



GFWC Alabama Clubwoman



March 2019

President's Message

Are you gearing up for a spring full of GFWC Alabama activities? There certainly are a lot of options and information contained in this edition of The Alabama Clubwoman to participate in.

By the way, what do you think of the newly revised format of The Alabama Clubwoman? Christi Robinson, Communications & Public Relations Chairman, is certainly putting in a lot of time to get this format perfected and it shows. I love it! Make sure you send in your club articles to be included in the next edition of the monthly News & Notes or the quarterly Alabama Clubwoman. A hardcopy of the Alabama Clubwoman is being mailed to every club president to ensure all members are receiving the latest news.

Since so much information is contained in this edition, why repeat what officers and chairmen have said in their articles? I believe I'll just highlight and point the direction in which to find details.

BIG EVENTS –

AFWC Convention – Deadlines are fast approaching for registration and especially room reservations. There is a block of a certain number of rooms. As there is another group meeting during this same time period, once the block deadline has hit, there actually might not be any rooms left at the Lodge! Make sure you get your reservation in time. See pages 4 and 14-16 for details.

Fascinators, Federation & Fun – a fashion show fundraiser for special scholarships that welcomes your participation. See page 4 for details. Tables are filling up fast so don't miss out on the fun!

District Meetings – page 2

Pop Top Tab Queen – page 5

Special Projects & CSP News – pages 5 – 7

Dr. Seuss books – pages 6, 9 & 15 (bring to convention)

Club News – pages 8 – 9 Check out the pics of these great projects

Resolutions to be considered at Convention – pages 10-13. Bring a copy to Convention.

AFWC Convention Registration & tentative agenda – pages 14 - 16

Club reports have been received and sent to the appropriate chairmen for judging. They also have to send in the statewide report to GFWC. Then comes this President's report to GFWC covering everything sent in. I can't wait to read what all you have been doing in your communities.

Other contests and award deadlines are fast approaching. Make sure you get them in by the deadlines.

I look forward to seeing everyone at your District meetings, and especially to see you at Lake Guntersville State Park for Convention in April.

Christine Steele, President



Christine Steele
2018-2020 President

Dates of Importance

3/1: Membership Essay & Arts Contest Deadline

3/9: Central District Spring Meeting - Hoover

3/23: South District Spring Meeting - Bay Minette

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

4/25-27: 124th Annual Convention - Lake Guntersville State Park

It's easy to join the GFWC AL mailing list!

Just send your email address by text message:

Text
GFWCALABAMA
to **22828** to get started.



Message and data rates may apply.

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

GFWC Alabama District “Saturdays Down South” 2019 Spring Meeting Kick-Off Is A WIN!

By Randy Matthews, President-Elect

Spring is just around the corner and with the new season comes ideas of rebirth, rejuvenation, renewal, resurrection, and regrowth. GFWC Alabama clubs have set lofty goals in their mission to enhance the lives of others through volunteer service. To facilitate clubs throughout Alabama in accomplishing these enthusiastic and award winning goals, the GFWC Alabama District “Saturdays Down South” are designed to give clubs an educational and fun day of rejuvenation, regrowth, and renewal.

Kick off of GFWC Alabama District “Saturdays Down South” began on February 23, 2019 as GFWC Alabama North District Director Gloria Stevens and her North District Board of Directors welcomed clubwomen to Huntsville. The GFWC du Midi Woman’s Club hosted a wonderful day of Federation activities and excitement. Fran Fluher from Manna House was the speaker of the day. Manna House is a 501(c)3 Public Charity that provides food assistance to those in need. Manna House is supported by contributions from individuals, churches, and civic groups and other organizations. While some food is donated and locally grown most is purchased for the distribution program. GFWC Alabama North District members were generous in their monetary donations and staples donated to Manna House. Club members did indeed have an educational day as much information was given on the GFWC Community Service Programs, the GFWC Advancement Areas, the GFWC 7 Grand Initiatives, and the GFWC Alabama President’s Project.

GFWC Alabama Convention Committee members outlined plans for the State Convention which will be held April 25-28, 2019 at the Lake Guntersville State Park, hosted by the North District. This year’s convention will be a fantastic opportunity for clubs throughout the state to enjoy time with their Federated friends, to celebrate the accomplishments of exemplary club and individual work, and to be rejuvenated for another year of furthering the mission of GFWC and GFWC Alabama. Please make plans to attend and bring many club members and “purse-onalities” along for the fun!

GFWC Alabama “Saturdays Down South” will continue offering clubs the essentials for outstanding achievement on March 9, 2019. GFWC Alabama Central District Director Cynthia Hopkins and the talented Board of Directors of Central District will prepare and excite clubwomen to continue the winning tradition established by GFWC Alabama Federations of Women’s Clubs almost 125 years ago. The Columbiana Culture Club will host the event at the Prince of Peace Catholic Church in Hoover. The guest speaker will be Mary Jean Sanspree from the Shelby County Arts Council. GFWC Alabama Central District Outstanding Club awards will be a highlight of the day for all attendees. There are bound to be many excited and enthusiastic “purse-onalities” present to enjoy the opportunities planned for everyone.

GFWC Alabama South District Director Mary Ann Baltzer and the dedicated team in South District will round out the GFWC Alabama District “Saturdays Down South” on March 23, 2019. The GFWC Jubilee Woman’s Club will host a fun and fact filled day for all clubwomen in Bay Minette at the First United Methodist Church. GFWC Alabama South District will award clubs and individuals for outstanding volunteer service in 2018. Much information will be given on the GFWC CSPs, the GFWC Advancement Areas, and the GFWC 7 Grand Initiatives, as well as projects of GFWC Alabama and GFWC Alabama South District. There is no doubt clubs and members will leave this meeting with a sense of renewal, rejuvenation, and regrowth for continued excellence in club work so please do not be left out! Make plans to attend today and bring many GFWC Alabama “purse-onalities” to enjoy the Federation spirit!

To facilitate a friendly competition a \$125 cash prize along with other prizes 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.

GFWC Alabama “Saturdays Down South” promise engaging and educational District meetings by preparing Federated members for a renewed and rejuvenated sense of volunteerism as GFWC Alabama continues serving communities by *“Celebrating 125 Years of Changing Lives Through Scholarships.”*

A Minute for Membership

By Becky Vansant, Second Vice President - Membership Committee Chairman

On behalf of the GFWC Alabama Membership Committee, I am thrilled to announce that GFWC Alabama has seen a membership increase this year. This reverses an overall decline during recent years. GFWC Alabama remitted dues for 1299 members as of February 1. Last year's remittance was for 1249 members.

Thanks to everyone who accepted the committee's challenge to invite at least one new member to Federation. Everyone sponsoring a new member to Federation this club year will be recognized in the annual convention program if a New Member Sponsorship Form was sent to this officer. The [sponsorship form](#) may be found on the GFWC Alabama website, Resources page.

Thanks to all of those who have been instrumental in the formation of our two new general clubs - GFWC Alabama River Region Woman's Club and Cahaba Valley Women of GFWC. The membership committee established a goal of adding six new clubs this administration - a new general and Juniorette club in each of the three districts. There is work in progress to establish new Juniorette clubs in the North and South Districts.

Don't forget the deadline of March 1 for entries in the Membership Essay and Art Competition. Members are encouraged to submit essays on the themes - "What Federation Membership Means to Me" and "Sisterhood of Service - Funny Stories Along the Path of Living the Volunteer Spirit." These essays will be compiled into a booklet, and there is a competition for the cover art as well as illustrations for the booklet. The entry forms are located on the GFWC Alabama website.

Make sure your club gets recognized in the GFWC Clubwoman. All clubs with a gain of three or more new members during the months of December, January and February collectively are encouraged to send a membership list including the new members' names and contact information including email to this officer no later than February 28. This information will be submitted to GFWC on March 1 for the club's recognition in the GFWC Clubwoman magazine for the Seasonal Membership Campaign-Mentoring.

GFWC Membership Chair Janet Prince inquired of all state membership chairman if they had a membership survey that they would mind sharing with other states and clubs. GFWC Alabama was the only state with a current membership survey, and Chairman Prince requested that she be allowed to utilize our membership survey as an example to send out to other states and clubs.

Membership is a team effort, and thanks to all of you for making this a successful club year for membership. I can't wait to read all of your membership reports and to share them with the membership committee. Thanks to committee members Jennifer Robinson, Karen Sweeney, Ellen Clack, Tricia Cox, Carolyn Whitmire, Sherry Dusko and Patricia Morra.

Membership Highlights

As of Feb. 1, GFWC Alabama paid membership is **1299** members!

An increase of 50 members from February 2018

2018-2019 Challenge to all members:
Invite at least one new member to Federation

Send in your [Membership Sponsorship Form](#) to receive recognition at the 2019 Convention! The form is on the Resources page, www.GFWCAlabama.org

Welcome to our two newest general clubs:

- ◇ GFWC Alabama River Region Woman's Club
- ◇ Cahaba Valley Women of GFWC

March 1 is the deadline for:

- ◇ Membership Essay Competition
- ◇ Membership Arts Competition
- ◇ GFWC Seasonal Membership Campaign-Mentoring

Thanks to GFWC Alabama Membership Committee Members:

Becky Vansant, Chair
Ellen Clack
Tricia Cox
Sherry Dusko
Patricia Morra
Jennifer Robinson
Karen Sweeney
Carolyn Whitmire

IRA Required Minimum Distributions

If you are 70 1/2 or older, you can use all or part of your individual retirement account (IRA) required minimum distribution to support AFWC Headquarters, scholarships or wherever you want it to go and most likely lower your taxes. All you need to do is notify your IRA plan administrator to make a qualified charitable distribution directly to AFWC specifying where you want it used. This will satisfy the required distribution and avoid payment of taxes on that amount. For more information contact your tax accountant.



A special thank you to all 46 general clubs and 9 juniorette clubs for submitting dues and new members for the 2018-2019 club year. We currently have 1299 members. Thanks to all who have so generously donated to the AFWC Scholarships, 2728 Society, Disaster Fund, GFWC 2024 Campaign and President Steele's President's Project-Scholarships. A special thank you to Assistant Treasurer Terri Walker for submitting all necessary IRS forms and for maintaining our membership roster with updated addresses and phone numbers. In Federation Spirit,
Karol Kapustka
Treasurer

"Hats On as Women Purse-ue Careers"

124th Annual Convention – April 25-27, 2019
Lake Guntersville State Park Lodge & Conference Center

AFWC Members & Guests, please read the themes for convention. Check your closet, borrow from someone or go shopping and BUY! We are continuing to follow the 2018-2020 theme of "Purses & Hats". Friday's lunch **Uniforms Hats** can be military, fireman, policeman, etc. and Friday Dinner will be **Tiaras or Dr. Seuss Hats**. Saturday's luncheon **International & Ethnic Hats** can be Sombrero, Tam-O'-Shanter, Turban, etc. and Saturday Dinner is **Historical Hats & Purses** from the past 124 years, Grandmother's, Mother's, etc. Be a part of the "On" group as we check out your Hat-titude.

The Official Call to Convention with registration form is included as the last three pages of this publication. We hope to see you there!



Purses & Hats & Luncheons, Oh My!

By Sherry Stutts, President's Project Co-Chair

All ladies at the February Winter Board Meeting knew that February is Healthy Heart Awareness for women and certainly Valentine's Day. Purse-onality Profile was who had a **Red** Purse at the meeting and there were not many, but Adelaide Cape had a totally red purse and won the Purse styled paper memo dispenser. A tie breaker would have been who had a heart of some sort on or in the purse. Adelaide had a great day because she also got First Place in The Great 5th Annual Foster House Chili Cook Off fundraiser, Silent Auction items and bought a ticket to the April Fashion Show. February Birthdays were recognized; only 3 and one was me. Gifts of such variety from members' purses to the Birthday Ladies was so much FUN. Most unique gift from a purse was a metal wine stopper. Please share your ideas with AFWC as we continue to Purse-ue Living the Volunteer Spirit.

"RESERVATION REMINDER~

Friday, April 12th, 2019

"Fascinators, Federation and Fun"

Wear a Fascinator Hat & A Fascinating Outfit

Fashion Show by Dilliard's benefiting AFWC Scholarships

Committee Casual-Luncheon Lovely-Convention Classy

11:30 am at Valley Hill Country Club

\$40 person/Limited Seating

RSVP Sherry Stutts – 256-883-8460 by April 5, 2019

Checks to AFWC

AFWC to Crown Another Pop Tab Queen!

By Gregg Geis, GFWC Booster

We will conduct the 14th Annual Pop Tab Queen contest to support Ronald McDonald House Charities of Alabama (RMHCA) at this year's convention in Guntersville. Since 2005, this competition has resulted in AFWC raising over 16,000 pounds of pop tabs for this worthwhile program.

According to the RMHCA, 950 pounds of pop tabs will provide a week's housing for a family at the Ronald McDonald House in Birmingham. As a result of your efforts, this fun AFWC project has resulted in approximately 17 weeks of lodging for families with children undergoing treatment at Children's Hospital.

Bring your club's pop tabs to Guntersville, I'll weigh and tabulate them, and crown this year's queen while continuing to support RMHCA. Please bring the tabs in gallon size zip-lock type bags with your club's name clearly written on each bag.



**Ronald McDonald
House Charities®
Alabama**

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.

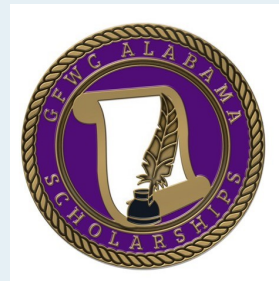
Save those pop tabs!

950 pounds of pop tabs provides a week's housing for a family at RMHCA!

Since 2005, AFWC has donated over 16,000 pounds!



Bring tabs in gallon size zip-lock type bags with club name clearly marked, and you could be crowned QUEEN!



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 Kaputka
14007 Green Way Park Cir SE
Huntsville, AL 35803

News from your CSP Chairmen!

ARTS

Brigiete Carey, Chair



Please remember to bring Arts & Crafts, Club and District Scrapbooks, and GFWC Photography Contest items to Convention in April. Make sure to follow the rules of the contests and have a waiver for the GFWC contests.

We are going to try and have a turn in time on Friday night in order to be able to sort items into categories. The turn in on Saturday will probably only be an hour window due to time constraints on the room. Thanks you for your cooperation!

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.

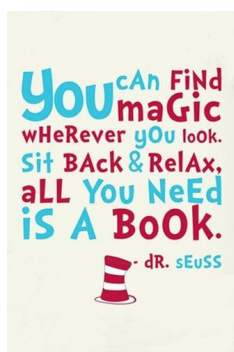
EDUCATION

Cheri McCain, Chair



One of America's most beloved children's author, Dr. Seuss, will be celebrated on his birthday in schools and public libraries across our nation on March 2. International President Mary Ellen Brock has challenged us with 7 Grand Initiatives to complete with Initiative #4 challenging club members to donate 1,000 Dr. Seuss books with 500 books staying in your local community and 500 books sent to Washington, DC for distribution at Head Start facilities, children's hospitals and schools. Headquarters in Washington prefers that we send **books** and not money for this project according to International Education Chairman Susan Sheridan. Clubs can choose a class or a whole grade at a school in your community and make sure each child receives a Dr. Seuss book this year. If you or your club would like to put a GFWC label into your donated Dr. Seuss book, they are found on the

[gfwc.org website](http://gfwc.org). Click on GFWC Resources, Choose Letter D for Dr. Seuss and the labels are ready to be printed onto label paper. Dr. Seuss books can easily be found for very reasonable prices at some discount stores or bookstores. *Please keep up with the number of books your club donates for reporting purposes.*



CONSERVATION

Ellen Clack, Chair



Each year at the AFWC Annual State Convention, we have the opportunity to adopt new resolutions and to make changes to existing resolutions in each CSP. I must confess, that prior to attending my first GFWC International Convention, I knew nothing about resolutions and their importance. To find out more about the resolutions process, go to GFWC-ALabama.org. Click on Resources, and then click on GFWC Alabama Resolutions. There's an explanation of the purpose and process for approving and amending resolutions. All the current resolutions for each CSP are also included.

There are 2 resolutions in the Conservation CSP with proposed changes to be voted on at this year's convention: Energy Sources and Hazardous Waste Disposal. We all have our own individual perspective on these 2 issues, but our goal at convention is to approve resolutions that state the position of GFWC Alabama and its clubwomen with regard to these 2 issues.

I'd like to share some of the research I've done in educating myself about the Hazardous Waste Disposal resolution. First, I researched Emelle, Alabama, at Wikipedia ([https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Emelle, Alabama](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Emelle,_Alabama)), because I knew absolutely nothing about this town or the hazardous waste landfill located there. The landfill was originally 300 acres and has grown to 2,700 acres. A University of Michigan article, written in 2000, is at <http://www.umich.edu/~snre492/Jones/emelle.htm>. An article about reduction of fees by the State legislature in April 2013 can be found at http://blog.al.com/wire/2013/04/lawmakers_approve_lower_fees_f.html. Going to <https://www.wmsolutions.com/pdf/factsheet/EmelleBrochure.pdf> will take you to a brochure by Chemical Waste Management, Inc., the operator of the Emelle site. There is much more to learn about the issue of hazardous waste disposal, including the perspectives of business owners who are required to responsibly dispose of hazardous waste, conservationists who are concerned about the impact to the environment, and community leaders who are concerned about the health and well-being of the people who live in their communities.

I encourage you to be informed about the Energy Resources and Hazardous Waste Disposal resolutions prior to voting on the changes at convention.

Toxic.Free.Home.



Participate In Your Local Household Hazardous Waste Roundups

INTERNATIONAL OUTREACH

Myra Wilson, Chair



Many thanks to each club member that made a contribution to this project. Heifer International request-

From the Cow to the Classroom

1. A local farmer receives a Heifer cow thanks to a gift from Heifer donors like you, or from another farm family through Passing on the Gift®.
2. That Heifer cow produces milk, that can be processed and stored safely until it can be sold to a market.
3. Now that milk can go to a school feeding program so that students can get nutrition for the energy to learn and play!

ed that GFWC help with this program last year at our national convention. I chose to make this my state project for the current administration. I am pleased to report that all 3 districts and 5 clubs have made donations. I hope to have many more clubs join in this project for the next year. It only takes \$72.00 to provide milk for a child for 1 year. The contact person for our Heifer information was Kendra Penry, but because of changes in territories and staff, she will no longer be Alabama's contact person. Cindy Sellers Roach will now be the contact person for Alabama. Her information is Cindy.SellersRoach@heifer.org, phone 501-907-2972, Heifer International, Community Engagement Coordinator, 1 World Avenue, Little Rock, AR 72202.

If your club would like to make a contribution during this year, please send your contributions to our state treasurer, Karol Kapustka. Make the check out to AFWC with a note that the money is to go to the Heifer Tanzania milk program. This way, Karol will be able to keep a record of all contributions made. Karol will mail the donation to the correct person at Heifer International.

Heifer Ranch has incredible Women's Lambing weekends open to ladies in March 8-10 and 14-17. Would anyone be interested in traveling to Perryville, Arkansas (near Little Rock) to experience this program? Please let me know if you are interested. I will need to see if there is still an opening and make reservations.

Again, thank you for your support of the milk project. If you have any questions, please call, text, or email me. Myra Wilson, 256-557-2225, mwilson60@yahoo.com.

JR. SPECIAL PROJECT— Advocacy for Children

Kirsten Means, Chair



Spring is full of promise and full of opportunities to advocate for our youngest citizens!

GFWC has two partners in Advocates for Children program – March of Dimes and [St. Jude Children's Research Hospital](http://www.stjudechildrens.org). Both organizations have opportunities for our clubs to be involved.



February 25 marks the kick off for the March of Dimes March for Babies

(www.marchforbabies.org).

Plan an event, start a team, become a sponsor, or volunteer to help the committee at your

local/regional March of Dimes office.

Did you know that [Big Oak Ranch](http://www.bigoakranch.org) relies on the donation of professional services? They use doctors, dentists, lawyers, and other professionals in caring for their ranch families. If you and/or your club have services you can offer, contact the ranch office at 205-467-6226.



Finally, Spring is also a great time to support your local backpack buddies program. Backpack buddies, like many nonprofit food-based programs, suffers a lull in donations this time of year. Easy-open soup cans are a great idea in the cold, damp March weather and maybe some individually wrapped crackers to go with them!



**BACKPACK
BUDDIES**
WEEKEND MEALS FOR STUDENTS

Woman's Club of Saraland

Joy Bentley

From January 25th through 27th, The Woman's Club of Saraland held a consignment gown and accessory sale. We advertised on Facebook and local businesses. By charging a consignment fee up front, we raised funds to go to our Child Advocacy CSP. We took in over 180 dresses as well as numerous shoes, jewelry, shapewear, and accessories. The sale ran for 3 days and we did 2 days of dress in take earlier in the week. It was such a success that we plan to continue it on annually. Mardi Gras and Pageant season is a big thing in our area and this gives women a safe place to meet,



try on, and purchase or sell gowns. At the end of the sale the sellers came to pick up their gowns or money and were given the option to donate their unsold items to the Prom Closet of Gulf Shores Club. In all we donated 15 dress, 3 pairs of shoes, some jewelry and cover ups.

We raised \$650 and part of the funds are going to create "Buddy bags" which will contain thing like crayons/markers. Coloring books, stuffed animals, stickers, and other items. These bags will be given to local police departments to be given to children in distress due to parental arrest, removal from homes, or who are involved in accidents. We plan to make this annual fundraiser a revolving fundraiser for each of our CSPs. Giving back and helping our community is a way of life for Woman's Club of Saraland.



GFWC duMidi

Ann Delaney

Remembrance Project

In November 2018 six hundred Christmas wreaths, donated by GFWC du Midi Woman's Club, were removed from storage, received new handmade bows and weatherproof club tags in preparation to honor local Veterans at the Huntsville Memorial Gardens Cemetery. Volunteers and Spouses placed the wreaths. Pictured, braving the cold in January 2019, are GFWC du Midi Woman's Club Vounteers, Marilyn Lupo, and Project Chairman Beverly Wills, who retrieved and placed into storage six hundred Remembrance Project Veterans' Wreaths. A smiling GFWC du Midi Woman's Club President, Adelaide Cape, holds the 600th wreath.



Home Life CSP was the host for the "Wear Red Day" February GFWC du Midi Woman's Club Luncheon meeting at the Ledges Country Club in Huntsville. Preceding the meeting the Huntsville Hospital Mobile Medical Unit was available to everyone for a standard health screening. Materials encouraging a healthy lifestyle were available at the CSP display area. Chairs for Home Life are Donna Mahieux, Eugenia Graves, and Dianne Phillips.

District & Club News (continued)

Hueytown Study Club

Penny Berry



The Hueytown Study Club learned of a need for gently used clothes and new underwear in the local elementary schools and adopted this as their project for the MLK Day of Service. Hueytown Study Club members donated several items of clothing and on January 21 they met to sort the clothes by size and type. Each item was clearly marked with the size and similar items were placed in clear zip lock bags so they could be easily identified. They were delivered to two elementary schools to be used

when a situation occurs during the school day that necessitates a change of clean clothes.



In addition, members also personalized 140 napkins with stickers and hand-written notes. These were given to the Hueytown Community Helpers, a local service organization, to be included in food bags that are sent home with local elementary students in need to help fight weekend hunger.

Above Left, L-R: Hueytown club members Dot Lowery, Gerry West, Janice Poole, Judy Irvin, Ellie Duncan and Lois Roberts

Left: MLK Day of Service Project clothing donations, sorted and ready for use at local elementary schools.

Read Across America Day

March 2

March 2 is Dr. Seuss' birthday and Read Across America Day, an observance which encourages young children to celebrate reading. Whether you partner with a local school, library, or host your own event, we have some ideas for how you can get involved!

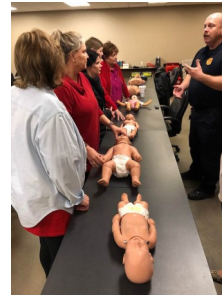
- Invite children to dress up as their favorite Dr. Seuss book characters.

- Challenge children to track their reading for two weeks and award prizes to the top readers.
- Host a read-a-thon. Children can bring sleeping bags and pillows to get cozy as they read Dr. Seuss books together.

Participate in Read Across America Day to inspire children to value literacy and reading. Contact your local schools, Head Start programs, and libraries to see if they are in need of volunteers—or books. March 2 is an ideal day for your club to help GFWC make a bigger dent in its goal to distribute 1,000 Dr. Seuss books to at-risk children. Don't forget to add your club's personal touch with the Dr. Seuss labels, filed under "D" on the [GFWC Resources](#).

GFWC South Baldwin Woman's Club

Laine Andrews



GFWC South Baldwin Woman's Club members Go Red for Women's Health taking CPR/AED training at the Gulf Shores Fire/Rescue! Our instructor was Steve Lawrence. The session was very engaging and informative for everyone.

On March 24th we will be having our first annual Prom Closet at Gulf Shores Fire Rescue to benefit young ladies from South Baldwin. This event has been made available to young women from local high schools that are unable to attend prom due to financial reasons. We have gained a lot of support from the community and The Hangout to make this event a time to remember while these young ladies "Say Yes to Their Dress".



GFWC Alabama 2019 Proposed Resolutions

The GFWC Alabama Resolutions Committee reviewed all resolutions for relevance and consistency with GFWC Alabama goals and GFWC Resolutions. The proposed amendments are available below and on the pages that follow.

GFWC Alabama Resolutions are available in the AFWC Manual and online at GFWCAlabama.org—Resources page. To read the complete text of the existing Resolutions, select "[GFWC Alabama Resolutions](#)", and a larger print version of the 2019 proposed amendments to the Resolutions, select "[GFWC Alabama Proposed 2019 Resolutions](#)".

2018-2020 AFWC RESOLUTIONS COMMITTEE

Cherie Byrne - Chairman; Jennifer Barber, Gail Guice, Susie Malone, Cynthia Geis - Advisor

PROPOSED AMENDMENTS TO AFWC RESOLUTIONS IN 2019

The following are proposed resolutions to be presented for consideration at the AFWC Convention 2019. Proposed additions are noted in **bold green text**. Proposed deletions are noted in ~~strikethrough bold red text~~.

CONSERVATION CSP

ENERGY SOURCES

Adopted February 16, 1985; Amended April 1996; Reaffirmed 2003; Amended 2018

WHEREAS, secure and reliable sources of energy are vital to Alabama business and industry and of critical importance to Alabama's overall economic well-being; and

WHEREAS, almost all nations today are working to replace non-renewable energy sources with renewable energy sources; and

WHEREAS, the 30-year offshore drilling record of the U.S. petroleum industry proves that offshore oil and natural gas cannot be produced without harm to the coastal and marine environments; therefore

RATIONALE: Update to support renewable energy development and align policy with GFWC.

RESOLVED, that GFWC Alabama Federation of Women's Clubs urges that energy/technology businesses work to provide cost-effective, *renewable* energy resources that make our country energy independent.

RESOLVED, that GFWC Alabama Federation of Women's Clubs supports increased development of offshore oil and natural gas resources as well as alternative sources—legislation to fund and expand renewable energy resources such as solar and wind, including a higher national renewable energy standard and decreasing, and ultimately eliminating, consumption of all non-renewable energy fuels.

RATIONALE: Update to support renewable energy development and align policy with GFWC.

HAZARDOUS WASTE DISPOSAL

Adopted 1985; Reaffirmed 2003; Reviewed 2017; Amended 2018

WHEREAS, hazardous waste materials are a by-product of our industrialized society, modern agriculture, medical and research activities, and must be disposed of safely; and

WHEREAS, technology and procedures are available to provide safe handling and disposal of these wastes; and

WHEREAS, the Resource, Conservation and Recovery Act of 1976, and subsequent amendments in the Act's 1984 reauthorization, establish responsible programs for the environmentally sound treatment and disposal of hazardous waste;

WHEREAS, the Town of Emelle, Alabama is known as the "Home of the nation's largest hazardous waste landfill". In 1977, the 300 acre landfill was established. In 1995, it had grown to 2700 acres. The Emelle, Alabama landfill is used as the worst example of hazardous waste disposal site management and their "experiences have helped the wider environmental justice movement in the United States to fight the emergence of similar injustices in other parts of the country," (-Environmental Justice Atlas)

Whereas, the GFWC Alabama Federation of Women's Clubs supports the timely implementation, *fully funding and fully staffing* of this Act; and further

~~RESOLVED, That the GFWC Alabama Federation of Women's Clubs urges that the federal government consult with the states and general public on the national need for increased capacity for safe disposal of these wastes; and support state efforts to site and expand properly permitted facilities for the management of such wastes; and further~~

RESOLVED, that the GFWC Alabama Federation of Women's Clubs urges funding for safe and responsible clean-up of toxic waste sites and reclamation of contamination sites; and

RESOLVED, that the GFWC Alabama Federation of Women's Clubs urges its member clubs to educate themselves and their communities about hazardous waste disposal.

RATIONALE: Changed to support the clean up of hazardous waste disposal sites and align policy with GFWC.

Proposed Resolutions (continued)

EDUCATION CSP

EDUCATION Adopted 2003; Reaffirmed 2018

WHEREAS, the Alabama Federation of Women's Clubs has always believed that education is a powerful weapon in combating many social issues including poverty, prejudice, health issues and inequality; and

WHEREAS, the State of Alabama's Department of Education faces serious administrative and financial problems; and

WHEREAS, Alabama historically ranks toward the bottom of the ranking for funds allocated for education and teachers' salaries; therefore

RESOLVED, that the ~~members of the~~ **GFWC** Alabama Federation of Women's Clubs actively encourage its membership to participate ~~where applicable~~ in their area schools; and further

RESOLVED, that the members be encouraged to attend school board meetings, vote during local and state school board elections, and in some instances seek election to said positions.

RATIONALE: Update

YOUTH LITERACY Adopted 2003; Reviewed 2018

WHEREAS, high school graduates need to be literate and adequately educated in the skills needed to enter the job force; and

WHEREAS, companies are seeking more qualified workers in the State of Alabama; therefore

RESOLVED, that GFWC Alabama Federation of Women's clubs, ~~individually and collectively~~, **urges** the State Board of Education to emphasize the ~~"basics"~~ **basics** of reading writing and arithmetic without excluding the arts; and further

RESOLVED, that the Alabama Legislature be encouraged to provide funding for smaller classes so students may receive individual attention, and that the Legislature also appropriate monies to provide additional teachers and classrooms to accommodate those smaller class populations; and further

RESOLVED, that GFWC Alabama Federation of Women's Clubs encourage the State Board of Education to direct school systems to provide a variety of teaching methods and curriculum so students can succeed in learning; and further

RESOLVED, that students not be allowed to graduate from high schools ~~unless~~ **until** they can master a basic education as evidenced by passing the Alabama high school exit exams.

RATIONALE: Update

HOME LIFE CSP

CHILDREN AT HIGH RISK Adopted April 1996; Reaffirmed 2003; Reviewed 2018

WHEREAS, unmarried teenage girls with their babies are at high risk to live their lives in poverty; and

WHEREAS, poverty hurts children in many ways including poor nutrition, substandard housing or homelessness, and few resources for learning except for school; and

WHEREAS, more than 100,000 children in Alabama live in neighborhoods, urban and rural, with high levels of poverty, female-headed families, high school dropouts, drug use, unemployment and reliance on welfare; therefore

RESOLVED, that members of the Alabama Federation of Women's Clubs work with governmental and health agencies to help develop and implement educational programs ~~to teach good character~~ that individuals may learn to value life and **the** importance of protecting one's body from the physical and emotional abuse caused by neglect and drugs; and further

RESOLVED, that members of the Alabama Federation of Women's Clubs volunteer to prepare and present programs allowing young people who live in severe conditions the opportunity to know that other ways of life are possible and that receiving an education is fundamental to success in life.

RATIONALE: Update

DISABILITIES Adopted 2003; Reaffirmed 2018

WHEREAS, a disability is a physical, sensory, mental or cognitive impairment that limits one's ability to participate in one or more common daily activities and every person has the right to participate to the best of one's abilities in all phases of life activities; and

WHEREAS, it is the responsibility of the community to support said "disabled" persons to experience life to the fullest of one's abilities; and

WHEREAS it is necessary to be committed to improving the health of babies ~~by~~ **and** preventing birth defects; and

WHEREAS, it is important to support programs to promote independence for persons with disabilities; therefore

RESOLVED, that the members of the Alabama Federation of Women's Clubs work with the government and health agencies to assist in ~~getting involved to expand~~ **expanding** the participation of people with disabilities in national **and** community life activities; and further

RESOLVED, that the members of the Alabama Federation of Women's Clubs volunteer to promote the independence of persons with disabilities by developing leadership skills, setting goals, raising funds, and spreading awareness as a link to a vital nationwide movement to improve the quality of life and the health of future generations.

RATIONALE: Update

Proposed Resolutions (continued)

FAMILY CAREGIVERS Adopted 2018

WHEREAS, meeting the demands of multiple family responsibilities, as well as the added pressures of employment and outside commitments, creates great stress for family caregivers; and

WHEREAS, there is a possible financial advantage and opportunity for more individualized care options in community-based programs; therefore

RESOLVED, that GFWC Alabama Federation of Women's Clubs urges its members to support legislation providing for flexible employment policies and programs to aid family caregivers, and legislation to ~~provide minimum~~ *formulate* licensing and training requirements for home health care workers, and further

RESOLVED, that GFWC Alabama Federation of Women's Clubs urges its members to work with appropriate agencies in their communities to support the development and maintenance of creative community-based support services for those with a terminal or debilitating illness, elderly, people with disabilities and family caregivers, such as adult day care centers, respite care, transportation services, nutrition services, home health and homemaker services, congregate or alternative housing arrangements and support groups for family caregivers.

RATIONALE: Update

WOMEN'S FINANCIAL INFORMATION Adopted 2003, Amended 2018

WHEREAS, ~~women earn less than men, so the amount of their retirement~~ *statistics support that there is a significant gap between the wages paid to men and those paid to women, therefore the amount of women's retirement* benefits are lower in pensions and social security payments; and

WHEREAS, women often leave their jobs to care for family members, therefore they may not qualify for a pension or may accumulate fewer retirement benefits; and

WHEREAS, the overwhelming majority of single-parent families are headed by women due to separation, divorce or widowhood, and

WHEREAS, women are frequently uninformed about their status or how to go about finding the information needed to apply for benefits; therefore

RESOLVED, that the members of GFWC Alabama Federation of Women's Clubs take an active role in the financial future of women by providing information to educate women on the importance of retirement planning and by working with government and financial organizations to ~~assure~~ *help ensure that* women are informed and aware of the resources available to provide adequate retirement needs.

RATIONALE: Update

PUBLIC ISSUES CSP

FREE ENTERPRISE SYSTEM

Adopted February 16, 1985; Reaffirmed 2003; Reaffirmed 2018

WHEREAS, our economic system of free enterprise contributed greatly to the development of this country into a strong, free nation with one of the highest standards of living in the world history; and

WHEREAS, as a result of this free economy, America has been able to provide food, fiber, and minerals based on supply and demand, providing a system of checks and balances which serves all economic levels by assuring the fairest distribution of goods and services at the lowest possible cost; and

WHEREAS, the free enterprise system is being legislated and regulated out of the world market place; and

~~WHEREAS, this is leading our country into a socialistic form of government; therefore~~

RESOLVED, that the GFWC Alabama Federation of Women's Clubs firmly support the free enterprise system, and that clubwomen become more aware and take action in legislative halls at state and national levels by urging legislators to be more concerned with the plight of the business community.

RATIONALE: Update

HONORING ALABAMA VETERANS

Adopted April 1996 Reaffirmed 2003; Amended 2018

WHEREAS, our military veterans have helped provide stability and safety to our citizens and allies; and

WHEREAS, many of these veterans are disabled; therefore

RESOLVED, that the GFWC Alabama Federation of Women's Clubs support all of these men and women with the respect and dignity they deserve; and further

RESOLVED, that the GFWC Alabama Federation of Women's Clubs urges its members to support legislation for funding by the Federal and State Governments for adequate medical care to meet present and future needs, *including mental health benefits for those who experience Post-Traumatic Stress Disorder and proper medical and psychological treatment for female veterans who are survivors of sexual trauma and/or domestic violence experienced while they were in the military.*

RATIONALE: Strengthen AFWC support of medical and mental health benefits for veterans.

Proposed Resolutions (continued)

RENOVATION OF HISTORIC BUILDINGS

Adopted 1981; Reaffirmed 2003; Reaffirmed 2018

WHEREAS, construction of new buildings is often near areas of heavily traveled streets and causes additional traffic and congestions; and
WHEREAS, our rich heritage is exemplified by the architectural design and construction of historical buildings; and
WHEREAS, costs of renovation of existing properties is usually comparable and often less than the construction of new buildings; and
WHEREAS, renovation of properties often results in appreciated property values of surrounding areas; and
WHEREAS, renovation of properties often provides larger areas for offices and shop display than are usually allowed in new buildings because of the rising costs of construction; therefore

RESOLVED, that the GFWC Alabama Federation of Women's Clubs encourages the renovation and revival of historic neighborhoods and homes for residential dwellings; and further

RESOLVED, that the GFWC Alabama Federation of Women's Clubs encourage and acknowledge the practice of new businesses being located in historic buildings and areas where zoning ordinances allow;

~~RESOLVED, that its member clubs advocate to the Federal Communications Commission that public safety is the highest priority and enable emergency personnel to locate 911 calls from both public facilities and mobile devices.~~

RESOLVED, that the GFWC Alabama Federation of Women's Clubs urges its member clubs to record the history of and help preserve historic landmarks and artifacts; and

RESOLVED, that the GFWC Alabama Federation of Women's Clubs encourages its member clubs to partner with other civic organizations and government agencies to preserve historic buildings and landmarks; and further

RESOLVED, that the GFWC Alabama Federation of Women's Clubs urges its member clubs to study and preserve the history of their club and federation, including written and oral histories, buildings and artifacts.

RATIONALE: Remove reference to 911 calling and reaffirm AFWC position supporting preservation of historic buildings.

SUPPORT OF ARMED FORCES

Adopted 2003; Reaffirmed 2018

WHEREAS, the GFWC Alabama Federation of Women's Clubs has always supported our nation's armed forces; and

WHEREAS, the nation is in an effort to combat terrorism; and

WHEREAS, there seem to be mixed feelings ~~toward proceeding toward~~ *regarding* armed combat *but even the deterrence of wars demands an ever-ready system of sufficient forces in all branches of the military system; therefore*

RESOLVED, that the GFWC Alabama Federation of Women's Clubs supports the maintenance of a strong military force in sufficient numbers and quality, with the strength, equipment and organized deployment to fully meet its objectives to deter war in all forms and achieve victory should war be forced upon us; and further

RESOLVED, that the GFWC Alabama Federation of Women's Clubs supports the establishment of incentives in salary schedules, working and living conditions, and guaranteed retirement benefits which will make careers in the Armed Services of the United States sufficiently attractive to recruit new personnel and retain highly trained and efficient personnel;

RESOLVED, that the members of the GFWC Alabama Federation of Women's Clubs pledge their support to the members of our armed forces in whatever duties they are called upon to perform by our national government; and further

RESOLVED, that we actively acknowledge our ~~servicemen's~~ *service members'* voluntary defense of our country.

RATIONALE: Strengthen AFWC position in support of Armed Forces.

SWIFT TRIAL AND PUNISHMENT FOR RAPE

Adopted April 1992; Reaffirmed 2003; Reviewed 2017

WHEREAS, cases of rape continue to increase yearly; and

WHEREAS, in many cases rape is committed two or more times by the same person; and

WHEREAS, rape victims have to suffer for a lifetime the memories of rape; therefore

RESOLVED, that *the GFWC Alabama Federation of Women's Clubs urges its member clubs to work to ensure that* stronger laws be passed that will more quickly bring about swift trial and severe punishment; and further

RESOLVED, That the GFWC Alabama Federation of Women's Clubs urges its member clubs to establish and/or support community awareness programs for sexual assault survivors to seek counseling and support as well as to alleviate the stigma affecting survivors, increase emphasis on prevention of sexual assault and dating violence through programs focused on bystander invention, and ensure that colleges and universities have comprehensive and easily accessible policies and clear procedures for reporting sexual assault.

RATIONALE: Strengthen AFWC position supporting victims of sexual assault, expanding services to victims, and calling for swift trial and severe punishment of perpetrators.



Official Call GFWC Alabama Federation of Women's Clubs



124th Annual Convention

April 25 – 27, 2019

Lake Guntersville State Park Lodge & Conference Center

1155 Lodge Drive, Guntersville AL 35976

256-571-5440, www.alapark.com/LakeGuntersville



Christine Steele, President
"Hats On as Women Purse-ue Careers"



Registration & Information

This Convention is open to all members of AFWC. All members attending must be registered. Advance registration is necessary for all meal tickets. Prices and the meal reservation form, along with the Credentials Card, can be found on the following page. Guests may attend meal functions by registering in advance.

Registration Schedule: Thursday, April 25 5:00 – 7:00 pm on left in Lobby
Friday, April 26 8:00 – 9:00 am on left in Lobby
Saturday, April 27 8:00 – 9:00 am on left in Lobby
At other times, check sign at AFWC desk for instructions

Deadlines

The deadline for registration/meal reservations is to be postmarked by April 8, 2019.
Meal reservations may not be guaranteed if received after this date.

The deadline for lodge room reservations is March 5, 2019.

The group block room rate for 2 Queen Bluff side is \$121 + taxes. Rooms have mini refrigerators & microwaves. Check their website for more details.
Reservations can be made by calling 256-571-5440. Identify yourself as with AFWC Group #6915. One night deposit is required. Check-in is 4 pm and check-out is 11 am.

Voting Body

Per Article VI-Meetings, Section 2, the voting body shall be state officers, district officers, state chairmen, past state presidents, and nominating delegates. Clubs in active membership shall be entitled to two delegates for 20 members or less; and one additional delegate for each additional 10 members. Juniorette clubs may have two delegates. Clubs in associate membership shall have one delegate.

Call to 2019 Convention (continued)

Tentative Schedule of Events 124th AFWC Annual Convention "Hats On as Women Pursue Careers"

Thursday, April 25, 2019

- 5 – 7 pm Registration in Lodge Lobby – desk on left
- 5:30 pm Executive Committee Meeting with light dinner in President's Suite - Rm 150
- 7 pm AFWC Board of Directors Meeting – Hospitality Suite – Room 320
- TBA Alabama LEADS Graduates club meeting in President's Suite – Room 150
Immediately following Board meeting

Friday, April 26, 2019

- 8 – 9 am Registration in Lodge Lobby – desk on left
- 9 am Opening Session
- 12:30 pm Lunch – Women in the Military - "Uniforms Hats"
Speaker: Arnetta E. Minney, Colonel, AL National Guard, HR Officer
- 2 pm Business Session – Bring Dr. Seuss books.
- 6:30 pm Dinner – "Denim, Diamonds & Tiaras" – Juniorette Night
Speaker: Miss Alabama
- TBA Fun Night – Bingo with Service Project – Bring Dr. Seuss books
(immediately following Dinner)
- TBA "Night Caps" (immediately following Fun Night)

Saturday, April 27, 2019

- 8 – 9 am Registration in Lodge Lobby – desk on left
- 8 – noon Art Exhibit – check Program book upon arrival for drop off details
- 9 am Business Session
- 12:30 pm Lunch – "International & Ethnic Hats"
JSU – International House Director and Scholarship Recipient
- 2 pm Business Session
- 3 pm Breakout workshops
- 6:30 pm Banquet – "Historical Hats & Purses"
Speaker: Senator Arthur Orr, Alabama 200 Chairman
- TBA "Night Caps" (immediately following banquet)

Sunday, April 28, 2019

- 11 am Check out

Registration & Meal Reservations Form

Deadline: Postmarked by April 8, 2019

AFWC Member: _____ Guest: _____
 Club Name: _____ District: _____
 Address: _____
 Phone: _____ Email: _____

	<u>Member</u>	<u>Amount</u>	<u>Guest</u>
Registration – Full	_____	\$25	no fee
Registration – 1 day	_____	\$15	no fee
<u>Thursday, April 25</u>	check below if attending		
Executive Committee Meeting & Meal	_____	no charge	
Board of Directors Meeting	_____	no charge	
<u>Friday, April 26</u>			
Luncheon	_____	\$20	_____
Dinner	_____	\$35	_____
Fun Night	_____	\$10	_____
<u>Saturday, April 27</u>			
Luncheon	_____	\$20	_____
Banquet	_____	\$35	_____
Registration Late Fee after April 8	_____	\$10	_____
Totals:	_____		_____

PLEASE indicate any dietary restrictions: _____ (no substitutes that day)

Credentials Card - AFWC 124th Annual Convention

Name: _____ Club: _____ District: _____

- _____ I am a Non-Voting Delegate
- _____ I am a Voting Delegate, because I am: (Please mark only one. The highest position you hold.)
- _____ An elected State Officer of AFWC,
- _____ A Past State President of AFWC,
- _____ A State Chairman of a Standing or Special Committee or CSP,
- _____ An elected District Officer,
- _____ An accredited club delegate. (See previous page for explanation.)

If club voting delegate, other than president, have Club President sign prior to mailing.

Club President's Signature: _____

Please mail this completed form, along with a check payable to AFWC, memo line - 2019 Convention, to: Karol Kapustka, 14007 Green Way Park Cr SE, Huntsville AL 35803
 256.883.5230 or 256.797.0254 karolkapustka63@gmail.com

All Registration Forms & Fees must be Postmarked by April 8, 2019