

2009 CLUB HISTORY GFWC NORTH PINELLAS WOMAN'S CLUB, INC.

We started the year off with a new group called Outdoor Moves, to promote outdoor activities. We took charge of the silent auction for the 25th Annual Love Fore Charity Golf & Tennis Tournament. This event benefited PACE. We continued our sponsorship of the Clearwater Juniores. We sponsored a workshop "Teen Dating 101" as part of Domestic Violence Empowerment. We had a luncheon at a local restaurant and a dinner dance with Peruvian dancers and entertainment to benefit Breast Cancer patients. We supported our FFWC President's project, Heifer International, by having 50/50's at our general meetings and a Bunco party. We continued our partnership with the city of Safety Harbor and the Chamber of Commerce to provide crafters for the Annual Harbor Sounds Music Festival. Our newly formed Men's Club continue to meet on our general meeting night. This group as well as Lunch Bunch, Girl's Night Out and Supper Club continue to be quite popular with all and provide an excellent way to draw a tighter bond with each other. We were quite proud to have been chosen Overall Club of the Year at the FFWC Convention. Our Leadership Awards, presented at our Annual Banquet went to: Aphrodite Smith-Gillespie – *Tomorrow's Growth Begins Today*, Nancy Miller – *Chairman's Award of Excellence* and Jeanne Stephenson – *Jane Johnson Hussar Leadership Award*. We ended the year with an increase of 7% in membership.

ARTS: Our club supplied homemade cow print planters and decorated pumpkins for the District Fall Tour. We made tray favors for a local nursing home. We made bookmarks for the books we donate at the Reading at the Laundromat project, where we supply gently used books at local Laundromats. We had 2 entries in the District Arts and Crafts Festival, with one of them advancing to the State level and winning a First Place award. We attended local plays; we visited museums and attended book festivals.

CONSERVATION: We adopted an area of native plantings located just outside the park office of Honeymoon Island and maintained it throughout the year. We also took part in the Earth Day Celebration at Honeymoon Island. Several club members built 3 dozen oyster domes which helped to promote water filtration and help prevent erosion. Several members along with area High School students made and donated 57 snuggle pads to the Humane Society. We helped install a purple martin birdhouse at the Dunedin Marina.

EDUCATION: We again participated in a local school-wide drive to collect books; it netted 3,067 books for future disbursement at local Laundromats. We also donated books to prisoners and magazines to nursing homes. We helped preschoolers celebrate Dr. Seuss's birthday and Read across America by reading Dr. Seuss books to five Head Start classes. We donated gently used books to an area Elementary (K-5) school; each child was able to pick out his own book. Over 600 books were given out. We donated 35 new children's books so a member and her dog could go to an area classroom and help children become better listeners.

HOME LIFE: We served on the St. Petersburg College's Women on the Way Fashion show, where two of our members modeled. We donated a basket plus gave a \$1000 scholarship to them as well. Our President's project was Making Strides against Breast Cancer; we participated in the three different "Walks for the Cure". We made Breast Cancer "Comfort" pillows, we have made over 1200. We designed a bra for the Artful Bra Project. Club members made Holiday cookie platters for a mental health facility. We volunteered 475 hours to Clothes to Kids and gave clothing donations. We participated in the Jingle Bell Run.

INTERNATIONAL AFFAIRS: We continued our membership in United Nations USA. We attended a Public Service Day with United Nations USA in Ybor City. We became part of the fight against Human Trafficking by collecting used cell phones, walking in a candlelight vigil, attending planning meetings and signing petitions. We purchased a water pump for a Third World Village, to provide clean water. We purchased a treadle sewing machine to train women in Burundi and Rwanda as part Global Action.

PUBLIC AFFAIRS: Members mailed 70 packages of snacks and phone cards to the troops. New projects were Sew Much Comfort and Hug a Hero dolls. We sent Holiday cards to military members overseas. We collected stuffed animals for child protection services. We donated sweat shirts to teens attending at-risk schools. We donated cell phones to Senior citizens; we sent emails to our club members about recalls, as well as safety issues. Our members volunteered at the local high school substance abuse seminar.