

GFWC MOUNT DORA WOMAN'S CLUB, INC.



KEY NOTES



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Sharron Semento, CH
Civic Engagement & Outreach

Alison Horvath, CH
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Jerry Hardwick, CH
Education & Libraries

Mary Groeller, CH
Health & Wellness

Cathleen Arciero, CH
ESO Book Club

Nancy Kennedy, CH
Way and Means

Linda Urry, CH
Hospitality

Suzanne Gibson
President

April 2024
Editor

Joanna Fox
Editor

President's Corner

Dear Members,

As we step into April, I'm reminded of the age-old saying: "April showers bring May flowers." While it's true that we, like spring flowers, exhibit vibrancy, beauty, and a pleasant fragrance, there's more to us than meets the eye.

We are dandelions! The very word "dandelion" originates from the French phrase "lion's teeth." It symbolizes resilience, determination, and the ability to overcome challenges. These qualities define us—our mission of volunteerism and service to the community.

Reflecting on March, your contributions have been remarkable. You attended meetings, served food at the Senior Center and Center Street Kitchen, crafted Linus blankets, explored the Morse museum, participated in orientation and book club sessions, and volunteered for the Green Garden Lab and the Easter Egg Hunt at the library. Your kindness has touched countless lives within our community, and for that, I am sincerely grateful.

Yet, there's more work ahead. So, my fellow dandelions, let's dig deep and embrace April with the tenacity of lion's teeth. Together, we'll continue making a positive impact.

Suzanne

April Program

Guest Speak
Daryl Herson
Assistant Director
Christian Care Center

Hosted by Civic Engagement & Outreach



Calling all
GFWC Mount Dora Woman's Club Members

**2024 Annual
Fashion Show and Luncheon**

Saturday, May 4, 2024
11:30 am
\$35.00 per person

Country Club of Mount Dora
1900 Country Club Blvd.
Mount Dora, FL 32757

Tickets on Sale at the April 3rd Luncheon & General Meeting and on the events page of our website at gfwcmdwc.com

APRIL DATES TO REMEMBER

- Apr 3 Luncheon & General Meeting
Registration 11:30 a.m.
Lunch at Noon
General Meeting 1:00 p.m.
- Apr 5 Center Street Kitchen
- Apr 9 Master Key Nominations Due
- Apr 13 GFWC Florida Annual Convention
- Apr 18 Walk n' Talk
- Apr 19 Bountiful Farms
- Apr 22 Passover
- Apr 24 Executive Board Meeting

We need your help with the following:

- ◆ Spread the word and sell tickets
- ◆ Raffle Basket Donations
- ◆ Fashion Models Needed
(8 models needed)

Sign up sheets will be available at the April 3rd Meeting.

The General Federation of Women's Clubs is a nonprofit organization that brings together local women's clubs in a collective effort to strengthen communities and enhance the lives of others through volunteer service.



Community Service Programs



ARTS & CULTURE Gina Conway, CH

As our season draws to a close, I find myself reflecting on the fond memories we've participated in throughout the year for the Arts and Culture Committee.

We still have one more opportunity ahead of us: the Ice House Theatre production of "Vanya & Sonia & Masha & Spike" on Thursday, May 30, 2024. This acclaimed play, which won the 2013 Tony Award for Best Play, and Drama Desk Outstanding Play.

Synopsis: Vanya and Sonia, just can't seem to get on with living. Suddenly, Masha, their move-star sister, swoops in with her new boy toy, Spike, firing up old sibling rivalries. A humorous and heartfelt journey home.

The two volunteer activities available are either ushering for 1/2 hour or sitting at the will-call table giving out pre-purchased tickets before the show begins. Both are easy work. Then, you get to see the show for free!

A sign-up sheet will be provided at our April meeting. If you have any questions or want to sign-up early, feel free to call me or you can email me

I look forward to seeing you there!

Gina



EDUCATION & LIBRARIES Jerry Hardwick, CH

Thank you ladies of GFWC-MDWC for your generous contribution of children's books during last Wednesday's luncheon meeting.. Gail Goldberg and I delivered the books to Lake Cares Food Pantry on Thursday morning to a delighted group of staff members anxious to distribute the books to qualified students.

The signup for volunteers for the 2024 Green Garden Lab was successful. Further details will be provided by Alison Horvath as to time, where to park, etc.

We continue to seek volunteers for the W. T. Bland Library Easter Egg Hunt to be held on the Saturday before Easter. If you are interested please give me a call or email me .



CIVIC ENGAGEMENT & OUTREACH Sharron Semento, CH

During the April membership meeting, the Civic Engagement & Outreach Committee is hosting speaker Daryl Herson, Assistant Director of The Christian Care Center....Samaritan Inn. This facility is transitional housing for homeless children and their parents or caregivers.



ENVIRONMENT Alison Horvath, CH

The Environment & Conservation committee hopes you will keep up the good work of collecting plastic for the Trout Lake Bench project over the next few months. They have already collected enough for half a bench!

Be on the lookout on our website for a list of new recycling opportunities for materials and where to send them. This should answer some of your questions about "What should I do with...?"

Also, since it's spring, how about planting a tree somewhere - your yard, a friend's place, neighborhood common area-because it's good for the environment, because it's beautiful, or just because!



HEALTH & WELLNESS Mary Groeller, CH



April is National Stress Awareness Month. Stress is a natural part of life, but we all know that too much stress can have a negative effect on our physical and mental health. So what can we do to manage our stress? Physical activity can refocus our minds and improve our moods. Eating a healthy diet is essential. Avoid drinking too much caffeine or alcohol and do not smoke. Get enough sleep, laugh more, connect more with others, and meditate. For many counseling is an important part of the stress management process, especially stress that becomes too much to manage alone.

Members who have signed up for the trip to Bountiful Farms will be contacted by email with information about where, what time to meet, and the time of the reservation. If you have not been to the farm before there is a farm store where you can buy fresh fruits and vegetables. For more information their website is www.bountifulfarmsinc.com.



MEMBERSHIP

MEMBERSHIP
Therese Haberle, CH

When you attend Orientation, you'll hear a lot about the "Benefits of Belonging". For me, the biggest benefit of belonging to this wonderful club is the avenue it has given me to form meaningful relationships with many like-minded women.

You don't form meaningful relationships at lunch! You form those meaningful relationships by participating in various committees, projects, and volunteer activities. So, please, don't be shy! Attend a Community Service Program meeting, show up at Walk n Talk, help decorate for the lunches, or go to the Senior Center or Center Street Kitchen!

Raise your hand, voice your ideas, and make the effort to develop lasting friendships!



ESO
Cathleen Arciero, CH

Our next ESO Book Club Meeting is Wednesday, May 15, 2024 at 1:30 p.m. at the library.

This will be a fun read for all! Relax and enjoy. Happy Easter. Cheers!



HOSPITALITY
Linda Urry, CH

Sometimes I find myself confusing hospitality with entertainment, but in reality, hospitality is about welcoming people into your life and showing them genuine love. It's not about the fancy centerpieces or party favors; it's about the meaningful friendships we create. I'm truly thankful for that.



THE MASTER KEY

The "Master Key" (also known as the "Golden Key!") will be awarded at the May meeting. The Key is a "travelling" award that gets passed on every 2 years. It is awarded to a Club member who demonstrates by words and deeds the best qualities we aspire to as a member of this organization.

The award winner should be someone who attends meetings, participates in various activities, and takes initiative in projects. AND, the award winner is someone who is always respectful of others.

The Key can only be awarded to someone who is **NOMINATED IN WRITING** by a member of the Club. Such nominations should elucidate some facts and rationale for the nomination.

The nominations will be considered by the Master Key Committee. Please email me your nominations (you may nominate as many members as you would like) by **APRIL 9th**.



SUNSHINE COMMITTEE

If you know of a club member going through a rough patch and could use some TLC, i.e., a ride, to the doctor, help with meals, a call, or a visit, please let a Hospitality/Sunshine Committee member know so we may bring some sunshine their way. Contact Linda Urry.



CORRESPONDENCE SECRETARY
Flo Fenneman

Thank you to all who gave me the names and addresses of people I should contact with a note from MDWC!

If you know of anyone who needs a ray of Sunshine please contact me at: Flofenn@yahoo.com



WAYS & MEANS COMMITTEE
Nancy Kennedy, CH

For Fashion Show questions, please contact me. I'm looking forward to another strong team effort from our members for a successful fundraiser.



Announcements



Happy Birthday

Alisa Constant	4/2
Flo Fenneman	4/2
Laura Gibson	4/6
Vickie Stockglausner	4/9
Yolanda Kassay	4/11
Linda Urry	4/20
Barbara Parker	4/25
Alison Horvath	4/27



Tammy Amirault

Tammy joined the women's club in March of 2023 and is currently active on the membership committee. She founded, owns, and operates the Tavares Dog House, a family-friendly sports bar where you can eat, drink and play

She supports and is passionate about Forever Home Animal Rescue, a non-profit organization that provides shelter, love, and training to dogs until they find their forever families.

Originally from Dutchess County, New York, Tammy moved to Mount Dora after middle school and graduated from Mount Dora High School. After college, she spent 20 years working for Disney, initially in Orlando and eventually in California. She returned to the area in 2016 and built a new home on Deer Island in 2018.

Tammy has been married to the love of her life, Chris, for 15 years and they have two Jack Russell Terriers, Jack and Jill. In her spare time, Tammy enjoys cooking, walking, biking, and being on the water.

Walk 'n' Talk Save the Date! The third Thursday, April 18, 9:30 a.m.. Place TBD!

A Snippet of Mount Dora History

Local legend suggests that the large, beautiful lake upon which the city grew is named for Ms. Dora Ann Drawdy (1819-1885), who homesteaded in the mid-1800s and befriended federal surveyors with her warm hospitality. In 1846, the surveyors named Lake Dora for her, and years later, in 1883, the small but growing town was named for the lake. Today, Ms. Drawdy is buried in Umatilla.

Research has shown that the first survey maps were published in 1848 with the name "Lake Dora." The William and Dora Ann Drawdy family is listed as farmers in Georgia, not Florida, on the 1850 U.S. Census. They arrive in Mount Dora before the 1860 census. So the mystery remains of the identity of the first Dora for whom the lake is named.

Excerpt from the City of Mount Dora Website.



Sanitation Facility Tour in Tavares



Announcements



During the March Luncheon & General Meeting, a check for \$2400 was graciously presented to Arlene Golden, representing the Forward Paths Foundation. The funds were raised during the Celebration Tea Fundraiser held in February.



The Education & Libraries Committee had a very successful book drive benefiting children in K through 5th grade. The books were delivered to Lake Cares Food Pantry. Pictured: Maureen Melvold, Gail Goldberg, Diane Scott, Jerry Hardwick, and Diane Cole.



The dedicated Environment and Conservation Committee wrapped approximately \$400 in coins raised for World Water Day. Pictured: Lori Steuter, Dee Olive, Gail Goldberg, Vickie Stockglausner, Barbara Phillips, Irene Rosenberg, Sue Mason (out of picture), and Alison Horvath taking the picture.

