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GENERAL FEDERATION OF WOMEN'S CLUBS

St. Andrews Woman's Club

October 2026 Newsletter



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:

President: *Becky Travis*

Our Club Year is off to a great start! The September meeting had a lot of business and a fantastic speaker. We have new members and Maureen has already conducted Orientation for three new members. Several had conflicts. Several of our long-time members have life happening and have resigned.

Gail Elfert, Stacy Atkinson and I are working on our Progress Foundation Grant. Crossbuck Play Space at Rawls Creek Park will be an inclusive, intergenerational environment. I have seen pictures of the covered dome/igloo we will be funding. It is NOT a solid covering but has random openings to allow visual observation of people who are inside the structure. The park will be a wonderful addition to our community.

The SAWC Board will host the November meeting. Marian St. Clair will be teaching us how to make wreaths. Her creations will go in the silent auction to help fund Operation Smile. Please plan to bring a delicious baked item or an item to contribute to the fundraising efforts of the auction.

1st Vice-Presidents: *Anne Marie Sheppard*

No report this month.

2nd Vice-Presidents: *Phyllis Plyler*

Orientation was held for 3 new members lead by Maureen.

We have some resignations and home memberships also and will be shared at the meeting.

Please let me know if you need a new magnetic strip/magnet for your name tag.

3rd Vice-Presidents: *Missy Klopfer and Beth Smith-Pollom*

Belk shopping days are quickly approaching!! The first weekend of November is designated as the fall sale. Tickets will be available to purchase from us at the October meeting, so bring cash or checks. Gift your friends with a $5 Belk Charity ticket!!

Please bring any and all checks or cash for Gypsy tickets to our October meet up. We had a few Will call and I.O.U.s and would like to account for all as soon as possible. Thank you for your patience!

Secretary: *Susan Dox*

We miss you when you are traveling or sick, but thank you for letting us know!

Treasurer: ***Kristin Fields***

Thank you to all who have paid their annual club dues. If you have not, please send $53 via Venmo or $52 check to Kristin Fields 2 Clay Ct. Chapin, SC 29036.

Bank Account Balances are:

Checking $7,455.74

Savings $2,697.27

Advisor: ***Maureen Taylor***

We had a wonderful Orientation at Zorba's on the 8th! Thank you to Charlotte, Elizabeth, and Karen for joining Becky, Phyllis and myself. Can't wait for all to get to know these wonderful ladies better!

Community Service Programs (CSP)

Arts & Culture: ***Patty Cavanaugh***

The Arts & Culture CSP is giving cookies in cellophane bags with our St Andrews Woman's Club name on pretty oval stickers to the Gypsy Town Theater attendees as they leave the theater. Ann Keisler has printed these stickers on her Crikut!

The Arts and Culture CSP is looking forward to a service project for women residing in safe housing to provide them with bath salts we make at our meeting in February, with our CSP to present them to those ladies for a special pampering treat.

The Arts Department is collecting clean, empty 8 ounce jelly jars for an art project for the February meeting. Please bring to the next meeting and give to Dianne McCarty. If you have a large number, please call Dianne at 803-553-1189 for pick up at your home.

Dianne's address in the yearbook should be 305 Explorer Drive, Chapin, SC 29036

Civic Engagement: ***Shelly Langston***

Happy Halloween! Can you believe that it is almost the end of the year! There are many different activities coming up in the next two months. Get your favorite drink, settle in your favorite chair, and update your calendar. Save the dates:

October 28, 2026 - Wreaths for Wreaths Across America may be purchased at our regular meeting and again at the November meeting. Wreaths cost $17.00 and for every wreath our club purchases, $5.00 goes towards the next wreath. As of October 9th only 3,000 wreaths have been purchased for Fort Jackson by the community. Ft Jackson cemeterey needs 17,000 wreaths, so they are hoping for the community to step up at the last minute. Any donation we receive will go towards purchasing a wreath. Thank you for your support. Make checks payable to SAWC.

November 1, 2026, Sunday, Lexington Veterans Day Parade starts at 3:00pm. Come support our veterans.

November 3, 2026, Election Day, Please vote! The winner for the Senators race is to be the first woman elected to the Senate from South Carolina. (Voting is more than a citizen's right, it is a citzen's repsonsibility! Taken from the GFWC Civic Engagement and Outreach newsletter.)

November 11, 2026, Veterans Day - Thank a Veteran! Irmo Town Hall Veteran Day Ceremony, Irmo Veteran Park on Palmetto Wood Parkway at 11:00 am.

December 2, 2026 - Headquarters Stocking Extravaganza Drop-in, GFWC-SC HQ 1511 Laurel Street.

December 19, 2026, Saturday, The 18th Annual Wreaths Across America Ceremony at Ft Jackson Cemetery will take place at 12:00 pm. More information on car pooling to the ceremony will be in the November newsletter. A very moving ceremony. Come help honor a veteran and place a wreath on a headstone.

January 18,2027, Monday, PAALS Day of Service, more information in the upcoming newsletters.

In the August newsletter, it was reported that President Woodrow Wilson signed the bill that allowed women to stay in the military on a permanet basis, but that was incorrect. It was President Harry Truman that signed the Women's Armed Services Integration Act into law.

Education & Libraries: ***Leanne Angel***

Happy fall!

Thank you all once again for the donated books. Our little library is filled and awaiting more borrowers!

Our book group will meet November 12 at the Irmo library at 1:00 pm. Our book is The Dutch House by Ann Patchet! Please feel free to join us!

Environment: ***Gail Elfert***

For those who would like to play in the dirt and pull weeds, you are invited to join us on Thursday morning, October 29, at 9:00 a.m. to help clean up the grounds of our GFWC Headquarters at 1511 Laurel St. Bring your gloves and clippers and we will have fun beautifying our state's GFWC "home". Let me know at our October meeting on Oct. 26 if you think you can join us. IF it is a rainy day, we will try again the next morning on October 30. Note: for those of you who are still working, we will have another "planting" day at Headquarters on a weekend in the spring!

We did not have enough people able to join us for the hike at the Congaree National Park this week, so we will let you know the new hike date at our meeting on the 26th and hope more can join us at the ONLY national park in SC.

Don't forget to bring your corks, aluminum pull tabs and dead batteries and we will keep them out of the landfills.

Health & Wellness: ***Vickie Pearman***

October is Breast Cancer Awareness month. Don't forget to schedule your mammogram. Our CSP has the meeting and refreshments. All members in H&W please arrive at 6pm to set up. This is also domestic violence awareness month. Our freedom bag was well received by Lighthouse for life.

Standing Committee Chairs & Special Appointments:

Fellowship: ***Jan Mitchell-Conner***

October Birthdays: Sue Bass, Patty Cavanaugh, Mary Ann Lane, Dawn Kline, Maureen Taylor, Laura Nichols, and Libby Overcash

Publicity: ***Ann Martin***

Please remember to take pictures of anything your csp does and send it to me and Sarah O. with a short description or explanation of what is happening. Email annsmartin@bellsouth.net

Social Media: ***Sarah Ostergaard***

Calling All Club Paparazzi!

We know our club is up to amazing things! Please send photos and a quick description whenever your CSP or you and fellow club members are volunteering, learning, creating, collaborating, collecting, celebrating, or overall making our community a better place.

Help me show off the heart, humor, and hard work of our wonderful club! Send photos and descriptions for social media posts to sarahostergaard@gmail.com or 617-645-5179.

Important Dates to Remember:

October 26 – Monthly meeting at Union UMC, 6:30

November 9 – Board Zoom Meeting 7:00