



North West District news & updates

September 2021 | Issue 12



Upcoming Events

September 11
NW District Board
Meeting Via Zoom

October 16
NW District
Meeting
(Cartersville,
Marietta, Calhoun
& Acworth,
Hostesses)

[Click here](#) to View
the Call and Other
Details

[Click here
for Fall
Reminders](#)

**Thoughts &
Prayers - Send**
names of those

President's Message

Hello Friends!

September has come around super quickly and unfortunately that means Summer season is coming to an end. This means it's time to swap that sun lounger and prepare for our fall GFWC Georgia service related events and activities.



Summer blues can make getting back into the swing of things tough and our focus on club work often runs low after a harsh snap back to reality. I get it - I sometimes need to psych myself up to "get back in the zone." *"Volunteerism is the voice of the people put into action. These actions shape and mold the present into a future of which we can all be proud."* – Helen Dyer. I believe this and that is why I volunteer. By volunteering we set an example that volunteering is at the very core of being a human and we are all put on this earth to help one another. No one has made it through life without someone else's help.

To give you a little productivity boost, here are some tips for transitioning back into club life.

1) Treat September like a new year - Think of September as a fresh start back. Your Summer break has left you feeling refreshed and re-energized, so now you are ready to go. Use this time to set some new goals or targets that you want to achieve in the coming months.

2) Give yourself something to be excited about! Yay!!!
Remember that feeling you got when it was the first week back at school and you had a super cool new school bag or pencil case you couldn't wait to show off? Well you can recreate this experience in adult life too. A new set of gel pens may not do it for you anymore, but a few new additions to your club work might! Shake it up - do something that you've not done before - it will re-energize your club.

3) Reach out and catch up with club members! Holding a fun club meet up (not service related), just plain good old fun can help boost

who are in need of support or encouragement to Susie Parnes, Corres. Sec. at sunburstp@aol.com

Quick Links:

District Yearbook

GFWC Georgia Yearbook

[CSP Challenges](#)

[125th Monthly Ideas](#)

[Festival of Trees Flyer](#)

[Georgia Craft Teams](#)

morale in the club and refresh relationships.

4) Speaking about relationships - Bring a family member to the next meeting!

I don't know about you, but I'm excited about this next season and looking forward to cooler weather and fun projects.

If you need help, please call or email us - we're always here for you!

Cimi Douglass
2020-2022 North West District President
"Love Grows Here"

Request from our State:

The State would like a list of all past Presidents in our District, even those who served in our 10 Districts in the past that are current members and pay dues. Here's what I came up with - please help me with this task by clicking the button below to update the google form or view and send me your updates via email.

[Update Past Presidents List Here](#)

Southern Region News - As you know our State belongs to the Southern Region and we are all invited to attend the annual Southern Region Convention which will be held on October 21-24 at the Rosen Plaza Hotel in Orlando, Florida.

Please [click here for the Call](#) to SRC and [click here for the Registration Form](#)

Be sure to follow our GFWC Southern Region Facebook page for updates, which will also be posted on our Southern Region website (www.gfwc-southernregion.org).



Pay it Forward 9/11 - Let's Do 20,000 Good Deeds for the 20th Anniversary of 9/11.
Shelby Holland

We said we would never forget.

Perform 3 random acts of kindness for strangers every September 11th to honor the lives we lost in the 9/11 attacks. Together, we can boost kindness and restore unity. The pandemic has brought worldwide suffering and the Pay It Forward 9/11 nonprofit encourage businesses, schools, houses of worship and nonprofits to join them in spreading kindness and compassion, as a way to restore unity.

Organize "teams in your clubs or communities to work together on pay it forward actions. Ask recipients of good deeds to do the same to create a ripple effect. Afterward, bring people together to share inspiring stories.

To download a tool kit and helpful information to plan your event(s) go to <https://www.payitforward911.org/>



Now ladies just think back to this morning to the Feed the Hungry Project. Yes, we just completed a Pay it Forward Activity. When you get back home after this weekend go to their website and register your club. Then start to brainstorm, to think about random ways you can Pay It Forward.

Let's never forget 9/11 and what happened but also to begin to remember the good things we can do to boost kindness as well as follow our organization motto of Unity In Diversity.



1st VP/President-Elect

Julie Bates

We grew our Hives and now we are thriving! Great Job!

Please invite all of your First Vice Presidents to the District meeting. A special gift and Presentation is coming. We want to recognize them in a unique way. Shhhhhhhhh, it is a surprise!

Who will be the "Queen Bee" this year, 2021? Send in your new members numbers now that you have added for 2021

to: jbates1000@aol.com

Deadline for numbers: October 1st.

Keep recruiting and keep the members you have. Each one makes the Hive stronger.



2nd VP

Maria Barnhart

Let's take the mystery out of reporting.

GFWC-GA will continue using the Google forms for 2021 reporting. A Practice link is available to for a refresher on inputting a report. Not to worrying this is for practice only so the data is used only for instructional purposes.



https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLSeOH09x11rI9ow6AxLpdHEOJiLtYHixmWh6_DgV9ztfAU1KQQ/viewform

Regardless of the method that is used for reporting you need the information below to prepare the report. Start now gathering your information and it will be a much easier process.

Question: What information do you need to complete GFWC-GA end of year reports for your club?

Answer: Use the Reports Worksheet as a guide: Total number of projects, hours, dollars donated, in-kind donations. Additionally if applicable, you will need to break out affiliate project information. For narratives you will need the name of project and number of volunteers.

Remember the following and you will be ready to hit the ground running for a GREAT report!

REPORTING REMINDERS

1. Follow the GFWC GA Plan of Work.
2. Stick to the reporting period: Jan 1 – Dec 31.
3. Pay dues by December 1.
4. Pay dues on the same number to District, State or Jr. Conference.

5. Complete the online reporting questions.
6. Place projects in the appropriate category (CSP or other program area), according to intent.
7. File by the deadline: January 25 at 11:59 PM.
8. Remember these definitions:
 - Number of Members in Club = # for which dues are paid by Dec 1st
 - Volunteer Hours = # Members X # Hours worked on Club project
 - Dollars Donated = Money given by Club through Club treasury
 - In-Kind Donations = Value of items donated for project
 - Annual Club Report = Statistical data (required)
 - Narrative of Top Ten Projects (optional)
 - Creative/Outstanding Project (optional)



We plan to have a reporting workshop refresher later in the Fall. Do not hesitate to call if you have questions.

Maria Barnhart, NW District 2nd VP 404-310-0546



Arts & Culture

Joyce Broughton, District Chair

We are still experiencing a global pandemic and there is no better time to value the arts for a boost to our spirits. It doesn't have to be a big event - something as small as helping your children or grandchildren draw sidewalk chalk art, or flipping pages through your favorite cookbook will generate positivity and hope. When you are crafting, sewing, or looking at art; when you are reading or writing poetry or prose; when you are watching movies, plays or dance performances or listening to music; when you begin a new-found interest in culinary arts – revel in the knowledge that you are being healthy! Art is a proven tool for stress reduction and well-being. Making and looking at art has long-term effects like boosting our brain functions and our immune systems.



When we go the extra mile, as clubwomen to find ways to use our own talents to bring joy to other or give others the chance to have artistic or cultural experiences we have boosted the health of our communities.

Normally, we would have had a year full of experiences with our friends, across all media but the virus has continued to challenge us. We can, however, still find ways to participate and share information and feed our brains and souls with the arts.

- You can still contribute to resources that will help artists and the arts. Revisit pages 83 – 89 in the GFWC Yearbook to see ways to help our partners (Operation Smile, Heifer International, March of Dimes, St. Jude's, and Unicef) as well as suggestions for club arts and culture activities.
- When unable to travel you can become a virtual globetrotter and see exhibits and educational material from over 1,200 thousand museums around the world with "Google Arts and Culture."
- Museums have engaged and are sharing artworks imagery on Twitter and Instagram #MuseumMomentofZen.
- Support the cinema arts by popping some corn and paying to watch a movie from home.
- Let your legislators know that you care about protecting the arts.

Join us at the October, NW District meeting in Cartersville and create an artistic surprise with me in just 5 minutes!



Education & Libraries

Linda Mote, District Chair

September 8 is International Literacy Day - What exactly is literacy? Miriam-Webster Dictionary defines literacy as "the quality or state of being literate: educated...able to read and write." Because you can read this post and no doubt spend a lot of time reading online, it may seem incredulous to learn there are people living and working in your own community who not only cannot read this post, but are unable to read a book, a restaurant road sign, a voting ballot, an instruction manual, a prescription bottle label, or a cereal box.



Can you imagine navigating modern-day life without the basic ability to read and write? Wiping out illiteracy in every local community around the world is what International Literacy Day is all about.

40% – the percentage of American third-grade students who read at grade level.

75% – the percentage of children who will struggle to read their whole lives if they fall behind at age nine.

1 in 4 – the number of boys who suffer from some level of dyslexia.

1 in 5 – the number of students who suffer from learning differences.

$\frac{1}{3}$ – the fraction of America's struggling readers who belong to college-educated families.

90% – the percentage of the literacy rate globally for all males.

82.7% – the percentage of literacy rate globally for all females.

From <https://nationaltoday.com> › international-literacy-day

How we can help wipe out illiteracy.

1. Contribute to local literacy organizations
2. Become a literacy tutor
3. Set up Little Libraries. Keep them filled with children and adult books
4. Support community libraries



Environment

Kathy Hanna, District Chair

Our Environment State Chairman just presented a wonderful workshop at GA Institute, you all receive the NW District communications and Cimi downloaded all the information into the Institute Recap Newsletter. Please read it for great ideas

Please think about food for wildlife and think native plants, they have been here a long time and thrive where imports struggle... Bees need flowers that carry pollen and a yard without insecticides.... Think natural pest control. Our most endangered species: BEES. Tour gardens and wildflower meadows that give your members ideas of pollinator plants for them to add to their gardens. Our club is attending a garden center lecture and tour of their natives species this month. Bee City USA is a great organization nationwide you can help your City join.



Check with Scout leaders in your area to sponsor, with an interview and some financial help, Eagle Scout projects that pertain to this CSP.

PROJECT IDEA: Promote all the native plant sales going on this fall... Recycling can be done all year long.. If you have items you don't know what to do with, CHARM in Atlanta does, take a look at livethrive.org/charm.

Do know, per Cathy Jones, that all personal donations to Club promoted projects must go through the Club books to be reported in your state report. Time to start gathering your projects for 2021 reporting to state.

August 20, 2021 was National Honeybee Day. To celebrate the day a Honey Tasting was shared by those attending the Environment CSP Institute Workshop. Ideas were shared for projects and the

Top Ten Projects from last year were highlighted.

1. Detective Seymore Green Puppet Show (GFWC Service Guild of Covington, 4 members, 20 hours, \$500.00 in-kind donation) Four members practiced and performed with KCNB's puppet team to help perform the Detective Seymore Green & Buster Clean the Bases puppet show at First Presbyterian Church of Covington for Girl Scout Troop 18012 and their families and friends. The show educated nearly 30 children about the importance of litter prevention and water pollution prevention using fun characters, a story, and songs.

2. Recycling Club (GFWC Marietta Woman's Club, 16 members, 36 hours) We organized a recycling club of 16 student from all of the fifth-grade class at a local elementary school. We collected and donated 250 groceries bags and taught them to crochet these bags into matts. They intended to donate these matts to the homeless for them to use as bedding or as a cover, however Covid-19 happened. Therefore, the unfished matt was reproduced into another usable item that are to be given to the State winners of the Environment Challenge Project.

3. International World Peace Rose Garden (GFWC Atlanta Woman's Club, 38 members, 40 hours, \$2140.00 donated, 444.00 in-kind) IWPRG is a catalyst for peace around the world. The nonprofit was established to create beautiful rose gardens for peace on public lands. There are ten gardens and the MLK Jr. Historical Park is one of those sacred grounds. The "I have a dream" rose garden was established in 1992. AWC has partnered with this organization since 2015 to maintain the garden and to support an annual celebration honoring the student winners of the messages of peace poems that line the border of the rose garden.

4. Special Needs Garden Therapy (GFWC Lawrenceville Woman's Club, 5 members, 3 hours, \$78.95 donated, \$125.00 in-kind) In partnership with the Lawrenceville Garden Club, a member wrote a grant application for \$125, requiring matching funds, for a Garden Therapy project. The project was for the Young Adults Learning Life Skills (YALLS) students. Grant money was used to purchase soil, tools, and seeds/plants to maintain 4 raised bed gardens. Environment furnished a cash contribution. We renewed a 2-year subscription to National Wildlife Federation's Ranger Rick magazine for elementary school age children.

GFWC and GFWC Georgia Presidents Special Projects

Karen Clydesdale karenclydesdale@bellsouth.net



GFWC State President's Special Project; Food Allergy Research and Awareness FARE

The GFWC GA 125th Anniversary celebration/ challenge for September is for each club to distribute 125 FARE Flyers within your communities. These can go to schools, libraries, doctors' offices, and restaurants etc. I have several flyers about various food allergy conditions from FARE. I will be happy to email some to anyone who needs them. Subjects include the Emergency Care Plan, Frequently Asked Questions, Dining Out with Food Allergies, Recognized Support Group Program, How to Avoid Cross Contact, Leadership Opportunities, Preparing Others to Care for Children with Food Allergies, Understanding Food Labels, Tips for Avoiding Your Allergen, How to read a label for a Sesame Free Diet. You can also create your own flyers. For more information visit www.foodallergy.org.

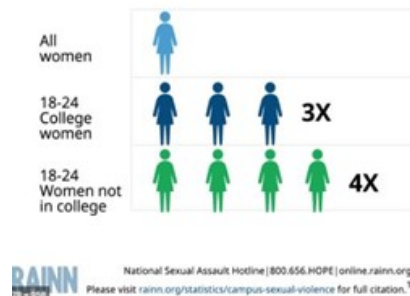
For more information, including a food allergies checklist, recipes for bite sized safe snacks, and preparing for college with food allergies, please visit the link below.

<https://www.foodallergy.org/living-food-allergies/food-allergy-essentials/back-school-resource-hub>



Don't forget as we approach the fall and Halloween, to get your teal pumpkins ready. Teal is the color that represents food allergies and food related medical conditions for the past 20 years. Teal pumpkins have become the symbol of food allergy awareness at Halloween. treats are available for kids with food allergies or other dietary restrictions. Some people have started to refer to it as Tealoween instead of Halloween. Treats can include glow sticks, small toys. Crayons, spider rings, bubbles, and small bouncy balls. There are lots of choices out there. Do not mix the candy with the toys!

It is wonderful that our school campuses are opening back up and the students get to experience in person learning. We all hope and pray that this trend will continue and Covid will not be on the rise again. In addition to this virus, there is another problem that affects our children returning to colleges and that is Campus Sexual assault. This is defined as the sexual assault, including rape, of a student while attending an institution of higher learning, such as a college or university. The victims of such assaults are more likely to be female, but any gender can be victimized. Women ages 18-24 are at an elevated risk of sexual violence. Additional statistics can be found at the following link. <https://www.rainn.org/statistics/campus-sexual-violence> The Atlanta Women for Equality have some great programs and information on this subject. For more information visit info@atlantawomenforequality.org OR (404) 624-6822.



GFWC Georgia
Celebrating 125 Years



Distribute 125 "FARE" flyers to local pediatricians, librarians, etc. to promote President's Special Project

Ella F. White Endowment Fund - 2021 District Challenges

THE CHALLENGES:

Challenge #1

Each GFWC Georgia District is challenged to increase the total dollar amount their respective clubs and individual members contribute to the Ella F. White Endowment Fund during the 2021 calendar year.

Challenge #2

Each GFWC Georgia District is challenged to increase the total number of individuals who contribute to the Ella F. White Endowment Fund during the 2021 calendar year.

WINNING CRITERIA:

Challenge #1

The District that increases their total club contributions by the greatest dollar amount will be the winner of a \$50 cash prize.

Challenge #2

The District that increases the total number of individual members contributing to the EFW Fund will be the winner of a \$50 cash prize.

NOTES:

Qualifying club contributions (\$25 and greater) can be submitted with state dues for a club and must be received by the GFWC Georgia State Office postmarked no later than December 1, 2021.

Contributions made to the EFW fund individually must be made payable to GFWC Georgia, with "Ella F. White" in the memo line, and sent to the State Office no later than December 1, 2021. Contributions in the amount of \$25 and greater will qualify.

The prizes will be awarded to the winning Districts at the 2022 GFWC Georgia State Convention in Peachtree City.



Volunteering Made Simple

All our volunteer shifts are open and available for sign-up!

Our new volunteer portal makes volunteer sign-up easier than ever! Please be sure to visit the link below and sign up for your preferred shifts before they are gone!

If you signed up and completed your registration prior to June 15th, you will need to follow the link below and set up your new festival volunteer account. We apologize for this

inconvenience, but it only takes 4-5 minutes and will be worth it!

If you aren't sure if you are signed up in the new system, just send us a message to info@gafestivaloftrees.org. We will be happy to help.

[CLICK HERE TO REGISTER NOW!](#)

SHOP NOW

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Store**

GFWC Georgia - North West District
www.gfwcgeorgia-nwdistrict.org