



NEWS N' NOTES

Service, Strength, and Sisterhood

President's Corner

This is the time of year to pause and reflect on our club accomplishments in 2020. Your leadership team, with Sue Mork's guidance, has been busy compiling information that will go into our yearly report to GFWC Northern District. Please read the 2020 Annual Club Record Activity Summary in this News and Notes that provides an excellent review of our activities. It is so inspiring to see what we were able to accomplish, even in these challenging times.

As we begin our journey through 2021, please jot down any in-kind donations or hours that you personally have given to the club. We have sent out many different types of forms over the years, but I think it is best to just establish a method of recording that works for you. I have a clipboard where I list my daily DWC activities. Some people prefer to keep a spread sheet on their computers. Others record their DWC time in the spaces on a paper calendar. Remember that the committee chairs keep track of committee hours and all of the activities you do with a group of members will be captured in some way. You do not need to record those.

The DWC board has made the decision to continue to have our monthly meetings via Zoom, through April. It is our hope that we can have a dinner meeting in May, in an outdoor setting. That, of course, will be determined by events in the next few months.

As I write this President's message, warm, comforting sunshine is streaming through the windows of my office. A majority of my time as DWC president has been spent right here, talking with members, working on emails, writing up reports and minutes of meetings, as well as participating in Zoom book clubs, committee meetings, monthly meetings, board meetings and district meetings. I so wish I could share this warmth with you in person. I so wish I could give each of you a hug, as we face this new year together.

Wishing you good health and simple pleasures in 2021.

In Federation Sisterhood,

Martha Feeney

GFWC Virginia Statistical Form – Annual Club Record – 2020

Activity Summary

As always, **January** began with the combined effort of all members in compiling our Northern District report. Our president, Celeste Corrigan, had reorganized the reporting binders, showing reports from previous years as well as pertinent information about reporting. Our final report was shared with all members with thanks to all for their input and dedication to the community and the club. Our club was awarded two 2019 District awards and two 2019 State awards. At our January meeting we had our “DWC Art Talent on Display.” Our Sweats for Vets donations were delivered this month and several members attended the Haymarket Food Pantry Annual Bingo event.

On **February** 9, we once again presented our “Girls Gone Bunco” fundraiser. Through ticket sales, raffles and a 50/50 drawing the club was able to add \$2017 to our treasury. At our second meeting of the year, we enjoyed our second annual “Swag Swap.” Member Roya Delaney was our emcee for the evening, and she helped us raise \$518 for our club treasury. We voted on and approved our new Fundraising Initiative at our **February** meeting. Because of the Covid-19 restrictions that began in March, our next monthly meeting would not be until October!!

The many cancellations that changed our lives for the remainder of the year began in **March**. We were no longer able to continue our monthly meetings, Gravely Elementary tutoring, bunco at the Gainesville Health & Rehab Center, volunteering at PACE West School, and so much more. Within days, however, our members began to regroup. Our sewing club organized mask kits, to be picked up and returned. The completed masks were then delivered to local hospitals, cancer centers, and assisted living facilities. 512 masks were made and distributed during March – September and additional masks were made until the end of the year. Knitters continued making scarves at home to be donated to a homeless shelter. Throughout the remainder of the year, our members connected with the residents of the Gainesville Rehab Center with cards, food donations and seasonal gifts.

Two “Blingo” Zoom events in **April** and **May** raised \$1566, which was used throughout the remaining months of the year, to provide pizza dinners for local Front-Line Workers.

In **April**, our reactivated Conservation/Environment Committee had its first meeting. Throughout this challenging year, committee members have hiked Leopold’s Preserve, visited a bee farm, and supported organizations protecting domesticated animals.

Our membership in **May** 2019 was 39. Membership in May 2020 was 46! We have drawn in new members through our website, articles in local publications and outreaches by current members. With the many challenges of 2020, we are delighted and in awe that we have expanded our number of club members this year. We awarded a \$1000 scholarship to a Battlefield High School senior in May. We also donated \$400 to the Haymarket Food Pantry this month. Our monthly book club embraced Zoom.

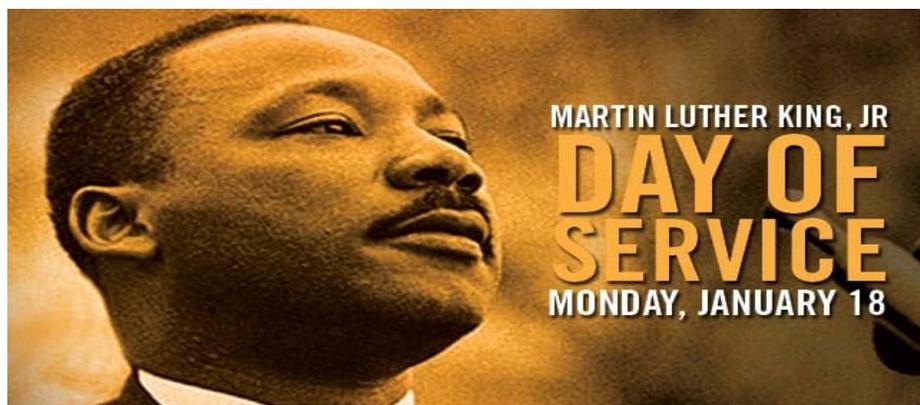
In **June, July, and August** the new DWC board worked to prepare our members for the realignment of the Community Service Programs. The board chose “Using our Hearts and Strengths for our Community” as their theme. Consistent communication became a priority for the board, prompting an August initiative to connect with each member through emails and/or phone calls. Linda Turnau was officially named our club historian.

September began with a donation of school supplies to PACE West School and the awarding of a \$1000 NOVA scholarship. Many club members reunited during an outdoor social at The Farm Brewery. Some members participated in a golf tournament supporting ovarian cancer research, which the club sponsored with a \$250 donation.

Our historic first Zoom monthly meeting in **October** was a success. With the help of many tech-savvy members, we were able to conduct the necessary business of the club and have Kelly Little, a registered yoga teacher, lead members in a calming session of chair yoga. Our Health and Wellness Committee had their first meeting, planning for a mindfulness lecture in November. We started an on-going collection for our local food pantry.

Doug Burroughs, our very good friend from Flower Gallery in Manassas, spent almost an hour at the **November** Zoom meeting, showing members how to create beautiful seasonal flower arrangements. DWC continued to purchase a book for every student at Ellis Elementary School with our “Buy a Kid a Book” program. Two Thanksgiving baskets were donated to families at PACE West School. Collections for the winter “Sweats for Vets” continued through December.

Our **December** Zoom meeting was a social gathering, where we shared our family traditions during the celebrations of Hanukkah, Diwali, and Christmas. Also, in December, many members were able to participate in Wreaths Across America and DWC donated \$400 in support of this organization. Four holiday baskets for home-bound seniors were assembled by members and delivered to “Volunteer Prince William.”



Art and Culture Committee
Chairs: Susan Sivori & Celeste Corrigan



There are no planned meetings and activities till next year due to covid-19 pandemic.

Civic Engagement and Outreach
Chair: Mary Ellen Murphy



Happy New Year! During December, the Civic Engagement and Outreach Committee has been busy with completing holiday tasks for our charitable outreaches. Seven members of the committee participated in assembling the beautiful holiday baskets for homebound seniors; due to COVID restrictions and for maximum safety, members gamely braved cold temperatures and windy conditions to work in Mary Ellen's garage...but the results were worth it! Our baskets were gratefully received by the staff of "Volunteer Prince William" and distributed to the homebound by the staff of "meals On Wheels".



And speaking of braving frosty weather, eight members of our group assembled to take part in a patriotic ceremony and place holiday wreaths on the graves of veterans at Stonewall Memorial Gardens as part of "Wreaths Across America" on December 19th.



We are continuing to collect men's and women's sweats for the "Sweats For Vets" outreach. Clubwomen are asked to donate sweats in sizes M-3XXX for women and M-4XXXX for men. Your donation can be dropped off at Celeste's home (2628 Logmill Rd) and should be bagged and marked with your name.

We are once again writing cards to cheer the residents of Gainesville Health and Rehabilitation Center. Please contact Mary Ellen at megwayne@comcast.net if you are interested in participating. Celeste is still providing "Meals for First Responders" to our police, fire fighters and health care workers on Mondays; help for this outreach is courtesy of Uno's Pizza.

Our next meeting will be via ZOOM on January 28th at 7 PM.

Education and Libraries Committee Chairs: Linda Turnau & Anna Shackelford



Happy New Year wishes to each of you! May 2021 bring you good health, much happiness, peace and contentment, better times, and many blessings. Let us hope for an end soon to this social distancing and look ahead to the time when we can once again enjoy each other's company. What a celebration that will be! It has been hard not seeing you and the staffs and children our committee supports. Unfortunately, with the schools still on virtual learning, many of our outreaches are still in a holding pattern.

Our DWC book group continues to meet virtually via Zoom. Our January book is the novel This Tender Land by William Kent Krueger. We will hold our discussion about this book virtually, via Zoom, on Wednesday, January 27th, at 7:00 PM. Linda Turnau will host the Zoom discussion meeting, and she will send out the information on this once the meeting has been set. Our February book is Time After Time by Lisa Grunwald. We will meet, via Zoom, on February 24th to discuss this novel. Our book group is open to all, and we would love to have you join us for some interesting discussions when you are able. Remember, "Books make your mind sharper, life more exciting, spirits higher, stress levels lower, and hearts more compassionate." ENJOY A GOOD BOOK! Please let Linda Turnau know if you would like to be included in our monthly book group meetings.

In mid-December, Mary Ellen Murphy and Linda Turnau took the check to Ellis Elementary to cover the cost of our Buy-a-Kid-a-Book program. They presented the principal, Laura Gazda, and the librarian, Christy Klisiewicz with our DWC check for \$2,255.56. With gratitude and huge smiles, they graciously accepted our club's gift. Many thanks to those of you who generously pledged to this program and thanks to all club members for your support of this project that puts books into the



hands of children. As Jacqueline Kennedy said, “There are many little ways to enlarge a child’s world. Love of books is the best of all.” We have touched the lives of our Ellis friends with the gift of books and hopefully spurred a love for reading in many of them.

Environment Committee
Chairs: Sarah Rudy and Robin Clukey



BRMC will be hosting two walks at Leopold’s Preserve this month. The first is on Thursday, January 7 at 10:00 AM. This is the monthly naturalist walk with Michael.

The second walk is on Saturday, January 23 from 10:00 to 12:00 PM. Due to COVID, the group size cannot exceed 10 people. You must sign up on the link below if you are interested.

<https://www.brmconservancy.org/bookings-checkout/monthly-naturalist-walk-geology>

Health and Wellness Committee
Interim Chair: Mary Ellen Murphy



Because of the many holiday celebrations scheduled for December, the Health and Wellness Committee did not hold a meeting. We had decided that for our January meeting one of our members, Dr. Shamal Beltangady, who is a psychiatrist, would put together and present a mini lecture on stress management...something we can all benefit from in these times! However, since Shamal is out of town helping her daughter to welcome a new child, a decision was made to share Shamal’s presentation in writing and to have a Q&A session at our February 8th meeting on ZOOM. Shamal’s presentation can be forwarded to you by request; contact Mary Ellen at megwayne@comcast.net.

The Public Relations Committee
Chair: Deb Jewell

Our PR and in person networking have been substantially impacted by statewide closures. GFWC DWC continues to be an active member of HGBA (Haymarket Gainesville Business Association and Prince William Chamber of Commerce). We engage with both so we can actively look for businesses to partner with that will help us in our charity work. For example: Recently, because of an HGBA relationship, we were able to get 100 chap sticks for free from local dentist for our Gainesville Rehab Senior Center. It is easy to be a part of the PR Committee. We have no required monthly meetings. Just wear your nametags and meet up with us in public at a networking event. Both HGBA and PW CHAMBER have multiple opportunities to engage via ZOOM or Mobile Meeting.

Check out <https://hgba.biz/> and <http://pwchamber.org/> for EVENT CALENDARS. There are wide range of interesting topics and you will definitely have a “moment” to introduce yourself. Consider a CHAMBER ORIENTATION via Zoom on Friday February 5th from 9am to 10am. RSVP on the event calendar found at <http://pwchamber.org/>

What is public relations?

PR is also known as “the Persuasion Business” according to Robert Wynne. You are trying to convince folks to join you in a cause, to promote your idea, purchase your ornaments, cookbooks, or peanuts, and basically support and/or if you are a woman over the age of 18, even JOIN GFWC Dominion Woman’s Club. Here is what the Public Relations Society of America [PRSA](#) agreed upon after a few thousand submissions: “Public relations is a strategic communication process that builds mutually beneficial relationships between organizations and their publics.” PR people are storytellers. They share stories. Our Committee members are out and about sharing stories whenever there are “networking” events.

The [Princeton Review](#) notes that: “A public relations person is an image shaper”. For our club members on the PR and communications committee that means we are out there to help generate positive publicity and keep the public informed about over events and causes that are dear to us.

We do not have dollars in the budget for advertising because every dollar we bring in goes to support charity, so we rely on word of mouth, free press, and publicity.

There is an old saying: “Advertising is what you pay for, publicity is what you pray for.”

The Dominion Junioresettes Club Chairs: Connie Loggans and Chris Powers



Happy New Year from the Dominion Junioresettes! It has been quiet this month for the Junioresettes, but they did manage to do one more event by the end of 2020. They had been collecting children’s books for the last few months with the goal of donating them to a school to be used by teachers’ personal libraries. The girls went to many garage sales and asked if the seller was willing to donate their children’s books. They were able to donate 217 books to the non-profit St. Michael’s School in Vint Hill.

Moving forward, the Junioresettes plan to focus on membership and the ability to attract more girls to the club. All of the Junioresettes will be graduating this year with the exception of two girls. If anyone has granddaughters or know of girls in high school that are interested in joining, please contact me (Connie at cloggans@hotmail.com)

Treasurer's Report Barbara Garland

As we enter the new year, I want to reiterate the financial procedures adopted by the Club for this year:

- Dues will no longer be collected in January. You will receive a notice in June with a request for payment from July 1-August 31. This will align the payment of dues with the fiscal year. Since we do not meet during those months, dues can be sent into our post office address (Box 1053, Haymarket, VA 20158). Alternatively, I am hoping to have a way to make payment to the Square online - will be working on this in the next month.
- Because part of our dues is earmarked to pay for meetings and we have not had in-person meetings since last February, that money will be utilized to pay dues for club members to Northern District and the state which are payable this month.
- There are some members who elected to pay pledges in installments during the year and have already made their first installment. I would appreciate your contacting me to let me know how you plan to make payment of additional funds due.
- One of our members is working to have matching funds from her employer donated to our Club. This is obviously a boon to our Club and we thank her. You may want to check with your employer if this is available.
- Letters will be going out for pledges for the 2021-2022 year in February. They will have to be returned in March before the Finance Committee meets to determine the budget for the new fiscal year.
- At the beginning of February, I will be sending each committee chair an email showing budgeted projection versus what has been spent to date.

I would appreciate feedback on how much additional amount is expected before the end of the fiscal year in light of the impact that Covid-19 has had on her committee.

Did you know?

The Story of the General Federation of Women's Club of Virginia?

The story of the General Federation of Women's Clubs of Virginia is indeed fascinating. In 1907 the General Federation of Women's Council was to meet in Norfolk in conjunction with the Jamestown Exposition. In the meantime, Alice Aunspaugh Kyle, President of The Woman's Club of Lynchburg and Elizabeth Gish, Chairman of the Club's State Federation Committee, were thinking of forming a

federation of clubs in Virginia. The Woman's Club of Lynchburg sent out invitations to existing clubs in Virginia to attend a convention on May 16, 1907 at the Lynchburg YMCA. The result of this meeting was the formation of the Virginia Federation of Women's Clubs with a membership of ten clubs and almost 700 women. Mrs. Kyle was elected the first president and is fondly remembered as "Mother Kyle". The Woman's Club of Norfolk hosted the GFWC Council Meeting with great success. However, the fledgling organization found some of GFWC's policies too liberal and they did not join GFWC until 1910. In 2000 the name of the organization was changed from the Virginia Federation of Women's Clubs to the VFWC of GFWC. In 2002 the name was again changed to General Federation of Women's Clubs of Virginia, to be known as GFWC Virginia.

You can read more about the history of GFWC Virginia by visiting GFWC Virginia Website.

Curious to learn more about it? You can visit the national organization website (GFWC) www.gfwc.org and our state organization (GFWC VA) website www.gfwcvirginia.org.

Compiled by Ujwala Joshi

Club Essentials

GFWC Dominion Woman's Club 2020 – 2021 Board

GFWC Dominion Woman's Club

P.O. Box 1053

Haymarket, VA 20168

President – Martha Feeney

1st Vice President – Barbara Murray

2nd Vice President – Kathy Suggitt

Corresponding Secretary – Roya Delaney

Recording Secretary – Lisa Leevy

Treasurer – Barbara Garland

Parliamentarian – Sue Mork

Dominion Woman's Club Website www.dominionwomansclub.org

Dominion Woman's Club email address [www.dominionwomans11@gmail](mailto:www.dominionwomans11@gmail.com)

Facebook Page: GFWC DOMINION WOMAN'S CLUB

Non-Profit Member: Prince William Chamber of Commerce www.pwchamber.org

Non-Profit Member: Haymarket Gainesville Business Association www.HGBA.biz

Greater Federation of Women's Clubs (GFWC) www.gfwc.org

GFWC Virginia www.gfwcvirginia.org

GFWC Northern District www.ndgfwcva.org

Calendar of Events

January 2021

19 - HGBA meeting (www.hgba.biz)

20 - DWC Monthly Meeting via zoom - DWC website walkthrough by Sharayu Tulpule

23 - BRMC walks at Leopold's Preserve – 10:00 AM

27 - Book Club – This Tender Land by: William Kent Krueger

28 - Environment Committee Meeting - 1:00 PM at DVCC Patio

28 - Civic Engagement and Outreach Committee Meeting - 7:00 PM

February 2021

1 - Education and Libraries Committee Meeting

8 - Health and Wellness Committee Meeting

16 - HGBA meeting (www.hgba.biz)

17 – DWC Monthly Meeting via zoom

24 - Book Club – Time After Time by: Lisa Grunwald

25 - Environment Committee Meeting

Collections

Used children's books – Rosemary Boettke

Used batteries – Sharayu Tulpule

Aluminum pop tops – Martha Feeney

Haymarket Food Pantry – Roya Delaney (Piedmont), Barbara Murray (Dominion Valley), and Rae Lamb (Haymarket/ Gainesville)



Sharayu Tulpule, Editor