

# ANNUAL REPORT

2019

GENERAL FEDERATION OF WOMEN'S CLUBS OF VIRGINIA

“Service, the Debt of Education”



# GENERAL FEDERATION OF WOMEN'S CLUBS OF VIRGINIA ANNUAL REPORT 2019



GFWC VIRGINIA PRESIDENT  
KELLY LANE  
*“Step Up”*



Over the past year, memories were made of club accomplishments and friendships renewed. Clubwomen continued to support their communities in several ways. Many projects were long standing and new ones were established or designed to fit a need in the community. Members continue to extend a helping hand as needed.

With 119 of 140 clubs reporting, members supported their communities throughout Virginia. They volunteered 304,067 hours on 6,312 projects resulting in \$1,694,886 monetary donations and \$854,196 in-kind donations.

In 2019, clubs emphasized various Community Service Projects and Partners, Advancements Areas and Special Projects. Clubs planted pinwheels, supported recycling efforts and donated to TREK enough items to donate three benches. Donated and assisted to backpack programs, contributed to St. Jude Children's Research Hospital and HOBY Virginia. Collected school supplies for various schools. Supported the GFWC Grand and Brand Initiatives. Donated wish list items and monetary donations to Domestic Violence shelters. Attended theater productions, made hospital gowns and drawstring bags for Operation Smile. Collected shoes for various programs and held forums throughout the year for designated months. Held wine and cheese and teas events to recruit new members, attend leadership and reporting workshops. Utilized social media with various techniques to promote projects and programs and continued to produce newsletters in multiple mediums.

The support continued of the State Project, “Step Up to Stop Human Trafficking” in 2019. Clubs sponsored classes and schools monetarily to introduce the Prevention Project curriculum. Clubs purchased silicone bracelets and explored multiple Human Trafficking avenues. Throughout the year, clubs volunteered 2,915 hours, donated \$5,633 and contributed both monetary and in-kind donations of \$18,434 in support of the State Project. After state convention was cancelled, the hope is to present a check of monetary donations from the administration State Project to Richmond Justice Initiative (RJI) in an alternative way or possibly during Conference in August.

In the month of June 17, GFWC Virginia Clubwoman traveled to Austin, TX for GFWC Convention and next several Virginia women traveled to Washington, DC for GFWC Board Meeting. During August, the Executive Board meeting held at the Appomattox Inn for a Summer Board meeting and GFWC Virginia LEADS held on Sunday where attendees participated in an icebreaker activity, listened to protocol pointers and learned membership techniques, just to name a few. Overall, each attendee, walked away energized with all they learned in one day.

GFWC Virginia members have enjoyed serving as Educational Ambassadors at the State Fair of Virginia in late September/ early October. Many of you can remember balloons on hats to bus greeters in the current environment. GFWC Virginia has enjoyed 30 years of participating at the State Fair.

As President, I was extremely proud of all GFWC Virginia members for the support as Virginia hosted the Southeastern Region Meeting in September. GFWC Virginia had 160 members attend throughout the weekend. Attendees volunteered for multiple tasks and made donations for a successful meeting. Virginia Clubwomen are the most dedicated and generous by far.

While it is disappointing, GFWC Virginia Convention could not be held in April. Cancelling the meeting was the right decision for the membership. This officer has enjoyed visiting each district and travelling to represent the members of GFWC Virginia. Thank you for the honor to serve as GFWC Virginia President.

**GFWC VIRGINIA 3<sup>RD</sup> VICE PRESIDENT/  
DIRECTOR OF JUNIOR CLUBS  
TRINA BEHBAHANI**



The Virginia Juniors found many ways to *Spread Joy and Serve Others* across the state, the country and abroad. Collectively we **donated \$102,833.03, spent \$13,190.77, gave 33,618.25 hours of service, raised \$287,311.08, gave \$122,258.81 in in-kind donations and completed 1,022 projects.** Our members went above and beyond in giving of their time, talents and treasures in support of the community service programs and advancement areas. Read on for a snapshot of their work in 2019.

Home Life, Health and Advocates for Children were a primary focus. Members donated food and clothing, prepared and served meals at shelters, provided gifts during Christmas, made blankets for Project Linus and put together care bags for children in the foster care system. One club took time to support their local food mission and spent days cleaning, scrubbing, organizing, rebuilding and rearranging their kitchen. In two clubs, members took the Polar Plunge in support of Special Olympics, while others donated funds and supported local athletes. Clubs supported organizations that address mental health issues and suicide prevention campaigns. Juniors made health a priority by participating in variety of 5k runs, cancer awareness walks and the Go Red for Women campaign; they donated to organizations that focus on health causes and educated their members on health issues. Four clubs hosted or participated in events that outfit teenagers for prom and one club organized and participated in a prom for individuals with special needs. Several clubs held breakfast with Santa and provided children with gifts at Christmas. One club provided for 55 children at Christmas through their "Last Minute Angels" program where just prior to the holiday they take the remaining angels off the tree and provide gifts. Local police departments received stuffed animals for distribution and members packed bags for children in the foster care system. Clubs donated backpacks and school supplies and one provided first day of school notes and gifts for children. Members donated pop-tabs to the Ronald McDonald House and hygiene products for homeless youth and foster children. One club focused on positive self-image and anti-bullying by sponsoring Girls on the Run and anti-bullying campaigns in the school system. Clubs supported St. Jude by answering phones at their annual radiothon and supported March of Dimes by making blankets for babies and donating hygiene kits for parents with babies in the NICU. At the state convention a walk was held for March of Dimes and as the host state for the Southeastern Region, the Juniors coordinated a walk for St. Jude.

Juniors supported the GFWC Signature Project by wearing purple ribbons, providing shelters with money and supplies and adopting clients during the holidays to provide gifts and necessities. Clubs planted pinwheel gardens, donated money to support human trafficking awareness and educated their members on this issue. Juniors supported the Arts in many ways including hosting craft nights, judging local art events, hosting craft fairs and supporting local theaters and arts organizations. One club hosts an annual spring art show, donating all proceeds back to the community through an Arts Donation fund, which includes college scholarships for students going into the fine arts. Clubs focused on the environment by recycling and/or finding ways to reuse a variety of items, including pill bottles, pull-tabs, newspapers, magazines, mascara wands and plastic grocery bags, and by adopting parks and streets to clean up the community. Clubs sponsored scholarships, recognized teachers, donated books, supported local libraries, collected box tops, and purchased school supplies. One club sponsors a book club for middle school girls to strengthen their reading skills and encourage them to share their opinions. Several clubs supported students to participate in the HOBY Seminar and donated supplies. Juniors supported the military by sending cards and care packages to the troops and supporting organizations that offer services for veterans and wounded warriors. Several clubs provided meals to first responders in their community and made donations in the wake of natural disasters. Clubs participated in local safety awareness events and provided information to their members regarding issues like safe driving, fire prevention and fraud awareness. Multiple clubs participated in Wreaths Across America events. Our Juniors went global in their service by collecting pill bottles and bras that were sent to developing countries and filled shoe boxes for Operation Christmas Child. One club raised funds for 100 meals for Rise Against Hunger. One club supported a village in Ethiopia by donating funds to

help a woman start an independent business and funds to support a clean water project. All GFWC International partners received monetary donations.

Junior members recognize that strong leadership and a vibrant membership are critical to future of our state Federation and GFWC. Clubs host leadership workshops, file exchanges and facilitate transition meetings. Clubs review and update their bylaws regularly, utilize parliamentary procedure and develop leadership materials to facilitate continuity. Junior club members work with each other and their general counterparts to problem solve, share information and ensure adherence to bylaws and standing rules. Juniors focus on membership recruitment and retention and multiple clubs reported new members. Clubs host social outings and activities, recognize life milestones and club anniversaries, and provide support for their members in times of need. Open houses, happy hours and dinners are held for prospective members and orientation is provided for new members. Clubs and their members proudly displayed their club name, logo and symbols on banners, apparel, cups, bags, tumblers and car magnets and used an array of media to promote their clubs and activities.

None of this work was possible without some level of fundraising and in 2019 members raised over \$280,000, with one district increasing their fundraising by 61%! There were food sales, a dinner theater, raffles, bingo, bus trips, scrapbook events, dances, community breakfasts, craft festivals, direct sales, silent and live auctions, restaurant events and more. These projects were opportunities for the club to not only raise funds, but to also *Spread Joy*, increase community awareness and reach prospective members.

With our state project addressing a critical issue in Virginia, awareness and prevention of human trafficking, a specific project was not prioritized for fundraising and donations during this administration. Instead, the broad-based theme to *Spread Joy and Serve Others* was promoted. To *Spread Joy* included spreading awareness of GFWC, positively impacting membership retention and recruitment and strengthening members' connection to Federation. To *Serve Others* focused on supporting the Junior Special Project Advocates for Children and encouraging clubs to diversify their work and outreach. The junior theme of the administration was spread via presentations and workshops, through official visits to districts, in newsletter articles in our state magazine and through direct outreach to our district directors and club presidents. In 2019, I had the opportunity to meet members from junior clubs by way of five official district visits, visits to club meetings, attendance at our state meetings and workshops, and participation in club events.

The metrics of success, outside of reporting stats, were a bit complex to compile, but there are some things to be said for certain. GFWC Virginia Junior members **did** spread joy. They proudly displayed GFWC apparel, more juniors stepped up to serve in the next administration and new Junior (and Juniorette) clubs were federated in the state. Of note, is that the Virginia Juniors hosted a fun night during the Southeastern Region meeting and raised \$2,100 that was distributed across the Region with an earmark to support the Junior Special Project Advocates for Children.

As your 3<sup>rd</sup> Vice President, Director of Junior Clubs I am honored to serve alongside amazing district directors, junior and general officers, and junior directors across the country. This opportunity has challenged and inspired me, and fed my soul. I appreciate all the support and guidance given to me and most importantly the work of all the GFWC Virginia Juniors. What an amazing two years it has been!

**GFWC VIRGINIA**  
**1<sup>ST</sup> VICE PRESIDENT/PRESIDENT ELECT – DALE FISHER**  
**ASSISTANT JUNIOR DIRECTOR – JENNY HINEGARDNER**



It was our objective this administration to “pump up” the confidence of our members – there is a leader in all of us! As GFWC Virginia LEADS Coordinator, Jenny conducted a successful GFWC Virginia Leadership Education and Development Seminar which focused on a diverse selection of leadership topics presented by GFWC Virginia and community business leaders. 26 up and coming federation leaders took advantage of the opportunity for personal development and growth. GFWC Virginia was privileged to host the Southeastern Region meeting where these officers along with seven other Virginia club women participated in the Southeastern Region LEADS. And, once again GFWC Virginia sponsored a representative to GFWC LEADS in Austin, Texas.

In keeping with our GFWC Virginia president’s theme, the shoe, a “Shoebox of Leadership Materials” was developed to assist new club presidents in preparing for their office. This 28-page document served as a supplement to the *GFWC Club Manual Leadership Guide* to offer administrative and motivational tips. Following a successful Pilot Program on Electronic Reporting in 2018, this year an electronic reporting format was made available for all clubs. This method of report submission has been well received and we look forward to expanding electronic reporting availability on other levels. More cyber activity was encouraged to move our clubs and state federation into the next decade. We took off our shoes and stuck our feet in the in the cyber waters as virtual meeting opportunities were explored and implemented.

It was our privilege to attend the GFWC Incoming Leadership Training Seminar held during the 2019 GFWC Convention in Austin, Tx. and we enjoyed a fun and informational GFWC Orientation in November in Crystal City, Virginia. The duties of our respective offices were fulfilled, attending all meetings of the Executive Committees and Executive Boards. Articles were submitted to the *GWC Virginia Clubwoman* highlighting leadership topics and reporting tips and promoting the GFWC Jennie Award and LEADS. It has been an honor to work “in step” with the other members of the GFWC Virginia Executive Boards. Thank you for the privilege to serve!

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**GFWC VIRGINIA 2<sup>ND</sup> VICE PRESIDENT – LORI ROCKER**  
**JUNIOR MEMBERSHIP CHARIMAN – AMANDA PAEZ**



Congratulations on another amazing year of Stepping Up to Membership! We asked every member to engage more fully in your GFWC membership by enhancing the connections you have to your fellow club members, clubs, Districts, GFWC Virginia, and GFWC. You have taken our request to heart. Goals for the administration include: increase membership 20% by 2020, one new club per District, and an increase in retention or connection among our members.

During the 2019 club year, 79 Clubs reported in the Membership Advancement Area, volunteering 21,310 hours and contributing \$62,311 through 572 projects in efforts across all areas of Membership. On the Recruiting front, clubs are hosting events and inviting members of the community to join them in making a difference. Clubs also got creative in ways to incentivize members to recruit. Thirty-two clubs reported an increase in members during the 2019 club year! We received over 100 recruiting coupons. Many of our members are Stepping Up to Membership recruitment. In addition, three new clubs were added to our roll in 2019: GFWC Dominion Juniette Club, GFWC Star Woman’s Club, and GFWC Lake Manor Estates Woman’s Club. We are excited to have these new clubs join us and look forward to working with them for year to come! Additional clubs are in the works for 2020, too!

On the Retention and connection front, clubs are stepping up to member orientation, assigning Federation sisters/buddies to new members, sharing news from the levels of GFWC to ensure members understand all that our organization has to offer, and are taking surveys to learn what their members are interested in and where improvements can be made to their club. Renewal focuses included evaluating their Bylaws, surveying members for feedback on programs, and retiring projects that are no longer viable. Clubs have also stepped up to Recognition in creative ways for birthdays, years of service, and member of the month and year awards.

While our overall numbers are down by 187 members, a loss of 4.9%, there are lots of positive steps being taken by our membership. Let’s continue to work each day to Step into Membership to strengthen our connections and numbers! We can do this!



**GFWC VIRGINIA SECRETARY**  
**BONNIE ROSEMOND**  
**JOY MATKOWSKY, JUNIOR SECRETARY**



Time has brought us to near completion of this administration and please know the heart-felt honor we share in serving in our respective positions.

Minutes have been recorded and filed for the 2019 GFWC Virginia Convention as well as all Executive Board Meetings. In addition, minutes have been recorded and filed for GFWC Virginia's, Budget and Finance Committee and Endowment Fund Committee. Joy recorded and filed minutes for the GFWC Virginia Junior Board Meetings as well as GFWC Virginia Convention Junior Business Meetings. We have written and submitted articles for each *Virginia Clubwoman* publications and corresponded with district secretaries.

These positions surely have given us time to develop better note taking techniques, organizational skills, and writing skills. Above all, these positions have provided an abundance of great fellowship and fun.

We will always treasure our time volunteering or simply having fun with fellow members across our great state during the 2018-2020 administration and we thank you for the opportunity to have served GFWC Virginia.

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**GFWC VIRGINIA TREASURER**  
**SUSIE MOWRY**  
**JOY MATKOWSKY, JUNIOR TREASURER**



It has been a privilege to serve as GFWC Virginia Treasurers during this administration. We have worked together, as Generals and Juniors, to make sure your treasuries are treated with the utmost care. As members of the Executive Board, we have participated in many discussions about this organization. Please know that we have represented you to the best of our abilities, taking into consideration the past as decisions are made for the future.

Expenses were paid in a timely manner. Payments were pre-approved by our State President and our Budget and Finance Committee Chairman through our voucher system and copies forwarded to our GFWC Virginia Headquarters. GFWC dues have been submitted and GFWC Virginia Juniors have been reimbursed for their portion of state dues.

The Budget and Finance Committee and Endowment Fund Committee meetings were attended at conferences, convention and the mid-winter meeting. In addition, all Executive Board and /or Junior Executive Board meetings were attended with financial reports presented. Treasurer reports were presented to our General body at the 2019 State Convention and Conference. Articles were written for inclusion in each *Virginia Clubwoman* publication.

Having these positions has allowed us to meet many members of Federation. We work with each other, support each other and hopefully help each other when we can. We appreciate the opportunity to work for you and the trust you put in us to safeguard the GFWC Virginia treasury during the 2018-2020 administration.

## **ALICE KYLE DISTRICT**

**Yolan Williams, President**

**Lynn Chapman, Junior Director**

**251 Members**

**173 Projects**

**4,015 Volunteer Hours**

**\$61,712 Donated & In-Kind**



The Alice Kyle District of the General Federation of Woman's Club of Virginia is located in south central Virginia. Twelve clubs make up this district, 8 general and 4 junior clubs. The attrition rate of most of the clubs has affected our annual performance, but the remaining clubs are a diverse, talented and energetic volunteer force and their results reflect dedication, passion and a strong financial commitment to their communities and the GFWC federation. During the latter part of 2019, a new club was added into the Alice Kyle District, the GFWC Lake Manor Estates Woman's Club with 11 new members. That made up in some small part for clubs loss of members.

Of the 8 general clubs, 5 submitted reports. All junior clubs submitted reports. The reporting clubs supported the GFWC Signature Projects, and the community projects with their time, talent and creativity. The advancement areas were also well supported. Fundraising and state projects were also given the emphasis, resources and woman-power.

Of the clubs reporting (9 total), both general and junior, generated 173 projects, 4,015 volunteer hours, \$31,553.00 dollars donated, and \$30,159.00 in kind donations in community service projects.

The 4 Junior Clubs of the Alice Kyle District contributed in all categories to the overall performance of the district. They had delivered 63 projects, 895 volunteer hours, 11538.00 dollars donated, and 1869.00 in-kind donations. Their GFWC Advancement Areas totaled 26 projects, 502 volunteer hours, 113.00 dollars spent and 1371.00 in –kind donations. They also had one addition to the Dogwood Society Endowment Fund.

The Alice Kyle Clubs presented a wonderful variety of community service projects. The Amherst Woman's Club sponsored the first Virginia Walk to End Scleroderma raising over \$10,000.00 with a walk and silent auction. They also contributed over 500 pairs of shoes for Soles for Souls human trafficking project. Blackstone adopted a local family and provided them with food, presents, and necessities throughout the winter holidays of Thanksgiving, Christmas and Valentine's Day. Cumberland sponsored several speakers and activities to support the state project, Step Up to Human Trafficking. The Woman's Club of Farmville, VA- GFWC in its 99<sup>th</sup> year, held an essay contest for the community and supported many local charities with substantial donations. The new club, Lake Manor Estates Woman's Club held several events to support 5 charities including human trafficking. Virgilina was the first club to report their activates which were impactful and varied. They had two conservation projects, one of which is town beautification.

The Farmville Junior Woman's Club held many events in most of the Community Service Project areas and raised thousands of dollars during their Lunch with Santa during the Christmas holidays. Crewe Woman's Club had a recycling project at Camp Crossroads and supported Madeline's House for women who are subjected to abuse and ran a major project, Christmas Mother. The Lynchburg Junior Woman's Club continues to run a thrift shop that funds many projects, including major support for Miriam's House, a shelter for abused women and their children. South Boston – Halifax Junior Woman's Club supports many projects including Trick or Treat for UNICEF, Shot at Life and Heifer International



**Blue Ridge District**  
**Carolyn Fellers, President**

**215 Members    53,467 Volunteer Hours**  
**384 Projects    \$102,604 Donated & In-Kind**

**Domestic Violence, Prevent Child Abuse, Camp Easter Seals and March of Dimes:** Clubs planted Pinwheel Gardens throughout the district. Donated monies and items to local shelters such as First Night Bags, Birthday Bags with items needed for a birthday party at the shelter. Personal items such as toiletries, purses with gift cards and items needed in a pinch. Backpacks and tote bags with items needed when leaving home. Monetary donations were made to Camp Easter Seals, a bean bag toss game purchased for the site and Tool Kits for new mothers and Babies in Crisis were donated.

**Arts:** Members spend time as docents in art galleries and theatres, attend concerts, plays and local events. We teach and take art classes, participate in local festivals, fairs, choral societies, theatre productions.

**Conservation:** We garden, harvest and preserve the foods we grow. Members maintain wildlife habitats and work to keep the trails along the Appalachian Trail and Blue Ridge Parkway clean and safe for hikers and clean the areas around the streams on the Virginia Tech Campus. We recycle and compost. Speaking of recycling, TREX has been the beneficiary of lots of plastic recycled by two clubs and in return, the clubs received TREX benches to donate to local parks. One club maintains a Butterfly Garden at a local community center. One club adopted a 2019 Climate Pledge to recognize and participate in the movement to conserve our local resources.

**Education:** Many clubs donated Dr. Seuss books to local schools Many belong to Book Clubs. One club along with donations from members of other clubs donate “trash” to a local school such as egg cartons and paper towel holders for the Young Engineers Program. Books Till Six is a program providing books to the Pediatric Unit at Carilion Hospital and Books for Bearcats provides books for summer reading to an Elementary School in Bristol, VA. Scholarships are awarded by several clubs to graduating high school seniors for college.

**Home Life and Health:** We take care of our health by exercising, keeping up with health exams. Members have donated personal care items, cards, stuffed animals, color books, etc. at district meeting donated to local nursing homes. Our “Sweat Suit” Project continues on to provide clothin to women, men and children going to Roanoke Memorials’ Forensic Nursing Unit for assistance in the event of sexual assault. One club supports the Addy Grace Foundation to build and maintain an all abilities playground. Clubs donate monies and volunteer for local organizations focused on food security in our area. One club donated toys to Duke Children’s Hospital for play therapy for pediatric cancer patients. A member of a club woman’s family had cancer treatment at this facility. Families were adopted to assist during the holidays and holiday parties held for special needs members of our community. One club partners with the local YMCA to provide prom attire to local students.

**International Outreach:** Clubs hold International dinners, support Rwandan HUGS. Make quilts to send overseas. Donate to Heifer, UNICEF, Shot at Life, Operation Smile and Soles for Souls.

**Public Issues:** The National D-Day Memorial is at the heart of our area. Now we have a new Bedford Boys Tribute Center. Members support Veteran’s activities, Brook Hill Farm a horse rescue farm that works with disadvantaged youth by paring them horses to help each recover and adapt to a better life. Clubs support local historical sites with donations and volunteer hours. We vote, recite the Pledge of Allegiance at club and District meetings. Clubs prepare treats to take to local first responders.

**Communication and Public Relations:** Communication is key in all we do. We utilize Facebook, Instagram, Newsletters and Email to share the latest and greatest details to our members.

**Leadership:** Our district is honored to be the home of multiple State Presidents. Three that continue to serve GFWC in multiple capacities. One club holds a joint meeting of the outgoing administration and the incoming administration to keep members up to date and receive the training needed for the jobs they now hold.

**Legislation and Public Policy:** Members have communicated with local and state legislators plus attended local government meetings. We have signed up to receive alerts from the GFWC Legislative Action Center.

**Membership:** Membership events were held to recruit new members. Clubs take the time to update handbooks, rack cards and tri-folds for distribution. We participate in local festivals. We also take time to just be together holding holiday events, getting together for lunch or dinner and attending local events together. It is not just about doing good things for others in our communities, it is also about bonding and getting to know each other better.

**Women’s History and Resource Center:** One club donated to the Campaign for the Future at Headquarters. One continues to sift through 90 years of club documents and records.

**President:** I am very appreciative of all our members do day in and day out. It is not just about what we do to make the lives of others better, it is the friendships that grow over time that makes GFWC a great organization to be in.





## LEE DISTRICT

**Carol Outten, President**

**665 Members**

**50,753 Volunteer Hours**

**Joanne Dixon, Junior Director**

**1,359 Projects**

**\$389,907 Donated & In-kind**

**GFWC Signature Project – Domestic Violence Awareness and Prevention:** Local shelters were supported by clubs; Safe Harbor, Hanover Safe Place, The Haven, Madeline's House, and the Domestic Violence Program at Goochland Cares were provided donations. Many Clubs "adopted" families for holidays and fulfilled wish lists for children. Six Clubs donated purses for the GFWC PURSE project which were filled with toiletry items for donation to local shelters throughout Virginia.

**Partnership - Prevent Child Abuse America:** All clubs recognized April as Child Abuse Prevention Month. Several Clubs planted Pinwheel Gardens including assisting in planting one at Lewis Ginter Botanical Gardens and two local Government Complexes.

**GFWC Juniors' Special Project – Advocates for Children:** Clubs participated in Backpacks of Love, Bright Beginnings and the Shopping Buddy Program, others donated school supplies. JWC Chester planned and funded the largest "Swim Lesson" for youth.

**Partnerships: (St. Jude Children's Research Hospital, March of Dimes):** Several Clubs made direct financial donations and one Club made waiting room fun bags. Several Club Members organized and participated in a walk during GFWC Virginia Convention.

**Arts:** Clubs supported the Arts through scholarships, donations of supplies, attending local theater, art shows, and museums. Clubs supported St. Joseph's Villa donating art supplies. Two Clubwomen assisted the State Arts Chairman at GFWC Virginia Convention.

**Conservation:** Clubs collected shoes for "Soles 4 Souls", planted trees for Arber Day, and supported local animal shelters.

**Education:** Club members served as hostesses for the Virginia State Fair Education Days and supported schools and libraries with donations of books, supplies, monetary donations, appreciation baskets/gifts and volunteer time. Club members donated over 700 Dr. Seuss books.

**Partnership – HOBY:** Clubs awarded scholarships and gave supplies to the Leadership seminar.

**Home Life:** Clubs supported Feed More, homeless shelters, Christmas Mother Programs, Habitat for Humanity, MLK day projects, and community food pantries. Christmas stockings were provided to the Salvation Army, and the Angle Tree program was supported.

**Saint Joseph's Villa – The Lee District President's Special Project:** Clubs supported this project donating Easter baskets, Dr. Seuss books, food pantry items, clothing, housewares, feminine hygiene products, school supplies, and gifts for families at the Holidays.

**Partnership: Canine Companions for Independence:** Clubs made donations from budgeted funds and collected "pennies for pups".

**Health:** Clubs sponsored "bosom buddy" programs, encouraged wellness exams, addressed preventative health topics, encouraged healthy lifestyles, and sponsored Blood Drives. Donations were made to Rescue Squads, and other local health organizations.

**International Outreach: Community Service:** Clubs supported Samaritans Purse Operation Christmas Child, Rise Against Hunger, KIVA, and CARE. They supported the State Project "Step up to Stop Human Trafficking" and the Richmond Justice Initiative.

**Partnerships: (Heifer, Operation Smile, Shot@Life, UNICEF):** Clubs informed members about the mission of Heifer and made donations. Operation Smile and UNICEF were supported with donations and Shot @ Life were supported by many clubs.

**Public Issues:** Members serve as docents at the Governor's Mansion, and the Essex County Museum and Historical Society.

**Communications and Public Relations:** Club websites are informative and contain photos, information, news, and they link to Lee District, GFWC VA and GFWC websites. Clubs have a Facebook presence, and some had Twitter and Instagram links.

**Leadership:** Clubs attended District, State, SER and GFWC Conventions as well as Richmond Area President's Council meetings. District clubs have members serving at all levels of Federation, and members are encouraged to attend those meetings.

**Legislation and Public Policy:** Clubs encouraged members to vote and provided information through their newsletters. They also encouraged members to sign up for the GFWC Legislative Action Center.

**Membership:** Clubs recruit new members by inviting friends, neighbors or colleagues to their meetings and through social events.

**Women's History and Resource Center:** Clubs worked to educate members about the WHRC and the history of GFWC. The Louisa Junior Women's Club sponsors the Miss Louisa pageant at Louisa High School, a tradition of the Club for over sixty years.

**Fundraising:** Clubs sold peanuts, calendars, soup mix, sugar scrub, had "no bake" bake sales, paint parties, bingo, raffles, and more. Several clubs participated in programs that pay rewards to non-profits. The Junior Federated Woman's Club of Chester sponsored "Mary's Charity Ball", and many General clubs worked Bizarre Bazaar and sponsored Fashion Shows.

**District President and Director of Junior Clubs' Activities:** The President planned and attended LDEC meetings, attended Mid-Winter and pre GFWC Virginia Convention joint board meetings, GFWC Virginia Convention, the joint board meeting in August, and the SER Conference. She performed duties associated with serving as President of the Host District for the State Convention. and helped as needed for the SER Conference. She attended SER LEADS and made necessary arrangements for a reception for the GFWC International President, and enjoyed Installing Officers, and attending numerous Club meetings and celebrations. The Director of Junior Clubs represented the Junior Clubs on the Lee District Executive Committee and headed the Junior Executive Board and attended all meetings of both groups. She planned and presided over the Junior Session of the 2019 Annual Meeting. She attended GFWC Convention and is a 2019 GFWC LEADS graduate.

## NORTHERN DISTRICT

Peggy Schlegelmilch, President

Kathy Cain, Junior Director

846 Members 977 Projects

78,879 Volunteer Hours \$378,329 Donations



**GFWC Signature Project: Domestic Violence Awareness, Prevent Child Abuse America, and Advocates for Children:** They supported local domestic violence and abuse shelters, financially and actively. Clubs donated \$4,489 and 3,067 in kind. Members participated in 26 projects/programs spending 838 hours.

**GFWC Juniors' Special Project: Advocates for Children:** 5,100 Valentine cards were made for children in foster care, etc. and another club made 200 activity bags for children in the emergency room. \$275 and \$722 in kind was donated with four projects and 61 hours were spent. March of Dimes: \$200 and \$381 in-kind was donated, with six projects and 42 hours spent. St. Jude Research Hospital: There were 3 projects and \$350 was donated.

**Arts:** Clubs had Annual Arts and Crafts Contests, supplied art supplies to schools, and had craft groups. Clubs supported the arts by donating \$9,215 and \$24,603 in kind. There were 69 projects and 5,111 hours were spent.

**Conservation:** Clubs planted trees, participated in cleanups, etc. Clubs donated \$3,740 and \$5,543 in kind. Members participated in 62 projects and spent 4,375 hours.

**Education:** Books were donated, scholarships were given, members were lunch buddy readers, and a spelling bee was supported. \$88,410 and \$17,722 in kind was donated There were 99 projects and 5,971 hours were spent. HOBY: Clubs donated \$2,310 and \$50 in kind. There were eight projects and 19 hours were spent.

**Home Life:** Clubs focused on providing help to women and children. One club began a Laundry Love Program. Clubs donated \$47,609 and \$75,114 in kind. Members participated in 176 projects and spent 11,335 hours. Canine Companions-had 3 projects and \$235 was donated.

**Health:** Members made 719 heart pillows, 242 bears, 57 blankets, 184 decorated pillowcases, 20 hats, and 4 breast pillows. A club worked with a church and made sanitary napkin "purses" and bags with toiletries for middle school students. Clubs donated \$3,894 and \$2,984 in kind. Clubs participated in 44 projects and spent 3,651 hours.

**International Outreach:** Clubs worked on the need for clean water and helping children in foreign countries. Clubs donated \$2,801 and \$3,311 in kind. There were 28 projects and 1,933 hours were spent. Heifer International: \$3,325-donated. Operation Smile: \$640-donated. Shot at Life Campaign: \$790-donated. UNICEF: \$196-donated.

**Public Issues:** Club members supported veterans, fire fighters, nurses, etc. They worked on 67 projects and spent 3,727 hours. They donated \$10,593 and \$2,893 in kind.

**Communication and PR:** Clubs worked 2,750 hours on 57 projects. They spent \$3,162 and \$2,659 in kind.

**Leadership:** Clubs had 86 projects. They spent 10,961 hours, \$5,770 and \$16,700 in kind.

**Legislation:** Members wrote letters to advocate bills. There were five projects and 50 hours were spent.

**Membership:** Recruitment was done at community events and teas. Clubs spent \$5,096 and \$3,842 in kind. Members participated in 87 projects and spent 5,096 hours.

**Women's History and Resource Center:** Clubs are educating members on the role that GFWC played in the history of our country. Clubs donated \$569 and \$1,545 in kind. They participated in 21 projects and spent 907 hours.

**Fundraising:** \$237,284 was raised in fundraisers. Two clubs used Flower Power and one club used Terri Lynn, Inc.

**GFWC VA Project, "Step Up to Stop Human Trafficking":** Clubs attended seminars, spread awareness, etc. \$2,106 and \$1,569 in kind was donated. Members participated in 27 projects and spent 1,157 hours.

**GFWC VA Junior Project: Camp Easter Seals:** The Junior club had one project and donated \$250.

**Camp Easter Seals VA UPC:** The Generals had three projects and donated \$1,475.

**GFWC VA Endowment/Dogwood Society/1907 Society:** \$1,000 and \$44 in kind were donated.

**Northern District Project: "Heart Health":** Club members participated in eight projects, spent 1,189 hours, donated \$750, and made \$1,351 in in kind donations.

**District President's Report:** It is such a privilege to be the president of the Northern District Clubs! Our district has very dedicated members. What an honor it has been to install officers for clubs. attend club meetings, share information about the Federation with members, etc.! It is wonderful to see clubs collaborating on projects and events. How fortunate I am to work with such a talented district executive board too!

## SHENANDOAH DISTRICT

Ingrid Sinclair-Day, President

342 Members

32,819 Volunteer Hours

Tara Widener, Director of Junior Clubs

467 Projects

\$81,468 Donated & \$69,957 In-Kind



**GFWC Signature Project: Domestic Violence Awareness & Prevention:** Clubs participated in 18 Projects; 424 Volunteer Hours; \$960 Donated, and \$2876 In-Kind. The **Woman's Club of Greene County** delivered 128 pairs of socks, 5 nightgowns/pajamas. 10 pounds of toiletries, 4 purses, 1 2 pairs of slippers to SHE, the local Shelter for Help and Emergency in Charlottesville.

**Arts:** Clubs participated in 24 Projects; 590 Volunteer Hours; \$865 Donated, and \$1,318 In-Kind Donations. Club activities involved student/member art shows, art supplies to local schools. **Covington Woman's Club** participated for the first time in the "First Friday Art Walk." Three clubs held writing contests for members and students.

**Conservation:** Clubs participated in 24 Projects; 1036 Volunteer Hours; \$165 Donated, and \$1033 In-Kind Conservation activities included recycling, beautification projects and planting trees and gardens. In celebration of Federation Day and Arbor Day. the **Buena Vista Woman's Club** planted two Dogwood trees at Glen Maury Park, and the **Waynesboro Woman's Club** donated 5 red maples and 5 white oaks to the city parks.

**Education:** Clubs participated in 49 Projects; 2091 Volunteer Hours; \$38,087 Donated, and \$10,473 In-Kind. All 10 clubs reporting provided scholarships for \$24,942 to high school seniors, students in Trade Schools and Community College. At Christmas, the **Lexington Woman's Club** donated 240 new books to 90 Headstart children and in the Fall, the club donated school supplies of over \$1,000 to 12 kindergarten classes.

**HOBY:** 6 Projects; 52 Volunteer Hours; \$1,375 Donated. Clubs provide scholarships for students to attend the HOBY seminar at JMU.

**Home Life:** Clubs participated in 47 Projects; 8881 Volunteer Hours; \$26,138 Donated, and \$24,216 In-Kind. Projects include operating clothes closets, helping individuals with transportation to medical appointments, volunteering with the Backpack program, collecting food and toys and other needed supplies at Christmas. Donations of toiletries to the homeless and art supplies to children's advocacy organizations.

**Health:** Clubs participated in 26 Projects; 2445 Volunteer Hours; \$3565 Donated, and \$175 In-Kind. Projects included speakers at meetings, donations to Hospice, Camp Easter Seals, and scholarships for LPN nurses.

**International Outreach:** Clubs participated in 6Projects; 258 Volunteer Hours; \$936 Donated & \$1567 In-Kind. The **Lexington Woman's Club** organized their 27<sup>th</sup> International Dinner for 60 students from 25 countries attending Washington & Lee, VMI, and high schools. The **Waynesboro Woman's Club** donated 380 pairs of shoes for "Soles 4 Souls."

**Operation Smile:** Clubs participated in 10 Projects; 788 Volunteer Hours; \$1979 Donated, and \$2901 in-Kind. Members from the **Lexington Woman's Club, Covington Woman's Club, and Wayland Woman's Club** collected toiletries, made hospital gowns, no-no armbands, and smile bags that were filled with toys and coloring books. All were transported to Operations Smile Headquarters in Virginia Beach.

**Public Issues:** Clubs participated in 32 Projects; 1403 Volunteer Hours; \$8,078 Donated, and \$165 In-Kind. Members volunteer with the Red Cross on disaster relief missions. **Covington Woman's Club** volunteers with the Salvation Army in staffing the Kettles at Christmas. The **Lexington Woman's Club** sponsored a panel discussion about women in the Armed Forces. The **Wayland Woman's Club** had programs on Human Trafficking. **Buena Vista Woman's Club** was honored for long-time support of the historic Paxton House.

**Communications and Public Relations:** Clubs participated in 33 Projects; 917 Volunteer Hours, spent \$1,502 and \$837 in- Kind Donation. Clubs advertise through newsletters, websites, 'rack cards', FB accounts, special 'branding' outfits, the annual yearbook, articles in newspapers, the District and State newsletters. The **Lexington Woman's Club** has an annual month-long display of club history at the local library.

**Leadership:** Clubs participated in 61 Projects; 8898 Volunteer Hours, spent \$7,644 and \$8,617 in-Kind. Members serve in leadership positions on the club, district, and state level. Members attend district and State convention, Summer Conference, and SER. Clubs also held officer transition meetings and reporting workshops.

**Membership:** Clubs participated in 46 Projects; 1418 Volunteer Hours, spent \$1609 and \$1,992 in Kind. Recruiting and retaining members are top priorities for all 7 clubs reporting.

**Women's History and Resource Center:** Clubs participated in 15 Projects; 195 Volunteer Hours, \$231 spent and \$6,203 in-Kind. The **Lexington Woman's Club** historian researched and published a one-page article of the club's hosting of the Virginia Federation Convention in Lexington in 1915. The **Waynesboro/Augusta Woman's Club** provided monthly focus on one past president of the club. **Weyers Cave Woman's Club** members take turns presenting "notable" women in history.

**Fundraising:** Clubs participated in 34 Projects; 5152 Volunteer Hours; \$49,807 Raised, and \$5,531 In-Kind. Club fundraisers included craft and baked goods sales, ornaments, bridge luncheons, box lunches, yard sales, and "The Year End Campaign" asking for end-of-year donations with an offer of matching contributions up to \$750.

## SOUTHSIDE DISTRICT

Lori Chevalier, President

485 Members 39,004 Volunteer Hours

Stephanie Griffin, Director of Junior Clubs 1,235 Projects \$182,247 Donated & In-Kind



The members of Southside District (14 Generals, 3 Juniors and 1 Juniorette clubs) supported all service programs, partnership organizations, and advancement areas. Leadership and Membership lead the Advancement areas with Education and Public Issues the most popular with Arts a very close third for the CSPs.

**Leadership:** Incoming and outgoing leaders get together and swap information and plan for the new club year. Clubs showed appreciation for their leaders throughout the year. Many times this was donations to their Dogwood Society account. Many members serve at District, State, Region and International levels.

An interesting leadership project came from **The Woman's Club of Prince George County**. They leased meeting space in a local facility and consolidated files from attics, basements and garages into the new space. A copy of their 1955 Charter, Resolution presented by the County at Club's 60<sup>th</sup> anniversary and past awards were found. A framed photo of their first President has been hung. Members have taken the lead to make the space "home".

**Membership:** Members reported inviting potential members to club functions, membership recruitment socials and dinners. Many clubs also recognize members for years of membership, Perfect Attendance, Rookie of the Year, and Member of the Year. Clubs help members during both difficult and joyous times.

**Education & HOBY:** Southside clubs fully support learning in their communities by volunteering at their local schools and libraries; donating to local scholarships; funding and awarding their own club scholarships; and donating supplies/funds to elementary schools. Members assisted at the State Fair of Virginia. Dr. Seuss books were collected and donated to schools as well as members reading to children. Several clubs created/maintain Lending/Free Libraries in their communities. HOBY support included full or partial scholarships; donating requested supplies and the GFWC Virginia HOBY State Coordinator is a member of the district.

**Public Issues:** Clubs are very supportive of the military and first responders in our district with monetary donations and food baskets. Items are collected and delivered to McGuire's Hospital in Richmond. Sweat suits, Depends and other items were delivered to VA hospital in Hampton. Backpacks were filled with Christmas goodies and delivered at a cookie party for veterans in the nursing home. Clubs participated in laying wreaths for Wreaths Across America and flags were also placed on graves for Memorial Day. Clubs held candidate forums that were open to the public and have members who work the polls on Election Day.

**Arts:** Southside Ladies are crafty and artsy! Held member craft shows, learned about different drawing and painting techniques and supported local artists and crafters. Members attended plays, went to museums, art openings and volunteered as docents at local arts centers. Supported art teachers by providing supplies.

**Home Life:** Clubs 'adopted' families or children at Easter, Thanksgiving and Christmas. Donations were made to local food pantries and animal shelters. Pillows, toys, clothes and personal hygiene items were donated to local women's shelters. Gently used work clothes were donated to women re-entering the work force and for job interviews.

**Health:** For Heart month, members wore red, served healthy snacks/refreshments, hearts themed door prizes, guest speakers and donations were made to the American Heart Association. For Breast Cancer month, members wore pink, information distributed at meetings, and assembled breast cancer goody bags for local teachers and staff at an elementary school. **District Project** continues to provide funding for lymphedema sleeves to those who cannot afford them. Our Silent Auction at our Spring Meeting each year helps to fund these sleeves as well as club donations.

**International Outreach:** One club decided to "Free the Girls" and donated new and gently used bras! Shoeboxes were donated to Operation Christmas Child. All 4 partnership organizations were supported with a wide range of animals purchased through Heifer International; monetary and item donations (Smile dolls, bags, gowns, no-sew blankets and no-no arm bands) made and delivered to Operation Smile.

**Domestic Violence Awareness & Prevent Child Abuse America:** Collected and delivered toiletries to shelters in their communities. Blankets were also collected and donated. Planting pinwheel gardens for Child Abuse Awareness is an activity that many participate in during April.

**Advocates For Children:** Pop tops collected for Ronald McDonald House, assisted at a community movie event, provided refreshments for a summer recreation program, provided prom dresses to high school ladies at a discount, and participated in A Night To Shine event as helpers and 'dates'.

**Juniors:** Collected can tabs and made no sew blankets for Ronald McDonald House. Collected toys, socks, underwear, snacks, pens, and notebooks for VCU Children's Hospital and NICU ward at local HCA Hospitals. Gift baskets given to NICU nurses along with crib sheets made by members. Volunteered at Special Olympics Little Feet Meet. Juniorettes participated in Night to Shine, held an Anthem Lemonade Stand, and wrote encouragement cards that were distributed to the guidance office of two elementary schools.

## SOUTHWESTERN DISTRICT

Faye Boccock, President    178 Members    11,247 Volunteer Hours  
586 Project    \$44,887 Donated & \$54,577 In-Kind



**Domestic Violence Awareness and Prevention:** Clubs made monetary donations to women's shelters, along with clothing and hygiene products. They advocated for stronger legislation dealing with abusers. They persuaded their local governments to declare April Domestic Violence awareness month. They wore purple ribbons, planted pinwheel gardens and supported their local social services organizations by donating socks and shoes.

**Advocates for Children:** Clubs observed Advocacy for Children week, participated in a 5k run for autism. Children were treated to a night with Santa and given gifts and a meal was provided. Clubs supported several projects that raised money for St. Jude's Hospital and the St. Jude's Ranch.

**Arts:** Clubs were into the crafting business. They held a craft day and invited other clubs, held a watercolor class and everyone painted a picture. They arranged a crafters day at their local park and donated over a hundred gowns to the Nutcracker ballet for costumes, attended Barter plays.

**Conservation:** Clubs recycled everything possible. They observed Earth Day with special programs that included planting flowers and trees. They donated bird feeders and bird seed. Mascara wands were cleaned and donated to wildlife program. They helped clean up the river in their town and maintained a recycling drop off for electronics.

**Education:** Clubs donated many scholarships to worthy students to help defray the cost of tuition and books. Clubs donated to the Dolly Parton Imagination Library, served on the Adult Education Board, and on the Library Board.

**Home Life:** Clubs supported Camp Easter seal, Canine Companions, food pantries, and distribution centers. Handmade hats were given to cancer patients. Veterans were supported with clothing and household items for their families. Special recognition was given to two military cryptologists during WW2 and to a fallen Vietnam veteran.

**Health:** Clubs were quick to support Breast Cancer Awareness, Red Dress project for Heart Month. They continued donations of supplies to the Health Wagon, donated blood, and supported the district project of Women's Heart Health.

**International Outreach:** Members donated to Operation Smile. Some clubs chose a country and had a meal with the country's cuisine. Clubs supported the state project of STEP UP TO STOP HUMAN TRAFFICKING.

**Public Issues:** One club worked with their Town Council and the new owners of their hospital to provide information and assurance on its reopening in fall 2020. Members honored vets, police officers and first responders by providing gifts and home cooked meals, Flags were flown throughout their town and surrounding areas to honor holidays. They supported youth government day and members serve on the board of their local government.

**Communication and Public Relations:** Clubs are proud of their affiliation with GFWC and display signs and wear clothing with the logo displayed. They publish articles in regards to projects they are working on in their local media. They use Facebook and other social media sites to promote GFWC.

**Fundraising:** Clubs raised money by sponsoring beauty pageants, festivals, yard sales, selling apple butter, silent auctions, and television auction.

**Leadership:** SW members hold offices on every level, Local, District, and State. They are willing to step up and take District Chairman positions. Members attend meetings at all levels.

**Legislation and Public Relations:** Members serve on various local and county government seats. They stay abreast of all issues before congress that affect their livelihood, their children, the elderly and their health.

**Membership:** Clubs hold membership drives. They use every opportunity to recruit new members. Several club members were honored in 2019 for their recruiting efforts.

**Women's History and Research Center:** Members supported the WHRC by donating to the Capitol Campaign and attending the Reception at Christmas at the GFWC home.



## TIDEWATER DISTRICT

Wanda Alvis, President

Ann Schultz, Junior Liaison

815 Members

47,096 Volunteer Hours

865 Projects

\$193,119 Dollars Donated



**Domestic Violence:** The clubs supported the many women's shelters and homes in the area with money, toiletries, clothing, furniture, household supplies, school supplies and other necessities. During Domestic Violence Awareness Month clubs delivered purple mums to local government offices, hung purple wreaths, and wore purple clothing. **Prevent Child Abuse America:** Clubs participated in April's PCAA Month by wearing blue at their club meetings and activities. They had programs on how domestic violence effects children and planted 240 pinwheels at their city hall.

**Advocates for Children:** One club provided 31 Birthday Bags for nurses working with the Children's Health Investment Program to give to a child in their birthday month. Another club had an Adopt a Bear Project where they dressed small bears in t-shirts with positive sayings. The bears were distributed to groups who help children in need of comfort. **St Jude's:** Donations were made to the hospital.

**Arts:** Club members attended performances and toured museums. Club newsletters featured community art events, clubs held art shows and volunteered at art galleries and theaters. Art supplies were donated to schools.

**Conservation:** In recognition of the Grand Initiatives, clubs donated shoes to Nike and Soles for Souls and planted trees for Arbor Day. Clubs recycled many items and participated in educating children and adults on the importance of recycling.

**Education:** Dr. Seuss books were collected and distributed to local schools, libraries and children's groups. Scholarships were given, Little Free Libraries were established, members tutored and read for the Mayor's Book Club. Books and school supplies were donated to groups working with children. Donations were given to HOBY.

**Home Life:** Donations were made to the Food Bank, sandwiches and Christmas stockings were supplied to the Salvation Army, needed items were donated to shelters and homes for the homeless. One club packed duffle bags for children entering foster care. Monetary donations were given to Canine Companions.

**Health:** Clubs held programs on heart health, eating healthy, exercising and other ways to protect the heart. The district made mastectomy pillows for hospital patients. Some clubs knitted breast prostheses and created turbans for cancer patients. Members were encouraged to get flu pneumonia and shingles shots.

**International Outreach:** Clubs collected stamps for the Bransby Home for Horses, filled shoe boxes for Operation Christmas Child and donated to various organizations around the world who seek to help women and children. Clubs collected money for **Heifer International** and made hospital gowns, arm bands, Smile bags and blankets for **Operation Smile**. Projects were done through UNICEF to bring awareness to human trafficking.

**Public Issues:** Projects under this CSP included monetary donations to the USO, to local foodbanks and many other organizations who do work for those in need. Baby afghans were donated to the Navy-Marine Corps Relief Society, flip-flops, wash cloths and toilet articles were given to the Union Mission's Woman's shelter. Christmas and greeting cards, stamps and pens were given to assisted living facilities.

**Communications and Public Relations:** Clubs use various ways to communicate with members including newsletters, emails, Facebook, Google Calendar, Google Drive, and telephone calls. Club women wear clothing with club and GFWC logos, use brochures, stationary and other ways to advertise their clubs and GFWC.

**Leadership:** Club leaders seek to integrate all members into the workings of the club. Orientation for new members is held as well as programs on the purposes of GFWC. Information from the district, state, and International is shared and members are encouraged to attend their meetings. Leaders use the summer months to hold committee meetings and board retreats to review the past year and to make plans and set goals for the coming year.

**Legislation:** Members are encouraged to sign up for the Legislation Action Committee, to contact their legislators to support bills relative to women and children and to always vote.

**Membership:** Clubs use various creative ways to bring in new members and recognize current members. In addition to regular meetings, social events are held to enable members to have fun and get to know each other. Sponsors are encouraged to maintain contact with their new member throughout the year. One club keeps a prospect rooster and sends them newsletters and invitations to club activities.

**WHRC:** Clubs have programs recognizing the work of GFWC's founding members, they keep histories and have programs on the founding of their club. One club gave a monthly biographical highlight on a Virginia historical woman. This year a district bus trip was held to Washington D.C. to visit the Library of Congress for a tour of their exhibit on women's suffrage

**State Project—Step Up to stop Human Trafficking:** Monetary donations were made to the project, informational programs were held, and members joined with other organizations to create awareness of the need to stop human trafficking.

**Camp Easter Seals and Virginia Endowment Fund:** Donations were made, 1907 badges were purchased, and Dogwood pins were upgraded.

**District President:** This officer planned and conducted district meetings, attended Executive Board meetings, state convention and conferences, and the GFWC Convention. She visited sister clubs, installed officers, participated in club's fundraisers. She conducted Executive Committee and training meetings. Articles were written, emails sent.

# 2019 AWARD WINNERS

## ARTS DEPARTMENT Helen Hill Chairman



### 628 Projects 22,081 Hours \$64,334 Donated \$66,808 In Kind Donated

The Virginia Clubs did much in the field of art. They offered teaching and learning opportunities for their members. Schools benefited in many ways from the activities of the clubs. They made table favors for many banquets, decorated theaters, decorated their clubhouses and visited nursing homes. Many theaters saw their presents at plays.

#### **Best Single Project – Small Club – GFWC Woman’s Club of Manassas, Inc. – Northern District**

This club presented the CD of Peter and The Wolf to Third Grade Classes in an Elementary School for a study of the symphony. This was to expose young children to literature and classical music. The students used coloring books to visualize the instruments and characters. High School Band students brought instruments to the school to play and show the Third Graders.

#### **Best Single Project – Large Club – Woman’s Club of Norfolk – Tidewater District**

This club arranged the showing of a documentary, Be Natural, the story of Alice Blache, the first female producer of films. Ms. Blache was indicative of the women of GFWC.

#### **Best Overall – Small Club – GFWC Pennington Gap Woman’s Club – Southwestern District**

Members of this club attended a book signing event, held a painting party, decorated a local theater for the various season and held an Arts & Crafts Night and invited another club to join them. They collected ball gowns for the ballet to be refurbished for costumes for the NUTCRACKER. Students in the local schools view the play free of charge.

#### **Best Overall – Large Club – Great Bridge Woman’s Club – Tidewater District**

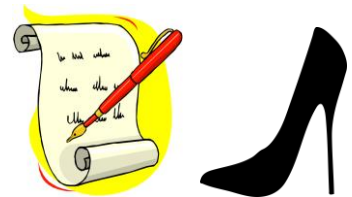
This club sponsored a student in the fashion design competition, held a three month drive to collect art supplies from members for Help & Emergency Response, Inc., donated an instrument to the Chesapeake School System, kept members informed up artistic events and took part in the Empty Bowls Charity Event.

## ART CONTEST-MEMBER ENTRIES

### WRITING CONTEST, Helen Hill Chairman

#### Member Short Story – Amateur

No Awards Given



#### Member Poetry – Amateur

1<sup>st</sup> Nancy Rubin – “Storm of a Lifetime”

Woman’s Club of Fredericksburg – Northern District

2<sup>nd</sup> Ida Murhl Blessing – “A Little Girl Without a Dream”

Waynesboro/Augusta Woman’s Club, GFWC – Shenandoah District

3<sup>rd</sup> Tommie Faulkner-Peake – “Where We Call Home”

Woman’s Club of Newport News – Tidewater District

## ARTS DEPARTMENT

### ARTS CONTEST – STUDENT ENTRIES

Helen Hill, Chairman



#### **Student Poetry**

##### **Grades K-2**

1<sup>st</sup> Aislynn Overstreet “The Four Seasons” Lexington WC SH

##### **Grades 3-5**

1<sup>st</sup> Gabby Blankenship “Very Sad Poem-Not True At All” Waynesboro/Augusta WC, GFWC SH

### Grades 6-8

1<sup>st</sup> Nicole Kidin “In Between” Lexington WC SH

### Grades 9-12

1<sup>st</sup> Matthew Heim “Baseball In The Backyard” Lexington WC SH  
2<sup>nd</sup> Cierra Henley “Camo Hat” Woman’s Club of Newport News TW

### Student Short Story

#### Grades K-2

1<sup>st</sup> Olivia Barker “Missing Papaw” Lexington WC SH

#### Grades 3-5

1<sup>st</sup> Geneva Snyder “The Secrets of Victoria Mitford” Lexington WC SH

#### Grades 6-8

1<sup>st</sup> Caitlin Carrington “Devil May Care” Lexington WC SH

#### Grades 9-12

1<sup>st</sup> Melissa Downs “Braving The Winter” Woman’s Club of Newport News TW

**COMMUNICATIONS and PUBLIC RELATIONS 391 Projects**  
**Pat Jeffress, Chairman 14,054 Hours \$20,111 Donated & \$22,792 In-Kind**



Clubs across GFWC Virginia communicated with members through newsletters, social media, telephone trees, Handbooks and websites. They prepared “rack cards” and promotional pieces to leave in public places. They thought outside the box and held or participated in events or happenings that placed their club names and the GFWC brand in the public eye.

#### **Best Single Project – Small Club – General – GFWC Tarrara Woman’s Club – Southside District**

When word got out about this club’s “*Change for Change*” project the community stepped up and partnered with the Tarrara Women to pay down a local elementary school lunch debt. Great Public Relations in the community and awarded a School Board Certificate of Excellence.

#### **Best Single Project – Small Club – Junior – Narrows Junior Woman’s Club of GWFC – Southwestern District**

Sponsors an annual television auction. The Club utilizes local print, media and cable channel to publicize the auction event. A 15 x4 foot banner with Club name is hung on a bridge over state route 460 into the town. Auction solicitation letters with club name and GFWC logo are sent to businesses and partners.

#### **Best Single Project – Large Club – General – GFWC Varina Woman’s Club – Lee District**

Brought back their area’s Christmas tree and tree lighting ceremony after the tree had been destroyed in 2014. They purchased and planted a new tree, although too small to decorate, they made a large wooden tree frame and decorated with lights, large ornaments and installed a portable sign displaying GFWC Varina Woman’s Club name.

#### **Best Single Project – Large Club – Junior – No Winner**

#### **Best Overall – Small Club – GFWC Ashcake Woman’s Club – Lee District**

An annual 10K/5K Harvest Run/Pumpkin Walk each Fall, soliciting Runners from seven running clubs within a 100-mile radius. They maintain a Race/Walk web site, hang a 4 x10 foot banner at the entrance to town, contact area churches for a church challenge. Clubwomen waitress in different area restaurants wearing GFWC apparel two times a year.

#### **Best Overall – Large Club – GFWC Dominion Woman’s Club – Northern District**

Club recognizes the importance of networking with businesses and fostering personal connections in the business community. Members attended various events to represent the club or display Club materials. Over ten organizations or events visited and attended with club and GFWC materials.

**CONSERVATION DEPARTMENT**  
**Cynthia Baroody, Chairman**

**341 Projects 16,596 Hours**  
**\$21,915 Donated and \$35,597 In Kind**



GFWC Virginia Clubs continued to make a difference by planting trees, donating shoes for Nike Grind and “Soles 4 Souls” as well as recycle batteries, cellphones, aluminum cans, plastics of all kinds, donating tab tops for Ronald McDonald House and Shriners Hospital, mascara wands for wildlife, Crayola markers and crayon projects in schools, planting seed balls for bees and pollinators, planting gardens, and picking up trash.

**Best Single Project – Small Club – GFWC Pennington Gap Woman’s Club – Southwestern District**

Club members over see a historical cemetery where many Civil War soldiers are buried. Members are responsible for the upkeep of the cemetery, reclaiming headstones that have been toppled over. Many hours have been spent with pencil rubbings in an attempt to identify the deceased. Flags in the cemetery are properly displayed and maintained.

**Best Single Project – Large Club – Herndon Woman’s Club – Northern District**

Members of the club collected medical and hygiene supplies for the Medical Missionary of Manassas. This organization founded in 1997 consists of a volunteer group of more than 200 doctors, nurses, dentists and others who work to improve the health of the poor in the United States and throughout the world. This year club members collected walkers, wheelchairs, canes, crutches, beds, hygiene products and other miscellaneous items.

**Best Overall – Small Club – GFWC Ashcake Woman’s Club – Lee District**

Club members planted a red-bud tree on Arbor Day and collected shoes for Nike Grind and Soles 4 Souls as part of GFWC Grand Initiatives. Members also increased recycling efforts and collected plastic bottle caps and bags and donated them to a Girl Scout troop, a nursing home and rehab center as well as an elementary school. Members planted seed pods to attract bees, recycled Christmas gifts, took a forty-day challenge to reduce and declutter, assisted at a local elementary school to share conservation topics and donated to Virginia Soil and Water Conservation.

**Best Overall – Large Club – GFWC Botetourt Town & Country Women’s Club – Blue Ridge District**

Club members continued their dedication in reducing plastics by bringing their own drink cups and reusable utensils to events. Members were involved in recycling metal, paper, glass and plastics as well as picking up litter, composting, feeding the birds and making donations to Habitat for Humanity, Goodwill, Salvation Army and Rescue Mission. Club members participated in a plant swap at a monthly meeting and participated in water conservation meetings for Nature Conservancy, Chesapeake Bay Foundation and Botetourt Community Partnership.

**EDUCATION DEPARTMENT 620 Projects 32,937 Hours**  
**Jenny Martin, Chairman \$258,094 Donated & \$165,695 In-Kind**



HOBY 41 projects, 243.5 Hours \$7,067 donated and \$426 in-kind donations

The members of GFWC Virginia focused on the GFWC Grand Initiatives by purchasing over 1,100 new Dr. Seuss books which were given to GFWC Headquarters with 261 used books being donated to libraries and Head Start Programs. Members supported educational programs by providing scholarships, donating school supplies, participating in ESO book clubs, volunteering at the Virginia State Fair, and supporting HOBY with items from their wish lists and with monetary donations. Guest speakers came and spoke on a variety of topics such as bullying and the importance of reading within a child’s life.

**Best Single Project – Small Club – GFWC Bent Mountain Woman’s Club – Blue Ridge District**

Twelve club members worked closely with their Child Life Specialist at Carilion Hospital Pediatric Unit. A total of 911 books were delivered to children to take home who were having a difficult procedure or dealing with critical diseases. The club solicited monetary donations from the community, did fundraisers and raffles and raised a total of \$841.10 this year toward funding this project.

**Best Single Project – Large Club – GFWC Dominion Woman’s Club – Northern District**

This club is committed to growing literacy in children. Thirty nine members donated both adult and children’s books with a total In-Kind value of \$1,015 dollars which were given to teachers at Ellis elementary school to supplement their classroom libraries. As Dr. Seuss says, “The more that you read, the more things you will know”.

**Best Overall – Small Club – South Boston-Halifax Junior Woman’s Club GFWC – Alice Kyle District**

“Girls Rock Book Club” was designed to help middle school girls improve their grades, strengthen reading skills, become vocal and create life- long readers. Members meet and discuss how the books relate to real world experiences.

**Best Overall – Large Club – Woman’s Club of Sandston – Lee District**

Tote bags are given to children in Crisis who have experienced a death, illness, fire or other traumas. These bags contain a blanket, stuffed animal, book, crayons and coloring book. The bags are valued at \$25 each and twenty bags were delivered to four schools this year.



**FUNDRAISING DEPARTMENT**  
**Joanne Hamner, Chairman**

**246 Projects 52,252 Hours**  
**Dollars Raised \$431,694**

**Best Single Project – Small Club – General – Vienna Woman’s Club – Northern District**

This Club held their 4<sup>th</sup> Daddy Daughter Dance at a local school. The theme was hearts and flowers. The event was sold out in one day with over 160 Daddy’s and Daughters in attendance. Most of the food was donated and songs for all ages were played by a very outgoing DJ. A photo booth, glitter tattoo table and raffle rounded out the evening.

**Best Single Project – Small Club – Junior – Narrows Junior Woman’s Club of GFWC – Southwestern District**

This Club sponsored their 36<sup>th</sup> TV Auction. Over 350 merchants were contacted and over 570 items/certificates were secured for the auction. Advertising was by a large banner, ads in the local newspaper and local store windows. The Club utilized the internet to showcase the items, as well as the auction being broadcast live on a local station.

**Best Single Project – Large Club – General – Covington Woman’s Club of GFWC – Shenandoah District**

This large club held its first garden tour, along with a local garden club & the Alleghany Highlands Chamber of Commerce. Five different locations were chosen: sanctuary garden, wildflower & shade garden; lavender and herb farm and a flower farm that supplies local florists. Light refreshments were provided.

**Best Single Project – Large Club – Junior – Junior Federated Women’s Club of Chester – Lee District**

This large club continued its Mary’s Charity Ball with a “Midnight in Monte Carlo” theme. Over 825 hours were spent to procure the wine, cocktail supplies and beer, organize the event by committee; and holding mini-fundraisers to keep the cost of the event down. Donations totaled over \$60,000 for grab bags, bottles of wine and liquor, silent auction items and live auction packages.

**Best Overall – Small Club – GFWC Woman’s Club of South Norfolk – Tidewater District**

This small club raised funds by selling donated jewelry and accessories at meetings and club events, producing an historical calendar, holding a Breakfast with Mom and coordinating a tour of historic homes and sites such as the local Depot, new library and the Williams Candy Factory, which was celebrating its 100 years of candy making with demonstrations.

**Best Overall – Large Club – GFWC Woman’s Club of Greene County – Shenandoah District**

This large club explored many different fundraising opportunities in 2019, The Club was able to reinvigorate their Annual Helping Hands Holiday Craft Bazaar with great results; put together an old fashioned Lemonade stand with baked goods; utilized the Belk Bucks and wrote two grants that secured \$2,500 in funds for their Club.

**HEALTH DEPARTMENT**                      **319 Projects 14,964 Hours**  
**Barb Kiker, Chairman**            **\$26,196 Donated & \$26,069 In-Kind**



GFWC Virginia clubs have embraced bringing awareness to health causes, and encouraging members to live healthy lifestyles with enthusiasm, creativity, and energy. Projects included participations in walks and runs, educational programs, healthy cooking demos, and making a variety of helpful items for patients (cancer turbans, cough pillows, comfort bears).

**Best Single Project – Small Club – Woman’s Club of Arlington – Northern District**

This club supported Mended Hearts by making and delivering 233 adult Cough Pillows to their local hospitals. In addition, they created 80 smaller Cough Pillows for children undergoing heart surgery

**Best Single Project – Large Club – GFWC Goochland Woman’s Club – Lee District**

This club prepared and delivered recipe cards for their local food bank. They worked with the Food Pantry Manager to understand the preferences of their clients. Each recipe had to be simple to prepare, using 5 ingredients available at the food pantry, be nutritious, and appeal to both adults and children. The eye-catching recipe cards were enthusiastically picked up by the shoppers with their food.

**Best Overall – Small Club – Hopewell Federated Woman’s Club – Southside District**

This club supported the Hopewell Healthcare Center the third Thursday of each month with ice cream, cookies, and punch for the residents. They celebrated birthdays, and holidays. They educated their members about Breast and Ovarian Cancer, and Heart Disease in comprehensive programs throughout the year.



**Best Overall – Large Club – Woman’s Club of Newport News – Tidewater District**

This club supported health awareness throughout the year. Among their many projects, they celebrated Woman’s Heart Month, worked tirelessly on the Tee Off for A Cure Golf Tournament, Made Turbans out of T Shirts for Cancer patients, and supported Clean Comfort, and made sleeping mats for the homeless.



**HOME LIFE DEPARTMENT      642 Projects   37,864 Hours**  
**Sandy Stiltner, Chairman      \$107,915 Donated & \$216,702 In-Kind**

2019 Club members in Virginia Feed the Hungry, Clothed the needy, gave special attention to Senior citizens and Residents of shelters and Nursing Homes and took special care of Children in need.

**Home Life – Partnership – Canine Companions   20 Programs 561 Hours   \$1140 Donated \$3326 In Kind**

Clubs in Virginia donated generously to Canine Companions.

**Best Single Project – Small Club – Woman’s Club of Arlington – Northern District**

The club supports three gardens in their area; work begins in March and ends in October when the harvest is over. The club this year donated 1049 pounds of produce and over 100 pounds of canned goods to the Arlington Food Assistance Center.

**Best Single Project – Large Club – GFWC Blacksburg Junior Women’s Club – Blue Ridge District**

Last Minute Angels the club members go to Wal-Mart and take all of the angels that are left on the tree and buy what is specified on the card so these children will have Christmas. This year they took care of 55 children with their wish list, a coat and at least one outfit along with their requested gift.

**Best Single Project – Small Club – Partnership – None**

**Best Single Project – Large Club – Partnership – None**

**Best Overall – Small Club – Blackstone Woman’s Club – Alice Kyle District**

This club of 22 members had a total of 16 projects sold Funnel cakes at Arts & Crafts Festival, donated items to a Kindergarten class, gave gift cards to scholarship recipients, Lunch with Santa. Sponsored a Girl’s Softball team, made donations and more.

**Best Overall – Large Club – GFWC Western Fairfax County Woman’s Club – Northern District**

The club of 46 members had 12 projects with an average of 39 members participating in these projects – Food Banks, Martin Luther King, Jr. Day of service, support of shelters, support local community service programs and more.



**INTERNATIONAL OUTREACH**

**Buzzy Benton, Chairman**

**161 Projects   3,484 hours   \$10,239 Donated   \$15,983 In Kind**

**Best Single Project – Small Club – Vienna Woman’s Club – Northern District**

Held a Human Trafficking Forum, which included a panel discussion led by founder of “Just Ask Prevention” that consisted of a victim, a psychologist, and a U.S. Congresswoman who had championed federal legislation on trafficking. Other organizations such as the Woman’s Center, Alternative House, NOVA HTI, the Office of the Sheriff, and the Town of Vienna Club Phoenix had display tables with resource materials to share. The local paper and the “Just Ask” newsletter featured articles on the forum.

**Best Single Project – Large Club – GFWC Woman’s Club of Hilton Village – Tidewater District**

This club participates in *Dining For Women*, an international organization dedicated to supporting grass-roots efforts to raise women and children out of poverty. Volunteers provide meals for attendees based on the cuisine of the country being studied at each event. After the meal, the attendees hear an educational presentation of the country, its needs, and the organization selected for that month’s support.

**Best Single Project – Small Club – Partnership – Heifer Int’l – GFWC Woman’s Club of Tidewater – Tidewater District**

For a bit of fun, this club plays “Pass the Pig” game each month at their general meeting. One member rolled the plastic pigs to determine points. Each point was exchanged for dollars for Heifer International

**Best Single Project – Large Club – Partnership – Heifer Int’l – Woman’s Club of Windsor – Southside District**

This club donated \$150 to Heifer for an irrigation pump. To draw attention to the need of others for clean water, members were challenged to decorate a pump (a shoe) for a club contest. The grand prize was a pedicure donated by a local salon.

**Best Single Project – Small Club – Partnership – Operation Smile – Woman’s Club of Arlington – Northern District**

Collections of items for “Smile Bags” were taken at each monthly meeting. 26 No-No Arm Bands were sewn and an annual contribution was made.

**Best Single Project – Large Club – Partnership – Operation Smile – GFWC Cape Henry Woman’s Club – Tidewater District**

This club held two Snip, Stitch, & Stuff workshops to create Smile Bags, Smile Dolls, No-No- Armbands hospital gowns and fleece blankets.

**Best Single Project – Small Club – Partnership – Shot@Life – GFWC Ashcake Woman’s Club – Lee District**

Their club newsletter featured an article on a Shot@Life initiative, “Race to Erase”. Members were encouraged to contact state legislators to raise awareness and promote funding for global vaccines. A monetary donation was made.

**Best Single Project – Large Club – Partnership – Shot@Life – GFWC Goochland Woman’s Club – Lee District**

Members supported Walgreens “Get a Shot, Give a Shot” campaign. One club member monitors the Shot@Life website and writes monthly articles for the club newsletter, information about the importance of global vaccinations is posted on the club’s FACEBOOK page.

**Best Single Project – Small Club – Partnership – UNICEF – South Boston-Halifax Junior Woman’s Club GFWC – Alice Kyle District**

Members worked with schools to encourage educational and Halloween fundraising activities with Trick-or-Treat for UNICEF boxes.

**Best Single Project – Large Club – Partnership – UNICEF – GFWC Worthington Woman’s Club – Lee District**

The club participated in the Trick-or Treat for UNICEF program by collecting change resulting in a donation of \$99

**Best Overall – Small Club – GFWC Woman’s Club of Tidewater – Tidewater District**

This club had a well-rounded International Outreach program. They supported all 4 partnerships, participated in a *Rise Against Hunger* event, filled boxes for Operation Christmas Child, and partnered with other organizations to provide supplies for *Days For Girls*. Additionally, the club supported Human Trafficking initiatives by making donations to the State Project and their local HT prevention project. The president purchased the HT blue silicone bracelets and gave one to each member and the club donated 85 bras for *Free the Girls* a program that assists survivors of human trafficking.

**Best Overall – Large Club – GFWC Swift Creek Woman’s Club – Southside District**

All GFWC Partnerships were addressed through club activities and donations. The club supplied school supplies to a local teacher who with his family are missionaries in Ethiopia. They supported their local Lions Club’s worldwide optical mission, educated club members through newsletter articles, donated to hurricane relief in the Bahamas, and addressed Human Trafficking.

**LEADERSHIP**                      **790 Projects 55,280 Hours**  
**Dale Fisher, Chairman**      **\$78,759 Spent and \$44,602 In-Kind**  
**Jenny Hinegardner, Junior Chairman**



Our clubs put their best foot forward, developing leadership skills in their members and strengthening the functionality of their clubs. Clubs utilized federation resources, implemented creative programs, and enthusiastically encouraged training and education.

**Best Single Project - Small Club – General – GFWC Ashcake Woman’s Club – Lee District**

The club parliamentarian excerpted Parliamentary Pointers from *GFWC News & Notes* and wrote newsletter articles explaining and highlighting parliamentary procedures.

**Best Single Project - Small Club – Junior – Farmville Junior Woman’s Club – Alice Kyle District**

Held an executive board planning meeting at the Wine Cellar in Farmville. Goals, fundraising opportunities, membership drives, and socials were assessed.

**Best Single Project – Large Club – General – GFWC Grundy Woman’s Club – Southwestern District**

A “Rosie the Riveter” themed leadership program entitled “We Can Do It” was presented accompanied by the distribution of a 3-page survey to assess members’ outlook on the club’s direction.

**Best Single Project – Large Club – Junior – Junior Woman’s Club of Loudoun – Northern District**

Members received orientation presented by the 1<sup>st</sup> VP and the Director of Junior Club for Northern District. Members participated in a multiple choice game to learn facts about GFWC, GFWC Virginia, Northern District and the club.

**Best Overall – Small Club – GFWC Tarrara Woman’s Club – Southside District**

“Federation Facts” and notable women of GFWC were presented at each club meeting. To develop leadership skills all members are asked to participate in some way during the meeting, i.e. leading the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag of the United States of America and the Collect for Clubwomen. All federation publications are shared with members, club bylaws were reviewed, the GFWC Virginia structure was presented, and year-end reports were shared.

**Best Overall – Large Club – Woman’s Club of Prince George County – Southside District**

An agenda, treasurer’s report, and minutes from the previous meeting are emailed prior to each meeting to promote efficient use of meeting and members’ time. New meeting space was acquired which prompted the club to gather boxes from attics, basements, and garages of assorted files from 1955. Documents were reviewed and organized and awards, pictures and their club Charter were framed and displayed. Planning Guides for incoming officers were developed.

**LEGISLATION and PUBLIC POLICY 79 Projects**

**Lynne Wherry, Chairman 1,252 Hours \$1,282**



Many of the clubs that reported were active participates in the GFWC Legislative Action Center this year in supporting the brand initiatives. Also, several clubs invited their legislators to speak at their club meeting or forum type events.

**Best Single Project – Small Club – General – GFWC Tarrara Woman’s Club – Southside District**

At the October meeting, six members on this club invited the Director of Elections to hold an informative program on registering and voting in Virginia. She provided handouts and encouraged the members and their families to vote.

**Best Single Project – Small Club – Junior – GFWC Powhatan Junior Woman’s Club – Lee District**

This club assisted a general club in preparing baskets to give to poll workers on election day.

**Best Single Project – Large Club – General – Woman’s Club of Accomack County – Tidewater District**

At their September, members of the club invited members of the community to join them Candidate Forum. Candidates running for both local and State offices were invited to speak.

**Best Single Project – Large Club – Junior – No Winner**

**Best Overall – Small Club – General – GFWC Pennington Gap Woman’s Club – Southwest District**

This club encouraged members to participate in writing their Congressman. The club joined the town council as a member of the “Future Focus Forum” to develop a future social and physical improvement to the town.

**Best Overall – Large Club – General – Woman’s Club of Newport News – Tidewater District**

In October, this club hosted its annual Legislative Forum. The forum was a “Meet the Candidates” program. The club also discussed the GFWC Resolutions and Legislative Priorities. They also participated in the GFWC Legislative Action Center.

**MEMBERSHIP**

**Lori Rocker, Chairman 572 projects 21,310 hours**

**Amanda Paez, Junior Chairman \$62,311 (\$32,135 spent and \$30,176 in kind)**



GFWC Virginia clubs have Stepped In-to all areas of Membership and the goals set this administration. Recruiting occurred through both formal and informal events. Clubs are strengthening the connections of members and federation through orientation programs, eliciting feedback to enhance club programs, mentor programs for new members, and sharing of GFWC news. Clubs shared a variety of unique was that members are recognized for their contributions to the clubs through the year. Our membership programs exemplify true Unity in Diversity across our organization.

**Best Single Project – Small Club – General – GFWC Woman’s Club of Tidewater – Tidewater District**

Focusing on the value of members’ time, this club streamlined meetings were streamlined to ensure efficient use of time, including distribution of minutes and Treasurer reports for comment prior to the meeting. As part of this effort, an electronic meeting software was made available to members as an alternative for face-to-face meetings due to weather or other concerns.

**Best Single Project – Small Club – Junior – GFWC Pearisburg Junior Woman’s Club – Southwestern District**

This club held a new member social and awarded one visitor with the payment of their 2020 membership dues. Five new members were earned through the event.

### **Best Single Project – Large Club – General – Lexington Woman’s Club – Shenandoah District**

This club formalized its new member mentor/buddy system by establishing guidelines for the mentors. Mentors were provided methods for helping the new members learn about the club, its culture, projects/programs, and Federation. This helped not only the new members who have had positive comments, but also the mentors as they have tools and understood expectations.

### **Best Single Project – Large Club – Junior – Staunton/Augusta Junior Woman’s Club – Shenandoah District**

This club’s Member and Me box is a box filled with goodies that is passed from member to member each month. The member who receives the box in one month fills it and provides it to another member the next month. The box can be given as a thank you, message of support, or to let someone know they were missed at a meeting.

### **Best Overall – Small Club – Covington Woman’s Club of GFWC – Shenandoah District**

This club exemplified the benefits of connecting to members and it is resulting in a positive membership growth. They held a planning meeting over the summer for all members to provide input, voice concerns and ideas on the club’s programs for the new year. Based on that meeting, a Salad Supper event was planned in August as a new member social. The work of the club and GFWC were highlighted during the event which resulted in seven new members!

### **Best Overall – Large Club – Junior Federated Women’s Club of Chester – Lee District**

This club recruited through a social membership drive in the fall. Each member of the club was involved in the event and shared their favorite experience as a member of the club. The event resulted in 12 new members. The club sponsored social events throughout the year to keep members engaged with one another. They also recognize members throughout the year.

## **GFWC Virginia 2019 – 2020 Top Recruiters**

Our members truly Stepped in to Membership during the second year of the administration, 210 coupons were received from April 2019 – March 31, 2020. Congratulations to our Top District Recruiters!

- Alice Kyle – Blair Trent of the South Boston-Halifax Junior Woman’s Club GFWC recruited two new members.
- Blue Ridge – No top recruiter
- Lee – Debra Reed – three new members – Junior Federated Woman’s Club of Chester
- Northern – Three-way tie for recruiting three members each: McKenna Powers, GFWC Dominion Juniette Club; Mary Driver-Downs and Yvonne Sening – Woman’s Club of Fairfax (GFWC)
- Shenandoah – Sharon Littlely of Lexington Woman’s Club – 3 members
- Southside – Three-way tie with two new members each – Jean Keeling of GFWC Junto Woman’s Club, Audra Anderson of GFWC Tarrara Woman’s Club, and Mary Woodruff of Riparian Woman’s Club
- Southwestern – Two-way tie with three new members each – Woman’s Club of Hillsville, Brenda Lindsey and Richlands Woman’s Club - Pat Deel
- Tidewater – Gloria Gori of the GFWC Yorktown Woman’s Club – three new members

Three was the magic number for recruiters this year, the eight ladies who recruited three new members were entered into a drawing to receive a \$25 Gift Certificate toward materials or a Dogwood Membership through the GFWC Virginia Marketplace. Congratulations to Gloria Gori! Gloria recruited nine new members this administration!

The winner of the recruiter coupon drawing also receives a \$25 Gift Certificate to the GFWC Virginia Marketplace. Congratulations to Charlotte Williamson of Covington Woman’s Club of GFWC!

## **GFWC Star Recruiters**

- White Star (5 – 9 Members) – Brenda Lindsey – Woman’s Club of Hillsville; Charlotte Williamson – Covington Woman’s Club
- Blue Star (15 – 19 Members) – Deb Jewell – GFWC Dominion Woman’s Club
- Silver Star (20 – 24 Members) – Deb Jewell – GFWC Dominion Woman’s Club; Lori Rocker – Junior Woman’s Club of Loudoun and GFWC Dominion Woman’s Club

**WEBSITE CONTEST**  
**Lela Martin, Chairman**



**1<sup>st</sup> Place Winner – GFWC Grundy Woman’s Club – Southwestern District**

[www.gfwcgrundywomansclub.com](http://www.gfwcgrundywomansclub.com)

Overall Excellence (attractive, easy to navigate, inviting, photo release policy, links to several types of social media presence)

**2<sup>nd</sup> Place Winner – GFWC Woman’s Club of Greene County - Shenandoah District**

<https://womansclubgreene.org/>

Easy to navigate; smart use of Facebook page for current information; photo release form to be added

**NEWSLETTERS**

**Pat Jeffress, Editor of *The Virginia Clubwoman***

GFWC Virginia Newsletters were judged based on the following criteria: Appearance and organization, readability, GFWC affiliation logos, name of the club on the front cover, reports of officers and chairmen, member recognition, minutes, treasurer's reports, federation information, and reminders.

The number of attractive, well organized newsletters made deciding the winners very difficult. Many clubs used colorful graphics or pictures of club activities to enhance their newsletters. The bottom line is, “Did the newsletter make me want to continue reading?”

**Large Clubs**

1st Place *The Bulletin*  
GFWC Woman’s Club of Hilton Village (Tidewater District)

2nd Place *Riparian Currents*  
Riparian Woman’s Club (Southside District)

3rd Place *Worthy News*  
GFWC Worthington Woman’s Club (Lee District)



**Honorable Mention**

*Junior Buzz*  
GFWC James River Junior Woman’s Club (Southside District)

**Small Clubs**

1st Place *Metro Media*  
Metropolitan Richmond Woman’s Club (Lee District)

2nd Place GFWC Woman’s Club of Tidewater (Tidewater District)

3rd Place *Kanawha Kibitzer*  
GFWC Kanawha Woman’s Club (Lee District)

**PUBLIC ISSUES**                      **512 Projects 17,105 Hours**  
**Gloria Worrell, Chairman**    **\$60,751 Dollars Donated & 47,183 In-Kind**



**Best Single Project – Small Club – GFWC Ashcake Woman’s Club – Lee District**

The GFWC Ashcake Woman’s Club sponsored the 16<sup>th</sup> Annual Harvest Run 10/5K, They met coordinated efforts with volunteers and runners and advertised the event, reviewed the list of potential donor and updated solicitations letter; mailed over 50 letters and followed up by contacting sponsors to encourage donations. Members contracted to provide chip timing of its runners and finish line equipment, including computer results and a sound system; procured proper insurance on race day. They reserved the park for the location for start and finish of the race and portable restrooms. Purchased paper products and soap for the restrooms and water for racers. The club worked with the Police to facilitate the event and paid for officer’s support on event day. They joined with Henry Clay Women as club to help with the event. Reorganized the safety vest and Marshall’s instructions and assignments, secured tables and trash receptacles to set up water stations. They ask local business to donated items for door prizes, organized the items and printed door prize tickets. They organized road signs. Updated registration form and website for on-line registration. In addition, member’s registries all participated for the race and handed out race packets. Members work at various station on race day. Posted a link to the runner’s time on website and certifications. Dispersed donations to rescues squared, fire department and wounded warriors from race profit. (20 members, 362 hours, \$7,000 donated, \$ 1,110 In-kind donations)



### **Best Single Project – Large Club – GFWC Yorktown Woman’s Club – Tidewater District**

This club along with another civic organization put together a fishing trip for disable Veterans. They chartered buses for transportation; most of the veterans were in wheelchairs, with multiple amputations. Club members assisted them on the buses, and then on to the boats when they arrived. They assisted them also with fishing; they provided them with lunch and a wonderful day.

### **Best Overall – Small Club – GFWC Kanawha Woman’s Club – Lee District**

This club provided support to their local Veteran center. Clipped coupons for the troops, supports the USO, supported the troops, properly disposed of the American flags, recognized and honored veterans on Memorial Day. Recognized women in the military, encouraged people to get out and vote, and served as docents at the executive mansion (17 members, 446 hours, donated \$125.00, in kind \$711.230)

### **Best Overall – Large Club – The Woman’s Club of Essex County, Virginia, GFWC – Lee District**

The club recognized Veterans, held a shower for the VA Hospital, adopted a TAPS program, flew the American flag in memory of veterans, prepared a resolution for Essex Witness Program, supported the local fire department, placed a bench in memory of POW-MIA veterans at the war memorial, offered a CPR class, held a Teddy Bear drive for the Sherriff and State Police, and the club maintains the inside of a building of a historian landmark. (48 members, 510 hours, \$3574 donated, \$2689 in kind)

## **GFWC SIGNATURE PROGRAM**

### **~ DOMESTIC VIOLENCE AWARENESS**

**Tricia Duvall, Chairman    168 Projects 3,765 Hours**  
**\$12,099 Donated & \$27,206 In-Kind**



GFWC Virginia clubs focused on local shelters by donating items such as clothing, toiletries, cleaning supplies and backpacks. Clubs adopted families supporting them at Christmas and Thanksgiving. Clubs had speakers at their meetings, made crafts, supported 5k runs, held clothes exchanges, supported local organizations helping abused women and children. Clubs supported Prevent Child Abuse America by planting pinwheel gardens and more.

### **Best Single Project – Small Club – General – GFWC Regency Woman’s Club – Lee District**

This club held a Membership Clothes Exchange supporting Flagler Home at St. Joseph’s Villa, Safe Harbor Shelter and Bon Secours Forensic Nursing Program. Members donated clothing items and sold them for \$2 each. Leftover items were donated to St. Joseph’s Villa clothes closet and Goochland Cares clothes closet.

### **Best Single Project – Small Club – Junior – No Winner**

### **Best Single Project – Large Club – General – GFWC Botetourt Town & Country Women’s Club – Blue Ridge District**

This club supported Salvation Army’s Turning Point. They made “First Night Bags” for the women in the shelter and filled them with toiletries. The bags were handmade out of fabric along with handmade tissue holders to go in the bags. They included a printed message of hope and inspiration from their club.

### **Best Single Project – Large Club – Junior – No Winner**

### **Best Single Project – Partnership – PCAA – GFWC Woman’s Club of Vinton – Blue Ridge District**

This club planted over 500 pinwheels at Town Hall with the help of Town Council members and the police department. A banner was hung stating “Help Prevent Child Abuse” with the GFWC and GFWC Virginia logos. A proclamation was read supporting the prevention of child abuse at the town council meeting. Articles were placed in local newspapers.

### **Best Single Project – Partnership – PCAA – GFWC Worthington Woman’s Club – Lee District**

This club supported Healthy Families (Families First) Program which is a part of Prevent Child Abuse America’s mission. They held a diaper drive, donated infant to five-year old appropriate books, assisted with a Mother’s Day luncheon, prepared Thanksgiving baskets for each family in the program and made purse centerpieces filled with toiletries and donated them.

### **Best Overall – Small Club – GFWC Ashcake Woman’s Club – Lee District**

This club supported Hanover Safe Place by: collecting school supplies, adopting a family at Christmas, attending a candlelight ceremony in October, educated members on different issues, had Patty Hall from Hanover Safe Place speak at their meeting about stalking, supported the “Shine the Light Campaign 36 hour fundraiser and collected 23 purses for the MLK Jr. initiative.

### **Best Overall – Large Club – Great Bridge Woman’s Club – Tidewater District**

This club supported H.E.R., a domestic violence shelter by adopting 8 boys and girls and providing them with back to school outfits and school supplies. They also provided 50 pairs of undergarments and feminine hygiene products to the shelter. Members made cosmetic bags stuffed with toiletries. They assisted with a luncheon and prepared Thanksgiving baskets for the residents.

## STATE PROJECT: STEP UP TO STOP HUMAN TRAFFICKING

Danielle Basham, Chairman

88 Projects 2,702 Volunteer Hours

760 Members Participating \$5,633 Donated 15,887 In-Kind



Clubs supported the GFWC Virginia State Project: Step Up to Stop Human Trafficking in 2020 by making monetary and in-kind donations to the state project and to organizations supporting survivors of human trafficking. Clubs sponsored fundraisers, as well as participated in 5K walks, to raise awareness and money for local organizations who are working to stop human trafficking. Clubs formed committees to help educate their members and their communities. Members shared information in their newsletters, shared Facebook posts and created and handed out literature at local festivals. Clubs invited speakers to their club meetings to educate members on the facts about Human Trafficking. Members attended screenings of films and discussion groups held throughout the state. GFWC VA silicone bracelets with the hotline number were handed out to members to share with community members, leave them in rest area restrooms, hotel rooms or truck stops. New and gently used bras were collected and donated to “Free the Girls” program for female survivors of human trafficking. Hundreds of shoes were collected and donated to Soles4Souls. Clubs collaborated with other organizations to host community forums and panel discussions. And clubs worked with local school divisions to get the Prevention Project into the schools in order to help students become more informed about Human Trafficking and how it can affect anyone.

### **Best Single Project – Small Club – GFWC Woman’s Club of Manassas, Inc – Northern District**

This club designed and purchased a 3’x 8’ banner that included the hotline and text numbers, in addition to the club name and GFWC emblem. The banner was placed in three different areas around town.

### **Best Single Project – Large Club – GFWC Goochland Woman’s Club – Lee District**

This club successfully worked with their local high school to get RJJ’s Prevention Program into two classrooms. The club fully funded the curriculum for the high school. The club asked for student comments and teacher evaluations and one member observed during one of the lessons.

### **Best Overall – Small Club – GFWC Kanawha Woman’s Club – Lee District**

This small club embraced the state project all year. The club created a Bingo card with questions related to Human Trafficking and encouraged members to “bingo” by answering questions, making donations, and engaging in discussions with others. The club made financial and in-kind donations. The club approached two school divisions about incorporating the Prevention Project as part of their curriculum. The club supported victims in a shelter by providing breakfast and dinner. Finally, this club co-sponsored a coffee, dessert and conversation session with the local health system for the community.

### **Best Overall – Large Club – Woman’s Club of Fredericksburg – Northern; GFWC Mary Ball Woman’s Club – Northern; Woman’s Club of Norfolk – Tidewater; and GFWC Woman’s Club of Hilton Village – Tidewater**

These clubs spent numerous hours to collaborate with other clubs and other local organizations to plan and coordinate local symposiums in an effort to educate their communities about the human trafficking crisis.

## GFWC WOMEN’S HISTORY and RESOURCE CENTER

Suzie Smith, Chairman

127 Projects 2,920 Hours

\$1,385 Donated \$9,987 In-Kind Donations



Outstanding projects in Virginia recognized the importance of commemorating women who led the way. Club accomplishments of 2019 were meticulously and creatively archived in varied media formats to inspire the next generation. Other club projects advertised the heroic efforts of today’s women to the larger community.

### **WOMEN’S HISTORY AND RESOURCE CENTER**

#### **Best Single Project – Small Club – General – GFWC Kanawha Woman’s Club – Lee District**

Service is our “Special-Tea” was the theme of a celebratory 40<sup>th</sup> anniversary “Royal Tea. “Members learned “tea traditions,” and shared fine china, silver and heirloom linens while enjoying the party. All year members were reminded of their history and accomplishments, through newsletters, memorabilia, and oral presentations.

#### **Best Single Project – Small Club – Junior – No Winner**

**Best Single Project – Large Club – General – Waynesboro/Augusta Woman’s Club, GFWC – Shenandoah District**

WAWC tasked 4 committee members, a community representative, and two local newspapers to identify their “Outstanding Woman of the Year-.” The winner was celebrated at the March Luncheon with seven previous winners and a newspaper reporter. Community recognition of great women has been a 52-year goal.

**Best Single Project – Large Club – Junior – GFWC Junior Woman’s Club of Hopewell, Inc. – Southside District**

Members preserved their past by updating minutes, club histories and yearbooks that document the years, 1945-2019. The President was presented a pictorial history of her administration and generous donations were made to GFWC Headquarters, GFWC VA Endowment Fund and thirteen Dogwood Society member accounts.

**Best Overall – Small Club – GFWC Woman’s Club of Manassas, Inc – Northern District**

Manassas members “lived” the history that actually occurred in their community, such as by visiting the Occoquan Workhouse, where Suffragettes were imprisoned. The Manassas Museum’s speaker extolled Jennie Dean, a freed slave, who founded the first African American secondary school, which stood alone for 40 years.

**Best Overall – Large Club – GFWC Botetourt Town & Country Women’s Club – Blue Ridge District**

Members marked the 35<sup>th</sup> anniversary, commemorated Jane Croly’s 190<sup>th</sup> birthday, chose “Volunteer of the Year”, enjoyed a local “Women’s History” speaker, participated in 2019 “Women Rock,” a women’s networking event, produced a show on volunteerism, maintained the club scrapbook and donated to the local Historical Societies.

**COMMUNITY IMPROVEMENT PROJECT AWARD**

**Hope Royer, Chairman**

GFWC offers cash awards to state winners: 1<sup>st</sup> Place: \$50, 2<sup>nd</sup> Place: \$35, 3<sup>rd</sup> Place: \$25. Award checks will be mailed to the winning clubs following the 2020 GFWC Convention in Atlanta.

**Congratulations to our GFWC Virginia Community Improvement Program Award winners!**

**1<sup>st</sup> Place – Tori’s Closet – Woman’s Club of Newport News – Tidewater District**

Tori’s Closet, so named for mother and daughter fatal victims of domestic violence, began as a focus on the homeless population in the city school system and a pile of clothing kept under the desk of a school administrator. The Woman’s Club of Newport News recognized an opportunity to meet community needs and found space available at the South Morrison Family Resource Center, purchased shelving, solicited clothes racks and additional building materials from the community and “built” the closet. School counselors, social services, police and sheriff departments, as well as the Court System, refer clients in need of clothing at no cost. Tori’s Closet has served 3670 “guests” since its inception in 2018. Club members have spent 2822 hours in support of the project- soliciting donations from the community and local thrift stores, organizing clothing, implementing a process for “guests” to shop, developing member work schedules and re-stocking the closet. In-kind and financial donations to Tori’s Closet have totaled \$22,966.

**2<sup>nd</sup> Place – Discovering Beauty – GFWC Woman’s Club of Hilton Village – Tidewater District**

The GFWC Hilton Village Woman’s Club partnered with Families in Transition Ministry, a local 501(c)(3) organization, to implement Discovering Beauty, a unique, six-week summer pilot program of scheduled enrichment activities for under-resourced elementary school-aged girls. Participants met six hours a day Monday-Thursday. They visited the library, went on weekly field trips to museums, a farm, the beach, a local community theater and The Chamberlin retirement community. Club and community members provided opportunities for the girls to learn about cooking, dance, art and exercise. Each of the participants kept daily journals- reflections of their experiences. Members of the club spent 623 hours on the project and raised in-kind and financial support of \$9,972.

**3<sup>rd</sup> Place – Trex Project – GFWC Woman’s Club of Roanoke – Blue Ridge District**

Trex, a decking and fencing company advertised a project for non-profit organizations: collect 500 pounds of plastic and receive a Trex park bench. The GFWC Roanoke Woman’s Club chose the Trex Project because it served a two-fold purpose: met a significant community need and allowed participation by all of its 10 members, 4 of whom are not able to attend meetings or provide “hands on” participation. Members, friends and local community stores collected 1700 pounds of plastic bags, furniture wrapping, newspaper protectors and food wrappers- enough for three park benches. The club received extensive press coverage in both the Roanoke and metropolitan Richmond areas. Two benches were donated to Mountain View, a Victorian home operated by the Roanoke City Department of Parks and Recreation, open to the public for recreational activities, weddings and special events, Mountain View was originally owned by one of the club’s first Presidents. The “bag ladies” of the GFWC Roanoke Woman’s Club spent 1570 volunteer hours on the Trex Project.

## **JUNIORS' SPECIAL PROGRAM ~ ADVOCATES FOR CHILDREN**

**Joy Matkowsky, Chairman 104 Projects 3,071 Hours**

**\$11,911 Donated & \$11,240 In-Kind**



The GFWC Virginia members took time and finances to support this area well. Part of what made our state so successful was the coming together of clubs to walk in a makeshift March of Dimes March for Babies at our 2019 Convention. This along with our states keen attention to children and their needs, 2019 was a very successful year for GFWC Virginia in the area of Advocates for Children

### **Best Single Project – Small Club – General – GFWC Ashcake Woman's Club – Lee District**

This club worked from a provided list to create “waiting room fun bags” for the children at St. Jude Children’s Research Hospital. Items collected included crayons, markers, colored pencils, drawing paper, coloring books and stickers. Fun bags were delivered to St. Jude Children’s Research Hospital.

### **Best Single Project – Small Club – Junior – GFWC Powhatan Junior Woman's Club – Lee District**

This club packed back packs for Backpacks of Love program. The members gathered once a month to create the bags by double bagging grocery bags and them filling them with food for students that don't have enough to eat on the weekends. The members brought their children to teach them empathy and to give them an opportunity to volunteer for the community. Over 1500 bags were packed by this club in 2019

### **Best Single Project – Large Club – General – Woman's Club of Newport News – Tidewater District**

The club holds an annual baby shower to help The Healthy Families of the Peninsula Initiative. Members collect money in baby bottles prior to the meeting when the shower occurs. All the money was collected and used to purchase multiple pack and play yards for the children.

### **Best Single Project – Large Club – Junior – Junior Woman's Club of Loudoun – Northern District**

On Martian Luther King Day, this club, along with potential members, joined together to fill self-care bags for mothers staying at the Neonatal Care Unit (NICU). The bags included self-care items like tissues, dental hygiene items, shampoo, soap, lotion, pads etc. 102 care bags were delivered to the March of Dimes to distribute to the hospitals.

### **Best Overall – Small Club – GFWC Ashcake Woman's Club - Lee District**

This club celebrated Advocates for Children Week by collected personal care items, crafting items and art supplies. The items were then donated to two organizations that help at-risk youth and their families. Members donated to St. Jude financially and worked from a provided list to create “waiting room fun bags” for the children at St. Jude Children’s Research Hospital. Items collected included crayons, markers, colored pencils, drawing paper, coloring books and stickers. Fun bags were delivered to St. Jude Children’s Research Hospital. This club also highlighted the March of Dimes in their newsletter for Prematurity Awareness Month.

### **Best Overall – Large Club – GFWC Grundy Woman's Club – Southwestern District**

In addition to several other projects, this club focused a great deal on the Autistic population in their community finding ways to make their lives better. They provided 36 free adaptive swim lessons for 3 children with autism in conjunction with their local YMCA. This club sponsored Sensory Friendly Movie Screenings once a month at their local theatre. There were approximately 30 attendees each month. These ladies set up a table at an Autism Walk where they created “calm down bottles” using plastic water bottles, glitter, LEGOs, small toys. The club also secured 100 movie tickets to hand out to the families.

### **Partnership St. Jude Children's Research Hospital**

### **Best Overall – Small Club – GFWC Powhatan Junior Woman's Club – Lee District**

This club had two members sign up for the local Richmond Walk, one was the team leader and served on the St. Jude Walk/Run Committee. One member participated in two Radiothon's – Country Cares K95 for St. Jude two days each time. One club member, assisted the SER Junior Directors in coordinating a support walk for St. Jude at the Southeast Regional Conference around the lake at the Richmond Westin hotel. Members of the club also walked in this walk as well. Advocates Chair handed out prizes, noisemakers and such at the walk. One member is a partner in hope with St. Jude giving monthly to the hospital.

### **Best Overall – Large Club – GFWC Grundy Woman's Club – Southwestern District**

This club made monetary donations through their club and also had 3 members giving monthly partner in hope donations. The club donated crafts and stuffed animals as well.

### **Partnership March of Dimes**

### **Best Overall – Small Club – GFWC Powhatan Junior Woman's Club – Lee District**

This member, As the Virginia Advocates for Children Chair put together a memorial walk for March of Dimes at the GFWC Virginia 2019 Convention in Richmond. Two members were selected, because of their family history in this area, to be the grand Marshalls to start off the walk. Money was collected and donated to March of Dimes. Two members of this club walked in this memorial walk.

### **Best Overall – Large Club – Junior Woman's Club of Loudoun – Northern District**

On Martian Luther King Day, this club, along with potential members, joined together to fill self-care bags for mothers staying at the Neonatal Care Unit (NICU). The bags included self-care items like tissues, dental hygiene items, shampoo, soap, lotion, pads etc. 102 care bags were delivered the March of Dimes to distribute to the hospitals. This club is also active in the March for Babies and raising money for March of Dimes. Members walked in the memorial walk in Richmond during the 2019 GFWC Virginia Annual Convention.



## **JUNIOR SPECIAL PROJECT – CAMP EASTER SEALS UCP VIRGINIA**

**Tara Roberts, Chairman**

### **Best Single Project – Small Club – General – GFWC Woman’s Club of Tidewater – Tidewater District**

This Woman’s Club made a donation toward a campership, donated funds to the camp and also donated 2250 crayons to be used by campers

### **Best Single Project – Small Club – Junior – Narrows Junior Woman’s Club of GFWC – Southwestern District**

This junior club donated funds toward a campership and staff recognition fund

### **Best Overall Project – Large Club – Staunton/Augusta Junior Woman’s Club – Shenandoah District**

This club donated funds to camperships, they volunteered at camp to check in campers and haul luggage, they also made and delivered lunch to the staff on check in day.

## **Director of Junior Clubs Awards**



### **Trina Behbahani, GFWC Virginia Director of Junior Clubs**

*The GFWC Virginia Director of Junior Clubs is intended to recognize Outstanding Achievement to one club in each size category whose Annual Club Record and reports demonstrate work that was most well-rounded and most beneficial to their community and the Federation with the best use of resources and their members. The winning clubs will also have participated in the GFWC Virginia State Project (Step Up to Stop Human Trafficking), at least one project for a GFWC partner in the Junior Special Project: Advocates for Children – March of Dimes and St. Jude Children’s Research Hospital, recognized Advocates for Children Week and participated in at least one of the “7 Grand Initiatives” from GFWC. The award considers all work reported.*

### **Small Club Winner – GFWC Powhatan Junior Woman’s Club – Lee District**

This small club experienced a growth in membership from 2018 to 2019, reporting three new members for the year. Their reports demonstrated a variety of work across the community service program areas, including projects in support of the GFWC Signature Project and the GFWC Juniors’ Special Project. The club supported both GFWC partners under Advocates for Children by participating in their annual charity walks, raising funds and contributing to walks for both March of Dimes and St. Jude Children’s Research Hospital in coordination with state-sponsored events. They supported the GFWC Seven Grand Initiatives by collecting and donating over 120 pairs of shoes and participating in the Soles 4 Souls collection at GFWC Virginia Convention. In an effort to support both the state project and the Seven Grand Initiatives, this club wore custom “stop human trafficking” tattoos to on the MLK National Day of Service to raise awareness and encourage conversations about this important topic and provided the GFWC Virginia state president with an additional supply of the tattoos for distribution. The club had representation at all of their district meetings, at the GFWC Virginia Convention, Southeastern Region meeting and the GFWC International Convention. As evidenced by their growth in membership, these women make both recruitment and retention activities a priority. They hosted a recruitment event, multiple socials and recognized their club members’ life events. These women promote their club by using social media outlets and encourage their members to be familiar with all levels of GFWC. They support the events and activities of other clubs, hosted the GFWC Virginia Director of Junior Clubs at a club meeting and have members serving in positions at the district, state and region level.

Overall, this club is well rounded and demonstrates an understanding of the importance of connecting to GFWC and doing as much as possible to support their community, the Federation and each other.

### **Large Club Winner – GFWC Staunton Augusta Junior Woman’s Club – Shenandoah District**

This large club’s reports demonstrated a broad range of activity across the community service program areas. The Club supported the GFWC Junior Special Project: Advocates for Children, the GFWC Signature Project, the GFWC Seven Grand Initiatives, the GFWC Virginia State Project and the GFWC Virginia Junior State Project. In support of the GFWC Juniors Special Project: Advocates for the Children, the club supported GFWC partner St. Jude Children’s Research Hospital by raising over \$700 and walking in an awareness event during the Southeastern Region meeting. They supported the state junior project by visiting Camp Easter Seals multiple times, checking in campers and preparing a meal for camp counselors and staff. The club attended workshops on human trafficking to support the state project and planted a pinwheel garden and ran in a local 5k for the women’s shelter in support of the GFWC Signature Project. The club supported the GFWC Seven Grand Initiatives by spending the National Day of Service (and a second day) at the Valley Mission, a local organization providing meals to those in need in the community. Club members spent two days cleaning, scrubbing, organizing, rebuilding and rearranging the kitchen. The club sells



an original ornament each year and with the funds raised they award scholarships, send children to camps, supported a water program and a female small business in Ethiopia and helped provide children with gifts at Christmas. In addition to their activity in the CSP areas, this club has members in attendance at all district and state meetings, has members serving at the district and state levels, promotes their club activity utilizing Facebook, and in 2019 recruited 3 new members. Club members support each other and promote Federation as they support their community in a variety of ways.

### **GFWC VIRGINIA JUNIOR CLUB OF THE YEAR AWARD 2018-2020 ADMINISTRATION**

Taken from the words of our GFWC International President, *GFWC was founded on the principle of "Unity in Diversity". Our founders could have chosen any word, but they chose "Diversity" because it reflected their belief that the organization should exist embracing "Diversity" in its members and programs.* President Brock also has placed an emphasis on GFWC's history of creating positive change in communities through legislation.

During the 2018-2020 administration, the GFWC Virginia Junior Club of the Year Award will be presented to the Junior Club whose members embrace diversity and a return to our legislative roots. This award recognizes a club that widens the scope of their club programs, educates their members on the traditions, cultures and lifestyles of different religions and countries, seeks to diversify their membership and works on projects with and for diverse organizations. The award also recognizes a club that helps to "reclaim our role as a unified organization that can make things happen" and puts an emphasis on work in the area of legislation.

#### **Winner – Junior Woman's Club of Loudoun – Northern District**

The Junior Woman's Club of Loudoun (JWCL) is recognized as the GFWC Virginia Junior Club of the Year because they support a diverse community through a variety of service projects, utilizing the diverse talents and qualities of their members, and for their promotion of legislative activism.

JWCL encouraged its members to use their voice to impact legislation by signing up for the GFWC Legislative Action Center, responding to GFWC calls to action and exercising their right to vote.

The club keeps an open mind about programs to support and encourages members to bring new ideas to the club that represent causes they care about. During the year, JWCL invites speakers from local non-profit organizations to their monthly club meetings, allowing members to learn about various volunteer opportunities and to understand the needs in their community.

The club supported the Loudoun Literacy Council to support those in the community for whom English is a second language; they support the ARC of Loudoun which supports children and adults with intellectual and developmental disabilities and during their Prom Wishes event they are consciously supportive of the diverse needs of the attendees, including those that seek conservative attire due to religious and cultural beliefs.

JWCL embraces the Federation motto of 'Unity in Diversity' and empowers its members to support each other, share their unique perspectives and identify opportunities to support a diverse cross-section of community members in need.

### **GFWC Virginia Junior Honor Society**

The Junior Honor Society is recognition of a club's high level of participation in Federation activities, particularly those that are directly sponsored by the Junior organization. In order to qualify, clubs must meet a minimum point level in the following sections: Federation activities, Federation Funding, Federation meetings and Special awards. There are three award categories (participation award for those who submit information but don't meet minimums): Gold, Silver and Bronze. Participation certificate given to clubs who do not meet the minimum criteria.

#### **Bronze**

Farmville Junior Woman's Club  
Alice Kyle District

#### **Silver**

Narrows Junior Woman's Club of GFWC  
Southwestern District

#### **Gold**

Junior Woman's Club of Loudoun  
Northern District  
GFWC Staunton/Augusta Junior Woman's Club  
Shenandoah District

#### **Highest Point Total**

GFWC Staunton/Augusta Junior Woman's Club  
Shenandoah District

# **SPECIAL JUNIOR AWARDS**

## **CORRINE MURRAY AWARD**

### **Large Club – Staunton/Augusta Junior Woman’s Club – Shenandoah District**

Members volunteer to read to second grad students at a local elementary school. It started with "Read Across America" and has continued as a regular club project.

### **Small Club – No Entries Received**

## **MARGARET ALLEN THOMAS LEADERSHIP AWARD**

### **Large Club – Junior Woman’s Club of Loudoun – Northern District**

The 29 members of the Junior Woman’s Club of Loudoun (JWCL) are offered many opportunities to be leaders in Club and in their community. Members participate in orientation and leadership training at meetings during the year. They also serve in leadership for the Northern District, as well as at the State level. In 2019, JWCL volunteered 1,572 hours, on 34 projects with \$8,390 in kind donations.

### **Small Club – No Entries Received**

## **MARJORIE BRANCH AWARD**

### **Large Club – Junior Woman’s Club of Loudoun – Northern District**

This club was selected for the Marjorie Branch award in promotion of GFWC and GFWC Virginia. This club features information from the District, GFWC Virginia and GFWC in their monthly club newsletter, The Loudoun Lady. Their goal was to help inform members about GFWC's advocacy efforts in Congress and encourage members to sign up (for GFWC legislative action center) and take action on legislation matters. They share activities of their Club on both an Instagram and Facebook accounts. During 2019, their website was redesigned to provide a better sense of the Club and their activities.

### **Small Club – No Entries Received**

## **PHYLLIS V. ROBERTS AWARD**

### **Large Club – No Entries Received**

### **Small Club – No Entries Received**

## **SHELBY PAISLEY HAMLETT AWARD**

### **Large Club – Staunton/Augusta Junior Woman’s Club – Shenandoah District**

Shelby Paisley Hamlett Award - Shop with a Cop - using a buddy system, kids are paired with a local police officer or deputy to shop for Christmas gifts then they take them to the Stonewall Jackson Hotel for lunch and to wrap the gifts. It helps build positive relationships between the officers and the kids who may normally have negative interactions with them. Members donated monies and also met the group at the hotel to wrap gifts have lunch with the families and officers.

### **Small Club – GFWC River City Junior Woman’s Club – Lee District**

Worthdays - Christmas gifts for children aging out of the foster care system. They purchase items from a list given to them and deliver them to Worthday's for the child.

## **SHENANDOAH DISTRICT AWARD**

### **Large Club – Junior Woman’s of Loudoun – Northern District**

This club is a great example of stepping up and beyond for Leadership. They ensure that members not only understand the leadership positions that are available to them, but make sure that the incoming leaders are well equipped to handle their new position. They make sure that new members are encouraged to take on new leadership roles and help them see they are capable of leadership and show that it can be very enjoyable. Overall this club represents leadership from small roles to large roles.

### **Small Club – No Entries Received**

## **SOUTHSIDE DISTRICT JUNIOR AWARD IN LEGISLATION**

### **No Entries Received**