



GFWC WOMAN'S CLUB OF THE MIDLANDS

MONTHLY NEWSLETTER - JANUARY 2026



LIVING THE VOLUNTEER SPIRIT!

HAPPY 2026!

I saw a saying the other day that I really liked for the New Year: "12 New Chapters, 365 New Chances." What a wonderful attitude to have to start the new year! It

reminds me of some Bible verses I love in Lamentations 3 which talk about God's compassions being new every morning, and because of this we can have hope. Let's remember that each morning we wake up in 2026 is a new opportunity for something purposeful. It may range from something on a grand scale to just getting through the day. But every day is a gift, so let's not waste it!

This brings me to the saddest announcement I've had to make since being in GFWC, the passing of our club sister Jennifer Loveday. Following a brief, but aggressive illness with cancer, Jennifer left us on December 29th. It still seems surreal that she is gone, because she was such a big personality and was full of life. She has not been able to be as active this club year because of some other commitments, but her contributions and dedication to the WCOM were significant. She was instrumental in organizing past projects s1 (continued on Pg. 2) clothing drive for Beulah Baptist Church and the First Responder Appreciation for a local volunteer fire

Next Meeting:
Thursday, January 8th
6:30 pm
West Columbia Community Center
754 "B" Avenue, W. Cola.

Contact the WCOM at:
gfwcwcom@yahoo.com

Visit our website at:
gfwcwcom.org

*You left us too soon
But you left us better
for having known you*



Jennifer Daniels Loveday
September 12, 1963 - December 29, 2025

WCOM GIVES BIKES FOR CHRISTMAS!

The WCOM donated a total of \$798.00 to purchase bikes & helmets for kids for Christmas with the local "Families Helping Families" campaign! This is the biggest single donation from the WCOM in recent history, aside from Progress Foundation Grant projects. Thank you to our club for having generous hearts and goals! We voted to donate \$379.00 from our club account, then collect any voluntary donations from members. The following "Bike & Helmet Angels" collectively provided the additional \$419.00:



- Gale Gantt
- Ann Hampton
- Susan Lee
- DeAna Reed-Sharpe
- Valerie Sammons
- Elizabeth Saulter
- Renee' Yenny Watts
- Linda Wagster

GFWC South Carolina Winter Board of Directors Meeting & Winter General Session

Saturday, January 17, 2026
10 am - 1 pm
VIA ZOOM

(GFWC SC Board Meeting Begins at 9:15 am)

SPEAKER: Beth Perkins, Principal Advisor, Partnership Development & Stewardship St. Jude's Children's Research Hospital (GFWC Affiliate Organization)



Winter Board Registration Fee: \$25
Late Fee: after 1/9/2026: \$15



Looking forward to seeing your smiling face on Zoom!

In December, members of the WCOM participated in Wreaths Across America and/or Lexington Extended Care's Christmas Eve Party for their residents. Thank you Lisa D, Lindsey C, Shelby H, Gale G, & Lesa S! We appreciate you sharing your time and love for others while representing GFWC!



We will be taking donations of boxes of Little Debbie Valentine Cakes. These will be given to the students at our Glenforest Valentine's Dance as a take home treat.



Upcoming Events

January 17th
Winter Board (via Zoom)

February 21st
LEADS
WC of Cayce Clubhouse
Cayce, SC

February 13th
WCOM Valentine's Dance
at Glenforest School

April 17th - 19th
GFWC-SC State Convention

(continued from Pg. 1)

department. She had a big heart and a great sense of humor. Her absence will be felt in a huge way.

I hope you all will be able to come to our January meeting. It is an important time as we work on gathering data so that reports can be made to GFWC on the district, state, and international level. Please be prepared to share any information you have not already turned in on your monthly reports.

Looking forward to seeing everyone and starting our New Year off with new chapters, new chances, lots of happiness, and hopefully, some snow!

With love,

LINDA WAGSTER

12 New
CHAPTERS
365 New
CHANCES



WCOM
Christmas Social

Much merriment was had at our annual Christmas Social on December 11th. From festive food to happy socializing to competitive gift swapping, we all had a great time. Thank you to Carol Berenbrok for putting together a lovely holiday party at our GFWC SC Headquarters, the beautiful Sims-Stackhouse Mansion. And a thank you as well to Ann Malpass for the presentation of the history of our headquarters. WCOM is more than just a group of club women, we are truly great friends!

