

# *St. Andrews Woman's Club*

2024-2025



*Be the willing hand to help someone*

*October 2024 NEWSLETTER*

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

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## *Officer Reports:*

### *President - Susan Dox & Debbie Bell*

It's time for the State Fair, Football and much Cooler Weather!!!

Two Grant requests have been received for Progress Foundation:

1. Killingsworth: Women Crisis Situations - \$ 5,000
2. Seven Oaks Elementary School: Help promote Literacy and Positive Behavior  
With "Inchy" the Book Vending Machine - \$7,000

We will be voting by secret ballot at our October General Meeting. Please read the attached descriptions and come prepared to cast your vote. The results and awards will be presented at Winter Board in January

A proposal was brought before the Board to change the time of our Board and General Meetings from 7:00pm to 6:30pm.

For the General Meeting, 6:30pm till 7:00pm will be refreshments and social time. The meeting would begin promptly at 7:00pm. We will vote at our October 28th General Meeting.

Kaye Hunke has graciously donated a partial New Year's Eve container (stocking) for our club to use for Stocking Extravaganza. We are asking everyone to donate \$1 or \$2 to help complete our Stocking for the Extravaganza auction. Debbie will be collecting your money at our October General Meeting.

### *1<sup>st</sup> Vice President - Beth Smith-Pollom & Becky Travis*

Where has this year gone!!! We would like to remind all CSP Chairmen to be sure you have all the details from the previous CSP Chairs to complete your annual reports. The previous Chairmen had projects during the first half of this calendar year. If you have questions, then please ask them for clarification.

Please remember to document your events and your service projects with your report forms and with pictures.

### *2<sup>nd</sup> Vice President - Lynne Hauptner & Ann Martin*

No report.

### *3<sup>rd</sup> Vice President Ways & Means - Frances Hill & Susan Smith*

Ready to start your Christmas shopping??

SAWC has two opportunities for you to shop and help us to raise money!

Frances and Susan will have Belk Charity Day tickets available at the October meeting. The tickets are \$5 each. When you shop you will have \$5 taken off the cost of the item you are purchasing – you get your \$5 back and the club keeps all the ticket money!! Special sale prices are offered for Charity Day purchases, too! The tickets may be used on any products!! The pre-sale runs Tuesday, October 29 to Thursday, November 7. The sale will begin on Friday, November 8 and run through Monday, November 11. You may pick up pre-sale items any time after November 8.

Mark your calendars!! On Wednesday, November 13, we hope you'll do some shopping at "Gifts Galore" 170 Corley Mill Road. 20% of all sales that day will come back to SAWC. Take your friends and have a fun shopping day!! The hours are 10:15-6:00, and you are sure to find some wonderful Christmas gifts to mark off your list!

### *Secretary - Laura Nichols*

I'm new and need your help!! ATTENDANCE IS IMPORTANT!

Hello ~ Please do your best to let me know if you are going to be absent from a meeting. Feel free to email ( [Lecnichols49@gmail.com](mailto:Lecnichols49@gmail.com) ) or shoot me a text (803-463-4446).

Don't forget to sign in. Since I don't know all the names and faces yet, please check in with me.

Thank you!

### *Treasurer - Jo Norris & Sarah Ostergaard*

As of October 17, the current checking balance is \$7047.90 and the savings account balance is \$3364.63. All income and expenses for the Town Theatre play are included in these figures. The following required documents have been completed: IRS form 990-N and South Carolina Secretary of State required forms for Registration for A Charitable Organization, Annual Financial Report and Annual Raffle Registration Form. The GFWC-SC portion of our club dues will be submitted along with the updated membership list before the end of the month.

### *Advisor - Laurie O'Kelly*

I'm looking forward to hosting the new member orientation Sunday, October 27 at 3:00 at my home.

### *Community Service Project Reports:*

### *Arts and Culture - Rachel Richardson & Nancy Schmidt*

#### Fun Facts about Italy

Tourists throw \$1 million pounds into Trevi Fountain a year and this money is donated to charity.  
Italy has more than World Heritage Sites than any other country in the world. They have 55 sites.  
Italy is the fifth most visited country in the world.  
Italy has three active volcanoes – Etna, Stromboli and Vesuvius.  
Italy is the world's largest producer and exporter of wine and the second largest producer of olive oil.  
20,000 people visit the Sistine Chapel every day.  
Italy has the oldest population in Europe; the average age is 45 years old.  
14 billion espressos are consumed in Italy a year.

This month's featured work of art is "Circle of Friends" by Lexington sculptor Estelle Hampton Frierson. The bronze sculpture is in honor of Edna Bedenbaugh, a beloved librarian at Lexington Elementary School from 1958 – 1988. This work of art is outside the main door of the Lexington County Library in Lexington.



## *Civic Engagement & Outreach - Shelly Langston*

Happy Halloween everybody!

Don't forget to vote on November 5th if you haven't already voted!

I am happy to report SAWC will be naming a female dog this year! Put your thinking caps on and help come up with a name. Civic Engagement and Outreach CSP is still collecting toilet paper and paper towel rolls for PAALS.

We will be collecting money for Wreaths Across America for those who would like to participate in October. Cost for a wreath is \$17.00, but we will take any amount you would like to donate and we will purchase as many wreaths we have money for. For every two wreaths we purchase, Wreaths Across America donates a third wreath to Fort Jackson. If you should forget your money in October, you may still donate at the November meeting. Thank you.

Fort Jackson is having their Wreaths Across America ceremony on December 14th at noon and then after the ceremony the wreaths will be placed on the grave sites. If you would like to be a part of this celebration and go as group a sign-up sheet will be at our November meeting or you may want to attend with your family.

If you would be interested in walking at Saluda Shoals on Tuesday, November 26<sup>th</sup> from 6:00pm to 8:00pm to see the Christmas lights please sign- up at the October meeting. Cost is \$7.00 per person and you have to pre-register on line by November 25th at [www.icrc.net](http://www.icrc.net) Called Sleigh Bell Stroll. No walk-ins. \$2.00 for 2/under No dogs!

If we walk as a group, we could start walking at 6:00 or 6:30, whatever works best for the group. Buses will bring us back to our cars.

## *Education & Libraries - Jane Ashley Durham & Maureen Taylor*

The Education CSP is looking forward to hosting our October meeting. Our speaker will be author, Raegan Teller, mystery writer and former State newspaper reporter. Our focus this year will be helping Seven Oaks Elementary School, a Title 1 school within Lexington Richland District 5.

We are asking SAWC to help us with the following:

- Ziplock bags all sizes, including 2 gallons
- Feminine hygiene pads
- New underwear for children from K – 5<sup>th</sup>. Grade (boy or girl)
- Gently used or new pants, boy or girl, in case of accidents

We thank you for all your support in helping children from our district. Please be sure and keep track of your time and expense so that we will be able to report on this worthwhile project. We will have a clipboard for you to help us keep track.

## Environment - Gail Elfert

The collection of 1000 lbs. of plastic "film" for the **Nex Trex** Challenge has begun! I already have 8 white plastic packed garbage bags totaling 25 lbs., and the start date for our yearlong challenge is not until Oct. 1. We will be collecting at each meeting, but you can also get your bags of plastic to me anytime during the month because I'll be making multiple trips to designated grocery store drop-off locations where I must take a picture to submit along with the weight of the bags to Nex Trex. Kim Julin and new member Shari Johnson are collecting plastic from Sharing God's Love for us on the days they volunteer, and 3 of these bags came from them with more to come each week!

As a reminder of what kinds of (clean and dry) **plastic film** you can collect, they are:

\*produce bags; \*dry cleaning bags, \*bubble wrap, \*bread bags, \*grocery bags, \*store bags, \*Ziploc and other resealable bags, \*cereal box liners, \*case overwrap (ex.- around cases of bottled water, paper towels, TP, etc.), \*stretch plastic film (ex.- around furniture or pallets), plastic mailer envelopes (ex.- Amazon mailers)

*\* It is NOT "crisp or crinkly" cellophane which cannot be recycled. Examples are clear gift bags to hold cookies or the wrap around bunches of flowers in the store.*

*If the package has a recycle **triangle symbol**, do **NOT** keep it if it has a **5 or higher #** or if it has a **diagonal line** through the symbol which means it cannot be recycled. **NO** chip bags, frozen food bags, pet food bags, meat packaging, vinyl shower curtains or plastic table cloths.*

*Our first Keep the Midlands Beautiful trash pickup date will be **Nov. 16**. Any club member is welcome to join in the scavenger hunt for the most interesting, the funniest, and the most disgusting trash found along our section of St. Andrews Road!*

We will still be collecting real corks each month, and Mary North oversees this project. So, save those wine corks!

## Health & Wellness - Barbara Cross & Daryl Hendrix

We thank all of you who contributed to the food drive for the Virginia Wingard Food Pantry. We collected 300 lbs., valued at \$545. Also Becky shared that 5 of you donated your time and packed 256 bags with 14 items for the UMC Snack Pack program.

What a way to celebrate GFWC Day of Service and help those in our community!

October is **National Caregivers** month. Reach out to a caregiver you know and offer to help them.

During our October general meeting, Vickie Williams will explain the **GRATITUDE JAR** which we will have at all monthly meetings.

## Standing Committee Chairs & Special Appointments:

### Leadership/WHRT - Kristin Fields

No report.

### Fellowship - Jan Mitchell-Conner

October Birthdays: Patty Cavanaugh, Sara Dawson, Mary Ann Lane, Maureen Taylor, Laura Nichols, and Libby Overcash

### 2024 Stocking Extravaganza - Susan Smith

The **2024 Stocking Extravaganza** is almost here! We hope many of you will plan to attend the drop-in on Tuesday, December 3, from 5-8 PM for an evening of holiday fun at GFWC SC Headquarters, 1511 Laurel Street. Barbara and Susan will have event tickets and 50/50 raffle tickets available at the October and November meetings of SAWC. Last year's 50/50 winner received over \$1200!! Take a chance – YOU could be this year's winner!!

## IMPORTANT DATES TO REMEMBER:

10/28/24	General Meeting 7:00pm
11/ 04/24	Board Zoom Meeting
11/05/24	Election Day
11/08/24	Newsletter Article due to Beth
11/18/24	General Meeting - Operation Smile 6:30pm
11/28/24.	Thanksgiving Day
11/29-12/4/24	Stocking Extravaganza Online Bidding
12/03/24	Stocking Extravaganza Drop-in 5:00-8:00 pm

### Special Addition: Progress Foundation

Please review the following 2 requests for the Progress Foundation and be prepared to vote at the meeting in October as to which charity you would like to see receive the money.

Thanks, Susan and Debbie

St. Andrews Woman's Club (SAWC) would like to request \$7000 from the GFWC SC Progress Foundation. \$6270 of these funds would be used to provide Seven Oaks Elementary School with "Inchy the Book Vending Machine," a mobile book "store" for students, and the remainder would be used to keep it stocked with books.

Seven Oaks is a Title One school within Lexington-Richland School District Five. The school has an enrollment of 517 students made up of 65% African American, 11% Caucasian, 8% Hispanic, 7% mixed race, 7% Asian, and 1% Pacific Islander. 100%, **ALL**, of the students qualify for free breakfast and lunch due to **88% falling at or below the poverty level**. 38% of the students are below grade level in reading and are served by special reading programs. 27% of the students are considered special needs and are served by 3 self-contained special education classes at the school.

SAWC recognizes the dire needs of Seven Oaks and has become involved by offering assistance to students and teachers. Because the school has no PTA, the club provided Seven Oaks teachers with treats during Teacher Appreciation Week last spring and provided each child in remedial reading programs with 5 books of their own to take home when school was dismissed for the summer. The club also has 7 members currently being trained to be volunteer reading mentors at the school.

Inchy the Book Vending Machine would help promote literacy and reward positive behavior among the students at Seven Oaks. The machine is a token operated system whose goal is to get students excited about reading. It would contribute positively to the education journey of the students and nurture a love of reading among them. The novelty of the machine would increase reading engagement and help build a home library for students and their families. The machine would also help promote positive behavior through the school's **Positive Behavioral Interventions and Supports (PBIS)** program. Students would be recognized for positive or improved behavior with token to "purchase" a book of their own at the vending machine.

The funds for this machine are not something that would be covered by the SC State Department of Education, the local school district or federal funds. Schools that currently have this special library have had it funded by their PTA or a corporate sponsor, neither of which Seven Oaks has. "Inchy" would be unique and a big incentive to motivate the students to read and to exhibit positive behaviors. Donors Choose accounts have been set up by two of the teachers for book purchases to initially stock the machine.

The exterior of the machine is designed by the school receiving it. SAWC has been assured that if funded, the design will include a place for the GFWC and SAWC logos and name the club as the donor.

Gail Elfert- would like to recommend Killingsworth in the amount of \$5000 for a Progress Foundation grant. These funds would be used to adopt several residents by paying their monthly rent of \$541. Currently they are housing 17 residents.

Killingsworth is a unique community residence in downtown Columbia, SC for women who are emerging from crisis situations.

Within the eight bedroom home, women recovering from alcohol and/or drug abuse, incarceration, mental and emotional problems, violence and assault, or family crisis situations can find shelter and support. The residential program includes room, board, guidance and support for a nominal fee. Financial and vocational assistance to the residents is often available from partner agencies in the community.

Each resident is required to be involved in some organized productive activity during her stay. For most residents that means employment. Training or educational programs which lead to employment are equally acceptable. This requirement is basic to each woman's steps toward self-sufficiency and return to community life.

Women are referred to Killingsworth from human service agencies across the state, from the Department of Corrections, from treatment centers, as well as from churches and self-referrals. For admittance, the referral agency or counselor contacts a staff person for an application package. A personal interview is scheduled prior to acceptance for admission.

Killingsworth is a ministry of the United Methodist Women who provide some financial support as well as resourcing and training for the staff and the Board of Directors. United Methodist Church members across South Carolina contribute volunteer services and fundraising support as well. Financial support also comes from individuals, other church groups, community-based organizations, grants, and fees paid by our residents.

The residents of Killingsworth are a community of women from all walks of life, from varying kinds of families, with differing educational backgrounds and different life experiences. Their diversity gives them strength.

Killingsworth is a 501c3 nonprofit ministry of the United Methodist Women. Our Federal ID # is 57-0659510.