**GFWC News & Notes** 

***GFWC — an international women's organization dedicated to community improvement by enhancing the lives of others through volunteer service***

**Carol Weldin, AWC Co-Liaison**

**April 2019**

**Observe Child Abuse Prevention Month**

**April is Child Abuse Prevention Month and it encourages communities to promote healthy development for children. Everyone can make a difference!**

**What Can You Do?**

* **Participate in Wear Blue Day on April 5. Take a photo of your club wearing blue and use the hashtag #wearblue.**
* **Plant** [**pinwheels**](https://u3654531.ct.sendgrid.net/wf/click?upn=9eXHP1PR7PQVD2K3bEZ-2F3tkUpD3ujog96RrPqbgpEzfOgeIeDsUXIMJHPXBSc4uTfD3nHOOfHdves9tlLsQ411S1W8K0AIntTWNteiRShKs-3D_a4ZyCjtkwnIfEsP7ECigyqsT48cwGvjsXYPXVCnj5dwZsvCVhzYlV5SxPf72mrBJFz2hypOMiOfHLfuIbcnKJbCjzv4G2lcl1u-2BptG6wr3w3Q-2FyZ9CK8LfUHnRvMCp2A3AT4ABi2O0UIflymRj-2FyCwuP3Pyi5zjK-2FFa9RxcapLdZKE-2FOIzubocKyDqUdD3wHk6IuKoiaV4-2BWbRiPHKZNQkhubdaRvFNxGKXxSl0b1rIjFKPuI1M1a5D5c2IJS6wYaxo42aCP6Bt3jR-2FRaOhQVNJbm6eavdhBr29q3U8X5bzpZzAuYp56D0zOMeHXVeFKIGF8iSnUQ2Rfk6ib4mOT3qJhq8B2Ak2VB6Mttcp61Kp-2FbcrzkdIJdUhEb1D4a0xtJUkGsKuRnK9MLIxy7UabWw-3D-3D)**. Prevent Child Abuse America’s blue pinwheel is symbolic of a happy childhood.**
* **Share information from Prevent Child Abuse America from their** [**Facebook**](https://u3654531.ct.sendgrid.net/wf/click?upn=9eXHP1PR7PQVD2K3bEZ-2F3uopimbOD-2B20DEWuZ5tN5c3mmXBAWMCOyegCjzbYSnS5YtSO0pXQ1gop1tjM0oMgNPjQEWPrfSynulKN5xabpA0-3D_a4ZyCjtkwnIfEsP7ECigyqsT48cwGvjsXYPXVCnj5dwZsvCVhzYlV5SxPf72mrBJFz2hypOMiOfHLfuIbcnKJbCjzv4G2lcl1u-2BptG6wr3w3Q-2FyZ9CK8LfUHnRvMCp2A3AT4ABi2O0UIflymRj-2FyCwuP3Pyi5zjK-2FFa9RxcapLdZKE-2FOIzubocKyDqUdD3wHk6IuKoiaV4-2BWbRiPHKZNQkhubdaRvFNxGKXxSl0b1rIjFKPuI1M1a5D5c2IJS6wY6HYuB-2FBWCp3Vz0SaaF47Q82PYhU1YHRbOb0cA-2BiJ4UUlkmNt7o8tKWdzuO7Fvywp1ElTx2D271jIH7oij5NWjzeZ8T798iws6amyVA-2FpSNIaPUN7QFFHl-2BRrV-2FsuI37dX9ZTWb6YfcvMy9pQegO3Kw-3D-3D) **and** [**Twitter**](https://u3654531.ct.sendgrid.net/wf/click?upn=9eXHP1PR7PQVD2K3bEZ-2F3ur2BgrkY8oCvJnVvQpQifC4t4HxwoppYWyCJysP-2FSuegY0RxkLiC-2BH-2BnFNgzKCuNA-3D-3D_a4ZyCjtkwnIfEsP7ECigyqsT48cwGvjsXYPXVCnj5dwZsvCVhzYlV5SxPf72mrBJFz2hypOMiOfHLfuIbcnKJbCjzv4G2lcl1u-2BptG6wr3w3Q-2FyZ9CK8LfUHnRvMCp2A3AT4ABi2O0UIflymRj-2FyCwuP3Pyi5zjK-2FFa9RxcapLdZKE-2FOIzubocKyDqUdD3wHk6IuKoiaV4-2BWbRiPHKZNQkhubdaRvFNxGKXxSl0b1rIjFKPuI1M1a5D5c2IJS6wYJq9B8WzSWpoGQJkhaZeliGMpu0apWfc-2Bkya2IMTKCyXM8kwDSZjFij8dEwv2jkz5l4mXOgWo0n1fQLeAKVSGMF5dyNimdbMSsstxqDsc2rVHCbcitzGOt9LnzZhkZ84OeKyGxe7tXkxlCP7-2B5xPasQ-3D-3D)**. Throughout April they will post tips on how to support children and their families.**
* **Check if your** [**local chapter**](https://u3654531.ct.sendgrid.net/wf/click?upn=9eXHP1PR7PQVD2K3bEZ-2F3lQGZmRq4aJi37ifVTYD7fTCituYDz-2FlMYzqJjfotEhRGUwiqy5M15oGm4owQlJIXvkvoof-2FmNOOmGA7QLK4zBU-3D_a4ZyCjtkwnIfEsP7ECigyqsT48cwGvjsXYPXVCnj5dwZsvCVhzYlV5SxPf72mrBJFz2hypOMiOfHLfuIbcnKJbCjzv4G2lcl1u-2BptG6wr3w3Q-2FyZ9CK8LfUHnRvMCp2A3AT4ABi2O0UIflymRj-2FyCwuP3Pyi5zjK-2FFa9RxcapLdZKE-2FOIzubocKyDqUdD3wHk6IuKoiaV4-2BWbRiPHKZNQkhubdaRvFNxGKXxSl0b1rIjFKPuI1M1a5D5c2IJS6wYaUlC-2B5UT8CY3cQ5O0NiTO6ni2rTjtOCACQ46ib3voFzrXfTgSxb-2BjNyPddHQ6b55rur5cbrVa1WwmMt4QBf-2BCk18um11srW8DvswBSs-2BCkkqUfcSLyLX1Hn0NLoxS7fBi0YN6MytrR62O8vdppWJYQ-3D-3D) **is hosting an event you can participate in.**

**Children deserve a good childhood, free from abuse and neglect. Take action this April and show your support for Child Abuse Prevention Month!**

****

**Leave Your Mark**

**National Arbor Day is April 26, just two days after GFWC’s Federation Day. By participating in the Arbor Day Grand Initiative, you can carry on GFWC’s history of environmental efforts and commitment to its** [**community service programmatic areas**](https://u3654531.ct.sendgrid.net/wf/click?upn=9eXHP1PR7PQVD2K3bEZ-2F3tnN1Ix3X1WXh9-2FrOUvYiBVYalAVNHIK87J-2Bi2X-2BgRjFQ03DZHLN91rajCKh9gQLbIFAZ2R8uEN1k0CYjZOqCCiAkocMRBejsKOIkIslFXsc_a4ZyCjtkwnIfEsP7ECigyqsT48cwGvjsXYPXVCnj5dwZsvCVhzYlV5SxPf72mrBJFz2hypOMiOfHLfuIbcnKJbCjzv4G2lcl1u-2BptG6wr3w3Q-2FyZ9CK8LfUHnRvMCp2A3AT4ABi2O0UIflymRj-2FyCwuP3Pyi5zjK-2FFa9RxcapLdZKE-2FOIzubocKyDqUdD3wHk6IuKoiaV4-2BWbRiPHKZNQpaJ1XoVBSoa2A-2BE0GtcM8C1SlYn0zNXru4XIrmtacBQPEsrhCE7JzcJHJtcAU0wr-2BkEGQlz-2F6wkvUVoA2KW9TfLnjc8-2BMRCoEcaYaBFzNX47g4-2B9QxsXaYbTGBqSatDIYGRSIOJrhAqMNJ7nbj3hugGPtyvdScz-2FBwGeS4pweNhH-2FGba0sDo0JXV8SmzU3Q7A-3D-3D)**.**

**Plot out your final details for Arbor Day on Federation Day and then help us plant 1,000 trees! Recite the information from this** [**proclamation**](https://u3654531.ct.sendgrid.net/wf/click?upn=9eXHP1PR7PQVD2K3bEZ-2F3vRrKL2IEsym1BMW7VNmoVSYRkZNQW7-2Bcd04CjmhhVC-2B33bO3TilDo3aVtodypx-2BhvWx3k-2F0cH7yRqvSx2v4SHrPSXa7NNaWXg8nNdvDL-2Bdd_a4ZyCjtkwnIfEsP7ECigyqsT48cwGvjsXYPXVCnj5dwZsvCVhzYlV5SxPf72mrBJFz2hypOMiOfHLfuIbcnKJbCjzv4G2lcl1u-2BptG6wr3w3Q-2FyZ9CK8LfUHnRvMCp2A3AT4ABi2O0UIflymRj-2FyCwuP3Pyi5zjK-2FFa9RxcapLdZKE-2FOIzubocKyDqUdD3wHk6IuKoiaV4-2BWbRiPHKZNQpaJ1XoVBSoa2A-2BE0GtcM8C1SlYn0zNXru4XIrmtacBQElSsDSlX-2F3C4tJiT0T8YRgCu1Kan1iQlMbvIn3bJ-2BpPULbmJmEQ9ixpV4IjjwXnpexPqpKYlDqdnMsq-2BPOhSoWGl0ho94-2FCfzBykvnL73bvs85w7qOtABUq-2Fve8qyS9uqj9XvfrJCLAcIoFds7-2BhfA-3D-3D) **to add a special touch to your event. If you have a public Arbor Day event, make it an opportunity to share the legacy of GFWC with your community.**

**Planting a tree is a way to invest in your environment. Show your community that GFWC’s roots are 129 years strong!**

***Tree Tidbits: Beautification***

**Beautify your local park, creek banks, or school playground. There are many species of trees that provide distinct beauty, including the maidenhair, blue spruce, or birch tree. Reserve Federation Day (April 24) as a time to plot out your final Arbor Day plans so that your club leaves a lasting mark on April 26.**

**Get Ready for Volunteers in Action Week**

**GFWC Volunteers in Action Week is an annual call to action! From April 21-27, show the strength and positive impact of volunteerism to everyone in your community. It’s no accident that Federation Day (April 24) takes place during Volunteers in Action Week every year.**

**April is National Volunteer Month, created to both honor volunteers and inspire volunteerism in your communities. That makes it a perfect opportunity for you to invite friends, family, and neighbors to join you for your GFWC Volunteers in Action Week activities.**

**The week is a great chance to make GFWC’s efforts visible all across the country while celebrating GFWC’s founding. Plan your projects now and don’t forget to share your successes with** **pr@gfwc.org** **to be considered for the blog!**

****

**GFWC Rhode Island Supports Women Veterans**

**Last week, 44 women veterans were part of Rhode Island's first all-female Honor Flight to Washington, D.C. GFWC Rhode Island sponsored the flight as part of State President Karen Leach's President Project. They decided to find women veterans who were able to serve as the guardians to veterans who would need support during the day so even more veterans could take part! Veterans ranged from a 34-year-old who served in the Gulf War to a 96-year-old who served during World War II.**

**Two World War II veterans, escorted by Karen Leach and Budget and Finance Committee Member Debra Capuano, took part in the wreath-laying ceremony at the Tomb of the Unknown Soldier. This moving moment was also witnessed by Virginia clubwomen, including Jane Albro and Jane Woods of the Fairfax Woman's Club, and Peggy Schlegelmilch, President of the Northern Virginia District. Clubwomen were joined by GFWC Staff Members Sarah Fannon, Communications and Public Relations Coordinator, and Emily West, Membership Services Coordinator.**

**Veterans Day may be far away, but you can start planning how you can honor female veterans or active servicewomen. Host a luncheon for them, bring them as a guest speaker to a meeting, provide them with a day at the spa, or fundraise to send an all-female honor flight from your state!**

****

**Brock Pupdate**

**It’s hard to believe that Brock, the Canine Companion for Independence named in honor of GFWC International President Mary Ellen Brock, is already 18 months old! That means he’ll be enrolling for professional training next month. We wish him luck!**