

MARCH 2024

The Gainesville Phoenix Woman's Club, Inc. Newsletter

A member of the General Federation of Women's Clubs International



Recent Successes:

Four Members were red to the February Board meeting for Heart Awareness Month

Fifteen members were red To the February Meeting for Heart Awareness Month

Six members attended the new playground grand opening at Wauka Mtn Elementary School

Eight members attended the My Sister's Place Gala

Members brought Easter Baskets items for Gateway DV children

Fifty dollars was donated to Boy Scout Troop #26

**The GFWC Gainesville
Phoenix Woman's Club, Inc**

P. O. Box 108

Gainesville, GA 30503

Renette Todd, editor, rwtdanjct@bellsouth.net

770-540-6445 cell

From the President's Desk...

Ladies,

The weather is warming up and so are our projects!!

We will be putting Easter Baskets together for the children at Gateway after our board meeting on March 7 at Susan Miscally's house. Please consider attending this meeting to understand how the board operates and to assist in assembling the baskets.

Our Awards Banquet will be March 21, 2024, at 6:30pm at Luna's. Please contact Peggy to let her know you are attending.

A couple of members will be attending the Gateway to Hope Gala on March 22. It's a great cause and your \$75 ticket price is a donation directly to Gateway. If you are interested, please let me know.

March 23 is our Ladies Time Out (LTO) event to Tallulah Falls School for a school tour, visit of Lipscomb Cottage, lunch with the students and enjoying the play *Little Women*. Carpools are forming. Let Renette know if you plan to attend.

Our last event for the month is the district meeting in Hartwell, GA on March 30th. These ladies do a great job hosting this event and it's only \$18 to attend. If you have not attended a district meeting, now is your chance. Write your check to Gainesville Phoenix Woman's Club and give it to Renette. She will write one check for all members attending and send it with the registration form to Hartwell by the deadline of 03/18/2024. We will plan on carpooling.

Happy Easter to all on March 31st. Enjoy time with family and friends.

**Thursday, March 21, 2024 Annual Awards
Banquet**

6:30 p.m. @ Lunas

Come celebrate our accomplishments!



*In federation
love,
Debbie*



ART & CULTURE CSP



Art CSP: 2024-2026
Joan Sheffield

Hearts were full at The Gardens Assisted Living facility, and it was hopping with Valentine Hugs and Motown hits on February 14th! Personalized porcelain hearts were distributed to residents, along with Valentine wishes and candy. Our Club wrote uplifting messages on the hearts to these residents, many of which do not have family in the area. About 25, or a third of the population, are in a memory care unit, but they knew exactly what Valentine's Day is all about, and were the first to want to share the love for being remembered. Our Club brought a lot of joy and happiness to many forgotten seniors, and they were most appreciative. Great job, Phoenix Women!

EDUCATION AND LIBRARIES CSP



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

Tina Neese asked if our Club would help with a project she is working on. Centennial Elementary has a large population of Hispanic and other cultures who not only have language barriers, but lack the essential resources for school enrollment. Several students have had to drop out because of lack of funds (\$20) to get immunized. On March 8th, Centennial will host its first ever Parent Academy to aide 35 hand selected families in finding resources for basic family needs. Seven agencies will be represented to assist parents in understanding requirements for attending school. Social workers will provide tips in helping students with curriculum, assistance with providing nutritious meals, and help with discipline. Tina stated that drives are held during the year to stock their onsite food and clothes closet with essentials. She expressed needs for children's underwear, socks, and gently worn shoes. On March 8th, our Club is providing breakfast and lunch for the 35 familys. Tina has asked we provide pastries and donuts in the morning, and sandwiches at lunch. These items are being purchased, and your donation to help facilitate this important community effort will be appreciated. Please contact Joan Sheffield (770.530.0459) for additional information.

At the March Awards Banquet, we will color and decorate special book marks for seniors at Jean's assisted living facility. This is a project all can do!

Wednesday, March 6th we will meet at Sardis Elementary and read Green Eggs and Ham to the students.

Six members attended the playground opening at Wauka Mtn Elementary School

Reading times: 10:35-10:55 & 10:55-11:15. Please wear green.

Boy Scout Troop 26, led by Phil Dennis, is painting, assembling, and installing our new Little Library. A donation of \$50 has been given to their troop for their help. Books will be needed once the new library is installed.

The Sandra Deal Scholarship, newly developed by our club, has been posted to the Gainesville City Schools website. We hope to post it to the Hall County Schools website as well. It has been added to our new website, too. Encourage applicants!



Nathan Deal reads to children at Sardis on Sandra's birthday.



Environments CSP:
2024-2026
Renette



ENVIRONMENTS CSP

Cherokee Rose (*Rosa laevigata*) was designated as the state flower of Georgia in 1916 under the mistaken belief that it was indigenous to Georgia; however, it is indigenous to South China, and its introduction to Georgia was the result of deliberate cultivation. In fact, Cherokee Rose is a Category 4 Invasive plant. It is important for Georgia to promote native plant species in its identity to align with the state's priorities to protect and preserve ecosystems. The non-native, invasive Cherokee Rose should be replaced with a native plant that represents Georgia's natural heritage.

The Georgia Native Plant Society suggests that Sweetbay Magnolia (*Magnolia virginiana*), a native plant found across Georgia, would better represent Georgia as its state flower. Sweetbay Magnolia supports the lifecycle of Georgia's state butterfly, the Eastern Tiger Swallowtail, contributing to vital pollinator's habitat. It has a rich history in Georgia's botanical heritage and was used by indigenous communities.

In order to move this legislation forward before crossover day, we are asking you to contact your state senator by email or by phone as soon as possible, and ask him/her to support Senator Rick William's efforts to change Georgia's State Flower.

CIVIC ENGAGEMENT & OUTREACH CSP

There are many ways to get involved at Good News at Noon, especially now that they have moved into their new facilities. Listed below are a few of the many ways you can get involved in their ministry. While it is important to volunteer, the ability for our neighbors to connect with the community and form meaningful connections with brothers and sisters in Christ is above all else.

Volunteer

Volunteers have always been the "life blood" of the Good News at Noon ministry and there are a variety of opportunities available to fit your schedule.

Mentor

The Good News at Noon mentoring program (Pathway to Life) is a great opportunity for men and women who are available a few hours each week to engage with individuals in the transformational shelter through the process of reconciliation and restoration. We ask for a 6-9 month commitment, if you are interested in participating in this program.

Meal Ministry

Good News at Noon serves lunch and supper daily, 365 days/year so we usually have openings for those who want to bring a meal, prepare a meal, and/or serve a meal.

Collaborate

Good News at Noon is interested in partnering with any group or organization that can provide services to assist our homeless neighbors and/or shelter residents move toward health and wholeness.





HEALTH & WELLNESS CSP

March is “Save Your Vision Month”. Here are some Healthy Vision Tips:

1. Eat right to protect your sight! A well-balanced diet keeps eyes healthy, especially different types of fruits and veggies such as leafy greens. Salmon, tuna, and halibut have also been shown to help your eyes.
2. Get moving. Overweight and obesity can put you at higher risk for diabetes and other conditions that can lead to vision problems.
3. Speak up if your vision changes. Do you squint? Is your vision blurry.
4. Wear your glasses. Keep them clean of smudges.
5. Keep germs away. Wash your hands before putting them close to your eyes, especially if you wear contacts.
6. Gear up! Wear protection when playing sports, in the sun at the beach, or when dealing with chemicals.
7. Wear your shades! The sun’s rays can hurt your eyes. Choose sunglasses that block 99% or 100% of both UVA and UVB radiation.
8. 20/20/20 Rule. Every 20 minutes, look up from a computer, TV, book, phone, look 20 feet away for 20 seconds.
9. Say no to smoking. Smoking can lead to some serious eye issues.
10. Talk about it. Talk about eye health with your family.

March Wellness Assignment: At the March meeting, please bring a recipe that makes a substitution to make a dish with less calories. Look this up, or modify your favorite recipe.

On-going: bingo prizes, children’s toothbrushes, feminine products, exercise.

Officer Reports:

Vice President, Jill Bagley: This month is our Annual Awards Banquet. We will celebrate our members as well as our club accomplishments in the community. We will hear how many projects and volunteer hours our members gave to organizations in our community in 2023. At the end of March, at the NE District Meeting we will hear of awards and certificates our club won in our district. Come celebrate with us!

Secretary, Susan Miscally: Minutes from February 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? Please mail your check today! Thank you.

Meeting location needed!!!

The United Way will be under construction for most of 2024. Do you know of a location that is free, or inexpensive, that we could hold our monthly meetings on Thursday evenings? Please let Debbie Brown know your thoughts. Thanks!

Would you like to help with our Social Media?

New website and email are in the works. Facebook pages are being updated. Join us on Instagram, too! If you would like to help with posting and monitoring, please see Shannon Richard or Renette Todd. Thanks!

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 The Girl Scouts of Historic GA.

Girl Scouts of Historic Ga, 535 Spring Street, Gainesville, GA

Girl Scouts of Historic Georgia believes in the power of every G.I.R.L. (Go-getter, Innovator, Risktaker, Leader)™ to change the world, and we offer a safe space for girls to take healthy risks, explore interests and connect with a powerful, supportive community of friends and mentors. With support from dedicated adult volunteers, parents and staff, Girl Scouts of Historic Georgia delivers the Girl Scout Leadership Experience (GSLE) to over 13,000 girls and 4,466 adults in 122 counties across Georgia as well as two counties in South Carolina and one county in Alabama. Our council's footprint is more than 48,000 square miles and includes Girl Scouts First Headquarters. Girl Scouts was founded by Juliette Gordon Low on March 12, 1912 in Savannah, Georgia, and every year thousands of girls still travel to Savannah to visit Girl Scout First Headquarters and attend Girl Scout QuestFest. Other popular Girl Scout landmarks include GSUSA's Juliette Gordon Low Birthplace and Juliette's grave at Laurel Grove Cemetery North. As your local council, we're your partner in all things Girl Scouts, and we can't wait for you to get started! Whether you're a girl looking for fun programming, an adult who wants to make a difference in girls' lives by volunteering or a corporation, foundation, organization or individual that wants to support our good work through sponsorship or donation, you've come to the right place! Girl Scouts of Historic Georgia is a 501(c)(3) non-profit organization. We are nonpartisan, and do not support one political party or candidate over another.

Our Contact:
Patty Laine
678-316-2450
Patty@thelaines.net



Little Women

A musical produced by the Tallulah Falls Drama and Choral Department

Saturday, March 23rd, TFS Day Trip

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. We are collecting an extra \$5 to donate to Kim's TFS President's Project (total: **\$20**). I need a head count by March 15th for both the lunchroom and the theater. They are going to block off our seats.

Did you know?

Founded in 1984, the Women's History and Resource Center collects, preserves, interprets, and promotes the history of the GFWC and women volunteers. The WHRC documents the social and political contributions of GFWC clubwomen from 1890 to the present through the GFWC archives, related special collections, and publications. We also maintain a reference library collection focused on women's history, the woman's club movement, and the history of volunteerism. Jane Cunningham Croly, journalist, author, editor, and woman's club leader, was born in Market Harborough, Leicestershire, England. Croly was the fourth child of Jane Scott and Joseph Howes Cunningham, a Unitarian preacher. Her father's unpopular beliefs reportedly led to the stoning of their house and the impetus for the family's move to the United States in 1841. In 1854, at age 25, Jane arrived in New York City in search of work. The New York Tribune accepted her first article. She then began working as a journalist for the New York Sunday Times and Noah's Weekly Messenger, where she started using the pen name Jennie June and wrote a women's column called "Parlor and Side-walk Gossip."



GFWC International
President
Deb Strahanoski
2022-2024

March is Women's History Month

Jane Cunningham Croly
aka Jennie June Organized
the GFWC in 1890



GFWC GA

GFWC Georgia members live in cities, suburbs, and rural communities around the state. They are professional women, students, stay-at-home moms, and retirees, united by a shared commitment to volunteer community service. GFWC Georgia works locally and internationally to bring about positive change with an unwavering dedication to community improvement through volunteer service. Simply put, we impact lives through acts large and small.



Kim Sekulow, GFWC
GA President
2022-2024

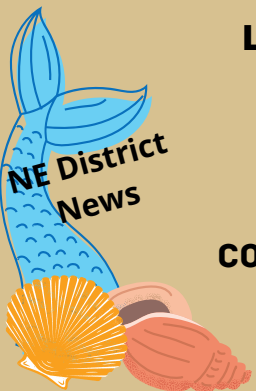
GFWC NE District Spring Meeting Saturday, March 30th 10:00 .am.

Lunch is \$18. Please pay our club Treasurer prior to the meeting.

**Hart County Library
150 Benson St, Hartwell, GA 30643**

**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

THANK YOU ALL !!!

The generosity you have shown for the Easter basket project has been tremendous. We will finish packing and decorating each basket after the next board meeting. Delivery of the baskets will be on the 28th of March, concluding this project.

Many of you showed interest in the VIRTUS PROJECT "Protecting God's Children" Program. This is a 3-hour program which focuses on prevention and identification of child abuse and sexual predators. It includes videos of abusers with discussion of identifying the abuser and the children who may be experiencing abuse.

Some warning signs of an abuser might include:

- Attempts to be alone with or isolating the child
- May be more excited or more inclined to be with children rather than adults
- Gives gifts to the child w/o the parent's permission
- Goes overboard with touching, tickling, wrestling, etc.
- Uses inappropriate language with children, incl. jokes
- Behaves or speaks as if the rules don't apply to them
- Allows children to engage in activities their parents would not allow
- Encourages the child to keep secrets
- Takes, posts, and shares photos w/o the parents or organization's approval
- Shows young people sexual content or pornography (considered sexual abuse)

Some signs a child may have been targeted- include but are not limited to:

- There may be a change in the child's behavior
- A child who has been continent, may start wetting the bed or himself
- May begin having somatic symptoms more frequently
- May actively change routine activities w/o explanation
- May stop participating in favorite activity
- Becomes "moody"
- Child with a history of good grades suddenly shows decline in those grades/shows dislike in school

If you suspect a child is in immediate danger from abuse, call 911 IMMEDIATELY !!!

To report known or suspected abuse, contact: Division of Family & Children Services (DFCS)
1-855-GA CHILD
1-855-422-4453

Wellspring Living is our State President's, Kim Sekulow, special project. March is Wellspring Living's 23rd birthday!! For the month of March club members and clubs are being asked to donate \$23 to support Wellspring Living. Please bring your checks written out to Gainesville Phoenix WC to the board meeting or the general meeting which is our banquet. Our treasurer, Renette, will write one check to GFWC Georgia.



Wellspring Living

GFWC Georgia Signature Project 2022-2024

For more information:

Office of Child And Youth Protection

OCYP @archati.com

24 hour Abuse Reporting Hotline 1-888-437-0764



Membership Moment

Why are we going to Tallulah Falls School this month?

By the early 1900's the north Georgia region had become a haven for city dwellers who sought the cool and calm of the mountain woodlands. One such summer resident was Mrs. Mary Ann Lipscomb of Athens, Georgia. She met many of the local children and was moved by their hunger for knowledge. She began to teach a few of these children on her front porch, but she knew this was not enough. Mrs. Lipscomb saw the need for the mountain children of the area to have a school of their own, and largely through her efforts as president of the Georgia Federation of Women's Clubs, Tallulah Falls School became a reality in 1909.

Lipscomb was a woman with great determination, and as president of the Georgia Federation of Women's Clubs (GaFWC), she was also a woman with considerable influence. At the 1906 GaFWC Convention, Lipscomb offered a resolution recommending the founding of a school by the Federation at Tallulah Falls. She concluded her resolution by saying: "My sisters, the question for you is not what you are going to get out of the world, but what you are going to give to the world." The resolution was unanimously adopted.

On June 30, 1909, the Tallulah Falls Industrial School was formally opened. The first day of school was held on July 12, 1909, as the school opened its doors to the children of Habersham and Rabun counties. Annie Thrasher of Watkinsville, Georgia, was the teacher, and 21 mountain boys and girls eager for learning were the school's first pupils. TFS continued to be both a public and private institution for 50 more years (until 1970).

The Lipscomb Cottage is one of the first structures built on the TFS campus and has been used over its illustrious life as a dormitory, classroom building, administrative offices and the school museum. In 2006 the cottage was saved from demolition, fully-renovated and now serves as the State Headquarters of the GFWC-Georgia. Today, it contains photos, scrapbooks, period furniture, and memorabilia from past to present.

The Lipscomb Cottage is supported by the GFWC Georgia Lipscomb Society and the GFWC GA Ella F. White Foundation.

**GFWC Gainesville Phoenix
Woman's Club**

**Membership 03/01/2024:
18 Active Members on role
4 Patron Members on role**

***Thoughts and
prayers for
healing go to
Brenda Martin and
Jean Hawkins***



LEADERSHIP

Courage doesn't always roar. Sometimes courage is the little voice at the end of the day that says I'll try again tomorrow.

Mary Anne Radmacher

MARK YOUR CALENDARS FOR THE APRIL LADIES TIME OUT EVENT!!!

Before our April 18th meeting, you are invited to walk the square and beyond soaking up the 2nd Annual ART WALK, sponsored by Historic Gainesville from 4-8pm. We hope you will plan to experience the vast creative culture while you discover local galleries, meet local artists, and view pop-up art shows in various downtown business storefronts. This is a FREE event offering refreshments, live music, and trolley rides to view Midland, Green Street, and Brenau districts in addition to downtown. You won't want to miss out, so let's meet earlier than usual and soak up some culture! See Joan Sheffield if interested!

If you have an idea for a Ladies Time Out event, please let Debbie Brown know!



Sunday, March 10th
Spring Forward

Turn your clock ahead one hour!

Happy Birthday!



**Wauka
Mountain
Elementary
Inclusive
Playground
Grand Opening**



A Moment of Inspiration

An Irish Blessing

May the road rise to meet you,
May the wind be always at your back.
May the sun shine warm upon your face,
The rains fall soft upon your fields.
And until we meet again,
May God hold you in the palm of his hand.

May God be with you and bless you;
May you see your children's children.
May you be poor in misfortune,
Rich in blessings,
May you know nothing but happiness
From this day forward.

May the road rise to meet you
May the wind be always at your back
May the warm rays of sun fall upon your home
And may the hand of a friend always be near.

May green be the grass you walk on,
May blue be the skies above you,
May pure be the joys that surround you,
May true be the hearts that love you.



Awards Banquet Thursday, March 21st

Please let Peggy Blackmon know you're coming!

March is an exciting month! We have several opportunities as members to celebrate our 2023 projects together, take a day trip to do something fun, and meet some clubwomen in our district. I hope all of you will come to the Awards Banquet at Luna's at our regular meeting date, March 21, to break bread and recognize outstanding club projects and clubwomen.

Our day trip to Tallulah Falls School is Saturday March 23. Many of you have already signed up to see the school, visit Lipscomb cottage, eat in the cafeteria with the students and see the play, Little Women. It will be fun, inspirational, and educational.

Then on Saturday, March 30, we will travel to Hartwell Georgia for the North East District meeting to join other clubs and celebrate awards for outstanding work, install new officers and fellowship with like minded women. This is a great opportunity to network, share ideas and projects, plus make some new friends. As Spring celebrates new life, this is a great time to start a new friendship and cultivate the ones you have. Join us!

Club Projects for March

1. Wednesday, March 6th - Sardis Garden. We will read Green Eggs and Ham to the students from 10:35-10:55 & 10:55-11:15. Please wear green. Remember that to volunteer you must first complete the online compliance modules. Please print and bring to the school with you.
2. Thursday, March 7th, 1:00 pm Board Meeting at Susan Miscally's house, and afterwards put together Easter Baskets for Gateway Domestic Violence Center.
3. Friday, March 8th, 9:00 am Parent Meeting at Centennial Elementary School. Needed are sub-sandwiches, bananas, apples, and donuts for 35 people. If you would like to help, please see Joan Sheffield. Thanks!
4. All month - Food Drive for GA Mtn Food Bank. Needed items are cereals and grains. Bring to the club meeting or put in the collection bins.
5. Thursday, March 21st, Awards Banquet at Lunas. Please let Peggy Blackmon know you will attend.
6. Saturday, March 23rd, Little Women performance at TFS. Please let Renette know if you plan to attend. Total: \$20
7. Saturday, March 30th, NE District Spring meeting in Hartwell at the Hart County Library, 9:00 am. Please let Jill know if you plan to attend. Cost: \$18