



KEY NOTES



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President

February 2024

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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

President's Corner

Dear Members,

February is here and I have finished the reports to GFWC Florida. I reported successful and amazing fundraisers and projects, but the most important number for me was the volunteer hours. In 2023 we volunteered 6500 hours.

In those 6500 hours we fed those with food insecurity, made the planet cleaner, supported battered women, foster children, and children who were too old to be foster children, visited and gifted the unsteady, fed and entertained seniors, helped the library with their projects, provided books for children who needed them, made dog chews, boggy bears, Linus blankets, and newborn caps, donated sheets, quilts and afghans, supported the arts, read, scanned, and mended lots of books, attended many meetings and placed wreaths on graves. We are living the volunteer spirit!

Hugs and kisses to you wonderful women on Valentine's Day!

Suzanne

February Program

This month's guest speaker is
Dr. Laura Varich, M.D. to speak
about brain health.

Hosted by the Health & Wellness
Committee

FEBRUARY DATES TO REMEMBER

- Feb 7 Luncheon & General Meeting
Registration 11:30 a.m.
Lunch at Noon
General Meeting 1:00 p.m.
- Feb 14 Valentine's Day
- Feb 15 Walk n Talk
- Feb 19 Presidents' Day
- Feb 21 Sanitation Tour
- Feb 23 Game Day at Mt Dora Library
- Feb 28 Executive Board Meeting



We are deeply saddened by the passing of one of our Federation Sisters, Donna Carruth. Donna brought many ideas to the Woman's Club and led with compassion and elegance. Donna and I worked on several projects together such as, assisting the Library at the annual Easter Egg Hunt, working as poll workers for the Lake County Elections Office, reading Dr. Seuss books to the children at Triangle Elementary, collecting, sorting, and distributing books for the Book Heroes project, and creating a website for our Club, which was Donna's idea. When Donna moved to Daytona Beach, she gifted me her Derby Days hat and her GFWC Book Bag. They will always remind me of her and preserve the fond memory of my dear friend and Federation Sister.

Roseanne Miller



Community Service Programs



ARTS & CULTURE

Gina Conway, CH

Hello everyone. I hope you have a Happy February!

I'm excited to announce that we have filled all the spots for the February Ice House production on February 1st. Now, let's sign up for the March production of "SHOUT", a fun musical! The show premieres on March 29th at 7:00 p.m. If you're interested in ushering or sitting at the 'will call' table and seeing a great show for free, please call, text, or email me to get on the list. You can reach me at reginaconway1@gmail.com or 610-529-6575.

Also, our train trip to Winter Park on March 22, is all set. Here are the details: We'll meet in the Harbour Freight parking lot in the Walgreens Plaza (at Rt. 441 and Donnelly Ave.) between 9:45 a.m. and 10:00 a.m. to carpool. Then, we'll drive to the Sanford train station to purchase tickets to Winter Park (approximately \$5.00). After that, we'll walk 3 to 4 blocks to the Morse Museum and purchase tickets (approximately \$5.00 also). Lunch will be up to each carload to stay or go. Finally, we'll head back to the train station to return to Sanford.

Many people have already signed up, but the more the merrier! Let me know if you'd like to be added to the list."



HEALTH & WELLNESS

Mary Groeller, CH

Our speaker this month is Dr. Laura Varich who is an advocate of leading a healthier life through eating fresh, natural foods. She is the founder of Fresh Physicians and she will be speaking to us about brain health.

Other experts on brain health also recommend keeping our brain healthy by keeping it active and engaged. Following this recommendation we'll be having a Game Day on Friday, Feb.23 from 1:00 p.m. to 3:30 p.m. at the Mount Dora Library.

Bring games, playing cards, puzzles, any games that will challenge you. If you don't have any games there will be others who will be happy to share.

Light refreshments will be provided. This is planned to be a fun, social afternoon.

Please remember to bring any old eyeglasses you may have to the February meeting. These will be donated to the Lyons Club.



CIVIC ENGAGEMENT & OUTREACH

Sharron Semento, CH

Volunteering is one of the best ways to put civic duty into action. We advocate because there is a need, we volunteer because we are needed. Our focus is on addressing issues of public concern.

The next meeting will be on February 12th at 11:00 a.m. at Perkins!



EDUCATION & LIBRARIES

Jerry Hardwick, CH

Please collect books for children in grades 1 - 5. Your new or gently used books will be collected at the March Luncheon and taken to the Food Pantry for distribution along with the child's food pack. Books are selected by the child's teacher.



ENVIRONMENT

Alison Horvath, CH

We have several projects that we will be completing this month. Please remember to bring the following items to our February meeting: old towels for the Lake County Animal Shelter, collected change for World Water Day, and clean, dry plastic bags for the Trout Lake bench project.

Also, don't forget to sign up for our tour of the Sanitation Facility in Tavares, taking place on February 21, at 10:00 a.m. A sign-up sheet will be available at our February meeting. We will meet at 1000 Captain Haynes Rd., just off Woodlea Road in Tavares.



MEMBERSHIP

MEMBERSHIP
Therese Haberle, CH

Refer a friend, or two or three!

We are looking for a few new members, and there are none better than those YOU bring to us!

We are excited to announce a referral contest that will run from January 1st to March 31st! The member who refers the most new members (paid and application complete) with your name recorded on the application paperwork will win a "special" surprise prize, to be awarded at the April meeting!

Did you know, more than one-half of our current members are with us because of you? A shout-out to Claire Porrello, Barb Parker, Donna Kelly, Alison Horvath, Vickie Stockglausner, Jerry Hardwick, Beth Kleb, Roseanne Miller, Judith Nelson, and Linda Urry for having brought to us TWO or MORE new members! Eleven other members have brought us one apiece!

Thanks so much for your continued support and helping the club grow!



HOSPITALITY
Linda Urry, CH

Hello from Hospitality!

January was a fun Chinese New Year. I hope you enjoyed your fortunes! We are looking forward to February when love is in the air!

I'd like to thank the hospitality members for their dedication and hard work, even though we have fun doing it!

A Note from Judy Streeter, Treasurer

Free tax return preparation and electronic filing are again being offered through the AARP TaxAide program. Volunteers are trained and certified each year in conjunction with the IRS and AARP Foundation and have been serving this area for many years.

Appointments are required and can be made by calling an online scheduling system at 352-800-6914. Return preparation is being scheduled through mid-April for sites at Mount Dora First United Methodist Church, Leesburg Library, and Tavares Library. Free service is offered to all ages and participants do NOT have to be members of AARP.



ESO
Cathleen Arciero, CH

Our next ESO Book Club Meeting is Wednesday, March 20, 2024 at 1:30 p.m. at the library.

The group reads are "To Kill a Mockingbird" by Harper Lee, a classic, and "The First Ladies" by Marie Benedict, an historical fiction. Relax and enjoy. Happy Valentine's Day Cheers!



WAYS & MEANS COMMITTEE
Nancy Kennedy, CH

Currently, plans are underway for a fashion show and Trivia as fundraisers. Details to follow in the coming months.



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 .



Announcements

Happy Birthday

Cathleen Arciero	2/12
Tammy Amirault	2/21
Barbara Phillips	2/21
Karin Pierson	2/26

WELCOME TO OUR NEWEST MEMBERS



Cindy Bennett
Vicki Bores
Gina Kuster



Gina has been an active member of our club since 2018. She has held positions as past President and Civic Engagement Chair and is the current Arts & Culture Chair.

Gina has also served as past President of the Women's Committee of Fine Arts and the Lakes & Hills Garden Club and is a regular volunteer at the Icehouse Theatre. Gina is most proud of her work at the Mount Dora Senior Center, which she founded in 2016.

Originally from New Jersey, Gina lived in Pennsylvania for 20 years and had a career in Human Resources at Xerox. After searching around Florida, Gina moved to Mount Dora in 2012. Gina has two children and four grandchildren and is expecting her first great-grandchild this year!

Gina has fun attending Trivia Nights and playing Rummikub and Farkle. In her free time, Gina enjoys reading, cooking, hiking, biking, and photography.

Volunteer of the Year

Roseanne Miller



Congratulations and many thanks to Roseanne for the immeasurable valuable work she has done for the Mount Dora Woman's Club. She always brings new ideas and positive energy to our organization and the community.



The Environment Committee. Pictured are Barbara Phillips, Dee Olive, Lori Steuter, Alison Horvath, and Suzanne Gibson.



On Thursday, February 15th, we will visit our tree and stroll to Palm Island Park and back. Dogs are welcome. The terrain is flat and toilets are available!

We will meet at 9:30 a.m. at the base of Donnelly St. at Elizabeth Evans Park. There is lots of parking alongside the shuffleboard club.



Volunteers at the Center Street Kitchen on Jan 29, 2024. Pictured are Uta Pergler, Sharron Semento, Donna Kelley, Karin Pierson, Joanna Fox, Dee Olive, Delores Deen, Terry Gibson, and Suzanne Gibson



Announcements

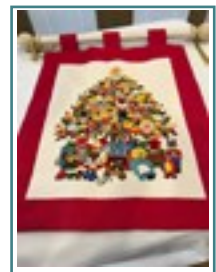


At the GFWC Mount Dora Woman's Club January 2024 meeting, a check in the amount of \$2,500, was presented to Jacqueline Boykin, Corporate and Community Relations Director of Camp Boggy Creek, representing funds raised at our yard sale for the GFWC Florida President's Project.

The Annual Arts and Crafts competition was held during the January 2024 GFWC Mount Dora Woman's Club meeting. The competition was judged by Audrey Saunders, Artist and Co-Founder of the Lakes Symphony Orchestra. The first place winning entries will be entered into the GFWC Florida District Arts and Crafts competition in February. The results are as follows:

Ceramics

- 1st Place: Gina Conway
- 2nd Place: Roseanne Miller



Beadwork

- 1st Place: Dee Olive

Embroidery

- 1st Place: Kathleen Drotar

Counted Cross Stitch

- 1st Place: Claire Holland



Sewing

- 1st Place: Suzanne Gibson

Congratulations and thank you to these talented women for entering our Club's contest!