

# **ELEVATOR SPEECH SUBMISSIONS – 2016 Membership Contest**

**Thank you to everyone who submitted elevator speeches for our contest. They were ALL really good in different ways. We hope all clubs will read these and use them for ideas for each member to create their own speech.**

**The speeches we discussed in our Fall Board workshop are noted with a \*.**

**Questions? Contact Linda O’Toole, GFWC Florida 2<sup>nd</sup> VP: [lindaleeotoole@gmail.com](mailto:lindaleeotoole@gmail.com), or Shannon Bailey, GFWC Director Elect of Junior Clubs: [bongabailey@yahoo.com](mailto:bongabailey@yahoo.com)**

## **1. Anita Jenkins - Coco Plum Woman’s club**

When asked, what does GFWC MEAN?

Reply: General Federation of Woman’s club or Great Females with Clout! Women volunteering and serving in communities to make life better for everyone.

## **2. Linda Ebner - Oviedo Woman’s Club**

Part of being a woman means getting involved. It is in our genetic make-up! That is why GFWC fits the bill. As a member, I can contribute my abilities to the club and community with help from other ladies. I am able to share with others, the skills I use as a mom, wife and/or career woman in a fun atmosphere with friends.

## **3. Marion Ambrose - GFWC Melbourne Woman’s club**

Let me tell you a little bit about what I do with my woman’s club – GFWC! That stands for General Federation of Woman’s clubs. GFWC has a positive and powerful impact globally, nationally and locally! We’ve been around for over 100 years! In my local club, we like to socialize, -playing Bunco, ice cream socials, field trips and luncheons! (It’s a great group of ladies of all ages!), but what we really enjoy is doing service projects. We support Hacienda Girls’ Ranch, Canine Companions for Independence, the Linus Project and many more. We have fun doing fund raisers, getting out in the community for hands on service and going to workshops and conventions. We’re extremely well organized, have fantastic leadership and each club has autonomy to work on projects that are meaningful to them. If I had to sum it up in a few words, I’d say GFWC is FUN, FELLOWSHIP and MEANINGFUL SERVICE! Why don’t you come with me to our next meeting? I’ll pick you up!

#### **4. Marie Ambrosiano - Women's Club of West Broward**

I am a proud member of the General Federation of Women's Clubs, an international organization and one of the largest, oldest, nondenominational service organizations of volunteer women in the world.

We give our members a broader vision, the inspiration of united effort, and greater strength in accomplishing goals through volunteer service.

If you are seeking growth along these lines we have the answer for you, a partnership that will bring: Success working within our community to build a better place in which to live Self-achievement resulting from the variety of programs within which you can participate-

We provide women in our community the opportunity to make new friends, to enlarge your mental horizons, to engage in service projects and to make an impact on our community. To build lasting friendships.

We invite YOU to join us in our efforts to be of service to our community!

As Members We... LET things happen -- HELP things happen -- MAKE things happen.

#### **5. Ann Larkins, Member - GFWC Williston Woman's Club**

Hi, my name is Ann Larkins and I belong to the Williston Woman's Club. We organize fun events and help our community in many ways. We meet once a month and always have a good program and great fellowship. We donate our time and talents to help the schools, the library, our local charities, and the homeless. Yes, Williston has a homeless population! I think you'd enjoy meeting other women like yourself who want to bring out the best in our community. Why don't you come to our next meeting and see for yourself?

#### **6. Sandie Davis, President - GFWC Treasure Coast Women (\*last paragraph is a great example of sharing what club membership means to you personally)**

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

Treasure Coast Women was organized in Feb. 1980 and Federated in Sept. 1980. Our purpose is to promote member fellowship and provide community service. We have 6 community service programs- Arts, Conservation, Education, Home Life, International Outreach and Public Issues. Each committee has a chairman and each member is a part of a committee. Our club does many hours of volunteering, either through club projects or through established community projects. We also have a social each month in which our partners are often included.

What does Treasure Coast Women do for me? Friendship. The satisfaction of knowing you are helping others. The knowledge of knowing you are making a difference. Maybe increased confidence and personal development. Most of all the more energy invested, the more the reward. All club women are united by a desire to create positive change in our communities."

#### **7. Ann Unrein - GFWC Viera Woman's Club**

If you have a minute, I'd love to tell you about a wonderful organization in which you can make friends for life while also volunteering to make your community a better place. It's called GFWC Florida, and the GFWC stands for General Federation of Women's Clubs. The GFWC is actually an international organization; but since we live in Florida, your membership would be in a GFWC Woman's Club in your local Florida District. With the great variety of service projects - things you can do alone or in committee, long-term or short-term - you're sure to find the best way to use your interests and skills to make things better for others. May I put you in touch with a member in your neighborhood? Or if you happen to live in my neighborhood, may I pick you up and take you to our next meeting?

#### **8. Eloise Lynagh - GFWC Viera Woman's Club**

Hello, I'm Eloise Lynagh, a member of the GFWC Viera Woman's Club.

We are part of the General Federation of Women's Clubs, the largest National woman's volunteer organization.

This year our club is celebrating its 12th year anniversary.

Our members have volunteered 175,00 hours and we have donated over \$455,000 to local charities right here in Brevard County.

We are a community service organization. I would than tell them the date time and place our meetings are held. I'd ask if they would like to join us and come to a meeting.

Hand her a business card

#### **9. Joan Baron - GFWC Viera Women's Club (\*the first sentence is a great appeal to a service heart that can be added to any speech)**

"A little bit of your time can go a long way to help someone in need. Our GFWC is a group of lovely ladies coming together to give from the heart to those that need assistance. We would love for you to come join us for an exciting adventure!"

#### **10. Heather L. Brott - GFWC Sebastian River Junior Woman's Club**

Here is what I usually say to someone who is complaining about the local community (I use it for an opening to talk about the club and how someone can get involved).

"Are you bored with listening to people complain about the communities? I used to be also, now I make the action happen and have fun at the same time with the Sebastian River Junior Women's Club....have you hear of us? You haven't... we are an international organization and have been living the volunteer spirit for 125 years. Our local club is involved with numerous projects throughout the year including; shop with a cop, the laundry mat swap a book program, an annual virtual 5k/10K walk/run and of course our Haunted House. We have a great time making our community better and just being with each other as club sisters. We meet the 2nd Monday of each month at 7pm at our little red clubhouse on route 1. Let me give you a card with directions and my contact info. I really look forward to have you as my personal guest to come check out our next meeting"

**11. Sherry Meade - GFWC LaBelle Community Woman's Club (\*outstanding short speech – great emphasis on the local impact of the club, which would appeal to fellow town residents)**

Have you ever thought of becoming a member of the LaBelle Woman's Club? No, why?

"The GFWC LaBelle Community Woman's Club was instrumental in shaping our community from it's very beginning. We started the Library, had the first street signs made, and began the first trash pick-up! Today, we are just as involved in supporting the LaBelle community. We'd love to have you at our next meeting; here's an info card with the date and time of the meeting and my contact information."

**12. Charlotte Arcadia, member of the GFWC Florida Resolution Committee (\*a great story as an example of why it's so important to have a speech prepared)**

My speech began at the gift wrap counter in Beall's Department Store. I had just purchased 4 gifts for District 12 Volunteer of the Year individual club members and the 3 LEADS graduates. The lady in line behind me commented on the lovely gifts and asked who would be receiving them. This question opened the door to talk about GFWC.

I explained to her that I was District 12 Director of GFWC Florida and the gifts would be presented at the Arts and Crafts Festival on the following Saturday. She asked me what GFWC stood for. It was then I was able to go into some details about the organization and its history. I explained that we were a service organization with many opportunities. There were so many that one could not possibly take part in all the clubs had to offer. I gave her a brief explanation of the 6 Community Service Programs as well as the Advancement programs - Membership, Leadership, Legislative and Public Policy.

I told her that my club was having a meeting on Thursday and invited her to attend to see what our club was doing. I offered to pick her up and order her lunch. She told me it sounded like something she would like to get involved in, but unfortunately she was only visiting for the month and would be leaving the next day for home. I asked her where "home" was and she said Kentucky. I told her she could go on line at the GFWC.org website to see if there was a club available in her area.

At this point in our conversation, she chuckled and remarked " You did a great job presenting GFWC. I am a Past President of the Kentucky Federation." I am happy just to be a regular member and enjoy the fruits of my past endeavors.

**13. Ellen Hoffmann -- GFWC North Pinellas Woman's Club (\*great short speech with emphasis on explaining GFWC)**

General Federation of Women's Clubs (GFWC) is an international group of amazing women who are dedicated to community improvement by enhancing the lives of others. These women embody the motto "Living the Volunteer Spirit". They accomplish community improvement through hands-on projects as well as monetary donations. There is a place for each woman's talents in this vital organization. We **need** you!

**14. Linda Ferris - Greater West Palm Beach Women's Club**

Hi. I am on my way to help with my women's club project for the Women Vets. We give them gift bags at the baby shower held yearly at our local VA Hospital. Our club, the GFWC Greater West Palm Beach Women's Club, also helps children, schools, learn art projects, and lots more. We meet the fourth Monday of each month. Would you like to join me some month?

**15. Susan McLeod - GFWC Woman's Club of Tallahassee, Inc. District 3 (\*outstanding longer speech if you have more time – complete, personal, and humorous)**

You ask what the "GFWC" on my nametag stands for? Yeah, I get that a lot.

It stands for the "General Federation of Women's Clubs". You see, we are not just the Woman's Club of Tallahassee, where we've been improving our community for 113 years---we are part of the Federation – a worldwide organization of woman's service organizations, founded 126 years ago!

We like to get together and work on projects that improve our community and the world. Like we fund a \$1000 scholarship every year for women over age 30 at Tallahassee Community College. But when you think of thousands of women's clubs funding hundreds of scholarships----that's when you can imagine the lives and families that are changed through GFWC.

Our motto is "Unity in Diversity". That's a great thing about being in Tallahassee. We are a government town and politics play a huge role in our lives. We have women members from every color of bluest blue to reddest red—yet when we get together to support our foster families, our wounded veterans, our hungry neighbors---we are unified in purpose. It's really amazing! We even allow a couple blue and orange gators in our midst, but that is a whole other story.

We meet once a month on Thursday for lunch and guests are welcome to lunch and the program. We'd love to have you as a guest, and if you are looking for a group of women that like to eat, talk, and work on projects---That's us! Here's my card. Give us a try!

#### **16. Jennifer Masterton – GFWC St. Petersburg Junior Woman’s Club**

Hi, I have been observing the great things you do. I can see that you care about our community. I would like to invite you to come to a meeting of my GFWC St. Petersburg Junior Woman's Club. My club is a great organization we have been serving our community since 1932 and we do lots of programs that focus on Arts, Conservation, Education, Home Life, Public Affairs and International issues. Our current state focus is the Guardian Ad Litem program and Hacienda Girls Ranch and we hope our support of the programs will help make lives better for children. My club is part of one of the largest groups of volunteer women in the world, GFWC. This is the General Federation of Women's Clubs. Our local club meets once a month and we do service projects in addition to our meetings. Can I give you the meeting address and time? I hope you can come!

#### **17. Helen Lafave – GFWC Crystal River Woman’s Club**

I’m so excited that you’re going with me today to a meeting at my Woman’s Club. I hope you like it. I know that I get so much satisfaction when I’m involved in programs and fundraisers that I know will help people in need. Of course an added plus is the fun we have working together on committees making plans for different projects so they’ll be successful. And you know, we and I mean my Woman’s Club and other federated woman’s clubs world-wide are involved in so many areas like veterans’ issues, conservation, children, nursing homes, libraries. If you have a particular interest, we probably have a plan of action for it and we’ll certainly welcome you! We have delicious luncheons, too. You’ll love it!

#### **18. Judy Erickson- Gainesville Women’s Club**

Hi Cathy, how are you doing?

I know you are a very busy like I am. But I am In an organization that I think would help your business and also allow you to do Community service- which you love.

I am a member of the Gainesville Women’s Club- have you ever heard of it? It is a group

Of outstanding women in the community –that love helping others. We have projects

For our local schools- last year we helped Buy instruments for the band-

We support our wonderful veterans- we have Meetings several times a year that bring us informative speakers- and there are a lot of fun activities. The great thing is that although you are busy I think you would enjoy the comradaree and meeting Others who might be potential clients for your business- we are having a luncheon on \_\_\_ and I would like to invite you as my Guest. The great thing about the women’s Club too is that there is no pressure to Participate- but I am sure there are areas That would appeal to your loving, caring Personality.

#### **19. Kay Estock - GFWC-Clearwater Community Woman’s Club**

I joined GFWC-CCWC after I retired in June, 2008. As a former teacher, I wanted to continue to make a difference in this world and our community. The Clearwater Community Woman’s Club was the perfect fit for me! The club gave me the opportunity to continue to expand my mind through our monthly

programs and by interacting with a wonderful group of educated women who have spent their lives making a difference.

As a member, I've been able to utilize my individual skills through my participation in the CSP's and by assuming leadership roles in the club. Our members' enthusiasm motivates me, and their vitality is contagious - they don't give up! Rather, they continue to focus their efforts on helping to improve the lives of others.

I am honored to be part of a group of women who recognize that we are all strong, capable women who only get better with age! Our joint experiences and talents help us to learn from each other and keep us focused on always giving our best! I am extremely proud of our continued support of our library and the thousands of dollars we have donated to various charitable organizations, and the difference we have made in others' lives. The more we do, the more we want to do! Being a member of GFWC-CCWC keeps my "light" burning bright and focused on "living the volunteer spirit!"

**20. Heike Leibkuchler - GFWC Coco Plum Woman's Club (\*great example of a boilerplate – a short written statement that can be used on club brochures, website, donation request letters, etc)**

GFWC Coco Plum Woman's Club (founded in 1912) is a nonprofit volunteer organization dedicated to enriching the Miami community through the promotion of welfare, education, civic improvement, historic preservation and the advancement of arts and culture while fostering good fellowship among its members. GFWC Coco Plum Woman's Club is a place where women come together, build relationships, and create community through their civic service activities.

**SPEECHES SUBMITTED BY JUNIORETTES**

**1. Mily Salgado - GFWC Sebastian River Juniores**

The Juniores is a kind and generous group that helps our community in great ways. As part of the GFWC, we take pride in the work we do. We learn every day as an effect of our volunteer hours and kindness to each other.

**2. Hannah Bunyard - GFWC Sebastian River Juniores**

The Juniores are a fun community organization where you can make a bunch of new friends and make a bunch of volunteer hours for school. It's really easy and you can get away from your family for a while.

**3. Leslie Moshman - GFWC Sebastian River Juniores**

Here at our club we do many great things. We help people who need help and try to make people's day better. You can get volunteer hours. It is a very good thing to put on your college application.

#### **4. Kaitlyn Krautkremer – GFWC St. Petersburg Juniores**

Hi! I'm a part of the St. Pete Juniores, which is a volunteer organization within St. Petersburg and anyone is invited to come. We have 3 different groups for different age ranges. I am in the juniores which is ages 12-18. We recently just did a kick off which was a "new membership drive" last weekend but you can still join if you want to. We do various activities and volunteering. We meet together (most of the time on Sunday's) twice a month with some separate volunteering throughout the month. If you are interested in it, let me know and I can send you more details!

#### **5. Alyssa, Daisy, and Isabella – GFWC St. Petersburg Juniores**

"Hi\_\_\_\_\_. Do you want to make a difference? If so, I am inviting you to join GFWC St. Petersburg Juniores. GFWC SPJ are a group of girls in our community that helps others. We do volunteer work throughout the year. Not only do we help others, but we get to meet new people. We would love to have you join GFWC SPJ, and make the world a better place."

#### **6. Megan Piippo – GFWC Clearwater Juniores**

My name is Megan Piippo. I am in an organization, the GFWC Clearwater Juniores. It is a group of outstanding girls ranging from grades 8-12 in the community. Part of being a woman means getting involved. I would love to invite you to come to the first meeting of the GFWC Clearwater Juniores for this school year. It is on September 13 at 6:00 pm at the Safety Harbor Library. We meet once a month and do community service projects in addition to our meetings. We also do a lot of programs that we have fun planning that focus on Arts, Conservation, Education, Home Life, International Outreach, and Public Issues. I hope you will consider joining us at our next meeting.