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VOLUME VII - May, 2023



From Dianne's Desk:

Welcome to May, GFWC Blue Umbrella Club members and supporters!

I don't know about you, but here at my house that means temperatures already in the mid-90s. Spring was really short, and we are still waiting on the overdue April showers. However, hurricane season is right around the corner, so I had better be careful what I wish for. We could definitely do without any new disasters!

It was wonderful to see and talk with so many of you at the GFWC Florida Convention. We have welcomed several new members into our organization and are always excited to have more people who want to commit to pursuing all aspects of their life and their volunteer service with an upbeat attitude and a positive outlook.

I recently read a quote that said,

"Competition is the law of the jungle, but cooperation is the law of civilization."
(Peter Kropotkin)

and that speaks so well to the mission of the Blue Umbrella Club. We exist to help. We help other organizations, many times our own "home" GFWC clubs; we help those caught

in difficult situations, like hurricanes, tornados, floods, etc.; we help other organizations in our community. We do not compete, we cooperate. No matter where else we may belong and serve, we will promote Love, Respect, and Kindness…always and everywhere!

GFWC International Convention is coming up in Louisville, Kentucky the second week in June. We do have members in other states and hopefully we will acquire some more at this international meeting. Please share your membership, wear your pin, and even your Blue Umbrella t-shirts (during casual times) and jewelry. I will schedule a time and place for us to get together. I hope to see you there!

In anticipation of GFWC Convention, the upcoming GFWC National Day of Service scheduled for September (Blue Umbrella is already registered), and other possible projects for us to consider, I have asked Communications Coordinator, Lisa Klatt to send you a link for a zoom meeting on June 4 at 6:30 pm ET. I hope that many of you can attend. Everyone's input is sought and appreciated.

If you have been following on Facebook, you will know that several of us, including me, have been having an amazing time with our fantastic butterflies. That all started with the "Save Our Monarchs" webinar with members Patty Fisher and Helen Aungst. A huge thank you!

Our Blue Umbrella Club has been very busy and we can't wait to share everything with each of you!

Until then,
LOVE, RESPECT, and KINDNESS…always and everywhere!
Hugs!

Dianne

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

Welcome!

Dear Members,

On behalf of the GFWC Blue Umbrella Club Inc., I would like to welcome Karen Otero, Marguerite Robinson and Cathy Allen into our sisterhood! Thank you for joining our Club.

I hope you all embrace our motto and I look forward to reading about how you touch your community as you spread Love, Respect and Kindness. If you find an organization that is struggling to reach their objectives, please let us know. We will try to help in some way.

We encourage all our members to send us information about the work they do in their communities. If you would like to post events or work that you have done or will do for

your community, please be sure to post it on our Facebook page or send the information for the newsletter to vayermoli@hotmail.com

With Love, Respect and Kindness, always,

Dianne

GFWC Blue Umbrella Club Members,



If you have not yet renewed your membership, dues are due by September 30, 2023.

If you are not yet a member, but would like to become one, you can fill out the attached registration form and follow the procedure on the form to pay your registration. You can also register with the QR Code attached.

Dues are $35 for the 2023-2024 year. You can use the QR code here, or you may send a check, made payable to “GFWC Blue Umbrella Club, Inc.” to:

GFWC Blue Umbrella Club, Inc.
Kathy Mammenga, Treasurer
11214 Dr. MLK Blvd, # 195,
Seffner, Fl 33584

GFWC Blue Umbrella Club Inc.

General Federation of Women's Clubs



Member Registration Information

Please send your completed registration to

Lisa M. Klatt

at: membershipblueumbrella@gmail.com

First Name _____

Last Name _____

Email Address _____

Home Address _____

City _____

State _____

Zip Code _____

Home Phone _____ Cell Phone _____

District_____ Country_____

Areas of Interest _____

Dues ($35) checks should be made payable to: GFWC Blue Umbrella Club Inc. and mail to:

GFWC Blue Umbrella Club, Inc.
Kathy Mammenga - Treasurer
11214 E Dr. MLK Jr. Blvd #195
Seffner, FL 33584



The GFWC Blue Umbrella Club members who are attending the GFWC Convention in Louisville, Kentucky from June 8-12 will have specially made cards available to distribute to friends and acquaintances. This card will give a short enthusiastic explanation of our mission and focus, and information on how to become a member, including the QR code for dues. Those of us in attendance at Convention will attempt to schedule a short social time while in Louisville, which will be announced at the meeting.

Inspire the Values of Love, Respect and Kindness throughout the World!

That's the goal of the GFWC Blue Umbrella Club. We need you to join other like-minded, caring people, committed to those virtues in all aspects of life.

Open to members of all ages in all locations across the globe, Blue Umbrella is a personal philosophy of hope, enlisting us to partner and pursue a positive approach to the multitude of today's issues. Our commitment to volunteer service as individuals is to support community improvement whether alone, as members of feet-on-the-ground GFWC Clubs or by partnering with other service organizations, all to enhance the lives of others. We share ideas, plans and accomplishments through monthly newsletters, Zoom meetings and live get-togethers at GFWC Conventions.

The GFWC Blue Umbrella Club is a proud member of the General Federation of Women's Clubs, Inc. and the GFWC Florida Federation.



GFWC BLUE UMBRELLA CLUB NEWS AND UPDATES!

GFWC INTERNATIONAL NEWS



BELIZE

Our Belize sisters from Belmopan have been very busy recently. They have brought ‘appreciation meals” to two different groups and planned a special Mother’s Day Raffle.

Dianne

UKRAINE

Lora Pavlenko from GFWC Woman’s Club of Ukraine is now back in Kiev along with her daughter and granddaughter. She and her husband have been intensely ministering to the many people still in the country. There has been bombing near where they live. They had an opportunity to visit some talented artists in the countryside who had several pieces being shown. I am sharing a picture of one of the pieces done with tiny beads. Amazing workmanship. Please continue to keep Lora and all of her family and friends in your prayers.

Dianne



HAITI

In April 2016 our good friend and club member Judy Laing introduced us to Healing Art Missions, a nonprofit organization formed by her daughter, Dr. Tracee Laing, M.D., in 1999 to serve the needs of the people in Dumay, Haiti. Since that time, GFWC Rotonda West Woman's Club has attempted to provide support to H.A.M. although life and conditions in Haiti have become increasingly difficult for Haitians at the same time that we have had our own struggles with Covid and Hurricane Ian. Here is an update on the current and very critical circumstances affecting Healing Art Missions, formerly located for 22 years in Dumay, Haiti.

"Dumay is right in the center of the Central Haiti civil war. We stayed as long as we could. There is a small group of Doctors Without Borders staff who are working in our Dumay Clinic with the backing of the gang currently controlling the area, and as important, they have permission of the Haitian Police to work anywhere in the country. The final straw for us was the police handcuffing and interrogating our Dumay Medical Staff for 12 hours, threatening to throw them in prison if they cared for any gang members. Of course, you take care of gang members when working in gang-controlled areas - otherwise they kill you. So now we are concentrating on getting care to those fleeing the violence in the South. Our mobile medical teams are staffing hospitals in the south, concentrating on maternal and surgical care, since most hospitals in the south do not have specialized or surgical staff. To keep our medical staff safe, we often must fly them to the cities in the south - to avoid roads controlled by gangs.

Our Charles Salomon Primary school in Port-de-Paix has 350 children attending and 40 adults in our literacy program. It is still running strong in an area that has managed to keep from being overrun by the gangs.

Education has always been a high priority for HAM - it is hard to see improvement in Haiti without an educated population. I really hope things improve for you and for Haiti soon - Thanks for reaching out,"

Tracee

Tracee Laing - Founding Director
Paul B. Hammond - Operations Director
Healing Art Missions
PO Box 645, Granville, OH USA 43023
web site, www.healingartmissions.org

Red Sand Project



We have recently been made aware of a project that helps raise awareness of Human Trafficking. A member of the GFWC Brandon Junior Woman's Club heard about the project, called "The Red Sand Project" while visiting in Maryland. She did her research and brought the idea back to Brandon, Florida. They are preparing to launch the Red Sand Project in their community at the end of May.

As reported on Google, "The Red Sand Project" is a participatory artwork created by Molly Gochman that uses sidewalk interventions and earthwork installations to create opportunities for people to question, connect and take action against vulnerabilities that can lead to human trafficking and exploitation.

Molly Gochman first launched the Red Sand Project in 2014. Globally, an estimated 40.3 million individuals live in forced marriages, forced labor or for sexual exploitation. She initiated the first Red Sand Project action in Miami, where she filled the cracks of sidewalks in and around the Art Basel Miami Beach pavilion with red sand. The approach was symbolic, with the grains of sand representing individuals who fall through the cracks of our social, economic, and political systems. To expand the reach of the project, Molly launched this website offering Red Sand Project toolkits, which include packets of red sand and information about slavery and trafficking in the U.S. and across the world, giving

participants a way to physically engage with the cause and to build discussions around the action. Today, Red Sand Project actions have been done in all 50 states and in 70 countries, with more than one million participants.

If this reasonably simple project has appeal to you or your community, it would be a very appropriate one for Blue Umbrella members. Contact #RedSandProject.

Bonita-Estero Woman's Club

Serving to Make a Difference

In today's world, where division, intolerance, and inequality often dominate the headlines, service and philanthropy have never been more important. They are the antidotes to apathy, selfishness, and indifference. They are the driving forces that bring people together, bridge differences, and create a more just, compassionate, and harmonious world.

This is what our Club stands for and has incorporated into our community.

Service and philanthropy are not just acts of charity; they are also powerful tools for social change. They have the potential to address systemic issues, promote equality, and create sustainable solutions to some of the world's most pressing challenges, such as poverty, hunger, education, healthcare, climate change, and social injustice. By serving others and engaging in philanthropy, we become catalysts for positive change.

Every one of our Club's members has embraced the spirit of service and philanthropy. We have cultivated a culture of giving, compassion, and empathy, and strive to make a positive impact. You are all beautiful women inside and out and I'm so privileged to say I'm a member of this Club with each of you. We are all interconnected, and our actions, no matter how small, can create a ripple effect of goodness in the world.

Nothing says what we do better than a quote from Mahatma Gandhi, "The best way to find yourself is to lose yourself in the service of others." Together, we are creating a brighter future for our community and its generations to come.

Let's continue to make a name for the Bonita-Estero Woman's Club through the partnerships we have formulated and search for those that have yet to be discovered.

President's Message from Josie Guenther
GFWC Bonita-Estero Woman's Club, April 2023



Blue Umbrella Angels Doing Their Magic!

MIAMI RESCUE MISSION "THE CARING PLACE"



Pat Vegnani, a member of the GFWC Blue Umbrella Club, donated monies for cap and gown for two graduating student's from The Caring Place 2023 class.

I thanked her on behalf of the Blue Umbrella Club, and we received this wonderful email from Lian Navarro, Sr. Community Development Associate from the Rescue Mission: (The Motto she refers to is "Love Respect and Kindness," of course 😉)

GRADUATION RESCUE MISSION

Thank you so much, Virginia! You guys are so amazing as well, love your motto. The graduation is this very special event that we do once a year to celebrate the success of men and women, formerly homeless individuals that go through our programs and successfully complete it. These are men and women that go off to new jobs, Education journeys, and more important A complete new and better life.

Donations are always needed, we are always asking for clothes for both men and women, hygiene items, small household items, we also do pick-ups for furniture, water, food, anything you can think of really We are able to use at our centers.

We are now collecting back to school items, backpacks, and new sneakers for boys and girls ages 0 to 18.

She added the following:

Please join us to celebrate the success of the formerly homeless men & women that have completed our programs in Miami and Broward County.

Our Graduates have achieved a remarkable **transformation** and we are celebrating them at our cap and gown Graduation Ceremony on **Saturday, May 20th at 2:00 PM**.

Thank **YOU** for being part of their story! Your support and volunteer service inspire the men and women in our centers to continue their journey towards a better life; to continue dreaming and building a legacy they can be proud of.

We hope to see YOU there!

RSVP and/or sponsor a Graduate by clicking on the following link:
www.caringplace.org/graduation

What: Graduation Ceremony

When: **Saturday, May 20 at 2:00 PM**

Where: **Community Activity Center at 2025 NW 1st Ave. Miami 33127**

If you have any questions, please contact me at
305-572-2004 |954-620-4039 |M 786-210-0554

Thank you for all that you do,

Lian Navarro
Sr. Community Development Associate
Miami Rescue Mission | Broward Outreach Centers
Known as the CARING PLACE
Lnavarro@caringplace.org
Phone: 305.572.2004 |954-620-4039
www.caringplace.org

Please consider donating to this wonderful organization that does so much for so many. They work in Miami and Broward.

Thank you,
Virginia



Congratulations to the GFWC Blue Umbrella Club Projects Coordinator Kathryn Gallagher, who has already registered with GFWC to promote and participate, either individually, through a GFWC Club, or with other community organizations, on the GFWC Day of Service scheduled for September 30.

Plans and suggestions will be discussed at the upcoming Blue Umbrella zoom meeting on June 4 at 6:30 pm ET. The link for the meeting has already been distributed to members by Communications Coordinator Lisa Klatt. You are all invited and encouraged to attend the meeting. If you need the link, please contact Lisa at membershipblueumbrella@gmail.com

Hope to see you there!

Dianne



"MAIL CALL" ....

Honor Flight of West Central Florida in...



needed for Mission 46 on June 13!!!!! Show your love for our 76 Veterans for their service and sacrifice. Deadline to receive the letters is two weeks prior to the flight.

Mail Call is a highlight of the Honor Flight day. It is a very emotional and touching "SURPRISE" for our Veterans. We need cards, notes and drawings, especially from our local schools, after school programs, and Scout troops, thanking these men and women who have given so much for our freedom!!!!!!!

Mail should be sent to:

Honor Flight of West Central Florida
P.O. Box 55661
St. Petersburg, FL 33732

SAVING MONARCHS, A FEW AT A TIME!



Our Progress with Saving Monarchs
Dianne and Virginia's Journey

Our first beautiful monarch came from the gift from Patty Fisher to Dianne at Convention. The second picture is a caterpillar that has started his journey from a egg on a new milkweed plant…homegrown!

Dianne





Documenting from start to finish:

Eggs, caterpillars, chrysalis and a beautiful butterfly!

What an incredible experience to see how nature gifts us with beauty!

Virginia

Hearts of Rose



It was a magical evening at Villa Woodbine, where Daniella De Francesco Jewelry designer and businesswoman, had a brand launch for her “Harts of Rose” jewelry designs. At this event money was raised at the silent auction for Camp Boggy Creek.











A big THANK YOU to GFWC Florida President Linda O'Toole, GFWC Florida President-elect Sara Dessureau, and GFWC Florida President's Project Chairman Jena Staly for coming to help us celebrate and raise money for Camp Boggy Creek! Your presence made the night that much brighter and fun!








It was an honor and a pleasure to have Jaqueline Boykin, Camp Boggy Creek Representative, with us that evening. She gave a heartwarming speech about this incredible organization, which helps children with illnesses enjoy a week of camp with

other children who share their same issues... Thank you for taking the time to come and join us.



Daniella is continuing the silent auction online until she reaches a minimum of $10,000 to present Linda O'Toole for Camp Boggy Creek. She is 3/4 of the way there!

These are some of the pieces in the silent auction benefitting Camp Boggy Creek. If you are interested in these or other updates and website release information with other exclusive after event silent auction pieces benefiting Camp Boggy Creek, please contact Daniella De Francesco at:

diamondsByDaniella@gmail.com



FrontDoor CyberGrants

During our last Blue Umbrella Club Zoom meeting, one member told us about Cyber Grants. This is an outstanding opportunity for clubs to tap into this wonderful organization to help with monies for your clubs.

How Does it Work?

It all starts with the NonProfit Organization (NPO) creating a profile in FrontDoor. Once registered, CyberGrants vets the NPO by working with the IRS Business Master File and other global databases to guarantee the nonprofit meets the charitable standards of our corporate customers. Exclusive to FrontDoor, the platform also vets the individuals who claim to represent these nonprofits to ensure they are the right person(s) to make decisions on the organization's behalf. Once approved, an NPO representative can access their information via the single website and also provision additional users to help them maintain their organization within FrontDoor. The single self-administered NPO profile is shared across all CyberGrants corporate customers ensuring data accuracy and integrity for corporate disbursements.



Check out the shirts for the GFWC Blue Umbrella Club!

If you would like to get one or more of these wonderful t-shirts, you have to order them through Amazon; if you are a Prime Member, shipping will be free!

Click on the link under the style shirt you want and which logo you want, and it will take you to the order page where you make all your other selections such as size and color.

If the links below each item does not take you to the site; copy and paste the link on your browser.



https://www.amazon.com/dp/B0BY38GZGB



https://www.amazon.com/dp/B0BY39CJYK



https://www.amazon.com/dp/B0BY38FKWZ



https://www.amazon.com/dp/B0BY375BBF



https://www.amazon.com/dp/B0BY38GX8Z

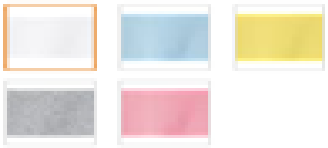


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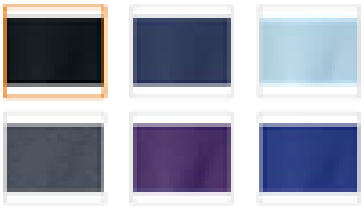
COLORS AVAILABLE:

Logo 1 – Large Umbrella Logo 2 -Love, Respect, Kindness

Colors for Short sleeve round neck:



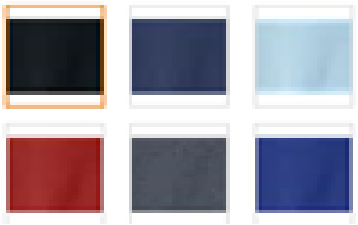
https://www.amazon.com/dp/B0BXQTN11M **Logo 1**



https://www.amazon.com/dp/B0BY39CJYK **Logo 1**



https://www.amazon.com/dp/B0BXQQ1RH6
Logo 2



https://www.amazon.com/dp/B0BY38GZGB
Logo 2

Colors for Long sleeve:

https://www.amazon.com/dp/B0BXR5LNZ7 **Logo 1 Gray only**

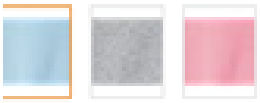
https://www.amazon.com/dp/B0BXQP2CHY **Logo 2 Gray only**

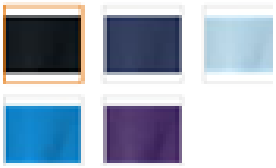




https://www.amazon.com/dp/B0BY38GX8Z
Logo 1

https://www.amazon.com/dp/B0BY34HLGM
Logo 2

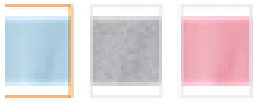


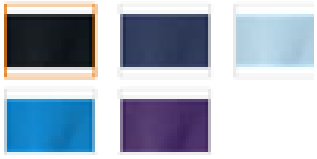


V-neck

https://www.amazon.com/dp/B0BXQQ2L9N
Logo 1

https://www.amazon.com/dp/B0BY38FKWZ
Logo 1





https://www.amazon.com/dp/B0BXQFKCNB
Logo 2

https://www.amazon.com/dp/B0BY375BBF
Logo 2

BIJOUTERIE ;-)

If you want any of the items listed below, please contact Paula at pjuvinall@gmail.com.; you can text your order to her at 727-401-1328; go to the online payment page or use the QR Code

Paula will be handing out your items at Convention. She will be in touch with you before then to let you know where to pick up your items.

If you want them mailed to you there will be a shipping charge. To place your order your can make a check payable to GFWC Blue Umbrella Club, list the item (s) in the memo line and send the check to:

Kathy Mammenga - Treasurer
11214 E Dr. MLK Jr. Blvd #195
Seffner, FL 33584

OR

Link to our online payment page:

https://secure.affinipay.com/pages/gfwcblueumbrella/payments

OR

QR Code for our online payment page:

Thank you, Kathy Mammenga!
Blue Umbrella Club Treasurer,
for making this process easy for everyone!



We have the blue umbrella pins in stock!

They are the same umbrella pin as during Dianne's administration.

$10 each



The bracelets are elastic so no clasps to worry about. They can say Love, Respect or Kindness or have no words and just the umbrella charm hanging from it.

You can choose white letters like in the picture or silver beads with black letters.



If you aren't into pins or shirts or bracelets, how about a pair of umbrella earrings?

They are the same charm as on the bracelet and the ear wires are sterling silver.

$10/pair

Please let Paula know if your wrist is smaller or larger than average size.

$15 each (unless it's a special order.)

CAMP BOGGY CREEK



MISSION

To foster a spirit of joy by creating a free, safe and medically-sound camp environment that enriches the lives of children with serious illnesses and their families.

Camp Boggy Creek has been selected as GFWC Florida President O'Toole's state project for 2022-2024. Together, we as members of GFWC Blue Umbrella Club, Inc. can work to make a difference in a child's life. My ask is that you join me in supporting this initiative.

WHAT IS CAMP BOGGY CREEK

The Camp is a safe place for children ages 7-16 with one of the following illnesses: asthma, bleeding disorders, cancer, craniofacial disorders, diabetes, epilepsy, heart disease, kidney disease, rheumatic disease, ventilator assisted disorders, sickle cell, spina bifida and transplants to spend time and forget their illnesses and have an opportunity to enjoy life as a child – without thinking about their disease. The camp was founded by General H. Norman Schwarzkopf and Paul Newman and is in Eustis, Florida.

PROGRAMS AND ACTIVITIES

They host year-round sessions, including summer camp for the children and family retreats in the spring and fall. Activities include swimming, boating, fishing, arts & crafts, horseback riding, theater, archery, mini golf, dancing, singing and adventure activities.

WHAT IT TAKES

Roughly 3.8 million dollars is needed each year to run this ADA, state of the art medical camping facility. The one building that stands out - the Patch (where you go to get patched up) is filled with volunteer medical specialists to ensure each camper's safety. The cost to send each child to camp for one week is $2,500. No parent is asked to pay to send their child. Camp Boggy Creek relies on non-profit organizations like GFWC to fund all

expenses. Every walk down cabin row, every stage day, every smile, every new friendship… it all matters…Camp matters…and your gift matters to children with serious illnesses and their families.

WHAT CAN YOU DO AS A BLUE UMBRELLA CLUB MEMBER?

The camp needs “Boggy Creek Bears” which are made from a specific pattern. I am not a seamstress, and I’ve been told the patterns are extremely difficult, but if you’re a sewer, this is an excellent opportunity for you to get engaged! In addition, the Camp is looking for hand crocheted afghan blankets that would be given to each child to take home after their stay. There are specific dimensions for the blankets as well. If you or your friends and family can assist in making the Boggy Creek Bears or an afghan blanket, please let me know and I will be more than happy to share the specific instructions with you.

In addition to the bears and the afghans, you can help raise $2,500 or more, to send a camper to Camp Boggy Creek for a week. Since this is a two-year project, we have time to help raise/solicit these funds. Opening our hearts to these children and their families is one way we can show our support to make memories in the life of a child.

Please send me an email at membershipblueumbrella@gmail.com if you would like the pattern for the bear, instructions for the afghan blanket or have an idea for raising funds to send a child or two to Camp Boggy Creek.

Wishing each of you and yours a healthy, happy New Year!

Yours in Service,

Lisa Klatt
Communications and PR Chair
GFWC Blue Umbrella Club, Inc.
727-543-7461
membershipblueumbrella@gmail.com

We would like to keep records of our club’s history. To this end, it will be important for those volunteering for activities on behalf of this Club, to copy the information to Rachelle Warmouth, rachelle3364@gmail.com, as well as Dianne and the Communications Team.



Thank you!

Find us on: facebook

Sharon Grace
sharon_grace@aol.com
352-668-8088

We have two Facebook sites. One is a “Public” PAGE and the other a “Private” GROUP. Dues paying members are encouraged to join BOTH. These are the differences between “page” and “group”:

“Public” PAGE: It can be seen by anyone on Facebook. It is used to recruit new members and introduce people to our vision and purpose. This PAGE collects “likes” and “followers.” Once you like and follow this PAGE, you can “invite” your friends to like and follow it. Anyone can like/follow and keep up with our activities. Since I am one of the PAGE administrators, I have placed restrictions on posting by just anyone. I must “approve” posts first. This is to control spammers to a degree.

“Private” GROUP: You must be a “dues paying” member to join. You must “request” and be “approved” in order to view and post on it. This GROUP will be used for announcements, zoom meeting links, member discussions and the like. Members use this GROUP to communicate with one another, access files and other member information that we do not want to share with non-members. I am also one of the administrators of this GROUP.

For more information please contact Sharon.

Virginia Yermoli
vayermoli@hotmail.com
786.252.9272



Welcome to our newsletter!

Please send me any articles you would like to be included in the newsletter.

If you send pictures with your articles, please send them as a .jpg or .png attachment with a short explanation of who is in the picture, what is it about and any other relevant information that may be needed to explain the action in the picture.

Thank you!



If you would like to become a member of this wonderful Club, please fill out the application below and send it with your $35 check made out to GFWC Blue Umbrella Club Inc, and mail to:

GFWC Blue Umbrella Club, Inc.
Kathy Mammenga - Treasurer
11214 E Dr. MLK Jr. Blvd #195
Seffner, FL 33584

If you would like an application emailed to you, please send your request to Virginia Yermoli at vayermoli@hotmail.com

GFWC Blue Umbrella Club Inc.

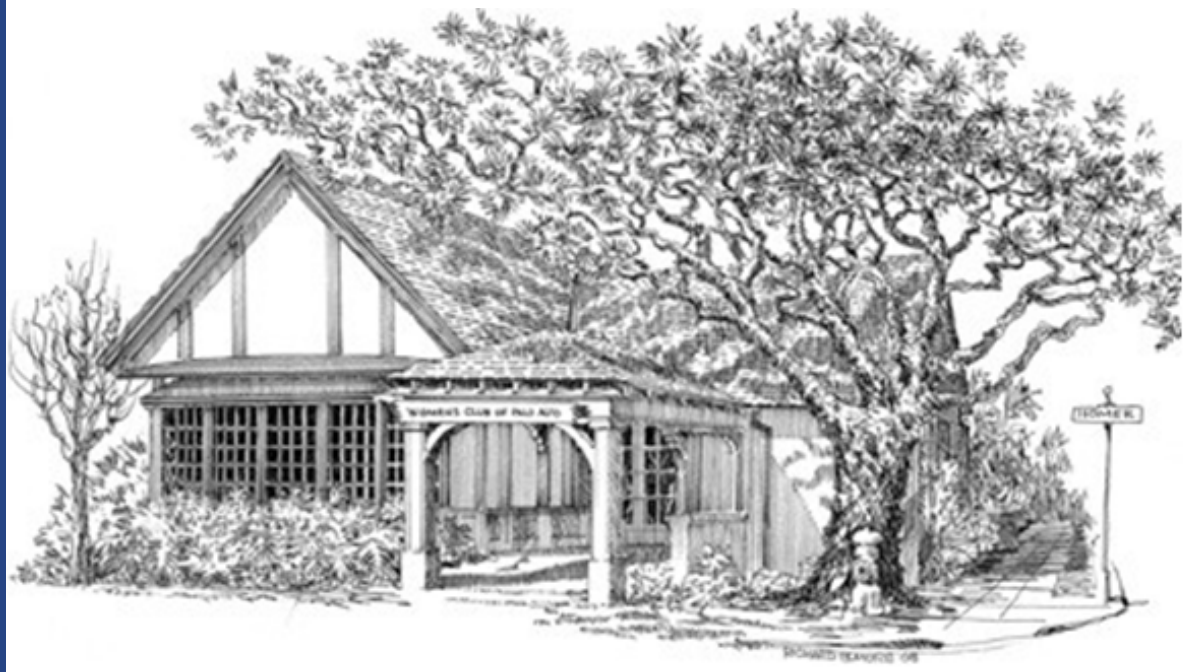
General Federation of Women's Clubs

Love Respect Kindness

Help us put these words into action across the World!

Our Mission Statement

This Club is organized to encourage an ongoing, positive opportunity for volunteerism based on incorporating the attributes of love, of respect and of kindness trough all aspects of life. The mission will also encompass support for existing clubs and projects at local levels.



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.”

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