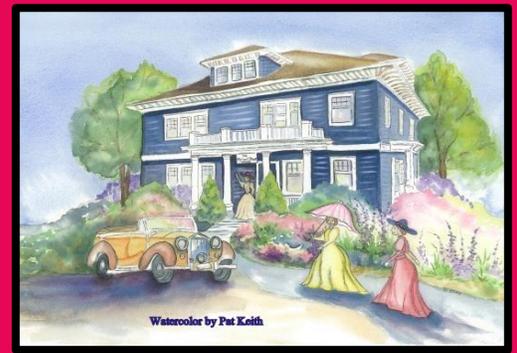




The Woman's Club of Olympia

JOURNAL



PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

WCO Members, We've been working hard on getting bids to get the "Let in the Light" project into motion. The painting is continuing.... and we just received 70 new chairs. The Board voted to join the Olympia Historical Society, so we will be on the Historical Tour of Homes every year and will partner with them for

better recognition in the community. I went to the OHS annual meeting to formally meet them, and introduce us as new members. OHS is looking for docents to volunteer to show the Bigelow House a few hours on weekends and some Fridays. If you are interested in helping out, let me know, and I'll get you the information.

The Nominating Committee has volunteered to choose a slate of officers for the next 2 year term. If you are interested in becoming an officer or want to be on the Board, please let us know.

Homeless Back Packs is ready to have packing jobs for us the 1st Wednesday of the month from 1 to 3 at Columbia Bank (665 Woodland Square Loop, Lacey). So February 5th, WCO and Capital Clubs team up for a work day.... please come join the fun.

There are lots of Women's Suffrage events going on this year. I'd like us to participate in something? If you have a great idea...please let Sandra and/or me know. Our founding members' names are on those first voting roles, so to honor them we should have an event to celebrate the "Women's Right to Vote"!

It's report writing time and Mary Sidell is busy compiling our hours of volunteering.... if she asks for help, please say Yes! Remember, "YOU" are the "Keys to Success!"

Sincerely, Your President, Linda Wolfe



FUNDRAISING LUNCH

The February 4th meeting is a Fundraising Lunch. The cost is \$10.00. Invite a guest to the meeting and PLEASE DO NOT FORGET TO RSVP!!!



WEAR RED TO FEBRUARY 4 MEETING to Celebrate National Wear Red Day® – Friday, February 7, 202

PLANNER

NEXT MEETINGS

February 4, 2020 at NOON
Program –Mary Jo Shaw
“From Convent to Catwalk”

✓ **February 11, 2020**
Evening Meeting (7:00 pm.)

✓ **February 18, 2020**
Board Meeting (10:30 a.m.)

FUNDRAISING LUNCH

COMMITTEE:

Mary Siddell, Pat Keith, Ann Finn

Contact Us:

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WCO JOINS OLYMPIA HISTORICAL SOCIETY

The Board of The Woman's Club of Olympia voted to become a member of The Olympia Historical Society and Pat Keith will act as our liaison to that organization. Many events of historical note take place through the Society and as members we will be able to participate and to coordinate our efforts.



2 NEW MEMBERS WILL JOIN WCO AT FEBRUARY MEETING

Be sure to attend the February meeting, not only for the fundraising luncheon, but to be present for the 2 new members who will be initiated into the group. Ann McKinney and Linda Bishop will be present for the ceremony and you are urged to welcome them.

RANGER PROVIDES HISTORICAL INFORMATION ON FEDERATION FOREST AT JANUARY MEETING



Ranger Sam Wotipka

Federation Forest State Park began in the mid-1920s as the dream of Jean Caithness Greenlees, a teacher at Everett High School. Alarmed by the pace of deforestation in Washington and across the country, she initiated an effort to preserve a tract of old growth trees for use as a park. Her goal was to ensure that future generations could experience an ecosystem that was rapidly being wiped out. Greenlees presented her idea to Esther Maltby, the president of the Washington State chapter of the General Federation of Women's Clubs (GFWC-WS), then known as the Washington State Federation of Women's Clubs. Maltby lent her support to the plan and the organization launched a "Save a Tree" campaign in 1926.



Tragedy struck the new park in 1938 when logging on adjacent property left its trees vulnerable to wind-throw and it was condemned as a safety hazard. This set off an effort to find a new location for the park. The present-day location along the White River was eventually chosen and was opened to the public on July 16, 1949. In 1958, Catherine Montgomery, a pioneering educator, conservationist and GFWC-WS member, donated her estate of \$89,000 to be used for education at the park. This money was used to build the Catherine Montgomery Interpretive Center, which was dedicated on September 20, 1964. To this day, Members of the GFWC-WS continue to volunteer and donate money towards its maintenance.



GRANT FUNDS UPDATE

To date we have spent and been reimbursed for **\$41,769.78** from the grant funds. This includes all the kitchen and downstairs bathroom work, the new rectangle and circular tables, and about one-third of the painting we have commissioned. Bids are coming in for the "Let in the Light" project and we are

preparing to contract for the electrical box replacement and repair work in the Emergency Exit stairwell. As a committee, we are keeping track of the funds and expending them in the most efficient manner possible. Please take time to check out the upstairs dance studio and stairwell and hallway painting in the upstairs





VOLUNTEER CORNER

HOUSE REPORT – Mary Siddell

What an exciting time for our House Projects. Our grant affords us a once-in-a-life-time opportunity to renovate our clubhouse. The interior of the clubhouse is being painted, walls and ceilings are being repaired, and the ceiling paint will be lightened up. The upstairs painting has been completed and the downstairs painting will begin soon. Davis Co. has been contacted about beginning the renovation of our staircase used as a fire escape. The 2001 earthquake damaged this staircase and we finally have the funds to repair it. We have two different estimates for our Let In the Light project coming in. Once this project is started the electrician will begin work on a new electrical panel, upgrades to our outlets and lights in the meeting room, and wiring for our new technology. We had a presentation at the Board Meeting from Walt Bowen with his recommendations for speakers and tech equipment to help us attract renters for meetings and presentations. All in all, it is a busy time for us.

SOCK COLLECTION REPORT – Carol Valley

The Woman's Club of Olympia set a goal to collect and donate 500 pairs of socks this year for the Little Red Schoolhouse. While we have collected over 1000 pairs so far, the majority of those socks were collected by outside sources. To date, our club has collected 226 pairs toward our goal.



533 pair socks > District Meeting
 313 pair socks > High School Sock Drive
 226 pair socks > Woman's Club Members
1072 pair socks > Total

Let's reach our club goal by purchasing and donating socks. Sizes from child to adult can be accepted (grade school to high school sizes). We can do it!!!!

SCHOLARSHIP REPORT – Priscilla Quinton

The Scholarship committee received 20 applications for Woman's Club scholarships and are in the process of reviewing them in order to select the winners for 2020 funds. This is a difficult task as each of the applications presents need and demonstrates the students' qualifications.

REPORT WRITING -- Mary Siddell

February 15 is the deadline for us to submit our reports for 2019 to GFWC. I am busy compiling your volunteer hours and donations. I appreciate all who have reported this information to me. I am humbled by all that you do in the name of The Woman's Club of Olympia. These reports quantify all the support we give as members of GFWC to our community. Please come to the February General Meeting on Feb. 4 for an update on my progress and to answer any questions I have about projects. If you haven't reported and wish to, please send an email or phone message to me at msiddell@comcast.net or 360 790 8855

EDUCATION & LIBRARIES -- Mary Siddell

The ESO Book Club will meet at 1:30 on Monday, January 27 at the clubhouse and Dody Saeger brought treats! All are welcome to come and talk about the books you are reading on the last Monday of the month.. Our lending library has a wide variety of book selections in it. Please offer us any suggestions you have for improving this wonderful gem. Bring any book donations to our meetings and they will be put to good use. If you are interested in working with students in classrooms, Mary Siddell will be happy to connect you to schools. It is a very rewarding experience.

ART COMMITTEE REPORT – Anita Quintana

The Art contest this year was a big success. As we had 34 entries from high school students in Thurston County. Myself and Nancy Broach were at the Woman's club on Jan 7th, 2020 from 3 - 7pm to collect the artwork from the students. We received from 9 entries from River Ridge High School 1 entry from Tenino High School, 2 entries from Avanti High School and 22 entries from Olympia High School. Judging start around 5 p.m. and it was very hard this year. They were all good, but we narrowed it down to 10 entries. Even with 10, it was hard and after going back and forth, we decided the following:

FIRST PLACE: Maya Chermack - Olympia High School

SECOND PLACE: Elise Caddy – Olympia High School

THIRD PLACE: Whitney Sederberg - Olympia High school

Since all the entries were so good, we decided to have a Fourth place winner. Myself and Nancy will each give \$7.50 prize of \$15.00 and this honor will go to Olivia Vazquez of Olympia High School. Additionally, we decided on two Honorary Awards with no monetary prizes going to Laura Neat of River Ridge High School and Layla Reda of Olympia High School.

All Art entries will be displayed in our May Meeting and at the same time Awards given to the Winners.



FACTS ABOUT GFWC YOU MAY NOT KNOW... --

Sandra Groves

Traditionally, the members of The Woman's Club of Olympia have not been very involved with the national organization of GFWC. Linda Wolfe and I have both been involved and encourage each of you to take a look at the benefits of membership.

1. **Belonging:** Belonging to a larger organization has advantages, not only in the extended friendships and fellowship you can enjoy with other members, but also in a sense of belonging to a larger picture of how women have and can make a difference in the world.
2. **Benefits:** Did you know there are benefits and perks to belonging to GFWC? There are! Go to the GFWC.org website and click on MEMBERSHIP to be directed to topics related to membership and benefits. Click on MEMBER DISCOUNTS to see these businesses GFWC partners with to be able to afford members group discounts.
 - ✓ GFWC's latest membership benefit is the GFWC credit card. This Visa Platinum Rewards Card allows you to earn points for purchases, balance transfers, and interest payments. You can redeem your points for gift cards, travel options with no blackout dates, event tickets, merchandise, and more. **There is no annual fee.** Even better—you'll be supporting the Federation each time you make a purchase. In addition, for each new credit card that is used to make a purchase within 90 days, GFWC will receive \$50.

I personally have made the effort to get to know GFWC along with my membership in the Woman's Club of Olympia, both on the District and State level. Last year I was able to participate in the international convention in Austin, Texas. I now have friends all across the country. But most importantly, the friends I have made at the District and State level continue as I am able to work with them and participate in the projects they are involved in. Getting to know members in other clubs in Washington State has been fun, educational, and has provided me a sense of being a part of something larger. I hope you will consider participating in upcoming District and State events as they happen. Both Linda Wolfe and I would be happy to shepherd you to participating with us. You won't be disappointed and you may even make lifetime friendships!

GENERAL MEMBERSHIP MEETING MINUTES JANUARY 7, 2020

The meeting was called to order at 12:06 by President Linda Wolfe followed by the Pledge of Allegiance and a group reading of the Collect. Guests were introduced to include Beth Ward who saw the house on the Historical Society Christmas Tour, Ann McKinney who moved here in June to be close to family, and Laurel from Fred Meyer. Linda Bishop was welcomed, as well.

Linda thanked Fred Meyer for their participation in the chili drive to support Homeless Backpacks. They collected 2,047 cans of chili for the holidays.

We began our meeting with a presentation by Sam Wotipka from Washington State Parks. He shared the story of the Federation Forest State Park. Old growth forests were vanishing at a quick rate in the early 1900s. Esther Maltby, the 16th president of GFWC-WA launched a campaign to save trees in February 1926. The result was the purchase of old growth forest land, first by Snoqualmie Pass, and later on the White River 15 miles east of Buckley. This land became a state park. In May, GFWC members gather at the park to help with maintenance, preparing it for the summer season. Money is currently being raised to build a new Interpretive Center.

MINUTES

The minutes from the December 3, 2019 General Meeting were approved as written.

TREASURER'S REPORT:

Sandra Groves provided the Balance Sheet as of January 6, 2020 and a Profit and Loss Comparison from October to December, 2018, 2019. Of great interest is our rental income. In this period of 2018 our rental income was over \$6,000, compared to 2019 which was \$4,400. Linda requested members consider joining a marketing committee to raise money for rentals and scholarships. Sandra said our books are up to date and balanced.

GRANT MONEY:

Sandra Groves has submitted bills to the State for reimbursement from the grant to include the purchase of tables and the first invoice from our painter. She encouraged us to visit upstairs and notice the dance room, the bathrooms, and the halls. Cracks are sealed and plastered and painting is complete. Everything looks great.

NOMINATING COMMITTEE:

Anita Quintana, Sandy Peltola and Margo Anderson volunteered to be on the nominating committee for the election of officers of WCO who would begin their term of office in June, 2020. Each candidate must agree to a 2 year term. The slate of officers will be announced at the April General Meeting, they will be voted into office at the May General Meeting, and they will begin their term at the June General Meeting. Thank you to these volunteers for participating in this important role.

HOME LIFE:

Carol Valley thanked us for all the sock donations which total 1,038 as of this meeting. Our goal for the year was 500. Let's keep collecting socks for The Little Red Schoolhouse.

REMEMBRANCE:

Dody Saeger reminded us to please let her know if a member is going through a difficult time. She will send a card from us offering our support. Recently she sent a card to Diana Davis.

HOUSE:

Linda Wolfe recognized Sandra Groves for her hard work in taking down all the Christmas decorations by herself. We all thanked her. Sandra Groves gave us an update on the interior painting project. The second floor of our clubhouse is finished and our painter will begin the main floor painting next. Linda Wolfe will be

purchasing new chairs from Costco to replace our current meeting chairs. We have two companies meeting with us next week to hear about our Let in The Light Project and provide proposals for our consideration. We have four total companies providing estimates. Our audio visual equipment is being updated, as well. We will have a presentation at the next Board Meeting by Walt Bowen finalizing his suggestions.

EDUCATION:

Our ESO book club will meet at the clubhouse on Monday, January 27 at 1:30. We always love new book selections so bring any donations to this meeting. If you are teaching classes, attending classes, or working with children in an educational capacity, please report this. We are no longer collecting labels for Education as they have gone digital.

MEMBERSHIP:

Ann Finn announced that Linda Bishop has applied for membership and will be voted on at the January Board Meeting. We will initiate her at the February General Meeting

PROGRAMS:

Priscilla Quinton has invited Mary Jo Shaw, author of *From Convent to Catwalk*, to speak at our General Meeting on February 4.

TEA COMMITTEE:

Sandy Peltola thanked Callie Wilson and Sandra Groves for the lovely tea and treats they provided for our meeting today. A Luncheon Fundraiser will be held at the February General Meeting. Donations are \$10. Mary Siddell, Ann Finn, Sandy Peltola and Pat Keith will host. Please don't forget to RSVP so we have an accurate count of attendees.

WASHINGTON STATE WOMEN'S COMMISSION

Linda Wolfe announced that this group is planning events to commemorate Women's Suffrage in August, 2020. We have been asked to participate by having a booth at the event. Linda suggested we also hold an open house at the Abigail Stuart House. WCO members were some of the first Women's Suffrage supporters in Washington State.

EVENING GROUP

Katrina Wynkoop-Simmons announced that the Evening Group is organizing an event titled Wellness for Women Over 50. A panel of Health Care Specialists will present to us and answer questions. Please come on January 8th at 7pm to participate in this informative evening. Bring your friends.

ARTS

Anita Quintana and Nancy Broach will be at the clubhouse today from 3-6 to accept entries to our high school art contest. They will judge the art and choose winners.

DATES TO REMEMBER:

Homeless Back Packs packing party is Wednesday February 5 from 1-3 at The Columbia Bank

50/50 RAFFLE: Priscilla Quinton took home \$19 as winner of the 50/50 Raffle.

The next General Meeting will be held on February 4, 2020 at 12:00. It is a luncheon.

The meeting was adjourned at 1:51.

Submitted by Mary Siddell, Secretary



2020 Woman's Club of Olympia Member Name _____
Community Service Volunteer Hours and Contributions

Enter your total hours and contributions. We will report these projects to the State GFWC. Bring this form to the monthly meeting, email to msiddell@comcast.net or mail to Mary Siddell, 7723 Cooper Point Rd. NW, Olympia WA 98502.

PROJECT	NOTES	VOLUNTEER HOURS	DOLLARS DONATED	IN KIND DONATIONS
ARTS & CULTURE Attended concerts or plays Arts Walk				
ENVIRONMENT Federation Forest Recycling Gardening				
EDUCATION & LIBRARIES Scholarship Program Attended Classes Little Red Schoolhouse Volunteer with kids Labels for Education Homeless Backpacks ESO or Reading Teach Classes				
HEALTH & WELLNESS Food Bank Baby Layette and Blankets; diapers Period of Purple Crying (purple hats) Exercise				
CIVIC ENGAGEMENT & OUTREACH Friendly Waters of the World Fisher House Preservation of Abigail Stuart House				
MEMBERSHIP Yearbook Tea Initiation				
FUNDRAISING Holiday Bazaar				
COMMUNICATION AND PUBLIC RELATIONS				
WOMEN'S HISTORY				
LEADERSHIP				
GFWC SIGNATURE PROJECTS Domestic violence awareness and prevention Relay for Life				