



GFWC Alabama Clubwoman

President's Message

What a fabulous time was had at the 2018 AFWC Holiday Open House! So many thanks to those who made this event such a success. Adelaide Cape, HQ Special Events Co-Chairman, did such a wonderful job organizing with many extra details to make it so special, from polishing all the silver and using the real glassware to not giving up on getting the beautiful battenburg lace tablecloth properly dry cleaned and personally ironing it even more to stretch the lace out.

Thanks to so many other dedicated Foster House members who came to decorate the building until every room and space had someone's personal touch. Even the front porch had freshly planted Norfolk pines and purple and gold wreaths. The tree was covered with gorgeous sparkling evening purses and hats. Many pictures have been posted on Facebook for your enjoyment.

Then there were all the delicious refreshments provided by clubwomen. Adelaide had to guard the table from those of us who wanted to sample. Leftovers were donated to Jessie's Place. I also had the great honor of chartering our newest club – Cahaba Valley Women of GFWC. Special times with special people.

Your President has been continuing her travels and adventures across the state and beyond! Highlights of just the first two weeks in December include:

- 1) Being a milk carton – Yes, to promote the Heifer School Milk Project, this officer dressed up in a milk carton costume, along with a cookie, at the GFWC duMidi Woman's Club meeting. Monies were collected in milk cartons on the tables. Those who donated got cookies. Mrs. Claus even helped out. FYI: For \$72 a year, milk can be provided to a child at school for a year.
- 2) Once in a lifetime trip taken to GFWC HQ. How many can say you took a red eye out of Huntsville at 6:15 am and returned in the same day at 9 pm? Well, eight of us can! Four clubs were represented – GFWC duMidi Woman's Club, GFWC Legacy, GFWC Huntsville Woman's Club and GFWC Alabama Collinsville Study Club. See the Washington, DC, Trip article written by Sherry Stutts for all the details.
- 3) Quest Club of Wadley invited your President to their Christmas Party. I picked up Geneva Messer, Past State President, on the way where we were treated to a wonderful meal with Bingo! Of course there was a loud Whoo Hoo Bingo! Those who are on Facebook may have read about Geneva's and my adventure on the way home on very dark, secluded country roads with no GPS signal. If you haven't, ask about the story next time you see us.
- 4) Also, the Woman's Club of Saraland invited your President to ride their Christmas Parade float!!! I've always wanted to do that so I jumped at the chance. Road trip south, over the river and through the woods....oh, no snow but lots of rain. The weather cleared up for the parade and we had lots of fun. Another thing off the bucket list.

All these adventures in just 2 weeks. I'm having a blast while on this journey of serving as your President.

It is hoped that all of you made joyous memories through the holiday season. As we welcome 2019, let's take pride in Living the Volunteer Spirit, enjoy our Unity in Diversity, and Celebrate 125 Years of Changing Lives Through Scholarships.

Christine Steele, President



Christine Steele
2018-2020 President
GFWC Alabama

Dates of Importance

1/21: National Day of Service

2/1: Club Reports Due!

2/15: Writing Contest Deadline

2/23: North District Spring Meeting - Huntsville

3/9: Central District Spring Meeting - Hoover

3/23: South District Spring Meeting

4/12: Fascinators, Federation and Fun Fashion Show by Dillard's at Valley Hill Country Club - more information to come

GFWC Alabama History Highlights

By Jane Brooks

...continuing in our history archives:

The first AFWC flower was the pansy with the color being violet.

The first project was Literacy, then Music and Art.

Purchase AFWC History on Gfwcalabama.org website, Resources page



President's Project: New Statewide Scholarships

AFWC Board members, Clubs, Club Members, In Honor of, In Memory of and District donations combined with President's Project Pins sold and \$2.50 per member President's Project dues, brings a total balance at the end of 2018 of \$15,104.50. Be proud that "You are the Change as we Purse-sue Donations. The 2019 State Convention Program will list all who have given donations. Keep working on your degree as we go into 2019!

Grateful thanks—

Sherry Stutts, Co-Chair

GFWC Alabama's District "Saturdays Down South Kick Off" A Winner!

By Randy Matthews, President-Elect

Happy New Year GFWC Alabama! A new year brings excitement and enthusiasm to everyone! What resolution did GFWC Alabama clubwomen make at the stroke of midnight on January 1, 2019? Continuing the mission of GFWC by exemplary service to communities around the state and throughout the world was among the Top 5 resolutions made by each clubwoman in GFWC Alabama without exception. To facilitate clubs throughout Alabama in accomplishing these enthusiastic and award winning goals, this edition of the Alabama Clubwoman is aimed at assisting clubs find great programs and projects, in each of the GFWC Community Service programs and the GFWC 7 Grand Initiatives.

To assist clubs in furthering the mission of GFWC, GFWC Alabama's District "Saturdays Down South" will continue with GFWC Alabama Spring District meetings being planned for Spring 2019.

Kick off will begin on February 23, 2019, as GFWC Alabama North District Director Gloria Stevens and her North District Board of Directors welcome clubwomen to Huntsville. Director Stevens will again prepare Alabama clubwomen for the "W" with a day of Federation fun and education. GFWC Alabama Clubwomen will be in Roanoke for spring training on March 9, 2019. GFWC Alabama Central District Director Cynthia Hopkins and the talented coaches she has assembled will prepare and excite clubwomen to continue the winning tradition established by GFWC Alabama Federations of Women's Clubs almost 125 years ago. GFWC Alabama South District Director Mary Ann Baltzer and the team in South District will round out spring training on March 23, 2019.

The GFWC Alabama District meetings will offer all the latest information on President Christine Steele's President's Project, the GFWC Community Service Programs, the GFWC 7 Grand Initiatives, and so much more! Clubs and clubwomen will be awarded for exemplary service, great food will be served, and Federation history will be made at the 2019 GFWC Alabama Spring District meetings.

To facilitate a friendly competition a \$125 cash prize will be given to the District who has the highest percentage of "purse-onalties" attending the GFWC Alabama "Saturdays Down South" this Spring. More information on the "Best District Purse-onality Award" can be found on the GFWC Alabama website and the GFWC Alabama Federation of Women's Clubs Facebook page.

Clubs are encouraged to sponsor programs and projects in each of the GFWC CSPs and the 7 Grand Initiatives, which are:

- 1) That 1,000 clubs will do a service project on Martin Luther King Day, January 21, 2019;
- 2) That members will plant 1,000 trees on Arbor Day;
- 3) That members will donate 1,000 pairs of used shoes to Soles 4 Souls or Nike "reuse-a-shoe";
- 4) That members donate 1,000 Dr. Seuss books by March of 2020;
- 5) That 1,000 members join the Legislative Action Center;
- 6) That members do 1,000 projects devoted to women in the military; and
- 7) That 1,000 members donate \$1,000 to the Capital Campaign.

Reporting: The Culmination of a Wonderful Club Year

By Jan Greer, First Vice President

GFWC Alabama Clubs have diligently planned and are implementing outstanding programs and projects which have and will benefit communities throughout the state and around the world. Clubs and club members work tirelessly in preparation and implementation of award worthy activities. The exciting climax to these efforts comes from clubs officially reporting and submitting a brief Narrative and Statistical Form to GFWC Alabama. **The GFWC Alabama Reporting time frame from January 1, 2018 through December 31, 2018 has now ended and the exciting season of REPORTING has begun.**

GFWC Alabama has two new forms for reporting activities during this period. They are:

- ⇒ [2018 GFWC Alabama Federation of Women's Club STATISTICAL Form](#)
- ⇒ [2018 GFWC Alabama Club NARRATIVE Reporting Form](#)

Clubs do not have to submit written Narrative reports on activities however, narratives are necessary in competing for awards. Narratives are also an excellent means of keeping a club's history! So ladies, gather your pens and paper and let's shine a light on your club's "purse-nality" this year.

These forms are both available online on the Resources page at www.gfwcalabama.org and are exclusive to the Alabama State Federation as they contain line items not found in the GFWC form.

Even if GFWC Alabama Clubs do not fill out NARRATIVE forms on all programs/projects, they should fill out the STATISTICAL information on EACH activity the club has completed. This ensures that all volunteer statistics in all areas will be accurately counted.

Two resource publications for clubs to use for accuracy and ease of reporting are:

- Reporting, Awards, Contests, and Scholarships (RACS) found in the Yearbook
- GFWC Alabama Writing Reports found online at www.gfwcalabama.org

Both of these publications were revised in July of 2018 and are excellent resources in answering questions and guiding clubs through the Reporting process. Should you need any more information, contact Jan Greer at 205-746-2076 or jcgreerafwc@gmail.com.

Important Notes of Interest:

- Scholarships – Not all clubs have been reporting their Scholarship Projects. GFWC Alabama has a separate category on the Statistical Reporting Form and would like an accurate account of how much and how many Scholarships GFWC Alabama Clubs support. Please fill out a Narrative Reporting Form entitled "Club Scholarships" with this information which can be a one sentence descriptive Narrative.
- Scholarships are also one of the current administration's President's Special Project. Projects (ex. \$2.50 per member and other cash donations) supporting GFWC Alabama President's Special Project are also to be reported separately on the Statistical Reporting Form and in a separate Narrative Reporting Form entitled "President's Project – Scholarships".
- GFWC Alabama History is another focus for the current administration's President's Special Project. Projects and programs supporting the second phase of the GFWC Alabama President's Special Project are also to be reported separately on the Statistical Reporting Form and in a separate Narrative Reporting Form entitled "President's Project – GFWC Alabama History".
- Know your club's official membership number based on how much dues were reported to GFWC Alabama. ALL dues should be mailed no later than February 1, 2019.
- When listing Narrative Reports, it is a good idea to list most successful, new and creative projects first.
- Make sure you know Reporting Terminology, i.e. Dollars Donated, In-Kind Dollars, Dollars Spent, Dollars Raised and where/why these are reported differently. Consult all resources already mentioned for further details.

Reporting Highlights

Mail or email reports by 2/1/19 to:

Jan Greer
GFWC Alabama First Vice President, 2082 Forest Lakes Lane
Sterrett, AL 35147
jcgreerafwc@gmail.com
205-746-7046

North District Clubs also send a copy of your report to:
Gloria Stevens
801 8th Ave. SE
Decatur, AL 35601
paperdol@bellsouth.net

Central District Clubs also send a copy of your report to:
Cynthia Hopkins
037 Hastings Circle
Birmingham, AL 35242
cherryck01@aol.com

South District Clubs also send a copy of your report to:
Mary Ann Baltzer
19270 Greeno Road #61
Fairhope, AL 36532
baltzerm@bellsouth.net

Reporting (continued) - Due 2/1/19

Reporting Awards

General Clubs \$150.00

Juniorette Clubs \$ 75.00

District/At-Large Clubs
\$ 75.00



Reports must be postmarked by February 1, 2019, to be accepted. Reports can also be emailed to Jan Greer and time stamped no later than 11:59 p.m. on February 1, 2019. Reports which are emailed can be in PDF form or Word doc form.

If you or your club has any questions or requires assistance in reporting, please do not hesitate to contact me. Your GFWC Alabama Leadership Team looks forward to the opportunity to read the outstanding programs and projects achieved by clubs this year.

To reward clubs for their reporting efforts, GFWC Alabama will reward three lucky clubs/districts a cash prize. To win the reward, clubs/districts who write Narrative reports will be entered once for each Narrative submitted to your GFWC Alabama First Vice President no later than February 1, 2019. At the 2019 annual State Convention three lucky winners will be drawn randomly to win the reward of:

General Clubs	\$150.00
Juniorette Clubs	\$ 75.00
District/At-Large Clubs	\$ 75.00

The more Narratives a club/district submits the greater the chance to win! So make sure that your club is entered for the reward!

GFWC Alabama Membership: Celebrating Membership with Diverse Purse- nalities and Hat-titudes

By Becky Vansant, Second Vice President

Growing our membership and sharing the Federation experience has been one of GFWC Alabama's primary objectives for this administration. At the beginning of this administration, the membership committee set the goal of establishing six new clubs during this administration - a new General and a new Juniorette club in each of our three districts. We are thrilled to welcome two new Federated clubs this year!

The GFWC Alabama River Region Women's Club was chartered at the GFWC Alabama Leadership Workshop on July 21st in Montgomery at the Alabama Judicial Building. In order to support the new club in its first service project, attendees from across the state were asked to bring items to



fill 100 smaller totes bags to benefit Mary Ellen's Hearth at the Nellie Burge Community Center - a help and healing place for homeless women and children. Not only were 100 bags filled, the response was so overwhelming that the GFWC Alabama River Region Women's Club was able to donate items to numerous homeless shelters throughout the Montgomery area.

The Cahaba Valley Women of GFWC club was chartered at the GFWC Alabama Holiday Open House on December 1st at our beautiful, historic State Headquarters in Birmingham. Once again, club women from across the state generously supported this new club in its first service project by donating items to SafeHouse, a women's shelter serving Shelby County. This club quickly followed up with its first club fundraiser - pet photos with Santa.



As you can see, GFWC Alabama has been actively sharing the Federation message, and we are looking forward to chartering even more new clubs in 2019. It is our understanding that there may be two new Juniorette clubs next year!

Treasury Notes

By Karol Kaputcka, Treasurer

Hope that all of you have a very Merry Christmas and Happy New Year!!

I want to express a special **Thank You** to all of the clubs for sending me their club dues and club roster by the November 15th deadline. It makes my job so much easier when we all work together. Hope each club received a yearbook. If you did not, let me know and if you have not paid the \$20 for the yearbook sent to you, you can give it to me at February board meeting or mail to me. We are excited to have two new clubs this year and sorry to hear that one club has de-federated. We have a net increase of eight members from this time last year and I know you are working hard to add more new members.

2018 - 2020 President's Project: Celebrating 125 Years of Changing Lives through Scholarships

Raising funds for these AFWC Scholarships:

- Past Presidents'
- Juniorette
- Kitty Stone Graduate
- Sue Hester Special Education
- Jacksonville State University International House
- Miss Alabama
- Distinguished Young Woman
- AFWC Military Veteran Scholarship
- AFWC Jane Wright Scholarship
- AFWC Cynthia Geis Scholarship

You be the Change as we Purse-sue Donations!

The 2018-2020 President's Pin (pictured above right) is available for \$10 on our [GFWC Alabama Marketplace](#) website with proceeds benefiting the scholarship fund.

2/1: Deadline for mailing member names and dues collected since 11/15

Checks are to be made out to AFWC and mailed to:
Karol Kaputcka
14007 Green Way Park Cir SE
Huntsville, AL 35803



Choose your donation level!

Associate Degree	\$25
Bachelor Degree	\$125
Masters Degree	\$525
Doctoral Degree	\$1250

Checks are to be made out to AFWC, designate *President's Project*, and mailed to:

Karol Kaputcka
14007 Green Way Park Cir SE
Huntsville, AL 35803

News from your CSP Chairmen!

ARTS

Brigiete Carey, Chair



Please see the guidelines for the GFWC and GFWC-Alabama Arts Contests on the [GFWC website](#) and the [GFWC-Alabama websites](#).

WRITING Contests Deadline is Feb.15, 2019.

Mail to: Brigiete Carey, GFWC-AL Arts CSP Chairman 2018-2020, 812 Giles Dr NE, Huntsville, AL 35801-1540

Please refer to GFWC Awards Guidelines and **submit a GFWC Creative Arts Waiver** for each of the following categories:

1. GFWC Member Short Story
2. GFWC Member Poetry
3. Youth Short Story
4. Youth Poetry

Submissions will be judged using the Six Traits of Writing:

1. Ideas—the main message.
2. Organization—the internal structure of the piece that shows the pattern and sequence to fit a central idea.
3. Voice—the personal tone and flavor of the author's message that gives the sense that a real person is talking to us.
4. Word Choice—the vocabulary a writer chooses to convey meaning with a rich, colorful, precise language.
5. **Sentence Fluency**- the rhythm and flow of the language, the sound of word patterns, and the way in which the writing plays to the ear.
6. **Conventions**- the mechanical correctness, including spelling, punctuation, capitalization, grammar/usage, and paragraphing.

March is Youth Art Month. Join with your local schools and art museums to encourage youth in the arts. Many clubs sponsor and/or judge youth arts contests in art and writing.

Photography and Creative Arts Contests (including Club Scrapbooks) will be judged at the GFWC-AL Convention in April.

CONSERVATION

Ellen Clack, Chair



Greetings from your Conservation CSP Chairman! The December holidays are over, and it's 2019! I hope your holidays were great, filled with family, friends, and fun!

One of GFWC International President Mary Ellen Brock's 7 Grand Initiatives is to plant 1,000 trees on Arbor Day. I want to share some information I've learned in my quest to broaden my knowledge of Arbor Day and the impact this day makes on our planet. I hope that your club will be inspired to participate in planting trees on Arbor Day after learning more about the importance that trees play in our ability to live healthy lives.

The Spanish village of Mondoñedo held the first documented arbor plantation festival in the world organized by its mayor in 1594. A humble granite marker and a bronze plate recall the event. Additionally, the small Spanish village of Villanueva de la Sierra held the first modern Arbor Day, an initiative launched in 1805 by the local priest with the enthusiastic support of the entire population.

In the United States, Arbor Day was founded in 1872 by J. Sterling Morton in Nebraska City, Nebraska. On April 10, 1872, an estimated one million trees were planted. By the 1920s, each state in the United States had passed public laws that stipulated a certain day to be observed as Arbor Day. National Arbor Day is celebrated every year on the last Friday in April. The customary observance is to plant a tree.

In 1887, Alabama Governor Thomas Seay signed the state's first Arbor Day Proclamation. This tradition of a governor's proclamation continued through 1975 when the Birmingham Beautification Board, the State Garden Club, the Alabama Forestry Commission, and the State Board of Education collaborated with the State Legislature to pass a legislative act designating the last full week in February as Arbor Week. The Alabama Forestry Commission is responsible for the celebration of Arbor Week. Go to http://www.forestry.alabama.gov/arbor_day.aspx for more information about ways to celebrate Arbor Week in Alabama.

The Arbor Day Foundation (www.arborday.org) is a 501(c)(3) nonprofit conservation and education organization whose mission is to inspire people to plant, nurture, and celebrate trees. I urge you to visit their website and Facebook page to learn more about Arbor Day. There is a wealth of information on the benefits of trees that will amaze you.

'Twas the Time for Reports

'Twas the time for report writing and all through the State,
Clubs were preparing to report their projects so great!

The State Chairmen were nestled, all snug in their beds,
While visions of reports danced in their heads.
And I as your President had also settled down,
And was dreaming of receiving reports from Clubs all around.

When, what to my wondering eyes should appear,
But Club members, ready to report for the year.
More rapid than shooting stars, the members they came,
And I whistled and shouted and called them by name.

"Now members of the North District, Central and South District too,
You've served your communities; you've answered what, when, where and who,
And how much money was raised, every single dime,
So report, report, report one report at a time!!!

Whether full Narrative reports or simply the Statistical Form filled with glee;
The projects and statistics reported make a difference you see.
A wink of their eyes and a twist of their heads,
Soon gave me to know I nothing to dread.

The club presidents and chairs they held in their hands,
With the Minutes that told of the accomplishments so grand!

My eyes, how they twinkled, my hopes they were lifted,
For I knew I was working with women so gifted.

They spoke not a word, but went straight to their work,
And filled out the reports, then turned with a jerk.
And feeling such pride from their written prose,
And giving a nod, from their chairs they arose.

And they heard me exclaim as they faded out of my dream,
"Clubwomen are great, you're the best, you're supreme!

"Tie One On"

Sherry Stutts

The 2018 fundraiser for the GFWC Installation 2024 was the "Tie One On" apron sales during the year at different events. On behalf of Chair Emily Smith and committee members Suellen Brazil, Cynthia Geis, Karol Kapustka, Gloria Stevens, Geneva Messer, Ellen Clack, Cathy Barker, Jackie Clark, Caroline Hollowell and myself, we extend to you, our federated Sisters, many special thanks for the aprons provided and purchased. Together we raised \$2,554.



Below: AFWC Christmas tree at State HQ, decorated with purses & hats



WASHINGTON, DC TRIP

Sherry Stutts

8 Who Did!

After many years of thinking about it, we finally made the trip to International Headquarters; only President Christine had been there before. Our inspiration to do it this 2018 year was the small Christmas Tree that each state was asked to send. We just HAD to go see ours since so many AFWC members gave pins to decorate it. Once the decision was made, thanks to Karol and her travel agent, the long awaited plan was finalized

I do believe we were Santa's 8 Reindeer since we bagged up 50 Dr. Seuss books to take to GFWC President Mary Ellen Brock as gifts to children. We even had such extreme foggy weather we could have used Rudolph to guide our way and it caused an hour delay in leaving. We caught the eye of others at 5:30am in the airport with our bright "I Love to Read" bags and were able to start an early day with Elevator Speeches. We boarded 2 by 2, so 8 was the perfect number to go. Washington here we come!

The decision was made to ride the Metro and we did team huddle around the ticket vendor as we plotted out our route to 1734 N Street. The Station Manager, very nice man, thought we needed assistance, but actually just enjoyed hearing our enthusiasm....right? The Metro ride was a first for some of us. We had several blocks to walk in 30 degree weather, so we arrived at Headquarters in Great Holiday Spirit. We were presented with a 1734 Key pin that only those who have visited Headquarters get and we will wear proudly. Headquarters is such a beautiful building and now we understand more clearly Capital Campaign. The small Christmas Trees were so much fun to look at; Diversity for sure. Alabama's Tree was voted best by us 8 and lots of pictures were taken. We were honored that President Mary Ellen Brock was there and we met and visited with her in the office. We then had a group picture taken in front of the big Headquarters Christmas Tree as we presented the first phase of GFWC du Midi Woman's Club's support of the 2018-2020 4th Grand Initiative, donating Dr. Seuss Books. What a special moment for all of us.

We continued the tour of Headquarters being especially awed by the Archives climate controlled room where we viewed boxes that held our 128 years of GFWC history. We went to the actual GFWC Market Place offices and shopped; it was amazingly small and efficiently organized. President Mary Ellen and the staff were most gracious to us and we will forever remember this day trip.

Lunch reservations at the Iron Gate, next door, was a welcome rest from an all ready busy day. Blue Catfish, Greek donuts and some much needed coffee gave us our second wind. We headed out to tour and ran into a glitch that some of the museums were closed on Tuesday. We did go to the Women's Democratic Party building to see some art and quickly decided to get into two cabs and go see the large outside White House Christmas Tree and the smaller State trees around the base. We were more than a little bit disappointed in the tree, agreeing that the GFWC, AFWC and the Airport trees were prettier. We posed for a traditional Christine selfie picture with the White House in the background. It was good that we went because we wound up in the Tourist Bureau Building and had the honor of being able to sign the condolence book for 41st President George Bush; very meaningful to all of us.

Who needs Rudolph & his red nose when we have REDHEADS to guide us along the way? As we headed for the Metro, screaming sirens, blue lights, motorcycles, police cars and two American flagged limousines and Secret Service SUVs passed by as Vice President Pence and entourage headed for the White House. We waved enthusiastically and I'm sure he noted the 8 and waved back. Metro back, security searches passed, gate found and homeward bound.

What a marvelous and fun day to share and remember with each of you! It is through Federation we bonded in Fellowship & Friendship. The 8th Day of Christmas is "8 Maids a-milking", but I'm envisioning "8 Maids a-traveling".

Washington, DC Trip Pictures



Above, L-R: GFWC Alabama Tree on display at GFWC Headquarters in DC, Front Door of GFWC HQ, Christmas Tree @ GFWC HQ
Below, L-R: the 8 GFWC AL Reindeer presenting Dr. Seuss books, Various State Trees Decorating GFWC HQ Mantle



GFWC Legacy

Becky Vasant

November and December have been busy months for GFWC Legacy as we support needs within our Huntsville/Madison County, Alabama community.

In support of the GFWC Grand Initiative to support female veterans, GWFC Legacy (Huntsville, AL) elected to partner with Still Serving Veterans to supply two-week's worth of groceries to female veterans in need of assistance. Still Serving Veterans Executive Director Paulette Risher attended our November club meeting and gave us an overview of the Still Serving Veterans program and accepted the club's donation of more than \$500 worth of groceries for distribution to clients in need.



Another of the GFWC Grand Initiative's is the planting of 1000 trees by Federated club women on Arbor Day. Unfortunately, Arbor Day is not the best time of the year for tree planting in Alabama! So our club coordinated with Operation Green Team whose mission is to keep Huntsville beautiful and sustainable with litter prevention initiatives, waste reduction and recycling programs, landscape enhancements and environmental field trips and programs at the J.D. & Annie S. Hays Nature Preserve and the Goldsmith-Schiffman Wildlife Sanctuary. Operation Green Team also supports the Mayor's Annual Tree Planting Initiative in early November. In addition to donating \$100 to Operation Green Team for the planting of saplings, some of our club members braced the first bitterly cold morning of our winter season to plant trees on November 10th. We were even featured on the City's television station - <https://www.facebook.com/OperationGreenTeam/videos/560433607734617/UzpfSTExNzQ1NjA5Mzc6Vks6MjE2MjU4MjMyNzA5Nzc1Mw/>



Additionally, GFWC Legacy supported Second Mile Development's Price for Parents Program by bringing new toys to our club's Holiday Social. With donations from individuals and organizations such as GFWC Legacy, each Christmas approximately \$10,000 in new toys are sold at a reduced price. Second Mile Development sells them (they aren't given) to parents who can afford to pay a small price. For those with limited income, they offer volunteer opportunities within the store. Payment for their work is given in the form of credit used to purchase these new Christmas gifts for their children. Parents are blessed with the gift of giving to their children, and the children are blessed with a Christmas gift of their parent's choice. This tradition is built in dignity, not dependency. Not only did our club members donate toys to this endeavor, we recruited some of our grandchildren to help load the toys into the truck - we believe in starting our little ones out in volunteer service early!

GFWC duMidi

Right: President Christine Steele at a GFWC duMidi Woman's Club meeting dressed up as a milk carton to promote the Heifer School Milk Project.



District & Club News (continued)

GFWC South Baldwin Woman's Club

Marsha Andrews

Shirley Looney, chaired our "Scarves for the Elderly". She was in contact with our local home health nurse and was told the average income of the clients are \$750-\$1200/month. The home health nurse carries food in her car as many patients do not have food every day. Our animal hospital donated dog and cat food for pets. Members, neighbors, and friends donated canned foods, hygiene products, warm clothing and blankets. The most critical need was space heaters. One client had no heat. Our members will continue to collect thru the year to help those in need.

Columbia Southern University adopted Diversicare of Foley Healthcare & Rehab Center. Laine Andrews, club member and employee of CSU suggested GFWC South Baldwin Woman's Club adopt residents. All 127 residents were adopted and many donations made to the activity director for new residents as they transition. Our Christmas party and gift delivery by Santa was Dec. 15th.

GFWC South Baldwin Woman's Club wishes each of you a happy and healthy NEW YEAR'S!

GFWC Serenity Juniors

GFWC Serenity Juniors have been busy little elves during the past month. With the graduation of more than half of our members last summer, we've been working to grow our membership this year. We are small,



but mighty and adding members each month. During the past month, we have participated in Operation Christmas Child by purchasing the items and preparing the shoe boxes for nine international recipients as well as donating the funds to cover the shipment of the boxes.

We have also worked as volunteers at the Bailey Cove Friends of the Library "Cookies and Milk" with Santa event serving cookies and milk to the children and



GFWC Woman's Club of Saraland

Right: Saraland club members and friends riding on their festive holiday parade float.



GFWC: 7 GRAND INITIATIVES

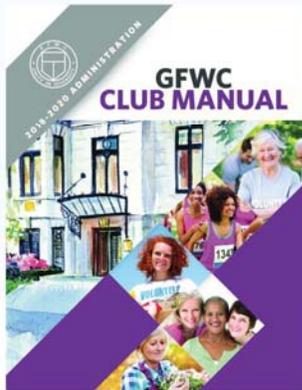
Promote Unity and Diversity

- 1) 1,000 clubs do a service project on January 21, 2019, Martin Luther King, Jr. Day - also National Day of Service
- 2) 1,000 trees to be planted on Arbor Day
- 3) 1,000 pairs of used shoes to be donated to Soles for Souls (project at Convention 2020)
- 4) 1,000 Dr. Seuss books donated by March, 2020 (project at Convention 2019)
- 5) 1,000 members join the GFWC Legislative Action Center
- 6) 1,000 projects devoted to women in the military (highlight in the AFWC President's Special Project Scholarships and at Convention 2019)
- 7) 1,000 members donate \$1,000 to the GFWC Capital Campaign

AFWC will have statewide projects to help meet these initiatives. Clubs are encouraged to start collecting Dr. Seuss books (can be in foreign languages too) and bring them to the 2019 Convention. More details to come.

Collect used shoes and bring to Convention 2020 for donation to Soles for Souls. (Sound familiar?!?) Again, more details to come.

As a part of the AFWC President's Special Project, a special scholarship was set up to be awarded to a female in the military. Be sure to check this out on the updated scholarship form.



The 2018-2020 GFWC Club Manual is here! Download your copy today from the [GFWC website under "News and Publications"](#)



Do you have club news to share with your Federated sisters throughout Alabama? Email your "cut and paste" ready articles and/or pictures to your GFWC Alabama Communications Chair: [Christi Robinson](#) or to afwc2728@gmail.com



GFWC Alabama Federation of Women's Clubs
2728 Niazuma Avenue
Birmingham, AL 35205

Send articles to: afwc2728@gmail.com or
contact Christi Robinson, Communications Chair