

**GFWC Kentucky
Clubwoman
Publication**

March 2026



Inside this issue...

**SETTING GOALS, MAKING PLANS, AND
CONTINUING TO MOVE FORWARD
TOGETHER.**



GFWC
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**GENERAL FEDERATION
OF WOMEN'S CLUBS**
KENTUCKY

STATE CONVENTION

Don't just hear about it, Come be a part of it!

April 23 -25, 2026



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**GENERAL FEDERATION
OF WOMEN'S CLUBS**
KENTUCKY

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SETTING GOALS, MAKING PLANS, AND CONTINUING TO MOVE FORWARD TOGETHER.



Have you explored the GFWC Learning Academy available through the member portal on the GFWC website? This is one of the many valuable benefits of being federated with the General Federation of Women's Clubs. The Learning Academy provides access to a wealth of resources designed to help us grow as leaders within our clubs and throughout our communities.

Hopefully you are continuing to 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 year of continuing to rise higher—together.


As my term as your State President comes to a close, I want to express my sincere gratitude. Thank you for your trust, your support, and the tremendous honor of serving as your president. It has truly been an unforgettable experience.

I encourage each of you to continue striving for growth—never stop learning, never stop improving, and never stop becoming the very best version of yourself. Rise up in all that you do. When challenges arise—as they inevitably will—remember that we are stronger together.

I look forward to seeing you at State Convention next month. A preliminary agenda is included in this publication; please note that it is subject to change. The official Call to Convention will be arriving in your inbox very soon!

Amy Mason
GFWC KY State President

1921 Symsonia Hwy Benton, KY 42025 - amymason0@gmail.com - 270.366.3927





STATE CONVENTION

Don't just hear about it, Come be a part of it!

April 23 -25, 2026

THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
Subject to change	Subject to change	Subject to change
<p>11AM - 4:30PM</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • KEENLAND 	<p>8AM - 9:20AM</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • REGISTRATION 	<p>8:30AM - 9:20AM</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • REGISTRATION
<p>5PM - 6:20PM</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • REGISTRATION OPEN 	<p>9:30AM</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • CONVENTION COMES TO ORDER • PRESENTATIONS • BYLAWS • AWARDS • LUNCH • AWARDS • VOTING 	<p>9:30AM</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • CONVENTION RECONVENE • AWARDS • PRESENTATIONS
<p>5:30 PM - 6:15PM (meetings)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • INCOMING & OUTGOING Governors & Vice Governors • CURRENT CHAIRMEN 	<p>6PM</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • DINNER • AWARDS • FEDERATING NEW CLUB • VOTING RESULTS 	<p>GOVERNORS REPORTS</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • LUNCH • MEMORIAL CEREMONY • PINNING OF GOVERNORS & VICE GOVERNORS
<p>6:30PM</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • DINNER • BOARD OF DIRECTORS MTG (All club members are encouraged to attend) • SERVICE PROJECT 	<p>8:30pm</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • TRIVIA NIGHT <p>POPCORN & PJs</p>	<p>4:30PM</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • INSTILLATION OF THE '26-'28 STATE OFFICERS
<p>8PM</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • GAME NIGHT!! 		

Your GFWC Friends Are Calling You to Convention!



Clarion Hotel Conference Center - 1950 Newtown Pike - Lexington, KY 40511

GFWC KENTUCKY DIRECTOR OF JUNIOR CLUBS



CHRISSI CUEL
GFWC KENTUCKY DIRECTOR OF JUNIOR CLUBS

HELLO FELLOW CLUB WOMEN,

Kentucky Junior, Juniorette & Clubwomen,

One of the greatest benefits of membership in the General Federation of Women’s Clubs is the opportunity to grow as leaders – in our clubs, our communities, and in every area of life. The GFWC Junior Club Leadership Certification for the 2024–2026 Administration provides a structured pathway for clubs to intentionally invest in leadership and personal development.

Enclosed in this newsletter you will find a separate page with full details, topic listings, participation guidelines, and links to the webinar recordings. To earn certification, at least 50% of club members must complete all required topics, and one club representative must submit the online form by June 1, 2026.

This certification demonstrates your club’s commitment to growth and excellence – and clubs earning Certification will be recognized nationally at Convention, on the GFWC website, and on social media. I encourage each Kentucky club to review the information and begin planning how you will complete the sessions together or individually throughout the year.

While we focus on leadership development, I also want to invite you to join us for the GFWC Kentucky State Convention, April 23–25. We have so many exciting events planned!

Junior Fun Night – Trivia Style!

After dinner on Friday, change into your pajamas and join us for popcorn, a dirty soda bar, and trivia fun! We’ll also have Post-It note boards where you can purchase tickets for a chance to win prizes.

Junior Service Project – Birthday in a Box (Thursday)

We will assemble hands-on “Make-A-Wish Happen” Birthday in a Box kits to help local children celebrate their special day. It’s a meaningful way to serve together.

Awards, fellowship, shopping with vendors, fun during breaks, and so much more await you.

I truly hope you will make an effort to attend at least one day of Convention. There is something powerful about gathering together to celebrate, serve, and grow as leaders across Kentucky.



Stronger Together,

Chrissi Cuel

Chrissi Cuel
Director of Junior Clubs
GFWC Kentucky

CONTACT:

109 Pleasant Ridge Lane-Woodbine, KY 40771
606-515-3009

chrissihinklecuel@gmail.com



GFWC Junior Club Leadership Certification *for Junior & Juniorette Clubs*

One of the greatest benefits a club member can gain from membership in GFWC is leadership experience and personal development that can support the member in club work and in many other areas of life. The GFWC Leadership Toolkit provides a variety of materials and can be utilized to offer learning opportunities for clubs and club members, and a host of external resources are available to support leadership development.

The GFWC Junior Leadership is proud to introduce to you the expanded **Junior Club Leadership Certification** to provide a structured pathway for clubs to provide leadership and personal development. Completion of this program demonstrates a club's commitment to educating members on GFWC and supporting leadership and personal development for its individual members.

The Junior Club Leadership Certification is available to all GFWC Junior and Juniorette Clubs to provide a benefit in support of recruitment and retention. Clubs earning the Certification will be recognized at GFWC Convention, on the GFWC website, and on social media. They will have access to an exclusive graphic for use in club materials and on social media.

Each of the eight topics was offered as a live webinar June-September 2025, with an opportunity for Q&A and discussion, and a recorded version of the topics was released post-webinar. These video topics are available on the GFWC YouTube channel. Additional topics will be covered in future Administrations.

To earn the Junior Club Leadership Certification for the 2024-2026 Administration, one representative from the club must complete this [online form](#) by June 1, 2026, that will include a declaration that at least 50% of club members have taken part in the Zoom webinars or viewed the on-demand offerings, for all eight (8) topics. The form will also invite feedback on current offerings and suggestions for additional topics.

Once a club has earned the Leadership Certification, criteria will be established to retain Certification.

2025-2026 Topics:

1. [GFWC JCLC Welcome Video](#)
2. [GFWC Resources & Overview](#)
3. [GFWC's Legislative Impact](#)
4. [Personal Development Part 1](#)
5. [Leadership Development Part 1](#)
6. [Team Development](#)
7. [Personal Development Part 2](#)
8. [Leadership Development Part 2](#)
9. [Creating an Agenda](#)

For more information, please contact Shannon Bailey, GFWC Director of Junior Clubs, at sbailey@gfwc.org



Celebration Time

Guess who is going to be
100 years old
October 10th 2026

Williamstown Woman's Club

Let's Get this Party Started

LET'S PARTY!

Candidates



Charlotte Johnson
26-28 candidate for President Elect



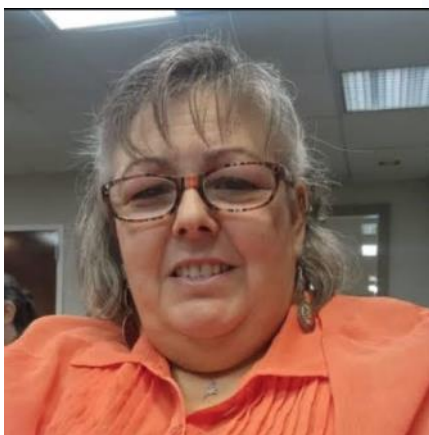
Chrissi Cuel
26-28 candidate for 1st Vice President



Ashley Doolin
26-28 candidate for Director Elect of Jr Clubs



Sherri Hammond
26-28 candidate for Secretary



Melanie King
26-28 candidate for 2nd
Vice President

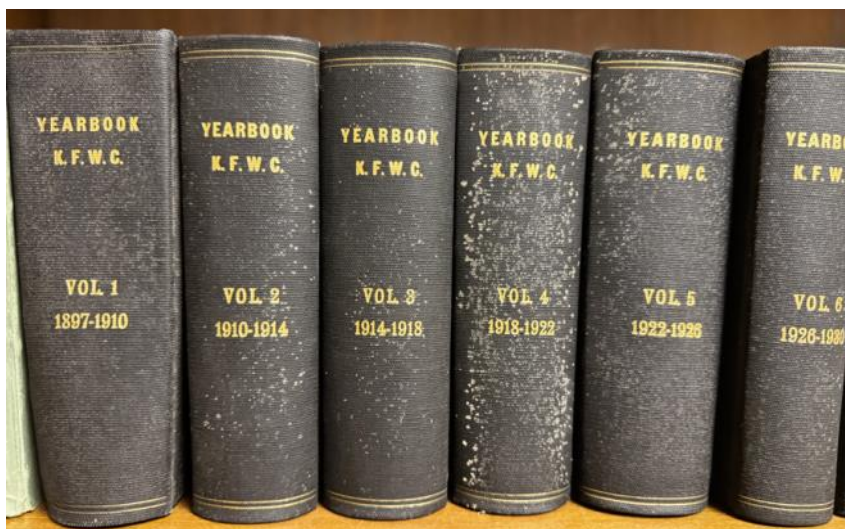


Women's History & Resource Center Charlotte Johnson, WHRC Chairman

March: Women's History Month and Preserving our Club Legacy

March, celebrated nationwide as Women's History Month, is a meaningful time to reflect on the accomplishments of women, and to ensure those stories are preserved for generations to come. For women's clubs, this month offers a natural focus on safeguarding the records, artifacts, and memories that define who we are, and the impact we have made.

Our Women's History and Resource Center located in our Headquarters in Frankfort emphasize the importance of preserving club histories so that future members can learn from past leadership, service projects, and community involvement.



Photographs, yearbooks minutes, programs, scrapbooks, awards and correspondence all tell the story of women working together to improve their communities.

Clubs can honor Women's History Month by taking simple but meaningful steps: organizing and labeling historical materials, storing documents in acid-free folders, digitizing photographs, recording brief oral histories from long time members, and perhaps the most important, designating

a member or committee to oversee historical preservation. Even small efforts today prevent important memories from being lost tomorrow.

As we celebrate Women's History Month in March preserving our history becomes an act of respect-for the women who came before us and for those who will carry our mission forward. By protecting our artifacts and records, clubs ensure that women's voices, leadership, and service remain visible, valued and remembered.

In our own Resource Center in our Headquarters in Frankfort are stored many records, minutes, Club Women Magazines, and club histories. There is also a cabinet that contains many artifacts. A gavel from Ashland, the 5 X 7 shadow boxes from the newly named Districts, and articles that showcases the themes of many of our



Past Presidents administrations. It is truly an interesting room, and if you have a guide to explain what you are seeing, it becomes fascinating.

Oh, you want to know about the gavels? You simply have to schedule a visit, ask for a tour guide, and be prepared to see things a new way. Not just as articles on a shelf, but a look into another time, another place--- and the stories they hold.





CHILD ABUSE PREVENTION MONTH PROTECTING OUR MOST PRECIOUS GIFT

April is nationally recognized as **Child Abuse Prevention Month**—a time for communities across the country to come together in raising awareness and strengthening families so children are protected from abuse and neglect. It’s a powerful reminder that every child deserves a safe, stable, and nurturing environment where they can grow, learn, and thrive.

Organizations like **Prevent Child Abuse America** work year-round to support prevention efforts through education, resources, and programs that help families before a crisis occurs. Prevention starts with strong support systems—neighbors who notice, schools that encourage, churches and civic groups that surround families with care, and communities willing to have honest conversations about warning signs and how to respond.

One of the most recognized symbols of this month is the **blue pinwheel**. Through the **Pinwheels for Prevention** campaign, communities plant blue pinwheel gardens to represent the happy, healthy childhood every child should experience. Each spinning pinwheel serves as a visible reminder of hope—and of our shared responsibility to support families and protect children. Pinwheel displays don’t just raise awareness; they spark meaningful conversations that can lead to real change.

As clubwomen, we understand the value of service and community care—and child abuse prevention is a cause that truly takes all of us. This work is not solely the responsibility of parents or caregivers. **Teachers, neighbors, faith leaders, civic groups, and local organizations** all play a vital role in ensuring children feel seen, heard, and safe. Sometimes prevention looks like encouraging a struggling parent, mentoring a child, connecting a family to resources, or reporting concerns when something doesn’t seem right. Simple actions can create life-changing impact.

This April, let’s recommit to being a voice for children and a support for families. When communities unite with compassion and purpose, prevention is possible—and the future becomes brighter for the next generation.

Together, we can help ensure every child grows up surrounded by love, hope, and opportunity.



Spring is in the Air

March is known for many things. Of course, we all know St. Patrick's Day, don't forget to wear your green. March is also known for other things like Women's History Month. Not just the women you read about in history books but what about the women in your community, the woman who helped make you the strong person you are. Talk to them, celebrate them and appreciate what they have gone through to help get you where you are.



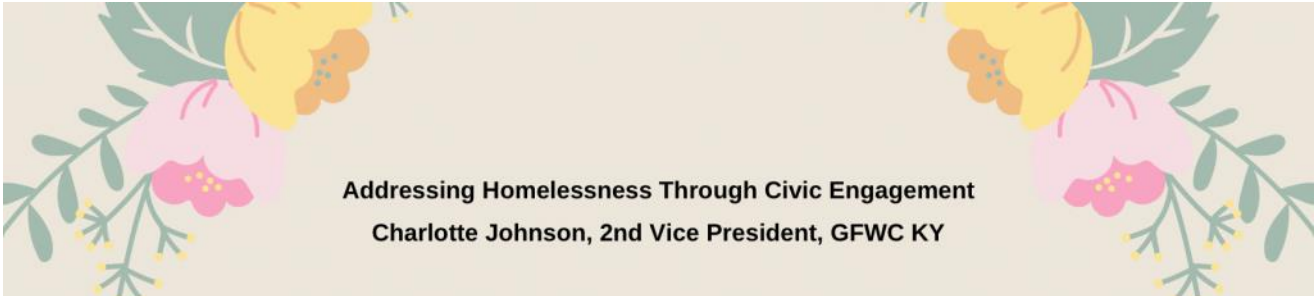
Spring/March is also the perfect time of year to focus on re-connecting with others after a long cold Winter that kept us indoors and at times a bit isolated. It is a good opportunity to interact with others while serving your community. Interactive social civic suggestions are activities like: park clean ups, planting community gardens, and volunteering at local pantries. Other

impactful ideas include voter registration drives, visiting seniors/veterans, and even a safety initiative/safety workshop. With Spring, comes the potential for some severe weather. It is a good time to check your disaster preparedness kit and remind others to do the same.

As the 2024-2026 Administration comes to a close, I would like to say it has been an honor and a privilege to be the GFWC Kentucky Civic Engagement and Outreach Chair. I have enjoyed getting to know so many dedicated caring people who serve with great passion and dedication. I will always be available to help you in any way, and may I always remember to let me not forget to be kind. God Bless you all.



Susan Harley



Addressing Homelessness Through Civic Engagement
Charlotte Johnson, 2nd Vice President, GFWC KY

Across our communities, homelessness remains one of the most visible and complex challenges we face. Behind every individual without stable housing is a story shaped by economic hardship, health struggles, domestic violence, job loss or unforeseen crises. Homelessness does not exist in isolation—it affects public safety, education, healthcare systems, and the overall well-being of our neighborhoods. Addressing this issue requires compassion, action, and a commitment to civic responsibility.

The Civic Engagement Community Service Program of the GFWC encourages clubwomen to be informed, involved and active in strengthening their communities. Assisting those experiencing homelessness is a natural and vital expression of this mission.

Supporting the homeless goes beyond providing food or shelter—though those are essential first steps. Club members should educate themselves about the causes of homelessness, support policies and programs that promote stability, and perhaps partner with trusted local organizations that offers comprehensive services.

Across Kentucky, community organizations play a vital role in meeting these needs every day. GFWC KY clubwomen can demonstrate how civic-minded action can bring meaningful change by volunteering time, donating resources, and raising awareness to these organizations. One organization that exemplifies this mission through its dedication to restoring hope and dignity in Central Kentucky is the Lexington Rescue Mission.

Since its founding in 2001, Lexington Rescue Mission has become a cornerstone institution in Lexington's effort to care for its most vulnerable neighbors—offering food, shelter, training, and hope.

When community organizations—especially volunteer-driven groups like those under the GFWC umbrella—engage with facilities like the Lexington Rescue Mission in their own communities, it strengthens the social fabric of their communities and helps bring about lasting change for individuals and families in need.

The Comfort Room at The Lexington Rescue Mission has been selected as one of our convention service projects. This space serves individuals in the community who require a secure, warm, and sheltered environment. We are seeking donations of the following items: individual coffee pods, drink packets, tea bags, and hot chocolate packets.

Ossoli Club of Corbin Creates Escape Boxes for Victims of Domestic Violence

In honor of the National Day of Service, members of the Ossoli Club of Corbin joined together to assemble *Escape Boxes*—care packages designed to provide comfort, dignity, and critical resources for victims of domestic violence.



Each Escape Box contains thoughtfully selected items to meet immediate needs, including toiletries, socks, under clothing, feminine products, and a personal journal for reflection and healing. There is a brochure in each box with local and national resources for domestic violence victims, offering guidance for those seeking safety and support.



The Escape Boxes will be distributed to local emergency rooms, women's health centers, and shelters. By placing them in accessible locations, the club hopes to reach women at some of their most vulnerable moments and provide both practical assistance and a pathway to safety.

The National Day of Service provides an opportunity for Women's clubs across the country to come together in meaningful projects. For women who may receive these *Escape Boxes*, the impact will extend past a single day and may be the first step toward a safe and empowered future.

Through this project, the Ossoli Club of Corbin reaffirms its commitment to community service, advocacy, and betterment of women.





"May your heart be light and happy,
 may your smile be big and wide, and
 may your pockets always have a coin
 or two inside".

104 Society Membership

Maintaining our Headquarters in Frankfort is an ongoing job. It is much better to take care of everyday maintenance than to wait until a catastrophe occurs. **That is the purpose of the 104 Society.**

Donation levels are:

- \$10.40
- \$104.00
- \$1040.00



NAME: _____

CREDIT CARD INFO:

NUMBER: _____

EXPIRATION DATE: _____ CVC _____ ZIP CODE: _____

MAIL TO:

GFWC KENTUCKY
 P O BOX 1587
 FRANKFORT, KY 40602

GFWC Kentucky

Kentucky Clubwoman

Please submit stories and photos for the newsletter for your club, district, and/or state

Submit Ad & 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



Happy Spring to you all,

Spring, A lovely reminder of
how beautiful change can truly
be.

See you at convention!
Cheryl Harrington