Welcome back! It seems like just yesterday we were attending Convention in Atlantic City, where I had the privilege and honor of being installed as the 56th NJSFWC President by Mary Ellen Brock, GFWC President Elect. It was a beautiful ceremony! Many thanks to Convention Chairman Maureen Costello and Ann Ribinsky Brown, Credentials and Registration Chairman for their dedication to making our 2018 Convention a place where Girls Just Want to Have Fun Again – and we certainly did!

Congratulations to Immediate Past President Jean Revis! She and her board are to be commended on a successful administration and all that was accomplished in so many areas. Be sure to read Jean’s letter to the clubs and GFWC Convention recap in this issue of ALMANAC.

Sixty-one NJSFWC members travelled to St. Louis, MO for Jersey Girl Mary Ellen Brock’s installation as GFWC International President. We’re all so proud of her! During her installation remarks, Mary Ellen spoke of her 2 emphasis areas (Diversity and Legislation) and her 7 grand initiatives. You’ll be hearing much more about these initiatives in the coming months. In the meantime, you can read her objectives in their entirety in Mary Ellen’s letter to the clubs and GFWC Convention recap in this issue of ALMANAC.

From time to time, NJSFWC offers workshops to its members, which are held at Headquarters in New Brunswick, and address a variety of topics. I’m excited to announce that, during this administration, workshops will be coming to the districts! Beginning this month and continuing in January and September 2019, you are invited to attend your district council and stay afterward for one of three workshops – Communications, Leadership or Membership. In this way, more members will have the opportunity to participate. I hope you’ll take advantage of these benefits of membership in NJSFWC.

Sadly, we received word of the loss of one of our Past State Presidents. Dorothy Constants, who served as president from 1984 to 1986, passed away on May 2, 2018. Dorothy was a gentle woman who will be remembered fondly.

Wishing you a successful club year and a shining future,

Mary
Dorothy Constants
NJSFWC State President 1984-1986
February 3, 1938-May 2, 2018

When Dorothy M. Constants of the Woman’s Club of Oakland took over the reins of NJSFWC, the country was in the throes of a great feeling of Americanism and the restoration of the Statue of Liberty was being undertaken. What a great way to unite over 28,000 clubwomen to bring about involvement, commitment and strength than to ask them to be supportive of a project such as this? Mrs. Constants felt that the women wanted to be stimulated and to have renewed faith in the organization and what it could accomplish. With this in mind, she chose as the administration theme “Together All Hands – Make it Happen”.

Right from the beginning, the decision was made to be part of the Restoration of the Statue of Liberty – Ellis Island Foundation Incorporated. This was considered the Special State Project for 1984-1986 and affectionately call “The Lady of Liberty”. In attending an Environmental Seminar sponsored by GFWC, Mrs. Constants was confronted with the fact the New Jersey had the dubious distinction of being #1 – in hazardous waste! Out of this knowledge came the Federation’s first Environmental and Conservation Day.

The President represented the Federation on various New Jersey task forces involving women, alcohol, and health-related issues.

Conventions for 1985 and 1986 were held at the Americana-Great Gorge Resort in McAfee with over 1,000 delegates attending each year.

During Mrs. Constants’ administration it was a challenge for the clubwomen to become “part of the action” and to move from the status quo. She wanted them to realize how important it was to be involved as women of today’s world – concerned about present day issues. She also wanted the membership to survive and the Federation to move ahead. It was an exciting time for this President and she hoped that it was as exciting for the clubwomen. It was a chance for proving that “Together All Hands – Make it Happen”.

Taken from:
“A Century of Challenge
New Jersey State Federation of Women’s Clubs
First 100 years”
NJSFWC FIRST VICE PRESIDENT

Jan W. Hanson

As the calendar turns to September it is time to dust off the gavel and freshen up the agenda. Whether you are a first-time President or a continuing President you should have a written agenda. A written agenda allows you to stay focused on the meeting and cover all necessary business in a timely fashion. Your Recording Secretary should have a copy in order to keep accurate minutes. It is helpful to look at the previous month’s agenda and minutes and last year’s agenda and minutes to help you craft your agenda.

As President you are in charge of running the meeting and keeping it under control. Make sure you review basic Parliamentary Procedure so you have an understanding of how a motion is made and executed. There are pamphlets available from NJSFWC headquarters that give you some basic, helpful hints.

As President you should arrive ahead of time to make sure everything is ready and to give yourself time to get organized. Starting a meeting if you are rushed or stressed is not going to lead to a productive meeting.

Start your meetings on time. If you are always starting the meeting late, members will start to arrive late because they know the meeting will not be starting at the stated time. Soon ten minutes becomes fifteen minutes and then twenty minutes, etc. Time management starts with rapping the gavel on time.

Be neutral while being firm, competent, tactful and fair. As President you do not take sides in a debate unless you “leave” the Chair and allowing your First Vice President to assume the Chair until a vote has been taken on the issue. The President does not “turn over the meeting” to anyone.

Try and stay relaxed. If you are tense and uncomfortable the meeting will be tense and uncomfortable. If you make a mistake, apologize if necessary, get back on track and move on.

Monthly tip: Rap the gavel once to open the meeting and once to close the meeting. Never bang it over and over again or throw it across the room even if tempted.

NJSFWC SECOND VICE PRESIDENT

Shirley A. Holly

As your new report writing chairman, I’d like to congratulate all of the clubs who submitted reports last February. Whether you received an award at convention or not, you are all winners. Winners - because you documented your club history by reporting! Reports are not just the history for the future, but the accomplishments of your club year so that club members can celebrate the positive difference they are making in their communities. Why else do we report?

Reports are great recruitment tools as you share your accomplishments with potential members, guests and speakers. Reports can also be a great retention tool as they spotlight programs, projects and even the chairman or committees that brought projects to fruition. By the time the end of the year comes, we often forget about those projects we did last winter. Reporting brings all of those projects back to the forefront and reminds you of how far you have come in a year. Reviewing reports from year to year reminds us of how projects have grown over time and have become more successful. This could also be a benefit to know when a project is no longer relevant to your community if you see declining participation.

When we add the statistics of the clubs from across New Jersey, we realize the impact New Jersey Club women make every single day. These numbers are used when we apply for grants on the state level and then again GFWC adds the statistics from states across the country to receive national grants. Current partners look at yearly statistics to evaluate the relationships. Did you know that about only half of our clubs report? There is strength in numbers and we make a big impact when we report. Start keeping track of your projects, dollars and hours now so you can be counted at the end of the year. Report to document your history and report to be part of the statistics!
NJSFWC THIRD VICE PRESIDENT  

Barbara McCloskey

Our new GFWC President Mary Ellen Brock is encouraging all clubs to promote diversity among our members and to participate in GFWC’s “United By Diversity” recruitment campaign.

Now is a great time to contact your local Churches, Temples, Mosques and any other community groups and invite them to a club event or ask them to partner with you on a community service project.

Many of these groups already have ‘women’s groups’ as part of their organization, and what better way to make them feel welcome by participating in a group project.

Why not offer to come speak at one of their meetings and explain what your club and our organization represents?

A great opportunity for recruiting new members is to begin planning an event for NJSFWC Day, November 16th, 2018. Create a display at the local library, hold a membership event at a coffee shop, restaurant or at the library.

Put together some facts about your club and the NJSFWC that you can share. This offers a great way to educate your club members and the public with press releases, information on your website, club newsletter, Facebook page or any other social media sources that your town may offer.

Consider partnering with other clubs in your District to make a larger impact.

Be sure to send out invitations to your local politicians, the library director and any other officials that you feel would benefit from joining you at an event. Make every event a membership event.

You never know where your next new member may come from. Don’t forget to send their names to this officer so they may receive an NJSFWC new member welcome letter.

Refer to the Membership Supplement on the NJSFWC website for additional information.

NJSFWC TREASURER  

Joyce J. Fredericks

WHAT MAILING TO EXPECT IN SEPTEMBER 2018

There will be a mailing in September to all Presidents that contains the following:
- Dues Bill 2018-2019, DEADLINE November 1, 2018
- Charitable Registration for 2018 Form, DEADLINE October 1, 2018; $15
- Continuing Funds Form for 2019, DEADLINE April 1, 2019
- Explanation of the Continuing Funds
- Girls’ Career Delegate Registration Form 2019

The President should make a copy for her file and NOTE THE DEADLINES and then give the package to the Treasurer for her to send the checks to Headquarters by the deadlines.

CHANGE OF NJSFWC FISCAL YEAR – Clubs who are under NJSFWC’s 501(c)(3) Group Filing please note that a letter will be forthcoming to explain how this affects your club and what action will be required. This is a head’s up as to what is to take place.

At Convention May 2018, a bylaw amendment was adopted that changes NJSFWC’s fiscal year from May 1-April 30 TO July 1-June 30. This change takes effect beginning with the fiscal year ending June 30, 2019.

This will affect the filing of your 990 forms which currently are due September 15 of each year. With this change, and only for the first year, your club will have to file TWO 990’s. One for the fiscal year ending April 30, 2019; and other for the 2 months of the new fiscal year for the period May 1, 2019 through June 30, 2019.

The IRS requires each club under the NJSFWC Group Filing to notify NJSFWC, in writing, that they agree with this new fiscal year. NJSFWC will than make the change with the IRS for all the clubs under our 501(c)(3) list.

If your club disagrees with the new fiscal year and wants to keep their fiscal year as it is, then your club must notify the IRS of the change. More details will be in the letter club presidents will be receiving.
NJSFWC FINANCIAL SECRETARY

Marie E. DiMatties

IMPORTANT INFORMATION REGARDING 990 EFILE

Clubs who are 501(c)(3) under the NJSFWC Umbrella are required to file with the IRS before the end of September. This can be done electronically. A copy of the page that says “You have successfully filed your 990” needs to be sent to NJSFWC, 55 Labor Center Way, New Brunswick, 08901 ATTN: Financial Secretary. Remember to print the screen before logging off and keep a copy for your club’s files. Clubs who fail to report 3 years in a row will be DROPPED from 501(c)(3) exempt status by the IRS. It is difficult to get reinstated, so DO NOT MISS THIS DEADLINE. If your income is less than $10,000 you must file electronically; be sure to capture and print that screen that says you successfully filed.

The IRS does not provide each club under the NJSFWC umbrella with their “own” letter citing their name. The letter from the IRS is addressed to NJSFWC and states that they have updated our list and accepted the changes. So, when your club is “newly” added to our list, you won’t get a personal letter from the IRS, just a copy of the one saying they accepted our changes. The Financial Secretary then sends the new club a letter saying it has been included on our listing and now is 501(c)(3). Also included will be a letter from NJSFWC to the State of New Jersey that informs the state that your club is 501(c)(3) and this letter is sent along with the ST5 form requesting that your club be assigned an ST5 form to exempt you from NJ sales tax. Your club MUST keep these originals filed in a safe place i.e. bank safe deposit box, if you have one. Members should be made aware of their existence and location.

If your bylaws have changed within the last 2 years, your club will be required to furnish a copy of the new bylaws along with the copy of your successful filing of the 990 to NJSFWC.

Should a club wish to be part of the NJSFWC 501(c)(3) umbrella, a letter along with the required documentation must be received by December 15, 2018. An instructional package is available from NJSFWC Headquarters for a slight fee of $2. The FILING with NJSFWC will cost you $50. If you wish to file DIRECTLY with the IRS the cost is somewhere around $500 and their supporting documentation may be different than what NJSFWC requires.

Finally, the 501(c)(3) exempt status is NOT the Charitable Registration with the State of New Jersey and should not be confused with that filing which is due to NJSFWC Headquarters, ATTN: Treasurer, by September 30th with a check for $15 made payable to NJSFWC and earmarked CHARITABLE REGISTRATION. This filing is necessary if your club’s income is MORE than $10,000 and you raise money from the PUBLIC. It doesn’t matter if your club is 501(c)(3) or NOT. Any club whose income is OVER $25,000 HAS TO FILE DIRECTLY WITH THE STATE. The form to file through NJSFWC is furnished in a mailing along with your dues bill and continuing funds form, which should be received by the club presidents by early September.

COLLEGE DISTRICT

Christina Burlew

The lazy days of summer didn’t deter Club Presidents and members from marking the start of the new club year by attending the June District Council. The members welcomed the opportunity to hear about CASA, our State Project, the State Fall Conference on October 22 at the Battleground Country Club, and Women Who Reach For The Stars Campaign.

While some clubs use the summer months for planning, other clubs remained active. The Franklin Woman’s Club was selected in a drawing for non-profit organizations sponsored by the Somerset County Board of Chosen Freeholders and 30 members attended a Somerset Patriots Baseball game. The club also held a catered social at Headquarters. The Woman’s Club of Clinton supported United Way of Hunterdon County “Tools 4 School” program by collecting school supplies that were distributed to needy school children. Branchburg Woman’s Club collected school supplies for Safe & Sound, a Domestic Abuse Center and Suburban Woman’s Club of South Plainfield donated school supplies to FISH, a service organization that responds to the needs of the poor, elderly, homeless and those who have fallen between the cracks. Hillsborough Woman’s Club installed and painted book shelves for GiGi’s Playhouse, a facility for children and young adults with Down Syndrome. Montgomery Woman’s Club held a Cook-Out for the residents of Crawford House. Crawford House provides individualized programs for NJ women who are homeless, indigent and free from substance use for at least 14 days.
COLLEGE DISTRICT (continued)

Many clubs will be sponsoring fundraising events. The **Bridgewater Woman’s Club** is having a Fashion Show at the Somerville Elks on Saturday, October 6 with doors opening at 11 am. The **Woman’s Club of Hillsborough** will hold their annual basket auction at the Hillsborough Municipal Building on Saturday, September 14 beginning at 6pm. On September 29 the **Suburban Woman’s Club of South Plainfield** will hold their G&G Boutique, selling jewelry, handbags and scarves donated by the members. **Montgomery Woman’s Club** held a yard sale fundraiser at a member’s home.

Many clubs participated in community events. The **North Brunswick Woman’s Club** filled “treat bags” and delivered them to Police Headquarters for “Thank-A-Police Officer Day” and alerted the public to decorate their mailboxes, outdoor lamps etc. with blue ribbons. **East Brunswick Woman’s Club** participated in the 6th annual East Brunswick Day, the **Franklin Woman’s Club** had a booth at the Franklin Day Festival.

Luncheons and pot luck dinners are planned for September as a way to welcome back members.

**EVENING MEMBERSHIP**

Claire J. Hill

EMD ladies are very busy.

Girls’ Career Institute Girls have been invited to relate their experiences at Douglass to Arlington and Ridgefield Park Evening Membership Departments.

Arlington EMD will be collecting back to school supplies for CASA of N.J.

Merchantville EMD will be holding a Conservation Workshop and they will also participate in the Pennsauken Township Harvest Festival. They will have membership forms at the booth in hopes to recruit new members. Good Luck to them. A simple game for children is also planned for the Merchantville Booth.

Ridgefield Park EMD will hold a food drive to benefit the local food pantry in September and a paint night and a bake sale in early October.

Long Valley EMD held a successful holocaust survivor talk at a local library.

**GARDEN DISTRICT**

Patricia J. Dahl

The Clubs of the Garden District have been productive, beautiful flowers blossoming hope into their communities.

The **Woman’s Club of Edgewater Park** had a Tea and Basket Raffle at their Elks Lodge in their town.

During the summer months the **Gloucester County Women’s Club** held a Bunco Night and are preparing for a new fundraiser in the spring.

**Marlton Woman’s Club** will have a booth at their Marlton Fall Festival. At their table they will distribute brochures to promote their club as well as wear their pink club shirts, have a pink tent, and the club banner. At the festival, they will be selling candy bars and donate the proceeds to their local Veteran’s Shelter.

How about a trip to Washington DC or a Card/Game Party? Well the **Woman’s Club of Merchantville** is the place to be!

The **GFWC Woman’s League of Mt. Holly** supported “Generations” Family Center by providing diapers, wipes and formula. Parents came to the Center to take classes on the care of their babies and after completing the class received diapers, etc.

Have you ever considered a library at your local Laundromat? The **Woman’s Club of Penns Grove/Carney’ Point** maintain their branch of the Laundromat Library League at their four locations.

**The Woman’s Club of West Deptford** participated in their Lunchbox Program at their schools. This project was very rewarding.

Most of the clubs in the district are selling tickets to the Boscov’s Day! They are competing with many other organizations. The project is a win - win situation as there are NO overhead costs. Whatever tickets you sell is pure profit. The Garden District Clubs are spreading Hope in their communities.
HIGHLANDS DISTRICT  

Judy Filippini

The women of the Highlands had a busy summer, with many social events, a golf outing, dining to donate fundraisers, manning booths at town days, collecting back to school supplies and collecting items for Boatsie’s Boxes.

A District Special State Project fundraiser, lobster lunch and tricky tray was held in August at the Boat House on Swartswood Lake.

Washington Woman’s Club held a fundraiser at the local Dairy Queen. They started work on collecting items for their fall tricky tray.

Blair Woman’s Club spent the summer organizing for their fall town-wide yard sale. They had a year-end celebration with their Girls’ Career Institute delegates reporting on their experience.

Roxbury Woman’s Club honored two Roxbury High School seniors with $1,000 scholarships. They organized their first tricky tray that will be held in October.

Hopatcong Woman’s Club was very busy with community events all summer. They manned a booth at Hopatcong Days in July and at the Farmer’s Market in August distributing information about their club and CASA. Supplies were provided to make cards for the veterans at the Lyons Healthcare Center.

Sussex Woman’s Club continued their collection project – Soles4Souls. To date over 1,000 pairs of shoes have been collected. In coordination with the Sussex Technical High School Spanish Club, medical and school supplies are collected as well as new mother’s bags. The high school students brought the supplies to the Dominican Republic during the summer.

Vernon Township Woman’s Club collected items for Boatsie’s Boxes. During June the club volunteered at a Farm to Fork Bicycle ride and were rewarded $1,300 for their efforts. They will be honoring their GCI delegate at their annual September Pot Luck Dinner/meeting.

Woman’s Club of Parsippany-Troy Hills participated in the town-wide Memorial Day Parade. The club held their 37th Annual Tee Off for Education Golf Classic and Luncheon Fundraiser during July. The members collected back-to-school supplies for the children at Jersey Battered Women’s Services of Morris County.

Sparta Woman’s Club closed their club year with a luncheon. During the summer both day and evening book groups met in member’s homes to discuss their latest selection. A summer picnic was held in July with planning for their fall activities.

Woman’s Club of Denville-Rockaway Area presented four scholarships in June to two high school seniors and to two women who returned to pursue a career as LPNs. Members enjoyed their Annual Summer Social to get to know each other as well as invited potential new members. July and August found them collecting Back to School Supplies which were donated to local town social service agencies and churches for distribution.

LIBERTY DISTRICT  

Jane Mackesy

In addition to having a large contingent of club women attend the GFWC Convention in St. Louis to support New Jersey’s own, Mary Ellen Brock, the amazing Women of the Liberty District spent the Summer installing new officers, taking a break to recharge or continuing with projects. They are contributing to A Proud Legacy and A Shining Future.

The Woman’s Club of Arlington collected items for a local National Guard Unit stationed in Kuwait. They honored Barbara Syme on her 75th Anniversary as an NJSFWC member. They are joining with the Junior Woman’s Club of Arlington and the Arlington EMD, on the Read for the Record project. Preparations are underway to celebrate the 125th Anniversary of the Club.

The Junior Woman’s Club of Arlington held their Annual Yard Sale, celebrated Christmas in July to kick off their Toy Drive, and held a New Member Orientation. Photos from last year’s Photo Contest will be featured in the 2018 Kearny UEZ calendar. A Trivia Night is scheduled for October 20th and Read for the Record on October 25th.

The Arlington Juniorettes installed new officers, hosted a successful Summer Reading Event and have coordinated with Kearny Bank and the Kearny PBA on a School Supply Drive.
LIBERTY DISTRICT (continued)

The **Woman’s Club of Allwood** had a Thank You Dinner, filled drawstring bags for Operation Smile and will have an in house “Great Reads in America” where members vote for their favorite book.

The **Woman’s Club of Berkeley Heights** will have their Fall Fundraiser, a Card and Games Party and Luncheon, on October 16th.

The **Woman’s Club of Bellville** will have their Girls’ Career Institute representative speak at their September meeting. They will be participating in the town wide “Just a Party” to share information about the club, and will have a Membership Pot Luck in October, while planning for their Craft Fair.

The **Woman’s Club of Bloomfield** renovated a closet into a Boutique at a local Domestic Violence Shelter. They held a Fourth of July picnic and collected Beach towels, and will be holding a Linen Shower, for a local Safe House that they have adopted. They will be collecting items for National Alliance on Mental Illness and Operation Santa in October.

The **Woman’s Club of Caldwell** held a trip to the United Nations, will hold a Membership Drive in September, along with filling stockings for soldiers. They have a continuous sock collection. A Pot Luck and Read for the Record are planned for October.

The **Clio Club of Roselle** is very small but has dedicated members who want to keep the club going.

The **Woman’s Club of Little Falls** held its first Kentucky Derby Party, and has sent military care packages. They sent Operation Smile gifts and are planning some activities for the Special State Project CASA of NJ for the Fall. One of their members is a CASA Volunteer.

The **Woman’s Club of Maplewood** supported their adopted classroom in Newark and contributed toward an expansion of the Library.

The **Woman’s Club of Upper Montclair** had several Summer Luncheons, and will have their Opening Luncheon on September 26th. Their Benefit Luncheon for the Human Needs Food Pantry will be on October 24th. They are planning for their very popular Holly Berry event on November 3rd and 4th.

The **Woman’s Club of Verona** is celebrating its 125th Anniversary and will be continuing the Share Your Light Night event. This is a joint project with the Verona Juniorettes. They participated in the town-wide Garage Sale.

The **West Essex Woman’s Club** visited the Alice Paul National Woman’s Historic Site for Woman’s Equality Day. At their September meeting, they will have a speaker from CASA of NJ, and will be collecting school supplies for CASA. They have an ongoing collection of art supplies for projects at the local library.

The **8th District Contemporaries** are sponsoring a bus trip to GFWC Headquarters in Washington D.C. on December 5th. More details to follow.

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PALISADES DISTRICT

Marie Sullivan

The Palisades District was well represented as Mary Ellen Brock was installed as GFWC International President at GFWC Convention in St Louis, Missouri. Good Luck Mary Ellen!

Even though summer is a time to rest and recharge those volunteer batteries, the club members in the Palisades District continued their good works. Many clubs marched in July 4th parades and set up tables at town events such as National Night out this past August. Planning for the upcoming new year was well under way.

**Woman’s Club of Paramus** has an AC bus trip 9/16/2018. Please Call Helen for $30 tickets 201-264-0614. Paramus will also have a Tricky Tray 10/25/2018 please call Debbie for $25 tickets 201-967-7883.

**Woman’s Club of Norwood/Northvale** is once again participating in Norwood Day and Northvale Day handing out club literature to increase membership. They are also having Military Bridge 11/16/2018. Please Call Marta for tickets 201-767-7349.
PALISADES DISTRICT (continued)

Woman's Club of Englewood will be hosting a Fall Harvest Festival 10/14/2018 at The Carriage House. Please call Beverly for ticket info 201-755-1149.

Woman's Club of Rutherford will have their annual Pumpkin People in The Park 10/13-10/27/2018. Come out to Lincoln Park to see the beautiful displays.

Junior Woman’s Club of Rutherford had a sidewalk chalk-drawing contest and also ran their annual Ladybug Festival. Great community involvement!

Woman’s Club of Leonia will have a garage sale at The Little House 340 Broad Avenue on 9/18/2018.

Woman’s Club of Dumont will be taking a bus tour through The Amish Country this fall.

Woman’s Club of Lyndhurst participated in The Rutherford Labor Day Fair selling Angels. They will also run an Entertainment Night 10/10/2018. Please call Janet for tickets 201-935-1208.

SHORE DISTRICT

Gwendolyn M. Lewis

Sixty women were in attendance at June District Council, enthusiastic about planning for a new club with our new leadership. Our club Presidents reported many activities and projects for the summer months. We spoke about encouraging our members to attend and/or support our NJSFWC Fundraiser August 9th, Regional conference October 11-14 in Albany, New York and our Fall Conference at the Battleground Country Club, October 22nd. So many of our clubs are working toward more visibility by networking within our communities.

Allaire Woman’s Club raised $6,500 for scholarships and community donations. They made monetary donations to 180 Turning Lives Around, Old Wall Historical Society, United Through Reading and Allaire State Park Historical Village and held a fundraiser partnering with a local restaurant, Meemom's, which netted $400.

The Woman’s Club of Asbury Park is working on activities such as Days for Girls, gathering items for Boatsie’s Boxes, greeting cards for troops overseas, collecting donations for the SPCA and can tabs for Ronald McDonald House. They donated $2,000 in scholarships.

The Belmar Woman’s Club Pink Event was hosted by Belmar Cares, a breast cancer support group. They partnered with Lin’s Linens which turns cancer patients bedrooms into a sanctuary. They sponsored a disadvantage child to Kateri Day Camp in Monmouth County. The members had a bench engraved and dedicated to long time member Rita Lane on Memorial Day. Rita was a World War II Army Veteran. Three educational scholarships were awarded to graduating seniors totaling $3,000.

The Woman’s Club of Little Silver had a free speaker, Barbara Rumsby from Interiors Reimagined. They also had a display table at Annual Little Silver Day in June.

The Woman’s Club of Middletown awarded scholarships to Seniors. They sent several young ladies to Girls’ Career Institute. They are collecting presents for their Christmas tree project serving families in the community

Thirteen of our 24 clubs sponsored one or more GCI delegates for a total of 28 young ladies. The Shore District also had 4 housemothers and 2 staff members as assistant directors. We have a lot to be proud of, keep up the good work. We are love in action. Visibility seems to be the key for all of our clubs.

Club Ladies, are you aware that we have 3 Past State Presidents in our District: Ann Quinn 2002-2004, Mary Pat Marcello 2006-2008, and Linda Babeuf 2012-2014. We are proud and honored.

The Shore District donated over $50,000 in educational scholarships.
SOUTHERN DISTRICT

Jane Snyder

Fall is in the air and the Super Southern District is ready to begin another Club year filled with activities to brighten our lives by helping others in our communities. Over the summer the clubs participated in a variety of events. Colony Club of Ocean City had a “Meet at the Beach” party. Woman’s Civic Club of Hammonton held a Blueberry Festival. Women’s Community Club of Cape May judged the Baby Parade and had their fantastic Peach Festival. Absecon Woman’s Club volunteered at the Field of Dreams and Gilda’s Dragon Boat Festival. Woman’s Club of Vineland held a Summer Salad Supper. Just to name a few summer events.

September will see the club’s “back in business” beginning the year with welcome back dinners, covered dish dinners, potluck lunches with meet and greets open to invited guests. Colony Club has invited a guest to their dinner, a Rod Stewart impersonator! Great fun and food will be enjoyed by all.

Absecon Woman’s Club will be taking part in the dedication ceremony for Absecon’s 911 Memorial.

Absecon and Vineland clubs will both be selling Boscov’s “Friends Helping Friends” discount coupons.

Colony Club is sponsoring a Yankee Candle fundraiser and having a program given by their GCI student.

Millville Woman’s Club will have a Rummage and Meatball Sub sale.

Vineland WC will have the book discussion and group talk about all the books they read over the summer. And, they will be hosting the Fall District Council.

Country Shore Woman’s Club is having a community cleanup and a new member’s tea party and installation.

THE ARTS/CREATIVE COMMUNITY SERVICE PROGRAM

Gail Kovacs-Felici

The Holidays Are Coming!!!

The holidays are a time when our homes are decorated inside and out. Whether it is Halloween, Thanksgiving, Chanukah, Christmas, Valentine’s Day or Easter, there are Achievement Day categories for decorative articles to make. Door decorations (category 1); plastic canvas (category 5); upcycle (category 11); paper art: greeting cards (category 10B); Christmas stockings, either embroidered (category 3) or needlepoint (category 4C); favors (category 21); painting on other materials (category 20) and, of course, holiday (category 12).

Use your imagination – dig out those instructions that are now “vintage” – those 60’s, 70’s and 80’s crafts that can be “modernized’. Check out YouTube videos or blogs for the trending “hot” craft ideas and instructions.

THE ARTS/PERFORMING COMMUNITY SERVICE PROGRAM

Debbie Edwards

The NJSFWC creative writing contests are for our members as well the youth in our community schools. Decide what grade level you want to have in your contest and check with that superintendent and principal. Start this process early in your club year to have a successful contest. Adhere to the NJSFWC rules and deadlines. An outline for all contests can be found in the Arts/Performing Supplement 2018-2020 which club Presidents will receive. Look for it on the NJSFWC.org website too. Contact this chairman if you need a copy sent to you. This is a great way to network with your community. Please encourage your members to enter the creative writing contests as well.

All Creative Writing entries (member and youth) must be mailed and postmarked no later than February 1, 2019 to: Literature Division Chairman, Kim Gallagher, 201 Holly Avenue, Runnemede, NJ 08031
CONSERVATION COMMUNITY SERVICE PROGRAM  

Simple Things You Can Do to Help Protect the Environment  

Bonnie Dann

1. **Recycle.** Besides putting bottles, cans, and other containers out for pickup, make a point to recycle plastic bags and newspaper sleeves properly. In most municipalities you will have to take the bags to a collection box at your grocery store or other location. Reuse everyday items like padded envelopes that you receive in the mail.

2. **Dispose of hazardous waste properly.** Many substances will contaminate our water and soil for thousands of years. Most municipalities have special collections for paint, motor oil, batteries, mercury light bulbs, etc. Ink cartridges are usually collected for recycling by the stores where they are sold.

3. **Take reusable cloth bags with you to carry your groceries home.** Plastic bags are a serious danger to birds and sea life. Although paper bags are biodegradable, they cause more trees to be cut down and their manufacturing byproducts pollute the environment.

4. **BYOB.** Americans use 60 million plastic water bottles annually. You can reduce this waste by filling up a reusable water bottle and taking it with you. If you don’t like the taste of your tap water, buy a filter. (Most bottled water is just filtered tap water anyway.)

EDUCATION COMMUNITY SERVICE PROGRAM  

Ann Ribinsky Brown

Welcome back to a new club year and a new school year. As you plan your club activities, be sure to consult the 2018-2020 Education Supplement for some very concrete ideas that you may want to start with your club.

Literacy is being emphasized by GFWC for this administration. UNESCO defines literacy as the “ability to identify, understand, interpret, create, communicate, and compute using printed and written materials associated with varying context.”

Literacy is a human right essential for lifelong learning and social change. More specific is our American cultural literacy, a body of common knowledge that allows people to communicate, to work together, and to live together.

Mary Ellen Brock, GFWC International President, has issued a seven point Grand Initiative for this administration. To promote literacy and GFWC’s involvement with libraries, GFWC would like to collect 1,000 new Dr. Seuss books (in English and different languages) to distribute 500 to Washington DC schools, hospitals and shelters, and 500 to clubs’ local schools, hospitals and shelters on Dr. Seuss’ birthday, March 2, 2020. Clubs may send books to GFWC Headquarters or they may send a monetary donation to purchase books. Please mark any monetary donation, “1000 Books” in the memo line of check.

GFWC continues to offer a Focus on Literacy Club Grant of up to $200. These funds may be used for purchasing books for tutors to use, providing books to children, and/or a variety of other literary needs. Refer to the application for a number of other suggestions, available at www.GFWC.org/membership/awards-contests-and-grants/.

HOME LIFE COMMUNITY SERVICE PROGRAM  

Susan A. Chambers

**HUNGER KNOWS NO SEASON.** According to Feeding America, as of 2016, 40.6 million Americans (12.7%) live in poverty of which 13.3 million (11.6%) are children. And 4.6 million (9.3%) of all seniors are estimated to live in poverty. This leaves many, many Americans “food insecure.”

What can we do? The Community Food Bank of New Jersey, a member of Feeding America, fights hunger and poverty. They “distribute food, provide education and training, develop programs to help the hungry throughout the state and engage all sectors of society in this mission.” Go to their website www.cfbnj.org to find a partner organization near you to donate food or volunteer your time. Or Google “food pantries near me” to find a local food pantry.
HOME LIFE COMMUNITY SERVICE PROGRAM CHAIRMAN (continued)

Local pantries are especially in need of items not deemed necessities and therefore not covered by food stamps; e.g. diapers (child and adult); paper towels, toilet paper, dish washing liquid, feminine hygiene products and more similar items.

Plan a club project for World Food Day, held annually every October 16; its goal is #ZeroHunger by 2030. While the world produces enough food to feed everyone, about one in nine worldwide suffer from hunger, 60% of which are women. Hunger kills more people each year than malaria, tuberculosis and AIDS combined. Search World Food Day 2018 for more information. Work with your club to help end hunger right here in America!

INTERNATIONAL OUTREACH COMMUNITY SERVICE PROGRAM

WHY DAYS for GIRLS?

When we mobilize girls and women, their communities and our world grow stronger. Pads are a small thing that makes a big difference. Days for Girls increases access to menstrual care and education by developing global partnerships, cultivating social enterprises, mobilizing volunteers and innovating sustainable solutions that shatter stigmas and limitations for women and girls. Together we are creating a world with dignity health and opportunity for all. The movement has reached more than one million girls and counting!

Without a solution to manage their monthly cycle: 1 in 10 girls in Sub-Saharan Africa, 113 million adolescent girls in India, 30% of girls in rural Brazil will miss school in a year.

Around the world, girls and women resort to using rags, mattress stuffing, banana leaves, feathers, and even cow dung to manage their menstruation. Girls will sit on cardboard for several days each month, often going without food unless someone would bring it to them. Days for Girls provides a safe, beautiful, washable, and long-lasting alternative along with vital health education. Days for Girls is changing the status quo, through menstrual care solutions, health education, and income-generation opportunities. In less than 10 years, they have reached one million women and girls in 120+ countries on 6 continents.

- School retention rates for girls in Kenya reached 96% after receiving Days for Girls Kits, up from a 75% average.
- Drop-out rates in a Uganda school went from 25% to 4% after one year of access to Days for Girls Kits.
- More than 80% of Enterprise Leaders in Africa, Asia, and Latin America are earning income from the sale of Days for Girls Kits.

Three years after Rachel from Nairobi, Kenya, received her Days for Girls Kit, she said “You feel free. You can go anywhere you want. You are comfortable...you can jump, run, do whatever you want to do.”

The pads don’t look like traditional pads; they are bright colors to camouflage staining. The absorbent liners unfold to look like a washcloth, which allows women to wash and dry them outside in the sun without causing embarrassment.

Everyone can help whether you donate money, collect items or sew. You do not have to make complete kits. If you just want to collect washcloths, panties, zip lock bags or soap to be put into bags or sew drawstring bags, liners or waterproof shield it is your option. The following is what the kits consist of: Tradition Kit: 1 drawstring bag to hold all components, 1 waterproof shield, 8 absorbent liners, 1 bar of soap, 1 washcloth, 2 pairs of panties, 2 Gallon size Ziploc plastic bags for washing and storage. Menstrual Cup Kit: 1 menstrual cup, 1 washcloth, 1 small soap, 1 gallon-size freezer bag, 1 small cloth bag.

More information can be found at: daysforgirls.org. If you have any questions please e-mail me at manneback@njsfwc.org or call me at 973-839-0826.
PUBLIC ISSUES COMMUNITY SERVICE PROGRAM

Lisa Levin

It is that time of year, to start making your Christmas Stockings to support our deployed troops at Christmas! It is better known as “Boatsie’s Boxes”! This helps to bring a smile to our troops, while they are away from their families.

You always do such an outstanding job by filling these stockings with items and love! We have three dates for you to bring your filled stockings to the NJSFWC Headquarters parking lot; more dates may be added and will be listed in the October ALMANAC. There will be a POD (storage type container) which will be holding all the filled Christmas Stockings, prior to being delivered to West Virginia to Boatsie. Please see below listed dates and times for you to drop off your filled stockings to Headquarters:

October 2nd from 11 am – 2 pm
October 9th from 11 am- 2 pm
October 16th from 11 am- 2 pm

Your stocking should be filled to the top, secured with a slip stitch, safety pins or a rubber band to prevent items from falling out during shipping. Please attach an envelope to the top of the stocking with $2 to cover the cost of shipping. Also attach to the stocking, a personal hand-written note sending holiday wishes. Stockings should be gender neutral. The cost to fill the stocking to the top should be about $20-$25 to completely fill it to the top.

The items on the Boatsie’s Boxes wish list are: “Beef Jerky”, chocolates, Slim Jims, Christmas candy, playing cards, nuts, individually wrapped candy, cookies, dried fruit, trail mix, Life Savers, chewing gum, wet wipes, crew socks, travel dental kits, healthy snacks, small shaving cream, razors, lip balm, iTunes cards, DVDs, batteries and CDs.

If you or your club prefer to give a monetary donation instead of making the Christmas Stockings, any amount would be deeply appreciated. Please make your check payable to NJSFWC and earmark it “Boatsie’s Boxes” and send check to Headquarters, prior to October 25, 2018.

Thank you in advance for your generosity and kindness!

ADVOCATES FOR CHILDREN

Jean Battaglia

Did you know a typical infant uses up to 12 diapers a day, and a toddler uses up to eight? Did you know that babies that stay in wet and dirty diapers cry and fuss more and that a baby crying for prolonged periods is more likely to be abused? Did you know that diapers cost about $100 per month for each baby or toddler, that New Jersey has 96,000 children under age five living in poverty, and that safety net programs such as Food Stamps or WIC do not cover diapers?

Prevent Child Abuse-New Jersey has launched a project called the New Jersey Diaper Network to raise funds to purchase diapers for families in need. To learn more about this project and how your club can “Get Behind the Cause”, visit www.preventchildabusenj.org/get-involved/njdiapernetwork.

If your club is still making purple caps, please also send these directly to Prevent Child Abuse- NJ. They are no longer being collected at NJSFWC Headquarters. Importantly, they must be made with yarn having some shade of purple and must be newborn size.

September is Childhood Cancer Awareness Month. Tell your club members and think of a way to help, such as participating or volunteering in a local walk.

BYLAWS

Carol Swinburne

Organizations have purpose, members, officers, and committees. In order to function optimally, a set of written rules is created outlining exactly how this should happen. The document created is called the bylaws of the organization and is one of the most important documents of the organization. The organization’s bylaws should be updated as it progresses and changes in various ways to remain relevant and current.
BYLAWS (continued)

As the NJSFWC, we have very specific written rules or bylaws describing our purpose, membership, officers and board of directors, committees, procedures, and governance. Each year these bylaws are reviewed and amended or changed as necessary to remain relevant. According to our bylaws, a committee is set up to review the bylaws, recommend changes to the officers and board of directors, and present them to the membership as a printed document included in the Convention Call, and voted on at the annual convention. A two-thirds vote of the convention voting delegates is necessary for any amendments to pass.

In order for the committee to complete this process, all clubs and/or state organizations in the NJSFWC are asked to review the bylaws and recommend changes they see as necessary. According to Article XVII of our bylaws, these recommended changes or amendments may be proposed by a club and accompanied by endorsements from at least five other clubs and submitted to the NJSFWC Bylaws Committee by October 15th.

Bylaws are the responsibility of all member clubs. After receiving the new 2018-2019 NJSFWC Yearbook, please review the Bylaws. The Bylaws Committee looks forward to reviewing all properly submitted recommendations.

COMMUNICATIONS

Patricia Pasquale

Before a club can effectively communicate to the community, it must insure that its members feel confidence in the message and the club. Good communication is an essential tool in achieving productivity and maintaining strong working relationships at all levels in the club.

Officers and chairman who invest time and energy into delivering clear lines of communication will quickly build trust amongst members, leading to an increase in productivity and morale. Poor communication in a club will lead to unmotivated clubwomen who may begin to question their own confidence in their abilities and inevitably in the club.

Take steps to build on communication

Below is an outline of some of the key areas where your club can improve and enhance its communications:

- **Define goals and expectations** – Officers and chairman need to deliver clear goals to members, outlining exactly what is required and ensuring that members are aware of the objectives of the department, project, event or fundraiser.

- **Clearly deliver your message** – Ensure your message is clear to your intended audience; speaking plainly and politely without causing confusion or offense.

- **Choose your medium carefully** – Once you have created your message, you need to ensure it is delivered in the best possible format. While face to face communication is by far the best way to build trust with members, it is not always an option. Take time to decide whether information delivered in a handout bulletin would work better than an email.

- **Keep everyone involved** – Ensure that lines of communication are kept open at all times. Actively seek and encourage progress reports and project updates. This is particularly important to keep the clubs’ Executive Committee and the Board informed so that they can pass on the information accurately at the General Meetings to the membership at large.

- **Listen and show empathy** – Communication is a two-way process and no club or member will survive long if it does not listen and/or encourage dialogue with the other party. Listening shows respect and allows a person to learn about any outstanding issues that need to be addressed.
FALL CONFERENCE/PROGRAM ASSISTANCE

An informative day has been planned for our STATE FALL CONFERENCE on Monday, October 22, 2018 at Battleground Country Club in Manalapan.

During the morning business session, you will hear from representatives of our new Special State Project – CASA of NJ (Court Appointed Special Advocates of New Jersey). Learn more about our plans for the Shining Future Endowment Campaign from Chairman Linda Babeuf, and Third Vice President/State Membership Chairman Barbara McCloskey will answer the question “Are we going out of style?”

The afternoon Keynote Speaker will be Organizing Humorist and bestselling author Jamie Novak who will share common challenges of de-cluttering your home – without getting overwhelmed.

Please complete the registration form which is included in this issue of the ALMANAC (a copy was also provided to all Presidents at the June District Council) and return it to Carol J. Sas at NJSFWC Headquarters along with your check. Please note on outside of envelope STATE FALL CONFERENCE.

DEADLINE
Reservations must be postmarked by Tuesday, October 9, 2018. ABSOLUTELY NO REGISTRATIONS WILL BE ACCEPTED AFTER THE DEADLINE.

GFWC SIGNATURE PROJECT: DOMESTIC VIOLENCE AWARENESS AND PREVENTION

The Family Violence Prevention and Service Act that was passed in 1984 continues to be the primary funding source for emergency shelters for domestic violence victims and their children. This Act does provide annual appropriations; however reauthorizations are important; therefore it is important that you contact your Legislative representatives and ask them to support S 2784 and H.R. 6014. This reauthorization will help to ensure that shelters and domestic violence programs can continue to keep survivors safe and continue providing essential services.

Did you know – domestic violence directly impacts one in four women and one in ten men over their lifetimes, and approximately 15.5 million children each year. Did you know - aside from the needed shelter and safety, this bill enables the facilities to provide counseling, crisis line, and legal assistance and also the needs of young victims – the children.

By contacting your Legislator, this is another way you can help to keep these unfortunate victims safe!

GIRLS’ CAREER INSTITUTE

One hundred seventy-six delegates from all over New Jersey enjoyed Girls’ Career Institute 2018 from June 4-7, courtesy of the ladies and clubs of the NJSFWC. Living a mini-college experience at Douglass Residential College on the New Brunswick campus of Rutgers University and guided by 14 housemothers and a staff of five, the high school Junior girls truly Discovered Their Uniqueness.

By 4:15 on Monday, the families were gone and each group met in its common room for their housemothers to go over the schedule of events, impart a few rules to keep everyone safe and discuss living together for the next four days. They discussed information on special activities such as the art, talent and fashion shows and began planning for Spirit Night.

At 6:00 everyone went to Nielson Dining Hall for dinner. Most were overwhelmed by the variety of menu choices and the quality of the food. Then it was on to the Opening Session in Hickman Hall. Following a safety briefing, Jean Revis, immediate Past NJSFWC President and Mary Ellen Brock, the General Federation of Women’s Clubs President-elect addressed the group. The final evening activity was Zumba in the Cook-Douglas Recreation Center.
GIRLS’ CAREER INSTITUTE (continued)

Tuesday and Wednesday schedules were very busy. Twenty-one speakers presented a variety of topics and illustrated their own career paths in general sessions and small group workshops. Careers in law, urban planning, higher education administration, medicine, environmental studies, physical therapy, law enforcement, politics, science and engineering, teaching, writing, health and fitness were among the morning topics to choose from. One afternoon the Delegates enjoyed a panel presentation by women from Operation Smile, the Peace Corps, and the military. Later they swam, used the gym, and participated in a variety of craft and service projects.

Examples of delegate art were on display in the lobby throughout GCI. A Talent Show on Tuesday evening was WONDERFUL! Singers, dancers, instrumentalists, a rifle handling demonstration, and several readings of personally created poetry and prose demonstrated the creativity and talents of many. Wednesday evening was SPIRIT NIGHT. Each group prepared and presented an original 5-8 minute skit; just amazing as each skit included every member of each group.

On Thursday morning for the closing session, the Honey Bees presented their winning skit to an audience of parents and guests. Several delegates participated in the Fashion Show and the GCI chorus raised their voices in song. Finally, it was time for the trek back to Lippincott Residence Hall, the repacking, checking out and especially the tears.

THANK YOU to each and every club and individual member who volunteered their time, funded various activities, provided water, snacks and craft supplies. An extra thank you to those clubwomen who coordinated the selection and tracking of the Delegates and Alternates especially in those last few days before GCI. A special thank you to those club women who served as judges, sources of ideas and encouragement and participated in any way to make GCI 2018 the best ever. An extra thank you goes to the Headquarters staff who took care of every request for assistance and kept us all on track for ordering supplies, copying materials, and processed all the payments.

For planning purposes know that Girls’ Career Institute 2019 will be June 3-6 at Douglass Residential College. Clubs will receive their sponsorship forms for GCI with the September Dues Bill. Sponsorships are due at Headquarters by January 31, 2019. A club can sponsor one or more delegates, provide a full or partial scholarship to fund girls from underserved areas, or provide additional funds to supplement costs of supplies and activities. The deadline for Registration forms to be received by the Director will remain at March 1.

It is with sadness that the Girls’ Career Institute Director and staff, both past and present, announce the passing of SallyAnne Caranfa on July 16. SallyAnne will be remembered as a vivacious club woman who served as the NJSFWC Home Life Chairman, Garden District Vice President, and Middle Atlantic Region President’s Assistant. For 5 years she served as Director of the Girls’ Career Institute, another 11 years as a Housemother and 1 year as Mentor to the incoming Director. Memorial donations can be sent to NJSFWC Headquarters, earmarked GCI. Contributions may be designated for student sponsorships, for expenses, or supplies.

HEADQUARTERS

Joanne Mangels

We invite you to join us as members of the 1894 Society. Your gifts will ensure that the NJSFWC legacy continues.

- The NJSFWC Headquarters building sits on land leased from Rutgers University. Membership in the 1894 Society ensures that the funds will be available to pay the land rent.
- As we start the new club year, please join us by using the enclosed form to join the 1894 Society. Individual and Club memberships welcomed.
- Membership year, April 1, 2018 to March 31, 2019

The 1894 Society acknowledges the donors who have made a commitment to the future of New Jersey State Federation of Women’s Clubs of GFWC.
HISTORIAN  

Carol A. Niemiec

Congratulations to our newly installed 52nd GFWC International President 2018-2020, Mary Ellen Brock. For clubwomen new to Federation, you may not know that Mary Ellen is a past NJSFWC President and served from 2000-2002. Her Special State Project was the Valerie Fund for children’s cancer. She hails from Kinnelon, NJ and was a founding member of the North Jersey Woman's Club in the Ramapo District.

Mrs. Brock is only the 2nd GFWC International President from NJ, the first being Charlotte Emerson Brown of the Woman’s Club of Orange, 1890-1894. Mrs. Brock also served seven years on the NJSFWC of GFWC Junior State Board and 19 years on the NJSFWC of GFWC State Board as President’s Special Project Chairman, Parliamentarian to Clubs, Elections Chairman, Resolutions Chairman, Financial Secretary, Recording Secretary, Third Vice President, Second Vice President, First Vice President and State President.

Mrs. Brock was appointed by three governors to the Governor’s Emergency Medical Services for Children Advisory Council, the Governor's Interpersonal Youth Violence Prevention committee, and the Governor’s Drug/Alcohol Prevention council. The NJ Legislature recognized her as a “NJ Woman of Achievement.”

While serving her GF Presidency, Mrs. Brock will reside at GFWC Headquarters, 1734 N Street Washington, DC, where her apartment has a living room, a kitchenette, 3 bedrooms, 2 bathrooms, and a patio balcony. Her husband can visit, but cannot live there, as the bedrooms are used for officers, board members and other GFWC guests. If you plan to visit Washington, DC, stop by GF Headquarters, and tour this beautiful, historic building.

Next year, 2019, will mark the 125th anniversary of the NJSFWC. It’s never too early for club’s to start making plans to honor this occasion, either at a general meeting, or other event. Clubs’ might want to hold a meeting at Headquarters, or support the 1894 Society with a donation, marking this special anniversary. Over the next two years, this Historian will glimpse back in time and highlight some interesting facts about our founding NJSFWC Presidents in upcoming ALMANAC’s, so read every month for some bits of information you might find informative.

Finally, check the GFWC Women’s History Website for information on how to keep your club’s history current and timely.

LEGISLATION/RESOLUTIONS  

Carole B. Speechley

New Jersey General Election, Tuesday, November 6, 2018 – Please vote.
Voter Registration Deadline: Tuesday, October 16, 2018
Request for Absentee Ballot: In-person request by Monday, November 5, 3:00 PM
Absentee Ballot Deadline: Received by Tuesday, November 6, 2018 8:00 PM

Thank YOU

Thank you to everyone who took action and urged NJDEP to deny permits for the Northeast Supply Enhancement Project. This Chairman is happy to report that the Williams' Transcontinental Gas Pipe Line Company (Transco) withdrew their application.

LEGISLATION IS A MAJOR FOCUS OF THE GFWC 2018-2020 ADMINISTRATION!

Legislation is the second of 2 major emphasis areas for GFWC in the 2018-2020 administration! The following is from GFWC International President Mary Ellen Brock’s letter to the members in the GFWC 2018-2020 Club Manual: “GFWC’s passion for positive change in communities through legislation is part of our history. In 1906, thousands of members of GFWC, who without a vote, only a persistent voice, passed the Pure Food and Drug Act. We will go back to our roots, raise our voices, and reclaim our role as the unified organization that can make things happen. Members will understand the process of how a bill becomes a law and their part in the process. We will select two bills and work actively for them to become laws. We will work to establish the GFWC brand with the members of the United States and State Legislatures by the “RECOGNIZE THE RED” campaign. We will select one bill and on one day all members of GFWC will be asked to call their legislator and urge action on the bill.” There is more about this in the Legislation section of the GFWC Club Manual and there will be more in future ALMANAC articles and council bulletins.

Legislation is also one of the 7 Grand Initiatives of the GFWC 2018-2020 Administration! They are called “7 Grand Initiatives” as each of them has 1,000 as a goal. The 5th Grand Initiative is “That 1,000 members join the Legislative Action Center”.


LEGISLATION/RESOLUTIONS (Continued)

You can be a big part of this. Just go to www.GFWC.org, under the “What We Do” scroll-down menu, select “Legislative Action Center” under “Public Issues”. You will see a description of the Legislative Action Center (LAC) and a link to it. In the LAC you will see information about active issues that GFWC is concerned with and on the right a button to join the center. Once you are a member, you will get notifications of actions GFWC would like you to take. If you agree, just go to the issue and an email that you can tailor to your needs will be there and it will be ready to send to your representatives based on your zip code. Remember the “Sign in Red” campaign and to keep track of this for reporting in January.

Let's see if the NJSFWC can get 1,000 new members of the LAC. And remember, what we do matters.

SPECIAL STATE PROJECT

This Chairman is thankful to all the districts for their enthusiasm about the state project. She appreciates your suggestions and encourages all the clubs to reach out to their CASA of NJ programs closest to them.

Barbara Rose, Highlands District Chairman, and this Chairman visited Tracy Heisler from CASA of Somerset, Hunterdon, & Warren Counties. She showed us what was available to give away to children and their requests. Tracy showed us a few of the donated quilts and there is a seamstress who volunteers to sew a child’s name on the quilt. Tracy told us the children love to see their name on the quilt and they know it belongs to them. We were also reminded about the older teenagers in the system and they could use twin size quilts and their needs for Walmart, Target, VISA, MasterCard, Starbucks, Dunkin Donuts, etc. gift cards.

There are many quilt patterns and if you sew, please choose a throw size approximately (56” X 77”) or a twin size approximately (67” X 101”). There can be variety of simple patterns and may be different sizes especially sewing with scraps. I will be collecting pattern ideas. There are websites with pattern ideas from other organizations: http://www.quiltsforkids.org/patterns.htm or you can design your own quilt by looking at what other volunteers have done. Included in this ALMANAC are instructions for adding a crochet border to a fleece blanket.

This Chairman met Lisa Gallagher Roll at “Blossoms and Bright Futures - A Spring Social to Celebrate CASA Child Advocacy” in June. Lisa is a special advocate for children and she creates pottery mugs with a story based on a child she has helped. These mugs are endearing to remember that children are receiving advocates who care. One mug is entitled Lexi and has a story about letters she wrote to her advocate. This mug was made available through a raffle at the Boathouse Lobster Fundraiser in August. The Lexi mug was raffled off at $5 each and the money was used to buy gift cards for the teenagers in the court system. There will be more opportunities to raffle another mug entitled Adam whose journey is home.

Duffel bags are our statewide fundraiser for our September District Councils. The bags can be any size with a zipper on top of the bag and can be bought anywhere. This chairman is not designating any particular brand or store. There are a variety of ages we need to accommodate in the state.

Saturday, November 3, 2018, at 10 AM a CASA Ambassador Training program will be held at Federation Headquarters, 55 Labor Center Way, New Brunswick, NJ 08901. This training is to learn more about CASA of NJ and how we can help them at their conference and how to spread the information about CASA of NJ in our communities. If you are interested, please let me know. Our limit is 60 people.

WEBMASTER

How to Gain Member Access to the NJSFWC Website

The NJSFWC website MATERIALS section contains a wealth of information for club members, but you must have a Member login to view it. At a minimum, every club officer and chairman should have a login for the site. Ideally, every club member should have access.

It's simple to get a Member login. All you need to do is email webmaster@njsfwc.org and give the following information:

- Your name
- Your email address
- Your club
- Your district
- Your preferred username
WEBMASTER (continued)

The webmaster will email back a temporary password, and you’re in!

Super Members

A Super Member may view the MATERIALS section, and has the additional ability to add events to the NJSFWC site. If you don’t already have a website, a Super Member can also create a single informational web page for your club on the site. There are “help” documents available to assist you. Club presidents should decide who needs Super Member access and let the webmaster know via email. The same information listed above is needed to create a Super Member login.

Tip of the Month

Once you log in to the NJSFWC website, up in the top right corner you should see “Welcome Back, [your username]” and the log-in boxes will have disappeared. If you don’t see the “Welcome Back” message, you are not officially logged in. If you try several times and cannot log in, try the “Forgot password?” link just below the login boxes. If you do not receive an email with a temporary password, email webmaster@njsfwc.org for assistance.

WOMEN WHO REACH FOR THE STARS

Linda F. Babeuf

The Women Who Reach For The Stars Committee consists of a Chairman, Vice Chairman and numerous committee members. The Committees’ responsibilities include:

- The Shining Future Endowment Campaign
- Provide speakers on the 125th Anniversary to help clubs and especially newer members know more about what NJSFWC has done and continues to do.
- Work with the New York Historical Society on an Exhibit featuring the ongoing changes in the Hudson River and NJSFWC’s involvement with Saving the Palisades
- Maintain a web page linked to the NJSFWC site. The page will include information on the Endowment Campaign including some information the President may want to share on how some of the proceeds will be used such as Scholarships, Membership Development, club grants and contests.

The Committee held a successful luncheon at the Lobster Shanty in Point Pleasant to secure start-up money for the Shining Future Endowment Campaign. As you can well imagine it is quite costly to run an Endowment Campaign such as the one NJSFWC is undertaking, the first one of this type in our 125 years.

WHY is NJSFWC undertaking a massive fundraising campaign like the Shining Future Endowment Campaign?

It is quite simple, we want and need to establish an Endowment Fund that will have adequate funds available to allow NJSFWC to increase scholarships, establish new scholarships for survivors of sexual abuse and human trafficking, conduct a Membership Awareness Campaign to help clubs increase their memberships, form new clubs and offer grants and contests to existing clubs. Some of the funds will be dedicated to operating expenses to ensure the Federation can continue its important work for the next 125 Years.

NJSFWC would also like to increase its support to non-profits it has supported for almost 100 years. These organizations represent our commitment in the Arts, Conservation, Education, Historic Preservation, Public Issues and Social Services. As many of you know, since the beginning of NJSFWC most of our successes, programs, scholarships, and projects have been self-funded.

In honor of and in celebration of our 125 Years of helping our communities, we are looking to corporations, foundations and successful community leaders to support us so we can secure and grow our commitments for the future.

Most of this committee’s fundraising efforts will be focused on our communities, BUT that does not mean we do not need EVERYONE’S help. We hope that all members feel a sense of pride and accomplishment in being a member of NJSFWC and will want to contribute to this Endowment Campaign.
WOMEN WHO REACH FOR THE STARS (continued)

The committee met and worked this summer to get campaign materials researched, planned and printed. We hope to make material available at the September Council Meetings so we can start our much needed and anticipated Campaign. The Official Public start date will be November 16, 2018, the 124th Anniversary of NJSFWC.

You will be hearing a lot more about the Shining Future Endowment Campaign in the coming months. This committee will be making a presentation at Fall Conference and members will be available to speak to clubs on the highlights of the last 125 years if you are interested.

To schedule a speaker email Linda Babeuf, Chairman at babeuf@njsfwc.org.

PARLIAMENTARY CONSULTANT TO CLUBS

Maureen K. Costello

A brand new club year is underway and it is just the perfect time for your club to review their bylaws and amend or revise them completely if they are no longer germane to the way your club operates. The bylaws should be readily available to all club members and should be in your yearbook so they can be accurately followed. Your bylaws are the documents that contain your basic rules rather than the procedure that is followed. It's a good idea to review the New Jersey State Federation of Women's Clubs bylaws to make sure your club bylaws are not in conflict with the Federation's bylaws.

If you want to consult Robert's Rules of Order, newly revised —11th edition, you will find a basic outline of a bylaw document which you can build on and will guide you as you revise your bylaws. Remember if you are changing or revising your bylaws, you must notify your club membership beforehand and have a vote of a specified majority of members, such as two-thirds, in favor of the change or revision.

Please have this Parliamentarian review your bylaws or revisions before being adopted. After the bylaws are adopted a copy should be sent to NJSFWC headquarters for the files.

WELCOME TO THE BEGINNING OF A NEW CLUB YEAR!!!

Please note that there is a significant amount of information you will be receiving in the ALMANAC Mailings and future mailings as well as at your District Councils.

This information includes:
Supplements, Registration Forms, Deadline Dates, etc.

Please make sure to pass this information onto to your Club Chairmen and Members.