



GFWC

Ossoli Circle Newsletter

April 2023



THE PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE



Nancy Dickson Christmas
President 2022-2023

Welcome, everyone, to the spring edition of our Ossoli Circle Newsletter! We managed to survive the winter months without having to cancel any programs due to snow. To recognize Leadership day on January 30, we had two outstanding programs. First, we heard from Beth Stubbs, Director-Elect for Rotary International, who is responsible for recruitment in over 30 counties of Tennessee. Her presentation centered on leadership through kindness and also empowerment. Next, was Jamie Osborn, Reference Services Manager of the Knox County Public Library, who presented an excellent presentation on the many benefits our libraries offer. In February our programs brought in top notch speakers as well as one fun event for members at the end of the month. One program in particular was on February 13. Members heard from District Attorney General, Charme Allen, of the 6th Judicial District of TN. As part of Domestic Violence Awareness, her topic was specifically related to elder abuse and how to prevent, detect, and report it. At the end of the month on the 27th, our Ossoli in Action event, chaired by Nancy Carmon, was a 'BIG' Roundup playing bingo, dressing up as Cowgirls, line dancing, and having a chance to win lots of prizes. Ossoli in Action had ongoing activities throughout the year to support community activities such as providing funds for an elementary school project, specifically the Dogwood Elementary Ambassador program. In addition, OIA checks were presented to my President's Project, Alzheimer's Association, TN Chapter for \$1,000 and a \$600 check to support the GFWC State President, Deb Allen's State Project, "Women Empowering Women." Later in February, our election of officers and chair positions for next year was held. We have a spectacular group of members elected on the Executive Committee and Board Committee Chairs, as well as those chairs in charge of programs, standing committees and appointed by the soon-to be-president. Melanie Goldstine will assume the position of President at Installation Day on May 15, and I know, without a doubt, that she will be an excellent leader. As we began March, all of our programs continued to be thought provoking, informative, and enjoyable. On the 6th, we listened to the last performance of Tuesday Morning Musical Club which had been an integral part of our musical programs at Ossoli for many decades. A stellar book study program by Esther Roberts, author of "Living with Grace" was based on her horse, Grace. We also heard from Stephen Lyn Bales, naturalist, who had an informative presentation on the abundant living in the Smokies. As a follow up to the Hat Making 101 that took place in January, a separate hat making session for members was held on March 8 by Carol Lovingood-Hiers and Linda Williams. Eight members attended and left with beautifully designed hats that were created that day. This two-hour event was so much fun. On March 20, our very own Robin Goddard spoke to members and educated us about the Walker Sisters of Little Greenbrier. What an interesting piece of history Robin shared with us. The GFWC Smoky Mountain District Spring meeting was held in Loudon, TN on Saturday, March 18. Ossoli Circle had a total of 14 members who attended. We had a great time learning about each of the 7 clubs that make up our Smoky Mountain District. And, lastly, at the end of March, with much anticipation, Ossoli Circle will get a new "building face lift" as our replacement windows are scheduled for installation. Thanks to all of the members who generously contributed to this critical but necessary project as part of the upkeep of our historical building. April will continue to be a full month as we prepare ourselves for more outstanding programs and our White Linen Luncheon set for April 17, co-chaired by Janie Bitner and Wanda Taylor. This event will be a perfect time to wear your "new" hat for this special occasion.

Be sure to mark your May calendar for our last three programs on the 1st and 8th, with the finale being installation day on May 15. This will be a Fete day and our three chairs, Charlotte Miller, Installation, Kim Overman, Fete Day Refreshments, and Sarah Brudecki, Decorations, will be hard at work to make this day a very special one. Upcoming State and International events include the GFWC of Tennessee Spring Conference from April 28-30 at the Lodge at Paris Landing State Park. The official "call" information will be communicated soon from GFWC Tennessee so stay tuned. And lastly, GFWC International Convention will be June 10-12, 2023, in Louisville, KY. Keep in mind that it is within driving distance so if you have thought about going, this would be a perfect time to register and attend. What a year we have had. I thank each member who has taken on an active part this year by serving on committees, attending meetings, getting to know members and bringing in new ones. Since I have been your President, we have added 15 new members as of March 31. This is absolutely amazing! Thank you for your recruitment efforts. Our weekly lunches, too, planned by our various lunch committee members, have been creative and delicious all year. We have an outstanding group of talented members who work hard to contribute their best efforts to make Ossoli Circle what it is today. My thanks to all of you for your continued commitment and involvement while I have served as your President. With everyone's united efforts, we have forged ahead to ensure a better and brighter tomorrow!

Nancy



If you need ideas for Programs and/or Projects - Contact Prospectus Chair Terri Bules!!

Thank you for the opportunity to have served as the Newsletter Editor during the Christmas Administration. It has been an honor.

Renee Hamilton



The Ossoli in Action Committee has really been in action! "Bingo's Big Roundup" raised over \$3000 for the Ossoli in Action projects, \$1000 for the President's project, Alzheimer's Association, \$600 for Women Empowering Women, a project from GFWC of TN, and extra money was placed in the Ossoli in Action account for projects for 23-24. Members and guests played bingo for great prizes, line danced with lessons from local pros, and enjoyed barbeque from Buddy's and apple cobbler and ice cream (what else to serve hungry cowgirls?). We even sang "Bingo". Yeehaw! Everyone had a great time!

DOGWOOD SCHOOL AMBASSADOR FINALS



President Nancy Christmas and Nancy Carmon, Chair of Ossoli in Action, were judges for the Dogwood School Ambassador finals Wednesday, March 1. Two wonderful ten-year-old fifth graders were the finalists from all 33 of the school's Ambassadors.

They will attend the "Great Shake" Ambassador contest in Atlanta in March and represent Dogwood School. Ossoli in Action contributed \$2400 to Dogwood School last August to enable them to bring the Ambassador Program to the second and third graders.

Several Ossoli members attended the Dogwood Dinner, the fund raiser for Dogwood Elementary School, at Bearden Banquet Hall February 17, 2023.

2023 GFWC Annual Convention



Register for the 2023 GFWC Annual Convention [here](#).

Visit the [official Convention website](#) for information on workshops, accommodations, and convention documents.

[Book Your Room](#)

The official event hotel is the Louisville Marriott Downtown. You can book your room [here](#). To make your reservations via phone, call 800-266-9432 or 502-627-5045 (local).

Coming Next Week: NEWS & NOTES Update

Starting **March 23**, GFWC will be using a new email marketing system. This will allow us to provide engaging content each week with a design update. If you do not see News & Notes in your email inbox next week, make sure to check your spam folder. You can email PR@gfwc.org if you have problems. Thank you for your patience and understanding as we transition to this new format.

It is hard to believe another year is almost gone and time to renew our Ossoli dues for another wonderful year. Dues remain at \$150.00 this year and I hope that you will remember to bring your check by May 1. Our yearbooks will be available for paid members on May 15 at Installation. You are welcome to bring your check in April if that would be more convenient. Please give your check to Joy Kelly, Treasurer or to Susie Kelley, Assistant Treasurer. You may also mail your check to:

GFWC Ossoli Circle
PO Box 10892
Knoxville, Tennessee 37939-0892

If you want your yearbook mailed add an additional \$5.00 for postage. total-- \$155.00.

Thank you for paying promptly,
Susie Kelley



Don't miss this opportunity to buy an ad for the next Ossoli Circle yearbook.

Red Hot Deals

1/4 page costs \$25.00

1/2 page costs \$50.00

Whole page costs \$100.00

We hope that the sale of ads will cover the cost of printing our yearbook. Please contact Roberta Pedigo if you are interested. Thank you.

865-577-4106
rbpedigo@comcast.net



- April 3: Speaker from Bridge Refugee Services, Noah Jones, Communications and Development Director, at 10:30am followed by Business Meeting at 11:30am. Lunch provided by Past Presidents. New Member Orientation, 2nd Session, from 12:30-2pm in Small dining room
- April 17: 10am-2pm, White Linen Luncheon—Ways and Means Fundraising event, “Run for the Roses Tea.” Wanda Taylor and Janie Bitner, Co-Chairs
- April 24: “The Best of the Alps and More” slide show presentation by member Sharon Cottrell at 10:30am followed by Memorial Service. Courtesy providing lunch. Last session of New Member Orientation, 12:30-2pm
- Wednesday, April 26: Current and 2023-2024 New Executive Committee and Board Committee Chairs to attend Board of Directors’ Meeting and Covered Dish Lunch, 10:00am, Club House
- Friday, April 28 - Sunday, April 30: GFWC State Spring Conference at the Lodge at Paris Landing State Park, 400 Lodge Road, Buchanan, TN 38222; Call 1-888-867-2752 and provide group code of 1143 for discount. GFWC Registration deadline is Thursday, April 20. Kim Overman is our State contact for receiving your completed registration forms and checks. See Kim if you have any questions. This Official Call Letter for this event is posted on our hall bulletin board.
- May 1: “Caring for Body, Mind and Soul” presented by Elaine Doss; “Educating Ourselves on Food Allergies” presentation by member, Elizabeth Howell at 11:30. Luncheon Committee in charge of meal
- May 8: Appalachian Assistance/Unicorn Fund Scholarship program; Business Meeting. Catered lunch provided by Soccer Taco
- May 15: Installation of Officers and Chairs for 2023-2024 - Fete Day
- June 10 -12: GFWC 2023: GFWC Annual Convention in Louisville, KY, Louisville Marriott Downtown. Reservations: call 1-800-266-9432; also, remember to register online at GFWC