



## **GFWC WOMEN'S HISTORY AND RESOURCE CENTER PRESERVE, PROMOTE, INSPIRE**

### **What is the Women's History and Resource Center?**

Established in 1984, the Women's History and Resource Center strives to educate and inspire GFWC members, potential members, the research community and the general public to explore the rich, historical role of women volunteers by providing access to GFWC's expansive collections. Located at GFWC Headquarters in Washington DC, the WHRC offers access to readily available reference services, interactive technology, educational programs and publications, creative exhibits, and dynamic partnerships to all those interested in using its resources. The GFWC Women's History and Resource Center is GFWC's commitment to the future.

The GFWC Women's History and Resource Center Advancement Plan encourages every club to investigate and document its own history by learning about GFWC's past.

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### **What can my club/State Federation/Region do to PRESERVE the past, PROMOTE the present and INSPIRE the future?**

- Appoint a WHRC Chairman.
- Preserve the past by recording and/or updating your history.  
Use newsletters, videos and programs to share your history with members.  
Record and/or update State Federation history.  
Record and/or update Region history.
- Promote community awareness of the historic role of women volunteers.  
Use local resources to identify accomplishments of women volunteers in your community/State Federation/Region.  
Create a "Who's Who?" of community women volunteers.  
Sponsor a community "Volunteer of the Year Award".
- Inspire members and your community to support the future role of women volunteers.  
Recognize and celebrate member achievements on social media and in local media.  
Send GFWC history stories to local news media in celebration of Women's History Month (March), Federation Day (April 24) and Archives Month (October).
- Honor members for years of service with GFWC membership service pins.
- Honor a club/State Federation/Region leader with a donation to the WHRC.
- Create a club/ State Federation/ Region fund raising project to benefit WHRC.
- Record a video history of your clubhouse or State Federation Headquarters.
- Support the Turning Point Suffragist Memorial. (<https://suffragistmemorial.org>)
- Encourage members to become a "Friend of WHRC."
- **Submit an entry for the WHRC 2020-2021 Special Award.**  
**GFWC is offering a \$100. cash award to the GFWC club that best promotes the Woman's Suffrage Centennial celebration in its community.**

### How does the WHRC support my club?

- Assists in preserving club, state and Region archives.
- Provides copies of *A Guide for Recording Oral History* and *A Guide for Preserving and Writing Club History* through the GFWC Member Portal's digital library.
- Develops programs using GFWC history to promote interest and membership.
- Offers advice and assistance in preserving your historic clubhouse. It can act as a professional liaison for clubs that want to work with state or local agencies to preserve their historical records and/or buildings.
- Assists in navigating catalog and online exhibits, and provide advice to clubs and State Federations on how to make their own collections accessible online.
- Provides the *WHRC Newsletter*, a seasonal publication available for complimentary subscription, and other special publications to assist and promote clubs that are doing projects that relate to GFWC history or historic preservation.
- Provides research opportunities for members and the public.

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A primary goal of the WHRC is to make GFWC's valuable historical records more accessible to our members, the scholarly research community, and the general public. Improved access will promote greater recognition for the contributions of GFWC clubwomen and inspire members to use the lessons of past successes to build solid membership, strong leadership, and meaningful community service projects.

### GUIDE TO USING THE WHRC ONLINE CATALOG

The WHRC online catalog allows GFWC members and website visitors, including those who come to the catalog via a general Web search engine such as Google, to explore a wide range of GFWC collections. The tips in this Guide are meant to be a quick outline to navigating the WHRC online catalog. If you need additional guidance, please don't hesitate to contact [GFWC@GFWC.org](mailto:GFWC@GFWC.org).

To access the catalog through the GFWC website:

1. Go to [www.GFWC.org/What-We-Do/WHRC](http://www.GFWC.org/What-We-Do/WHRC)
2. Click on the "Search the Collections" button to bring you to the Women's History and Resource Center home page.

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### 2020-2022 Women's History and Resource Center Committee

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