



# GFWC WOMAN'S CLUB OF THE MIDLANDS

MONTHLY NEWSLETTER - DECEMBER 2025



## Holiday Greetings!

How in the world can it be Christmastime already? I hope you each had a blessed Thanksgiving. I am eagerly anticipating our WCOM Christmas Social! Carol has been working hard to put together a festive evening at our beautiful GFWC-SC Headquarters, the Stackhouse-Sims Mansion. It will be such a treat to enjoy the beautiful decorations at this historic home. We will have a *brief* business meeting, then the fun begins.

As we prepare for 2026, please make sure you have turned in your service time/donation worksheets for all of 2025. Our January meeting will focus on making sure we have all the data needed to turn in reports for GFWC. If you have any questions, especially our newer members, please don't hesitate to ask. You can email me at [gfwcwcom@yahoo.com](mailto:gfwcwcom@yahoo.com).

It's also time to consider how you can be a part of the WCOM Administration for the 2026-28 term. We have so many fantastic leaders in our club, so don't ever think you're not capable. It is both humbling and rewarding to be involved in the leadership, planning, and behind-the-scenes workings of a service club like ours. If you have any questions whatsoever about *any* position, both the Nominating Committee (Dee Dee Sharpe, Susan Lee, & Gale Gantt) and I are happy to answer them.

Our Gifts Galore Fundraiser was a big success! Thank you all for coming, shopping, and spreading the word about it. We even had a few GFWC sisters from the Lexington Woman's Club stop in to support our event. We received a generous \$420 from Gifts Galore to use for our service projects!

Speaking of fundraising, I am excited to announce that Shelby Hoffman has agreed to fill the 3rd Vice President position for the remainder of this term. I so appreciate Shelby's positive attitude and willingness to jump in and help, especially since she is a newer member. Way to go, Shelby, thank you!

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## Santa's Favorite Elves:

### THE WOMAN'S CLUB OF THE MIDLANDS!

- Linda Wagster (PRESIDENT)
- Carol Berenbrok (1ST VP)
- Mary Jean Burroughs (2ND VP)
- Shelby Hoffman (3RD VP)
- Elizabeth Saulter (SECRETARY)
- Susan Lee (TREASURER/Advisor)
- Linda Brock
- Shannon Caldwell-Smith
- Jennifer Couch
- Lindsay Cox
- Lisa Duvall
- Nancy Ellisor
- Gale Gantt
- Diane Gresham
- Ann Hampton
- Angie Kyzer
- Jennifer Loveday
- Peggy Metze
- Kathy Minshew
- Valerie Sammons
- DeAna Reed-Sharpe
- Stephanie Shumpert
- Lesia Sox
- Renee' Yenny Watts
- Patricia Williams
- Donna Zeigler

## Saturday, December 13th



Join the WCOM for a very special ceremony at Fort Jackson National Cemetery. The program starts at 12:00 noon, followed by your participation in the laying of the wreaths on the graves of those who served our country. If you need more info, contact Lisa Duvall at [gfwcwcom@yahoo.com](mailto:gfwcwcom@yahoo.com).

Next Meeting:  
Thursday, December 11th  
(see pg. 2 for more information)

Contact the WCOM at:  
[gfwcwcom@yahoo.com](mailto:gfwcwcom@yahoo.com)

Visit our website at:  
[gfwcwcom.org](http://gfwcwcom.org)

LIVING THE VOLUNTEER SPIRIT!

# Woman's Club of the Midlands December Social

Thursday, December 11th  
6:00 pm  
GFWC SC Headquarters  
1511 Laurel Street  
Columbia, South Carolina

*Parking is available on street  
near clubhouse.*  
Bring your favorite appetizers you  
signed up for in November.  
(List was emailed.)

Bring a gift for white  
elephant exchange,  
price range \$15-\$20.



*Please Note:*  
Our Christmas Social will count as our  
December Club Meeting. We will have  
a brief business section, followed by  
fun & fellowship!

Welcome to our Newest  
Member,  
**Valerie Sammons!**  
We are excited  
to have Valerie  
join our "hive."  
A fun fact about  
her is that she raises honey bees!  
We can't wait to serve  
alongside you, Valerie!



### Upcoming Events

December 24th  
Lexington Extended Care  
Christmas Party  
*Volunteers needed from 9:30-11:30am  
More info at the December meeting*

January 17th  
Winter Board (via Zoom)

February 21st  
LEADS

February (date TBD)  
WCOM Valentine's Dance  
at Glenforest School

April 17th - 19th  
GFWC-SC State Convention  
Myrtle Beach, SC

## Happy Birthday!

Elizabeth Saulter  
December 26th

Stephanie Shumpert  
December 16th





THIS ↑  
 is why  
 we do  
 THIS! →  
 Delivery of  
 donations for the  
 Student Hygiene  
 Closets at Airport  
 & Brookland-  
 Cayce High  
 Schools on  
 November 18th.  
 Thanks everyone!

Donations  
 Accepted  
 at the  
 December  
 Club Meeting  
 for the  
 following  
 WCOM  
 Projects:



**Student Hygiene Closets  
 for Brookland-Cayce &  
 Airport High Schools**

Feminine Hygiene Products  
 (Tampons, Pads)  
 Deodorant  
 Toothbrushes  
 Toothpaste  
 Dental Floss  
 New Ladies  
 Underwear  
 (sizes XS—2XL)

**Teacher Supply Closet for  
 Local Title One School**

Pens  
 Markers  
 Tissues  
 Paper  
 Notebooks  
 &  
 Any Other  
 Miscellaneous  
 Teacher  
 Supplies



**Monetary Donations in any amount for:**  
 Bike Angels (donating bikes for Christmas)

Linda Ham Shoe Fund

(continued from Pg. 1)

Don't forget that Saturday, December 13th, WCOM will participate in the Laying of the Wreaths at Fort Jackson. Please join us if you can, and feel free to bring guests.

Christmas is a time of giving, and our club has such a generous heart. Not only have we already delivered donations for the High School Hygiene Closets (see pics above), we also started collecting items for the Teacher's Supply Closet. At our last meeting, we voted to help provide local kids (through Families Helping Families) with new bikes for Christmas. The club itself donated 3 bikes, and we decided that individual members could be "Bike Angels" by giving any amount towards a bike or helmet. If you'd still like to give, we will be accepting donations for all three of these projects at the December meeting.

Don't forget the about the opportunity to volunteer at Lexington Extended Care on Christmas Eve at their party for the residents. More info at our meeting.

Please know that each and every one of you is a blessing to me! I love working, serving and laughing with you all. From the bottom of my heart, I hope you have a blessed, joyous and



The greatest gift of all  
 MATTHEW 1:21

Merry Christmas!

With love, Linda Wagster