



The Texas Clubwoman



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T.O. the Point

Well, it has been fun these last two years creating *the Texas Clubwoman* but all good things must come to an end. This will be the last issue of the Clubwoman for this administration. This year has been an unusual year and a difficult year, but as usual, the federation ladies have rose to the occasion and handled all that was thrown at them with grace and persistence so we are all . . . Proud to be Texas clubwomen. Thank you all...

Tina



“Pearls of Wisdom”

Dear Sisters in Federation,

We have, after considerable effort, arrived at that crossroads in every organization when we change administrations. It is, as always, a bittersweet time. It is a time to consider all that we achieved together during the past two years; a time to reflect, reminisce, and rejoice in our accomplishments.

I would like to quote Robert E. Lee, one of the greatest military leaders in history who, in 1863, said:

“Our Army would be invincible if it could be properly organized and officered. There never were such men in an army before. They will go anywhere and do anything if properly led.”

And so it is with Federation. We are invincible because we are properly organized and officered. Our club women will go anywhere and do anything when they are properly led.

We showed that in October 2018 when we hosted the South Central Region Conference in Dallas with great success. A short 9 months later, we hosted the 2019 GFWC Annual Convention in Austin in June, the first time in about a quarter of a century that Texas had that honor.

And, **WOW**, you outdid yourselves. I never had a single doubt that when asked, you would answer the call. GFWC club women around the country are still complimenting Texas on the outstanding job ***you*** did. All you have to do is tell a club woman from another state that you are from Texas, and she will rave about the great job you did in Austin.

Who knew that would be the only GFWC Annual Convention during this administration?

Hopefully, memories of the Texas convention will last until Convention 2021.

And that brings us to today facing the most unusual challenge of our time: the COVID-19 pandemic.

Eleanor Roosevelt said it best when she said:

You gain strength, courage and confidence in every experience in which you really stop to look fear in the face. You are able to say to yourself, “I lived through this horror. I can take the next thing that comes along.”

Yes, we can take the next thing that comes along. We will get through this and be stronger than ever because we are Federation club women.

Our leadership corps has shown their worthiness by holding online “ZOOM” district and club meetings, to conduct their officer installations for the next term. Getting the job done. Some of our members have sewn masks, much needed for medical personnel and frontline responders, while under quarantine. COVID did not stop the club women of TEXAS, it merely pointed us in a different direction. *(continued on next page)*

I am so very proud of the Texas club women. We have worked as a team these past two years to keep GFWC Texas strong for another 100 plus years of service to our communities.

On a personal note, my life's goal did not include growing old alone. And, as long as there are Federation club women, I know that I am never alone. I may grow old, but I am not alone.

Thank you for many kindnesses and considerations in looking after your state president.

Thank you for your unwavering support and dedication to Federation.

I am truly honored to have the privilege of serving as your 60th state president.

As I step away from the office, I do so, not with a heavy heart, but, with a heart that is bursting with pride and love for the club women of this great State, and I look forward to seeing Texas stand tall among the Federated Sisterhood.

Thank you for the love, support, and patience you've shown me, a "transplanted Yankee" from New Jersey, but a true Texan at heart.

Thank you and bless your hearts.

Carol

Carol Habgood

GFWC Texas President, 2018-2020



Thank you for your generous outpouring of support with your donations to your outgoing 60th GFWC Texas President. I am truly overwhelmed by the generosity of the Texas club women. The money tree presented to me at the GFWC Texas Spring Convention in Corpus Christi was a pleasant surprise. The remaining donations will be distributed to the American Heart Association and the GFWC Texas Club Grant fund.

Carol

Carol Habgood, GFWC Texas President



Around the State!



Like the rest of the citizens of the world, the United States and Texas, the ladies of GFWC Texas had their lives and clubs disrupted by the outbreak of the COVID 19 virus. A few ways members kept busy and occupied their time can be seen on following three pages.



A good time to clean and organize

Barbara Schoenrock spent her “isolation” time cleaning out closets and organizing what she decided to keep. She was just trying to make those of us who read, watched TV and napped feel bad!



The Woman's Wednesday Club of Granbury

Exemplifying the Volunteer Spirit!

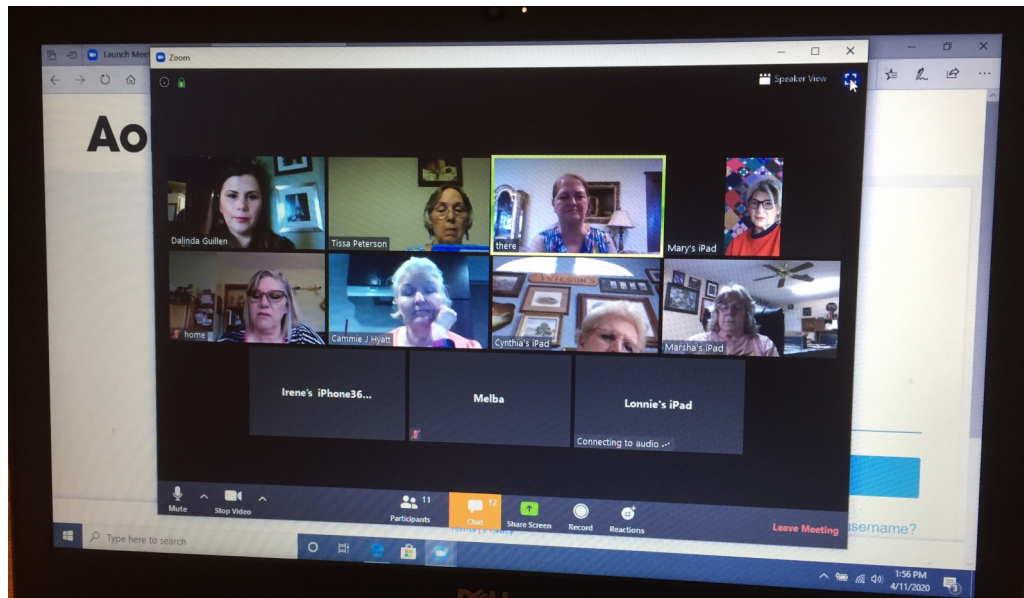
The article to the right was sent to me, and I think these ladies of the Women's Wednesday Club of Granbury deserve the recognition for this awesome project even if there is no picture. These ladies show the true spirit of GFWC Volunteerism!

We are proud to say the women of Woman's Wednesday Club of Granbury are true game changers and seriously concerned about their community. Granbury, like many others, is feeling the impact of the quarantine. Their local business owners have had no option but to close their business doors. The loss of work has created extreme hardships on many households. Children, who are typically fed and taught at school now look to their parents for meals, tutoring, and activities. We can only imagine the extreme stress these families are feeling. The economic struggles of additional meals, lack of income and no prospects of jobs for many of these families have led the Executive Board to create a new hands-on project; food assistance in a needy neighborhood! The 123-year strong tradition of WWC women provides insight into previous community projects where we all worked together to assist our neighbors and community. We are excited this wonderful organization is ready and able to help again! Oak Trail Shores was selected at a Budget meeting as the focus for the new **Feed a Neighborhood Project**.

Sally Timmons graciously agreed to Chair this project and it is already underway. Several times throughout the year, groupings of dinner items, with the help of Diann Lewis from Kroger, will be combined to provide meals for families in The Oak Trail community. The meals will be delivered by WWC to the Oak Trail Shores community center for distribution. Working together and assisting the needs of their community is an important mission. It took everyone collaborating, pulling together, supporting their community, the businesses, at risk neighborhoods, and unemployed families to start a rebuild of their once familiar strong economic days in Hood County.

Texas Clubs Make the Best of the Circumstance and Carry On

The unusual circumstances of the Covid isolation resulted in a disruption of business as usual. Several meetings that would have finished the club year were cancelled including district meetings and installations. Some clubs plan to install their new officers at a later date. Some plan to open the next club year with their installation. Several clubs held meetings and even installations by Zoom. One district that held a zoom meeting was South Texas



President Lonnie Matthew sent out a call to the Spring Convention, set for Saturday, April 11, for a Zoom Virtual Meeting. Dalinda Guillen arranged for a zoom meeting to enable the club to take care of some essential business matters. Officers were elected, scholarship business taken care of and award winners were announced. The members thought it was great to see and hear from each of the members able to make it to this unique meeting.

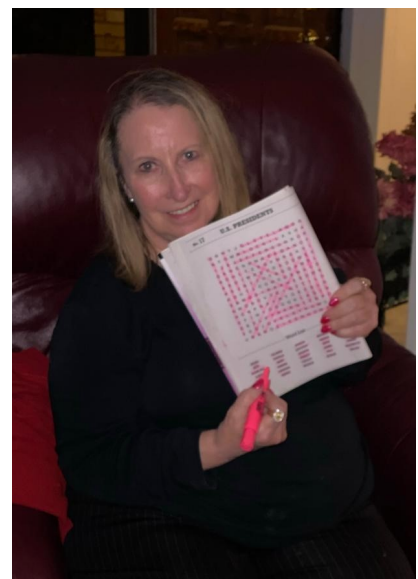


“Cooking with Patti”

Patti's online cooking school was a big hit with everyone. She taught us to make fried pies and dumpling among other delicious dishes. It was fun to watch!

Passing the Time

Brenda Grimes said that she watched more TV than normal and played Solitaire and word game as well as doing Search puzzles during “Social Distancing”.



Two Rio Grande City Clubs Join as One

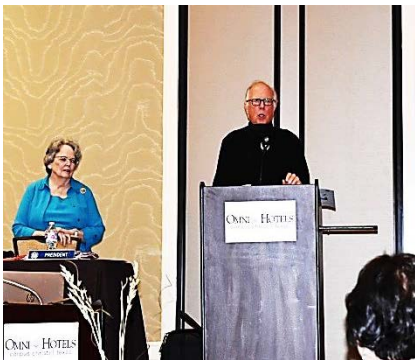
The Woman's Club of RGC and the Florence J. Scott Study Club held a groundbreaking meeting at Anniversary Park in downtown Rio Grande City on April 20, 2020. All members wore facial coverings and maintained social distancing throughout the meeting, as required during the Covid-19 Pandemic underway. Lydia Garza Saenz, president of the Study Club, and Nelda Laurel, president of the Woman's Club, called the meeting to order, and a quorum was declared by the presidents. Discussion was held about the possibility of the two GFWC Texas clubs from Rio Grande City, which have been meeting jointly for several years, be joined to become one GFWC club from Rio Grande City. The motion passed unanimously. Officers for 2020-2022 were elected, as follows: President, Aminta Reyna Alaniz; 1st Vice-president, Maria Elia Ramos; 2nd Vice-president, Lydia Garza Saenz; Secretary, Tissa Peterson; Corresponding Secretary, Abbie Vela; Treasurers, Bitsy Margo and Alma Gloria T. Gonzalez, assistant; and Parliamentary Advisor, Nelda Laurel. The name for the newly formed club was discussed, and again the motion passed unanimously: GFWC Florence J. Scott Woman's Club. Other matters were discussed; then sandwiches and chips were served, and a delicious cake baked by Elia Ramos was enjoyed in the fresh air of the park



Using her talents to help others, Shirley Thomas of Alamo District made hundreds of masks to help with the Covid-19 situation.



*123rd Annual Convention
The Heart of a Volunteer in Action*







L: Lou Hitt, Pioneer District, 2020 LEADs Candidate



Cissy Allen, Alamo District, Outstanding Clubwoman Volunteer of the Year



L: Outstanding Juniorette: Mackenzie Howard, Bluebonnet Drama Club of Kingsville, South Texas District.

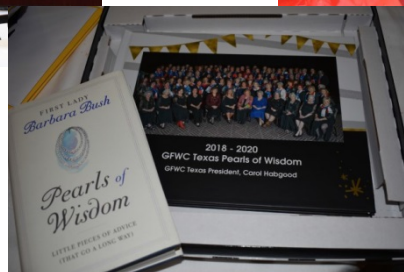
R: Maridell Fryar, Western District, new State Life Member



Pearls of Wisdom from the District Presidents



A Book of Memories



Highlights of two years of service to GFWC Texas!

Celebrating Carol's 80th Birthday!

Cake Number 1



Cake Number 2





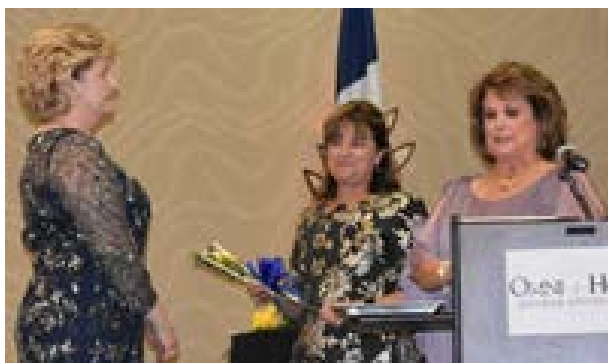
Alamo District members, home district of President Carol Habgood, with GFWC Treasurer Jolie Frankfurth (second from left)



*Left: Past State Presidents: R to L: Marion Gamertsfelder, 1998-2000
Barbara Winingham, 2004-2006
Patti Poe, 2016-2018
Carol Habgood, 2018-2020*



Cindy Simmons installed as 61st President of GFWC Texas



The President's Pin

By Billie Williams, First Vice President

[Note: These remarks were given at the installation of the 61st President of GFWC Texas on May 29, 2020.]

This is truly a momentous occasion in the history of the Texas Federation, because tonight we not only install a new president, Cindy Simmons from right here in South Texas District, but we also retire our current officer pins and welcome new pins that will be proudly worn for hopefully many years to come.

How many years you might ask? Our current pins have been around for quite a while, since the early 1950's, and they've seen a lot over the past seven decades, so before we bid them adieu and they retire to a well-deserved rest at headquarters, it seems only fitting that we recap some of the things these pins have seen.

Modene Van Hook Stubbs was TFWC President when the pins were purchased:

Eisenhower was in the Whitehouse and the Korean War was just getting started. The 50's saw the birth of Rock and Roll; Elvis get drafted; gasoline was 20 cents a gallon; you could buy a house for less than \$20,000 and bread was 15 cents a loaf. Hank Williams sang country blues, Disneyland opened, and the first OTIS elevator was installed in Dallas, Texas.

And the following women wore the President's Pin:

Lorraine Dudley

Bernice Pace Brown House, and

Mae Wadley Boyd

Then came the 60's. A turbulent time to be sure. Vietnam sparks the Peace Movement. Betty Friedan authors the groundbreaking book, "The Feminine Mystique," which sparks the Women's Movement. Martin Luther King Jr. becomes the figurehead of the "Civic Rights Movement;" America puts a man on the moon, and Lee Harvey Oswald, shooting from the 6th floor of a building in downtown Dallas, assassinates President John F Kennedy.

And the following women wore the President's Pin:

Evelyn Griffiths

Winnie Carleton

Blanche Ginnings

Anne Seay, and

Celeste Shaper

On to the 70's, a decade of change: Viet Nam ends, and a scandal brings down a President, The Beatles break up, Elvis dies, and Sonny & Cher get divorced. More women join the work force and march to demand equal pay for both sexes; at the movies we saw "Star Wars", "The Godfather", we met "Rocky", took dance lessons so we could "Boogie Down" when Disco was king,

And the following women wore the President's Pin:

Virginia Carpenter

Lucy Hughes

Harriette Williford-Whatley

Eleanor Tipps, and

Verne Bratton

Which brings us to the 80's: A little grocery by the name of "Whole Foods" gets it start in Austin; the number 1 show on TV was "Dallas" which prompted everyone to wonder, "Who Shot JR?" The Rubicks Cube and Computer modem were invented, Ronald Reagan was Time's Man of the Year. We chased ghosts with Pac-Man, sang about Pina Colada's while drinking them and read Cosmopolitan to learn how to keep our man happy and our tummy's flat....

(continued on next page)

And the following women wore the President's Pin

Linnie Coleman Sims
Frances Skiles
Bettye Green
Carol Silvus, and
Billie Lindley McMahon

Now we are in the 90's: The Cold War officially ends, but the 1st Gulf War takes its place; Hubble is launched and computers get faster chips; NAFTA opens borders; "Dolly" the sheep is cloned; we are introduced to the Simpsons for the first time; at 77 John Glenn orbits the earth, and Domestic Terrorists explode a bomb in Oklahoma City,

And the following women wore the President's Pin

Dorothy Boutwell
Mary Margaret Roberson
Dorothy Kemp
Minnie Simmang, and
Marion Gamertsfelder

With the 2000's a new century has begun: We all survived the Y2-K scare; MLK Day becomes an official holiday; Heinz introduces Green, Purple & Blue Catsup and a naked Richard Hatch wins a million dollars on the first season of "Survivor"; Texas has 3 cities in the Top 10 according to the US Census- 4. Houston, 8. Dallas & 9. San Antonio: Tom Hanks was "Castaway" while George Clooney sank during "The Perfect Storm"

And the following women wore the President's Pin:

Mary Beth Guy
Bobbe Mitchell
Barbara Winingham
Patricia Siegfried-Giles, and
Marjorie Williamson

Which brings us at last to the TEEN's decade, and what a decade it was: Facebook, the new way to communicate and connect has 600+ million users and Selfies cause more tragic deaths than shark attacks; we became addicted to \$8.00 a cup coffee from a West Coast coffee shop; Deep Water Horizon spills 200 million gallons of crude in the Gulf and more Kindle books are sold than Hard Cover ones. Milk is now \$3.32 a gallon and eggs go for \$2.20 a dozen. Volcanoes in Iceland, Earthquakes in Haiti, and Hurricane Harvey brings devastation and floods of Biblical proportion to inundate the Gulf Coast of Texas. But we bounce back with a lotta help from our Federated Sisters and Texas hosts a fabulous GFWC Convention in Austin, 2019.

And the women who wore the President's Pin were:

Dorothy Roberts
Janelle Holden
Sandi Conway
Patti Poe, and
Carol Habgood

If any of these past presidents are with us this evening, please stand now and be recognized by those of us present that owe such a debt of gratitude to the women who wore the President's Pin.

May the new pins, presented here tonight to these incoming officers, serve them as they continue to serve the women of Texas, and continue this long tradition of leadership and dedication.

GFWC Awards Received



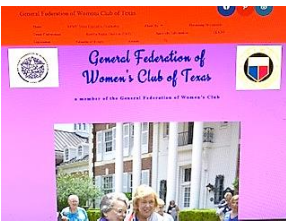
***2020 GFWC Jennie Award for South Central Region
Past GFWC Texas President, Barbara Winingham***



***Charlotte Emerson Brown Excellence in Leadership Award
GFWC Texas President, Carol Habgood***



First Place, State Newsletter Contest



First Place, State Website Contest

First Place, Domestic Violence Awareness and Prevention Fund

GFWC Juniors' Special Program: Advocates for Children

Club Creativity Award Honorable Mention: GFWC Decatur Woman's Club, Decatur (Pioneer District)

Outstanding Achievement in Juniorette Participation:

GFWC Bluebonnet Drama Club (South Texas District)

GFWC Fireside Juniorette Club (South Texas District)

GFWC Harbor City Juniorette Club (South Texas District)

In Memory

Marjorie C. Williamson

March 30, 1938 – March 30, 2020

GFWC Texas State President 2008 - 2010



Marjorie Ciruti Williamson passed away peacefully on March 30, 2020, which was her 82nd birthday. She was preceded in death by her husband, David Williamson, her parents Manuel and Rosa Ciruti of Baytown and brother Lon Norwood Ciruti, also of Baytown. Marjorie was born on March 30, 1938 in Baytown, Texas. She graduated from Robert E. Lee High School, then attended Baylor University where she was active in her Athenian sorority. She graduated from Howard Payne University, where she was a Homecoming Queen. Marjorie had a long, successful career as an educator, specializing in early childhood education and literacy. She was an early pioneer of the Head Start program in Texas public schools. She also helped start and run private, faith-based schools, taught classes at San Jacinto Junior College to future classroom teachers, and held training programs to young mothers-to-be. After her retirement, she joined the Federated Women's Club of Texas, where she became State President in 2008 and earned special recognition from Governor Rick Perry for her philanthropic work. Marjorie is survived by her Son, Jeff Woodruff, his wife Sharon; Daughter Jana Parra; grandchildren Rachel Woodruff Meguess and husband Scotty Jr.; Anna Woodruff, Matthew Parra and great-grandson Scotty Meguess III; Stepson, Luke Williamson and wife Kristin and their children Kelsey, Anslee and Morgan. A private family funeral service is scheduled with interment to follow in Houston National Cemetery.