

The Woman's Club of Clayton

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twccnc.org

NC General
Federation of
Women's Clubs
www.gfwcnc.org



The Woman's Club of Clayton is a member of the General Federation of Women's Clubs (GFWC), an international women's organization dedicated to community improvement by enhancing the lives of others through volunteer service.

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1st Vice President

Trish Perna

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Brenda Hill

Recording

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Club Chatter



Volume 2023, Number 1

January 2023

From Our President

Betsy Grannis

HAPPY NEW YEAR!! Wishing you all a Joyous and Blessed New Year! Here's to all good wishes for 2023 for all of our members!

Phew! What a year we had this past year; and it ended in a busy flurry of projects and fundraisers. We are happy to say that we made **71 children's** Christmases just that much brighter due to our wonderful volunteer shoppers! The social workers that picked up the gifts for our **Christmas Kids Project** were grateful for the organization of our club's gifts for the kids. Thank you to Loretta Mascia for setting up the program to make this possible. We were also able to make ten senior's Christmas happier through the **Golden Wishes** program. Thank you to all of our members that participated in these wonderful projects!!

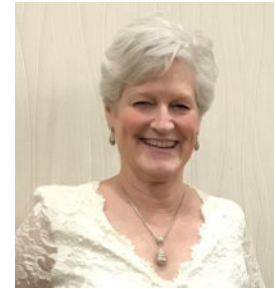
We also had back-to-back fundraising opportunities with our **Tree Lighting Food** on December 1st, and the **Silent Auction** we participated in for the Civitan Reverse Raffle on December 2nd. Between these two events we were able to make over **\$3,000!** Great job, Ladies!

The next fundraiser that is coming up is a really fun one! You won't want to miss the **Murder Mystery Dinners** coming up on Friday, January 13th and

Saturday, January 14th. Nancy Maynard has tickets available for sale. She can take credit and debit cards for payment, too! Please share with everyone you know - friends, neighbors, family members - so that we can fill all our seats for both evenings (60 tickets for each evening), Friday and Saturday night. You may also wish to **help out** by making some of the food for one or both of the evenings, setting up, serving, cleaning up, etc. Please see the sign up opportunities attached to this newsletter and contact me to volunteer. We really need everyone's help to make this a success!

We are also gearing up for the **Lights of Love Luminaries** happening on February 11th in Town Square. Rachel Masimore and Cecelia Soporowski are heading up this sweet event. We are offering luminaries that individuals may purchase to honor someone they love. We will have them displayed on a path through Town Square and will light them up that evening. There will be food and beverage available for the evening, as guests stroll through the luminary path to check out the names of those being honored.

Our largest event of our club year is coming up on March 18th, so please



mark your calendars. The **Taste of Carolina Cuisine** will be an outstanding evening of good food and good fun. Our committee is working hard to put this all together and will be reporting more details at our meeting this month. Ticket sales will be most important, so start talking this up to all your peeps. We are so excited!

So, before all this excitement kicks in, please take a moment to enjoy all the good tidings of a new year - all the possibilities; all the stories still to be written. I leave you with this inspiration:





January 9

ESO Book Club
TWCC Clubhouse
10:00am

January 10

Arts & Culture CSP
Set Up for meeting
TWCC Clubhouse
10:00am

House of Hope Meal

January 11

TWCC Lunch Meeting
11:45am
TWCC Clubhouse

January 12

Night 'N' Gals
Via Zoom
7:00pm

January 13

Bingo
Clayton Senior Center
10am

January 13 & 14

Murder Mystery Dinner
2 Seatings
TWCC Clubhouse 6pm

January 17

TWCC Executive Board
TWCC Clubhouse 10am

January 24

TWCC Bunco
TWCC Clubhouse 1:00pm

February 9, 2023

Clayton Art Festival
Clayton Center
6pm

March 18, 2023

Taste of Carolina Cuisine
The Farm at 42

December Meeting Highlights

Monthly Meeting

The December 14th lunch meeting was hosted by the **Environment CSP**. The devotion and blessing was given by Brenda Gay.

The program was provided by the Environment CSP. Christie Latham read a story of Mary.

Two guests were welcomed, **Susan Press and Barbara Gartland**.

Highlights from the meeting:

- The Executive Board has approved a **special rate** of \$75 for book clubs and civic organizations to rent the clubhouse for up to 3 hours. No security deposit will be required for this special rate.
- The **ESO Reading Bench** was unveiled at the meeting. The bench artwork was designed by Val Taylor and painted by Robin Sachsenheimer and will be placed in the Main Street Community Garden.
- The **Civitan Reverse Raffle and Silent Auction** was very successful and the Civitan gave TWCC **\$2025** for the Christmas Kids project.
- Members were encouraged to help with the **Murder Mystery Dinners** that will be held January 13 & 14. Volunteers are needed to help with the food, set up, serving during the meal and clean up. Contact Nancy Maynard, Margaret Lee or Betsy Grannis to volunteer. More information is attached at the end of the newsletter.
- A fundraiser, **Lights of Love Luminaries**, will allow ticket purchasers to honor loved ones with a luminary that will be lit on February 11th from 6-9pm. Rachel will give each member 3 tickets to sell; each ticket is \$20.

- The club's major fundraiser, the **Taste of Carolina Cuisine**, will be on March 18, 2023 at The Farm at 42. Dianne Carroll stated more detailed information will be available at the January meeting. Tickets will be sold for \$65 and there will be 10-15 restaurants participating.
- Contributions for the **Christmas Kids** project totaled over \$4000 and club members bought gifts for **71 children**. Shoppers for both Christmas Kids and Senior Wishes can scan their receipts and send to Judy Ryan for reimbursement.
- The **Arts Festival** for both students and clubwomen will be held February 9th at 6pm. All **entries must be received by February 7th**. Kid friendly snacks are needed as well as volunteers to help out during the event. Contact Susan Johnson to volunteer.
- Trish Perna reminded CSP and committee chairs that **reports are due by December 31st**.
- Dianne Carroll, **Arts & Culture CSP** Co-Chair, thanked members who went to **River Dell Elementary** on November 29th to make felt Christmas trees with the Special Needs class. The CSP had 16 extra tree kits so these were taken to **Harbor House**.
- Susan Johnson, **Civic Engagement & Outreach CSP** Co-Chair, announced that the collection bin for Secure the Call is now at the Library. Old cell phones and Ipads can be placed in the bin and Secure the Call will remove all identifying information and set up the devices for use by victims of Domestic Violence to call 911 when assistance is needed. Please tell friends and neighbors about this project. A flyer is attached to this newsletter.



Left: Merry Christmas from Zip Barnard who made these Bisque Brown Sugar Softeners for members at the December meeting. Thanks so much Zip!!

Right: The TWCC elf (Susan Johnson) wears many hats including clubhouse cleaning.

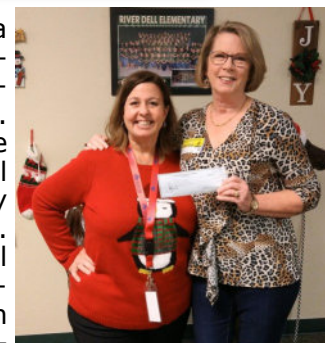




JANUARY

- 1/1 Brenda Gay
- 1/12 Marianne Sapsara
- 1/16 Angela Williams
- 1/17 Robin Sachsenheimer
- 1/24 Dixie Brady
- 1/25 Linda Strevig
- 1/31 Margaret Lee

Judy Ryan with the Health & Wellness CSP presented a check to Jenny Durko, principal of River Dell Elementary and the River Dell PTA for \$500.00 for the purchase of new ADA inclusive playground equipment. The playground equipment will include new shade structures, 3 freestanding interactive panels that will allow wheelchair bound students to roll up and play individually or with others, and a new handicap swing. The PTA has been working hard to raise the additional \$21,000 needed to make these needed additions a reality. The total cost of the project is \$71,000 with Johnston County committing to \$50,000. We are excited to be helping with this much needed project.



Patti Farmer and Nancy Maynard wrote notes and wishes in 100 Christmas cards and delivered them to the residents at Springbook Nursing and Rehabilitation Center. Look for more opportunities to be posted to help serve this establishment in the new year.



UNC Health facilities are looking for volunteers. Two members of TWCC have gone through orientation. If you didn't get a flyer at the December meeting or have additional questions, please contact Nancy Maynard for more information.

The Walking Challenge concludes January 2, 2023. We had twenty five participants! Thank you for signing up! Awards will be given at the January 11th meeting. Please remember whether you were able to finish the challenge or not you made steps toward a better YOU! Be proud of yourselves! Please email any information that you logged especially the miles you walked and the most consecutive days you walked. If you have any pictures please bring them to the meeting.



Education & Libraries CSP

Co-Chairs: Brenda Gay, Sandy Nesselrode



Happy New Year 2023 from the Education & Libraries CSP members. This has been a busy time so far in our CSP as well as in the other CSP's. We finally got "those" report hours in to our Vice President, Trish Perna which I am sure she is glad to be done with.

We are still busy with the Scholarship project, Murder Mystery project, and our Book Bag project for Cooper Academy. BTW, we are still collecting books for this project. If you have books for first graders, please bring them to the meetings. We hope to do this project around April. Also, we are still waiting on those books to come in from "Read for The Record"

Hope everyone had a great Holiday season and again, Happy New Year and remember:

"With the new day, comes new strength and new thoughts"

Environment CSP

Co-Chairs: Rachel Masimore, Christie Latham



The Environment CSP hosted the December meeting. Thanks to the CSP members who helped with meal preparation, serving and clean up.



Brenda Hill had surgery on December 13th and is recovering from home.

Jim Quinn had surgery on December 15th. Cards can be sent to 500 Gooseberry Dr., Holly Springs, NC 27540

Civic Engagement & Outreach CSP

Co-Chairs: Susan Johnson and Sarah Brooks



Subscribe to GFWC News & Notes

Simply provide your name, mailing address, email, and club name to gfwc@gfwc.org



Meals for House of Hope (2nd Tuesday)

Bingo at Senior Ctr (2nd Friday)

Silent Partners

Hospitality

Jumpstart Read for the Record

Hiking Challenge

Recipe Makeovers

Arts Festival

Murder Mystery Dinners

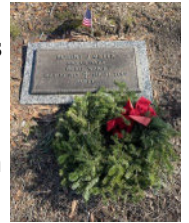
Taste of Carolina Cuisine



RECYCLING CELL PHONES FOR A SAFER COMMUNITY

The CEO CSP is participating in a national effort, **Secure the Call** (STC), between now and February 28, 2023. STC converts donated cell phones and tablets into 911 emergency-only phones, which are given out to Community Partners across the USA at no charge. STC is a National Coalition of over 350 organizations, including Police and Sheriff's Departments (Victim Services Department), Domestic Violence Shelters, and Senior Citizen groups, demonstrating a need for emergency 911-only cell phones and tablets. STC collects these devices and clears them of any service, numbers, and address books. The phones are then reprogrammed to be able to dial 911 without a service contract and then are sent back out to their Coalition of Partners throughout the USA, who, in turn, distribute them for free to local communities. **Devices can be securely placed in a bin located at Hocutt-Ellington Library.** Your help is greatly needed and appreciated and will go a long way to making sure high-risk individuals always have access to emergency services. Attached to the end of the newsletter is a flyer about the program.

The CEO CSP purchased 3 wreaths in support of **Wreaths Across America**. Locally, Cub Scout Pack 124, was sponsoring the event and placing wreaths at Pinecrest Cemetery.



National Law Enforcement Appreciation Day

is January 9th. Any members who would like to donate treats (such as granola bars, packaged cookies, wrapped candy) to be delivered to the Clayton Police Department on the 9th should contact Susan Johnson to arrange for pick up.

Arts & Culture CSP

Co-Chairs: Angela Williams, Faye Brooks, Dianne Carroll



Seven members went to **River Dell Elementary** to help Mrs. Ricks' special needs class make felt Christmas trees on Nov. 29. The kids really enjoyed this fun project! (Pictured at right with kids are members *Debi Beal, Debbie Ragland, Zip Barnard, Patti Farmer and Deborah Fuller*)



Dianne Carroll and Marie Monsees deliver Christmas Tree Kits for kids staying at Harbor House in Smithfield.

Menu

Brunswick Stew
Roast Beef
Sliders
Salad

Arts & Culture
CSP will host
and provide
dessert

Night 'N' Gals



The **Night 'N' Gals** will meet via Zoom on **January 12th at 7pm** and all members are invited to attend. The Zoom link will be sent to all members on January 11th.



Happy New Year 2023 from the ESO book club members. We met on Monday, December 5th and thanks to Betsy Grannis for leading the book club for the last time in 2022. The ESO members have really been busy reading lots of books this year. Three books are listed as follows that were reported on at the December meeting.

"Free To Be a Family" by Marlo Thomas (Member, Jo Howard reported)

"The Christmas Note" by Donna VanLiere (Member, Margaret DiNubila reported)

"Nora Bonesteel's Christmas Past" by Sharyn McCrumb (Member, Betsy Grannis reported)

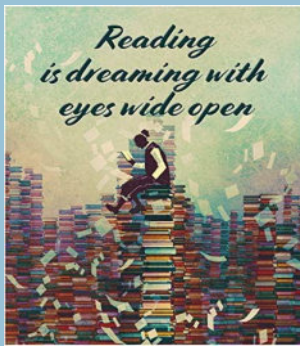


Robin Sachsenheimer (the painter) and Val Taylor (the artist) appear with Reading Bench. Great job ladies!!



Remember the **"Bench Project"** you have been reading about in our article each month? Well, it is completed! ESO members gathered for a picture with it and one that shows it off completely (pictured front row Patty Jo Johnson, Robin Sachsenheimer, Loretta Mascia, Edie Brown; second row Angela Williams, Brenda Gay, Nancy Maynard, Betsy Grannis, Val Taylor, Marianne Sapsara, Donna Steele; Not pictured Betty Francies, Sandy Nesselrode, Trish Perna). Three years ago at our ESO meeting, members agreed to have an ESO project each year. This year,

Sandy Nesselrode suggested a "Reading Bench" and all the members agreed it was a good idea. We have some very creative members in our book club and two of them, **Robin Sachsenheimer and Val Taylor**, agreed to create and bring the bench to life. Val created the design and Robin spent numerous hours "tweaking" and painting it. The "Reading Bench is now in the Main Street Community Garden for all to enjoy (Robin Sachsenheimer pictured at right in Main Street Community Garden).



Our ESO book club is alive also. We spend time enjoying, reading, sharing time with one another at our meetings to report on the great books we read, not to mention how educational it is for all of us. As chair of the book club, I am so proud to be a part of such dedicated members.

Members, please note: Our January ESO book club meeting will be the **2nd Monday, Jan 9th**. Coffee and refreshments will be provided if you would like to come around 9:30 to enjoy. Please let me know if you cannot be present.



TWCC elves, Susan Johnson and Debi Beal, helped drum up business on Main Street for the club's Christmas Tree Lighting food fundraiser. Too Cute!



At left, Cooper Academy Social Worker Garfield Martin loads his vehicle with gifts for underprivileged kids. Club members shopped for the gifts as part of the club's Christmas Kids project.

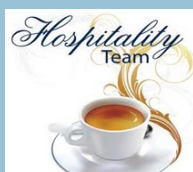
At right, Betsy Grannis accepts a donation of \$250 from Gowan Roofing for the Christmas Kids project. Contributions were also received from Woodmen of the World, Jim Quinn and the Clayton Civitan Club.





Things to bring to the January meeting:

- Plastic grocery bags
- Books appropriate for First Graders (English or Spanish) for E&L CSP
- Leftover yarn for A&C CSP Afghan of Many Colors



In the event of illness or bereavement, members are encouraged to contact Patty Jo Johnson if assistance is needed with meals, errands, etc. Call 919-818-3444 or email johnsonpatty2253@gmail.com



Notify Patty Jo Johnson, Corresponding Secretary, if Information about a club member needs to be communicated to the membership (e.g., illness, bereavement)

919-818-3444

Art Festival Chair: Susan Johnson

Time is drawing near for the **2023 Student and Clubwomen GFWC Art Festival**. Get your entries ready in literature, visual art, crafts, and photography. These will be collected at the January 11th, 2023 general meeting or the Executive Board meeting on January 17th, 2023. The Festival is February 9th, 2023, 6:00 PM at the Clayton Center. All entries must have been completed during the 2022 year, and are open to non-professional artists. GFWC defines a professional as one who has specialized education, training, and experience in a particular field and uses that knowledge to earn money. The Art Festival Committee looks forward to many wonderful entries from our club.

As part of the Festival, we supply kid friendly snacks to our guests that evening, as well as serve as host, meaning we set up and clean up. If any of you would like to assist with those tasks, email Susan Johnson at gr8100rn@aol.com, or call 919-522-7746.

TWCC Bunco Organizer: Sarah Brooks



Bunco is an extremely easy game of dice that provides members time to come together for an afternoon of fun and frivolity!! All members are welcome to participate and it is a great way to learn more about members. **Hostesses for November 29th Bunco** were **Rhonda Nielsen and Dixie Brady**. Winners: Robin Sachsenheimer—Most Buncos, Amy Ferguson—Most Wins, Betsy Grannis—Most Losses, Sarah Brooks—Most Fakes, Margaret DiNubila—Bunco Gift.

Next Bunco date/time: January 24th at 1:00pm. Hostess: Sarah Brooks

Classified Ad: Looking for a TWCC member to take over management of Bunco. Notify Sarah Brooks if interested.



A big THANKS to TWCC members who helped with the **Serve the Need Thanksgiving meal** as servers and/or brownie bakers. The meal was a big success with many mouths fed! *Included in the above picture are members Deborah Fuller, Nancy Maynard, Patti Farmer, Debbie Allison, Angela Williams, Rachel Masimore, Betsy Grannis, Zip Barnard and Karla Rajca*



Murder Mystery Dinner



NOTE:

Pork Loins will be provided—volunteers just need to cook them and bring to the clubhouse

Recipes will be provided so items will be similar

Contact one of the following if you can volunteer to provide a needed food item and/or serve:

Margaret Lee
919-656-2948
mkailoslee01@gmail.com

Nancy Maynard
815-274-4446
mothermaynard@hotmail.com

Betsy Grannis
919-306-5804
Begrannis57@gmail.com



Friday, January 13th

Menu Items Needed	Menu Items Volunteers	Volunteers Working Event (Need 8-9)
Ice—2 bags	Trish Perna	Susan Johnson
2 Gallons Sweet Iced Tea	Debbie Ragland	Deborah Fuller
2 Gallons Unsweet Iced Tea	Zip Barnard	Patti Farmer
Salad	Patti Farmer, Susan Press	Brenda Gay
6 Pork Loins	Deborah Fuller (3), Rachel Masimore (3)	Betsy Grannis
3 Potato Casseroles	Susan Johnson, Betty Francies, Judy Ryan	Michael Grannis
3 Roasted Vegetables		Sarah Brooks
Rolls or Bread for 60	Donna Steele	
2 Triple Chocolate Cakes	Sarah Brooks (2)	
2 Granny Cakes	Karen Keeslar (1)	

Saturday, January 14th

Menu Items Needed	Menu Items Volunteers	Volunteers Working Event (Need 8-9)
Ice—2 bags	Trish Perna	Marianne Sapsara
2 Gallons Sweet Iced Tea	Debbie Ragland	Dixie Brady
2 Gallons Unsweet Iced Tea	Zip Barnard	Betty Francies
Salad	Marianne Sapsara	Loretta Mascia
6 Pork Loins		
3 Potato Casseroles	Judy Ryan (1)	
3 Roasted Vegetables		
Rolls or Bread for 60	Gracie Chamblee	
2 Triple Chocolate Cake		
2 Granny Cakes		

For items highlighted in Yellow, Volunteers are still needed

Recipe Corner—New Year's Day



***Appetizer Recipes
Provided by
Margaret Lee***



Do you have club member news, personal announcements, family news, personal achievements or recipes to share with club members?

Please submit items by the **25th** of the month to the "Club Chatter"
Editor, Sarah Brooks
sbrooks@twccnc.org



Each month will feature recipes by category

February—Valentines
March—St. Patrick's Day
April—Easter
May—Mother's Day

Send your favorite recipes to
sbrooks@twccnc.org

***Collards Recipe
Provided by
Sarah Brooks***

Southern Caviar

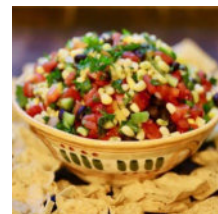
INGREDIENTS

2 cans black-eyed peas - drained and rinsed
1 can whole kernel corn - drained (1 ½ cup of frozen corn - thawed)
1 can diced tomatoes and green chilies (Rotel) - do not drain
½ cup fresh jalapeño peppers - minced
½ cup onion - minced
¼ cup chopped cilantro or parsley
1 cup (8 ounces) of Italian dressing
Juice of one lemon
Pinch of salt

DIRECTIONS

In a large bowl, combine all ingredients. Stir gently to combine. Refrigerate for minimum 1 hour allowing flavors to marry.

Servings 4



Crock Pot Spinach-Artichoke Dip

Ingredients

1 10 ounce bag fresh spinach, roughly chopped
1 14 ounce can artichoke hearts, roughly chopped
1 8 ounce block cream cheese, cut into cubes
1 cup sour cream
1 cup shredded mozzarella cheese
½ cup shredded Parmesan cheese
4 cloves minced garlic
salt and pepper to taste

Instructions

1. Add all ingredients to a small crock pot and stir. Put the lid on and set on LOW for 2 hours.
2. After 1 hour, remove lid, and stir. Replace lid and continue to cook for 1 additional hour.
3. Stir dip and taste to adjust seasoning with salt and pepper. Serve with crackers or chips.

Servings 6



Bill Brooks Collard Greens

Ingredients

6 lbs collards with thick stems removed
1 ½ cups ham (ham hocks from Nahunta preferred)
3 parts Water to 1 part Chicken Stock
¼ cup sugar
2 T Salt
1 T Red Pepper Flakes
½ T Black Pepper

Instructions

1. Clean and remove thick stems from collards. Break leaves up as you clean them.
2. Boil water/chicken broth and then place collards into liquid. Boil for about 45 minutes.
3. Place collards and pieces of ham in freezer containers and cover with pot liquor.



January 2023

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
<p>1 </p> <p>Brenda Gay</p> 	2	3	<p>4 </p> <p><small>shutterstock.com - 78299621</small></p>	5	6	7
8	<p>9 </p> <p>ESO at TWCC Clubhouse—10:00am</p> 	<p>10 </p> <p>House of Hope Meal</p> <p>A&C CSP Set Up for lunch mtg—10am</p>	<p>11 </p> <p>TWCC Lunch Meeting 11:45am</p>	<p>12 </p> <p>Marianne Sapsara</p>  <p>Night n Gals Via Zoom 7pm</p>	<p>13 </p> <p>H&W CSP-Bingo at Senior Center 10am</p> <p> Murder Mystery Dinner</p> <p>TWCC Clubhouse-6pm</p>	<p>14 </p> <p>Murder Mystery Dinner Fundraiser</p> <p>TWCC Clubhouse-6pm</p>
15	<p>16 </p> <p>Angela Williams</p>	<p>17 </p> <p>Robin Sachsenheimer</p>  <p>TWCC Board Mtg 10am TWCC Clubhouse</p>	18	<p>19 </p> <p>National Popcorn Day</p>	20	<p>21 </p> <p>National HUG DAY</p> <p><small>shutterstock.com - 127345144</small></p>
<p>22 </p> <p>HAPPY CHINESE NEW YEAR</p>	23	<p>24 </p> <p>Dixie Brady</p>  <p>TWCC Bunco TWCC Clubhouse 1:00pm</p>	<p>25 </p> <p>Linda Strevig</p>	<p>26 </p> <p>NATIONAL SPOUSE'S DAY</p> <p><small>February 26</small></p>	27	28
29	<p>30 </p> <p>National Croissant Day</p>	<p>31 </p> <p>Margaret Lee</p>  <p>National Hot Chocolate Day</p>				



RECYCLING CELL PHONES FOR A SAFER COMMUNITY

**SECURELY DONATE
YOUR OLD PHONES &
TABLETS**

How You Can Help?

If you have any old devices, please bring them to **Hocutt-Ellington Library** on Church Street in downtown Clayton.



The Woman's Club of Clayton is participating in this event to collect used and unwanted cell phones and tablets. These devices find new life as emergency-only phones, which Secure the Call distributes to Domestic Violence Services across the country. Secure the Call is a National Coalition of over 350 organizations, including Police and Sheriff's Departments, Domestic Violence Shelters, and Senior Citizen groups.



Submit questions through
twccnc.org or email
sbrooks@twccnc.org



GENERAL FEDERATION
of WOMEN'S CLUBS