



Clara V. Austin October 4, 1929 – April 26, 2023

KFWC President 1994-1996





Clara V. Austin

Theme: "KFWC Volunteers – Care – Share – Serve" Symbol: KFWC Emblem



Clara V. Austin served as the KFWC President during the 50th Administration and celebration of the 100th year of KFWC. Missi McCoy served as her 3rd Vice President, Director of Junior Clubs and they were the first to serve as President-elect and Director-elect. During Ms. Austin's administration KFWC had 152 General Clubs, 10 Junior Clubs and one Juniorette Club for a total membership of 6828.

At that time, KFWC had both a President's Special Program and Special Project. Her Special Program was Leadership. At each meeting during her administration a representative from the Zig Ziegler Leadership Institute presented workshops. The information was then presented to all clubs during the administration on this important subject. Ms. Austin's Special Project was "Personal Safety: LOOK – LISTEN – LEARN, Be Safe, Not Sorry." Clubs presented this information to its members from a variety of experts in the field. Because of these two programs, KFWC won awards in Citizenship and Leadership awards.

On July 9, 1994, the actual 100th birthday of KFWC, women came together at our Louisville Headquarters to place items into a time capsule, a wooden box handmade by a Kentucky woodcrafter. The box is now at our Frankfort Headquarters and is to be opened on July 9, 2044. The state also hosted SER that year in Lexington. During the State Convention, to celebrate the 100th year of KFWC, a fashion show was held of the gowns inspired and designed after the gowns of the Kentucky First Lady Dolls.

Ms. Austin was preceded in death by her husband James. She is survived by daughters Tammy Damm of Houston, Texas and Linda Smith of Calvert City, Kentucky. She has seven grandchildren, 12 great grandchildren and 2 nieces.

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Arrow Talk

WE DID IT! We survived hosting the Southeastern Regional Fall Conference in October and the June GFWC International Convention! Pat yourself on the back because there is no way we could have done it without all of you.

Your support was felt and there is no way to thank you properly for all you have done this past year. We have received a number of wonderful thank you notes from ladies across the nation thanking us for the hospitality, smiles and the wonderful job on centerpieces during the convention.

If you came to stuff bags, thank you! I would be afraid to list the names but know you are appreciated. To all the clubs and districts who provided snacks and items for the bags, thank you! They were appreciated. If you came just to work the Welcome Table, thank you! Ladies appreciated your smiles. To our State Night table hostesses. You were the best. We have so many comments about how relaxed the evening was and enjoyed. Door pages and Meal pages, what a thankless job! However, thank you for putting up with all those women.

I do need to express my thanks to a few individuals who did go above and beyond and I'm not sure they even attended any part of the convention being confined to the workroom. Sherry Decker – Bev Pilgram – Dee Biebighauser – Tammy Collins Bonney – Irene Stamper – Bridget Murphy – Pat Saros – Renea Dixon and Lois Knoll; you all rock. Centerpieces were awesome. Special thanks goes to Amy Mason who decided it was more important to be at the hospital when she became a Gigi rather than being with us; for coordinating all the arrangements. Beth Hill for serving as the Protocol Chairman for State Night and to Peggy Barnes for being the Convention Chairperson. The expression it takes a village, it did.

We can put this event away and be proud of what we were able to accomplish. Now on to our next round of events! Membership parties, District Meetings and who knows what else. You will be hearing about a number of upcoming events.

Again, thanks for all you have done. I was extremely proud to introduce myself to those I did not know and represent you as the GFWC Kentucky President.

Keep Moving Forward Kentucky!!

Susette



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July 2023

The General Federation of Women's Clubs "Girls On Fire" we're in town for their convention this last weekend. Through them, our Adventure Christian Church sister and member of St. Matthews Women's Club helped orchestrate a "personal care drive" for our pantry ministry partners!! This week we will joyfully be delivering these special items throughout 5 locations! Thank you GFWC and especially to Teresa Schmidt for loving on those less fortunate. I pray your conference was a great one!







GENERAL FEDERATION





Susan Tyler Witten



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GFWC-SER ANNUAL MEETING & CONFERENCE 2023

Huntington, West Virginia DoubleTree by Hilton Huntington Make your reservation today! November 2-5, 2023 304-525-1001

Below is the direct booking link your guests can use for booking their reservations (you should be able to just click on the link). Adjust the dates as you need at the top of the screen. Full reservation materials will be forth coming from Region President Bev Lassiter. See you in November!

https://www.hilton.com/en/book/reservation/rooms/?ctyhocn=HTSDTDT&arrivalDate=2023-11-01&departureDate=2023-11-05&groupCode=CDTGFW&room1NumAdults=1&cid=OM%2CWW%2CHILTONLINK%2CEN%2CDirectLink&bmverify=AAQAAAAH____wEPAt23RYnHBtPmXIsiDN6KLYCKhMVcqC8SzBdA5N_Wzhah2RY79xBlRTPw8-zRrm3qtHaF-LbNoXemz4hKsp1KwyfL2jQFXCwdu54v0x3wfK2kIw3MNC87WjewekRmrudONCke54eYEJACd3aQ10Pog8Wb53G-8R3ECKCfJBUj28I-a2lFG7Can7umEB28XUCMIDc_Q-ZZvc3UjfF2Bm255JYskcAIGSvqi-5VtW05_XIxhHZgs1QQxzNKG7CriiE57p1tI0T7C-cjj00GGg_7CE7924pQP9RUwTZ69gVC5sitPz7MP7bURDKzeUY4SRXhn4X4eipXI-8j_b4IZVf4MiGJQmvX5DN3FerEvFgmmqwx5hkrEEZ0pqBYSY_n4RTaAtW3BGdu5DRsiMcDpB6nrKrXAgI-LNivmi01pIOL3v1oL_WgKbm_oRrpP4gNT5w6-O0a2PzUN54d8p0f5kSmZ49uT68H9Y1-LyAxZSenDh_yetOetsvrmAZ2jRvW&fbclid=IwAR1E0cz_pXKqcFCfdVb6Yg9NLPRLUZuWQyhPBb0K3xOGyzTuJ74BtS8NyME

DoubleTree by Hilton Huntington

1001 3rd Avenue Huntington, WV 304-525-1001 1-800-HILTONS Code: GFWC Southeastern Region Includes valet parking for ONE car



Tours will include:

Fisher Hospitality House Tour on the grounds of the Woody Williams VA Medical Center – Thursday afternoon

Huntington Museum of Art Tour and Luncheon on Friday morning



Veterans Service Projects

- We will be collecting the following: \$25 Gift Cards from Krogers or Walmart
- Hotel Size toiletries for Welcome Bags at the VA Medical Center

We will be filling Welcome Bags for Veterans treated at the VA Medical Center in Huntington

GFWC West Virginia Chairman is Georgiana Tillis <u>gtillis@suddenlink.net</u>



I am pleased to announce GFWC Kentucky's participation in the GFWC National Day of Service scheduled for Saturday, September 30, 2023. While many clubs have already registered to participate in their local communities, GFWC Kentucky will be participating as a state as well. This year's NDS event will focus on food insecurity across our country. I will be sharing more information about ways to get involved with the state program next month. In the meantime, please read about the National Day of Service in the GFWC Member Portal's My Digital Library under the letter N in the Resources folder. If your club has not registered, I encourage you to sign up.

Submitted by Bridget Murphy, GFWC KY 1st Vice President and Chairman of GFWC Kentucky's NDS

I have just returned from my first international convention and it was amazing. I am very proud to be a member of GFWC and especially GFWC KY. I think we did a great job hosting this international convention. I encourage anyone who has never attended an international convention to attend one.

While at the convention I signed our club up for the National Day of Service. The National Day of Service will be on September 30, 2023. The focus is food insecurity. Some of the suggestions are: to volunteer at a local food bank, conduct food drives, raise awareness about hunger and be an advocate to end food insecurity. Information about the NDS will be in the weekly *News & Notes newsletter, on Facebook, Instagram and at the website, <u>www.GFWC.org</u>, every week until September 30.*

To register your club or for more information, contact Melanie Gisler, Director of Membership Services, at <u>MGisler@GFWC.org</u> and copy Deb Strahanoski, International President, at <u>DStrahanoski@GFWC.org</u> Please include the following in your email: Club Name, Point of Contact, Address, Phone Number, and Email. GFWC will send information, articles, and announcements directly to your club.

I hope every club in Kentucky will register and help our communities with food insecurities on this National Day of Service.

Love,

Sherri Hammons, GFWC KY Director of Junior Clubs



What a great GFWC International Convention!! It was great seeing old friends and making new ones. I want to thank all the ladies from Woman's Club of St Matthews for all their help stuffing bags, working the "Welcome" desk and setting up the decorations for "State Night"...THANK YOU!!!

Teresa Schmidt GFWC KY 2nd Vice President/President of Woman's Club of St Matthews



Congratulations:

GFWC Kentucky Membership Award, Category 2
Layla Koebbe, Murray WC Writing Contest, Grades K-2
Lauren Bates, Jackson WC Writing Contest, Short Story
Bridget Murphy, Morgan Co. WC St. Jude Donation
GFWC Morgan Co. Juniorettes Participation Recognition



2024 is the 40th Anniversary of the GFWC Woman's History Center

Is your club celebrating a 40th something in 2024? Do you have members celebrating a 40th birthday or anniversary in 2024?

Let us know! Turn in your club's and club member's 40th anything by November 1 to Susette!

Susette.redwine@gmail.com



BE ON THE LOOKOUT FOR NEW INFORMATION!

The GFWC Website, Membersuites, is going away!

A new system will be in place, and you will be asked to set up a new account.

GFWC listened to your concerns about how user friendly the site was, was not; and a plan is in the works to make the change.

Done-In-A-Day Projects



By: Pam Ament, Arts and Culture Chairman

It is always a joy to get emails from state Arts and Culture Chairmen asking about recommendations for Done-In-A-Day projects. These are a few of my favorites, and with a bit of planning and organizing, let's hope they will also become a favorite for your club or district.

Art Buckets for Hospital Children: Members assemble buckets filled with crayons, stickers, coloring books, and a glitter pen. The buckets are delivered to a Children's Hospital, where the recipients print their names on the bucket with the glitter pen and enjoy coloring while in the hospital bed.

Baby Shower: Members donate baby items to disadvantaged expectant mothers at their nearest hospital. Cake and ice cream are served, and the baby shower items are delivered to the hospital after the party.

Flower Arrangements for Senior Homes: Ask a member of your club who is great with flower arrangements to teach the members how to create a lovely arrangement of fresh flowers and deliver them to a Senior Home nearby.

Jewelry for Mother's Day: Ask members to bring in the jewelry they no longer wear and are willing to donate. They also donate boxes, tissue, and wrapping paper. Members assemble wrapped jewelry packages and deliver them to a shelter where kids can pick a wrapped package and give it to their mom for Mother's Day.

These are just a few community-rich ideas for all ages to promote art and culture in your area. Have fun and send me your pictures; I look forward to seeing the smiles these Done-In-A-Day projects will elicit from the members creating them and the recipients of the lovely gifts! GFWC Kentucky Clubwoman Publication





It's Time!

Have you thought about becoming an officer for GFWC Kentucky?

Now is the time to think about it!

At the Spring 2024 Convention, we will be electing officers for the 2024-2026 Administration. Amy Mason of the Benton WC will serve as President and Chrissi Cuel of the Barbourville Junior's Women's Study Club will serve as the Director of Junior Clubs.

TO BE ELECTED:

President-Elect for the 2026-2028 administration Director of Junior Clubs for the 2026-2028 administration First Vice President – oversees our Chairmen Second Vice President – oversees our District Officers Secretary Treasurer

Qualifications: a member shall be an active member in good standing of an active GFWC Kentucky Club and have served at least four years on the GFWC Kentucky Board of Directors. (Article VI. GFWC Kentucky Officers. Section 2. Qualifications.)

July 2023



OFFICIAL NOMINATION BALLOTT GFWC KENTUCKY 2024 – 2026

The ballot for GFWC Kentucky Officers of President-Elect, 1st Vice President, 2nd Vice President, Recording Secretary, Treasurer and Director of Junior Club-Elect is printed below. Should your club have a candidate for a state office, complete the ballot and send in a sealed envelope along with the nomination qualification form, current photo of the candidate and club letter of recommendation to: GFWC Kentucky, P.O. Box 1587, Frankfort, KY 40602. This information must be marked on the envelope "Nomination." No email nominations will be accepted.

The ballot much be received at the GFWC Kentucky Headquarters <u>no later than November 1</u> to be considered. Refer to the GFWC Kentucky Bylaws: **ARTICLE VII. GFWC Kentucky Nominations and Elections. Section 2B. Nomination Ballot.** The nominating ballot submitted for each nominee shall be accompanied by the statement of qualifications of the nominee and shall be received at the GFWC Kentucky Headquarters <u>no later than November 1st</u> in the odd numbered year of the administration. No name shall be submitted without the consent of the nominee and the nominee's club.

GFWC KENTUCKY NOMINATION BALLOT

POSITION	BEING NOMINATH	ED FOR:		
	President-Elect		1 st Vice President	
	2 nd Vice President		Recording Secretary	
	_ Treasurer		Director of Junior Club-El	lect
The name of	he Nominating Commit	tee for the n	osition marked above	is hereby
submitted to th		tee for the p	usition marked above.	
Club:			District	
Club Presiden	t Signature:			



GFWC KENTUCKY NOMINATION QUALIFICATIONS 2024-2026

NAME:	_
MAILING ADDRESS:	-
EMAIL:	-
PHONE NUMBER:	
OFFICE SEEKING:	
QUALIFICATIONS:	
YEARS ON THE GFWC KENTUCKY BOARD OF DIRECTORS AND SERVED:	POSITIONS
ON A SEPARATE PAGE, PLEASE LIST OTHER QUALIFICATIONS AND A PAGE.	ATTACH TO THIS
MAIL THE FOLLOWING INFORMATION IN A SEALED ENV MARKED "NOMINATION"	ELOPE
TO: GFWC KENTUCKY P.O. BOX 1587 FRANKFORT, KY	40602
NOMINATION BALLOT PHOTOGRAPH	
NOMINATION QUALIFICATIONS CLUB RECOMMEN	DATION

July 2023

Okolona Woman's Club

On Saturday, April 22 the Okolona Woman's Club held a Crafting Marathon Fundraiser benefiting the residents of Bellewood and Brooklawn Therapeutic Foster Care Services. Twenty five women enjoyed a full day of all kinds of crafts, card making, scrapbooking, sewing and crocheting. Lunch and dinner were included along with a 50/50 raffle pot and many door prizes. Everyone had a great time of fun and fellowship for a great cause. In total, \$607 was raised for the Bellewood and Brooklawn Auxiliary to provide items for the kids' summer entertainment. OWC looks forward to making this an annual event.



Ruth Anne Harmeling





Thanks Ruth Anne (on right) for organizing this project.







Woman's Club of St. Matthews

WCSM DERBY LUNCHEON 2023

The Derby Luncheon 2023 was held at the Nunnlea House on Hurstbourne Parkway. The buffet lunch was catered by Ladyfingers Catering featuring assorted Kentucky favorites. Everyone came in their Derby finest.

The theme was "Horsin' Around" recognizing the 50th anniversary of Secretariat's Derby victory and historic race season. After lunch a Secretariat Trivia was held. A lot of the members learned a lot about Secretariat. The prize was a bottle of Big Red Wine won by one of our guests. The members then played a "pass around" game with prizes. Then we gathered to sing My Old Kentucky Home. The lovely table centerpieces were given away along with other door prizes. A raffle was held and the members went home with their prizes.

All of the net profit from the luncheon went to St. MAM (St. Matthews Area Ministries) to help with their moving expenses. There were several guests present and of which four joined WCSM that day. Everyone had fun and went home with great memories of the day!



2023 Officers (L-R): Fran Evola; First Vice President, Debby Mercer, Second Vice President; Lynn Bridwell, Third Vice President; Beverly Potts, Treasurer; Teresa Schmidt, President; Carol Skinner, Recording Secretary; and Merleta Weisert, Corresponding Secretary.





Everyone has a good time!

Four new members (L-R): Btitt, Brenda, Connie and Marla. Editor's Note: This article was turned in for the May Clubwoman Publication but as we did not have a May Publication, I have abbreviated the article and included it here as the information and thought in the article is very relevant every day of the year...not just during a National Appreciation Month. Thanks Gale for remembering our heroes.

Civic Engagement and Outreach

Gale Vinson, Chair Civic Engagement & Outreach GFWC Kentucky

For this month, I want to share an excerpt from the newsletter of *Wreaths Across America*:



May has been designated as Military Appreciation Month. And although every month should afford them appreciation, this gesture does encourage everyone to reflect on the enormity of their sacrifices. That includes the daily sacrifice of not being with their loved ones. I read a quote once about the soldier who, although he would do it again, said while in service he missed his babies first steps and his mother's dying breath.

So back to the question, "What can we do?"

We can embrace the military families and veterans in our communities and see that they receive the support they need. These men and women throughout history have been guardians and protectors of our Country. We can be the caretakers of this liberty by continuing to "find a way to serve" and show the next generation the real cost of Freedom.

Remember - Honor - Teach With gratitude,

Haren Worcester

Karen Worcester Executive Director

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State Headquarter Beautification Project

Here is an opportunity to assist with the upkeep and beautification of our Headquarters Building. We will be putting in a perennial garden across the front of our building where some old scrubs were. This garden will consist of but not limited to Butterfly bushes and other perennials that will not require a lot of maintenance.

You or your club can donate to this project in memory or in honor of someone.....or you can just donate.

The plants will all be purchased by our project manager Dee Biebighauser. This way purchasing them all at the same time will prove beneficial in having everything ready when the time is right.

Donation Form in on the next page.



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Perennial Garden



Please accept this donation towards the placement of a perennial in GFWC KY Headquarters Perennial Garden.

In Honor of

In Memory of

Club Name:

Address:

Please make check payable to: GFWC KENTUCKY

Mail to: GFWC KY, P O Box 1587, Frankfort, KY 40602

Club Creativity Award - Environment 2022 Reporting Year

The project selected as the Club Creativity Award winner from our state takes the Community Connection Initiative to the extreme! It made community gardening accessible to three different populations: senior citizens, people in recovery from addiction, and high school students!

The local woman's club has had a relationship with a senior living facility for six years. Last summer some of the residents mentioned that they missed seeing flowers outside their windows like they had at home. So the woman's club built two 8' x 8' raised beds. A variety of flowers were planted in one, and fruits and vegetables were planted in the other. Members tended to the gardens weekly with the assistance of some of the residents. They shared in the responsibility of watering, weeding, and picking the flowers and vegetables when ripe. A few residents made it a point to make arrangements of the flowers for the front desk at the facility. The produce, including tomatoes, carrots, strawberries, watermelon, and a few pumpkins, were fixed by the cafeteria staff and served with lunches and dinners. At Halloween, the pumpkins were carved by residents and staff members and placed outside the facility entrance. The ladies and gentlemen remarked how they enjoyed seeing the gardens through the dining room windows and watching them flourish season to season.

In another attempt at bringing the joy of gardening to others, the woman's club worked closely with a local rehabilitation/recovery center, teaching two of its clients about gardening. The two young women, with the help of the woman's club, secured a plot in the community garden and were taught how to prepare their area for planting. They also learned what plants would grow best in their area. Clubwomen met frequently with the two young women, explaining what needed to be done and providing the tools and seeds necessary to accomplish their task. But the work was done entirely by the two young rehabilitation/recovery clients. Club members continued to meet with the young ladies, mentoring them in their gardening endeavors, which resulted in a healthy food source for these women, a feeling of accomplishment, and positive relationship development with the woman's club members.

The final act of sharing their gardening expertise was with local high school students. The director of the school's Youth Service Center contacted the woman's club and asked them to meet with students who exhibited an interest in reviving the school's unused greenhouse. The club made a list of needed repairs to the greenhouse, and the students completed the repairs in record time! They were eager to start growing things!! After learning what was required to prep for planting, the students established what would become a beautiful flower garden! Mature plants and flowers were made available to the high school students and to the community as well.

As you can see, the woman's club in this community has found multiple ways to foster the love of gardening and the rewards of patient industry by working with any and all who express an interest. It is the hope of the club that these small gestures will develop into lifelong hobbies for these diverse populations and bring joy and happiness in their later years.

Editor's note: this came in too late to be included in the last KY Clubwoman Publication (April), but is included here for your information.

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2023 Fall District Meetings

Dates and Sites

September 16	District 7/8 Jackson	
September 23	District 2 Madisonville	
September 30	District 5/6 Bettie Carter Morgan	
October 14	District 3/4 TBA	
October 21	District 1 Murray	
October 28	District 9 Somerset	





Moving Forward

Kentucky Clubwoman Please submit stories and photos for the newsletter for your club, district, and/or state

Email items to: cheryl410@twc.com or mail to Cheryl Harrington 17423 Curry Branch Road Louisville KY 40245 Our Past to Present

Kentucky Federation of Women's Club (KFWC) was founded in July 1894 and was the fourth state to federate with General Federation of Women's Club (GFWC). In Spring of 2012 KFWC voted to change their name to GFWC Kentucky.

Our state headquarters is located at 104 Lakeview Court in Frankfort KY.

Mailing address: PO Box 1587 Frankfort KY 40602

(502) 352-2731

Submit articles and pictures for the Publication to

cheryl410@twc.com

MARK YOUR CALENDARS FOR THE INAUGURAL



Help Us to End Hunger in the United States By Volunteering, Donating, or Organizing a Community Service Project



GFWC CLUBWOMAN MAGAZINE



GFWC Clubwoman Magazine is the premier publication of the General Federation of Women's Clubs (GFWC). It serves as a valuable communications tool to inform and educate our Federation about community service opportunities, project ideas, and ways to enhance club operations. Published quarterly (Winter, Spring, Summer, and Fall), the magazine is a source for insightful and informative content

that keeps members up-to-date about GFWC. Members can access previous issues via the GFWC Resource Library, through the GFWC Member Portal, select folder "C," and open the "Clubwoman" folder.