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GENERAL FEDERATION OF WOMEN'S CLUBS

St. Andrews Woman's Club

September 2026 Newsletter



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

www.sawc-sc.org

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P.O. Box 3076, Irmo, SC 29063

Officer Reports:

President: *Becky Travis*

Your SAWC Board has been working hard during the summer to prepare for our Club year. Our first meeting will be 6:30 PM on Monday, September 28th at Union United Methodist Church, 7582 Woodrow Street, Irmo, SC 29063. The door code is *4766#. Please ring the doorbell if you are late or the code does not work.

The SAWC Board will be preparing a meal for Lighthouse for Life on Tuesday, September 22nd. Also, we will be presenting a Freedom Bag. The official Day of Service is September 26. Since we do not meet until after this date, the Board agreed to represent our Club in the fight against Human Trafficking and Domestic Violence.

Missy and Beth will have tickets for *Gypsy!* This is a great production so invite your friends and your family to join you for a fun evening at the Town Theater. We hope to use all three hundred of our tickets! We need ALL members participating since this is a Club fundraiser.

The SAWC Board has agreed to work with the Columbia Junior Woman's Club. Kaye Hunke will be joining their Club and Katie Moydell will be joining our Club. The two Clubs will help each other with our fund-raising events. We are excited to share this new adventure.

Please continue to invite women who want to help our community! Your friends and your neighbors have a relationship with you and trust your judgement. Bring a buddy to Woman's Club!

1st Vice-Presidents: *Anne Marie Sheppard*

Happy Fall! I am looking forward to a great club year and being able to report all our hard work at reporting time! With that in mind, please remember to track all hours and dollars spent or donated towards any club work. If anyone is unsure which CSP they are in or has not been contacted by a CSP Chair, please let me know so we can get you connected!

2nd Vice-Presidents: *Phyllis Plyler*

The attendance and contributions for our Summer Membership Social were greatly appreciated and enjoyed. We had three perspective members and do hope they join us in September!

I will be contacting all guests that were invited to our Sept meeting. It isn't too late for you to invite someone. If you will send me their info I will also invite them. Thanks for your help in making our Club grow!

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

Come prepared to purchase tickets for the October 15th show, Gypsy ! We will have them available at our September meeting.

Not attending in September? Happy to hold some, deliver some. Just let us know. It will be a great show. We will be selling tix until the curtain raises for the show!

Secretary: ***Susan Dox***

We received a very kind thank you note for our donation to Rock Steady Boxing!

Treasurer: ***Kristin Fields***

Welcome to the new club year. If you have not had a chance to pay your club dues, please do so at the September meeting. If paying with cash or check pay $52, if paying via Venmo pay $53.

If you will be paying for Town Theatre ticket, please pay separately from your dues. If paying with cash or check tickets are $25 each, if paying via Venmo tickets are $26 each. Separate payments are needed for accounting purposes.

Account balances are below:

Checking: $4,152.84

Savings: $2,697.25

Advisor: ***Maureen Taylor***

Looking forward to our September meeting. Can't wait to meet our new members!

Community Service Programs (CSP)

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

We will be having a February speaker, yet to be determined, and a Valentines Day theme.

Civic Engagement: ***Shelly Langston***

Welcome back everyone! Happy Fall! I hope you all had a wonderful summer and are ready to make new friends and help serve our community.

Important dates to save:
Friday & Saturday September 25 & 26th - Okra Strut Festival in Irmo.

Thursday, October 15 Gypsy at Town Theater 7:30 PM- Fund raiser for our club.

Tuesday, November 3, 2026 South Carolina's midterm elections will take place. Be sure to vote!
Did you know there are 3,486,071 total registered voters in South Carolina?

Wednesday, November 11th is Veterans Day. Thank a veteran.

Saturday, December 19th, is Wreaths Across America Day at Ft Jackson. Ceremony is at 12:00 noon.

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

Thank you ladies for bringing your school supplies to the reception. Everyone has one last chance to bring school supply donations to our regular meeting! Along with the supplies, any donation of books for the little Library can be brought to the September meeting.

CSP leaders please be prepared to sign up for a month to fill the little library. This seemed to work out well last year and was a huge help in keeping books supplied for the community. Sign up sheet will be at the meeting.

Book Group will next meet on October 8, 2026 at the Irmo library at 1:00 pm in the front conference room. The book to be discussed is 'The Borrowed Life of Frederick Fife'. Everyone is invited to attend!

Our CSP has the first speaker this year. We will learn what is beneath Lake Murray!

Environment: ***Gail Elfert***

We had a group of 6 (including a husband) picking up trash along our assigned part of St. Andrews Road on August 22, and we managed to fill 9 bags with an interesting variety of junk, but no wigs this time! Plan to join in the fun when we head out again on **November 15** with our "grabbers" and bags in search of trash thoughtlessly tossed along the highways in our community. This is one project that makes a difference!

I hope after collecting plastic film for two years, you are all still in the habit and are continuing to deposit your plastic in the specially marked bins at your favorite grocery stores. Every bag you deposit is one less piece of plastic in the landfills or littering the highways and waterways.

Speaking of keeping things out of landfills.... we will still collect the following at each meeting: 1) dead batteries (9V, AA, AAA, C, D); 2) corks; 3) aluminum pull tabs from sodas and other cans. So bring all you have put aside during the summer to the September meeting.

Health & Wellness: ***Vickie Williams***

We had a planning meeting on August 26nd at Vickie Williams home. There were 8 members and 1 guest, Charlotte Novak, who attended the summer social. Plans for our CSP this year will include a focus on healthy aging, caregiver concerns and giving tips on how to have a strong body and strong mind.

September 21 is World Alzheimer's Day. In honor of that here's a look at typical age related changes vs Alzheimer's disease.



Standing Committee Chairs & Special Appointments:

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

September Birthdays: Vickie Williams, Linda Davis, Susan Smith, Marie DeLoach, Beth Taylor, Shelly Langston

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 617-645-5179

Information about the Town Theatre Fundraiser is easy to find! **Visit the SAWC website, Fundraising page, for all the details, including a link to our Venmo payment site.**

We also have a Facebook Event set up for the fundraiser. Please go to our club's Facebook page, click "Going"on the event, and also share the event. The more people who know about the fundraiser, the better. They may even decide to follow our Facebook page to learn more about SAWC and all the wonderful things our club does in the community!

Thank you for helping us spread the word and support our fundraiser!

South Carolina law requires review and revision of state academic standards every seven years. In response to that requirement, the South Carolina Department of Education is currently developing what will become the **2028 South Carolina College- and Career-Ready Social Studies and Civics Standards.**

The SC Department of Education has recently released the first draft of the draft Social Studies standards, linked below:

- Kindergarten through 2nd
- Grades 3-5
- Grades 6-8
- Grades 9-12
- Disciplinary Reasoning Standards (skills used across content areas in the social studies)

The Department is now collecting public comment on the draft standards. You can share feedback on one, some, or all of the draft standards. To do so, use the form accessed by clicking here.

The feedback form will close at 11:59 PM on October 9, 2026.

The public feedback period is a fantastic opportunity for educators to use their voice to shape policy. Please consider sharing your voice!

(Source: Palmetto State Teachers Association Legislative Action Network Newsletter)

Important Dates to Remember:

September 26 – GFWC International Day of Service

September 27 – Midlands District Conference, 2-4 at the Woman's Club of Cayce clubhouse, 701 Oakland Ave

September 28 – Monthly meeting at Union UMC

October 12 – Board Zoom Meeting 7:00

October 25-27 – GFWC Southern Region Conference, Jacksonville, FL