



February 2025

NEWSLETTER



A Message from Our President

Happy February! Can you believe this weather? One week there is snow on the ground and the next week it is 64 degrees. What will February bring us?

Thank you to all of you for completing your reports on time. We do not do the work we do for points or for awards but because we care about making a difference in our communities. The reports are just a summary of what we have done and as we reflect on the projects, we truly see, that a few committed women can make a difference in our community and our world. Preparing the reports is much easier when members report the hours spent on projects on each CSP.

We want to remind you of the importance of reading the newsletter in its entirety. Our goal is to have as much information as possible in the newsletter so that business meetings can be brief.

We were encouraged by all the suggestions and excitement about projects we can do in 2025. We will formally review the plans of work at the meeting next week but work has already begun. The celebration of the 50th anniversary of the Morrow Library will likely be a focus of all CSPs in some way during the year. Additionally, the national convention being held in Atlanta this summer will give us a rare chance to experience GFWC in a new way.

Let's make it a great year!

COMMUNITY SERVICE PROGRAMS



Arts and Culture

A big thank you to all club sisters who helped with last year's completion of 10 Arts and Culture projects. We volunteered 588.5 hours with in-kind donations of \$4860.50. Looking forward to our upcoming year and all the good work that we will be doing.



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.

Educational Moment: National Freedom Day

Did you know that National Freedom Day is February 1st? It's an United States observance of the signing by President Abraham Lincoln of a joint House and Senate resolution that later was ratified as the 13th Amendment to the U.S. Constitution. President Lincoln signed the Amendment abolishing slavery on February 1, 1865, although it was not ratified by the states until later.

Here is some historical background about this observance:

1. In the mid-20th century, Major Richard Robert Wright, Sr., born into slavery and freed after the Civil War, believed that there should be a day when freedom for all

Americans is celebrated. Wright invited national and local leaders to meet in Philadelphia to make plans to designate February 1 as an annual memorial to the signing of the 13 Amendment to the U.S. Constitution by Abraham Lincoln on this date. The amendment freed all U.S. slaves.

2. One year after Wright's death in 1947, both houses of the U.S. Congress passed a bill to make February 1 National Freedom Day. The holiday proclamation was signed into law on June 30, 1948, by President Harry Truman.
3. It was the forerunner to Black History Day. Later Black History Month was officially recognized in 1976. Recognition of black history had been initiated by historian Carter G. Woodson in 1926.
4. The President may issue each year a proclamation designating February 1 as National Freedom Day to commemorate the signing by Abraham Lincoln on February 1, 1865, of the joint resolution adopted by the Senate and the House of Representatives that proposed the 13th amendment to the Constitution.
5. On this day, many towns and cities have festivals. Some citizens reflect privately on the freedoms that the United States honors and to appreciate the goodwill of the United States. In Philadelphia, wreath laying at the Liberty Bell has been a tradition for many years to mark National Freedom Day. Symbols of the day may include a theme about freedom for all Americans. However, it is not a federal holiday.

A paragraph from the Holiday Proclamation by President Harry Truman..... “

Whereas the Government and people of the United States wholeheartedly support the Universal Declaration of Human Rights approved by the General Assembly of the United Nations on December 10, 1948, which declares that “recognition of the inherent dignity and of the equal and inalienable rights of all members of the human family is the foundation of freedom, justice and peace in the world.”

****Asking club members to take a moment on February 1st and pause in solemn reflection of the glorious blessings of freedom which we humbly and thankfully enjoy!**

February Projects:

Please bring to our February meeting the following non-perishable items for the First Baptist Church of Morrow's Food Pantry that assists families in our community experiencing food insecurities:

- Cereal, Canned Chicken, Jiffy Corn Bread Mix, Jelly (16 oz-20oz jars) Canned Soup, Store Brand Pasta Sides, Macaroni & Cheese, Peanut Butter (16oz -20oz jars) Spaghetti Sauce, Spaghetti Noodles, Ramen Noodles, Toilet Paper, Spaghetti O's 15 oz cans, Boxed milk and can openers. ** Please watch expiration dates.

Upcoming Projects:

March – Days for Girls – is an organization that makes DfG Pads which is a washable, reusable, beautiful menstrual health product that's built to last. We will be collecting wish list items to help this organization in their mission to help menstruating girls and young women around the world.



Education and Libraries

Education and Libraries CSP is looking forward to a year of sharing the love of reading and the gifts of books. To get the year off to a good start, now is the time to set aside books to bring each month to share with club members, donate to Little Hands through local little library boxes and Friends of the Library. All kinds of books are welcomed, new or gently used, for adults or children. Please check your donations carefully, mark off names, personal messages, and check to be sure no papers are tucked in the pages.

This year there is much excitement and anticipation focused on the observance of the 50th Anniversary of the Morrow Library. Plans have been developing for over a year. More information will be shared as the plans are confirmed.

Dates to put on your Calendar:

Fayette County Friends of Library Book Sale and Donation

Fayette County Public Library

1821 Heritage Park Way, Fayetteville

www.mcwcga.org

770.461.8841

Sat, Feb 8 - 10 am to 2 pm

Backdoor Booksale and Donation Day

Thurs Feb 27 4pm – 8pm

Backdoor Bookstore Night Shop and Donation



Environment

Here are some things suggested by **GFWC Georgia Monthly Connections**. We can participate in from the comforts of our home and backyard.

Great Backyard Bird Count -- February 14-17, 2025



The Great Backyard Bird Count is a free, fun, and easy event that engages bird watchers of all ages in counting birds to create a real-time snapshot of bird populations. It's Easy! All participants do is count birds for as little as 15 minutes (or longer if they wish) on one or more days of the four-day event and report their sightings at birdcount.org.

Who can participate? Anyone who can count, from beginning bird watchers to experts.

Where does it occur? In your backyard or at designated places anywhere in the world.

When? From February 14 through February 17, 2025.

How to Participate? Visit The Great Backyard Bird Count website for all the details on registering and submitting your bird count.

Georgia Arbor Day -- February 21, 2025

www.mcwcga.org



Arbor Day is a day set aside for schools, civic clubs, other organizations, and individuals to reflect on the importance of trees in our state and across our nation. Georgia Arbor Day is in February because it is the ideal time to plant trees in our state.

Ten top reasons to plant more trees:

1. Trees clean the air

Trees absorb carbon dioxide and release oxygen back into the air. The more trees we have, the easier we breathe, and less carbon dioxide remains in the atmosphere. In one year, a mature tree can absorb more than 48 pounds of carbon dioxide and an acre of mature trees can absorb the same amount of carbon dioxide produced by a car driven 26,000 miles.

2. Trees cool towns and cities

Temperatures across Georgia rose to record heights in 2019. Trees provide shady spots for citizens to rest, and they can break up urban heat islands and cool a city up to 10 degrees Fahrenheit.

3. Trees conserve energy

Research has also shown that trees enhance a neighborhood's economic stability by attracting businesses; people linger and shop longer when trees are present.

5. Trees save water

If you have trees in your yard, you'll water your lawn and gardens less—the shade slows water evaporation. Trees also capture rainwater, reducing the amount of stormwater runoff. This reduces flooding, saves city stormwater management costs, and decreases the amount of pollutants carried to waterways.

6. Trees provide wildlife habitats

Many tree species provide urban homes for beneficial animals like birds and bees. Forests and other wilderness areas also provide vital habitats and range for larger animals.

7. Trees reduce noise pollution

Strategically planted trees can buffer urban noise. This is especially useful if you live near a freeway or busy road!

8. Trees improve human health

Did you know trees can reduce stress and improve your overall mood? The color green is calming and relieves eye strain, and people also walk and run more in shaded areas. This enhances the sense of community in a neighborhood and, of course, contributes to cardiovascular health.

9. Trees provide economic opportunities

According to the U.S. Department of Energy, correctly placing only three trees around a home can save that household between \$100 and \$250 in energy costs each year. The U.S. Forest Service estimates that trees properly placed around buildings can reduce air conditioning needs by 30% and can save 20-50% in energy used for heating.

4. Trees increase property values

One study by the University of Georgia in 2002 showed that houses sold for nearly \$105,000 more in neighborhoods with mature trees.

Simply put, trees create jobs. Rural and urban orchards provide fruit that can be harvested and sold. Trees also play a significant role in landscaping and green waste management fields.

10. Trees are beautiful

Last but certainly not least, trees are a stunning addition to our landscape. From the pink and white blooms of dogwoods and magnolias to the gorgeous array of fall colors that trees like maples provide, we say the more, the merrier.



Health and Wellness

The GFWC Health and Wellness Community Service program encourages members to explore the various opportunities in their clubs and communities for awareness and advancement of nutrition, disease prevention, and physical and emotional care.

We will collect can pop tops at each meeting.

February is American Heart Month. Find activities and more information at this [link](#).

Be sure to schedule your annual physical!



Pop Tab Program

HOW DO I GET STARTED?
Start collecting! Become an ambassador for recycling and ask your family, friends, school, church or company to get involved. Remove the Pop Tabs from every aluminum can and collect them in a convenient container like coffee cans, milk jugs or the Atlanta Ronald McDonald House Pop Tab Houses.

WHAT HAPPENS TO THE POP TABS?
When we have received a large amount of Pop Tabs, we take them to a recycling center. The money raised supports the operations at our two Ronald McDonald Houses, the Ronald McDonald Care Mobile and Ronald McDonald Family Room.

WHERE DO I DELIVER MY POP TABS?
Drop-offs are welcome at both Ronald McDonald Houses, with convenient no-contact bins for safety.

Hours:
* 8 a.m. to 8 p.m. Monday through Friday
* 8 a.m. to Noon and 4 p.m. to 8 p.m. Saturday, Sunday and Holidays

House Near Egmont 795 Galeswood Road, NE Atlanta, GA 30319
House Near Scottish Rite 5420 Peachtree Dunwoody Road Sandy Springs, GA 30328

Questions? Email smiley.weatherington@armhc.org

WHY ONLY POP TABS?
Although the whole aluminum can is valuable, the tab is much cleaner and easier to collect in large quantities than whole cans. The Pop Tab of a standard soda can is made of high quality aluminum.

When you pull together, Pop Tabs add up and become a valuable donation to Atlanta Ronald McDonald House Charities.

\$1,150
Was raised through the Pop Tab Program in 2020.

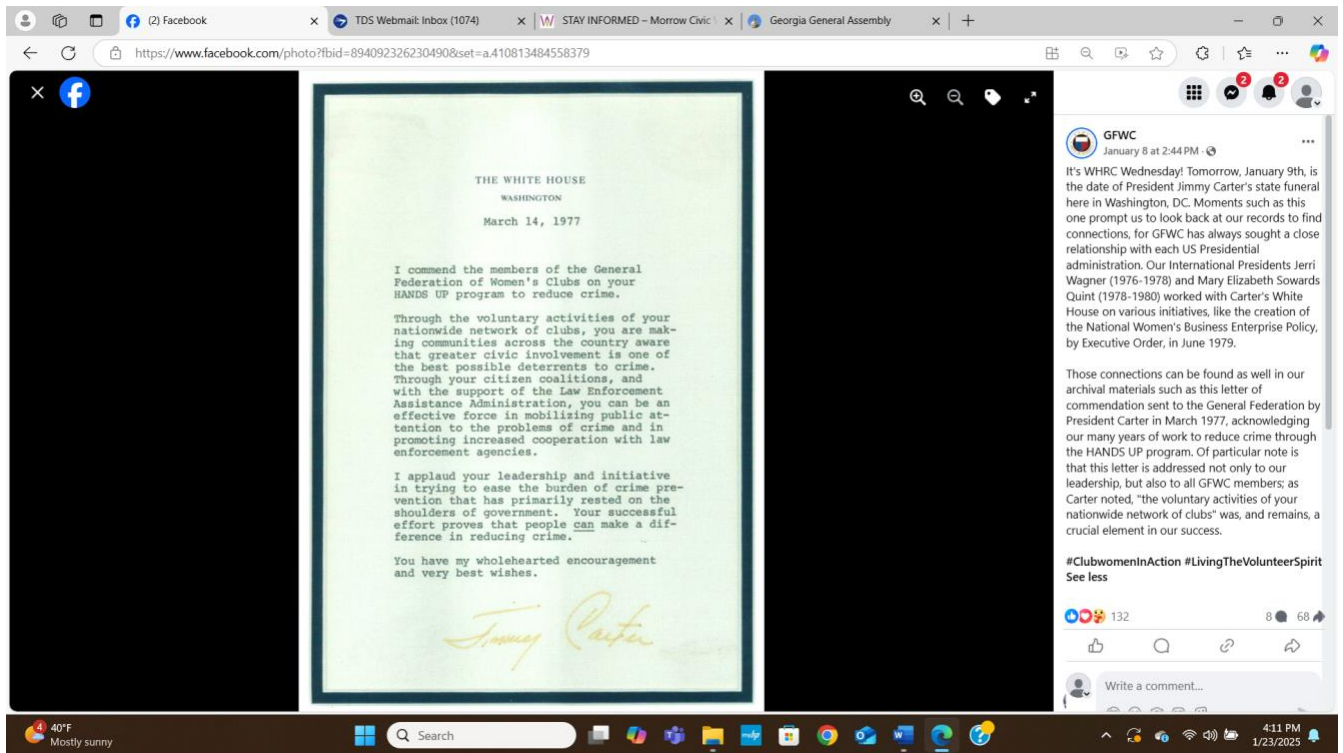
\$152,615
Has been raised through the Pop Tab Program since 1998.

Learn more at armhc.org/pop-tab



Special Project: Women's History Resource Center (WHRC)

Did you know that GFWC Facebook has "WHRC Wednesdays" on the GFWC FB page? Every Wednesday, there is something new to learn. Read the entry below that was posted on Wednesday, January 8, the day prior to President Jimmy Carter's state funeral in Washington DC. Be sure to visit GFWC Facebook, especially on Wednesdays for other interesting details about our federation's history.



You can learn more about the GFWC Women's History and Resource Center at <https://www.gfwc.org/what-is-the-whrc/>



Club members, please join the GA Coalition Against Domestic Violence (GCADV) on January 28 for a webinar on domestic violence in our state. Register even if you cannot attend the webinar. You will receive a recording of the session if you sign up. As club members you know that the GFWC's Signature Program is Domestic Violence and Sexual Awareness and Prevention. Let's learn what is happening in Georgia. You may register for the GCADV webinar online at <https://gcadv.org/swsd2025/>



Legislation and Public Policy

www.mcwcga.org



Will you be there on February 5? MCWC will join the GA Coalition Against Domestic Violence in GFWC GA's Capitol Day. Here's the schedule:

Kickoff: (In-Person @ The Capitol)

During this event you will learn about how our key legislative priorities impact survivors and their families.

8:30AM-Breakfast

Kick off- 9:00am-10:30am

10:45AM- Picture on Capitol Steps

11:00AM- Head to the Capitol to meet with Legislators

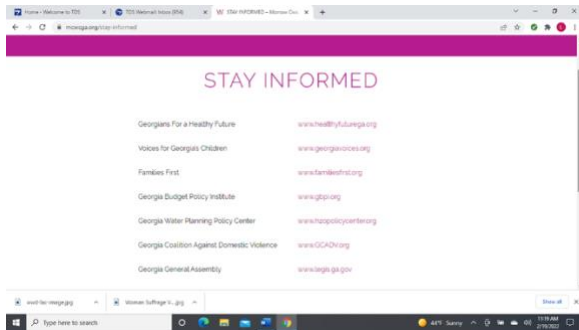
Contact Lois if you want to carpool to Capitol Day.



Soon, we'll celebrate Valentine's Day. Imagine living during a time when women could not vote. You might have presented a card to your husband or boyfriend (or even male relatives and friends) like the one pictured above. Suffragists used holidays like Valentine's Day to promote the cause of "Votes for

Women”. This card appeals to men for support for suffrage by suggesting that women respect and love men who support the cause.

Now, all women have the right to vote. All club members vote, but are you following the current legislative session? MCWC makes it easy to do. Simply go to <https://mcwcga.org/> and scroll down to the bottom of the home page. You will see a Legislative Action Center box with a link to click, which takes you to this page:



Among the listed websites is www.legis.ga.gov where you can read about all legislative action and events “under the Gold Dome”. So, what are you waiting for? Women worked hard to give us the right to vote. Check out this site and STAY INFORMED!

COMMITTEES



Budget and Finance

Please plan to bring to the February meeting your club dues of \$55.00. Please give it to Peggy.

Just three months remain before the May 1st deadline for scholarship applications. Beginning now through April, be on the lookout for possible Clayton State University applicants and share our criteria and application that are posted on our club website, www.mcwcga.org.



Tallulah Falls School

Tallulah Falls School serves more than 550 boarding and day students in a rigorous, college-preparatory environment in grades four -twelve.

Day students from the surrounding Northeast Georgia counties and boarding students from throughout the United States and more than 20 countries show a strong commitment to cultivating a truly global community.

In addition to the quality college-preparatory curriculum, character development is equally a priority. A community-building program, the Tallulah 12, is introduced in the middle school. The All-In initiative carries these skills to the upper school, building on that early foundation.

TFS students have access to 21 on-campus college classes, including a wide range of academic subjects, including Spanish and Latin. Many TFS graduates begin college careers with enough credit hours to qualify as a sophomore, saving thousands of dollars in tuition costs, student fees and living expenses. Because the school is not-tuition driven, need-based financial assistance is available. In a typical year more than \$5 million in financial aid is awarded to motivated students.

Adding to the tradition of experiential learning, the school has an extensive outdoor education program, taking full advantage of its scenic mountain location and ample recreational opportunities nearby.

The school enjoys a student retention rate exceeding 95 percent, and demand for student placements far exceeds supply. The school continues to be ranked high among college-preparatory schools throughout the U.S. To illustrate this, the 2022 graduating class of 77 accomplished young people earned more than \$9.5 million in college scholarships and were accepted into more than 125 colleges and universities across the globe.

The recipe for success at TFS is simple: combine intelligent and highly motivated students with highly skilled certified teachers in a small classroom setting averaging 15 students per class. Add generous portions of personal attention in a close-knit family atmosphere historically associated with TFS and blend cutting-edge technology literally at every student's fingertips.

The things we will be working on in 2025 will be to support a new President's Project described as follows. The Special Project for Tallulah Falls School for this administration is entitled "**Guardians of the Gateway.**" As you are probably aware, schools face a range of security challenges today. Personnel must anticipate threats, secure and monitor complex campus environments, and control access to facilities, all while maintaining an open and welcoming environment. With that in mind, we will purchase a cellular gate access control system, which will allow authorized administrators and security personnel to remotely open the gates for visitors, track entry and exit events in real time, view access history, and receive notifications of any unauthorized access attempts. We will have a fund-raiser during the year to help add to our budgeted allotted funds for the year.

If you are new to the club we hope you will enjoy learning about Tallulah Falls School and its history in the newsletter.



Scrapbook and Website

A banner for the GFWC Georgia Morrow Civic Woman's Club. It features the GFWC logo on the left, the club name in purple and blue text in the center, and a photo of a group of women standing in front of a wall covered in scrapbooks. There are decorative orange flower icons on the right and left sides. At the bottom, there is a quote in purple cursive and the year 2024 in a white oval on a green background.

GFWC GEORGIA
**MORROW CIVIC
WOMAN'S CLUB**

*And may we strive to touch and know the great human heart
common to us all*

2024

JANUARY 2024
LET US TAKE TIME FOR ALL THINGS



Lois Wells installing officers.

Beautiful decorations and delicious food was prepared by Renee Seelbree and a cost of thousands





Mary Harmon sang The Collect by Mary Stewart.

On January 6, 2024, Morrow Civic Woman's Club had a wonderful celebration of yesterday and hope for tomorrow. We wrapped up 2023 and celebrated our hope for tomorrow as we installed our new officers for 2024-2025.

FEBRUARY 2024
And may we strive to touch and know the great human heart common to us all.




Morrow Civic Woman's Club was happy to show love for Wells for Hope for South Sudan at their February Project Night. They attractively wrapped water bottle favors to use as table favors at the Central West District meeting on March 9th. The District women will raise awareness and funds to give girls and women a change in their life. A well in a village can help in many ways. Just imagine walking 5 or more miles to draw water for your family. Betty Bush pictured.



Morrow Civic Woman's Club had a great project night in February pictured are Angela Wright, Lorelei Bonner, Kristy Conklin, Mary Harmon, and guest.





We are working on the 2024 scrapbook, and it is easy to add to a month. If you have real artifacts from the year save them and I will bring a box to place them in at the March Meeting. I am using the photos sent through the year, but it is not too late to add anything from 2024. We can only make it better for those who learn about our history. I am spending a lot of time in our recent past trying to connect our projects to The Collect. Hopeful to get a larger size this time. It is small here, but they can be enlarged in Word.

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

Scrapbook and Facebook- Heloise Wilson wils4929@bellsouth.net

Website- Kristy Coughlin coughline@bellsouth.net

www.mcwcga.org

Special Occasions



Elaine "Cookie" Keene	1/07
Maureen Sasser	2/04
Brenda Rayburn	2/16



Davita Parnell	1/2
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Hostess(es) for Meeting

Coordinator	Hostess	Devotional
Renee Goolsbee	Angela Wright	Peggy Wilson



State website: gfwcgeorgia.org



National website: gfwc.org