



# **Top Projects**

## *From the 2016 Award Entries*

These programs and projects were selected as the Top Projects by the GFWC Special Project, Community Service Program, and Advancement Area Chairmen. The lists were comprised from the State Award Entries and Club Creativity Award Entries submitted by state chairmen.

## **WOMEN'S HISTORY AND RESOURCE CENTER ADVANCEMENT AREA**

### **Firstie Project**

The Covina Woman's Club (CA) wrote clubwomen back into their history by developing the "Firstie" Project. In their research, they came across a member who had achieved a remarkable feat, and they questioned, "How many other women from our Federation have gone unrecognized for their achievements?" They defined a "firstie" as a clubwoman that was "a first" in her community to receive recognition as a notable woman. She must have been a club member (past or present) and could have achieved her fame before or after becoming a member.

### **Dinner Party Honoring Notable Women**

The Morgan Park Junior Woman's club (IL) undertook a project that honors our heritage by recognizing the contributions and celebrating the lives of notable women. In the spirit of the Dinner Party installation service by Judy Chicago in the 1970s, they "invite" notable women as "guests" to a dinner party, and create a place setting for each. Club members can choose a "guest" to introduce, collect information about the notable woman, give a biographical presentation, and display a dinner plate/place setting honoring the subject's life and accomplishments.

### **GFWC 125<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Celebration Tea**

GFWC Hastings Woman's Club (MI) held a GFWC 125<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Celebration Tea. This event was held at Adrounie House, and original Sears & Roebuck Catalog home built between 1893 and 1894. GFWC Michigan State President and special guest Fran Leonard presented an overall history of GFWC, and the state's First Vice-President and local club member Donna Brown provided a history of the Hastings Club. The owners of Adrounie House related the history of the home and also gave tours.

### **Times Revisited Program**

GFWC Virginia clubwomen researched, scripted, and performed a 40-minute program titled "Times Revisited," a travel through time, in honor of GFWC's 125<sup>th</sup> Anniversary. The premise was two clubwomen finding an old suitcase in the attic at GFWC HQ and by revealing the contents of the suitcase to tell the story of GFWC. The years were divided into Federation anniversaries of 25 years, underscored with the trivia, fashion, and music of the times.

### **Ask Granny Project**

The Woman's Club of Arlington Evening Membership Department (NJ) offered an "Ask Granny" project promoting genealogical research that included the Genealogical Society, the Woman's Club, the Arlington Junior Woman's Club, and a class of sixth grade students. It introduced the attendees to family tree research, with the goal of passing information to future generations.

### **Club Calendar**

GFWC Taunton Women's Club (MA) created a club calendar in honor of Women's History Month to collect money for GFWC's Women's History and Resource Center. It featured pictures of famous women and stated "Women make a difference that we want to remember for future generations to model." Each day had a question or gave a direction involving donating money to WHRC. For example, "Did you call a friend today?" If yes, pay 10 cents, if no, pay 15 cents.

### **Memorial Day Parade Float**

GFWC Morehead Woman's Club (KY) decided to highlight a GFWC project during World War II for their Memorial Day Parade float entry. For their theme, they selected a World War II Navy Hell Cat fighter plane. In 1942, GFWC raised \$154,459,132 through the sale of war bonds, enabling them to purchase 431 planes. The World War II plane constructed for the float was made of cardboard, chicken wire, and papier-mâché.

### **Club History—Your Grandmother's Study Club**

The Collinsville Study Club (AL) members have produced a club history entitled "Your Grandmother's Study Club,"

1960-2015,” which continues the history of the club from the previous edition, “Your Grandmother’s Club, 1929-1959.” Club members researched club records including yearbooks, scrapbooks, and minutes from the last 55 years, which are housed at the public library. They used GFWC WHRC guidelines on how to archive, donate club records, and research and write a club history.

### **Long-Time Members Project**

The La Crescenta Woman’s Club (CA) has undertaken the “Long-Time Members” project by conducting interviews of long-time members using a recommended list of questions and completing necessary forms to comply with requirements. The purpose of the project is to familiarize members with the experiences and history of club women who have been members for many years. They started by interviewing the members that had been in the club the longest. These interviews are being kept in a special album with photographs of the members who are highlighted.

### **Service Project Honoring GFWC’s 125<sup>th</sup> Anniversary**

The Las Noches Woman’s Club (AZ) honored the 125<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of GFWC by collecting 125 items each month to donate to a residential home for children whose parents are incarcerated, or Save the Family, an organization that helps homeless individuals and veterans to find housing and jobs. They donated 125 each of oatmeal, paper products, macaroni and cheese, and hygiene bags.