

THE GFWC WOMAN'S CLUB NEWS

SEPTEMBER 2017

THE GENERAL MEMBERSHIP LUNCHEON

Thursday September 7, at 12 noon

Sponsored by the Board

Our Program: **A NEW YEAR KICK-OFF**

Show your team spirit! Wear your favorite football team colors and get ready to tailgate in style with fun and games!



Make your luncheon reservations and place to-go orders with Genie Cianciolo or your Department Secretary by TUESDAY, SEPT 5!

The Bee Line from President Merle Johnson

WELCOME BACK! As we start a new year, I hope you will look for projects to get excited about and to make this a very successful year for our club and our community. You will certainly see some dramatic improvements at our Clubhouse! Public Issues removed the old curtains and arranged for new window treatments. Just before the District Reporting meeting, several members put in some very long hours painting the main rooms. It was hard work but it looks great now! We must make every effort to maintain our clubhouse. Another department is working to have it declared a Historical Building. This makes maintaining the building even more important.

Last Spring we were asked to furnish American Flags to two new citizens (youngest and most mature) for the Naturalization Ceremony at Courthouse in May. We then learned that there would be a total of 5 ceremonies from May to November and we would need 10 flags. Your Board enthusiastically adopted this project. Vickie Ortiz volunteered to have the flags flown in planes from Tyndall, and had certificates made to identify the planes, date flown, service personnel involved and geographic area flown over. In uniform she presented the flags to the two new citizens in May! (see page 3) Then in July, they asked for suggestions for a singer. Neysa Semmler accepted the invitation and gave an outstanding performance of the *Star Spangled Banner* and *God Bless America*. Thanks to the Board, Vickie and Neysa, we have made an impact on these new citizens, the staff at the Court House (*no other organization has given such an impressive presentations*) and our community (*these events were reported on WJHG and in the News Herald*). We will be participating in 3 more ceremonies. It's truly inspiring.

You are a part of a wonderful organization! I hope you will be active and enjoy the year ahead!

ARTS Meets 4th Thursday at 10:30 am Contacts: Beverly Long or Normandy Cooper



The Arts Department really spread its wings last year! At our September 28th meeting at the Clubhouse, we will plan for hosting the October general luncheon and our department activities for the rest of the year. You do not have to be an artist to appreciate the arts and its contribution to our community. With art workshops in St. Andrews, the GFWC District art show, and the 2nd Grade Arts Contest for Bay District Schools, we help the arts come alive. You can too!

CONSERVATION Meets 3rd Thursday at 12:00 pm Contact: Pat Fenaes

Our department took a little time off this summer but met in August at Nancy Wyatt's home to make plans for the year ahead. We will be active here at the Clubhouse cleaning up and maintaining the grounds plus working on community gardens with the Bay County Health Department. The Bay County Fair is coming up in October and many of our members enter floral arrangements and plants into the competition (and we win!). Our next meeting is September 21st at Sonny's BBQ in Lynn Haven. Whether you have a green thumb or you're all thumbs, join us!



EDUCATION Meets 4th Tuesday at 11:30 am Contact: Allison Mizell



The Education Department met in August for a planning session and decided to make The Olive Garden on Hwy 77 our official meeting place this year. We will build on the work we began last year at Girls, Inc., beginning with collecting school supplies to help these girls start the year prepared. Our tutoring program was so well received that we continue it again. This month we will learn more from Stacey Legg about "Elevate Bay", Bay District Schools' community-wide recruitment of volunteers and donations to help fund a mentorship program for the growing number of at-risk students in our schools. Together we can make a difference!

HEALTH & WELFARE Meets 4th Wednesday at 10:00 am Contact: Paula Bunch

Last May, Health & Welfare aka Home Life CSP agreed to continue to support the local Salvation Army's Domestic Violence program. October is Domestic Violence Awareness month so we will be making plans to participate in local awareness events and conduct fundraising activities like our Opportunity Hat for this and other projects. Bay County has sadly been a state leader in domestic violence and child abuse cases. We want to do our part to help these women and their children have a safe place, and to support those organizations that provide this help. It's a serious effort but we have a lot of fun too. Join us!



KNITTERS, HOOKERS & A COOK was busy this summer knitting prayer squares for cancer treatment patients. We are also making blankets for children in distress in support of *Project Linus* (www.ProjectLinus.org). Come to the Clubhouse on the 2nd Thursday of the month at 10am. It's relaxing, fun and truly rewarding. Ask Normandy Cooper for details!



GFWC Woman's Club of Panama City

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MARK YOUR CALENDAR FOR GFWC WOMAN'S CLUB EVENTS!

All departments meet at the Clubhouse unless specified otherwise.

THURS, SEPT 7	12:00 PM	GENERAL MEMBERSHIP LUNCHEON <i>See page 1 for details. RSVP today!</i>
THURS, SEPT 14	10:00 AM	KNITTERS, HOOKERS & A COOK <i>See page 2 for details</i>
TUES, SEPT 19	11:30 AM	PUBLIC ISSUES DEPT MEETING at Historical Society Museum <i>See page 3 for details</i>
	12:00 PM	EDUCATION DEPT at The Olive Garden, Hwy 77 <i>See page 2 for details</i>
THURS, SEPT 21	9:30 AM	BOARD MEETING
	12:00 PM	CONSERVATION DEPT at Sonny's in Lynn Haven <i>See page 2 for details</i>
	6:00 PM	YOUTH DEPT <i>See page 3 for details</i>
FRI, SEPT 22 - SUN, SEPT 24		GFWC FLORIDA FALL BOARD MEETING, ORLANDO
WED, SEPT 27	10:00 AM	HEALTH & WELFARE DEPT <i>See page 2 for details</i>
THURS, SEPT 28	9:30 AM	INTERNATIONAL OUTREACH <i>See page 3 for details</i>
	10:30 AM	ARTS DEPT <i>See page 2 for details</i>