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VOLUME XVIII - APRIL, 2024

GFWC Blue Umbrella Club Inc.

General Federation of Women's Clubs





From Dianne's Desk:

Dear Blue Umbrella members,

Wow! Wow! Wow! The Blue Umbrella Hospitality Suite at the GFWC Florida Convention exceeded all of our expectations! Absolutely everything went better than we could have hoped, and most importantly, over 100 people came through the suite, sharing ideas and projects. The comments we heard were very complementary. Our visitors loved it and said so. They also renewed their memberships AND we welcomed several new members to the Blue Umbrella Club. Let's spread that Love, Respect, and Kindness everywhere!

You will find several photographs taken during the Convention weekend featured in this newsletter. They do say a picture is worth 1000 words. A huge thank you to all the individuals, districts, and clubs who brought displays. Sharing ideas and support for each other is the essence of our mission.

I must also specifically thank Kathryn Gallagher, our Project Manager and the coordinator of the Blue Umbrella Hospitality Suite! She was instrumental in every aspect of the planning through the clearing up when it was over. Several of our members were also actively involved in the success of the hospitality suite. It was a perfect example of everyone helping and supporting each other. My love and hugs to each of you!

Thank you to those of you who have already renewed your Blue Umbrella membership by paying the dues of $35 for 2024. Remember that these can be sent to the PO Box or by using the QR code, both of which will be found further along in this newsletter or on the Blue Umbrella website.

The Annual Meeting for the GFWC Blue Umbrella Club, which is open to all paid members, will be held on Sunday, May 19 at 6:30 PM via zoom. Please save that date! All dues paying members will be sent an email with the zoom link. A nominating committee, composed of Nancy Crawford, Rachelle Warmouth and Linda Joseph has been named, and they have prepared a slate of officers for the 2024-2026 administration. That slate will be sent to all members. According to the bylaws, additional nominations may be made from the floor at the Annual Meeting. The 2024-2026 officers will be elected at the May 19th meeting. Please join us.

I am so impressed and so grateful for the strides that this club has made in its short history. With the success of the Blue Umbrella Hospitality Suite, I feel that our message and our mission is becoming much more clear to everyone. We are here to share, to support, to work together and always with an emphasis on accentuating the positive with LOVE, RESPECT, and KINDNESS! It is who we are! Thank you!

Hugs,

Dianne

Dianne Foerster
President
GFWC Blue Umbrella Inc.
dlynnfoerster@gmail.com



The Blue Umbrella Club celebrated our **GFWC International Clubs** at the Florida Convention with the display of a world map with all of the current International club marked. We are so proud to see GFWC represented everywhere! We were also excited to have Christine Steele and Juliet Casper, members of GFWC Girls on Fire, joining us in the Blue Umbrella Hospitality Suite to distribute the shirts that had been ordered in support of helping members of the clubs in Belize attend the 2024 GFWC Convention in Chicago. We can't wait to see all of our International delegates

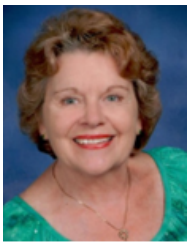






Karen's Corner

Interviews by Karen S. Griggsby



ELIZABETH ANNE (WARNER) MOORE
GFWC BLUE UMBRELLA CLUB

As we continue to meet the outstanding members of the Blue Umbrella Club, this month we are introducing you to Elizabeth Anne (Warner) Moore, better known as Liz.

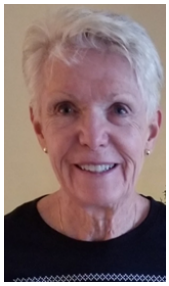
Liz was born in Willard, Ohio, and was raised in the hamlet of Siam in Seneca County, where her love of the outdoors began. After her mother passed away, Liz and her father became best friends, enjoying a variety of outdoor activities together. Upon her graduation from nursing school, Liz and her father took an extended road trip to California where they had the opportunity to visit many states and saw some of the most beautiful sights our country has to offer!

With a lifelong goal of being a nurse, Liz was lucky enough to be accepted at the only Diploma Program to which she applied, Flower Hospital School of Nursing in Toledo, Ohio. Nine nursing students lived in a converted dormitory apartment house -- the perfect situation for learning to respect the time and space of others. Lessons she learned during this living situation is one of the reasons Liz was drawn to the Love, Respect and Kindness theme of the Blue Umbrella Club! Liz still meets her nursing school friends every month for lunch.

Liz married in 1965 and became the mother of three children. She worked full time while raising her children as a single parent, after 15 years of marriage. Liz's father instilled in her the belief that if you educate a woman, you educate the whole family. In 1994 Liz acquired a Master's degree in Counseling, and she is proud that her three children are also successful in their chosen career fields. Liz's nursing career spanned 46 years, and the highest position she held was Vice President of Patient Care Services.

Liz has been married to her second husband Bruce for forty years and is mom to two stepsons. She retired from nursing in November 2007, and in 2008, Liz and Bruce relocated to Florida. In late 2008 she joined GFWC Rotonda West Woman's Club, and she has remained a member, although she recently relocating to Massillon, Ohio. Liz enjoyed being involved with the club's environmental and craft groups, serving as Recording Secretary, and helping with community blood pressure checks. One of the highlights of her membership was the opportunity to travel with her daughter to Northern Italy on a GFWC trip!

After joining GFWC Blue Umbrella Club at its inception, it worked well for Liz to remain a member after her move to Ohio. She appreciates that this virtual club affords her the opportunity to remain connected with GFWC, and she is partial to the Blue Umbrella mission of Love, Respect, & Kindness. Liz encourages all GFWC clubs to seek out partnerships with schools, colleges and other civic organizations, in order to reach younger women to encourage them to volunteer. All members should remain open to new ideas, meet new people when they join, get involved in club events, and know that they are making a difference by volunteering. Liz, thank you for being a dedicated, caring GFWC clubwoman! We are glad you are Living the Volunteer Spirit with the GFWC Blue Umbrella Club!



"The Blue Umbrella Hospitality Suite" was an amazing, new sample of likeminded women working together to create an original opportunity to communicate with each other!

The response from our GFWC Florida Districts was heartwarming! Everyone was so interested in seeing what others had created within their Districts and were happy to share! As Dianne Foerster says, "We are better together."

And I feel that to be the essence of GFWC throughout all 134 years!"

Kathryn S. Gallagher
GFWC Rotonda West Woman's Club
Blue Umbrella Club Project Manager

LOVE RESPECT KINDNESS

Love Respect Kindness

GFWC BLUE UMBRELLA CLUB



What an incredible pleasure and honor to work with these two outstanding women! Dianne Foerster and Kathryn Gallagher. You Ladies Rock!

Virginia Yermoli
Newsletter Editor



OUR HOSPITALITY SUITE!

























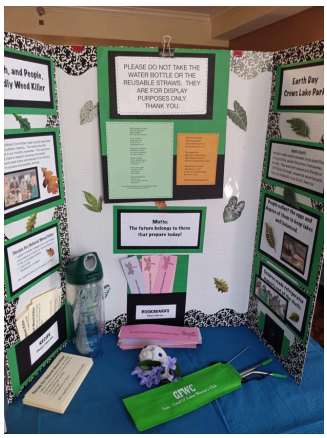






GFWC Florida District Vision Boards

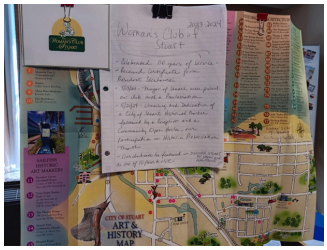











Woman's Club of Stuart
ART & HISTORY MAP




Sonrisa
WHAT IS SONRISA?
A CULINARY SCHOOL AND MINISTRY IN JINJA UGANDA SERVING MARGINALIZED WOMEN AND GIRLS FORCED INTO EARLY MARRIAGE
FORCED MARRIAGE
8 out of 10 girls are forced to marry before their 18th birthday! 75% will contract HIV AIDS due to older husbands
SCHOLARSHIPS
The Sonrisa team works hard to identify women and girls in need of an education, then matches them with sponsors. This is a life-changing opportunity for these students to break the chains of poverty for their families
WAYS TO HELP




We appreciate your dedication and service, today and every
Thank you from Casuarina Woman's Club, Lantana, FL

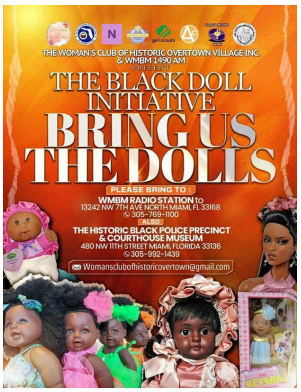



Take Out


Breathe Challenge




What's Wrong with Being Different?
SCHOOL
By
CLORA D. NELSON


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& WMBM 1490 AM
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THE HISTORIC BLACK POLICE PRECINCT & COURTHOUSE MUSEUM
480 NW 11TH STREET MIAMI, FLORIDA 33136
305-992-1439
Womansclubofhistoricovertown@gmail.com







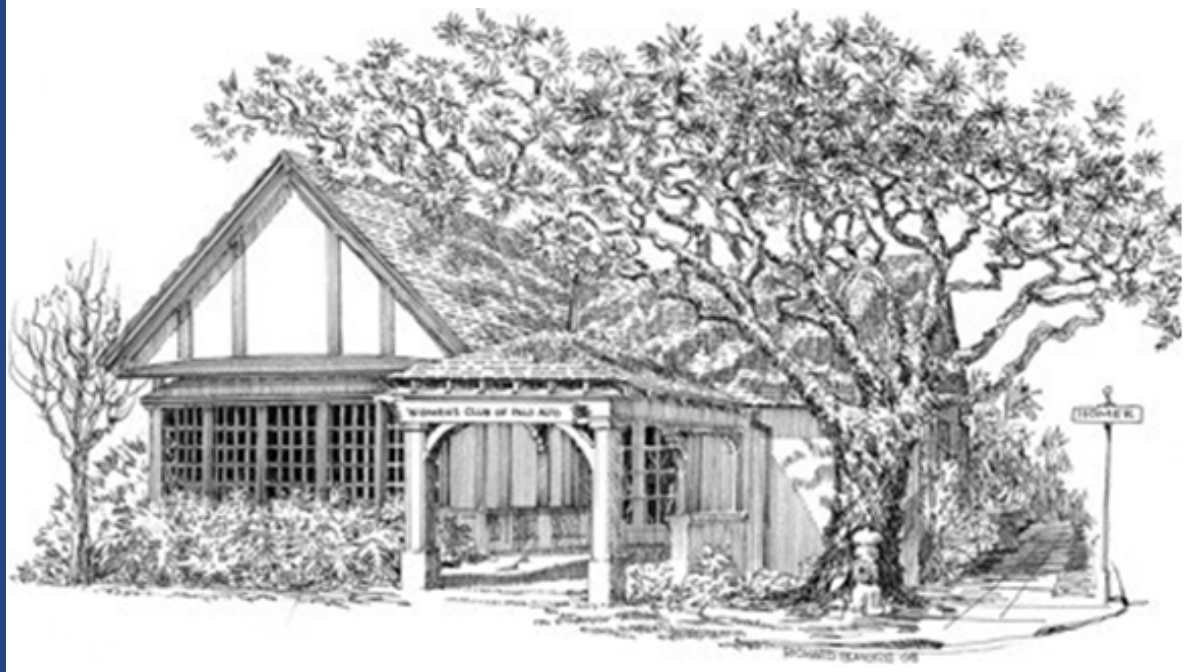


RENEWAL DATE - APRIL 2024

Thanks to all who came by the Hospitality Suite at Convention and renewed your membership and/ or became new members.

If you have not renewed yet or would like to become a member you can do so by using the QR code or by check made payable to the GFWC Blue Umbrella Club. Yearly dues are $35. We would also like to update your information forms to reflect any change in address, phone number or email and we would also appreciate if you would include your birthdate (day and month).

Thank you so much for continuing to support and live the philosophy of
LOVE, RESPECT, and KINDNESS! You are appreciated!



A Collect for Club Women
Mary Stewart

Keep us oh God from pettiness;
Let us be large in thought, in word, and deed.
Let us be done with fault-finding and leave off self-seeking.
May we put away all pretense and meet each other face to face,
without self-pity and without prejudice.
May we never be hasty in judgment and always generous.
Let us take time for all things.
Make us to grow calm, serene, gentle.
Teach us to put into action our better impulses, straightforward and unafraid.
Grant that we may realize it is the little things that create differences,
That in the big things of life we are at one.
And may we strive to touch and to know
the great common human heart of us all.
And oh Lord God, let us not forget to be kind!

In 1904, Mary Stewart (1876 – 1943), wrote a “Collect for Club Women” which our club recites at meetings, as do club women throughout the world. Stewart stated that the Collect was written “…as a prayer for the day. I called it a Collect for Club Women because I felt that women working together with wide interests for large ends was a new thing under the sun and that, perhaps, they had need for a special petition and meditation of their own.”



gfwc.org gfwcflorida.org

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