



The GFWC Lake Lanier Woman's Club, Inc. Newsletter

A member of the General Federation of Women's Clubs International

Recent Successes:

Under the Education CSP - our club reported two projects for 2024! Thank you ladies!

Under Leadership - our club reported three projects for 2024!

Under Membership - our club reported three projects for 2024!

Our prayers go out to our CA GFWC members that have lost so much in the fires.

**The GFWC Lake Lanier
Woman's Club, Inc**

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From the President's Desk...

Dear Club Members:

We had a great meeting in January. I am so proud to be a part of this new and thriving club. I look forward to working with all our members in creating new and exciting ways to help our community and our area in general. There are so many celebrations in February, it's hard to list them all. Here are a few:

American Heart Month. Don't forget to wear something red to the meeting

Black History Month

Feb 1st National Freedom Day -National Freedom Day, always observed on February 1st, celebrates freedom from slavery. It also recognizes that America is a symbol of liberty.

Feb 4th World Cancer Day

Feb 14th Valentines Day

Feb 17th Presidents Day.

And many, many more.

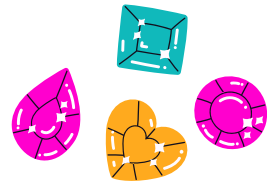
A special thanks to those that volunteered to be Leaders in our Club:

- Arts & Culture: Edi Finamore and Janet Upchurch
- Education & Libraries: Renette Todd and Caroline Brasch
- Environment: Susan Shirey
- Health and Wellness: Kelley Roberts
- Fundraising: Terry Cohan, Kat Hartman and Donna Mills
- OPEN: Civic Engagement and Outreach

I am looking forward to seeing these people at the Board Meeting in February on Tuesday, Feb 4th, at 924 Gainesville Hwy, Ste 230, Buford, GA 30518 at 6:00 p.m.. I am sure we will have lots to discuss.

HAPPY VALENTINES DAY! SEE YOU IN FEBRUARY

With love from one Valentine
to another,
Cynthia R English



February General Meeting:

**Tuesday, February 11th, 6:00 p.m.
Mulberry Creek Community Center
4491 J M Turk Rd, Flowery Branch, GA 30542**

**We will meet at Mulberry Creek
Community Center in a
different room this month. It's
further away from the gym.**

ART & CULTURE CSP



Valentine's Day, also called Saint Valentine's Day or the Feast of Saint Valentine, is celebrated annually on February 14. It originated as a Christian feast day honoring a martyr named Valentine, and through later folk traditions it has also become a significant cultural, religious and commercial celebration of romance and love in many regions of the world. During the 18th and 19th centuries, the tradition of giving Valentine's Day cards as a romantic gesture began to spread. At this time, they were usually handmade, with people decorating them with lace and ribbons. They often included sentimental messages, poems, or even secret declarations of love. The symbol most commonly associated with Valentine's Day is the heart, which represents love and affection; people widely recognize the heart shape as a symbol of romantic love, particularly on Valentine's Day.



EDUCATION AND LIBRARIES CSP

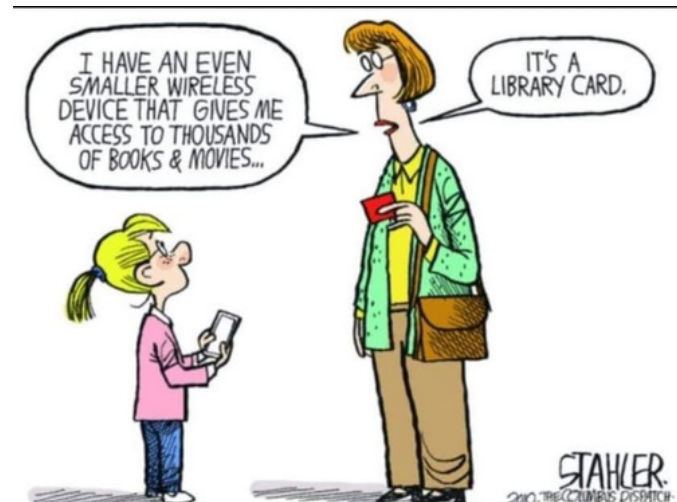


February is Library Lover's Month!

We are continuing to work with Hall County Park and Recreation on the positioning of our Free Little Library. We will be ordering the library and, after it arrives, we will have Park and Recreation install it at the Alberta Park playground. This project follows the GFWC GA President's Special Project: Books for Little Hands. At that time we will need books to add to our Little Library for the children to take home and read. Continue to collect children's books by cleaning out your shelves, your children's shelves, or your grandchildren's shelves, and save those books for our Little Library. Thanks!



Do you have a library card?
Did you know they are free?
Owning a library card opens all kinds of doors. You can check out books, rent movies, search for a job, research your ancestry, or even reserve a meeting room (during library operating hours).



ENVIRONMENTS CSP



Georgia Arbor Day is February 21, 2025

Georgia Arbor Day is a day set aside to plant, celebrate, and recognize trees for the benefits they provide. Ways to celebrate Georgia Arbor Day:

- Hold a tree planting ceremony
- Work with your city or Georgia Forestry Commission forester to make your community a Tree City USA
- Honor the good stewards in your community
- Give an award to an outstanding neighborhood garden, citizen group, or developer supporting “tree-friendly” values
- Schedule homeowner classes on tree pruning, tree selection, tree identification, and tree planting.
- Buy a tree to plant on public property in honor of someone or something



Groundhog Day - Feb. 2, 2025

The first Groundhog Day celebration in Punxsutawney on February 2, 1887, was the brainchild of local newspaper editor Clymer Freas, who sold a group of businessmen and groundhog hunters on the idea. The Punxsutawney Groundhog Club, as these men were known, trekked to a site called Gobbler's Knob, where the inaugural groundhog became the bearer of bad news when he saw his shadow. While sunny winter days are associated with colder, drier air, the groundhog probably shouldn't replace meteorologists for predicting the weather. Studies by the National Climatic Data Center and the Canadian Weather Service have given Punxsutawney Phil a dismal success rate of around 30 percent.

CIVIC ENGAGEMENT & OUTREACH CSP



President's Day - February 17th

On the third Monday in February, the United States celebrates the federal holiday, Presidents' Day. Ironically, neither Congress nor the President has ever stipulated that the name of the federal holiday observed as Washington's Birthday be changed to Presidents' Day. Congress has never declared it a national holiday binding in all the states, which is why not all states celebrate Presidents Day.

Black History Month

The story of Black History Month began in 1915, half a century after the Thirteenth Amendment abolished slavery in the United States. That September, the Harvard-trained historian Carter G. Woodson and the prominent minister Jesse E. Moorland founded the Association for the Study of Negro Life and History (ASNLH), an organization dedicated to researching and promoting achievements by Black Americans and other peoples of African descent. The group sponsored a national Negro History Week in 1926, choosing the second week of February to coincide with the birthdays of Abraham Lincoln and Frederick Douglass. The event inspired schools and communities nationwide to organize local celebrations, establish history clubs, and host performances and lectures. President Gerald Ford officially recognized Black History Month in 1976, calling upon the public to “seize the opportunity to honor the too-often neglected accomplishments of Black Americans in every area of endeavor throughout our history.”



HEALTH & WELLNESS CSP

Woman's Heart Week and National Wear Red Day - the first week of February

Please wear **red** to this month's meeting. A group picture will be taken to submit to GFWC GA. Also at this month's meeting we will be making Valentine's to donate to Cedarhurst of Oakwood. They were contacted and were thrilled that we wanted to do something for their residents. Candy was approved by the institution, as they only have two residents that are diabetic. They have 31 in the Assisted Living and 30 more in the Memory Care. We hope to do something for all 61 residents. Please bring small (kids) Valentines to this months meeting. We will stuff doily hearts with candy (provided) and cards to give to the residents!

Thanks!



Membership



January's birthstone is the garnet. It is surrounded by folklore and was known for its healing properties. The gem's name references the bright red pomegranate fruit. Although the stone has various colors, red is the best known. The word "garnet" originates from the Latin word "granatus," meaning seeds. This is likely because of the color of pomegranate seeds and the stone's seed like appearance.



February's amethyst birthstone is said to strengthen relationships and give its wearer courage. At one time, only royalty could wear the gem. The ancient Greeks thought that the amethyst guarded against intoxication.

Carry out a random act of kindness, with no expectation of reward, safe in the knowledge that one day someone might do the same for you.

-Princess Diana

Officer Reports:

Secretary: Julie Dodd We received two thank you notes. One from Centennial Elementary School for our food drive during Christmas for their students. The other note was from My Sister's Place for our donation of gift cards as Christmas gifts for their residents. The minutes from the January meeting are attached to this newsletter.

Treasurer: Renette Todd Dues are due! If you haven't already, please pay your dues at the this month's meeting. Active members pay \$70 and Patron members pay \$50. You may pay in two installments. The first installment is due in January and the second installment is due in June. If you can't be at the February meeting, you may mail your dues to GFWC Lake Lanier Woman's Club, Inc., P.O. Box 473, Oakwood, GA 30566. Thanks!!!

Fundraising: Terry Cohan, Donna Mills, Kat Hartman We will have a raffle basket at the NE District Meeting in March. We need GFWC Lake Lanier Woman's Club members to attend the meeting to sell raffle tickets for the basket. We will have everything needed to sell raffle tickets. Consider attending this meeting to help us raise funds for our club projects!



GFWC Signature Project: Domestic Violence

Teen Dating Violence Awareness Month

The 2025 theme for TDVAM is “Respect That.” Selected by the Love is Respect Youth Council, “Respect That” is a powerful concept that can transform relationships. Respecting someone isn’t just a vague idea; it’s an action and a mindset. The theme “Respect That” highlights the importance of treating partners with dignity, listening to their viewpoints, respecting their boundaries, and valuing their autonomy by focusing on “respect.”

Teen dating violence is an often-unrecognized subcategory of domestic violence. Adolescents have been long overlooked as a population that suffers from relationship abuse. Romantic relationships between teenagers are incredibly complicated. The undertaking of a relationship, very often, requires more maturity than most teens have developed. These relationships are more likely to have problems, including communication, jealousy, and selfishness. As a result, teenagers are more likely to be involved in relationships that are unhealthy, violent, and abusive.

To report abuse in Georgia:

If you suspect a child is in immediate danger from abuse

Call 911 IMMEDIATELY!!!

**To report known or suspected abuse, contact
Division of Family & Children (DFCS)**

1 855 422 4453

For more information:

Office of Child and Youth Protection

OCYP@archati.com

24-hour Abuse reporting Hotline 1-888-437-0764

Did you know?



2024-2026

The NE District Spring meeting will be Saturday, March 29 in Lilburn, GA. We encourage all club members in our district to attend this meeting as awards are given. There are new categories for this year’s reporting. Come enjoy each club’s success in our district! We will welcome GFWC Lake Lanier Woman’s Club, Inc. at this meeting! Welcome new members!



2024-2026

Judging -- February 21-22, 2025
Little Ocmulgee State Park & Lodge
McRae-Helena, GA 31037
State Executive Committee Meeting -
February 21-22, 2025



2024-2026

The GFWC International Convention will be in Atlanta, GA June 6-9, 2025. Each GA district will have responsibilities for this event.

