



GFWC DOMINION WOMAN'S CLUB

UNITY IN DIVERSITY

NEWS AND NOTES

March 2026

President's Corner by Nora Peterson

We're gradually heading for spring and our club members have been busy!

At our February club meeting, we held our "Swag Swap," led by talented auctioneer Roya Delany, and we raised around \$200 for our club. Thanks to everyone who brought auction items and to the members who bid on them—we hope to do this again next year!

Our Winter Bingo event on February 21st was a huge success and a fun day for everyone! You can read more about it in the Events Committee column in this newsletter. I would like to thank the Dominion Junioettes' Facilitator Yubo Zhang and Junioettes members Angela Goh and Caoiamhe O'Neill for working the concessions stand all afternoon—we appreciate your time and contributions to the event.



We made an important announcement at the February meeting regarding a change to our meeting location: for April and May, due to increased costs at the Dominion Valley Country Club, we have secured the fellowship hall at the Shepherd of the Hills (SOTH) church. The address for the meeting location is 4090 Sudley Road, Haymarket, VA 20169. We have also provided the dates for our fall meetings (September, October and November) to the meeting coordinator at SOTH but we have not made any financial commitments on behalf of the club since the new Board may want to secure other meeting space for next year.

We hope to see you at the March meeting!



Treasury Report by

Claire Szanyi

Just a brief reminder that I've asked that the voluntary pledge forms be returned by the March meeting. As always, this is an optional contribution to the club. Please let me know if any questions.

Also, when Barb and Judy went to Walmart for bingo supplies, the management suggested we apply for a grant. I went ahead and applied for a grant and am very happy to say that we were awarded a Spark Good grant for \$1,000 for the Buy a Kid a Book program.



Arts and Culture Committee

Co-Chairs: Barb Garland and Robin Clukey



The Arts and Culture Committee held a very successful Art Contest at our February meeting. We have six entries in six different categories that will now advance to the Northern District's Art Contest which will be held at the March 21, 2026 Northern District of Virginia spring meeting in Fredericksburg. Winners at the Northern District level will then advance to the state level and will compete in the Art Contest at the GFWC Virginia Convention in Williamsburg in April. Good luck to all of our talented members who submitted entries this year.



The Arts & Culture Committee has seven members who are going to see Calendar Girls at the Fauquier Theatre on Saturday, March 15th. At that time, we will be presenting them with a donation of \$200.

In April, committee members plan to go to the Byrne Gallery in Middleburg followed by lunch. A sign up sheet will be available at our March meeting - if you are not at the meeting and plan to join us, please let Robin or Barb know.





Civic Engagement and Outreach Committee

Co-Chairs: Mary Ellen Murphy and Susie Collat

February found the members of the Civic Engagement & Outreach Committee throwing their energies into making the DWC Winter Bingo a fabulous success. Many of us baked cookies, brownies and bars for the bake sale at the event; we met at Susan Sivori's home to place them in individual plastic bags which were then encased in a cleverly folded napkin and sealed with a snowflake sticker. While brainstorming how to best display our copious and delicious baked goods, Susan suggested using several decorative tiered trays ...it was a perfect way to showcase the baked goods! There were steady sales at the event and the baked goods that did not sell were brought to our First Responders, who received them gratefully.



Looking ahead, we have a committee meeting scheduled for Friday, March 27th at the Haymarket/Gainesville Community Library in the Mary Jo Rigby Community Room at 1 PM. This is not our usual meeting day, but unfortunately, this was the only date that the library was available. We will be making our fleece blankets for Project Linus, and planning for installing our "Pinwheels For Prevention" garden next to the Haymarket Museum. We will also be examining our projects and the funding needed to continue them; please plan to be there to give us your input on whether to continue current projects and/or to suggest new ones.

It will be a busy spring for the committee as we co-ordinate with the Town of Haymarket to call attention to the problem of domestic and particularly child abuse by "planting" our garden of pinwheels and by attending the Town Council meeting to take part in proclaiming April as Child Abuse Awareness Month. Our club will be recognized for our efforts in bringing awareness to this.

Sweats for Virginia Vets: For the 7th year in a row, we showed our appreciation to our veterans by once again donating sweatsuits. We organized two folding, wrapping, and boxing events at the Haymarket-Gainesville Library. This effort produced 962 sweatsuits, the most we have ever delivered, that were then divided for delivery to the three Veteran Administration hospitals. The total retail value of our efforts was \$57,720.00. What began as a DWC program in 2019 has expanded to 6 like-minded organizations coming together to raise funds and collect sweats that help honor our veterans. You will notice in the pictures that our logo has been updated to include the GFWC Virginia, the American Legion Post 1799, the Knights of Columbus Councils and their Fourth Degree Knights, the Ancient Order of Hibernians, and the VFW from Loudoun County. Thank you to all of you who helped make the 2025 Sweats 4 Virginia Vets a huge success.



Education and Libraries Committee

Co-Chairs: Sharayu Tulpule and Laura Hyer



After a very cold and snowy February, we want to welcome the meteorological spring. Here are the highlights of our activities: Martha provided Valentine's treats to the teachers and staff of PACE West school.



Future events planned for PACE West School - Gainesville

1. March 27 – Variety Show/Appreciation Breakfast for Volunteers - time may be 9:30 am. If interested, please let Sharayu or Laura know by March 15.
2. May 22 – Graduation (9 graduates) – DWC will donate the graduation bags, with goodies inside. Rotary will supply gift cards. They will need to know who from DWC will be attending by May 16 or before.
3. June 5 – Awards day. May need volunteers to serve food.

Battlefield High School March 27th – Deadline for DWC Scholarship. We need readers to evaluate the scholarship applications. If interested, please let Sharayu or Laura know by March 25th.



**2025 - 2026 Dominion Woman's Club Service Scholarship
Battlefield High School**



The *Dominion Woman's Club Service Scholarship*, in the amount of \$2,000, will be awarded to a graduating senior woman from Battlefield High School who has demonstrated excellence in community service, leadership, and scholarship throughout her high school career.

Applicants must be citizens of the United States of America and have been accepted or waiting for acceptance at a regionally accredited two-year or four-year college or university.

Please contact Ms. Amy Shelton in the Counseling Center at Battlefield High School for more information.
Email: SheltonAB@pwcs.edu; Phone: 703-743-3686

The applications are due by March 27, 2026.

Our next Book Club will be held on March 25. Please visit

<https://bookclubs.com/clubs/5964273/meetings> for more information.

Our next meeting will be April 6th at the Haymarket Gainesville Library.



Environment Committee

Chair: Heather Young

We will have a committee meeting on Monday, March 16th at 4 PM at the Haymarket Gainesville Library. We'll be discussing next year's budget along with ideas for Earth Day which is April 22nd.



Health and Wellness Committee

Co-Chairs: Lisa Dunn and Donné Howell

Despite the snow and cold, the Health and Wellness Committee had a creative, informative and active February.

On February 4th, we met at Heritage Village Assisted Living and Memory Care. We helped the residents make live floral arrangements from colorful floral stems to display in their rooms. Assorted cookies and beverages were served afterwards. A perfect craft and treats just in time for Valentine's Day!

On February 6th, we celebrated National Red Dress Day recognizing Women's Heart Health. We had a heart healthy lunch at Taste of Old Country, a Bistro in Manassas. Before lunch, we had a very detailed lecture on the heart benefits of olive oil along with an olive oil taste testing. Elias, the owner was a wealth of information and olive oil purchases were made after lunch. All the beautiful attendees wore red to recognize the day! We had a brief meeting on the H&W budget for next year. It was a very productive occasion.



Next month, we will meet at Heritage Village the first Wednesday of the month at 3 pm for a chocolate and cheese fondue party! We will present the budgeted check to them at that time. Please wear red for the photo and get ready to enjoy fondue!

On March 12th, we will tour the Schar/Peterson Life with Cancer Center in Fairfax at 11am. We'll have lunch at Sweetwater Tavern afterwards. We will meet at Giant by the pharmacy entrance at 10 am to carpool.



Events Committee

Co-Chairs: Barb Garland and Connie Loggans

The Events Committee is happy to report that our Winter Bingo was very successful due to the hard work of the committee. We had close to 200 people playing Bingo and we earned \$6800, which included over \$2000, in sponsorships. We were able to gather many interesting raffle prizes. A special thanks to the decoration/baked goods group and all those who volunteered for the day of the event.

Game Night was held on Thursday, February 26th - there were eight of us who had an enjoyable time playing Rummikub, Uno, Yahtzee, and Sequence.

Movie/Dinner night is scheduled for Monday, March 9th - again there are no movies that appeal to the group so it will be dinner only at 6:30 at El Tio.



The Dominion Juniores Club

President: Ivana Vettickal

Facilitator: Yubo Zhang

Newsletter Editor: Kaitlyn Schumacher

In February, the Juniores had a Galentine's' celebration to demonstrate their artistic talents. The girls enjoyed painting on the canvas, chatting and delicious snacks. What a precious social moment to have when school work has kept them busy!



Club Essentials

GFWC Dominion Woman's Club 2024 – 2026 Executive Board

President – Nora Peterson

1st Vice President – Laura Hyer

2nd Vice President – Vacant (for 2025-2026 year)

Corresponding Secretary – Elizabeth Laverty

Recording Secretary – Joi Canavan

Treasurer – Claire Szanyi

Parliamentarian – Diane Lewan

GFWC Dominion Woman's Club

P.O. Box 1053

Haymarket, VA 20168

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 of Events

March 2026

- 5 - GFWC Women's History Celebration
- 9 - Events Comm. - Movie & Dinner Night (TBA)
- 12 - Health & Wellness Comm. – Schar/Peterson Life with Cancer Center Tour, 11:00 AM
- 15 - Arts & Culture Comm. - Fauquier Theatre, "Calendar Girls," 2:00 PM
- 18 - DWC Monthly Meeting @ DVCC, social time at 6:30 PM followed by club meeting at 7:00 PM
- 25 - Book Club, 7:00 PM

April 2026

- 1 – Health and Wellness Comm. – Meet at Heritage Village, 3:00 PM
- 6 – Education and Libraries Committee meeting, TBD
- 13 – Events Committee – International Dinner Night at Rice Alley at 6:00 PM
- 16 – National Librarian Day
- 15 – DWC Monthly Meeting @ **SOTH**, Haymarket, social time at 6:30 PM and meeting at 7:00 PM
- 16 – Arts and Culture Committee – Byrne Gallery in Middleburg and lunch locally
- 22 – Book Club, (<https://bookclubs.com/clubs/5964273/meetings>), 7:00 PM
- 24 – GFWC Federation Day

