



GFWC DOMINION WOMAN'S CLUB

UNITY IN DIVERSITY

NEWS AND NOTES

April 2026

President's Corner by Nora Peterson

We are quickly moving toward the end of our club year and we still have a lot of club business and activities to do before the summer.

At the April meeting, we will be voting on the new club Executive Board which will carry us into the 2026-2027. As all of you know, our Executive Board positions may be held for two years so there is also the possibility of each new Board member remaining in their position on the Board for the 2027-2028 club year.

The current slate of Officers that we will be voting on is as follows:

- President: Celeste Corrigan
- 1st Vice President: Donne' Howell
- 2nd Vice President: Mary Ellen Murphy
- Treasurer: Barb Garland
- Recording Secretary: Elizabeth Laverty
- Corresponding Secretary: Diane Lewan

A big thank-you to the DWC members listed above who agreed to be on the slate for the Executive Board. We will also ask for nominations from the floor at the April meeting so it's not too late to add your name to the slate. However, if you plan to nominate a fellow member, please ensure that that member is willing to hold a Board position.

At the May meeting we will officially install the new Executive Board and the Battlefield High School scholarship winner will read her application. We will also have a buffet dinner consisting of items from Wegman's which will include gluten free and vegan options. The cost per person is \$30 cash/check or \$32 for electronic payments via PayPal and Venmo. We will collect payments at the April meeting, at the door at the May meeting, or you can mail a check to the Post Office box. Please RSVP by May 13th so we can plan our table setup for the dinner.

I hope you can all get out and enjoy our nice weather and I hope to see you at the April meeting!





Arts and Culture Committee

Co-Chairs: Barb Garland and Robin Clukey

Members of the Art & Culture Committee attended a performance of The Calendar Girls at the Fauquier Theater on March 15th and presented a check for \$200 to Debra Smyers the Executive Director.



Civic Engagement and Outreach Committee

Co-Chairs: Mary Ellen Murphy and Susie Collat

It's spring! How pleasant it is to see all of the flowering trees in bloom and gardens full of beautiful spring bulbs... it energizes one to get out and celebrate the end of winter.

Our committee has been engaged in completing some of our spring projects, which include making blankets and quilts for Project Linus, an organization that provides handmade blankets and quilts to children who are seriously ill, traumatized, or otherwise in need. Fourteen committee members gathered to make three comfy tied fleece blankets; many hands made light and efficient work of tying and knotting the double-layered fleece. The completed blankets were wound into compact rolls and tied with braided selvage material for easy transport to Project Linus local headquarters in Culpeper. One blanket will be delivered to DaVita Dialysis in Haymarket to keep their patients warm during the dialysis procedure.



At the same meeting, our committee tackled the job of reviewing our community outreaches and determining which ones were no longer effective. Our “Holiday Baskets for Homebound Seniors” and “Caring on the Go” were set aside; the remaining thirteen projects were modified and approved. In addition, our budget for the club year 2026-2027 was proposed and changes made to reflect the deleted community outreaches.

Plans were made to install the “Pinwheels for Prevention” garden in Haymarket by the town flagpole to raise awareness of the problem of domestic abuse, specifically child abuse. Five members of the committee installed over 100 eye-catching pinwheels ...it looks amazing!



Education and Libraries Committee

Co-Chairs: Sharayu Tulpule and Laura Hyer

It is time for transitions. We are very happy to announce that Martha Feeny and Rosemary Boettke will be the new co-chairs of the Education and Libraries Committee starting in the new club year.

Here are the highlights of our activities in March:



Martha and Nora attended the PACE West Variety Show and Appreciation Breakfast for Volunteers. There were 6 performances by the students. The volunteers were given these lovely flowers as a token of appreciation.

Future events planned for PACE West School - Gainesville

1. 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 16th or before.
2. June 5 – Awards day. May need volunteers to serve food.

Battlefield High School: We will be evaluating 12 scholarship applications. We will have the winner announced by mid-April.

Our next Book Club will be held on April 22.

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



Environment Committee

Chair: Heather Young

In March, several members of the Environment Committee took advantage of the Winter Lecture Series hosted by Leopold's Preserve. The March lecture "Mapping a Conservation Vision for Northern Virginia" was presented by Matt Gerhart with the Northern Virginia Conservation Trust. Following the lecture Sarah, Robin and Barb presented our \$1,000 donation to Bull Run Mountains Conservancy.



Health and Wellness Committee

Co-Chairs: Lisa Dunn and Donné Howell

The Health & Wellness Committee enjoyed a lively and high-energy visit to Heritage Village Assisted Living and Memory Care, where a Chocolate and Cheese Fondue Party was held for a full room of hungry residents. Committee members served the residents, many of whom happily asked for second and third helpings. During our visit, we also had the pleasure of presenting Adina with our budgeted donation. This contribution supported the purchase of fondue machines, as well as new perennials that will soon be planted in the raised garden beds purchased with last year's donation. She expressed her sincere appreciation and gratitude for our continued support.



On March 12th, despite particularly challenging weather, we toured the INOVA Peterson Life with Cancer House. This nonprofit program provides evidence-based education, along with support and counseling for individuals affected by cancer, including their families at no charge to the patient or their support persons or caregivers. The facility features a full kitchen for nutritional counseling, an art therapy room, and a spacious fitness area used for a variety of activities, including exercise and music. All services are delivered by certified oncology professionals.

During our visit, we presented a donation to support their ongoing efforts, as they rely heavily on philanthropic contributions. Following the tour, our group enjoyed lunch at Sweetwater Tavern as we watched it snow.

On April 1st, we returned to Heritage Village to assist with planting perennials in the raised flower beds and on April 8th, we met at the Haymarket Gainesville Library for a presentation by Dr. Jones on his organization, ACTS (Action in Community Through Service), which serves Prince William County. ACTS fosters hope, provides relief, and promotes self-sufficiency for neighbors in crisis throughout our community. A donation was presented at that time.



Events Committee

Co-Chairs: Barb Garland and Connie Loggans

The Events Committee met in March for a debrief on the Bingo fundraising event. A lot of great discussion about the event and how we can improve if we host a Bingo fundraiser again. The March scheduled Dinner and a Movie was unfortunately cancelled, but we are hoping to see everyone for an International Dinner on Monday, April 13th at Rice Alley. Also, save the date for the next Dinner and a Movie scheduled for Monday, May 11th.



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 – 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

April 2026

- 13 - Events Comm., International Dinner night at La Finca Restaurant at 6:00pm
- 15 - DWC Monthly meeting at new location
- 16 - National Librarian Day
- 16 - Arts and Culture Comm., Byrne Gallery in Middleburg & Lunch
- 22 - Book Club
- 24 - GFWC Federation Day

May 2026

- 4 - Teacher Appreciation Day
- 4 - Education and Libraries Committee, meeting TBA
- 6 - Health and Wellness Comm., meet at Heritage Village, 3:00pm
- 11 - Events Comm., Movie and Dinner Night (TBA)
- 20 - DWC Dinner Meeting (TBA)
- 27 - Book Club

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 Volunteer Coordinators – Mary Ellen Murphy and Elizabeth Laverty

Crossroads Connection – Sue Mork, Barbara Murray

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



Diane Lewan and Nora Peterson News & Notes Co-Editors

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