

ARTS AND CULTURE

COMMUNITY CONNECTION INITIATIVE: COMMUNITY HISTORICAL GEMS

What historical gems does your community hold; what is the *sparkle* that makes your community special? GFWC encourages clubs to take an active role in creating and enhancing their community by partnering with the local City Hall and Chamber of Commerce to create a digital or printed brochure of where visitors and families may go to experience the Art and Culture of the community.

Examples include trails for walking, jogging, and biking; concerts; historical buildings and architecture; companies that founded their area; sculptures, stores that sell local artist wares; Farmer's Market days and location; dog parks; library; City Hall; clubhouses; theatres, and movie houses...let your ideas flow and don't forget to brand your brochure with your club's name and meeting dates. Let your brochure show that your town does indeed welcome both residents and visitors to *Dream Big, Sparkle More, and Shine Bright.*

CIVIC ENGAGEMENT AND OUTREACH

COMMUNITY CONNECTION INITIATIVE:

A LITTLE THANKS GOES A LONG WAY

Civic engagement is the process of connecting individuals in society with one another, to share common interests and work for the common good. (study.com) GFWC clubs are encouraged to focus efforts on giving thanks and advocating for the essential workers in the community. Essential workers include many fields of work not only medical care providers and first responders, but also the many 911 dispatchers, teachers, civil service employees, farmers, truckers, utility workers, pharmacy providers, bank employees, delivery services, sanitation employees, and military personnel as examples. To be involved is to care about your community and working with others to make it a more positive place to live, work, and socialize.

Ways in which you can advocate for their efforts on behalf of your community:

- Present a Proclamation for "Essential Workers Week"
- Deliver food to their place of business on a regular basis
- Distribute care packages the first of every month
- Display GFWC "Essential Workers - Keep Our Country Moving Forward" on car windows and mailboxes
- Throw a neighborhood or community parade and showcase essential workers of all fields
- Highlight an essential worker in your club's newsletter and partner with local PR to ensure that the community is aware of these individuals
- Create signage for your Main Street to highlight the companies and/or individuals who were working to make your community a better place

EDUCATION AND LIBRARIES

COMMUNITY CONNECTION INITIATIVE:

BRING THE SPARKLE TO PUBLIC LIBRARIES

GFWC clubs are encouraged to establish a working relationship with a local librarian to plan beneficial services, programs, and activities. Libraries bring people together. Engage your members to participate with their ideas, talent, and time. Bring cohesion to the Education and Libraries by helping people learn and grow by offering training classes for all ages: computer skills, lunch and learn workshops, GED, ESL, literacy, current topics for seniors, and more.

Collaborate activities with your schools to enhance enthusiasm for students to use the library for reading and resources.

Create programs for teens with an emphasis on issues they face daily using library resources.

Is there a need for a book delivery service for shut-ins or the books on tape for the visually impaired? Sponsor a contest to name a library mascot or to design a button or bookmark. Be creative and enthusiastic.