



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



April 2024

NEWSLETTER



A Message from Our President

There is a lot happening in MCWC this spring. At our April meeting, Environment will provide a program presented by a bee keeper who will share information about pollinators. This will be very helpful as we plan the church garden, and we begin working in our yards and gardens.

In May, we will welcome GFWC GA state treasurer Cimi Douglas, as a guest to our meeting and to present our program. Cimi shares wonderful information on using web sites and membership growth opportunities.

We will continue to simplify our hostess responsibilities by having cookies and drinks provided by hospitality. Everyone is welcome to bring their own snack or sandwich.

If any of the CSP chairs or committee members has announcements or information to share, please provide that information to the president at the beginning of the meeting and it will be included during announcement time.

Get out your calendars, make some travel plans. The GFWC GA state Convention will be held April 26 – 28, in Atlanta at the Marriott NE Emory area. The deadline for registration is April 12. You can find registration information and the call to convention in the 3/23 Ga Monthly Connection Newsletter.

The National convention will be held June 28 – July 1, 2024, at the Downton Hilton Hotel, in Chicago. Deadline for registration is May 20. Peggy Wilson is nominated for the Jenny Award which will be presented to the winner at the Purple Gala banquet on Sunday, June 30, at 7:30 p.m. Deadline for registration is May 20. Information and the call to convention is available in the 3/21 News and Notes Newsletter.

The Central West District meeting was held on March 9. Our MCWC was recognized with several awards for the work and projects completed in 2023. Congratulations to our members and the chairpersons of the committees. Recognitions were presented at the club, district and state levels, and a special presentation for the Jennie Award nominee.

www.mcwcga.org

Community Service Program Awards: clubs 1-25 members:

Arts – 1st place

Health and Wellness – 1st place

Civic Engagement – 1st place

Environment – 1st place

District Awards: three very prestigious honors

MCWC – Presented with

(1) the Community Service Guild of Macon Domestic Violence Awareness Award of Excellence,

(2) the Tallulah Falls School Service Award

(3) Community Service Guild Elaine Chandler GFWC Georgia President's Special Project Award of Excellence

State Level Awards:

Communications – 1st place

Art Award

Peggy Wilson, Painting, 1st place

Special Presentation: Peggy Wilson was recognized as the GFWC Georgia Jennie Award Recipient and the GFWC Southern Regional Jennie Award Recipient. This is the highest honor awarded by General Federation of Women's Clubs. It is presented in honor of founder Jane Cunningham Crowley.

We are looking forward to seeing everyone at the April 4 meeting.

COMMUNITY SERVICE PROGRAMS



Arts and Culture

Easter Bunnies

On Friday, March 22, I delivered 40 hand made bunnies with Easter eggs filled with jelly beans to River Place, an assisted living facility in Forsyth, Georgia. Katelin, the activities director, was so excited when she saw them. She thanked our club for remembering the residents.

McGarrah Elementary School

Art Supplies

Please remember to bring a few or all of the following art supplies to our April meeting: glue sticks, crayons, blue construction paper, and kids scissors. Mr. Ables, the art teacher, appreciates all that our club does for the McGarrah's students.

Student Art Contest

On Thursday, April 11th, we will be judging McGarrah's Student Art Contest. If you can help to judge, please meet us at the school office at 10:00 AM. We should be finished by noon.

Reminders

- Member Art Show in August/Hope that everyone has an entry.
- Attend an art exhibit, play, concert, or festival.
- Make plans to enter GFWCGA district and state craft competition and photo contests.



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 Teach Children To Save Day

Each year on the fourth Thursday in April, National Teach Children to Save Day encourages children to develop good saving habits. Sponsored by the American Bankers Association, National Teach Children To Save Day has been helping young people since 1997 when the program started.

Bankers across the country volunteer every year to teach children to save. Developing these habits at a young age creates a foundation for a lifetime of saving. Involving our children with a savings plan, and money management skills prepare them for a solid future. Parents and grandparents should teach children about financial matters so that when they head out into the world, they avoid pitfalls that can be financially devastating. With an early start on saving and an understanding of budgeting their money, children will have solid habits as they head into adulthood.

Help your children or grandchildren develop the skills they will need for a lifetime. Below are some tips to get started:

- ☐ Give each child a bank. It helps if the bank is clear so they can see their savings grow.
- ☐ Open a savings account. They can monitor their account and watch it grow there, too.

- ☐☐ Show them what things cost. When they want a new toy, direct them to their savings. Ask them to consider whether a toy is worth the amount they want to spend. If they still want to purchase the item, have the child pay. The act of paying with their own money will demonstrate to them the cost of the toy.
- ☐☐ Demonstrate need versus want. Explain how our food, clothing, and shelter are necessities. However, we can live without going out to eat or buying a new television or the latest phone. Place the needs before the wants even in your daily shopping.

April Projects:

- ☐☐ Please bring to our April 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: Canned Meat, Canned Soup, Canned Fruit, Canned Vegetables, Pasta Sides, and Boxed Milk. ** Please watch expiration dates.
- ☐☐ April - Day of Service: We will volunteer at the Compassion Ministries food pantry (Fayette Friendship Community Church) in Fayetteville on Saturday, April 20 from 10 AM – 12 PM. We will have a sign-up sheet at the April meeting.

Upcoming May Projects:

- ✓ Collect travel essentials (shoelaces, cell phone chargers, travel size hygiene items, backpacks, etc.) for Inspiritus's Team Libertad program. They help asylum seekers who were recently released from the Stewart Detention Center in Lumpkin, GA and are leaving Georgia to reunite with loved ones and wait their day in asylum court in August.



Education and Libraries

Book swap - You are invited to bring used books you would like to donate to swap with members or give to other groups with needy readers.

Local Author gathering - Peggy Wilson is having a social at her home with local author Jill Entekin on April 16 at 5:00 p.m. Ms Entekin has released her third novel. We are welcome to join the group. Her books will be available, probably signed.



Environment

The 22nd of April might seem familiar to many of us, especially since 1970. This was the very first EARTH DAY! Learn more about the history of Earth Day.

<https://kids.nationalgeographic.com/celebrations/article/earth-day>

This year's theme is Planet vs. Plastics.

<https://www.earthday.org/press-release/planet-vs-plasticsglobal-theme-for-earth-day-2024/>

It is so very important that we make a concerted effort to make reusing and recycling a daily part of our lives. Hopefully we can take it one step further by being more environmentally conscious in our purchasing practices. Perhaps we will start to think before we buy, and give a nod to businesses that think before they make their products. There are so many things that WE can do to enrich this beautiful planet, and to be kind to Mother Earth each day. We continue our botanical theme from last month by learning about pollinators and the critical roles they play in the lives of plants and animals.

Our speaker this month will be Peter Helfrich. His presentation will focus on pollinator conservation, habitat creation, and the importance of public education concerning native pollinators and plants. He is a backyard beekeeper and native bee enthusiast who lives in Decatur, GA. He holds certifications through UGA's Master Beekeeper program.

We can also look forward to learning about National Pollinator Week (<https://pollinator.org/pollinator-week>) in June, and a Pollinator Festival to be held in Decatur. The Great Southeastern Pollinator Census (<https://gsepc.org/>) will be conducted in August, and we all have an opportunity to participate in this event. This should give us even more insight into our restoration of the prayer garden, and ideas to make it a beautiful place for people and pollinators. It will **BEE** great time, no joke!

Why do bees hum? ... *They forgot the words.*

What happens when a bee moves to a new hive? ... *They get a house swarming party.*

BEE there or BEE square!!



Health and Wellness

April 1st begins Prevention of Blindness Week.

April 7th: World Health Day

April 16th- National Healthcare Decisions



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. Interesting, right? Well, here’s something that might catch your attention. If you email Lois Wolfe with something new you learned from GFWC WHRC Wednesdays with the date of post, your name will be entered in an opportunity drawing that will be held in December for a \$25 Chick-fil-A gift card. As you know, more entries increase opportunities, so email those interesting facts to Lois often during this club year!

While in Washington, DC, Lois Wolfe and Mary Harmon were able to attend GFWC Women’s History Month Celebration held at GFWC Headquarters on March 6. They enjoyed meeting the GFWC WHRC Librarian, Joanna Church, and hearing the presentations on Heart Health (Jude Maboné – Miss DC 2023) and GFWC History in 15 Artifacts (Joanna Church). In December 2016, both Mary and Lois visited the GFWC Headquarters and Archives along with six other MCWC members. Mary and Lois noticed all the changes made in the Archives since then.



With Joanna Church



2016 – GFWC Archives Visit



2024 – GFWC Archives Visit

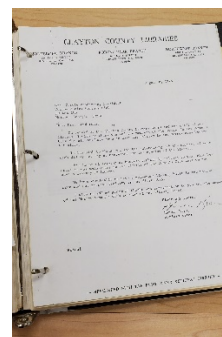
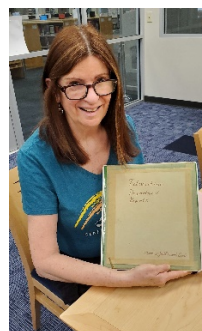
On February 19, 2024, Lois and Mary searched our club’s documents held at the Clayton State University’s Archives. The purpose of the search was to find concrete evidence that the Morrow Junior Woman’s Club did in fact play a critical role in establishing the Clayton County Morrow Public Library. Descriptions exist about “one of our club’s greatest achievements,” which is the establishment of the Morrow Branch of the Clayton County Library System. However, no actual news articles or letters were placed in the club’s scrapbooks documenting the process.

2025 will mark the 50th year of the Morrow Public Library, and it is hoped that MCWC’s role will be shared in the celebration. If one reads about the establishment of the Clayton County Library System, s/he will learn how the Jonesboro Woman’s Club founded the Jonesboro Library in 1941. However, there is no mention of the Morrow Junior Woman’s Club role in the Clayton County Library System. Therefore, Lois and Mary have embarked on a quest to discover REAL PROOF that our organization did indeed play a vital part in bringing a library to Morrow, Georgia. After hours of searching, Mary pulled out a notebook of Education Department Reports and BINGO! There, staring them in the face,

was actual proof! Here are a few of the documents they found: “Morrow women seek help for new library” (Clayton News Daily, December 20, 1974); a letter from the President of the Lake Harbin Elementary PTA to the Clayton County Commissioners and cc: Morrow Junior Woman’s Club recognizing and supporting the concept of a public library in the Morrow, Rex, and Ellenwood area (January 31, 1975); and a letter from the Administrator of the Clayton County Libraries to the Morrow Junior Woman’s Club thanking members for all they had done to have the library in the Morrow area become a reality (August 8, 1975).

Consider this thought: What if the club members had NOT completed and submitted an Education Department report to the District/State? We would have NO proof, only our word, that our organization’s most important, lasting impact on our local community truly occurred. Scary, huh? The reason we write reports really takes on a new meaning that is of GREAT IMPORTANCE. Right?

Well now the work begins to take all data and put it into a form that our local library and representatives will view as sufficient documentation to publicize the role of the Morrow Junior/Civic Woman’s Club in the establishment of the Morrow Public Library. Hopefully, when the Morrow Public Library celebrates its 50th year of operation, the Morrow Civic Woman’s Club members will be present (and likely providing refreshments) on that day!



SB324 has passed both the Senate and House and is headed to Governor Kemp’s office for his signature! This Bill creates a victim-centered address confidentiality program for survivors of human trafficking, domestic violence, dating violence, sexual assault, and stalking. By shielding each victim’s physical address, future harm can be prevented, fear and isolation can be reduced, and ultimately lives can be saved! Thank you, club sisters, for responding to the urgent calls to action and for making this happen!

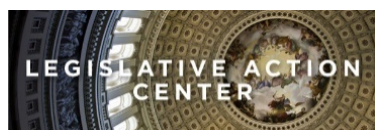
Over the years, MCWC has supported Haven House, a nonprofit organization in Henry County, which serves victims of domestic violence. As members, we can continue this support by donating gently used household items and clothing to the Blessings Thrift Store. Giving home furnishings to the thrift store helps families as they begin to rebuild their lives. Haven House sets them up in new homes with the items they need such as beds, dressers, dining tables, living room furniture, cookware, and dishes. When items are not used by Haven House families, they may be sold to provide income to the shelter for purchasing food and supplies.

It is now officially Spring, so as you engage in your spring cleaning, please think about making donations to the Blessings Thrift Store, which is located at 18 Depot Street, just off the square in

www.mcwcga.org

McDonough. The store is open Tuesday-Saturday 9:00am-4:30pm. Donations are accepted on Tuesday-Saturday 9:00am-4:00pm. Please remember to record a list of your donations for the end of year Domestic Violence club report.

The Blessings Thrift Store accepts donations of gently used clothing, furniture, household items, toys, and linens. Donors receive a tax donation receipt at the time of donation. For questions, call 770.337.3886.



Legislation and Public Policy

During April, Lois Wolfe will complete and submit our club's actions on the 2022-2024 GFWC Legislation and Public Policy Scavenger Hunt. The project was intended to encourage legislative advocacy on the local, state, and national levels, while also recognizing GFWC as an organization. If you have contacted your representatives about issues during the 2024 Georgia Legislative session, please share that information with Lois so she can include your advocacy in our club's numbers.

One of the actions that will be reported in the Scavenger Hunt is Senate Resolution 648 by Senators Davenport of the 44th, Anderson of the 43rd and Parent of the 42nd. Adopted in the Senate February 21, 2024. "BE IT RESOLVED BY THE SENATE that the members of this body congratulate and commend Mrs. Peggy Wilson, the GFWC Georgia, and Morrow Civic Woman's Club." On March 18, 2024, Peggy was recognized and honored at the Georgia Capitol for being selected as GFWC Georgia's Jennie Award recipient!

Peggy, your club sisters are proud of you!



COMMITTEES



Budget and Finance

Rada Knives

Please bring your order along with payment to the April meeting. Items should arrive before May meeting.

Spring Ladies Luncheon

Tickets

Hope that you are selling your tickets. At our April meeting, in order to plan the amount of needed food, we will take a head count of tickets sold.

Opportunity Baskets

Please bring items to the April meeting for our three baskets. The baskets' themes are Pampering, Gardening, and Chocolate, tea, and coffee.

Door Prizes

Each club member is asked to bring two \$10.00 wrapped or bagged gifts.



Scholarship Committee

The Andrea Lane Memorial Scholarship has been shared with eligible students and applications are currently being received. With only one month remaining before the due date of May 1, 2024, the committee needs your help in spreading the word. Now through the end of April, be on the lookout for possible Clayton State University applicants and tell them the criteria and application are posted on our club website, www.mcwcga.org.



Tallulah Falls School



Some of you may have met a teacher, Kelly Green, that previously taught in Clayton County Public Schools and Retired in Fayette County Schools. Her father, Dr. Charles H Green, was elected president of Tallulah Falls School by the board of trustees in 1989. The school has had a long line of distinguished leaders in addition to the support of GFWC Georgia. Dr. Greene is pictured. Also, he served as superintendent of Griffin-Spaulding County Schools. Dr. Peevy is the current leader and has been instrumental in growing TFS to its current enrollment.



Another cool fact I discovered recently is that one of my schoolmate's granddaughter, Julianne Shirley is graduating this year. There have been many legacies at TFS and of that you can be proud. Many children of the area benefit from our continued support.



Scrapbook and Website



Example of April last year's Scrapbook page and some pictures to share next year.

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

Special Occasions



Mary Harmon 4/04

Kristy Coughlin 4/29

Peggy Wilson 4/30



No Soulmates
Celebrating this
month



Register Here

https://lp.constantcontactpages.com/ev/reg/pudt3mp/lp/df787a42-e0d3-4fdc-8ef2-27cadbcd74c2?source_id=a284b4cb-479b-49db-b127-2154a77f3034&source_type=em&c=Blbj2ZZmo-Gb Ik8hakREP9NnJa3S3Rhja3e3iU5k-96LjIKPGARUw==

Hostess(es) for Meeting

Coordinator	Hostess	Devotional
Renee Goolsbee	Angela Wright	Mary Harmon



State website: gfwcgeorgia.org



National website: gfwc.org

www.mcwcga.org