

# Community Service Programs



SOUPER Bowl X: **GFWC South Brunswick Islands** partnered with area potters, local restaurants and caterers, along with the Brunswick Beacon for our 10th Annual SOUPER BOWL. All of the proceeds raised were donated to our local community to help feed the food insecure.

Ticketholders were provided soup, bread, dessert, water and a handmade (keepsake) pottery bowl to serve as a reminder of all the empty bowls in our community and throughout the world. Over 300 handmade pottery bowls, items for the pottery raffle, silent auction, and sale were all donated by area potters. Remaining soup was donated to a local non-profit organization to help feed the homeless. Four non-profits were each presented with a check to be used specifically for feeding the hungry within our community.

**SNOOPY CHRISTMAS PLAYGROUND – The Woman’s Club of Clayton** has been developing public interest in the Clayton Community Garden. TWCC members designed a plan to make the garden into a Snoopy delight for children and adults. Lights and holiday decorations surrounded the centerpiece of the garden – 3-foot Snoopy “flying” in his plane. The plane was created from materials at hand and stood 10 feet high. The shed in the garden became Snoopy’s doghouse, fire hydrants were created out of large garbage cans, and cutouts of Snoopy in various poses as well as dog bones lined the fence surrounding the garden. A gazebo became a sleigh out of plywood by members. Children were able to leave notes for Santa at the mailbox provided. TWCC’s wonderland, Snoopy’s Playground, received the town of Clayton award “Most Creative for Non-Retail.

**N.C. Sorosis** club’s arts hosted seven “Craft & Coffee” sessions. These sessions provided skilled members to teach clubwomen and friends how to make a craft. Members were shown how to make a small purse with recycled plastic tablecloths, necklaces using recycled paper boxes and flower arrangements using dyed and natural corn husks creations. With the experience of bead making from boxes, a small pin/ornament was created. A small pin was glued to the body of the person and attached to a card with the name “Tomorrow’s People” and a brief explanation of NC Sorosis. The Craft & Coffee sessions impacted new members and seasoned members to participate and learn a new activity.

**GFWC of Holden Beach’s** 11th Annual ‘Blooming for a Cause’ Charity Gala. The Gala’s primary beneficiaries are Hope Harbor Home and Providence Home. For the 11th anniversary, our theme was Mardi Gras in March and we incorporated the color purple for domestic violence awareness and prevention. The decorations made by members created the atmosphere. Materials to create centerpieces, podium decoration, green chair ties were ordered. Club members were involved in the process of creating the centerpieces and favors. Forty masks for the vases were individually trimmed, feathered and completely done by hand.

**GFWC of North Wilkesboro Woman’s Club** learned that students at a middle school and high

school wanted someone to teach them how to play the piano. The club met with teachers at the school and agreed to donate funds to pay for piano keyboards to place in classrooms and headphones for each student. Club members visited “recitals” once a month to see the students “Tingling the Ivories”. “Tingling the Ivories” made a successful comeback in the school system.

**The Anderson Creek Woman’s Club** invited residents of the ACC community to an adult evening event to cap off the Arts Festival. The event provided dinner, beverages, music, raffles, a silent auction, and, of course, the amazing art, crafts and photography that was on display. A theme was chosen, and the hall was decorated based on that theme. The theme was “Celebrate the Arts” and was catered by the ACC Dining Car & Grill. Tickets were sold in advance to cover the cost of food. Baskets were donated by Clubwomen for the annual Silent Auction.

Happy Hookers is the name of a gathering of club members interested in needlework (knitting, crocheting, needlepoint, cross stitching, smocking, quilting, hook work). **The Woman’s Club of Raleigh** does this as a club during each month.

**Fuquay-Varina Woman’s Club** sponsored art classes for the members and guests taught by the Art CSP Chair. There were 3 classes for painting on canvas with acrylics held over the course of the year. The cost for the class included the canvas and supplies. The members and guest painted umbrellas with flowers at one session, large cone flowers and painted Lotus Flowers at other sessions. Each painter took her art home the day of the class. The funds go to help the Art CSP activities and to pay for supplies. Each painter gets a canvas with the pattern on it, supplies and hands on instructions to paint.

**Charlotte Woman’s Club** supported Jazz Arts Charlotte whose mission is to connect the cultural community and develop an audience for jazz through quality education, performance and musician support. Our club donated \$250 in gift cards and miscellaneous office supplies to offset some of the overhead expenses incurred by Jazz Arts Charlotte. The Charlotte Woman’s Club provided a grant for \$3,000 to provide scholarships for 8 students to cover the cost of programming during both the academic year and summer months. We were delighted to host Jazz Arts Charlotte at a meeting so they could share the impact that the scholarship had for one of their students. As a thank you to Jazz Arts for speaking at our meeting we provided an additional \$250 donation.

**The Fuquay-Varina Junior Woman’s Club** encourages its members to support local artists. Members attend art performances each month and members encourage local youth to sing and dance through a weekly program called “Kids and Praise”. This program focuses on children aged 5-8. And club members lead the group through songs and instrument playing. This effort is a great introduction for the little ones in our community.



# CONSERVATION

**Clayton Junior Woman's Club** collected gently used shoes to be donated to the Shoebox Recycling program. These shoes are mailed to them, and they send them to people around the world who are in need of shoes. This kept all these shoes out of local landfills.

Trees Charlotte is a public/private nonprofit collaboration to grow, diversify and steward Charlotte's iconic urban forest. Known as "The City of Trees," Charlotte has a wonderful foundation for achieving manageable canopy goals. With a vision of 50 percent canopy coverage, trained volunteers and science-based programs teach residents about the value of trees and how to plant and care for them. Trees Charlotte is taking a more aggressive approach to ensure the continued health and well-being of our tree canopy and is educating the city on actively planting thousands of trees to account for growth and development in the city and around the region. The **Charlotte Women's Club** (CWC) hosted a guest speaker from Trees Charlotte and collected seeds for local plantings. A speaker's gift was given for programming support and an additional donation was made in support of their programs the previous fall.

**The Charlotte Woman's Club** donated funds to support the maintenance and programs of Wing Haven. Wing Haven is a respite for birds and other wildlife and a welcoming place to discover the beauty and wonders of nature. Located on Ridgewood Avenue in Charlotte, North Carolina, it has become one of the most famous addresses in Southern garden history. Created by two women named Elizabeth who lived and gardened just down the street from one another, the gardens are a unique destination that inspires passion for the natural world.

**Fuquay-Varina Junior Woman's Club** began an annual tradition of celebrating Earth Day with other local citizens. Our club created an event titled "Clean the Quay". We publicized the event through our website, social media, and word of mouth. Our club walked over 2 miles of road frontage in front of a local elementary school collecting trash and recycling items during our walk. We encouraged guests and had 4 non-members in attendance. Over 12 trash bags were collected from our watershed and creek system. Club members found large items such as trash bags and many small items like fishing hooks and cigarette butts. Club members wore gloves, vests, and our bright pink FVJWC shirts. Safety is important!

Founded in 1937, The Carolina Bird Club is a non-profit organization that promotes bird-watching as well as ornithological conservation and education efforts. Since its founding, it has published a bulletin known as The Chat, which offers readers insightful information regarding the study of, and care for birds. The **JWC of Raleigh** is looking to expand our relationship with the Carolina Bird Club and provided a monetary donation in 2019 to help support their endeavors in conservation and preservation within our community.

Conservation Education - Plastic bags - while they can be pretty useful - tend to help lead the way in plastics pollution and wildlife endangerment. It is fairly easy to re-use plastic bags that we accumulate, but as they are ripped and torn, the question becomes "what can actually be done with plastic bags that no longer hold items". On October 8th, the Conservation CSP hosted an educational training where we

were taught how to up-cycle the surplus of plastic bags that we have collected in our homes. The goal was to turn these too easily discarded bags into something that would be both useful and useable by many. The training included cutting plastic bags into strips, knotting them together to make plarn (i.e. plastic yarn), and then crocheting the plarn into larger pieces. The larger, crocheted pieces are able to be made into sturdy tote bags while smaller pieces can be made into mats. The bags and mats can be donated to homeless shelters and then provided to occupants as they are in transition. With the bags and mats being made from re-used plastic, they are more water-repellant and can help in maintaining dryness of valuables.

The **JWC of Raleigh** partnered with another organization, CDM Smith, to clean up trash and debris in a 1-mile stretch near Crabtree Creek. CDM Smith has officially adopted this area in a manner that is similar to “Adopt-a-Highway”, wherein regular clean-up activities are planned to ensure cleanliness of the area and removal of visible water area contaminants. The location of this clean-up event was great for all members and non-members who participated as it was not too close to major traffic and was exceptionally kid-friendly. Conservation is everyone’s responsibility. By this event including children of participants, it was a way in which to lead by example and to teach our younger generation of the importance of giving back to our community as well as preservation of nature. Our club would like to coordinate with CDM Smith on another similar project in the future.

The **GFWC North Wilkesboro Woman’s Club** provided funding to Traphill Elementary School (pre-k- grade 5) for the installation of a heating and cooling system for their current Greenhouse. Members worked with school staff on this project so that students could grow a variety of plants in the greenhouse and record growth changes among different plants during each season of the year. This greenhouse had been underutilized due to funding.

The **Wilmington Woman’s Club** members hosted a speaker that became dismayed by the number of paper straws floating in the water around their community. After testing paper straws, bamboo straws and stainless straws, they invented glass straws. They started their own company making and selling reusable glass straws. The straws are microwave safe, dishwasher safe, good with heat and cold, and nonporous and come with a lifetime guarantee regardless of the circumstances. The straws come with a carrying case. This venture has spread not only locally but also across the nation.

The **GFWC Warrenton Woman’s Club** participated with Carolina Waterfowl Rescue (a charitable nonprofit rescue group). Members knitted or crocheted 27 bird nests to assist this nonprofit in rescuing baby birds.



**Burlington Woman's Club** showed their appreciation for teachers and all staff with four creative projects. Valentines were handmade by all members at the January BWC General Meeting and presented along with a box of Russell Stover chocolates to each staff member; Flower arrangements were made and cookies baked for Teacher Appreciation Week; "Survival Bags" were constructed for teachers and staff along with breakfast in the fall; and in December, a generous breakfast spread of Panera bagels, and all the trimmings was provided for their enjoyment during a teacher workday. Door prizes were given out at each event.

**Charlotte Woman's Club** gave \$8,000.00 toward the operating budget of the Parkview Community Foundation, focusing on vehicles and expenses that will provide transportation of students to and from this program which was developed for children in a neighborhood where there is inadequate care and supervision and much danger. This program provides daily healthy meals, a backpack program which provides weekend meals, after school tutoring and a summer day camp. The club also collected over \$1300 worth of children's books, tissues, wipes, vegetable seeds and rewards for their treat box.

**Clayton Junior Woman's Club**, helped sponsor LytCon, a comic / superhero-themed literacy event for children in grades K-5. Students participated in games and activities to promote reading and writing with a comic-con theme. Free lunch was provided. Children were able to earn "lyt-bucks" by playing the games, and then were able to turn those bucks in for free books. The books were donated by local businesses and individuals.

**Fuquay-Varina Juniores** taught literacy and other skills at the Halloween Hoopla party at their local library. They made a fun celebration with stories, face painting, games like "Monster Mash," and "Pin the Tail on the Ghost," ball toss, and crafts as "Build a Zombie" with tape and popsicle sticks. They made reading fun for over 40 children and advertised the event over social media.

**GFWC-South Brunswick Islands** adopted Shallotte Middle School-both teachers and students. They hosted a Teacher Appreciation Picnic at the end of the school year, providing a generous spread of food and door prizes for everyone. During Christmas, staff members were given candy gift bags. On awards day, one math award was given to an outstanding student and one English award was given to another. Clubwomen volunteered as lunch Buddies and classroom proctors and in collaboration with Communities in Schools, the club made a donation to their Positive Behavior Intervention and Support Program.

**Greensboro WC** selected a high poverty school without a PTA to receive their assistance throughout the year. They contributed their time and funds, collecting 117 Dr. Seuss books and bringing Dr. Seuss characters to the school as part of Read Across America. They assisted with the Scholastic Book Fair and provided lunch for teachers and staff during Teacher Appreciation Week, as well as donated art supplies for this school.

**Junior WC of Raleigh** served as the largest sponsor for the annual "Are You Smarter Than a 10th Grader" trivia event of the Wade Edwards Learning Lab (WELL). Juniors participated in both cleverly

named trivia teams as well as served as cheerleaders for their fellow club women. Proceeds directly benefitted the program of WELL.

**NC Sorosis of Wilmington** scheduled a series of events to make learning fun for everyone. They wrote newsletter articles about the GFWC-NC President and Director of Junior's special projects. They created a new activity "Seek and Find" of historical location and "Did you know?" that informed members of Federation History. Their new member, "FLO," traveled all around the world with members. They also hosted a speaker and a workshop on breast cancer.

**Outer Banks WC** hosted a Dr. Seuss Birthday party at a local yogurt shop. Young customers received a red and white Dr. Seuss hat to wear during the event, where they enjoyed face painting, coloring of birthday cards and reading of Dr. Seuss books. Children received bookmarks, stickers and pencils. Special yogurt flavors were offered: Green Eggs and Ham the Cat in the Hat, and the Places You'll Go. Children enjoyed getting their pictures made with the Cat in the Hat. Hundreds of adults and children attended this Read Across America event.

**Women's League of Henderson** supported teachers of their local school system in a variety of ways. They donated school supplies; created two sets of alphabet reading books for two kindergarten classes (a book for each letter, 26 books per student); served as proctors; helped with Stanford 10 testing; donated coats for needy school children; assisted with a fundraising project of the school; and treated teachers with apples and candy during the school year.



ACT (Area Christians Together) Support Project, a major project for the **Women's League of Henderson**. They supported two major fundraisers for ACT, donated can goods for the pantry, donated men's clothing for the homeless shelter as well as sheets and comforters for Hope House, a transition home for homeless men with the desire to get back on their feet.

**The Wilmington Woman's Club** partnered with the Wilmington Lions Club to hold an E-Sight Glasses Seminar and Clinic. E-Sight is an advanced assistive eyewear technology that enables people with central vision loss to see and live independently. Over the course of a Friday and Saturday, club members worked as receptionists, hostesses escorting participants to and from the screening area while other club members monitored the low vision aids table. Other club members guided participants to the funding table and were responsible for replenishing the food and supplies.

**The Burlington Woman's Club** chose to support the young ladies of The Boys and Girls Homes of North Carolina by delivering 48 prom dresses, 3 purses, 2 large bags of make-up, 1 large bag of jewelry and 15 pairs of shoes for their prom. The club also made a donation of \$300 from their Home Life budget.

**Greensboro Woman's Club** worked to refurbish and supply the recreation room at the Cone Behavioral Hospital for Children and Adolescents. Through personal donations and club funds, the Home Life Committee was able to purchase bike/ball pumps, clothing, books, puzzles and various items.

**The Hickory Woman's Club** donated the proceeds of their spring luncheon and fashion show to the Sipes Transitional Living Program serving youth who are homeless after aging out of the county's welfare system. Youth, ages 16-21, attend school, gain employment, learn to drive while being provided the tools and opportunities to learn and practice successful independence. Six club members toured the facility and the director of Sipes Orchard Home served as a model in the club's fashion show. The club presented the Program with a check for \$2500 which was used to purchase linens, towels, mattress covers, comforters, sheets and other linens for the newly renovated cottage

**Zebulon Woman's Club** decorated the Church Fellowship Hall with the theme "Rock for the Cure". Tables were decorated with old LP records with a musical question on them to be awarded for a door prize. Club members helped decorate, serve the food and provide the evening's entertainment.

The **Woman's Club of Clayton**, in conjunction with the Lowes Foods in Clayton, held a senior food drive at the store. Club members, using the store paper bags, attached a small request list with needed items to each bag, which were then handed to customers willing to purchase an item for the food drive. The club also supplied pamphlets from the senior center for customers to learn more on the center's services.

Founded in 2009, the Helene Foundation is a volunteer-driven non-profit organization that provides immediate support to mothers fighting cancer in order to positively impact their families. Mothers who

are actively undergoing cancer treatments are referred to the Helene Foundation where they receive family-specific support that's customized to their needs. **The Junior Woman's Club of Raleigh** gathered items that would make each Helene Foundation client feel beautiful, lifted up, and little more like her pre-cancer diagnosis self. Some examples of the beauty box contents include cosmetics, jewelry, fuzzy socks, chocolates, personal notes of encouragement, and journal/pen sets. We have truly enjoyed our partnership with the Helene Foundation and are honored to aid their clients as they navigate their new-normal life journey.

The **Charlotte Junior Woman's Club** partnered with A Child's Place which identifies children in need, most of whom are homeless. The club arranges a date at a local Shoe Show store and meets with the children allowing them to pick out a new pair of shoes appropriate for school. For many of these children, this is one of the first decisions they get to make for themselves. The Shoe Show staff ensures proper measuring and fit. While waiting their turn to pick out their new shoes, the kids play games and eat snacks provided by Charlotte Juniors. The kids leave with their new shoes and a smile on their faces.

**Triton Juniores** collected feminine hygiene products each month to be distributed to Triton High School, Dunn Middle School, and Coats Erwin Middle School. The products were donated for girls who are unable to afford them. We are helping around 40 girls at Triton High School as well as 20-30 at each Middle School.





# INTERNATIONAL OUTREACH

**Charlotte Woman's Club** supported a local nonprofit, Refugee Support Services. With a \$4,000 grant, 28.75 volunteer hours, and \$216 of in-kind donations through the collection of paring knives, peelers and cutting boards, our Club had the opportunity to learn from Rachel Humphries, Executive Director of Refugee Support Services how their organization makes a difference in the lives of those newly-arrived in the United States. Refugee Support Services teaches self-sufficiency skills to refugees, empowering them to thrive in American society. Their Refugee Help Center assist with understanding their mail, helping to make telephone calls to solve issues and make appointments, completing government forms, understanding bills and payment options, and family literacy programs. Refugee Support Services has benefitted from a CWC grant to support women's activities that include a Women's Tea four times a year and healthcare screenings. Their mentoring program includes the Fruitful Friendship Program that facilitates connections with refugees to local community members. In addition to helping the refugees, they also educate Americans about refugees and the refugee population in their community.

**NC Sorosis** held an information session and made a \$150 contribution to International Seamen's Center at a monthly meeting. The mission of the Seamen's Center of Wilmington is to meet the needs of the seafarers who visit the ports. We learned a warm welcome is extended to ease the pain of loneliness and isolation and to offer a respite from the hazards of the sea. Rev. Henry Capillary from the International Seaman's Center spoke to the membership about what the seaman working on the freighters and what the hospitality center does at the State Ports. The International Seaman's Center is a Christian mission ministering to the spiritual and temporal needs of the thousands of international seafarers who sail into the Port of Wilmington every year. Seamen are also thrilled to be taken to local stores and shop giving them enjoyment as well as time to purchase needed items.

Board members of the local Centro Latino attended the **GFWC Hickory Woman's Club** spring luncheon and fashion show. Centro Latino assists our Spanish-speaking neighbors as they assimilate into the community. It also provides tutoring for Spanish-speaking children among other services. The HWC has assisted Centro Latino in the past by providing funds for after-school snacks for the children, and as a result of their attendance at the HEC fundraiser, Centro Latino invited the HWC Chairman to serve as a consultant as they made plans to hold their own fundraising fashion show. The Centro Latino event was a huge success and raised several thousand dollars for their organization.

The **Henderson Junior Woman's Club** donated \$100 of the annual budget to "Watering Malawi" which is a ministry of Passport, Inc based in Alabama. This donation will help provide access to clean water, simple irrigation and sanitation in Malawi.

The **Clayton Junior Woman's Club** held a Pub Crawl to raise money for the Taiwo Foundation. Taiwo Foundation helps parents, community leaders and youth protection agencies in St. Vincent develop and deploy community initiatives that increase the awareness and prevention of domestic violence and child sexual abuse and motivate communities to protect women and children. Through our fundrasier, we were able to collect and donate 86 soccer jerseys, 22 shorts and warm up pants and 8 t-shirts.

The **Junior Woman's Club of Raleigh** spent January 12<sup>th</sup> volunteering with the Catholic Parish Outreach, a Catholic Charities of the Diocese of Raleigh program, which provides emergency food assistance and, when possible, small children's clothing and baby items, such as formula and diapers. CPO largely serves members of Raleigh's international community such as refugees and English as a second language speakers. The club spent time sorting good produce from expired produce, cleaning the food storage area, shelving & organizing food, and bagging supplies. Just as we all like to have a tidy home and stocked pantry, it's important that the CPO stay well-maintained and efficient in order to best meet the needs of those who seek their assistance.

The **Fuquay-Varina Junior Woman's Club** sponsors a child annually through Plan International USA. The club receives information each year on our child along with a picture. Plan USA helps to provide education, immunizations, clean drinking water, and skills training to children who may otherwise not have these items that we take for granted. The club read and signed a birthday card for our child abroad.

**GFWC Wake Forest High School Juniorette Woman's Club** - School Safe Zones in Kenya, Africa: The Juniorette officers met with Roberta Macauley of Church World Service to learn about an International Outreach CSP project to help build new schools and/or upgrade existing schools in Kenya to provide a clean and safe learning environment for children—and especially for girls who otherwise might not be given the opportunity to attend school. (Local village leaders partner with Church World Service advisors to upgrade access to clean water and to raise food in community gardens, which creates an opportunity for children to attend school instead of walking long distances to collect water or to accompany their mothers to distant food markets.) The Juniorette officers agreed that the general members would want to learn and help by doing a fundraising project. The club invited Roberta Macauley to the next general meeting to explain School Safe Zones to all the Juniorette members. The Junioresses used markers and photos of before/after the school projects in Kenya to make posters for display at Wake Forest High School advertising a Share Night at Culver's restaurant--an event to raise money (10% of all sales between 5 p.m. and 9 p.m. on March 27, 2019). Wearing matching Juniorette T-shirts, 10 Junioresses worked in two shifts at Culver's to deliver food orders to customers, both inside the restaurant and in the outside drive-up line. The restaurant provided tip jars for money collections, also. A total of \$225 was collected and sent to Church World Service for the School Safe Zones outreach program in Kenya.

**Triton Junioresses** helped a local church pack shoeboxes for the Operation Christmas Child program. These shoeboxes were shipped around the world and given to kids in need. Collectively, we helped pack around 150 shoeboxes for both boys and girls. Participating in this project allowed our club to remember that the holidays should be about giving. We were so glad to help kids around the world who needed it.



## PUBLIC ISSUES

**GFWC-South Brunswick Islands** was given a unique opportunity to aid in the opening of a new women's Christian recovery facility, The Rose House. The seven-bedroom facility will house twenty women at a time over a 16- week recovery program providing them with skills needed to integrate back into the work force and return home to being wives and mothers. GFWC-SBI also contributed \$500 toward the "One Brick at a Time" Capital Campaign to raise funds to purchase the property. The club ladies and CSPs pledged support to provide all funding needed to purchase all bedding supplies for a total cost of \$3,249. Based on a 2018 two-year pledge to Novant Health Brunswick Medical Center Foundation, GFWC-SBI donated \$1,500 to the "A Path Forward" Capital Campaign. The hospital's campaign was initiated to address the hardships of emergency room patient care due to the growing treatment needed for drug addiction and mental health patients. Funding will expand the current emergency room, address first response and emergency transport, and provide outreach in every school and community to address these needs.

The **Dolley Madison Woman's Club** annually adopts the Guilford County Juvenile Detention Center at Christmas, providing needed goods and presents for the children incarcerated there. This year the Club also provided library books and magazines for their library, funded an arts program, solicited for and donated clothes and luggage for a clothing closet for the children's every day and court needs, and funded a shopping account for specially needed clothes to be purchased at local Good Will Stores.

**N.C Sorosis** believes that a small gesture can go a long way to express appreciation and gratitude from the community. They expressed their gratitude and recognized the service and sacrifices made by local first responders, law enforcement agencies and veterans by writing Thank You Notes. They delivered over 136 notes to local agencies. They also purchased over \$500 of linens and toiletries for and made a donation of \$200 to a local Veterans Shelter – Ashley Center. The linens and beddings provided individual supplies for the Veterans who were leaving the facility. Members toured the Shelter then hosted a speaker from the Shelter at two meetings.

**The Zebulon Woman's Club** sponsored a Public Forum for the Zebulon Town Commissioners running for election. The event was held at the Zebulon Woman's Club Building. The club purchased 350 flyers and 12 signs to be placed at various places around town and a banner was placed at the main intersection of town. A moderator was secured from WTVD Channel 11. She asked specific questions to each delegate that were turned in from the public. Each delegate was allowed a certain time frame for each question. The forum was well attended from the town and informative to those who attended.

Five members of the **Cary Woman's Club** hosted the February 19, 2019 meeting of the seventeen members of the Chrysalis Club at the North Carolina Correctional Institution for Women (NCCIW). They began by asking Chrysalis Club members what they would like to do. When one of the members requested a book or journal that could be used to store pictures and letters she received, the clubwomen provided materials for the Chrysalis Club members to make their own journals. The project was well-received and gave them the opportunity to be creative. The residents assembled their books and decorated them with the stickers CWC members had donated, using markers and crayons to label or color special pages. Each resident had an opportunity to share her finished product and explain how she

had chosen to decorate her book. The club also donated 104 paperback books for the prison library. The club members enjoyed visiting with the residents and getting to know them a little better. Plans for the next year's visit were immediately begun.

**GFWC-NC Kings Mountain Woman's Club** sponsored Breakfast with Santa. Three hundred seventy-nine people attended a hearty buffet breakfast prepared by club members and their spouses that included Christmas character pancakes. Santa mingled with the guests and then welcomed the children for pictures made by a professional photographer. Kings Mountain High School students served as elves who helped the children choose gifts from the Elf's Closet. Many of the gifts had been hand made by the club members. Elementary school guidance counselors had identified the children and their families to be welcomed, fed, and provided gifts and the photo package without charge.

Due to safety issues for both pedestrians and vehicles at an intersection in downtown Burlington, the **Burlington Woman's Club** Public Issues CSP initiated the project of petitioning for stop signs to create a four-way stop. Members researched the proper procedures, prepared the proposal, met with and received the unanimous endorsement of the Police Department's Traffic Committee as well as the Director of Downtown Burlington Corporation. The proposal now awaits approval by the City Council.

The **Wilmington Woman's Club** hosted the 4th Annual Tea for Women Military Veterans to honor their service to our country. Thirty area women veterans in addition to 2 active duty members attended despite the tea having to be rescheduled after a hurricane. Sharing in the recognition of the women military veterans was the E.A. Laney High School ROTC that presented the colors. The keynote speaker, Colonel Rebecca Vernon USAF, Staff Judge Advocate, Air Mobility Command (AMC) Scott AFB, Illinois, is the principal advisor to the AMC Commander and staff on all legal issues. Her speech focused on the important role that women play in the military today. She also shared her experiences as a beginning JAG Officer, along with the responsibilities of being a wife and mother to two sons.

**Henderson Junior Woman's Club's** Operation Cookie Takeover project has been one the club looks forward to every year. The club sends cookies to service men and women all over the world. This is just a small "thank you" for their outstanding service to our country. Our club asks for names and addresses of service men and women who would like to receive our "care" package. Once we get all of our cookies wrapped up and sorted, they are mailed out to the appropriate address. This year we had 10 participants, giving 10 hours and \$100.00 of in-kind donations.

While considering project ideas, **the Fuquay-Varina Juniorette club** became excited to hear about a local volunteer organization that helps military service members and their families, MMIA. The president of MMIA attended a club meeting explaining the different projects MMIA supports for military families. Twelve club members and several guests/prospective members were in attendance. The Juniorettes were touched and wanted to help! One Saturday in April, club members were invited to join the MMIA office for spring cleaning. Seven Juniorettes cleaned the vehicles that are used to construct homes for veterans. They also washed windows and organized supplies for upcoming projects. One of MMIA's most notable projects is a "Fill the Shoebox" campaign. Monthly, they send care packages to servicemen and women overseas. The boxes include toiletry items and small activities to remind the military members of home. MMIA also builds or modifies houses for military families. Often this includes modifying homes for wheelchair accessibility or building ramps.

# GFWC SPECIAL PROGRAMS



## DOMESTIC VIOLENCE

**GFWC of Holden Beach-** 11<sup>th</sup> Annual Charity Gala that benefits Hope Harbor Home which provides services for domestic violence victims/survivors and their children and Providence Home which is a Family Emergency Teen shelter. From the proceeds of the event, donations were made to Hope Harbor Home and Providence home. A new activity game was introduced called Heads and Tails which raised funds using Mardi Gras beads. The revenue generated from this first-time event was \$540.00 which included a \$280.00 donation by the winner in memory of their Club President Judy Brock.

**NC Sorosis** created their *ABC's of Giving* to help children thrive and women make healthy choices. Each member was asked to bring items associated with the designated letter of the alphabet. One month members were asked to bring items that started with M-N-O-P and another month clubwomen were asked to bring items that began with Q-R-S-T. Items donated were M for Mac and Cheese and mashed potatoes, N for Nabisco cookies and Nestle Quick, O for Oatmeal and Oven mitts, P for pop tarts and Pantene Shampoo. They were told this was just what they needed due to the substantial damage during Hurricane Florence. At each meeting a trifold was displayed showcasing the project details as well as facts about Domestic Violence. Articles such as Emotional Abuse & Intimidation Control and Isolation were published in the club's newsletter and handouts were given to all members.

**GFWC-NC Winston Salem Junior Woman's Club** attended summer meeting and learned about a project to collect purses and fill them with hygiene items and donate to a Domestic Violence shelter. They collected 43 purses and met at a local store to purchase hygiene items. These items included pens, paper, tissues, deodorant, combs, and hand sanitizers. The items were placed in a plastic bag and then in each purse. They donated the purses to Family Services of Winston-Salem who agreed to distribute the purses to women staying in their Domestic Violence shelters. They also donated some purses to Dress for Success a local orientation that helps women get jobs by providing a clothing closet, interview techniques, financial workshops and other workshops to get them back on their feet. Four members volunteered 12 hours and \$400.00 in kind donations.

**NC Sorosis-** Collected 347 items and made a \$300.00 donation to Operation Pretty Thing. This organization provides beauty essentials to women in 17 shelters in North Carolina.

**Cary Woman's Club-** In December the Raleigh InterAct Agency (which provides safety, support and awareness to victims and survivors of domestic and sexual violence in Wake County) hosts a Holiday Bazaar for one weekend. The agency is transformed into a store where parents "shop" to choose toys and gifts for their children and the children can choose gifts for their parents. The club makes twenty-five baskets for the moms with useful, as well as fun, items, including journals, bath and body items, makeup, jewelry, socks, scarves, candles etc. CSP members spent time sorting, building and decorating these 25 baskets. In addition, several members donated personal funds to Interact. The club also gave a grant to the Client Assistance Program of Interact to help provide critical support to victims and families of domestic violence and sexual violence in their community.

**GFWC-NC Fuquay Varina Junior Woman's Club** continued their partnership with Interact of Wake County. In July, members went to an event Summer Soiree which directly benefited Interact of Wake County. At the event there were several individual fundraisers where members donated funds. Several members participated in a ping pong tournament for the charity. Members also successfully bid on items at the silent auction that evening.

**Burlington Woman's Club** Members are very attentive to the Family Abuse Services in Alamance County for their shelter for women and children. Members donate towels, toiletries and other personal products. The shelter sends residents to the BWC Thrift shop where they are "given" clothes for themselves and their children along with other needed necessities. A collection jar on the sales desk at the Thrift shop accumulated change and small donations at Christmas time and the club made donations from budgeted funds several times during 2019.

**AL Brown Juniorette Club** made fleece blankets for a local battered women's shelter called (CVAN). In their February newsletter a link was provided to Break the Cycle website for tips and information about Teen Dating Violence prevention. This was during Teen Domestic Violence Awareness month and at the meeting they made posters and displayed them throughout the school. They also provided dates of events to promote Teen Domestic Violence.

**Anderson Creek Woman's Club** set up quarterly campaigns around high demand needs the Lillington office of S.A.F.E. is trying to fulfill, such as paper products (toilet paper/paper towels), personal hygiene items, towels, and flip flops. They advertised on their community webpage and through property owners' associates and emails. Items were donated and collected at designated areas, sorted and taken to S.A.F.E. This is their 11<sup>th</sup> year of partnering with S.A.F.E. Items that were donated, but couldn't not be used at S.A.F.E., were taken to the Fantastic Finds Thrift shop and all profits from the Thrift Shop sales benefit the S.A.F.E. House.



# ADVOCATES FOR CHILDREN

The **Junior Woman's Club of Charlotte** partners with A Child's Place to identify children in need, most of whom are homeless, to ensure the proper stewardship of the time and funds of the club. Club members meet the children at a local Shoe Show and let them to pick out a new pair of shoes appropriate for school. For many of these children, this is one of the first decisions they get to make for themselves. The Shoe Show staff ensures proper measuring and fit. While waiting their turn to pick out their new shoes, the kids play games and eat snacks provided by the club. The kids leave with their new shoes, socks, a giftbag and a smile on their faces.

H.O.P.E. of Winston-Salem (Helping Our People Eat) is an organization in Winston-Salem that uses community-wide volunteer support to prepare and bring nutritious weekend meals to Forsyth County's 40,000 children who are at risk for hunger every week. In the lunches, they provide a ham and cheese sandwich, fruit and dessert. Parents receive vegetables to cook. Most of the items at H.O.P.E are donated by grocery stores and local farmers. Member of the **Winston-Salem Junior Woman's Club** helped pack lunches for the children as well as bags of vegetables to be given out to the parents in these communities.

The **Mary Stewart Woman's Club** members donated Dr. Seuss books on two different occasions to the Sweet Dreams Project at The Green Chair Project in Raleigh, NC. One of the occasions was to celebrate Dr. Seuss' birthday in March – 10 books were donated. The second donation was to support the GFWC Grand Initiatives – Dr. Seuss books donated to local agencies.

The **GFWC South Brunswick Islands** members support Brunswick County Smart Start Organization's "Park Time Reading" campaign. GFWC-SBI maintain a Little Free Library (built by the club in 2018) and keep it stocked with books. Their emphasis is early literacy, so the focus is on books for your children. They also support one of the 7 Grand Initiatives by providing Dr. Seuss books for the Little Free Library. In addition to the library the club raised money for Smart Start.

Working with the local elementary school counselor, appropriate seasonal clothing is purchased for children identified by school counselor and teachers. A **Camden Woman's Club** member meets with counselor to discuss the clothing/shoe needs and sizes for children. The club purchases the needed items and provides to the school counselor. If an item size is incorrect, a club member picks the items up, exchanges and returns the items to counselor for another fitting session. Once the items are determined correct, all tags are removed to prevent the return/exchange of an item. Members also purchase items at random and donate to the Kids Closet. The school counselor stores any items that are donate for the next seasonal needs.

March of Dimes' purpose is to improve the health of mothers and babies by preventing birth defects, premature birth and infant mortality. **GFWC-South Brunswick Island Woman's Club** members participated in the March for Babies in Myrtle Beach, SC on April 13, 2019. In promotion of the walk, two members attended the kick-off rally in Myrtle Beach in February. The club was recognized locally as 3rd place in donations for non-family member groups. The GFWC-SBI sewing committee also completed 26 no-sew blankets with children themed fleece material for donation to the March of



Dimes. Fourteen of those blankets were shipped to the March of Dimes national headquarters to be used in the “Operation Shower” program. This program honors a military mom with a baby blanket at a baby shower in her honor for serving our country. Twelve blankets were presented at the April walk to be used at local military showers

**South Brunswick Island Woman’s Club** helps combat the issue of childhood hunger by filling backpacks weekly with healthy food and snacks for school age children. Backpacks are sent home with children on Friday and returned on Monday to be refilled before Friday. Each month, the club collected non-perishable, single serving foods that were donated to the program in addition to monetary donations and handmade crocheted hats and scarves at Christmas. Throughout the year members help to refill the backpacks and then deliver the filled packs to local schools for distribution.

One of **Fuquay-Varina Junior Woman’s Club**’s largest commitments is the local “Read and Feed” program. The mission of the Read and Feed program is to give elementary school children an appetite for reading by strengthening literacy skills and providing encouragement in a nurturing, neighborhood environment. Using mobile classrooms, the program provides meals to eliminate hunger, mentors to help children read, and books to build home libraries. Club members volunteer their time and resources each month to serve and purchase the food for the attendees. Every member is strongly encouraged to volunteer for this project and the response is usually overwhelming with members and their families ready to help. Even small children are able to help pass out pizza and fruit to the students. This continues to be one of our favorite projects. In 2019, our club was able to assist in two different “Read and Feed” locations due to overwhelming member response.

**GFWC North Wilkesboro Woman’s Club** supports their local SAFE house each month with funds to create a special “holiday” meal. The children get to choose the menu, and shelter employees shop for the food items. The mothers and children get to help prepare the meal. It is a real treat to share this special celebration in a safe and warm environment.

The continue to support the SAFE house with other items each month such as: Halloween costumes for the children in October, table decorations, watermelons in August, locally grown apples, peaches and nectarines, socks, underwear, school supplies, prom dresses, hats, coats, holiday candy, games, puzzles, coloring books, crayons, birthday party supplies, toiletries and personal care items, and pillows for all residents so they have something personal that is just for them. The pillows are a favorite item of all, and they can take their pillows with them when they leave the shelter. At Christmas, 10 new pairs of shoes and 32 pairs of slippers were taken, along with calendars, notepads and candy. At Mother’s Day, small gifts are taken so that the children can give their mother a gift and a card (something many of them have never been able to do). In addition, dress wear and purses are given for the mothers to use for job interviews.

Sandy Nichols was a very involved school social worker with the Wilkes County Schools for many years. After she passed away unexpectedly, a fund (Nichols for Kids) was set up to honor her memory with monies to enable school social workers to help students with clothing, shoes, toiletries, underwear, school supplies, eye exams, reading glasses, etc. The **GFWC North Wilkesboro Woman’s Club** members were advocates for this project.

**GFWC North Wilkesboro Woman’s Club** has 7 retired educators in it, with 3 of them also members of Delta Kappa Gamma. After hearing a school social worker speak of the number of needs for



some high school students they work with, a project was set up to fund feminine hygiene products, shampoo, deodorant, soap, combs, brushes, razors, shaving crème, etc. and a backpack cinch bag to store the items in. Some of these students do not have indoor water or a place to take a shower. Arrangements have been made at the high schools for these students to get a shower and have their own personal products to use and for them to be stored at the schools.

# **GFWC ADVANCEMENT PROGRAMS**



## **COMMUNICATIONS & PUBLIC RELATIONS**

### **Clayton Woman's Club - Newsletter**

The newsletter is published every month September through May. The content includes the President's message, meeting notice, program agenda, CSP news, club activities, member recognitions, personal news, humor, quotes, and inspiration. The newsletter also includes recipes and many pictures of members. This newsletter is the primary communication vehicle of information to past, present and future members. Every month at least 9 leaders submit information so the publication represents all of the fundraisers and projects. This year several new members state that they wanted to join because they read the newsletter on the website.

### **Fuquay-Varina Junior Woman's Club - Run the Quay 5K**

In keeping with the GFWC-NC President's special project, our club committed to running and walking more than ever before. This summer, our club was chosen as the town's charity partner for a race entitled "Run the Quay". At the event, members wore our club's bright pink t-shirts to show club comradery. Two members set up at a table in the "Vendor Village" on the morning of the race. The table served as an advertisement on how to join our club or help us in our efforts in the community. Hundreds of runners and on-lookers chatted with our members during the race. As the charity partner, our club was solely responsible for all the water stations and set-up and clean-up of the two races, 5k and 10k. Our club purchased 5000 cups and cases of water for the runners. In exchange for our early morning efforts, a portion of race proceeds from registrations went to our club's general fund to be disbursed to the community.

### **North Carolina Sorosis - "Hear ye! Hear ye!"**

NC Sorosis determined we would do aggressive press release publicity to the local media including the newspaper, television/radio stations and magazines to announce meetings, fundraising and activities. We submitted **press releases** announcing speaker information, the date and time of meetings, invited the public to attend with a brief description about NC Sorosis' mission, history as well as the organizational structure to the local newspaper. The guidelines were established for the press release sample suggested by GFWC. These were sent during the months when meetings were held. Other fundraising press releases were sent as well as the announcement of the proclamations from New Hanover County and City of Wilmington. We had three guests to attend the meetings and join the club. Publicity was sent to Our State and AAA magazine for the Wilmington Antique Show & Sale. Through these avenues, we increased interest from women who attended our meetings and events.

### **Holden Beach - The Communique Newsletter**

The Communique is published monthly and sent to members using Mail Chimp and reflects a different theme that corresponds to holidays, club activities or health awareness. Some special features include The Gem of the Month and Daisy Pins. It is full of photos, graphics and lots of color. Emails were opened 1523 times during 2019 with an open rate of 88%. This indicates the use of the newsletter for

more than a cursory reading.

### **Camden Woman's Club - Use of Technology w/ Facebook & Zoom**

~**Facebook** - The club has 2 Facebook pages. One page is open for any Facebook member to view. On this page [Camden Woman's Club, Inc.] GFWC, GFWC-NC, District 9 clubs and Camden Woman's Club information and activities are shared. Information is pulled from posts on the mentioned organizations' Facebook page, email announcement or periodicals. This has been an avenue for boosting awareness of our organizations and events. Credits are given to this page for recruiting 3 new members for the 2020 club year. **737 Followers**. The second page [Camden Woman's Club, Inc Members] is a closed group for members only. This page is used for general club member communications. A few activities that are shared on this page are meeting materials; newsletters are posted monthly; personal milestones are shared; arrangements for club volunteers are made. It often is a site for discussion on club matters prior to meetings. This results in quicker decisions during meetings.

~**ZOOM Conference** - has been used for Camden's Executive Board meetings. This is a live video opportunity for the Executive Board members to discuss club business without leaving their homes.

### **Fuquay-Varina Junior Woman's Club - Blood Drives**

Our club introduced a new project in 2019, with a partnership with the Red Cross, we hosted two blood drives. We publicized this heavily on social media and reached over 4900 individuals. Posts pertaining to our two blood drives reached 4,918 in 2019. Our social media manager emphasized for weeks the need in our state for certain blood types. She shared funny pictures and sayings and we met capacity at both drives. The Red Cross was so excited for our help!

### **Clayton Woman's Club - Website**

Our Website was redesigned to be more user friendly in 2019. With the new design all our members and the public wanting information about TWCC can locate information with ease. The new site allows for members to review and retrieve membership information only for members with ease by using a password. In this way we can stay current with new members and changes to club documents. The web site allows for the public to buy tickets to our fundraisers to be completed online. It also allows for our clubhouse rental application and payment process to be completed online.

### **NC Sorosis - "I'm Tired of Others Not Knowing about NC Sorosis" –**

NC Sorosis has been in the community for over one hundred years, yet are still an unknown entity. They are often confused with a liver (cirrhosis) or skin disease (psoriasis). So they worked hard on a public relations campaign.

Public Awareness included inviting elected officials to events such as the Scholarship Event; writing thank you notes to local first responders and law enforcement agencies for their service; and mailing gift wrapping fund raiser rack cards with the schedule to community organizations who received benevolences from us. We display NC Sorosis banners and have NC Sorosis and GFWC brochures on display at all public events. The President's business card has the GFWC logo along with her name, title, club street address, email, club website and phone numbers.

Additional PR included Clubhouse rental rack cards available on display at all outside events and inside the clubhouse. Also, "meet and greet" cards were distributed through the Welcome Service. One new member was gained from this effort. NC Sorosis also has aprons and tee shirts which are useful for

fundraising and community events.

### **Junior Woman's Club of Raleigh - Other Branding**

During 2019 JWCR continued to use previously purchased JWCR koozies to give to prospective members and continued to use vinyl stickers and car magnets for members and supporters to display. Both have helped with branding to promote the club to the general public. They also continued to display their banner at events. Every new member also receives a permanent name tag to wear at club events. Despite the popularity of online tools, the printed brochure continues to be a popular way to distribute club information in person and at community events.

### **The Woman's Club of Raleigh - Tools for Communication**

The Woman's Club of Raleigh strives to effectively communicate with club members and other organizations. They continue to attract new members and have approximately 10-15 guests at our monthly General Meetings. They are successful because of their use of several tools of communication which include a newsletter, a calendar of events, their website, the club yearbook, social media, e-communications and other IT & AVaides.



# FUNDRAISING

*Please feel free to reach out to any of these clubs with questions. The members, hours and dollars raised were left in for club information. Fundraising is the heart of our projects. Without funds the work we do doesn't have as big an impact.*

## **Strides for Scholars**

**Club: Perquimans County Woman's Club / 6 members, 250 hours, \$4,400 raised**

The Perquimans County Woman's Club held their largest and most successful fundraiser to date when their very determined and committed six-member club partnered with other area clubs, community members, and local businesses to host this 5K/10K event. ***Strides for Scholars*** was held in September at the Albermarle Plantation (Sound Golf Links) in Hertford. Over 250 volunteer hours went towards organizing, preparing and executing this event. It was well marketed with flyers, local media, online applications, and through the use of social media. In-kind donations were insurmountable with a local DJ donating his time and equipment, photos were taken by a professional photographer, and gifts and prizes for participants and winners were donated by local businesses. This small club gained the support of their local community and accomplished their goal of awarding two local high school graduates with scholarships to assist with furthering their education.

## **Small Town Gala**

**Club: The Woman's Club of Clayton/ 18 members, 200 hours. \$19,000 raised**

The Woman's Club of Clayton began planning this November event in September 2019. This Small Town Gala was held at The Farm at 42 featuring a buffet dinner, dancing, entertainment by local performers of dance and song. Attendees purchased tickets for \$100 each and participated in a Reverse Raffle, Casino Night and Diamond Dip fundraising activities. Dinner was catered by a local caterer and a cash bar was provided by the venue. Club members secured sponsors, sold tickets, and advertised the event in print and online. A portion of the proceeds will fund The Woman's Club of Clayton's pledge to the Clayton Community Recreational Foundation for their Harmony Playground. This playground is a place where children with limitations may play alongside others in harmony.

## **Taste of Iredell**

**Club: GFWC-NC Statesville Woman's Club / 25 members, 775 hours, \$ 6,794 raised**

The GFWC NC Statesville Woman's Club initiated a new fundraiser called Taste of Iredell in 2019. It was a twist on other "Taste of . . ." events, serving desserts and appetizers rather than meals. This "Sip and Sample" event hosted in November at their clubhouse had a major impact on the club, community and two individual local charities. Local restaurants, bakeries, and clubwomen donated signature desserts and appetizers and area wineries/breweries donated beer and wine, and Starbucks donated coffee. Fundraiser guests participated in a very successful silent auction. Guests were also encouraged to purchase raffle tickets for a Yeti cooler filled with top shelf spirits.

## **Charity Ball**

**Club: Fuquay-Varina Junior Woman's Club / 28 members, 305 hours, \$30,952 raised**

Fuquay-Varina Junior Woman's Club hosted their annual Charity Ball, which netted more than \$16,000. Each member was required to contribute their time to this fundraiser. Members began in January by

soliciting donations from small businesses locally, and large corporations nationally. Donations came in the forms of sponsorships and silent auction items. This event was held November 22, 2019 at Carrollock Farms in Fuquay Varina, with more than 220 guests attending. Attendees included the town mayor, along with another town council. The annual ball's theme was "Circus Theme". As a club, a basket night preparation was held, where club members piece together donations into silent auction baskets. Then club members spent the day together decorating for the event. During the Charity Ball, a 50/50 raffle was held with proceeds of \$400 being donated to the arts in partnership with a local theatre group. Additionally, a "wine pull" was a cash fundraiser at the event and a live auction was held at the end of the evening for the guests to purchase decorations. Proceeds from the event went to the community with donations to two local schools, Military Missions in Action, scholarships, a car seat donation to the Fuquay Fire Department as well as many other community schools and organizations.

### **Stock Your Cellar**

**Club: Junior Woman's Club of Raleigh / 30 members, 175 hours, \$4,939 raised, \$3,600 in-kind**

The Junior Woman's Club of Raleigh held their annual "Stock Your Cellar" Wine Raffle. Over eighty bottles of wine (valued at \$20 or more) were donated by local wine retailers, restaurants, and wineries. The bottles were combined into three "lots" of wine each containing 25 bottles to raffle. The remaining six bottles of wine were set aside for a special Woman's Club-only, half-case wine lot drawing as a special tribute to their mutually supportive relationship. Wine Raffle tickets were sold for \$20 each or 3 tickets for \$50. The drawing took place at a local restaurant. Fifteen percent of total restaurant sales were donated to the club. A Sample Online Auction consisting of three select packages were offered separately from the Silent Auction. The Sample Online Auction was promoted on social media and allowed the opportunity to reach those who were unable to attend the event in-person, yet still wanted to engage and support the JWC of Raleigh. The Silent Auction was also promoted on social media and included teaser images and descriptions of the packages that would be available for in-person bidding during the event. The two auctions included donated merchandise, event tickets, and gift cards that were generously provided by local businesses and organizations, specifically for this event. The Wine Raffle grossed \$4,939. All members participated in some way - through ticket sales, wine donations, sample online and/or silent auction donations, promotion of the event, and event attendance.

### **Holly Days Festival of Gifts**

**Club: Camden Woman's Club / 37 members, 450 hours, \$12,000 raised**

Camden Woman's Club celebrated their 33<sup>rd</sup> annual Holly Days Festival of Gifts and Crafts show. This community event is a 2-day show featuring over 70 area crafts artisans, businesses, and direct sales. Planning the show begins in February and runs up to the event which is held in early November. During preparations for the show, members have the opportunity to advance their skills in salesmanship, graphic design, marketing, organization, and budgeting. All members participate in the planning process, advertisement, and organization. The event is held at a local intermediate school with admission charged to all attendees except for those under the age of 5. Santa is on location and available for visits and photos. Profits from the show fund the majority of the club's activities and projects for the club year.

### **Juleps & Jazz**

**Club: GFWC-South Brunswick Islands / 54 members, 450 hours, \$27,188 raised**

GFWC-SBI held their 6<sup>th</sup> annual signature event (Kentucky Derby style fund"racer") on May 4, 2019. All members participated in the event either by food prep, ticket sales, soliciting of auction items, and/or

working at the event. A live jazz band provided entertainment to the 250+ attendees who donned Kentucky Derby attire and participated in a silent auction, derby raffle, and hat contests. Heavy hors d'oeuvres were prepared by our club women. Bourbon bar, beer, wine, paper products and printing were donated to the event by area businesses. Selfie photo booth included fun props donated by a local business. Local businesses were solicited for additional sponsorships. The event was promoted on our club's website, GFWC-NC website, club's Facebook page, Wilmington Star News, The Brunswick Beacon, and Carolina Country Magazine. Three GFWC-NC officers attended the event.

### **Thrift Shop**

**Club: Burlington Woman's Club / 57 members, 7,105 hours. \$60,685 raised**

The Burlington Woman's Club holds one fundraiser per year for philanthropic projects. In 2019, the club raised a total of \$60,685 from sales at its Thrift Shop. After covering the mortgage on the building and other overhead items, the club netted \$24,000 for donations. All items sold in the Thrift Shop are donated from members and other community members. Items that do not sell are donated to others such as the Women's Resource Center, Rescue Mission, Boys and Girls Home and numerous others. Members work hard to maintain an attractive, clean and appealing place to shop for the cost savvy customers. Many have said the shop looks and feels more like a boutique than a thrift shop.

### **Antique Show & Sale**

**Club: North Carolina Sorosis / 80 members, 1,036 hours. \$6,087 raised**

North Carolina Sorosis celebrated its 49<sup>th</sup> Antique Show and Sale in Wilmington at the Wilson Center on the campus of Cape Fear Community College. This three-day show was a success with members deciding to direct all proceeds towards two established scholarships at the local North Carolina university and one newly formed scholarship for the local community college. Event sponsors and dealers were secured early on, tickets were sold (in-person and online for the first time), club members signed up to work throughout the weekend, and North Carolina Sorosis and Junior Sorosis provided food for the dealers throughout the event. A silent auction was held with winners announced one hour prior to the close of the event. The event was publicized online, in the local paper, and on the local television station. The Wilson Center was a new venue for the event and proved to be a success. Plans are underway for next year's Antique Show and Sale.

### **Spring Fundraiser**

**Club: Woman's Club of Raleigh/ 120 members, 600 hours. \$13,250 raised, \$5,735 in-kind donations**

The Woman's Club of Raleigh held their Spring Fundraiser which featured a Fashion Show for men, women, and children, a 50/50 Raffle, luncheon, Silent Auction and Pop-Up Shops. On Friday, April 12, 2019, almost 150 club members and guests enjoyed shopping at 10 Pop-Up Shops, bidding on 61 silent auction items, taking a chance on the 50/50 raffle and enjoying a delicious luncheon and fashion show.



## LEADERSHIP

The **GFWC South Brunswick Islands** holds a New Member Orientation. The club officers get together with the new members and guide them through a tutorial of the club website, including bylaws, committees and CSP's, and spend one-on-one time with the new members. The officers also held a Q&A session, following by a social.

The **Junior Woman's Club of Raleigh** held a Mid-Year Organizational Board Meeting and Leadership Seminar. At this meeting the Board of Directors discussed their leadership strategy for the remainder of the club year. They explored "where have we been?", "where are we going?", "where are we now".

The **Woman's Club of Raleigh** held a Fall Leadership Session for the Board of Directors (the president of the JWC of Raleigh is a member of the Board of Directors). The purpose of the meeting was to discuss the Club's vision for the future and to review our current methods of operation. The impact of this session is a more respectful, cohesive board that is collaborating towards a common goal-to create and sustain viable leaders in the club, to become more visible in the community, and to have a greater impact on the community.

The **Mary Stewart Woman's Club** is working to gain group exemption 501C(3) As the club continues to grow in numbers, this will allow them to solicit donations from companies that give to non-profit organizations. They are also planning to apply for grants. They are going through this process under the GFWC umbrella. They received notification in November stating that the club now has 501C(3) tax exempt status.

**GFWC of Holden Beach** goes to great lengths to encourage members to attend GFWC and GFWC NC meetings, conferences, and conventions. They turn each trip into an adventure with eating, shopping, and laughter. Carpools are always put together, so no one travels alone. At every club meeting time is given to Ann Landis, President of GFWC-NC; Jan Allen GFWC Strategic Planning committee and GFWC-NC Leadership Chair; and Judi Stankowich, GFWC Resolutions Chair and GFWC NC Legislation Chair. These ladies keep the club informed on programs, projects, GFWC happenings.

The **Burlington Woman's Club** hosted the District 4 Fall Meeting. The theme of the meeting "Health, Happiness and Helping Others". The food that was prepared was a healthy brunch that attendees could sample throughout the meeting. Club members served as reservations and registration coordinators which included signage. Club members worked on door prizes and table decorations. The club offered two hands-on projects - making Christmas ornaments and making cards for general occasions. Two workshops offered - sitting exercises, and hands-on use of defibrillators.

**JWC of Raleigh** has worked hard to perfect their executive committee job descriptions. The purpose of re-visiting the job descriptions was to build better understandings of the positions. The purpose was to improve transparency for first time leaders, and to improve job satisfaction for existing officers therefore increasing the likelihood of members returning to leadership positions. The next step in this process to develop job descriptions for CSP Chairs.



**GFWC of Holden Beach** worked through a tragedy in March with the club president missed a get-together with members to plan their travel to GFWC Convention in Austin. Friends and family searched. But she could not be found. The police were contacted. Club members were actively involved in helping. Judy's body was found several days later. The club worked with community leaders to put together a memorial service for their president. Officers and members stepped up in mutual support. Holden Beach hosted its biggest fundraiser which was held shortly after this trauma. Judy's death was addressed at the fundraiser, and donations were received in her memory.

The **Woman's Club of Raleigh** provided leadership at the annual administration transition meeting held after the election and before the installation of the Board of Directors. A Board of Directors Manual is provided to all Board Members that includes the Budget, Bylaws, the 50+ page Policies and Procedures of the club that outlines job duties, and more.



# LEGISLATION/PUBLIC POLICY

Legislation Advocacy – GFWC of Holden Beach has done a terrific job of working with Legislation. Here are some suggestions to help clubs:

A sign-up sheet was developed and distributed at club meetings for member information. The details were used to enroll members in the GFWC Legislation Action Center and for GFWC News and Notes and GFWC-NC Legislative Alerts and Federation Friday publications.

The two handouts developed with contact information for legislators, the steps to join and an explanation of the GFWC Legislative Action Center and GFWC-NC Alerts, are part of the GFWC of Holden Beach Administrative Guide given to all members when joining. They are updated yearly via electronic files.

A report by the Legislative Committee Chairman is part of the New Member Orientation Meeting.

Monthly reports at club meetings included information on the on-going issues and Bills and new subjects of national and state interest. These reports are included in the minutes, which are emailed to every member.

Legislative issues are included in the newsletter. Since the actual legislative issues being tracked are included in the minutes, the articles focused on general knowledge of the legislative process and related issues. Some of the topics were History of the Women's Right to Vote, How a Bill Becomes Law, and Put a GFWC Resolution to Work.

The chairman maintained a file containing a list of issues and bills addressed, the number of member contacts on each, and the number and name of legislators who responded to contacts.

Due to the expanded participation, personal contact from legislators increased. These legislative actions and contacts from legislators have been tracked and shared with GFWC Headquarters.



## **MEMBERSHIP**

### **Wine Walk Membership Recruitment Event – Junior Woman’s Club of Raleigh**

On August 15th, JWC Raleigh partnered with a local outdoor shopping/dining area called LaFayette Village, which holds monthly wine walks for non-profits. In warm weather months, shops in the area give out wine during the wine walks and JWC Raleigh used this opportunity to recruit potential members. At their table, the members gave out brochures, JWC branded drink koozies, rice cereal treats with stickers saying “It would be sweet to get to know you” along with club information, QR code signs linking to the club website, and pictures of fun JWC Raleigh activities. Members invited friends to the event and publicized it heavily on social media. Members chatted with people who came to the wine walk and talked to them about the club to garner interest. It was a big success!

### **Purse Pamphlets – North Carolina Sorosis**

As a new approach to recruitment a “purse card” was prepared and given out to members. Each time they spoke to a possible new member, they gave out the “purse card” that contained info on the club and information on when, where, and what time we meet. They were also distributed through a partnership with the Wilmington Welcome Service in bags for new residents to the area.

### **Federation Pride Renewal - GFWC of Holden Beach**

Members of the GFWC of Holden Beach club participate on all levels of GFWC. The club shares Federation information in their monthly newsletter, via club emails, and during meetings. Members share reports following each District, State, Regional, and International event. To encourage members to participate, the club funds the cost of attending these functions for the club president and provides reimbursement to every member for registration costs for the GFWC-NC and the GFWC Conventions.

### **“Provisionals Only” Service project - Greensboro Woman’s Club**

During the first part of 2019, the class of provisional members was required to work on a project together under the supervision of the Membership Chairman. The purpose of this is to emphasize the club’s volunteer goals and create a bond among the group of new members. One of the provisional members works in health care and recognized a great need that this group was able to address. Eighteen members spent 25 hours and \$971 to refurbish and supply items for the recreation room at the Cone Behavioral Hospital for Children and Adolescents. Through personal donations and club funds, they provided bike/ball pumps, clothing, socks, books, puzzles, and other items. Many of the children who utilize this facility come only with the clothing on their backs or paper suits they were wearing from the emergency room. The excitement was palpable on the units when they realized that someone had cared enough to get them new items.

### **Orientation and Membership Meeting – Zebulon Woman’s Club**

Each September the Zebulon Woman’s Club has an orientation and membership meeting. At this time new prospects that have been contacted can come and hear speakers from the State and District who are invited to attend and speak to the club. Any new members that may be attending at this time can ask questions that they may have about the organization. This also helps old members learn new things that may be changing.

### **Outreach to Housewives Group - Winston-Salem Junior Woman’s Club**

Winston-Salem Junior Woman’s club contacted the Winston-Salem Housewives Group and set up their tri-fold poster with information about the club at the Housewives’ group event at a local brewery. They shared pictures of club projects and events and distributed postcards bearing club information. Members spoke to several potential new members at that event.

**Members Only Facebook Page - Camden Woman's Club**

Facebook Page [Closed Members Only] was established to provide open communications between members in a member only platform. Newsletters, meeting agendas, official calls as well as members' birthdays and life news are shared. Updated member information is kept on page's files. This group page also assists the club's leadership to stay in touch with members between meetings. 36 members, 40 hours

**Summer Concert Series – GFWC of Holden Beach**

The Town of Holden Beach has a summer concert series and the GFWC of Holden Beach club participates as hosts at one of the concerts each summer. This is a great way for them to introduce their club and their mission to the community. In 2019, nine members participated and generated a great deal of interest in the club. Members handed out club brochures and successfully recruited new members through this event.

**Celebrating New members – Junior Woman's Club of Raleigh**

As women are voted into Junior Woman's Club of Raleigh, the club celebrates their new membership in several ways. One way is by having a current club member make a donation to honor the new member when her membership has been approved. In Spring 2019, gift cards were donated to the local Ronald McDonald House. In Fall 2019, gas cards were donated to the Helene Foundation which was the club President's Special Project. Additionally, the club holds a New Member Brunch and Orientation to honor new members. This event is an excellent opportunity for new members to get to know the Executive Committee in a smaller setting while learning about the club's procedures and the GFWC structure.



# WOMENS HISTORY & RESOURCE CENTER

**Women's Equality Day Social & Membership Drive:** Celebrating in “surprise mode” was the theme for this event. In honor of the most important day in American women's history, Women's Equality Day, GFWC-South Brunswick Islands hosted a membership social on August 24, 2019, at least that is what member Polly Russ thought. Instead Polly was recognized by her club with their nomination of her for the Jennie Award. Members in attendance and their potential new member guests learned first-hand how one GFWC clubwoman made history in her community.

**Preserving GFWC History:** GFWC instituted the Campaign for the Future in 2018 to help ensure that GFWC will be able to share its past with future generations. GFWC's proud history is on full display throughout our Headquarters. GFWC takes great pride in sharing our home not only with our clubwomen when they visit Washington, D.C., but also with historical researchers and members of the public looking to learn more about the General Federation of Women's Clubs. GFWC-NC President Ann Landis challenged members to donate to this cause and 1,000 members donated \$1 each, making GFWC-NC a member of the Million Dollar Club.

**Weir-Jordan House:** How better to preserve history than to actually own and oversee the daily functions of a home on the National Registry of Historic Places? Greensboro Woman's Club proudly maintains the home which also serves as their meeting place and museum of 110 years' worth of club service.

**Celebrating 110 years of service:** Celebrating their 110<sup>th</sup> anniversary, Greensboro Woman's Club hosted a dinner meeting with table themes representing specific eras of club work: *Our First Decade 1909-1919, The Roaring Twenties, Leaders in the Troubled Thirties, Forward in the Forties, Mid-Century Club Work, The 70's, 80's and 90's, and Our Last Two Decades*. Each table held club facts related to the era.

**Ruth Wicker Tribute to Women Exhibit:** Greensboro Woman's Club was recognized as an inaugural nominee for their service and contributions to the city. Members attended the grand opening event which displays an interactive exhibit of the club's accomplishments.

**Women's History Library Display:** GFWC-South Brunswick Islands maintains a women's history memorabilia display at Rourk Public Library in Shallotte, NC. The curio contains club history and artifacts pertaining to GFWC-SBI. There is also a club scrapbook created each year which includes photos of events, meetings, members in action, programs of attended events, newspaper clippings, etc. The library receives an annual \$500 donation for preserving our local history and encouraging education. Individual club members also support the library with monetary donations.

**Plant a Tree for Women:** To support one of the 7 Grand Initiatives of GFWC President Mary Ellen Brock, GFWC-South Brunswick Islands Conservation CSP sponsored a tree planting at the newly renovated Mulberry Community Center. This center is owned and maintained by the Town of Shallotte and was the venue for the majority of the club's 2019 meetings.

**Facebook Updates:** To coincide with their 110<sup>th</sup> anniversary, Greensboro Woman's Club dedicated the month of October to sharing a club historical fact each day on their Facebook page.

**WHRC Newsletter Subscription:** All clubwomen are encouraged to subscribe to and read the quarterly GFWC WHRC e-newsletter. To assure members are receiving the information, the publication is forwarded by the club president via email to all club members. If you aren't receiving one, please let your club president know.