



St. Andrews Woman's Club

January Newsletter **2025-2026**



**Member of the General Federation
of Women's Clubs (GFWC) since 1963**

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P.O. Box 3076, Irmo, SC 29063

Officer Reports:

Presidents: *Kristin Fields and Maureen Taylor*

Happy New Year to our SAWC sisters! May the new year be your best one yet, filled with love, success and lots of sunshine!

We are pleased to announce that the club has been awarded a Progress Foundation grant! The checks are in the mail! As soon as it is received, an announcement will be made, so we can start planning support of TriDAC.

GFWC-SC Winter Board was held via zoom January 17. Club members representing the club were Kaye Jones, Kaye Hunke, Laurie O'Kelly, Tonja Ivey, Gail Elfert, Diane McCarty and Kristin Fields. Highlights from this very informative meeting are below.

- Guest speaker, Beth Perkins, shared valuable information about St. Jude's Hospital.
- St. Andrews Woman's Club received a Progress Foundation grant.
- Club members that helped with the Stocking Extravaganza were thanked.
- New clubs formed: On-Line Girl Friends Service Book club, Palmetto Leadership cyber club and a new Junioresettes club for High Schools students.
- Federation Day request: clubs have been asked to make a short video about a club project or the club, more details will be forthcoming, to share on Facebook during Federation Day, April 24.
- GFWC-SC LEADS is schedule for February 21, at the Woman's Club of Cayce, West Columbia. All new presentation topics such as Succession Planning, Branding, Reporting and Club History are planned. The cost is \$35/member or \$60/2 members. If you are interested in attending, please let us know. Application is due February 7.
- Legislation date is March 27. Members are asked to meet at the State House. Lunch to follow.
- GFWC-SC Convention will be held at the Marina Inn, North Myrtle Beach, April 17 – 20. Please let us know if you would like to attend. Our very own Kaye Jones will be installed as the State President Saturday evening. I know several of you will want to attend.

The Revision committee members have been selected. We look forward to their report at the February meeting.

The January meeting will be very busy. We hope you can attend. The meeting is hosted by the Civic Engagement CSP with our speaker from Palmetto Place. We will be selecting a Nominating Committee. Five members will be asked to serve, with one being a past president. The committee will present the slate of officers at the February meeting. Please consider serving on this important committee.

Meeting schedule reminder. Enjoy refreshments starting at 6:30 with the business meeting to follow.

Location is Union United Methodist Church, 7582 Woodrow St, Irmo -large meeting room.

Daryl Hendrix will greet you at the door.

Lastly, it is with great sadness that we share of the loss of our member, Marla Castillo. We extend our sincere sympathies to her family and friends.

Looking forward to seeing you all January 26. Stay warm!

1st Vice-Presidents: Anne Marie Sheppard & Becky Travis -

Many thanks to the CSP Chairmen who have submitted their reports. We highly encourage those Club members who have still reports due, to submit them by February 27th. We need time to compile the information, to be sure we do not omit any of the projects we have completed this year. We are a remarkably busy Club!

2nd Vice-Presidents: Marie DeLoach & Lynne Hauptner

Orientation was held December 9, 2025 at The Bistro for Sue Bass and Dawn Kline along with Marie, Maureen, Susan Dox, and myself. We had a great time getting to know these two great additions to our club.

There is a change of address for Dianne McCarty as follows: 305 Explorer Drive, Chapin SC 29036

Mentoring is a gift. Whether you are a mentor of a new member or an active or home membership member, please reach out often with a word, card, phone call, text or email. I know we all have crazy lives and busy schedules, however, you never know what kind of day your Sisters are having.

3rd Vice-Presidents: Frances Hill & Susan Smith

Happy New Year! . . . and the new year brings our next FUNdraiser!!

Bunco at Saluda Shoals will be Thursday, March 12. **Tickets** will be available at the January and February meetings for **\$30 each**. We usually have a sell-out so plan ahead for your friends and neighbors!!

CSP reminder – each CSP should put together an item for our silent auction. Last year's items were great, and we look forward to super ones again this year! If you need ideas, just contact us!!

Members, if you have contacts you can make for silent auction donations please do so and let us know. If you have items to donate, please let Susan know.

More information will be detailed at the January meeting.

Secretary: Laura Nichols

Please remember to let Laura know if you are going to be absent.

Treasurer: Diane Bozard & Jo Norris

I hope that you all had a Merry Christmas and that 2026 is good to you!

The current balances area as follows:

Checking \$5546.47 Savings: \$3365.05

See you on the 26th.

Advisor: Susan Dox & Debbie Bell

Two of our new members Sue Bass and Dawn Kline attended their Orientation Session in December. We look forward to having them become active members in SAWC!

A big thank you to Lynne Hauptner, Daryl Hendrix, Shelly Langston and Jo Norris for volunteering to serve on the Revisions Committee! We plan to begin working soon and will report back to the club in February.

Community Service Programs (CSP)

Arts & Culture: Patty Cavanaugh



Picture of our SAWC Basket entry in the 2025 Stocking Extravaganza.

Included were the Olive Oil & Vinegar Lovers Cookbook, Woodford Reserve Bourbon Balls, a handmade sheep with old fashioned nail legs, a bottle of red wine and a hand stenciled faux fur trimmed red felt stocking for the wine and several other unique gourmet treats.

Our CSP would like to honor the memory of our member, Marlo Castillo, with the planting of a tree. Marlo was a sweet, valued member of our CSP and is already missed.

Our soup entry for this month is Sausage, Spinach & White Bean Soup:

1 Tbsp olive oil

1 (12.8 oz) pkg sausage, thinly sliced

3 cloves garlic, minced

1 onion, sliced

3 carrots, peeled & diced

2 celery ribs, diced

2 (15 oz) cans white beans, drained & rinsed

1/2 tsp dried oregano

2 bay leaves

4 cups chicken broth

Salt & pepper

3 cups baby spinach

1/2 cup Parmesan, shaved

Lightly brown sausage, add to slow cooker with garlic, onion, carrots, celery, beans, oregano & bay leaves. Season with salt & pepper to taste. Stir in chicken broth & 2 cups water. Cook on low heat 7-8 hours or high for 3-4 hours. Stir in spinach until it is wilted & serve topped with Parmesan.

Civic Engagement: Shelly Langston

Happy New Year! Welcome to 2026.

Civic Engagement and Outreach will host our January meeting, featuring guest speaker Damien Talley, Executive Director of Palmetto Place. Mr. Talley will share insights about the organization and its vital work providing emergency housing and support for young people in need. Our club has proudly supported Palmetto Place in the past, and this is a wonderful opportunity to learn how our donations directly impact our community—especially its youth. We encourage all members to attend this informative and meaningful meeting.

A heartfelt thank you to all club members who volunteered at PAALS on January 19th in honor of Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Day of Service. Your time and dedication truly made a difference.

The USO is currently in need of luggage donations, preferably carry-on-sized items with zipper closures, such as small suitcases or backpacks. Please bring any donated items to our January meeting. Jo Norris will ensure that all contributions are delivered to the USO. Thank you for your continued generosity and support.

Education & Libraries: *Leanne Angel*

Welcome to the New Year! Hope this is a healthy and prosperous new year for all!

Our committee has the program for March. We will be meeting Monday, February 2, 2026, 6:00 p.m. at Zorba's to discuss the arrangements for the meeting and to discuss our Bunco basket for the auction. Please let me know if you will be attending!

The reading group continues to keep us up on all the great books that are available to us! We will meet on February 12, 2026 at the Irmo Library at 1:00 p.m. Our book choice this month is 'American Dirt' by Jeanine Cummins. Be prepared for love, heartbreak and hope! Kleenex needed for sure!

Thanks to everyone who has helped us keep the Little Library stocked at the Irmo Park. The library saw quite a bit of use over the holidays and we were able to provide a great selection for reading. If you need books for restocking, please let myself or Judy Keating know!

Environment: *Gail Elfert*

Drum Roll, please! As of the end of December, we have officially deposited 561 lbs. of plastic film in just 3 months! 🙌

That compares to 388 lbs. last year even with the help of another club. Great job, ladies! We have been keeping our three young men at Stephen's House busy sorting plastic, but we have a mound of plastic film in Carol Ann's garage that our CSP is going to sort and bag on Tuesday, Jan. 20. Don't fear, we will be ready for the expected deluge that awaits us at our January meeting, so bring all you have been saving for the last two months.

We start over each January on our collections of CORKS, DEAD BATTERIES (AAA, AA, C, D, 9V), and aluminum PULL TABS (from soda and vegetable cans) so please bring whatever you collected through the holidays.

If you are available on Saturday, **February 14**, plan to get some exercise and fresh air while picking up trash along St. Andrews Rd. We meet **in front of Ollie's at 9:00 a.m.** and would love for you to experience the joy of wearing an orange vest and waving at all your friends who pass by and honk their appreciation for keeping our streets and sidewalks clean! Put it on your calendar. 😊

Health & Wellness: Daryl Hendrix & Ann Keisler

We are sponsoring our annual drive for **feminine hygiene products** at our **January general meeting**. Laurie and Vickie are chairing this event. As a reminder these period products are distributed to the middle schools and high schools in our area. The guidance counselors tell us there is a definite need for these products and have been grateful for our donations. This has been a club- wide project and we once again thank you for your generosity.

Jan's Van mammogram screening, chaired by Katherine will be held on January 19 & 20. Your response has been amazing and we thank all for their participation. This event is being held in conjunction with Martin Luther King's Day of Service.

H&W will hold it's dinner meeting at Vickie's on Wednesday, January 28 at 4 pm. If you would like to learn

more about our CSP, we would love to have you attend.

January is Human Trafficking Awareness month. Lighthouse for Life (our Sept program) is sponsoring a Glow walk/5 K run at Saluda Shoals on March 7. Online discounted registration is available through Jan. 31.

Standing Committee Chairs & Special Appointments:

Fellowship: Jan Mitchell-Conner

December Birthdays: Kaye Jones, Anne Marie Shepherd, Ann Keisler, and Barbara Cross

January Birthdays: Susan Dox, Kimberlie Julin, Kaye Hunke, Shari Johnson, Barbara Williams and Mary North

It is with deep sadness that I share the news of the passing of our dear member, Marla Castillo. Marla passed away on January 12, 2026. The family held a private service for Marla.

And finally, I want to thank you all for the cards, words of support and the prayers that I received after the passing of my sister, Cathy, on December 20, 2025. Your heartfelt messages brought me so much comfort during this difficult time.

With Love and Appreciation,

Jan Mitchell-Conner

Publicity: Ann Martin

Please email articles and pictures for the Irmo News to annsmartin@bellsouth.net

Social Media: Sarah Ostergaard

Please send photos and descriptions for social media posts. Email sarahostergaard@gmail.com or text 618-645-5179

Important Dates to Remember:

1/19/26 MLK Day of Service: PAALS & Plastic recycling

1/26/26 General Meeting 6:30 pm

2/7/26 LEADS Application due

2/9/26 Board Meeting 7pm, via Zoom

2/13/26 Newsletter articles to Laurie O'Kelly

2/21/26 GFWC-SC LEADS

2/23/26 General Meeting 6:30 pm