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The **GFWC TEXAS**
Clubwoman

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GFWC Texas Executive Committee

President

Patti Poe
7187 Rock Springs School Rd.
Nocona, Texas 76255-6453
940-867-3973
ppoetfwc59@gmail.com

President-elect

Carol Habgood
310 Wickes Street
San Antonio, Texas 78210-1247
210-223-6528
carolhabgood@sbcglobal.net

First Vice President

Cindy Simmons
2459 Live Oak
Ingleside, Texas 78362
361-442-0071
cascws@cablone.net

Second Vice President

Billie Williams
4620 McGuire Rd.
Liberty, Texas 77575
936-336-5811
diamondb3@wt.net

Recording Secretary

Fran Mask
17327 FM 428
Celina, Texas 75009
972-382-3330
f.mask@yahoo.com

Parliamentarian

Margaret Kriegel
310 E. Brenham
Giddings, Texas 78942
979-542-2932
mkriegel26@yahoo.com

GFWC Texas Scholarship

Brenda Grimes
P.O. Box 1173
Denver City, Texas 79323
806-592-3832
brenda.grimes@windstream.net

GFWC Texas HF Trustee

Helen Lamberth
1011 Lynnwood Ave.
Liberty, Texas 77575
936-336-5322
helenlamberth@ymail.com

GFWC Texas Financial Officer

Patricia Stevens
638 Deer Tr.
Jourdanton, Texas 78026
830-769-2326



GFWC Texas Headquarters
2312 San Gabriel; Austin, Texas 78705-5014.

Volume 77 / No. 2

In This Issue:

- From the Desk of GFWC Texas President Poe Page 3**
Minutes of the 2016 Fall Board meeting Pages 6-10
Highlights of Fall Board meeting Pages 11-13
Late breaking announcement Pages 2 & 24
Christmas Greetings Pages 16-20, & 25
District News Pages 14-25
In Memoriam Pages 25-26

Big News!!!

GFWC TEXAS will host the 2019 GFWC Convention to be held in Austin, Texas!!

**The TEXAS Clubwoman : www.texfwc.com
Linda L. Mesler, Editor**



From the Desk of
2016-2018 TFWC President

Patti Poe

Theme: *“Preserving the Past, Pioneering the Future.”*

Dear Members of GFWC Texas,

What a wonderful time we had in Austin for the Fall Board Meeting. Your president is so excited that our Sisterhood is growing and bonding every day. We were able to raise \$4,000 for our Domestic Violence Awareness & Prevention Award due to the generosity of our members. We also raised around \$3,000 for the President’s Special Project, Canine Companions for Independence. This officer is so proud of all of the dedication you give to GFWC Texas.

Your GFWC Texas Executive Committee will be meeting in January to discuss preparations for the Spring Convention at the MCM Elegante in Odessa, Texas, April 26 - April 29, 2017. Please make your reservations NOW, and make sure you let them know you are with the Texas Federation of Women’s Clubs. The reason that we need you to make your reservations early is so that we can add more rooms to our group if needed. The location has been finalized for the 2018 Spring Convention in San Antonio. This convention will be held May 2 - 6, 2018, at the Embassy Suites Hotel on 7750 Briarridge Drive. I was in hopes to be able to have this convention at a hotel on the River Walk, but hotel prices and parking were not available within our price range. We are researching the possibility of chartering a bus for a night trip to the River Walk.

This letter would not be complete without mentioning reporting! Please remember that club reports are due February 1, 2017. You can start writing your reports at any time, but you don’t have to wait until January 30th. We have a great group of State Chairman and I know that we will have a lot of winning reports sent by the District Chairmen to be judged. Please remember the Statistical Report which each club president needs to completely fill out and send to her District President. Texas is a Great State and we need to show the other states how hard we work!

I would also like to encourage each district to submit a LEADS applicant to the State LEADS Chairman, Carolyn Jo Snow. We have so many talented women in our organization. Look around your club and your district and get that name submitted by February 1, 2017.

The holidays are approaching rapidly and my sincere wish is that everyone has a safe and happy time with family and friends over Christmas and New Year’s Day!!

Sincerely,

Patti Poe
GFWC Texas President 2016 - 2018





Dear GFWC Clubwomen,

Thanksgiving is always a special time of year. Spending quality time with friends and family and expressing our thanks and gratitude make this season quite memorable. But this year feels even more special than normal, as I have been given the once-in-a-lifetime opportunity to serve as your GFWC International President. The last several months have been exciting and rewarding as I spend every day working to represent you. I have always been thankful for GFWC, but this year, especially, my heart is overflowing with admiration and sincere thanks for each and every one of you. This role has opened my eyes even more to the life-changing work that GFWC clubwomen do on a daily basis. As I sit down for dinner today and talk about the things I am thankful for, your enthusiasm for volunteering and your love for GFWC will be at the top of my list. Volunteers often go unnoticed for the work they do, but I sincerely hope you know that here at GFWC Headquarters we notice the extra effort you put into your club work.

My spirits are especially high this year as I have even more to be thankful for. I am so grateful for your generosity, especially with your contributions to the GFWC Campaign for the Future. Because of your donations, we are even closer to reaching our goal in securing the future of GFWC in years to come. Thank you for continuing to support this important campaign. In addition to serving as your 51st President, I am incredibly grateful for my first grandchild and look forward to spending the holidays with her. I am also grateful for the wonderful opportunity to live and work at GFWC Headquarters in Washington, D.C., and I hope to see many of you here on December 7 for the Holiday Open House. Thank you for all that you do, and I wish you a wonderful day filled with friends and family.

Forever Living the Volunteer Spirit Through GFWC,

Sheila E. Shea
GFWC International President



ABOVE: GFWC Legislation/Public Policy Chairman Becky Weber, left, and GFWC Texas President Patti Poe, right.

ABOVE: Clara Campbell and GFWC Texas President Patti Poe standing in front of GFWC Headquarters.



ABOVE, Left to Right: Jolie Frankfurth, GFWC Director of Junior Clubs, GFWC President-elect Mary Ellen Brock, GFWC President Sheila Shea, GFWC Texas President Patti Poe and New Jersey/Texas member Clara Campbell.



ABOVE (Left to Right): GFWC President Sheila Shea, GFWC Second Vice President Deb Strahanoski, GFWC Legislation/Public Policy Chairman Becky Weber and Jolie Frankfurth, GFWC Director of Junior Clubs.



Partner Spotlight:

St. Jude Children's Research Hospital

Thank you to GFWC for your continued support of St. Jude Children's Research Hospital. Does your club have a creative idea to raise funds for St. Jude? Go to stjude.org and create an online fundraising site to host an event of your choosing in your area. Be sure to identify yourself as a GFWC club. You can also help by dedicating your club's birthday to St. Jude. Go to stjude.org, Ways to Give and Dedicate Your Birthday. It's easy to do. Register your birthday, personalize your birthday page and share with friends and family! Many of you will be participating in St. Jude Dinners, Galas, and Golf Events. Please make sure to include GFWC in team names and donations information. Update Deb Allen with your fundraising results! For more information on ways to support St. Jude, contact Ashley Ramsdell at ashley.ramsdell@stjude.org.



Students Excel with HOBY

HOBY is excited to kick off another school year with GFWC! Thousands of schools across the country have received the 2017 HOBY Registration Kit to register their 10th grade students for the State Leadership Seminars. Our unique leadership training curriculum is based on the Social Change Model of Leadership and develops leadership from three perspectives: Personal, Group, and Societal. All 70 Seminars take place nationwide between May and June 2017. After their 3-4 day HOBY experience, students return to their community with more self-awareness, confidence, and skills to lead and serve others.

Join the hundreds of clubs that have supported HOBY, either through student sponsorships, volunteerism, and/or gifts-in-kind. Fulfill a Seminar's wish list of supplies or download our donation form to give in any amount. All donations go toward making a difference in the lives of our youth. Contact Sunshine Navarro Shively at 818-851-3980 x321 or shivelys@hoby.org for more information.

President's Special Project: Canine Companions for Independence

Excerpt from Canine Companions for Independence Holiday publication

Service Clubs Deepen Support

The General Federation of Women's Clubs (GFWC) and Lions Project for Canine Companions for Independence (LPCCI) each have a long history of support of Canine Companions on a national level. Recently, the relationships with both of these service clubs have deepened in Texas. Canine Companions South Central Region is thrilled about these partnerships and the commitments these clubs have made to our mission over the next two to three years.



Canine Companions volunteers and graduates with GFWC Texas President Patti Poe at the GFWC's conference.

GFWC Texas — A Presidential Priority

Patti Poe, GFWC Texas President, has chosen Canine Companions as her President's Project during her two-year tenure. Before beginning her term, Patti was invited by a friend and volunteer puppy raiser to attend the grand opening of the South Central Region and the November 2015 graduation ceremony. "It was such a moving experience to see the kids, adults and veterans receiving their dogs, it was just wonderful," Patti said. "After seeing what the dogs can do and what the organization does, I decided to make it my project."

As one of Patti's first official acts as state president, she appointed a campaign chairperson, Linda Mesler, for her project. Linda's job is to increase awareness and fundraising for Canine Companions throughout their 100 clubs across the state of Texas.

Canine Companions was formally introduced to GFWC Texas as the president's project at the spring conference in May. Since then, Canine Companions has been invited to attend all state conferences, as well as several at the district and club level. At the fall state conference in Austin in September, the president's project kicked off with a number of activities, such as a fun West Muttster Dog Contest, to generate club support for the new Texas partnership with Canine Companions.

About General Federation of Women's Clubs (GFWC)

The GFWC is an international women's organization and is dedicated to community improvement by enhancing the lives of others through volunteer service over the past 126 years. Canine Companions is honored to be one of the organization's official non-profit partners.



Minutes of the GFWC Texas 120th Fall Board of Directors Meeting “Lone Star Ladies Making a Difference”

Holiday Inn Midtown
 Austin, Texas
 Thursday, September 15, 2016 9:30 a.m.

President Patti Poe called the meeting to order at 9:30 a.m.

Tissa Peterson, GFWC Texas Chaplain, gave an expression of thanks followed by the National Anthem led by Kathy Horak, Photography Chairman, accompanied by Barbara Winingham, Past State President. Kathy McBride, Silsbee Woman’s Club President, led the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag of the United States of America and Patricia Tate, Resolutions Chairman, led the Pledge of Allegiance to the Texas Flag.



Sharon Grooms, President of Capitol District, gave the welcome to Austin with the response given by Dixie Gilley, GFWC Texas Historical Foundation Liaison.



Cindy Simmons, GFWC Texas First Vice-President, introduced those seated at the head table and Carol Habgood, GFWC Texas President-elect recognized special members and fifteen first-time attendees who were given gifts.

Carolyn McLeod of Pioneer District, Crystal Hammett of Capitol District, and Pat Humphrey of Mesquite District were appointed to approve the minutes.

The preliminary credentials report of seventy-eight voting delegates was given by Nan Park, GFWC Texas Credentials Committee Chairman.

By direction of the credentials committee, chairman Nan Park moved the roll of delegates herewith submitted be the official roll of the voting members of this board meeting. The motion was adopted.

- | | |
|--------------|--------------------------|
| Alamo – 9 | San Jacinto -5 |
| Capitol – 10 | South Texas -13 |
| Caprock -3 | Trinity -10 |
| Magnolia -7 | Western -6 |
| Mesquite -3 | State Past Presidents -1 |
| Pioneer -11 | |



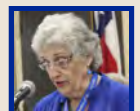
GFWC Texas Parliamentarian Margaret Kriegel, by direction of the Bylaws Committee, moved the adoption of the rules and procedures for the 120th GFWC Texas Fall Board Meeting. The motion was adopted.

President Poe presented the program for the meeting and noted the corrections.



Barbara Menking, GFWC Texas Registrar gave the preliminary registration report. There were ninety-five registered, eighty-eight members, two guests, and five guest speakers.

President Poe recognized the pages for the meeting, Irene Irely, Women’s History and Resource Center Chairman, and Elaine Wilde, ESO Chairman.



Continued to Page 7

Continued from Page 6

Marsha Wellman, International Outreach Chairman, and Beth Lewellen were the timekeepers.

“Patti’s Peacocks,” the District Presidents, gave their district reports:

- Western District-----Lindy Strumberg
- Trinity District-----Wanda Godso
- South Texas District-----Therese Crocker, President of the District Presidents
- San Jacinto District-----Janice Brundrett
- Pioneer District-----Tessa Buckley
- Mesquite District-----Carolyn Waller, Secretary to the District Presidents
- Magnolia District-----Joan Pate
- Caprock District-----Tina O’Connor
- Capitol District-----Sharon Grooms
- Alamo District-----Shirley Thomas



At 10:45 the meeting was recessed for 15 minutes. President Poe reconvened at 11:04.

President Patti Poe introduced guest speaker Rick Cowan, Regional Director with the Coalition Against Bigger Trucks. He urged the group to get involved and stay involved and learn how to take action.



Lonnie Matthew, GFWC Texas Conservation Chairman, presented a report on conservation, “Saving the Bats for Tomorrow”.



Tissa Peterson gave the expression of thanks and at 12:00 p.m. the meeting was recessed for lunch.

Reconvening the meeting at 1:30 p.m., President Poe recognized Elaine Wilde, Chairman of GFWC Texas Epsilon Sigma Omicron, who encouraged members to participate in the reading program.



It was announced that Jessica Karisruher with the Alzheimer’s Association, Capitol of Texas Chapter, was unable to attend due to a family emergency.

Patricia Tate, GFWC Texas Resolutions Chairman, reported on the procedure to create a resolution and proclamation.



President Poe introduced Abbey Fowler, Travis County Assistant District Attorney. Ms. Fowler spoke on the subject of human trafficking and its many aspects.

At 3:01 the meeting was recessed for fifteen minutes. Members were urged to shop at the tables around the hall and to enter the West Muttster Dog Contest.



Reconvening at 3:16 President Poe recognized Nelda Lee, Junior’s Special Project: Advocacy for Children Chairman, to give her report.

Novella Byrd, Juniorette Chairman, updated information about those clubs.

In a presentation, Angela Short, GFWC Texas Website and Team App Chairman, introduced the updated website and explained the new technology. Everyone was urged to obtain the Team app for phone and home computers. Helen Lamberth continued the technology theme and spoke on Facebook, Twitter, and Pinterest websites.



It was announced that there would be counterpart meetings after adjournment and President Poe recessed the meeting at 4:30 p.m.

President Poe reconvened the meeting at 5:30 p.m. at which time Tissa Peterson expressed thanks for the dinner. Directions were given regarding the travel to the boat ride and the meeting was recessed until 9:30 a.m. Friday September 16, 2016.



Meeting at 6:30, members carpooled to the Lone Star Riverboat for a boat ride and bat watching trip.

Continued to Page 8

Friday, September 16, 2016

At 9:30 a.m. President Poe reconvened the meeting at the GFWC Texas Headquarters building. President Poe expressed thanks to the GFWC Texas Historical Foundation for the transportation that morning from the hotel to the GFWC Texas headquarters.

Margaret Kriegel gave updates to existing bylaws.

Domestic Violence Awareness/Signature Program Chairman, Lisa Tate, gave a first person account of how devastating abuse can be.

Veteran's Program - Wreaths Across America committee of Lonnie Matthew, Kathy McBride, and Marsha Wellman explained the program that honors our veterans.

Carol Habgood presented the GFWC Awards won at the GFWC International Convention. Awards given were:

Charlotte Emerson Brown Award for Exemplary Service and Excellence in State Leadership to Sandi Conway, President of GFWC Texas 2014-2016.

Hoby Certificate of Appreciation –GFWC Texas for dedication to Hoby and its ambassadors.

Legislation and Public Policy: Outstanding Achievement - First Place GFWC Texas

Legislation and Public Policy: Honorable Mention - GFWC Texas Fairfield History Club of Fairfield, Texas.

Education Community Service Program: Outstanding Achievement –GFWC Texas Fidelis Inter Se of Celina, Texas

Outstanding Increase in GFWC Clubwoman Subscriptions to GFWC Texas

Writing Contest, Member Short Story, First Place - Billie Williams

Writing Contest, Member Poetry, First Place - Sandi Phillips

Juniorette Participation Award:

- GFWC Texas Juniorettes of Alpine, Texas
- GFWC Texas Bluebonnet Drama Club of Kingsville, Texas
- GFWC Texas Fireside Juniorettes of Ingleside, Texas

Carolyn McLeod announced that \$5,565.00 had been donated for the tornado victims of Rowlett and recognized individual clubs for their donations.

Past State President Patricia Siegfried-Giles presented the GFWC Texas Club Grant Award of \$200.00 to the GFWC Woman's Club of Alpine, Western District. The funds are to be used for a penny-smasher to generate revenue.

At 10:45 a.m. President Poe recessed the meeting and reconvened at 11:00 a.m.

The Babes of Baltimore, Billie Williams, Second Vice President of GFWC Texas and Helen Lamberth, Historical Foundation Chairman of GFWC Texas performed a skit in costume about their trip to the recent GFWC spring convention.

Bonnie Haynes presented directory update information.

Tissa Peterson expressed thanks for our lunch and the meeting was recessed at 11:42 a.m. Lunch was provided and served by the GFWC Texas Historical Foundation members. At 12:29 p.m. the meeting was reconvened by President Poe.

Mary Lou Gilbreath, GFWC Texas Protocol Chairman, along with other members



Continued from Page 8

performed a skit about protocol at meetings.

Kathy Horak gave updates about the 2016-2018 photography contest rules.

Carolyn Jo Snow, GFWC Texas LEADS Chairman, gave the history of LEADS and introduced Angela Short, GFWC Texas Webpage Editor, as the 2016 LEADS representative from Texas. Angela spoke of her experience in Baltimore, Maryland at the GFWC Convention.

President Poe introduced Mikell Bollinger, Regional Director of Advancement for Canine Companions for Independence. She spoke about the organization, its goals, and invited everyone to visit the campus in Irving, Texas.

President Poe introduced Becky Webber, GFWC 2016-2018 Legislation/Public Policy Chairman. She also serves on the GFWC Resolutions committee. and is the GFWC Illinois Legislation Chairman. During her presentation she urged all members to become informed and be involved.

Following her speech, Helen Lamberth and Dixie Gilley, GFWC Texas Liaison to Historical Foundation, presented Ms. Webber with a proclamation welcoming her to Texas and signed by Governor Rick Perry.

Linda Mesler, Editor of the Texas Clubwoman, urged everyone to send articles and news to the magazine.

Carolyn McLeod, Fundraising Chairman, closed the silent auctions and asked everyone to pay and collect the items they had won. She stated she would give the totals the next day.

The meeting was recessed at 3:17p.m. and reconvened at 6:30p.m.

Expression of thanks was given by Tissa Peterson and dinner was served.

Linda Mesler, GFWC Texas President's Special Project –Canine Companions for Independence Chairman, announced the winners of the West Muttster Contest. Mary Rodriguez (dressed) and Maridel Fryar (natural). Proceeds from the contest and pin sales totaled \$1425.00 and was given to the Canine Companions for Independence Organization.

Carolyn McLeod announced a live auction of a Lake Austin Spa Package valued at \$415.00 donated by Melinda Charbonnet, owner as well as a member of the GFWC Woman's Wednesday Club of Granbury. An auction took place with Billie Williams winning the bid. Carol Habgood agreed to match the bid and following that the members across the room started adding to the original bid.

The ending balance came to two thousand dollars with Carol Habgood matching with two thousand dollars. Four thousand dollars was raised for the Domestic Violence Awareness Prevention Scholarship/ Grant.

President Poe introduced Mikell Bollinger, Regional Director of Development for Canine Companions for Independence. She introduced her staff in attendance and Robin Kinsel, President of Lone Star Volunteers. A video of graduation ceremonies was shown and then several puppy raisers spoke about the process of getting a puppy to the point to receive formal training to be a companion. A recipient and her mother talked about the benefit to their family of having one of these dogs.

President Poe recessed the meeting at 9:30 p.m.

Everyone was invited to a reception sponsored by Canine Companions for Independence for GFWC Texas members and Austin guests.



Saturday, September 17, 2016

The meeting was called to order at 9:00 a.m. by President Poe.

GFWC Texas reporting guidelines and changes were explained by Cindy Simmons.

Nan Park gave the final credentials report. Seventy-eight members were certified, three did not attend, making a total of seventy-five voting delegates.

Reports from the Executive Committee:

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|--|----------------------------------|
| President | Patti Poe (copy attached) |
| President-elect | Carol Habgood (copy attached) |
| First Vice President | Cindy Simmons (copy attached) |
| Second Vice President | Billie Williams (copy attached) |
| Recording Secretary | Fran Mask (copy attached) |
| Chairman of the Historical Foundation Trustees | Helen Lamberth (copy attached) |
| Scholarship Chairman | Brenda Grimes (copy attached) |
| Finance Chairman | Patricia Stevens (copy attached) |
| Parliamentarian Chairman | Margaret Kriegel (copy attached) |



Carol Habgood, Chairman of the Long Range Planning Committee, gave a report on the committee's meeting and future goals.

Barbara Menking reported final numbers for the meeting: Eighty-eight GFWC Texas members and seven guests for a total of ninety-five in attendance.

Helen Lamberth reported a total of \$3406.00 in donations for the Louisiana Disaster Relief Fund and stated that the total may grow since donations will be open until mid October.

Carolyn McLeod reported the totals for fundraising:

Silent Auction-\$1270.00	Raffle Sales-\$1159.00	Live Auction-\$4000.00	Total- \$6429.00
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KerryKay Cook, GFWC Texas Spring Convention Chairman, and Western District members wearing boots and cowboy hats, invited members to the 120th Spring Convention. The meeting will be April 26-29, 2017 at the MCM Elegante, Odessa, Texas.



As the meeting came to a close, members stood and recited "A Collect for Clubwomen" by Mary Stewart and were led by Kathy Horak Smith as everyone sang "Let There Be Peace".

President Poe stated that there was no further business and the GFWC Texas 120th Board of Directors Meeting was adjourned at 10:00 a.m.



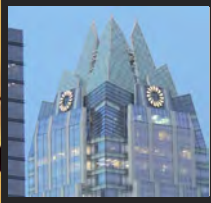
Highlights of the 2016 GFWC Texas Fall Board

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Great Conservation Program!



Well done, Lonnie! We learned a lot and saw a lot!



Rick Cowan - Coalition Against Bigger Trucks



We ran out of space to show how long the supper trucks are!

Friday, September 16, 2016
A Day Spent In "Our House!"



To all that made our day spent
in "our house" possible --
THANK YOU!!

It was very special, and your work is appreciated.



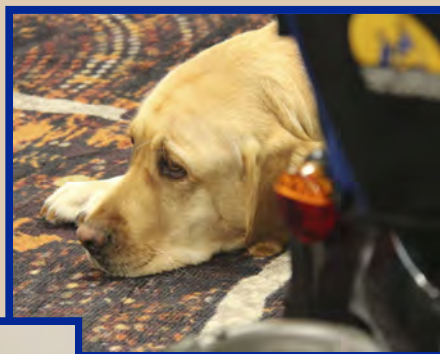
Young dogs being trained.



Most did not know there was a four legged guest in the room. TRAINING!



Gifts!



The calm shown by this "companion" was amazing.



Dressed

Natural



Mary Rodriguez



Maridell Fryar



Canine Companions for Independence team members met GFWC Texas membership and made future contacts.

Alamo District

The Woman's Club of Cotulla see needs of children and respond

COTULLA -- The Woman's Club of Cotulla began the 2016-17 year with two projects centering on children. The first project was Blanket, Books, and Bears. Members brought the three items to the September meeting. The donation went to the Children's Alliance of South Texas (CAST) for children who receive services from the center. The CAST center is a Child Advocacy center located in Cotulla which serves children in Atascosa, Frio, Karnes, LaSalle and Wilson Counties who are victims of physical or sexual abuse, have witnessed a crime, have been exploited through the Internet, child pornography, risk of abuse and/or neglect and human trafficking. Each child that visits the center is given a blanket, book and stuffed animal to provide some small amount of immediate comfort and to help ease the anxiety of the situation.



The stated mission of the CAST center is "To provide a place where the trauma ends and justice and healing begins." The CAST center provides a comprehensive, coordinated and compassionate service to child victims of abuse.

The second project culminated on September 20th and 22nd. Members are encouraged to bring picture books or monetary donations to all meetings during the year. The money is used to buy enough books in order to give each first grader in Cotulla ISD a picture book to take home. Research has shown that exposure to print and providing young children with books in the home environment is a major indicator of future success in school.

The Club was able to distribute books to 82 Ramirez-Burks Elementary first graders on September 22nd and 22 Encinal Elementary First Graders on September 20th. Each child is encouraged to take their book home and read to parents or siblings. We even had two special guests help with the distribution in Encinal; Sheriff Miguel Rodriguez and Chief Deputy Malcom Watson.



Continued to Page 15

Summer Workshop With GFWC Texas Traveling Team



The GFWC Texas Traveling Team visited Alamo district this summer, along with many other districts. Thank you, ladies, for your dedication and sharing of knowledge with your members. We do appreciate the effort made.

Cotulla Woman's Club hosts Alamo District Fall Board Nov. 12th

COTULLA -- Saturday, November 12, 2016 was the date of the Alamo District Fall Board. The Fall Board was hosted by the Woman's Club of Cotulla at the First Baptist Fellowship Hall in Cotulla, Texas. All clubs in the district were represented with a total of 38 in attendance for a very informative Fall Board led by President Shirley Thomas and her Executive Committee.

A very special guest attending the meeting was GFWC Texas President Patti Poe. President Poe stressed the importance of increasing membership within all clubs and asked clubs to consider organizing and sponsoring a Juniette Club for students in middle school and high school.

The highlight of the meeting was the presentation of state award certificates to the winning clubs. The importance of reporting and meeting deadlines was discussed to increase the probability of more awards for Alamo District for 2016.

Patsy Troell, Alamo District Treasurer and representative on the Historical Foundation introduced attendees to a movement started by the Walmart Foundation to honor our country's veterans called "Greenlight a Vet". Members were given a green light bulb and instructed to replace a light visible to the outside with the green light to show support for all veterans. More information can be found at <http://www.greenlightavet.com/>. All agreed that it was a very enlightening day.



Magnolia District

Woman's Civic Club joins others to keep an honored tradition with Veterans by providing annual luncheon

JASPER -- If you passed by the Woman's Civic Club of Jasper on November 10, 2016, you may have wondered about the full-sized flags posted along the property on Milam Street. It was the annual "Bring a Veteran to Lunch" program, only there was something different this year.

The event this year was sponsored by three organizations; it was a community project of the Woman's Civic Club of Jasper, the local American Legion and their Women's Auxiliary, and the local VFW and their Women's Auxiliary. There were about 140 attendees, of which 60 were veterans. The local Boy Scout Troupe 932 also joined in to honor these veterans.

Robert Wilson of Kirbyville brought beautiful handmade walking canes and told us about The Staffs of Honor. Mervin Cleveland sang several patriotic songs and the concluding highlight was Representative James White whose moving speech stirred up patriotism within our hearts.



(Above) Club members prepare for meal.



(Above) The Colors welcome the honored.

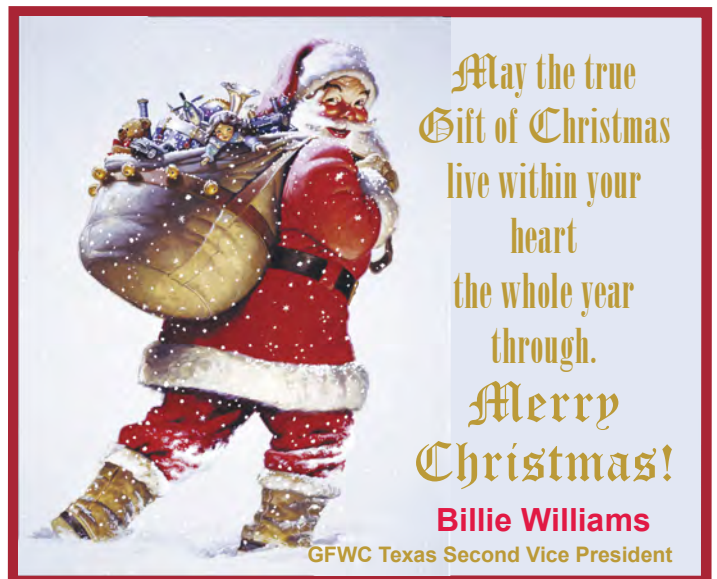


Pictured out of order: Helen Lamberth Magnolia District Past President; Georgiana Bean, 1st grade teacher; Brenda Wofford, Administrator; La Juan Addison, Elementary Principal; Pam Willis, office; Becky Staley, office; and Billie Williams, Second Vice President GFWC Texas.

Always Willing --

Magnolia Leads by Example

DEWEYVILLE -- Members of GFWC Texas Magnolia District presented donations of three boxes of school supplies and \$800.00 in gift cards so that teachers and students may have funds for supplemental supplies after the entire city and elementary school flooded earlier this year.



Biltmore Christmas

2017

Hope to see
you there!



Liberty Woman's Club Holds First "Pick Up and Pitch In" Event

LIBERTY -- On November 15, 2016, The Liberty Woman's Club held its first trash pick up event "Pick Up and Pitch In" with support of the Liberty-Dayton Area Chamber of Commerce, the City of Liberty and other federated woman's clubs.

Some 28 signed-in participants picked up 25 trash bags of garbage in a two hour period. The trash clean up included MLK and Texas Avenue, Milam and parts of Beaumont was a resounding success. Members of the Liberty Woman's Club, Coterie Club, Trivium Club, many spouses and the Boy Scouts took to the streets, literally, at 3:00 p.m. and didn't stop until almost dark. Carl and Ed Pickett had a separate crew working on the bridge area on Beaumont Avenue. Thank you doesn't seem to cover it for those who lent a helping hand or the businesses that supported the project. Special shout out to Generations Coffee Shoppe for refreshments of popcorn, cookies and tea and to the Liberty Pizza Hut for delivering 8 pizzas at 5:00 p.m. Thank you to Liberty Coterie, Liberty Dayton Chrysler and BJ Ford and Walmart for making donations that allowed us to purchase safety vests, gloves, rakes and bags. Special recognitions for



their ongoing efforts to keep the city clean and get others involved went to Ed Pickett, Bruce and Gloria Stratton, JoAnn and Charles Wiggins, Beverly Davis and Sharon and Mark McClelland.

This project was started with the idea of cooperation between the Woman's Club, the Liberty Dayton Chamber of Commerce and the City of Liberty to beautify our city for the enjoyment of the citizens, passers through and people and companies considering it for relocation.

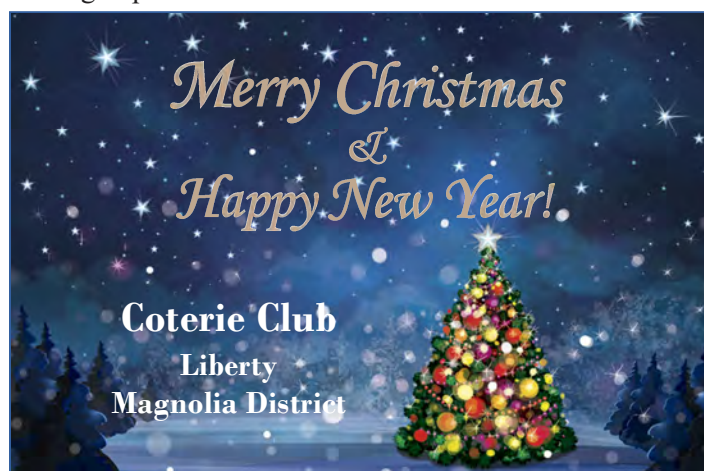


The Liberty Woman's Club is part of a larger international group, General Federation of Woman's Club in which Liberty Coterie and Liberty Trivium are also members. Our goal as federated clubs is to support each other, participate in projects that our membership feels makes our community a better place to live and raise a family, that promote

economic development, increased health benefits and preserve the environment

Some of our other areas of advocacy are Domestic Violence Awareness and Prevention, Advocates for Children through our support of Bridgehaven CAC, Liberty County Child Protective Services, CASA and Family Time, Conservation, Education and the Arts to name just a few.

This beautification project is the first step in promoting a city wide Keep Liberty Beautiful project that will have many layers that will be supported by different groups.



To Bee or Not To Bee



PHOTO BY DANIEL ELIZONDO | SILS BEE

Silsbee Woman's Club got a lesson on the importance of bees on Thursday, with a little added entertainment. Adalaide Balaban (from left) Kathy McBride and Margaret Underhill provided some insight on why society needs bees while adding some visual and comedic relief to keep the crowd buzzing. Silsbee Woman's Club meets monthly.

Above: Silsbee Woman's Club October Conservation program was reconized and on front page of local paper *The Silsbee Bee*.

Go to the GFWC Texas website and gather information about the 2017 GFWC TEXAS CONVENTION. Make your reservations NOW!!

50 Years

Dorothy Kinsel

Woman's Club of Cotulla
1959-60

GFWC Texas
Alamo District

50 Years

Nelda Watson

Woman's Club of Cotulla
1957-58

GFWC Texas
Alamo District



ABOVE: Greeting attendees to the Magnolia District Fall Board meeting. Mary Beth looks skeptical.

MERRY CHRISTMAS

GFWC Texas Magnolia District

Merry Christmas



*From,
Fabulous Florida Flamingo Flock Cyber Club*

Pioneer District



(ABOVE) GFWC Texas Pioneer District President Tessa Buckley calls meeting to order



(ABOVE) Pioneer District President Tessa Buckley listens to Beth Lewellen's report and giggles with the other members as Beth reports.



(ABOVE) Crystal Moore, Executive Director of Mission Granbury



(ABOVE) GFWC Texas President Patti Poe speaks about being involved as a president and her hopes for her administration's success and dedication to volunteerism.

**Would You Like To Visit
The Famous Biltmore
Next Christmas Season?**



Bowie's Two Clubs Host: GFWC Texas Pioneer District 58th Fall Board Held October 22nd

BOWIE -- Members of the GFWC Texas Pioneer District met in Bowie on Saturday, October 22nd to hold its' annual Fall Board meeting. Members of Maids and Matrons and The Amity Club hosted the event at the new Bowie High School facility on U.S. Hwy. 287.

President Tessa Buckley called the meeting to order at 10:00 a.m.

Mayor Larry Slack welcomed the organization and promoted the community. Crystal Moore, Executive Director of Mission Granbury was guest speaker. She explained the workings of Granbury Mission and how Pioneer District could help support it.

Also in attendance were past GFWC Texas State President Barbara Winginham of Bowie and the current seated President of the GFWC Texas Federation of Women's Clubs, Patti Poe, also of Bowie. Both ladies are members of The Amity Club.

After lunch and at the conclusion of the business meeting, there were raffle drawings for various prizes. President Buckley adjourned the meeting at 2:00 p.m.

Continued from Page 20



**Merry Christmas
& wishes for a
Happy
New Year!**

**The TEXAS Clubwoman
Linda Mesler, Editor**

The Amity Club --

Member Pens and Illustrates Book to Help Fight Juvenile Diabetes

BOWIE -- Carolyn Bassham has not lost her inner child, even though she has seen 80 plus Christmases come and go. Her love of children shines brightly, and no brighter than at Christmas each year. Having spent many years playing Mrs. Claus to her husband's Santa, and before Mrs. Claus an elf named Meribelle, Bassham continued this tradition after her husband's death in 2012 and regaled the children at a local library with the story of Meibelle the elf to the delight of children and adults alike. One adult nudged Bassham into considering publishing her story of Meribelle.

Last year, in time for Christmas, "What to do About Meribelle" was published with Carolyn's own illustration included in the book. It was a big hit. That got her to thinking about a second book to be dedicated to her great-granddaughter, Ashlyn, aged 8 years, who has suffered from Type 1 Diabetes since she was 4 years old.

Ashlyn gave Carolyn input for the second book. This book, "What To do About Joy" is about an elf that gets diabetes. It is a reassuring book but also one that makes the reader aware of the seriousness of the disease. A special account has been set up for the future needs and education of Ashlyn from a portion of the proceeds.

Carolyn still delights as Mrs. Claus and reads at the library and schools in the area. Very generous indeed for someone who is losing her eyesight but continues to give of herself fully.



Carolyn Bassham as Mrs. Claus with Ashlyn assisting.



Ashlyn, Carolyn's muse and great-granddaughter.



Mrs. Claus and her elf helper.



South Texas District

Rio Grande City celebrates --

The Womans' Club and the Florence J. Scott Study Club observe their special anniversary celebrations in one grand event

RIO GRANDE CITY -- The Woman's Club of Rio Grande City and the Florence J. Scott Study Club of Rio Grande City held an anniversary tea on Saturday, April 30, 2016 at the Kelsey-Bass Museum in Rio Grande City. The event was in celebration of the 90th anniversary of the Woman's Club of Rio Grande City, which was organized and federated in 1927. It also commemorated the 50th anniversary of the formation by the Woman's Club of their junior club, now a general club, the Florence J. Scott



Study Club, organized and federated in April, 1966. All former members of either club during their years of dedicated service to their community through General Federation of Women's Clubs and GFWC Texas were invited to attend the occasion, as were other special guests.

To recognize these momentous milestones, the Clubs extensively documented their rich history, set up numerous displays, and



showed a powerpoint of pictures from throughout the 90/50 years. A vintage room was set up as a photo backdrop with furniture, clothing, and artifacts from the past century. Current and past members, charter members and original officers, club presidents from the past, and GFWC Texas, South Texas District, and Rio Grande Valley guests were also recognized.

Both clubs received congratulatory letters and award certificates from GFWC International President Babs J. Condon, GFWC Texas President Sandi Conway, and South Texas District President Irene Irely. Bringing a special message from GFWC Texas



was Second Vice-president Cindy Simmons.

Mrs. Florence J. Scott, an educator who served as Superintendent of Starr County Schools, was instrumental in the forming of

Continued to Page 22

Continued from Page 21

both clubs. Mrs. Scott, as GFWC Texas (then TFWC) 1945-47 president, was a beacon of light and love for the Federation spirit. Following her lead, many members carry her torch as they serve in leadership positions throughout the Rio Grande Valley Federation of Women's Clubs, South Texas District, and GFWC Texas, strengthening the Clubs' ties with those Federation entities.



Since September of 2014, the F. J. Scott Study Club has enjoyed a closer relationship with its sponsoring club, The Woman's Club of Rio Grande City. While the two clubs remain as separate entities, they meet together, share ideas, and plan new projects. As the world has changed over the past ninety years, so has the work of the Woman's Club of Rio Grande City and the F. J. Scott Study Club. Always looking to evolve in purposeful ways, the Clubs anticipate great rewards for the community it serves as they continue "Living the Volunteer Spirit."

Editor's Note: PLEASE do not wait so long to send stories and pictures. We need to submit things as they happen. This is clearly "stale dated," but because it's so important, publishing is allowed. What a great day this was indeed!

Highlights of South Texas District's Summer Workshop



Don't try this at home . . . someone might have a camera.



This group was having too much fun. . . then the doorbell rang . . . it wasn't Avon.



GFWC Texas South Texas District Holds Fall Board in Kingsville

“Uplifting our Children, Uplifting our World” was the theme for the annual GFWC Texas South Texas District Fall Board Meeting held at the Helen Kleberg Community Center in Kingsville in October. Therese Crocker of Riviera, South Texas District President, presided during the business meeting, attended by clubwomen from Aransas Pass to Rio Grande City. Hosting the event were the Florence J. Scott Study Club and Woman’s Club of Rio Grande City and the McAllen City Federation of Women’s Clubs.

Conducting the opening and patriotic ceremonies were Lynn Nollkamper, Alexandra Hajek, Chrissy Alsop, and Jack Mayberry. Special guests were introduced by Lonnie Matthew and Linda Gerd. Following the reading of the minutes of the Spring Convention by District Secretary Eva Bennett, a Life Membership report was given by Melba Gafford, and a treasurer’s report was presented by Elaine Wilde.

Special guest Erin Gonzales informed the attendees about the Driscoll Children’s Hospital Volunteer Program. The application process may be found at driscollchildrens.org. There are many ways listed to make a difference in the lives of children in South Texas. The South Texas District presented a gift check to Driscoll Children’s Hospital.

Reports were heard from GFWC Texas South Texas District Officers Therese Crocker, President-elect Lonnie Matthew, First Vice-president Linda Gerd, Second Vice-president Dianne Brown, Eva Bennett, Elaine Wilde, and Historical Foundation Trustee Sandy Chisholm.

Club president reports were heard from the following: Melba Gafford, Book Lovers Club of Alice; Dianne Brown, Woman’s Club of Aransas Pass; Marsha Wellman, the Woman’s Monday Club of Corpus Christi; Kay Zimmer, the President’s Council; Cindy Wilson, Ingleside Woman’s Club; Kathy Hajek, Woman’s Club of Kingsville; Elizabeth Garza, McAllen City Federation of Women’s Clubs; Mary Nettie Rodriguez, Florence J. Scot Study club; Nelda Laurel, Woman’s Club of Rio Grande City; Judy Makus, Rio Grande Valley Federation of Women’s Clubs; and Alexandra Hajek, Bluebonnet Drama Club of Kingsville.

South Texas District special appointees presented their reports, as did GFWC Department and Special Project Chairmen. Chairmen of GFWC Awards, contests, and grants, as well as GFWC advancement areas and the Texas Heritage Department gave their oral reports, followed by GFWC Texas Special projects and contests and standing committees.

The Call to Convention was given by the Rio Grande Valley Federation of Women’s Clubs, which will host the spring convention in Monte Alto in March. Following silent auction results and closing activities, all present joined in reciting the Collect.



Trinity District



ABOVE: Fidelis Inter Se Christmas party at Settler's Ridge Care Center.



ABOVE: Fidelis Inter Se Christmas party and the high school art students who made gifts for the residents.



Jane Huddleston of Celina, Texas. Member of Fidelis Inter Se Club. She has served as President and tirelessly on most committees.

She is an active member of First Baptist Church of Celina, serving on many committees and areas of leadership.

First woman to serve on Celina's city council, active member of Collin County Historical Preservation Commission, serves on the board of Celina Area Museum.

She was instrumental in establishing the senior citizen center in Celina, served on the Collin County Committee on Aging, Collin County Red Cross board, and Celina Main Street.

Wife to Billie Ray and mom to 4 children, their spouses and many grand and great grand children.

Her unassuming manner and servant's heart are only a part of what makes her special to this community and to Fidelis Inter Se Club.

Jane Huddleston
Fidelis Inter Se Club
50 Year Pin

The GFWC Junioresettes of Alpine

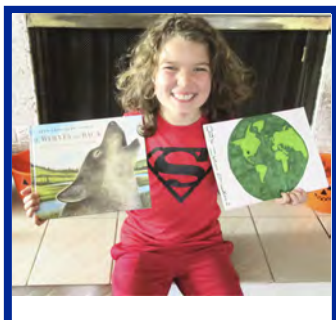
Junioresettes and Public Library Initiate Read Green Project

ALPINE -- The GFWC Junioresettes of Alpine and the Alpine Public Library joined forces to formulate the 2016 Red Green Project that began October 3rd and ended on October 31st.

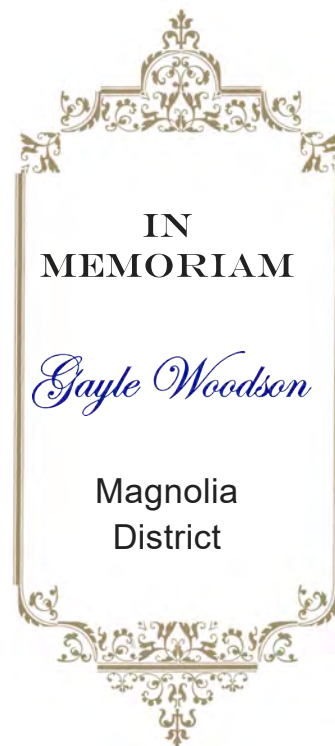
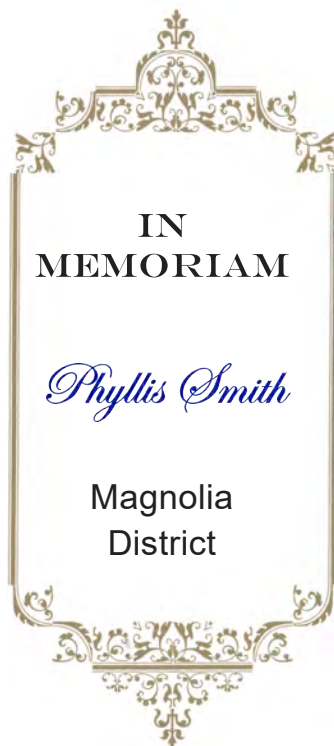
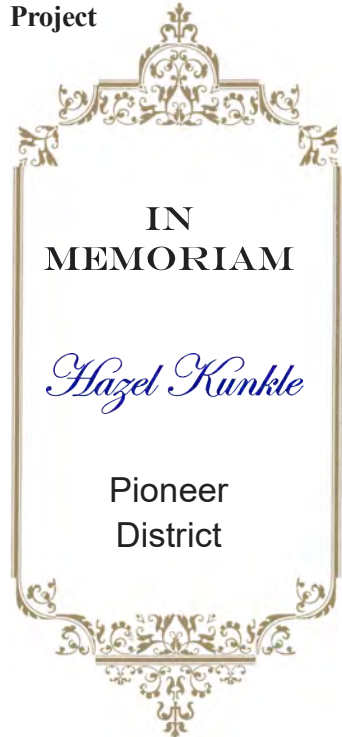
The program was open to students from grades 4, 5, & 6 to encourage youth to read and think of ways to save our planet.

Participants read books, completed projects, and wrote reviews about the books they read. 26 students participated and the projects were judged with winners being awarded gift certificates and their projects being on display at the 8th Annual GO TEXAS Festival, hosted by the Junioresettes.

Entries were judged by the public and winners chosen again for additional awards and a write up and picture in the local paper.



ABOVE One happy winner in Alpine's Read Green Project



To GFWC Texas districts and members,
THANK YOU for inviting us into your districts and homes while showing us every kindness and consideration. We really enjoyed our time with you.

GFWC Texas Traveling Team

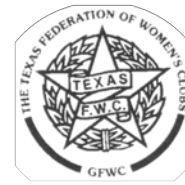
Merry Christmas!



In Memory of

Carol L. Silvus

January 25, 1935 - August 7, 2016



Silvus Administration, 1986 - 1988

Carol Silvus, *San Antonio*



Family	Husband, H.S. and two children
Education	Texas Christian University, B.A.
Profession	Teacher, Office manager at a music company
Special Awards & Achievements	Jefferson Award for Public Service, 1978
Other Organizational Memberships	Salvation Army, San Antonio Committee for UNICEF, Texas Federation of Music Clubs, National Association of Parliamentarians

“Diversified Volunteers Celebrate Unity” was the theme set forth for this administration. St. Mary’s University in San Antonio was the setting for the 1986 Summer Seminar under the caption of “Celebrate Learning.” Diverse areas of service were covered to assist Board members in carrying out their duties. “Stop Elder Abuse” was given much emphasis as were many other programs and projects. TFWC assisted in sponsoring Women’s Legislative Days and agreed to accept the project of the First Ladies of Texas Miniatures. A gala TFWC 90th birthday was celebrated in Waco in 1987.

Carol Silvus was born January 25, 1935 in Tulsa, OK. She passed from this earthly life on August 7, 2016 at the age of 81.

Carol was active in many organizations in and around San Antonio. She served on many PTA boards in Northside ISD. She was a member and president of San Antonio Women's Federation, and Texas Federation of Women's Clubs. She was also a member of Altrusa, Women's Club of San Antonio, Freedom's Foundation of Valley Forge, and the Methodist Bluebird Auxillary. She had a servant's heart.

Carol is preceded in death by her parents. She is survived by her husband of 55 years, Stan, son Gregory Silvus, daughter Stacie Brown, grandson Tyler Brown, and sister-in-law Susan Silvus.

The family would like to thank the Memory Care attendants at Isle of Watercrest Alamo Ranch and Seasons Hospice personnel for their excellent care of Carol during the last year of her life.

A visitation will begin at 6:00 p.m. on Friday, August 19, 2016 at Sunset Funeral Home. A Celebration of Life service at noon on Saturday, August 20, 2016 at Central Christian Church, 720 N. Main, San Antonio, TX.

Arrangements under the direction of Sunset Funeral Home, San Antonio, TX.