



The Washington ClubWoman



Summer 2023
Vol. 107 No. 1

*GFWC-Washington State is a member of General Federation of Women's Clubs
(www.gfwc.org), 1734 N Street, NW, Washington, DC 20036-2990. Phone 202-347-3168*

127th Spring Convention



The spacious Red Lion Pasco was the venue for our “W.I.N.G.s — Women Take Flight” convention April 20-24, 2023. Kennewick Air Force JROTC, with their instructor, Col. Curt Wichers, presented the colors and each of the young women shared why she became a part of the program and how she benefits from it.

New this year was an activity center in the back of the meeting room where cards and paracord lanyards/bracelets could be made for Operation Gratitude.



We awarded \$8,700 in scholarships to 6 young women in our state. The art room was open for viewing members' creative works. Awards were given (see award list on our website: [GFWC WS State Awards](#)).

Saturday night's event was the 1920s dinner/dance! Nancy Burdick lead some of the group in dancing the Charleston and ladies dressed in fashions from the era. Hotel guests were intrigued by the dresses and accessories!! Joann Wheeler and Wendy Wheeler Jacobs, from Oregon joined us Saturday.

“Living the Volunteer Spirit”



Welcome to the second half of the WINGs administration! I'm going to start by sharing a story of the first American woman to solo, although it was an accidental flight. When a block on Blanche Stuart Scott aircraft's throttle jolted out of place, she went airborne; even though she was not credited with being the first American woman to solo, the achievement landed her in the record books. It's a reminder that even unexpected events can lead to great achievements.

The state Convention in Pasco ended up being one for the record books, although not in the way hoped for. We didn't have enough attendees for a quorum, so the official convention took about 15 minutes before adjourning. We didn't let a little thing like that from stop us having a good time, celebrating our achievements of the past year and learning about women's history, the plight of veterans and refugees and the history of women veterans in Pasco.

Clubs were awarded for all their hard work in 2022. In a brief summary of 2022, Washington clubs reported 1,857 projects in 14 program areas. We donated over 50,000 hours of our time and almost \$57,700 directly. That works out to about 165 hours per member! Truly impressive.

I'm looking forward to what the next year will bring. The annual fall board will be held at the historic Abigail Stuart House in Olympia on Sept. 23rd. It will be a one-day event this year.

I hope to make the rounds again this fall visiting Districts and catching up with friends both old and new. Keep up the good work! I'm proud to be able to represent you and talk about the great work we get done in Washington state.

In federation,

Susan Tyler

GFWC-WS President



Clubwoman of the Year—Anna McKinney



Pictured between GFWC-WS President, Susan Tyler (L) & GFWC-WS Pres. Elect, Kim Skagen (R)

Anna was born and reared in a farming community in western Indiana. In her early years, she and her family helped others in their community, so volunteerism became a natural part of her life

After marriage and moving to Illinois in 1973, she began working at the U of I on a part time basis, until a farm was purchased and she then became a homemaker. She began working for the State of Illinois when her children started school. In 1982 she was hired at the United States Postal Service and retired from USPS in 2011 just 3 months shy of 30 years. During her tenure as a city letter carrier,

Anna became active in their local union and took part in their charitable activities within her community

After retirement, she helped a friend who worked at Crisis Nursery in the evenings taking care of the children when parents attended parenting classes.

After moving back to Indiana, she began volunteering as a bagger for the Brown Bagger After School Food Program, and served on their board of directors as Secretary. She wrote grants, delivered totes to area schools, and helped with fundraisers.

In May 2019, Anna moved to Washington state and knew she needed to be active and volunteer again. After hearing of The Woman's Club of Olympia through a friend, she joined. She serves as Treasurer of The Woman's Club of Olympia as well as Treasurer for the Abigail Stuart House and also volunteers two days a week to give tours to potential renters.

Anna serves GFWC-WS Peninsula District as Communications and Public Relations Chair and GFWC –WS as Health & Wellness chair.

In October, 2019, she learned of the Pajama Program and reached out to their Headquarters in New York and became the Chapter President for Washington State that year and continues to serve in that capacity. There are 52 Community Partners in the State that she works with in providing pajamas and books for children in need.

Congratulations, Anna!!! You are truly "Living the Volunteer Spirit".

"Living the Volunteer Spirit"

CONVENTION PICTURES



KING COUNTY DISTRICT:

Betty MacMaster, Diana Cunningham, Linda Butcher, Nancy Jones, Brianna Palomino, Suzanne Bagdon, Kathie Jorgensen, Susan Tyler, Nancy Larsen, Barbara Murray

Jeanette Jester, Queen of Jeopardy for Washington state

Jeanette is pictured front row center, with her fellow Jeopardy participants Bonnie Rail, Kim Skagen, Susan Tyler, game show host and Julie Thompson



:
Nancy Larsen, GFWC-WS Financial Secretary; Cindy Bassage, GFWC-WS Vice President; Susan Tyler, GFWC-WS President; Kim Skagen, GFWC-WS President Elect; GFWC-WS, Nancy Jones; GFWC-WS Secretary; Kathie Jorgensen, GFWC-WS Parliamentary Advisor



"Living the Volunteer Spirit"



LEADS

Our 2023 LEADS candidate is well-deserving and a HUGE asset to our entire organization. A current and Sokico Club President, a former member of their club's Scholarship Committee, as well as their Civic Engagement and Outreach chairman, she is a familiar face at all State events. She spends many hours tirelessly working behind the scenes to make sure our meetings run seamlessly, our equipment works when its supposed to, and our meals are the way we ordered them... without her we'd be a mess! Congratulations to Suzanne Bagdon!! In June, she will head to Louisville, KY for her training the day before our GFWC Convention convenes. She will make a fantastic addition to our state's LEADS honor roll!

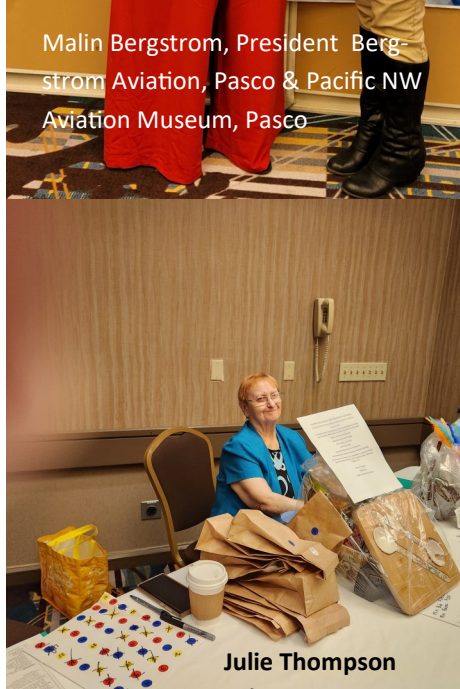
Congratulations, Suzanne!!



Malin Bergstrom, President Bergstrom Aviation, Pasco & Pacific NW Aviation Museum, Pasco



Martha Curwen, Char Lysne, Kim Skagen, Nancy Burdick, Cindy Bassage, Sally Larson, Carlene Garner, Rena Johnston, Sally Gill, Gail Crump, Beth Juvik, Julie Thompson, Anna McKinney



Julie Thompson



Cheryl Holman, Bonnie Walden, Joann Wheeler, Martha Curwen, Linda Butcher, Nancy Burdick



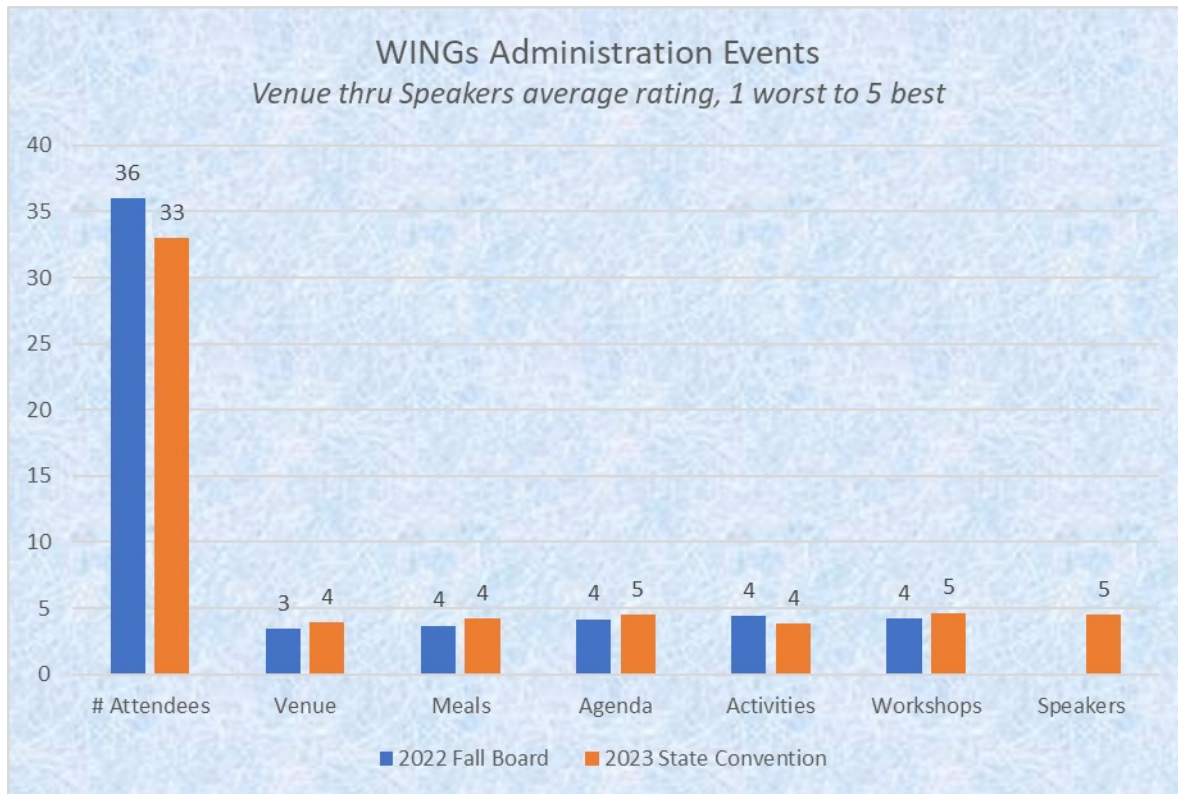
ESO



Matt Sammons, Executive Dir. Columbia Basin Veterans Center

WINGs – Women Take Flight evaluation results

Evaluations were positive overall, with averages of 4 to 5 in all areas (1 being the worst, 5 being the best). The chart below shows the comparison between evaluation results for the Fall Board in Yakima and the State Convention in Pasco.



Comments on what went well reflected the ratings on the evaluations – some of the comments below:

Color guard was inspirational. Speakers were fantastic very relevant.

Speakers, programs. President did a great job!!

Despite not having a quorum and having to end the convention we were able to continue.

Seeing federation sisters and visiting. The rooms were spacious and service good.

Most everything went great

Agenda was laid out and did a great job despite lack of quorum

awards well recognized.

I enjoy your thoughtful opening remarks / comments. You are doing a great job leading and adding value.

Everything went smoothly for the most part. People in charge were flexible and able to move on.

The whole time was wonderful. Right now I really needed my "sisters" **CONT'D NEXT PG.**

Convention Survey Results –cont’d

hotel meal staff and meals were great. Room price was good. Thanks for all effort to make this a successful meeting. Its always good to be with our "sisters". So glad you did an evaluation form.

Operation Gratitude - great idea, we should always have busy work for attendees.

Great conference - lots of fun, great information

The use of time went well. The hotel staff were helpful. The meetings flowed smoothly, for the most part. The reports went well with everyone prepared to be flexible. I know there were glitches but everyone worked around them.

Good speakers

good food, wish coffee was hot and available.

Food service, speakers, photo backdrop. Like hotel with breakfast included.

Comments on what needs improvement focused on the desire to shorten number of days and have less “down time”.

How to encourage members to attend.

Time / location

Some consolidation was done however everything could have been concluded on Sat after dinner. A request was made to do this but there was no explanation why we were going to continue. We need to do what is best for membership

Condensation of reports / projects / presentation

Have block of rooms together and not spread out. Handouts in larger fonts.

Lower food prices (I wish)

Dance needed more program. Less amount of time

Cut number of days and reduce content.

I really hate all the trips to eastern Washington.

Need to find better ways to time manage. Its hard but also what's killing our attendance.

Accomplish more and have the convention in less days. Art room needs to be organized and maybe eliminate some categories.

Timing, also do not need 4 day meetings. Too much down time. Meetings need to be condensed. Art room needs to be promoted. Items need to be judged as well as voted.

I’ve taken your comments into consideration and the 2023 Fall Board will just be one day and located in or near the most populous Districts in the state.

I’m looking into the required agenda items for the state Convention in 2024, which will be held at the Clearwater Casino in Poulsbo on the Kitsap Peninsula and at this point do not see much reduction in number of days as the 2024 convention has several additional agenda items that are required (GFWC officer visit, installation, wrap up of 2022-24 administration) but if an opportunity to decrease the number of days presents itself, I’ll do my best to cut that meeting back as well.

Thank you to everyone who filled out the evaluation. It really is helpful, especially when it comes to planning the next meetings. —Susan Tyler, GFWC-WS President

PROPOSED BYLAW AMENDMENT

In lieu of a convention, the GFWC-WS bylaws provide that the Board of Directors may consider proposed bylaws at its next meeting.

With this provision in mind, the Bylaw Committee presents for consideration, the following amendment for discussion at the Fall Board Meeting.

ARTICLE XI—ANNUAL CONVENTION AND SPECIAL MEETINGS

SECTION 11.4 Quorum. The quorum for the Annual Convention shall be forty (40) voting members.

Strike the words: forty (40) voting members and insert: 5% (five percent) of the individuals who pay dues to one or more GFWC-WS Clubs.

To read:

Section 11.4 Quorum. The quorum for the Annual Convention shall be 5% (five percent) of the individuals who pay dues to one or more GFWC-WS Clubs.

Carlene Garner, RP, Chair

Tina Bair

Nancy Jones

Kathie Jorgensen, Parliamentary Advisor

Scholarship Winners

Maria Aurelio \$2500 + \$1000 Kathy Esteb Scholarship

Submitted by Woman's Club of Olympia



Having come to the United States from the Philippines at a young age, Maria has been encouraged by family to work hard to receive a college education. In her own words she says "Music has always been a significant part of my life, and it paved the way for my passion for neuroscience as I became drawn to the emotional impact it could leave on people." She has devoured books on psychology, studied the Human Brain podcast, and took a Family Health course learning more about neurological disorders. She plans to attend the University of Washington with a double major in Neuroscience and Music. She plans to pursue STEM research and explore the field of psychiatry to learn how different types of music can alleviate neurodegenerative diseases such as Alzheimer.



Hannah Ahrens \$2000 Submitted by GFWC Tacoma

Since she was a little girl, Hannah has aspired to be a teacher. In recent months she has been able to start her path towards a major in Elementary Education with the opportunity to be a Visual Arts Instructor at an elementary school. This job allows her to combine two of her favorite things, working with kids and doing art. This fall she will attend Western Washington University in Bellingham.



Josie Lee \$1500 Submitted by GFWC Apple Blossom

Josie has been enrolled in the Running Start program working toward her Bachelor's Degree while still attending high school. She would like to obtain a Doctor of Physical Therapy Degree and eventually open her own practice focusing on sports medicine and surgery recovery. She would like to join the Reserve Officers' Training Corp and the National Guard through a simultaneous membership program where she plans to attend Washington State University in Pullman, WA.

Scholarship Winners

Aurora Sieverson \$750 Submitted by GFWC Chambers Bay



Aurora is an individual who reaches out to connect people through community service. She helped to start and run a community service organization to give people with special needs the opportunity to show off their abilities and talents through Miss Exceptional and Exceptional Gentlemen. She plans to major in business in college and then into hotel management when she graduates. She plans to attend Washington State University.

Kira Caesar \$500 Submitted by GFWC Battle Ground



Kira is a senior in high school and has been on the honor roll for four years. She is an officer in the National Honor Society. She will be majoring in Dietetics, to earn her AA degree at Clark Community College, and then will transfer to earn her bachelor's degree and then her master's degree in Dietetics.

Marissa Gilliam \$500

Submitted by GFWC Valley Volunteers



Marissa is a senior in high school and is also enrolled in community college. She plans on attending Central Washington University where she will major in psychology and minor in music performance.

Community Service Program Reports

Civic Engagement & Outreach

Gail Crump, Chair



All who attended the convention in Pasco, should be able to tell you all about Operation Gratitude, so don't be afraid to ask. Everyone made an attempt at making lanyard bracelets to be sent to Operation Gratitude. Some were star pupils, such as Sally from Chamber's Bay. She finished all that were brought by President Susan. Others made greeting cards to go in the care boxes to be sent to Operation Gratitude. Stars were cut out of old flags to present to soldiers.

Operation Gratitude is a non-profit organization that delivers care packages to deployed troops, military children, recruit graduates, veterans, and first responders. Just a reminder we are putting together boxes at our Fall District Conferences to be sent to Operation Gratitude. The Civic Engagement Chairpersons will have the boxes to put all your endeavors you have made over the summer. There are lots of things that can go in the care boxes. You don't have to sew, knit, or crochet. The lists go on and on. You can



write letters or cards. I found directions for making pillowcases this morning. There are patterns and lists for everything imaginable. Just go to Operation Gratitude's website <https://www.operationgratitude.com/> to learn more about their programs and how you can help.

You can mail your donations to Operation Gratitude at P.O. Box 260257, Encino, CA 91426. If you want to write letters to soldiers, you can drop off your creations at a designated location or mail them to Operation Gratitude ATTN: Letter Writing Program, 9409 Owensmouth Avenue, Chatsworth, CA 91311.

Operation Gratitude does not provide information on their website about financial assistance for mailing expenses. However, they are partnering with Give Back Box to offer discounted shipping to donors. All boxes up to 50 pounds qualify for \$20 shipping throughout the U.S. You can visit their website <https://www.operationgratitude.com/give/product-donation/> for more information on how you can donate and get discounted shipping. Here are the lists again of what can go in the boxes. Here is the list of items that you can collect over the summer for your district conference in the Fall.

Wish List Items

Black Crew Length Socks
Individually Packaged Wipes
Sunscreen 1oz. Tube
Instant Coffee Packs
Puzzle Books
Jerky
Beanie Babies, Welkins, or Other Small Plush Toys
Purchased Blank Greeting Cards

Handmade Items

Knit or Crochet Hats
Knit or Crochet Scarves
Fleece Scarves
Fleece Hats
Para cord Lanyards
Cool Ties
Drawstring Bags
Handmade Greeting Cards

Community Service Program Reports

Environment

Sally Larson, Chair



Summer is almost here and trees and plants will be needing water and monitoring. But first I learned about a new action item at the state convention that is starting to catch on in the USA. "No Mow May." By not mowing your yard resources will be available for early pollinators. It seems that the environmental movement is decreasing yard work to help save the planet. I see that as a good thing.

Now back to summer jobs in the yard. If native plants have been in your yard for several years watering should not be necessary unless a long drought occurs. However, if your natives were just planted make sure they remain hydrated. Although there are lots of plants at all the garden shops, waiting to fall to plant is best for the plants and again decreases watering responsibilities and this saves time and money.

An update on my challenge to every club to plant 2 native trees during President Susan's term is slow going but those who have planted have done a lot. Chamber's Bay has planted over 60 trees and plants, Avalon planted trees at a new road site, and Amalak planed 50 trees in a forest restoration area. There is plenty of time to meet the challenge and I encourage every club to meet and surpass the challenge. Trees contribute to better health outcomes, decrease summer temperatures, provide food and shelter for wildlife and humans, and they are beautiful in all four seasons.

Summer Spotlight Native Tree: Serviceberry

Acidic moist or well drained soil

10-30 feet tall, deciduous

Spring bloomer, many white to pink flowers

Red purple berries in late June

Flowers attract insects which in turn attracts birds

Berries attract Robins, Cedar Waxwings, Woodpeckers, Northern Flicker, Warblers,

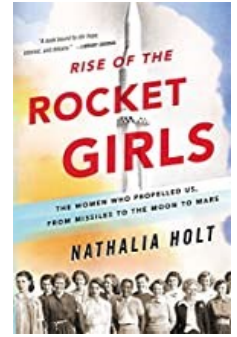
Morning Doves, Tanagers, Varied Thrush

Grows on both sides of the state

SPECIAL PROJECTS-HRC

Women's History & Resource Center

Linda Butcher, Chair



A BLAST FROM THE PAST — MEET THE “ROCKET GIRLS”

A great story and a fascinating read, from author Nathalia Holt in her book, “Rise of the Rocket Girls”. This is in keeping with recent similar women’s history information, “Women Take Flight”, brought to us by convention speaker, Malin Bergstron. “In the 1940s, an elite team of mathematicians and scientists started working on a project that would carry the U.S. into space, then on to the moon and Mars. They would eventually become NASA’s Jet Propulsion Laboratory (or JPL) (in California), but here’s what made them so unusual: Many of the people who charted the course to space exploration were women.” Their story is told by author Nathalia Holt in her book, “Rise of the Rocket Girls,” a timely read for this Computer Science Education Week! “In a time before the digital devices that we’re used to today, it was humans that were doing the calculations,” Holt explains. “And so you needed these teams of people—many of whom were women, especially during World War II—and they were responsible for the math...” Today, she says, “There is hardly a mission that you can find in NASA that these women haven’t touched.” Holt hopes that her book will inspire girls and women of all ages to pursue their interests in science and technology: “My hope is that these women serve as role models, not just for my daughter of course, but for all of the women who are interested in science. It’s a difficult time for women in technology right now. In 1984, 37 percent of all bachelor’s degrees in computer science were awarded to women, and today that number has dropped to 18 percent. And even for women that are working in science today, it’s about half of all women that leave midcareer. So I think these stories are important for insuring and being role models that are so much need for women today.”

"Rise of the Rocket Girls" is highly recommended for adult readers at <https://www.amightygirl.com/rise-of-the-rocket-girls>

To introduce kids to more trailblazing women of NASA, we recommend "Galaxy Girls: 50 Amazing Stories of Women in Space" for ages 7 to 12 (<https://www.amightygirl.com/galaxy-girls>) and "Gutsy Girls Go For Science: Astronauts" for ages 8 to 12 (<https://www.amightygirl.com/gutsy-girls-astronauts>)

For two fun dolls for young space lovers, we recommend the Astrophysicist Doll for ages 3 to 7 (<https://www.amightygirl.com/astrophysicist-doll>) and the Astronomer Lottie Doll for ages 3 to 8 (<https://www.amightygirl.com/stargazer-lottie-doll>)

For fun ways to introduce your Mighty Girl to programming, we recommend the Coding Critters for ages 4 to 8 (<https://www.amightygirl.com/coding-critters-scamper-and...>) and Botley the Coding Robot for ages 5 and up (<https://www.amightygirl.com/botley>)

Please remember to archive your club records and documents, and when you decide to send them on to the Suzzallo Library, let our State WHRC committee help you get these documents delivered.

Special Projects, Community Impact Program

Lynn Cline, Chair

The GFWC Community Impact AWARD offers GFWC Clubs financial incentive to implement projects designed to impact a specific problem in the community.

This, of course, leads to the teamwork and brain storming of our club members to find the needs of the community and to give what we can give for the betterment. The CIP program offers the flexibility to our clubs to handle the implementation of three projects that have a meaningful impact on a particular problem. The club can work quarterly on one project from “beginning to fruition”. Some efforts could require more rigorous planning and implementation. This is for the teamwork of the club to administer.

CIP is a two-year administration project. The goal of this award, however, remains the same—encourage and recognize the positive impact that a club can have on a specific need in the community.

Award period is January 1, 2022 to December 31, 2024.

GFWC State Award: \$100 First place

GFWC National Award: First Place winners are given \$2500 within the six-state membership categories.

Contest descriptions: Each entry can feature one to three local projects undertaken by a club, all accomplished during award period. Each entry should include one page of information on each project (maximum 500 words) to highlight:

<u>Project Goals:</u>	Plan of action including timeline
	Engagement of members, including total hours
	Financial/Funding details, including total contributed
	Collaborating partners or individuals
	Media Coverage
	Measurable impact(s)
	Any other key information

Each entry may contain one page of photographs for each project (max 4 per page).

Each entry can contain one page of publicity highlights for each project (max 4 per page).

Total entry cannot exceed 10 pages.

A Community Impact Program Award Cover Form plus three (3) additional pages for each project (info page, photo page, publicity page).

Clubs that have previously won this award must submit entirely new projects for consideration. Expanded projects will not be considered.

Joint entries of clubs is not allowed.

All monetary awards must be used to further the community impact initiative.

Award entries of national winners will be kept in the GFWC Women’s History & Resource Center.

Send club entries to Lynn Cline, GFWC-WS CIP Chair by March 1, 2024.

All forms can be found in GFWC Manual or GFWC-WS Manual under “Community Impact Program” Forms.

Additionally, GFWC clubs are encouraged to consider the community connection:

Raise Awareness to Hope and Help

Arts and Culture Community Historical Gems

Civic and Outreach: A Little Thanks Goes a Long Way

Environment: Sparkling Seeds, Brilliant Butterflies, Glamorous Garden Gloves

Health and Wellness: Physical Fitness Opportunities for All Ages

“Living the Volunteer Spirit”

ANNUAL FEDERATION FOREST WORKDAY



June 3, 2023 10 am—2 pm approx.

Breakfast treats & beverages provided

Lunch provided

- **Enjoy the beauty and tranquility of this forest, our longest running Environmental project.**
- **Help plant native plants in the interpretive gardens outside the Catherine Montgomery Interpretive Center & clean beds around the center.**
- **Sedentary activity inside for those who don't garden or only do so for a short time—we will have greeting cards to assemble and write messages for military members through the program, "A Soldier's Hands" which sends care packages that include a greeting card, to entire units, so that on one day, every member of the unit has a "mail call".**
- **Explore the park: visit the Maltby bench out in the forest, near the interpretive center (IC), walk along the interpretive trail behind the IC, or hike down to the picnic area along the White River.**
- **Park is located off of Highway 410 approximately 15 miles east of Enumclaw, shortly past milepost 41 as you travel east.**

Clubs in our State

Battle Ground



GFWC Battle Ground spreading the word about Child Abuse Awareness and Prevention during the month of April. Members planted 108 pinwheels, the symbol of child abuse prevention, along busy 142nd Ave. The team consisted of chairman Paulette Stinson, Wendy McDaniel, Mary Lee Miller, Marla Polos and Louise Tucker.

Have you read a good book to your kids or grandkids lately?



Battle Ground's Little Free Library allows passersby to explore the latest in donated books. The motto, "Take a book, leave a book" helps keep the shelves stocked, along with donations from sponsoring woman's service club, GFWC Battle Ground. This blue unit dedicated to children's books, replaces an earlier one that had been damaged.



Members traveled to Kalama for Columbia District Spring Conference. Pictured above is a table of GFWC Battle Ground's cut-ups including: Linda Bendal, Mary Lee Miller, Gloria Walck and Ginger Crabtree. The meeting was chaired by Columbia District President Paulette Stinson and recorded by Wendy McDaniel, and Louise Tucker served as Parliamentary Advisor, all from Battle Ground.

Of the 12 topics of interest in GFWC, Battle Ground's club received three first place spots, four second place and one first place tie. Everyone was given a toy noisemaker to cheer on the winning clubs.

The District treasury was strengthened from the proceeds of silent auction baskets, baked goods, jams and other tidbits for those who like to shop.

GFWC-WS President Elect Kim Skagen was a guest.

"Living the Volunteer Spirit"

Columbia District

GFWC Columbia District Spring Conference was held on Saturday, March 18, 2023, in Kalama, Washington.

(Picture captures District Secretary, Wendy Mc Daniel and District President, Paulette Stinson at the podium.) We were honored to have GFWC-WS President –Elect, Kim Skagen, and GFWC-WS Treasurer, Pinkie Eggleston, in attendance. The ladies of GFWC Amalak hosted us and utilized GFWC-WS President Tyler’s theme of WINGS (Women Inspiring New Generations) for all the decorations and table favors. One of the Amalak clubwomen wrote a lovely poem describing club work and volunteerism with the WINGS theme! A copy was recently presented to President Susan Tyler at the GFWC-WS Convention in Pasco.

Each club president gave a report describing some of the prominent projects undertaken. Everyone agreed that it was so good to meet in person and to be able to do some fundraising again! Thirty-five members and one guest were present. We were treated to an amazing baked potato bar for lunch and a WINGS cake for dessert.

Kim Skagen, GFWC-WS President-elect, told the captive audience about the various positions that she has held throughout the years. She shared some of the goals that she is working on for her administration. A warm welcome to the GFWC-WS Convention was extended to all Columbia District members.

GFWC Columbia District has four active clubs plus Vista, a past district presidents club. Currently, our membership totals 102 clubwomen. Here are the following district reporting numbers coming off Covid restrictions: Hours: 3,343

Volunteer Hours: 10,995 Dollars Donated: \$36,214.00 In-kind: \$19,435.00

Paulette Stinson, GFWC Columbia District President



Together We Can..... And Together We Did!!

“Living the Volunteer Spirit”

Clubs in Our State

Camas Washougal

CHILD ABUSE PREVENTION & AWARENESS GARDENS

On a rainy, snowy day we attempted to plant our gardens. The weather was just too bad to continue, so a second day was planned. We planted pinwheels around town in six locations. There locations were planted in Camas, and three more were placed in Washougal. New pinwheels were purchased as some from last year faded. Signs in English and Spanish purchased by UNITE last year were used again this year.



Both City Councils signed proclamations declaring April as “Child Abuse Prevention and Awareness Month”. While attending the council meetings, we also presented each mayor with a lapel pin that said, “Every Child Matters”.

PICTURED ABOVE:

Jeanette Jester, Leah Davis, Washougal Mayor David Stuebe, and Carol Styles.

PICTURED TO THE RIGHT:

Carol Styles, Leah Davis, Jeanette Jester, Camas Mayor Scott Higgins.



PICTURED ON THE LEFT:

Alma Ladd, Carol Styles & Chris Kamps outside Children’s Home Society where one of the gardens was planted.



“Living the Volunteer Spirit”

Clubs in our State

GFWC Chambers Bay Woman's Club

Chambers Bay Women's Club continues to be busy with all our on going projects and a few new ones. We clean a local street and a local park quarterly. This month we gathered over 15 shopping bags of garbage on our street. It is fun and we always get thanks from people driving by. When we cleaned the park, which is on Puget Sound, we stopped and talked to some scuba divers who told us about a small red octopus that lives in discarded glass bottles. They said it was quite a sight to see all the octopus scurry out of the bottles when ocean clean up groups snag the bottles. We recently were given 50 native trees and tall bushes that we planted in a city park where we have been doing habitat restoration. Our newest member headed up the mulching project to support an apple tree we have in a community orchard. Members provide dinner once a month to the domestic violence center, cut material to make reusable menstrual pads for women in refugee camps, and recently started providing needed supplies to a multicultural health center.

Sadly we lost one of our newest member, Kris Hays, to metastatic breast cancer. Kris joined our club about 6 months ago and had already served on several committees, including revising our bylaws and deciding scholarship recipients. She was bright, insightful, fun to be around and exemplified GFWC values. We will miss you, Kris and thank you for being part of our sisterhood.



"Living the Volunteer Spirit"

Peninsula District

Peninsula District Spring Conference was held at the Bridge United Methodist Church in Tacoma on March 11, and was hosted by GFWC Tacoma and Avalon Clubs. The theme was “Lucky to be GFWC.” Thirty members attended. We missed those that could not be with us and look forward to seeing you at the Fall Conference.

We had a day celebrating the accomplishments of all our clubs. You all certainly followed my theme and totally “Reached for the Stars.” I was incredibly proud of each and every one of the clubs. You exceeded my goals.



Our guest speaker, Jennifer Cupp Baxter, CEO of Chemo Bags of Hope talked about why and how she started this amazing organization. We were able to assemble fifty back packs of Hope for children that were distributed to Seattle Children’s Hospital and Portland Children’s Hospital. These back packs were filled with items that will bring some comfort to the children as they go through chemo. The members indicated that they loved this project and would like to continue to help this organization in the future.

We also collected 855 pouches of applesauce that we delivered to Lakewood Emergency Food Center. These were used to fill food bags for the children in need of food during spring break.

Members enjoyed lunch together, catching up with one another and a wonderful time was had by all.

Please mark your calendar and plan to join us for the following events:

Fall Board Meeting:

September 6, 2023 5:30pm

Fall Conference:

October 21, 202 9:30am

Wishing each and every one of you a wonderful sunny summer!



Cindy Bassage
Peninsula District President

Peninsula District Spring Conference



“Living the Volunteer Spirit”



GENERAL FEDERATION of WOMEN'S CLUBS

The Washington Clubwoman

Is published by

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Upcoming Special Days & Events

June 3	Federation Forest Workday 10-2
June 18	Father's Day
July 4	Independence Day
July 15	Deadline WSR Registration
Aug 1	WA Clubwoman Articles Due
Aug 25-27	WSR (Western States Region) Conference, Redmond, OR
Sept 23	Fall Board at Women's Club of Olympia's Abigail Stewart House

