

ANNUAL REPORT

2022

GENERAL FEDERATION OF WOMEN'S CLUBS OF VIRGINIA

“Service, the Debt of Education”



Distributed at the 115th Annual Convention

April 30, 2023

The Virginian Hotel, Lynchburg, VA

GENERAL FEDERATION OF WOMEN'S CLUBS OF VIRGINIA ANNUAL REPORT 2022



GFWC VIRGINIA PRESIDENT
Bonnie Rosemond
“*Enlighten Our Cornerstone*”



A world-wide chaotic epidemic brought change in our daily routines to a different normalcy in 2022 but GFWC Virginia leaders and members were ready to guide, teach, inspire and uplift- all synonyms to *enlighten* to create more value, growth in membership and leadership. They increased a sense of pride and preservation as members were reminded of our roots, principles, strengths and the why of our organization's *cornerstones*.

101 of our 124 (81%) GFWC Virginia clubs reported, with a total membership of **3,072**, volunteered **257,543** hours toward **5,601** projects. **\$527,148** in monetary donations and **\$555,198** of in-kind donations were contributed to aid toward strengthening the lives of others in our local communities, nation and world. **\$146,979** was spent to advance communications and public relations, leadership, legislation/public policy and membership. Club members were innovative and productive in their fundraising efforts, raising **\$629,955** to make available funds to carry out mission goals. Many reachable goals were planned for our 2022 -2024 administration and quickly acted upon.

Our State Project was adopted - Education of Virginia's Natural Resources, namely our flora and fauna, waters, soil and woods. Two 501(c)3 Virginia based foundations were adopted to support, Virginia Forestry Educational Foundation and the Virginia Wildlife Center. Other objectives were carried out, promoting a GFWC Virginia Student Photography and Member Watercolor Contest, hold a natural resource educational workshop for elementary schools, grades 3,4,5 during the Annual Virginia State Fair, organized and promoted natural resource service projects and education opportunities for non-profit youth organizations and schools. Members were provided with project information through club, district and state newsletters and workshops. The State Project Committee was diligent in organizing and carrying out these objectives with the help and support of club members. Members and their families acted on state project incentives by visiting state parks and parks in their communities and promoted stewardship of Virginia's natural resources.

A GFWC Virginia's ESO Coordinator was appointed to help further the goals promoting the state chapter. She held ESO virtual zoom meetings where members discussed the assigned books. ESO pledges have increased!

Our State Chaplain was assigned the task to hold a Memorial Service at the 2023 and 2024 annual conventions. She has reverently abreast clubs across the state the plans of the memorial services to pay tribute and commemorate members lost. Our State Health and Wellness Chairman was excited about the goal to place more emphasis on members self-care. She created- the GFWC Virginia, “Step In Time”, physical fitness movement challenge. Adding that taking care of ourselves, enables us to take better care of our communities using the theme “It's all about me in 2023!” that will establish a strong footing for our Health and Wellness Cornerstone. The GFWC Virginia Membership Team coordinated many goals and with great success and received news of successful recruitment and clubs growth in membership. Club members were anxious to add *Lego blocks* (blocks- state symbol) to the membership cornerstone.

The 2022 State Conference hosted by the Blue Ridge District was well attended at National Bridge, a state park location. Members will remember a 1.1 mile walk up the mountain to Jefferson Point joined by park rangers. A full day and half of *Block* presentations by CSP and Advancement Area was absorbed by members. Members listened with great interest to guest speaker Ryan Brown, Executive Director of the Virginia Department of Wildlife Resources. Two service projects were conducted- State Project workshop held with members and Girl Scouts, prepared vials of seed and soil for the State Fair workshop presentation and members donated to the Advocates for Children Program countless toiletries to organizations chosen by the Northern and Shenandoah Districts. During the conference, members donated \$1,000 to purchase gift cards for Kentucky flood victims which were presented to GFWC Kentucky's state president.

Communication lines were hot! The list of virtual zoom meetings were plentiful, Executive, Budget and Finance, Endowment, Bylaws, Resolutions, State Project, ESO, Leadership, Reporting and more. Not only emailing and calls but texting and facetime. There is a state face book page, junior FB page and state project FB page. Constant Contact is now a norm, to quickly get information out to officers, chairmen and club presidents. EX.-Virginia Clubwoman, HOBY, Advocates for Children, one page newsletter “Cornerstone Connection”, “Step in Time” Challenge. Our GFWC Virginia website is a wealth of information with forms, instructions, publications, and so much more, and is regularly updated.

This officer has enjoyed time spent working as partners with Denise Price, GFWC Director of Junior Clubs and representing GFWC Virginia at GFWC Annual Convention in New Orleans, GFWC Board meetings and SER Conference, look forward continuing our traveling visits to our districts.

This officer is very proud of our GFWC Virginia team of officers, chairmen and executive secretary. And to all members, a huge federation thank you for all you do to help inspire and grow in knowledge of our strong cornerstones that are conveyed to our communities for without you none of the above information would have been possible.

**GFWC VIRGINIA 3RD VICE PRESIDENT/
DIRECTOR OF JUNIOR CLUBS
Denise Price**



GFWC Virginia Juniors Leading the Way is evident by the amazing work the Juniors continue to do, in their communities. They have completed well over 569 projects throughout Virginia. They completed over 13,000 volunteer hours and donated over \$50,000 dollars. Using the compass as a symbol for GFWC Virginia Junior community service projects, they certainly dedicate their time and talents to their communities.

The Juniors true “North” is evident in their leadership skills, as they serve their clubs, districts, state, region, and GFWC in various leadership positions. They attended state conventions, conferences, and GFWC International Conventions. The Juniors shared their knowledge during educational programs and new member orientations. A Junior member represented GFWC Virginia LEADS at the Southeastern Regional Meeting in Maryland and at the International GFWC Conference in New Orleans, Louisiana. Junior clubs communicated with their members and communities, using scrapbooks, websites, newsletters, and social media. They ensured members had access to the club agendas, minutes, and membership applications. Juniors also celebrated club anniversaries, members milestones, celebrated holidays, and attended socials at restaurants, breweries, and other events.

As the Juniors moved “East”, they supported the Children of Virginia in very creative ways. Clubs donated their time and money to support children’s food insecurities by providing food on weekends and holidays for school aged children. They also supported food banks by donating much needed food. Juniors donated scholarships to high school students, provided school supplies throughout the year, and hosted coloring and essay contests. GFWC Virginia Juniors were generous in their donations to support After Prom parties, band boosters, and teacher appreciation week. Reading for school age children was important for the Junior clubwomen. They promoted school-based book clubs, donated books to libraries, and volunteered at local libraries to assist with reading and summer programs. Outreach to the children in their communities was also important to the Juniors. They financed families during the holidays with gifts and food. They collected diapers, purchased car seats, donated shoes and clothes for families in need. The Juniors also supported events in their communities, such as races and one club even made goodies bags for a local emergency room. Another Junior club hosted a Cotillion for 7th and 8th graders. Juniors also wore blue to support the prevention of human trafficking and wore purple to support the prevention of child abuse.

The Juniors headed “South”, as they supported their communities by giving holiday cards, flowers, magazines, and had a cookie party for nursing home residents. They supported their first responders and nurses with baskets filled with goodies, low-income families, residential homes, and the homeless by providing food and clothing items. Communities benefited from the Juniors donations of flowers for the town, judging floats in Christmas parades, and assisting with local festivals. The Juniors also supported local animal shelters by donating money, food, and toys. The cleanliness of their communities was also important as they picked up trash in local parks, streets, and did storm clean up. Plastic was also collected for the purchase of Trex benches, to be placed in their communities. They supported veteran initiatives by participating in Sweats for Vets and supported Wreaths Across America by laying wreaths on veteran’s graves. Health and wellness of their communities was also important to the Juniors. They promoted Heart Health Month, Relay for Life, and various cancer awareness weeks. One club donated chemo care bags and another donated heart pillows and handmade cards to heart patients. Mental Health and Suicide Awareness was also supported by clubs. One club made coping kits to help with stress and anxiety for school age children.

As the Juniors finally headed “West”, they supported fundraising efforts within their club and in their communities. One club raised \$14,000.00 to host the Dolly Parton Imagination Library for their zip code. Clubs held “Egg my Yard” fundraisers and raffled off baskets and a wheelbarrow filled with items. They collected loose change at meetings and one club hand- crafted ornaments to sell in their community. Raffles, bingo, yard sales, and fundraisers at local breweries were also held. One club hosted a 5K run to raise money for high school scholarships. Other Junior clubs hosted Breakfast with Santa and had a Haunted History Walk. The Juniors also sold food and homemade sweets at local festivals.

GFWC VIRGINIA

1ST VICE PRESIDENT/PRESIDENT ELECT – SUSIE MOWRY

ASSISTANT DIRECTOR OF JUNIOR CLUBS – JOANNE DIXON



After reading the reports submitted by the clubs in GFWC Virginia, it was obvious that leadership and leadership training was conducted in Virginia. Reports were submitted by 104 clubs, totaling 744 Projects, using 48,904 hours. Clubs spent \$59,704 on their projects and made \$27,125 in-kind contributions. Clubs found creative ways to hold meetings, conduct workshops, and do a myriad of other projects for their communities. Many clubs used a variety of communication techniques to let their members know about the importance of leadership and many focused on the theme of our Leadership Team, “Leadership: An Action, not a Position.”

A chairman workshop was held in Richmond in July, which we believe was very rewarding. Judging from the interactions at the workshop, the chairs in this state are conscientious and eager to help our clubs and members in their endeavors to make our state the best it can be.

The Summer conference at Natural Bridge was remarkable. Each of the GFWC Virginia chairs spent time outlining their CSP or advancement areas. Those chairs not able to attend in person submitted video presentations. Regardless of the method of the presentation, the attendees of the Summer Conference left with a lot of information from the presenters plus the room was filled with displays and handouts.

The State Leadership Team in this state is awesome (to borrow a phrase from the young folks ☺) The First Vice Presidents and District Assistant Directors of Junior Clubs have recognized the importance of their leadership and are spreading the word throughout their districts. First time PowerPoint producers and new zoom leaders are honing their skills to make sure that the clubs have all the information they need to become, or develop, effective leaders. Check-in zoom meetings have been, and will continue to be, held and reporting workshops have been presented. Many e-mails are being sent and ideas shared. Leaders and members engaged in GFWC Leadership Webinars and utilized the GFWC Leadership Toolkit.

Articles in The GFWC Virginia Clubwoman were written with a focus on leadership, recognizing potential leaders as well as developing elected leaders. It is the hope of the leadership team that every member, elected or not, realize they have the potential for leadership at some level. Remembering that “Leadership is an Action, not a position” we should all take the actions necessary to lead the organization, be it club or GFWC Virginia, into a unified force to make our communities and the world a much better place.

GFWC VIRGINIA 2ND VICE PRESIDENT – CYNTHIA BAROODY
JUNIOR MEMBERSHIP CHAIRMAN – MICHELLE CLARY



Congratulations Virginia Clubwomen, you have done an amazing job and have **“Enlighten Our Membership Cornerstones”**. Our district membership chairmen have really met the challenge and to date, every district has added new members. We began our 2022 year with an orientation for our district chairmen and challenged them with two goals: to increase our membership by at least one member per club and second to establish at least one new club per district. To date we have received 231 new member coupons, which means that we have added two members per GFWC Virginia club as we now have 113 clubs. Unfortunately, we still have work to do to establish new clubs in our districts. We are hopeful that during the second year of this administration our second goal will be realized, and we are working diligently to that end.

At the GFWC Virginia Conference at Natural Bridge Historic Hotel and Conference Center; we gave a PowerPoint presentation on Membership highlighting Recruitment, Renewal and Rewarding members. A portfolio of useful information was handed out to the district membership chairs with instructions on how to access the membership toolkits, GFWC member transfer form, GFWC membership grant forms and other useful forms from the GFWC website. At the conference, a Lego Block creation of our GFWC Virginia Headquarters building in Richmond was presented to the membership. Each Lego block represented a GFWC Virginia club member. All district presidents were given zip lock baggies containing Lego blocks for every club member as well as a few “extra” blocks for new recruits. Our challenge is to build our Headquarters Building making it bigger and better.

During the 2022 club year, 76 clubs reported in the Membership Advancement Area, volunteering 16,667.5 Hours and contributing \$53,960.65 through 503 Projects. Clubs worked on projects to nurture retention by presenting programs that educated and inspired members while establishing effective ways to

communicate new ways to do things. Clubs inspired recruitment and promoted campaigns to entice new members to join the Federation. Members were recognized for their years of service and clubs as well as districts held anniversary celebrations.

Even though we have had challenges this year, we have overcome and continue to grow and embrace the GFWC spirit. Let's continue to "Sparkle and Shine" as we "Enlighten Our Cornerstones of Membership".

GFWC VIRGINIA SECRETARY
JOBETH WAMPLER
LYNN CHAPMAN, JUNIOR SECRETARY



As we take time to celebrate our accomplishments and the work we've done on the local level and beyond, the efforts of the many club secretaries throughout GFWC Virginia deserve recognition, too. We stress the importance of growing our membership to keep a legacy of service alive within each individual club, but it is the minutes that will forever preserve our clubs' impact on this world. And by means of their affiliation with GFWC and GFWC Virginia, they forever keep the 'Volunteer Spirit' of our organization alive, as well.

We, the secretaries of GFWC Virginia, are thankful for the opportunity you've given us to serve. We have attended and recorded the meeting minutes of our state organization with diligence, and we have utilized the procedures that are in place to ensure their accuracy and clarity. All minutes have been placed on file at GFWC Virginia Headquarters and will find new life through the research of the generations to come.

As we have over the past year, we will continue to perform our duties to the best of our abilities throughout the remainder of the 2022-2024 term. We will proceed in preparing meeting reports, sharing secretarial suggestions and support through our articles in The Virginia Clubwoman Magazine, and providing assistance in any way we can. Thank you for the opportunity to serve.

GFWC VIRGINIA TREASURER
LYNNE WHERRY
LYNN CHAPMAN JUNIOR TREASURER



Serving as GFWC Virginia Treasurers during this administration has been a privilege and an honor. It has been enlightening to participate in the many decisions that affect your GFWC Virginia and gain a better understanding of the workings of the Federation. Please rest assured that all decisions were well thought out, and we had the members' best interests in mind during the deliberation.

As your GFWC Virginia Treasurers, monthly and other expenses were paid, and all monies were kept in secure funds to ensure the growth and future of our Federation. Our State President and Budget and Finance Committee Chairman pre-approved all payments through our new electronic voucher system set up this year. The originals of the signed vouchers were forwarded to our GFWC Virginia Headquarters. GFWC dues have been paid, and GFWC Virginia Juniors have been reimbursed for their portion of the dues.

The Budget and Finance Committee, Endowment Fund Committee, and special meetings met via zoom before the conference, convention, and mid-winter. In addition, all Executive Board and /or Junior Executive Board meetings were attended, with financial reports presented. Articles were written for inclusion in each *Virginia Clubwoman* publication. It has been an honor and a privilege to serve as your GFWC Virginia Treasurer and GFWC Virginia Junior Treasurer. These positions have allowed us to meet many wonderful GFWC Virginia ladies across the Commonwealth, and it has been an honor to meet each of you. As we move into the second year of our administration, we thank you for trusting us to safeguard the GFWC Virginia treasury.



ALICE KYLE DISTRICT

Gwen Hamlet, President

151 Members

10,229 Volunteer Hours

Blair Trent, Director of Junior Clubs 237 Projects \$31,310 Donated

GFWC Signature Program: Domestic & Sexual Violence Awareness & Prevention: \$211.00 dollars donated and \$512 dollars of In-Kind donations. Most clubs only made donations to area DV shelters and programs

GFWC Juniors' Special Program: Advocates for Children: \$620 dollars donated and \$730 of In-Kind donations were made by the clubs.

Arts & Culture: \$2424 dollars donated with \$401 In-Kind Donations made. Clubs in the Lynchburg area support the Arts & Culture by contributing to the Amazement Square and its programs for children and serving on the Board of Directors. Other clubs in the same area support AGAR and Second Stage. Members belong to Arts & Crafts groups and contribute items to the annual GFWC Virginia Arts 'n Crafts Show.

Civic Engagement and Outreach: \$7620 dollars donated and \$5987 In-Kind donations were made by members of the District making this the largest GFWC Special Program area that all clubs took a part in and contributed largely. Brookneal Club puts small American flags circling all Flag Poles in the small town. Women go early on patriotic holidays and place flags in the ground surrounding all American Flag Poles in Public Places. One outreach project was the decorating of the Town's LOVE sign for the different seasons. The Farmville JWC contributed and participated in Sweats for Vets.

Education and Libraries: \$4621 dollars donated and \$1270 In-Kind donations were made by the District. Almost all Clubs donated books to their local libraries and charity re-sale stores. Amherst WC has a signature project for which they have become very well-known with the educators for Third graders in the elementary schools. These teachers look for their students' free hard-bound Pictionary Dictionaries each year. This club takes 300 Dictionaries and put in the hands of all 8- and 9-year-old students in 3rd Grade in the Amherst County School system. Lynchburg JWC donated (2) \$1000 scholarships to high school seniors in Lynchburg City Schools based on various qualifications, most importantly GPA and volunteer and service hours to the local community. The South Boston-Halifax JWC supported two school-based book clubs, one in the middle school and one in the high school

Environment: \$3581 dollars and \$1015 In-Kind donations were made in the name of Alice Kyle District. Members of the Amherst WC explore conservation and natural resource ideas and suggestions contributed by the Chairman of this area at each meeting. Members are encouraged to participate in Roadside Clean-Up and other environmental organizations dedicated to maintaining the area's environmental balance. Farmville JWC supported PE County Elementary School Garden and Pond.

Health and Wellness: \$10,578 dollars and \$9855 In-Kind donations were made by the District overall. All clubs take care of their loved ones, friends and patients in their local nursing homes by addressing and taking cards to them. Valentine's Day, 3 of the 4 clubs reported making Valentine gift bags and cards especially for the Nursing facilities. One of the clubs actually went to the Care facility and made crafts with the patients. Two clubs went to Nursing Homes to decorate and bring programs to the residents. Lynchburg JWC donated after race snacks for the fall and spring races for Girls on the Run, an organization that supports elementary school girls with their self-esteem and health and wellness. SoBo-Halifax JWC took on the South Boston Farmer's Market as a new project, volunteering once a month in areas where the market expressed a need, such as passing out coupons to kids for healthy foods.

Communications and Public Relations: \$860 dollars was spent in this area for Communications and Public Relations. Leadership projects contributed \$4729. Many of our clubs have newsletters mailed to members. Almost all but one club have a Facebook pages highlighting activities done by the Clubs.

Leadership: One member from our largest club serves on the Board for our District Project: Patrick Henry Family Services. In addition to the President and Director of Junior Clubs serving as members of the GFWC Virginia Executive Board, there are 4 other members that serve at the State Level.

Legislation and Public Policy: \$50 dollars was spent in this area. Amherst Woman's Club Committee Chairman passed out sample ballots and reminder postcards to members wearing a Cape made from the colors of the American flag to remind them of their right to vote.

Membership: AKD had \$1560 spent on Membership projects. This remained as a top priority for all clubs and club officers. Most clubs held a social gathering of lunches and pot-luck dinners and invited potential new members to attend. Overall, the Alice Kyle District presented a 5% increase in membership this year.

Fundraising and Development: 13 projects raised \$5951.24 from stews cooked and served to participating in town festivals selling funnel cakes and other goodies.

Women's History and Resource Center: \$30 dollars donated to WHRC was contributed by the Farmville Woman's Club.

Blue Ridge District

Carol Guilliams-Mills, President

**168 Members 22,278 Volunteer Hours
245 Projects \$29,456 Donated & In-Kind**



The Blacksburg Juniors assisted the YMCA in the Cinderella Project which allows high school students shop for prom attire. They also collected diapers and baby wipes and donated them to the Montgomery Christmas Store to be given to eligible patients. One of their core projects is the “Last Minute Angels” whereby members purchase gifts for children whose Angel Tree cards were not chosen. Their projects are funded by “March of Ales”, where the club holds the event and sells wine and beer tickets.

The GFWC Bedford Woman’s Club celebrated their 50th Anniversary with a celebration. Past club members, past District Presidents and state officers attended as well as members of the agencies the club has supported. Club sent letters and “goodie” bags to the National Guard troops serving in Africa. Club also holds an annual Craft Show which funds their many projects.

The GFWC Bent Mountain Woman’s Club purchased 300 Valentines and 300 pair of socks and donated them to Veterans. They participated in “Soup for Seniors”. Three more projects were held for Veterans: hats socks, gloves and sweat suits were given to the Veteran’s Care Center. Books were donated to Carilion Hospital’s pediatric unit, an elementary school, Head Start and the local library.

The GFWC Botetourt Town and Country Woman’s Club participates in the local Christmas Parade carrying the club’s banner and handing out candy to the children. Club members served hot dogs at a bank wearing their shirts and aprons with the club’s logo. Club made “goodie” bags, filled them with toiletries and socks and donated them to a shelter for domestic violence victims.

The GFWC Floyd County Woman’s Club has a huge fund raiser, a craft show with indoor and outdoor vendors. Club sponsored a canteen at a blood donation center and at the Veteran’s Day Parade. A major project is “Angel’s in the Attic”, a community thrift shop that relies on donated goods to fund a ministry that feeds the hungry and enables folks to purchase clothes and furniture. They also help operate a Christmas Store with all donated items.

The GFWC Roanoke County Woman’s Club supported an Eagle Scout who revived the mediation garden at a local church with a donation of plants. The club collected plastic for the scouts and church youth to get two Trex benches. Club has a “Sunshine Basket” where members contribute to monthly. At the end of the year, the money is donated to St. Jude’s. Club helps sponsor CATS (adaptive equipment for handicapped children). Every Halloween families, members, and college students design and build costumes for children who use adaptive equipment.

The GFWC Woman’s Club of Vinton made birthday Bags and purchased gifts domestic violence victims. They planted a pin wheel garden in front of the Town Hall, purchased gifts for two high schoolers through the Angel Tree, took baked goods monthly to the fire and police departments, donated to the Rescue Squad. The club gives a \$1,000 scholarship to a local high school girl. The club also supports “Soup for Seniors” by donating canned soup and crackers to the League of Older Americans and they made Valentines for residents of a local nursing home.

The GFWC Woman’s Club of Roanoke with only five elderly members participate in a “Project A Month”. Money and in-kind donations were given to Camp Easter Seal in the form of medical supplies, hospital pillows, three-piece sheet sets, washcloths, adult bibs, children’s books, dishes and kitchen utensils. Food was donated to a Food Bank, drink tabs taken to the Ronald McDonald House, hospital gowns and adult bibs donated to a local nursing home. Birthday Bags, toiletry items and a large donation was given to the Turning Point, a shelter for victims of domestic violence. Pet food, toys, treats cleaning supplies and a large donation was donated to the Roanoke Valley SPCA.

The Ladies of the Blue Ridge have been busy raising money and participating in projects that are needed to better the lives of those in our communities.

LEE DISTRICT

Sally Cary, President

522 Members 38,384 Volunteer Hours

Jessica Thomas, Director of Junior Clubs 1,295 Projects \$234,166 Donated & In-kind



Affiliate Reports: 5 Clubs donated to HOBY with money for HOBY scholarships and supplies. Canine Companions, Heifer International, and Operation Smile were supported with donations.

GFWC Signature Project-Domestic Violence Awareness and Prevention: 4 Clubs and 27 projects- Diapers, wipes, onesies and pajamas were donated to help Little Hands Virginia and Families First, Chesterfield County. Purple ribbons were worn by members during February to show support for this program.

GFWC Juniors' Special Project-Advocates for Children: 6 clubs participated 3 Clubs participated in activities for SCAN planting pinwheel gardens and working with Police Depts. to donate bears or stuffed animals for children after traumatic incidents. 6 Build-A-Bears were also donated to Police. Car seats were donated to Police for those in need.

Arts and Culture: Members visited art shows, museums, donated art supplies to schools and military, made items for a local craft show, made wreaths and door decorations. The Junior Federated WC of Chester held Cotillion for 7th and 8th grade students to teach manners, dance and etiquette.

Education and Libraries: Clubs volunteered at schools during Book Fairs, reading to students, giving supplies, and celebrating teachers during Teacher Appreciation Week. Clubs donated scholarships to seniors in high school and to women returning to college for a degree. Monies donated to Mary Macon McGuire and Phyllis Roberts Scholarships. Members helped at the Virginia State Fair promoting the GFWC Virginia's Special Project, Protecting Virginia's Natural Resources.

Environment: 12 clubs participated in projects promoting protecting resources and the environment. In-Kind and monetary donations were made to animal shelters. One club planted a red maple for Arbor Day, one gave our seed packets as "Bee Feed", one club used a Christmas Exchange asking members to buy a gift that was not only recyclable, but also reusable. Wine corks were collected by 2 clubs that raised 2 cents each for the environment. Clubs picked up trash, used their newsletters to give tips on recycling and energy saving.

Civic Engagement and Outreach: 14 General and 4 Junior club were able to donate peanut butter, toothpaste, and other items to Operation Support the Troops. Leftover yard sale items were donated to the Lions Club and Resource Center, Thanksgiving baskets to local food banks and outreach programs for the homeless and families in need. Christmas Mother, Ronald McDonald House and sandwiches to a local county resource.

Health and Wellness: Clubs supported Richmond Children's Hospital, Doorways, Pink and Pearls, and donated medical supplies to be delivered to Ukraine. Held a Blood Drive, Coat Drive for the needy and supported Breast Cancer programs.

Communications and Public Relations: Newsletters, ads in local newspapers, websites and Facebook were all used by clubs to get out the news. Shirts, and aprons are worn for club activities. Clubs receive News and Notes and Virginia Club Woman Magazine.

Leadership: 33 Lee District members serve Lee District and GFWC VA. Members serve Southeastern Region. Members attend GFWC VA Convention, Conference. Richmond Presidents Council, Lee District members serve as Docents at the Governor's Mansion.

Legislation and Public Policy: GFWC Ashcake WC was recognized by the Speaker of the House of the House General Assembly. Letters were written to representatives by club members in favor of the Violence Against Women Act and other relevant legislation. A Lee District member served at a polling place.

Membership: Recruiting, retaining, and sustaining membership is important to all clubs. Socials, were held, ads were placed and members showed off their club work to prospective members. Clubs have yearbooks, newsletters and celebrations to promote membership. Members have name tags, they support one another during good and bad times, and end of the year gatherings.

Fundraising and Development: Clubs sold bean soup packages, Brunswick Stew, ornaments, peanuts, worked at Bizarre Bazaar, held yard sales, played Bingo and had a Mystery Theater. GFWC Ashcake WC raised nearly \$17,000 sponsoring the Ashland Harvest Run. The Junior Federated WC of Chester raised \$18,000 for the Dolly Parton Imagination Library.

Women's History and Resource Center: Woman's Club of Sandston celebrated their 100th anniversary. The celebration included a book of their history. Their best project was the establishment of the Henrico County Library in 1924. Members donated to the WFRC and 1907 Society, Dogwood Society and the Endowment Fund. One club attended the annual Women's History event at Headquarters.

President's Project for 2022-2024: We are supporting the Richmond Children's Hospital Foundation at VCU. We are donating needed items patients like, toys, games, coloring books, etc. We are also giving gift card from Wal-Mart, Target and Amazon to purchase needed items.



NORTHERN DISTRICT

Joyce Jolly, President 711 Members 61,503 Volunteer Hours
1,099 Projects \$262,880 Donations & In-Kind

The GFWC Virginia Northern District is comprised of 22 clubs. Twenty clubs reported for 2022. The following is a representation of the club activities.

Community Service Programs:

Arts & Culture: Bel Air WC had a presentation by a Native American – Loudoun WC Established a Muslim Association at a high school – Arlington WC held dance rehearsals in their club parking lot-Herndon Fortnightly teaches needlepoint to homebound church members and volunteers at a downtown concert series.

Civic Engagement: Dominion Juniorette club raised the money to buy Christmas gifts for foster children – Western Fairfax WC gave donations to flood victims in Eastern Kentucky and donated \$837 to “I Support the Girls” in Ukraine – Clubs held parties at nursing homes.

Education & Libraries: Several clubs gave scholarships to high school graduates –Fredericksburg WC donated books to the Head Start Program – Dominion WC provided awards to students attending an Alternative School – Springfield WC was nominated for an award for their support of the Richard Byrd Library.

Environment: Spotsylvania WC collected 28,000 aluminum can tabs for Ronald McDonald House – Woodbridge WC picked up trash on Route 1 for Adopt-a-Spot-Herndon repurposed tin cans for use in a garden and a member of the Star Club worked to defeat the 42-inch fracked gas Mountain Valley Pipeline.

Health & Wellness: Fairfax WC provided snacks to “Girls on the Run” and provided information on breast cancer screenings via their web site.

Advancement Plan Areas:

Communication & Public Relations: Clubs contacted members and non-members through newsletters, social media, web sites, email blasts.

Leadership: The Junior Woman’s Club of Loudoun serve at every level of GFWC: district, state and national.

Legislation: Members of the Manassas WC attended Legislation Day activities in Richmond and had the opportunity to speak to their senator about the work of the GFWC.

Membership: Dominion WC welcomed 14 new members – Mary Ball WC graduated to large club status.

Fundraising: Arlington WC used their club parking lot for a flea market – Clifton WC held a vendor fair – Fredericksburg WC held a yard sale – Herndon held their 64th Annual Fashion show – New Dominion WC raised \$28,000. Who wouldn’t want to rent pink flamingos for their lawn from the McLean WC.

WHRC: Members of the Manassas WC visited the Lucy Burns Museum in Occoquan and attended a docent led tour. Members of GFWC were incarcerated there during their activist activities related to the women’s right to vote.

GFWC Virginia Special Projects:

Support for Military Families: Mary Ball WC supports “Paws for Purple Hearts” – a Manassas WC member enlisted a business to donate \$6,000 to the “Hop on the Bus” project –clubs supported “Wreaths Across America” – Western Fairfax WC donated to Wounded Warriors Program.

Virginia’s Natural Resources & Education: Fairfax sponsored a program on the Monarch Butterfly.

District Special Project

Care for Kids: To support foster children, several clubs donated backpacks, stuffed animals and pajamas to Comfort Cases for a total of \$6,265 in-kind donations.

Special Programs:

GFWC Project: Domestic and Sexual Violence Awareness

Bel Air Woman’s Club sponsored a workshop on Human Trafficking-Springfield Woman’s Club supported a battered women’s shelter-Clubs set up pinwheel gardens.

GFWC Junior Project: Advocates for Children

The Junior Woman’s Club of Loudon held their formal dress giveaway program

These activities are just a sample and in no way cover the entire scope of projects in which the clubs were engaged. To say that their effort is remarkable is an understatement. Margaret Thatcher said: **“In politics, if you want something said, ask a man; if you want something done, ask a woman.”** That statement certainly rings true in the GFWC Virginia Northern District.



SHENANDOAH DISTRICT

Judy Gough, President 259 Members
Ilia Desjardins, Director of Junior Clubs

19,260 Volunteer Hours 612 Projects
\$56,868 Donated \$29,735 In-Kind \$61,096 Raise

GFWC Signature Project: Domestic Violence Awareness & Prevention: Clubs participated in 5 Projects; 93 Volunteer Hours; \$100 Donated, and \$1303 In-Kind. **Greene** delivered 158 pairs of socks, 10 pounds of toiletries, with notes both in Spanish and English to SHE, the local Shelter for Help and Emergency in Charlottesville. **Covington** donated drawstring bags with toiletry items from the Summer Conference. **Waynesboro** donated food for the Thanksgiving dinner to the local shelter.

Arts and Culture: Clubs participated in 18 Projects; 668 Volunteer Hours; \$375 Donated, and \$1090 In-Kind Donations. Club activities involved student/member art shows, art supplies to local schools. **Lexington** participated in a club art show with 41 entries. Three clubs held writing contests for members and students.

Environment: Clubs participated in 24 Projects; 1095 Volunteer Hours; \$125 Donated, and \$666 In-Kind Conservation activities included recycling, beautification projects and planting trees and gardens. Collection of money and manpower were donated by **Lexington** to the Boxerwood Gardens. **Waynesboro** collected plastic bags for their 5th bench to be donated to the City of Waynesboro.

Education and Libraries: Clubs participated in 612 Projects 2352 Volunteer Hours; \$20175 Donated, and \$2213 In-Kind. 6 clubs reporting provided scholarships to high school seniors, students in Trade Schools and Community College. **Lexington** donated “kindergarten kits for over 200 children. **Waynesboro** donated \$7500 in scholarships

HOBY: 2 Projects; 5 Volunteer Hours; \$300 Donated. Clubs provide scholarships for students to attend the HOBY seminar.

Civic Engagement: Clubs participated in 39 project, 2634 Volunteer Hours \$34,234 Donated \$4667 In-Kind and \$732 Spent. Food Pantries, Nursing Homes, Domestic Violence houses, Kentucky Relief Fund, Christmas Angel Trees were helped. **Covington** had a Veterans Day Speaker.

Health and Wellness: Clubs participated in 28 Projects; 1907 Volunteer Hours; \$ 6,002 Donated, and \$9,889 In-Kind. Projects include operating clothes closets, helping individuals with transportation to medical appointments, volunteering with the Backpack program, collecting food and toys and other needed supplies at Christmas. Donations of toiletries to the homeless and art supplies to children’s advocacy organizations.

Legislation: Clubs participated in 6 Projects; 39 Volunteer Hours; \$10 Donated, and \$105 In-Kind. **Waynesboro** had 48 members participating in advocating for proposed legislation.

Operation Smile: Members from the **Lexington, Covington, Wayland and Waynesboro** collected toiletries, made hospital gowns, no-no armbands, and smile bags that were filled with toys and coloring books.

Communications and Public Relations: Clubs participated in 21 Projects; 828 Volunteer Hours and \$648 in- Kind Donation. Clubs advertise through newsletters, websites, ‘rack cards’, FB accounts, special ‘branding’ outfits, the annual yearbook, articles in newspapers, the District and State newsletters. **Lexington** has an annual month-long display of club history at the local library and all have tee shirts with GFWC-VA to wear at community events.

Leadership: Clubs participated in 64 Projects; 6256 Volunteer Hours, spent \$1887 and \$3849 in-Kind. Members serve in leadership positions on the club, district, and state level and GFWC International. Members attend district and State convention, Summer Conference, and SER. Clubs also held officer transition meetings and reporting workshops. Board meetings, agendas, regular meetings were all held on the Club as well as the District Level.

Membership: Clubs participated in 22 projects; 582 Volunteer Hours, spent \$100 and \$1000 in Kind. Recruiting and retaining members are top priorities for all 5 clubs reporting, 22 membership coupons were also sent in.

Women’s History and Resource Center: Clubs participated in 2 Projects; 148 Volunteer Hours, and \$792 in-Kind. **Covington** celebrated its 90th anniversary with a reception/birthday party at the Alleghany Discovery Center. Club members decorated the windows of the Discovery Center and highlighted things the club had done for the community over the years.

Fundraising: Clubs participated in 29 Projects; 3079 Volunteer Hours; \$61096 Raised, and \$2945 In-Kind. Club fundraisers included craft and baked goods sales, ornaments, bridge luncheons, yard sales, and “The Year End Campaign” asking for end-of-year donations with an offer of matching contributions up to \$750. “Just Desserts” from **Lexington** and the annual **Waynesboro** Fashion Show. **Staunton** and **Covington** sold Christmas Ornaments

Advocates for Children: All the Clubs received at Fall District Meeting bags filled with toiletries to be distributive throughout the area via schools, hospitals, domestic abuse houses, transitional housing etc. The entire District was covered.

SOUTHSIDE DISTRICT

Amy Riggs, President

353 Members 22,286 Volunteer Hours

Mary Katherine Steed, Director of Junior Clubs 717 Projects \$33,138 Donated & In-Kind



There are several leaders in Southside District that serve on district, state, and federation level in leadership roles. Members attended District Orientation, club orientations, and reporting workshops. There are Rookie of the Year awards, and club leadership awards. Members attended district, state, GFWC meetings.

The District President's focus is Children's Mental Health and the district project collected items for the prize closet at the Mental Health Hospital at Children's Hospital of the King's Daughters. Over 300 items were collected at the Fall District Meeting to deliver to the hospital.

Clubs held different events including Galentine's Meeting, Friendsgiving and Mentor/Mentee sessions. One club has a book club, a bridge club, and card crafter's class. Cards are mailed to members to acknowledge the club is thinking of members during birthdays and difficult times. One club honors shut in members and honorary members with gift bags at Easter, Christmas and Valentine's Day. Members are encouraged to wear Federation shirts, aprons and pins. Clubs also celebrated milestone anniversaries. The District had a Friendsgiving event after the Reporting Workshop in November at the Virginia Diner. We also held a District Orientation in the summer for officers.

Clubs and members are active in projects benefiting CSPs and GFWC Signature Program and Advancement Plans. One club continues to work with Freekind, and another club works diligently in their community to help prevent violence or abuse. One club makes crafts at each meeting for personal use or to provide to a local nursing home. Clubs have arts and crafts programs during the club year. One club is having paintings by a local artist that is deceased to be hung in a local hospital. Clubs held Arts and Craft contests with winners being taken to SSD Arts and Craft contests. Clubs continue to support the arts in their communities.

Members also participated in projects for the Environment. Members assisted at the State Fair for the State Project. One club participates in a local alliance to bring awareness to environmental stewardship to local rivers and creeks. Members are also encouraged to recycle, and clubs continue to help with road cleanups in their areas. Shoe recycling projects were also encouraged. One club collected plastic to have the Trex corporation turn the plastic into a bench in memory of a club member. Members ordered flower bulbs for the fundraiser for the state project fundraiser. One club encourages members to bring their own cup to club meetings. One club has a home and garden club that participates in different activities in the community.

Members participated in projects to help with Civic Engagement and Outreach. One club held a Veteran's appreciation program and clubs participated in Sweats for Vets.

Members also participated in Education and Libraries projects. Clubs donated books and school supplies to local schools and teachers. Clubs provided snacks for teachers on workdays. Clubs also provided scholarships to local graduating seniors. The district also provides a scholarship that clubs can donate funds to. Clubs participated in Read across America. Clubs also had book clubs and book exchanges.

2022 was an outstanding year to be a clubwoman in Southside District. We look forward to all the great work the district will do in 2023 as we celebrate 100 years of service to our communities.



SOUTHWESTERN DISTRICT

Eleanor Armes, President 190 Members 21,462 Volunteer Hours

Heather Dunn, Director of Junior Clubs 629 Projects \$155,453 Donated & In-Kind

GFWC Special Project: Domestic Violence Awareness: Clubs invited speakers to inform members about domestic violence and how victims can be helped. Hygiene products, clothing, and household goods were donated.

Juniors Special Program: Advocates for Children: Club projects included diaper drives, a food drive for needy children during Christmas vacation, gift bags for children having to visit the emergency room, and toys and games were donated to police and Social Services to use when interacting with families.

Arts and Culture: Clubs supported the area art scene by attending plays and music events and by purchasing local artwork. They made donations to arts programs, provided art classes for children, and hosted coloring contests and a quilt show. Members entered their artwork in county fairs and our district art contest.

Civic Engagement and Outreach: Clubs honored veterans with meals, by participating in Veteran's events, and placing flags at a veteran's cemetery. Members encouraged voting and attended town meetings. Donations were made to flood victims in 2022. Clubs contributed to area agencies for Seniors. Members aided animal shelters.

Education and Libraries: Clubs offered many scholarships. Members collected and donated school, hygiene, and food items for backpack projects for back-to-school events. Clubs helped fill Little Free Libraries and became members of Friends of the Library. They saved BoxTops for Education. Several took part in GFWC Virginia's ESO.

Environment: One club sponsored the Elk Fest. Clubs contributed to regional conservation education non-profits. Some helped maintain town gardens. Members had raised beds and container gardens. Others fed the birds and were learning about birding. Cardboard, plastic, newspaper, and aluminum were recycled. One club partnered with the sheriff's department to take back unused drugs so they wouldn't go in our landfills.

Health and Wellness: Members wore red for Heart Health and pink for Breast Cancer Awareness. Programs informing members about women's health issues were held. Donations were given to local clinics and a health bus. One club took part in Relay for Life, and another volunteered at the Remote Area Medical Clinic.

Communications and Public Relations: Several clubs have newsletters, as does the district. Clubs also utilize Facebook, local newspapers, radio, and television to share information and projects. GFWC and GFWC Virginia publications are shared with members. Members wear club gear to meetings and when serving in the community.

Leadership: Club members hold club, district, and state positions in GFWC Virginia. One member serves as GFWC Virginia Secretary, and five others serve on various committees. Members also hold leadership positions in local government and positions on area boards. Members attend district meetings, GFWC Virginia Convention, Summer Conference, and committee meetings.

Legislation and Public Policy: One club had a program about advocacy and GFWC's Legislative Action Center. Several members signed up for LAC and started following pertinent bills as they move through the legislative process and provided input. Another club spoke to their legislator, advocating for longer sentences for anyone convicted of child cruelty.

Membership: Clubs used social media, hosted special meals, and used word of mouth to recruit new members. New members had an initiation where they received their GFWC pins and a rose. Outstanding members were recognized with in-club awards, received pins for years of service, and enjoyed the fellowship of pre/post meeting meals.

Fundraising: 2022 fundraisers ranged from breakfast or pictures with Santa, to silent, online and television auctions. One club sold homemade apple butter, another handcrafted items A yard sale, vender craft fair, and a Haunted History Walk were held. One club wrote grants.

W.H.R.C.: One club recognized famous black women. Another club had a display of famous women at a local library. A member did the sketches of the women for the display. One club partnered with a local garden club, and historic preservation site, to hold an exhibit about marriage. The changing role of women in marriage was the focus.

Special State Projects: Support Military Families: Clubs worked to support veterans by recognizing them with certificates and flags, decorating cemeteries for Memorial Day, and donating to Wreaths Across America.

Natural Resources Education: One club sponsored the Elk Fest which allowed visitors to see elk in their natural habitat.

District Projects: Pick up the Pen for Autism and Woods, Waters, and Wildlife Foundation projects: Clubs made donations to these two district projects.



TIDEWATER DISTRICT

Nancy Vadersen President

718 Members

907 Projects

Ann Schultz, Junior Liaison

47,469 Volunteer Hours

\$52,273 Dollars Donated

In support of the **GFWC Signature Program**, clubs enjoyed hearing speakers from the CASA programs in their cities, placing purple mums at the Child Protective Services Office at City Hall, providing needed items to local shelters for victims of Domestic Violence, and items for children's holiday parties at the HER Shelter. Clubs donated Birthday bags, Cuddle and Snuggle bags for children entering foster care, clothing, and back to school items. WC of Tidewater researched and raised awareness of domestic violence in Native American populations. The **GFWC Junior Signature Program-- Advocates for Children** support included planting over 600 pinwheels for Child Abuse Prevention Month and donating diapers, toiletries, and warm pajamas to children in need. WC of Newport News donated a "Buddy Bench" at an elementary school. Cape Henry WC donated 200 crocheted hats for newborns at a local hospital. The Salvation Army, Angel Tree project, Camp Comfort Grief Camp, and Camp Easter Seal received donations from both General and Junior clubs.

Arts and Culture projects included clubs holding Arts and Crafts contests, having student art shows, attending plays and concerts, and touring gardens and museums. WC of Tidewater helped with the Virginia Beach Arts Center feather project and held a reception for 200 people. Poquoson WC designed their "Suffrage the Frosty" snow woman for the Kiwanis Club Frosty Festival. WC of Hampton held a Student Art Show, and Great Bridge WC gave three \$150 art awards to local high school students. Support for Ukraine was a major emphasis in **Civic Engagement and Outreach** for clubs in 2022, raising over \$5000 to send medical kits to soldiers. Clothing, tray favors for patients at the VA Hospital, and Sweats for Vets were donated by several clubs. Under **Education and Libraries**, clubs awarded twenty-seven scholarships totaling \$36,300. Six clubs donated \$580 to HOBY. Donations of school supplies, books, gift bags for teachers, funds for After Prom parties at high schools, and donations through grocery store loyalty cards and Box Tops for Education were other club projects. Recycling projects dominated the **Environment** CSP area. Clubs recycled pill bottles, eye glasses, wine corks, aluminum pop tabs, newspapers, paper and plastic grocery bags, towels, blankets, and canceled stamps. Three clubs are collecting plastic for a TREX bench to be placed at Girl Scout Headquarters in Chesapeake. WC of Hampton Roads collected shoes for ShoeLady.org.

Thirteen clubs reported projects in **Health and Wellness**. Clubs supported Operation Smile, donated to the American Red Cross, American Cancer Society, Salvation Army, Alzheimer's Association, Muscular Dystrophy, and Parkinson's Disease. Stuffed bears brightened the residents at a local nursing home, and fidget blankets helped patients at a local Alzheimer's home. A Halloween Trick or Treat project, turbans for cancer patients and sandwiches for the Salvation Army Center rounded out projects in this CSP area. Clubs encouraged support of the **GFWC Virginia Project** by distributing information on state parks and wildlife preserves, started oyster gardens, and partnered with Lynnhaven River Now to keep the waterways clean. The new Tidewater District Facebook page launched on July 7, 2022. Clubs are using this **Communication and Public Relations** tool to advertise their fundraisers and to show clubs in action. One club was interviewed as they prepared a bra for the Chesapeake Regional Hospital Bra-Ha-Ha for the 10th year, and another club was featured in GFWC News and Notes. **Fundraising and Development** projects included Fashion Shows, renting clubhouses, working with other community groups at local events, and a Bottle Auction. JWC of Hilton Village held a Breakfast with Santa, and WC of Hilton Village raised \$7800 at their "Vision 22" event for renovations to their clubhouse. WC of Accomack County held a "Greens, Gifts and Goodies" event and raised \$5328. WC of Eastern Shore held an indoor yard sale.

Leadership activities include eight clubs having members serving on the Tidewater District Executive Committee or Tidewater Presidents' Council. Three clubs sent members to the Legislation Day in Richmond in 2022. **Membership** continues to be a priority in the District. We welcomed 34 new members in 2022. A member of the Poquoson WC received her 50-year pin from GFWC. Twelve clubs reported support of the **Women's History and Resource Center**. The **Tidewater District Project** is "Sharing Because We Care about Food Insecurity." Clubs donated 669 non-perishable food items to Food Banks and local schools. Members participated in the Crop Walk and donated food for holiday baskets. Clubwomen in Tidewater District continue to "Share Because We Care!"

2022 AWARD WINNERS



ARTS & CULTURE PROGRAM 233 Projects 8,434 Hours
Pat Jeffress Chairman \$11,570 Donated \$11,265 In-Kind \$22,322 Spent

Best Single Project – Small Club – GFWC Woman’s Club of Tidewater – Tidewater District

Members of this club decorated over three hundred feathers and assisted in assembling over two thousand feathers for the display, made, coordinated and served at the gallery reception. They also partnered with an elementary school to make feathers. The Feather Project was designed by the gallery to bring awareness to Indian Boarding Schools.

Best Single Project – Large Club – Junior Woman’s Club of Williamsburg – Lee District

Established Richard E. DePaul Memorial Scholarship for Visual and Performing Arts Scholarship established to assist local high school students in continuing their education at the college level in the field of visual and performing arts in pursuit of an arts-related career, and to recognize individuals for their talent, academic success and other qualities. Richard was a very talented local watercolorist who loved to encourage and support aspiring young artists. Prior to his passing in 2019, Richard created a signature painting for JWCW’s annual Art on the Square fundraiser and participated in the event as an artist showcasing his work. In 2022, JWCW awarded two \$1,200 scholarships and one \$600 scholarship to three local high school seniors, totaling \$3,000.

Best Overall – Small Club – GFWC Pennington Gap Woman’s Club – Southwestern District

This club supported two coloring contests at a local nursing home, members made craft items for Spring, Summer and Christmas displays at local library, hand painted pumpkins for raffles, club member had art on display at county fair, purchased supplies and supported club member who painted mural on historic building, participated in town’s winter photography contest and participated in District Arts Contest.

Best Overall – Large Club – Herndon Woman’s Club – Northern District

Club held a Cultural Dinner with guest speaker, monthly articles in club newsletter about area arts happenings, held a club art show and winners were then taken to the District Art Show, made Art Comfort Tote Bags to be given to elementary school-aged children who have experienced trauma, Gave a \$1,000 art scholarship, members collaborated with local theatre company, held an evening flower arranging at a local arts center, members serve as “marshals” at local free, outdoor concert series and members sponsored house in local Holiday House Tour.

ART CONTEST-MEMBER ENTRIES

WRITING CONTEST, Camilla Cabiness & Lois Creasy Co-Chairman

The GFWC Virginia Creative Writing entries came from six of the eight districts in GFWC Virginia. Shenandoah, Alice Kyle, Blue Ridge, Northern, Southside, and Tidewater had entries mailed and received by the March 1st deadline. Southwestern and Lee had no entries. Five qualified judges to reviewed the entries.

Member Short Story – Amateur

1st Place “Finding Home” – Sylvia Auton
Clifton Community Woman’s Club – Northern



Member Poetry – Amateur

1st Place - “A Sundown Ride” – Sue Nelson - GFWC Bent Mountain Woman’s Club – Blue Ridge
2nd Place – “Who is She?” – Mary Ratigan – GFWC Waynesboro/Augusta Woman’s Club – Shenandoah
3rd Place – tie – “O Oyster Shell” – Linda Burnette – GFWC Woman’s Club of Tidewater – Tidewater
3rd Place – tie – “ Her Lucky Day – Deborah Jewell – GFWC Dominion Woman’s Club – Northern
Honorable Mention – “Fury Found” – Gail Smith – GFWC Woman’s Club of Smithfield – Southside

ARTS CONTEST – STUDENT ENTRIES

Lois Creasy & Camilla Cabiness Co-Chairman

Student Poetry

Grades K-2

1st “Christmas Eve” Ezra Renalds GFWC Lexington Woman’s Club Shenandoah

Grades 3-5

1st No Entries Received

Grades 6-8

1st No Entries Received

Grades 9-12

1st “Loosing My Grandfathers” Kamern Berkstresser GFWC Lexington Woman’s Club Shenandoah

Student Short Story

Grades K-2

1st “Bear Memories” Levi B. Snyder GFWC Lexington Woman’s Club Shenandoah

Grades 3-5

1st “Waterslide” Melody Coddington GFWC Lexington Woman’s Club Shenandoah

Grades 6-8

1st “Mistrigri the Spy” Allen Blackman GFWC The Woman’s Club of Farmville Alice Kyle

2nd “Imagine” Claire Dudley GFWC Covington Woman’s Club Shenandoah

Grades 9-12

1st “Specchio” Caitlin Carrington GFWC Lexington Woman’s Club Shenandoah



CIVIC ENGAGEMENT and OUTREACH PROGRAM 638 Projects 25,651 Hours
Celeste Corrigan, Chairman \$109,524 Dollars Donated & \$106,290 In-Kind



Best Single Project – Small Club – GFWC Pennington Gap Woman’s Club – Southwestern District

Pennington Gap WC handmade 166 red, white and blue wreaths to be laid on the military graves at their local cemetery along with an American Flag. They invited local dignitaries to share in the placement of wreaths and flags with the members of the Pennington Gap WC. They received recognition in the local newspapers and many social media platforms.

Best Single Project – Large Club – GFWC Wayland Woman’s Club – Shenandoah District

In response to the devastating flood that hit Kentucky in late July, an appeal for help was made on Sunday at a local church. A gentleman that was a member of the church owns a trucking company and said if the church and community would help, he would arrange for transporting the goods. A member of the Wayland WC heard the plea and the offer and sent out an email to the rest of the club asking for their help. The outpouring of kindness was immediate. Within a 2-week period 5 trailers full of supplies went to Kentucky.

Best Overall – Small Club – GFWC Bedford Woman’s Club – Blue Ridge District

The projects this Club accomplished ranged from supporting local active military troops while deployed to helping veterans and first responders deal with PTSD, Traumatic Brain Injury and addiction issues. Another project of note was their involvement in preserving and volunteering at a historic museum house. Often in the flurry of activities that surround the holiday season, we forget that all the lights, and sounds, and crowds can be overwhelming for children with special needs. The members of Bedford WC volunteered 23 hours to make sure those children could participate in the local Festival of Trees in a fun and comfortable environment.

Best Overall – Large Club – GFWC Floyd County Woman’s Club – Blue Ridge District

There were 12 projects that the members of GFWC Floyd County WC participated in benefiting veterans, seniors, children and first responders. They spent many hours helping at the Angels in the Attic Thrift Store. One of their members saw the need to support children and developmentally disabled adults so she created the Perfect Gift Shop. Now the Floyd County WC operates and supports the store, and they continue to make sure those in need of help are offered gift certificates so they can shop for their family members.



Clubs across GFWC Virginia. stepped up to the challenge of communicating with members and their community during the COVID Pandemic. Clubs communicated with members through newsletters, social media, telephone trees, handbooks, and websites. They branded their Club, District, GFWC Virginia and GFWC by wearing apparel, pins and displayed signs during meetings, events and within their community.

Best Single Project – Small Club – General – GFWC Woman’s Club of Manassas, Inc – Northern District

This club utilized a crafty club member who owns a Cricut and made red t-shirts for each member with the imprint “Ask me about the GFWC Woman’s Club of Manassas.” The GFWC logo was included in the design. The club purchased the t-shirts at a local craft store and one was given to each member. A shirt is now included in our new member packet. Members wear these shirts at our club functions and public events in which the club has displays.

Best Single Project – Small Club – Junior – GFWC Appalachian Leading Ladies Junior Woman’s Club – Southwestern District

This club engaged a local graphic designer to aid in the creation of a club logo. Using GFWC emblem for guidance, the logo incorporates a similar style while hinting at the individuality of the club with its unique color scheme and reference to the Appalachian Mountains, for which the club is named. This club logo is promoted on the club’s Facebook page. The logo was promoted on a local haunted history walk map event that the club sponsored and a “Join the Witches Crew” membership event with the logo printed on the flyers along with the Facebook link.

Best Single Project – Large Club – General – GFWC Ashcake Woman’s Club Inc. – Lee District

This club held their annual Harvest Run/Walk 10K/5K each year. They utilize their own event website and advertisements for their 10K/5K event were placed in local magazine and was featured on the front cover. Members gave quotes of what it means to belong to the club and GFWC and to solicit runners for the day of the race. Posters and race flyers were distributed. A large banner was hung in a strategic spot in town. New yard signs were purchased and placed by members to increase awareness of the event. This club maintained a race Facebook page, designed a race shirt bearing the club’s name on the back. Contributors to the Harvest Run/Walk received thank you letters handwritten on purchased logo notecards. Colorful, attractive “Thank You” certificates displaying the club’s name for donors of \$300.00 or more were given out.

Best Single Project – Large Club – Junior – Narrows Junior Woman’s Club of GFWC – Southwestern District

This club utilized social media, local newspaper, and cable channel to publicize information regarding their yearly TV Auction Fundraiser. They submitted 2 weekly articles, paid advertising spot and a full-page advertisement to acknowledge everyone that donated to their auction. Furthermore, they placed 4x6 signs with the club’s name and auction information in each of their four towns in their county. This club also hung a 15’ x 4’ banner on side of the bridge that crosses over 460 to advertise with club name, dates and cable information. Auction letters were sent out on club stationery to merchants and contributors of the auction with the Federation Logo on them.

Best Overall – Small Club – No Winner

Best Overall – Large Club – Woman’s Club of Smithfield – Southside District

This club has a communication/marketing committee. This committee sends articles and photographs to their local newspaper to advertise fundraisers and inform the public of their many projects and activities. This club continuously works on their club website and Facebook page. They post activities and pictures of members doing projects. Club members wear their club apparel (shirts and aprons) to special events proudly display their club banner at events and meetings. This club emails their members their club newsletter, and they also have a digital scrapbook that is shown twice a year. Members are encouraged to hand out their club trifold brochure that give the purpose and history of the club, describes the Community Service Projects and list of their special events. It also includes an invitation to come join their meeting. Members also participate at various events in their town to promote their club and attend other civic organizations to give a presentation on their club.

COMMUNICATIONS - WEBSITE CONTEST

Stephanie Griffin, Chairman



No entries received

COMMUNITY IMPROVEMENT PROJECT AWARD

Carolyn Fellers, Chairman

Winners will be announced at the 2024 Convention

EDUCATION AND LIBRARIES PROGRAM 551 Projects 23,981 Hours

Marilyn Banes, Chairman \$224,773 Donated & \$100,107 In-Kind



Best Single Project – Small Club – GFWC Pennington Gap Woman’s Club – Southwestern District

Under the banner of “Read for Success” this club supported the Lee County Fair Queen contest. They started a book drive and each Fair Queen contestant was responsible for collecting books for Elementary school students. The club offered incentives for collecting books and advertised the book drive all over the county. In 2022, 4128 books were collected. The books were distributed to Lee County schools and because of the enormous number of books collected, books were shared with Wise County schools also. This project is particularly notable because the club was able to make a positive impact on every elementary school age student in the County. It also involved every member and required 550 volunteer hours for success.

Best Single Project – Large Club – Lexington Woman’s Club – Shenandoah District

This club’s Education Chair contacted 12 kindergarten teachers working in the area’s four elementary schools. Contacts were made before the end of the 2021-2022 school year to obtain the teachers’ “Wish Lists” for the following school year. Before the summer break, all 12 provided prioritized lists which included a wide variety of traditional school supplies. A week before the start of school, members purchased all the items on the lists spending \$686.57. Members delivered the items to the schools with a letter on club stationery bearing the GFWC logo. This project involved 43 members, over 50 volunteer hours, and provided in-kind donations valued at \$686.57. This well-planned project deserves recognition as it made a difference for good for over 200 kindergarteners and 12 teachers.

Best Overall – Small Club -- Woman’s Club of Norfolk – Tidewater District

A member of this club lost her daughter to gun violence in 2006. The membership chose to honor the memory of Amanda Skie Gallon by creating a \$2500.00 scholarship designed for a deserving Norfolk female student hoping to extend her education beyond high school in spite of limited funds or some other hardship. The student must have a history of academic success and demonstrate a record of helping others consistent with GFWC’s volunteer spirit. This project is notable for the boost the scholarship will provide young women in the future who may not have that assistance elsewhere.

Best Overall – Large Club – GFWC Western Fairfax County Woman’s Club – Northern District

This club provides extensive support for the Chantilly Regional Library by taking on many tasks necessary for the success of the semi-annual book sales and hall sales held by the Friends of the Chantilly Regional Library. The money raised supplements the funds provided by Fairfax County. Members volunteered 439.5 hours on book sale-related activities, which included assisting with the setup during the week preceding the spring and fall sales, maintaining order and serving as cashiers during the four days of the sales, and then helping with the cleanup once the sales were over. Members volunteer regularly to sort, price and box books and audio-visual materials donated by members and the public to prepare for the next sale and to maintain the ongoing hall sale of the same items. Members also serve on the FOCHRL board of directors: one as president, one as treasurer and two as members-at-large.

ENVIRONMENT 359 Projects 22,803 Hours
Carol Pridgen, Chairman \$38,493 Donated and \$39,180 In Kind



During the 2022 club year, club members continued to be involved with other organizations who provide educational programs, workshops, camps, cleanup days, and other opportunities for area youth to learn to protect our natural resources. Club members continue to help preserve the environment by reusing items, recycling, and by planting plants and trees that are native to the area to attract pollinators such as bees, butterflies, and beetles.

Best Single Project – Small Club – GFWC Worthington Woman’s Club – Lee District

During this recycling project 12 out of the 23 members of this small club participated in a Widget Co program, by collecting wine corks for the “CORKCLUB” project. For every natural cork they receive WIDGETCO donates 2 cents to Forest and Ocean Conservation. For every synthetic cork that they receive, the cork gets recycled. Club members have collected and donated 1,404 corks to “CORKCLUB” and keeping the corks out of the landfill.

Best Single Project – Large Club – GFWC Dominion Woman’s Club – Northern District

In this large club 23 of its 53 members volunteered more than 71 hours by continuing their partnership with Bull Run Mountain Conservancy (BRMC) and Leopold’s Preserve (LP), both local non-profit organizations that focuses on caring for and protecting the Bull Run Mountains and Virginia Piedmont. This year club members planted 15 native trees at Leopold’s Preserve in honor of their 15th anniversary, members had to either hand carry gallons of water to the site or use buckets filled from the pond to water the trees. Members worked very hard during that time and only lost one tree due to the extreme heat.

Best Overall – Small Club – GFWC Woman’s Club of Tidewater – Tidewater District

This club had 6 of its 25 members have 103 volunteer hours by supporting 5 Environment projects with Lynnhaven River NOW (LRN) to restore and protect the Virginia Beach waterways. Club members are active with the LRN Education Department’s SPAT (Science Preschool Adventure Time). Members meet with the LRN staff in planning meetings, created lesson plans, gathered materials, and taught a 3-hour class for preschoolers, other club members taught a Kindergarten class about wetland conservation, this lesson taught students how wetlands are a deterrent to both flooding and drought, and how they filter and purify water that enters streams, rivers, and larger bodies of water. Some club members participated in LRNOW’s Spat Catcher Program. A club member belongs to a group of community volunteers who help guide their oyster restoration efforts. After reading this report I learned a “spat” is a baby oyster.

Best Overall – Large Club – GFWC Junto Woman’s Club – Southside District

This large club had 9 of its 62 members have 42 volunteer hours when they helped the Nansemond River Preservation Alliance with their Marsh Field Study, which is a two-day event. Club members guided middle school students through the five hands on stations along the Nansemond River. Students wore waders and used a seine net to catch baby shrimp and fish, they also experienced testing the water quality from a pier. The purpose of this study was to educate children as to what lives on the river.

FUNDRAISING 370 Projects 39,686 Hours
Faye Boccock, Chairman Dollars Raised \$540,134 In-Kind Donations \$95,213
Dollars Donated \$41,087 Dollars Spent \$62,742



Virginia club women were great in thinking outside the box with unique ways of raising funds for their many projects. The tenacity they possessed in approaching difficulties in their fundraising efforts reaped big rewards. Our Virginia communities will benefit greatly because of the commitment of these club members.

Best Single Project – Small Club – General – GFWC Bedford Woman’s Club – Blue Ridge District

This club held its Arts and Crafts festival after having to postpone previously due to covid-19 restrictions. They signed up 98 vendors and provided transportation to the site. They raised \$8945 with a 14 member club working 446 hours to make it a success.

Best Single Project – Small Club – Junior – GFWC Junior Woman’s Club of Hopewell, Inc. – Southside District

This small junior club of 9 members created social media sites to advertise their “EGG YOUR YARD” project. They egged yards with plastic eggs the night before Easter filled with candy and also offered allergy friendly stuffed eggs. They offered plans of 25 or 50 eggs, traveling to 4 different counties, sneaking into the yards of families that purchased the “EGG YOUR YARD” project.

Best Single Project – Large Club – General – Lexington Woman’s Club – Shenandoah District

This club held it's First "Just Desserts" fund raiser. This event which offered desserts from local bakers, caterers, home bakers, and chefs sold out. Wine and Beer were paired with the desserts for sale and some auction items helped make it a big success. They raised \$11,453.00

Best Single Project – Large Club – Junior – Junior Federated Women’s Club of Chester – Lee District

This club entered into a partnership with IMAGINATION LIBRARY to raise money for Dolly Parton's reading program for children. The club organized a committee of 13 of their members who solicited local businesses to donate to their cause. They not only raised the \$14,000 to join the program but went on to raise a total of \$18,700 for Dolly's Imagination Library.

Best Overall – Small Club – General – GFWC Pennington Gap Woman’s Club – Southwestern District

This small club of 20 members entered into a "full speed ahead" campaign in 2022 to raise more money than they ever had, and that was accomplished with applying for 2 local grants, and sending letters to local businesses and entrepreneurs asking for donations to their many projects in their county. This paid off along with their other 5 fundraisers they raised \$33,025.00 with 2540 hours of work. That meant that over \$9,000 was raised by applying for grants and just asking for help from within the community.

Best Overall – Large Club– GFWC James River Junior Woman Club – Southside District

This club of 23 members raised \$18,425 with just 3 projects. They had a spring tea to raise money for Give Hope to Kids, sold 50/50 raffle, prepared food for the tea party, held a virtual basket raffle with 10 different baskets filled with various items for sale, and held their annual Tinsel Town Fundraiser event where they assisted vendors and adding specialty booths for ALS, Alzheimer’s, and Autism booths to aid visitors

Honorable Mention – GFWC Dominion Juniette Club – Northern District

This was a single project, however the planning, and the forethought that went into the many aspects of this Thanksgiving Pie project definitely was entitled to an award. Many hours went into planning on the kind of pies, how they would collect orders and how they would deliver them. This could have been split into different phases of the project. This was a unique process deserving to be recognized. These Juniettes learned valuable fundraising, and leadership skills working together on this project raising \$826.00 with 14 members and 55 hours of hard work

HEALTH AND WELLNESS PROGRAM 503 Projects 20,438 Hours
Mary Driver-Downs Chairman \$62,354 Donated & \$112,492 In-Kind



In 2022, GFWC Virginia clubs donated to the Health and Wellness CSP with more volunteer hours, more dollars donated and in-kind than the previous year. Congrats to all clubs for giving Health and Wellness a firm foundation in our state.

Best Single Project – Small Club – GFWC Mary Ball Woman’s Club – Northern District

“Healthy Body and Camaraderie with Girls on the Run- Piedmont” GOTR inspires all girls from 8-13 years of age to build confidence and make intentional decisions while fostering physical fitness and life skills. Trained coaches(volunteers) use physical activity and dynamic discussions to build social, emotional and physical skills in every girl while encouraging healthy habits for life. MBWC hosted a program meeting with Kathy Butler, Director of GOTR Piedmont. Kathy shared the need for help in acquiring affordable running shoes for the girls. Many of the girls and their families are financially challenged, the Director had partnered with Adidas and Amazon for GOTR Piedmont to purchase quality running shoes for the girls (normally \$100 a pair) for \$30 per pair. The club members decided to support this need. Not discouraged by the 6 counties and one city that this program covers, MBWC ran forward and **raised \$1350.00 and 45 pairs of shoes in total were purchased.**

Best Single Project – Large Club – Waynesboro/Augusta Woman’s Club, GFWC – Shenandoah District

“**Clothes Closet** This club has a 40-year on-going project of receiving donated clothing and small household goods and distributing them free of charge to families needing the items. Recipients include referrals from social services, food pantries, churches, schools and word of mouth. **In 2022 club volunteers distributed approximately 4,924 pounds of adult’s and children’s clothing, linens and small household items serving 1,129 adults and 776 children.** Some of the outreach in the community included **donations to help residents in several area nursing and rehab facilities, and new residents (refugees) to the area.** The club’s in-kind donations came from 630 bags of clothing and other items. (Each bag = \$10 value).

Best Overall – Small Club – GFWC Kanawha Woman’s Club – Lee District

This club completed projects that included supporting Richmond Children’s Hospital, lending support for a community member (going through drug rehab) and her family, fighting disease by donating to Thrift for Life, lessening child food insecurities by filling Backpacks of Love, carrying for babies and moms with Little Hands Virginia and emphasis on Healthy Lifestyle project with club members participating in exercises dealing with joints, ankles, cardio and balance at monthly meetings.

Best Overall – Large Club – Junior Federated Women’s Club of Chester – Lee District

This club completed projects that included: Suicide prevention with Walk the Light for Sophia, Ladies night at Chesterfield Food bank Outreach Center, Mobile home park food distribution, donation of 60 food baskets at Thanksgiving to local school families, Lucy Corr Nursing home Christmas present project with singing carols, Intercept Foster Care Baskets for 30 local foster care families, The Giving Heart Project of Secret Valentine’s Bag to seniors living alone, heart pillows and valentine cards given to local cardiac hospital patients, raising mental health awareness with fundraising and distribution within the community of “Coping Kits”, Club participation in the local MS walk in Richmond.

LEADERSHIP

744 Projects 48,904 Hours

Susie Mowry, Chairman \$59,704 Spent and \$27,125 In-Kind

Joanne Dixon, Junior Chairman



Best Single Project – Small Club – General – GFWC Regency Woman’s Club – Lee District

Recognizing that the size of their club required a flexible organizational structure, the club’s elected positions consist of co/presidents, secretary, and treasurer. Duties are shared, with meetings and events based around officer’s schedules.

Best Single Project – Small Club – Junior – GFWC Junior Woman’s Club of Hopewell, Inc – Southside District

Of the nine members of this club, six (6) members hold federated leadership positions above the club level.

Best Single Project – Large Club – General – GFWC Great Bridge Woman’s Club – Tidewater District

This club held a two-day Executive Officers Retreat to collaborate on, and plan for, the 2022-2024 administration. The retreat was held at the home of a member, enabling the planning to be undisturbed and productive. They meet regularly for Club Pride Day to work on reports and celebrate their accomplishments and talk about the not so successful ventures.

Best Single Project – Large Club – Junior – South Boston-Halifax Junior Woman’s Club GFWC – Alice Kyle District

To educate new members about the club’s purpose and ongoing projects, this club organized an “onboarding session”, which took place in August. This included a presentation about club leadership; the goals of the local, state, and international organizations; and explanation of the projects and fundraisers the club routinely participates in.

Best Overall – Small Club – GFWC Woman’s Club of Tidewater – Tidewater District

This club focused on leadership by including a series on Women in Leadership in their monthly newsletter. Each month a female leader was highlighted to include leaders in GFWC, business, the military, and Operation Smile. The articles included information on these leaders’ positions and their philosophies for good leadership. They presented programs on leadership using the GFWC Club Manual, highlighting the 9 traits of good leaders. A detailed checklist was designed and developed to make it easier and less intimidating for new members to volunteer for leadership positions.

Best Overall – Large Club – The Windsor Woman’s Club, Inc. – Southside District

From a short training session for new chairman and officers at the beginning of the club year to a club orientation as a refresher on GFWC organization to giving an award to a member with 3 years or less who has demonstrated excellent potential for club leadership to holding a Team Building Program, this club has demonstrated excellent leadership at all levels of the organization.

Honorable Mention – GFWC Dominion Juniette Club – Northern District

The club decided to have a membership event in June 2022 with a goal of attracting new members to the club. The girls arranged to have the event and plan to give an informative presentation about the club. The leadership skills that the girls displayed is impressive because they knew what had to be accomplished and dove right in. Each Juniette had an opportunity to contribute to the presentation by writing about activities that the club did, about volunteering, fundraising, and giving back to the community. The Juniettes scheduled a follow up meeting at a time when most of the girls were available, and they walked through the presentation to finalize it. When the presentation was complete, the girls printed the presentation and make copies for everyone that was attending the event. They decided who would do the speaking, and ultimately decided on three girls to be the speakers at the event, where they took turns going through the materials. They explained what the club is, what the club does, and the fun that they were having doing it. Only minor guidance was given to these girls early on, and they took the initiative and ran with a task, showing true leadership.



LEGISLATION and PUBLIC POLICY 72 Projects 1,572 Hours
Liz Sabbatini Chairman \$567 In-Kind \$1,300 Spent

Best Single Project – Small Club – General – GFWC Worthington Woman’s Club – Lee District

The Legislation Chairman of this club shares the Legislative Corner column from News & Notes in their newsletter to keep their members up to date on the Violence Against Women Act, the Baby Formula shortage, “Ghost Guns” traceability etc.

Best Single Project – Small Club – Junior – No Award/Entry

Best Single Project – Large Club – General – Woman’s Club of Newport News – Tidewater District

This Club held a Forum for all the candidates for Mayoral and City Council. Over 300 community members attended at a local church; 41 questions were pre-submitted and a club member acted as moderator.

Best Single Project – Large Club – Junior – GFWC Louisa Junior Woman’s Club – Lee District

The members of this Club wore camp in honor and support of our troops serving in the US and abroad.

Best Overall – Small Club – GFWC Woman’s Club of Tidewater – Tidewater District

This Club places a large emphasis on Legislation and keeping members informed on civic matters. 3 members acted as Poll workers, 3 members attended Legislation Day, and 11 members joined the Legislation Action Center.

Best Overall – Large Club – The Tri Club Woman’s Club – Lee District

This Club wrote letters and called their U.S. Senators and House of Representative members asking for support on GFWC backed legislation. Members were kept informed on personal replies from the Senator and from other initiatives. They were also given updates on redistricting, on new laws for the State of Virginia in 2022 and Governor Youngkin’s directives, including those on schools.

MEMBERSHIP

Cynthia Baroody, Chairman 503 projects 16,668 hours
Michelle Clary, Junior Chairman \$53,961 spent and in kind



GFWC Virginia clubs have truly Enlighten Our Membership! Clubs are stepping up and nurturing retention, inspiring recruitment, illuminating recognition while educating members on renewal. GFWC Virginia club members are building our membership by implementing a variety of projects, programs, and parties. The future is looking bright!

Best Single Project – Small Club – General – GFWC Woman’s Club of Vinton – Blue Ridge District

“Secret Pals” - Club members choose secret pals at the August picnic meeting and recognize them at each meeting. Members also thank their secret friend in the club newsletter. Secret pals are revealed at the May banquet – this project encourages everyone getting to know each other which in turn fosters friendships and fun.

Best Single Project – Small Club – Junior – GFWC Powhatan Junior Woman’s Club – Lee District

In June, club members held an end-of-year cookout covered dish at a member’s home. Members and their families were invited to attend. Guests played corn hole and other outside games while enjoying each other’s company. New members that had joined in 2021 were inducted. Gifts were given and everyone enjoyed the evening.

Best Single Project Large Club – General – Woman’s Club of Loudoun – Northern District

“Each One to Reach One” recruitment campaign. The membership committee challenged members to bring at least one prospective member to each monthly meeting. A membership tea was attended by fifteen prospective members and because of the “Each One to Reach One” challenge the club membership increased by 10 new members in 2022.

Best Single Project Large Club – Junior – Junior Federated Women’s Club of Chester – Lee District

“Clubwoman of the month”: this project recognizes one member per month and is voted upon by the membership by a secret ballot at each monthly meeting. This clubwoman is recognized for going above and beyond the call of the club. A sign with the club symbol is placed in the member’s front yard for all to see for the entire month. A photo of the sign in front of the home is posted on social media. This project helps to publicize the club on a local level and creates conversation as well as a dialogue about club opportunities.

Best Overall – Small Club – Mattie Rountree Stephenson Woman’s Club – Southwestern District

This club goes above and beyond to retain members and show members how important they are. Members of the club aid an elderly member of the club who is in assisted living. Members purchase paper products, vitamins and other over-the-counter medicines, personal care items and they also provide travel assistance to medical appointments, club meetings and more. Members who are in financial distress are not forgotten but supported in the club as well. One member whose husband passed away was supported with donations and support throughout the year.

Best Overall – Large Club – Woman’s Club of Newport News – Tidewater District

This large club really “does it all” in the membership area. They actively recruit new members and provide these members with a membership card, roster of members as well as a club manual. The club presents yearly service awards for 5,10, 15,20, 25 and 30+ years of service. The club also chooses a “Member of the Year” who is voted on by the membership. The club held drive-by meetings as well as in person meetings, parties, and other fun outings. The club has an evening division that was created to enable working women to meet for business and programs. All members of the club are welcome to attend these meetings. The club uses all types of media to showcase their projects and programs and this in turn has attracted new members.

GFWC VIRGINIA 2022 – TOP RECRUITERS

During the first year of our administration, our club members have truly “*ENLIGHTEN*” Our Cornerstones of Membership. Every district sent in new membership coupons! As of March 31st 2023, 231 coupons have been received.

CONGRATULATIONS TO OUR TOP DISTRICT RECRUITERS:

- Alice Kyle District– Ellen Pettyjohn and Yolana Williams, GFWC Amherst Woman’s Club, tied with 2 members each.
- Blue Ridge District – Amy Dempsey, GFWC Blacksburg Junior Women’s Club, 9 members.
- Lee District –Katherine (Kat) Oros, Junior Federated Women’s Club of Chester, 5 members.
- Northern District – Martha Feeney, GFWC Dominion Woman’s Club, 7 members
- Shenandoah District – Maura Rodriguez, GFWC Woman’s Club of Greene County, 4 members
- Southside District – Jean Cobb, Riparian Woman’s Club and Linda Beatty, GFWC Tarrara Woman’s Club, tied with 3 members each.
- Southwestern District – Amy Dewilde, Wytheville Woman’s Club, 4 members
- Tidewater District – Marilyn Staton, GFWC Yorktown Woman’s Club, 4 members

CONGRATULATIONS to **Amy Dempsey**, GFWC Blacksburg Junior Women's Club, Blue Ridge District for recruiting 9 members! Amy will receive a \$25 gift certificate to the GFWC Virginia Marketplace. The winner of the recruiter coupon award drawing also receives a \$25 gift certificate to the GFWC Virginia Marketplace. Congratulations to **Janice Augustine**, GFWC Amherst Woman's Club, Alice Kyle District.

GFWC STAR RECRUITERS

White Star (5 to 9 Members)

Ellen Pettyjohn, GFWC Amherst Woman's Club

Amy Dempsey, GFWC Blacksburg Junior Women's Club

Rosa DiGiacomo, Henry Clay Woman's Club of GFWC

Katherine (Kat) Oros, Junior Federated Women's Club of Chester

Sherrie Ward, Clifton Community Woman's Club

Beverly Stoltz, Woman's Club of Springfield, Inc

Suzanne (Suzie) Smith, GFWC Mary Ball Woman's Club

Ann Livoti, Woman's Club of Loudoun

Cynthia Baroody, Covington Woman's Club of GFWC

Maura Rodriguez, GFWC Woman's Club of Greene County

Janice Pence, GFWC Wayland Woman's Club

Linda Beatty, GFWC Tarrara Woman's Club

JoBeth Wampler, GFWC Appalachian Leading Ladies Junior Woman's Club

Susie Mowry, Woman's Club of Newport News

Red Star (10 to 14 Members)

Martha Feeney, Dominion Woman's Club

Jean Cobb, Riparian Woman's Club

Amy DeWilde, Wytheville Woman's Club

Marilyn Staton, GFWC Yorktown Woman's Club

NEWSLETTERS

Barbara LaPrade, Editor of *The Virginia Clubwoman*

GFWC Virginia Newsletters were judged based on the following criteria: Appearance and organization, readability, GFWC affiliation logos, name of the club on the front cover, reports of officers and chairmen, member recognition minutes, treasurer's reports, federation information, and reminders.

Large Clubs

- 1st Place *GBWC Hi-Flier*
Great Bridge Woman's Club (Tidewater District)
- 2nd Place
Lexington Woman's Club Newsletter
The Lexington Woman's Club (Shenandoah District)
- 3rd Place
Swift News 'n Views
GFWC Swift Creek Woman's Club (Southside District)



Small Clubs

- 1st Place *Metro Media*
Metropolitan Richmond Woman's Club (Lee District)
- 2nd Place
Tidewater in Touch
GFWC Woman's Club of Tidewater (Tidewater District)
- 3rd Place
Kanawha Kibitzer
GFWC Kanawha Woman's Club (Lee District)

**GFWC SIGNATURE PROGRAM
~ DOMESTIC VIOLENCE AWARENESS**

**Amber Holdren, Chairman 86 Projects 1,950 Hours
\$7,066 Donated & \$20,371 In-Kind**



Best Single Project – Small Club – GFWC Regency Woman’s Club – Lee District

This Club continued a project that was started during COVID using Poshmark where they set up an account and 10 % of any of the member’s earnings from the sales of any of her personal clothes were donated to the event. She collected items from members and past Clothes Exchange participants and 100% of those sales went to the cause. They continued using this alternative method in 2022 to increase our earnings for this long-time clothes exchange event. Each sale included a thank you note that alerted the buyer that at least of her earnings were going to a DVA&P project that she worked on with other GFWC Regency WC volunteers. Other members also saved or contributed tissue paper, recycled packing and shipping containers.

Best Single Project – Small Club – Junior – no entries received

Best Single Project – Large Club – The Tri Club Woman’s Club – Lee District

This Club collected \$450.00 worth of diapers, wipes, onesies, pj's, soap, shampoo etc. to be donated to Little Hands Virginia. They share with mothers in need at Safe Harbor, YWCA of Richmond, hospitals and other groups helping domestic violence survivors.

Best Single Project – Large Club – Junior – no entries received

Best Overall – Small – GFWC Woman’s Club of South Norfolk – Tidewater District

This club assisted H.E.R. Shelter, a shelter for women and children effected by domestic violence in their Easter egg hunt. The club met at a member’s home and stuffed 400 plastic eggs with candy for the Easter egg hunt. They also put together Easter goodies bags for the children and filled them with candy and Easter cakes. Finally, we made up (5) five Easter baskets that contained candy, toys, DIY art projects and lovely children’s Easter outfits.

Best Overall – Large – GFWC Great Bridge Woman’s Club – Tidewater District

This group of ladies arranged a visit from Santa and his elf to the children at the HER Shelter taking them cute seasonal treats of “reindeer” water bottles, decorated cookies, and “snowman soup” a hot chocolate treat for them to enjoy later! Santa listened to the children who wanted to share a Christmas wish and read them “The Night Before Christmas” story before leaving on his sleigh!

STATE PROJECT: Education and Promotion of Virginia’s Natural Resources

Dale Fisher, Chairman

51 Projects 3,000 Volunteer Hours \$2,177 Donated \$2,136 In-Kind



Clubs are educating their members on the importance, beauty, and threat to Virginia’s natural resources through nature walks, club programs, and publications. Wildlife and nature centers are being visited, oyster beds are being monitored, acorns are being collected, and books have been donated to schools.

Best Single Project – Small Club – GFWC Woman’s Club of Tidewater – Tidewater District

This club worked in various ways to support Lynnhaven River NOW whose mission is to educate the community on best practices to restore and protect the Virginia Beach waterways. Members

Best Single Project – Large Club – GFWC Great Bridge Woman’s Club – Tidewater District

A park ranger provided club members with a comprehensive guided tour of the Dismal Swamp State Park. Members completed the Track Trail Scavenger Hunt.

Best Overall – Small Club – GFWC Kanawha Woman’s Club – Lee District

Club members made 100 laminated bookmarks that highlighted the State Project’s Mission on one side and featured project ideas on the other side. These were distributed at a Lee District meeting. “*Exploring Nature Activity Books for Kids*” and “*The Wise Animal Handbook*” have been purchased and donated to local elementary schools. Several members participated in GFWC Virginia’s exhibit at the State Fair.

Best Overall – Large Club – Herndon Woman’s Club – Northern District

Members met with licensed wildlife rehabilitators for AERO (Animal Education Rescue Organization) an affiliate of the VA Wildlife Rescue League. They were able to interact with many of the animals. In addition to a monetary donation to AERO the club members gathered to fill tube socks with rice which are used by AERO as heat compresses for the animals. Club members also participated in the Runnymede Stream Cleanup Event.

GFWC WOMEN’S HISTORY and RESOURCE CENTER

Ingrid Sinclair-Day, Chairman 104 Projects 1,049 Hours
\$1,064 Donated \$2,140 In-Kind Donations



Best Single Project – Small Club – Covington Woman’s Club of GFWC – Shenandoah District

The Covington Woman’s Club celebrated its 90th anniversary with a reception/birthday party at the Alleghany Discovery Center. Club members with family as well as district and community members were invited. Club members decorated the windows of the Discovery Center and highlighted things the club had done for the community over the years. Several club members were awarded pins for their years of service.

Best Single Project – Large Club – Woman’s Club of Smithfield – Southside District

The club historian designed a program to celebrate the 95th year anniversary. She generated a chronological record of historical events and achievements beginning with the 1927 club administration. This account was presented at the club’s annual Fall luncheon as a time travelling story with the club’s first president arriving at the club luncheon after 95 years and noticing all the changes throughout the years.

Best Overall – Small Club – GFWC Kanawha Woman’s Club – Lee District

The club continues to be engaged in promoting women’s history throughout the year supporting the 2022 National Women’s Alliance, with information in monthly newsletters and also donating to the GFWC “Hope for Justice Fund.” Members were informed about the annual Women’s History event at GFWC Headquarters. Members were also encouraged to join the GFWC 100th Anniversary virtual tour of Headquarters hosted by International President Maran St. Clair. Throughout the year, club members are informed about various historical projects commemorating women.

Best Overall – Large Club – GFWC Great Bridge Woman’s Club – Tidewater District

The club historian created a DVD video that covered social activities, community projects, and members’ awards during the club year. In addition, a written club history including all community service programs, advancement areas, and committee activities was produced by the club historian. Club members also attended the Holiday Reception at GFWC Headquarters on December 7 with a tour of the Women’s History and Resource Center.

GFWC AFFILIATE AWARDS

Bonnie Rosemond, GFWC Virginia President



Canine Companions – GFWC Worthington Woman’s Club – Lee District

A generous donation was made.

Heifer International – Cape Henry Woman’s Club – Tidewater District

Since Virginia is for lovers, a pair of mating alpacas was donated. Their “Amorous Alpacas Alice and Alex”, Amorous alpaca Treats were sold at monthly meetings to raise funds. Funds raised were matched by Heifer.

Hugh O’Brien Youth Leadership (HOBY) – GFWC Goochland Woman’s Club – Lee District

This club’s sponsored High School sophomore attended the HOBY Virginia seminar virtually and presented a YouTube video and link which was shared at a meeting. They also had the GFWC Virginia HOBY Coordinator along with their club’s HOBY Coordinator present a tag-team program about HOBY.

Hope For Justice - No Award

March of Dimes – GFWC Woman’s Club of Tidewater – Tidewater District

A generous donation was made

Operation Smile – Waynesboro/Augusta Woman’s Club, GFWC – Shenandoah District

This Club held their December dinner meeting and hosted the District Fall Meeting. The club decided to donate the collected meals charges to Operation Smile since the food prepared had been donated.

St. Jude Children’s Research Hosp. – GFWC Pennington Gap Woman’s Club – Southwestern District

Each club member is committed to monthly donations to St Jude’s.

Shot@Life- South Boston-Halifax Junior Woman’s Club GFWC – Alice Kyle District

Two member/families obtained their flu shots at Walgreens. Walgreens is partnered with the United Nations Foundation for the 10th consecutive year as they continue their program, *Get a Shot. Give a Shot.*

UNICEF – GFWC Swift Creek Woman’s Club – Southside District

A donation was made to UNICEF, tagged to benefit the innocent victims in Ukraine. During their October meeting they passed the hat collecting for Trick-or-Treat for UNICEF.

JUNIORS’ SPECIAL PROGRAM ~ ADVOCATES FOR CHILDREN

Amanda Paez, Chairman 140 Projects 2,532 Hours
\$18,792 Donated & \$38,151 In-Kind



Best Single Project – Small – General – Woman’s Club of Hillsville – Southwestern District

The GFWC Hillsville Woman’s Club collected items for their Sensory Bag project. These items included fidget toys, earmuffs, sunglasses, blankets, and stuffed animals and were donated to first responders in Carroll County to have on-hand during calls. These items can be used to calm persons down or adjust environmental stressors to help ease anxiety. While these bags can be used for children, they are also beneficial for adults with anxiety or mental disabilities. This project highlights the needs of victims in times of crisis and supports local first responders.

Best Single Project – Small– Juniors – GFWC Powhatan Junior Woman’s Club – Lee District

PJWC was able to provide the YMCA Bright Beginnings backpack program, ensures children in our community are prepared and confident for the school year by providing them with a backpack, school supplies, a hygiene bag, and brand-new winter warm-up clothing items. A member from PJWC was able to apply for a Grant through her Thrivent Insurance for \$250.00. Members were able to pack and provide 8 backpacks full of school supplies to help local area children be prepared for their first day of school.

Best Single Project – Large – General – Woman’s Club of Newport News – Tidewater District

The WCNN presented a TREX bench to Saunders Elementary school to be placed on their playground as a “Buddy Bench”- a place where any child can go to sit as a signal to others that he or she is looking for a friend to play with. When children see another child sitting there they can go and ask them to come join them in their game or activity. A plaque was affixed saying “Provided by the Woman’s Club of Newport News”.

Best Single Project – Large – Juniors – GFWC Pearisburg Junior Woman’s Club – Southwestern District

Supporting children in need throughout Giles County, the GFWC Pearisburg JWC hosts Home for the Holidays. This event allows the club and the community to provide sustenance for children over the two week Christmas break who would otherwise rely on school meals. Community members get involved offering to be of assistance either by donating pre-filled food bags or making monetary donations. These bags were delivered by various club members, who helped pack them, to all schools in Giles County as well as the HeadStart programs. This project showcases that partnerships with frontline organizations can truly magnify the impact.

Best Overall – Small – GFWC Woman’s Club of Manassas, Inc – Northern District

This club may be small, but their impact is huge. In 2022, they supported GFWC Affiliate St. Jude, raised awareness by receiving a proclamation from the Manassas City Council for Advocates for Children Week, and assembled comfort boxes for children that were impacted by a traffic or criminal incident. Clubwomen also lent their time and efforts to Boxes of Basics, a grassroots community organization that ensures children in need receive clothing. They volunteered at the warehouse, donated goods, and even crocheted winter apparel in these efforts.

Best Overall – Large – Junior Woman’s Club of Loudoun – Northern District

This club knows how to make an impact. With 17 projects and nearly \$20,000 in in-kind donations, the JWCL went big in 2022. From making sure formal attire was not out of reach with their 18th Annual Prom Wishes event, to

supporting Girls on the Run volunteering with Backpack Buddies to address food insecurity, to monetary donations benefitting special needs programming, diapers banks, and the SmileBox Project, the emphasis on advocating for young people was at the forefront.



Director of Junior Clubs Awards

Denise Price, GFWC Virginia Director of Junior Clubs

GFWC VIRGINIA CLUB – OUTSTANDING ACHEIVEMENT

This GFWC Virginia Director of Junior Clubs will award an Outstanding Achievement Award to one club in each size category. The Junior Club who demonstrates leadership within the club’s level, while also supporting Advocates for Children in our communities. See the GFWC Virginia Junior Special Awards form, for entry guidelines.

Small Club – no entries received

Large Club – no entries received

GFWC VIRGINIA JUNIOR OF THE YEAR AWARD

This recognition award is to recognize the dedication and hard work of a special Junior Club Women over the last calendar year. The GFWC Virginia Junior organization recognizes the outstanding work done by Juniors of Virginia and all they do to promote leadership and volunteerism.

GFWC Virginia Junior of the Year Award is awarded to Angela Paez for her outstanding work to promote leadership and volunteerism at the club, district, and state level. Angela was the change agent within the Junior Women’s Club of Hopewell, as she led the restructuring the club to meet the needs of the members while serving as President. Her attitude and enthusiasm were also evident as she served as the Southside District President. Angela promoted unity between the Junior and General within the Southside district by holding zoom office hours to discuss the needs of the clubwomen. She also served the GFWC Virginia Juniors, by serving as the chair to the Standing Rules committee and serving as a mentor to a district Third Vice President Director of Junior Clubs.

GFWC VIRGINIA JUNIOR NEW CLUBWOMAN AWARD

This recognition award is to recognize the dedication and hard work of a new Clubwoman in last calendar year. The GFWC Virginia Junior organization recognizes the outstanding work done by Juniors of Virginia and all they do to promote leadership and volunteerism.

No entries received for 2022

GFWC VIRGINIA JUNIOR LIFETIME ACHIEVEMENT AWARD

This award can be awarded to anyone who is nominated, is an active GFWC Virginia Junior Club member when nominated, and attaining at least 110 points on the form in the Junior Awards section of the Yearbook.

GFWC Virginia Junior Lifetime Achievement Award is awarded to Lori Chevalier for her dedication to the GFWC Virginia Juniors. Lori has spent the last 34 years promoting GFWC Virginia Juniors, as she served as club president, Southside District Third Vice President/Director of Junior Clubs, and Southside District President to name a few leadership roles. She has spent countless hours serving on various committees at all levels of GFWC, including serving GFWC Resolutions and Legislation and Public Policy. Lori continues to mentor clubwomen on all aspects of GFWC and is a friend to many.

GFWC Virginia Junior Honor Society

The Junior Honor Society is recognition of a club's high level of participation in Federation activities, particularly those that are directly sponsored by the Junior organization. In order to qualify, clubs must meet a minimum point level in the following sections: Federation activities, Federation Funding, Federation meetings and Special awards. There are three award categories (participation award for those who submit information but don't meet minimums): Gold, Silver and Bronze. Participation certificate given to clubs who do not meet the minimum criteria.

Participation

Farmville Junior Woman's Club
Alice Kyle District
Narrows Junior Woman's Club of GFWC
Southwestern District

Silver & Highest Point Total

GFWC Appalachian Leading Ladies Junior
Woman's Club
Southwestern District

SPECIAL JUNIOR AWARDS

CORRINE MURRAY AWARD

Large Club – Tie – Junior Federated Women's Club of Chester – Lee District

This club believes that by improving early education in their community will contribute to lifelong success which is why they partnered with Dolly Partin's Imagination Library to provide free books to children ages 1-5. Books are sent monthly from birth to age five. The club raised over \$18,000 to participate in this program.

Large Club – Tie - South Boston-Halifax Junior Woman's Club – Alice Kyle District

One member of the club launched a book club at the local high school, the "Lost Chapter". High school members attend the book club once a month and discuss books that have been selected by the students. Club members have purchased and donated books to the classroom as well as monthly providing refreshments to the students in the program.

Small Club – No Entries Received

MARJORIE BRANCH AWARD

Large Club – Junior Woman's Club of Loudoun – Northern District

This club was selected for the Marjorie Branch award in promotion of GFWC and GFVC Virginia. This club promoted the motto of GFVC Unity in Diversity through membership activities. After having a few years of limited membership events due to the COVID-19 Pandemic, this past club year, the Junior Woman's Club of Loudoun brought back many fun and memorable membership events. They feel that service to others brings them together, but membership is what creates lasting friendships.

Small Club – GFVC Appalachian Leading Ladies Junior Woman's Club – Southwestern District

This club was selected for the Marjorie Branch award in promotion of GFVC and GFVC Virginia. This club focused on working in partnership with the regional domestic violence program. They also cleaned up along the trail of their haunted history walk and provided yard work to a historical building in their community.

PHYLLIS V. ROBERTS AWARD

Large Club – No Entries Received

Small Club – GFVC Appalachian Leading Ladies Junior Woman's Club – Southwestern District

The GFVC Appalachian Lead Ladies Junior Woman's Club is a relatively new club formed in 2020, located in Southwestern Virginia. The club woman worked with another club to assemble take-home bags with items to make sensory bottles. The bottles will be distributed to police and fire & rescue providers in the region to help calm someone during a stressful situation. In addition, this Junior club partnered with two Southwestern District general clubs to collect \$4,550 worth of in-kind donations for the regional domestic violence program. Congratulations to this hard working group of Ladies!

SHELBY PAISLEY HAMLETT AWARD

Junior Woman's Club of Loudoun – Northern District

Monthly they support the Backpack Buddies program, the NOVA Diaper Bank, the Girls on the Run, Concerns of Police Survivors (C.O.P.S) and Comfort Cases, whereby backpacks are filled with hygiene items, pajamas, stuffed animals, coloring books, crayons. This program is for youth entering the foster care system so they do not have to put their belongings in a plastic trash bag.

SHENANDOAH DISTRICT AWARD

Large Club – No Entries Received

Small Club – GFWC Junior Woman's Club of Hopewell, Inc. – Southside District

With six out of nine club members serving on District and State level, the GFWC Junior Woman's Club of Hopewell of Southside District exemplifies junior leadership! Members are encouraged to update their "Leadership Notebook" which includes lists of officers and chairs, parliamentary procedure guides, and information on leadership and delegation skills. Federation knowledge is important and the Club maintains open communication to encourage learning and promote strong leadership within the Club and community!

SOUTHSIDE DISTRICT JUNIOR AWARD IN LEGISLATION

GFWC Junior Woman's Club of Hopewell, Inc. – Southside District

This club actively worked in promoting legislation in their community.