



"Come fly with us!"

FOCUS



The Newsletter of the General Federation of Women's Clubs of Connecticut

Volume 38, Edition 14

Fall 2012

www.gfwcct.org

President Nancy Kalyan



Dear GFWC/CT Members:

Thank you for the privilege and honor that you have bestowed upon me to serve as your GFWC/CT State President for the 2012-

2014 administration.

To all the club members who have agreed to accept the positions extended to them from this administration in representing our Executive Board, "Thank You." I look forward to working with all of you towards the many goals and aspirations that we need to accomplish in the next two years. In the upcoming years, we face many challenges in our organization and with the help from all of you, we can overcome them.

I hope that we can revitalize some of our existing clubs and also create renewed energy in all clubs with the new programs from GFWC. My hope is for us to inspire women in our other communities throughout Connecticut to help establish new clubs to make our Federation flourish. That is why my theme is "Come fly with us." I would like all members to "come fly" to a new horizon and destination. If by doing so, that means "us" creating a campaign to everyone in Connecticut in recognizing how great our GFWC organization is to all women.

Our new State Project for 2012-2014, ABRI/Homes for the Brave, is an advantageous program to help homeless male veterans rehabilitate themselves back into society after years of fighting in a war. We hope that any veteran that visits any of our 12 Vet's Oasis Centers and who is

in need, will utilize the facilities of ABRI.

We, as a woman's organization, have done so much for so many through the years. Let's continue making our mark out there to bring us to that new destination!

Wishing you all health and happiness,
Nancy Kalyan

First Vice President Joan Duffy

Hope everyone has been enjoying their summer. As GFWC/CT members begin to work with their club presidents and boards, I would like to make you aware of two resources GFWC makes available to members - "News and Notes" emailed weekly and "Club Woman Magazine".

GFWC "News and Notes" contains the most up-to-date information on the programs, meetings and partners of GFWC. It also highlights information about club projects, and we are encouraging all our clubs to submit news. Just email GFWC at www.GFWC.org and ask to receive "News and Notes".

A copy of Club Woman Magazine is mailed to all Club Presidents for use as a club resource. Ask your club president to look at it and consider subscribing.

Thank you to all the club presidents who attended the orientation meeting at the Board Meeting in July. I look forward to meeting the Club Presidents who could not attend. Please don't hesitate to contact me with any question or help with "News and Notes" and "Club Woman Magazine" subscriptions.

**Second Vice President
Helen Barakauskas**

COMMUNITY SERVICE PROGRAMS

It's that time of year again – time to start planning our club's programs and activities! We all have our tried and true events, and our overall mission of volunteer service hasn't changed, but isn't it great to come up with some new ideas and inject some new vitality into our efforts? Here's where being a member of GFWC can help!

Active, dedicated women throughout all our Connecticut clubs and throughout the rest of our country have the same goal as you do – to enhance the lives of others through volunteer services. They have come up with lots of ideas. Here's how you can tap into those ideas.

GFWC's Community Service Programs are the framework of all the projects that our members participate in. The best resource for learning about these programs and getting some ideas for activities your club might like to undertake is the GFWC Club Manual. Club presidents should have received a copy of this manual. It can also be accessed at www.GFWC.org/ClubManual.

Another way to get great new ideas is to attend GFWC/CT meetings. You'll hear from the Community Service Program and Partnership Chairman at these meetings. You'll be able to pick up literature about the various Programs and Partners, and you'll be able to talk to representatives from other clubs and share your ideas. Let's see how creative and innovative we all can be!

REPORTING

Once you've done the work, it's time to report on your efforts. The GFWC reporting process will be more streamlined this year so that submitting your reports will be easier. Some key changes in the process include:

- ◆ Clubs will no longer report to GFWC directly.
- ◆ The word "collaboration" is no longer used. We have Community Service Programs and Community Service Partnership Programs.
- ◆ Reporting your club's statistical information (e.g. volunteer hours, etc.) will be greatly simplified.

You will receive new reporting forms later in

the year which will reflect these changes. Also, reporting workshops for clubs will be set up on a District level throughout the fall.

**Third Vice President
Shelia Vetter**

It seems like yesterday I was at the State Convention being installed as your Third Vice President. Yet, here it is the middle of August, summer is nearly over and fall is fast approaching. I hope you have all enjoyed your summer and are looking forward to a very active GFWC/CT year.

As Dean of Districts, it was my pleasure to meet with the District Directors and Assistant District Directors for a workshop at the Orientation Meeting in July. During the summer, they were busy selecting District Day dates and venues for 2013. All the dates have been chosen and are: District 1, April 16; District 2, April 3; District 3, April 13; District 4, April 6; District 5, April 27; District 6, April 20; and District 7, March 23. Save the date for your District Day now and let's have record turnouts for each District Day.

As Membership Chairman, the forms have gone out to all State Club Presidents and Co-Presidents for GFWC's Seasonal Recruitment Campaign "Summer Kick Up Your Heels". If you have not already filled one out, please take a minute to do it now as these reports are nearly due. "Lace Up Your Shoes" is the theme for fall and we will be working together on that next month.

Reporting club growth is always fun! Even better is growing your club's membership. I look forward to working with you during the next two years toward that goal.

Congratulations to GFWC The Torrington Woman's Club, Inc. as they celebrate 90 years of service to their community on September 10. A tremendous milestone!

**Assistant Treasurer
Pat Kearney**

Invoices for dues have been mailed to all the club presidents. If you did not receive your packet or have any questions about them, please contact me at Patkearney45@yahoo.com or 203-431-3863.

**2012—2014 State Project
ABRI/Homes for the Brave
Beverly Regan, Chairman**

The GFWC/CT membership voted on **ABRI/Homes for the Brave as our Two Year State Federation Project.**

Homes for the Brave is a 42-bed transitional living program for homeless male veterans and non-veterans located in Bridgeport.

Case managers assist residents in creating goals to obtain housing and jobs. It is a program of Applied Behavioral Rehabilitation Institute Inc. (ABRI), which is a 501(c) 3 not for profit.

The Woman's Club of Danbury/New Fairfield (WCDNF) will be coordinating the project. Beverly Regan, chairman, and Wendy Pandolfi, information contact, presented the early steps for the project on July 21 at the GFWC/CT Orientation meeting. (contact info: Beverly (203) 775-2648, bevregan@gmail.com; Wendy (203) 797-1288; wendypandolfi@gmail.com)

Let's make the holidays special for our veterans at *Homes for the Brave*, and assist them with personal gifts and needed linens. If your Club would like to contribute, here are some suggestions on the veterans' Wish List. Any and all contributions will be greatly appreciated.

Bring your unwrapped items to the October 13, 2012, GFWC/CT meeting. As a bonus, our committee will deliver the gifts on Saturday, October 27, "Make A Difference Day". This is a national effort sponsored by USA Today's Weekend Edition, Newman's Own Charity of CT, and many national volunteer groups. In this way, our project will be eligible to compete for a \$10,000 grant.

WISH LIST

Gift Certificates (in any amount) Suggestions: Dunkin Donuts (\$2.00 or more for individuals), Walmart, BJ Wholesale Group, Home Depot, Shop Rite, Stop & Shop and Fandango (movie tickets)

Toiletries (from all clubs), conditioner, deodorant, razors, shampoo, shaving cream, soap, toothbrushes, toothpaste

Men's Clothing (new only) Thank you.

- ◆ Clubs in District 1: Sweatpants, sweatshirts (large to XXX large size)
- ◆ Clubs in District 4: Shower flip flops, slippers, socks (XL to XXX large size)
- ◆ Clubs in District 5: Gloves, hats, scarves
- ◆ Clubs in District 6: Underwear, undershirts (medium to XXX large size)

Linens (new only) To make your shopping easier, all items should be standard size and solid colors are recommended. Thank you.

- ◆ Clubs in District 2: Pillows, pillow cases
- ◆ Clubs in District 3: Twin size sheets
- ◆ Clubs in District 7: Twin size blankets/comforters

An estimate of the value of donations from each club would be very much appreciated.

Website: *ABRI/Homes for the Brave*: www.homesforthebrave.org

We very much appreciate your interest in and support for this project!

**GFWC/CT International Partnership
Maggie Centurelli, Chairman**

I would like to introduce our Connecticut clubs to the International Partners for 2012-2014.

They are: U.S. Fund for UNICEF, Heifer International, Operation Smile, United Nations Foundation, Shot@Life Campaign

As we continue to meet, I will be happy provide information for each of these great organizations. Today, I would like to start with U.S Funds for UNICEF which has two great programs:

1. Healthy Village Program: Assist the Democratic Republic of the Congo to support efforts to build and maintain basic clean water and provide mosquito nets. It costs \$5,000 to support a village.
2. Trick or Treat for UNICEF helps children of the world survive and grow.

I would like to challenge our Connecticut clubs to have penny collections at their next meeting and ask the members to donate their change for these great causes. Any amounts collected (from \$1.00 to \$100.00) are appreciated by UNICEF.

Dates to Remember:

- ◆ October 21, 2012 -World Polio Day
- ◆ November 12, 2012 -World Pneumonia Day

Thank you.



*General Federation of Women's Clubs of
Connecticut, Inc.*

**OFFICIAL CALL TO GFWC/CT
FALL CONFERENCE**

Nancy Kalyan, President



" Come Fly with Us "



Saturday, October 13, 2012

CROWNE PLAZA – Cromwell 100 Berlin Road, Cromwell, CT

9: 00 AM	Registration, Coffee/Tea
10: 00 AM	Call to Order
	Opening Ceremonies
	Business Meeting
11: 00 AM	Speaker- to be announced
11: 30 AM	Break for Social Hour – cash bar
12: 00 Noon	Luncheon
1: 00 PM	Business Meeting Reconvenes
1: 15 PM	GFWC/CT State Project-ABRI –Home for the Brave
2: 30 PM	Adjournment

Business Meeting to include:

Guest speaker from CT Coalition Against Domestic Violence:

GFWC-Signature Project -Domestic Violence

GFWC/CT Chairman: JoAnn Calnen

GFWC/CT State Project: ABRI –Home for the Brave ~ Amanda Teti

Beverly Regan / Wendy Pandolfi : GFWC/CT State Project Chairman

All members of GFWC/CT are encouraged to attend the Fall Conference

Directions to Crowne Plaza, Cromwell ~ 860-635-2000
Take I-91 N or S to EXIT 21. Turn Left off the Exit. Hotel is on the Left



*General Federation of Women's Clubs of
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GFWC/CT Reservation Form

Saturday, October 13, 2012 Fall Conference

Crowne Plaza - Cromwell

Registration Deadline: Saturday, October 8, 2012

Registration: \$4.00 Luncheon: \$29.00 Total: \$33.00

~ Meal Selection ~

Chicken Piccata Grilled Atlantic Salmon Grilled Hanger Steak

Includes Salad, Coffee, Tea and Dessert

Name: _____ Phone # _____

Club: _____ District: _____

Any Dietary Restrictions: _____

GFWC/CT Board Position: _____

Are you a 2012-2014 Club President? Yes No

Display Table Reservation Form/October 13, 2012 Fall Conference

½ Table \$5.00 Full Table \$10.00

Name: _____

Club: _____

There is no charge for tables to CSP Chairmen and Committee Chairmen, but registration is required.

Tables must be set up by 9:00AM

Mail checks to: Colleen Slason, 90 Spring Hill Road, Harwinton, CT 06472

Make Checks Payable to: GFWC/CT

CLUB NEWS

Hamden Woman's Club, Inc. GFWC

A new program was initiated at the March 7, 2012 meeting of the Hamden Woman's Club, choosing our first "Woman of the Year".

Our first honoree is Florence Krukowski. She was presented with a Town Proclamation from Town Clerk, Vera Morrison. In her years in the Club, Florence has chaired several committees and held many offices, including President. She served her country as an Army Nurse in the ETO during World War II and has always been an active member of the Hamden community. Florence is a retired Hamden Public School Nurse, the recipient of the Town's "Golden Apple" and received the Archbishop's Medal of Appreciation for her work in her parish. She has certainly earned this title.



Three other members received honorable mention for their Club work. They are Pauline DiGioia, Marge Giunti and Mary Jane Landino.

Torrington Woman's Club

90th Anniversary

Congratulations to the Torrington Woman's Club. On September 10 they will celebrate their 90th anniversary with a luncheon at the Cornucopia Banquet Hall in Torrington. There will be a social hour and entertainment by the Belles and Bows, a local chorus group. Friends, family and all GFWC members are invited.

Harvest Buffet

On October 27, the Torrington Woman's Club is sponsoring their Harvest Buffet at P Sam's Banquet Facilities on Tarringford West Street in Torrington. This is their major ways and means project and is always well attended.

Trumbull Woman's Club

The Trumbull Woman's Club recently gave its 14th annual fashion show for the residents of Middlebrook Farms. This year, the models could choose whatever costume pleased them. The residents enjoyed the models and costumes very much. Refreshments were served afterward by Middlebrook Farms. Pictured are (bottom row, l. to r.) Marianne Savarese, Gail Bodine, Hemlata Khona, Cali Jontos, Mary Ellen Challenger; (second row) Joyce Sciappa, Joy Mehta, Marcie Jontos; (third row) Betty Kost and Millie Muir; (top row) Marilyn Cenatiempo and Helen Kurilec.



Farmingbury Woman's Club of Wolcott

Farmingbury Woman's Club of Wolcott, GFWC will sponsor its 31st Annual Arts and Crafts Fair, Saturday, October 20, 2012, 10:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. at Alcott School, 1490 Woodtick Road, Wolcott, CT 06716. There will be unique craft items, live music, clowns, hot-dogs, baked potatoes, pies, baked goods. **Free admission**

Ridgefield Woman's Club

Ridgefield Woman's Club 42nd Annual Craft Fair will be held on Saturday, November 17, at the East Ridge Middle School in Ridgefield. Admission is \$7 and all proceeds support the club's philanthropic projects. This is a good opportunity to find some different and unusual gifts for your holiday gift giving. Food service is available all day and parking is convenient.

CLUB NEWS

GFWC Windsor Woman's Club

GFWC Windsor Woman's Club is holding its Annual Mums Sale. The cost is three 9" pots for \$18.00 and they will honor your choice of color. Please send your name, address, phone number, number of plants wanted and color with your check made payable to WWC to Barbara Davis, 25 Nook Farms, Windsor, CT 06095 by September 4. You can pick up your plants at Barbara's house on Friday, September 7.



Woman's Club of Enfield

The Woman's Club of Enfield is hosting a "Sock Hop" on October 27, 2012 at Hill House at Sun Valley, 51 Old Springfield Road, Stafford Springs. Doors open at 5:30 p.m. with a buffet at 6:30 p.m. and cash bar. Have fun and dance to the music of the 50's, 60's and 70's played by DJ, Kevin Crane. Dress for the times! Tickets are \$20 per person, \$100 per table sponsor and \$250 per table sponsor and 8 tickets. Proceeds will support the club and scholarship fund. Call 860-749-3364 for more information.

Interesting Club Meetings

Torrington Woman's Club

- * A film prepared by Torrington High School students about Recycling will be viewed and discussed.
- * Speaker from the Alzheimer's Association, Heather Hitcock

Federated Woman's Club of Glastonbury

- * Samantha Rice will present two short monologues. For her first, Samantha will direct Emily Rafala who will adopt the point of view of a woman from the 1960's. The second monologue takes the point of view of a present day woman. Each monologue concerns how women face expectations placed on them by society, and how they decide to become strong women of their eras.
- * Whole Foods will present a speaker on Fall Fruits and Vegetables, and New Ways to Prepare them.

Cheshire Women's Club

- * Humble Bees, a fun, unique musical group, will perform.
- * Lucinda, from "Lucinda's Hair", a full service salon, offering additions and extensions, will talk about her services, the older woman and her hair, and bring wigs and extensions for us to try on.

2012 Federation Calendar

Sept 14-16 103rd GFWC New England Region
Portland, Maine

Oct 13 Fall Conference
Crowne Plaza, Cromwell

2013 Federation Calendar

Jan 19 President's Meeting
Marriott, Rocky Hill

March 16 Executive Board Meeting
Avon Old Farms Inn, Avon

2012-2014 GFWC/CT Officers

Your officers would like to hear from you regarding any concerns or ideas you may have.

President, Nancy Kalyan - (860) 741-2444
1st Vice President, Joan Duffy - (203) 433-2772
2nd Vice President, Helen Barakauskas - (860) 404-3171
3rd Vice President, Shelia Vetter - (203) 748-1105
Recording Secretary, Joyce Almstedt - (860) 482-5820
Corres. Secretary, Debbie Fiore - (860) 745-2864
Treasurer, Georgeann Kishner - (203) 748-5445
Assistant Treasurer, Pat Kearney - (203) 431-3863
Member at Large, Bermer Ridenhour - (203) 754-6714

**GFWC/CT 2010-2012 State Project
CT Food Bank FoodShare
Patty Meglio, Chairman**

My original goal when I started this project was \$25,000 and 50,000 lbs. of food. I've been keeping a spreadsheet on your activities, and even though I don't have reports from all 48 clubs, I know we are all doing great things. We have long since surpassed what seemed like a lofty goal.



Nancy Carrington, CEO CT Food Bank and Patty Meglio

In the past 24 months, members have given **5,808 hours of their time**, raised a total of **\$44,183**, and donated a total of **63,489 lbs. of food**. That's not chicken feed as they say on the farm. I am very, very grateful to all of you.

This project may be coming to an end as a state project, but I urge you to continue to support your local food pantry and consider CT Food Bank and FoodShare when you are making a donation to a charity in the future. Thank you.

Next Focus Deadline - March 15, 2013

Please submit photos as attachments in jpg format, and articles in either (.doc format) or (.txt format). If you have a Mac, please convert your file to a PC format.

Contact Betty Kopiec

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