



March 14, 2010

Linda Ross, Partnership Chairman
GFWC Conservation Community Service Program
201 North Second Street
Ripley, OH 45167

Dear Linda,

Enclosed is the GFWC Florida's Conservation Partnership entry for the \$50 award. The report was chosen for the club's innovative and inclusive projects covering the GFWC Conservation Partnership Program for 2010 calendar year. To better understanding our reporting system and to make the narrative relative, the statistical page has been included. In GFWC Florida both a statistical and narrative pages are required for a report in all areas.

Thank you for your consideration. If you have questions, please e-mail or call me.

Enjoy your Spring.

Sincerely,

Geraldine Ward

Geraldine Ward, Partnership Chairmen
GFWC Conservation Community Service Program
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Community Service Program- CONSERVATION

Year **2010**

CLUB	GFWC NORTH PINELLAS WOMAN'S CLUB	District	14	#Members	68	
#	NAME OF PROJECT	# MEMBERS	HOURS	CLUB \$	GOODS/\$ CONTRIB.	PROFIT \$
1	Keep America Beautiful	68	1	\$25		
2	Response To The Gulf Oil Spill	68	32	\$0	\$360	
3	Oyster Dome Building	68	28	\$25	\$17	
4	Oyster Bar Building	7	42	\$0	\$60	
5	The Humane Society of the United States	68	55	\$135	\$481	
	COLLABORATION WITH GFWC FLORIDA					
6	Honeymoon Island Native Planting	10	36	\$0	\$0	
7	Earth Days On Honeymoon Island	14	70	\$0	\$20	
8	Halloween In The Park	68	136	\$25	\$225	
9	Educational Meeting-Gulf Islands Geopark	68	25	\$50	\$72	
10	Marine Patrol Island Clean-Ups	68	30	\$13	\$20	
11	Spoil Island Clean-Up & Exotic Removal	5	40	\$0	\$5	
12	Federation Day Clean-Up At Ft. De Soto Park	7	21	\$0	\$10	
13	Gardening Tips	68	1	\$0	\$0	
14	Air Potato Removal	10	36	\$0	\$10	
15	Plastic Bags For Dog Parks	68	30	\$0	\$5	
16	Motivational Message Tubes	68	32	\$18	\$157	
17	Adopt Winter & Forever Families	68	2	\$100	\$0	
18	Focus on Recycling	68	4	\$0	\$2	
19	Membership Resourse Information	68	1	\$0	\$0	
	TOTAL		622	\$391	\$1,444	

**GFWC NORTH PINELLAS WOMEN'S CLUB, INC.
CONSERVATION COMMUNITY SERVICE PROGRAM
2010**

1. KEEP AMERICA BEAUTIFUL, INC.

This national organization has many local affiliates. The one in our area is Keep Pinellas Beautiful, Inc. and its partner is Tampa Bay Watch. We have ongoing projects with these two organizations. We donated \$25.00 to Tampa BayWatch.

2. RESPONSE TO THE GULF OIL SPILL: Our members pitched in to help with the oil disaster by signing up with Keep Pinellas Beautiful to be on call if oil neared our Pinellas beaches. Several also participated with friends and family on 6/26 in the Hands Across the Sand demonstration, to raise awareness of the threat of offshore oil drilling to Florida and other coastal states. We collected 11 containers of Dawn, 4 bottles of Pepto Bismol, and over 1000 latex gloves to be donated to the Suncoast Seabird Sanctuary to help with the cleaning and rescue of the Gulf seabirds affected by the oil spill.

3. OYSTER DOME BUILDING: On three separate occasions, members traveled to Tampa Bay Watch to help build oyster domes, 72 in all. These domes are made from molds and cement and will be added to the hundreds of others located just offshore at MacDill Air Force Base and Bayshore Boulevard in Tampa. Domes break waves to reduce shoreline erosion, provide habitat for small fish, a substrate for oyster attachment, and food for browsers.

4. OYSTER BAR BUILDING: Unlike oyster domes, bars are built by filling mesh bags with recycled oyster shell. We worked at Williams Park on the east side of Tampa Bay, and transported the bags by boat to Green Key Bird Sanctuary. The bags were carried from the boats to the shore and stacked up to prevent erosion of this historic bird key, the first to be protected in Tampa. We worked with the Audubon Society and Tampa Bay Watch.

5. THE HUMANE SOCIETY OF THE UNITED STATES: We collected creature comforts, food, treats and money for our furry friends at the Pinellas Humane Society. We also supported the SPCA and Suncoast Animal League. Several members volunteer at local Humane Societies and we support their fundraisers such as the Mutt March and Dogtoberfest through information and on site help.

6. HONEYMOON ISLAND NATIVE PLANTING: We continue to maintain the native plant area located outside the Honeymoon Park Office. Depending on the amount of rainfall, and the time of year, we weed, mulch, and trim the area.

7. EARTH DAYS ON HONEYMOON ISLAND: Fourteen club members signed up to help with the Earth Day celebration on Honeymoon Island, providing information on membership, the Gulf Islands Geopark and working with Friends of the Islands selling their merchandise to raise money for park projects. The second day was rained out.

8. HALLOWEEN IN THE PARK: We partnered with the Gulf Islands Geopark (Honeymoon Island), GFWC Clearwater Community Woman's Club, and 11 GFWC Clearwater Juniores, plus friends and family to plan, design, & construct a scary scene for the 13th annual Halloween fund raiser to benefit the parks and their ongoing projects. Our group constructed a 60 foot long bat cave. Boards staked in the ground were covered with heavy duty black plastic, up the sides and over the top to form a tunnel to walk through.

Moss was laid on the ground to crunch as you walked over it. Skeletons, bats and rats were strategically placed, the uglier the better. Strobe lights gave the cave an eerie look. On the nights of the event members dressed all in black with masks and scared the people walking through the bat cave. The Juniores especially enjoyed painting themselves as vampires and jumping out to scare the customers. At the entrance to the cave we dug a hole and buried a mattress. We then covered it with sand. When people stepped on it, it sank like quicksand. This was a great interclub activity between three GFWC organizations and we helped raise over \$8000 for the parks.

9. EDUCATIONAL MEETING ON THE GULF ISLANDS GEOPARK: Conservation hosted the May meeting and provided bottled water (we recycled!) and lots of healthy snacks. Peter Krulder, park director for Honeymoon Island, was the speaker at our general meeting and gave a wonderful and informative presentation to our club on the native plants and animals found on the islands and how we can protect this precious resource. We presented him with a check for \$50 for the Friends of Honeymoon.

10. MARINE PATROL ISLAND CLEAN-UPS: Traveling by boat, six club members cleaned two spoil islands, our adopted, "Memorial Island" and the one directly north. We collected eight large bags weighing approximately 150 pounds. We also had two members clean a section of the Anclote River while traveling by kayak. Three bags were collected with about 35 pounds of debris.

11. SPOIL ISLAND CLEAN-UP & EXOTIC REMOVAL: Partnering with Tampa Bay Aquatic Preserve, on three separate occasions, we helped by cleaning spoil islands and removing Brazilian Pepper from several of the northern Pinellas County spoil islands in the intercoastal waterway and the Anclote River.

12. FEDERATION DAY CLEAN UP AT FORT DE SOTO PARK: Our District Director arranged for a *Federation Day Celebration* at Fort DeSoto Park. We were very visible in our neon lime green Federation Day shirts which every attendee wore (one member even put the shirt on her dog!). Our group picture was posted on GFWC Florida home page. All attending club members helped with the conservation clean-up project of picking up garbage on the beach. Many clubs in our District participated in this event which President Teddy Hulse attended.

13. GARDENING TIPS: Information on the dates and programs presented throughout the year by the Safety Harbor Garden Club is e-mailed to our general membership.

14. AIR POTATO REMOVAL: We adopted an area in the Dunedin Hammock Park to help the City of Dunedin eradicate the air potato vines threatening to destroy the mature hard woods. We were trained in October, cleaned 80 to 90 % of the vines and removed hundreds of tubers in our adopted area in November, and participated in the yearly December clean up. This is a new and ongoing project.

15. PLASTIC BAGS FOR DOG PARKS: A new project was partnering with the City of Clearwater to collect plastic and paper bags to be distributed to the city parks for the dog waste disposal program. This is an environmentally conscious alternative to the existing program, saving the city an estimated \$10,000 a year. To date, we have collected 2,950 bags.

16. MOTIVATIONAL MESSAGE TUBES: We wrapped 151 toilet paper rolls with tissue paper, filled them with candy and other treats and tied upbeat messages to them with ribbon. They were distributed to a local elementary school, Neighborhood Family Services, and high school Special Education Department to be used to encourage positive behavior.

17. ADOPT WINTER & FOREVER FAMILIES: We adopted Winter, a dolphin at the Clearwater Marine Aquarium with a prosthetic fluke who is starring in a movie coming out next fall. This movie starring Morgan Freeman and Harry Connick, Jr. was filmed in our area and at the Aquarium where Winter lives. With this donation we are also supporting the local foster program and helping children find “forever families”.

18. FOCUS ON RECYCLING: We picked up the new 2010 recycle directories Dunedin from the sustainability coordinator and distributed them to our members at the first club meeting in January. Members were made aware of local recycling centers and dates and locations for special drop-offs such as electronics or hazardous materials. They were also given the e-mail address of the North Pinellas Freecycle Site, which is a place where useable items are recycled. The public can log on this website and find items that others are giving away or post items to be picked up thus reducing the amount of waste in our landfills.

19. MEMBERSHIP RESOURCE INFORMATION: Throughout the year, members were alerted by e-mail with information on manatee conservation and how to report a dead or distressed manatee, how to get involved in Voluntourism (volunteering while vacationing), participating in the annual Butterfly Count, and the Environmental Film Festival.