

Kentucky *Clubwoman*

MAY | 2026

PUBLICATION



Welcome to our 2026-2028 Administration



In this Issue:

- Catch a glimpse of the 131st GFWC KY State Convention
- Hear from President, Bridget Murphy and Director of Junior Clubs, Ann Banfield!
- Do Something!
- Parting Remarks from Amy and Chrissi
- Creativity Awards
- And More!



A Message from the GFWC KY President

Greetings to my GFWC KY sisters! Four years ago I began my journey to this position as the 2026-2028 GFWC KY President, and now the time has come! I have so many plans and dreams for the next two years, and I hope you will join me in making them come true. The theme for this administration is “Do Something,” which is the title of a song by Matthew West. I hope you will take time to look up the complete lyrics to the song, and I think you will see why this theme is so appropriate for our work as volunteer clubwomen. The chorus says, “If not us, then who? If not now, then when? It’s time for us to do something!” The 2026-2028 GFWC KY emblem is a checklist, or “To Do” list. I am often asked how I manage to do as much as I do, and the answer is simple: I make lists! So here is your challenge. . .whatever it is you wish to accomplish, write it down, make a list, and then DO SOMETHING!

I hope that one of the items on your list during the next two years will be to support the GFWC KY President’s Special Project: Kentucky CancerLink. GFWC KY Past President Pat Harrington had a fabulous presentation at the Board of Directors’ meeting at convention, and I am sure she will be sharing ways for clubs to support KCL very soon. A representative from Kentucky CancerLink will be a featured speaker at our Summer Workshop, July 23-25, 2026. Mark your calendar now, and plan to attend!

I wish to thank everyone for the love and support shown to me along my leadership journey. I could not have made it this far without my GFWC sisters. Now, are you ready? Let’s make a list, roll up our sleeves, and DO SOMETHING!!

Bridget Murphy,

GFWC KY President



“We the People” of Okolona Womans Club
Wish America
Happy 250th Birthday
1776-2026
Land of the Free Because of the Brave

Morgan County Woman’s Club Invites You!



GFWC Morgan County Woman’s Club invites you to honor and celebrate our female veterans on June 14 at 4:30pm ET at Kiwanis Tredway Park in West Liberty. We will be dedicating the signage at our women’s military monument, presenting quilts to female veterans, and hosting a flag retirement ceremony by the local Woodmen of the World chapter. Does your club have veterans in its membership? What a great outing to show them how much their service is appreciated! Hope to see you there!

These past two years have been nothing short of encouraging, humbling, and deeply rewarding. As I reflect on this journey, I realize that "thank you" hardly feels like enough to express the gratitude I carry in my heart.

Thank you for believing in the vision to Rise Up. Thank you for embracing the challenge, stepping forward in leadership, and continuing to serve with passion and purpose. Watching this vision come to life through each of you has been one of the greatest honors of my life. The friendships formed, the lessons learned, and the memories made are treasures I will carry with me always.

I am endlessly grateful for your loyalty and dedication to GFWC Kentucky. The work happening across our clubs and communities is truly inspiring. Every service project, every volunteer hour, every act of kindness has made a difference. You have proven that when women come together with a shared purpose, incredible things happen.

As we welcome a new administration, I am filled with excitement and hope for the future of our organization. I know that the spirit of service will continue to grow as we all commit to DO SOMETHING — in our communities, throughout our state, and around the world. Real change does not begin by waiting for someone else to step forward. It begins with each of us. We all have two hands and two feet, and with them we have the power to lift others, strengthen our communities, and leave the world better than we found it.

Thank you for allowing me the privilege of serving alongside you. The future of GFWC Kentucky is bright because of each and every one of you.

Love,

Amy Mason - GFWC KY Past President 2024-2026





131ST ANNUAL GFWC KY STATE CONVENTION



A Message from GFWC KY Director of Juniors Clubs

As we embark on a new administration, I am honored to serve as your 2026–2028 Junior Director of GFWC Kentucky and to work collaboratively with each of you to effect positive change throughout our state. It is a privilege to hold this position and contribute to the continued success of our organization. Throughout my term, I have two significant projects that are close to my heart and warrant increased awareness.

The first initiative is the Matthew Wood Memorial Scholarship. Matthew, son of Steve and long-standing club member and Past State Director of Junior Club's Rita Wood, lost his life tragically on May 14, 2022, due to impaired driving. Our community responded to this profound loss by establishing the Matthew Wood Memorial Scholarship through the Barbourville Jr Woman's Study Club, funded entirely by donations made in his memory. To date, thirteen students have received \$2,500 scholarships supporting their academic pursuits, with special consideration given to those pursuing vocational or alternative educational pathways alongside traditional college routes. Monetary donations can be made to GFWC KY as we continue to honor this legacy.

The second project, Girls on the Run, provides engaging, evidence-based programming designed to empower girls by fostering confidence, kindness, and sound decision-making skills. I am eager to see more clubs established within school systems across Kentucky and recognize there are multiple avenues through which we can contribute.

Financial support assists participants who may not otherwise be able to join, or volunteer assistance is vital at the season-ending 5k event—whether helping with registration, staffing water or cheer stations, or serving as running or walking companions. The upcoming fall race is scheduled at Keeneland on December 5, 2026, beginning at 9 a.m. Further details regarding Girls on the Run will be shared during Summer Workshop.

I appreciate the dedication, compassion, and support each of you brings to our organization. I anticipate meaningful collaborations, memorable experiences, and enduring friendships over the next two years.

Now, let's unite our efforts and "DO SOMETHING"!

Ann Banfield
Director of Junior Clubs
GFWC Kentucky



Florence Woman's Club Honors Hope Scarves

By Diane Hunter, Secretary
Florence Woman's Club



April 21st was a beautiful spring day, both outside of the Triple Crown Club House and inside the Ballroom, where 80 women had assembled to listen to Ainsley Jones, Director of Strategy and Organizational Growth for Hope Scarves, speak about the work of this global cancer support organization. The Florence Woman's Club chose to honor this Louisville based organization this year, as several of our members are breast cancer survivors and Hope Scarves encourages and contributes to breast cancer research. To date, they have donated over \$1.3 million to research. In addition, since they were founded in 2012, over 42,000 scarves have circulated the globe and helped women and men feel better about themselves. Ainsley read letters to us from women who were supported through their journeys by this organization. His talk hit home as he told us that Kentucky not only has the highest number of lung cancer patients, but ranks high for several other cancers as well.

At the end of his talk, when asked how many attendees had been impacted or affected by a cancer diagnosis, almost everyone raised their hands. It's no wonder that Ainsley's presentation was well received, and many were glad to learn about Hope Scarves and its important work.

After our delicious lunch was served and eaten, the fun began! Besides 37 baskets in our silent auction, we had several wonderful live auction prizes. We are grateful for the yearly support of Triple Crown - a golf outing for 4 is donated by the club. In addition, The Reds also donate a basket to us each year. This year we also had a spa package from Woodhouse Spa in Crestview Hills, and one of our members, Angi Harreld of HomeWatch Caregivers, donated a Girls Just Wanna Have Fun basket, including a lesson with a golf pro and a massage. The highlight this year was a handmade quilt, sewn and donated by Joyce Foley, our club historian and past president. Joyce was the artist who designed and made the quilt pictures that have adorned barns across Boone County for many years. We were all thrilled that Joyce's 6 ft x 6 ft quilt created quite a stir with the final bid of \$875!!

Proceeds from the day will be donated to Hope Scarves as well as other local charities we support during the year. We always either provide a scholarship for a Boone County High School graduate, or we assist a high school with other student expenses. Last year we also donated to The Ion Center, Kentucky Homeland Heroes, and Abraham's Pantry, among others.

The Florence Woman's Club is grateful to the staff of Triple Crown, especially Susan Cann, Event Coordinator, and Chef Justin, for their invaluable assistance in this yearly endeavor.

If you would like to learn more about our club, established in 1954, please see our website at www.florencewomansclub.com.



Convention Wrap Up and Parting Remarks

By: Chrissi Cuel

The 2026 GFWC Kentucky State Convention was such a special time of fellowship, service, and celebration, and I am so thankful for the opportunity to have represented the Junior Clubs as your 2024–2026 Director of Junior Clubs. Over the past two years, it has been a privilege to work alongside dedicated Junior Clubwomen across the Commonwealth while encouraging leadership, strengthening communication, supporting membership growth, and promoting service projects that make a difference in our communities.

Convention was a wonderful reflection of all we have accomplished together. It was meaningful to highlight the work of Kentucky Juniors and Juniorettes, especially the projects centered on Childhood ADHD awareness, MADD, and advocacy for children. From service opportunities to fellowship events, the weekend was filled with reminders of the impact we can make when we come together with a shared purpose.

I am especially grateful for the support shown during convention for the Matthew Wood Scholarship Fund. The generosity and excitement surrounding this effort meant so much, and I truly appreciate everyone who helped make it a success. Supporting this scholarship is an investment in the future, and I am thankful to be part of an organization that believes so deeply in encouraging and uplifting others.

On a personal note, I am incredibly thankful for the love, encouragement, and support I have received during my time as Director of Junior Clubs. I have felt that support not only from our Junior Clubwomen, but from clubwomen across the entire state. The friendships built, the shared work, and the bond formed through this administration have been such a blessing.

Thank you for allowing me the honor of serving as your 2024–2026 Director of Junior Clubs. I will always be grateful for the opportunity to represent Kentucky Juniors, and I leave this role with a full heart, thankful for all we have accomplished together. This convention was a beautiful reminder that we truly are Stronger Together.

Creativity Award Spotlight

Looking for new ideas for your club? Check out some of these projects that won 2025 awards for creativity!

Membership Advancement Plan- Okolona Woman's Club

Being creative is not a hobby; it's a way of life.

The members of the Okolona Woman's Club are a testament that creativity is their way of life. For more than ten years, members have gathered on the first Saturday of every month to share their passion for card-making. The club is very active in the community, volunteering in a variety of ways to impact the lives of those in their area, but once a month, the members would come together to rejuvenate and share in the sisterhood that is GFWC!

The ladies select a theme for each month, bring their own handmade cards pertaining to that theme, and participate in a card exchange. Then they spend the day creating additional cards that they use in a multitude of ways. First, they keep their club's corresponding secretary supplied with cards which she sends to club members who are ill, grieving, or celebrating a birthday or anniversary. They send cards to Gilda's Club, an organization that sends handmade birthday cards to people battling cancer. The Honor Flight veterans are also recipients of this club's handiwork.

This fun day of fellowship sparked a conversation about expanding their efforts to include other crafts, and therefore, other members. So in 2020, the Wednesday craft days began. During the COVID-19 lockdown, clubwomen were desperately searching for ways to combat the loneliness of being "stuck" at home, and they agreed that their clubhouse was spacious enough for members to come together, maintain a safe distance, and craft together. Each member brought whichever particular craft she was creating at the time, and thus, a new craft club was born!

To this day, this group of dedicated clubwomen meet the first Saturday of each month and EVERY Wednesday to craft and bond with each other. There are those who do diamond painting, needlepoint, scrapbooking, and crochet, as well as the regular card makers. Many of the women are widows, and this woman's club activity provides an opportunity to be with people and deter the loneliness that affects so many elderly in our communities. The word has gotten out about these crafty ladies meeting regularly, and curious crafters have joined, first as guests, and then as dues-paying members of the woman's club! What began as a way to retain members, turned into a recruitment activity! That is what is called a win-win situation!

While the ladies often make these extra crafts for their own personal benefit, sometimes members will donate their handcrafted items to club raffles or other fundraisers. Another win!

As this narrative demonstrates, this club has discovered a unique way to attract members and ensure their involvement long-term by recognizing that their creativity is more than just a hobby! It is a way of life for these dedicated club members!



Creativity Award Spotlight

Looking for new ideas for your club? Check out some of these projects that won 2025 awards for creativity!

Fundraising- Somerset Junior Woman's Club

Glow in the Dark Adult Easter Egg Hunt

The Adult Easter Egg Hunt was held on Thursday evening before Easter from 7:30 pm to 9:30 pm, featuring club members hiding 1,000 plastic eggs throughout a four-block area. Each egg contained a small treat and glow stick, many eggs also contained a small slip of paper that signaled a prize. This provided participants with an engaging and rewarding experience. Reserved exclusively for adults, this two-hour event offered a unique and festive atmosphere for all attendees.

Prizes were generously provided by local businesses, including complimentary car washes, restaurant discounts, and special offers from retail stores. These contributions greatly enhanced the appeal of the event and promoted strong community engagement. The combination of illuminated eggs, attractive prizes, and an adult-focused setting culminated in a memorable occasion for participants.

Participants could purchase their \$10.00 bracelets in advance through a club member or on the night of the event. All attendees were required to check in at the starting location to be accounted for and to receive further instructions. The hunt commenced at the sound of the local clock tower, signaling participants to begin searching for glowing eggs. In addition to seeking prize-filled eggs, the individual who collected the highest number of eggs received an additional prize.

This event is scheduled to return in 2026, featuring an increased total of 4,000 eggs and the addition of food trucks and live music to further enhance the evening experience. This project was undertaken by the Somerset Junior Woman's Club of GFWC Kentucky, resulting in a profit of \$2,375.00 for approximately 72 hours of work.



Creativity Award Spotlight

Looking for new ideas for your club? Check out some of these projects that won 2025 awards for creativity!

Women's History and Resource Center- Okolona Woman's Club

This club celebrated National Women's History Month by having each member think of someone in, or who had been, in their life, or a woman that they admired. This could be an ancestor, historical figure, church member, or a club member sitting next to them.

Each member was given 3 paper quilt blocks and asked to write their person's name on one block. Another block had 3 things about this person: who they were to them, what they most admired about the person, and important things they did in their life. On the 3rd block the members were to write 3 to 6 words about the qualities that the woman showed that the member admired.

The members decorated the blocks with colored pencils or markers. Then one by one, they read their blocks and brought their quilt blocks to a wall to be pieced together. This formed a giant tapestry of lives. It was displayed on the wall of their clubhouse for over a month. It was titled: Patchwork Quilt of Admired Women.



And The Winner Is.....

A Comprehensive List of GFWC KY 2025 Awards

Juniorettes Awards

Education and Libraries- 1st Place Diane Mitchell Juniorettes 2nd Place Morgan Co Juniorettes

Health & Wellness- 1st Place Morgan Co Juniorettes

Arts & Culture- 1st Place Morgan Co Juniorettes 2nd Place Diane Mitchell Juniorettes

Civic Engagement and Outreach 1st Place Diane Mitchell Juniorettes 2nd Place Morgan Co Juniorettes

Advocates for Children- 1st Place Morgan Co Juniorettes

Junior Special Project- 1st Place Diane Mitchell Juniorettes

Club Awards

DIRECTOR OF JUNIOR CLUBS' SPECIAL PROJECT- Small Club 1st Place Prestonsburg WC 2nd Place Bettie Carter Morgan WC 3rd Place Morgan Co WC Medium Club 1st Place Morehead WC 2nd Place Pikeville WC Large Club 1st Place Barbourville Jr WSC 2nd Place Murray WC

GFWC KY PRESIDENT'S SPECIAL PROJECT- Small Club 1st Place Benton WC 2nd Place Bettie Carter Morgan WC 3rd Place Prestonsburg WC Medium Club 1st Place Somerset Jr WC 2nd Place Berea WC 3rd Place Morehead WC Large Club 1st Place Fern Creek WC 2nd Place Murray WC 3rd Place Barbourville Jr WSC Creativity Somerset Jr WC

KET- 1st Place Murray WC 2nd Place Bowling Green WC 3rd Place Barbourville WSC

DOMESTIC & SEXUAL VIOLENCE AWARENESS & PREVENTION- Small Club 1st Place Morgan Co WC 2nd Place Bluegrass Jr WC 3rd Place Prestonsburg WC Medium Club 1st Place Jackson WC 2nd Place Radcliff WC 3rd Place Barbourville WSC Large Club 1st Place Barbourville Jr WSC 2nd Place Murray WC 3rd Place Lexington WC

COMMUNICATIONS AND PUBLIC RELATIONS- Small Club 1st Place Morgan Co WC 2nd Place Benton WC 3rd Place Livermore WC Medium Club 1st Place Pikeville WC 2nd Place Barbourville WSC 3rd Place Morehead Large Club 1st Place Barbourville Jr WSC 2nd Place Fern Creek WC 3rd Place Lexington WC

WOMEN'S HISTORY AND RESOURCE CENTER- Small Club 1st Place Prestonsburg WC 2nd Place Livermore WC 3rd Place Morgan Co WC Medium Club 1st Place Somerset Jr WC 2nd Place Barbourville WSC 3rd Place Morehead WC Large Club 1st Place Barbourville Jr WSC 2nd Place Okolona WC 3rd Place WC of Madisonville Creativity Okolona WC

Website- 1st Place Benton WC

MEMBERSHIP- Small Club 1st Place Benton WC 2nd Place Morgan Co WC 3rd Place Prestonsburg WC Medium Club 1st Place Radcliff WC 2nd Place Williamstown WC 3rd Place Jackson WC Large Club 1st Place WC of Madisonville 2nd Place Okolona WC 3rd Place Barbourville Jr WSC Creativity Okolona WC

ARTS & CULTURE- Small Club 1st Place Hazel WC 2nd Place Morgan Co WC 3rd Place Prestonsburg WC Medium Club 1st Place Williamstown WC 2nd Place Jackson WC 3rd Place Radcliff WC Large Club 1st Place Fern Creek WC 2nd Place Barbourville Jr WSC 3rd Place Okolona WC Creativity Jackson WC

EDUCATION & LIBRARIES- Small Club 1st Place Bettie Carter Morgan WC 2nd Place Morgan Co WC 3rd Place Livermore WC Medium Club 1st Place Radcliff WC 2nd Place Williamstown WC 3rd Place Barbourville WSC Large Club 1st Place Fern Creek WC 2nd Place Lexington WC 3rd Place Barbourville Jr WSC Creativity Radcliff WC

CIVIC ENGAGEMENT & OUTREACH- Small Club 1st Place Prestonsburg WC 2nd Place Morgan Co WC 3rd Place Bettie Carter Morgan WC Medium Club 1st Place Somerset Jr WC 2nd Place Radcliff WC 3rd Place Jackson WSC Large Club 1st Place Lexington WC 2nd Place Barbourville Jr WSC 3rd Place Okolona WC Creativity Radcliff WC

ENVIRONMENT- Small Club 1st Place Morgan Co WC 2nd Place Prestonsburg WC 3rd Place Livermore WC Medium Club 1st Place Jackson WC 2nd Place Morehead WC 3rd Place Pikeville WC Large Club 1st Place Barbourville Jr WSC 2nd Place Murray WC 3rd Place WC of Madisonville Creativity Jackson WC

HEALTH AND WELLNESS- Small Club 1st Place Benton WC 2nd Place Prestonsburg WC 3rd Place Morgan Co WC Medium Club 1st Place Barbourville WSC 2nd Place Radcliff WC 3rd Place Somerset Jr WC Large Club 1st Place WC of Madisonville 2nd Place Barbourville Jr WSC 3rd Place Fern Creek WC Creativity Benton WC

FUNDRAISING- Small Club 1st Place Benton WC 2nd Place Morgan Co WC 3rd Place Prestonsburg WC Medium Club 1st Place Barbourville WSC 2nd Place Somerset Jr WC 3rd Place Jackson WC Large Club 1st Place Barbourville Jr WSC 2nd Place Lexington WC 3rd Place Fern Creek WC Creativity Somerset Jr WC

LEADERSHIP- Small Club 1st Place Morgan Co WC 2nd Place Bluegrass Jr WC Medium Club 1st Place Morehead WC 2nd Place Barbourville WSC 3rd Place Somerset Jr WC Large Club 1st Place Barbourville Jr WSC 2nd Place Murray WC 3rd Place Lexington WC Creativity Barbourville Jr WSC

LEGISLATION AND PUBLIC POLICY- Small Club 1st Place Morgan Co WC Medium Club 1st Place Morehead WC 2nd Place Barbourville WSC Large Club 1st Place Barbourville Jr WSC 2nd Place Bowling Green WC 3rd Place Murray WC

ADVOCATES FOR CHILDREN- Small Club 1st Place Prestonsburg WC 2nd Place Morgan Co WC 3rd Place Benton WC Medium Club 1st Place Somerset Jr WC 2nd Place Radcliff WC 3rd Place Morehead WC Large Club 1st Place Barbourville Jr WSC 2nd Place Lexington WC 3rd Place Murray WC Creativity Somerset Jr WC

Community Impact Winner- Maysville Younger Woman's Club

Photography

Our World Up Close- 1st Place Charlotte Johnson - Monticello 2nd Place Kristin Ramirez - Radcliff 3rd Place Leah Wilson Bettie Carter

Reflections- 1st Place Leah Wilson - Bettie Carter 2nd Place Vicki Moore - Okolona WC 3rd Place Charlotte Johnson - Monticello

Natural Wonders- 1st Place Anne Pedersen - Barbourville Jr WSC 2nd Place Irene Stamper - Morgan Co WC 3rd Place Leah Wilson - Bettie Carter Morgan WC

Living the Volunteer Spirit- 1st Place Anne Pedersen - Barbourville Jr 2nd Place Sherry Decker - Bettie Carter 3rd Place Julie Aldridge - Radcliff

Press Book- Small Club 1st Place Morgan Co 2nd Place Leitchfield WC Medium 1st Place Jackson 2nd Place Monticello Large 1st Place Murray 2nd Place Barbourville Jr WSC 3rd Place Okolona



Congratulations



And The Winner Is.....
A Comprehensive List of GFWC KY 2025 Awards



SUMMER WORKSHOP

WHEN: JULY 23-25

WHERE: CLARION HOTEL CONFERENCE CENTER- NORTH

1950 NEWTOWN PIKE

LEXINGTON, KY 40511

Stay tuned for more details,
because you don't want to miss this!



Do Something



**GFWC KENTUCKY
2026-2028**

Do Something! will be GFWC KY President Bridget Murphy's theme for the 2026-2028 administration. Inspired by Matthew West's song Do Something, Bridget encourages us all to make that list, get to work, and Do Something!



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:

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

GFWC KY

P.O. Box 1587

Frankfort, KY 40602

Email: newsletter@gfwcky.org

(502)-352-2731 GFWC KY Headquarters

-or-

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

Check us out on the web: GFWCKY.org



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