



GFWC Space Coast Woman's Club Inc.

October 2023  
Volume 1, Issue 5



# The Space Coast Comet

gfwcspacecoastwc.org

## The Scarecrow Stroll

Our club will be participating in the Viera Voice Scarecrow Stroll this year! Thank you to all the club members who donated time, creativity, and supplies for our scarecrow. We are being sponsored by Adam Copenhaver of [Ask an Adjuster](#) and our scarecrow is being placed at The Fresh Market (6385 N. Wickham Road). Be sure to go to Viera Voice to print your voting ballot and vote for our club's entry—"Stacey the Spaced Out Cadet". Be sure to visit all the other participating locations from October 5-19 from 10-4:00 daily to see all the creative entries.

The Scarecrow Stroll is just the beginning of the fun! The event culminates on Saturday, October 21st from 10-2:00 with the Harvest Festival and Scarecrow Auction at The Avenue Viera. There will be fun for the whole family. Proceeds for the entire event will benefit the Brevard Schools Foundation.

For more information, visit the [Viera Voice website](#) or read the October 1st edition of the Viera Voice newspaper.



## District 6 Fall Meeting

The next GFWC FL District 6 meeting will be held on Saturday, October 21 from 10:00-2:00 at the D.R. Schechter Center (1089 South Patrick Drive, Satellite Beach). Registration and Continental Breakfast start at 9:15. Guests will be from the GFWC FL Executive Board.

This meeting is open to all club members. If you would like to attend, please send your check for \$25.00 to club treasurer, Susan Musil. The deadline to register is October 8th.

If you have any questions, please contact [President Sarah](#).

GFWC Space Coast Woman's Club

# OCTOBER

Membership Meeting

**OCTOBER 4, 2023**  
**10:00-NOON**

GFWC Community Woman's Club Clubhouse  
5 Rosa L. Jones Drive, Cocoa

Meeting will feature speakers from Lawndale Museum and a service project to benefit Serene Harbor. Bring: **ONE** package of individual wrapped candy **OR** Halloween/fall favors for goodie bags.



# President's Message

I've just returned home to Albuquerque after a quick trip to Florida for the GFWC Florida Fall Board of Director's Meeting. I was able to pack quite a few activities into my 5-day trip: our club's Board of Director's meeting, a new member orientation, scarecrow building, a meeting with the Viera High School principal, and then of course, two days in Orlando for the GWC FL meeting. I had a chance to see most of our club members. If I didn't get a chance to see you this trip, I will be back in Florida for our December meeting.

Our club year has started off with a bang! We have added four new members and four booster members. We have completed several service projects and plans are in the works for many more in the future. We have completed our first GFWC National Day of Service addressing food insecurity in our county. Almost 50% of our club members attend the GFWC FL Fall Board meeting! We've nearly finished our first club fundraiser and our Fundraising Committee is hard at work planning the next one. Our Charity Miles team (13 members strong) is raising money for many organizations and has logged almost 5,000 miles so far. I am so impressed with how much we do for our community and for our club.

Groucho Marx said: "If you're not having fun, you're doing something wrong." We must be doing something *right* because boy, are we having fun! Club work should never be a burden or a drag. If you're not having fun, please contact me so we can fix it! We're all here for the same reason: to enrich our lives and improve the world around us, to share a laugh, and to be better than we were yesterday. Keep up the great work!

~Sarah Anthony

"If you're not having fun, you're doing something wrong."

~Groucho Marx



# 1st Vice-President's Message

What an awesome day we had collecting food donations for The Children's Hunger Project and the Central Brevard Sharing Center at our first GFWC Day of Service on

September 30th at the Viera Walmart. It was a huge success and our club was delighted to deliver a truck full of food to them. Don't forget to check out our scarecrow, "Stacey the Space Cadet", in Viera's Annual Scarecrow Stroll and Fall Festival.

As always please continue to send me your hours and dollars donated. You can send them via email or hand deliver to the next membership meeting. Wishing everyone a Happy Halloween...

~JoAnne Post

When reporting hours, did you remember to include:

- Hours and value of items donated for the scarecrow
- Pull-tabs collected for Ronald McDonald House Charities (1 hour/month max)
- Hours spent walking, running, or biking for Charity Miles
- Hours spent reading for ESO
- Hours spent at GFWC FL Board of Director's Meeting/weekend
- Travel time to and from club and committee meetings
- Hours spent at any club activity or on any project

If you have any questions or wonder if something can be reported please contact JoAnne.



# 2nd Vice-President's Message

Our club's first fundraiser is underway! The "How Many Doors" fundraiser is a quick and easy way for you to help our club raise some necessary funds to help our club grow. If you didn't receive the form or if you have any questions, please contact me. Don't forget to bring your fundraising form and money to the General Meeting.

We are working on our next fundraiser which will be in the new year. If you would like to participate on the Fundraising Committee, please contact me so I can make sure you get the information for the next meeting. If you have any great or unique ideas for a club fundraiser, be sure to contact me with the information.

~Judy Bissel



## Did You Know ?

Fundraising helps club members learn new skills, fosters teamwork and cooperation, provides a sense of accomplishment, and can create life-long friendships. All while building a stronger and better club.

# GFWC National Day of Service



On Saturday, September 30, our club participated in the first GFWC National Day of Service. The goal was to bring awareness to hunger and food insecurity in our communities and around the nation. Our club held a food drive at the Viera Walmart. We had two boosters help us set up and take down and ten of our members participated in the event. We handed out shopping lists that contained the products most needed by our two selected charity recipients: The Children's Hunger Project and the Central Brevard Sharing Center. While it was a very warm day, our efforts were greatly rewarded by shoppers as we collected \$552.00 in cash donations and over 1,000 pounds in food donations. Each of our charities will receive the food donations that best serve their mission and a check for \$226.00. Our club members had a great time sharing our club's mission to serve our community and information about our two selected charities.



# Community Service Programs (CSPs)

## Arts & Culture CSP

Chair: Available

October is National Arts and Humanities month. It's a collective recognition of the importance of culture in America. The goals are to focus on equitable access to the arts, encouraging participation in the arts, allowing government bodies to show their support of the arts, and raising public awareness about the positive impact of arts and humanities in our communities and lives. For more information on the movement, or to take advantage of the online resources, visit [Americans for the Arts](#).

Have you finished your project for the GFWC FL art contest? Contact [President Sarah](#) for information.

## Civic Engagement & Outreach CSP

Chair: Available

US fire departments responded to an estimated average of 172,900 home structure fires per year started by cooking activities in 2014-2018. Home fires caused by cooking peaked at Thanksgiving and Christmas, and unattended cooking was the leading cause of cooking fires and casualties during that time period.

**October 8-14 is Fire Prevention Week.** This year the focus is on cooking-related fires with their campaign: "Cooking safety starts with YOU." See the cooking safety sheet on the next page of this newsletter. For more information visit the [National Fire Protection Association \(NFPA\)](#).



## GFWC Signature Program: Domestic & Sexual Violence Awareness & Prevention

Chair: Taylor Malishenko

Halloween will be upon us at the end of October. Our service project for October will benefit the children of Serene Harbor. These children will probably not be able to participate in a neighborhood trick-or-treat but we want to make sure that they don't miss out on all of the fun that the holiday can bring. At our October 4<sup>th</sup> meeting we will decorate small, individual Halloween goodie bags. Please bring one package of individually wrapped candy or favors (like erasers, pencils, superballs, crayons, etc.). We will assemble the bags at the meeting and I will make sure they arrive at Serene Harbor just before Halloween so there will be a celebration.

"Serene Harbor has served Brevard County for over 30 years, providing emergency shelter, a 24/7 confidential hotline, counseling services, transportation, relocation assistance,

support groups, legal advocacy, outreach programs, referrals, and assistance programs to survivors of domestic violence." For more information about Serene Harbor, the services they provide, or for assistance, please visit their website: [www.sereneharbor.org](http://www.sereneharbor.org)

**If you, or someone you know needs help, please call or text Serene Harbor's 24/7 confidential hotline: 321-726-8282(TTY)**



# Cooking Safety

Cooking brings family and friends together, provides an outlet for creativity and can be relaxing. But did you know that cooking fires are the number one cause of home fires and home injuries? By following a few safety tips you can prevent these fires.

## “COOK WITH CAUTION”

- Be on alert! If you are sleepy or have consumed alcohol don't use the stove or stovetop.
- Stay in the kitchen while you are frying, boiling, grilling, or broiling food. If you leave the kitchen for even a short period of time, turn off the stove.
- If you are simmering, baking, or roasting food, check it regularly, remain in the home while food is cooking, and use a timer to remind you that you are cooking.
- Keep anything that can catch fire — oven mitts, wooden utensils, food packaging, towels or curtains — away from your stovetop.

## If you have a small (grease) cooking fire and decide to fight the fire...

- On the stovetop, smother the flames by sliding a lid over the pan and turning off the burner. Leave the pan covered until it is completely cooled.
- For an oven fire, turn off the heat and keep the door closed.

## If you have any doubt about fighting a small fire...

- Just get out! When you leave, close the door behind you to help contain the fire.
- Call 9-1-1 or the local emergency number from outside the home.



## Cooking and Kids

Have a “kid-free zone” of at least 3 feet (1 metre) around the stove and areas where hot food or drink is prepared or carried.

## FACTS

- ! The leading cause of fires in the kitchen is unattended cooking.
- ! Most cooking fires in the home involve the kitchen stove.



**NATIONAL FIRE PROTECTION ASSOCIATION**  
The leading information and knowledge resource on fire, electrical and related hazards



# Community Service Programs (CSPs)

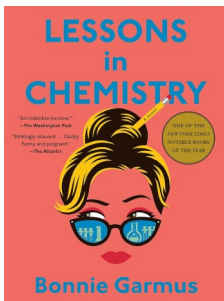


## Education & Libraries CSP

Chair: Sally Kramer

### SPACE COAST BOOK CLUB

On September 18, 2023, GFWC Space Coast Woman's Club Book Club held their first meeting at the home of Judy Mammay. Seven members attended and we discussed the book "The Five Wishes of Mr. Murray McBride". The discussion lasted about an hour and then we spent a little time getting to know each other.



Our next book club meeting will be on Monday, October 16, 2023 at the home of Laurie Watkins (address in the club directory). The meeting will start at 1:00 and we will be discussing the book "Lessons in Chemistry" by Bonnie Garmus.

We will always make room for new members, however book club members must also be members of GFWC Space Coast Woman's Club. [Email Education CSP Chair, Sally](#) for more information about our book club.

### ESO – Epsilon Sigma Omicron

ESO is an honorary educational sorority open to all GFWC members. Through ESO, club-women are given direction in planned reading for self-enrichment and personal growth. Members who participate in this group will have the opportunity to be a part of discussions on a variety of books, make new friends and gain new knowledge about life, love, family politics, science, cultures and many other topics.

For more information about ESO and the application forms, visit the [GFWC FL website](#). Contact Sally if you have any questions.

## GFWC Affiliate Focus

GFWC is proud to work side-by-side with a number of dynamic and impactful organizations. Together, we work to improve our communities and better our world.



For more than 70 years, Heifer International has provided gifts of livestock and environmentally-sound agricultural training to improve the lives of those who struggle daily for reliable sources of food and income. Since 1944, Heifer has helped over 22 million families in more than 125 countries through training in livestock development and livestock gifts that multiply.

To learn more, visit the [Heifer International website](#).

## Did you know...

**America's Oldest Public Library:** The Darby Free Library in Darby, Pennsylvania, in continuous service since 1743.

**America's Largest Library:** The Library of Congress in Washington DC. It is also the second largest library in the world with 24,528,818 volumes.

**America's Smallest Library:** The Norman Square and Library founded in Noman, Arkansas. Built in the 1930's, this library is only about the size of an average bedroom (12x12 or 144 square feet).

**America's Little Free Libraries:** By 2016 more than 50,000 Little Free Libraries had been installed in all 50 U.S. states and 70 countries.

# Community Service Programs (CSPs)



## Environment CSP

Chair: Nancy Brown

The calendar says that it is Autumn. Although we don't have the cool crisp days that most of the country experience this time of year, the humidity is lessening, the temperatures are moderating, and the shadows are longer. It is a lovely time to be in Florida.

The Sea Turtle Preservation Society has organized beach clean ups each month in Melbourne Beach and Cape Canaveral. If there is interest, I will organize a group to go to Melbourne Beach on Saturday, November 4th to participate in the beach clean-up there. There will be a sign-up sheet at the October meeting.

The November 1st club meeting will be held at the Brevard Zoo. Our program will be focusing on our Environment CSP, learning about the work that the zoo is doing, and our service project will directly benefit the zoo. Watch for more information.



## October Environmental Tips:

Never run your irrigation system between 10 am and 4 pm. Too much of the water will evaporate during the heat of the day and your plants and grass will not get the full benefit of the irrigation. The best time of day to run your system is between 4:00 am and sunrise.



## Health & Wellness CSP

Chair:  
Linda Greenstein

We have thirteen members and one booster on our Charity Miles team. Our September charity was Feeding America and it looks as though we will reach close to 1,400 miles before we change our charity to UNICEF on October 1st. If anyone needs help joining our team, please contact me.

On Saturday, September 9th, four members and one booster participated in the Turtle Krawl 5K. This event provides needed funds to the Sea Turtle Preservation Society to continue the organization's education and conservation programs. The weather was beautiful, we all finished in under an hour, and each of us earned an adorable turtle medal.

Four members 'Walked and Talked' at the Linear Park on September 11th. Our next outing will be on Monday, October 16th. We are going to meet at the Don Griffin Trail at Lake Betsi, 960 Cogswell Street, Rockledge 32955 at 8:30 am. Dress for the weather, wear sturdy walking shoes, make sure you use sunscreen, and bring some water. I hope to see many of you there.

Our next Healthy Start 'packet party' is scheduled for Tuesday October 24th at 9:00. There will be sign up sheet at our October General Meeting. If seven or more sign up for this event, we will meet at the UF/FAS Extension (3695 Lake Dr. Cocoa, FL 32926). If less than seven, we will meet at the Healthy Start facility (642 Eyster Blvd A, Rockledge, FL 32955).

Don't forget to bring your pull-tabs for the Ronald McDonald House and eyeglasses for the Lions Recycle for Sight program to our General Meeting on October 4th.



# What We've Been Up To...



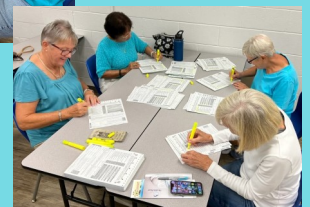
Turtle Krawl 5K



GFWC FL Fall Board of Directors Meeting



Scarecrow building...



Patient Packets for Healthy Start...



# GFWC Advancement Areas

## Membership

Chair: Available

## Leadership

Chair: Sarah Anthony

Members are the heart of our club. Our members enjoy a full calendar of service projects, social activities, and other events to enrich lives and inspire personal improvement. Best of all, our members have fun!

“Becoming a GFWC member means joining a local GFWC club, where more than 60,000 members are actively engaged in volunteer community service in approximately 3,200 existing clubs across the globe.

GFWC members, from ages 12 to 102, live in cities, suburbs, and rural communities around the globe. They are professional women, students, stay-at-home moms, and retirees, united by a shared commitment to volunteer community service.” (gfwc.org)

If you would like to volunteer with us or if you would like more information on how to join our club, please visit our [website](#).



## New Members:

Be sure to register for the webinar series created just for you! Use this link to register: <https://forms.gle/zNKcvF8uhpmRfHW5A>

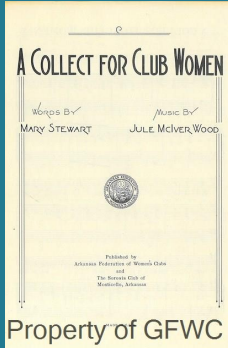
The next webinar is Monday, October 16 at 7:00pm on Zoom.

## Other GFWC FL Webinars:

The next webinar in the GFWC Florida webinar series will be on Thursday, October 5 at 7:00pm. The focus will be on membership and member involvement. Register on the GFWC FL website under the member center.

its always  
a good  
time to  
volunteer.

[spacecoastwc.org](http://spacecoastwc.org)



# GFWC History

Our club recites Mary Stewart's *Collect for Clubwomen* at the end of each meeting. This tradition links our club to the history and traditions of all of the women and women's clubs that have come before us. It's a time to reflect and recommit to the ideals set forth by the first women's clubs. But do you know the story of the Collect? Do you know who Mary Stewart was?

## History of The Collect for Clubwomen

The Collect for Clubwomen was written in 1904 by Mary Stewart in Longmont, Colorado. She is reported to have been a member of the Longmont Fortnightly Club, which was a member of the General Federation of Women's Clubs and which later, became the Longmont Colorado Business and Professional Women's Club. Ms. Stewart was at that time beginning her first job as principal of the local high school. Various accounts by Ms. Stewart indicate the Collect was written as a personal prayer for the day and without any specific organization in mind. She felt that "women working together with wide interest for large ends was a new thing under the sun and that, perhaps they had need for a special petition and meditation of their own."

The first printing of the Collect was in an obscure paragraph in the *Delineator*, a popular woman's magazine published by Butterick, a company that also printed sewing patterns. In 1909, Paul Elder and Company of San Francisco printed it as a wall card. In 1924, Armstrong Stationary Company of Cincinnati also printed it on wall cards. Early copies were signed with the pen name, "Mary Stuart".

The General Federation of Women's Clubs was the first organization to officially adopt the Collect. It was later adopted by the Federation of Business and Professional Women and became widely used by many other organizations in the United States and other countries. Senator Tobey of New Hampshire read it into the printed records of the Congress of the United States at the closing session in 1949.

Mary Stewart held a number of teaching positions in Colorado and Montana. In 1927 her alma mater, the University of Colorado, presented her with an honorary degree to recognize her distinguished work in education, social and civic service. From 1921 to 1942 she worked with the US in the Department of Labor and later as assistant director of education in the Office of Indian Affairs. She continued writing for newspapers and magazines. She was active in the fight for women's suffrage and remained active in women's organizations until her death in Cincinnati, Ohio in 1943.

### "A Collect for Clubwomen"

by  
Mary Stewart

Keep us, oh God, from pettiness;  
Let us be large in thought, in word, in deed.  
Let us be done with fault-finding  
And leave off self-seeking.  
May we put away all pretense  
And meet each other face to face,  
Without self-pity and without prejudice.

May we never be hasty in judgment  
And always generous.  
Let us take time for all things;  
Make us to grow calm, serene, gentle.  
Teach us to put into action our better impulses,  
Straightforward and unafraid.

Grant that we may realize it is  
The little things that create differences,  
That in the big things of life we are at one.  
And may we strive to touch and to know  
The great, common human heart of us all.  
And, oh Lord God, let us forget not  
To be kind!



## October Events

### October 4:

10:00 am—General Membership Meeting  
Community Woman's Clubhouse  
5 Rosa L. Jones Dr. Cocoa

### October 5-19:

10:00-4:00—Scarecrow Stroll  
Various locations

### October 16:

8:30 am—Walk & Talk  
Don Griffin Trail at Lake Betsi  
(960 Cogswell Street, Rockledge)

1:00 pm—Book Club Meeting  
Laurie W.'s house  
(address in directory)

7:00 pm—We Are GFWC webinar  
Zoom

### October 18:

10:00 am— Board of Directors Meeting  
Zoom

### October 21 :

10:00 am—District 6 Fall Meeting  
D. R. Schechter Center  
(1089 South Patrick Drive,  
Satellite Beach)

10:00 am—Harvest Festival & Scarecrow  
Auction  
The Avenues Viera

### October 24:

9:00 am—Healthy Start Packet Party  
Location TBD

*We look forward to seeing you  
at one of our many activities this  
month!*

## What We're Collecting

This is a list of on-going collections for items that will be donated to various organizations in our area.

- **Pull-tabs** (soda & soup can tabs) - will be donated to Ronald McDonald House charities. (Health & Wellness)
- **Eyeglasses** - will be donated to the Lions Club. (Health & Wellness)
- **Bottle corks** (wine & champagne) — for an upcoming fundraiser.

More items will be added as projects are developed. To donate, please **[contact our club.](#)**

## Contact Us!

**Email:** [gfwcspacecoast@gmail.com](mailto:gfwcspacecoast@gmail.com)

**Phone:** 321-4468941

**Website:** [gfwcspacecoastwc.org](http://gfwcspacecoastwc.org)

**Facebook:** [facebook.com/gfwcspacecoastwc](https://facebook.com/gfwcspacecoastwc)

