

GFWC GREATER WEST PALM BEACH WOMEN'S CLUB

a member of the General Federation of Women's Clubs

"WE PUT LOVE IN ACTION THROUGH SERVICE"

November 2019

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PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE-

Mary Evelyn Mitchell

Dear Members,

Big congratulations to Kathy Stackhouse for receiving a \$480 (!) grant from Love Like Liza Foundation. This will buy a lot of books for the children. Thanks to Jean Allen for being our LEADS candidate and congratulations to Donna Cohen, our club Volunteer of the Year. Sometimes I feel like our club is like a football team. We continue to make touchdown after touchdown. We have had a wonderful year and completed so many projects. It will soon be time to report on all our great projects.

One of the GFWC Seven Great Initiatives is to complete a project on Martin Luther King Day, which is January 20. This is the day Board meets and before our meeting. Would the club like to consider a food donation or project for the Guatemalan- Maya Center in Lake Worth? I know Linda Walker led a project to donate to them in September and I recently talked with a teacher who is having her students donate there. The Center apparently needs help. If some of you have other ideas for the day, please let me know.

I hope everyone is planning for a wonderful Christmas Holiday and a Happy New Year.

In Federation Love,
Mary Evelyn



CORRESPONDING SECRETARY-

Fran Green and Sheila Zile-Pecoraro

Bibi Baksh and Ashley Huichalaf of Palm Beach County Parks and Rec Department were our guest speakers.



MEMBERSHIP - Meg America and Linda Ferris

Birthdays and anniversaries

December:

Birthday None

Anniversary: Kerry and Alan Friedman 9

January:

Birthday Suzan Close 3

Kathy Stackhouse 27

Anniversary: None

The “You Nailed It” Award for November goes to Barbara Burdette, for hosting our club’s Thanksgiving dinner.

Guests at the Nov. 25 meeting: Evy Bartley and Bev Gallus joined us along with Louise Wagoner, another former member. Louise is in town to help care for her Mom. She hopes to attend a few club events.

Movie and lunch: Five Members, 1 Booster and two guests attended “A Beautiful Day in the Neighborhood,” with Tom Hanks on November 26. We agreed, we were expecting a biography of Mr. Rogers, but the movie was much more. We loved it, and recommend it! The picture is dark since it’s in the theater.

All 8 of us enjoyed lunch at Ford’s Restaurant before the movie, but we forgot to take a picture at the restaurant where the lighting was good.

Club Holiday Party: December 2, 6 p.m., at Olive Garden on Lake Worth Road. Let Meg know if you are coming. We will order from the menu. We have the same private room as last year.

Garden of Lights: Meg is setting a date at the Mounts to see this light display. Cost is \$12.50 adults, \$5 for children. Meg will email members after a date is picked.

Traveling Teapot: In January, we are starting some new membership projects. Jean Allen is introducing us to the Traveling Teapot at the January 27 meeting. You will learn about it at the Holiday Party.



FUNDRAISING - JeffAnne Pike

Purse Opportunity for Dollars for Delegates - Linda Ferris

Last chance If you want to own the beautiful Dooney & Bourke purse, with billfold and wallet and key chain. Tickets are \$5, and we will draw the winning ticket at the December 2 holiday party. The money will go into our Dollars for Delegates account to help defray expenses for members attending state Convention.

We had 6 members, 5 boosters and 4 guests attend BUNCO on October 11.

FASHION SHOW - The venue is set and Chico’s is ready for our Fashion Show on May 9. Our first committee meeting will be in January, an email will be sent out to all members. Cathy and Suzan have already started on the quilt we will be raffling off- it is going to be another winner!



ARTS - Sharon Bounds

Club members and guests made Christmas wreaths. Thanks to Janet Carlson and Sharon Bounds for organizing, cutting materials and teaching us all how to make them.



CONSERVATION- Donna Cohen

A fun and fast joint project with home life - Cat Trap Covers. Our adopted trapper team puts a cover over the trap once the cat/kitten is inside. This cover helps to calm the animal. Five members made 17 covers. Suzan Close did all the prep work and provided all the material. Suzan deserves a Cat!





Our **adopted trapper team**, Rick Lancaster and Peggy Eltz had another successful year of bettering the lives of unwanted and abandon cats in Palm Beach County. In addition to their spade and neuter efforts and their kitten foster and placement efforts, they speak at many community and county meeting about the need to support Peggy Adams Countdown2zero programs. We are hoping to have Rick and Peggy speak at one of our meeting next year.

We will be meeting with them December 4 to donate the cat food, trap covers and two \$50 gas cards.

Soles4souls: 85 pairs of shoes were delivered to our designated location for Soles4souls. Fantastic job ladies! 85 pairs of shoes for a club our size is amazing. We will be continuing this project, so let's go shoe shopping! This was one of the 7 grand initiatives, 1 member 1 booster.



Forest our sponsored **Everglades Eagle** and several others from his flock are still looking for permanent homes Elizabeth Fisher, Conservation Chair Florida District 11, said that the flock will be attending art festivals and other venues in an effort to find them homes. FYI, we named him Forest in honor of May Mann Jennings, as she was nicknamed Queen of the Forest.



Upcoming: We will make our last donation of the year to the Palm Beach Zoo and Conservation Society. This donation will be our seventh large bag of enrichment items (PT and TT roll). Great job Ladies! The animals thank you. Donation date TBA.



Peggy Adams Animal Rescue League - In addition to medical needs, rescue, shelter and adoption efforts Peggy Adams is determined to stop pet overpopulation by offering affordable spay/neuter services. The Countdown2zero project, specifically CatSnip, focuses on the free roaming cat population. In the first 6 months of 2019 Peggy Adams spay/neuter, microchipped and vaccinated 5,925 cats, all at no charge. A motion was approved to donate \$100 to their 2019 Holiday Drive Matching Challenge.



EDUCATION - Kathy Stackhouse

What an exciting, eventful month supporting literacy initiatives for both children and adults in Palm Beach County!

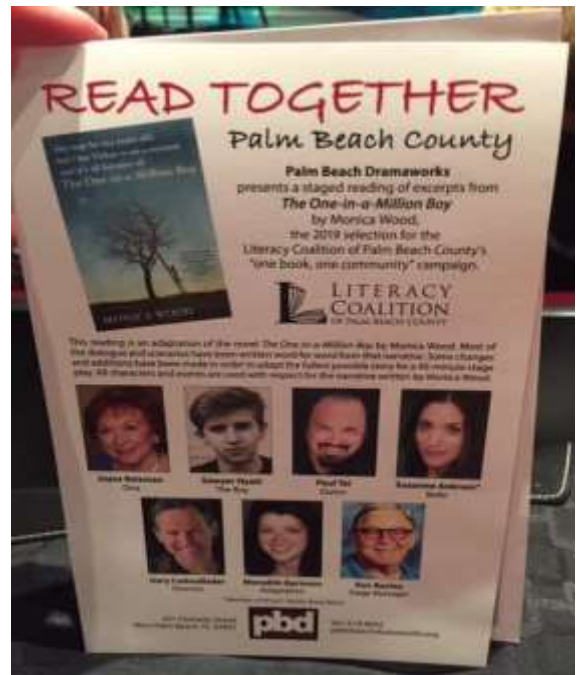
On Thursday, November 7, 2019 six members read at Banyan Creek Elementary as part of both **Delray Reads** and **Read for the Record**. Over 10,000 Palm Beach County students were read to on this special day.





Dramaworks presented a Reader's Theater's presentation of the Read Together Palm Beach's

2019 book The-One-In-The-Million-Boy by Monica Wood. This well-attended event was an outstanding overview of this heart-warming book for our three members and guests.





The highlight of this busy month for the five members and three guests was the Literacy Coalition of Palm Beach's Finale for Read Together Palm Beach held November 21 at the Harriet Himmel Theater. Ann Bocock, Host, Between the Covers South Florida PBS, interviewed author Monica Wood. Ann did a remarkable job probing Monica's characters and plot, her tortuous writing process, her love of birds, and many more revelations from this delightful author. (If you did read the book, please let me know so I can report your participation in this Education project.)



We will make our holiday visit to the **Hispanic Heritage Resource Center** on Monday, December 9 at 10 A.M. During this short visit, we will read the book that we will give each child and present the teachers with a small gift. Join Linda Ferris, Debbie Still, and me to see our adorable three-year olds. We can do brunch afterwards.

Our club is a **Friends of the Public Library** supporter. Save the date for The Presidents and Their First Lady Dramatically Speaking - George H.W. and Barbara Bush in several libraries this January. Regardless of your political affiliation, don't miss this educational opportunity and register Monday, December 16, 2019 at www.pbclibrary.org/presidents-2020 .

Thanks to all have donated books for the Friends of the Library book sale.



I was disappointed to read last month the literacy grants have been discontinued because the funding has run out. Linda Ferris was informed by Debbie Struck of the North Pinellas Women's Club of a foundation, **love like Iija**, that funds projects demonstrating care, kindness, and compassion. I wrote a proposal requesting \$480 to purchase six books for each of our twenty students in our three-year old class at HHRC.



known someone who had this terrible disease. Common symptoms are persistent stomach pain, mid-back pain, unexplained weight loss, new onset diabetes and yellowing of the skin or eyes. The problem is often we ignore these very symptoms. It is getting national attention since Alex Trebek, the host of Jeopardy has been diagnosed and sharing his experiences. Please share these facts with others. You can Google pancreatic cancer for more information. My first Principal & one of Meg's, Eugenia Jones died of this terrible cancer.

Thanksgiving Food Collection: We collected approximately 75 pounds of non-perishable food at Bunco on November 8, 2019. I bought three 14-pound turkeys. There was enough for 3 families to have a great Thanksgiving meal. The food will go to Feeding the Hungry, Inc., www.feedingthehungryinc.org. Omar Portocarrero is the founder and president. He works primarily with the families at Casa del Monte. They also take clothes, household goods and furniture. His Cell number is 240-750-5055 and his address is 8500 Water Cay, Andros Isle, at West Palm Beach, Florida 33411. Thank you so much for your support of this project!!!

WONDERFUL NEWS!

Thanks to Kathy Stackhouse we were awarded \$480 to purchase 6 books for each of our HHRC students over the next six months.



HOME LIFE - Suzan Close

Please remember that Thanksgiving is truly a time to be grateful for family, friends, health and everything you can think of in your life. Today I am thankful some of my Home Ec teacher friends, JeffAnne, and Mary Evelyn, invited me to a GFWC membership tea about 8 years ago. Since I joined I have met so many wonderful women and made new lifetime friends. Needless to say I also found many activities to do in my retirement years. Happy Thanksgiving to all!!!

Quantum House Dinner: The plan is to meet at 3 p.m. **December 3** at the Quantum House to prepare the dinner. The Palm Beach Gardens club will also be helping and bringing the dessert. So far the following people are signed up to help: Jean, Barbara, Meg, Mary Evelyn and JeffAnne. Please let them know if you want to participate.

November is World Pancreatic Awareness month. The national recognition day was November 21, 2019. I'm sure all of us have





Food for Families: We made a \$25 donation to this worthy cause.



INTERNATIONAL OUTREACH - Linda Walker

Wow, where did the time go? We accomplished so much as a club this year, and I wanted to say "thank you" to each of you for participating in the many International Outreach projects. Following is a brief recap of all that we accomplished in 2019:

Christmas at Sea: In July we sent 21 knitted hats and 16 knitted scarves to Christmas at Sea Headquarters. These were all knitted by Jean Allen. Gay Alexin knitted 1 scarf and Jean has knitted 29 additional hats and 11 scarves which will be sent this week. I am sure this will make lots of seamen very happy and warm!



Operation Christmas Child/Samaritan's Purse: We delivered a grand total of 52 shoe boxes this year. Way to go ladies!





Free the Girls: We collected and sent to headquarters in Indiana, 36 bras and 11 camisoles.

Shot @ Life: We donated \$50 to UN Foundation Shot@Life Campaign.

Donation to Guatamalan Maya Center: We collected and delivered food, frying pans, baby wipes and baby formula to families in need due to Hurricane Dorian.

Heifer International: Our donation of \$50 will gift a Hope Basket which includes rabbits and a starter flock of chickens.

We had 5 well attended International Dinners:
In March we celebrated St. Patrick's Day at Paddy Mac's in Palm Beach Gardens (12 Members, 5 Boosters and 7 Guests)

In May we celebrated Cinco de Mayo at Rosalita's Tex Mex Grill in Lantana (11 Members, 2 Guests and 6 Boosters)

In July we celebrated Independence Day at Park Avenue BBQ at the Gardens Mall (5 Members and 2 Boosters)

In September we had dinner at Don Ramon's Cuban Restaurant on Dixie Highway in West Palm Beach. (11 Members, 3 Boosters and 3 Guests)

In November our International Dinner was held at Chris' Taverna Greek Restaurant in West Lake Worth. (13 Members, 3 Boosters)



If you have any suggestions for International Dinner locations for 2020, I would appreciate you letting me know.

Operation Smile: We sewed 22 Smile Bags and collected 22 of each item to fill the bags for Operation Smile (\$540). These items were hand delivered to Virginia by JeffAnne and Bill Pike, along with an additional \$240 donation.



PUBLIC ISSUES - Cathy Hopkins

Wreaths Across America: The club will make a donation of three wreaths as we have in the past. If individuals wish to make a wreath donation you are encourage to do so, on your own behalf. If you do make a donation please let Cathy or JeffAnne know so they can add your numbers to the club count. The laying of the Wreaths will be

December 14 at 12 pm, if anyone would like to participate.

Greenacres Community Turkey assistance. Thank you to all who picked and baked the turkeys. Over 500 people were able to be fed due to your help. We had 4 club members and 2 guests cook for this project.



Greenacres Sheriff's Department Recognition Dinner: Thank you to all who have volunteered- we have enough volunteers at this time. **Please meet at the Greenacres Community center at 6:15 pm on Thursday, December 5.** Please wear your club shirts, black pants and comfortable shoes.

Random Acts of Cookies: Our final cookie delivery will be on Tuesday, December 17. We will meet at JeffAnne's house at 10:00am to pack the cookies and then deliver them. Please let her know if you will be able to participate.

Forgotten Soldiers Outreach: Thanks to everyone that participated in bring items for the Forgotten Soldier's Outreach. This month we collected Individual Hand Wipes for their mailing. We will start collecting items that they might need at the February Meeting. This past month we had 3 members deliver the items collected.

VA Centerpieces: Three club members made and delivered centerpieces to the VA for their Veteran's Day celebrations.



Home Safe: We will again be providing the girls at HomeSafe with Christmas gifts this year. In the past, the club has donated money for this project – the motion was passed to do this again. HomeSafe now has 2 houses with the possibility of 16 girls. Right now they have 16 girls. We will let the HomeSafe Director, Cheri, decide if we will gift all 16 girls or just the 8 we normally do. We are also asking for donations of gift cards to Walmart or Target (which we use to do for Hacienda Girls Ranch) or monetary donations to offset the cost. If you would bring those to the holiday party, it would be greatly appreciated. Many think that they get lots of donations from various charities. They do get some toys and gift cards. They have 45 plus children and try to make sure each child gets a few presents. When we donate our gifts to the girls it helps them to be able to insure all of the children in their care have a wonderful Christmas. We have had thank you notes in the past where some thanked us for the best Christmas that they have ever had. It makes a big impression on these girls.

Thank you all of you for making Public Issues' projects the success that they were. You are all awesome!

ESO: Linda Ferris

Reminder to get your ESO book forms into our state chairman before December 31. Send to ESO Chairman: Stephanie Cantrell, 3115 W. 30th Court Panama City, FL 32405. Email form: stephanie@cantrell.tc Home phone: 850-784-9531



PUBLIC RELATIONS - Linda Ferris

Facebook: Lots of Facebook posts since our last club meeting! Members were great about posting events, including Art's department Card workshop, Boo at the Zoo, Thanksgiving Donations to church group, Samaritan's Purse shoeboxes, Read Together Palm Beach County, Read for the Record, Dramaworks production of Read Together Palm Beach County, shoe donation to Harmony House, wearing Purple for Domestic Violence Awareness and Prevention Month, wearing Pink for Breast Cancer Awareness month, items for the Homeless Veterans, VA Centerpieces for Veteran's Day, hosting the District 10 Annual Meeting.

We were asked to give the state officers and our District Director pictures from the Annual meeting, so we got added exposure.

We had more than I can think of at the moment, but what is important is getting our club's name out in the community! You all did a great job!

In the News: I sent JeffAnne's picture of our group holding the Samaritan Purse shoeboxes to the Palm Beach Post, where they run community pictures in Sunday's Accent section. It wasn't in the November 24 edition, so hopefully it will be in a future paper.

Our club was featured in **Membership Monday** three times in November: On November 4, when members gave out candy for Boo at the Zoo; on November 11, when members participated in "Read for the Record," and again on November 18, with Mary Evelyn and Linda Walker with our 52 Shoeboxes for Samaritan's Purse.

The Pat on the Back goes to Donna, for reminding us of Conservation projects on the club's discussion Facebook page, including cat food, save the Florida Panther info, video how Zoo uses our paper towel roll donations, shoes for Soles 4 Souls program, Free tree program for WPB residents, and even more posts on her personal Facebook page.



GFWC SPECIAL PROJECT- Domestic Violence Awareness and Prevention- Linda Ferris

Birthday Bags: If you are shopping and see a good buy on a toy, game or craft for our Birthday Bags, you might want to pick it up for our Birthday Bag project for the children in the domestic assault shelter.

Thanks to everyone for supporting the Harmony House, Grandma's Place, and all the domestic violence prevention projects this year!

LEADERSHIP - Mary Evelyn Mitchell

Leader of the Month for November- Linda Walker for Operation Christmas Child Shoebox.



Leader of the Month for October was Fran Green for securing club house for our Annual District Meeting.



Orange You Observant award for October went to Fran Green.



Who am I?

I was known as Lady Edison for my prolific inventions. I made more than 100 inventions including the vacuum ice cream freezer and a bobbin free sewing machine. I also invented a double chain stitch sewing machine and a

typewriter attachment to duplicate documents. I was able to start my own very profitable business by inventing and manufacturing a parasol with a cover that could be changed to match the garment. Not only did I found two companies but I also acted as a consultant for several others.

Please consider signing up for the "**Legislative Action Center**" at- <http://www.cgrcengage.com/gfwc/app/register?5&m+42271> or(much easier) search for "Legislative Action Center". On this link the GFWC will send an alert to provide information on legislation you might want to support but no political advice or information.

DISTRICT 10 NEWS

Club members attended Boynton Beach Woman's club fashion show. Have to support our federation sisters!



PERSONALS

The members send their sympathy to Suzan Close, on the death of her younger sister. Losing a sibling is never easy, as many of us have learned.

Dear friends,
I want to thank everyone for your thoughts and prayers as I traveled back to Kentucky on November 22. My youngest sister age 63, Mary Jane Hefner passed away on November 24. She suffered from many health problems. The latest was a series of mini strokes which left her blind and scrambled her brain too bad to recover. She went from the hospital to the hospice center

connected to the Hospital. She was extremely well taken care of. Our prayers were that she would pass peacefully and without pain into heaven. Our prayers were answered and she has a new body now. She had full body psoriasis for over 30 years. A miracle happened when her skin completely cleared before she passed. She had the skin of a baby. We had a really nice memorial service on Wednesday and I flew back on Thursday to be with Kenny & our son's family for Thanksgiving. Thanks for all the cards and emails.

I am blessed to have such caring friends.

Suzan Close

DATES TO REMEMBER

December 2th- Holiday Party

December 3th- Quantum House

December 5th- Sheriff's Dinner

December 9th- HHRC Visit

**December 16th- Register for Presidents
and First Ladies**

December 19th- Random Acts of Cookies

December 22nd- Happy Hanukkah

December 25th - Merry Christmas

December 31st- New Years Eve

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