



The Azalea City News

Newsletter of GFWC Azalea City Woman's Club

Member of the General Federation of Woman's Clubs (GFWC)

A Note From The President

Happy 55th Anniversary



Wishing all my "Sisters in Service" a wonderful Happy 55th Anniversary. In August of 1969, Avernell along with Jeanette Coody became a few of the founding members of GFWC Azalea City Woman's Club. Thank you Ladies for building a wonderful club that is passionate about strengthening our community to make it a better place for all through volunteer service.

July was a hot and busy month. Our Arts and Culture CSP held a very successful silent auction fundraising event at the Downtown Social to raise money for our local Theatre Guild Valdosta. I assisted in promotional designs and helped take payments at the event. Every summer our club has a Summer Social and this year our club gathered at Smokin' Pig. Many members and a few husbands attended the event where great food and fellowship were had by all. The South West District held a reception honoring Cathy Jones our new GFWC Georgia State President. Azalea City showed up in support of Cathy and wished many blessings to her during her term of office. As Co-chair of the GFWC Georgia Leadership Committee, I met many times with the committee to prepare for the 2024 GFWC Georgia Leadership Education And Development Seminar (LEADS). I hope many Club Women from around the state will be able to attend LEADS in Albany to learn and grow in their leadership development.

Justin Jacobs
President

2024 - 2026 Executive Officers

President

Justin Jacobs

First Vice President

Nancy Nahila

Second Vice President

Charlie Oliver

Treasurer

Janice Blanchard

Parliamentarian

Avernell Rogers

Recording Secretary

Lisa Spells

Corresponding Secretary

Annie Roberts

The General Federation of Women's Clubs is a unifying force, bringing together local women's clubs, with members dedicated to strengthening their communities and enhance the lives of others through volunteer service.

With more than 60,000 members in affiliated clubs in every state and more than 20 countries, GFWC members are community leaders who work locally to create global change by advocating for women, children and families on issues such as domestic violence and sexual assault, food insecurity/hunger, and promoting healthy lifestyles. GFWC also supports the arts, works to preserve natural resources, advances education, encourages civic involvement, and works toward world peace and understanding.

For more information, please visit www.GFWC.org or call 1-800-443-GFWC (4392).



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GFWC
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GENERAL FEDERATION
OF WOMEN'S CLUBS
GEORGIA

2024 - 2026 Community Service Program Chairs

Art & Culture

Debbie Altobello

Civic Engagement & Outreach

Jeanette Coody

Education & Libraries

*Nancy Nahila / Collette
Cormier*

Environment

Justin Jacobs

Health & Wellness

*Charlie Oliver / Lynn
Taylor*



Arts & Culture



The Dosta Theatre fundraiser went wonderfully! Thank you to everyone who came out and participated. We were able to raise over \$1400+ for the Theatre Guild Valdosta. A huge thank you to all the businesses and donors (listed below) who gave items for the silent auction. Special Thanks to the Downtown Social for letting us hold the event and donating 10% of the proceeds from that night.

List of Businesses:

Anthony & Company, Blaze Pizza, Brass Quill Gallery, Buff City Soap, Chicken Salad Chick, Cottonwood Market & Boutique, Convington's Dining & Catering - 306 North, Diamond T Embroidery, Fairway Tavern & Grill, Greer's Gifts, Jack's Chophouse, Kaleidoscope Gallery & Emporium, Lavish Lotus Head Spa & Esthetics, Longhorn Steakhouse, Merle Norman & Boutique, Nails by Chris, SL Sausage Company, Smallcakes Cupcakery, Steel's Jewelry, Stogies Downtown, The Flower Gallery, The Southern Cellar, Titledown Toys, Urban Garden, and Woodstock - Friend's Grille & Bar - Bertas Kitchen.



Civic Engagement & Outreach

On August 7, 1782, in Newburgh, New York, General Washington created the "Badge for Military Merit" which is known today as the "Purple Heart". The decoration was largely forgotten until February 22, 1932, Washington's 200th birthday, when the U.S. War Department announced the creation of the "Order of the Purple Heart". This decoration of military merit is awarded to members of the U.S. Armed Forces who have been killed or wounded in action and to those soldiers who have suffered maltreatment as prisoners of war.

<https://www.history.com/this-day-in-history/washington-creates-the-purple-heart>



As a Civic Engagement & Outreach project for July, gift cards were given to the Valdosta City Fire Station 2 to be used for needed items. Pictured on the left is Jeanette Coody with Firefighters from Fire Station #2.

Education & Libraries



Keep reading!

Book Challenge: Four more months for the reading contest. This month's bonus is to read a book with a main character that's different from you (age, ethnic group, country, financial background, religion, rural vs city, or illness) and how that changes your understanding of people. Every 10 books you read or donate gets you a ticket and a small prize. In November a big prize will be given with lots of reader swag. Below are the past book challenges:

- A historical fact you didn't know
- A new word
- Favorite book quote

Bookfellow's book club at the Willis Library has released this season's books. This year they have 3 local authors on the list: Donna Everheart, Dr. Susan Eischeid, and William (Bill) Ryan. All 3 will be giving incites on the books and writing process.

Valdosta State University is now taking registration for the fall Learning in Retirement. See Link below:

<https://www.valdosta.edu/pace/programs/lir/>



Environment

August 17th is **National Honey Bee Day!** In honor of National Honey Bee Day, the Environment Community Service Program has donated to Heifer International's Leveraging Success Honeybee Program by purchasing a Bee Package. Heifer International is one of GFWC's Affiliate Organizations and this donation will provide a bee package, hive, box, and training in beekeeping techniques for a family in need. Leveraging Success is a 10-year project that works to help close the disparity between the money an average family earns and the money they need to live a dignified life, including access to adequate food, shelter, health care, and education around the world. For more information, you can go to the Heifer International website: <https://www.heifer.org/>



Update on our symbolically adopted sea turtle, Frank Sriracha!

"A big milestone will be reached this month - it has been one year since Frank Sriracha hatched and was rescued! On August 25, 2023, our sea turtle patrol team was doing a routine inventory of a nest when they found Frank Sriracha. This hatchling was very small and very weak, so our team made the decision to bring Frank Sriracha back to the Georgia Sea Turtle Center for care.

Frank Sriracha has grown a lot this past year! Frank Sriracha only weighed 15 grams upon arriving to the hospital, which is less than what one AA battery weighs! Now Frank Sriracha weighs one pound which is around 453 grams! After such a rough start, it is exciting to see our hatchling thriving.

Frank Sriracha is doing so well that we are in the early stages of planning for this patient's release. A turtle of Frank Sriracha's age would normally live in the Sargasso Sea, dozens of miles offshore. We hope to release Frank Sriracha at the edge of the Sargasso Sea, which will require a boat. For this reason, Frank Sriracha's release will not be public. We look forward to sharing Frank Sriracha's next big milestone through photos! "

~The Georgia Sea Turtle Center Team.



Health & Wellness



August is National Wellness Month, a time to focus on self-care, reduce stress, and create healthier habits to feel like your best self! As women, we tend to put our health and wellness on the back burner for our careers and our families. Busy schedules and demanding jobs can lead to neglecting self-care practices, resulting in stress and burnout. By participating in various wellness activities and practices during the month of August, individuals can significantly improve their overall quality of life.

Wellness activities include: staying hydrated by drinking plenty of water, 30 minutes of exercising every day, a healthy diet, meditation, sleeping 6-7 hours every night, trying a new relaxing activity, and practicing gratitude and positivity.



2024 National Day of Service

The GFWC National Day of Service (GFWC NDS) is a day in which all of GFWC come together in service to highlight an area of need, take action to address the need, and raise public awareness about its importance. State federations and clubs are encouraged to join in and organize community service programs (CSPs) in their communities as part of the GFWC NDS.

This year's GFWC NDS issue of focus is food insecurity. On Saturday, September 28th, the Woman's Club around the world will be volunteering at local food banks and organizing food drives to raise awareness and to advocate to end food insecurity.

If you would like to learn more please contact the **GFWC Azalea City Woman's Club**.

"I hope someday we will be able to proclaim that we have banished hunger in the United States, and that we've been able to bring nutrition and health to the whole world."

~George McGavern

Clubs Members In Pictures



At Downtown Social working the 'Dosta Theatre Guild Fundraiser. From left to right: Nancy Nahila, Collette Cormier, Janice Blanchard, Justin Jacobs, Breanna Berry, Lisa Spells, and Debbie Altobello.



At Downtown Social working the 'Dosta Theatre Guild Fundraiser. From left to right: Marie Guest and Janice Blanchard.

Photo's from the South West District Reception honoring Cathy Jones, the 2024-2026 GFWC Georgia President



From left to right: Collette Cormier, Charlie Oliver, and Nancy Nahila.

From left to right back row: Cathy Jones, Janice Blanchard, Nancy Nehila. Bottom row: Jeanette Coody, Debbie Altobello, Annie Roberts, Collette Cormier, and Charlie Oliver.



Blast From The Past

Club Members dressed in red to support Heart Health Month at the February 2016 club meeting. Back Row left to right: Lisa Spells, Lynn Taylor, Marie Guest, Annie Rogers, Becky Lannon, Marie Chitwood, Linda Miley, Guest Speaker Anglea Penn, Charlie Oliver. Front Row left to right: Jeanette Coody and Janice Blanchard.





August Events

- August 13th: Club Meeting.
- Aug 16 - 18: 2024 GFWC GA Institute - LEADS
- Aug 17 - National Honey Bee Day
- Aug 24 - SW District Executive Meeting
- Aug 31 - Club 55th Anniversary Reception

September Events

- Sept. 2 Labor Day
- Sept. 9 - Club Meeting at the Senior Center starting at 6 pm.
- Sept. 21 - South West District Meeting in Tifton, GA
- Sept. 21 - National Cleanup Day
- Sept 28 - National Day of Service (NDS)



In Other News

Tallulah Falls School Visit

The Tallulah Falls School visit is scheduled for October 15 - 17. Spaces are available for 12 people. The cost is only for gas, food (2 meals and travel), and your time. Please contact Charlie Oliver for additional information.

2024 GFWC Southern Region Conference

The Call is out for the 2024 GFWC Southern Region Conference! You are invited to join us in Greenville, SC from October 3-6. You don't want to miss this opportunity to spend time with your Southern Sisters and to hear from our very special guests, 2024-2026 GFWC International President **Suellen Brazil** and GFWC President-elect **Wendy O. Carriker**.

Visit <https://www.gfwc-southernregion.org/home/meetings> for details and to download the registration form. Program ad forms are also available. We can't wait to see you in Greenville!



Use this QR Code to go to the Meetings page where you can get additional information on The Call, Registration, and Hotel Reservations.

