

General Membership Meeting Minutes

Rogers Park, 610 S. 9th Street, Leesburg FL
February 10, 2025 @ 11:00 a.m.

Open: Rose Martens

- Rose Martens welcomed all and called the meeting to order @ 11:00 AM.
- A quorum was present.
- Bunnie Davis led the devotion.
- The members stood and said the Pledge of Allegiance and the Collect.

President's Message: Rose Martens

- Rose Martens, President, reported on the meeting for District Seven held in Orlando, FL. The Leesburg Chapter met the Reporting Challenge this year. Rose commended Secretary Laura Hannam for meeting the challenge this year.
- Rose displayed the certificate received from the National office commemorating the 115th anniversary of the Leesburg chapter of the GFWC. Rose presented the club members with a cake to commemorate the occasion.
- The date for the Veteran's Honor Flight has been changed to March 2026. Tickets to the Fashion Show in Orlando benefitting the Honor Flight are still available. Rose Martens encouraged the membership to participate.
- There will be a meeting on March 19 from 1:00-4: PM at the Legacy Social Hall kitchen to sort jewelry for the annual Mother's Day project for the Leesburg Elementary School. Barbara Howell offered to purchase baggies to bring for the sorted jewelry.
- There will be a budget meeting on February 27, at 1:00 PM in the Legacy Social Hall Kitchen. All members are welcome and encouraged to attend.
- A Bylaws meeting will be held at 10:00 AM on March 24 at the Colored Easel.
- Jane Ward reviewed the financial report and passed out a copy of the report to the members.
- Jean Rudderow gave the Treasury report.
- A motion was made by Lucille DiSanto and seconded by Miriam Craig to file the reports for audit. The motion passed unanimously.
- The positions for creating monthly newsletter, and maintaining the website are open and need to be filled. Members were encouraged to volunteer for these positions for the 2025-26 year. Laura Hannam will continue to keep the Face Book site.

1st Vice President: Barbara Howell

- Ways and means
 - Barbara Howell reported the club exceeded the [REDACTED] fundraising goal by raising [REDACTED] this year.
 - The Quarter Auction will be March 8 at Arlington Ridge. Volunteer sign-up sheets are available
 - The Belk Charity Days dates have not been announced, but volunteers are needed.
 - Office Depot offered members a discount card; Barbara Howell will distribute those today.
- Membership – Perri Cook
 - Membership information will be available at the Quarter Auction.
 - The election of Board and Committee members will be next month. Anyone wishing to be considered for a position should sign up. Perri will hold two new member orientations on February 12 at 10:00 am and February 19th at 6:00 pm at her home.
 - There was discussion on the By Laws concerning the rule regarding that one must be a member for one full year before they can be elected to the Board. Barbara Howell read the By Law regarding the rule in question stating that is not the case. Jean Rudderow objected citing her interpretation of the rule.
 - Pat Blaschka, military veteran and current member, displayed the patriotic quilt she made to benefit the Honor Flight fund raising project. Tickets are being sold to donate to the Honor Flight Project.

2nd Vice President: Linda Way

- Linda stated the speaker for this month is Major Marie Harris (Ret) of the Salvation Army.
- Linda attended the District Meeting, reporting Leesburg had eight members in attendance.
- Member Lucille DiSanto was nominated as one of the Volunteers of the Year at the meeting.
- The chapter January Art Project was participation in the presentation of projects from individual chapters at the district meeting for award consideration. Winners will be announced at a later date.
- A total of [REDACTED] was raised for the club 50/50 drawing. Bunnie Davis was this month's winner.
- Members with February birthdays were honored,

- **Arts and Culture:** Sandi Velardo
 - The February Art project was a ceramics class at the Colored Easel where members selected a ceramic piece of their choice to create. Sandra brought her planter that she created to show.
 - The March project will be decorating St. Patrick Decorations and filling with treats for First Responders in Leesburg.
- **Civic Engagement and Outreach:** Arlene Golden
 - Arlene reported there will be a MLK Ecumenical Service on at 4:00 March 23, at the Christian Worship Center, 1414 E Main St in Leesburg. Members are encouraged to attend.
- **Education and Libraries:** Dee Ream and Jane Ward
 - The club will be honored on March 6 by Lake Sumpter State College for the years of service dedicated to the many years of student scholarships for the Nursing program
- **Environment:** Wendy Churchville
 - Wendy Churchville asked all members to bring their aluminum can tabs to the next meeting as this will be the last time to donate these to Ronald McDonald House.
 - Linda Way shared information on The Mercy Ship, one of the programs that the club supports.
- **Health and Wellness** – Rose Martens
 - Volunteers are needed for Bingo at the Mayfair Assisted Living Facility at 2:00 PM February 13th.

The meeting recessed for lunch, which included a Taco Bar, served by Debra Davis Catering service and the cake provided in honor of the club's 115-year anniversary.

The meeting resumed and the speaker Retired Major Marie Harris of the Leesburg Salvation Army gave an overview of the services provided by the organization.

Meeting adjourned at 1:20 p.m.

Next General Meeting to be held at Rogers Park, 610 S. 9th Street, Leesburg FL, March 10, 2025 @ 11:00 a.m. – Social 10:30 a.m.

Jan Davis filling in for Laura Hannam, Secretary