



Georgia Federation of Women's Clubs
**Morrow Civic
Woman's Club**
SERVING SOUTH METRO ATLANTA



May 2023

NEWSLETTER



A Message from Our President

Dear Club Sisters:

We are continuing to serve as we go through this year. We have been planning to make a visible impact in the community. This month you all will make a statement in Women's History and by lifting up people in the area of Arts and Culture. Please remember when we are attending anything in the community, please identify yourself as a member of Morrow Civic Woman's Club or a member of GFWC Georgia. Thank you for making yourself a visible part of the community you serve. People notice the things we do. One person can represent MCWC by volunteering to help at local events. Take pictures where we can continue to record our work and make history.

Thank you to all who attended the GFWC Georgia State Convention.



Congratulations to all the members of the MCWC for your dedication and hard work.

www.mcwcga.org

- **GFWC Signature Program**

**Domestic and Sexual Violence Awareness and Prevention
Creative Project Citation**

- **Membership Advancement Plan**

**Club Anniversary of 60 Years
Federated: 1962**

- **Women's History and Resource Center Advancement Plan**

Women's History and Resource Center Award

- **Women's History and Resource Center**

Creativity Project Award

- **The Tallulah Falls School**

**Elaine Singley Chandler
Memorial Scholarship Award
Silver Award**

- **Arts and Culture**

**Community Service Program
1 to 25 Membership
2nd Place**

- **Legislative and Public Policy**

**Advancement Plan
District Citation**

- **Amirah Wakefield**

Sponsored by MCWC Arts and Culture CSP

Student's Poetry Contest

Category Two

- **Amirah Wakefield**

Sponsored by MCWC Arts and Culture CSP

GFWC Dunwoody Woman's Club Student's Poetry Contest

Overall Winner

\$75

Congratulations to all!

Remember, Ladies, whenever we are at events, sometimes we are one or more. Just remember no matter how small the group, we, MCWC, are representing many who want to make a difference. Let's get those pamphlets printed for all our times we are in the community.

Your sister forever,
Heloise

"You will be enriched in every way to be generous in every way, which through us will produce thanksgiving to God."

2 Corinthians 9:11 ESV

COMMUNITY SERVICE PROGRAMS



Arts and Culture

Our club will be helping Arts Clayton with the reception on May 5th for the Clayton Seniors art exhibit. At our April meeting, members signed up to bring finger food. If you would still like to help out, please feel free to do. You may bring your food item to the May meeting and give it to Peggy or bring it to Arts Clayton on Friday, May 5th by 5:00. Thanks for helping!

One of our May projects is to eat at an ethnic restaurant. Thinking of Lisa's Creperie in Senoia for lunch and a visit to some of the shops. Would welcome any comments. Will let you know a date later.

Following is a list of May Art events:

Spivey Hall – 1st Clayton Community Big Band (7:30), 11th Clayton State Music Preparatory School Recital (5:00 & 7:30), 13th Behzod Abdaraimoo, piano (3:00), 19th Spivey Hall Children's Choir Spring Concert (7:30), 20th & 21st Spivey Hall Children's Choir Spring Concerts '23 (3:00), 28th Franklin Pond Competition Awards Concert (4:00)

Front Porch Players – Puzzle in the Piazza, April 28-30, May 5-7, Friday & Saturday shows (7:30), Sunday Matinees, (2:30).

Henry Players – Once on This Island, April 27th – May 7th, Thursday, Friday & Saturday shows (8:00), Sunday Matinees, (2:30).

Southside – The Odd Couple, April 27 – May 7, Thursday, Friday, Saturday shows (8:00), Sunday Matinees, (2:30).

Arts Clayton – Art through the eyes of Clayton Seniors May 5 – June 2 with a reception on May 5, 6-8 pm.



Civic Engagement and Outreach

The GFWC Civic Engagement and Outreach Community Service Program reminds GFWC members that each of us is a part of a larger society and is responsible for undertaking actions that will create a better quality of life and foster a sense of community—locally, regionally, nationally, and globally. This Community Service Program highlights and encourages citizenship; crime prevention, safety, and disaster preparedness; the needy, hungry, and homeless; and our military personnel and veterans.

Civic Engagement and Outreach Community Service Program Collection and Participation months are: **May and November.**

THINGS YOU MAY NOT KNOW ABOUT MEMORIAL DAY:

- 1. *One of the earliest commemorations was organized by recently freed African Americans.*** As the Civil War neared its end, thousands of Union soldiers, held as prisoners of war, were herded into a series of hastily assembled camps in Charleston, SC. Conditions at one camp, a former racetrack near the city's Citadel, were so bad that more than 250 prisoners died from disease or exposure, and were buried in a mass grave behind the track's grandstand. Three weeks after the Confederate surrender, an unusual procession entered the former camp: On May 1, 1865, more than 1,000 people recently freed from enslavement, accompanied by regiments of the U.S. Colored Troops (including the Massachusetts 54th Infantry) and a handful of white Charlestonians, gathered in the camp to consecrate a new, proper burial site for the Union dead. The group sang hymns, gave readings, and distributed flowers around the cemetery, which they dedicated to the "Martyrs of the Race Course."
- 2. *The holiday's 'founder' had a long and distinguished career.*** In May 1868, General John A. Logan, the commander-in-chief of the Union veterans' group known as the Grand Army of the Republic, issued a decree that May 30 should become a nationwide day of commemoration for the more than 620,000 soldiers killed in the recently ended Civil War. On Decoration Day, as Logan dubbed it, Americans should lay flowers and decorate the graves of the war dead "whose

bodies now lie in almost every city, village, and hamlet churchyard in the land.” According to legend, Logan chose May 30 because it was a rare day that did not fall on the anniversary of a Civil War battle, though some historians believe the date was selected to ensure that flowers across the country would be in full bloom. After the war Logan, who had served as a U.S. congressman before resigning to rejoin the army, returned to his political career, eventually serving in both the House and Senate and was the unsuccessful Republican candidate for vice president in 1884. When he died two years later, Logan’s body laid in state in the rotunda of the United States Capitol, making him one of just 33 people to have received the honor. Today, Washington, D.C.’s Logan Circle and several townships across the country are named in honor of this champion of veterans and those killed in battle.

3. ***It was a long road from Decoration Day to an official Memorial Day.*** Although the term Memorial Day was used beginning in the 1880s, the holiday was officially known as Decoration Day for more than a century, when it was changed by federal law. Four years later, the Uniform Monday Holiday Act of 1968 finally went into effect, moving Memorial Day from its traditional observance on May 30 (regardless of the day of the week), to a set day—the last Monday in May.
4. ***Wearing a red poppy on Memorial Day began with a World War I poem.*** In the spring of 1915, bright red flowers began poking through the battle ravaged land across northern France and Flanders (northern Belgium). Canadian Lieutenant Colonel John McCrae, who served as a brigade surgeon for an Allied artillery unit, spotted a cluster of the poppies shortly after serving as a brigade surgeon during the bloody Second Battle of Ypres. The sight of the bright red flowers against the dreary backdrop of war inspired McCrae to pen the poem, “In Flanders Field,” in which he gives voice to the soldiers who have been killed in battle and lay buried beneath the poppy covered grounds. Later that year, a Georgia teacher and volunteer war worker named Moina Michael read the poem in Ladies Home Journal and wrote her own poem, “We Shall Keep the Faith” to begin a campaign to make the poppy a symbol of tribute to all who died in war. The poppy remains a symbol of remembrance to this day.

NOTE: *On May 29th, Memorial Day, please stop wherever you are at 3:00 PM to pause for a duration of one minute to remember those who have died in military service to the United States.*

Below is how you can help, however please continue to check the newsletter each month for any updates and new opportunities.

Please bring everything you wish to donate and/or sign up to volunteer at our May 4th meeting.

- 1.) Collecting non-perishable items such as canned peas, corn, veg-all, black beans, pinto beans or green beans, rice, dry beans, canned tuna, canned beef stew, canned pasta, store brand pasta sides (not mac-n-cheese) canned soups, canned fruit, Instant potatoes for the First Baptist Church of Morrow Food Pantry.
- 2.) Collecting new or used adult and children's books to establish or replenish libraries at Calvary Refuge Center for the Homeless, a children's shelter and/or the Good Shepherd Clinic.
- 3.) Volunteering to serve the evening meal at Calvary Refuge Center on Thursday, May 11th at 6:00 PM. Sign up at our May club meeting to serve!
- 4.) Collecting individualized snacks such as crackers, popcorn, chips, protein bars, dried fruit, trail mix, candy, nuts, and/or small bottles of water to assemble and deliver CARE baskets to Morrow Police, Fire/EMS, & City Hall.
- 5.) Volunteering for our "Day of Service" at the FBC of Morrow Food Pantry on Monday, June 5th at 1:30 PM. Sign up at our May club meeting to serve!

GFWC Affiliate Highlight:



Canine Companions: At our May meeting we will learn more about Canine Companions.

NOTE: If you have not "raised a paw against Service Dog fraud" by signing the petition at <https://canine.org/advocacy/>, PLEASE do so today!



Environment

We all learned a lot from Dr. Aubrey Dyer about factors contributing to water quality at our last meeting. Helping collect water samples from our watersheds is an essential step in improving water quality. Learning more about best practices concerning clean water will help raise awareness about how important it is to take action. Each one of us plays a part in ensuring that we have safe, clean water.

GFWC has designated 4 Target Areas concerning our environment.

1) Preserve Resources *Example:* Prepare a presentation about your watershed for your community. Discuss water quality threats, including the dangers of polluted runoff and ecosystem.

2) Protect Wildlife and Domesticated Animals

Example: Be a bird watcher; contribute by gathering scientific data.

3) Live Sustainably *Example:* Host a fun time with upcycled items for purchase.

4) Beautify Communities and Enjoy Nature *Example:* Host a trash pick-up day in your community, or volunteer at a national or state park. Pick up trash while you walk.

Fun Sites to Visit-

Clayton County Senior Services presents Mayfest 2023

<https://www.claytonseniors.com/clayton-county-senior-services-presents-mayfest-2023/>

May is American Wetlands Month

<https://www.epa.gov/wetlands/may-american-wetlands-month>

Each of us can make a difference, please remember how important you are!

“If you think you are too small to make a difference, try sleeping with a mosquito in the room.” – The Dalai Lama



Health and Wellness

May is Mental Illness Awareness month. Many organizations endeavor to provide support for people with mental illness and their families, educate the public, fight the stigma, and promote policies to lend support and services to all that are affected. <https://www.nami.org/Get-Involved/Awareness-Events/Mental-Health-Awareness-Month>

Since 1984, the Asthma and Allergy Foundation of America (AAFA) has declared May to be “National Asthma and Allergy Awareness Month.” It is a peak season for people with asthma and allergies and a perfect time to educate patients, family, friends, co-workers, and other people about allergic diseases. <https://aafa.org/get-involved/asthma-and-allergy-awareness-month/>

May is also Skin Cancer Awareness Month. With over 5 million cases diagnosed in the United States each year, **skin cancer is America’s most common cancer**. Fortunately, skin cancer is also one of the most preventable cancers. By sharing facts about the dangers of unprotected sun exposure and encouraging people to check their skin for warning signs, we can and will save lives. <https://www.skincancer.org/get-involved/skin-cancer-awareness-month/>

To learn more about other health topics that are emphasized in May, (and throughout the year) please check the information found on this site. <https://b2b.healthgrades.com/insights/blog/2023-health-observances-calendar/>

National Health Observances are special days, weeks, or months dedicated to raising awareness about important health topics. So let us take time to take care.



Special Project: Women's History Resource Center

On April 26, nine members of MCWC and their guests attended the final showing of *Scholarships Empowering Women*, the Women's History Installation at the Clayton State University Archives. The exhibit, which highlights our club's 40+ years of offering scholarships to women attending and completing their degrees at Clayton State, was the perfect way to celebrate National Library Week and GFWC Volunteers in Action Week.

Feechi Hall, CSU Archivist, welcomed the group. She introduced Carolyn Davenport, MCWC's first scholarship recipient, Carolyn's sister, State Senator Gail Davenport, the 2020 Andrea Lane Memorial Scholarship recipient, Kersten Toebben, and the CSU President, Dr. Georj Lewis who shared a personal message. Also in attendance was Dr. Alexander Hall of CSU, who has been a vital link in disseminating MCWC's scholarship opportunity.

From the photos, you can see that it was a wonderful, informative day! Oh, and we had a great day at the 2023 GFWC Georgia Convention. MCWC won the WHRC State Award and the WHRC State Creativity Award!





Our club will be supporting again this year Haven House (Henry County) and Gigi's House (Clayton County), plus Promise Place (Fayette County). We are looking forward to providing in-kind and monetary donations to assist the residents.

Domestic Violence Signature Project Collection and/or Participation month is: **August**

Below is how you can help, however continue to check the newsletter for any updates and new opportunities. You will bring everything you wish to donate to our **August** meeting.

- 1.) Collect items for "First Night" kits such as regular sized toiletry items, hand towels with washcloths, and non-skid slipper socks.
- 2.) Collect items for "Birthday" boxes such as birthday candles, birthday cards, color-coordinated table decorations including plates, cups, napkins, & utensils, birthday crowns, and party hats.
- 3.) Collect items for "Tea Party" baskets such as various kinds of teas (not loose tea, bags only), sugar & Splenda packets, and small jars of honey



Legislation and Public Policy

The Morrow Civic Woman's Club received the Legislation and Public Policy Award for the Central West District during the GFWC Georgia Convention. Thank you, ladies, for working together to advocate for those in need!

COMMITTEES



Club Relations

Food Groups 2 & 3 sent Edible Arrangements to Catherine Douds and Linda Harrelson. If you are on either one of these groups and have not given me your \$10, please do so.



Scholarship Committee



Just a few days remain to encourage eligible candidates to apply for the Andrea Lane Memorial Scholarship. The application is due at 11:59 pm on May 1 and can be found on our club's website, www.mcwcga.org. During our June meeting, submitted applications will be discussed and the committee's recommendation for the \$1,000 financial award will be made.



Scrapbook and Website

As we engage in our work, remember to take pictures, and email them to

Facebook- Heloise Wilson wils4929@bellsouth.net

Website- Kristy Coughlin coughline@bellsouth.net

Tallulah Falls School

MCWC is continuing to make an impact at Tallulah Falls School. We will remember TFS as part of our Legacy.

In June we will have a 50/50 raffle and an TFS Item will be given as a door prize. Come and be a part of our donation to all future students.

Below from left to right— Silver award for our gift to scholarship, The new Natatorium and our brick that commemorates our donations, view of Natatorium from VIP lounge, eating area near the concessions, and the VIP lounge.



Special Occasions



Catherine Douds

May 29



David and Brenda Rayburn

May 15

Hostess(es) for Meeting

Coordinator	Devotional
Linda Harrelson	Pam Ashman

Next Newsletter Deadline: May 23, 2023

 State website: gfwcgeorgia.org

 National website: gfwc.org