



KEY NOTES



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December 2023

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Education & Libraries

Mary Groeller, CH
Health & Wellness

Cathleen Arciero, CH
ESO Book Club

Nancy Kennedy, CH
Way and Means

Linda Urry, CH
Hospitality

President's Corner

Do you believe in Santa Claus?

Last month you donated sheets, toiletries, baked goods, yard sale items, and Christmas wreaths. You also donated your time and your talent. You "gifted" all those who rely on Lake Cares, Camp Boggy Creek, Center Street Kitchen, the Senior Center, and the Mount Dora Library.

Do you believe in Santa Claus? You should. The spirit of Santa Claus dwells in your heart.

Merry Christmas!

Suzanne

December Program

Christmas
TRIVIA
Party



DECEMBER DATES TO REMEMBER

- Dec 6 Luncheon & General Meeting
Registration 11:30 am
Lunch at Noon
General Meeting 1:00pm
- Dec 3 Center Street Kitchen
- Dec 7 Hanukkah Begins
- Dec 12 Christmas Party at Senior Center
- Dec 15 Placing Wreaths on Veterans
Graves in Pine Forest Cemetery
- Dec 21 Walk n' Talk
- Dec 25 Christmas
- Dec 27 Executive Board Meeting
- Dec 29 Center Street Kitchen
- Dec 31 New Year's Eve

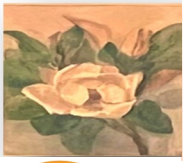


A note from Roseanne Miller, VP

Thank you to everyone who chose an Angel from our Angel Tree. You are making a difference in the lives of the children in the Guardian ad Litem program. Please bring your unwrapped gifts in a bag with the Angel Card attached to the December Luncheon. I look forward to seeing you there and sharing the joy of the season!

Merry Christmas!





Community Service Programs



ARTS & CULTURE

Gina Conway, CH

Happy Holidays everyone. We are having a Christmas Party at the Senior Center located at 803 Florida Ave., Mount Dora (MLK Community Center) on Dec. 12th between 12:30 p.m. and 3:00 p.m. Join us for fun, games, prizes, and lunch, all free!

The Florida Lakes Symphony Orchestra is having their Christmas Concert on December 21st, at the Unitarian Universalist Church in Eustis located at 1235 Mt. Homer Rd starting at 7:30 p.m. If we have a minimum of 10 people who prepay we can get a group rate ticket for \$30.00 each, otherwise, it is \$45.00 at the door. Please bring \$30.00 to the meeting if you wish to attend.

The Sonnentag Theatre at the Ice House in Mount Dora will be showing "Leading Ladies" from January 19th through February 11th. There are plenty of volunteer opportunities available to see the show for FREE! Just call Alissa at the Ice House at 352 383-3133 or, the alternate number, 352 383-4616.

Showcase your creativity in the GFWC Arts & Crafts contest! Bring your arts and crafts projects to the January 3rd meeting, but make sure to email Delores Deen by December 20th and let her what your project is and which category it belongs to. You can also sign up for the contest at the December meeting. Don't miss this opportunity to express yourself and impress the judges!



EDUCATION & LIBRARIES

Jerry Hardwick, CH

The Education and Libraries Committee met on Nov. 14th to discuss new and repeat projects for this term. The March 2024 children's book collection is coming up soon, and we are looking for new and/or gently used books for 1st through 5th graders.

Additionally, if you are interested in supporting our library, please consider becoming a library volunteer. Applications are available at the W.T. Bland Library. Completion will allow you to assist during library-sponsored events such as the annual Easter Egg hunt.



HEALTH & WELLNESS

Mary Groeller, CH

Our Club has had a relationship with the Kiva Assisted Living of Mount Dora for many years. We will continue that relationship this year by delivering a basket of Christmas gifts for the fifteen residents, along with some baked goodies for the staff. We hope this will bring them some holiday cheer. We plan to celebrate other holidays with them throughout the spring.



CIVIC ENGAGEMENT & OUTREACH

Sharron Semento, CH

This committee focuses on citizenship, military personnel, emergency and disaster, and safety prevention.

The GFWC National Day for Service on September 30th was a huge success. We donated 3 carloads of food, \$150.00 in gift cards, and \$5.00 in cash to Forward Paths. We also cooked and served 205 meals for the needy at Center Street Kitchen. Thank you for your heartfelt time and donations to these two food insecurities projects.

Another project was purchasing wreaths for Veterans Across America. There are (332) Veteran's graves in Pine Forest Cemetery in Mount Dora. This project is sponsored by First United Methodist Church. Another way to help is to show up at the cemetery on December 16 at 10:00 a.m. to help place the wreaths on graves. A huge thank you for purchasing wreaths and honoring our Veterans.

Thank you to the members who donated to the Lake Cares Bake Goods Fundraiser. Another event was to donate a 3 piece set of sheets for twin beds at Boggy Creek Camp, again you came through. A special thank you to all of you for those who worked cutting, sewing, and stuffing bears. What a great group of women "Living the Volunteer spirit." (Thanks, Suzanne for your mother's fabric donation.)



ENVIRONMENT

Alison Horvath, CH

Did you know your local library is a good resource for conservationists and gardeners? Tavares Public Library now has a Seed Library—a free exchange of seed packets for the community!

Speaking of saving, start putting those old used terry towels and pesky plastic grocery bags into a corner somewhere. More about these later.

In January our group is planning a boat tour to Blue Springs. We need 25 or more participants to get a group rate. A sign-up sheet will be available at our next meeting to indicate interest. Note: non-members are also invited.





MEMBERSHIP

MEMBERSHIP
Therese Haberle, CH

GFWC is a nonpartisan, nondenominational organization. But as an organization, we are hardly silent! Have you checked the Legislative Action Center on the GFWC.ORG website? Check it out, and see what we (GFWC) are fighting for! Sign up for alerts and send in messages to Congress regarding important legislation, that YOU care about.

While you are on the GFWC.ORG website, check out all the other resources. Learn about our "affiliate organizations" and check out the Member Discounts!

And a P.S. Looking for a few new members so please spread the word!



HOSPITALITY
Linda Urry, CH

Hello GFWC!

It's hard to believe it's almost December! The Hospitality Committee would like to wish you a Happy Thanksgiving!

We are preparing for an awesome December luncheon, it will be all fun and games! Looking forward to seeing you.

Linda



December Walk n' Talk

Save the Date! The rains prevented our walk in the sinkhole in November! So, we will try again, December 21st, at 9:30 a.m. at Hidden Waters Preserve.

Let's meet at the parking lot on Country Club Road (NOT the lot at Abrams). Closed toe shoes are recommended! Hope to see you then!



ESO
Cathleen Arciero, CH

Our next ESO Book Club Meeting is Wednesday, January 17, 2024 at 1:30 p.m. at the library. This is a fun read. Relax and enjoy our blessings this Holiday Season. Cheers.

Cathleen



W&M **WAYS & MEANS COMMITTEE**
Nancy Kennedy, CH

Wow! The Camp Boggy Creek Fundraiser-Yard Sale was a success, raising \$2,307.87!! Proceeds will make a difference in the lives of children with serious medical illnesses. They will have an unforgettable camp experience full of joy and laughter at Camp Boggy Creek.

The event was a great team effort, and I'd like to extend my gratitude to all the members who donated items for the sale, as well as the volunteers who helped with the setup, sales, and cleanup. A special thanks to Suzanne and Terri Gibson for hosting this year's sale at their home.

Save the date...The Forward Paths Foundation Fundraiser Celebration Tea is coming up on Friday, January 26, 2024, at 2:00 p.m. at the Mount Dora Library. The Mount Dora Woman's Club and Mount Dora Library are co-hosting this event, with proceeds benefiting the Forward Paths Foundation. More information will be available soon, so stay tuned!

Blessings for the Holiday Season!

Nancy

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:



Announcements

Happy Birthday

Bonnie Goonen

12/24

Claire Holland

12/30

WELCOME TO OUR NEWEST MEMBERS



Lori Steuter

Dee Olive

SPOTLIGHT ON



Cathleen Arciero

Cathleen has been a member of our club since 2008. She has been active in Hospitality, Membership, Education, ESO Book Club, and is currently the ESO Book Club Chair and our Club Chaplain. Cathleen was also active as a volunteer for the "Mount Dora Women's Committee of Fine Arts" for over 10 years. Cathleen was born in Washington D.C. and at age 5 she moved to Frederick, Maryland. She resided there until she attended Stevens College in Missouri where she double majored in Art History and Fashion and minored in Humanities. After college, she moved to Ft. Lauderdale where she soon met her (late) husband, Bill, on a blind date and one year later they were married! Cathleen and Bill were married for 50 years and had a son and a daughter. In 1982, they moved to Boca Raton where she was a stay-at-home Mom for 10 years and eventually joined Bill as the office manager of his Dental Practice. In 2005, Cathleen moved to Lake County and lived in Sorrento Springs until her recent move to Tavares. Cathleen has been happily working at Southern Style Realty for 17 years. She loves reading, swimming, walking, and the beach.



Nancy Kennedy

Nancy has been a member of our club since 2022. She has been active in the Hospitality committee and is currently the Ways & Means Chair. Nancy has also been active serving on her homeowners board. Nancy is originally from Long Island, N.Y. , where she lived for 34 years. She worked on Wall Street for 8 years as a Corporate Secretary and Office Manager. In 1991, Nancy moved to Miami and began working at the Holy Rosary Catholic School. She was their Registrar and Head of Marketing for 20 years. Nancy has one son, Kyle, who is 30 years old. Nancy enjoys good food, baking, crocheting, the ocean, and swimming. She is an avid lap swimmer and swims regularly at Genesis in Maitland. Nancy recently accepted a part-time position as a home health aide; we wish her the best of luck in this exciting new chapter.



VOLUNTEERS NEEDED FOR THE CENTER STREET KITCHEN

Do you have a heart for serving others? We need your help to provide lunches for our community members who are facing hunger and hardship. Join us on

Friday, December 3rd, and Friday, December 29th, from 9:30 am to 12:45 pm at the First Presbyterian Church of Eustis. You will be part of a team that prepares and distributes nutritious meals to those in need. You can also bring some Christmas cookies to add some sweetness and cheer to the lunches. Please contact Karin Pierson if you are interested in volunteering. Thank you for your kindness and generosity!



"Living the Volunteer Spirit"

GFWC Mount Dora Woman's Club
Yard Sale
Saturday, November 4, 2023



GFWC Mount Dora Woman's Club
National Day of Service



GFWC Mount Dora Woman's Club



GFWC Mount Dora Woman's Club
Mount Dora Senior Center

