



GFWC/KY

January 2017

Fourth Edition
Editor
Joyce Bell

"WALKING WITH CONFIDENCE"



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From the Conservation Corner!!!

Happy 2017 to you all! Everyone is probably still recovering from the holidays but it's not too early to think about spring. One event to get you started is the Great Backyard Birdcount. Heard of it? It's a great way to help out people who help our feathered friends. You can get all of the information you need at the website: www.gbbc.birdcount.org.

This year's count is February 17-20. It's fun. Try it.

Spring is also time you can get out the shovels, garden tools, and gloves, and boots an go plan ta tree! How are the plans going for the tree planting challenge?

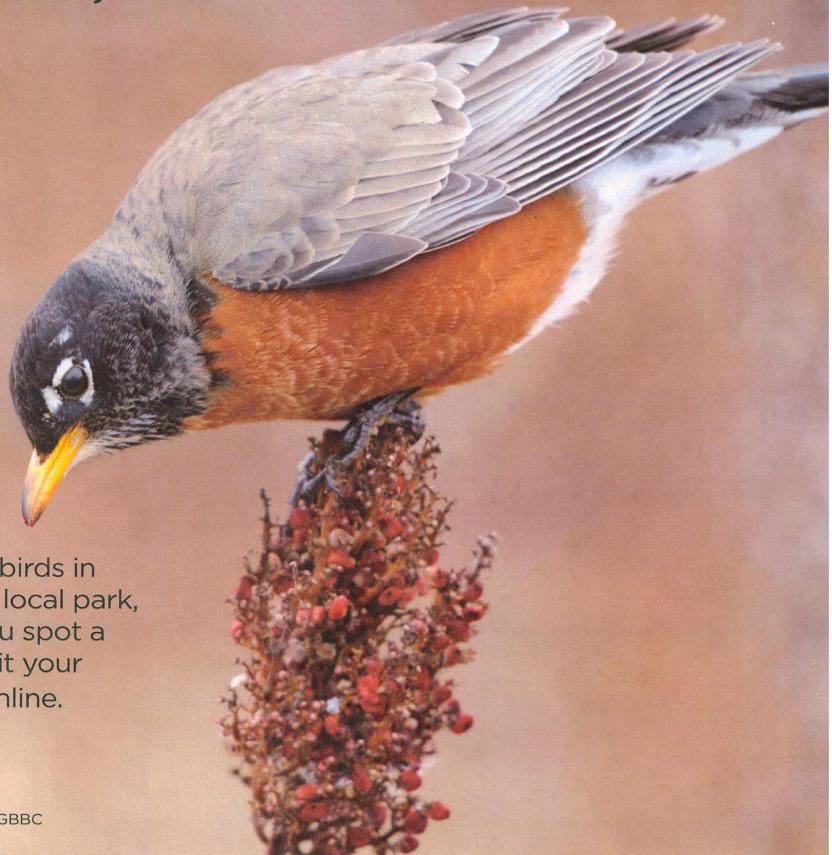
Don't forget to try to work in a project with our conservation partner The Nature Generation. Go to www.natgen.org, for lots of information.

Until next time, Happy conserving,

Gay Nell and Brooke

How many birds will you find?

**20th Annual Great Backyard Bird Count
February 17-20, 2017**



Join in! Count birds in your backyard, local park, or wherever you spot a bird, and submit your observations online.

birdcount.org

American Robin
Photo: Shayna Marchese/GBBC



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THE PRESIDENTIAL ART OF SHARING

By GFWC Kentucky President-elect Pat Harrington

By now I am sure you are experiencing frustration and sensory overload. There are probably 4 challenges that you are facing: (1) members not reporting; (2) deciding where projects go; (3) how to share data with GFWC Kentucky; and (4) answering the question of "Why in the world are we messing with the Score Card?"

As club president, you can appoint others to do some of the various tasks involved in what I fondly call the annual State of the Club report. For simplicity sake, we will assume that the president is doing it. Just remember that no matter who reports, it is the responsibility of the club president to make sure it is completed and submitted in a timely fashion to the proper address.

It's the middle of January and the deadline for reporting is rapidly approaching. Not rapidly approaching is information from club members. (As club president, you should have information on club projects.) You know that 2 members went on international medical mission trips; however, they did not include their volunteer hours, monetary donations, and in-kind donations when they reported to you. You are perfectly within your rights to call them up and get the numbers. And that goes for any volunteer service that is done. If someone reports doing something but does not include all the information you need, contact them. You know a department held a fundraiser but it was not shared with you. Ask them. We cannot and should not make things up, but there is no harm and everything to be said for securing all the information you can. You will have to be judicious here because you could end up spending all your time on the phone. In the meantime, blast an email or use social media to remind members to share what they did in 2016. Set a firm deadline, stick to it, and then get it done.

So many of our projects can go in more than 1 community service program or advancement area, and it gets rather confusing. A reminder here of common examples of where some projects go: (1) anything veteran related is in Public Affairs; (2) domestic violence, whether physical, emotional, financial, sexual, or psychological, goes in GFWC Special Project Domestic Violence Awareness and Prevention along with dating violence and elder abuse; (3) KET, public libraries, and ESO are reported under Education; and (4) donations to St. Jude go under the Junior Special Projects Partnership. Except for GFWC Partnerships, if you have a project you can put in more than one category, decide which will benefit your club the most. For example, if a project can either go in Home Life or Education and you have a lot in Home Life, go with Education and vice versa. If you are still unsure, email me at patharrington@murray-ky.net or contact the state chairman.

"Partnership" in GFWC terminology means a national organization that GFWC has partnered with to make resources available to members. These partnerships are listed on the GFWC website. If your club

“partners” with another local organization for a project and that organization is not listed by GFWC as a partner, it is not reported as a partnership. Clear as mud? I thought so too. Okay. St. Jude is a GFWC partnership. Donations made to St. Jude would be reported under that partnership. Your local animal shelter is not a GFWC partnership. Projects where you partnered with the shelter to raise funds would be reported under Home Life and not as a GFWC partnership because it is not even though you “partnered” with the shelter.

There is no excuse for not knowing what is going on in reporting. It is vital – yes, vital – that you study the GFWC Manual and the GFWC Kentucky President’s Manual and Contest Manual and visit the respective websites frequently for updates. The information is there for the taking. You can read the GFWC Manual at www.gfwc.org. You can obtain the Kentucky information and other manuals through the thumb drive offered through Marketplace. Please note that the website says to contact Treasurer Vicki McBrayer, but you should actually contact Marketplace Chairman Peggy Barnes. If you don’t have these, you are working in the dark and the light at the end of the tunnel is a train rushing right towards you. (I learned this the hard way!!!) With that said, please – please – feel free to contact me with any questions you have. That is one of the ways I learn what needs to be made clearer for everyone.

Let’s follow the KISS (Keep It Simple, Sister!) principle when sharing what your club has done. You can share as many really great projects as you want, whether that be 1, 5, or 100. Just remember to stay within the rules for spacing and number of pages. Share especially the creative projects that your club has done and give enough information that someone who is not familiar with it can know what is going on. Try giving who was involved if a collaboration (avoid abbreviations, give full name of other organizations, and what their mission is), what the event or project was, why it was held, how it was done, where it was done, and the results (donations, volunteer hours, in kind donations, and number of members participating for the club as well as the total raised if a fundraiser.) This can be in paragraph or bullet form. It is helpful if you number each project, especially if one project takes up several lines.

Say your club had 7 projects in Home Life resulting in 34 members participating (please note that the number of members participating in a project cannot exceed the number of members your club has), 400 volunteer hours, \$300 in donations (you can round these numbers off to the nearest dollar amount), and in kind donations of \$150. You decide to write a narrative on only 1 project with 10 members participating, 100 volunteer hours, \$200 in donations, and \$50 in kind donations.

After the NARRATIVE, you would write the following information about 1 project.

Members participating: 10

Volunteer Hours: 100

Donation: \$200.00

In Kind Donations: \$50.00

The STATISTICAL FORM, however, should include all the projects under Home Life. It would read:

Volunteer Hours: 400
Donations: \$300
In Kind Donations: \$150

In other words, numbers on the statistical form and the narrative do not have to match.

The statistical form does not ask for number of members participating, but the number is sometimes asked for by GFWC in other reports that the state completes. It is also a good idea to put the information from the statistical form at the top of your narrative. This will show all the work done by the club with details from the project listed below.

So why are we fooling around with the Score Card? The Score Card is a check of how well your club is meeting the goals of GFWC Kentucky. You do not have to submit the score card, but you will be missing out if you don't. It is an honor to be named a 100% or more club. The presidents of clubs achieving that status participate in a procession at convention. Everyone will hear the name of your club called and see the smile on your face as you accept the certificate for being a resourceful club.

Your club has done the work, so why not share what has been done? Keep it simple; keep it concise Don't keep it to yourself.



Leitchfield Woman's Club installs new officers for 2017 at their annual Christmas Dinner. President-Joyce Bell; 1st Vice-Elizabeth Moorman; 2nd Vice-Mary Sue Pauley; Secretary-Debbie Smith and Treasurer-Linda Peterson

You are invited to a membership tea on February 16, 2017 at 5:30 PM CDT at St. Joseph Parrish Hall, North Main street, Leitchfield, KY 42754





Murray Woman's Club sponsored a fundraiser. Breakfast with Santa, on Saturday, December 9, 2016 for the local sexual abuse and child advocacy center. The hours were 9:30 –11:30 AM. Approximately 240 children and parents enjoyed pictures, cookies and breakfast with Santa. Also, arts and crafts activities and decorating cookies all for one price. Most food was donated including a grant from the local Kroger. Club members, High School and University students, and center employees volunteered their time. \$1000.00 from the proceeds were donated to the center.