

Kentucky *Clubwoman*

AUGUST | 2026

PUBLICATION



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

In this edition: Summer Workshop, Club Activities from across the State, Messages from State Chairmen, and More!



A Message from the GFWC KY President

Summer Workshop 2026 is in the books! I am so proud of the GFWC KY sisters who made it so spectacular!

To everyone who attended, thank you so much for giving your time to learn and share all that GFWC has to offer! Chairmen, what can I say? You went above and beyond my wildest dreams with your displays and presentations. I was in awe of all the creativity on display in the back of the room. Speaking of creativity, the Make It, Bake It, Fake It auction items were fabulous! There are many talented ladies among us, that's for sure! Thank you for the generous book donations that were much perused by attendees throughout the weekend. (Unclaimed books will be donated to Little Free Libraries and other organizations that accept books.)

We raised over \$200 for the GFWC Library Replenishment Fund, over \$1300 for the Matthew Wood Memorial Scholarship, over \$1300 for Kentucky CancerLink (including cash and gas cards), \$250 for Girls on the Run, \$380 for Redeeming Hope, and over \$1800 at the Marketplace! And then there were the amazing vendors who benefitted from your generosity as well.

Thank you to the Executive Committee for your willingness to participate in the fashion show for Evelyn's Birds of a Feather. I venture to say that a good time was had by all!

I am super excited to continue sharing information with clubs across the state as we head into Fall District Meetings. I look forward to visiting in each of our outstanding districts across the Commonwealth. See you soon!

Bridget Murphy,
GFWC KY President



Shining Stars: Pikeville Woman's Club Awards Scholarships



The Pikeville Woman's Club proudly recognized four outstanding high school seniors by awarding each student a \$1,000 scholarship. The scholarships honor the students' hard work, dedication, and promise as they continue their education and pursue future opportunities.

The scholarship recipients were Marielle Restar— Belfry High School; Allison McLaughlin — Pike County Central High School; Sadie Varney — Pikeville High School, and Mattie Roberts — Shelby Valley High School.



Barbourville
JUNIOR WOMAN'S STUDY CLUB



Celebrating 100 Years of Service

GFWC KY Barbourville Junior Woman's Study Club

For 100 years, the GFWC KY Barbourville Junior Woman's Study Club has served Knox County through leadership, volunteerism, and community impact. Founded in 1926 as Kentucky's first federated Junior Club, generations of members have supported local schools, families, and organizations while strengthening the community through service.

From outreach programs and educational support to historic preservation and civic involvement, the club has remained committed to meeting local needs and making a lasting difference.

As the club celebrates this milestone, it honors the women who built this legacy and those who continue it today.

100 Years Strong. Still Serving.





SUMMER WORKSHOP 2026

WELCOME JUNIORETTEES



Two members of the Craft Juniorettes attended the Summer Workshop. From L-R, Tammy Collins Bonney, President of the Morehead Woman's Club; Ash Gilliam, VP of the club; Chloe Walker, President of the Juniorettes, Elisa Ntihinyurwa, Juniorettes Secretary, and Susette Redwine, Co-Advisor to the Juniorettes.

The GFWC Morehead Woman's Club is excited to announce the formation of the GFWC Craft Juniorettes. The club is made up of juniors and seniors attending the Morehead State University Craft Academy.

Two of the charter members presented the idea to the club. They had been members of the GFWC Diane Mitchell Ossoli Juniorettes in Corbin. They brought a ready made club of 14 members to the Morehead club. Currently they are preparing to do a membership event during a Craft Academy Club Fair to introduce the club to incoming junior women.

The club will receive their charter and be installed at the Mountain District Conference in Morehead on October 10th. We look forward to supporting and collaborating with these future leaders.

SPOTLIGHT ON TWO MEMBERS – MURRAY WOMAN’S CLUB

Murray Woman’s Club proudly reports the awards that two of the club’s members recently received.

Nearly 5,000 members of the Daughters of the American Revolution (DAR) convened the last week of June 2026 in the nation’s capital for the 135th Continental Congress, the longstanding service organization’s annual meeting. The week-long convention included business sessions, committee meetings, service projects, and social functions, all topped off with formal evening ceremonies at which national DAR award recipients are honored.



Donna Herndon, a GFWC Kentucky Murray Woman’s Club member, was awarded the DAR Medal of Honor at this year’s ceremony.

The DAR Medal of Honor is the most prestigious award given by the National Society Daughters of the American Revolution. Established in 1972, it recognizes adult, native-born American citizens who have demonstrated exceptional qualities of leadership, trustworthiness, service, and patriotism, making lasting contributions to their community, state, country, and fellow citizens.

Excerpts from Herndon’s award entry composed by Calloway Countian Bobbie Smith Bryant included:

Donna Grogan Herndon has spent decades believing and living community as way of life and caring for her neighbors.

Her world expanded when she married Woody Herndon and entered military life. From Fort Knox to Berlin during the Cold War, Donna became a force of compassion—volunteering thousands of hours with the Red Cross, the Berlin Army Hospital, and the American Women’s Club. After witnessing young military wives living in hardship, she said, “We are American women, and if we don’t look out for these young women, lightning should strike us.” Her efforts earned her two nominations for Berlin’s Military Wife of the Year.

Returning to Kentucky, Donna brought her military-honed leadership home. She strengthened juvenile justice programs, protected vulnerable children, and transformed Murray State University’s alumni relations.

Continued on page 8

SPOTLIGHT ON TWO MEMBERS – MURRAY WOMAN’S CLUB

Murray Woman’s Club proudly reports the awards that two of the club’s members recently received.

Continued from page 7

Her most impactful endeavors include the community programs she helped establish, such as the Angels Community Clinic, Angels Attic, Calloway United Benevolent Services (CUBS: uniting 130+ agencies), CASA, The Santa Project, and the Enduring Hope Campaign.

Donna Herndon has been named Volunteer of the Year by the Murray Woman’s Club where she has been an active of the Alpha department for over 25 years.

Donna once said, “There is no limit to what can be accomplished as long as you don’t care who gets the credit and God gets the glory.”

Across Kentucky, we know that true character is revealed in acts of kindness when no one is watching. Donna Herndon’s purpose-filled life reminds us that civic-mindedness is not a single act; it is a lifetime of choosing to serve others.



Murray Woman’s Club second member to spotlight is Myra Lockhart. Lockhart was named Rotarian of the Year for the Rotary Club of Murray. Lockhart serves as treasurer of the Rotary Club and has been a member since 2021. It was stated Lockhart brings dedication, professionalism and exceptional stewardship to her role as treasurer.

-Submitted by Gale Vincent, Murry Woman’s Club

Celebrating 100 YEARS

of the Williamstown Woman's Club GFWC

Saturday
October
10th, 11-3

at the Grant
County Library
201 Barnes Rd
Williamstown
KY, 41097

100 years
of service,
community,
friendship
and fun

Join us for a Birthday Open House!

Legislation and Public Policy

So great seeing so many of you at the 2026 Summer Workshop. I spoke on the Legislative Action Center. If you signed up great, if you were already signed up fantastic. If you aren't signed up, here is your opportunity. Let's try to grow the numbers for Kentucky and show how much we support the causes that are important to GFWC.

Act Now: Use the GFWC Legislative Alerts

Clubs and clubwomen are the advocates for the GFWC Legislative agenda. It is through the national network of advocates that the Federation gains its political influence. To participate sign up for the Legislative Action Center. LAC. The LAC is a powerful tool that allows all GFWC members to advocate for important issues. The LAC is a nonpartisan tool. Once you receive and email form the LAC it is up to you, totally your choice if you respond. Just scan the QR Code and follow the instructions.



GFWC Legislative Action

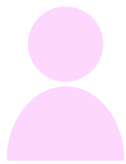
It is my goal that all members of GFWC Kentucky will sign up and support the causes that are near and dear to your heart.

-Susan Harley

Meet Your

GFWC KY

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

**Name:**

Bridget Michele Murphy

**Office:**

President

**Home Club:**

GWFC Morgan County
Woman's Club

**Joined GFWC:**

1989

**Occupation:**

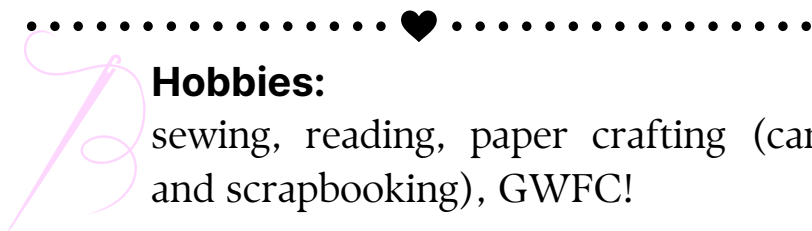
Elementary Teacher (retired)



Bridget Murphy
President

**Family:**

Husband, Jerry; Son, Cory and wife, Ashley; grandchildren Aliyah (3), Riley (2), and Boyd (1 Month)

**Hobbies:**

sewing, reading, paper crafting (cards and scrapbooking), GWFC!

**Fun Fact:**

I modeled a dress I made in 8th grade at the Ohio GFWC state convention in 1978 and received a \$1000 scholarship from the Lancaster Junior Woman's Club (Ohio) in 1982.

It's not too late to register your club for the GFWC International Day of Service! This year's focus is our GFWC Signature Program: Domestic and Sexual Violence Awareness and Prevention. Projects can address many areas. Donate to the GFWC Success for Survivors' Scholarship. Support your local domestic violence shelter. Provide needed items to your local CASA office. These are just a few ideas. The project does not have to be on the exact date, but it should be as close as possible to that date.

Our GFWC Kentucky International Day of Service project is the donation of protein drinks to Natalie's Sisters, an organization serving sexually exploited and trafficked women in the Lexington area. Here are ways to donate:

- If you are in the Lexington area, you may drop off protein drinks directly at the center at 667 N. Limestone between 10:00am-1:30pm.
- Donate money on their website www.nataliessisters.org and write in the comments that it is to be used for protein drinks.
- Visit their website www.nataliessisters.org and click on the link to their Amazon or Walmart wishlist and purchase drinks there. They will be delivered directly to the center.

Be sure to report your donations to GFWC KY Signature Program chairman, Patricia Hackworth at hackworth.patricia@yahoo.com.

International Day of Service is September 26, 2026



LET'S GET CREATIVE!

There are some exciting new changes to the photography contest! These changes just came about very recently. If you or your club purchased a flash drive, then you will want to pay special attention, because these changes came about after the flash drives were created. Therefore, the information on them concerning the photography contest is incorrect. There are some new categories that I think you will love! I know many of you look forward to participating in the photography contest every year. It's the perfect way to show our artistic expression through visual storytelling. A truly wonderful thing about it is that anyone can participate. You don't need any expensive equipment or special training. The cell phones that we carry everyday can easily take contest worthy photos.



The World In Pictures Contest consists of 3 categories.

1. Our Living World: This would consist of things that make our world a beautiful place to live, such as: people, animals, and plants. You can really let your creativity shine!
2. Places Here and There: Beautiful architecture or natural beauty is the focus of this section. You can submit photos of incredible buildings and dwellings or if the natural world is where your interest lies, you can choose to photograph things in the air, such as clouds, the moon and the stars. You can look the land for inspiration. Mountains, forests or deserts... There's no limit to the opportunities to show your vision. You can, also, choose to use water as your subject. With lakes, pond, rivers and waterfalls you have many opportunities to be creative.
3. State Pride: Now here is where we can really show off! We live in one of the most beautiful states in the nation. In this category, you can depict what makes you proud of Kentucky and what makes it such a unique place to live. The only catch is that the photo that you enter must be taken in the state that it represents.

Continued on page 13



LET'S GET CREATIVE!

Continued from page 12



The one area that hasn't changed is GFWC Living the Volunteer Spirit Contest.

These photos should capture the special moments of members as they actively meet, plan, advocate, volunteer, or celebrate in groups or one on one. Photos should be of volunteers in motion, actively working. Preference in judging will be given to photos that show members actively doing something (DO SOMETHING!) rather than simply posing for a photo.

Remember that to enter you must be a dues-paying member of an active GFWC club and you must be an amateur photographer. The photos must be the original work of the member submitting the photo. It can be either landscape or portrait (horizontal or vertical). Photos can be taken at any time. The January-December guidelines have been removed from the contest by GFWC. No photo that has been previously entered in a GFWC contest may be resubmitted. No AI generated photos are allowed. Photographs must be the result of a human photographer's work, not generated by Artificial Intelligence. AI tools for editing such as noise reduction, sharpening, color adjusting, etc. are allowed. AI tools may not be used to add new content or alter the original photo significantly.

As always, don't forget to submit a Creative Arts Waiver which each photograph that you enter. Any photos without the waiver will not be considered.

If you have any questions about the contest, you can contact me by email or send me a text on my phone.

My email is melissa.blackburn@floyd.kyschools.us

My phone number is 606-213-5499

Melissa Blackburn

Meet Your gFWC KY

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

Name: Ann Banfield
 Position: Director of Junior Clubs
 Home Club: Barbourville Junior
 Woman's Study Club
 Year Joined: 2013



1.

I started walking when I was only 7½ months old!



6.

I HATE anything ranch even though technically I have never tried it.



2.

I ran my first 5K at 37 and my first half marathon at 39!



7.

I brought a friend home with me from Head Start that ended up staying for 3 days. My parents had no idea who she was until that day.



3.

When I was 3 years old, I drank a whole bottle of hot sauce!



8.

I couldn't make it through life without the Lord.



4.

1995 was both the worst and the best year of my life.



9.

I've been on 19 cruises... and I'm always ready for the next adventure!



5.

My family means everything to me.



10.

I don't have a lot of self-confidence, but I'm working on it every day. Being part of such an amazing federation has helped me grow more than I ever imagined.





2026 District Fall Conferences

9/12-Cumberland

9/19-Gateway Through The Bluegrass

10/5-Golden Fillies

10/10-Mountain

10/24-Western Waterways

10/31-Midwest



Jackson Woman's Club Honors Women's Military Veterans

The Jackson Woman's Club joined the Breathitt County Semiquincentennial Committee June 12, 2026 for a ceremony located at our Breathitt County War Memorial site. The ceremony honored Breathitt County women who have served, are currently serving, or will serve in our military. The ceremony was held on the 78th anniversary of the signing Women's Armed Service Integration Act signed June 12, 1948 that recognized the contributions of women across many roles in our military.



Southeastern Region Conference

When: October 16-18, 2026

Where: Embassy Suites

2321 Lifestyle Way

Chattanooga, TN 37421



**Scan here to book
your room!**

hello
fall



Publication Information

Want to publish something in Kentucky Clubwoman? Please submit stories and photos for the newsletter for your club, district, and/or state by:

Email: newsletter@gfwcky.org

-or-

**Mail to: Jacqueline Howard
128 Railroad Street
Jackson, KY 41339**

**Please submit money for advertisements to
GFWC Treasurer, Peggy Barnes by mail to:**

GFWC KY

P.O. Box 1587

Frankfort, KY 40602

(502)-352-2731 GFWC KY Headquarters

Check us out on the web: GFWCKY.org



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