



**Founding Member  
GFWC Florida  
Federation of  
Women's Clubs  
1895**

**Member  
General Federation  
of Women's Clubs  
1901**

## Inside this issue:

Birthdays 2

Notes from the  
1st VP 2

Bunco 3

Notes from the  
2nd VP 3

Halloween Block  
Party 4

Wisdom and  
Humor 4

This month in  
History 5

GFWC News 6

Event Calendar 6

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## From the President

Good Day ladies.

The next meeting on December 1<sup>st</sup> will be our annual Christmas Party. It is a potluck so bring your favorite holiday recipe. As we usually do at this meeting, guests, spouses and friends are invited.

Lunch will be at 12:00 noon with a short busi-

ness meeting immediately following at 1:00 pm. A special surprise will follow the business meeting. So don't miss it.

We will be in the Christmas Parade again this year so please bring wrapped candies that we can distribute from the float.

Take care till then.

*Priscilla*



*Merry Christmas and  
Happy New Year*

## Remember for December

This sounds like a repeat - and it is. You did a good job in November bringing non-perishable food items for Orange City Elementary School. *Please* do it again!!

Remember that they would like *items that children can prepare for themselves*. When school lets out for a holiday, many of the School's children will

no longer have meals. So let's help!!

Please bring items such as:

Granola bars  
Sandwich crackers  
Poptarts  
Cereal  
Peanut butter  
Jelly  
Single-serving Mac  
and Cheese  
Single-serving fruits/  
apple sauce

Single-serving puddings

We partner with this school. This is what we can do for them.

*Joan*



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**Member Birthdays**

November and December  
birthdays:

November

5 Priscilla Ballasy  
25 Mimi Pacifico

December

8 Barbara Kinzly  
16 Carol Johnson  
17 Ruth Blue  
20 Olive Hutton  
25 Helene Pastore  
31 Addie Stavley



When you stop believing in  
Santa,  
you get underwear.

**Notes from the First Vice President**

Greetings to all,  
I want to take a moment to thank the many members of this club from the bottom of my heart who have helped me get through the initial loss of my husband Nikolai. I would not have been able to remain so strong without your kind, supportive, wise and comforting words and love that poured my way. THANK YOU!

Our club is struggling to raise the donations we need to help the charities we support! I need your help in spreading the word. Please frequent our VIA Facebook page and share mine and Kim's postings about our events and fundraisers. If you have difficulty getting your email from our club website, or accessing the resources provided by the GFWC, contact

me and I will be happy to help you.

As always, a parting quote titled A Show of Thanks: "Not what we say about our blessings, but how we use them, is the true measure of our [thanksgiving](#)."- W. T. Purkiser

Have a blessed [Christmas](#),

*Laura*

## Bunco

As noted at our last meeting, our Bunco fundraiser has been moved to March 11. and help us make this a success. More news will follow.

If we are to continue raising money to fund our good works, all of us need to get on board

*Priscilla*



## Notes from the 2nd Vice President

In case you missed it:

At last month's meeting, Patrick Guckian, with the Florida Abolitionists, shared his knowledge and experience with combating human trafficking in Central Florida. He defined human trafficking as the improper acquiring of a human being by force, fraud, or coercion; and to use that person for profit. According to their website, there are now more slaves in the world than any other time in history.

The most common victims of human trafficking are young girls, though boys are victim-

ized also. Human trafficking victims are often forced into prostitution, pornography, stripping, peonage, and domestic servitude. Sadly, Florida is ranked 3rd in the nation due to the high number of visitors we have in our area.

Victims experience psychological abuse and even branding by their captors. Victims are often runaways and display low self esteem. They crave attention, affection and assets. Prevention is paramount and can be achieved by reaching young girls and boys who are vulnerable with awareness, education and legislation.

Individually and collectively, our club can be part of the solution to stop this horrible crime. Watch for these signs: physical abuse, lives with employer, displays fear/shame, and tattoo or branding on neck area. Collectively, we can support organizations like Florida Abolitionists and Share Hope International. I encourage you to visit <https://floridaabolitionist.org/> to learn more about how you can help.

*Kimberly*



## Halloween Block Party

Witches abounded at the Orange City sponsored Halloween Block Party. Cassandra Zelle, VIA's resident witch, handed out candy to over 2000 children. She was assisted in her efforts by Kim Reading, Doris Elsea, Dottie Pomeroy and Joan Lafleur.

The response was overwhelming as there was still a line of kids at our booth even as the event closed.



"Peace on earth will come to stay,  
when we live Christmas every day."

*Helen Steiner Rice*

## Amusing Christmas Turkey Story

Sarah, a new young bride, calls her mother in tears. She sobs,  
'Richard doesn't appreciate what I do for him.'

*and*

'Now, now,' her mother comforted, 'I am sure it was all just a misunderstanding.'

'No, mother, you don't understand. I bought a frozen turkey roll and he yelled and screamed at me about the price.'

'Well, the nerve of that lousy cheapskate,' says her mum. 'Those turkey rolls are only a few dollars.'

'No, mother it wasn't the price of the turkey. It was the airplane ticket.' "Airplane ticket...." What did you need an airplane ticket for?'

'Well mother, when I went to fix it, I looked at the directions on the package and it said: "Prepare from a frozen state," so I flew to Alaska.'

*Humor*

## This Month in History

- December 1, 1941** - The American Civil Air Patrol (CAP), a U.S. Air Force auxiliary, was founded.
- December 2, 1859** - Abolitionist leader John Brown was executed for treason at Charles Town, West Virginia, following his raid on the U.S. Arsenal at Harper's Ferry.
- December 4, 1829** - The British banned the practice of "suttee" in India in which Indian females traditionally burned themselves to death on their husband's funeral pyre.
- December 5, 1933** - The 18th Amendment (Prohibition Amendment) to the U.S. Constitution was repealed. For nearly 14 years, since January 29, 1920, it had outlawed the manufacture, transportation, and sale of alcoholic beverages in the U.S.
- December 6, 1865** - The 13th Amendment to the U.S. Constitution was ratified, abolishing slavery.
- December 7, 1941** - The U.S. Naval base at Pearl Harbor, Hawaii, was attacked by nearly 200 Japanese aircraft in a raid that lasted just over one hour and left nearly 3,000 Americans dead.
- December 8, 1980** - Former Beatle musician John Lennon was assassinated in New York City.
- December 9, 1948** - The United Nations General Assembly unanimously approved the Convention on the Prevention and Punishment of the Crime of Genocide.
- December 10, 1830** - Birthday - poet Emily Dickinson (1830-1886) was born in Amherst, Massachusetts.
- December 11, 1901** - The first transatlantic radio signal was transmitted by Guglielmo Marconi from Cornwall, England, to St. John's, Newfoundland.
- December 12, 1870** - Joseph Hayne Rainey of Georgetown, South Carolina, became the first African American to serve in the U.S. House of Representatives.
- December 13, 1545** - The Council of Trent, summoned by Pope Paul III, met to discuss doctrinal matters including the rise of Protestantism.
- December 14, 1918** - British women voted for the first time in a general election and were allowed to run for office.
- December 15, 1791** - The Bill of Rights (first 10 amendments to the U.S. Constitution) became effective following ratification by Virginia.
- December 16, 1944** - American big-band leader Glenn Miller disappeared in a small plane over the English Channel and was presumably killed.
- December 17, 1903** - After three years of experimentation, Orville and Wilbur Wright achieved the first powered, controlled airplane flights.
- December 18, 1865** - The 13th Amendment to the U.S. Constitution was ratified abolishing slavery.
- December 19, 1732** - Benjamin Franklin first published Poor Richard's Almanac containing weather predictions, humor, proverbs and epigrams, eventually selling nearly 10,000 copies per year.
- December 20, 1956** - The Montgomery bus boycott ended after the U.S. Supreme Court ruling integrating the Montgomery bus system was implemented.
- December 21st** - Winter begins in the Northern Hemisphere. In the Southern Hemisphere today is the beginning of summer.
- December 22, 1912** - Birthday - "Lady Bird" Johnson (1912-2007) was born in Karnack, Texas (as Claudia Alta Taylor).
- December 23, 1888** - Dutch painter Vincent van Gogh cut off his left ear during a fit of depression.
- December 24, 1990** - On Christmas Eve, the bells of St. Basil's Cathedral in Moscow rang for the first time since the death of Lenin.
- December 26, 2004** - An estimated 230,000 persons were killed and 1.5 million left homeless when a magnitude 9.3 earthquake on the seafloor of the Indian Ocean.
- December 27, 1927** - Josef Stalin consolidated his power in Soviet Russia by expelling rival Leon Trotsky from the Soviet Communist Party.
- December 28, 1832** - John C. Calhoun became the first American ever to resign the office of vice president.
- December 29, 1890** - Members of the U.S. 7th Cavalry massacred more than 200 Native American (Sioux) men, women and children at Wounded Knee Creek, South Dakota.
- December 30, 1993** - Israel and the Vatican signed an agreement on mutual recognition, seeking to end 2,000 years of unfriendly Christian-Jewish relations.
- December 31, 1879** - Thomas Edison provided the first public demonstration of his electric incandescent lamp at his laboratory in Menlo Park, New Jersey.

**VILLAGE  
IMPROVEMENT  
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**We're on the Web  
gfwcorangecity.org**

Organized May 15, 1894

Purpose: To operate exclusively to unite women and to promote their common interest in charitable and educational projects.



**Unity in Diversity**

## GFWC News

It will be reporting time again soon. Diane Foerster, GFWC Florida's First Vice President, reports that the newly revised updated list of 'what to report and where' is now available on

the state website (gfwcflorida.com). Just move across the top of the homepage to Women and click on Downloads from the pull down menu. The chairmen have also

posted informative bulletins to help with this task.

Dianne is available to help with any questions you may have.

## Event Calendar

### December

- 1 - 12 noon - General Meeting - Christmas Potluck
- 10 - Christmas Village, 11:00 am - 5:30 pm, Dickinson Park
- 10 - Christmas Parade, 5:00 pm
- 25 - Christmas