



The Washington

ClubWoman

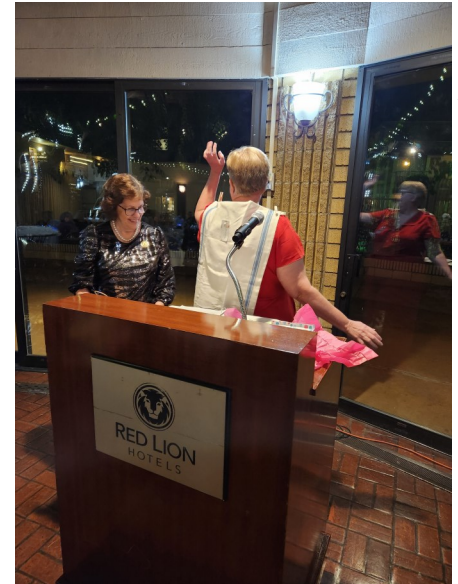
GFWC-Washington State is a member of General Federation of Women's Clubs
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PASSPORT TO ADVENTURE GFWC-WS Fall Board—Yakima



Saturday dinner speaker was GFWC 1st Vice President Wendy Carriker who shared about her ancestry and particularly about visits with her grandmother. Wendy presented GFWC-WS President Susan Tyler with her own magic cape like the one Wendy wore when she was a child.



Yakima was the site of the GFWC-WS Fall Board Meeting September 23-25. GFWC-WS President Susan has selected United Nations High Commission on Refugees (UNHCR) as her special project. During her term of office, she will focus on raising funds and increasing awareness of the global refugee crisis. Nancy Jones led our luncheon program activity "Forced to Flee—The Refugee Experience" where participants identified important items they would take with them should they have to flee from their homes with little notice. Miniature suitcases made by Char Lysne were given to each person for the activity. World globes decorated the center of each table to remind us that floods, landslides, earthquakes, hurricanes, tsunamis, as well as other weather emergencies and political unrest occur around our world and cause people to evacuate quickly.

Photo left: Suzanne Bagdon, Vicki Conner, Diana Cunningham, Gail Crump, Martha Curwen. Photo right: Nancy Jones, Susan Tyler, Wendy Carriker, GFWC 1st VP, Kim Skagen, Pinkie Eggleston, Cindy Bassage, Kathie Jorgensen.



"Living the Volunteer Spirit"



Presentation by Kim Skagen on using the member portal on the GFWC website



Diapers collected and donated to local YWCA



Cheryl Holman, Sally Gill, Rena Johnston, Jeanette Jester, Johanna Hyatt chat at lunch Saturday.



Passport Fair foreground: Kim Skagen shares info with Linda Wolfe on **LEADS** program.

PASSPORT FAIR



"Living the Volunteer Spirit"

Western States Region

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Past Presidents WSR: Patty Benskin, Cathi Poer, Bonnie Walden, Kathy Janssen and JoAnn Wheeler.



GFWC-WS President Susan Tyler addresses the group.



Left: Susan Tyler bundled up as she explores a glacier.

Below: Betty MacMaster enjoying an excursion to a local wildlife refuge.

Right: Kim Skagen, Susan Tyler, Bonnie Walden, Joyce DeCunzo, WSR Legislation Chair, Nancy Burdick, Cindy Bassage, Paulette Stinson and Martha Curwen at Legislative Action Scavenger Hunt.



Exploring in Alaska

"Living the Volunteer Spirit"



WINGs to Adventure!

This fall I had the good fortune to “bring greetings from the state” in person, to four of our five Districts. That was a real treat (and without any tricks)! My journeys began in my home District of King County, where we had a Membership workshop, presentation on how to participate in Wreaths Across America, and several great conversations post-meeting about opportunities to partner with other community improvement groups on the topics that inspire us.

A week later, President-elect Kim Skagen and I were on our way to Spokane. What a wonderful visit – I had my first chance to tour the historic clubhouse, and Kim and I were treated with a tour of the building AND a chance to peruse the vintage clothing collection. Both surpassed my wildest expectations, and as a fan of historical clothing, I found the vintage clothing to be especially wonderful. Connecting with existing friends and meeting several clubwomen for the first time, a wonderful speaker from Refugees Connection in Spokane rounded out a very busy and productive day.

The next weekend I headed south to Columbia District for my first ever installation of District officers. Highlights of the meeting included raffle baskets with the funds going towards the President’s Special Project, UNHCR and in a skit based on women suffragists. I had the honor of reading the role Abigail Scott Duniway, a remarkable woman who was pivotal in getting the vote for women in Oregon and Washington. She was also an early pioneer in domestic violence (although it wasn’t called that at the time).

Last and definitely not least was a trip to University Place for the Peninsula District conference. Highlights included presenting a check to Avalon from GFWC as their reward for being a new club in Washington state and having an opportunity to support Pajama Project by providing cozy pajamas and books for foster children. Peninsula District also supported UNHCR with donations from individuals that were matched by the District, as well as the proceeds from their book / CD sale.

I could go on for pages with all the great conversations, reconnecting with friends, hearing about the creative and meaningful work that each District is involved in to improve our communities, both locally and internationally. Instead, I hope everyone will come to the GFWC-WS convention next April in Pasco. It should be fun! I’m in the process of planning activities, confirming speakers and doing whatever I can to make sure a good time is had by everyone.

Thank you again for giving me the opportunity to serve as your President. It’s truly an honor.

Until then, keep inspiring others!

Susan Tyler, GFWC-WS President
WINGs (Women Inspiring New Generations)



Leadership

Hello current and future leaders of our state and our clubs! Are you getting comfortable in your new role? Have you been working with your membership to establish your plans for the next two years?

If you were not in attendance at Fall Board, we did a fun Leadership Style activity to determine what our individual style is. The first step to working with your club members is understanding who YOU are. If you would like to complete the same activity, you can find it at the Member Portal under the Leadership Toolkit: <https://gfwc.users.membersuite.com>

Resources / 'L' folder / Leadership Toolkit / 2. Leadership Development...

File: Discover Your Unique Personality and Strengths Part 1.pdf

Be sure to look around while you are there. There are a couple different 'style' tests as well as many other useful resources! The Leadership Toolkit is your one-stop shopping location for anything and everything you need to be the very best leader! As a meeting project, encourage everyone in attendance to take a style test. You might be surprised by the results and you might find better ways to communicate! (Also an opportunity to report as a project!)

It's never too early to start thinking about the future. When you become president, what tools and resources are available to you? Does your club have a "how to..." notebook that is passed on? As a Leadership project, consider creating something like **Leadership Team Training**. Found in the document – 2020 GFWC Top 10 Projects – "GFWC Tampa Woman's Club (FL) taught newly installed leaders protocol and parliamentary procedure, courtesies relating to emails, policies and procedures, and familiarity with club Bylaws and Standing Rules. The new team set goals and reviewed what has worked and what has not. In addition, new officers created a strategic plan and a succession plan with roadmap, timeline, and leadership development opportunities with prospective club presidential candidates to help them prepare for the role of president."

The countdown is on to LEADS application submittals. Remember, the due date for applications is early, **December 15!** Talk to your members who show an interest, encourage them to grow by considering the opportunity. Is YOUR application complete? Consider submitting one today, now is the time for all interested parties to take the next step! Reach out to myself or your District Presidents for help. We are all here to assist!

Leadership is about making others better as a result of your presence and making sure that impact lasts in your absence. ~ Sheryl Sandberg

Best of holidays to you and yours!

Kim Skagen

GFWC-WS President Elect

GFWC-WS Leadership Chair

Leadership Education & Development Seminar (LEADS)

It's not too early to start thinking about members in your club, or even yourself, who would benefit from the opportunity to attend the LEADS Program representing Washington State! Applications are due December 15, 2022!!!

The GFWC Leadership Education and Development Seminar (LEADS) program is intended to identify GFWC members at the grassroots level who have the potential and the desire to assume leadership positions in their own state federations or beyond. Participation in LEADS can help these upcoming leaders gain the capabilities, confidence, and commitment necessary to pursue and achieve higher office and serve with distinction.

For 2023, the LEADS program will be held June 9th, the day before the official opening of the GFWC Annual Convention, in the amazing city of Louisville, KY! It promises to be a full day of activities and includes lunch. Both GFWC and GFWC-WS contribute toward the costs of attending but some cost will be the responsibility of the attendee.

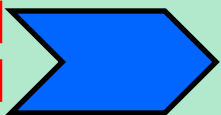
Application forms and all the details are in the WS Club Manual, as well as on our website.

If you have any questions, please reach out...

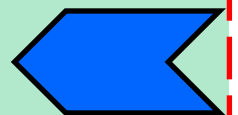
Kim Skagen

GFWC-WS President Elect

GFWC-WS Leadership Chair



SEE LEADS APPLICATION ON NEXT PAGE



GFWC Leadership, Education and Development Seminar (LEADS)

APPLICATION FORM

If you desire to further your contributions to our District or State, LEADS training is for you! **Applications are due December 15th each year.** Complete and return this form, along with two letters of support from active GFWC club members.

Name: _____

Address: _____ City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

Phone: _____ Email: _____

Club: _____ District: _____

Please answer the following questions in as much detail as possible: (Attach a separate sheet of paper if more space is needed)

List all local club offices and/or chairmanships held:

List all District offices and/or chairmanships held:

List GFWC club/District programs/projects in which involved:

List positions at the District, State Federation, and/or national level in which you are interested:

Are you willing to:

- Cover costs to attend GFWC LEADS not covered by GFWC or state? Yes ___ No ___
- Share what you have learned at LEADS with your state's members? Yes ___ No ___
- Share what you have learned at LEADS at your Region Conference Yes ___ No ___

Return this form, along with two letters of support from active GFWC club members to Kimberly Skagen, by December 15.

President-Elect Kim Skagen

The beginning of October found President Susan Tyler and me at Sea-Tac airport bright and early on a Saturday morning to catch a quick flight eastward across our state to attend North Eastern District's Fall Conference. When Susan asked, I jumped at the chance to go with her, excited for the opportunity to finally see one of our state's most historic icons. I was not disappointed!

Ginger Bowman-Rape was our fabulous driver for the day, both picking us up from and returning us to the airport at the end of our day. Knowing no good day starts without caffeine, Ginger took us for coffee at one of her favorite haunts, Chaps. The blueberry & lemon scone and fresh hot coffee was perfect!

After a quick tour through the neighborhood of glorious old homes that surround our Spokane Women's Club clubhouse, we had our first sight of the 'old girl'! For a 110+ year old building, she looks pretty amazing! District President Bonnie Rail greeted us with her usual brightness and excitement, introducing us to new members we haven't met and re-acquainting us with members we don't see often enough in the flesh! Lunch was a simple fare of the most delicious tomato soup I've ever had with tasty bread.



We were taken on a tour of the entire building and main event area as well as the infamous room where the vintage clothing is stored. The afternoon included a moving conversation with Pingala Dhital, director of Refugee and Immigrant Connections, who was once a refugee and now helps other women new to our country overcome trauma and become resilient and empowering. She gives them tools and knowledge to thrive and works with them on the Mahima Program among others. <https://www.ricspokane.org/our-work.html>

Another highlight was getting to look at Shirley Phipps' scrapbooks! Among the many pictures of some very recognizable faces, was finding the program cover for a GFWC Convention held in Seattle in 1986! All in all it was a great day spent with great ladies!

Spokane Women's Club vintage clothing collection being admired by Susan Tyler during her visit.



Left: A clipping from one of the late Shirley Phipps' scrapbooks that are stored in the clubhouse. Shirley was a Past Director of Jr. Clubs as well as Past President of GFWC-WS. The vintage clothing collection was very special to Shirley.

Membership

Ladies!

As the holidays approach, it is a wonderful time to think about bringing in new members and celebrating those who have been in club.

Try inviting new members to your community projects for the holidays or if you have parties, to those. Take time to send out a note at Thanksgiving to a special member or to a possible new member. Who better to be thankful for than a GFWC “sister”.

Also consider handing out club profiles at events that you will be having in the community such as Christmas bazaars, etc. How about office parties? Always carry information as to when and where your meetings are held and what you are planning to do at those meetings.

Ok, enough of that! On behalf of your GFWC Membership Chair, I wish you all a safe and joyous holiday season!

Love,

Julie Thompson



2022-2023 GFWC Membership Grant—Club Application Form is available on GFWC website under GFWC Manual - Membership section.

Funding is available to help underwrite membership recruiting efforts at the **club level**. GFWC is offering 100, \$50 grants for club member recruitment activities in conjunction with Membership “Sparkle and Shine” Recruitment Campaign activities or the GFWC National Event. These grants will be distributed on a first-come basis and can be used for any of the Membership Recruitment Campaign seasonal cycles.

Community Service Program Reports

Environment

Sally Larson, Chairman



Nature's Best Hope

Autumn is here and once again trees are so important. Yard clean up is on the to-do list—don't do it. Insects need the ground leaves and fading plants to support larvae, eggs, and other life stages during the winter. They stay warm and more importantly hidden. Also birds and mammals look for food throughout the winter and these “sleeping” insects are an invaluable food resource. If you can stand having a messy yard, according to a Baltimore butterfly garden specialist, yard clean up should not be started until temperatures are consistently above 55. Of course, a blanket of fallen leaves offers plants some protection from winter cold and freezing. And leaves provide free fertilizer and mulch.

Don't trim your trees either. Tree seeds, fruit, and nuts left on the branches provide food all winter for birds and mammals. And in early spring they are a source of nesting material. Trees also hide insects in their bark, another source of winter food. All trees provide protection against predators and if the tree is evergreen, a haven.

Lastly, start thinking about spring plantings opportunities. Native plant sales, conservation districts and local nurseries will start advertising native trees and bushes for sale starting in February. And don't forget my challenge, each club plant 2 native trees over the next 2 years. It is nature's best hope.

Spotlight tree—Ocean Spray

Part sun, dry rocky soil, 15 feet tall, deciduous

Blooms June to August with white flowers in the shape of a plume

Fall seeds

Flowers attract hummingbirds, butterflies, bees, insects

Seeds attract, bushtits, chickadees, woodpeckers, crows, jays, sparrows

Grows in both eastern and western Washington



Signature Project

Barbara Murray, Chairman



The Signature Program has eight areas of focus:

- Campus Sexual Assault
- Child Abuse
- Elder Abuse
- Human Trafficking for Sexual Purposes
- Intimate Partner Violence
- Military Sexual Assault
- Teen Dating Violence
- Violence Against Native America Women

Clubs can have speakers on the different areas and become educated concerning the problem and learn ways they can help in the community.

Human Trafficking – Ideas by Diana Glaze -GFWC South Central Region Representative

Human trafficking crimes affect 14,500 to 17,500 victims annually across the United States. All cities are affected by this crime. Clubs can be vital in educating your community about this problem.

Here are some things you can do that were suggested by the GFWC Chairman:

- Make information cards to be placed in vehicles so people can recognize signs of human trafficking.
- Put large posters with resources for help placed in gas stations restrooms. Install signs in public restrooms and in other public places.
- Make wallet size cards that include details on what to look for and how to report it.
- Place signs in public restrooms in roadside areas and travel information centers.
- Partnership with other agencies in your community.

Continued on next page



Signature Project

Barbara Murray, Chairman



Human Trafficking for sexual exploitation is especially heinous. This includes anyone, male or female under the age of eighteen, who is forced, coerced, or fraudulently used for sexual purposes. The average age of a sex victim is 15 years of age. Here is what you can do:

- Most importantly educate yourself about this crime.
- Know the laws that protect our children.
- Volunteer in mental health clinics. Support these victims. Help them get jobs, finish school and get their life together.
- Invite speakers on the topic to your club meetings.
- Try to make other organizations become aware of the devastation of sex trafficking.

UPCOMING AWARENESS DATES

November 11- Veterans Day

November 25th -International Day for the Elimination of Violence Against Women

NOVEMBER IS NATIVE AMERICAN HERITAGE MONTH

If I can be of assistance, please feel free to contact me.

Barbara Murray

425-582-0098



Jeanette Jester, Study Director

On top of your reading list to finish before state convention should be *The Kite Runner* by Khaled Hosseini. State President Susan Tyler has planned a video presentation by the author. His first novel is a stunning story of hope and redemption. Taking us from Afghanistan in the final days of the monarchy to the present, this is a story of friendship between two boys growing up in Kabul. Read it and be part of the discussion.



Khaled Hosseini was born in Kabul, Afghanistan, and moved to the United States in 1980. He is the author of the *New York Times* bestsellers *The Kite Runner*, *A Thousand Splendid Suns*, and *And the Mountains Echoed*. He is a U.S. Goodwill Envoy to the United Nations Refugee Agency, and the founder of The Khaled Hosseini Foundation, a nonprofit that provides humanitarian assistance to the people of Afghanistan.

Looking for GFWC Clubwomen Authors

GFWC ESO Chairmen from across the country are collecting names of GFWC members who are published authors. This is in hope of creating a new category of GFWC published members as a reading category. Is someone in your club an author? Please send the name, club and book title(s) to Washington ESO Study Director.



Federation Forest

The highway sign without a base that announces the park to travelers coming from Greenwater will receive a masonry base similar to the sign as you approach the park coming from Enumclaw. GFWC-WS and WSPRC contributed funds for this project which should be completed by next spring.

Washington State Parks and Recreation Commission will soon publish the following article on the blog section of their website to acknowledge our recent donation for the base of the highway sign, thanks to Ranger Scott Eilrich:

The Women Who Dreamt of Preservation

Scott Eilrich

Park Ranger 1 Federation Forest State Park

It is a cool autumn morning in the old growth forest at Federation Forest State Park. Rolling down from the surrounding mountain ranges a thick blanket of fog encroaches. Green turns to yellow in the pines as autumn approaches. Pine needles are raining down from the towering coniferous old growth giants blanketing each side of the walkways leading to the Catherine Montgomery Interpretive Center. As we enter the Interpretive Center, a large information board is spotted detailing the story of the women, history, and founding of Federation Forest State Park.



At present day, the General Federation of Women's Clubs-Washington State has made a recent prolific donation towards beautification of the Federation Forest entrance sign.

"The members of General Federation of Women's Clubs – Washington State deeply appreciate the park staff who care for Federation Forest State Park. Without a doubt, the prescient Clubwomen of the 1920s who saw a need to preserve old growth forest and donated the land for the first location of the park would be pleased to know that future generations continue to be able to walk among the gentle giants as was their intent at the time of their gift."

From its earliest days, members of the Washington State Federation of Women's Clubs (the predecessor of GFWC-WS) have understood the importance of preserving natural resources. Minutes from a meeting in 1898 reflect that importance; one of the founders pleaded "for the preservation of forests because they purify the air and water, modify climate, prevent freshets and keep up supplies for springs". Women of the GFWC-WS have a lengthy recorded history of contributing prolific monetary donations, and hosting fundraisers to Federation Forest State Park. They take a personal interest in park maintenance as well and host an annual "clean up" party at the Catherine Montgomery Interpretive Center and vicinity.

In the mid 1920s a teacher at Everett High School, Jean Caithness Greenlees, had a dream of preserving old growth forest, and initiated an effort to preserve a tract of old growth forest for use as a park. Greenlees presented her idea to Esther Maltby, president of the Washington State chapter of the General Federation of Women's Clubs, and together they launched the "Save a tree" campaign in 1926. Donors purchased pins for \$1 and "trees" for \$100. Today, a bronze plaque is dedicated with the names in the park's upper picnic area. "Save a Tree" pins are currently being sold at the Catherine Montgomery Interpretive Center. Two years later, the fundraiser was successfully completed, and the vision and dream of Jean Caithness Greenlees was a reality. The name "Federation Forest" was chosen to honor the work of the GFWC-WS.

A decade later in 1938, a turbulent windstorm devastated Federation Forest State Park and it was condemned as a safety hazard, initiating an effort to find a new location for the park. On January 16th, 1941, the deed to an old growth tract of land along the White River was transferred from the White River Lumber Company to Washington State Parks. This tract of land would expand over the next few years. On July 16th, 1949, the present-day location of Federation Forest State Park was dedicated.

Almost a decade later in 1958, Catherine Montgomery, a member of Washington State Federation Women's Clubs and pioneer educator had dreamt of preservation, and lived a life exploring, left an enormous sum of her estate for interpretation at Federation Forest. On August 20th, 1964, the Catherine Montgomery Interpretive Center was completed and dedicated in her honor.

Meanwhile, inside the park, renovations are underway in the restroom building near the parking lot. It has been closed for a number of years due to weather related damage and time.

Closed for the winter, the park will reopen around April 1.

Clubs in our State

GFWC Apple Blossom Club



Members who attended GFWC-WS Fall Board in Yakima September 23-25 met for an in-person breakfast meeting Saturday morning. Pictured above from left to right: Lela Taylor, Cheryl Holman, Pinkie Eggleston, Jane Cline, Nancy Burdick and Char Lysne. An on-line club with members across Washington State, one in Colorado and two in Texas, they meet monthly via Zoom. Projects include health and wellness exercise, knitting breast prosthetics, collecting plastic tabs from bread and vegetable bags and sewing for Days for Girls.



GFWC Battle Ground



Education Foundation cuts ribbon on renovation and expanded headquarters

W-A-A-A-Y in the back, amid the confetti, were GFWC members Mary Lee Miller, Johanna Hyatt and Louise Tucker celebrating the upgraded quarters of the BGEF office and distribution center in the former Lewisville Middle School. The event took place on Sept. 22.

Clubs in our State

GFWC Chambers Bay Woman's Club



Chambers Bay Woman's Club (CBWC) has had a busy fall. We started out the year with a dinner meeting which everyone enjoyed. We continue to support our usual causes with money, time and often items made and purchased by members.

We did two new activities this fall which were lots of fun. The first was participating in a craft fair. Our members contributed sewn and knitted items. Also, members made wood items, note cards, decorated tea towels, and various other homemade items. We also sold baked goods and we surpassed our goal of making \$500.

The other new project was to plant native trees to support our Environmental chair's Nature's Best Hope challenge. Of course, the writer of this article is the chair so it is fitting CBWC met the challenge. We planted 3 Pacific Nine Bark at a community park. This park was chosen because CBWC along with our partners, Tahoma Audubon and Pierce Conservation District, has been working 1 day a month to restore the habitat for the last 7 years. The accompanying picture is of the members and their partners who helped in planting of the trees.

Chamber Bay Women's Club wishes everyone happy holidays and a wonderful new year.

Clubs in our State

GFWC Kitsap Peninsula

GFWC Kitsap Peninsula Celebrated 75 Years of community service with GFWC at Evergreen Park in Bremerton. We had 25 ladies in attendance including current and former members and members from other GFWC clubs. GFWC-WS President, Susan Tyler presented us with a certificate signed by GFWC International President, Deb Strahanski. We also had two guests attend, one of whom is joining our club and the other will be attending our November meeting. Nancy Burdick did a brief report on the history of GFWC Kitsap Peninsula. We had cookies and punch for everyone. Door prizes were awarded, and scrapbooks were on display. In the picture with the banner are members Tara Chambless, Kathy Park, Julie Thompson, Laura Guerra, Sally Gill, Juanita Paulson, Nancy Burdick, and Nina Morse. We displayed our new banner which was made and donated by Rob at Graphic Reflections. We are very grateful for this generous donation. Also, in September, members who didn't attend Fall Board held a garage sale.

Nancy Burdick
GFWC Kitsap Peninsula

75 th Anniversary Celebration



GFWC Peninsula Keystone

GFWC Peninsula Keystone hosted Peninsula District Fall Conference October 22 at United Church in University Place with the theme, "Harvest of Friends". Pictures of the event are displayed in the district's article. We are preparing for our annual retreat in January.

"Living the Volunteer Spirit"

Clubs in Our State

GFWC Valley Volunteers

Submitted by Vicki Conner

GFWC Valley Volunteers would like to invite Washington State GFWC clubs to participate in a program close to our hearts.

My husband, and our president's father, a Viet Nam veteran, went on the September 2022 Honor Flight to Washington D.C. One of the many gifts he received was announced during the return trip. Mail Call – one of the most treasured times in the military.

Each veteran was given an envelope including letters from family, friends, school children, and community members.

The following email contains the information you need to participate in the program:

We love having “extra” mail call for the veterans. Sometimes they either have a very small circle of family or friends, or no one willing to collect the mail call. We want each veteran to feel honored, so having mail call from either school children (which always is heartwarming) or just people thankful for their service is always welcome.

All mail call is sent to: PSHF, P.O. Box 1519, Enumclaw, WA 98022-1519.

I would suggest that it be sent in a larger envelope with a note that it is not for a specific veteran. That will help our Mail Call gal.

Thank you so much for wanting to participate in future Honor Flights!! It reaffirms that we are doing it right.

Barb

Barb Schwartz
Treasurer/ Board of Directors
Travel Coordinator
Puget Sound Honor Flight
425 922-5558
www.pugetsoundhonorflight.org
Tax ID# 46-2369397



Clubs in Our State

GFWC Vista



GFWC Vista met August 1st at the beautiful historic Monticello Hotel for its semi-annual summer meeting. Members are former district junior directors and presidents. Jeanette Jester, installing officer, gave each new leader a white rose bud, accompanied by appropriate duties for each office. (PS: Those are water glasses and bottles in these photos!)

New officers for 2022-2023 pictured below are Treasurer Pinkie Eggleston, President Bonnie Walden, Vice-President Linda Harms and Secretary Paulette Stinson.



Clubs in Our State

Women's Club of Olympia



Left to right:

Anita Quintana, Pat Keith, Irene Lewis, and Linda Wolfe

These ladies went to clean up the moss and lichen on our first president, Abbie Howard Hunt Stuart's gravestone.

The Woman's Club of Olympia (WCO) was formed when nine like-minded women got together in 1883 to form a woman's club for self-improvement. This was the first woman's club to organize in the Pacific Northwest without any men holding any positions like president or treasurer. Men were not going to tell them what to do with their club!

WCO has digitized most of their records from their beginnings. A favorite history paper that we've read during Women's History month, was written by one of the Mercer girls who came from Boston in a ship down around Cape Horn to California, up to Seattle and then down to Olympia in a covered wagon. These were brave women who wanted to make a difference!

Woman's Club of Olympia will be celebrating our 140th Anniversary on March 10, 2023. We hope you will come and join us for this outstanding accomplishment.

Peninsula District

Peninsula District held its Fall Conference on Saturday, October 22, hosted by GFWC Peninsula Keystone with the theme “Harvest of Friends”.

We were pleased to have Susan Tyler, GFWC-WS President join us. Susan talked about her President’s Special Project, United Nations High Commission on Refugees (UNHCR). Peninsula District members donated \$345.00, the district matched these donations with an additional \$345.00 and added the amount collected from our used book and puzzle table of \$27.50 all of which totaled **\$717.50** that Peninsula District will be donating to Susan’s special project.

The service project for Fall Conference was collecting pajamas and books for children. We collected ninety-three pairs of pajamas and ninety-one books. These will be donated to The Pajama Program – Good Nights are Good Days. Our own Anna McKinney is an organizer for Pajama Good Nights are Good Days. The Peninsula District strongly agrees with their slogan as demonstrated by the number of pajamas and books we collected. If you want additional information on this organization, check out their website at **Pajamaprogram.org** What a fantastic way for Peninsula District to kick off Advocates for Children’s Week! I am extremely proud.

The Woman’s Club of Olympia will be celebrating 140 years on March 10, 2023. Please mark your calendar and plan to attend their anniversary party. Information will follow.

The busy season is approaching us. All of us will be celebrating with family, rushing here and there, and doing this and that. Please remember to take time to take care of yourself, as when you feel good, you make others feel even better.

I have chosen the theme “Reaching for The Stars” for this administration. There is nothing we cannot accomplish if we set our minds to it and reach for the stars. March 11, 2023. Hope you plan to join us.

In closing, please remember to:

Laugh Often

Dream Big

Reach for the Stars

Best wishes for the days to come,

Cindy Bassage

Peninsula District President

Peninsula District



Fall Conference



Peninsula District Could Use Your Help...

If you are looking for something to keep you busy during the long winter months, consider helping Peninsula District with a project.

We will be working with Chemo Bags of Hope during our Spring Conference which will be held on March 11, 2023 and will be assembling chemo bags for children's use.

Chemo Bags of Hope is a 501c3 organization and they will supply most the items for the chemo bags. Their website is: <http://chemobagsofhope.org/> They are running short on the rice bags (no scents) and lap blankets and asked if we would consider making some. No special material is required. These items will be used in the kits that we put together.

If you have any questions, feel free to contact me.

Cindy Bassage
253-564-3304 or clbassage@comcast.net

NATIONAL WORLD WAR II FLIGHT MUSEUM

Submitted by Lela Taylor



I flew into New Orleans on June 22, 2022. I registered at the hotel that afternoon and the next morning joined the tour to The National World War II Museum.

I was not aware that the only official National World War II Museum is in New Orleans. I had signed up for that tour because I thought my husband Jerry would enjoy it. When he was unable to join me going to New Orleans, I decided, oh well I might as well go myself.

When I walked in the doors of the museum, the first thing I saw was this huge airplane hanging from the ceiling. I was told it was an airplane actually flown in World War II. There was also a fighter plane with teeth. (See pictures).

As I wandered through the museum, I am sure I only saw half of what was there in the short time we were allowed. There were areas set up to show various parts of the war, movies from the time of the war, probably newsreels from the 1940s, and you could constantly hear personal stories.

There were cars donated to the museum, guns, uniforms, pictures and a plethora of other items.

My own father enlisted December 7, 1941 after Pearl Harbor was bombed and wrote letters to his father during his enlistment. One of those letters was written the day his battalion arrived in Dachau, Germany. He described some of the conditions as they were the first American battalion to arrive in Dachau. I could only read that letter once. I still have those letters and his uniforms and if we are able, plan on taking those items back to the museum next year.

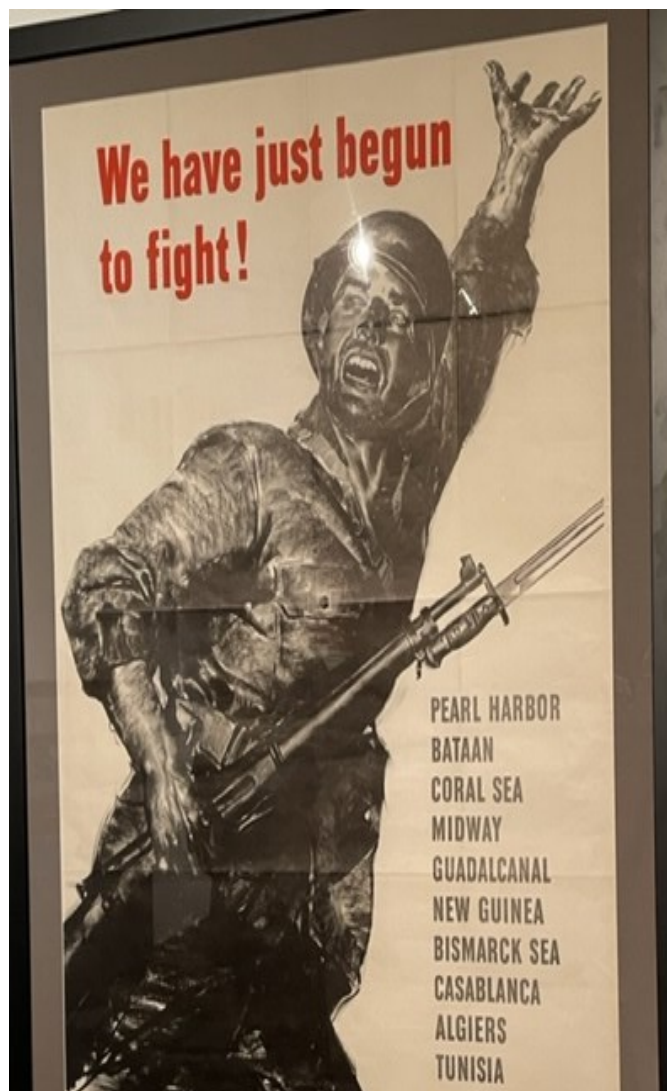
If any of you have items from WWII from a family member who may have been part of that terrible time, you might contact the museum to donate in their name.

WWII Museum

www.nationalww2museum.org

1(504) 528-1944

WORLD WAR II FLIGHT MUSEUM, New Orleans, LA



"Living the Volunteer Spirit"



GENERAL FEDERATION of WOMEN'S CLUBS

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RESOURCES:

Keep up to date with GFWC happenings ... locally, nationally and around the state.

Our GFWC-WS website:

<https://www.gfwcws.org>

Our email for website submissions:

webmasters@gfwcws.org

A Thanksgiving Wish

May you experience each day as a gift,

Giving you the opportunity to see the

World anew with loving eyes and

An open heart.



2022-2024 GFWC-WS Executive Committee:

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Events & Special Days

Nov 24	Thanksgiving Day
Dec 1	DUES ARE DELINQUENT
Dec 15	LEADS applications due
Dec 18	Hanukkah begins
Dec 21	First Day of winter
Dec 25	Christmas Day
Dec 26	Kwanzaa begins
Jan 1 2023	New Year's Day
Jan 16	Martin Luther King, Jr. Day
Jan 22	Chinese New Year
Feb 1	ClubWoman Articles Due
Feb 2	Groundhog's Day
Feb 14	Valentine's Day
Feb 15	Reports are DUE
Feb 20	Presidents' Day