

APRIL 2026



GFWC BLUE UMBRELLA CLUB NEWSLETTER



Board Meeting: Sunday, May 17th 6:00 pm

Membership Meeting & Officer Elections: Sunday May 17th 7:00 pm

GFWC Florida Annual Convention: May 1-4

gfwcblueumbrella.org



FROM DIANNE'S DESK

Dear Blue Umbrella members and friends,

As always, the spring months are such a busy time in the volunteer world! I think we are all eager to start new projects or continue treasured traditions. As the daylight hours grow longer and the weather gets warmer, we respond with renewed enthusiasm and energy. That spirit is evident when we look at our calendars and find them packed full each day. Like so many community organizations, GFWC members and clubs are a vital part of that momentum.

Here in Blue Umbrella world, we are eagerly anticipating the GFWC Florida Convention, May 1-4 at the Rosen Plaza in Orlando. This is a time to celebrate the many successes of the past two years and to look ahead to the future, with its new goals and new adventures. I hope to see many of you there! Please come up and say hello. The Blue Umbrella Club will be strongly represented. **If you still have your blue glasses, please wear them throughout the weekend.** I will also have a limited number available, first come, first served.

At Convention, we will be distributing our second annual **Share Sheet**, now known as **Blues News**. Be sure to read the article later in this newsletter from Laurie Auth, who was the driving force behind this project. She shares more about it and how those attending Convention can help with distribution.

As a cyber club, we don't often have the opportunity to connect face-to-face, so we would love to take advantage of this time together. The Convention schedule is full, but if you are able, please join us on **Sunday, May 3 from 2:00–3:00 p.m.** by the pool for some time to socialize. We would love to see you.

Also in this newsletter, you will find a report from Nominating Committee Chairman Nancy Crawford, which includes the proposed slate of 2026-2028 officers for our club. The election for the 2026-2028 Blue Umbrella officers will take place during our Zoom membership meeting on Sunday, **May 17 at 7:00 p.m.** The slate will be presented, and nominations from the floor will be taken. A quorum is required, so please save the date and plan to attend. All current members are eligible to vote. You should have already received an email from Lisa Klatt with the Zoom link.

Karen Griggsby is back with another member spotlight, giving us a chance to learn more about one of the amazing women who make Blue Umbrella shine.

The future is bright for Blue Umbrella, and I look forward to all we will accomplish together.

Wishing you all much LOVE, RESPECT, and KINDNESS, always.

Hugs,

Dianne



MEMBER SPOTLIGHT:

AMBER TREAT

BY KAREN GRIGGSBY



Spring is a season of renewal when everything begins to bloom, and as we look forward to unseen possibilities, it is the perfect time to introduce Amber Treat and all the possibilities she brings to the GFWC Blue Umbrella Club.

Amber's journey is a beautiful reflection of service, faith, and family. Born and raised in Elmira, New York, she later attended Corning Community College and married her high school sweetheart in 1996. Now approaching 30 years of marriage, they have built a life centered on love and resilience, raising four children—three adults and one angel.

After living in Temple Terrace, Gainesville, Florida, and Ellicott City, Maryland, Amber and her family returned to Florida in 2021 to be closer to family.

A self-described professional volunteer, Amber's passion for service began early and grew through years of leadership in scouting, PTA involvement, and community engagement, including work with the League of Women Voters. She also enjoys paper crafting as a creative outlet and serves as a Mary Kay Independent Consultant, drawn to its "God, Family, Career" philosophy.

After returning to Florida, Amber sought connection and purpose, which led her to the GFWC Temple Terrace Woman's Club in 2021. She quickly became an active leader, serving as Civic Engagement & Outreach CSP Chairman, Membership Chairman, and currently as 2nd Vice President of Fundraising. She is also a member of the Temple Terrace Junior Woman's Club.

In 2024, Amber joined the Blue Umbrella Club, where she serves as Communications Chairman. At the state level, she contributes as GFWC Florida Junior Signature Program Chairman and District 8 President's Project Chairman. While she has valued every role, serving as Membership Chairman remains a favorite for the connections it fostered.

Every position Amber has held has strengthened her leadership and opened doors to connect, communicate, and inspire others to get involved. She joined the Blue Umbrella Club through her relationship with Dianne Foerster, and she is deeply grateful for the opportunity to serve alongside Dianne. The mentorship, encouragement, and genuine connection she has found within the Club have been truly meaningful. The sense of support, shared purpose, and personal growth within the Club is remarkable, and it has made a lasting difference in her life.

Looking ahead, Amber is passionate about mentoring and developing future leaders. She believes every member brings unique talents and that working together strengthens both individuals and the organization. Her approach to membership is simple—meet women where they are and help them find the right fit.

Her advice says it all:

"Just join, jump in, and make a difference. Have an open mind and an open heart—and work with your sisters to create real impact." Thank you, Amber, for your passion, leadership, and dedication to GFWC!

KAREN GRIGGSBY

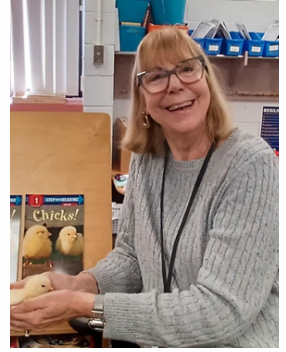


BLUE'S NEWS

BY LAURIE AUTH

We are pleased to announce the Spring 2026 edition of our *Blue's News* share sheet, which will be distributed at the GFWC Florida Convention beginning May 1. A special thank you to club member Rachelle Warmouth for generously arranging the printing of 250 copies for distribution.

Seven clubs have submitted projects for inclusion in this second annual edition—now proudly named *Blue's News*. Many of these projects include opportunities for support from fellow GFWC members, and two feature Amazon wish lists.



These highlighted projects come from clubs federated since 2022. Dianne will bring a portion of the copies with her when she arrives in Orlando on Thursday, and the remaining copies will be arrive on Friday afternoon with me. We would greatly appreciate your assistance with distributing the *Blue's News* throughout Convention.

As Dianne shares in her opening message, “Created to connect and inspire, *Blue’s News* highlights impactful community projects led by GFWC Florida clubs.”

Following the Convention, *Blue's News* will be available on our website so everyone will have the opportunity to explore these outstanding projects. A QR code on the back page of the printed edition will provide easy access to the digital version.

Please let Dianne know if you are available to assist with distribution during Convention.

BLUE UMBRELLA AT CONVENTION

Convention Happenings

- Dinner Thursday night, April 30.
RSVP by April 18 to
correspondingsec@blueumbrella.org
- Wear your blue glasses
throughout the weekend
- Social time Sunday, May 3 from
2-3 pm - poolside

See you there!



NOMINATING COMMITTEE

BY NANCY CRAWFORD



The GFWC Blue Umbrella Nominating Committee, consisting of Laura Connelly, Patty Fisher, Lee Kraus, Margie Harper, and Nancy Crawford, present the following slate of nominees for election as GFWC Blue Umbrella Club officers for 2026 -2028.

President - KATHY MAMMENG
1st Vice President - DANA MONTENIERI
2nd Vice President - HARRIET HANKERSON
Recording Secretary - NANCY CRAWFORD
Treasurer - MARGIE HARPER

The Election of Officers will be held at the May 17, 2026 virtual meeting of the GFWC Blue Umbrella Club, with the meeting starting at 7 pm, and WE NEED YOU TO ATTEND! At that time, nominations from the floor can also be made. According to the Blue Umbrella Club bylaws, members on the current roster hold membership through May 31, 2026 and are eligible to vote. A quorum of 20% of our current membership is required to hold elections. 20% of our membership is 16. Please plan to attend the May 17, 2026 meeting. Newly elected officers begin on June 1, 2026, with the first Board Meeting currently scheduled for June 7 at 6:30 pm.

IT'S NOT TOO LATE TO PAY YOUR DUES!



Pay online:
[Click Here to Pay Online](#)
or scan the QR code



GFWC Blue Umbrella Club
PO BOX 371
Mango, FL 33550-0371



PHOTO CIRCLE

A Small Request That Makes a BIG Difference

Amber Treat has a small plea to make the newsletter easier to create.

Please download the PhotoCircle App and begin uploading your BUC photos directly to the Blue Umbrella Club PhotoCircle (scan the QR code below to join).

When members upload photos as events happen, it creates one easy, organized place for Amber to access all the wonderful moments you capture throughout the year. No searching through emails. No hunting through text threads.

No wondering who took what.

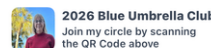
If you take a photo at a BUC event — upload it.

If your club gathers — upload it.

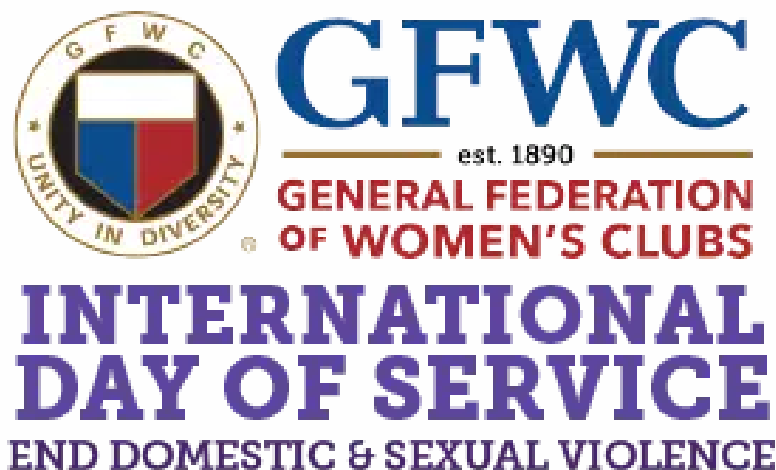
If you see Blue Umbrellas in action — upload it.

This simple step helps ensure your events are included and showcased properly in the newsletter, on social media, and on our website.

Thank you for helping make this process smoother — and for continuing to document the incredible work of BUC!



GFWC INTERNATIONAL DAY OF SERVICE



The General Federation of Women's Clubs is united in its dedication to volunteer community service. The 2026 GFWC International Day of Service is scheduled for Saturday, September 26. The focus will be to help end domestic and sexual violence across the United States and internationally.

Clubs can register here:

<https://memberportal.gfwc.org/pages/gfwc-international-day-of-service>

LEARNING OPPORTUNITIES



Check out the GFWC Learning Academy today:

The General Federation of Women's Clubs continues its mission of supporting women through education, leadership, and community impact. The GFWC Learning Academy offers free online training in leadership, membership, technology, and more—helping members grow and succeed in their club journey.

<https://memberportal.gfwc.org/pages/learning-academy>



Did you know...

You can watch past GFWC Florida webinars anytime! It's a great way to catch up on valuable training, get inspired by new ideas, and stay connected with everything happening across the state. Check out the GFWC FL Member Center here:

<https://www.gfwcflorida.org/webinars>



Planning for the 2026 Leadership, Education and Development Seminar (LEADS) for GFWC Florida is underway!

It will be held just prior to the Florida

Fall Board meeting on Friday, September 18, 2026 at the Rosen Plaza in Orlando. Start thinking today about your club's candidates to participate.

Do it "Right Now!"

BLUE UMBRELLA MERCHANDISE

Do you need a Blue Umbrella Club T-shirt? These fitted tees come in a stunning turquoise blue and are available in sizes Small through 4XL. Please order at least one size up—these shirts are fitted and may shrink slightly in the wash.

T-Shirt Pricing (tax included):

Small-XL: \$27

2XL-4XL: \$29

Add \$5 shipping per order

Jewelry Collection:

Bracelets: \$15

(more pictures on the website)

Earrings: \$10

Pins: \$10

Shipping additional

NEW! Blue Umbrella Totes \$5

Perfect for meetings, errands, or gifting—grab one (or more)!

NEW!! Blue Umbrella Lanyard \$5

To Order:

Email Paula Juvinall at"

merchblueumbrella@gmail.com

with your order and shipping info.

Payment Options:

Use any of the payment links on our website

Or mail a check



Use the QR code for online payment, or mail a check to the address listed below.

QR Code - put a checkmark in the box labeled "Other". Note t-shirt size or jewelry details in the box below that

Check - in memo line, write t-shirt size or jewelry details

GFWC Blue Umbrella Club, Inc.

PO Box 371

Mango, FL 33550-0371

CLUB OFFICERS & BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Position	Name	Email
President	Dianne Foerster	president@gfwcblueumbrella.org
1st Vice President	Sallie Milner	firstvp@gfwcblueumbrella.org
2nd Vice President	Patty Fisher	secondvp@gfwcblueumbrella.org
Recording Secretary	Karen Griggsby	recordingsec@gfwcblueumbrella.org
Treasurer	Kathy Mammenga	treasurer@gfwcblueumbrella.org
Corresponding Secretary	Lisa Klatt	correspondingsec@gfwcblueumbrella.org
Communications Chairman	Amber Treat	communications@gfwcblueumbrella.org
History Chairman	Rachelle Warmouth	historian@gfwcblueumbrella.org
Merchandise Chairman	Paula Juvinal	merchandise@gfwcblueumbrella.org
Technology Chairman	Lisa Klatt	technology@gfwcblueumbrella.org
Parliamentarian	Nancy Crawford	parliamentarian@gfwcblueumbrella.org
Social Media Chairman	Sharon Grace	socialmedia@gfwcblueumbrella.org
Advisor	Julie Babcock	advisorbabcock@gfwcblueumbrella.org
Advisor	Laura Connelly	advisorconnelly@gfwcblueumbrella.org
Advisor	Karen Morris	advisormorris@gfwcblueumbrella.org



Mission Statement

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

A COLLECT FOR CLUBWOMEN

Keep us, oh God, from pettiness;
Let us be large in thought, in word, in 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 judgement
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 forget not
To be kind!

Mary Stewart, 1904

GFWC Blue Umbrella Club, Inc.

Happy Birthday



Sharon Grace 5th
Margie Harper 5th
Maribel Fruitstone 7th



Crystal Bryant 7th
Helen Aungst-Poole 12th
Su Mellor 29th
Cathy Allen 31st