

GFWC OKLAHOMA 126TH ANNUAL STATE CONVENTION

April 25 – 26, 2025

“Together We Serve, Together We Grow, Together We Succeed”

Downtown Tulsa Hotel Indigo

Tulsa, Oklahoma

CONVENTION EXECUTIVE BOARD MEETING MINUTES

Friday, April 25

The Executive Board Meeting was convened by President Charlene Ridgway at **4:00 PM** on **Friday, April 25**, in the Glass Barley Room located in the Hotel Indigo in Tulsa, OK. Business centered around motions to be made the following day regarding convention expenses, Treasurer’s 2025-2026 Budget, 2025 Oklahoma LEADS Candidate, 2024-2026 Oklahoma Jennie Award Candidate, forming of a Junior Club, and Honorariums for Guest Speakers. The Board of Directors discussion on these agenda items:

1. Convention expenses for this State meeting – no vote required.
2. The President’s 2024-2025 Desk Expenses will be donated to GFWC-Oklahoma general fund to help cover convention expenses, to investment in membership, and future convention programs and projects.
3. Minutes of the 125th Annual State Convention were approved by the 3-member Minutes Review Committee. Copies of the minutes were attached to the Call to Convention. A Minutes Review Committee for the 126th Annual State Convention is to be selected.
4. Treasurer, Betty Clay, presented the GFWC-OK 2024-2025 Financial Report and the budget for 2025-2026. The budget was reviewed and approved to file for the official record.
5. Donations of \$492 from Friends of GFWC Oklahoma will go into the General Fund to use for Convention expenses.
6. President Ridgway recommended a \$500 Honorarium for two convention guest speaker organizations—Raising Hope Sarah Stitt Foundation and The Demand Project in Tulsa. President Ridgway and pre-convention tour clubwomen gave love offerings to Youth Pastor Stuart Tilley’s Tulsa Youth Mission Trip for pre-convention tour day transportation service.
7. Tulsa’s St. Jude’s Affiliate Children’s Clinic-Saint Francis Children’s Hospital guest speaker will receive our Done-in-a-Day Project of donated Toys, Books, Crafts, etc.
8. Club Anniversaries, Fifty-Plus Year Dedicated Members, Outstanding 2024 State Statistics and Membership Growth, Oklahoma LEADS candidate, Oklahoma Jennie Award nominee will be celebrated Friday evening.
9. Sales from the Silent Auction will go to the Oklahoma Governor’s Mansion Rose Garden Project Fund. The Board approved.
10. Sales from the 50/50 Fundraiser will go to the General Fund for Convention Expenses. The Board approved.
11. The expense of a free one-night convention hotel room drawing will be paid out of the general fund (convention expense). The Board approved.
12. State LEADS/Leadership Chairman Dr. Michele Hockersmith recommended, for Board approval, Donna John, President of the Sulphur Sorosis Club, to represent Oklahoma as our

2025 LEADS candidate to attend the 2025 GFWC Annual Convention LEADS Workshop in Atlanta, GA. The Board approved Donna John as our candidate.

13. Joan Ludlum, President of The Silver Foxes Club, recommended club member and Past State/Region President Fleta Haskins as Oklahoma's 2026 Jennie Award nominee to be submitted to the South-Central Region Jennie Award Selection Committee. The Board approved Fleta Haskins as Oklahoma's nominee.
14. PSP Jan Bailey will serve as Secretary in the absence of Secretary Lisa Adkins and PSP/SCR Vice President Miriam Costilow will serve as Parliamentarian in the absence of Carroll Craun. Sharon Robinson will assist President Ridgway with 2024 Category Awards in the absence of President-Elect Monica Bartling. International Second Vice President Mary Beth Williams is unable to attend state convention due to her husband's surgery/recovery.
15. McAlester's Junior Club is organizing and hopes to federate in Fall 2025. Two Junior Club members are attending convention and will lead the Junior Club Pledge. With ten members and club officers selected, they are working on bylaws and deciding on a club name.
16. GFWC-OK Bylaws/Standing Rules need to be amended to include "Junior Club" and to include the dues for Juniorette and Junior clubs. Parliamentarian Carroll Craun and Acting 2024 Convention Parliamentarian Miriam Costilow will be asked to review the bylaws.
17. A Nomination Committee is to be selected to present a slate of 2026-2028 state officers for election at our 2026 Convention. One member is to be a PSP according to our bylaws, a chairman to be determined by the committee.
18. Angie Sellmeyer has been working on an assigned GFWC-OK History Project, a 4th Edition GFWC-Oklahoma History book.

The Executive Board meeting adjourned at 4:20 PM by President Charlene Ridgway.

**GFWC-OKLAHOMA
CONVENTION MEETING MINUTES
Friday, April 25**

Friday morning convention registration was from 8:30 – 9:30 AM. Fifteen clubwomen boarded the tour bus at 9:50 AM for the Friday Pre-Convention Day Tour visiting museums and lunch. Clubwomen toured **Greenwood Rising Black Wall Street History Center**, a state-of-the-art history center museum located at the heart of Tulsa's Greenwood District honoring the legacy of Black Wall Street before and after the Tulsa Race Massacre of 1921. Lunch was on the outside patio of James E. McNellie's Restaurant. After lunch, we toured the **Woody Guthrie and Bob Dylan Centers**. The Woody Guthrie Center is dedicated to the life and legacy of American folk musician and singer-songwriter Woody Guthrie. The museum also featured the 1930's Oklahoma Dust Bowl Exhibition. Oculus Technology allowed us to experience the dust bowl. by using oculus technology. The Bob Dylan Center is dedicated to the life and works of American singer-songwriter Bob Dylan.

Friday evening convention registration and the silent auction opened at 5:00 PM. Convention Dinner Celebration began at 6:00 PM with a welcome to convention from President Charlene Ridgway and a welcome to Tulsa from Tulsa Tours Company owner Jeffrey Tanenhaus.

Welcome and Introduction of Executive Officers and guests were given by President Ridgway.

Executive Board:

President-Elect Monica Bartling (absent)

VP Sharon Robinson

Treasurer Betty Clay

PSP Jan Bailey serving in the absence of Secretary Lisa Adkins

PSP/SCRVP Miriam Costilow serving in the absence of Parliamentarian Carroll Craun

Historian Angie Sellmeyer

South Central Region Officers:

Debbie Thomas, President & her assistant Judy Scott, Women's League of Van Buren, AR

Miriam Costilow, Vice President (Oklahoma)

Past State Presidents:

Jan Bailey, Cheyenne Sorosis Club

Miriam Costilow, Hugo Inter Se Club

Fleta Haskins, Tulsa Silver Foxes Club

Janice West, Member at Large

Brenda Calahan, GFWC-OK McAlester Fortnightly, introduced Newly Organized Junior Club Officers:

Gabrielle Deputy

Kelley Wilkett

The Thought for the Day & Prayer was presented by PSP Jan Bailey, Cheyenne Sorosis Club. Attendees enjoyed a dinner buffet of Cask Cobb Salad, Mom's Pot Roast, Herb-rubbed Chicken Breast, Mashed Potatoes, Fresh Market Vegetables, and Rolls. Desserts were Caramel Apple Pie, Chocolate Fudge Cake, Seasonal Cheesecake.

GFWC 2nd Vice President Mary Beth Williams, Colorado, sent an email of greetings. She was unable to attend convention due to her husband's surgery/recovery. South Central Region President Debbie Thomas, Arkansas, gave official greetings to attendees. GFWC International President Suellen Brazil sent greetings in a flyer placed on attendee tables.

President Ridgway said that scientists are stating that changes in land use, pesticide use, and weather patterns are the leading causes for decline of pollinators, and this is posing serious threats to food security, which in turn will have a direct and negative impact on human health leading to extensive lives lost each year to nutritional deficiencies. Many campaigns to save pollinators focus on actions individuals and organizations. Four clubs were awarded funding from Color Oklahoma for late 2024 native wildflower plantings by the Oklahoma Department of Transportation. Several clubwomen have planted wildflower gardens.

President Ridgway commended President-Elect Monica Bartling for an exceptional job reaching out to Oklahoma First Lady Sarah Stitt, Stitt's Executive Director, Friends of the Mansion and the Chief Landscaper of the mansion. A well-known native landscape design firm in Oklahoma developed a new design for the commemorative Governor's Mansion garden to

include Oklahoma native wildflowers to increase pollination and to increase pollinator education to the many groups that tour the mansion grounds. The entire garden is being moved to the center of the mansion grounds. Visitors to the mansion will find themselves entering through the Rose Garden. The garden will have an outer circle of native plants designed to bloom in three seasons. Native plants will help with garden health. According to President-Elect Bartling's email, this garden project will be funded through monies raised by the Friends of the Mansion, corporate sponsors recruited by GFWC-Oklahoma, and our GFWC-OK club sponsored rose bushes for planting. According to our state treasurer before convention, we have approximately \$880 in the Rose Garden Fund. The silent auction proceeds will go in the Rose Garden Fund. President Ridgway invited attendees to donate to the rose garden project if led.

PSP/PSCRFP Fleta Haskins presented the history on the "*First Ladies Rose Garden*" at the Oklahoma Governor's Mansion. The Rose Garden originated with GFWC-OK member **Mrs. Frank Higginbotham**, Chairman of Conservation of Natural Resources Committee, during the 1927-1930 administration of **President Rainey**. The garden was dedicated on April 19, 1932, and GFWC Oklahoma clubs purchased rose bushes for the garden. Names of Past State Presidents and names of Oklahoma First Ladies who had served prior to 1932 were placed on markers. The garden was to be a lasting tribute to all state club women, living and deceased, who heroically carried on the tradition of service to their communities, holding high the standard of Federation Club work and volunteerism. The Garden was rededicated on May 27, 1939, with the addition of new names. Since 1939, the rose garden has been an ongoing project for GFWC-OK. In 2018, the Rose Garden suffered a serious rose disease and had to be destroyed from infected soil. The committee chairman oversees ordering and installing appropriate plaques as well as overseeing the purchase of roses.

Club Milestone Anniversaries of the **Cheyenne Platonic Club** (115 Years), **Pawhuska Heeko Club** (90 years), and **Pryor Monday Forum Club** (85 years) were celebrated. Certificates from GFWC were presented to each club. Fifty-Plus Year Memberships were read aloud. Oklahoma clubs submitted the following names: Maxine Dixon (Haskell), June Griffin (Waurika), Fleta Haskins (Tulsa), Glenna Kirk (Cheyenne), Marjorie Martin (Perry), Donnis Potter (Durant), and Carolyn Sparks (Sulphur). President Ridgway announced that GFWC-Oklahoma gained 41 new members as reported from clubs. (See convention program attachment).

Dr. Michele Hockersmith, Chairman of LEADS and Leadership and a 2023 Louisville, KY LEADS graduate, spoke on her LEADS experience and announced **Donna John**, President of Sulphur Sorosis, as our **2025 GFWC-OK LEADS Candidate** who will attend the GFWC Leadership, Education, and Development Seminar at the 2025 GFWC Annual Convention in Atlanta, GA. A certificate was presented to Donna. Donna will receive a free lunch at the seminar, a graduation certificate, a LEADS pin, a \$350 travel/lodge stipend from GFWC and a \$300 stipend from GFWC-OK to help with expenses. LEADS attendees gain the capabilities, confidence, and commitment necessary to pursue and achieve office or chairman and serve with distinction.

President Ridgway announced that the Tulsa Silver Foxes Club recommended PSP/PSCR **Fleta Haskins** and the Board approved Fleta to be **Oklahoma's 2026 Jennie Award Nominee**. Fleta will submit the required documents to President Ridgway to submit to South Central Region. A certificate was presented to Fleta. GFWC Jennie Award, named in honor of GFWC's founder, **Jane Cunningham Croly**, honors one clubwoman from each of the eight regions for outstanding commitment to club, community, and family. Two state nominees will be selected from each region to move forward to the GFWC Jennie Award Selection Committee. South Central Region's finalist will be chosen and honored as a National Jennie Award honoree at the 2026 GFWC Annual Convention in Scottsdale, AZ. President Ridgway shared Fleta's dedicated service to GFWC and GFWC-OK over the 70-years she has been a member.

Before introducing guest speaker Dr. Amy Emerson, President Ridgway stated that her two-year administration state project is Mental Health, especially the mental health of our Oklahoma children. According to a 2024 OU-Health News article, Oklahoma ranks 33rd in the nation for providing access to mental health services and support. One in 5 (20%) of Oklahoma children from every background and economic status suffer from mental health conditions such as depression and anxiety. Oklahoma's suicide rate (age 10-24) is among the worst in the nation.

Experiencing herself the pain of childhood adversity and trauma, Oklahoma First Lady Sarah Stitt is committed to raising hope among all communities, particularly the most vulnerable. Also experiencing the gift of hope when she needed it most, which incredibly shaped her life, she is a passionate advocate for those impacted by mental health issues and joins Chan Hellman, PhD, in forces to bring the "science of hope" to organizations and communities across the nation. Her excellent presentation was educational and informative.

Dr. Amy Emerson, Director of **Hope Rising: Hope Driven Parenting**, presented a Health & Wellness Program geared toward Mental Health of Oklahoma children. Dr. Emerson, a Tulsa pediatrician with a special interest in developmental-behavior pediatric children, works as a consultant for several nonprofits focused on providing safe and nurturing environments for families and young children. Hope-Driven Parenting, an initiative of Hope Rising USA, is devoted to providing safe and stable families for at-risk children and youth. Gov. Stitt appointed her to the Board of Oklahoma's Juvenile Affairs. The common themes of her interests lie in child welfare, juvenile justice, early brain growth and family strengthening. GFWC-OK sent an honorarium of \$500 along with several attendee donations totaling \$500 to Hope Rising to assist with cost of resource materials.

President Ridgway announced continuation of the Silent Auction Fundraiser on Saturday and that State Fundraising Chairman Sue Hicks will sell coupons for a 50/50 drawing. Tonya Ettner, McAlester Fortnightly Club, was the winner of the free one-night convention hotel room.

CONVENTION MEETING MINUTES

Saturday, April 26

Registration opened from 8:00-9:00 a.m. and convention attendees enjoyed complimentary breakfast in the restaurant. President Ridgway called the **126th GFWC-OK Annual Convention**

to order with the tap of the gavel at 9:05 a.m. The Flag presentation was conducted by the Broken Arrow Boy Scout Troop 26. The *Pledge to the United States of America* was led by Hon. Jacqueline Stout and Donna Talley led the singing of *The Star-Spangled Banner*, both members of Monday Forum Club.

The Thought for the Day was presented by PSP/PSCRFP Fleta Haskins, Tulsa Silver Foxes Club. The official Welcome to Tulsa was given by Joan Ludlum, President of the Tulsa Silver Foxes Club. Welcome and Introduction of Executive Officers and guests were given by President Ridgway.

Executive Board:

President-Elect Monica Bartling (absent)

VP Sharon Robinson

Treasurer Betty Clay

PSP Jan Bailey serving in the absence of Secretary Lisa Adkins

PSP/SCRVP Miriam Costilow serving in the absence of Parliamentarian Carroll Craun

Historian Angie Sellmeyer

South Central Region Officers:

Debbie Thomas, President & her assistant Judy Scott (AR)

Miriam Costilow, Vice President (OK)

Past State Presidents:

Jan Bailey, Cheyenne Sorosis Club

Miriam Costilow, Hugo Inter Se Club

Fleta Haskins, Tulsa Silver Foxes Club

Janice West, Member at Large

Newly Organized Junior Club Officers:

Gabrielle Deputy, President

Kelley Wilkett, Secretary

Seven clubs were present according to the Credentials Report by Treasurer Betty Clay.

Seven clubs were represented. 38 members attending Convention according to Treasurer Clay.

Tulsa Silver Foxes – 9

Pryor Monday Forum – 3

McAlester Fortnightly – 12

Hugo Inter Se – 1

Durant Fortnightly – 7

Cheyenne Sorosis – 1

Sulphur Sorosis – 1

Member-at-Large – 1

SCR Guests – 2

GENERAL BUSINESS SESSION

Acting Parliamentarian Miriam Costilow presented the Convention Rules to ensure that our business is conducted in an orderly and efficient manner. Members are to first be recognized,

then state their name, club name, and the nature of their business. President Ridgway presented the Convention Program. Changes to the program were noted and approved.

The previous GFWC-OK 125th Annual State Convention minutes were approved by the 2024 Minutes Review Committee and minutes were sent with the Call to Convention and are on file. Members appointed by President Burkhead were Donna John, Debbie Fink, and Sue Hicks. The 2024 Guthrie Leadership Orientation Meeting Minutes were approved by Ginger Fitzgerald, Jacqueline Stout, and Sue Hicks.

A Minutes Review Committee of three members agreed to review and approve the 2025 GFWC-OK 126th Annual State Convention minutes. The Minutes Committee are Jacqueline Stout (NE District), Tonya Ettner (SE District), and Donna John (SW/C District).

Acting Secretary Jan Bailey read aloud the Board Recommendations. A motion was made and seconded to approve the following:

1. Donations of \$492 from Friends of GFWC Oklahoma will go into the General Fund to use for Convention expenses.
2. The Board recommends \$500 Honorarium for each convention guest speaker—Raising Hope Sarah Stitt Foundation and The Demand Project-Tulsa. Tulsa's St. Jude's Children's Affiliate Clinic-Saint Francis Children's Hospital guest speaker will receive our Done-in-a-Day Project of donated toys, books, crafts, etc.
3. Sales from Silent Auction items will go to the Governor's Mansion Rose Garden Project.
4. Sales from the 50/50 Fundraiser will go to the General Fund for Convention expenses.
5. The expense of a free one-night convention hotel room drawing will be paid for by the general fund.
6. The GFWC-OK Bylaws /Standing Rules are to be updated to include "Junior Club" and clarify Junior and Juniorette dues amount.
7. President Ridgway chose to donate her desk expenses to the general fund for convention expenses.

Treasurer Betty Clay gave the financial report and presented the 2025-2026 Budget for consideration. There were no questions or concerns. Both reports were filed for Audit. The Audit Committee is President Elect Monica Bartling, Betty Clay, and an appointed member.

Oklahoma has 381 members, 18 clubs, and one junior club being organized. Checking Account balance brought forward: \$15,681.88. Deposits total: \$45,701.03. This includes registration for Oklahoma Leadership Orientation in Guthrie and OKC South Central Region Conference and North Carolina Disaster Relief donations. Total Deposits and Balance Forward: \$61,382.91.

Total Expenditures: \$41,977.10 leaving a checkbook balance of \$19,405.81. Our balance is \$3,723.93 higher than reported finances at our 2024 State Convention. Oklahoma has two Certificate of Deposits: \$10,000 at Liberty National Bank and \$10,000 at First National Bank of Elk City for a total of \$20,000. **Total Assets: \$39,405.81**

NEW BUSINESS

As stated in the GFWC-OK bylaws, the nomination of state officers shall be by a Nominating & Election Committee who shall consist of five members, and the Nominating & Election

Committee are to present the 2026-2028 slate of officers at the 2026 convention. One member is to be a PSP. No member may serve two consecutive terms, and no two members may reside in the same district. The following were approved to serve on the Nominating & Election Committee: Miriam Costilow (Past State President), Brenda Calahan (SE District), Sue Hicks (NE District), Jan Bailey (SW/C District), Gabrielle Deputy (Junior Club).

President Ridgway recognized the Junior Club being organized. McAlester Fortnightly Club President Brenda Calahan introduced Junior officers Gabrielle Deputy and Kelley Wilkett. Brenda shared her story on the forming of the junior club. Officers have been selected, members are being recruited, and club bylaws will be created.

President Ridgway recognized First Time Attendees with a star emblem pin. A group photo was taken.

District President Reports (3-4 Minutes) were given by the Honorable Jacqueline Stout (Northeast District), Megan Ciolli (Southeast District), and Donna John (Southwest-Central District). Marilyn Inselman (North Central District) was not present to report.

A 15-minute break was approved for the Silent Auction and 50/50 Fundraisers. Auction items were provided by each club attending convention.

GFWC International Second Vice President Mary Beth Williams was unable to attend our convention due to her husband's immediate surgery/recovery. Vice President Sharon Robinson presented highlights from Williams' Membership Workshop Presentation titled, "*Is Your Club Attractive?*"

State Historian Angie Sellmeyer, McAlester Fortnightly Club, gave a report on the state history project. Clubs were asked to update and send their club history with photos for the Fourth Edition GFWC-Oklahoma History book to be published. She sent an email to all state club presidents requesting this information. President Ridgway added that Fleta Haskins has the First, Second, and Third Edition books.

Recess was approved for lunch and fundraising. Historian Sellmeyer gave expression of thanks. Attendees enjoyed a lunch buffet of Chicken fajitas and seasoned ground chuck tacos with crisp lettuce, diced tomatoes and sour cream. Fresh guacamole, tortilla chips, house-made salsa, white queso, warm flour and corn tortillas, sauteed onions and bell peppers, cilantro black beans, and drinks. Desserts: Sopapillas with local honey, Churros with cinnamon sugar.

GENERAL BUSINESS SESSION-RESUME

Megan Marshall, BSN, RN, CCRN, the St. Jude Tulsa Clinical Manager at the Saint Francis Children's Hospital briefly spoke. She said that the survival rate for childhood leukemia in 1962 was only 4%. Today, we are at a 94% survival rate. There are over 16,000 new cases of pediatric cancer a year in the U.S. St. Jude sees about 8,200 of these children. GFWC-OK's "**Done-in-a-Day**" Convention Project was donated books and toys for St. Jude cancer children. Each child chooses a toy for comfort and play during their hospital stay. Megan showed a one-minute nurse

and staff celebration of a child and family going home after successful treatment. GFWC-OK's top reported 2024 Affiliate Partnership was St. Jude. Four of the 18 state clubs reported donations totaling \$1805. Megan thanked attendees for supporting St. Jude Children's Research Hospital with dollar donations and toys. Financial contributions benefit families in that they never receive a bill for treatment, travel, housing or food so that they can focus on helping their child live. All attendees were given a nice St. Jude bag. Oklahoma club women were very generous in donation of toys. Megan called her husband to bring the truck!

Guest speaker Kristin Weis, **The Demand Project** Co-founder/CEO, presented a program on Human Trafficking Awareness and Prevention. The Demand Project organization is in Tulsa. Its mission is to eradicate child sex trafficking, online enticement, child sexual abuse material, and the commercial sexual exploitation of children through prevention, protection, recovery and restoration. The Demand Project collaborates with law enforcement, the justice system, and communities. They believe in educating, equipping, and empowering the community on how to stay safe against online predators, child traffickers/buyers, and anyone that seeks to sexually exploit children for commercial and personal gain. They provide in-depth presentations on how predators and traffickers operate, how to keep children safe online and safe in the community, and how you can stay educated on any emerging technological trends and trafficking tricks. GFWC-OK sent an honorarium of \$500 along with several attendee donations totaling \$500 to The Demand Project to help with travel expenses to educate Oklahoma public and private school children. Following The Demand Project on social media is eye-opening, informative, and educational.

A 15-minute break was approved for the Silent Auction and 50/50 Fundraisers. Auction items were provided by each club attending convention.

GENERAL BUSINESS SESSION-RESUME

President Ridgway with the help of Vice President Sharon Robinson presented the following award certificates. First Place Clubs received monetary awards of \$25 per category. The following are the **2024 Category Award Winners**. The President's Award Certificate was awarded to McAlester Fortnightly Club (large club) and Sulphur Sorosis Club (small club) for their excellent state goal achievements. President Ridgway was very impressed and pleased with Oklahoma statistic results. Fourteen of 18 clubs reported.



GFWC OKLAHOMA
GENERAL FEDERATION of WOMEN'S CLUBS
living the volunteer spirit.

GFWC-OKLAHOMA AWARDS CALENDAR YEAR 2024

SIGNATURE PROGRAM

- 1ST CHEYENNE SOROSIS CLUB
- 2ND ANTLERS TWENTIETH CENTURY CLUB
- 3RD THE SILVER FOXES CLUB - TULSA

ARTS & CULTURE

- 1ST CHEYENNE SOROSIS CLUB
- 2ND MCALESTER FORTNIGHTLY CLUB
- 3RD HASKELL PA-A-LINN CLUB

CIVIC ENGAGEMENT & OUTREACH

- 1ST CHEYENNE PLATONIC CLUB
- 2ND THE SILVER FOXES CLUB - TULSA
- 3RD MCALESTER FORTNIGHTLY CLUB

EDUCATION & LIBRARIES

- 1ST CHEYENNE SOROSIS CLUB
- 2ND NOWATA LA-KEE-KON CLUB
- 3RD MCALESTER FORTNIGHTLY CLUB

ENVIRONMENT

- 1ST WAURIKA SOROSIS CLUB
- 2ND MCALESTER FORTNIGHTLY CLUB
- 3RD CHEYENNE PLATONIC CLUB

HEALTH & WELLNESS

- 1ST MCALESTER FORTNIGHTLY CLUB
- 2ND ANTLERS TWENTIETH CENTURY CLUB
- 3RD WAURIKA SOROSIS CLUB

MEMBERSHIP

- 1ST MCALESTER FORTNIGHTLY CLUB
- 2ND WAURIKA SOROSIS CLUB
- 3RD TISHOMINGO'S DAUGHTERS CLUB
- 3RD ANADARKO PHILOMATHIC CLUB

COMMUNICATIONS & PUBLIC RELATIONS

- 1ST MCALESTER FORTNIGHTLY CLUB
- 2ND WAURIKA SOROSIS CLUB
- 3RD ANTLERS TWENTIETH CENTURY CLUB

CLUB CREATIVITY WINNER

MCALESTER FORTNIGHTLY CLUB

LEADERSHIP & LEADS

- 1ST ANTLERS TWENTIETH CENTURY CLUB
- 2ND SULPHUR SOROSIS CLUB
- 3RD WAURIKA SOROSIS CLUB

2025 OKLAHOMA LEADS CANDIDATE

DONNA JOHN, PRESIDENT OF SULPHUR SOROSIS CLUB

LEGISLATION/PUBLIC POLICY

- 1ST THE SILVER FOXES CLUB - TULSA
- 2ND NOWATA LA-KEE-KON CLUB
- 3RD TISHOMINGO'S DAUGHTERS CLUB

FUNDRAISING

- 1ST MCALESTER FORTNIGHTLY CLUB
- 2ND WAURIKA SOROSIS CLUB
- 3RD THE SILVER FOXES CLUB - TULSA

COMMUNITY IMPACT PROJECT (CIP)

THE COMMUNITY IMPROVEMENT PROGRAM AWARD IS THE HEART AND SOUL OF GFWC AND AIMS TO MEET THE NEEDS OF INDIVIDUAL COMMUNITIES. IT PROVIDES A FUTURE VISION OF PARTNERSHIP BETWEEN CLUB AND COMMUNITY. THE CIP AWARD ENTRY FORM IS LOCATED IN THE GFWC CLUB MANUAL AND ON OUR GFWC-OKLAHOMA WEBSITE. AWARDS RANGE FROM \$250 - \$5,000 BASED ON AWARD PLACEMENT. APPLY IN 2026.

Congratulations!

2024 GFWC-OK Signature Project

(14 of 18 Oklahoma Clubs Reported)

Projects Completed - 14

Volunteer Hours Completed – 1,021.00

Dollars Donated - \$2,975.00

In Kind Donations – \$9,140.00

2024 GFWC-OK Community Service Programs

(14 of 18 Oklahoma Clubs Reported)

Projects Completed - 429

Volunteer Hours Completed – 31,454

Dollars Donated - \$263,994.00

In Kind Donations – \$49,057.00

2024 GFWC-OK Advancement Area

(14 of 18 Clubs Reported)

Projects Completed - 195

Volunteer Hours Completed – 7,696.5

Dollars Donated - \$44,727.00

In Kind Donations – \$1050.00

2024 GFWC-OK Epsilon Sigma Omicron

(4 of 18 Oklahoma Clubs Reported)

Volunteer Hours - 2980

Number of Books - 708

2024 GFWC-OK Affiliate Partnership

(4 of 18 Clubs Reported)

Dollars Donated - \$1,805.00

Top Two Affiliates – Heifer International & St. Jude Children’s Research Hospital

President Ridgway announced that the **2026 International Day of Service** is scheduled for **September 27, 2025**, and will focus on Domestic Violence & Awareness Projects. Seventy percent of GFWC-OK clubs participated in the September 2024 GFWC National Day of Service focusing on Food Insecurity & Hunger Awareness Projects. Oklahoma contributed \$1,086 to the North Carolina Disaster Relief. Convention dates/locations for 2025-2026 listed on page 13 of the convention program. Next year, America will be celebrating 250 years! GFWC-OK Fundraiser Chairman Sue Hicks, Tulsa Silver Foxes Club, announced that \$488 was raised from the 50/50 Fundraiser. Fleta Haskins was the winner of \$244 while the other half will go into the state general fund. Fleta then surprised attendees by graciously contributing her \$244 to the Governor Mansion Rose Garden project. Sue announced that \$710 was raised from the silent auction. Total including Fleta’s contribution is \$954. Door prizes of small ferns, chocolate, and gift cards dated by clubs were given based on numbers found on the inside back cover of the program.

MEMORIAL:

Brenda Calahan, McAlester Fortnightly Club, presented a moving memorial for the following Oklahoma sisters who passed after the 2024 Convention but remain a cherished memory in our hearts: PSP Carol Sue Crews (Apache), Ruby Margaret Martin (Cheyenne), Sharon Kay Youngblood (Cheyenne), Mildred Solomon (Tishomingo) Connie Pedersen (Tishomingo), Sylvia Mitchell (Duncan), Kay Lyn Sullivan (Duncan), Sally Clark (Durant), Susan Cordell Kanard (McAlester),Carolynn Patricia Johnson (Sulphur), and Mattie Lou Cooper (Antlers).

Gabrielle and Kelley, officers of the McAlester Junior Club, led the *Junior Pledge*. Donna John, Sulphur Sorosis Club and 2025 LEADS Candidate, led the *Collect for Club Women*. All attendees

circled holding hands while singing “*Let There Be Peace on Earth*” in unison with a Children’s Choir video.

At 2:45 p.m., a motion was made by Joan Ludlum to adjourn the 126th Annual State Convention and was seconded by Gabrielle Deputy.

Respectfully Submitted,

Jan Bailey, PSP

Acting GFWC-OK Secretary

Minutes Review Committee

Approved By:

Tonya Ettner, McAlester Fortnightly Club

tonya@ettner.com

Donna John, Sulphur Sorosis Club

daybreakdj@brightok.net

Hon. Jacqueline Stout, Monday Forum Club

bj2rhodes@hotmail.com