

Voluncheer!



Newsletter of the GFWC Western Maryland Community Club

November 2012 • Vol. 5, No. 3

Please Join Us for our November Meeting!

Time: 6:30 p.m.
Date: Friday, November 16, 2012
Place: Bonnie Boswell's House
618 Niagara Street, Cumberland

Activity:

Ornament Exchange
(bring a giftwrapped Christmas ornament)

Project:

Bring Art Supplies
for Friends Aware
(or monetary donation)

Dinner:

Bonnie will serve
Lasagne, Salad
& Bread
(please bring drinks,
appetizer or dessert)



Club Calendar

NOVEMBER - DECEMBER

- 11/2-3 GFWC Southeastern Region Meeting, Roanoke, VA
- 11/6 ELECTION DAY
- 11/12 VETERANS DAY
- 11/16 **DATE CHANGED**
WMCC Meeting & Ornament Exchange at Bonnie's House
- 11/22 HAPPY THANKSGIVING!
- 12/5 GFWC Holiday Open House at GFWC Headquarters, Washington, DC
- 12/12 WMCC Meeting & Christmas Party at Mary Beth Strickler's (Gift Exchange)
- 12/25 MERRY CHRISTMAS!

November Is

- Military Family Appreciation Month
- National Peanut Butter Lovers Month
- November 11-17 is American Education Week
- November 12 • World Pneumonia Day
- November 15 • America Recycles Day

Greetings WMCC Friends!

It's unfortunate that "Sandy" forced us to cancel our October Meeting and Halloween Party, but I am grateful that everyone was safe at home that evening. For the most part, my Halloween "surprises" will keep until next year, however, the guys at my office enjoyed "wicked witch" cupcakes for days!

Please join us for our November Meeting and Ornament Exchange on Friday, November 16th at Bonnie Boswell's house. Be sure to bring your giftwrapped Christmas ornament (\$10.00 value) so you can join in the fun! Also remember to bring Art Supplies (or a monetary donation) for Friends Aware's Art Program (postponed from October). I promise our meeting will be "brisk" but we have much to discuss... our Longaberger Basket Raffle... Gift Bags for the Salvation Army... Giftwrapping for Toys for Happiness... a Budget to approve... Bylaws to amend... and more! Hope to see you all there!

In Federation Friendship,
Debbie



It's In The Bag!

Remember to put these items in YOUR Bag for the November Meeting

ART SUPPLIES for Friends Aware

GIFTWRAPPED ORNAMENT
for the Ornament Exchange

Something Yummy for Dinner!

\$2.00 for Operation Smile

\$5.00 to play Bonnie's Bingo

And **Bring a Friend**, so they won't miss out on all the FUN!



got news?

If you have anything you would like to include in the December Newsletter, please email to Debbie Spinnenweber at spinnen@verizon.net

Deadline: December 1, 2012

Longaberger® Basket Raffle

Many thanks to all who sold tickets (and got your stubs to me) for our WMCC "Holiday Raffle" for Retired Longaberger Baskets! Bonnie and I drew our Halloween winner... and the winner is Regina Whitaker! Since our second drawing was scheduled for Veteran's Day, we'll draw the winner at our November Meeting.



Proposed Amendment to WMCC Bylaws

Article X of the GFWC Western Maryland Community Club bylaws states: These bylaws may be amended at any regular meeting providing the proposed amendment has been read at the previous meeting. The following amendment was proposed at the September meeting and will be voted on at the October meeting. The rationale is to allow the club to efficiently conduct business when few members are available to attend a meeting.

Article V—Meetings, Section 4:

Currently reads: The quorum for the club and executive board shall consist of five (5) members, provided it is either a regular meeting or one that has been properly called.

Proposed Amendment reads: The quorum for the club and executive board shall consist of three (3) members, provided it is either a regular meeting or one that has been properly called.

GFWC Holiday Open House

GFWC International President Mary Ellen Laister cordially invites you to attend annual GFWC Holiday Open House. Celebrate the holidays with Federation friends on Wednesday, December 5, from 3:00 p.m. to 5:00 p.m. at GFWC Headquarters in Washington, DC. Please RSVP by phone at 1-800-443-GFWC (4392) or email at GFWC@GFWC.org.



BOOK DRIVE – Help make the holidays brighter for military children by supporting the **USO and United Through Reading®** at the GFWC Holiday Open House. Donations of new children's books are requested from an approved book list—available at www.gfwc.org, includes all Dr. Seuss books—to help deployed military service members keep in touch with their kids. Unable to attend, but still want to contribute? Mail books to GFWC Headquarters, 1734 N Street NW, Washington, DC 20036, no later than Friday, December 7.

November 12th is World Pneumonia Day GFWC Partner: Shot@Life

Did you know Pneumococcal disease can cause pneumonia, meningitis, or blood infection? While this disease most commonly affects adults in the United States, globally it kills 1.5 million children under age five each year, making it the number one vaccine-preventable disease worldwide.

Monday, November 12th is World Pneumonia Day. GFWC members who fit into any of the at-risk categories are encouraged to receive the pneumococcal vaccine. All members are also encouraged to make a \$20 donation to the United Nations Foundation's Shot@Life campaign to provide a pneumonia-preventing vaccine to a child who otherwise would not be able to receive one.

Get one. Give one. Help make sure all children have a Shot@Life.
For more information visit: www.shotatlife.org

shot
@life

UNITED NATIONS
FOUNDATION

America Recycles Day is November 15th

DID YOU KNOW...

- 1. Half is better than none.** You may not be able to recycle your whole pizza box, but in most communities you can tear off the top (as long as it's grease-free) and put it in your recycling bin.
- 2. You bet your bottle tops you can recycle them.** The caps on your plastic bottles are recyclable, too. Empty your bottle, replace the cap, recycle.
- 3. Plastic bag and film recycling: more than grocery bags.** Along with plastic grocery bags, recycle the bags from your dry-cleaning, bread, and newspaper. Remember to take clean, dry bags to recycling centers or retailers with plastic bag recycling bins.
- 4. A trick up your sleeve.** Paper cups aren't always recyclable because of the wax lining, but don't forget to recycle the cardboard sleeve!
- 5. Look beyond the daily paper.** According to the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, paper and cardboard are America's most recycled materials by weight. In addition to newspaper, most communities accept corrugated cardboard, as well as cereal and tissue boxes. Some accept mail, catalogues, and phone books.



MAKE RECYCLING A HABIT

- 6. Close the Loop.** The recycling process doesn't stop at the bin! After materials are processed and back on the shelf as new items, it is up to you to buy recycled products. Look for products and packaging with recycled content (and efficient packaging) to do your part as a recycling-conscious consumer.
- 7. Recycle on the go.** Keep two bags in your car—one for your trash, and one for recyclables. Pre-sorting makes it easier to transfer your recyclables into a recycling bin once you've reached your destination.
- 8. Recycling: it's not just in the kitchen.** Don't trash your detergent and shampoo bottles just because you don't have a bin in your bathroom or laundry room! Keep a plastic bag for collecting recyclables under the sink or take a few extra steps to put your empty bottles in the recycling bin.
- 9. Reduce and Reuse.** Minimizing the trash we generate and reusing products reduces our impact on the planet and our resources. For example, consider reusing that plastic bag. Also reduce unwanted mail by unsubscribing at www.CatalogChoice.org.
- 10. Know your limits.** Putting materials in your recycling bin that aren't collected in your community contaminates the recycling process and creates extra work for recycling facility employees. To recycle items that your local program does not collect, check www.AmericaRecyclesDay.org to find where they may be recycled in your community.

ACTIONS YOU CAN TAKE NOW

- 11. Can it!** Metals are among the most valuable materials in the recycling stream. Aluminum and steel cans are always welcomed by recyclers, and most metals can be recycled again, and again, and again.
- 12. Answer the call to recycle your wireless phone!** More than 100 million cell phones retire each year to sit in our drawers or closets, according to the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency. Consider donating your phones to a local charity or visit www.AmericaRecyclesDay.org to find a recycler.
- 13. Recycling: don't exclude your food!** Start composting your food waste. If you aren't quite ready for a compost bin or pile, consider tossing a few biodegradable items into your garden or window boxes instead of the trash. Egg shells and coffee grounds enrich soil and break down easily.
- 14. Do Your Homework.** Different communities collect different materials for recycling. Visit www.AmericaRecyclesDay.org to find what is recycled in your community.
- 15. Spread the word.** Now that you're an expert recycler, consider hosting an educational recycling event in your community. See www.AmericaRecyclesDay.org/toolkit for ideas and helpful downloadables.

It's Your Party!

Celebrating Birthdays & More



amazon.com

**Support GFWC
with your
Holiday Shopping
at Amazon.com**

The holiday season is upon us!

Help strengthen GFWC's volunteer programs while you do your holiday shopping by making your purchases through GFWC's Amazon.com affiliate link. The link enables members to direct up to 15 percent of their total purchases to the Federation. Access the link by clicking on the Amazon.com image on our homepage at www.GFWC.org.

WMCC Officers 2012-2014

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WMCC HOTLINE!

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PROUD MEMBER OF



The General Federation of Women's Clubs is an international women's organization dedicated to community improvement by enhancing the lives of others through volunteer service.

www.gfwc.org

November is Military Family Appreciation Month

Holiday Mail for Heroes

Each year the American Red Cross provides assistance to more than 2 million service members and many of our nation's 24 million veterans. And once a year, they get the joy of delivering holiday cards to veterans, military families and active-duty service members at hospitals and installations around the world. The cards and personal messages, sent by tens of thousands of Americans, provide a welcome "touch of home" for our troops during the holiday season. Each year they collect cards between October and early December and then distribute them at military installations, veterans hospitals, and in other locations.



To participate in the Holiday Mail for Heroes program, simply mail your cards to: **Holiday Mail For Heroes, PO Box 5456, Capitol Heights, MD 20791-5456**. Delivery cannot be guaranteed for cards received after Dec. 7th. Source: www.redcross.org

American Education Week is November 11-17th

American Education Week gives all Americans a wonderful opportunity to celebrate public education and honor individuals who are making a difference in ensuring that every child receives a quality education. The weeklong celebration features a special observance each day of the week. They include:

November 12th, Veterans Day • Schools nationwide will be closed in observance of the armed service veterans who have served this country. AEW dates back to the post World War I era and was created as a way to generate public support for education.

November 13th, Parents Day • Parents and family members are invited to school for a first-hand look at a typical school day.

November 14th, Education Support Professionals Day • Bus drivers, paraprofessionals, cafeteria workers, maintenance staff, and others who provide invaluable services are recognized for their outstanding work.

November 15th, Educator for a Day • Elected officials and community leaders are encouraged to serve as "educators for a day" for a hands-on school experience.

November 16th, Substitute Educators Day • Educators who substitute for regular classroom teachers in their absence are honored for their services.

Source: www.nea.org

Microwave Peanut Butter Fudge by Debbie Spinnenweber



November is National Peanut Butter Lovers Month. This quick and easy Peanut Butter Fudge is the yummiest ever—a Christmas tradition at my house!

INGREDIENTS:

4 tablespoons butter
3 cups granulated sugar
2/3 cup evaporated milk
1 cup creamy peanut butter
1 cup marshmallow creme

DIRECTIONS:

1. In a large microwave-safe mixing bowl, soften butter in microwave.
2. Add sugar and stir in evaporated milk.
3. Cook on high for 8 minutes, stirring every 2 minutes. (Depending on power of microwave, you may have to cook a little longer until sugar is dissolved.)
4. Stir in peanut butter and marshmallow creme and mix well.
5. Pour into 8 x 8 pan and chill until firm. Cut into squares.