



Southside in a Nutshell



The Official Newsletter of the GFWC Virginia Southside District

January 3, 2012

Winter 2011

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Special points of interest:

- News from the SSD, p7



From Your President, Del Williams
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WOW!! Where has the time gone? It seems that we were just together at the Fall District Meeting, and now here we are planning to celebrate the Birth of Jesus.

The weather has been very conducive for all that shopping we all do this time of year. Hope it continues well in 2012.

Along with the shopping and Christmas plans, we are to be thinking about reporting all those wonderful things that your club has accomplished during 2011. Gloria is busy putting together a reporting matrix for club presidents as well as district chairmen. Things did not change from last reporting period, so use the same forms that you used for 2010 reports. Just be certain that you use the proper reporting form from GFWC. At the Fall District Meeting, I mentioned that the new supplement pages were sent to you via e-mail or through the regular mail. Use the figures on page 215 for the number of members to report on your forms. Don't forget to submit a narrative for the "Special Awards" for that specific project/program that are in those guidelines. Those guidelines start on page 22 of your yearbook.

The Executive Committee will be meeting in January along with the Hostess Clubs. Windsor Woman's Club is hostess for the Spring Arts Festival, the other hostesses are Colonial Heights Woman's Club, GFWC Franklin Junior Woman's Club and the GFWC Junior Woman's Club of Hopewell.

As Angela mentioned in October, we have a new junior club – the GFWC James River Junior Woman's Club. They have been working very hard and have hit the road running and are off to a good start. We will probably welcome them at the March meeting. I certainly hope so.

I leave you with this thought: Like the quilt squares, we are not all perfect. We can never be perfect and it does not matter anyway, because you will never notice it on the back of a galloping horse. We are all galloping horses going through our club work, so don't count the flaws in each other. As we gallop through our days, life goes too fast to criticize. Encouraging words create growth and determination to improve. *Like the pieces of a quilt, each piece is joined together to make a whole.* Each piece (you) of the Southside District is different, and the whole is our wonderful Southside District.

Take care and be safe throughout this wonderful season. Merry Christmas and Best Wishes for your happiness in the New Year.

In Federation love,
 Del



“Like the pieces of a quilt, each piece is joined together to make a whole.”



Treasurer

Sheila M. Ridout smridout@msn.com
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Brrrr! We seem to have jumped right into winter ~ it's beginning to look a lot like Christmas and feel a lot like winter! Before we know it, the holidays will be a thing of the past and dues time will be upon us, so just wanted to pass along a few reminders.

The Dues Transmittal Form can be found on page 48 of your SSD yearbook. In addition to dues, use the form to include: donations to the Mary Frances Hartz Scholarship, donations to the District Project, and the \$7.50 Hosting Fund assessment. Dues should be sent before January 25th.

Want to honor a fellow clubwoman, secret pal, guest speaker, or installing officer? A donation to the District Project or to the MFH Scholarship would be a lasting tribute. Donations can be forwarded to me at any time of the year, and I'll send a note to the honoree acknowledging the donation.

Clubs have also been asking about the raffle tickets for the quilt project. You are welcome to send them to me, along with checks, at any time (including with your dues) so that I can get your tickets tallied and the checks deposited in a timely manner. If you need additional tickets, I can send some or forward the sheet of tickets for you to print. Sell! Sell!!! Sell!!!

During the year if you're forwarding any donations (to the District Project or to the MFH Scholarship in honor of someone...), please make sure to include a note in the memo line of the check specifying what the check is for and/or include a written note.

Please make any checks written to the District payable to "Southside District – GFWC VA" or "Southside District." If I can be of help in any way, please be in touch! Wishing each of you a Merry Christmas and a wonderful holiday season!!!



District Department Reports

Leadership Advancement

Gloria Worrell, First Vice President, gaworrel@sentara.com, (757) 562-0300

Denise Price, Junior Chairman, Sandra.price2@va.gov, (804) 458-3675

Merry Christmas to you all!

It's that time again when that special something is in the air and we are wishing that all of our dreams will come true! So the very best Holiday wishes are extended for you and your families. Then January comes, our favorite time, reporting! **January 25, 2012** is the deadline to have all of your reports in to your District Chairmen. Please call or email me if you need any help (757 934-4738), I will be more than happy to assist you and visit the GFWC for all of your forms and other information!

Remember how important reporting actually is, yes it may be a pain, but it is recording the History of your clubs. Look for my email on some important reporting topics. Your reporting matrix will remain the same as last year, please refer to your District year book and remember you can only report on members your club paid dues on last January 2011.

I would like to pause and say thank you to everyone who sent cards and emails, and special visits to me during the loss of my Mother, it meant so much.



Fundraising Advancement Program

Connie Myers, Chairman, chm13@aol.com, (804) 732-3008

Marti Clark, Junior Chairman, babyblythe@mail.com, (757) 569-0824

I'd like to thank everybody who donated jewelry for our fundraiser at the Fall District Meeting. We made over \$300 in just the short time allotted to us, which I think was fantastic! A very special thanks goes out to Laura Smith of the Prince George County Woman's Club, who was supposed to be my helper, but she did it all! I did collect some of the jewelry, but she sorted it and displayed it in such a way that you ladies could not resist buying it! Thanks, Laura, for all your hard work. I could not have done it without you.

Arts & Crafts

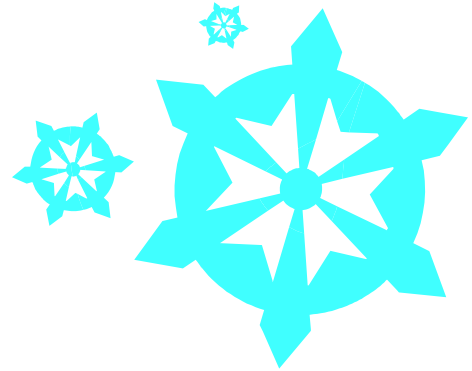
Jeanie Pond, Coordinator

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Ah, Christmas, the season that allows our creativeness to go wild, decorating our homes, wrapping our gifts, and if you are one of those persons who budgets your time wisely, makes many of your Christmas gifts. Unfortunately, I am not that person, but I can encourage you to be. A handmade gift is so special to the recipient. And you can borrow it back to enter in your arts and crafts contest which will be here long before we are ready. Also, keep that camera handy so that you won't miss that perfect photo.

But whatever you do, whether you make your gifts or purchase them, enjoy this season with your family and friends and have a very Merry Christmas and a Happy and Healthy New Year!



Public Policy

Lori Chevalier, Chairman

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(804) 541-4257

The Virginia General Assembly and the 112th Congress will soon be in session. Are you an informed citizen? Below are some sites that can provide you with additional information.

Project Vote Smart is an online voter research guide. Critical information, such as voting records, public statements and issue positions, can be found on almost any state or federally elected official.

The Library of Congress' **THOMAS website** provides information about specific bills both currently before either House of Congress and in previous sessions. This information can be found by searching for key words or a specific bill number.

Open Secrets is a project of the Center for Responsive Politics. The website compiles information on campaign and political contributions to federally elected officials based on information taken from the Federal Election Commission.

Helen Hill has finished the quilt, and she and Del have taken it on the road already. It is now called the "travelling quilt!" If your club has not scheduled Helen or Del to bring the quilt to one of your meetings, call either of them, and they will be glad to come and show it to your members. You really have to see it to appreciate it; the pictures do not do it justice. It is beautiful, and anybody would be delighted to win it. Club Presidents, I hope you are selling tickets to win this quilt. It will be raffled off at the Spring District Meeting, and I know you want to take a chance on winning it.

I wish each of you a very Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year!

Women's Policy Inc. advises the Congressional Caucus for Women's Issues to help make informed decisions on policies that affect women. They also advise federal regulators, academics, women's groups, the business community, and the media.

Congressional Quarterly is a news-based website that provides an insider's look into Washington D.C. politics and policy.

Calling all reports! Make sure to send me your club reports by January 25th. I can't wait to read all the activities Southside District clubs have done in 2011!

Be sure to mark your calendar for **Tuesday, February 21st**. This is GFWC Virginia's "A Day in the Capital". It should be a very informative day. More details will be in the **Virginia Clubwoman** as well as on the GFWC Virginia website.

Education Community Service Program

Ann Hoover, Chairman

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(804) 733-8217

All at once, we are at the end of the year, decorating with bright lights for the holidays. At the same time, we gather our notes and records of the **Education Community Service Program** projects and activities your club has carried out in 2011. We can say that your **Education Community Service** efforts are year-long shining lights in your community and beyond!

You are asked to compile your club education volunteer work (all those shining lights!) into a record - **reports** - to shine in Southside District and GFWC Virginia. Use your department notes and records, District and State reporting information to help report all you have accomplished. And, to make plans for education volunteer projects for the coming year.

Education projects go into two reporting areas:

PARTNERSHIPS are programs and projects clubs carry out using education project materials, speakers, kits, etc., especially designed for GFWC clubs to use in their communities by national or international organizations **chosen by GFWC**. At this writing, there are three:

American Library Association
Mentoring USA
Reading Rockets/WETA Public Television

Only projects, programs, activities derived from these three resources may be reported as Partnerships.

Everything else you do is to be reported as Collaborations!

COLLABORATIONS are programs, projects, activities which clubs initiate on their own or with others to meet needs in their communities or beyond—just as we have always done. **This includes everything we do that is not derived from one of the three above Partnership resources.** There is no other limit to what you can do and report in **Collaborations.** Most of what we do here in Southside would fall under **Collaborations.**

This chairman is most willing to help, just call or email. Again, thank you for your volunteer work for Education Community Service. You and your club are a valued, important part of Federated volunteer efforts in Southside District as you let your education lights shine. Happy Holidays!

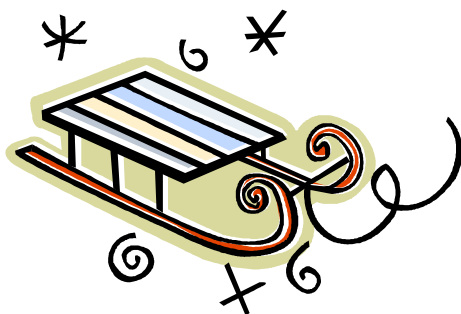


Health and Home Life Community Service Program

Mary Bagshaw, Chairman

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(804) 458-6901



Well another year is coming to an end once we get through the holidays. This time can be very stressful on us and our families. We must try to remember to take care of ourselves and not overdo too much be it food, activities or work. Take time to enjoy yourself and your family. Remember to eat healthy, exercise, and to get plenty of sleep. Sleep is very important for our well-being and sometimes we short ourselves which affects our health. As we age we think that we need less sleep but research has shown that we still need 7-8 hours of good restful sleep.

I hope that everyone will have a wonderful holiday. I will look forward to reading all those great reports on Health and Home Life when you send them to me. I know that everyone is going to be very busy in the next months; myself included trying to get it all done by deadline time.

I just want to wish you all a very *Merry Christmas* and a safe and happy and especially a very healthy *Happy New Year* for 2012.

Signature Project: Domestic Violence Awareness and Prevention

Abby Lynch, Chairman

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(804) 526-5419



Abuse is abuse no matter what time of year it happens. Domestic situations tend to increase during the holidays because of holiday stress, gift giving, being in close quarters with family or friends we may not get along with. Sometimes expectations can give us the holiday blues.

What do you say to someone (a co-worker, a friend, a family member) you are concerned about? "You know I really care about you. I've noticed you haven't been yourself lately. I would rather be wrong or have you mad at me for asking than have anything happen to you -- so I just wanted to check with you and ask -- are you okay? Are you safe?"

If your friend tells you he or she is fine, you might say something like: "That's great! If you decide things aren't okay, I want you to know my door is always open."

Even if it is awkward, we should be able to look out for each other, and ask each other these questions. It is better to be embarrassed or uncomfortable or wrong rather than have something happen that could have been prevented. You may want to ask again in a few weeks, just to see how things are going.

In addition to you having your friend or family member's back, many community resources like churches, shelters, and the local police are available to help, especially during the holidays.

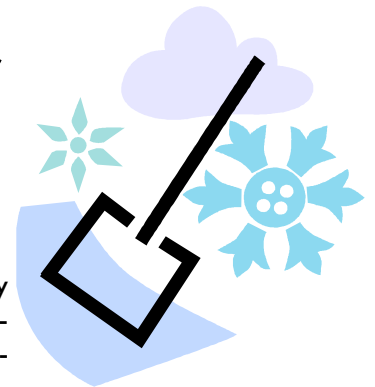
Here's Wishing Each of You a Happy and Safe Holiday!

Conservation Community Service Program

Connie Wilde, Chairman

cwilde6060@gmail.com

(804) 458-6060



Squirrels may be fun to watch but sometimes they can create mischief such as when they start stripping bark or snipping off twigs, especially on arborvitae that has been planted as a privacy hedge. Apparently the squirrels are usually after sap, although in some cases they carry material to line their nests.

The squirrels have the advantage in this battle between wildlife and landscaping, but not all is lost. The following are a few things to try to "get even" with the squirrels:

- ◆ For newly-planted trees, use tree shelters (plastic tubes) around the saplings.
- ◆ On shrubs and taller trees, spray with squirrel repellent. Commercial products are available in nursery or hardware stores. Some are ready to apply, which works well if the application is close to the ground or reachable from a ladder. For higher locations, you may need to use a spray mix to apply with a garden hose attachment. There are also homemade repellents, with cheap, safe cayenne pepper, (capsaicin being the repelling chemical) as the key ingredient.
- ◆ Use a live-trap and transport the furry felons to nice habitat where they can live happily and do no harm. This last suggestion has been tried at our house but apparently the squirrels like it here better and find their way back to our yard. Good luck in trying to "tame" the squirrels!

Southside District Special Project: VCU Massey Cancer Center

Anne Bryant, Chairman

anneb1983@charter.net

(757) 562-5783

We voted at the Fall District meeting to continue with the VCU Massey Cancer Center – help for lymphodema patients as the District Project. This money helps women to buy compression garments for their swollen limb. These garments can cost \$150 or more and many insurances do not pay for them. Thanks to your generosity, we usually raise around \$3000. Thank you!!!

Back by popular demand is the silent auction at Spring District to raise money for the District Project (50% to the project/50% to district operating funds.) This has been great fun and at times very competitive! I am asking each club to donate at least one themed basket/pocket book or food goodie worth at least \$25 for the auction. (If you'd like to do more than one – that would be most welcome!) When you know your theme, please email me or call me to let me know what you are doing. We want to have a good variety.

Public Issues Community Service Project

Aldia Carter, Chairman

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(757) 899-3186

The following are several ideas that clubs should consider participating in for the Public Issues Program.

Pledge of Allegiance to the United States of America - A club can make a difference in public issues by working with local elementary schools on the correct way to say the Pledge of Allegiance. In years past the easiest way to help a child memorize the pledge was to break it down in smaller segments and in doing this children learned the Pledge incorrectly. Teach children to say the Pledge with pauses only where there are commas.

Student Voter Registration - Work with local high schools to have the Registrar for your county/city available at a specific date to provide registration for graduating seniors.

Overseas Coupon Project - Have members clip coupons and separate them into Food and Non-Food categories. Go on line to the OCP website to get a list of bases and then adopt a base to send your coupons to. Many of our service men and women serving our country are having a difficult time providing for their families, just as each of us has found, so by participating in this coupon project we will be helping our service men and women and their families. A list of bases can be found on the OCP website, http://www.ocpnet.org/base_list.htm, (note the underline between base and list in the website address). You will send your coupons directly to the base you adopt. Before mailing any coupons, email the OCP at Adoptions@ocpnet.org with the name of the base you want to adopt, along with the required identifying information. There are a few things to keep in mind:

- ◆ There is no minimum donation size, but you are responsible for postage.
- ◆ Unless you are sending large quantities and can justify the use of a flat rate mailer, parcel post is most likely the cheapest shipping method. Parcel post takes longer, however, to reach the destination than a flat rate priority mailer.
- ◆ Fill out a customs form 2976-A for mailing overseas, mark “coupons” as the description, list dollar value as \$0.00, and check the box marked “gift.”

Reporting time is just around the corner so be sure to review the work that your club has done this year in the area of Public Issues and report all your projects and programs regardless of how small. Happy Holidays to you all!

We didn't get a lot of food items last year, but that is still an option. Do folks always rave about your pound cake or coconut pie? I remember a wonderful tower of chocolate from last year! Put it on/in a nice dish to make a great auction item. But make sure it's something that will travel well.

Thanks much for all you do to help those who need our help!





News from all over the Southside District



The Woman's Club Of Windsor

Mary Lee Willis, President, mwillis43@verizon.net, (757) 242-6719

The Woman's Club of Windsor has had a very busy fall. We sponsored three performances of "Hugs and Kisses" at two of our elementary schools, had six participants at the State Fair, filled two large baskets for the Veterans Hospital on Veteran's Day, as well as sending letters of thanks to seventeen area World War II veterans, donated over 50 pairs of socks to the Genieve Shelter as part of the "Step Away from Abuse" campaign, had two entries in the "Stepping Up" contest sponsored by the Breast Cancer Support Group at Sentara Obici and Louise Obici Auxiliary, dressed 40 dolls for the Salvation Army, provided school supplies to the children in our adopted family and donated school supplies to the five teachers in our club.

Despite a very busy fall and holiday season, several members of the Woman's Club of Windsor pitched in to help the Friends of the Windsor Library with their Breakfast with Santa. We're planning a Pajama Party for our Christmas meeting and plan to have fun as we get ready to celebrate Christmas.



Members of the Riparian Woman's Club visit with Santa at the Windsor Library.

Riparian Woman's Club

Mary Ann Renner, President, mrenner@alliedconcrete.com, (434) 634-9073



Riparian members and guests enjoy the delicious salads prepared for the Prospective Members Salad Reception.

The Riparian Membership committee held a **Prospective Members Salad Reception** on August 15th at Village View. Four prospective, 15 members and 1 guest attended. The salads were all wonderful and the decorations were great. All four have signed to be members! They are: Lary Brown, Jean Newsome, Sarah Poarch and Pattie Tillar. Lynn Hughey, Chairman, explained what Riparian various departments do, and what we're all about. A good time was had by all.

Newsletter Editor's Note:

Do YOU have some interesting news to share from YOUR club? Send your articles in for the Spring Issue by January 27th to Beth Lipp, SSD Newsletter Editor at: blipp_36@hotmail.com. PLEASE include a picture of your event or accomplishment and be sure to list all members who appear in the picture!

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The Official Newsletter
of the GFWC Virginia
Southside District
GFWC - Virginia

Rosemary Buskirk, Subscription Chairman
405 Battery Avenue
Emporia, Virginia 23847



Southside District Calendar

January 25, 2012	Deadline: Dues to GFWC- VA and District Deadline: Club Reports Deadline: LEADS applications
January 27, 2012	Deadline for Nutshell Articles – Send to Beth Lipp
February 27, 2012	Deadline for Virginia Clubwoman - send to Lynn Osborne
February 15, 2012	Deadline: Special District Award Entries
March 1, 2012	Deadline for State Junior Special Awards
March 16, 2012	Enter Arts & Crafts 9 am- 12 pm
March 17, 2012	Southside District Spring Meeting & Crafts Festival Southeast 4-H Center, Wakefield, VA
April 15, 2012	Deadline for Supplementary Dues- Members joining after Jan. 25
April 15, 2012	Important: Mail name and address of Club President to District President/Jr Director by this date. See GFWC-VA yearbook for form.
April 20-22, 2012	GFWC VA Convention -Richmond
April 24, 2012	GFWC Federation Day
June 4, 2012	Deadline for Virginia Clubwoman - send to Lynn Osborne