



The Space Coast Comet

gfwcspacecoastwc.org



Membership Meeting

Our April Membership Meeting will be held on Wednesday, April 3, 2024 at the Central Branch of the Brevard Library (308 Forrest Ave., Cocoa) beginning at 10:00 am. This meeting will include our club's annual reports as well as the election of our club's next administration.

Our club's annual reports will be presented by our officers and Community Service Program Chairmen and will include all of our club's accomplishments for the 2023-24 club year.

Elections will be held for the 2024-26 Administration. Our current officers have volunteered to continue to serve to provide continuity and stability to our young club. Per our bylaws, nominations from the floor will also be allowed prior to voting.

Do you have a friend or neighbor that is interested in joining us? Be sure to bring them so they can see what we're all about!

GFWC SPACE COAST WOMAN'S CLUB, INC.

April
MEMBERSHIP MEETING

APRIL
WEDNESDAY | 3 | 10:00 AM
2024

BREVARD CO. LIBRARY - CENTRAL BRANCH
308 FORREST AVE., COCOA

PROGRAM TO INCLUDE:
ANNUAL REPORTS
2024-26 OFFICER ELECTIONS

QUESTIONS? CONTACT US:
GFWCSPACECOAST@GMAIL.COM

See you there!

2024-26 Slate of Officers

The Slate of Officers was reported at the March meeting and is as follows:

- President:** Sarah Anthony
- 1st Vice-President:** JoAnne Post
- Treasurer:** Susan Musil
- Recording Secretary:** Laurie Watkins
- Corresponding Secretary:** Tiny Butler

All club members in attendance at the April meeting are eligible to vote. Per our club's bylaws, if there are not any nominations from the floor for any of these positions, the vote will be by voice.

GFWC
UNITY IN DIVERSITY

**HAPPY
FEDERATION
DAY**

APRIL 24, 1890

GFWC Space Coast Woman's Club, Inc.



President's Message

Dear Members,

Our club's Board of Directors has been hard at work to create a strong base to build on over the next two years. The calendar of events is starting to take shape, the steps of fine-tuning our bylaws and creating Standing Rules are underway, CSP Chairmen are exploring projects, we've passed the operating budget (the costs of doing business) at the board level, and the most important piece: we applied for our club's 501(c)3 designation, which was approved by the IRS last month.

While this club year is winding down with just two months left, there are still many activities and committee work to keep our members busy. If you would like to participate, please do! All committees are open to EVERY member and ALL members are welcome to all our club events and meetings. This is YOUR club...jump in and have fun!

~Sarah Anthony

"April prepares her green traffic light and the world thinks, 'Go.'"

— Christopher Morley



1st Vice-President's Message

Dear Members,

Spring time is here and its one of my favorites times of the year as we get to enjoy some cooler weather and wait for those April showers to bring us May flowers. April is also the time for our Annual GFWC Florida Convention. I sit on pins and needles until the weekend of April 12 where we will hopefully be recognized by the state with some amazing Report Awards. Stay tuned. I will let you know in May how we did. Until then, keep those hours coming.

Happy Spring,

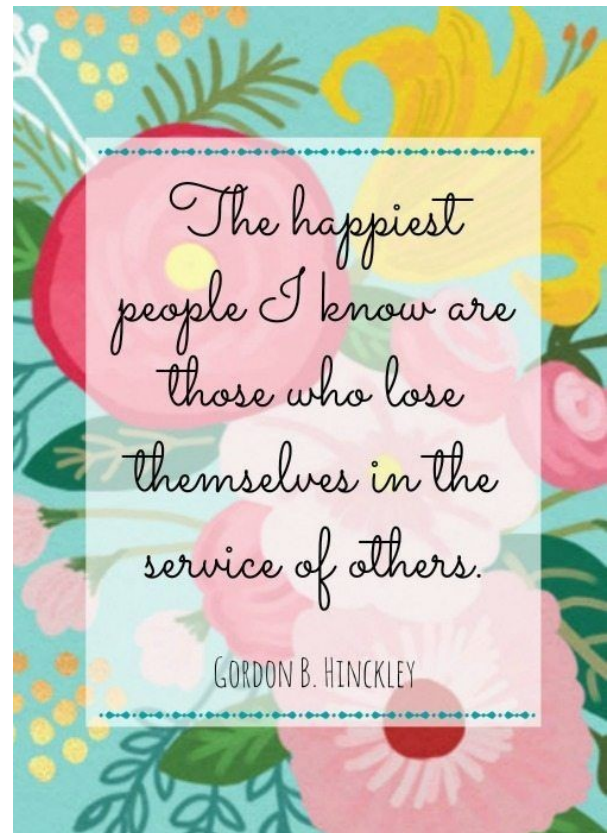
~JoAnne Post

GFWC FL President's Project

This is your **LAST CHANCE** to support GFWC Florida President, Linda O'Toole's President Project: Camp Boggy Creek.

If you would like to make a donation of any of the following items, please deliver to Sally Kramer's house (address in the directory) by April 11th so that President Sarah can deliver our club's donations to the Convention.

- **Washcloths.** They use countless cloths each day and they take a beating. Any color is acceptable, except white, as white reminds kids of the hospital.
- **Twin-size sheets.** Kid-friendly designs and colors are appreciated, except plain white.
- **Crochet or knitted afghans.** Lap- or kid-sized. Kid-friendly colors and designs.
- **Boggy Bears.** Click [HERE](#) for sewing instructions.



We're Turning One!



It's our first birthday and you're invited to celebrate with us!

As all first birthdays should be, this will be an exciting celebration to remember. Our Board of Directors has selected The Sandpiper Room at Heritage Isle as the location. We will start with our regular business meeting to wrap up the club year. We're inviting special guests to help us install our new officers. And as every proud parent, er...member, does, we'll take LOTS of pictures and reminisce about the year we've all shared together.

And what's a party without cake? After a delicious lunch, we'll blow out the candle and make a wish for the upcoming year.

You won't want to miss the celebration, so mark your calendar for 10:00 on Wednesday, May 1st, 2024.

Watch for more information to come!

Community Service Programs (CSPs)



Arts & Culture

Chair: Available

The International Association of Art (IAA) founded World Art Day on April 15, 2012 to create a day in celebration of the fine arts and to promote creative activity on an international scale.

The date chosen was Leonardo Da Vinci's birthday, in honor of one of history's most renowned artists and inventors.

The first official World Art Day celebration in the United States was held in Los Angeles, in 2015. In 2019, at the UNESCO General Conference, World Art Day was officially proclaimed as a UNESCO observance.

To celebrate this day, everyone is encouraged to participate in celebration of art: visit a museum or gallery, take an art class, or create something with your artistic skills. How will you celebrate?



Civic Engagement & Outreach

Chair: Available

April is "Month of the Military Child", which highlights the importance of military children to the armed forces community and shows them the appreciation they deserve.

This month was established in 1986 by then U.S. Defense Secretary Caspar Weinberger to honor military children and to recognize that they too make sacrifices for the United States. Ever since its creation, this month has been an important one that honors children who have one or both parents in uniform.

- Since 2001, over 2 million military children have experienced parental deployment.
- Approximately 80% of military children attend public schools across the U.S.
- Military families relocate 10 times more often than civilian families.



GFWC Signature Program: Domestic & Sexual Violence Awareness & Prevention

Chair: Taylor Malishenko



Our Serene Harbor Dr. Seuss birthday party was a grand event. This seemed to be the first time anyone had hosted a party for their residence. We placed a birthday large banner over the door to their playroom, which happened to be painted with Dr. Seuss style trees. We had cupcakes with Dr Seuss flags, individual drinks, and a selection of 30 of his books.

The children were both surprised and excited. "Do we really get cupcakes? Can we really have a book?" There were big smiles when cupcakes, drinks, and a book for everyone was confirmed. Thank you to all of those that donated books.

The GFWC Signature Program has eight areas of focus. We will expand on these areas in the months ahead. They are: campus sexual assault, child abuse, elder abuse, human trafficking for sexual purposes, intimate partner violence, military sexual assault, teen dating violence, and violence against Native American women.

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

Community Service Programs (CSPs)



Education &
Libraries



Chair: Sally Kramer

National Library Week is April 7-13, 2024 and National Bookmobile Day is April 10th, 2024. Next time you're in the library, be sure to tell your librarians thank you for all they do!

Book Club

A BIG THANK YOU to Sandy Angerami for taking the chairmanship of our Book Club. She is in charge of sending out the reminders each month for the meeting. She will also lead the discussion once a year on which books we will read for the new year and make the list of hostesses.

Members of our Book Club met in March at the home of Judy Mammay to discuss the book "Where the Forest Meets the Stars" by Glendy Vanderah. Everyone enjoyed reading the book and would recommend it to anyone who enjoys a book with twists and turns, laughter and sadness, and includes characters of different ages with different problems. It is a book worth taking the time to read and enjoy!

The next Book Club meeting will be Monday, April 15, 2024 at 1:00 pm. It will be hosted by Sandy Angerami at the home of Judy Mammay (address in the Directory). We will be discussing "The Reading Group" by Elizabeth Noble.

If you would like to join us we would be glad to have you.

Educational Museum Tour

Education comes to us in many ways. One of the ways is through museums and historic buildings or monuments. On February 29, 2024, six of us visited the Brevard Museum of History and Natural Science in Cocoa, Florida. It is a small museum packed full of wonderful pieces of history. We started out in the lobby looking at seashells. Moved on to a room full of life-size dino-

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.

**HEALTHY
MOMS.
STRONG
BABIES.**



March of Dimes leads the fight for the health of all moms and babies. Together with supporters like you, we're protecting the health of families by funding research, providing resources and programs and advocating for policies to help parents throughout their pregnancies. Building on a successful 80-year legacy, we create lasting change to make America more equitable for all and help every family get the best possible start.

saurus that roamed this area, on to the settling of this area of Florida and the orange groves and the turpentine industry. We went out to the butterfly garden created on the back of the building and from there went into a room about the space industry in Florida. As we moved from one area to another there were pictures and shadow boxes on the walls full of more information and treasures from the past. The Docent we had with us was very friendly, knowledgeable, and patient with all of us and our questions.

The time we spent here was well worth the time and the drive to find this museum hidden away in a residential area of Cocoa next to Clear Lake. There is also a walking trail around Clear Lake for anyone to use.

The museum is open on Thursday, Friday and Saturday, 10:00 am - 4:00 pm and admission is free.

Community Service Programs (CSPs)



Environment

Chair: Nancy Brown



It is baby season all around Florida and it is so much fun to see the Sandhill Crane colts and other birds and baby animals. I was just reading the Florida Wildlife Hospital Facebook page and they have some helpful suggestions if you find a baby bird or animal:

- Do not assume that the baby animal has been deserted, often the parents are near by.
- If the baby animal does not seem injured just leave it alone so that Mom and Dad can come back to take care of it.
- Keep away from the area to allow the mother to come back to care for her baby. She will not come if there are pets and people around.

If you have any questions about baby animals check out Florida Wildlife hospital's website at www.floridawildlifehospital.org

We have two opportunities for members to walk in nature this month. On **Saturday, April 6th** we will be participating The Sea Turtle Preservation Society's beach clean up at Coconut Point Park in Melbourne Beach beginning at 9:00am. If you have not already signed up to participate, you can do so at our club meeting on April 3rd or by contacting me at nekbrown@gmail.com. Friends and family are welcome.

On Earth Day **Monday, April 22nd**, Linda Greenstein (Health & Wellness CSP Chairman) and I will be hosting a walk at [Hundred Acre Hollows](#). Hundred Acre Hollows is only open two Sundays a month, however, they have graciously agreed to open for us. Linda and I will have more information at the meeting on April 3rd and will also send out an email. Friends and family are also invited.



Health & Wellness

Chair: Linda Greenstein



Twenty eight packers from 4 different GFWC club's met at the TCHP facility on Tuesday, March 20th. We had a fun evening packing 1,592 packets. Our own Personal Trainer, Judy Mammay, led us every 45 minutes with a one minute stretch break. Our next packing event will be on **Tuesday, May 14th**. There will be a sign-up sheet at the membership meeting.

April is National Minority Health Month focused on raising awareness about health disparities that continue to affect people from racial and ethnic minority groups. This month we will accumulate our Charity Miles for [EVERY MOTHER COUNTS](#). Their mission is to make pregnancy and childbirth safe, equitable and respectful for every mother every where. Our goal is 1,500 miles. We can do this!

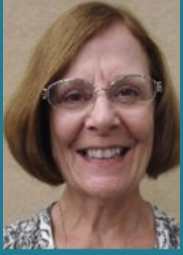
Here are three different activities that will give us several miles for EVERY MOTHER COUNTS:

- **Wednesday, April 3rd** is NATIONAL WALKING DAY. All Americans of all ages are encouraged to get out and stretch their legs and get their hearts pumping. Let's get some miles before or after our meeting.
- Our next Walk and Talk will be at the Avenues on **Monday, April 8th**. Meet us on the sidewalk across the parking lot from Panera at 8:30 am. Dress for the weather, wear sturdy shoes and don't forget your sunscreen, water and hats. We often visit Panera for a delicious snack after the walk!

The annual Superhero Run is a family friendly running and walking event to benefit abused, abandoned and neglected children of Brevard County.

Continued on page 7...

Community Service Programs (CSPs)



Health &
Wellness



Chair: Linda Greenstein

Continued from page 6...

The event is hosted by the Friends of Children of Brevard. It will take place at the Avenues on **Saturday, April 20th**. Join Bob and me for a fun morning. We will register as individuals since their teams only have 4 participants and the team has to be co-ed. Here is the registration link:

<https://runsignup.com/Race/FL/Viera/Superhero>

We will be assembling informational brochures for Healthy Start on **Tuesday, April 2nd**. We will meet at the UF/IFAS Extension at 3695 Lake Dr. Cocoa, FL 32926 at 9:00 am. Hope to see many of you there!

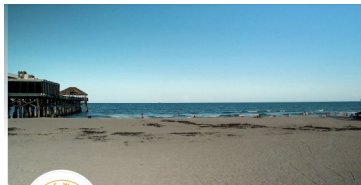
Please bring your pull tabs and unnecessary glasses to our next general meeting. We are collecting pull tabs for the Ronald McDonald House and glasses for the Lions' Recycle For Sight.



GFWC Advancement Areas

Membership

Chair: Available



GFWC Space Coast Woman's Club, Inc.
14 likes · 35 followers

Have you “liked” and “followed” our Facebook page?

Follow us for reminders and information.

Be sure to “share” our page and posts to inform others!

Things to report this month:

- Did you attend and club, district, state, or committee meeting or attend a webinar in March? Did you attend New Member Orientation?
- Did you register for the GFWC FL Convention?
- Did you purchase any donations for Camp Boggy Creek? Did you participate in the GFWC FL Women of Courage Zoom celebration for Women’s History Month?
- Did you attend/join the book club? Did you join ESO? How many hours did you read? Did you purchase this month’s book club book?
- Did you visit the Brevard Discovery Garden Spring Fling? Report time spent and any dollars spent at the sale.
- Did you save any corks, pull-tabs, or eyeglasses? Report max 1 hour per project.
- Did you walk or run for Charity Miles? How much time? How many miles?
- Did you participate in the Walk & Talk?
- Did you pack for The Children’s Hunger Project?
- Did you participate in the Downtown Melbourne 5K? Be sure to report your time and registration fees!
- Did you register for the Legislative Action Committee?
- Report all volunteer hours (including driving time and miles—except for membership meetings)
- Report all dollars and in-kind donations made to the club or to club-sponsored organizations.

Send your monthly report to JoAnne P. via email.



GFWC Advancement Areas

Leadership

Chair: Sarah Anthony

In the September newsletter, we outlined the seven acts of “everyday” leaders: commit, listen, communicate, be humble, innovate, learn, and SMILE!

This month we will focus on **innovate**. “There are formulas for everything, and they are copied and followed. Predictable books and movies, architectural blueprints and housing developments with no originality, meeting agendas that leave little room for innovation, and how about the unspoken rules! You do not have to shock and awe every chance you get but think about offering something fresh to further the conversation or something original to move the ball.” (GFWC Manual)

Leadership and innovation are interconnected in several profound ways:

1. Setting the Vision: Leaders are responsible for defining the organization's vision and strategic goals. An innovative leader not only sets ambitious objectives but also emphasizes the importance of creativity and out-of-the-box thinking in achieving them.

2. Creating a Safe Space: Innovative ideas often involve risk and uncertainty. Effective leaders create a safe space where members feel comfortable taking calculated risks without the fear of punitive consequences. This encourages experimentation and creativity.

3. Inspiring and Motivating: Great leaders inspire their teams to push boundaries and challenge the status quo. Their enthusiasm and unwavering belief in the importance of innovation motivate employees to explore new ideas and approaches.

(Continued in next column...)

(Continued...)

4. Providing Resources: Innovation requires resources, both in terms of time and funding. Leaders who prioritize innovation allocate the necessary resources to support research, development, and experimentation.

5. Removing Barriers: Leaders should identify and eliminate bureaucratic or cultural barriers that hinder innovation. This may involve streamlining processes, encouraging cross-functional collaboration, and promoting a culture of openness to new ideas. (The Economic Times, October 22, 2023)

Read more at: <https://tinyurl.com/4nfbhah>

Legislation & Public Policy

Chair: Available

Have you joined the GFWC Legislative Action Committee (LAC)?

In accordance with the resolutions adopted by the General Federation of Women's Clubs, GFWC often joins other national organizations to urge congressional or federal agency action on a particular matter. These letters, in addition to individual clubwomen contacting their members of Congress directly through the Legislative Action Center, result in a national network of grassroots advocates working together to improve the lives of club members, their communities, our nation, and the global community.

Sign up for the [Legislative Action Center](#), a powerful tool to alert you to GFWC's public issues and advocacy efforts. Track bills, contact your local representative and take action on issues germane to GFWC Resolutions.

After you sign up for the LAC, please include it in your monthly report to JoAnne so that we can keep track of how many club members have joined.

April Events

April 2 :

9:00 am—Healthy Start Packet Party
UF/IFAS Extension Office
3695 Lake Dr. Cocoa

April 3 : National Walking Day

10:00 am—Membership Meeting
Brevard Central Library
308 Forrest Ave., Cocoa

April 4 :

7:00 pm—We are GFWC Webinar
Zoom

April 6:

9:00 am—Turtle Walk—Beach Clean-Up
Coconut Point Park
Melbourne Bch.

April 8:

8:30 am—Walk & Talk
The Avenues—Across from Panera

April 11: Camp Boggy Creek Donation Deadline (see page 2)

10:00 am—New Member Orientation
Location TBD

April 12-15 : GFWC Florida Convention Rosen Plaza, Orlando

April 15:

1:00 pm—Book Club
Judy M.'s house
(address in directory)

April 20: Super Hero Run

April 22:

TBD—Earth Day Nature Walk
Hundred Acre Hollows
1170 Ida Way, Melbourne

April 24: GFWC Federation Day

*We look forward to seeing you
at our events 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 our fundraiser.
- **Books**—for our Little Free Library (Education & Libraries)

More items will be added as projects are developed. To donate, please **contact our club.**

Contact Us!

Email: gfwcspacecoast@gmail.com

Phone: 321-4468941

Website: gfwcspacecoastwc.org

Facebook: facebook.com/gfwcspacecoastwc

