

**GFWC Junior Public Issues
2011 Reporting
Robin Lainhart-Osborne Collaboration Chairman
Bulletin #2**

Stats: + 567 Members

21 clubs reported	163 projects	3,783 hours
\$8,145 cash donations	\$10,092 in-kind donations	\$0.00 cost to club

The Florida Juniors were given the task to focus on our Veterans and Domestic Violence Issues. All clubs participated in various projects and did an amazing job! You'll find some of their projects mentioned below.

Veterans Projects

The Veterans Action Project (www.veteransactionproject.org) assists veterans in need, whether homeless, disabled, disadvantaged, or returning from deployment.

Holiday & Thank You Card to the Troops

During our October general meeting, members in attendance took the time to write holiday cards to our troops serving overseas. Thank you cards were taken to the VA Hospital in Tampa and were distributed.

Coupons to the Military

Cut coupons from the newspaper and bring them to the business meetings. They are then sorted by food and non-food items and totaled per category. The coupons can be used at the bases for 6 months past the expiration date.

VA Hospital Board Member

A club member was selected at a district meeting to be the junior district representative on the board of the Veterans Administrative Hospital. She acts as a liaison between the Veterans Administrative Hospital board and the district junior clubs

Collected Supplies for women in the military

Collected feminine items to send for all the female soldiers in her unit. We sent soap, deodorant, shower gel, feminine hygiene products, and items to show our appreciation for women serving overseas in our armed services.

Public Awareness - Safety Issues

Child Passenger Safety Week Articles were written in newsletters informing members that September 20-26 is Child Passenger Safety Week. Tips were given for properly putting in seats and members were encouraged to go by the police station to get their seats checked.

Fireman's Appreciation* Homemade dinner provided to the local firehouse closest to our club house.

Electrical Safety Awareness Month

Newsletter reminding our members that February is Electrical Safety Awareness Month. The article gave national statistics about electricity related deaths and also gave tips on how to remain safe.

National Night Out (with membership recruitment)

Assisted the Police Department by helping to set up, provide hot dogs, drinks and chips (for Free). This year we also provided the funds for the band.

Domestic Violence

GFWC Signature Project: Domestic Violence Awareness and Prevention: We collected non-perishable foods and toiletries and donated them to the Salvation Army shelter for victims of domestic violence.

Domestic Violence Awareness Meetings

Various forms of domestic violence including cyber bullying were discussed. Different courses of action were recommended and pamphlets provided by the Salvation Army were passed out to each member to distribute as they saw fit.

During Domestic violence Awareness Month there was educational material and resource links to national help-lines were provided on the club website.

Heather's Hope Domestic Violence Run

Heather's Hope is a foundation started in honor of a Lakeland woman who was murdered by her husband in August 2008. We worked the water station, sold raffle tickets and handed out refreshments

Transition House

The committee visited a local house for unwed mothers to obtain information about their facility. We were given a tour of the facility and provided a wish list.

Mothers Day baskets

Members donated personal hygiene items for the unwed mothers and baby items for the newborns.

Garage Sales

Members donate the items to sell and work the event. The proceeds were donated to a domestic abuse shelter. All items that were not sold were donated to the abuse center thrift shop.

Children's Projects

Easter Egg Hunt

For young elementary students, and one for older elementary students. After the hunt, the children are free to take pictures with the Easter Bunny.

Haunted House

Decorated a haunted house and partnered with the United Methodist Church to sponsor a "trunk or treat", event on Halloween night. The church is right next to the Haunter House so this works out great for the kids to little to enjoy the Haunted House.