds of GFWC Virginia were being used in the most cost savings fashion while still providing the services and benefits expected by the membership.

This officer appreciates the opportunity to be your GFWC Virginia Treasurer—it was truly an honor to serve you.



## ALICE KYLE DISTRICT

Pat Bickel, President

469 Members

850 Projects

Teal McClure, Junior Director

33,136 Volunteer Hours \$157,602 Donated & In-Kind

Reports from fourteen clubs indicated that Alice Kyle District volunteers continued to “blaze a trail,” leaving a significant footprint in each of their communities by working smarter to maximize impact, implement efficiencies, and streamline processes. Clubs partnered with other community organizations to increase resources and levels of expertise and used websites and Face Book to publicize community volunteer service, post accomplishments and entice new members. Fourteen clubs attended summer Membership Challenge Workshops to focus on declining membership numbers by developing recruiting and retention strategies. An increase in the 2009 Membership Projects and Hours reflected the valiant and successful recruiting efforts. Our crowning achievement was the formation of a federated club of ten members – GFWC Charlotte County Woman’s Club.

In the **Arts**, clubs held Art Contests, partnered with a local college to make jewelry for Christmas presents, assisted a high school Drama Department in organizing costumes, donated three binders of playbills from 1950s theater performances in New York to the Library of Congress, hosted a New Years Eve party to raise \$3,500 for their community Art Center and crafted valentines for teachers and nursing home residents.

In **Conservation**, clubs landscaped church grounds, planted daffodils, partnered with Master Gardeners and garden clubs to maintain a town’s traffic circle planting & fountain, adopted highways and streams, participated in county cleanups, Adopt-A-Highway efforts and year-round trail maintenance in public train systems, state parks and national battlefields and recycled household, plant and animal materials via composting.

In **Education**, five clubs awarded \$47,683 in local scholarship funds; clubs supported local educational Foundations, volunteered at and donated to local libraries and summer reading programs, gifted 800 books to at-risk youth in the community, donated dictionaries for 3<sup>rd</sup> grade students and donated “back to school” supplies to the Patrick Henry Boys & Girls Plantation. Clubs tutored adults to earn a GED and tutored Hispanics to master English as a second language.

In **Home Life**, clubs held Blood Drives, drove for Meals on Wheels, participated in Relays for Life, and volunteered at a Cancer treatment center. They donated to Habitat for Humanity, Easter Seals, fire departments, rescue squads, and pregnancy support centers. They volunteered at senior centers, brought meals to the aged and infirm, participated in Step for Roses; crafted a quilt to sold raffle tickets to raise \$875 for the State Project. Programs focused on Identity Theft and how to prevent charity scams.

In **International Affairs**, clubs supported Operation Smile, Heifer International Project and Women in Livestock Development. Clubs participated in Operation Christmas Child, CARE, Save / Feed the Children, Mosquito Nets to Children in Africa, Samaritans Purse and Operation Teddy Bear for international orphanages in third world countries. One club collected flip flops and toothbrushes for a member to take to Honduras to work in an eye clinic; another donated clothing, shoes and small toys in Nicaragua for Save Them One by One

In **Public Affairs**, clubs donated to Disabled American Veterans, Paralyzed Veterans, Vietnam Veterans Memorial, WIMSA and the D-Day Memorial. One club donated a facility where families could stay while visiting wounded/sick military personnel; one tended the gardens at the Blue Star Memorial. One club sponsored a debate between two gubernatorial candidates (represented by youth) with a lively Q & A session. Programs were held on Home Improvement scams, home equipment/appliance safety and reducing telemarketers.

In **Communication/Public Affairs**, clubs distributed newsletters, wore embroidered apparel, published articles in their newspapers and purchased ads in the District newsletter and *The Virginia Clubwoman*. Clubs also utilized a website and created a Face Book Fan Page to advertise club activities.

Clubs handled **Fundraising** in many ways, selling Uncle Al’s Pecans, Innisbrook Wrapping Paper, a club cookbook and Brunswick Stew. Other projects included a Kitchen and Attic Sale, Bowl-a-Thon, Breakfast with Santa. Some fundraisers were creative - selling raffle tickets for prizes; selling Butter Braid and Grounds for Change Coffee and holding fashion shows. Some used community-specific methods: selling Community Calendars, Hometowne Collectible Buildings, Heart of Virginia Festival. One club held a Game Day to raise funds.

In **Leadership**, clubs specifically supported GFWC and GFWC VA leadership opportunities: one member attended GFWC LEADS; five members from three clubs participated in GFWC Virginia LEADS; one club’s Leadership program featured a GFWC LEADS participant; one club member received the GFWC Jennie Award.

In **Membership**, clubs used various recruiting strategies, some mailing handwritten invitations to attend Act in Oct events, holding a Friendship Tea, Wine Tasting events, a President’s Tea and “The Sitting.” New members participated in Orientation and were presented GFWC pins. Socials included Game Days, picnics, luncheons, holiday progressive dinners, pizza and movie nights. Members were awarded with Volunteer of the Year Awards and 25-year pins or 50-year pins in recognition of volunteer service and/or Federation Day/Month.

Alice Kyle District continued to abound with volunteers who brought enthusiasm, commitment, compassion and energy to every volunteer effort implemented. Their projects and programs generated a robust and focused light as they “blazed a trail,” throughout the many communities they served.

## Blue Ridge District

Sandy Guy, President

356 Members

1,020 Projects

Barbara Allen, Junior Director 47,568 Volunteer Hours

\$217,709 Donated & In-Kind



Our GFWC Virginia Blue Ridge District 2008 - 2010 administration is proud that we succeeded in continuing our rich heritage of service to this organization in this our second century of service. Going forward, we continued to have amazing ladies accomplishing major feats by service not only at the club level but indeed at the district, state and national level as well as individually in the name of our organization.

Our Blue Ridge District Clubs went forward again this year in service by educating our club members and the community as well as promoting GFWC projects while supporting our Juniors in their endeavors with Easter Seals, Focus on Junior Health, and Advocates for Children. Our General Clubs joined the Juniors in focusing on Hobby, Domestic Violence Awareness, Conservation and Community Beautification, Literacy, family Health, Financial Issues and Reaching Out Internationally to name a few.

This Blue Ridge District is very pleased to have continued its strong support of the GFWC Virginia State Project which is raising funds for a new ambulance through the Virginia Tech Memorial Fund. We are proud that one of our own is serving as State Chairman of this committee and that she is leading this venture to success so wonderfully. We were also very pleased to see one of our club President's go the extra mile for her club and GFWC by appearing on a local television midday program, Living In The Heart Of Virginia, to advise the community of not only a large upcoming fund raiser by their club but also telling about GFWC. This proved very beneficial to this club when it netted them over \$2,500.00 at last count, and it remains to be seen how this effort will impact their club membership and GFWC as a whole. Several of our clubs also held their annual arts and crafts festivals that are known throughout Southwest Virginia and regularly attended and supported.

The wonderful women of this district showed strong support for this President's Special Project, the Blue Ridge Autism and Learning Disabled School in Roanoke, Virginia. They accomplished this when the clubs made large monetary donations to the school in the District President's name which was very humbling. The district clubs also made sure that the school's wish list was fulfilled, too, when they brought many of the items to our Fall District Meeting including a keyboard and large reams of computer paper. The school's Director was overwhelmed when she came to this meeting to be our keynote speaker and learned that all of these items were for her to take to the school as she left that day. We feel good that we are helping learning disabled children grown educationally so that they can be mainstreamed into our public schools and life successfully

As you can see, this Blue Ridge District has thoroughly enjoyed "doing while we were being" and "being while we were doing" while having lots of "dobodobedoing good times" along the way as we whistled our district song, "I Believe I Can Fly". And fly we did! We Generals were beautiful butterflies fluttering along wonderfully beside our Junior hummingbirds as they successfully "created a special place" in our wonderful Blue Ridge.



## LEE DISTRICT

**Barbara Roberts, President**

**Danielle Abbott, Junior Director**

**1,345 Members**

**88,471 Volunteer Hours**

**2,085 Projects**

**\$610,729**

The members of Lee District have found their “Home in Federation” and have been “Making a Difference One Step at a Time” by supporting GFWC and GFWC Virginia Departments and Programs and projects unique to their community’s needs.

As Advocates for Children, clubs supported YMCA Bright Beginnings, Comfort Zone Camp, Operation Christmas Child, and Angel Tree. They adopted lower income school classes and participated in walks for children’s health.

In the Arts, clubs donated art supplies to schools, held student literary and arts contests and had student arts programs. Members participated in art and craft classes and contests and supported public TV and radio, Virginia Opera, Richmond Symphony, and local theater companies.

For Conservation, clubs participated in highway and community cleanup, planted trees, and recognized local businesses for beautification. They celebrated Earth Day and took part in Great American Clean Up Day and the national Back Yard Bird Count. Clubs continued recycling and donated paper bags to Meals on Wheels.

To support Education, clubs donated scholarships and school supplies, supported local libraries, collected Box Tops for Education and Campbell’s Labels, and volunteered at the State Fair. Members participated in ESO and book clubs and promoted local authors. Literacy was promoted through 1-2-3 Read, Teachable Moments, Adopt a School, and Read Across America Day. Clubs had book collections for social services, tutored adults and children, and volunteered at schools.

For Home Life, clubs supported Canine Companions for Independence, Easter Seals, Habitat for Humanity, Heavenly Hats, Ronald McDonald and Hospital Hospitality Houses, Christmas Mothers, Goodwill, Salvation Army, Comfort Zone Camp, Special Olympics, and the VA Tech Rescue Squad. They volunteered at nursing homes and food banks and helped area residents with money and meals. Clubs had programs on estate planning, wills and trusts, budgeting, saving money, and identity theft. To promote Health, they had programs on yoga, sleep, stress reduction, and nutrition. Members participated in the Susan G. Komen Race for the Cure and Relay for Life and wore pink in October. They supported the American Heart Association, Alzheimer’s Association, Diabetes and Cancer Societies, Free Clinics, and blood drives.

In support of International Affairs, clubs contributed to Operation Smile, Heifer, World Food Day, CARE, UNICEF, Maasai American Association, Micah Project, Operation Christmas Child, and various missions. They donated mosquito nets, school and medical supplies, and clothing. They had programs on foreign countries and dined out at ethnic restaurants.

In the area of Public Affairs, clubs observed Veteran’s Day, donated to local veterans’ hospitals and homes, and supported troops serving abroad. They encouraged voting, said the Pledge of Allegiance, and attended local government meetings. Safety was promoted by supporting local fire and rescue stations, Red Cross, and After Prom Parties. There were programs on identity theft, credit card scams, and home thefts. Clubhouses were upgraded with new smoke and carbon monoxide alarms.

For Public Relations, clubs utilized newsletters, email, websites, Face Book, Meetup, Google Adword and Craig’s List. They had banners, displays, club apparel, brochures and business cards. Club events were advertised in local newspapers and on TV. Federation logos were used on all items.

To promote Domestic Violence Awareness, clubs donated money and items to local shelters, held fundraisers, and participated in Million Voice and 100 Grandmothers’ Campaigns and That’s Not Cool program for teens.

Fundraising projects included fashion shows, card parties, auctions, gift wrap booths, and spaghetti dinners. Clubs sold calendars, bulbs, wreaths, food items and cookbooks. They had booths at festivals and catered meals.

To develop Leadership, clubs supported HOBY, provided for members serving on the district and state levels, recognized outstanding leaders, attended Presidents’ Councils and GFWC VA LEADS, and held workshops.

Members were educated on Legislation issues such as cap and trade and health care and served as District and State Legislation Chairmen. Clubs joined the GFWC Legislative network.

Membership was encouraged by holding social functions, placing ads in papers, websites, Craig’s List and Facebook, and having public displays to attract new members. Secret Pal and holiday gifts were exchanged, and social events for members and spouses and member outings were held. Outstanding members were recognized.

Clubs donated to the Women’s History and Resource Center and celebrated Women’s History Month.

District events included a Leadership Social and a Pre-Annual Meeting/Reporting Workshop for District Officers and Chairmen and Reporting Workshops for clubs. The Fall Meeting featured a joint business session and speaker, and the Annual Meeting included the Official Visit of GFWC VA officers and awards. The District Arts Show was a stand-alone event with displays of arts, crafts and student art and the new People’s Choice Awards. The Executive Mansion Docent Program has been a longstanding Lee District Project. This administration’s Unity Project included Lee Day at Camp and a Family Fun Walk fundraiser for Comfort Zone Camp. A District Game Night was held as a membership social. The District newsletter, *Lee’s Traveller*, is available in hard copy or on the District website as is the District Handbook. The District website contains all the necessary forms.



## NORTHERN DISTRICT

**Karen A. Attreed, President**

**1,072 Members**

**1,377 Projects**

**Kathy Planthaber, Junior Director 82,253 Volunteer Hours \$426,154 Donated & In-Kind**

**Northern** is proud of their Juniorette Club, the GFWC Dominion Sisterhood Juniorette Club. Projects completed include a Holiday Bingo Party for a rehabilitation center, a Halloween Safari supporting a conservatory, a walk for the homeless and a food drive for a shelter. Sisterhood also increased their membership. Northern juniors' with four clubs and 59 members, completed 163 projects in 19 program areas, volunteered 4,827 hours, and donated \$114,078. The clubs continued to recognize members, use various media to communicate, donated to the Special Arts and participated in theatrical productions. Adoption of public areas to contain trash and remove graffiti and participation in Arbor Day activities were completed. A scholarship donation made in the name of a past Virginia State President. Members participated in the Dr. Seuss Birthday Reading Program, filled laundry baskets for a battered woman's shelter and collected food for banks and purchased gifts for the shelters' holidays and birthdays. Donations to the American Red Cross, local fire departments, the Disaster Preparedness Program, and Advocates for Children (\$500 for extra-small sleep sacks for newborns). Camperships were given to Camp Easter Seal. The focus on Junior Health included the Susan G. Komen Walk, distribution of Thyroid and Breast Cancer Awareness materials and a reminder of National Wear Red Day.

**Northern** General Clubs reported donations of \$10,190.07 to the GFWC State Project. An alumnus of the rescue squad gave a program for Northern's fall meeting. The District lost the Woman's Club of Falls Church. However, 15 of 26 clubs increased their membership. Clubs participated in the "Get in the Game" project and "Act in Oct". Recruiting included special entertainment for meetings, Bunco and Bridge parties, participation in community parades and concerts, and the distribution of club and GFWC brochures. Clubs applied for the GFWC Virginia membership grants. Activities were published in local newspapers and displayed in public institutions. Updating handbooks, "happy hours," and other spare of the moment events assisted membership retention. Club anniversary celebrations were held and new ideas for maintaining volunteer hours instituted. Supporting Leadership encouraged attendance at district and state functions; having events allowing communication and brainstorming. Our fall district meeting was devoted to networking. A Reporting Workshop was held for club presidents including a home's tour and tea. Leadership Resources reported "Dollars for Delegates" funding, recognition of members serving Federation, and district officers as speakers. Art contests and exhibits were sponsored and supported by ushering, supplying refreshments for vendors, attending community theatres and regional music venues. Cards made and donated to Meals on Wheels, lap robes made for soldiers and hospitals, writers and artists invited as program presenters. Student art competitions and writing contests were held and members participated in the GFWC photo contest. Neighborhoods cleaned up, highways adopted and floral programs enjoyed. Organizing plant sales, working with handicapped adults, developing backyard habitats, decorating for homes tours, and planting trees were conservation programs. Resources included recycling paper, medications, eye glasses, cell phones, ink cartridges, motor oil, aluminum, glass, and plastic. Cloth bags distributed and a tour of a county landfill held. Education reported donations of school supplies, collections of box tops and soda can pull tabs, adoption of schools for National Education Week and "Survival Kits" prepared for teachers as luncheon favors, and sponsoring a county spelling bee. Libraries and nursing homes received books, magazines, time, and money. Summer reading programs, mentoring services, and prizes for a "good behavior" closet donated. A "Reading Buddies" program assisted. Generous amounts of time to homeless shelters, food banks, clothing closets and bulletin boards maintained (with information on jobs, health, and aid). Seniors enjoyed game nights, tray gifts, socials and gift baskets. Military families provided with Christmas gifts, gifts wrapped in a mall for charity. Supplies furnished to a clinic, support provided for Race for the Cure, American Cancer Society, stroke prevention, heart disease, weight loss, Alzheimer's, Osteoporosis, nutrition, foot care, radon detection, sleep apnea, kidney care, and participation in Step for the Roses. Casa de Espera means "waiting house" or "House of Hope"; a substantial amount of money, supplies, and decorations completed a welcome respite for "mothers in waiting" in Peru. The "Overseas Coupon Program" received thousands of coupons. Beanie Babies provided to help soldiers establish goodwill in war zones. Elections and political issues debated, transportation to polling stations provided. Cards, food, letters, and items for Afghanistan and Iraq provided to soldiers; programs to honor veterans planned. Support of school safety programs and work with police on gang activities and how not to become victims. Activities in newspapers and on Craig's list, printing of business cards, updating websites, sending monthly newsletters, issuing name tags for members, wearing emblematic apparel, participating in community functions and displaying club banners. Guest speakers on domestic violence aided awareness of the needs in communities: reorganizing a safe house, donating clothing, delivering comfort kits and revamping a handicapped accessible room. Fund raisers included fashion shows, luncheons, silent auctions, flea markets, raffles, yard sales, White House ornament sales, tote bags, consignments of kids clothing, cookie-mix jars, 50/50 raffles, cookbooks, food concessions, country antique fairs, wine and cheese festivals, items for sale in historic town shops, homes tours, plant sales, and casino nights. A local library contacted and a grant received to preserve a 38-year history. A 120<sup>th</sup> Anniversary: with a library named, a designed name plaque placed and honors received from the County Board of Supervisors highlighted this event. Women' History Month was promoted with an exhibit featuring eight Virginia Women of Significance and a program "What did they wear under those Hoop Skirts"? It has been an honor to work with these dedicated clubwomen during these financial hard times and to "catch their spirit" of giving.



## SHENANDOAH DISTRICT

**Dorothy (Dottie) Dollins, President**

**565 Members**

**712 Projects**

**Tina Bukosky, Junior Director**

**45,873 Volunteer Hours**

**\$326,170 Donated & In-Kind**

The members of the Shenandoah District have sent their Hummingbirds into flight in all directions, excelling in love and service, by supporting GFWC and GFWC Virginia Departments and Programs and projects unique to their community's needs. They have improved many lives, aiding worthy organization experiencing financial difficulties reaching out to others in dire need.

In the Arts, Clubs held Art/Craft shows for members including Art from local schools. Clubs sponsored club and student writing contest through the GFWC Program. One Club gave a local school Art and Photography for supplies for students who could not afford to purchase them. One club hosted the annual Fall Foliage Festival Art Show for two days, with assistance from the High School Art Department. One club made crafts during the year for auctioning at their Annual Christmas Dinner with 50 guests attending. Another club worked with a local Fire Dept. and a local Elementary School to hold an Art Contest "Firefighters are our Helpers". First graders were encouraged to color a picture of how they see fire fighters, which are judged by the Club Members. An open house was held by the Fire Dept., with all pictures on display. Numerous prizes were given, but the Grand Winner was given a stuffed Dalmatian dressed as a fireman.

Conversation: All clubs are involved with recycling, beautifying communities, adopting highway/road sites, picking up litter along the trail of a State Park, planting and maintaining flowers during the summer months in public areas. One Club actively supported a Humane Society, donating many items, spent time walking dogs and in the cat enclosure. The Club partnered with the Society to promote cat adoptions.

A high priority for our Clubs is Education. A total of eighteen scholarships were given amounting to \$15,800. Clubs donated to the Accelerated Reading Program, school bands, local libraries, collected soup labels and box tops. Many books were given to schools and libraries, were placed in local Laundromats, in Emergency Rooms and Radiology Departments at local hospitals. One club donated \$400 for back packs for students who did not have the supplies they needed at their school. One club did a complete "makeover" for a library that did not have an area for children's story hours, activities and programs. An area for adult reading was created. The cost of this project was \$3,697. One club donated \$1000 to the high school Athletic Dept. for new volleyball poles and installation, and \$400 was donated for new uniforms for the volleyball team. Many Clubs honored their teachers during Teachers Appreciation Week in their schools.

For Home Life, Clubs volunteered at Mission Shelter by having a clothing drive, delivering meals for residents, donating to Easter Seal for Arts Program, donating for new hats at a local hospital for cancer patients, Salvation Army, Shelter for the Abused, Free Clinics, Operation Santa Claus Program, gave Christmas presents to needy families, Nursing Homes, Hospitals, Pregnancy Help Centers and many other worthy causes. One Club is in partnership with Social Services in operating a Food Bank - buying the food, stocking the shelves, discarding expired items, organizing food drives, advertising weekly in local papers for food and funds. Another club provides assistance to three Area Food Banks by allocating a total of \$1,500 to help families in need. Many Clubs donate monthly to their local Food Banks. One club continues with the Vial of Life Program, which supplies a medical information kit for the use of 911 first responders. Another club continues to operate the Clothes Closet for local area needy residents. A family, who has a disabled child, was given \$25,000 toward improving his living quarters. Another club raised and donated \$9,000 to a Cancer Center Indigent Care Fund to provide Image Recovery Services for patients who need financial assistance. In support of International Affairs, one club completed 50 bags for Operation Smile, while other clubs donated money, gowns, and blankets. Another club supported UNICEF. One Club hosted an International Dinner where 97 international students from 43 countries from 6 continents attended. Public Affairs: Many patriotic programs were given. Two clubs collected coupons for our soldiers amounting to \$26,927.88, and another club, \$3,281.25. Many clubs encouraged voting, saying the Pledge of Allegiance and supported community organizations. Domestic Violence: Many clubs donated travel size toiletries to shelters. One club did a complete "make-over" of the living room area of the Center. A traditional Thanksgiving Dinner was cooked, delivered, and the amount of food lasted for several days.

In the area of Public Relations, clubs utilized newsletters, profiles, e-mails, and members are wearing their pins when out in public on volunteer events, doing fundraising events, and many clubs are using plaques with the club's name when suitable. When guests or speakers attend functions, luncheons and/or social events, many clubs are giving a brief history on how they are serving their communities. Some club's events or articles have appeared in their communities' local newspaper.

Fundraising projects include serving pancakes at Breakfast at Applebee's, serving barbeque chicken at a Community Center, plant sales, yard sales, jewelry sales, bake sales at festivals, box lunches, English Tea Party, fashion show, participated in Belk's Charity, selling Christmas ornaments, Christmas Home Tours, bingo parties, Home Interior Candles sale, and Bridge-A-Rama.

Membership events held were: Membership Tea Parties, invited guests to Club's Luncheon, social events sharing history, scrapbooks on display, membership drive, and having scrapbook parties. Clubs recognized their leaders, sent cards when members are sick or simply missed meetings, and encouraged members to use the "Just Ask" theme. To develop Leadership, Clubs supported HOBY, held Orientation Sessions, encouraging attendance to District and State Meetings, invited our leaders at State and District to present Programs, Clubs doing yearbooks, developed programs and skits, explaining why we are federated and the benefits thereof, and supported the GFWC Va. LEADS program. Clubs encouraged subscription to GFWC VA Clubwoman Magazine and awareness of the District Newsletter. A number of Clubs have leaders in District and State positions, serving this Administration. A District Workshop was planned by our Leadership Chairman and held in August, with Officers from State presenting Leadership, Membership and Reporting.

GFWC VA State Project: The Shenandoah District sold Raffle Tickets for a Burruss Hall Print resulting in a donation of \$2,000. Several clubs had their own projects raising money for the Project, other members have contributed \$30 toward the project, and others have sold ornaments and pins designed by Pat Moss, Artist.

District Project: Evie Key Campership, Camp Easter Seal: The Shenandoah District project is providing funds for a campership at Camp Easter Seal in the name of Evie Key, a club member who was instrumental in forming Camp West. The District in 2009 provided financial support to Camp Easter Seal of Va. for two campers for a total of \$1,585. Our fundraiser for this project was selling MicroFiber Cloths. Our Junior Director visited Camp Easter Seal in June, delivering items donated at our Spring District Meeting and additional items, papers and school supplies given by a retired teacher who is a member of the Waynesboro Woman's Club. The supplies estimated total was \$500 and a new Ab Chair costing \$180 was donated. Many of the clubs have supported this project by making a donation from their Club.

Other Activities: The Shenandoah District served as hostesses for the GFWC VA 2009 Conference at Stonewall Jackson Hotel in Staunton. Many hours were spent in making this event a success. These are highlights of our unlimited activities of clubwomen in our District. The District ladies have ventured "In Flight, Excelling in Service and Love", accomplishing great things and I am honored to represent such a wonderful group of ladies.



## **SOUTHSIDE DISTRICT**

**Annette Rodgers, President**

**674 Members**

**1,597 Projects**

**Trish Edwards, Junior Director 80,881 Volunteer Hours \$288,834 Donated & In-Kind**

Clubs took field trips, participated in concerts, had displays at meetings, sponsored home tours, held art contests, sponsored travel for students, collected articles and made a scrapbook, donated to the Penny Art Fund, sponsored events, decorated community buildings. Clubs made and/or sold art and craft items, sponsored parades, sponsored youth craft events, held workshops and programs on creative arts.

Clubs beautified their communities with planters, decorations for holidays, had plant sales, made donations to local nursing homes and hospitals for their gardens, displayed American flags, participated in Arbor Day, pick up trash, took field trips. Clubs participated in conservation and forestry programs, distributed conservation literature, urged members to reuse, recycle and reduce, participate in Earth Day, clean ditches.

Clubs read to and tutored students and volunteer in schools, support library programs, sponsored scholarships, collected box tops, cash register receipts and labels, sponsor parties, provide "Kind News", have book clubs, supplied school supplies, worked the state fair, made donations for schools, held positions on school boards. Members tutor, volunteer in school reading programs, participate in Books for Babies, donate books to libraries, held creative writing lessons for club members, held book drives and exchanges.

Clubs supported collected pop caps and other supplies, work on task forces, donated used item of clothing and leftover food, work with Habitat for Humanity, the Red Cross, March of Dimes and Easter Seals, support local social services, participate in NOD, Canine Companions, Rescue Squads, Fire Departments, local food bank and social services activities, provided funding for mammograms to those who could not afford them, visit shut-ins, donate to the Genieve Shelter for battered women, homeless shelters and Salvation Army, sponsored Easter Egg Hunts, attended conferences, collected used sheets and towels to donate to animal shelters and hospitals, sent needed items to disaster victims. Clubs supported mental and physical health programs, distributed information on drugs, health and nutrition, supported "Relay for Life" and other similar activities, made donations to health organizations, help support the Western Tidewater Free Clinic. Clubs participated in the Food Lion and General Mills programs, had programs on financial planning.

Clubs participated in Heifer Project International, sponsored students with the People to People Program, participate in world food day, have programs with international themes, support Operation Smile, CARE, Clubs collected money for UNICEF program, attended Alliance Day.

Distributed Flags, participated in memorial events, recognized veterans, sent cards to service persons, participated in get out the vote, visit veterans hospitals, support local YMCA and local camp programs, recited the Pledge of Allegiance, participated in Presidents Day activities, sent overseas soldiers cell phones, hosted candidate forums, supported meals on wheels, held programs on citizenship. Clubs gave programs on safety, fire prevention, victims of crime, domestic violence, had safe Halloween and prom parties, donated to local rescue squads and fire departments.

Clubs announce meetings in local papers, radio and television, participate in community calendars, make posters, sponsor events, keep brochures, wear clothing with GFWC logo. Clubs read books, have speakers, sponsor community programs, made donations, distributed literature, purchased awareness pins.

Clubs held bake sales, yard sales and flea markets, recycled materials, published cookbooks and calendars, operated concession stands, had raffles, sponsored breakfast with and letters to Santa, held home tours, card parties, fashion shows, and dances, gave love offerings, took bus trips, sold GFWC sponsored items. Clubs prepared agendas, kept records and yearbooks, attended district and state meetings, served on district and state boards, hold orientations, participate in the LEADS program, provide funds for leaders in the budget, revise bylaws, sponsor HOBY participants, support scout programs, have Post Office boxes for the club, use organization logos, developed program procedures, added GFWC to club name, created DVD of federation activities, updated profiles, assigned hostesses. Clubs supported public meetings regarding current issues within the communities. Clubs produce newsletters, send cards, honor members at meetings, have banquets, invite guests, hold membership events, have orientations, celebrate birthdays, have potential member lists, have social time, wear name badges.

Clubs started projects to preserve records and materials, updated histories, prepared scrap books. Clubs participate in the Dogwood Society, Camp Easter Seals, the District Project and the VA Tech Memorial Fund.

## **SOUTHWESTERN DISTRICT**

**Shirley Barazzone, President      376 Members**

**753 Projects**

**Jenny Martin, Junior Director      44,147 Volunteer Hours**

**\$143,438 Donated & In-Kind**



Clubs donated to the state GFWC contest; high school bands, music scholarships, monthly crafted gifts for senior center, art supplies for art co-op classes, play doh for preschoolers, refreshments for arts receptions, art bags for children in hospitals, favors for clubs' Christmas parties, wreaths for a senior community center, and a fundraiser for regional art museum. They sponsored Easter coloring and brown paper bag contests and other children's art projects in elementary schools, judged needlecraft shows, and decorated floats for parades, participated in local Christmas tree decorating contests. Also attended dedication of town murals, art festivals, Southwest Virginia Community College Festival of Arts. Conservation provided opportunities to recycle cell phones, printer cartridges, plastic bags, pop tabs for Ronald McDonald House, eyeglasses and cards to St. Jude's. Clubs planted trees, shrubs, and flowers in parks, cemeteries, and entrances to towns, libraries, post offices and schools. Sponsors Earth Day activities in schools. Invited master gardeners to present programs. Urges members to reuse, recycle and reduce. Distributed literature on conservation, wrote articles for newspapers, adopted highways, and encouraged bird friendly backyards. Education continues to be a top priority in the district. Club members tutor in schools, provide materials (notebooks, paper, pencils, crayons, etc.), collect box tops and Campbell soup labels to purchase needed equipment, recognize teachers during National Education Week, provide scholarships, donate to libraries, one club pays librarian's salary, sponsor youth in government day representative to attend Girls State and support summer reading programs for children. In Home Life, five clubs supported Relay for life by providing food for survivors' dinner and survivors' reception and making and selling luminary bags. The two junior clubs provided for people in need of food, clothing, heating assistance and prescription. The two Junior clubs joined with two General clubs to do several fundraisers with proceeds going toward purchasing a digital mammography machine for local hospital. Support Home for Holidays Project by providing breakfast and snack food items for go home with students in Head Start and free lunch program on last day of school before Christmas. Volunteers worked in nursing homes, bloodmobiles and hospitals. Many clubs played "Santa" for needy families at Thanksgiving and Christmas. Items were collected for Heritage Hall residents. Monetary donations were made to food pantries, Special Olympics, therapeutic horseback treatment program, camperships for needy children, Big Brothers/Big Sisters, Friends of Santa, homeless shelter, Senior Center, Meals-on-Wheels, 4-H Camp, Easter Seals, American Heart Association, low income families with household repairs, rescue squad, United Fund and local missions. International Affairs contributed to Operation Smile, UNICEF, Heifer International (to purchase cow, chickens, rabbits, goats), CARE, brought phone cards for soldiers in Iraq, provided children's Christmas Shoeboxes and sent quilt kit to Zimbabwe. An International luncheon and picnic was an opportunity for clubs to prepare foods from other countries. In Public Relation, Clubs use newspapers, radio, TV websites, flyers and newsletters published by each club to advertise their many programs. Fundraisers include bake sales, auctions, fashion shows, TV auctions, beauty contest, sale of handmade items, raffle tickets. Clubs recognized member who brought in the most new members, changed meeting time to accommodate older members who prefer not to come out at night, paid expenses for members to attend district and state meetings, prepared recipe cards and cookbooks to a member whose house turned, set-up information table at Appalachian School of Law Community Fair on how to become a Virginia Clubwoman, sponsored at "Chick Flick Night" for women in the community to come together for fellowship and fun. Pearisburg Junior Woman's Club sponsored a new Juniorette Club. The Domestic Violence Awareness program made donations of furniture, clothing, food, toiletries, linens, baby items, coloring books, crayons, and stuffed toys went to local shelters. Twenty rape kits were given to a local hospital. Three clubs donated time and effort to Woman's History and Resource Center by updating yearbooks, club histories, establishing archives which contain awards, scrapbooks and pictures of past club presidents. Members attend town council meetings, legislative sessions in Richmond and signed petitions opposing electric rate hike and poor cell phone service. Information from state and local legislative issues are printed and distributed to members. To develop Leadership, clubs supported HOBY, had programs, reporting workshops, attended GFWC Virginia Leadership Workshop, three clubwomen are serving as GFWC Virginia chairmen, two as state mentors and other members serve as district officers and chairmen, nine attended state convention in Williamsburg, eight GFWC Virginia conference in Staunton, two clubs send a representative to SER in Bethesda, MD and one club subscribes 100% to the Virginia Clubwoman, a useful tool in leadership training. Clubs donated to the VA Tech Memorial Fund through special fundraisers and personal donations. It has been a humbling experience to work with these dedicated ladies. "Keep your light shining".



## **TIDEWATER DISTRICT**

**Beverly Seymour, President 1,413 Members**

**1,444 Projects**

**Leslie James, Junior Director 100,107 Volunteer Hours \$529,256 Donated & In-Kind**

Clubs in Tidewater were extremely busy in 2009. Clubs had house tours, craft and quilt shows, special luncheons or teas, bake sales, yard sales, and presented plays. One Club presented a patriotic “Ladies of Liberty” float in their cities July 4<sup>th</sup> Parade (the Tidewater District President presided as Lady Liberty); another had a white elephant auction to support scholarships. Monetary donations were made to various musical organizations, museums, festivals, and schools. The Arts and Crafts contest was supported as well as the Writing Contest. Clubs had “make it and take it” craft parties. Members donated money, bulbs, trees, roots from flowering plants, and recycled many things including cell phones and ink cartridges. “Planting Pride in our Community” was a program one Club held with their community. They cleaned up the street, planted annuals and perennials and placed a bench for walkers. Newspapers, blankets and rugs were donated to the Humane Society and plastic bags to Libraries for rainy days. Funds to support scholarships were raised by assorted projects that included plant sales, fashion show/luncheons, house tours, and auctioning a “Grandmother Basket”. Programs included “Picture Your Financial Future”, and “SPARK – Shore People Advancing Readiness for Knowledge” (a family program, in English & Spanish, of 3-4 year olds where they can participate in language enrichment programs). Gifts were furnished to women patients at the Eastern State Hospital. Club programs included preventive measures for assorted health related fields - breast cancer, osteoporosis, strokes and diabetes to name just a few. Heifer International was supported by the purchase of goats, chickens and rabbits. Operation Smile was supported with volunteer hours, coloring books, and monetary donations. There were dolls made for migrant workers on the Eastern Shore of Virginia. Clubs supported Samaritan Purse Missions or Operation ShoeBox. One Club had a speaker from the Attorney General’s Office give a program on Identity Theft. Clubs sold nuts, crafts, calendars, stew, candles, plants, holiday greens, Easter eggs, wrapping paper, pumpkins, cake and bake sales, ornaments, yearbook ads, beer and wine coolers, Entertainment books, Innisbrook Wrap and boxed lunches. Club projects included changing their Club Bylaws, writing to their congressmen, and to go on line to support legislation. Special projects are maintained to allow the Club to pay registration, meals, and accommodations for those attending District and State meetings. In an effort to recruit new members, Clubs held socials, International dinners and Art Groups. Clubs prepared and distributed flyers to homes, preschools and churches throughout the community, advertised in the local paper and had profiles and applications at Club events and fundraisers. Many Clubs have a way of showing appreciation to an outstanding Member by having a “Member of the Year” or “Clubwoman of the Year” award. There are also Leadership, Membership and Outstanding New Members of the Year. Clubs are now reporting the use of Web sites as a new means of Public Relations. Websites are being used along with newspaper advertising, profiles, sign-up sheets and flyers. In support of Advocates for Children, one Club held a spaghetti dinner benefiting CASA, stuffed animals were donated to Bears on Patrol, members volunteered at Ident-A-Kid and a jewelry raffle was held. Clubs also supported the State President’s Project of the ambulance for the Virginia Tech Rescue Squad and the Tidewater District held a successful “Hokie Hoedown” which was a major fund-raiser. At our Spring District Meeting we did a project for a woman’s homeless shelter and all the table centerpieces were purses filled with toiletries and a \$25.00 gift certificate.

***We’re “Stepping Out For Service” and “Volunteering With Purse-onality”***

**ARTS DEPARTMENT**  
**Phyllis Layman, Chairman**

**842 Projects**  
**47,458 Hours**

**5,589 Members Participating**  
**\$94,927 Donated & In-Kind**



Clubwomen in GFWC Virginia believe in putting their hearts into ART. All contest areas were covered and the variety of programs and projects was mind-boggling. Creative talents served groups and communities throughout the state. Our ladies have spread love and care through their artistic activities.

**Creative Arts**

**Best Overall, Large Club, General – Lexington Woman’s Club – Shenandoah District**

Arts contests reports were similar, but this club was impressive with their public involvement, the number of schools represented, and their media coverage.

**Arts in the Community**

**Best Overall - Large Club – South Boston-Halifax Junior Woman’s Club GFWC – Alice Kyle District**

The Cookie Cottage Workshop for children, the New Year’s Eve Party for the community and the Easter Egg Decoration and Hunt for nursing home residents and children served the community very well.

**Best Overall - Small Club – Woman’s Club of Cumberland, GFWC – Alice Kyle District**

The nine projects by this club were varied and interesting, and included auction baskets, art shows, a flower show, and a quilt donated to a library organization.

**Best Single Project - Large Club - General – Woman’s Club of Loudoun – Northern District**

“Woman’s Creativity Nurtured” is an outstanding program that nurtures and applauds the creativity in individual club members. All members have a chance to showcase their individual projects which are varied and fascinating.

**Best Single Project - Large Club - Junior – Junior Federated Woman’s Club of Chester – Lee District**

This club does a 2-year cotillion for 200 7<sup>th</sup> and 8<sup>th</sup> graders that teaches dance, manners (wow!) and etiquette. The students put what they learn into practice at a formal dance at end of program.

**Best Single Project - Small Club - General – GFWC Sycamore Woman’s Club – Lee District**

Members created art bags and filled them with art supplies and donated them to the pediatric oncology unit at Massey Cancer Center.

**Best Single Project - Small Club - Junior – GFWC Waynesboro Junior Woman’s Club – Shenandoah District**

A “Firefighters Are Our Helpers” art contest was held in cooperation with Waynesboro Fire Department and all city elementary schools for 1<sup>st</sup> graders. Lots of prizes and one prize for the grand winner was to ride on a fire truck in the Christmas parade.

**ARTS CONTEST – MEMBER ENTRIES**

**Carol Guilliams-Mills, Chairman**

**Member Short Story (Amateur)**

1 <sup>st</sup>	Mary Benson	Dialogue of a Decade 1930-1940	WC of Hilton Village	TW
2 <sup>nd</sup>	Betty Walters	Going Right to the Top	Henry Clay WC	Lee
3 <sup>rd</sup>	Shirley Belcher	A Happy Mud Creek Home (1903) Sammy and Mary Elizabeth Clark	Grundy WC	SW

**Member Poetry (Amateur)**

1 <sup>st</sup>	Susanne Louise Michelini	Resurrection Prayer	Cape Henry WC	TW
2 <sup>nd</sup>	Phyllis Layman	Invasion	Weyers Cave WC of GFWC	SH
3 <sup>rd</sup>	Merci Kessler	Miss Peggy Palmore	WC of Powhatan	Lee
HM	Jacqueline H. Ware	In Tribute to GFWC Western Fairfax County Woman’s Club on the Occasion of it’s Fortieth Anniversary June, 2009	GFWC Western Fairfax WC	Nor
	Robin Baron	Metamorphosis	Mattie Rountree Stephenson WC	SW
	Elfriede Wolford	Octoberwalk	WC of Buckingham County GFWC	AK

**CONSERVATION DEPARTMENT**  
**Anna Ruth Coleman, Chairman**

**599 Projects**  
**27,353 Hours**

**4,660 Members Participating**  
**\$60,437 Donated & In-Kind**



GFWC VA clubwomen continued to make a difference in 2009 by keeping our “Green Planet” and the state beautiful. Members have continued to educate themselves and work within their communities to involve all citizens about the importance of preserving our natural resources. Our parks, towns, schools, serenity and wellness gardens, cemeteries, and historical locations are more beautiful because of their work. They have continued in their conservation efforts of litter prevention, recycling, cleanup on roadways and streams and made monetary contributions to many worthy organizations.

## **BEAUTIFICATION PROGRAM**

### **Best Overall - Large Club - GFWC Floyd County Woman's Club, Inc. – Blue Ridge District**

Sold tickets and gave monetary donation to Bluegrass Concert to benefit a Memorial Park; donated to Recreation Department; provided lights for Floyd County Courthouse; participated in recycling and began a pilot project of recording their recycling totals monthly and a notebook where items could be received and the totals.

### **Best Overall - Small Club - Pennington Gap Woman's Club-**

This club planted, mulched and maintained 20 different locations of flower beds in town and a cemetery. They begin working in Oct. preparing and putting up Christmas displays and lights in local park which hosted over 10,000 guests and donations exceeded \$4,000.00.

### **Best Single Project - Large Club - Riparian Woman's Club – Southside District**

Members continued their "Paint the Town" project and their mission of adding more murals and maintaining the older ones. Two new building murals were added on Main Street in their town.

### **Best Single Project - Large Club – Junior - GFWC Staunton-Augusta Junior Woman's Club- Shenandoah District**

Each quarter members picked up trash and cleared debris along each side of Statler Blvd in Staunton.

### **Best Single Project - Small Club – General - GFWC Tarrara Woman's Club – Southside District**

The club held a Christmas Home Decorating Contest encouraging community to get in the holiday spirit while beautifying town.

### **Best Single Project - Small Club – Junior – GFWC Pearisburg Junior Woman's Club – Southwestern District**

This is the 3rd Earth Day celebrated with two local elementary schools. Members presented program about conservation, students made cards out of clean trash which were given to local nursing home residents, each participating student given a Scholastic Earth Day Book and other snacks and freebies.



## **RESOURCE CONSERVATION**

### **Best Overall - Large Club – Woman's Club of Smithfield – Southside District**

This membership has educated themselves about their carbon footprint, go green at meetings, recycle many forms of recyclables, continued and expanded their oyster gardening project doubling the number of oysters from 2,000 to 4000, promoted this project within the community, volunteered at parks and historic sites and supported many other efforts.

### **Best Overall - Small Club - GFWC Bedford Woman's Club – Blue Ridge District**

Members learned about carbon foot printing, composted and recycled, created habitat friendly backyards and fed wildlife, and support local SPCA and animal shelters.

### **Best Single Project - Large Club – General - GFWC Dominion Woman's Club – Northern District**

This club sponsored a shoe drive in support of Soles For Souls, a charitable organization which gives the gift of shoes to those in need. The club collected over 690 pairs of new and gently used shoes, sorted, matched pairs banded and packed for shipping.

### **Best Single Project - Large Club – Junior - GFWC Blacksburg Junior Women's Club – Blue Ridge District**

The club participated in Sustainability Week by hosting an Environmental Education Expo for children teaching them about the natural world and how to protect it.

### **Best Single Project - Small Club – General - Bent Mountain Woman's Club – Blue Ridge District**

Continued with their project "Cool Clubs Coalition" initiative to reduce the consumption of electricity. Set goals and members recorded usage and showed 5% reduction this year. Monthly conservation tips were shared.

### **Best Single Project - Small Club – Junior - GFWC Dominion Sisterhood Juniorette Club – Northern District**

Wrote a grant to partner with Giant grocery store for a "Home for the Holidays" drive to acquire donations of needed items as well as monetary donations to support Friends of Homeless Animals (FOHA), a non-profit, no kill shelter for dogs and cats.

## **EDUCATION DEPARTMENT**

**228 Projects 6,313 Members Participating**

### **FOCUS ON LITERACY**

**12,764 Hours \$72,069 Donated & In-Kind**

#### **Judy Lee, Chairman**

Over 10,000 books were donated not only to local libraries but to social service offices, clinics, hospitals, nursing homes and even lauder-mats. They help raised and donated cash to libraries that had lost their government funds. They volunteered in libraries so they could stay open. They helped other Literacy organizations with funds and promotions such as Read Across America", "Reading in Fundamental", "Reach Out and Read", "Reading for A Cure", "Books for Babies", "Bright Beginning", Farm Fresh, soup labels, cereal box tops, and others. They gave students scholarships, donated dictionaries, sponsored spelling bees, and volunteered in the classrooms. They tutored children and adults on all levels from pre-school to adults, including those in prison or wanting to learn English as a Second Language. They promoted reading as being a popular, educational, fun and entertaining "thing to do".



### **Best Overall - Large Club - The Woman's Club of Smithfield - Southside District**

This club arranged for 15 of their members to attend the Pro Literacy America Volunteer Tutor Training Program. They also met with the local librarian and the Peninsula Reads Program about setting up an Adult Literacy Program. This club also donated \$1400 to Refugee Literacy, RIF and Reading First in Virginia. Almost 10% of their membership tutors over 500 hours at a local after-school program.

### **Best Overall - Small Club - Thomas Jefferson Junior Woman's Club - Lee District**

This club of only 7 members coordinated and participated in the Reading in Fundamental Program at a local elementary school of 470 students. Over 3,000 books were given to these students. The students have a high percentage of low income or are

considered 'at risk' students. The program is extremely successful with teachers and parents participating in the 3 book distributions and goes to show that a small group of women can truly make a difference in their community.

**Best Single Project – Large Club - General – GFWC Dominion Woman’s Club -Northern**

This club implemented a program to help 3<sup>rd</sup> grade readers at a local elementary school. They purchased 500 books and 85 book bags at a cost of \$998 for the "Bag a Book" Literacy Program that holds book review classes that encourage these children to discuss what they have read. A third of this club's membership participates as volunteers and they also train community volunteers to assist as well.

**Best Single Project – Large Club - Junior - Junior Woman’s Club of Hilton Village - Tidewater District**

This club organized a Book Drive at a GFWC-VA Conference which resulted in over 200 books being donated to a local children's hospital.

**Best Single Project – Small Club -General –GFWC-VFVC Kempsville Woman’s Club - Tidewater District**

This club collected and donated Farm Fresh receipts which were used to purchase over \$13,800 in school equipment at a local elementary school.

**Best Single Project – Small Club - Junior - Farmville Junior Woman’s Club - Alice Kyle District**

This club invited a Professor from a local center for Communication, Literacy and Learning as a guest speaker. As a direct result, the club donated \$225 towards tutoring sessions and tuitions for families who could not afford them.

**EDUCATION IN THE COMMUNITY**     **257 Projects**     **6,313 Members Participating**  
**12,764 Hours**     **\$72,069 Donated & In-Kind**



The GFWC Virginia Clubs are very involved in Education and it shows by the numbers. They researched local authors and honored them with a reception. They gave many scholarships on all levels and donated school supplies to students as well as to teachers and schools. They promoted reading with summer reading programs through the library. They donated books, CDs, paperbacks, magazines and albums to libraries. They decorated libraries with seasonal items and even donated furniture and volunteered hours where needed. They even attended local supervisor meetings to push the building of a new library. In these economical times, our clubs stepped up to the plate and did what needed to be done to make learning possible in their communities.

**Best Overall - Large Club - Lexington Woman’s Club - Shenandoah District**

This club asked 12 local Kindergarten teachers at 5 schools to provide a wish list. Since the club had originally only allocated \$200 for the project-members donated the difference so that the wish list could be realized. \$676 was spent on markers, colored pencils, Play Doh, Glitter and various supplies and they were delivered as promised. The club also adopted the Head Start program at a local school. They visited and read to the 20 children several times throughout the year. The club donated 20 to them along with 75 books for preschoolers. They donated 2 scholarships totaling \$1250 plus \$200 to the local library. They also implemented a book club that meets every month to hear a book review.

**Best Overall - Small Club - GFWC Junior Woman’s of Hopewell, Inc. - Southside District**

This club promoted reading by placing magazines in hospitals and waiting rooms. They donated \$1,560 in scholarships as well as donated cereal box tops and Farm Fresh receipts that were used to buy school equipment. They also participated as guides during Education Day at the State Fair.

**Best Single Project – Large Club - General –Five Rivers Woman’s Club - Lee District**

This club wanted to leave a permanent gift to their community to commemorate their 20<sup>th</sup> anniversary. They researched all authors, past and present from their small community and set up the main event of "Gloucester Authors: Past and Present" at the local library. 5 of the authors presented interactive book reviews that appealed to all age groups. A CD containing the database of all 117 authors was presented to the County Librarian and the Superintendent of Schools at a special ceremony. There was an author's reception where the members provided refreshments. There were 'books talks' that aired on local TV and underwritten by donated funds. 82% of the membership participated in this project.

**Best Single Project – Large Club - Junior - GFWC Franklin Junior Woman’s Club - Southside District**

This club held a free "Day in the Park" for children and their families. Activities included club members reading stories aloud to the children. They had the traveling book mobile where the children were shown how to obtain a library card and how to check out books. The children were also given bookmarks as well as books to take home with them. The day was also full of safety and health information.

**Best Single Project – Small Club – General –GFWC Western Fairfax County Woman’s Club - Northern District**

Over half of this club's membership spent over 1,000 hours assisting their local library with 2 book sales that netted the library over \$57,000. This helps the library stay open and provides the supplement needed since other funds were lost because of budget cuts.

**Best Single Project – Small Club - Junior - Varina Junior Woman’s Club - Lee District**

This club created a playbill for their annual dinner theatre. They solicited ads for the program from local businesses and others. The proceeds enabled the club to donate \$1600 to 4 high school seniors to further their education. The scholarship recipients were judged on leadership activities, awards, honors received, community service hours and financial need. The service hours included hours worked at the dinner theatre.

**HOME LIFE DEPARTMENT**      **1,127 Projects**    **4,173 Members Participating**  
**HELPING HANDS**            **67,193 Hours**    **\$469,499 Donated & In-Kind**  
**Kelly Krantz, Chairman**



Virginia clubs focused on assisting those in need in their communities. Many families, children and seniors were assisted with meals, food and monetary donations. Whether in shelters, hospitals, nursing homes or shut in, any in need were assisted. Other areas targeted were donations to the VA Tech Ambulance fund, Easter Seals/Camp Easter Seals and clothing drives.

**Best Overall - Large Club - Junior Woman's Club of Loudoun - Northern District**

This club worked in many areas of the program, Hunger in America, Easter Seals, March of Dimes along with many, many other projects. Club donated funds, food, clothes, but most of all their time. The entire club brought helping hands to their community.

**Best Overall – Small Club - Stuarts Draft Woman's Club - Shenandoah District**

A club of 6 members throughout the year worked with and donated food, clothing, toys, gifts and monetary donations to a wide variety of area nursing homes, schools, correctional center, food bank, clothes closet and needy in their area. They demonstrate that a small group of very busy hands and very large hearts make a tremendous difference in the community.

**Best Single Project - Large Club - General-Woman's Club of Sandston - Lee District**

Donated tote bags containing a "lovey" blanket, stuffed animal, book, coloring books & crayons to homeless children at shelters and to children at elementary schools designated by school counselors as homeless or in a crisis situation.

**Best Single Project - Large Club – Junior - Midlothian Junior Woman's Club - Lee District**

Club organized and ran a Cinderella's Dream prom dress event, held over 3 days, featured in the paper, on the news and on radio and promoted at several area high schools. Over 1000 dresses were collected.

**Best Single Project - Small Club – General - Woman's Club of Cumberland, GFWC - Alice Kyle District**

The Christmas Mother Program benefitted impoverished children, elderly and families in financial crisis. The entire club participated in all aspects of the program from soliciting donations to acting as personal shoppers. They became part of the community benefitting from this project.

**Best Single Project - Small Club – Junior - Westwood Junior Woman's Club - Lee District**

Adopted Richmond's Hospital Hospitality House, preparing several meals, donating laundry and cleaning supplies. The club also hosted bingo games providing snacks, drinks and prizes and running the games. Monetary funds were also donated to the Hospitality House.

**Honorable Mention - GFWC Dominion Sisterhood Juniorette Club - Northern District**

**HOME LIFE DEPARTMENT**      **49 Projects**      **758 Members Participating**  
**FINANCIAL ISSUES**            **3,012 Hours**      **\$5,070 Donated & In-Kind**  
**Kelly Krantz, Chairman**



GFWC-VA members took part in many areas of financial planning. Through speakers, newsletter articles, flyers and seminars, members were educated in estate planning, identity theft and reducing debt. With the current economy, there was a tremendous increase in interest in this program across every district.

**Best Overall – Large Club - GFWC Sedley Woman's Club - Southside District**

Club presented a community "Are You Ready" community seminar covering financial readiness in time of financial crisis or emergency. Every member of the club, working throughout their community with other clubs and organizations, planned and organized a detailed seminar covering a multitude of topics including all aspects of the Financial Issues program.

**Best Overall – Small Club – Thomas Jefferson Junior Woman's Club - Lee District**

With the impact of the economy on members' lives, this club located a financial expert and held a "Smart Financial Sense" seminar covering topics from surviving a layoff, saving money at the grocery store, to the right insurance to purchase. Promoted throughout the community and to their district clubs, their assisted one another and their community become financially smart.

**Best Single Project – Large Club – General – GFWC Cape Henry Woman's Club - Tidewater District**

The club held a program at the Central Library with a licensed financial advisor covering topics on living on retirement income, investing in a volatile market and future planning.

**Best Single Project - Large Club – Junior – Junior Woman's Club of Loudoun – Northern District**

Two club members who work in the identity theft prevention industry presented a program on how identity thieves access personal information and vulnerabilities that members weren't aware of. The importance of reviewing credit reports and information on web sites were also covered.

**Best Single Project - Small Club – General – Woman's Club of Cape Charles – Tidewater District**

An officer from the Cape Charles Police Department presented a program to the club on identity theft. Topics included credit cards, debit cards, ATM withdrawals, disposing of bills/receipts and computer use.

**Best Single Project - Small Club – Junior – GFWC Ashland Junior Woman's Club - Lee District**

Members contributed articles to their monthly newsletter on "How to Save a Buck". Examples were saving \$10 every grocery visit for Christmas and restaurants' kids eat free nights. Every member participated demonstrating how "every penny counts".

**HOME LIFE DEPARTMENT  
FOCUS ON HEALTH**

**588 Projects 3,559 Members Participating  
34,983 Hours \$126,189 Donated & In-Kind**



**Gwen Darby, Chairman**

What do tai chi, yoga, pilates, zumba and roses have in common? They were the more unusual methods that GFWC Virginia Clubs have used to promote healthy living among its members and their community. Clubs continue to tirelessly support research, raise awareness and donate tirelessly to causes such as breast cancer, shingles, heart disease, stroke, Alzheimer's, MS, Cystic Fibrosis, autism, Down's Syndrome and arthritis. Members also supported their communities by volunteering time, money, and supplies to local free clinics, rescue squads, blood banks and hospice. When members and friends needed help due to illness the members of GFWC Virginia rolled up their sleeves and to make meals, clean and raise funds when necessary.

**Best Overall - Large Club - GFWC Floyd County Woman's Club, Inc. — Blue Ridge District**

This club participated in the American Cancer Society's annual daffodil days. They were a corporate sponsor for their local Cancer Society's Relay for Life Walk with two members on the planning committee. Club sponsored annual American Red Cross "Blood Mobile Canteen", Members donate to and support the Floyd County Free Clinic, Carilion Hospice Services of New River Valley and the Carilion Hospice Services-Camp Tree House.

**Best Overall — Small Club - Woman's Club of Cumberland, GFWC — Alice Kyle District**

This club participated in the Step up for Roses, Relay for life with members participating with local teams, sponsored a local blood mobile, participated Red Cross Awareness Day, made care bags for local fire and rescue squads and promoted breast cancer awareness among members.

**Best Single Project — Large Club — General — Woman's Club of Powhatan County, Inc — Lee District**

This club started a "Smear Campaign" to encourage members to have their annual PAP Smear done to prevent Cervical Cancer. The campaign started off with a presentation about the warning signs and the importance of early detection. Members who had a PAP Smear done were recognized at the monthly meeting and rewarded.

**Best Single Project — Large Club – Junior — Junior Woman's Club of Loudon — Northern District**

Club had speaker presentation in honor of World Down Syndrome Day where members focused on the importance of using people-first language, which means putting and individual first and diagnosis second. They also discussed a campaign launched March 31<sup>st</sup> aimed at putting an end to the "r" word and a slur or insult. Members were encouraged to "Spread the Word to End the Word."

**Best Single Project — Small Club — General — GFWC Woman's Club of Tidewater — Tidewater District**

This club raised awareness of yearly mammograms in an insightful and creative way. "Smarties vs. Dum Dum's" Smarties candy and Dum Du Lollipops were passed out to members during the October meeting. If you had your Annual Mammogram in the last year you were a "smartie," if not the "Dum Dum" lollipop was for you

**Best Single Project — Small Club — Junior — Westwood Junior Woman's Club — Lee District**

Members of the club discovered how much fun you can have exercising by having a local Zumba instructor come for a class with the club. The club had fun learning all the different styles of dance that Zumba incorporated, increased their heart rate and even learned some of a new language as the instructor was from Germany.

**GFWC VIRGINIA JUNIOR CONTINUING PROJECT-CAMP EASTER SEALS**

**Debbie Shelton, Chairman 13 Projects 132 members 74 hours \$2,327 donations**



GFWC Virginia Juniors continued to support Camp Easter Seals Virginia by sponsoring campers, donating funds to the various programs at Camp, and promoting awareness of people with disabilities. Clubs sponsored campers for a total of \$1,690 in 2009. The support of the GFWC Virginia clubs is crucial to the success of Camp Easter Seals.

**Best Overall - Large Club - Buena Vista Junior Woman's Club - Shenandoah District**

This club donated \$50 toward a campership and \$25 for the playground renovation project.

**Best Overall - Small Club – Narrows Junior Woman's Club of GFWC – Southwestern District**

This club provided \$490 toward a campership. Members also contributed \$100 for the playground renovation project and \$5 to the staff recognition fund.

**Best Single Project – Large Club – Junior Woman's Club of Loudoun – Northern District**

This Junior club contributed \$250 to sponsor a camper at Camp Easter Seals Virginia in 2009.

**Best Single Project – Small Club – Junior Woman's Club of Manassas, Inc. – Northern District**

These Juniors donated \$800 to help pay for Camp in 2009. The club has developed a personal relationship with the camper and her mother. Nicole, the camper, has attended club meetings to share her pictures and stories about her experience at Camp Easter Seals Virginia.



## **PUBLIC AFFAIRS - CITIZENSHIP IN ACTION**

**Gail Howell, Chairman      201 Projects   3,022 Members Participating**  
**3,113 Hours   \$247,701 Donated & In-Kind**

Citizenship in Virginia is alive and thriving. Virginia clubs love helping soldiers and veterans. Members volunteer at VA hospitals, they play games, visit, send letters, and even assist with the acquisition of a service dog for a handicapped veteran. Multiple care packages have been sent. One club even arranged a private tour of the Pentagon for a group of WWII veterans. One club was instrumental in bring to fruition the war monument dedicated after it was donated by one of their members. One club has distributed 1250 “Files of Life” to members, family, friends, church members, and the community.

### **Best Overall - Large Club - GFWC Dominion Woman’s Club - Northern District**

This club supports Fisher House in sending supplies worth \$200.00/month requested by the Fisher House to meet their evolving needs, along with supporting the US Army Caisson Platoon Equine Assisted program which is a therapeutic riding program for amputees, and the Marine Comfort Quilt Program which provides quilts to the primary next of kin of fallen heroes.

### **Best Overall – Small Club – The GFWC Lynchburg Suburban Woman’s Club – Alice Kyle District**

Even though this club has several members in assisted living and nursing homes, they were still able to provide 13 projects in this department. Included are working with local TV station to provide more coverage for women veterans, support of a veterans group who hold vigil at Monument Terrace every Friday night, subscriptions of magazines for military, and supported a local group in the acquisition of a service dog for a disable vet.

### **Best Single Project- Large Club – General – The Woman’s Club of Essex County, Virginia, GFWC – Lee District**

This club has been working to plan, erect and dedicate a war memorial donated by one of their club members. Hard work came to fruition as the monument was erected in October with dedication in November.

### **Best Single Project- Large Club – Junior - GFWC Louisa Junior Woman’s Club – Lee District**

Club members put together care packages for soldiers deployed overseas including snacks, candy, gum, games, pens, prepaid calling cards, powdered beverages and hygiene items.

### **Best Single Project - Small Club - General - Herndon’s Woman’s Club – Northern District**

This club arranged a guided tour with a group of WWII veterans to the Pentagon Memorial and a private tour of the WWII exhibit corridor and the 9-11 Memorial Chapel inside the Pentagon with a “meet and greet” by Lieutenant General Jeffrey Sorenson.

### **Best Single Project- Small Club – Junior - GFWC Junior Woman’s Club of Hopewell, Inc. – Southside District**

Club members participated in Expired Coupons Program and donated cell phones for soldiers.



## **PUBLIC AFFAIRS – FOCUS ON COMMUNITY SAFETY PROGRAM**

**Gail Howell, Chairman      441 Projects   3,718 Members Participating**  
**15,960 Hours   \$219,235 Donated & In-Kind**

GFWC Virginia clubs have raised the bar for volunteering in this department. It was so difficult to pick and choose who was better when every report was on top of their game. Virginia clubs have helped local fire and rescue departments, fund after prom parties, arranged to have speakers to warn members about identity theft, credit card scams, smoke detectors, sent children to safety camps, held huge Halloween parties, gave away pool toys and “floaties” to children for safety in the water. They have distributed bookmarks to local libraries and elementary schools. One club honored 10 safety patrol students at 5 elementary schools and assisted with the sending of these students to the Safety Camp.

### **Best Overall - Large Club - McLean Woman’s Club – Northern District**

This club honored 10 Safety Patrol students from 5 elementary schools. They rec’d an engraved trophy from the club. They also assist with the sending of the students to the Safety Camp.

### **Best Overall – Small Club - GFWC Botetourt Town & Country Women’s Club – Blue Ridge District**

This club focuses on safety throughout the year with 19 projects under their belt. Including programs on child safety, supporting Red Cross, After Prom parties, and multiple programs on crime prevention.

### **Best Single Project - Large Club – General - GFWC Sedley Woman’s Club – Southside District**

Had Police Chief to present program on gang activity, how to recognize, and what local areas to avoid and taped this program and made 2 CD’s for use at area churches and youth groups.

### **Best Single Project- Large Club – Junior - South Boston-Halifax Junior Woman’s Club GFWC – Alice Kyle District**

This annual Halloween Carnival continues to grow each year reaching over 400 children. Entrance fee is still 1.00 or canned good and provides safe trick or treating for children.

### **Best Single Project - Small Club – General - GFWC Roanoke County Woman’s Club- Blue Ridge District**

With logo of District, website and club name, the FILE OF LIFE program was implemented in the community after contacting program and ordering files. These files have contacts, medication, and medical history in them. 1250 FILES OF LIFE have been distributed at no cost to members, churches, civic groups, family and friends.

### **Best Single Project- Small Club – Junior - Covington Junior Woman’s Club - Shenandoah District**

This club continues to promote awareness of Child Abuse Prevention Month by distributing bookmarks to local libraries and local elementary schools.

**INTERNATIONAL AFFAIRS ~ UNITED NATIONS 593 Members Participating**  
**Jean Wolfe, Chairman 28 Projects 1,372 Hours \$9,933 Donated & In-Kind**



**Best Overall-Large Club - No Award**

**Best Overall-Small Club – GFWC Botetourt Town & Country Women’s Club - Blue Ridge District**

For raising \$1200 for supporting African Team Ministries school programs for HIV/AIDS education in African countries.

**Best Single Project-Large Club-General -GFWC Smith Mountain Lake Women’s Club - Blue Ridge District**

For their Women4Women Knitting4Peace project. They made 200 hats for preemies in African Countries.

**Best Single Project-Large Club-Junior - GFWC Blacksburg Junior Women’s Club – Blue Ridge District**

For support 9 Virginia Tech students through Project Esperanza. These students went to the Dominican Republic to teach geography to 50 students. The club provided globes for those 50 students.

**Best Single Project-Small Club-General - No Award**

**Best Single Project-Small Club-Junior - No Award**

**INTERNATIONAL AFFAIRS REACHING OUT INTERNATIONALLY**

**Jean Wolfe, Chairman 3,358 Members Participating 306 Projects**  
**11,506 Hours \$107,390 Donated & In-Kind**



**Best Overall - Large Club - GFWC Dominion of Woman’s Club - Northern District**

For their support of INMED, Healthy Babies, and Traveling International Dinners

**Best Overall - Small Club - South Boston-Halifax Junior Woman’s Club GFWC - Alice Kyle District**

For Operation Teddy Bear,(they paired with a school and collected 252 stuffed animals). For Operation Christmas, Save Them One by One,(collecting clothing, shoes, books for Nicaragua), Support of building a school in Tanzania.

**Best Single Project - Large Club – General - Lexington Woman’s Club - Shenandoah District**

For their International Dinner. They hosted 97 international students from 3 local colleges and 2 high schools. They had 20 guests from the community. 35 local merchants provided 100 door prizes.

**Best Single Project - Large Club – Junior - Junior Woman’s Club of Hilton Village - Tidewater District**

For their support of Operation Smile.

**Best Single Project - Small Club – General - Woman’s Club of Greene County - Shenandoah District**

For partnering with Social Services buying, sorting, stocking the food pantry, and for organizing food drives.

**Best Single Project - Small Club – Junior – GFWC Ashland Junior Woman’s Club - Lee District**

For their support of a camp for children in Latvia.

**GFWC WOMEN’S HISTORY & RESOURCE CENTER**

**Ginger Robertson, Chairman**

**135 Projects 925 Members 5,382 Hours \$6,746 Donated & In-Kind**

All 8 districts in the state of Virginia submitted reports in WHRC. 24 general clubs; 5 junior clubs and 1 juniorette club reported under the objectives to collect, preserve, interpret, and promote the History of GFWC and women volunteers.

**Best Overall – Large Club –The Woman’s Club of Smithfield – Southside District**

Reported in four steps of the WHRC objectives. A total of 511 hours were expended with emphasis on preserving their 82 year history- written and in scrapbooks, etc.

**Best Overall – Small Club – GFWC Botetourt Town & Country Women’s Club – Blue Ridge District**

Reported in 4 steps of the WHRC objectives, with emphasis on continued support of Historic Fincastle & the Botetourt County Historical Society.

**Best Single Project – Large Club – General – Grundy Woman’s Club – Southwestern District**

March program honoring 3 Past District Presidents; 7 Past Presidents; 3 Town Councilwomen; rededicated portraits of the first Town Councilwoman; only woman Mayor and 3 early Councilwomen at the Town Office.

**Best Single Project – Large Club – Junior – Junior Woman’s Club of Williamsburg – Tidewater District**

Helped organize/host a “Women with a Cause” event to recognize women who have made a significant impact on their community.

**Best Single Project – Small Club – General – Pamunkey Woman’s Club – Lee District**

Published a 2010 Historic Hanover Calendar depicting original pen & ink drawings, with a short history of the historical homes; churches and the artists printed on the calendar..

**Best Single Project – Small Club – Junior – GFWC Junior Woman’s Club of Hopewell, Inc. – Southside District**

Continued support of The Historic Hopewell Foundation to help preserve several historic buildings within the city.

**Honorable Mention – GFWC Dominion Sisterhood Juniorette Club – Northern District**

Created a “Year in Review” video of all their 2009 events. This video was set to the music “Waiting on the World to Change”.

**LEADERSHIP**                      **1,207 Projects**                      **6, 313 Members participating**  
**Hope Royer, Chairman**                      **69,916 Hours**                      **\$112,043 Donated**  
**Lori Chevalier, Junior Chairman**

111 GFWC Virginia General, Junior and Juniorette Clubs reported. Clubs recognized the importance of strengthening members' management skills and the necessity of identifying leadership qualities. Clubs promoted the development and use of leadership skills by providing varied training tools and resources. Communication within all levels of Federation remains an important and vital link in leadership training. All eight GFWC Virginia Districts and 91 reporting clubs publish newsletters to promote interest and participation in Federation programs. Two districts and 34 clubs publish e-newsletters.

**Best Overall - Large Club - GFWC Dominion Woman's Club - Northern District**

This club developed working relationships with other community based organizations and was awarded a county wide, community service award. Leadership opportunities were provided at club level through resourceful management. Two members participated in the GFWC Virginia LEADS. Members provided financial support to its Juniorette Club while serving as mentors and leadership facilitators.

**Best Overall - Small Club - GFWC Junior Woman's Club of Hopewell, Inc. - Southside District**

Use of GFWC's leadership resources and tools provided members with lessons on management skills, parliamentary procedure and leadership development. The club's Leadership Honor Society encouraged members to accept leadership roles and recognized members who took on responsibilities. Public speaking skills were developed through a unique story review project. Members attended district, state and region meetings.

**Best Single Project - Large Club - General - GFWC Sedley Woman's Club - Southside District**

A three part, club level leadership seminar, modeled after a state Leadership Workshop, offered members the opportunity to identify their own leadership qualities and management skills.

**Best Single Project - Small Club - General - GFWC Kanawha Woman's Club - Lee District**

Financial sponsorship of a HOBY Ambassador, combined with sponsorship of its annual Get Acquainted Social for 51 HOBY Ambassadors and their parents, encouraged and supported youth leadership development.

**Best Single Project - Large Club - Junior- GFWC Pearisburg Junior Woman's Club - Southwestern District**

The club sponsored the organization and charter of a Juniorette Club at the local high school.

**Best Single Project - Small Club - Junior – GFWC Ashland Junior Woman's Club, Inc. - Lee District**

Member "sign ups" at the beginning of the club year offered every member a leadership opportunity. Members signed up to read and approve Minutes; lead the Pledge of Allegiance or Club Collect; serve as meeting greeter/hostess and to facilitate other monthly meeting duties.



**MEMBERSHIP**                      **944 Projects**                      **4,127 Members Participating**

**Dale Fisher - Membership Chairman**                      **36,134 Hours**

**Shelia Ridout - Junior Membership Chairman**                      **\$82,415 Donated & In-Kind**

GFWC Virginia General & Junior clubs fulfilled a wide variety of projects to meet the objectives of GFWC while meeting the needs of their members. Federation education, creative recruitment tools & events, and member recognition kept our membership healthy.

**Best Overall – Large Club – Woman’s Club of Smithfield - Southside District**

Strong New Member support system. Provided 2 orientations, utilizing the GFWC DVD and other Federation materials, for the 15 new members recruited. Generous “Dollars For Delegates” program. Participated in ACT in OCT. Developed promotional products to strengthen membership. Produced a DVD “Look What You Gals Did”

**Best Overall – Small Club - GFWC Junior Woman’s Club of Hopewell, Inc. - Southside District**

Held Scavenger Hunt Membership Social. GFWC, GFWC Virginia, and District publications and materials are shared. Celebrated Junior Month. Members wear GFWC emblematic items. “Juniors In Need” program to help members through difficult times. Strong member retention through recognition and a variety of social activities.

**Best Single Project – Large Club – General – Great Bridge Woman’s Club - Tidewater District**

Held a very creative Ying Yang annual luncheon which included the viewing of their recently produced club event DVD. Each member received a copy as a favor.

**Best Single Project – Large Club – Junior – GFWC Blacksburg Junior Women’s Club - Blue Ridge District**

This club’s successful open house used the theme “Service Is Groovy”, in recognition of the 40<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of Woodstock. Utilizing club web site inquiries and info sheets from other club projects, 80 invitations were sent. They have realized 17 new members from this endeavor.

**Best Single Project – Small Club – General – GFWC Roanoke County Woman’s Club - Blue Ridge District**

“Paint The Pig” - Local BBQ establishments welcome organizations to paint their pig statues. This club’s artwork included the GFWC emblem. This project instilled lots of fun fellowship and increased club visibility.

**Best Single Project – Small Club - Junior – Caroline Junior Woman’s Club of GFWC, Inc. - Lee District**

Attendees at the club’s Holly Ball were given a favor of a holiday cookie cutter with an attached invitation to participate in the club’s next meeting and project – that of assembling gift bags for teachers in the community. The gifts bags also included an invitation to the club’s February Valentine meeting. The “domino effect”.

**Honorable Mention – GFWC Dominion Sisterhood Junioresettes - Northern District**

Net gain in membership. Utilized club apparel. Has strong and fun retention program.

## GFWC VIRGINIA STATE PROJECT – Virginia Tech Memorial Fund

### Kathryn Sowers, Chairman

The members of the General Federation of Women's Clubs Virginia have proved once again that you are the most generous and amazing women with your time and money. You have lived the words from The Collect, "May we always be generous." You have raised over \$100,000 to buy a new, fully-equipped F450 Advanced Life Support Ambulance for the VT Rescue Squad. Our goal for this Special two year State project was **3 x \$10 per member by 2010**. For each member who reached her goal of \$30, we presented a special State Project pin to wear proudly for everyone to know that you are *Passing It On - an Act of Kindness*. Certificates were presented to clubs at the 2009 and 2010 Convention for reaching the goal of 100% of their members contributing the \$30 per member. Below is a list of clubs as of March 31, 2010 that have reached that goal (based on funds received at state headquarters) since April 1, 2009. Thanks for your support and for *Passing It On*. **We did it!!!!!!!!!!!!!!**

#### Alice Kyle District

Woman's Club of Cumberland, GFWC  
GFWC – Lynchburg Junior Woman's Club

#### Blue Ridge District

GFWC Christiansburg Woman's Club  
GFWC Woman's Club of Vinton  
GFWC Blacksburg Junior Women's Club

#### Lee District

Henry Clay Woman's Club of GFWC  
GFWC Regency Woman's Club  
Hanover Junior Woman's Club  
GFWC Ladies In Purpose Junior Woman's Club

#### Northern District

Woman's Club of Fairfax  
Woman's Club of King George  
Spotsylvania Woman's Club  
Springfield Woman's Club  
Junior Woman's Club of Loudoun

#### Shenandoah District

Waynesboro Woman's Club  
Weyers Cave Woman's Club of GFWC

#### Southside District

Junto Woman's Club  
Woman's Club of Prince George  
Riparian Woman's Club  
Woman's Club of Smithfield  
GFWC Woman's Club of Wakefield  
Woman's Club of Windsor

#### Southwestern District

Mattie R. Stephenson Woman's Club  
Pennington Gap Woman's Club  
Wytheville Woman's Club  
Narrows Junior Woman's Club of GFWC

#### Tidewater District

GFWC-VFVC Kempsville Woman's Club  
GFWC Junior Woman's Club of Northampton County

## LEGISLATION & PUBLIC POLICY Tricia Dalton, Chairman

**134 Projects 824 Members Participating**  
**1,431 Hours \$1,034 Donated & In-Kind**



GFWC Virginia clubs worked hard to encourage civic participation through interesting and informative programs and projects. Virginia clubwomen sponsored legislative-based programs from their localities, heard from council members, Board of Supervisor members, town and county planning commissions, Senators, and local government officials. Clubs appointed Legislation/Public Policy Chairmen who reported in newsletters, emails and at meetings the latest information on bills pending in Congress and the Virginia General Assembly. Members joined GFWC's Legislative Network and helped spread the word on Federation priority issues.

#### Best Overall – Large Club – McLean Woman's Club – Northern District

This club had Marcia McAllister, Communications Manager for Dulles Corridor Metrorail Project as a speaker. They also focused on U.S. Capitol Visitors Center, Anacostia Riverfront Properties, Route 123, Super Grid, Credit Card Holders Bill of Rights, US Postal Service and budget shortfalls at area universities.

#### Best Overall – Small Club – The GFWC Virginia Lynchburg Suburban Woman's Club – Alice Kyle District

This club educates their members each month by updating them on important issues such as libraries and museums, tracking bills, contacting representatives and public officials. They study public policies and pass along pertinent information pertaining to Family Protection, texting while driving, health plan affect on small businesses, social security, Shingles and Breast Cancer.

#### Best Single Project – Large Club – General – The Woman's Club of Essex County, Virginia, GFWC – Lee District

This club worked with the Department of Environmental Quality (DEQ) regarding the Groundwater Management Area issues. One member attended hearings and testified in favor of the State Water Control Board designating the Northern Neck and Middle Peninsula as a Groundwater Management area. Follow ups were made with local representatives.

#### Best Single Project - Large Club Junior – GFWC Louisa Junior Woman's Club – Lee District

This club sponsored a local teen, Dallas Ventre, a Louisa County High school student, speak to them about the Inauguration in Washington, DC. The club donated \$500.00 to Miss Ventre to attend the Inauguration. She brought her photo albums filled with her memories of this historic event.

#### Best Single Project – Small Club – General – No winners in this category

#### Best Single Project – Small Club – Junior – GFWC Ashland Junior Woman's Club – Lee District

Members wrote letters on behalf of Hospice patients to the Senate Hospice Advocacy opposing the current Health Bill. This bill would include a \$10 billion rate cut over the next 10 years. This would have a huge impact on patients and families who depend on hospice for high-quality, compassionate end-of-life care.

**PUBLIC RELATIONS**      **534 Projects**      **2,600 Members Participating**  
**Anne Bryant, Chairman**      **15,891 Hours**      **\$20,756 Donated & In-Kind**



GFWC Virginia clubwomen publicize clubs/Federation in creative and “tried and true” ways. 67 clubs have GFWC in their name. Websites, Facebook, and other electronic media continue to grow. Club names/information on shirts, hats, bags, aprons, books, calendars, mugs, cookbooks, brochures, business cards. Used community calendars, letters to the editor, joined chambers of commerce, sponsored many diverse activities/events.

**Best Overall – Large Club - GFWC Dominion Woman’s Club – Northern District**

Redesigned website, member Chamber of Commerce. Use club brochures, business cards, thank you cards, GFWC PR materials, media contact list, displays at multiple community events. Created sponsor appreciation card for members to leave with sponsors. Presented Networking 101 to share ways to network without fear.

**Best Overall – Small Club - GFWC Junior Woman’s Club of Hopewell, Inc. – Southside District**

Media releases about club events/media contact list. Significant craft show publicity. Website, Facebook. Uses club profile, t-shirts, tote bags, club banner, GFWC PR kit, GFWC PR materials. GFWC signs at entrances to city. Member Chamber of Commerce. Club history/contact info in Club/District cookbooks.

**Best Single Project – Large Club – General - GFWC Floyd County Woman’s Club Inc. – Blue Ridge District**

Sponsored Arts & Crafts Festival. Publicity in 24 newspapers, 3 TV stations, 24 radio stations, 3 regional magazines, 2 craft show directories. Posters/flyers, crafts display, banner hung across street.

**Best Single Project – Large Club – Junior - Midlothian Junior Woman’s Club – Lee District**

Sponsor Midlothian Festival. Set up midlothianfestival.net website plus listed on 12 other websites. Billboards, banners, lawn signs, club booth at festival. Print/radio/TV promotions. 5000 fliers distributed.

**Best Single Project – Small Club – General - GFWC Ashcake Woman’s Club – Lee District**

Sponsored Hanover Harvest Run with ads in 9 papers/10 websites; 1500 flyers distributed; 200 race programs; 190 t-shirts with club name; website created for registration; 40 volunteers to staff event.

**Best Single Project – Small Club- Junior - Narrows Junior Woman’s Club of GFWC – Southwestern District**

Promoted TV Auction with publicity: weekly newspaper articles, paid ads, cable TV spots, 4x6 signs, full-page ad to recognize donors to auction.

**Publicity Book Contest Winner: Grundy Woman’s Club – Southwestern District**

**DOMESTIC VIOLENCE AWARENESS**

**Jan Gunnels, Chairman 142 Projects 6,525 Members 4,081 Hours \$39,595 Donated & In-Kind**

GFWC Virginia clubwomen continue to find creative ways to inform, advocate and support awareness and prevention of domestic violence as well as to offer assistance and comfort to victims of abusive situations through their local communities’ shelters.

**Best Overall - Large Club – GFWC Dominion Woman’s Club – Northern District**

Members of this club sponsored a handicap accessible bedroom at their community’s local shelter. In addition, they replaced the shelter’s dishwasher to ensure compliance with local health ordinances. Volunteers also organized the storage of donated clothing for ease and efficiency of distribution.

**Best Overall - Small Club – GFWC Junior Woman’s Club of Northampton County – Tidewater District**

This nine member club purchased and donated fleece throws to their local community shelter. They also provided laundry supplies and assisted with the payment of heating costs for the shelter. A project at their district meeting was spearheaded to provide gifts of personal items which were collected and delivered to shelter residents.

**Best Single Project - Large Club - General – Woman’s Club of Powhatan County – Lee District**

Clubwomen of Powhatan County once again initiated and successfully completed “Project Suitcase” to benefit residents of their local shelter for victims of domestic abuse. Believing this simple act would be huge in the building of self esteem, suitcases were obtained for each resident’s use to carry personal belongings rather than to use garbage bags as they prepared to leave the shelter to begin their lives anew.

**Best Single Project - Large Club - Junior – GFWC Franklin Junior Woman’s Club – Southside District**

Together with their club’s Public Affairs Dept., this club initiated a program on teen dating abuse, followed by an extensive open discussion. The project concluded with a quiz for members on teen dating violence facts to determine how much they knew on the subject!

**Best Single Project - Small Club - General – Rural Plains Woman’s Club – Lee District**

Volunteers of this club provided babysitting services to residents of their local shelter while mothers attended support group meetings, job interviews or appointments.

**Best Single Project - Small Club - Junior – GFWC Lilac Junior Woman’s Club – Alice Kyle District**

10 members raised funds and provided the labor to completely renovate a room at their local shelter. They purchased new bedding and furniture as well as painting and decorating the room.

## NEWSLETTERS

### JOAN KREMZIR, Editor of *The Virginia Clubwoman*

The 1<sup>st</sup> Place club newsletters contained all or most of the following information making them informative to club members and prepared to attend a meeting. They included their club name on the cover, GFWC affiliation logos (some included District and GFWC Virginia), indexes on front page, calendars, reminders, reports of officers and chairmen, treasurer's reports, minutes, and membership spotlights. Some also included parliamentary tips or federation news and a list of correspondence received. They were all very easy and fun to read.

#### General Large Clubs

- 1<sup>st</sup> Place *The Clubline, Woman's Club of Prince George County, Southside District*  
2<sup>nd</sup> Place *Worthy News, GFWC Worthington Woman's Club, Lee District*  
3<sup>rd</sup> Place *Club Chatter, Woman's Club of Smithfield, Inc., Southside District*

#### General Small Clubs

- 1<sup>st</sup> Place *Metro Media, Metropolitan Richmond Woman's Club, Lee District*  
2<sup>nd</sup> Place *Kanawha Kibitzer, GFWC Kanawha Woman's Club, Lee District*  
3<sup>rd</sup> Place *The Peak Squeak, GFWC Bedford Woman's Club, Blue Ridge District*

#### Junior Large Clubs

- 1<sup>st</sup> Place *The Junior Journal, GFWC Franklin Junior Woman's Club, Southside District*  
2<sup>nd</sup> Place *JWCW, Junior Woman's Club of Williamsburg, Tidewater District*  
3<sup>rd</sup> Place *The Villager, Junior Woman's Club of Hilton Village, Tidewater District*

#### Junior Small Clubs

- 1<sup>st</sup> Place *Tidings, GFWC Junior Woman's Club of Hopewell, Southside District*  
2<sup>nd</sup> Place *The Wave Runner, Caroline Junior Woman's Club of GFWC, Inc., Lee District*  
3<sup>rd</sup> Place *PJWC Newsletter, Powhatan Junior Woman's Club, Lee District*



## WEBSITE CONTEST

### Janice Sadler - Web Designer

Website Contest entries were judged on the following points: Contact email link available, district affiliation noted, links to GFWC Virginia and GFWC present, the website contained current information, club meeting times and locations listed, projects listed, calendar present, club history available, and other informative items present. Design and style were secondary judging points. Links to the winning clubs can be found on the GFWC Virginia LINKS page.



#### 1st Place - Woman's Club of Smithfield, VA - Southside District

This website covered all the bases including a quick response to a contact email request. Their online calendar was very detailed. New members can apply with an online form. Great online report forms for tallying member hours. The club's newsletter is online and is offered via email.

#### 2nd Place - Junior Woman's Club of Loudoun - Northern District

Check out the great Membership section with tools and forms available for club members to download. No need to wait on snail mail, they have their newsletters online!

#### 3rd Place TIE - Farmville Junior Woman's Club - Alice Kyle District

This website has STYLE. It is very neat and balanced and a great PR tool.

#### 3rd Place TIE - Tri Club Woman's Club - Lee District

Do you want to know about Tri Club? Go to their website. Their abundance of data tells all and be sure to pay special attention to their Membership page.

## COMMUNITY IMPROVEMENT CONTEST

### Betty Shields, Chairman

The objective of the Community Improvement contest is to encourage and reward clubs for improvement projects that meet the special needs of their communities, making their city or town a better place to live. Judging criteria include: Project Selection – community need and choices; Project Development – community collaboration, plan of action and persistence of effort; Project Evaluation – degree of success, long-term effects, and increased community awareness.

#### First Place Winner - Woman's Club of Prince George County – Northern District

The **New Branch Library Project** was to refocus the public debate on the importance of the county library and encourage the county government leaders to move forward with the approved Capital Improvement Plan (CIP) to construct a new Branch Library Building at or near the Prince George County Courthouse Complex. The project was selected because the library project was in danger of being dropped from the CIP by government leaders. Comment of judges: “We felt that the Library project would have a more long-term positive effect on more people of all ages over time.” 61 Members, 1987 Volunteer \$6,931.91

#### Second Place Winner – The Woman's Club of Essex County, GFWC – Lee District

The **War Monument Project** was to honor the Essex County natives who served in the nation's wars from the Revolutionary through Viet Nam by erecting a war monument inscribed with their names. Comment of judges: “The War Monument was

highly valued because of the importance of the sense of pride, patriotism, duty to country and appreciation to those who served in the armed forces.” 57 Members, 234 Hours, \$136,605.66

**Third Place Winner - Woman’s Club of Newport News – Tidewater District**

The project was the **Tutoring and Mentoring Students** at a local elementary school. Comment of Judges: This project served as a role model for other organizations to adopt. To help build self esteem, build positive citizenship and attitudes in young people will provide great, though immeasurable, rewards in the future. 99 Members, 549 Hours, \$1,529.00



**FUND RAISING**

**Dawn Barnes, Chairman 846 Projects 4,889 Members 108,657 Hours \$603,199 Raised**

GFWC Virginia Clubwomen cooked, worked and planned festivals, hosted home tours, danced and sold everything imaginable in order to raise money for the work that is the essence of federation. Some of their projects were conducted on their own while others were in partnership with another club, a community agency or business.

**Best Overall – Large Club – Junior Woman’s Club of Williamsburg - Tidewater District**

Combining both community efforts and in club activities along with several new projects this club worked together to accomplish a \$75,000+ total.

**Best Overall – Small Club –Narrows Junior Woman’s Club of GFWC –Southwestern District**

This club realized a profit of \$12,024.00 through two major fundraising efforts.

**Best Single Project – Large Club – General – Woman’s Club of Prince George County – Southside District**

Reevaluation of a former fundraiser led to the return of the Mr. and Miss Prince George County Contest as a fundraising project.

**Best Single Project – Large Club – Junior – Blacksburg Junior Woman’s Club – Blue Ridge District**

A new venture in 2008, this project was deemed worthy of a second year, the March of Ales is an event consisting of beer and wine tastings, food, music, dancing, along with silent and live auctions.

**Best Single Project – Small Club – General – Metropolitan Richmond Woman’s Club – Lee District**

This club decided to try a yard sale and researched successful staging of a yard sale, upon its success they planned another one later in the club year.

**Best Single Project – Small Club – Junior - Farmville Junior Woman’s Club –Alice Kyle District**

A Breakfast with Santa hosted by this club was supported by donations from a wide variety of local restaurants and area businesses, truly a community supported event.

**Honorable Mention – GFWC Dominion Sisterhood Juniette Club – Northern District**

These ladies worked together on three fundraising projects, one of which was a ‘Go Red’ Luncheon and Bin--

**GFWC JUNIOR SPECIAL PROJECT - ADVOCATES FOR CHILDREN  
Marti Clark-Chairman**



**Best Overall - Large Club – Grundy Woman's Club – Southwestern District**

**Best Overall - Small Club – GFWC Pearisburg Junior Woman's Club – Southwestern District**

**Best Single Project - Large Club - Grundy Woman's Club – Southwestern District**

**Best Single Project - Small Club - Pennington Gap Woman's Club – Southwestern District**

**GFWC JUNIOR ADDITIONAL STATE PROJECT – JUNIOR HEALTH**

**Kat Puryear-Chairman 27 Projects 116 Members 144 Hours \$2,012 Donated & In-Kind**

GFWC Junior Club Woman have worked to bring to focus the need for woman of all ages to be in touch with their health. Clubs distributed Pink Ribbons for Breast Cancer Awareness, Teal Ribbons for Ovarian Cancer Awareness, and “Red Dresses” to support Heart Health. Clubs supported Relay for Life, Susan G. Komen Global Race, Jump Rope/Hoops for Heart, wrote articles for newsletters, had mammograms and educated members on self breast exams, made bracelets as reminders, participated in silent auctions, and organized a book drive. The support, care giving, and love that was shown to members of their clubs and community as they battled breast cancer, heart disease, and the loss of a baby, shows that our members give so much more than what can be seen on the outside.

**Best Overall – Small Club – Junior – GFWC Amherst Junior Woman’s Club**

This club reached out to not only club members but to their community. After a friend of a member was diagnosed with an aggressive tumor/breast cancer and club members rallied together to send cards and pray through out surgery and chemo treatments.

**Best Single Project – Small Club – GFWC Amherst Junior Woman’s Club**

This club organized a book drive in memory of a colleague’s child who died only days after birth. The book drive reaped over 100 donated books and raised awareness of the pain of losing a newborn.

# GFWC Virginia Junior Club of the Year

## **GFWC Blacksburg Junior Women's Club - Blue Ridge District**

This junior club exemplified all aspects of the award criteria for 2009. In the area of membership, the club experienced a net increase, developed a 'New Member Packet' including club and GFWC information, and started a club newsletter and Web site. On the fun side, the club hosted monthly socials and recognized a member of the month. Leadership was an important part of this club's success equation. The club is developing leaders internally as well as utilizing the resources GFWC Virginia makes available to clubs. The club believed in sharing leadership responsibilities across multiple members by establishing standing committees and project committees. The club has proven success in this area as the majority of the current officers have served as a committee chairman prior to advancing to an officer role. The club has included Federation leadership through increased participation at District meetings and sent representatives to the GFWC Virginia LEADS seminar in August.

## **GFWC Virginia Junior Director's Award for Outstanding Achievement**

This award is presented to one club in each size category that demonstrates the most well-rounded work in the GFWC Departments, Programs, Special Project, and GFWC Virginia project areas.

**Large Club** – Junior Woman's Club of Loudoun – Northern District

**Large Club Honorable Mention** – South Boston-Halifax Junior Woman's Club GFWC– Alice Kyle District

**Small Club** – GFWC Junior Woman's Club of Hopewell, Inc. – Southside District

## **GFWC Virginia Junior Honor Society**

### **Bronze**

GFWC Ashland JWC  
Thomas Jefferson JWC

### **Silver**

GFWC Franklin JWC

### **Gold**

GFWC Amherst JWC  
GFWC JWC of Hopewell, Inc.  
JWC of Loudoun

### **Highest Point Total - Tie**

GFWC Amherst JWC  
GFWC JWC of Hopewell, Inc.

### **Participant**

Buena Vista JWC  
Covington JWC  
JWC of Essex County  
Narrows JWC of GFWC  
GFWC JWC of Northampton County  
GFWC Roanoke JWC

## **SPECIAL JUNIOR AWARDS**

### **CORINNE MURRAY AWARD**

#### **Large Club - GFWC Franklin Junior Woman's Club – Southside District**

This club took an active role in supporting many projects. Members donated 817 hours and \$1,130 supporting a variety of Literacy programs including the Good Reader program. This allowed students to take Accelerated Reader test on the computer for points. They also sponsored a Family Reading Night as well as volunteered their time at an elementary school in the reading lab and hosted a monthly book club. The club co-sponsored Books for Babies at a local hospital by donating new books for the program. This club also offered a free Day at the Park geared to teach about resource conservation, literacy and reading, fire safety, child safety and the arts. Their primary focus was on educating children in fun ways on a variety of topics that would teach them about the importance of the community.

#### **Small Club - GFWC Junior Woman's Club of Hopewell, Inc**

This club sponsored a "Cookies with Santa" event where each child who visited Santa received a book of their choice. This was a big surprise and big hit with the children – many were seen sitting and reading their books following their visit with Santa. This club is a "Friend of the Library" and promotes activities of this organization. Members donated new and used books and magazines to the Ronald McDonald House, local emergency rooms and the children's wing of a local hospital. Books were also donated to the local library. Books were sold to help raise funds for various problems.

## **MARGARET ALLEN THOMAS LEADERSHIP AWARD**

### **Large Club - Junior Woman's Club of Loudon**

This club has a strong program to develop leaders for their club and, eventually, to serve on district and state levels. They require all members to serve on a standing committee if they are not on the Board as a way to involve all members in club business. They encourage participation in Leadership Meetings, and are proud to have members serving on both the district and state level.

### **Small Club – GFWC Junior Woman's Club of Hopewell, Inc.**

This club focuses on leadership development within the club which allows club members to develop personally and to be leaders within their community, in their homes, and at their jobs. They utilize the GFWC Leadership Tool Kit to prepare for workshops and assessments. This club has established a Leadership Honor Society to reward members who have shown various levels of leadership.

## **MARJORIE BRANCH AWARD**

### **Large Club – Junior Woman's Club of Loudoun – Northern District**

This Club combined social activities with club projects and meetings to keep members interested and involved. They planned social times for after their meetings as well as meetings that were productive and fun. They chose to hold non-traditional meetings several times throughout the club year to keep things interesting.

### **Small Club – GFWC Junior Woman's Club of Hopewell, Inc. – Southside District**

This Club utilized most of the print materials and options available to members to keep them informed of the goings on in the Club through International levels of GFWC. This club also has no committees, only Department Chairmen which allows the members to basically be a member of every committee letting them have ownership in their projects.

## **PHYLLIS V. ROBERTS AWARD**

### **Large Club – No award**

### **Small Club – Northern Virginia Junior Women's Club – Northern District**

Small clubs have challenges, including a lack of people power. This is one reason why collaboration with a General club can be so beneficial. Recently, the Northern Virginia Junior Women's Club collaborated with the Springfield Women's Club, Inc to host a fundraiser. The clubs combined their talents, networking skills, and manpower to raise over \$1100 for GFWC Virginia's project - providing a trauma ambulance for the Virginia Tech Rescue Squad. Without each club's contribution this event would not have been successful.

## **SHELBY PAISLEY HAMLETT AWARD**

### **GFWC Junior Woman's Club of Hopewell, Inc. – Southside District**

The Junior Woman's Club of Hopewell held a school supply drive to collect needed school supplies for underprivileged elementary school children in their area. Specific items needed were listed in their monthly newsletter and members donated the items. Supplies collected were taken to three (3) local elementary schools and placed in a special school supply closet for underprivileged children. All members participated in this project and approximately \$50.00 worth of supplies was donated.

## **SHENANDOAH DISTRICT AWARD**

### **Large Club – GFWC Franklin Junior Woman's Club – Southside District**

This club of 21 members reached out to 58,000 citizens by educating, supporting and protecting the children of their community. They continue educating them in safety with the help of the local US Forest Service and the local Firefighters at a Day in the Park event. The club was also able to utilize a costume of Smokey Bear. This helped the children learn more on preventing fires. The Franklin Police Department provided free Ident-A-Kid and DNA kits. Children also were educated on gun safety. They feel very strong about teaching the Parents and Children the importance of safety.

### **Small Club – GFWC Junior Woman's Club of Hopewell, Inc. - Southside District**

This club of 17 members reached out to 23,000 citizens by donating funds to two local high school After Prom events. Submitting an article to their newsletter to promote June as National Safety Month. They also did a Claritin Clear to Drive Pledge. They held projects in each of the department areas during Volunteers in Action Week on Volunteer Day. They recognized area safety teams by putting together goodie baskets and included a note of appreciation. The Baskets were delivered to local Fire Departments.

## **SOUTHSIDE DISTRICT JUNIOR AWARD IN LEGISLATION**

### **GFWC Junior Woman's Club of Hopewell – Southside District**

Members learned about the Virginia Legislation and were encouraged to visit the State Legislature's website to keep up-to-date with what actions were being taken. Newsletter articles educated members about the Lilly Ledbetter Fair Pay Act, the Violence Against Women Act and the International Violence Against Women Act. The articles provided a brief description of the Acts and encouraged members to call their U.S. Representatives to support the bills.

### **THOMAS JEFFERSON HEALTH AWARD**

#### **Large Club - Junior Woman's Club of Loudoun - Northern District**

This club raised over \$9,000 in cash donations and provided many volunteer hours for a variety of health related causes: Downs Syndrome, Cystic Fibrosis, March of Dimes, American Heart Association and American Cancer Society. The club was active in raising awareness and educating the community and club members through presentations, brochures, meeting favors and gift bags at numerous events.

#### **Small Club - GFWC Amherst Junior Woman's Club – Alice Kyle District**

This club donated \$3,000 to a variety of health issues. They are a big participant of the *Relay for Life* benefiting the American Cancer Society. This club also spent time visiting nursing homes and purchasing Christmas presents for residents without families and educated its members on woman's heart health issues.

### **WESTHAMPTON AWARD IN EDUCATION**

#### **Large Club – no award**

#### **Small Club – GFWC Amherst Junior Woman's Club – Alice Kyle District**

Through their support of the *Girls on the Run* program, the Amherst Junior Woman's Club helps build young girls self-esteem. The program encourages positive development in all phases of these girls' lives. The life skills and coping mechanisms the young women learn in the 16-week program allows them to make positive choices in the years to come.

