

GFWC Virginia Statistical Form – Annual Club Record – 2021

Activity Summary

After another challenging year due to the pandemic that has disrupted life for everyone, the Woman's Club of Springfield has continued our fellowship and mission as best as we could. We changed administrations mid spring, during one of our virtual meetings viz Zoom. The Church where we have been meeting for years has been closed to outside groups, so we had virtual meetings until our summer break. After resuming in September, we met at our local library when we could set up a meeting space. We tried to keep contact with each other the whole year electronically and in person whenever safely possible. All the year we have kept our Thrift Store running on a limited basis with reduced staff and customers, operating at a deficit most of the year. We still were able to donate over \$7,500 to our community with Pink Elephant reserve funds and hope to see the shop strengthening our profitability in the new year. In addition, our generous members provided nearly \$5,000 for in-kind donations.

To keep in contact with each other we were able to have some safely distanced luncheons, took our scholarship winner and her family to lunch (instead of our dinner meeting in June), and had a "Tea and Trains" open house in December. Our Good Cheer ladies were especially busy, sending cards, letters, flowers, keeping up spirits when needed. The club gave special awards to three members who kept us laughing all year with their emailed jokes and videos.

The challenge of increasing and maintaining our membership is always a concern. Because of the increased dependence on electronic communications, we have sent information and guidance by email to members, including our newsletters, meeting minutes, special votes, GFWC news, community newsletters, and general public news. We invested in updating and expanding our website and social media presence. We've archived all club records, meeting minutes, newsletters, calendars, directories, and policies on a password protected section on the website. None of this could have been achieved without the generous help from our club friend and webmaster, Paul McCoy. He was referred to us by one of our members and his service has been greatly appreciated.

All through the year our arts committee members met safely with craft projects we made for fundraising and fun. We were able to hostess our Northern District Fall Meeting and participated in the Market Place as well. Our most hopeful development came in December, when our Grace Church in Springfield allowed us to have our annual Holiday party in our usual meeting space, with the Chorus from Lewis High School singing for us in the Sanctuary. What a wonderful and inspiring program to end a challenging year! We look forward to a healthy and happy 2022.