

Fall 2023

MEMBERSHIP ENGAGEMENT



2022-2024 MEMBERSHIP COMMITTEE

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Happy Fall Y'all!

"It's the first day of autumn!
Time for hot chocolatey mornings, toasty
marshmallow evenings, and, best of all,
leaping into leaves!"
Winnie the Pooh

Fall is also the time for many clubs beginning to meet again after summer break. What better way to energize your club members by encouraging them to attend the GFWC Region Conferences and State Fall Conferences. New ideas, motivational speakers, and the comradery of meeting others with the same interest - improving our communities through volunteer service.





Things to remember...

NDS BUTTONS AVAILABLE!

Commemorative button for the inaugural GFWC National Day of Service.

ORDER YOURS TODAY FROM THE GFWC MARKETPLACE.

Together we can end food insecurity and hunger!



The Top Three Reasons to Wear a 2023 GFWC National Day of Service Button

1 - Passion

When our members are passionate about something, they will proudly display it. GFWC members are passionate about battling food insecurity and creative about it, too! The 800+ registrants and the many different events and projects planned for September 30 prove GFWC members are excited about NDS and helping those in need in their communities.

#2 A Sense of Belonging

When members identify with GFWC and the cause of food insecurity, these buttons show their connection to fellow clubwomen working toward the same goal.

#3 Identification

When members are out completing their events and projects on September 30, people should know that members are working together for a cause and that they are a group that other people will want to join.

To participate in the inaugural NDS, please email Melanie Gisler, Membership Director, at mgisler@gfwc.org and cc Deb Strahanoski, GFWC International President, dstrahanoski@gfwc.org.

DO YOU KNOW?

The following eight U.S. states have the highest rates of food insecurity:

1) Alabama (18.1%)	5) Maine (16.4%)
2) Arkansas (17.5%)	6) Mississippi (18.7%)
3) Kentucky (17.3%)	7) New Mexico (17.6%)
4) Louisiana (18.3%)	8) Oklahoma (15.2%)

Source: America's Health Rankings

Help Us to End Hunger in the United States By Volunteering, Donating, or Organizing a Community Service Project

GFWC Clubs are planning events such as:

- Preparing & serving food to women and children at a local shelter
- 5K walk and food collection to be donated to a local food shelter
- Treating seniors in the community to a grocery shopping trip and lunch
- “Souper Service Saturday” collection of soups & crackers for food cupboard
- Volunteering at an “Empty Bowl” event
- “Extrava Canza” canned goods sculpturing contest
- Stocking the USO lounge at a local airport for members of the armed services
- Providing collection boxes in local shops for a food cupboard for the disabled
- Filling blessing boxes for their community

What has your club planned to help with food insecurities?



Share Your Passion - Ruby



By: Linda Kreussling, GFWC Membership Committee

Passion is defined as an interest in or wish to do something. One person's passion can affect the unfolding of another's passion. What are your passions, and how do you share them with others? Are there others who may share your common goals? Never be afraid to ask people, including your club members, to get involved. Join GFWC clubs nationwide to promote the GFWC Membership "Sparkle and Shine" recruitment campaign for September, October, and November themed RECRUITMENT: Ruby – "Share your Passion." New members may be enthusiastic to assist with filling food cupboards and pantries, and these organizations are always looking for donations. Has your club signed up for the GFWC National Day of Service on September 30, focusing on food insecurities? What a terrific way to get non-members involved in your club's GFWC National Day of Service project! School is starting soon, and many families cannot afford basic items for their children. A backpack and school supplies drive may be just the project to help them with their needs. Share on social media that your club is collecting supplies; perhaps you'll find a prospective member willing to help. Assisting domestic violence shelters, veteran organizations, and humane societies with wish lists of items they desperately need is something your community could accomplish. By advertising your project and the passion you have for serving others, prospective members will be drawn to help. Club members can share their passion in many ways, which could help grow your membership. Share your passion and watch the passion of Living the Volunteer Spirit grow.

TAPPING INTO THE FUTURE

Collegiate/Post Secondary Age Clubs

By: Judy Gustafson, GFWC Membership Committee



Another academic year has started. Recent high school graduates have filled the dorms of colleges and universities in many communities. Other students have returned to continue in their educational journey. These students are our future and can make an impact within your community by becoming GFWC members. Whether they join an active GFWC club or start a new collegiate club, they can serve as leaders on campus and in the community by volunteering their service or raising efforts to benefit local or world causes. Learning leadership skills and making life-long friendships are both possible by belonging to GFWC.

To develop a new collegiate club or add college members to your own club, meet with school or site administrators/leaders to introduce GFWC as an organization that blends community service and leadership training. Ask if they are willing to be a host campus. As the host, local GFWC members can hold campus meetings, and students can be invited to learn more about community service through GFWC's various service programs and projects. Your club could host a volunteer project with students, such as making improving public areas on campus, or provide nutrition and cooking classes.

Consider contacting the sororities on campus with similar philanthropy that aligns with GFWC. Working on grassroots projects together also brings the mission and vision of GFWC to these potential members.

GFWC offers diverse Special and Community Service Programs, but clubs determine their projects based on the community's needs. The possibilities are endless! Remember to tap into our future leaders by asking them to join us in helping to make local communities and the world a better place.

Many documents are available on the Member Portal (see below) to assist with starting new clubs.

My Digital Library > Resources > "M" > Membership Toolkit
My Digital Library > Resources > "B" > Writing Bylaws

Thinking ahead...



GETTING TO ZERO
Reaching the World's Zero-Dose Children

shot @life | mobilize to immunize

Virtual Summit
Applications are now
OPEN!

Join us September 29 on Zoom!



SERVICE DOG MONTH

Photo: Jamaica and Getty

2024 PUPPY CALENDAR Available Soon!
Pre-Order Now



Friendsgiving is the blend of the words *Friends* and *Thanksgiving*, and it refers to a large meal shared with friends either near or on Thanksgiving. But why should we make this concept of a meal with friends just for Thanksgiving time?

GFWC *Friendsgiving* will help to build the GFWC brand in your community; will gather and thank community leaders, individuals, and businesses who have participated in some way to club projects by their donations of items, time, gift cards, and or sponsorship; and enlighten potential members to the vast reach of club philanthropy and dedication.

The goal is to get together for fun and fellowship. Whether scheduled for November or for GFWC Federation Day, the *GFWC Friendsgiving* "Box of Gems" has all you need to host a wonderful event. This valuable resource is available in the "F" Resources folder of the [Member Portal Digital Library](#).

The "Box of Gems" provides just a few ideas that could be used, but GFWC clubs are creative—we encourage you to create your own *GFWC Friendsgiving* event.

Post your Friendsgiving plans on the GFWC Advancements & Programs Forum on Facebook!



'Tis the season to Sparkle & Shine

HOLIDAY OPEN HOUSE

Wednesday, December 6, 2023
11:00 AM–1:00 PM & 1:30 PM–3:30 PM

GFWC Headquarters
1734 N ST NW, Washington, DC 20036

RSVP to Events@GFWC.org by November 20
Register at eventsquid.com/holiday-open-house

