

THE TEXAS

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CLUBWOMAN



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www.texfwc.com



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**Best Wishes for a
Very Merry Christmas
and a
Healthy, Happy New Year!
See you here In 2015!**

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**GFWC Texas Federation of Women's Clubs :
www.texfwc.org**

**The TEXAS Clubwoman :
www.texfwc.com**

Now on Facebook! [GFWCTexas](#)

CALENDAR

GFWC, TFWC, AND DISTRICT EVENTS

DECEMBER

GFWC

December 5-10

Executive Committee Meeting / GFWC Headquarters

December 8 -10

Resolution Committee Meeting / GFWC Headquarters

December 10; 4-7:00 p.m.

Holiday Open House / GFWC Headquarters

JANUARY

FEBRUARY

TFWC

February 1

DEADLINE FOR CLUB REPORTS

Submit Club Level Entry Cover Sheet (found in Directory) with a one page narrative to the following appropriate district chairman as follows:

To: GFWC Texas District Chairman for GFWC Categories

GFWC Special Project, Community Service Programs, Community Service Program, and Advancement Area

To: GFWC Texas District Chairman for Texas Special Projects

Dollars for Delegates, ESO, LEADS, Outstanding Americanism, Outstanding Club, Outstanding Club woman Volunteer, Outstanding Federation, President's Special Project, Scholarships, Texas Heritage Categories, Texas Women's Library, and UT M.D. Anderson

Notes:

- Chairmen's names and addresses can be found in the TFWC Directory.
- Judging will be based on creativity and community impact of the program. Clubs are responsible for keeping a copy for their records.

Please contact Club/District Presidents in Directory for more information.

*Margaret Kriegel --
We miss you!!*

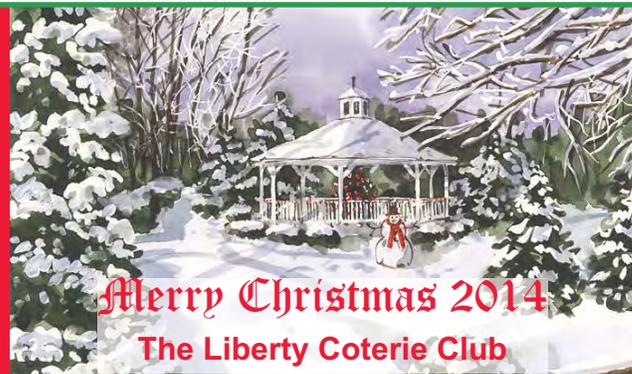
**MERRY
CHRISTMAS**

*Come back to
us soon!!
Your TFWC family*

Remembering
the Reason for
This Blessed Season.

Merry Christmas!!

The Amity Club
Bowie, Texas



Merry Christmas 2014
The Liberty Coterie Club



From the Desk of
2014-2016 TFWC President

Sandi Conway

Theme: *“Caring and Sharing the Volunteer Spirit.”*

Greetings to my wonderful Federated Friends.

The time is flying by and the holidays are upon us. I know how busy everyone is. We are all like Willie Nelson’s “On The Road Again.” We all have much to do with our Fall Board Meetings.

The Board of Directors meeting held in Austin was a good time. Thank you to all of you that helped and participated in the contents of our meeting. The workshops were most informative and well done. Our guest speaker Kendra Penry from Heifer International brought us information on Heifer and their 70th Anniversary.

We missed those who could not attend, Margaret and Mary Beth who had health issues. My sincere thanks to Patricia Siegfried-Giles for volunteering to be our Parliamentary Pro-Tem. That is what women do for Federation, they step in where they are needed.

Why do we belong to GFWC Texas? Because we want to be. We are important and needed to network with women around the globe. Jenny June made all this possible for us by laying a solid foundation so we may be the visible part seeing to the needs in our communities. We all make a larger impact by being under the umbrella of GFWC. There are over 3,000 clubs and 100,000 members reaching out worldwide. Is it not an opportunity for us to be part of an international organization? We are the voice in our volunteer service, and can claim the legacy of accomplishments of those women who made the history across our state. We have many opportunities to meet other women who become lifelong friends, and have the same passions about the same issues. we have the ability to empower and reach higher and achieve more that we ever thought we could. GFWC provides resources, enthusiasm, passion, fun and fellowship.

Our Executive Committee is here for you and wants to hear from you. Just let us know where, and how, we may serve you.

Women are amazing creatures. We love fiercely and will fight fiercely for what we believe in. Where would our country be without these strong women? Our founders were women who were willing to give up almost anything to stand together and fight for what they knew was right. The suffrage movement proved that. . . How important is it to you to be part of a group of women where clubs just like yours, work together to donate their time and energy to help people who need them?

My vision for us is to develop the passion, to fulfill our purpose and participate. When we volunteer, we feel needed and benefit from our skills and abilities to create programs and projects that are valuable to our communities, while caring and sharing our volunteer spirit.

Sandi Conway
TFWC President 2014-2016



Jenny June



A Special Gift From GFWC For Special Brides

By Linda L. Mesler

NOCONA, TEXAS -- The morning of October 23rd began like any other with a quick scan of my emails and cleaning out the missives that are of no importance. I was happy to see an email from Patricia Troell and opened it to find a curious request. Reading further I was excited to find that *The Clubwoman* was being asked to participate in a fact finding mission and a story began to unfold. I was not aware of this wonderful program that GFWC had initiated back in the 40's benefitting brides in war torn England. So this became a mystery with a spin-off story that I'm going to share with you . . .during this season of "gifts."

10-21-14

"Hello,

My parents married in 1944 and my mother once told me her wedding dress was one of those that Eleanor Roosevelt arranged for brides of UK servicemen. It was just in the last couple of days that my brother and I have researched this to find out more details. The local paper of the time has a report of the wedding and after the description of the bride's dress it states that it was lent by Mrs West, Texas Federation of Women's Clubs.

There is very little information here in the UK about this scheme. We would love to know more. Was it definitely something which Eleanor Roosevelt arranged? Was it Mrs West's own wedding dress, or perhaps she was the President? Was the dress returned, was it perhaps used by more than one UK bride? How many were sent over to the UK? Is Mrs West still alive? There are many more questions.

I have sent this request as you are showing on your website as the Historical Foundation Chairman. I wonder if your records still exist for this era. I would love to know if the dress was actually Mrs West's. My parents had a long and happy marriage. They were devoted to each other and I would love this information to filter down to Mrs West or possibly her descendants.

I hope you can help in some way.

Regards,

**Jane Browning
Corsham,
Wiltshire
England "**

Patricia Troell replied back and asked if it would be permissible to run this inquiry in *The Clubwoman* and Jane Browning replied: **"Thank you for replying so quickly. I am happy for you to include it in your magazine and will patiently wait in the hope of something turning up. -- Regards, Jane"**

Patricia thought this was a great story and she was right. Little did any of us know at that point just how fast technology would be getting us "the rest of the story" as Paul Harvey would have said. I thought that this would be interesting for clubwomen to read and also hoped someone might have information we could pass along to Browning, and then it hit me that TFWC's archives are housed in Denton, Texas, at Texas Woman's University . . . and our own past Pioneer District President Ann Barton worked very closely with TWU and the archives. I forwarded the email to Ann and followed up with a phone call alerting her to watch for it. I got her answering machine and thought with that the trail might linger for a day or two. If anyone could find information regarding Mrs. West and the wedding gown, then Ann Barton and the TWU archivist could. I shared my optimism

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Continued from Page 5

with Troell and Browning. I didn't expect to hear anything for a few days and was pleasantly surprised to find out differently! Ann Barton got right on it and sent this information by 2:30 p.m. that same day:

“Thanks for this sending this wonderful email regarding this history of your mother’s wedding dress. The Mrs. West is a Mrs. T. M. West from San Antonio, Texas. There is a biographical file on her in the Texas Federation of Women’s Clubs Collection at Texas Woman’s University. I have asked an archivist there to look into that aspect, but it may take a day or so to get the information.

The program was an part of an initiative by the General Federation of Women’s Clubs so all the states were involved. This is the description from the history of GFWC titled Reaching Out:

‘A project that had special appeal for clubwomen across the country was the collection of bridal costumes for use by service women in Britain. The 92 wedding gowns and accessories came from state federations, clubs, individuals, and groups. In many cases, the Junior clubwomen were the donors. Among individuals who contributed to the GFWC collection of gowns were Mrs. Roosevelt, Mrs. Whitehurst, and actress Mary Pickford. When the wedding apparel reached London, a special showing was held at Harrod’s department store for women from the Women’s Royal Naval Service, the Auxiliary Territorial Service, the Women’s Auxiliary Air Force, Nursing Services, and the Women’s Land Army. Gowns were divided between the five services along with such accessories as shoes, stockings, headdresses, veils, and even cosmetics, handkerchiefs, bridal bows, and jewelry. The wedding outfits were placed on loan, all to be returned clean and ready for the next wartime bride. A message of appreciation was received at GFWC headquarters from each of the five services.

The wedding gown project was suggested by Mrs. Whitehurst [GFWC President] after an exciting wartime visit to England that lasted from July 10 to August 18, 1943. She had learned that wedding gowns were scarce, and many used gowns that might have been borrowed, had already been dyed, and cut up for street wear.’

TFWC led the nation in donating 14 ensemble from 12 donors. [The TFWC history for the period states there were 8 gowns, but the published TFWC yearbook listing war projects states there were 14.]

As to Mrs. Roosevelt’s participation, I would be surprised if it were the dress she wore to her wedding to the president. It might have originally belonged to someone and just donated in her name. But I don’t know anything about that. Mrs. Roosevelt’s archive is at FDR’s presidential library: <http://www.fdrlibrary.marist.edu/library/>

If you want further information on the GFWC project, their archive website is: http://www.gfwc.org/gfwc/GFWC_Archives.asp

We’ll look into what we can find on Mrs. West and get back to you. We’re all excited to know of your interest and about your parents happy marriage.

Sincerely,
Ann Barton”

I sent off an email to Ann saying, **“I KNEW YOU COULD DO IT!!!! WOW!!!! We need to follow up with pictures!!! Does TWU have one of those dresses? -- Linda”**

So that all women involved would be aware of this story as it unfolded, I would CC to all. The others practiced this method, too. Patricia Troel responded:

10-28-14

“Thank you Anne. I am so excited, and I had read about the Wedding Dress Project but had no information. I just had a feeling the Mrs. West was from San Antonio. I will share your email with Jane, and we can send her more info as you uncover it. Linda, I assume you will do an article for us about this story and our success in answering Jane's query thanks to Anne.”

I let out a big “YES!!!” when I read that missive from Troell. “Good news?” questioned my husband. This just keeps revealing more and more as we go on”, I replied. Then I sent this reply:

Continued to Page 7

Continued from Page 6

“Ladies --

I'm so happy about the results in such a short time! I knew if anyone could help us that it would be Ann Barton!

I would love to run an article about this. . . and. . . could we have pictures to run with it? How interesting it would be to see the dress worn by both brides! And. . . I wonder if TWU has any of these dresses housed in its' archives? Ann. . . could you do some digging there? Do they possibly have pictures of any brides from that era? This could be such a great story all the way around for everyone - including TWU!!!

I'm on deadline with my paper. . . will do some snooping later in the week.

THANK YOU, ALL!!! I have loved this mystery and its' outcome. Ann Barton. . . you are amazing. . . but I already knew that!

Linda Mesler”

Would there be pictures, I wondered? Can it possibly be that we might have pictures of them BOTH? One would be quite a wonderful supporting addition. . . but TWO? All I could do was cross my fingers and wait. . . but again, I didn't wait long . . .

10-29-14

“Dear all,

I have been watching these emails with increasing excitement, including the speed of the initial findings. I am extremely grateful.

I should be happy to scan in and send a photo of my mother in her wedding dress for any article. It sounds as though I should send this to Linda. I'll also send the basic details of names, date and place of the wedding, and I'll leave it to Linda to ask for any more details she might need once she pens the article.

Again, many thanks for your efforts.

Best wishes, Jane”

At this time, I was under the impression that these gowns had been donated by brides themselves. That was not the case as I later found out. These dresses were often bought and donated in honor of someone or by a clubs or Federated state organizations. What a lovely tribute done with such a special significance. I replied to Jane:

““Jane --

THANK YOU!!!! This is going to be a real treat for clubwomen everywhere to read and SEE for themselves what a wonderful program this was. . . The really nice thing is that our publication is online @ www.texfwc.com where anyone with Internet may view it anytime. We also archive these electronic issues so they are easy to access.

Thank you, again!

Linda Mesler”

The thought of finally seeing that British bride in her wedding gown furnished by one of our own members or clubs was almost as filled with anticipation as a child waiting for Christmas morning. England under siege with nightly bombings and the shortages of everything essential, so hard to imagine . . .

Then . . . there was the email. . . and the picture of our lovely bride smiling a radiant smile that said for that day there was no war. It wasn't just a bridal gown, it was the gift of having a small piece of 'normal' for a brief, beautiful moment. It was in all reality a great gift. And a gift only understood by women, provided by women ,for women.

“Hello, Sargeant and Mrs. Walter Browning,” I said. “I have been waiting to meet you!”

10-30-14

“Dear Linda,

I attach a photo of the bride and groom outside the church. I hope the resolution is sufficient - it seems to default on my

Continued to Page 8

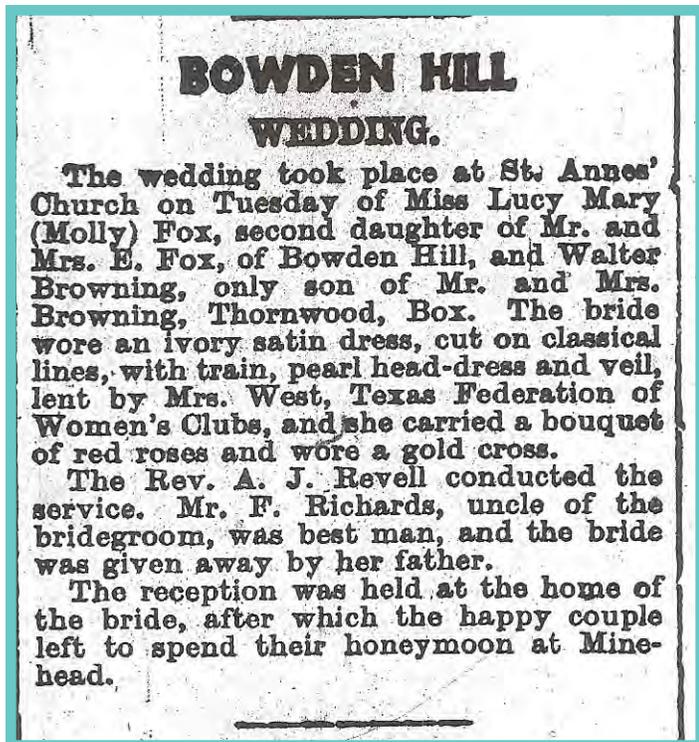
Continued from Page 7

scanner. Also, the report in the local paper, *The Wiltshire Times*, which gives a description of the dress and the fact that it was loaned by Mrs. West.

They married on 5 September 1944 at Bowden Hill, Wiltshire. They were Lucy Mary Fox (always known as Molly) and Walter Browning. Dad was a sergeant in the Royal Air Force and Mum was a nursing sister. (This is where we are trying to follow it up this end as to whether the dress came about as a result of Dad being a serviceman, or whether it was because Mum was a nurse. She had trained and was working at The London Hospital, one of the best, if not the best, training hospitals in the UK.)

Do let me know if you need anymore background.

Best wishes, Jane”



Sargeant and Mrs. Walter Browning

Little did I know. . . more was to come in a very short while.

“Dear Linda,

I have just received these newspaper cuttings from Harrods - I thought you may be able to make use of them for your article. They give you a flavour of how much the dresses were welcome during the war.

Best wishes, Jane”

10-31-14

“Oh, Jane!!! These are treasures!! THANK YOU!!!!!!

Linda”

Ann Barton had gotten interested in this unfolding story, too. She continued to dig a little deeper in the TFWC archives at TWU in Denton and found more about the generous Mrs. West. . . and also a picture! Apparently Mrs. West had been very active in her community and in TFWC as these supporting documents suggest. And. . . TFWC? How active had our state organization been? This story just continues to expand!

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DAILY SKETCH. 2nd May 1944.

DAILY TELEGRAPH.
2nd May 1944.

A.T.S. BRIDE MAY WEAR GIFT OF MRS. ROOSEVELT

U.S. SEND 50 GOWNS

Daily Telegraph Woman Reporter
Nurses and women of the Land Army will now have the opportunity of a white wedding. For the first time they have been included in the five Services chosen to take part in a distribution of wedding dresses, the gift of American women.

Three other Services, the A.T.S., W.R.N.S., and W.A.A.F., will share in this gift, the second of its kind from America.

Among these wedding dresses displayed in London yesterday was one from Mrs. Roosevelt. An air of suspense could be felt among the Services when this was balloted. Tremendous applause followed the announcement that the A.T.S. had drawn the prize.

This lovely dress of white taffeta, cut on classic lines with full, flowing skirt and train, had a scalloped panel designed in the Victory V beneath the heart-shaped neck.

Two Service girls from each of the five Services were among the mannequins and paraded in dresses of ivory satin, white taffeta, brocade, lace and net. Each dress had a train cut in one with the skirt.

One of the outstanding dresses was in ivory lace, worn by Miss R. Cox of the Land Army. Miss Cox, one of the few women able to operate a mechanical drying machine, a job usually left to men, had come straight from her work on a Sussex farm.

King's College Hospital and the Royal Free Hospital each lent a nurse for the occasion.

A charming touch, typical of the thoughtfulness of American women, was added by the inclusion with some of the wedding dresses of gifts of silk stockings, pearl necklace, earrings, a nightdress, cosmetics, and a lace handkerchief.



Service girls acted as mannequins at a display in London yesterday of 50 wedding gowns given by American women to British Service girls. The dresses will be loaned to brides in the W.R.N.S., A.T.S., W.A.A.F., Land Army and the nursing services. Most of those displayed were of heavy white satin with veils, but a few were of lighter material with fine lace insertion. One of heavy white silk is the gift of Mrs. Roosevelt.

To read articles, go to "view" at the top of the page and increase size there.

11-04-14

"Ann --

THIS IS WONDERFUL!!!!!! Thank you for something uplifting!

I may try to find our Mrs. West . . . or her family. I would really love to get a picture of her in that dress.

What a wonderful story this is! THANK YOU for all your hard work and knowledge of "where to connect the dots." This is one of the best examples of why we have an archives and do diligence to its' staying current with the times and methods used. WOW!!!

Linda Mesler"

(TO READ CLIPPINGS, Go to VIEW and adjust to any larger setting.)

I had not taken the time to really read and put together that this was a dress given as a tribute. I understood that later when I read the clippings. . .and after Ann pointed it out.





A.T.S. win lottery gown

BRIDAL gowns, nine, Service women, for the use of. And there are 41 more in the issue . . .

Fifty white wedding-dresses given by women in America have just reached Britain in one huge packing-case, complete with veils, shoes, stockings, and cosmetics.

Yesterday they were displayed at Harrods to officers of the A.T.S., the W.R.N.S., the W.A.A.F., the nursing service and the Land Army.

Girls from each of the Services acted as mannequins.

During the parade Miss Susan ERTZ, the novelist, drew the names of the Services out of a silver bucket to see which Service would get the dress Mrs. Roosevelt sent. The A.T.S. won.

The idea of sending wedding-dresses from America to lend to women in the Services over here started last year when Mrs. John L. Whitehurst, President of the General Federation of Women's Clubs of America, visited Britain. She realised that clothes rationing made it almost impossible for many Service women to have a white wedding-dress.

When she got back to America she began to collect dresses from



Notice that in these clippings and write-ups GFWC is mentioned. TO READ CLIPPINGS, Go to VIEW and adjust to any larger setting; and, go directly to GFWC site listed in this story to view pictures and pamphlets. It will be worth your time.



MRS. T. M. WEST

It is with pleasure and pride that the Woman's Club of San Antonio presents the name of Mrs. T. M. West as a candidate for the office of Second Vice President of the Texas Federation of Women's Clubs for the term of 1947-49, subject to the rules governing elections, which include endorsement by the District in convention assembled.

Mrs. West is eminently qualified for this office having served in various offices of the Texas Federation for many years. Her name is on the bronze plaque at Permanent Headquarters, Austin, as one of the founders.

She has served as President of the Woman's Club of San Antonio, Trustee of the District for five years, District President, TFWC Drama Chairman and is now Chairman of the Peace Service Department and also chairman of the War Veterans Project, TFWC.

Your support, your endorsement, and your vote will be appreciated.



Miss Marizell Taylor, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Volney W. Taylor, models wedding gown presented to GFWC "Gowns for British Brides" program by the City Federation of Women's Clubs of Brownsville, honoring Mrs. Taylor.

Still searching, Ann Barton sent this in another email:

Her given name was Mae S. I have to be on campus tomorrow and will look at some other things. She was active enough that if Carol Silvus or someone from the San Antonio Federation is still around, they might know about her family and how to find them.

The more I learned, the more i wanted to know. I did some inquiring within GFWC and made a connection with Brian Coburn, Women's History and Resource Center Manager. Brian told me that when he first came to GFWC to work, he had run across some information about this program, became interested and researched it. My lucky day! He told me he would do some checking for me and get back to me regarding this topic. On Thursday, November 13th, he did just that. I found the following email in my box: **"Hi Linda,**

I didn't want you to think I forgot about you. I was able to locate some interesting documents relating to the donation of wedding gowns during WWII. Below is a link where you can download the files and photos related to this project:

<https://www.dropbox.com/sh/2mo3bcgmvp3qyy/AACwz7ZAZlwy4JfBGufbXNTza?dl=0>

The TFWC Gown



LIST OF DONORS OF WEDDING GOWNS TO BRITISH GIRLS FROM TEXAS:

- Texas Federation of Women's Clubs
- Brownsville City Federation
- Dallas City Federation
- Delphian Club, Memphis
- Las Hermanas, San Angelo
- Woman's Forum, Tyler
- Woman's Club, Rocksprings
- Miss Ethel Foster, Sterling City
- Mrs. B. Hopkins
- Mrs. T. M. West, San Antonio
- Texas State College for Women
- Twentieth Century Club, Weatherford

Standing on the stairway in the entrance hall of the TFWC Headquarters Building in Austin, Mrs. James P. Gibson, former president of the Austin Standard Club, models the exquisite wedding gown presented to the "Gowns for British Brides" program by the Texas Federation of Women's Clubs in honor of Miss Ethel Foster, the Federation President. The eight District Presidents took the lead in obtaining funds for this handsome dress and veil.

I also have an excerpt for a recently written article about GFWC wartime projects including the wedding gown project:

The visits to wartime England had a profound effect on GFWC International President Whitehurst who admired the stoicism of the English servicewomen in the face of such a dire situation. Upon learning the scarcity of wedding gowns due to wartime rationing of certain textiles, Mrs. Whitehurst suggested the wedding gown project. The drive collected 92 gowns and accessories from federations and clubs around the country. Among those who donated were Mrs. Roosevelt, actress Mary Pickford and Mrs. Whitehurst herself. The dresses arrived in London for a special showing at Harrod's department store where they were divided up into the five of the services in which women served. All dresses were loaned and then cleaned for the next wartime bride.

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Hopefully this is enough information. If you need more or have any other questions please don't hesitate to contact me.

Thanks, Brian Coburn

I had tried to locate Mrs. West or even a family member. That search continues . . . I've even called her church in San Antonio! So fellow clubwomen, it's in your hands to help complete this story. I have faith that we will find more answers.

THANK YOU, Jane Browning, for sharing this lovely story and allowing us to journey with you to finding some answers. I hope we find more -- Linda Mesler

TEXAS FEDERATION OF WOMEN'S CLUBS—1942-45 Page 46

Texas Sends Wedding Gowns to British Brides



One of the most heart-warming war projects of the Texas Federation was the furnishing of 14 wedding-gown-ensembles for British brides. Texas tied for first place in this project in the General Federation.

In the picture above, the happy bride is wearing the gown that Miss Foster sent to Great Britain as her personal contribution to the project. Peter and Lilian Avery, the bride and groom, both members of the Royal Air Force, sent the picture in appreciation. Said the bride in a letter to Miss Foster, "Without the beautiful wedding dress from Texas, I would have had to be married in my uniform. Like all brides, I wanted the traditional bridal gown for my wedding. Our sincerest thanks to you and all our American friends for such understanding kindness."

Miss Foster gave the gown in memory of the late Mrs. Percy V. Pennybacker, only Texas woman to serve as GFWC President.



Donor—Mrs. Franklin D. Roosevelt
Model—Miss Grace Wagner, Vice-President, Junior Woman's Club of Chevy Chase

WEDDING GOWNS FOR BRITISH WOMEN IN THE SERVICE



The nine wedding gowns presented to the W.R.N.S. by American women.

Program of the General Federation of Women's Clubs — 1941-1944
MRS. JOHN L. WHITEMURST, PRESIDENT
1734 N Street, N. W., Washington, D. C.

BUY A BOMBER CAMPAIGN WEDDING GOWNS FOR BRITISH SERVICE WOMEN NURSING SCHOLARSHIPS

REPORT OF CAMPAIGN (1944)

GENERAL FEDERATION OF WOMEN'S CLUBS—1941-1944
Mrs. John L. Whitemurst, President
1734 N Street, N. W., Washington, D. C.

PROCEDURE

Clubs
Appoint a chairman in your club to interview members or groups who would like to contribute a gown, veil, stockings and slippers.

Districts
Appoint a chairman to write to each club, to ascertain whether clubs or individuals will purchase all or some of the articles mentioned.

States
Appoint a chairman to write to each district to ascertain whether clubs or individuals will purchase an outfit.

Some individuals and clubs may want to contribute a small amount toward such a project, but would not care to purchase an entire outfit. In that case, money could be sent to district or state chairman.

The name of the club, district or state will be embroidered in gold on white and sewed in the gown. The General Federation will furnish the labels.

Pictures of the gowns, worn by Justice in the respective states, will be carried in the GENERAL FEDERATION CLUBWOMAN.

The gowns will be borrowed by the British girls, for ten shillings (\$20.00) which will cover cleaning and mailing. In this way many girls may use one gown.

All gowns should be new, size 32 to 38 inclusive, made with a train, and of satin, muslinette, organdy, moire, or any available material.

The outfits should be sent to General Federation Headquarters, 1734 N Street, N. W., Washington, D. C., so that they can be directed to the proper authorities and in the prescribed way.

Gowns can be purchased from \$50.00 and up. Do not send old gowns.



Woman's Club of Cotulla Stands Up Against Domestic Violence

COTULLA -- In keeping with the national observance of Domestic Abuse Awareness Month in October, the Woman's Club of Cotulla is sponsoring a display in the Alexander Memorial Library located in our town of Cotulla, Texas.

The display seen here contains materials including informational pamphlets from the local woman's shelter. One of the silhouettes has a plaque on it honoring the memory of Margaret (Margo) Lann, who was a tragic victim of domestic violence seventeen years ago in Cotulla.

It is our sincere hope that by placing this information in the library it will raise the awareness of the all to frequent occurrence of this horrible crime and that the information may be beneficial to someone in need.



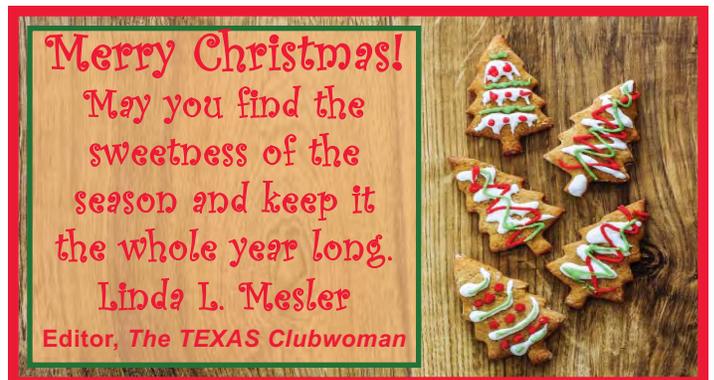
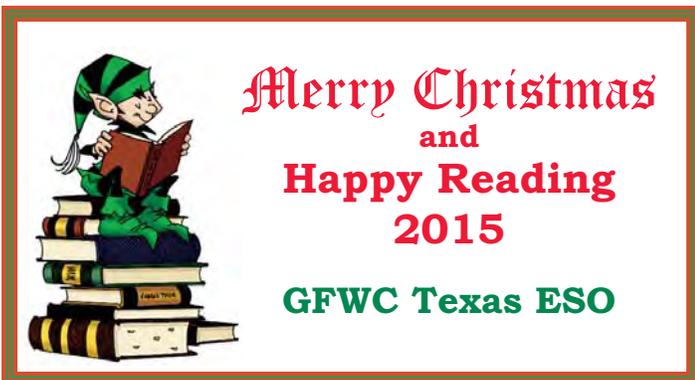
Members who were responsible for setting up the display are left to right: Amanda Menke, her granddaughter Abby Menke, Club President Louisa Franklin, and Vicki Rodriguez.

Woman's Club of Cotulla Collects and Distributes "First Books"

COTULLA -- LaSalle County first grade children were gifted with 100 + books thanks to the organizational efforts of the Woman's Club of Cotulla and support of the local Masonic Lodge. This was the September Project of the woman's club - to collect and distribute new books to the two schools in the county. with the support of the masonic Lodge the club was able to complete its' mission by the end of September.



These are just a few of the students that received "First Books" from the Woman's Club of Cotulla and with the financial help of the local Masonic Lodge. Both schools in the county were awarded books.



Magnolia District

The Woman's Club of Jasper Entices Its' Members in the August Heat

JASPER -- The Woman's Civic Club of Jasper kicked off their new year with an invitation to get out of the August heat and cool off with an Ice Cream Sundae in the clubs headquarters.

Attending the event were organizations that the club supports through fundraisers held throughout the year. Incoming President, Diane Gretencord, extended invitations to those organizations so that new members as well as old might learn more about their community and what services those organizations provided.

Also in attendance was the Magnolia District President, Billie Williams, who got to visit with some of the local representatives and encourage ladies interested in GFWC Texas to join with others and learn about this wonderful organization.

Diane stated that the club had added seven new members during their August event. What a great way to kick off the club year.

Pat Barrington holds her first meeting as Club President

CLEVELAND -- Members of the Woman's Club of Cleveland began their 2014-15 club year at their September meeting, with co-hostesses Claire Barker and Carol Jordan, by welcoming new Club President Pat Barrington. Meetings are held monthly and highlight arts, conservation, education, home life, international outreach, public issues, and Texas heritage. The club yearbook outlines these meetings and was prepared this year by Carol Jordan and Pat Barrington, with President-Elect and Program Chairman Jean McAdams lining up appropriate speakers.

Member Amelia Anderson published the yearbooks for the club. Everyone is excited about the new challenges.



Pictured (left to right): Linda Lang, Shari Gunter, Billie Williams and Darlene Nolen.



Pictured left: (left to right) Claire Barker, Carol Jordan, President Pat Barrington, Amelia Anderson, and (seated) Jean McAdams.



REPORTING FORMS
may be found in the TFWC Directory
or @ www.texfwc.org

Patsie Arnold, Woman's Club of Dayton, Elected to Life Membership at Magnolia Fall Board

DAYTON -- Patsie Arnold, of Dayton, was elevated to Life Membership status in the Magnolia District of GFWC Texas. Life membership is the highest honor the District can bestow on an individual member. It celebrates the member's dedication to volunteerism, her community, the goals of federated clubwoman across the world and serves as an inspiration to others.

Patsie was nominated by the Dayton Woman's Club. She has been an active member of the three Federated Woman's Clubs located in Dayton since 1989. She has been instrumental in keeping the clubs actively serving the community through volunteer efforts. These clubs donate annual scholarships to local students, started the Jones Library and support the Friends of the Library, Relay for Life, aid Bridgehaven Children's Advocacy, Dayton Food Bank, Dayton Fire Department, community beatification and preserve local history.



Patsie Arnold



Magnolia District Fall Board Meeting - C O L O R F U L!

CLEVELAND - Cleveland Woman's Club hosted the 2014 Magnolia District Fall Board Meeting on Thursday, October 23rd. Magnolia District President Billie Williams presided.

In the spirit of friendly competition, clubs were asked to bring food items with the most pounds of food gathered per club being announced. 272.1 lbs. of food was donated, 104 of those lbs. were from Liberty Woman's Club. To support the Federation stand against Domestic Violence the members wore the color purple.

On the night before, the group gathered for a social and wore the color orange which is the color assigned to the fight against bullying. As usual with this district, fun was what it was about as the pictures to the right demonstrate.



May All Your
 Sugar Plum Dreams
 Come True
 This Holiday Season.

The Reporting
Fairy

Hoping Your Happiness
 This Holiday Season
 Is
"Ten Gallon Sized."

Billie Williams
 & Family

Mesquite District

Pierian Club of Stamford Opens New Year with Hobo Party

STAMFORD --Pierian Club members, dressed in Hobo attire, met in the home of Mrs. Glen Gilbreath for the club's opening general meeting at 6:00 p.m., Thursday, October 9, 2014. Each member brought five cans of vegetables. One can was to go in the Hobo Stew served to members, while the remaining four cans were to be given to the local food bank Bread of Life Ministries.



Pierian Club "hobos" about to dine on "Hobo Stew."

Betty McDougal, guest speaker, presented the club with information about the Bread of Life Ministries. Volunteers are greatly appreciated to help pick up food from the Abilene Food Bank, pack the boxes and deliver food. The club donated a total of forty-nine cans of food plus a cash donation to the organization.

The new club yearbook was presented and reviewed and special projects were discussed. The club's special projects include Goodfellows, St. Jude's Ranch for Children and USO Operation Phone Home.

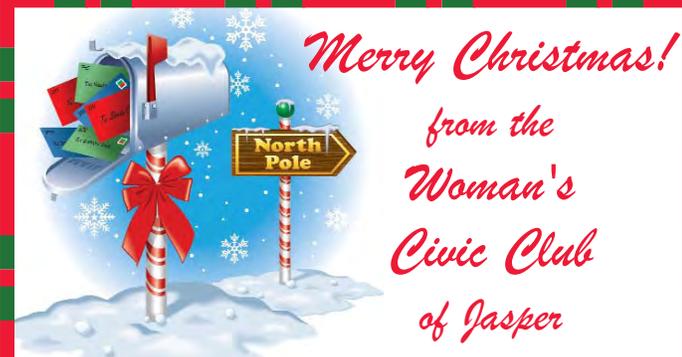
If you submitted a picture or article and you don't see it in this issue, please be patient and watch for it next issue. We are subject to the 24 Page Rule and some things will have to carry over. -- Thank you!



2014-2016 GFWC
CLUB MANUAL
Switch Your Ideas On!

Download yours
TODAY!!!

www.gfwc.org



Merry Christmas!
from the
Woman's
Civic Club
of Jasper



Working Together,
We Can Get It Done!

Merry Christmas
from the
Magnolia District
Executive
Committee



MERRY CHRISTMAS

from

"Sandi's Stars"

GFWC Texas District Presidents

2014-2016

Pioneer District



Pioneer District Fall Board Held In Granbury, Hosted By The Amity Club

GRANBURY -- The 55th Fall Board Meeting of TFWC Pioneer District was held in Granbury at DeCordova Bend Estates Country Club on Saturday, October 18th. President Carolyn McLeod called the meeting to order donning her engineer's hat, "Little Engine That Could" tee shirt and bandana neckerchief. The Amity Club of Bowie hosted the event and was attired same as President McLeod. Other members present wore some shade of purple. The President's Special Project, "Delivering the Goods to the Children of The Rainbow Room" was enhanced by a blue engine, freight cars, and red caboose which were filled by members with items donated to The Rainbow Room.

Guest speaker was Brigitte Eichler, Director of the Rainbow Room for Hood and Somervell Counties who gave a moving powerpoint presentation to the 56 members present.

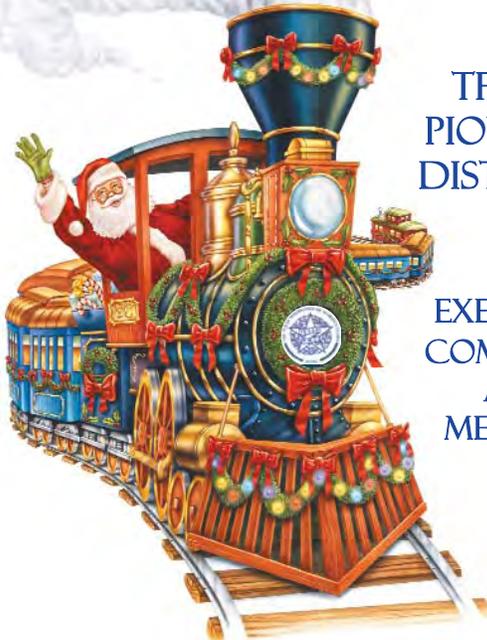


(Above) The Pioneer Express delivering the Goods to the Children of The Rainbow Room. (Right) President McLeod introduces guest speaker Brigitte Eichler.



An attentive audience for such a hard topic.

**MERRY CHRISTMAS,
GFWC TEXAS,
AND A
HAPPY NEW YEAR!!**



TFWC
PIONEER
DISTRICT

EXECUTIVE
COMMITTEE
AND
MEMBERS



Let The Joy Of
Christmas Show
In All You Do -
Merry Christmas!
Granbury
Woman's Club

The Amity Club of Bowie Invites District Attorney to Address D.V.

BOWIE -- 97th District Court District Attorney Paige Williams was guest speaker for The Amity Club in November. 18 club members wore purple to show solidarity in the fight against domestic violence.

Williams surprised the club with a statistics and facts about our own county and changes she is seeing in young girls who have been empowered by their surroundings to speak up and stand strong when abused. "They know they can call for help and it's out there for them - THANK YOU For that!"

Pictured Right: Paige Williams



South Texas District

Monday Club of Corpus Christi Adopts USO For Summer Project

CORPUS CHRISTI -- Following the suggested guidelines of GFWC / TFWC the Monday Club of Corpus Christi adopted the Corpus Christi USO for our summer project. As an independent charter the CC USO receives no monetary relief from anyone other than donations and sponsorships.

Monday Club of CC organized in 1897, Federated TFWC in 1901 and GFWC in 1903. Membership has maintained thru the years a reputation of strong dedicated women to the community. With age and illnesses MC dwindled to one member until the early 2000's when the goal was to reboot this icon of federation.

Having now grown to 13 members in mid June the club furnished and served a noon meal to over 80 young soldiers at the Corpus Christi Naval Base. The men and women from every branch of the service enjoyed BBQ brisket, sausage, potato salad, pinto beans, cold slaw and an 8 ft table full of desserts.

Again in July we chose to serve oversized baked potatoes with condiments such as pulled pork, chopped beef, cheese, broccoli, butter, onion and bacon, corn on the cob and green salad with again a desert table full of sweets and fruit. Word had spread as we served well over 100 officers and enlisted men all they could eat.

In the spring WMC furnished non perishable foods for the USO Pantry, donated \$400 in diapers for USO babies and contributed raffle baskets to their fundraiser.



Members of the Monday Club of Corpus Christi at the ready to serve the USO.



The Corpus Christi USO enjoying a noon meal prepared by the Monday Club of Corpus Christi.



May the Christmas Spirit
of **GIVING**
be with us throughout
this Christmas Season
and the New Year.
Woman's Wednesday Club
of Granbury



Wishing All Service
Men & Women,
Veterans
& Military Families
The Merriest
Of Christmases.
THANK YOU
For Your Service and Sacrifice.

Juniorettes Elect Officers To Continue Community Projects

ALPINE --The GFWC Juniorettes of Alpine started a new school year in September with a Welcome Back Luncheon Meeting! In October, the Alpine Juniorettes elected the officers to serve 2014-2015 school year. Officers are: President Courtney Malik, VP Tim Ou, Secretary Sahian Valenzuela, Treasurer Katie Harveson, Corresponding Secretary Cameron Gregory. Sr. Ambassador Victor Vega. These officers are committed and ready to lead the Juniorettes in fulfilling their club goals and work closely to accomplish their annual club project through fundraising by hosting the Annual GO TEXAS Festival. The 6th Annual GO TEXAS will be held on Friday & Saturday, Nov 21-22, 2014 in the Alpine Civic Center.

The objective of the club is to bring together high school students, to develop and encourage the interest and talents of individual members, to work as a unified group for community improvement and service and to cooperate with other clubs.

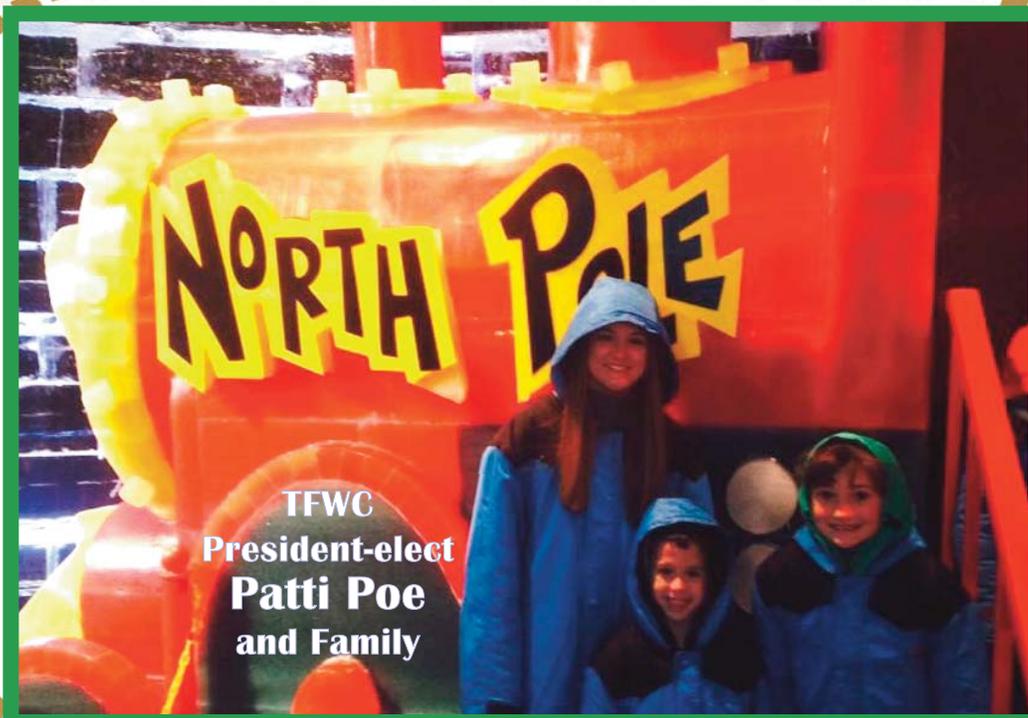
Over the years, club promoted the Arts, Education, International Outreach, Home Life, Public Issues and Conservation. In Celebration of their 10th Anniversary 2013-14, the Club community project of "Keep Alpine Beautiful", is the installation of a City Pride Sign that the club has submitted to the City of Alpine and awaits in the approval of site and granting of permit.

In their efforts of promoting Keep Alpine Beautiful, the club hosted a meeting attended by members of Student Council and National Honors Society, the Principal & Student Counselor and Sponsors, with Alpine KAB Coordinator as guest speaker. This resulted in the concerted efforts of various organizations in promoting the use of recyclable totes in lieu of plastic bags by painting the logo on the grounds next to the entrances of businesses in Alpine.

The Juniorettes has consistently promoted Literacy through the years and supported the development of the Teen Section of the Alpine Public Library by donating books from a wish list of the Library; improved the Children's library in the Alpine Community Center by painting the book shelves and replacing the old dilapidated books. The Juniorettes in collaborating with the Alpine Literacy Committee helped in the improvement of literacy efforts in Big Bend by donating books, dictionaries, solar cal-

Continued to Page 21

All aboard for a



**TFWC
President-elect
Patti Poe
and Family**

MERRY CHRISTMAS!

Continued from Page 20

culators and served as tutors when needed. They supported the AHS Library by donating books and encouraged reading in the AES and awarded students of their reading acumen.

The Juniores Officers and Committee Members shown picture l-r are: Cameron Gregory, Megan Gilmore, Courtney Malik, Tim Ou, Katie Harveson, Maggie Hillery, Sahian Valenzuela, Victor Vega & Cerijo Molinar. Not picture are Rose Hillery, Advisor Mary Vongsavath, Co-Advisors: Clare Ritzi & Elisha Jimenez.

The Alpine Juniores hold monthly luncheon meeting on the 2nd Tuesday of the month during school year in the AHS Library. AHS students are welcome! For further information, please call 432.837.9188 or email: gfwcjuniorettes@yahoo.com



The Juniores Officers and Committee Members shown picture (left -right are: Cameron Gregory, Megan Gilmore, Courtney Malik, Tim Ou, Katie Harveson, Maggie Hillery, Sahian Valenzuela, Victor Vega & Cerijo Molinar. Not picture are Rose Hillery, Advisor Mary Vongsavath, Co-Advisors: Clare Ritzi & Elisha Jimenez.

See the Juniorette promotional material on pages 22-23 of this Clubwoman issue.



Western District Sends Delegation

ABILENE -- Members from TFWC Western District that were in attendance for the TFWC Spring Convention held in Abilene were:(Left to right, front) Maridel Fryar, Mary Vongsavath, JoAnne McClurg, Peggy Kelton and (left to right, back) Melanie S Anderson, and Jackie Hendricks.



Promote GFWC And Club Growth By Placing The Following Article In Your Local Paper Along With Your Club's Information And Names Of Contact People In Your Club As A PSA.

Are you looking for a local organization with the focus of "Caring and Sharing the Volunteer Spirit? Consider GFWC Texas Federation of Women's Clubs. We are looking for women interested in being part of the General Federation of Women's Clubs, the world's oldest and largest women's volunteer service organization. We have programs and projects that will meet the needs of your communities.

Motto is, "In Small Things Liberty, In Large Unity, In All Things Charity. Our Mission is to unite women to become part of the Woman's Clubs in your area. We address Public Issues, Arts, Conservation, Education. and International Outreach. We are here to encourage, develop passion, fulfill our purpose and participate. We raise funds for charitable activities and social issues, and provide ways and means for solutions under the roof of federation.

Since 1899, Texas women have provided ways for women to bond and work together, to meet the issues needed in their communities, while making a difference.

Your club's information: When You Meet; Where; Your Projects; Contact Names & Phone Numbers.

CATCH THE SPIRIT!

GFWC TEXAS JUNIORETTES

HIGH SCHOOL STUDENTS MAKING A DIFFERENCE

WELCOME!

www.GFWC.org; Email: GFWCJUNIORETTES@yahoo.com; www.TEXfwc.org

GFWC TEXAS JUNIORETTES proudly presents Junioresettes' successful projects:



Hayley Meyer- Outstanding GFWC TX Junioresette 2014, club President of Bluebonnet Junioresettes shown with club officers

Kingsville in South Texas District, the **Bluebonnet Drama Club Junioresettes** chose to focus on building families through education and communication and have the 1) Junioresettes commit to "a No Texting While Driving Campaign". When one of their own member's families suffered hardship, 2) they banded together with another local organization and helped to raise over 3K dollars to go towards medical expenses. The Bluebonnet Junioresettes made Christmas and Valentine's cards and cookies for the troops in Afghanistan and overseas.



Alpine Junioresettes Officers, Committee Members, Advisor, AHS Principal & Counselor Meet

Alpine in GFWC TEXAS Western District: the **GFWC Junioresettes of Alpine** current project on Keep Alpine Beautiful emphasized 3) Conservation and hosted a luncheon forum attended by delegates of Alpine High School Honor Society & Student Council, their sponsors, the Student Counselor & School Principal with KAB Coordinator as guest speaker, promoting the use of reusable totes in lieu of plastic bags, thereby reduce trash in the landfill and highways and preserve our eco-system. This group in cooperation with other civic groups painted the logo/signs to remind shoppers to use their reusable bags on the parking lots next to entrances of businesses in town. 4) In celebration of their 10th Anniversary, the Alpine Junioresettes promoted the Arts, Education, International Outreach and Conservation at their Annual GO TEXAS Fall Festival which was held for the first time in the Alpine Civic Center with the support of City Council of Alpine who granted the use of the Civic Center and waived all fees. The Junioresettes planned various programs including an art lecture by an author on the pioneering women of Modern Art movement of the 19th & 20th century, performances by dancers, singers and martial arts. The club invited businesses, non-profit organizations and schools to participate and promoted products, services, cultures and communities and all Texas has to offer. This festival brings Big Bend community and visitors to come and enjoy this wonderful event in Far West Texas.

Continued to Page 23



Monday Review Juniorettes brought cheers to Hillsboro Interfaith Ministries & needy children projects.

★ **Hillsboro** in Capitol District, the **Monday Review Juniorettes** 5) collected food and money for Hillsboro Interfaith Ministries. 6) They helped Wal-Mart in their “Angel Tree” by making angels and put wishes from needy children in their community and placed them in the Angel Tree set up at Wal-Mart. They passed out flyers telling customers about the “Fill the Truck” event. The toys and coats collected were donated to the “Christmas for Kids”. They took care of wrapping the gifts that were distributed to the needy children.



Fireside Juniorettes Food Drive & Beautification projects

★ **Ingleside** in South Texas District, the **Fireside Juniorettes** 7) created a challenge at the high school for the class who collects the most non-perishable items gets to have their favorite teacher dress up at a pep rally. They 8) collected prom dress for young women in their area and approximately 75 dresses were donated and thirty young ladies collected a prom dress. The group also planned 9) to create a “Before I Die” wall and got someone to donate the land and a landscaper to assist them in this beautification project. They planned to break ground in 2014.



Lady Lobo Juniorettes gave to Feeding our Community; Decorated 2 planters for school front entrance; LLJ Charter Members

★ **Monahans** in Western District, the **Lady Lobo Juniorettes** 10) helped pack food boxes at one of the local churches and helped deliver Thanksgiving food boxes for the Ward County “Greater Works”.

★ **GFWC TEXAS JUNIORETTEs** invites high school students to join or start a Juniorettes club in their school!
 For information, please email: GFWCJuniorettes@yahoo.com; or call 432.837.9188; www.TEXFWC.org

Capitol District

The San Gabriel Woman's Club celebrates 40 years



GEORGETOWN -- The San Gabriel Woman's Club of Georgetown celebrated its 40th Anniversary at the September 2014 meeting. TFWC President Sandi Conway and TFWC Capitol District President Minnie Simmang were in attendance. President Conway presented club president Nancy Snead with a certificate and a book on Albany, Texas's courthouse.

Six founding members of the club: Vivian Wood, Joanne Allen, Lynda Peters, Donna Connor, Barbara Pearce, and Cathy Hubbard were in attendance as well as 17 other members. Guest speaker was Danielle Houck.



Top Left, (Left to right): Mrs. Wade, TFWC President Sandi Conway, Capitol District Minnie Simmang, Carol Woodyard. Top Right: Club President Nancy Snead

