



Summer/ Fall
2022

State of New Mexico Newsletter

Word from our State President: Valerie Redington

To my dear GFWC New Mexico Federation Sisters,



"Let the Good Times Roll!" That is exactly what fourteen members from GFWC New Mexico did June 25-28 in the city of New Orleans! It was such a fun week to celebrate a new administration being installed to say nothing of the fine cuisine, sights, music, and arts that New Orleans has to offer. We were excited to see New Mexico recognized more than once at the International Convention which was a testament to good reporting. Thank you,

Inge Peter, Past President, Chairs and Club Presidents and all our Club Members from the past Administration! So proud of your accomplishments!!!

I am so excited to team up with all of our clubs as we spend the next two years "Enchanting our Communities". There are so many projects available to accomplish this! My focus for the administration will be Advocates for Children. The last two years have been particularly difficult for our children. Our children deserve to feel loved, cared for and safe. Children are our future. Recently, the Carrizozo Woman's Club were featured in GFWC News and Notes for providing season passes to the swimming pool for children! Just think what a gift that was for those children! I am asking each club to look for a new project for children in your community. It could be St. Jude's, March of Dimes, Unicef, Child Abuse Prevention, Cyber Bullying, partnering with Big Brother, Big Sister, the Arts or any program unique to your community. My special project will be to support Camp Enchantment, a summer camp free to children in New Mexico who are undergoing cancer treatment. It gives them and their families an opportunity for normalcy and fun times in their lives during one week in Capitan, New Mexico. Let's all find ways to bring smiles into the lives of our children!

So thank you for those of you who purchased the T-shirts to support these important projects! It is so appreciated!

Why do I ask you to look for new projects? It helps keep our clubs refreshed, thriving, and interesting to our members. Membership will also be a big focus over the next couple of years. We must all communicate our "why" we are part of this great organization to our friends and family so that they will want to join us in making our communities a better and kinder place to live through our volunteer efforts.

Ok... "Let the Good Times Roll" ladies!

Living the Volunteer Spirit,

Val Redington

GFWC New Mexico President



Word from our State President Elect: Debbie McAllen

The State of New Mexico received three awards at our Annual Convention. We received Outstanding Achievement in Health and Wellness, as well as in Women's History and Resource Center. In addition, Progress Club of Las Cruces received Honorable Mention for their report on Women's History and Resource Center which the club will receive a \$50 award.



As we begin our new year, I look forward talking about leadership and how our statistical reporting is important for the state of New Mexico to gain recognition among the other 49 states.



www.gfwcnm.com



GFWC New Mexico



International Convention

The 2022 GFWC International Convention was held in New Orleans, Louisiana from June 25 - 28th. GFWC teamed up with the USO for a hands-on service project that supports the USO Care Package Program. 500 toiletry packages were assembled for service members.

Our newly installed GFWC 2022-2024 Executive Board (L to R):

Director of Jr Clubs, Katie Maydell; Secretary, MaryBeth Williams; 1st Vice President Elect, Wendy Carriker; President Deb Strahanowski; President Elect, Suellen Brazil; 2nd Vice President Elect, Jolie Frankfurth; and Treasurer, Becky Wright.

LEADS Candidate

Becky Chavez is our 2022 LEADS Candidate for New Mexico. She is a native to New Mexico, born and raised in Portales. She spent half of her childhood in Portales until her parents decided to move up to Northern New Mexico to take care of her grandparents in El Turquillo, about 8 miles north of Mora. She returned to Portales to attend Eastern New Mexico University after graduating high school for 1 year. Portales is where she met her husband of 31 years. They had one son Jonathan who passed away this last December from Glioblastoma Multiforme Brain Tumor leaving behind a lovely daughter in law, and grandson Julian and granddaughter Mia. Becky has another son Michael who has two children Anthony and Ashlynn.

While working at ENMU, she did complete her degree after having her two sons, moving to Germany (husband was in the military) and moving back to Portales. She worked with programs from State Agency on Aging, with Senior Companion,, Foster Grandparents and Retired Senior Volunteer Programs as a Director of Volunteer Programs. Becky is currently working for ENMU as a Coordinator of the Golden Student Success Center where she wears many hats. She has been with the University since 1999.

Her parents have encouraged her to be a life-long learner so she dreams about getting a certificate in automotive repairs, so that she can advocate for women to become independent in repairing their own vehicle or to build their knowledge on what is needed to get repaired and also become a welder. There are only 7% of women that become welders.



State Picture

We were very fortunate to have fourteen GFWC sisters at the Annual Convention to support the state of New Mexico.

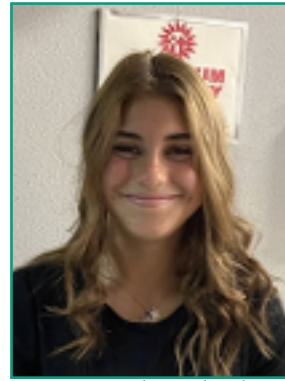
Those in attendance were from L to R Front Row: Val Redington, Inge Peter, International President, Marian St. Clair, Director of Junior Clubs, Kristina Higbee, June Ferguson, and Sally Harper.

Back Row L to R: Minel Schlaefli, Mary Jo Montgomery, Marie Richter, Alisa Estrada, Debbie McAllen, Gwenda McClure, Kathleen Schuster, and Margaret Armstrong. (not pictured, Lani Bradley)

Hugh O'Brien Youth Leadership (HOBY)

The State of New Mexico was able to sponsor two tenth grade students to the HOBY seminar, to explore and discover their personal leadership strengths and learn how to apply them to serve their community. For more than five decades, HOBY has been inspiring young people to make a difference and become facilitators for positive change in their home, school, workplace, and community.

Hannah Michael stated "Participating in HOBY and being able to hear and make friends with my peers all around the nation was a very new and different experience for me. When we would all talk, I would hear about all the problems of not just in society today but in different states. For example, my group made a presentation on how we could help the teaching community. My peers in Michigan brought up ways to help the teaching community to try and recruit much needed teachers and to show appreciation to the working teachers. I feel that an in-person experience would have only improved the overall interactions and experience, but I am thankful for the overall opportunity.



Hannah Michael



Savannah Whitman

Savannah Whitman felt a little disappointed having to do this virtually. "I felt a lot of it was staff preaching about leadership skills/talking about their experiences while not giving us the opportunity to get our experiences or learn these leadership skills ourselves. I think had it been in person and maybe got to be more engaged with other ambassadors rather than listening to just the staff talk, I would have taken a lot more away from it."

Membership *from Debbie McAllen*

Membership is extremely important in the continuation of General Federation of Women's Clubs. We know that getting involved helps people stay physically and mentally active. Research has shown that volunteering leads to lower rates of depression, especially for individuals 65 and older. Getting involved increases social interaction and helps build a support system based on common interests.

GFWC offers several community service projects such as Arts and Culture, Civic Engagement and Outreach, Education and Libraries, Environment, and Health and Wellness. By getting involved into just one of these projects, the member gets a sense of purpose in helping our community and the world around us.

So what are possible ways to gain and retain members.

- Have monthly socials at different restaurants in your area and have your current members bring a "friend" (non-member) out for an evening of laughter and fun.
- Schedule more social opportunities outside of meeting times such as starting a book club, a paint and sip party, bunco party, host a game night and get to know your members on a personal level vs just a volunteer level.
- Include a member testimonial on your website. Have your members write a short blurb of why they are members. Prospective members would love to hear from real people about what it's like to be a part of GFWC.
- Ask your members for some recruitment ideas. This helps your current members feel a part in decision making.
- Have merchandise with your clubs logo branded on pens, water bottles, stationary, t-shirts and give them out to new members. Then you can sell these items on your website or at events.
- Have a welcome program. New members want to feel welcomed, acknowledged, and valued. Send a welcome letter, email or card. Have a welcome package with everything new members need to know. Host a welcome event for new members. Spotlight new members on your website or in a newsletter and give new members a chance to introduce themselves at your next meeting.

Celebrate GFWC Federation Day on April 24 by organizing and conducting a fun community service project. Wear GFWC emblematic apparel or wear Federation Blue (royal blue) so the color becomes associated with club events. Then invite your local newspaper reporters to this event to share stories and facts about the impact of your club.

Leadership *from Debbie McAllen*

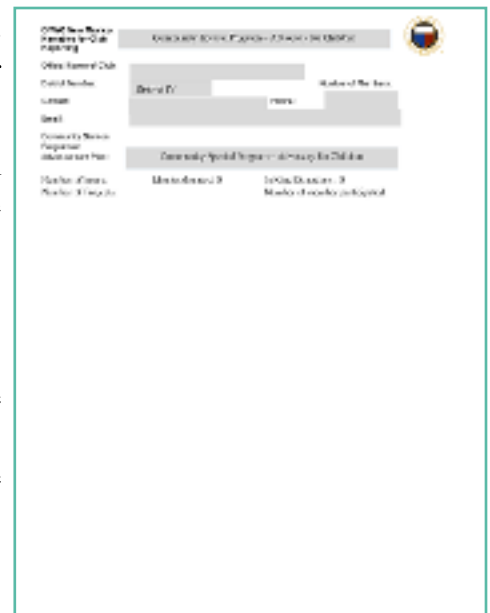
Reporting our accomplishments is so important. We compete among our own individual clubs within our districts, then state, and then international. At international level we will be competing against Colorado, Rhode Island, Oregon, Nevada, Vermont, Utah, Idaho, North Dakota, Alaska, South Dakota, District of Columbia and Hawaii. When reporting our hours and monies in the Volunteer Recording sheet, all this data is counted and submitted to GFWC Headquarters. Each year, GFWC calculates the total amount of projects, volunteer hours, and both in-kind and dollars donated for the work of its clubs. In addition to the total calculations, the data is broken down between each of the GFWC Special and Community Service Programs and the Advancement Plans that were active in the 2022 calendar year.

When writing your narrative reports for the different community service programs, some of the activities we do may be cross-reported in several areas. For instance, if you hold a Recycling/Reduce coloring contest, you can report this activity in your Arts and Culture narrative, Education and Libraries narrative, Advocacy for Children narrative and Environment narrative reports.

The President of your club will have the GFWC Narrative Reporting form to hand out to their community service program Chairs. Pictured on the left, is an example of the report form.

The guidelines for writing the report are:

- Narratives for each project/program should be on a separate sheet; if you cross-report (two different programs but same event.... these should be on a separate Narrative Report form.
- Title each narrative with Club Name and project/program you are describing.
- Provide specific information and examples: Who, What, When, Where, How, and Why.
- Proof-read your narrative.



Example of the GFWC Narrative Reporting Form

Reporting period begins January 1 through December 31, 2022 so keeping records throughout the year is important to stay on top of all your projects.

GFWC State Board Meeting



State Board Meeting: L to R: District IV President Jennie Bustemonte, Recording Secretary Connie Griego, Treasurer Bev Kasiah, Corresponding Sec., Debbie Campbell, President Elect Debbie McAllen, State President Val Redington and Parliamentarian Marie Richter.

All new Club Presidents, State Chairs and The Executive Board members met on August 27th for an orientation at the Sunset Grill in Las Cruces. Zoom was available for a remote connection for those that were unable to be present.

The Board participated in the Scavenger Hunt which is intended to encourage legislative advocacy on the local, state, and national level, while also raising awareness of GFWC as an organization.



L to R: Debbie Campbell, Minel Schlaefli, Debbie McAllen, Mary Wilke, Val Redington, Lani Bradley, Sally Harper, Margaret Beck and Inge Peter. We received a point for a picture taken with a Legislation/Public Policy Committee Member! Thank you Sally for your leadership in Legislation.



**GENERAL FEDERATION
of WOMEN'S CLUBS**

www.GFWC.org



Meeting times for New Mexico clubs

Listed below are the different times that the GFWC State of New Mexico clubs meet and websites for additional information.

District II:

- GFWC Cosmopolitan Woman's Club meet every first Wednesday of every month in Albuquerque, NM at 11:30 am. Please contact any club member for more information. (gfwcnm.com> cosmopolitan-womans-club)

District III:

- GFWC Past State Presidents Club meet at annual State Convention.
- GFWC Clayton Federated Woman's Club meet the second Thursday of the month at 12:00 noon at Clayton, NM. (gfwcnm.com> clayton-womans-club)
- GFWC Portales Woman's Club meet the second Wednesday of the month at 11:30 at their clubhouse in Portales at 309 W. 1st Street, Portales, NM. (gfwcnm.com> portales-womans-club)
- GFWC Roswell Woman's Club meet the first Wednesday of the month at 12:00 noon. Roswell, NM ([www.facebook.com](http://www.facebook.com/roswellwomansclub)> roswellwomansclub)

District IV:

- GFWC Carrizozo Woman's Club meet the second Thursday at 10:00 am in the Carrizozo Woman's Clubhouse at 908 11th Street, Carrizozo, NM. (gfwcnm.com> carrizozo-womans-club)
- GFWC Hot Springs woman's Club meet at Geroimo Springs Museum 211 Main Street, Truth or Consequences, NM at 6:30 pm every second Tuesday of the month. (gfwcnm.com> hot-springs-womans-club)
- GFWC Progress Club of Las Cruces meet every second Friday of the month at 11:00 am in the W.I.A. Building at 340 N. Raymond, Las Cruces, NM ([facebook](https://www.facebook.com/ProgressClubofLasCruces)> ProgressClubofLasCruces) and (gfwcnm.com> progress-club-womans-club)
- GFWC Ruidoso Federated Woman's Club meet the second Wednesday of the month at 1:30 pm. at 116 S Evergreen Road, Ruidoso, NM (gfwcnm.com> ruidoso-womans-club)
- GFWC Silver City Woman's Club meet every second Friday at 10:30 am in their clubhouse at 411 Silver Heights Blvd. Silver City, NM (gfwcnm.com> silver-city-womans-club)

Legislative Action Center - GFWC Advocacy

from Sally Harper

According to the GFWC Standing Rules, "Member clubs shall be responsible for carrying out the intent of the resolutions." GFWC Legislative Priorities are based upon our resolutions. Clubs and clubwomen are then the local advocates for GFWC's legislative agenda. Advocacy means working with individual lawmakers and lawmaking bodies to gain support for a cause or initiative. We must make our voices heard, and collectively we do that through the Legislative Action Center (LAC).

We have a new Legislative Action Center platform. This platform is a more modern approach with features to keep our members connected to what is happening on the hill. The new platform is Voter Voice. To ensure that you don't miss out on an alert, please visit the Legislative/Public Policy page on GFWC's website and confirmation that your contact information is correct. Members who have not been receiving GFWC's legislative alerts can sign up at www.votervoice.net/GFWC/home. When you complete the form, please be sure to use the name and address on your Voter Information card so that Congressman's office that our message is sent to, can verify that you are a registered voter in their district.



Cosmopolitan Woman's Club *from Ann Haight, President*



Cosmopolitan Woman's Club ladies toured Ronald McDonald House in Albuquerque, a project we sponsor but had never visited in person. Prior to the tour, we found out that the organization takes donations of items such as small packets of hand creams, bar soaps, toothpaste, toothbrushes, razors clothe-washing soap & personal items.

The tour found the the Ronald McDonald House has 2 locations in Albuquerque, one at UNMH hospital and one at a site just north of the hospital which we visited. This site has 30 rooms for customers, of families which can consist from one to five people. In addition to the rooms, there are 3 kitchens, 3 living

rooms, 3 dining halls, a library, a meeting room, a laundry plus 10 washers and dryers on each floor plus a separate room for folding plus ironing room, plus several rooms for staff to run the organization. In addition, there was an outdoor play area for children and a large rose garden patio BBQ area with a covered sitting area for relaxing in the sun or shade. Such a deal. We were so happy to have gone and so pleased to support such an organization! We plan to tour every organization we support in the near future.



Pictures courtesy of Cosmopolitan Woman's Club

GFWC NM Past President's Club *from Sally Harper*



GFWC NM Past Presidents: L to R: Mary Jo Montgomery, Marie Richter, Sally Harper, June Ferguson, Kathleen Schuster and Alisa Estrada. Not pictured is Margaret Armstrong & Inge Peter.

The GFWC New Mexico Past Presidents' Club is a specialty club whose membership is limited to New Mexico club women who have been privileged to serve GFWC New Mexico as State President. It was organized in April 2014 and currently has an active membership of eight members from around the State. We have one in-person meeting a year held at our State Convention. We have supported a variety of projects this last year including the Purple Leash Project, the National Indigenous Women's Resource Center (NIWRC), the Starlight Children's Foundation and made a donation to UNICEF for Ukraine.

Portales Woman's Club *from Betsy Chavez, President*

Heritage Days 2 Mile Fun/Walk Event in July.

Every year Portales is fortunate to hold an event that is sponsored by the local Chamber of Commerce and Portales Woman's Club was again selected as the beneficiary raising \$650 for our projects. Few of our members helped prepare runners bags and numbers, register participants, served as race Marshalls, photographers, runners/walkers and most of all served as cheering squad as participants finished the race. It's a fun event to start the day with family, friends, and a small exercise. Also, let's not forget network building among each other and collaborations with other organizations. We can't wait till next year!



L to R: Ashley (the granddaughter of Mickie Stowe), Mickie Stowe, and Quaylene Parkey



Photo courtesy of Portales Woman's Club



Photo courtesy of Portales Woman's Club

Roswell Woman's Club *from Adrienne Marley, President*



L to R: Valarie Ward from The Refuge and Adrienne Marley, President of Roswell Woman's Club.

Photo courtesy of Roswell Women's Club

The Roswell Woman's Club Fall Project was to gather and donate new bath linens and hygiene products for The Roswell Refuge for Battered Adults. The mission of the Roswell Refuge is to provide a safe environment and advocacy for victims of domestic violence, sexual assault, and to educate the community about the effects of domestic/sexual assault violence on adults, children, and the community-at-large. They recently completed an update of 11 bathrooms in the Refuge and we were blessed to be able to supply them with new linens and bath mats for their new facilities. It was a treat to see the joy that this effort brought them, and we know they will put everything to good use!



Photo courtesy of www.roswellrefuge.org

Carrizozo Woman's Club *from Nordis Estrem, President*

The Carrizozo Woman's Club held its 32nd Annual Holiday Arts and Crafts Hoedown on Nov. 4-5, 2022. This event was started by club member Sharon Heiker in 1989. It provides local artisans and vendors an opportunity to sell their handmade or created items or retail merchandise at one local location, and offers the public a place to shop and support local vendors for the Holidays.

Tables are rented to vendors for \$40 each. Vendors are asked to donate one item from their table for door prize drawings which are held hourly for the customers present. Customers are asked to vote on their Favorite Table & the table with the most Holiday Spirit. The winners of these two contests win back their table rental fee. Food is available for purchase on both days. The food sales brought in \$1156, with supply costs of \$438.92. Profit on food sales -\$717.08; 21 table were rented - \$840; Prize table money was returned for Favorite table and Holiday Spirit table thus with a total profit for the event of \$1477.08.



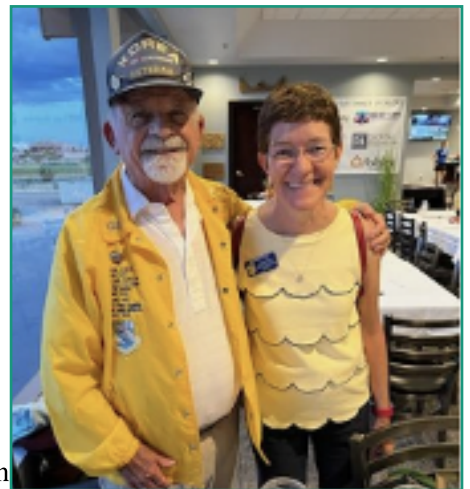
Pictures courtesy of Carrizozo Woman's Club

Progress Club of Las Cruces *from Minel Schlaefli, President*



CB a service dog in training with Four Paws and A Wake Up, Inc.

GFWC Progress Club of Las Cruces held their 8th annual Golf Tournament and a big shout out to our Fundraising Committee, Debbie Campbell, Susan Smith, Mary Underwood and Mary Wilke. Through their big efforts and with the help of all our members we were able to raise over \$26,000. These funds will continue to support our Veterans, scholarships, and Minel Schlaefli's current President Project on Children's Advocacy. During our golf tournament, we were able to give a donation of \$2500 towards Fours Paws and A Wake Up (a canine companion organization to train service dogs for disability Veterans) and \$2500 towards Southern New Mexico Honor Flight.



L to R: Honor Flight Veteran Kirby Prickett, and Elaine Prickett

Hot Springs Woman's Club *from Beverly Kasiah, Parliamentarian*



Pictures courtesy Hot Springs Woman's Club

Club President Marie Richter and Member Beverly Kasiah with Best Club Participation

GFWC Hot Springs Woman's Club hosted its 1st annual Car Show Veterans Day Weekend at the Albert Lyons Event Center in Truth or Consequences, NM. After months and months of planning and mail outs, they hoped for a successful car show. 70 classic, custom, original and dare to be different Cars registered. They had cars participate from Espanola, Santa Fe, Albuquerque, El Paso, La Luz, Silver City, T or C, Las Cruces, Alamogordo, just to name a few. A great turn out and much excitement that GFWC Hot Springs Woman's Club had brought back this show to Truth or Consequences.



Pictures courtesy Hot Springs Woman's Club

Club President Marie Richter and Member Beverly Kasiah presenting gentleman with Best Muscle Car plaque.



GFWC *Friendsgiving* is a wonderful opportunity to be *Thankful* for the community's support.

By participating in the GFWC National Event: GFWC *Friendsgiving* will help build the GFWC brand in your community by gathering and thanking leaders, individuals, and businesses who have participated in some way towards our club projects by their donations of items, time, gift cards, and/or sponsorship; and enlighten potential members to the vast reach of club philanthropy and grassroots volunteer dedication.

The goal is to get together for fun and fellowship within your community. GFWC headquarters gave suggestions on when to schedule a possible *Friendsgiving*.

- New Years: Ringing in the New Year with Friends.
- Valentine's Day: Show the Love
- Easter: Join us for a "Hoppy" Celebration
- It's A Federation Day Friendsgiving
- Summer Months: Let the Summer Warm Your Heart

Reach out to organizations that have benefited from your hands-on community service or In-Kind donations and invite them. Think of your local organization contacts your club works with, such as the humane society, domestic violence shelters, after-school programs, food kitchens and pantries, and the list goes on.

GFWC Membership Portal

from Debbie McAllen

The GFWC Member Center, at www.GFWC.org/Membership, contains resources to help members and clubs reap the rewards of GFWC's network of community volunteers, including:

- Membership Discounts with a listing of companies offering special discounts. You can get discounts on rental cars through Avis and Budget.
- A Mediators Program that offers specialized, confidential assistance with difficult issues related to club members.

Through the *GFWC Communication Tools*,
they offer:

- GFWC Clubwoman Magazine, a quarterly, electronic, seasonal happenings and events providing clubs with information and support.
- News & Notes, GFWC's weekly e-newsletter, provides timely information, plus GFWC Marketplace sales.

- Go to gfwc.org website
- Member Login - (red box on upper right corner)
- Enter your information and click "Join"
- You will receive a verification email
- Login with your newly created password
- Save password so you will be automatically logged in for future visits to site
- Once you are set up and logged in, input your profile information.
- Click on the circle icon button at the top right-hand corner on the blue bar and a drop-down menu will appear. Click on **My Digital Library**
- Click on the **Resources Folder**, click on **Index** and print this out - will make it easier to find what you are looking for!

Documents and forms are in each folder. They are indexed alphabetically. Go to the Letter in the name field (in blue) the documents are in. For example, click C, you will find the GPWC Club Manual. If you have any problems setting up your member portal, please know the staff at GPWC are ready to assist you in any way. Call (202)347-3168.

Everyone has what it takes to become a Leader



Here's to the crazy ones.

The misfits, the rebels, the troublemakers.
The round pegs in the square holes. The
ones who see things differently. They're
not fond of rules, and they have no respect
for the status quo.

You can quote them, disagree with them, disbelieve them, glorify or vilify them. About the only thing that you can't do, is ignore them because they change things.

They invent. They imagine. They heal.
They explore. They create. They inspire.
They push the human race forward. Maybe
they have to be crazy.

Because the ones who are crazy enough to think that they can change the world, are the ones who do.

Jack Kerouac

GFWC South Central Regional Conference



Sitting behind President Bill Clinton desk in the replica of the Oval Office. Back row: Kathleen Schuster, Alisa Estrada, Debbie McAllen and Margaret Armstrong. Sitting: NM State President, Val Redington

The South Central Regional Conference was held in Little Rock, Arkansas. We had a total of 11 GFWC sisters from New Mexico attending this event.

It kicked off with mini sight seeing trips. We saw the Clinton Library which has a replica of the Oval Office and the Cabinet Room. It also has archives which include approximately 78 million pages of official records, 20 million emails, 2.6 million photographs, 12,400 videotapes, and over 5,900 audio recordings documenting the life and career of Bill Clinton, the 42nd president of the United States. The museum also consists of gifts that President Clinton and his family received from foreign heads of state and gifts he received from regular citizens in the United States and around the world.



Sitting on the couch from the popular tv show "Friends".

L to R: Kathleen Schuster, Alisa Estrada, NM State President Val Redington, and Debbie McAllen.

The next trip was seeing the Old State House which the GFWC Arkansas women were very instrumental in preserving. The building underwent major renovations in 1996, and it was designated a National Historic Landmark in 1997. The building serves a museum with exhibits related to Arkansas history and culture. Permanent collections include battle flags, the inaugural gowns of the first Ladies of Arkansas, art pottery and African-American quilts.



Standing in front of the Old State House in Little Rock, Arkansas. GFWC Sisters from all six states in our South Central Region.



Standing on the original staircase in the Old State House.

L to R: NM State President Val Redington, Debbie McAllen and Kathleen Schuster.

GFWC South Central Regional Conference



Back Row: GFWC President Elect Suellen Brazil, GFWC President Deb Strahanoski, SCR President June Ferguson

Front Row: Debbie McAllen, Val Redington, Betsy Chavez, Kathleen Schuster, Sally Harper, Mary Jo Montgomery, Marie Richter, Margaret Armstrong, and Alisa Estrada



Sally Harper giving a presentation on "We're Going on a Scavenger Hunt".



Past NM State Presidents: Kathleen Schuster, Alisa Estrada, Mary Jo Montgomery, and Marie Richter.

Not pictured: Margaret Armstrong, June Ferguson, Sally Harper and Inge Peter.



NM State President Valerie Redington being introduced during the Processional.

Throughout the South Central Regional Conference we heard reports from each state Presidents, programs on Community Service, Membership, Leadership, Communications and Public Relations, and Sally Harper did a cute presentation on GFWC Scavenger Hunt which is intended to encourage legislative advocacy on the local, state and national level, while also raising awareness of GFWC as an organization.

We heard a ladies quartet from the Hot Springs Village called "Sweet Adeline Group" during our Friday evening dinner and given an invitation to SCR Conference 2023 being held in Albuquerque during Saturday's evening.

Our GFWC International President Deb Strahanoski spoke about what she has been involved in since taking office and GFWC President-Elect Suellen Brazil gave a closing remark.

Fun was had by all!

District IV 99th Convention

The 99th District IV Convention started off with programs on Membership, Women's History and Resource Center (WHRC), and Junior's Special Program Advocates for Children.

State Membership Chair, Susan Smith, presented information to help and stimulate recruitment of new members. State Chair, Kathleen Schuster, started her program with a wordsearch to get members engaged on historical GFWC woman who made a difference in society. She then spoke about the importance of reporting all historical clubhouse's maintenance, scrapbooks, etc. and the time and money spent for this work.

State Membership Alisa Estrada did a raffle along with her presentation on Children's Advocacy which the proceeds of \$115.00 went to District IV President Jennie Bustamante. She in turn gave the proceeds towards our State NM President, Valerie Redington on her Children's Advocacy project called Camp Enchantment, a camp for children dealing with cancer.

State NM President Valerie Redington read the Proclamation she received from the State of New Mexico and signed by Governor Michelle Lujan Grisham stating the last week in October would be Children's Advocacy Week.

The Four Paws and a Wake Up Inc. gave a presentation and brought their three dogs currently in training to become a four legged aide towards veterans suffering with a disability, including physical, sensory, psychiatric, intellectual, or other mental disability. Members brought supplies of items requested from their wish list. Four Paws and a Wake Up Inc. received a monetary donation.

After a full day of presentations, door prizes, and announcements, members recessed before coming back to Farm and Ranch Museum for an evening of Dia de Muertos (Day of the Dead) events. Some members came dressed in their Day of the Dead costumes and attire. State NM President Valerie Redington gave a presentation on "Friendsgiving" followed by entertainment provided by Ballet Folklorico Corazon de Las Cruces.



11 month old rescued Belgian Malinois called Cami.



Items collected from District IV GFWC members for Four Paws and a Wake Up Inc.



Gypsie and Poppy are two Golden Retrievers six months old in training.

District IV 99th Convention: Friday Evening



Standing: NM GFWC State President Valerie Redington along with South Central Regional President, June Ferguson.



Hot Springs Woman's Club: L to R:: Angela Madrid, Connie Griego, and Mary Jo Montgomery.



GFWC Progress Club President Minel Schlaefli participating in the dancing whether she wanted to or not.



Entertainment provided by Ballet Folklorico Corazon de Las Cruces.



Entertainment provided by Ballet Folklorico Corazon de Las Cruces.

District IV 99th Convention: Saturday

Saturday, October 29th, GFWC District IV members reconvened at Farm and Ranch Museum in Las Cruces bright and early. The day started by hearing more presentations. Each District IV Club Presidents reported on what their clubs have been doing.

Hannah Michaels and Savannah Whitman gave a presentation on their experience attending the HOBY (Hugh O'Brien Youth Leadership) seminar. Both felt they would have enjoyed the seminar in person versus virtually.

Our 2022 LEADS (Leadership Education Development Seminar) graduate, Betsy Chavez got all members onto their feet by doing a cute exercise to raise our heart rate before presenting her speech on her experience in attending the New Orleans LEADS seminar class.

Domestic Violence State Chair, Lani Bradley explained the significance of what Purple Pumpkins represent, what the needs of domestic violence shelters needed, gave a handout with QR codes representing domestic and sexual violence and human trafficking.

GFWC NM President Elect, Debbie McAllen spoke on leadership and expressing the importance of growing in members and getting current members to step up within their club and grow in leadership.

The speaker/program of the day was Southern New Mexico Honor Flight. Board of Director John Poland, Treasurer Denise LeBoeuf, and Veterans Sam Serna and Dale Helligenthal explain their program and hear from the veterans on their experience being a Honor Flight recipient. The Honor Flight's mission is to fly as many of these war veterans as they can from Southern New Mexico and El Paso, Texas to Washington D.C. to visit the memorials at no cost to them. They received a monetary donation.

Mary Underwood conducted a Memorial for members of District IV who died since the last convention. Those remembered were from Progress Club, Mary Tucker, Marlys Sherman and Harriet Taylor. From Silver City Woman's Club, Lucinda Maddox.

To complete the day before Saturday's evening events, we heard from GFWC NM State Website Co-Chairs Mary Jo Montgomery and Lani Bradley on the importance of sending them articles and pictures to post on GFWC NM website page.

District IV Arts Chair, Mary Jo Montgomery presented awards to the Club Presidents of Arts that were submitted for judging at the District Convention.

- Carrizozo Woman's Club had four entries. Two first place, a second place, and 1 honorable mention.
- GFWC Progress Club had twelve entries. Three first place, 3 second place and 2 honorable mentions.
- Hot Springs had one entry.
- Silver City had eleven entries. Three first place, one second place, one third place, and one honorable mention.

Best Category I: Carrizozo Woman's Club for the painting Mexico Dancing Girl.

Best Category II: GFWC Progress Club of Las Cruces for the afghan "Sophie's Universe".

District IV 99th Convention: Saturday



District IV GFWC Sisters.

Back Row: June Fergusen, Beverly Kasiah, Marie Richter, Sue Koepp, Stormi Alldredge, Sally Moore, Pam Hecht, Inge Peter, Mary Wilke, Laura Crews-Carreon, Val Redington, Robin Kline, Belen Valenzuela, Margaret Beck and Sally Harper. Second Row: Jennie Bustamante, Kathleen Schuster, Minel Schlaefli, Nordis Estrem, Anne Exterkamp, Debbie Campbell, MaryLee Bell, Susan Hall, Debbie Bailey, Jackie Stahleacker, and Susan Smith. Front Row: Lani Bradley, Debbie McAllen, Mary Jo Montgomery, Alisa Estrada, and Connie Greigo.



Southern New Mexico Honor Flight

L to R: Board of Director, John Poland, Veteran's Sam Serna and Dale Helligenthal, Treasurer of SNM Honor Flight Denise LeBoeuf, and District IV President, Jennie Bustamante



GFWC Progress Club President Minel Schlaefli holding her Best in Show and Category crocheted afghan called "Sophie's Universe".

District IV 99th Convention: Saturday Evening

As we reconvened to finalize District IV convention on Saturday evening, we celebrated by getting into the Halloween Spirit. During our social hour we were entertained by the "Magic Guy" Jaimie O'Hara, who mingled with the ladies doing magic tricks. While dinner was served, he continued to fill the room with his art of magic. He even received quite a bit of audience participation.

Our South Central Regional President and ESO (Epsilon Sigma Omnicron) President, June Ferguson gave a presentation on ESO and encouraged members to purchase and read The Essay. This author held a zoom meeting for all GFWC members in which he talked about him being a young boy who grew up in a rural town in Appalachian Ohio with little hope for success.

A motion was carried to raise the registration fee for next year's District Convention from \$15.00 to \$20.00. The Ruidoso Federated Woman's Club invited everyone to their District IV Convention in Ruidoso on October 27-28, 2023.

The final reading of Credentials were read by Marie Richter. There were 38 members attending the 99th District IV Convention, of which 24 are registered delegates. There were 14 guests.

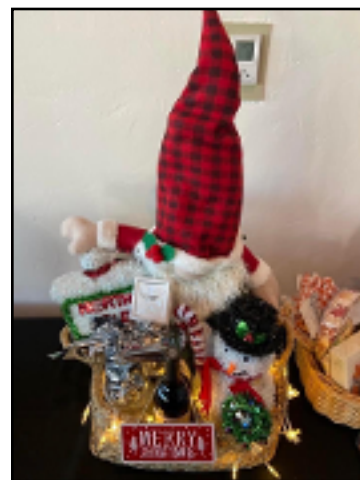
To conclude the evening, the winning raffle tickets were drawn for the prize baskets which raised over \$600 for District IV and the scratch off lottery tree raising \$450 for GFWC Progress Club of Las Cruces hosting.



Pam Houck (Silver City Woman's Club) winning the scratch off lottery ticket tree.



Thanksgiving Theme Basket



Christmas Theme Basket



Day of the Dead Theme Basket



Halloween Theme Basket



Movie Night Theme Basket

District IV Board



District IV Board and Guest Speakers: District IV Corresponding Secretary, Marie Richter; Palimentarian, Beverly Kasiah; District IV Treasurer, Mary Underwood; District IV Recording Secretary, Debbie McAllen; GFWC South Central Regional President, June Ferguson; District IV President Elect, Angela Madrid; District IV President, Jennie Bustamante, and GFWC New Mexico State President, Valerie Redington.



L to R: GFWC NM State President, Valerie Redington and GFWC District IV President, Jennie Bustamante



GFWC South Central Regional President, June Ferguson

District IV 99th Convention: Saturday Evening



Carrizozo ladies: Anne Exterkamp and Nordis Estrem



Ruidoso ladies: Stormi Alldredge, Sue Koepp, and Sally Moore



Hot Springs ladies: Jennie Bustamante and Beverly Kasiah



Progress Club ladies: Debbie Bailey, Susan Smith, Susie Hall, Minel Schlaefli, Inge Peter, Chayo Garcia, Debbie Campbell, Laura Crew-Carreon, and Mary Wilke.



Silver City ladies: Pam Hecht, MaryLee Bell, Kathleen Schuster, and Alisa Estrada

District IV 99th Convention: Saturday Evening

The Magic Guy, Jaime O'Hara



Cosmopolitan Woman's Club Celebrates 60 years

Cosmopolitan Woman's Club celebrated its 60th birthday on December 7th at their December General meeting at the home of Rita Garcia in Albuquerque. Beginning at 12 noon with a free luncheon, the meeting was called to order by President Ann Haight followed with a short business meeting. Special guests were GFWC NM Past State President Inge Peter and State President Val Redington from Las Cruces.

NM GFWC State President Val Redington presented Ann Haight a crystal plaque in appreciation for Cosmopolitan Woman's Club 60 years of volunteer spirit to Club President Ann Haight. Following the general meeting, cake and coffee was served.

Cosmopolitan Woman's Club began in 1962 with 22 charter members, none of whom now survive.



GFWC NM State President Val Redington presenting trophy for 60 yrs. of Cosmopolitan Woman's Club volunteering service.



Club President of Cosmopolitan Woman's Club Ann Haight accepting award.



L to R: Inge Peter, Ann Haight, Janice Lujan, and Rita Garcia.



L to R: Past GFWC NM State President Inge Peter, GFWC NM State President Val Redington and Ann Haight

In Memory Of.....



Lt. Col. Shirley Eleanor Whitehurst McGuire
Picture courtesy of Albuquerque Journal

Former member of Cosmopolitan Woman's Club Shirley McGuire passed away on November 16, 2022. She was President of Cosmopolitan Woman's Club from 2003/2004 and 2016/2018. She attended all conventions until last year.

Shirley served over 22 years as an Operating Room Nurse and also performed duties as a Flight Nurse at Clark AB, caring for casualties being moved out of Vietnam. She was later assigned to Flight Nurse duties out of Scott AFB, Illinois. Shirley was fortunate to be assigned to Alaska, Bitburg Germany; and various stateside locations, including Kirtland AFB in 1979. She retired from the US Air Force Nurse Corps and was a Lieutenant Colonel. After retiring, she moved to Albuquerque with her husband Dale.

Dates to Remember 2023

- February 4, 2023: GFWC New Mexico Winter Board Meeting, Las Cruces, NM
- March 8: GFWC Women's History Celebration
- April 23-29: GFWC Volunteers in Action Week
- April 24: GFWC Federation Day
- May 5-6, 2023: GFWC New Mexico State Convention, Silver City, NM
- June 8, 2023: GFWC Annual Convention Tours
- June 10-12, 2023: GFWC Annual Convention, Louisville Marriott Downtown, Louisville, KY
- August 26, 2023 GFWC New Mexico Summer Board Meeting, Las Cruces, NM
- October 19-21, 2023: GFWC South Central Region Conference, Albuquerque, NM
- October 22-28, 2023: GFWC Advocates for Children Week



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Resolutions - Sally Harper	saraann08@comcast.net
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LEADS - Betsy Chavez	betsy.chavez@enmu.edu
Writing Contest - Pamela Houch	
Photography Contest - Chayo Garcia	garciachayo.3@yahoo.com
Harriett Donohoo/Dorothy Pendleton Scholarship - Margaret Armstrong	mca7637@hotmail.com