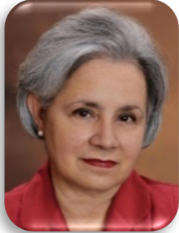




Member of the General Federation of Women's Clubs

March 2023



"Serving Our Community ♦ Sharing Our Time and Talents"

President's Message ♦ Mary Grayson Hart



In addition to the "wearing of the green" and arrival of St. Patrick's Day, March is also **Women's History Month**, which has a very special meaning for all GFWC members. Did you know that the General Federation of Women's Clubs has a Women's History and Resource Center located in Washington, D.C.? It is solely dedicated to honoring and preserving women's history. The WHRC houses archives dating from the 1800's and chronicles the history of women's clubs, along with a library devoted to women's history with an emphasis on women in volunteerism. Women – and men-- from all over regularly use its resources. Isn't that amazing?! March is a time to celebrate the many talented, intelligent women who have made such great strides in so many areas, not just in this country, but across the continents.



And, **March is National Reading Month**, and it kicks off with **Read Across America Day**, celebrated on March 2, and it makes me think of the books that have been donated to the children in our Cary community through our support of organizations like Kingswood Elementary and Read and Feed. Reading is fundamental, and I'm so very glad to see the difference that it is making in the lives of children. Don't forget **Dr. Seuss!** His birthday is on March 2 – and his birthday begins **Read Across America Week**, March 2-6.

We are excited that we had several **winners at the District 6 Arts Festival** on February 11. Please read the newsletter to learn more about our club awards and arts festival winners – we are so proud of all of our clubwomen!

Daffodils are popping up everywhere! My camellias are beginning to bloom! Spring is the season for renewal and growth – and we look forward to all that it offers!





March Birthdays

March 10 Jane Sowards
March 21 Shirley Barnes
March 26 Linda D'Alto

Important Dates & Reminders

March 3	Environment Committee meets
March 9	General Meeting Bring in your "No-sew" blankets for Mayra's Angels Bring cleaning supplies, sheets, towels and blankets for Oxford House
March 16	Board Meeting
March 18	Arbor Day Festival in Cary
March 23	Book Club Meeting at Arlene's house.
April 21-23	GFWC-NC Convention in Charlotte

Message from Lois Nixon, 1st Vice President

CSP Awards at District VI Arts Festival - Explanation of the Process of our End of Year Reporting

As a member club of the General Federation of Women's Clubs, our Cary Woman's Club submits a report at the end of each calendar year on the work our club has done in each of the Community Service Program (CSP) areas, as well as in other areas such as Leadership, Communications, and Membership. The data from these reports is compiled along with the data from the other 13 General clubs, 3 Jr. clubs (members under age 50), and 3 Juniorette clubs (high school level) to show the community impact of our efforts in the 9-county District VI of NC. There are over 110 clubs in North Carolina's nine districts, and the combined data from all of those clubs is reported at the State GFWC-NC Convention to be held April 21-23, 2023 in Charlotte. You are invited to attend!

Our Data and Awards received

In addition to collecting data about the community impact of our 29 clubwomen in 2022, the reports are judged for overall quality and for creativity. The combined data in all areas from our club was:

No. of Projects: 85 Volunteer Hours: 2936.25 \$\$ Donated: \$19,374.65 In-kind: \$4784

At the District VI level, the Cary Woman's Club won the **Arts & Culture CSP Overall Award**, the **Health & Wellness CSP Overall Award**, and both the *Overall and Creativity*

Awards for Communications & Public Relations. Copies of the reports are on the club website at carywomensclub.org, under the Community Service tab.

The reports will also be judged at the state level, and we are hoping to win additional awards!

Overview of the Organization

We are also one of the 3000 + General Federation of Women's Clubs (GFWC), an international women's organization dedicated to community improvement by enhancing the lives of others through volunteer service. Established in 1890, GFWC and its over 60,000 members represent more than 20 countries. Each club maintains its identity and focus while benefiting from the strength that comes from being a part of the world's largest and oldest international volunteer service organization whose motto is "Unity in Diversity".

Lois Nixon

Mountains to Sea Trail (MST): State GFWC-NC President's Special Project

On February 21, Club President Mary Grayson Hart, and 1st Vice-President Lois Nixon, joined 16 members of the Fuquay-Varina Woman's Club for a 2-mile hike on the Smithfield section of the MST. It was a 40-minute drive from Cary to downtown Smithfield and the trail head at the Jaycee Kiddie Park, where there was convenient ample parking. The trail is actually 3.1 miles long on a paved greenway along the Neuse River, but was blocked at about half way due to construction. It was a gorgeous sunny warm spring day with cherry trees and camellias in full bloom along the trail through the middle of the historic town. After the one-hour walk, we peeked inside the Ava Gardner Museum and then shared lunch in a local restaurant in downtown Smithfield.



Mary & Lois along the trail under huge blooming camellia bush.



Hikers crossing trail bridge with blooming cherry tree in foreground.

How we can participate in the Mountain to Sea Challenge

Members are encouraged to participate in the 5-week Mountains to Sea Challenge during March, and submit your equivalent miles for regular activities such as gardening, yoga, and stair climbing. See attached information. Start counting your steps, and turn in the totals weekly to Jennifer Brighton, j3nn3rb@gmail.com. The goal is to have enough equivalent miles from clubwomen across the state during March to collectively hike the whole 1175 mile trail! Let's do our part!

In April and May, there will be additional guided hikes in District VI, so watch your email for those opportunities to meet other clubwoman while you enjoy the outdoors!



Education & Libraries CSP

Thank You, Thank You, Thank You

A very big thank you from the Education and Libraries CSP members for supporting the Read and Feed Book Drive. It was a great success!

We collected 154 books, made online purchases for \$165 and presented Read and Feed with a check for \$730.

The cash donation of \$730 included members donations of \$380, Ed & Lib budget fund of \$100 and a CSP Grant of \$250. Books and check were delivered to Read and Feed last week and were greatly appreciated.



If you donated to Read and Feed through their Amazon Wish List, please let me know so that we can count it in our donation totals for reporting purposes.

CWC Book Club

Book Club is winding down for the year but we still have a couple good books to read and review. March's Book Club will be on Thursday the 23rd and we will meet at Arlene Gleason's home at 1pm. Our book for this month is *We Are the Light* by **Matthew Quick**.



LIFE IS FULL OF GUARDIAN ANGELS.

Lucas Goodgame lives in Majestic, Pennsylvania, a quaint suburb that has been torn apart by a recent tragedy. Everyone in Majestic sees Lucas as a hero – everyone, that is, except Lucas himself. Insisting that his deceased wife, Darcy, visits him every night in the form of an angel, Lucas spends his time writing letters to his former Jungian analyst, Karl. It is only when Eli, an eighteen-year-old young man whom the community has ostracized, begins camping out in Lucas’s backyard that an unlikely alliance takes shape and the two embark on a journey to heal their neighbors and, most

important, themselves.

From Matthew Quick, the New York Times bestselling author of The Silver Linings Playbook, We Are the Light is an unforgettable novel about the quicksand of grief and the daily miracle of love. The humorous, soul-baring story of Lucas Goodgame offers an antidote to toxic masculinity and celebrates the healing power of art. In this tale that will stay with you long after the final page is turned, Quick reminds us that guardian angels are all around us – sometimes in the forms we least expect.

We hope to see you at the March Book Club but if not then how about April when we will be reading *The Family Game* by Catherine Steadman???

For questions, please contact Maryanne Olsen, mgocary@yahoo.com or 919-740-4272 (c)

Book Club

Upcoming readings are:

Month	Book	Author	Genre
April	The Family Game	Catherine Steadman	Thriller, Mystery
September	The Escape Artist: The Man Who Broke Out of Auschwitz to Warn the World	Jonathan Freedland	History, Nonfiction

Maryanne Olsen



Health and Wellness

Reminder to bring cleaning supplies or sheets towels or blankets to the March meeting. This is for Oxford House.

Jane Suppa



Civic Engagement and Outreach/ Domestic Violence Prevention CSP

Please bring your completed blankets to our March 9 meeting. If you need help, please contact Elzbieta.

Our March speaker is Elaine Whitford, Executive Director, The Center For Volunteer Caregiving. Their mission is to help older adults and adults with disabilities in Wake County live as independently as possible.

We will be recognizing Cary fire station #1 for all they do in our community with healthy (and maybe not so healthy) snacks. Date is TBD.

*Elzbieta Hibbs
Priscilla Keating*



Arts & Culture CSP

GFWC - District VI Art Festival

The Cary Woman's Club submitted twelve entries for the District VI Arts Festival which was held on February 11, 2023. Our club did very well, taking eight awards of excellence ribbons. Congratulations to the winners and to those who participated with entries representing our club at this event.

First Place - We had three first place winners. Their artwork will represent the District at the GFWC-NC State Art Festival in March.

- Mercedes Cooley - Large Quilt
- Willa Brigham - Fidget Mat
- Susan Abbott - Watercolor of Woman and Girl

Second Place - Three winners

- Lois Nixon - Snowflake Decoration
- Willa Brigham - Woman's head and shadow image
- Susan Abbott - Mixed Media - Pot of Flowers

Third Place - Two Winners

- Willa Brigham - Thread Art
- Linda D'Alto - "Stella" the Seagull Graphic

NCMA Upcoming Events and Exhibits

- March 15 – March 19 - *Art In Bloom* – The museum's biggest fundraiser benefitting the NCMA Foundation. This even shows the creativity of over 30 floral designers who interpret works of art in the Museum collection. Ticket Needed - \$30 Members, \$33 Nonmembers
- March 4 – July 23 – **Michael Richards Are You Down?**- features sculpture and drawings with themes of flight and aviation (Tuskee Airmen) to explore racial inequities in the US. Michael Richards died in the attack on the World Trade Center on September 11, 2001. This exhibit is FREE.
- April 1 – August 6, 2023 – **Ruth E Carter: Afrofuturism in Costume Design** – She is an Academy Award-winning Costume Designer for Hollywood films, most recently the *Black Panther*. Actual costumes will be displayed. Ticket Needed: Free for Members and Students, \$20 Adults, \$17 Senior and Military
- NCMA Park App Ready for Download for iPhone or NCMA park Web App for Android – App contains four tours of varying length.

Website

I have created two new pages for the Website. One is under "About Us" and is called "Awards and Recognition." The second is under "Community Service" and is called "2022 Reporting Entries and Narratives." Hope this will be useful for you.

Susan Abbott for Barb S



Environment CSP

Did you know: Trees are the longest living organisms on Earth.

California holds the record for the oldest living trees. Some of the state's bristlecone pines and giant sequoias are 4,000-5,000 years old. Methuselah, an estimated 4,852-year-old ancient Bristlecone Pine, is one of the oldest living trees in the world.

Friday, March 3. Environment CSP meeting at 1:00 pm at my home: 1416 Castalia Drive. All are welcome! Email me at bdstlaurent1@gmail.com if you can attend and if you have any items for the agenda.

About Town: Saturday, March 18-Town of Cary is having their Arbor Day Festival at the Paige Walker from Noon-3pm. Live music, childrens activities, food, education and demonstrations.

Brenda St. Laurent

Fundraising Committee

The Fundraising Committee headed by Lillian Smith discussed having a booth at the Craft Fair held in November at Glenaire. In the past, this fair has been well attended by the Cary community. It is advertised by Glenaire and by those who have booths. Our goal is to clear \$500 to \$1000 to use for our club projects.

We plan to have some group craft making projects over the coming months. Also, we have many talented club members who may want to donate an item they have already made or to make an item specifically for the Craft Fair. Christmas decorations and items for Christmas gifts have sold well in the past.

Marci, Karen and Lillian will be coordinating getting ideas for items to sell. Please contact them to offer ideas and any items you might have to donate to be sold.

Marci Thomas

Hospitality

This month, we will be having lunch after our meeting at Sushi-Thai. 106 Kilmayne Dr. (Big Lots Shopping Center). Judy will be asking for a show of hands at the meeting so she can give the restaurant a final count for our reservation.

Thank you to Brenda and Marci for providing refreshments in February.

Lois and Joan have volunteered to provide refreshments at our March meeting. Thank you!

Our May meeting will be held at Prestonwood Country Club. As with everything, there is an increase in price. More information to follow. Thanks for your input in the selection.

Refreshments:

April: Carol French & Elzbieta Hibb

Mercedes Cooley, Judy McDonal & Jane Sowards

MEETING LOCATION
Page-Walker Arts & History Center
119 Ambassador Loop, 1st Floor,
Downtown Cary, 27513
Thursday, January 12, 2023
10:00 AM

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" Cary Woman's Club Newsletter " "
" P.O. Box 918 ▪ Cary, NC 27512-0918 " "
" President: *Mary Grayson Hart* " "
" 1st VP (Programs & Reports): *Lois Nixon* " "
" 2nd VP (Membership): *Marcie Thomas* " "
" 3rd VP (Ways & Means): *TBD* " "
" Recording Secretary: " "
" *Arlene Gleason* " "
" Corresponding Secretary & Yearbook: *Lisa* " "
" *Butcher* " "
" Treasurer: *Diane Andersen* " "
" Publication Deadline: 25th of each month " "
" Newsletter: *Mercedes Cooley* " "
" Website Liaison: *Susan Abbott* " "
" Website: www.carywomansclub.com " "
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