

Fall is...sweater weather, crunchy leaves & pumpkin spice everything.



OFFICIAL PUBLICATION

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2022-2024 GFWC-SC **Executive Committee & District Presidents**

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712 Freshwater Ln., Bluffton, SC 29909 anneredlus@gmail.com 843 705-6373

Midlands District President: Melanie Matthews

242 Wheat St. Columbia, SC 29205 melanie@pestfreesc.com 803 543-4388

Upstate District President: Rhonda Garris

200 Magnolia Ave., Great Falls, SC 29055 wgarris@truvista.net 803 209-4027

MESSAGE FROM

GFWC-SC PRESIDENT

Our 2023 summer Board Session was very interesting and a lot of fun! Our CSP, Special Project Chairmen, and Advancement Chairmen presented interesting information to help clubs make plans for 2023-2024. We received information from Marian St. Clair on plans for the 2024 Southern Region Conference to be held in Greenville, October 2024. Ann Malpass reported on plans for the 2023 Stocking Extravaganza (information later in this magazine). Liz Herring reported on new guideline for the Progress Foundation and had a mini- workshop about the Progress Foundation application process at the conclusion of our meeting. Carrie Zimmerman & Juliet Casper shared information about St. Jude's Walk on September 30. Second Vice President, Kaye Jones held our Presidents Institute and reviewed forms in the Presidents Packet. If no one from your club was present, your District President was given your club's packet and will have it available at District Conferences in September and October.



We kicked off the GFWC National Day of Service for South Carolina. Our speaker was Erinn Rowe, CEO of Harvest Hope. Erinn presented information on Food Insecurity in our state. She also shared information about food insecurity among elderly in South Carolina. I asked everyone who was attending to bring food items requested by Harvest Hope. I was amazed at the contributions from our members. Erinn drives a mid-size SUV. We filled her car from floor to ceiling with all the seats lying flat. We barely left Erinn enough room to drive. (See pictures below). A big thank you to all the helpers that loaded the food. I know we filled up at least 3 large hotel carts with food. Please remember Harvest Hope when your club is thinking about a project.

We honored Jan Stone Allen (Charleston Junior Woman's Club) as our Jennie recipient for South Carolina. Jan's information has been sent to Southern Region and she will be recognized at the Southern Region Conference. There is more information later in this magazine about the 2023 Southern Region Conference, in Biloxi Mississippi, October 26-29, 2023. Hope many of you can attend.

I want to thank Dolly McDermott, our Meetings& Convention Chairman for her help in securing our meeting venue and overseeing everything with the hotel staff. I also want to thank Lynne Hauptner, SC Special Project Chairman for finding and making arrangements for our terrific speaker. Another big thank you to Tonja Ivey and Carrie Zimmerman for all their help with our AV set-up and equipment. Our CSP and Advancement Area Programs are highlighted in this magazine issue. There is also a list of Club Presidents and contact information in this issue.

I was also thrilled to attend an event on August 24 in Greenville. The Upstate District led by the Upstate Officers and Caroline Mahaffey held an "meet & greet" event to begin the process of starting a new GFWC-SC Junior Club in the Greenville area. I am excited to say this was a successful meeting and you will be hearing more about this new club that will be forming.

Hope all our clubs have a great year!

In Federation Spirit,

Norma

Norma England GFWC-SC President



Erinn Rowe, Harvest Hope CEO





GFWC-SC PRESIDENT-ELECT

Welcome September and a new club year! Time seems to move ever more quickly,

doesn't it? Already, District Conferences are upon us and the good news is none of them will conflict with that most sacrosanct of southern traditions, college football Saturdays.

Midlands District: September 17th at Woman's Club of Cayce

701 Oakland Ave, Cayce 2:00-4:00 p.m.

Upstate District: October 15th at Neely Farm, 105 Farm Club Drive

Simpsonville- 2:00 - 4:00 p.m.

Coastal District: September 20 - 7:00 p.m. (virtual via Zoom)

I do hope you will plan to attend and bring a club friend or two or more. Our district officers have given great thought and planning so meetings will be informative and interactive. If you've never attended a district meeting, it's a wonderful way to begin to meet club sisters from your area. The meetings provide an environment to network and even to collaborate on projects or events. So, when it comes to attending, 'the more the merrier!'

September's Sparkle & Shine Recruitment Campaign's emphasis is on Retention. Increasing membership and federating new clubs will always be important but, if we don't retain the members we have we will always be playing catch-up. Members remain active and engaged when they feel included and valued. Offer a ride to a meeting, extend a lunch invitation, have a member social where you simply enjoy being together with no agenda, send a card 'just because', give a hug and an, 'I'm so happy to see you!' or make a simple, old-fashioned phone call just to chat. In this age of technology, a personal, in-person interaction is underrated but can make all the difference. You may remember the song that says, 'reach out and touch somebody's hand, make this world a better place, if you can.' We do that in service to our communities. Let's not forget to be kind to each other as well.

Time indeed moves ever more quickly. The new administration will be upon us in less than 8 months. I continue to be humbled by your trust and confidence in me as President-elect. The encouragement I've received from the executive committee, President Norma England and all the past state presidents and directors of junior clubs is more appreciated than I can say. If the 2024-2026 administration is to reflect our diverse membership, we need representation from each of our three districts and as many of our clubs as possible. Please don't be shy. Use the link below and add your name to the upcoming administration interest list so that together, South Carolina can continue to truly Sparkle & Shine in service.

In Federation Friendship,

Suzanne

Suzanne Carswell GFWC-SC President-elect



Fall is here – let's hope it's cooler than our summer! I hope everyone had a great summer break and is ready to get back to working in your club. It was great seeing many of you at Summer Board. I am looking forward to reading about all of your projects during reporting time!



As many of your clubs are transitioning into a new administration, please remember to pass on good notes of your club activities from January - May 2023 to the new chair. Our reporting period is January -December and you want to report on your excellent projects you did in all of 2023. Having those notes will help so much in your reporting.

As you are planning for the 2023-2024 club year, it might help you to re-visit the December Clubwoman magazine to review all of the various reports – you may find a new one to submit! All back issues of this magazine as well as the new President's Packet is on the GFWC-SC web site.

Finally, the GFWC Community Impact Program (CIP) as well as the GFWC-SC Scholarships are awarded on a two-year cycle in even years. Information and forms are on the GFWC and GFWC-SC web sites for CIP and GFWC-SC for Scholarships.

I look forward to working with all of you in this club year. As always, please contact me if you have any questions or need any help — email, call, or text. I will be glad to help you!

In Federation Love,

Raye

Kaye Jones GFWC-SC Second Vice President

GFWC-SC SECOND PRESIDENT



HAPPY FOOTBALL SEASON Y'ALL!!

What a great time we had at our Summer Session! It is always wonderful to get to visit with our club sisters from around the state. If you missed it, please make plans for our Winter Session. You won't be disappointed!

As a reminder, if you stood up to give a report to the Board, I need a copy of that report. Please feel free to email, text, fax, or snail mail it to me! My info is: sewsmith2003@yahoo.com; 803-579-5022; 803-327-8664 fax; or 3790 Dove Tree Lane, Rock Hill, SC 29732.

I hope to see all my Upstate Sisters at our next meeting in October!



Shannon Smith GFWC-SC Secretary

MESSAGE FROM GFWC-SC TREASURER

Hello! Fellow GFWC-SC Club Women,

Below are some important dates to remember and guidelines to follow for TAX purposes, applying for fundraising and the Progress Foundation!



GFWC-SC Annual Dues: Annual dues shall be paid to GFWC-SC Treasurer on or before the first day of November. Clubs must pay their dues by Nov 1st in order to earn points on the rating sheet and to be eligible to apply for a grant from GFWC-SC Progress Foundation.

<u>Category</u>	<u>Per Member</u>
General Clubs	\$ 27
Junior Clubs	\$ 31
Members at Large	\$ 27
Heritage Clubs	\$ 16
Juniorette Clubs	\$ 11



MESSAGE FROM

GFWC-SC TREASURER CONTINUED

IRS Tax or Informational Return Filing. You are required to file an annual return of your income and expenses with the IRS. Small tax-exempt organizations with gross receipts ≤ \$50,000 can file an electronic notice. The 990-N or E-Postcard filing is due every year by the 15th day of the 5th month after close of your tax year.

Ending date of Tax Year	<u>Return Due Date</u>
December 31st	May 15th
November 30th	April 15th
October 31st	March 15th
September 30th	<u>February 15th</u>
August 31st	<u>January 15th</u>
<u>July 31st</u>	<u>December 15</u>
<u>June 30th</u>	<u>November 15th</u>
May 31st	<u>October 15th</u>
<u>April 30th</u>	<u>September 15</u>
March 31st	<u>August 15th</u>
<u>February 28th-29th</u>	<u>July 15th</u>
<u>January 31st</u>	<u>June 15th</u>

Secretary of State Registration or Exemption: The Registration Statement for a Charitable Organization or The Application For Registration Exemption, and the Annual Financial Report for a Charitable Organization are all due on an annual basis 4 1/2 months after the close your club's fiscal year. Please see http://www.sos.sc.gov/Public_Charities/Public_Charities_Info. Secretary of State Financial Report: Unless you have registered with the Secretary of State's Office for an Ex- emption – your club may either submit the Secretary of State's Annual Financial Report Form or the IRS Form 990, 990-EZ or 990-PF. Please see http://www.sos.sc.gov/Public_Charities/Public_Charities_Info.

Another item this Treasurer would like to address is operational costs or leadership development. When a club holds a fundraising event the club can decide to take a small portion(10 % or 15%) of the proceeds for operational costs or leadership development. This assists in growing new leaders in clubs and/or providing a small cushion towards other fundraisers.

*Remember I can be reached by email, czim22@gmail.com, snail mail, 605 White Oak Farms Rd., Tamassee, SC. 29686 or phone (864) 710-5851.



Arts & Culture

I was very happy that we had more photography entries this past year. This year we are asking that all photography entries be brought to Convention in April. I also want to ask clubs to encourage participation in the Youth Writing Contest. Even though it may be more difficult to have contests



in public schools, we can ask/encourage our children, grandchildren, and neighborhood children to enter. Children who are home schooled may also be encouraged to enter.

Please note I have a new mailing address. Dianne M. McCarty, Chairman 41 Shipwright Circle, Port Royal, SC 29935 diannemmccarty@gmail.com 803 553-1189

Civic Engagement and Community Outreach

Projects for the Civic Engagement and Outreach category include efforts regarding: Citizenship; Crime Prevention, Safety, and Disaster Preparedness; the Needy, Hungry, and Homeless; and Our Military Personnel and Veterans.

This year, GFWC has introduced September 30 as The National Day of Service as a day in which all of GFWC come together to highlight an area of need, take action to address the need and raise public awareness about its importance. This year's NDS issue focus is food insecurity. Clubs are encouraged to creatively organize an activity that benefits a food bank, pantry, or food program or creates community awareness of the issue.

Here are suggestions for NDS activities:

Volunteer at a Local Food Bank & Food Drives: Connect directly with the local food bank to determine how your club can be of service. They will welcome the support and donations.

Raise Awareness About Hunger: Reach out to your local media to introduce NDS and the cause of being promoted. Ask the reporter to mention NDS and how people can participate and donate. Also, use social media to discuss food insecurity with community members, clubs, schools, church groups, and others.

Advocate to End Food Insecurity: Use GFWC's Legislative Action Center (LAC) to interact with your federal and state elected officials to advance a bill or introduce legislation that helps to end hunger by funding programs specific to the issue. Also, during the



2022-24 administration, GFWC is promoting Community Connection Initiatives program. For Civic Engagement this means that clubs are encouraged to focus efforts on giving thanks and advocating for the essential workers in the community. Essential workers in the community include many fields of work not only medical care providers and first responders but also the many 911 dispatchers, teachers, civil service employees, farmers, truckers, utility workers, pharmacy providers, bank employees, delivery services, sanitation employees, and military personnel as examples.

Pamme Eades , Chairman 619 Poplar St. Cayce, SC 29633 pamme@att.net 803 730-5487

Education and Libraries

I hope that all of you enjoyed a great summer, albeit a HOT one!!! It was good to see so many of you at Summer Board. Kudos to Education & Libraries, GFWC-York County named in the Top Ten at GFWC-Internationals. A tribute to your hard work and dedication for children of our Veterans.

As we enter a new year I encourage you to celebrate International Literacy Day, September 8th. This celebration began in 1967. Despite all of the progress, 2020 data reports 763 million young people and adults lack basic literacy skills. Encourage members to visit your local library. You will find some activities to celebrate this day at "Fun Ideas To Celebrate International Literacy Day-Simply Stamps How-To".

FUTURE PROGRAMS: Check out RESOURCES in the Club Manual for some inspiration. Combat literacy issues with scholarships, advocacy, support local schools, educators, and STEM programs. Teachers need champions now more than ever. Teacher Appreciation Day (the First Tuesday on May) is a perfect time to honor your local teachers.

Education and Libraries (continued)

Education Focus: include children and adults in your projects to enhance literacy at all levels. Library Focus: Support your local library. Each community is unique, thus projects can be tailor made to work in your neighborhood.

As always, I encourage you to review the Club manual at <u>www.GFWC.ORG</u> specific to our CSP. You will find many ideas and suggestions.



Thank you for your dedication as you "Live the Volunteer Spirit." This CSP is definitely full of "Sparkle".

Please contact me if I can be of any assistance. Phyllis M. Sippel, Ph.D. psipp7777@gmail.com
843-338-7846

Environment

Take a Hike!

GFWC's commitment to conservation has been a focus throughout the history of our club as we work to preserve our natural resources. Did you know that GFWC President Mary Belle King Sherman, who also served as Conservation Chairperson from 1914-1920, was instrumental in the formation of six national parks? In 1916 President Woodrow Wilson signed the National Park Service Act and today there are more than four hundred national parks that cover over eighty-four million acres.

The park service encompasses national monuments and memorials that honor a person or event, national battlefields that commemorate a military action and national historic sites that preserve the country's history. We are very fortunate to have many of these sites in SC; Charles Pinckney National Historic Site, Cowpens National Battlefield, Fort Sumter and Fort Moultrie National Historic Park, Gullah/Geechee Cultural Heritage Corridor, Kings Mountain National Military Park, Ninety Six National Historic Site, Reconstructive Era National Historic Park and

Congaree National Park where some of the tallest trees in the eastern United States find their home. There are also forty-seven state parks in our beautiful state.

How can your club become involved? Research and visit a park in your area, volunteer at your local park, make a monetary donation, adopt a trail or section of the park, consider staying at a national park when you travel. The weather is going to be cooling off



soon, get outside, go for a hike, and enjoy these beautiful natural resources!

Donna Anderson Environment Chairman 2022-2024 donnapanderson@charter.net

Health and Wellness

The Health and Wellness CSP aims to explore the various opportunities for awareness and advancement of disease awareness and prevention, nutrition, and physical and emotional health.

A good way to plan Health and Wellness Projects throughout the club year is to pair a project with an Awareness Month. Below you will find a list of upcoming Awareness months and project ideas. Don't forget to consider GFWC Affiliate Organizations while planning projects!

Awareness Months:

September – National Suicide Prevention Awareness Month, Childhood Cancer Awareness Month, Healthy Aging Month, National Ovarian Cancer Awareness Month, Childhood Obesity Awareness Month

October – Breast Cancer Awareness Month, National Down Syndrome Awareness Month, Health Literacy Month, Pregnancy & Infant Loss Awareness Month, World Mental Health Day October 10th, International Day of the Girl October 11th, National Mammography Day October 20th, Teal Pumpkin Project Day October 31st

Project Ideas:

~ Join a local awareness Run/Walk. Our national Health & Wellness Chairman, Dale Fisher, has created a team for the virtual Walk to End Alzheimer's, Diamond Daisies of GFWC.

Health and Wellness (continued)

- ~ During club meetings, invite a speaker or club member to present on stress management, mindfulness, exercise/movement, breathing techniques, and food choices.
- ~ Provide care items for cancer patients, such as warm blankets and socks, moisturizers and lip balm, water and hard candy, and diversions, such as books, magazines, crossword puzzles, and more.
- ~ Participate in or sponsor a local Wellness Fair. Include dentists and eye doctors for screenings and nurses for blood pressure checks. Distribute coloring/activity books on dental care and eye care.
- ~ Hold a "Healthy Food Drive," requesting donors to contribute nutritious foods from Feeding America's Health Food Donation List. Look for labels that note: low sodium, no added salt, no added sugar, unsweetened, or 100% fruit juice.
- ~ Volunteer with Meals on Wheels to provide nutritional support to seniors.
- ~ Support your local Special Olympics.
- ~ Work with the national Alliance on Mental Illness (NAMI) by educating, advocating, and/or donating during Mental Health Awareness month in May, or anytime of the year.

As always, reach out if you have any questions or need help with a project. I'm looking forward to seeing all of the good work clubs will do in the area of Health and Wellness this club year!

Allison McGee, Health and Wellness Chairman aptmcgee@gmail.com



Advancement Area Fundraising and Development

Here are a few steps to follow when planning fundraising activities. Begin your fundraising process by gathering club members together for a brainstorming session. Discuss pros and cons, then make your choice and design as many ways as you can to put fun into your fundraisers.



- 1. Research and follow the applicable laws. Charitable fundraising is regulated in most states.
- 2. Appoint a capable Fundraising and Development Chairman
- 3. Set Goals and Objectives.
- 4. Plan all aspects of your Fundraising and Development Program.
- 5. Evaluate your efforts and show appreciation to the community.
- 6. CELEBRATE! You earned it.

Questions or need input? Contact me or the GFWC Fundraising & Development Chairman, Jeanette T. Wells **gfwc.jtw@gmail.com**. We are eager to provide help.

In Federation Spirit, Rika Castaldo rcastaldo@bellsouth.net (803) 417-6288

Leadership

The date for LEADS 2024 is all set and ready for you. Join us on February 17, 2024. All new agenda focused on topics such as Leadership Styles, Building Trust, Change Management, Conflict Resolution, Member Engagement and more. We are exploring sessions to be held in a combination of in-person and zoom to get the most out of working together. The fee remains a low \$25 per person. Each club should work to sponsor one attendee. We want to continue to support this programming and develop our membership. However, this program is open to anyone. Whether you have attended in the past or not, we welcome you. Applications can be found on **GFWC-SC.org** (under President Packet, L, Leads application).

Leadership (continued)

Application with payment is due by January 20, 2024 – but no need to wait, send it in now.

Whether you have attended LEADS in the past or attending this year, you can also be considered as the GFWC-SC LEADS candidate at GFWC International Convention in Chicago. Applications are due to me by March 1, 2024. You can find the application at GFWC.org, my digital library, L, LEADS Application and Information. GFWC National Convention will be held from June 29 through July 1, 2024.

I also want to share that we will hold the first ever GFWC Federation Day Celebration: Leadership Focus. Tickets will be available soon through Eventbrite (watch your email and the Pineapple Post for updates). Ally Shaw, author of "Chasing Tigers in the Dark", will join us along with presentation from some of our own leaders and refreshments. Join us April 25, 2024 from 3pm – 6pm at the Sims Stackhouse Mansion.

As always, I'm here to serve you. If you have questions on any leadership topics, any of these events (SC LEADS, International LEADS, SC Federation Day), don't hesitate to reach out. I'm also happy to help with any leadership content at your individual club meetings.

In Federation Spirit, Susan Lee , Chairman Susank311@outlook.com



Legislation and Public Policy

Work is progressing in our efforts to strengthen laws to protect vulnerable adults, Be on the lookout for updates on the bill number and committee assignment when the bill is introduced in January. At the very least, we hope there will be conversations about how to protect our elderly citizens, especially as that segment of our population grows.

CALL TO ACTION: The SC Hate Crimes Act has passed the SC House in each of the last two sessions, only to die in the SC Senate at the State House. This Session, H.3014 is on the calendar for when the Senate returns in January, except it cannot be considered because two senators have objected to it. EVERYONE

Senator (Name)'s district and I want them to support H.3014". Call their Columbia office, tell their staff that simple message, and give your address if they'd like it. You don't even have to be registered to vote!

Click here to find the people you elect!

H.3014 A BILL TO AMEND THE SOUTH CAROLINA CODE OF LAWS BY ENACTING THE "CLEMENTA C. PINCKNEY HATE CRIMES ACT"; BY ADDING ARTICLE 22 TO CHAPTER 3, TITLE 16 SO AS TO ENTITLE THE ARTICLE "PENALTY ENHANCEMENTS FOR CERTAIN CRIMES", TO PROVIDE ADDITIONAL PENALTIES FOR PERSONS WHO COMMIT CERTAIN DELINEATED CRIMES WHEN THE VICTIM WAS INTENTIONALLY SELECTED BASED ON CERTAIN FACTORS, AND TO PROVIDE VICTIMS OF A VIOLATION OF THE ARTICLE MAY BRING A CIVIL ACTION FOR DAMAGES SUSTAINED

GFWC-SC supports this bill because it says to the world, particularly businesses thinking of coming here and bringing jobs, that SC will not tolerate these behaviors. It is also a warning to potential perpetrators that there will be additional penalties for hurting others as described in the bill. Click here to view full text of H.3014

Click here to REGISTER TO VOTE

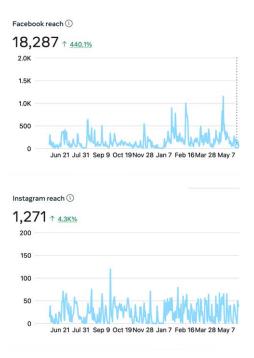
GFWC-SC State House Day 2024 is coming in the Spring. Details will be coming soon; hope you can attend!!

Lil Hayes, Chairman lilhaze717@yahoo.com



Communications and Public Relations

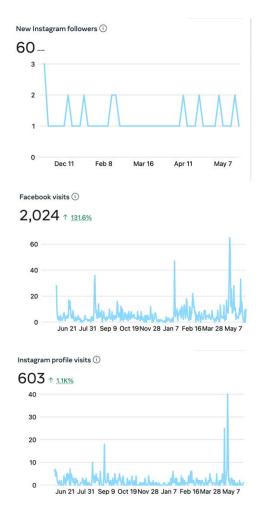
In my first year as Communications and Public Relations Chairman, GFWC-SC has seen a significant increase in social media usage and growth. One year progress from June 1, 2022 - May 1, 2023 is noted. See images below.



Using statistics from social media helps determine its effectiveness and usage. When viewing statistics for GFWC-SC, we can see that Facebook is most popular among users ages 65+ and Instagram is most popular for ages 45-55.

When choosing and using social media, using only 1 account will not necessarily reach the demographics your club may be seeking. Use a minimum of 2 social media platforms to get your message out and consistently post. Our Facebook and Instagram accounts have seen a significant increase in followers as well. Followers include GFWC and the GFWC President.





Using social media is a tool to get small messages out in an efficient manner. Be sure to follow GFWC-South Carolina on Facebook, Instagram, TikTok, and Threads!

Facebook:

GFWC - South Carolina **Gfwc-SC Upstate District Gfwc-SC Coastal District GFWC SC Midlands District** Gfwc SC Juniors GFWC of South Carolina Headquarters GFWC - South Carolina **Gfwc-SC Upstate District Gfwc-SC Coastal District GFWC SC Midlands District** Gfwc SC Juniors GFWC of South Carolina Headquarters GFWC - South Carolina **Gfwc-SC Upstate District Gfwc-SC Coastal District GFWC SC Midlands District** Gfwc SC Juniors GFWC of South Carolina

Instagram:

@qfwcsc @gfwcscmidlands @qfwcscjuniors1820 @qfwcscheadquarters @qfwcsc @gfwcscmidlands @qfwcscjuniors1820 @qfwcscheadquarters @qfwcsc @gfwcscmidlands @gfwcscjuniors1820 @gfwcscheadquarters

Headquarters

TikTok:
agfwcsc
Threads
agfwcsc

Tracy Morzuch
Communications and Public Relations Chairman
communications.gfwcsc@gmail.com

Women's History and Resource Center

I am so proud of our South Carolina clubs who have developed a variety of projects and programs that preserve and celebrate the past, promote the present and inspire the future for 2022. I look forward to seeing the work you are doing for 2023!

It was very exciting that our own GFWC Woman's Club of Rock Hill was recognized as a Women's History and Research Center Top 10 Project for 2022. The club's historic club house was the subject of the GFWC WHRC Committee Chairman's article, "From Coca-Cola House to Clubhouse," published in the Winter 2022 WHRC newsletter. The club's Historic Preservation Committee and the club's President all assisted in authoring the article by providing detailed information on the house and its history.

Be sure to subscribe to the WHRC NEWS. Projects and programs from throughout GFWC are highlighted and can give your clubs many ideas in this area.

So many women have prepared the way for the lives we lead today. We know the famous ones, but what about those women who contributed so much, but may be unknown? You may know that more Revolutionary War battles where fought in South Carolina than anywhere else. And I recently learned about a battle that took place in York County where the only loss was a woman. She gave her life for our freedom and for a long time went unnoticed. A historic monument was recently erected to honor her. Telling local children or clubs and groups her story would be a great project. And how about a visit to the monument that is near where the battle took place and where this woman gave her life?

How about women who have been leaders in your town or city? Local historians would love to tell you about them. Maybe they took part in founding the town. Or maybe they were involved in the city government. What projects or programs could be inspired by their stories?

Who are the women who have inspired you? What made you the volunteer you are today? A teacher? Someone in your church? Someone in your family? How did their lives inspire your life of service now? Perhaps you could learn more about them. And you could share with others

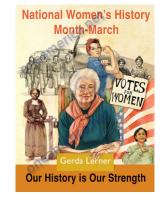
what you learned from them. What projects and programs could you do to honor them and share their stories.

And last, how can you inspire others. Can you be a woman in history that others will look back on and be inspired for future service? Remember that what you do today is tomorrow's history.

I hope to receive many reports from GFWC-SC this year. Enjoy women's history and learn from it. Learn about those who have come before us and how they have influenced

our lives of service.

Judy Holroyd GFWC-SC Chairman Women's History and Resource Center mdm1@comporium.net 471 Lakeside Drive Rock Hill, SC29730-6105



GFWC Juniors Special Project: Advocates For Children

Hello, Fellow GFWC-SC Sisters.

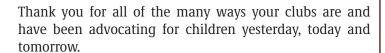
You ladies really sparkle and shine when it comes to advocating for children. We are all so proud that the Woman's Club of Rock Hill was recently recognized on the national level as a GFWC Top 10 Project for their books to shelves program. Congratulations ladies! And thank you to all of my GFWC sisters for advocating for children yesterday, today and tomorrow.

Many of your yesterdays have been filled with putting out pinwheel gardens, shopping for school supplies or collecting clothing and hygiene items for our state's children. Many of you took a boots on the ground approach by going to local children's homes and shelters where you prepared meals and holiday parties. And may today be the day you start to brainstorm for how your club will continue to advocate for our children in this current club year. Tomorrow I know you will continue to sparkle by advocating for children- use some of the shining ideas above or create your own.

Feeling stumped? I am happy to help your club brainstorm ideas and we also have a list of ideas at our fingertips on the GFWC website. Feel free to reach out to me via email anytime at mmichelleblackmon@gmail.com.

Advocates for Children (continued)

In closing, I would like to share with you ladies that last week I had the honor of chatting with Christie Young from Midlands Orphan Relief (MOR). She shared that after she and Lynn Young (founder of MOR) attended our summer board 2022, MOR has received tremendous support from GFWC including numerous volunteer hours, donations of needed items and financial support.



In Junior Love, Michelle Blackmon, Chairman GFWC Juniors Special Project: Advocates for Children

<u>Signature Program: Domestic and Sexual Violence</u> Awareness and Prevention

Dating Violence is currently on the rise.

33% of adolescents in America are victims of sexual, physical or emotional dating abuse.

Woman ages 18 to 34 generally experience the highest rates of partner violence.

More and more woman are meeting partners on the internet. Hopefully this project will assist woman of all ages as they find themselves dating and meeting people on websites.

The project I would like introduce this year is the **Angel Shot.**

The Angel Shot allows a woman to ask for help without making the person she is with aware of the action. Because this drink doesn't not exist on a bar menus, younger woman are able to ask for this drink and receive help as well.

A full page flyer for the ladies restroom and a 1/2 page for behind the bar.

I will soon be sending both templates to each SC club president with full detailed for this project.

Getting this information into your local restaurants and bars, will hopefully decrease the number of woman who find themselves in an uncomfortable situation.

Karen Adams, Chairman Karen.Adams51@yahoo.com



Is your date not going well or did you meet someone who is making you feel uncomfortable?

An Angel Shot will bring you help.

Order an Angel Shot:

~ Neat – Your bartender will escort you to your vehicle or

~ With Ice – Your bartender will call you an Uber or Lyft or

~With A Lime – Your bartender will call the police &handle things discretely and without a lot of fuss.



<u>GFWC-SC President's Special Project</u> <u>Elder Abuse/Neglect Awareness</u>

Preventing Elder Abuse

What is elder abuse?

Elder abuse is an intentional act or failure to act that causes or creates a risk of harm to an older adult. An older adult is someone age 60 or older. The abuse occurs at the hands of a caregiver or a person the elder trusts.

Common types of elder abuse include: Physical abuse is when an elder experiences illness, pain, injury, functional impairment, distress or death as a result of the intentional use of physical force and includes acts such as hitting, kicking, pushing, slapping, and burning.

Sexual abuse involves forced or unwanted sexual interaction of any kind with an older adult. This may include attempted or completed unwanted sexual contact or penetration or non-contact acts such as verbal sexual harassment.

Emotional or Psychological Abuse refers to verbal or nonverbal behaviors that inflict anguish, mental pain, fear, or distress on an older adult. Examples include humiliation or disrespect, verbal and non-verbal threats, harassment, and geographic or interpersonal isolation.

Neglect is the failure to meet an older adult's basic needs. These needs include food, water, shelter, clothing, hygiene, and essential medical care.

Financial Abuse is the illegal, unauthorized, or improper use of an elder's money, benefits, belongings, property, or assets for the benefit of someone other than the older adult.

How can we prevent elder abuse? There are a number of factors that may increase or decrease the risk for perpetrating and/ or experiencing elder abuse. To prevent elder abuse, we must understand and address the factors that put people at risk for or protect them from violence.

We can all help prevent elder abuse.

- Listen to older adults and their caregivers to understand their challenges and provide support.
- Report abuse or suspected abuse to local adult protective services, long-term care ombudsman, or the police. Use the National Center on Elder Abuse Listing of State Elder Abuse Hotlines (https://ncea.acl. gov/Resources/State.aspx) to find your state's reporting numbers, government agencies, state laws, and other resources.
- Educate oneself and others about how to recognize and report elder abuse.
- Learn how the signs of elder abuse differ from the normal aging process. Check in on older adults who may have few friends and family members.
- Provide over-burdened caregivers with support such as help from friends, family, or local relief care groups; adult day care programs; counseling; outlets intended to promote emotional well-being.
- Encourage and assist persons (either caregivers or older adults) having problems with drug or alcohol abuse in getting help.

Speaker Ideas: Contact your local Sheriff'/Police Department, there is usually an elder abuse task force.

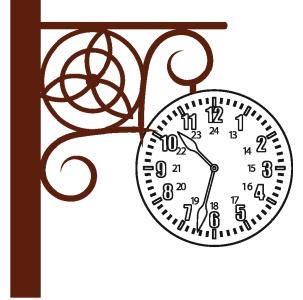
Contact FBI: Columbia Field Office Elder Fraud – 803-551-4200

Email: Columbia_outreach@fbi.gov.

They require a speaker request form located at: https://forms.fbi.gov/Columbia-fbi-speaker-presenter-

request form

Lynne Hauptner GFWC-SC President's Special Project Chair peacelynne@aol.com 803-413-4099



COMMUNITY IMPACT PROGRAM IT'S TIME TO REPORT!

Hi Everyone!

This year is the year to report your Community Impact Projects for the 2022-2024 Community Impact Program Awards! The Award Period is from **January 2022 to December 31, 2023**. Projects must have been undertaken by and accomplished during this award period.

The GFWC Community Impact Program Award is the longest standing project in GFWC. The award was introduced to members in 1949! The goal of the award is to encourage and recognize the positive impact a club can have on needs within their community.

Projects can provide opportunities for growing club membership, enhancing leadership skills, building relationships with individual and community groups and creating and building public awareness of the club and GFWC. Any project that makes a large impact in your local community and fits the award criteria – making a visual, physical or emotional impact at the grassroots level and brings awareness of what GFWC volunteering is about – will be accepted for judging.

Please email your entry to DeAna Reed-Sharpe, South Carolina Chairman for CIP, at <u>deana.reed@yahoo.com</u>. **Entries are due to me by March 1, 2023.**

If your project is selected for the South Carolina State Community Impact Program Award, it will be sent for judging at the national level. GFWC awards \$100.00 for the State Award recipient. National Awards are \$2,500.00. Additional award information and the entry form can be found on the GFWC-SC website.

DeAna Reed-Sharpe GFWWC-SC Community Impact Chairman deana.reed@yahoo.com 803 318-7002

PROGRESS FOUNDATION

Clubs can find the form for the Progress Foundation grant online along with other President's Package forms. Clubs no longer have to provide 20% percent matching funds. Smaller clubs that were limited in projects because of the financial burden should have more flexibility now.

However, this change doesn't change the amount we are allowed to grant by law so please make your request as realistic as possible. We must trim requests down to fit the amount we are allowed to allot. Our best tool to do this is a well-worded, detailed application that meets all the guidelines specified in the application.

Finally, per the IRS, grant recipients must file a final report by July 1, 2024, that proves they spent the grant money as approved by Progress Foundation, per their grant application. Clubs that fail to provide a final report will not be eligible for a grant the next year. Our CPA is required to send the list of clubs receiving grants with their addresses when he files the tax return. The IRS does perform random checks.

Elizabeth Herring, Progress Foundation Chairman <u>Liz.herring@windstream.net</u> 803 463-2729

NEW JUNIOR CLUB COMING SOON IN THE GREENVILLE AREA

On Thursday evening, August 24, 2023 the GFWC-SC Upstate District Officers, along with GFWC-SC President Norma England and other members of the Executive Committee, hosted a drop-in at Greenville's Poinsett Club to explore interest in federating a new junior club in the Greenville area.

Eight young women joined us to learn about GFWC and left full of enthusiasm and having determined a date and time to begin planning their new club. A name for the club MAY have been decided, but we'll wait to share that later in the process!















Chapin Woman's Club's "IN THE BAG" Designer Purse Auction 6-9 pm Thursday, October 12

St. Francis of Assisi Episcopal Church
735 Old Lexington Highway, Chapin 29036
Tickets \$50.00

We invite you to bring family & friends to a glamourous evening of Great Food, Fun Games, Fellowship, Designer Bag Raffle and a Discounted, Famous Designer Purse Auction. Don't miss this opportunity!

"PURCHASE FOR A PURPOSE"

Help our "IN THE BAG" 2023 Fundraiser support the community we love.

This year we honor Audrey Hepburn's "BREAKFAST AT TIFFANY'S" with GAMES at TIFFANY'S.

- → Just Log on to **Chapinwomansclub.org**
- → Click **CWC Fundraisers** @ top of page
- → Click the QR code to view your various options
- → BUY your tickets, View Catalog & more!

On Line Bidding Begins September 28, at noon ACT FAST, TICKETS SELL OUT QUICKLY!

Bring a friend to be your partner at the games. Many surprises await you at this memorable event. Must be 21 or older at attend.

All winning bidders are notified at event and online. Over 75 purses by designers Louis Vuitton, Versace, Dooney & Bourke, Kate Spade, Michael Kors just to name a few AND a VALENTINO Italian leather purse from the 2023 collection will be raffled. Check website for details.



Decorating Workshop

The Lexington Woman's Club is sponsoring a Della Robbia style decorating workshop with all proceeds benefitting the Lexington County Museum. Della Robbia style of decorating uses fresh greenery with fruit, nuts, and other natural materials. Many of these natural materials can be found in your yard. This workshop will feature the Hogarth Curve form and its many uses in decorating for Christmas as well as other holidays and events.

When: Sunday, November 12, 2023, from 3:00 pm to 5:00 pm

Where: The Lexington County Museum, 231 Fox Street, Lexington, in the museum's tour office. (Look for the signs.)

Cost is \$45.00 and includes a wooden Hogarth Curve form. There are only 25 tickets available.

Registration can be completed through the Lexington County Museum at https://www.eventbrite.com/e/christmas-decoration-workshop-tickets-713695902657





North Myrtle Beach Is taking part by collecting donations at the North Myrtle Beach Irish Italian International Festival, September 30th—10am-4pm. Did you know 40% of our population in Horry County is food insecure. This is 11.6% of our total population. Sadly,16.3% of these are children. Join us and help us alleviate food shortages in our community.

Most needed foods are:

Canned meats, Peanut Butter, Soups and Stews, Whole grain rice, pasta and oats, low sugar cereal, fruit juice, canned fruits and vegetables

Help us fight hunger in our community, by bringing your non-perishable food donation to Main & Cedar Streets at the entrance to the festival. Collection bins will be there. Club members will also be there to THANK YOU for your donation. Then go join in the FUN!

Tokyo Joe's Third Annual Breast Cancer Research Fundraiser

Featuring:

Tokyo Joe

The Root Doctors





Prettier than Matt







Presenting Sponsor: Woodcreek Club

Gold Sponsors: Bruce & Ginger Dyer / Infrastructure Consulting & Engineering / Kenneth & Cyndi Long / O'Hara's Public House / Sansbury Eye Center

Silver Sponsors: Dick Dyer Mercedes-Benz/Volvo / Gray Law Firm / Floor Boys / Security Federal Bank / W. P. Law / State Farm Insurance (Theresa B. Miley)



















Friday, October 27, 2023 at Icehouse Amphitheater, Lexington, SC Gates open at 6:00 p.m. - Show starts at 6:30 p.m.

Tickets are \$35 at www.icehouseamphitheater.com

Proceeds benefit The Breast Cancer Research Foundation

Official Before & After Party at O'Hara's Public House

Presented by

Dream Makers of GFWC-SC & Tokyo Joe Productions

Printing Courtesy of Professional Printers

Girl in the Coffee Shop

By Linda George-Sweatt, North Myrtle Beach Woman's Club

Winner of the GFWC-SC Short Story Contest and Francis B. Hair Silver Award for Writing

Here I am working away on my laptop, in my local coffee shop with my head down focusing on my project for the day realizing, as uncomfortable as the chairs are I would rather be here than at home working alone. I'm alone a lot lately. My lady friends are not happy with me not for spending time with them. My Mom told me when I was a young boy growing up in California I would be popular with the ladies. With my dark blue eyes, darker hair and sexy smile, she said I would have a hard time finding the right one for me. She was so right.

So far I have accomplished my days work in about 3 hours and just when I closed my laptop there she was, walking in the side door of the shop with the sunlight behind her, her silhouette was outlined so that I could just barely make out her features and how perfect she was. Tall and liquid, with long hair, light brown with gold strands from the sun. When she ordered her coffee her voice was low and sensual with a hint of innocence. I was staring, I couldn't look away. She sat down on one of the couches turned a little to the right in the window's light I could see her porcelain skin was luminous. When she held her coffee up to her full lips and her lips touched the rim of the cup it was like a lingering kiss I felt a stir of such excitement, a feeling I wasn't familiar with. It was such a surprise to me I had to hold myself in my chair to keep from running over and blurting out I love you. My mind started racing, should I approach her?

Just as I thought I would walk over to her she stood up and walked over to the counter, that is when I saw her leg, she had an artificial leg. Her skirt almost covered it but not quite. It stopped me cold. I felt my heart sink deep into my chest and for a second I couldn't breath. Oh my God this perfectly beautiful human being was missing her leg. I felt sick I was trying to understand what I was feeling. I didn't approach her, she left right after that and I wanted to cry.

To this day I still don't know why I felt the way I did. Hardly a day goes by I don't think of her and ask myself why did I not speak to her and possibly share the rest of my life with her? I always reproach myself and ask what is missing inside me that I would stop myself from being with someone who was different?

Life has a way of working out. I am married now, I have 3 grown children and I am on the way to retirement. Life is life. Opportunities come and they go we have our regrets and we have our victories. The girl in the coffee shop was something different.

The End



Stocking Extravaganza

It's beginning to look a lot like Christmas . . . Stocking Extravaganza!

Mark your calendars

October 23 – web site open for ticket purchases

November 20 – stocking photos on website

November 27-December 1 – live bidding for stockings

November 28 – Ticketed Drop-In at Headquarters (\$25)

December 2 – stocking pickup at Headquarters and . . . Stuffed Stocking drawing!!

NEW this year ~ we are stuffing a stocking with cash and half of it could be yours! A *50/50 Stuffed Stocking Raffle* is coming and here's what you need to know . . . **\$10 tickets** may be purchased to split the raffle income 50/50 with Headquarters,

Tickets may be purchased at any time from a member of the Headquarters committee, on-line between November 27 and December 1, and at the drop-in at Headquarters on November 28.

A drawing will be held on Saturday, December 2, and the winner will receive half the money raised from ticket sales.

Think about it . . . if we sell 100 tickets, that stuffs the stocking with \$1000. The raffle winner receives \$500 and HQ receives \$500! That's cash for some serious Christmas Shopping for some lucky winner!





During the GFWC Board of Directors Meeting, October 8, 2023 GFWC-SC President Norma England, GFWC Director of Junior Clubs Katie Moydell, and GFWC-SC Director of Junior Clubs Shelli Pue congratulate Juliet Casper GFWC Legislation and Public Policy Chairman, GFWC-SC Scholarship Fund Chairman, and GFWC-SC Past President after the announcement that Juliet would be seeking the office of GFWC Treasurer at the 2024 GFWC Convention in Chicago.

SUMMER BOARD HIGHLIGHTS AUGUST 18, 2023

GFWC South Carolina Jennie Award Chairman Ann Malpass presenting **2023 GFWC South Carolina Jennie Award winner, Jan Allen**, during our Summer Board Session. Jan will be recognized at Southern Region Conference October 26-29 in Biloxi, Mississippi. Jan is a member of the Charleston Junior Woman's Club and was nominated by her club for the Jennie Award for South Carolina. Congratulations to Jan Allen!





President elect, Suzanne Carswell recognizes Trudie Heemsoth with her pin for 50 years of Service to GFWC-SC.



Courtney Evans, president of the Junior Woman's Club of Columbia accepts the Jackie Boland Attendance Award for her club.



Shelli Pue, GFWC-SC Director of Junior Clubs displays the Millie Crom Award that she received at the GFWC Convention, Louisville.

SUMMER BOARD HIGHLIGHTS AUGUST 18, 2023













			GFWC	GFWC-SC Club Presidents 2023-2024	its 2023-20	24				
District	Club	Last	First	Street	City	State	Zip	Email	Phone	Year Federated
COAST	GFWC North Myrtle Beach Woman's Club	Holston	Connie	476 Vermillion Dr	Little River	SC	29566	cholston123@outlook.com	734-751-3743	1974
COAST	GFWC Charleston Junior Woman's Club	Mason	Rachel	507 Stinson Dr., Apt A12	Charleston	SC	29407	cjwcpresident@gmail.com	919-539-5771	1966
COAST	GFWC St. George Woman's Guild	Bazzle	Penny	111 Cedar Tree Lane	St. George	SC	29477	pbazzle@yahoo.com	843-922-2756	1970
COAST	GFWC Woman's Club of Charleston	Ezell	Pat	5 Nuffield Road	Charleston	SC	29414	patnhack@comcast.net	843-571-3569	1968
COAST	GFWC Woman's Club of Charleston	Lassister	Karen	653 Beauregard Street	Charleston	SC	29412	karenl653@gmail.com	843-224-1901	1968
COAST	GFWC Woman's League of the Lowcountry	Peragallo	Alane	647 Promenade Lane	Okatie	SC	29909	alanegary@comcast.net	703-969-8809	2014
MID	Dream Makers of GFWC-SC	Hook	Robin	3932 Backman Rd	West Columbia	SC	29172	crstwins@yahoo.com	803-429-8296	2016
MID	GFWC Aiken Junior Woman's Club	Ē	Mandie			SC				1964
MID	GFWC Aiken Woman's Club	Fornwald	Ann	1466 Moultrie	Aiken	SC	29803	asteeper@bellsouth.com	803-6463385	1975
MID	GFWC Belvedere Woman's Club	Hobbs	Karen	PO Box 6097	North Augusta	SC	29861	karen@mercymedcolumbus.cor	706-373-7287	1955
MID	GFWC Chapin Junior Woman's Club	Brim	Jessica	413 Lever Hill Rd	Chapin	sc	29036	jbrim2254@yahoo.com	803-904-2833	2014
MID	GFWC Chapin Woman's Club	Gerrald	Kaye	128 Summit Point Court	Chapin	sc	29036	kaye.gerrald@gmail.com	803-920-8534	1971
MID	GFWC Junior Woman's Club of Columbia	Evans	Courtney	107 Sweet Grass Lane	Columbia	SC	29203	<u>cepevans@hotmail.com</u>	803-556-7042	1955
MID	GFWC Junior Woman's Club of Lake Murray	Matthews	Sarah	145 Groves Wood Court	Lexington	sc	29072	sarahcgay@gmail.com	315-783-8528	2012
MID	GFWC Lake Murray-Irmo Woman's Club	Fields	Meredith	112 Sandstone Rd.	Columbia	sc	29212	meredithf63@gmail.com	803-260-7525	1960
MID	GFWC Lexington Woman's Club	Hudson	Tanya	131 Mooring Lane	Lexington	sc	29072	thudson424@yahoo.com	803-413-3243	1958
MID	GFWC Lexington Woman's Club	lvey	Tonja	217 Fox Lake Dr	West Columbia	sc	29170	tivey@cdcsllc.com	803-312-2369	1958
MID	GFWC Palmetto Woman's Club	Hadwin	Jan	4009 Rockbridge Rd	Columbia	sc	29206	janetwh@aol.com		1984
MID	GFWC Sand River Woman's Club	McNeill	April	140 A Laurens St	Aiken	sc	29801	asmixon@aol.c0m	803-215-1417	1983
MID	GFWC Saxe Gotha WC	Cleckler	Lynn	711 Cherokee Tr.	Lexington	sc	29072	LynnCleckler70@gmail.com	803-359-3389	1972
MID	GFWC South Carolina Past President's Club	Fields	Kristin	2 Clay Court	Chapin	SC	29036	kristinf11@aol.com	803-319-9994	1986

			GFWC	GFWC-SC Club Presidents 2023-2024	ts 2023-20	24				
MID	GFWC St. Andrews Woman's Club	O'Kelly	Laurie	316 Longbow Court	Columbia	SC	29223	llok385@aol.com	803-530-9665	1963
MID	GFWC Woman's Club of Cayce	Eades	Pamme	619 Poplar Street	Cayce	sc	29033	pamme@att.net	803-730-5487	1941
MID	GFWC Woman's Club of Columbia (Heritage)	Holmes	Jane	1159 Eastminster Drive	Columbia	SC	29204	igeorgeholmes@gmail.com	803-931-6436	
MID	GFWC Woman's Club of the Midlands	Lee	Susan	P.O. Box 294	Pelion	SC	29123	: susank311@outlook.com	803-543-6534	1955
MID	GFWC Woman's Club of West Columbia	Heisse	Georgia	109 Kimeric Crt.	Columbia	SC	29169	georgiaheise@sc.rr.com	803-455-1127	1906
MID	GFWC Woman's Society of Batesburg-Leesville	Black-Buzhardt	Lois	225 Bobcat Road	Leesville	SC	29070	loisblack@sc.rr.com	803-413-2437	1958
MD	Pine Ridge Woman's Club	Kanipe	Hailey	1288 Pine Ridge Dr	W. Columbia	SC		prwomensclub@gmail.com	803 603-3375	2022
UP	GFWC Clinton Federated Woman's Club	Nichols	Dee	306 S Owens Street	Clinton	SC	29325	danichols@presby.edu	864-923-3454	1975
UP	GFWC Jubilee Club	Agnew	Janet	140 Burnett Dr.	Spartanburg	SC	29302	janetag@bellsouth.net	864-680-4737	1973
UP	GFWC Junior Woman's Club of Rock Hill	Marlow	Adriana	326 Cumbria Way	Rock Hill	SC	29732	kizer sosse@yahoo.com	803-448-5094	1955
UP	GFWC Once-a-Week Club (Heritage Club)	Owen	Evelyn			sc	29679	evelyncowen@yahoo.com		1898
UP	GFWC Over the Teacups (Heritage Club)	Macdonald	Martha	325 College Ave	Rock Hill	sc	29730	doctorbenn@gmail.com	803 327-2530	1898
UP	GFWC Renaissance Woman's Club	Palmer	Laura	2249 Country Club Rd	Spartanburg	SC	29302	lbpalmer@spart7.org	864-804-4452	2003
UP	GFWC Seneca Junior Woman's Club	Tonkin	Jenni	15109 Beacon Ridge Dr.	Seneca	SC	29678	jtonkin@Clemson.edu	864-324-1681	1973
UP	GFWC The Paul Hayne Circle (Heritage Club)	Lyle	Judy	310 Falcon's Nest Rd	Walhalla	SC	29691	judylyle@bellsouth.net	864-710-1126	1898
UP	GFWC Upstate Woman's Club	Haver	Mendy	334 Neely Crossing Laneo	Simpsonville	sc	29680	mhaver3000@yahoo.com	864-230-3464	1993
UP	GFWC Walhalla Woman's Club	Phillips	Phyllis	P.O. Box 34	West Union	SC	29696	ppiphil@gmail.com	864-710-5367	1977
UP	GFWC Woman's Club of Fort Mill	Williamson	Crystal	112 W Summersby St.	Fort Mill	sc	29715	Crystalwilliamson536@yahoo.co	803-547-7344	1952
UP	GFWC Woman's Club of Rock Hill	Loy	Myrna	1589 Kallaramo Rd	Rock Hill	sc	29732	mloy902@comporium.net	732-398-0123	1938
UP	GFWC Women's Club of Greenville SC, LLC	St.Clair	Marian	357 Riverside Dr	Greenville	sc	29605	Marian.stclair@gmail.com	864-271-8632	2014
UP	GFWC York County Women's Club	Holroyd	Judy	471 Lakeside Drive	Rock Hill	sc	29730	mdm1@comporium.net	803-493-6530	2010
UP	GFWC Golden Strip Woman's Club	Mahaffey	Caroline	PO Box 39	Simpsonville	SC	29681	RRealEstCM@aol.com	864-4306688	2014

2023 GFWC SOUTHERN REGION——CALL

Joyce Johnston, 2022-2024 President

July 17, 2023

Dear GFWC Southern Region Members:

As the hosts for our 2023 Annual Meeting, our Mississippi ladies have been busy working to make it a memorable conference. Our meeting is October 26-29 at the IP Hotel in Biloxi, and the theme for the weekend is "The Magic of Mississippi." During the weekend you will get to learn the history of the area and sample some of the talent that Mississippi has to offer.

Our very special guests will be our 2022-2024 GFWC International President, Deb Strahanoski, and GFWC President-elect, Suellen Brazil., and they will shine their light for GFWC and update us on happenings in our wonderful organization. We'll also have greetings from the GFWC Officers within our Region. The conference agenda is filled with presentations led by our GFWC and Region Chairmen and Committee members. Topics to be covered include our Community Service Programs, Legislation/Public Policy, Membership, Communications/Public Relations, Fundraising, and Leadership, including our 2023 LEADS graduates. Also included are the Junior Special Program and our Signature Project: Domestic Violence and Prevention. State Presidents and Directors of Junior Clubs will share a "brag time" with us, and the Juniors will help us to celebrate Dr. Seuss. Thursday evening the Board of Directors will meet and dine together off-site at Patio 44Restaurant. Then on Friday we will have an historical tour of downtown Biloxi via trolley. This includes Biloxi's lighthouse. After that we will board a bus to the Gulfport Woman's Club where the Gulfport ladies will host a tasty tea/lunch for us. Seating is limited to 50, but there are many other options to fill your day, including museums and shopping at Biloxi and Ocean Springs. Our hotel is offering special spa packages so make sure you view those offerings and register in advance. And, of course, you may want to try your luck at the casino located on the first floor of the IP Hotel.

Friday night is State Night, and our Mississippi ladies have planned a fun packed evening for us with a special children's author and musical entertainment. Mississippi's special project for this administration is supporting libraries and literacy. Several of their libraries were badly damaged during storms and tornadoes that recently plagued Mississippi. Please help us support this project by bringing new and/or gently used children's books to be donated to school libraries. Saturday is our business session and in addition to all the great workshop presentations we will have another author who will speak about friendships. We are honored to have Suellen Brazil speak at our Saturday luncheon, and Deb Strahanoski will be sharing her ideas with us at the Saturday dinner. Sunday morning, we will receive the invitation to the 2024 Southern Region Annual Meeting in South Carolina.

You will have several shopping opportunities, as we will have vendors and our state and GFWC tables. Everyone loves taking a chance on baskets, so we are asking each state (and anyone else who wants to) to donate a basket or purse for an opportunity drawing.

Mode of Dress for this conference is:

- Tours: Tropical Casual (closed toe shoes must be worn if you are climbing to the top of the lighthouse)
- Meetings: Tropical Business Casual
- Friday Evening: Business Casual in Black and White (to represent the pages of a book)
- Saturday Evening: Tropical Business Casual
- Junior Fun Night: Dr. Seuss Theme

See you soon!

Joyce Johnston

2022-2024 SR President

For a registration form and more information on the Spa Packages—please see the Southern Region Website or go to the GFWC-SC Website for the link to register. *Please note*: The Trolley Tour is no longer available. It is full



Southern Region Conference October 26-29, 2023

Pay Dues by November 1, 2023

Progress Foundation Grant Application Due by November 15, 2023

Stocking Extravaganza
November 28, 2023

Winter Board Session January 14, 2024, Columbia, SC

GFWC CSP, Advancement Area & Special Project Award Report due February 1, 2024

LEADS Training February 17, 2024 Woman's Club of Cayce Clubhouse

State and District Award Reports, Rating Sheet, Contribution Sheet due March 15, 2024