

## 2003 ORGANIZATIONAL CLUB HISTORY

### GFWC North Pinellas Woman's Club, Inc.

The first organizational meeting of a new, general woman's club in Pinellas County, Florida was Wednesday, July 9, 2003 at the home of Jane J. and John S. Hussar in Safety Harbor. Twenty-seven women attended which included 2002-2004 GFWC Florida Federation of Women's Clubs District 14 Director Mildred Randino, Past District Director Barbara Wood and 2002-2004 and Junior District 14 Director Laurie Auth. At that meeting the group voted to become an organization and join the federation. Jane J. Hussar was elected temporary chair and Cathy Stein the temporary secretary. The club was founded by current and past members of the GFWC Clearwater Junior Woman's Club.

Due to the large attendance of the first meeting, the Countryside Public Library was secured for the second organization meeting on Wednesday, August 13. The bylaws were approved. The bylaws committee, chaired by Made Padavich, included Susan Petersen, Dale Melton, Jeanette Robson, Sandy Incorvia and Jane J. Hussar. Annual dues were approved at \$50 per year and a special one time charter membership dues were approved at \$35. The club voted to meet at the Countryside Public Library and approved the name GFWC North Pinellas Woman's Club. The president chose as her theme "Tomorrow's Growth Begins Today." The club voted to make that saying the permanent theme. The palm tree is the symbol.

Elections were held and the officers elected were: Jane J. Hussar, president; Evelyn van Vonno, president-elect; Laurie Auth, first vice president (service); Sandy Incorvia, second vice president (membership); Nancy Ferguson, secretary; Michelle Davenport, treasurer; Renee Berg, member-atlarge.

Department Chairs: Arts, Rose Riney, Sue Reitmeyer; Conservation, Charlotte Morales; Education, Janet DAmato; Home Life, Kim Ferrara; International Affairs, Ocy Ertzberger; Public Affairs, Alana MacBain.

Committee Chairs: Fund Raising, Jeanette Robson; Public Relations, Susan Petersen; Leadership and Presidents Scrapbook, Cathy Stein; Parliamentarian, Jeanne Stephenson; Newsletter and Web Site, Debbie Stitt.

The club was accepted into membership by the GFWC Florida Federation of Women's Club on September 27, 2003 at the Downtown Tampa Waterside Marriott. GFWC Florida President was Linda Boyd and Membership Chair was Linda Dennis. The club had 41, Charter Members. GFWC Florida District 14 Director Mildred Randino installed the officers on November 18 at Bon Appetit in Dunedin. Clubs in District 14 attending were GFWC Clearwater Junior Woman's Club, GFWC Seminole Junior Woman's Club, Clearwater Juniorettes, GFWC Clearwater Community Woman's Club and GFWC Tarpon Springs Woman's Club. Kim Ferrara was recognized as the first dues paying member of the new club.

The club began an image profile incorporating its theme and symbol which included business cards for each member, club brochures, letterhead, envelopes and notecards. Target membership included women in their 40's and up. At the end of 2003, club membership was 45; 51 % junior woman's club members; 18% past junior members and 31 % women new to federation. The club incorporated.

During its first few months, some of the 2003 projects of the club included: Stein Mart Fashion Show, Burdines Charity Event, Campbell's Soup labels/box tops for education, Christmas tree recycling, Parent University, an adopted family, Women on the Way, breast cancer awareness, sharing with shelters, local food bank, bread mixes, chef's coat, stockings and gifts to troops in Iraq, socks to Juvenile Justice program, coloring supplies to sheriff's department interview room, angel pins, club arts and crafts show, making positioning snakes for premature babies, sales of sports memorabilia. The club created a holiday ornament for its members. Members also began ordering the signature club apparel. They also had an afternoon tea at Davis and Daughters Tea House and had a Ho! Ho! Ho! Holiday Mingle at Debbie and Bill Stitt's. The monthly leadership award was a live mini-palm tree. Recipients included Jane J. Hussar, Sandy Incorvia, Susan Petersen and Renee Berg.

*By Jane J Hussar, founding president*