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Creating Memories Through Volunteering





Tidings

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Amanda Myton, Editor



Upcoming Dates

April 26

1st Baptist

7:00 - Regular Mtg

May 07

South Park Mall

TBA – Movie Night with Franklin Juniors

May 23

TBA

TBA – Giving Tea

June 06

Petersburg Country Club

2:00 - Banquet



From the Desk of Your President -Lori Chevalier

Dear Juniors:

It's time to Celebrate! Come to the April meeting and see the recognition we received at Spring District Meeting and hopefully some recognition from GFWC VA Convention. But we're not done with creating memories for this club year! We have scholarships to award, a Giving Tea to attend, a yard sale to hold, Relay for Life to participate in, Move Night with Franklin Juniors and our Annual Banquet. Whew, what else can we squeeze in?

By the time you read this, Sheila, Angela and myself will be in Northern Virginia at GFWC Virginia Convention. We will be taking care of some Junior business, voting on officers for the 2010-2012 administration and celebrating our accomplishments for the 2009 club year. We'll fill you in on all the details at our meeting and in the May edition of *Tidings*.

I would like to welcome our newest member - Ruthie Meyer! Ruthie has already gotten a start on creating memories! Please introduce yourself to Ruthie the next time you see her.

Thank you to everyone who sold pizza kits and to Tammy for coordinating it! With a lot of last minute selling – we made our goal of 100 items! Way to go everyone!

Reserve May 7th on your calendar. Angela has planned a Movie Night. Franklin Juniors have been invited and are planning a night of it. I don't know what movie we'll be seeing, but being with Junior friends is always fun.

Thank you to Carrie for organizing our morning walk on April 3rd and for Amanda, Betsy, M.K., Zachery, and Camden for walking with us. The street was a little dirty, but we had fun walking and talking! And with the kids, it was a race to the finish!

With only one meeting left before our Annual Banquet, I would like to get as much business taken care of at our April meeting so we can spend the time at Annual Banquet celebrating and creating memories. Please come to the April meeting with any motions needed to conduct business and/or activities for the remainder of the club year.

Looking forward to seeing everyone on April 26th.

~Lori

Creating Memories Through Volunteering

Leadership Development – Sheila Ridout

Hi everyone! I hope that you've had the opportunity to get out and enjoy the nice weather we've been experiencing ~ even with the ups and downs and pollen. While I encourage you to get outside and play, don't completely put Juniors on hold. We've still got a few more weeks of the club year left, and we also need to look to the upcoming 2010-2011 administration. Officers and chairmen: as we prepare to wrap things up for the 2009-2010 year, please begin to get your files in order to pass on to your successor. Begin by going through the files and ridding them of items that are not needed (entire newsletters do not need to be passed on, but you may want to keep a copy of your department's individual article; duplicate donation requests do not need to be kept, envelopes don't need to be kept...). Don't throw out anything that can be used for reference or may be of interest in future years, but don't keep outdated or obsolete materials. If you have questions or need help in deciding what to keep or get rid of, let me know. Some things that you should pass on would include a list of activities that your committee did, a project summary sheet for all activities done from January through June, and a list of suggestions, ideas, or possible projects. The files for every officer and chairman should also include a job description and/or monthly checklist of responsibilities. If you were provided with such a job description or checklist ~ great! Now, please take the time to update that. If you currently have nothing, then we need to work to create one for future use. Please let me know, and I'll work with you to get something in writing. The guidelines will be very useful to your successor to keep them on track and to give them ideas. As I'm sure you're aware, having a working knowledge of a job ahead of time increases the potential for success rather than having to figure out what you're supposed to be doing as you go along or realizing months later that you were supposed to have done something. There were, at one time, notebooks with information – including job descriptions – for every officer; if you're missing that notebook, let me know so that we can track it down – some of those notebooks contain valuable information is more easily passed than recreated.

Angela has passed out Committee Interest Survey so that you'll have some input in where you'd like to serve next year. Please be sure to get this back to her so that the Executive Committee will be able to assess the interest for committee chairmen and fill them appropriately.

When filling out your Committee Interest Survey, please consider stepping up and accepting the role of chairman. Not sure whether you have what it takes to be a leader? While you may not be sure, I'm positive that every member of our club has the ability to succeed as a chairman! In Becoming a Leader, Everyone Can Do It, Myles Munroe explores what it takes to be a leader and asks the question "Do you have leadership potential?" In assessing your leadership potential, see how each of the following applies to you and how you can adjust your leadership styles to ensure leadership success.

Independent Decision Making – Do you think independently? While using the thought of others to the maximum, the leader cannot let others do his thinking or make his decisions for him.

Govern Yourself – Do you retain control of yourself when things go wrong? The leader who loses self-control in trying circumstances forfeits respect and loses influence.

Ability to Control Anger – Do you manage your emotions? When someone says something irritating, do you get mad right away? As a leader, you are head and shoulders above the crowd and the most elevated; and it's the people who are the most visible that are the targets of criticism. As a leader you must be able to control yourself and not allow anger to immobilize your rational capacity.

Bring to The Meeting

- Tidings
- Treasurer's Report
- School Supplies for Sandra's Closet
- Dog Treats for Assistance Dogs
- Canned Food/Pantry Supplies
- Toilet Paper
- Feminine Hygiene Products
- Tissues
- Sharpie Markers
- Skills Life program collection: Records and kitchen items
- Box Tops for Education
- 1,2,3,4 program for Farm Fresh receipts
- Coke Rewards
- Coupons
- Cell Phones
- Eyeglasses
- March of Dimes Donations



Leadership Development – Sheila Ridout

Independent Thinker – Good leaders can think on their own. A true leader doesn't follow the crowd.

Creatively Handle Disappointments – True leaders see disappointments as opportunities to maximize their potential, and they learn from surprise. A good leader has the ability to stay calm in the face of a crisis.

Inspires Confidence – Do you readily secure the cooperation and win respect and confidence of others? A good leader is someone people have confidence in. The only way for others to have confidence in you is to see that you are faithful over little things, committed to your purpose, and willing to die for your cause.

Reliable – Are you entrusted with handling difficult and delicate situations? True leaders are sought out for advice and assistance in delicate situations.

Corrector – Do you possess the ability to secure discipline without having to resort to a show of authority? True leadership is an internal quality of spirit that does not require an external show of force. True leaders inspire others to become better and therefore engender a sense of behavioral expectation and trust that becomes a source of self-discipline.

Mobilizing – Can you induce people to happily do some legitimate thing that they would not normally wish to do? Is your vision so strong that people begin to help you with it, even though they may not have wanted to do it initially? Leadership makes full use of human resources and identities, develops new talents, and releases human potential.

Conciliator – Are you considered a peacemaker, one who finds it easier to keep the peace than to make peace where it has been shattered? An important function of leadership is conciliation: the ability to discover common ground between opposing viewpoints and then induce both parties to accept it.

Antagonism – Can you accept opposition to your viewpoint or decision without considering it a personal affront or reacting accordingly? Leaders possess the quality of openness. Leaders must expect opposition and must not be offended by it. True leaders are able to share ideas, reasons, and rationale, while maintaining genuine respect for the ideas of others.

Develop Relationships – True leaders are not afraid to establish strong friendships because they are secure in themselves.

Unconditional Acceptance of Others – Are you really interested in people, in all people of all types and all races? Or do you entertain respect of persons? An antisocial person is unlikely to make a good, effective leader. True leaders unconditionally accept and cherish the value of others. They see all people as equal and strive to bring out the best in everyone.

Self-Confident – Are you intimidated by others and compare yourself with the abilities and accomplishments of others? Are you at ease in the presence of your superiors or strangers? To become a leader, you must possess a deep sense of security, which represents our sense of worth, identity, emotional anchor, self-esteem, and personal growth. True leaders know who they are.

Approachable – Do your subordinates appear at ease in your presence? A true leader has a sympathetic, understanding, friendly, and open attitude that will put others at ease. True leaders really care and love everyone with an unconditional attitude and always seek the potential within others ~ he never confuses their behavior with their worth.

Ego Strength – Are you unduly dependent on the praise and approval of others? If you are always needing and wanting praise and the approval of others, then you are still a follower and not a leader.

Centered – Do you possess a strong and steady will? A leader will not retain his position long if he is vacillating. Many people have the strong will, but they haven't got the steady will. Steady means consistent, to stick with it. If you want to be used effectively as a leader, you have to be stable and consistent.

Correspondence

General

- Acceptance letter from Ruthie Meyer
- Easter Card from Natisha Bontiff

Thank You's

- Chaplain John Meyer
- Bob Lenburg
- Hopewell After-Prom Committee
- Gates Wiggins
- Appomattox Regional Library

Donation Requests:

- Appomattox Regional Library Summer Program
- American Cancer Society
- St. Jude Children's Research Hospital

Newsletters

- HHF Manorisms
- ChildFund

Public Affairs & Safety – Nicole Hancock

This is the last month that I will be able to take coupons to send to troops overseas. The coupons can only be used for six months after the expiration date. Because shipping sometimes takes a long time, I need to mail them out soon. We have not had many coupons turned in, so please bring them to the meeting.

We will be wrapping up the collection of eyeglasses, cell phones, and clothing for Sew Much Comfort in May. If you have not turned these items in, please bring them to the meeting. We have a pretty good collection of eyeglasses and cell phones so far.

Southside District Spring Meeting Wakefield, VA



Home Life – Sheila Ridout

Happy Spring everyone! Our “**Giving Tea**” is scheduled for Sunday, May 23rd at Weston Plantation. PLEASE forward names/addresses, and I'll send out invitations. As I don't have many to send right now, I'm planning on sending what I have on the 27th – so think between now and the meeting on Monday. Think mom, daughters, friends, sisters, prospective members.... This could be the beginning of a yearly project that supports area agencies while exposing our organization to family, friends, the community, and potential Juniors. Your support of this project is very much appreciated!!!

April's collections will be dimes for our club **March of Dimes**. If you haven't been collecting them daily, consider putting in an amount equal to your favorite daily/weekly luxury – whether it be a trip to Starbucks, a donut or muffin, a magazine.... And if your dimes are in paper form, we can work with that, too. Please bring anything that you've collected to the meeting, I'll take to the bank and report on our March of Dimes at the Banquet. **Continuing Collections:** school supplies, canned food/pantry items, toilet paper, feminine products, sharpie markers, tissues, and dog treats. Use our March of Dimes collection or any of our continuing collections to get your family involved. Have your children donate dimes from their piggy banks or help you to pick out some canned goods or school supplies. Turn it into a learning experience about helping those less fortunate. I hope that you'll want to bring your family along, too, when we assemble our Giving Tea/Volunteers in Action Week donations for delivery. That date is TBA for sometime in mid-June; I'll be asking for your input on good dates/days.

This month I'd like to touch on a subject that may be a little closer to home than you might think ~ **identity theft**. You may not know it, but someone that you know has been affected by identity theft. Have you? Do you think that you're immune to having your identity stolen? No matter how many safeguards you believe are in place, it only takes one “slip-up” to open a window for leave you feeling insecure.

What is identity theft?

Identity theft occurs when someone uses your personally identifying information (your name, Social Security number, credit card number, financial account information...) without your permission, to commit fraud or other crimes. The Federal Trade Commission estimates that as many as 9 million Americans have their identities stolen each year. The crime takes many forms. Identity thieves may rent an apartment, obtain a credit card, or establish a telephone account in your name. You may not find out about the theft until you review your credit report or a credit card statement and notice charges you didn't make—or until you're contacted by a debt collector. Identity theft is serious and a crime. While some identity theft victims can resolve their problems quickly, others spend hundreds of dollars and many days repairing damage to their good name and credit record. Some consumers victimized by identity theft may lose out on job opportunities, or be denied loans for education, housing or cars because of negative information on their credit reports. In rare cases, they may even be arrested for crimes they did not commit.

How do thieves steal an identity?

Skilled identity thieves may use a variety of methods to get hold of your information, including:

Dumpster Diving - They rummage through trash looking for bills or other paper with your personal information on it.

Skimming - They steal credit/debit card numbers by using a special storage device when processing your card.

Phishing - They pretend to be financial institutions or companies and send spam or pop-up messages to get you to reveal your personal information.

Changing Your Address - They divert your billing statements to another location by completing a change of address form.

Old-Fashioned Stealing - They steal wallets and purses; mail, including bank and credit card statements; pre-approved credit offers; and new checks or tax information. They steal personnel records, or bribe employees who have access.



Reminders:

Please bring any remaining pizza money!

Keep saving yard sale items. Date TBA soon!

Home Life – continued

Pretexting - They use false pretenses to obtain your personal information from financial institutions, telephone companies, and other sources.

What do thieves do with a stolen identity?

Credit card fraud:

They may open new credit card accounts in your name. When they use the cards and don't pay the bills, the delinquent accounts appear on your credit report.

They may change the billing address on your credit card so that you no longer receive bills, and then run up charges on your account. Because your bills are now sent to a different address, it may be some time before you realize there's a problem.

Phone or utilities fraud:

They may open a new phone or wireless account in your name, or run up charges on your existing account.

They may use your name to get utility services like electricity, heating, or cable TV.

Bank/finance fraud:

They may create counterfeit checks using your name or account number.

They may open a bank account in your name and write bad checks.

They may clone your ATM or debit card and make electronic withdrawals your name, draining your accounts.

They may take out a loan in your name.

Government documents fraud:

They may get a driver's license or official ID card issued in your name but with their picture.

They may use your name and Social Security number to get government benefits.

They may file a fraudulent tax return using your information.

Other fraud:

They may get a job using your Social Security number.

They may rent a house or get medical services using your name.

They may give your personal information to police during an arrest. If they don't show up for their court date, a warrant for arrest is issued in your name.

How can you find out if your identity was stolen?

The best way to find out is to monitor your accounts and bank statements each month, and check your credit report on a regular basis. If you check your credit report regularly, you may be able to limit the damage caused by identity theft.

Unfortunately, many consumers learn that their identity has been stolen after some damage has been done.

You may find out when bill collection agencies contact you for overdue debts you never incurred.

You may find out when you apply for a mortgage or car loan and learn that problems with your credit history are holding up the loan.

You may find out when you get something in the mail about an apartment you never rented, a house you never bought, or a job you never held, or an increased credit line that you never requested.

What should you do if your identity is stolen?

Filing a police report, checking your credit reports, notifying creditors, and disputing any unauthorized transactions are some of the steps you must take immediately to restore your good name.

Should you file a police report if your identity is stolen?

A police report that provides specific details of the identity theft is considered an Identity Theft Report, which entitles you to certain legal rights when it is provided to the three major credit reporting agencies or to companies where the thief misused your information. An Identity Theft Report can be used to permanently [block fraudulent information](#) that results from identity theft, such as accounts or addresses, from appearing on your credit report. It will also make sure these [debts do not reappear](#) on your credit reports. Identity Theft Reports can prevent a company from continuing to [collect debts](#) that result from identity theft, or selling them to others for collection. An Identity Theft Report is also needed to place an [extended fraud alert](#) on your credit report.

You may not need an Identity Theft Report if the thief made charges on an existing account and you have been able to work with the company to resolve the dispute. Where an identity thief has opened new accounts in your name, or where fraudulent charges have been reported to the consumer reporting agencies, you should obtain an Identity Theft Report so that you can take advantage of the protections you are entitled to.

In order for a police report to entitle you to the legal rights mentioned above, it must contain specific details about the identity theft. You should file an [ID Theft Complaint](#) with the FTC and bring your printed ID Theft Complaint with you to the police station when you file your police report. The printed ID Theft Complaint can be used to support your local

Home Life – continued

police report to ensure that it includes the detail required. A police report is also needed to get copies of the thief's application, as well as transaction information from companies that dealt with the thief. To get this information, you must submit a request in writing, accompanied by the police report, to the address specified by the company for this purpose.

How long can the effects of identity theft last?

It's difficult to predict how long the effects of identity theft may linger. That's because it depends on many factors including the type of theft, whether the thief sold or passed your information on to other thieves, whether the thief is caught, and problems related to correcting your credit report.

Victims of identity theft should monitor financial records for several months after they discover the crime. Victims should review their credit reports once every three months in the first year of the theft, and once a year thereafter. Stay alert for other signs of identity theft.

Don't delay in correcting your records and contacting all companies that opened fraudulent accounts. Make the initial contact by phone, even though you will normally need to follow up in writing. The longer the inaccurate information goes uncorrected, the longer it will take to resolve the problem.

What can you do to help fight identity theft?

Awareness is an effective weapon against many forms identity theft. Be aware of how information is stolen and what you can do to protect yours, monitor your personal information to uncover any problems quickly, and know what to do when you suspect your identity has been stolen. Armed with the knowledge of how to protect yourself and take action, you can make identity thieves' jobs much more difficult.

The preceding is excerpted from the Federal Trade Commission's website (www.ftc.gov). It is a great source of information on a number of topics from Earth Day tips to free credit reports to internet safety. The website has a number of excellent publications and materials on identity theft on their website. I encourage you to visit and make yourself more aware of the dangers and possibilities of identity theft and ways to protect yourself.

Leadership Development – continued

Forgiving – Do you nurse resentments or do you readily forgive injuries done to you? You can never be used effectively in leadership if you nurse resentments. True leaders are so secure they can easily forgive and ask forgiveness without hesitation. Leaders don't have time to put up with petty, childish resentments. True leaders know that their feelings, perceptions, and opinions are not facts and therefore act on that awareness which takes thought control and fosters humility.

Purposeful – Do you have a driving, guiding vision that grips your soul with passion? Have you found a deep, soul-grounded cause or reason to live? Is there a vision in your heart that gives life to your motivation? Such as singleness of mind will focus all one's energies and powers on the desired objective. Leaders have a purpose for living.

Encouraging – Are you reasonably optimistic? Pessimism is no asset to a leader.

Responsible – Do you welcome responsibility? If someone asked you to vacuum the rug, would you do it? Responsibility denotes the ability to respond to the situation. Leadership is fostered in the individual who believes that within him lies the potential to face and handle any task. He is not afraid to make decisions and to accept the consequences of those decisions; this is the exercise of responsibility.

I hope that you will find this, and other articles throughout the year, thought-provoking and will want to add them to your leadership notebook. I am continually adding pieces to mine that I find interesting and potentially useful in my leadership positions and in life. (If you would like a "clean" copy – not pulled from your Tidings – for your leadership notebook, I can email one to you, just let me know.)

I'm sorry for the confusion with the Leadership Honor Society. If no one is asking questions, it is easy to presume that everyone understands what is going on. NEVER hesitate to ask questions if you don't understand something ~ someone else may be just as confused. Hopefully we're all on the same page now. This month is the last chance to work toward the LHS (unless you're at May Board); I'll be at the church by 7:00 if you want to take any quiz or recite anything. ***It's never too early or too late to increase our leadership potential. You don't have to be the best leader, just be the best leader you can be!***