

GFWC Virginia Statistical Form – Annual Club Record – 2023

Activity Summary

In January of 2023 WCoS welcomed 2 new members. Spouses and friends joined members at a local Chinese Restaurant to celebrate Chinese New Year. WCoS collected used and new bras to support “Free the Girls” charity organization. In February, to celebrate Valentine’s Day and Arts, we made cards at the meeting. Our guest speaker, a teacher from North Springfield Elementary School, shared her art and spoke about her educational journey of becoming a teacher. WCoS added another new member. Layette items were collected for a local hospital. In March, "Activities for Senior Citizens" was the meeting program. Emergency clothing was collected for Crestwood Elementary School. We were volunteer docents at Woodlawn Plantation's Needlework Art Show.

April found us celebrating WCoS at our Federation and Installation Luncheon. Joyce Jolly, N. District President, was our guest. We welcomed a new member. Three members participated in the NDVA Spring meeting in Fredericksburg and three at VA State Convention in Lynchburg.

At the May annual business meeting, after many months of work, Bylaws and Policies were discussed and updated. At our annual Spring Faire in May we hosted 24 vendors and earned \$1,000 to support Bethany House. Pajamas and items for Cares for Kids were collected at our meeting. There was a pillow stuffing party to complete 40 pillows we made for Mended Hearts.

One of the highlights of our club year is the presentation of our annual scholarship. In June we awarded a \$3,000 scholarship to deserving young woman in our community. The selection is made based on an application, academics, need, outside activities, an essay, and an interview.

We continued to stay in touch through the summer with movies, lunch dates, and other activities. During concert season, members who attended handed out cookies and info cards highlighting WCoS and our Shop, the Pink Elephant (PE.) During August, members, friends, and spouses went on a river cruise of the Anacostia. Two members attended the GFWC Virginia Summer Conference.

In September, after decades of meeting at Grace Presbyterian Church, WCoS’s general meeting moved to Prince of Peace Lutheran Church. Before the start of our first meeting, everyone enjoyed a few rousing games of Bingo with prizes! Our second layette collection took place in September. Five members participated over two days in support of local food banks for the GFWC National Day of Service. In October, a local politician spoke on local issues, answered questions, and stressed that everyone vote. WCoS welcomed a new member. New and lovingly used stuffed animals were collected for the Teddy Bear Brigade. Also in October, our President and six members attended the GFWC Northern District meeting in Springfield. Some members participated in the candlelight vigil for Bethany House. In November, a pharmacist spoke on the use of CBD. It was very informative. Members supported the Richard Byrd Library’s semi-annual book sale. Emergency clothing was collected for Garfield Elementary School.

In December, our Hospitality committee planned a lovely progressive luncheon for our holiday celebration. Three members opened their homes to the membership for appetizers, entree, and dessert. Everyone enjoyed the festivities which included a gift exchange. The Club donated 10 wreaths to Wreaths Across America. (\$170)

Besides our general membership meetings and volunteering at our thrift shop, The Pink Elephant, our members meet for lunch, free movie classics at the Byrd Library, new movie releases at local theatres, arts and craft workshops, concerts, and visit senior citizen centers to help with arts and crafts projects. We look forward to another busy schedule in 2024!