

GFWC WOMAN'S CLUB OF NEW TAMPA



APRIL 2023 NEWSLETTER

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2022-2023

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Happy Spring Ladies! Although, I must say, the first few days of April sure felt like summer to me - I guess that was Mother Nature "April Fooling" us! Did you get "fooled" on **April 1st**?? If so, I hope it was a gag that made you laugh...and not cringe!! The exact origin of this day is uncertain, one possible explanation may date back to France in 1564. At the time, April 1 was New Year's Day. In 1564, New Years was changed to January 1. People who continued to celebrate April 1 as the beginning of the new year were called "April fools". People would play jokes and tricks on them.

"It is easier to fool people than it is to convince them that they have been fooled." -- Mark Twain (a good April Fools quote!)

Despite it's mischievous start, April is certainly a month of spring, rebirth and renewal - celebrating Passover, Easter, Earth Day and Arbor Day. It is also a month of so many different celebrations: There's all kinds of "National" food days in April - caramal popcorn, peanut butter and jelly, grilled cheese sandwich, and beer, just to name a few! There's Golfers Day, Siblings Day, Librarian Day, *Volunteer Recognition Day*, and even Husband Appreciation Day! And then there's **TAX DAY** 🤔; with National Stress Awareness Day on the first workday after taxes are due! To see all the fun and special celebration days in April, and the stories behind them, visit HolidayInsights.com.

April is also "Keep America Beautiful Month" as well as "National Card and Letter Writing Month", and our April activities fall right in line. There is a planned member outing with *Keep Tampa Bay Beautiful* cleaning up the Hillsborough River on April 11th; and at our April 19th Member Meeting we will be writing appreciation cards to those serving in our military. Looking forward to a good turn out at the April meeting - as we will also be voting on our new board for the 2023-2024 term.

I know everyone who attended our March Member Meeting really enjoyed our speaker, Will Stone, and his presentation of how to properly create a potted herb garden (along with his capable assistant Janet Gefre!). The lesson inspired several members to go home and start their own pottings right away... check out the pictures on Facebook!



Be sure to read through this month's newsletter - there is info on a GFWC Health and Wellness webinar to sign up for and messages from our VP's of Programming and Membership. And as always, the Club's Calendar of Events is included in the newsletter. And more pictures!

Please visit us on Facebook, Instagram and on our website to see pictures and posts of March's and April's events; as well as updates to the club's calendar.

See you Soon!!

Your Sister in Service,

Pam Anderson, President

Important Dates to Remember:

April 5th
Happy Passover



April 8th
D8 Membership
Workshop

April 9th
HAPPY EASTER



April 11th
KTBB River Cleanup

April 14th 15th 16th
Penguin Project Play

April 17th
Trinity Cafe

April 19th
Member Meeting
Voting on New Board
Military Care Packages

Collections for
Military Care Packages

April 20th-23rd
GFWC FL Annual Spring
Convention
Orlando

April 22nd
March for Babies
Steinbrenner Field

April 22nd
Earth Day



APRIL BIRTHDAYS
Ursula Guy - 3rd
Janet Gefre - 19th



From our Vice-President of Programs and Projects:

Programing and Planning Report by Joyce Mathisen

I am so excited for all the events happening in the next couple of months. Even-though our year end is officially in May we already have several events scheduled throughout the summer. This will give us more opportunities to show our volunteer spirit and new events are continually being added. Please look for GFWC emails, visit our website, and social media pages to stay updated. Do you want to become more involved or have ideas for future programing? Now is a great time to get involved. You can email me a JMathisenGFWC@gmail.com and/or attend our Planning Meeting on June 14th at 1:00 PM in the Arbor Greene Community Center. Did you know almost half of our members have joined GFWC in the last two years (including me)? Your ideas matter let your voice be heard!

*****Date Change*****

Our first meeting in August is going to be August 23rd which is the fourth Wednesday of August. Please mark your calendars. More details to follow.

Our calendar below is jammed packed with so many activities there is something for everyone. * ***Important*** we have our Mother's Day Kendra Scott Fundraiser online both Friday May 5th and 6th, and in person at the store on Saturday May 6th from 11:00 AM to 1:00 PM. This is the weekend before Mother's Day so it should be a great event. Our organization receives a check for 20% of all orders using our promotion code ***GIVEBACK -DWVYX*** during these two days.

A great big thank you to Eshaan Roy. Eshaan is Tamali Saha's son; he did an amazing job drawing the cover art for our custom Military Cards. We will be adding a personalized note and sending these cards with our care packages. Eshaan, your hard work is appreciated.



*Thank you for being the most important part of
GFWC Woman's Club of New Tampa*

Joyce Mathisen

Calendar of Events

Saturday, April 8th 10:00am – 3:00pm Heritage Park in Land O'Lakes District 8 Event – Membership Workshop - This Event is closed for additional registrants; we have 4 club members attending.

Friday and Saturday April 14th at 6 PM, and April 15th at 5 PM, Volunteer Opportunity Penguin Project

We have two groups going both Friday and Saturday Night . This is a great way to give back to the community by being an usher for a theater performance by children and young adults with disabilities – a program directed by New Tampa Players for the Penguin Project Organization. The production is “Beauty and the Beast Jr” and will be at the New Tampa Performing Arts Center. You can still join us. *Contact Joyce Mathisen for Friday Night and Pam Anderson for Saturday Night.*

Monday, April 17th 11:00am - 1:00pm Trinity Cafe - 4 volunteers needed. Each person is assigned a table to prepare for the guests. Once they arrive, we act as either servers, table hosts, or bussing. When they leave, we wipe down the tables.

Wednesday, April 19th @ 1:00pm General Meeting - Honor Flight Mail Call for Flag Day June 14th

• Voting on Next Year's Board!

• We will be packing boxes to send to Operation Gratitude. At Operation Gratitude, over 90% of donations are devoted to Program Services. They are the proud recipients of a 4-Star rating from Charity Navigator and the coveted Platinum rating from Guide-star for five consecutive years, demonstrating their commitment to transparency and financial efficiency. • Please bring your items to be included in our Military Care Packages - Here are some military care package ideas that service members appreciate: Necessities, such as sunblock 1 oz, black socks, underwear, flip-flops, lip balm, and powder; Snacks including chips, salsa, nuts, cookies, beef jerky, non-melting candy and trail mix in packaging that isn't easily crushed. Drink mixes in single-serving packets are also a good addition. Game such as playing cards/poker chips, crosswords, or puzzle books; Stationery-Send paper, envelopes address labels, and pens.

• Two Hands on Activities:

- Writing personalized cards to people in military service. “Honor Flight Mail Call” for June 14th - Flag Day “Remembering All you do on Flag Day”. Cards designed by Tamali Saha's son Eshaan Roy.
- Paracord Lanyards. 550 Paracord, which gets its name from parachute cord, can hold up to 550 lbs. of weight. The lanyard provides 5 feet of cord that can be used in an emergency.

• **Recycle, Reused Collection for Colonial ALF** - please bring your gently used items to the meeting.

April 20-23, 2023 GFWC Florida Annual Spring Convention – Orlando Registration soon closing: for more information visit <https://acrobat.adobe.com/link/track?uri=urn%3Aaaid%3Aascds%3AUS%3A102b7f94-b1b5-3d52-94d5-fd7af8fe419e>

Saturday, April 22nd @ 8:00am Join us for The March for Babies Walk Tampa Bay

George M. Steinbrenner Field; 1 Steinbrenner Dr, Tampa, FL 33614-7064 Registration Time: 8:00 AM; Opening Ceremony Time: 8:45 AM; Walk Start Time: 9:00 AM. Chair: Pam Anderson

Friday, May 5th starting at 10:00am (Registration check-in begins at 9:00am) **District 8 Spring Training Meeting.**

This is a great way to learn about GFWC on a District level. Breakfast and lunch will be included. The venue for the meeting is the clubhouse of GFWC Temple Terrace Woman's Club - located at 415 Woodmont Ave, Temple Terrace, FL 33617. GFWC Woman's Club of New Tampa will pay for your registration. Please respond by April 12th if you are interested in attending.

Online Friday May 5th & Saturday May 6th : In Store 11 am to 1 pm Saturday May 6th - Kendra Scott Fundraiser This is one of our biggest fundraisers of the year. We need volunteers to greet people at the store - sign up sheet available at our April Meeting. Please use promotion code **GIVEBACK -DWVYX** when making your purchase.

Tuesday, May 9th 11:00am - 1:00pm Trinity Cafe 4 volunteers needed. Each person is assigned a table to prepare for the guests. Once they arrive, we act as either servers, table hosts, or bussing. When they leave, we wipe down the tables.

Wednesday, May 17th @ 12:00pm End of Year Catered Luncheon with Pot Luck Appetizers and Desserts- This meeting will take place at the Arbor Greene Community Center. Installation of new officers. We will be collecting boxes of cereal for Feeding Tampa Bay Cereal for Summer Food Drive. In addition, we will be collecting gently used items for as part of our ongoing Recycle, Reuse Collection for Colonial Assisted Living.

Saturday & Sunday June 10-12 2023 GFWC Annual Convention, in Louisville, Kentucky. Registration is now open please read your GFWC News & Noteworthy Newsletter for more information.

Wednesday, June 14th @ 1:00pm GFWC Planning Meeting Share your ideas! We will meet at the Arbor Greene Community Center. Be a part of planning the events for the 2023/2024 year!

Saturday, July 29th @ 10am District 8 Presidents Council hosted by Brandon Service League, New Tampa Juniors, and New Tampa Juniores. For Club Presidents and Board Members.

Friday and Saturday, August 11-13 or August 18-19 Leadership Summer Camp 2023 Make a plan to join your GFWC Florida sisters at the 2023 Leadership Summer Camp.



We have several ways to help you keep you up to date on our club news:

Newsletters: Newsletters are emailed to you monthly about one week before our member meeting.

Member Meeting Minutes: Meeting minutes are emailed to you about a week after our member meeting.

Web Site: <https://gfwcwomansclubnewtampa.com/>

Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/GfwcWomansClubOfNewTampa/>

Instagram: [instagram.com/NewTampaGFWC](https://www.instagram.com/NewTampaGFWC)

If you have pictures and/or event details to share for the newsletter, Facebook, Instagram, or web site, please forward them. Please try to write a brief description for the pictures sent.

Facebook: Elaine Jones emcj@verizon.net

Instagram: Theresa Bogushesky tbogushesky@verizon.net

Website: Joyce Mathisen jmathisengfwc@gmail.com

Newsletter: Pam Anderson pjahappy54@gmail.com

From Our Vice-President of Membership:

It's Renewal Time!



We hope you have enjoyed our 2022-23 meetings/speakers, volunteer opportunities and social events. We look forward to even more opportunities to do something valuable and amazing in our 2023-24 membership year and hope that you will join us!

In early June we will be forming our upcoming club year budget, which is primarily determining what charities we can support and the dollar amounts we can allocate them. In order to encompass as many worthy causes as possible and be accurate with the funding, we are asking that you renew your membership in April or May to help us know what funds we are working with. You may bring your renewal check to the April or May meetings or mail it to: GFWC Woman's Club of New Tampa
PO Box 46043
Tampa, FL 33646

Our Early Bird Award goes to **Ursula Guy** who renewed her membership in March!!

If you have any suggestions for ways I can improve our member experiences, please let me know. I'm always excited to hear new ideas!

Thank you!

Lisa Sklet

The More You Know...

We would like to encourage each member to visit our **GFWC Florida** website: gfwcflorida.org. The site provides a great deal of information about the GFWC Woman's Clubs; the current projects and goals provided by our state leadership, as well as news and happenings of all the GFWC Woman's Clubs throughout Florida. Under Member Resources, you will find a detailed synopsis of each of our CSP's (Community Service Programs) objectives and ideas to help us have an impact in each of these community service endeavors. There is *also a free weekly newsletter – Florida Clubwoman* - Club projects and activities from around the state are featured, along with articles of interest.

For more information and a greater understanding of the **General Federation of Women's Clubs**, please visit their website gfwc.org. You may subscribe to receive their free weekly e-newsletter "*News and Notes*", along with the *GFWC Clubwoman Magazine*, which is published quarterly (all issues available in the Member Portal).

THE GFWC LEARNING GATEWAY SERIES

FOR THE ENCOURAGEMENT AND ADVANCEMENT OF WOMEN: GFWC MEMBERS ARE ENCOURAGED TO PARTICIPATE IN THE GFWC LEARNING GATEWAY WEBINAR SERIES TO LEARN DIRECTLY FROM THE 2022-2024 GFWC HONORARY CHAIRMEN.

MARCH 22 @ 7 P.M. – *Advocacy Challenges: Overcoming Roadblocks and Building Coalition Support* by Stephenie Foster, Founding Partner of Smash Strategies, Honorary Chairman for GFWC Juniors' Special Program

APRIL 18 @ 7 P.M. – *Chocolate, Chardonnay, and Chanel - The Power of Personal Behaviors in Health and Wellness* by Nagi Kumar, Ph.D., Cancer Chemoprevention and Initiatives Moffitt Cancer Center, Honorary Chairman for Health & Wellness Community Service Program

APRIL 25 @ 7 P.M. – *Drawing Connections: Prevention Demands Equity* by Monika Johnson Hostler, President of the National Alliance to End Sexual Violence, Honorary Chairman for GFWC Signature Program



Let's show our support for GFWC Honorary Chairman Dr Nagi Kumar from Moffitt Cancer Hospital in Tampa Fl. Register today to hear about foods and cancer prevention.

To Register for this Webinar, click on link below. Date and Time of Webinar: **April 18 at 7:00 p.m.**
[Chocolate, Chardonnay, and Chanel - The Power of Personal Behaviors in Health and Wellness](#)

From **GFWC's News & Notes**. GFWC's weekly e-newsletter keeps clubwomen and friends up-to-date on all the latest GFWC programs, projects, and issues. To receive *News & Notes*, sign up through the [Member Portal](#).
- GFWC@GFWC.org

GFWC FLORIDA Annual Spring Convention: April 20th-23rd Orlando

• **Theme: "Puttin' On The Ritz"**

For Details and Registration Information:

<https://acrobat.adobe.com/link/track?uri=urn%3Aaaid%3Ascds%3AUS%3A102b7f94-b1b5-3d52-94d5-fd7af8fe419e>

From Our Treasurer:

Treasurers Report by Joyce Mathisen

Opening Balance 3/3/2023		7,343.62
Additions:		
Dues Amelia Babikow Grzelak 2022/2023	45.00	
Dues Amelia Babikow Grzelak 2023/2024	75.00	
Dues Ursula Guy 2023/2024	75.00	
Refund BJ Warehouse	<u>16.03</u>	
Total Additions:	211.03	
Subtractions:		
Read Across America T. Bogushefsky	19.33	
Walmart Joshua/Heart FELT - J. Mathisen	60.05	
Dollar Tree Joshua/Heart FELT - J. Mathisen	80.63	
Walmart Joshua/Heart FELT - J. Mathisen	50.33	
Walmart - Herb Demo -J. Mathisen	40.24	
Publix -Mathisen	29.50	
Meeting District 8 -J. Mathisen	140.00	
BJ Food Joshua - Pizza- P. Anderson	176.97	
Publix Joshua -Pizza - P. Anderson	61.71	
Publix Joshua - Pizza - P. Anderson	37.14	
Badges- J. Gaglione	47.25	
Staples - Military Cards & Packaging Supplies	<u>86.18</u>	
Total Subtractions:	829.33	
Add Back:		
Outstanding: Read Across America- Bogushefsky	19.33	
Closing Balance 3/31/23		6,744.65

Thank you for being the best part of the GFWC Woman's Club of New Tampa.

Joyce Mathisen



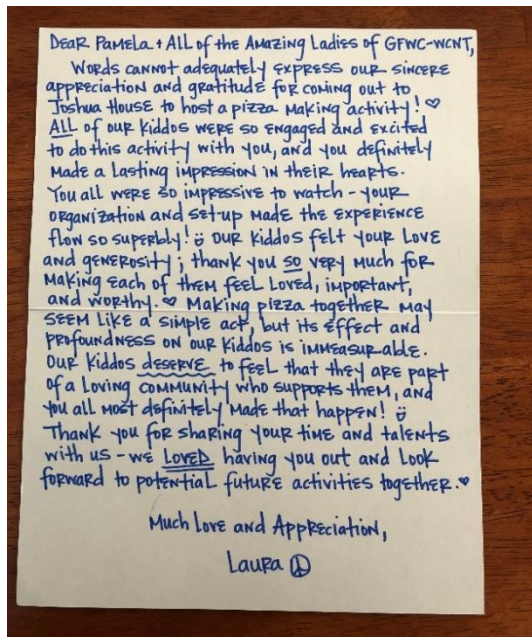


April 20th is Volunteer Recognition Day!!

Thank you to our Volunteers (who had as much fun as the kids!): Jolie Frankfurth, Geri Burke, Pam Anderson, Caralyn Paul, Linda Bocage, Ivette Moore, and Amelia Babikow-Dupps, our newest member! (In the red apron in top photo).



Our March 20th visit to Joshua House to have a Pizza Party with the kids! 25 kids made their own personalized pan pizzas; and enjoyed eating them as much as making them!



Thank you card from Laura Calco – Life Enrichment Program Manager at Joshua House (far left in top photo).



*Thank you to our
 March Volunteers for
 Living the Volunteer
 Spirit*

Thank you, members, for your spirit of generosity in giving to others!



Lisa Sklet delivered our donations of “gently used” clothing and other needed supplies to Colonial ALF.



Pam Anderson delivered the Easter Gift Bags to the HeartFELT Kids Ministry Office at St. James UMC



Theresa Bogushefsky and Ivette Moore at the New Tampa Juniors “Blue Bag Project” – helping assemble Appreciation Bags for our local Police Dept. GFWC-WCNT donated blue “Thin Blue Line” cozies to be a part of the bags.



*“Volunteers do not necessarily have the time; they just have the heart.”
Elizabeth Andrew*