



GFWC DOMINION WOMAN'S CLUB

UNITY IN DIVERSITY

NEWS AND NOTES

May 2026

President's Corner by Nora Peterson

We will be holding the last meeting of this club year on May 20th at the Shepherd of the Hills' Fellowship Hall; the cost per person is \$30 cash/check or \$32 for electronic payments via PayPal and Venmo. We will collect payments at the door for those members who have not yet paid.

At the May meeting we will officially install the new DWC Executive Board for the 2026-2027 club year 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

Also, the winner of DWC's Battlefield High School scholarship will attend our dinner meeting and will read her application essay. You can read all about this stellar young woman in the Education and Libraries article in this newsletter.

Speaking of the newsletter, this is the last edition of the *News and Notes* that Diane and I will be publishing. Thanks to Diane for all of her hard work on gathering and assembling the articles from the Committee each month. We now pass the torch to Connie Loggans who will take on the role of newsletter Editor.

I'll take this opportunity to thank my fellow Board members for working with me to lead this dynamic group of ladies for the past two years—I couldn't have done it without you! As we all move into different roles in the club, I wish all the best to Laura, Elizabeth, Claire, Joi, and Diane. And thanks also to Gale for her support in the first year of our administration in the role of 2nd VP.

The next club year promises to be another exciting, rewarding year for members of DWC and I hope you all enjoy the summer break!





Arts and Culture Committee

Co-Chairs: Barb Garland and Robin Clukey

At the GFWC Virginia Annual Convention in Williamsburg, our club members participated in the Art Contest and received the following awards:

Robin Clukey won First Place and Best of Show for her charcoal drawing
Amy Scala won first place for her acrylic painting
Barb Garland won second place for her crocheted afghan
Judy Umland won third place for her knitted shawl

Congratulations to our talented club members!



Civic Engagement and Outreach Committee

Co-Chairs: Mary Ellen Murphy and Susie Collat

Good news! The dilemma of passing the torch of leadership to other members has been resolved! Sue Mork and Susan Sivori have graciously volunteered to co-chair the CE&O Committee; we are grateful for their offer to lead and are confident that their leadership will continue to benefit our outreaches to the community.

The month of April was a quiet one for our Civic Engagement & Outreach Committee. The “Pinwheels For Prevention” garden was installed on April 1st by five committee members on the green across from the Haymarket Town Hall. On April 6th, the efforts of the committee and the work by GFWC Dominion Woman’s Club on behalf of child abuse prevention awareness were recognized and commended by the Haymarket Town Council at their monthly meeting. In addition, the month of April was officially proclaimed as “Child Abuse Prevention Month” for the town by the town council.



Our next meeting is tentatively scheduled for May 28th. More info to follow via email to committee members.



Education and Libraries Committee

Co-Chairs: Sharayu Tulpule and Laura Hyer

On April 28th, members of the Education & Libraries Committee's Gravelly reading tutoring project presented a check for \$350 to our hard-working and creative second grade team. The donation will be used at the teachers' discretion to add to their classroom reading materials and enhancement tools.



PACE West School

May 4th began teacher appreciation week. The Education and Libraries Committee provided the PACE West School with a wonderful breakfast for the whole staff. Many goodies were available including many favorites of the staff at PACE. It was a wonderful and delicious looking spread.

Ellis Elementary School

The teachers and staff at Ellis Elementary School were treated to a "Teacher Appreciation Week" breakfast on Friday, May 8th courtesy of DWC's Education & Libraries Committee. A bountiful buffet of breakfast treats were supplemented with fresh fruit, energy bars and bagels. We want to thank our hardworking teachers and staff members for all that they do to make Ellis students "Soar"!

Scholarship Recipient

We are thrilled to spotlight Riley Devereaux, the GFWC DWC scholarship recipient. She is an individual whose achievements truly set her apart this year. Riley embodies a rare combination of exceptional academic rigor and profound civic engagement. Her dedication is evident through her extensive involvement in numerous service organizations, an impressive feat she managed concurrently with maintaining an outstanding academic record, boasting a GPA exceeding 4.0. Her multiple university acceptances attest to her intellectual capabilities, and her chosen path to major in political science underscores her deep commitment to public service and positive societal transformation. We are confident that Riley possesses the vision, intellect, and drive to emerge as a profoundly impactful changemaker, poised to significantly influence the American political landscape.





Environment Committee

Chair: Heather Young

In honor of Earth Day, Amy and Barbara met with Abby Marino, Seasonal Field Technician at Leopold's Preserve. While there, they refreshed and performed maintenance at the native garden that is located at the parking lot entrance. They added some new plants and applied a fresh layer of mulch to the space. They also presented 3 native tree saplings to Leopold's.



Health and Wellness Committee

Co-Chairs: Lisa Dunn and Donné Howell

On April 1st, there was no fooling at the Heritage Village Assisted Living and Memory Care Residence. The Health and Wellness Committee members gathered with the residents to create and arrange live flowers. The arrangements were for the residents to provide a little Springtime cheer to their rooms.



Later in the month the Health and Wellness Committee members attended a presentation regarding our alliance with Action in Community Through Service (ACTS) presented by Dr. Stanley Jones, ACTS' Executive Director, and Celine Glover. Together they went over the various services offered by ACTS: food assistance (they were the foundation for the Northern Virginia Food Rescue (NVFR) and DWC hosted a speaker from NVFR at a previous club meeting); utility assistance; housing assistance; sexual assault services; and domestic violence services. The Director also spoke of the organization's needs and the alliances they have within the community. At the end of the power point presentation, the Health and Wellness Committee presented a donation of \$500 to the Director for the general fund of ACTS.

In May, the Health and Wellness Committee members were involved in creating silk flower corsages and boutonnieres for the residents of the Heritage Village Assisted Living and Memory Care Residence to wear at their “Senior Prom” activity. Also in May, the Health and Wellness Committee members visited Beacon Hill Honey in Leesburg to learn about the benefits of honey and then had lunch at Magnolia’s, a favorite eatery not far away.



Events Committee

Co-Chairs: Barb Garland and Connie Loggans

The Events Committee held a meeting on May 4th to discuss a fundraiser to be held in the fall. We had a very productive meeting and everyone present agreed that it is important that we work on this over the summer. For members who were unable to attend the meeting but would like to be involved in working on this, please let Barb know. The last Movie/Dinner night was held on Monday, May 11th. We met at Nando’s at 5:30 for dinner and then went to see “The Devil Wears Prada 2” at 6:20.

Our last International Dinner will be at Pakwaan Indian Cuisine on Linton Hall Road at 6:30 on June 8th. To all have a great summer.



The Dominion Juniors Club

President: Ivana Vettickal

Facilitator: Yubo Zhang

Newsletter Editor: Kaitlyn Schumacher

In April, the Juniors attended the DWC monthly club meeting and showcased their impressive work in serving our community for the club year of 2025-26. Their performance was outstanding, from crafting the slides and dividing the presentation to delivering it flawlessly. Notably, this year, half of our members are seniors who skillfully balance academics, life, and work. Some are taking 4-5 AP classes and still dedicate time to community service.

After leaving the DWC meeting room, we immediately held a quick meeting to debrief and plan the details of our end-of-year celebration.



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

May 2026

20 - DWC Dinner Meeting, 6:00 PM at Shepherd of the Hills Fellowship Hall

27 - Book Club

June 2026

8 – Events Committee – International Dinner Night at Pakwaan Indian Cuisine, 7519 Linton Hall Rd, Gainesville, at 6:30 PM

17 – DWC Social Meeting-TBD

26 – GFWC International Convention in Scottsdale, AZ

