

GFWC Kentucky Clubwoman Publication

January 2026



Anne M. Aubrey
GFWC KY President 2008-2010
December 18, 1952 – December 27, 2025



GFWC
est. 1890
GENERAL FEDERATION
OF WOMEN'S CLUBS
KENTUCKY

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KENTUCKY



In Loving Memory of Anne Aubrey



Anne served as GFWC KY President from 2008 to 2010 with a fitting theme, "Let's Have Fun," and chose the bumble bee as her symbol. A natural educator, she brought energy and enjoyment to every event and podium.

Anne joined the Radcliff Woman's Club in 1989 and quickly became active in projects and leadership roles. Anne was RWC President from 1993-1995 and Woman of the Year for 1996-1997.

Anne expanded her GFWC involvement to the state level where she chaired several committees and ultimately led as President. During her tenure as President, our state advanced in its understanding of the resources available to each community. She provided guidance to numerous GFWC KY members and took pride in observing their individual achievements.

Later, Anne joined a second club, Okolona Woman's Club so that she could be involved in all the "fun" activities. Anne joined OWC in 2010 and by 2014 she was elected Club President. Anne served as President from 2014-2015 and a second term from 2016-2017. After serving as Club President for two terms, she became a member on the Board of Trustees for the Clubhouse. She could have become the Chair of the Trustee Committee, but she felt that someone living closer to the Clubhouse would serve the Club better because she lived so far away from Okolona. Anne was Chair of the Arts and Crafts Committee for many years at OWC. She guided OWC in all things GFWC as well as things involving the Arts and Crafts contest....which she won many ribbons in from her beautiful quilts and appliques. She will be greatly missed by OWC for her knowledge and guidance concerning GFWC, but more importantly her kind and gentle heart.

Anne Aubrey passed away on December 27, 2025 after enduring several health challenges. She will be remembered for her joyful spirit and her ability to enliven any gathering. Rest In Peace.



RISING INTO THE NEW YEAR: SETTING GOALS, MAKING PLANS, AND MOVING FORWARD TOGETHER



A new year brings with it a fresh start—an opportunity to rise up with renewed purpose, clear goals, and a shared vision for success. As club women, we know that meaningful progress doesn't happen by chance; it happens when intention meets action.

The first step to a successful year is setting clear and achievable goals. Whether your goals are focused on service, membership growth, leadership development, or fellowship, defining what you want to accomplish gives direction to your efforts. Big goals can feel overwhelming, so break them down into smaller, manageable steps. Progress is built one step at a time.

Once goals are established, it's time to make a plan—and work the plan. A well-thought-out plan provides structure and accountability. Creating a checklist can be a powerful tool to keep everyone on track. Checklists turn ideas into action, allow us to measure progress, and give us the satisfaction of seeing tasks completed. When everyone understands their role and responsibilities, success becomes a shared effort rather than an individual burden.

Equally important is strong communication among club women. Open, respectful, and consistent communication fosters trust, teamwork, and unity. Sharing updates, celebrating successes, and addressing challenges together ensures that no one feels left out or overwhelmed. When we communicate well, we strengthen not only our projects but also the bonds of friendship that make our clubs thrive.

As we step into this new year, let us rise with confidence, purpose, and commitment. By setting goals, creating plans, checking our progress, and communicating effectively, we position ourselves—and our clubs—for a year filled with achievement, growth, and meaningful impact.

Together, we can turn goals into accomplishments and visions into reality. Here's to a new year of rising higher—together.

Amy Mason

GFWC KY State President

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GFWC KENTUCKY DIRECTOR OF JUNIOR CLUBS



CHRISSI CUEL

GFWC KENTUCKY DIRECTOR OF JUNIOR CLUBS



HELLO FELLOW CLUB WOMEN,

Dear GFWC Kentucky Juniors and Juniores, Happy New Year! As we begin a new year filled with opportunity, service, and growth, I am excited to share some wonderful news with you.

The wait is over! All eight videos of the GFWC Junior Club Leadership Certification are now uploaded and available to watch. This valuable benefit of belonging is open to all Junior and Juniores clubs and provides an opportunity to learn more about GFWC, strengthen leadership skills, and grow in personal development. Clubs are encouraged to watch the videos together and make this a shared experience.

You can find full details in the GFWC Member Portal Digital Library under the letter J, and the videos are hosted on the GFWC HQ YouTube channel in their own playlist.

If you do not yet have a profile established in the Member Portal, now is the perfect time to access the many resources available to you as a GFWC member: <https://memberportal.gfwc.org/users/login>

Please begin by watching the introductory video, then work with your club to create a schedule to complete this certification by the deadline of June 1, 2026. The online form to certify your club's completion is linked within the information document found in the Member Portal.

Friendly reminder: Club reports are due February 1. Thank you for submitting your reports on time and for helping showcase the incredible work being done by Kentucky Juniors and Juniores.

Thank you to the Junior Leadership on the GFWC Board of Directors and GFWC staff for their collaboration in creating these meaningful resources. I hope you enjoy this certification opportunity, and I wish you a happy, healthy, and successful New Year!

Warm regards,

Chrissi Cuel

GFWC Kentucky Director of Junior Clubs



CONTACT:

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606-515-3009

ccuelgfwcky@gmail.com

7 FUN FACTS ABOUT ME



I WENT TO CULINARY SCHOOL, BUT I'VE NEVER COOKED PROFESSIONALLY
—CREATIVITY JUST FOUND A DIFFERENT OUTLET.

I'M A COMMUNICATIONS AND GRAPHIC DESIGN PROFESSIONAL WITH OVER 20 YEARS OF EXPERIENCE.

I'VE BEEN A PROUD CLUBWOMAN FOR 25 YEARS, SERVING AT THE LOCAL, DISTRICT, AND STATE LEVELS.

I CURRENTLY SERVE AS GFWC KENTUCKY DIRECTOR OF JUNIOR CLUBS, WORKING TO GROW AND SUPPORT JUNIOR LEADERS.

MY NATURAL HAIR IS CURLY—EVEN IF IT DOESN'T ALWAYS BEHAVE LIKE IT.

I'M MARRIED TO DANIEL AND AM MOM TO KYLIE AND KRAIG, WHO KEEP LIFE FULL AND MEANINGFUL.

FUN FACT: I BELIEVE STRONG COMMUNICATION CAN BRING PEOPLE TOGETHER AND TURN IDEAS INTO LASTING IMPACT.

Reporting Doesn't Have to be a Chore!



It's the most wonderful time of the year !

Reporting can be exciting and joyful! Yes, you read that correctly! Reporting is a time to let the light shine on all of the amazing work your club has done during the year. I see all the wonderful Facebook posts that clubs post on Facebook, so I know tremendous things are happening! So why not share in your club reports? It's really simple. Get everyone involved. Have a soup and salad day/night and invite members to join in the reporting process. Depending on the size and composition of your clubs, you can proceed in a number of ways. Community Service Program (CSP) area committees can sit together and generate a list of activities they have completed in 2025. Someone can look back at your club's Facebook page to list activities shared on social media. The secretary and treasurer can look through their books for donations approved by the club. These are just a few ways to generate a complete list of projects/programs.

Complete the State Statistical Form! If your club does no other report, PLEASE FILL OUT THIS ONE!!!! These numbers are gathered and used to complete a state report which is sent to GFWC. They use this information when working with affiliate organizations and when recruiting additional partners and support.

Complete the individual Cover Forms for each CSP (Arts & Culture, Education & Libraries, Environment, Health & Wellness, Civic Engagement & Outreach) and/or Advancement Areas (Membership, Leadership, Communications & Public Relations, Legislation & Public Policy, Fundraising). **Please be sure you have the correct reporting forms! The ones that show a separate listing for Affiliate Organizations are NOT the correct forms! Affiliate projects are reported along with all other programs/projects in the appropriate CSP area.**

Create Narrative Reports! These reports are single spaced narratives that describe up to ten top projects/programs that you held. Include the type of activity, members' involvement and outcome/impact. These reports are used to determine club awards

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Reporting.....continued

at our state convention and Club creativity awards which are sent into GFWC for consideration for national recognition!!

Each of these forms are available on the flash drive and on our state website as well.

Mail or email reports to GFWC Kentucky on or before Feb. 1, 2026!

That's it! Don't be intimidated. Jump right in and have a reporting party! Let everyone help! Let's see all the wonderful things that GFWC Kentucky is doing! Good luck! Happy reporting!

Please do not hesitate to reach out to **Bridget Murphy at 606-794-4880 or** jamurphy@mrtc.com with any questions. She will be happy to help in any way.



**All mail being sent to GFWC KY
should be sent to the PO Box:**

PO Box 1587, Frankfort, KY 40602

Williamstown Woman's Club

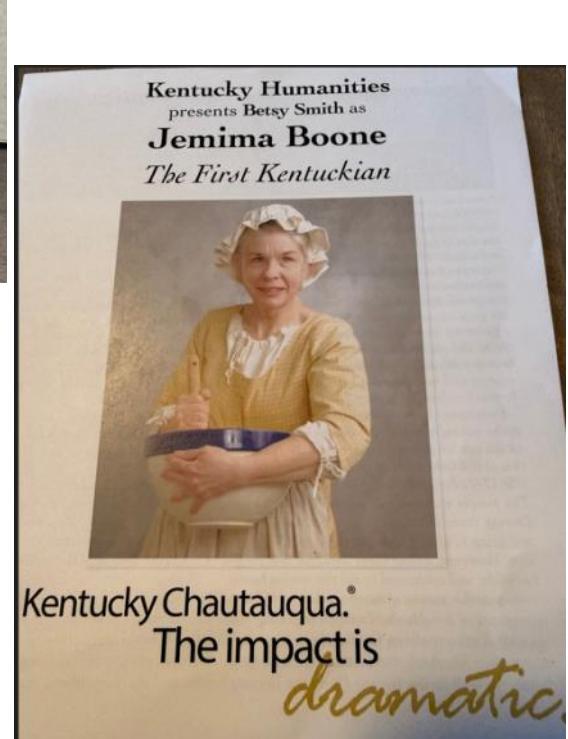
On Thursday October 9th The Williamstown Woman's Club was host of Kentucky Humanities Chautauqua. Presenter Betsy Smith as Jemima Boone. There was over 50 people in attendance that enjoyed the riveting story of times of hardship that proved to make her one of the most memorable female pioneers. Jemima's legacy is remembered as one of the first Kentuckians.

Rita Snow



Survivor

The daughter of Daniel and Rebecca Boone, Jemima Boone Callaway endured heartbreak and suffering unimaginable to modern Americans. Her story of life on the frontier is one of hardship and perseverance.



A Quilter.....

We have recently lost our dear friend, Anne Aubrey, GFWC KY President Emeritus. Anne was a member of the Radcliff and Okolona Woman's Clubs.

For Okolona, Anne was the Arts & Culture CSP Chairman for many years. Anne was also a quilter. She made so many items that were just beautiful. She entered in every

category of the Arts & Crafts contests for quilting that she could often winning. Being a quilter myself, Anne and I had many discussions about patterns and fabrics. She was quite passionate about this "hobby" and shared it with clubwomen often. She presented programs at our club demonstrating techniques and showing her different projects.



Quilting is an art form that awakens the senses of sight with the many colors and patterns possible, touch with the feel of the fabric, and hearing with the gentle whir of the sewing machine or the quiet of the hand sewing needle pulling through with each stitch.

If you are a quilter, I encourage you to share your passion with your club. Do a demonstration or even just a quilt show of your finished quilts. You may inspire others- if for nothing else- the beauty of the quilt.

Til we meet again, Anne.

Kim Thull
Arts and Culture Chair



Last picture we have of Anne was in June 2025 at OWC 70th Anniversary Party... still smiling that beautiful smile.

Congratulations!
Hazel Woman's Club

Charter Members Hilda Bennett, Sharon Ray, Sandra Gallimore

Celebrating 60 Years of Service to the Community

1965 - 2025



Charter Members (left to right):
Hilda Bennett, Sharon Ray,
Sandra Gallimore

Kathy Stanfa
First Vice President, Hazel Woman's Club



Hazel Woman's Club Celebrates 60 Years



Group Photo caption: Hazel Woman's Club members surround charter members Hilda Bennett, Sandra Gallimore and Sharon Ray at the Hazel Woman's Club 60th anniversary celebration on December 14, 2025 in Hazel, KY. Charter member Sandra Gallimore holds the Key to City presented to the Hazel Woman's Club for years of dedication and service to the city of Hazel. Charter members Hilda Bennett and Sharon Ray stand on each side of Sandra Gallimore.

The Hazel Woman's Club celebrated its 60th anniversary on Dec. 14 at the Hazel Community Center, home of the Hazel Woman's Club. 60-year pins were presented to Charter members Hilda Bennett, Sandra Gallimore and Sharon Ray by Alli Robertson, club member. A key to the City of Hazel was presented to Hazel Woman's Club President Mignon Rutledge by Lori Charlton, Mayor and club member. A festive red, white and silver balloon arch set the tone for the celebration, with several club members and community officials in attendance.

The concept of the Hazel Woman's Club was formulated with humble beginnings in 1964. Members of the Murray Woman's Club approached the original five members of the HWC about starting a club in Hazel. Those members included Hilda Bennett, Sandra Gallimore, Sharon Ray, Janice Wilkinson and Janie Story. The Hazel Woman's Club was officially federated by the Kentucky Federation of Women's Clubs in April 1965. Janice Wilkinson served as the Club's first president in 1965-1967.

Over the years, the Hazel Woman's Club has held numerous fundraisers and sponsored many community service projects. One of the Club's early projects was raising funds to buy a fire engine for the city. Club members collected donations from passing cars by standing in the middle of Highway 641 in Hazel. Another project provided a smoke alarm and batteries for every home in Hazel. A recent Club project was a collaboration with the City of Hazel to renovate the Hazel Community Center.

The Hazel Woman's Club currently has 19 members. In addition to the three charter members recognized at the celebration, club members Pat Latimer and Elaine Paschall have 50 years of membership in the Club. Philanthropic goals of the club include awarding scholarships for education and donations to support the arts, literacy, and resources for women.

The End of an Era

Mikayla Coffenberry

State Chairman for the President's Special Project: Mental Health

I hope Taylor Swift doesn't mind me borrowing her catchphrase, but as we walk into this new year, it felt very fitting. In fact, if you are like me and this year brought you a landmark birthday (I celebrated turning the big 3-0), then I suspect this year brought you a particularly strong feeling of closing a chapter. Or perhaps this year you overcame some challenges, reached a new goal, suffered a loss, waded through grief, or celebrated a big win. Now here we all stand together again, looking at the next chapter in front of us, unsure of what this one will carry. Closing a chapter can feel like a relief or it can feel like a heartbreak. Starting a new chapter can feel exciting or like a tidal wave headed your way. So, what do we do if we're petrified? If we're heartbroken? How do we go into this new year with hope and joy if hope and joy seem to be in short supply?

There is somewhere I think we can all start: let's tell the truth. The truth about how we feel. The truth about what we're afraid of. The truth about what we think. The truth about how things affect us. The truth about where we've been, what we learned, who we are and who we want to be. Who cares if it's palatable or "appropriate" or acceptable? Since when has the most "acceptable" version of ourselves been synonymous for the best version of ourselves?

There's nothing more isolating than feeling like you are the only person who knows what it's like to be where you've been, to feel the way you've felt. In today's world, where the conversation around mental health has been blown wide open, you would think that we would all be willing to not only share what we've been through in the hopes of helping others, but also share our current struggles looking for support and community. But the truth is there is an air of shame that has echoed through generations, the shame that says not being "strong enough" to "tough it out" and "push through" is a severe character flaw. That speaking about your pain, your fears, means you're speaking too much, and you're much more desirable and loveable when you're silent.

Looking back at the last decade of my life, I can see so much fear: fear of not being accepted, not being wanted, not being understood. But the truth is, how can people accept, want or understand who you are if you aren't willing to show them

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End of Era.....continued

the real you? So, I'm calling for the end of an era. An end to hiding, to sugar-coating our pain, to painting on acceptable smiles, to lowering our voices and averting our eyes. Not just for the good of ourselves, but for the good of each other, for the love of our sisterhood and our community. Letting our truth and light shine in full force, giving the women around us the opportunity to cheer with us, learn from us, grow with us and walk the paths of life alongside us. Let's open the next chapter together, boldly, honestly and with the confidence that comes from knowing we are seen and loved for who we truly are.

Jackson Woman's Club Debuts Monument

July 28, 2022 was a day the people of Jackson and Breathitt County will never forget. A devastating, historic flood struck our area leaving behind a trail of loss and damage we are still recovering from to this day. That heartbreak day we lost 11 Breathitt Countians.

The Jackson Woman's Club wanted a way to honor those lives, celebrate the strength of our families and friends who were affected, and the resilience of our volunteers, first responders, and everyone who lent a hand in our recovery and rebuilding process, so we got to work. We had an existing monument in our Main Street Park for the historic flood of July 5, 1939 so we knew creating a monument to go next to it would be exactly what we wanted to do.

We worked closely with the families of those we lost through the Breathitt County Long Term Recovery Team to ensure that we did this project on their time. Allowing the families space and time to grieve and knowing that they were all ready to see their family members memorialized so publicly and in that way was very important to us. Once our families were ready a group of ladies from our club worked with Lees College, the Long Term Recovery Team, Transylvania Presbytery, and Cox Home and Property for providing the space, funding, and concrete work along with Trinity Monuments to create the perfect memorial and owner Earl Chapman was gracious in his gift of a bench to place between the monuments.

On July 28, 2025, the 3-year anniversary of the flood, we gathered our community to unveil the monument. We had a beautiful ceremony filled with love, tears, remembrance, and hope. There is still a lot of work our community needs, but seeing us all come together was a wonderful reminder of how strong our community is.

Jackie Howard



Florence Woman's Club Passes the Torch

By Sue Kozlowski

Sharon Price has been the President of the Florence Woman's Club for 3 terms of office, since 2020. She has seen the Club through the Pandemic and the difficult times recovering from that situation. When no one else would step up to serve, Sharon continued leading the Club to ensure its continuation.

In December 2025, the elected officers for 2026-27 honored Sharon's service at their annual Christmas Luncheon. Peggy Barnes, Treasurer for GFWC-KY, introduced Joyce Foley, a long-time member of the

Club and a Past President. Joyce spoke movingly about Sharon's continuing dedication to the Club, and her cheerful willingness to do whatever the Club required to be successful.



Sue Kozlowski, newly-elected President, presented Sharon with a certificate recognizing her service. She also gave Sharon a gift from her Officers of designer handbag filled with treats and goodies for the winter season. Those who know Sharon will remember that she enjoys finding designer handbags so this will add to her collection!

The Florence Woman's Club wishes to share this recognition of Sharon's outstanding contributions. We would wish her a happy "retirement" but she will be busy as the GFWC-KY ESO Chair, as well as coordinating events for our own Club.

Thank you Sharon, for all you have done and all you continue to do!

Making History Fun: Bringing Women's History Into GFWC KY Club Meetings

Women's history is not something that lives only in dusty books or framed photos on a wall---it belongs right in our club meetings, right alongside the agenda, the refreshments and the inevitable question, "who has the program for today?" For GFWC KY club women, incorporating women's history into meetings can be meaningful, inspiring and yes---even Fun!

Why not open your meeting with a quick spotlight on a notable woman or a milestone in women's history? It can take less than two minutes and sets a thoughtful tone, plus it makes everyone feel smarter before the business portion begins.

You could feature a former club member who made a difference in your community. Share a photo, a short story, or an old newspaper clipping. Bonus points if someone in the room says, "I remember her!" and then tells a much longer story than planned.

You could invite local speakers to discuss local women leaders, Kentucky women trailblazers, or perhaps share the history of other women's clubs in your district. Would a "Club Historian Minute" at each meeting, just one quick fact, photo, or memory that keeps history alive without turning your meeting into a history marathon work for your club?

Perhaps during Woman's History Month (March) you could bring out old scrapbooks, yearbooks, and awards. Let members browse before or after your meeting. It's amazing how quickly stories surface when someone says, "Oh, Look at this hairstyle!"

Keeping our Club History matters. It's more than just a tradition, it is a responsibility. When we preserve our records, we remember and honor the women who built the club. We provide continuity when we keep our history alive. It is important that our new members learn who we are, what we've accomplished in our community and why our clubs matter. Don't forget, today's projects may well be a future club members inspiration.

And let's face it, if no one keeps the history, future members will have no idea why your club does what it does----or where that antique gavel came from!

Charlotte Johnson
GFWC KY Women's History and Resource Center Chairman



What is semi quincentennial? It is the formal term for a 250th anniversary. In this new year our country will celebrate 250 years. Semi quincentennial is widely used for the upcoming 2026 celebration of the United States' 250th birthday, marking 250 years since the Declaration of Independence.

Has your club considered sponsoring an event in celebration of this momentous celebration? Maybe even collaborate with other civic groups in your community? Some ideas could be to: Sponsor a speaker, host a woman in history trivia night, have a 250 birthday celebration, take a group trip to attend one of the many events occurring throughout the state, sponsor a reading of the Declaration of Independence.

You can look at several State web sites including the Kentucky Historical Society and Kentucky Tourism sites to see what's happening in our great state and maybe even get a few ideas. If your club decides to host or sponsor an event please post it on the GFWC Kentucky Facebook page and publish it in this publication.

Happy New Year and Happy Birthday to the United States of America.

Susan Kellogg

GFWC Kentucky

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

Submit money for Ads to
GFWC KY
at the PO Box address
c/o Treasurer

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

We are on the web
GFWCKY.org

