

## Connect the Dots.....

## **Education Community Service Program**

GFWC WV Education Chair: Joan Tacy

GFWC WV clubs do a tremendous job of providing educational programming and assistance. Some clubs have traditional projects they enjoy sponsoring year after year while other clubs strive to develop new ideas. Any way you look at it, each club knows what it must do to ensure that it is helping education in its community.

During this administration we are "connecting the dots" to inspire a generation to make each club's education programming strong. Talk to others and evaluate your community needs. See if you can "light up" education in your corner of the world!

## A few ideas include:

- Visit the GFWC.org website and click on education. You will find a myriad of information available.
- Remember, do what is best for your community's educational needs!
- Set up literary volunteer trainings in your community. Your local club members can become tutors, and you can encourage others in the community to get involved. Being able to read is so powerful. Can you imagine if you could not read? Help to make a difference in the lives of those around you.
- Find out more about WV Read Aloud. This program helps you train as a Read Aloud Tutor. Once again, you could be the sponsor for setting up training for others. Research tells us that children who are read to are more likely to become better readers. The website is:

  <a href="http://readaloudwestvirginia.org">http://readaloudwestvirginia.org</a>. Contact is Mary Kay Bond.
- Read the handout about "Little Free Libraries". This is an inexpensive program that can benefit the entire community. The website is <a href="http://littlefreelibrary.org">http://littlefreelibrary.org</a>. Contact is Tim McClung
- Become familiar with Epsilon Sigma Omicron.
- Develop a close relationship with your local library. GFWC WV played a significant part in establishing libraries in many parts of WV.
- Don't forget to provide scholarships for deserving students (traditional and non-traditional alike) in your communities. Sponsor student leadership organizations with monetary donations.
- Set up a book club, read and have fun. Remember, we are all life long learners.

## Reporting

- Presently, there are two reports you can submit for education: Community Service Program and ESO (Epsilon Sigma Omicron). ESO is a reading program for self-enrichment and growth.
- Reports are to be submitted by Feb 1<sup>st</sup> each year to Joan Tacy, 9119 Seneca Trail, Mill Creek WV 26280. Each report must have a GFWC WV reporting form. Please call if you have any questions: 304-335-4527.