

GFWC Indiana Federation of Clubs
Annual Convention, April 10-11, 2015



Winners & Why They Won



Arts Program



1st Place Winner-- GFWC/IFC PROGRESS CLUB OF SOUTH BEND

The Progress Club of South Bend supported the Barn Swallow Theatre Company with a cash donation of \$500, and attending many of the group's offerings.

2nd Place Winner-- GFWC/IFC ESO REGIONAL READERS

The Regional Readers set aside a portion of their club dues to donate to the GFWC/IFC Art Scholarship. They believe art is fundamental part of a student's education. They support the NW District Art Contest held every February by contacting local High Schools and encouraging seniors to enter 3 different examples of their work. Entries are judged with the 1st Place student receiving a small monetary award and having their work advance to the State Convention where they eligible for a \$1000 Scholarship.

3rd Place Winner—GFWC/IFC WOMEN IN ACTION CLUB

This club combined their love of all things Elvis and the Special Olympics by attending and actively advertising the event on social media and by word of mouth. They also made a monetary donation of \$90 helping the sponsors raised over \$300 for Special Olympics.

Conservation Program



1st PLACE WINNER - GRWC/IFC KANKAKEE VALLEY WOMEN'S CLUB

KVWC was chosen due to the number of projects that involved the club members working with other community organizations. Their seven projects supported Conservation in their community and offered fund raising opportunities to benefit the club treasury. UPC's were collected from a local grocery store private label, sent in and the club received \$.10 a piece for them. The Geranium Flower Sale Fundraiser was held the weekend before Mother's Day and not only provided wonderful plants to the communities mothers but profited the club treasury. The club members opened their homes for the Energy Fundraiser, an energy audit available from the local power company. 14 homes audits were provided, with the club earning \$25 for each audit. They were given information on water usage with their toilets, and provided with energy saving light bulbs. Club members collected Christmas cards fronts to use in the Miracle Tree Project. They are used to label family packages given to community families. Other types of cards are donated to projects a mission group in their area holds yearly. Club members also collect cancelled stamps during the year and donate them to a group in the area that uses the stamps for their project. The Junk in the Trunk fundraiser, a garage sale, was held at Fairchild House to support the club projects. Members also held a Flower Power fundraiser which lasted over a month at the Touch of Dutch. They sold tulip and other flower bulbs.

(Conservation Program Cont.)

2ND PLACE WINNER - GFWC/IFC PROGRESS CLUB OF SOUTH BEND

Progress Club members demonstrate that the talents of it's members can benefit their community greatly. The club provided funds to support the Lincoln Highway Beautification project, and all members participate in it. However, the dedication of one member, a professional landscaper, has helped the club maintain the beautification of one area of the community, Appreciation of this clubs long standing project has been given through the South Bend Tribune from citizens of the community. The Lincoln Highway Historical Program has been ongoing since 1913. The members at the time planted trees along the historic highway and the club has maintained interest in it since that time. Currently the club contributes through the efforts of one member who maintains her efforts to research and preserve the history of the highway. She is a member of the Lincoln Highway committee and travels to other states to meet with other historians of the highway. They provided two pre-school/day care classes with Kind News. The publication is used in the classroom to teach children to be kind to animals and each other and taking care of the environment. The club received second place due to their ability to use member's talents effectively to beautify the community and maintain the history of an important community highway. The Kind news will help children grow into caring adults with the ability to appreciate their world.

3rd PLACE WINNER - GFWC/IFC LINCOLN CLUB OF SOUTHERN INDIANA

This club wins third place for their 3 recycling projects. Club members recycled 1,000 pounds of newspapers in 2014. They also recycled glass, number 1&2 plastics, cardboard, office paper and steel cans. They donated 30 pounds of newspapers to the local Human Society for use in animal bedding. The members also recycled plastic bottle caps to be melted down and molded into a bench. They donated 120 pounds of the 500 pounds needed for the project, working with the local Boy Scouts. The bench will be placed at the Lange-Fuhs Cancer Center Memorial Hospital and Health Center in Jasper County. Pull tabs were collected and delivered to the IFC Convention for presentation to Riley's Children's Hospital. This clubs members also spent their conservation efforts to not only recycle materials, but also network with other Community Organizations.

Education Program

1st PLACE - GFWC/IFC EGGLESTON CLUB

This club supports GFWC Essay and Poetry Contest. Each fall members visit the two elementary Schools and middle school in their county to explain about the contest. As a result of their commitment their contestants were chosen as state winners and advanced to the national contest. Two senior science students receive \$100 for their achievements in high school. Two members who are retired school teacher's help during the ISTEP+ and tutor during the school years. Six members volunteer at the Historical Society of Switzerland County at various projects including reenactments of a pioneer wedding and farming days.



(Education Cont.)

2nd PLACE GFWC/IFC WOMAN'S CLUB OF ST. JOHN

This club held a Night at the Races fundraiser to raise funds for a \$1000 high school scholarship. All members participated and they were able to raise \$1,326.69 and two scholarships (\$1,000 and \$500) were given to high school students selected by the review committee.

Sponsored an "Ice Cream for Reading" contest for the Kolling Elementary School fourth graders to encourage them to continue to read during Christmas break. The top five readers of each classroom were rewarded with an ice cream sundae party. Participating in the HOBY program at Hanover Central High School.

3rd PLACE GFWC/IFC HIGHLAND WOMAN'S CLUB

This club donated backpacks with school supplies to children in the Highland School District. Provided two scholarships to either high school students or adults returning to college to further their education and attending local schools. Collected Tops for Education and donates to local schools. Participates in Books, Brushes and Band for Education which is a program that connects families to educational opportunities through the literacy, visual, and musical arts.

Home Life Program

1st PLACE WINNER – GFWC/IFC PROGRESS CLUB OF SOUTH BEND

This club participated in the "Relay for Life" program. The Stone soup Community organization is designed to help those who find themselves in a sudden crisis and need immediate help. The club assembles gift (shoe) boxes for the people Stone Soup serves, Contents of the boxes include toiletry items, Christmas candy, gloves, socks, hats/scarves, note pads/pens, snacks, Christmas ornaments ect. 54 boxes were filled. They continue to help with Dismas house, cooks an evening meal for the residents and then enjoy dining with them. Held Bag Bingo which raised \$1228. One member serves on the local Board of Directors and recently was appointed to the National Dismas House Board. Helps with Goodwill projects such as Little Black Dress Luncheon/Fashion show, Goodwill Boasters, Thanksgiving dinner for employees, Disability Awareness Luncheon and Donations. Also helps Soup Kitchens, Hannah's House, Broadway Christian Parish Food Bank, 55+Senior fit, and Canine Companions.

2ND PLACE WINNER – GFWC/IFC LOWELL WOMAN'S CLUB

Held three blood drives for the American Red Cross. Raised funds for the Salvation Army donut Days by collecting donations at various locations. Donated to the Food Bank at St. Vincent DePaul and Northwest Indiana. Rebuild Together- participated in community improvement project by cleaning up yards, trimmed bushes, planted flowers, and provided assistance to the skilled laborers in their tasks. Helped Toys for Tots, Lions Club and Santa and his Elves.

3RD PLACE WINNER - GFWC/IFC ESO JOYCE WARGO READING CLUB

Volunteers at the Christian Food Pantry by collecting items and donating money. The members also cook and serve the recipients. Adopted Elder Angels for Christmas, provided gifts to the residents of a local nursing home. Members selected Angels from local merchants (angel trees) purchasing items. Members bake desserts for support groups of the local Hospice organization.

International Outreach Program



1st PLACE WINNER – GFWC/IFC HIGHLAND WOMAN’S CLUB

This club had 7 projects with 21 members giving 31 hours and donations of \$965. The project included supporting Calumet College of St. Joseph’s “We Are Family” project. After hearing a presentation of this project, the club decided to help support it with a donation \$1000. They also support Hearts in Motion. The club made beautiful Christmas decorations to decorate a tree a Hearts in Motion. They also donated 1,250 empty medicine containers that are used in their hospital in Guatemala. They gave \$120.00 to the IFC Latin America Fellowship. They supported a local college student who travels to Nicaragua every year to help the under privileged in Nicaragua. The club gave toward the building of personal energy transports for handicapped people in under developed banks for donations or spare change at the concession stands they hosted for the Highland Park Department. They also donated \$250 to Operation Smile.

2nd PLACE - GFWC/IFC ESO JOYCE WARGO READING CLUB

This club completed 4 projects with 16 members giving 681 hours and in kind donations of \$287. This club has a signature project, Every Child Ministries (ECM) whose purpose is to provide a Christian education to school children in Africa. They made “Award Plaques” from used greeting cards collected by members. The cards were cut into various shapes, holes punched and brightly colored ribbon attached. A Bible verse provided by ECM was attached to each shape. They were packaged and delivered to the ECM office for delivery overseas. A total of 1,300+ were made. They provided items for ECM garage sale and held two workshop days to sew pillow case dresses and skirts for girls in Africa. They also worked on greeting cards Award Plaques. They also supported Kids Alive International which is a Christian mission seeming to rescue orphans and vulnerable children in 14 countries around the world. They provided a volunteer to help with clerical work, bulk mailings and other task.

3rd PLACE --GFWC/IFC LOWELL WOMAN’S CLUB

This club participated in 3 projects donating 130 hours of time \$25 in donations and \$350 in kind donations. They provided 75 pairs of new and gently used shoes and two bags of clothing to “Every Child Ministries”. They also sent greeting cards so could make and sell them like bookmarks. They invited the public to create Christmas cards to be delivered to Blue Star Mothers of America. They were to be enclosed with care packages sent to men and women of Indiana serving overseas. A monetary donation was made to Blue Star Mother’s of America to add what might be needed to their care packages. This club also made a donation of \$40 to Heifer International to purchase two flocks of Chickens. The chickens will provide eggs for families to eat, share, trade and sell.

Membership

1st PLACE WINNER – GFWC/IFC HIGHLAND WOMAN’S CLUB

“Bring a Friend” their genius way of 100% participation that resulted in 4 new members. For their guest speaker they had invited NWI District President, Kay Spurgeon. Using the town’s community newsletter and re-inviting guest from last year to join. Also they displayed GFWC sign and have information on joining at all their fundraisers.

2nd PLACE WINNER – GFWC/IFC PROGRESS CLUB OF SOUTH BEND

They have 44 members and had 2 membership events which included a lovely buffet and door prizes. Had one in April and one in October. They gained a total of 8 new members.

3rd PLACE WINNER – GFWC/IFC LINCOLN CLUB OF SOUTHERN INDIANA

They completed two projects. A new informational brochure and a facebook page. As a result of obtaining 2 new members.

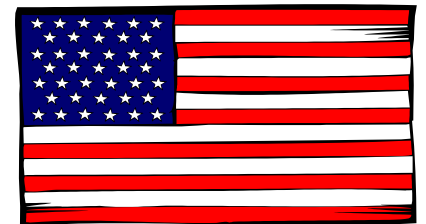
HONORABLE MENTION – GFWC/IFC CHESTERTON WOMAN’S CLUB

They had what sounded like a lovely two banquets to promote membership and to pass out current info. Lunch in the spring they had Federation dignitaries there.

Public Issues

1st PLACE WINNER - GFWC/IFC PROGRESS CLUB of SOUTH BEND

This 44-member club completed 13 projects, spent 197 volunteer hours and donated \$4272.00. Cash donations were made to Habitat for Humanity, Robert L. Miller Veteran’s Center, Muscular Dystrophy Assn., Northern IN Food Bank (who supports the Food for Kids program), River Bend Cancer Services, Museum/Center for History, and Meals on Wheels. Club members baked and bagged 12 dozen cookies for a Ministry weekend at the IN State Prison in Michigan City. Several members packed 30 lunches for volunteers who worked on Habitat houses in South Bend. A pizza party was held at the Robert L. Miller’s Veteran Center. The club members also took socks, gloves, magazines, and other items.



2nd PLACE WINNER - GFWC/IFC ESO REGIONAL READERS

This 13-member club completed 6 projects, spent 73 volunteer hours and donated \$452.00 and \$180.00 “In-Kind” donations. At the beginning of all meetings, the Pledge of Allegiance is recited. Members participated in the State service project by helping make two lap blankets for the VA Health Care Domiciliary in Indianapolis. A “QUILT of VALOR” was made and awarded to Marine Sergeant Daniel Childers along with a donation during a luncheon supplied by the club members.

(Public Issues Cont)

3rd PLACE WINNER - GFWC/IFC WOMEN-IN-ACTION

This 9-member club completed 4 projects, spent 8 volunteer hours, and donated \$200.00 and \$5000.00 “In-Kind” donations. This club baked cookies and sent over 25 lbs. along with signed Christmas cards, and over 1000 CD’s and DVD’s to the USO through James Kruse with Adoptaplatoon.org.

Communication and Public Relations

1st PLACE WINNER - GFWC/IFC HIGHLAND WOMAN’S CLUB

This club had 8 total projects invested 163 hours and \$80 in donations. Celebrating their 50th anniversary. They decorated display cases at the Highland Library and the Highland Lincoln Center. The display had different mementos from their 50 years of service. They had an article in the town’s newsletter and in so doing they had a new member join the club. They also hosted a banquet for past and present members and other GFWC club members. They also invited the Town Board members, Park members, Fire and Police Chiefs. They decorated a Christmas tree at the Indiana Visitors Center; they displayed the GFWC emblem on the tree on several of the ornaments and also a sign at the foot of the tree. They have Facebook page and they attended the various conventions including the State Convention, the NW District Convention, Great Lakes Convention and Recognition meetings. They had 2 members attend the International Convention in Arizona.

2nd PLACE WINNER - GFWC/IFC WOMEN IN ACTION

This club held its annual Mother’s day flower sale where they displayed a larger banner they had created with the GFWC logo. The entire clubs name and it was big, bright and yellow. They hung it up on the side of the trailer they used to transport the flowers. At the flower sale they have available the tri-folds with the GFWC information. We use the money made from this program to better their local Humane Society and the National Disaster Search Dog Foundation. They have a cookie walk where they wore their GFWC clothing, they hand out information regarding GFWC and they give out their business cards. They also have a Facebook page and use it to create events and advertise their various activities.

3rd PLACE WINNER - GFWC/IFC ST. JOHN WOMAN’S CLUB

This club participates in the St. John annual “Festival of Lights” decorating a tree. They post signs with the clubs information to raise awareness of their club to the community. They created postcard sized information cards about their club and a calendar of their activities and include them with the welcome packets that are sent out by the St. John Chamber of Commerce.

Fundraising and Development Program



1st PLACE WINNER: GFWC/IFC Women's Club of St. John

"Bunco for Breast Cancer" raised \$3,484.25 by all members working together soliciting donations from club members and the community. Held a "rummage sale" which benefitted the community with leftover items being donated to Goodwill netting \$404.25. A successful "Night at the Races" awarded 2 high school scholarships (\$1000 and a \$500) to recipients selected by their own club's review committee. A local Independence Day Bike parade "bake sale" raised \$110.

2nd PLACE WINNER: GFWC/IFC HIGHLAND WOMAN'S CLUB

The club's "5th Annual Bunco Party" was the most successful as they sold twice the number of tickets this year and netted a profit of \$3232.32. Sold "vouchers for flowers" from a local greenhouse for a profit of \$822. Manned a concession stand 4 times at the Lincoln Center, with lots of donations, provided \$3394.96. A local grocery (Strack and VanTil) presented the opportunity for the club to offer patrons a 5% cash back on purchases when they presented the cashier with a Highland GFWC coupon. \$200 was added to their treasury.

3rd PLACE WINNER: GFWC/IFC WOMEN IN ACTION

A flower sale on Saturday before Mother's Day netted the club \$1200. They negotiated a deal with a farm and flower market to obtain flowers on a contingency basis where they could return what they didn't sell and just pay for those they sold. An annual "cookie walk" raised \$400. The club was given 3000 greeting cards (for all occasions) and they made flower pens to sell with the cards. They sold them at the Great Lakes Convention, ORAC Shrine and at a vendor fair. The profit was \$525.

HONORABLE MENTION: GFWC/IFC CHESTERTON WOMAN'S CLUB

With an aging membership, the selling of nuts and candies from a well-established fund raiser (Terri Lynn Candy/Nuts) seemed to be a successful fundraiser due to an organized committee. A profit of \$1,766.62 was made. A 50/50 raffle is offered at all meetings and netted \$150. Two "Dining at Applebee's" fundraisers offering a social outing while receiving 15% of sales when presenting the CWC coupon netting \$187.00. A silent auction was held but was not very successful netting only \$25.

Leadership

1st PLACE WINNER - GFWC/IFC E.S.O. REGIONAL READERS

Reported accomplishments in the Advancement of Leadership were:

Strong attendance was recorded by members at meetings throughout all levels of GFWC Clubwomen showed support for those who held leadership positions by attending meetings and workshops. Graciously accepted Invitations to attend other District Conventions and learned about their activities. These opportunities also allowed them to stay connected to Clubwomen from other Districts who may be unable to travel to State conventions due to age or health issues. Leadership positions held by clubwomen throughout various levels of GFWC

2nd PLACE – GFWC/IFC FAYETTE COUNTY ECO

Reported accomplishments in the Advancement of Leadership were: Members were responsible for planning District Convention Clubwomen held various leadership positions that offered them opportunities to oversee State Competitions, work with State Presidents and Junior Clubs, and attend GFWC Board meetings. Proudly had members who served on the State and Regional levels as well as had members who attended meetings throughout all levels of GFWC.

3rd PLACE - GFWC/IFC PROGRESS CLUB OF SOUTH BEND

Reported accomplishments in the Advancement of Leadership were: Various leadership opportunities were available at the club level Significant attendance was recorded by clubwomen at District, Regional State and International meetings Proudly had officers on the State and District levels.

HONORABLE MENTION - GFWC/IFC Lowell Woman's Club

Reported accomplishments in the Advancement of Leadership were:

Had a Leadership Chairman who matched new members with more experienced members for guidance to GFWC and its programs Provided all members leadership opportunities at the club level by taking turns researching and scheduling programs, hosting and providing the thought for the day Former LEADS graduate researched new leadership ideas and stayed in contact with other LEADS Grads.

Women's History and Resource

1st PLACE WINNER - GFWC/IFC LOWELL WOMAN'S CLUB

This club has 13 members that participated in Federation Day. Members gathered to discuss and reminisce about what being a member of GFWC and the club meant to them while sharing experiences and GFWC's history thru a DVD and literature. They also purchased extra copies of the May 1, 2014 H.W. Bush cut the ribbon for the opening of the Women's History and Resource Center. Over the club's 98 years, the club has contributed material to WHRC 13 members contributed 31 hours in 2 projects and spent \$35 for WHRC.

2nd PLACE WINNER - GFWC/IFC HIGHLAND WOMAN'S CLUB

This club held fun activities each month to raise funds for WHRC. They held a "White Elephant" in which the month's hostess supplied an item that was raffled. They also found a way to ensure that members remembered to wear their name tags. When a member forgot her name tag, she was fined \$.25 cents. To make the pot grow, members put in \$.01 cent for each birthday or anniversary year that was celebrated during a monthly meeting. And if a member brought in a fundraiser, from another club they put in a \$1.00. With the 8 hours and the help of 21 members this project raised \$50 which was sent to WHRC.

3rd PLACE WINNER - GFWC/IFC ESO REGIONAL READERS

This club has the state WHRC Chairman as a member. She shares information of GFWC and Women's History at meetings and their club president purchased the WHRC 30th Anniversary edition of the GFWC Clubwoman which she shared with members. She also purchased the 30th Anniversary commemorative pin from GFWC to show her support for the Resource Center. 2 members shared with the 13 members and 2 programs sent \$50 to the GFWC for WHRC.

HONORABLE MENTION – GFWC/IFC LINCOLN CLUB OF SOUTHERN INDIANA

This club put its focus on the Lincoln Day Program at the Lincoln Boyhood National Memorial in Lincoln City, IN. Guest were invited and speakers talked about this special club. A pilgrimage was made to the grave of Nancy Hanks Lincoln, where a wreath was laid and a eulogy was given. The club was responsible for setting up/cleaning and serving refreshments for those attending. The club also viewed a video about Lincoln at one of their meetings and when the University of Southern Indiana campus in Evansville held a premier of an independent film "The Better Angels" which portrayed the everyday scenes from Abraham Lincoln's early years, some of the members were in attendance. This club of 17 members had 3 projects 31 hours and spent \$50 in kind dollars.

Poetry

YOUTH CATEGORY 1 POETRY - SPONSORED BY GFWC/IFC EGGLESTON CLUB

1st PLACE WINNER - Cooper Todd - 2nd Grader - Title "Soccer"

YOUTH CATEGORY 2 POETRY - SPONSORED BY GFWC/IFC EGGLESTON CLUB

1st PLACE WINNER - Alisha Detmer - 4th Grader - Title "Animals"

YOUTH CATEGORY 3 POETRY - SPONSORED BY GFWC/IFC EGGLESTON CLUB

1st PLACE WINNER - Emily Desonia - 8th Grader - Title "Snow Day"

Writing

1st PLACE WINNER - MARIANNA McCOMBS - GFWC/IFC WOMEN IN ACTION CLUB

Title "The Four Seasons of Emily"

YOUTH CATEGORY 2 WRITING - SPONSORED BY GFWC/IFC EGGLESTON CLUB

1st PLACE WINNER - Kali Watson - 4th Grader - Title "How I Became a 4th Grade Secret Service Agent."

YOUTH CATEGORY 3 WRITING - SPONSORED BY GFWC/IFC EGGLESTON CLUB

1st PLACE WINNER - Leah Andres - 8th Grader - Title "Emma's Struggle"



Signature Project Domestic Violence and Prevention

1st PLACE WINNER – GFWC/IFC PROGRESS CLUB OF SOUTH BEND

A guest speaker named "Jamie" "who has been there" told her story of trauma. The mother of six was determined to make a better life for herself and her children. The club provided a zoo pass, a gift the family could enjoy. The club recommended she apply for the Survivor Scholarship.

2nd PLACE WINNER - GFWC/IFC LOWELL WOMAN'S CLUB

A special Mother's Day for women and their children. They gathered new and gently used handbags and items that could be filled inside. Mother's Day cards were hand crafted with drawings materials in which children then used them to add special touches to them.

(Signature Project Domestic Violence and Prevention Cont.)

3rd PLACE WINNER – GFWC/IFC ESO REGIONAL READERS

Purchased five cases of pinwheels. Two tags were attached: the state website and the 800 number to report abuse. They were given to a local hospital, library, high school, doctor's office, and day care center to name a few.

GFWC Junior's Special Project – Advocates for Children

1st PLACE WINNER - GFWC/IFC LOWELL WOMEN'S CLUB

This club invested over 500 hours on 10 projects in the Advocates for Children category. The in-kind and dollars donated exceeded \$1,000. They volunteered a majority of the hours at the Covered Bridge Harvest Fest/Special Olympics fundraiser, working different booths. Their projects benefited mentally challenged children, teens, sick children, autistic children, and children in poverty stricken families. They were truly advocates for children with many different needs.

2nd PLACE WINNER – GFWC/IFC HEARTS and HANDS

While this club did not put in a tremendous number of hours in this category, however, the quality of time spent could benefit the children involved for years to come. Club members met with children at a Boys and Girls Club and involved them in our project of painting T-shirts for Riley's. The children were able to be creative and their work was valued. They were so excited about the project that they were concerned that their work was incomplete when the time was up. They finished their project shirts after the members had to leave. These troubled children were empowered to help other children. They also became aware that there were children with life-threatening illnesses that were moving forward, hopefully bringing them inspiration. The club also provided weekend snack bags for these troubled children on a monthly basis. Club members showed these children that they care on an ongoing basis.

3rd PLACE WINNER - GFWC/IFC KANKAKEE VALLEY WOMEN'S CLUB

The project in this category that stands out the most was the Miracle Tree Project, which ultimately helped 47 families, including 119 children. They distributed wish lists on Christmas trees throughout the community, collected the donations, and distributed them. This brought recognition to the community and provided a special Christmas to a lot of needy people.

Honorable Mention: GFWC/IFC ESO JOYCE WARGO READING CLUB

This club held a very special baby shower for the Tot Shop, run by Family & Youth Services Bureau, providing 52 items for the store.