

GFWC-NC District 4: Community Service Betwixt and Between

Summer 2022 Newsletter



President's Message

Vanessa Lowder

presidentgfwncdistrict4@gmail.com



Greetings to the Clubwomen of District Four!

It is my pleasure to serve this great district of the North Carolina General Federation of Women's Clubs. Our GFWC-NC President Kim Fulcher has chosen as her special project the **Mountains-to-Sea Trail**, a long-distance recreational trail that traverses North Carolina from the Great Smoky Mountains to the Outer Banks. The "Piedmont" Section of the trail (over 225 miles) runs straight through District 4. With the state theme being, *From the Mountains to the Sea...We are GFWC-NC*, it seemed appropriate to add the district tagline: *"District 4: Community Service Betwixt and Between."*

Hope Hockaday serves as GFWC-NC Third Vice President & Director of Juniors. The theme for her administration is: **NC CARES – Climate, Advocacy, Resiliency, Education and Sustainability.**

This summer newsletter is being sent to give you as bit of a "heads up" on plans for the new administration. Many clubs use the summer to begin planning for their upcoming club year. It is my hope that sharing this information that was imparted at the GFWC-NC Summer Meeting will help in your project and program plans.

If your club publishes a club newsletter, please add me to your distribution list. I would love to hear what you are doing.

As the "district in the middle," let's focus our efforts on strengthening our communities and enhancing the lives of others as we show pride in our state and international organizations.



2022-2024 GFWC-NC District 4 Officers*

President

Vanessa Lowder (Greensboro W.C.)
presidentgfwncdistrict4@gmail.com

First Vice President –
Membership

Maxi Walker (Greensboro W.C.)
maxiwalker@yahoo.com

Second Vice President –CSP &
Reports Chair

Eleanor Oliver (W.C. of Southwest
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Secretary

Jill Sutphin (GFWC Triad W.C.)
wizardofoz27@gmail.com

Treasurer

Cindy Baggett (Sedgefield W.C.)
Baggett.fun@gmail.com

District Advisor-Immediate Past
President

Fran Pollock (Sedgefield W.C.)
ladyepollock@gmail.com

**(Note: the positions of Third Vice President –Junior Director and Junior Membership Chairmen are unfilled. If you know someone who would like to be appointed to these positions, please contact Vanessa Lowder).*

GFWC-NC Summer Meeting

District Four was well represented at Hickory's State Summer Meeting. We had 25-30 club members representing 11 of our district clubs. Attendees learned about the President's Special Project (Mountains-to-Sea Trail) and the Junior Director's Special Project (N.C. Cares: Climate – Advocacy – Resiliency – Education – Sustainability).



Some members of District 4 at the Summer Meeting in Hickory

Workshops were offered on the following topics: Leadership, New Club Presidents, and Membership. In addition, there were workshops on each of our five Community Service Programs. Everyone was impressed by the information provided and were eager to take it back to their clubs. If your club was unable to attend the meeting, this information is available to you on the gfwcnc.org website. In addition, your District 4 leaders are always available to help.

During this administration each district has been assigned a different colored bandana. District Four's color is a **light gray** which will go with any outfit. (Take a look at it in my profile photo on page 1). Each club president will receive this bandana and they will be available to club members for a nominal fee. Stay tuned for details on this.

How Your Club Can Participate in the President's Special Project

There are different ways that your club can become involved in the President's Special Project. First, you may want to log on to the MST website. There you will find a map of the trail along with facts and beautiful photos. To the right are some ways you can begin to get involved.

District 4 President's Special Project Chairman is Paulette Agha from the Mocksville Woman's Club.

Her email is: pagha2m@gmail.com. She is your resource for information.

Get Involved With The MST

Become a Member: Join "Friends of the Mountains-to-Sea Trail North Carolina"

Volunteer or support the volunteers on [Trail Workdays](#)

Become or support [Trail Angels](#)

Donate money or land for the development of new trails

Purchase an MST license plate



Since such a large portion of the trail flows through District 4 we may plan some district-wide projects or hikes. Stay tuned!

District Four Fall Meeting



Be sure to mark your personal and club calendar for **Saturday, October 15, 2022.** That's the date for our District Fall Meeting. The location is Grace United Methodist Church, 438 W. Friendly Ave. Greensboro, NC beginning at 8:30 with adjournment by 1:00 p.m.

We look forward to our business sessions and the opportunity to provide workshops that will help you and your club grow and become more effective. Watch for the Call and detailed information in September.

GFWC-NC LEADS

The GFWC-NC LEADS program is a training seminar which builds on GFWC's goal of developing future leaders.

The Leadership, Education, and Development Seminar identifies members at the local level who have the potential and desire to assume leadership positions. Participation in LEADS can help up-and-coming leaders gain the capabilities, confidence, and commitment necessary to pursue and achieve higher offices and serve with distinction.

Each district sponsors one member to represent them annually at the GFWC-NC LEADS session, typically held in January. They receive a complimentary dinner, and one-half night's accommodations, breakfast, and lunch at a designated hotel. District LEADS candidates will be given the opportunity to learn about GFWC, as well as receive specialized leadership training to share with her district and club. From the GFWC-NC session, one district LEADS representative will be chosen to represent North Carolina as the LEADS candidate and attend the GFWC LEADS training at the GFWC Annual Convention

We encourage club presidents to start the process of identifying future leaders in their membership. Criteria to consider can be found on the [GFWC-NC webpage](#).

District Entries are Due to Vanessa Lowder by NOVEMBER 1st.

District Four Awards Changes

We are making some changes in the awards which are presented to District Four clubs. These are the awards that are unchanged and their entry deadlines and when they are presented:

District 4 Immediate Past President Award

Entry Due: September 26th
Presented: District Fall Meeting

Outstanding Citizenship and Patriotism Award

Entry Due: February 1st
Presented: District Arts Festival

General Clubwoman of the Year Award

Entry Due: February 1st
Presented: District Arts Festival

Junior Clubwoman of the Year Award

Entry Due: February 1st
Presented: District Arts Festival

The following award will be added:

Communications and Information Award

Entry Due: February 1st
Presented: District Arts Festival

With the new Communications and Information Award, we are eliminating the former *Website, Scrapbook, Newsletter and Yearbook* awards.

The new award will ask clubs to list up to five tools of communication used to reach either the public or their own members. Their website, scrapbook, newsletter and yearbook may be used, but other types of communication such as social media may also be included. Entries should show a club's successful communication strategy and how it is used to educate, inform, and inspire current members and attract new members.

The award entries will be judged on content, connection to GFWC, GFWC-NC and District 4, demonstrated effectiveness, and overall presentation. A detailed description will be included in the 2022-24 District Handbook.

District Four Fall Calendar

Dates should be noted and taken care of by individual clubs

September 2022

1st Send Scholarship Information to local schools - Sallie Southall Cotten dates TBD
Schedule student arts contest in your community; Schedule clubwoman's arts contest in your club.

15th District Four Call for Fall Meeting

15th District 4 Fall Newsletter

26th Deadline for District Four Immediate Past President Award (see Awards info)

October 2022

15th District Four Fall Meeting: Location - Grace United Methodist Church, Greensboro, beginning at 8:30 am - Elect District Nominating Committee – Hostess Club: Greensboro Woman's Club

26th-30th Southeastern Region Fall Meeting: Lexington, Kentucky

November 2022

1st GFWC-NC LEADS Applicants due to District President Vanessa Lowder
vlowder1@gmail.com 5506 Fleetwood Lane, Greensboro, NC 27407

Club Spotlight: Boonville Woman's Club

(Each issue of the District Four Newsletter will spotlight at least one of our district clubs)



District 4 Membership Chairman Maxi Walker and I were honored to be included in the Boonville Woman's Club end of year celebration last month. We enjoyed lunch (and wine) at JOLO Winery in Pilot Mountain with several club members and their families.

We especially enjoyed hearing about how this small club of less than a dozen members has such a strong impact on their community. They contribute to and support 18 organizations in their community with a budget of \$2,225.

They have found fundraising success by creatively assembling raffle baskets and selling tickets throughout the area. Their 2021 fall basket was themed around an actual firepit which was the holding vessel for all the necessary items needed for a great campfire evening.

They also perform many hands-on volunteer activities and host interesting speakers at their meetings. This year's president is **Janie O'Neal**.

Club Spotlight: GFWC-NC Mebane Woman's Club

(Each issue of the District Four Newsletter will spotlight at least one of our district clubs)



The Mebane Woman's Club presented a \$1,000 check to past GFWC-NC President Crystal O'Neal at the Hickory summer meeting. This contribution goes toward the 2020-2022 President's Special Project which seeks renovation of the Dr. Charlotte Hawkins Brown gravesite at the Charlotte Hawkins Brown Museum and Historic Site.

The Mebane Woman's Club was founded in 2001 and is a group of energetic, community-focused ladies. Their community service runs the gamut from working at the local food pantry, delivering for Mobile Meals, leading community walks and hikes, holding a "meet the candidates" forum, working with local schools, renting gardening plots in a community garden, to maintaining "Little Libraries" throughout their town. They have a booth at the local farmer's market and give out cobbler and jam while promoting local farmers.

The Mebane Women's Club has two fundraisers coming up this year. First is their "**Community Table Farm to Fork Event.**" This event is a plated five course meal with an additional passable appetizers course. Tickets cost \$75 per seat with the option to purchase a private table for 8 for \$750. Four drink tickets for wine or beer are included with all ticket sales. Here is a [link](#) to purchase tickets. They also will hold an annual "Reindeer Run", a 5K run in December.

This year's president is **Stephany Socha**. The Mebane Woman's Club is definitely "living the volunteer spirit."