***GFWC/Ohio Federation***

***Of Women’s Clubs***

***NEWSLETTER***

August 2020

***From the President’s Desk –***

Hello Ladies,

I hope everyone is staying safe and keeping in touch with family and friends.

The GFWC Manual is available you can download the 2020-2022 GFWC Club Manual.   Read about each of GFWC’s advancement areas, community service programs, and special programs. You’ll also find complete rules and criteria for all of GFWC’s awards, contests, and grants, along with the guidelines for the reporting system. **Note: The Club Manual is exclusively available in the GFWC Member-Portal. You will need to sign into the Member-Portal at** gfwc@gfwc.org **and register with your email and create a password.**

Don’t forget to sign up for **GFWC News and Notes** by contacting gfwc@gfwc.org and giving them your email address and the message to sign you up. It is sent out via email every Thursday and is full of information. It is free and will help you stay up to date on any and all federated news.

With September, our clubs will be starting to meet, either in person or virtually and I would love to be invited. The one thing that upsets me with COVID -19, is the fact that we were unable to travel to all the districts for Fall Conference and meet all the wonderful members of GFWC Ohio. I’m still looking forward to meeting you and am praying this Pandemic is resolved soon.

Clubs are preparing for their club year, selecting the Programs and Projects that will interest their membership and producing club programs books or sending newsletters to their members. Please include me in your mailings; I would love to know what each of you are doing to promote and educate; what you’re doing to make a difference in your community. Good luck with your club year.

 *Marjean Sizemore*

 2020-2022 GFWC Ohio President

**DISTRICT MEETINGS:**

Due to COVID- 19 the District Presidents are deciding how they will be holding their district meetings. Each district will base their decision in regards to the safety guidelines in their area. Yvonne, Mary and myself will be joining you at your Fall Conference either in person or virtually. The GFWC Ohio Directory is completed and should be on the Website **gfwcohio.com** this week, if you want a hard copy please contact your District President. Each District will be selecting a Nominating Committee to select a District Junior Director (if applicable) and a District President. If you are interested in learning more about the workings of GFWC and GFWC Ohio “this is the place”. Talk to any District or State Officer or a member of the Nominating Committee, if you have questions and let them know you are interested. Don’t think you can’t be a leader -Just take one step and the learning will follow. Help lead Ohio and the great volunteers that give so much to their community. Do it Now! YOU CAN DO IT! If you’re interested in a 2020-2022 Administration pin, they are available from your District President; the cost is $4.00.

**LEADS PROGRAM:**

GFWC/Ohio Federation of Women’s Clubs believes strongly in supporting the GFWC LEADS PROGRAM. The application is due to the State President by January 1, 2021, and 2022, along with your letter(s) of recommendation. The GFWC Ohio Board of Directors will then select the candidate at the Winter Board meeting. Send application to: Marjean Sizemore, 172 Jeffery Street, Wintersville, OH 43953 740-632-5814 (C) 740-264-3474 (H).

**MEMBERSUITE PORTAL:**

**You must be registered in the Membersuite Portal in order to access information on the GFWC Website.**

**HOW TO ACCESS GENERAL RESOURCES IN MEMBERSUITE:**

1. Log in to GFWC Member Portal: <https://gfwc.users.membersuite.com/home>
2. On the top right-hand corner select your profile icon
3. Select ‘My Digital Libraries’ from drop down options
4. Select ‘Resources’
5. To view all folders at the same time: On the lower right-hand corner select ‘Items per page: 50’
6. Select the relevant document or folder

If you have trouble signing into the portal call or email GFWC Headquarters.

**JENNIE JUNE AWARD:**

The GFWC Jennie Award is named in honor of GFWC’s founder, Jane Cunningham Croly, who wrote for national newspaper under the pseudonym, “Jennie June.” The award highlights those extraordinary clubwomen who epitomize her spirit of independence, courage, and persistence in purpose through their roles as volunteers within their clubs, elsewhere in the community, and as members of a family or extended family. Although GFWC has many awards for states and clubs, the GFWC Jennie Award is the only national honor that recognizes individual members for personal excellence. In fact, it is the highest honor bestowed by GFWC. Clubs may nominate one member who has demonstrated the qualities outlined above. Nominee must be a member in good standing of a GFWC club for a minimum of five years. Clubs must submit nomination material to Ohio’s Jennie Award Chairman, Lisa Waitkus, postmarked by June 1, 2021, for state level judging. GFWC Ohio Jennie Award Recipient will be announced at the summer 2021 State Leadership Meeting. Application and guidelines can be found in the GFWC Ohio Directory. Consider nominating a member from your club.

**MEMBERSHIP NEWS:** by State Chairman Linda Crish

**CHALLENGE PROJECT** During the 2020-2022 Ohio administration we will ask clubs to focus on two simple projects for membership. We will be implementing **‘Monday’s Are for Members”** I am asking for Ohio clubs to send me club pictures that involve members and a brief description of the picture. I will post on the GFWC Ohio Facebook page. This promotes interest with not only our own members but potential new members. People need to know that we are thankful we belong to our clubs and we should pass it on to others. Please send your FB posts to my cell phone – Linda 330- 727-9321. For every new member that joins your club from the “Monday’s” project you will be entered into a drawing, winner to be announced at convention. (Now, you have to send me the new members name and proof of joining.) A monetary gift of $75.00 will be awarded to the club, funds to be used to promote membership within the winning club. The month of **October will be our Membership Month** known as **Harvest of Members**. During October your club is encouraged to promote membership by having a meeting (ex. Tea, card party, general meeting, Halloween party, etc.) Be creative, make your meeting something that will interest new members. Every club member should invite one new person. We all have at least one friend. Remember, you were a new member at one time, it can be overwhelming. Make your guest feel welcome! For every new member that joins your club from the “Harvest” project you will be entered into a drawing, winner to be announced at convention. (Now, you have to send me the new members name and proof of joining.) A monetary gift of $75.00 will be awarded to the club, funds to be used to promote membership within the winning club. These are two separate projects, please support Ohio’s membership, it is vital to our existence. The most important benefit of belonging to GFWC Ohio is the support, encouragement, creativity and friendship shared by members from all walks of life, with varied perspectives, diverse backgrounds and different experiences.

**DIRECTORY:**

The 2020-2022 Directory is completed. A copy was sent to Maddie to place on the **gfwcohio.com** website, and copies have been sent to your District President, so hard copies will be available to any member that would like to have one. Barbara Whitaker has spent many hours working on the Directory and believe me when I tell you it is beautiful. I’m so excited for you all to see it and hope you will use it throughout this Administration. It is full of information and ideas for you, plus it will be easy to find anything you might need; all the forms on the Web are fillable. Hope this will make your life easier.

**CLUB DUES:**

One of your most important tasks in the fall is sending your Treasurer’s Sheet, with your dues and your club’s membership list, to the GFWC/Ohio Federation of Women's Clubs Treasurer by October 10th for extra Honor Roll Points or by November 10th at the latest. You should also send in reports during the year whenever your membership changes. Having correct membership data in a timely manner is significant for the smooth functioning of the GFWC/Ohio Federation of Women's Clubs Board of Directors as well as for the accurate distribution of The Buckeye Magazine. Mail your membership sheet and your check to GFWC Ohio Treasurer Deidra Devore, 9424 County Road 39, Bloomingdale, OH 43910. Instructions for the Treasurer Sheet and forms can be found in the 2020-2022 Directory.

**GFWC SUMMER WEBINAR SERIES:**

It is hoped you enjoyed the GFWC Summer Series of webinars. Record numbers of leaders and members were reached. For those who registered for the webinars, recordings will be released for your viewing following the August Board of Directors Meeting on August 24, 2020. If you did not register, you will have an opportunity in September to register and view the webinars.

**FRIENDLY REMINDERS:**

* Make sure your club Treasurer submits your dues to GFWC Ohio Treasurer Deidra Devore by October 10, 2020 for extra points on you reporting pages, or by November 10, 2020.
* Be sure that all state membership contact information is updated as needed.
* Include State President Marjean Sizemore, sizemore172@comcast.net on your club mailing list for your club newsletter and program books. I love to know what you are planning.
* Encourage your officers, chairmen, and members to attend District Meetings, State Convention.
* Plan on attending The Gold Star Mothers Pilgrimage on September 27, 2020.
* Plan on attending the GLR Conference, being held virtually on October 24, 2020.
* GFWC Holiday Open House December 9, 2020.
* Stay informed sign up for News and Notes and Legislative Action