



GFWC KENTUCKY NEWSLETTER



Pat Harrington
GFWC Kentucky President



Why Trees?

Why was a tree selected to be the state symbol for the 2018-2020 administration? Basically because I love trees. I love to sit under one, I love to lay under one, I love to look at one, I used to love to climb one, I find the variety amazing, and I admire the structure of a tree. But those are personal reasons. The real reasons are more complicated.

Trees remind me of GFWC Kentucky clubs. Trees do better in a group than alone; trees provide more shade (volunteer activity) as a team; they have a past (their roots, our 125 years of history), they are in the present, and they have a future. They flourish where they are sown. Not only that, they add beauty and many practical advantages to the community.

According to the Arbor Day Foundation trees have the following benefits:

- Trees help to clean the air by removing pollutants.
- Trees are a major source of oxygen for the atmosphere.
- Forests help clean our drinking water by protecting watersheds.
- Trees cool us by providing shade and releasing water vapor, which in turn saves energy by reducing the need for air conditioning.
- Trees help to counteract global warming by absorbing carbon dioxide.
- Trees benefit birds and other wildlife by providing habitat.
- Trees contribute to our psychological health and help to reduce the crime rate in our cities.
- Trees increase property values.

Proud member of GFWC and GFWC Kentucky

20th Edition

Winter 2020

Editor - Nancy Hunt

The planting of trees falls under the GFWC Conservation Community Service Program as well as under the Grand and Brand Initiatives adopted by GFWC International President Mary Ellen Brock. Consider planting a tree in memory of a member who has passed away or in honor of someone. Plant them at the clubhouse, in the park, or in your yard. If your neighbor will let you, plant one in her yard too.

And if you can't plant trees on Federation Day and/or Arbor Day, go head and plant them anyway. They will still grow and benefit our society.



CLUB REMINDER

A club nominating a candidate for election to a GFWC Kentucky office may mail announcement cards to GFWC Kentucky clubs/members no earlier than the last week in January prior to the GFWC Kentucky Annual Convention at which the election is held. (GFWC Kentucky Standing Rule 2.01)

The election will be held on March 27, 2020.

WCSM FEASTS AND FEASTS AGAIN FOR HEIFERS INTERNATIONAL

The women of St. Matthews decided they would each “put my money where my mouth is” and dedicate 2019 as a year of feasting together in a unified effort to purchase animals through Heifers International in the hope of helping many of those so less fortunate around the world.

The project was spear-headed by WCSM International Chairman, Rochelle James and assisted by WCSM First Vice President, Jean Duncan. These ladies prepared lunch for members to enjoy after each business meeting beginning in March, when bad weather no longer threatened cancellations.

There was a “no charge, donate what you want” policy with the suggestion that the donation be commensurate with what might be paid at a restaurant for a comparable meal. Members dug deeply into their pockets and raised enough to purchase 27 schools of fish, 26 flocks of chicks, 7 flocks of ducks, 5 trios of rabbits, 5 honey bee kits, 4 flocks of geese, 4 pigs, 2 goats, 2 alpacas, 2 sheep, 2 water buffalo, and 2 heifers.

There was a “animal theme” food for each luncheon which represented the animal(s) targeted for purchase with the net proceeds. For instance, the April luncheon featured **goat** cheese pasta and garden salad with homemade dressings including **honey** mustard and **honey** French. With the net proceeds, the **goats and honey bee kits** were purchased. What do you feature for the month when you are trying to purchase a water buffalo? Well, of course, flavored water, what else!



Jean had already volunteered to chair the Christmas party and Rochelle kindly agreed to assist. The party on December 9th was a dual celebration of Christmas as well as one for the huge success of the 2019 Heifers International project! Held at the historic Nunnlea House, elegantly decorated for the holiday season, a delicious catered buffet was enjoyed by all. Some of the very animals WCSM had purchased throughout the year were seen peeking out from under the fresh greenery. A heifer, sheep and pig kept careful watch over the buffet line as members passed through.

This was a great way to end the club year—great food with new and old friends as well as experiencing the wonderful feeling of knowing how many lives will be positively impacted by the animals being sent to them from WCSM!



A sheep, heifer and pig, all adorned with their holiday accessories, keep a watchful eye over the buffet enjoyed by WCSM members on December 9th. The annual Christmas luncheon was also a celebration of the 88 purchases made from Heifers International in 2019.



February 1, is Shop and Save date for 2020.

Shop and Save is a one-day fundraiser where shoppers are asked to shop for what they need and share an item with their local domestic violence program. All Kroger stores throughout Kentucky participate as well as Food City, Super Dollar and some IGA and Save-A-Lot stores.

Over the past 9 years more than \$4.5 million in goods and monetary donations have been raised for KCADV's 15 domestic violence programs.

Other partners include the Governor and First Lady's offices, Girl Scouts of Kentucky's Wilderness Road Council, **General Federation of Women's Clubs** and Kentucky's Drug Court.



2nd District News:

Doris Turner, the longest serving member of the **Livermore Woman's Club**, was recognized as a 50 year member at the club's December Christmas dinner. Doris has served as club president twice as well as in several other club offices. She also served as KFWC (GFWC KY) Education Chairmen. She is a retired McLean County Schools middle school math teacher.

Ms. Turner is shown above with Donna Vaughan, GFWC KY 2nd District Governor, and Donna Travis, GFWC KY 1st Vice President



GFWC KENTUCKY ELECTION OF OFFICERS

The 125th Annual Convention of GFWC Kentucky will be in March and registration will open soon. On March 27, 2020, we will elect the 2020-2022 officers and Director-elect of Junior Clubs to serve with Teresa Schmidt and Preshus Howard as GFWC Kentucky President and GFWC Kentucky Director of Junior Clubs.

The procedures for electing GFWC Kentucky officers are defined in the Bylaws and Standing Rules. The Elections Committee, assisted by the Credentials Committee, is responsible for conducting the election and coordinating the voting process.

All GFWC Kentucky members are invited to attend the annual convention. However, not all attendees have voting privileges. Certain members are delegates by virtue of their positions while others are chosen by the club. All delegates must pay registration fees for the entire convention to be entitled to vote.

The slate of officers as presented by the Nominating Committee is as follows:

President-elect: Susette Redwine, Morehead Woman's Club

1st Vice President: Donna Vaughan, Woman's Club of Madisonville

2nd Vice President: Susan Harley, Jackson Woman's Club

Director-elect of Junior Clubs: Kayla Tuner, Bluegrass Juniors

Secretary: Paula Robinson, Benton Woman's Club

Treasurer: Darla Doss, Benton Woman's Club

You will be given an opportunity to learn more about these nominees and any nominees from the floor at a business session prior to the March 27 election. Each candidate will be introduced to the convention body by her outgoing club president or her designated club representative. This introduction will provide biographical information concerning the candidate and her qualifications for the office. Election will be by majority vote.

Modified for GFWC Kentucky, this was taken from The Importance of GFWC Elections by GFWC Elections Chairman Cynthia Kay Geis, GFWC News & Notes, January 16, 2020.





GET ON BOARD

Two outstanding, personable, and fun leaders are coming to Kentucky to conduct our Leadership Education and Development Seminar (LEADS) on Thursday, March 26, 2020, 9am – Noon, prior to the state convention!

Babs Condon has done it all, starting at the grassroots level in a club in North Carolina, working her way up to being state president in Maryland, and finally fulfilling each position of leadership to become GFWC International President from 2014-2016. She has been there, done that, and can give you a unique prospective on leadership.

As for management skills, you will need to look no further than our second presenter, **Dr. Rosemary Thomas**. In her role with GFWC, she managed daily operations for our organization then made up of nearly 100,000 members and 3,000 clubs. She also served as liaison to the executive committee and board of directors, coordinated federal advocacy efforts and public affairs agenda, and oversaw management of partnerships with national and international organizations, among other duties.

Both are devoted to community service, volunteerism, and leadership. **You will not want to miss this opportunity to further your leadership skills and to take advantage of these incredible assets available to you.**

This session is **FREE** and brought to you by GFWC Kentucky and the GFWC Kentucky LEADS Club consisting of graduates of the GFWC International LEADS program. [PLEASE register for this seminar on the Call/Registration Form to maximize planning efforts.](#)

Woman's Club of Owensboro

We held a Sunday Luncheon at President Pam Smith-Wright's House to increase our membership. What a great day and we hope to have three new members for our efforts.





Embassy Suites by Hilton Lexington Green
245 Lexington Green Circle
Lexington, KY 40503
859-271-7108

We celebrated GFWC Kentucky's 125th anniversary at last year's convention. This year we will be celebrating the milestone of 125 conventions. How is that possible? During World War II the convention was not held, making the March 2020 convention the 125th. Can you imagine how much history is contained in all those convention Minutes?

The year's convention will be held at the same hotel as last year, the Embassy Suites by Hilton Lexington Green, from Friday, March 27, through Saturday, March 28. Preconvention activities will include LEADS on Thursday and a Board of Directors meeting on Thursday evening. Per the bylaws, the election of new officers will be held the first day of the convention on Friday. The installation service will be Saturday evening. There will be a post-convention BOD meeting Sunday morning. Don't expect the same old convention. There will be surprises in store.

We have a special room rate for 2 double beds in a 2 room suite for \$139 per night plus taxes and fees. This rate is for two people. You can book through our reservation group web page at https://embassysuites.hilton.com/en/es/groups/personalized/L/LEXLGES-GFW-20200325/index.jhtml?WT.mc_id=POG. To begin the process, click on "Book a Room" to get this preferred rate. Our group name is General Federation of Women's Clubs KY. If you book through the hotel's website or over the phone, our group code is GFW. **The deadline for reserving rooms is February 25, 2020. They will go fast, so reserve early.**

Every guest's stay includes a free, made-to-order breakfast; complimentary evening reception; parking; outdoor pool; fitness center; and digital key.

FIRST LADIES IN MINIATURE

GFWC Kentucky's First Ladies in Miniature is a huge tourist attraction and one of the most sought out exhibits in Frankfort. Housed in four background-lit, glass-enclosed cabinets just east of the Rotunda on the first floor of the Capitol are 18-inch, French-fashion dolls adorned in fabric matching every first lady's inaugural ball gown since Kentucky became a commonwealth in 1792.



The display of Kentucky's first ladies in miniature was started in 1971 by President Emeritus Helen Evans as her state project. Each doll has a nameplate in front of it giving the first lady's name, dates of birth and death, the official number of the governor's administration, name of her husband, and the years he was in office.



A doll is displayed only from the first inauguration when a governor serves more than one term. There is no doll for the 34th first lady because Gov. William Goebel was a bachelor when he took office nor is there one for Bill Collins, the husband of Kentucky's only female governor. A doll is displayed for Martha Layne Collins as that governor.

So when the cabinets are dusty, the glass dull, and the fabric faded in a top tourist attraction, what do you do? You bring in a volunteer interior designer and three presidents emeriti to get the job done. Working through First Ladies in Miniature Chairman Donna Short, Presidents Emeriti Helen Evans and Pat Geveden, along with Pat's interior designer daughter Cindy, did just that in November before the latest inauguration.

After consulting with the person in charge of tours of the Capitol, new fabric in a bright Kentucky blue was selected and cut for the bottom of the cabinets. The glass on the cabinets was cleaned and now sparkles. All the miniatures were dusted, dresses fluffed, and hair put back in place.

Thanks to these four women, the sun is not the only thing shining bright in Kentucky.



SEE THE LATEST ON FIRST LADIES ON THE NEXT PAGE.

LATEST ON FRST LADY IN MINIATURE

There will soon be a new First Lady in Miniature in the First Lady cabinet. The election of Governor Andy Beshear created the opportunity to add to the collection.

Contacts have been made and efforts begun to have the miniature ready by the convention in March. The miniature will be presented to First Lady Britany Beshear by GFWC Kentucky President Pat Harrington and then placed into the cabinets located in the Capitol Building near the Rotunda.

Members of the First Ladies in Miniature Committee are Presidents Emeriti Donna Short (Chairman; 2000-2002), Helen Evans (1970-1972), Pheobe McCoy (1982-1984), Pat Geveden (1988-1990), and Susan Alexander (2014-2016).

A Picture is Worth a Thousand Words



The **A year in Pictures Contest** is known as the GFWC Calendar Contest. This calendar features photographs taken by club members depicting the 12 months of the year. Every club has the opportunity to select and send one photograph (along with a GFWC Creative Arts Waiver) to GFWC to compete in this contest. **The entry must be postmarked by May 1, 2020.**

GFWC A Year in Pictures Contest

1734 N Street NW
Washington, DC 20036-2990

SAVE THE DATE!!!!

JULY 10 & 11 2020

CHRISTMAS IN JULY


All club reports should be sent to both **GFWC KY President Pat Harrington** and **GFWC KY 1st Vice President Donna Travis** by **February 1, 2020**.

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Donna Travis,
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First District Governors Club held their December meeting in Marshall county at the home of GFWC Kentucky Treasurer Darla Doss. We are thrilled to have GFWC Kentucky President Pat Harrington as a member of this club.

IT ONLY TAKES FOUR



It's an epidemic across the nation – clubs folding because of various reasons. In GFWC Kentucky, the cause given the vast majority of the time is because of aging membership. The desire to keep the club intact is still there; the understanding of how powerful having almost 100,000 women on your side is still there; and the opportunity to continue to improve the community is still there. What is missing is the ability to physically continue.

We in GFWC Kentucky do not want clubs to disband – ever! We miss the members, and the community misses the good that comes from having a club associated with the largest volunteer service organization of women in the world.

We also realize that sometimes no matter the desire, the understanding, and the opportunity, a club thinks it can no longer go on. An article written by GFWC Parliamentarian Deen J. Meloro which appeared in the December 5, 2019, GFWC News & Notes will help with that decision. Some of the wording has been changed to reflect GFWC Kentucky's bylaws.

There sometimes comes a time when a club doesn't feel it can continue. Under those circumstances, many clubs notify all members and then call for a vote. This is incorrect.

GFWC Kentucky has a minimum size for a club. That number is four. If you have four or more people who want the club to continue, then those who did not want to continue would resign their membership. The four members who want the club to continue would keep the club going. Even if forty members want the club to fold and only four want it to continue, the club can continue.

If your club does fold, it is important to remember that no assets of the club can go to individual members. If your club has been recognized under Section 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code, then all assets must go to other 501(c)(3) organizations or the local, state, or federal government. If your club does not have this designation, it is free to give its assets to any charity based on a member vote.

Members may certainly keep sentimental objects such as scrapbooks, yearbooks, photographs, and other items of that type. If no member wants items like old minutes, scrapbooks, etc., your local library or historical society may welcome them. Money held in any bank account--the proceeds of the sale of a clubhouse, a silver tea set, etc.--must be given away.

Before your club takes an important step like voting to end the club, someone should contact the district governor or the state membership chairman (in Kentucky, the president-elect) who may be able to offer some ideas.