

GFWC ROTONDA WEST WOMAN'S CLUB GFWC-FL DISTRICT 12

A Proud Member of the General Federation of Women's Clubs



CHATTER

April, 2023





GFWC FLORIDA - DISTRICT 12
WHERE VOLUNTEER SERVICE
AND FRIENDSHIP MEET



NOTES FROM THE PRESIDENT

Gwen Grace, 201-317-2317 Gweng1999@yahoo.com

Spring is here and April brings Easter, Passover, Earth Day and National Volunteer Month. That last one is what I wish to celebrate with all our members. I came across a poem from an unknown author that I want to share with you.









BEING A VOLUNTEER

It's not for money. It's not for fame.

It's not for any personal gain.

It's just for love of fellow man.

It's just to lend a helping hand.

It's just to give a tithe of self.

That's something you can't buy with wealth.

It's not for medals won with pride.

It's for the feeling deep inside.

It's that reward down in your heart.

It's that feeling that you've been a part

Of helping others far and near

That makes you be a volunteer!

Thank you all for your time, talent, and treasure that you give to the club and the community.

And with all the great members we have, it's hard to pick out one for the Volunteer of the Month. The choices are way too many. And although she's been honored before, I just had to give my personal thank you to this long time and very active member. She's headed up fundraisers, been our photographer and jumped in whenever the club needed someone to help. A retired school teacher and an almost 17 year member, my appreciation this month goes to Linda Muir. She has been living the volunteer spirit with the club and made a difference.



I hope to see you at the General Meeting on April 20th. And I'm looking forward to a lovely Spring Fling Fashion Show and Luncheon on April 15th.

Keep busy, keep healthy and "Bee" all you can "Bee!"





FIRST VICE PRESIDENT Gloria Rogoski, 440 487 5586 rogoskigj@gmail.com

Welcome to Spring, a time of renewal, rejuvenation, and re-growth. A good time to think of the months ahead and how we can improve our lives and those of others by living the volunteer spirit. So, what is the volunteer spirit? One definition I like is "the principles of donating time and energy for the benefit of other people in the community as social responsibility rather than for any financial reward,"

I believe that Rotonda West Woman's Club does a great job of this through all our programs including scholarships, financial support of area non-profits, and days of service. If you want to make a difference in your community and don't know where to start, talk to one of the Community Service Program (CSP) chairpersons to see how you can help with club activities. We have CSPs for Arts and Culture, Civic Engagement and Outreach, Education and Libraries, Environment, and Health and Wellness. We also support the GFWC Signature Program for Domestic and Sexual Violence Awareness and Prevention. There really is something for everyone – take a look at our Yearbook on the gfwcrotondawest.org website (under About Us) for more details.

Need a name badge? I take orders for laser engraved name badges with magnets at every general meeting. They are \$10 (we get 50 cents of that) and are normally available at the following meeting.



SECOND VICE PRESIDENT Jennifer Cope, 816 678 4045 jennylynncope@gmail.com

MEMBERSHIP CHAIRMAN rwwcmembership@gmail.com

We are looking forward to the induction of new members at the April meeting. You may have noticed new faces at recent events. Many recent members have been working at

our events and attending fun activities with enthusiastic energy! We are so happy to have them and their many talents and knowledge as part of our club.

As we wind down for the summer, remember we will still have activities going on with our club. If you have any neighbors or friends who are interested in joining GFWC RWWC please invite them to something going on this summer.

HAPPY EASTER!

Note: There was an error in the March Chatter. Kathleen's last name is Sorensen. I apologize for the error.

Kathleen Sorensen



GFWC FL DISTRICT 12 DIRECTOR GFWC RWWC BOGGY CREEK PRESIDENT'S PROJECT CHAIRMAN



Kathryn Gallagher, 610 952 1333 kathryngal@yahoo.com

I am delighted to include in this article an email from District 12 President's Project Chairman, Joyce Powell. Joyce will be taking our Beautiful Boggy Bears to Convention for us because my "clown car" Prius will be filled to capacity with

my roommate for the Convention, Gloria Rogoski, and almost all of the décor for the Saturday Evening Dinner. Our Guest Speaker for Convention Saturday Evening Dinner will be GFWC International President Debra Strahanoski, so we want to do a



through April 23rd.

must have taken this photo!

Thanks very, very much to Beth Black for sewing all our Boggy Bears and to our volunteers who came out to "stuff Bears" on Tuesday morning, March 21st. Janet Rojas was also there to stuff Bears but

Here's the scoop from Joyce Powell, District 12 Chairman!

Hi - I will be at Convention and be happy to help at the President's Project table. I am bringing 45 afghans and 12 small quilts. I will also bring 4 bags of bears from GFWC Rotonda West. Hope we can fit in the SUV (we might look like the Clampetts). Looking forward to seeing you and helping out.

Till then, in unity, Joyce

Joyce Powell, District 12 Pres Project Chair Port Charlotte GFWC 202-553-2665 cell joycepowell136@comcast.net

GFWC FLORIDA - DISTRICT 12 WHERE VOLUNTEER SERVICE AND FRIENDSHIP MEET





In April 2016, our good friend and club member Judy Laing introduced us to Healing Art Missions, a nonprofit organization formed by her daughter, Dr. Tracee Laing, M.D., in 1999 to serve the needs of the people in Dumay, Haiti. Since that time, GFWC Rotonda West Woman's Club has attempted to provide support

to H.A.M. although life and conditions in Haiti have become more and more difficult for Haitians at the same time that we have had our own struggles with Covid and Hurricane Ian. Here is an update on the current and very critical circumstances affecting Healing Art Missions formerly located for 22 years in Dumay, Haiti.

"Dumay is right in the center of the Central Haiti civil war. We stayed as long as we could. There is a small group of Doctors Without Borders staff who are working in our Dumay Clinic with the backing of the gang currently controlling the area and as important, they have permission of the Haitian Police to work anywhere in the country. The final straw for us was the police handcuffing and interrogating our Dumay Medical Staff for 12 hours, threatening to throw them in prison if they cared for any gang members. Of course, you take care of gang members when working in gang-controlled areas - otherwise they kill you. So now we are concentrating on getting care to those fleeing the violence in the South. Our mobile medical teams are staffing hospitals in the south, concentrating on maternal and surgical care, since most hospitals in the south do not have specialized or surgical staff. To keep our medical staff safe, we often must fly them to the cities in the south - to avoid roads controlled by gangs."

"Our Charles Salomon Primary school in Port-de-Paix has 350 children attending and 40 adults in our literacy program. It is still running strong in an area that has managed to keep from being overrun by the gangs."

"Education has always been a high priority for HAM - it is hard to see improvement in Haiti without an educated population. I really hope things improve for you and for Haiti soon - Thanks for reaching out,"

Tracee

Tracee Laing - Founding Director
Paul B. Hammond - Operations Director
Healing Art Missions
PO Box 645, Granville, OH USA 43023
USA phone, 001(740)587-2472
web site, www.healingartmissions.org

The story in Haiti is shocking at best. The one glimmer of hope is continuing the support of the Charles Salomon Primary School, away from the Dumay area.

As I believe that GFWC RWWC has realized and has always supported...education is the universal key.





ARTS & CULTURE

Kathy Altenburg, Chairman, Co-Chairman GFWC FL District 12 941-698-9130 Home, 941 268 1232 Cell kathy6150@aol.com



ARTS & CULTURE

Hello ladies.

Our first excursion for this year was to the **Ringling College Englewood Art Center**. The Art Center is at 350 S. McCall Road in Englewood and is open every day Tuesday

through Saturday from 9 am till 4pm 941-474-5548. A division of Ringling College Continuing Studies, the Englewood Art Center (EAC) focuses on education, exhibitions, and events. EAC serves as a nexus for artists and audiences to inspire creativity, exchange ideas, endorse imagination, and encourage creative growth.

In addition to four galleries for exhibitions, they house two 2D studio classrooms, a ceramics studio, a digital media studio, and a lending library. Classes are offered onsite

We had seventeen ladies meet up on Friday March 24 at the Community Center and carpool over to Englewood to visit the Four Galleries that the Art Center has open to the public free of charge.

In the Warren Loranger Gallery, we saw themed artwork 'Mythical, Magical, Mystical' in a variety of media that depicts anything from mythical creatures to magical realms and mystical ideas.

In the Ken Mitchell Gallery, we saw paintings by Donna Ingemanson & Judy Riola.

In the Mangrove Gallery, we saw a selection of ceramics by Gary Skelly.

And in the Members Gallery, we saw amazing intricate painting on shells by Christie Watson.

After viewing the galleries, we went to visit the Art Alliance of Lemon Bay on Dearborn Street which showcases many works by local artists with items for sale and also opportunities to take classes with these local artists. After viewing all this wonderful artwork, we split up into a few groups and had wonderful lunches at Cafe 766, Mango Bistro and the Blue Pineapple. I think we all had a great outing and we shall be doing it again!

Approximately every 6 weeks they change the galleries to new exhibitions so it is an ongoing adventure into all types of mixed media from sculpture, paintings, photography and much, much more.

CREATIVE CRAFTERS

Ladies as you all have been informed, we do not have crafting this week due to the setup for the Celebrate the Circle by the RWA for this Saturday, April 1st.

We will also not have crafting for the next three weeks due to Good Friday on April 7, setup of the Fashion Show on April 14th, and the following week Friday April 21st to April 23rd is the GFWC Spring Convention.



We will restart crafting on the last Friday of April 28th. Emails will be sent out as to what we will be working on and what you need to bring.

See you at the General Meeting on Thursday April 20th.

EDUCATION & LIBRARIES

Kara Kelly, Chairman, 410 652 6830 <u>babs013@comcast.net</u>
Debra A Sigismondo, Chairman Scholarship, 941 697 7519 <u>sqad7@aol.com</u>
Betsy Bouchard, ESO Chairman, 757 952 9890 <u>betsybou@yahoo.com</u>





April is National Poetry Month!

We invite you to find great ideas for sharing your love of poets and poetry at **poets.org**. Celebrate **Poem in Your Pocket Day** on April 27, 2023. Carry a poem, and share with others, read aloud and record your voice for the grands, post on social media, and revel in this art form. Is your favorite Kipling's *If*, Henley's *Invictus*, or Angelou's *Phenomenal Woman*? Or maybe you prefer Seuss, Silverstein, Perlutsky or this anonymous silliness:

Spring has sprung, the grass is ris,
I wonder where the boidies is
The boid is on the wing,
But that's absoid
From what I hoid
The wing is on the boid!

Spring is also decision time. This month the Lemon Bay High School seniors are awaiting their acceptances, and our Scholarship Committee is reviewing all the worthy applicants. We will report to all of you soon, when our meetings have concluded. We can report that the Class of 2023 is very impressive.

Thank you to all the members who have supported our Spring Fling Fashion Show benefitting The Literacy Center for Dyslexia in Englewood Florida. Kindly follow their Facebook page to learn all about their mission.



ENVIRONMENT/FUNDRAISING COORDINATOR

Rachele Adler, Environment Co-chairman 941 697 5303

Readl22@gmail.com

Janet Rojas, Environment Co-chairman

Linc322@gmail.com





COMMITTEE UPDATE: Our next committee meeting will be May 2nd. We now have a number of interested volunteers, and several promising ideas for upcoming projects. If you are interested in joining us, please feel free to contact Rachele or Janet. Our first project will be purchasing a recycling bin to be used during our meetings and events at the RWA Community Center. Two of our committee members have volunteered to empty the bin and dispose of the recycled material properly. The RWA does not currently recycle.

Tip of the Month:





PENNY HARVEST COLLECTION

This year's Penny Harvest donations will again be going to Canine Companions for Independence (CCI). Please remember to keep saving those pennies or any change and turn them in to the blue and yellow dog house each month. Every

little penny helps, thank you.

FASHION SHOW UPDATE:

Thank you to all the members who have supported the upcoming Fashion Show which will benefit our club projects and The Literacy Center For Dyslexia. Ticket sales and donations have been wonderful.

Joyce Crumpton/Rachele Adler joycebcrumpton@gmail.com readl22@gmail.com





HEALTH & WELLNESS

Clare Imrie, Co-chairman, 713 825 2154 clareimrie@hotmail.com



Thanks to everyone who has donated to PanCAN PurpleStride - a walk to end Pancreatic Cancer. As of end of March, over \$830 has been raised by



the Rotonda West team! If you're unfamiliar with PanCAN PurpleStride, it's a

nationwide walk in over 60 locations, held on Saturday April 29, 2023 organized by Pancreatic Action Cancer Network, raising funds to help end pancreatic cancer. I'm walking at least 3 miles in memory of my Mum, Gwynneth Wright, who unfortunately died from pancreatic cancer in May 2022. Please join me in Broadmoor Park (646 Rotonda Circle) starting at 8am on Saturday April 29th, walk as far as you'd like, I'd welcome the

company!

If you'd like to join the Rotonda West team or/& donate please go to:

http://support.pancan.org/goto/RotondaWest

Mum's birthday was November 19th, in the UK calendar that is 19-11 - I'd like the Rotonda West team to raise \$1,911 if possible - any amount is appreciated. Thanks for your support and any questions please don't hesitate to reach out.

As always, if you have ideas for Health & Wellness projects, please let me or Ellen Lang know - thanks!



Please save the date of Saturday, October 28th for the **Walk** to End Alzheimer's – more details to come.

Blood Drive: The GFWC RWWC is sponsoring a One Blood drive on

Tuesday, April 18, 2023, from 9 am to 3 pm. The drive will be held at the Marina across from The Hills Golf and Country Club, 100 Rotonda Circle, Rotonda West. Please go to at OneBlood.org to register or you can call me at 917 579-7770 to register.





Doris Walker, Chaplain 941 828 0410 dew414@comcast.net

ST. PATRICK'S INSPIRATIONAL MESSAGE

MAY YOU ALWAYS HAVE WORK FOR YOUR HANDS TO DO.
MAY YOUR POCKETS ALWAYS HOLD A COIN OR TWO.

MAY THE SUN SHINE BRIGHT ON YOUR WINDOWPANE.

MAY THE RAINBOW BE CERTAIN TO FOLLOW EACH RAIN.

MAY THE HAND OF A FRIEND ALWAYS BE NEAR YOU, AND,

MAY GOD FILL YOUR HEART WITH GLADNESS TO CHEER YOU.

TODAY'S BLESSING

WE ASK, LORD THAT YOU GUIDE THE LEADERS OF OUR GREAT COUNTRY IN ALL THEIR DECISIONS.

THE BURDEN THAT HAS BEEN PLACED ON THEIR SHOULDERS IS OVERWHELMING. WE ASK THAT WITH YOUR INFINITE WISDOM, YOU GUIDE THEM ALWAYS TO THE RIGHT DECISIONS.

PROTECT AND GUIDE OUR MILITARY, OH LORD, STRENGTHEN THEM IN THEIR TRIALS, GIVE THEM COURAGE TO FACE THE PERILS WHICH BESET THEM, AND GRANT THEM A SENSE OF YOUR ABIDING LOVE AND PRESENCE WHEREVER THEY MAY BE.

AMFN

MARCH, 2023



BEDTIME BAGS PROJECT

Lois LeVasseur, 1 941 698 9116 Lolevasse52@gmail.com



It's been a year! Can you believe it? This project was started in order to provide 12 bags quarterly to the Punta Gorda GAL Office. Our fourth delivery of bags was made March 13th. We have also provided a Bedtime Bag to a local/Englewood GAL for her new child/case. By doing this, the GAL does not need to drive to Punta Gorda for the items and the bag.

2023 Distributions: May, August, November

Your continued support is needed to continue this worthy endeavor. Items continually needed are: Hygiene items, Age-appropriate books, Slip-resistant fuzzy socks, Comfort toy (teddy, etc.)

<u>Toddler</u> <u>Adolescent</u> <u>Teen</u>

PJs – size 2-6 PJs – size 6x to 12 PJs – sleep shorts & Ts (14 and up)

Want to be a GAL? Who can be a GAL? Anyone who cares about the well-being of children and meets the following criteria:

- Florida Resident
- At least 21-year-old with common sense and good judgment
- Provide favorable references and consent to a background check.
- Has computer access and basic user skills
- Complete the screening and training process

Time Required? 8-10 volunteer hours monthly for one year. Volunteers usually can schedule the monthly visit to the child, phone calls and emails to key individuals according to the individual volunteer's work and leisure schedule. Only participation in court hearings must occur according to a schedule determined by the court. We have several members who are GALs. Ask them for information or call (239) 533-1435 or go to https://voicesforkids.org/gal-program/ for more info.

RECEPTION

Diane Oglesby, Cochairman, 941 828 0119 btoglesby@comcast.net
Kathy Messick, Cochairman, 609 828 8821 khmessick@embargmail.com



Please wear your name tags. If you forget, we have temporary tags you can have.

Thank you, Diane

Sew n Sews

Jackie Miller, Chairperson 305 745 1685 Jackie2gm@gmail.com

Just a reminder.....WE'RE HAVING A HALF PRICE SALE DURING SOCIAL HOUR at the April Meeting.

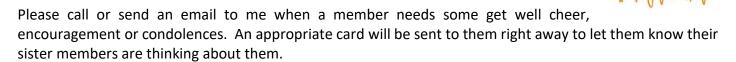


PLEASE BRING SMALL MONEY. APPRECIATE IT.

SUNSHINE COMMITTEE

Bert Sullivan, Chairman, 941 662 6320 bertstamps40@gmail.com

Hello sister RWWC Club members.



If you have any questions or concerns, please feel free to contact me for a chat.



NOTES FROM THE EDITOR

Donna Krabbe, Editor, 941 223 1573 Cell (may text) rwwcchatter2020@gmail.com

Thank you to everyone who submitted articles and photos – you've done a great job - making my job easier.

This month's Chatter is earlier than usual because we are going to visit our son in Mexico. Can you believe it – we retired and moved to Florida, he retired and moved to Mexico.

I'm still looking forward to receiving your "Letters to the Editor" or articles of interest to members.



LOOKING AHEAD ??

April 14, 2023 – Fashion Show Set-up, RWA CC

April 15, 2023 - Fashion Show, RWA CC, 11:30am

April 18, 2023 – One Blood Drive, 9am-3pm, Oakland Hills Marina

April 19, 2023 - ESO Luncheon at the Hills

April 20, 2023 - General Meeting, RWA CC, Social Hour 9am, Meeting 10am

April 21 – 23, 2023 – GFWC FL convention, Orlando

April 29, 2023 – PanCan PurpleStride Walk to End Pancreatic Cancer, Broadmoor Park, 8am.

May 5. 2023 – RWWC Board Meeting, RWA CC, 1pm

May 18, 2023 – General Meeting, RWA CC, Social Hour 9am, Meeting 10am

May 20, 2023 – RWWC FL District 12 Meeting, RWA CC – Membership topic

May 31 & June 1, 2023 – EHH, Volunteer opportunity

June 16, 2023 – Season-end Board Meeting, RWA CC, 1pm

Spring Bazaar Wrap-up!!

Linda Bermea, Bazaar Chairman



What an honor it was to work with this incredible group of women in our organization. We had over 50 volunteers that contributed their time, talents, commitment and good will to make this an incredibly successful fundraiser. Over the years, I've worked with a lot of organizations and have never been more impressed with the willingness of our members to step forward and give of themselves. I feel blessed to be a part of this organization and to have gotten to know some of you even better through this process. I look forward to this fall when we get to have fun again!

















MARCH 11, 2023

SPRING BAZZAR

























MARCH 2023 MEETING HIGHLIGHTS













ENGLEW(0)D BANK BANK



LIKE US ON FACEBOOK:

https://www.facebook.com/groups/gfwcrotondawestwomansgroup/?ref=share

Officers for current term are as follows:

President – Gwen Grace 201 317 2317

gweng1999@yahoo.com

First Vice President -Gloria Rogoski 440 487 5586

rogoskigj@gmail.com

Second Vice President – Jennifer Cope

816 678 4045

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rwwcmembership@gmail.com

Recording Secretary – Jo Ann Hopkins 941 661 1976

hopkins.joann@gmail.com

Corresponding Secretary – Jane Tumanic-

941 214 5981

jane.tum83@gmail.com

Treasurer – Anne T. Vickery 941 626 9398

vickeryat@gmail.com

Assistant Treasurer - Jean Howard-

607 427 8994

jphoward fnp@hotmail.com

GFWC WEBSITE:

www.gfwc.org

GFWC FL CLUBWOMAN NEWSLETTER

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GFWC ROTONDA WEST WOMAN'S CLUB

Website: www.gfwcrotondawest.org
Email: rwwcmembership@gmail.com

General Meetings:

are held on the third Thursday of the month, September through May.

RWA Activity Building.

9:00 am Social Hour - 10:00 am General Meeting.

GFWC Rotonda West Woman's Club District 12 PO Box 672 Placida, FL 33946-0679

TO:			
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Donna Krabbe, Editor rwwcchatter2020@gmail.com