



St. Andrews Woman's Club

November 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

During this season of Thanksgiving, we want to extend a heart-felt thank you for your support of the SAWC and GFWC projects. 🦃 🍂 🍁

Our November General meeting is always very special as we dedicate it to the Operation Smile fundraiser. This gives us the opportunity to sponsor life changing surgeries. If you have any questions, please contact Becky Travis.

Curtain up!! Towne theatre "A Christmas Carol" show is right around the corner. This is a great way to kick-off your holiday season. If you have not purchased your tickets, please contact Frances Hill. We're hoping to have a sell out!

The Progress Foundation application has been submitted. We requested \$2,850 to sponsor six students to attend Tri-District Arts Consortium. This is a three-week summer program that provides students with in-depth, hands-on instruction from professional artists and educators. The results will be presented at the Winter Board in January.

Mark your calendar for the Stocking Extravaganza on Tuesday, December 2nd from 5-8 pm at GFWC-SC Headquarters (1511 Laurel Street). Proceeds from this event support the maintenance on the Headquarters mansion. If you need tickets, please contact Barbara Williams. Come enjoy this festive evening! 🎄

Meeting schedule reminder.

- We will shop and 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.

WISHING EACH OF YOU A VERY MERRY CHRISTMAS & HAPPY NEW YEAR!! 🎉

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

We would like to remind the CSP's and the Officers to complete a detailed report of your activities so you will remember the valuable events that St. Andrews Woman's Club conducts each year. This documentation will help you with your reporting and it is a wonderful memory-jogger.

We really appreciate your work with the varied speakers for our Club this year!

Thank you!

2nd Vice-Presidents: Marie DeLoach & Lynne Hauptner

Welcome to our new members Sue Bass and Dawn Kline. We will be having their orientation soon. Please continue inviting new members to join us.

3rd Vice-Presidents: Frances Hill & Susan Smith

We are a little over two weeks out from our Town Theatre fundraiser! The curtain will go up on "A Christmas Carol: The Musical," Thursday evening, December 4, at 7:30 and hopefully each of you plan to be there! Tickets will be available for sale at the November meeting for \$25 (\$26 if you pay via Venmo). It will be helpful if you would text or email Frances with the number of tickets that you need prior to the meeting so that she can have them ready for you that evening. We need our members to continue selling those tickets to ensure a successful event! Remember the more tickets sold, the more profit to invest in our local community! This fundraiser is a relatively easy way to earn substantial money for our club projects, but the key to success is selling lots of tickets! Have you done your part?

Secretary: Laura Nichols

Treasurer: Diane Bozard & Jo Norris

The current balances are as follows:

Checking: \$4,291.17

Savings: \$3,364.99

Remember that there will be tickets available to purchase for the Operation Smile fundraiser at the November meeting. Paying by cash or check is the preferred method of payment as the club gets to keep all of the money. Venmo, PayPal, and credit cards options will also be provided but these options deduct a service fee.

If you are bringing items to donate for the Operation Smile fundraiser, please remember that you will need to give your approximate cost and the number of hours spent preparing or buying the items.

See you in November.

Advisor: Susan Dox & Debbie Bell

We look forward to meeting our new members and planning orientation soon! 😊

Wishing you and your families a Blessed Thanksgiving 🦃 and a Very Merry Christmas! 🎄

Community Service Programs (CSP)

Arts & Culture: *Patty Cavanaugh*

We have placed a beautiful Christmas gourmet basket at the Mansion for our entry into the Stocking Extravaganza.

I included an Olive Oil & Balsamic Vinegar Cookbook, a bottle of red wine, along with a basket full of gourmet treats, and a red felt stocking at the side.

Thank you to all who donated to fund our entry!

A performance of the Nutcracker, presented by The Academy of the Lexington Youth Ballet, will be held Saturday, December 13th at 3:00 P.M. and 7:00 P.M. at the beautiful Lexington 2 Performing Arts Center in West Columbia, SC.

A second performance will be Sunday, December 14th at 3:00 P.M. Tickets at TheAcademyofLYB.com

Join author Sherry Field Cates in the launch of her new book, "The Boomerangs", Saturday, November 22, at The River Center at Saluda Shoals Park. The drop-in is from 11am-1pm. Admission is free. Just tell the front gate you are going to the book launch.

Recipe for the month:

Sausage, Spinach & White Bean Soup

1 Tbsp. olive oil

1 (12.8 oz.) package sausage, thinly sliced

3 cloves garlic, minced

1 onion, diced

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 shaved Parmesan

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

Civic Engagement: Shelly Langston

Happy Thanksgiving, SAWC!

Be sure to buy lots of tickets for our Silent Auction to help support Operation Smile.

Thank you to all of you who helped Support Wreaths Across America. We collected over \$389.00. The check was sent on Monday.

There will be 2 sign up sheets at the November meeting for those who would like to car pool (meet-up time to be determined) to the State Museum for the PAALS Graduation and one for Wreaths Across America (meet-up time to be determined) for those who would like to car pool to Fort Jackson Cemetery. Meeting place will be at Stars and Stripes for both events. I will send an email out to remind people of the events and the times to meet at Stars and Stripes.

December 7th - Graduation Day for PAALS at the SC State Museum, time is 3:30 pm. No cost for this event. Up-stairs in the Vista Room.

December 13th - Wreaths Across America Ceremony at Fort Jackson. The time is 12:00 pm. After the ceremony we will place wreaths on graves. A sign-up sheet will be available at the November meeting for those who would like to attend as a group.

Education & Libraries: Leanne Angel

Remember, we continue to fill the Little Library at the Irmo Town Park with reading material. The demand for reading material is always greater during school breaks. We always need donations of children's books! Thank you Maureen for helping us keep the library stocked this month!

Book Club will not meet in the month of December. Our next reading selection is "Someone Else's Shoes" by Jo Jo Moyes. Our next meeting is scheduled for January 8, 2026 at the Irmo Library at 1:00 p.m. We welcome everyone and always have great discussions!

Have a great holiday season!

Environment: Gail Elfert

This month's newsletter information is all about RECYCLING and keeping items out of our landfills.

* Bring those plastic bags and other clean **plastic film** to the meeting - you need to do that to make room for all the Christmas decorations you will be putting up! Our special needs men at Stephen's House are ready for another load to sort! They can't believe we have already deposited over 400 lbs. toward our 1000 lb. goal.

* Bring in all the wine **corks** you have been collecting and **will be** collecting during the holidays. That includes champagne corks!

* If you are replacing **dead batteries** in your decorations, remember that we recycle those, too.

* Those **pull tabs** on the green bean cans, pet food cans, and soda cans only take a few extra minutes to twist off and save until you can bring them to a meeting, and we will get them to the Ronald McDonald House.

Health & Wellness: Daryl Hendrix & Ann Keisler

We are excited to be a coordinator for **Jan's Van**, (Mobile Mammography – Women's Imaging/Lexington Medical Center) that will be located at

Union United Methodist Church, Tuesday, January 20, 2026.

Jan's Van is named in memory of Jan Croft who was a member of UUMC and a member of SAWC. Jan's Van has been providing **free** mammograms at UUMC since 2021. Yearly mammogram screening is a vital part of our health and wellness.

Health & Wellness has all the information needed for you, your friends and family to sign up for your screening on 1/20/26.

Health insurance and Medicare/Medicaid will be filed by Lexington Medical Center. If a patient does not have insurance, UUMC has designated funds available to pay for the screening. So no worries!

Katherine Keckeisen is our H&W coordinator with UUMC. Katherine can be reached at (803) 622-4530 or KWKeckeisen@aol.com to answer any questions or concerns.

At our November meeting, Katherine will have all the pertinent information/forms for all interested.

Katherine will also have a sign-up sheet for those of you who would like to work one hour shifts on Jan 20 to help with paper work and greeting clients. Let's support this great cause!

Standing Committee Chairs & Special Appointments:

Fellowship: Jan Mitchell-Conner

November Birthdays: Kristen Fields, Dianne McCarty, and Sarah Reandeau

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

2025 GFWC SC Stocking Extravaganza: Susan Smith and Barbara Williams

We hope you'll plan to join us for a fun evening at the Stocking Extravaganza on December 2 from 5 until 8 PM. Live music, delicious food, good wine and fun mingling with your friends will be a great way to kick off the holiday season. Don't forget there is also a 50/50 Raffle!! Last year's winner took home \$1375 in Christmas shopping money!!

Susan and Barbara will have tickets for both the event and the raffle at the General Meeting. Event tickets are \$25 and raffle tickets are \$10.

Important Dates to Remember:

11/24/25	General Meeting 6:30 pm- Operation Smile Fundraiser
12/2/25	Stocking Extravaganza Drop-In
12/4/25	Town Theatre, "A Christmas Carol", 7:30 pm
1/12/26	Board Meeting, 7pm, via Zoom
1/16/26	Newsletter articles due to Laurie O'Kelly
1/19/26	MLK Day of Service
1/26/26	General Meeting 6:30 pm