

# The Gainesville Phoenix

## Woman's Club, Inc. Newsletter

A member of the General Federation of Women's Clubs International  
**FEBRUARY 2024**



### *Recent Successes:*

Thirteen members met for Retreat to plan for 2024.

Members brought signed Valentine cards to the January Meeting to distribute at nursing homes.

Members wore teal at the January General meeting for Human Trafficking Day. A group picture was made with the hand gesture "Stop" to commemorate stop human trafficking.

An Orientation was given at the January meeting. Please bring your membership notebooks to the meetings.

Thirteen members met for dinner before the January meeting for social time.

The GFWC Gainesville Phoenix  
Woman's Club

P. O. Box 108

Gainesville, GA 30508

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770-540-6445 cell

### *From the President's Desk...*

Members,

We started out 2024 with a great retreat and an orientation meeting that received amazing reviews. Let's keep the momentum going! Our next board meeting is February 1 at 1pm at Susan Miscally's house. Her address is 5309 Flying Scott Way, Gainesville, GA 30504. Our second Ladies Time Out is February 3, at Wauka Mountain Elementary School, 5850 Brookton Lula Road, Gainesville, GA 30506 from 1-3pm for the Grand Opening of the Inclusive Playground. Our February meeting is 2/15/2024 starting with social time from 6pm and the meeting at 6:30pm. February 6 and 7 is Stand with Survivors Day. Please check out the registration information in the newsletter about this event. We have a carpool started for this event so you can sign up and not worry about driving or parking! Our February program will be Wisdom Project 2030. Please wear your name tag and bring your beautiful self to these amazing events. Please wear red and bring your notebook to our February meeting!

Looking forward to seeing your smiling faces and the hands that will serve our community!

*In federation friendship,  
Debbie*



February meeting date, time, place:  
**Thursday, February 15, 2024**  
**6:30 p.m.**

**2654 Browns Bridge Rd, Gainesville, GA 30504**

*Please wear red to  
February Meeting!*

Program:  
**Wisdom Keepers 2030**

# ART & CULTURE CSP



Art CSP: 2024-2026  
Joan Sheffield



With February right around the corner, let's explore the color red! Members are asked to wear red at the February meeting. Why? February is Heart Health Awareness Month. But red is also the color of Valentine's Day.

Red stands for many things, all of them potent. Red is romantic love, and its physical passion. Red is violence, anger, and aggression, and it frequently indicates danger. Paradoxically—for a color associated with action and energy—red is universally used as the color that means "stop." Red is used professionally to capture attention, elicit emotion, and convey confidence. We think of vitality, the life-giving power of blood, and helping people in need (think American Red Cross). We give red roses when we're in love, and call simply outstanding experiences "red letter days." Red calls us to action, gets us motivated, and wearing red lets people know we feel confident and ready to take on the world. Red is also associated with luxury—a red Ferrari and the soles of Louboutin shoes declare that a person has achieved material success.

Red has the longest wavelength of any color. It's the first color babies can see, and it's the very first color to vanish as the sun sets.

Only 1-2% of the world's population has red hair. Redheads are more sensitive to sunlight and thermal pain than people with hair of other colors, and while redheads tend to have less hair, their hair is more resistant to turning gray with age.

Interesting fact, red cars solicit more tickets than any other color vehicle.

## EDUCATION AND LIBRARIES CSP

### ***Volunteer Requirements for Gainesville City Schools***

- Complete a volunteer application. This can be done in the school's office or at the District Office
- Sign a volunteer Confidentiality agreement One-on-One Volunteer Requirements form
- Complete the Child Abuse Mandated Reports, Child Sexual Abuse and Assaults, Human Sex Trafficking, Sexual Harassment Awareness, Suicide Awareness and Prevention, Sexual Misconduct Reporting modules via Compliance Director
- Complete a background check through the Gainesville City School Board Office. All volunteers needing a background check must see Sherry McElroy and the School Board Office Background checks cost \$10

### ***Volunteer Requirements for Hall County Schools***

- Fill out a School Volunteer Application.
- Complete compliance modules: Child Sexual Abuse & Assault Awareness/Prevention, Mandated Reporting, Suicide Awareness & Prevention
- Email the application and the confirmation of module completion to: [laura.tucker@hallco.org](mailto:laura.tucker@hallco.org).

Thank you to those who signed up to care for the Little Library. Boy Scout Troop 26 has volunteered to stain and seal our new library box and install it at Wessel Park. As a way of thanks, Education will donate \$50 to the troop in appreciation for their help. No books are needed at this time. We will collect books when the new old library is replaced.

Please don't forget the Grand Opening of Wauka Mtn Elementary School Inclusive Playground on Saturday, February 3rd from 1-3 p.m. Rain date is February 10th, 1-3 p.m. There will be music, food, giveaways, and a ribbon cutting ceremony. The hope is that all Hall County Schools will have an inclusive play ground suiting the children's needs. Carpooling is available. Contact Peggy or Debbie.

***Education is the key to eliminating many problems!***



Education CSPs: 2024-2026  
Peggy, Jean, and Caroline



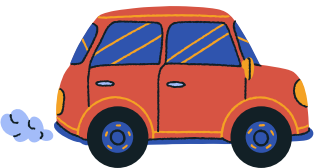
**Environments CSP:**  
**2024-2026**  
**Renette**

# ENVIRONMENTS CSP

**Have you noticed all the electric car charging stations cropping up around Gainesville? Is this really the answer to our global warming problem?**

The International Energy Agency (IEA) tells us that an electric vehicle requires six times the mineral inputs of a gasoline-powered vehicle. EV Lithium-ion battery packs are made with materials that are expensive, and in some cases, toxic and flammable. Primary materials include lithium, nickel, cobalt, and copper. The mining of these rare materials, their manufacturing processes, and their eventual disposal all pose very REAL environmental challenges.

While 90 percent of average gasoline-powered vehicle batteries are recycled, only five percent of EV lithium-ion batteries are recycled. While oil is exclusively mined underground in specific areas, the components for lithium-ion batteries are obtained through open pit mining that damages wide areas of the natural environment. Nickel is a major component and is found in the Rainforests of Indonesia. Lithium mining is found in Chile, Bolivia, and Argentina, aka as the "Lithium Triangle." Seventy percent of the cobalt needed for Lithium-ion batteries comes from the Democratic Republic of the Congo. Of the 255,000 current workers mining cobalt, over 40,000 are children, some as young as six-years-old. Despite the potentially fatal health effects of prolonged exposure, adult and child miners work without even the most basic protective equipment. The majority of these mines are owned by Chinese companies. Copper is also used in EV batteries and most of it comes from open-pit strip mines in Chile.



## CIVIC ENGAGEMENT & OUTREACH CSP

### Groundhog Day is February 2

Groundhog Day is a Pennsylvania Dutch superstition that is observed in the United States and Canada on February 2. If the groundhog emerges from his den and sees his shadow, we'll have 6 more weeks of winter. But if he doesn't see his shadow, spring will arrive early. The US groundhog is Punxsutawney Phil. Punxsutawney Phil is immortal. According to folklore, the furry oracle was born in 1887, making him 123 years old. The average groundhog lives less than 10 years, making Phil a statistical anomaly. Phil is about as accurate as your average meteorologist. That is to say, not very.



General Beauregard Lee is a groundhog in the US state of Georgia widely considered to be the Groundhog Day weather prognosticator for the Southern United States. He was named after the American Confederate General of the same name. General Beauregard Lee's first nationally televised appearance was in 1988. General Beauregard Lee resided at Yellow River Game Ranch in Gwinnett County, Georgia for 27 years until the ranch suddenly closed in December 2017. He was then relocated to Dauset Trails Nature Center in Jackson, Georgia, to carry on his weather-predicting tradition. General Lee is more accurate than Punxsutawney Phil, boasting a 60% national accuracy for an early spring between the years of 2001 to 2010, compared to Phil's 30%.

***Groundhog Day 2024 will be the 138th celebration!***



**Civic Engagement CSP:**  
**2024-2026**  
**Cindy**



# HEALTH & WELLNESS CSP

You'll be beautiful in red at the February Meeting as we observe Heart Month. This year the American Heart Association will celebrate its 100th anniversary. Founded in 1924, it proposed to find lifesaving solutions for cardiac disease. From 1924-2024, the death rate from cardiac disease has been cut in half; new drugs were developed to lower blood pressure and cholesterol; stents were developed along with external defibrillators, pacemakers, and other devices; links were found between diet and smoking to cardiac disease.

Remember that strokes also involve vascular problems Remember F.A.S.T. for the symptoms of stroke: Face Drooping, Arm Weakness, Speech Difficulty, Time to call 911.

This article from the AHA should inform you about Heart Attack Symptoms in Women.

## Health and Wellness February Homework

This year, our multifaceted approach to our general wellness includes exercise.

1. Map out a 2-mile walking path near you or a park. Mark ½ mile increments. DRAW and label your map, and bring it to the February meeting.
2. In WRITING, create your own fitness plan. It may include walking, classes, water aerobics, balance class, a sport – anything that is intentionally active. The plan may be weekly or monthly. Bring your plan to the meeting and keep a record of you time.

### On-going Health and Wellness Projects:

You may bring any of these items to any club meeting: Bingo prizes for Ashton, child-size toothbrushes and toothpaste, feminine product.

## Officer Reports:

**Vice President, Jill Bagley:** For February's program we will learn about the Wisdom Project 2030. Graduates of the Wisdom Project Program become Wisdom Keepers and members of Wisdom Project 2030. Thank you to Kitty, Brenda M., and Tina for your presentations at GFWC orientation at the January meeting. Thank you, also, to Debbie Brown for assisting with the handouts. Speaking of handouts, have you reviewed yours yet? Please do!

**Secretary, Susan Miscally:** Minutes from January meeting are attached.

**Treasurer, Renette Todd:** It's a new year and a new administration. Dues are due! Active member dues are **\$70.00** annually (that can be paid in two installments), and Patrons dues are **\$45.00**. Remember Active member dues paid after March 1st incur a **\$10 late** fee. All members, past and present, should have received a letter regarding their membership status. What will be your active roll in 2024?



## Membership Moment

We are planning some social activities during the coming year. Members are asked to pick a month to plan an activity. Please see Debbie to see which months are available.



## ***Where Our Money Goes***

Each month we will highlight a group or organization that we support either financially or with our time and energy. This month we will learn about Sardis Enrichment School.

### **Sardis Enrichment School, 2805 Sardis Road, Gainesville, GA 30506**

It is the belief of Hall County Schools that students are most successful when involved in programs that engage and motivate them, capitalizing on the unique talents and interests of the individual. Consequently, our system offers a school choice program that makes highly personalized education available to all students. Sardis Enrichment School is one such option for families.

Sardis is a Hall County Magnet School. Through a thoughtful, comprehensive planning process involving all stakeholders—parents, teachers, and administrators—the Sardis community “dreamed” their school. Following consensus, the school gained approval from the Hall County Board of Education. Sardis Enrichment School uses the Renzulli Schoolwide Enrichment Model to develop students’ talents. In addition, we provide a broad range of advanced-level enrichment experiences and advanced learning in children’s areas of interest. Students participate in general exploratory activities that are authentic and interest-based, with the added option to pursue self-directed projects. Students may apply for and attend our school without living in our attendance zone (though if this is the case, parents must provide transportation).

The Gainesville Phoenix Woman's Club has many past members and associated family members that teach at Sardis Enrichment School. Our past projects and recurring projects have supported the school for many years.



Sardis Enrichment School  
2805 Sardis Road  
Gainesville, GA 30506  
Phone: (770) 532-0104  
Fax: (770) 531-3057



## ***Little Women***

A musical produced by the Tallulah Falls Drama and Choral Department

**Saturday, March 23rd, 2 p.m.**

**11:00 a.m.** - Brunch with the students in the dining hall – FREE!

**12:30 p.m.** – Tour of Lipscomb Cottage (for those that have never seen it) and Martha Lee is going to tell the ghost story (and her personal experience) that goes along with the cottage.

**2:00 p.m.** - Matinee performance of *Little Women*, produced by the drama and the choral departments at TFS. It's a musical. Tickets are \$15 per person. I need a head count by March 15th for both the lunchroom and the theater. They are going to block off our seats.

**3:30-3:45 p.m.** – head home!

## ***Did you know?***

GFWC is distinguished from other service organizations by the breadth of our outreach. Our community service programs span all areas of the lives of our members, their families, and communities: arts and culture, civic engagement and outreach, education and libraries, environment, and health and wellness.

GFWC has earned a reputation as a powerful force in the fight against domestic violence. GFWC was recognized on the floor of the United States Senate as “a gem among our midst” by then-Senator Joseph Biden (Del.) for our work in bringing hope to victims and survivors of domestic violence and abuse, and our early support for the Violence Against Women Act.



GFWC International  
President  
Deb Strahanoski  
2022-2024

Founded in 1890, GFWC’s roots can be traced back to 1868 when Jane Cunningham Croly, a professional journalist, attempted to attend a dinner at an all-male press club honoring British novelist Charles Dickens. Croly was denied admittance based upon her gender, and in response, formed a woman’s club—Sorosio. In celebration of Sorosio’s 21st anniversary in 1889, Jane Croly invited women’s clubs throughout the United States to pursue the cause of federation by attending a convention in New York City. On April 24, 1890, 63 clubs officially formed the General Federation of Women’s Club by ratifying the GFWC constitution.



GFWC GA News

**Club Presidents Report due February 15th**

**GFWC Judging Weekend - February 17-18  
Lipscomb Cottage**

**Clubs that report for 2023 will be entered  
to win \$250!**



Kim Sekulow, GFWC  
GA President  
2022-2024

**GFWC NE District Spring Board Meeting**

**Saturday, Feb. 24, 2024 - 10:00 a.m.**

**Blackshear Place Library meeting room - Oakwood, GA**

**Invitation only**

**GFWC NE District Spring Meeting**

**Saturday, March 30th 10:00 .am.**

**Hartwell, GA**

**CONGRATULATIONS TO HARTWELL SERVICE LEAGUE ON THEIR  
50TH ANNIVERSARY!**

*Dream Higher than the Sky and Deeper than the Ocean*



BARBARA BROOKS, NE  
DISTRICT PRESIDENT  
2022-2024





**Karen Snow-Holms**  
Chairman

# **GFWC Signature Project: Domestic Violence**

Please continue to bring in your donations for the children's Easter baskets at the next two meetings. We plan to assemble them after the March meeting. Delivery to Gateway will be March 28th. I need to make a visit to the storage unit to see what supplies we have to complete decorating and any purchases we may have to make. Thanks to all of you who've already made donations. We're looking good.

## **February is TEEN DATING VIOLENCE AWARENESS MONTH**

Orange is the color for anyone wishing to identify with this awareness. February 6th there is a webinar legislative session for anyone interested. Things to consider: 1 in 4 teens is harassed or abused through technology. This is the time to raise awareness of "patterns" of abuse. They include verbal, emotional, physical, and sexual abuse where one partner gains and maintains power and control over the other through abusive behavior. Some examples of this abuse include hitting, yelling,, possessiveness, demanding, throwing things and controlling phone use. These behaviors often cause the recipients depression, sleeplessness, self harm, suicide attempts, often not sharing their experiences with anyone who can help them. The Georgia Hotline number is: 1-855-53PEACE.

The 23rd annual domestic and sexual violence advocacy event, *Stand with Survivors Day(s)* (SWSD) events include the following:

- **Advocacy 101:** (Webinar)

During this 2-hour webinar you will learn more about our advocacy priorities, receive tips on how to talk to legislators, and be able to ask questions.

February 6th, 2024

- **Kickoff:** (In-Person)

During this event you will learn about how our key legislative priorities impact survivors and their families.

February 7th, 2024



Please plan to attend both events and on February 7th, please wear purple and your club name tag. Visit [Stand With Survivors Day - Georgia Coalition Against Domestic Violence \(gcadv.org\)](https://www.gcadv.org) to register for the event. Contact Karen Snow-Holmes or Debbie Brown for carpool information.

## **Gateway Christmas Party**

December  
2023



**Wellspring Living**

GFWC Georgia Signature Project 2022-2024



# Education CSP (continued)



The Education CSP has decided to try a new project this year that all members should be interested in participating in – Phoenix Book Club! We have set the goal for 3 books this year. You can read the books suggested and then we will have a brief meeting – set up before our regular meeting. The first book we are reading is: *Women At Ground Zero* by Susan Hagen and Mary Carouba. It is about women who were at ground zero on September 11, 2001. It is their stories as told to the authors. You can purchase from Amazon, or download to a Kindle or tablet. or go to the library to borrow. We would like this first book to be read by April 1, 2024. We will then schedule a meeting to discuss the book – did you like it, how did you feel about the stories, would you recommend it to others, etc. We will also announce the next book to start reading. If you are interested in participating please let Brenda Martin know at [brenmartin516@gmail.com](mailto:brenmartin516@gmail.com) or at 770-539-2075. If you are participating, please go ahead and get the book and begin reading. I think this is a simple easy project we can do and who knows? We might actually learn something along the way. I am also open to book suggestions for our next two books. I am looking for books on strong women or about strong women. You can also put this title on your ESO form.

## IT'S A LEAP YEAR!

The year 2024 is marked by an event that takes place every four years – it is a leap year! This addition of an extra day in February results in a 366-day calendar. The practice originates from the necessity to align the calendar year with the actual time it takes Earth to orbit the Sun, approximately 365 days and 6 hours. Without this adjustment, hours would accumulate over time, leading to a desynchronization of seasons and affecting numerous activities and calendars. The practice of adding a leap day every four years was first initiated by the Egyptians. Leap years are associated with various myths and superstitions. Some believe these years bring bad luck, a belief reflected in unfortunate historical events coinciding with leap years. In 2024, due to the leap year adjustment, spring is scheduled to arrive early, on Tuesday, March 19. The vernal equinox, which marks the commencement of spring, is a significant event. Spring characterizes transformation and optimism and brings along astronomical wonders for nature enthusiasts!

### *Georgia Day - February 12*



After years of planning and two months crossing the Atlantic, James Edward Oglethorpe and 114 colonists climbed 40 feet up the bluff from the Savannah River on February 12, 1733 and founded the colony of Georgia. George II granted the Georgia trustees a charter for the colony a year earlier. The trustees' motto was *Non Sibi Sed Aliis*—not for self but for others. Georgia would be a philanthropic and military enterprise that would provide the “worthy” poor a new start and serve as a buffer between Spanish Florida and the English colonies. The trustees prohibited slavery and large landholdings; Georgians would work for themselves on small farms. In the end, there were no debtors among them. In November 1732 Oglethorpe and the colonists boarded the *Anne* in Gravesend, England and after stopping briefly in South Carolina, arrived safely in Georgia. The 13th and last of the British colonies on mainland North America grew to become the largest of the United States east of the Mississippi after its founding.



# A Moment of Inspiration

"Life is like underwear, change is good."

## ***Parliamentary procedure***

- To make a motion you must be recognized by a presiding officer. Then say: I move...whatever you want the members to consider.
- Before discussion can begin, the motion must be seconded. Please say your name when you second the motion so that the secretary will know who seconded the motion.
- The vote can be called when a member "Calls the question.". This can be done at any time, but especially if a member thinks the discussion is getting repetitive. When the question is called, a vote will be taken, thus ending the discussion.

## **LEADERSHIP TRAITS**

L Loyalty  
E Empathy  
A Accountability  
D Duty & Determination  
E Engery & Encouragement  
R Respect  
S Selflessness  
H Honorable & Humble  
I Intergrity & Innovation  
P Passion for & Pride in work

## Awards Banquet Menu

Thursday, March 21st

*Please let Peggy know your choices!*

### *First Course*

Tossed Salad with choice of dressings

### *Second Course*

#### CHOICE OF:

1. Petite Tenders of Beef with peppercorn crème sauce, mashed potatoes, and vegetable
2. Tilapia with grilled squash, tomatoes, brussel sprouts, and a lemon butter sauce
3. Chicken sautéed with creamed spinach, bacon and tomatoes over mashed potatoes

### *Third Course*

#### Dessert choices:

1. New York Cheese Cake with strawberry sauce
2. Key Lime Pie
3. Raspberry Sorbet

We will meet at Lunas @ 6:30 p.m. - \$42 (plus tax and tip) rolls, butter, and drinks are included. Mixed drinks are extra.

**We will be voting for Club Woman of the Year at the February meeting. The ballot is below:**

**Jill Bagley \* Renette Todd \* Brenda Martin  
Winner will be announced at the Awards Banquet**



## *Hands that serve!*

Suzette Cone volunteers at My Sister's Place. Phoenix sponsored a table at the My Sister's Place Fundraising Gala in January.