

# The Virginia Clubwoman



**March 2024**



## **GFWC Virginia Convention 2024 "Cornerstone Journey In All Directions"**

**Hotel Madison and Shenandoah Valley Conference Ctr.  
710 S. Main Street, Harrisonburg, VA, 22801**





**Bonnie Rosemond**  
**GFWC Virginia President**  
*president@gfwcvirginia.org*



***The President’s Message – “Journey”***

This officer has been in awe of the numerous beautiful male and female Cardinals, along with another beauty, a bright orange, black and white Towhee. They feed and mingle nicely with other feathered friends among the trimmed stalks of a hydrangea “*Anna Bell*”, mulch and leaves. Winter does bring us beautiful nature! The view of watching these feathered friends will slowly diminish as spring temperatures will bring a different view of nature’s beauty as this officer watches while she continues reading the many strides your club members have taken in their volunteer journeys serving their communities. Recognition for outstanding projects will be awarded at our convention, however all clubs are worthy of awards for their service to our communities and federation. As I tally statewide statistics, I am anxious to share these totals with you at our convention.

Denise and I hope you are making plans to join us for our 116<sup>th</sup> GFWC Virginia Annual Convention in Harrisonburg at the Hotel Madison and Shenandoah Valley Conference Center. The weekend full of information, activities and fun will be hosted by our Northern District under the direction of District President Joyce Jolly and Convention Chairman Barb Kiker. Thank you in advance for all their efforts and diligence in their plans for carrying out the convention theme, “Cornerstone Journey in all Directions”. The Convention Call is in this issue of our *Virginia Clubwoman* where you will find the many details of GFWC Virginia business, that includes-Standing Rules, Resolutions and Elections. We hope you will also take part in the planned activities, see info on- the Edith J. Carrier Arboretum and the Virginia Quilt Museum, but also our State Project “Education of Virginia’s Natural Resources” service project, Junior State Project, Advocates for Children, Raffles and view Arts and Crafts. We are also pleased to have our guest speakers, author, Amy Shaw at our Friday’s Business Session, followed by her book signing and Amanda Nicholson, Sr. Vice President, of the Wildlife Center of Virginia, speaking at our Saturday’s Dogwood Luncheon. Amanda plans to bring a fauna friend but don’t worry, I did ask her to please not bring a snake. Friday evening at the “Royal” Marjorie Branch Banquet we will pay tribute to GFWC Virginia Past Directors of Junior Clubs We are also pleased to have Patrick Henry Jolly, 5<sup>th</sup> generation of Patrick Henry speak at Saturday evening’s, “Timeless Cornerstone” Alice Kyle Banquet where we honor our GFWC Virginia Past Presidents, followed by the installation of our 2024-2026 GFWC Virginia Board. During our Sunday Session is when our GFWC Virginia Memorial Service will be held, taking time to remember the passing of club member from convention 2023-2024. Please forward information of deceased club member to Linda Beatty, GFWC Virginia Chaplain. Through-out convention sessions, Susie Mowry, GFWC Virginia 1<sup>st</sup> Vice President/President elect and Joanne Dixon, GFWC Virginia Assistant Director of Junior clubs will facilitate award presentations and we will hear reports from standing committees, state officers and those entertaining reports from our District Presidents and District Junior Directors.

GFWC Virginia Legislation Day was a wonderful success having a room capacity of 70 ladies in attendance at the beautiful eighteen months renovated General Assembly Building where we learned legislative procedure from speaker, James Pickral and were intrigued listening to Dr. Sandra Treadway, Librarian of Virginia as she shared details of the early plans and the final creation of the “Voices from the Garden”, followed by members conveniently being able to visit their respective legislators. Members enjoyed a tour of the Capital, the “Voices from the Garden” Virginia Women’s Monument and our Virginia Governor’s Mansion. Several of us made our

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- President:*  
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- First Vice President:*  
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- Treasurer:*  
**Becky Wright**  
 GFWC Mississippi
- Director of Junior Clubs:*  
**Katie Moydell**  
 GFWC South Carolina

***The Virginia Clubwoman***  
 IN THIS ISSUE

Officers’ Messages.....1  
 Chairmen’s Messages.....7  
 Proposed Emblem.....14  
 District News.....15  
 Nominations.....19  
 Candidate Bios.....19  
 Proposed Resolutions.....22  
 Proposed Amendments....27  
 Call for Convention.....29  
 Registration.....36  
 Speaker Bios.....37



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**The Virginia Clubwoman**

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Send articles, photos and newsletters

*GFWC magazine* assumes no responsibility for advertisements in this magazine unless they are published in conjunction with an official GFWC/ GFWC Virginia program.

A minimum of 6 issues are published during the administration.

Deadlines for submission for future issues:  
June 7, 2024  
August 24, 2024  
November 16, 2024

way to the House and Senate Chambers galleries, where GFWC Virginia was introduced from the floors by Delegate Lee Ware and Senator Mark Peake. A huge thank you to Liz Sabbatini, GFWC Virginia Legislation and Public Policy Committee Chairman and her committee members for organizing this special day at our Virginia State Capital and Capital Square.

We are quite far from reaching a sizable goal of raising funds to be contributed equally between the Virginia Forestry Education Foundation and the Wildlife Center of Virginia. Our State Project, "Education of Virginia's Natural Resources" Committee will again hold the "Federation Forest" Drawing at convention. Tickets Blossoms and Leaves) will also be available from your District's State Project Chairman. There will not just be one winner from the drawing but three winners. Many thanks to our State Project Committee Chairman, Dale Fisher and committee members Patti Bickel and Kathy Cain for your continuing earnest attention in so many ways to the success of our GFWC Virginia State Project. I cannot leave out a thank you to all the many club members who have added time whether on club agendas or on personal levels who have promoted the state project by way of natural resource service projects to simply enjoying our great Virginia Natural Resources, with walks in our local, state and national parks or even a walk on the beach taking in all that nature has to offer. Can we inundate the State Project, "Federation Forest" with Dogwood tree blossoms and leaves?

I hope many of you are making plans to attend the GFWC annual Convention at the historic Hilton Chicago, located close to the shore of Lake Michigan, June 27 – July 1, "Sparkle, Shine, Succeed."

Denise and I look forward to seeing you at our GFWC Virginia Annual Convention 2024 to celebrate our GFWC Virginia members, "Cornerstone Journey in all Directions".

"It's not the destination, it's the journey" - Quote, Ralph Waldo Emerson

Federation Love to all!

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**Denise Price**  
**GFWC Virginia**  
**Third Vice President/Director of Junior Clubs**  
[jrdirector@gfwcvirginia.org](mailto:jrdirector@gfwcvirginia.org)



GFWC Virginia Juniors have certainly been Leading the Way during this administration. I have had to the pleasure of reading all the reports from the districts Third Vice President/Director of Junior Clubs. The Junior's hard work and commitment to their communities, have been nothing short of amazing! I am looking forward to Convention, to celebrates their accomplishments. I hope everyone will join us at the "Royal Marjorie Branch Banquet". Don't forget to wear your Tiara or Crown! We will celebrate leadership, award accomplishments, and fellowship during our time together. We look forward to seeing you there.

As we continue to support Advocates for Children during Convention, we will head "West" to support the Blueridge and Southwest Districts, in collection of items to support the children in their communities. Please be on the lookout for the items to be collected at Convention.

Be sure to see a Junior about buying GFWC Flipflops or a phone holder. They make great gifts for clubwomen!! Pick up/ mailing arrangements can be made by contacting Jenny Hinegardner. Please see the yearbook for her contact information. The money raised will support Junior scholarships to attend state meetings and Advocate for Children projects. See everyone at Convention!

**Susie Mowry**

**GFWC Virginia 1<sup>st</sup> Vice President/President-Elect**

*firstvp@gfwcvirginia.org*

**Joanne Dixon**

**GFWC Virginia 3<sup>rd</sup> Vice President Director of Junior Clubs**

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Recognizing and Growing Leaders in Your Club

Leaders are an essential part of our organization to achieve our mission. Developing volunteer leaders not only benefit GFWC, but also to the volunteer themselves, who can gain valuable skills, confidence, and recognition. Why do we need leaders? Leaders are who make things happen. They have vision, solve problems, and take responsibility for our club actions. You can develop a team of members around you. How to we find and grow these leaders?

Identifying potential leaders

- Identify leadership roles and skills that are needed in your club
- Look for qualities such as initiative, enthusiasm, commitment, reliability, and communication skills
- Consider the diversity, inclusion, and representation to value different perspectives and experiences
- Ask other clubwoman for recommendations

Provide training and mentoring – to ensure your potential leaders are equipped with the necessary knowledge and skills to lead effectively.

- Demonstrate what good leadership looks like
- Teach as you lead
- Attend GFWC Virginia LEADS
- Review the Leadership resources on the GFWC website
- Involve them in decision making and strategic planning processes
- Match them with a mentor where they can ask questions, receive guidance, and build relationships

Recognize and Reward – this can help potential leaders feel valued and motivated to increase their commitment and engagement.

- Acknowledge their achievements and contributions
- Provide incentives and rewards, such as awards and opportunities for advancement

Support

- Provide them with constructive feedback
- Provide support and assistance with resolving issues

**Here are the most common reasons people take leadership roles:**

- 93% To make a contribution to the community
- 77% To use their skills and experiences
- 59% They have been personally affected by cause/mandate
- 50% To explore their own strengths
- 48% To network or meet new people
- 47% Their friends/family volunteer

- 23% To improve and increase job opportunities
- 22% To fulfill religious obligations or beliefs

It is not uncommon for volunteers to become uninspired or consumed by other issues in their life that reduces their ability to give. It is up to your organization to engage volunteers enough to retain them. Losing volunteers is the same as losing quantifiable value. Effective leadership can help your organization keep volunteers engaged and motivate them to continue to give.

### **Reward & Recognize**

Volunteers, despite not expecting any payment, will be motivated to contribute more if their efforts are appreciated. Recognition can help them feel like an integral part and key players in the growth of the organization. It gives them a sense of accomplishment. How is your nonprofit rewarding volunteers?

We understand there is a lot of information in this article about leadership, but that is because it one of the most critical aspects of this organization. Each district has a Leadership chair, contact them for guidance. As 1<sup>st</sup> Vice President/President-elect and Assistant Director of Junior Clubs we are always more than willing to help. Thank you for recognizing the importance of leadership and doing whatever it takes to train the upcoming leaders of this organization.

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### **Cynthia Baroody**

**GFWC Virginia Second Vice President**

*secondvp@gfwcvirginia.org*

### **Michelle Clary**

**GFWC Virginia Junior Membership Chairman**

*jrmembership@gfwcvirginia.org*

### **"New Members are...Cornerstones of Membership"**

Hello fellow GFWC Virginia Clubwomen!

Well, the groundhog didn't see his shadow, so that means an early spring! This means that we are in reporting season; the time to write up all the projects and programs that your club members have been doing this past year. It always amazes me that February is such a short month, but it's always packed full of things to do. While all club reports are completed and submitted it is now time for all the district chairs to read, review and write up the best of the projects and programs for district and state awards. Michelle and I are just starting to read some of the early district reports, and we can tell from these reports, clubs have had a wonderful year. I know it will be a difficult task to pick out the best projects to award at the state level.

Our goals for membership during this administration are being met head-on. We continue to receive new member coupons from across the state and we are encouraged by the number of coupons we have received and continue to receive. To date, we have received more than 175 new member coupons. Be sure to send in coupons by March 30<sup>th</sup> so that we can welcome new members and recognize our star recruiters at convention. We would also like you to acknowledge and honor the women in your clubs that have been working in federation service for 5, 10, 15, 20, 25 years and beyond. You can order pins online from GFWC. In the June issue of the Virginia Clubwoman Magazine, we would like to publish the names of the women in your clubs who have reached the milestone anniversaries of 50 and 75 years of federation service. Club presidents should send in those member's names to us as soon as possible.

We continue to add to our Mobile GFWC Virginia Headquarters building!! The Lego Headquarters was on display during the conference in August, and if you had the chance to see it, you might have noticed that it doesn't have a roof. Continue recruiting those new members so we can give Mobile Heather a roof over her head. Let's finish the headquarters building before the end of this administration!! Mobile Heather said she likes to get some sun but at the beach and not in her Mobile Headquarters Building, so she really wants a roof.

We look forward to celebrating all the accomplishments of GFWC Virginia and hope to see you all at GFWC Virginia Convention in the Northern District. Keep building those cornerstones and enlighten your club members to the many possibilities of increased membership and the ways to accomplish it. Please let us know if there is anything we can do to assist you with your membership activities and functions.

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**JoBeth Wampler**  
**GFWC Virginia Secretary**  
*secretary@gfwcvirginia.org*

**Lynn Chapman**  
**GFWC Virginia Junior Secretary/ Treasurer**  
*secretaryjr@gfwcvirginia.org*

New sprigs of green grass are beginning to shoot up, and the crocuses are already announcing the beginning of spring. As we look forward to the arrival of a new season, a secretary's spring-cleaning list should certainly include her records!

Before warmer weather beckons you outdoors, before your final meetings of the term are in the books... carve some time out of your schedules to tidy up. Remember, only you can ensure a successful transition of your district's files. Don't wait until the last minute.

- Make sure you have completed any unfinished minutes.
- Obtain those final approvals you've been needing.
- Properly label and sort your electronic files.
- Confirm all attachments to your minutes are included.

Many secretaries unintentionally neglect attachments – either in passing them down to their successors or in keeping them at all. It's an easy mistake to make, especially when your own predecessor might have set the same example for you. However, attachments are essential to a properly preserved recordkeeping system.

Common attachments might include financial or treasurer's reports, committee and officer reports, proposed budgets, etc. A good rule of thumb is to ask yourself if the document provides better clarity to the meeting minutes. If the answer is yes, include it.

And don't forget documentation for the ratification of votes. In instances of electronic votes, attach a copy of the email, in which the president confirms the results of the vote, to the minutes of the meeting in which it is ratified.

Set the best example you can for the incoming administration. Ensure you have all the documentation you need and have it in the right place before the gravel raps on your final meeting.

As always, if you have any questions or need further assistance, reach out anytime!

We have loved serving as your state secretaries. Thank you for the gift of this position.

**Lynne Wherry**  
**GFWC Virginia Treasurer**  
*treasurer@gfwcvirginia.org*



**Lynn Chapman**  
**GFWC Virginia Junior**  
**Secretary/Treasurer**  
*JRTreasurer@gfwcvirginia.org*

It is hard to believe we are nearing the end of our administration. By the time you read this article, it will be almost spring. Thank you to all clubs who sent their dues on time on January 25<sup>th</sup>. The supplemental dues deadline is April 15<sup>th</sup>. This date is for any member who has joined after the initial deadline in January. The form may be found in the GFWC Virginia Yearbook on page 81. Remember that supplemental dues must be received before April 15, 2024. Please do not submit any dues after April 15th to comply with dues reporting to GFWC.

Springtime is a great time to organize your paperwork for the next administration. April is also tax time. How does tax season affect your club? Does your club have to file anything with the IRS? Please research and do what is necessary as a non-profit, if anything.

Do you provide copies of the Treasurer's Reports to your members? Be open to questions, and ensure you give your members adequate, accurate, and timely answers. It is essential to be transparent with your members; the monies belong to the club or district, and they deserve to see how the money is being dispersed.

As always, Lynn Chapman and I are here to answer any questions or concerns – don't hesitate to email or call. Happy Spring!

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**Sarah Entsminger**  
**GFWC Virginia Parliamentarian**  
*parliamentarian@gfwcvirginia.org*



Spring of 2024 is rushing into view, which means that District Annual meetings have been scheduled. The days seem to have flown by, but it is time to begin thinking about administration transitions. Article V of the GFWC Virginia Bylaws includes the information you will need for your Annual Meeting. The process for determining delegates and representation for your meeting is also in that section of the Bylaws. Nominating committees have been hard at work putting together a slate of proposed officers. Once that proposed slate has been presented in the meeting, nominations may be made from the floor for each office. You will want to have asked members to serve as tellers prior to the meeting, and you will want to have made preparations for the ballot voting process. District Presidents have received information on election script writing and tellers instructions. Robert's Rules of Order, Newly Revised has information on ballot elections.

Elections signal the beginning of the transition process for Districts, as well as Clubs. Officers should be gathering and reviewing their files and information that will need to be passed on to the next woman to hold that office. Your District Standing Rules or Club Bylaws may provide additional information for how you will complete the necessary financial reviews. I would strongly encourage each District and Club to schedule a new board/old board meeting to talk about lessons learned and review any continuing programs and projects. Please feel free to contact me if you have any questions.

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**Dale Fisher**  
**GFWC Virginia State Project Chairman**

*stateproject@gfwcvirginia.org*



The reports are in and the winners are . . . . ? We're all winners for we have educated our members and youth on the importance and beauty of Virginia's Natural resources. Clubs are educating their members through meeting programs, newsletter articles, and fun and educational outdoor projects and nature field trips. Additionally, clubs are working with schools by providing learning materials and educational opportunities. Please continue your great work.

We're being teased by the twittering and chirping of birds and the emergence of seasonal bulbs. Yes, Spring is in the air. It is time to survey your gardens and clean out your bird feeders. According to Wenke Garden Center:

*Cleaning your birdhouses is essential for good bird health and safety. Dirty birdhouses can harbor rodents, insects, feather mites, fungus, and bacteria that can spread disease to the birds.*

- *Remove all old nesting material and scrape out any feces or clumped matter. This material should be disposed of in a plastic bag to prevent the spreading of any parasites it might harbor.*
- *Scrub the house thoroughly with a weak bleach solution (one part chlorine bleach to nine parts warm water). Be sure to scrub all corners, the entrance hole, and drainage and ventilation holes.*
- *Rinse the house well in clean water for several minutes to remove all traces of bleach.*
- *Dry the house thoroughly in full sun for at least several hours. This will break down any remaining chlorine and ensure there are no moist crevices for mold or mildew to grow.*
- *Inspect the house for loose hinges, protruding nails or screws, prominent splinters, and other hazards.*
- *Clean the post or hook where the birdhouse is positioned to remove any lingering pests or bacteria from the area.*

Happy Spring!

The State Project Fund balance currently stands at \$8,100. Proceeds from the fund will be divided equally between the Virginia Forestry Education Foundation and the Wildlife Center of Virginia. We would like to GROW the fund so that a sizable donation may be made to each organization. We will once again hold a Federation Forest Drawing at our Annual Convention in April. Tickets will be available from your district State Project chairman, at district meetings, and the convention. Three lovely prizes will be awarded.

There are still a few State Project Pins available from your district chairmen. This lovely pin featuring the Eastern Yellowtail Butterfly makes a great gift for yourself, a secret pal, or a new member.

We look forward to welcoming Amanda Nicholson, Senior Vice President at the Wildlife Center of Virginia to our convention. She will enlighten us on the work they do to bring quality health care to native wildlife. Amanda may even bring a fauna friend with her. In addition, attendees will have the opportunity to participate in a hands-on project to benefit the Center. We hope to see you all in Harrisonburg!

**Kelly Lane**  
**Strategic Plan Report Chairman**  
*gfwckdlane@aol.com*

There is a committee that makes up the Strategic Plan each administration. – First Vice President, Assistant Director of Junior Clubs, Second Vice President, and two other members –The President and Parliamentarian serve as Ex – officio members.

Then Strategic Plan document is a perpetual/living document. As things change, they are updated such as the point person or resource name, but topics never go away.

Example the chairman's name changed a couple administrations ago and partners areas change within GFWC and trickle down.

GFWC – new tag line and changed appearance. – Public Awareness

Review Meeting space for cost effectiveness - Financial Stability

New this year is a topic regarding Corporate Donations and Sponsorships. Programs and Projects.

New area for GFWC and will keep tabs on where it goes.

You can always reach out to me by phone – 804-262-9740 or email [gfwckdlane@aol.com](mailto:gfwckdlane@aol.com).

I look forward to seeing all your smiling faces at GFWC Virginia Convention.

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## **Amanda Paez**

### **GFWC Virginia Juniors' Special Program Chairman**

#### **Advocates for Children**

*advocatesforchildren@gfwcvirginia.org*



I am constantly proud of our Virginia Clubwomen and their support of the Advocates for Children Program. We are heading towards our final compass point and will be supporting Blue Ridge and Southwest at our Annual Convention.

These districts have chosen to have a diaper and diaper wipe collection to support various non-profits/collection points/diaper banks in their region. Diapers are as essential to a baby's healthy development as a mother's love. Keeping infants and toddlers clean, dry, and healthy is key to building a solid foundation for all children to reach their full potential.

However, one in three families struggles to provide clean diapers for their baby. Of the nearly 299,000 children under 3 in Virginia, about 13% of those families earn less than 100% of the Federal Poverty Level. Children in low-income families are at the greatest risk, and often face other barriers that can impact their health in their early ages. On average in Virginia, diapers can cost - at minimum - \$80 per month. For families in need that receive benefits such as Temporary Assistance for Needy Families (TANF), diapers are a qualifying cost but so are utility bills, rent, transportation, and other basic needs. Often times, diapers fall to the bottom of the list. For families that exist in this area, there is a heavy reliance on donated diapers and wipes. As we close the last Advocates collection for the 2022-2024 Administration, let us finish strong and show our support for our fellow Clubwomen and their efforts to support their community. Be on the lookout for an Amazon Wish List and additional information on specific needs.

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## **Pat Jeffress**

### **GFWC Virginia Arts and Culture Chairman**

*art@gfwcvirginia.org*



Reporting is almost complete. Hopefully, most clubs have sent their reports to the District Chairmen and those Chairs are sending, or have sent, their reports to the State Chairmen. I KNOW we have had another successful year of art activities and projects. Thank you for all you do in the name of GFWC, GFWC Virginia and your communities.

Here are few Spring arts ideas:

1. Hold an Art Show, or Quilt Show. If it is outside use rope tied to trees to hold the items.
2. Have a photo-shoot or painting outing. Select a scenic spot to visit, then display your photographs/artwork at a club meeting.
3. Start a monthly Art Group within the club. It could be a knitting group, sewing group or whatever interests your members. If it is quilting give your quilt to a Veteran's Home, knit hats for the local new baby nursery at your local hospital, mittens to distribute through a homeless shelter, or display paintings at a local nursing home on a monthly basis.
4. Plan a cultural lunch or dinner. This could be progressive. Pick a country, plan the menu, each person pick a dish and you move from home to home, starting at the home of the person with appetizers or drinks.

Please use these suggestions to make a program that fits your club and membership. Working together is fun and productive. Enjoy whatever you plan in the ARTS and CULTURE program.

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**Camilla Cabaniss**  
**GFWC Virginia Arts and Crafts Contest Chairman**  
*artcontest@gfwcvirginia.org*

Many of our clubs and districts have completed their Arts and Crafts contests and we are looking forward to seeing the efforts of many talented clubwomen in Harrisonburg at the GFWC-VA Convention in April. Please be sure that the guidelines of the **current Arts and Crafts booklet** have been followed. Be sure to meet the deadlines for entries! Keep in mind that we must receive entry cards for only one (1) first place winner per category/sub-category per District prior to Convention.

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**Celeste Corrigan**  
**Civic Engagement and Outreach Chairman**  
*civicengagement@gfwcvirginia.org*

During this past fall, I had the honor and opportunity to visit with many of you at your District meetings. It was a chance for me to speak about the value of the Sweats 4 Virginia Veterans program. I mentioned how providing sweatsuits did two things; it offered an alternative to an open in the back hospital gown and it brought back a sense of dignity to those in recovery from wounds or disease. I mentioned that we set a challenging goal of 600 sweatsuits, 200 for each of our 3 VA Hospitals across the Commonwealth of Virginia.

Well, I want to take a moment to share the results of the incredible efforts that all of us made this year. We not only reached the goal but far exceeded our wildest imagination. The 2023 S4VV project collected and delivered 892 sweatsuits. On behalf of all the Veterans we helped I want to thank everyone who purchased tickets for the S4VV Quilt, Clubs and individuals who donated money and/or sweatsuits, individuals who folded, ribboned, tagged and boxed the suits to make this the most amazing effort possible. It has been said many times that when we work together, we can accomplish much.

When we were dropping off the boxes to the McGuire VA Hospital, one of the ladies that works there said how so many of us take wearing a pair of sweatpants for granted. However, to the Veterans who receive

these suits it means the world. It tells them that they are not forgotten. It helps them in their recovery and it keeps them warm when they leave the hospital.

This is no longer one individual's or one club's dream; this has become a movement. What a wonderful way to recognize and show our appreciation to our Veterans. I hope as you consider your plans and budgets for this coming year that you will help us once again make a difference for our Nation's Heroes!

As this new year of volunteering begins, I hope you recognize our individual and club efforts can and do make a positive and lasting change for the better with all the things we do around our communities.

**Marilyn Banes**  
**GFWC Virginia Education and Libraries Chairman**  
*education@gfwcvirginia.org*



Now that we have reached 2024 and time flies by, we can't help but recognize that we are in the last few months of this administration. It has been a privilege to serve President Rosemond and GFWC Virginia as a state chairman. I have learned a lot and enjoyed the experience. A primary reason this journey has been enlightening and enjoyable is that GFWC Education and Libraries Chairman, Sandra Hauenstein, issues a newsletter on the first day of each month and each one is loaded with information. I want to share some of that with you.

For example, this month, Chairman Hauenstein reminded us that Read Across America is March 2 to March 6. She also identified 13 things to do at a library besides borrowing books. They are: download eBooks, download an audio book, host or attend a meeting or class, listen to a story, check out a movie, research your family history, play a game, learn a new skill or make a craft, check out a camera, see an art exhibit, learn to use a computer, learn another language, and buy a book.

An earlier issue explains the GFWC Replenishment Fund that helps communities damaged by natural or human-caused events. Grants are provided to GFWC Clubs to help replenish libraries in their communities. I particularly enjoyed the issue listing the most famous author in every state. Virginia's is Willa Cather. And finally, the Women's History and Resource Center at GFWC Headquarters has a reference library with information on women's history, history of woman's clubs, and the history of volunteerism.

Your club reports will reach me soon, and I look forward to reading about the multitude of ways you supported Education and Libraries in your communities.

**Carol Outten**  
**GFWC Virginia HOBY Coordinator**  
*hoby@gfwcvirginia.org*

*Hugh O'Brian Youth Leadership*  
*Teaching students how to think, not what to think, since 1958.*

This year the annual HOBY Virginia Youth Leadership Seminar will be held on the **campus of James Madison University May 31<sup>st</sup> to June 2<sup>nd</sup>**. Planning for this event is well underway and HOBY Virginia looks forward to **welcoming over 156 rising Juniors from across the Commonwealth**. These remarkable young people are known as HOBY Ambassadors. Nationwide over 8500 student ambassadors will attend one of 70 seminars and will



*Continued*

be supported by over 3000 volunteers, many of whom are alumni of previous sessions.

# Project Linus

Providing Security Through Blankets

GFVC Virginia Clubwomen have supported HOBY for many years. This year the Seminar Service Project will be **Project Linus**. Originally done at the 2017 Seminar, Project Linus provides handmade blankets to children 0-18 years old who are seriously ill, traumatized, or otherwise in need. At that time, GFVC Virginia's ladies provided a significant amount of the fleece for the blankets. This year we would like to ask again for your help in supplying the fleece. It may be purchased at most fabric stores, (Hobby Lobby and JOANN fabric frequently have discounts on the material). The best size cut of fleece is 1½ yards - 2 yards and cannot be smaller than 36" X 36". For additional information please go to:

<https://www.projectlinus.org/about.php>.

In addition to the fleece, supplies that would be appreciated include the following:

- Individually packaged snacks – For all those hungry teens (**Please NO Nuts**)
- Gift Cards (Walmart) – To purchase material as needed.
- Forever stamps (to mail thank you notes)
- Sticky notes
- Notebook paper
- Gallon sized zip lock bags
- Small or mid-size plastic storage bins for supplies.
- White foam boards (for making team signs).
- Scotch tape and packing tape.

There will be a HOBY table/area at the State Convention to receive your donations.

If your Club would like to sponsor an ambassador or provide financial support to HOBY Virginia, please see page 84 of the GFVC Virginia Yearbook 2022 – 2024. Gifts of any amount are greatly appreciated. **As always, HOBY Virginia is grateful to the ladies of GFVC Virginia for their generosity and support of the Leadership seminars and our ambassadors.**

## Sending HOBY HUGs and wishes for an OUTSTANDING Day!!!



**Mary Driver-Downs**  
**GFVC Virginia Health and Wellness Chairman**

[health@gfvcvirginia.org](mailto:health@gfvcvirginia.org)

Welcome to a Happy Health and Wellness Spring 2024.

The GFVC Virginia - Step In Time Fitness Challenge has officially ended as of December 31, 2023.

I am so inspired by the fitness challenge totals that I have received from several District Health and Wellness Chairman. By the end of February, I hope to have all the great numbers compiled so we know how many hours of fitness we did in 2023. Thank you to all who completed the "Step in Time" Fitness Challenge Program!

GFVC Virginia has certainly made some new healthy habits in 2023 that will hopefully continue in 2024. All movement and exercise is good for the body. Keep moving forward in 2024.

Now the fun begins as we collect our self-care items for the 10 Pamper Basket Prizes to be given out at our convention in April!



## ASKING FOR IN-KIND DONATIONS

Every club in the State of Virginia is asked to contribute an in-kind item (monetary value no more than \$25) for our Pamper “Self Care” Baskets. Each District Health and Wellness Chairman will collect these items and will have them delivered to the Convention where myself, and the District Health and Wellness Chairmans will combine them into 10 baskets. Our top ten winners of the “Step in Time challenge” will be revealed and receive their baskets at the Convention.

\*Already we have 10 - \$50 gift cards to Amazon - (1 for each basket) from an anonymous donor.

Here are some ideas for the items that would be fun in the baskets:

- 1) Gift cards \$5-\$25
- 2) Personal care items- lotions, creams, lip balms, bodywash, shower gel, manicure kits, pedicure kit, fingernail polish, body spray, hand lotions, deodorant
- 3) Gym coupons, yoga mat, hand weights, stretch bands,
- 4) Healthy snacks- yogurt covered raisins, nuts, energy bars, fruit, sugar free snacks. Dark chocolate. Keto snacks. Gluten free snacks
- 5) Inspirational books, healthy cookbooks, encouragement books, “beach read” books, devotional books
- 6) Candles, essential oils for diffusing
- 7) Plush socks, fun flip flops, exercise socks, yoga socks, hats
- 8) Plush towels, beach towels, plush washcloths, handi wipes, kleenex
- 9) Crossword, word search books, journals
- 10) Healthy no sugar drinks, flavored waters and powder mixes. (ie, Zevia, Crystal Lite, bubbly etc.

Use your imaginations and send something that you would pamper yourself with.

Thank you in advance for your donations! Clubs may contribute more than one item if they so choose. Looking forward to seeing many of you in April at our convention April 19-21.

Until then, stay healthy and happy and remember that March is Colorectal Cancer Awareness month, along with National Kidney Month and National Sleep Awareness, then followed in April with Autism Awareness month.

Plan a project and help your community to stay healthy.

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**Elizabeth Sabbatini**  
**GFWC Virginia Legislation & Public Policy Chairman**  
*legislation@gfwcvirginia.org*



Thank you so much to the many of you who came to Richmond to attend the 2024 Legislative Day. Following the turnout in 2022, I was not expecting so many and reserved a room for 70. Full house! Although we had requested the First Lady of Virginia to speak, she was unable to attend. However, James Pickral kindly agreed to stand in. I hope everyone enjoyed his talk, which was followed by Dr. Sandra Treadway, recently retired Librarian of Virginia. She has played a part in setting up of the “Voices in the Garden”, the Women’s Monument and was very happy to share her knowledge of that.

Thanks are also due to Bonnie Rosemond, Patricia Duvall, Brenda Jennette and Judy Middleton who were all very helpful in making the day a success. Heather Craven also received a large group at Headquarters in the

*Continued*

afternoon while Catherine Pemberton set up a tour of the Governor's Mansion for others. She is always looking for more Docents, should you be interested!

Thanks to those who sent in Legislation Reports. I am looking forward to reading them all and learning about the interesting projects you have carried out, to the benefit of your communities. We certainly are achievers!

Thank you for the privilege of serving for the past two years - it has been a privilege and a pleasure - Legand. I look forward to seeing many of you at the GFWC Convention in Harrisonburg!

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**Hope Royer**  
**GFWC Virginia Bylaws Chairman**  
*bylaws@gfwcvirginia.org*

The Call to the 2024 GFWC Virginia Annual Convention included in this issue provides information on the business to be conducted at the Convention: the election of Junior and General officers and the proposal of revisions to GFWC Virginia Bylaws and Standing Rules effecting GFWC Virginia clubwomen. Please take time to review the proposed amendments as printed in the Call.

Club Presidents: Be sure to review delegate status when preparing your club's Registration Form. Refer to GFWC Virginia Bylaws **ARTICLE IX- MEETINGS, Section 4. Representation at GFWC Virginia Business Meetings**. It's important that all members qualified to vote have that privilege.

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**Gloria Worrell**  
**Endowment Fund/Dogwood Society Chairman**  
*Endowment@gfwcvirginia.org*

I would like to thank all of you for giving to the Endowment this past year. All of us who attend Conference and Convention have a good understanding of what the Endowment is all about. But what about our members that never come to these events? Have they heard about the Dogwood Society and the Endowment, I bet not. So, I am encouraging all the District Presidents to let the Endowment have a place at your table at your District meetings. May it be by displaying our pamphlets, sharing them with members, or having someone give a brief overview of what the Endowment and Dogwood Society is all about!

Any time you need a gift for your leaders remember that Dogwood Dollars are always available and are a great gift. Most of all our leaders are members and would love to have a gift of Dogwood Dollars to move their membership to the next level. This also helps our Endowment and is a gift that is lasting and appreciated. Dogwood \$\$\$ can be obtained at any time by reaching out to Heather Carven at GFWC VA Headquarters, it's that easy!

Currently, we have 372 Dogwood Society members. If you are on a payment plan, please remember that you can send payments to Heather at Headquarters or see me at Convention. I look forward to taking your **money!** We also have 62 members in the 1907 Society and just need 5 more members to exceed last year's number of 67. You will be able to make this purchase on the Convention registration form and I will have it for you when you arrive in Harrisonburg at the Convention.

We plan to have another Dogwood Raffle at the Convention to help your or a friend to move their level up. Let's see who the lucky winner will be! We will also have a Dogwood Society membership picture taken at Convention, time, and place TBD.

I look forward to seeing you in Harrisonburg, come by my table to get your raffle tickets and bring lots of **Money**, we take cash or credit!

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**Marlene Wine**  
**GFWC Virginia Scholarship Chairman**  
*[scholarships@gfwcvirginia.org](mailto:scholarships@gfwcvirginia.org)*

We are eagerly anticipating applications for our scholarships.

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**Carolyn Fellers**  
**GFWC Virginia Community Improvement Program Award Chairman**  
*[CIPA@gfwcvirginia.org](mailto:CIPA@gfwcvirginia.org)*

**Community Impact Award**

Hope everyone had a great holiday season and is surviving reporting season. Just a gentle reminder the deadline to submit your Community Impact Award report is March 1<sup>st</sup>. You may email your report to me at [cmpcat4337@gmail.com](mailto:cmpcat4337@gmail.com) or mail it to me at 2840 Roaring Run Rd. Goode VA 24556. It must be postmarked by March 1<sup>st</sup>.

The reporting forms for this project can be found at [www.gfwc.org](http://www.gfwc.org) – My Digital Library/Resource/Club Manual, pages 184-192.

Share the story of your project. How it began, what led your club to select this project. Be sure to include photos, news articles, and social media. What was the impact of your project on the community? Who benefited from your work?

GFWC Virginia issues a \$100 award for the state winner. GFWC issues a \$2500 award for the winner of each region. The monies received are meant to further assist with your project.

I am building my team of three non-GFWC members to review your reports and select the winner. I look forward to receiving your reports.

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**Proposed GFWC Virginia Emblem Committee**

The GFWC Membership and Communications & Public Relations Committees have been promoting consistent branding for better recognition of our greater organization. Over the years we have been encouraged to include GFWC in club names and to use the GFWC emblem in print materials.

A GFWC Virginia Emblem Committee was appointed in 2020 to design a new emblem for consideration by the membership. Members from each district were selected to serve on the committee based on their artistic talents, graphic design knowledge, and federation leadership experience.

Thoughts on how the image would appear as a pin, on a piece of apparel, on stationery, etc. were shared. The Pantone color palette of the trademarked GFWC emblem has been used and various graphic formats were discussed.

GFWC Virginia Standing Rules, 2. – State Emblem and Motto – a) describes the emblem as a wreath of goldenrod encircling the flag of the Commonwealth of Virginia. The update of our emblem will require a Standing Rule Amendment which may be addressed at a GFWC Virginia Convention.

Please share this proposal with your club members.

*Continued*

Current Emblem



Wreath of Goldenrod encircling  
the State Flag of Virginia  
Designed by Alice Kyle in 1927

Proposed Redesign



Color



Black & White

The rationale for change:

- Display our affiliation with the parent organization.
- A more unifying visibility.

Committee Members

Debbie McClintock – Alice Kyle  
 Pat Jeffress – Lee  
 Ilia Desjardins – Shenandoah (Junior)  
 Betty Shields – Southwestern

Carol Guilliams Mills – Blue Ridge  
 Dale Fisher, Chairman – Northern  
 Helen Hill – Southside  
 Jane May - Tidewater



**Alice Kyle District**  
**Gwen D. Hamlet, President**

**Elizabeth Blair Trent, Third Vice President / Director of Junior Clubs**

Have You seen any *Turdus migratory*? Robins!! They are most known as one of the first signs of Spring. Robins are popular birds for their warm orange breast, cheery song, and early appearance at the end of winter. When we see these reddish orange breasted birds in our yard; we imagine they are returning to their natural habitat from a winter home. Although robins are harbingers of spring, many American Robins spend the whole winter in their breeding range. Though they are familiar town and city birds, American Robins are at home in wilder areas, too, including mountain forests and Alaskan wilderness. So, what does that mean? Because they spend more time roosting in trees and less time in your yard, you are much less likely to see them. It means that they have been there the entire winter season, only hidden under cover, in bushes, treetops, about anywhere we fail to look.

Isn't this exactly like new members to our Clubs? They are there in our natural habitat just waiting for the right time to be seen running across a lawn or building their nests on rooftops and porches. We think they

are gone 'for the winter' and forget to look in the right places or their habitat.

How do you find a robin? Listen for their song! Same with new members, listen to what you hear from the groups with which you associate, "I would love to..." "I need to get out more..." "I am new here. . .," "I like to support worthy causes....". How do you catch a robin? Put out a feeder containing their favorite seeds and fruit, same with new members, invite them to a lunch or dinner meeting.

Did you ever imagine taking guest to your District meeting? When do we put on our best performance? It is a wonderful time to introduce a new-comer in your neighborhood to enjoy the entire picture of GFWC-Virginia and all the chapters of our work and fun activities.

What better way to spend a beautiful Spring morning than waiting outside to see the American Robin make their appearance. Maybe some new club members will come Bop, Bop, along, too!

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## **Blue Ridge District**

### **Carol Guillian-Mills, President**

Whew! Reporting is over and the clubs have done a fabulous job. Many thanks for a job well done.

Congratulations to the GFWC Woman's Club of Roanoke and the GFWC Roanoke County Woman's Club for celebrating their 100<sup>th</sup>. anniversary. Let's go for another 100 years.

Plans are being made for our Spring District Meeting on March 16<sup>th</sup>. The theme is... You guessed it, St. Patrick's Day. Everyone is encouraged to wear green. The meeting will be a busy one. Along with the business, we will hold our Arts Contest and election and installation of the new officers. The District President's Special Emphasis is Animal Welfare. Clubs are encouraged to bring pet food, toys and cleaning supplies. This year the items will be donated to the League of Animal Protection in Botetourt County.

This officer's theme for this administration has been, "I think we can, I know we can" with a train as a symbol. As our Blue Ridge Express chugs into the station, she is heard to say, "Whee!, What a ride." It's been a fulfilling two years.

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## **Lee District**

### **Sally Cary, President**

### **Jessica Thomas, Third Vice President / Director of Junior Clubs**

Greetings from Lee District! We are gearing up for our Annual Meeting that will be held on Saturday, March 23rd at the Hanover Golf Club, with the theme of "Springing Ahead in Federation". We look forward to recognizing our clubs for their amazing work in their community and installing the new administration. Many great things to celebrate and we hope for an overflowing room! Denise Price, GFWC Virginia Director of Junior Clubs will be in attendance at the Junior Business Session and the General Business Session as our special guest, we are delighted to welcome her. Our District Name Change Committee is still busy at work leading our district through exploring our club's desires and will report back to the membership after asking clubs to discuss this matter in their club meetings. Our chairman have been busy at work writing articles for our newsletters and working with the state chairman. It's an exciting time in our District and we look forward to celebrating with all of you in April at the GFWC Virginia Convention.

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## **Northern District**

### **Joyce Jolly, President**

As this administration comes to a close, it is time to highlight some of the many accomplishments that will prove to enhance the operation of the district in the future. Revisions were made to the club history, handbook, newsletter, web site and face book page. Revisions to the standing rules are pending their adoption

by the membership at the annual meeting. The added positions of club historian, event planner and club photographer facilitated the accomplishment of many activities that might otherwise not have been done. A district brochure was designed and distributed to every library in the seven counties in the district. In addition, training sessions and workshops were held for district chairmen, club presidents and club members. Also, the financial review of the fiscal year 2022-2023 found that the district is in sound financial condition.

Club members have rallied behind our “Care for Kids” project. To date, Comfort Cases has received \$11,013 worth of items to distribute to children entering the foster care system. Thank you to all for your support!

For our “Grand Finale”, the district will be hosting the GFWC Virginia Convention which will be held at the Madison Hotel in Harrisonburg, Virginia on April 19-21, 2024. Barbara Kiker, chairman, and her committee are very busy coordinating the activities to ensure a successful event. Do plan to attend the fun-filled convention as a show of support.

In closing, I must say that serving as the president of the Northern District was a very rewarding experience.

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## **Shenandoah District**

**Judy Gough, President**

**Ilia Desjardins, Third Vice President / Director of Junior Clubs**

By the time you will have receive this hopefully we will have had our District meeting. GFWC-Virginia President Bonnie Rosemond and GFWC-Virginia Third Vice President and Director of Junior Clubs will be in attendance along with the Election and installation of our new Officers. Congratulations to Laura Coburn our new President, Ilia Desjardins, First Vice President, Maura Rodriguez, Second Vice President, Allie Surratt, Third Vice President and Director of Junior Clubs, Bev Warburton, Recording Secretary and Wilma Ferguson, Treasurer. These women represent the entire length and breath of Shenandoah from Waynesboro to Covington and in between. Congratulations to all. Reports are on the way to the various State Chairs and I am pleased to know that I think there are several exceptional projects and programs being done in Shenandoah. Thank you to my Executive Board for their support and stepping up to the plate. Thanks to my District for all their help and support.

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## **Southwestern District**

**Eleanor Armes, President**



**Heather Dunn, Third Vice President/Director of Junior Clubs**

**Welcome, 2024!** Here’s to another year open to endless opportunities to further serve our communities and to use our voices to advocate for those in need!

2023 reporting should be completed by the time our new issue of *The Virginia Clubwoman* is published. It has truly been an honor to read those reports and marvel at how well clubs assess the needs in their communities and tailor their projects so perfectly around those needs. Projects ranged from partnering with 4H to help eighth graders learn about budgeting money, working with local animal welfare agencies to transport stray cats to the spay/neuter center, conducting a “plant and go” program where the public could plant seeds in buckets and take those buckets home, to honoring area veterans through the Wreaths Across America program, instituting a Home for the Holidays project that feeds children when they are not in school during the holidays, becoming “pillow pals” to a local woman’s shelter, and way beyond. Fundraising activities to fund club projects were many: a ghost walk, TV auction, online auctions, an apple butter stir, with the apple butter then being sold, and a Craft and Vender Fair represent just a few examples.

Southwestern District is making plans for our Spring District Meeting which will be held in Pearisburg

April 6<sup>th</sup>. Pearisburg Junior Woman's Club, Narrows Junior Woman's Club of GFWC, and Pembroke Woman's Club will host. District members always look forward to the Awards ceremony and the Art Contest. We will be installing new officers as well. How quickly two years can pass!

Who else is excited about convention?

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## Tidewater District

### Nancy Vadersen, President

Tidewater District GFWC Virginia clubwomen, as evidenced by the 2023 reports, have made a huge difference in the lives of those in their communities with outstanding projects and programs!

On March 23, 2024, we will celebrate those successes at the Spring District Meeting at the Chesapeake in Newport News, Virginia. We will be electing District Officers for 2024-2026, announcing the Millie Brown Volunteer of the Year Award and the Recruiters of the Year, and holding the Memorial Service for clubwomen who passed away in 2023. In addition, we will be presenting awards for outstanding club projects completed in 2023. Our Service Project at the Spring District Meeting will be donating non-perishable food items to the Virginia Peninsula Foodbank, in support of the District Project "Sharing Because We Care about Food Insecurity."

Tidewater District clubs are busy with plans for Fashion Shows, Card Parties, Meet and Greets, Spaghetti Dinners, and Bunco parties. A member of the Woman's Club of Norfolk, Bairy Cyrus, has written a book entitled *Tea and Toil at the Woman's Club* about efforts to save the clubhouse, the Martin Mansion, in Norfolk. It is available from Amazon. Ms. Cyrus skillfully intertwines "the histories of the Woman's Club of Norfolk, the General Federation of Women's Clubs, the city of Norfolk, and America for the past 115 years." It is an interesting read!

We are looking forward to Spring and another busy and successful year in Tidewater District.

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**GFWC Virginia  
Midwinter Meeting 2024  
Berry Hill Resort  
South Boston, Virginia**

**GFWC Virginia Nominating Committee  
Lori Rocker, Chairman**

The GFWC Virginia Nominating Committee met virtually on Saturday, January 20.

Committee Members in attendance, representing all Districts were:

- |  |  |
|--|--|
| Debbie McClintock, Alice Kyle District                             | Ingrid Sinclair-Day, Shenandoah District |
| Kathryn Sowers, Blue Ridge District                                | Helen Hill, Southside District           |
| Hope Royer, Lee District   | Jenny Martin, Southwestern District      |
| Peggy Schlegelmich, Northern District                              | Judy Middleton, Tidewater District       |
| Michelle Clary, GFWC Virginia Junior Nominating Committee Chairman |  |
| Lori Rocker, GFWC Virginia Nominating Committee Chairman           |  |

The Committee presents the following proposed slate of officers for the 2024 – 2026 GFWC Virginia Administration at the Annual Convention in April.

- GFWC Virginia First Vice President/President-elect: Cynthia Baroody, Shenandoah District
- GFWC Virginia Second Vice President: Carolyn Fellers, Blue Ridge District
- GFWC Virginia Third Vice President/Director of Junior Clubs: Joanne Dixon, Lee District
- GFWC Virginia Secretary: Amy Riggs, Southside District
- GFWC Virginia Treasurer: Lynne Wherry, Lee District

**Report of GFWC Virginia Junior Nominations Committee:**

The GFWC Virginia Junior Nominations Committee met over Zoom to discuss and vote on the slate of officers for the 2024-2026 Administration. We present the following slate of GFWC Virginia Junior Officers for 2024-2026:

- GFWC Virginia 3<sup>rd</sup> Vice-President/Director of Junior Clubs- Joanne Dixon
- GFWC Virginia Assistant Director of Junior Clubs – Lynn Chapman
- GFWC Virginia Junior Secretary/Treasurer – Jessica Thomas

We will be voting on this slate of officers at the GFWC Virginia Convention in April. I want to thank my committee members for their help this year. Those serving on the committee were Lori Chevalier, Amanda Paez, Alaina Chafee, Susie Baracker, and Rachel Frye.

**GFWC Virginia Nominating Committee Candidates**

**GFWC Virginia First Vice President/President-elect: Cynthia Baroody, Shenandoah District**



Cynthia has been a federation member for thirteen years. After retiring from teaching elementary school in New York, she moved to Virginia in January 2010 and was invited to become a member of the Covington Woman’s Club the following year. Cynthia went on to serve at every level of club work from recording secretary to club president and became Shenandoah District President in 2016-2018.

Cynthia has served as GFWC Virginia Environment Chair, editor of the Shenandoah District newsletter, Shenandoah District Chair for the GFWC Virginia State President’s Project 2022 -2024, Shenandoah District Reporting Chair as well as District Environment Chair. She served as GFWC Virginia Treasurer during the 2020-2022 administration. She currently serves as GFWC Virginia Second Vice President/Membership.

When she is not involved with club work, you can find her serving as vice president of her garden club (The Jackson River Garden Club) or volunteering for the Alleghany Highlands Chapter of the Virginia Master Naturalists, where she served as treasurer for four years. Cynthia and her husband Roger also are members of the Cowpasture River Preservation Association and serve as river monitors, checking the water quality by doing

“bug picks”. She also serves as a docent at the Alleghany Highlands Arts and Crafts Center in Clifton Forge twice a month.

Cynthia has two married daughters and four grandchildren living in New York. When time permits, Cynthia and her husband Roger enjoy spending time outdoors, working in their gardens or searching for native wildflowers, most especially native orchids.

**GFWC Virginia Second Vice President: Carolyn Fellers, Blue Ridge District**



Carolyn has been a federation member for 12 years and is currently a member of the GFWC Bedford Woman’s Club. She has served as club Secretary and President. Carolyn has served the Blue Ridge District as Secretary, First Vice President, and Blue Ridge District President 2016-2018. Carolyn has served on the GFWC Virginia Resolutions Committee, Legislation Committee and is currently serving as the CIP Awards Chairman. She is a graduate of the 2015 GFWC Virginia LEADS program.

In addition to club work, Carolyn serves as Vice-Chairman and Treasurer on the Bedford County Fair Board and is chairman of the Ag Competition Committee. She lives on a farm in Bedford County with her husband Pete. Pete is retired from farming and now a local family raises beef cattle on their farm. They married 17 years ago and have a blended family to include four children and eight grandchildren.

Carolyn and Pete like to garden and travel. Plus, she likes to bake and read, belonging to a small book club made up of friends from her days at J Crew. Newly retired, last job working for an eye doctor, she is helping bring the Bedford County Fair back online this year and has some more volunteer opportunities in mind.

**GFWC Virginia Third Vice President / Director of Junior Clubs: Joanne Dixon, Lee District**



Joanne has been a federation member for 10 years as a member of the GFWC Powhatan Junior Woman’s Club. She has served the club in many capacities, including two terms as club president. She has served GFWC Lee District as Assistant Director of Junior Clubs from 2016-2018 and as 3rd Vice President, Director of Junior Clubs from 2018-2020, and as Parliamentary Advisor from 2020-2022. Joanne currently serves as the GFWC Virginia Assistant Director of Junior Clubs. Joanne represented her club at district, state, regional, and international meetings and was the 2019 graduate of GFWC LEADS in Austin, Texas.

Joanne is the Director of Imaging Services for Virginia Women’s Center and has over 20 years of imaging experience. She has been married to her husband Allen for 19 years and together they have a fifteen-year-old son, Walker. In addition to GFWC, Joanne enjoys biking, shopping, hiking and being a sports mom.



**GFWC Virginia Secretary: Amy Riggs, Southside District** Amy has been a federation member for 16 years as a member of GFWC Sedley Woman’s Club. She has served as club president along with other roles. She has served the Southside District as Treasurer, First and Second Vice President, and is currently serving at District President. Amy is a graduate of the 2017 GFWC Virginia LEADS and the 2023 GFWC LEADS program. Amy is currently a specialty senior clinical pharmacist and team coordinator for Proprium Pharmacy in Chesapeake. Amy was exposed to club work at an early age by tagging along with her mother to club events.

Amy is a graduate of Longwood University (MBA) and received her Doctorate in Pharmacy from Medical College of Virginia. She has been a pharmacist for 22 years. When not working or participating in club work, Amy enjoys walking, traveling, crafting, photography, reading, and spending time with family and friends. She resides in Franklin with her son, Jacob.

**GFWC Virginia Treasurer: Lynne Wherry, Lee District**



Lynne Wherry has been a federation member since September 1998, when she joined the Ashland Junior Woman’s Club. She went on to join the GFWC Ashcake Woman’s Club in 2001. She has served in various leadership roles, as treasurer, second vice president, vice president, and 1-two-year term as president. In addition, she served as Co-chair of the club’s successful Ashland Harvest Run/Walk for ten years before passing the leadership role on to fellow club members. She now serves as registrar for the run/walk. As a member of the Lee District, Lynne served in many chairmanships.

As a GFWC Virginia Clubwoman, Lynne has served as Legislative Chairman for two administrations, serving on the Resolutions Committee and the Strategic Planning Committee as a committee member and as Chair. Lynne currently serves as the GFWC Virginia Treasurer.

Lynne has been employed by the Virginia Association of REALTORS® for 24 years and is currently the VP of Association of Relations. She is married to Dave (42 years) and has two grown children; their son lives in Richmond, and their daughter and son-in-law live in Crozet with their two grandchildren. In addition to her involvement with GFWC, Lynne likes to read, walk several times a week, and attend UVA football and basketball games.

**GFWC Virginia Assistant Director of Junior Clubs: Lynn Chapman, Alice Kyle District**



Lynn has been a federation member of the Farmville Junior Woman’s Club for 16 years. She has served her club in many capacities including Club Secretary, Club President for three terms, and Club Parliamentarian for two terms. She has served the Alice Kyle District for the past 12 years, as the 2012-2014 Junior Secretary, 2014-2016 Junior Treasurer, 2016-2018 Assistant Director of Junior Clubs, 2018-2020 Third Vice President/Director of Junior Clubs, 2020-2022 Second Vice President and Membership Chairman. She is currently serving as the 2022-2024 First Vice President and Leadership Chairman for Alice Kyle, and the 2022-2024 GFWC Virginia Secretary/Treasurer. She has served GFWC Virginia as the Junior Membership Chairman in 2020-2022. Lynn has represented her club at district, state, regional, and international meetings and is a 2019 GFWC Virginia

LEADS graduate.

She has been employed at Prince Edward County Public Schools since 2017 as a third grade Math and Science Teacher. She serves her school in many capacities including the School VTSS Coach, Grade Level Chair, School Leadership Team, and Math Planning Team. She has been married to her husband Sean for 15 years and share two boys, Zachary (11) and Landon (7). In addition to club work, Lynn enjoys golfing, shopping, going to the beach, and spending time with her family.

**GFWC Virginia Junior Secretary/Treasurer: Jessica Thomas, Lee District**



Jessica has been a federation member of the Junior Federated Women’s Clubs of Chester since 2016. She has served as club president, secretary and co-chairman of Mary’s Charity Ball. She is currently serving Lee District as the Third Vice President/Director of Junior Clubs. Jessica has served GFWC Virginia as a member of the resolutions and junior fundraising committees. She is a 2019 graduate of GFWC Virginia LEADS and GFWC SER LEADS.

She is the Director of Operations for The Pace of Richmond, Keller Williams Realty. She is a graduate of Longwood University and has over 15 years of experience in Operations Management and Client Services. She and her husband Daniel are proudly raising their nieces, Jessica and Jaela in Chesterfield, Virginia. She’s actively involved in their school organizations, her own club JFWCC, and an advocate for the Alzheimer’s Association. In her free time, she enjoys camping, volunteering and

cooking. Her personal mission is to create a legacy worth leaving while impacting the lives of others along the way.

**GFWC Virginia Resolutions Committee  
Clubwoman & Call for Convention February 2024**

The GFWC Virginia Resolutions Committee has completed its work for the 2022 – 2024 administration. This report provides an overview of the recommended actions to be taken by the GFWC Virginia Convention delegates in April. A fully detailed report, including the full text of the Resolutions for Rescension can be found on the GFWC Virginia website at: <https://img1.wsimg.com/blobby/go/7a446977-6eaa-4db6-94ea-4cb21b71e7bf/downloads/GFWC%20Virginia%20-%20Resolutions%20Committee%20Report%20-%20.pdf?ver=1708638363529>

In accordance with our Bylaws and the Standing Rules 10. Resolutions, the actions outlined in this report shall be presented in the Call to Convention and presented for action to the Convention delegates in April. The GFWC Virginia Resolutions Committee did not receive any requests or recommendations for new Resolutions this Administration. As outlined in the GFWC Virginia Bylaws and Standing Rules 10. Resolutions, the Committee has reviewed all existing GFWC Virginia and GFWC Resolutions and has the following recommendations for consideration and action:

**Resolutions with Proposed Changes:**

**Note on format of the changes:** Edits are presented in line. Text in ~~strike through~~ is proposed for deletion, items in *italics* are new text. An overview of changes is presented at the end of each resolution and a rationale is also documented.

**Civic Engagement & Outreach**

**4. ECONOMIC WORTH OF HOMEMAKERS PARENT**

WHEREAS, ~~The Homemakers parent~~ provides an invaluable service to ~~her~~ *their* home and family; and

WHEREAS, Laws affecting homemakers, including those dealing with property ownership, divorce, and death, may exclude or understate recognition of the homemaker’s contribution to the family, especially because they receive no income; therefore

RESOLVED, That GFWC Virginia works to change existing laws affecting homemakers that undervalue their economic value; and further

RESOLVED, That GFWC Virginia supports legislation that fully recognizes the economic worth of homemaking.

Adopted 1979	Reviewed 1997	Reviewed 2014
Reviewed 1985	Reviewed 2003	Amended 2018
Reviewed 1989	Reviewed 2007	Reviewed 2022
Reviewed 1994	Reaffirmed 2009	

**Rationale:** Original wording mixed use of home parent and homemaker. A person can be a homemaker without being a parent. Definition of Homemaker: a person who spends their time looking after a home and doing housework rather than being employed outside the home (typically applied to a woman).

**7. HUMAN TRAFFICKING**

WHEREAS, Human trafficking is considered to be a modern-day form of slavery involving victims typically forced, defrauded, or coerced into sexual and/or labor exploitation; and

WHEREAS, Human trafficking is a \$150 billion global criminal enterprise and a fastest growing global crime that cuts across race, nationality, gender, age, and socio-economic background; and

WHEREAS, The International Labor Organization estimates that there are 40.3 million victims of human trafficking globally; and

WHEREAS, In 2023~~18~~, Virginia ranked ~~1~~20th in the US for reported cases of human trafficking; therefore

RESOLVED, That GFWC Virginia urges its member clubs to:

- promote awareness and prevention by educating their members and communities about the seriousness, prevalence, and warning signs of human trafficking
- advocate for victims’ support, protection and recovery, and support related legislation
- work towards ending human trafficking

Adopted 2018  
Amended 2020  
Reviewed 2022

**Rationale:** To update with current statistics. In 2023 Virginia was 20<sup>th</sup> in reported cases.

**9. PRISON REFORM AND RE-ENTRY EFFORTS**

WHEREAS, The concept of punishment alone as a deterrent to crime has been outmoded by statistics and by modern scientific studies of treatment of criminals which take into account the physical, sociological, mental and spiritual aspects of personality; and

WHEREAS, Use of ~~enlightened modern~~ *evidence-based* methods often develops reasonable, law abiding citizens with consequent reduction of repeated offenses and recommitments; therefore

RESOLVED, That GFWC Virginia urges its member clubs to continue study, and to urge their legislators to study recent advances in the conservation of human resources through psychological evaluation and wise use of all available methods of rehabilitation, and further, to encourage prison boards and administrators to take advantage of every possible resource in order that prisoners may be provided with and make use of:

- Psychological evaluation and psychiatric treatment when indicated;
- Adequate health standards and correction of physical defects where possible;
- Remedial education;
- Suitable job training;
- Opportunity for substance abuse counseling and education;*
- Opportunity for religious education and counseling;
- Opportunity for development of constructive use of leisure time; and further

RESOLVED, That efforts be made to improve rehabilitative services through raising educational and training standards of prison personnel and to provide adequate follow-up services upon release of prisoners in order to assist them in their adjustment as productive members of society.

Adopted 1974	Reviewed 1994	Edited 2003	Reviewed 2022
Reviewed 1978	Reviewed 1997	Reviewed 2007	
Reviewed 1985	Edited 1998	Reviewed 2014	
Reviewed 1989	Reviewed 2003	Reaffirmed 2018	

**Rationale:** To update to reflect new language and expand to include substance abuse counseling

**11. TEMPORARY AID ASSISTANCE TO NEEDY FAMILIES**

WHEREAS, GFWC Virginia has always been deeply concerned that adequate care be provided for all children; and

WHEREAS, GFWC Virginia recognizes the family unit as basic to our society; and

WHEREAS, There is need for continuing study, reevaluation, and supervision of the temporary aid to needy families to assure wise and proper use of funds; therefore

RESOLVED, That GFWC Virginia urges its member clubs to *support legislation that encourages program oversight and fiscal responsibility, cooperate with proper authorities to avoid misuse of funds and to support efforts that correct inadequacies and inequities where they exist in the temporary aid to needy families distribution and utilization of Temporary Assistance for Needy Families (TANF) funds;* and further

RESOLVED, That GFWC Virginia urges that related state/local agencies and community resources be used to maintain a complete family unit and to assist the family to achieve economic independence.

Adopted 1990                      Reviewed 2007                      Reviewed 2022  
Reviewed 1994                      Reviewed 2014  
Edited 2003                      Reaffirmed 2018

**Rationale:** Update language and references to federal assistance program

**17. CHRONIC ABSENTEEISM-TRUANCY**

~~WHEREAS, Chronic Truancy is often indicative of possible substance abuse/mental health problems, and often leads to juvenile criminal behavior, and it is imperative that it be addressed as soon as possible; and~~

*Chronic Absenteeism is defined by the Virginia Department of Education as missing more than 10% or more of the school year (e.g. 18 or more days) and*

*WHEREAS, Chronic Absenteeism correlates to low academic achievement, is a powerful predictor of dropout rates, has been linked to poor economic outcomes later in life, and increases the risk of involvement in the criminal justice system, and*

*WHEREAS, Chronic Absenteeism is worse since the pandemic, with 19.3% of students chronically absent during the 2022-23 school year, and*

*WHEREAS, Disadvantaged students are the most likely to miss school, furthering their disadvantages, and*

~~WHEREAS, There is a need to strengthen and clarify the definition of chronic truancy in the Virginia Code); and~~

WHEREAS, In cases of *Chronic Absenteeism* assistance is available through intervention of the Juvenile Court pursuant to Virginia Code 16.1-278.1 through 16.1-278.14; and *Code of Virginia § 22.1-258; and*

WHEREAS, ~~Chronic Truancy~~ *Absenteeism* cannot be addressed effectively without vigorous support of the parents, guardians, public and the complete commitment of the school system; therefore

RESOLVED, That GFWC Virginia urges all Virginia clubs to *support local School System programs for chronic absenteeism awareness and prevention, and encourage parents, guardians, and communities and School Systems to make a determined concerted effort to attack combat chronic absenteeism. truancy as delineated in the Virginia Code, and if that effort fails to seek Juvenile Court intervention pursuant to Virginia Code 16.1 278.1-14.*

Adopted 1994                      Edited 2004                      Reaffirmed 2015                      Reviewed 2022  
Substituted 1996                      Reviewed 2007                      Reaffirmed 2018  
Reviewed 2001                      Reviewed 2014                      Moved from  
Education 2021

**Rationale:** Update to reflect current language and legal references, denote definition and additional statistics related to chronic absenteeism

**21. SCAM AND FRAUD TACTIC AWARENESS**

WHEREAS, Scam artists *and fraudsters* perpetuate a variety of creative scams that dupe the trusting, unsuspecting, uninformed members of society; and

WHEREAS, ~~The elderly are particularly trusting and vulnerable to flimflam tactics~~ *One in ten adults in the United States fall victim to a scam or fraud event annually;* and

WHEREAS, ~~Scam artist and fraud~~ incidents often are not reported due to victims being embarrassed, ashamed, or fearful ~~that the con artist will retaliate~~; therefore

RESOLVED, That GFWC Virginia urges its members *clubs* to educate ~~their members~~ *mselves*, the general public, and particularly the elderly, to recognize *scam and fraud schemes*, avoid and *report incidents of scam and fraud* ~~con games of scam artists~~; and further

RESOLVED, That GFWC Virginia urges *federal (Consumer Financial Protection Board (CFPB), Federal Trade Commission (FTC), Federal Reserve Board, and Office of Justice Programs), state (Attorney General of Virginia – Consumer Protection)* and local agencies and community resources be used to publicize the types of *scams and fraud* to help prevent their perpetuation.

Adopted 1992	Reviewed 2007	Reaffirmed 2018
Reviewed 1996	Reaffirmed 2009	Moved from Home Life 2021
Reviewed 2003	Amended 2014	Reviewed 2022

**Rationale:** Update to reflect current language and add resources for combating fraud.

## HEALTH & WELLNESS

### 15. SEXUALLY TRANSMITTED ~~INFECTIONS DISEASES~~

WHEREAS, Sexually transmitted ~~diseases~~ *infections* constitute a major health problem in the world today; and

WHEREAS, the Center for Disease Control states that the fastest growing population for sexually transmitted ~~disease~~ *infections* is in the elder community; and

WHEREAS, Education can help to prevent and to control the spread of these ~~diseases~~ *infections*; and

WHEREAS, Further research is needed to identify the causes and to develop prevention education of sexually transmitted *infections* ~~diseases~~; therefore

RESOLVED, That GFWC Virginia endorses a comprehensive education program in the school system, elder community and the community on sexually transmitted ~~diseases~~ *infections*; and further

RESOLVED, That GFWC Virginia urges its member clubs, health care providers and health care workers, parents, youth advisors, educators, and all other responsible persons to support research and public education on sexually transmitted ~~diseases~~ *infections*.

RESOLVED, the GFWC Virginia support comprehensive screening and treatment programs for sexually transmitted ~~diseases~~ *infections*.

Adopted 1976	Reviewed 1994	Reviewed 2014
Reviewed 1979	Edited 1997	Amended 2018
Reviewed 1985	Edited and Amended 2003	Reviewed 2022
Reviewed 1989	Amended 2007	

**Rationale:** Update language to reflect current terminology

## Recommendation to submit Amendment to GFWC Resolution

The GFWC Virginia Resolutions Committee moves that GFWC Virginia submit a recommendation to GFWC

Resolutions Committee to amend Resolution 140-310 by adding an additional provision to the RESOLVED: promote awareness and prevention by educating their members and communities about the seriousness, prevalence, and warning signs of human trafficking

**Rationale:** GFWC Resolution as currently stated does not recommend clubs educate their members and communities about the concerns of Human Trafficking. The Committee felt the GFWC Virginia Resolution is stronger in this area and it has a broader scope that aligns to the intent of the GFWC Resolution.

**140-310 Labor Exploitation and Human Trafficking** (Convention 2022: Includes “Labor Exploitation”, Convention 1996; “Human Trafficking,” Convention 2001; and “International Child Labor,” Convention 1988) WHEREAS, Human trafficking is a modern form of slavery, involving victims who are typically forced, defrauded, or coerced into labor and/or sexual exploitation; and

WHEREAS, Labor exploitation impacts more than 20 million people around the world, including children, by forcing individuals to provide labor, particularly in the areas of domestic work, construction, agriculture, garment production, drug trafficking, and as child soldiers; and

WHEREAS, The number of children aged 5 to 11 years forced into labor exploitation is increasing; therefore

RESOLVED, That the General Federation of Women’s Clubs urges its member clubs to support:

- Enactment and enforcement of laws, domestic and international, guaranteeing individuals, including children, the right to work without abuse and exploitation;
- Legislation to ensure that products made by forced labor are not imported into the United States;
- Aid, education, and public awareness campaigns to alleviate poverty, provide educational opportunities, and address unstable social and political conditions that are often the cause of commercial exploitation of individuals;
- Assistance to and protection of victims and prosecution of exploiters.

## **Resolutions recommended to be moved from Civic Engagement & Outreach to Education:**

### **17. CHRONIC ABSENTEEISM**

### **20. SUPPORT OF THE TEACHING PROFESSION**

## **Resolutions recommended for recension:**

Note on format: Current Resolution title & Rationale for Recension are provided here. To see the full text of the current resolution and the GFWC Resolution text, where applicable, review the detailed Resolutions Report on the website at <https://img1.wsimg.com/blobby/go/7a446977-6caa-4db6-94ea-4cb21b71e7bf/downloads/GFWC%20Virginia%20-%20Resolutions%202022-2024.pdf?ver=1708635670428>

## **Civic Engagement & Outreach**

### **2. COMMUNITY GROUP HOMES FOR JUVENILES**

**Rationale:** Community Group Homes no longer operate in Virginia as described in the Virginia resolution. GFWC Resolution 140-300, Juvenile Justice and Delinquency, is a broader resolution that speaks to community-based programs and services and funding for services through the Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention Act (JJDA).

### **3. CRIME PREVENTION**

**Rationale:** GFWC Resolution 140-70 Crime Prevention is stronger and broader than the Virginia Resolution.

### **5. FAMILY VIOLENCE**

**Rationale:** GFWC 110-020 - Domestic and Sexual Violence Awareness and Prevention is broader

#### **10. RETIREMENT BENEFITS FOR WOMEN**

**Rationale:** GFWC Resolution 140-380 Retirement is broader and stronger

#### **12. DRUNK/DRUGGED DRIVING**

**Rationale:** GFWC Resolution 140-270 Impaired and Distracted Driving is broader and also covers distracted driving.

#### **13. LICENSING STANDARDS FOR DRIVERS**

**Rationale:** Work completed. Drivers Education required for all public-school students. Regulations have been updated.

#### **14. ROADSIDE REFLECTIVE MARKERS**

**Rationale:** Work has been completed. Federal regulations require use of reflective markers.

#### **15. TERRORISM**

**Rationale:** GFWC Resolution 140-460 Terrorism is broader and stronger.

#### **18. SCHOOL VIOLENCE**

**Rationale:** GFWC Resolution 140-410 School Violence and Disruptions is stronger and broader.

### **PROPOSED AMENDMENTS**

The GFWC Virginia Bylaws Committee submits the following proposed amendments to the GFWC Virginia Standing Rules to be included in the GFWC Virginia business conducted at the 2024 GFWC Virginia Annual Convention.

#### **Standing Rule 2. STATE EMBLEM AND MOTTO, a.**

Currently reads: "The GFWC Virginia emblem is a wreath of goldenrod encircling the flag of the Commonwealth of Virginia."

Proposed amendment: Strike current a. and insert a new sentence to read: "a. The GFWC Virginia emblem, the design of which shall be adopted by the GFWC Virginia membership, shall include the GFWC emblem."

If adopted Standing Rule 2. STATE EMBLEM AND MOTTO, a., will read: "The GFWC Virginia emblem, the design of which shall be adopted by the GFWC Virginia membership, shall include the GFWC emblem."

#### **Standing Rule 8. FINANCES, C. EXPENSES, a.**

Currently reads: "In the first year of an administration, the budget shall include an amount to defray the expenses of the First Vice President/President-elect to attend the GFWC Incoming Leadership Training Seminar (ILTS). In the second year of an administration, the budget shall include an amount to defray the expenses of the First Vice President/President-elect to attend the GFWC Orientation Meeting."

Proposed amendment: In the first and second sentences, delete comma and insert "and Assistant Director of Junior Clubs" following First Vice President/President-elect

*Continued*

If adopted Standing Rule 8. FINANCES, C. EXPENSES, a. will read:” In the first year of an administration, the budget shall include an amount to defray the expenses of the First Vice President/President-elect and Assistant Director of Junior Clubs to attend the GFWC Incoming Leadership Training Seminar (ILTS). In the second year of an administration, the budget shall include an amount to defray the expenses of the First Vice President/President-elect and Assistant Director of Junior Clubs to attend the GFWC Orientation Meeting.”

**Standing Rule 8. FINANCES, C. EXPENSES, b.**

Currently reads: “In the second year of the administration, the budget shall include an amount to defray planning expenses of the First Vice President/President-elect, including incoming District Officers’ Orientation.”

Proposed amendment: In the first sentence, delete comma and insert “and Assistant Director of Junior Clubs” following First Vice President/President-elect.

If adopted **Standing Rule 8. FINANCES, C. EXPENSES, b.** will read: “In the second year of the administration, the budget shall include an amount to defray planning expenses of the First Vice President/President-elect and Assistant Director of Junior Clubs, including incoming District Officers’ Orientation.”

**Standing Rule 8. FINANCES, D. CONVENTIONS, SPECIAL MEETINGS, CONFERENCES, SEMINARS, WORKSHOPS AND SPECIAL EVENTS, b.**

Currently reads: “Pre-Conference and Pre-Convention dinner for the GFWC Virginia Executive Board and others as designated by the GFWC Virginia President shall be an expense of the meetings. Other guests may be invited to attend at the discretion and expense of the hostess district. GFWC Virginia Past Presidents may be invited to attend at their own expense at the discretion of the President.”

Proposed amendment: In first sentence, strike “an expense” and insert “a budgeted expense.” Add new second sentence:” Costs of these meals above the budgeted allowance shall be at the expense of the Hostess District.”

If approved **Standing Rule 8. FINANCES, D. CONVENTIONS, SPECIAL MEETINGS, CONFERENCES, SEMINARS, WORKSHOPS AND SPECIAL EVENTS, b.** will read: “Pre-Conference and Pre-Convention dinners for the GFWC Virginia Executive Board and others as designated by the GFWC Virginia President shall be a budgeted expense of the meetings. The costs of these meals above the budgeted allowance shall be at the expense of the Hostess District. Otherer guests may be invited to attend at the discretion and expense of the hostess district. GFWC Virginia Past Presidents may be invited to attend at their own expense at the discretion of the President.”

**Standing Rule 8. FINANCES C. EXPENSES, i.**

Currently reads: “Accommodations and meals for members of the Executive Committee, the Parliamentarian, Meetings Chairman, Budget and Finance Committee Chairman and Endowment Committee Chairman, if they are required to attend, at Executive Board Meetings, shall be paid by GFWC Virginia. Accommodations shall be based on the double occupancy rate for designated individuals.”

Proposed amendment: Strike first sentence and insert new sentence: “Executive Board Meeting accommodations and meals for members of the Executive Committee, the Parliamentarian and Appointees required by the GFWC Virginia President to attend, shall be budgeted expenses the Executive Board Meetings.”

If approved, **Standing Rule 8. FINANCES C. EXPENSES, i.** will read: “Executive Board Meeting accommodations and meals for members of the Executive Committee, the Parliamentarian and Appointees required by the GFWC Virginia President to attend shall be budgeted expenses of the meetings. Accommodations shall be based on the double occupancy rate for designated individuals.”

*Continued*

# CALL FOR THE ONE HUNDRED SIXTEENTH ANNUAL CONVENTION

## General Federation of Women's Clubs of Virginia (GFWC Virginia)

April 18 – April 21 2024

Hotel Madison 710 South Main Street, Harrisonburg, Virginia



2022-2024 GFWC Virginia Theme: “*Enlighten Our Cornerstones*”

### CONVENTION THEME: “*Cornerstone Journey in all Directions*”

Club Presidents are requested to read the Call to the members and elect delegates according to the bylaws of the Federation, 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 form included in this publication. Properly completed Registration Forms are to be mailed to the GFWC Virginia Credentials Chairman or Junior Chairman. Registration package fee is \$55 for attendees and must be postmarked no later than **Wednesday March 27, 2024**. For registration postmarked after March 27<sup>th</sup>, please add \$10 per attendee for a total registration fee of \$65. One day registration is available at \$50. **Electronic registration with payment via PayPal is available again this year.** Please see below for detailed instructions.

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 this Call** with you so that you may follow the discussion on the Bylaws Revisions as proposed by the Bylaws Committee, and proposed changes to our Resolutions.

Hotel reservations may be made by individual call-in no later than **Sunday, March 24, 2024**. After that date, any additional reservation requests will be honored on a rate and space available basis only. Please call the hotel at (540) 564-0200, and ask for GFWC Virginia guestroom group block. Guest room rates are: single or double per room: \$124 per day, plus taxes. Self-parking is available for \$5.00 per car per day for both overnight and day guests. You can also use this link to reserve your room.

<https://reservations.travelclick.com/110365?groupID=3853053>

Club Presidents and other attendees: **Please bring this Call** with you so that you may follow the discussion on the Bylaws and Standing Rules Revisions as proposed by the Bylaws Committee, as well as proposed changes to our Resolutions. Please share information on the speakers and encourage members to attend.

**ADMISSION TO ALL SESSIONS WILL BE BY BADGE ONLY**  
**GFWC VIRGINIA – CONVENTION 2024**

April 18 – April 21, 2024

Hotel Madison and Shenandoah Valley Conference Center  
710 South Main Street, Harrisonburg, Virginia

**Theme: “Cornerstone Journey in all Directions”**

**PRE-CONVENTION MEETINGS**

**Thursday, April 18, 2024**

- 1:00p.m. – 5:00p.m. Executive Board/Junior Executive Board Meeting – Madison Board Room  
5:30p.m. – 8:30p.m. Executive Board/Junior Executive Board Dinner – Meet in Hotel Lobby  
9:00p.m. - til Junior Executive Board Meeting - Madison Board Room

**Friday, April 19, 2024**

- 9:00a.m. – 10:30a.m. Executive Board/Junior Executive Board Meeting & “Grab & Go” Madison Board Room

**CONVENTION PROGRAM**

**Friday, April 19, 2024**

- 10:00a.m. – 1:15p.m. Convention Registration Open – Conference Area Lobby  
10:00a.m. – 1:15p.m. Registration of Arts and Crafts – Appalachian Ballroom B & C  
11:00a.m. – 6:00p.m. Vendors and Exhibitors Open – Shenandoah Ballroom A  
9:00a.m. – 12:00p.m. Nature Walk – Edith J. Carrier Arboretum and Botanical Garden, JMU  
1:15p.m. Musical Prelude  
1:30p.m. – 5:00p.m. **OPENING SESSION – Shenandoah Grand Ballroom B & C**  
Procession of 2022-2024 District Presidents and Directors of Junior Clubs, GFWC  
Virginia Officers and Junior Officers, announced by Heather Craven, GFWC  
Virginia Executive Secretary  
Call to Order – Bonnie Rosemond, GFWC Virginia President  
Opening Ceremonies  
Presentation of Colors – Fishburne Military School  
National Anthem  
Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag of the United States of America – Led by  
Liz Sabbatini, GFWC Virginia Legislation and Public Policy Chairman  
Thought for the Day – Linda Beatty, Chaplain  
Collect – Linda Beatty, Chaplain  
Welcome – Joyce Jolly, Northern District President  
Welcome – Dr. Timothy Miller, Vice President of Student Affairs,  
James Madison University  
Preliminary Credentials Report – Linda Holsclaw, Credentials Chairman  
Presentation of Convention Rules – JoBeth Wampler, Secretary  
Presentation of Convention Program – Teresa Craig, Meetings Chairman  
Appointment of Committee to Approve Minutes – President Rosemond  
Introductions – Bonnie Rosemond, President and Denise Price, 3<sup>rd</sup> Vice  
President/Director of Junior Clubs  
Reports of GFWC Virginia Officers  
Treasurer – Lynne Wherry  
Secretary – JoBeth Wampler  
3<sup>rd</sup> Vice President/Director of Junior Clubs – Denise Price

2<sup>nd</sup> Vice President – Cynthia Baroody  
1<sup>st</sup> Vice President/President-elect – Susie Mowry  
President – Bonnie Rosemond

Report of Executive Secretary – Heather Craven

Reports of Standing Committees

Budget and Finance Committee – Kathryn Sowers, Chairman

Bylaws Committee – Hope Royer, Chairman

Endowment Committee – Gloria Worrell, Chairman

Resolutions Committee – Lori Rocker, Chairman

Scholarships Committee – Marlene Wine, Chairman

Strategic Planning – Kelly Lane, Chairman

Report of Nominating Committee – Lori Rocker, Chairman

Report of GFWC Virginia Emblem Redesign Committee, Dale Fisher, Chairman

Reports/Awards of GFWC Advancement Plans, Facilitated by Susie Mowry  
and Joanne Dixon

\*Communications and Public Relations – Stephanie Griffin, Chairman

\*Legislation & Public Policy – Liz Sabbatini, Committee Chairman

\*GFWC Women’s History and Resource Center – Ingrid Sinclair-Day, Chairman

\*Fundraising – Faye Bocock, Chairman

Guest Speaker – Ally Shaw, Author

Announcements/Door Prizes – Teresa Craig, Meetings Chairman

Ally Shaw – Book signing

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. **“Royal” Marjorie Branch Banquet *Formal/ Semi Formal Attire***

Procession of GFWC Virginia Past Directors of Junior Clubs and 2022-2024 Joint

Executive Boards – Announced by Tara Roberts, Junior Courtesy Chairman

Welcome – Denise Price, Third Vice President/Director of Junior Clubs

Grace & Dinner

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

Junior Special Awards – Introduced by Denise Price

\*Marjorie Branch Award – Tidewater District Juniors

\*Shenandoah Award – Shenandoah District Juniors

\*Southside District Award in Legislation – Southside District Juniors

Director of Junior Clubs Awards – Denise Price

\*Junior Club Outstanding Achievement Award

\*Junior of the Year Award

\*Junior New Clubwoman Award

\*Junior Lifetime Achievement Award

\*Leadership Awards – Susie Mowry, Chairman Joanne Dixon, Junior Chairman

Introduction of 2024 GFWC LEADS Participant – Susie Mowry

Presentation of Anniversary Certificates, Extension Cup, Membership Cup

– Facilitated by Cynthia Baroody, Membership Chairman, Michelle Clary, Junior  
Membership Chairman

50/50 Drawing – Lynn Chapman, Junior Secretary/Treasurer

9:30p.m. Announcements/Door Prizes – Teresa Craig, Meetings Chairman  
View Arts and Crafts Exhibits – Appalachian B & C  
10:00p.m. - ? District Caucuses

**Saturday, April 20, 2024**

7:00a.m. – 9:45a.m. Convention Registration Open  
9:00a.m. – 5:00p.m. Vendors and Exhibitors Open  
7:30a.m. – 8:30a.m. **AFFILIATE AWARDS BREAKFAST (See Dogwood Luncheon Attire)**  
Grace – led by Linda Beatty, Chaplain  
Breakfast  
GFWC Affiliates Awards facilitated by Bonnie Rosemond, GFWC Virginia President  
8:45a.m. – 11:15a.m. **“Volunteer Journey”**  
**BUSINESS SESSION/AWARDS**  
Call to Order – President Rosemond  
Report of Executive Board Action – JoBeth Wampler, Secretary  
Report of Historian – Patty Pedrick  
Community Service Program Awards, Facilitated by Susie Mowry and Joanne Dixon  
    \*Arts and Culture – Pat Jeffress, Chairman  
    \*Civic Engagement and Outreach – Celeste Corrigan, Chairman  
    \*Education and Libraries – Marilyn Banes, Chairman  
        ESO recognition – Wanda Alvis, Chairman  
    \*Environment – Carol Pridgen, Chairman  
    \*Health and Wellness – Mary Driver-Downs, Chairman  
Updated Credentials Report – Linda Holsclaw, Chairman  
2024-2026 State Project Proposal – Susie Mowry, President-elect  
9:30a.m. ELECTION OF OFFICERS  
Platform Change  
10:00a.m. **“GFWC Virginia Juniors Leading the Way” Junior Business Session/Awards**  
Introductions – Denise Price, 3<sup>rd</sup> Vice President, Director of Junior Clubs  
Junior Credentials Report – Tara Widener, Credentials Junior Chairman  
Report of the Junior Nominating Committee – Michelle Clary, Chairman  
Election of Junior Officers  
Reports of GFWC Virginia Junior Officers  
    Secretary/Treasurer – Lynn Chapman  
    Assistant Director of Junior Clubs – Joanne Dixon  
    Director of Junior Clubs – Denise Price  
Report of Junior Executive Board Action – Lynn Chapman, Junior Secretary/Treasurer  
Reports of Junior Standing and Special Committees  
    Budget and Finance – Lynn Chapman, Chairman  
    Standing Rules – Angela Paez, Chairman  
New Business  
Award of GFWC Special Program, Facilitated by Susie Mowry and Joanne Dixon  
    \*GFWC Junior Special Program Advocates for Children – Amanda Paez,  
    Chairman  
Junior Honor Society Awards – Joanne Dixon, Assistant Director of Junior Clubs  
Announcement of Junior Election Results  
Junior Pledge  
Announcements – Teresa Craig, Meetings Chairman

11:00a.m. – 11:45a.m. Convention Registration Open

11:00a.m. – 11:45a.m. View Arts and Crafts Exhibits

**All Dogwood Society and 1907 Society members gather for photo at 11:30 a.m.**

11:45a.m. Musical Prelude

12:00noon – 2:45p.m. **“Enlightening Garden” Dogwood Luncheon** *Spring Floral Attire*

Grace – Linda Beatty, Chaplain

Lunch

Guest Speaker – Amanda Nicholson, Senior Vice President, Wildlife Center of Virginia

Announcement of Election Results

Update from Endowment Committee and recognition of Dogwood Society Members

– Gloria Worrell, Chairman

Membership Recruitment Recognition – Cynthia Baroody and Michelle Clary

\*Membership Awards – Cynthia Baroody and Michelle Clary

Awards of GFWC Special Program /GFWC Virginia Special Appointments,

Facilitated by Susie Mowry and Joanne Dixon

\*GFWC Signature Program

Domestic and Sexual Violence and Prevention – Amber Holdren, Chairman

\*Community Impact Program Award - Carolyn Fellers, Chairman

\*GFWC Virginia State Project - Dale Fisher, Chairman

\*Newsletter Awards – Barbara LaPrade, *The Virginia Clubwoman* Editor

\*Website – Amanda Paez, Chairman

Reports of Districts – Facilitated by Susie Mowry and Joanne Dixon

50/50 Drawing – Lynne Wherry, Treasurer

Announcements/Door Prizes – Teresa Craig, Meetings Chairman

3:00p.m. – 5:00p.m. View Arts and Crafts – Appalachian B & C

View District and Club Vendors – Shenandoah Room A

3:00p.m. - 4:15p.m. Virginia Quilt Museum Tour – Meet in Hotel Lobby

4:15p.m. – 5:00p.m. GFWC Virginia State Project – Service Project – Allegheny Room C

4:15p.m. Installation Rehearsal – Shenandoah Ballroom

5:00p.m. – 5:30p.m. Pick-up Arts and Crafts Exhibits

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. **“Timeless Cornerstones” Alice Kyle Installation Banquet** *Formal/Semi Formal Attire*

Procession of GFWC Virginia Past Presidents and 2022-2024 Executive Board –

Announced by Heather Craven, Executive Secretary

Grace – Linda Beatty, Chaplain

Dinner

Speaker – Patrick Henry Jolly, Fifth Generation Grandson of Patrick Henry

Presentation of Junior Special Awards honoring GFWC Virginia Past Presidents,

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

\*Phyllis V. Roberts Award – Joyce Jolly, Northern District President

\*Corinne Murray Award – Carol Guilliams-Mills, Blue Ridge District President

\*Shelby Paisley Hamlett Award – Carol Guilliams-Mills

Tribute to GFWC Virginia Past Presidents – Bonnie Rosemond, President

Remarks of the 2022-2024 GFWC Virginia President and Director of Junior Clubs

Bonnie Rosemond and Denise Price

Procession of Incoming Officers, Executive Board and Junior Executive Board –  
Announced by Hope Royer

Installation of 2024-2026 GFWC Virginia Officers by Martha Matthews  
Pin Ceremony

Remarks of 2024-2026 GFWC Virginia President and Director of Junior Clubs  
Announcements – Teresa Craig, Meetings Chairman

9:45p.m. Installation Dessert Reception

**Sunday, April 21, 2024**

8:45a.m. Musical Prelude

9:00a.m. – 11:30a.m. **“Tenacious Journey” Brunch/Closing Business Session**

Call to Order – President Rosemond

Grace – Linda Beatty, Chaplain

Breakfast Buffet

GFWC Virginia Memorial Service – Linda Beatty, Chaplain

Health and Wellness “Step N Time” Awards – Chairman, Mary Driver Downs

GFWC Virginia State Project “Education of Virginia’s National Resources”

“Forest Drawing” – Dale Fisher, Chairman

Virginia Quilt Museum – Raffle Drawing – Sarah Entsminger

Remaining Business

Virginia250 – President Rosemond

Results of the Arts Contests Winners – Lois Creasy and Camilla Cabiness

HOBY Update – Carol Outten, Coordinator

Dogwood Drawing – Gloria Worrell, Endowment Chairman

Final Credentials Report – Linda Holsclaw, Chairman

Invitation to 2024 Conference – Eleanor Armes, Southwestern District President &  
Heather Dunn, 3<sup>rd</sup> Vice President/Director of Junior Clubs

Announcements/Door Prizes – Teresa Craig, Meetings Chairman

Collect for Clubwomen

Adjournment

12:15p.m. – 2:00p.m. Post-Convention 2024-2026 Executive Board Meeting

**CONVENTION MENUS**

**Friday Marjorie Branch Banquet**

Roasted Panko Crusted Chicken

Piccata w/ Lemon Caper Sauce

Market Fresh Greens (salad)

Green Bean Casserole w/

Roasted Almonds

Whipped Garlic Mashed Potatoes

Flourless Chocolate Torte

w/Raspberry Sauce (gf)

Coffee, Decaf Coffee & Tea

**Saturday Breakfast Buffet**

Sausage Gravy and Biscuits.

Applewood Smoked Bacon

Fluffy Farm Fresh Scrambled Eggs

Fresh Fruit

Orange Juice and Cranberry Juice

Coffee, Decaf Coffee & Tea

**Saturday Lunch**

Downtown Deli Buffet

Smoked Turkey, Roast Beef &

Honey Ham

Pepper Jack, Swiss and Cheddar

Sliced Tomatoes, Lettuce, Onions,

Pickles,

Mayonnaise, Whole Grain Mustard

Sliced Hearth Breads

Potato Salad and Potato Chips

Cookies and Brownies

Iced Tea and Lemonade

**Saturday Alice Kyle Banquet**

Beef Medallions w/House Chimichurri Sauce (gf)  
Wedge Salad - Iceberg lettuce, Bleu Cheese  
Crumbles,  
Tomatoes and Creamy Cheese Vinaigrette  
Roasted Vegetable Ratatouille  
Whipped Garlic Mashed Potatoes  
Cheesecake Topped w/Seasonal Fruit Compote  
Coffee, Decaf Coffee & Tea

*Dessert will be served at the Installation Reception*

**Sunday Breakfast Buffet**

Main Street Breakfast Buffet  
Fluffy Farm fresh Scrambled Eggs  
Applewood Smoked Bacon  
Country Pork Sausage  
Fresh Fruit  
White and Wheat Toast w/Butter and Jam  
Orange Juice and Cranberry Juice  
Coffee, Decaf Coffee & Tea

**Instructions for making electronic payment for Convention**

Using your PayPal account, follow these steps:

Send & request money

Pay for goods & service

Enter [headquarters@gfwcvirginia.org](mailto:headquarters@gfwcvirginia.org)

Click next

Enter amount – (there is no additional fee to register electronically for this meeting)

Click continue

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Save the registration form to your computer and complete all the necessary information.

Save the updated file and then email your registration form to:

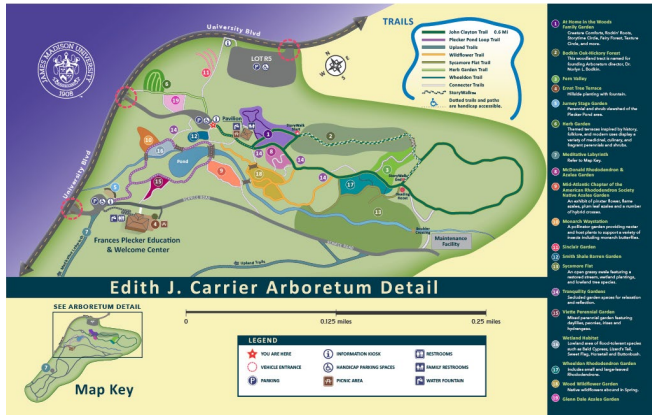
[headquarters@gfwcvirginia.org](mailto:headquarters@gfwcvirginia.org) AND Generals - [credentials@gfwcvirginia.org](mailto:credentials@gfwcvirginia.org)

Juniors & Juniores: [credentialsjr@gfwcvirginia.org](mailto:credentialsjr@gfwcvirginia.org)

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## 2024 Convention Activities/Speaker Bios



On Friday morning, take a “step in time” to explore the Edith J. Carrier Arboretum, a woodland sanctuary located on the James Madison University campus. The arboretum is a public, urban garden and forested greenspace that preserves native species, provides opportunities for research, and promotes knowledge of the botanical and natural world for people of all races, religions, orientations, identities, ages, and abilities. The arboretum groundbreaking took place April 1985, under the direction of Dr. Norlyn Bodkin who is credited the first scientific botanical discovery along the Eastern Seaboard of Virginia since the 1940s, Trillium- Shenandoah Wake Robin, can be

found at the arboretum. This is the only arboretum located on a Virginia state university campus. Exhibits include a developed trail through 125 acres of mature Oak-Hickory Forrest, with two identified century specimens and species on the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Threatened Species list protected at the arboretum: *Betula uber*, Round -Leaf Birch. The Arboretum is located at 780 University Boulevard. More information on the arboretum can be found here - [www.jmu.edu/arboretum/](http://www.jmu.edu/arboretum/)

**Opening Session - Dr. Tim Miller** is the Vice President for Student Affairs at James Madison University and has



served in this role since June 1, 2018. He is a Double Duke, having earned his Bachelor’s Degree in Political Science and Criminal Justice in 1996 and his Master’s Degree in College Student Personnel Administration in 2000 from JMU. He earned his Doctorate in Executive Leadership from the George Washington University and his research focused on the decision-making of University Presidents. He has served at James Madison University, the University of South Carolina, and the George Washington University during his over 20-year career and has managed a wide range of university functions in these roles. Dr. Miller believes that his role at JMU is to create and manage communities where individuals are guided and supported in becoming their best possible selves.

**Opening Session - Amy Shaw** – Author, Speaker, Survivor – Amy is a fierce survivor who had reinvented herself



multiple times after devastating loss. She is a cancer survivor who became an opera singer and most recently her professional titles include entrepreneur, speaker and author. Ally earned a bachelor’s degree from Elon University and a Master’s degree from Loyola University New Orleans. Ally and her husband Kevin own a 17 store multi-unit Domino’s Pizza franchise in Virginia and West Virginia. In 2022, Ally became a first-time author of the narrative non-fiction book “Chasing Tigers in the Dark”, and she is represented by library tales publishing in NYC. Ally launched an adjacent career as a motivational speaker in 2016. Ally and Kevin share a blended family of seven children and split their time between Blacksburg, Virginia and Sunset Beach, North Carolina.

**Saturday Lunch** - Amanda Nicholson first became involved with the Wildlife Center of Virginia when she attended Bridgewater College – first as a volunteer, then as an animal care preceptorship student in 2000. After graduating with a degree in biology in 2001, Amanda joined the staff as the weekend receptionist and part-time rehabilitator. Over the years, Amanda has held several different positions at the Wildlife Center; currently she serves as the senior vice president for outreach and education. In this position, Amanda oversees the department responsible for public education, training, and community involvement. Amanda manages the Center’s ever-changing website; manages the “Critter Cam” and moderated discussion; organizes the annual Call of the Wild conference; co-produces Untamed: Life is Wild, the Center's television program; helps plan various events; and oversees the care and training of the Center's team of education ambassadors. She also serves as the program coordinator for the National Wildlife Rehabilitation Association's annual symposium. Amanda loves the dynamic nature of the ever-changing activities going on at a wildlife hospital and sharing the Wildlife Center’s mission and stories with others.”



**Saturday Afternoon** – Alicia Thomas, Executive Director of the Virginia Quilt Museum, will welcome members of GFWC Virginia at the museum on Saturday afternoon for a tour and introduction of the current exhibits. She will also introduce the museum’s ambitious project, Stitching Together History, which will culminate in an exhibit of 250 quilts illustrating the Commonwealth of Virginia as part of Virginia’s 250<sup>th</sup> celebration.



The mission of the Virginia Quilt Museum is to cultivate and preserve the quilting arts in Virginia. Founded in 1995, the museum is the Official Quilt Museum of the Commonwealth of Virginia and will celebrate its 30<sup>th</sup> anniversary in 2025. Nestled in the heart of picturesque Shenandoah Valley in Harrisonburg, Virginia, the museum promotes a unique blend of art and cultural heritage. With three floors of gallery space the museum celebrates the beauty of quilts through exhibitions that change at least three times a year. Historical, modern, art, and traditional quilts are featured simultaneously, allowing visitors the opportunity to explore the variety of styles, techniques, themes, and artistry found in quilts. The Virginia Quilt Museum is lucky to call the Warren-Sipe House home. Built in 1856 the Warren-Sipe House has had a long and varied history, from family home, Civil War Hospital, to a temporary courthouse with jail cell, among other uses. The museum is located at 301 S. Main St. Sarah Entsminger, is donating a quilt, which will be raffled off during Convention to cover the cost of GFWC Virginia members wishing to visit the museum. The museum is a 10 minute walk from the Hotel Madison. [www.vaquiltmuseum.org](http://www.vaquiltmuseum.org)

**Saturday Evening** – Patrick Henry Jolly is a fifth great grandson of the American Patriot, Patrick Henry. Splitting his time between his native Ohio and Virginia, Patrick has been speaking on a variety of topics related to the personal and professional life of his ancestor, since 1992. His presentations, which include “Liberty or Death”, are often in character as Patrick Henry. He can often be found at Red Hill, the last home and burial spot of Patrick Henry, located in Charlotte County, Virginia. He can be reached via email at [patrickhjolly@gmail.com](mailto:patrickhjolly@gmail.com).



