



GFWC DOMINION WOMAN'S CLUB

UNITY IN DIVERSITY

NEWS AND NOTES

May 2025

President's Corner

This is our last newsletter for the 2024-2025 club year and it's been a busy and rewarding year for our club! We were recognized for our exemplary community support at the GFWC Northern District Virginia Spring Meeting where we received three awards based on our calendar year 2024 activities: Education and Libraries Best Overall Project for Large Clubs; Environment Best Single Project for Large Clubs; and Communications and Public Relations Honorable Mention for Large Clubs. The award details are on the club website.

Also at the Northern District meeting, we had several winners in the Arts and Crafts contest: 1st Place crochet - Barb Garland; 1st Place acrylic painting-Amy Scala; 1st Place knitting-Judy Umland; 2nd Place pastels-Robin Clukey; and 3rd Place watercolor-Robin Clukey.

The winners at the District level then moved on to the State level and at the GFWC of Virginia convention our members won 1st Place acrylic painting-Amy Scala; 1st Place knitting-Judy Umland; and 2nd Place crochet-Barb Garland. At the state convention we also won two awards for recruiting. Congratulations everyone!

I hope to see you all at the May dinner meeting—the meeting Evite included information about the cost of the dinner along with the planned agenda. Our 2nd Vice President, Gale Goodwin, will be leaving the Board and we thank her for all of her dedication as the 2nd VP. Thanks Gale!

On a final note, I would like to emphasize that the founding principle of the GFWC is volunteerism and giving back to the community. GFWC is also founded on the strength of women supporting other women and, since we are all volunteers, we should encourage each other in our volunteer efforts and in trying new things. I like this quote:

"I'm not going to limit myself just because people won't accept the fact that I can do something else." –Dolly Parton.

Enjoy your summer!



Messages from our Club Officers

Treasurer: Claire Szanyi

A brief reminder that we will be voting to approve the 2025/2026 club budget at the May meeting. Please check your email for the latest version and let Claire know (clairecszanyi@gmail.com/7038627682) if you have any questions.



Arts and Culture Committee **Co-Chairs: Barb Garland and Robin Clukey**

Eight members of the Arts & Culture Committee toured the Lorton Workhouse on Friday, April 25th. All enjoyed the exhibit at the Visitor's Center as well as being able to visit many of the artist's studios and talking to the artists who were there.



The next activity will be a visit to a museum on June 13th which is being organized by Sharayu - be on the lookout for more information on this but mark your calendars (the original date for this was May 30th).



Civic Engagement and Outreach Committee **Co-Chairs: Mary Ellen Murphy and Susie Collat**

Our committee has been so busy! You have baked, “fluffed” and delivered treats for our first responders, planted the “Pinwheel Garden”, volunteered at the Haymarket Regional Food Pantry and were the sponsors of Eileen Smith’s visit to our monthly meeting.

There is more work to be done, though. Our “Caring on the Go” bags, “Birthday Bags” and Linus Project and DaVita blanket projects are still needing to be completed. We have reserved the Mary Jo Rigby Community room at the H/G library on Thursday, May 22nd from 1-3:30 to work on the bags and if we have the time, also to complete 2 child-sized fleece blankets for Project Linus and one adult-sized fleece blanket for DaVita Dialysis in Gainesville. Please let me know if you are able to join us on the 22nd; it is possible that we may also be scheduling a meeting in early June (if we cannot complete all our projects at the May meeting).



Education and Libraries Committee

Co-Chairs: Sharayu Tulpule and Laura Hyer

On April 9th, at PACE West School, volunteers were presented with a wonderful breakfast and talent show. Martha Feeney was presented ‘Volunteer of the Year’ award.



At Gravely Elementary School the committee presented a \$350 check to the 2nd grade teachers on April 29th.

Teacher Appreciation Treats were provided by Susie and Mary Ellen at Ellis Elementary School on May 7th.

PACE West graduation will be held on May 23rd. There will be 10 graduates. DWC will donate the graduation bags, with goodies inside. Rotary will supply gift cards. Martha, Sharayu, and Diane are planning to attend. DWC members used McKay’s credits to buy an assortment of books for the 5th graders at the Mullen ES, a Title 1 school to take home during the summer vacation. The books will be distributed on June 4th. Katherine Chong, a senior at Battlefield HS has been selected as the winner of the DWC scholarship. The next book club will be on May 28. The budget for 2025 – 2026 is under discussion.



Environment Committee

Chair: Amy Scala

The Environment Committee continues to support our current outreaches. FOHA Friends of Homeless Animals, Bull Run Mountains Conservancy, Leopold’s Preserve and Haymarket Food Pantry dog and cat food.

I am delighted to announce Heather Young as our new Co-Chair for 2025/26.

To celebrate Earth Day our members had two clean up events. One earlier in March in our neighborhoods and another participating in Dominion Valley Country Club’s Clean-up event on April 26th.



We donated \$286.71 worth of dog and cat food to Haymarket Food Pantry in April.

Reminder our next meeting is on May 15th at Leopold's Preserve. We will take a short walk and review many of the improvements we were involved in since 2019. Please meet at 12:00 by our native garden and bring a picnic lunch. We will be presenting three native flowering trees to Marie Pinto, VP of Operations of WHFF and Nick Davis, Park Manager of Leopold's Preserve.



Health and Wellness Committee

Co-Chairs: Sue Mork and Barbara Murray

The Health and Wellness committee has had another productive, fulfilling, and fun year serving our local community within our Health and Wellness Projects. We are pleased and would like to thank the Board and Finance committee for funding our budget requests at 90%. A huge thank you goes out to the Events committee, sponsors, and members that attended the fundraisers so that we can continue to donate these necessary funds along with being 'Volunteers in Action'.

Members filled 500 eggs with candy and prizes at Heritage Village and the remaining funds were donated to the activity director. In May the weather will be warm enough that we should be able to finally assist the residents to plant the raised garden beds. Put May 14th at 2:30 on your calendar for this activity. This will be the last activity for the year at Heritage Village until we resume in September.



Thank you to our members who have volunteered at Boxes of Basics and Crossroads Connection over the past year!

Our donation to Inova Health Foundation has been sent to continue our support of cancer research. The 'Social Seen' donation was given to Renee Brennan. Club members received 'File of Life' to record health and medication information allowing first responders to more quickly treat people in their homes.

After the close of three years, Barbara Murray and Sue Mork will be transitioning their chair positions for the Health and Wellness committee DWC year 2025-2026 to Lisa Dunn and Donne Howell. Thank you Lisa and Donne!!!



Events Committee

Co-Chairs: Barb Garland and Connie Loggans

The Author's Tea was a beautiful event attended by over 70 ladies! Desserts, tea, and coffee were served as we listened to a very funny author from Northern Virginia, Libby Klein. Libby entertained us by describing many of her books while also answering questions about her career. We raffled off 15 raffles baskets and 14 restaurant gift certificates, gave away many door prizes, along with \$225 in the 50/50 drawing.



In April, 8 club members met at a local restaurant in Gainesville for a Peruvian dinner, Nankar Peru. We will be having another International dinner on May 12th at Musashi Japanese Steakhouse in Gainesville. Please contact Connie and Barb if you are interested in attending.



The Dominion Juniores Club

President: Ivana Vettickal

Facilitator: Yubo Zhang

Newsletter Editor: Kaitlyn Schumacher

No updates at this time.

Club Essentials

GFWC Dominion Woman's Club 2024 – 2025 Executive Board

President – Nora Peterson

1st Vice President – Laura Hyer

2nd Vice President – Gale Goodwin

Corresponding Secretary – Elizabeth Laverty

Recording Secretary – Joi Canavan

Treasurer – Claire Szanyi

Parliamentarian – Diane Lewan

GFWC Dominion Woman's Club

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Dominion Woman's Club Website www.dominionwomansclub.org

Dominion Woman's Club email address DWCPresidentmail@gmail.com

Facebook Page: GFWC DOMINION WOMAN'S CLUB

Instagram Page: [gfwc_dominion_womans_club](#)

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

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

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

GFWC Virginia www.gfwcvirginia.org

Northern District of GFWC Virginia www.ndgfwcva.org

Club Calendar

May 2025

- 12 - Events Committee International Dinner, Musashi Japanese Steakhouse in Gainesville 6:30 PM
- 14 - Health and Wellness Committee – Heritage Village Craft Activity 2:30 -3:30 PM
- 15 - Environment Committee, meet at Leopold's Preserve, 12:00 PM
- 21 - DWC End of Year Dinner Meeting at Dominion Valley Country Club, social time at 6:00 PM
- 22 - Civic Engagement Projects, Haymarket Gainesville Library from 1:00-3:30 PM
- 28 - Final Book Club Meeting, (<https://bookclubs.com/clubs/5964273/meetings>) at 6:00 PM

June 2025

- 7 - GFWC Convention, Omni Atlanta Hotel at CNN Center, Atlanta, GA
- 11 - Events Committee, Social Gathering-TBD
- 13 - Arts and Culture Committee, Visit to a museum and lunch-TBD

July 2025

Summer Break

Collections/Recycling

Used batteries – Sharayu Tulpule

Aluminum pop-tops – Yubo Zhang

Canceled Postage Stamps – Vanna Ruffner

Large Paper Bags with Handles (for FOHA's Treasure Hound Resale Shop) – Nora Peterson

Used children's books – Rosemary Boettke

Haymarket Food Pantry – Mary Ellen Murphy

Crossroads Connection – Sue Mork, Barbara Murray

Dollars for Doggies (Canine Companions for Independence) – Mary Ellen Murphy

Diane Lewan and Nora Peterson Co-Editors