

## General Membership Meeting

Rogers Park, 610 S. 9<sup>th</sup> Street, Leesburg FL  
September 9, 2024 @ 11:00 a.m. – Social 10:30 a.m.

The meeting was called to order at 11:00 AM at Rogers Park Social Center. President Rose Martens lead the club in saying the Pledge of Allegiance and the GFWC Collect.

Bunny Davis led the devotion in the absence of Chaplain, Wendy Churchville. President Rose Martens reminded the members of proper phone etiquette during a presentation by an invited speaker. No cell phones during the meeting. The first order of business was the report by each of the committee chairs.

### **Ways and Means, Barbara Howell, 1<sup>st</sup> Vice President and Committee Chair**

#### **Quarter Auction**

The auction netted nearly [REDACTED] to be used in support for Cornerstone Hospice and Forward Pathways

#### **Honor Flight**

An anonymous donor has pledged to match funds of up to \$500 toward the GFWC all female honor flight scheduled for next year. The Leesburg chapter wants to sponsor our three veteran members. Seventy-two members and chaperones across the state will be selected to participate. Pat Blasko will chair the initiative to achieve the goal.

#### **Belk Charity Sales**

Each member was asked to buy 5 tickets at \$5 to sell for the annual Belk Charity Sales day

Bunny Davis gave a testimonial as to the ease and enjoyment of participating in the Charity Days sales

#### **Stamp Sales**

Barbara Howell has collected [REDACTED] this month in stamp sales. Arlene Golden has sold [REDACTED].

#### **Clermont GFWC Fashion Show**

The Clermont GFWC supported the Leesburg Quarter Auction. Barbara Howell has requested we support their Fashion Show on November 2.

Tickets for their annual fashion show are \$40 and available for sale today.

#### **Membership, Perri Cook, Committee Chair**

Perri posted the minutes of the last meeting and the current agenda online in the absence of Secretary Laura Hannam. No printed material was available

### **Programs, Linda Way, 2<sup>nd</sup> Vice President and Committee Chair**

[REDACTED] was collected in our monthly 50/50 drawing. Margo Saylor had the winning ticket. Pat Silverstein won a gift basket.

Rose Martens presented Lucille DiSanto and Barbara Howell with appreciation gift baskets for their work on the Quarter Auction.

Rose drew a number from the 50/50 basket for someone to accompany her to the District Meeting on October 19 in Orlando. Marissa Honka was selected to attend.

**Treasurer Report, Jane Ward, Committee Chair,**

Jane gave the general treasury report. Members requested more specific numbers, which was provided

**Investment Treasurer,** Jane Ward gave the Investment report in the absence of **Jane Rudderow.**

**Arts and Culture, Sandi Velardo, Committee Chair**

Sandi reported that the club participated in the annual Downtown Leesburg Scarecrow Build. Jane Ward, Jan Davis and Karyn Lambert were present to help with the build. No report on which organization won the competition this year. The November Art Project will be decorating the annual Thanksgiving baskets that the club distributes to needy families of Leesburg Elementary School. More information will be available at the November meeting. Members are asked to bring nonperishable food to fill the baskets. Three members have volunteered to provide turkeys for the baskets,

Sandi has planned a session at the Colored Easel's Paint N Sip program to raise money to be donated to the GFWC Honor Flight for the female veterans

The December Art Project will be decorating bags for the membership to fill with toiletries, cards and stamps for the residents at Mayfair Assisted Living facility in Leesburg.

**Civic Engagement and Outreach, Arlene Golden, Committee Chair**

Arlene reported more than 2,500 pounds of food was donated for The Day of Giving. The food was given to the Leesburg Elementary School to be distributed to needy students to have for days they are not able to have a school lunch.

The school had also expressed a need for girls shoes. Many pairs of new shoes were delivered to the school along with the food. Arlene reported she received a thank you note from the school.

Lucille DiSanto, Becky Fadik and Arlene Golden participated in the National Night Out at Venetian Gardens.

The female veterans of the club will be riding in a convertible driven by Pat Silverstein, at the Veteran's Day Parade | Leesburg on November 9.

A request was made for volunteers to meet for the Walk for Freedom October 19, at the Lake Sumter State College to raise awareness of human trafficking

Arlene placed a sign-up sheet for volunteers to aid the Salvation Army in the annual bell ringing at Lake Harris Publix in December.

**Education and Libraries, Dee Ream and Jane Ward, committee co chairs**

Members were reminded of the annual Day in the Park on October 17  
Reminder to sign up for Thanksgiving Food Baskets for three families at Leesburg Elementary School Marissa Honka will head the sign up for the baskets.

**Speaker**

Linda Way introduced Rick Goupil, Insurance representative with United Healthcare. Mr Goupil outlined the benefits of Medicare Advantage Plans.

The meeting broke for lunch catered by Debra Davis Catering

**Induction Ceremony**

New members were welcomed and inducted to the Leesburg GFWC  
The November meeting will be held at Ellen's Café in Downtown Leesburg because the regular meeting place will be closed due to Veteran's Day.  
The meeting was adjourned at 1:30 pm.

Minutes submitted by Jan Davis in the absence of Secretary Laura Hannam.

