

THE GFWC WOMAN'S CLUB NEWS

APRIL 2015



A classic reminder that your \$85 Club dues will be collected at the May luncheon or mail your check, payable to GFWC Woman's Club of Panama City, to Emma Helms along with any changes to your mail or email address or phone number.

THE MAY GENERAL MEMBERSHIP LUNCHEON
Sponsored by our International Outreach Dept.
THURSDAY, MAY 7 ~ 11:30 am



***Our Program:**
Hannelore Holland and
Sandra Wilson
from Something's Cookin'*

Please bring large size canned goods and non-perishable foods for a local food kitchen. Cash donations also welcomed.

Make your reservation and place to-go orders with your Department Secretary by MONDAY, MAY 4.

Pearls From Our President

At our May General meeting we will have as our program a special guest to tell us about the cookbook project which is benefitting our Community Improvement Project (CIP). Hannelore Holland will be there to present a check from the proceeds of the sale of the "Favorite Recipes" cookbook. It is the 45th anniversary reprint of the cookbook originally done by the Home Life Department of the Panama City Junior Woman's Club in 1969. We are grateful for this generous donation from the former Juniors. Many thanks to those of you who bought cookbooks to help with our CIP. They sold all of the books that they reprinted.

We all enjoyed Jan Gainer's speech on Federation at the April General Meeting and were pleased to meet Catrina Sistrunk, Director of Junior Clubs for GFWC Florida. Then as the month of April progressed, we were busy with the luncheon held by the Public Issues Department in honor of the folks in the 14th Judicial Circuit who work to help with Child Abuse Prevention and Awareness. The Arts Department is busy with their Awards Ceremony for the Second Grade Art Contest.

Don't forget to pay your dues of \$85.00. Send your checks to Emma Helms. Her address is in your yearbook. Or bring your checkbook to the May luncheon. Dues must be received prior to May 31.

I have had a wonderful first year with all of you. I appreciate so much your willingness to serve your community in all the many ways that you do through your departments and through working on general club projects. Keep up the good work and we will have another successful year beginning in June.

Gerry Wilson

ARTS

Meets 4th Thursday at 10:30 am

Contact: Victoria Williams

At our April meeting, Arts welcomed Martha Spiva who spoke about Growing Up On Grace that she will be publishing soon. The book was almost finished by her husband before he passed away. She has completed the book and inspired all of us with illustrations and paths to publishing.



The Awards Ceremony and Reception for Youth Art Month's 2nd grade Arts Contest at our Bay District Schools was held on April 19 for our inspiring and aspiring young artists, their parents, teachers and District staff. Congratulations to all the 2nd graders who did their best to portray the Heroes.



Our member Leanne Shell is working on a quilt to honor women sailors, especially among younger women. This innovative art project will be donated to encourage and promote competitive sailing for women.

CONSERVATION

Meets the 3rd Thursday at Noon

Contact: Pat Fenaes



We were disappointed that the entomologist from Tyndall AFB "bugged out" on us in April as our guest speaker but instead we learned more about container gardening from a master gardener. It's a an excellent way to put small spaces to good use for decoration as well as for fruits and vegetables. On May 19th we will conclude the year with a pot luck luncheon at Nancy Wyatt's home to discuss our program plans for next year.



EDUCATION

Meets the 4th Tuesday at 11:30 am

Contact: Genie Cianciolo



We were pleased with the March General Membership luncheon, thanks to all our members' hard work. We could then relax and look forward to hearing all about Karen Mullins' wonderful trip to Spain at our March meeting.

At our April meeting, we will make plans for the annual end-of-the-year Fun Day and teacher appreciation at Springfield Elementary School. We usually assemble goodies bags and treats for the children and the teachers to help celebrate another good year.

HEALTH & WELFARE

Meets the 4th Wednesday at 10 am

Contact: Emma Helms

After hosting the April Luncheon, we visited the Pyramid, a local center for adults with developmental disabilities, to talk about our club's long history in our community. In May we will be helping with a reception at the Springfield Community Center for those brave souls who work hard to combat domestic violence in our community. We may be small but we do big things!



WE WELCOME A NEW MEMBER, JESSICA FLAHERTY!

1400 Thurso Road, Lynn Haven, FL 32444 / 248-2151 H / 890-5112 C / JMFMRG@aol.com

Our members are the lifeblood of our Club. Invite someone to our summer luncheon and to your Department events!

INTERNATIONAL OUTREACH Meets the 4th Thursday at 9:30 am

Contact: Neysa Semmler

This spring has been filled with great activities and speakers. Cathy Byrd from Titus 2 Ministries and FSU student Emily Austin spoke about a J-1 Student Visa Guest Workers program. There are some disreputable companies out there who take the student's money but when they arrive here, the students find they are on their own. The Ark on Panama City Beach is working with the J-1 program to get these students a job and has converted their dorm rooms into a place with 121 bunk beds for J-1 students. In April, we learned more from Bethel House about the struggles and small victories of women and their children who seek shelter there from domestic abuse. We will support the Domestic Violence Awareness activities in May and host the General Membership Luncheon. Our theme will be Mother's Day. What better way to end the year than to thank our mothers and treat all of you to a delicious lunch!



PUBLIC ISSUES Meets the 3rd Tuesday at 5:30 pm

Contact: Darcie Brooks

Our 4th Annual Child Abuse Prevention Month Kickoff Luncheon for all the folks who work with abused or neglected children in the 14th Judicial Circuit was packed to capacity, far exceeding the 75 we expected! US Rep. Gwen Graham, Mayor Brudnicki and Sheriff McKeithen were just a few of the local dignitaries present. We washed up, rested up and will be ready for our Bunco Night fun-and-fund-raiser on Tuesday, May 19. Our \$15 tickets for a buffet dinner and the



games are going fast! Lastly, we ask your help again with a large canned goods/non-perishable food drive. Too many older adults in our community suffer abuse and neglect. Jane Groom will purchase groceries with your monetary donations, and Pam Blumenthal will deliver them to the Glenwood Community Center to support a local mission to feed needy seniors on June 15, which is Elder Abuse Awareness Day.

YOUTH Meets the 3rd Thursday at 6 pm

Contact: Jane Rigby

In April we welcomed Steve Blumenthal, Executive Director of Anchorage Children's Home to our potluck dinner. He explained ACH's different programs, counseling for children and their families, and its group home for children that have been removed from their home, often through no fault of their own, and many times with only the clothes on their back. ACH always needs socks and underwear in all sizes for both sexes. / We agreed to partner with Public Issues Department on Bay High School's Empty Bowl Project on May 5th from 5pm to 7pm. Ann Tyree will coordinate this event for our department. We also agreed to give \$100 to the St Andrew Bay Center, \$50 to the Florida Sheriff's Youth Ranch Summer Program, and \$100 to Foster Parents Appreciation Night hosted by Children & Family Services. We will wrap up the year on May 21 with dinner and discuss possible projects and speakers for the meetings starting in September.



Don't miss out on Public Issues' BUNCO NIGHT Tuesday, May 19!
Dinner and dessert at 5:30pm. Just \$15 for all the food, fun and laughs! BYOB. Tickets will be available at the luncheon!



MEMORIAL DAY WEEKEND BRUNCH

SUNDAY, MAY 24 11:30am-1pm

Having holiday company or not, who wants to cook when you can do the Woman's Club Lunch Buffet? You know it'll be delicious and it helps our fund our activities! Just \$15 per person!



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CLUB OF
PANAMA CITY**

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(850) 785-7125

MARK YOUR CALENDAR FOR GFWC WOMAN'S CLUB MAY EVENTS! All departments meet at the Clubhouse unless specified otherwise.		
THURS, MAY 7	11:30 AM	GENERAL MEMBERSHIP LUNCHEON <i>See page 1 for details</i>
THURS, MAY 14	10:00 AM	KNITTERS, HOOKERS & A COOK <i>Contact Normandy Cooper for details</i>
FRI, MAY 15 - SUN, MAY 17		GFWC ANNUAL STATE CONVENTION
TUES, MAY 19	12 NOON	CONSERVATION DEPT MEETING at Nancy Wyatt's home <i>(Note the DATE CHANGE)</i>
	5:30 PM	PUBLIC ISSUES' ANNUAL BUNCO PARTY <i>See page 3 for details</i>
THURS, MAY 21	9:30 AM	BOARD MEETING
	6:00 PM	YOUTH DEPT MEETING
SUN, MAY 24	11:30 AM - 1:00 PM	MEMORIAL WEEKEND SUNDAY BRUNCH \$15 <i>See page 3 for details</i>
TUES, MAY 26	11:30 AM	EDUCATION DEPT MEETING
WED, MAY 27	10:00 AM	HEALTH & WELFARE DEPT MEETING
THURS, MAY 28	9:30 AM	INTERNATIONAL OUTREACH DEPT MEETING
	10:30 AM	ARTS DEPT MEETING at O'Charley's Restaurant, 23rd St