

**CALL FOR THE ONE HUNDRED FIFTEENTH ANNUAL CONVENTION  
General Federation of Women's Clubs of Virginia  
(GFWC Virginia)**

April 23-26, 2026

Doubletree by Hilton, Williamsburg, VA



GFWC VIRGINIA JUNIORS  
*The ride of a lifetime.*

2024-2026 GFWC Virginia Theme: "We Rise by Lifting Others"  
**CONVENTION THEME: "A Smooth Landing"**

Club Presidents are requested to read the Call to the members and elect delegates according to the bylaws of the GFWC Virginia, Article IX, Section 4. "Woman's Clubs and Junior Woman's Clubs shall be represented by the club President or her alternate, and one or more additional delegates as follows, these delegates are in addition to those entitled to representation by virtue of the position they hold as outlined further in this section of the Bylaws:

- 1-10 members – Club President, or her alternate and 1 additional delegate;
- 11-20 members – Club President, or her alternate and 2 additional delegates;
- 21-30 members – Club President, or her alternate and 3 additional delegates;
- 31-40 members – Club President, or her alternate and 4 additional delegates;
- 41-50 members – Club President, or her alternate and 5 additional delegates;
- 51-60 members – Club President, or her alternate and 6 additional delegates;
- 61-70 members – Club President, or her alternate and 7 additional delegates;
- 71-80 members – Club President, or her alternate and 8 additional delegates;
- 81-90 members – Club President, or her alternate and 9 additional delegates;
- 91-100 members – Club President, or her alternate and 10 additional delegates;
- 101- and more members – Club President, or her alternate and 11 additional delegates;

Advance registration for meals and attendance shall be made using the online form linked in this publication. Properly completed Registration Forms are to be done online, which will transmit to the GFWC Virginia Credentials Chairman or Junior Chairman. Registration fee is \$55 for attendees and must be submitted no later than **Friday April 3, 2026**. For registration submitted after April 3, please add \$10 per attendee for a total registration fee of \$65. **Electronic registration with Zeffy**. Detailed instructions are at the end of the Call. Special Note: Meals may be purchased individually OR may be purchased as a group for the entire weekend, with a discount as noted in Zeffy.

Club Presidents and other attendees, please share the information on the speakers and workshops and encourage members to attend. Please indicate on the registration form which members are attending their first state meeting so they can receive special recognition. **Please bring the Call** with you so that you may follow the discussion on the Bylaws and Standing Rules Revisions as proposed by the Bylaws Committee.

## **HOTEL INFORMATION**

Hotel reservations may be made by individual call-in no later than **Monday, March 23, 2026**. After that date, any additional reservation requests will be honored on a rate and space available basis only. Please call the hotel at (800) 222-8733, and ask for GFWC Va 2026 Conv guestroom group block. Guest room rates are: single or double per room: \$159 (standard king or queen), per day, plus taxes. Parking fee \$10 per night.

You can also use this link to reserve your room <https://group.doubletree.com/8qwely>

DoubleTree by Hilton – 50 Kingsmill Road, Williamsburg, VA 23185

**ADMISSION TO ALL SESSIONS WILL BE BY BADGE ONLY**  
**GFWC VIRGINIA – CONVENTION 2026**

April 23-26, 2026

Doubletree by Hilton, Williamsburg, VA  
50 Kingsmill Road, Williamsburg, VA

**Theme: “A Smooth Landing”**

**PRE-CONVENTION MEETINGS**

**Thursday, April 23, 2026**

1:00p.m. – 5:00p.m. Executive Board/Junior Executive Board Meeting  
6:00p.m. – 8:30p.m. Executive Board/Junior Executive Board Dinner  
9:00p.m. – til Junior Executive Board Meeting

**Friday, April 24, 2026**

10:00a.m. – 11:30a.m. Executive Board/Junior Executive Board Meeting & “Grab & Go” Brunch

**CONVENTION PROGRAM**

**Friday, April 24, 2026**

10:00a.m. – 1:15p.m. Convention Registration Open  
10:00a.m. – 1:15p.m. Registration of Arts and Crafts  
11:00a.m. – 6:00p.m. Vendors and Exhibitors Open

1:15p.m.

Musical Prelude

1:30p.m. – 5:00p.m.

“Celebrating Our Flight” **OPENING SESSION – Wear Federation Attire**

Procession of 2024-2026 District Presidents and Directors of Junior Clubs, GFWC  
Virginia Officers and Junior Officers, announced by Heather Craven,  
GFWC Virginia Executive Secretary

Call to Order – Susie Mowry, GFWC Virginia President

Opening Ceremonies

Presentation of Colors – Queens Guard of The College of William and Mary

National Anthem

Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag of the United States of America

Thought for the Day – Marolyn Cash, Chaplain

Collect – Marolyn Cash, Chaplain

Welcome – Jane May, Tidewater District President

Welcome – Delegate Jessica L. Anderson, 71<sup>st</sup> District

Preliminary Credentials Report – Angela Paez, Credentials Chairman

Presentation of Convention Rules – Amy Riggs, Secretary

Presentation of Convention Program – Judy Middleton, Meetings Chairman

Appointment of Committee to Approve Minutes – President Mowry

Introductions – Susie Mowry, President and Joanne Dixon, 3<sup>rd</sup> Vice

President/Director of Junior Clubs

Reports of GFWC Virginia Officers

Treasurer – Lynne Wherry

Secretary – Amy Riggs

3<sup>rd</sup> Vice President/Director of Junior Clubs – Joanne Dixon

2<sup>nd</sup> Vice President – Carolyn Fellers

1<sup>st</sup> Vice President/President-elect – Cynthia Baroody

President – Susie Mowry

Report of Executive Board Action – Amy Riggs, Secretary

Report of Executive Secretary – Heather Craven

Reports of Standing Committees

Budget and Finance Committee – Lori Chevalier, Chairman

Bylaws Committee – Lori Rocker, Chairman

Endowment Committee – Gloria Worrell, Chairman

Resolutions Committee – Marlene Wine, Chairman

Scholarships Committee – Dale Fisher, Chairman

Strategic Planning – Trina Behbahani, Chairman

Report of Historian – Linda Beatty

Report of Nominating Committee – Lee Patterson, Chairman

Reports/Awards of GFWC Advancement Plans, Facilitated by Cynthia Baroody and  
Lynn Chapman

\*Legislation & Public Policy – Maureen Mike, Committee Chairman

\*GFWC Women’s History and Resource Center – Hope Royer, Chairman

\*Fundraising – Miranda Lester, Chairman

\*Leadership Awards – Cynthia Baroody, Chairman Lynn Chapman,  
Junior Chairman

\*GFWC Virginia State Project – Nancy Vadersen, Chairman

Celebrating Federation Day – “Why We Belong: The Heart of Federation Day”

Announcements/Door Prizes – Judy Middleton, Meetings Chairman

5:00p.m. – 5:45p.m. Convention Registration Open

6:00p.m. – 6:45p.m. **Reception Honoring Past Directors of Junior Clubs**  
**ALL CLUBWOMEN INVITED (Cash Bar)**

6:45p.m. Musical Prelude

7:00p.m. – 9:30p.m. **“Come and Knock on Our Spokes” Marjorie Branch Banquet**

Attire: flowing caftans or muumuus in loud, colorful prints, i.e. Mrs. Roper attire. Wigs encouraged  
Procession of GFWC Virginia Past Directors of Junior Clubs and 2024-2026 Joint  
Executive Boards – Announced by Heather Dunn, Junior Courtesy  
Chairman

Welcome – Joanne Dixon, Third Vice President/Director of Junior Clubs

Grace & Dinner

Entertainment

Tribute to GFWC Virginia Past Directors of Junior Clubs presented by Joanne  
Dixon, Third Vice President/Director of Junior Clubs

Junior Special Awards – Introduced by Joanne Dixon

\*Marjorie Branch Award – Tidewater District Juniors

\*Shenandoah Award – Shenandoah District Juniors

\*Southside District Award in Legislation – Southside District Juniors

Director of Junior Clubs Awards – Joanne Dixon

\*Junior Club Outstanding Achievement Award

\*Junior of the Year Award

\*Junior New Clubwoman Award

\*Junior Lifetime Achievement Award

Introduction of 2026 GFWC LEADS Participant – Cynthia Baroody

Award of GFWC Special Program, Facilitated by Cynthia Baroody  
and Lynn Chapman

\*GFWC Junior Special Program Advocates for Children – Amanda Paez,  
Chairman

Presentation of Anniversary Certificates,

– Carolyn Fellers, 2<sup>nd</sup> Vice President/Membership Chairman

50/50 Drawing – Jessica Thomas, Junior Secretary/Treasurer

Announcements/Door Prizes – Judy Middleton, Meetings Chairman

View Arts and Crafts Exhibits

9:30p.m.

10:00p.m. - ?

District & State Caucuses – (locations TBA at dinner)

**Saturday, April 25, 2026**

***Red, White or Blue Casual Business Attire***

7:00a.m. – 9:45a.m. Convention Registration Open

9:00a.m. – 5:00p.m. Vendors and Exhibitors Open

8:00a.m. – 9:15a.m. **AFFILIATE AWARDS BREAKFAST**

Grace – led by Marolyn Cash, Chaplain

Breakfast

GFWC Affiliates Awards facilitated by Susie Mowry,

GFWC Virginia President

9:30a.m. – 11:45a.m. **“Appreciating the Journey And Planning for The Future”**

**BUSINESS SESSION/AWARDS**

Call to Order – President Mowry

Service Program Awards, Facilitated by Cynthia Baroody and Lynn Chapman

\*Arts and Culture – Helen Hill, Chairman

\*Civic Engagement and Outreach – Sue Trussell, Chairman

\*Education and Libraries – Ilia Desjardins, Chairman

ESO recognition – Ilia Desjardins, Chairman

\*Environment – Emily Amick, Chairman

\*Health and Wellness – Suzanne Williams, Chairman

Report of GFWC Virginia Headquarters – Judy Gough, Chairman

Updated Credentials Report – Angela Paez, Chairman

2026-2028 State Project Proposal – Cynthia Baroody, President-elect

10:15a.m.

**ELECTION OF OFFICERS**

Platform Change

10:30a.m.

**“GFWC Virginia Juniors The Ride of a Lifetime” Junior Business  
Session/Awards**

Introductions – Joanne Dixon, 3<sup>rd</sup> Vice President, Director of Junior Clubs

Junior Credentials Report – Michelle Clary, Credentials Junior Chairman

Report of the Junior Nominating Committee – Denise Price, Chairman

Election of Junior Officers

Reports of GFWC Virginia Junior Officers

Secretary/Treasurer – Jessica Thomas

Assistant Director of Junior Clubs – Lynn Chapman

Director of Junior Clubs – Joanne Dixon

Report of Junior Executive Board Action – Jessica Thomas, Junior Secretary/Treasurer  
Reports of Junior Standing and Special Committees  
    Budget and Finance – Jessica Thomas, Chairman  
    Standing Rules – Lynn Chapman, Chairman  
New Business  
Junior Honor Society Awards – Lynn Chapman, Assistant Director of Junior Clubs  
Announcement of Junior Election Results  
Junior Pledge  
Announcements – Judy Middleton, Meetings Chairman

11:30a.m. – 12:30p.m. Convention Registration Open

11:30a.m. – 12:15p.m. View Arts and Crafts Exhibits

**All Dogwood Society members gather for photo at 12:00 p.m. – location TBA**

12:15p.m. Musical Prelude

12:30p.m. – 3:15p.m. **“Happy 250<sup>th</sup> Anniversary American Revolution”**

Grace – Marolyn Cash, Chaplain

Lunch

Women of the Revolution – GFWC Virginia Executive Committee

Panel Discussion

    Leadership

    Membership

    Arts and Culture

Announcement of Election Results

Update from Endowment Committee and recognition of Dogwood Society

    Members – Gloria Worrell, Chairman

Awards of GFWC Special Program /GFWC Virginia Special Appointments,  
    Facilitated by Cynthia Baroody and Lynn Chapman

    \*GFWC Signature Program Domestic and Sexual Violence and Prevention  
    – Joyce Jolly, Chairman

Reports of Districts – Facilitated by Cynthia Baroody and Lynn Chapman

50/50 Drawing – Lynne Wherry, Treasurer

Announcements/Door Prizes – Judy Middleton, Meetings Chairman

3:15p.m. – 4:45p.m. Pick-up Arts and Crafts Exhibits

3:15p.m. – 4:45p.m. District and Club Vendors

4:00p.m. – 4:45p.m. Installation Rehearsal

6:00p.m. – 6:45p.m. **Reception Honoring GFWC Virginia Past Presidents  
ALL CLUBWOMEN INVITED (Cash Bar)**

6:45p.m. – 7:00p.m. Musical Prelude

7:00p.m. – 9:30 p.m. **“Pictures Tell the Story” Alice Kyle Installation Banquet**

*Formal/Semi Formal Attire*

Procession of GFWC Virginia Past Presidents and 2024-2026 Executive Board –

    Announced by Heather Craven, Executive Secretary

Grace – Marolyn Cash, Chaplain

Dinner

Presentation of Junior Special Awards honoring GFWC Virginia Past Presidents,

facilitated by Joanne Dixon, 3<sup>rd</sup> Vice President/Director of Junior Clubs.

\*Phyllis V. Roberts Award – Jaclyn Francis, Northern District

\*Corinne Murray Award – Camilla Cabaniss, Blue Ridge District

\*Shelby Paisley Hamlett Award – Camilla Cabaniss

Tribute to GFWC Virginia Past Presidents – Susie Mowry, President

Resolution in Honor of Past President Virginia Darnell presented by – Hope Royer,

Past GFWC Virginia President 2010-2012 & Kelly Lane, Past GFWC

Virginia President 2018-2020, current Lee District

Remarks of the 2024-2026 GFWC Virginia President and Director of Junior Clubs

Susie Mowry and Joanne Dixon

Procession of Incoming Officers, Executive Board and Junior Executive Board –

Announced by Sarah Entsminger

Installation of 2026-2028 GFWC Virginia Officers by Marolyn Cash, Past GFWC

Virginia President

Pin Ceremony

Remarks of 2026-2028 GFWC Virginia President and Director of Junior Clubs

Announcements – Judy Middleton, Meetings Chairman

9:45p.m.

Installation Dessert Reception

### **Sunday, April 26, 2026**

8:45a.m. Musical Prelude

9:00a.m. – 11:30a.m. **“We’ve Risen by Helping Others” Brunch/Closing Business Session**

Call to Order – President Mowry

Grace – Marolyn Cash, Chaplain

Breakfast

Remaining Business

Awards of GFWC Special Program /GFWC Virginia Special Appointments,

Facilitated by Cynthia Baroody and Lynn Chapman

\*Community Impact Program Award – Jean Cobb, Chairman

\*Communications and Public Relations – Lynn Osborne, Chairman

\*Newsletter Awards – Pat Jeffress, *The Virginia Clubwoman* Editor

\*Website – Lynn Osborne, Chairman

\*Membership Awards – Carolyn Fellers

Membership Recruitment Recognition – Carolyn Fellers

Extension Cup, Membership Cup, New Club Charters – Carolyn Fellers, Chairman

Recognition of the Arts Contests Winners – Carol Guilliams-Mills and Florence

Powell, Arts Contests Co-Coordinator

HOBY Update – Carol Outten, Coordinator

Dogwood Drawing – Gloria Worrell, Endowment Chairman

Final Credentials Report – Angela Paez, Chairman

Invitation to 2026 Conference – Camilla Cabaniss, Blue Ridge District President

Announcements/Door Prizes – Judy Middleton, Meetings Chairman

Junior Pledge

Collect for Clubwomen

Adjournment

12:15p.m. – 2:00p.m. Post-Convention 2026-2028 Executive Board Meeting

## CONVENTION MENUS

### Friday Marjorie Branch Banquet

Roast Beet Salad  
Grilled Pork Chop  
Smashed Sweet Potatoes  
Apple Butter Demi  
Tropical Layer Cake  
Coffee, Herbal Teas & Iced Tea

### Saturday Alice Kyle Banquet

Fresh Market Salad  
Pan Seared French Cut Chicken  
Shallot Mustard Sauce  
Mashed Potatoes  
Grilled Asparagus & Baby Carrots  
Coffee, Herbal Teas & Iced Tea  
Strawberry Shortcake

*Dessert will be served at the Installation Reception*

### Saturday Breakfast

Seasonal & Tropical Fruit Cup  
Twin Garden Veggie Frittatas, with a pesto & bistro drizzle, garnished with vine tomatoes  
Applewood Smoked Bacon  
Southern Potatoes with Caramelized Onions  
Mini Croissants served with Seasonal Jam & Apple Butter  
Orange Juice and Milk  
Coffee, Decaf Coffee & Tea

### Saturday Lunch

Soup, Salad & Potato Buffet  
Chef's Soup Du Jour  
Fresh Baked Rolls & Crackers  
Salad Bar  
Grilled Chicken  
Baked Idaho Potato  
Baked Sweet Potatoes  
Assorted Mini Cheesecakes  
Berry Fusion Tart  
Coffee, Herbal Teas & Iced Tea

### Sunday Breakfast Buffet

Vegetable & Cheese Muffin Frittata  
French Toast with Fresh Berries, Powdered Sugar & Warm Maple Syrup  
Applewood Smoked Bacon  
Logan's Chicken Sausage  
Southern Potatoes with Caramelized Onions  
Freshly Baked Warm Muffins, Mini Croissants, and Cinnamon Buns, Served with Seasonal Jam, and Apple Butter  
Seasonal Fruit Charcuterie served with Cut Fruit, Dried Fruit, Honey, Plain Greek Yogurt, Toasted Coconut, Almonds and Granola  
Orange, Apple & Cranberry Juices, Milk, 2% Milk, Almond Milk  
Coffee, Decaf Coffee & Tea

### Registration using Zeffy

Use this link to register for Convention - <https://www.zeffy.com/en-US/ticketing/2026-convention-3>

You may select as many "ticket" options as you need if you are registering multiple members within a club. You will be asked to complete the registration information for each "ticket" you purchase to register each member attending. Please list the highest CURRENT position (GFWC, state, district or club) held by each person registered. Please ensure ALL names and club names are spelled correctly as this will be used for the name tags. What you type is what will be printed.

You may pay with credit card or checking account.

**(Upon checkout, you may choose to make a donation to Zeffy to cover processing fees they incur or you may choose to select "OTHER" from the pull down menu and change the amount to ZERO. Zeffy does not charge GFWC Virginia for processing payments, which is great! Their default donation % is set high, so BE SURE to change it to a lower or zero amount)**

If you need to register with a paper form, please email [gfwcvirginia@verizon.net](mailto:gfwcvirginia@verizon.net) to request one.