

**2023-2024**

**GFWC Girl Friends Who Care**



**St. Andrews Woman's Club**

Member of the General Federation of Women's Clubs (GFWC) since 1963

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***September 2023 NEWSLETTER***

***Officer Reports:***

***President - Laurie O'Kelly***

Happy September! I'm looking forward to the new club year and working with you all to make a difference in our community. The board was busy over the summer planning for the new club year. The yearbook will be available at the September meeting. I want to thank Barbara Cross, Jo Norris, Kaye Hunke, and Gail Elfert for proofing the yearbook.

I also want to thank Shelly Langston and Jan Mitchell-Conner for coordinating the Summer Social in August. Thank you to the board members as well for providing the food and setup. I enjoyed the afternoon and visiting with so many of you. Plus, we gained 4 new members!



Congratulations to Susan Dox, Debbie Bell, and Diane Bozard, for a successful fundraiser at Town Theatre. The music was wonderful, and we raised over \$4,800 before our first meeting.

The Progress Foundation application is due November 1. Please email me if you have a suggestion for a project/organization you would like to see our club support. I need this information by October 1 so that the board can review at the October board meeting. Progress Foundation funds may be used to support libraries, education, scholarships, child welfare, health, historic landmarks, veterans, human trafficking, and elder abuse. A detailed list is on the application on the GFWC-SC website under GFWC-SC Resources.

Please remember the **September meeting will start at 6:30**. Plan to arrive a little early to pick up your yearbook and get a seat so we can begin on time. I think the program on elder abuse/financial fraud will be interesting and you don't want to miss it. See you all on September 25!

**\*\*\*\*\*IMPORTANT\*\*\*\*\***

Beginning with our September 25th meeting, our new meeting location will be at **Union United Methodist Church**, 7582 Woodrow St., Irmo SC - directly across the street and railroad from the Irmo location of *Lizard's Thicket*. There are convenient parking places between the street and the church and additional parking places at the Law Office Building next door to the church in addition to many spaces at back of the church campus. The entrance to the Fellowship Hall where we will meet is on the ground floor at the back of the sanctuary building -- look for a

sign  or balloon  to mark the door. \*\*Please note that there is a CODE to open the door - **\*4766#** - and if you look at the keypad on your phone you will see that it is (**\*IRMO#**)! Please keep this information within our membership and do not share it with others for safety reasons. If you forget, there is a doorbell you can ring if necessary.

### *1<sup>st</sup> Vice President - Frances Hill & Susan Smith*

We are looking forward to another exciting year in SAWC! We know that all of our members will be very actively involved in the many projects and activities planned for the year. DON'T FORGET . . . keep a record of all your participation - the activity, the amount of time you are involved, and the money or value of anything you donate.

### *2<sup>nd</sup> Vice President - Jan Mitchell-Conner & Shelly Langston*

Jan and I (Membership committee) want to thank all the board members for the delicious food and Wine we had at the Social. We are especially thankful for all you who attended to make the Social a great kick off for the coming 2023 - 2024 year. We had 4 new members joining that day: Vickie Williams, retired ICU Nurse, Janet Prince, Past GFWC-SC President and returning members, Linda Shealy Davis and Rachael Richardson! Sarah Smith will also be joining our club. Sarah was not able to attend the Social, but visited our club in April. Welcome to SAWC! We are so excited to have you all become a part of our organization and look forward to getting to know you and working with you.

In the next few weeks our new members will be attending Orientation to learn what it means to be a member of SAWC. Information for the Orientation day and time will be announced at a later date.

### 3<sup>rd</sup> Vice President Ways & Means - Debbie Bell, Diane Bozard & Susan Dox

Many, many thanks to everyone who made our 1st FUNraiser, Sound of Music, a SUCCESS! Thank you to everyone who sold tickets, Tonja who printed our tickets, Anne Marie who printed the playbill, Gail & Ann for Will Call, Marla for taking up tickets, Kaye H for getting the wine, Kaye J, Laurie, Linda, Rachel, & Terri who handled the bar & payments (only 1 bar due to the unexpected storm), Kristen and Laura for handing out programs, Gail, Anne Marie & Sara for clean-up (easy) and anyone else who jumped in! We actually **sold 246 tickets** (actually 31 more than last year) **EXPENSES:** Town Theatre \$1200.00 (was paid from 'carry over')

Tickets \$ 40.13

Wine, cups \$77.60

**INCOME:** Ticket sales: \$4675.51

Bar sales: \$ 227.95

**NET PROFIT:** \$4,863.33 (may be a few more PayPal transfers)

PLEASE SEND US YOUR TIME & EXPENSES FOR THIS FUNRAISER Asap before you forget, for our January reporting!

**Belk Charity should be the first weekend in November! Easy way to make money for our charities! THANK YOU!!!!!!!**

### Secretary - Beth Smith-Pollom

Hello! Please do your best to let me know if you are going to be absent from a meeting. Feel free to send an email (elizabeth2371@att.net) or shoot me a text (317-710-6147). Also don't forget to sign in. I don't know all the names and faces yet, so please check in with me. Thank you!

### Treasurer - Gail Elfert

The annual dues for the club are still **\$52**, and according to the club by-laws, are payable "on or before the September general meeting." I will be set up to accept payment when you arrive at the meeting. If you prefer, you can pay using:

- **Venmo** by looking for St. Andrews Woman's Club @StAndrewsWomansClub in the Businesses section,
- **PayPal** by looking for GENERAL FEDERATION OF WOMENS CLUBS, ST ANDREWS WOMANS CLUB (or) sawcirmo@gmail.com (I was told the name had to be exactly how we are listed with the IRS as a non-profit when the new account was set up, and there are no apostrophes!)

As of September 11, with income from The Sound of Music deposited in the bank and all expenses paid, our checking account balance is \$7568.23, and the savings account balance is \$3362.63.

On Thursday, August 17, a committee appointed by the president and consisting of Becky Travis, Maureen Taylor and Debbie Bell, reviewed the club records and bank account for the 2022-2023 club year and found everything to be balanced with proper documentation of expenditures.

### Advisor - Daryl Hendrix

No report

## Community Service Project Reports:

### Arts and Culture - Lynne Hauptner & Marie DeLoach

It's apple picking, pumpkin spicing and corn maze season. Happy Fall!

As you know Arts will be hosting our October meeting with a musical theme and guest speaker and collecting the following which will be donated to the Children's hospitals in the area.

small sketch books    3x5 & 4x4 canvases                      coloring books (all ages)  
colored pencils and sharpeners

**\*\*\*\*Arts Members: Please plan to meet after the general meeting to plan our refreshments for the October meeting. \*\*\*\***

Link to corn mazes: <https://www.onlyinyourstate.com/south-carolina/awesome-corn-mazes-sc/>

Apple picking Suggestions

🍏 [Grandad's Apples 'N Such](#) | 2951 Chimney Rock Rd., Hendersonville, NC | Two hours  
Have you ever shot an apple out of a cannon? Well, you're missing out if you don't while visiting this orchard. [Don't miss](#) the apple cannon, the cow train, the corn maze, the pumpkin patch, and [30+ varieties of apples](#).

🍏 [Sky Top Orchard](#) | 1193 Pinnacle Mtn Rd., Zirconia, NC | Two hours  
No judgment here if you're only going for the apple cider doughnuts + slushies'. Enjoy [U-pick apples](#), a playground, an animal barn, hayrides, and [other family-fun activities](#).

🍏 [Stepp's Hillcrest Orchard](#) | Stepp's Hillcrest Orchard, 170 Stepp Orchard Dr., Hendersonville, NC | Two hours + 15 min.  
DYK this [100-acre](#) U-pick orchard + farm was the [first pick-your-own apple orchard](#) in Hendersonville? Explore its [5-acre corn maze](#) and its [pumpkin patch](#).

🍏 [Windy Hill Orchard & Cidery](#) | 1860 Black Hwy., York, SC | One hour + 30 min.  
Visit this family-owned + operated boutique apple orchard located in the upstate. It's also an [award-winning Hard Cider producer](#) + its Cider Bar is open for tastings on select weekends. If you're looking to pick your own apples, [register for a time](#).

Did you know that the Soda City has a vibrant art scene — and we're not just talking about the Columbia Museum of Art or the 701 Center for Contemporary Art? There are 35 pieces of murals and street art. Some are on the other side of the river in Cayce.

## *Civic Engagement & Outreach - Anne Marie Shepherd & Ann Keisler*

Welcome back! Civic Engagement is looking forward to the 2023/2024 club year! We will be hosting our January meeting with a speaker from Crimestoppers of the Midlands. Our CSP met over the summer to make some initial plans and will be getting together to continue our planning this fall.

The month of October is National Crime Prevention month. In our little corner of the world, statistically, the most likely crime to occur is a property crime. Let's help lower that number! One of the easiest, and most common targets is your vehicle, especially if it is unlocked. Make sure you keep your vehicle locked and never leave any electronics or other valuables in the vehicle. Consider installing motion activated lighting around the perimeter of your home and driveway. Criminals do not like high visibility!

## *Education & Libraries - Leann Angel*

Little Library: We have filled the book library with new books. I have plenty of books in reserve should anyone need any.

Book Group: We will be meeting on Thursday, September 14 at 1:00 p.m. at the Senior Center at 7 Oaks. This is a change of venue due to a state meeting at the library conference rooms. The book we are discussing is 'Necessary Lies' by Diane Chamberlain. Our discussion will be led by Jan Mitchell. We welcome any new members to the group.

Our October read is 'Lessons in Chemistry' by Bonnie Garmus. We will meet on Thursday, October 12, 1:00 p.m. at the Irmo Library.

National Day of Service: Our CSP has chosen to fill up the food box at Union Methodist Church for our day of service project. This is in addition to any donations being collected for Sharing God's Love by the club. CSP members have been sent a list of needed items! Let's Stop Hunger!!

Our CSP will meet by the food box at 6:00 for a photo opportunity and to put the items in the food closet at the church.

School Supplies: Thank you all for your school supply donations! They will be delivered to Harbison Elementary!

## *Environment - Sarah Ostergaard*

In line with the theme of the National Day of Service on September 30, this month's newsletter item will focus on food waste in our homes. The following excerpt is taken from the Don't Waste Food SC handbook, which you are encouraged to open and read using this link: <https://scdhec.gov/sites/default/files/Library/OR-1751.pdf>.

"Food is the No.1 item we throw away – accounting for more than 20 percent of the nation's annual waste stream. Each year anywhere from 40 percent to nearly half of the food supply in the United States is discarded – an annual loss of an estimated \$218 billion. All of this while more than 41 million Americans are food insecure. Most food waste is created at home. Each of us

tosses about 20 pounds of food per month. A family of four, on average, spends \$1,800 per year on food they don't eat. Households are responsible for about 43 percent of all food waste in the United States – more than restaurants, grocery stores or any other part of the food chain."

One tip to minimize food waste is to share! Do you have extra food? Prepare a meal for a neighbor. Donate safe unwanted food to a foodbank: <https://feedingthecarolinas.org/> or <https://sharinggodsllove.net/donate/> or <https://www.virginiawingardumc.com/food-pantry/> or ask your local church for a food pantry easily accessible to you.

## *Health & Wellness - Barbara Cross & Jo Norris*

Welcome to the new club year.

The program at the September meeting will be a presentation by the FBI focusing on their Elder Fraud Awareness Initiative. The FBI Columbia field office has launched this initiative to combat an alarming increase in financial fraud that is affecting South Carolina's residents. Between 2015-2020, FBI reports showed South Carolinians lost between \$1.7 million and \$4.4 million to confidence fraud and romance scams, which are two of the more prevalent schemes. The FBI's Internet Crime Complaint Center (IC3) reports also showed that those over the age of 60 lost the most money in all scam categories with losses between \$2.5 million and \$9.9 million during that five-year time span. We encourage you to bring your friends and/or significant others to hear this presentation. We will be starting at 6:30 to allow extra time for the presentation as well as time for questions.

We will also be collecting food items for both the Virginia Wingard Food Bank as well as Harvest Hope. Please see the list below for specific items that are currently needed at Virginia Wingard. However, both food banks welcome any donations of non-perishable food items. We are coordinating our food collection efforts to coincide with the GFWC-SC Day of Service on September 30 which highlights food insecurities. We will have a committee member outside to collect your donations. Thank you in advance for your generosity.

### **List for Virginia Wingard Food Bank**

Canned vegetables (green beans, peas, corn, etc.)  
Canned fruit  
Peanut butter  
Jelly  
Pasta  
Pasta sauce (prefer cans or plastic - no glass)  
Macaroni and cheese  
Canned meat  
Cereal

We intend to continue walking prior to the general meetings but will not walk this month because of the change in the meeting time. Keep in mind for future meetings, that we now have an indoor option to walk in bad weather utilizing the church gym.



September is Self-Care Awareness month as well as Suicide Prevention Month. Below is an example of the components of self-care. If you would like to read more about it, the link to the article is here:

<https://theblissfulmind.com/pillars-of-self-care>.

## *Standing Committee Chairs & Special Appointments:*

### *Leadership/WHRT - Kristin Fields:*

September marks the official beginning of a new club year. To prepare for the club year, club leaders organized projects, planned speakers or events for club meetings and delegated club work. As a member, you volunteered to help with the upcoming projects and fundraising events. Now it is time to look at your well-being. Volunteer work is very beneficial to maintaining a good balanced life. A few suggestions to help keep check of your well-being are: **own your day** – this can be done by prioritizing what your daily to-do list; **feed your soul** – a visit with friends is sure to make you soul feel warm, coupled with a laugh; **move & feed your body** – exercise a little bit every day, eat healthy and drinks lots of water; **be your own champion** – keep a journal of good works you have done and be kind to yourself.

Mark your calendar for these upcoming Leadership events sponsored by GFWC-SC:

LEADS – February 17, 2024

Federation Day Celebration – April 25, 2024

### *Fellowship - Jane Jeffcoat & Carol Ann Williams*

Hope everyone had a wonderful summer and ready to start the new club year. We had quite a lot of birthdays during the summer - hope everyone who had a birthday received a card from SAWC Sisters. Please let Jane and myself (Carol Ann) know if you have any fellowship news or needs. We will do our best to respond.

Susan Swails - is doing well and started Treatment Round #3 Wednesday. She said it's all routine and good. So good, in fact, that she is going to Litchfield Beach with 10 college friends the last week in September, so she will miss the September meeting and looks forward to seeing all of us in October.

Rachel Richardson is rejoining SAWC, her son Charles will have Neurological surgery on September 25th at Duke Hospital and will be in ICU for two days. Please pray for Rachel, Bert and especially her son Charles. Rachel's address is 1141 Green Valley Lane, Columbia, SC 29210, if you would like to send her a card.

**IMPORTANT DATES TO REMEMBER:**

9/25/23	General Meeting <b>6:30pm</b>	Union United Methodist Church
9/30/23	National Day of Service	
10/9/23	Board Meeting 7pm	
10/13/23	Newsletter article to Beth Taylor	